

First of August celebration

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FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION.

Our readers are reminded that this year's National Day Celebration of the Swiss Colony in London will actually take place on the 1st of August, and, weather permitting, in the open. For this purpose a new place had to be found. It is the open air Concert Pavilion in Battersea Park Pleasure Gardens, where two years ago the fun-fair of the British Festival was held. The fun-fair is still in use, but not on Sundays, so that its attractions and noise will not compete with our celebration.

It is timed to start at 3 p.m. with a quarter of an hour's community singing, for which song sheets will be distributed with the programmes. At 3.15 p.m. our Minister, Monsieur Henry de Torrenté, will give the *Patriotic Address*, to be followed by the reading of the Swiss Pact and by performances of the Swiss Male Choir, the Swiss Accordion Club and the Corale Unione Ticinese. In the second part of the programme, after an interval of 45 minutes for refreshments, in addition to performances of the same groups two Swiss artistes have agreed to assist. Mr. Albert Ferber, the pianist who has made a much respected name for himself here and elsewhere, will play for us, and Miss Selma Vaz Dias, actress wife of one of our compatriots, will read passages in English on Switzerland from various authors.

The refreshments pavilion — known as the Vauxhall Beer Gardens during the British Festival — is two minutes walk across the pleasure gardens. The usual refreshments for tea are available from 4-5 p.m. by self-service, including hot Wienerli, but the latter only for those who have ordered in advance by post.

In the Vauxhall Pavilion also the Celebration would be held if the weather should turn out too impossible for the open air theatre.

Further also the *official 1st of August Dance* will be held in the Vauxhall Pavilion after the Celebration, from 6-15 p.m. to 11 p.m. Substantial refreshments, tea and soft drinks, as well as beer and wine will be served by Forte's at popular prices. Members of M. Gandon's Accordion Club will perform in the course of the evening, also possibly members of the Male Choir and others. It is hoped to make this dance a real *soirée familiale*, not only for the young but also for the not so young.

Admission to the Dance costs 2/6 payable at the door, but only holders of the tickets for the National Day Celebration can be admitted to the dance to com-

ply with police requirements for a Sunday dance in closed company. An excellent band will play throughout the evening.

It needs very little more effort than usual to reach the Pleasure Gardens. The *best entrance* is near Battersea Bridge. Only bus No. 137 actually passes the entrance. But buses 19, 34, 45 and 49 pass the other end of Battersea Bridge. Sloane Square is the *nearest Underground Station*, from which the grounds are reached on foot in 15-20 minutes or by 137 bus, which however is likely to be very crowded towards the appointed hour by fellow-Swiss not wishing to miss this unusual National Day Celebration. Those who have neglected to apply in time for the tickets to the Celebration to have them sent by post may yet hope to obtain such from members of the Committee if they are known to them or can convince them that they are Swiss. The tickets are free of charge. Do not fail to turn up with all your family.

The 1st of August Committee.

1st OF AUGUST BADGE.

This year the proceeds from the sale of badges will be used for the benefit of young Swiss in need preparing for a profession, in order to defray their cost of living while serving their professional apprenticeship.

This is a most worthy cause and merits the whole-hearted support of compatriots the world over, as it is of paramount importance that promising young Swiss be well-equipped to serve in their chosen profession.

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