

Journal of Sports Philately

NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 1963

VOLUME 2

THE JULES RIMET WORLD CUP STAMPS

- Scot Landy -

Part One

When Brazil won the Jules Rimet World Cup in the 1962 series in Chile, the membership of F.I.F.A. had swelled to alarming proportions. Not even its principal founder could have visualized the tremendous success soccer had had and the rapid strides which it has made since it

Just as Baron de Coubertin could be termed the father of the modern Olympic Games; so too Jules Rimet, a French lawyer, could be regarded as the principal founder of the "Federation Internationale de



was first introduced in the early nineteenth century and then struggled through the stormy period of world history which threatened its very survival. Truly it is now a spectacle which can be considered second in importance only to the Olympic Games.

Football Association", more simply known as F.I.F.A. This is the governing body of the sport as a world championship spectacle on the grandest scale.

The trophy which symbolizes the highest honor attained in world soccer is a solid gold statuette representing "Victory" with outspread wings; in her upraised hands she holds an octagonal bowl in the form of a cup. The statuette is the work of a French sculptor, Abel Lafleur, and cost F.I.F.A. somewhere in the vicinity of fifty thousand francs. Until now this coveted trophy has never been won outright, but Brazil as reigning world champions has a wonderful opportunity to accomplish this feat with a third successive victory in the next series to be held in England in 1966.

The previous holders of the Jules Rimet trophy are as follows:

	<u>Host Country</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Second Place</u>	<u>Third Place</u>
1930	Uruguay	Uruguay	Argentina	-----
1934	Italy	Italy	Czechoslovakia	Germany
1938	France	Italy	Hungary	Brazil
1950	Brazil	Uruguay	Brazil	Sweden
1954	Switzerland	West Germany	Hungary	Austria
1958	Sweden	Brazil	Sweden	France
1962	Chile	Brazil	Czechoslovakia	Chile

Due to the outbreak of World War II, the trophy remained in Italy for a period of twelve years after the 1938 competition.

Inauguration of the Jules Rimet Cup and the birth of world soccer. Prior to the nineteenth century football made its appearance in various forms; but the game was so rough and dangerous that it not only had to be curtailed but, in many cases, prohibited by law. In 1863 a Football Association to standardize the rules had come into being in England. As the sport progressed in later years, the development of skill rather than brute

force led to the possibility of competition on a big scale. But today in its present form of big business the spirit of competition still runs very high.

Throughout the world the craze spread like fire, though unfortunately the rules as interpreted by the Football Association were being flagrantly abused. It was essential, therefore, that some semblance of consistent rules interpretation be maintained if soccer were to survive as a force in world sport.

After many unsuccessful attempts to unify the game he loved so well, in 1904 Jules Rimet, the French lawyer and sportsman supreme, formed the International Football Federation (later known as F.I.F.A.) with seven member countries. In spite of his gallant efforts the English Association remained aloof and repeatedly refused the cordial invitations to accept membership.

The tremendous success of football in the 1920 Olympics held in Antwerp, Belgium, gave him added incentive. With the backing of staunch friends (Henry Delauney, a compatriot who had been elected secretary of F.I.F.A.; Rudolf Seeldrayers, vice-president of the F.I.F.A.; Hugo Meisl from Austria; and the German, Herr Linneman), all dynamic and dedicated figures in their own spheres; it seemed that the stage was set at last to put the plan into operation. But in spite of the success at Antwerp, the uncertainty remained until the wind-up of the Eighth Olympiad in Paris in 1924.

In Paris the cherished dream of Jules Rimet became a reality. For it was here that a team from the tiny Republic of Uruguay was to give him the reward his efforts so richly deserved. Spectators who had come to look upon the Olympic soccer competition as a novelty were astounded that this comparatively unknown team of dusky athletes from a somewhat obscure land could treat the cream of Europe with so much contempt. Playing in an atmosphere of soccer splendor that was rich with all the glamour, charm, and immense passion of the South American technique; displaying poise, pace, and precision; and showing a ball control that was breath-taking in its very execution; they proceeded to sweep majestically over the strong contingents of France, Yugoslavia, Holland, and Switzerland. The United States' team with a representation of European emigrants met with the same fate as it in turn was swiftly eliminated with the same business-like proficiency.

This was something entirely new to F.I.F.A.; but four years later at the Ninth Olympic Games at Amsterdam in Holland, the Uruguayans confirmed their position as a force in world soccer with their tremendous enthusiasm and technique as they defeated their greatest rivals, Argentina, in the final game.



To mark her achievements at the Eighth Olympic Games, Uruguay issued a set of three stamps in 1924 (282-84), following up with an additional set of three for the 1928 victory at Amsterdam in the Ninth Olympic Games (388-90). Though these are strictly Olympic issues, it would be folly indeed not to include them as the forerunners to any collection of world soccer on stamps. With the dominance of South American soccer at these modern Olympics, in a way Uruguay was instrumental in creating the cherished dream of Jules Rimet.

The First World Championship. As the stormy era of the Twenties was but a memory, the Thirties were to hold a rapid advancement for Rimet as the fascination of the sport captured the imagination of all creeds. The clubs from Europe began to take extensive tours over the American continents. Travel in those days was not so swift as it is today, but the news of these tours was eagerly awaited. There was always something new to be learned. F.I.F.A., eager for the advancement of the sport, met to discuss and decide a venue to the staging of a world tournament. The strong claims of Uruguay were given serious consideration. These claims were partially justified by the fact that she rightly regarded herself as the reigning world champion based on her two sweeping victories in the Olympic Games of 1924 and 1928, but the odds were heavily against her.

A tiny nation, of barely two million inhabitants tucked away in the terrain of a vast unknown continent, her potential success in staging the greatest soccer spectacle of that time seemed very remote to the rest of the world and it appeared that the F.I.F.A. was gambling its very reputation and staking everything to uphold the claims of the little republic on the strength of her victories in the Olympic Games. It was pointed out that in the midst of her "Centenary of the Republic" celebrations, the country had more to think about than the staging of a world series.

Nothing could have been farther from the truth. Within a short time Uruguay completed a modern amphitheater with a capacity of nearly one hundred thousand spectators and names it "Centenary Stadium". They brought together their famous Olympic team which had done so well and; concentrating on the famous halfback line of the defense of Andrada, Lorenzo, and Gestido; they resorted to the "Iron Curtain" tactics later to be employed so

successfully by the top-ranking teams from Europe. These same soul-destroying tactics were to prove the winning factor in her eventual victory in the World Championship in 1930.

Europe was represented by France, Belgium, Yugoslavia, and Romania and was joined by the United States and Mexico from the North American continent. The South American group of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Peru completed the pool. In the concluding games Uruguay once more emerged as a finalist, meeting the Argentine, her adversary of the 1928 Olympiad. There was no doubt in anyone's mind that the final outcome would be a repeat of the soccer wizardry of the Amsterdam Olympics. What was not anticipated, however, was the intense rivalry bordering on near hatred in what Argentina regarded as a revenge encounter to compensate for her humiliating defeat by her tiny neighbor at Amsterdam. With so much national prestige at stake, the final between these two nations generated a burning desire completely foreign to the more conservative followers of the game from Europe. Nor did the daily newspapers help to curb the growing hatred that these two nations were building up against one another. On the contrary, they were doing an excellent job by inflaming the hot blood of the Latins to a point of mass hysteria.

In such an atmosphere of hypertension the police authorities resorted to a search for firearms and other offensive weapons. For reasons of public safety they imposed a crowd limit far below the capacity of the Centenary Stadium. In spite of these precautions, they were unable to cope with the frustrated gate-crashing fanatics as Uruguay once again confirmed her superiority by a four-goals-to-two victory. In all the finer arts of the game the Uruguayans once more excelled over their fancier neighbors. The idolization that followed this victory resulted in almost incredible scenes as the jubilant Uruguayans celebrated as the undisputed and firmly-established world champions.

Although this series produced no stamp issues, the two sets already mentioned serve to honor Uruguay's great victories in the soccer arena and to give her an exalted place in the annals of world soccer for all time. To Jules Rimet it seems that his ambitions were at long last materializing and, as with the modern Olympic Games, he prepared to stage the world championships once every four years.

The Second World Championship. By 1934 the stage was set for bringing together the colorful nations of the Americas with those of Europe for the Second Series to determine the new world champions. The Italians, who had been seriously challenging for top honors, lost no time in enticing back many of the South American stars whose ancestors had hailed from the mother country. In addition to the large sums offered, Italy adopted the policy of having these players naturalized in order to make them eligible for the national team. Playing in their sky blue shirts, they were nicknamed "Las Squadra Azzura". The former Argentine, Brazilian, and Chilean stars blended magnificently with the more robust style employed by the Italians, giving the team a composed and relaxed harmony hitherto unknown in the quality of their play. In their challenge for honors they had become a force in Europe.

The British, whose regional teams from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales remained outside the jurisdiction of F.I.F.A. by their constant refusal to accept membership and thus to become eligible to meet the challenge from the Americas, were probably the strongest on the European scene; but they continued their policy of isolation.

The claims of the Italian Association were given serious consideration when they applied for the staging of the Second World Championships and everything pointed in their favor due to the grandeur of their super-stadia. It was decided to hold the final competition in Rome. In such capable hands as those of Vittorio Pozzo, their team manager, these superbly trained athletes radiated a confidence that was to wrest the initiative from the South Americans. They were helped in their quest for honors in that the chal-

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lenge of Uruguay had long since deteriorated due to her constant feud with her Argentine neighbors. In any case, with the participation of Austria, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Romania, and Sweden no serious threat to European domination was anticipated. The Egyptian entry was not taken seriously, while the United States' bid did not seem formidable enough for such important competition. The South Americans looked to Brazil to uphold the honor which had been theirs for so long. But in the end it was no surprise when, in a hard-fought final with Czechoslovakia in which extra time was required, the Italians emerged as the ultimate winners and new world champions.



To commemorate this fine achievement no time was lost in issuing the philatelic reminders which today are becoming elusive in the field of sports philately. The set of nine values issued by Italy in 1934 (324-28 and C62-5) depict players in dynamic action, while a similar set issued in altered colors and overprinted for the Aegean Islands (31-5 and C28-31) bears the same basic design. The twelve-value set for general use in Italy's former colonies (46-50 and C29-35) is proving more difficult to acquire as only twenty thousand complete sets were printed. The ultimate scarcity of this set will be fully realized as the theme "Soccer on Stamps" gains momentum in the not-too-distant future.



The Third World Championship. By the year 1938 France was proposed as the venue for the staging of the Third World Championship. Under the dark and foreboding clouds of yet another World War all the sterling lead-up work of Jules Rimet and the F.I.F.A. seemed in jeopardy. In the intervening years since the Rome finals a new force, Spain, had been jockeying for the top spot in European soccer. Her close relationships with the South American countries had given her a position which was the envy of her neighbors. But suddenly she found herself in the ravages of one of the most brutal civil wars in all history, a prelude to the slaughter of mankind which was soon to follow. For obvious reasons the Spaniards were unable to participate, although their entry had been looked upon with great expectations. They were still smarting from the horrors of war and the Spanish Federation had crumbled in the ruins left in the wake of the catastrophe.

The Austrians, whose "Wunderteam" had long since ceased to exist, were having their troubles as the stranglehold of a sinister dictatorship from the Third Reich had caught up with them and was gradually reaching out to the Czechoslovakian homeland in the Sudetanland. It was a real feat on the part of F.I.F.A. even to contemplate the staging of a world championship. In Britain the Regional Associations vehemently refused to accept the invitation to participate and thus keep alive the work of the dedicated Rimet. The political relationship of the French Association and the reigning world champions from Italy was so strained that any rapport was rapidly deteriorating with the persistent hostility between these two nations. The intervention of their respective governments seemed to be putting an end to the Games before they had gotten underway. The challenge from South America had not been as enthusiastic as in previous years. In such circumstances brave Rimet saw no other way than to cancel the matches.

Rather than endanger the series, at the last moment Italy consented to defend her title as world champions. The Czechs, too, decided to make the challenge. The Scandinavian countries of Norway and Sweden, together with Holland and her colonies from the Dutch East Indies accepted the invitation to join. Belgium, Poland, Hungary, and Romania also sent teams of the highest national level. On the other hand, the United States, with a policy of isolation and non-intervention in Europe, refused to be drawn into any complication which might arise out of these games. The possibility of a strong challenge from this quarter was completely ruled out. Cuba, a dark horse, put in her bid for world fame. The loyal Brazilians determined to make a supreme effort to wrest the initiative from European dominance and prepared to uphold the honor of South America as sole representatives. In the end their challenge did not appear to be strong enough, but much was learned by them for future bids. Unquestionably the Italians, again ably piloted by the shrewd Vittorio Pozzo, appeared as more than likely to emerge as the ultimate winners and thus were the

With so much unrest and mistrust the series proved to be one of the fiercest in the annals of world championships; the shattering effect this had on world soccer at this particular time almost broke the spirit of its founder. As it was, the adherence to the rules was violated in every conceivable instance and in all phases of the game so that it was obvious that, if no immediate alterations were made to the rules, the game would collapse as a championship spectacle.


The final match was played at the Colombes Stadium in Paris and was witnessed by no fewer than fifty thousand spectators, all bitterly antagonistic toward the Italians. The world champions, whose steamroller tactics infuriated the majority of the spectators present, aroused the ire of even the neutrals by their desire to win at all costs. Their Hungarian opponents had no answer to the tactics employed by the "Azzuri" who were ably spearheaded by the magnificent Sylvio Piola, probably the greatest exponent of center-forward play of his day. Though the Magyars, with their delicate, refined touches which had proven so successful in the preliminary rounds of the competition, put up a sterling performance to stave off the impending defeat; they proved no match for the Italians in the end.

The four-goals-to-two victory enabled the world champions to retain their hold on the trophy and, due to the imminent outbreak of hostilities in Europe and the suspension of further world series, the Jules Rimet cup remained in Italy for a period of twelve years until the more grim business at hand was finally disposed of.




For this series only France, the host country, saw fit to issue a solitary value (349) to commemorate the occasion of these games.

(To be continued)



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OLYMPIANA

Cancellation of the proposed Kenya overprint set. In answer to his recent letter of inquiry concerning this set, Bill Guthrie (SPI 373) has received a response from the East African Posts and Telecommunications Administration. In part it says: ".....It is regretted that, due to a change of venue for the meeting of the 60th Session of the International Olympic Committee from Nairobi to Baden Baden (Germany), the issue of the East African Commemorative Stamps has now been cancelled....." It is refreshing to note that this newly independent government faced the facts honestly and made no effort to line its pockets at our expense. B.G.

* * * * *

The Olympic flag on stamps. Travis Land, in his article on the Olympic flag in the August, 1963, issue of "JSP", states "Olympic flag on stamps--nary a one". The Olympic flag is shown on Haiti B1 and CBL-2, on France 817, and in the center of the souvenir sheets on Dominican Republic 479-83, C100-02, B6-10, and CB4-6. S.J.H.

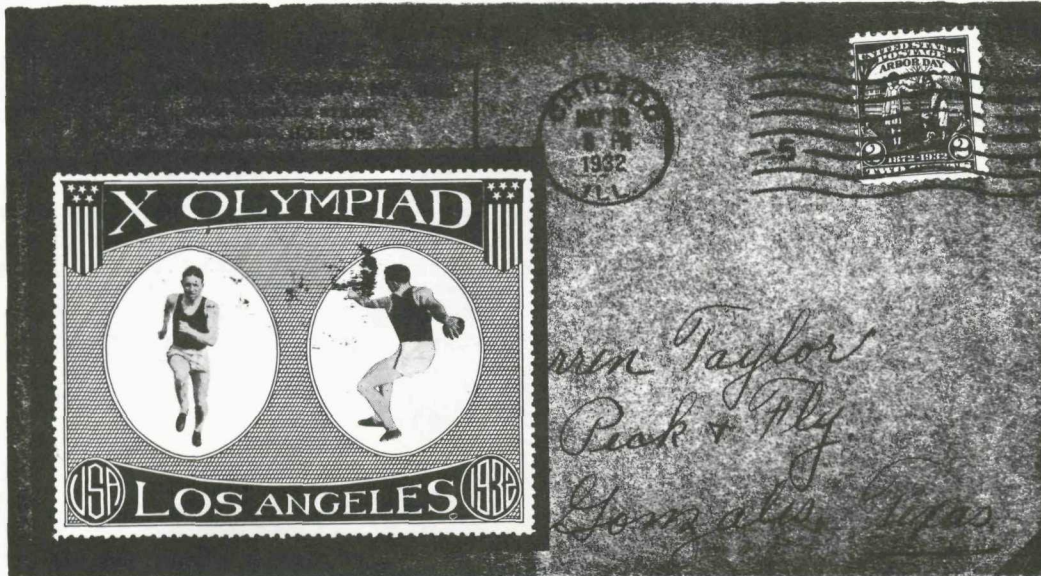
* * * * *

Cut in the Summer Olympic program for 1968. We note with mixed emotions that the International Olympic Committee has eliminated archery, handball, judo, and volleyball from the program for the Summer Olympic Games in 1968. One cannot help but wonder what are the criteria for selecting those events to remain on the program. The same dispatch indicates that, although the eighteen events remaining on the program now meet the Olympic requirement, cycling and soccer are in grave danger of elimination also. Since soccer is clear-

ly the international game, it is distressing to see it in jeopardy. However, it would appear that the Rimet Cup competition probably fills the gap in soccer and the Olympic competition is a duplication of second-rate quality. R.M.B.

* * * * *

1932 Olympic label. The cover illustrated below moved from Chicago to southern Texas some two months before the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. The label itself, although now mounted on the front of the cover, was applied to the back of the cover during the original mailing. Who can supply additional information on this label? T.L.L.



* * * * *

More on the Olympic rings. Travis Land's excellent research article on the first Olympic flag contains a reference to the "legend of the continents" as applied to the use of five rings. For the benefit of those readers unfamiliar with this legend, this refers to the theory that the five rings represent the five major divisions of the earth's land surface. Whether the "five-interlocking-rings symbol was drawn first and then the interpretation given to the design" is really immaterial. It's like the old riddle: Which came first, the chicken or the egg? However, there is another aspect to the situation which might shed more light on the mystery; this is the choice of colors used for the rings.

Tradition has it that de Coubertin chose, as the background for the flag, white--the symbol of purity. The colors for the individual rings was another matter. Any one particular color might please some nations but displease others. Finally de Coubertin hit upon an ingenious solution. At that time 34 different countries were members of the International Olympic Committee. Examining the national flags of these 34 nations, de Coubertin discovered that all these flags could be made using only five different colors--blue, yellow, black, green, and red.

It is at this point that the legend of the five continents crops up. Supposedly, the color representations are red for the Americas, yellow for Asia, black for Africa, blue for Europe, and green for Australia. Advocates of this theory like to point out the connection between the colors and the natives of each continent (America, land of the red-skins), or the color associated with each continent (Europe and the blue Mediterranean; Australia, the bush country). Unfortunately, we have no written records to substantiate this theory. H.W.

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Apollo on sports stamps. In Greek mythology Apollo (Phoebus Apollo) was the God of the Sun and the patron of music and poetry. In one of his early conquests he slew the enormous serpent in the caves of Mount Parnassus and instituted the Pythian Games (586 B.C.-394 A.D.) in honor of this feat. The Pythian Games were the second most important of the Greek festivals; here the award was a crown of laurel branches.

Also charged with the care of Greek youth, especially of young boys prior to adulthood; Apollo himself was proficient in athletic activities. He defeated Hermes in a foot race and Ares in boxing and thus is presumed to have been the first victor of the Olympic Games. Apollo was worshipped by athletes because he was believed to give the power of endurance in boxing, as well as of adroitness and fleetness of foot.



Apollo is depicted as a discus thrower on Greece 184-85. Switzerland 290-92 shows the bust of Apollo from a statue in the Temple of Zeus at Olympia about 460 B.C. This set of three stamps was issued in 1944 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the constitution of the International Olympic Committee. S.J.H.

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Japanese Olympic fund-raising lottery tickets. Bill Guthrie has submitted two samples of Japanese Olympic fund-raising lottery tickets. This is another of the many devices used to provide the necessary funds to host successfully the 1964 Olympic Games.



(Continued on Page 11)

NEW ISSUES

PARAGUAY	No.3 OLYMPICS perf.(?)	3.75
RUSSIA	Chess perf. or imperf.(?)	.46
AFGHANISTAN	Sport (?)	.78
AFGHANISTAN	SS (?)	1.60
AFGHANISTAN	imperf. SS 1962 (?)	5.00
BELGIUM	Bikes & Olympic Fund (?)	.53
BULGARIA	Wrestling (?)	.33
E. GERMANY	Sport w/labels (?)	.85
E. GERMANY	Turners (?)	.70
BRAZIL	Pan-Am Games (?)	.04
BRAZIL	Basketball (?)	.04
BULGARIA	Stadium (?)	.10

DOMINICA	Beach & Sailboat (?)	.15
HUNGARY	Sailboat (?)	.13
JAPAN	'64 Olympics IV (?)	.28
JUGOSLAVIA	Gym (?)	.37
MONACO	Rally (?)	.47
POLAND	Fencing (?)	.57
ROMANIA	Water Sports (?)	1.48
RUSSIA	Boxing (?)	.20
SWITZERLAND	Glider (?)	.70
SAN MARINO	Knights (?)	.80



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"Journal of Sports Philately"

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 Publisher : William G. Brecht, Brecht and Holer, Inc., 694 Third Avenue, New York 17, New York

OMITTED THIS ISSUE

Omitted in this issue is Ira Seebacher's Handbook. It will be in the December issue.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

I wish to thank those of you who are keeping a small, but steady, stream of material coming in for use in "JSP". Please keep it up. Although your material may not appear immediately, sooner or later it will pop up. Certain types of material have a bit of priority because their contents are more or less dated. I want particularly to thank Jim Hughes and Harold Wasserman who have risen so nobly to the "Olympiana" challenge and appear to be dependable and regular contributors to that column. We need more of them and of this type of material.

One of those sneaky little errors appeared in our September issue. Each of you might well change the numbering on his copy from "Number 13" of "Volume 1" to "Number 1" of "Volume 2". It is a small thing really, but will make for consistency.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Michal Dawidowicz (SPI 269), 10 Valley Lane, Bridgeport 4, Conn., 06604: Will trade non-sport items for sports stamps, particularly those which have been listed in the "Philatelic Market Reports". For sale: New San Marino pre-Olympic mint 75¢; new Albania Europa Sports Championships perforated mint 65¢, FDC \$1.00, imperforate mint \$1.30, FDC \$2.00. Am breaking up a sports accumulation; write for list.

SPECIALS FROM OUR SPORTS PRICE LIST (ALL MINT)

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Hungary	1336 SS	1.75	Paraguay	556-9, C262-4	.85
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The directors of SPI are pleased to announce that Bill Guthrie (SPI 373) has taken over Ron Collins' responsibilities of publicity for SPI. We are delighted to have you with us, Bill. Just keep up the good work which Ron has done and all will go well. And to Ron, our thanks for his fine services. If any member has suggestions for publicizing SPI and its program, please send your ideas to Bill at 1986 Laramie, Memphis 6, Tennessee.

It is not too soon to look ahead to the end of our second year when the terms of our present officers come to an end. When one remembers that this slate now in office organized and operated the old Sports Unit for two years prior to the formation of SPI, it is easy to understand why there should be a turn-over in some positions. Also one or two of our present officers have personal plans which will prohibit their serving again. Some recruits will have to accept their share of the responsibilities.

In the near future I shall appoint a nominating committee to cope with this problem. In the meantime, if anyone wishes to inquire into the possibilities of relieving Larry McMillan as secretary-treasurer, I suggest that he or she contact Larry now for some explanation of the duties. As for myself, I can only say that there will either be a new president of SPI or a new editor of "JSP"; I cannot continue both under any circumstances.

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NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

Seebacher scores again. Ira Seebacher, our handbook editor from Roslyn, N. Y., received a silver medal for his showing of "Sports on Air Mail Stamps" at the recent Aero-philica 63 in Brussels, Belgium. Congratulations, Ira.

* * * * *

Expiration of memberships. These are due for immediate attention now:

Nos. 238-281	September 30th
Nos. 282-322	October 31st
Nos. 323-370	November 30th

* * * * *

Membership changes (to October 1st)

Additions:

Albonico, Marco, 8 Vettor Pisani, Milan, Italy (O:Olympiad:IC)
Cereniewicz, Boguslaw, Makuszyńskiego 12, Zakopane, Poland (GS:C:none)
Henninger, E. A., 2743 S. Jackson, Denver, Colo. (GS:C:GC,TC,MC)
Hilke, William C., 5672 Madra Ave., San Diego 20, Calif. (O:C:C,S)
Leesalu, Valdik, Box 364, Rockford, Iowa (GS:C:C,S)
Martin, Norman W., 3014 W. Pierce St., Milwaukee 15, Wis. (O:S:C)
Medawar, G. A., 521 Fifth Ave., New York 10017 (no data)
Obrycki, Antoni, 6521 Westwood, Detroit 28, Mich. (GS:C:none)
Parrish, Dale R., Route 2, Box 175, Newberg, Ore. 97132 (GS: :S)
Ricciardi, Plinio, Rua Carlos Vasconcelos, 49A, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
(O:Olympiad:C,PE,E,S,TC,MC)
Shipley, Paul A., 1276 Compton Road, Cincinnati 31, Ohio (IS,HO:S:S,PC)
Valdez, Claude D., 926½ Virginia St., Key West, Fla. (GS:C:C,S,MC)
Weinman, Philip, 2965 Avenue Z, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11235 (GS:S:C,S,PC)
Wier, J. Rex, 1802 Northridge Drive, Austin, Tex. (O: :GC,PE,E,TC)

Within the past two weeks a committee under the chairmanship of Gen. Douglas McArthur has begun canvassing large businesses in this country in an effort to raise funds to send our Olympic teams to Tokyo in 1964. Used on the stationary for this appeal was an embossed gold seal two inches in diameter; it depicted an Olympic victor being carried by his friends quite similarly to Greece 400. This seal would make an attractive addition to an Olympic or a sports collection. J. Lyman Bingham has made one hundred of these seals available to SPI through Alice Lord Landon. One is yours for the asking from Larry McMillan IF you will send along a generous monetary contribution for the Olympic fund at the same time. It is a worthy cause.

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Harold W. Taylor (SPI 384) reports that the British publication "Sanders Philatelic Journal" is running a series of articles by Tom King on stamps and sports. The first installment carried the ancient Games through the Greek period and appeared in the August issue. The second entry deals with early Games also and features the addition of certain events to the competition. "Pioneers of the Modern Olympics" is the title of the next installment. The address is Sanders Philatelic Journal, 7 Commercial Road, Southampton, England; presumably back issues are available.

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Harry D. Thorsen, Jr. (SPI 287), 387 Sunset Road, Winnetka, Ill., is the prime mover in SOSSI. He has prepared an interesting, colored brochure entitled "Baden-Powell on Stamps of the World". Baden-Powell is well on his way to being the man shown on the stamps of more countries of the world than any one in history. A copy of this brochure is yours for the asking; a stamped, self-addressed envelope must be enclosed.

* * * * *

The APS black blot program lowered the boom on sports stamps in the September issue of the "American Philatelist". First came the three-stamp set from East Germany for the Motorcycle Championship races; as usual one value, the 10pf in this case, was blocked. Then came the Hungarian transportation set for extreme length, intentional inclusion of oddities, and limited printing of the imperforate varieties. The 2ft value of this set shows the Olympic Stadium in the background. Also included was the miniature sheet issued with Nigerian Boy Scout set; this was classified as an intentional oddity.

* * * * *

As a follow-up to a recent article in our series, "Philatelic Market Report", Dave Fogel reports a good supply of Panama RA40 at 20¢ each and 75¢ for the block of four.

* * * * *

All of you have received a prospectus of Fred Howard's forthcoming sports and recreation check-list. Apparently the early response has been quite good, for Fred reports that it is decidedly a limited printing and one had best get his advance order in soon. He doubts that he will have the time to put out a second issue in the near future.

* * * * *

Michal Dawidowicz reports favorable contacts which enable him to obtain Polish sports material for SPI members at prices substantially below dealers' prices in this country. He is also in a position to provide a similar service with Albanian new issues; his offer is 20 per cent over face for mint stamps and 50 per cent over face for first-day covers. Check your "Membership Director" for his address.



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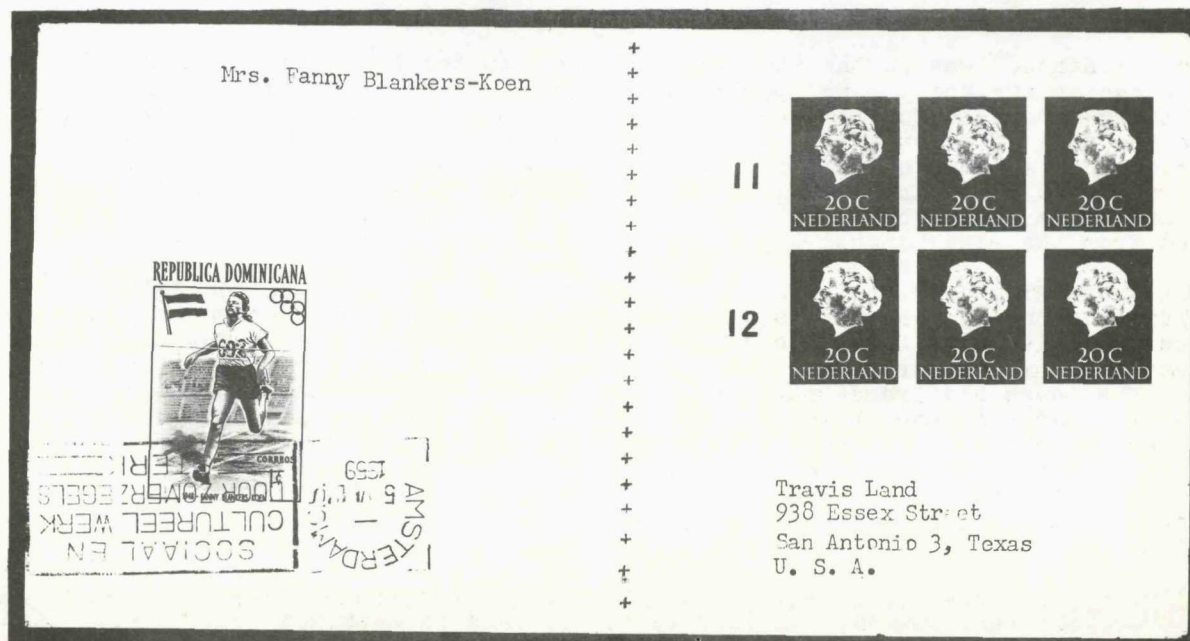
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IVRY - SEINE - FRANCE

Still more Olympic fund raising seals from Japan. Bill Guthrie has also submitted another sheet of the fund raising seals of the Japanese Organizing Committee. Note the reproduction of sixteen stamps commemorating past Olympic Games. B.G.



A cancellation freak. The cover illustrated below was sent Mrs. Fanny Blankers-Koen, the Dutch Olympic sprinter, for her autograph. In the cancellation process the envelope was accidentally turned upside-down so that the imprint was applied to the Dominican Republic stamp affixed to dress up the cover, while the block of six Netherlands stamps for postage went untouched. Incidentally, Mrs. Blankers-Koen cooperated with her autograph, but placed it on the stuffer of the cover, rather than on the face of the cover as desired by the collector! T.L.L.



- Irwin Bloomfield -

The "Sunday New York Times" of July 28, 1963, carried a small item entitled "Bluenose II Enters Nova Scotia Waters". The story went on to report that a replica of the famed Nova Scotia "Bluenose" was launched at Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, that week. A lively crowd of 15,000 people jammed the town to see the launching and the celebrated sea captain of the famous original "Bluenose", Angus Walters, now 82 years old, was one of the spectators. Thirty other members of the original "Bluenose" crew were also present.

The original "Bluenose" won fame in the fisherman's races of the 1920s. The "Bluenose" gained her first international victory against the "Elsie" on Oct. 24, 1921. This champion fishing schooner beat eleven Nova Scotians, one after the other. Also she defeated four American champions, the "Elsie", the "Henry Ford", the splendid "Columbia", and the "Gertrude L. Thebaud" for the International Fisherman's Trophy in five North Atlantic races from 1921 until the series was discontinued in 1938.

The "Bluenose" was not a racing boat alone, but was a bona fide fisherman and had to earn her living by fishing and freighting. She was twice "High-liner of the Banks"; that is, she brought in more fish in a season than any other Canadian vessel. But this fine schooner was in the news constantly when she was racing and beating all competition for the championship.

As a unique appreciation of what the ship had done, midway through the schooner's twenty-year fishing and racing career the "Bluenose" was honored on the 50¢ dark blue stamp issued by Canada on Jan. 6, 1929, as part of the scroll and pictorial set begun in 1928. The engraving for the stamp was taken from a photograph of the 1923 International Trophy race showing the "Bluenose" and her American opponent, the "Columbia", in the background. At the London Philatelic Exhibition in 1950 this stamp was declared "the most beautiful postage stamp ever produced". Illustrated here is a plate block of six with Plate No. A3 and Serial No. 936Y.



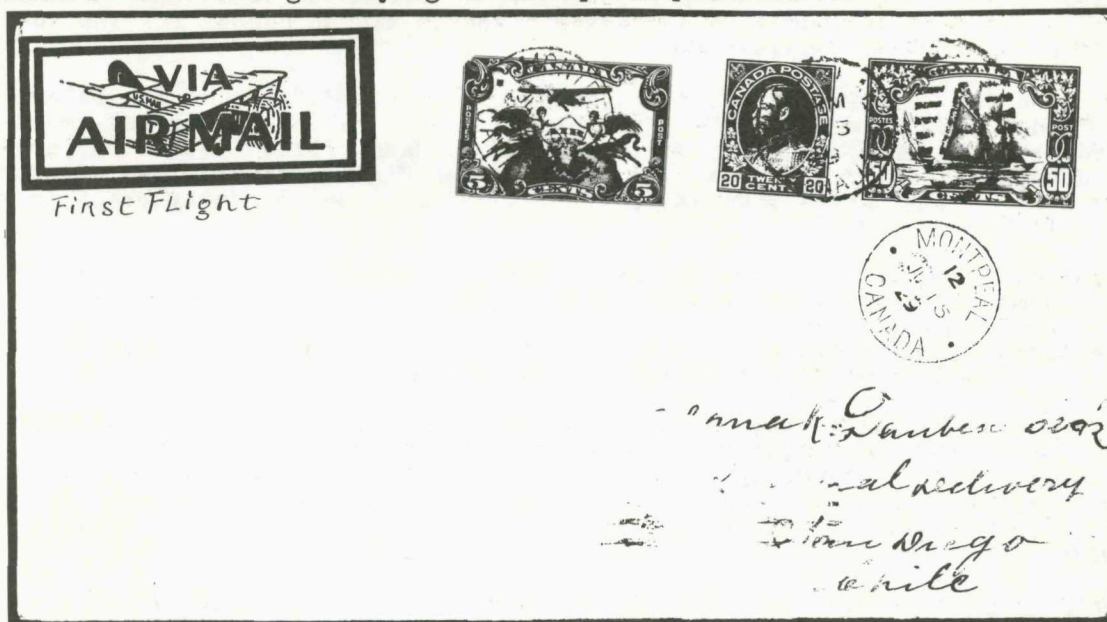
Plate A1 was made but never used. Plates A2 and A3 were used and the serial No. 936Y appeared in all plate positions. A total printing of 1,044,900 stamps was accomplished by the Canadian Banknote Company, Ottawa. The printing method was recess-line engraving; the product was on unwatermarked paper with a perforation of 12.

The "Bluenose" was further honored in 1945 when her likeness was engraved on the back of the Canadian 10¢ coin. Her portrait in permanency on the coinage of her country was a most fitting memorial for the vessel. For this once-proud queen of the fishing fleets; then in the role of a lowly freighter, ~~toting sugar, rum, and bananas among the Caribbean Islands~~; struck a ledge off Haiti on a dark night in January, 1946, and sank in the ensuing storm. In 1960 Captain Walters headed a committee to plan a new "Bluenose". Built with dimes from school children and dollars from a Halifax brewery, "Bluenose II" was launched from the same Lunenburg yard that produced her legendary namesake.

Not just "Bluenose", but schooner racing itself, seems to be coming back. The two-year-old Nova Scotia Schooner Association competes in annual championship races and encourages the salvaging of derelicts and the building of new boats. The Nova Scotia schooner fleet now numbers forty-two, but their holds are frequently more fashionable than fishy. The tough old Grand-Banker is easier to handle and just as fast as the J-boat or the 12-meter and has space below for bedrooms, a ballroom, and a bowling alley. There are some pleasure schooners around New England, too, and one can hope that a challenge may revive racing competition akin to the thrilling battles once waged between "Bluenose I" and Gloucester's "Gertrude L. Thebaud". We may see again international racing contests between schooners, just as we now see the sleek racing machines that compete for the America's Cup.

Illustrated here is a cover franked with the "Bluenose" stamp, flown to Santiago, Chile, from Montreal, Canada, on July 15, 1929, and backstamped "Cristobal, Canal Zone, July 20, 1929" and then "Santiago, Chile, July 29, 1929". The "Bluenose" stamp on cover

is rather difficult to come by, inasmuch as the stamp appeared during the Depression and 50¢ was not an ordinary postage rate. Thus acquiring such a cover with one of the world's true beauties is more than gratifying to the sports philatelist.



SPORTS PHILATELY IN ITALY

- Nino Barberis -

Sports philately is very popular in Italy. One can be reasonably certain that it is the most popular among the collected topics. But, beyond that, the Italian sports philatelists are very active.

Each year sees two or more specialized exhibitions--devoted only to sports. As it stands right now, sports philately is the only topical in a position to sponsor a specialized exhibition; each past exhibition has been a real success. In 1962 there were exhibitions in Alessandria and in Somma Lombardo; each drew about thirty entries, some of which were excellent in all respects.

Three such exhibitions were scheduled for 1963. In February an exhibition limited to winter sports stamps was held in Cortina d'Ampezzo, the site of the 1956 Winter Olympic Games. Then in May came another in Venezia-Mestre, this one honoring Baron Pierre de Coubertin. Still another was held in Vigevano in October.

Italian sports collectors had a good year in the various national and international exhibitions held in Italy during 1962. Among the winners of gold medals or Grand Awards were Attilio Papini (1st Olympic Games), Marco Albonico (Olympics), Carlo Condarelli (rare cancellations and covers), Piero Frosi (track and field), Luigi Buratti (Berlin 1936 Olympic cancellations), Otello Bortolato (Rome 1960 Olympic specialized), Aldo Radrizzani (Melbourne 1956 Olympic specialized), and the writer. One can see very easily how popular are the Olympic collections; many of these collectors have really fine and artistic presentations of this subject.

Half a dozen philatelic magazines are published monthly in Italy; each of these has a regular sports feature. Two of the most interesting and up-to-date are those of Giuseppe Sabelli Fioretti in the magazine "Il Bollettino Filatelico d'Italia" and of Maurizio Tecardi in "Filittelia Italiana". Also of great importance is the weekly feature of Piero Frosi in "La Gazzetta dello Sport"; this is the leading sports publication in Italy with a circulation of about one million.

As is well known to many individuals outside Italy, Carlo Condarelli is taking the initiative in promoting a complete re-study of the regulations for sports philately exhibitions. He has published a series of articles in the periodical "Il Filitelico" and has reprinted material from Carl Olof Enhagen and Ira Seebacher. Opinions of other sports collectors of various countries will be included before this series draws to a close.

Another important Italian project is the Alberto Bonacossa Medal, to be awarded each year for the best sports stamp, together with the Svoronos Medal for the designer of the winning stamp. Giuseppe Sabelli Fioretti and the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) are the co-sponsors of this project. Various members of Sports Philatelists International are members of the international jury for the Bonacossa Medal.

- Floro Policarpio -

The Sports Philatelists of the Philippines, an affiliate of Sports Philatelists International, was most fortunate in obtaining a sports slogan cancel for the Tour of Luzon in its eighth consecutive competition.

A fourteen-day cycling classic covering 2,254 kilometers on the Island of Luzon (largest of the 7,089 islands in the Philippines), the Tour, a taxing endurance test, has been dubbed the "burning, dusty road to riches". Cash prizes totalling around 40,000 Pesos are donated annually by Coca Cola and the San Miguel Brewery, the sponsors of the sports festival. The entire Tour was covered thoroughly by the daily press as well as by radio and television.

The rugged terrain, the searing heat, and the incredibly strong competition took their toll from the very early stages of the race. The first lap was run in punishing 100-degree heat and the favorites Kim Ho Soon of Korea (1962 Tour silver medalist), Edmundo de Guzman (1962 champion), and Jose Moring (1961 victor) succumbed to the rigors of the course. Their departure left the Tour wide open.

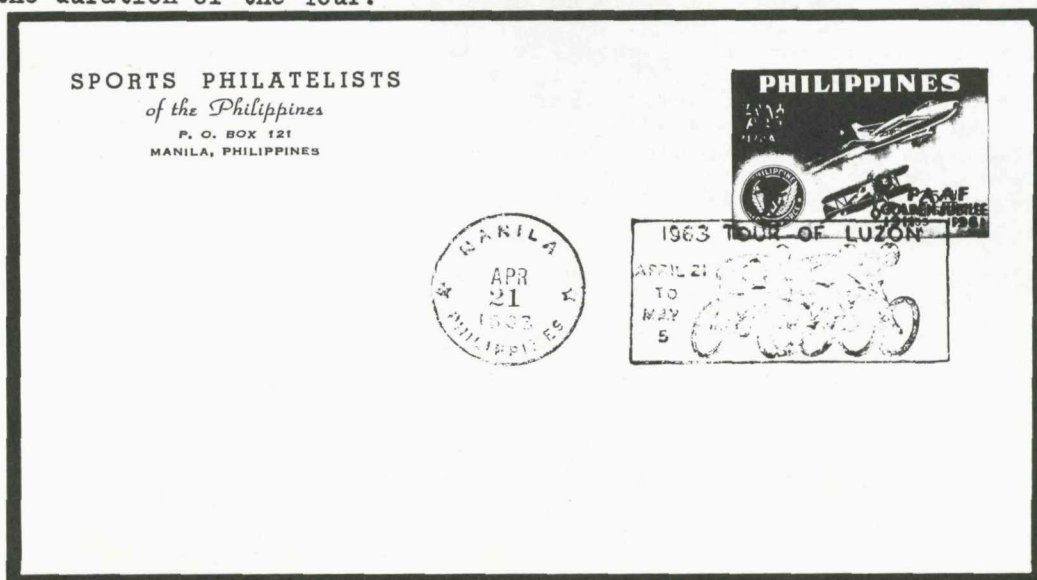
Cipriano Mariano donned the "Yellow Jersey" after the second lap, won the additional successive laps, and then maintained the overall leadership for ten straight days only to lose out to the eventual champion, Gonzalo Recodos. Champion Recodos' victory was unique; he failed to win a single lap. Mariano, however, earned almost as much as the 1963 champion (over 5,000 Pesos) by virtue of his silver medal placing and his overall leadership for ten days.

Seventy-four intrepid cyclists participated in the Tour. The first five finishers and their records were:

1. Gonzalo Recodos	78:27:54
2. Cipriano Mariano	78:35:24
3. Virgilio Delin	78:56:09
4. Teofilo Culson	79:10:39
5. Benjamin Buitre	79:50:04

The Tour began at Ilagan, the tobacco granary of the country; then to Solano, the trade center; Guimba, the rice bowl; newly-rich Mandaluyong; Santa Cruz, purveyors of "queso" (white cheese); Rosario, the town of rustic bands; Balanga (Bataan), historic spot of great battles; San Fabian, General MacArthur's homecoming beach; vacation resort Naguilian; Bangued, the farm-products clearing house; Laoag, trading center of the North; Vigan with its industrious people; the farmland of Binalonan; and on down to the Big City of Many Tongues, Manila. At the end of the final lap--the Rizal Memorial Field in Manila--a record 30,000 witnessed the finish following the last exciting, back-breaking sprint.

For the first time in the history of sports philately in the Philippines, the Eighth Tour of Luzon was commemorated by the Bureau of Posts with a sports slogan cancellation. The motif of the cancel features three racing cyclists. The cancel was used from April 21 to May 5--the duration of the Tour.



The Sports Philatelists of the Philippines recommended the use of this slogan cancel. In fact, its design was prepared by the SPOF AND SUBMITTED TO Postmaster General Enrico Palomar whose sympathetic and cooperative attitude toward the promotion of sports philately is a source of encouragement that keeps the hobby moving in the Philippines.

- Fred Farr -

Tip of the month--Poland 699-705. This handsome set of six stamps was issued in 1955 in honor of the Second International Sports Games, held at Warsaw. These games were part of the Fifth World Youth Festival, an annual gathering of world youth which is invariably Communist-dominated. It is interesting to note that this set is freely available in the United States at approximately 80¢, yet the same set retails in Europe (England and on the continent) for \$2.20. These conditions won't last long and American prices must inevitably rise to that of the world market. Only the unquenchable torrent of sports stamps from foreign stamp presses has prevented this set from rising to its true market value in the United States.

Jugoslavia 461-68. Stamps issued in honor of the Olympic Games have never been noted for stability in price; indeed, they are noted for the rapidity with which they increase in price. This 1956 Olympic Games set has long been underpriced and is still available for \$2.75 to \$3.00. The same set, however, sells for approximately \$5.25 in Europe, which makes this set a bargain no matter which way you look at it! If you have enough money and wish to dress up your collection with something unusual, get this set used on official maximum cards.

Trieste (Zone A) 143. This stamp is Italy 599, overprinted for use in the Anglo-American occupied parts of Trieste. Somehow, this stamp has been overlooked by sports collectors, probably because it depicts two statues on which a cursory glance would hardly indicate anything related to sports. Actually this stamp does depict an athlete from Classical Rome; it was issued to commemorate the First International Exhibition of Sports Stamps in Rome, held between March 19 and 30, 1952. Only 210,000 copies were issued of Trieste (Zone A) 143, although 3,000,000 copies of Italy 599 (the basic stamp) were also issued; despite the disparity in quantities, the overprinted stamp is cheaper than the original stamp! Hint: Wholesalers are unable to supply either stamp; so, if you need either or both of these stamps, get them now. The overprinted item sells for the ridiculous sum of 15¢ to 20¢, while the Italian item costs about three times that amount. Both stamps are an excellent purchase at current prices.

Japan 547-48. This delightful pair of sports stamps, depicting athletes in action, was issued in sheets of twenty stamps, with ten pairs (se-tenant) in each sheet. Issued in honor of the Sixth National Athletic Meet, held in Hiroshima in October of 1951, these stamps are available for 40¢ per pair, although the European price is 65¢ per pair. Affluent collectors will want these stamps in sheets of twenty stamps, which are generally available for approximately \$5.00. Some 2,000,000 sets were printed, but vast quantities were used up in the postal service and the rising standard of living in Japan has created tremendous demand for Japanese stamps in the home islands. Remember, the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964 will undoubtedly stimulate demand for all Japan's sports stamps.

Japan 589-90. These stamps, also issued in ten se-tenant pairs to a sheet, depict two sports seldom seen on stamps--rugby and judo. Commemorating the Eighth National Athletic Meet, some 2,000,000 sets were issued, which is not large by Japanese standards--currently Japan is issuing between 10,000,000 and 13,000,000 copies of her commemoratives. Still available in the United States for about 60¢, this set retails for at least \$1.00 in Europe. Sheets of twenty stamps are still available and cost approximately \$7.00 in the United States.

Cuba 299-300. The price of this set has remained stable for the past five years, solely due to the small quantities brought into the United States by Cuban refugees from the Castro regime. This set has never been plentiful in the United States, although the set is extremely attractive--it depicts a hurdler in the Second Central American Athletic Games, held in Havana in 1930. Actually this was one of the very first sports sets ever issued; it is currently available for about \$4.00. Only 50,000 sets were issued, which is only a drop in the bucket compared with potential demand. Discounting the number of sets used on commercial mail and the number of sets destroyed down through the years, how many sets do you think are still available? Makes one think, doesn't it? Get your set while it is still available at such a reasonable price; you'll never regret it.

Tannu Tuva 21 and 33. Although "Scott" calls the men depicted on these stamps "bow-and-arrow hunters", there is no doubt that these three men are engaged in an archery contest. After all, their Mongolian tents are in the immediate background, hence it is extremely unlikely that wild game in Mongolia comes to the front door of the huntsmen's tents and begs to be slaughtered! If an archery contest by huntsmen is your dish of tea, and if you need these stamps, you will be startled by the difficulty you'll experience when you seek these stamps; they catalogue only 10¢ and 25¢ respectively, but you'll be lucky if you can find them at any price. Only the stout-hearted collector who enjoys a difficult chase should try to get these stamps, but I submit that they definitely belong in every collection of sports stamps. If you can find these stamps, don't quibble over price; they may never be available again!

- Barbara T. Williams -

April Addenda

- 15th North Korea. All Nations Dance and Music Contest. 10w (girl with fan); 10w (girl with harp)(both performing the Sadanghoom folk dance). Printed by photo-offset in sheets of 80. Ungummed.

June Addenda

- 15th North Korea. 17th anniversary of the Korean Pioneers. 2j (Pioneers in chemistry class); 5j (Pioneers in race); 10j (Pioneer choir). Printed by photo-offset in sheets of 80. Ungummed.

August Addenda

- 20th Panama. Freedom of the Press. 5¢ orange and red (basketball player)(0234 overprinted "Liberty of the Press 20-VIII-63").
- 21st Italy. United Nations Conference on International Travel & Tourism. 15L (super-highway encircling globe, Corinthian column in background); 70L (same as 15L). Designed by Luigi Gasbara. Printed by photogravure.
- 31st Albania. European sports championships: European Volleyball Championships, Romania (21); European and World Weight Lifting Championships, Prague (31); European Soccer Championships (51); European Boxing Championships, Moscow (71); and European Women's Canoe Championships, Moscow (81). Quantity: 100,000 sets perforate and 30,000 sets imperforate.
- 31st San Marino. 15th International Stamp Fair, Riccione. 100L blue and brown (diver, statue in front of Riccione Fair Palace). Designed by Anna Maria Vicini, R. Pierbattista, and A. Carrarini. Printed by rotogravure.

September Addenda

- 2nd Brazil. University Games, Porto Alegre. 10.00Cr black and grey (hammer throw).
- 7th Turkey. International Stamp Exhibition, Istanbul. 10k (Sports and Exhibition Palace, Istanbul); 60k (silhouette of Istanbul with rowboat in river); 100k (Rumelihisari Fortress and sailboat). Printed in off-set by Apa-Ofset Printing House, Istanbul.
- 21st Italy. Mediterranean Games, Naples. L15 blue and gold (route to Italy and sailboats in the Mediterranean); L70 green and gold (javelin thrower, from design on ancient vase).
- 21st San Marino. National Exhibition of Sports Philately; Europa Congress, Naples; and 1964 Olympic Games. 11 orange (women hurdlers); 21 green (pole vault); 31 blue (relay); 41 dark blue (high jump); 51 red (soccer); 101 orchid (woman gymnast); 301 grey (discus); 601 yellow (javelin); 701 blue-green (water polo); and 1151 green (hammer thrower).

October Addenda

Kenya and Uganda. 60th Session of the International Olympic Committee, Nairobi. (CANCELLED).

November

Monaco. 50th anniversary of first airplane flight across Mediterranean by Roland Garroa on September 13, 1913, between Cannes and Bizerte. 2fr (portrait of Roland Garroa, aviator). (Additional information)

Monaco. Centenary of the birth of Pierre de Coubertin. 1fr (de Coubertin, Olympic flame, and discus thrower). Designed by Pierrette Lambert and engraved by J. Peel. (Additional information)



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Bulgaria. Balkan Games. 1st (women's relay race); 2st (hammer throw); 3st (woman broad jumper); 13st (discus)(all multicolored with flags of the six participating nations). Designed by V. Tomoy. Quantity: 200,000 sets. Also souvenir sheet (relay race and flags of participating nations). Designed by St. Kantchey. Quantity: 50,000.

Israel. Olympic Games, Tokyo. 8ag, 12ag, and 58ag. (February)

Monaco. 50th Tour de France bicycle race. 25¢ (H. Garin, winner of the first race, 1903); 50¢ (1963 cyclist, Col. du Balibier, and statue of Henry Desgranges, organizer of the first Tour de France). Designed and engraved by Durrens (25¢) and Pheulpin (50¢). (Additional information)



Monaco. 33rd Monte Carlo Motor Car Rally. (Map of route--Paris to Monte Carlo)

Panama. 20¢ emerald and red brown (hurdling)(432 overprinted "Aereo").

Russia. Spartacist Games. 3k blue, brown, and red (reindeer pulling sled); 4k black, brown, and red (Mongols playing polo); 6k gold, brown, black, and red (Mongol archery contest); 10k light and dark brown, black, and maroon (Mongol wrestling).

HERE IS OUR WAY OF SAYING THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS OF SPI FOR THEIR WONDERFUL RESPONSE TO OUR PRIOR ADS IN THIS JOURNAL

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Fred Howard

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FRED HOWARD
Sports Stamps
10613 Rochester Ave.
Los Angeles 24, Calif.

- Bob Bruce -

When I originally prepared my three-part series concerning the vast flood of sports stamps being foisted on the sports collectors of the world, I had fond hopes that our membership would react with frequent comments here and there--enough to make a follow-up article appropriate, possibly enough to lead to some give-and-take debate in our periodical, and just possibly enough to begin a letters-to-the-editor column. In fact, I even prepared the third installment rather controversially in order to stir up a strong reaction and to smoke out some of the opposition.

But, alas, few rose to the bait and most of the hoped-for comments were "there"; they never reached me "here"! Far too many of our member-readers maintained a grim silence; especially conspicuous by their failure to react were our more experienced collectors who exhibit frequently at the larger shows.

Typical of the few written comments were those approving the series as worthy of the time and space. These members appreciate the problem as it strikes home to them personally and find anything written on the subject worthy of their attention. Then there were several members who had positive suggestions for collectors as to narrowing their own collections. Finally, and possibly most importantly, there were several gentlemen who make their livelihood selling to collectors.

Several quotations from these letters follow. I have tried to present them in such a way that they do not suffer from quotation out of context. In no case is the individual identified.

Member A (publisher of collectors equipment). ".....Now on the matter of these unnecessary issues, there should be a review board to determine the sports issues that have been released with a proper purpose behind them. There are so many stamps issued to show sports, but for no reason. Just because a nation chooses to show a runner on a stamp is no reason for you fellows to collect it. If I were starting a sports collection today, I would pick issues that have some importance in the stamp world.....But if San Marino issued a stamp or set of eighty different to mark this same event, I would not collect it. It's an idea, but what a job to control! Why don't you fellows carry a 'recommended' list in your journal, listing what your board thinks should be collected?"

Franco Filanci ("Gleanings from the Italian Field", Linn's Weekly Stamp News, June 3, 1963) ".....It is illogical that a given subject must always be reduced to two or three--or a very few--examples only.....During 1962 San Marino turned out 46 stamps (\$2.90 face value) and one sheet of six (\$1.95)--in all less than \$5.00 (in contrast to Albania with 41 perforated stamps, 31 imperforate, and ten sheets for about \$70.00 and Paraguay with 106 perforates, 60 imperforates, and sixteen sheets--about \$220.00).....I think that five beautiful and instructive sets in one year--of low total face and all legitimately sold--are an example of consistent philatelic policy, where the lack of a direct relationship between topic and issuing country becomes of secondary importance."

Member B (dealer). ".....I have no objection to each country issuing stamps in honor of the games (Olympic) as long as they are of normal postage.....Unfortunately this will not be the case. I, as a dealer, am in a very unusual position. If I don't carry the junk, I lose; and if I do, I lose. If the collectors would only use their common sense and refuse to buy the way-out junk, we would all be better off."

Member C (collector). "There are at hand some remedies which can be applied. Firstly the collector can, and probably will, abandon the idea of collecting all the stamps of a theme and.....will collect only one sport. When dealers are asked to provide this limited number--parts of sets--they will begin to support sensible collectors in their objections to the senseless plundering issues made by some countries and give up their dealings with those countries. Secondly.....let it become known by all societies, federations, etc., that the stamps of X, Y, and Z countries will not be considered in any competitive exhibitions."

Member D (dealer). "I am only one dealer, but I am sure there are many who are as violently opposed to these issues from Paraguay, Haiti, Togo, etc., as any collector. The dealers as a body, through the ASDA, have already officially expressed support of the program to educate the collector not to seek out these issues. But I think it is wrong to suggest that collectors boycott or blacklist the dealers who handle them."

"If the collectors would not buy these issues, and particularly would not pressure their dealers to get them these 'scarce' issues; the dealers would not, in most cases, buy them. Without a doubt the real culprits are the offending governments and agencies who foist these issues on the public, not the misguided collectors who buy them or the in-between dealers who get these issues for their insistent customers."

".....let us concentrate on informing collectors not to buy these stamps no matter how 'limited' or 'scarce' they may be."

SPORTS and SCOUTS

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