

Zeitschrift: SBB Revue = Revue CFF = Swiss federal railways
Herausgeber: Schweizerische Bundesbahnen
Band: 5 (1931)
Heft: 5

Artikel: Wild-flower time in Switzerland
Autor: Thorn, Hilda M.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-780647>

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: 16.02.2026

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

SB Reue (T)

Herausgegeben von der Generaldirektion der Schweizer Bundesbahnen / *Schriftleitung*: Generalsekretariat in Bern
Inseratenannahme, Druck und Expedition: Böhler & Co., Bern

STT

Publiée par la Direction générale des chemins de fer fédéraux. *Rédaction*: Secrétariat général à Berne / *Annonces, Impression et Expedition*: Böhler & Cie, Marienstr. 8, Berne

Erscheint einmal im Monat / Paraît une fois par mois. Abonnement: 1 Jahr Fr. 10.- / 1 année fr. 10.-. 1 No fr. 1.-. Postcheck / Chèques postaux III 5688

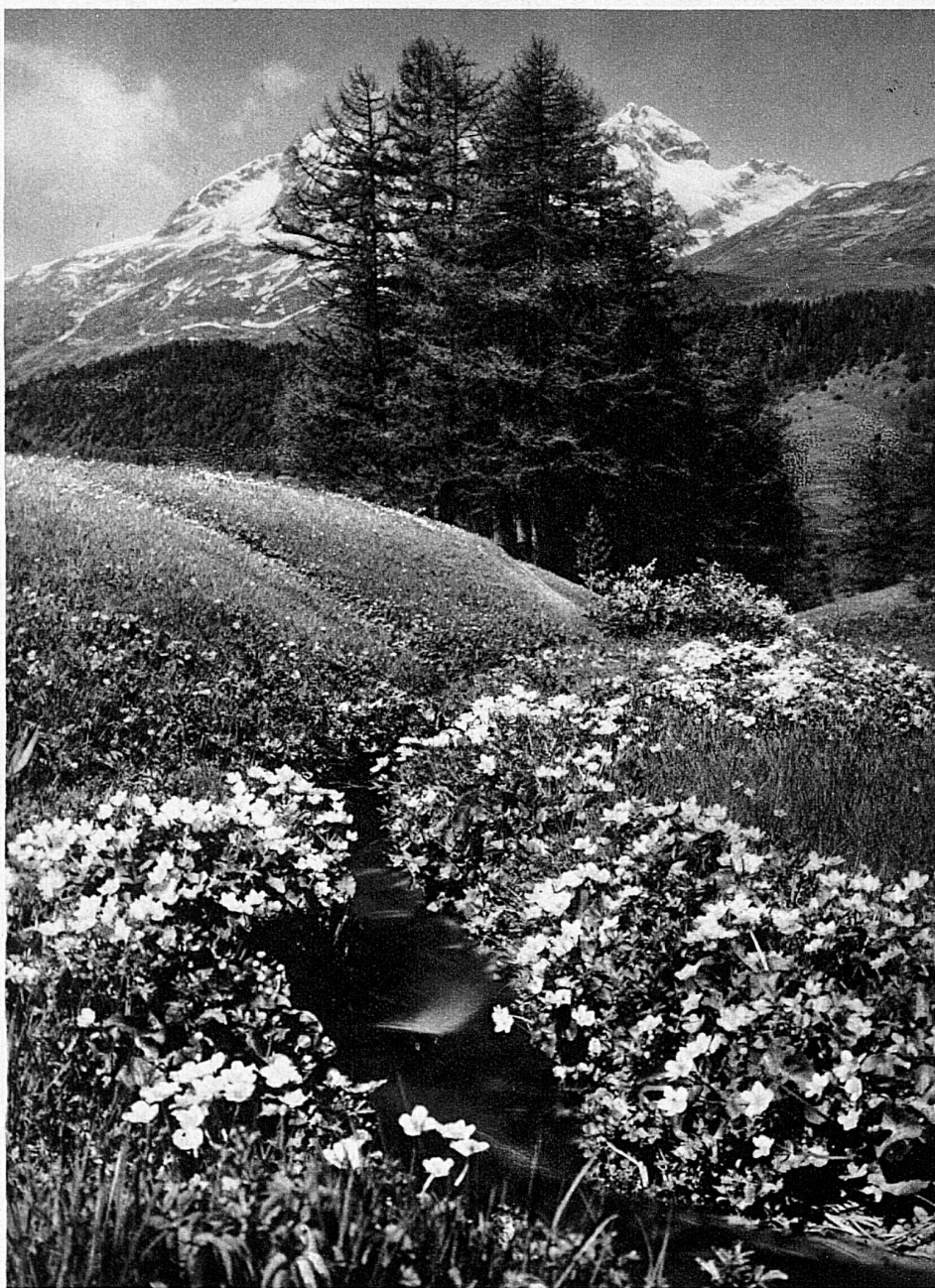
WILD-FLOWER TIME IN SWITZERLAND

Who does not know that sunny Switzerland is famed for its wild flowers, just as Holland is famed for the cultivation of bulbs? So naturally everyone as soon as they enter this welcome, holiday-making country of mountains, lakes, waterfalls and woods, wishes to discover for themselves some of these floral treasures that Mother Earth produces with such generosity and such apparent ease.

May and June are the two finest months of the year to behold the famous wild flowers of Switzerland in all their magnificence. These are the two months when the banks of the cool waterways in the verdant valleys, the meadows, hillsides and right up to the snow line are aglow with a myriad colours, a myriad scents. Only down in southern Switzerland, in the canton of Tessin, is almost every month a flower month.

Many people have heard much of the coveted edelweiss with its velvet-like petals and its habit of growing in dangerous places, and they know of the popular alpenrose and some of the other rarer Alpine specimens. Many of us have seen them as emblems, carved in wood and ivory, when we have never seen the real flower.

But there is a great wealth of "floral finds" among the more common varieties, which



Spring in St. Moritz

Phot. Steiner

Nature enthusiasts should be as familiar with as they are with the daisy and dandelion of an English field. All these eminently beautiful and more ordinary wild flowers spread themselves out carpetwise in a wild profusion over woods, fields, river-sides and mountain slopes and on many a barren crag, decking the landscape for people's admiration. And these with discretion can be gathered.

The violet, which Britishers, especially those dwelling in towns, covet so much in early spring, and often pay dearly for just to have the fragrance of their scent, abound in the woods and grassy slopes all over Switzerland. They appear in April, here sparsely, there copiously: you may find them everywhere, short-stalked and long-stalked, pale and dark, and often white and sometimes yellow, scented and otherwise. Here and there a little patch and sometimes in wonderful dense clusters as if they had been carefully planted by a horticulturist. Where we at home go looking for bluebells, here one seeks the violet.

Here and there in every district are the delicate periwinkles; one comes upon them unexpectedly in some copse, growing profusely, as if they had played truant from some neat garden! Cowslips are dotted among the fresh green grass, oxlips are even more general and the horehound abounds. Whilst the fragile white and flesh tinted wood-anemone or wind flower graces the shady copses, closing at nightfall.

And whilst one is reveling among these beautiful flowers of the valley that make such a perfect setting for the fine Alpine scenery, further up, just on the snow line, peeps the crocus, as if they had pushed away the cold snow in their desire to show their glory.

After these heralds of spring, comes the advent of summer, celebrated by a succession of many varieties. All the common ones which we are familiar with in

England we see here in Switzerland also, but how much bigger they are, and how much more prolific.

At the end of May and throughout June, when one might say wildflowerdom is at its zenith, all the better known commoner wildflowers are growing abundantly by the waysides. Early spring and white sweet-scented orchids, forget-me-nots, bugles, harebells, scabious, oxeyed daisies, milchworts, rampions, globe flowers, saintfoin and rest harrow, are beautifying every meadow, every bank and every wood. They grow on longer, stronger stalks, and their flowers are often literally twice the size of those we see at home; even the daisies and the dandelions look imposing!

In addition to all these commoner varieties in the valleys, we find up in the hills and mountains the treasured sweet-scented yellow auricula, and many of the family of ranunculus and primula — perhaps the most beautiful being the delicate little pink clustered one; mountain pansies, the beloved gentians, both the trumpet and star variety, and up on the snow line the wonderful white anemones.

Such are a few of the many flowers which all visitors should look for when they come to Switzerland, remembering it is a land of varying altitudes; when it is spring in the valley it is winter in the mountains; when it is summer below, it is spring above.

Only those who have come to Switzerland and seen the splendour of all her wild flowers, and taken part in a floral treasure hunt can understand the enthusiasm to be derived from that opportunity. And to be permitted to pluck some of those specimens that are not too rare, to make a garland of them or to set them upon a table for further admiration,

is the supreme thanksgiving we can offer to Sunny Switzerland.

Hilda M. Thorn.

Bild rechts: Phot. Müssbauer.

Programm des XVIII. Narzissenfestes in Montreux

Samstag, den 6. Juni

- 14 Uhr Freilichtvorführungen, durch das
Ballett der Pariser Staatsoper:
Die Geschöpfe des Prometheus
von L. Beethoven
Neue Choreographie von M. Lifar, Ballettmeister des Staatstheaters der Pariser Oper
Erste Vorführung in der Schweiz
Schöpfung von 1930
- 15 Uhr 30 Erste Vorbeifahrt der Blumenwagen und Autos vor den Tribünen
Umzug durch die Strassen der Stadt
Blumen- und Konfettischlachten bis zum Anbruch der Dunkelheit
- 21 Uhr **Grosses venetianisches Fest mit Kunstfeuerwerk**
im Golf von Montreux-Clarens
Spezialschiffe
Korso beleuchteter Wagen auf dem Quai. Zweite Konfettischlacht
- 22 Uhr Nachtfeste im Kursaal, im „Pavillon des Sports“ und im „Perroquet“

Sonntag, den 7. Juni

- 11 Uhr Grosses Konzert auf dem Festplatz
- 14 Uhr Freilichtvorführungen durch das
Ballett der Pariser Staatsoper
- 15 Uhr 30 Vorbeifahrt der Blumenwagen und Autos vor den Tribünen
Umzug durch die Strassen der Stadt
Blumen- und Konfettischlachten bis zum Anbruch der Dunkelheit
- 21 Uhr 30 Nachtfeste im Kursaal u. im „Perroquet“
- 22 Uhr Prämiierung der schönsten Blumen- und lichtdekorierten Wagen im Kursaal

Alle Auskünfte über das Narzissenfest, die künstlerischen Aufführungen, den Blumenkorsos, das Seefest usw., erteilt das „Generalsekretariat des Narzissenfestes“ im Offiziellen Verkehrsbureau von Montreux, Grand'Rue 8, Tel. 63.384 und 63.485. Versand von Eintrittskarten gegen Nachnahme bis zum 3. Juni.

Montreux
NARZISSENFEST
*Samstag den 6. und
Sonntag 7. Juni 1931*