

Swiss footballers in London

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SWISS FOOTBALLERS IN LONDON.

We are informed that the Grasshopper Football Club Zurich, will be on a visit to London, towards the end of this month, on which occasion they will play two famous English Amateur sides, namely the Casuals (on February 25th) and the Corinthians (on February 27th).

We hope that a great number of our London Swiss will be able to witness one or both of these events, in order to give our compatriots a great and cordial reception. Tickets for the match on February 27th (Corinthians) at the Crystal Palace can be obtained at the offices of the Swiss Observer, price 2/- unreserved (seated under cover) and 3/- reserved, (seated under cover).

For the information of our readers we give below a few details as to the history of the Grasshoppers Club, and also the names of the players who will line up against the English teams.

The Grasshopper Club of Zurich is one of the oldest Clubs of Switzerland, of a high social standing which it has maintained ever since its formation in 1886. The Club has six divisions:

- Football (both codes),
- Rowing,
- Lawn Tennis,
- Hockey (both Ice and Land-Hockey) and Sports,

each of which is run by an independent Committee. The oldest division from which the others emanated is the football division which was formed nearly fifty years ago by some public school boys and some Englishmen living in Zurich. The majority of the Swiss Founders now hold leading positions in the economic and social life of Switzerland.

The history of Swiss Football is closely connected with that of the Grasshopper Club. The first Swiss Championship in Association Football which was ever played was won by the Grasshoppers, and the formation of the Swiss Association Football League was the work of Grasshopper members. In former years the strength of the teams used to be somewhat inconsistent owing to the fact that nearly all the players were undergraduates at the University or Polytechnic of Zurich amongst whom were a good many Englishmen. There were even times when the Grasshoppers were unable to turn out any Association Football side at all, but during the last few years the Football section has increased in number and is able to run a number of Elevens of which the first Eleven has to a certain extent remained both stable in form and players.

The results obtained are unique in Switzerland, as for the last years the First Eleven regularly reached the final of the Swiss Cup and has eight times won the Swiss Championship which constitutes a record in Switzerland, whilst 16 times the Grasshoppers were Champions of their District League and have won the Championship for the town of Zurich six times running. The Swiss Cup was won twice, and four times Grasshoppers were runners-up. The team is considered to be very much stronger than the Swiss International side, and has recently obtained excellent results in foreign countries amongst which were victories over the strongest Viennese, Dutch, German, Italian and French sides. The other Sections of the Club are also amongst the leading teams of Switzerland in their particular branches of sport.

The members of the team are:—

- Ch. Pasche*, goal-keeper, who represented Switzerland 18 times, and is of high International Class. He is an Engineer by profession.
- S. Minelli*, Right-Back, 11 times International. He is a business man.
- M. Weiler*, Left-Back, 24 times International. He has played every position in the Swiss International side except in goal. He is also in business.
- M. Neuenschwander*, Right Half-Back, has represented Switzerland eight times. He is an experienced player with a wonderful gift for combination and plays clever football. He holds a leading position in a big business house in Zurich.
- J. Schneider*, Centre-Half, an Austrian who has represented his country in 24 International matches, a great exponent of the famous Viennese school. He is a secretary by profession.
- W. Weiler*, Left Half-Back, younger brother of the left back has represented Switzerland 14 times, plays good technical football. He also holds a leading post in a big Zurich Export House.
- L. Adam*, Dutchman who played six times for Holland, a very quick and tricky right winger. Undergraduate.
- A. Abegglen*, Inside Right. In spite of his youth he has already been 19 times international, a very successful forward with a good shot. Student.
- I. Hitrec*, Yugoslavian only 20 years of age, has already played six times for his country and is a centre-forward of a very high International class. Undergraduate.

M. Abegglen, Inside-Left, has played for Switzerland 34 times and was the hero of the Olympic games at Paris where he was mainly responsible for Switzerland winning the Championship of Europe. He is an engineer by profession.

A. Zirkovic, Left-Wing, Yugoslavian, 5 times International, plays clever football. Undergraduate.

RESERVES.

- T. Grassi, Left Wing,
- E. Blaser, Goal Keeper,
- Ch. Regamey, Half Back,
- E. de Veek, Back.

LO "CHALET MONDIALE."

Sembra che la Svizzera sia proprio il miraggio d'ogni cosa bella, buona e nobile e l'occhio del mondo intero è su di lei come se questa nazione avesse l'alta missione di pacificare, consolare e dar riposo alle altre sorelle meno fortunate!

Attratti dalle bellezze naturali, dei suoi monti, dei suoi fiumi e dall'aria pura, l'associazione universale delle ragazze "Guides" hanno scelto la Svizzera come il loro posto di riposo ed inaugureranno alla fine di luglio di quest'anno il loro "World Châlet" precisamente ad Adelboden.

Si spera che Lady Baden-Powell, che è a capo di questo movimento giovanile, come Lord Baden-Powell, suo marito, è il Capo Generale ed il fondatore dei "Boy Scouts" sia in grado di aprire lei stessa, formalmente, lo Châlet mondiale.

Questo châlet potrà ospitare una cinquantina di "Guide" accomodandole in modi vari — od in dormitori con semplice materazzo od in camerette da uno o due letti.

Se v'è il bisogno, si potrà affittare facilmente uno o due altri châlets nelle vicinanze e così accomodare quelle compagnie di "Guide" che arrivassero inaspettatamente.

Il posto trovasi a 4,700 piedi d'altezza e comanda una vista meravigliosa sulla splendida valle.

L'architettura di questo châlet è nello stile prettamente Svizzero e come i nostri antenati, da centinaia d'anni, trovarono il migliore ed il più adatto per le nostre montagne, costruzione lunga, tetto sporgente ed inclinato onde proteggere la casa dalle intemperie e dalla neve, d'inverno.

Lo châlet delle "Guide" sarà coperto copripiante di color rosso oscuro e lo si potrà vedere da lontano.

Per fornire questo ospizio arrivarono regali d'ogni parte del mondo: tappeti d'ogni genere dalla Nuova Zelanda, mentre le "Guides" svizzere offriranno tutte le stoviglie necessarie.

Si spera di poter tenere il primo corso di organizzazione, internazionale generale, già questo settembre.

Un esempio del vero spirito con cui sono animate le ragazze "Guide" ci viene da Sant'Elena: l'isola solitaria sull'Atlantico, dove Napoleone passò i suoi ultimi anni, come prigioniero: La posizione naturale di quest'isola, lontana 1,150 miglia dalla terra, non permettendo alle "Guide" sue di recarsi agli accampamenti loro stesse e passarvi le vacanze con altre compagnie d'altri paesi, mandarono invece un regalo in denaro in Inghilterra, sede del movimento, ed aiutare così le sorelle bisognose a godersi loro un pò di vacanza.

Anche in India, ad onta delle differenze politiche, il movimento dei "Maschi Esploratori" e delle "ragazze Guide" è molto esteso e patrocinato con vero fervore. Persino nelle colonie pietose dei leprosi, queste "Guide" possono fare tanto del bene, inculcando in quelle povere derelitte, l'idea dell'onore, della verità e dell'igiene.

E presto, come un nuovo soffio di vita, questa valle svizzera sarà presa di assalto da turbe di giovinette d'ogni terra e paese, unite fra loro dagli stessi alti ideali e buoni propositi ed auguriamoci che tanta solidarietà, all'alba della sua vita, porti un giorno buoni frutti e siano loro le migliori ambasciatrici del futuro per una vera Lega delle Nazioni.

Londra, gennaio 1932.

T.L.R.

"SWEET" REMEMBRANCES.

Many, many years ago when I was a young, beautiful and slender boy, I used to be taken out for a treat by my mother, whenever my school report was considered satisfactory; not having been exactly a shining light at school, such outings were of a rare occurrence. Now it was always understood, that we could choose the nature of the entertainment ourselves, and I remember *f.i.*, that one of my brothers wished to have a chicken for his dinner, and a chicken he had; and beautifully roasted it was too; how we others watched the greedy way in which he devoured the wings first, then the legs, and how he settled the breast in less than five minutes. I am not of a vindictive nature, but I really wished, then and there, that he would be visited by a choking fit, all he left us was the aroma lingering above our heads.

Then there was my sister, who had chosen, when her turn came, to attend a Chamber Music

concert, because she had just started to take piano lessons. She used to play "La Paloma" morning, noon and night, and that tune whenever I hear it again, still gives me the "creeps." On her return she told us the most exciting tale, how divinely the music was played, and how inspired she felt, and I almost made my mind up, to follow in her footsteps whenever my time came along, until a *very good* friend of hers, told us that my sister slept soundly through about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the performance, and only woke up, when the clapping began. After hearing this I ruled Chamber Music out.—

At last the day of my reward dawned, well do I remember how speedily I ran home with my school report, which I considered quite worthy of a reward. However, my parents, much to my disgust, did not seem unduly impressed by it, and only after a lengthy consultation, which was conducted in French, so that I should not be able to follow the pro's and con's of their argument, it was decided that I was to have a treat. Visions of that chicken flicked through my mind, and I could see myself even swallowing the bones, in retaliation of my brother's former greediness.

Now the question arose as to how I was going to give myself a treat, unfortunately there was no travelling Circus near, nor was there any play running which would have been suitable for my tender age. Was it going to be a concert after all? but then I reasoned in my mind, that I could sleep much cheaper at home, and so I decided after mature reflection that food of one kind or another should recompense me for my intellectual efforts.

It so happened that a distant relation of our family, a very old and respectable lady, was the owner of a pastry shop, or what was called a Confiserie. This establishment was considered to rank amongst the best in my native town, I do not make this statement because she was a relation of ours, but it is a fact, that all the aristocrats in my home town forgathered there, which impressed me most forcibly. There was no important dinner given, without she, having a finger in the pie, or a cake on the table.

I therefore decided to visit this famous place, and as long as I live I shall never forget that day. I was allowed to help myself according to my fancy, and I managed to do away with half a dozen meringues, an equal number of mille feuilles, a small apple flan with a healthy cream covering, an ice coffee and about half a pound of home made chocolates. It was a glorious feast, but oh! that evening, — all my numerous rough Channel Crossings are child's play in comparison to how I felt all through that night, my brothers would have it, that I "shone" in all the colours of the rainbow.—

Many, many years have since passed, and I have grown older and fatter. Long since have I forgotten the pains I suffered that day, but I have never forgotten those lovely pastries, they seem vision like to linger in my memory, and often during my prolonged stay in this country, where good pastries seem to be such a rarity, I had a longing to taste, once again, some of those delightful delicacies. Then suddenly I remembered, that some time ago, there appeared in the *Swiss Observer* an advertisement about the Confiserie and Pâtisserie, Alfred Meyer, 10, Buckingham Palace Road, which establishment is owned by our popular compatriot, M. F. Rohr and his charming Lady. I there and then decided to pay a visit to our countryman, who I knew enjoys a great reputation in his profession. Has he not been Manager of the well-known Chocolate House of De Bry for over 25 years, has he not been in world famous establishments and Hotels all over the world? Almost with awe we entered this charming little shop, which is situated just opposite Goring's, and what a lovely tea we had, and how delicious the pastries tasted, just the same as we used to get them in our homeland. I did not, of course, indulge in any orgy, as I would have had to pay it out of my own pocket this time, but I certainly had one of the most enjoyable tea's I ever have partaken of.

M. and Mme. Rohr both were in attendance, and they gave us such a hearty reception; and as it happens, when Swiss meet Swiss, we began to talk about those days of yesteryear, and to my surprise and amazement, it turned out during our conversation, that M. Rohr was about the time, when I indulged in that debauché at the establishment of my relation, a worthy member of the staff, how very small the world is after all, and perhaps those pastries which I so greedily devoured were made by his experienced hands.—

There is also a very cosy tea room on the first floor, just the place I should like to take a young lady to, were I not already suited. Another Dept. is the making of chocolates, and I can very highly recommend these, they were simply delicious. It is often said, that matches are made in Heaven, may be, but a box of chocolates go a long way towards that achievement, and rather than let Heaven interfere, I would give M. Rohr a chance, his sweets will prove a helpful and useful ally, and there is no doubt, that later on, both wedding and christening cakes will be ordered from him, as a thanks offering for having paved the way to eternal bliss.

ST.