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Ever since the Roman occupation, the grape has been cultivated in Switzerland. The vine-growing cantons are, according to the importance of their production, Vaud, Valais, Ticino, Zurich, Geneva Neuchâtel. In consequence of the poor vintages of recent years, of the increasing cost of cultivation, of the spreading of diseases and parasites, as well as of the competition of foreign wines, the culture of the vine has decreased in importance during the last 50 years. Swiss vineyards, which occupied a surface of 71,605 acres in 1898, were reduced to 45,499 acres in 1921, a decrease of nearly 40 per cent.; a small increase has been registered during the last two years in the Cantons Vaud and Valais, so that the total area must now be nearly 45,900 acres. Swiss vineyards represent a total capital of £9,000,000, which hardly produced any monetary return from 1906 to 1914 (0.9 per cent.), and only a small one from 1914 to 1917 (1.9 per cent.). Thanks to the exceptional good vintages of 1918 and 1920, when the return was respectively 29.6 per cent. and 47.2 per cent., the average interest for the period 1906-1922 reached 8.7 per cent. The vine-growers consider as their income the wages represented by their own work and the interest of the capital invested in their vineyards; they are, therefore, satisfied when the cultivation expenses are balanced by the receipts. The profit of the good years generally makes good for the deficit of bad years, but, according to an inquiry made by the Secretariat of Swiss Peasants, the culture of the vine can be profitable if it is intensified and developed in the most favourable regions. Cultivation expenses have more than doubled during the last 25 years, owing principally to the rise in the cost of hand labour, which now represents nearly 53 per cent. of the expenses, and to the expenditure needed for fighting diseases, which reached nearly 15 per cent. of the cultivation expenses. The Federal Government is helping the vine-growers in the fight against phylloxera and mildew. It gives them subsidies for buying such drugs which destroy these pests, and for replanting the vines that had to be uprooted. From 1921 to 1923, the Federal Government spent £33,937 in subsidies for the fight against phylloxera and mildew, and £955,124 for replanting the vineyards and insuring the vine-growers against damage caused by hail. The average yield of one hectare (0.405 acre) was 1,801 frs. (£72 1s.) from 1905 to 1913, and 3,323 frs. (£132 18s.) from 1906 to 1922. The wine production per hectare differs from one year to another, ranging from 20 hectolitres (1 hectolitre is nearly 18 gallons) to 90 hectolitres, according to the regions. The average was 35 hectolitres for the period 1906-13, and 39 hectolitres for the period 1906-22. The total production of Swiss vineyards reached a yearly average of 495,990 hectolitres for the period 1913-23. It was 181,197 hectolitres in 1913—the lowest record of the period—and had a value of 9,530,000 frs. (£381,200). In 1922, which was the record year for quantity, while 1918 was the record year for quality and price