

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: - (1971)
Heft: 1628

Rubrik: Anglo-Swiss sports

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: 16.01.2026

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

tion with the Swiss firm of Autophon Co. Ltd. (Solothurn), is open every day from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Swiss Bank Corporation in Tokyo

In place of its old agency, the Swiss Bank Corporation recently opened a branch in the business centre of Tokyo. It is thus the first Swiss bank in Japan to be able to carry out all the operations of a commercial bank. The new branch represents not only an invaluable link in the already wide network of the Swiss Bank Corporation abroad, but also a sound base for the development of Switzerland's relations with an economy as dynamic and important as Japan's. It is worth mentioning here that Swiss private investments in Japan are very high. Many big Swiss firms, in the foodstuffs, chemical and metallurgical industries, have set up branches there, and Switzerland comes second, after the United States, among private foreign investors in Japan.

vising radiations at a German nuclear research centre. Emil Haefely, of Basle, has received orders for accelerators. In addition to their work of planning nuclear power stations at home, Swiss engineering consultants' firms are finding more and more scope on the international level for their ability and knowhow in the nuclear field. Electro-Watt Engineering Consultants of Zurich, for example, have been awarded consultancy contracts for the nuclear power stations at Biblis (Germany) and Loviisa (Finland), in the latter of which the Zurich firm of Brandenberger & Ruosch is also taking part. Motor-Columbus Engineering Consultants of Baden are working on plans for nuclear power stations in Turkey and Pakistan; they have also been commissioned by the biggest German electricity company to compute the heat load on the Rhine between the mouth of the Aar and the Dutch frontier.

Vocational training: Concrete aid to development

The duty of industrialised countries to provide technical assistance for the developing countries has been recognised by private enterprise for a long time now. A large Swiss reinsurance company selected a particularly effective way of doing this in the services sector, by founding a training centre, in 1960, for insurance personnel from companies all over the world, in particular the developing countries. The "Swiss Insurance Training Centre" was opened in 1961. So far it has organised 13 courses on life assurance or property insurance, lasting from four to six months each. These courses have been attended by 250 participants from nearly 50 countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and, to a lesser extent, Europe; practically all of these trainees are now working in insurance in their own countries.

ANGLO-SWISS SPORTS

Success of the Swiss Nuclear Industry

Swiss industrial firms working in the field of nuclear technology have succeeded, in spite of very keen international competition, in achieving several big successes with their exports. As the following examples show, it is not only the big firms that are meeting with success but also the small and medium-size concerns. Brown, Boveri & Co. has received a new order in the United States for a group of turbines for the nuclear power station at Forked River, as well as orders from abroad for fifteen main circuit-breakers for alternators in atomic power stations. The orders received from Argentina, Belgium, Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Italy and Sweden by Sulzer of Winterthur, cover a wide range of products, from valves and tubes to pumps, heat exchangers, etc. Georg Fischer, of Schaffhausen, has supplied cast steel parts for American, British, French, Italian and Swedish atomic plants, and the Charmilles Engineering Works in Geneva, fuel-handling devices for the Belgian nuclear power station at Doel. As for K. Rüttschi Co. Ltd. of Brugg, its special pumps for atomic plants are meeting with great success in Argentina, the Netherlands, India and Canada. Metrohm, of Herisau, has received orders from Germany and the Netherlands for instruments measuring the concentration of boron in high pressure water reactors. Chemap, at Männedorf, has sold filtering plants to various European nuclear power stations. Landis & Gyr Co. Ltd., at Zug, has supplied a plant for super-

MEETING WITH A SHARPSHOOTER

A reception given by the Cultural Attaché at the Embassy gave members of the Swiss Rifle Association the opportunity to meet Mr. H. R. Spillmann, champion sharpshooter and Olympic medallist, and his wife.

Mr. Carlo Jagmetti introduced his guest to the unusually small attendance. Mr. Spillmann, who won a silver medal at the Rome Olympic Games in 1960, was presently the National Coach of the Swiss marksmanship team and had in the last year led it to international contests at Phoenix (Arizona), Budapest and Innsbruck. He was furthermore President of the Commission of the Swiss Shooting Union and highly involved in the life of our national sport. That one can speak of a "national sport" is attested by the current membership of 500,000 of the Swiss Shooting Federation, which is officially considered as a "patriotic" organisation, as contrasted to a "sports" organisation.

Mr. Spillmann is the holder of a national record by scoring 37 "tens" and 3 "nines", or 397 points out of 400, at the ten-point "A" Target. His personal best at the standard "Combination", which includes shooting in the standing position, is 1,130 out of 1,200.

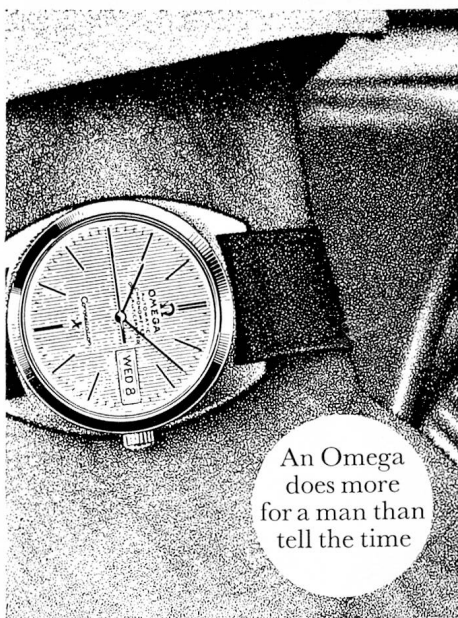
What does it take to achieve this kind of result? Mr. Spillmann was unequivocal as to the degree of commitment required in practice and physical training if one wished to reach the top. When he was still active in competi-

tion, he spent an average *thirty hours* a week in training, he said. There was no room left in life besides work and training, he added. Marriage and a family life were out of the question.

Mr. Spillmann, who is now married and has a family, still spends 80 days a year in preparing for the various competitions in which the Swiss National Team is involved. Shooting is as time-consuming as any other sport. The Swiss ski-team, he points out, spend up to 200 days a year in training at considerably higher expense. If shooting is going to be more than a militia-men's tradition and a popular sport, if it is going to be a serious and competitive discipline in which the Swiss can be the international leaders, then it must be given the adequate means.

Mr. Spillmann made this point clear in a short address to the gathering. First, there was a requirement for funds. At present, the National Team's expenses amounted to about 300,000 francs a year, a figure which would have to rise to about half a million francs in the near future. So far, there was no shortage of funds. Members of the Shooting Federation contributed a cent per round to the Team's budget and further support was forthcoming from the Swiss football pool, or "Sport Toto".

Among the requirement of Swiss marksmanship, a National Trainer came as a priority. Mr. Spillmann recalled that every widely-practised sport was supervised by highly qualified personnel. There were professional trainers in tennis, ski-ing, athletics and football. Why shouldn't this be the case of



**An incredible
one hundred-millionth
horse power drives
the movement.**

And all the 174 components of the Omega Constellation are subject to equal stringency. They are machined to micrometric tolerances – some to sizes 40 times smaller than the diameter of a hair. On every Omega Constellation there are 1,479 checks. *Nothing is left to chance.* In satin-finished stainless steel, £63.10.0. Other Omegas cost as little as £23.0.0. Write for a catalogue to Omega, 67-74 Saffron Hill, London E.C.1.

Ω
OMEGA

**EXCLUSIVE SHOES
by Bally of Switzerland**

116 New Bond Street, W.1.
30 Old Bond Street, W.1.
260 Regent Street, W.1.
22 Sloane Street, S.W.1.
132 King's Road, S.W.3.
Swiss Centre, 10 Wardour Street, W.1.
49 Golders Green Road, N.W.11.
19 Heath Street, N.W.3.
46 King Street, Manchester 2



Ovaltine



more than a bedtime drink



COMPACROW

**–the brilliant answer
to your storage problems**

Compacrow Mobile Storage Units eliminate the need for space-wasting aisles between individual pairs of racks. Compacrow units glide at fingertip pressure to give you access just where you want it.

You need only one aisle in a whole run of cabinets – you'll double your storage capacity and save money all round.

Our storage experts will be glad to show you how to get more out of your available space. Pick up the phone now, tell us your problems and we'll show you how Compacrow will save you rates, money and space.

ACROW

Acrow (Automation) Ltd., South Wharf, London W.2.
Telephone: 01-262 3456. Telex: 21868.

marksmanship? The Swiss shooting team now enjoyed the facilities of the National School of Sports at Macaulin (Maclingen) where training was conducted with scientific methods. Psychology came into its own and the candidates to top competition were submitted to tests. These should yield the necessary experience in selecting candidates at a sufficiently early stage to prevent wasting time and money on aspiring competition marksmen who do not, however, have the aptitude to make it.

Another realm where there was no room for amateurism was the choice and development of adequate ammunition. The Swiss Shooting Federation, which sponsors Switzerland's involvement in international competition, was in close touch with ammunition factories, particularly that of Altdorf, in order to find the right powder formula and the optimal bullet weight. So far, the best available ammunition came from Britain. The mixture should be such that the residual pressure at the end of the barrel should be small—and these considerations illustrate that the smallest technical details are taken care of in competition shooting.

A lot remained to be improved in the organisation of Swiss marksmanship. At present, the existence of several shooting organisations constituted a dispersal of talent and made international competition more difficult. It was also necessary to find the necessary incentive to compensate for the sacrifice of an average of 80 days a year, and this meant remunerating the National Team. But, on this score, Mr. Spillmann was pleased to note that marksmanship still remained free from lucre and the strive for easy money which characterised other sports.

Mr. Spillmann acknowledged that the general trend in life-style and mentality went against the progress of marksmanship in Switzerland. There were strong pressures, for example, to do away with obligatory military shooting. Furthermore, the new automatic assault rifle, while a better combat weapon than the former ordnance rifle, was no good for competition. Thus people were trained in the handling of a gun which would not serve Swiss colours in international competition. Mr. Spillmann did not consider the institution of regular spells of military training as a serious asset to Swiss marksmanship.

The future of our national position in shooting therefore lay as much in the adoption of modern methods, in the readiness to place marksmanship on the same level as other athletic disciplines, as in an established tradition of marksmanship.

(PMB)

THE SWITZERLAND-ENGLAND MATCH

The distinguished reception rooms of the Ambassador's Residence at 2 Upper Brook Street (which will not remain the Residence for very much longer) were never filled with so many celebrities as on the evening of Monday, 8th November, when the complete Swiss football team and the England 22, with such football managers as Sir Alf Ramsey, National Trainer, and Mr. Dennis Follows, Secretary of the F.A., enjoyed drinks and cookies.

The Swiss lads were all smartly dressed in a uniform, brown suit. They seemed in the main smaller-built and a shade less scruffy than the English selection and in great form after a day's training at Welwyn Garden City, where they were billeted for the week preceding the Big Match of November 10. Swiss footballers are amateurs and all have a profession. But their employers agree to let them go for extended training during which the wages of the players are paid by the Swiss Football League. Being amateurs, Swiss footballers have far less time to practice than their English counterparts. They train on average four times a week for two hours after work. A normal British club practises every morning and gives time-off in the afternoon. The English have the added advantage (although many club managers tend to deny this) that they play about twice as many matches in a season as the average Swiss First Division side. This is not only because there are almost twice as many clubs in each division (22 as against 12) which require matches during the week to complete the championship programme, but also extra fixtures owing to the existence of the League Cup, of other competitions such as the Watney and Texaco Cups, and of more involvement in European competition. Thus English players are more seasoned than Swiss players and their game is highly respected in Switzerland.

But this respect is reciprocal. The flamboyant Bobby Moore, captain of the English side (who incidentally did not appear to enjoy receptions) was pretty sure that his team would beat the Swiss. "We've always beaten them", he said but he had respect for them and recognised that the first leg played at Basle had been very tough. Owing to the language barrier, there was not much exchange between the Swiss and the English players. The tough, working class boys from Leeds and Liverpool stood silently with their back to the wall, playing with their cocktail glasses. None of them smoked. From a conversation with Terry Cooper (Leeds United) we learnt that a player of his class netted about £3,000 take-home pay from football, which seemed lower than what the current imagery would lead one to believe.

Sir Alf Ramsey, who has the reputation of a stern and distant manager inspiring awe among his players, was in a lively mood and talking away with Mr. Louis Maurer, Swiss Team Manager. The party had lasted almost two hours when the Swiss side left for Welwyn Garden City in a special coach. The English players left a short while later for a team dinner at their Hendon hotel.

The Swiss team were apparently so inadequately fed at their Welwyn Garden City hotel that the Swiss Centre Restaurant had to be called in to cater for them. The shortcomings of English cooking had fortunately no effect on the quality of their game as they fought like lions on the beautiful Wembley pitch, a sanctuary of football, before 100,000 spectators. There were thousands of Swiss among them waving flags, jangling cow bells (a new football crowd habit) and yelling "Hop Schwyz!" until they were hoarse.

The Swiss team played splendid possession football. They were craftsmen in handling and passing the ball. Although they were a little lucky in the second half, when the superior stamina of a more practised English side began to tell, they deserved to draw. Their three master players were Odermatt, Kuhn and Prosperi. When the referee had blown the whistle for the last time, the Swiss coach Louis Maurer ran onto the field and embraced the captain Karl Odermatt and the whole team was jubilant.

Although the British Press tended to lay much of the blame for the outcome of the match on a bad choice of players, an uninspired game and insufficient drive, it recognised the value of the Swiss team. The *Times* wrote that the Swiss constantly created problems which the English were unable to solve. The *Express* spoke of an English "humiliation" by part timers. The *Daily Mail* praised the Swiss defence especially and the *Daily Telegraph* said that no English player had attained the class of Kuhn and Odermatt in midfield and urgently called for a successor to Bobby Charlton.

The match was followed by a Ball at the Hammersmith Palais organised for the Swiss supporters. It was rather poorly attended. There was a Tombola presented by a German speaking pin-up which offered a fortnight in America as its first prize. There was a rather apathetic response among the attendance and one gathered that the "World Adventure Sports-club", responsible for the event, had made a loss.

Switzerland are unfortunately out of the European Nations Cup but this draw at Wembley was enough to satisfy the fans and will long be remembered.

(PMB)