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on an old steam traction engine, on combustion engines or on a modern jet-turbine engine, just to name a few. A newly-erected wind tunnel, capable of generating wind speeds of up to 140 knots, made quite an impression. Aerodynamic behaviour can be simulated and observed through a window. Extensive research is carried out at the moment to overcome the problems of severe damage to forests by strong north-west winds.

Passing along the electrical and electronical departments where Oscilloscopes and hundreds of other testing instruments could be seen, we stopped in front of a room with large windows. In the centre of the spotlessly clean room stood a subcritical nuclear reactor. Radio-activity can be produced and measured and the students have the opportunity to study some aspects relating to future nuclear power stations. The reactor was presented to the University as a gift from the U.S.A. to commemorate the year of "Peaceful application of nuclear power". The reactor-room is set about 3ft deeper than the normal floor level so that in the event of a leakage, the room can be flooded with water and then drained into special tanks to prevent radio-active contamination.

From the engineering part we went on to the eight-storey building of Science. We were shown one of the many lecture rooms which are fitted out with the most modern facilities. The rooms are fully enclosed, sound-proof and have excellent acoustics. From the top floor we had a view over the city. The heavily-polluted air did not leave very much to see and one had to feel sorry for all the people living underneath this blanket of dirt.

After having a look at the zoology laboratories and the geological department, which were both highly interesting too, the tour was ended.

—A.M.

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON THE A.G.M.**

The cold, foggy and rainy weather outside was a major reason for the rather small number of participants at the Annual General Meeting at Christchurch and in stark contrast to the warm welcome extended to those present by members of the host Club. All the North Island delegates were prevented from attending and unfortunately were left stranded in Wellington.

It was a great pleasure to have our Ambassador amongst us which once again underlined his interest in the Swiss affairs of this country. A short reflection on the transacted business showed how interested those present were. The discussions were lively, outspoken but always with the good of all in the foreground. Though it remains a great pity that the weather kept away many

more participants it will remain a most successful and rewarding experience to have held the A.G.M. in Christchurch. It not only has shown to the Christchurch Swiss Club members that the Society takes their Club seriously, but it has also shown that the host Club could call on the services of their organisation to make the meeting successful and a pleasant one too. It also gave our South Island members a good opportunity to ask questions and clear up many other points.

The Treasurer's Report has been printed in the *Helvetia* and need not be gone into any further. Unfortunately the Editors could not give their prepared report as they too were stranded in Wellington. However, the satisfactory financial situation of the Society is to a large degree due to the untiring efforts of the Editing Committee and due credit was expressed by all present.

The **Messmer motion** was withdrawn by the mover with an explanation that satisfactory developments had made this motion useless.

The **Christchurch Swiss Club motion** was passed and accepted after some lengthy discussion. This means that in future all members of the Society may take part in the Shooting, regardless of their origin as long as they are Society members!

The Riflemaster of the Society was authorised to plan the extended Competition and to recruit helpers as long as the Society does not run into financial trouble.

The **Hangartner motion** was accepted but it is understood that there is a possibility that in future the Clubs will have to carry a smaller insurance fee as some help would appear possible from Switzerland.

The **Frick motion** regarding entry of the Society into the "Link" was also accepted with the rider "that due consideration be given to the advertisers in the *Helvetia*". Thus the Society will join the "Link" if these safeguards can be guaranteed.

**Proxi voting** will remain as in the past and a voting slip will once again be inserted into the *Helvetia* sufficiently in advance of the next A.G.M.

Mr Corti took the chair for the **Election** and proposed that the meeting re-elect the present Committee. This was duly confirmed by the votes taken and thus all office-bearers remain the same.

Under **general business** the Swiss ties were introduced and these have been allocated to the different Clubs at \$3 per tie.

It was resolved that the Society store its records on the premises of the Swiss Embassy and that certain records be forwarded to Switzerland for inclusion in a book to be prepared there.

A certain number of books in German are held by the Treasurer and it was resolved that these be listed and then advertised so that Clubs or Society members may make use of them.



Mr Moser, President of the Christchurch Swiss Club, wished to put on record that it is very regrettable indeed that the Taranaki Swiss Social Club should act as an outsider by not being affiliated to the Society and it is hoped that they may realise this and act accordingly.

The President explained the reasons why it would appear to be in everybody's interest to have the next A.G.M. in Auckland and the meeting then decided that the Auckland Swiss Club be asked to accept this task to act as host Club for the 1972 meeting.

I am more than convinced that it was the right decision to have this Annual General Meeting in Christchurch. The experience will remain a very pleasant one for me and I only regret that the weather robbed many friends of the pleasure to share this also. To the members of the Committee and of the Club in Christchurch I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks for their hospitality and their friendliness as well as their splendid organisation of all details, large and small.

K. E. BISCHOF  
President, Swiss Society.

#### **"ON LEAVE"**

Mr and Mrs Corti have left for their well deserved leave in Switzerland. The Society and its members wish them a safe journey, a happy holiday and a safe return.

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