

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK
Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom
Band: - (1966)
Heft: 1499

Artikel: Switzerland and the automatic driving of trains
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-693598>

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: 09.08.2025

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

MUERREN IN THE SPRING

Just fifty years ago a group of English aviators was interned in the Palace-Hotel at Mürren, highest village in the Bernese Oberland. The sports-minded officers found ski-ing to be a welcome substitute for flying. In 1924, the Kandahar Ski Club was founded in the village, and has kept its headquarters there ever since. Many skiers have displayed their "flying" ability and derring-do on the famous Kandahar slope. This year, the 31st running of the Arlberg-Kandahar Race took place on 11th-13th March, with international participation. — Major innovation in the area is the Schilthorn Cablecar, which goes in steep stages from the valley floor up to Birg, via Gimmelwald and Mürren. Up at Birg, construction is in progress on a continuation of the line up to the summit of the Schilthorn. A well-tended downhill run through the Blattwang leads back down to Mürren. The "Jungfrau Lodge", an American-style hotel, with thirty-five beds, is already open. Nightlife enthusiasts will be glad to hear that, in addition to the Inferno Bar, Mürren will soon boast a new Grill Room. A popular activity in spring-time are the ski flights which take off from the Blumental, above Mürren, and bring spring and summer ski aces up to nearby glaciers and mountain tops in just a few minutes, from which they can ski down runs having an altitude differential of better than 10,000 feet.

[S.N.T.O.]

LUCERNE'S INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

This year's International Music Festival of Lucerne has been set for the period from 13th August to 8th September. It is scheduled to include appearances by the Swiss Festival Orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the Festival Strings Lucerne and the Collegium Musicum Zurich, as well as the Lucerne Festival Chorus. Eight symphonic concerts will be supplemented by chamber music concerts and solo recitals. The Lucerne Municipal Theatre will offer a dramatic presentation and the Lucerne Museum of Art will contribute various exhibits to round out this world-famous festival of music and the arts.

[S.N.T.O.]

SWITZERLAND AND THE AUTOMATIC DRIVING OF TRAINS

In spite of the existence of a certain number of experimental devices on the railway lines of various countries, the automatic driving of trains is still a new field. The management of the Bodensee-Toggenburg railway has the merit of being the first in Switzerland to have introduced a regular service of trains driven entirely automatically, which will make it possible to gain invaluable experience in this field and contribute to progress in the running of railways. They are shuttle-trains in which the normal equipment with manually operated switches is partially replaced by an automatic device made by Brown, Boveri & Co., in Baden, carrying out the following operations: speed setting, i.e. maintenance of the pre-set speed whatever the slope and load, with gradual acceleration, deceleration and braking according to a previously set programme, reduction and restoration of speed in accordance with the demands of the journey (magnets placed on the track automatically operate the reduction and restoration of the set speed, in case of work on the line and other factors) and finally automatic braking at the destination. This braking, which is also controlled by magnets on the track, brings the train to a stop in the station at the required spot, without any help at all from the engine-driver. The new equipment frees the driver from a number of manual operations; he can thus devote all his attention to watching the line. In this way the automatic driving device helps greatly to increase the safety of trains, particularly in the case of fog or snow. It represents an important factor in the running of railways, in view of the present tendency to increase speeds and to use main lines to full capacity.

[O.S.E.C.]

MAKE SURE YOU JOIN
THE SOLIDARITY FUND
OF THE SWISS ABROAD.
SAVE, INSURE, HELP OTHERS
ALL IN ONE

Telegrams and Cables : TRANCOSMOS LONDON

TELEX 24777

Telephone : HOP 4433 (8 Lines)

COSMOS FREIGHTWAYS

AGENCY
LIMITED.

INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS

By Road, Rail, Sea and Air

1, CATHEDRAL STREET,
LONDON BRIDGE, LONDON, S.E.1.

REGULAR GROUPAGE SERVICES WITH

SWITZERLAND

ANGLO-SWISS CUSTOMS EXPERTS.

ALSO AT
LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
HULL, BRISTOL, CARDIFF,
SWANSEA, NEWPORT, Mon.
GLASGOW.

CONNECTED
THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD

OFFICIAL FREIGHT AND
PASSENGER AGENTS FOR
SWISSAIR AND ALL AIR LINES
TO SWITZERLAND AND ALL
PARTS OF THE WORLD

Agents : WELTIFURRER INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT CO. Ltd., Zurich, Basle, Buchs, Schaffhausen, Geneva, St. Gall.