

San Bernardino road tunnel

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ANOTHER SWISS EVENING — THIS TIME AT SWANMORE

It is by no means rare that women's groups (National Federation of Women's Institutes, Townswomen's Guilds and others) arrange Swiss meetings. Speakers on Switzerland are much in demand, and the present panel is not nearly adequate. We have just heard that another such evening was held at Swanmore, arranged by the West Hants and Dorset Federation of the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds late in October. Their International Secretary wrote to us that the educational and social evening was a great success. "Firstly we had three songs by our Choir, then three Swiss films from the Swiss National Tourist Office's Film Library. We also had the honour of the presence of Mr. F. Schillig (Vice-Consul in Bournemouth) who spoke on Switzerland. The evening concluded with wine and cheese supplied by the Swiss Cheese Union, accompanied by tartlets made from a Swiss recipe. Fondue was also sampled."

AVAILABLE AT SWISS NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE

Amongst a large variety of tourist news and information available free of charge at the Swiss National Tourist Office, Swiss Centre, 1 New Coventry Street, London W.1, are "Curling in Switzerland" (calendar for the season),

"Festival International de Lausanne (May-June 1968), "Berne — Coming Events", etc. There are also some useful "Hints for Your Holidays in Switzerland" covering everything from sports facilities, temperature and monetary conversion, customs regulations, mountain flowers and various travel tips.

SAN BERNARDINO ROAD TUNNEL

On 1st December, Switzerland's latest road tunnel was opened to traffic by Federal Councillor Tschudi, Swiss Minister of the Interior. The 4-mile long tunnel links the villages of Hinterrhein and San Bernardino in the Grisons. The construction of the tunnel took 6 years and cost £14,000,000 (old rate!). It opens a new all-the-round link of international importance. It is the only "weather-proof" route which links the North with the South, i.e. Germany with Italy via Basle, Schaffhausen or Constance, through St. Margrethen, Chur and the Hinterrhein Valley to Mesocco, Bellinzona, Lugano.

The opening was marked by special celebrations, a "festival of planning and labour". Already on the first Sunday, the new tunnel attracted 7,132 vehicles (3,541 from North to South and 3,591 in the opposite direction).

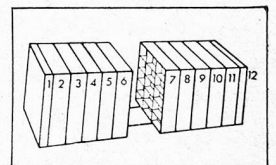
Until 25th May, a postal coach will leave Chur daily at 9.15 a.m., and arrive in Bellinzona just over 3 hours later, returning at 3 p.m. Advance reservation is compulsory.

(A.T.S. and S.N.T.O.)



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