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Bundes. Die Isolierung des Tessins ist beispielsweise ein Versäumnis, das uns politisch geschadet hat, ehe politische Erwägungen, die längst wirtschaftliche Erwägungen hätten sein müssen, die Aenderung eines unhaltbaren Standpunktes erreichten.

Der Bericht weist auf die Unterstützungen hin, die in andern Staaten ihren Bahnen oder den Privatbahnen für die durch den Weltkrieg entstandenen Schäden ausgerichtet worden sind: England 4,2 Milliarden. (Der Betriebslänge unserer Bahnen entsprechend ergäbe sich bei uns ein Bundesbeitrag von 385 Millionen.) Schweden 394 Millionen. Holland 280 Millionen. Die Schweiz wird sich neben diese Staaten stellen müssen. Ein anderer Standpunkt ist nach der Lektüre dieses Berichtes der S.B.B. ausgeschlossen.

Felix Moeschlin in "N.-Z."

QUOTATIONS from the SWISS STOCK EXCHANGES.

BONDS.		May 17	May 24	
Confederation 3% 1903 ...	81.75	81.75		
5% 1917, VIII Mob. Ln	102.20	101.50		
Federal Railways 3 3/8 A-K ...	83.75	84.00		
" " 1924 IV Elect. Ln.	102.55	102.75		
SHARES.		Nom	May 17	May 24
Swiss Bank Corporation ...	Fr. 500	Fr. 774	Fr. 772	
Crédit Suisse ...	500	823	827	
Union de Banques Suisses ...	500	707	705	
Société pour l'Industrie Chimique	1000	2435	2420	
Fabrique Chimique ci-dev. Sandoz	1000	3700	3815	
Soc. Ind. pour la Schappe ...	1000	2910	2915	
S.A. Brown Boveri ...	350	585	588	
C. F. Bally ...	1000	1315	1325	
Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Cond. Mk. Co.	200	757	767	
Entreprises Sulzer S.A. ...	1000	1115	1130	
Comp. de Navig'n sur le Lac Léman	500	585	590	
Limoleum A.G. Giubiasco ...	100	120	112	
Maschinenfabrik Oerlikon ...	500	735	735	

THE FETE DES VIGNERONS, VEVEY.

August 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 8th, 9th, 1927.

Synopsis by H. Challinor James.

The sun is rising above the great amphitheatre of towering mountains, tipping the snow-clad summits with tints of rose, when from the terrace of old St. Martin's church on the hill behind the town a crash of guns announces to the sleeping inhabitants the advent of the long-awaited Fête des Vignerons.

Almost before the echoes of the last salvo have rumbled back from the pine-clad hills the picturesque streets of Vevey are thronged with crowds of eager people making their way to the vast Place du Marché, that great open space where, more than a century ago, Napoleon halted his troops on their historic march across the Alps to Italy. Anglo-Saxons may consider eight o'clock in the morning an unconscionably early hour for a fête to commence. But the Fête des Vignerons comes only once in the lives of many, so not a moment of this unique event is to be lost, not a phase in its kaleidoscopic evolution missed.

\* \* \*

Unlike many national festivals, the Fête des Vignerons has nothing of a military display, or legendary pageant perpetuating conquest or victories of the past. It is an allegorical representation of Swiss agricultural life; a grandiose manifestation of the purest instincts of the race; man's Thanksgiving to The Creator for all the fruits of the soil vouchsafed.

The Brotherhood of Winegrowers, under whose auspices the Fête des Vignerons is held, has its origin in the mists of antiquity.

Records of three hundred years ago already make mention of this "Worshipful Body," whose function it still is to supervise the cultivation of the vineyards, rewarding the diligent for their labours, while administering rebuke to those who have neglected their task.

In those far distant days the Brotherhood used to celebrate its existence in a modest festival held every six years; but each successive decade has added to its importance until it reached its present grandiose proportions. A hundred years ago not more than two thousand people could be accommodated in the primitive construction which served as arena for the Fête. To-day, from the rising tiers of the huge stadium, fourteen thousand spectators may view in comfort every phase of this entrancing spectacle.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is a hush of expectation as the ancient clock in the little market hall strikes the hour of eight. Then suddenly the limpid air is rent by the roar of another salvo from behind the town. It is the signal for the Fête to begin, and as the first exuberant notes of the Triumphal March swell upwards a stately procession of two thousand performers enters the arena. Slowly out of the chaos there evolves a picture of infinite beauty. Another crash of music and two thousand voices rise to Heaven in a glorious Hymn of Invocation. Then comes the grandest moment in the lives of those who have accomplished their tasks in the vineyards with honour. One by one these proud sons of the soil step up to the rostrum, to receive from the hands of the Abbot the hard-won recompense for their labours.

This moving ceremony over, the arena is left in possession of resplendent groups in allegorical garb of Winter. "Winter, winter, under the great dark pines," chants the chorus as oddly-fashioned sleighs pass by with their attendant companies of huntsmen and dogs.

Winter time is wedding time in the Alps, and soon comes the pretty scene of the peasant "Noce," with the blushing bride leaning timidly on the arm of her beloved, followed by a long procession of villagers in their time-honoured costumes. Once more the music rises triumphant as Winter recedes at the advent of Spring, Spring glorious Spring? Nature's greatest miracle, when latent life begins again its mysterious urge throughout the Universe.

Through the wide Corinthian portals appears the Goddess Palès, enthroned in regal pomp on a great white car, with fauns and multicoloured wood-nymphs grouped about her, symbols of all the glories of Spring. Timid little shepherds and shepherdesses chant their haunting refrains, gossamer-clad fairies flit madly hither and thither, the mowers wield their scythes—a sylvan picture of exquisite colour and music.

Then, as Spring gradually merges into Summer, the stirring notes of the Invocation to Ceres rise in a grand crescendo. On a superb chariot drawn by massive oxen the beautiful Priestess Ceres makes her triumphal entry. Above the pulsing rhythm of the orchestra her glorious voice rings out—"Sun of love, Sun of joy, fill the Earth with thy life-giving rays." Then, while the reapers and gleaners are busy with their tasks, little water sprites and fantastic gnomes glide across the scene in intricate measures of dance; a giant "armailli" with a wonderful tenor voice intones the famous "Ranz des Vaches"—there is a crash of thunder, the "Storm in the Mountains" breaks, and the vast concourse is hushed in silence as the players kneel in a prayer of Thanksgiving for the Lord's protection.

Now the glories of Summer give way to the beautiful tints of Autumn. Once more the lofty portals swing open, and joyful Bacchus, seated astride a huge wine cask with his roystering company of disciples at hand, makes his noisy entrance. "Descend amongst us, Bacchus," declaims the High Priest, "and pour into our hearts thy warmth Divine." Next come the vintagers, stalwart sons of the soil, chanting their quaint folk-songs as they harvest the grapes. Fauns and grotesque Bacchantes join in a wild Bacchanalian dance—quicker and quicker goes the music: wailing, beseeching, triumphant, to blend in one great harmonious Hymn to the Glorification of Labour.

\* \* \*

It is a heart-stirring spectacle, this stupendous effort of a laborious people who garner the fruits of the Earth only by incessant toil and by the sweat of the brow. One marvels at their simple, unflinching faith, until as the glorious vision of the Fête fades, and the eye wanders upwards towards the great alpine summits, one seems to see embodied there the symbol of those sublime ideals which throughout the ages have ennobled mankind, and given him courage in the everlasting struggle for existence.

The Festival of the Fête des Vignerons will be spread over a period of ten days. In addition to six full-dress performances there will be processions through the streets of Vevey in which the entire cast is to figure. At night beacons will glow from the surrounding heights, while the lake-front will be converted into fairyland by the multi-coloured lights of Venetian fêtes.

From all corners of the earth people flock to see this wonderful spectacle, a production unique of its kind. Those who are able to enjoy this great privilege will return to their homes possessed of a souvenir of inestimable charm and beauty which even time cannot dim.

MARIA IVOGUN.

By Sophie Wyss.

Maria Ivogun is sweet. Her soprano voice is sweet, and so are her personality and person. And her art is delightful. She has been singing at Covent Garden this season, and did so two or three seasons ago, but it is doubtful if this is any real introduction to the British public, because the audiences and the occasions are special in every sense of the word, and she could not be said to have appeared before an ordinary London audience until she had sung at the Queen's Hall or Albert Hall.

Last Sunday she did so. It was at the Albert Hall, and her success with a very large audience was obvious. Unabashed by the vast empty spaces of the huge building, she stood beside Sir Thomas Beecham and sang Zerbinetta's air from Strauss's "Ariadne auf Naxos" with inimitable grace. She borrowed from the Opera stage Zerbinetta's coquettish charm, and her voice and manner actually brought on to the Concert platform memories of that delightful scene. There is no more difficult air for sopranos than this, yet her voice did not seem to know the meaning of the word. It cooed in the roof of the building as if it loved to lodge among such uncertain acoustics, it rode jauntily upon the accompaniment of the London

Symphony Orchestra to those heights around E which most of us find so trying. Small and gentle as it was, it carried all before it.

Later she sang the "Blue Danube" Waltz and "Il Bacio" as bis. I naturally rather grudged these two items, as there were so many things one would have rather heard. Indeed, she took "Il Bacio" so slowly and calmly that it lost that certain savour which the typical Italian coloratura soprano brings to it by a treatment of hectic haste. Nevertheless, her performance was one of perfection in singing, and it is good to reflect that she has now set her little feet firmly upon the English concert stage. I hope she will tour the length and breadth of the land, so that she may set a standard for light soprano singing. But even so, I do not think that the British will ever produce their own Ivoguns and Hempels. It is a matter of temperament as well as singing.

It will seem a pity to those of us who have heard her give Lieder Recitals in Switzerland that she is not going to do something of the kind in one of the small Halls. Then perhaps the newspaper writers would realise, as they do not know, that she is an exquisite artist capable of the subtleties of Schubert as well as the fireworks of Donizetti.

FETE SUISSE.

A PROPOS DE LA FETE SUISSE DE CETTE ANNEE.

Nous voici à moins de quatre semaines de la "Fête Suisse," et il est temps d'en reparler un brin, dans l'honorable organe de notre Colonie!

Pourquoi donc, se demander certains, une fête au mois de Juin, alors que, de notoriété publique, la fête nationale suisse se célèbre le premier Août?

Question bien naturelle, mais dont la réponse ne l'est pas moins!

C'est que la "Fête Suisse" de Londres remonte à plus d'un quart de siècle avant l'institution par les autorités fédérales, de la célébration du mois d'Août, commencée en 1891. C'est en 1864 déjà, qu'elle vit le jour dans la cité des bords de la Tamise. Et lorsqu'un a le privilège de posséder, dans une Colonie comme la notre une tradition aussi distinctive, il vaut la peine de la maintenir tant qu'elle répondra à un besoin.

Or, tel est bien le cas, nous semble-t-il, n'y aurait-il que l'affluence qu'elle a comme plus d'une fois, particulièrement l'an dernier, pour le prouver. Mais il y a plus: D'abord, nos prédécesseurs ont judicieusement choisi un mois de l'année qui, à Londres, convenait à tout le monde. Et puis, ils savaient que dans une Colonie aussi dispersée que la nôtre, c'était un besoin du coeur de pouvoir, une fois au moins tous les douze mois, se rencontrer avec des compatriotes et des amis qu'on ne réussit guère à voir autrement. Avec son intuition si vive, le pasteur d'alors, à l'Eglise Suisse, Emmanuel Pétavel-Olif, l'initiateur de notre Fête, avait parfaitement perçu ces desirs profonds. Et c'est ce qui explique que le vieux "Thé suisse," soit si vite devenu une institution chère à beaucoup. Ils sont beaucoup parmi nous qui en témoigneraient, tel, par exemple, le doyen de notre Colonie qui n'en a pas manqué un depuis 1865, si la rumeur dit vrai!...

Ce n'est pas, avouons-le, que la "Fête Suisse" ait jamais prétendu rivaliser avec des concerts selects ou des soirées mondaines. A d'autres l'organisation de divertissements de ce genre. Non, tout simplement elle a voulu demeurer la fête de famille de notre Colonie. Et voilà pourquoi elle continue à être appréciée même si, entre temps, d'autres réjouissances ont vu le jour parmi nous.

C'est conscient de ce cachet tout spécial de notre Fête, que son comité a cherché à accentuer encore davantage, cette année, tout ce qui lui garderait son caractère familial et familial.

Il espère, donc, que vous serez nombreux, amis lecteurs, à vouloir vérifier de vos yeux, Mercredi 22 Juin, si j'ai dit vrai! Le Secrétaire.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

In connection with the scholastic programme the following lectures were given by the students during last week:—

Miss H. Z'Graggen, Lucerne: "Military Service for Women." Mr. Robert Egloff: "English and Swiss National Characters compared." Mr. E. Hunziker, Winterthur: "English and Greek Empires." Mr. Erwin Knecht, Neuhausen: "Experiences of a Swiss Student on his First Day in London." Miss M. Siegenthaler: "Farewell Speech." Miss Lylie Steiner, St. Moritz: "Social Life." Mr. Pierre Bachmann, Basle: "Air-Mail Nowadays." Mr. Julius Heftli, Glarus: "Internationalism—Militarism—War." Mr. A. E. Staehelin, Basle: "New Office Machines in Banking and Financial Institutions." Mr. Max Ehinger, Basle: "Should Women or Should Men Work?"

The debating classes dealt with the following subjects:—

"Should Switzerland abolish her Army?" Proposer, Mr. August Reimann, Winterthur; Opposer, Mr. Hans Bracher, Burgdorf.

"Is the formation of trusts, companies, etc., beneficial to a nation?" Proposer, Mr. Arthur Dardel, Zofingen; Opposer, Miss T. Singer, Basel.

"Is Socialism beneficial to humanity?" Proposer, Mr. Karl Rau, Basel; Opposer, Mr. L. Wohlwend, Celerina.

Friday evening.—Debate (President, Mr. H. Joss): "Who is the most important factor in human life, Man or Woman?" Proposer, Mr. H. Büchli (Woman); Opposer, Mr. H. Strasser.

**SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.**

The Swiss Benevolent Society will be moving shortly to their new premises at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, and they are in need of the following:—1 fair sized carpet; 1 writing desk; 3 or 4 moderate sized tables; a few office chairs; 1 typewriting table, with drawers; 1 filing cabinet; 12 cups and saucers; 1 large kettle.

If any of our compatriots have any of the above articles to dispose of, they would be rendering the Society a very good service in sending same to Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1, addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Benevolent Society.

**SWISS SPORTS.**

**SHOOTING COMPETITION.**

Held at Hendon May 7th-8th, 14th-15th, 21st-22nd, 1927.

List of Winners and Scores:—

100 Yds. Automatic Target (Possible 100):

- I. P. Devincinti ... Scored 97 Points.
- II. T. C. Wetter ... " 96
- III. A. Lampert ... " 93

300 Meter Target (10 Circles, Possible 100):

- I. R. Hirt ... Scored 79 Points.
- II. T. C. Wetter ... " 71
- III. A. Lampert ... " 69

The above is the list of the winners and scores of the Swiss Sports Shooting Competition, in which quite a number of marksmen took part. It will be noticed that some very fine scores are recorded, both on the 100yds. Automatic Target as well as on the 300m. Target.

The 300 metre Target is now divided into ten circles, as against five in previous years. The first score of 79 points on this target, although still far away from the 100, would still represent a possible, i.e., every shot a bull, had it been on the old target of five circles, thus showing that also here the scores are very good.

A. LAMPERT, Chief Range Officer.

**The Mystery of a Forsaken Motor Launch on the Lake of Zurich.**

The missing bank cashier of the Zurich branch of the Swiss National Bank, Oskar Kessler, was arrested last Tuesday at Victoria Station. He had disappeared from Zurich about five weeks ago under somewhat mysterious circumstances, leaving a deficiency in his bank accounts of about Frs. 560,000. A reward of Frs. 10,000 was offered for information leading to his arrest. Kessler was charged last Wednesday at Bow-street Police Court on a provisional extradition warrant, and pending the completion of the necessary formalities was remanded in custody. When arrested by the detective and informed of the charge he said: "Yes, it is correct. I only brought 12,000 francs with me and left the remainder in Switzerland." He had in his possession over £400 in various currencies.

After his disappearance his private motor launch was found adrift on the Lake of Zurich with the engine in such a condition as to lead to the assumption that he had fallen overboard when refilling the tank with oil.

It will be interesting to learn how the fugitive managed to enter this country in view of the existing restrictions.

The friends of Mr. Freddie Notari, brother of the President of the Unione Ticinese, will be pleased to know a son was born to him recently and that both mother and child are doing well. The delighted father will perhaps not mind if his friends wish him many happy returns of the event.

**VACANCIES IN SWITZERLAND.**

At the request of the Federal Labour Office (Eidgen. Arbeitsamt, 8, Bundesgasse, Bern) we are publishing, at regular intervals, lists of special vacancies in Switzerland for which suitable candidates are not available at home. Whilst it is intended to fill these vacancies, whenever possible, with Swiss from abroad, applications are considered from foreigners possessing the necessary qualifications. Offers, stating date of publication and reference number, should be addressed to the Swiss Consulate in whose district the applicant resides, and will then be forwarded to the proper quarter in Switzerland. We publish the list in the original text as received from the Labour Office.

- E 2529 **Küschnermeister**, mit langjähriger Praxis, als selbständiger Meister; nach Basel.
- F 2565 **Werkmeister in Lederwarenfabrik**, Vorarbeiter mit Praxis als solcher; nach dem Kanton Zurich.
- F 2645/46 **Spécialistes s/suit-cases**, pour suites cases en cuir garni et en fibre sans cadre en bois; pour fabrique d'articles en cuir à Neuchâtel.
- F 2917 **Gerbereileiter**, mit langjähriger Praxis, der neue Ledersorten einführen kann und die neuen modernen Fabrikationsverfahren kennt; nach dem Kanton Zurich.
- G 2701 **Glas- und Diaposivmalere**, selbständiger Spezialist mit längerer Praxis; für Reklameteilnehmer in Basel.
- G 2870 **Peintre au pistolet**; pour usine métallurgique à Genève.
- H 2649 **Schreiner-Werkführer**, in der Bau- und Möbelbranche bewandert; für grösseres Baugeschäft in Schaffhausen.
- H 2763 **Contramaître-ébéniste expérimenté** comme traceur, débiteur, vernisseur, connaissant le frisé; pour ébénisterie à Carouge.
- H 2872 **Werkmeister in Stuhl- und Tischfabrik**, mit langjähriger Praxis im Stuhl- und Tischfach; im Kanton Aargau.
- J 2537 **Trikolagen-Werkmeister**, auf Kunstseide und deren Spezialitäten hervorragend qualifiziert, auf nur ganz feine Seidenstoffe; für Zwirnerei und Bleicherei im Kanton Appenzell.
- M 2626 **Druckfarben-Aureibereiter**, Spezialfachmann, befähigt, die Druckfarben individuell dem Verwendungszweck (Buch- oder Stein- druck) und der Druckerei (Tief-, Offset- druck, etc.) anzureiben, den Firnis zu erstellen und die so zubereiteten Druck- farben auf ihre Druckeigenschaften zu prüfen; nach dem St. Gallen-Oberland.
- N 2541 **Präzisions-Optiker**, mit durchgreifender Branchenkenntnis, der Prismen und Präzisionslinsen selbständig anfertigen kann; nach Basel.
- N 2658 **Chef d'atelier/contremaitre-carrossier**, ayant une longue pratique dans la direction d'ateliers de forge, garniture et peinture s/ auto; pour Genève.
- N 2659 **Büchsenmacher**, Spezialist auf automatische Gewehre und Pistolen, Jagdgewehre, etc., in der Herstellung und Reparatur dieser Waffen durchaus bewandert; nach Winterthur.
- N 2711 **Schmelzmeister**, der den Chargengang in jedem Stadium beurteilen und aus den Proben die Mittel gegen die Fehlchargen erkennen kann; für elektro-thermische Industrie im Jura.
- N 2877 **Monteurs-spécialistes**, parlant si possible, le français; pour fabrique de distributeurs de benzine dans le Canton de Vaud.
- O 2885 **Gitrler a Christofelgeschirre**, der die Fabrikation von Löffeln, Kaffeemaschinen, Platten, sowie das Furnieren von Messern gründlich kennt; für Silberwarenfabrik im Kanton Neuenburg.
- P 2838 **Geschäftsführer**, mit Fachkenntnissen in Schneiderei und Textilbranche, in Buchführung, Kalkulation, Korrespondenz und im Teil-Zahlungsverfahren, wöniglich mit Praxis am Platze Basel in ähnlicher Stellung; für Manufacturwarengeschäft und Mass-Atelier in Basel.
- P 2839 **Geschäftsführer**, über Beziehungen mit Nürnberg-Spielwarenfabrikanten verfügend, mit längerer Branche-Praxis, für den Auf- und Ausbau der Galanterie- und Nürnbergerspielwarenabteilung eines Gross-Kaufhauses, für Haushaltsgeschäft im Luzerner Seetal.
- P 2887 **Comptable**, stylé en Angleterre (Chartered Accountant) connaissant parfaitement la langue anglaise; pour maison vaudoise ayant eu anciennement son siège à Londres.
- S 2514 **Zahnarzt-Assistent**, für zahnärztliches Atelier in Winterthur.
- S 2594 **Sekundarlehrerin**, akademisch gebildet, die englische Sprache gründlich beherrschend und musikalisch gebildet (Klavier), für den Unterricht in den höheren Klassen (Kinder bis zum 16. Jahre); für Jugendheim in Fremdenkurort des Kantons Graubünden.
- S 2635 **Dessinateur en carrosserie automobile**, parlant le français; pour important atelier à Lausanne.
- S 2846 **Chimiste**, spécialiste expérimenté dans la parfumerie; pour fabrique de parfums près de Genève.

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**Divine Services.**

**EGLISE SUISSE (1762), 79, Endell St., W.C.2**  
(Langue française.)

Dimanche, 29. Mai, 11h.—CONFIRMATION, M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme.

6.30.—Service liturgique et musical.

7.30.—Réunion de prière.

Pentecôte, 5. Juin: Ste. Cène.

Lundi de Pentecôte: Promenade.

BAPTEME.

Margaret Bertha Elizabeth OCHS, née le 25. Mars 1927, fille de Gustav Adolf et de Alice née Proctor, de Bâle-Ville, le 22. Mai, 1927.

Pour tous renseignements concernant actes pastoraux, etc., prière de s'adresser à M. R. Hoffmann-de Visme, 102, Hornsey Lane, N.6 (Téléphone: Mountview 1738).  
Heure de réception à l'Eglise: Mercredi 10.30 à 12h.

**SCHWEIZERKIRCHE**

(Deutschschweizerische Gemeinde)

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Sonntag, den 29. Mai 1927.—11 Uhr morgens: Gottesdienst; 7 Uhr abends: Gottesdienst.

Sprechstunden: Dienstag 12—1 Uhr in der Kirche. Mittwoch, 3—5 Uhr, im Foyer Suisse.

Anfragen wegen Amtshandlungen etc., an den Pfarrer der Gemeinde C. Th. Hahn, 8, Chiswick Lane, W.4. Telefon Chiswick 4156.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**

Saturday, May 28th, at 2.30 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS at the Herne Hill Athletic Ground.

Saturday, June 11th.—SWISS BANK CLUB: Sports Meeting.

Wednesday, June 15th, at 7.15 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a supper, at 34-35, Fitzroy Sq., W.1.

Wednesday, June 22nd, 6 to 10.30.—58th FETE SUISSE, Caxton Hall, Westminster.

Sunday, June 26th.—UNIONE TICINESE: Annual Summer Outing.

SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.—Rehearsals every Friday evening. Every Swiss heartily invited to attend. Particulars from the Hon. Secretary, Swiss Choral Society, 74, Charlotte Street, W.1.

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