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News from Switzerland

COLOUR TELEVISION

Since colour TV was officially inaugurated in Switzerland on October 1, 1968, the number of registered subscribers' colour TV sets has risen by nearly 5000 to a total of 11,365. The largest number at the end of December, 1968 was in the telephone district of Zurich with 3301 colour AV sets, followed by Basel (1803), St. Gall (1334), Chur (1104) and Lucerne (1015). The smallest numbers of colour TV sets are registered in the telephone districts of Fribourg (23), Neuchatel (41), Geneva (67) and Lausanne (80). (snto)

GROWTH OF THE TELEX IN SWITZERLAND

At a press conference given recently in Lausanne, the Swiss Postal and Telegraph Service was able to announce the 10,000th connection to the national telex network.

Today, Switzerland is the 7th country in the world with teleprinter connections amounting to five figures. The countries with more than 10,000 connections are, in Europe, West Germany (66,000), Great Britain (25,000), France (15,000) and the Netherlands (10,200). Overseas, the United States have 100,000 and Canada 15,000. With a density of 1670 connections per million inhabitants, Switzerland leads the world in this field.

WOMEN WORKERS IN SWISS INDUSTRY

An official enquiry carried out in 1967 showed that 30% of all personnel employed by Swiss industry was female, i.e. a total of 881,000 women and girls. These figures also include the technical, commercial and office staff but do not cover the other branches of the economy, in particular the services employing many women.

Naturally the proportion of women varies greatly from one firm or one branch to another. Women, for example, represent over half the wage-earners in clothing (73%), tobacco (63%) and textiles (52%). The number is also very high in watchmaking where they account for practically half the total numbers. In chemicals (many women office workers) and the graphic arts, the female staff represents a little over a quarter of the total numbers. On the other hand, the branches of soils and stones, timber and cork, beverages, metals and machinery employ comparatively few women. (osec)