

Laugh a little ...

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Figures out this spring regarding convictions in 1966, show that the total reached 19,254 (10 more than the previous year) convicted on the basis of the penal code, 709 (725) of the military code, 24,663 (21,360) of the road and traffic laws and 3212 (2973) of other federal decrees. In the first category were nearly 3000 women, over 4000 foreigners and 2390 juveniles. Among those convicted were 8933 with previous convictions. Only 1075 were women in the third category (driving!), but 6072 foreigners. Here again, 9844 traffic offenders had been previously convicted.

The "Schweizerisches Arbeiterhilfswerk" helped 279 cases in 1967, mostly concerning sickness where there was loss of pay.

Butter consumption went back in 1967, says BUTYRA, the butter production and marketing board, after a previous increase. This was mainly due to the high price of butter in Switzerland.

There were 1,720,687 radio licenses at the end of January, of whom 436,677 on the telephone network. Tv. licenses numbered 879,862, of whom well over 620,000 in the German-speaking part.

Swiss vegetable production for 1967 is estimated at 27,000 trucks @ 10 tons — value about 122 million francs. 14,000 trucks (145m.) were imported.

Switzerland consumes something like 2 million kg. of asparagus **per annum**, of which about 1800 tons are imported. 200 tons come from the Valais, where the production has gone back from about 500 tons 10 years ago, mainly on account of lack of labour.

Due to the glut of tomatoes, the Valais producers started a competition for tomato recipes — over 1500 recipes were received, the six best from the **Suisse Romande**.

Meat consumption per head of the population rose from 65,265 kg. to 65,890 kg., with over 28,000 kg. of pork at the top. Poultry consumption has gone down slightly to 5776 kg. **per capita**.

The Swiss generally eats about 8.5 kg. of cheese every year, but in the Valais the average rises to 35 kg. **La Raclette . . .**

Laugh a little . . .

An inhabitant of the hamlet Ablaendschen (at the foot of the Gastlosen, Jaunpass) travelled to Paris. To get there and back, he had to change trains altogether eight times. When he was back home he was asked for his impressions of this city of millions. He said: "Beautiful, but really in the backblocks!"

* * *

Husband and wife travel through the Simplon Tunnel. "Goodness, how long this tunnel is," says the wife. The husband explains: "No wonder, we are in the last carriage!"