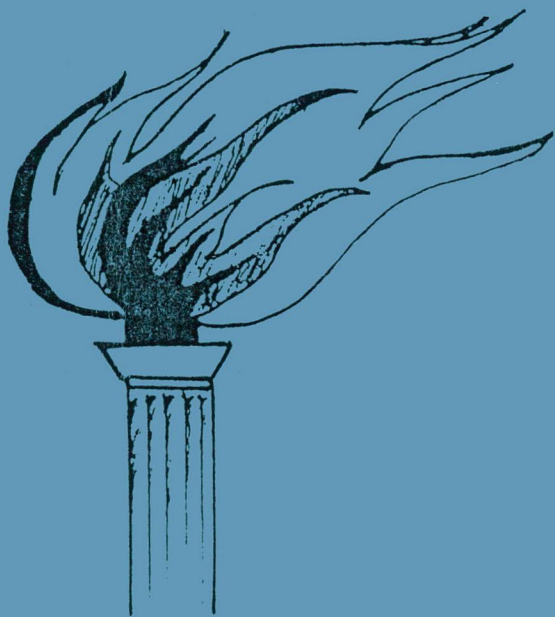


# TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

# YOUR COMMITTEE

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Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL Great Britain.

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Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL, Great Britain.

COMMITTEE: Robert Farley, Robert Kensit.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BACK ISSUES:

At present, back issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), though there are now very few complete sets of Volume 1. When these run out, they will not be reprinted. It is Society policy to ensure that new members will be able to purchase back issues for a four year period, but we do not guarantee stocks for longer than this. Back issues cost £1.00 each, or £4.00 for a year's issues, including postage by surface mail. If ordering single copies, please indicate which volume you require. Cheques should be made payable to the SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS and sent with the order to John Miller at the above address. If you wish to receive back issues by airmail, please add 60 pence per issue ( £2.40 per volume.)

## LIBRARY.

Photocopies of articles are available through the Librarian at 10 pence per sheet. Please enclose money with the order. Books may be borrowed, but postage must be paid IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. The Librarian's address is listed above.

## COPY DATES.

TORCH BEARER is published four times a year; in February, May, August and November. Articles or adverts for inclusion in a particular issue should be sent at least two months in advance.

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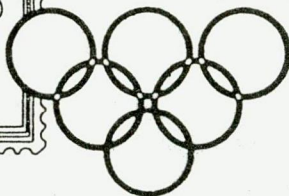


# Heiko Volk Olympia-Philatelie

POSTBOX 3447  
ERBACHER STR.49  
D-6120 MICHELSTADT/ODW.  
WEST GERMANY



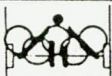
PHONE :  
06061-4899



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POSTMARKS  
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TICKETS  
BOOKS AND PROGRAMMES  
VIGNETTES  
PHOTOS  
OLYMPIC-STICKERS



FOOTBALL-WORLDCHAMPIONSHIP-MATERIAL  
1934-1982

# FRONT PAGE

We have arranged for this issue of TORCH BEARER to be sent to you earlier than usual for two reasons. Firstly, both the Society's Secretary and Printer/Distributor, as well as your Chairman/Editor have other commitments in early May! You may just have heard that there is to be a big international stamp exhibition at Alexandra Palace from 3 - 13 May, and all three of us are somewhat involved with getting the stamps into the frames. The other reason for the early appearance of this issue is that those members who intend visiting the exhibition will have up to date details of our meeting.

This is the first time that our Society has held a meeting at an international exhibition, so I would ask as many of you as possible to attend. I know that there are several members arriving from abroad who are making the effort to be there. Unfortunately, the German members of our Society and IMOS could only come for the first weekend, so unfortunately, as a group, they will not be able to join us. Our meeting is taking place on SUNDAY 13 MAY from 1230 - 1500 in Room P, which is situated off the main Palm Court entrance. Full details will appear in the exhibition catalogue which is available free. Members from the United States and South Africa, will, however, be able to attend the meeting, so let us ensure that we give them a great welcome. Your Committee will ensure that there is an interesting and varied programme. Hopefully, something for everyone.

As usual, this issue has to go to the printer before the AGM has taken place. A full report will be published in the February 1991 issue, as in the past. If anyone would like to have a copy of the proceedings before they appear in print, can they please send me a stamped addressed envelope or two IRC's.

I have recently heard from the British Post Office that they will be issuing a series of sports stamps in 1991 to commemorate the World Student Games that are taking place in Sheffield. Unfortunately, these Games will take place in late summer, and therefore the stamps will appear too late to be used at the IOC Annual General Meeting which is taking place in Birmingham in May. Royal Mail felt that the IOC meeting was of too little significance to warrant the issue of a stamp!

Many of you will know that Manchester is one of the cities hoping to be elected to host the 1996 Olympic Summer Games. Our own John Crowther has persuaded the Manchester Museum to put on an Olympic philatelic exhibition in the Autumn. At present details are not known, but a full report should be available for the August issue.

Finally, may I remind members that THEMATICA will be taking place again this year at the Carisbrooke Hall near Marble Arch, London on 23 and 24 June - yes, there is life after May! Many of your favourite dealers will be in attendance, and there will be some interesting exhibits to look at. If you would like to enter the competition, write for details to Brian Sole, c/o Cameo Stamps, 6 Buckingham Street, London WC2 enclosing an SAE.

# MEMBER'S FORUM

One of our earliest members (number 47), LEN BEAVEN, died on 5 December 1989 after a long debilitating illness. Len was a competitive athlete with the Wigmore Harriers, London AC and later, North London AC. He graduated to administration and was, among other positions, the Middlesex Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager for a number of British teams. His knowledge of athletics and athletics was extensive. He was President of the Middlesex Amateur Athletic Association and Chairman of the Counties Athletics Union.

Over the last few years he became disillusioned with the way athletics was developing and switched his interests to badminton coaching and stamp collecting. Because of his background, his particular interest was in Olympic philately and he built a straight forward collection of this subject. His other two main interests were the county of Middlesex, (he had many postcards on this theme) and the great engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel. Highly principled, he had strong views on most things, and was willing to help others whenever he could.

Members who visited Spring Stampex in 1988, when the Society of Olympic Collectors provided the exhibits, may recall Len, who spent a great deal of time helping on the Society's stand. We extend our sympathy to his remaining family, two sisters and a brother.

-GPBS-

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The correspondence on Ada Lunardoni and Jack Torrance was quite considerable, and most of the replies were amalgamated in the last issue of TORCH BEARER. However, after the deadline, our South African member, Harry Beinart, sent the following information about Jack Torrance which adds to the story. He weighed 273 lbs, and was known as the "baby elephant". He first sprang to fame in 1934 when he improved on the then existing world record set by John C. Lyman from 54'.1" to 55'.5.5", the biggest known improvement on the shot put world record. Torrance gave his life fighting the Nazis in the Vosges Mountains in 1944.

\*\*\*\*\*

1984 LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS. Five different slogan meter marks were used by the organising Committee: Stars in Motion, 'Buy Olympic Coins', ARTS Festival, Patron Programme and Spirit Team. I am trying to establish periods of use for each slogan. I would appreciate hearing from all members with any examples of these. Please list by slogan type, meter number and date of use. If any member has examples of the USPS produced yellow change of address stickers used for forwarding LAOOC mail, a photocopy of each or an exact transcription of the label would be of great help. Send information to Mark Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego CA 92122 USA.

\*\*\*\*\*

Member Joseph Lopreiato would like the Society to publish a list of names and addresses of all the national Olympic Committees so that he can write for meter cancellations and publicity items. I am sure that other members would also find such an address list useful. All members can help in this by sending me the address of the Olympic Committee in their own country. Useful contacts and names would also be useful. When a sufficient number of names and addresses have been gathered, we will publish them in TORCH BEARER. (Ed.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Russian member, Vsevolod Furman, Tchkalov Street 119-23 270020 Odessa, USSR, is writing a book about darts - admittedly not yet an Olympic sport. Does anyone know whether there are any British cancellations which show darts. Vsevolod is interested both in information and buying or exchanging any cancellations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Australian member, Robert Budge, has been sending your Editor a tremendous amount of extremely interesting documentary information about the Melbourne Bid to host the 1996 Olympic Games. This could be the basis of a most interesting and detailed article, which, unfortunately, the Editor does not have time to write. Is there anyone out there who would be prepared to sift through the material and pen an article for the benefit of the members? I would suggest that whoever offers should be based in the United Kingdom, since there is a large quantity of paper involved!

\*\*\*\*\*

Frank Goldstrom, 7 Golf Close, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey, GU22 8PE, has been trying to obtain the Puerto Rican cancellation used during the IOC Session, but so far without success. Can any member help him?

\*\*\*\*\*

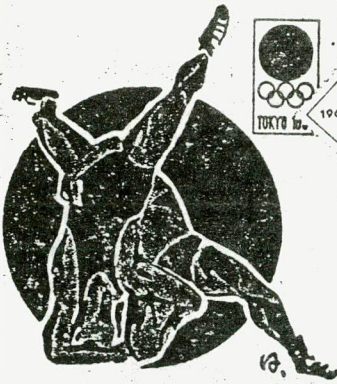
Spanish member, Miguel Oliveras, Apartado 287, 17800 Olot (Gerona) Spain is able to help members to obtain first day cover, maximum cards, special cancellations and other philatelic material for the forthcoming Summer Games in Barcelona. Anyone interested should write to Miguel at the above address.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bob Wilcock raises a query concerning the first day postmark of the first pre-Olympic issue by Japan for the 1964 Games in Tokyo. He had an unaddressed cover in his collection with the Olympic cancellation of the listed date of 11 October 1961, or 36.10.11 by Japanese chronology, as shown on the handstamp. He recently acquired an addressed cover, and was about to substitute it in his collection, when he noticed that the handstamp, struck twice, clearly bore the date 36.10.13. Winterheimer in his catalogue indicates that the cancel was available in fifty three different towns. The Japanese characters show that both of Bob's cancels are from Tokyo, and Winterheimer does not mention any variations in the date. Does any member have an explanation?

Is the 13 October date an error, and does any other members know of date variations for other pre-Olympic issues for the Tokyo Olympic Games of 1964?

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE Oct. 11, 1961



トキオオリンピック 東京大会 記念切手

Yoshio Kamei,  
35, Oyamanishi-machi,  
Habaetsu-ku, Tokyo, Japan.



\*\*\*\*\*

One of our dealer members, Eric Elias, writes that one of the fastest growing collection fields is that of telephone cards. In Great Britain they are plain green with no illustration, but other parts of the world have cottoned on that these pieces of plastic are highly collectible if they are illustrated. Both Korea and Japan have issued telephone cards with an Olympic theme, and naturally, there are many other themes from which to choose. Six different designs were used in Korea, which each have either Hodori or the Seoul symbol as a part of the design. Anyone interested in further details should write to Eric at Philcard International, 58 Greenacres London N3 3TD.



# NEWS

Our Czech member, Jaroslav Petrásek, sent the illustrated card from Warsaw, where a special handstamp was used on 16 November 1989 to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Polish Olympic Committee.



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For the first time in its 85 year history, the British Olympic Association moved its Annual General Meeting out of London over the weekend of 13-15 October 1989, to Manchester. HRH The Princess Royal chaired the meeting which took place in Manchester's Holiday Inn, as a part of a working weekend and conference for NOC members. The move to Manchester was designed to give those members a chance to visit the 1996 bidding city, meet the personnel involved and listen to a presentation of technical data concerning the bid.

Richard Palmer, the BOA General Secretary, raised the BOA's international profile recently when he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Association of European National Olympic Committees. The well-deserved position is a reflection of his international standing and credibility; he has worked as Britain's Chef de Mission at a number of Olympic Games and Olympic Winter Games.

Members who attended Stampex and the Stampex dinner in 1988 when the Society gave a display during the exhibition, may recall Sue Wallace, who has retired from the BOA after twenty nine years. It was she, together with Sandy Duncan, the BOA's Librarian and archivist, who were responsible for loaning the BOA artifacts

which were shown in the showcases, and aroused much interest. I am sure that members will wish to join the Committee in wishing Sue all the best for her new ventures.

A photographic exhibition was held at the "Olympic Way" in Harrods store in London in the autumn. It was held at the same time that the film "Seoul 88" was premiered at the Barbican cinema. Both events were sponsored by the Evening Standard newspaper. The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea was among the invited guests.

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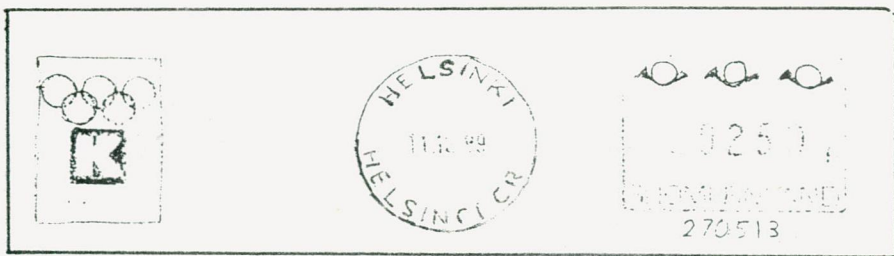


Korea issued a single stamp on 12 September 1989 to commemorate the first anniversary of the Olympic Games in Seoul. The design which is a representation of the Valiant Spirit of Korean Ethics, was the work of Lee Hye-ok. The stamp was lithographed on unwatermarked paper by the Korea Security Printing and Minting Corporation. Three million stamps were printed in sheets of twenty. Each had a face value of 80 won. The stamp was issued in conjunction with an Olympic Commemorative Festival and the Korean World Ethnic Sports Festival which was held in the Olympic stadium. The handstamp takes as its theme a part of the stamp design.

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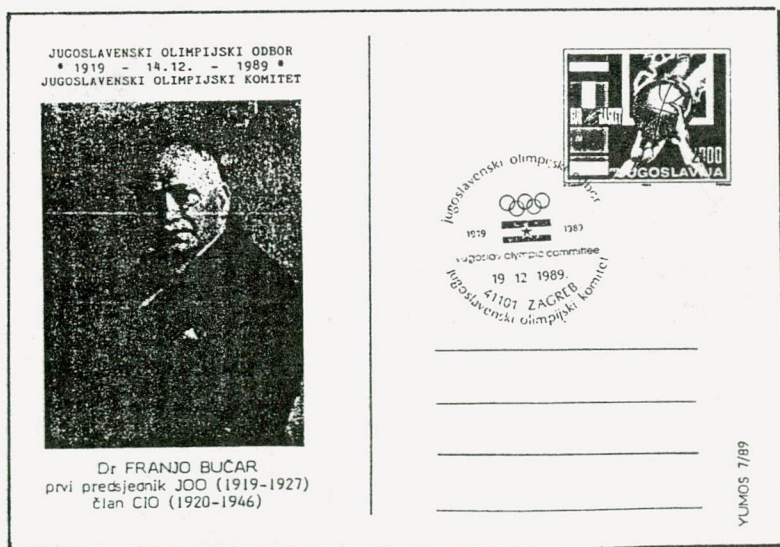
Our Finnish member, Ossi Virtanen, when he recently sent the information on Hannes Kolehmainen (elsewhere in the magazine) cancelled his letter with a red Olympic meter cancellation and an Olympic seal on the reverse. Ossi writes that the "K" means KESKO, a company mainly owned by private retailers which, with a turnover of some £4 billion annually, is the largest private company in Finland. During this Olympic, Kesko is the only supporter of Olympic sport in Finland, and therefore has the exclusive right to use the Olympic rings in their advertising. The text OSAAAMISEN MERKIT = THE SIGNS OF KNOWING and SUOMEN OLYMPIAURHEILUN VIRALLINEN TUKIJA = THE OFFICIAL SUPPORTER OF OLYMPIC SPORT IN FINLAND.



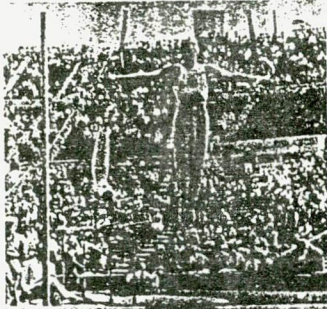
As a footnote, Ossi writes that he has been employed by Kesko for thirty four years.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dur Yugoslav member, Ivan Libric writes that YUMOS, the Yugoslav collectors group for Olympic and Sports philately has issued two new postcards to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Yugoslav Olympic Committee. Postcard Numbered 7/89 shows Franjo Bucar, the first President of the Yugoslav Olympic Committee and a member of the IOC from 1920 till 1946. The second postcard, 8/89, shows a picture of Leon Stukelj who won two gold medals in Paris in 1924 for the combined gymnastic exercises and the bar, a gold in the rings and a bronze in the combined in Amsterdam in 1928 and a silver medal in the rings in Berlin in 1936. The illustration shows Stukelj at the Berlin Games. He was first commemorated philatelically on a postcard in Olympic Week in 1978. On that occasion a postmark was also used that was in use for only a very brief period since it had the wrong month, "10" instead of "9".



JUGOSLAVENSKI OLIMPIJSKI ODBOR  
 \* 1919 - 14.12. - 1989 \*  
 JUGOSLAVENSKI OLIMPIJSKI KOMITET



LEON STUKELJ  
 PARIS 1924  
 PRVA JUGOSLAVENSKA  
 OLIMPIJSKA MEDALJA



Jugoslavenski olimpijski odbor  
 1979  
 Jugoslav Olympic Committee  
 19 12 1989  
 41101 ZAGREB  
 Jugoslavenski olimpijski komitet

YUMOS 8/89

In April 1989 YUMOS issued a postcard for International Olympic Committee Day which has as its design the original members of the IOC. The handstamp, used on 23 June, shows the 1894 Olympic vignette and the logos for the Olympic Games in Barcelona and Albertville.

DAN MEĐUNARODNOG OLIMPIJSKOG KOMITETA  
 INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE DAY



OSNIVAČI  
 MEĐUNARODNOG OLIMPIJSKOG KOMITETA  
 U ATENI 1894. GODINE

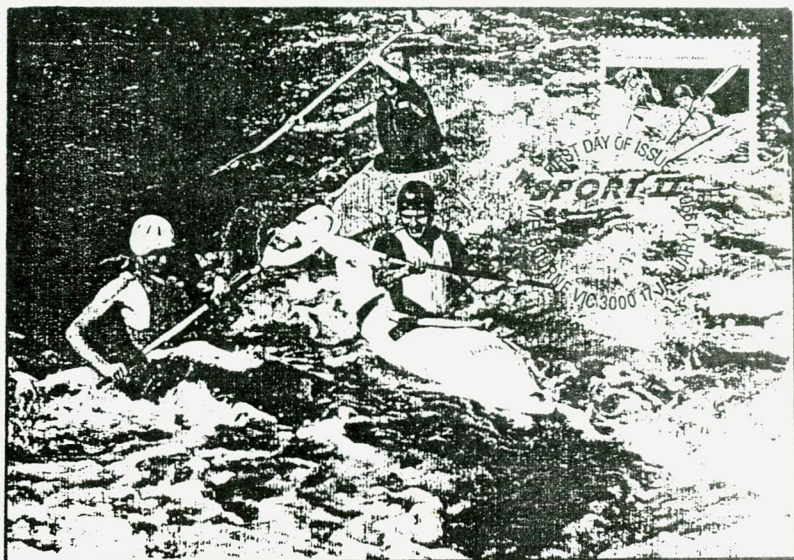
JUGOSLOVENSKE  
 OLIMPIJSKE MEDALJE  
 SEUL 1988



INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
 1989  
 23.6.1989  
 41101 ZAGREB

\*\*\*\*\*

From Australia comes a maximum card issued by Australia Post in the SPORT series showing kayaking and canoeing. It is used in conjunction with the 5 cent stamp issued on 17 January 1990 on the same theme. What is particularly interesting is the inscription on the message side of the card, since it relates to the Melbourne bid for the 1996 Olympic Games. Thank you whoever sent it to me. Can we please have more details!



SPORT SERIES - II

Kayaking and Canoeing



POSTAGE PRE PAID AUSTRALIA



*Greetings from  
the Olympic  
City of Melbourne  
1956 \* 1996*

*Editor, Torchbearer,  
Eaglewood,  
Oranby Lane,  
Hatchell End,  
Middlesboro HAS 4AL  
ENGLAND*

 Australia Post

POST OFFICE

Stamp sold by Australia Post, Canberra, ACT 2600

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An exhibition entitled SPORT '90 is taking place in the Boilerhouse, in the Design Museum, Butlers Wharf, London SE1 2YD from 6 April until 27 May 1990. Sport and design enjoy an essential connection: sport benefits from design, but design in turn is stimulated by sport. The exhibition at the Design Museum traces the growth of modern sports from the nineteenth century to the present day, and the way in which technology has expanded the range of human potential producing new disciplines, techniques and innovatory equipment.

SPORT '90 illustrates the constant quest for improvement in order to enhance performance, and examines the connection between sport, business and the media which fuels competition - in the design studio as well as on the field.

SPORT '90's highly accessible and visually dynamic subject matter captures the excitement of the sports world and examines its progression from a recreational activity to one firmly rooted in design and entertainment.

The exhibition explores certain characteristics of design for sports; the refinement of sports equipment to improve performance; the importance of safety and protection; the relation between innovation and tradition; the development of textile technology such as polyamids and lycra; the influence of sports clothes on the fashion world; the graphic language of sport and the relationship between sport and business sponsorship.

SPORT '90 is designed by Powell, Tuck, Connor and Orefelt, with graphics by Malcolm Garrett of Assorted Images. The bold design of the exhibition reflects the dynamic nature of the subject. A 48 page anthology of essays about sport, design and society will be published by the Design Museum, to whom further enquiries should be directed.

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#### SEOUL 1988, A CORRECTION.

We published a list of the Seoul 1988 stamps from South Korea in the February issue of TORCH BEARER (pp 51-54). Member Frank Goldstrom has written that there is, in fact, a miniature sheet for the Inauguration of the 13th President, issued on 24 February 1988. There were three million stamps in sheets of twenty, and 300,000 souvenir sheets.

The Aerogrammes listed on page 54 of the same issue have been seen postmarked on 20 March 1985 and not 1989 as printed. Sorry!

Finally, a stamp was issued on 12 September 1989 for the Festival in Memory of the 1988 Seoul Olympics, and Athletics Meeting for World Wide Members of the Korean Race. The stamp's design gives no clue as to any Olympic connection. Full details of this issue will be found elsewhere in the News column.

- Bob Wilcock-

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# ALBERTVILLE 1992

Bob Wilcock

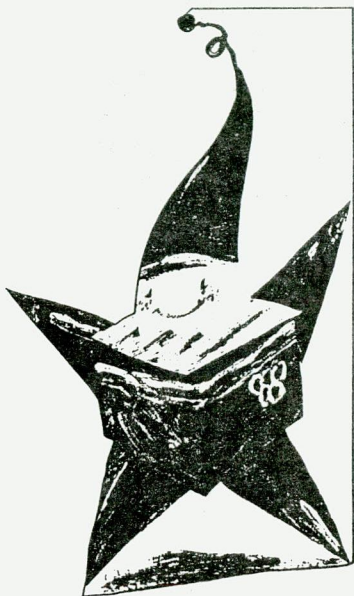
The first French stamps for the 1992 Winter Olympic Games were issued on 8 February 1990.

Ffr. 2.50

Games logo. Stamp designed by Louis Arquer. Vertical design.

Ffr. 2.30 + 20c.

Figure Skating (Albertville). Stamp designed by Charles Bridoux and engraved by Pierre Bequet. Horizontal design.



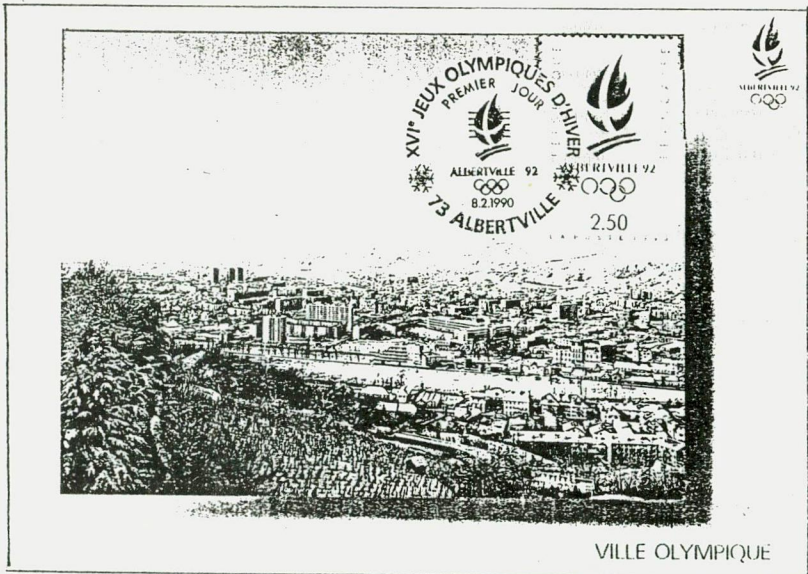
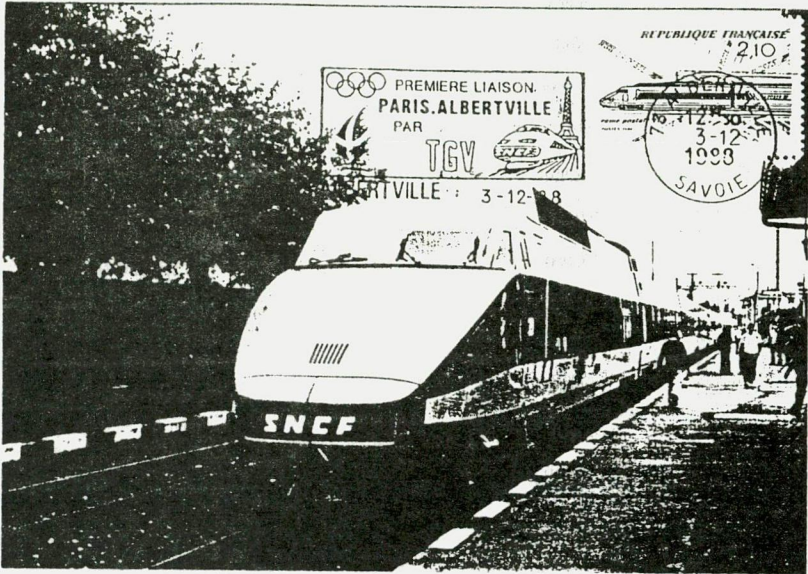
The surcharge is not for Olympic funds, but for the Red Cross, and there will be a further nine stamps featuring Olympic venues, each surcharged for the same charity. In addition, a souvenir sheet, a postal stationery card and an official maximum card will be issued in 1992 itself.

A special Olympic subscription service is being offered by the French Post Office, including an official first day cover and a de luxe souvenir folder with a block of four of each stamp. You should be able to subscribe at the French Post Office stand at STAMP WORLD LONDON 90, or you could write to Service Philatelique de la Poste, 18 rue Francois Bonvin, 75758 Paris, France. Ask for details of Olympic Subscription, Category 17. Mint stamps can be ordered direct at face plus Ffr 6 handling charge. The Giro account number is CCP 9022-20 Paris.

We are now able to illustrate the Ice Crystal figure that is the adopted mascot of the 1992 Winter Games.

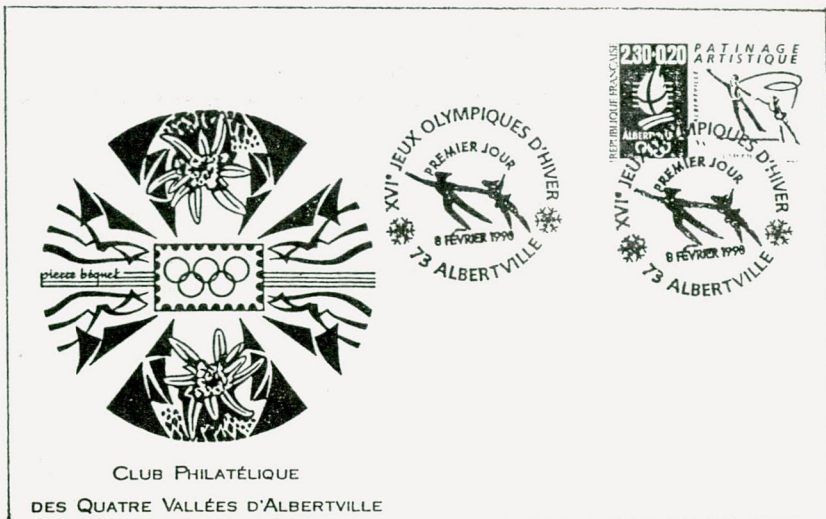
## CLUB PHILATELIQUE DES QUATRE VALLEES D'ALBERTVILLE.

Our Society has made contact with the Philatelic Club of the Four Valleys of Albertville, and Alain Mermier, their President. Bob Farley enjoyed a pleasant meeting as a guest at a committee meeting of the club during a visit to Albertville in January. The club produced their own maximum card for the TGV postmark on 3 December 1988 (which was withdrawn after ten days because the French Post Office had not then paid to use the Olympic rings). Bob Wilcock has a limited number of copies, which are available for £3.00 each plus postage. The club have also produced a maximum card of the logo stamp, and Bob Wilcock also has copies of these @ £1.50 each plus postage.



VILLE OLYMPIQUE

A first day of issue cover was also produced by the club for the figure skating stamp, illustrated below.



A new Olympic postmark slogan will be introduced in Albertville on 13 March. For copies send an addressed envelope with postage of Ffr 2.30 (EEC) or an international reply coupon to Monsieur H. Robert, Receveur des P & T, 73200 Albertville, France, and ask for the FLAMME OLYMPIQUE. If the Albertville club produce another maximum card, details will be published in the next issue of TORCH BEARER.

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## IN BRIEF

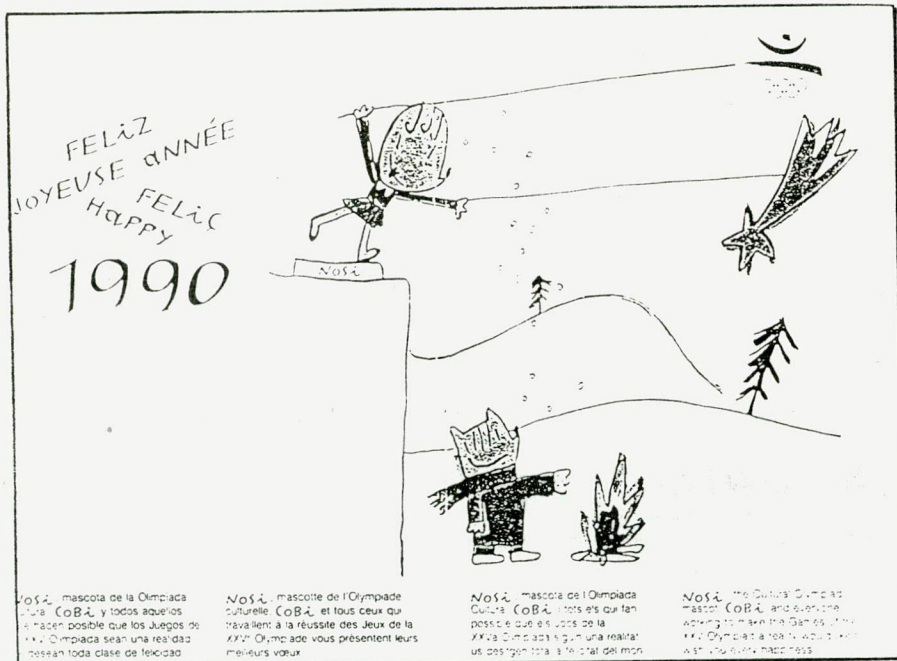
Compiled by Robert Budge.

In the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, Duke Paoa Kahanamoku from Hawaii, and part of the American team, swam to fame in the 100 metres salt water swimming pool. Duke Kahanamoku was born in the Royal Palace in Honolulu on 14 August 1890, three years before the end of the Hawaiian monarchy. He first appeared in heat five of the 100 metres freestyle, and easily finished first, clocking a time of 1 min. 02.6 secs, more than two seconds faster than any other swimmer. He won his second heat easily, but, because of a misunderstanding, the three American representatives, Kahanamoku, Kenneth Huszagh and Perry McGillivray, failed to show up for the semi-finals. Holding the final without them seemed absurd, so the three were allowed to take part in an extra heat, with the stipulation that, to qualify for the final, the winner would have to beat the time of William Longworth, who had finished third with a time of 1.06.2. Both the Duke and Huszagh qualified, and Kahanamoku went on to win the final. He won another gold medal in the Antwerp Games in 1920, and a silver in Paris in 1924. Kahanamoku was one of the greatest devotees of the Olympic spirit, and appeared in many Hawaiian films after his retirement from the Olympic arena. He died in January 1968, but still reigns as Hawaii's greatest ever sporting hero.

# BARCELONA 1992

Bob Wilcock

NOSI, THE MASCOT OF THE CULTURAL OLYMPIAD. The Organising Committee's 1990 New Year greetings card introduced Nosi, the cultural mascot, to the world. Also created by Javier Mariscal, she is starring with Cobi in a series of cartoon film adventures, presumably for television. COOB '92 are already advertising on Spanish television and in the press.



NOSI, mascota de la Olimpiada Cultural (C.O.B.A.) y todos aquellos que desean que los Juegos de la Olimpiada sean una realidad posean toda clase de felicidad.

NOSI, mascote de l'Olympiade Culturelle (C.O.B.A.) et tous ceux qui souhaitent à la réussite des Jeux de la XXIII<sup>e</sup> Olympiade vous présentent leurs meilleurs vœux.

NOSI, mascota de l'Olimpiada Cultural (C.O.B.A.) tots els que fan possible que els Jocs de la XXIII<sup>a</sup> Olimpíada siguin una realitat us desitgen tota la felicitat del món.

NOSI, the Cultural Olympic mascot (C.O.B.A.) and everyone wishing to see the Games of the XXIII Olympiad a reality would like wish you every happiness.

A TRAVELLING EXHIBITION. In December 1989, an exhibition started travelling around Spain, housed in a giant inflatable model of the Olympic Stadium at Montjuic. It started in Barcelona, and has been to Madrid, Seville and Valencia. Its subsequent itinerary is: March 1990: Murcia and Palma (Mallorca), April: Zaragoza and Las Palmas Canary Islands, May: Tenerife and Merida, June: San Sebastian and Toledo, July: Valladolid and Logrono, August: Pamplona and Vitoria, September: Santander and Santiago and October: Oviedo and Barcelona. If you are on holiday in Spain, be sure to look out for this exhibition.

It is reported that the IOC have turned down proposals to include golf and soft ball as demonstration sports in Barcelona.

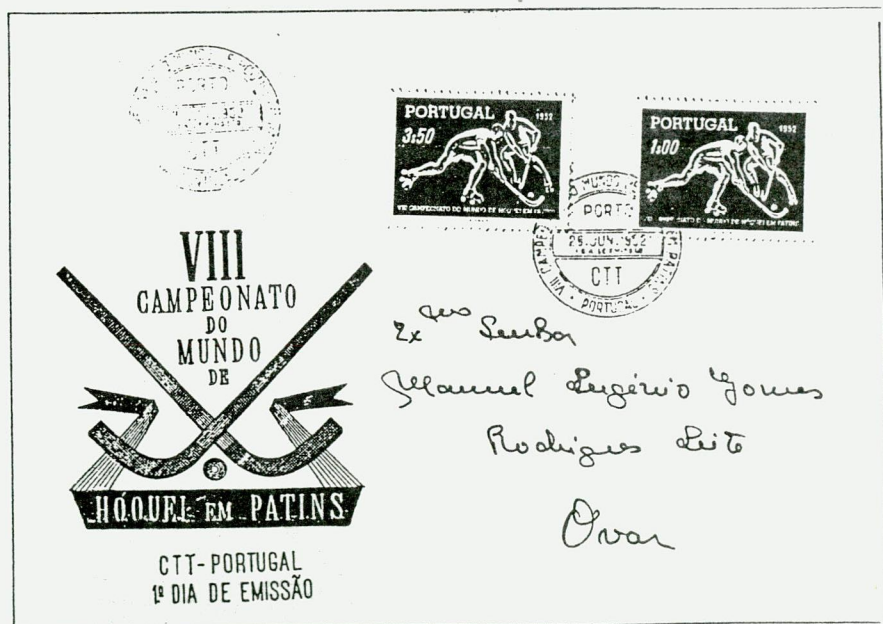
29 January saw the release of a second stamp in the Child's design series, a single stamp on the Olympic theme. Full details will appear in the next issue of TORCH BEARER.

# ROLLER HOCKEY

Bob Wilcock.

In my article on Barcelona '92 in February's TORCH BEARER, I asked about Roller Hockey stamps. Member Mario Bruges Ramos from Portugal has written to say that his country issued the first stamps in 1952 for the Eighth World Championships. There were two stamps, \$1.00 and \$3.50, and a special first day postmark. There was another postmark in 1953 for the XXVI European Championships, and a delightful postmark in 1986 for the XVII European Youth Championships, showing a suckling pig on skates, since suckling pig is a regional delicacy in Anadia where the championships were held!

There was another stamp from Portugal in 1982 (from a sports issue of four stamps), and one from Mozambique in 1978 (from a set of six sports stamps), while Spain herself has issued three Championships in La Coruna.





# THE REICHSPOST IN 1936

Dieter Germann.

(Continued from the previous issue.)

## XI OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES, BERLIN. 1 - 16 AUGUST 1936.

### 1. GENERAL.

A considerable part of the unusually large task for the success of the XI Olympiad in Berlin fell upon the Reichspost, who started their preparations as early as August 1933. The Reichspost Ministry named a commissioner to be responsible, who was also a member of the Organising Committee for the XI Olympic Summer Games in Berlin. The experience at the IV Olympic Winter Games helped considerably. It was anticipated that there would be a considerable number of visitors to Berlin in the period immediately prior to the Games. The Reichspost was responsible for all aspects of the media. The organisation was so arranged, that during the greatest use, even in peak periods, the service would be expanded to cope.

For better information about the post offices, special post offices, poste restante transmissions, postal tariffs, television transmissions, telephone points and the motorised post buses, the Reichspost distributed a guide (Fuhrer fur Post-Telegraphie-Fernsprecher) to all Olympic participants and visitors.

### 2. THE POSTAL SERVICE.

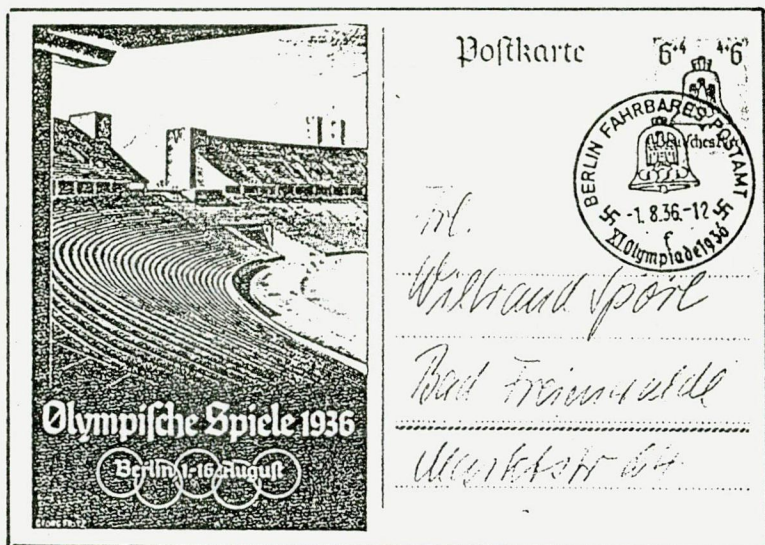
#### 2.1. POSTAGE STAMPS.

For specialist collectors of Olympic stamps, the Olympic Games in Berlin were a fascinating experience. Seldom in the past had the authorities taken the interests of the collectors so much into consideration as at the XI Olympiad in Berlin. To finance the XI Olympic Summer Games, the Reichspost issued a set of eight commemorative stamps which were released on 9 May 1936. The Reichspost Ministry invited twelve well-known artists to submit essays for the special issue. Amongst these twelve was Max Eschle. His name had already appeared on the short list for other stamp issues, had been awarded many prizes in the past and was responsible for the commemorative issue for the Olympic Winter Games in Garmisch Partenkirchen. Max Eschle came out of this competition as the winner and was given the order to design the Olympic stamps.

The commemorative issue shows sporting events and have the following postage values and surcharges:

3 + 2 Rpf.	Olive-brown.	Gymnast on beam
4 + 3 Rpf.	Grey-blue.	Diver
6 + 4 Rpf.	Green.	Footballer
8 + 4 Rpf.	Orange-red.	Javelin thrower
12 + 6 Rpf.	Carmine red.	Torch relay runner
15 + 10 Rpf.	Grey-lilac.	Fencer
25 + 15 Rpf.	Ultramarine.	Rowers
40 + 35 Rpf.	Violet.	Horse rider

On 15 June 1936, two postal stationery cards were released with imprinted stamps (Olympic Bell) with values of 6+4Rpf & 15+10Rpf.



The Olympic Marathon Gate provided the design for the left of the card. The design of the cards, including the imprinted stamps, was the work of the Berlin graphic artist, Georg Fritz.

At the same time, on 15 June 1936, stamp booklets were issued. For the production of these booklets, the stamps were specially printed in sheets of two values. The arrangement of these can be seen in the illustration. The one sheet had the 4+3 Rpf and the 6+4 Rpf values, while the other sheet had the 3+2 Rpf and the 12+6 Rpf values. For the production of the booklets, the sheets were split up into blocks. There were two different types of booklet, 1) with red covers, the front cover printed in German, 2) with red covers with a dark red diagonal stripe on the front cover. The text for the postal tariffs is printed on the inside front cover in German and English and on the inside back cover in French and Spanish.

The Olympic stamps were also available stuck onto souvenir sheets. These souvenir sheets bore the inscription SONDERBRIEFMARKEN DER DEUTSCHEN REICHSPPOST FÜR DIE XI OLYMPISCHEN SPIELE 1936 IN BERLIN. These souvenir sheets were sold for 2 RM and were available in two different types, ie. all the stamps cancelled with the same Olympic handstamp, or with every stamp cancelled with a different handstamp. Apart from the stamps already mentioned, which were printed in sheets of one hundred stamps, two miniature sheets, printed on hand made, watermarked paper and each containing four stamps, were issued. These miniature sheets were only available from Olympic post offices in Berlin and Kiel and at the post office counter at the stamp exhibition in Dresden. The post offices received the miniature sheets in envelopes containing twenty sheets. The first day of issue was 1 August 1936, the opening day of the XI Olympic Summer Games. Sheet 1 contains one stamp each of the 3+2, 4+3,

6+4 and 40+35 Rpf values and sheet 2 contains one each of the 8+4, 12+6, 15+10 and 25+15 values. The price of each miniature sheet was 1.20RM. As for the Winter Games in Garmisch Partenkirchen, the Reichspost introduced a special telegram form which was used from 20 July until 22 August. During this period, all Olympic visitors received incoming telegrams, which bore a suitable message, on this form without the usual surcharge for greetings telegrams. In Berlin, as well as in Kiel, telegram forms could be purchased unused from the post office for 40 Rpf.

TAXES POSTALES		PORTES POSTALES	
A. Service Interieur		B. Servicio Interior	
Lettres jusqu'à 20g	Cartes postales	Cartas hasta 20 grs	Cartas postales
jusqu'à 100g	Cartes de 100g à 250g	de 100 grs hasta 250 grs	de 100 grs hasta 250 grs
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Olympic Riding Stadium  
 Deutschlandhalle, Wandelhalle,  
 Deutschlandhalle, Reithalle  
 Olympia-Lager, (Olympic camp) Heerstrasse  
 Olympic Village (only accessible to inhabitants)  
 International Sport Students Camp  
 Kraft-durch-Freude-Stadt (Strength through joy)  
 Ausstellung Deutschland (Germany Exhibition)  
 Grunau Regattabahn  
 International Kanulager (camp) Muggelsee  
 Travelling post offices (seven in total)  
 Stralau, Stralauer Fischzug  
 Treptow, Stralauer Fischzug  
 Rangsdorf, Flugplatz (Airport).

Press Post Offices:

Olympic Stadium (Press)  
 Olympic Village  
 Olympic Press Headquarters  
 Grunau Regattabahn  
 Rangsdorf, Airport.

With the exception of the special post office at the airport at Rangsdorf, which had a separate working area for the press, all the post offices used special cancellations. With the exception of the "Stralauer Fischzug", all the handstamps used in Berlin showed the Olympic bell, the five Olympic rings and two swastikas. The design of all the cancellations was the same, only the inscription varied, and additionally, differentiating letters were used. Since the Berlin folk festival in Stralau and Treptow, the "Stralauer Fischzug" had its date advanced, it became a part of the Olympic celebrations, and so the postal installations are counted among the Olympic post offices. The cancellations for the Stralauer Fischzug had the tower of Stralau church as a part of the design, and the inscription either Berlin-Stralau or Berlin-Treptow. All seven travelling post offices used the same handstamp, differentiated only by the letter. Including the Stralauer Fischzug, sixteen different handstamps were used in Berlin.





# Sonderbriefmarken der Deutschen Reichspost für die XI Olympischen Spiele 1936 in Berlin



Preis 2 M.

The special post office at the Olympic Stadium was in business from 27 July until 17 August 1936. There were sixty cancellers, of which twenty were identical, ie. forty one different cancellers.

Fist cancellers a-s, ab-al and t with time in minutes

Hammer cancellers u-x, am-ap and without letter

Hand roller canceller y, z and aa

The Olympic Stadium held 100,000 spectators.

The special post office at the Berlin Swimming Stadium was used from 27 July until 17 August.

Seven fist cancellers a-g.

The special post office at the Berlin Riding Stadium was in use from 27 July until 17 August.

Six fist cancellers a-f.

The special post office at the Berlin Deutschlandhalle was used from 1 - 16 August.

Ten fist cancellers a-k.

The boxing, wrestling and weight lifting contests took place in the Deutschlandhalle. The Deutschlandhalle was opened on 29 November 1935 and could accommodate 20,000 spectators.

The special post office at Olympialager Heerstrasse was open from 27 July until 17 August.

Eight fist cancellers a-h

Two hammer cancellers i and k

One hand roller canceller l

The Olympic camp at Heerstrasse lay directly next to the Reichssportfeld and housed various youth sports organisations from throughout Germany in tents.

The special post office at the Olympic Village was open from 27 May until 22 August, and was also used as a press post office.

Twenty one cancellers. Fist cancellers a-n, s-u

Hammer cancellers o-r

Hand roller cancellers s,t.

The Olympic Village was situated at Doberitz near Berlin, and 5000 sportsmen were accommodated there.

The special post office Berlin Internationales Sportstudenten Lager was used from 23 July until 17 August

Five cancellers, fist cancellers a-d

Hammer canceller e

The Organising Committee invited each participating nation to send up to thirty of their physical training students, who were accommodated in tents on the campus of Berlin University near the Avus race track, and who took part in lectures and demonstrations.

The special post office Berlin KdF Stadt was used from 1 - 17 August.

Eleven cancellers, fist cancellers a-g and l

Hammer cancellers h-k.

Five large halls in the railway station at Heerstrasse each decorated with different German landscapes, were developed as the Strength Through Joy city. They were the meeting point for

members of the leisure organisation Kraft Durch Freude.

The special post office Berlin Ausstellung Deutschland. Seven post buses were used as requested from 1 - 17 August.

Seven cancellers, fist cancellers a, b, d-g  
Hammer canceller c

The visitors to the Olympiad were expected to visit the Germany Exhibition in the exhibition halls at the Funkturm (Radio Tower), which gave a synopsis of German life. The exhibition was erected on 38,000 square metres of hall space and about 113,000 square metres of open space.

The special post office Berlin Grunau Regattabahn was operational from 23 July until 16 August and was also used as a press post office.

Nineteen cancellers fist cancellers a-l, p, r-t  
Hammer cancellers m, n, q  
Hand roller canceller o.

The regatta course for the rowing and canoeing competitions on the Langersee near Grunau was considered by competitors from all countries to be the best in the world.

The special post office Internationales Kanulager Muggelsee was used from 1 - 16 August

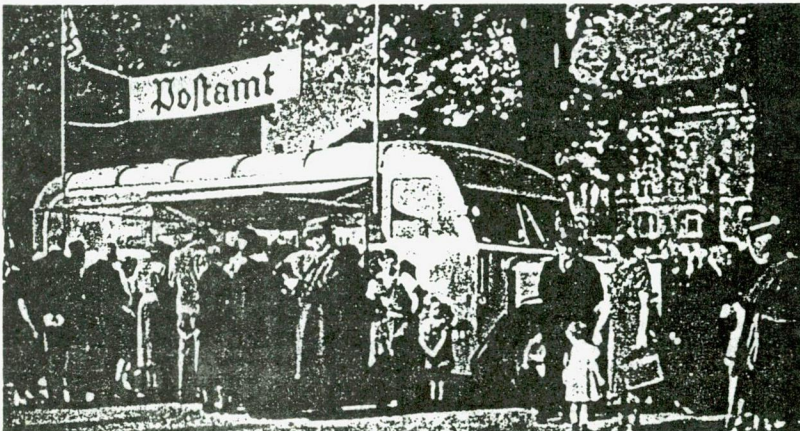
Eight cancellers fist cancellers a-c, f, g  
Hammer cancellers d, h  
Hand roller canceller e

In the vicinity of the Grunau regatta course, the old castle of Kopenick provided much of the accommodation for the rowers and canoeists.

The special post office Berlin Fahrbares Postamt was operational from 1 - 16 August.

Seventeen cancellers fist cancellers a-r

To relieve the individual post offices when they were inundated with either postal or telephone call requests, seven specially equipped travelling post offices were established. These each had three counters and four telephone booths and were placed according to need at the various sporting venues.



The special post office at Berlin Stralau (Stralauer Fischzug) was used from 9-30 August.

Six cancellers, fist canceller a-e  
Hammer canceller f.

The special post office at Berlin Treptow (Stralauer Fischzug) was used from 9-30 August

Six cancellers, fist cancellers a,b, d,e.  
Hammer canceller c, f.

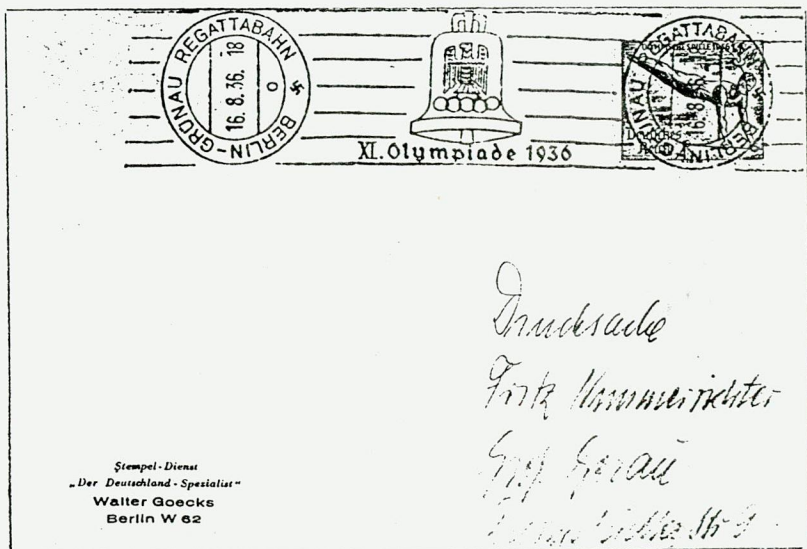
The two cancellers in Stralau and Treptow are counted among Olympic cancellations since this annual Berlin folk festival was considered to be a fringe event of the Olympic Games.

The special post office at the Berlin Olympia Stadion (Presse) was used from 27 July until 17 August.

Ten cancellers, fist canceller a, with time in minutes.  
Fist cancellers b-k.

The special post office Olympia Pressehauptquartier was used from 27 July until 18 August.

Ten cancellers, fist cancellers a, c-i  
Hammer canceller k.  
Hand roller canceller b.



With so many cancellers in use, it could happen that an error occurred. This happened with the canceller used at the Berlin Olympic Press Headquarters, on the letter K, where the word "quartier" appeared without the "u". This error was discovered on 28 July, almost as soon as it came into use, and was immediately corrected.

The press headquarters were situated in the Schiller Theatre in Charlottenburg, which was also the site of the press headquarters post office. Altogether, the following special cancellations were used in Berlin. Olympia special hand cancellations, including the twenty similar cancellers at the Olympic stadium:



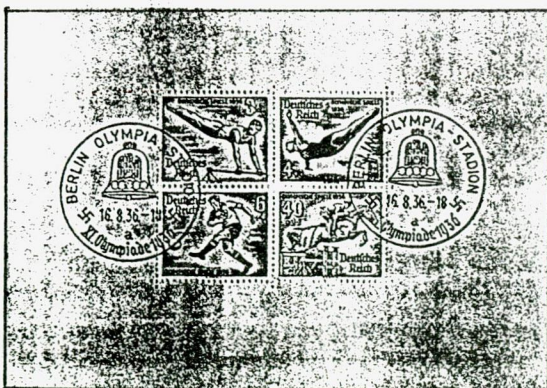
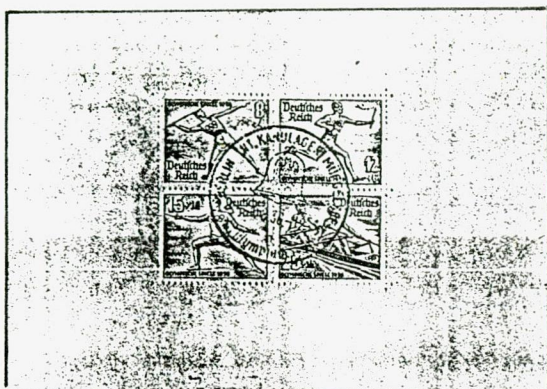
Werbeplakat für die Olympia-Postwertzeichen-Ausstellung »Die Briefmarke« anlässlich der Reichsgartenschau in Dresden vom 1. bis 16. August 1936

Without including differentiating letters	193
Special cancellations Stralau and Treptow	12
Olympic roller cancellations	9

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214

Although not strictly Olympic, the cancellations from the Dresden exhibition, DIE BRIEFMARKE (the postage stamp) and the Munich Chess Olympiad should be included. Along with the cancellations Stralau and Treptow, they belong in the collection since the Dresden philatelic exhibition was regarded as an Olympic event, and because the Munich cancellation incorporates the word "Olympia". Specialist Olympic collectors additionally include the cancellation from Berlin SW 29/III for the stamp exhibition organised by the Neukolln Philatelic Society, which took place shortly after the close of the Games.



- To be continued. -

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STAMPS CATALOGUE  
SPORTS 1990

(XXVIII EDITION)  
J. M. VIDAL TORRENS  
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IN PREPARATION  
FLOWERS AND FAUNA 1990



# OLYMPIC VIDEOS

Robert Budge

In late 1988, three videos were released in Australia in honour of the Olympic Games. The titles of the videos are HAND IN HAND, (about Seoul), GOLDEN MOMENTS, also relating to Seoul in 1988 and THE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE, twenty years of great moments.

The first video, HAND IN HAND, was released by the Ten Network, the TV channel that had the Australian TV rights to the Seoul Games. The video shows all the Australian winners, such as the Women's hockey star, Debbie Flintoff-King and others and also the highlights of the opening and closing ceremonies. Sports such as men's and women's basketball, equestrian and others are also included. The superstars of the Games, such as Florence Griffiths Joyner and Ben Johnson are not forgotten. The video has a running time of ninety minutes and is authorised by the International Olympic Committee and the Australian Olympic Federation.

The second video, THE GOLDEN MOMENTS, AN OFFICIAL HIGHLIGHTS VIDEO, was authorised by the IOC and the Organising Committee for the Seoul Games. This video is about the joy and pain of the Olympic challenge. It starts with the opening ceremony and finishes with the closing ceremony, and in between it shows the ups and downs of such stars as Florence Griffiths-Joyner, Adrian Moorhouse, Steffi Graf, Ben Johnson, Greg Louganis, Carl Lewis and Rosa Mota, to name just a few. The video is narrated by Steve Rider and has a running time of approximately sixty minutes.

The third and last video, THE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE, TWENTY YEARS OF GREAT FILM MOMENTS. This video shows the stars and the champions of the last twenty years of the Olympic Games, such as Bob Hayes, Mary Decker, Nelli Kim, Dick Fosbury, Ron Clarke, Greta Weitz, Daley Thompson, to name just a few of those who are featured on this video. It shows the brute force of Bob Hayes, the grace of Nadia Comaneci and the innovation of high jumper Dick Fosbury with his now-famous 'flop'. Less happy moments, such as the black gloves of Tommy Smith and John Carlos at the Mexico City Games in 1968, which brought human rights and politics to the Games, and the tragedy at the 1972 Games in Munich, in which Israeli competitors were assassinated are also included. It shows the desire of the competitors to go faster, higher, and stronger and captures all the emotions of the competitors who win and lose, which was best stated by the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, "The important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win, but to take part". This video is narrated by Charlton Heston and has a running time of approximately sixty minutes.

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# HAITI'S FIRST SEMI-POSTAL

F. Burton Sellers.

(This article first appeared in Essay-Proof Journal Number 183, 3rd Quarter 1989, Volume 46, Issue 3, and is reprinted here with the permission of the author and the editor.)

Much has already been written about the colourful first semipostal stamps of Haiti, as they are popular with thematic and topical collectors as well as Haiti specialists. Intended to raise money for a municipal sports stadium at Port au Prince, the three stamps were first released on 3 October 1939, and initial sales and first day usage were significant. Various authors (see bibliography) have reported how subsequent sales languished and many remainders were destroyed. The project actually resulted in a net loss for the stadium fund after the cost of producing the stamps was met.

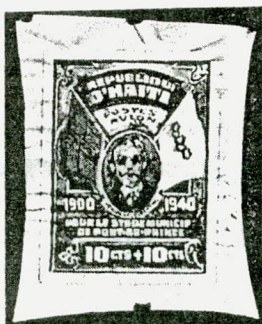


Fig. 1. Artist's sketch of proposed stamps.



Fig. 2. Issued 10+10 centimes regular postage stamp, Scott B1 (left).

Fig. 3. Issued 60+40 and 1.25+60 airmail postage values, Scott CB-2 (right).

Since these facts have already been well chronicled, it is the primary purpose of this article to expose some information about the essay and proof aspects of this issue which have not previously been reported. The popularity of the stamps themselves can be attributed to their portrayal of Baron Pierre de Coubertin the founder of the modern Olympics, the first usage ever on postage stamps of the five ring Olympic symbol, and the bright colours and appealing design of the stamps.

Illustrated as Figure 1 is an artist's sketch of the 10 centimes + 10 centimes regular postage value. The drawing is in issued stamp size, on a thin tissue-like paper and in approximately the colours of the issued stamp. A comparison with Figure 2, the issued stamp, shows the close resemblance between the artist's sketch and the finished product. Like so many artist's sketches made by the American Bank Note Company personnel, this sketch afforded several choices of ornamentation that the die engraver might follow in the final design. Note the different treatment of the two ends of the box that encloses the denomination at the bottom of the stamp. Similarly, choices were offered at the top corners of the stamp. In the final design, the engraver chose to finish the bottom box almost identically to the left side of the artist's rendition, but used the tops of the flag staffs as termini at the upper corners. The sketch shows "Postes Avion" at the centre of the portrait, which was used for the 60 centimes + 40 centimes and the 1.25 gourdes + 60 centimes airmail values shown in figure 3. Only the word "Postes" was used for the regular postage value of figure 2. Note the pencil notation reading up at right, "Accepted".

The finished stamps were printed on unwatermarked wove paper in sheets of 50 (10 x 5) and were perforated 12. They are listed in the Scott catalogue as B1 and CB-2. The flag at the left is one of two versions of the Haitian flag with blue and red stripes. The usual Haitian flag has the coat of arms of the country included in a box at the centre of the flag. The flag at right displays the five ring Olympic symbol in the five Olympic colours. These flags were printed typographically in a separate operation with generally excellent registry.

A rather unusual die proof is illustrated as figure 4. Although it carries the die number 79913, it does not have the imprint at the immediate bottom of the stamp that characterises most ABN die proofs. Instead, the ABN legend is shown separately and in larger type than used on the finished die. The flags are omitted, as is the denomination of value. Colour of the proof is green, a colour not used for any of the finished stamps. Perhaps this proof should be classified as a progress colour proof or essay. Since it bears a separate die number, it was not subsequently completed as a die for one of the issued airmail values.

The die proofs, finished except for the flags, in the issued colours shown in figures 5, 6 and 7 for the 60+40, 10+10 and 1.25+60 values, numbered 79915, -16 and -17 respectively. These all bear the normal-sized ABN inscription at the bottom. The author has seen a few more of these die proofs without flags, so several sets were apparently produced, but has never seen another proof similar to that of figure 4, nor a completed proof with flags included.

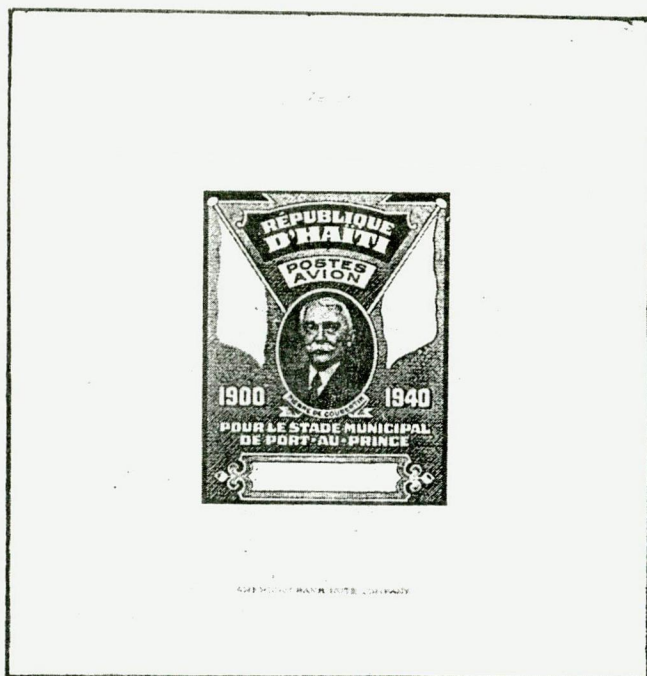


Fig. 4. Trial color proof (essay?) in green.

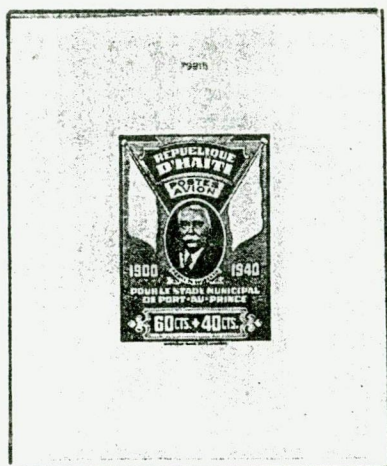


Fig. 5. Die Proof 60+40 centimes value in issued color.

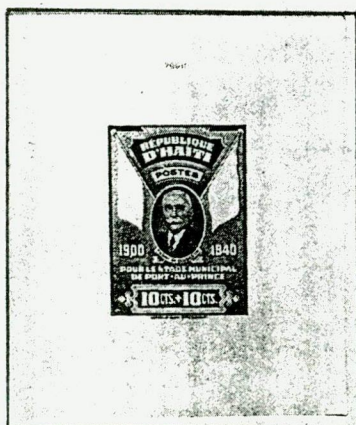


Fig. 6. Die Proof 10+10 centimes value in issued color.

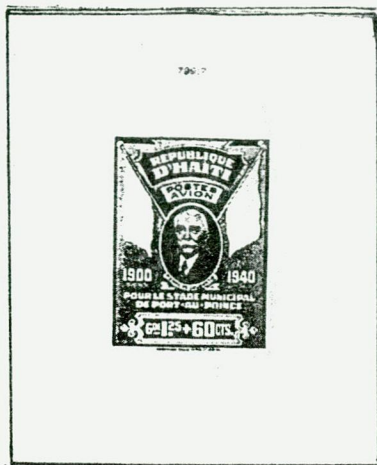


Fig. 7. Die Proof 1.25+60 centimes value in issued color.

About two years ago, a lot of Haiti proofs, most of ABN origin, was offered at auction by one of the large East Coast firms. Suspecting that there would be too much duplication in the author's collection to warrant purchase of the lot, the author requested photocopies of the lot before bidding. To the author's surprise the lot included inter alia a set of what appeared to be finished proofs of the three stamps, which included the flags and the ABN inscriptions at the bottom, but lacked the die numbers. Each, like that of figure 8, was stamped at the top "For Approval" and bore the approval date of July 26, 1939 and the signature of H.L.Hershey, a name known to the author as having appeared on earlier ABN die proofs. Since these appeared to be different to the proofs already in the collection, a generous bid was submitted and the lot happily obtained.

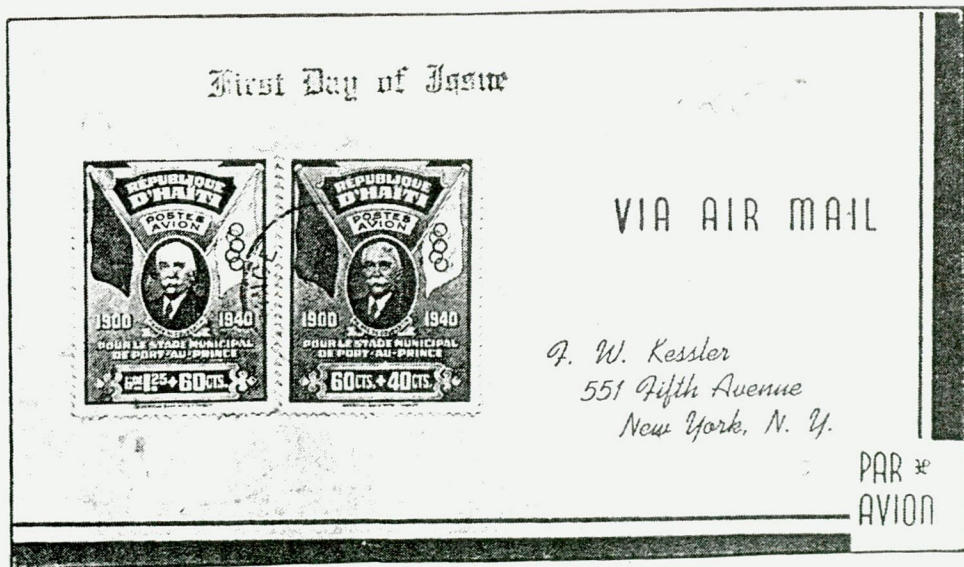
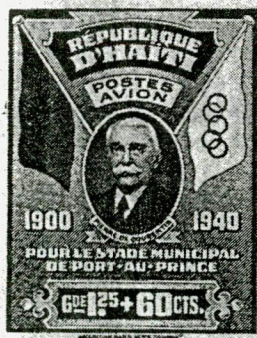


Fig. 9. First day cover airmail postage values.

To the author's great surprise, these items turned out to be imperforate copies of the finished stamps, fully gummed and each attached by the gum at the top to a heavy card and with a tissue cover of the same size as the card to protect the stamp.

FOR APPROVAL



APPROVED July 26, 1939  
BY W. H. [Signature]

Fig. 8. "For Approval" imperforate proof.

This is the only treatment of this type noted by the author among the hundreds of ABN proofs in the collection. It is not possible to determine whether each of these three "stamps" is a single copy struck from the respective dies, or whether they were cut from full sheets struck from the finished plates of fifty stamps. Since they were prepared "For Approval", the author is inclined to believe that they are copies struck from the original dies and "For Approval" before the full printing plates were made. Their presence on gummed paper is a puzzler, but no other imperforate copies of these stamps have ever been recorded, which would probably have occurred if full sheets on gummed paper had been printed but not perforated. Reader comment is invited. Whatever they may be, to this date, at least, they are unique, and among the most serendipitous acquisitions in the author's collection.

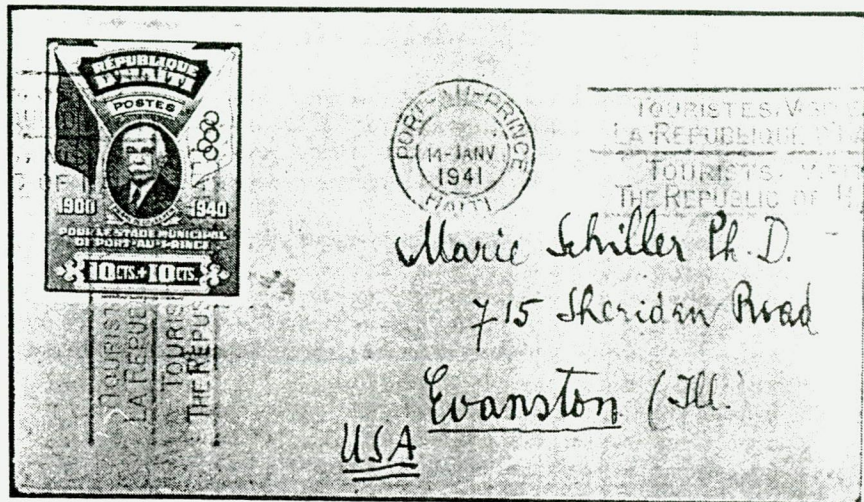


Fig. 10. Commercial cover 10 centimes boat mail rate to the U.S.

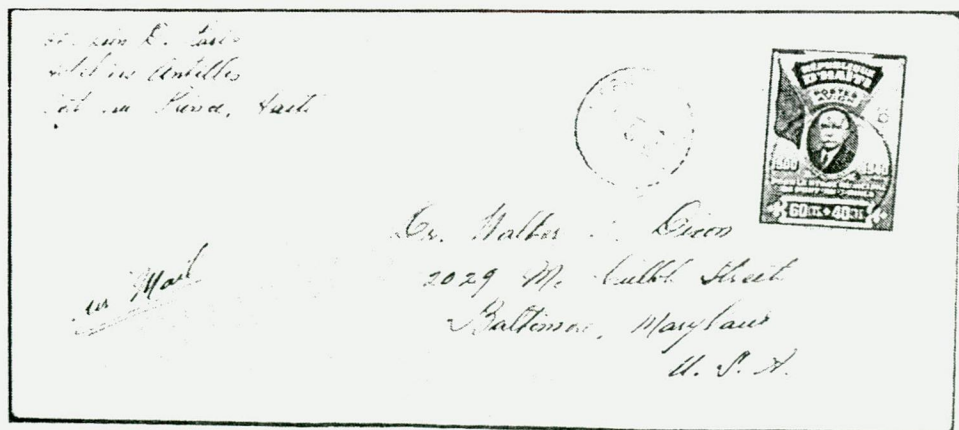


Fig. 11. Commercial cover 60 centimes airmail rate to the U.S.

Considering the fact that far fewer than ten thousand copies of each of the stamps exists, and that they are popular with sport and Olympic thematic collectors, the current catalogue values are surprisingly low. The stamps are popular items in unused sets, but used copies are seldom found and then usually with first day cancels. First day covers like that shown in figure 9 are not scarce but are uncommon. Covers showing contemporary commercial usage are very scarce. One such shows the 10+10 centimes regular postage value properly used to pay the boat mail rate in 1941 to the United States. The cover in figure 11 is a very uncommon commercial usage of the 60+40 centimes airmail stamp to pay the correct 60 centimes airmail rate to the USA in 1939. All illustrated items are from the author's collection.

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4. Ibid. "Haitian Olympic Set of 1939" *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, Vol. 42, No. 20. 7 July 1969.

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*Stamp World London 90*

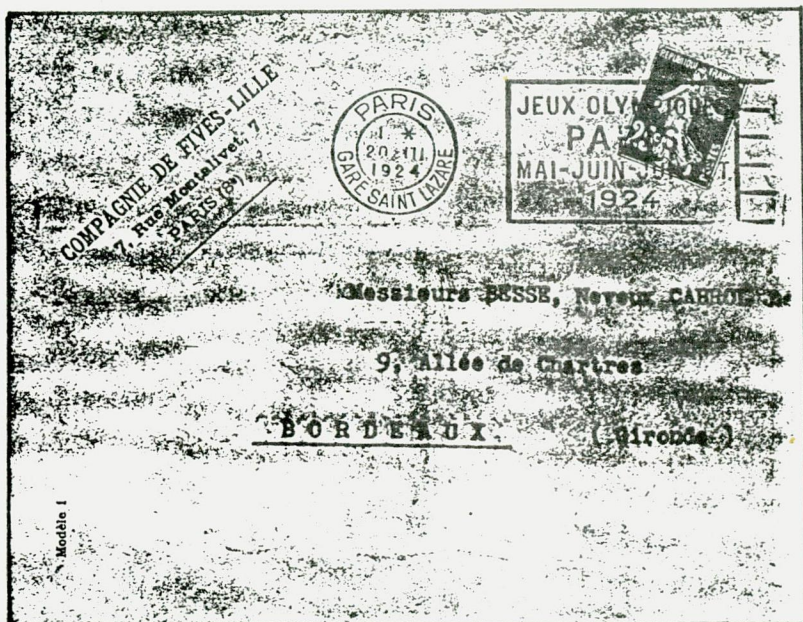
ALEXANDRA PALACE  
3-13 MAY 1990

# CHARIOTS OF FIRE

Vic Manikian. "A Story from my Collection."

Following the turmoil of World War 1 and the harsh 1920 Games at Antwerp, the world was better prepared for the Paris Olympic festivities of 1924 with 3,000 athletes from forty four nations participating.

And with these Games, Olympic philately presented a new dimension; with the stamps, cancellations, postal stationery and vignettes attracting the attention of the philatelic world. These caused both philatelists and sportsmen to become interested also in collecting Olympic Games stamps and cancellations. As shown, France's stamp designs had a deep meaning towards the Games. Also shown is a publicity cancel from March 1924 for the Paris Games.



There are unusual happenings at every Olympic Games, and it is almost impossible to think of the Paris Olympics without recalling images from the film "Chariots of Fire". The film accurately depicts the contrasting personalities of the two British athletes, Harold Abrahams and Eric Liddell.

Harold Abrahams was a tall, carefree Cambridge student who drank ale and smoked cigars. Eric Liddell was a short, serious divinity

student who was a stern Scot. Liddell, who had a peculiar running style of throwing his head back, while pumping his arms vigorously in front of him, thought his best event would be the 100 metres, but the heats were scheduled for a Sunday. Competing on the sabbath was a violation of his strict religious beliefs, so Liddell did not run in the 100 metres race. He chose instead to enter the longer races, the 200 metres and 400 metres. Eventually, Harold Abrahams won the 100 metres, the first and only time that this event has been won by an Englishman until Alan Wells won a gold medal in the same event in Moscow in 1980. Eric Liddell won the 400 metres and Jackson Scholz, who was expected to win the 100 metres, but could only come second, took the gold medal in the 200 metres; Harold Abrahams was placed sixth and Eric Liddell won the bronze medal in this event.

About three years ago I wrote a letter to Horatio Fitch, the American runner who came second to Liddell in the 400 metres race. Unfortunately, Mr Fitch had just passed away (May 1985), however, I received a copy of a very lengthy diary of Horatio Fitch about the Olympic Games of 1924. On 11 July 1924, just two and a half hours before the final race, Fitch set a world record in the 400 metres semi-final heat in a time of 47.8 seconds. Reading through his diary, Fitch remembers winning the race with ease, as a matter of fact, coasting through the finish line.

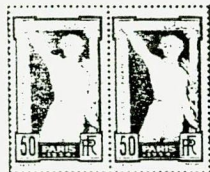
In the diary Fitch says: "The final race was different. Liddell shot out of the starting holes to take an early lead. Around the turn he held the same pace. I couldn't believe a man could set such a pace and finish. But Liddell pushed himself like a man possessed, head tilted back with determination."

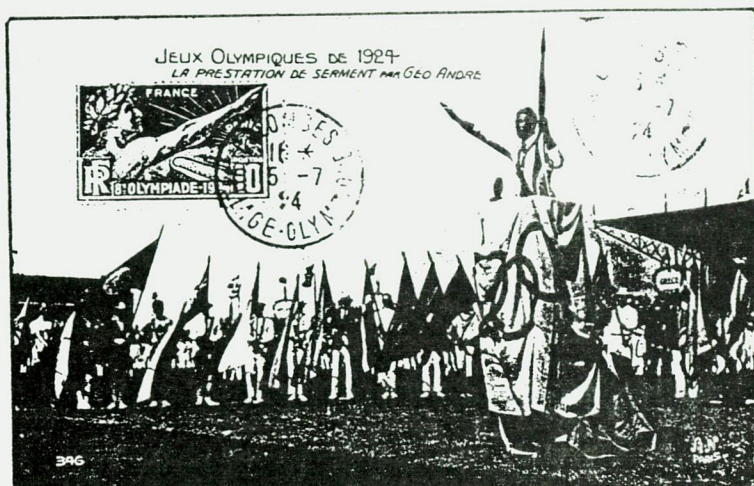
"I remember what my coach told me - when you are getting tired, keep your arms driving high - I wasn't tired, but I couldn't go any faster. Every second I expected the Scot to slow down, to tie-up. He sprinted the entire race."

"Liddell didn't weaken. Just as he broke the tape, I jumped for it in desperation. The gap was just too great. My reign as world's champion had lasted a little more than two hours."

"I went up to congratulate Liddell after the race and he was pleasant, but rather aloof. I suppose that was the way most of the British were at the time. He never really said much of anything to me."

"Chariots of Fire" depicted the times and the people in the race with accuracy. However, in my opinion, if Horatio had not pushed himself in the semi-finals, there would have been no "Chariots of Fire".





Olympic Postcard from the first Olympic collective housing for athletes, with round commemorative postmark  
COLOMBES/VILLAGE OLYMPIQUE/15-7-1924

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# THEMATICA

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# OLYMPICS AT POLISH P.O.W CAMPS

Howard Longden.

During the Second World War, four Polish prisoner of war camps organised an internal postal service with the approval of the German authorities. Stamps and postal stationery were produced by woodcuts, and two camps issued stamps, and, in one case, postal stationery on the Olympic theme.

## GROSS BORN.

The first to do so was Oflag II D at Gross Born in Central Germany. On 30 July 1944 to commemorate Olympic Year and the camp games, a set of three stamps, each incorporating the Olympic symbol, was issued. The stamps were designed by Włodzimierz Zieleniewski and printed singly on thin paper. They were rouletted with a toothed wheel. The numbers printed were 5,137 of the 10f red, the rate for postcards up to five words, 5,245 of the 20f brown for postcards with longer messages and 4,702 of the 50f dark green, the rate for registered letters.

### 30 July 1944 - Olympics

Designer W. Zieleniewski. Rouletted with Gum

Printing 10f 5137; 20f 5245; 50f 4702.

Red



Note WZ  
(Artist's  
Initials)



Rose



Brown



Deep Brown

The 10f stamp appeared on 30 July 1944 impressed on a postal stationery card, whilst a miniature sheet with the three stamps in changed colours was issued on 14 August 1944 in connection with a philatelic exhibition being held in the camp from 12-15 August. The sheet, as illustrated, has the special philatelic exhibition cancellation for the third day, 14 August.

A commemorative cancellation incorporating the Olympic symbol of five interlinked circles was used for the period 30 July to 15 August, and is shown on the Day of the Sea miniature sheet issued on 13 August 1944, also in connection with the philatelic exhibition.

14 August 1944 - Miniature Sheet for Philatelic Exhibition  
Printing of 1155.



The camp post closed on 28 January 1945 when the camp was evacuated in the face of the advancing Russian army.

**WOLDENBERG.**

The second camp to commemorate the Olympic Games was Oflag II C at Woldenberg in East Prussia. A single stamp showing a runner breasting the tape with the Olympic five ring symbol was issued on 13 August 1944. The 10f stamp was designed by Edmund Czarnecki and was printed singly on paper pre-cut to size. Altogether 17,580 stamps were printed in red, and the stamp was in use until 21 October 1944.

A special first day cancellation was used, and is shown on an illustrated postcard depicting a torch bearer amid the Olympic rings and the winners laurels. The illustration on the postcard is coloured yellow, and is also known in black. (both vignettes are illustrated on the next page).

Woldenberg was the first of the four Polish camps to commence its own internal postal service on 4 April 1942, and altogether twenty two single stamps or commemorative sets were issued until the camp was evacuated on 25 January 1945.

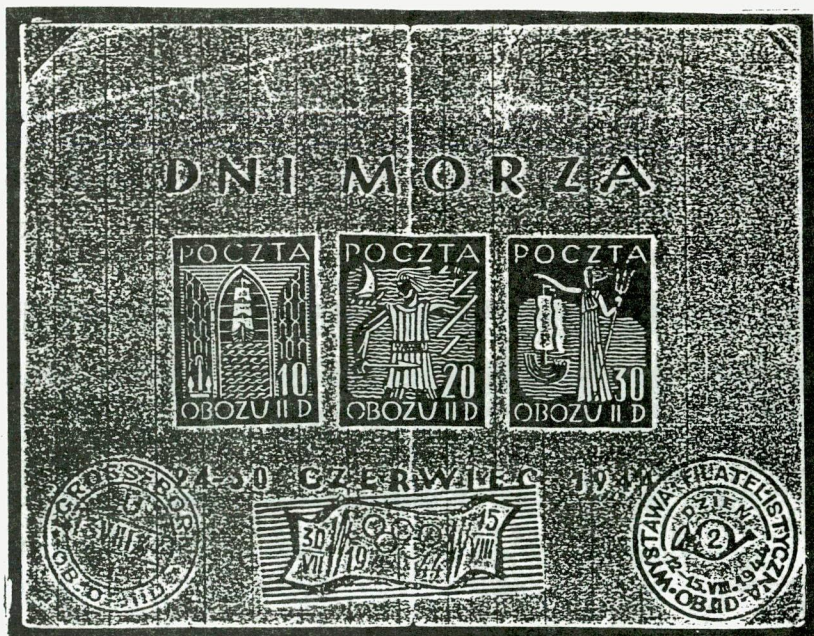
13 Aug 1944 - Souvenir Sheet - Philatelic Exhibition

Day of the Sea (Incorporating Maritime Day  
set issued 22 June 1944)

1100 Printed

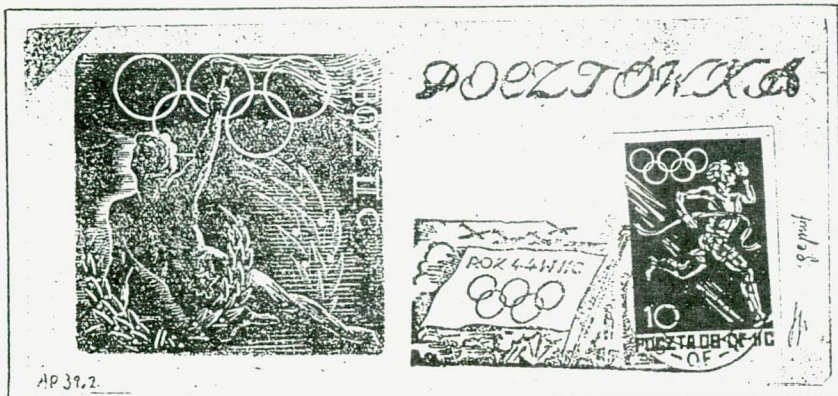
Designer Boleslaw Malisz

Woodcut by Wacław Bulzacki



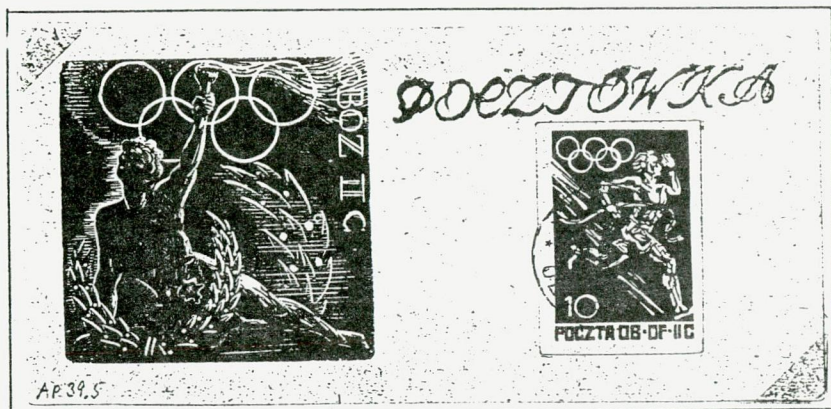
Printed on Ruled Paper

- Cancellations:- (a) Gross-Born Normal Cancel  
(b) Olympic Games 30 July to 15 Aug.  
(c) Philatelic Exhibition 12-15 Aug.



'Olympic Games' First Day of Issue 13 VIII 44  
 Cancel Designer T. Plonczak, Engraver R. Wiczorkiewicz

'Olympic Games' - First Issued 13 August 1944



Black Vignette - Dated 18 Sept 1944

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# PROFILE

Posts and Telecommunications of Finland. Philatelic Centre.



In 1989 a hundred years have passed since the birth of Hannes Kolehmainen, the famous Finnish long distance runner. To commemorate this event, the General Directorate of the Posts and Telecommunications issued a special stamp in the value of FIM 1.90 on 9 October 1989.

Johannes Petter Kolehmainen was born in Kuopio on 9 December 1889. Ever since his childhood, infinite perseverance and good humour were characteristic of this small sized boy, who was called Hannes. There was no such hard work or exertion after which Hannes was not able to smile. And so this boy was known later on all over the world as "the Smiling Finn".

Before his career as a runner, Hannes Kolehmainen went in for skiing. He used to ski long tours which could be over one hundred kilometres in length. In 1907 in Vyborg, he ran a marathon for the first time and he was placed third. This good result gave him self-confidence and a year later Hannes Kolehmainen won the Finnish championship in the 10,000 metres race. During the next years he won several races both in Finland and abroad.

At the Stockholm Olympics in 1912, Hannes Kolehmainen was awarded three gold medals. The first gold medal, in the 10,000 metres, he won with ease. The American runner who was placed second lost by as many as 46 seconds. The second gold medal Hannes Kolehmainen gained in the 5,000 metres with a splendid world record of 14 min.36.6 seconds. At the end of the same Olympics he won a third gold medal in the 12 kilometres cross country race. After the Stockholm Olympics he moved to the United States. There he competed during the next years and he was almost invincible.

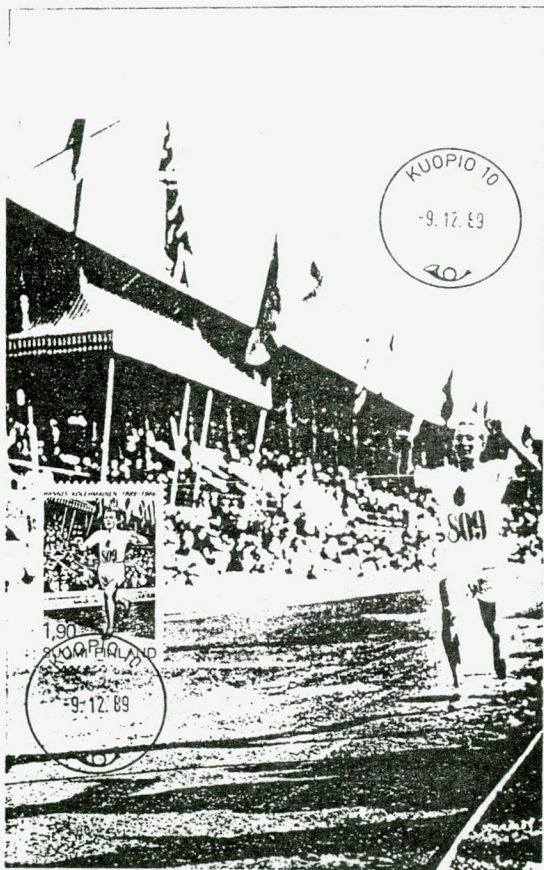
At the Antwerp Games in 1920 Hannes Kolehmainen met the wishes of Finns by winning the gold medal in the marathon, which was as long as 42,750 metres at that time. After the Olympics, Kolehmainen returned to Finland and he competed with success especially in long distance races.

As late as 1924 at the Paris Olympics, Hannes Kolehmainen tried to run the marathon but because of the pain in his feet he had to drop out of the race. The career of the "Smiling Finn" as an active athlete was drawing to an end.

Kolehmainen appeared before the world of athletics for the last time at the Helsinki Olympics in 1952. His honorary duty was to light the Olympic fire in the tower of the Olympic Stadium. He died in Helsinki in 1966.

KUOPIO 9.10.1989  
ENSIN PÄIVÄ

The stamp pictures Hannes Kolehmainen coming first in the 5,000 metres at Stockholm in 1912. It was designed by Paavo Huovinen and printed by the Bank of Finland Security Printing House. Four million stamps were printed.



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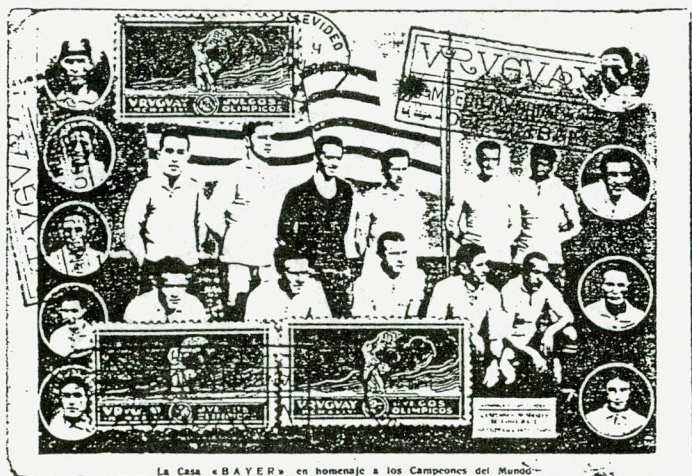
# PATIENCE, COLLECTOR'S BYEWORD

John Murray.

For the past forty-odd years I have been an avid collector of the Football theme, and in particular, to that section of my collection devoted to football as an Olympic discipline.

I think that I must have been about twenty two years of age when I saw a specialised Olympic Games collection at my own philatelic society in Glasgow. To me, Tom Cowell possessed what I strongly believed was a superb Olympic collection, and I expressed to him the feeling that I would never be able to match or equal it. Much to my surprise, Tom gave me one very good word of advice. "Patience". He proceeded to remind me that it had taken him a lifetime of philatelic enjoyment to gradually build the collection piece by piece through the years to its present standing of a silver medal at Stampex. In those early days it was a great achievement for a thematic exhibit to gain high marks at a national exhibition.

It was pointed out to me that I was only twenty two years old and that I had all those years ahead of me to reach similar status, and could tell, possibly even greater achievements. Tom told me that I must be prepared to sit down and plan exactly how I was going to add to the collection, and always to bear in mind the golden rule, "If you can't afford it, don't buy it". After all, it is only a hobby, and what you refuse on one occasion, may well be offered again at a later date when funds are available. It was the best advice ever given to me, and I felt a great sadness when Tom passed away and another album was closed in the philatelic ranks.





# THE ISSUES OF 1896 & 1906

Walter Maxwell.

The origin of the Olympic Games dates back to the era of Greek mythology. They were instituted by Herakles, in the time of Kronos, the father of Zeus. The earliest written record goes back to 828 BC. according to an inscribed commemorative disc, which is in the Heroceum at Olympia. From then on, they appear to have been held at intervals until the period of their recorded history, which began in 776 BC. So highly were the Olympic Games of ancient times regarded, and so regularly were they held, that a four year period of time became known as an Olympiad. The Christian ruler Theodoseus banned the holding of the Olympic Games in 393 AD, considering them mere pagan rites. Their revival had to wait an interval of approximately 1,500 years, until Athens in 1896.

Those who took part in the original Olympic Games did so as individuals, not as teams, as is the case today. The winners were feted and songs were composed and sung in their honour. A more practical benefit was the exemption from paying income tax for the rest of their lives, and living free in their native towns at the expense of the state. The prize that was much treasured was the wreath of wild olive branches, cut from the sacred grove at Olympia, and placed on the heads of the winners. Combatants were required to undergo ten months of training, before being selected by their city councils to act as their participants in the forthcoming Games. A further period of training was undertaken near Olympia, in the neighbouring city of Elis, which had a gymnasium and stadium similar to that at Olympia. It was only when the priests who regulated the Games were satisfied that the contestant would compete fairly and with honour, that the final days training took place at Olympia itself.

During the Games themselves, women were forbidden to attend, on pain of death by being thrown from the Typean rock. A possible reason for this was that the competitors contested in the nude, as is indicated by the designs on some of the Greek stamps commemorating the first Olympic Games of the modern era, which themselves were taken from the designs on early amphora and vases.

The 1896 stamps were designed by Professor Gilleron and E. Mouchon, whose name appears on each stamp under the frames. Printing was typographed at the French Government Printing Works in Paris. The 1 and 2 lepta values depict boxers in the nude. It was quite common for one or two of the contestants to be killed, and this may have been a further reason for barring women from the contests, though a female priestess did witness the contests. The only other women who were allowed at Olympia were the priestesses who tended Hesta's fire and the temple where it was housed. These priestesses were not allowed into the stadium itself. The well-known statue of the discus thrower by Myron was shown on the 5 and 10 lepta values. The 20 and 40 lepta values shows an antique vase from Attica, on which is drawn the figure



of Pallas Athenea wearing helmet, shield and spear. The 25 and 60 lepta values depict a winged figure of Victory, driving a four horse chariot, known as a quadriga. On the 1 Drachma value is shown a view of the Olympic stadium under the shadow of the Acropolis, where the 1896 Games were held after the stadium had been restored. The subject for the 2 Drachmae was the statue of Hermes by Praxiteles, a Greek sculptor, who lived around 360 BC. The statue was found at Olympia in 1877 and is regarded as a masterpiece of Greek art. Another piece of ancient art, found during excavations at Olympia, is the figure of Winged Victory by Paeonius, is seen on the 5 Drachmae stamp. The top value was the 10 Drachmae which shows a view of the famous Acropolis with the Propylaea, the temple of Nike Apteros and the Parthenon.

Forgeries are known to exist of the 40 and 60 lepta and the 2, 5 and 10 Drachmae. Varieties known are the 2 lepta without printers imprint; of the 60 lepta there were two printings, the first in greyish black, the second, which is the commoner of the two, in pure black. The 2 Drachmae is known imperforate horizontally.

The Games in 1900 and 1904 were held in Paris and St. Louis respectively. They were certainly not the success of the first Games, and concern was felt that they would not survive. The Greeks wanted the Games to return permanently to Greek soil, which was vehemently opposed by Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the Modern Olympic Games.

However, he did agree reluctantly that the Greeks could stage 10th Anniversary Games in Athens in 1906. There was even discussion that games would be held in Greece every four years in the intervening years between the Olympic Games. However, this never materialised, partially due to the political climate in Greece itself, and partially due to the worsening political situation in the rest of Europe.

The Greeks issued a far more attractive series of stamps for the 10th Anniversary or Intercalated Games in 1906. The printers on this occasion were Perkins Bacon and Co. of London, and the stamps were recess printed on paper watermarked with a crown over the letters ET. The issue was released in March 1906 and remained on sale until supplies were exhausted. The designs were by a Paris artist whose name is unknown, and are taken chiefly from Greek mythology.

Another discus thrower makes his appearance on the 1 and 2 lepta values, of which 4.5 million and 3.5 million were printed respectively. Of the 3 lepta 3.5 million, and of the 5 lepta 4.5 million were printed, each depicting a jumper holding weights, with a discus in the background. This design was copied from the discus which is on view in the British Museum. On the 10 lepta value, Victory is in a kneeling position, holding a caduceus (a herald's wand) the design taken from a coin of Terina from the 4th century BC. The 20 lepta had a printing of 5.5 million and

shows Atlas bringing the apples of Hesperides to Herakles as thanks for holding up the world during his absence. The heavens are represented by eight stars and the moon, and this design was also used for the 50 lepta, of which 500,000 were printed.

Herakles and Antaeus are seen wrestling on the 25 lepta value. According to Greek mythology, Antaeus was a giant who wrestled all comers, and every time he was thrown, he renewed his strength by the contact with earth. It is said that Herakles picked him up and squeezed him to death!. With the Acropolis in the background, wrestlers are also shown on the 30 lepta (300,000 printing). The 40 lepta depicts a "genius" or local deity with a sacred fowl, and 400,000 were printed. The 1, 2 and 3 Drachmae are all the same design taken from a Panatheniac vase showing a running race in progress, with the runners nearing the turning point. Unlike modern Olympic running tracks, which are oval, the track in ancient stadia were straight. The runners ran a length along a marked track, at the end of which was a post. This they rounded and retraced their steps. The 5 Drachmae was the top value in the set and shows the winner offering thanks to the gods. Quantities issued of the Drachmae values were 202,500 for the 1 and 2 Drachmae and 102,500 for the two high values.

All the lepta values except the 40 and 50 lepta, and the 1 Drachma are known imperforate. The 30 lepta is known with a double impression.

There were no special cancellations for the Games of 1896, but in 1906, three were used. A post office was installed in the Athens stadium, which was opened for the occasion and a Greek cancellation was used reading "ATHENS STADIUM" in the outer circle with "OLYMPIC GAMES" and the date in the centre. (Although these were not Olympic Games, and have no number, the Greeks nevertheless regarded these games as Olympic, and announced the fact on their literature, as well as the cancellations.) Another post office was sited in the Zappeion Hall, opened only for the games. The cancellation used there was the same as that used at the stadium, except that the word STADIUM was replaced by ZAPPEION. The Zappeion Hall is in the public gardens leading up to the stadium and is shown on the 8 Drachmae stamps issued in 1934 (SG 479). The third cancellation was that of the post office on the Acropolis, and the inscription ACROPOLIS appears in place of STADIUM.

To advertise the 1906 games, three advertising labels were produced in red, blue and green. The design was the same on all three labels and is similar to that used on the 5 Drachmae value of the 1896 issue, namely the statue of Victory by Paeonius. The inscription in French, JEUX OLYMPIQUES INTERNATIONAUX ATHENES 1906, 22 APRIL-2 MAI, was obviously intended for distribution outside Greece.

The earliest known date for the three special cancellations is 9 April, which has caused some confusion. In 1906, Greece was still operating on the Julian calendar, whilst most other countries had adopted the Gregorian calendar by that time. In 1896, there was a discrepancy of twelve days, which had increased to thirteen days in 1906, hence the difference in the date of the first day cancellation and the advertising labels, which were aimed at overseas visitors.

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

There will be at least one member of the Society Committee present on most days at the Alexandra Palace Exhibition. A stock of back issues of Torch Bearer and other publications which have been sent to S.O.C. members in the past two years will be on hand.

Torch bearer @ £1.00 each.

Listings @ £1.00 each.

British Philatelic Bulletin @ 40p each.

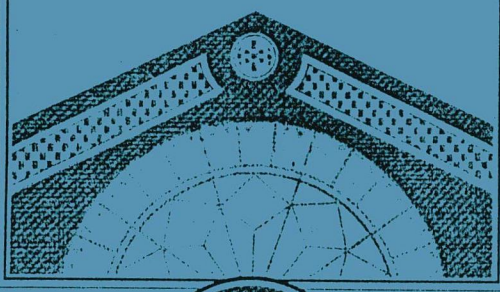
This may be an ideal opportunity for you to fill any gaps in your collection of the Society magazine.

Ask at the information desk for the location of your Society Committee member.

I.S.M.O.S. the German society of Olympics collectors have arranged for a party of their members to visit the 1990 Exhibition during its first week. We hope to meet some of them on Saturday the 5th. at 1.00 pm. outside the Restaurant entrance. All S.O.C. members will be welcome.

*Stamp World London 90*

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3-13 MAY 1990



ALEXANDRA PALACE AND PARK