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# Official Communications

## The new 500-franc-banknote

At the April 4, 1977 the Swiss National Bank (SNB) put the new 500-franc note into circulation. It is devoted to the Bernese doctor, naturalist and poet Albrecht von Haller and has been very well received by the public.

Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777) studied in Tübingen, Leiden, London, Paris and Basle and set up as a doctor in Berne at the early age of 21. He had previously toured the region of the Lakes of Neuchâtel and Geneva, the Rhone valley and the Gemmi

and Brünig passes and carried out scientific studies. This journey inspired his first great poem «Die Alpen» («The Alps»), which brought him fame as a writer, long survived his time and is still effective today. From 1736 till 1753 he was a professor at



## Should you want to vote in Switzerland

### Swiss abroad

Please apply to your official representation, which will fill in the necessary form.

This form is reproduced here in our three official languages to show you what information the representation needs.

You will have to specify the commune in which your vote is to be counted (**«voting commune»**) and the commune in which you wish to pick up your voting material (**«commune of presence»**).

## It would be a good idea to apply at once ...

### Forthcoming federal ballots

in 1977    25th September  
              4th December

in 1978    26th February  
              28th May  
              24th September  
              3rd December

Absender Schweizerische Vertretung in	Expéditeur Représentation suisse à	Mittente Rappresentanza svizzera a	Formular Formula Modulo 1
<b>Adresse</b> An die Gemeindekanzlei Stimmregisterbüro in	<b>Destinataire</b> Chancellerie communale Bureau du registre des électeurs de	<b>Destinatario</b> Cancelleria comunale Ufficio del catalogo elettorale di	
<b>Brieftitel:</b> Anmeldung eines(r) stimmberechtigten Auslandschwälers(in)	<b>Concerne:</b> Demande d'un(e) Suisse(sse) de l'étran- ger ayant le droit de vote	<b>Concerne:</b> Annuncio di uno/una Svizzero(a) all'e- stero avendo diritto di voto	
Der/die bei unterstehender schweizeri- scher Vertretung immatrikulierte	Immatriculé(e) auprès de la représentation suisse mentionnée ci-dessous	Immatricolato(a) presso la sottoscritta rappresentanza svizzera,	
Name nom cognome	Vorname prénom nom		
Sohn, Tochter des fils, fille de figlio, figlia di	Name und Vorname des Vaters/nom et prénoms du père/cognome e nomi del padre		
und der et de e di	und der Mutter/nom et prénoms de la mère/cognome e nomi della madre	geb. née nata	Mädchenname / nom de jeune fille / cognome della ragazza
Heimatgemeinde(n) commune(s) d'origine comune(i) d'origine		Kanton(e) cantone(s) cantone(i)	
geboren am né(e) le nato(a) il	in à a	Kanton cantone	Land pays paese
wohnhaft in domicilié(e) à domiciliato(a) a			
wünscht, gesützt auf das Bundesgesetz vom 19. Dezember 1975 und die Verordnung vom 25. August 1976 über die politischen Rechte der Ausländer. Ich wünsche mein Stimmrecht in eidgenössischen Angele- genheiten (Teilnahme an Nationalratswahlen und eidgenössischen Abstimmungen, Unterzeichnung von eidgenössischen Referenden und Volksinitiativen) auszuüben und ersucht um Eintragung in ein Stimmregister. Er/Sie hat ihre Gemeinde als Stimmgemeinde gewählt:			
- weil er/sie das Bürgerrecht ihrer Ge- meinde besitzt			
- weil er/sie von _____ bis _____ in ihrer Gemeinde gewohnt hat.			
Das Stimmrecht wird er/sie in der Stimm- gemeinde durch persönliche Vorsprache ausüben und dort das Wahl- und Stimm- material abholen.			
Das Stimmrecht wird er/sie brieflich aus- üben und das Wahl- und Stimmmaterial in der Anwesenheitsgemeinde abholen.			
*Nichtzutreffendes streichen.			
		Stempel der Vertretung und Unterschrift Timbre de la représentation et signature Bollo della rappresentanza e firma	
1. und 2. Kopie (rosa) an die Kanzlei der Heimatge- meinde(n)		1. et 2. copie (rose) pour la chancellerie de(s) la( ) commune(s) d'origine	1. e 2. copia (rosa) alla Cancelleria del/dei comune(i) d'origine
3. Kopie (gelb) an die Kanzlei der Anwesenheitsge- meinde		3. copie (jaune) pour la chancellerie de la commune de présence	3. copia (gialla) alla Cancelleria del comune di presenza
4. Kopie (grün) verbleibt bei der Vertretung 5. Kopie (chamois) an den Stimmbüro		4. copie (verte) pour la représentation 5. copie (chamois) pour l'intéressé(e)	4. copia (verde) resta alla rappresentanza 5. copia (camoscio) all'intervessato(a)
48016/1 - 25000 - 10.76			

# Official Communications

Göttingen University and taught anatomy, surgery and botany. In 1753 he returned to Berne, where he held various offices. Haller wrote important works on Swiss flora, and on anatomy, surgery and physiology. He ranks among the greatest polymaths of Switzerland and the Age of Enlightenment.

The basic motif on the front of the note, depicting a stylized Alpine thistle, reminds us of Haller's botanical studies. The supplementary motif shows a view of the Gemmi pass in an allusion to his affection for the Swiss Alps. The illustrations on the back refer to his work in medicine, physiology and botany.

Like the hundred-franc note before it, this one, too, has some special features. It is again appreciably smaller, more oblong and thus handier than its predecessors. The ground-colour is also reddish brown. The portrait printed on the note appears as a watermark in the white border as well. It also has a metallic thread for security purposes and a transparent spot. The so-called «tilt effect» can be used to check the presence of gravure printing on the front:

- When the note is tilted slightly the portrait has its normal appearance.
- When the note is tilted more sharply the portrait becomes darker.
- When the note is tilted very sharply the portrait becomes completely dark, and white lines appear on the left-hand side of the portrait.

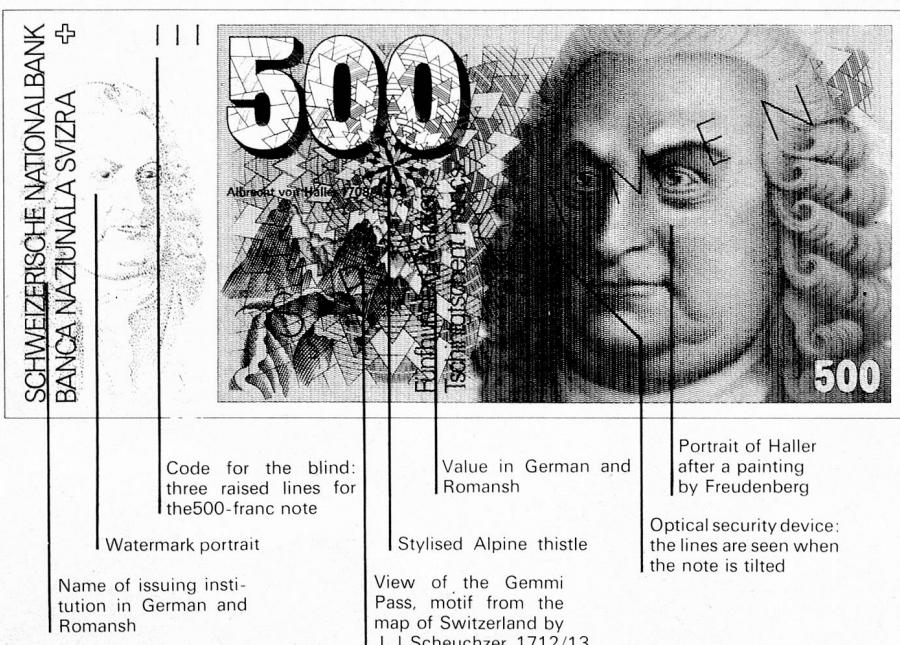
Unfortunately, not only are security techniques in the production of banknotes improving, but so are forgery techniques. With the general growth of crime, banknotes from the most diverse countries are being increasingly forged. It is therefore as well to memorize the security features of our new notes so that in case of doubt one can always check their genuineness oneself. The next note issue, the thousand-franc note, will probably appear in April 1978 and is devoted to the entomologist, anatomist and psychiatrist Auguste Forel (1848-1931).

Berne, 14th June 1977

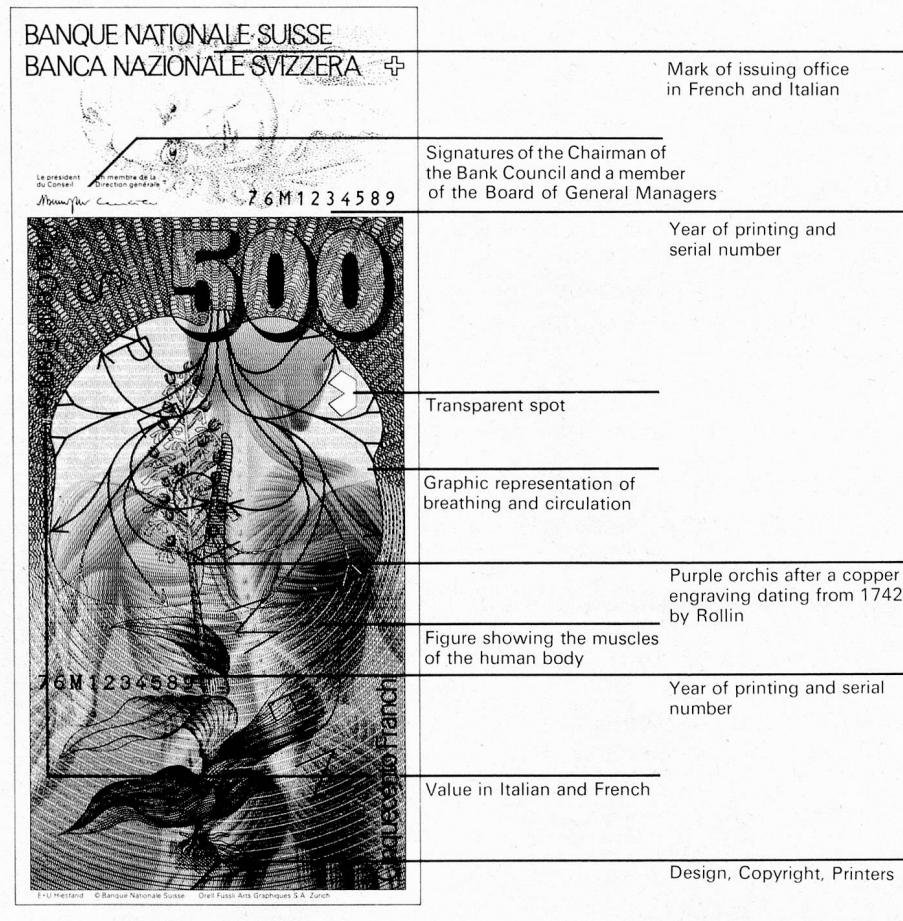
## PASSEPORTS

Do not wait until the eve of your holiday before applying for your Swiss passport to be renewed... it may not be possible to return it to you in time.

Size: 181 mm x 82 mm



Size 181mm x 82 mm



# Official Communications



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On 25th August the Swiss Post Office issued a magnificent series of postage stamps: folk customs from all regions of the Confederation. Thus our stamps once more prove to be little ambassadors, constantly bearing something new from our homeland into the wide world. Wouldn't you, too, like to secure a complete collection by means of a **new issue subscription at the Swiss Post Office?** A year's sets cost on average S.Fr. 18.—.

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300 <input type="checkbox"/> First-day covers	X	