Football season 1938-1939

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EDITOR'S POSTBAG.

3rd July, 1939.

The Editor,
"Swiss Observer,"
23, Leonard Street, E.C.2.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Committee of the Fête Suisse, may I, first of all, thank you for the very great and continuous support which you give to our reunion.

It may be of interest to mention that this year's gathering broke all records. The total attendance was 1,631, as against last year's record of 1,500. The Swiss Benevolent Society has benefited by the sum of £50, and a subscription of £5.5.0. was made to the Swiss Children's Holiday Fund.

The congestion which took place in the "Foyer" has not been lost sight of, and certain arrangements are being made, which it is hoped will give greater comfort to all on the occasion of our next gathering.

Yours faithfully,
For Comité de la Fête Suisse de Londres.
Ch. Chapuis.
Hon. Treasurer.

FOOTBALL SEASON 1938-1939.

Another season of Swiss Football has come to and end. Apart from the international fixtures, football news has been conspicuous in the S.O. by its absence, so that a parting reference may not come amiss.

Who won the SWISS CUP? Lausanne-Sports, who beat F.C. Nordstern (Basel) at Berne by 2:0 and thereby became the only club to have their name engraved for a second time on the trophy, having previously won in 1935. Of course this statement excepts the Grasshopper Club Zurich who have been Cupholders in the present series dating from season 1925/26 on no less than six occasions. The other winners were: Servette in 1928, Urania in 1929, Young Boys in 1930, Lugano in 1931, Basel in 1933 and Young Fellows in 1936.

And now for the Championship competitions. In the *National League* we find that Grasshoppers, leading almost throughout the season by a narrow margin, have once more carried off the honours with 31 points from 22 games. The feature of the second half of the season was a great spurt by F.C. Grenchen who finished in this their second season in the top class *Runners Up* to Grasshoppers with 27 points. The transfer of our international forward P. Aebi from Young Boys seems to have made all the difference. Grenchen went on from victory to victory and the Y.B. were hard put to it to steer clear of relegation. Another famous old club, F.C. Basel, on the other hand fell by the way and will play in the First League next season. For an old stager it is depressing to see clubs like Old Boys-Basel, and F.C. Basel, one struggling in the second league and the other losing first class status, not to think of F.C. Winterthur, also dropping to the second league and others, giants of old, like F.C. Zurich, Brühl-St. Gall, Bern, Aarau, Cantonal-Neuchâtel and so on fighting grimly in the first league.

As you are aware there are two groups of 12 clubs each competing in the *First League*, an absurd name, as we are not all to know that there is a National or Extra-First League and undoubtedly of considerably greater playing strength in existence. In group *West*, Cantonal-Neuchâtel finished well on top with 34 points, followed by Urania-Genève with 29. Group *East* has always been better balanced and F.C. St. Gallen only made certain of the group leadership when they defeated in the last match F.C. Concordia-Basel, the Runners-up, by no less than 10 goals to 1. Now for the Championship of the First League. Undoubtedly F.C. Cantonal were the favourites, but they were well and truly beaten by 3:0 at St. Gall and held to a draw 1:1 at Neuchâtel and after two years in the wilderness and in the 60th year of their existence, my old friends *F.C. St. Gallen* 1879 are *First League Champions* and promoted to the National League. The clubs relegated to League II are F.C. Winterthur and Kreuzlingen in the "East" and F.C. Concordia-Yverdon in the "West." Promoted to the First League are Etoile-Sporting-Chaux-de-Fonds, successors to the defunct Etoile-Ch.-de-F. and risen in three years from League IV to League I, and U.S. Biel-Bözingen in Group "West" and in the "East" F.C. Arbon and Zug have already drawn three games and will meet a fourth time to decide who shall go up. (Zug won 2:1 and move up).

International Matches. To keep these records up to date we have to record a match played on June 4th at Warsaw against *Poland*, ending in a draw of one goal each. This concluded the season's programme and left Switzerland's footballing name firmly re-established on a high pedestal. In connection with the National Exhibition in Zurich a series of two international football-matches were arranged, distinguished from full internationals by the name "Representative games." Thank goodness for the possibility of thus having the chance to quibble, for on June 11th an Italian eleven that contained not one of those who played against England some weeks back (they were on a tour of the Balkans) and therefore indubitably a B-team, defeated and wiped the floor with our best team, sailing under a "representative" label, by seven goals to one! On June 25th a similar match had been arranged with a Vienna or Ostmark eleven. This time our team was a slightly diluted national eleven and just to prove their mettle proceeded to give quite a staggering performance. Only an extraordinarily good defence, where goalkeeper Raftl excelled himself, let our Viennese friends get away with a 0:0 draw. Ende gut, alles gut!

M. G.

FINAL TABLES.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	A.	Pts.
Grasshoppers	22	12	7	3	34	20	31
Grenchen	22	10	7	5	38	30	27
Lugano	22	11	5	6	29	23	27
Servette	22	11	4	7	43	28	26
Nordstern	22	8	7	7	29	24	23
Lausanne	22	8	6	8	34	28	22
Chaux-de-Fonds	22	9	4	9	29	41	22
Luzern	22	7	5	10	41	45	19
Young Fellows	22	6	6	10	29	31	18
Biel	22	4	9	9	22	39	17
Young Boys	22	4	9	9	22	35	17
Basel	22	5	5	12	29	35	15
FIRST LEAGUE, GROUP EAST.							
St. Gallen	22	13	4	5	59	26	30
Concordia	22	10	7	5	40	39	27
Bellinzona	22	10	6	6	40	31	26
Brühl	22	10	4	8	44	33	24
Zürich	22	10	4	8	45	43	24
Locarno	22	10	3	9	35	27	23
Birsfelden	22	8	6	8	33	32	22
Blue Stars	22	7	6	9	26	29	20
Chiasso	22	7	6	9	27	38	20
Juventus	22	7	5	10	34	45	19
Kreuzlingen	22	5	6	11	30	44	16
Winterthur	22	5	3	14	16	42	13
FIRST LEAGUE, GROUP WEST.							
Cantonal	22	16	2	4	70	26	34
Urania	22	14	1	7	46	36	29
Fribourg	22	8	8	6	43	34	24
Solothurn	22	8	8	6	45	36	24
Dopolavoro	22	9	5	8	28	41	23
Forward	22	8	6	8	33	30	22
Monthey	22	8	4	10	43	49	20
Bern	22	7	5	10	35	41	19
Montreux	22	6	7	9	31	49	19
Aarau	22	8	2	12	41	43	18
Vevey	22	7	4	11	36	45	18
Conc. Yverdon	22	4	6	12	28	49	14

LEZIONI DI PIANO

Professoressa Diplomata al R. Liceo Musicale di Bologna.

VIOLETTA MONTUSCHI,
24, RANDOLPH AVENUE, W.9.
Tel. CUNningham 6805.

TO OUR READERS.

The Editor of the Swiss Observer would be greatly obliged if readers would supply him with addresses of likely subscribers, so that specimen copies could be posted to them.

If such addresses supplied should be already included on our mailing list, no extra copies would be sent.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Thursday, July 13th at 7 p.m. — Swiss Y.M.C.A. — Lecture by Rev. Chas. Pummell, on "Selah," at Westgate House, 28-29, Bedford Place, W.C.1. All young Swiss invited.

Tuesday, August 1st — National Day Celebration at St. Pancras Hall.

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Dimanche 9 juillet 1939:

11h. Culte M. M. Pradervand.

7h. Culte. M. M. Pradervand.

BAPTEME.

Le 2 juillet, Francis-Anthony Wuillemin, fils de Francis et de Janet née Rogers, de Courgevaux (Fribourg).

Pour l'instruction religieuse et les actes pastoraux, prière de s'adresser au pasteur, M. M. Pradervand, 65, Mount View Road, N.4. (Téléphone Mountview 5003) Heure de réception à l'église le mercredi de 11-12h.30.

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Sonntag, den 9. Juli:

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst
Pfr. E. Bommeli.

11 Uhr morgens, Sonntagschule
Hr. Fischer.

Während der Monate Juli und August fallen die Abendgottesdienste aus.

Anfragen wegen Religions — bezw. Konfirmanden Unterricht sind erbeten an Herrn Pfarrer E. Bommeli. Sprechstunden: Jeden Dienstag von 12-2 Uhr in der Kirche, Jeden Mittwoch von 5-6 Uhr im Foyer Suisse, 15, Bedford Way, W.C.1.

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