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Summaries and Notices

Summaries

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50 Years of Swiss PTT's Postage Stamp Printing Office

H. Frischknecht, Berne

In 1930 the Federal Government authorized the PTT to acquire the postage stamp printing works of the Federal Mint. The first rotary printing press for line engraving stamps was set up in 1936 and an additional printer to the same purpose in 1945. The third rotary printing press with three printing units has been in operation at the PTT technical centre since 1967. During the last 50 years 30 000 million definitive stamps were delivered. In addition, many special stamps are still printed at a private printing press and are sorted out and processed by the PTT printing office.

p. 306...310

New Pentaconta Central Exchange Office at Zurich-Herdern

W. Johner and P. Guthertz, Zurich

On 30 April 1980 the first stage of the transit exchange came into operation at Zurich-Herdern. The exchange is characterized by its ease of maintenance, plug-in inserted modules combined with Pentaconta switching coordinate matrices. The paper provides an overview of the system features and the layout of the exchange.

p. 311...315

New International Standards for Data Transmission (First Part)

A. Kündig, Berne

The data transmission, which is until now almost exclusively in the dedicated or switched line of the telephone network, is expected to shift to a new specialized data network during the *mid-term* development. Different international organizations have prepared recommendations which go beyond the present Modem standard. Concepts such as synchronous data transmission, packet switching and architecture occupy an important position in data networks. They are briefly discussed and the most important standards are clarified within their respective relations. Also in the paper, the *long term* development prospect is assessed for the data transmission within the integrated services digital network.

p. 316...332

Systematic Construction of Flat Roofs (End)

J.-D. Vital, Berne

Problems and requirements of a flat roof are numerous and complex. Serious

and expensive damages of the last decades confirmed that new flat roof technology has not quite matured yet. Many known flat roof designs are classified and systematized. With the help of special diagrams safer flat roof construction can be selected, based on building physics and material technology.

News Items

Telephone

From 1 October 1980 **chargeable minutes will be reduced for telephone and telex services** with neighbouring countries (8 pc), United Kingdom and Denmark (10 pc), the USA and Canada (23 pc), and Japan (28 pc). At the same time new minimum charge will be applied to **special calls** (person-to-person and collect calls).

For **telephone traffic with Canada** the PTT acquired 20 additional circuits above the existing fully utilized 29 circuits in CANTAT-2 undersea cable.

The following **international circuits** from and to Switzerland were opened in the months of May and June: Peking (1), Hongkong (2), Capetown (2), Cairo (4), Abidjan (1), Salisbury (1), Jedda (4), Bagdad (1), and Abu Dhabi (5). Agreements for opening further circuits were reached with Canada, Libya and Pakistan.

Since 8 July 1980 the **first antenna** of the Leuk earth station has been again put into operation after being properly equipped with dual polarizers for **Intelsat V** satellite as well.

Telegraph, Telex

Telefax operational trials (subscriber-to-subscriber telefacsimile service) was officially opened on 14 July 1980.

Intercontinental public facsimile service was extended to **Taiwan** on 21 July 1980.

Switzerland's **30 000 telex terminal** will become operational at the beginning of August.

On 20 June 1980 **telex traffic** between **Switzerland and Svalbard** (Spitsbergen) was opened.

Zurich packet switching centre for the **Euronet** is ready for final acceptance to be conducted in cooperation with several selected subscribers. After completion of the tests this centre will be connected to the newly introduced European data network.

Radio, Television

On the occasion of the **Swiss TV, radio and hifi exhibition** in Zurich, a special 3rd FM/VHF 24-hour radio programme will be broadcast in that area from 27 August to 2 September 1980.