

More trenches in Switzerland

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TRADITIONAL COSTUMES OF THE 26 CANTONS OF SWITZERLAND

(see May issue) In the last issue we meant to present a first set of 16 costumes, with the remaining 10 being printed in this current issue. Our over-eager printer got carried away and, by reducing the size of the photos, managed to squeeze in 21 pictures, 5 more than anticipated. Accordingly please find herewith the remaining 5 costumes to complete the set. This will set at rest the mind of all the citizens of Schwyz and Obwalden who complained that costumes of their respective cantons had not been shown. Strangely enough, no complaints have come from the citizens of Waadt, Wallis and Neuenburg....



Vaud
Sunday costume with
characteristic straw hat

Valais
Costume of St. Maurice
with "falbala" hat

Neuchâtel
Sunday costume, cap
and shawl of fine lace

Schwyz
Middle-class festive
costume with white
head-dress

Obwalden
Festive costume with
"fichu de Milan"

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MORE TRENCHES IN SWITZERLAND

You all heard of the famous "Rösti-
Graben" that separates the German
part of Switzerland from the French
part. Although the exact path of the
trench has never been clearly defined, it
is there for sure if you want to look for it.
But now a new trench has opened up
within the German part of Switzerland
itself, the "Bratwurst-Graben". It sepa-
rates the Golden Triangle Zurich-Basel-
Bern-Zurich from the eastern part of
Switzerland. The "Ostschweiz" is com-
plaining bitterly that its area is being
neglected for the benefit of the Golden
Triangle, particularly with regards to the
future development of Postal and Rail-
way services. With the gigantic plans
for new North-South rail liaisons through
the Gotthard and the Lötschberg-Sim-
plon, Thurgau, St Gallen and Graub-
ünden increasingly feel being by-
passed and left out on a limb (a feeling
the French part of Switzerland has al-
ready had for many years). We can only
guess when and where the next trench
will open up and what it will be called.

NOTE TO SECRETARIES

Next issue of the Helvetia magazine:
July 1994 for July and August. All con-
tributions must be in by 15 June. Many
thanks for your kind cooperation.

EXPENSIVE HEALTH

Here are the average amounts that
people in Europe spend each year on
their health: Luxembourg 3455 SFR,
Sweden 3436 SFR, Switzerland 2731
SFR, Germany 2720 SFR, France 2678
SFR, The Netherlands 2394 SFR, Italy
2326 SFR, Denmark 2208 SFR, Austria
1945 SFR, Great Britain 1755 SFR,
Ireland 1492 SFR, Spain 1451 SFR,
Greece 641 SFR, Portugal 523 SFR.
These figures could mean either that
people in the wealthier countries are
more concerned about their wellbeing
or that their way of life is so unhealthy,
that they must spend more money to
remain in good health whilst people in
the poorer countries live a healthier life
and therefore need to spend less for
their wellbeing. We wonder.....

CONTINUOUS EDUCATION

Over 2 million people in Switzerland
take study courses. This represents 40%
of the overall adult population. In total,
they are attending over 3 million courses
in order to improve their knowledge or to
keep abreast with developments in their
profession. An interesting fact is that
46% of working people attend courses
against only 23% of the unemployed. It
appears therefore that people who are
holding a job are more interested in
improving their knowledge and thus their
future career than people who are un-
employed and who may have given up
the race or who simply cannot afford the
costs of the courses.