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after the baby, they decide to settle the issue by tossing a five-franc coin. Françoise says that if Wilhelm Tell's face shows up, she will stay at work. The coin is tossed. Vincent lifts his hand from his wrist and makes a broad smile. The film ends on this scene without revealing which of the two will have to look after the baby.

This rather domestic scene is a fitting end to a very straightforward story. At least one thing can be said for Tanner: he makes his points very clear indeed. There is no useless pseudo-philosophical verbiage. Quite to the contrary, dialogues appear rather simple and unimaginative, in keeping with the boredom of modern life which Tanner is managing to convey with some success. The film is in black and white. This, and an appropriate choice of music, adds to the nihilistic atmosphere of the film.

The story is set in Geneva, just as *La Salamandre*, but, while that film had constant shots of Geneva in the rain, *Retour d'Afrique* emphasises the constant rumble of traffic upon which the camera returns constantly to picture the world as it is outside the garrett where the drama unfolds.

The cast is new and Tanner has been very fortunate in his choice of Françoise Mathouret as Vincent and of Josée Destoop as Françoise. To conclude the film is on the whole good, but a little slow-paced.

Another film (of a *totally* different vein) set in Switzerland was also showing in London cinemas during September. This was the *Eiger Sanction* where the action actually climaxes on the north face of the Eiger. The hero, played by Clint Eastwood (of *Dirty Harry* and *One Dollar More* fame), has to carry out an execution on the forbidding mountain. Two-thirds of the film is taken up by the build-up to the climb and the actual ascent where Clint Eastwood has to "sanction" a "baddie".

Although the plot is weak and the violence not as dramatic as it is in other Clint Eastwood films, the film might please those interested in mountaineering scenes and not likely to be too impressed by people hurtling down the Eiger's north wall. The opening shots are filmed in

Zurich, where a murder is carried out in the Niederdorf.

A scene indicating that the receptionist at the Little Scheidegg Hotel is open to bribery is rather unfair to Swiss hotel traditions. But I do not think there is a case for libel!

PMB

SWISS EVENTS

SWISS NATIONAL HYMN TO REMAIN UNCHANGED

Switzerland's current National Anthem, the moving "Morgenrot", written by A. Zwyssig and L. Widmer, is to retain its status for the time being in the Army and at Switzerland's diplomatic missions abroad. The Federal Council, which took this decision, has also invited the Cantons to preserve this hymn as the Swiss National Anthem in a letter to cantonal governments.

This hymn replaced the previous National Anthem, whose tune resembled that of the British one, in 1961. It was supposed to be a temporary solution.

A contest was held to find an apparently more adequate and lasting National Anthem. But no other hymn has won comparable support during the past 14 years and the government has therefore decided to prolong our current anthem's "temporary" life indefinitely.

A CENTURY OF MILK CHOCOLATE

This year, it is 100 years since the Swiss Daniel Peter succeeded, after many attempts, in perfecting the process for the manufacture of milk chocolate that has made the name and fame of the Swiss chocolate industry.

Peter's first export successes were in England, where the chemist of a small town ordered 100 lb of chocolate from him ... since then, sales of chocolate abroad have increased considerably to reach the figure of 15,900 tonnes last year, ie about 17 per cent of the country's total output.

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This big figure is nevertheless considerably below that achieved in previous years, the Swiss chocolate industry having been unable, above all for financial reasons, to maintain its position in the face of free foreign competition.

Although Switzerland is the biggest per capita consumer of chocolate in the world (9.5 kg per head of the population per year), sales on the home market also dropped in 1974 to 55,000 tonnes, 10 per cent of which consisted of imported products (as opposed to only one per cent in 1960).

NEW DOLL MUSEUM ON SWISS SHORE OF LAKE CONSTANCE

A rather special museum has been opened in the Lake of Constance village of Güttingen, on the Romanshorn-Kreuzlingen railway line. Two private collections of 250 dolls and toys from the 19th and early 20th centuries have been combined to make a permanent exhibition in the converted assembly rooms of the restaurant Adler.

The items include a number of particularly valuable and rare automatic and semi-automatic exhibits. The collection is open to the public on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 14.00 hours onwards.

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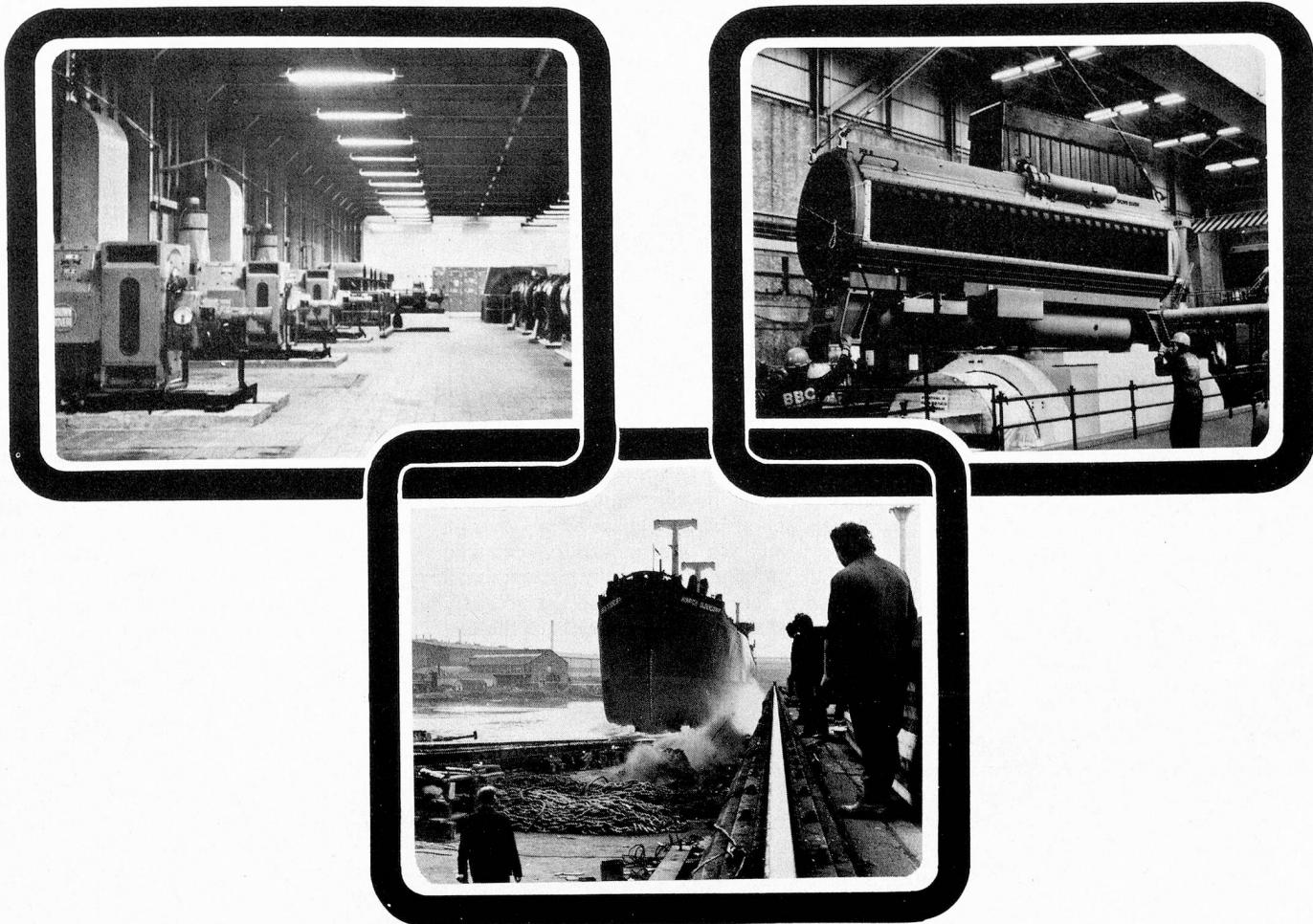
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BERNE

Berne is launching an all-out campaign to attract British tourists to the Swiss capital.

The launching follows closely on the announcement of an almost 40 per cent increase in British overnights in Berne during the first six months of the current year.

The Berne Tourist Office has drawn up a wide-ranging programme of winter and summer holiday offers covering the November 1975–October 1976 period and “geared to the British market”.

Said Mr Buehler: “Berne is continuing its policy of giving high priority to the British market – and we feel it is a policy which is paying off.

“I doubt if few places in Switzerland – if any – can match our results for the first half of 1975.”

Overnight bookings in Switzerland last winter were three per cent below the 1973/74 season and four-and-a-half per cent down on the record 1972/73 figure, according to government statistics just released.

Bookings last winter (November to April) totalled 12.94 million.

Among foreign visitors, those from Belgium increased two per cent, West Germany and the Netherlands three per cent, Japan four-and-a-half per cent, Latin America nine per cent and Israel 34 per cent. But there were fewer visitors from France (down 10½ per cent), North America (down 12 per cent) and Italy and Britain (down 16 per cent each).

Overall, foreign visitors were down two-and-a-half per cent and Swiss tourists four per cent.

The Swiss Foreign Ministry says it is following closely the case of Swiss journalist Jean-Paul Schaub reportedly accused in Ethiopia of helping a Swiss businessman leave that country illegally.

After being detained in prison, the journalist was freed on bail but told to remain at the disposal of the Ethiopian authorities.

Jean-Paul Schaub (27), worked formerly with Radio Suisse Romande and is currently with the Ethiopian-based Radio Voice of the Gospel.

Ethiopian press reports say he drove the businessman to the Kenyan frontier after the latter had tried for almost a year without success to obtain an exit visa. The businessman was reportedly in dispute with the Ethiopian authorities over alleged tax arrears.

The Swiss government has called on parliament to approve Switzerland's membership of the new World Tourism Organisation.

The WTO – a governmental organisation replacing the non-governmental International Union of Official Travel Organisations – is moving

its headquarters from Geneva to Madrid next year.

Switzerland should join, says the government message to parliament, because of the importance of tourism to the country.

The government message adds: “Tourism makes an essential contribution to Switzerland's balance of payments.

“In addition, Swiss membership of the WTO would constitute an act of solidarity towards developing countries, the touristic needs of which will be taken into particular consideration by the WTO.

“Further, membership will enable Switzerland to exert some influence on international policies and developments in tourism.”

The WTO budget for the next year is Sw Fr 6,500,000, of which Switzerland's contribution would be Sw Fr 160,000.

Berne's open-air Dählhözli Zoo has a new attraction – a pair of rare Siberian Tigers. The animals, named Nadja and Igor, have come from West Germany's Karlsruhe Zoo.

Siberian tigers are in danger of extinction, with only 200 still living wild. A further 350 are in zoos. The Dählhözli Zoo is one of Berne's most popular open-air attractions.

Situated partly in shaded woodland and partly along the banks of the River Aare, it affords the visitor a rare opportunity to see a variety of wild animals in natural surroundings. A small entrance fee is charged for the recently renovated Vivarium, but access to the rest of the zoo is free.

ZURICH

Europcar has introduced a new self-drive service for passengers from Switzerland booked on Loftleidir Icelandic/International Air Bahama flights from Luxembourg.

Passengers can book a vehicle for the return drive to Luxembourg from either Basle or Zurich for an all-in price per car of Sw Fr 300–330 – including 24 hours unlimited mileage each way. The arrangement also operates on a one-way basis for Sw Fr 200–215.

According to a Europcar Zurich spokesman: “The arrangement saves passengers time and money.

“The cost for three passengers using the same vehicle is considerably less than they would have to spend on rail fares. And the arrangement saves having to wait up to six hours for the right train connection.”

A leading Swiss bank has accused three French journalists of “acting like agent provocateurs . . . in order to discredit at any price Swiss banking secrecy.”

A statement by the Union Bank of Switzerland said the three journalists were from the French daily *l'Alsace* just

across the border from the Swiss city of Basle.

It claims that two reporters visited a Basle branch of the bank and said they wanted to open a numbered account – under which account-holders are known outside a small group of bank employees only by a number.

The two said they wanted to transfer to Switzerland a quarter of a million French francs (about £26,000 sterling). But the bank assistant, suspicious because the men openly declared they were evading tax authorities, refused.

The two reporters later visited another bank. A photographer posted outside with telephoto equipment was questioned by a policeman and revealed his identity.

An editorial by *l'Alsace* later defended its journalists and claimed the “violent” reaction of the bank had proved that the newspaper had been “correct and dutiful” in attempting to uncover Swiss banking methods.

GENEVA

The fourth International Exhibition of Inventions and New Processes will be held in Geneva from 28 November to 7 December 1975. In an exhibition area larger than last year, it will be displaying some 1,000 inventions from 25 countries, including the United States, Japan and several Eastern European countries.

The Geneva Inventions Exhibition is now recognised as the biggest and most important in the world, since it has more participants than all other inventions exhibitions put together. It represents at present the biggest market for inventions and new processes in the world and last year was attended by over 50,000 visitors.

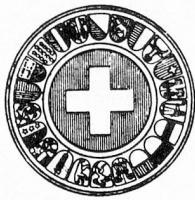
Industrial concerns, private or state research laboratories, promoters and independent scientists with an invention or a new product to launch will find Geneva the ideal place for getting in direct touch with industrial or financial circles and commercial agents who come specially from all five continents to purchase manufacturing and sales licences.

NEUCHATEL

Switzerland's latest 18-hole golf course has recently been opened at Voëns above St Blaise, near Neuchâtel. The course can boast all the necessary facilities including club house, changing rooms, forest area and – of course – a restaurant for which two old farm-houses have been converted.

The course affords magnificent views across the Lake of Neuchâtel and of the distant Alps. It is open from April to October. Address: Club de Golf de Neuchâtel, Case postale 36, 2072 St Blaise/Switzerland. Tel: (038) 33 55 50.

There are 27 golf courses in Switzerland, 20 of them 18-hole. All the clubs cater for visitors, and golf clubs can



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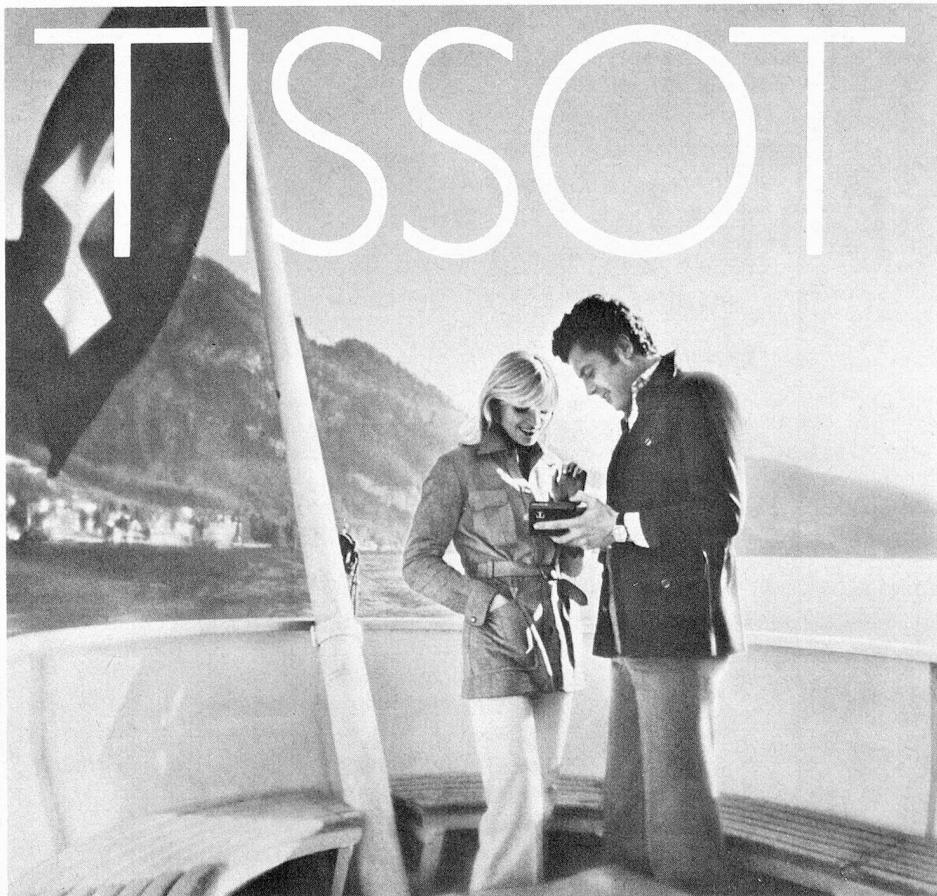
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LUCERNE

The Swiss Transport Museum in Lucerne features, during September and October, a special exhibition of the 22 most beautiful Rolls-Royces from 1905 to 1975, and the history of Rolls-Royce cars. The museum's opening hours are 09.00-18.00 daily. Admission is Sw Fr 2.50. Address: Verkehrshaus der Schweiz, Lidostrasse 5, 6006 Lucerne/Switzerland: Tel: (041) 31 44 44.

BASLE

The sixth International Exhibition for Industrial and Institutional Catering, Hotels, Restaurants, IGEHO 75 — it is taking place in the halls of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle from November 13 to 19 1975 — will be enriched by many instructive special displays:

Eating at Work

A critical multivision show by the International Design Centre in Berlin, presenting various aspects of catering at work.

Woman: A Welcome Guest

This special show by the Swiss Association of Restaurant, Hotel and Café Proprietors shows how very much the role of the woman as a guest has changed compared to earlier. Each lady is presented with a flower and there is a snug coffee bar "for ladies only".

Catering for Schools

This documentary, organised by the SV-Service, Schweizer Verband Volksdienst; Schweizerische Stiftung für Gemeindestuben; DSR — Organisation et exploitation de restaurants de collectivité, illustrates the importance of communal catering from elementary school to university and shows the differing dietary requirements of the various age groups.

Potato Dishes Meet All Wishes

Just how versatile the potato is, is demonstrated by this show, organised by the Swiss Hotel Proprietors' Association. At a large tasting stand, the visitors can sample a wide range of original and in part unusual potato dishes.

Children — Welcome to Swiss Hotels

This documentary by the Swiss Hotel Proprietors' Association in conjunction with child psychologists and educationalists, shows new possibilities for planning hotels for families and explores the needs of the younger and youngest guests.

Apprentices at Work

In a special display by the Basle

Technical College, work by the apprentice cooks are exhibited fresh each day, for example, according to the six months' curriculum — the preparation of attractive modern dishes. In addition there will be a showpiece by masters of the culinary art.

Advisory Centre for the Standardisation and Rationalisation of Institution Kitchens (Gastro-Norm)

This special display by the Swiss Association of Institutional Kitchen Manufacturers, in the form of a diagrammatic presentation, explains the "Gastro-Norm" and shows how it can be optimally applied for rationalising all sectors of the institutional kitchen. Practical examples will be shown in a slide show.

RIDE 'EM COWBOY!

A group of United States travel agents have been on a study tour of north-eastern Switzerland and neighbouring Liechtenstein — the 24,000-population Principality which earns much of its income from the manufacture of sausage skins and false teeth. The US agents were accompanied by representatives of the Swiss National Tourist Office in New York and Swissair in Washington.

Switzerland's Mövenpick hotel and restaurant chain flew in one-and-a-half tons of best United States beef — and cowboy hats for its personnel — when Wildwest Cooking Weeks were held recently in Zurich, Basle, Berne, Lucerne and St Gallen. The Wildwest Weeks, held over a five-week period at 14 hotels and restaurants, were described by Mövenpick as "the greatest American culinary campaign ever seen in Switzerland."

Kitchen Herb Garden

Under the banner of modern nutrition, many herbs are again becoming increasingly important. In a herb garden specially prepared for this exhibition, numerous kitchen herbs can be seen, among them some that were already practically forgotten. This display is a result of the work of Dr G. Boros from Adliswil.

Bills of Fare — the Credentials of the House

A comprehensive collection of menus and bills of fare compiled by C. Spörri, Dübendorf, awaits the visitor at this special display. They range from rare and valuable items from the past to exemplary presentation by the modern hotel and restaurant trade.

THE SWISS ARE A VERY CLEAN PEOPLE!

Last year, in Switzerland, 28 industrial firms with 2,615 employees produced 133,899 tons of various soaps and washing products, mainly for the home market. While the quantitative increase was only 1.1 per cent compared with 1973, this is due to the stabilisation of the population, the decline in tourism and the general reduction in purchases on the part of housewives.

The Swiss continue nonetheless to wash themselves a great deal! In 1974, every Swiss utilised 1,082 grams of toilet soap of all kinds; in this respect, Switzerland comes second after Great Britain (1,630 g) but ahead of Germany (986 g), Sweden (941 g), France (636 g), the Netherlands (628 g) and Belgium (479 g).

CASTELCO

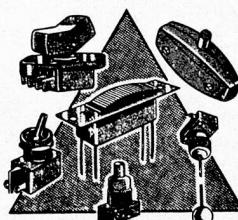
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