

# Building activities in Switzerland

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### SWISS FOOTWEAR MARKET BEGINS TO BE SATURATED

Last year, the Swiss Market absorbed more than twelve million pairs of footwear and the Swiss Association of Footwear Manufacturers believes that, from certain indicative signs, there is the possibility of the market beginning to be saturated. Imports increased in 1956 and attained 2.3 million pairs. Exports were fortunately, also greater and, once more attained the pre-war level, namely more than a million-and-a-half pairs, of which total threequarters consisted of leather shoes.

### BUILDING ACTIVITIES IN SWITZERLAND

Last year, building activities in Switzerland gave work to a total of approximately 188,000 workmen, of which number 80,000 were foreigners. At the present moment, the building industry and civil engineering head the list, in regard to the number of workers employed in Switzerland.

### SWITZERLAND—WORLD'S FISHING PARADISE

Zurich, Switzerland.—With over 19,000 miles of rivers and streams and some 520 square miles of lakes, Switzerland is fast becoming a world's paradise for fresh-water fishing. One of the special attractions of fishing in this land of forests and mountains is the altitude—fishermen can practise their sport all the way from the lowest waters at about 650 feet above sea level up to the highest mountain lakes at over 8000 feet. With every thousand feet or so of additional altitude as you go up, different kinds of fish are found, and new techniques are needed to catch them. The lakes of the Central Plateau offer pike and big perch as well as large quantities of lake trout—a favourite catch of sport fishermen, especially in the cooler seasons of the year. And in this same area, rivers and streams contain barbel, pike and perch-pike.

Mountain streams in the Swiss Alps are the home of brook trout, rainbow trout, and brook char, and natural bait is preferred in the upper regions where brooks and streams cascade down through narrow rocky gorges. But fancy fly-casting and all types of artificial bait are widely used in the lower reaches of Alpine streams and rivers.

For a special thrill, of course, there is nothing quite like fishing in a crystal blue lake high up in the Alps. As you work on up towards the highest at around 8000 feet, you'll find that some are covered with ice for a good part of the year. The Swiss devote great care to keeping their mountain streams well stocked, and both brook trout and Canadian trout are prizes highly valued by fishermen who come to the Swiss Alps from all over the world.

Mr. Tony Loetscher,  
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