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SWISS INDUSTRIES FAIR BASLE, 1960

The Swiss Industries Fair, Switzerland's annual display of industry in Basle, will take place in the year 1960 from the 23rd April to the 3rd May.

The display of products by some 2,300 exhibitors comprises the following groups: arts and crafts and ceramics; office and business requisites; paper, printing, publicity material; textiles, clothing, fashion goods; footwear and leather goods; watch fair; furniture and domestic accessories; sport, games and toys, music; chemical products, hairdressers' accessories, cosmetic products; domestic appliances; electricity; gas, water, heating; machinery; industrial goods and accessories; transport; building materials and accessories; foodstuffs.

Visitors from foreign countries will find it well worth their while to devote attention to the displays in the groups covering watches, textiles (with the special sections "Création", "Madame-Monsieur", and "Knitwear Centre"), electricity, machinery and industrial accessories. Within the framework of the machinery industry machine-tools for the processing of metals will be particularly well represented at the 1960 Fair.

Fuller particulars, prospectuses, identity cards and copies of the catalogue are obtainable from Swiss Embassies, Legations, Consulates and Chambers of Commerce, as well as from the agencies of the Swiss Office for Development of Trade and the Swiss National Tourist Office.

VARIOUS.

Statistical information obtained from the International Labour Office in Geneva reveals that since 1953 the price of food in Switzerland has increased less than in seven other West European countries, the USA and Canada. Apart from price development the purchasing power of the labourer and clerical worker's salary is particularly informative. To obtain these statistics the non-professional building worker category was chosen because the hourly pay for this group of worker was far easier to compare with those from other West European countries, more advantageous or at least as good. As far as quantities are concerned it is only in Sweden that the purchasing power of the workers salary is higher than that of a Swiss worker.

* * *

Berne, not only the proud possessor of the Jungfrau Railway which is the highest railway in Europe, can boast that its capital town own the shortest railway in Switzerland. It is the tiny Marzili railway operating between the Federal terrace and the Marzili district situated on the banks of the river Aare. Four conductors are employed and two coaches, completely independent of steam or electricity, are perpetually travelling between the two stations. The train is equipped with a "water motor", and receives a store of water from the overhead station the weight of which is just sufficient to cause the train at the other end to travel in an upwards direction on a steel cable and allow itself to proceed in a downward direction.