

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 59 (1993)
Heft: [6]

Artikel: Art train through Appenzell
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944735>

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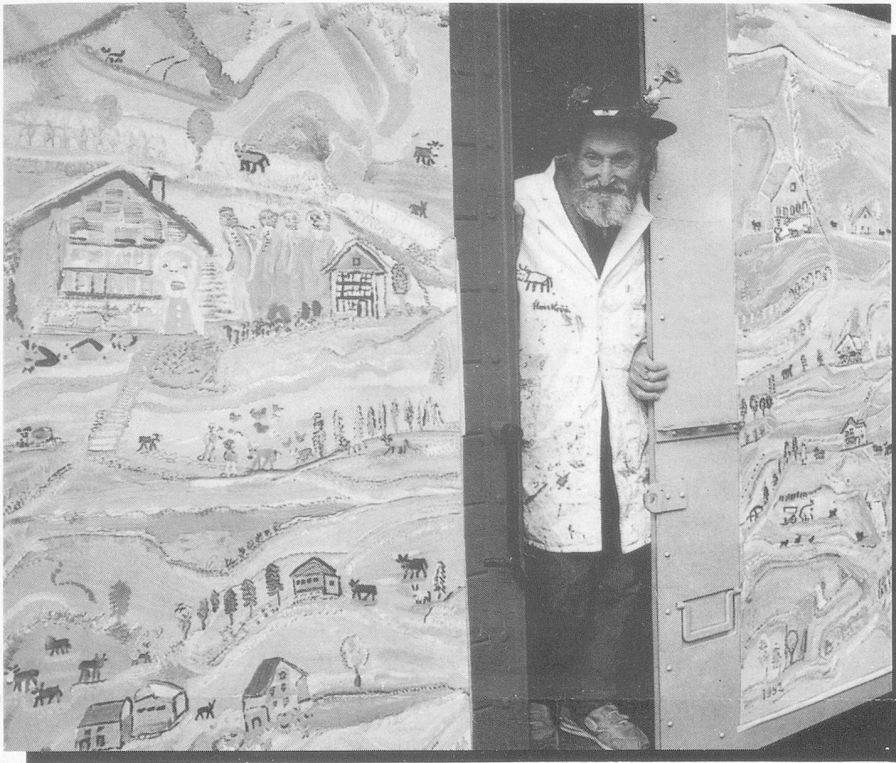
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ART TRAIN THROUGH APPENZELL

Hans KRÜSI, 73, the famous painter from St Gallen has decorated a (freight) wagon for the "Appenzeller Bahnen". Of course he used a theme dear to him: a scene from his "Heimatland, Appenzell".

The wagon is in use daily between Appenzell and Altstätten. Since then, Hans Krüsi is often seen in the area because the "Appenzeller Bahnen" have provided him with a life long First Class train pass. (First Class? If this is First Class travel, what would the 2nd class compartment look like, we wonder? Just joking, of course).

BARKING FINE

This is not an Irish joke. It really happened in Switzerland. Barry is a guard dog at the old peoples' home in Biberstein (Aargau). The old folks love their Barry, a huge St Bernard, but the neighbours do not because occasionally he barks. Last Summer, during a night in August, Barry barked three times and because of this all hell has broken loose in Biberstein. Since Barry had disturbed the nightly peace, he was fined SR 200.-. As the dog had no money to pay his fine and the old folks were not prepared to pay on his behalf, the matter had to be taken to court.

The old folks argued that their Barry is a guard dog, entrusted with their security, and that he was only doing his duty as on the night in question he reacted to a group of noisy and drunken revelers who passed in front of the old peoples' home. The old folks even claimed that the noise made by Barry was drowned by the loud singing and yelling of the drunken group. But the local Council would not give in. And so the matter came to a head at the District Court of Aarau where the case of Barry versus Council managed to keep five judges plus two court employees busy for over 2 hours. The result? No decision yet, the matter apparently needing some further investigation. Blessed be the people who have nothing better to do.....051

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