

**Zeitschrift:** Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Herausgeber:** Swiss Society of New Zealand  
**Band:** 62 (1996)  
**Heft:** [8]

**Artikel:** Clean lake  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944926>

#### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

#### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

#### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 22.01.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In Geneva "public transport" has taken on a totally different meaning. A few years ago, a trial run was made by providing the public with a certain number of bicycles, distinctly painted in shocking pink for easy identification. Placed all around the inner city, these bicycles were available free of charge to anyone who needed to travel anywhere within the city.

The idea was that you just use the bike to get from point A to point B, then leave it there for someone else to use it to get to point C and so forth so that each bike could be used by dozens and dozens of different people during the day.

Unfortunately, lack of funds prevented sufficient bikes to be put into

circulation so that most of the time there never was a pink bike in sight when you needed one. Then the promoters of the scheme also had to cope with the nasty side of humanity: the bike hoggers who tried to hide their bike so that nobody could take it away while they were attending to their business, the kleptomaniacs who simply stole the bikes, repainted them and then used them as their own and the vandals who wilfully damaged or dismantled them.

After this bad experience it is surprising to learn that a new idea has come up on similar lines but far more sophisticated: the public electric cars. These cars would be available in strategically placed parking areas such as by hospitals, airports, shopping malls and commercial centres. Access to the car would be by a personalised card. The whole system would be electronically controlled, giving information about the whereabouts of each car at any given time, how long it had been used for and by whom. The users would then be billed according to the time they used the car.

According to a survey made in Geneva, many people indicated that they would certainly use this formula of inner city transport if it became available at a reasonable price. Well, the future will tell.

## ELNA BACK IN PRODUCTION

Last year the Geneva based firm of Tavarro, manufacturers of the world famous Elna sewing and ironing machines went into receivership. However, the name ELNA was such a draw-card that the big American broker, Meier, Johnson and Kuehn, decided to stage a rescue bid by creating a new international company called Elna International Corporation which took over the worldwide rights to all Elna products.

# CHRISTMAS IN SWITZERLAND

BOOK NOW,  
FLIGHTS FILLING FAST

SPECIAL FARES FOR SWISS MEMBERS.

CONTACT

HENRY SIGERIST at

## TRAVELAIR

347 Parnell Rd. Auckland  
P.O. Box 37-335 Parnell  
Auckland

Phone: **09-377 3285** (work)  
or 09-473 9011 (home)  
Fax: **09-302 1099** (work)  
or 09-473 2966 (home)

And so, work has re-started at Tavarro. Not only has the firm resumed the production of ironing machines, but it can now also guarantee for the next 10 years the production of spare parts for the huge number of Elna sewing machines still in use throughout the world.

## CLEAN LAKE

At long last, the lake of Lugano has received a clean bill of health again and for the first time in 25 years, all swimming bans could be lifted.

It was in 1971 that, due to heavy water pollution, a total swimming ban had to be imposed around the lake. Since then a huge amount of work had been undertaken to build water purification plants to stop polluted water from entering the ailing lake.

Today the lake is in good health again for people to enjoy it as they did in the past. Although the lake is not very big, it still boasts over 50 recognised "beaches" from which swimming is possible and now officially allowed again.

## FÄSSLER Swiss Sausage Co.

Cervelas - Schüblig  
Wienerli (Frankfurters)  
Bratwurst - Landjäger  
Fleischkäs - Mostbröckli  
Aufschnitt

**Te Aroha West  
(07) 884-8813**



**AVAILABLE NOW!**

**New Zealand's finest  
Delicatessen  
Meats**



Continental Frying/Boiling  
Sausages · Specialty Meats  
Meat Loaves · Smoked Meats  
Cold Cuts · Salamis



**274 4455**

FAX: 274 1203