

Business in Switzerland

Objekttyp: **Group**

Zeitschrift: **The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK**

Band (Jahr): - **(1961)**

Heft 1392

PDF erstellt am: **29.04.2024**

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BUSINESS IN SWITZERLAND

A pump of revolutionary design

A Swiss firm has just launched an entirely new kind of hydraulic pump which is remarkable in every way. Its main feature lies in facilitating the natural flow of the liquid inside the body of the pump by avoiding any forced passage through the pipes of the turbine. Thanks to its entirely unencumbered body, this pump can tackle without difficulty and very economically not only thick and viscous liquids but liquids cluttered with solid foreign bodies. Its output and lift exceed those of the traditional equivalent centrifugal pumps. It is simple and sturdy in design, reliable in operation and cheap to run.

This machine was first presented to the public at the 1961 ACHEMA International Fair in Frankfurt-on-Main, where it amazed — and aroused the enthusiasm of — the experts.

Anniversary of a world-famous firm

The Charmilles Engineering Works in Geneva is at present celebrating its 40th anniversary. This firm, which exports 50 per cent of its total output, has developed alongside its well-known hydraulic turbines an entirely new type of electrical machine-finishing apparatus. This extraordinarily dynamic and versatile firm is carrying out intensive research with a view to improving its world-renowned products still further.

Growth of a Geneva concern

Faced with the need to find additional space for production, the Board of Directors of the Secheron Engineering Works in Geneva have just purchased a 5-acre site in the commune of Gland on the shores of the Lake of Geneva. Here the firm will shortly build a new factory, to which it will move the departments manufacturing electrodes and assembling apparatus for electric welding. A few years ago, the firm acquired an industrial site of some 22 acres near Sion with a view to a future expansion in the field of the manufacture of products for the production of electrical energy.

Swiss experts for the Congo

Through the Technical Co-operation Section of the Federal Political Department, two Swiss have been entrusted with missions on behalf of the U.N. Mr. René Berger, office manager at the Basle customs, is leaving for a customs survey in the Congo for a period of four to six months; Mr. Emil Molly, a geologist from Geneva, has gone to the Congo as a mining engineer for a provisional period of one year. These two men have already started their work for the U.N.

A Swiss insulating glass

A Swiss firm now manufactures insulating glass for the building trade according to an original process. This new glass can be used for big windows, at the same time offering very efficient protection against heat and cold. It consists of two sheets of glass fitted in a frame and held apart by a plastic cushion all round the edge. As the panes are hermetically sealed in their frame and the space in between is filled with absolutely pure, dry air, there can be no inner condensation or deposit of dust. These insulating panes are made in various sizes and thicknesses, as well as in various qualities of glass, with an intermediate buffer or cushion of 6 to 12 mm.

Protection against sun's rays in shop-windows

You would certainly never think of buying merchandise that had faded or lost its freshness through too long exposure to the sun's rays in a shop-window. That is why shopkeepers have to protect the goods on display in their windows by lowering the blinds whenever the sun becomes too strong. But unfortunately this is not always possible, especially when the weather varies from one moment to the next, or on Sundays, for example. Often in order to safeguard the freshness of their merchandise shopkeepers mask their windows up to a certain height with opaque curtains, which detracts a good deal from the whole effect. In order to overcome these drawbacks a Swiss manufacturer in Olten has perfected a product offering protection against ultra-violet rays, the main cause of fading colours. "Anti-Sun" is a transparent varnish that absorbs the ultra-violet rays and which the shopkeeper can apply himself to the inside of his windows with an ordinary brush. This is a practical and inexpensive way to protecting merchandise from the harmful effects of the sun without spoiling the effectiveness of the display.

Swiss railway coaches for Turkey

A few weeks ago, six modern passenger coaches left Switzerland on their way to Turkey. They had been ordered by Eurofima, a company in Basle for financing purchases of rolling stock and railway equipment. These coaches, which are nearly eighty feet long and are intended for use on the Munich-Istanbul line, have an independently sprung light metal frame and are protected against noise, cold and heat in accordance with the latest insulating techniques; they were built by the Swiss Railway Coach and Elevator Factory at Schlieren near Zurich.

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