

Journal of Sports Philately

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Volume 4

THE CASES OF THE "DIRTY DOZEN"

- Harold Wasserman -

In the field of philately, even after many years, there are many problems which have defied solution. Many experts have tackled these items, but complete answers are still lacking. The field of sports collecting is certainly no different. After all, isn't every sports stamp still a stamp from a country? Isn't a philatelic problem to a collector of, say, Austria a matter of concern to sports collectors if the stamps involved are the First and Second Ski sets? Now, if these problems involve sports stamps, shouldn't we, as sports philatelists, make a determined effort to help in their solution?

There are a number of unresolved questions dealing with sport stamps. I have selected twelve of these, which I call the "Dirty Dozen". I would like to present one of these to you to see if among us we cannot come up with an answer.

Case 1: The Case of the Disappearing Cancellations

In 1946 Albania issued a set of seven stamps in connection with the Balkan Games held in Tirana, October 6-13, 1946. (Incidentally, "Landmans" and Seebacher label it the Tenth Games whereas "Schmidt-Schneider" call it the Twelfth.) Supposedly 50,000 sets were issued. Certainly I have found no information to contradict this number.

Mint sets are by no means plentiful, but they can be found. The current catalog price of \$15.75 (\$2.25 per stamp right down the line) is misleading. Dealers who are up on the market charge from \$15.00 to \$20.00 per set, when they have them. Occasionally the set pops up in auctions. If a person tries, he can run down a set in not too long a period of time.

The same is not true with used sets. Two prominent sports collectors of Southern California have been trying for fifteen years to put together used sets. So far neither has succeeded. One has managed to get all but the high value; the other has only about

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Carl-Olof Enhagen, Lansvagen 3, Stockholm-Farsta, Sweden: Complete sports stamp collection, 1896-1964, mint, for sale. Only one of each item. Send me want list and bids.

Sherwin Podolsky, 5649 Natick Ave., Van Nuys, Calif. 12401: Olympic specialties (seals, labels, cancellations) on approval. Quantities very limited. Special: 1912 Stockholm "Flag Wavers" label, Russian or Greek text, \$3.00 each; 1960 Squaw Valley "Visit Los Angeles" label, \$1.00. Mention this adlet.

Robert M. Bruce, 1457 Cleveland Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691: For sale--1965 "Scott" catalogue in two volumes and excellent condition. Make me an offer to include shipping costs.

(The classified advertising rate is 2¢ per word for a single insertion; names and addresses are free. Send copy and remittance to Robert M. Bruce, 1457 Cleveland Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691.)

three of the seven stamps. Two years ago I started to try to locate this set used. I sent out over forty inquiries to dealers, large and small, who might conceivably handle this type of material. On my trip across the United States last summer I inquired at every stamp store at which I stopped (and there were many). Used copies of Albania 384-90 are virtually impossible to find. A dealer in Los Angeles finally received two sets from a dealer in Albania and was charging fifty per cent over catalog. Expensive? Not really when one considers the elusiveness of the item.

My question is this: Where did the used copies go? Certainly the stamps must have had some use in Albania. Used copies do exist, especially in the lower values. Could all the used copies have been lost or destroyed? If not many stamps were used, why aren't the mint stamps more plentiful?

"Landmans" gives a clue as to one possibility. The editor warns collectors to beware of mint sets that have had the cancellations removed and the stamps regummed. This is certainly a possibility. However, all the used copies I have seen bear heavy cancellations which go practically through the paper. If these are typical, the people who removed the cancellations must have been expert workers.

Also, intensive study, including the use of black light, of about ten mint sets revealed nothing to me. Again, I might not have checked enough copies. I did notice that many of the mint stamps had a powdery substance on the face; this may have been applied to prevent the stamps from sticking together. Regardless, no logical explanation has been given to support the scarcity of these used stamps.

To complicate matters even more, all of the handbooks give October 1, 1946, as the first day of issue. I wish I could see a cover with that date. I have a registered cover bearing a complete set of stamps (probably a philatelic item since it has the complete set) dated October 12, 1946. It is addressed to the equivalent of our Postmaster General; that is, the PMG in Tirana. Of course this is not proof of anything, but would indicate the use of complete sets as late as October 12th.

Two other covers in my possession really upset the apple cart. Both are addressed to the same person in Tirana, both are in the same handwriting, both bear complete sets, and both are dated July 21, 1946! Please explain to me how this set was available for use on July 21st. I cannot accept the explanation that the cancelling device (a hand stamp) was set with the wrong date, when the cancellations are applied to what are obviously philatelic covers. Personally, I think that there is some connection between the July 21st date and the disappearance of cancelled copies. What it could be I do not know.

There it is--the first case of the "Dirty Dozen". Who can provide us with some information which will explain the non-existent cancellations and, at the same time, clarify the variable first dates?

IS CHESS A SPORT?

- Pablo M. Esperidion

(Editor's note: This article originally appeared in "The Elinews", the house publication of Elizalde and Co., Inc., of Manila, for the 3rd Quarter, 1965, and is reprinted with the permission of the author.)

Sometime ago the National Chess Association of the Philippines was confronted by a noted sportswriter who with good intentions to promote chess in the country posed the question: "Is chess a sport?"

Attempting to answer this question, at the outset the NCAP was prompted to ask: "What is sport?"

Sport, according to "Webster's Dictionary" is, "That which diverts, and makes mirth; pastime; diversion." Its analogy, as given in "Webster's Dictionary of Synonyms", reads: "Amusement, diversion, recreation entertainment."

Alluding to these definitions, "Funk and Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary" defines sport as: "That which amuses in general; diversion, pastime; fun, an act or spirit of sport."

In "Velasquez Spanish-English Dictionary", the word "deporte" (sport) stands for diversion, amusement, pastime, recreation." This is confirmed by the "Diccionario Enciclopedia Hispano-Americano" (Vol. 7) defining "deporte" (sport) as: "Recreacion (recreation), pasatiempo (pastime), placer (amusement), diversion (hobby).

By the same token, sport, according to "Roget's Thesaurus" denotes: "Game, play, recreation, merriment, hunting, fishing."

Treating on sports, the "Encyclopedia Britannica" (Vol. 21) says: "Almost all varieties of indoor and outdoor sports have separate articles in this encyclopedia. Among the chief are: angling, baseball, basketball, billiards, bowling, boxing, bridge, bullfight, camping, charade, chess...", etc. Noteworthy, Volume 5 of the same encyclopedia has devoted twenty-two pages to chess literature, and in referring to chess literature, it states: "The literature of chess is extensive; indeed it has been calculated that the total number of books on chess exceeds that on all other games combined."

As a game, Goren's Boyle "Encyclopedia of Games" discloses: "There is no other game so esteemed, so profound and so venerable as chess; in the realm of play it stands alone in dignity."

In the "Dictionary of Modern Chess" by Byrne J. Horton, Ph. D., the author says: "The Royal Game of Chess, once the intellectual sport of the aristocrats, is now universally enjoyed by men, women and children in all social and economic classes."

There are several books and publications on sports where chess is included. Among them are:

1. "Encyclopedia of Sports" edited by Frank G. Menke has four pages devoted to chess.
2. "Pictorial History of American Sports" by John Durant and Otto Bettman.
3. "Handbook of Sports Stamps" by Ira Seebacher, sports editor of the "New York Morning Telegraph".
4. "Journal of Sports Philately" edited by Robert Bruce, former civilian instructor of physical education and plebe basketball coach of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.
5. "Timbres et Sports" (in French) by Guy Depolier.
6. "Sport und Briefmarken" (in German) by Schmidt and Schneider.
7. "Catalogo Sport" (in Italian) by Landmans.
8. "Catalogo de Sellos de Deportes" (in Spanish) by Jose Ma. Vidal.
9. "Sport Catalogue" (in Yiddish) by Kolar.
10. "Guinness Book of World Records" (Sports Section) by Norris and Ross McWhirter.
11. "Physical Education and Sports in Israel" edited by Rinna Samuel and published by the Israel Olympic Committee in 1964, considers chess as an organized sport, there being about 150 chess clubs and over 12,000 chess players in Israel. Incidentally, the 16th Chess Olympiad was held at Tel-Aviv last November.
12. "Sports Stamps" by Carl-Olof Enhagen, a former staff member of the London monthly, "World Sports", says that "chess is another pastime". Speaking of "what is sports", Enhagen pointed out that "in English it is often used in a wider sense, embracing outdoor life and pastime, whereas the same word in other European languages is very often restricted to competitive sports".
13. "Anuario del Deporte Espanol", 1962-63 (Spanish Sports Yearbook) published by the Delegacion Nacional de Educacion Fisica y Deportada, has devoted six pages to chess. The DNEFD as governing body of amateur sports in Spain, in its 480-page Yearbook profusely illustrated, has recorded the activities, athletes' records and achievements of the forty-four different sports federations including Federacion Espanola de Ajedrez (Spanish Chess Federation), all affiliated to the DNEFD.
14. The Spanish sports daily "Marca", of Madrid; the London monthly "World Sports"; the American weekly "Sports Illustrated"; the Philippines monthly "Sports Today"; and the nation's weekly "Sport Philippines", feature chess in their columns occasionally. Parenthetically, four years ago Lisa Lane, then U. S. national women's chess champion, stole the thunder out of the front cover of "Sports Illustrated" where her picture was portrayed.
15. Sports pages of the local and foreign daily newspapers devote also proper spaces to chess. Five years ago, a Manila morning daily played up on its sports pages an eight-column streamer to chess. An afternoon Manila daily did likewise on its sports page three years ago.

Indicative of chess as a sport, consider the following observations:

To celebrate "Chess Week" (August 2-9, 1954) in New Orleans, Louisiana, De Lesseps S. Morrison, the City Mayor, issued on June 23, 1954, a proclamation reading in part: "Whereas, the ageless and royal game of chess has contributed to the mental stimulation and enjoyment of its followers in clean constructive sport and relaxation..."

In the Soviet Union, chess is a national sport--one of the main reasons why the U. S. S. R. produces several world chess champions. Some Russian international and national chessmasters have been honored with the title, "Master of Sports", the highest honor given to famous U. S. S. R. athletes.

In Cuba and Nicaragua, chess is also regarded as a national sport, as reflected on their series of sports stamps issued in 1962 and 1963, respectively. (Cuban set of thirty stamps each showing a different sport including chess. Nicaraguan series of thirteen different sports stamps with chess as one of them.)

4 IS CHESS A SPORT? (Cont'd)

Apropos of sports stamps depicting chess, so far there are thirteen countries which have honored this avocation. One of them is the Philippines. On a sport stamp issued in 1962, our national hero Dr. Jose Rizal as a sportsman, is illustrated playing chess.

Just as there are the Olympic Games, so with Chess Olympiads--the latest being the 16th Chess Olympiad held at Tel-Aviv last year, where fifty countries had participated including the Philippines.

Like in Harvard, chess is one of the extra curricular activities in several schools and colleges here and abroad. Recently, Harvard won the New England Intercollegiate Chess Team Championship. At the annual chess team championship between Oxford and Cambridge held recently, the former emerged as the winner. In Europe there is an international university student's chess championship held annually.

The Philippines Sportswriters Association in its Annual Awards for 1964, included chess for the first time. The Philippines team to the 16th Chess Olympiad at Tel-Aviv was the PSA chess awardee. The Philippine team was composed of six national chessmasters--Glicerio Badilles, Florencio Campomanes, Mletion Borja, Resendo Balinas Jr., Edgardo de Castro, and Renato Naranja. (Edgardo de Castro is an Elizalde employee.)

In local business circles, it is gratifying to note that the Businessmen Athletic Association, San Miguel Corporation, Elizalde and Co. Inc., and several commercial and industrial firms, include chess in their annual sports programs. At this writing, the 8th Elizalde Annual Chess Tournament is going on in full swing.

Considering the foregoing revelations, there is no gainsaying that chess is a sport. In point of fact, it is one of the oldest sports in the world. It saw the dawn in China as early as 2,500 B. C.!

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS AND AFFILIATES

Seebacher in the news again. The big news for this issue was made by Ira Seebacher, our veteran who prepares the copy for the "Handbook of Sports Stamps". His exhibition material received a silver medal in the thematic class at the recently-concluded SIPEX in Washington and might well have gone much higher except for the technicalities of the FIP rules which permit, among other things, the awarding of trophies to collections which rely heavily on photographs of stamps! This was the only medal awarded to an American collector in this section of the competition.

In appreciation of the excellence of his material the host society presented Ira one of its three special awards for the entire exhibition.

Since SIPEX Ira will busy himself by serving as one of the panel of nine judges at AEROPEX, the three-day air mail and aerospace exhibition being held in New York on June 10-12, 1966. Under the circumstances Ira's sports-on-airmail stamps will not be entered in AEROPEX.

* * * * *

Expiration notices:

Nos. 469-77, 569, and 612-15	May 31st
Nos. 478-82, 570-75, and 616-17	June 30th
Nos. 483-89 and 576-80	July 31st

* * * * *

Membership changes (to June 1st)

Additions:

648 Shinkichi Sugahara Yokohama, No. 50, 2-Chome Hatagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan (no information)
649 Lotery, Michael M., 11090 Strathmore Drive, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024 (GS:C:E,S)

Changes of address:

138 Carlson, Ernest E., 1048 Juniper Place, Toms River, N. J. 08753
367 Kawamura, Shode, 4391 Mount Vernon Drive, Los Angeles, Calif. 90043
477 Merritt, Louise A., 60 Vanderbeck Place, Apt. 3D, Hackensack, N. J. 07601
617 Stowers, Carlton, 4116 B 35th St., Lubbock, Tex.
222 Wiig, Noreen Z., 1490 47th Ave., N. E., Minneapolis, Minn. 55421

- Sherwin D. Podolsky -

The 1940 Olympic Games were scheduled for Helsinki, Finland, but were cancelled (or postponed until 1952, as you wish) because of the outbreak of World War II. Nevertheless, some philatelic material made its appearance in honor of the scheduled Games.

Presented here are three rare labels and a small cover with an interesting cancel. Accurate data on these labels is very scarce. Sometimes the name of the issuing source is available on the label, but this is not the case with these three. Information on quantities issued, date of issue, and original cost are not available. Frequently personal observations supply all that can be used in writing up such material.

The colorful, large label showing a Latvian girl in native costume apparently is a tourist propaganda label because the printer's designation at the bottom reads: "S. L. M. Turisma nodala". In the black tablet below the picture are the Olympic rings in green and: "Aux Jeux Olympiques 1940 via les Pays Baltiques/To the Olympic Games 1940 via the Baltic States/Zu den Olympischen Spielen 1940 durch die Baltischen Staaten".



The horizontal label shows a view of mountains and lakes in blue. The red balloon reads: "Olympiska Spelen 1940 till Finland". It was apparently issued by Finland.

The "Schweiz Ruderverband of the Federation Suisse des Societies d'Aviron" issued the blue, brown, and black label showing a canoe shell being carried by canoeists.

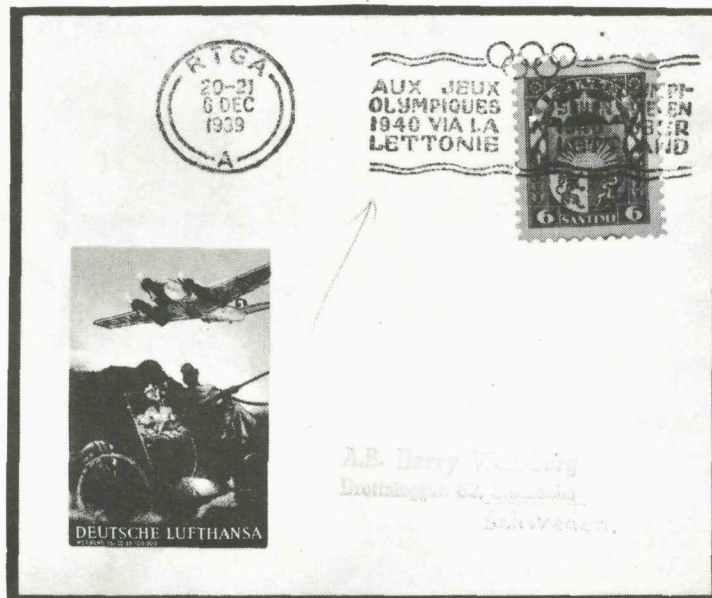


It was probably used for fund-raising for the 1940 Helsinki Olympics.



The cancellation on the cover is a machine-slogan type from Riga, Latvia (Dec. 6, 1939). In French and in German are the legends: "Aux Jeux Olympiques 1940 Via La Lettonie" and "Zu Den Olympischen Spielen 1940 Über Lettland". The cachet in the lower left corner is actually a comical Luft-

hansa airline label showing a stagecoach upset by a three-engine German plane. The swastika on the plane is barely discernible.



AUCTION DEPARTMENT NEWS

The success of SPI's fall auction is at least partially dependent upon our members' consignments and donations. Bill Stoms needs your material by mid-August in order to prepare auction catalogue copy for the October issue of "JSP". Certainly SPI should not be starting a fall auction any later than in that issue. Who says stamp collecting doesn't retain its popularity in the summer? Now is the time to send Bill your consignments and your donations for the fall auction.

President: Lawrence McMillan, 16276 Spruce St., Hesperia, California
 Vice-Pres: F. Quentin Farr, 19 Hillside Road, Elizabeth 3, New Jersey
 Sec-Treas: Leonard K. Eichorn, 18502 Winslow Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122
 Director: Travis L. Land, 4243 Chestnut Hill Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78218

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 98312.

"Journal of Sports Philately"

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

The nominated slate of prospective officers for SPI's next two years was approved by the mail vote of the members. The team of Barbara T. Williams, F. Quentin (Fred) Farr, and Leonard K. Eichorn will take over on September 1st. They will be aided by two new directors: Joseph E. Schirmer and Harold Wasserman. Already Barbara and her group are showing signs of considerable activity. They will need your cooperation.

Of more than passing interest to your editor is the fact that only seventy-seven members fulfilled their responsibilities in voting for the slate of nominees. What happened to the other three hundred members? Was it just too much work to clip and to mark the ballot and then to address and stamp an envelope? Or is that the real feeling of the remainder of the membership? If it is, I've had it!

REVIEWS

"Olimpiadi e Filatelia". Again through the courtesy of the compiler, Maurizio Tecardi (SPI 591) of Rome, I have recently received a copy of his "Olimpiadi e Filateli" ("Olympiads and Philately"). Edited by Aldo D-Urso, this publication came off the presses in March, 1965.

Here is a paper-bound publication of ninety pages plus index. Of these, seventy-two are devoted to the Summer Olympic Games, while a mere eighteen cover the Winter Olympic Games. Printing is in black and white on glossy paper with a heavy glossy cover. The text is entirely in Italian; once again the flexibility of the individual reader will determine the final usefulness of this publication as a reference book.

The text is profusely illustrated with reproductions of stamps, covers, labels, and cancellations and with photographs of Olympic personalities, stadia, and competitions. I was impressed with the number of illustrations of labels from the various competitions down through the years.

No information has been supplied concerning the availability of this delightful and interesting publication. Pending supplemental facts from the compiler, I suggest that interested individuals contact Maurizio personally at Via E Faa di Bruno 10, Rome, Italy. When someone obtains this information, I would like to have it so that it can be passed on to our members through "JSP". (R.M.B.)

SERVICES

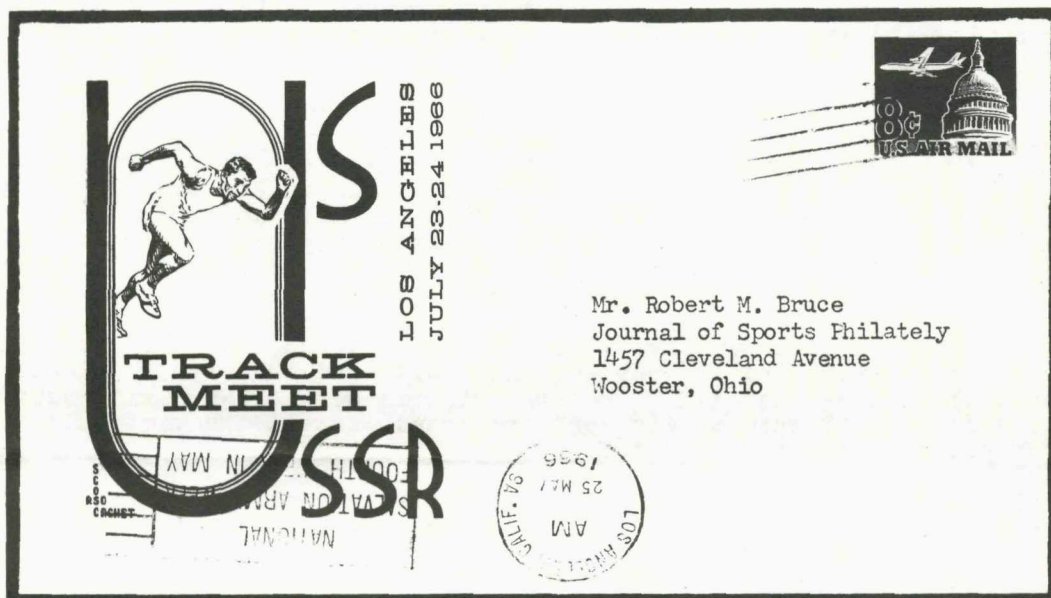
APS black blots of sports stamps. John La Porta (SPI 79) reports that the May issue of "The American Philatelist" assessed no black blots to sports stamps.

* * * * *

Additional offer for free seals. The response of members to the offer of free "Verso Mexico 1968" seals has scarcely touched the supply made available by Nino Barberis (SPI 244). It now seems appropriate to renew the offer on a larger scale. In order to make good use of the supply, I will be glad to mail to any member up to ten sheets of these seals. Please follow the instructions given on Page 3 of the March, 1966, issue of "JSP". They are only gathering dust on my shelves. Someone should be interested.

* * * * *

Cacheted cover for U. S.--U. S. S. R. track meet. The Sports Collectors of Southern California are sponsoring a beautiful red, white, and blue printed cachet for the U. S.--U. S. S. R. Track Meet on July 23rd, the opening day of the track spectacular, which will be held in the Los Angeles Coliseum.



The cost is 25¢ per cover, plus a large, self-addressed envelope. The proceeds will be donated to various sports organizations, including the United States Olympic Committee. Order these covers from Mrs. Barbara T. Williams, 6601 White Oak Ave., Reseda, California.

The advance sample illustrated here was cancelled on May 25, 1966. You will notice the error by the Post Office services in that the date line and slogan cancellation hit the diagonally-opposite corner of the cover than that which is normally the target for

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The III^d Olympics. The 3rd Olympic Games, held in St. Louis in 1904, were not what you would call a "roaring success". Less than five hundred athletes representing eleven countries participated. Only fifty-three participants came from all of Europe and, of these, twenty were from one country, Germany. England, France, and Sweden didn't send one representative. No wonder that the United States won twenty-one of the twenty-two first-place medals in track and field and a total of 251 medals versus 41 for all the other nations combined. In some events there was actually not a single competitor from any other country.

Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern Olympic Games, was bitterly disappointed. The revival of the Games in Athens in 1896 had brought together 285 athletes from thirteen countries. Paris had seen more than a thousand athletes from twenty different countries. The reversal of this growth trend was attributed to the amount of money needed to send a team to the United States. This was the first time the Games had been held anywhere other than Europe, and evidently the added distance discouraged many athletes and many countries.

Coubertin, while disappointed, was not discouraged. He suggested that the Games be returned to Athens and held there every four years in the middle of the period between the scheduled Olympiads. In other words, these games would be held two years after each Olympic Games.

Coubertin's plan was greeted with much approval by the people of Greece. Gradually the enthusiasm spread and the idea became a reality. Count Henri de Baillet Latour of Belgium, a famous Olympic organizer, added his services and aided greatly in organizing these Games. On April 22, 1906 (two years after the Games at St. Louis), the Games officially began. They surpassed all the preceding Games in attendance and succeeded far beyond Coubertin's wildest dreams. Twenty nations sent nearly nine hundred athletes (nearly double the figures of St. Louis, although slightly less than Paris) and a total of more than 600,000 jammed the stadium until the conclusion of the Games on May 2nd.

The spirit of the Olympic Games was truly present throughout the entire performance. The audience, the countries, and the participants furthered the Olympic ideals in the manner for which Coubertin had hoped. Even the winners were crowned with olive wreaths by King George of Greece. Olympic medals were presented to all the victors. The records, for a number of years, were listed in the Olympic record books.

But the plan was not continued. A series of circumstances in Greece caused enthusiasm to wane there. And because the Games were not held in the regular Olympic period, the International Olympic Committee ordered the records deleted.

So it has come about that the Games of 1906 are considered "unofficial". But Archie Hahn, Harry Hillman, and Jim Lightbody of the United States, Con Leahy and P. O'Connor of Ireland, Gouder of France, Lemming of Sweden, Sherring of Canada, and all the others who received olive wreaths and gold medals in the Averoff Stadium in Athens might very well disagree with the term "unofficial".

Should the stamps of Greece, 1906, be listed as stamps commemorating the tenth anniversary of the modern games, or should they be displayed as Olympic Games stamps themselves? Perhaps we should head our album page, "The III^d Olympics". (H.W.)

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New questions:

68. Who were the winners in the Pardubice Steeplechase of 1956 (Czechoslovakia 763) and in the Kosice Marathon of 1956 (Czechoslovakia 764)?
69. What is the background data on the Indo-China "Youth Games" of 1944 (Indo-China 241-42)?
70. Who are the fencer and the chess player shown with Dr. Rizal of the Philippines on Philippines B21-22?
71. What are the sporting details on the racing yacht "General Yaruski" depicted on Poland 422?
72. Who are the founders of the Federation of Romanian Sports Clubs pictured on Romania B76?

Answers:

33. Fred Farr (SPI 2) offers some information on Eritrea 159 and 161. These stamps depict a shark fishery but this is a commercial, not sport, venture. "Minkus" states that these stamps show a "shark fishery and oil extracting installation". Actually, the Red Sea is teeming in fish life and it is amazing that more of these resources are not used.

35. Fred Farr comes through again on France 996 ("Deauville in the 19th Century"). The stamp is certainly a sports stamp and must be included in such a collection. It shows people bathing in the Mediterranean Sea about one hundred years ago; in fact, it looks like an old print of Atlantic City. There is a small portable bathhouse on the beach at the left and a horse-drawn bathhouse is already in the water. Ladies climbed out the back of these bathhouses and, unobserved by the predatory males, enjoyed the bathing. There are also four people bathing in the sea. You should see their bathing apparel; they are almost as fully clothed as the many people who are walking on the beach.

38. Once again Fred Farr: Hungary Cl22 is not a sports stamp unless some sporting activities are taking place inside the building. The center of this stamp depicts an old-style resort hotel. In front appears to be a pond, while immediately behind the hotel is a heavily wooded hill. No people and no boats are included in this design.

64. Cliff Jeger (SPI 147) reports the following winners for the World Free-style Wrestling Championships at Sofia in 1958 (Bulgaria 1013-14):

Flyweight--Saydov, Russia	Bantamweight--Akbas, Turkey
Featherweight--Mutsugian, Russia	Welterweight--Ogan, Turkey
Lightweight--Synyokev, Russia	Middleweight--Gungor, Turkey
Light-heavyweight--Abul, Russia	Heavyweight--Ackmedov, Bulgaria

The team title went to Russia with thirty-eight points. Turkey was runner-up with thirty-four points and Bulgaria was third with thirty points.

PHILATELIC MARKET REPORT

- Fred Farr -

Tip of the month--Papua and New Guinea 171-73. This set is less than four years old, having been issued on October 24, 1962, to commemorate the Seventh British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Beautifully printed in photogravure by the renowned Swiss firm of Courvoisier, these stamps show real action--three sprinters, a javelin thrower, and a high jumper.

Only 150,000 complete sets were printed and sold, which is not much for a country with the popularity of this Australian dependency. This set is still available in the United States for about 50¢ retail, although wholesalers in New York City ask 44¢ for their sets. However, in line with the recent price jumps of most British commemoratives, this set has shot up on the London market, where it now retails for \$1.40.

Used sets are slightly more expensive, although the printing process used by Courvoisier results in a high percentage of damage among used copies. First-day covers are especially desirable and are worth far more than a mint set; however, the official first-day covers issued by the postal administration are the large size envelope which American collectors deplore. No matter what your desires--mint, used, or cover--this set is a splendid purchase at today's price.

Jugoslavia 480-83. In July of 1957 the City of Zagreb played host to the Second World Gymnastic Championships and Yugoslavia commemorated this event with the issuance of these four stamps. Once again Yugoslavia reverted to the use of stylized designs and each stamp depicted two events (one male, the other female) superimposed upon each other. Egad! I wish they had issued a set of eight stamps, with only one event shown on each stamp. Only 100,000 sets were issued, which makes this set fairly elusive. Sold as a new issue for about 35¢, this set currently retails at \$1.00, which also is the wholesale price in New York City. Dealers in London get \$1.20 for this set, while dealers in Paris charge \$1.40. No, this set will not skyrocket, but it should be quite obvious that American retailers will have to raise their prices soon--no one can remain in business without making a profit.

10 PHILATELIC MARKET REPORT (Cont'd)

Croatia B7-10. This attractive set was issued in March, 1942, to commemorate the Model Airplane Exhibition held in Zagreb. Appropriately enough, three values depict model airplanes in flight and the fourth value shows a boy with a model airplane. Confusion exists regarding the total number of sets issued, as noted by Ira Seebacher in his "Handbook of Sports Stamps", although the number is believed to be approximately 170,000 sets. Wholesalers can no longer supply these stamps, although vast quantities of Croatian stamps were dispersed upon the world stamp markets immediately after World War II. American retailers charge 40¢ for this set, but European dealers sell their sets for 70¢. Frankly, I can't foresee any sudden upward changes in the price of this set, but the price should increase slowly until it approximates the price prevailing in Europe. Anyway, it's a cheap set and, if you have an extra 40¢ in your pocket, why not pick it up?

Hungary 1241-48. Fencing has always been a sport dominated by Hungarian sportsmen, so Hungary eagerly commemorated the 24th World Fencing Championships, held in Budapest in 1959, with this very handsome set. Interestingly enough, the swordsmen depicted on these stamps span some one thousand years, starting with a 10th century swordsman and ending with 20th century fencers. Some 400,000 sets were issued, which is the standard quantity for Hungarian sets. American retailers and wholesalers both charge \$1.00 for this set, but dealers in London sell for \$1.55 and Parisian dealers get \$1.80. If you like to buy your stamps at the current wholesale price, then this set is for you--obviously, it won't be any cheaper.

Hungary B80-7. This set is one of the "minor classics" of sports philately, being issued in 1925 to publicize sports in Hungary. These stamps depict both winter and summer sports and one value (B85) shows a Boy Scout bugler; this means that collectors of scouts-on-stamps are also seeking this set. A total of 116,329 sets were issued, but they have been widely dispersed in the intervening forty-one years and this set is scarce today. American dealers ask \$7.50 (and up) for it, although London dealers get \$10.00 and dealers in Paris charge \$13.00. This set has been rising steadily for years, so I advise its immediate purchase if you still need it; you'll never regret it.

Indonesia 509 in souvenir sheet. In April of 1961 Indonesia issued a set of ten stamps (507-16) to stimulate tourism in that country. One denomination, the twenty-seven value (509) shows a native bull race. The stamp should be in your collection and catalogues only 3¢ in "Scott". Overlooked by many collectors, however, is the souvenir sheet which contains this stamp--actually the entire set of ten was issued in four imperforate sheets, but we are interested only in the sheet containing #509 (which also includes #511 and #515). "Scott" lists these sheets as #516a and values them at \$1.25 for all four sheets. In Europe things are radically different! Dealers in London charge \$1.40 for the one sheet with #509 and dealers in Paris get \$2.40 for this same sheet. American wholesalers, incidentally, get 85¢ for the four sheets. Something is radically wrong and I presume that almost the entire world supply of these sheets is here in the United States. Once this supply is dispersed, therefore, the price of this set is bound to rise rapidly. If available at a reasonable price (fifty per cent of wholesale cost), you should snap up this sheet now; of course you will probably have to buy all four sheets, but it still will cost you only one-half the Parisian price of the one sheet you really want.

SALES DEPARTMENT NEWS

John La Porta has prepared a new statement of the policies governing the services of our Sales Department. A copy will be sent to each new member and to each old member as he renews his membership. This is just another way to keep before the members the opportunities provided by this service.

As usual the manager of the Sales Department has more requests for circuit books than there is stock on hand. Anything, particularly in mint condition, would help satisfy the purchases desires of our buying members.

NEW ISSUES CALENDAR

- Barbara T. Williams -

December Addenda

15th North Korea. Paintings by Kim Hong Do. 10j (wrestling) and 10j (dancing).

March Addenda

23rd Spain. 80¢ (parachutists, from a painting by Jose Maria Sert, 1875-1945).

25th North Viet Nam. 12xu (wrestling); 12xu (archery); and 12xu (fencing with quarter staves). Designed by Tram Lu'O'Ng.

April Addenda

22nd Chile. To commemorate the World Basketball Championship, April 10th-30th. 13c rose (basketball and basket).

May Addenda

- 9th Belgium. Surtax for the promotion of swimming. 60¢ + 40¢ ochre, turquoise, and sepia (diver) and 10fr + 4fr sepia, ochre, and red (swimmer). Designed by M. O. Bonnevalle and engraved by M. L. Janssens. Printed in sheets of fifty by Aletier du Timbre in Molinas. (Additional information)
- 10th Korea. To honor the 20th anniversary of the Korean Girl Scouts. 7w yellow, green, and dark blue (girl scout and Korean flag). Designed by Soon Deuk Kim and printed by lithograph. Quantity: 1,000,000.
- 20th China. \$2.50 ("Fishing on a Snowy Day" by an unknown artist of the "Five Dynasties"). Printed by photogravure. Quantity: 3,000,000.
- 20th Turkey. 4th Military Volleyball Championship. 50k multicolored (volleyball players). Printed by off-set by Ajans-Turk Printing House, Ankara. Quantity: 250,000.

Hungary. World Soccer Championship, London. 10ft multicolored (player on stylized field and emblem of the matches)(souvenir sheet). Designed by J. Vertel and printed by photogravure. Quantity: 210,000 perforated and 8,000 imperforated. (Additional information)

June Addenda

- 1st Great Britain. World Soccer Championship, London. 4d black, red, maroon, brick-red, and blue (soccer players and Queen); 6d green, red, brown, light blue, and black (soccer players and Queen); and 1sh/3p black, olive green, blue, red, and yellow (soccer players and Queen). Designed by David Gentlemen, Williams Kempster, and David Kaplan. Printed by photogravure by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London. (Additional information)

Hungary. World Soccer Championship, London. 20f multicolored (Jules Rimet and cup); 20f multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 60f multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 1ft multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 1.40ft multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 1.70ft multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 2ft multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); 2.50ft multicolored (players and site and score of past matches); and 3ft + 1ft multicolored (emblem of the matches). Designed by J. Vertel and printed by photogravure. Quantity: 510,000 perforate sets and 8,500 imperforate sets. (Additional information)

July

- 1st New Hebrides. World Cup Football Championship. 20¢ (English) multicolored (soccer ball, World Cup, and pennant); 20¢ (French) multicolored (same as 20¢); 40¢ (English) multicolored (same as 20¢); and 40¢ (French) multicolored (same as 20¢). Designed by Victor Whiteley and printed by lithography by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London. (Additional information)
- 6th Australia. 75th Anniversary of the Royal Life Saving Society. 4¢ multicolored (life guard towing swimmer). Designed by Les Mason, Melbourne. Printed by photogravure by the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia.
- 25th Afghanistan. World Soccer Championship. 1.00af (soccer players); 5.00af (same as 1.00af); and 7.00af (same as 1.00af). Quantities: 150,000 (1.00af), 100,000 (5.00af), and 100,000 (7.00af).

Current

Morocco. 53rd Cross Country Race. 25f aqua (steeplechase runner over hurdle).

Nicaragua. 1965 Boy Scout Jamboree. "Scott" RA66-75 overprinted "Camporee Scout 1965".

Russia. World Ice Hockey Championship. 10k gold, red, and blue (hockey players and gold medal inscribed "1963, 1964, 1965, and 1966").

Venezuela. Native dances. 5¢ (May tree dance); 10¢ (Candelaria dance); 15¢ (El Baile O Chicamaya); 20¢ (El Carite); 25¢ (Tambor Redondo); 35¢ (Devil's dance at Corpus Christi Festival); 40¢ (El Tamunangue); 50¢ (Parranda de San Pedro); 60¢ (Baile de Los Turas); 70¢ (Joropo); 80¢ (Chimbanguale); and 90¢ (Los Pastores).

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