

# "Auslandschweizertag"

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"AUSLANDSCHWEIZERTAG."

On Friday, September 5th, the "Auslandschweizertag" began in Berne. Federal-Councillor Petitpierre, extended to the delegates the greetings of the Swiss Government. In his address, he mentioned that during and immediately after the war 471 Swiss nationals were killed and 172 injured. There were 230 killed in Germany; 146 in France; 23 in Italy, 22 in Great Britain; 8 in Austria; 6 in Poland and 36 in other countries. In addition 70 Swiss lost their lives through various causes. (Imprisonment in concentration camps etc.).

Altogether 74,426 Swiss have returned to the mother country, during and after the war, or 15 per cent of all Swiss living abroad. Those, who have returned came from the following countries; Germany 25,673; Austria 1,799; France, 16,743; Italy, 3,833; Poland 793; other European countries 10,084; and non-European countries 4,282.

Dr. R. Jezler, of the Federal Justice and Police Dept., in Berne, speaking on the question of Dual Nationality, was of the opinion that Dual Nationality should not be abolished without weighty reasons, but that the right of depriving Swiss of their nationality in certain cases should be considered.

Federal Chancellor, Dr. Leimgruber, referred to the proposal of the London Swiss Delegation, that Swiss nationals abroad should be able to secure representation in the Swiss Parliament. In his exposé he said that, according to the present constitution no such representation was possible, but that it was well worth it to study the question with a view to altering the respective constitutional laws.

The question of military tax was also discussed, and it is hoped that the London Delegates will fully report on the result of these deliberations.

The "Auslandschweizertag" was concluded on Sunday the 7th at the War Memorial at Murten, on which occasion speeches were made by Dr. H. P. Zschokke, President of the "Auslandschweizerwerke" of the N.S.H., Mr. A. F. Suter (London) and Federal-Councillor Kobelt.

At the Luncheon which followed the delegates were addressed by M. Glasson, on behalf of the cantonal government of Fribourg, Dr. Willenegger and Professor Michaud of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique.

"IMPRESSION OF AN ENGLISHMAN IN SWITZERLAND."

(This article is re-printed with due acknowledgment from the "SPECTATOR" August 8th, 1947.)

One risk any intending visitor to Switzerland must be prepared to face - of dying of a surfeit in his first week. To be seated, an hour after leaving the aeroplane, before a steak representing much more than a week's meat ration at home, to be served with two meat meals daily and invariably offered a second helping - all this is an experience to which the Englishman's war-time and post-war digestive system is ill attuned. But custom can blunt pleasure as well as sorrow, and what ought to seem excessive (as in fact it is) soon assumes the dimensions of the merely adequate. Meals are a material