

A summary of the founding of the Swiss Club of N.Z. [continued]

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A Summary of the Founding of the Swiss Club of N.Z.

By Walter Risi

(Continued from October)

Meeting, May 15th, 1911, Kaponga Town Hall

Twenty-one members were present and five applications for membership, namely O. Steiner, J. Hurlimann, Ignatz Hurliman, J. Schicker, Alois Schicker.

A heated argument developed in regard to the amount of the fund to be set aside for the benevolent fund. The club's credit stood at £13/11/0. Everybody wanted to know how much of this should be set aside for this fund. President Steiner kept silent, Coll. Franz Muller said 20 per cent, Arnold 50 per cent, Kaufmann 20 per cent, Widmer 50 per cent, Tobler, also 50 per cent.

Coll. Alfred Muller asks for clarification and more information re the club's funds and wants to know why the rules were not printed as yet. President Steiner said that as long as the club wasn't registered it wasn't possible to put it into the club's name and he said that it was in the Post Office Savings account. For the same reason was the printing of the rules delayed. Coll. Arnold, a member of the committee, said that the committee has done everything possible and could not be accused of anything.

Then President Steiner appealed to the members to stand or fall together according to the aims of the club. In regard to the amount of the funds to be transferred to the Benevolent Fund, he said that the club could afford 50 per cent and it would enhance the club's standing and prestige. Coll. Franz Muller said that 20 per cent would be enough for the first year. Coll. John Elsener said that this Benevolent Fund should be abolished. Secretary Schumacher pointed out that this Benevolent Fund was in the club's rules and could not be abolished now, because these rules were in Wellington with the Registrar of Societies and would have to stand. Coll. Arnold then advised the meeting for 50 per cent and was supported by Coll. Widmer and Kaufmann. Secretary Schumacher said that we should postpone it for the annual general meeting on June 11th and is supported by Coll. Franz and Fred Muller. President Steiner wants it to be decided today, as we were using up enough time already. Coll. Tobler then moved that 50 per cent of the club's funds be transferred on this A.G.M. and 50 per cent of all the takings of the coming year should be again transferred on the following A.G.M. President Steiner supported this move. Secretary Schumacher withdraws his and so the move Tobler gets accepted.

Coll. Paul Muller then moved that Coll. Eberli should be recompensed with a few shillings for his playing of music on odd occasions, however, Coll. Eberli refused and said that he offered it free of charge

before and would stick to it. Then Coll. Joseph Gabriel paid 3/- into the Benevolent Fund and thanked the player.

Club Meeting and Annual General Meeting,

June 11th, 1911.

Several names figure in this, which have not appeared before. As scrutineers were elected Coll. Paul Muller and John Kuriger. The annual report also gets accepted and taken into the minutes.

Election of Committee: Coll. X. Wyss gets nominated as President, however, Coll. Widmer tries to persuade the whole committee to accept nomination en bloc, so does Coll. Imhof. President Steiner would not accept. Then Coll. Kuriger nominated Coll. Arnold, who also declined and nominated Coll. E. Widmer, who again nominated Coll. Ch. Schuler. Then the meeting is postponed to August 9th in the Kaponga Town Hall.

Kaponga Town Hall, August 9th, 1911.

Only one new member was elected into the club this time, namely: John Notter. Treasurer John Steiner pointed out that it was not possible for him to complete the book at this stage, however, he promised to have it ready for the auditors in a few days.

Election of officers held over from the meeting of June 11th. President Steiner moved Vice-President X. Wyss as President, who categorically declined nomination. After this Coll. Imhof moved that the whole of the committee be re-elected en bloc, which was accepted by the meeting, however, Treasurer John Steiner said that he would be shifting out of the district and would not be able to do his job any longer. Coll. J. Kuriger moved Coll. E. Widmer, who then was accepted unanimously by the meeting as the new treasurer. Coll. J. Arnold also did not want to be on the committee any longer and moved Coll. Ch. Schuler, however Coll. Schuler would not accept and moved Coll. Tobler, who also objected but the meeting voted him also unanimously into the committee.

Secretary Schumacher offered to translate the rules into German if anybody wanted it and Vice-President X. Wyss also said that he would be willing to copy two or three books.

Then a rather sad note crept into the meeting when a universally loved member Coll. Imhof announced that he would leave this country in a few days and that he wants to say goodbye to all the colleagues and friends. He wishes the club good luck, he said that he would like to see the members stick to the club, further the comradeship with people from the far away homeland and if he comes across rules of clubs in the U.S.A., he would be happy to send this club some.

The meeting then closed with a note from the President, who said that it was very discouraging for the President and Committee to see a lack of interest and love for the club.