

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: - (1965)
Heft: 1480

Artikel: Across the Alps by balloon
Autor: [s.n.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-692953>

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: 26.07.2025

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

inevitable. In order to raise the money for it the 74-year-old, on 16th September 1926, went on his last balloon trip aboard the "Zurich", starting from the Zurich suburb of Schlieren and taking along three passengers.

The trip ended with an emergency landing on the rocky walls of Mount Oferl in the Vorarlberg Alps. No one was hurt. Blindness soon befell Spelterini, and he passed his last years in complete darkness and solitude. He died on 16th June 1931. He was later declared Europe's No. 1 Promoter of Air Tourism, and is was certainly his merit that the Swiss became "balloon-conscious". Up to this day, balloon flying has been a popular sport in Switzerland, and there is hardly a popular festival without at least one balloon start. Captain Spelterini, in the forty-three years of his activity, undertook 570 balloon flights with a total of 1,237 passengers. Recorded flights took place from thirty-one cities and towns in Switzerland as well as from places in Egypt, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, England, France, Greece, Italy, Austria, Poland, Russia, Romania, South Africa, Turkey and Hungary. Legend has it that he also visited India where he started from Bombay. Within three decades he gave more than 600 lectures in four different languages, from Stockholm to Cape Town.

F.B.

Translated and condensed from Dr. Erich Tilgenkamp's "Schweizer Luftfahrt", published in 1941/42 by Aero Verlag, Zurich, under the auspices of the Aero Club of Switzerland.

* * *

By courtesy S.N.T.O.

ACROSS THE ALPS BY BALLOON

The Week of Ballooning, which will be held for the fourth time at Mürren during the last half of August, seems particularly appropriate in this Year of the Alps. In addition to the balloon pilots and their passengers, who will be there for the competition flight across the Alps, there will be other pilots, ground-crew personnel, and meteorologists from all over the world, assembled at Mürren as spectators of the exciting event. The week's program will include an attempt on the World Record for Accuracy of Pilot Flight Reporting, as well as courses on Alpine ballooning, meteorology and navigation.

[S.N.T.O.]

Le Restaurant Français de la Place

SA CUISINE—SON SERVICE

CHEZ MAURICE

118 Seaside Road — Telephone 4894

EASTBOURNE SUSSEX

Propriétaire A. Bertschy F.C.F.A.

Chef de Cuisine Diplômé

Switzerland

Roam the Continent Rest in Switzerland

Swiss National Tourist Office

London W.C. 2, 458 Strand

Zurich, Amsterdam, Brussels, Buenos Aires,

Cairo, Copenhagen, Frankfurt o. M.,

Madrid, Milan, New York, Nice, Paris,

Rome, San Francisco, Stockholm,

Vienna

