

Condolences offered at the death of H.R.H. The Duke of Kent

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increase took place in England where there are 17,000 Swiss as against 15,000.

In America a reduction has taken place from 83,100 to 71,600, the drop in the U.S.A. alone being from 49,000 to 44,000; Argentine records a reduction from 16,000 to 12,000. Increases are registered in some central and South American States.

In Asia the number of Swiss grew from 2,500 to 3,300, in Australia from 1,500 to 1,900, in Africa from 7,100 to 8,400 most of them in the British Dominions. The reason for the reduction in the number of Swiss in European and American countries is probably the repatriation necessitated by the war, as well as the increased naturalisation in the respective countries.

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THE STEADILY INCREASING POPULATION OF OUR TOWNS.

The following table gives the population of towns according to the recent census together with comparative figures for previous periods. Places with less than ten thousand inhabitants at the end of 1941 are omitted; some of our readers will probably miss Montreux and Davos the residents of which have been decreasing since 1930 to below the ten thousand mark. On the other hand Burgdorf is a newcomer.

	1850	1900	1930	1941	x
Zurich	41,585	168,021	249,820	333,829	+ 39.2
Basel	27,844	109,161	148,063	161,380	+ 9.0
Bern	29,670	67,550	111,783	129,331	+ 15.7
Geneva	37,724	97,359	124,121	124,442	+ 0.26
Lausanne	17,108	46,732	75,915	91,738	+ 20.8
St.Gallen	17,858	53,796	63,947	62,360	- 2.5
Winterthur	13,651	40,961	53,925	59,192	+ 9.8
Luzern	10,068	29,255	47,056	54,841	+ 16.5
Biel	5,609	29,557	37,726	40,850	+ 8.3
La Chaux-de-Fonds	13,659	35,968	35,252	30,939	- 12.2
Fribourg	9,065	15,794	21,557	25,975	+ 20.5
Neuchatel	7,901	21,195	22,668	23,925	+ 5.5
Schaffhausen	7,700	15,275	21,118	22,400	+ 6.1
Thun	6,019	10,213	16,524	20,193	+ 22.2
Chur	6,183	11,532	15,574	17,074	+ 9.6
Lugano	5,142	9,394	15,184	17,025	+ 12.1
Solothurn	5,370	10,025	13,734	15,432	+ 12.4
Olten	6,969	1,634	13,484	15,282	+ 13.3
Köniz	5,984	6,886	10,987	14,358	+ 30.7
Aarau	4,657	7,831	11,666	12,851	+ 10.2
Horisau	8,387	13,497	13,599	12,737	- 6.3
Vevey	5,602	11,781	13,036	12,613	- 3.2
Zug	3,302	6,508	11,113	12,316	+ 10.8
Le Locle	7,493	12,559	12,001	11,363	- 5.3
Bellinzona	3,209	8,255	10,706	10,952	+ 2.3
Grenchen	1,581	5,202	10,397	10,900	+ 4.8
Yverdon				10,856	
Uster				10,588	
Rorschach	1,751	9,140	11,005	10,536	- 4.3
Baden	2,745	6,050	10,143	10,313	+ 2.7
Burgdorf				10,156	

x Indicates percentage of increase or decrease since 1930.

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CONDOLENCES OFFERED AT THE DEATH OF H.R.H. THE DUKE OF KENT.

The following letter of condolence was sent to His Excellency, the Governor-General of the Dominion of New Zealand by the Swiss Consul at Wellington in the name of the Swiss people in New Zealand.

"The sad news of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent has been received by the Swiss people in New Zealand with great sorrow, and I should like to be the interpreter to your Excellency of their expression of deep sympathy in the grievous loss suffered

by the family of His Royal Highness, Their Majesties, The Royal Family, and the British people all over the Empire."

His Excellency has acknowledged the receipt of this letter of condolence as follows:

"I am desired by the Governor-General, as His Majesty's Representative in New Zealand, to express his deep appreciation of the message of sympathy sent by you on behalf of the Swiss people in New Zealand in connection with the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent.

His Excellency wishes me to add that he is arranging for the text of your message to be transmitted to Buckingham Palace for submission to His Majesty the King and other members of the Royal Family."

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1ST AUGUST CELEBRATION, AUCKLAND: We have the pleasure to publish another article on the 1st of August celebration, received from Auckland.

"Dear Mr. Editor,

I feel that I should write you a few lines of appreciation on the successful evening held on the 1st August, 1942, in Auckland. The Swiss Consul, Dr. Schmid, and his wife honoured us this year, and I am sure the lantern slides that he kindly lent for the evening, made many homesick. Our M.C. was carried away with the beauties he had left behind him. The slides made me envious of you who have seen the country to which I belong but have never yet had the chance to see.

Mrs. Schmid came attired in her National costume, and also a few of the other ladies and some of the younger set gave the evening more colour by coming dressed in costume representing different cantons.

Items were contributed by our compatriots, but we could have done with more of them.

At this year's function there were a number of new faces, but there were some old ones missing too. The people from the country who come along to get that homey feeling would like to be welcomed by more of the town members and friends who find transport much easier. Although quite a fair number were present, some happy faces were sadly missed, especially Auckland District's oldest compatriot, Mr. Schlapfer, who celebrates his 78th birthday in this historical month. Next year, we hope to see the old and the new faces, and then there will still be plenty of time to talk about the old school.

After a delightful supper our friends from the country departed to their homes. The evening ended with a sing-song and the remaining ones were very reluctant to part, and here I must part too but not without saying "Thank you" and I'm sure the other non-committee members will join with me in congratulating the committee upon their hard work towards such a successful enterprise, also to the lady or ladies responsible for the garlic sausage sandwiches. Yum! Yum!

Next year I hope the future of the world will look more hopeful and that we may be able to meet again in happier circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Bett Haltmeyer
Rütli.

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COLLECTION FOR A MONUMENT TO THE LATE FEDERAL COUNCILLOR AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS CONFEDERATION -- DR. GIUSEPPE MOTTA.

I have pleasure in advising that the collection in New Zealand so far has reached the amount of £25, towards which, approximately £15 has been contributed by members of the Swiss Benevolent Society in the Waikato. The splendid result achieved in the Waikato is proof of the fine spirit of generosity of our fellow countrymen there, as well as of the great personal efforts of our untiring and loyal member and friend, John Steiner of Waihou, who has contacted