

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1963)

Heft: 1424

Artikel: A sensational world first showing at the Expo Lausanne 1964

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-687648>

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THE 47th SWISS INDUSTRIES FAIR — BASLE

The 47th Swiss Industries Fair is to be held in Basle from 20th to 30th April 1963. The Fair, which represents the general industry of Switzerland, is divided into 28 sections and brings together some 2,300 exhibitors representing a wide variety of industries and crafts. Amongst the groups producing principally for export, the Watch Fair will be particularly prominent. This time the space rented to exhibitors will be twice as large as before and the Fair will be organized on entirely new lines. In the technical field export also figures largely in the activities of the groups devoted to heavy engineering and the metal-working industry, non-ferrous metals and light alloys, industrial supplies, woodworking machines and tools, mechanical handling and conveying, precision engineering, measuring instruments, optics, photography, cinematography and plastics. As for consumer goods, foreign visitors will be particularly interested in the textile, clothing and fashion groups (with their special displays "Création", "Madame et Monsieur" and "Knitwear Centre") and in the shoe and leather centre, which has been extended.

It is a tradition at the Swiss Industries Fair for each of the various technical sections to display its products every other year. At the 47th Fair it is the turn of the mechanical conveying and handling section to occupy the forefront of attention. This group was formed only two years ago and comprises all the special vehicles, devices and plant required for handling materials within factories and ultimately conveying them to road or rail transport for dispatch. At the same time the forthcoming Swiss Industries Fair will show a representative cross-section of the products of firms building heavy vehicles, trailers and car bodies. After two years it is also the turn once more of the woodworking machine and tool section, the boiler and radiator section and the optical, photographic and cinematographic section to be represented.

[S.N.T.O.]

A SENSATIONAL WORLD FIRST SHOWING AT THE EXPO LAUSANNE 1964

A tourist submarine for forty passengers, the "mesoscaphe", will, for the first time, be at the disposition of the public at the Swiss National Exposition, which will be held in Lausanne in 1964, on the shores of the Lake of Geneva. This new type of underwater craft for medium depth exploration, hence its name of "mesoscaphe" — has been conceived by the late Swiss scientist Auguste Piccard, the inventor of the famous "bathyscape", and his son Jacques, well-known for his successful record diving in the Pacific Ocean to a depth of nearly seven miles. This new type of submarine will consist of a cylindrical steel hull, capped at each end with a steel hemisphere. Even fully loaded, the submarine will still be lighter than water. For diving, several tons of ballast (water and scrap iron) will give it a weight slightly less than that required for it to sink. In other words, the submarine can only submerge when driven by its engine and when the diving fins are adjusted to the proper angle. Should the engine stop, the submarine would automatically surface. The iron ballast will be held in position by means of electromagnets; by simply switching off the current this iron ballast can be loosened to insure a more rapid surfacing,

in case of necessity. The water-ballast can also be expelled when submerged. The submarine will be equipped with an air regenerator as well as radio and T.V. connections, and fitted for night diving also. It will have a length of 81 feet, its hull a diameter of 9 feet 10 inches, a displacement in diving of 160 tons and will be moved by an engine of 75 h.p., fed with batteries. Panoramic vision portholes by each seat will enable passengers to have a very wide view of the underwater scenery, on dives lasting approximately 35 minutes. The critical depth of the dive of 3,900 feet, will never be reached, as the maximum depth of the Lake of Geneva is only 1,004 feet. Numerous Swiss firms, well-known in the fields of steel, machines and apparatus will contribute to the construction of this submarine, under the supervision of Dr. Jacques Piccard.

[S.N.T.O.]

Le plus doux bonheur qui existe est celui de la vie familiale, qui nous unit plus étroitement qu'un autre. Rien ne s'identifie plus fort et plus sûrement avec nous que notre famille, nos enfants.

J.-J. Rousseau.

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