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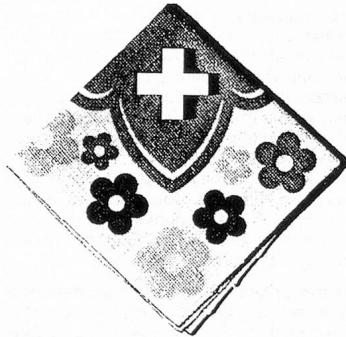
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Communications from the Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad



Swiss National Day Collection 1984 in favour of the Swiss Abroad



Every First of August, the Swiss people celebrate the foundation of the Confederation. 693 years ago, the first confederates united and vowed to assist one another in need and peril. By this act of solidarity they reached their common goal: independence and freedom. At the same time, they created the basis of our present State.

The Foundation «Schweizerische Bundesfeierspende» – «Le Don de la Fête Nationale» aims at keeping and developing the same great idea of mutual assistance.

For this reason, an appeal goes out to the Swiss people ever since 1910, the year of its creation, to support some undertaking which benefits the Swiss community. The means of collecting funds are known to everybody (the special National Day Badge since 1923 and the National Day PRO PATRIA postage stamps since 1938).

This year, the bulk of the money collected will go to bodies working in favour of Swiss nationals living abroad; this has been done every 6 or 7 years since 1924. The Organization of the Swiss Abroad and its permanent secretariat in Berne and the Committee to help Swiss schools abroad are the chief recipients.



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Dear compatriots abroad, please remember to do your bit and support the organizations which are working for you, by buying the National Day Badges (Swiss francs 2.-) and PRO PATRIA stamps. Don't forget to remind your relatives and friends in Switzerland to make a special effort. This year, the first of four remarkable series of PRO PATRIA stamps will be issued, which depict art treasures from Swiss museums. This year's series is dedicated to four superb tiled stoves which one may admire at the Swiss National Museum in Zurich, at the Freuler House in Naeffels, at

the Greyerz Museum in Bulle and at the Ariana Museum in Geneva respectively. We should like to stress again that in 1984, 90% of the surcharge on the PRO PATRIA stamps will be for the benefit of the Swiss abroad.

Orders for PRO PATRIA stamps should be sent to:

Secretariat of the Swiss Abroad
Alpenstrasse 26
3000 Berne 16, Switzerland

Please enclose cheque or other means of payment according to your country of residence.

Happy Birthday, Mariann Meier!



We are happy to have this opportunity of conveying to Mrs Mariann Meier – one of the most

prominent of all Swiss citizens living abroad – our very best wishes on the occasion of her 70th birthday on August 10.

Mrs Meier has been resident in Britain for several decades, and currently represents her compatriots in that country on the Commission of the Swiss Abroad of the New Helvetic Society.

Her outstanding services to the Swiss community in Britain have included seven years as editor of the 'Swiss Observer' 15 years as President of the London Group of the New Helvetic Society, and 26 years as member of the Federation of Swiss Societies in Britain. We send our sincere greetings.

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At the request of the Secretariat of the Swiss abroad, a co-educational private school in the Bernese Oberland with 35 years of experience provides board, lodging, and attentive care; primary-, secondary- and commercial school education, as well as grammar-school education (leading to the diploma, i.e. 'Matura') at adjacent **state schools**.

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The Dr. K. Gaugler family
3812 Interlaken, Switzerland, phone: 36-221718

Thinking of sending your children to a school in Switzerland?

Many Swiss citizens living abroad prefer to send their children to schools in Switzerland. Among the reasons influencing this decision are the unsuitability of schools in their country of residence, the fact that many parents do not intend to remain abroad, and the career training possibilities in Switzerland.

For parents desiring their children to be educated in Switzerland, there are three possibilities:

- a private college; our country is world-renowned for such educational institu-

tions. Most are excellent but often very expensive;

- a public authority school. The choice here includes a primary or secondary school; or an advanced secondary school, which is the simplest and least expensive way of preparing for a Swiss university education. This, however, necessitates living with a family which is not only prepared to accept the child but also has to assume responsibility for its general well-being;
- a compromise arrangement, involving

both a private college and a suitable public authority school located nearby. This enables the child to have a public authority school education, while the college provides board and lodging, supervision of homework and leisure activities. This solution also ensures that the child is in constant contact with other children of the same age.

The Secretariat of the Swiss Living Abroad is able to offer advice to parents seeking the most suitable solution. Incidentally, several leading colleges advertise in the 'Revue'.