

TORCH BEARER



SOC

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

TORCH BEARER

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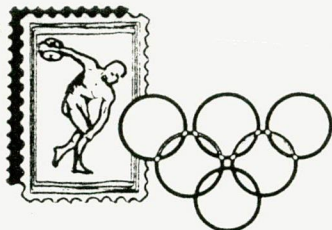
CONTENTS:

Your Committee	51
The Wenlock Olympian Society	52
Where in Winter 1992?	53
Reading Matters	58
Member's Forum	59
In Brief	60
News	63
News From Calgary	65
News From Seoul	66
More Thoughts on Olympic Collecting	67
Dear Francesca (Reader's Letters)	75
When was I Issued?	76
Let's Exhibit A Torch Bearer	80
Finland's Olympic Contribution	81
Australia's Sporting Hall of Fame	95
Germany's Fiftieth Anniversary	96

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WHERE IN WINTER 1992?

All those cities which are hoping to host the XVI Olympic Winter Games have been written to, and the following report is compiled from the official brochures from those committees that have replied.

Candidate to host the 1992 Olympic Winter Games
Candidat aux Jeux Olympiques d'hiver en 1992

Lillehammer · Norway



LILLEHAMMER.

In making his bid to host the 1992 Olympic Winter Games, Jan Syse, the Norwegian Minister of Industry said at a reception at the 90th Session of the I.O.C. in Berlin in June 1985, "We will make the Olympic Winter Games as sophisticated as you want them, as prudent as you wish them and as friendly as you like them." So what has this Norwegian resort, 180 kilometres north of the capital, Oslo, to offer?

Norway has a long history as a winter sporting nation, and has been represented at all the Olympic Winter Games since the beginning at Chamonix in 1924. Because of this long tradition, Norway has a great deal of experience in organising winter sporting championships. The first national Norwegian skiing championship took place in Lillehammer in 1909. Lillehammer's natural surroundings make it the ideal venue for a multi-event winter competition, for it is possible to arrange all the events in close proximity to each other.

Lillehammer has a population of some 22,000 and it is the administrative centre for the surrounding area. Were this town to be awarded the XVI Winter Games, the participants, trainers and organisers would be housed together in one Olympic Village. Most of the sporting areas would be within walking distance, and even the furthest could be reached in under fifteen minutes by

car. The members of the I.O.C. and other official guests would also be accommodated in the same central area, as would the press, radio and television.

During the period that the Games would be held, namely February or March, the snow and weather conditions are ideal, and since Lillehammer does not lie as high as some other European resorts, a period of acclimatisation for the athletes would not be necessary.

In their bid to host the Games, Lillehammer has produced for their publicity campaign a high quality, full colour brochure, giving details of the area, a large size sticker and a lapel pin. Notepaper and envelopes are also being used by the candidature Committee, which incorporates the Olympic rings and the Lillehammer logo. As far as is known, a meter cancellation is not being used.

ALBERTVILLE.

Like Lillehammer, Albertville, in the Savoy area of France, has produced a high quality brochure to press their claim to host the 1992 Games. It is considerably larger than that produced by the Norwegians and goes into far greater detail of where and when the Games would be held. Jean-Claude Killy, the French skier and winner of three gold medals at Grenoble in 1968, is the Chairman of the support committee for the 1992 candidature.

The planning committee intend to hold the opening ceremony on Saturday 1 February, the closing ceremony on Sunday 16 February and a full winter sporting programme in the two weeks in between. A tentative programme has already been drawn up,



ALBERTVILLE
COMITE DE
CANDIDATURE AUX **1992**
JEUX OLYMPIQUES
D'HIVER
FRANCE

though this would only be finalised after discussion with the I.O.C. if the Games were to be awarded to Albertville.

The Savoyards have gone into far greater detail than the Norwegians. The sports would be centred around Albertville, but only the skating events would take place there. The Nordic skiing would be based around Les Saisies and Courcheval, and the Alpine skiing would be held at Tignes Val d'Isere, Trois Vallees and Les Arcs. Bob sledding and Luge would be at La Plague and ice hockey at Meribel. Brides-les-Bains, a genuine village with hotels, restaurants and shops, would be transformed into the Olympic Village for the duration of the Games, while the members of the IOC, officials, guests, national and international sport federations, would be housed in the luxury hotels in Courcheval and Meribel.

The planners have estimated that it would cost almost 3000,000,000 French francs to host the Games, but hope to recoup two thirds of that in television rights. The press headquarters and their accommodation would be sited at La Tagna near Courcheval, as well as at Moutiers, where the press centre would be located.

At present, the road system in the area, as well as that connecting the main villages with the highway, is very poor. However, a programme of major roadworks is already underway. Even without the Olympic Winter Games, it is needed to cope with the ever-increasing traffic which already uses the facilities of these popular winter resorts. The railway system is also being improved and extended, and it is hoped to connect the main airports at Geneva, 100 kilometres distant, and Lyons, 140 kilometres away, with a regular helicopter service.

Apart from the detailed brochure, the postcards mentioned in TORCH BEARER Volume 2, Issue 4, the planning committee have produced stickers, lapel pins, leaflets and a newsheet entitled Olympic Challenge. Oddly enough, the candidature

Committee no longer appear to be using the slogan cancellation reported in the December 1985 issue of TORCH BEARER.

BERCHTESGADEN.

This planning committee have also produced a full colour detailed brochure setting out their aims and intentions and like the French, have gone into considerable detail. Unlike Garmisch-Partenkirchen, where the Fourth Olympic Winter Games were held in 1936, the sporting sites at Berchtesgaden would be spread over a considerable distance. Only the men's Alpine skiing and the Bob and Luge events would take place at Berchtesgaden. In fact, Bad Reichenhall, 18 kilometres distant, is far nearer to the centre of the intended Olympic area. Ice hockey and the figure skating would take place there. Reit in Winkl would be the venue for the Nordic events, such as the cross country and Nordic combined special jump, and it is already known as the centre for Nordic events in Germany. Inzell would be the site for the speed skating, where a 400 metres artificial ice track already exists, and has been the venue for the European and world speed skating championships in the past. Women's Alpine skiing, some of the Nordic skiing, biathlon and 90 metres jump would be centred around Ruhpolding, where a natural ski jump exists at the Zirmberg mountain.



Kandidat
XVI. Olympische
Winterspiele 1992

The Olympic Village would be situated at the holiday village of Vorlauf-Feichten, just outside Siegsdorf. It is situated beneath the Chiemgau Alps, 10 kilometres from Inzell and Ruhpolding, 26 kilometres from Bad Reichenhall. The greatest distance is to Berchtesgaden, which is 44 kilometres away and would take approximately one hour by car. Vorlauf-Feichten consists of 400 cottages

of varying size and some two storey apartments, and it has the capability of housing 3,000 sports men and their entourages. Generally, the accommodation at the village is available on a rental basis through tour operators, though a few of the cottages are privately owned. However, there should be few problems in taking over the entire development for the period of the Games. The village is split into two separate units, Vorlauf and Feichten, and the men would be accommodated in the former, while Feichten would be the home of the female participants.

Members of the I.O.C., international and national federations and honorary guests would be accommodated in the luxury hotels at Bad Reichenhall. Since it is an internationally recognised spa resort, there are enough hotels of a sufficiently high standard which are centrally located to be within relatively easy reach of all the events.

An Olympic Youth Camp would be set up at Inzell, where the Bavarian Sports Association has a holiday village. It has twenty two bungalows with accommodation for 264 people, as well as a guest house with a further sixty four beds. There are communal facilities for meals and entertainment, and the Bavarian Sports Association would be prepared to make the village available, should the Games be awarded to Berchtesgaden.

Travelling to and from the area would present few problems. Salzburg international airport is only 20 kilometres distant and that at Munich is an hour and a half away by fast motorway. Bad Reichenhall, Berchtesgaden and Ruhpolding are on the main railway link between Munich and Vienna, so the necessary extra trains should present few problems. Finally, the motorway networks linking Germany with Austria and Italy are within a few miles of all the sites, and the connecting roads are well developed.

The planning committee have prepared stickers and a lapel pin, as well as a badge, as a part of their publicity campaign.

READING MATTERS

THE GÜNTER SAUER AIRMAIL CATALOGUES. Mr Sauer is the author of three airmail catalogues, which are available from our library. Although they are written in German, they are well illustrated and quite easy to use.

Mr Sauer is currently gathering material for Volume No. 4, which will concentrate on airmails relating to the Seoul and Calgary Games in 1988. He would be very pleased to hear from members who have material for sale or exchange. Please write to him direct at Heinstrasse 77, Zepernick 1297, East Germany, enclosing an IRC.

NB. If any member would like to do a full revue of the Sauer catalogues for TORCH BEARER, could they please obtain copies from the Librarian, Ken Cook, whose address appears at the beginning of each issue.



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MEMBER'S FORUM

Member Keith Moulden, 2 Fullbrook Crescent, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks RG3 6RX requires the 1956 Australian Olympic football special handstamp (preferably on illustrated cover) and can offer in exchange several East European Olympic covers and handstamps, also a 'Sterno radio communication systems' red meter slogan, dated 11.X.79 on plain envelope, which advertised the 1980 Olympic Games in Moscow.

+++++

Member Robert Kensit is having an article about Olympic gymnastics published in the October issue of Gibbons' Stamp Monthly. Members interested in this subject, should make a point of reserving a copy from their newsagent.

+++++

IMOS member Werner Eismar, Etzelstrasse 19, 5600 Wuppertal 21, West Germany, is collecting Olympic literature. If any member has books that they would like to exchange or sell, they should contact Herr Eismar at the above address.

+++++

S.O.C. Secretary, John Osborne, would like to know how he can go about becoming a member of the French Sports group of A.F.P.T. (Association Francaise de Philatelie Thematique) The bulletin of the sports group, which appears five times a year, is edited by M. Michel Pecquet, Residence Saint-Remi, 490 Avenue Saint Maur, 34000 Montpellier, France. If anyone can help, write to John at the address at the beginning of this issue.

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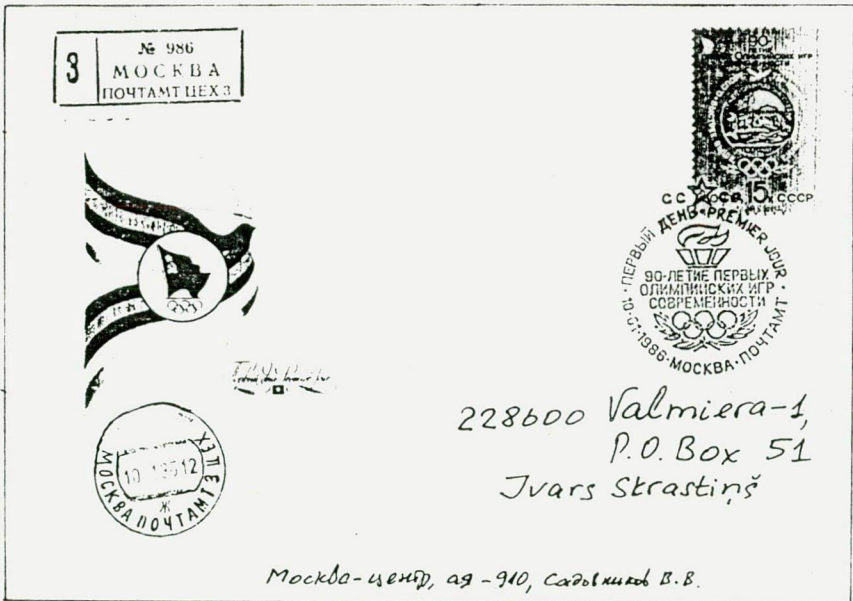
SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY! Use the auction or the packet to dispose of your surplus material.

+++++

IN BRIEF

The United States Olympic Committee is to pay the International Olympic Committee approximately £2.90 million out of the \$250 million profits from the 1984 Los Angeles Games. The money is to be used to meet some of the expenditure incurred by the poorer countries which took part. This payment represents a change of heart by the USOC which had previously stated that it would not give up any part of the profits.

++++
The USSR issued a stamp and a special cancellation to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the 1896 Olympic Games. An odd subject perhaps, since they ignored the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the International Olympic Committee in 1894.



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The International Sport For All Congress was held in Frankfurt at the beginning of March under the patronage of the I.O.C. It was attended by 153 participants from 63 countries. It demonstrated that mass sport, as opposed to elite sport, is an

area for increasing communications, both nationally and internationally.

Under discussion at the Congress was also the inclusion of tennis as an event in Seoul, which could cause considerable embarrassment. Many of the world's leading players, who would be expected to attend, have had sporting links with South Africa. It doesn't need a genius to realise that this could become an explosive issue.

+++++
Haiti's Dieudonne Lamothe finished last in the Marathon at the 1984 Games, but noone knew that he was running for his life in borrowed shoes. Only now, after the overthrow of the Duvalier regime, can the truth be told. He forced himself to finish the race out of fear that the officials accompanying the Haitian team would kill him if he stopped. Lamothe, who had run the 10,000 metres race for Haiti at the 1976 Games in Montreal, was told only two weeks before the team left for Los Angeles that he was one of the contestants. An American loaned him a pair of running shoes and another a track suit and an athletic bag, which was later stolen by the Haitian coach. Lamothe told his story during an interview with Reuters.
+++++

Canada has released its first 1986 issue for the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary. One stamp of 34cents was released on 13 February. It was designed by Pierre-Yves Pelletier and printed by Ashton-Potter of Toronto on coated paper without watermark. Perforated 13, it is lithographed in six colours. The stamps were printed in sheets of twenty five.



Sam Rabin, the British bronze medallist in 1928 in wrestling, had an exhibition at the Dulwich Art Gallery in London in the beginning of 1986. It was the first large-scale exhibition of his paintings. Further exhibitions of this much-respected artist's work are to be held in Southampton and Salford later this year.

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A two hour video version (VHS) of Leni Riefenstahl's 1936 record of the Games, "Olympia" is being marketed by the Music Box, 10 Royal Arcade, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH1 4BT, priced at £39. The commentary is in German.

+++++

If Barcelona were to be awarded the 1992 Games, roller hockey could well be included as a demonstration sport. It was the sport of I.O.C. President, Juan Antonio Samaranch, who began playing in Barcelona in the 1940's and became the founding president of Spanish roller hockey in 1956.

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It was reported in the March/April issue of Sport and Leisure that the Soviet Union and other Communist countries (with the exception of Romania) have a stockpile of unsaleable Los Angeles 1984 stamps at their post offices. Apparently this occurred because of the Soviet boycott of these Games. One of these countries, Poland, have been selling their Olympic surplus stock on the domestic market. This has obviously been going on for some time, as a stamp has been found with a postmark dated 24 July 1985. Does anyone have any further information?

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~~~~~  
Ask Bob Wilcock to send you a booklet to fill for the packet, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5ES

~~~~~

Medals could one day be awarded for gliding, free-fall parachuting or hang gliding now that the International Olympic Committee has recognised the International Aeronautical Federation after a thirteen year break. Free-fall parachuting could be included as a demonstration sport if Paris is the venue of the 1992 Games.

+++++

Spain may have jeopardised her chances of hosting the 1992 Games, when the International Amateur Athletic Association held their European Indoor Championships in Madrid in February. The Socialist Government ordered that the Gibraltar flag was not to be flown at the opening ceremony. Gibraltar has been an independent member of the I.A.A.F. since 1954. In a hasty compromise, Sir Arthur Gold, the President of the European Athletic Union, agreed to exclude all flags. The seven cities hoping to host the Games must sign a formal agreement undertaking guaranteeing freedom from political interference. What if Gibraltar were to be entitled to compete in 1992? Although they do not have an independent Olympic Committee at present, that situation could change.

+++++

The British Government have agreed to back Birmingham's bid to get the Games with a massive financial guarantee. The necessary legislation will be introduced, should the Birmingham bid be successful. Birmingham is also likely to receive a boost from Paris, though it appears an unlikely source. It is said that Monique Berlioux, the sacked executive director of the International Olympic Committee, is soon to break her silence on high sporting politics by issuing a book. This is hardly likely to be complimentary to the President. Birmingham can only benefit from her revelations!

New Delhi has dropped out of the race to host the 1992 Games, the Press Trust of India has reported. The news agency said that the decision to drop the bid was taken by the Prime Minister, Rajiv Ghandi, and his Cabinet after considering the financial implications of hosting the Games.

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Brisbane's bid for the 1992 Olympic Games are set out in a three volume document, a bound volume and two ring binders. They were the second bid to be received by the I.O.C. after Amsterdam. Brisbane's documents appear to be far more detailed than the other contenders, which have prepared their plans in a single volume. To overcome the problem of the Australian quarantine laws, which prevented the equestrian events from taking place in Melbourne in 1956, the Brisbane planners have come up with the idea of having the quarantine area for the horses at the Olympic site. If the Games were to be given to the Australian city, all the sports would be held within a twenty mile radius of each other.

+++++

The plan to open the Games to all athletes, including professionals, announced in February by the I.O.C. represents the most fundamental change undertaken since the Games began. Under the new regulations, the world's highest paid sports personalities would be eligible to participate in both the Summer and Winter Games. The revised rules would remove some of the existing anomalies which have led to some top competitors being banned for professionalism, while others have been allowed to compete despite their high earnings.

+++++

In future, the United States Olympic Committee will be given a share of the broadcast rights received by the TV networks. This was agreed after it was discovered that the USOC found it difficult to raise funds when the media were using the rings and logo in the run-up period.

NEWS FROM CALGARY

The Calgary Olympic Organising Committee has selected one demonstration sport, two demonstration events, and an exhibition sport to be held at the Winter Games, which will be held from 13 - 28 February 1988.

Curling has been chosen as the demonstration sport, whilst short track speedskating and free style skiing are the demonstration events. The exhibition sport for the XV Winter Games is disabled skiing.

Since only two sports are allowed demonstration status at the Olympic Games, the Calgary OOC chose curling as the demonstration sport and short track speedskating and freestyle skiing as demonstration events, since their sports already have an international federation recognised by the International Olympic Committee.

The criteria needed to be considered as a demonstration sport is:

- 1) It must be a recognised sport with participants in twenty countries.
- 2) It must have participants on three continents.
- 3) It must have an international federation.
- 4) It must have held a World Championship at some time.

Two events will be held in the sport of disabled skiing, a five kilometres cross-country race for totally blind skiers and a modified giant slalom course for athletes with one visible handicap. These events will continue the Olympic spirit that the disabled events in the 1984 Olympic Games brought to Los Angeles, according to Brian Murphy, Vice President of the Sports for the Calgary OOC.

Disabled skiing is an exhibition sport, a category with similar status to the demonstration sports and events. No medals will be awarded in these "new" sports and events in Calgary in 1988

NEWS FROM SEOUL

The Olympic Games at Seoul will have an Australian flavour about them! The Koreans, anxious to satisfy the palates of the millions of tourists they expect in 1988, have invited MacDonalds to open up their hamburger restaurants. However, the Australian meat exporting company, Charles David, have been asked to supply the beef from which to make them.

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Table tennis will be included in the 1988 Games. Because it is easier to watch on television, the game is now being played on blue topped tables, with red nets and yellow balls.

+++++

In 1928, the 800 metres for women was banned, for it was considered too arduous! Sixty years later, women are ensuring that they can participate in most events. In Seoul, women will run in the 10,000 metres, compete in the cycling, pistol shooting and yachting and take part in the demonstration judo.

+++++

NBC Television has won the rights to televise the 1988 Olympic Games from Seoul. Richard Pound of Canada, the Chairman of the I.O.C. television rights committee, made the announcement in New York. Pound said that the agreement was based on specified achievement levels according to net profits realised from NBC's planned 180 hours of Olympic coverage.

The agreement calls for NBC to pay a minimum of \$300 million, with anything over that being shared with the organisers from network profits.

ABC-TV will televise the 1988 Winter Games from Calgary, and paid \$300 million for these rights.

+++++

MORE THOUGHTS ON OLYMPIC COLLECTING

Manfred Bergman.

Harry Beinart's contribution, "KNOW YOUR THEME" in TORCH BEARER December 1975, merits more thoughts. How right Harry is when he states that "the main object of thematic philately is to tell the story of a chosen subject with philatelic material". Building up an Olympic collection in a thematic way certainly needs an enormous amount of knowledge related to the history of the Olympic Games. But then, one has to make the correct choice of what part of that knowledge should be used for the development of the theme.

It will be attempted in the following article to direct the Olympic collector towards the correct selection of material. Nevertheless, before going into details, I would like to correct some of Harry's statements. (Sorry dear friend.)

1. It is correct that the Interim Games of 1906 were not numbered in the series of Olympiads. This should be evident, since an Olympiad represents a four year period; in this case, 1904-08. Moreover, the winners and medallists of these games are not listed in the Olympic records, (though Mezö, the famous Olympic historian proposed, unsuccessfully, to have them included at a meeting in Rome in 1949. However, these games did have the patronage of the I.O.C., and an official session of that body did take place in Athens during the games. (De Coubertin was absent)

2. Commenting on the write-up of the 1924 Games, Harry avers that no points are officially awarded at the Olympic Games. That is true..... but only since 1925! In fact, points per nation were officially awarded in 1924, and I refer Harry to the official report of the 1924 Games. In this case, the collector was right. The USA scored the most points. The official report (pages 616-617) lists the general classification of the participating nations by points. 1. USA 757½ points, 2. France 327½ points, 3. Finland 292½

points, 4. Great Britain 267 points, down as far as Chile, who was awarded 1 point. It was only during the 23rd session of the I.O.C. in Prague on the 26 May 1925, that they decided definitely to abolish the system of points. Since then, unofficial points have been given by journalists, (or fanatical governmental organisations!)

Discussing the above two write-ups, brings us right to the subject. Harry commented on the statement that "1924. Chas Thunberg, the Finn, won three gold medals." It conveys nothing. Harry is right, but why? It conveys nothing, not only because it has nothing to do with the Summer Games, but more so because THERE IS NO PHILATELIC CONNECTION. That is the crux of the problem. Statements, facts, write-ups, should only be made if one can show philatelic material to connect them. This is true in 95% cases. A viewer of a thematic collection is not interested in the story of Hitler congratulating, or not congratulating, the athletes, (though Harry has the facts correct) if there is no material to support the story.

THEMATIC RESEARCH AND WRITE-UP WHEN EXAMINING A STAMP.

Let us take, for discussion purposes, the stamp issued by France for the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome, showing J. Bouin.



Where do we put this stamp? Under Rome 1960? Under France? Or under Stockholm 1912, where Bouin participated in the 5,000 metres race? Certainly, from a thematic point of view, the stamp should figure in the chapter "Olympic Medallists" in 1912.

Where should one look for the correct write-up? The obvious source is the official report (English version) One will find all the details of the 5,000 metres flat race on pages 366-68. Not being in possession of this report should not be a handicap, since this famous race is described in many general books on the history of the Olympic Games.

What would be a succinct write-up?

J. BOUIN, France, won the silver medal in the 5,000 metres race. His time: 14'36,7/10.

One could extend the write-up, but in this case, more philatelic material is necessary in order not to overpower one stamp with too much text. One could, for instance, use the black die proof, with the following write-up:



Bearis

J BOUIN, born 20.12.1888, was killed in World War I on 19.9.1914. (Most probably by a French shell) He was beaten on the finish line in the 5,000 metres race. Three days later, he abandoned in the middle of the 8,000m cross country race, and did not show in the 10,000m race.



Atelier de Fabrication des Timbres-Poste - P.A.X.

You have some more material? A colour essay or an "Epreuve de Luxe"? This could be put on the same page with the following write-up:

"J. BOUIN already participated in the 1908 Games. On 16.11.1911, Bouin beat the world record of 30 minutes (9.721 km) and established the first official world record for the 10,000 metres in 30'58", 4/5.

(In fact, one could use the Bouin stamp when documenting the London Games on 1908)

Yes, know your theme, but only use this knowledge when you can connect it with corresponding philatelic material. Facts without philatelic support convey nothing, and should not figure in the collection.

THEMATIC RESEARCH AND WRITE-UP WHEN EXAMINING A TEXT OR A PICTURE.

Let us examine the problem from another angle. To remain consistent, I shall remain with Bouin. In 1958, I bought the German Schmidt and Schneider catalogue on sports and Olympic stamps. A footnote on page 177 attracted my attention. It stated that the 7 cents stamp of the Barranquilla set issued by Colombia in 1935 shows the victory of Kohlemainen, Finland over Bouin, France, in the 5,000 metres race, 1912, Stockholm.



Well, in my collection of the official cards of 1912, I had a picture of the finish, corresponding, as it should, to the picture to be found in the official report. (Plate 133, in front of Page 369) The picture showed the finish, but Bouin was still in the lead. The doubt existed. Was the footnote correct, or just a phantasy? In fact, using a magnifying glass, one can distinguish two rings on the athlete's shirt, which corresponds to the shirt worn by Bouin in that race. Still, as far as I was concerned, no pictorial proof existed that tied the Colombian stamp to Bouin.

In 1976, Raymond Marcillac, a French sports journalist, published a book entitled "Champions Olympiques". To my surprise and satisfaction, I had found my proof. A picture on page 29, showed the finish of the race as it is seen on the Colombian stamp. It all fitted together now.

The finish of the 5,000m as seen in the Official report.



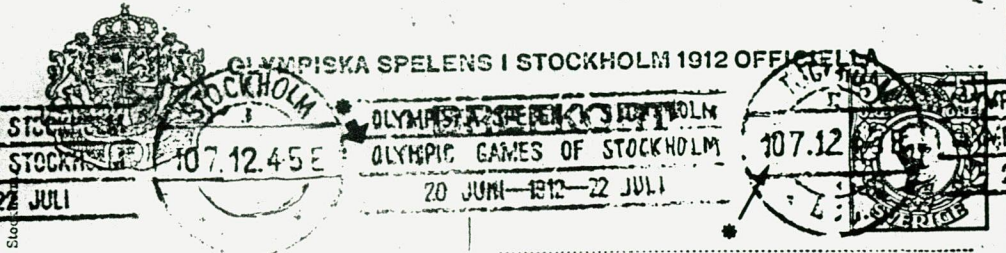
5,000 M. FLAT, FINAL. KOEHLMAINEN and BOUIN. The Finish.
(Bouin still leading.)

What write-up should one use? Where should one place this stamp? Obviously, the stamp could also be used under the 1912 Games in the chapter on Olympic Champions and Medallists.

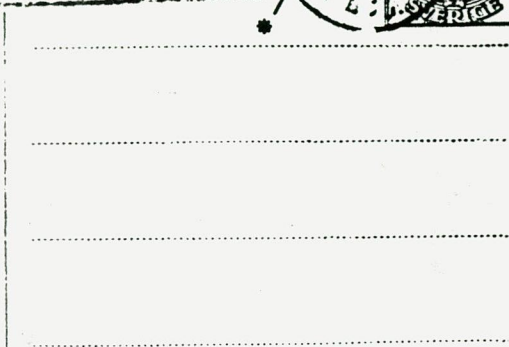
The write-up could be:

"The finish of the 5,000m race on 10.7.1912, won by H.Kohlmainen, Finland (14.36 6/10) A new world record. Runner up, and silver medal, J. Bouin, France. In 1935, Colombia honoured this race on the 7 cents of the Barranquilla issue."

One may use the Colombian stamp in an alternative way. Suppose you happen to have an item posted on 10.7.1912. You could combine that item with the Colombian stamp, under the chapter entitled "The Olympic Programme".

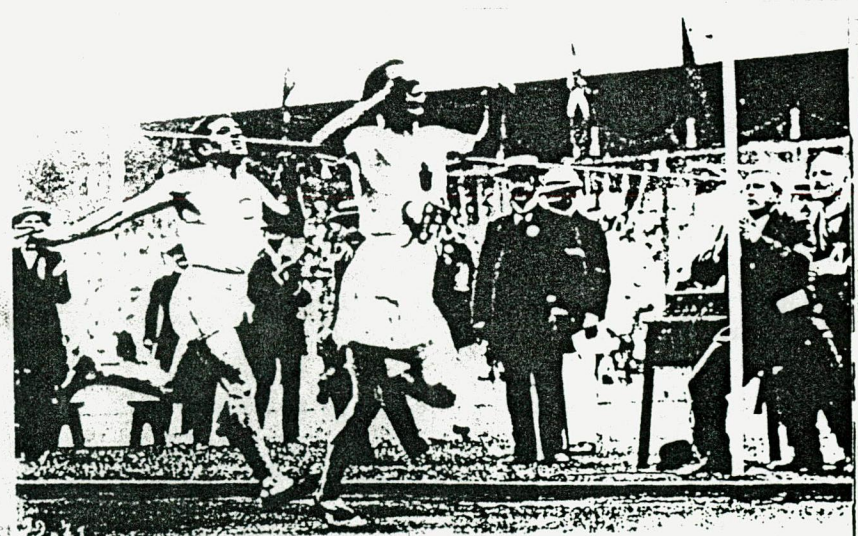


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Nr 101. De finska kvinnliga gymnasterna.
 The Finnish lady gymnasts.

Official postcard with special cancel for the day of the 5,000metres race.



The proof that the Colombian stamp design was based on the finish of the race.

The write-up could be:
10.7.1912. 12th day of the Games. Official post-card showing the Olympic publicity cancellation, dated on that day.

PLACE THE POSTCARD HERE.

THE PROGRAMME. Among the events was the final of the 5,000 m race. The finish is shown on the 1935 stamp of Colombia.

PLACE THE STAMP HERE.

Should you feel that the page is somewhat naked, with just one card and one stamp, then add some other stamps. Their date of issue is of secondary importance to documenting the various events of this day.

The above examples show that thematic development can be made in different ways. The only requisite is that the write-up should be accurate and in complete concordance with the philatelic material shown. The choice, however, on how to show thematic development is not limited, and the collector can use his imagination to give the collection his personal touch.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

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WARNING!

The Society accepts advertisements and for sale and wants under Member's Forum in good faith, and cannot be held responsible if a transaction goes wrong.

In your own interests, particularly if large amounts are involved, do not send money until you have made some checks.

Naturally, offers made by the Society's officers on behalf of the Society will always be honoured.

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DEAR FRANCESKA

I have read Bob Wilcock's informative article on London 1908 with interest, as I exhibited sixty pages of these Games at Olymphilex in Pasadena during the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 1984. In his article, Bob omitted to mention the canceller SHEPHERDS BUSH EXHIBITION B.O.W. of which I have recently obtained a copy. I am enclosing a photostat copy used on 17 August 1908. This handstamp was only used on registered mail.



Harry Beinart.

I feel that it would be of much interest to collectors if a detailed article of each Olympiad were started. I would suggest that it contain the following details:

When the host city was chosen, and from how many other contenders. Dates of the Games, number of participants, number of events that were introduced for the first time, as well as the number of events that were held, and their winners. Demonstration sports, if any. Anything unusual or strange about that particular Olympiad, as well as the logo or mascot.

I feel that this is a never ending project but would be a great help, particularly to junior collectors.

Mani Krishnan.

(What do others think of this idea? I am happy to print all the information that I am sent, but do not have the time to carry out the necessary research myself. ED.)

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

WHEN WAS I ISSUED?

John Murray.

URUGUAY 1928. Football Victories 1924 and 1928.

For the past thirty five years I have specialised in the issues for Olympic football, and I must immediately confess that I have a very soft spot for the issues of Uruguay and her tremendous feat of winning both the 1924 and 1928 Olympic football gold medals in Paris and Amsterdam.

When Uruguay won the 1924 Olympic title, she issued the "First" official football postage stamps on 29 July 1924 to honour her Olympic victory. Four years later at Amsterdam, she again successfully defended her title and again, the Uruguayan postal authorities decided to honour the occasion with a similar issue of three stamps which were to honour her double victory in two successive Olympiads.

For some reason which I cannot understand, all the international catalogues give the date of issue for the second set as the same as that of the first issue, namely 29 July. I find this very strange, for in 1928, 29 July fell on a Sunday, and from inquiries through collectors in South America, there are no post offices open on a Sunday.

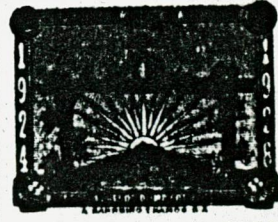
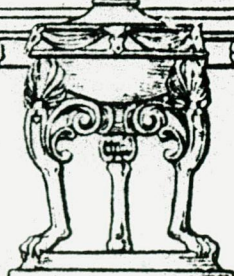
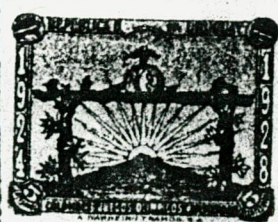
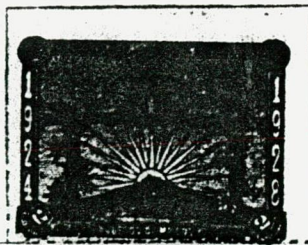
The recent I.O.C. publication, "Post, Philately and Olympism" written by members of the I.O.C. philatelic section, quote the set as being issued on 28 August 1928. I wrote to the members concerned and asked them about this date of issue, telling them that I had what I believed to be a first day cover posted in Montivideo on 30 July 1928, a Monday. This was also supported by the fact that the official souvenir booklet issued to members of the Uruguayan Football Committee and to members of the team, also quotes the date of issue as 30 July, as you will see from the illustrations. It does raise the question.

When was I issued?



HOMENAJE
DEL
CORREO DEL URUGUAY
A LOS
CAMPEONES OLÍMPICOS
DE FOOTBALL

MONTEVIDEO, JULIO 30/1928.



Uruguay

IX Olympiad

1928

Amsterdam

"URUGUAY"

Olympic Football Champions
1924 and 1928

30 - 7 - 28



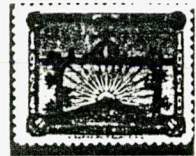
- 100 000 -



"URUGUAY"

Olympic Football Champions
1924 and 1928

30 - 7 - 28



- 100 000 -

First Day Cover

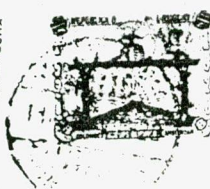
METZEN - VINCENTI & Cía.

FUNDADA EN 1890

MISIONES 1526

MONTEVIDEO

RECOMENDADA



Señor

Felix

SIMON,

Perú

375

BUENOS

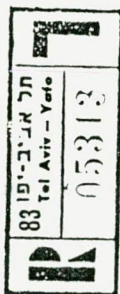
AIRES

LET'S EXHIBIT A TORCH BEARER !

Schlomo Vurgan.

I move that TORCH BEARER dedicate a space or a column for items depicting torch bearers from all over the world. Illustrated covers, stamps, postmarks; anything relevant.

Here is an example.



המכביה הרביעית בישראל
THE 4th MACCABIAH IN ISRAEL

This torch bearer carries the torch for the 4th Maccabiah in Israel in 1953. The Maccabiah is a 'Jewish Olympics' event, supposedly also held every four years. The first one, in Tel Aviv in 1932 (Palestine at that time) the second in 1935. Therefore, the 12th Maccabiah Games, are the 4th to be held in Israel. From 1948 onwards, there are quite a number of philatelic items that can be collected. However, items from the first and second games are rare.

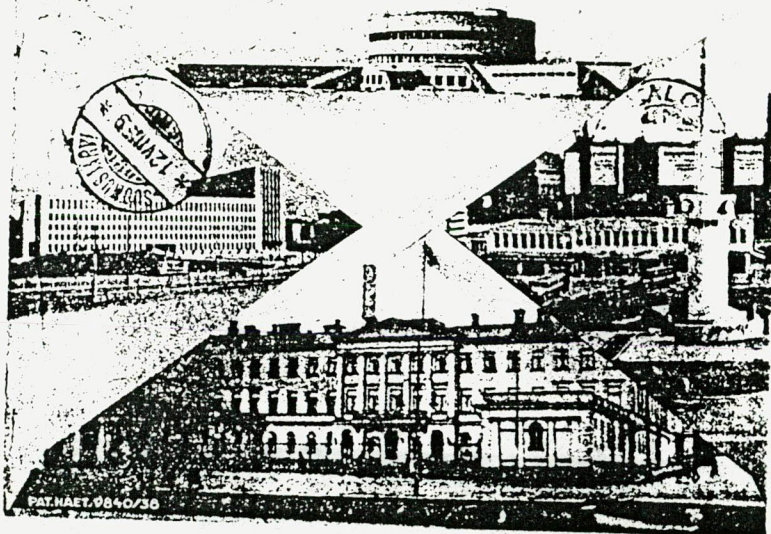
FINLAND'S OLYMPIC CONTRIBUTION

Ossi Virtanen.

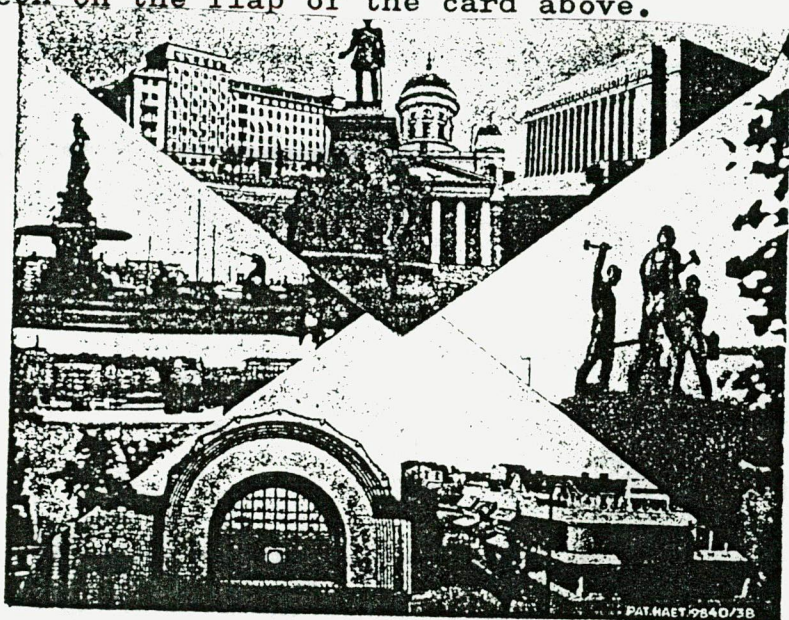
The Olympic stadium in Helsinki is owned by a foundation that was set up on 11 December 1927. Apart from loans provided by the State, the Finnish people themselves helped to pay for the stadium by supporting manufacturers who used the stadium emblem on their products - and who paid for the privilege for doing so. Construction work on the stadium began on 12 February 1934, and the foundation stone was laid on 8 June 1936 by the then-president of the International Olympic Committee, Count Henri Baillet Latour. The official opening ceremony took place on 12 June 1938. It was designed by Toivo Jäntti and Yrjö Lindegren. At the XIV Olympic Games, Yrjö Lindegren was awarded the gold medal for architecture for the design of the stadium.

It has often been quoted that the height of the tower at the stadium, 72 metres, was planned in honour of Matti Järvinen, who won the gold medal for Finland in the javelin event at Los Angeles in 1932. The simple truth is that it is only mere chance that these two events, Järvinen's world record throw of 72.71 metres and the building of the tower, happened in the early years of the 1930's. The viewing platform from the top of the tower, which is open to the public, gives a magnificent view of Helsinki and the surrounding countryside.

When the I.O.C. decided to move the XII Olympic Games from Tokyo to Helsinki in 1938 because of the continuing Sino-Japanese War, the Finns were overjoyed, for they had been bitterly disappointed when these Games were awarded to the Japanese city in 1936. Several philatelic products were prepared which were to be used to advertise the Games both at home and abroad, but instead of fighting battles on the sporting field, Finland had to fight for its freedom, independence and very existence against the Russian invasion

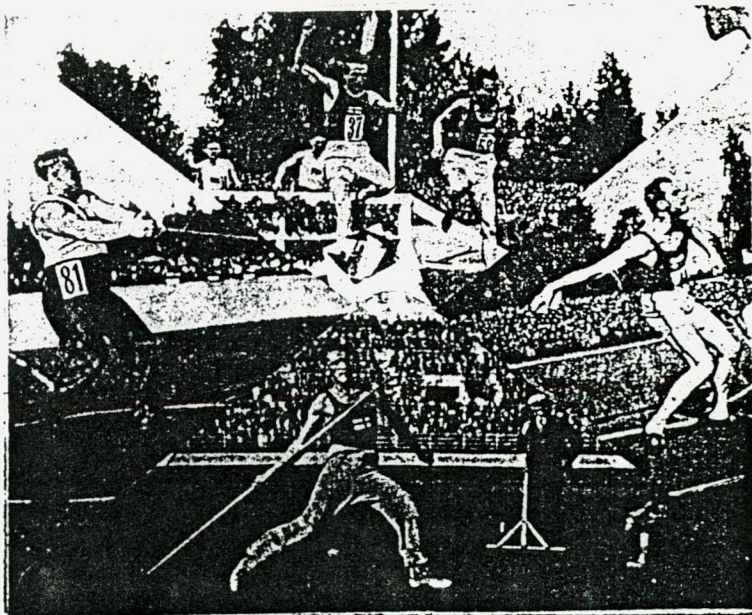


The reverse of the two publicity cards used in the 1940 promotion campaign. The Olympic stadium is seen on the flap of the card above.



from November 1939 to March 1940, and again from the Autumn of 1941 until the Autumn of 1944. However, we are still living as a free nation, even though the price was exceedingly high.

The illustrated covers are examples of the philatelic promotions that were used for fund-raising purposes. The reverse of one cover shows runners participating in track and field events, which is the most popular Finnish sporting activity in the summer. There are two different covers which show buildings and landmarks in Helsinki, one of which shows the Olympic stadium on the flap. Both these envelopes are inscribed PAT. HAET 9840/38. These envelopes were privately produced in unlimited quantities, and were used from 1938 until 1945. The censor's mark on many used covers lets us know that they were used during the war.



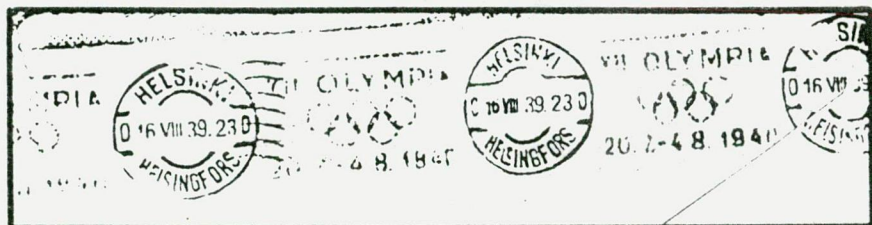
Reverse of the "Sports" cover.

Finland's first Olympic cancellation was that which was used in 1939-1940 to advertise the forthcoming Games. There are two varieties of this slogan cancellation, that with an 'O' on

either side of the date slug was generally used as an arrival backstamp on incoming mail.



Front of the publicity card, with slogan Olympic publicity cancellation.

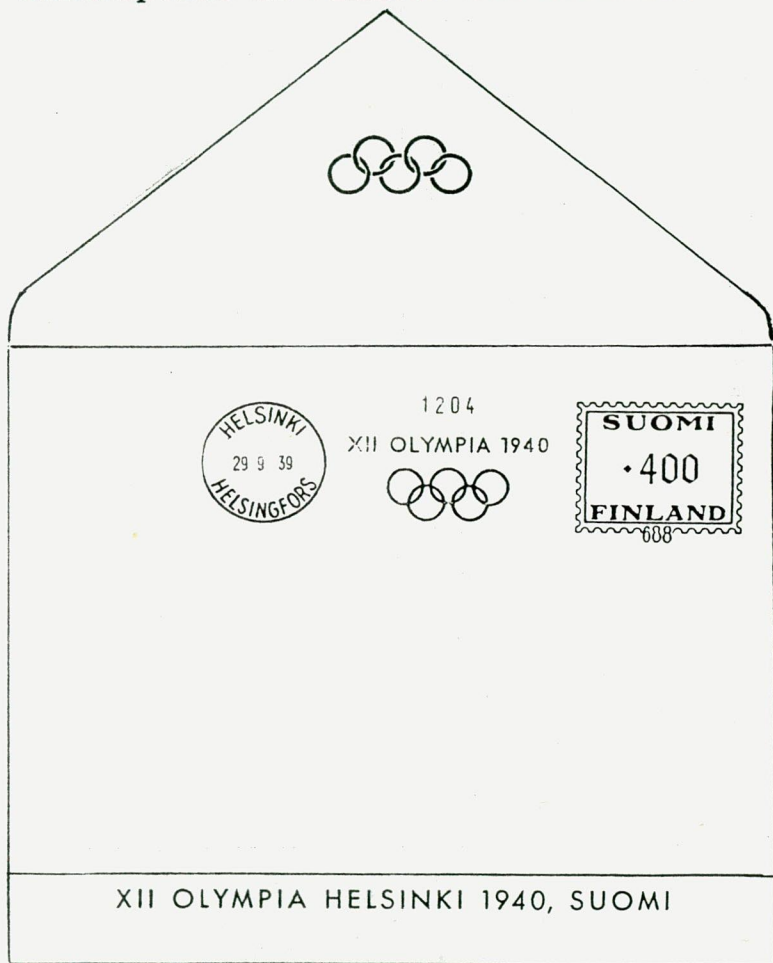


Slogan cancellation, used as a backstamp.

During the period leading up to the cancellation of the XII Olympic Games, The Finnish Olympic Organising Committee used their own stationery, suitably inscribed, and a red meter cancellation was used from their headquarters in Helsinki. (See illustration on page following.)

After the end of the hostilities in 1945, Finland was one of only three countries, (other than the host nations) to use an Olympic slogan cancel-

lation in 1948 to promote the Games in St.Moritz and London. There were two types of cancellation; with the inscription in Finnish only, and with the inscription in Finnish and Swedish.



Stationery and meter cancel used by the Helsinki Olympic Organising Committee.

The inscription, Muistakaa Olympiakeraysta (in Finnish) and Kom Ihag Olympiainsamlingen (in Swedish) translates: "Do not forget the Olympic Contribution." The Olympic Contribution was a fund-raising promotion to help finance the sending of the Finnish team to Great Britain. This

slogan cancellation was prepared in two languages because according to the Finnish Constitution, Swedish is the second official language in Finland.

The two-language cancellations were used only in three cities during the listed period:

Helsinki	Used from 7 May- 12 August
Turku	Used from 11 May- 17 August
Vaasa	Used from 9 June- 4 March 1949.

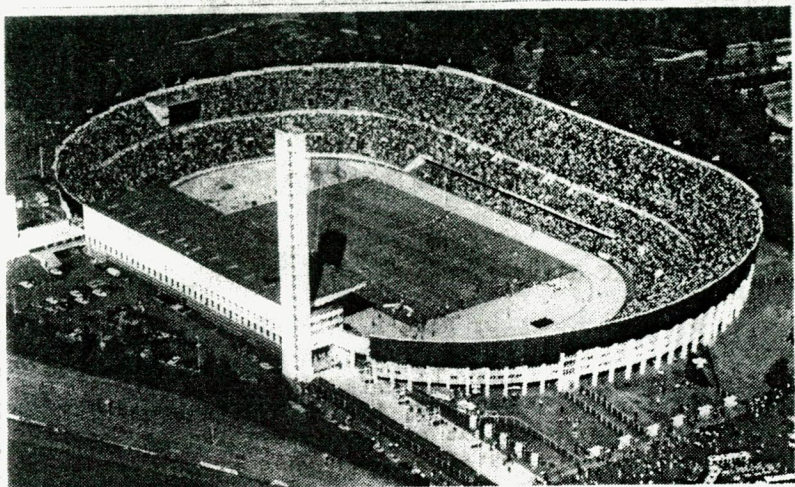
In these three bilingual cities, the name in the date slug is also given in both languages: Helsinki-Helsingfors, Turku-Abo and Vaasa-Vasa.



With the inscription only in Finnish, this slogan cancellation was used in the following nine cities for the following periods of time in 1948:

Jyväskylä	Used from 19 May - 13 August
Kemi	Used from 26 May - (Unknown)
Kotka	Used from 20 May - 11 August
Kuopio	Used from 19 May - 18 August
Lahti	Used from 27 May - 8 Sept.
Lappeenranta	Used from 24 May - 27 Sept.
Oulu	Used from 19 May - 23 July
Pori	Used from 21 May - 10 August
Tampere	Used from 14 May - 22 August

OLYMPIASTADION

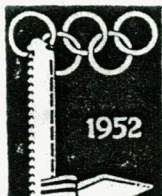


HELSINKI HELSINGFORS

A Committee cover with meter postage cancel.



2106
XV OLYMPIA HELSINKI 1952
19.7 - 3.8.52

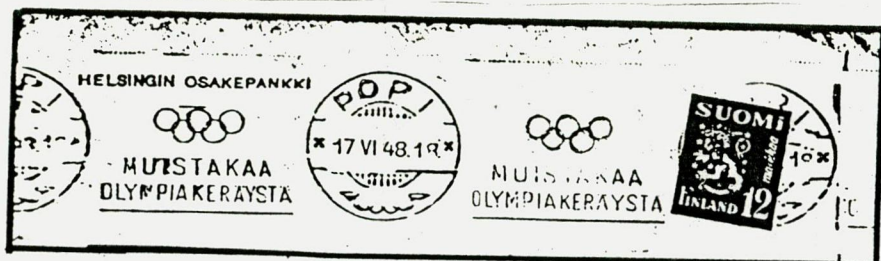


XV OLYMPIADEN
HELSINGFORS
19. 7. - 3. 8. 1952

Architekt C. - F. Colliander

Tröskörsgatan 7.

Turku.



Slogan cancellation in Finnish only.

The Olympic stadium was enlarged and renovated for the XV Games. Today, the stadium holds only 50,000 spectators, but for the Games, its capacity was over 70,000. It is 243.1 metres in length, and 159.3 metres wide, and the most important event in its proud history was as the venue of the Games held between 19 July and 3 August 1952. Four thousand nine hundred and twenty five athletes from sixty nine nations took part in these Games. Paavo Nurmi, then aged 55 years, the most illustrious of the "Flying Finns" of the 1920's, carried the Olympic flame into the stadium at the opening ceremony, and the gymnast, Heikki Salovainen took the Olympic Oath on behalf of the competitors.

For the 1952 Games, the following meter cancellations are known to have been used from Helsinki:

Inscription YLEISURHEILUN OLYMPIAKARSINTAKILPAILUT. Used by the Finnish Sports Organisation, S.V.U.L. during the Olympic track and field qualifying trials.

Inscription MAAILMAT KOHTAAVAT (The Meeting of Nations)

Inscription KULTAA JA KUNNIAA (Gold and Glory)

These two cancellations were used by Soumi Filmi, a film company which produced the two films about the Olympic Games.

Inscription SUOMEN URHEILULETHI/JOKAISEEN KOTIIN/OLYMPIAVUONNA 1952 (In Olympic Year 1952 the Finnish Sports Magazine in Every House)



1532

YLEISURHEILUN
OLYMPIAKARSINTAKILPAILUT
Helsingissä 2-4/7-52



0813



6315



The slogan cancellation inscribed XV OLYMPIA HELSINKI 1952/ 19.7 -3.8 -52 and the Olympic Rings was used by the Organising Committee.

Inscription 1952/VIRALLINEN HUOLITSIJA/OFFICIELL SPEDITÖR/OFFICIAL FORWARDED/OFFIZIELLER SPEDITEUR was used by Huolintakeskus.

All the above cancellers were used in Helsinki. A further meter cancellation was used at Turku-Abo with the slogan AMERICAN/CLUB/CIGARETTES which shows the stadium tower and Olympic rings. This was used by Retting and Co.

Four stamps were produced by Finland for these Games with a charity premium for the benefit of sport. Two were released on 16 November 1951, and the second pair were released on 15 February 1952. Details as follows:

1951 Issue.

12+2 mk. Red. Designed by A. Ronkainen, engraved by A. Laurén. Perforated 14. 2,000,007 stamps were printed. 1,075,150 stamps were sold.

20+3 mk. Blue. Designed by S.Hammarsten.Jansson. Engraved by B.Ekholm. Perforated 14. 2,245,963 stamps printed. 1,418,800 stamps sold.

Both the above stamps were released on 16 Nov. 1951 and were valid for postage until 31 Dec. 1962, when remaining stocks were destroyed.



15+2 mk. Green, and 25+4 mk. Brown. Both stamps were designed by T.Wirkkala and engraved by B.Ekholm. Perforated 14. 1,754,017 stamps of the 15mk value were prepared and 1,172,830 were sold. 25mk 2,000,000 stamps printed and 1,184,250 stamps sold. The two stamps were released on 15 February 1952 and were valid for postage until 31 December 1962, when remaining stocks were destroyed.



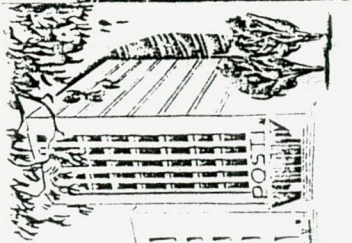
A stamp booklet was prepared with a hand-made white cover with blue text. It contained a block of four of each value, and was priced to sell at 332 mk. 149,000 booklets were prepared, and 49,132 were sold. They were released on 15 May 1952 and were valid until 31 December 1962, when all remaining stocks were destroyed.

Both the stamps and the stamp booklets were printed at the Security Printing House of the Bank of Finland on unwatermarked paper.

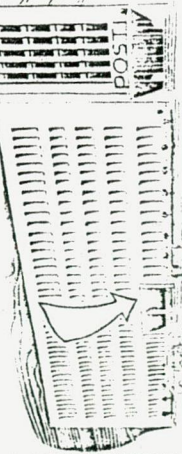
OLYMPIAPOSTIMERKIT
 OLYMPIAFRIMÆRKEN
 TIMBRES-POSTE OLYMPIQUES
 OLYMPIC STAMPS



332:—



POSTIAUTOAASEMA
 POSTBUSSTATION
 STATION D'AUTOBUS POSTAUX
 POSTAL AUTOCAR STATION
 Pub. 52233. 61201/414 Tel.



For these Games, no official stationery was prepared. There was no private stationery.

Special registration labels were not prepared.

One slogan cancellation was used in Helsinki from 16 June 1952 until 3 August 1952.



The Booklet Cover.

With the exception of one special post office at Hämeenlinna, where the modern pentathlon was held, all other special post offices were situated in Helsinki. The Hämeenlinna cancellation was used from 20 July until 25 July 1952.

In Günter Schneider's catalogue a second commemorative cancellation is given for Hämeenlinna, from the Hotel Aulanko, but this information is incorrect.



The Helsinki special post offices were situated as follows:

City number:	Venue:	Period of use:
Without letters.	Main post office, exhibition hall, venue of gymnastics, wrestling, boxing, weight-lifting and basketball finals.	19.7.52-3.8.52.
C	Käpylä. The Olympic Village.	1.7.52-5.8.52

D	Otaniemi. The Olympic Village of the east bloc countries, both men and women.	1.7.52- 5.8.52
E	Sairaanhoitajaopisto. The Olympic Village for women	1.7.52- 5.8.52
F	Domus Academica. The Press Hotel.	10.7.52- 5.8.52
G	Satakunta. Press Hotel.	ditto
H	Lauttasaari. Camping area.	17.7.52- 5.8.52
I	Lehtisaari. Camping area.	ditto
J	Seurasaari. Camping area.	15.7.52- 5.8.52
K	Kauppakorkeakoulu. The office rooms of the Organising committee.	15.7.52- 3.8.52
L	Uimastadion. Swimming stadium.	23.7.52- 3.8.52
M	Eläintarhan seutu. Training area for athletes.	15.7.52- 3.8.52
N	Stadion. The Olympic Stadium.	19.7.52- 3.8.52

FIRST DAY COVER
XV. OLYMPIC GAMES
HELSINKI - HELSINGFORS
19.7 - 3.8 1952




SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES SYSTEM
DENMARK NORWAY SWEDEN







Ferr Anders S. Larsson,
Sotensvägen 33,
Sävedalen
Sverige

P	Verovirasto. The office rooms of the organising committee.	15.7.52- 3.8.52
R	Kioskit. Ten different special post offices in different contest venues.	15.7.52- 3.8.52
S	Seutula. Helsinki airport.	15.7.52- 3.8.52

THE GREAT DAY. NURMI LIGHTS THE OLYMPIC FLAME.



AUSTRALIA'S SPORTING HALL OF FAME

Robert Budge.

In December 1985, one hundred and twenty sportsmen and women were inducted into the Australian Sporting Hall of Fame, which is housed in the Australian Gallery of Sport, being built next to the Melbourne cricket ground. (The main stadium for the 1956 Olympic Games) The first two sports people to be placed there were Sir Donald Bradman (cricket) and Dawn Fraser (swimming. Of the one hundred and twenty sportsmen represented, fifty are Olympians, as follows:

Edwin H. Flack, athletics,	Fred Lane, swimming,
H. Hardwick, swimming,	R. C. Eve, diving,
Fanny Durack, swimming,	A. Charlton, swimming
H. R. Pearce, rowing,	E. L. Gray, cycling,
Claire Dennis, swimming,	Mervyn Wood, rowing,
Marjorie Nelson, athletics,	Betty Cuthbert, athl.,
Shirley Strickland, athletics,	
Russell Mockridge, cycling,	Murray Rose, swimming,
David Thiel, swimming,	Dawn Fraser, swimming,
John Konrad, swimming,	Herb Elliott, athletics
W. H. Northam, yachting,	Shane Gould, swimming,
Ralph Doubell, athletics,	Jon Sieben, swimming,
Michael Wenden, swimming,	Michelle Ford, swimming,
Glynis Nunn, swimming,	John Landy, atgletics,
Dean Lukin, weightlifting,	Ron Clarke, athletics,
Snowy Baker, boxing, etc.	Edward Trickett, rowing,
Frank Beaurepaire, swimming,	Dick Garrard, wrestling,
Decima Norman, athletics,	John Marshall, swimming,
Hubert Opperman, cycling,	Percy Pavey, shooting,
Raelene Boyle, athletics,	Robert Spears, cycling,
Stuart Mackenzie, rowing,	Malcolm Milne, skiing,
Marlene O'Shea, athletics,	Pam Ryan, athletics,
Sid Patterson, cycling,	Jock Sturrock, yachting,
Karen Stephenson, swimming,	Lisa Curry, swimming,
John Bertrand, yachting,	Tracey Wickham, swimming,
Robert de Castella, athletics.	

I have some copies of a special newspaper about the Hall of Fame, if anyone would like a copy, write to me at 46 Bent Street, Moonee Pond, Vic. 3039, Australia. Do other countries have sporting halls of fame? If so, let us hear about them.

