

# Swiss footballers in London

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# SWISS FOOTBALLERS IN LONDON.

ARSENAL 3 SWISS WANDERERS 2

A great event in the history of Swiss football! To see our national emblem, our banner, the white cross in the field of red proudly fluttering in the wind at the Arsenal Stadium, Highbury, made many a London-Swiss heart beat faster.

The occasion was a friendly match arranged between the Arsenal and a Swiss eleven of international standard and differing in fact but in three positions from the team that defeated the might of England last May in Zurich by 2 goals to 1. Severino Minelli, captain and right back, capped no less than 64 times, unfortunately pulled a muscle during training and could not play. His place was taken by Stelzer (Lausanne) who, let it be said at once, filled his post exceedingly well. The left half Loertscher (Servette) stood down and was efficiently replaced by Rauch (Grasshoppers). The one man really missed was Amado (Lugano) at outside right, a great footballer, be it on the wing or at centre forward, a match winner on his day. Fauguel (Grasshoppers) took his place and fell somewhat out of the picture. The teams lined up as follows:

*Arsenal:* Swindin; Male, Compton (L); Crayston, B. Joy, Collett; Kirchen, Bremner, Drake, Bryn Jones, Compton (D).

*Swiss Wanderers:* (All Grasshoppers unless stated otherwise) Huber; Stelzer (Lausanne), Lehmann; Springer, Vernati, Rauch; Fauguel, Walacek (Servette), Bickel, Trello Abegglen and Aeby (both Servette).

*Referee:* A. J. Jewell.

The Swiss Colony rolled up in great force and the Arsenal Stadium resounded to what was undoubtedly a strange war cry, given vociferously and with fervour: Hopp, Schwytz! And the presence of our Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, stamped the meeting to an historic event. Our expectations were great, our enthusiasm fervent and our hopes just boundless. Nor were the 20,000 spectators to be disappointed. True, the first half was (at any rate to us Swiss) rather distressing. I counted no less than 8 corners conceded by our side, our goal being under continuous pressure, whereas no more than three real shots troubled the Arsenal goalkeeper in that period. An early goal, headed by Drake from a corner was followed by a second, a long bouncing shot passing over Huber's outstretched hands. Here our jack-in-the-box seemed to me to be at fault in his positioning and the point should have been saved. And then we at last got a glimpse of the capability of our team. From well inside our half the ball wandered with deadly precision from man to man, never giving an Arsenal defender a chance to intervene and a glorious and classic movement ending with a five yard shot by Aeby that Swindin just knew nothing about. 2:1.

And that was the score at half-time. How lucky and happy was that section of Swiss enthusiasts who, having never heard that the Gunners colours are and always have been — even in their Woolwich-days, and that's why — red shirts and white knickers, cheered the Arsenal to the echo, in the fond, but alas mistaken belief, that there went the great Swiss! To my surprise and mystification, having had the temerity to back my faith in Swiss football with a modest few shillings my friend, obviously knowing more about Bridge and Chess than Soccer, sought me out at half-time, thrust the mite into my hand, assuring me I had won, "they" (the Reds of course) were all over them! He had gone back to his equally deluded friends before I had partially recovered from the shock. What had happened I only learned some hours later. Would you believe it, that entire section left the ground convinced the Swiss had "licked" the Arsenal! And little Audrey laughed and laughed and laughed!

As I have said before, the display of the Swiss in the first half was far from convincing. But as so often happens, the interval brought a magic transformation. Our team found their feet and settled down to a display of delightful football, at times truly brilliant. The Arsenal succeeded to increase their lead by a crazy goal by Kirchen who back-heeled the ball into the net from a corner, knowing probably but little about it all. Bickel made the score 3:2 with a wonderful surprise shot from quite 40 yards out that Swindin just touched but could not hold.

Generally speaking, the Swiss definitely dominated play in this half and with Amado on the right wing I am sure they would have won. Anyhow, my friend and his pals must have sweated blood during this stage of the game.

That the different tactics of the Swiss puzzled the Arsenal is certain. B. Joy, Arsenal's third back, alias centre-half (by the way the only amateur that has a regular place in a First League eleven) was all at sea when he found the Swiss centre forward, instead of acting as spearhead to the forward line, playing well behind his forwards. Drake found himself opposed by a centre-half who took little notice of him, playing an attacking game and scorning the idea of shadowing the great Drake. The two wing halves mark the wing forwards, leaving the insides to be covered by the backs, one of whom, Stelzer, giving a special eye to Drake. In England the wing halves take the inside forwards and the two outsides are covered by the backs. That means that the backs play much further apart than by the Swiss method and hence the necessity for a third back. Our way is, of course, nothing new. Some years ago several English teams played in a similar style. But its application to-day came as a surprise and set some nasty problems.

Another pleasing feature of the match was the absence of any rough play or frayed tempers so often associated with these England v Continent games. It was a clean, chivalrously fought out contest and the entire English Press was loud and unanimous in praise of the Swiss.

In this connection I would like to refer to a talk I had after the match with Mr. Stanley F. Rous, Secretary of the F.A., I was anxious to hear straight from the Fountain head what chance the Swiss have to be invited to play England over here and I can authoritatively state that after the great display in Zurich, the good impression then established being again confirmed by the clean and wonderfully efficient show at Highbury, Switzerland's claim to an International fixture in England stood well to the fore and that such invitation could definitely be expected, anyhow within a year or two.

And then, my friends, to give you all plenty of notice, England will play in white shirts and blue knickers, while the Swiss will wear Red shirts with the Swiss cross on the left breast and white knickers, so that another heart rending mistake should be utterly impossible.

There remains to be said that the Swiss Wanderers played in the Grasshopper colours, except light blue knickers for white, the shirts being half blue, half white, in other words the colours of Zurich.

F. M. G.

## SWISS FOOTBALL TEAM LUNCHEON AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

On Thursday last, the day following the Match at the Highbury Stadium, a Luncheon was offered to the Swiss Team, at the Zoological Gardens, Regents Park. (Members' Extension) by the City Swiss Club which was attended by about one hundred members and friends.

At least so I understood from the circular issued by this illustrious Club; in the meantime, however, I have read in the English Press, that the Swiss team was really and truly entertained by our friend Mr. Schorno, who, apart from being Catering Manager at the Zoological Gardens, is also a member of the Club.

This *beau geste* of M. Schorno is undoubtedly appreciated by the Treasurer of the City Swiss Club, who, for once can afford to smile for having "escaped" so cheaply. I sincerely hope that the City Swiss Club will duly honour the generosity of one of its members.

This is, however, not the only misunderstanding I experienced in connection with the Swiss Footballers.

From the excellent report which Mr. F. M. Gamper, a late Swiss international wrote, and which is published above, it can be gathered that a number of our London Swiss mistook the Arsenal team for the Swiss and visa versa.

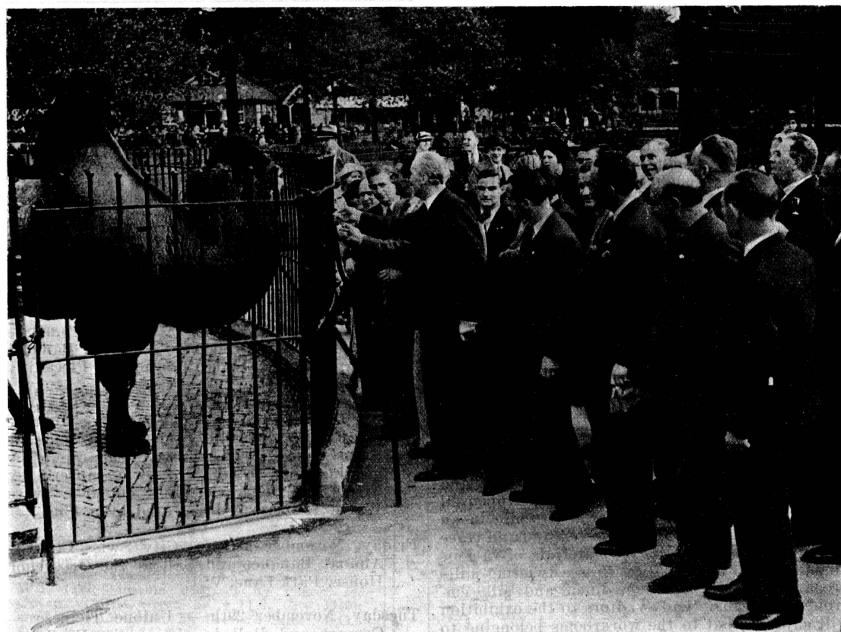
Let me admit that amongst these was the writer, who sat together with the Publisher of this paper in the Press Stand, and whenever Arsenal scored, a mighty cheer escaped our throats and up went the little Swiss flag, much to the astonishment, or perhaps amusement of our English colleagues, who could not quite understand our enthusiasm.

I was therefore very glad indeed that I had at least a chance to have a good look at the Swiss team on Thursday, as I had completely ignored them on the playing field the day previous.

It was a very jolly affair that little Luncheon, and if it was a success it was not the least due to Mr. Schorno who presented us with an excellent fare, and the compliments from the Chair extended to the Swiss chef, Mr. Bachmann, were well deserved.

The Swiss Minister, Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, M. and Mme. Ch. de Jenner and M. de Rham from the Legation honoured the gathering with their presence.

After the usual toasts to H.M. the King and Switzerland, M. Louis Chapuis extended in a delightful little speech a hearty welcome to the Football team, the Swiss Minister and to M. Sporni, Mayor of St. Pancras, who was representing his borough at this function.



By courtesy of the Keystone View-Company.

THE SWISS MINISTER AND MEMBERS OF THE SWISS FOOTBALL TEAM AT THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

M. Paravicini, struck a very happy note in his reply to the President, he spoke partly in English and partly in "Baslerditsch," he admitted that he had never before in his life attended a football match, but that Wednesday's game took his fancy to such an extent, that he is looking forward to witness many more matches in the future.

Striking a more serious note the Minister said that as long as nations meet together in friendly sports competition, there would be no more wars, he congratulated the team on their fine and chivalrous game, saying that if they lost, they lost with honour.

Long applause greeted the Minister on re-suming his seat, it was one of the happiest speeches I have heard the Minister deliver.

M. Sporni, Mayor of St. Pancras, who received a hearty ovation on rising, welcomed the Footballers in his Borough, and in Italian eulogised our country of which he is an ardent friend, he also complimented the Swiss Colony on its diplomatic representative.

The last speaker was Dr. Stoll, the teams Manager, who in English thanked the City Swiss Club for having invited them to this very friendly luncheon. (The thanks ought to have really been given to Mr. Schorno.) He also expressed his great satisfaction with regard to the splendid game which was played at the Arsenal Stadium. "We have received so much kindness from our English friends," he said, "that our stay in this country will always remain in our memory as one of our most treasured events."

In concluding, Dr. Stoll asked the team to give three cheers to the Members of the City Swiss Club, the Minister and the Mayor of St. Pancras, and thus ended one of the most delightful functions I have had the pleasure to attend in the Colony.

Many of the Members and their Ladies took the opportunity to visit the Gardens, and as a parting shot, one of my friends, who hails from the town of Zurich, expressed the hope that I would not mix up the monkeys with Bernese, it was a nasty remark to make, but perhaps not so undeserved.

ST.

#### SWISS TEXTILE INDUSTRIES AT THE EXHIBITION.

The coming National Exhibition gives Swiss Textile Industries and Fashion Makers an excellent opportunity of making the public acquainted with the first-rate quality and the up-to-date features of their products. The old proverb "Fine feathers make fine birds" is a fitting motto for the exhibition, proving that the whole affair is not to be a mere dry display of goods or a course of instruction for visitors with the object of furthering commerce and trade. It will, on the contrary, be a gay and brilliant survey, combining entertainment with experiences of real and lasting interest.

The abundance and similarity of textile goods makes it impossible to give each individual firm the opportunity of exhibiting all or even the chief part of its products. This would be monotonous in the extreme. The work done by textile industries, will, as is the case in other departments, be exhibited in special groups.

Textile products and fashions are one of the most important sections of the exhibition. The buildings in which they are shown cover an area 140 metres long and 75 metres deep, and lie scattered in delightfully laid-out gardens. The entrance, porch, ornamented with figures illustrating the science of clothing will attract attention from a distance. The first room, measuring 2,000 sq. m., gives us insight into the manufacture of textile goods. We see the work done in spinning and cotton mills, silk twisting mills, weaving mills and embroidery workrooms. The manufacture of artificial silk may be seen in all its details. A model in a glass case shows the whole process, from the initial preparation of the wood to the finished material and the use to which it is put.

The general public is not, as yet, sufficiently acquainted with the branch of Swiss industries engaged in the work of refining and finishing materials. The special division of this department in which the art of dyeing, the various printing processes and the sanforizing process are shown will therefore, be of particular interest. Embroidery also comes under this heading, and we shall see women from the Canton of Appenzell busily practising this intricate art, while in an adjoining room, machines operated by hand trace flowers and other motifs on materials of various kinds. In another pavilion we see twisting mills preparing cotton, woollen, linen and silk embroidery threads. Lady visitors to the exhibition will enjoy a visit to the workrooms belonging to this group. They will be able to watch clever and experienced workers engaged in knitting and

crochet-work, while hand-weaving looms make carpets and materials for house decoration and wearing apparel.

The flourishing Swiss linen trade gives a sample of its high-class fabrics, beautiful household and table linen, and special linens for modern articles of clothing. A happy thought caused the exhibitors to arrange a special division for textile goods intended for every-day wear and household linen. No woman will omit a close inspection of this group, where she will appreciate the taste and skill evident in the texture of the fabrics and in the choice and combination of colours and designs, in printed materials as well as in embroidery.

The last group in the textile department is the great Textile Hall, where a clever combination of the choicest fabrics and embroideries forms a colourful scene of extraordinary brilliancy.

#### EDITOR'S POST-BAG.

My Dear Editor,

Further to your announcement in last week's Observer, I have pleasure in announcing that the members attending the next monthly meeting of the City Swiss Club on Tuesday 4th October will have the joy of listening to one of the wittiest and most entertaining French Speakers of the day, Monsieur Maurice Thiery, whose reputation in University and literary circles is well known. The subject is:

"L'esprit et l'humeur Français" which will be treated on a broad basis, and members are assured of a first class entertaining and interesting evening.

Under the able leadership of our popular President the committee is working hard to make our meetings as popular and interesting as possible and we definitely rely on the fullest support of all members. I hope they will turn up in large numbers with as many guests as they like. It is up to every member to help make our meetings interesting by his presence — the committee will do the rest.

Rendez-vous donc mardi 4 octobre au local chez Pagani's. On dînera comme d'habitude.

CITY SWISS CLUB,  
Le Secrétaire,  
Henry Binguely.

#### CITY SWISS CLUB.

Messieurs les membres sont avisés que

#### L'ASSEMBLEE MENSUELLE

aura lieu Mardi 4 Octobre au Restaurant PAGANI, 42, Great Portland Street, W.1. et sera précédée d'un souper à 7h. 15 précises (prix 5/-).

#### ORDRE DU JOUR:

Procès-verbal.	Démissions.
Admissions.	Banquet Annuel.
	Divers.

Pour faciliter les arrangements, les participants sont priés de bien vouloir s'inscrire au plus tôt auprès de Monsieur P. F. Boehringer, 23, Leonard Street, E.C.2. (Téléphone: Clerkenwell 2321/2).  
Le Comité.

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Tuesday, October 4th (Dinner 7.15 sharp) City Swiss Club — Monthly Meeting, at Pagani's, Great Portland Street, W.1.

Wednesday, October 5th, at 8 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society—Meeting of the Philatelic Group, at "Swiss House," 34/35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Friday, October 14th, at 6.30 for 7 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Members Evening — at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1. (See announcement).

Saturday, October 15th, at 6.30 for 7 p.m. — Swiss Mercantile Society — Jubilee Banquet and Ball — at the Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus, W.1. (See advertisement).

Friday, October 21st, at 7.45 p.m. — Monthly Meeting — Nouvelle Société Helvétique at Swiss House, 34/35, Fitzroy Square. The meeting will be followed by a causerie by Fred. E. C. Ferraris, Esq., on: "The Swiss Watch Industry," illustrated by a film.

Friday, November 25th — City Swiss Club — Annual Banquet and Ball at the Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W.1.

Tuesday, November 29th — Unione Ticinese — Concert and Ball in aid of the Fonds de Secours, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W.1.

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Dimanche 2 octobre 1938 :

11h. — Culte M. Ph. Blocher.

11h. — Reprise de l'Ecole du Dimanche.

6h.30 — Culte M. Ph. Blocher.

Attention au changement d'heure!

Pendant l'absence du pasteur Pradervand, prière de s'adresser à M. le pasteur Hahn, 43, Priory Road, W.4, (Téléphone : Chiswick 4156).

#### SCHWEIZERKIRCHE

(Deutschsprachige Gemeinde).

St. Anne's Church, 9, Gresham Street, E.C.2.

(near General Post Office.)

Sonntag, den 2. Oktober 1938.

11 Uhr morgens, Gottesdienst und Sonntagschule.

7 Uhr abends, Gottesdienst.

8 Uhr, Chorprobe.

Dienstag, den 4. Oktober 1938.

Nachm. 2 Uhr 30, Näherein im "Foyer Suisse."

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