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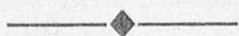
teacher when she marries. Labour shortage however, has done wonders in this respect. Yet one should not cherish the illusion that economic setbacks would not change this situation. Switzerland today counts 756,500 women engaged in a profession or 30.1 per cent of the wage-earning population.

The most difficult question for the woman of today still is that of advancement and equal pay. This we find not only in Switzerland, for the whole problem is closely linked with human nature and the woman's specific position and duty as a mother.

To complete the picture of the woman's social status we must consider her position in the family, as provided by the Swiss Civil Code of 1912. This code is based on equality of the sexes. However, the Swiss people, originally peasants, still uphold strong patriarchal traditions resulting in repeated violation of this principle. In financial matters, a married woman is particularly and very largely dependent upon her husband who, by law, manages and enjoys the assets brought into marriage by her. He further, before the law, is the sole owner of property acquired during marriage for which he need not account to his wife. On the other hand, in case of breach of duties on the part of the husband, far-reaching legal protection is provided for the wife and in practice the law is applied very strictly. Guardianship of the children is conferred on both parents equally though where differences of opinion arise the ultimate decision lies with the father, the authorities having certain controls in case of abuse. The developments of the last few years tend to do away with these remnants of patriarchal conceptions. A committee is now engaged upon studying the matter and preparing amendments which in family law should give the woman equality of status and thus comply with the needs of our time.

In international comparison the social position of a people or of a certain group within his people should not be viewed in the light of some one difference or discriminatory policy, the picture should always be seen as a whole. The Swiss woman who as yet does not enjoy equality of status has nevertheless been called upon to cooperate in public affairs on a very large scale. She answers all preconditions as to training, energy of intention, social and political understanding and thus is able to assume responsibility and guarantee a fruitful cooperation in the interest of the country.

(Pro Helvetia Foundation)



Two new first-class hotels opened in Zurich during August, to increase that city's available hotel bed-space by some 300 beds. The Hotel Florida is situated just off the lakeside promenade, and the Motel Jolie Ville Motor Inn is located at the western access to Highway N3, which leads toward Austria.