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. . reporting from Berne

interests of the girls themselves", explained a government spokesman.

From this month the girls must be placed under the same permit restrictions as other foreign workers here. Nightclub and disco owners must obtain work permits for the girls before bringing them into Switzerland, and must also obtain official approval of employment contracts.

Until now, go-go dancers have been classified as artists in the same way as musicians and actors, enabling them to work in Switzerland for up to eight months without a permit.

Unscrupulous employers have been using this loophole to lure the girls – mostly from the poor population areas of Thailand and the Philippines – with promises of high wages and luxury living conditions.

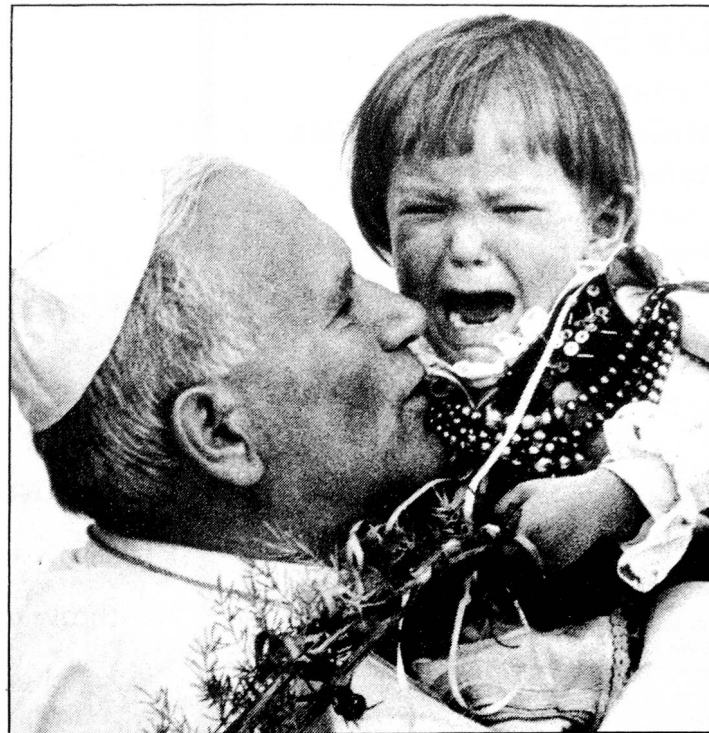
In reality, however, many of the estimated 3,000 go-go dancers here have been exploited and have received bad pay, poor accommodation and little or no legal protection.

Swiss women's rights groups, supported by an all-party group of members of parliament, have been campaigning for government action. It's claimed that the hiring of the go-go girls resembles slave trade practices – and that many of them are required to do more than just dance.

From now on, they must be in possession of a proper permit; otherwise the go-go girls really will have to go.

□ □ □

HORDES of mice have devastated pasture land and crops in much of



Pope John Paul will doubtless receive a more rapturous reception than this when he visits Switzerland this month!

Switzerland this spring, causing damage amounting to millions of francs and serious concern among agricultural officials.

A senior government agricultural official warned of "a very grave situation" for some farmers as he toured parts of Fribourg, one of several Swiss cantons invaded by the rodents.

Conservative official estimates have put the damage in Fribourg alone to about Sfr. 20 million (£6 million). About 75,000 acres of land are affected, and some Fribourg farmers

face production losses this year of at least 50 per cent.

Mice have been plaguing Switzerland's farmers for the past few years but the devastation this year has reached an unprecedented level.

□ □ □

A FUND-raising raffle organised by the International School of Berne is receiving generous support from the British community here. Among the many prizes – a selection of Argentinian wine donated by the Argentinian embassy.

SWISS SOCCER

Football league tables up to and including May 3

'A' Division								'B' Division							
	Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		
Servette	25	18	4	3	65	24	40	Wettingen	25	15	9	1	51	25	39
Grasshoppers	25	16	7	2	56	19	39	Winterthur	25	15	6	4	55	22	36
Zürich	25	15	8	2	48	20	38	Chênois	25	13	8	4	42	22	34
Xamax	25	15	7	3	56	25	37	La Chaux-de-Fonds	24	10	3	6	42	24	28
Young Boys	24	13	5	6	42	33	31	Grenchen	25	9	10	6	38	28	28
Sion	25	11	6	8	44	34	28	Mendrisiostar	25	12	4	9	37	48	28
Basle	25	10	5	10	40	39	25	Biel	25	7	13	5	37	33	27
St. Gallen	24	9	4	11	31	36	22	Lugano	25	10	6	9	47	41	26
Lucerne	29	9	4	12	43	50	22	Locarno	25	9	7	9	48	35	25
Aarau	25	7	7	11	41	49	21	Ibach	25	6	12	7	31	35	24
Vevey	25	4	10	11	33	45	18	Berne	25	7	6	12	36	48	20
Bellinzona	25	6	6	13	28	55	18	Aurore Biel	25	7	6	12	22	52	20
Lausanne	25	4	8	13	29	42	16	Fribourg	25	6	7	12	30	38	19
Bulle	25	4	8	13	27	49	16	Monthey	25	6	6	13	21	31	18
Nordstern	25	6	2	17	25	56	14	Altstätten	24	2	10	12	17	43	14
Chiasso	25	3	7	15	18	50	13	Frauenfeld	25	2	8	15	21	50	12

Lines separate championship leader, relegation and promotion zones.