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The Trittligasse... 99 steps up into a lost and dreamy part of the old town.

THERE are many ways of getting to know a city and its people, but one of the most fascinating is to visit its squares.

A good starting point in Zürich is Paradeplatz, more than half-way down Bahnhofstrasse. It used to be a cattle market, later a military parade ground. The nearby armoury is now a restaurant and what was once a cattle showground is now a parade

ground of Zürich's trams.

Paradeplatz is somewhat forbidding with little green to leaven the monotony of the grey, but the venerable palace-like pile of the Swiss Credit Bank, one of Switzerland's big banks, adds tone. So does the Swiss Bank Corporation, in modern dress, on another side of the square.

Even more handsome is the old hotel, Baur en ville,

Through the squares to the real city

Nägelihof, a recently-created oasis amid narrow houses just a few steps away from the bustle of the Limmatquai.



The Rosenhof and its market lies between the old town and the Niederdorf area.

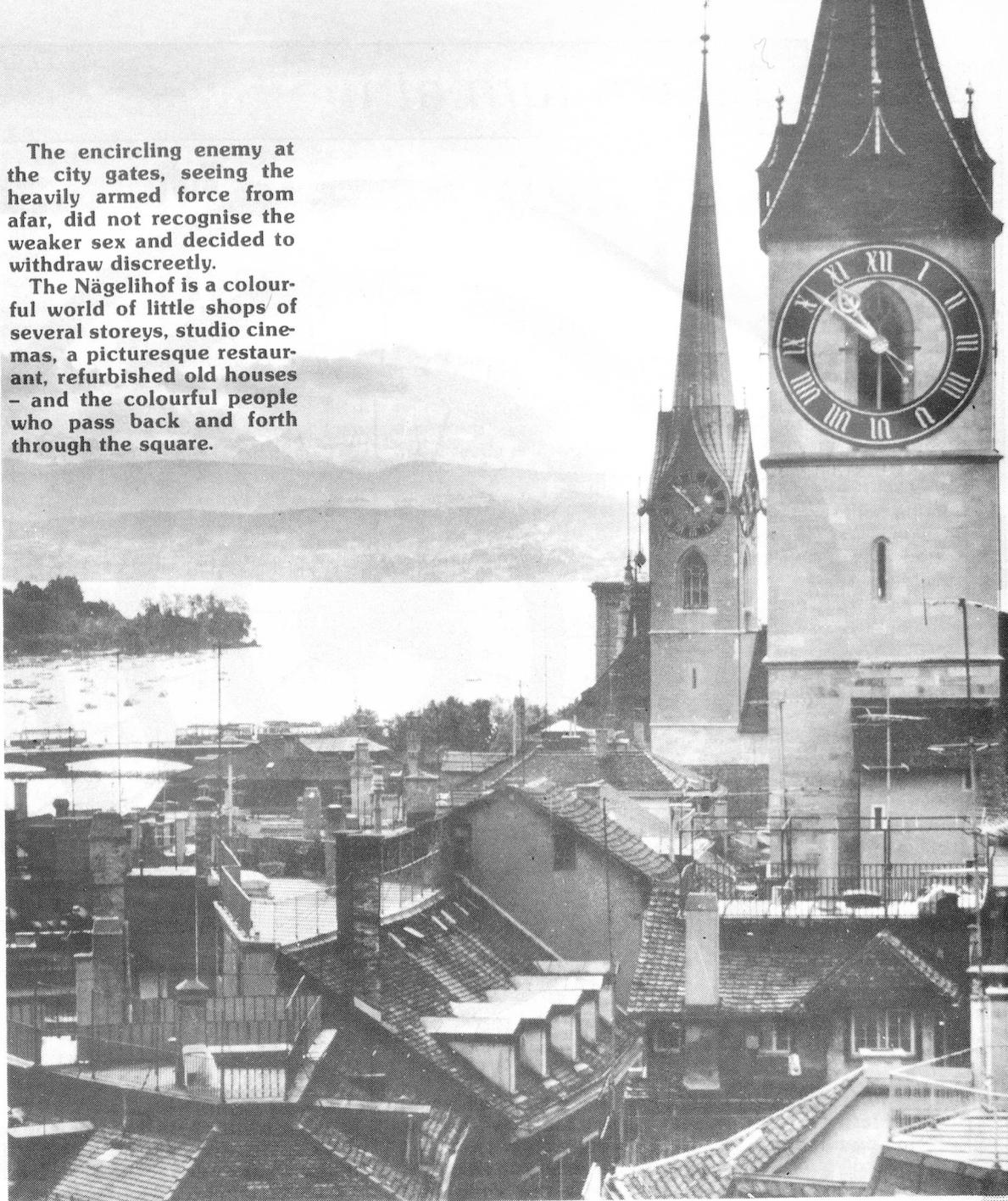
which is really brand new but with a façade rebuilt in exact copy of the old.

Then consider the Lindenhof, a high square from which the view sweeps over river and old town up to the Zürichberg. In 1292 Zürich had its first taste of "womens' liberation" when, according to legend, the women of the town took up arms to break a siege of the Habsburgers.

The encircling enemy at the city gates, seeing the heavily armed force from afar, did not recognise the weaker sex and decided to withdraw discreetly.

The Nägelihof is a colourful world of little shops of several storeys, studio cinemas, a picturesque restaurant, refurbished old houses — and the colourful people who pass back and forth through the square.

squares



Below the gables . . . narrow lanes, quiet corners



Tranquil spot in downtown Zürich . . . and never a shortage of chess partners.

at the Limmatquai