

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 60 (1994)
Heft: [3]

Artikel: Traditional costumes of the 26 cantons of Switzerland
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-945505>

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TRADITIONAL COSTUMES OF THE 26 CANTONS OF SWITZERLAND

For those of you interested in Swiss national costumes, here is the first set of 16 photos of cute little dolls beautifully dressed in their respective costumes. The second set of photos will be printed in the next issue.

The four cultural regions of German,

French, Italian and Romansch speaking Switzerland enjoy a richly varied tradition in folklore costumes. Today in all parts of the country there are more than 500 different costumes worn on holidays, Sundays and even weekdays: a living testimony to a beautiful, colour-

ful tradition. The preservation of costumes, folk dances, folk songs and local traditions is the major emphasis of the National Federation of Swiss Costumes and its 30.000 members.



MONEY FROM PLATES

In New Zealand we have personalised number plates on which the government makes a bit of extra money, and if you are so inclined, you can also sell your plate at regular auctions for a sizeable profit if you are lucky.

In Solothurn, the local government has gone a step further. It itself offers certain easy to remember number plates for auction and collects the proceeds

from these sales, an unconventional move to try to reduce its deficit.

But unlike New Zealand where a personalised plate only costs some NZ\$300, the canton of Solothurn has set a minimum price of 10,000 SFR for a one digit number plate whilst the minimum bid for a 4 digit plate would still be 2,500 SFR. At these prices, you will run the risk that your car might get stolen for the value of its number plate rather than for the car itself.

DIALING PROBLEMS

The opening up of competition in the telecommunication field is creating unusual problems for the PTT.

One effect is that the information number 111 may have to be replaced by a seven digit number since the present long standing arrangement gives the PTT an unfair advantage over its competitors who must use regular 7 digit numbers.



 Schaffhausen
Maiden costume with
"Biremassli" head-dress

 Appenzell AR
Sunday costume,
silk cap with
stiff tulle border

 Appenzell IR
Festive "bare-arm" costume
without jacket sleeves,
showing blouse

 St. Gall
Festive costume of city
with head-dress of
silver lamé embroidery

 Graubünden
Upper Engadine costume
with richly embroidered
front

 Thurgau
Festive costume, silk
shawl with chiné border
and chenille head-dress



 Nidwalden
Country costume with
rich embroidery and silver



 Glarus
Sunday costume with
"doucette" head-dress



 Zug
Festive costume,
Sulphur yellow hat with
wreath of flowers



 Geneva
Sunday costume of
Geneva city



 Aargau
Festive costume of Aarau,
Zofingen districts with
embroidered velvet bodice

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MINI SKYSCRAPER

Winterthur will have its first 90 m high skyscraper after the City Council gave a building permission for the construction of the planned office block. The new building will also be used by the PTT to erect special aerials on top of the building for telecommunication purposes.

NO GOLF COURSE

Whilst the canton of Glarus just inaugurated its new telephone exchange centre which cost over 1.7 million SFR for only 7200 subscribers, its "Lands-gemeinde" in Näfels turned down an application for the construction of a golf course. So the "Glarner" golfers still have to travel to a neighbouring canton

to indulge in their favorite sport. But at least, with the new telephone exchange, it will be easier for them to make the long distance calls to book their golf rounds in advance!

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