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IT HAPPENED IN THE GRISONS

LA VITA M'AIS STATTA

La vita m'ais statt'ün cuntin
amiaivel dutsch sömmi da stà,
meis let d'eir' il müs-chel mulschin,
il cuvel da dialas ma chà.

Ushè n'ha durmi eu sömgiand
in ün muond plain amur e dalet,
restet, in gñand vegl, ün uffant,
e la gliעד disch ch'eu saj' ün poet!

TISTA MURK

(“*St. Moritz Courier*”.)

CANTON

With 60 against 38 votes, the Grisons Parliament accepted a Motion to work out proposals for women's votes in cantonal matters. The capital of the Cantonal Bank is to be increased from 40 to 60 million francs.

Tourist traffic showed an increase last winter throughout the Canton. The Grisons have made an agreement according to which the Canton participates in the oil pipe line Oledotto del Reno S.A., Chur, to the tune of 6.4m. francs.

There is still a shortage of teachers, which was not removed by admitting 76 newly trained teachers into the service. The number of pupils in most schools has gone down, and the trade school at Arosa had to be closed down.

The Rhaetian Railways had a good year; revenue surpassed the 50 million-mark for the first time, and the company made a surplus of 5.2m. francs. As in other Cantons, progress in the construction of the national roads is not up to schedule on account of lack of finance. Within a year, the number of motor vehicles in the Canton has gone up by 10%. The Cantonal Parliament has voted 6.41m. francs for the purchase of land and the construction of a new cantonal *Motorfahrzeugkontrolle* in Chur. The first mobile school dental clinic has become operational. The dentist and dental assistant also act as chauffeurs.

4.5% of the total number of heads of cattle in Switzerland falls on the Grisons. Export of cattle is still considerable; in 1965, to Italy alone 4,932 heads were sold, 248 to Turkey and even 126 to Bulgaria. The total area of forests comprises 23.2% of the cantonal territory. 80% belong to the Communes, 7% to private owners, over 3% lies within the National Park, and the remaining 10% belong to the Canton, the Confederation and non-Grisons Communes.

COMMUNES

Arosa is faced with the financing of two immense projects, one is a waste-water plant, the other its own electricity works. Early this summer, a granite monument was unveiled at **Baerenburg** in honour of the men who lost their lives during the construction of the power stations in the Hinterrhein Valley and Valle di Lei. Early christian walls and graves were discovered near the village of **Bonaduz**.

In June, the **Chur** electorate rejected a proposal of an annual grant to the R.C. *Hofschule*; with this, the citizens showed that in their opinion, a private school should not be subsidised by public money. Since then, the school

has closed its primary classes. The electorate accepted a proposal for a credit of 1.16m. francs for a secondary electricity works at Dommerau.

As against the previous year, the construction of housing has gone up considerably in the Grisons capital. In the first six months of 1965, 72 flats had been completed, and this year the number was 169, an increase of 135%. The old chocolate firm of Chocolat Grison A.G. was taken over by Lindt and Spruengli in 1961. Since then it has become one of the most modern chocolate factories in Switzerland. From 98 employees five years ago, the figure has now reached 204, only 27 of whom are foreigners. 12,000 bars of chocolate are formed every hour thanks to special machinery.

The complete cultural estate left by the art historian the late Dr. h.c. Erwin Poeschel is to be preserved in an Erwin-Poeschel-Room at the Chur Record Office. To mark the centenary, the Chur Co-operative has presented two valuable oil paintings, one by Meisser to the Grisons Cantonal School, and one by Giovanni Giacometti to the Grisons Art Collection.

Davos had a population of 11'331 at the end of last year, 48 more than in 1964. 3,125 of them were foreigners. The Government of the Canton held its 1966 *Landtagsitzung* at Davos, according to tradition in the home town of the President, Hans Stiffler. Davos is planning a congress hall and a first-aid centre, and also a church hall. The floods in 1965 caused a lot of damage, and repairs and precautionary construction work cost Fr.658,000.—. The Parsenn hut (1906) is to be enlarged and modernised.

Dr. Silvia Bono, in charge of obstetrics and gynaecology of the Davos *Krankenhaus*, has been appointed head of the new free maternity and child welfare centre. Dr. F. Flach has been put in charge of the Physical-Meteorological Observatory at Davos, in succession to Dr. W. Moerikofer. Hannes Waldburger has been elected *Verkehrsdirektor* to follow Fritz Duerst. The *Alpine Mittelschule* can look back on twenty years of existence, and the *Jaegerverein* celebrated its golden jubilee.

From **Disentis** comes the news that the old hospice on the Lukmanier Pass founded in 1374 by Abbot Johannes II, has been excavated, and that the barrage of Curnera has been completed (*Kraftwerke Vorderrhein*). The new “Kurdirektor” at **Flims** is Otto Zbinden. Now that National Councillor Brosi has left the Grisons Government on completion of the term of office (9 years), he has again been elected Commune President of **Klosters**. The village is to have a new administration building in place of the Old Commune House. Werner Spescha has been appointed “Kurdirektor” at **Lenzerheide**.

A small sports centre is being planned for **Pontresina**, but the Commune Council rejected the project of a Piz Palü railway. The Diavolezza railway is 10 years old. An Alpine garden has been created at Alp Grüm on the Pontresina-Poschiavo line. Romansh is to remain the language used for teaching in Pontresina's primary school. At **San Bernardino** there is dissatisfaction with the Chur authorities for wanting to construct homes for the tunnel personnel where there is valuable ski-ing ground.

The electorate of **St Moritz** granted a credit of 7½m. francs for a new school. There will also be a second vicarage for the Evangelical parish, and earlier in the year,

an artificial ice rink was decided on. The *Biblioteca Engiadinaisa's* stock of books has again increased and numbers 4,441 (four years after its foundation). The Grand Hotel *Kurhaus* celebrated its centenary earlier in the year. The new natural science building of the Evangelical School at **Schiers** was inaugurated early in October. **Trimmis** is the last of the Grisons District V which has amalgamated the two denominational schools. News from **Zernez** includes a half-time report on the progress made at the Spoel hydro-electric power works situated near the National Park. The *Gotteshausbund* of Zernez celebrated its 600th anniversary in summer.

(Based on news received by courtesy of
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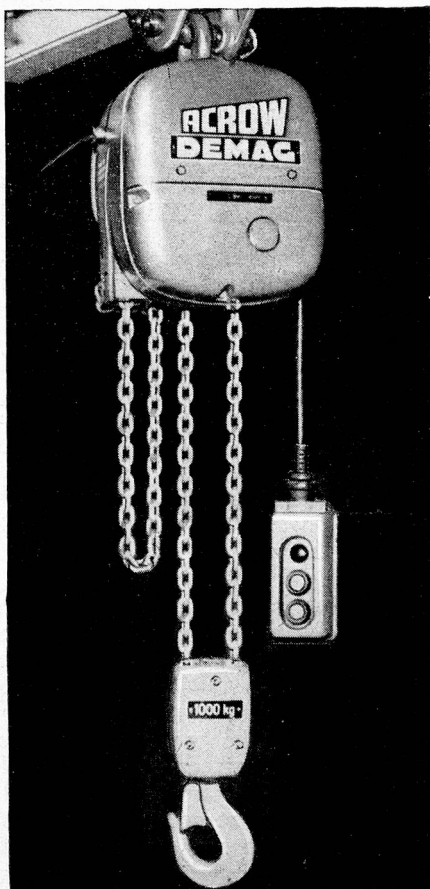
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