

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: - (1956)
Heft: 1276

Artikel: 1st August visitors to London
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-690973>

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1st AUGUST VISITORS TO LONDON.

“Mens sana in corpore sano” — this Roman maxim finds to-day a worthy exponent in the Società Ginnastica “Concordia” of Giubiasco, Canton Ticino. During the short decade since its formation this band of young people from the busy industrial township south of the Ticinese capital, Bellinzona, has pursued this typical Swiss ideal of educating both body and mind to the fullest extent and in the best possible way. This they have achieved by cultivating Swedish drill to develop the body, and the art of song to stir the mind. To these accomplishments they have added the exciting pastime of foreign travel. Up to the present they have visited, to give their displays, Paris, Vienna, Barcelona, Rome, Venice, Udine, Trieste, Antwerp and Amsterdam; next year they hope to reach Moscow. The Homeland they have thoroughly explored by taking part twice yearly in important gymnastic meetings. This year will take them to Dietikon, for the Federal Gymnastic competition, and what is of particular interest to us Swiss here, to London at the end of July.

They have thus been invited to take part in our National Day Celebration which will take place on Wednesday evening, 1st August next, at the Battersea Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London, S.W.11, which is in proximity to the Clapham Junction Station of British Railways.

The Società Ginnastica Concordia and the Swiss Male Choir will fill the entertainment bill at our 1st August celebration. It will thus be a Swiss programme, of a type which the Colony have not been able to enjoy for several years. The Ticinese party will include the “Quintetto Vocale Radiosa”, well-known to listeners to Radio Monte Ceneri, who will give productions of the familiar arias in their own special style, with the assistance of solo items by the best vocalists in the group. On their part the gymnasts will provide displays by teams on parallel bars, vaulting horse and suspended rings, also with solo productions and tableaux, not omitting the lighter side of comical turns performed by both athletes and singers.

It is to be hoped that, as in former years, the London colony will turn up in force to reward the organizing Committee for their enterprise and at the same time to give enthusiastic support to our compatriots from the “Sunny South” whose courageous venture cannot help stirring our patriotic spirit on such an appropriate occasion as the 1st August.

J.E.



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