

TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

TORCH BEARER

VOLUME III

MARCH 1986

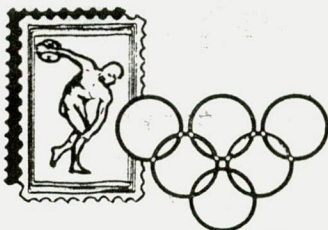
ISSUE 1

CONTENTS:

Your Committee	3
Front Page	4
Member's Forum	5
Haiti's Olympic Essays	7
Reading Matters	11
Beyond 1984	12
In Brief	16
Library Listing	18
Those Gremlins Again!	23
The Birmingham Challenge	24
Warning! Forgeries	29
New Greek Discovery	30
Olympilex '85 Lausanne	31
More Notes on 1908	34
Albertville 1992	36
The 1986 Commonwealth Games	37
Profile. Avery Brundage	39
News	40
The Los Angeles Olympics	43

Heiko Volk Olympia-Philatelie

Postfach 3447 · Erbacher Str. 49 · D-6120 Michelstadt · West-Germany
Tel. 08061-4899



ISSUING PRICE-LISTS WITH SPECIAL
WE ARE THE TOP - AUCTION PART

SPECIALISTS

ALL OVER THE WORLD IN



OLYMPICS

IN OUR STOCK WE HAVE MORE THAN 25.000 DIFFERENT ITEMS FROM THE OLYMPICS

1896 ATHENES UP TO 1984 LOS ANGELES

STAMPS-BLOCS-SHEETS

FIRST-DAY-COVERS

POSTMARKS

POSTAL-STATIONARIES

AUTOGRAPHS

PICTURE-CARDS

VIEW-AND PHOTOCARDS

TICKETS

BOOKS AND PROGRAMMES

VIGNETTES

PHOTOS

OLYMPIC-STICKERS



FOOTBALL-WORLDCHAMPIONSHIP-MATERIAL

1934-1982

YOUR COMMITTEE

- Chairman:** Franceska Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane, Hatch End, Middx.
- Secretary:** John Osborne, 236 Bexley Lane, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4JH.
- Treasurer:** Colin Faers, 76 Minsterley Ave, Shepperton, Middx. TW17 8QU
- Auction Manager:** John Crowther, 3 Hill Drive, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire.
- Packet Manager:** Bob Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Cres, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5ES
- Librarian:** Ken Cook, 31 Thorn Lane, Rainham, Essex.
- Editor:** Franceska Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane, Hatch End, HA5 4AL

HARVEY ABRAMS-BOOKS

ANTIQUARIAN SPECIALIST

OLYMPIC GAMES — HISTORY OF SPORT

An den Hubertshäusern 21 1000 Berlin 38 West Germany
Tel. 801-2900

BUYING - SELLING OLYMPIC GAMES.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

IOC & NOC PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS IN ALL LANGUAGES

PERIODICALS & MAGAZINES

COLLECTABLES

PROGRAMMES

MEDALLIONS

POSTERS

PINS

TICKETS

To receive catalogues/lists, send £3 or \$5 or 12DM. Send your Wants Lists, and specify your interests.

FRONT PAGE

Unfortunately, the December issue of TORCH BEARER had to go to press before it was possible to give a report of the meeting, or non-meeting as it turned out, of members at the British Philatelic Exhibition. Apart from the Committee, only Bob Farley and Bob Kensit came along. Although the few of us who were there had the opportunity for a good natter, and an exchange of ideas, clearly, to hire a room at a cost of £20 for the afternoon is a waste of Society funds if members do not attend. Therefore, no further meetings will be planned until you, the membership, tell your Committee that you would like them to take place.

1986 sees the beginning of our third year. It seems amazing that in such a short space of time we have acquired almost two hundred and fifty members. If you have not already done so, please pay your 1986 subscription NOW, otherwise this will be your last copy of TORCH BEARER.

1986 will also see the build-up for the Olympic Games in Seoul and Calgary, and the final tussle for the honour to host the XXV Olympiad in 1992. Hopefully, TORCH BEARER will be able to keep you abreast with the news. If anything of interest is being written in your part of the world, please let me know, so that the news can be shared with all our members.

Once again, I would like to thank all of you who sent me Season's Greetings and letters of encouragement, and to apologise for not writing to you all individually.

+++++
SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY! Use the auction or the packet to dispose of your surplus material.

MEMBER'S FORUM

I have recently acquired a cover bearing the imprint of the British Olympic Association addressed to the Hon. Sec. Olympic Committee, Prague in Bohemia. It bears a United Kingdom postmark of 24 August 1908. Does any member have the 1908 Official Report? What was the role of the British Olympic Association in the 1908 Games? Is there any significance in the date of the postmark? Was there a Czech victory on, or just before, that date, that may have prompted a letter to Rossler Orovsky? The cover is without contents, so I am trying to guess. Any information please to Sherwin Podolsky, 16036 Tupper Street, Sepulveda, CA 91343, USA.

+++++

Apologies to our Greek member, Michael Tsironis. who won a gold medal and special prize at ISRAPHIL in Tel Aviv in May 1985. As he had his exhibit in the traditional philately class, and not in the thematic class, regrettably, his name was overlooked. Michael won his award for the Greek Olympic issues of 1896, 1900 and 1906.

+++++

Congratulations to Chris Northwood for his gold ATA medal and vermeil INDYPEX medal for his exhibit "The Führer's Olympics" at INDYPEX held in September 1985 at Indianapolis.

Chris Northwood, 2600 Church Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, USA is looking for copies of Ernest Trory's "Olympic Review", and also any literature about the 1936 Olympic Games. If any member is able to help, write to Chris direct at the above address.

+++++

Congratulations to the following members for their success at the international exhibition ITALIA '85, held in Rome from 25 October till 3 November. Manfred Bergman for an exhibit in

the Championship Class, a large gold medal for Michael Tsironis for his exhibit of the first and second Greek Olympic issues, which he showed in the traditional philately class, a gold medal in the thematic class to Franco Canepa, large vermeil medals to Giorgio Dolianitis and Uberto Stefanutti.

+++++

Franceska Rapkin is looking for the cancellation BRAUNLAGE, Wintersportplatz, special cancel from January 1977, and also the cancel MAGDEBURG PPA 9-12 2 1950, Schierke Wintermeisterschaften der DDR. Will buy or exchange. Also required is postal stationery card from Poland in 1980, with imprinted 12K stamp. The design shows the "Ball" bas relief sculpture, which won Klukowski a medal in the arts section of the 1936 Olympic Games. Card required in mint condition.

+++++

Robert H. Kelly, 1127 Meadow Drive, Killeen, Texas 76542, USA, is looking for other members interested in trading any Olympic items, pins, patches, books, any and all items. He has a great number for trade. All letters will be answered.

+++++

"SAFE", the album manufacturers, produce gold leaf album titles, including the Five Olympic Rings logo. To obtain these, either contact your local stamp dealer, or write direct to Safe Albums (U.K.) Ltd., Holpur House, Albert Road, Crowthorne, Berks, RG11 7LT. Please mention that you saw the announcement in TORCH BEARER.

+++++

~~~~~

Send your spare material to John Crowther to auction  
3, Hill Drive, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 3AL

~~~~~

HAITI'S OLYMPIC ESSAYS

F. Burton Sellers.

Fifty two years ago, Los Angeles was host to the Tenth Summer Olympic Games, held from 30 July to 14 August. The United States issued two stamps on 15 June in recognition thereof. Some other countries also issued stamps in recognition of the Games and their participation therein. The number of countries which released such commemorative issues and the total number of stamps which resulted from these issues were miniscule in comparison with the flood of stamps which have appeared every four years for all the post-World War II Olympic Games, with the 23rd Olympiad being no exception.

Primarily to cater to the topical and thematic collectors, countries which are neither members of the International Olympic Group nor which send athletes to participate in the Games join this unseemly rush for the collector's dollars. A veritable cornucopia of issues cascade from the security printing presses of the world to grace the albums of Sports on Stamps and Olympics on Stamps specialists.



Figure 1.

For the moment, however, let us hark back to one issue which did NOT appear in those more halcyon and philatelically conservative days of 1932. The only philatelic evidence of this aborted issue from Haiti are the few essays which have reached collectors hands.

In 1932, Haiti was still occupied by the U.S. Marines and the country's customs, postal, banking and financial affairs were largely controlled by U.S. advisors sent to Haiti for the purpose. Despite the exigencies of this occupation, which had persisted since 1915, Haiti had assembled a small contingent of athletes who were scheduled to go to Los Angeles and do their utmost for the honour of their country.

To help defray the expenses of this group, the Haitian postal administration proposed to overprint some of the currently available stamps with a surtax of five or ten centimes de gourde equivalent to one and two U.S. cents respectively. According to the authorising decree, fifteen varieties of postage and airmail stamps were to be overprinted BY HAND and issued on Saturday 6 February 1932. The surtax was to go into a special fund for the athletes' travel and living expenses at the Games.

The following were to be overprinted

<u>Scott No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
310	3c. 1920 Agriculture	50,000
313	15c. 1920 Commerce	50,000
314	25c. 1920 Commerce	50,000
315	5c. 1924 Borno	50,000
316	10c. 1924 Citadel	50,000
317	20c. 1924 Map	50,000
322	5c. 1931 U.P.U.	50,000
323	10c. 1931 U.P.U.	50,000

To carry the same "Xe Olympiade" overprint, but with a "+0.10" surtax were:

318	50c. 1924 Borno	20,000
319	1G 1924 Nat. Palace	20,000

320	35c.	1928	Coffee	20,000
C1	25c.	1930	Airmail	30,000
C2	50c.	1929	Airmail	30,000
C3	75c.	1930	Airmail	20,000
C4	1G.	1929	Airmail	20,000



Figure 2.

Had the stamps been issued and all of them sold, the athletes fund would have benefitted to the extent of 36,000 gourdes, equivalent to \$7,200. In those depression days, that sum would probably have adequately supported sending a small group of Haitian athletes to the Games.

Unfortunately for the athletes, the U.S. financial advisor objected to the handstamp surcharge and ruled that the surcharges must be lithographed by the Compagnie Lithographique de Haiti in Port au Prince. This was intended to eliminate the many double, inverted and other variety surcharges that inevitably would have occurred if the surcharging were done by hand. The many earlier handstamp overprints of Haiti (Scott Numbers 235-302) bear extensive witness to this inevitability! Before this controversy could be settled, the time became too short for the issue to be an effective fund raiser and the plan was abandoned. What the fate of the athletes was is not known to the author. If they did participate in the Games, none succeeded in reaching the winner's podium.

Fortunately for philatelists, we do have some

evidence of this planned issue. Illustrated in Figure 1 is a copy of the 50c Borno stamp of 1924 (Scott No. 318) with the two line overprint in blue "Xe / Olympiade." Similarly in Figure 2 we find the two values of the 1931 U.P.U. commemorative set with the identical overprint (Scott Nos. 322 and 323) The four airmail values of the 1929-1930 (Scott Nos. C1-C4) with the overprint are illustrated in Figure 3. The U.P.U. set was to have also been overprinted "+0.05" and the other five stamps to have had the "+0.10" surtax surcharge. Apparently the surtax overprint was to be applied in a separate operation, or the essays were made before a decision was taken as to the amount of surtax each stamp was to bear.



Figure 3.

All seven illustrated stamps are included in the listing of the original decree and are the only copies of these essays ever seen by the author on any of the decreed stamps. All were at one time in the collection of Dr. Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago, a former president of the Essay-Proof Society. The slight tilt and irregular position of the overprint on the stamps strongly suggests that they were overprinted

by hand. If that is the case, it is unlikely that the overprints were applied by the Compagnie Lithographique d' Haiti, but this cannot be positively proven. The exact provenance of the essays is not known.

What we have, in any case, is another, possibly unique, philatelic memento of the 1932 Olympics, essays Haitian style!

(The above article first appeared in the Essay-Proof Journal, Vol.41 Issue 3 in the third quarter of 1984, and is reprinted here with their permission.)

READING MATTERS

THE AUTOGRAPH REVIEW. May 15, 1984, Volume 7 No. 3. This magazine is published on the 15th of each alternate month by Mr. J.W.Morey, 305 Carlton Road, Syracuse NY 13207 USA. It is aimed mainly at American autograph hunters, many of whom spend years tracking down the autographs of their favourite heroes. The 15 May issue was packed with names and addresses, including several associated with Olympic sports. Information is given how to contact Bob Mathias (winner of the 1948 and 1952 Decathlon) and Emil Zatopek (gold medal winner in 1948 and 1952 Track and Field events) T.A.R. is ideal for the collector who likes writing letters, and is the ideal place to start looking for the more elusive names.

++++
The Official Report, which is published by the Olympic Organising Committee for each Olympiad, is vital reading for anyone who collects individual Games. Very few of these reports are prepared, though they are sold at auction from time to time. Although they are pricey, they should have a place in the library of every serious Olympic collector.

Robert Kensit.

1984 indicated a fundamental change in the nature of the Olympic Games, which will almost certainly influence future Olympiads for the foreseeable future. These changes reflect the kind of society in which the Olympics take place, and for which the Olympics are presented. The era of the vast mega-Olympics of the 1970's are over, along with the fading optimism of that decade. From now on, commercialism will control the Olympic Games, a trend which was opposed long before the Los Angeles Games opened. The social values accompanying this trend need to be carefully considered if the Olympic Games are to become nothing more than a glorified series of advertisements.

Each host nation stamps its cultural identity upon an Olympiad; and Los Angeles was no exception. There was an oddity in such an event being staged in the United States to begin with; the nation is mainly interested in sports which no other nation plays, and has little interest in international competition. Although the Olympics did introduce Americans to other nations, the wave of national pride over the number of home wins, (caused largely by the non-presence of East European nations) minimised the good that this might do. More fundamentally, the culture shock involved in transporting the European traditions of the Olympics to America was more than some could bear. To many, staging the Olympics in Hollywood, and even Las Vegas, symbol of decadence and corruption, was outrageous; to the Americans, they were showing the best of their culture and were proud of it. Both sides acted from sincere motives.

Watching the alien appear at the closing ceremony, I was inclined to think that he would have been more interested in Afghanistan, Nicaragua, the Lebanon and South Africa, rather than Los Angeles, and would have found little

to congratulate us about. Less than a year later, the Live-Aid concerts proved a far better example than the Olympics, by showing that we can have fun together and keep a realistic attitude to life, as well as doing something about it. Even I was tempted to believe in the Olympic-sell, but as soon as the next advertisement for Coca-Cola or Macdonalds came on, I doubted it again. When a hamburger is sold as the greatest experience in your life, where is the honesty when the same message is given for the Olympics, with the same sales techniques?

All America did, like every nation before her, was play by the rules of her culture. And that is what sport does; it makes people play by the rules, it is a means of teaching social conformity. I am not suggesting that this is bad, it is indeed essential, but to be realistic, I do not believe that any government will pump money into sport out of pure altruism - there are sound political reasons for doing so. Keeping people under control, and safely occupied, is perhaps the most important. This is fine, as long as we realise what is happening.

The shift in sport's social role in the century is from playing to watching; sport should serve as an example to others and be a passive recreation, but it is often no more than a means of killing time in front of the television. There is nothing wrong with entertainment, but when it is used as a drug to keep the public happy without offering real experience, it is not desirable. One commentator described sport as the "opiate of the people", quoting Marx. To Americans, sport exists as entertainment. As long as people pay for the product, it will be produced. Sports fulfils the role of entertainment perfectly, since it is an end in itself - it is by definition recreation, and it is not to be taken seriously, like art; and because it does not make demands on the intellect, the way that art does, it is less likely to become politically dangerous.

I would not suggest that sport has yet reached this level in all its aspects, even if television producers think that it has, but it demands awareness from competitors and onlookers to ensure that it never does. The worsening reputation of British football is a reminder to everyone that sport is in danger of becoming a modern form of gladiator fights, as foretold in the film ROLLERBALL. The recent television documentary on football violence which the F.A. opposed, showed that, like it or not, many of the troublesome supporters are not underprivileged, and are not disinterested in the game of football; they are indeed loyal supporters. A University of Birmingham report into football since the war suggested that increasing violence (there has always been some violence at football matches) has been caused by the failure of traditional working class supporters to change their attitude to the game, as the game itself changed. No doubt the popularity of darts and snooker on television is due to the working class being able to identify with the games being played, now that games such as football have become so commercialised. The second cause suggested by the report is the change in the status of the players. They changed from being men of similar background and lifestyles to the fans, to being super-stars, and so the traditional supporter - player relationship was lost. More than anything else, perhaps this shows the dangerous divide between sport as a recreation and sport as a drug. As events like the Olympics get bigger, and the fees higher, the latter will be difficult to avoid.

Most unavoidable is that sport is politics. It is politics between clubs, schools, towns, regions, coaches, and it is naive to think that it will ever be anything else at national level. It is political because that is part of life. Most people who deride flag waving at the Olympics do so because of the less desirable aspects of patriotism, when when displayed at its best,

patriotism is a perfectly good form of social cohesion. The Olympics were born within a sense of patriotism, in the era of great European empires. The best and the worst of these ideals still control the nature of international sport.

The British taught their colonies to play cricket and other sports as part of the process of exporting their culture. For the same reason, when the Soviet Union sends its advisers to another country, they send doctors, generals and sportsmen, because sports will get people to behave how you want them to behave. As such, it has always been part of what the Olympic organisers call "internationalism", and what politicians call imperialism.

The fact hit home when some commentator gaily announced that it was so nice to see China doing well in gymnastics. Hang on a minute; the Chinese have been doing well in gymnastics for a few thousand years! It didn't look like our idea of gymnastics, but what we mean in the Olympics by "international", is doing things the Western way. When was the last time that the Europeans began to play an African or Asian sport at the Olympics? Yet the only way that these nations win is by playing our games to our rules. In doing so, the traditional culture of many countries is being changed, or even obliterated. This is not only their loss, but ours, because we are denying ourselves the opportunity of benefitting from the riches, not necessarily material, of cultures other than our own.

This article is the cynic's view of our situation. Overall, the Olympics have become more egalitarian. Pierre de Coubertin did not want to admit women to the Olympics. For all the corruption of modern amateurism, it is an improvement on the days when the only competitors were the sons of the upper classes, with nothing else to do, (sorry, I'm being cynical again.)

Whatever the problems, the Olympics will probably continue, because if they do come to an end, another group of people will resurrect them, albeit in a different form. But it is interesting to remember that the sport of orienteering refused the offer to go "Olympic" because it would destroy the amateur feeling of the sport. Wasn't that what the Olympics were created to preserve?

IN BRIEF

Tim Nagel reports a third American Express meter from Brighton numbered PBE 1495. (see TORCH BEARER Vol. II pages 29 and 92)



The French Post Office souvenir card for the 1984 AUSIPEX exhibition was on an Olympic theme:



Lake Placid 1980.

The Organising Committee used two other meter cancellations, in addition to that mentioned by Glenn Estus in his article in December 1985 TORCH BEARER (pp. 174-6) PB 3009767 was used sometimes plain and sometimes with a slug showing the logo and text "LAKE PLACID / OLYMPIC ORGANISING COMMITTEE / LAKE PLACID, -NEW YORK 12046". Early on, (my copy is dated May 14 '75) they used PB 449387 with an illustration of a female skater and text "SKATE AT LAKE PLACID / ALL YEAR". The text is very small and hard to decipher.



Since the publication of the article, Glenn has discovered some earlier dates of the first use of the cancels.

<u>Post Office:</u>	<u>Earliest Date Known:</u>
Wilmington	23 November 1979
Plattsburgh	20 December 1979 (Definite First Day)
Ray Brook	16 January 1980
Saranac Lake	15 November 1979 (Definite First Day)
Tupper Lake	7 December 1979 (Definite First Day)
Lake Placid Type 2	9 November 1979
Lake Placid Type 3	Used from 5 March to 19 March 1980
Lake Placid Club	8 January 1980

LIBRARY LISTING

Members living in the United Kingdom may borrow books, paying postage and packing when they are returned. Members living overseas who would like to borrow books, should write to the Hon. Librarian for further details in the first instance. Alternatively, articles can be photocopied for the cost of copying and postages.

1. OLYMPIC BOOKS.

01. Post, Philately and Olympism. Philatelic Handbook and catalogue, issued by the I.O.C.
02. The Olympic Movement. IOC handbbok.
03. 1985 Philatelic Societies Directory and Yearbook. Published by B.P.F.
04. Romolympphil '82. Catalogue of the 1982 Exhibition organised by the Italian OC.
05. Olympilex '84. Catalogue of the exhibition organised by the LA00C.
06. Olympic Philately. IOC philatelic handbook
07. IOC Press Analysis. IOC publication. December 1974, March 1975, April 1975, July 1975 and October 1975.
08. Track and Field Olympic Records. Pub. 1948 by Harold Abrahams.
09. Olympics 1976. Official Preview of BOA.
010. The Fine Arts and the Olympic Games, the International Olympic Academy, 15th Session, July 1975. By Jean Durry.
011. The First Decade of Modern Olympic Games (1st part) International Olympic Academy 15th Session, 1975, Otto Szymiczek.
012. As above (2nd Part)
013. Basic Principles of Olympic Ideology. International Olympic Academy, 15th Session. Otto Szymiczek.

014. Olympia. The Great Centre of Ancient Greek Civilisation. International Olympic Academy, 15th Session. C.Palaeologos.
015. The Olympic Games 1908 - 1932. International Olympic Academy 15th Session. Erich Kamper.
016. From Berlin to Munich, 36 Years of Olympic Games. Experience and Points of View. International Olympic Academy 15th Session. Professor Dr. Franz Lots.
017. Official Report of the Olympic Games, Melbourne 1956. Cecil Bear. Pub. BOA.
018. Official Report of the Olympic Games, Mexico 1968. Bob Phillips. Pub. BOA.
019. Official Report on Ireland's Participation in the XIX Olympic Games, Mexico 1968. Olympic Council of Ireland.
020. Official Report of Participation in the XXIII Olympiad Los Angeles 1984.
021. Olympism. IOC Publication 1972.
022. Olympic Record. Official Daily Olympic Newspaper issued by LAOOC. Issues of 30 and 31 July, 1, 2, 4, 8 and 12 August 1984.
023. British Olympic Journal, issued by BOA. Vol.3 No.1. April 1933, Vol.3 No.2 July 1933, Vol.3. No.3. October 1933 and Vol.3 No.5. October 1934.
024. Sports Exchange World. No. 4. Winter 1979. Newsletter of the Centre for International Sports Studies.

2. NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.

- A1. "Flam Beau" Magazine of the Luxembourg Olympic Committee. In French. No.16, 1978, No.17, 1979, No.20, 1981, No.21, 1981 No.22, 1982.
- A2. Sports in Romania. Magazine of the Romanian Olympic Committee. In English.

- Nos. 3-4. 1979, special issue for Moscow Games, No.1 1983, No.3 1983, special issue for Los Angeles Games.
- A3. Olympic Bulletin. In English. Magazine of the Hungarian Olympic Committee. No. 16 1981.
- A4. Olympische Blätter. Magazine of the Austrian Olympic Committee. In German. December 1980, March 1981, August 1981, November 1981, April 1982, November 1982.
- A5. The Olympian. Magazine of the U.S. Olympic Committee. In English. July/August 1978.
- A6. Olympian Zimbabwe. Journal of the Zimbabwe Olympic Committee. In English. Oct. 1982.
- A7. Olympics. Magazine of the Belgian Olympic Committee. In French. No.1. March 1982.
- A8. Thailand Sport. Magazine of the Thailand Olympic Committee. In English. 1980.
- A9. Sports in Japan. Magazine of the Japanese Sports Association and Olympic Committee. In English. 1979 and 1980.
- A10. Pak Sports. Quarterly sports bulletin of the Pakistani Sports Board. In English. January 1981 and July 1981.
- A11. Olimpo. Magazine of the Portuguese Olympic Committee. In Portuguese. No.49 June 1979 and No.56 July 1983.
- A12. Sports Features. Monthly magazine of the Kuwait Olympic Committee. Very little English. Two examples, unnumbered.
- A13. Pana Olimpica. Magazine of the Panamanian Olympic Committee. In Spanish. No.2 December 1977.
- A14. Odepa Paso. Bulletin of the Nicaraguan Olympic Committee. Two part magazine, one in English No.7, 1977.

- A15. N.O.K. D.D.R. Bulletin of the National Olympic Committee of the German Democratic Republic. Two part magazine, one in English. No.1V 1981, No.1 1982, No.II 1983, No.III 1983, No.IV 1983 and No.II 1984.
- A16. Champion D'Afrique. Magazine Omnisport International Panafricain. Two part magazine, one in English. No.14 April 1980, No.19 July 1981, No.20 July 1981, No.25 October 1982, No.27 April 1983 October 1983.
- A17. Sport Magazine. British Olympic Assoc. No.3, Summer 1980.
- A18. Olympisches Feuer, Magazine of the National Olympic Committee of West Germany. In English. Issue of 1977.
- A19. Polski Komitet Olimpiski. Magazine of the Polish Olympic Committee. In Polish. Bulletin No.8 1980.
- A20. Bulgarian Olympic Committee Bulletin. Two part magazine, one in English. No.VII Feb 1962, No.XXV Dec 1977, No.XXVIII May 1980, No.XXXE March 1980, June 1980, September 1980 and special issue, March 1980.
- A21. Notiziario Sport. Magazine of the San Marino Olympic Committee. In French. No.1 1983, No.2 1984, Nos. 3 & 4 1985

3. ONGOING I.O.C. PUBLICATIONS.

- B1. Olympic Message. No.7 June 1984,
No.8. December 1984.
- B2. Olympic Encyclopedia. April 1985,
gymnastics and archery.

4. OLYMPIC PHILATELIC SOCIETY JOURNALS.

- C1. Sports Philatelists International
Vol. 23 No.1 Sept-Oct 1984
Vol. 23 No.2 Nov-Dec 1984

Vol.23 No.3 Jan-Feb 1985
 Vol.23 No.5 May-Jun 1985
 Vol.23 no.6 Jul-Aug 1985.

C2. IMOS Journal. Magazine of the German Olympic and Sports Collectors. In German. No.46 Feb 1985, No.47 May 1985, No.48 August 1985.

C3. Torch Bearer, all back issues to Vol. 1 Issue 1, March 1984.

5. ONGOING SPORTS MAGAZINES.

D1. Sport and Leisure, October 1985.

When requesting books or periodicals from the library, please quote the number and letter given on the left, it will avoid mistakes. As new publications are received, they will be mentioned in future issues of TORCH BEARER.

We offer extensive stocks covering all countries of the world. The services available are listed below; please mark in the box provided the services which appeal to you. Details, lists or catalogues will be forwarded as required. SAE please.

APPROVALS

Mint selections from south and central America, East and West Europe, Scandinavia, Balkans, Asia, Africa, Oceania and Commonwealth countries.

WORLDWIDE MAILBID SALES

No frills postal auctions, with emphasis on FOREIGN, but also Commonwealth. No G.B.

THEMATIC MAIL SALES

Offering scarcer sets, miniature sheets, covers, imperforates, proofs, collections. All themes covered.

WANTS LISTS

All foreign countries covered. Forms available for convenience.

THEMATIC PRICE LISTS

Issued approximately monthly, offering various countries. SAE for sample copies.

Use your

Access or Visa Cards

EUROPEAN & FOREIGN STAMPS



 Please complete your Name and Address and forward to our address. P.O.Box 1 Pontypridd CF37 5RA.

NAME.....Tel No.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POSTCODE.....

THOSE GREMLINS AGAIN!

Compiled by Bob Wilcock.

(Believe it or not, TORCH BEARER is proof-read on three occasions before it is printed, and even so, the mistakes slip through! ED)

Those of you who read the index to the December issue will have turned eagerly to page 163 to find that S.O.C. had not discovered a secret Games in 1922, but were leading you forward to the next-but-one Games, and the next gremlin. The piece about Barcelona should have read... 'There were no ordinary machine cancels advertising Barcelona's Olympic bid'(yet!) and there are, in fact, at least three meter machines. Tim Nagel has reported another:

MIENTO DE BARCELONA
REGISTRO GENERAL

TIFICACION

TARIFA
REDUCIDA
SPECIAL

BARCELONA
CAPALS JOCS
OLIMPICS



John Crowther was relieved to find that Southport was still in the North West when he got there in February, and not in the North East as stated on page 173!

The Wenlock Olympian Society did not, in fact, try to divide parliament (p. 199), they sent them a petition; and if you were wondering what London SW61 and 62 had to do with the 1908 Games (p. 188) relax, these postmarks were adjacent to the Olympic marks in the impressions book, and were copied for the article in error by our mischievous gremlins!

You will be pleased to learn that the British Olympic Association have gremlins too; on 8 October 1985, their meter showed 8.10.74. In 1974, the B.O.A. were at 12 Buckingham Street not at their address shown on the meter.

THE BIRMINGHAM CHALLENGE

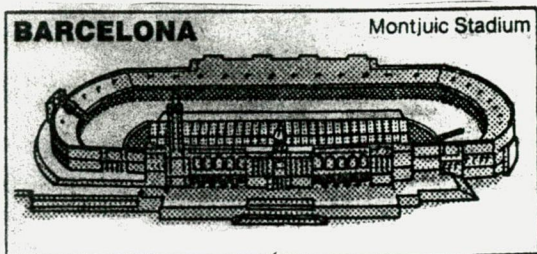
Sidney Amery.

The Mayor of Brisbane in a public address, stated that he was optimistic that the Games of 1992 would be given to his fair Australian city. The reason that he gave was that it was over three decades since the Olympic Games had been celebrated in the southern hemisphere. According to that calculation, New Delhi has greater cause for optimism, for the Games have never been held on the Indian sub-continent. Paris, Barcelona Amsterdam and Birmingham's mayors have made equally extravagant claims for the success of their own candidature, and perhaps with more justification. In 1992, it will be twenty two years since the Games were held on European soil, and although the Games belong to all nations of the world, they had their beginnings deep in Europe, and were essentially a European innovation.

The final outcome will not be known until the International Olympic Committee meets in Lausanne in October of this year, but long before then, all the cities who are hoping to host the XXV Olympiad will be vying with each other to gain the advantage. At the time of writing, Barcelona appears to be the front runner, with Paris the second favourite and Birmingham in third place, but much water will flow under the bridge between now and October.

It is anticipated that the gross expenditure for promotion and publicity for the cities that are hoping to host the Winter and Summer Games in 1992 will be in excess of £30 million; money that is largely wasted except by the two successful candidates. The President of the I.O.C. is believed to be concerned that so much money will be spent for a cause that will not even benefit the Games themselves. In a statement in September last year, Senor Samaranch said that after the Seoul Games, steps would be taken that will prevent repetition of such waste.

Of those cities which have bid for the Summer Games, some have a greater chance of success than others. Barcelona is the home town of Juan Antonio Samaranch, and he is believed to favour that city, although he has publicly declared to the mayor, Pasqual Marragal, that to believe that he would try to influence any member of the I.O.C. would be an insult to their honour, integrity and independence. Samaranch also has too much honour and integrity to take such an action. Barcelona already has three sports facilities and the Mont Juic stadium is to be completely refurbished. To build the village and to provide the accommodation for the athletes, Spain's state railways have agreed to pull up their old lines along the coast. Thus the village and the four main sporting centres would be spread over a radius of some eight miles; considerably less than at Los Angeles. However, the Mont Juic stadium, where most of the athletic events would be held, has only one road leading up to it, and that at a long incline. The athletes themselves are against the Barcelona site for this reason, particularly the marathon runners, who would have to face a long uphill slog at the end of a tiring race.

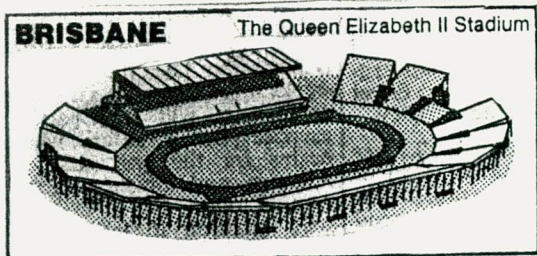


Since the departure of Monique Berlioux from the I.O.C., Paris's chances of hosting the Games have sipped considerably. The members of the I.O.C. are less than happy that the Mayor of Paris, Jacques Chirac, is using the Games for his own political promotion, but Paris's strongest card is that 1992 will be the centenary of the first Sorbonne meeting chaired by Pierre de Coubertin. The Paris scheme, which will cost some £800

million, involves dispersing the sporting events around Paris and its environs. Fontainebleau would be the site for the equestrian events and the modern pentathlon. Mantes de Jolie, for the rowing and canoeing. The Olympic Village would be sited on the eastern outskirts of the city at Bercy-Tolbiac, and the Olympic stadium would be built either in the Bois de Vincennes or in the Parc de Tremblay. It is intended to use the Eiffel Tower to house the Olympic Flame and the Champs Elysées for the opening ceremony.

Amsterdam, with its inner city decay, traffic problems and vice of all descriptions, seems an unlikely candidate to host an Olympic Games. However, since the Dutch have seen how well the Californians were able to organise the Games, and bring in much needed money, Amsterdam believes that it could make profits, as well as host a successful Olympiad. It is the Dutch intention to spread the sporting events throughout the Netherlands, though this is against I.O.C. policy, and may well rule them out as a serious confender.

Brisbane's Lord Mayor, Alderman Sally Anne Atkinson, believes that her city's successful hosting of the Commonwealth Games in 1982 have given them useful experience in hosting a large sporting event. The ability to house all the sportsmen in one village, as well as their existing sporting facilities, could possibly give them an edge. The Queen Elizabeth II Stadium and the Chandlers Sports Centre were all newly built or renovated for the 1982 games, and are in excellent condition. The Olympic Village and yachting centre would be built at Boondall, about sixteen kilometres from the city centre and close to the new international airport. Two things appear to be against Brisbane as a possible venue in 1992; its distance from anywhere else, and the Australian quarantine laws, which prevented the equestrian events from taking place in Melbourne in 1956, and would be likely to cause problems again.

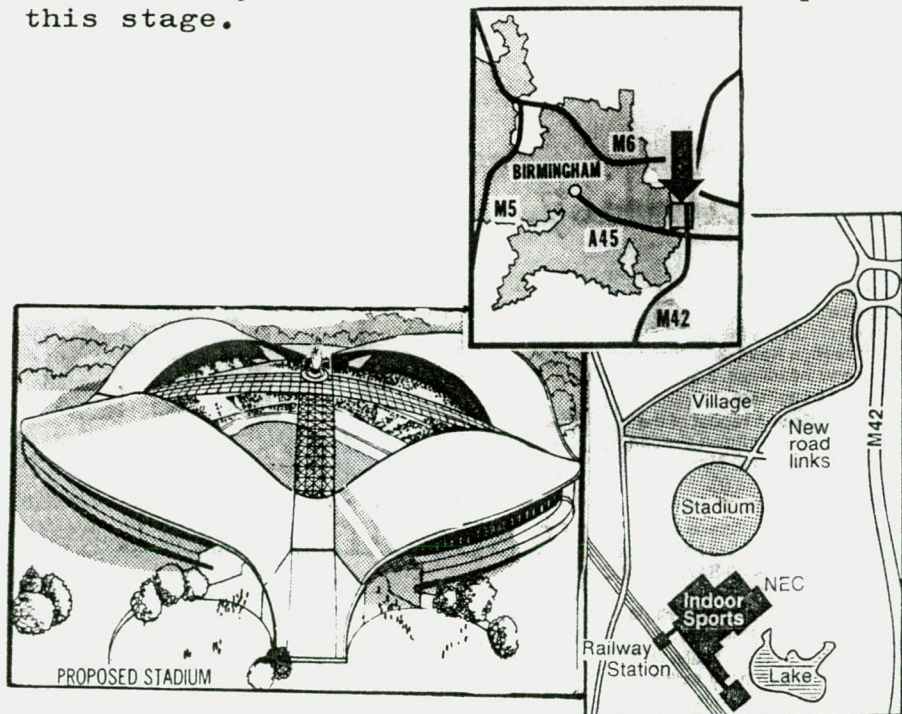


From newspaper reports, it seems unlikely that either Belgrade or New Delhi are serious contenders; it has not even been possible to find details of their plans in the British press.

Which leaves Birmingham. From Britain's point of view, the hot favourite! Birmingham's Olympic focus would be placed around the National Exhibition Centre, which has eight arenas where the indoor events would be held. Situated near to the M5, M6 and M42 motorways, and less than ten miles from the city centre, it is next to Birmingham's international airport and has its own railway station. The annual Motor Show is held at the N.E.C. each autumn and copes with over one hundred thousand visitors a day, more than would be expected to attend the Games. Birmingham's other trump card is that there is sufficient surrounding open ground that a new 70,000 seat stadium can be built adjoining the centre, and the Olympic Village and training facilities could be built within walking distance. The greatest distance between any of the land-based sporting venues would be approximately five miles. The yachting events would be held at Weymouth on the south coast, and the rowing and canoeing events would be held at Holme Pierrepont near Nottingham.

Birmingham has adopted the slogan, "We will give the Olympics back to the athletes", and this has appealed to both athletes and those members of the I.O.C. who feel that recent Games have been too politically or commercially

orientated. However, in spite of the obvious advantages, realistically, Birmingham can only be viewed as the favourite outsider. The vote will be taken by the ninety two members of the I.O.C. and these will have to be won over to vote for Birmingham. No mean task, for Paris, Barcelona and Amsterdam are already well known to most of them and many have never visited Britain's second city. The Spanish-speaking South Americans, as well as the other Latin members of the I.O.C. are likely to vote for Barcelona, and the Spanish city is also likely to win the vote of some African and Asian members. However, the eastern Europeans are likely to vote in favour of Birmingham, and Dennis Howell, the former Labour Sports Minister and M.P for Birmingham, is hoping that his recent mission to many African countries will win extra votes. Birmingham has a long way to go, but it would be foolhardy to write it out of the script at this stage.



WARNING! FORGERIES

Manfred Bergman.

WARNING to all collectors of the 1906 Greek Olympic issue.

1. For many years perforation varieties, and in particular, imperforate stamps of this issue were, and are, being offered in public auction. This has been mainly in Greece and Switzerland, but also in Italy, Germany, Great Britain and the United States.

2. While some of these imperforate varieties are genuine, (1, 2, 3, 5, 10, lepta and 1 Dr) others, (20, 25 and 50 lepta) are ALL doctored.

3. One should know that NO IMPERFORATE STAMPS EXIST OF THE 20, 25 and 50 lepta values. All those offered on the market, even those with so-called broad margins, are the result of falsifications. In ALL cases, it is a question of misplaced perforations, which were then cut to create imperforate stamps.

4. One should refuse to bid on any of these doctored items, and demand of the auctioneers that they are withdrawn (or described correctly as forgeries for study purposes, and sold at a correspondingly low price.) Even certified or signed items should be regarded with caution, for they are still falsifications.

5. If you are in possession of such items, have them expertised. You may use them for study purposes, but they should never be shown at exhibition as genuine imperforate stamps.

6. Please note that partially imperforate stamps of all the values in this issue are, in the majority of cases, also doctored items. Here also, broad margins, produced by misplaced perforations, were cut to create partially imperforate items.

7. In the near future, I shall publish an article on these items, with full details.

NEW GREEK DISCOVERY

Michael Tsironis.

Notification of a "Plate Error" on the surcharged Olympic stamp, 1 Drh, with AM/5/ΑΕΠΤΑ on the 1900 issue (no. 174 in the Vlastos catalogue.)

It is known that on this overprinted Olympic stamp, five different plate errors have been discovered. This is perhaps the largest known number for the Olympic stamps that were overprinted in December 1900 by Royal Decrees of 14 December and 30 December 1900 (Gregorian Calendar). Perhaps it is also the largest number that have been found on a Greek stamp.

The known plate errors are as follows:

1. "Gothic" Μ (positions 21, 22, 31, 32 and 51)
2. "Small Gothic" Μ (position 52)
3. Double overprint (on a sheet of sixty stamps)
4. Λ of ΑΕΠΤΑ misplaced downwards (position 28)
5. "ΑΛΠΤΑ" instead of ΑΕΠΤΑ (positions 23 & 57)

The exact locations of errors 4 and 5 were unknown until today.

Today, on 12 September 1985, I give notice of one more plate error of this stamp.

I have discovered a "Gothic Type" letter Λ, with the right leg much wider than the left one, unlike the other letters, (Greek letter "L") which all have both legs of the same thickness.

This error only exists in position 35 of the large sheet of sixty stamps (the fifth stamp of the fourth sheetlet) on the first letter of the Greek word ΑΕΠΤΑ and it is unique. So, in this position, the word appears ΛΕΠΤΑ instead of ΑΕΠΤΑ.

This error has not been mentioned in any other study, nor has it been named or identified in any exhibited collection. I hope that this information will be of help to both Olympic and Greek collectors.

OLYMPHILEX '85 LAUSANNE

Bob Wilcock.

In the June 1985 issue of Torch Bearer, I wrote generally about the exhibition. What follows is a check-list summary of the philatelic aspects.

1. THE SWISS POST OFFICE.

- a) No stamp was issued, but the stamp for Lausanne, Olympic City, issued on 21 February 1984 was available throughout the exhibition in the temporary P.O.
- b) Slogan postmarks used from 1 February till 24 March 1985:
 - 1000 Lausanne 1 (French text)
 - 3000 Bern 1 (German text)
 - 6900 Lugano 1 (Italian text)
- c) Exhibition handstamp, fixed date slug
18-24 Mars 1985.

II. I.O.C. / F.I.P.O.

- a) Meter slogan in IOC machine (11416) used from early January 1985.
- b) Cover with pre-printed logo (220x115mm) used for invitations etc.
- c) Souvenir cover (163x115mm) FIPO No. 1/85
- d) Souvenir postcard. FIPO No. 2/85
- e) Vignettes in sheets of nine.

III. COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT OLYMPHILEX.

ALBANIA. Four stamps and handstamp

BULGARIA. Handstamp only

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. Six stamps, miniature sheet and handstamp.

CHINA. Red and black handstamps and a silk cover.

COMORES. Miniature sheet with overprint.

CONGO. Miniature sheet with overprint.

EAST GERMANY. No souvenirs at their stand.

FRANCE. Handstamp and card with 1984 stamp.

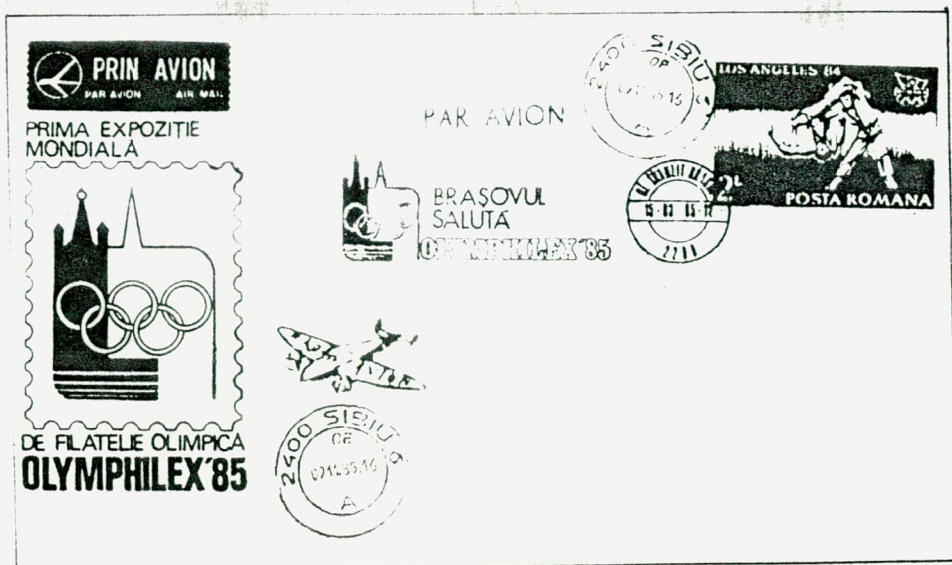
HUNGARY. Two stamps, both perf. and imperf., handstamp and FDC dated 13 March 1985.
ICELAND. Handstamp
ITALY. Handstamp
LIBYA. Five stamps and handstamp
LUXEMBOURG. Handstamp
NIGER. Miniature sheet with overprint.
POLAND. Handstamp.
SAN MARINO. Handstamp and aerogramme.
SOUTH KOREA. Two handstamps and pre-release Olympic stamps and miniature sheet.
UNITED NATIONS. Card (8000)
USA. Handstamp and card. (80,000, of which 2,000 were available at Lausanne.

Items from Comores, Congo, Central African Republic and Niger are available from the French dealer Theodor Champion. (the postal administration stand of Central African Republic sold the stamps and other miniature sheet of that country.

IV. COUNTRIES NOT REPRESENTED AT OLYMPHILEX.

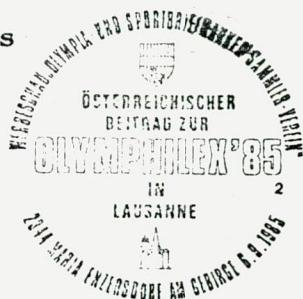
CAMEROON. One stamp, issued 5 April 1985.
Handstamp FDI Yaoude.
MOZAMBIQUE. One stamp, issued 18 March 1985.
Handstamp FDI Maputo.
NICARAGUA. One miniature sheet issued 18 March 1985. Handstamp FDI Nicaragua.
PARAGUAY. Overprint on IOG LA stamp, sheet-let of 5=4 labels.
SPAIN. One stamp, issued 18 March 1985.
Non-Olympic FDC.
ZAIRE. Eight values, issued 19 April 1985.
Non-Olympic cancel.

It is reported that Rumania was officially represented at the exhibition but, like the Chinese, did not have a stand. I was not aware of this, but the Rumanian collector, Dan Vintila from Brasov was there, and no doubt he had a hand in the production of the cover and cancellation that is illustrated overleaf.



(Illustrated half size.)

In September 1985, the Austrians also cashed in, with the hand-stamp for the Stamp Show of the Olympic and Sports Stamp Collectors Union, held at Maria Enzersdorf, which refers back to Olymphilex.



On a lighter note, your Editor's husband saw that some of the banks in Lausanne were advertising the exhibition with rather a nice poster, and was determined to get one. He did not realise that it was mounted on heavy cardboard that could not be folded! Undaunted, Francesca took the poster as part of her hand luggage! It now has pride of place in the games room, all two square metres of it!

MORE NOTES ON 1908

Sherwin Podolsky.

Bob Wilcock's article, LONDON 1908, (Torch Bearer December 1985) laid out the possibilities of collecting this difficult Olympiad philatelically and pseudo-philatelically. His article makes reference to the dates July 13 - 25, and 24 October 1908 as dates to seek in postmarks. These are not the only dates of Olympic interest. Reference to David Wallechinsky's indispensable "The Complete Book of Olympics" (mentioned in the article) discloses several other dates.

Wallechinsky's book is arranged not chronologically but by event, and it thus makes the search for the requisite dates a bit of a chore. However, once the student has done his homework, he has a list of dates with additional details that can conveniently be carried to any dealer, fair or bourse as an aide-memoire for immediate use. Wallechinsky gives the duration of the IV Olympiad, London 1908 as 27 April to 31 October. However, the Olympic events took place on relatively few of those dates. There was a most interesting range of events that took place outside the main dates.

DATE (1908)	EVENT
27 April	Rackets
14 May	Indoor Tennis
28 May	Jeu de Paume
21 June	Polo
12 August	Yachting (12 metre)
28-9 August	Motor Boating
19 October	Rugby
24 October	Soccer and Lacrosse
27 October	Boxing
29 October	Figure Skating
31 October	Field Hockey.

Thus a specialist in any of these sports has something specific to look for. Are there collectors specialising in obsolete Olympic sports?

Wallechinsky identifies them and gives useful and interesting information for the researcher. He only gives the dates of the finals in each event, however, and field hockey in London took place over three days, 29, 30 and 31 October.

Wallechinsky also does not give the precise venues for the events, and most of those above did not, in fact, take place in the stadium, or as a part of the Franco-British Exhibition. To find this information out, research is needed in the official report, or a British newspaper of the day, such as *The Times*. Then the collector will know which postmarks for the day are most relevant to the collection. Finding them may be another matter!

When it comes to collecting Olympic postcards, I think the specialist should be careful and liberal, as appropriate. Obviously a postcard showing an event and postmarked on the day of the event must be suspect, but 1908 postcard makers worked fast, and a postmark of the following day would not be impossible, and would probably be a 'First Day Postmark' for such a card! Dr Manfred Bergman, the Olympic philatelist and international judge, who has contributed several articles in past *Torch Bearers*, has advised me that an Olympic item at least postmarked in the Olympic year is quite collectable and exhibitionable. A 1908 Olympic postcard showing an Olympic event and postally used in 1914, may well be commercially travelled, but is non-contemporary. Finding those elusive 1908 dates is what we must all aim for.

EDITOR'S NOTE. Sherwin Podolsky is the President of Sports Philatelists International, based in the USA. His original text suggests that S.O.C. might publish a catalogue of 1908 postcards and other collectibles. Our Librarian, Ken Cook and Bob Wilcock have this idea in mind, and are trying to arrange access to the British Olympic Association archives. In due course, it is hoped that a catalogue or handbook will be published.

ALBERTVILLE 1992

In the last TORCH BEARER, News of 1992 (pp 163-166) first details of the Albertville publicity was included, and the slogan postmark mentioned was, in fact, brought into use on 3 August 1985.

On 3 October 1985 at a press conference in Paris the next stage of the candidature campaign was launched, including a set of sixteen postcards with designs in stamp style. The Albertville organisers have formed a sponsorship committee taken from leading French and international concerns, the 'Savoie XV'. Each of the fifteen sponsors is named on one of the fifteen post cards. The sixteenth card is pre-addressed to one of the ninety two I.O.C. members.

The French public are invited to buy the cards, keep the fifteen, and send off the sixteenth, so that all the I.O.C. members get the message, "I believe in Savoy for the Winter Olympics!" This is the name of the campaign.

Bob Wilcock has a few sets of cards available, and can supply them to members for £2.25 for U.K. members, £2.50 or DM 10 for Europe or £3.00 or \$5 US elsewhere.

(Offer limited to one set per member.)



1986 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Bob Wilcock.

The Commonwealth Games are held every four years, midway between Olympics, and this year Edinburgh is the host city. The British Post Office, (and no doubt others) will be issuing stamps, and we hope to have full details of these, and the postal arrangements for the games in the June issue of TORCH BEARER.

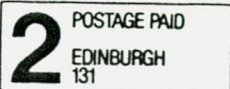
The programme is as follows:

Opening Ceremony	24 July
Athletics	26 July - 2 August
Badminton	25 July - 1 August
Bowls	" "
Boxing	" "
Cycling	25 July - 2 August
Rowing	25 - 29 July
Shooting	25 July - 1 August
Swimming	25 - 30 July
Weightlifting	25 - 29 July
Wrestling	30 July - 1 August
Closing Ceremony	2 August

Those who apply for tickets will receive information in a semi-transparent 'PPI' (Post Paid Impression) envelope.



XIII COMMONWEALTH GAMES
SCOTLAND 1986



PRINTED PAPER

SEALED UNDER PERMIT

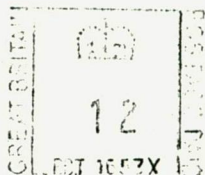
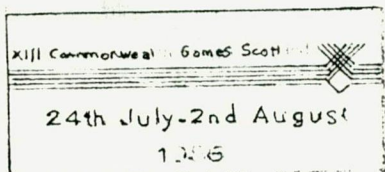
EDINBURGH 23

Mr R J Wilcock
24 Hamilton Crescent
BRENTWOOD
Essex
CM14 5ES

BOOKING FORM

THE TICKET CENTRE 22 MARKET STREET EDINBURGH EH1 1DB

The Organising Committee also have a slogan meter machine, No. PBT 1653X.



+++++

FROM THE PACKET SECRETARY.

Contributors did the Packet proud at the end of the year, so I was able to get an extra packet sent out, and every member should have received one of the four packets in circulation in good time to persuade his or her spouse to buy that extra nice item as a Christmas present. As I write, I now have only about £40 worth ready, and I need £400 plus for a new packet, so please, all members turn out your duplicates as a matter of urgency! Commission is only 10%, and for this year at least, there is no extra charge for insurance. Sales have been approaching 50%, and the turn-round time should be only 7-9 months.(It's up to two years in some societies.)

I have, however, regrettably had to take action where packets have been unnecessarily held up, so may I remind ALL members of the rules, that packets should be sent on within three days of receipt, and the advice slip etc. should be sent to me on the same day. If there are any problems, please telephone me; my number is in every packet. At least then I know what is happening, and we can discuss what is best to be done. Help me, and I am more than willing to accommodate you. Thank you for your cooperation.

+++++

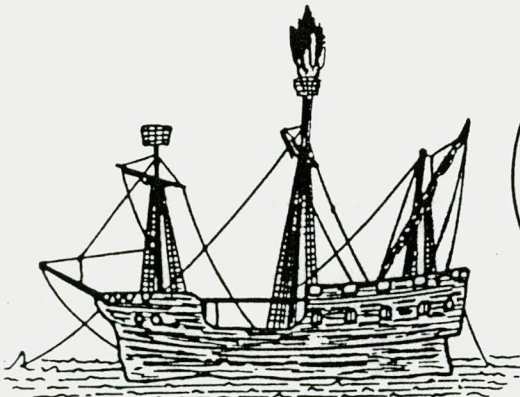
PROFILE

Avery Brundage was born in Detroit, Michigan on 28 September 1887 and he died in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on 8 May 1975. His life-long love of sport led him to the position of President of the International Olympic Committee. He was a domineering and controversial holder of that position for twenty years from 1952 to 1972. He did more to set the tone of modern Olympic Games than any other individual, although always with the best intentions, not always in the best interests of sport. He was so convinced of the need to preserve amateurism in all its purity, that it became almost a fetish, and many athletes were either threatened or punished for relatively minor deviations of his stringent rules. He created a great deal of international ill-feeling by dismissing highly significant political events as irrelevant to Olympic competition. The most controversial aspect of this doctrine was when he insisted that the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich must be continued, in spite of the murder of the eleven Israeli athletes by Palestinian terrorists.

It was largely on account of his refusal to boycott the Games of 1936 in Berlin, that the Games were not moved to another venue on that occasion.

He participated at both the pentathlon and the decathlon at the V Olympiad in Stockholm before founding his own construction company, which eventually made him a multi-millionaire. He was the President of the American Amateur Athletic Union from 1928 until 1933, and again in 1935. He was elected a member of the International Olympic Committee in 1936, having been the President of the U.S. Olympic Committee since 1929. He gave up this position in 1953, after becoming the President of the International Olympic Committee. Prior to becoming its president, he served as vice president for seven years from 1945. Brundage exemplified his own doctrine of non-commercialism in Olympic sports, giving up as much as six months of each year to a post that paid no salary or personal expenses.

1986 marks the 50th anniversary of the Olympic Games in Berlin. Kiel is commemorating the 1936 Yachting events by a special card, handstamp and machine cancellation, as illustrated below. This card and machine cancellation is only available for bulk orders. They have been prepared by our sister organisation in Germany, IMOS. If SOC members would like to receive copies, they cost DM2 each, or two international reply coupons, which should be sent, as soon as possible, to Mr Ingo Goldman, Schoolredder 10, 2300 Altenholz, West Germany. It was hoped to use the Olympic rings on the handstamp, but since the German Olympic Committee refused permission for this, a torch was used, which also commemorates for first Torch Relay from Olympia to Berlin.

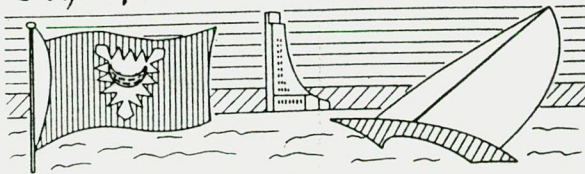


Motif for the postcard.



Handstamp.

Olympiade - Segeln - Kiel



1936 * 50 Jahre * 1986

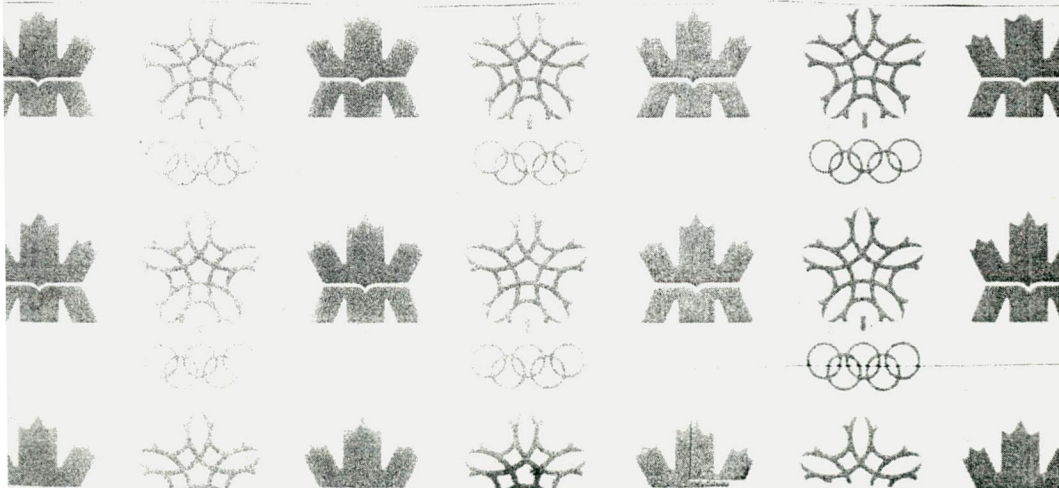
Machine cancellation for bulk orders

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Kieler Briefmarkensammler - Vereine

Glenn Estus also reports that the Canadian Mint will be issuing a set of ten Twenty Dollar silver coins. These will be issued in sets of two coins every six months until the Games. The first will show Downhill Skiing and Speed Skating. The second, Hockey and Biathlon. Members wishing to obtain further details of the coins being minted can do so by writing to the Royal Canadian Mint, FREEPOST RCC 156/28, P.O. Box 14, Horley Surrey RH6 8DW. This address is only for members living in the United Kingdom. Members living abroad may write to the Royal Canadian Mint at the above address, but postage must be paid.



The envelope in which the details are sent, has the official Calgary 1988 logo as a fading motif about the address window,. The postage-paid reply envelope has the Calgary motif on both the flap and the address side, while the inside of both envelopes is printed in grey with an all-over Olympic logo.



Our sister society in West Germany, IMOS, issued an interesting newsletter in November 1985. It contained articles by Manfred Winterheimer concerning the next Olympic Games in Seoul, Recent world-wide Olympic cancels, as well as new sports cancellations, and an article on skiing sports in philately. Gerd Bethke wrote in football in Germany from 1949 to 1960, and other articles covered cycling and table tennis.

+++++

Everybody must know that 1986 is the fiftieth anniversary of the Berlin Olympic Games. IMOS have produced two postcards which show the two poster designs used in 1936 for the Winter and the Summer Games. These cards are available for DM3 each in mint condition, or with special cancels used from Kiel, Garmisch Partenkirchen or Mühlheim am Main (where a special Olympic exhibition is being held at the beginning of March.) For further details, write to Manfred Winterheimer, Rosenstrasse 34, 6501 Schwabenheim, West Germany.

+++++

Those members who collect sports in general, may be interested to know that the Commonwealth Games will be held in Edinburgh from 24 July to 2 August 1986.

Tickets will cost between £3 and £10 for most events, other than the opening and closing ceremonies, where tickets will cost £6, £10, £16 or £20. For full details and information about inclusive trips, write to The Commonwealth Games Ticket Centre, 22 Market Str. Edinburgh EH1 1QB.

+++++

It was announced at the beginning of January that Lee Yong Ho, South Korea's Sports Minister was dismissed from his post. It is hoped that this will clear the way for the delayed signing of the television rights between the National Broadcasting Corporation of the USA and the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee.

THE LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS

Crown Agents Report, first published in Stamp Magazine, August 1984, and reprinted with permission.

1984 saw the venue of the Olympic Games in Los Angeles. It is absolutely certain that the participants of the original Olympics would have been hard put to recognise this great competition, for changes have been immense.

The original Games lasted five days and were primarily a part of a religious festival in honour of Zeus. They were held every fourth year at the full moon, in August or September alternately, in a remote part of southern Greece. Any free-born Greek was eligible but competitors were required to arrive a month or so early for training.

The first day of the festival was taken up with a final scrutiny of the competitors and the administering of oaths. The second day started with the most spectacular event of all, the chariot race. The course involved frequent 180 degree turns through narrow gaps and there were plenty of spills, thrills and excitement. To follow was the pentathlon, running, jumping, throwing the discus and the javelin and wrestling.

A great sacrifice to Zeus occupied the third morning, and in the afternoon, a boys events took place, wrestling, running and in later years, the pankration, a form of all-in wrestling, where kicking, slapping and punching, but not biting or gouging, were allowed. Competitors between the ages of twelve and eighteen were eligible, although without the aid of birth certificates, a certain amount of bending of the rules seems to have occurred occasionally.

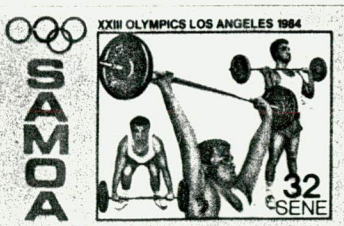
The most eagerly anticipated events took place on the penultimate day. These were the men's strength events: wrestling, boxing and the pankration. Boxing was the most blood-thirsty of all however, for the opponents wore hard leather thongs round their hands and wrists and could aim their punches anywhere. Ancient authors record some exceedingly gory stories. Arrachion, a pankratist, about to be fatally asphyxiated by a neck-scissors, breaks his opponent's toe and wins the contest an instant before his demise, the dead body is crowned with the coveted wreath. Leontiscus, a famous wrestler, introduced the strategy of breaking the other man's fingers as quickly as possible in the contest. The final event of this violent day was a race with the competitors clothed in full armour!



The final day was given over to feasting and celebrations. As time went on, professionalism entered into the contests. They were finally suppressed in the fourth century AD as a disreputable and unnecessary event.

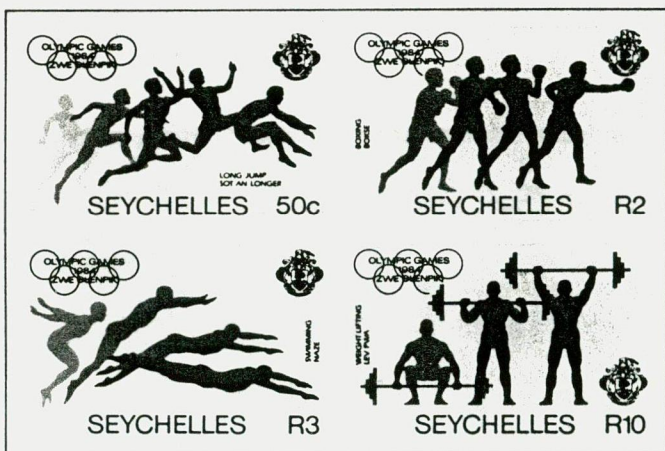
The reintroduction of the Olympic Games owes its inauguration to Baron Pierre de Coubertin, an enterprising Frenchman, and they were first held in Athens in 1896. The Olympic Charter of that time outlines the high ideals:

1. To promote the development of those physical and moral qualities which are the basis of sport.
2. To educate young people through sport in a spirit of better understanding between each other and of friendship, thereby helping to build a better and more peaceful world.
3. To spread the Olympic principles throughout the world, thereby creating international goodwill.
4. To bring together the athletes of the world in the great four-yearly sports festival, the Olympic Games.



At the 1928 Olympics, held in Amsterdam, track and field events and one gymnastics event were introduced for women. They had however participated since the 1900 Olympics, but their numbers were small. By 1928, they still comprised only ten percent of all competitors. The 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles were the first Games to be held outside Europe, and were notable for the concept of the Olympic Village. There were no Games in 1940 and 1944. The first post-War Games were held in London in 1948, where fifty nine nations were represented by a total of 4,700 competitors. Helsinki, which was to have hosted the 1940 Games, hosted the next Olympics in 1952. In 1956 Melbourne staged the first Olympic Games to be held in the southern hemisphere. The 1960 Olympics were

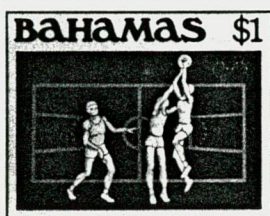
SEYCHELLES



OLYMPIC GAMES 1984 ZWÉ OLENPIK

held in Rome, and there for the first time the number of competitors exceeded 5,000! in 1964, the Games were staged in Tokyo. The 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City, taxed competitors who had to acclimatise themselves to the city's rarified atmosphere. In recent years, the Olympic Games have become more and more a focus of world attention, and have been the subject of political controversy. At Munich in 1972, eleven Israeli athletes and a West German policeman were killed by a terrorist band; a number of countries withdrew from the 1976 Montreal Games in protest at South Africa's apartheid policies and some sixty nations refused to participate in the Moscow Olympics in protest against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

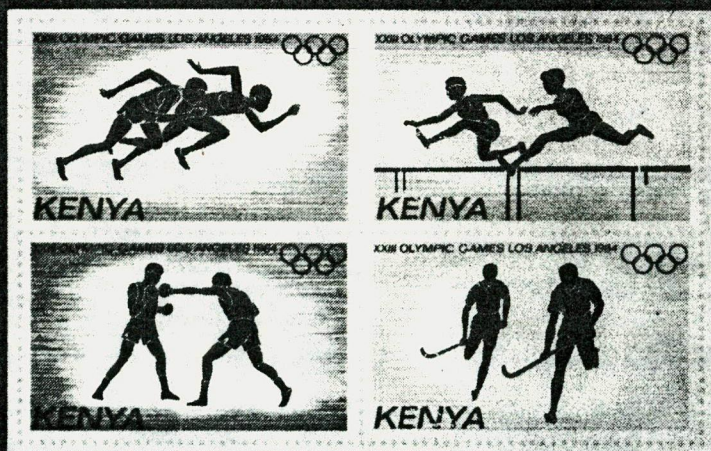
The Los Angeles Olympics, the XXIII Olympiad, took place from 28 July to 12 August 1984 and were funded by private enterprise. The estimated costs of the Games were between \$450 and \$500 million. The events included archery, basket-ball, canoeing, fencing, football, hand-ball, hockey, volley-ball and yachting, and there was a comprehensive arts festival during the Games as well.



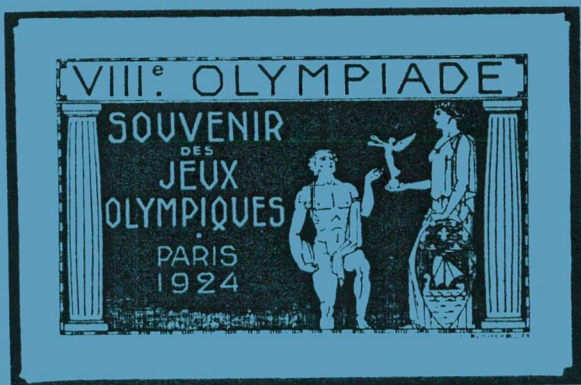
The following countries represented by the Crown Agents issued stamps to commemorate the XXIII Olympiad:

The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, The Gambia, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tanzania and Zambia.

(Editor's note: The 1932 Los Angeles Games were not the first to be held in the United States, they were first held there in 1904 in St. Louis. The first Olympic Village was in Paris in 1924. In London 1948, 69 nations and 4,062 athletes participated.)







FINE OLYMPIC MATERIAL
SOLD REGULARLY THROUGH
DAVID FELDMAN AUCTIONS

Consignments solicited for our next sale.

DAVID FELDMAN S.A.

P.O. Box 81, (175, rte de Chancy)
1213 Onex-Geneva, Switzerland
Tel.: Geneva (022) 57 25 30 Telex: 422 757