

**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:** - (1961)  
**Heft:** 1391

**Artikel:** A memorable first of August celebration at Wimbledon  
**Autor:** P. H.  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-691138>

### **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:** 13.08.2025

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

# A MEMORABLE FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION AT WIMBLEDON

There was quite a thrilling Swiss atmosphere in Wimbledon last Tuesday week. First of all, in a local pub, we were met by a large poster announcing the forthcoming Great Britain - Switzerland athletics match which will take place on Saturday, 12th August, at Wimbledon Park Track; then there was the figure of our national flag displayed on the door of the Town Hall, where many of our compatriots were gathering to celebrate National Day.

This particular First of August celebration will remain in the hearts of each of us a truly memorable day, thanks to Mr. Streit, president of the organizing committee, who has, so I have just learned, become a grandfather, and still has kept all the enthusiasm of his youth. Thus, the whole joyful evening was placed under the influence of youth. It was the gay, numerous youthful singing, dancing and laughing which contributed enormously to the success of our national fête.

*Vo Luzern uf Weggis zue, tra-lai-due di ral-lai-due  
brucht mer weder Struempf noch Schueh, tral-lai-due a-ho  
Holdi trilaudo di-ral-lai-due di-ral-ai-due  
holdi trilaudo di-ral-lai-due- a-ho*

After the Opening March and the prayer led by the Rev. P. K. Wipf, the Swiss Ambassador, Monsieur Armin Daeniker, offered a patriotic address, which we are honoured to be able to reproduce integrally in this issue. Afterwards came the Rev. Joseph Scherer reading, in German, French and Italian, extracts from the Swiss Pact.

A most appropriate and evocative Swiss sound film in colour followed, tremendously appreciated by our young compatriots, who were strikingly happy, in this rather formal-looking Town Hall, to be able to admire enchanting

*Et chantons en chœur  
Le pays romand  
De tout notre cœur  
Et tout simplement*

pictures of their cherished homeland where, that same evening, burning in unison were the traditional bonfires.

Succeeding the film was the Anglo-Continental School of English Choir, conducted by Mr. O. Lanng, singing delightful pieces by Bach and Mozart. Our young compatriots from that renowned school of Bournemouth were greatly applauded, and so later was the ever talented Mr. Albert Ferber, who gave us a remarkable piano recital composed of works by Chopin, Smetana and Chabrier.

By this time the audience had really brightened up and were full of good humour. However, the facetious Fritz Widmer contributed further to the gaiety of the evening with his sketch, "The Spoken Word", which gave us the opportunity to laugh at several typical good old European characters.

*L'inverno è passato, l'aprile non c' è più  
è ritornato il maggio col canto del cucu  
cucu, cucu l'aprile non c' è più  
è ritornato il maggio col canto del cucu*

The Choir came back on the stage again, and their singing was soon joined by the entire audience, who, by then, were forming one unique big happy Swiss family voicing with energy the beautiful "Schweizerpsalm". The second part of the evening was spent dancing to the music of Harry Vardon's Band, and so it went on until past midnight, when our National Anthem brought to a close a most happy, enjoyable and memorable First of August celebration.

P.H.

## TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

In order to save money and time the Publishers would be much obliged if subscribers who are in arrears with their subscription would kindly send their remittance as soon as possible.

Specimen copies of the "Swiss Observer" will be gladly sent to addresses supplied to our office, of likely subscribers.

## M·A·T TRANSPORT LIMITED

FORMERLY MACHINERY & TECHNICAL TRANSPORT LIMITED

INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING & FORWARDING AGENTS

MURRAY HOUSE, BARBICAN, LONDON, E.C.1

Telephone: MONARCH 6040 (20 Lines)  
Telex: LONDON 28404 - MACANTECH.

Telegrams: MACANTECH, TELEX, LONDON

## ALLIED HOUSES:

### BASLE

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., Peter Merian Strasse 50  
PHONE: 351800. TELEX: BASLE 62216 - MATTRANS

### ZURICH

M·A·T TRANSPORT A.G., London House, Bahnhofstrasse  
PHONE: 258994 TELEX: ZURICH 52458 - MATTRANS