NUMBER 6

FEBRUARY 1964

VOLUME 2

AN ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF OLYMPIC SKIING EVENTS

- Bob Bruce -

This article describes briefly the various skiing events which took place in the recent Winter Olympic Games at and near Innsbruck in the Tyrol section of Austria. Embarrassing as it must have been to the Austrian hosts, the weather turned against them. Not only did Austria suffer from a severe dearth of snow, but the Alpine "Foehm" wind added its deadly effect to the bright sunlight and warm temperatures. Austrian soldiers worked hard to haul in snow to maintain the various slopes, but the natural handicaps were almost too much to overcome.

Illustrations for this article are limited to stamps which have been prepared in actual commemoration of Winter Olympic Games. Obviously, only a few selected examples can be used. Some of our ski-enthusiast members can supply us with the complete check-list covering the entire gamut of Olympic issues related to skiing. Who will submit such a check-list for publication in a future issue of "JSP"?

Similarly, the range of Olympic material was inadequate to illustrate fully all types of skiing competition. Broadening the range to include all skiing material might have filled some of the gaps or have made the selected illustrations even more appropriate. Again our skiing collectors must have check-lists which cover the entire field. Who will offer this type of check-list for publication?

Olympic skiing is divided into two main divisions, Alpine and Nordic. Each of these has several competitive events. Let us consider each division in turn.

Alpine Events

Alpine skiing competition consists of the three races in which the skiers are lifted to the top of the mountain run and then ski down as fast as possible. The events here include downhill, slalom, and giant slalom. The winner of the Alpine combined is the contestant who has compiled the highest point total in the three Alpine events.



Downhill. A typical downhill course requires a controlled descent down a long, serpentine course. It has a limited number of gates (paired flags) which are placed strategically on the course to protect the contestants from serious hazards. Winners are determined by elapsed time; a single run determines each competitor's results. At Innsbruck the men's downhill course was nearly two miles long and dropped more than

was nearly two miles long and dropped more than half a mile from start to finish. There were eleven control gates.

Downhill racing involves breakneck speed; these skiers frequently reach speeds of seventy miles per hour. The downhill racer must possess endurance, sharp reflexes, and the courage to take calculated risks. He must be able to "read" the course and to take advantageous short cuts while avoiding over-hazardous ones. To cut wind resistance, downhill racers ski in a half-crouch position. The knees are pressed outward to make the entire surface of the ski remain in contact with the snow and the skier leans back slightly during his run.



The slalom calls for the competitor to pass through a succession of closely spaced gates. Here the emphasis is on making tight, controlled turns rather than on sheer speed. Unlike the downhill skier, the slalom contestant is more erect with skis close together to avoid straddling the flags of a gate. Short, narrow, light skis with sharp edges designed to bite into the icy crust are used for slalom racing.



The slalom requires two runs over different courses with the lowest combined time determining

the winner. Olympic rules require sixty-five to seventy-five gates for the men's course. At Innsbruck this course dropped 200 meters over the 470 meter course; this meant that approximately every twenty feet a slalom skier

might expect to meet a gate requiring a tight, sharp turn.



Giant slalom. The giant slalom combines the problems of downhill and slalom events. It is a controlled downhill race, requiring a highly developed blend of speed, daring, and technique. control gates are more numerous than in downhill racing, but are wider and spotted much farther Olympic rules demand at least thirty gates, apart. each from fifteen to twenty-five feet wide. As in the downhill competition, there is only one run.



Nordic Events

Nordic skiing consists of cross country and jumping. These include three cross country races (at each of fifteen, thirty, and fifty kilometers), a cross country relay race over a distance of forty kilometers, and two jumping events for men. In addition, there is a Nordic combined event involving a jump and a fifteen-kilometer race.



<u>Cross country.</u> Cross country racing is a grueling test of technique and endurance over twisting, undulating, wooded trails laid out so that approximately equal time is spent climbing, descending, and running on the flat. The contestants glide over the surface of the flat. snow, accelerating whenever possible with vigorous thrusts of their poles.



Cross country skis are thin and light and have flexible bindings to permit liberty for foot movement. Wax mixtures play a very important part in success in cross country skiing. Experienced cross country competitors keep elaborate records of the efficiency of the various waxes with regard to differences in snow, temperatures, etc.

The special fifteen-kilometer cross country course for the Nordic combined competition included a total climb of 592 meters with a maximum rise of 81 meters.

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Jumping. Ski jumping is perhaps the most spectacular of all ski competitions. It is scored on both form and distance. A typical skier may reach speeds of seventy miles per hour during his run down the take-off and he may soar as far as 300 feet through the air. These flights require acrobatic ability and perfect body control. To

robatic ability and perfect body control. To provide more stability in the air, special jumping skis are used; these are much heavier and longer than other racing skis. They have three grooves cut into their bottoms to give the skier

better traction on landing.

Modern technique has changed ski jumping into almost a form of soaring. At take-off the jumper leans forward until his body is nearly parallel to his skis with his arms flat against his

sides. This gives an airfoil effect, with the hands upthrust behind the hips serving as stabilizing fins and rudders.



Miscellaneous Events

Biathlon. First added to the Olympic program in 1960, the biathlon is a combination of skiing and rifle shooting. Competitors must traverse a typical twenty-kilometer cross country course. Enroute they





stop four times to test their marksmanship at firing ranges measuring 250, 200, 150, and 100 meters. Five shots are taken at pull targets on each range. At the first three ranges contestants have their

choice of shooting positions, but at the last they must shoot off-hand from a standing position.

The clock runs from start to finish of each contestant's race, even during the shooting phases. For each off-target shot the competitor draws a two-minute penalty which is added to his total running time. Each contestant carries his own rifle and ammunition around the course. Rifles must be unloaded and cannot be grounded before shooting. Telescopic sights and automatic weapons are forbidden.

The competitors, four from each nation, are sent off at two-minute intervals. They have been supplied, forty-eight hours in advance, with a course map showing the slope gradients, position of the ranges, etc. Pre-race firing practice on the course ranges is not permitted. At any point along the trail a skier must give way when overtaken by a competitor.

THE URUGUAYAN OLYMPIC SOCCER STAMPS

- Harold Wasserman -

In his article on the Jules Rimet World Cup stamps Scot Landy refers to the 1924 and 1928 stamps of Uruguay. These stamps, although still moderately priced, must be considered as "classics" in the area of Olympic stamps.

The victorious Uruguayan team of 1924, consisting of Mazali, Nasazzi, Arispe, Andrade, Urdinaran, Petrone, Cea, Vidal, Chierra, Scarone, and Romano, shut out Switzerland in the finals, 3-0. In 1928 more than half the members of the team were hold-overs from the 1924 team. Fernandez, Gestrido, Castoi, and Campola replaced the last four names above, while the first seven players were the same. They defeated Argentina in the final game, 2-1.







On July 29, 1924, Uruguay issued a set of three stamps (282-84) to commemorate the Paris Olympic Games victory. The design features Nike, the winged goddess of victory. The actual statue, now on display in the Louvre, was discovered in 1863 on the Island of Samothrace in the Aegean Sea. Despite

the mutilation (the statue has no head or arms), this marble sculpture is a magnificent showpiece.

The stamps were issued in sheets of twenty without any marginal inscriptions, plate numbers, or control numbers, except for the name of the printer, "Munoz y Cia., Montevideo", in the right-hand selvedge. The over-all size of the sheet, approximately 8 3/4 inches x 5 1/4 inches (similar to the sheets of Japan) makes it collectible in sheets for those collectors fortunate enough to find it.

Five hundred copies of the stamps were printed on yellow paper to be given to the participants and selected officials. These stamps were distributed in a special folder and without gum. Copies with gum and varying perforations are presumably printer's waste. Needless to say, genuine copies of these yellow-paper stamps are extremely rate.

The first special cancellation used for soccer occurred in Montevideo on the same occasion. It is a three-line cancellation reading "Uruguay/World Champion/of Soccer".

The second set (388-90) was issued on August 28, 1928. While the first set is distinguished for its classic simplicity, the second set is replete with symbols and allegory. The forefront is a soccer goal with the posts made out of tree stumps covered with blossoms. A tree trunk serves also as the crossbar on which rests a soccer ball with a bird on top of the ball. In the background is the rising sun.



These stamps were also issued in sheets of twenty, but whereas the first set was 5 x 4, these are 4 x 5 with a vertical gutter. Actually they should be considered panes of 2 x 5 as there is a duplicate control number at the top of each pane of ten, making two numbers on each sheet. The gutter, approximately 5/8 inches wide, makes horizontal pairs with a gutter between, a truly specialized item. In contrast to the first issue, these sheets have large selvedges. The over-all size of the sheet of twenty is approximately 6 3/4 inches by 7 inches.

Copies of these stamps pierced with a star or with a cross are officials. They are supposed to exist in used condition only. Copies with double piercings are known.

Both sets offer much opportunity for prize-winning display in Olympic competition, the first with its yellow-paper set and its special cancellation and the second with its gutter pairs and its official uses.

VIGNETTES (SEALS AND LABELS) FOR THE IX OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES, INNSBRUCK

- Irwin Bloomfield -



Since its selection as the host city for the Ninth Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck has been busy advertising itself and the coming Games to a sports-minded world. Illustrated above and to the left is a set of four decals, each multicolored, boosting Innsbruck and its coming attraction. (Editor's note: What is the significance of the small numerals, "1939", "1940", "1941", and "1945" in the corner of each decal? Are there others of these decals? Is there more, historically, to this series of decals than meets the eye immediately?)

Next is shown a set of three beautifully colored cloth patches woven in red, white, blue, gold, and black. Common to each patch is the phrase "IX Olympische Winterspiele 1964" ("IX Winter Olympic Games 1964") and the symbol of the City of Innsbruck. The center portion of the middle patch is actually the official symbol of the 1964 Winter Games.



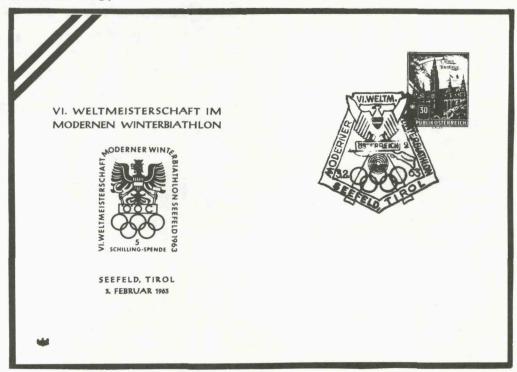




Innsbruck, the capital of the Tyrol region, was founded in 1239. The name means literally "Inn's Bridge" from the German "Die Brucke" ("bridge") and the River "Inn". This bridge over the Inn River has been closely linked with the development of the city and the symbol of the bridge is the basis for the city's coat-of-arms. In turn, this coat-of-arms is a key part of the official symbol for the coming Winter Games.

The April, 1963, issue of "JSP" (Page 10) illustrated yet another advertising device for the Innsbruck Games. This item was a ladies' cotton handker hief featuring the official symbol of the 1964 Games and surrounded by the official symbols of the eight preceding Winter Games.

The cover illustrated below has a special cancellation commemorating the Sixth World Biathlon Championship, which took place at Seefeld, Tyrol, on Feb. 3, 1963. Seefeld will be the site of the cross country skiing and biathlon competition in the 1964 Winter Olympics. As many of our readers know, the biathlon event combines cross country skiing with rifle shooting at moving targets at various ranges along the course; fatigue hinders the contestant's riflemanship, but there are severe time penalties for each target missed.



The vignette on the cover, which appears to be a cachet but actually is not, was issued in small sheets of ten for this biathlon event by the Austrian Olympic Committee in an effort to raise funds for the coming Olympic competition.

(Editor's note: This article was originally intended for inclusion in the January issue of "JSP"; space considerations prohibited. You will notice references to events now past as future events and some overlap in material with the lead article in this issue.)

- Scot Landy -

Although the world championships are played on a four-year basis and the Jules Rimet World Cup is considered the highest honor which any F.I.F.A. member can hope to attain, throughout the world other great competitions nourish the sport by keeping alive the high standards of interest at intercontinental level. Truly soccer is the world's greatest spectator sport.

The European Cup for the National Champions, which was first sponsored by the French newspaper, "L'Equipe", will eventually put this tournament on the same high pedestal as that enjoyed by the World Cup. Played on a yearly basis, it brings together the top teams of Europe. Recently (1963) Portugal issued a set of two honoring the Benfica Club of Lisbon which won the European Cup in two successive competitions in 1961 and 1962. The cover below is autographed by the members of the Benfica team. The signature to the right-middle of the cover is that of Sir Stanley Rous, the president of F.I.F.A.



But probably the greatest and most glamorous team of all is the fabulous Real Madrid from Spain. Its aging soccer immortal, the great Hungarian Ference Puskas Biro (frequently considered the greatest soccer player of all time), is still making his mark with his devastating displays of goal-scoring. Since its formation in 1955 Real has dominated the

European soccer scene by winning the trophy on five successive occasions, a record which will never be equalled. In its quest for further honors the Real club still searches for and signs the top stars from all over the world at fees running into millions of dollars.

In 1963 A. C. Milan broke the Iberian domination of Spain and Portugal by bringing the Cup to the Italian peninsula for the first time with a great victory over the Benfica from Lisbon at the Empire Stadium at Wembley in London. The commemorative card at the right is autographed by the members of this winning A. C. Milan team, whose stars formed the backbone of the Italian team in the 1962 Rimet competition in Chile.

Competitions of a lesser importance, such as the Central European Trophy, The Mitropa Cup, The Nations Cup, the National Cup, etc., all help in fostering the game by bringing together the great teams of Europe on a home-and-home basis, while in the Western Hemisphere the South American Championships are held every two years on a league basis.

with the birth of the many new African countries it is expected that by 1966 their persistent claims for membership in the F.I.F.A. must be given serious consideration and that their inclusion will cause the stamp issues to pour out in ever-increasing numbers. However, it is my firm conviction that the early issues honoring the Jules Rimet Trophy competitions, which were prepared in such small quantities, will eventually

dry up on the philatelic market as the game progresses with ever-increasing momentum throughout the universe.



Postscript. As a lead-up to the 1966 Rimet Cup Series, an Invitation Jubilee Tournament will be held in Brazil during 1964. There England, Italy, and Russia will join the

hos country in the "Little World Cup Tournament". These four teams represent the cream of the crop for the 1966 Rimet Cup competition. Rumor now has it that the English team will stop in the United States for a game while enroute to Brazil. This competition might well produce more soccer commemoratives, especially if Brazil or Russia should be the ultimate winner.

MINT Sports MINT

Indo China 241/242	.90	Blocks	\$ 3.60	VVA/V/
Nicaragua C296/308 Peru C78/81	,		11.75	LIST
Salvador 538/542, 543/5	47, 036/40, 041/45,	C53 (complete)	120 00	
Lebanon C244A Souvineer Lebanon C97/100 Imperfo			18.50	SERVICE
Dominican Republic 20 d	iff. Olympic shts.		25.00	CHICAGO CONTRACTOR
Dominican Republic 24 d Costa Rica 201/208, C57		th Semi-Postal ov	00 00	CARL A. MAGERL
Guinea 201/202, C24/26			27.50	NORTH WALES, PENNA.
Italian Colonies 46/50,		cot \$900	37.50	NORTH WALES, PENNA.
Mint Sports Collection-	issues to 1956, All C	comp, sets Cat, \$600	,00-305,00	

NEW ISSUES CALENDAR

- Barbara T. Williams -

November Addenda

- 8th Kuwait. Arab School Games. If multicolored (soccer); 4f multicolored (basketball); 5f multicolored (swimming); 8f multicolored (runners); 15f multicolored (javelin); 20f multicolored (pole vault); 35f multicolored (gymnast); and 45f multicolored (gymnast). Printed by photogravure by Harrison & Sons, Ltd., London. Quantity: 100,000 sets plus 100,000 extra of 15f and 20f. (Additional information)
- llth <u>Japan</u>. Olympic fund-raising issues (fifth series). 5y + 5y gray (field hockey); 5y + 5y blue gray (bicyclist); 5y + 5y plum (pistol marksman); and 5y + 5y yellow-green (horse and rider over hurdle). Printed in recessed engraving by Ministry of Finance Printing Bureau, Tokyo, from designs by Hotoshi Otsuka (field hockey), Hideo Hasebe (bicyclist), Marasu Kimura (pistol), and Minoru Hisano (riding). Quantities: 14,000,000 sets. (Additional information)
- Romania. Winter Olympic Games, Innsbruck. lOb orange and black (ski jumper); 20b blue and brown (speed skater); 40b green and brown (ice hockey); 55b violet and brown (figure skater); 60b orange-brown and blue (slalom skier); 75b rose and blue (biathlon); lL gold and black (two-man bobsled); l.20L aqua and blue (cross country skiing); and l.50L blue and red (stadium)(souvenir sheet). These stamps also exist in imperforate form, as does the souvenir sheet.
- 28th <u>Jugoslavia</u>. Commemorating "Art through the Centuries". 50d (equestrian from 15th century frieze at the Beram Church, Istria. Designed by Dragoljub Kasic and Stepan Fileki and printed in heliogravure by Courvoisier. Quantity: 1,750,000.

December Addenda

- llth Liberia. Winter Olympic Games, Innsbruck. 5¢ red and blue (skier and Olympic rings); 10¢ red and blue (winter mountain scene, torch, and Olympic rings); 25¢ blue and orange (winter scene and Olympic rings); 50¢ slate and red (winter scene, torch, and Olympic rings)(souvenir sheet).
- Nicaragua. Popular sports in Nicaragua; each stamp displays the Olympic rings. 2¢ (hands of a boxer); 3¢ (feet of a runner); 4¢ (skin diver); 5¢ (feet of a soccer player); 6¢ (baseball player's hands holding bat); 10¢ (hand holding tennis racket); 15¢ (bicyclist's legs); 20¢ (bicyclist's hands on handle-bar); 35¢ (chessmen and board); 60¢ (game fish); 1cor (table tennis paddle and net); 2cor (hands throwing basketball); 5cor (golf club and ball)(all airmail)(all multicolored). Printed in sheets of fifty by the Nippon Printing Co., Tokyo. Quantities: 1,000,000 (2¢-6¢), 500,000 (10¢), 250,000 (15¢-20¢ and 60¢), 400,000 (35¢), 300,000 (1cor), 100,000 (Continued on Page 10)

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Sec-Treas: Lawrence McMillan, 3261 Los Coyotes Blvd., Long Beach 8, California
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bill Stoms reports that the spring auction is shaping up reasonably well, but that he would be delighted to have more material, both consigned and donated. At present something over 150 lots is on hand. Old members will recall that this is not up to our usual standards. Since "JSP" has been delayed in publication and the news of the auction has not circulated as rapidly as it should have, I have asked Bill not to adhere rigidly to the closing date of February 15th. There is still time to get in your lots if you act now. But don't rely too strongly on Bill's leniency; he must finish the entire auction at a reasonable time in early summer. Address him at 2161A 36th St., Los Alamos, N. M.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find Larry McMillan's financial statement for SPI's first year of operation. In studying it, please bear in mind that a new organization incurs a great quantity of initial expenses for membership solicitation, routine printing, and experimentation on a variety of subjects. Most of these will not be recurrent. We are in quite sound financial condition, but perhaps any such organization qualifies for that judgment if it is barely solvent during its first year.

The report of the nominating committee and the ballots for your expression on its proposed slate should be included in the March issue of "JSP".

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

September 1, 1962-August 31, 1963

Receipts		
Members' dues	\$1635.51	
Donations	357.50	
Advertising income	346.60	
Proceeds of 1st Auction	717.07	
Proceeds of 2nd Auction	106.38	
Sale of back issues of "JSP"	69.20	
Total	\$3232.26	\$3232.26
Expenditures		
Printing of periodical	\$1880.47	
Mailing and postage	526.38	
Promotion and miscellaneous printing	680.07	
Total	\$3086.92	3086.92
Balance		\$145.34

There has been a general slackening of the pace at which good material for inclusion in future issues of "JPS" reaches the editor's desk. A bank of good material in reserve so that he can pick and choose widely is your editor's best guarantee of being able to offer a broad range of interesting and educational material in each issue of "JSP". Keep it

Now I have to get tough. I have occasionally suggested quietly in one way or another that Bill Brecht does the circulation of "JSP" and that questions concerning missing copies, publication dates, etc., should be addressed to him. Until now I have taken time to care for such matters by preparing mailing tabs for fresh copies and answering requests for information.

Now I find that I cannot care for such details and still give editing the time and concentration it needs. Effective immediately I shall not answer questions and complaints on circulation; such material will be collected and forwarded to Bill at my leisure. I am certain that you will get better satisfaction by writing directly to Bill at 694 Third Ave., New York 17, N. Y. (c/o Brecht and Holer, Inc.). Please be patient with your editor, his editorial staff, and Bill. We are doing our best, but cannot always maintain ex-And we do hope to get back our planned publication schedule afactly the pace desired. ter basketball season ends in early March!

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

Expiration of membership. Renew now or regret it later. The following memberships demand immediate attention:

> Nos. 371-393 Nos. 394-413 December 31st January 31st Nos. 414-431 February 29th

December meeting of SCOSC. Our Los Angeles affiliate devoted its December meeting to a Christmas party. Most members brought their families. Gifts were exchanged and re-In appreciation of their continued cooperation, the staff of Helms. freshments served. Hall was remembered by Santa Claus in the form of SCOSC.

Sports Stamp Study Society of New York. This active, but all too small, group meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month in the Collectors Club at 40 E. 35th St. in New York City. It is hard to understand why, with so many sports collectors living in greater New York, the attendance of this group is so comparatively small. In November, for example, seven of the tan members present showed something from their personal collections for their fellow-members. This exhibition included a wide range of excellent material. Certainly the programs are intereesting and educational. SSSSNY invites all interested sports collectors to its meetings.

Membership changes (to January 1st)

Additions:

541 Albrecht, Henry A., 74-08 Woodside Ave., Elmhurst, N. Y. 11373 (GS.O:C. S:E,S)

542 Brooks, Jack, c/o Bill Nickels, 1411 Jefferson, Houston, Tex. 77002

(Brazil and Mexico:C,S:GC,E,MC)
540 Jovanovich, Jovan, 147 W. 42nd St., New York 36, N. Y.
538 Sykes, James T., 2200 Braun Drive, Golden, Colo. 80401 (SK:chronologically:C)

539 Tolzmann, George, 5258 Loleta Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90041 (GS: :C)

Address changes:

412 Franke, Josef, Box 544, Goodland, Kan.

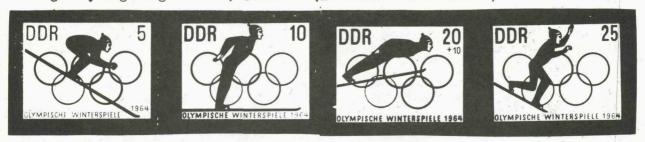
165 Jubb, Richard W., 3809 Kimble Road, Baltimore, Md. 21218 463 Loch, Thomas, 1322 Anacapa St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

477 Merritt, Miss Louise A., 5919 Chula Vista Way, Apt. 9, Hollywood, Cal.

Death:

(2cor), and 25,000 (5cor). (Additional information)

German Democratic Republic. Winter Olympic Games, Innsbruck. 5pf yellow (ski jumper); lOpf green (take-off for ski jump); 2Opf + lOpf red (ski jumper in flight); and 25pf blue (jumper landing)(all include Olympic rings in blue, yellow, green, red, and black). Printed in offset by VEB Deutsche Wertpapierdruckerei, Leipzig, from designs by Ingeborg Friedel, Berlin. (Additional information)



30th Poland. To honor horse breeding in Poland. 90g purple, brown, and yellow (jumpers). Printed in polychrome by rotogravure at the State Printing Works, Warsaw, from designs by Ludwik Maciag. Quantity: 5,000,000.

Forecast

Bulgaria. Winter Olympics. (400,000 sets)

Ethiopia. Olympic Games.

France. 1964 Olympic Games, Tokyo. (1)

Guinee. 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo. Scott 279-81 overprinted "COMMISSION PREPARA-TOIRE AUX JEUX OLYMPIQUES A CONAKRY". 40fr (279 overprinted); 50fr (280 overprinted); and 75fr (281 overprinted). Overprints occur in either red or yellow.

Paraguay. Winter Olympic Games. Innsbruck. 15¢ brown and red (ski jumper); 25¢ dark green and red (ski jumper); 30¢ lake and red (ski jumper); 40¢ olive and red (ski jumper); 50¢ dark blue and red (ski jumper); 12.45g black and red (emblem of the Games); 18.15g blue-green and red (emblem of the Games), 50.00g yellow-brown and red (emblem of the Games). Also souvenir sheet (50.00g--Olympic symbols and rings) The souvenir sheet also exists imperforate.

Poland. Winter Olympic Games, Innsbruck. 20g (ice hockey); 30g (slalom skier); 40g (downhill skier); 60g (woman speed skater); 1z (ski jumper); 2.50z (single-man bobsled); 5.60z (skier); and 6.50z (figure-skating pair)(all multicolored with Olympic rings). Printed by the State Printing Works of Security, Warsaw, from designs by Franciszek Winiarski. Quantities: from six millions of low values to one million of high values.



PHILATELIC MARKET REPORT

- Fred Farr -

Tip of the month--Peru 1956 Olympic Games set and souvenir sheet. In 1948 Peru issued 30,000 sets of airmail stamps (C78-81) and a similar quantity of souvenir sheets (C8la) in honor of the Summer Olympic Games held at Wembley, England. Many of the sets and sheets were not sold, however, and remained in the archives of the Peruvian Postal Administration. In 1956 these stamps and sheets were overprinted with "Melbourne 1956" and finally permitted to do postal duty for just one day in order to make the issue legitimate. Scott's catalogue notes the existence of these items, but does not list or price them.

11,354 sets can exist—this is less than the total number of sets of Peru C78-81, which sells for \$25.00 when available. Despite their scarcity, dealers sell this overprinted set for only \$3.00. The souvenir sheet exists in a quantity of 8,297 non-overprinted sheets, selling for \$35.00, and 21,703 overprinted sheets, selling for about \$3.50. Interestingly enough, the world's largest wholesalers of postage stamps offer \$5.00 for either the set or the souvenir sheet! I hope that you have these items in your collection now.

Jugoslavia 564-71. This interesting set was issued to honor the 17th Olympiad held in Rome in 1960. As is usual with so many recent Jugoslavian sports sets, the designs of the eight stamps comprising this set depict stylized drawings of athletes in action, and not everyone is clever enough to figure out what these stylized drawings really represent. Currently this set is available from two well-known dealers for only \$1.25 although the wholesale price is one dollar more! Better get your set before the inevitable rise occasioned by the 18th Olympiad in Tokyo this year.

Finland B69-73. Issued in 1945, this set runs the gamut from skiing and javelin throwing to sprinting, gymnastics, and wrestling. With such vibrant designs and with an edition of only 700,000 complete sets, this set is justly popular. After all, Finland is not one of those nations which issues stamps primarily to milk the col-









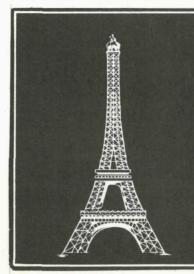


lector's pocketbook. Currently this set is available at retail for 30¢ or 35¢, but it costs even more at wholesale. Can't go wrong on this set, can you? Incidentally, don't refuse to buy an unused set simply because it appears to be gumless—the gum on these stamps was made of transparent potato paste, hence these stamps appear to be without gum.

Dutch New Guinea 43-4. Frankly, I don't know whether or not you include this set in your collection, but these two stamps were issued to promote road safety and they each include (as part of the design) a road sign which shows a boy and girl running. Of course, you have to look closely to see it, but these sprinting children are really included on these stamps. Currently cataloguing only 45¢, they are available for about 35¢ from your dealer. Remember, this country has now ceased to exist—having been incorporated into Indonesia—no further stamps can be forthcoming from this dead country. So, if you want this set, you'd better get it now.

New Zealand B18-9. In 1939 New Zealand issued a set of two semi-postal stamps which were overprinted "1941" and sold in that year as a means of disposing of the unsold remainders. Only 349,435 sets were sold, although the face value was only 7 % in U.S. currency. This set now retails for 40 % from one nationally-known dealer although another dealer asks 55 % for this same set. Interestingly enough, 55 % is the current wholesale price for this set. Very interesting, isn't it?

Bulgaria 1094. The stamp presses in Sofia continue to grind out new stamps as fast as paper can be fed into the presses. Occasionally, however, one of these modern Bulgarian stamps turns out to be a fine investment, as is the case with this stamp. Issued in 1960 to commemorate the 8th Winter Olympic Games at Squaw Valley, California, this handsome stamp depicts a long distance skier. Some 400,000 copies of this stamp were issued; it is available for 20% to 30% retail and at 25% wholesale--obviously the price will soon rise as the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo bring renewed purchasing of this stamp by collectors who have decided to collect Olympiana on stamps. This stamp also exists imperforate,



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Italy 773-77. As the host country to the 17th Olympiad Italy issued this attractive set of five stamps in 1959, intending them to be used as advance propaganda for this event. Strangely enough, it would appear that this set was really intended to beguile the tourist rather than the sportsman, because each value of this set depicted an ancient Roman monument, not one of which had anything to do with sports. Currently this set may be purchased as cheaply as 55ϕ , although it wholesales for upwards of 80ϕ . The affluent collector will want this set in gutter pairs or gutter blocks, which are still available at a reasonable price from dealer-specialists in stamps of the Italian area. Buy now; these stamps will never be any cheaper.



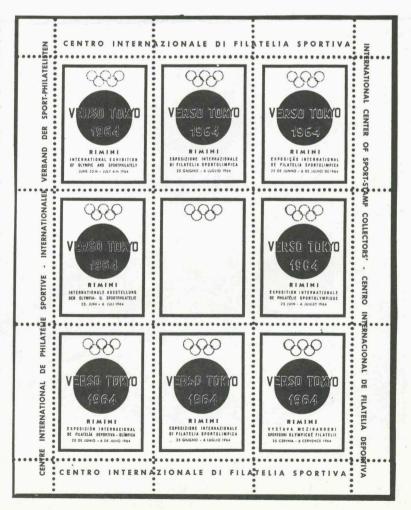
Compiler's note: The compiler of this column would appreciate having readers inform him of any sports stamps which they have found to be extremely elusive or impossible to obtain. Is there any sports stamp that you searched for but have been unable to obtain? Do you know of any sports stamps selling for many times their catalogue value? If so, write to Fred Farr, 19 Hillside Road, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208. All such data will be printed in this column unless you give specific directions to the contrary. Won't you please share your information with your fellow-collectors?

OLYMPIANA

Interesting sheet of Through Olech Wyslotsky, Nino Barberis (SPI 244) of Milan, Italy, has supplied the interesting sheet of seals illustrated to the right. printed in red-orange and black, while the Olympic rings are in gold. It announces an international exhibition of sports and Olympic philately to be held in Rimini, Italy, in June and July, 1964, and calls further attention to the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964. The center seal in the sheet is embossed with a discus thrower. of the eight outside seals is printed in a different language.

So far, so good. In the margin appears the inscription "International Center of Sport-Stamp Collectors" in five languages. The center seal also has the four letters "CIFS" ("Centro Internazionale Di Filatelia Sportiva") embossed on either side of the discus thrower. To date the explanatory information concerning this organization has not come in from Milan. Can anyone shed authoritative light on this group pending complete information from Nino? R.M.B.

(Editor's note: Since this copy was prepared, further information has arrived from Nino Barberis concerning the sheet of seals. Space prohibits the inclusion of this information here; it will appear in an early issue of "JSP". But we welcome any additional information in the meantime.)



Further explanation of the cut in the Summer Olympic program for 1968. The sports to be included in each Olympic Games are approved by the International Olympic Committee which considers the recommendations of the Organizing Committee for the Games. The Tokyo Organizing Committee recommended to the IOC that judo and volleyball be placed on the program in lieu of canoeing and the modern pentathlon. The TOC's reason for requesting the addition of judo is easily understood. Judo was originated and developed in Japan and there are some four million Japanese competitors who belong to 20,000 judo clubs. Of the thirty-seven other nations which compete in this sport, the Republic of Korea has the next largest numbers of competitors and clubs (415,000 and 629) with France having the third largest. The United States is a poor seventh with 50,000 competitors and five hundred clubs.

Although it had been agreed at the 50th Session of the IOC, held in Rome in 1960, to add judo to the 1964 program, the final vote took place at the 58th Session in Athens in June, 1961. A total of twenty-two sports were listed on the ballot issued to members of the IOC. These included the eighteen which had been contested at the last four Olympics (basketball, boxing, canoeing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, field hockey, gymnastics, modern pentathlon, rowing, shooting, soccer, swimming, track and field, water polo, weight lifting, wrestling, and yachting); archery and handball, which had rarely been contested; and the two proposed additions, judo and volleyball. Each member was asked to cross out the sports he did not want to be contested in Tokyo. European and South American countries fought to retain canoeing and modern pentathlon. Most of the members deleted archery and handball. So, a total of twenty sports were approved—the eighteen held at Rome and judo and volleyball, which will be held for the first time in Tokyo.

At the 59th Session of the IOC held at Moscow in June, 1962, it was decided to return to eighteen sports in 1968. The decision as to which sports would be dropped was to be made at the 60th meeting. Otto Mayer, Chancellor of the IOC, favored dropping basketball and soccer, which he believed were tainted with professionalism. However, at the 60th meeting held in October, 1963, at Baden-Baden, West Germany, it was decided to drop judo and volleyball from the 1968 program. This will return the program to the eighteen sports which were contested regularly since 1948.

Obviously the local interest of the country in which an Olympic Games was to be held used to be considered by the IOC in approving the addition of sports to the program. This was particularly true prior to 1948 when the number of sports changed at each Olympic Games all the way back to 1904. But the program appeared to have become stabilized since 1948 with the same eighteen sports appearing for four Olympiads. Why the IOC weakened this time, we don't know. In the interest of continuity of preparation and national development of an established schedule of sports, we hope that there is no indiscriminate tampering with the schedule in the future. S.G.

* * *

"Discobolus". The classic portrayal of the discus thrower is one of the most popular of all sports symbols. It is featured on such Olympic stamps as Greece 119 and 120, Belgium B48, United States 719, Peru C80, and Liberia 359.

In the classic version the athlete is depicted at the climax of his throw, with every muscle tense, just before the body has swung into its forward movement and the discus is hurled. (It is not the purpose of this article to discuss the various styles of discus throwing. "The Encyclopedia Britannica" contains a good summary of the arguments regarding the Greek style.)

Some non-Olympic stamps which portray "Discobolus" are those of Costa Rica B2 and B5,

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Colombia 422, Dominican Republic 326-28, Bulgaria 354, Romania B279 and B284, Panama RA35, San Marino 327, and Syria C45-6. "The Discus Thrower" is also included as part of the design on Romania B217-18 and United States 979. Incidentally, the first stamp to feature a modern discus thrower not in the tradition of "Discobolus" is that of Colombia 447.

The original representation of this athlete is one of the finest statues in the world. It was made by the Greek sculptor Myron, who called it "Discobolus" ("The Discus Thrower"). Myron, born in Boeotia, was one of the greatest sculptors of his time. Besides "Discobolus" he made three statues of victorious athletes. Most of his work (about 450-444 B.C.) dramatizes his interest in physical form and figures in movement. The original statue of "The Discus Thrower", which was made in bronze, has been lost. Beautiful replicas exist, including the marble copy in the Vatican.

More about the Olympic rings. The first sports stamps to show the five rings were the two stamps of Portugal issued in 1928, RA14 and RAJ5. RA14, the 15 centavos dull red and black stamp featuring a hurdler, was required as an additional stamp on all mail sent on May 22nd through 24th, 1928. Part of the proceeds from the use of this compulsory stamp went to the Postal Administration. The balance was to be used to send the Portuguese team to the 9th Olympic Games to be held in Amsterdam.

If the sender did not use the special tax stamp in addition to the

regular postage during this period, RAJ5, the 30 centavos light red and black with the decorative background, was applied as a postal tax due, as a double penalty.

Incidentally, it should be obvious that covers bearing both the stamps are clear-cut forgeries, since the postage due stamp could not legitimately be applied if the obligatory stamp were already on the cover. Also, both Landmans and Schmidt-Schneider give April 30, 1928, as the first day of issue for RA14, which would be possible; but RAJ5 could not, of course, be used officially until May 22nd. H. W.

U. S. placings in the Winter Olympic Games. Our only gold medal was won by Terry Mc-Dermott in the men's 500-meter speed skating. Silver medals were won by Billy Kidd in the men's slalom and Jean Saubert in the women's giant slalom. Jimmy Heuga in the men's slalom, Jean Saubert in the women's slalom, and Scott Allen in the men's figure skating came through with bronze medals. The 1964 Olympic championship winner's medal, designed by Martha Coufal of Vienna, are shown below.



APS black blot for several Winter Olympic sets? Editor Jim Chemi of "The American Philatelist" will make this point in the March issue of his periodical. Nations not interested enough to participate in the Winter Games but persisting in issuing special stamps for the Games could be assessed a black blot under Point Four of the APS Educational Program—no direct relationship to the issuing country. Not a single African nation competed in the recently completed games, but some have already issued commemorative sets!

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