

# "The Times" Football Club v. Swiss Mercantile College A.F.C.

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## "THE TIMES" FOOTBALL CLUB v. SWISS MERCANTILE COLLEGE A.F.C.

Saturday, 30th March 1963

An old English proverb says "the English never know when they are beaten", and this is very true. In spite of the long run of defeats inflicted by the Swiss Mercantile College, it is still the ambition of every member of *The Times Football Club* to play in a "Swiss Match". This annual match is the principal event in the season of *The Times* club, and it is always keenly awaited.

Unlike previous years the 1963 game was not played on *The Times* ground at Ravensbourne, because the pitch is being relevelled, so it was played on a pitch kindly lent by *Oxo's*, our neighbours at Ravensbourne. Before the match both teams were presented to Mr. Peter Clarke (Secretary of *The Times* Publishing Company), who deputised for Mr. Hugh Astor, who was unfortunately indisposed. The Swiss Mercantile College of course had their usual band of supporters present, and they are always welcome at Ravensbourne, particularly the pretty girls.

The weather was not so kind this year, and it was raining when the College kicked off. They moved straight into the attack and *The Times* goalkeeper soon got the feel of the ball. In a matter of minutes the College's enterprise was rewarded, the ball rebounded from Foxall's heel to Welte, and the left-winger took the ball forward a couple of yards before crashing it into the net. *The Times* supporters recalled that the Swiss had done the same thing two years ago when Bachmann and Löffel had created so much havoc, and the College won 8-1. The players however preferred to remember the old English proverb, and they began to chase every ball.

The College, cleverly prompted by Bachmann, threw everything into attack but *The Times* defence held firm. Thévenoz played some good football in mid-field but he spoilt this with weak finishing. The College were handicapped when Bachmann was hurt in a tackle and Dimmeler moved to centre-half. Shortly after this *The Times* drew

level, when Cheesman scored with a terrific shot from thirty yards; Hauser got his hands to the ball but it was travelling too fast. Play now became very exciting and both goals had many escapes, and when the whistle went for half-time honours were even.

The College opened the second-half the same way as they did the first and the home goal was under constant siege. Both teams were fighting every inch and some good teamwork found Thévenoz unmarked, and yet again he was unable to put the ball in the net. Burton in *The Times* goal made some wonderful saves but in the thirtieth minute the College went ahead again. Welte took the ball away from Foxall and scored with a good shot that left the goalkeeper helpless.

*The Times* fought even harder, and the play swung from end to end. Five minutes later the home team equalized when Daniels volleyed the ball into the net. The Swiss supporters tried to rally their team, and the chant of S.-M.-S. could be heard around the ground. *The Times* seeking the victory that had eluded them for so long attacked down the left-wing, and Eastwood chested the ball into the net to make the score 3-2.

Bachmann and his half-backs, Chenaux, and Wüst, tried hard to set their attack going, but *The Times* defence were playing a magnificent game. A great goal by Cheesman virtually ended any hopes the College had of saving the match. Shoebridge the right-winger centred the ball and Cheesman running in threw himself through the air to head the ball past the clutching hands of Hauser. In the dying minutes of the game the Swiss never stopped trying, Bachmann was here, there, and everywhere, and the final whistle was sweet music for the home team.

The College played their usual attractive football that we have come to know so well at Ravensbourne, and had Thévenoz's shooting matched the rest of his football there



The Swiss Team with  
Mr. A. Jaccard,  
President of the  
S.M.S. and Mr. W.  
Burren, Secretary.

(Photo by courtesy of  
"The Times".)

would probably have been a different result. If he is with the College next year, no doubt he will prove that this year he was not showing his true form.

Teams:— *The Times*: Burton, Foxall, Winter, Mackay, Lubin (Captain), Merrall, Shoebridge, Cheesman, Eastwood, Daniels, Watson.

*Swiss Mercantile College*: Hauser, Frei, Abler, Chenaux, Bachmann, Wüst, Reis, Dimmeler, Thévenoz, Hasler, Welte.

Colin Kyte.

(By courtesy of "The Times" House Journal.)

After the game Mr. C. W. Westcott, Vice-President of *The Times* F.C., said that he was always pleased to welcome the Swiss guests to the match, but on this occasion it gave him added pleasure to do so as *The Times* had regained the Lints Smith Cup after a span of six years. Mr. Peter Clarke, the Company Secretary, then said how sorry he was that Mr. Hugh Astor was unable to attend because of illness. He welcomed the opportunity, however, of strengthening his many ties with Switzerland and the Swiss visitors. He presented the cup to Mr. Lubin, Captain of *The Times* team, and medals to both winners and losers.

Mr. A. Jaccard, President of the Swiss Mercantile Society, said how much he and the Swiss team, students and guests appreciated the hospitality of the Club at this annual game and he congratulated both teams on a fine, hard-fought game. Although a little "Needle" had crept into the game at times, the referee, Mr. R. C. Jones, always had firm control.

A most enjoyable evening followed for all, especially *The Times* team, who relished the special "Victory Punch" prepared by the steward, the recipe of which is a closely guarded secret.

## SKI CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

In yet another hall in London the Swiss flag was proudly displayed during the week of the Fête Suisse and the Centenary Celebration of the British Red Cross Society. It was on 9th May at the Grosvenor House when the Ski Club of Great Britain held its Jubilee Dinner and Ball. Whilst for a welcome change the Editor attended in a purely private capacity with "no strings of reporting attached", she feels she would like to write about it as it was no doubt a great tribute to Switzerland that this club with its Anglo-International membership should single out the white cross alone to be put up with the Union Jack.

The club is one of the oldest ski clubs in the world and was founded in 1903 by a small band of enthusiasts. It is responsible for the entry and training of British teams competing in the FIS championships and controls all British entries in international events.

It is housed at 118 Eaton Square, S.W.1, and the Club House offers attractive amenities to members, 90% of whom are British.

At the Jubilee Celebration about 1,000 members and friends attended. Brigadier E. A. L. Gueterbock, the President, welcomed the guests, among them the Minister of Transport, the Right Hon. Ernest Marples, M.P., himself a member of the Club, who replied for the guests. Mrs. Marples then presented the cups and trophies for the British Ski Championships.

It was a very happy and carefree evening with four hours of excellent dancing, and to judge by the fitness of some of the older dancers skiing must be a superb aid to keep fit.

Mariann.



The Swiss Team being presented by the Captain to Mr. P. Clarke, Company Secretary of "The Times". The S.M.S. President and Mr. C. W. Westcott, Vice-President of "The Times" F.C. looking on.

(Photo by courtesy of "The Times".)