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November 2000



Do you know the name of this Swiss tourist destination ?

For the best close-up view of the "mighty three" - Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau - this is the place to be! The car-free village, its name originally derived from the German word for "cheeks", stands on a terrace above the Lauterbrunnen Valley, on a plateau nestled ('cheek to cheek' with) between the Männlichen and Lauberhorn mountains. Settlement of the village dates back as far as 1268. Around 1350, the surrounding alpine areas fell under the control of the Augustinian monks from the Interlaken Monastery, a situation which remained for several centuries, until the Reformation. A real sense of identity was created in 1805 with the first "Unspunnenfest" - a festival bringing together farmers, cowherds and dairymen in celebration. Throwing the 83kg Unspunnen Stone (Steinstossen) folk dancing, traditional costume, yodelling and wrestling competitions (Schwingen) all helped create this unique annual event. The famous "Lauberhorn downhill ski race" - a 4260 meter course with a vertical difference of just over 1000 meters - is a major annual event long since associated with this well known tourist destination.

The Winner of this competition will receive a \$ 10.- voucher, and will be announced in the following issue of HELVETIA. If there are a number of correct answers there will be a draw. The judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Please send your answer printed clearly together with your name and address on the back of an envelope, to: HELVETIA competition, P.O. Box 4035, Hamilton, by the 15th of the month.

HELVETIA

Correct answer to the October Issue was: **BASEL**

The winner was:

Peter Weiss

of Tokoroa

Congratulations and thank you to all participants !

Note to Secretaries

Please send in all your notices for the December Edition of HELVETIA by the 15th November 2000. Thank you.

66th Year