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result. The Swiss Colony in Italy therefore decided to put forward

### A PETITION

from this year's Assembly at Sion, appealing to the authorities for special consideration in the application of this decree when the permit was asked for by a Swiss citizen living abroad.

It was made clear that the Swiss abroad in no way wanted to create difficulties, but it was felt that any Swiss citizen abroad applying for a permit to buy land should be presumed to have sufficient "justifiable interests" ipso facto of his nationality. This would eliminate what the Italian Swiss call "the two classes of Swiss citizens," those with unlimited freedom of action at home and those living abroad whose rights have been curtailed by the decree of 23rd March, 1961.

The petition was addressed to the Federal Council, signed by the Chairman of the Organisation of Swiss Societies in Italy and supported by one delegate of most of the countries represented at Sion. Originally it had been envisaged that the signing of the petition should take place at a plenary session of the Assembly in a solemn demonstration. That idea was dropped as it was felt it might have struck the wrong note. Whilst we Swiss abroad agree that the decree could be looked upon as an unfortunate discrimination against us, and willingly support the idea of our fellow countrymen in Italy, we feel nothing should be done to give us the reputation of being difficult, and above all nothing which would hamper the actions and efforts of the Commission whose importance is steadily gaining more and more weight.

Unfortunately it is only too true that some Swiss living abroad have been refused permission to buy land at home. The ASO has taken up their case and it shows once again that we have reason to be grateful for such an organisation at home actively defending our interests.

MARIANN

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## ● RECIPE

Apricots are in season now. Although expensive, the following will serve quite a few people:

APRICOT COUPES: 1 lb ripe apricots, 7 ozs sugar, juice of  $\frac{1}{2}$  lemon,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups of cream (if extra servings are wanted, use also two sponge finers, soaked in a bit of cognac or sherry per person). Wash, stone and cut into fine slices the apricots and mix immediately with sugar and lemon juice and leave aside for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour. Take wide-mouthed glasses, half fill with apricots (or place two sponge fingers in bottom of glass first). On top pile a thick layer of whipped cream which has been well sweetened and flavoured with vanilla essence. Decorate with nice pieces of apricot and a small peak of cream.

H.B.