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Summaries

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Propagation Measurements in the 12 GHz Band

Chr. Bärffuss, Berne

Numerous field-tests were conducted to measure HF field strength at various points of a potential broadcast zone. The transmitter was located at the tip of a 70 km long section with an opening of 20°. The measuring equipment consisted essentially of a measurement van with a telescopic mast, a SHF-UHF converter and a detector. Propagation curves and local field distributions were determined at 388 points and plotted in function of antenna height and zone to be served. The data will be used to determine the degree of coverage in the various zones of an earth-based television system. Additional results concerning the effects of terrain unevenness, scattering due to obstacles or SHF signal instability, are presented.

p. 456...474

Experimental Terminal for Simultaneous Transmission of Speech and Still Pictures over 64 kbit/s PCM channels

A. Kündig, Berne

The aim of this development work was not yet to produce a new terminal, but to study the various types of application of fast digital channels from a user's point of view, and to gain technical knowledge in the field of new terminal apparatus.

p. 475...477

Design and Application of a Magnetic Tape Terminal for Connection to a Synchronous Data Line

A. Burgherr and K. Richard, Berne

Computers can be profitably used in the design and testing of new digital subscriber equipment. The equipment described here permits a type of application avoiding the time-consuming and expensive direct computer link-up.

News Items

Telephone

Nine volumes of Switzerland's **telephone directory** have so far been produced by **OCR and computer-typesetting techniques** available as part of system **TERCO** (TElephone Rationalization by COmputer).

The **first permanent microwave link in the Swiss junction network** is to come into operation between **St. Moritz** and **Valchava**.

Automatic telephone service to New Zealand has been available since 1 October. With the opening of **ISD** the call charge was reduced by 25 percent.

Switzerland has lowered its charges for calls to Costa Rica and Honduras by 45 pc following a substantial reduction in the American accounting-rate quota.

At **Leuk satellite earth station** a further three **receiving systems** have been made available to replace temporary equipment for service to **South Africa** and provide fixed-circuit capacity to **Mexico** and **Venezuela**. In addition, the number of **SPADE channels** has been **increased from 12 to 18** to avoid congestion.

Telegraph, Telex

Demonstrations of Swiss PTT's **public facsimile service** have been given at a number of exhibitions throughout the country.

Since 1 October, telex customers in several regions have been supplied with new **Hasler SP 20 teleprinters**.

Radio, Television

At **Schwarzenburg** an additional 250 kW shortwave transmitter has been made available to the **Swiss Broadcasting Corporation**, which now uses three 250 kW and three 100 kW transmitters for its overseas service.

In October the **Swiss television network** was enlarged by 18 **translators** in cantons Basel-Land (2), Grisons (6), Valais (4), and Ticino (6).

Three microwave circuits supplying **foreign radio and television broadcasts to CATV systems** came into operation in October: **Chasseron-Renens**, relaying three TV programmes as well as two stereo and five mono radio programmes; **Renens-Chalavornaire** and **Chalavornaire-Monthey**, carrying three German and three French TV programmes as well as three stereo and ten mono radio programmes.

The fixed radio-station equipment for **NATEL** (national carphone) **area 3, Zurich**, has been ordered from a Swiss company.

Miscellaneous

The **Rhine Radio Agreement** between Belgium, France, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland has been adapted to present requirements at a meeting in Munich.

Mr L. Burtz of France was appointed new director of CCITT by the **CCITT Plenary Assembly** held in Geneva from 27 September to 9 October under the chairmanship of Mr. Fritz Locher, director general, Swiss PTT.