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CHOCOLATE PRODUCTION IN SWITZERLAND

In 1965, Switzerland produced 121 million lbs. of chocolate, thereby placing itself in eighth position among the principal producing countries of this speciality. But if production is compared to population, it is apparent that Switzerland is actually in second position, with 20.9 lbs. per person, while Ireland is first with a *per capita* production of about 24.2 lbs. Behind Switzerland, in descending order, come Great Britain, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and France. Switzerland is also well placed so far as exportation is concerned, with a total of 13.2 million lbs. of chocolate or, in other words, 3.08 lbs. *per capita* of population, trailing the Netherlands and Belgium, but far in front of Great Britain and France. [O.S.E.C.]

THREE-QUARTERS OF A CENTURY'S ELECTRICAL TRACTION IN SWITZERLAND

Seventy-five years ago, in the month of May, the first locomotive in Switzerland was put into service on a section of line two miles long between Sissach and Gelterkinden in German-speaking Switzerland. This small engine, the memory of which has just been recalled by a commemorative ceremony at the Swiss Transport Museum in Lucerne, weighed only 6.17 tons and developed 50 h.p.; unfortunately it has not been preserved. It was manufactured by the Oerlikon Engineering Works (Zurich). [O.S.E.C.]

FIRST SWISS CHEMICAL CONGRESS IN BASLE

At the instigation of the Swiss Chemists' Association, the first Swiss Chemical Congress is to take place in Basle from 17th to 22nd October 1966. This congress will be held in the premises of the Swiss Industries Fair, at the same time as ILMAC 66, the Third International Salon of Laboratory Technique, Metering Technique and Automation in the Chemical Industry. It will be the occasion for a series of specialised conferences, organised by the Swiss Association of Chemical Industries, the Swiss Association for Clinical Chemistry and the Swiss Chemists' Association. The mere mention of these names shows clearly the great interest offered by this scientific convention, which goes far beyond the framework of ILMAC, which was attended in 1959 and 1962 by some 2,700 specialists from eighteen countries. [O.S.E.C.]

THE CLEANEST MOUNTAIN IN CENTRAL SWITZERLAND

The title of cleanest mountain in Central Switzerland may, no doubt, be claimed by Pilatus which dominates Lucerne's skyline. Every year, it is subjected to what one might call spring cleaning when a corps of volunteers including many youngsters sets out to remove such remainders and reminders of civilisation thrown thoughtlessly away by picnickers, etc., in the course of the year and also to repair facilities. This cleaning campaign is conducted in close co-operation by the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC) and the management of the Pilatus Railway and is thus organised as to clear a different section every summer. Besides, a close eye is kept on those who pick protected flowers. [S.N.T.O.]

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