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MAY 1965

VOLUME 3

CANOE SPORTS ON STAMPS

Han Egon Vesper, Editor of "Kanu-Sport"

(Your editor has quite frequently had the desire to make a report of a collection of postage stamps and postmarks which show cance sports as its theme. We present today the first part dealing with postage stamps and a second part, which will appear in the near future, will show postmarks honoring German cance championships and international events under the title, "Sport Postmarks as Documents".)

When the first postage stamps appeared almost 150 years ago nobody believed them capable of influencing the postal system or surmised the importance which would be attached to these pretty little pictures by the many millions of collectors in all the countries of the world.

At first illustrations of crowned heads, numerals, and heraldic and allegorical figures and very little else were depicted on these postage stamps. This changed very rapidly, however, when it became apparent that these stamps, although quite small, were a significant medium for publicity and propaganda. Since then we find every aspect of our existence portrayed on our postage stamps.

Included -- since sports have assumed increased importance in modern society in this century -- is the depiction of various types of sporting events. The introduction of stamps with a sports theme was made by Greece in 1896 with an issue commemorating the re-establishment of the ancient Olympic Games. The stamps were limited to the classical portrayal of the sporting life of the Greeks.

Since that time over one hundred countries have followed the example of Greece and more than 2,000 sport stamps have been issued. They picture all the well-known sports and, because of their beauty and partly because of their completely artistic designs, have become one of the most popular areas of topical collecting. Even though the stamps commemorating the Olympic Games form the foundation for all collections of sports stamps, there are many other specialized areas and the one of special interest to us is cance sport.

Due to the special features of canceing--it can be divided into various sporting events--one must refrain from employing a geographic or chronological arrangement. We have stamps which illustrate races in kayaks and Canadian-canoes, canoe slalom and white-water races, and also, though seldom and few, water travel.

Hungary issued what is probably the prettiest kayak stamp (1160) on the occasion of the XVI Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956 and Jugoslavia responded with a very stylized stamp (462). Surprisingly, no kayak stamps were issued for the next Olympic Games in spite of the fact that a greater number of Olympic stamps were issued. In 1961 Poland issued three stamps commemorating the VI European Canoe Championships. One stamp (1006) shows two single-man kayaks, a second (1007) shows two four-man kayaks, and the third (1008) shows a paddle with an "E" symbolizing a unified Europe. A year later Romania issued a complete set of water-sport stamps; the twenty-bani value (1479) shows a racer in a single-man kayak. Cuba, to the surprise of everybody, included a kayak racer in its mammoth set of stamps issued in 1962 promoting sport for its people. The Canoe Society of



Cuba is a member of the International Canoe Federation. What the postal administration of the Republic of Guinea had in mind when it issued, in 1963, stamps of two, twenty, and five hundred francs value (283, 288, and C46) showing kayak competitors can only be labeled pure commercialism.

In contrast to the six kayak issues, there are ten Canadian-canoe stamps, half of which are Romanian. 1952 Czechoslovakia issued the first Canadian-canoe stamp (542) showing a two-man team in a set of stamps publicizing Czechoslovakia's physical education unified France followed a program. year later -- similarly a twoman Canadian-canoe (703)--in a series honoring French Olympic champions in 1952 in Helsinki. Here George Tur-lier and Jean Laudet had won the gold medal in the 10,000meter two-man canoe race. Only Romania brought out a stylized single-man Canadiancanoe stamp (1119) for the XVI Olympic Games, but four years later for the Games in (1117 and Rome Bulgaria 1123), Romania (for the second time)(1335), and Russia (2367) included a Canadianstyle cance in their Olympic

In 1957 (actually 1961-editor's note) Romania honored its gold medal winners at Melbourne in a special series of stamps. highest value of 1.75 lei (1457) shows Canadian-canoe competitors as their most successful Olympic participants. The large rectangular stamp shows appropriately the gold medals of Melbourne and two one-man Canadian-canoes and one two-man Canadian-canoe. In 1958 Czechoslovakia issued a special stamp (842) showing single-man Canadian-canoes in a race to com-memorate the IV World Canoe Championships held in Prague. In 1962 in the water-sports series mentioned above, Romania included a stamp (1478) which shows singleman Canadian-canoes in a racing scene.

In contrast to these groups, the number of stamps showing the canoe slalom and white-water rac-

NR BULGARIA



R-P-ROMINA

ing is very small. On the occasion of the VII World Canoe-Slalom Championships and the II World White-Water Racing Championships held in Hainesberg near Dresden, the German Democratic Republic post office issued three special stamps. One stamp (560) shows a one-man collapsible boat, another (561) shows a one-man Canadian-canoe, and the third (562) shows a two-man Canadian-canoe. All these stamps show the boats going through slalom gates. Romania in its water-sport set of 1962 portrays a two-man Canadian-canoe in the slalom (1845) although prior to this we had not seen Romanian slalom competitors. There are no white-water racing stamps but the German Democratic Republic includes in its series of

ESKOSLOVENSKO:

September, 1963, honoring anti-fascist sportsmen, a stamp (BllO) bearing the portrait of Kurt Biedermann and another which portrays him as a white-water racer. Up to now nothing more can be learned about Biedermann (1902-42).



Thus we come to the last area of the sport of canoeing-if we do not consider canoe sailing which has not been depicted on stamps-we at ertravel or wandering. Here we



have only two older stamps; a 1948 set of stamps issued by the Netherlands for the benefit of child selfare shows a young boy in a paddle boat (Bl89) and one year later Russia selected a two-man boat on a river journey as the theme for a stamp (1377) in a peoples-sport issue.

The West German postal authorities have issued no stamps showing the sport of canoeing. Actually the Minister of Postal Affairs has completely ignored the sport in all its aspects—be it the health of the nation through physical activity of the young people, as a unifying force everywhere within the borders of the country, or in recognition of commendable performances or events of world-wide importance. So it was no wonder that the postal authorities refused—replying to a request with a mimeographed form letter—the application of the City of Essen and the German Canoe Association for a special stamp to pub-

licize the scheduled World Canoe Championships in Essen in August of 1962.

Thus, in order to show the sport of canoeing on stamps, even though the largest canoe club is in the German Republic, it is necessary to collect the stamps of East Europe, Cuba, and Guinea!

(Editor's note: This article originally appeared in the December 16, 1963, issue of the German periodical "Kanu-Sport" and is reprinted in our "JSP" with the permission of its author and editor, Hans Egon Vesper. A great debt of gratitude is owed to Dr. Arthur J. Wendler (SPI 62) of the Physical Education Department of the State University of Iowa for his translation of the original article. With one exception the illustrations for the reprint have been arranged just as they appeared in the original article.)

NEW ISSUES CALENDAR

- Barbara T. Williams -

January Addenda

- 18th Guinea. 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo. 5fr (weight lifters and children of three races); 10fr (torch runner); 25fr (pole vault); 40fr (runners); 50fr (judo); 75fr (girls in Japanese costume and stadium); and 100fr (Japanese girl and transport plane). Also 200fr and 300fr souvenir sheets showing Japanese scenes with a border of birds and leaves in the manner of old Japanese prints. Sets exist both perforate and imperforate. Printed by the Spanish State Mint, Madrid. (Additional information)
- Lebanon. 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo. 2.50p magenta, greenish blue, and black (swimmer); 7.50p slate green, maroon, and brown (fencer); 10p indigo, brown, and green (basketball); 15p slate green and black (equestrian); 25p green and purple (target shooting); and 40p orange brown and indigo (gymnast). Also an imperforate souvenir sheet containing the 15p, 25p, and 40p values. Engraved by Durrens and Combet and printed by the Paris State Printing Office. Quantities: 150,000 sets and 25,000 souvenir sheets. (Additional information)

February Addenda

15th <u>Guinea</u>. 20¢, 40¢, 60¢, 80¢, 1fr, 15fr, 20fr, 60fr, 80fr, 100fr, and 300fr (various

4 NEW ISSUES CALENDAR (Cont'd)

dancers and dance masks). Printed by photogravure.

- 16th Turkey. 50th anniversary of Turkish Aviation League. 60k light blue, black, red, and yellow (parachutist) and 90k bistre and multicolored (glider). Designed by Burhand Ozak and printed by Guzel Sanatlar Prho, Istanbul. Quantity: 400,000 sets. (Additional information)
- 25th Haiti. All overprinted "+5¢"--10¢ light blue and dark brown (weight lifter); 25¢ salmon and dark brown (same as 10¢); 50¢ pale rose lilac and dark brown (hurdlers); 50¢ pale lilac and dark brown (same as 10¢); 50¢ pale green and dark brown (same as 50¢); 75¢ buff and dark brown (same as 50¢); and 1.50g gray and dark brown (same as 50¢). Also souvenir sheet of two 50¢ issues, 75¢, and 1.50g overprinted "+25¢".

March Addenda

- 15th <u>Liberia</u>. Liberian Boy Scouts. 5¢ brown and blue (boy scout salute); 10¢ ochre and dark green (bugle); and 25¢ red and blue (liberian flag). Also souvenir sheet containing 50¢ gold and purple (globe).
- 22nd Philippines. 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo. Imperforate version of the set listed in February issue of "JSP" (Page 15).
- 30th Adu Dhabi. Second anniversary of the postal service. 20np (falconry); 40np (same as 20np); and 2r (same as 20np). Designed by Victor Whitely and printed in sheets of 100 by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London.

April Addenda

- lst Germany. Youth Day. 10pf + 5pf (Eurasian Woodcock); 15pf + 5pf (ring-necked pheas-ant); 20pf + 10pf (black grouse); and 40pf + 20pf (capercaillis). Designed by Paul Fruitzheim and printed in off-set by the Bundesdruckerei, Berlin.
- 5th <u>Turkey</u>. Tourish attractions. 30k (beach at Oron) and 130k (beach at Alanya). Printed in off-set.
- 30th Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. 13th East African Safari Rally. 30¢ multicolored (Safari Rally emblem); 50¢ multicolored (same as 30¢); lsh/30¢ multicolored (Safari Rally car); and 2sh/50¢ (same as lsh/30¢). Printed in sheets of 100 by photogravure by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London. (Additional information)

May

15th San Marino. 48th Cycling Tour of Italy. 30L, 70L, and 200L (all cyclists).

Current

Bulgaria. Bulgarian winner at 18th Olympic Games, Tokyo. 20st black, gold, and copper (stylized gold medal and inscription). Designed by Stoyan Sotirova. Printed in photogravure. Quantity: 150,000. (Additional information)

Japan. "jo No Mai" dancer.

Russia. World Ice Hockey Championship, Finland. 4k blue, red, and black (hockey players.

Russia. World Figure Skating Championship. 6k green, red, and black (man and woman figure skaters).

Forecast

Bulgaria. 9th World Youth Championships in Algeria. (1st, 2st, and 13st)

Bulgaria. Horse racing. (1st, 2st, 3st, 5st, 10st, 13st, 40st, and 20st souvenir sheet)

Bulgaria. Sporting championships. (1st, 2st, 3st, 5st, 10st, and 13st)

Italy. World Sailing Championships.

Japan. 20th National Athletic Meeting.

Togo. African sports.

Lot Numbers, Realizations, and Number of Bids

441 442	1.15 8 1.00 4	526 527		0.40 3 1.60 7	0.40 3 611 1.60 7 612	0.40 3 611 1.30 1.60 7 612 1.00	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 1.60 7 612 1.00 4	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 696 1.60 7 612 1.00 4 698	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 696 4.50 1.60 7 612 1.00 4 698 0.65	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 696 4.50 7 1.60 7 612 1.00 4 697 1.00 5	1.60 7 612 1.00 4 698 0.65 1 783	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 696 4.50 7 781 0.30 3 1.60 7 612 1.00 4 697 1.00 5 782 1.60 1	0.40 3 611 1.30 3 696 4.50 7 781 0.30 3 866 1.60 7 612 1.00 4 697 1.00 5 782 1.60 1 867 698 0.65 1 783 0.65 1 868
443 444 445 446 447 448 449	4.25 8 0.40 7 0.70 5 1.20 6 2.25 8 1.00 5 0.50 3	528 529 530 531 532 533 534	6.00 4 1.00 3 1.10 5 0.20 2 5.75 7 4.25 9 1.85 5	613 614 615 616 617 618 619	0.55 0.45 0.50 1.20 1.00 0.05 1.05	3 4 3 4 3 1	699 700 701 702 703 704	0.25 0.60 0.75 3.00 30.00 3.30 0.65	3 4 1 6 8 5	784 785 786 787 788 789 790	1.40 1 1.05 3 nb nb nb 1.00 3 0.65 1	869 870 871 872 873 874 875	
450 451 452 453 454 455 456	0.90 4 2.50 3 0.45 1 2.10 3 0.15 3 2.50 5 3.25 7	535 536 537 538 539 540	0.45 4 0.35 2 0.26 4 2.80 4 0.85 4 0.30 2 0.30 2	620 621 622 623 624 625 626	0.25 0.80 0.65 1.20 0.80 0.40	3	705 706 707 708 709 710 711	0.80 0.40 1.00 0.60 0.10 1.50	2 3 7 4 4 5	791 792 793 794 795 796 797	0.40 1 0.65 1 1.00 1 1.25 2 0.25 2 1.70 6	876 877 878 9 79	
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945	0.45	3	98	9 0.35	1	1033	0.70	2	1077	0.45	2	1121	0.10	1	11	65	0.20	1
945	0.21	4	99			1034	1.75	3	1078	0.65	1	1122	0.20	2	11		0.20	1
947		1	99			1035	0.75	3	1079	0.60	2	1123	0.70	4	11		0.20	1
948		4	99			1036	0.75	2	1080	1.85	3	1124	0.20	2	11		0.30	3
949		3	99			1037	2.60	2	1081	0.45	1	1125	0.20	2	11		1.00	2
950		1	99			1038	1.15	3	1082	1.65	1	1126	0.20	2	11		0.10	1
951	2.65	1	99			1039	0.50	3	1083	0.30	2	1127	0.10	1	11		1.00	2
952	3.70	5	99			1040	1.75	3	1084	0.40	1	1128	0.10	ī	11		0.20	1
953	4.50	5	99			1041	1.75	2	1085	2.10	4	1129	0.20	1	11		0.20	1
954	0.50	6	99			1042	0.45	3	1086	0.50	1	1130	0.70	3	11		0.10	1
955	0.20	4	99			1043	1.75	3	1087	0.20	ī	1131	0.70	3	11		0.10	1
956	0.10	1	100			1044	0.70	4	1088	0.90	1	1132	0.70	3	11		1.10	2
957	0.40	5	100		2	1045	0.80	4	1089	0.30	ī	1133	0.30	2	11		1.10	2
958	0.35	3	100		1	1046	1.25	2	1090	0.25	2	1134	0.30	3	11		1.00	2
959	0.50	3	100		2	1047	0.45	3	1091	0.90	1	1135	0.30	3	11		1.00	2
960	0.95	5	100		3	1048	0.35	2	1092	7.00	5	1136	0.30	3	11		1.00	2
961	0.45	4	100		.1	1049	0.35	2	1093	3.50	2	1137	0.20	1	11		0.65	1
962	0.40	3	100		3	1050	1.75	2	1094	0.65	1	1138	0.20	1			16.00	8
963	0.10	2	100		1	1051	1.75	2	1095	26.00	6	1139	0.15	1	11		4.50	5
964	0.15	2	100		2	1052	0.70	2	1096	20.00	6	1140	0.10	1	11		3.60	5
965	3.10	6	100		1	1053	13.00	3	1097	0.80	3	1141	0.10	1			10.50	6
966	0.90	1	101		4	1054	1.15	3	1098	4.50	6	1142	0.10	1	11		1.60	3
967	1.35	5	101		1	1055	21.00	5	1099	0.30	2	1143	0.10	1			12.00	6
968	0.65	2	101		2	1056	2.15	1	1100	0.35	3	1144	0.20	1	11	88	6.50	5
969	0.35	4	101	0.10	1	1057	2.75	2	1101	0.25	3	1145	0.20	1	11	89	6.00	6
970	0.30	1	101		2	1058	0.85	4	1102	0.25	2	1146	0.20	1	11	90	145.00	8
971	0.35	1	1019	0.35	1	1059	0.70	4	1103	0.25	2	1147	0.20	1	11	91	W	
972	0.25	2	101	0.80	1	1060	0.45	2	1104	0.25	3	1148	0.30	2	11	92	130.00	10
973	1.20	3	101	0.10	1	1061	2.75	3	1105	0.15	2	1149	0.25	2	119	93	4.50	4
974	1.00	1	101	2.25	6	1062	0.30	1	1106	0.15	2	1150	0.25	2	11	94	8.00	5
975	0.85	5	1019		2	1063	1.15	1	1107	0.25	3	1151	0.30	2	11	95	8.00	5
976	0.45	4	1020		2	1064	2.15	1	1108	0.20	2	1152	0.45	1	119		2.00	3
977	3.20	5	102		1	1065	0.45	2	1109	0.20	2	1153	0.10	1			24.00	9
978	2.00	3	1022		1	1066	2.65	1	1110	0.50	2	1154	0.10	1	11		8.50	4
979	2.00	3	1023		2	1067	2.15	1	1111	0.20	1	1155	0.30	1			32.00	4
980	1.80	3	1024		1	1068	2.35	5	1112	0.20	1	1156	0.30	1	120	00	13.00	8
981	0.25	1	1025		2	1069	7.00	6	1113	0.20	1	1157	0.30	1				
982	0.10	1	1026		3	1070	7.00	3	1114	0.40	1	1158	0.40	1				
983	0.15	2	1027		4	1071	0.10	1	1115	0.45	3	1159	0.25	1				
984	0.20	1	1028	0.45	1	1072	0.40	2	1116	0.20	2	1160	1.20	3				
985	0.85	3	1029	0.50	2	1073	0.40	2	1117	0.20	2	1161	1.00	2				
986	1.10	3	1030		1	1074	0.25	2	1118	0.45	1	1162	0.25	1				
987	0.15	2	1031	0.70	2	1075	0.20	2	1119	0.35	1	1163	0.60	2				
988	36.00	5	1032	0.70	2	1076	0.20	2	1120	0.60	4	1164	0.20	1				

FORGERIES OF COSTA RICA C145-47

- Henri Trachtenberg -

On April 27, 1947, Costa Rica overprinted with new values the three-stamp soccer series of February, 1946. In addition to the normal versions, "Scott" lists varieties with inverted surcharges and, in the case of the low value (Cl45), a double surcharge with one line inverted.



Cl45 with inverted overprint is very scarce and forgeries have appeared on the market frequently during the past few years. For some time they were offered regularly in auction as no one even suspected that these recent issues would tempt the forgerer!



The forged overprint can be recog-

nized easily even without a certified copy of the original as a basis for comparison. On the genuine stamp the top line measures 26 mm and the bottom line 30mm, while on the forgery both lines measure 28 mm. It is that easy!

So, if you have the inverted overprint in your collection, take our your album and check your property for legitimacy.

(Editor's note: Our author, Henri Trachtenberg (SPI 127) would be pleased to hear from members who have definitely identified forgeries of sports stamps or suspected forgeries in their collections. Address him at 115 rue Hoche, Ivry (Seine), France.)

CLASSFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Harry Johnson, 2235 Azure St., Eugene, Ore. 97401: Need singles for specialized collection? Have available a sizeable number of broken sets and will sell stamps individually-perfs and imperfs, mint and unhinged. Send want list and make offer for each stamp desired. Many 1964 Olympic issues and older Hungary imperfs.

(The classified advertising rate is 2¢ per word; name and address are free. copy and remittance to Robert M. Bruce, 1457 Cleveland Road, Wooster, Ohio.) Send SERVICES

Exhibiting opportunity in up-state New York. Cleon A. Morey, General Chairman of UNIPEX '65, has extended a cordial invitation to SPI member to exhibit sports material on October 15, 16, and 17, 1965. The exhibition is sponsored by the Niagara Frontier Federation of Stamp Clubs and the Federation of Central New York Philatelic Societies. It will be held at the Utica Memorial Auditorium in Utica, N. Y. Details may be obtained from Mr. Morey, RD #1, Verona, N. Y.

APS black blot information. It is entirely possible that one or two errors of timing have crept into this category of material in the April issue of "JSP". I am not absolutely certain even now that what follows is completely accurate, but here is a report on the latest judgements by the APS against sports stamps.

In its January issue APS fired a big salvo at those countries which do not participate in the Olympic Games, but turn their printing presses loose to honor the Games (and to turn a tidy profit at the expense of unwary collectors). The Olympic issue of Bhutan was slapped for no direct relationship to the issuing country; this included both the perforate stamps and sounvenir sheets. The souvenir sheets also received an extra black mark as intentionally included oddities. Burundi's Olympic offerings of ten perforate stamps and two souvenir sheets (one perforate and one imperforate) were assessed for excessive length, no direct relationship to the issuing countries, and intentionally included oddities. Also judged harshly were the eighteen Olympic stamps (nine perforate and nine imperforate) of Fujeira as excessively long, including unwarranted high values, and without relationship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included odditionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included odditionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included odditionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included odditionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included printing and intentionally included odditionship to the issuing country (also limited printing and intentionally included printing and inten oddities, in addition, for the imperforate values). Only 3,000 sets of the imperforate issue were reported. Overprinting of five values of Qatar's definitive series (including the two highest values) in commemoration of the Olympic Games was cited as inclusion of unwarranted high values and no direct relationship to the issuing country. Finally, the seven-stamp set from Umm al Qiwain for the Olympics is black-blotted since the sheikdom did not participate in the Games. In addition, the 4,000 imperforate sets of the stamps, the 12,000 perforate souvenir sheets, and the 8,000 imperforate sheets were rationed "to foreigners" and thus are guilty under all five of the APS points.

In the February issue the APS program hit the Trucial State of Ajman for its Kennedy and Olympic Games commemoratives (previously reported as occurring in the December issue). The Kennedy set consists of eight stamps and a souvenir sheet; three of these stamps depict sports. The set is faulted for restricted sale, excessive length, unwarranted high values, and intentional inclusion of oddities. The Olympic set hit the jack-pot, running counter to all five criteria--restricted sale, excessive length, unwarranted high values, no direct relationship to the issuing country, and intentional inclusion of oddities.

The March issue of "The American Philatelist" contained yet two other accusations. Fujeira has issued a Kennedy memorial set; one stamp depicts the late president in a swimming suit, apparently in a swimming pool. The entire set is assessed as a limited printing, excessively long, containing unwarranted high values, and including intentional oddities. Hungary's Olympic medals set of twenty-four stamps (twelve perforate and twelve imperforate is charged with excessive length and the imperforate set as a limited printing, excessive length, and intentional inclusion of oddities.

Again our thanks go to John La Porta (SPI 79) and H. M. Critchfield (SPI 295) for supplying this information. In the future we hope to stay abreast of this information as it appears monthly in the APS periodical.

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Sports Philatelists International is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to the study and collection of postage stamps and related collateral material dealing with sports (including Olympics) and recreation and to the promotion of international understanding and good will through mutual interest in sports and philately. Its activities are planned and carried on entirely by the unpaid, volunteer services of its members. All members in good standing receive the monthly periodical, "Journal of Sports Philately". The dues for regular membership are \$3.00 per year. Membership applications may be obtained from Mrs. Helen Turner, 3447 Spruce Ave., Bremerton, Washington.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Accuracy in the use of sports philately terminology. A recent letter from Pablo M. Esperidion (SPI 157), Secretary of the Sports Philatelists of the Philippines, points out two very common errors in the use of certain terms in sports philately. Pablo used the recent overprints (to honor the 18th Olympic Games) on six of the thirteen-stamp pre-Olympic set of Nicaragua (Scott 0523-35) to make his point although he approaches his subject through the technicalities of Spanish grammar.

The overprint reads "Olimpiadas Tokyo 1964"; "Olimpiadas" is plural even though only one Olympiad existed, culminating in the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Pablo maintains that the overprint should have been "Olimpiada Tokyo 1964". The significant fact is that an "Olympiad" is a four-year period of time reaching its climax in the "Olympic Games" at the end of the Olympiad.

His second point is more complex but points up the undisputed fact that "Olympic" is an adjective correctly used to modify the noun "Games", but that to use the word "Olympic(s)" as a synonym for "Olympic Games" is technically a gross error. Many writers fall into this error, so an occasional errant postal administration is not without company.

Do you habitually use these two terms correctly?

PHILATELIC MARKET REPORT

- Fred Farr -

(Continued from the April issue of "JSP")

Nicaragua RA61. This is a miniature-sized stamp, issued in 1952 to pay the 5¢ postal tax levied on each letter. The design depicts the Managua Stadium, which is a repeat of the design used on the postal tax stamp of 1949. Although no data has been released as to quantities printed, it may be presumed that it is the same as for the 1949 issue--100,000 copies. If this presumption is correct, we can readily see how most of these stamps were used on correspondence, with few copies being saved for collectors. Almost all catalogues

price this stamp at about ten cents, although the current market price is 15¢. Interestingly enough, "Yvert" prices this stamp at 35¢. Why not try to get it both mint and on a commercially-used cover?

Colombia 543-44. This set will never win any prizes for either the design or use of creative imagination on the part of the Colombian postal authorities. When the 5th Central American and Caribbean Games were held in 1946, the Colombian postal administration decided to honor the event but evidently did so in such haste that a proper set of stamps could not be prepared in time. So the Colombian authorities fell back upon the ghastly practice of overprinting the 50¢ stamp of the type issued in 1945 (but in a different color from the released stamp). In their greed to really cash in on this event, the postal administration overprinted this stamp in two different colors, thereby creating two varieties where just one variety would have sufficed. These stamps have never been common, however, and few sports collectors ever noticed that these stamps—depicting the Clock Tower in Cartagena, with an abbreviated overprint added—are supposed to be sports stamps. The quantity issued is not known, but the relatively high face value of the set must have effectively discouraged speculators from loading up on this issue. Today this set sells for \$5.00 to \$6.50, which is more than full catalogue valuation. Do you need any other hints as to the desirability of this issue?

Honduras 0256 and 0075. For the uninitiated, almost all mail carried in the mountainous country of Honduras is carried by air, because roads are few and far between. This fact explains why Honduras has issued only airmail stamps since 1944. Because of this policy, airmail sets occur with great frequency, hence various values of each airmail set can go off sale without being noticed by philatelists. In 1956 Honduras issued a long airmail set honoring the Five Year Plan, of which the 10¢ value depicted the National Stadium as viewed from a distance. This stamp, C256, was issued in the large quantity of 2,000,000 copies, yet most of them were used up in normal correspondence and few mint copies are available. Just how scarce is this stamp? Most catalogues list it (face value of 5¢ in U. S. currency) at 15¢, but the few dealers who can supply ask prices fluctuating from 50¢ all the way up to \$1.40 (asked by a leading dealer in sports stamps). This same stamp was also overprinted for official usage (C075) and some 500,000 copies of this stamp were so issued, yet this stamp also sells for the identical prices asked for C256. When stamps sell for ten times catalogue valuation, it's time you made sure these stamps are in your collection now! This information alone should be worth the price of your membership in SPI.

Guatemala C158-62 and C171-76. These two sets have been tipped in this column before, when they were available at much cheaper prices. C158-62 was issued in 1948 to honor the 4th Central American and Caribbean Games and depicts the ever-popular game of soccer. Virtually all catalogues agree that this set is scarce, giving it a valuation of \$15.00 to \$20.00. Some 25,000 complete sets were issued, making the \$10.00 retail price quite reasonable. Guatemala issued no stamps honoring the 5th Central American and Caribbean Games, but in 1950 she issued a set honoring the 6th Games; this set is C171-76. Considering that only 15,000 compete sets were issued, which is 10,000 sets fewer than the quantity of C158-62 issued, this set should be the best sports set from Guatemala. For some unknown reason, C171-76 is available for the same price as C158-62, although it should be obvious that this set will disappear from the market long before the supply of C158-62 is exhausted. Buy both sets if you need them; but, if you can afford only one set, by all means make sure that you have C171-76 first. Incidentally, these two sets have been climbing steadily for the past five or six years, so there is no time to be lost.

Panama R40. This stamp was tipped in this column some time ago. In 1961 Panama ran out of stamps for the postal tax, so she overprinted the 10¢ value of the 1960 set honoring the 17th Olympiad. This stamp disappeared from the market almost immediately after issue, although copies continued to arrive on letters from Panama. With a face value of only 1¢ in U. S. currency, this stamp sold for 15¢ as a new issue and soon climbed to its current price of 35¢. Of course, wholesalers are unable to supply this stamp and it is very elusive in mint condition although it is more freely available postally used. Buy now if you need this stamp. Almost every single postal tax stamp from Panama has started to sky-rocket in the past year and this stamp is no exception. If you tarry, you will only have yourself to blame!

Micaragua RA60 and RA60a. In 1949 Nicaragua issued two long sets to honor the Tenth Amateur Baseball World Series and a postal tax stamp with a sports theme was also issued. This postal tax stamp was RA60, depicting the Managua Stadium, which was issued in sheets of twenty-five stamps (5 x 5), and some 100,000 copies of RA60 were released. However, the two sets and the postal tax stamp were also released in miniature sheets of four, with a total of 10,000 such miniature sheets of each value. Hence, some 10,000 miniature sheets of RA60a exist, of which 5,000 are on white paper and an equal quantity are on yellowish paper. The point is that both the stamp (RA60) and the souvenir sheet (RA60a) are quite elusive and have been rising in price. RA60 now costs 20¢, up from 10¢ a year or so ago. RA60a has also been rising and now costs \$1.25 to \$2.00, depending upon the source. In Europe prices are much higher; RA60 brings 60¢ and RA60a costs \$3.00 on white paper and \$4.00 on yellowish paper.



Sports philately exhibition at national convention. The annual national convention of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation was held in mid-March in Dallas. No attendance figures have been reported, but this week-long convention usually attracts several thousand professional workers and students in these fields. The program included, for the first time, a cultural-creative (hobby) exhibit, for which SPI was asked to encourage displays. Initially the rule that only AAHPER members could exhibit was a handicap, but eventually a loop-hole was found and exploited.

Three groupings of sports stamps were finally included in this non-competitive exhibit. "Coony" Moll (SPI 67) showed three frames of selected pages of sports and Olympic stamps and one frame of Australian Olympic cancels from the 1956 Games. Gene Carleton (SPI 160). the local arranger who

Gene Carleton (SPI 160), the local arranger who "joined" AAHPER for the duration of the convention, presented the general grouping shown to the left. Dave Field, not a member of SPI but one of the sponsoring committee, showed a selection of sports stamps which he uses to illustrate course work for his students majoring in physical education.

The sports stamps exhibits were very favorably received; many questions of varying types were asked of the exhibitors when they found time to be with their displays. This initial success indicates the likelihood of similar projects in future national conventions and possibly even in the smaller annual district conventions within the AAHPER. It is thus entirely possible that others of our members will be asked to prepare displays in future years.

Expiration of memberships. There won't be any more issues of "JSP" for the following unless their subscriptions are renewed promptly:

Nos. 432-50 and 556-59 March 31st Nos. 451-68 and 560-68 April 30th Nos. 469-77 and 569 May 31st

Membership changes (to April 1st)

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- Irwin Bloomfield -

In addition to the set of four stamps to commemorate participation in the 18th Olympic Games in Tokyo, the Nationalist Republic of China also printed 45,000 pieces of official first-day covers to go on sale at post offices and agencies on October 10, 1964.



It is interesting to note on this cover the special cancellation of the high jumper and Olympic rings. This cancel is in purple, similar in design and color to the \$10.00-value commemorative stamp, and was in use for one month from October 10, 1964.

OLYMPIANA

1928, a "first" in Olympic Games philately. The year 1928 saw an unusual number of "firsts" regarding Olympic philately, despite the fact that only three sets of stamps were issued.

For the first time the Olympic rings were displayed on stamps (Portugal RA14 and RJ5); these were also the first Olympic postal tax and postal tax due stamps. For the first time Olympic Games stamps had a radical departure from the ancient motifs. The Netherlands set of 1932 (B25-32) depicted modern athletes and modern scenes. In connection with this set a special souvenir sheet in Esperanto was issued--another first!

The Uruguay set (388-90) was the first Olympic Games set to be used as officials, with pierced star or cross. And for the first time the Olympic Games were held without the presence of Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games. H.W.

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