

First of August celebration at Zaeziwil - with a difference

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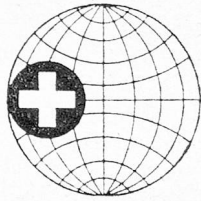
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“FIFTH SWITZERLAND”



STATISTICS RE: THE SWISS ABROAD IN 1966

The Federal Aliens Police issues some statistics regarding the Swiss abroad every year (since 1958). According to these, 159,017 Swiss-only citizens were registered at Embassies and Consulates in 1966, 2,979 more than in the previous year, the biggest increase since the war. These figures comprise registrations in 134 countries. 77 of these colonies showed an increase and 48 a drop, with nine States remaining the same as in 1965.

The largest rise was registered in Canada due to the World Exhibition where 899 more Swiss lived than in the previous year. Large increases were also reported from Western Germany (616), South Africa (484), Australia (255), Belgium (254), Spain (242) and USA (183). Countries where the Swiss colonies went down, were Italy (317) and France (181). The latter still has the largest Swiss Colony, viz. 35,841. 22,305 Swiss live in Germany, 15,525 in USA and 13,047 in Italy.

Of the total number of Swiss-only citizens, 15% are youngsters under 18. This rather small percentage can be explained by the fact that in some countries foreign children born there are automatically dual nationals. The number of dual nationals has also gone up. 45% of all registrations (290,181) are dual nationals. 52% of these are women, mostly married to foreigners. Of the 131,164 dual nationals counted at the end of December, 65,422 alone live in France.

Emigration figures from Switzerland cover Swiss-only citizens, as there are no figures available for dual nationals. 18,583 Swiss left their country to settle abroad. 3,914 compatriots changed their residence abroad to a third country. In 1966, 14,245 Swiss returned to Switzerland.

In Europe, most Swiss emigrated to Great Britain, Germany and France. Of the emigrated compatriots, 65% follow an occupation in their new country of adoption, 19% of these being in the professions or other higher positions. Amongst these, the technicians are the most numerous, especially in USA and Canada. Of the 12,135 Swiss who left Switzerland and who follow an occupation, 3,863 are women.

[A.T.S.]

ALMANACH — PESTALOZZI — KALENDER

We have been asked by the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad, 26 Alpenstrasse, 3000 Berne, to draw readers' attention to the annual publication of the *Almanach Pestalozzi* 1968. The price has not changed, and again the Swiss abroad will be able to enjoy a rebate. The German or French editions cost Fr.4.10 (instead of Fr.5.80) and the Italian version Fr.2.10 (instead of Fr.2.90). Postage will be additional. Payment should be made in Swiss francs, and where this is not possible, the Consulate or Embassy will be able to advise you.

Orders should be placed not later than 15th September.

FIRST OF AUGUST CELEBRATION AT ZAEZIWIL — WITH A DIFFERENCE

Having covered hundreds and thousands of miles, a hundred Swiss from abroad (England, France, Germany, Holland, Spain, America and other parts) first gathered at Dürrennaesch, the 'Home' for Swiss Living Abroad, and their oldest representative, a Mr. Grillet from Madrid, was just under a hundred years old. They continued by car and steamer, passing Lucerne, Pass Brünig, the Aare Gorges (a most impressive and delightful walk which must have reminded them of Miss Jemima's first journey to Switzerland over a hundred years ago), Meiringen, Brienz with its beautiful chalets ("music boxes" as an Englishman once said), Interlaken and Thun until they reached friendly Zäziwil not far from Burgdorf (Berne). The banquet at the "Rössli" with the *Konzertgruppe Edelweiss* from Zäziwil became a glittering occasion.

At 8 p.m., the churchbells started ringing and in a solemn procession a hundred Swiss from abroad together with their newly won friends from Zäziwil walked up the "Farnhalde". You could hear the Swiss from abroad tell their experiences: "I always come back to the 1st August . . . I never knew of the 1st August until I came to Dürrennaesch. My Swiss ancestors had emigrated a few centuries ago . . . This is true democracy . . ." The village band played, the pupils of Zäziwil sang, the Choir; *Regierungsrat* Moser and *Vize-Gemeindepräsident* Brönnimann delivered their speeches, followed by a bonfire and the National Anthem: To the Swiss abroad, Switzerland was born anew. The people from Zäziwil felt a distinct bond with their compatriots from abroad, something they had hitherto only read about in newspapers or that had remained some kind of a theory: The Fifth Switzerland. Suddenly it came alive. It was felt during the *cortège* and the dances that followed — long after midnight.

Wgt.

POPULARITY OF THE TOWN OF GENEVA GRAND PRIX

196 competitors from 15 different countries presented a total of 1,148 projects to the jury of the 1967 "Town of Geneva Prize for watchmaking, jewellery, goldsmith's work and enamel ware". The jury has just examined the entries and selected 74 for execution. The works executed will take part, completely anonymously, in the final part of the contest to be judged at the end of September.

[O.S.E.C.]

INTERNATIONAL HIGH-ALTITUDE TRAINING CENTRE AT ST. MORITZ

In preparation for the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico, a new high-altitude training and competition centre has been opened at St. Moritz and Celerina in the Upper Engadine, under the patronage of the Swiss National Committee for Elite Sports. The new facilities make possible conditioning and technical training at altitudes between 6,000 and 8,200 ft. above sea level. Training in the following sports is available: athletics, gymnastics, fencing, wrestling, boxing, rowing, marksmanship, riding, swimming and cycling. Registrations should be addressed to: Sports Secretariat, Tourist Office, St. Moritz.

[S.N.T.O.]