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HOLIDAYS WHERE THE RHINE ORIGINATES

In the Tavetsch valley on the Oberalp Pass where the clear waters of the Vorderrhein collect, one of the Grisons' "150 valleys", tourism is being promoted with greatest initiative. Two skilifts — Valtgeva and Dieni-Milez-Cuolm Val — as well as the chairlift to Cungiari (5,700 ft.) give easy access to interesting ski-ing slopes where one is sure to find snow, and in the summer the whole region is a paradise of Alpine flowers. The villages Sedrun (4,737 ft.), Rueras, Selva and Tschamut — names that betoken the Rhaeto-Romanic language spoken here — offer accommodation for about 700 tourists, the hotels account for 287 beds, there are 52 in small inns, 30 in private houses and 400 in holiday flats. In 1964, there were 85,000 overnight stops recorded in the valley as a whole.

[S.N.T.O.]

10th ZERMATT MASTERS' COURSE FOR MUSIC

Pablo Casals has spontaneously offered once more to conduct a course on interpretation in Zermatt. This is set for 23rd August to 3rd September, and the master will give six three-hour courses devoted to compositions for cello by Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. Further teachers will be Hansheinz Schneeberger (violin concertos by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Mendelssohn and Burkhard) and Hans Willi Haeusslein (vocal training for opera, oratory and "Lied"). Among others, contracts for the traditional church concerts have so far been signed with pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski and the Festival Strings Lucerne.

[S.N.T.O.]

"THE PERPETUAL HILLS" by Hugh Merrick

A book which will give all lovers of Switzerland much pleasure during the "Year of the Alps" is Hugh Merrick's "The Perpetual Hills" (Newnes, 35/-). This is the personal story of the author's life-long enthusiasm for mountains — he has visited the Alps more than thirty times. An unusual feature is that his own intimate narrative is implemented by nearly two-hundred quotations, in prose and poetry, from the great classic literature not only of the mountains themselves, but of the gentler aspects of the Alpine world. It need hardly be added that such a collection contains Whymper's own immortal account of the first tragic ascent of the Matterhorn, which will form the central theme of the Centenary Celebrations at Zermatt in July. Among the Author's many outstanding photographs, beautifully reproduced, is an exceptionally fine early morning picture of that most often photographed of all mountains.

[S.N.T.O.]

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ZU SPAET

Hüt sött i gwüss der Muetter schrybe
Doch hani ietz grad nid der Zyt
I weis i ha's scho z'lang lo blybe
Morn muess es g'scheh, gäb was es git.

Daheim tuet d's Muetti grüsli blange
Gwüss jedes Mal, we Türe geit
Luegt ob der Postma doch afange
Es Briefli het i d' Drucke gleit.

Gits keine hüt, so hoffts uf morn
So oft het z'Läbe ihns entüsch
Es dankt und bättet für si Sohn
Vom Chilchli här tönt's d's Abeglüt.

Es dankt an alti Zyte zrück
Die Jährli voll Arbeit und Sorge
A d'Sunnetag voll Chinderglück
Wo d'Pflicht ihm lieb isch worde.

Es dankt a di Tage voll Chrankheit und Leid
Der Jüngst het ihm d'Fremdi no gno
Jetz blangets nur uf das Briefli wo seit
Dass er gli, gli hei sölli cho.

So schlycht die Zyt mit Warte vorby
Wo der Herbst de d'Blettli etfärbt
Isch ändlig das Briefli im Druckli gsi
Doch leider, ach leider, zu spät.

H.E.

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