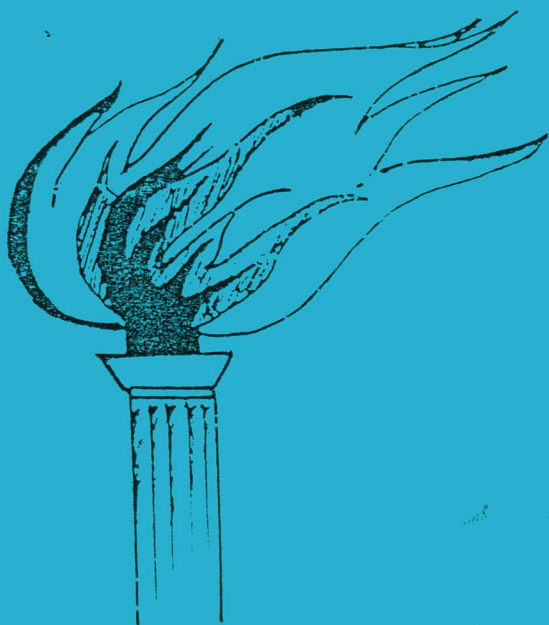


11-4

TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

YOUR COMMITTEE

- CHAIRMAN:** Mrs Francesca Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL Great Britain.
- VICE CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR:** Robert Farley, 14 Lime Walk, Acton, Nr Sudbury, Suffolk. CO10 OUL, Great Britain.
- SECRETARY:** Mrs Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.
- TREASURER AND PACKET MANAGER:** Colin Faers, "Robins" The Green, Puddletown, Dorset DT2 8SN. Great Britain.
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- P.R.O.** Andy Potter, 75 Morley Avenue, Wood Green, London N22 6NG, Great Britain.
- BACK ISSUES AND DISTRIBUTION:** John Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.
- ADVERTISING:** David Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester, Oxon OX6 8DR, Great Britain.
- COMMITTEE:** Bob Wilcock.

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 £1.25 each, or £5.00 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 75 pence per issue (£3.00 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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Once again the final issue of a volume, and of course the last of 1994. All of the Committee, would like to extend our best wishes to all members for the festive season, along with the the hope that you will all enjoy a prosperous, and healthy 1995.

FRONT PAGE

Well I am pleased to say that I have actually had to make decisions about what to include in this issue, a situation that I hope I can rely on many of you to help me maintain. I am grateful to all contributors, new and old who have provided articles for this and the next issue. However this only relieves the pressure until Christmas when the February issue will be completed. The appeal for articles and news items still stands, or, if you feel unable to contribute by writing a piece, why not comment on published articles? I am sure that all of the contributors would welcome constructive comments, or additional information – you may even encourage further articles, lets face it, everyone likes to know that their efforts are appreciated, and not just by your editor.

This issue certainly has a "French" bias, the completion of Paris 1924, and extensive coverage of the 1994 I.O.C. Congress. I had hoped to include a review of the Society's first ten years, but found it difficult to find any good photographs of the various events we have held meetings at (a lesson for the future). If any members have such snaps, please let me know.

I have received a lot of comment on the Lillehammer Diary, which I admit was an experiment, most seem in favour, so David Buxton has provided an article of similar style for this issue, and I know that we can look forward to future "diaries" from members who have visited earlier Games.

The Lausanne trip to the Olympic Museum and Collectors Fair will have taken place by the time you receive Torch Bearer, nine members of the Society are travelling from G.B, and to my knowledge, one from South Africa, One from France, One from Italy and one from Canada, plus of course others who are joint members of other European Societies.

You will also notice an increasing number of "mentions" for Collectors Societies in other countries, IMOS (Germany), and SPI (USA), are well established, the formation of AFCCO (France) and the Portuguese Society are reported in this issue. Cooperation between these groups is essential to achieve wider coverage of news, and specialist information.

It would be foolish to adopt a parochial view on the geographical catchment for each of the Societies, as we are all reliant on our broad membership to gather "on the spot" information, far better that we each encourage joint memberships, and a free exchange of information. Advertisements have been exchanged with SPI, and I am particularly pleased that IMOS have agreed that Torch Bearer may publish extracts of their very comprehensive listing of new postmarks prepared by Manfred Winterheimer – this will form a regular feature in future issues. Through such cooperation we can all draw on the collective pool of our very knowledgeable memberships, and strengthen our hobby.

Manel Alcalá Gamez

It is with great sadness we report the death of Manel Alcalá Gamez from Barcelona. A stamp collector since he was a boy, Manel was attracted to Olympic philately in 1986 when Barcelona was awarded the 1992 Games. He joined SOC and soon became the society's eyes and ears in Barcelona: a large part of the information published in Torch Bearer came from Manel. He earned the Knickname "Manel el Intrépido" for his ability to ferret out information, postmarks, covers and cards. We met Manel, Anna his charming wife, and Lluís his son many times in Barcelona, and they were our hosts during the Games. Manel organised an exhausting philatelic itinerary, and his knowledge and his charming companionship enhanced my enjoyment of the Games enormously. He came to England in 1993 and met a number of SOC members during his visit. To Anna, Lluís, and Rosario his mother we send our deepest sympathy. In the words of the Barcelona motto we shall always be "Amigos para Siempre". *Bob Wilcock*

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

It seems strange to write a Chairman's Message without also donning the Editor's hat, and I promise you that this will not be a regular occurrence. The last thing that TORCH BEARER needs is a pontificating Chairman! However, I could not let our Tenth Anniversary pass without writing a few words of thanks.

It seems incredible that our Society is celebrating its tenth birthday. Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that Ken Cook, Bob Wilcock, Colin Faers, John Osborne and I sat in the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel discussing how best to get the venture off the ground. I remember saying to Leon, my late husband, that I wouldn't start a society if I got less than fifteen responses to my request in the philatelic press for Olympic collectors. By the end of the first month, we had signed up over fifty members, and by the end of our first year, we numbered over 150, some of who are still with us today.

The original Committee has grown, but has not substantially changed. John Osborne, our first Secretary was replaced by Ken Ballam, who in turn was replaced by our present Secretary, Betty Miller. This is a good opportunity to thank John and Ken, as well as Robert Kensit who served on the Committee for several years, for their efforts on behalf of the Society in its infancy. To our present Committee, I would like to say a big "thank you" to them all, for without their hard work and dedication, the Society would not be where it is today.

I do not want to single anyone out for particular praise; to do so would be invidious, since the contribution of all the Committee is considerable. However, I must thank Bob Farley for taking over the Editor's chair from me, and for making such an excellent start. A society such as ours relies very heavily on the quality of its magazine, since for many members it is the only point of contact. I am happy that the magazine is in such good hands.

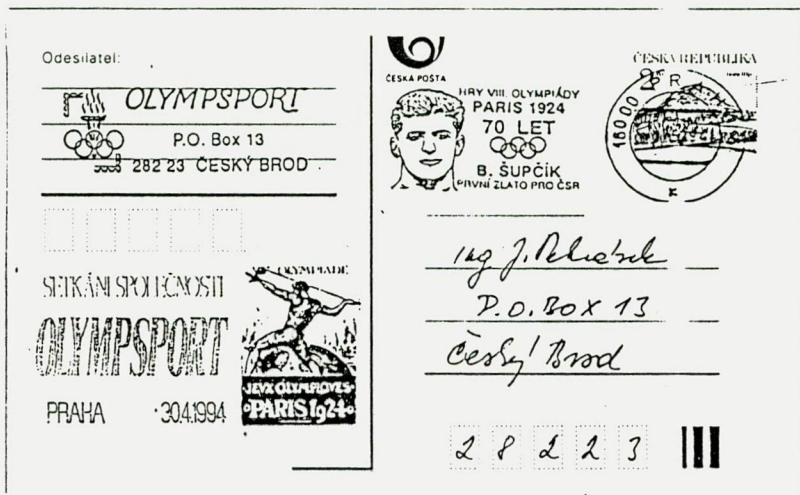
Finally, I regret to announce that Colin Faers has decided to relinquish his seat as Treasurer of the Society. We do not lose him however, since he will remain as the Packet Secretary. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Colin for his efforts on behalf of the Society in the last eleven years, and to welcome David Buxton to the Treasurer's hot seat. I am sure that you will all give David Buxton the support that he needs by paying your subscriptions promptly.

I wish the Society continued success and look forward to the next ten years of growth. By then, we will be in the Twenty First Century, and one can only wonder what changes will have taken place at the Olympic Games. It is mind-boggling how they have changed in the past hundred years!

David Feldman SA – Autumn Auction, November 1 to 5, Zurich.

Another first for this editor, our hard pressed Advertising Manager received a request for a full page advertisement in this issue, and I had to take the decision to turn it down! Unfortunately the timing of our publication date would render the submitted advertisement out of date for all but a few of our members, as it would not be possible to obtain the catalogues for this sale in time to bid. David Feldman do hold a number of auctions containing Olympic material, and occasional specialist Olympic / Sport auctions.

Those interested should write to: 175, route de Chancy, P.O. Box 81, CH-1213 Onex, Geneva, Switzerland. (or watch Torch Bearer for future advertisements!)



OLYMPIC PHILATELY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Our member, Jaroslav Petrasek writes that "OLYMPSPORT, the Czech Olympic and Sports Philatelic Society are organising an exhibition in Pilsen in May 1995 and he asks whether any of our members would be interested, either in exhibiting or attending. How about it? How many of you would be prepared to travel to Czechoslovakia next May? It is a beautiful country and a lovely time of the year to visit.

The postcard and special cancellation were produced to commemorate an Olympic Flight on 23 June 1994 from Prague to Paris. On that date, President Havel invited members of the Czech Olympic Committee to Hradcany Castle to celebrate the centenary of the IOC. Bedrich Supcik, who is illustrated on the postmark, was Czechoslovakia's first Olympic gold medal winner. (In 1924 for Gymnastics, a since discontinued climbing event) Supcik was born on 22 October 1898 and he died on 11 July 1957.

Petar Bosnic, Sarajevo

Bob Wilcock

In the August 1993 Torch Bearer (p.127) I wrote of the letter I had received from Petar Bosnic an Olympic collector in Sarajevo. It was a long time before Petar was able to get a letter out to confirm that the Deutschmarks I sent reached him. His letter came via a Catholic charity. In it he gave harrowing details of the privations he and all those in Sarajevo were suffering, but he also gave details of how food parcels may be sent in through the charity, which has a depot in Watford. We were able to send a parcel in the summer, and are in the course of sending another, to offer just the tiniest of help to ease the inevitable suffering of the winter ahead. Petar also mentioned that the Sarajevo Philatelic Society still meets weekly, though he is seldom able to attend their meetings. The Olympic facilities of the city are largely destroyed, but you may have read that the I. O. C. have plans to offer aid to help restore Sarajevo's sporting facilities once the war is over, from the proceeds of the sale of the Swatch watch issued to mark the centenary of the I. O. C.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Member Naomi Beinart from Cape Town, South Africa, sends the following information from a recently acquired newspaper :

From the newspaper called "Newspaper" Athens, Greece, dated 18 May, 1896.

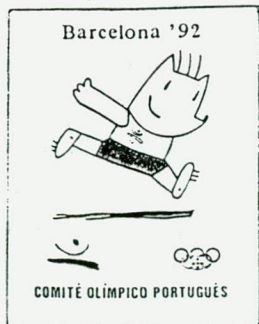
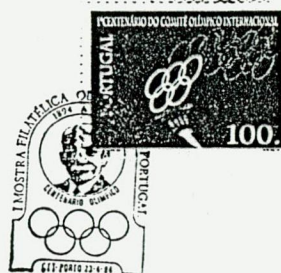
Proclamation

The management of this newspaper declares that all the tickets and invitations sent to the newspaper from the various clubs and committees, will not favour their clubs in any reporting of the games. No tickets or special invitations will be accepted by the newspaper.

The Olympic games and the Americans

In last night's Greek American newspaper, Atlantis, received from New York, it was analytically and in detail explained, the reasons why the American clubs will not participate in the Olympic Games in Athens. The reason is that the Grand Committee of the Olympic Games in Athens sent the invitations to participate, directly to the various clubs in America and not to the Olympic Committee of the U. S. A. whose honorary President is Mr Cleveland, the President of the U. S. A. This reason was never explained to the American people. The Greek Crown Prince, President of the Olympic Committee, was ignorant as to the rules of the Olympic Games and also caused the problem that is keeping the Germans out of the Games.

I MOSTRA FILATÉLICA OLÍMPICA DE PORTUGAL



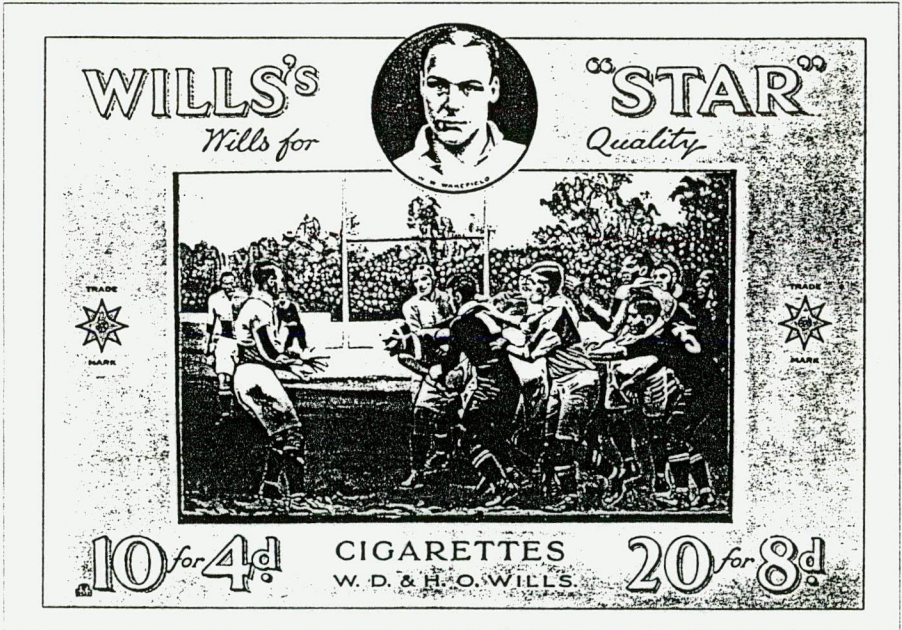
Mario Manuel Bruges Ramos, our Portuguese member is the President of the newly-formed Portuguese Olympic Philatelic Association. He was responsible for organising an Olympic Philatelic Exhibition in Oporto over the weekend of 25 April, where a special cancellation was in use. If anyone would like a copy, they are available from Mario for £2.00. Write to him at Alto de Saboga, Bloco b, Casa 4, 3880 Ovar, Portugal.

MEMBERS FORUM

Terence Foxwell, 14 White Horse Lane, Painswick, Gloucestershire, GL6 6XT Great Britain, collects postcards as his main interest, and particularly postcards of Sports Stadiums.

Terence would be interested in receiving postcards from members worldwide of their local stadia – large or small, covering all sports.

In return Terence offers British postcards showing a wide range of sports from the Museum of Advertising and Packaging, [These are superb colour reproductions of early XXth century advertising posters or literature, linking products with a sporting image Ed.] or stamps, presentation packs etc. from the recent British stamp issues for golf, or summertime events.



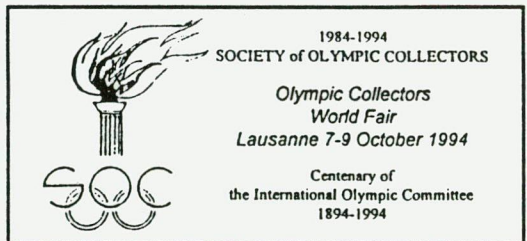
.....
 An example of the Museum of Advertising and Packaging postcards, featuring Rugby.

 Lausanne 1994, label.

To commemorate the Society visit to the first Olympic Collectors World Fair in Lausanne, Bob Wilcock prepared the illustrated self adhesive label to advertise the Society, the I O C Centenary and the Collectors Fair.

Copies may be obtained from Bob, at £1.00 per 10 (please allow for postage).

A smaller label, with the same text but without the Torch logo is also available. To order write to Bob Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood CM14 5ES, Essex. Great Britain.



MEMBERS FORUM

Zhuoyu Yuan from Toronto Canada, recently purchased the illustrated vignettes. The dealer who supplied them, told him that a set of four such labels exist (the others are possibly of higher face value). Can anyone help with a positive identification or further information? This pair appears to be rouletted, but imperforate between. Design size is 33 x 24mm.



 Please remember the Society packet, when considering disposal of your duplicate material, Colin Faers is currently in need of additional material to circulate new packets – particularly stamps, vignettes and higher value covers. Forward direct to Colin, address as inside front cover.

Please avoid addressing to the Society for increased security in the mail.

NIGEL SHIPLEY

31 Malabar Crescent
 Eltham 3095
 Victoria
 Australia.

Tel. 03 439 7964

OLYMPIC GAMES
SALES LIST

CATALOGUE NO 3
 AVAILABLE
 NOW.



PLEASE SEND
 £4 or \$6 U.S.
 FOR CATALOGUE.

NO PERSONAL CHEQUES PLEASE



NEWS FROM NORWAY POST

The following press release was received from Norway Post on the 31st August 1994.

Prix Olympia '94:

GOLD FOR NORWEGIAN OLYMPIC STAMP

Yet another Olympic Gold for Norway! In competition with 150 stamps from all over the world, all issued for the Lillehammer Olympics, a norwegian stamp (the one with the Torch Relay theme) won the first prize and new laurels for Norway.

Every time the Olympic Games are held, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Philatelists' Federation (FIP) have the task of selecting the most attractive stamp issued for the occasion. Stamps were issued for the Lillehammer Olympics in 70 different countries. The second and third prizes went to stamps from Hungary and Finland.

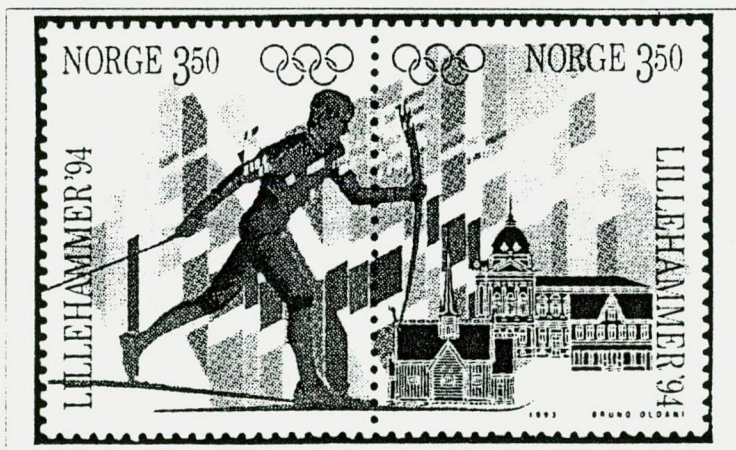
The Olympics is one of the most popular themes for stamp collectors all over the world and the Prix Olympia is probably the most prestigious prize a post office can win. It is naturally a great honour to come first in competition with 150 other Olympic stamps from 70 different post offices, even more so as it is the first time the gold medal has been awarded to the host nation's own post office. Prix Olympia has been organised for every Olympics since 1984.

The Norwegian Olympic stamps were designed by Bruno Oldani. He was the artist behind a total of ten stamps and a comprehensive postmark and collector's programme. Norway Post's Olympic programme has won worldwide acclaim and has been described by periodicals abroad as brilliant and revolutionary.

Last autumn Norway post's Olympic programme, with the Olympic book as its main attraction, was awarded the Norwegian Design Council's highest distinction.

– "The victory in the Prix Olympia is an agreeable confirmation of the exceptionally high quality of Norway Post's Olympic programme," says Morten Berner, manager of the Norway Post Stamp Bureau.

President Juan Antonio Samaranch will present the gold medal to Norway Post during the IOC Congress in Paris. The presentation ceremony is scheduled for 4 September.



The Norwegian Olympic Stamp featuring the Torch Relay; Winner of Prix Olympia '94.

GAMES OF THE VIII OLYMPIADE PARIS 1924 – Part II

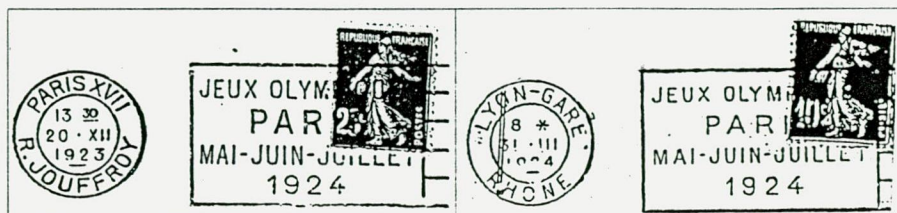
Postmark Slogans and Handstamps

(René Chrisin with additional information from Timbroscopie)

Not since the Universal Exhibition of 1900 had there been so many postmarks to mark an event in France. The 1900 Olympics took place during the Universal Exhibition, but none of the postmarks were overtly Olympic. The 1900 postmarks were all available at or from exhibition post offices, whereas in 1924 the majority of postmarks were for publicity, and they were introduced well before the Games, from late October and November 1923.

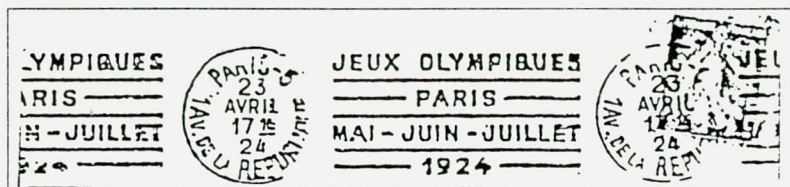
Three types of machine were used:

1: FLIER: Used in 12 offices

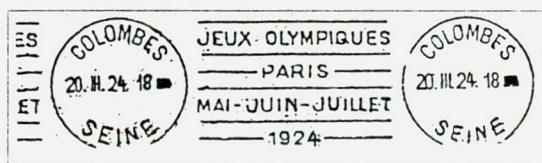


2: KRAG (continuous)

a) 5 lines used in 4 offices



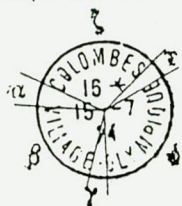
b) 6 lines used in 2 offices



3: DAGUIN: A two part Daguin canceller was used in the Olympic Village and Olympic Stadium post offices at Colombes. The two elements are mostly found separated on the cover or card, or with only the c.d.s. element used.



Canepa lists three dies of the Olympic Village c.d.s.



Type	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	114	80	108	15	23	20
2	114	87	108	15	16	20
3	118	80	108	18	16	20

Type 1:



Type 2:



Periods of use of the slogans:

The table below gives the earliest and latest dates of use known for the slogans from the Flier and Krag machines. These are taken from examples seen, any details or photocopies of earlier or later use would be appreciated.

Certain Olympic catalogues refer to two Fliers, at LILLE and VERSAILLES, and a Krag at PARIS GARE D'AUSTERLITZ. No examples are known. Of the three, only that of LILLE seems possibly to have existed, since Lille is mentioned in the Official Report of the Games as having a publicity slogan. Nonetheless no example is known, and one can only speculate that it may have been prepared but never brought into use. There were no post office publications at the time concerning postmarks, as there are today, so this does not make research easy. Any information from readers would be welcome.

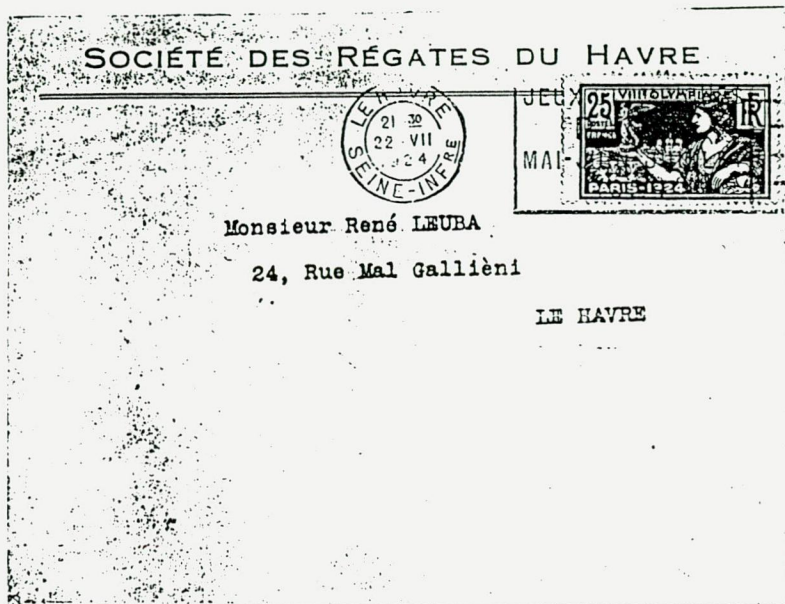
Office of use	First use	Last use
1) Flier		
PARIS / DÉPART	20/11/23	06/08/24
PARIS / GARE SAINT LAZARE	20/02/24	12/08/24
PARIS X / QUAI VALMY	12/01/24	08/08/24
PARIS XVI / PLACE CHOPIN	19/11/23	18/08/24
PARIS XVII / RUE JOUFFROY	18/11/23	31/07/24
PARIS XVIII / RUE DE CLIGNANCOURT	28/02/24	07/08/24
PARIS 47 / RUE LA BOËTIE	19/11/23	06/08/24
PARIS 117 / RUE DES HALLES	01/01/24	23/07/24
BORDEAUX / GIRONDE	25/02/24	30/07/24
LE HAVRE / SEINE-INFÉRIEURE	25/02/24	02/08/24
MARSEILLE / BOUCHE DE RHONE	20/02/24	01/08/24
LYON-GARE / RHONE	28/02/24	30/05/24
2 a) Krag - 5 lines		
PARIS / GARE DE L'EST	31/10/23	27/08/24
PARIS 5 / 1 AV DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE	22/11/23	21/08/24
PARIS 26 / R DU FAUB ^G S ^T DENIS	07/11/23	29/08/24
PARIS XIV / AV D'ORLEANS	14/12/23	? /08/24*
* "PP" Variant, day not legible		
2 b) Krag - 6 lines		
PARIS 24 / RUE DE CLÉRY	15/12/23	04/02/24 & 07/07/24
COLOMBES / SEINE	25/02/24	14/06/24

The slogans were probably not in use continuously. All the indications are that there was a first period of use in November – December 1923, another period in February, and then the Games period, with slogans intended to be withdrawn by the closing day of the Games (Sunday 27 July), although some continued in use rather longer.

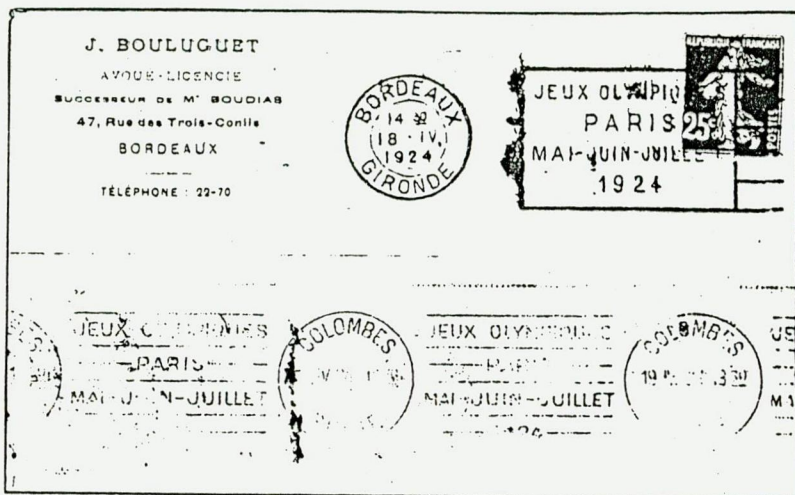
The most common is Paris Départ, with Lyon–Gare the scarcest of the Fliers. It was withdrawn early, perhaps for technical reasons, as was the Krag at Paris rue de Cléry. The most difficult to find is the Krag from Colombes, perhaps because of a lower volume of mail.

As well as postmarks of 1 April cancelling an Olympic stamp on the first day of issue, 5 July is sought after (Opening Ceremony and start of athletics) and 27 July (closing day). Look out for Le Havre 21–26 July, the period of the yachting events at the port.

Illustrated below is a superb cover from the Le Havre Regatta Company (Société des Régates du Havre) posted on 22 July with the Olympic slogan cancelling the 25c. Olympic stamp.



All the slogans were used as normal cancellers for outgoing mail, except Marseille where the slogan was used solely as an arrival or transit mark. The slogan is also known as an arrival mark at Colombes and Le Havre (rare). Covers exist therefore with the Olympic canceller from one post office and arrival mark from another. The Marseille arrival mark is known on covers with the Olympic cancel from Paris Départ, Rue Jouffroy, Gare Saint Lazare, Gare de l'Est, Avenue d'Orleans, and from Bordeaux, and there will no doubt be others. Examples are also known from Paris Gare Saint Lazare and from Bordeaux with the Colombes arrival mark.

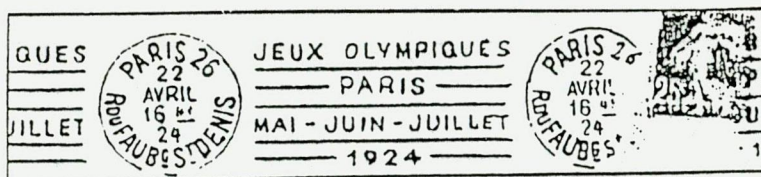


Varieties

1: PARIS 26 / R du FAUB^G S^T DENIS : dial changed:

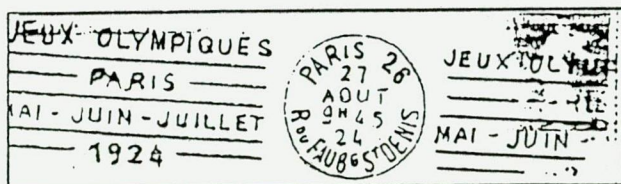
a) November 1923 – and May 1924

'R du FAUB^G S^T DENIS' occupies more than half the dial; there is no 'H' after the hours, and the minutes are raised and underlined:



b) end May – August 1924

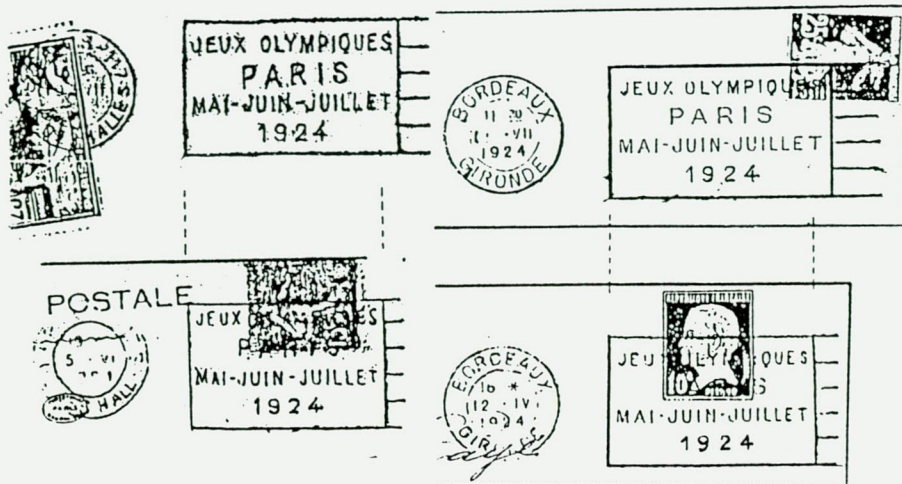
'R du FAUB^G S^T DENIS' is smaller with more space between the name and PARIS 26; 'H' appears after the hours, and the minutes are not underlined:



2: PARIS 117 / RUE DES HALLES 3: BORDEAUX

- a) Olympic text boxed 42 x 36 mm
- b) Olympic text boxed 39 x 35 mm

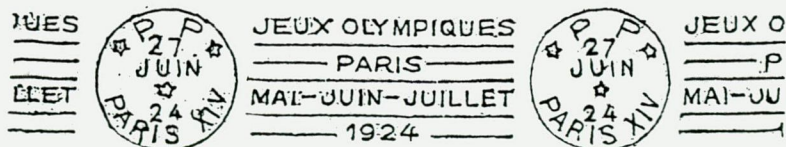
- a) Olympic text boxed 43 x 36 mm
- b) Olympic text boxed 41 x 36 mm



It appears in both cases that there were two different dies, but it is by no means certain, and the variations could be caused by different adjustments to the machines. Poor quality impressions also sometimes give the Bordeaux datestamp the appearance of being single ring instead of double ring.

4: * P P * / PARIS XIV

From time to time the slogan was used for bulk mailing at PARIS XIV and a "P.P." (*Porte Payé: Post Paid*) dater was used. Although by definition many examples will have existed, only two covers are known to have survived, one dated 27 June 1924, the other in August 1924 (the precise date is not legible)

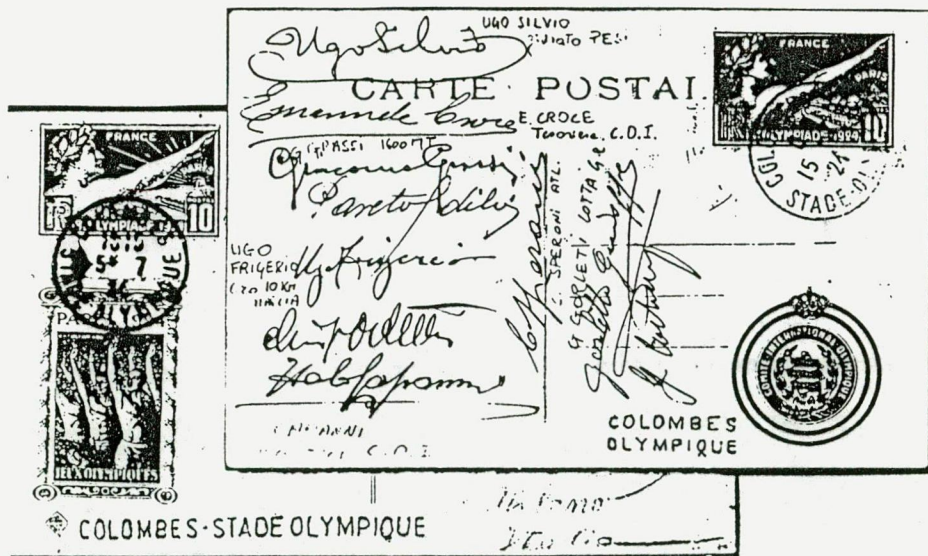


Straight-line cachets

Four are known, two single line and two double line:

- 1: COLOMBES – VILLAGE OLYMPIQUE 2: COLOMBES – STADE OLYMPIQUE
 3: JEUX OLYMPIQUES 4: COLOMBES OLYMPIQUE
 PARIS

Numbers, 1 and 4 are illustrated on an Olympic Village cover in the first part of this series of articles (August Torch Bearer). The card below has been autographed by various Italian Olympians:



Pre-Olympic Shooting, Reims.

A Daguin canceller was used in Reims to advertise the 27th Shooting Competition held 7–22 June 1924. Many Olympic competitors participated, and the Olympic Miniature Rifle events were held there straight afterwards.

The text reads:

27^e CONCOURS / DE TIR / REIMS /
 7-22 JUN 1924 / REIMS
 PRINCIPAL / MARNE



PARIS 1924: VENUES and DATES

The listing that follows has been compiled from the Official Report of the Games. It is believed to be accurate, but the Report is not always fully specific, and there are occasional inconsistencies between different references to the various sports and events, suggesting perhaps that planned arrangements were not always put into effect exactly as anticipated. If you are aware of an error or omission please write to Bob Wilcock or the Editor.

1: Olympic Arts Festival

This took place in the spring, between 15 March and 15 April 1924. There were competitions in architecture, literature, music, painting and sculpture. It is not clear from the Report where the works might have been displayed to the public.

2: Official Opening Ceremony

5 July 1924, Saturday, 2.30 p.m. Colombes Stadium

The Colombes Stadium is near the banks of the Seine a few kilometres north-west of Paris. (It's museum is worth a visit). The stadium complex included facilities for other sports, and a collection of huts adjacent to the stadium formed the first attempt at providing an Olympic Village.

The Games were opened by the French President Gaston Doumergue, and as well as De Coubertin, dignitaries who attended who have appeared on stamps include Britain's Prince of Wales, the future Edward VIII, Princes of Belgium, Rumania and Sweden, Haile Selassie of Ethiopia and the Shah of Persia.

The athletics programme followed the Opening Ceremony, but as will be seen from the listing that follows, many events preceded this date, starting with rugby football on 4 May.

3: Athletics: 6-13 July Colombes Stadium

The following events started and finished at the stadium:

10 Km Cross country 12 July:

This was run along the banks of the River Seine

Marathon 13 July:

The race went via	Val Notre Dame	4 km
	Corneilles-en Parisis	8 km
	La Patte d'Oie d'Herblay	
	Pierrelaye	14 km
	St. Ouen-l'Aumône	19 km

and returned along the same route to the stadium.

4: Boxing: 15-20 July Velodrome d'Hiver (*Winter Velodrome*)

5: Cycling: 23-27 July Municipal Velodrome

Road Race 23 July: from Colombes Stadium 188 km via:

Val Notre Dame
Pontoise
Gisors
Talmontiers
St. Aubin
La Feuillie *and return.*

- 6: Equestrian: 21–22, 24, 26, 27 July Colombes & Auteuil
 Endurance Test 21–22, 24, 26 July: Colombes & Auteuil
 Jumping – Prix des Nations 27 July: Colombes
- 7: Fencing: 28 June – 11 July Colombes
- 8: Soccer: 25 May – 6 June Colombes
 Paris Stadium
 Bergeyre Stadium
 Pershing Stadium
- 9: Rugby: 4, 11, & 18 May Colombes
- 10: Gymnastics: 17 – 20 July Colombes
- 11: Pelota: 21 – 24 July Paris Fronton at Boulogne–Billancourt
 Pelota was a demonstration sport only.
- 12: Tennis: 13 – 20 July Colombes
 The courts were adjacent to the stadium.
- 13: Modern Pentathlon: 12 – 17 July
 Shooting 12 July Versailles
 Swimming 13 July Tourelles–Porte des Lilas
 Fencing 14–15 July Colombes
 Riding 16 July Fontainebleau
 Running 17 July Colombes
- 14: Polo: 25 June – 10 July St. Cloud & Bagatelle
- 15: Rowing: 13 – 17 July River Seine at the Bassin
 de Colombes – Argenteuil
- 16: Shooting: 21 June – 8 July
 Miniature Rifle Reims
 Running Deer Versailles
 Trap Shooting Issy–les–Moulineaux
 Rifle Chalons–sur–Marne
- 17: Swimming and Water Polo
 13 – 20 July Tourelles–Porte des Lilas
- 18: Weightlifting: 21 – 24 July Winter Velodrome
- 19: Wrestling: 6 – 13 July Winter Velodrome
- 20: Yachting: 10 – 14 July Meulan
 (River Seine, 30 km NW of Paris)
 20 – 27 July Le Havre
- 21: Demonstration Sports
 18 – 20 July Colombes

Popular sports and games, and childrens' games:

These included five different relay games, five different ball games, including Basketball, Volleyball, and Cageball.

There was also French Boxing and Cane Boxing on 19 July.

Postal Stationery Cards

A plain postcard was issued, imprinted with the 30c. Milon de Croton design. Used, it is most commonly found with an additional 15c. stamp, following the raising of the international postcard tariff to 45c. There is a minor printing variety, with the centre of the asterisk before "Expédie" lacking ink, and the cards are known with the stamp border mis-placed.



Illustrated Postcards

A packet of eight cards was issued, each with a sporting design and on the reverse a green 15 cent "Pasteur" definitive inside a border of "perforations" the size of the commemorative stamp originally intended to be used (the 10c. Olympic stamp). The cards were available during the Games, but the Pasteur stamp was not issued as an adhesive until 19 September 1924.

A display at the IOC Centenary Exhibition in Paris dealt in detail with the cards, and we hope to publish more in a future Torch Bearer.

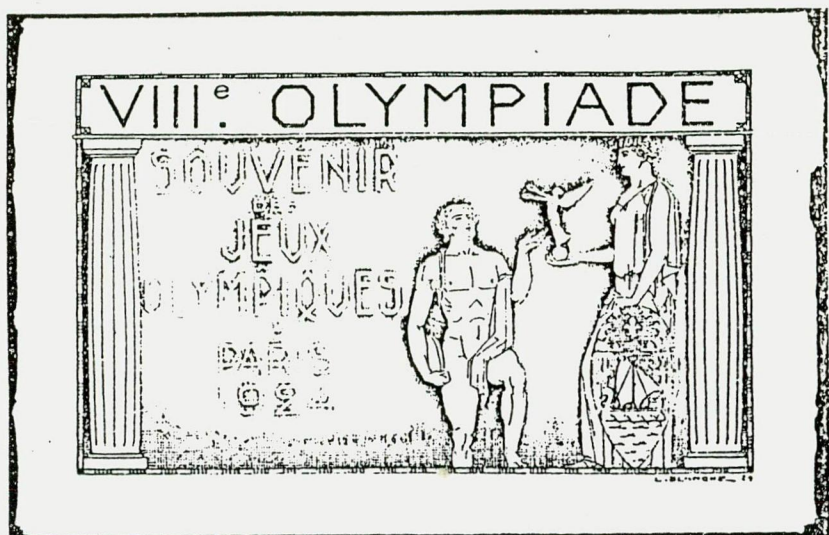
Meanwhile the eight designs are:

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1: High jump | 5: Javelin |
| 2: Wrestling | 6: Tennis |
| 3: Running | 7: Rugby |
| 4: Boxing | 8: Rowing |

The packet cover shows Paris greeting a Greek discus thrower.

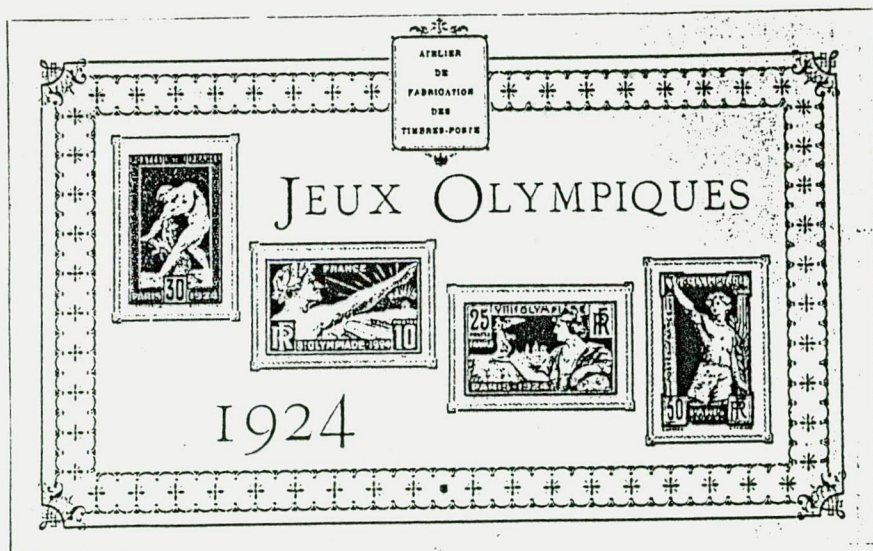


The postcard packet cover:



Presentation Proof

The *pièce de résistance* of any Paris 1924 collection has to be a copy of the de-luxe collective proof issued. Just 135 examples were printed, for I.O.C officials and dignitaries. Originally 285 x 195 mm. some examples, sadly, have been cut down in size.



Syria and Grand Lebanon

On 8 June 1924 the four stamps were issued surcharged in French for use in Syria. On 15 June they were issued surcharged for Lebanon. On 25 September a second series was issued, surcharged in French and Arabic for use in Lebanon, and on the following day (26 September) bi-lingual surcharges for use in Syria. 20,000 sets are reported to have been overprinted for each issue.

Most of the varieties found on the original stamps can be found on surcharged stamps, and there are also numerous varieties in the surcharges.

SYRIA

First Series: In French only:

On 10c: SYRIE / 50 CENTIMES

- a) Surcharge inverted
- b) Double surcharge
- c) "1 PIASTRE 25"

On 25c: SYRIE / 1 PIASTRE 25

- a) Surcharge inverted
- b) Inverted "S" in PIASTRE
- c) 1 PIASTRE 25 / SYRIE
- d) SYRIE / 1.50 / PIASTRE sideways

On 30c: SYRIE / 1.50 / PIASTRE

- a) Surcharge inverted
- b) Double surcharge
- c) Surcharge offset on reverse

On 50c: SYRIE / 2,50 / PIASTRES

- a) Surcharge inverted
- b) Surcharge partly doubled

Second Series: French and Arabic:

On 10c: Syrie / o. P. 50 & Arabic

On 25c: Syrie / 1. P. 25 & Arabic

On 30c: Syrie / 1. P. 50 & Arabic

- a) Surcharge partly doubled
- b) Surcharge offset on reverse

On 50c: Syrie / 2. P. 50 & Arabic

- a) Broken "e" in Syrie

SYRIE

1 PIASTRE 25



SYRIE

1.50

PIASTRE



GRAND LEBANON

First Series: In French only:

- On 10c. GRAND LIBAN / 50 CENTIMES
 a) Surcharge inverted
 b) Surcharge printed on reverse
- On 25c: GRAND LIBAN / 1 PIASTRE 25
 a) Surcharge inverted
 b) Double surcharge
 c) "PIASTRE 25" ("1" omitted)
- On 30c: GRAND LIBAN / 1.50 / PIASTRE
 a) Surcharge inverted
 b) Small "g" in "gRAND"
 c) Inverted "V" instead of "A" in "PIASTRE"
- On 50c: GRAND LIBAN / 2.50 / PIASTRE
 a) Surcharge inverted
 b) Small "g" in "gRAND"
 c) Inverted "V" instead of "A" in "PIASTRE"
 d) Misplaced surcharge

Second Series: French and Arabic:

- On 10c: G^d Liban / o. P. 50 & Arabic
 a) Surcharge inverted
 b) Surcharge across two stamps
 c) Surcharged stamp se-tenant with unsurcharged stamp
 d) "G^d Liban" missing (Arabic only)
 e) "L" of "Liban" deformed
- On 25c: G^d Liban / 1. P. 25 & Arabic
 a) Surcharge inverted
- On 30c: G^d Liban / 1. P. 50 & Arabic
 a) Surcharge inverted
- On 50c: G^d Liban / 2. P^s. 50 & Arabic
 a) Surcharge inverted

GRAND LIBAN

50 CENTIEMES

GRAND

LIBAN

2,50

PIASTRES



G^d Liban
 o. P. 50

لبنان الكبير
 ١/٢ العرش



We met on Dover Docks at 6.40am on Friday 26th August. Rennie and Philip (my wife and son) and I in one car, Bob and Brenda Farley, John Crowther and Kenny Cook in the other. Bob had arrived 10 minutes before us and was already eagerly anticipating another of his Olympic Journeys. This one was to Paris to attend the Exhibition in celebration of the I. O. C. Centennial Congress and 103rd Session. We had an uneventful journey (for me the first of a few!), and were outside the C.N.I.T building at La Défense, Paris by 12.30.

Our first impressions were good, an enormous "Olympic Medal" proclaiming the Olympic Congress outside the exhibition centre, and carpet in the Olympic colours inside. After a photo session we tried to get in to see the exhibition, it took several requests for directions before we found the unmarked stairs (outside the centre), which led us to the basement where the exhibition was staged. It appeared that we had arrived a day early, as direction signs continued to be erected all day, but no, the exhibition was definitely open. We had a very exclusive view of the displays (others were obviously not so diligent in seeking out directions). We visited the various stands offering postcards and other postal material, which could be franked with a number of official postmarks. Bob and Kenny soon found European colleagues with whom they traded information and material. Philip, who had spotted a Mac Donalds when we arrived, decided that he was hungry. Rennie, Brenda and Philip went off to eat and sample the shopping around La Défense, agreeing that we would reassemble at 5.30.

Bob had promised to take me to a little shop called "Le Sportsman" which is only open on Friday afternoons, so leaving John and Kenny at the exhibition we set off by Metro. The shop is tucked down a side street, about the size of a double garage – stacked to the ceiling with sports magazines, books and printed memorabilia. There were also about ten other people in the shop! I found a series of cards that I have been collecting, whilst Bob found a few gems, including a vignette which no one seems to have seen before. The proprietor gave us a good deal on our purchases, (Bobs vignette being free!) and we promised to return the following morning as the proprietor offered to open up especially for us. We made our way back to the exhibition and met the others, who were watching displays of former Olympic Sports, being staged for (and with the participation of) young children outside the exhibition. We made our way to our hotel at Plaisir, finishing a 21 hour day at an Italian restaurant where Kenny found a marvellous selection of melons, and Lasagne.



The "new" Albertville vignette – Cancelled Conflans.

On Saturday Rennie, Brenda and Philip had planned a visit to Versailles (having lost out to husbands other activities on previous occasions), Rennie decided to drive for the first time on the continent, all three enjoyed their day visiting the Palace and grounds. Rennie was particularly pleased with her achievement, when her driving was applauded by both Brenda and Philip.

Bob, John, Kenny and I caught the train and Metro to "Le Sportsman" where we all bought items for our collections, each receiving an item free of charge. as a gift, Kenny received an Olympic pennant (coveted by Bob on a previous visit), John received a

print from a magazine advertising a lecture at the 1924 Chamonix Games, and I received an original Press photograph of one of the track finals of the 1932 Los Angeles Games.

We visited another of Bob's haunts nearby, a postcard shop which was unfortunately closed for annual holiday. We settled for a light lunch at a bar, where we met a fourteen year old French girl, the niece of the bar owner, who lived with her father in Woking (her english accent did not sound like that of a french school girl). A second clue that all was not as it seemed was provided by the Chelsea F.C. shirt she was wearing. She informed us that she would soon be moving to Manchester, and would no doubt meet with John again. We made our way to the exhibition where new items had appeared (including direction signs).

Bob was doing a roaring trade in Society postcards, and introducing the Society to other collectors.

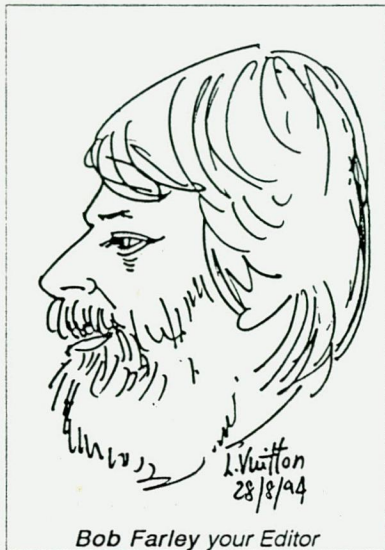


The printed advertisement for Chamonix, as part of the VIIIth Olympic Games.

We had decided to have an earlier evening meal at the same restaurant as the previous day, but first Bob and Brenda were going to stay with a friend (and S.O.C. member), Jean-Claude Sizler, and his wife Marlene. As we were all invited to a barbeque on Sunday, I followed Bob to their home, to familiarise myself with the route for the following day. On arrival I was allowed a quick look at Jean-Claude's vast stock of modern postcards before Brenda reminded (told?) me that I must return to the hotel before Rennie and the others became concerned about where I was. I made my way back to Plaisir where I unfortunately took the wrong exit from a roundabout, the next hour was spent going round and round Plaisir, it's one way system, and every exit from the roundabout. I finally returned to the hotel minutes before Bob and Jean-Claude who had been telephoned by John, who by inspiration or memory had managed to find Jean-Claude's number in the directory. Our early meal became a mad rush to beat closing time. (My thanks to Kenny who calmed Rennie's fears about accidents).

Sunday must have been my day in heaven! Thirty one of us started with an aperitif at midday, and the food kept coming until the evening. J-Claude and Marlene's house overlooks fields and a valley, wuth a gliding club based on top of the opposite escarpment, The gliders circled, and the occasional train passed through the valley as we ate and drank, played darts and discovered that all at the table were either Olympic or postcard collectors - six being artists, and designers of postcards. Between courses (and bottles), sketches were made of all the men present, cards were bought and

signed by the appropriate artists, portfolios were displayed and explained. Bob and Ruth Wilcock joined us during the afternoon, enroute for home after their holiday further south (and a visit to the exhibition in the morning).

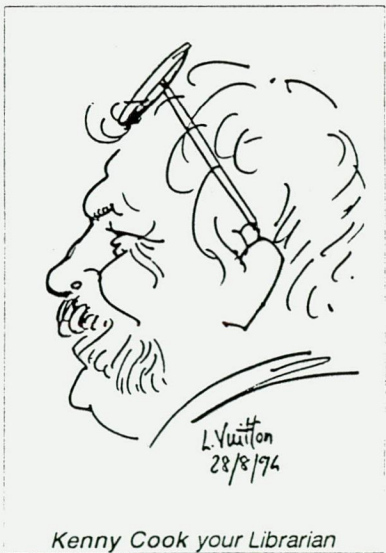


Bob Farley your Editor

Time was found to slip indoors to select post cards from the many thousands available, (only a proportion of which have an Olympic theme). Yes I was in heaven, a barbeque, post cards all around and excellent company.

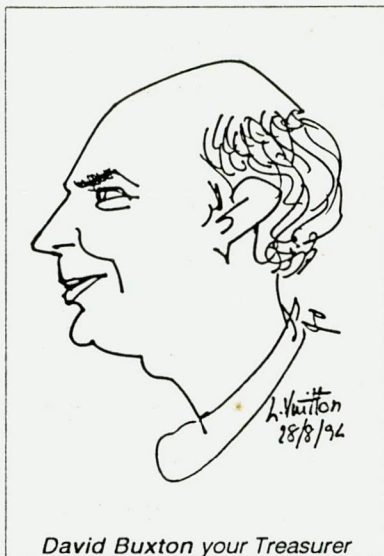
Monday started with us being caught in a traffic jam as we tried to drive into Paris. Bob, Brenda, Rennie and Philip were aiming to visit Colombes on the way to the exhibition, whilst John, Kenny and I were going direct to La Défense. I could not find the correct car park and ended up nearby, Bob abandoned Colombes because of the time lost in traffic, and met us at the entrance to the exhibition while Rennie, Brenda and Philip went shopping. Waiting for the exhibition to open, we noticed that everyone else in the queue seemed to have an invitation. Our fears were confirmed when we reached security, we discovered that the exhibition was only open to invited guests

who were attending a breakfast reception with Juan Samaranch. Opening to the public was not expected until 3.00pm, and we were due to depart for Calais at 2.00, potentially with a number of franked but uncanceled registered covers. This disruption to the opening hours had not been advertised, so Bob set off to find out how (and if) we could gain entrance. John and I laid contingency plans to visit the "philatelic sales area" of Paris. After some time Bob returned, with invitations, having put forward a forceful argument that we should be admitted (and having ignored "non" responses). The exact content of his argument cannot be repeated in a collectors magazine. We once again found new material, and Kenny made some useful contacts at the Olympic Museum stand. All too soon it was time to leave. John and Kenny joined me for the drive home with plans to meet the others at the first picnic area after the motorway toll booth. We had trouble getting out of Paris, in fact at one stage we found ourselves approaching the Arc de Triomphe. We passed an office of one of John's former clients, but we don't actually know where it was. In fact we passed it two or three times. Eventually we found signs for Colombes and made our way in that direction. Unfortunately a wrong turn at a roundabout found us in a one-way street.

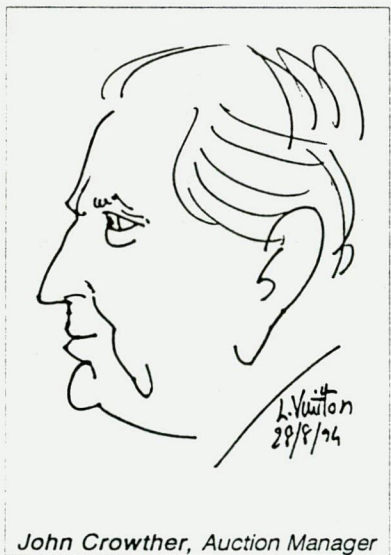


Kenny Cook your Librarian

We decided that having left La Défense almost two hours ago, we had better ask directions. I decided to call into an opticians (to ask the way, not for a pair of glasses!) and asked for directions to General de Gaulle Airport, as I knew we had to pass it. My french is non-existent, and they obviously did not understand, probably because I should have asked for Charles de Gaulle Airport. So with my arms outstretched at my sides and making a plausible sound of an aeroplane, I received some directions. John and Kenny had witnessed all of this from the car, and an explanation was required. Never the less it was all part of my plan to familiarise myself with the French road network, and as we passed the 1924 Olympic Stadium I realised how envious Bob would be that he had not seen the stadium that weekend. We soon met up with Bob and Co. who having enjoyed their lunch (and ours), were beginning to wonder how far ahead we



David Buxton your Treasurer



John Crowther, Auction Manager

must have travelled. (Not really, they could not believe I had taken another wrong turning).

Rennie, when proofreading has asked to be excluded from the "they" in the previous sentence. The rest of our journey was free from drama (apart from a wrong turning in Dover enroute to the Guest House where we were staying overnight). You may not believe this but I rarely get lost.

The weekend was the best I have ever had, the company was wonderful thanks to Bob, Brenda, John and Kenny. We all looked for each others collecting themes as well as our own, the accomodation and food were excellent. Sunday was heaven and I had numerous cards for my collection. If this was a taster for Lausanne in October, then all I can say is..... don't worry, I'm going by plane.

{I have resisted the temptation to comment, until now, but I feel I must just point out that we actually passed the 1924 stadium some two hours prior. I also note that David has corrected his spelling from Lucerne to Lausanne, but where is the flight going? Ed.}

The Olympic Philatelic Exhibition, Paris, 26 August – 5 September 1994

The exhibition was held in the CNIT (the National Centre for Industry and Technology), adjacent to the rooms used for the Centennial Congress, and next to the Grand Arch of *La Défense* where the Olympic Torch spent its first night enroute to Albertville in December 1991.

118 frames in all, it was organised by FIPO and members of the nascent French Association of Sports and Olympic Collectors (AFCOS). There was some superb material on display, a lot of it never before seen on public display.

Hommage to Pierre de Coubertin.

The first twenty frames comprised displays by French collectors André Déal, René Richier and René Geslin illustrating how de Coubertin has been portrayed on stamps and postcards, with particular emphasis on the superb Haiti stamps of 1939, but also with background material such as postcards of the Chateau de Coubertin at St. Remy-les-Chevreuses.



The Prestige Collection of the I.O.C.

Some stunning and unique items from the collection now normally housed in the Olympic Museum in Lausanne were presented, with particular emphasis on the stamps of 1896 and 1906, and with a de luxe "ministerial" proof from 1924. This was complemented with a dozen frames from Maurizio Tecardi, director of FIPO, including a comprehensive collection of the 1896 Athens stamps used during the Games, and leading off with proofs reflecting the first ever Olympic boycottin 1896 itself! Turkey was to have participated in the Games, and prepared two stamps, but a Turkish-Greek war ended participation and meant the stamps never got past the proof stage. Tecardi concluded with postcards and postmarks reflecting the 1900 Paris Olympics at the Universal Exhibition.

The History of the Olympic Games in France

This selection looked at the philately relating to the Paris Games of 1900 and 1924, the first Olympic Winter Games in Chamonix 1924, and subsequent Winter Games in Grenoble (1968), and Albertville (1992). François Pons contrasted the philatelic "desert" of 1900 with the relative abundance in 1924. The 1924 games were covered in astonishing depth and diversity by selections from the collections of Marc Boucher, Secretary of AFCOS, Jacques Aubignat, and André Déal, considered the most eminent of the collectors of 1924, and complemented with eighteen frames from the collection of Manfred Bergman. There were many proofs and varieties, a postcard from de Coubertin, covers from the Organising Committee, including one sent by pneumatic mail, and the story of the Games in slogans, postmarks and postcards. I was particularly struck by the fascinating reconstruction of one of the two known sheets of partially imperforate 25 cent stamps, including examples with the perforations on the side cut off to "fake" totally imperforate stamps, and by the story of the pictorial postal stationery cards, prepared it seems on the inspiration of the then president of a postal stationery collectors society, with most known used examples having been posted by him!

René Christin showed the Winter Olympics in depth, commencing with a detailed collection of postmarks and postcards from Chamonix 1924, continuing through Grenoble 1968, showing the originals of many of the postmarks and meters illustrated in Volume 11, issues 2 and 3 of Torch Bearer. While the Chamonix Games were only belatedly recognised officially as the first Olympic Winter Games, and are philatelically recognised by just one slogan, by contrast, for the first time ever, a post office, the French Post Office, *La Poste*, became an Olympic sponsor, and was actually involved in the organisation of the Torch Run for 1992. René's final display covered all the philatelic aspects of the Albertville Games.

Marc Boucher also looked at the daily events at Albertville, on maximum cards. Emile Coubard showed four frames of maximum cards, moving forwards in time from the Opening Ceremony at Grenoble. A second display from André Déal also comprised postcards and maximum cards, but returning in time to 1924.

Prix Olympia and Olymphilex

The exhibition concluded with eleven frames containing further material from the IOC collection, featuring firstly the finalists and winners of the Prix Olympia stamp design competitions in 1984 (Poland), 1988, 1992 (New Zealand) and now 1994, from Norway for the Lillehammer Games. The final frames told the story of Olymphilex, from the first exhibition in Lausanne in 1985, through Rome (1987), Seoul (1988), Varna (1990), and Barcelona (1992), looking forward to Olymphilex 1996 in Atlanta.

It was a most impressive exhibition and display, with too much to fully take in during a one day visit. I look forward to seeing our new sister society publishing the leading 1924 collections in handbook form to complement the handbook already published in Italy of the Canepa collection (now dispersed I believe). Then we will really have the full philatelic story of 1924. Meanwhile, part two of the SOC general review appears on the preceding pages.

Please remember the Society Packet when considering disposal of any material. Your duplicates could become another members cherished item. Send your material to Colin Faers, the Packet Manager.

PARIS 1994 – Centennial Congress and 103rd Session of the I.O.C.

In conjunction with the Centennial Congress and the 103rd Session of the I.O.C which were staged at the C.N.I.T. Building, La Défense, Paris; an exhibition of Olympic memorabilia – including philatelic and numismatic displays took place from the 26th August – 5th September in the lower level of the C.N.I.T.

Our colleagues in France took the opportunity to hold a series of meetings at the exhibition, to form A.F.C.O. (Association Francaise des Collectionneurs Olympiques), further details of their constitution and membership fees are awaited. The core of the new association will invariably be drawn from the band of collectors already active as contributors or correspondents with S.O.C. members. I am sure that we all wish them well in establishing the A.F.C.O.

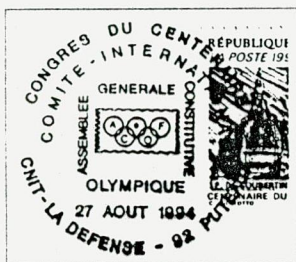
A number of souvenirs were available for visitors, however, not all items were available on the first day of the exhibition. New items seemed to appear each day, which may render the following list incomplete, as our visit was restricted to four days, 26th–29th.

LA POSTE

Five special cancellations were introduced during the Congress and Session.



CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE
PHILATELIQUE
26.8 – 5.9.94



CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE
ASSEMBLEE GENERALE CONSTITUTIVE
A.F.C.O. 27.8.94



CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE
29.8 – 3.9.94



103e SESSION – CENTENAIRE
PRIX OLYMPIA
4.9.94



103e SESSION – CENTENAIRE
4.9 – 5.9.94

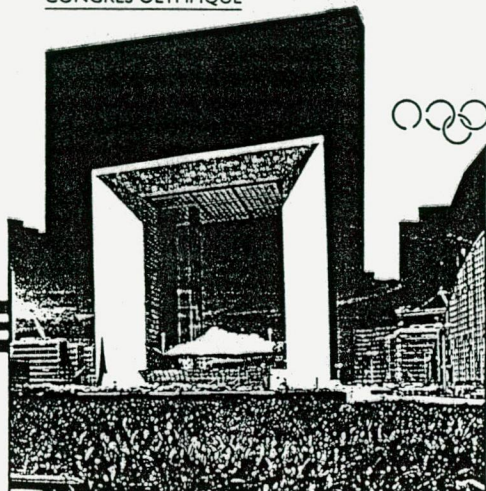
NORWAY POST

A special cancel was available from the Temporary Office of Norway Post, together with a special Congress card (postcard back). A full range of postal services was also available, operating under the Oslo Philatelic Bureau identification.

The cancel was of fixed period type, covering the period 26 August to 5 September.

Paris

CONGRES OLYMPIQUE



NORGE 350



Postens frimerketjeneste
Norway Post - Stamp Bureau



A PRIORITAIRE
PAR AVION
BT 70 111 12

REK

R Oslo
03538
P. FILTJ.



NORGE 450



14 LIME WALK
Acton, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 OUL
England

Finnish Post Office

A philatelic sales point, offering a fixed period cancel, covering the period 26 August to 5 September was available.

There did not appear to be any specific item on sale to use in conjunction with the cancel, and the range of stamps and other philatelic items was minimal, comprising recent issues.

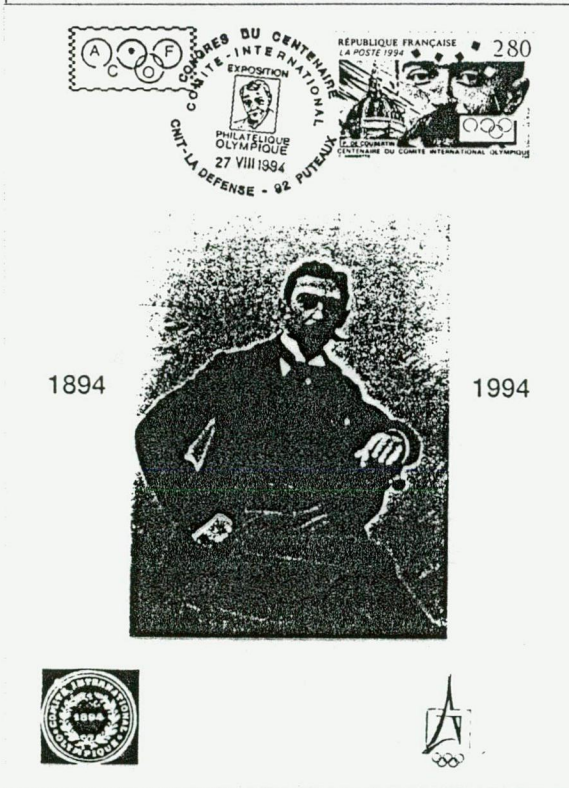
The cancel was available for use on items franked with Finnish stamps created by collectors.

Staffing of the sales point seemed to be shared between Parisiens and the staff of Norway Post who were located at the adjacent stand.



A. F. C. O. Souvenirs






The A. F. C. O. had a sales stand, offering souvenirs from the Olympic Museum Lausanne, items produced by the I. O. C., the TOP sponsors, and their own productions. The cost of A. F. C. O. souvenirs was relatively high, due to the sums demanded for use of the Congress Logo. (Somewhat mean when you consider the efforts of the principal members in providing the majority of the exhibition!)



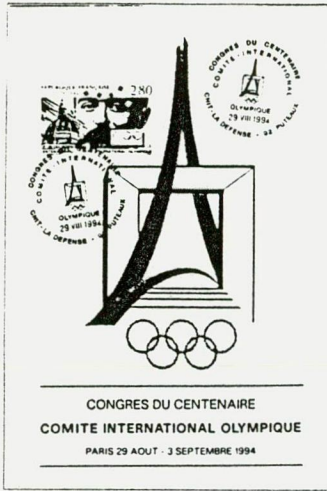
◀ Postcard, used as a "maxi" card. These were produced for each day of the exhibition with the full range of La Poste cancels.

A vignette, "stamp format", with gum, sold as either singles or as sheetlets of ten. The top left label is inverted creating both vertical and horizontal tête-bêche combinations.

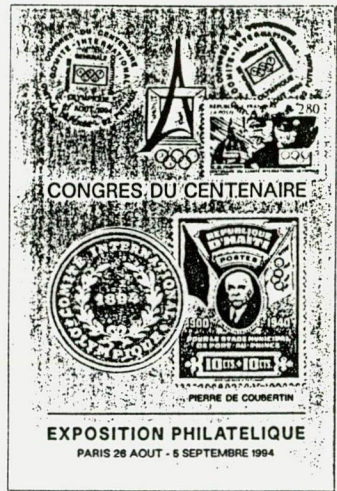
▶ The sheetlet illustrated is also partially imperforate. (a thorough search failed to find any others.)

<p>PARIS 1994 CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE A.F.C.O.</p>		<p>PARIS 1994 CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE A.F.C.O.</p>
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	<p>PARIS 1994 CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE A.F.C.O.</p>	<p>PARIS 1994 CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE A.F.C.O.</p>

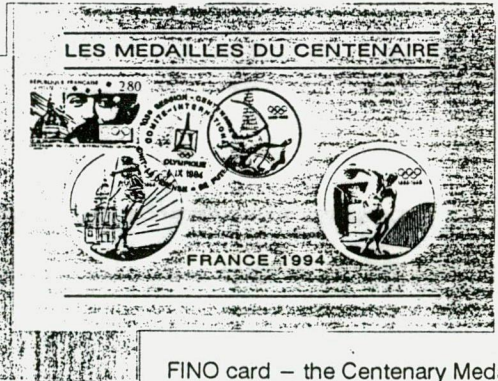
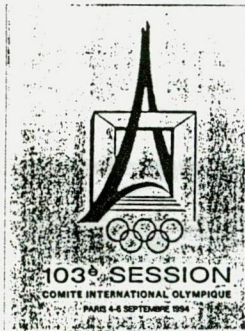
Postcards Actual size 155 x 105 mm. Official cards.



FIPO card for the Philatelic Exhibition.

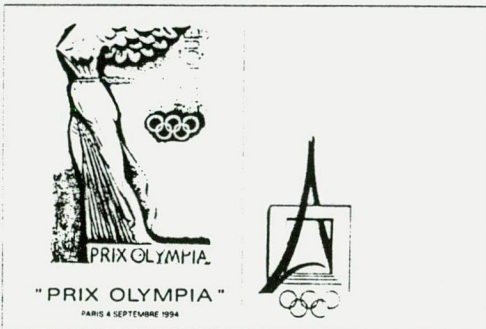


FIPO card for the Congress.



FIPO card for the 103rd Session.

FINO card – the Centenary Medals

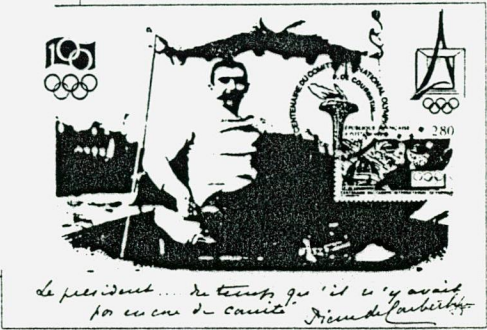
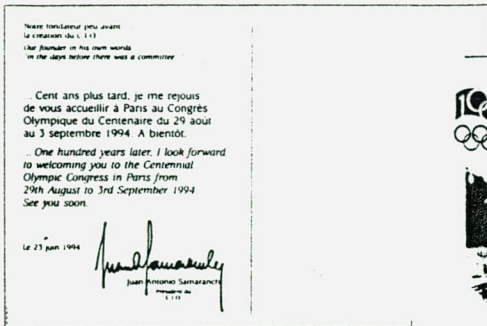


Self adhesive label
Size 52 x 93 mm.

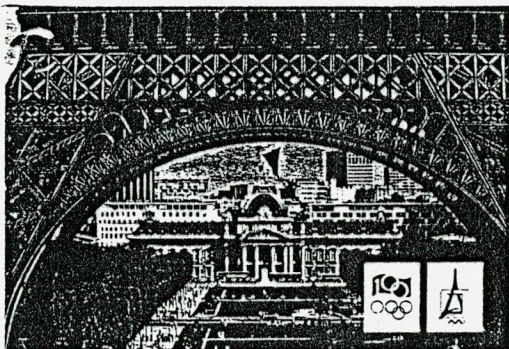
FIPO card for the Prix Olympia

Postcards (continued):

Card printed in sepia, and produced for use as a "maxi" card on 23 June. Design includes the Centennial logo.



< Card produced by the Organising Committee of the Congress. This design is also used for the exhibition catalogue.



TOP Sponsors

The I.O.C. unveiled the next TOP program on 1 September at the Congress. The postcard shown above {right}, bears the names of the TOP members on the back, they are; Coca-Cola, Kodak, Visa, Bausch & Lomb, Time [Sports Illustrated], Xerox, Panasonic, IBM, John Handcock, and finally United Parcel Service. The postcard shows the Olympic flag flying from the Eiffel Tower, and a parachute descending – all part of the Centennial celebrations.

A series of ten covers were also produced (cancelled at the exhibition), each gives the appearance of being a corporate envelope from one of the TOP members, and each contains a stiffener card with specific details of that corporation. They were obviously produced purely for the benefit of collectors, and sold (cancelled) at 25 Francs per cover. It will be interesting to see if any of these envelopes are used commercially.

A special cachet in honour of the TOP programme was available (5 Francs per impression), it was struck in green, is rectangular (42 x 38 mm), and has the text:

TOP / The Olympic Programme / Paris – 1 septembre 1994

Archery - Auto Racing - Badminton - Baseball - Basketball - Biathlon - Bobsled -

Boxing - Bowling - Canoeing - Commonwealth Games - Cricket - Cycling - Discus -

Do You

Diving - Equestrianism - Fencing - Field Hockey - Figure Skating - Fishing - Football -

Collect

Golf - Gymnastics - Hiking - Horse Racing - Ice Hockey - Judo - Karate - Kayaking -

One

Luge - Martial Arts - Mediterranean Games - Mountaineering - Olympic Games - Pan

Of

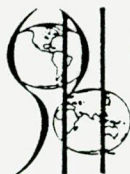
American Games - Polo - Rowing - Rugby - Running - Shooting - Skiing - Ski Jumping -

These?

Soccer - Softball - Sokol - South Pacific Games - Speed Skating - Squash - Surfing -

Swimming - Table Tennis - Tennis - Track & Field - University Games - Volleyball -

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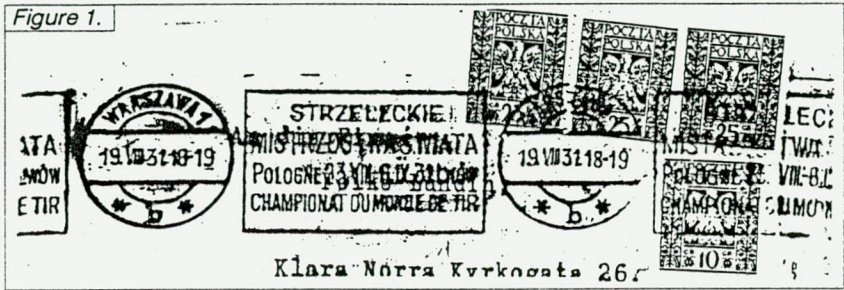


**Sports Philatelists
International**

Mrs C. Earle

Archery had been included in the games of 1900, 1904, 1908 and 1920, but the difference in shooting styles ie; the British preferring long distance shooting (100 yards) three arrows at a time; the French favouring short distances (50 metres) one arrow at a time and the Belgians shooting live pigeons tied to the top of a high mast (Popinjay), plus the lack of a governing body, led to the sport being dropped by the IOC in 1924.

It was in 1931 that the newly formed Polish Archery Union decided the first step towards re-selection to the Games would be to gain International recognition, and for this objective instigated the formation of the Federation Internationale de Tir l'Arc. (FITA) with the first Congress in Lwow, Poland. The first World Championships were organised at the same time and roller cancellations were used at Lwow, Kracow, Poznan and Warsaw to commemorate the event. (Fig 1)



The Statute of FITA Article 2 reads: The purpose of FITA shall be:–

- * "To foster International Sporting relationships leading to participation in the Olympic Games".

Almost immediately after its formation the FITA Board authorised the Polish Delegation to the International Olympic Committee to enter a motion, at the 1934 IOC meeting in Athens, to introduce archery into the Programme of the 1936 Olympic Games, but the negotiations with the IOC Committee met without success.

Undeterred, in August 1934 FITA formed a sub-committee with members from Poland, Sweden, England, Belgium and France to concentrate solely on the re-introduction of Archery into the Olympic games.

In 1936 Finland (Helsinki) asked for support from FITA in their negotiations for the 1940 Olympics, in return Finland would work for the inclusion of Archery in future Games. In the event the 1940 games were awarded to Tokyo but then in 1938 the IOC moved the Games to Helsinki because of the continuing Sino-Japanese war.

Preparations were made in Helsinki to hold the 1940 Archery World Championships, to coincide with the Olympics but World War II interrupted FITA's plans and the next World Championships were not to be held until 1946 in Sweden.

At the 1946 FITA Congress, England announced plans to hold an Archery Demonstration at the 1948 Olympic Games to be held in London.

On the occasion no archery demonstration took place in London, and at the IOC meeting it was decided that no new sport could be accepted into the programme. (this ruling applied to archery even though it was argued that the sport had been in the Games of 1900, 1904, 1908 and 1920 and therefore was not a new sport, but one looking to be re-instated).

In 1950 the President and Secretary of FITA had a special meeting with the Executive Committee of the IOC. It seems the meeting was very positive as at the ensuing IOC session in Copenhagen, Archery was recognised as an amateur sport, which in effect meant every organiser of the Olympic Games could now ask for Archery to be included into their programme. However FITA were not permitted to enter the Games of 1952 in Helsinki, because of "absolute resistance" from the President of the 1952 Organising Committee, Mr. von Frenckel.

Feeling let down, FITA then set out to hold the 1952 World Archery Championships in Helsinki to concur with the olympics, but although von Frenckell promised, in principle, to support archery in the future, he insisted that no International Archery Competitions were to be held in Finland during the Olympic Games. He even went as far as to say that if an Archery international went ahead, any Finnish family taking in an archer as a guest during the Olympic Games would be deprived of the right to buy tickets to the Games, and he would give an order to stop all work on the archery field he had promised the Finnish Archery Federation. He would however support a FITA World Championships after the Olympic Games were over. In view of von Frenckell's hostilities the 1952 World Championships were moved to Belgium and Finland was chosen to host the 1955 Championships. (Fig.2).

Figure 2.



Representations for the inclusion of archery continued to be made to the IOC on behalf of FITA, and in 1955, at the 51st IOC session in Paris, an archery demonstration was given to the members of the Committee by archers from France, Belgium, and Spain. But "Unfortunately the Olympic Committee do not find themselves able to include Archery in the Games".

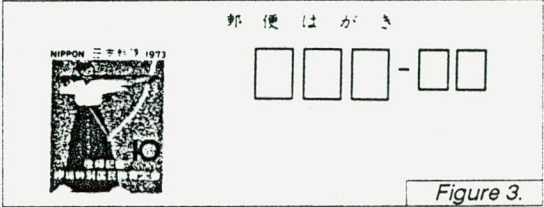
One of the IOC's reasons for rejecting Archery was that the sport is already well represented and has its own World Championships, ironically the original reason for the formation of FITA and the subsequent organising of World Championships was to assist Archery's return to the Games by presenting a well organised and internationally controlled sport. Something that the IOC had been asking for since it dropped archery in 1924. FITA was beginning to think it couldn't win!

But then in 1957 IOC meeting in Sophia, Archery was re-introduced as an Olympic sport, but only for the men and the number of competitors was to be restricted to 100.

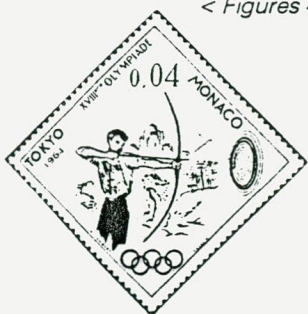
Two years later at the 1959 FITA Congress in Stockholm, the FITA Secretary reported on the archery preparations for 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo. The Japanese Archery Association would be preparing a special archery ground, and will suggest to the IOC that archery also be permitted as an Olympic ladies sport.

And so to 1964 and the Tokyo Olympics, at the time the host nation could elect to hold at least 15 of the 18 allowed sports and it was expected that Japan, with its past traditions with the bow and arrow, would include Archery, but instead opted for their other national sport – Judo. A very disappointed FITA had to settle for inclusion as a demonstration sport, although even that didn't turn out as expected!

Although Archery was included as a demonstration sport in Tokyo, it was presented as a section of Traditional Japanese Chivalry Arts, which accompanied the rise of the Samurai in the 12th century. These martial arts, or Budo, are Kendo (swordmanship), Sumo (wrestling) and Kyudo (archery) (Fig.3). Hence the Japanese demonstrations, whilst no doubt impressive in their own way, were unlikely to have helped towards the Olympic image of Archery for the Games.



However, all was not lost – on the philatelic front at least – two postal authorities had assumed a Japanese decision and issued 1964 Olympic stamps featuring Archery as one of the disciplines. (Monaco SG.811, Bhutan SG.31 & 33 plus Perf and Imperf Min Sheets) Fig.4). At least now there were some stamps to put into an Olympic Archery Collection!.



< Figures 4.



Figure 5.

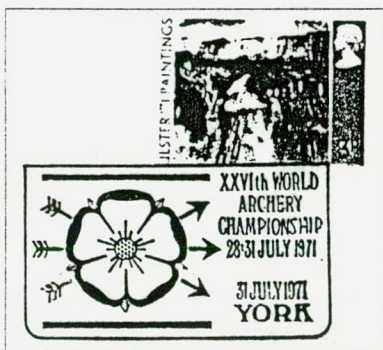
Finally, a year later at the 63rd IOC session in Madrid (Fig.5), Archery was nominated as one of the sports that will feature in the 1972 Games at Munich, at last after over 50 years of canvassing the International Olympic Committee the return of Archery to the Olympic programme was to be realised, to the delight of FITA and its President Mrs Ingar Frith.¹

Following the re-selection of archery into the Games in 1965, there became a sudden increase in countries requesting registration with FITA. Not wishing to be left out of the new Olympic sport, no fewer than 14 Federations applied to join the international governing body immediately after the announcement from Madrid. By the time the 92 men and women Olympic Archers had taken up their places on the shooting line 1972, over 50 Federations were affiliated to FITA and 8 Postal Administrations had issued Olympic stamps honouring the sport, including West Germany who issued 1st Olympic Archery Stamp SG.495 as part of their Olympic Games promotional Fund Set in 1969 (Fig. 6).



< Figure 6.

Figure. 7 >



The 1971 World Championships scheduled to be held in York as part of the city's 1900th anniversary celebrations, were now to take on an even greater significance, almost becoming a dress rehearsal for the following year's main event. (Commemorative Handstamp Fig.7).

¹ Inger K. Frith, elected President of FITA in 1961, was the first woman president of an Olympic International Federation and the main architect of Archery's return to the Olympic programme in 1972.

Other Olympic archery stamps were issued in 1972 by Poland (SG.2135 & Min. Sheet), Cyprus (SG. 390), Mongolia (SG.MS685), Iran (SG1739-41) & Imperf Min.Sheet, and Bhutan (SG.1972 appendix: Perf & Imperf Min. Sheets + Stamps).

With the exception of Mongolia, whose miniature sheet depicts an archer correctly dressed in regulation white, with a modern composite bow (except the arrow appears to be on the wrong side of the bow!) None of the other stamps represent a modern archer-sportsman – with Cyprus relying on the pictogram and Poland and Iran illustrating their traditional forms of Archery it is a very frustrating time for the Olympic Archery Philatelic Collection. However the German Shooting Union advised the Munich Organising Committee in staging the event and as they have a very attractive meter mark (Fig 8) this can form part of the collection, as can the Postal Stationery and

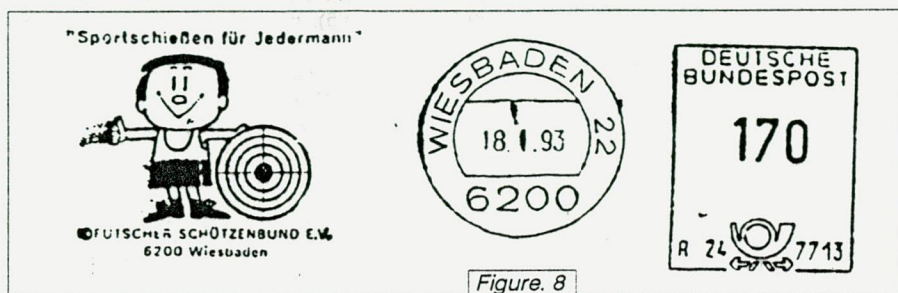


Figure 8

Meter Marks of the Organising Committee. A very important but elusive philatelic element would be an item from the beautiful "English Garden" in Munich, the venue for the event, but I am afraid I have never seen such an item, although the Winterheimer Catalogue lists, but unfortunately does not illustrate, a rubber special handstamp (No.11 Bogenschiesen/Englischer Garten) in use at that time. The Americans dominated the event with Doreen Wilber becoming the Ladies Olympic Archery Champion and 18 year old World Champion John C. Williams becoming the Gentleman Olympic Champion

On to mid-July 1976 where 57 Olympic Archers battled it out at the Joliette Archery Club, 40 miles outside Montreal. Again the Americans were dominant, Luann Ryon and Darrell Place (with J.C. Williams, the 1972 Champion, acting as their coach) taking the gold medals. The Canadian Post Office issued an Illustrated cover featuring the now familiar pictogram handstamp Tir a L'arc – Archery, Joliette. 17-V11-76 and once again Mongolia issued a very attractive stamp (SG971) (Fig 9) featuring a lady archer, to commemorate the event.

Although Mongolia is looked upon by most philatelists as a 'dubious' country it should be noted that apart from the 1984 boycott of Los Angeles by the Communist States, Mongolia has sent archers to every Olympic games from 1972 onwards, and regards the sport as a national pastime on a par with football in England.

Figure 9. >

Other material representing the 1976 Olympic Archery event consisted of a pictogram from Cyprus (SG472). Another traditional archer from Bhutan (SG379) and a stamp and miniature sheet from Dominica (SG521 & SG MS522).



Figure. 10



The controversial 1980 Moscow Games saw a better philatelic representation of the modern sport of archery, with over ten postal authorities issuing archery stamps and the Soviet Union producing a postal stationery item featuring a modern archer with the target behind him (Fig.10) The centre of the ten-ringed target face is called the GOLD and never 'Bullseye', scoring is: -

10 for the inner gold	9 for the outer gold
8 for the inner red	7 for outer red
6 inner blue	5 outer blue
4 inner black	3 outer black
2 inner white	1 outer white

The hits are scored as a double FITA round eg; 2 x 144 arrows shot from distances of 90, 70, 50 and 30 meters over four days (the ladies shoot from 70, 60, 50 & 30 meters). The champion being the archer with the highest score at the end of the round. The Olympic Champions pace and Ryan were unable to defend their titles due to the USA boycott of the Moscow Games. Darrell Pace went on to win the title at the 1984 olympics, beating his own 1976 Olympic record by 45 points, if it hadn't been for the intervention of World politics in 1980 he would have undoubtedly achieved the unique treble of three successive Olympic Golds to add to his World Championship Gold medals of 1975 & 1979.

Los Angeles 1984:- Although the number of archers had increased to 111, along with the philatelic output, all was not well with the sport. It was rumoured that the IOC wanted to limit some of the events, as the games were being accused of becoming too large and unwieldy. Shortly after the 1984 games top international sports writers were asked which sports, in their opinion, should remain in the Olympic programme for the year 2000. It gave FITA quite a shock to learn that archery was placed 22nd out of the 23 sports given and clearly something needed to be done. In direct response to the

criticism FITA introduced the 'Grand FITA Round' which would be performed on a knock out basis, it was hoped that the new round would make the Olympic event more exciting for the spectator and media.

Consequently in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, a total of 87 men and 64 women from 42 Federations shot an 'open' round on the first day, with the top 24 women and 24 men going through to the knock out finals until the last 8 women and men were left for the Grand Final (9 arrows at each distance) the winner being the highest score attained from these last 36 arrows. A team event for both Ladies and Gents was also introduced, and a very proud Great Britain Mens team of Steve Hallard, Leroy Watson and Richard Priestman, claimed the Bronze medal, the first GB Olympic Archery medal for eighty years.

Although the Grand FITA Round was an improvement, it still didn't satisfy the Television companies, who are responsible for presenting the sports as visually exciting entertainment for the sponsors of the Games. In order to 'modernise' the archery competition and make it 'interesting, exciting and simple for the viewer to understand', another new competition was developed. A communique from the Vice President of FITA announced ".... we believe this new Round will change the way television and the IOC look at our sport. Itwill improve the interest of spectators and sponsors and will make archery an exciting event for all. The new round was officially called "The New Olympic Round" (N.O.R.) and would be used at Barcelona '92. The rules for the competition include:–

All archers shooting a qualifying round of 144 arrows

The top 32 men & women go through to an elimination match competition

Each match will consist of 12 arrows

The winners of each match move to the next round of matches to reach the final.

It was generally felt, within the sport, that the future of olympic archery rested on the success of the NOR, but as it happened an event, far greater than FITA could have ever hoped for, took place during the climax of the three hour opening ceremony in the magnificent Montjuic Stadium on Saturday 25th July – 3,500 million television viewers watched live as a 37 year old Spanish archer, Antonio Rebello, climbed onto a platform and to the triumphant cheers of 65,000 spectators, shot a flaming arrow to light the Olympic flame. Korea issued a stamp to commemorate this unique performance and India used a special cancel on 8.8.92 showing the bow and arrow with the Olympic flame.



(fig. 11).

Figure. 11 >

The New Olympic Round went on to prove itself a popular innovation seemingly pleasing both spectator and sponsor. Fittingly Spain took the Mens Team Gold medal with Great Britain winning the Mens Team Bronze, the individual Men's Bronze went to Simon Terry, an 18 year old from Lincolnshire (our best individual archery performance since William Dodd won Gents Gold and Queenie Fenton Newall won the Ladies Gold in 1908).

The success of archery in the Barcelona Games bodes well for the sport in future Olympics at the cost of some of the past traditions attached to the sport however. Inevitably the loss of these traditions has led to some criticism from the 'grass-roots-archer'.

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Bob Farley

The conclusion of our visit to the XVII Olympic Winter Games (see Parts 1 and 2, in May and August issues).

I must start with an apology to John Larmer, poetic license ran away with my record of the 23rd February. (I ran out of space on my diary page and continued notes on the 24th!) John actually made some significant finds on the 23rd, his last day of attending events at the Hamar "Northern Lights" Hall.

The first appeared to be a pair of superb photographic posters of the Opening Ceremony measuring 400 x 500mm, assuming that they were posters proved to be our mistake – John however was diligent enough to turn them over and reveal an imprinted space for a postage stamp together with address lines. I think we have a contender for the largest official Olympic postcard! (Unless you know of another). John duly took one of the cards to Hamar Post Office and established that it complied with postal regulations, and could be mailed at the 100 gr rate. For security a copy was mailed by registered post. The card will certainly present a headache for the potential exhibitor.

The second also resulted from sheer diligence. The third most common vehicle in the Olympic region (after LOOC vehicles containing a driver plus one passenger, and coaches) was almost certainly any form of two or four wheeled vehicle displaying a "Kodak Photo-courier" sign. Kodak have provided film processing facilities for accredited photographers at many of the modern games, requiring such a delivery service. The transport of films in this way can certainly be considered as an official private delivery and collection service, and the status of packaging used could form the subject of an interesting debate. John was fortunate in having seats directly behind one of the designated photography positions in the Hall, and noticed the photographers opening returned packages, and discarding the envelopes. At the close of the evenings events he was able to retrieve both parts of one envelope. A very nice item to show the existence of the delivery service, and the involvement of a TOP member.

24th February

For John, his last day, with a visit to Lillehammer to attend the Aerials, and a final chance to mail items from the temporary office.

For us, a day free of events providing the opportunity to visit Oslo and allow Claire and Andrew to visit some of the tourist attractions. (I also knew of a Philatelic dealer as a result of our 1993 visit). Once again the car had suffered as a result of the low temperatures, and lack of use, despite our attempts to push start, and the kind assistance of a passing couple in towing me for some five kilometres, the car simply did not want to know. I found myself abandoned at a service station about three kilometres from the house, awaiting assistance. Fortunately, a NAF (Norwegian Automobile Federation) service vehicle was parked at the side of the filling station, and the extremely helpful patrolman had the car started in a few minutes. Unfortunately, as I had not expected to be abandoned, I did not have any documents with me, so we returned to the house for a cup of coffee and to sort out paperwork. (There was no charge – a lesson learned too late!)

We finally set off for Oslo at about 11.00, with a short stop in Hamar to purchase and register the large Opening Ceremony cards.

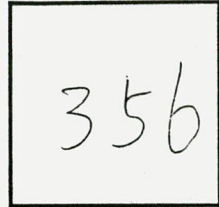
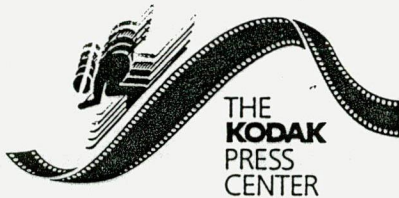
PROCESS C-41

SANG-MOON

PARK

NAME, LAST

FIRST



PHOTOGRAPHER NUMBER

NORMAL

PUSH 1

PUSH 2

4 Number of rolls
1 to 5

CUT AND SLEEVED

ROLLED AND SLEEVED

PROCESS C-41



5950 C

5951 C

5952 C

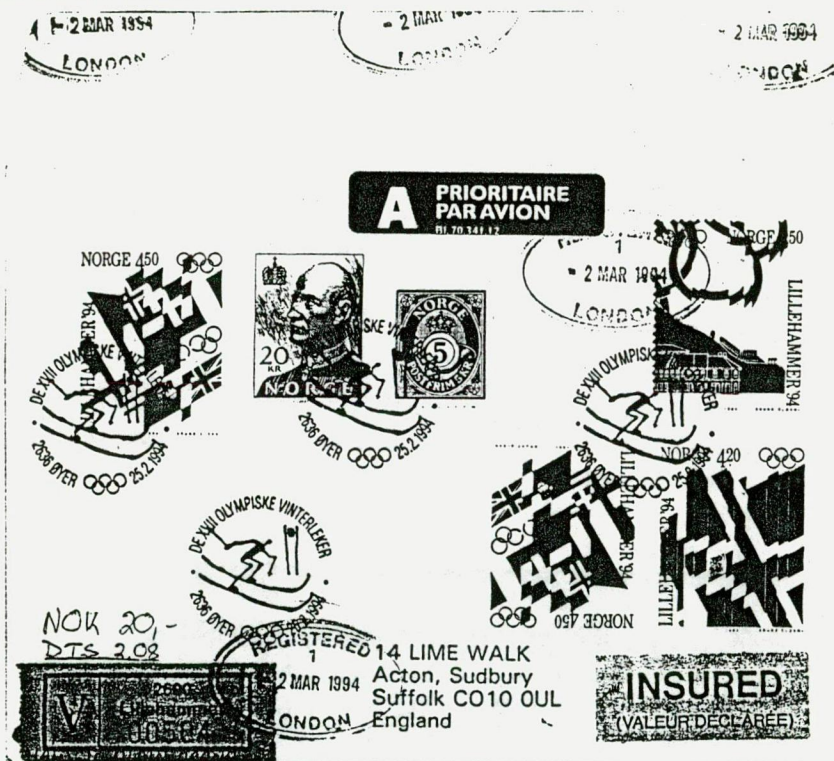
5953 C

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25th February

Brenda and I had tickets for the Combined Slalom at Hafjell, leaving Claire and Andrew free to explore Moelv, and walk down to the lake.

On arrival, we renewed our acquaintance with the staff of the Norway Post caravan (previously stationed at Kvitfjell), confirming that the registration labels were a continuation of the roll used by them at Kvitfjell (allowing me to calculate the usage at each of these venues).



A Value Declared cover from the T P O at Hafjell (501 – 503 used from Kvitfjell)

We had noted the Oyer Post Office during our earlier excursion from the Bobsleigh track, and walked down to it in the interval between runs. Here we established that the regular offices did indeed have copies of the Olympic cancellors, although they did not use the pictorial registration label. They also had commemorative covers exclusive to their office. From conversation we learnt that each office had the freedom to order covers or cards to their own design, and were able to produce souvenirs – food for thought!

The regular visit to Prolympia, was combined with a visit to Lillehammer Main Post Office which yielded yet another special cover, produced by the Dog Sled Association. That evening, (actually about 1.00am) I could not help thinking that we had missed previous opportunities at the regular offices of Faberg and Favang, the former would still be open on the 25th, and we had a free day, so.....



Utgitt av Norges Hundekjøreforbund i samarbeide med Posten. Utgiverne er: Foto: Kim Holmboe

A special cover produced by the Dog Sled Association, as part of the Cultural Programme. (Actual size: 250 x 175mm).



The daily programme sheet for the four man bobsleigh, folded, addressed and sent through the mail as a cover.

FRANÇAIS Le bobsleigh figure au programme olympique depuis les Jeux de Chamonix en 1924. Pour les compétitions, les catégories sont le bob à deux et le bob à quatre. En 1928 et en 1948 le skeleton faisait également au programme.

26th February

I put to the others the idea of a visit to the picturesque little village of Faberg that we had seen from the bus on our trip to Hunderfossen. Brenda queried why it could not be visited on the 27th as we would be attending the bobsleigh, and anyway it seemed "dead". Left with no option I explained that the Post Office would only be open until midday on Saturday.

We overshot by one stop on the bus, and had to walk back into Faberg, to the mini-market in the quest for directions to the Post Office. This involved crossing a bridge which was very exposed, and for the first time we experienced the combination of low temperatures and a breeze. When the store owners directed us back over the bridge, and a further two kilometres to the Post Office, I was in danger of becoming the victim of a democratic decision to catch the next bus back!

After at least two kilometres, I was reviewing my opinion of the democratic process – then we spotted a sign by a garage. It was after all a worthwhile venture, the Post Office had Olympic cancellers, and their own souvenirs. As it was nearing closing time, we waited for a few minutes so that I could record the number of their last registration label to be used during the Olympic period. (I now know that I was within two hundred metres of the Press Post Office – sometimes you just cannot win!)

The rest of the day was spent in Lillehammer, trying to complete cancellations at Prolympia, and waiting for autographs from the invited Olympic champion. I had a number of items prepared, and some left by John. Another failure, the personality had been substituted, and all the items I had were "personalised".

27th February

The final day of another Games. We were off to Hunderfossen, with hopes of a British medal (we have a dream), it was even colder than our previous visit, so we sought refuge in the spectator tent where we were entertained by the equivalent of a Norwegian "Barber Shop" group giving an excellent performance.

Playing with a copy of the daily programme sheet, I suddenly realised that with the correct folds, a very attractive item could be addressed and mailed. I walked over to the Post Office to confirm that this would be acceptable, then prepared a number of such "covers". (They did not receive any marking in transit to England, unlike virtually every other item mailed to our home address, which received a variety of biro marks, self adhesive International Registration labels on the front over the stamps, or just postal workers boot prints – that's life!)

No British medal, the usual crush for a bus, Prolympia to send some AR (Advice of Receipt) covers to Nagano, then back to the house to watch the Closing Ceremony on the television and begin packing.

After the usual "Best Winter Games ever" speech, and the hand over to Nagano, the Games closed.

For us, two days of travelling laid ahead, then the prospect of returning to work. The journey through Denmark could provide another chapter, but it has no relevance to fellow collectors.

We had thoroughly enjoyed our stay, (and the challenge of collecting), but the real work on establishing what actually exists was yet to come. Correspondence with other collectors would invariably lead to surprises.

Yes, it was the best Games ever, but so was Calgary, and Albertville – each for their own special, and personal reasons.



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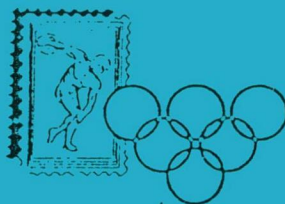
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