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SPORTS IN THE SWISS COLONY.

As announced in our issue of the 5th of May, the Committee of the Swiss Sports have arranged for the 7th Annual Sports Day to take place at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds on Saturday, May 26, at 2.30 p.m. sharp.

The programme is full of good things, including a Surprise Race, and a good entry has been secured. As usual, an excellent Band has been engaged, and the Swiss Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. Meyrovitz, will render some Swiss Folklore Songs during the afternoon.

There will also be the usual Prize Table, displaying, besides handsome prizes, various Challenge Cups, given by Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, the Swiss Minister, Mr. A. Isler, of the "Schweizerbund," and *The Swiss Observer*.

Madame Paravicini has kindly consented to distribute the prizes, and, should the weather be satisfactory, an *impromptu* dance will take place on the lawn after the distribution of prizes.

In a word, there ought to be great doings at Herne Hill on Saturday, May the 26th.

Nothing has been left undone by the Committee, which met last Tuesday, May 15th, to make the arrangements as perfect as possible; on account of the heavy programme many of the events will take place concurrently. As regards the tug-of-war, the holders of the cup will not have it so easy this year, as several teams have been entered. Unfortunately, one promising team had to be abandoned, as it contained one or two members who were considered to be "professionals."

That sports generally have received a certain impetus in our colony by the arrival of some of our front rank Swiss athletes, was sufficiently demonstrated at the rehearsal of the Gymnastic Society "Schweizerbund" last Wednesday, May 16. To think that all the men gathered in the spacious hall of the club, converted into a gymnasium, were anxious to compete in physical exercises after a day's hard work, cannot but fill us with admiration. The wrestling proved conclusively that we have some very good material in our colony. What surprised us most is the stamina and resistance of Mr. Jaquemot, who, after a serious illness, tying him to his bed for seven weeks, was able to hold his own against sturdy fellows, beating him in weight by a couple of stones. Mr. Robert Roth, the Swiss Champion, about whom the *Daily Mail* has something to say every day, was an interested spectator, and both he and Mr. Abplanalp expressed to the president, Mr. Lüthi, their surprise at the excellent display.

ZURICH

General Accident and Liability Insurance Company Limited.

With the accounts for 1922, which we have before us, the "Zurich" closes its 50th year. The Company is in a position to look back with great pride on the past half century, during which its growth—both in volume and security—has been remarkable.

The Company was founded in 1872 in Zurich subsidiary Company of a Swiss Marine Insurance Company. In 1881, however, the "Zurich" discontinued writing Marine Insurance and concentrated its energies upon Accident Insurance—first Personal Accident and Employers' Liability risks, and later Third Party business; while in 1900, Burglary, Theft and Fidelity Classes were added. Hand in hand with this development the Company's operations were extended to every country in Europe and to the United States.

In most countries the "Zurich" has done so well through its Branch Offices that it is now the leading Continental Accident Insurance Company in every respect—premium income, assets and organisation.

The advance in the Company's income has been consistent and steady throughout the whole period of its history, and last year amounted to the substantial sum of £3,389,257.

The authorized and subscribed Capital of the Company increased during these 50 years from £35,440 to £800,000; the paid up Capital from £3,544 to £400,000, of which £260,000 has been paid up out of profits by the Company. A good indication of the high reputation of the "Zurich" is the fact that its shares of nominally £40 are quoted at about £180 to £185 per share.

Another big feature in the Company's management is the judicious investment of funds, as may be judged by the fact that the income derived from investments and rents shows an almost steady increase, notwithstanding the adverse influence of depreciating exchange values, which necessarily must affect to some extent any international business.

Of the total investments of £5,694,314, £364,000 are in buildings, £1,884,792 in mortgages, and

£3,445,522 in high-grade securities, such as State, Municipal and Railroad Bonds.

It will thus be seen that the "Zurich" stands in a strong financial position.

Its policies are attractive and designed with a view to rendering the most complete service to the public, and its position as one of the leading Accident Insurance offices is the due reward of cautious underwriting, allied with judicious administration and sound financial methods.

As on the Continent, the name of the "Zurich" is well and favourably known over here through its London Office at 1 and 2, Poultry, E.C. 2.

We congratulate the "Zurich" upon entering its second half century with a wonderful record behind it and unlimited prospects before it.

FRIDAY EVENING BANQUETS.

To the Editor of *The Swiss Observer*.

Sir,—For a long time past I have noticed, in reading the "Forthcoming Events" of the various Swiss Societies, that all the *Banquets*, as well as other functions, are fixed for a *Friday*.

The same thing was mentioned to me on many occasions by numerous friends of mine. If casually asked if they had been to such and such a Banquet, the answer was: "How can we go? Banquets are always on a Friday. We are not bigots, but at the same time, we do not like to join in banqueting on a Friday, when meat is forbidden to a Roman Catholic. We would not dare to take our wives and daughters or sisters and compel them to act against their religious principles and convictions for the sake of the company, and spoil their evening's amusement and pleasure." It just occurred to me to raise the question, seeing that the members of the N.S.H. are busy preparing for their Annual Banquet, which takes place at Pagani's on *Friday*, the 18th inst. I intended to make up a party of seven or eight. When I approached the people I relied upon, they politely asked to be excused from joining the party. The reason, of course, was the same—Friday.

These are the answers I get. They are not very far wrong when they say: "Are there not other five days in the week to choose from?" I suppose there are reasons, but it looks as if there were a little want of respect for the religious convictions of the smaller section of the Swiss Colony. Tolerance and mutual respect are the basis of good friendship. I hope I am not out of place in suggesting consideration of this matter on my own behalf as well as in the name of several friends of mine who are good members of the Colony.

With kindest regards, G. Cusi.

"Schweizerbund" Swiss Club,

74, Charlotte Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

SWISS SPORTS

MAY 26th, 1923:

Special Sports Evening.

DANCE (Famous Jazz Band). DINNER from 8 p.m.

Private Buses will start from the Club at 1.30 p.m.
Return Fare 2/6. Please book seats early. THE COMMITTEE.

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UNION HELVETIA CLUB.

1, Gerrard Place, W.1.

SWISS SPORTS, 1923

SUPPER from 7 p.m.

DANCE (with Special Band) till 12.30

A Motor Coach will leave the Club for the Sports Ground at 1.30 sharp. Book Seats early with A. WYSS, Steward.

EGLISE SUISSE, 79, Endell St., W.C. 2.

Dimanche de Pentecôte. 20 Mai, 11h.—M. R. Hoffmann de Vismé (avec Service de Ste. Cène).

6.30.—Pfr. U. Wildbolz (mit Abendmahlfieber).

Lundi, 21 Mai.—Promenade à Ashtead (Surrey). Rendez-vous, Waterloo Station, 10 a.m.

Dimanche, 27 Mai.—Sermon d'Adieu de M. B. Terrisse, de Neuchâtel, Missionnaire, en partance pour l'Afrique. Collecte spéciale pour la Mission.

CONFIRMATION DU 13 MAI.

Nathalie BOISSIER, fille de Fernand et de Germaine née Favre, de Genève.

Jeanne CHRISTINAT, fille de Alphonse et de Suzette née Meyer, née à Neuchâtel, de Villars le Grand, Vaud.

Florence CLARKE, fille de Arthur Charles et d'Elise née Buttica, de Londres, née à Vernex, Montreux.

Eric et Marcel COURTIN, fils de Henri C. et de Marie née Mabilbe, de Rheims, né à Londres.

Tim EISENEGGER, fils de John Albert et de Rosine née Milliquet, d'Argovie, né à Woodford.

Frédéric GOLAY, fils de Frédéric V. et de Pauline née Keller, du Chenit (Vaud), né à Londres.

Louise MILLER, fille de Louis et de Marion Rae, de Frutigen, née à Londres.

Monica PAGE, fille de Fred. et de Lisina née Martinelli, née à Cham (Zoug).

Mirille PELLIER, fille de Victor et d'Ida née Turin, de la Sarthe (France).

Marie-Louise PERRET, fille de Maurice et d'Alice née Chapuis, d'Essertines (Vaud), née à Ouchez.

Edouard SCHMUTZ, fils de Adolphe et de Marie née Krebsler, de Zimmerwald (Berne), né à Londres.

Stella VALLERANI, fille de Louis et de Marie née Schneebeli, de Ceriso (Italie), née à Londres.

Oscar WEIDELI, fils de Oscar et de Bertha née Brunner, de Kreuzlingen (Thurgovie), né à Londres.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, May 22, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Informal Gathering at 28, Red Lion Square, W.C. 1.

Saturday, May 26, at 2.30 p.m.—SWISS SPORTS at Herne Hill Athletic Grounds.

Friday, June 1st, at 5.30 p.m.—UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, Gower Street, W.: Public Lecture by Dr. Paul Lang on "Carl Spitteler." In the Chair: The Swiss Minister.

Friday, June 1st, at 8 p.m.—NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE: Lecture by Director H. Tobler on "Die Schulreform und die Landerziehungsheime."

Tuesday, June 12th, at 7 p.m.—CITY SWISS CLUB: Monthly Meeting, preceded by a Supper, at Nuthall's Restaurant, Kingston-on-Thames.

Friday, June 15th, from 5 till 10.30 p.m.—FETE SUISSE at Caxton Hall, Westminster, W.