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museum of natural sciences in *Frauenfeld*. The collection is divided up into different categories and also has live exhibits. Besides stuffed animals of all sorts, you can also watch how an anthill is built and listen to stuffed birds singing by pressing on a button. The museum is open free of charge on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Girls will especially appreciate a visit to the museum of *Riehen* near Basle where dolls' houses, rooms, kitchens, puppet theatres, tin dolls, miniature railways, wooden toys etc. are on show. The museum is open free of charge on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2.00 to 5.00 p.m. and on Sunday mornings from 10.00 to 12.00 a.m. The car museum in the castle of *Grandson* is also something special with its collection of veteran cars. This is open daily from 9.00 to 6.00 from Easter till November.

## NEW EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEE

The National Council voted in favour of a better system of export credit guarantee to protect Swiss exporters from defaulting customers. The former system covered only a fixed percentage (of a maximum of 85%) of the exporter's production costs. The new system will apply to the invoiced value of the goods or services supplied by the Swiss firms concerned. Similar systems elsewhere are even more generous, as they cover up to 90 per cent, or even 100 per cent, of the invoiced value of deliveries. The Swiss system of export guarantees

only cover against political risks. Companies are expected to assess commercial risks themselves. As for political upheavals and nationalisations, the Swiss State undertakes to offer adequate cover. For these reasons, nearly three-quarters of applications for cover come from firms wishing to export to developing countries. The system of export credit guarantee is also designed to protect against monetary fluctuations. Although Swiss firms try whenever they can to establish their prices in national currency, they must sometimes accept deals in foreign, and less stable currencies, on grounds of competitiveness. Many firms have suffered severe losses through subsequent devaluations of the pound and the dollar. The new scheme, which has already been adopted by the Council of States, was originally proposed to guard against such risks.

# Forthcoming Events

### NOUVELLE SOCIETE HELVETIQUE:

Open Meeting at the Swiss Hostel for Girls, 9 Belsize Grove, NW3, on Thursday, 21st June, at 7 p.m. Talk in English by Dr. Carlo Jagmetti, Press Attaché at the Swiss Embassy, "MEMORIES OF A STAY IN VIETNAM". Dr. Jagmetti was Chargé d'Affaires at the Swiss Embassy in Saigon for two months at the end of last year. All Swiss and their friends are welcome. The talk will be illustrated by slides.

### ASSEMBLY OF THE SWISS ABROAD:

Will take place at St. Gall from 17th-19th August. Please reserve the date. Details will be given later.

### SWISS RIFLE ASSOCIATION:

Shooting at Bisley on the following Sundays: 3rd June, 17th June, 1st July, 26th August.

### ANNUAL LANDSGEMEINDE OF THE SWISS OF THE NORTH:

Sunday, 17th June, at Hebden Bridge (details published later).

### SWISS CLUB LIVERPOOL:

Jazz Evening at the St. Hilary Hotel, Wallasey, Wirral on the 1st Friday of each month.

### ANGLO-SWISS SOCIETY:

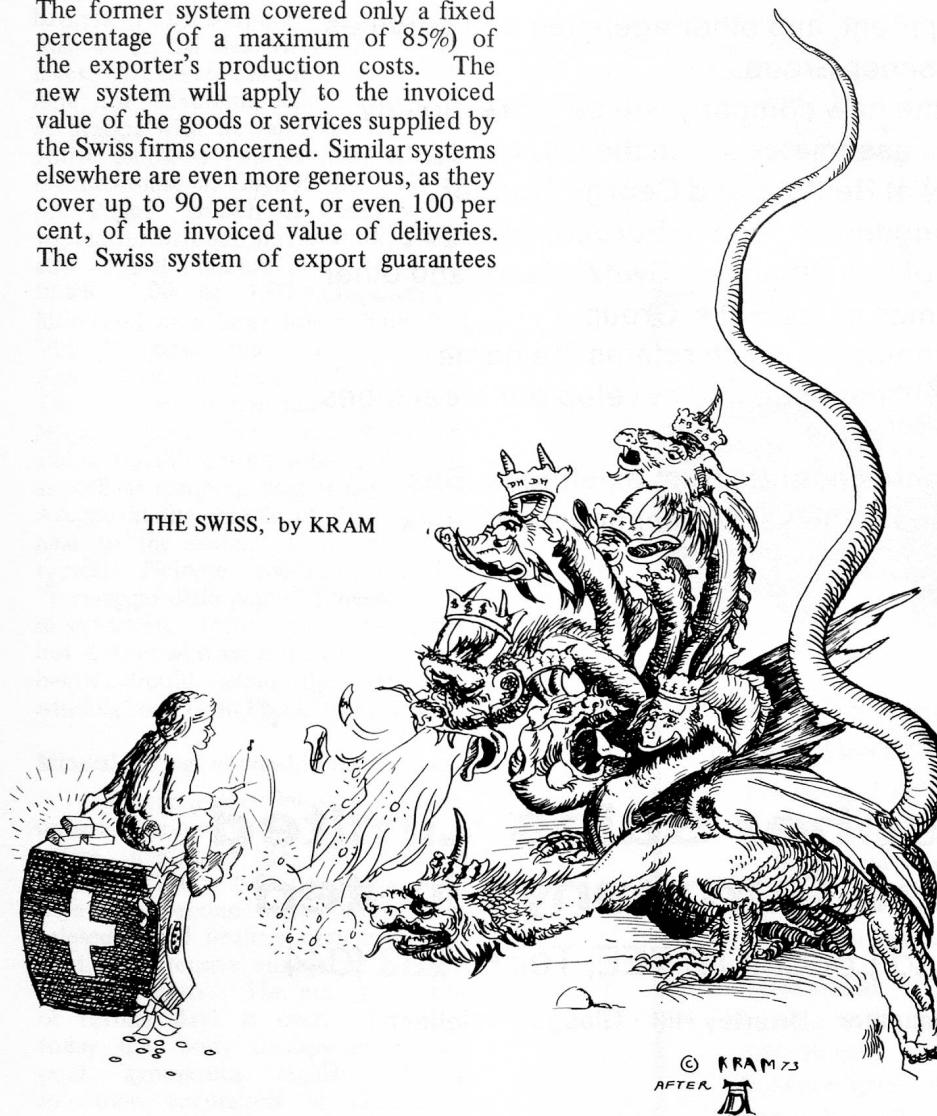
Silver Jubilee Dance on Tuesday, 12th June, at the Hurlingham Club (Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6) at 7.45 for 8.30 p.m. Please apply for tickets from the Secretary not later than Friday, 8th June.

### SWISS PHILATELIC SOCIETY:

Friday, 29th June, Member's Evening.



THE SWISS, by KRAM



Poor little Gnome!

### HOLIDAY FLAT PART OWNERSHIP SCHEME

A correction is required to our report on a new scheme for buying apartments for two weeks in every year in Switzerland and elsewhere (23rd March). Owing to a printing error, it was not made clear that these apartments can be bought by remitting full payment upon acceptance. This will attract a 4 per cent discount. The apartments can also be bought with a 25 per cent down payment and 3 equal quarterly payments or a 20 per cent minimum payment with 24 subsequent equal payments.

The scheme was described to us by Mr. F. Habegger, who is not only a member of the London Tourist Board, but also a Swiss citizen. Anyone interested for more details please contact Mr. Habegger at 01-903 2859 or 01-584 2089.