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## INDEX OF PRICES IN SWITZERLAND AT THE END OF JANUARY 1976

	Wholesale price 1963 = 100	Difference in relation to	Retail price End of Sept. 1966 = 100	Difference in relation to
End of January 1976	146.1		165.9	
End of December 1975	146.2	-0.1%	165.0	+0.5%
End of January 1975	152.7	-4.3%	160.4	+3.4%

### SWISS FOREIGN TRADE IN JANUARY

Period	Switzerland's Balance of Trade			Value of exports as a % of the value of imports
	Imports	Exports	Balance	
	(In million Sw.Fr.)			
1975 January	3,090.1	2,520.6	-569.5	81.6
1975 December	2,836.6	3,074.1	+237.5	108.4
1976 January	2,575.2	2,464.7	-110.5	95.7

## WATCH INDICATING THE TIDES TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE

A firm at Bienne has launched a precision wrist-watch combining conventional time and lunar time — both legible at a glance — which offers sportsmen and scientists a new, simplified method of reading the tides. This self-winding watch, called "Solunar", is the first of its kind in the world to indicate the times of high and low tides, daily, two weeks in advance. The dial has hands indicating the time of day in hours, minutes and seconds, as well as an automatic day-date calendar. This conventional dial, however, is surrounded by two easy-to-read revolving rings that give tide readings. The watch is provided with a high precision self-winding lever movement, housed in a water-resistant stainless steel case.

## FOR THE GARDENER

### ALYSSUM (Cruciferae)

Commonly called the Madwort. These plants which are dwarf, may be either annual or perennial, they grow from 3 to 10 inches in height according to specie. They are most useful for edging or ground cover, in the latter case they will form a dense cover which is excellent for keeping weeds at bay. Also they are attractive in the rock garden and look really impressive, cascading down between the rocks. The perennial types flower throughout May and June whilst the annuals will carry on throughout the summer until cut down by frost. The favourite soil for these plants is that of a sandy nature and in a good sunny position. Propagation is by either seeding, cuttings or division. Some species will seed themselves, providing masses of plantlets in the spring which can be transplanted as required. The colours available are white, yellow and lilac.

#### Species:

*Alyssum saxatile* (Gold Dust), a favourite for the rock garden, usually propagated by seed.

*A. saxatile citrinum*, similar to the above, but sulphur yellow.

*A. tortuosum*, prostrate, silvery leaves, a plant for the scree or rock garden.

*A. maritimum*, white and fragrant.

*A. compactum*, white and dwarf.

*A. "Primrose Queen"*

*A. "Lilac Queen"*

The yellow and coloured forms of the Sweet Alyssum.



ALYSSUM