

# News from Old Berne

Berne Zoological park, which measures 13 hectares, is situated partly in the woods and partly on the steep slope down to the Aare, forming a most attractive section of the immediate neighborhood of Berne.

It is a few minutes from the station by motorbus T. Most of the animals are European wild species, which live in Switzerland or lived here in former times.

The visitor can observe, in spacious preserves, graceful doe deer and dignified red deer or the smaller fallow deer, which have white spots in summer; also original elks (moose), the largest deer in Europe, which are to be seen in very few zoological gardens in Europe. Reindeer, which came to Switzerland in prehistoric times, are also well represented.

Especially popular are the wild animals of the mountains, in particular the marmots, which are kept in the open, but also chamois, etc., in the enclosures on the bank of the Aare; kids which leap from rock to rock are especially attractive.

As there are only about 150 spe-

cimens of the European bison existant, each of which costs a small fortune, the Berne zoological park has to be content with the American bison. They reproduce themselves so well in Dahlholzli that the park has become one of the largest breeding grounds for bison in Switzerland.

Their neighbors are the wild boars, whose numerous young with their black-yellow stripes, constitute a special attraction in spring. Foxes and badgers, which are to be found in the last two enclosures on the Aare, are objects of great interest.

Of the smaller mammals, however, the otters are the greatest attraction. The graceful swimming of these water martens are truly remarkable.

Domestic animals are also represented, especially ponies and "dwarf" donkeys, on which children can ride on any fine Sunday during the warm season. The Hungarian sheep, the dwarf goats, rabbits and guinea pigs also have many friends among the children.

Behind the big Tierpark restaurant, there is another enclosure

with a great fishpond for waterfowl and large waders. Numerous native and foreign ducks and geese disport themselves in the pond; a group of long-necked, graceful flamingoes strut about in the water and white and black storks, cranes and herons may be encountered in the fields and on the paths.

In the vivarium, the largest building in the wood, Swiss fauna are supplemented by a number of interesting foreign animals. Hundreds of birds are to be found in the spacious outer and inner aviaries.

Giant and venomous snakes and tropical lizards are to be seen in the "terrarium" section. The aquarium contains four sea-water tanks full of glorious coral fish and a number of cold fresh water tanks with specimens of our native fish, while in automatically heated fresh water tanks live a large number of tropical and sub-tropical river fish, some of them very rare.

Finally, we may mention the universally popular "capuchin monkey" and the rare "wooly monkey," whose antics are an unending source of enjoyment to visitors.

## Mirror Mirth

Some people don't mind the lies told about them. What worries them is the truth.

Men have less courage than women. Imagine a man with ten cents in his pocket trying on ten suits of clothes.

Singers who can carry a tune generally carry it too far.

A person learning how to drive has made considerable progress when the road begins to turn when he does.

The secret of successful writing lies in striking the right keys on the typewriter.

The reason Uncle Sam wears a

tall hat is so that he can pass it around.

In running the government it's not the overhead that matters, it's the underhand.

When two men in a business always agree, one of them is unnecessary.

Too much of the uplift in this country is confined to noses.

If you want to know the value of money, try and borrow some.

An onion can make people cry, but there is no vegetable that can make them laugh.

Domestic use of flue-cured tobacco is expected to rise 2 per cent this year.

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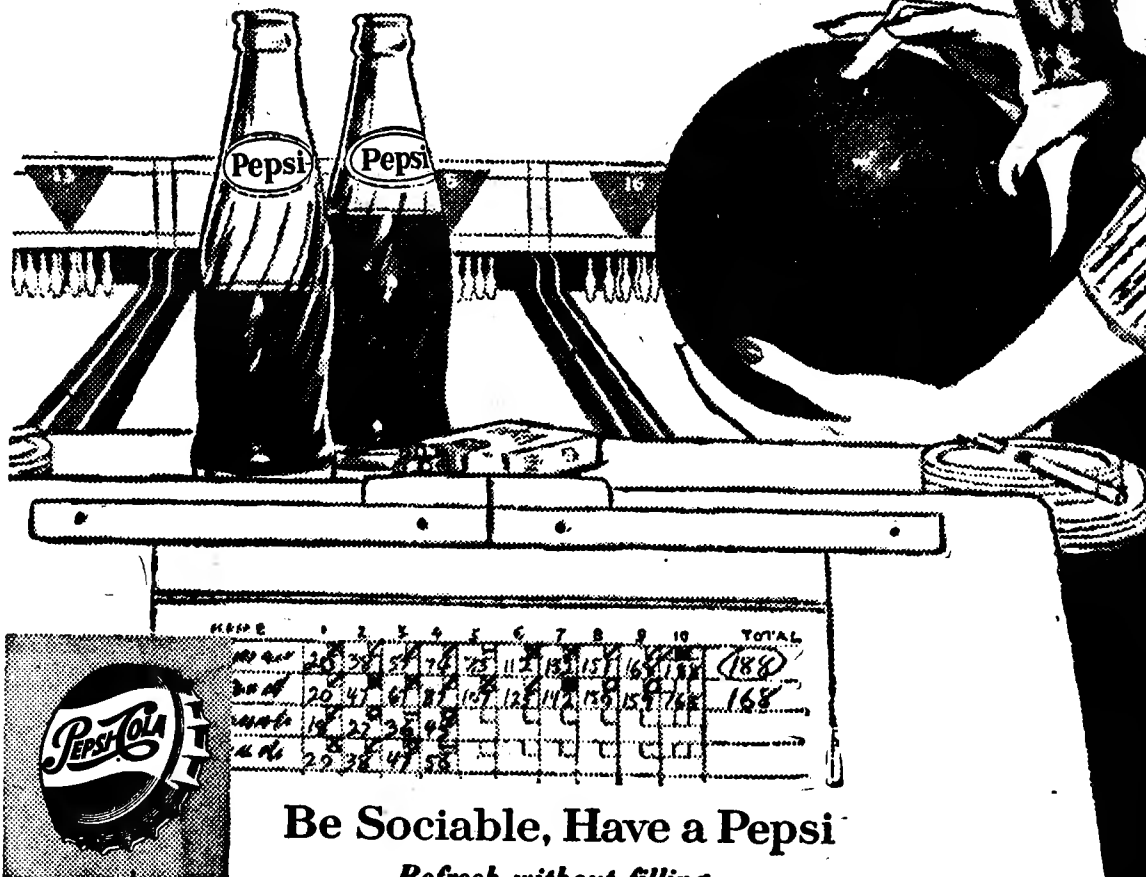
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