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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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50 Years of 'Technische Mitteilungen'

Chr. Kobelt, Berne

In 1923 the then Swiss Telegraph Administration decided to bring out, under the title 'Technische Mitteilungen TT', a professional journal designed to improve the knowledge of their technical and administrative staff. This journal replaced the Association's 'Technische Beilage' (Technical Supplement) to the 'Post-, Zoll- und Telegraphen-Zeitung', which had appeared since 1917. By its expert articles covering all technological aspects of the Swiss PTT the 'Technische Mitteilungen' has developed, over the past 50 years, into an internationally noted professional publication, and it will no doubt have an important task to fulfill even in future.

p. 528...534

Lightning Protection of Transmitting Stations

H. Meister, Berne

Over the last ten years a large number of television and VHF transmitters as well as radio links and transmitting plant for special purposes (such as motorcar paging networks) have been set up in Switzerland. Many of these installations are to be found on sites with severe lightning exposure, which initially led to numerous service interruptions. The author gives the reasons for the failures and shows how the reliability of these facilities can be materially improved.

p. 535...540

Balancing Adjustment by Means of Impulses

O. Jutzi and F. Nüsseler, Berne

Depending on the type of circuit, the methods used up to now for adjusting line balances have not always proved entirely satisfactory. The method described in this article (keying-in of impulses) helps resolve the difficulties. Tests have shown that, thanks to the relatively low phase velocity of the coil-loaded circuits, the use of this method is restricted only by a bottom limit length.

p. 541...554

Pneumatic Tube Installations in Swiss Cities (Final part)

M. Hochuli, Berne

Having reviewed the history of pneumatic tube installations in Switzerland and abroad, the author explains Swiss PTT's reasons for building fully automatic city tubes. He describes some of the specially developed plant, outlining its operational advantages.

The 1st part was published in No. 11/1972, p. 492...497.

News Items

Posts

On three Swiss postal coach lines the punch-type section tickets for regular users have been replaced by **sight tickets** to be presented to the driver on demand only. This change, which was introduced on 1 November, will speed up the boarding of coaches.

The **Lötschental postal passenger service** has been rationalized by the introduction of **radio telephone facilities** for six of its coaches.

Telephone

Automatic telephone service to Hungary was opened on 1 November. Subscriber dialling in the opposite direction will not be introduced for another year. Hungary is the 25th country that can be reached by ISD from Switzerland.

Discussions have been held with representatives of the German Federal Post Office on **planned microwave links Basle-Stuttgart, Zurich-Frankfurt and St. Gall-Ravensburg**. The first two systems are to come into operation in 1974 and 1975 respectively. They will have a capacity of 800 voice channels each. The St. Gall-Ravensburg link needs further planning.

Telegraph, Telex

The **Bellinzona Telecommunication Directorate** connected its **1000th telex customer** in October.

Since 1 October **Fiji telex subscribers** have been able to **dial direct to Switzerland**.

Radio, Television

On 1 October '**Radio Veronica**', a **pirate transmitter** lying off the Dutch coast, **changed its frequency from 1562 to 557 kHz**. As both these frequencies are used by Swiss stations, there have been interferences, first with the German-spoken and now with the Italian-spoken broadcasts. Swiss PTT have lodged a strong protest with '**Radio Veronica**'.

In October, **two motor vehicles with magnetic-tape recording facilities** were added to the outside-broadcast fleet of **Swiss Television**. They will be used by the German and French-speaking studios for independent outside production of colour programmes.

On the **Bantiger-Jungfraujoch section** of the **fixed microwave network for TV reporting**, new equipment has been put into operation to replace the 15-year-old tube installations.

Miscellaneous

Since October **PTT Research and Development** has been operating its **own modular data processing system**, which is geared to the department's specific technical and scientific needs. The plant can also communicate with a large processor at the PTT Electronic Computing Centre.

On 13 September the Swiss Federal Council passed the **revised Regulations relating to the Federal Telegraph and Telephone Act**. On the same day the Transport, Communications and Power Department approved the **new text of the Detailed Regulations**. Both documents became effective on 1 October. They contain formal changes only, which have been included for clarity's sake.