

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 11 (1945-1946)
Heft: 11

Artikel: Swiss citizenship costs thousands
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-942852>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 04.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

stood their test in many old and new forms, both, in confederation, cantons, parishes and corporations, which are well-balanced between the different tongues, between town and country, there is the confirmation of what a foreigner rightly terms 'the marvel of Switzerland'.

In recent years historians have clearly demonstrated, how deeply Swiss democracy is rooted in the past. In these articles Walo von Greyerz tries to show how the Swiss confederation lives at present in all its diversity. If it be true that the confederate democracy culminates under the cupola of the parliament building, it is no less true that its consistency and constancy are mainly due to its roots reaching deep into the substance of many a venerable yet living form, and into the substance of numerous newer forms of democratic community and are due also to the spirit that lives within.

Though the existing order is, on the whole, described and acknowledged to be the positive result of the Swiss' political spirit, we are keeping in mind that these forms are not created for eternity and that it is incumbent on our time to find and to shape the forms suited to its own spirit and needs. This, then, is the task of our generation and especially of the young. In so doing one will, in good Swiss manner, build up on the existing order; and for this reason these articles may be found suggestive at the beginning of a new epoch."

.

SWISS CITIZENSHIP COSTS THOUSANDS.

Twenty-nine Swiss, mostly residents of Germany, have lost citizenship because they were accused of conspiracy against Switzerland's security, A.P. reports from Berne.

In addition, fifty-six persons lost Swiss citizenship in 1945 because they had made false declarations to obtain Swiss nationality or because their conduct was prejudicial to Switzerland.

Loss of Swiss citizenship in many cases is a financial loss. It costs a lot of money to become a Swiss citizen. Government statistics showed that in 1943 in 1,684 cases of naturalization, individuals paid the equivalent of \$361,000 to the communities and \$170,000 to the cantons of their residence.

Individual fees for naturalization vary among the various communities and cantons. The authorities of the communities and of the cantons decide whether citizenship can be granted, but the Federal Justice and Police Department is the final authority. The procedure is long and rigorous.

"We do not want any one to become a Swiss citizen who has worshipped foreign ideologies or has taken an active part in foreign politics," a spokesman of the Justice and Police Department said.

A foreigner must have lived for many years in the community to which he would like to belong, before he can fill out an application for naturalization.

"In the last ten years," said the representative of the Justice and Police Department, "the practice has been not to grant citizenship to a foreigner unless he has resided in one and the same canton for at least twenty years."

In 1945, 814 foreigners with their families, a total of 1,526 persons, were granted Swiss citizenship.

.

1947 FOOD CRISIS IN EUROPE SEEN.

Europe's food situation, despite considerable imports from Canada and the United States, will show only limited improvement with the summer harvest and by September will again be critical, a June survey prepared