

Zeitschrift: Swiss review : the magazine for the Swiss abroad
Herausgeber: Organisation of the Swiss Abroad
Band: 7 (1980)
Heft: 2

Buchbesprechung: Saint-Gothard - Via Helvetica [Arthur Wyss]

Autor: [s.n.]

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since 1966

In 1966 the Organization of the Swiss Abroad celebrated its golden jubilee, and ever since then, this symbol has been used as official crest of the Swiss abroad. It was made use of in the plebiscite campaign for the adoption of Art.45bis in the Federal Constitution and in the same year also for a special stamp issued by PTT, to the value of 20 cts.

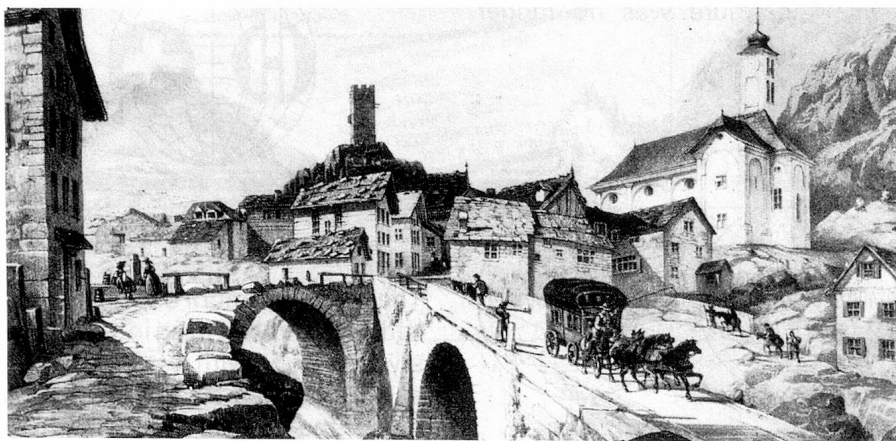
The colour of the crest is the



brilliant blue of the high seas, the sky and distant places, thus symbolizing the distance of the Swiss abroad from their homeland.

Lucien Paillard

Book reviews



The mail-coach of the St-Gothard passing the village of Hospental (Photo PTT).

«Saint-Gothard - VIA HELVETICA» by Arthur Wyss, Curator of the PTT-Museum in Berne.

This richly illustrated book contains a comprehensive inventory of the salient facts in the history and the present of the Gothard, pointing up with clarity the major political and state-forming impulses which emanated from this pass and exercised a decisive influence on the evolution of the Swiss Confederation. At the same time, the book is a committed affirmation of the future of this most central of all alpine passes. With its wellnigh 300 illustrations – over 50 of them full-colour plates – this book is a fascinating treasure trove and a real joy for every connoisseur of literature concerning communications and postal history. Most of the pictures, documents, old postal cancellations and seals as well as the postage stamps come from the PTT-Museum in Berne.

Here, in short, is a cultural-historical work of enduring value for all those interested in history and philately. Not least among the many charms of this book is its author's delightfully colourful writing which lends the work its unusual vitality. Mr. Wyss has succeeded brilliantly in doing justice to both rail and road in the latter part of his book. The book has been printed and bound with care and good taste and may be described without undue immodesty as a bibliophile work.

Available as required in English, French, German or Italian.

Please send your order to your library or to: Editions Ovaphil, case postale 10, 1000 Lausanne 8.

On 19th march 1980 this book was chosen as one of the most beautiful Swiss books of the year by a jury acting under the patronage of the Federal Ministry for Internal Affairs.



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