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NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND



TELEPHONE CABLE THROUGH THE WALENSEE

The small village of Quinten on the steep, pathless north bank of the Walensee, built on what probably was a Roman site, most likely is the only village in Switzerland which can be reached by waterway only. It is shut in on three sides by high, precipitous walls of solid rock with but the lake offering easy access.

Thus sheltered and with direct south exposure, Quinten has an extraordinarily warm climate evidenced by the flourishing almond and fig trees. This little place has but twenty telephone connections. While the postman, wedding and christening parties, funeral processions, in short anyone who has matters to attend to outside of the village—and this also includes the school children—cross the lake by boat, the telephone cable was not able to weather the storms. Now it has been immersed in the waters and, because of the great depth of this mountain lake, it had to be lengthened by 1.5 miles.

WANTED: PERSONNEL FOR HOTELS

For years now, Switzerland's economy is up against serious problems of labour shortage. The hotel industry, in particular, is feeling this drawback of the economic boom and has launched an ingenious campaign to counteract it. For the period of one year, the Swiss Hotelkeepers' Association offers youngsters, boys and girls who have finished school, the possibility of taking comprehensive training—theory and practice—in a "Training Hotel." This training is free of cost, and if a graduate decides to go into the hotel business, his or her one year "at school" is not lost; on the contrary, it counts towards the curriculum required for professional training. A first course of this kind with 60 trainees started in a "Training Hotel" in Leysin (Vaud) on 1st October.