

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1935)

Heft: 713

Artikel: The eleventh haslemere Festival of Ancient Music, 1935 [to be continued]

Autor: Dolmetsch, Arnold

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692284>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 05.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

sure upward curve of the Swiss Industries Fair. Although the splendid weather in 1934 caused a considerable increase in the number of visitors, this year, although very unfavourably influenced by the bad weather and the critical state of economies, not only reached the record figures of last year but even beat them by about 1,000 visitors. For the general public 27,252 tickets were again issued this year (for one day's entry only). The countless visitors from all parts of Switzerland were brought in by 113 extra trains: the number of motor cars visiting the Fair was likewise greater than in the previous year.

Parallel with the attendance from Switzerland is the increase in the interest taken in the Fair by other countries. This year 1,558 (i.e. 1494) business men from 22 European and 15 overseas states gave their names to the Foreign Service Office of the Fair (this does not include those coming from within a radius of 50 kilometers from the Swiss frontier). The adjacent countries are naturally in the forefront: Germany at the head with 333 visitors, followed by France (316), Austria (108), Italy (100). Then came Hungary (39), Czechoslovakia and Rumania (23 each), Holland (20), Belgium (18), Great Britain (17), etc.

In view of the prevalent distress in various branches of trade and the great difficulties in the way of international commerce the Swiss Industries Fair of 1935 may be counted a great success. The replies given to queries put to exhibitors characterise the Fair somewhat as follows: — Over 70 per cent. announce a good to very good general impression of this year's Fair; more than 60 per cent. announce a good to very good attendance at their stands, whilst about 30 per cent. can only announce a middling one. More than 80 per cent. transacted direct business, and about 80 per cent. were able to form new business relations. The effect of the Fair's publicity was taxed as good, and even very good, by over 90 per cent. of the exhibitors.

The demand from other countries naturally varies to a great degree with the different groups. It was comparatively most favourable in the Watch Fair, the Office Requisites, the Building Fair, gas apparatus and firing plant and the products of the electricity trade. The groups for textiles, sports articles and toys, chemistry and

pharmacy likewise received orders from other countries. To the question whether the Fair had come up to expectations about 80 per cent. of the answers were in the affirmative. There are, of course, always people who are disappointed, but on the other hand there are a great many who do much better business than they had ever expected.

The demand and the business activities in the individual groups were naturally very different. In general the results obtained in the technical sections were excellent, particularly in those for gas apparatus and firing plants, in addition, the groups for transporting media, machinery and tools and the electrical trade. The Building Fair opened up a number of fresh business connections, also with abroad. The groups for fine mechanics and technical sundries were likewise among the successful sections.

In the textile branch exhibitors did strikingly good business, together with those in the household goods and dwelling equipment (a greater demand for single pieces of furniture than in the wholesale furniture fair), and the footwear and leather groups.

Thanks to their many improvements and novelties apparatus and equipment for modern business methods were in great demand both at home and abroad. The paper and paper products groups, shop equipment and packing did less, but still satisfactory business.

As compared with last year the Watch Fair showed a certain improvement which is to be particularly ascribed to a more active demand from abroad. The exhibitors of jewellery and silverware were all very satisfied, and the music group announced better Fair business as a whole than last year.

In sports articles and toys a number of manufacturers did very well, whilst the expectations of others were only partly fulfilled. Attendance at the chemical and pharmaceutical sections was much greater than previously; in addition to a number of direct transactions this trade enjoyed an active publicity and opened up several new connections.

Since its inauguration the Swiss Industries Fair has never been held in such unfavourable economic conditions as this year. But these difficulties have enhanced its importance. What has

been ascertained about business activity at the Fair is a proof that the Swiss Industries Fair has again overcome a number of difficulties by its efforts, and has not only accomplished its economic task in the home country, but also to a great degree maintained and created new relations with the economies of other countries, a factor of the highest importance to-day.

A FAMOUS SWISS BOOKSHOP. Buchhandlung A. Francke A.G., Bern.

By D. J. GILLAM, B.A., F.I.L.

In August, 1831, Johann Dalp, a young publisher from the Grisons, announced the removal of his business to Bern. It is not known where he received his early training, but he is known to have been for several years an assistant in G. F. Heyer's house at Giessen, and subsequently manager of the Hofbuchhandlung Heyer in Darmstadt. Although on the title page of his first production the place of publication is given as Chur, it is now highly doubtful whether he was ever definitely established there as a publisher; the fact remains, however, that even his later publications are marked "Bern und Chur," or "Bern, Chur und Leipzig." It is not known why Dalp chose Bern for his business, but he probably regarded it, and rightly so, as an important intellectual centre, where he had every reason to expect to become known to the French, as well as the German, part of the population. In Bern he soon established himself both as a publisher and bookseller, and his autumn catalogue for 1832 shows that he had already published eighteen books and two maps, as well as a considerable number of engravings and lithographs. In the following year he began publishing the work of local authors, as well as school books. Dalp's activities covered a wide field, and he published in the same year an edition of Schiller's "Wilhelm Tell," with a commentary by C. H. Hugendubel. This involved him in difficulties with the Cotta Verlag, who threatened proceedings for breach of copyright. This was only the first of a series of trials, which were not lessened by the prevailing economic situation, and it appears that Dalp was continually disappointed by the meagre success of his enterprises.

THE ELEVENTH HASLEMERE FESTIVAL OF ANCIENT MUSIC, 1935.

PRELIMINARY DISCOURSE.

By ARNOLD DOLMETSCH.

In the Oratorios and Cantatas of the 18th Century, principally in the great works of J. S. Bach, one finds occasional pieces using special instruments, more or less uncommon and quite different from the Strings, Oboes and Flutes, for which the bulk of the Music is scored. They enhance the effect of some pathetic, brilliant or tender song, often one of the most beautiful pieces in the work. Despite my 50 years' crusade and my own example, our organisers and conductors continue to suppress these pieces, or worse still, they use some common instrument as a substitute, however incapable it may be of reproducing the intended quality of tone; a Viola da Gamba is replaced by a Violoncello; a Viola d'Amore by a Viola. Many years ago, G. B. Shaw, who was a discerning musical critic, compared the tone of the Viola after the Viola d'Amore, to a mouthful of margarine after a mouthful of honey!

Most of these special instruments have been thoroughly mastered by members of my family and my disciples, including Lutes, Viols d'Amore, Viole da Gamba, Violoncello Piccolo, Recorders and many others. A striking example of the admirable use Bach made of these instruments occurs in the St. John Passion, the Bass Arioso, "Betrachte, meine Seele," is accompanied by two Viole d'Amore and a flauto obbligato for the Lute. As some of the lower notes do not exist on our instruments, we use a second Lute specially tuned to fill the gaps. The Continuo will be played on my Schnetzler Organ alone. It has been recognised that the Harpsichord and the Lute do not blend well together. In the Tenor Aria of which the above is an elaborate introduction, two Viole d'Amore have important parts, but no mention is made of the Lute; and yet, obviously, the Lute must have continued to play the accompaniment of this song, although no obligato part is written for it.

The Viola d'Amore has a pretty name, although it is probably corrupted from Viola da More, the Viol. of the Moor; its sympathetic strings are a characteristic feature of Eastern Instruments; they give a fascinating ring and a curious ethereal quality to the tone which is most effective in special music.

The Viola d'Amore with sympathetic strings does not appear to have been known in England before the arrival in London of Attilio Ariosti about the year 1700. He was a skilled and genial performer on that instrument and met with great success. His Italian Operas were much admired in London before Handel appeared on the scene; but Ariosti could not stand against such a power-

ful rival; he played some Viola d'Amore pieces in Handel's operas, but eventually became poor and returned to Italy. His music has not the strength and grandeur of Handel's, but in compensation it possesses the Italian characteristics of grace and charm to a high degree.

The Cantata which will be performed at the 9th Concert will prove a delight for delicate ears. The words are singularly appropriate; they compare the "Gentil Viola" (the modest Violet) with the Rose, arrogant queen of flowers, which defends itself with cruel spines. The "Gentil Viola" personifies the Viola d'Amore whilst the Rose seems to stand for the Violin.

The Lute has made great progress lately. Not long ago, one Lute was all that we had. Now we are having some pieces performed as they were intended by a Consort of 4 Lutes. As each Lute can, and does play in full harmony, the harmonic richness of the ensemble may well be imagined. It is strange that such beautiful instruments, which nothing else can replace, should have disappeared; but the Art of Music, even more than the other arts, seems to suffer from a desire for novelty at any cost. Fashion, "the great Dame of lyes," has a paramount power upon it.

Great composers, the most eminent in their time, whose worth can be appreciated by anybody who studies their music, have completely disappeared. Their names and a few facts can be found in Encyclopedias, but that is all.

One of these was Christopher Tye, born in 1490. He started his career at the age of seven, as a chorister in King's College, Cambridge, and eventually became Bachelor and Doctor in Music in the same University. Henry VIIIth, himself a great musician, selected Tye to teach Music to his son, Prince Edward, a most important part of a Prince's education then. The King, addressing his son, is said to have spoken thus: —

"England one God, one truth, one doctor hath

"For musickes art, and that is Doctor Tye."

Tye was a witty man, a poet and a philosopher. In that play by Samuel Rowley wherein some of the remarkable events of the reign of Henry VIIIth are represented, there is a conversation between Dr. Tye and Prince Edward which I should like to quote in its entirety; however, the following lines will give some idea of its purport: —

"In musicke may your grace ever delight,
"Though not in me. Musicke is fit for kings.

"And not for those know not the chime of strings.

"Musicke is heavenly, for in heaven is musicke.

"And last the trumpets musicke shall awake the dead,

"And cloathe their naked bones in coates of flesh,

"To appeare in that high house of parliament,

"When those that gnash their teeth at musickes sound,

"Shall make that place where musicke nere was found."

There is in the British Museum a precious collection of pieces for Viols, containing 19 In Nomine in Five Parts, by Dr. Tye. Some of them bear descriptive names; the one we shall play in the 8th Concert has the single word "Crye" as a title.

Its subject is a curious sobbing phrase, unlike anything else I have ever seen in Viol music. It is developed continuously, like a Fugue of Bach, until a section in triple time starts a new Fugue, with a laughing subject which seems to deride the previous "Crye," and brings this astonishing composition to a happy conclusion. Dr. Tye was organist to Queen Elizabeth when he died, in 1565. He had been the leading musician under four music-loving sovereigns.

A hundred years after Christopher Tye, another brilliant star, whose light has been dimmed, was conspicuous in the musical constellations; Girolamo Frescobaldi, born in Ferrara in 1583. His life was a continuous succession of triumphs. In his youth he had such a lovely voice and sang with such grace that, according to a contemporary, amateurs followed him from town to town during his journeys. Judging from a rare portrait of him in my possession, he was one of the most beautiful musicians that ever lived. He developed early an extraordinary talent as organist. In 1608, he was appointed organist of St. Peter in Rome at an unheard of salary. 30,000 people would congregate in the church to hear him play. I have descriptions of his improvisations which surpass the wildest imaginations. Nothing more wonderful has ever been done, even by J. S. Bach, a hundred years later.

Frescobaldi's compositions for the Organ and the Harpsichord have been published in two books, the first being dated 1614. They are beautifully engraved in the Italian style, the music is noted on a six line staff for the right hand, and an eight line one for the left, with a free use of all the clefs. All is perfectly clear, although an ordinary musician would find it troublesome to read. This is no serious drawback, for the text could easily be transcribed in ordinary notation. But the Music itself is more difficult to interpret than any other Keyboard Music.

(To be continued.)

When Johann Dalp died in August, 1851, five of his chief creditors took over the firm and re-established it under the management of Karl Schmid, who had been employed by Dalp for just over a year. Two assistants and a messenger formed the entire staff. Schmid had had four years' training in Frankfurt, whence he came direct to Bern. In view of his youth he must have exhibited exceptional talent, as the post carried with it no mean responsibility. His early accounts and balance sheets show that he was gradually able to wipe off the whole of the original deficit, and on January 1st, 1866, he personally took over the managing partnership of the business, which was registered as the "Dalp'sche Buchhandlung (Karl Schmid)," and removed to new premises. Schmid had considerable difficulty in keeping his business alive, as he had but limited means, and much of his capital was held abroad. However, by dint of extreme diligence and thrift he gained the confidence of the public, and was able to publish a number of books by Swiss authors and on Swiss subjects. He published a collection of excellent maps of Switzerland, which are well known even to-day. As the business continued to grow it had again to be moved in 1873 to more commodious quarters in the Bahnhofplatz, where it remained until 1911.

After the inauguration of the St. Gotthard Tunnel in 1883 Schmid opened a branch in Lugano, and bought the business of Meyer & Zeller in Como. This branch was managed by his son Edmund, and the parent-business at Bern fell under the direction of his son-in-law, Alexander Francke, who, having received his training in Cologne and Vienna, had been for nine years an Assistant of Schmid's. In 1885 Edmund Schmid and Alexander Francke were made partners, and the business became known as "Schmid, Francke & Cie., vormals J. Dalp'sche Buchhandlung." In 1896 Edmund Schmid was obliged, on the grounds of ill-health, to retire from business, and the Como branch was wound up. The branch at Lugano was sold, and the firm was re-registered as "Schmid und Francke." Karl Schmid was responsible for the publishing section of the business, and Francke was the manager of the rapidly growing retail department. Schmid retired in 1902, and the business was continued by Francke in his own name.

Alexander Francke was a North-German who had made his home in Bern. His forceful personality and very great industry stood him in good stead, and he centred his energies in the production and propagation of worth-while literature. He concentrated on the publication of Swiss books, and was a valuable and active supporter of Otto von Greyerz in his activities for the development of local culture. All important Bernese literature was published by Francke, including Emanuel Friedli's great work on the local dialect and the ever-popular stories of Rudolf von Tavel, Simon Gessler, Josef Reinhart and others. Other important publications were a book of pictures of the great Swiss poet Haller, with explanatory text, and Roland Anheisser's treatise on old Swiss architecture. Francke's work on behalf of Swiss literature was justly commended by the University of Bern, which presented him with a doctorate *honoris causa*.

In 1911 the ever-growing business moved to its present splendid premises in the Bubenbergplatz. The roomy and comfortable shop, with its pleasant easy-chairs and close on a mile of self accommodation (not to mention the extraordinarily expansive display windows), is with good reason a favourite haunt of those whose pleasure it is to "browse" amongst books. The commodious stock-rooms and offices can hardly be surpassed anywhere for convenience and utility.

In November, 1925, Dr. Francke died quite unexpectedly, and the business became a limited company ("Buchhandlung A. Francke A.G."), in which form it now exists as a worthy memorial to Francke himself, as well as to his predecessors. In spite of many difficulties and the effects of the general economic crisis it continues to enjoy a position of first importance, not only in the book trade itself, but among the various cultural influences of Switzerland.

*The Publishers' Circular and
The Publisher and Bookseller.*

NEWS FROM THE COLONY. 66me FETE SUISSE.

Having, in our last number drawn the attention to the above event, which will take place on Thursday, the 27th of June, at the Central Hall, Westminster, we wish to remind our readers and their friends, that a very interesting programme has been arranged.

Such well-known artistes as Mlle. Eva Cattaneo, a singer blessed with a golden voice, M. Wladimir Czernikow the well-known pianist from Geneva, Messrs F. v. Bergen and A. Gandon, Yodeller and accordeon player respectively, and Mr. E. A. Seymour, F.R.C.O. organist, have put their services at the disposal of the Committee; these names are sufficient to guarantee an enjoyable evening.

In addition, the Swiss Orchestral Society, the Swiss Choral Society and the "Choeur mixte" will participate in the programme; thus providing a further attraction.

We heartily recommend our readers and friends to attend the 66me Fête Suisse, which is a real patriotic gathering where one can cement old friendships and make new ones. Therefore "Au revoir," Thursday next at the CENTRAL HALL.

SWISS MERCANTILE SOCIETY LTD.

The Monthly Meeting of the Swiss Mercantile Society was held at Swiss House on Wednesday, June 12th. The President, Mr. A. Steinmann, was in the Chair. He read a letter from the Home Secretary addressed to the Swiss Colony in London in reply to an Address of Congratulation sent to H.M. King George V on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee.

The Chairman then proceeded to report on the Delegates' Meeting of the S.K.V. held at Lausanne on May 11th and 12th which he attended on behalf of the London Section. He gave a very comprehensive and lucid account of the lengthy and important deliberations and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for the efficient manner in which he carried out his mission.

The successful competitors of the London Section and of the College at this year's Swiss Sports were invited to this meeting. The members of the London Section were successful in winning the "Georges Dimier Challenge Cup" which is awarded to the Society gaining the highest aggregate of points. The Cup was won outright by the London Section as winners on three consecutive occasions. The Society has won the Georges Dimier Cup seven times in the last eight years.

The new Veteran's Cup for the 120 yds. race, presented by the Union Helvetia, was again won by Mr. H. H. Baumann, Vice-Chairman of the Education Committee, who has won this race five times in the last six years, thus showing wonderful consistency.

Mr. W. Burren reported on the performances of the competitors whose results were warmly acclaimed.

The Cups were then filled with wine and passed round in the spirit which behoves successful athletes, and the exuberance culminated in community singing which on these auspicious occasions always forms the *pièce de résistance*.

A feature of the meeting was a show of the cantonal coats of arms carried out in stained glass by our compatriot, Mr. Alfred Werck, of Mardley Hill, Welwyn (Herts.). The marvellous collection which passed round created great interest.

The Chairman then had a very pleasant duty to perform. On behalf of the Society, he presented Mr. W. Meier, Chairman of the Education Committee, and Mrs. Meier with a beautiful wedding gift in the form of a cut glass liqueur service. The newly wed were cordially received by the meeting and suitable words were spoken.

Mr. Burren then gave particulars of an Athletic Match between the Metropolitan Police "C" Division Athletic Club, (Metropolitan Police Cross-Country Champions 1931, 1932, 1933 and 1935 and Winners of the "Victory" Cup 1930, 1931, 1933 and 1934), and the Swiss Mercantile Society, to be held at Imber Court, Thames Ditton, on Wednesday, July 3rd, at 3.30 p.m. Coaches will leave Swiss House at 2 p.m. (Tickets on sale at the office of the S.M.S.: Tel. Museum. 6693). The "S.M.S. CUP," presented for this

occasion by the College of the S.M.S., will be awarded to the Club gaining the highest aggregate of points. The following events will be competed for: 100 yds.; 220 yds.; 880 yds.; 1 mile; Veterans' Race; High Hurdles; 1 mile Relay Race (880 x 440 x 220 x 220 yds.). (All scratch races); Long Jump; High Jump; Discus, Javelin and Putting the Weight. Each side will have three men for each event and the scoring will be on the basis of 5, 3, 2, 1 points respectively for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th places, whereas 10 points will be awarded to the winners of the relay race and 5 to the losers. Monsieur W. De Bourg, Counsellor, Swiss Legation, has kindly consented to present the Cup to the Winners. The match will be followed by tea and dance.

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was wound up with some songs by Mr. von Bergen, who was accompanied on the piano by Mr. C. Chappuis.

This was the last meeting before the summer vacation, it being decided that the July and August Meetings be cancelled as in previous years.

WB.

LONDON-BASEL, EIN LUFTSPRUNG.

Es war einer jener grauen, unfreundlichen Tage, die für den diesjährigen Londoner Sommer so bezeichnend sind, als sich eine fast ausschliesslich aus Schweizern bestehende Gesellschaft von 7 Personen in Croydon in das neueste Douglas-Flugzeug der "Swissair" einschiffte, um auf möglichst raschem, sicherem und angenehmen Wege nach der Schweiz zu gelangen. Kaum war die Kabine verschlossen, kaum hatte man sich in den bequemen Lehnstühlen gut eingenistet, als die zwei mächtigen 700-pferdigen Motoren zu brummen angingen. Ein letzter Gruss des uniformierten Vertreters der Swissair in London und seines jungen Gehilfen und die Maschine legte, nein sie tänzelte federleicht einige Dutzend Meter über den Boden: plötzlich schwebte man. Es war ein einzigartig schönes Gefühl, dieses Losgelöstsein von aller Erdschwere und das Auge gewöhnte sich rasch daran, die vertraut gewordenen Gebäude immer kleiner werden zu sehen. Unsere "Ito" — so wurde das Flugzeug aus unerfindlichen Gründen an irgend einer internationalen Konferenz getauft — hatte unterdessen sehr rasch an Höhe und Geschwindigkeit gewonnen, schon einem das letztere kaum richtig zum Bewusstsein kam, rollte doch die Erde einer grossen Landkarte vergleichbar langsam unter einem davon. Rasch war der Aermelkanal bei Dungeness erreicht und noch rascher war er überflogen, dies schon auf einer Höhe von 3000 Metern.

In der Kabine war aus der fremden Gesellschaft für die kurze Dauer des Fluges eine Familie geworden, betreut von der überaus freundlichen Schweizer Stewardesse Johanna Vögeli, die es mit ihrem charmanten Bernerwesen verstand, alles in gute Stimmung zu versetzen. Sie zeigte uns ihr Bordbuch, in welchem sich schon eine Anzahl von sehr bekannten Namen verewigt haben, servierte Früchte und Trankame und wenn jemand rauchen wollte, dann war sie flugs mit "Swissair-Zigaretten" zur Hand, die die Swissair freundlicher Weise ihren Gästen offeriert.

Unterdessen jagte die Maschine mit einer Geschwindigkeit von rund 300 Kilometern dahin. Von Luftkrankheit oder auch nur von einem beklemmenden Gefühl war keine Rede, so ruhig und stabil lag diese komfortable Kutsche in der Luft. Wir hatten uns auf das vielberühmte Schaukeln so ein ganz kleines bisschen gefürchtet; wir konnten uns indessen nicht genug über die



His Worship the Mayor of Cambridge and some of the Staff and Students of the S.M.S. at the Civic Reception in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall.