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transportation facilities extending as far as La Fouly, Super Saint-Bernard and into the Aosta Valley.

An innovation this winter is the gondola lift from Le Châble in the Val de Bagnes to the Télérverbier lower station.

AND ON THE BRIGHT SIDE ...

There are some who say the Swiss have no sense of humour. Perhaps these contributions from Mrs. Frances Boo will raise a smile. Does anyone else have any Swiss jokes they might like to share?

WGS

The people of Berne have a reputation (undeservedly I'm sure) of being slow. If they laugh aloud in church on Sunday it is because they have just understood a joke told to them the night before.

There were three farmers sitting in the village café sharing a bottle of wine. Suddenly a cow wandered down the street past the window.

After a few minutes the first farmer

said, "That was Rudi's cow."

Ten minutes elapsed and the second farmer said, "You're wrong you know, it was Heinrich's."

Fifteen minutes later the first farmer said, "I tell you it was Rudi's."

Finally, after yet another pause, the third farmer said, "Look here you two, if you don't stop this argument, I'm going."

A young Bernese was going to make his first parachute jump. He had been instructed to count up to three, then pull the ripcord.

Watchers below were horrified to see him plummet to the ground. They rushed to his aid just in time to hear him gasp "three" with his last breath.

CULTURAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, 11th February — Purcell Room, 7.30 p.m. — The programme of Willem Brons's piano recital includes *Sept pièces brèves* by Honegger.

FRIDAY, 13th February — New University of Ulster, Coleraine, 8 p.m. — Monday, 16th February — *Swiss Embassy, 16 Montagu Place, London W1, 6 p.m.* — (for free tickets, please apply to the Cultural Counsellor's Office, Tel: 01-723 0701, ext. 232) — Tuesday, 17th February — University of Kent at Canterbury, 5 or 5.30 p.m. — Wednesday, 18th February — University of Cambridge German Society, 8.30 p.m. — Thursday, 19th February — University of Sussex, Falmer, 5 p.m. — Friday, 20th February — University College of Swansea, afternoon — The writer *Jürg Federspiel* gives readings from his works, in German.

TUESDAY, 17th February — Wigmore Hall, 7.30 p.m. — The pianist Alan Brown plays, among other works, 4 *Preludes* by Frank Martin.

SATURDAY, 21st February — Wigmore Hall, 7.30 p.m. — *Margret Luginbühl* (contralto), *Martin Trüb* (baritone) and *Heidi Rohr* (piano) give a performance of *Lieder* by A. Campbell Allen.



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