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tutes of Technology in Zurich and Lausanne, too, have special conditions for accepting students from abroad. In a great many cases, candidates have to sit additional examinations in certain subjects before being accepted. Not only the Swiss universities,

but also the various vocational training colleges of our country are very popular with young Swiss from abroad, for very often there are no comparable training establishments in their countries of residence. In some types of occupation, the training colleges are

popular to such an extent that they have a long waiting list. So for instance with some nursing colleges and hotel schools. Very early application, possibly several years in advance, is therefore essential.

The Swiss Abroad and Information

«echo» – the Up-to-Date Periodical with Tradition

«echo», the monthly magazine for Swiss abroad, is in its 59th year, and thus it is one of the oldest services of the Nouvelle Société Helvétique's Organization of the Swiss Abroad. Its editorial staff is at the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad in Berne, and the paper is completely independent, both politically and financially.

«echo» appears eleven times **per annum**, and month after month, it brings reports – with descriptive and rich illustrations – on topical events in Switzerland, its institutions, culture, customs and history, as well as matters which affect Swiss living abroad personally. A column is devoted to sport, and crossword puzzles and competitions with prizes for children cater for pastime activi-

ties. Three or four times a year, the supplement «Der junge Welt-schweizer» treats subjects of particular interest to young Swiss all over the world.

«echo» is published in four languages, mainly in German and French, and with every text appears a synopsis in the other language. In every issue there are two or three contributions in Italian. Rhaeto-Romansh is rare, but is represented nevertheless every now and then.

«echo» readers appreciate the colourful cover, for it reminds them every time of their beautiful homeland.

«echo» subscriptions are relatively low – according to country 26 or 30 Francs a year, a reasonable amount at any time. A gift sub-

scription is a popular thing, available not only to Swiss who have relatives and friends in Switzerland, but also to Swiss abroad who would like to make a friendly gesture.

«echo» gift support subscriptions from 40 Francs onward enable needy Swiss compatriots abroad to receive the magazine gratuitously.

«echo» specimen copies are obtainable free of charge from the NSH Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad, «echo» Administration, Alpenstrasse 26, 3000 Berne 16.

«Review»

The need to supply every Swiss abroad with information of general interest and official news from the Federal Administration and diplomatic and consular representations had been felt for a long time. For this reason, the Nouvelle Société Helvétique's Organization of the Swiss Abroad decided at its 47th Assembly to publish the «Review» in conjunction with the

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The various organizations of the Swiss communities abroad and their already existing colony papers were to be considered in the scheme.

Structure

First, various decisions had to be made regarding form, format and

number of pages, in which financial considerations played no mean part. It was resolved that the new periodical should be sent to all Swiss abroad free of charge, a principle followed by the Swiss in Italy since 1968. Regarding the cover, it was modelled on the «Messenger Suisse de France» which, in 1970, could look back on no fewer than 14

years. The «Review» itself began in June 1970 with a small edition for Swiss in Paris, followed by an issue for all Swiss living in France in December of the same year. Based on the experience with this pilot scheme, advance became possible, and in 1972, the «Revue» appeared in German for the Swiss in Austria and the Federal German Republic. An English version followed in 1973; it was autumn 1974 when a Spanish – and for the local pages in Brazil – a Portuguese edition was published. After four years of hard work and sustained effort, the first issue could be sent to all registered Swiss in the whole world in December 1974. It has since appeared four times a year.

Organization

It is administered by a committee of management of the Commission on Information. Its task consists of deciding which articles should appear in each issue and to edit them on receipt. The co-ordinator on the committee is in charge of instructions to the printers and of acquiring advertisements. He compiles the local pages for those Swiss organizations abroad not in a position to supply news for five local pages in every issue. Of a total circulation of about 200 000 copies, some 75 000 are printed in Switzerland at the moment. For issues published in other countries, the offset films are sent to the local editors who are responsible for compiling the five local pages.

The Swiss diplomatic and consular representations abroad see to the dispatch of the «Review» to all registered compatriots, for they alone are in possession of all addresses, always provided that changes of addresses are notified.

Co-operation

The «Review» enabled a noticeable gap to be closed in most

countries in the world, although many a Swiss organization already had its own information sheet, some of which appeared even monthly. Great care was taken not to endanger these regional periodicals by this new publication, but rather to strengthen their distribution and to co-operate with them.

In order to reach this goal, a solution was found in a tripartite agreement, whose partners in Switzerland are the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and abroad the umbrella organizations of Swiss communities together with the most important representatives of the existing publications.

This procedure has proved a success: it allows revising the agreement at any time if one of the three partners so wishes; thus freedom of manoeuvre is secured and the possibility, at least to a certain degree, to take into account special wishes of one or the other of Swiss groups abroad. Such an organization naturally means increased expenditure which is carried to a large part by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

On the other hand, this written method of information has allowed the said Department to stop publishing the former consular bulletins.

Contents

The «normal» issue of the «Review» generally consists of 24 pages. These under the following sections:

13 pages with articles of general interest and advertisements,
3 pages of official communications issued by the Federal Administration in general and by the Service for the Swiss Abroad of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, which is responsible for this section,

3 pages of information issued by the Organization of the Swiss Abroad and its Secretariat, as well as

5 pages with local news, which are at the free disposal of Swiss societies abroad and the respective consular and diplomatic representations.

Special stamps II 1979

Day of issue: 6 Sept. 1979



20 c.
Centenary of Swiss Numismatic Society



40 c.
UN Year of the Child



70 c.
50 Years of Swiss Shortwave Amateurs



80 c.
European Space Agency



The jet fountain in Geneva, 140 m high

(Photos SNTO)

Names of Periodicals which Form the «Review»

Europe: Schweizer Revue, Messenger Suisse, Swiss Observer, Gazzetta Svizzera, Revue Suisse, Swiss Review.

Africa: Messenger Suisse, Revue Suisse, Schweizer Revue, Swiss Review.

Swiss Radio International

Immediate, direct, world-wide

There is no quicker or more direct method of world-wide communication than by shortwave radio. In terms of Swiss Radio International, that means that as soon as news breaks, 12 transmitters broadcast the information to every part of the globe. World news, European news, Swiss news – it all goes faster by shortwave. Anyone who has ever lived in one of the world's crisis areas can bear witness to the value of this direct and uncensored source of information and opinion.

An inquiry by Swiss Radio International revealed that about 75 per cent of Swiss listeners living in other countries considered it of extreme importance that links be maintained between Swiss abroad and their home country. The inquiry also showed that about 70 per cent of these people were very interested in SRI's news coverage

of international events. In other words, Swiss Radio International should strike a balance between the importance of Swiss news in its information service and – bearing in mind the widespread interest in international affairs – world news. In order to keep up to date with news and to help establish a regular link between the Swiss abroad and their homeland, Swiss Radio International supplies at least 30 minutes of information a day for its listeners in all parts of the world. This information includes international and Swiss developments, in the form of brief news commentaries, reviews of the Swiss press, interviews and eyewitness accounts. Swiss Radio International is not helped in its task by technical conditions which prevail in the world of shortwave radio at present. Competition from other, more powerful transmitters,

Asia: Revue Suisse, Schweizer Revue, Swiss Review.

America: Helvetia, Revue Suisse, Revue Suisse-Canada, Swiss American Review, Panorama Suizo, Swiss Canadian Review.

Australia: Swiss Review, Helvetia.

It is in the interest of every registered Swiss abroad to read the «Review» in order to learn of all official communications and information by the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad.

Swiss Radio  International

sometimes make it impossible for SRI to broadcast on the frequencies officially allotted to it. A World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) is now due to be held this coming autumn in Geneva, when new regulations should be introduced on the distribution of shortwave frequencies. Swiss Radio International hopes that such a move will help ensure a regular daily contact – in spite of the inevitable occasional technical interference – especially for listeners who live in regions where there is no reliable local information service.

Write for a copy of SRI's free programme guide to: Swiss Radio International, 3000 Berne 15, Switzerland.