

The Swiss at the Olympiad 1968

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THE SWISS AT THE OLYMPIAD 1968

Hard work marked the preparatory period for the participants at the Olympic Games in Mexico-City. 93 Swiss are taking part; nearly a quarter of these are members of the Swiss Federal Gymnastic Society: 13 athletes, 7 gymnasts (*Kunstturner*) and two wrestlers.

Altogether, Switzerland is represented by 23 athletes. These include a husband and wife, E. Ammann, Zurich (hammer), and his wife Sieglinde Ammann (long jump and pentathlon). Another interesting thing is that the small Half-Canton of Baselland has no fewer than three competitors out of a total of 23. There are also 18 oarsmen, 8 sailing experts, 5 horsemen and 3 women riders, 10 marksmen, 7 gymnasts, 5 cyclists, 5 fencing competitors, 4 swimmers, 3 wrestlers, one boxer and one modern pentathlon champion.

The Swiss Olympic team are in action in one way or another on each day of the Games, beginning with Sunday, 13th October and ending on Saturday, 26th, plus some riding on the closing day. Good luck!

RECENT DEATHS IN SWITZERLAND

The following deaths have been reported from Switzerland:

Jean Treina (68), Geneva, Councillor of State since 1946; one of the first trade union workers and pioneer of the Mont-Blanc Tunnel; President of the Geneva Socialist Party and of the Swiss-Israel Society.

Edouard Bauty (94), Geneva, studied theology and became journalist; foreign correspondent in Paris for several Swiss papers; for many years Editor-in-Chief of "La Tribune de Genève"; correspondent of the former League of Nations journal "Journal des Débats"; journalist for 75 years.

Alfred Stacherl (30), Regensdorf (Zurich), well-known parachutist of Austrian origin with 348 jumps to his credit; he was killed at the "Flieger Chilbi" at Wangen (Schwyz).

Armand Geiger (35), Sion, nephew of the late "Glacier Pilot" Hermann Geiger; he was killed in a gliding plane accident near Sion.

Dr. Hans Pestalozzi (66), Zurich, lawyer, for many years in the Cantonal Parliament; President of the Pestalozzi Society, *Zunftmeister* of the "Meise"; since 1936 member of the administrative committee of the NZZ; in the Army in command of the Mountain Infantry Regiment 37 and later of a *Réduit* Brigade.

Walter Schneider (65), Basle, well-known painter.

Max Wirz (64), Mammern (Thurgau), Swiss Honorary Consul Guayaquil; Manager of Max Mueller and Co. there.

Dr. Otto Schindler (52), Basle, well-known medical specialist; President of the "Basler Medizinische Gesellschaft"; Major (medical officer) of *Réduit* Brigade 22.

Prof. Dr. Heinrich Buehlmann (82), Lucerne, for several decades teacher of German language and literature at the Cantonal School; author of literary works.

Otto Lang (61), Schaffhausen, for many years in charge of the Commercial School of the Swiss Mercantile Society in Schaffhausen; *Kantonsrat*.

Ida Frohnmeyer (86), Basle, Editor of "Die Garbe" from 1918 to 1953; co-publisher of "Die Ernte"; well-known writer; holder of many awards; 1954, she was honoured with the Literature Prize of the Swiss Grand Lodge "Alpina".

Prof. D. Heinrich Otto Luethi (59), Fribourg, professor of Church Law at Fribourg University of which he should have become Rector mid-October.

Max Brenner (61), Thun, engineer and head of his own firm; Commune Councillor and member of many organisations.

Albert Enzler (66), Appenzell, former *Landeshauptmann*; well-known in many agricultural organisations and member of the Board of OLMA for many years.

[A.T.S.]

FIGURES AND MORE FIGURES

471 lotteries were organised in Switzerland in 1967 with a total lottery sum of 103.7 million francs, an average of 17.08 francs per inhabitant.

16,779 million cigarettes were sold in Switzerland last year, as against 13,741m. in 1966.

1,051,173 tons of coal were imported in 1967, the largest quantity from Germany and a small supply from Great Britain.

65,000 birds were ringed last year, which brought the total to over one million since Carl Daut (Berne) ringed the first bird in 1911.

384 people were transported by the Swiss Air Rescue Service, 81 of whom owe their lives to this rapid means of transport.

700 tons of food and building materials were transported to the huts of the Swiss Alpine Club between January and August.

13,500 new blood donors were registered thanks to the special campaign in spring.

170m. francs were paid out in 1967 for fire and other damages due to elementary damage.

20% is the reduction in cinema visits (from 40.2 to 32.1 million), mainly due to TV.

550,000 Swiss spend their holiday camping every year.

1,450,000 meals and snacks were served in hotels and restaurants. The number of guests in hotels, *pensions* and motels reached 30,285,000 people.

45,229 marriages took place in 1967, an increase of 2%. 107,296 babies were born (1,062 fewer than in the previous year), 55,000 boys and 52,300 were girls. The number of illegitimate children was 4,133. 55,099 people died, a surplus of births of 52,192.

23 billion francs was spent in four years by the cement industries to fight dust.

55 new inventions were registered with the Battelle Research Institute in Geneva. 46 new patents were granted.

120 holiday ships on 15 Swiss lakes have a capacity of 60,000 passengers.

47,340 horses for utilitarian use were registered in Switzerland, 2,000 fewer than in 1967. The number put in the stud-book was higher than the previous year. In an emergency 10,000 horses would be needed for mobilisation.

56,725 active members (36,911 women) formed the Swiss First Aid Society.

9.3 m. francs is the surplus which the Loetschbergbahn made in 1967, most of the improvement being due to increased use of the motortruck service for cars through the tunnel.

(A.T.S., O.S.E.C. and S.N.T.O.)