

Münsingen, first bicycle city of Switzerland

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A HOLIDAY WITH TEETH IN IT

Each year thousands of Swiss take their holidays in Hungary with the additional aim of having their teeth fixed.

Although the Hungarian dentists are as up-to-date with the most modern dental techniques as anyone else, their prices are far below those charged in Switzerland. In fact, according to some patients, the total costs of the trip, including accommodation for several days in Hungary and the treatment are less than the costs of having your teeth fixed in Switzerland.

To go on holiday to have your teeth attended to is certainly a new kind of tourism and the Hungarians are making the most of it. Realising that having your teeth fixed in a nice place rather than in a drab city is far more pleasant for the patients, Hungarian dentists were quick to open up dozens of new dental clinics and practices in the most sought-after Hungarian spa and holiday resorts. And to better attract their foreign clients, the shields are also written in German as the pictures show.



At the thermal hotel "Heviz" even the teeth can take a cure.



A familiar looking name for a "Hungarian" dentist. Whatever his nationality, his services are much cheaper than in Switzerland.

MÜNSINGEN, FIRST BICYCLE CITY OF SWITZERLAND

Münsingen, with its 10,000 inhabitants, declared itself as the first "Velostadt" of Switzerland. A survey showed that 60% of all traffic was local traffic that could easily move on bicycle

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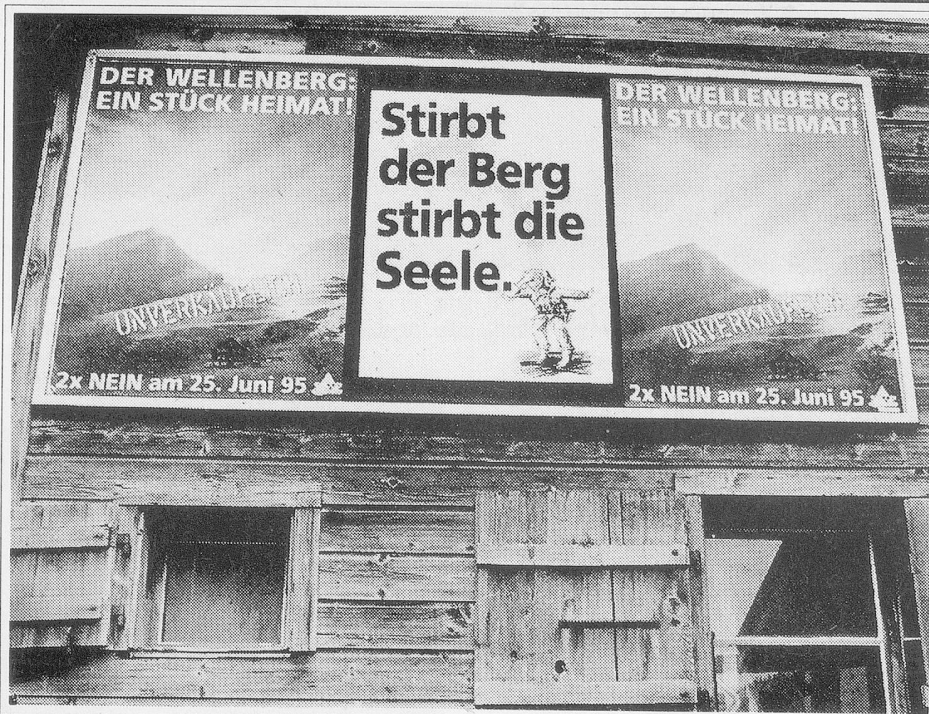
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SOUL AND MOUNTAIN

This very appropriate sign was recently put up in Nidwalden where the citizens had to vote for or against a depot of atomic waste material inside the Wellenberg near Wolfenschiessen. The sign speaks for itself.

rather than by car. So more bicycle stands have been erected to encourage more people to use this form of transport.

Car pooling has also been strongly promoted and so Münsingen seems to be winning its battle against traffic congestions whilst possibly also helping its citizens to better health by forcing them to exercise while travelling to and from work.

NO MORE DISCOUNTS FOR THE ARMY

As from next year, the Swiss army will have to pay the same price for its petrol as any ordinary motorist. This will add an enormous amount of extra costs to an already stretched army

budget, particularly when you consider that a single Leopard tank guzzles up an average of 340 litres of petrol per 100 km when travelling over good roads and up to 530 litres when manoeuvring in rough terrain.

In the past, the army was considered to accomplish a mission of public interest and therefore was granted special discounts for petrol, but with the advent of the "user pays" policy, the army has lost that privilege. But this seemingly democratic arrangement leaves behind a bitter taste for the taxpayer. Having already collected the money from the taxpayer to pay for the army, the Government from now on also pockets the petrol tax the army is obliged to pay now, in other words, the Government fleeces the taxpayer twice.