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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Auckland Swiss Club

"Samichlaus-Tag" with picnic will be held on December 6, 1964, at Frank Reichmuth's property, Chamberlain Road, Henderson.

Santa Claus will appear this year with horses; one to carry the gifts for all the children and two others to ride on. Guinea-pigs will be there to delight the children and also a little white kid-goat to cuddle. Wuerst and Mutschli, also ice cream will be given free to all children. —The Committee—H.B.M.

Hamilton Swiss Club

A film evening, "Ueli der Knecht," by Jeremias Gotthelf, will be held on Sunday, December 6, at 8.15 p.m. at the Embassy Theatre in Hamilton. This is an outstanding film and our only chance to see it. Due to heavy expenses please roll up in full numbers including friends.

We will endeavour to keep the charge at 3/- for adults and 1/6 for children. However, donations above this charge to defray expenses will be appreciated.

Our next evening will be the Christmas party to be held on December 13th at Pine Lodge at 8 p.m. Christmas tree, presents and Santa Claus for the children. Ladies a plate please.

Farm Work wanted by single man. Best recommendations from mixed farm (sheep and tractor, work, machine milking). Please contact the editor, "Helvetia."

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

AN IMPORTANT ANNIVERSARY

At Sainte-Croix, in the Swiss Jura, in 1814, Moise Paillard opened up a small shop for making watches and musical boxes. Today the world-famous company that bears his name employs 5,000 men and women. Thus, in 150 years, Paillard has grown to be the leading European manufacturer of projectors and cine cameras for 16 and 8 mm films sold under the trade mark "Bolex," while one out of every twenty typewriters in use in the world today is a "Hermes."

What is especially remarkable is that the biggest buyer of these articles is the country in which they were first mass-produced: the United States of America. Next in order come France and Western Germany, even though these two countries are highly industrialised and both powerful competitors.

To remain in the forefront of technical progress, Paillard Ltd., has created a research centre at Yverdon, one of the most modern

of its kind in Europe, as well as research laboratories in Zurich, Lausanne-Crissier and Munich, which work in close collaboration with Swiss institutes of technology and the Swiss Horological Research Laboratory in Neuchatel.

ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR GENEVA INDUSTRY

Two Geneva firms, the Chamilles Engineering Works Ltd., and the Secheron Engineering Works Ltd., have just been commissioned to construct turbines and alternators for the new power station at Bitsch in the Valais.

The Bitsch underground power station, supplied by the waters of the Aletsch glacier, is designed to hold three groups, only two of which will be installed during the first stage, i.e. by 1967. These hydro-electric groups are to be the most powerful in Switzerland; each of them will consist of a chamilles pelton-type turbine with a verticle axle and four jets developing a maximum of 143,000 HP under a head of 2418 feet and driving a Secheron triphase alternator of 120,000 kVA maximum at 375 r.p.m.

It should be added that the planning of the Bitsch Power Station as well as the supervision of the work has been awarded to the General Company for Industry, also of Geneva. (OSEC)

BEAUTY AT ONE'S FINGER TIPS

The human hand is not only the most wonderful tool. it is also a symbol used in a great many expressions: for example, of someone who is generous, we say he is open-handed, just as one who is over-casual is called offhand, while someone who knows anything perfectly has it at his finger tips.

The part played by the hand is not limited to manual work, it has social importance too; often enough a person's character is judged by the appearance of his hands.

In order to enable all—particularly women—who attach special importance to the appearance of their nails to procure the products required to strengthen and look after them, a manufacturer in Lausanne (Switzerland) recently put on the market two complementary liquids, "Dinalon-Lilac" and "Dinalon-Arange."

The first strengthens soft, brittle or split nails without any harmful unaesthetic effects; i.e. without harming or irritating the skin and without stopping the use of nail polish or any similar product. "Dinalon-Orange" is not only an oil for softening the cuticle but also a tonic rapidly penetrating the matrix of the nail to strengthen and revitalise it at the same time stimulating the growth of the nail. It gives the nail new life and combats inflammation and damage to the cuticle.

These two products were tested from the point of their effectiveness and innocuousness for a long time before being put on the market. With these two new products the preparations required for everyday care of the nails are always "at hand!" (OSEC)

SWISS RAILWAY RECORDS

The record for the distance covered by locomotives on the Swiss Federal Railways is held by an electric locomotive put into operation in 1927. By the end of 1963, i.e. in the space of 36 years, this engine had covered a total of about 3.25 million miles, i.e. a distance equivalent to almost 130 times the circumference of the earth at the equator. The record for the distance covered in a year is held by a self-propelled vehicle which in 1962 ran slightly over 173,000 miles, i.e. almost seven times the distance round the earth.

(OSEC)

SWISS ENGINEERS ABROAD

The International Development Association (IDA), a branch of the World Bank, is actively concerned in developing the supply of electricity in Bolivia. In order to settle certain technical and economic questions related to the country's future policy in regard to energy and charges for this energy, the Government of Bolivia and the Bolivian Power Company have asked Motor Columbus, a Swiss firm of engineering consultants in Baden, to study a number of points, under the patronage of the World Bank.

A team of experts from Motor Columbus comprising engineers and economists specialising in the field of energy, has already started work on the spot.

(OSEC)

WINNERS OF THE TOWN OF GENEVA PRIZE

Started in 1959 for the purpose of encouraging young designers the competition for the Town of Geneva Prize for watchmaking, goldsmith's work, jewellery and enamel work consists of two parts, in the first of which entrants submit their projects on paper, while in the second, the jury judges the articles made from the projects selected for actual execution. The competition originally comprised only one category, watchmaking, the others added subsequently. This year 694 projects were submitted by 132 competitors from 11 countries. The notary, who was the only one to know the identity of the competitors, was asked to order the execution of 48 works only, i.e. less than 7 per cent of the total number of entries.

The jury, consisting of several leading members of the Swiss watchmaking world as well as well-known French writer Madame Louise de Vilmorin, and presided over by Mr Pierre Bouffard, administrative councillor of Geneva, awarded the prize for enamel work to Mr Onelio Vignando, a graduate of the La Chaux-de-Fonds School of Arts and Crafts and a designer in a firm in the same town, the jewellery prize to Madame Martha Widmer, a designer in a Lucerne firm, and the prize for goldsmith's work to Mr Klaus Bohneberger, Pforzheim (Germany) but awarded no prize for watchmaking. It should be added that the strictest anonymity was respected in all the jury's discussions.

(OSEC)

SWISS CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN ARGENTINA

The Argentina subsidiary of Ciba Ltd., the well-known Basle chemical and pharmaceutical products factory, has for several years now been producing various resins as well as a range of products for textile uses in its factory "km 37". This factory has just started operating with its new plant for the manufacture of epoxide resins known as Araldite; the present annual output is in the neighbourhood of 300 tons a year.

In this way the Swiss firm will be in an even better position to satisfy the demands of a big South American market. (OSEC)

AN INTERNATIONAL FIRST SHOWING IN ZURICH

An itinerant international exhibition has been organised to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the invention of photography. This exhibition, the general theme of which is "Man," displays the works of photographers from 30 countries and will be shown in 40 European museums. The Museum of Applied Arts in Zurich had the honour of being chosen to be the first in the world to present the exhibition, from October 2nd to November 8th, 1964. (OSEC)

ATOMIC PROJECTS IN SWITZERLAND

The management of the Bernese Motive Power Company has announced that it intends to build a nuclear power station in the proximity of a big sub-station, on the banks of the river Aar, some 7½ miles to the west of Berne. The power station, for which a site of some 330,000 sq. ft. has already been set aside, would have a power of 250 million watts, produced by a single group of machines. Taking into consideration not only the actual construction work, which will take four years, but also the preparatory planning and preliminary safety measures, the planned nuclear centre could be expected to start operating in 1971. (OSEC)

THE SWISS GENERAL POST OFFICE AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

For the second time the Swiss General Post Office has organised, under the auspices of the Confederation's Technical Co-operation scheme, a special five months course attended by 14 postal supervisors and officials from the Republics of Congo-Leopoldville, Guinea, Mali and Togo. After 11 weeks' theoretical instruction, the African post office officials were initiated into organisation and working methods in various post offices and the three district head offices of French-speaking Switzerland, as well as the head office of the Swiss General Post Office in Berne. They returned to their own countries at the end of September. (OSEC)

SWISS SHORTWAVES

Broadcasting time as from November 1st: 9—10.30 a.m. on 13, 16, and 19 metre band.