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Summaries

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Radio Broadcasting over Medium and Long Waves (Part III)

W. EBERT, Berne

The author analyzes the existing and the planned radio broadcasting services (inclusive of wire broadcasting) in Switzerland. He also outlines the possibilities of specific medium-wave coverage, with an eye to the 1974/1975 frequency allotment plan conference in Geneva.

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Compensation of Couplings in Audio-Cable Systems

W. Knuchel, Berne

The transmission performance of cables is largely determined by their capacity unbalance, which can be compensated in various ways. Special components are needed to maintain or restore optimum coupling balance in cable systems under construction. Capacitor balancing sleeves enable the appropriate technique to be both rationalized and simplified.

p. 290...298

The Importance of the Exponential Logistic Function in Forecasting

H. Zobrist, Berne

The importance of development curves nearing an upper limit (saturation point) has considerably increased over the last years. The exponential logistic function is an excellent means for calculating such curves as it enables their approximation to past and expected future development, whereby the theory of simple linear regression can be applied after suitable transformation. An appropriate computer programme for use by planning staff has been made available at the Swiss PTT Electronic Computing Centre.

News Items

Posts

During the 'Internaba' international stamp exhibition at Basle last month the Swiss PTT Museum displayed a special collection of documents on 'UPU 1874-1974: 150 Countries - One Postal Territory', which met with great interest.

Telephone

Swiss PTT will discontinue its **classified directories** and re-introduce trade entries in the alphabetical list of subscribers. As the re-editing will take some time, the volumes to be published in the near future may contain few or no trade entries.

In early 1975 a **classified directory of Switzerland** with about 320,000 entries in 8 volumes will be published by a private firm, the 'Schweizerische Telefonbuchverlag AG'.

The Swiss **mechanized information services** are enjoying an ever-increasing popularity among the about 2.3 million telephone users. In 1973 the favourite was again the Speaking Clock with 48.16 million calls, followed by Sports News with 13.99 million, Weather Report 7.35 million, News 3.82 million, Road Bulletin 1.23 million and Local Enquires 1.16 million.

A **major technical operation** was conducted in the **Zurich region** where on 19 and 20 June some 260 technicians put into operation 3 exchanges for a total of 70,000 lines and connected 40,000 subscribers to new, 7-digit numbers.

The handling capacity of **automatic morning and alarm call systems** has been increased by 5,600 to 11,200 at Zurich and by 1,680 to 5,600 at Basle. The 17 systems in operation throughout Switzerland are now capable of processing a total of 44,000 orders.

In the first half of this year **international subscriber dialling** was made available to an additional 41,547 Swiss customers in 25 exchanges.

The **handling capacity of Swiss local exchanges** was increased by 77,000 lines from January to June.

A **960-channel microwave link** has come into operation between **St. Gall and Feldkirch** (Austria).

In May a **4th satellite circuit** was opened on the **Berne-Teheran route**.

Telegraph, Telex

On 1st July **Gentex service** was opened between **Switzerland and Poland**. At the same time the **Berne-Warsaw radio link**, established in 1922, was closed.

Telex subscriber dialling from Switzerland to **Argentina and Lebanon** was introduced on 1st June.

Transit dialling facilities via Rome are now available for telex calls from Switzerland to **Ethiopia, Liberia, Somalia and Syria**.

Switzerland's first leased line used jointly for **teleprinter and alternate voice/data communication** has been opened between Geneva and Chiasso.

Radio, Television

In June the **Swiss broadcasting network** was extended by 2 vhf radio transmitters and 8 TV transposers.

The 17th simplex relay for the **Swiss mobile radiophone service** has come into operation in the canton of Ticino.

A 7th airline, **SATA of Geneva**, has joined the **Swiss PTT Shortwave Radiophone Service with Aircraft**, which enables operational messages to be exchanged between pilots and the home airport.

Miscellaneous

On 14 June the **Centenary of the Universal Postal Union** was celebrated at Berne.

Mr Mohammed Ibrahim Sobhi of Egypt has been elected new **Director General of UPU**.

The **communication centre** provided for the **UPU Congress at Lausanne** comprised the mobile telegraph office, 1 telex booth, 2 teleprinters for incoming and outgoing telegrams, 12 attended telephones, 10 public booths for inland calls, 22 telephone lines, an electronic vote counter with instant display of results, and simultaneous interpretation equipment for 7 languages and 320 delegates. Radio telephones were installed in 19 postal travel coaches and 4 service vehicles to ensure smooth touring and transport organization.

The 3rd round of negotiations for a revised **Posts and Telecomms Treaty between Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein** was held at Berne in mid-June. Some financial aspects and details of the telecomms monopoly (Liechtenstein wishes to build and operate its own radio and television transmitters) will have to be discussed further.

From 14 June to 13 August **PTT posters from 15 CEPT countries** can be seen at the **Berne PTT Museum**. The collection will be on display at other European PTT museums later this year.

The principal item on the agenda of the **2nd World Administrative Conference for Maritime Mobile Telecommunications**, held in Geneva from 22 April to 8 June, was an extended frequency allocation plan for coast stations operating a telephone service with ships at sea. The revised plan will become effective from 1st January 1976.

Swiss PTT is working on a new **standard coinbox telephone** for local, national and international calls. It will be fully electronic and use integrated circuits.