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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	
Adresse An die Gemeindeganzlei Stimmregisterbüro in		Destinataire Chancellerie communale Bureau du registre des électeurs*de		Destinatario Cancelleria comunale Ufficio del catalogo elettorale di	
<b>Betrifft:</b> Anmeldung eines(r) stimmberechtigten Auslandschweizers(in) Der/Die bei untenstehender schweizerischer Vertretung immatrikulierte		<b>Concerne:</b> Demande d'un(e) Suisse(sse) de l'étran- ger ayant le droit de vote Immatriculé(e) auprès de la représentation suisse mentionnée ci-dessous		<b>Concerne:</b> Annuncio di uno/una Svizzero(a) all'e- stero avente diritto di voto Immatricolato(a) presso la sottoscritta rappresentanza svizzera.	
Name nom cognome		Vornamen prénoms nomi			
Sohn, Tochter des fils, fille de figlio, figlia di		Name und Vornamen des Vaters/nom et prénoms du père /cognome e nomi del padre			
und der et de e di		Name und Vornamen der Mutter/nom et prénoms de la mère /cognome e nomi della madre		geb. née nata	
Heimatgemeinde(n) commune(s) d'origine comune(i) d'origine				Kanton(e) canton(s) canton(i)	
geboren am né(e) le nato(a) il		in à a		Kanton canton cantone	
Land pays paese					
wohnt in domicilié(e) à domiciliato(a) a					
wünscht, gestützt auf das Bundesgesetz vom 19. Dezember 1975 und die Verordnung vom 25. August 1976 über die politischen Rechte der Auslandschweizer das Stimmrecht in eidgenössischen Angelegenheiten (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:		désire, conformément à la loi fédérale du 19 décembre 1975 et à l'ordonnance du 25 août 1976 sur les droits politiques des Suisses de l'étranger, exercer les droits politiques en matière fédérale (participation aux élections du Conseil national et votations fédérales, signature sur le plan fédéral de demandes de référendum et d'initiatives populaires) et vous prie donc de l'inscrire dans un registre des électeurs. Il/Elle a choisi votre commune comme commune de vote:		desidera, conformemente alla legge federale del 19 dicembre 1975 e all'ordinanza del 25 agosto 1976 sui diritti politici degli Svizzeri all'estero, esercitare i diritti politici in materia federale (partecipazione alle elezioni per il Consiglio nazionale e alle votazioni federali e firma dei referendum e delle iniziative popolari federali) e chiede di essere iscritto(a) in un catalogo elettorale. Egli/Elia ha scelto il Vostro comune come comune di voto:	
- *weil er/sie das Bürgerrecht Ihrer Gemeinde besitzt		- *car il/elle possède le droit de cité de votre commune		- *perchè possiede la cittadinanza del Vostro comune	
- *weil er/sie von _____ bis _____ in Ihrer Gemeinde gewohnt hat.		- *car il/elle a été domicilié(e) dans votre commune du _____ au _____		- *perchè è stato(a) domiciliato(a) nel Vostro comune dal _____ al _____	
*Das Stimmrecht wird er/sie in der Stimmgemeinde durch persönliche Vorsprache ausüben und dort das Wahl- und Stimmmaterial abholen.		*Il/Elle votera dans la commune de vote en s'y présentant personnellement et y retirera le matériel de vote et d'élection.		*Egli/Elia voterà nel comune di voto presentandosi personalmente e vi ritirerà il materiale di voto e di elezione.	
*Das Stimmrecht wird er/sie brieflich ausüben und das Wahl- und Stimmmaterial in der Anwesenheitsgemeinde abholen.		*Il/Elle votera par correspondance et retirera le matériel de vote et d'élection dans la commune de présence		*Egli/Elia voterà per corrispondenza e ritirerà il materiale di voto e d'elezione nel comune di presenza di _____	
*Nichtzutreffendes streichen.		*Biffer ce qui ne convient pas		*Cancellare quanto non conviene al caso.	
		Stempel der Vertretung und Unterschrift Timbre de la représentation et signature Bollio della rappresentanza e firma			
1. und 2. Kopie (rosa) an die Kanzlei der Heimatgemeinde(n)		1. et 2. copie (rose) pour la chancellerie de(s) (la) commune(s) d'origine		1. e 2. copia (rosa) alla Cancelleria del/del comune(i) d'origine	
3. Kopie (gelb) an die Kanzlei der Anwesenheitsgemeinde		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 Stimmbürger		4. copie (verte) pour la représentation 5. copie (chamois) pour l'intéressé(e)		4. copia (verde) resta alla rappresentanza 5. copia (camoscio) all'interessato(a)	
4801e/r - 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.

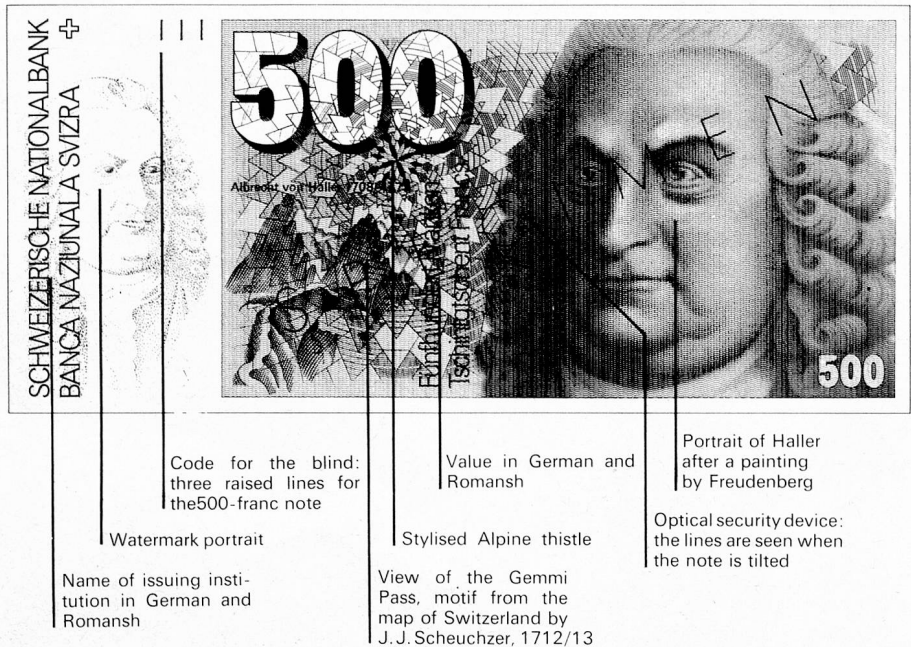
Unfortunately, not only are security techniques in the production of banknotes improving, but so are forgery techniques. With the general growth of crime, banknotes from the most diverse countries are being increasingly forged. It is therefore as well to memorize the security features of our new notes 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

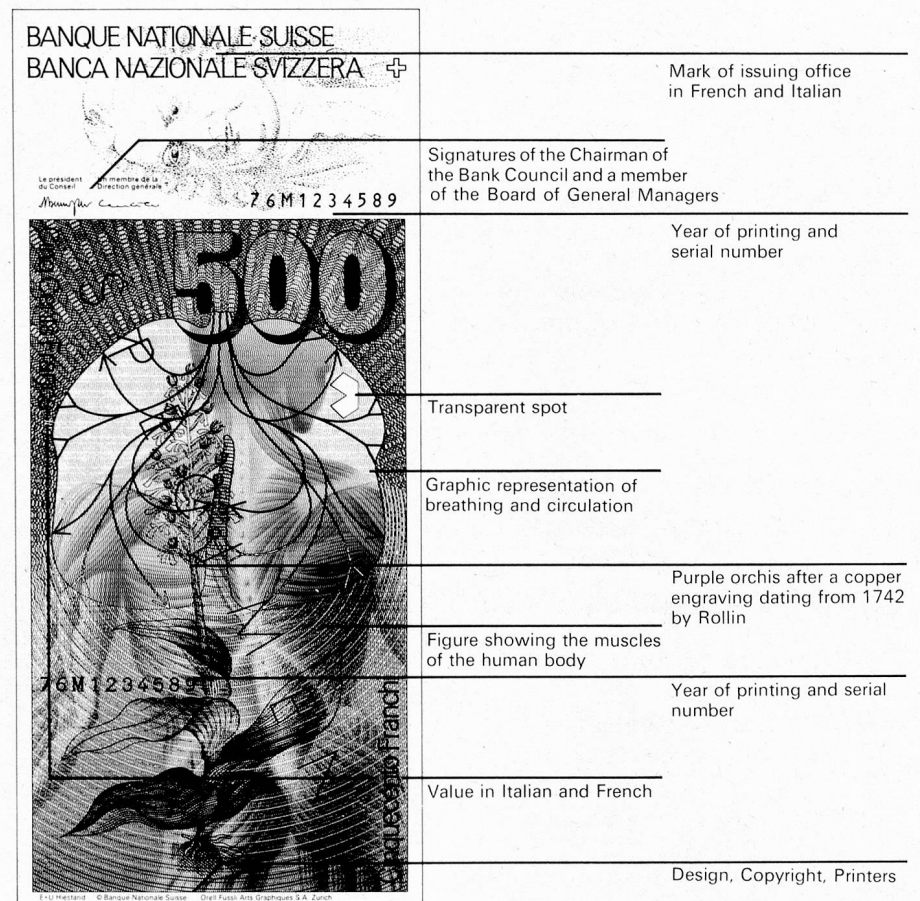
## PASSEPORTS

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 82mm



# Official Communications



## Folk customs of our homeland on Swiss postage stamps

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300	First-day covers	✕	

