

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 40 (1975)
Heft: [7]

Rubrik: Hedy's corner

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HEDY'S CORNER

Instead of writing an article about a chosen subject, let me ring a change and write about "THIS AND THAT".

Am thinking about the long, cold evenings combined with some boring T.V. Get some family argument going and read one of our famous compatriot's books of Erich von Daniken: The "Chariots of the Gods", obtainable in your library, as well as others by the same author. He gives you plenty of proof in his text and photos that space travellers have educated mankind in the very ancient days. Perhaps you have read excerpts of the as yet non-translated book "Erscheinungen—Apparitions", which were featured in the Schweizer Illustrierte. This book is hot controversy, even sacriligious. Another book you will read with incredulity, "The Myth of Over-Population" by Colin Clark. He categorically denies over-population, imminent hunger and suchlike spectres. He names high-up organisations, and worst, journalists, as the culprits who create worldwide panic.

Next time you have a vacation at home there is something new to try for you. The S.B.B. made an innovation: dining cars "help yourself" style. Advantages: You pay less, you can eat at any hour; you have a far larger choice of tempting small dishes, beautifully arranged. All very hygienically displayed on glass shelves. So far these cars are on trial runs.

Switzerland can boast of quintuplets, a few months old, and all doing very well. Three boys and two girls.

Finally: Never knew that there is a dictionary of Swiss dialects, did you? Imagine the size of such a dictionary. Imagine one word in 22 versions, cantonal differences (not counting the Halbcantons)! Try and say the famous tongue twister in 22 dialects: "Tue d'Hafe afe ufe Ofe ufe".

Please, dear Appenzeller compatriots, don't be cross with me, but I wish I had known that there exists a "Schwizerdutsch" Dictionary, as often I had no idea of what you said to me, especially when you had the native pipe in your mouth!

Many Baslerburger amongst the Helvetia readers? Your victory over the Zurcherburger is close at hand; namely the official opening of the S.B.B. Basler shopville—surely bigger and better than the shopville in the Zurich S.B.B. railway station!