# St. Moritz - open-air swimming in winter

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## COMMUNIQUE FROM THE FEDERAL OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BERNE, ON THE OUTBREAK OF TYPHOID FEVER AT ZERMATT

Public opinion, chiefly abroad, having been alarmed by often inaccurate reports a rectification appears necessary. On 28th March, 1963, a meeting took place at Brigue, which was attended by representatives of the health authorities concerned, of the sanitary service of the army, of the medical profession, and by professors of medicine. After careful consideration of the situation this meeting came to the following conclusions:

1. At Zermatt itself, and in the surrounding district, all measures have been taken to prevent the spread of the epidemic: closing of hotels and guest houses, thorough investigation of the local system of water supply, intense chlorination of the water, inspection and disinfection of premises, immediate hospitalisation and isolation of all suspected cases, systematic serological and bacteriological examinations, immediate evacuation of patients when typhoid fever has been diagnosed.
2. All seasonal workers who are thinking of leaving Zermatt to find work elsewhere undergo a thorough examination; those whose bacteriological and serological results are normal receive a certificate, without which they cannot apply for employment.
3. On leaving Zermatt tourists received instructions on what to do in case pathological symptoms appear.
4. There is no doubt that the medical profession and public opinion are now sufficiently informed not to ignore the onset of the very first symptoms. Thus early isolation is possible, which should prevent the occurrence of secondary sources of infection.
5. At such a time, and especially with an illness like typhoid fever which is transmitted practically only by way of the mouth, the importance must be stressed again of the elementary rule of hygiene which consists in washing one's hands before meals and after using the toilet.

Taking into account all the elements mentioned above we believe it can be stated that the danger of infection is at present no greater in Switzerland than in many other countries, which is borne out by the fact that, from what we know, all the persons suffering from the disease, save one, were infected in Zermatt and that there is no secondary source of infection.

Berne, 30th March 1963.

## SPRINGTIME IN SUN AND SNOW

The arctic temperatures and the heavy snowfalls of this winter, more severe than anything Switzerland has experienced for the past thirty years, are already creating ideal conditions for springtime touring on skis. The favourite high-alpine ski-ing regions of the Grisons, North-east and Central Switzerland, and the Valais, with the thrilling glacier downhill runs of Diavolezza, Titlis, etc., will have perfect snow conditions until well into early summer. In March the glacier ski-ing season begins in the Bernese Oberland. Glaciers can be reached by the Jungfrau railway, which carries skiers to a height of 11,400 feet. Near Gstaad a new cableway to the glacier of Zanfleuron (9,000 feet) for all-year ski-ing was recently opened. The Swiss Helicopter Aircraft Company and pilot Geiger continue their brisk business of flying skiers to the glaciers during March and April. [S.N.T.O.]

## IN 1964: TO THE TOP OF THE SCEX ROUGE IN UNDER HALF AN HOUR

The first section of a new cableway service was inaugurated on 15th February. The Vaud Alps have suffered three new conquests in recent months. From the Col des Mosses you can now reach the slopes of the Pic Chaussy, from the Col du Pillon the heights of Pierres-Pointes, and from Reusch the solitude of Les Diablerets — and all in comfort. This is only a beginning. Shortly the Scex Rouge and the Zanfleuron Glacier will also be easily accessible. Witnessed by some one hundred persons, the Col du Pillon-Pierres-Pointes cableway was inaugurated on a glorious day. In 8½ minutes passengers were conveyed to the foot of the Tête au Chamois, at a height of over 7,200 feet — an altitude difference of about 2,100 feet. From there is a *piste* for advanced skiers now running steeply downhill to the valley. The *piste* was opened in dashing style by instructors from the Swiss Ski School at Les Diablerets who gave a breathtaking display of their skill. At Pierres-Pointes the view embraces the Alps of the Vaud, the Bernese Oberland and the Haute Savoie, glistening peaks extending beneath the deep blue sky as far as the eye can see. However, Pierres-Pointes will be only a transit point. Here you will leave your four-seater cable car for a thrilling trip up the almost vertical wall of the Tête au Chamois to the Les Diablerets mountain hut. This second stretch will be covered by means of two thirty-passenger cable cars operating more or less lift-wise. A new single-cabin cableway, holding sixty passengers, will be used for the third section — from the hut over the coomb to the Scex Rouge, reaching an altitude of over 9,800 feet. A stone's throw away is the Zanfleuron Glacier, where summer ski-ing and exploration will delight visitors. Work on the latter two sections has already started and it should be completed this year, the inauguration of the total installation being scheduled for early 1964. The final touch will be a spacious restaurant at the terminus. Here you will be able to lunch in comfort while admiring the incomparable view through wide panoramic windows.

Besides facilitating all-season ski-ing on trouble-free *pistes*, the new cableway system is essential to the fulfilment of a daring project — the construction of the first glacier airfield with all necessary security installations. The project has been under review for some years now, but nothing could be done before the creation of proper communications with the valley. In a few months' time this will have been achieved and the splendour of Les Diablerets will be accessible to all.

[S.N.T.O.]

## ST. MORITZ — OPEN-AIR SWIMMING IN WINTER

On the morning of Saturday, 23rd February 1963, one of the outstanding events of the 1962/63 Winter Season took place. Although during last summer the swimming pool was open to swimmers, it was only more recently, with the dressing rooms, cocktail lounge, grill and all the most modern amenities completed and ready for use, that this new attraction was inaugurated. Through the Carlton and Kulm Hotels St. Moritz now has a swimming pool of dimensions sufficient to satisfy the most exacting demands. Approximately 200 guests attended the opening, in warm, sunny weather, and witnessed some excellent swimming and free diving. Many chanced a plunge into a swimming pool in mid-winter and all of them expressed their delight.

[S.N.T.O.]