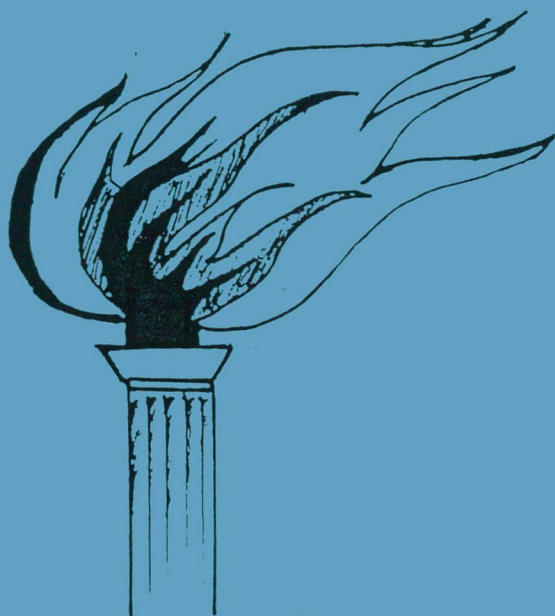


TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

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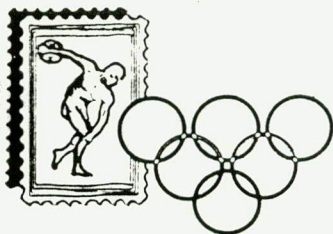
VOLUME III DECEMBER 1986 ISSUE 4.

CONTENTS:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Your Committee | 151 |
| Front Page | 152 |
| Handstamps for IV Winter Games | 154 |
| IV Winter Games Hand Cancels | 165 |
| A Survey of X Olympiad Stationery | 168 |
| Gscheidl Update | 175 |
| Let's Exhibit A Torch Bearer | 178 |
| Olympic Symphony | 181 |
| Cachets From Estonia | 182 |
| National Sports Festival | 184 |
| Olympic Poster Stamps | 186 |
| Beyond 1984 - A Response | 188 |
| In Brief | 193 |
| News | 193 |
| Reading Matters | 197 |
| News From Calgary | 199 |
| News From Korea | 200 |
| Dear Francesca | 203 |
| Member's Forum | 204 |

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FRONT PAGE

It seems incredible that with this issue, we complete our third year of existence. It is generally accepted that there is a lull in interest in Olympic philately in the years between Olympiads, but someone must have forgotten to tell our ever-growing membership this fact. The Society continues to increase, and we have over three hundred members in the four corners of the earth.

From the first issue of 1987 we are moving the magazine forward by one month, so you will receive your first issue early in February. This will help your printer, as well as the editor, and it will mean that members joining at the end of the year will not have to wait so long for their first magazine. If you have an article for inclusion in a particular issue, please ensure that it reaches me at least two months before the cover date.

I understand that OLYMPHILEX '88 which is being held at the time of the Olympic Games in Korea will be under the auspices of the Federation International de Philatelie. (FIP) This will mean that it will be a competitive exhibition. No further details are known at present, but preliminary application forms are available, and I have a few copies if members would send me a stamped addressed envelope, I will pass them on.

Colin Faers, our hard-working Treasurer, has asked me to remind you that 1987 subscriptions are due by 31 January. PLEASE try to pay on time. Late payers make extra work and cause unnecessary expense. Could I also please remind members that £ Sterling, American Dollars and Deutschmarks are the only cheques that we can accept. If you are unable to send a cheque drawn on a national bank, it is better to send currency. U.S. Dollar cheques drawn on a Canadian bank involve us in two lots of bank

charges, and the subscription is not even covered on what is left.

You will see that the Secretary's address has been left open. We are still looking for a new Secretary to replace John Osborne. In the meantime, please send any queries for the Secretary to the Chairman. If you would like to consider taking over the post, we would love to hear from you.

I have deliberately omitted mention of the candidates for the 1992 Games. Unfortunately, this issue had to go to press before the matter was resolved, but by the time you receive this issue, the outcome will be known. In the next issue we will have a full report on the successful candidates for the Winter and Summer Games.

You will notice that we now have a Back Issues and Distribution Manager. In fact, John Miller has been distributing each issue since the beginning of 1985, but he has now offered to take over sending the back issues to new members who require them. If you would like to have TORCH BEARER from Volume 1 Issue 1, there are still copies available at £1 each.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking your Committee for their dedication and hard work throughout the past year, and to all of you who have contributed to the success of the magazine by sending me your articles and comments. Please keep them coming, they are a vital link for a successful society.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. May you find bargains in every dealer's box!

+++++

#####

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

#####

HANDSTAMPS OF THE IV WINTER GAMES

Konrad Wärtgen.

NB. This article, as well as the following article by Karl Biernat originally appeared in IMOS Rundschreiben. If any S.O.C. members can shed further light on these cancellations and their period of use, write to either gentleman, or better still, pen an article for Torch Bearer.

Not only Olympic collectors, but also those who collect Germany with a bias towards special cancellations, are interested in the two handstamps that were issued for the 1936 IV Olympic Winter Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Heiko Volk, in his book "Die Olympische Spiele im Blickpunkt der Philatelie und Ihre Randgebieten" (The Olympic Games through Philately and related objects) issued in 1976, lists two cancellations as VIE1 and VIE2.

They are single ring cancellations with an inscription around the circle; in the upper segment GARMISCH PARTENKIRCHEN and in the lower half, IV OLYMPISCHE WINTERSPIELE. The year, 1936, fills the spaces between the upper and the lower text, to the left '19' and to the right '36'. The date slug, with the time in hours, but without minutes, is in the centre. Beneath this are the Olympic Rings. The two cancellations, which are both constructed in the same way, are different in the segment above the date slug. The one handstamp, 'A' has a design of a mountain range, while the second, 'B' coincidentally the rarer of the two cancellations has no design but a further inscription PRESSE-POSTAMT, which follows the line of the arc.

The fact that these two cancellations exist is beyond question; the fact under discussion here is that at least of handstamp 'A' several types exist, many with marked differences. These are

karte



Figure 1

karte



Figure 2

karte



Emmy Strels
Figure 3. Type I

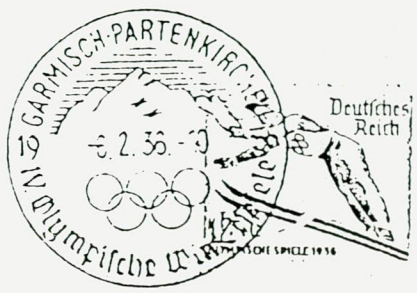


Figure 4 Type II

karte

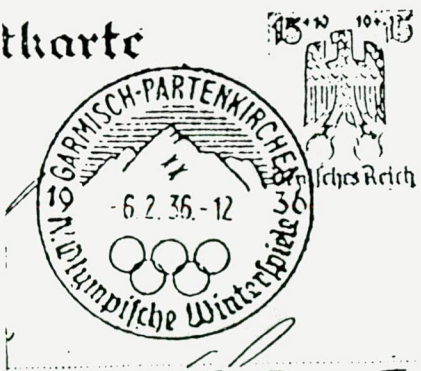


Figure 5 Type III



Figure 6 Type IV

not unknown, since conversations with other interested collectors have confirmed this. Therefore it is particularly incomprehensible that until now, in literature nothing has been written not even a basic examination of the printed differences, although very often differences in a canceller are very quickly discovered and the findings published. I refer to the booklets of Bochmann, "German Special, slogan and Commemorative Cancellations" or to booklet 56 of the new Postal Cancellation Study Group of Rhein-Donau written by Günter Schneider, "The Cancellations of the World for the Olympic Games, 1906-1960" which appeared in July 1962. Volk, as well as the above-named authors, in his previously mentioned catalogue, makes no reference whatsoever to the different types. Only in his Olympic price lists since 1977 does he make mention of three different types, and refers to them as I, II and III. At exhibitions, until now, I have only in Mr Karpinski's collection seen reference to this theme. In his monograph, "The 1936 Olympic Games, Thoughts on my Collection" Fritz Karpinski mentions three types of cancellation 'A', the same number referred to by Volk, without, in fact, enlarging on the differences.

If I suggest here some examination of the differences in the handstamp, I am fully aware that I am not treading on fresh ground, putting forward nothing completely unknown or unusual, but perhaps it will help to fill an existing gap, stimulate further research, and therefore invite an exchange of ideas with other collectors, and perhaps make other new discoveries. In contrast to Volk and Karpinski, in my own opinion, four different cancels need to be identified.

The various points of the cancellation type divide into five different parts of the canceller.

1. The ring itself. (minimal differences in the diameter)

2. Lettering. (Different letter heights, distance from Olympic rings, distance from year numerals)
3. The Olympic Rings. (diameter and width of the rings, distance of the rings between each other, ie. ring segments)
4. The mountains. (contours, indentations, shading within the mountains)
5. Shading lines, (number, length and connection of the lines to the mountains)

In the table, the attempt is made to make as detailed as possible the positions of the most important differences.

Naturally, not every difference is discernible in every cancel. It is very dependent upon the clarity of the cancellation, where by the smallest shift, differences in the measurements are lost. In any event, one should be able to establish types 1 to 4 with a little knowledge of the cancellation.

With cancellation 'B', so far I have found no discernible types.

A further worthwhile research project for both cancellation 'A' and 'B' is their period of use. In this area, I have not yet got very far with my researches, so that I would be grateful to anyone who is able to give me further information, and would ask anyone who is able to exchange letters and information with me to increase my knowledge.

Also here, previously published papers and relevant literature is scarce. Volk, in his already mentioned catalogue makes no mention of their period of use. This work has, in fact, a fore-runner in the form of a loose leaf A⁴ photocopied book. In this, the Pressepostamt cancel is stated to have been in use from 17 January until 16

February 1936. The same dates are given in the previously mentioned booklet by Günter Schneider. In the book, "Die Olympischen Spiele auf den Briefmarken der Welt" the author, Fabian Bura, refers in the second part, "Olympic Winter Games" also to these two cancellations on page 155..... "It is worthy of notice that the first of these cancels (referring to the cancel with mountain) was still in use a whole month after the Games had finished.

In the study group "Olympic Games" the research group for the special post offices, the compilers of "Special Post Offices for the Olympic Games 1936", Horst Wesche and Herbert Schumacher, make the following statements in the section devoted to Garmisch-Partenkirchen regarding their length of use:

A. Special Post Offices:

1. Skiing Stadium. 6 - 16.2.36.

B. Press Post Offices:

1. Untermühle. 17.1 - 16.2.36.
2. Skiing Stadium. 6 - 16.2.36.
3. Sportplatz Hausberg. 6 - 16.2.36
4. Bobbahn. 6 - 16.2.36.
5. Riessersee. 6 - 16.2.36.
6. Talstation Kreuzeckbahn. 6 - 16.2.36.
7. Ice Skating Stadium. 6 - 16.2.36.

With the exception of the post office at Untermühle, the times given are all the same and exactly embrace the time that the Games were held from 6 to 16 February. Further statements, such as which cancels were used in which post offices, are not made.

The source for these statements should be in the Amtsblatt des Reichspostministeriums, the official information sheet of the Reichspost, and indeed, in 1936, No.5 page 15 No.1025/36 and again in the same year No.10, page 31 No. 1025/36, the same references are given as those

of Bura. Fritz Karpinski also gives the same dates in his previously-mentioned essay about his own collection, In any event, he states the following about the early opening of the press post office at Untermühle: "The deficiency of a suitable special cancel with the added inscription PRESSEPOSTAMT, the normal cancellation, (referring to cancellation 'A') was used at this post office; proved by a cover dated 17 January"

An interesting supposition, which is a possibility. In the same essay, Karpinski also makes mention of late use of cancellation 'A' from 15 July 1936. I have found no further information in any other literature. What do my own covers tell me?

The earliest date of cancel 'A' in my collection is on a registered letter of the Garmisch-Partenkirchen post office to Bouchet Dep.Drome in France. It is dated 13 January 1936 and is cancellation Type A II. Therefore this cancel is also prior to the 17 January date given for the opening of the press post office. Since this was a letter from the post office itself, one would think that they would know when the cancel may first be used. Another cover which does not comply to the time scale was also sent by the post office. This letter was sent to the same address in France and was sent by the Reichspost direktion Munich 2BZ. This letter is particularly interesting for it has two strikes of cancel 'A' type III both of which show different dates. The strike on the stamp bears the date 4.2.36 (before the opening of the Games, but after the earliest possible opening of the press post office on 17 January) In any event, this strike appears to have had an incorrect date stamp for the day it was used, since a second strike, clear of the stamp, has a date altered to 4 March 1936, a date some three weeks after the close of the Games and the special post offices. The date 4 March is

probably the correct one, confirmed from the back of the letter. The arrival cancellation from Bouchet has the date 6.3.36, and therefore corresponds with the second cancellation on the front and relates to the time taken for a letter from Germany to France.

The latest use of this cancel, which I can confirm from my own collection, dates from 17.8.36, almost exactly six months after the close of the Winter Games, and in fact, one day after the end of the Summer Games in Berlin. It is a courtesy cancellation on a card that has not been through the post. The stamp on this card is cancelled with the slogan cancellation of Garmisch-Partenkirchen that was in use from 1936 until 1941. The text reads "The showplace of the IV Olympic Winter Games Garmisch-Partenkirchen," "Der Schauplatz der IV Olympischen Winterspiele Garmisch-Partenkirchen" the slogan also shows a mountain and the Olympic rings. This cancellation has a similar date, namely 17.8.36.

Of special cancellation 'B', the Pressepostamt, I only possess cancellations from the period of the Games, and indeed, only from 6.2.36 (the opening day of the Games) 10.2.36, 15.2.36 and 16.2.36 (closing day) and these without any particular reference to different types.

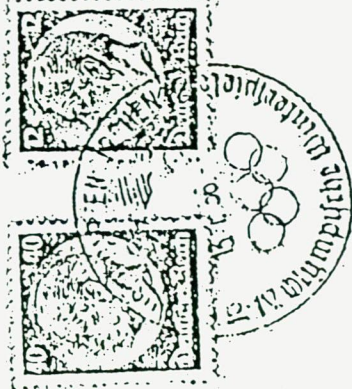
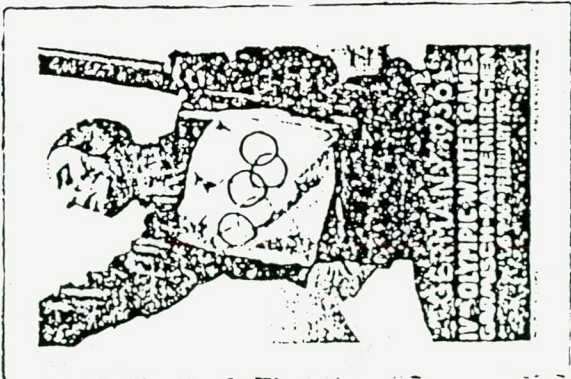
I hope that this essay about the differences in the types of the cancellations and the dates that they were in use will prod other members to start their own searches. I would like to repeat my request to supply me, and if necessary to correct me, with your own observations and to start an exchange of ideas. You may write to me direct at Leichlingerstrasse 1, 5090 Leverkusen 3, West Germany.

-Konrad Wärtgen-

Garmisch

Postamt

Garmisch-Gartenkirchen



Vivant

instaurateur *Bonnet*

in

Garmisch (Drome)

France

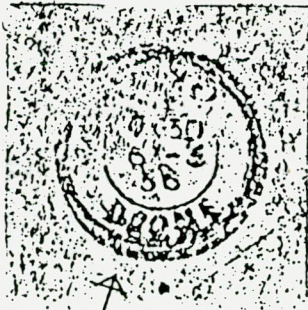
Postfache

Fig. 8

H

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Freibach

Postfach

Dep. France

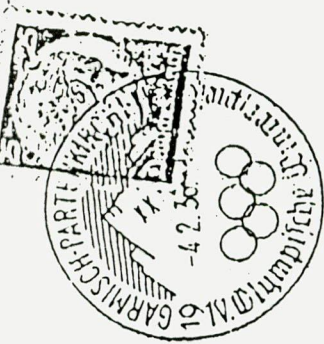


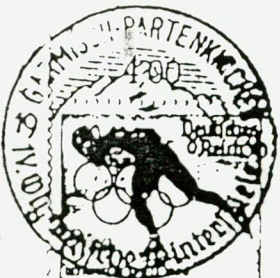
Fig. 9 and 10



POSTAGE
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN



Fig. . 11



garm

Walter Post,

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| R | Garmisch Partenkirchen |
| | 867 b |

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Reverse of cover above

IV WINTER GAMES HAND CANCELS

Karl Biernat, Von Behring Strasse 36, 4152 Kempen.

It is pleasant that discussions about the cancel differences and the time span of the use of the two Garmisch-Partenkirchen hand cancellations for the IV Olympic Winter Games has been more actively researched in recent years, and that new discoveries are being made public. The notes of Karpinski and Wärtgen make a good beginning. Their investigations have persuaded me to take a closer look at the period in which these cancellations could have been in use. I can add the following supplementary information to that which has already been published. It is not for me to search into the type differences. Work with a magnifying glass does not suit me! This is one of the main reasons that I came away from pure stamp collecting and pursued Olympic philately.

It is surely uncontested that there must be more than one canceller. The same also applies to the advertising slug that was inserted into the slogan cancellations. There are differences in the types. The most common question most likely is, what are the periods of use of these hand-stamps. Since the beginning, one has used the "Amtsblatt des Reichspostministerium, Bekanntmachung der Deutschen Reichspost", (the official leaflets of the German postal authorities) for this information. That the statements that they contain are sometimes incorrect, has been contested in the last three years, which is praiseworthy. A further clarification may be added by my own contribution.

The earliest use of the general cancellation that I have in my possession is dated 20 December 1935, and this is on a registered letter that has been genuinely used. The arrival mark on the reverse confirms this. Additionally, I

have a letter with a departure date of 23 December 1935 (also with the same Type number of the cancellation) I also have a piece which bears the cancellation 9 December 1935. This has been franked with a 12pf definitive stamp, and should therefore be a genuine usage, but since the entire cover no longer exists, it is impossible to confirm this, and it could be a favour cancellation. From the material that I have in my possession, I can state the following:

1. The general cancellation for the IV Olympic Winter Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen was in use already in December 1935; at the latest by 20 December.
2. Contrary to the supposition by Mr Wärtgen, the cancel was not, or not only, used by the authorities. My own registered letter confirms this. (incidentally with the same cancel type as that mentioned by Mr Wärtgen.)
3. When the hand cancellation was first introduced, it was used at the general post office. The registration that was used, (with the letter 'b') is not known to have been used during the Olympic Winter Games.

From this one could, with certain reservations, assume that the officially stated period of use does not apply to the cancellations, but to the post offices themselves. If, with foreknowledge of these facts, one rereads the article of Mr Wärtgen, these theories become more positive. The official documents too would then make their statements about the establishment of the post offices, and not the cancellations. As to the latest date of use of the cancellations, I can, unfortunately, add no new information. My last cancellation on a genuinely run letter is from 14 March 1936. The same applies for the Pressepostamt cancellation. Here, my earliest cover (a registered letter) dates from 30 January 1936

and the latest date that I possess is from 14 February 1936.

I hope that my contribution, supported by covers, creates further interest, and that it will be possible to establish that the officially stated dates apply only to the period that the special post offices themselves were operational, and not the period that the cancellations were used. This would mean that the post offices and the cancellations would need to be dealt with separately. If this is indeed the case, it leaves the whole question of the period of use of the cancellations wide open, and these questions can only be answered by the combined researches of German and Olympic collectors.

If you now have become curious, look through your own cancellations to establish the period of use beyond that of the Olympic Winter Games, and let either Mr Wärtgen or myself know. Perhaps then, in the foreseeable future, we will be able to confirm or correct these dates. Perhaps you will also be helping yourself. It can then no longer happen, as it did to me many years ago, that a particularly knowledgeable judge, who had taken his information from the official post office records, considered my early cancellations to be forgeries!

To sum up. Until now, the earliest and latest cancellations are as follows: (without regard to the different cancel types.)

Earliest use, general cancel. 20.12.35. (Biernat)
Earliest use, Pressepostamt. 30.1.36. (Biernat)

Latest use, general cancel. 14.3.36. (Biernat) (1)
Latest use, Pressepostamt. 16.2.36. (Wärtgen)

(1) Mr Wärtgen also mentions a favour cancellation of 17 August, which I have omitted.

NB. S.O.C. members may prefer to send their own findings to the Editor, so that we can compile our own listing.

A SURVEY OF X OLYMPIAD STATIONERY

Sherwin Podolsky.

The philatelic pursuit of covers and cancellations for the Tenth Olympiad in Los Angeles in 1932 is also an introduction to the postal history of the United States at that time.

The survey can be done in two ways:

1. Thematic, which may include organisational or event material, or
2. Philatelic, that is, basically the postal documentation without regard to the thematic aspects.

The reader will find the division merely a method of classification; it is possible for the same document to fall into both categories. My survey will look mainly at the postal evidence with the thematic relationship in second place.

The novice Olympic collector will find that the easiest cover material available for this Olympiad consists of First Day Covers. Many of them are attractively illustrated and there are priced catalogues for the cachets. Some of the cachets are so valuable that they are found at auction as single items in the United States. While nearly all the cachets are contemporary, a few were added on at a later date.

The specialisation of FDC's is often done by cachets. Some cachet makers made more than one cachet, and collections of these varieties are very popular. While I understand that cachet collecting is hardly respected outside the USA, overseas collectors should be aware of the phenomenon in the United States.

Of greater universal interest philatelically are the postmarks. 15 June 1932 was the first day of issue of the 3c and 5c Olympic stamps in Los Angeles. The stamps were on sale only in the city of Los Angeles on that date. However, it was possible to buy the stamps in Los

Angeles and apply them to covers mailed outside the city. Indeed, covers are known with postmarks from outlying post offices that are a part of the corporate limits of the city of Los Angeles, such as Hollywood and San Pedro. First day covers are also known with postmarks from other cities, and even in cities outside the County of Los Angeles.



ROBERT C. BEAZELL,
P. O. BOX 653,
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

First Day Cover with "Los Angeles, Calif." in postmark dial. Cachet shows ancient charioteer. Envelope is a genuine photograph and is cut and folded by hand. Address is rubber-stamped. Robert Bleazell was a deaf cachet maker who made four different designs for the X Olympiad. His covers sell for around \$150 each since they are rare and popular in the United States.

First Day Covers postmarked outside the city of Los Angeles are termed "unofficials". The official first day city was Los Angeles. FDC's with postmarks of unofficial cities are therefore less frequently seen than those with the official postmark.

The postmarks may be machine types or hand-cancels, and sometimes a combination of these types may be found on the same cover. Registered covers will have double ring arrival hand cancellations on the reverse. Special delivery covers also have their own postal markings.

Envelopes marked AIRMAIL usually had special decorative markings and bear 5c airmail postage, or they were charged postage due. Some of the cachets on the FDC's were designed to indicate airmail usage, but the covers did not carry sufficient postage, and so these covers often have postage due affixed. These FDC varieties are quite scarce. (Illustration on the next page.)

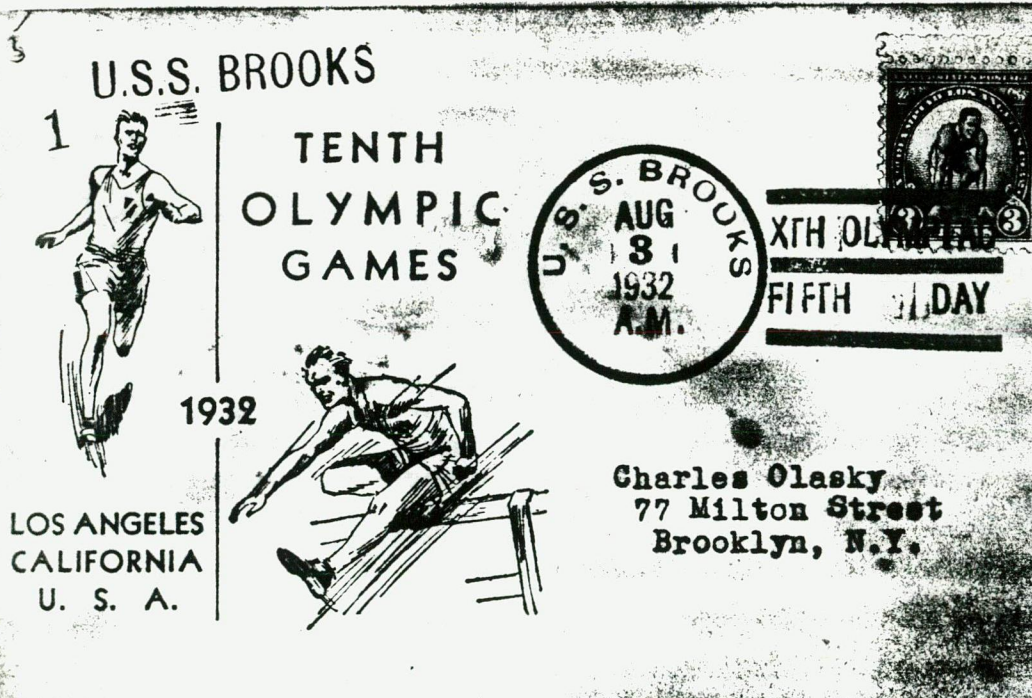
Perhaps the most unusual of the X Olympiad covers are the naval covers. Approximately forty ships are known to have used postmarks in connection with these Games. Some of these are simply steel date cancels applied to the first day of use of the Olympic stamps, that is, 15 June, or on 30 July, the opening day of the Games, or 14 August, which was the last day of the X Olympiad. The more interesting cancellations are the hand cancels containing wording commemorating the Olympics. The ships using the latter type of cancellation were in Los Angeles harbour, except the USS Brooks, which was in San Diego at the time.

Some of the ships had cancels noting each day of the Games, and these are the best kind to use for the thematic write-up since date and event can be tied up together. Colour varieties exist for some of the cancels.

naval slogan cancellations exist on official naval stationery, usually long envelopes, and such covers bear no postage stamps. These are rarely found, and most of the examples that I have are far from being in pristine condition.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

USS Brooks and USS Pennsylvania used hand cancellations marking each day of the Olympic Games. Charles Olasky was the chief naval mail clerk on the USS Brooks and he sent his covers to his home in Brooklyn, New York. However, he kept many of his covers with him on the ship, which was destroyed by the Japanese during World War II. USS Brooks Olympic covers are extremely scarce.



There is reason to be liberal about collecting philatelically created X Olympiad covers because they were created out of the despair of the Great Depression. Cheap paper was often used, and gum stains frequently show through the envelope flaps. Printing quality was variable, and the use of colour in the cachets was often experimental. There is a certain charm in the strictly non-philatelic aspects!

Apart from FDC's, opening and closing day covers and some covers posted during the Games, covers with Olympic stamps are seldom seen. Olympic stamps sent on covers overseas are rarely seen in the United States, but perhaps they are easier to find in the countries of their destination.

Combination first day and first flight covers exist with postmarks and postal cachets dated 15 June 1932. The most desirable varieties, in my opinion, will have postmarks of two or three of the cities that were part of the flight route of A.M.33 : Los Angeles, San Diego and Phoenix, Arizona. For all practical purposes, these covers are philatelically created, and I have personally met two of the old-timers who bought the Olympic stamps in Los Angeles and then drove down to El Centro or San Diego to catch the mail pick-ups for the flight on time. El Centro is about 225 miles from Los Angeles and San Diego is about 125 miles away. Remember, there were no expressways in 1932!

The X Olympic Games Organising Committee used a variety of envelopes and stationery, all of which is quite scarce today. They are usually multi-coloured on the corner addresses.

Any kind of X Olympic Games picture postcards that have seen postal use during the period of the Games are very scarce, although they are quite common with non-contemporary cancellations or unused.

This brief survey is based on material in the book **POSTAL HISTORY AND VIGNETTES OF THE 1932 OLYMPIC GAMES**, which I edited for Sports Philatelists International. It is available from Clem Reiss, 15415 Lake Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107, USA and costs US \$9.50 postpaid. The book has 192 numbered pages and illustrates some four hundred items.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o

Italy used a philatelic exhibition pictorial cancellation to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the first Los Angeles Games in 1932. The cancel design shows Luigi Beccali, the Olympic Champion in the 1,500 metres race in 1932. The Italian post office would not allow the name of Beccali to be included in the cancellation.

50° ANNIVERSARIO
GIOCHI OLIMPICI DI LOS ANGELES



LUIGI BECCALI
CAMPIONE OLIMPICO
1500 metri



GSCHEIDL UPDATE

Ernst Hollmann.

For the benefit of those who may not have read the earlier articles in TORCH BEARER, a brief resumé.

In 1980, the Federal Republic of Germany printed a stamp showing the Olympic flag, to commemorate the Olympic Summer Games in Moscow.

Because of the invasion by the Russians of Afghanistan, most western nations boycotted the Moscow Games, including West Germany. The Olympic stamp was not issued, and the Postmaster General ordered them to be destroyed. The issue was almost forgotten.



Suddenly, three years later, to everyone's surprise, one postcard came to light cancelled with this Olympic stamp. The postcard was used to mail a quiz to the cigarette company, Reemtsma. The biggest surprise of all was that the name of the sender was clearly visible on the card - Mrs Elizabeth Gscheidle, the wife of the Postmaster General! Shortly after, additional stamps came on to the market, all were found in auction lots, and all were cancelled. To date, thirteen of these Olympic stamps from 1980 have surfaced and have been auctioned for between DM 20,000 and DM 70,000 (between £7,000 and £23,000.)

Great excitement was caused when it became known that one stamp existed in mint condition. It never came onto the market, but the Michel catalogue lists it under Number XIII. The value of this one uncanceled piece is estimated at £30,000.

The news media, television, radio and the newspapers have brought out a number of reports about this "scandal". A hearing was held in the Bundestag, the German Parliament, and an official investigation was ordered. It turned out that, before the boycott, one hundred and fifty of the stamps were handed over to Mr Gscheidle as review copies, and forgotten! He claimed that his wife used them all up unintentionally for her regular mail. This would appear to be untrue, because only two copies have the cancellation WILDBAD, the home of the Gscheidles. Most of the stamps have MUNICH cancellations, where the son of Mr Gscheidle used to live. One even has a cancellation from MANNHEIM. Who knows how the stamps were spread around by the members of the Postmaster General's household, including the one in mint condition? There was even a rumour among dealers that one sheet of this stamp had been sent to Switzerland for auctioning, but this proved to be false.

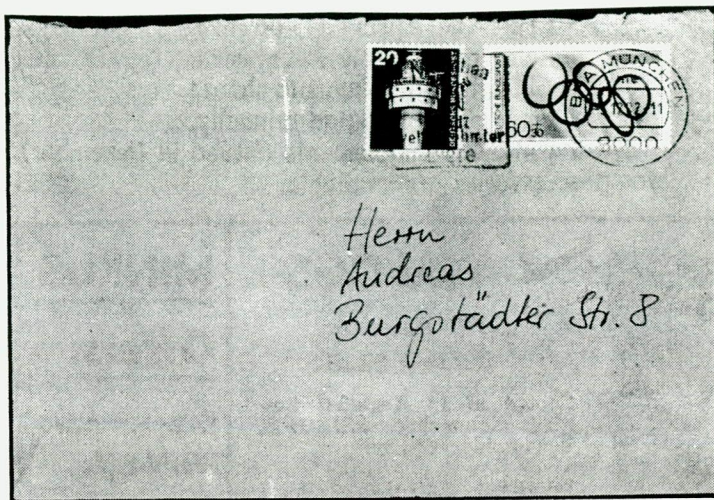
Mr Gscheidle lost his position, and the new Postmaster General, Mr Schwarz-Schilling, threatened to confiscate any new stamp from this issue that appeared on the market. This has since been proved to be bluff, because since making that statement, several of the thirteen known copies have been auctioned without his interference. Lawyers have commented that the post office has no legal right to confiscate the stamps, since none were stolen or embezzled, but all appear to have been "spread around" by the Gscheidle household.

This is the funny story of the 1980 Olympic stamp that was never issued, but officially used and circulated by the Postmaster General himself. The trouble that he encountered after the story came to light should be sweetened by the fact that this stamp is now known as the "Gscheidle" stamp. There can be very few stamps that are known by the name of a person!

The widely published scandal has created a

tremendous interest in stamp collecting in Germany, and many philatelists and beginners alike are buying bulk lots in order to find one of the still-missing one hundred and thirty six 1980 Olympic stamps. The last one to be found was in March 1986 in Denmark.

Apart from the Post Office Mauritius, this is now the most widely known stamp to the German public.



In the June 1986 sale at Heinrich Köhler of Wiesbaden, the only known cover of this stamp was auctioned with an estimate of DM 18,000. It fetched DM. 37,000, plus buyers premium!

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

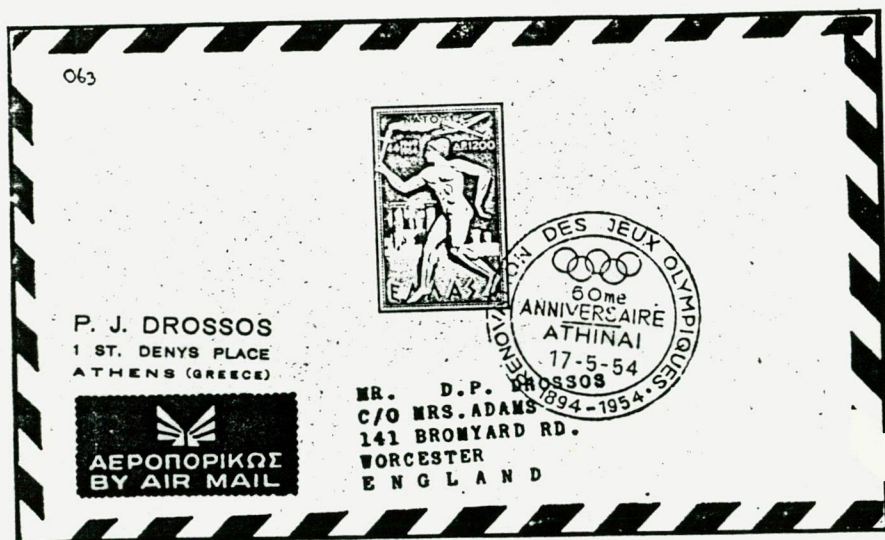
SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY! Use the auction or the packet to dispose of your surplus material.

LET'S EXHIBIT A TORCH BEARER!

Laurentz Jonker.

Here are two more covers to add to the Torch Bearer theme.

1954 Greece, The 1200 Dr. stamp comes from the NATO issue. In the background is the Temple of Hera at Olympia. The cancellation was used to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Olympic Movement. It is shown in French, but it also exists with the inscription in English.



1952 Saarland. This stamp was one of two issued to commemorate the 1952 Games in Helsinki. At that time, the Saarland was still under French control after the war, and issued stamps independently from Germany. The cover is unusual in that it is a commercially used cover. This series is easy enough to find with special cancellations or on FDC's, but difficult as a single franking on regular mail.

043

Herrn

Haus Joachim Lauer



Niederdorf

of Dillingen Saar

St. Antonius Haus.

2/8

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Glenn Estus.

I was rereading my back issues of TORCH BEARER when I came across the short article by Shlomo Vurgan, giving his challenge, "Let's Exhibit a Torch Bearer".

My own contribution is taken from my 1980 Lake Placid collection. It has the autographs of thirty five of the fifty two torch bearers of these Lake Placid Winter Games. The torch bearers presented the fifty individual states, as well as the District of Columbia, our capital area, and the Lake Placid Olympic Region. As a matter of interest, the man who represented the Olympic Region was a sixty year old veteraniarian who come from my own home town of Westport.

OLYMPIC SYMPHONY

"SYMFONII OLIMPIJSKIEJ"

Gabor Vig (Israel)

Igrzyska XIV Olimpiady

Londyn 1948 r.

Olimpijski Konkurs Sztuki

- Zbigniew Turski

- złoty medal w dziale muz

yki



Fragment rękopisu
„Symfonii Olimpijskiej”

In April 1980, Poland issued a postcard for the "Day of the Olympicons" with an imprinted 2 Zloty stamp. The left side of the card shows a fragment of Zbigniew Turski music, "Symfonii Olimpijskiej" or the Olympic Symphony, which was composed for the 1948 Olympic Games in London, and was awarded the gold medal by the Music Jury of the Fourteenth Olympiad for symphonic works. The imprinted stamp shows the Olympic rings.

Poland also honoured Turski with a stamp

in 1960, when they issued an eight set series to mark the Olympic Games in Rome. The set commemorates Polish winners in previous Olympiads.

The eight stamps are dedicated as follows:

- 60 g. Discus. Gold Medal Amsterdam, Konopacka.
- 60 g. Running. Gold Medal Los Angeles, Walsh.
- 60 g. Cycling. Silver Medal Paris 1924.
- 60 g. Equestrian. Berlin 1936.
- 2z30. Music. Gold Medal, Turski.
- 2z50. Boxing. Gold Medal Helsinki 1952.
- 2z50. Long Jump. Gold Medal Melbourne 1956.
- 2z50. The Olympic Flame, Melbourne 1956.

CACHETS FROM ESTONIA

Ossi Virtanen.

One of the most fascinating things about Olympic philately, is that one still does not know of everything that exists. Some days ago, in a second hand bookshop in Helsinki, I came across an Estonian postcard with an advertising cachet from 1927. This Estonian Olympic Committee lottery was organised to finance the team that participated at the Olympic Games in Amsterdam in 1928.

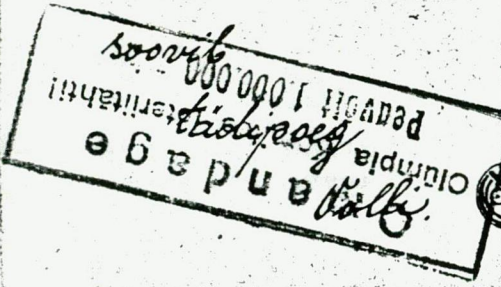
*Õnnelikku
uit eluaastat*

Fabrique en France
MADE IN FRANCE



*Osaka Transon.
Koidula t. 5-1.*

Siin.



In order to get more detailed information, I borrowed from another collector friend, the book "Estonia, Philately and Postal History, Handbook and Catalogues" published in 1986 by the Estonian Philatelic Society in Sweden and New York, and I found, to my great surprise and delight, that yet another publicity slogan exists that was issued in August 1939.

O m a n d a g e
Olümpia Komitee loteriitähiti!
Peavõit 1.000.000 mk.

The cachet used on the postcard is illustrated again above, for greater clarity. The inscription reads "Acquire the Olympic Committee Lottery Tickets. First Prize 1,000,000 Marks. It was used between February and March 1927.

The other cachet was used in August 1939, and is illustrated below.

To the Olympic Games
1940
via the Baltic States

It would appear that at certain times Estonian postal facilities were allowed to undertake the private activity of marking all passing letters and postcards with publicity and advertising cachets. (Postcards on the address side and letters on the reverse.) The publicity was on behalf of national events, such as song festivals, exhibitions etc, as well as for promotional lotteries to support national and cultural organisations. Commercial advertising was not permitted.

Until 1929, the organisations concerned had to provide their own stampers to the post offices. Later, the stampers appear to have been made by the post office on behalf of the applicant and were of a more uniform design. The colours of the cachets were usually red, but violet, blue and green markings do exist. Black was not permitted because of the possible confusion with the postal cancellations.

I hope that readers of TORCH BEARER will be interested in the above information, because

from the 1983 festival is illustrated above. Beginning in 1986, the festival was renamed the "U.S. Olympic Festival." Quoting from the 1986 organising committee's publicity brochure, ".... The Olympic Festival gives over 4,000 world class U.S. athletes the opportunity to compete in an Olympic-type multi-sport event each year, to better prepare them for the Olympic and Pan-American Games competition against other nations....."

The 1986 Festival was held from 25 July till 3 August in Houston, Texas. It included thirty-four different summer sports, as well as three winter sports, figure skating, ice hockey and speed skating, as well as some Pan-American and Olympic demonstration events. The following sports were represented:

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Basketball | Boxing | Canoe/kayak |
| Cycling | Diving | Equestrian events |
| Fencing | Field Hockey | Archery |
| Gymnastics | Judo | Mod. Pentathlon |
| Rowing | Shooting | Roller Skating |
| Soccer | Softball | Swimming |
| Table Tennis | Taekwondo | Synchro Swimming |
| Handball | Tennis | Track & Field |
| Volleyball | Weightlifting | Waterpolo |
| Wrestling | Yachting | Disabled events |

Sports Festivals have been held since 1978 in the following cities:

| | |
|------|---|
| 1978 | Colorado Springs, Colorado |
| 1979 | Colorado Springs, Colorado |
| 1981 | Syracuse, New York |
| 1982 | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| 1983 | Colorado Springs, Colorado (special philatelic postmark from exhibition held later) |
| 1985 | Baton Rouge, Louisiana |
| 1986 | Houston, Texas |



U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL - 1986



FESTIVAL Sta.

*Francesca Rappin
Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane
Hatch End, Middlesex
HA5 4AL ENGLAND*

© USPS 1985

In 1987, the Festival will be held in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

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OLYMPIC POSTER STAMPS

Barbara Mueller.

Capitalising on the recent fervour associated with the Los Angeles Olympic Games, a concern called "Stamp Collectors Society of America" out of Redding, Connecticut, took full page ads in the commercial philatelic press to sell its "Olympic stamps that were never issued" for "Olympic Games that were never held." Actually, the "stamps" are poster stamps or labels prepared for the aborted 1940 Games by the American Bank Note Company.

As with most ABNCo collectibles, the product is very good - one basic design of runners competing on a track within a coliseum. Inscribed "American Olympic Committee" and "Helsinki 1940 Games St. Moritz" the 1½ x 1¼ inch rectangular design was offered in what the ad described as garnet, azure, emerald and rose, not customary philatelic nomenclature. Further, the ad rhapsodised, "They're printed in intaglio (this extraordinary printing is actually three dimensional!) by The American Bank Note Company - the official printer of stamps for the post office until 1892" (sic).

The cache of unused labels comes in sheets of forty with selvage on all four sides inscribed in capital letters "American Victory Stamp" at top; "V Olympic Games St. Moritz, Switzerland February 1940" at left; "Games of the XII Olympiad Helsinki, Finland July 20 - August 4 1940" at right; "The Oath Taken By All Competitors In The Olympic Games" at bottom. That oath is spelled out completely. At the top also appears the statement "The American Olympic Committee has issued these Olympic stamps to help raise the fund required to send the foremost amateur athletes in the United States to the 1940 Olympic Games."

These stamps were offered not in singles, but in sets of four stamps at \$9.95 and selvage strips at corresponding prices.

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

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GOT FIVE MINUTES? Write an article for the Editor!

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BEYOND 1984 — A RESPONSE

Mark Maestrone.

Upon reading Robert Kensit's essay in the March 1986 issue of TORCH BEARER (Beyond 1984) I was disturbed not only by the inaccurate, inflammatory remarks regarding the United States and the Los Angeles Olympics, but by the absence of any constructive solutions to the myriad of problems the Olympic Movement faces as it approaches the Twenty First Century. As a proponent of sport as an internationally unifying and educating force, as well as an American, I felt it necessary, even obligatory, to correct Mr Kensit's distorted views of sport in the United States.

Mr Kensit's opinion that the United States was an odd choice for the I.O.C. to select as an Olympic Games host appeared based more on political bias than on logical examination of the facts. The immensity of the Games dictates a primarily functional approach to the selection of the host country: who is best able to provide the facilities, technology and security. While power politics, and since the 1960's, theatrical flair, still play a major role, it is nevertheless unlikely or impossible for an ill prepared candidate committee to receive the 'nod'. The fact that the U.S.A. is a charter member of the I.O.C. and has successfully hosted previous summer and winter Olympic Games only reinforces the justification for the U.S. as an Olympic host.

Mr Kensit obviously has trouble supporting his position against Los Angeles since we are deluged with all manner of baseless assertions. In the spirit of a debate, they are presented below, along with my responses.

1.) "The nation (U.S.) is mainly interested in sports which no other nations play".

FACTS: While American football ranks first along with baseball and basketball as our

favourite national spectator sports, swimming is the most popular recreational pastime! (Based on a 1983 study conducted by the Miller Life Co.) Because we play these sports on a professional basis, it is no wonder that they rank high in popularity. Yet basketball has been an Olympic event since 1936, and baseball a demonstration sport in 1984, has long been played in the Americas and Asia, and is increasing in popularity in Europe where semi-professional teams already exist in Germany and Italy. Can Mr Kensit say as much about England's national sports of rugby and cricket? This is not meant as a criticism; a regional or national sport is no less important than an international one. Yet, according to Mr Kensit's logic, England's national sports of rugby and cricket are grounds for disqualification of Birmingham's bid to host the 1992 Olympics. That certainly is ridiculous!

2.) "(the United States) has little interest in international competition".

How patently absurd! Unlike nearly every other nation, the USOC receives absolutely no financial support from its government. Participation in international competitions whether in one's own country or abroad is extremely expensive. More often than not, the financial burden is placed on the respective sports federations; their income is from corporate and private donations and professional membership in their organisations. The physical size of the United States and its relative distance from other major sports powers makes the financing and participation in international competition doubly difficult. The United States, however, hosts and competes in a wide gamut of international meets every year.

FACT: The Pan American Games, which the U.S. will be hosting next year, is the only other multi-sport, multi-national meet held under the auspices of the I.O.C. This certainly qualifies as an 'international competition'.

FACT: During the calendar year of 1986, the

United States will compete in seventeen international gymnastics competitions abroad, and host another six. I would say that twenty three meets in one year constitutes a fairly deep 'interest' in international competition.

3.) "the wave of national pride over the number of home wins minimised the good that this (introducing Americans to other nations) might do". Obviously Mr Kensit is inferring that there was excessive flag-waving by Americans. Maybe in the view of others watching from a distance overseas, it was one-sided. I was lucky to be able to attend the full two weeks, sampling many sports (when not at gymnastics). As an eye witness to the events, I not only saw my fellow countrymen cheer on our nation's athletes, but they were equally appreciative of the fine performances of those from other nations. When Koji Gushiken of Japan won the Men's All-Round Gymnastics title, edging into the silver medal American, Peter Vidmar, the approving roar of the crowd was deafening. This reaction was repeated over and over again for the winners, regardless of nationality. Apparently this was not true in Moscow, when victorious non-Soviet athletes were either booed, or at least rewarded with total silence by the spectators.

Sport, as Mr Kensit readily demonstrates, is very much a part of a nation's cultural identity. It is so ingrained into society in most industrialised countries, that it becomes an element of the nations psyche. Sport, by its very nature, is a competition. And what a bore it would be if it failed to elicit some sort of emotional response from participants and spectators alike.

It is obvious that this emotional response can be either positive or negative; this often depends on a play of numerous outside forces. For us here in the United States, the 1984 Olympics was a national catharsis. Having endured a twenty year period (five Olympiads!)

of self-doubt and confusion over our national identity (from Vietnam, through Watergate and the Iran hostage crisis) we were ready for a gigantic, festive celebration, and the Olympics provided that outlet.

I believe that this was a positive response, so much better than the brutal Soviet-Hungary water-polo match of 1956, or the more recent hooligan head bashing of English and South American soccer matches.

The Soviets and most eastern European nations did not attend. Not only I, but most other Americans missed them and felt sorry for their athletes, as we did for our own in 1980. And yet, out of the record one hundred and thirty nine nations that attended, more small ones walked away with medals than ever before, and I think that this is a very positive result.

4.) "Staging the Olympics in Hollywood, and even Las Vegas.... was outrageous."

Apparently Mr Kensit has never been to Los Angeles before. Hollywood occupies only a small part of the city, and in fact, no venues were located there. I realise however, that he is referring to the concept of "Hollywood". Why should we dismiss the elegance and festive spirit that the once-burgeoning movie industry contributed to our national heritage? What could be a better theme than this for a festival of sport?

And finally, I'm not sure which Olympics Mr Kensit was watching, but NO competitions were held in Las Vegas. The only events that took place outside the geater Los Angeles area were the soccer preliminaries in northern California Massachusetts and in Maryland, and the equestrian three day event, in San Diego. None of these venues is anywhere near Las Vegas, which is in Nevada.

Although I would have liked to have been able to present some ideas regarding the direction

the Olympic Movement should be taking as it nears its Centennial, this response has already taken up much space. Hopefully, Franceska will allow me a forum for a future article on that subject. In the meantime, I think that we as members of the Olympic Movement should be better served by taking a less cynical view (too many others are already accomplishing it too well), and seek to strengthen, rather than to fracture it.

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IN BRIEF

According to an article in an Italian sports philatelic magazine, the 1980 United States stamp on the postal stationery card issued for the Moscow Games, the athlete depicted is Jesse Owens. The U.S. Postal Service state that they have never issued a philatelic item honouring Jesse Owens, and that no Olympic stamps or postal stationery items have been designed to resemble him or any other athlete. Except for items commemorating individuals, designs portraying people depict no one in particular. Each is a composite created by the artist to bear a general resemblance to the people typically associated with the subject. The U.S. Postal Service ought to know!

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The Italians honoured Dorando Pietri on 20 October 1985 on the centenary of his birth. Members may recall that Dorando made a permanent name for himself at the 1908 Games in London, when he was helped across the finishing line in the Marathon, and was therefore disqualified and stripped of his gold medal.

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NEWS

For the third year running, the International Olympic Committee has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. A group of approved Nobel nominators has put the I.O.C. up for consideration for the 1986 award, which will be presented in Oslo in December. Those supporting the I.O.C. over the other sixty to ninety other peace prize candidates contend that the organisation promotes world-wide harmony by bringing together nations of different political thinking in a friendly forum. They point out that at a recent Olympic gathering in Seoul, representatives from the United States sat at the same table as those from Libya.

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There has been a great deal of publicity, much of it misinformed, on the subject of the announcement by the President of the I.O.C. on allowing professionals to participate in future Olympic Games. Here are the facts:

1. The I.O.C. Executive Board at its meeting on 12 February 1986, agreed to support a proposal to open the Olympic Games, Summer and Winter, to all athletes, including professionals, who are at present excluded.
2. The proposal was submitted to the I.O.C. Eligibility Commission and supported by the Athletes Commission.
3. The proposal will be on the agenda for the I.O.C. session to be held in October 1986.
4. If the proposal is adopted, Rule 26 of the Olympic Charter dealing with eligibility will be amended.
5. The International Federation will then have to decide whether to change their rules to permit professionals to compete at the Olympic Games.

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At a meeting held during the Asian Games, the President of the Olympic Council of Asia, Sheikh Fahad, said that professionals should be kept out of future Olympic Games because it would mean unequal competition for athletes from Asia and the developing world. Asian athletes, still behind the west in a number of sports could expect only humiliation when faced with professionals.

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As a part of an art programme to celebrate the Asian Games being held in Seoul this autumn, an exhibition, SPORTASIANA was held from 10 September until 9 October. It was also organised by the Ministry of Communications and was held at the Art Centre at the main stadium. The exhibition was limited to Asian sports thematic philately.

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European television companies are to pay a total of \$5.7 million for coverage of the Calgary Olympic Winter Games, it was learned. It was described as a bargain for the Europeans in view of the \$309 million the American network, ABC, had agreed to pay for exclusive broadcasting rights in the United States. In 1984, the thirty one Eurovision countries paid \$4.1 million for rights to the Sarajevo Games.

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Two thousand five hundred years after the first ancient Games at Olympia, and ninety years after their revival in the Pan-athenian stadium in Athens, the young men and women who will emerge as the sporting champions of the future, met in July for the World Junior Championships. They competed in the magnificent new stadium, which hopefully, will be the venue of the 1996 Olympic Games, when they celebrate their centenary.

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I understand that several Swiss cities are bidding to host the Olympic Winter Games of 1996, including the I.O.C.'s "home base", Lausanne. The General Secretary of the Jeux Olympiques d'Hiver, Lausanne Organising Committee, M. P.Schwitzguebel has become a member of our Society. He told us that the Swiss Olympic Committee will decide which city will be chosen to carry the Swiss bid for the XVII Winter Games in May 1987. The offices are using a meter cancellation, and literature has been prepared, though at this time, it has not been translated into English.



JEU
OLYMPIQUES D'HIVER
LAUSANNE 1996
Comité d'initiative
60, av. d'Ouchy
Case postale 248
CH-1000 Lausanne 6



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 After eleven years the General Secretary of the British Olympic Association, Dick Palmer, is leaving to take up a post with the International Olympic Committee in the Olympic Solidarity Group which organises world wide educational and promotional seminars on behalf of the I.O.C. Mr Palmer was at the sharp end of many controversial sporting issues, among the most significant being ensuring the participation of the British Olympic team at the 1980 Games in Moscow.
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There were more than five hundred enquiries in response to the advertisement for the post of Secretary General of the British Olympic Association, and around two hundred formal applications were received. Eventually, the new Secretary General was selected on 18 June. He is to be John Boulter, former 800 metres runner, who is currently Marketing Manager for a major sports clothing company in Europe. He will bring to his post a wide knowledge of the international sports scene, and can claim a personal acquaintance with almost every N.O.C. General Secretary and Chairman in the Olympic Movement.

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The Medical Commission of the I.O.C. has come out in favour of a further tightening of the Doping Charter and has taken the necessary steps. The list of forbidden substances now includes betablockers, cough mixtures, diuretics and anabolic substances, and has been extended to make abuse almost impossible. There are now 18 recognised centres worldwide capable of carrying out doping tests; Barcelona, Brisbane, Helsinki, Huddinge (Sweden), Cologne, Kreischa (German Democratic Republic) London, Los Angeles, Madrid, Magglingen, Montreal, Moscow, Nijmweben, Paris, Prague, Rome, Sarajevo and Tokyo.

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Toronto is to launch a bid to stage the 1996 Summer Games. The city council has voted unanimously to back the bid, which has been proposed by some thirty companies who have joined forces to put up the money for the formation of the Toronto-Ontario Olympic Committee. The consortium presented a report to the council, showing that if the city were to host the Games, it could bring in a profit of more than \$1,000 million Canadian, to Toronto and the province of Ontario.

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READING MATTERS

CATALOGO DELLE AFFRANCATURE MECCANICHE DEL CONI. This is a catalogue of the meter cancellations used by the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) since 1927. It is produced by the Sports Group of the Italian Thematic Federation. It is written entirely in Italian, but since it is profusely illustrated, this should present few problems for those who do not speak the language. Details of where the booklet may be purchased, or its cost, are not known, but it is available on loan from the S.O.C. Library.

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OLIMPISMO E GIOCHI OLIMPICI. Maurizio Tecardi. This booklet has been sponsored by the Italian Olympic Committee and deals with the special handstamps and cancellations used in Italy for Olympic Games, and which incorporate the Olympic rings in their design. It is written entirely in Italian, but like the previous book, it is profusely illustrated, and should not be difficult to follow. It is available in this country from Peter C. Rickenback, 14, Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 1PF. Price £4.75 including UK postage.

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CATALOGUE DE SPORTS, OLYMPIQUES & SCOUTISME 1987. Henri Trachtenberg. This is the latest edition of this popular sports catalogue. It is written in French, though since it is almost entirely a straight-forward listing of the world's sports and scouting stamps, there is no language difficulty. It would be helpful, however, if the guide at the beginning, which gives the details of how the columns are set out, had been printed in English as well as in French, since without this information it is difficult to understand the lay-out of the columns, for those who are not familiar with the previous editions of this catalogue.

Where known, printing quantities are given, and personally, I feel that it would be helpful to the collector if more of the stamps could be illustrated, though this would probably considerably increase the cost of the catalogue, which is not cheap at £8.00 or 85 French Francs, including postage. Available from Henri Trachtenberg, BP 49 94202 Ivry/Seine France.

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CANCELLATIONS AND REGISTERED LABELS: SARAJEVO AND LOS ANGELES 1984. Manfred Winternheimer. The first of three volumes covering the philately of the 1984 Games has now been published. In 370 pages is what is believed to be a complete listing of Olympic postmarks, meter marks and registration labels, and one can only admire the effort Herr Winternheimer must have put into just finding out about many of the items listed - even collectors who have specialised in 1984 Olympic postal history are bound to discover, as I did, some items new to them and now to be hunted out. The catalogue is fully illustrated throughout, with text in English, French and German, so it is very easy to follow. There is also a broad guide to scarcity and value, with codes covering the whole spectrum from the commonest items to the handful of rare items valued at over £30. It is indispensable to the serious postal history and first day cover collector. Volumes II and III will be following, covering postal stationery and the postage stamps respectively. Volume I is priced at DM 42, and with this issue of TORCH BEARER is a leaflet giving details. Those who wish to pay in Deutschmarks or those with Giro accounts may order direct from Herr Winternheimer. Otherwise they may order through Bob Wilcock, at the equivalent price of £14.25

- Bob Wilcock-

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NEWS FROM CALGARY

Organisers of the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary promised to copy the profit-making techniques used at the 1984 Games in Los Angeles. Referring to them as a major breakthrough, Otto Jelinek, the Canadian minister for fitness and amateur sport said, "International games are going to be modelled on the success of Los Angeles. Sport is a business. In the past, Canada has not been aggressive enough in financing and marketing sports, Jelinek stated that many corporate sponsorship deals had already been struck, as well as television rights and agreements with Canadian, United States and Japanese networks. Additional agreements would be finalised by the end of this year. Sponsorship rights were being allotted on an exclusive basis within each industry. Jelinek said that, Calgary, unlike Los Angeles, did not have a wealth of sites already in place for the Olympic sporting events. The Canadian government had made a commitment of more than \$140 million, none of which would be paid by tax payers.

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The second issue of Calgary Olympic Winter Games stamps was released on 15 October 1986, which feature two of the winter sports; hockey, one of Canada's favourite sports, and the biathlon, which is steadily growing in popularity. The two stamps were designed by Pierre Yves Pelletier of Montreal. Using the diagonal dot pattern that he developed for the first stamp of the Olympic series, Mr Pelletier has captured a hockey player stick-handling a puck towards the viewer, and a biathlon contestant skiing away from a target shoot. The official symbol of the Calgary Olympic Games is included in the stamp design, There was an official First Day Cover which has the logo for Calgary and the Olympic Rings in the design.

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NEWS FROM KOREA

The Korean Ministry of Telecommunications will be issuing eight types of postage stamps each year to celebrate the Olympic Games of 1988.

The first two stamps, released on 20 March 1985 have already been reported in TORCH BEARER. The next two stamps were issued on 10 June 1985 and showed track and field and boat racing. The next two stamps were issued on 16 September 1985, showing basketball and boxing, and the final two stamps of 1985 were released on 1 November, and showed canoeing and cycling. The stamps were issued in sheets of each value, as well as miniature sheets containing both values. First day covers were prepared for each stamp, the design showing the Seoul mascot in the discipline displayed on the stamp. Maximum cards were also released for each value.

대한민국 KOREA 1985



대한민국 KOREA 1985



대한민국 KOREA 1985



대한민국 KOREA 1985



대한민국 KOREA 1985



대한민국 KOREA 1985



The first issue for 1986 was released on 25 March. There were four designs, all with a face value of 70+30 Won. Represented are Equestrian, Fencing, Soccer and Gymnastics. Each of the four values was also printed as a miniature sheets with four stamps and a sur-

rounding inscription. The sheetlets have a face value of 400+100 Won per stamp. First day covers and maximum cards were also prepared for this issue.



There will be one further release this year, on 10 October, when the events depicted will be Weightlifting, Handball and views of the auxiliary stadiums.

Two issues, each with four values, are planned for 1987. More auxiliary stadiums will be shown, as well as hockey, judo, wrestling, pentathlon, swimming and tennis. The dates of issue have not yet been announced.

A further eight stamps in two issues will be released in 1988. Presumably, the final issue will appear in time for the opening of the Games. The events depicted will be table tennis, Tennis, Shooting, Archery, Volleyball, Yachting, the Torch Relay and the main stadium.

All the stamps have the Seoul Olympic Games logo as a part of their design. Unfortunately, the printing details and the designers of the stamps are not given in the leaflet issued by the Korean Ministry of Telecommunications.

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 During the meeting of the Association of National Olympic Committees (ANOC) held in Seoul from 21 - 30 April, the Korean Postal Administration issued a special stamp with a nominal value of 70 won. The design showed the logo of ANOC and the Seoul General Assembly.

3,000,000 were printed in six colour photogravure on unwatermarked paper. The stamps were designed by Sung-sil Kim. In conjunction with the stamp, a commemorative cancellation was in use during the period of the assembly.



서울중앙
April 21-30

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The Korean Philatelic Centre are producing a commemorative album for the 1988 Games in Seoul. Each album will contain all the issues produced by the South Korean Post Office since 1985 for the Games, as well as the commemorative issue for the 90th Anniversary of the I.O.C. It will contain four types of souvenir sheet, eight types of maximum card, eight kinds of First Day Covers, seven kinds of aerogrammes and three kinds of postcard. The albums will cost US \$17.25c. postage extra. Orders should be sent to Korean Philatelic Centre, C.P.O. Box 5122, Seoul 100, Korea.

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Kitei Son, or as he is known in Korea, Sohn Kee-chung, who won the Marathon in the Berlin Olympic Games in 1936, is to receive a special prize of an ancient Greek helmet. It is believed that this should have been awarded to him at the time that he won the event. Kitei Son was entered in Berlin under Japan, which occupied Korea at that time.

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A total of sixteen national teams will compete for Olympic medals in soccer at the Games of the Twenty Fourth Olympiad. At a meeting held in Zurich on 31 October 1985, a committee of the International Association Football Federation, (FIFA) organising the matches for the Seoul Games decided on the number of teams that would enter. The number breaks down into three for Asia (including Korea, the host) five for Europe, two for North and Central America, three for Africa, two for South America and one for Oceania. These teams will be selected through regional preliminary matches. Under the new FIFA decision, the French team, the gold medallists in Los Angeles, will not automatically play in the Seoul Olympic finals. The sixteen national soccer teams will be divided into four groups for round-robin preliminaries which will be held in Seoul, Pusan, Taego, Taejon and Kwangju.

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DEAR FRANCESKA

Mani Krishnan's idea (Dear Franceska, TORCH BEARER June 1986) is a very good one, especially for those Olympic collectors, like myself. Perhaps the task of collating such information could be the responsibility, and the only responsibility, of a Committee member. I've said it before, and I'll say it again, the S.O.C. Committee are to be really commended for the fine job you do in helping other collectors like myself and for making the job of Olympic philately a most interesting one.

-Robert Cyca-

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MEMBER'S FORUM

Our Israeli member, Shlomo Vurgan writes that other members may be interested to know that Clive Sarzin, the USA stamp dealer has produced photographs of the sporting events at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. Shlomo does not say how much these cost. For further details, write to Clive Sarzin at Port Washington, New York, 11050. Shlomo also wrote that an error crept into the article "Let's Exhibit a Torch Bearer" (June 1986) The Fourth Maccabiah Games were held in 1953, in spite of the long gap. Because of the affairs in Europe, the games were not held from 1935-1950.

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Member Gianni Galeotti, Via Martiri di Bettola 6, 42023 Cadelbosco Sopra, Reggio Emilia, Italy, is looking for Commonwealth Games cancellations, cachets, vignettes, official cards, meters, etc. particularly, 1930 (Hamilton) and 1954 (Vancouver)

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New member Isaac Hunter, PO Box 2141, Gardena, California 90247-0141 USA is a pin collector. He has for sale or exchange pins from countries A to Z from most of the National Olympic Committees. He is looking for national media organisation pins from around the world, and pins from the USSR for the Goodwill Games.

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Don Bigsby, 177 O'Kara Drive, Schenectady, NY 12303, USA collects Olympic memorabilia, inc. Official Reports, medals, badges, IOC Congress and Session medals etc. Don is willing to buy or trade his spare medals, reports and badges. Write to Don at the above address. He will send his "Wanted" and "For Trade" lists, and he'll be happy to make a new friend in the hobby!

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