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## WOMAN'S SOLO CLIMB OF THE EIGER NORTH FACE

The awe-inspiring North face of the Eiger has at long last been climbed solo by a woman. Catherine Destivelle, the French climbing idol, took 17 hours in difficult snowy conditions to climb the 1800m near vertical wall, a feat many male climbers will envy.

In 1964, 26 years after the first successful climb by four men, the first woman, accompanied by a guide, managed the climb in four days. Then in 1967 followed the first French women climbers and 1975 the first Swiss, Yvette Vaucher and Natasha Gall.



Catherine Destivelle



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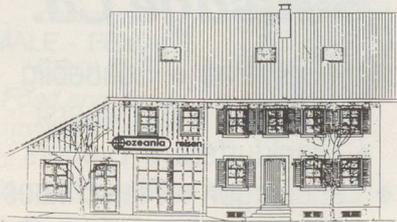
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Please send in your copy by the **15th of the month** for printing in the following issue.

## POLITICAL NEWS

### VOTING RIGHTS FOR SWISS ABROAD

If you have seen the latest Swiss Review (May 2/1992 issue) you will know all about it. If you have not seen it or would like some more information on the subject, contact the Embassy of Switzerland in Wellington or the Editor of Helvetia.

The number of Swiss abroad allowed to vote is apparently around 300,000 worldwide, of which 180,000 are in Europe.

An interesting fact is that, apart from your voting rights, you can also become a member of one of the political parties, stand as candidate for either the Parliament, the Federal Tribunal or even the Federal Council (Bundesrat). However, we guess, the chances for any Swiss living in New Zealand to become a Federal Councillor would be rather slim

For those who might have missed it, we re-print herewith a report from your past President, Andre Schleicher on the subject together with an application form.

Some confusion exists regarding the Voting Right of the Swiss Abroad. To clarify the position I had an interview with our Ambassador Dr M. Von Schenck and Consul Mr P. Graf. Following are the answers to my questions:

1. The Voting Right for the Swiss Abroad came into force in July 1992.
2. Every Swiss Citizen (male and female) and including Dual Citizenship has the right to vote provided he/she has reached 18 years of age.
3. Whether a citizen wants to vote or not is entirely voluntary and it is up to each person to decide how deep the affinity with the home country still is.
4. The Right to vote applies only to Federal issues (including Nationalratswahlen) and excludes all cantonal and communal issues.
5. Every citizen who wants to vote has to apply. At the foot of this page is a cut-out form request slip. Fill it in and send it to the Embassy. They will send you the registration form.
6. After Registration has been completed the voting commune will mail all voting material and official information and it is the voters duty to return it directly to the voting commune and pay the postage.
7. All information regarding voting issues will be regularly published in the Swiss Review. All Swiss Citizens registered at the Embassy receive the Swiss Review and should pay particular attention the the pages "Official Communications".
8. The voter can expect to vote 4 times per year.
9. The most likely first issue to vote on will be NEAT (Neue Eisenbahn Alpen Transversale).
10. Do not bombard the Embassy with questions: just follow these instructions.

Please send me a Voting Registration Form.

Christian Name(s): .....

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Date of Birth: .....

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Preferred language: German-French-Italian (*cross out what is not required*)

*Cut out this order form and send to:*

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