

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: - (1939)
Heft: 917

Artikel: Swiss sports & garden party
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-693361>

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: 30.01.2026

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

SWISS SPORTS & GARDEN PARTY

at

HERNE HILL on SATURDAY, JUNE 3rd.

Whoever handles the weather Department in those regions beyond our vision, deserves the hearty thanks of all those who found it worth while to attend the Swiss Sports and Garden Party at Herne Hill.

Although the attendance might be called, in an unpretentious way, satisfactory, there would have been ample accommodation for about double the number.

Certainly the weather could not be blamed this time, and as more people attended last year at the Duke of Yorks Headquarter's at Chelsea, when the weather was much less favourable, I have come to the conclusion that Herne Hill is too far away for a large number of would-be visitors.

It is a pity all the same, and I am convinced that with a little bit of goodwill and a little more understanding for those who arrange this yearly Sports Festival, a better "mustering of the Clans" might have been registered.

I believe that last year was the first time that the words "Garden Party" were added to the title, and this was done principally because of the side shows. In my report some twelve months ago I mentioned that these shows were not placed in a very favourable position, but you should have seen them this year, it was as if the Committee had gone especially out of its way to hide these stands, and ensure that no one should detect them, with the unavoidable result that the financial result of the side shows has proved to be a fiasco. This should, however, not reflect on the various stall holders, amongst them Messrs. J. J. Schneider, A. C. Stahelin and J. J. Pfander, who nearly shouted themselves hoarse in trying to attract "customers," if no better accommodation can be found in future, I suggest that each of these Gentlemen should be supplied with an "Alphorn." I saw my good friend Mr. J. J. Schneider packing up his stall, with heavy tears trickling down into his beard, which conveyed to me, more than words could have done that business has been bad.

This time again the Committee reverted to the former practice of gramophone music by using an Amplifier, I understand that this was done for reasons of economy, as the engagement of a band becomes too expensive; it is a pity though because a band is so much nicer, than what a friend of mine called "this tinned music," but, of course, the expenses have to be studied too. I felt very sorry of the Gentleman in charge of this "Department," it is no joke to "feed" this machine for about five hours in an almost tropical heat, not even a sunshade was forthcoming.

Yodles, marches, folk and patriotic songs followed each other continuously and the providers, Messrs. Newman deserve the thanks for this musical fare.

Punctuality has always been a virtue at the Swiss Sports and at 2.45 p.m. sharp the 1st event was run. As the results of the various competitions will be given at the end of this report, I will, with a few exceptions, desist from commenting on the achievements of some of the individual performers.

The 110 yds Flat Handicap and the 120 yds. Veterans' Walking Handicap deserve special mentioning, in the former, the winner Mr. Schildknecht (Swiss Bank) put up a very good performance, although no previous established records were beaten. The race practically ended in a dead heat. The 120 yds. Veterans' Flat Handicap was quite a good race, and the performance of Mr. Baehler (Swiss Federal Railways) who won on scratch, deserves special mentioning.

The 440 yds. Veterans' Walking Handicap (40 years and over) again was one of the chief attractions in the programme.

An impressive number of gallant veterans, none of them "bearded," but all of them with a grim determination written on their faces, lined up, and when a shot rang out they started to walk as if they had the last train to catch. They were "all smiles" — at the beginning — but after they had walked about half the distance, the faces of some of the competitors changed, and a pained

expression became visible, and at the finish some of them looked ghastly. It is, of course, not surprising, as a good many have reached the so-called "age of discretion," and their waist line has become a thing of the past. Somehow or other this group of men, who a few minutes before had looked a picture of health, and now on passing me, looked haggard and distressed, made me feel as if Sport is not altogether such an enjoyable pastime as it is made out to be, but "Jedem Tierchen, sein Pläsierchen." Mr. E. Weber (Swiss Bank) won and as he is married, his wife will no doubt make good use of his running capacities, in cases when tradesmen deliver the orders incomplete.

An announcement over the microphone, which by the way was very efficiently handled by Mr. J. C. Mayes, was then made that the Tag-o'-War was to take place, an event which always creates much interest. Before I describe this item I shall repeat what I wrote in my last year's report.

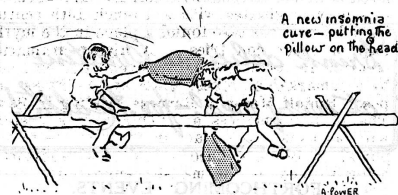
"In former years the teams used to come on the track in single file amidst the cheering of the crowd, whilst the band played some martial tune, which used to be most impressive; this year this harmless bit of showmanship was omitted, it is a pity, it always somehow reminded me of the entry of the gladiators into the arena in Rome, they need, of course, not have shouted, "Ave, Caesar, morituri te salutant!" —

So next year I hope that from the four corners of the track the teams headed by their respective captains will proudly march to the scene of their battle, whilst the band plays a lively march tune. —

The biggest surprise in that event was, that youth was completely knocked out by age; by youth I mean such teams as the Swiss Mercantile Society and the Swiss Federal Railways teams, and by age such valiant teams as the Union Helvetia and Cercle Valaisan, the latter two teams were in the Final and the Cercle Valaisan, captained by M. Delaloye, were declared the winners, it was a well-deserved and popular victory, and it goes to prove that there is plenty of life in our "Valaisans" who, no doubt, have been brought up on "Fendant" and "Johannisberger," what a splendid testimonial for these vintages.

Amongst the classical races the Relay Race, which was won outright (three years in succession) by the Swiss Mercantile Society "A" Team, was a pleasure to watch, there was some really fine sprinting to be seen. Runners-up were the Swiss Bank team.

A further attraction proved to be again the Pillow Fight, which was judged, as for many years past, by Mr. P. F. Boehringer.



I was greatly tempted to try my luck on the "pole," but when I saw the mighty array of those who seemed to be only too eager to give my face a good and hearty smack, in satisfying some grievance they might have against me, I thought better of it; because after all it has happened before, that a brick has found its way into one of the pillows, and a black eye is not exactly an ornament.

The outstanding performance in this event, was the fight between Mr. E. A. Nussle and Mr. Ch. Strubin, jun., both inflicting and taking heavy punishment in turn, for what seemed to me an eternity, in the end Mr. Nussle, who, I believe has been brought up on beer, was declared the winner, which again proves that "beer is best." What an eye-opener this must be to all teetotalers.

Fine results were obtained at the High Jump, although, they never came near to last year's per-

formance, where really amazing results were registered. This year there was a very small margin between the first three prize winners.

The same might be said about the Long Jump.

The 100 yds. Handicap races for Ladies, the 60 yds. for Girls and 80 yds. for Boys were enjoyable to watch.

Again, as last year, a beauty Parade for Ladies was held; unfortunately I missed this item, but I am told that they all looked very lovely and I sincerely hope that some of the bachelors present, have now decided to marry forthwith some of the beauties "on show." Miss Pauline Dupraz was declared the winner.

The "Georges Dimier Challenge Cup" for scoring the highest aggregate number of points was awarded to the Swiss Bank team scoring 27 points, runners-up were the Swiss Mercantile Society with 12 points.

There were, of course, various races for little girls and boys, and such fancy events as the Cigarette, Hoop, Skipping, Egg-and-Spoon races caused great hilarity.

Later in the afternoon the Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, accompanied by his two daughters arrived, they were received by M. de Cintra, President of the Swiss Sports Committee, whilst the Swiss Hymn was played.

I am somehow at a loss to grasp why a Hymn should great the official representative of our country, what is wrong with our National Anthem?

The other day I had an argument at a Meeting, when much to my amazement I was told that our National Anthem (Rufst du mein Vaterland) was not anymore popular — well, well — for a good many years now, our fathers and forefathers have, on patriotic occasions sung our National Anthem, and what is good enough for them should be good enough for us Swiss here. Admitted that for some time now there has been an agitation at home to find a new National Anthem, and if I am not wrong, a competition has been arranged and a prize has been allotted, but so far nobody in Switzerland has taken the slightest notice of it, let alone sung it, and until we are officially informed that a new National Anthem has been adopted, we should stick to our old one, even if it has the same tune as the English one; I might repeat, what is good enough for the English is good enough for the Swiss. To greet the Minister with a Hymn, late in the afternoon, whose verses run "Trittst im Morgenrot daher," seems to me stupid. I have nothing against the Swiss Hymn, both words and music are beautiful although 80 per cent, when singing it, come a cropper over the last line, but it is a Hymn (Psalm) and therefore should be sung or played at an appropriate moment. —

This has, of course, nothing to do with the Sports, but I thought it advisable to point out that whilst we have a National Anthem, we should not neglect it.

Previous to the presentation of the prizes, M. de Cintra, President of the Swiss Sports Committee addressed the gathering and expressed the satisfaction that the Swiss Minister was able to put in an appearance.

Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, who received a hearty ovation, when coming to the microphone, apologised for his late appearance, having had to attend the Tiremen's Display at Hyde Park.

The presentation of the prizes then took place by Mlle. Livia Paravicini, who was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers in the national colours.

In summing up I must heartily congratulate the members of the Sports Committee for their unselfish efforts to make this annual Sports Rally again a great success.

Although I do not like to single out names, I feel, that at least some of the members deserve to get special appreciation, first of all the three Directors of Sports, Messrs. R. Dupraz, H. Senn and P. Hiliker, who worked very hard. Entitled to praise for their great efforts are: Messrs. De



Maria, Secretary of the Sports Committee, J. J. Schneider, E. Ritzmann, W. Burren, C. Mayr, and, of course, M. R. de Cintra, the popular President of the Swiss Sports Committee.

The "Swiss Sports" seem to become, slowly but surely, popular again amongst the Colony and it is hoped that next year a still larger attendance can be registered.

ST.

Official Press Reporter.

RESULTS.

100 Yds. Flat Handicap (Boys): Time 11 2/5th s.
1st. P. Weber; 2nd. Terence Von Bergen.

120 Yds. Veterans' Flat Handicap: Time 14 1/5th.
1st. H. Baehler, Swiss Federal Railways, Scratch; 2nd. F. A. Pont, Union Helvetia, 8 yds.; 3rd. A. Tall, Swiss Federal Railways, 5 yds.

100 Yds. Flat Handicap (Men): Time 10 9/10th s.
1st. J. Schildknecht, Swiss Bank, 3 1/2 yds.; 2nd. E. Kunz, Swiss Bank, 5 1/2 yds.; 3rd. W. Burren, S.M.S., 7 yds.

440 Yds. Veterans' Walking Handicap: 1st. E. Weber, Swiss Bank; 2nd. D. E. Bonnet, Swiss Bank; 3rd. F. Von Bergen, S.M.S.; 4th. A. Gautschi; 5th. J. Gallo; 6th. U. Hauswirth; Consolation Prize, F. Matthey; Booby Prize, L. Jobin.

Tug-o'-War: Winners, Cercle Valaisan, Runners-up, Union Helvetia; 2 pulls to nil.

High Jump: 1st. E. R. Collet, S.M.S., 5ft. 2ins.; 2nd. R. Vermot, Swiss Bank, 5ft. 1in.; 3rd. H. Niedermann, S.M.S., 5ft. 1in.

Pillow Fight: 1st. E. A. Nussle; 2nd. Ernest Vogt; 3rd. Chas. Strubin, jun.; 4th. Jos Hurter.

100 Yds. Handicap (Ladies in Town Dress): Heat 1: Est. Mrs. Hill; 2nd. Miss Nichtwitz. Heat 2: 1st. Miss Muriel Stolz, 2nd. Miss D. Hauswirth. Heat 3: 1st. Miss Andree Charnaux; 2nd. Miss H. Deloff.

Girls' 60 Yds. Handicap: Heat 1: 1st. Sylvia Tall; 2nd. June Shaughnessy; 3rd. Sheila Shaughnessy; 4th. Margaret Rhodes. Heat 2: 1st. Phillis Weber; 2nd. Margaret Von Bergen; 3rd. Helen Affentranger; 4th. Betty Hauswirth. Heat 3: 1st. Georgette Clements; 2nd. Jeannette Shilling; 3rd. Nina Tall; 4th. Margaret Uden. Heat 4: 1st. Irene Matthey; 2nd. Irene Berti; 3rd. Sylvia Bachofen; 4th. Eileen Rhodes.

Boys' 80 Yds. Handicap: Heat 1: 1st. John Giardelli; 2nd. Roland Chappuis; 3rd. Michael Pradervand; 4th. Robin Streit. Heat 2: 1st. John Clements; 2nd. Paul Ryff; 3rd. Peter Affentranger; 4th. Eric Fisher. Heat 3: 1st. William Matthey; 2nd. John Evans; 3rd. Peter Weber; 4th. W. Noyes. Heat 4: 1st. John Notari; 2nd. John Hangartner; 3rd. Don Mayes; 4th. Tony Graham.

Long Jump: 1st. J. Schildknecht, Swiss Bank, 18ft. 1in.; 2nd. W. Burren, S.M.S., 18ft.; 3rd. H. Schuppli, S.M.S., 17ft. 10ins.

Cigarette Race: Heat 1: 1st. Miss H. Deloff and Mr. Meyer; 2nd. Miss M. Smutts and Mr. Kunzle. Heat 2: 1st. Miss C. Sharples and Mr. D. Barrett; 2nd. Miss D. Hauswirth and Mr. Norris.

Egg-and-Spoon Race: Heat 1: 1st. Margaret Uden; 2nd. Betty Hauswirth. Heat 2: 1st. Eileen Gerig; 2nd. Marjorie Atkinson. Heat 3: 1st. Anna Streuli; 2nd. G. de Cintra.

Three-Legged Race: Heat 1: 1st. Miss D. Hauswirth and Mr. A. G. Norris; 2nd. Miss Lina Hauswirth and Mr. Joseph Hauswirth. Heat 2: 1st. Miss Muriel Stolz and Mr. James Stolz; 2nd. Miss E. Woodward and Mr. B. Uden.

Relay Race: 1st. Swiss Mercantile Society "A" Team. Time 4min. 6 2/5ths. 2nd. Swiss Bank; 3rd. Swiss Mercantile Society "B" Team.

Hoop Race: Heat 1: 1st. Robin Wyss; 2nd. John Giardelli; 3rd. Arnold Brun. Heat 2: 1st. Eric Fisher; 2nd. Ronny Burnett; 3rd. John Clements. Heat 3: 1st. Tony Graham; 2nd. Roger Sterchi; 3rd. Peter Weber.

Skipping Race: Heat 1: 1st. June Stolz; 2nd. Anne Colloway; 3rd. P. Stolz. Heat 2: 1st. Anne Affentranger; 2nd. Betty Hauswirth; 3rd. Jeannette Shilling. Heat 3: 1st. Irene Berti; 2nd. Lina Hauswirth; 3rd. Margaret Uden.

Georges Dimier Challenge Cup: Winners, Swiss Bank, 27 points; Runners-up, S.M.S., 12 points.

Beauty Parade: 1st. Miss Pauline Dupraz; 2nd. Miss Gladys Pine; 3rd. Mrs. Charton; 4th. Miss Joan Egli; 5th. Miss Helène Affentranger.

CONCERT NEWS.

We have great pleasure to inform our readers, that Mlle. Violette Browne (Soprano) will give a Song Recital at Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W.1, on Monday, June 19th, at 8.30 p.m.

Mlle. Browne, who is the daughter of Mr. A. Brauen, President of the Consistoire of the Swiss Church, is no stranger to the London Concert public, as she has, although residing in the United States, on several occasions appeared on the London Concert stage.

In addition this gifted artiste has given in the past her support at such events as the "Fête Suisse" and the City Swiss Club Banquet, where her exquisite singing has been much admired.

Mlle. Browne, will be assisted by David Martin (Violin) and Alan Richardson, Piano.

The programme is a very attractive one, including songs by Handel, Mozart (with violin obligato), Schumann, Ravel, Bloch, Fauré, Delius, Edward German, etc.

We warmly recommend the members of the Swiss Colony, to give their support to one of our compatriots, who has on various occasions put her art at the disposal of the Colony, by attending in as great a number as possible at Wigmore Hall.

Tickets: (including Tax): Reserved 12/-, 9/- and 6/-; unreserved 3/-, may be obtained from Box Office, Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, usual Agents and of Imperial Concert Agency, Empire House, 175, Piccadilly, W.1.

IMPORTANT SWISS BROADCASTS.

We have great pleasure in informing our readers that the "Schweizerische Rundspruch Gesellschaft" in connection with the British Broadcasting Corporation has arranged a series of lectures to be given in English by prominent Swiss personalities.

The lectures will be given under the title "La Suisse une et diverse."

For the first three lectures the following Gentlemen have been booked:

Professor W. William Rappard (Thursday, June 29th, from 19.40-19.58, Studio Geneva); Professor A. Keller (Wednesday, July 5th, from 19.40-19.58, Studio Geneva); Professor P. Ganz (Thursday, July 13th, from 19.00-19.18, Studio Basle).

A fourth lecture by Sir Alfred Zimmern, a great friend of our country will be given on July 19th, from 19.40-19.58 through the B.B.C.

We warmly recommend our readers to "tune in" on these respective dates.

EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS.

The Swiss Bank Corporation has issued a revised edition of its very useful booklet "Foreign Exchange Restrictions."

Particulars are also given of clearing and similar agreements between the various countries. Copies may be obtained, free, on application to the bank at 99, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

Drink delicious "Ovaltine" at every meal - for Health!

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Wednesday, June 14th, at 8 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Monthly Meeting, at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Thursday, June 15th — "70ème Fête Suisse," at Central Hall, Westminster.

Friday, June 16th at 7.45 p.m. — Nouvelle Société Helvétique — Monthly Meeting — at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Monday, June 19th, at 8.30 p.m. — Song Recital by Violette Browne (Soprano), at Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W.1.

Thursday, June 22nd, at 7 p.m. — Swiss Y.M.C.A. — Lecture by Mr. Scheuermeier, on, "The use of little things in the power of God," Exod. 4. 1-5, at Westgate House, 28-29 Bedford Place, W.C.1. All young Swiss invited.

Tuesday, June 27th at 7.30 p.m. — City Swiss Club — Réunion d'été — at Brent Bridge Hotel, Hendon. (Ladies invited.)

Tuesday, August 1st — National Day Celebration at St. Pancras Hall.

SWISS BANK CORPORATION,

(A Company limited by Shares incorporated in Switzerland)

99, GRESHAM STREET, E.C.2.

and 11c, REGENT STREET, S.W. 1.

Capital Paid up s.f. 160,000,000

Reserves - - s.f. 32,000,000

Deposits - - s.f. 1,218,000,000

All Descriptions of Banking and Foreign Exchange Business Transacted

: : Correspondents in all : :

: : parts of the World. : :

Telephone :
MUSEum 2982Telegrams :
Foyssuisse London

FOYER SUISSE

12 BEDFORD WAY,
RUSSELL SQUARE,
LONDON, W.C.1Quiet position in centre of London.
Central heating and hot & cold water
throughout.

Continental cooking.

Management :
SCHWEIZER VERBAND VOLKSDIENST.

Divine Services.

EGLISE SUISSE (1762).

(Langue française).

79, Endell Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.
(Near New Oxford Street.)Dimanche 11 juin 1939: Hospital Sunday. Col-
lecte pour les hôpitaux.11h. Culte M. Lassey, de l'Afrique Occi-
dentale Française.

11h. Ecole du dimanche.

7h. Culte M. Lassey.

8h. Répétition du Choeur mixte.

Mardi 13 juin, à 3 p.m., Réunion de couture à
65 Mountview Road, N.4.

Dimanche 18 Juin, Sermon de Charité.

Pour l'instruction religieuse et les actes
pastoraux, prière de s'adresser au pasteur,
M. M. Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road,
N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003) Heure de
réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.
(Near General Post Office, St. Paul's and Aldersgate
Street Tube Stations (Central London and Metropolitan).

Sonntag, den 11. Juni:

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst

Pfr. E. Bommeli

(Keine Sonntagschule bis zum 25. Juni)

3 Uhr nachmittags, Taufe.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst

Pfr. E. Bommeli.

Nach dem Abendgottesdienst Übung des Kir-
chenchors, wozu jedermann freundlich einge-
laden wird.Am 29. Mai wurden durch die Confirmation in die
Gemeinde der Erwachsenen aufgenommen:
Elise, Anna Finger und Albert Emil Finger
in London.Am 3. Juni wurden getraut: Friedrich
Scheidegger von Urnenbach (Bern) und Berta
Rüegg von Bäretswil (Zürich) in London.Anfragen wegen Religions — bzw. Konfirman-
den Unterricht sind erbeten an Herrn
Pfarrer E. Bommeli. Sprechstunden: Jeden
Dienstag von 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche, Jeden
Mittwoch von 5-6 Uhr im Foyer Suisse, 15,
Bedford Way, W.C.1.Printed and Published by THE FREDERICK PRINTING CO., LTD.,
at 23, Leonard Street, London, E.C.2.