Swiss breeding cattle all over the world

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PART-TIME WORK IN SWITZERLAND

During the latest Federal census of the population, 2,995,777 gainfully employed persons were counted in Switzerland. According to the detailed results that have just been published, 2,630,959 of them were employed full-time and 364,818 part-time (working hours considerably shorter than the normal daily or weekly average). In 1970 therefore part-time workers represented 12% of the total working population and consisted mainly of housewives, persons of independent means and the retired. The major part of those employed part-time worked in the services sector. Women accounted for 78.6% of this category of employee. Whereas only 4% of all men exercising a lucrative activity are employed in part-time work, the figure for women amounts to 28%.

SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZE MULTINATIONAL FIRMS

A survey carried out this year by the Swiss Union of Trade and Industry showed that in Switzerland, in addition to the big companies, there are a large number of small and medium-size production firms, heavily involved on the international level and possessing a multinational character. Out of the 500 to 600 firms with fewer than 300 workers in Switzerland covered by the survey, over 10% possess one or more branches abroad. In many cases, these foreign branches have more employees than the parent firm in Switzerland.

SWISS BREEDING CATTLE ALL OVER THE WORLD

During 1973, the Commission of Swiss Cattle Breeding Federations helped in the export of 6,736 head of horned cattle of the brown stock and 3,213 of the red speckled Simmental stock, as well as of 25 head of the Hérens stock. This makes a total of 9,974 head of Swiss breeding cattle exported by private firms or organisations in the country. Compared with the average for the last ten years, exports of brown stock cattle have decreased while those of the red speckled variety have increased. The Commission of Swiss Cattle Breeding Federations alone exported 2,244 animals to 15 countries. Switzerland's main clients last year with regard to cattle were South Africa, Germany, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Spain, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Libya, Mexico, Czechoslovakia, Tunisia and Yugoslavia. In addition, sperm was exported to Brazil, Denmark, France, Italy, India, Indonesia, Peru, Rumania and Venezuela. Swiss goats and sheep were exported to Algeria, Belgium, Italy and Tunisia. Swiss cattle shows and information stands were organised in the USA, France, Italy, Great Britain, Turkey and Canada. While the work of the Commission of Swiss Breeding Cattle Federations is aimed mainly at other countries, it should not be forgotten that many groups of visitors from all continents have come to Switzerland to see for themselves the qualities of Swiss cattle.

SWISS ELECTRONIC INSTALLATION FOR ALITALIA

The Industrial Electronics Co. Ltd. (AGIE), at Losone-Locarno (Ticino-Switzerland), has delivered a static cut-free power plant — developing a total power of 1 MVA — to the new electronic data processing centre belonging to the Italian airline company Alitalia. This is the first big plant built according to a new technique; its main feature is the modular conception of the units, which simplifies assembly tremendously and reduces the time needed for maintenance to a strict minimum. This construction feature is unique of its kind in this field; it is applied exclusively in all the Swiss firm's systems, from the biggest to the smallest unit. The big plant made for Alitalia comprises 5 units with a power of 200 KVA each, operating in parallel, in order to obtain redundancy. Four of these units can, if necessary, provide the power required for the data processing centre. Thanks to the system of redundancy, it is possible to satisfy the most exacting requirements with regard to availability, freedom from cuts and, consequently, the reliability of the electricity supply. The electronic current cut-out devices, produced by the Swiss firm for parallel equipment, represent an important factor in this respect.

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