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For a long time they both opposed the introduction of Protestantism, to which the Bernese wished to convert them; and for just as long, they resisted the spreading influence of the French Revolution, which sought to "liberate" them from the Bernese rule.

Today, the entire Alpine triangle of the Vaudois Alps is opening up to modern life — but with typical Vaudois cautiousness. Tourism is bringing badly-needed income to the region. Despite successes in cattle breeding in the Pays d'Enhaut and attempts at rationalising agriculture and handicrafts in Les Ormonts, the economy of the mountainous district remains a poor one. The growing hotel industry, however, has helped to put a stop to a decrease in population which, in some localities, had reached alarming proportions.

But, as has been said, the modern age is moving into this region only slowly, with great caution, suiting itself to the old ways and not disturbing the particular spirit of the local inhabitants. Thanks to their conservatism, the landscape has retained its uniqueness, that same atmosphere which, during the last century, so strongly fascinated the botanists who came to explore the valleys above Bex and the first English visitors who were adventurous enough to push up from Lake Geneva to Château d'Oex during their holidays. This individuality and peace, characteristic of the Vaudois Alps, are all the more precious now that they are becoming ever rarer elsewhere in Europe.

(Swiss National Tourist Office.)

#### A MOON SPACECRAFT AT THE SWISS TRANSPORT MUSEUM

In all probability it will not be long before the first man will set foot on the moon. The United States and the Soviet Union have detailed moon programmes. For instance, the American astronauts who will travel to the moon in the Apollo spacecraft will not land on the moon. Starting this craft on its return flight would require too much fuel. Therefore, the spacecraft will circumnavigate the moon, piloted by one astronaut, while the two others will transfer into a moon landing craft especially taken along for that purpose which will take them to the moon's surface and later back again to Apollo. A model of this moon ferry on a 1:3 scale can be seen at the Swiss Transport Museum in Lucerne until 30th September as a part of the special exhibition "Space Technique and Switzerland".

[S.N.T.O.]

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