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matter how imperfect it may be. It would be good to contribute our know-how and influence and I think that the Swiss will realise that we can benefit from it as well.

**Question: What role can Expo.02 play in Switzerland? At the moment there seems to be little enthusiasm for it.**

**Answer:** Well, it was the same in 1964 - it will only become interesting once it has started - once people can go and meet there. Expo.02 can only provide the framework - it is the people who make the event a success. It will be a meeting platform for our cultures, our history, but above all for our people and I am sure that if the weather is good it will be a success.

**Question: Switzerland has four national languages - do you think English should be taught from an early age?**

**Answer:** If you want to succeed in your job you have to speak a little bit of English nowadays and the question is when to start learning the language. I have noticed that it is much easier to learn a language if you start from an early age. However, I think it is absolutely essential to give our own languages priority, as we have to be able to talk to each other in order to understand each other's culture.

**Question: Switzerland has recently come under increased pressure because of the country's banking secrecy laws - are you willing to find a compromise?**

**Answer:** I don't think the banking secrecy laws will be lifted under our direct democracy - even if the government was prepared to do so, the people could stop us. Our banking secrecy is part of our tradition and the Swiss people appreciate their privacy in these matters. However, it is clear that absolute banking secrecy, as it was 40 or 50 years ago, could be abused and this is no longer justifiable. For this reason we have upgraded some laws; we have introduced money-laundering laws and we have introduced rules governing money from dictators abroad. Switzerland has been more successful in tracking down criminals than other countries.

## Join Corner...

Nothing to write about?

Well, there is always the weather! For Trudy and I as farmers wives the weather plays a pivotal part in everyday living as we share farming life in a most intimate way with our husbands.

It is unavoidable that farmers are quite often subject to mood swings according to the vagaries of 'meteorological circumstances of the day! Farmer's wives know to live with such hazards as farm work is so closely related to the prevailing weather.

With silage and hay making on the calendar weather predictions can make the difference between a happy husband or a broody, restless 'man of the land'.

The reality of farming life is the fact that most farmers and farmer's wives are 'eternal optimists' and usually find 'happy days' outnumbering the days they would rather forget...

Recently I came across a fitting testimony to farming we would like to share with you.

Regards; Trudy and Doris

## A farmers Creed

- I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honourable way a man can spend his days on this earth.

- I believe my life will be measured ultimately by what I have done for my fellow man and by this standard I fear no judgement.

- I believe when a man sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he has lived.

- I believe in farming because it makes all this possible.

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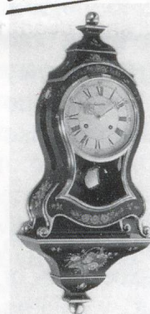
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