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LUCERNE NEWSLETTER



Impressive reminder of the Railway Steam Era

In the days of steam traction the A 3/5 express tender locomotive was one of the most majestic steam engines on the Swiss Federal Railways.

It weighed nearly 74 tons and its particular feature was the special arrangement of the high and low pressure steam cylinders. The high pressure cylinders lay horizontally and laterally, and acted on the central of the three driving axles, while the low pressure cylinders, placed beneath the smoke box, the cranks being at right angles, acted on the axle of the foremost driving wheels, which was designed as crank axle.

The crank axle of Locomotive No. 779 is one of the exhibits in the Swiss Institute of Transport and Communications, Lucerne (Swiss Transport Museum), and is a powerful impressive reminder of the old days of the steam locomotive.

Rolls-Royce NENE 1001 Jet Engine

The jet aircraft is now predominant in the world of aviation. Compared with piston engines, which were brought to the maximum pitch of development in aircraft construction, jet units have three main advantages: they are simpler in design, give far better performance at high altitudes, and make for much faster speeds.

An original cut-away model of a Rolls-Royce NENE jet unit, exhibited in the Swiss Institute of Transport and Communications, Lucerne (Swiss Transport Museum), gives an excellent idea of the construction and function of a turbo-jet engine.

The Post Office — a Life-long Servant

Like everyone else, the average Swiss utilises the services of the Post Office almost from cradle to old age. When he is born, the birth announcements go by post to relatives and friends, and later his first halting letter to Santa Claus is also handled by understanding postal workers. On school excursions he travels in a postal coach and when he grows up the Post Office carries his private and business correspondence. He relies on the postman to bring letters, parcels, remittances and, of course, newspapers to his door, and on the Post Office to facilitate transference of money. In short, the Post Office is his life-long indispensable helper and servant. How he comes into contact with this great organisation at various stages

of his life is shown in a display in the Postal, Telephone and Telegraph section of the Institute of Transport and Communications, Lucerne (Swiss Transport Museum).

International Festival of Music

The 1962 International Festival of Music, Lucerne 15th August - 8th September, will include performances by the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra as well as the Swiss Festival Orchestra. A full programme of chamber music is planned in addition to the eight symphony concerts and the concert of sacred music. Among the smaller ensembles taking part will be the Collegium Musicum of Zurich, the Festival Strings of Lucerne, I Musici, the Vienna Philharmonic Quartet, and the Brenner Ensemble of Berne.

Equestrian Sport

From 12th to 25th May 1962, horse-lovers will be making their way to the International Show-Jumping Meeting, and the officially recognized jumping trial held every two years at the Halde in Lucerne. Flat-racing meetings will once again be taking place on two days, 26th August and 1st September, at the Allmend course.

Lucerne — Centre of World Rowing

The major international sporting event will be the World Rowing Championships, to be held from 6th to 9th September 1962 in the magnificent setting of Lucerne's natural stadium, the Rotsee.

Lucerne Carnival

The main features of the Lucerne Carnival, famed for its wit and originality, will be the processions on 1st and 5th March 1962, and the Grand Concert on the medieval Mühlenplatz square, planned for 6th March. The colourful masks seen on the streets and in the restaurants will add a further gay touch to this light-hearted occasion.

Lucerne — Congress Centre

During 1961 more than forty national and international meetings and congresses have taken place in Lucerne. Its ideal location as a keypoint on the main communication routes, its numerous assembly halls of every type and size, and its first-class organization facilities make Lucerne an even more popular choice as a congress venue.

Swiss Yodelling Festival

Yodellers from all over Switzerland will rally in Lucerne from 29th June to 1st July 1962, when their national festival is being held. Friends of Swiss folk music will be coming in their thousands to this event, which will reach its climax with a procession in national costumes — a fascinating picture of Swiss folk-lore.

Swiss "Satus" Gymnastics Festival

The national festival organized by the workers' gymnastics clubs for 16th and 17th June 1962, will assemble thousands of expert gymnasts from all over Switzerland who have come to match their skills in individual and group competitions on the Allmend at Lucerne.