

# News from Switzerland

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# SWISS SOCIETY STEINSTOSSEN COMPETITION

## Hamilton Group:

Ossie Risi .....	19ft.	8ins.	
	20	4	
	20	3	
	60	3	

Rinaldo Rust .....	19	0	
	18	9	
	18	11	
	58	8	

Joe Risi .....	17	11	
	18	3	
	18	3	
	54	5	

Grand total: 171ft. 4ins.

## Taranaki Group:

Brian Muller .....	21ft	1½in	
	21	5	
	21	1	
	63	7½	

J. Kuriger .....	19	7½	
	20	8½	
	21	3½	
	61	7½	

J. Schicker .....	18	9	
	17	9	
	19	5	
	55	11	

Grand total: 181ft. 2ins.

## NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND



### WHAT A BOY!

The first elephant to be born in Switzerland stepped into this world on February 17th in the winter quarters of the Swiss National Circus at Rapperswil on the Lake of Zurich. Weight at birth: 308 lbs. The mother, 18-year-old "Ceylon," an Indian elephant, and her offspring are both doing well. Readers will be interested to learn about the mother's diet during the last weeks of the 2-year gestation. Her daily ration consisted of: 20 lbs apples, 40 lbs turnips, 30 lbs oats, 10 lbs bran and about 15 gal. gruel. When the circus starts on its summer tour in March, mother and son will move to the new Rapperswil Children's Zoo.

### RAILWAYS ESTABLISH WORLD RECORD

With an average of 72.4 trains a day per line over the whole of their system in 1961, the Swiss Federal Railways reached an all-time high. By way of comparison, in the Netherlands the average is 65.6 trains, in Japan 61.9, in Great Britain 55.6, in Western Germany 50.1, in Italy 42.1, in France 28.9 and in the United States 7.9.

## KOYNA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT PLANS

Thanks to a development loan of 17.5 million dollars granted by the International Development Association forming part of the World Bank, India will be able to undertake the second stage in the Koyna hydro-electric development scheme, which will double the present capacity of the network supplying electricity for the heavily industrialised region of Bombay-Poona, which consumes 18 per cent of the total quantity of electricity produced in India. This development project comprises the construction of a 341ft. high dam and an underground power station, equipped with eight petrol turbines, the whole being constructed according to the plans drawn up by a Swiss consortium of consulting engineers consisting of C. Zschokke, in Geneva and Zurich, Mr Henri Gicot, in Fribourg, and the General Company for Industry, at Geneva; this consortium will also be responsible for supervising the work.

## THOMAS COOK CENTENARY

To commemorate the first group travel through Switzerland organised by Thomas Cook in 1863, descendants of the British pioneer of tourism and a group of amateur actors will stage the old-day expedition. In the historic costumes and with the equipment of the time they will follow the same itinerary, visiting Geneva, Lausanne, Vevey, the Valais, the Bernese Oberland, Central Switzerland and Berne. The trip, parts of which will be made with authentic 19th century transportation, is scheduled for June 26th to July 6th.

## ICE IN A FEW MINUTES

A Zurich firm is placing a new ice-making machine on the market capable of manufacturing ice at a moment's notice, without any trouble. One has only to press on a button to obtain almost immediately a continuous flow of chip ice. In this apparatus the method of manufacture is much more rational and more economical than the system used hitherto. By way of example, the cost of 220 lb of chip ice amounts to only S.Fr.1. Chip ice is a practical substitute for ordinary ice in numerous uses—it is as clean as drinking water, does not stick together and melts very slowly owing to its extremely low temperature. It is ideal for iced packages, therapeutic uses, the stocking and transport of fish, the preparation of iced drinks and a host of other uses. The "Autofrigor S-400" machine is quite small, being only 85 cm. long, 61 cm. wide and 137 cm. high; in spite of its compact design, it produces approximately 880 lb of chip ice per 24 hours. Its hermetically sealed refrigerating group is driven by a 1½ h.p. motor on three-phase current.