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# The Swiss Observer

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## NEWS AT RANDOM

### Federal

On the 24th of this month an agreement has come into force between the United Kingdom and Switzerland for the reciprocal abolition of visas for Swiss citizens travelling from any place whatever to the United Kingdom and British subjects travelling from any place whatever to Switzerland.

Permission to reside and take employment continues to be subject to the laws and regulations of the two countries relating to aliens.

The values of Swiss imports for the first quarter of 1947 was 1,032.7 millions francs and the value of exports 771.9 million francs. The import surplus was thus 260.8 million francs compared with 93.6 million francs for the corresponding period 1938.

The Federal Finance Department announced that the export and import, sale and purchase, of American dollar notes and Italian banknotes are not subject to any more restrictions.

The French Minister of Education, M. Naegelen, who is at present on holidays in Switzerland, has paid a courtesy visit to Federal-President Etter, he was entertained to Luncheon at the "de Wattenwyl Haus" in Berne.

The customs receipts during the month of May amount to 38.4 million francs (May 1946: 22.1 million francs). During the first five months of the current year the receipts returned from the Federal Customs office amount to 155.7 million francs or 50.7 million francs more than during the same period in 1946.

The Archduchess Charlotte of Luxembourg accompanied by her husband Prince-Consort Felix has arrived in Berne on a State visit, in order to thank the Federal Council and the Swiss people for the help given to their people during and after the war. They were received when crossing the frontier at Basle by

Federal Councillor Petitpierre, the Swiss Foreign Minister and by the municipal authorities of Basle.

They travelled by special train to the Federal Capital, where they took up residence at the Lohn, in Kehrsatz. The Swiss Government have offered them an official Banquet at the "de Wattenwyl Haus" in Berne, at which the Diplomatic Corps and high officials were present. Cordial speeches were exchanged by the Archduchess and President of the Swiss Confederation; the former also spoke on the Radio to the Swiss people.

Archduchess Charlotte, who is holding the following titles: Duchess of Nassau, Princess of Bourbon-Parma, Countess "der Rheinpfalz," was born in 1896, the daughter of the Grand Duke Wilhelm IV, and Maria-Anna of Braganza of Portugal. She is the mother of six children, two sons and four daughters.

Lord Stansgate, President of the Inter Parliamentary Delegation, at present on a visit in Switzerland, was received by the President of the Swiss

## SWISS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, 27th July, 1947

2.30 to 5.30 p.m. (Doors open 1.45 p.m.)

AT THE

**CASINO THEATRE**  
**Old Compton Street, W.1**

(Nearest Tube Stations:

Leicester Square and Tottenham Court Road)

Patriotic Address by the  
**SWISS MINISTER, Monsieur, P. RUEGGER**

FILMS OF SWITZERLAND  
SWISS ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY  
SWISS MALE CHOIR — CORALE UNIONE TICINESE  
SWISS ACCORDION GROUP

All Swiss and their families cordially invited.

Admission by ticket only, obtainable in advance, free of charge  
(See announcement on Page 4227)

TICKET HOLDERS TO BE IN THEIR SEAT BY 2.15 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.