

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: - (1982)
Heft: 1786

Artikel: Helping hands in the Alps
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-686129>

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

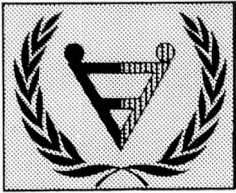
L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées 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: 17.04.2026

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



THE International Year of Disabled People is over – for everyone except the handicapped people themselves and people like Jacques Martin, 48 year old president of the world winter sports for the disabled championships, which next month will be held for the second time in the Vaudois Alps.

“Our society,” he says, “is not concerned enough with the handicapped, not even at the basic level. We could make life easier for those who have difficulty in moving about.

“There certainly are a lot of organisations dedicated to these matters, but their activities are still a trifle disorganised.”

The championships take place from March 8 to 18. The event has a budget of Sfr. 1,800,000, most of which will be used to take care of more than 500 athletes who will be taking part in the trials and their immediate relatives or companions.

There have been setbacks. A promotion directed at large industries and Swiss banks did not bring in the results which the organisers had hoped for, but a sponsorship campaign among smaller companies and individuals brought good results.

Public authorities have also responded well and approaches to local communes, large Swiss cities, cantons and the Confederation have been well received, bringing in around Sfr. 600,000.

A great deal of voluntary work has also helped the fund raising effort. Tombolas have been organised all over the country and on February 27 there will be a Sports Night in Lausanne.

The principle is simple. Most of Lausanne's sporting clubs have agreed to open a bar in the Palace of Beaulieu, and each will decorate its room for the occasion. There will be dancing to several well known orchestras, singing and a range of sports demonstrations.

The whole event is scheduled to last until 4am the following morning, allowing members of the public plenty of time to enjoy themselves at this unusual event and to swell the funds.

Jacques Martin is certainly

Helping hands in the Alps

making great efforts to pull together all the goodwill. The postal services have offered him 50 postal cars and the army will place a transport column at his disposal, since transport can be a major problem for disabled people.

Ski clubs are lending a hand with the organisation of courses and the army will also assist with communications and public health.

When the championships begin, the athletes will be accommodated in groups, according to their nationalities, and ferried to the various centres.

Alpine ski trials will take place at Gryon, Villars and Les Mosses; the Nordic ski trials at Les Diablerets and the ice sports and toboggan events at Leysin.

Financial problems still exist, but as the event grows closer Jaques Martin says that he is quietly confident.

“We knew that the task would not be easy . . . but the event deserved to be organised,” he said.

“When Aigle Rotary Club undertook the organisation of Swiss winter sports championships for the handicapped a few years ago we realised that these sportsmen gave tremendous encouragement to other disabled people. Indeed, they offer a remarkable lesson in courage and perseverance to the able-bodied.”

He also hopes that events of this kind will attract employers' attention to the capabilities of handicapped people and adds: “Employers should realise that handicapped people should not be disregarded. They are as capable of doing work as anyone else.”

EDUCATIONAL

DIAVOX



Modern Institute of Languages

19, avenue de Beaulieu,
1004 Lausanne
tel. 021/37 68 15

French, German, English

The most up-to-date methods.
Intensive day courses from
4-11 weeks in small groups of
adults from 16, or private
lessons.

Preparation for public exams.
Aims: Fluent oral and written
communication.



International School of Geneva Ecole Internationale de Genève

62 route de Chêne,
1208 Geneva
Tel: 36 71 30

international education in a
Swiss environment

- Maturité Fédérale Suisse
- International Baccalaureat
- Baccalaureat Français
- GCE
- American College Boards

Boarders from age 11
winter and summer sports,
university guidance

LA FONTANELLE Vevey, Lake of Geneva INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

French and other
languages.

Audio-visual for beginners.

Domestic science and
secretarial.

Winter sports.

Holiday course –
July-August.

Principals:

Mr & Mrs D.A. Savage
Tel: 021/51 33 58



International girls' school
Sunny Dale

CH-3812 Interlaken-
Wilderswil
Phone 036/22 17 18
Irene Gaugler, prop.
and dir.

Excellent references

Thorough study of **French, German, English** with official diplomas. (Alliance Française, Goethe-Institute, Cambridge-Certificate)

Commercial branches, Arts, General education, savoir vivre Domestic science. Summer and winter sports in excellent climate. Our concern is the broadening of interest and development of self-confidence.

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE
Individual personality development
Scholastic year and summer language
courses in July.

AIGLON SWITZERLAND

The British International
University Preparatory
School in the French
Swiss Alps

- 250 boarding boys and girls (11-18 years)
- Oxford G.C.E. 'O' and 'A' Levels
- American College Board
- University preparation US, UK, Canada, Europe
- Good sports, ski-ing and mountain excursions
- Character building emphasised
- Summer Courses with English and French tuition

For further information
and entrance requirements,
apply to:

Philip L. Parsons,
M.A. (Cantab),
Headmaster,
Aiglon College,
1885 Chesières-Villars,
Switzerland.
Tel: (025)35 27 21
Telex: 456 211 ACOL CH

Parents, our **free**
advisory service
helps you to choose the

RIGHT SCHOOL in the RIGHT PLACE

- more than 60 private schools and institutes
- teaching: well reputed for its quality and diversity
- Summer and Winter sports

LAKE OF GENEVA REGION

Canton of Vaud - SWITZERLAND

- favourable environments for studying
- hub of a vast network of international lines of communications
- beautiful landscape - healthy climate

PRIVATE SCHOOL ADVISORY BUREAU

10 Ave de la Gare CH-1002
Lausanne
Tel 021/22 77 71 Telex 24390



Under the patronage of the
Association of private schools
(AVDEP) and the Tourist Office
of Lake of Geneva Region (OTV)