

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 7 (1980)
Heft: 3

Rubrik: Official communications

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Official Communications

Swiss National Bank

General Information about Bank-notes

Notes in circulation

Between October 1976 and November 1979 the National Bank put a new bank-note series into circulation.

On 31st March 1980 the notes in circulation were as follows:

Note	Notes in circulation		including notes of the new series		Percentage of total circulation
	Millions of notes	Millions of francs	Millions of notes	Millions of francs	
5	1.8	9	—	—	—
10	41.0	410	24.7	247	60.2
20	36.7	735	28.8	576	78.4
50	20.1	1003	17.3	865	86.2
100	65.2	6516	61.4	6140	94.2
500	8.8	4401	8.3	4138	94.0
1000	9.1	9133	8.0	8039	88.0
Total	182.7	22 207	148.5	20 005	90.1

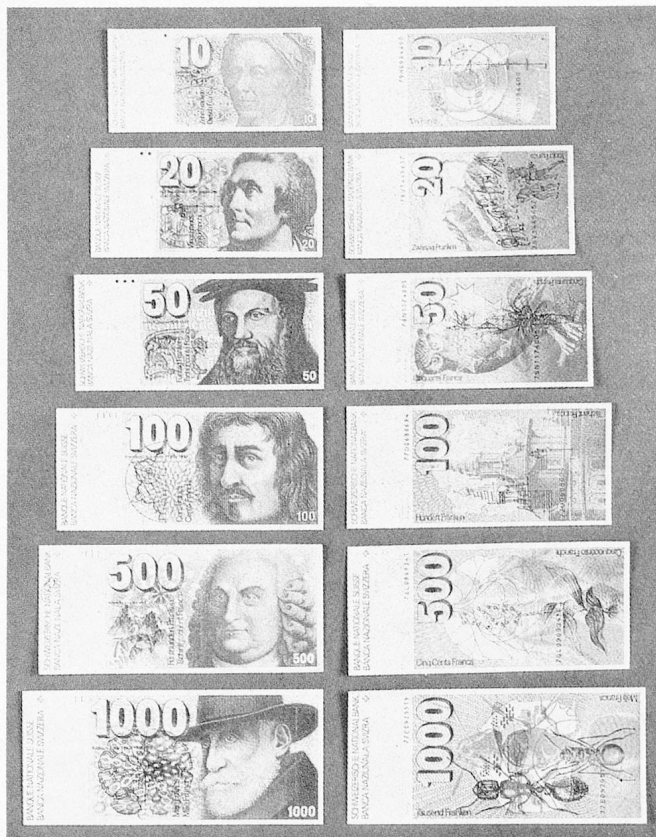
Calling in of Swiss bank-notes of former series

With the approval of the Federal Council, the Swiss National Bank decided to call in, on 1 May 1980, the following bank-notes of former series:

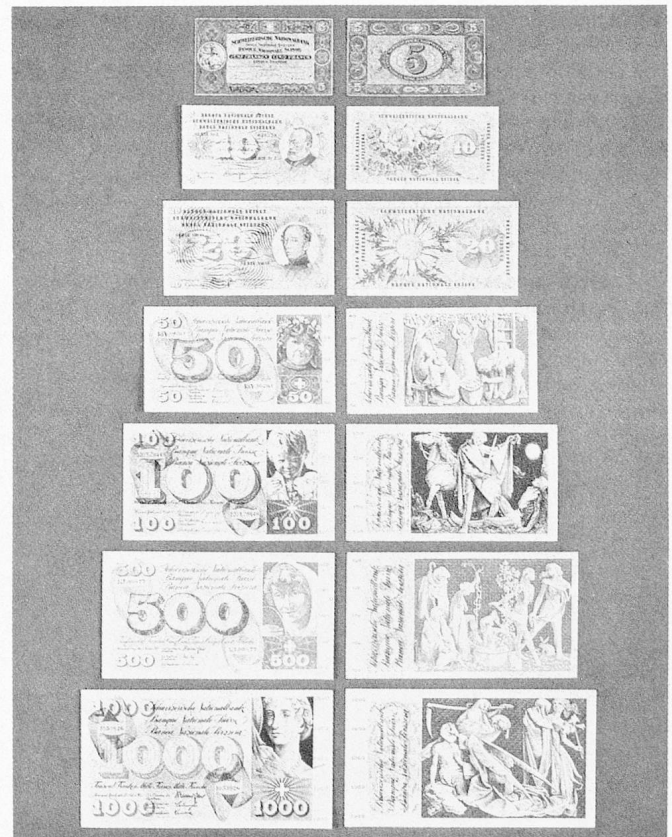
Note Fr	Theme	First issue
5	William Tell	1914
10	Gottfried Keller	1956
20	General Henri Dufour	1956
50	Apple Harvest	1957
100	St. Martin sharing his cloak	1957
500	Fountain of Youth	1957
1000	Dance of Death	1957

The notes being called in will be accepted for payment by Post Offices and other Cash Offices of the Confederation up to and including 31 October 1980. At the Swiss National Bank, however, they will be exchangeable until 30 April 2000.

The notes at present in circulation



The notes which have been called in



Sickness insurance for Swiss returning home

The Swiss sickness insurance schemes do not all participate in the application of the bilateral social security conventions and the agreement with the Organization of the Swiss Abroad. Swiss returning home and wishing to be insured against sickness should therefore ask for:

1 a list of the schemes which apply the bilateral convention in question, if they come from a country with which Switzerland has concluded a convention containing provisions which facilitate transfer to a Swiss sickness insurance scheme;

2 a list of the schemes which apply the agreement with the Organization of the Swiss Abroad, if they come from a country with which Switzerland has not concluded a convention containing provisions which facilitate transfer to a Swiss sickness insurance scheme, or if they do not fulfil all the conditions required by such a convention.

Those concerned can apply either to the competent Swiss Embassy or Consulate or to the Federal Office for Social Insurance, CH-3003 Berne.

Switzerland Special stamps 1980 PTT Series 1980

Day of issue: 5.9.1980



20 c.

Girocheque



40 c.

Postbus



70 c.

50th Anniversary of the PTT's
Postage Stamp Printing Office



80 c.

Centenary of the Telephone
in Switzerland

Agreement between Switzerland and Austria on collaboration in the consular field

The agreement between Switzerland and Austria on collaboration in the consular field, signed by the two Foreign Ministers on 3rd September 1979, came into force on 1st January 1980. It was concluded with a view to affording as much protection and assistance as possible to the nationals of the two countries. The agreement therefore provides that Switzerland and Austria shall afford consular protection and assistance to the nationals of the other State in countries where the latter is not represented at all or is represented only in an honorary capacity. The duration of the agreement was limited to two years initially, with the possibility of an extension.

For the «TRIAL PERIOD» of the agreement (1st January 1980 to 31st December 1981) the two contracting parties selected the following countries:

1. Austria (protection and assistance for nationals of Switzerland and Liechtenstein)

Afghanistan

Austrian Embassy, Kabul

Greece (Island of Crete)

Austrian Consulate, Heraklion

France (French Polynesia)

Austrian Consulate, Papeete (Tahiti)

Zambia

Austrian Consulate, Lusaka (in the sense of support for the administrator of the Swiss Consulate there)

2. Switzerland (protection and assistance for Austrian nationals)

Rwanda

Swiss Embassy, Kigali

Bangladesh

Swiss Embassy, Dacca

Guinea

Swiss Embassy, Conakry

The protection and assistance afforded by the Austrian missions are of limited scope. Details can be obtained from the missions concerned.

Consular protection and assistance are granted in accordance with the principle of equal treatment, that is to say, the Swiss national is entitled to such help as would, under the Austrian regulations in force, be afforded to an Austrian national. This means that he may not always receive as much protection and assistance as would be provided by a Swiss mission. Only individuals are entitled to the protection and assistance provided for by this agreement; corporate bodies are excluded.

The addresses of the competent Austrian missions covered by the agreement are as follows:

Austrian Embassy

Zarghouna Wat

P.O. Box 24

Kabul

tel. 32 7 20

Austrian Consulate

Platio Eleftherias u Dedalou 2

Heraklion

tel. 222 339

Austrian Consulate

Angle Boulevard Pomare Rue Paul Gauguin
B.P. 78

Papeete

tel. 20 215

In Zambia Swiss nationals should apply, as in the past, to the Swiss Consulate in Lusaka or to the Swiss Embassy in Dar es Salaam who, if necessary, will call on the Austrian Embassy in Lusaka for help.

Swiss mother – foreign child?

Attention – Don't miss the closing date!

The application must be submitted by 30th April 1981 if your child is to become a Swiss national. This is conditional upon your child having been under 22 years of age on 1st January 1978 (children born after that date are automatically Swiss nationals) and upon you, as a Swiss by descent (this also covers women who, as children, were included in their parents'

naturalization or whose naturalization was facilitated independently), having been domiciled in Switzerland with your foreign husband at the time of the child's birth. The application must be submitted to the competent authorities of your canton of origin. Children whose request has already been rejected once can also apply again. You can obtain more detailed information from your Swiss Embassy or Consulate or from the Federal Department of Justice and Police, CH-3003 Berne.

preventing abuses. It also keeps the compensation fund's accounts and acts as the unemployment insurance scheme's compensation office.

Occupational Training

The Occupational Training Division is the official organ for the enforcement of the Occupational Training Act. Within the framework of that Act, which, in particular, regulates apprenticeships, this Division draws up the regulations concerning training and examinations (which are then promulgated by the Federal Department of Public Economy) and the relevant syllabuses. It is responsible for the supervision of the apprenticeship examinations and higher specialist examinations organized by the trade associations and also looks after the vast field of further occupational training. The Swiss Institute for Occupational Teaching, founded in 1972, collaborates closely with the Occupational Training Division. Its main task is the training and advanced training of vocational teachers.

Crafts

The Crafts Section enforces – or supervises the enforcement of – various federal Acts concerning industry, commerce and crafts in the widest sense (legislation on commercial travellers, sureties for craftsmen etc.). Among its most important functions are measures for the promotion of the economy. In particularly threatened regions where the economy is too dependent on one branch of industry it supports plans for innovation and diversification by means of credit guarantees, contributions to interest charges and tax reliefs. It also handles questions relating to the watch and clock industry (official quality control, marks of origin).

Economic Development

The newest division of BIGA is the Central Office for Regional Economic Development. It is responsible for the conception and execution of Swiss regional policy. The aim of this policy, together with land planning, is to promote balanced regional development. The most important work done by the Central Office so far has been the implementation of the overall plan for the economic development of the mountain regions.

Social Statistics

To enable the authorities to take economic and socio-political decisions, the Social Statistics Division regularly produces a number of statistics concerning, in particular, the labour market, employment, production, building, wages, prices and consumption.

Federal Office for Industry, Crafts and Labour (BIGA)

50 years



BIGA, one of the most important offices of the Federal Department of Public Economy, was 50 years old on 1st January 1980. It deals mainly with matters concerning the domestic economy. The following survey outlines its principal functions.

Employee Protection and Labour Law

Regulations for the protection of employees against over-work and accidents at work are among the Office's oldest responsibilities. Its Employee Protection Division, in conjunction with the four Federal Labour Inspectorates in Lausanne, Aarau, Zurich and St. Gallen, supervises the enforcement of the Labour Act. Problems of industrial medicine and hygiene are dealt with by the Industrial Medical Service. Questions relating to working hours and time off, special protection for juvenile and female employees and the protection of home-workers are also handled by the Employee Protection and Labour Law Division; so are matters connected with the Labour Act, of which

the most important concern the procedure for extending the application of collective employment contracts and for the issue by the Confederation of standard employment contracts. The subject of worker participation, too, falls within this Division's sphere of activity.

Labour Market Policy

The Manpower and Emigration Division deals principally with questions of labour market policy. Its duty is to ensure that the labour market is as balanced as possible. To this end it works closely with the labour offices of the cantons and large towns, and with both sides of industry. Among its tasks are measures to combat unemployment, policy on foreign workers, encouragement of the provision of part-time work and home-work, the reintegration of female and disabled workers and the exchange of young people for further training abroad. Finally, the Office runs an extensive **Advisory Service for Emigrants** and helps **Swiss returning from abroad** who have difficulty in finding jobs.

Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance is one of the mainstays of social security for the employee. The introduction on 1st April 1977 of compulsory unemployment insurance, the so-called transitional regulations, was a first decisive step towards a modern and efficient system of unemployment insurance. The unemployment Insurance Division supervises the enforcement of the Federal Unemployment Insurance Act; it is responsible for ensuring that the Act is applied as uniformly as possible and for