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Given these constraints and the transformations processed by the Immigration Police, the quota of yearly-permit holders allowed to re-enter the country was reduced on 15th July from 20,000 to 10,000 a year, with 5,000 of the allowable entries temporarily frozen. These workers and the seasonals allowed entry are shared out by the various Cantons following a table established by the Office for Industry, Handicraft and Trade. The industrialised Cantons naturally have a right to more hands, although the needs of developing cantons are also taken into account. Each canton is responsible for the distribution of this precious labour among the various industries scrambling for it.

The stringency of the quota system shows that the Government has decided to compromise between the legitimate needs of modern industry and those of a harmonious society. It has failed in keeping adequate control of seasonal workers, who have come in more numerous every year. This is now corrected with the new ceiling. Berne has to steer a difficult course between the claims of factories who now have to expand abroad for lack of labour, and demands of the great majority of the working classes who want to see a clamp put on immigration. When Mr James Schwarzenbach, the right-wing champion of a "Swiss Switzerland", called for the staggered expatriation of some 300,000 residents three years ago, he was followed by 47 per cent of the (male) electorate. Although the needs of industry could be satisfied by converting seasonals into more efficient and better-integrated resident workers, the Government cannot contemplate this for the political reasons so well illustrated by the results of Schwarzenbach initiative.

— P.M.B.

The Swiss Observer

Swiss Women Find no Fulfilment in their Kitchen

AN OPINION POLL has disproved the belief that Swiss women considered themselves entirely satisfied by their housework. The tradition according to which Swiss women were entirely devoted to the three Ks (*Kirche, Kinde, Kuche*) appears to be no longer valid. The survey showed that most women would like to work again as soon as their children are of an age allowing them to do so. 60 per cent of a sample of 4000 married women answered in this way. 35 per cent had not yet made up their minds on the problem.

The most common ground for wanting to get back to work was the need for more human contact. The love of their profession came as a second answer. The wish to be financially independent was a relatively unimportant consideration. A great many women already work but intentionally limit their activities to part-time occupations for the good of their marriage and their children.