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**Autor:** [s.n.]  
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## World Exhibition of Winter Sports

"Snow 75", the first World Exhibition of Skiing, Snow and Winter Sports, will be held in the premises of the Swiss Industries Fair in Basle from October 14th to 19th, 1975. It will be open to all industries connected with skiing, winter sports and tourism. Taking place only a few weeks before the start of the 1975-76 winter sports season, "Snow 75" will answer a wide variety of needs: apart from encouraging an active, healthy life through the practice of winter sports, it will enable professionals to exhibit and see the whole tremendous range of articles in this branch concentrated for the first time in the same exhibition area. Manufacturers, businessmen and the man in the street will have an opportunity of meeting the most competent representatives of all public, social or commercial organisations, associations and communities living for snow or dependent on snow for a livelihood. "Snow 75" is likely to become not only the biggest world exhibition of skiing, snow, winter sports and tourism but also an ideal meeting place favouring the promotion of ideas, contacts and exchanges among all those interested in the particular problems raised by these countless activities. (SODT).

The People's Republic of China has commissioned the Swiss firm of Sulzer Bros. Co. Ltd. (Winterthur, Zurich) and a French firm, the Electro-Mechanical Company (CEM), a branch of Brown Boveri & Co., to construct a big power station developing 300,000 kWh. The contract was signed in Peking by the representatives of the China National Import Corporation and a consortium formed by CEM, responsible for the technical and commercial side of the new power station, and Sulzer, the suppliers of the boiler. (SODT).

Since 1958, Swiss consumption of plastic has increased more than ten-fold, rising from 5.1 kg (11.2 lb.) per inhabitant to 57.3 kg (126 lb.) in 1973; the growth compared with 1972 is 14.4 per cent. It is estimated that 28 per cent of the 369,700 tons of plastic consumed—half of which is used in the packaging industry and the building trade—was produced by the Swiss chemical industry, the remainder being imported. (SODT).

## COUNTLESS SUMMER AND AUTUMN HOLIDAY MAKING POSSIBLE IN CANTON VAUD

(snto) — There are numerous ways for holiday-makers to enjoy themselves in the canton of Vaud. They can go hiking in the Jura, participate in water sports on the smaller and larger lakes, discover historical towns and attractive beauty spots, do summer skiing on the 9000 foot high glacier of the Diablerets and, last but not least, try out gastronomic specialities in the canton's winegrowing regions. For those who don't like organising their trips themselves, there's an 8 day all-inclusive

arrangement costing Fr. 248. upward. This includes seven overnight stays with half board in a tourist class hotel, excursions, visits and folkloric entertainment in the evening. For more information, contact the "Office du tourisme du canton de Vaud", av. de la Gare 10, CH-1200 Lausanne.

## MILLIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Contrary to what is often believed, and according to recent estimates, industry as a whole can be blamed directly for only 8 per cent of the pollution of the soil, 50 per cent of that of water and only 17 per cent of the pollution of the air. Even so, these figures are too high and must be reduced as much as possible. During the last few years, the Swiss machinery and appliances industry has spent large sums on the protection of the environment in which we live. From a survey in which some 200 firms belonging to the Swiss Machinery Manufacturers Association (VSM) co-operated, it appears that expenditure on plant for the protection of the environment totals 96 million francs. The annual cost of running already existing installations amounts to 31 million francs. As far as the Swiss chemical industry is concerned, it spends 11 per cent of its current investments on equipment designed to combat pollution; the cost of running this equipment represents 7 to 15 per cent of total production costs. (SODT).

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