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Austria à la Carte lecture recording, Side A, Lisa Chickering and Jeanne Porterfield Collection

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WEBVTT

00:30:17.000 --> 00:30:25.000

<i>Lisa Chickering </i>: The men showed us an easy way to get down the snow embankment. This was definitely not for us! [LAUGHTER]

00:30:25.000 --> 00:30:35.000

Hanging onto each other we cautiously started up an ice ledge when Domise encouragingly said 'it's easy as falling off a log.'

00:30:35.000 --> 00:30:47.000

That did it, Jeanne and I knew we'd never be mountain climbers and with it looking like the storm could break at any minute, we told Domise and the others to go on but without us.

00:30:47.000 --> 00:30:57.000

Then we hastily turned back, only to happy not to be going on and to get away from that dark glacier.

00:30:57.000 --> 00:31:05.000

The best climb we could ever hope to make was up the steps to the hotel. [LAUGHTER]

00:31:05.000 --> 00:31:17.000

After such a strenuous experience the best place to re-cooperate would be down the Bad Hofgastein. One of the leading health resorts of Europe, nestled in the Gastein Valley.

00:31:17.000 --> 00:31:29.000

Due to its curative waters people from all over the world have been coming here since the 15th century. The waters remain the same, although there are now over 100 hotels. Each with their own thermal baths.

00:31:29.000 --> 00:31:36.000

The big hotels leap up at you from all sides and it's the most unexpected sight to come up on in provincial Austria.

00:31:36.000 --> 00:31:54.000

The healing water is the most highly radioactive water in the world and in the center of town the falls plunge right between the luxurious hotels with a deafening roar. This is one place where traffic sounds or school bells won't be disturb you.

00:31:54.000 --> 00:32:01.000

Besides from the baths which must be taken under medical supervision, you can also drink the mineral water which is most invigorating.

00:32:01.000 --> 00:32:16.000

In fact so much so that after just a few bottles of it the maps were once again out and plans were being made to go on to the town of Mayrhofen. Which lies in the Zillertal Valley and is considered one of the most beautiful valleys in the whole of the Tyrol.

00:32:16.000 --> 00:32:23.750

Besides from the winding road, one can reach Mayrhofen by this miniature gauge railway, that looks like it's right out of a Toonerville cartoon.



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