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MAILBAG

Proud of my voting rights

"Swiss Review" 2/04, Editorial

For many years, it was impossible for us here in Argentina to vote. Even now, 20 years after a return to democracy, we are still learning how to take an active part in political life. When I found out that I had been granted Swiss citizenship, I immediately applied to the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires for registration on the electoral roll. I am proud of being able to participate and express my opinion by casting my vote. And by taking part in elections and referenda, I maintain my ties with my home country.

*Marcelo Eduardo
Rodriguez Cadosch
Buenos Aires, Argentina*

Voting on a weekday

Swiss Review 2/04, Editorial

I have read your editorial with interest and can only agree with what you are saying. But I think once the voting can be done on the internet, the figure of 90 000 will improve. As for the poor turnout of voters in Switzerland, a remedy could be to hold the voting on a weekday, like we have it here. The recent election showed a turnout of some 75%. Here of course they make it a holiday, which in Switzerland would not be necessary if people would get time off from work. Keep up the good work!

*Sepp Eicher
Capetown, South Africa*

Victim of a legend

Swiss Review 2/04, Focus

The Swissair debacle is a symptom of our culture. The legend no longer reflected reality. Swissair management believed that our culture – in the posi-

tive as well as the negative sense of the word – could be promoted beyond national borders by affixing the Swiss cross to their aircrafts' tails. In practice, it motivated staff and customers in Switzerland because it was easy to identify with. In hindsight one wonders whether the correction of this legend justified Swissair's bankruptcy.

*Markus Poschung
Pewaukee, USA*

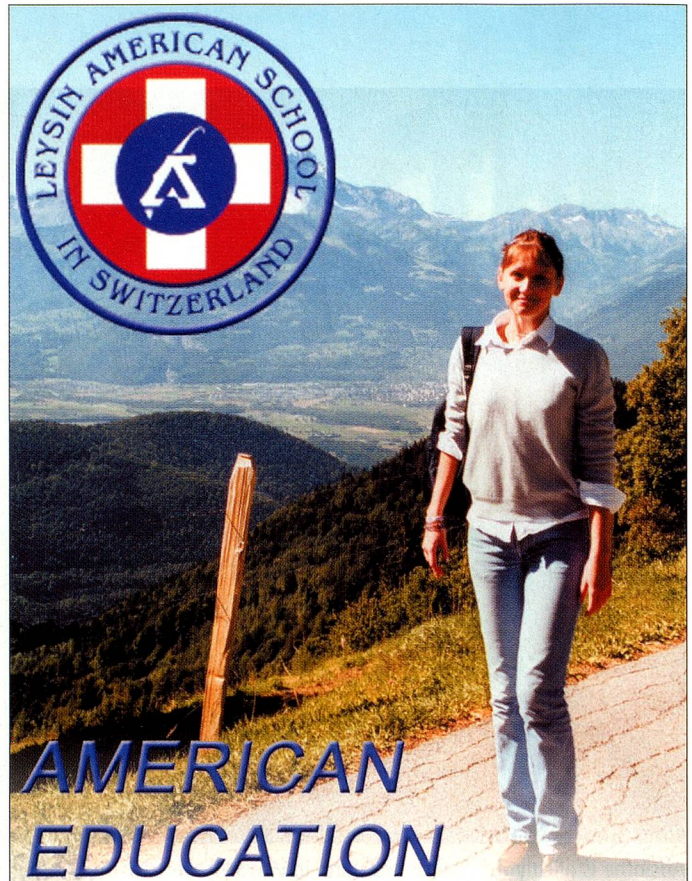
Things are looking up thanks to the SVP

Swiss Review 06/03, Focus

You talk of a swing to the right and about Christoph Blocher's appointment to the Federal Council. We disagree with your personal opinion, because:

1. Dr Blocher injected cash into the Elmer Works, the Grisons' major enterprise, to rescue it from bankruptcy.
2. National Councillor Blocher loves the Swiss nation and has for many years been rousing it from complacency with his criticisms and recommendations. The result: for the last three elections in a row, more and more SVP National Councillors have been sent to Berne. The SVP is now the largest party in parliament and has two Federal Councillors. So Switzerland's future is looking up.

*Guido Dreier
Colima, Mexico*



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