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THE BEAUTIFUL SIHL FOREST

Just half an hour from busy Zurich by train or auto, in a southerly direction, lies the thousand-year-old Sihl Forest, a haven of peace. Boasting Europe's oldest conservation law, which made of it a natural preserve for the pleasure and use of city dwellers back in the early Middle Ages, the woods are a favourite excursion spot for the people of Zurich. Passionate walkers take great delight in the thick stands of pine and fir, the resinous scent in the air, and the untouched flora and fauna. On a thickly wooded rise stand the ruins of the legendary Schnabelburg, site of the tragic ending of a medieval regicide named Walter von Eschenbach. The hike southward from the Schnabel up to the Albishorn (altitude 3135 feet) culminates in a sudden panoramic view of the Alps and pre-Alps in the heart of Switzerland. The entire area calls to mind Salomon Gessner, 18th century idyllic poet who was also Zurich's municipal forester. After hiking through the region, one returns tired but enriched to the Forest House Inn, an historic old hostelry in which Goethe and other prominent literary figures are supposed to have stayed.

INCREASED AIRPORT TRAFFIC

Throughout last year, Zurich/Kloten airport recorded a continual increase in traffic. The number of arrivals and departures of commercial planes amounted to 71,135, i.e. an increase of 11.4 per cent over the previous year, with a daily average of 195. In passenger traffic on regular airline services, 60 per cent of all movements involved jet planes. The total number of passengers passing through Kloten airport amounted to 2,715,271, i.e. 301,366 more (12.5 per cent) than in 1965; the figure is made up of 2,446,749 passengers leaving or arriving at Kloten—in turn broken down into 2,293,708 on regular services and 153,041 in charter planes—and 268,522 passengers in transit. The transport of freight totalled 45,061 tons (plus 21.8 per cent compared with 1965) and postal transport 4929 tons (plus 2.9 per cent). (OSEC)



Laugh a little . . .

UPON the question as to why amply bosomed ladies, but with little talent, seem to have such success in show business, Alfred Hitchcock knew the following answer: "The television screens get larger and larger; after all they have to be filled with something!"

"WHY do you have such grimy hands?"

"Because I saw my wife off on the train."

"But how could you get them so dirty?"

"Because I patted the locomotive." —Nebelspalter