

# Henley Royal Regatta : Swiss crew at Henley

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**ST. MORITZ** (Engadin)**Olympia - Hotel - Metropol**

Das bestgeführte, behaglich eingerichtete Familienhôtel mit seiner soignierten Küche empfiehlt sich für jeden Aufenthalt.

A. SCHMIDT-NYFF-NEGGER

*Im Winter gleiches Haus in Arosa Sporthotel Valsana*

After extending a special welcome to his friend and former colleague, Mr. Lorsignol, he continued by saying:—

“I also observe many new faces, many of you, I believe, have served in the Forces. Having been myself a sergeant in the Swiss Army, I wish to extend to you a most hearty welcome, I would like also to tell you all, and particularly the English portion of the staff, how much we Swiss in Switzerland, who have been spared, at great cost, the horrors of the war, admire the discipline, bravery and fortitude with which the British people are fighting against adverse circumstances. I have at the bottom of my heart not the slightest doubt, that the energy and the intelligence of the British people will enable them to surmount sooner than it is expected the great difficulties of to-day.” (*Applause*)

The speaker said that the Managers of the London Office were told during the difficult years of the war how much the splendid behaviour of the London staff was appreciated, and it gave him pleasure to express to-day in person his own and the thanks of his colleagues for the sense of duty which they had shown during those years.

Mr. Golay mentioned that a gathering of this kind would give everybody the possibility of making contact with each other, expressing the wish that this contact would remain.

In conclusion the speaker said that the Management are studying at present a scheme whereby an allowance will be granted, according to material possibilities, in order to help the staff to overcome the present cost of living. (*Long and loud applause.*)

Mr. Alec Smith, then replied on behalf of the Staff, thanking both Mr. Golay and Mr. Nussbaumer for having specially come over from Switzerland for this occasion. He also expressed the appreciation of his colleagues to Dr. de Wolff for what he had said, and for the generous promise of a Food parcel, cost of living bonus and for the party which was greatly enjoyed.

As in the meantime the refreshments had all been consumed, the company slowly dispersed, gaily and in high spirits, because of what they had had, and what was “to come.” With an envious heart, I left the Abercorn Rooms, because food parcels and Bonuses seem only to be reserved for Bankers, but nevertheless it was a pleasure to attend, and I wish the Swiss Bank Corporation

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

ST.

**HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA.****Swiss Crew at Henley.**

The only Swiss entry at the Henley Royal Regatta, which began on Thursday, July 5th, 1947, was the Ruder Club, Zurich, the See Club, Zurich, having previously withdrawn their entry.

On the first day of the Regatta the Swiss crew was opposed by the London Rowing Club, “A” crew in the Grand Challenge Cup, which race they won in fine style by 1¼ lengths.

On Friday, the Ruder Club, Zurich was up against the strong Jesus College Cambridge “A” crew, who, the previous day had beaten Leander Club, the holders of the cup.

It was a great and thrilling performance, the crews rowed level all the way to the Mile post up the enclosures, within 200 yards of the finish Jesus made a spurt which Zurich were unable to answer, and they lost by half a length in 7 min. 22 sec.

Amongst this year’s Zurich crew were four oarsmen who rowed at Henley in July 1936, when the Ruder Club, Zurich, won the Grand Challenge Cup (against Leander); the Stewards’ Challenge Cup (against Leander) and the Diamond Challenge Sculls, E. Ruffi (against J. H. Tyler), namely: E. Ruffi, K. Schmid, H. Betschart and O. Neuenschwander.

It was largely due to the Swiss Colony in Great Britain, that the Ruder Club, Zurich, was able to compete in 1936, when, through the intermediary of the “*Swiss Observer*” an amount of over-£100 was collected to defray a part of the expenses.

During this year’s stay the Zurich crew were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Claisse at Purbeck & Little Purbeck, Shiplake, who made their stop a very agreeable one. Madame Claisse, the charming hostess was born in Neuchâtel.

On Saturday evening, after the conclusion of the races, they invited the Swiss crew and a large number of guests, amongst them the Swiss Minister and Madame Ruegger, to a cocktail party at their beautiful home at Shiplake, and it was there that we had an opportunity to interview members of the crew.

Needless to say the crew were not a little disappointed at not having, as in previous years, reached the final, but in good sportsmanship they admitted that their opponents were just a trifle too good, and therefore deserved to win.

Mr. E. Ruffi, who, took the Diamonds for two years in succession (1935 and 1936) told the writer, that it was a great disappointment to the crew to watch this year’s final from the “tribune.”

Monsieur Ruegger, the Swiss Minister, congratulated the crew on their fine performance, wishing them good luck for next year’s Olympic games, a wish in which we join heartily.

The Zurich crew left early on Sunday morning en route for Switzerland.

Crew: H. Betschart, bow, O. Neuenschwander, M. Wolfensberger, K. Albicker, W. Betschart, E. Ruffi, G. Oehinger, K. Schmid, stroke, W. Barth, cox.

ST.