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The Märklin HO gauge Eichhof Braugold wagon.

Visiting the Eichhof Brewery

by R.I. Smith

During our holiday to Luzern last year, we earmarked the local Eichhof brewery for a visit, should there be rain one day. It did rain, so off we went, taking the trolleybus line which has a stop at the brewery. We wandered in; there is no security gate or barrier; noting the tracks, wagon turntables and their distinctive two-axle vans. On enquiring about a conducted tour, the receptionist explained that they require a week's notice in order to ensure that an English-speaking guide would be available, but that if we wished we could sample their excellent beer free of charge. Naturally we thought that this was a very acceptable alternative and, armed with a voucher, we strolled across to the canteen.

The staff were preparing lunch for the workers, but were not at all bothered by us. The man behind the counter pointed to some extremely large (2-litre) beer mugs, we declined since drinking that quantity would probably have put us out of action for the rest of the day, and settled for a more discreet size of glass. The canteen is set out as a bierkeller, with long tables flanked by benches and with murals depicting people working, all adding to the ambience.

After our beer we examined their showcase which included glasses, bottles and clothes all stamped with the Braugold logo as well as the Märklin HO 2-axle van in the latest version of the Eichhof Braugold livery. The price was considerably lower than in the model shops in town and I would strongly recommend anyone visiting Luzern to combine the beer, interesting railway layout with private owner wagons and the cut-price Märklin wagons in one visit.

Maybe this year we will actually visit the brewery!

President's Report

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and their loads are locked with a bogie at each end, their tyres being retracted. Migros now forms entire trains which start their journeys from their distribution centres in a five-year trial in Ticino, Chur and Geneva, where the semi-trailer trucks serve their subsidiaries. Migros hopes to cut its transport costs in this fashion and intends to rely even more on rail transport.