

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 35 (1972)
Heft: [12]

Artikel: A Christmas message from the Committee of the Swiss Society
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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942198>

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A Christmas Message from the Committee of the Swiss Society

The Committee of the Swiss Society wish to extend to all their members and friends the Season's Greetings.

Christmas is traditionally a time for exchanging gifts with family and friends; a time when people the world over wish for "Peace on earth and goodwill to all men". We trust that Christmas will be for everyone the best ever yet, and that the New Year 1973 will bring with it a new-found happiness and peace for which the world has long awaited.

A. K. Binder,
President.



BROADCASTING AN ANNIVERSARY FOR SWITZERLAND

(By John Trevor)

BROADCASTING in Switzerland is just fifty years old. From early beginnings which received little official encouragement, it has grown into a responsible service covering the country with radio and television programmes and also broadcasting to the world on shortwaves. There are special problems to be overcome, because of the country's varied racial, linguistic and cultural composition, and there is a particular obligation to further national unity and understanding.

To the city of Lausanne goes the honour of building Switzerland's first transmitter. In February 1822 the municipality gave permission for it to be constructed on the Champ-de-l'Air airfield, mainly to serve the needs of air navigation and communications. It was run by Radio Suisse, the telecommunications company which is also fifty years old this year.

This transmitter was only the third in Europe. It broadcasts on long waves only and to make the transmissions a little more interesting for the pilots, light music and newscasts were broadcast as well.