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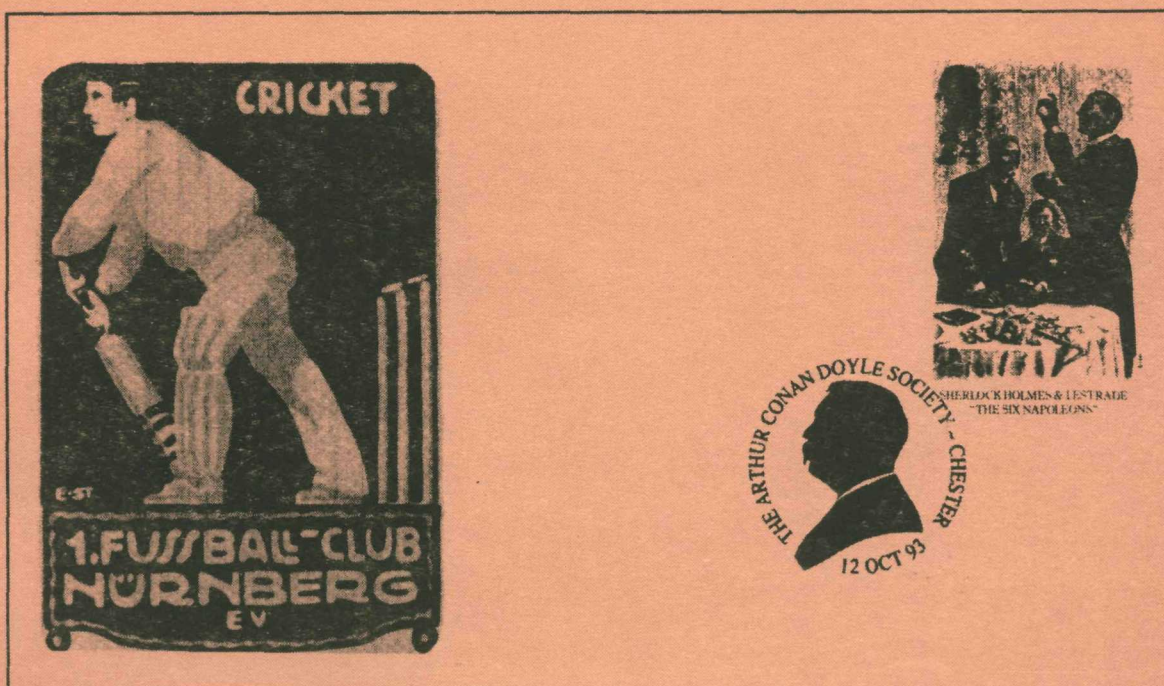
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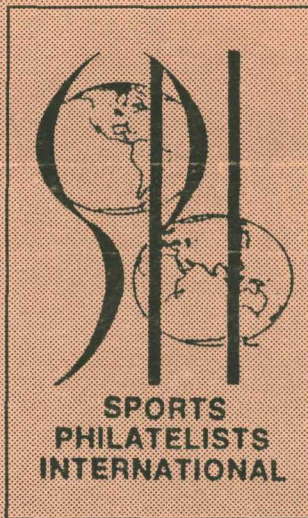
NUMBER 3

“Sherlock Holmes and the Sticky Wicket”



*Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes and a well-known cricketer,
endowed his fictional sleuth with his own agile athleticism.*

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President's Message

by Mark Maestroni

1996 has finally arrived, and all of us in the Olympic and sports philatelic community eagerly await the upcoming Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta. Much has occurred over the last two months with respect to both U.S. Olympic philately and Olympilex 96. You will find a complete report on these happenings elsewhere in this issue. Suffice it to say that the picture looks much rosier!

Our March journal will be dedicated to the centenary of the 1896 Athens Olympic Games. Coverage for this special issue will include a retrospective of those Games written by Baron Pierre de Coubertin, and a look at the philately of those Olympics. We welcome any additional articles from the membership focusing on this theme. But please don't wait until the last minute to submit material!

While I wasn't able to attend our recent convention at VAPEX due to an unforeseen business-related commitment, I am told that those members that did attend enjoyed themselves. My thanks to the entire VAPEX committee for their hard work and hospitality, and to Morris Rosen for his keynote address at our general meeting. Congratulations go to Cora Collins for winning the special SPI President's Trophy, and to Conrad Klinkner for taking home the SPI Award. We had a bumper crop of new exhibitors, some of whom even managed to qualify their exhibits for Olympilex. Kudos to all of you!

In addition to being an Olympic Year, 1996 is also an SPI election year. As always, we are looking for a "few good men (and women)" to volunteer their time by serving as an SPI Board Member or officer. Sherwin Podolsky will be stepping down as vice president, and we are actively looking for a new secretary-treasurer (Bob Mummert must resign due to personal reasons). Dorothy Crockett is bidding us "adieu"

as a board member. Any SPI member in good standing may run for an office or board position. Those wishing to throw their hat in the ring must write to our Nominations Chairman, Bernard McGovern, at 2107 Marianna Street, Tampa, FL 33612. Nominations are open through March 31; our mail-in ballots will be enclosed with the May-June issue of the journal.

While on the subject of volunteerism, you will have noticed in our last issue that Brian Bjorgo is planning to resign from writing his column on "New Stamp Issues" from around the world. We would like to find a replacement as soon as possible. Whoever takes over this task should have a computer, as the column must be submitted on computer disk. Please drop me a line if you would like to apply for the job.

Our World Wide Web presence on the Internet has attracted a great deal of attention. Many of you have left messages on the system. Even better, however, are the requests that we have received for membership applications, eventually resulting in new member enrollments. Not surprisingly, the vast majority are from overseas.

This exercise has been inexpensive, as well as an efficient way to reach the hundreds of sports and Olympic philatelists around the world. In due course, we hope to expand our presentation to include excerpts from our journal and other interesting material. I would welcome help from any member out there interested in creating additional pages in HTML language for our site. Contact me for more information on this subject.

Before closing, I would like to direct your attention to the enclosed Membership Questionnaire. This feedback is critical if we are to continue providing the services you desire. We ask each member to please complete this questionnaire and mail it back to us at their earliest convenience. Rest assured, your opinions do matter!

SPI's World Wide Web Site: <http://www.infopost.com/philately/index.html>

USPS & ACOG Agree On 1996 Olympic Philately

by Mark C. Maestrone

Not since the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, Sweden has the host postal administration failed to issue Olympic stamps. Fortunately, this folly will not be repeated in 1996.

Shortly after Les Winick's column appeared in the October 16, 1995 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* (and was reprinted in the November 1995 issue of *JSP*), the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) and Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) settled their differences. As reported in *Linn's* (November 20 & 27) a working agreement was concluded on November 3, with a signed contract expected to follow approximately 2 weeks later.

On November 7, the USPS announced their plans to release a souvenir sheet and pane of 20 different stamps for the Olympics. All are expected to carry the Olympic Rings.

The design for the souvenir sheet's stamp was revealed on November 7 as part of the USPS's unveiling of its 1996 stamp program. The stamp will depict the famous statue referred to as "Myron's Discobulus" (Figure 1). It is not known if the souvenir sheet incorporates multiple copies of the stamp, or what, if any, design may be included in the selvage. However, the value of a single stamp, 32¢, pays the first class rate for domestic letters.

20 different sports are planned for the pane of stamps, though the individual subjects have not been announced. There are actually 32 different sports on the Olympic schedule for 1996, therefore only the most popular are likely to be represented by a stamp.

No firm issue date has been announced for the souvenir sheet or pane of stamps. The indication is that the release date will occur in July 1996.

Special pictorial sport cancellations for the Games were also discussed. While ACOG agreed to relax some of their more preposterous regulations, the USPS is still severely restricted as to their visibility at Olympic venues. A USPS cancellation table is planned *within* each Olympic venue, enabling ticket holders to have covers serviced. For those without tickets, a "drop box" is going to be available outside the venue. Of course, this means that those without tickets have to hope for the best. Smudged cancels, additional machine cancel strikes, dogeared corners (or worse), or wrong dates applied are only a few of the obstacles that these "dropped" covers may encounter on the journey back to their owners.

At the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, the USPS accepted registered mail, had special Olympic



Figure 1. USPS souvenir sheet stamp design for the 1996 Olympic Games.

meters available, and used a special secondary Olympic double ring cancel at most venues. As yet, we do not know if any of these "interesting" philatelic elements will be made available. But with a strong USPS presence now planned at Olympilex, collectors may yet have the opportunity to create some unusual items.

It was also determined that although the USPS would have a facility in the Olympic Village, it would accept no packages or time-sensitive postal matter. Both these services are provided exclusively by the United Parcel Service (UPS) under their sponsorship agreement with ACOG.

The financial difficulties being experienced by Olympilex '96 have apparently also been eased. The IOC has agreed to provide an unreported sum to help defray some of the show's costs. A hotel closer to the Olympilex venue will be provided for the commissioners and jury. The youth area is expected to receive some money as well.

The Olympic and sports community owes a debt of gratitude to Les Winick. Without his recent exposé on the subject, I doubt that the concerned parties would ever have come together to address the problems. □

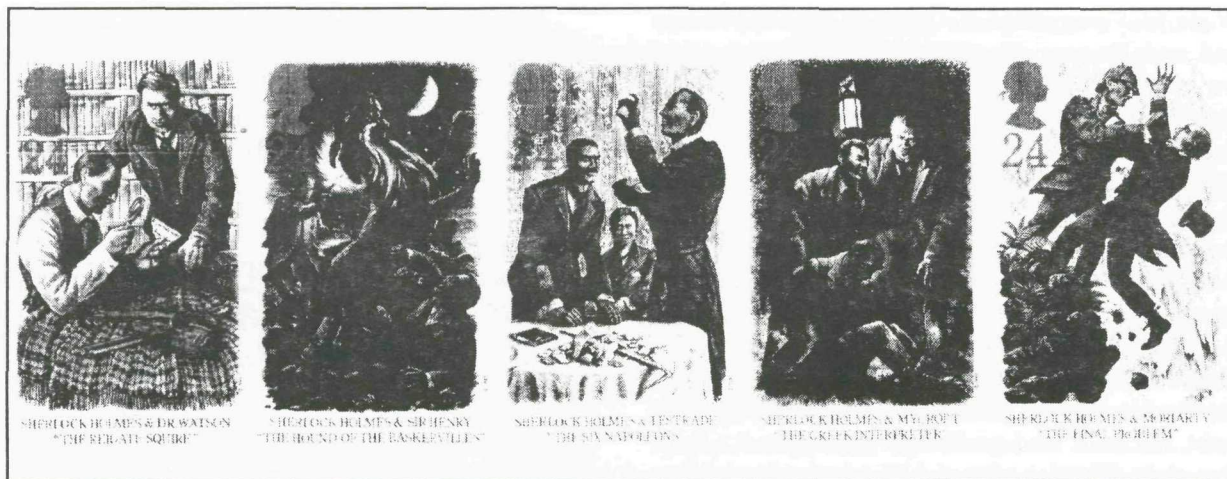
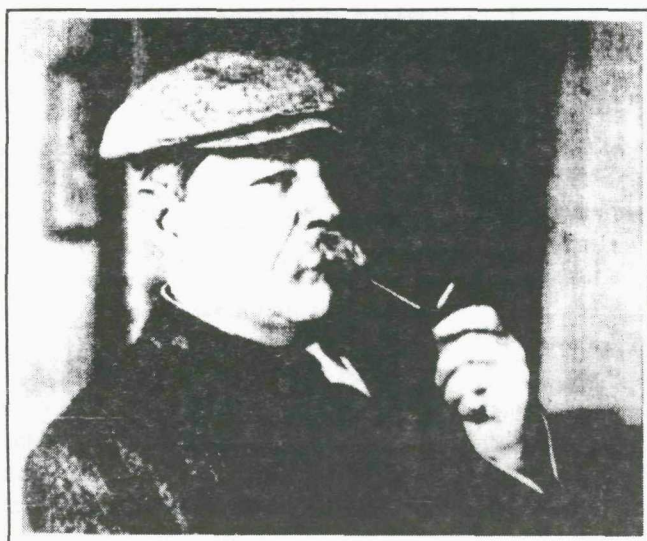


Figure 1. Royal Mail issue commemorating the death of Sherlock Holmes. Secret marks on each stamp spell out the name "Doyle" for Holmes' creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

"Sherlock Holmes and the Sticky Wicket"

by Peter N. Street

The Cricketing Life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



In October 1993, the British Post Office (Royal Mail) issued a set of five stamps to mark the "death" of Sherlock Holmes, the fictional detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

At the time the stamps were issued, Royal Mail indicated that secret clues were hidden in the stamp designs. The Great Britain column in the January 9, 1995 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* explains the details of these clues.

Each stamp has one of the letters of the name "Doyle" hidden in the stamp design (Figure 1). Thus, the "E" is shown on the middle book spine on the second shelf down in "The Reigate Square"; the "O" is in the grass underneath Sir Henry's knee in "The Hound of the Baskervilles"; the "L" is on the front of the book on the table in "The Six Napoleons" and in "The Greek Interpreter," the "Y" is under the kidnapped man's legs. The fifth stamp, representing "The Final Problem," shows the contest between Sherlock Holmes and his long time nemesis, Professor Moriarty. It was here, at the Reichenbach Falls, that Holmes supposedly plunged to his death. The "O" is the cufflink on Holmes' shirt sleeve.

To most end-of-the-twentieth century readers, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (at left, late in life) is only known as the creator of Sherlock Holmes. However, he was a man of extraordinary talents and accomplishments.

In addition to his Holmes stories, he wrote historical novels and histories of the Boer War and World War I. His knowledge of military affairs was extensive. He warned the English Government about U-boat warfare and advocated the introduction of steel helmets and inflatable life-jackets for the Army and Navy.

Doyle also suggested a Channel Tunnel between England and France, a project which finally reached fruition in 1994.

Sir Arthur was also one of the foremost amateur sportsmen of the day. In his late teens, he had grown to well over six feet and weighed about 225 pounds. This height and weight was of great advantage in many of the sports that he played.

He excelled in swimming, rugby, soccer, hockey, boxing and ice skating. At the University of Edinburgh where he was training to be a doctor, he played forward on the University rugby team.

During his medical practice in Southsea, he played soccer at full back and goalkeeper and joined a lawn bowling club. He also played billiards between house calls.

In later life when Lady Doyle's tuberculosis caused them to live in Switzerland, he took up skiing and also spent some time laying out the first golf course in the Alps at Davos.

When they later moved to the warmth of Egypt, he frequently played golf with the head of the Egyptian Intelligence Service.

In 1911, Sir Arthur was involved in an automobile race between a group of German and English drivers.

However, it was as a cricketer that Conan Doyle was most respected, being of almost first class status. Doyle played a high level of club cricket on a regular basis and later joined the Marylebone Cricket Club, at that time the ruling body for cricket. With this club, he played with some of the leading cricketers of his day including the legendary Dr. W.G. Grace (Figure 2).

In his Sherlock Holmes stories, sports are often featured as part of the plot, either superficially or as an integral element. An example of an oblique reference to cricket is demonstrated in "The Naval Treaty" when Dr. Watson mentions a wicket.

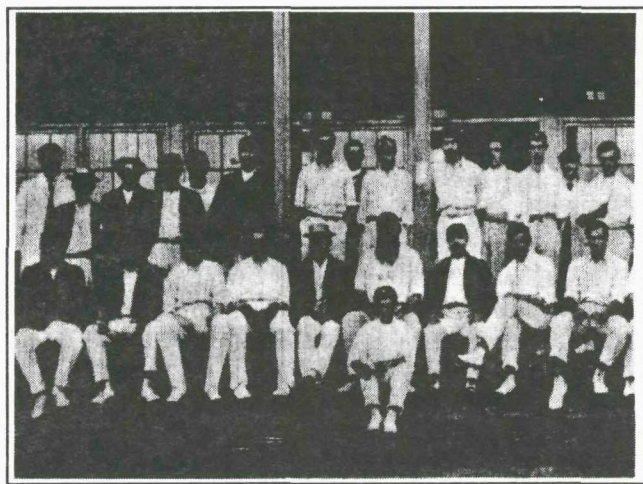
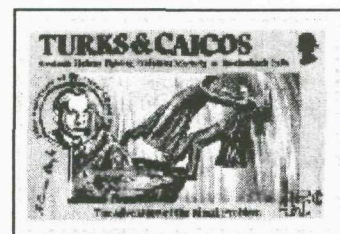


Figure 2. Doyle, an avid cricketer, played with the renowned Dr. W.G. Grace (at center, with beard).

Holmes himself is portrayed as a fine amateur boxer in "The Sign of Four." In "The Final Problem," Sherlock shows a mastery of baritsu, an exotic form of Japanese wrestling, which enables him to overcome Professor Moriarty (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Doyle's physical prowess was passed on to Holmes. "The Final Problem" demonstrated Holmes' mastery of the martial arts.



The story of "The Silver Blaze" revolves around a race horse. The unexplained absence of a famous rugby player is dealt with in "The Adventure of the Missing Three-Quarter."

The following article discusses the life of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle including his cricketing exploits.

Stonyhurst

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was born on May 22, 1859 in Edinburgh, Scotland. His father was an artist and civil servant and the family lived in modest circumstances on a street where many of the neighbors were considerably more rich.

Large for his age, Doyle became the champion of the poorer children against the richer ones. Young Doyle's neighborhood battles were interrupted at the age of nine when he was sent to Holden, the preparatory school of the Jesuit College, Stonyhurst, near Preston in Lancashire.

There was one incident of a cricketing nature which Doyle later recounted. He was a spectator to a cricket practice where England professional cricketer Tom Emmett was showing some of the older students how to bat. Doyle was hit on the kneecap by a cricket ball and personally carried to the school infirmary by Emmett.

After spending two years at Holden, Doyle moved on to Stonyhurst. Big for his age, burly and broad shouldered, he was the athletic hero of the school and was made captain of the school cricket team.

At one time, Stonyhurst had its own version of cricket. It was played with homemade balls and oddly shaped alder wood bats and employed under arm bowling exclusively. Instead of a flat, carefully tended grass pitch, a stretch of gravel was used. The wicket was a stone and the popping crease was semicircular. As the bat had to be raised above the horizontal for each stroke, there was very little defense. Batting meant trying to hit each ball as hard as possible.



Figures 4 & 5. Doyle so admired Dr. Joseph Bell (left), a teacher at the Edinburgh Infirmary, that he modeled his detective, Sherlock Holmes, after him (right).

Fortunately, by the time Doyle was admitted to Stonyhurst, conventional or "London" cricket, as it was contemptuously called, had been established. This meant matches could be played with other schools.

At this time, Doyle was still growing. In a letter to his mother when he was fifteen years old, he noted his concern that his cricket clothes would not fit. In another letter to his mother, he described a cricket match played on Shrove Monday. The opposition scored 111 runs. Stonyhurst replied with 267 runs with Doyle scoring 51.

Initially, Doyle was only an average student. He, however, discovered the literature of Sir Walter Scott and Lord Macauley and eventually excelled in English composition, becoming the editor of the Stonyhurst magazine.

Edinburgh

At seventeen, Doyle chose medicine as his profession and began attending the medical college of the University of Edinburgh.

He had comparatively low marks at the University for several reasons. Literature (he was an avid reader of the classics) and sports, especially boxing and rugby, shared Doyle's time with medicine. In addition, to earn badly needed money, he compressed the academic year into a period half as long so that during the other six months he could work as a medical assistant to doctors already established in practice.

In 1879, his father's health failed and Doyle became the head of the family. Unable to continue his medical studies due to lack of funds, he went to work as a doctor's assistant in Birmingham and Ruyton. Although at first distrusted by his coal mining patients, both soon discovered a mutual interest in sport, mostly cricket, rugby and boxing.

When his money problems eased, he returned to his medical education at Edinburgh. It was there that he met

one of his teachers who was to have a profound effect on his later life and especially his most famous creation, Sherlock Holmes.

Dr. Joseph Bell was a surgeon at the Edinburgh Infirmary. He was gaunt and dark, a wiry man with penetrating gray eyes (Figure 4). What particularly fascinated Conan Doyle was Bell's ability to make quick medical diagnoses and instant deductions about patients brought to him in the lecture room. Dr. Bell would glance at the patient and from dress, bearing, muscular development and other physical characteristics, determine the person's trade or profession. This remarkable deductive ability was one of the characteristics that Doyle incorporated into his master detective, Sherlock Holmes. The physical resemblance was between the real and fictional characters was not an accident (Figure 5).

Conan Doyle spent the summer of 1879 in Birmingham as an assistant to Dr. Reginald Ratcliffe. During this stay, he began to write short stories. One of these, "The Mystery of Sassassa Valley," was accepted by *Chambers Magazine* and published in October. Thus began Conan Doyle's long and lucrative writing career.

The following year, he went to sea as a ship's surgeon on a whaler bound for Greenland. Then, in 1881, he was awarded his medical degree and went on a second sea voyage, this time as a ship's surgeon on a small steamer bound for Africa. Upon his return to England, he set up a joint practice with George Budd in Plymouth. This proved to be short lived and in 1882, at the age of twenty-three, Doyle opened a modest, conservative practice in Southsea, a suburb of Portsmouth on the south coast of England.

Southsea

Immediately upon starting up his practice, Conan Doyle joined a number of clubs and became a familiar figure in literary, political and sporting circles, especially cricket.

Doyle's ten-year-old brother, Inness, became his receptionist, complete with brass buttons on his jacket. If his big brother was playing cricket when a patient arrived, Inness would usher them into the waiting room and run down to the nearby playing field to bring the good doctor home.

In October 1883, the cricket club that Doyle had joined, the North End Cricket Club, was renamed the Portsmouth Cricket Club.

The Portsmouth *Times* published a notice regarding the change, giving some cricket averages for the year. Dr. Doyle's showed that he had played in five matches with a batting average of 12.4 (highest score 32).

While his practice was getting established, Doyle had a fair amount of free time, much of it spent reading and making notes in an exercise book for future reference.

The summer weather in 1884 brought the start of the cricket season. On Saturday, May 10, Portsmouth beat Southsea 111 runs to 35 with Dr. Doyle hitting 14 runs. Two weeks later in a close two innings match, Portsmouth beat the Royal Artillery by six runs. Doyle, promoted to opening batsman, scored 27 and 3 runs.

On June 10, his team beat the Hampshire Regiment by 15 runs with Doyle, again opening the innings, scoring 44 runs, nearly half the team's total of 94.

On August 6, 1885, he was married to Louise Hawkins and celebrated his return from his honeymoon in the first week of September by playing cricket and scoring 40 runs. His average for the season, as recorded in the *Portsmouth Times*, was 40 runs from thirteen innings.

Sherlock Holmes

It was during this time that Conan Doyle began to think about a new literary hero, a trained detective who was able to reduce his deductive talent to a science. He chose as his model the hawk-faced and eagle-eyed Dr. Joseph Bell, his former teacher.

The first thing that he needed was a name. For the last name, he chose Holmes, easy to remember and simple to say. Doyle's reading of Lord Macaulay had introduced him to William Sherlock who had been Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in the seventeenth century. And so, his detective's name became Sherlock Holmes.

Doyle knew that Sherlock Holmes would have to have a companion. This person has to be an intelligent, educated man of action who could participate in and chronicle the exploits of his hero. He modified the name of an acquaintance and called this companion Dr. John H. Watson.

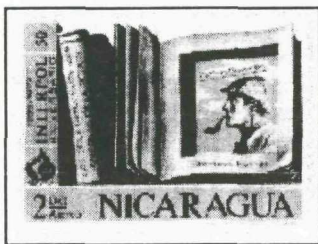


Figure 7. 221B Baker Street, the residence of Holmes and Watson, is noted just above Holmes' head. This is, perhaps, one of the best known addresses in fiction.

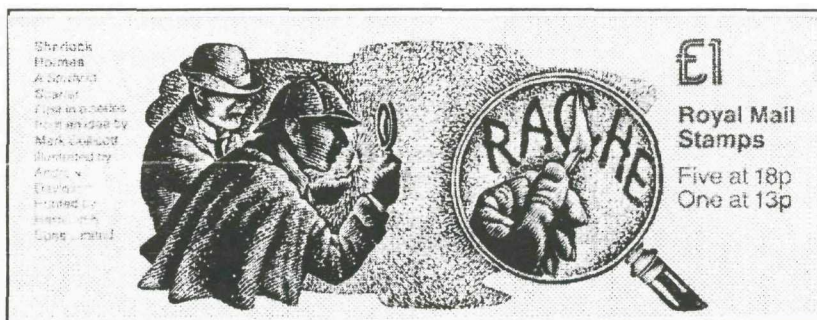


Figure 6. The word "Rache," figured prominently in Holmes' first adventure, "A Study in Scarlet." Royal Mail booklet cover.

The first Holmes adventure was entitled "A Study in Scarlet" (Figure 6). This story introduces us to the famous detective. "Rache," the German word for revenge, was written by the murderer in his own blood on the wall where the

victim was found. It proved a valuable clue enabling Sherlock Holmes to solve his first case. The narrative, as are all of the stories, was written by Dr. Watson and explains how they met and shared lodgings at 221B Baker Street (Figure 7).

Dr. Watson also gives a physical description of his new friend:

"in height he was rather over six feet, and so excessively lean that he seemed to be considerably taller. His eyes were sharp and piercing ... his thin hawk-like nose gave his whole expression an air of alertness and decision. His chin, too, had the prominence and squareness which mark the man of determination."

Sherlock Holmes' biographer also explains the detective's deductive methods and gives a list of his capabilities and limitations.

The manuscript was initially rejected by two publishers but was included in the 1887 issue of Beekon's *Christmas Annual*. This is where the British reading public met Sherlock Holmes for the first time. Dr. Conan Doyle was paid twenty-five pounds in exchange for the complete rights to the manuscript.

Doyle found plenty of time to play cricket for his Portsmouth Cricket Club, serving as captain in both 1887 and 1888. Portsmouth Cricket Club did not have its best season in 1889, losing to Southampton in the first round of the Hampshire Cup. However, from Dr. Doyle's viewpoint, the highlight of his season was the scoring of 111 runs not out on May 11 against the Royal Artillery. A wonderful way to celebrate his thirtieth birthday.

In addition to this cricket success, his second Sherlock Holmes adventure, "The Sign of Four," was published simultaneously in England and the United States.

In January 1891, Holmes started a diary which included cricket results. That year, *Strand Magazine* offered "Scandal in Bohemia" to its readers. This publication was the cause of Holmes' phenomenal popularity. A series of Sherlock Holmes stories followed.

South Norwood

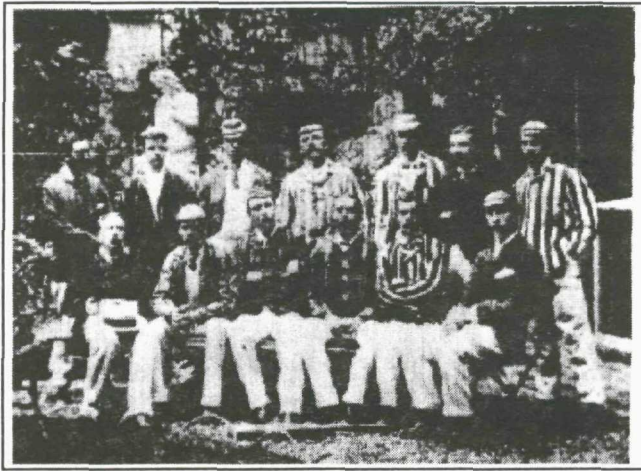


Figure 8. Doyle and the English Cricket Club on tour in Holland (circa 1891).

Such was the impact of these stories that Conan Doyle decided to give up medicine in order to concentrate on writing. His success brought higher prices for his stories. Conan Doyle could write a Sherlock Holmes story in a week and his fees gradually increased from £175 to £5,000 per story.

Conan Doyle missed much of the acclaim for the "Scandal in Bohemia" because he was in Holland touring with an English Cricket Club (Figure 8). The team played several games finishing the tour at The Hague, where they were matched against United Holland. Doyle saved the side by taking the last four wickets for only four runs.

Doyle moved to South Norwood, a southern suburb of London, in March 1891. There, he continued to write Sherlock Holmes stories producing six more between April and August of 1891.

Beginning that winter and continuing into the spring of 1892, Conan Doyle began moving in literary society circles, attending the famous afternoon teas at the *The Idler* magazine. One of the people he met at these teas was James M. Barrie, the future author of *Peter Pan* (Figure 9). In 1887, Barrie had organized a cricket club, the Allahakbarries, a pun from the Arabic for "heaven help us." It was a travelling team of artists, authors, actors and assorted intellectuals. Some of the famous literary figures who played over the years were A.E.W. Mason and P.G. Woodhouse, the creator of Jeeves and Bertie Wooster.

Conan Doyle applied for membership and was immediately accepted. The problem was that Barrie and his friends did not take their cricket seriously. They were dismayed that Conan Doyle did not share their casual attitude.

In one particular game, Doyle was bowled by A.P. Lucas in an unusual manner. The ball rose to over 30 feet in the air and fell on top of the wicket. The incident so interested him that he wrote a story called "The Story of Spedegues Dropper."

Conan Doyle returned to Southsea in 1896. On Saturday, May 16, the *Portsmouth Times* carried a report of a cricket match between the Hampshire Rovers and the Army Service Corps which indicated that Doyle had scored 36 runs in the game.

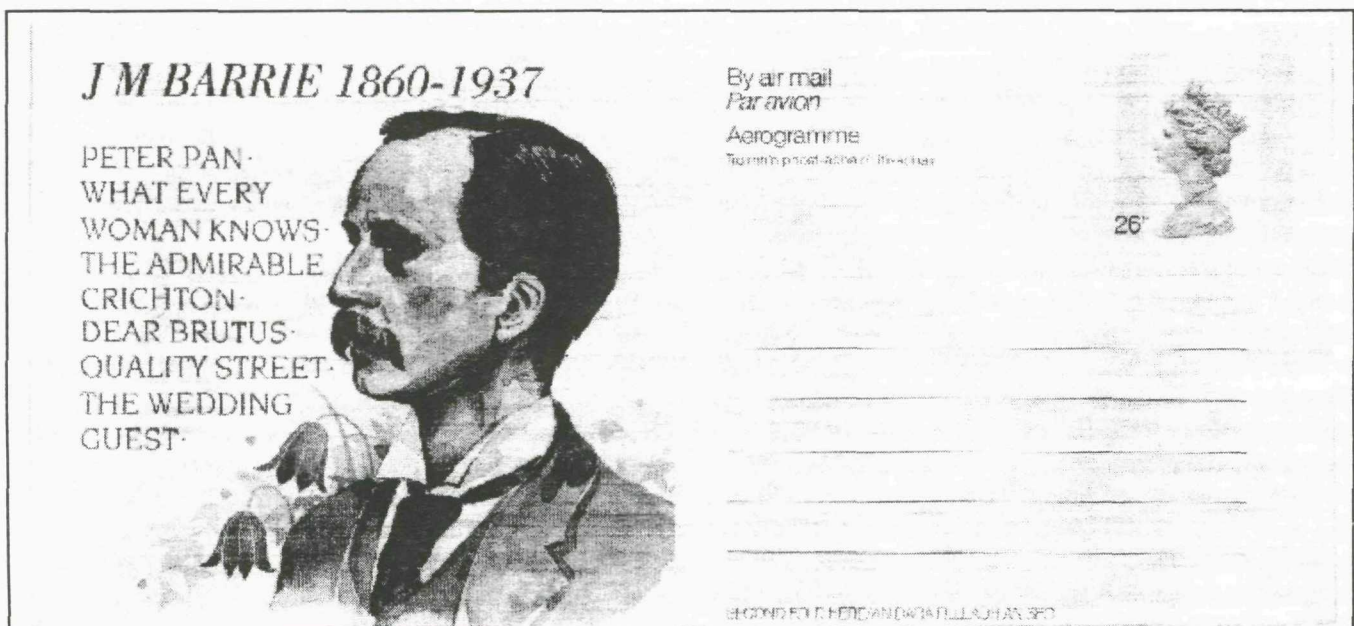


Figure 9. Another literary figure, James M. Barrie of "Peter Pan" fame, started his own cricket club called the Allahakbarries. Doyle joined the team for a time, but became disenchanted with their casual style of play.

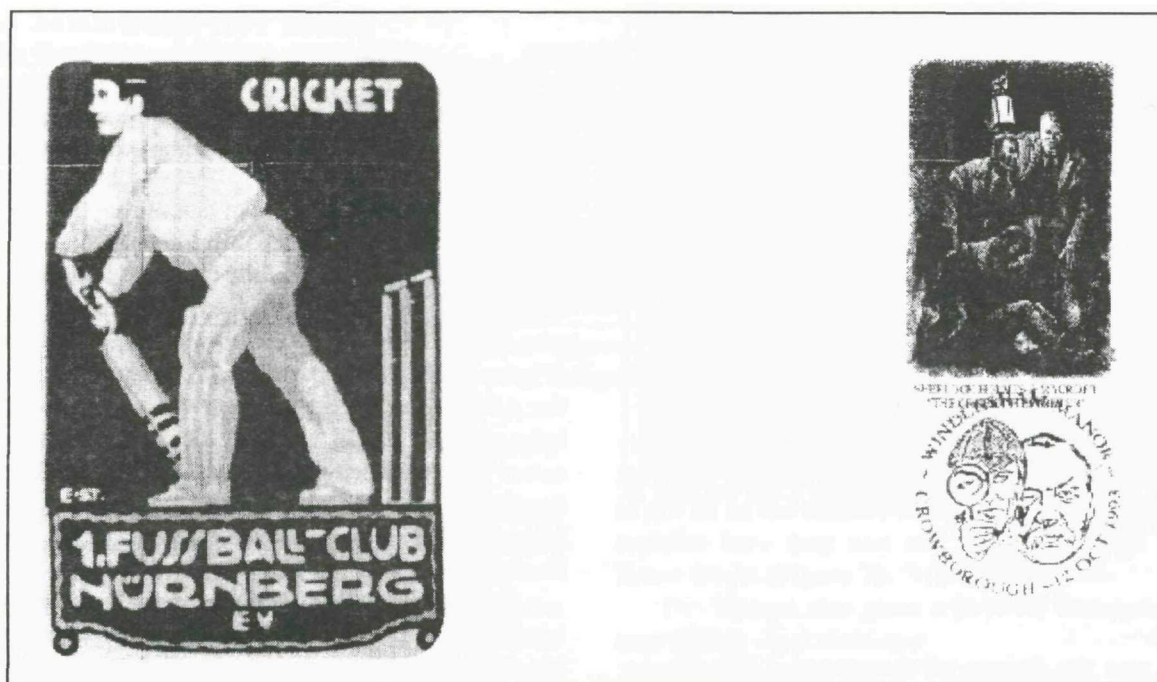


Figure 10. Windlesham Manor, Doyle's home from 1907 until his death in 1930, honored him with a special cancel in 1993 depicting both Doyle and Sherlock Holmes.

Two weeks later the newspaper reported that "Dr. Doyle was to spend several months in Southsea and in the intervals of relaxation from writing a novel, to be published in the autumn, he is polishing up his cricket talent." In fact, the stay was for only six weeks, whereupon Dr. Doyle returned to Haslemere where he lived while waiting for his house "Undershaws" to be built at Hindhead in Surrey, south of London.

Marylebone Cricket Club

The end of the century saw Conan Doyle reach a higher level of cricket when he started to play for the most famous club in England, the Marylebone Cricket Club. In his first game at London's Lord's Cricket Ground, the mecca of English cricket, he scored a century (over 100 runs) against Kent. On his fortieth birthday, he wrote in his diary that "I played cricket today, made 53 out of 106 runs by the whole side and bowled out 10 of my opponents." He was an occasionally effective batsman and a steady and reliable bowler.

On February 28, 1900, Conan Doyle sailed on the P and O liner *Oriental* as part of the staff of the Langman Hospital to help the British forces in the Boer War in South Africa.

The Royal Scots Regiment was also on board and the staff of the hospital and the regiment formed rival cricket teams. They played on deck until the cricket ball was lost overboard. However, at Cape Verde, they managed to borrow another one and played a complete game on land.

Fortunately, by the time the ship reached Cape Town, the British Army had been successful and the war was virtually over.

In 1902, King Edward VII knighted Arthur Conan Doyle for services to England.

Windlesham Manor

In 1907, Sir Arthur moved to a new house "Windlesham Manor" in Crowborough, Sussex (Figure 10). It was a much more imposing residence than Undershaws. Visitors were greeted by a uniformed page and ushered into the hall where a tremendous flight of stairs swept up to the first floor landing.

Cricket enthusiasts would have noticed the mud-encrusted cricket bat hanging in a place of honor in the hall commemorating Conan Doyle's first century on a wet wicket at Lord's.

Sir Arthur visited Canada and the United States in 1914 during which he lectured on a number of subjects, including Sherlock Holmes. Dr. Doyle first went to New York City for some sightseeing. As a cricketer, he was thrilled with baseball and even tried his hand at it. He stepped up to the plate and the pitcher, a big leaguer, threw him a polite blooper, expecting him, no doubt, to bunt. Doyle, thinking he was getting the equivalent of a full toss in cricket, opened his shoulders and hit a line drive solidly between first and second base, nearly decapitating a photographer who had crept out toward the pitcher's mound.

One thing that Doyle liked about baseball was that



the game was completed in a day. He even prophesied that it would supersede cricket as a British national sport on the grounds that "life is too serious now for games that last days on end." Twenty five years after his death the prophesy was partially fulfilled when the English cricket authorities introduced the limited overs one day cricket match.

The North American tour was a huge success. On one occasion, Sir Arthur and Lady Doyle entered Luna Park, Coney Island's largest dance hall. The band struck up "God Save the King" and a thousand couples stood up to attention in his honor. His son remarked at the time that his father was the second most popular Englishman after the Prince of Wales.

Over this period of time, Sir Arthur continued writing Sherlock Holmes stories. He had tired of him several times and attempted to retire him or kill him off, particularly in "The Final Problem" where Holmes supposedly plunged to his death over the Reichenbach Falls. However, his editors and the general public would not hear of it.

In all, over a span of nearly forty years, Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson were to appear in four full length books and fifty six detective stories.

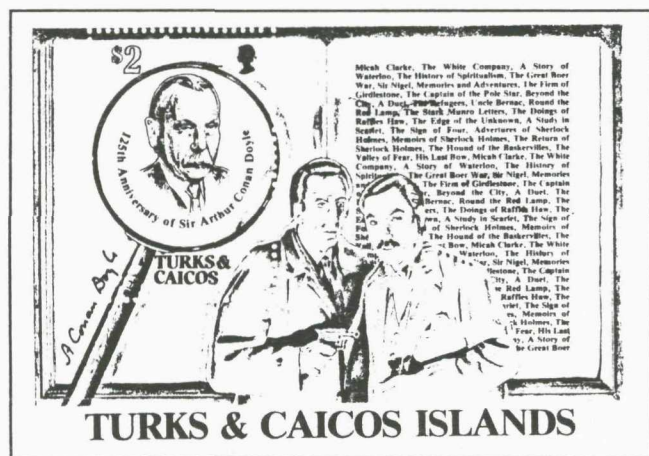


Figure 12. Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce made Holmes and Watson come alive for millions of movie goers.

Eventually, Sir Arthur reconciled with his hero and admitted that many of the characteristics that he gave Holmes were those that he valued in himself, such as valor, gallantry, complete honesty and dedication to work. His main complaint was that writing these stories interfered with what he thought was more important work. Nevertheless, Doyle found time for these works, writing history, historical romances, poetry, plays, wartime propaganda and research on psychic phenomena.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle passed away in 1930 (Figure 11).

Epilogue

The popularity of Sherlock Holmes continues unabated with motion pictures and television series based upon his adventures.

To mark the 125th anniversary of the birth of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in 1984, the Turks and Caicos Islands issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet. The latter is of particular interest (Figure 12). It pictures an enlarged portrait of Doyle on one page of an open book. In the foreground are waist up portraits of Holmes and Watson as portrayed by movie actors Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce.

This famous duo made more than a dozen Sherlock Holmes movies. The scripts, however, were mostly based on the fertile imagination of Hollywood screenwriters rather than the stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

There are a couple of interesting ramifications regarding Rathbone and Bruce. Both belonged to the "British Colony," a group of British actors who had come to Hollywood in the late 1930s and early 1940s. This group also included David Niven, Ronald Colman, and Errol Flynn. In addition, Rathbone and Bruce were both members of the Hollywood Cricket Club. Basil Rathbone was one of the several Vice Presidents of the club (another was Boris Karloff of "Frankenstein" fame).

Nigel Bruce was a keen and active player. David Niven reports in his autobiography, *The Moon's A Balloon*, that Nigel Bruce had played first class cricket before being wounded in World War I.

There was also an interesting parallel between Basil Rathbone and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle: Doyle tired of writing the stories; Rathbone tired of portraying the sleuth in films. A distinguished stage and screen actor, Rathbone felt that by continuously playing the part of Sherlock Holmes, he would be stereotyped and lose the chance to play more challenging roles.

The Arthur Conan Doyle Society, based in Chester, a town in northwest England near Liverpool, perpetuates the memory of Doyle and his fictional creation, Sherlock Holmes (Figure 13).

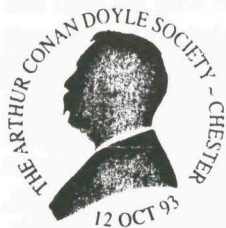


Figure 13. The Doyle Society in Cheshire, England, keeps the memory of Doyle and his fictional detective alive.

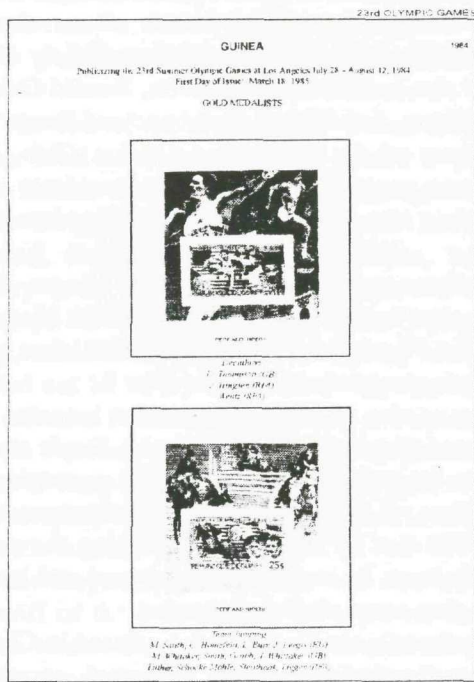
Hopefully, we will not have to wait until May 2009, the 150th anniversary of Sir Arthur's birth, before some more philatelic items are issued in his honor. □

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[Editor's Note: Jeremy Brett, Sherlock Holmes to many television viewers around the world, died September 12, 1995. Brett, an accomplished Shakespearean actor as well, was best known for his portrayal of Holmes in more than 40 episodes for British television. He also recreated the character on the London stage in 1988 in "The Secret of Sherlock Holmes." Mr. Brett will, perhaps, be remembered as the quintessential Holmes. Will we see a British stamp for this great actor?]



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Figure 1. Billiards developed from the older outdoor game of croquet. German printed-to-private-order postal card issued for the 1899 German Sports Festival at Munich.

Billiards: An Overview of its Origins

by Dominique Hardy

The origin of billiards remains obscure. Some people consider it to be a Chinese game; others suspect that it may have been an Arab or Greek sport dating back to very ancient times.

Shakespeare, on the other hand, suggests the origin of the game to have been in Ancient Egypt. In his play "Anthony and Cleopatra" (Act 2, Scene 5), Cleopatra pronounces: "Let us to Billiards."

Several authors do agree that the origin of billiards is French, being an adaptation of croquet or "pall mall," which was played on the ground with wooden mallets and balls (Figure 1). The game first appeared in England during the Stuart period. Many streets in that country named "Pell Mell" or "Pall Mall" are obvious indications of where the game was played.

Prior to 1469, the French game of billiards was played on the ground. The first table-top version with

the same rules was produced in France in that year for King Louis XI (Figure 2). Just as in croquet, it was played with a hoop, three balls, and a mallet. In this first version, the King requested both wooden and ivory balls. A stone table was covered by green Elbeuf cloth, probably to imitate the grass surface of the original ground game.

The first table in England was installed in 1560. Billiards were played in Spain as early as 1516. And, it was the Spanish who introduced the game to America in 1565 at Saint Augustine, Florida.

An "Academy," or billiards game room, was first opened in France in 1631. Five years later, Cardinal Richelieu, Louis XIII's Prime Minister, founded the Royal Academy (Figure 3). At this secondary school reserved for children of the nobility, billiards was considered as important as mathematics and military exercises! In fact, one had to be able to play billiards to qualify to become a King's Musketeer.



Figures 2 & 3. The first table-top version of billiards was developed in France for the entertainment of the royal court. Such luminaries as King Louis XI (left) and Cardinal Richelieu (right) helped popularize the game.

King Louis XIV's doctor prescribed the game to help fight the King's tendency toward obesity resulting from overeating. And, Minister Chamillard only received his nomination to a cabinet post thanks to his gift for playing billiards.

Throughout the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, a billiard table was a must for every castle or mansion.

All European sovereigns had billiard rooms. Obeying an order of the British Government, the Thurston Company of London had a table delivered to Napoleon I during his exile on the island of Saint Helena. Pope Pius IX even had one installed at the Vatican in 1846. By the end of the 19th century, there were over 3,000 billiard games in Paris alone.

Right from the beginning, tables were equipped with six bags, called pockets, one at each corner and in the middle of each of the long sides. Tables could reach a length of 4.20 meters [nearly 14 feet]. By 1850, the pockets had disappeared from French tables; one played with three balls: two white and one red. This is referred to as "French Billiards" (Figure 4). English Billiards is also played with three balls, however the pockets remain.

Two additional cousins of the sport of billiards must be mentioned. The American version, Pool, was created in 1850 by Michael Phelun. Lastly, English army officers in India invented the game of Snooker in 1875. We shall come back to these different sorts of games in a future article. □

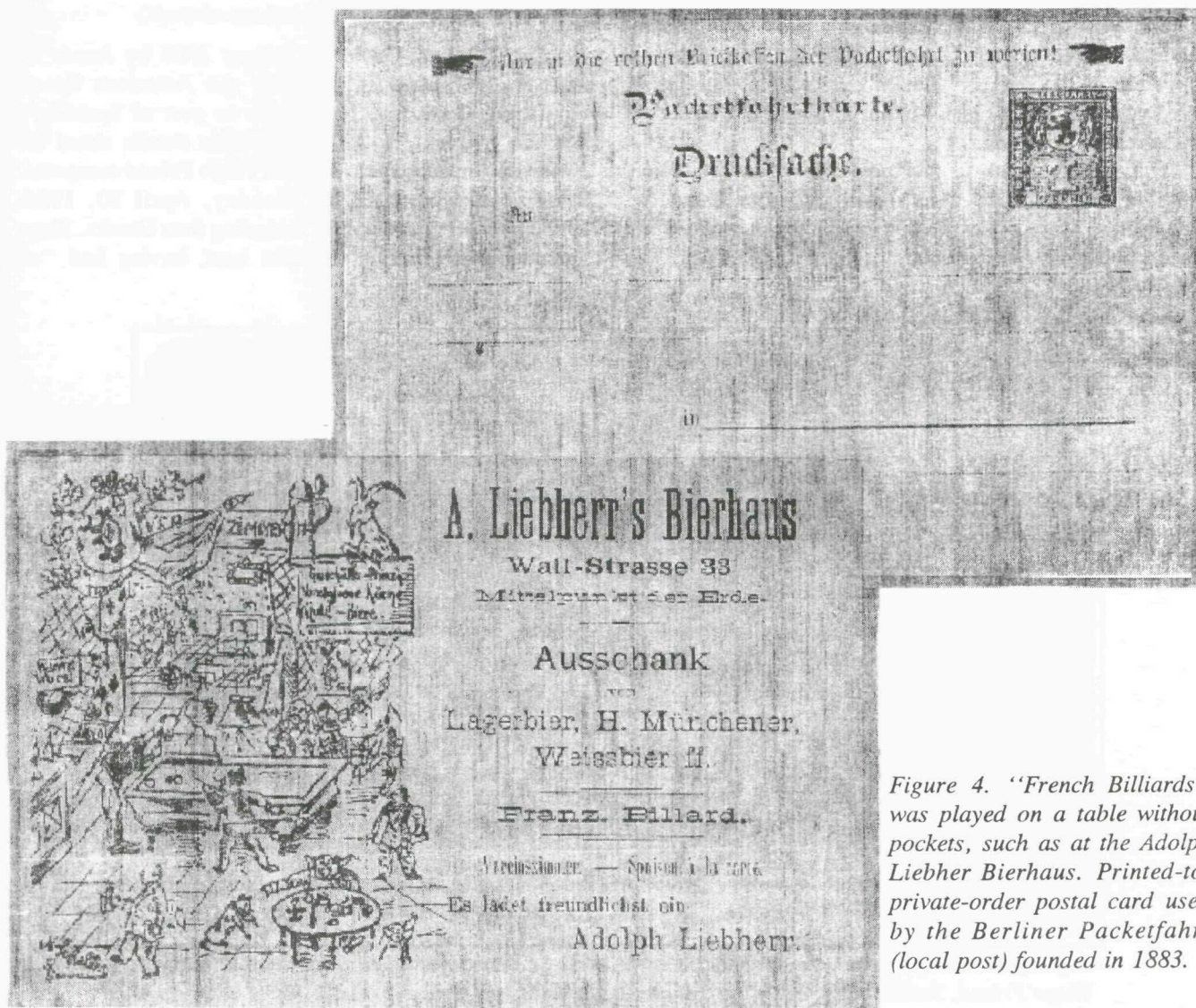


Figure 4. "French Billiards" was played on a table without pockets, such as at the Adolph Liebherr Bierhaus. Printed-to-private-order postal card used by the Berliner Packetfahrt (local post) founded in 1883.

Three Postcards From the 1906 Olympics

by Sherwin Podolsky

For many years, I have had three postcards in my collection and only recently realized they were related to the same sender and addressee. Research resulted in this story.

The Intermediate Olympic Games, also called the Intercalated Olympic Games, were held in Athens from April 22 to May 2, 1906 by the Gregorian (Western) calendar. Because these Games were held between the Olympics of 1904 and 1908, the International Olympic Committee considers them unofficial. However, David Wallechinsky gives complete results for 1906 in his book, *The Complete Book of the Olympics*.

The picture postcards were all sent by Hugo Friend to his father, Marcus Friend, at 4034 Forestville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. At some point, the postcards were readdressed to 309 Oakland Street, Austin, Minnesota. Each is franked with the 10 lepta red Olympic stamp.

The postmarks on the cards are poor. Two have standard Athens cancels; the third bears a faint Athens Zappeion 1906 Olympic Games cancel. All the cards have light and incomplete Austin, Minnesota "Received" machine postmarks.

The picture sides of the postcards show stadium views accompanied by brief messages from Hugo. I have tried to place the cards in a chronological sequence based on Hugo's inscriptions:

Figure 1. "4/29-'06. This was Opening Day of the Games. This is a picture of the American team passing the review stand. X is the Royal party and King Edw(ard)." King Edward VIIth of England attended. Opening Day was April 9, 1906 by the Julian (Eastern) calendar. Hugo dated all his messages according to the Western calendar.

Figure 2. "4/29'06. Dear Father:-This will give you some idea of the Stadium when full. X represents the kings and the whole Royal Party. Hope you are all well. With love, Hugo." Along the right margin of the card is this message: "Took a long drive today, half way out to Marathon — with the Sullivans. 22-11 isn't so rotten, eh?"

Figures 3a & b. "4/30-'06. This is a picture of all the contestants just before the prayer service on the opening day. Hurdles today, whew!"

The Olympic Games at Athens 1906 by James E. Sullivan (published in 1906 by the American Sports Publishing Company, New York as part of Spalding's Athletic Library, No. 273), provides details about the 100-meter hurdles race in which Hugo Friend competed. Trial heats were held on Monday, April 30, 1906. Fifteen athletes participated including four Greeks. Hugo Friend placed first in the first heat, having had "no

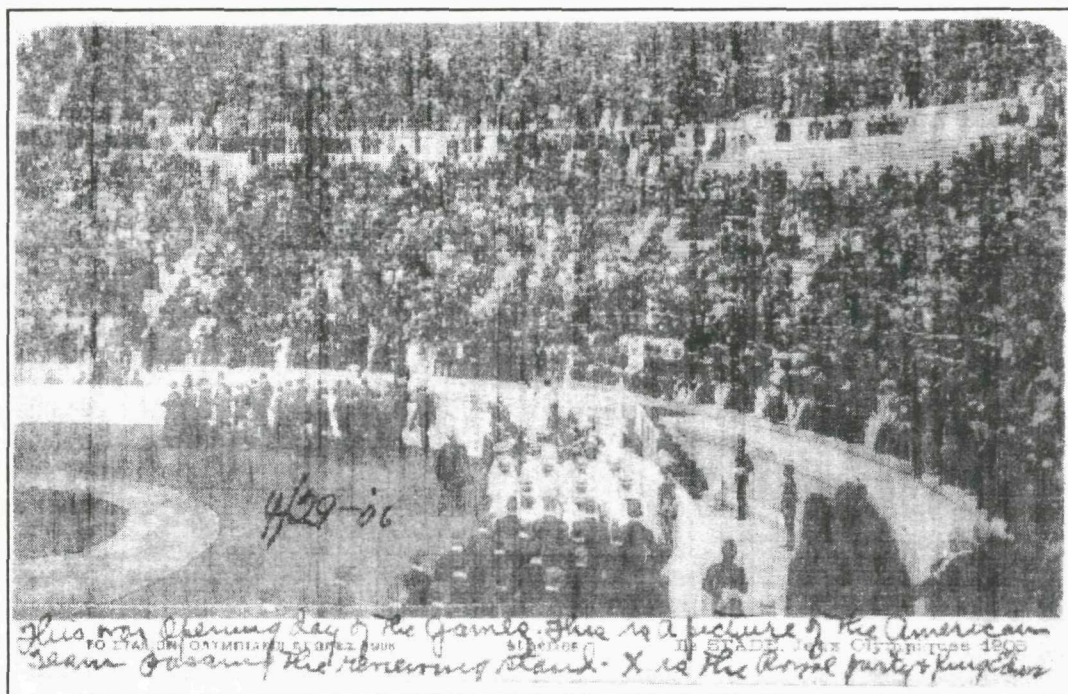


Figure 1. 1906 postcard showing the opening of the Games in Athens. American Olympian, Hugo Friend, mailed the card to his father on April 29.



Figure 3b. The front of the card in Figure 3a. It bears the Zappeion cancel probably dated April 18, 1906. The address and redirection by the U.S. Post Office is similar on all three cards.

trouble winning” it. Robert G. Leavitt, also an American, placed first in the second heat.

In his book, Sullivan has this to say about the final race, held Tuesday, May 1, 1906: “The final heat, between Leavitt (America) and Healey (Australia), was as pretty a race as one would wish to look at. They raced neck to neck to the last jump, Leavitt winning by a foot in 16-1-5.” Wallechinsky notes that both Leavitt and Healey had identical times of 16.2 seconds. Friend finished in fourth place with a time of 16.4 seconds.

By the Julian or Eastern calendar used in Greece, the heats were held on Monday, April 17, with the final conducted on Tuesday, April 18, 1906.

Now, who was Sullivan to whom Hugo refers in one of his messages? American James P. Sullivan placed fifth in the final race of the 1500 meters held April 30, 1906. That race was won by American James Lightbody.

One question still remains. What could Hugo have meant by “22-11 isn’t rotten, eh?” According to Wallechinsky, the Americans won a total of 23 medals including 12 gold, 6 silver and 5 bronze. However, by the end of the day on April 29 (when Hugo wrote his message), the U.S. medal count was 7 gold, 3 silver,

and 3 bronze. So, obviously “22-11” doesn’t refer to this. As the reference appears in connection with the author’s drive to Marathon, might “22-11” be roads in the Chicago area of comparable quality to Greek country roads? Does any reader have another suggestion?

The commemorative cancel appearing on the post card with the inscribed date of April 30 is overcancelled by a May 19, Austin, Minnesota arrival cancel. Both cancels, unfortunately, are faint. Nevertheless, portions of the word “ΖΑΠΠΕΙΟΝ” (Zappeion) are apparent. The card is probably dated April 18, 1906 by the Eastern calendar.

The Hermes ’96 catalog lists stamps of Greece and Cyprus and their postal history. It is dedicated to the centennial of the Modern Olympic Games and includes portions in English about the Olympic issues.

Special cancels were used at the Stadium, Acropolis and Zappeion. Those at the Stadium and Acropolis are dated from 9 to 19 April. Zappeion cancels are dated from 9 to 22 April. It is interesting to note that Zappeion cancels were used after the closing ceremonies on April 19.

One never knows what little surprises await the careful researcher! □

75th Anniversary of the 1920 Antwerp Olympic Games

by Sherwin Podolsky

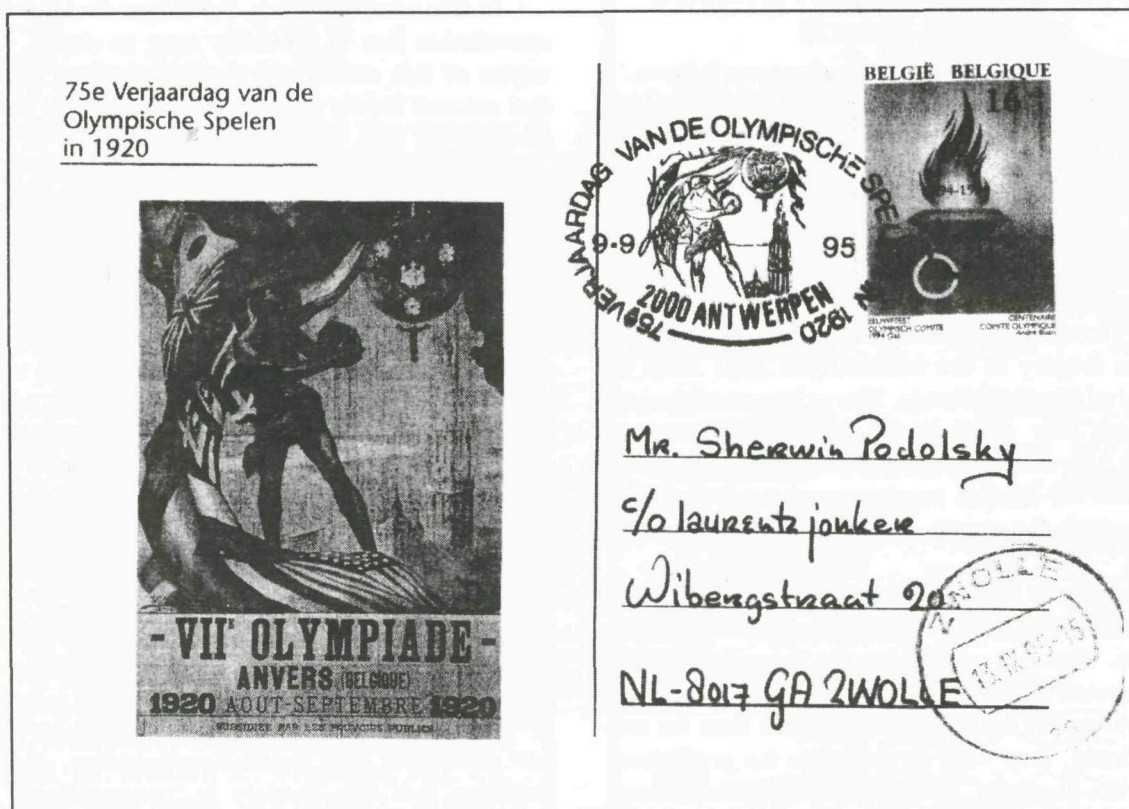
Together with fellow SPI member Pim Hurman, Laurentz Jonker drove to Antwerp, Belgium to attend a memorabilia exhibition commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the 1920 Olympics. Though small, the exhibition was apparently quite nice. A short 8-minute movie was shown of the 1920 Olympics. Especially interesting was footage of the Marathon race.

Laurentz prepared the postcard shown in the accompanying illustration. The cachet, in full color, reproduces the official poster of the VIIth Olympiad. Part of the poster's design is echoed in the special hand cancellation dated September 9, 1995. The semi-postal stamp, which shows the Olympic torch and multi-color Olympic rings, pays the correct rate to the Netherlands.

On their way home late that afternoon, they got somewhat lost. Laurentz, however, thought he saw a stadium. Taking a closer look, the two gentlemen were surprised to discover that it was the old 1920 Antwerp Olympic Stadium. The entry and tower building were gone, but some of the tribunes were still standing. The stadium, although open, was unoccupied.

While exploring for past evidence of the Games, Jonker and Hurman came upon a marble plaque commemorating the laying of the stadium's first stone. On it were engraved the names of the "Comite Executif/VIIeme Olympiad, Anvers, etc." This ceremony was conducted on July 4, 1919. The stone was laid by Monsieur J. de Vos, Mayor of the town of Antwerp "in the presence of civilian, military and consular authorities." For photographs of the plaque and those in attendance, please refer to the July/August 1992 issue of *JSP*, page 13.

The Belgian Olympic Philately Club, which is a member of FIPO (International Federation of Olympic Philately), has about 60 members nationwide. At the exhibition, a number of attractive books and other publications were available. The Belgian Olympic Committee issued a selection of 24 photo postcards. These could be purchased in wrapped sets of 12, which included a small booklet. Readers who are interested in finding out more about these cards may wish to contact the committee directly at: Comité Olympique et Inter-fédéral Belge, Avenue de Bouchout 9, 1020 Bruxelles, Belgium. □



Postcard and special cancel commemorating the 75th anniversary of the 1920 Antwerp Olympics.

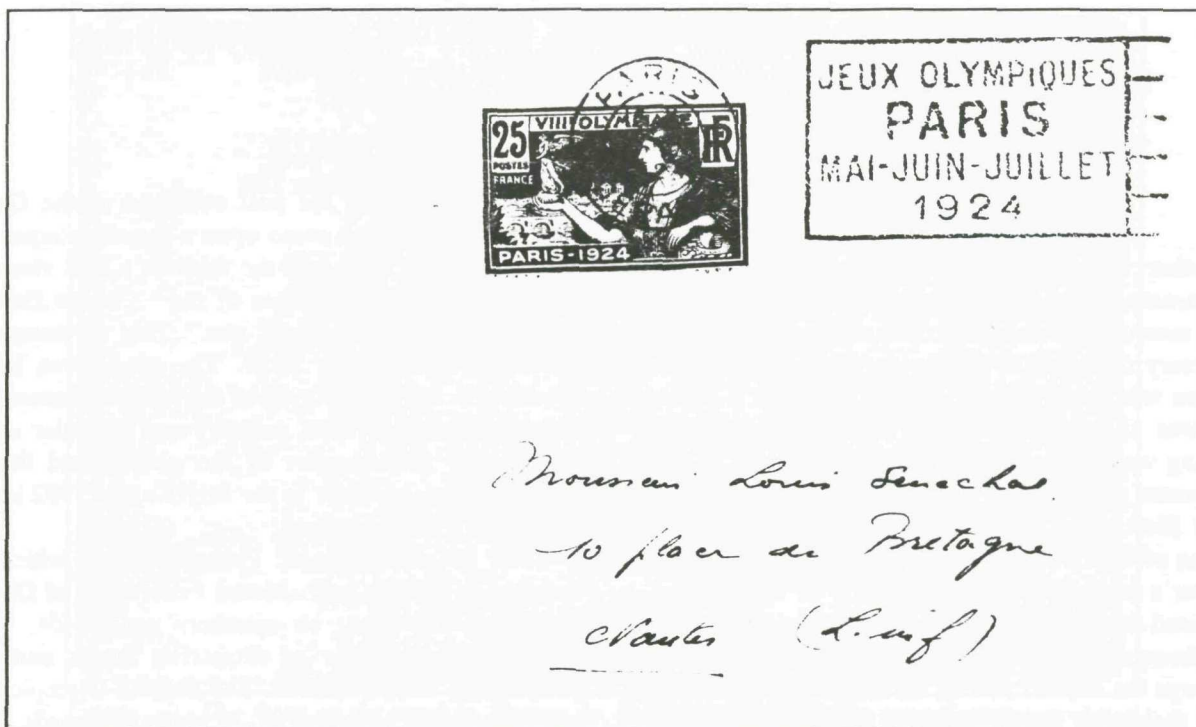


Figure 1. Forgery of the 1924 Olympic Games "Paris Depart" machine cancel.

Where "Paris Departs" From Reality

by Dale Lilljedahl

"Wherever value travels, forgery soon follows." This little saying is especially true in the world of philately. Since the early days of stamp collecting, heretics have been profiting from the earnest desires of honest collectors. The 1924 French Olympic stamp issues enjoy a favorable reputation among Olympic collectors; accordingly, they have been the subject of the forger.

Henri Tractenberg exposed the "Olympic Village" cancellation forgery in the March/April 1981 issue of the *Journal of Sports Philately*. The existence of forgeries of proofs was noted in the November/December 1985 issue. However, there exists another philatelic forgery from the French commemoration of the 1924 Games of which the stamp collecting public should be warned.

This forgery is a bit of an anomaly as it copies the common "Paris Depart" commemorative machine cancellation. Figure 1 reproduces the forgery; Figure 2 shows a genuine example.

Forgers usually try to duplicate a rare item for two reasons. Firstly, they wish to maximize the profit from the enterprise. Secondly, few people are familiar enough with the rarer pieces to easily spot the fake.

In this case, however, the forger decided to copy a cancellation that is relatively easy to obtain. Granted, copies of this cancel can cost as much as \$30.00, but that amount hardly seems worth the effort. Perhaps he thought no one would pursue a forger of low-cost material, and was thus satisfied with a small profit.

For this reason, it is possible that the forger became a little careless, because the forged "Paris Depart" cancel has quite a few errors. At first examination, one notices the prominent difference in the darkness and position of the forged cancel. The fake is very faint compared to a real cancel. The strike is also a little too perfect to have been mass processed at the post office. One may also spot three errors in the typeface used:

1. "2" of the "1924" in the double circle is a different type style.
2. "J" of the slogan's "JUIN" is a different type style.
3. "E" of the slogan's "JUILLET" is a different type style.

In his book *Die Olympischen Spiele im Blickpunkt der Philatelie und ihren Randgebieten*, Heiko Volk explains that this forgery is "postmarked" on two different dates (hour/day month/year):

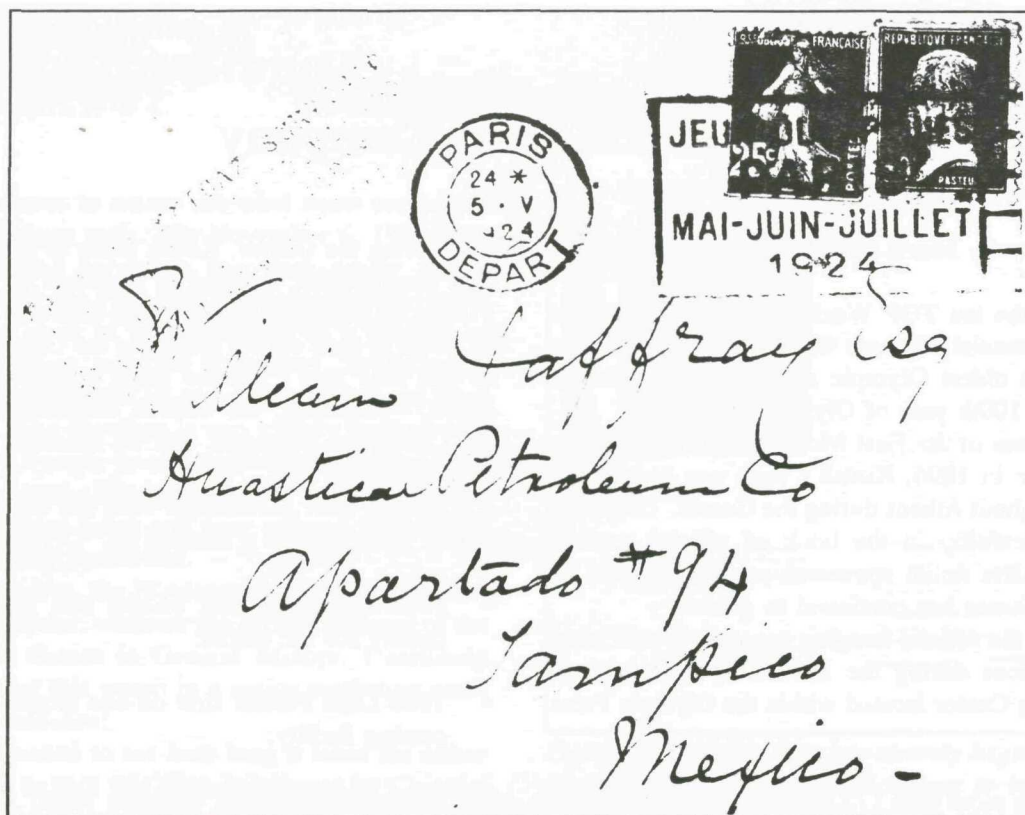


Figure 2. A genuine example of the 1924 Olympic Games cancel.

- | | | | |
|----|--------|----|--------|
| a. | 15 * | b. | 24 * |
| | 8 - IV | | 2 - VI |
| | 1924 | | 1924 |

It is also rather suspicious that the example in Figure 1 is on a very clean envelope that is still sealed, but obviously contains no letter.

Naturally, this forgery only presents a problem to those concentrating on the 1924 Games, and even then it is not common enough to reside in many collections. Still it might be worth a look to see if your collection is tainted. ☐

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Eastman Kodak Company

by Mark Maestroni

As one of the ten TOP Worldwide Sponsors of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, Kodak establishes itself as the oldest Olympic sponsor. These Games mark Kodak's 100th year of Olympic support.

At the Games of the First Modern Olympiad held in Athens, Greece in 1896, Kodak's logo was present on displays throughout Athens during the Games. They also purchased advertising in the book of official results. From that modest initial sponsorship, their support of the Olympic Games has continued to grow.

Kodak, as the official imaging sponsor, is providing extensive services during the 1996 Games from their Kodak Imaging Center located within the Olympic Press Center:

- Developing more than 175,000 rolls of film for over 900 accredited photojournalists;
- Printing over 10,000 black & white and color prints;
- Scanning and digitally transmitting thousands of images around the world;
- Creating more than 250,000 photo ID/security cards for athletes, officials, and volunteers.

Additionally, their health diagnostics products will be used in the network of "Olympic" hospitals around Atlanta.

American athletes benefit through Kodak's sponsorship of 23 U.S. sports federations. They also participate as the official imaging sponsor at more than 400 qualifying events.

During the Games, Kodak plans to provide specialized photographic services to residents of the Olympic Village. A Kodak Fun Saver one-time-use camera is to be given to each athlete attending the Closing Ceremony so that they may "capture those memorable final moments." Naturally, the official documentary movie of the Centennial Olympics will be recorded on Eastman motion picture film.

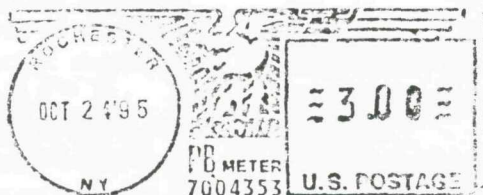
During their association with the Olympic Games, Kodak has achieved a number of "Olympic Firsts":

- 1968 Grenoble: first on-site still film processing facility for the media;
- 1980 Lake Placid: first on-site motion picture processing facility;
- 1988 Calgary: first Olympic photo ID system inaugurated, creating more than 50,000 cards.

Kodak is also the first international sponsor of the 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan.

A red slogan meter is currently in use at their Elmgrove Road facility at Rochester, New York (Figure 1). This is a large PB (Pitney Bowes) meter, number 7004353. The slogan duplicates their official Olympic logo: Kodak/Official Imaging/Sponsor of the/Olympic Games/(Olympic Rings).

Their current Olympic lapel pin with clamp back is reproduced in Figure 2. It measures .75" wide by 1.4" high. The background is black, with official logo at top and Greek column at bottom in gold. Four "tongues of flame" in blue, red, yellow, and green emanate from the top of the column. The back of the pin carries the U.S. Olympic copyright law citation (36 USC 380) and "Imprinted Products/Made in Taiwan." □



Figures 1 & 2. At left, the official Kodak Olympic logo reproduced on a meter machine at the Elmgrove Road facility in Rochester, New York. A slightly altered logo and Greek column appear on their colorful lapel pin (right).

The Sports Arena

by Mark Maestrone

It never ceases to amaze me what some companies will try to get away with. The November 6, 1995 issue of *Time* magazine carried a four-page center spread advertisement for the Plymouth Voyager minivan. Pages two and three open to reveal images of a number of endorsements from satisfied customers. Prominently displayed in the center is an envelope peaking out from under a letter. The envelope is very clearly franked with the green 29¢ Olympic javelin thrower stamp from 1992 clearly displaying the Olympic Rings (Figure 1). Amidst all the rather bland beige and grey colored letters, this green stamp really stands out.

Now remember, the Plymouth line of cars is manufactured by Chrysler, whereas the official sponsor of the 1996 Olympic Games is General Motors. I seriously doubt that use of this stamp in a major marketing campaign is a coincidence!

I'll be interested to see how long it takes for either GM or ACOG to spot this obvious attempt by Chrysler to cash in on the Games without paying a red cent for sponsorship rights.

Never let it be said that Australia Post allows grass to grow under its feet. They have already begun to issue postal products commemorating the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

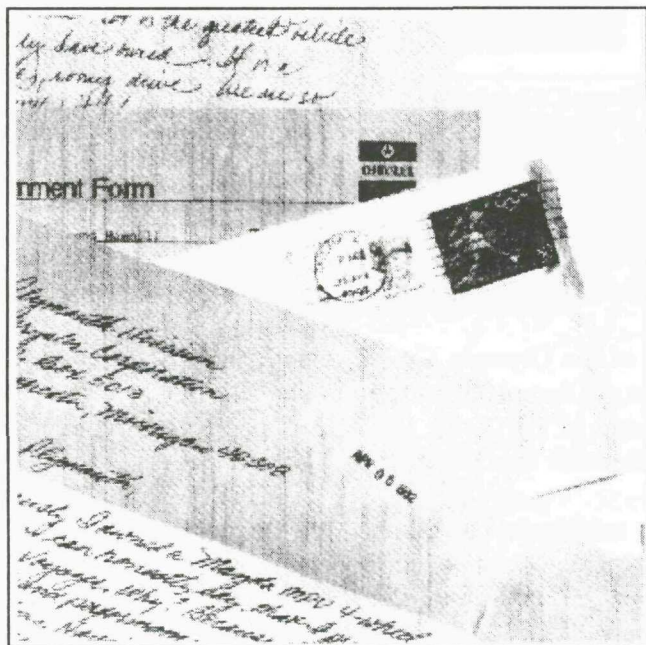


Figure 1. Chrysler, not a 1996 Olympic sponsor, still managed to sneak the Olympic Rings into an advertisement by picturing a cover with an Olympic stamp.

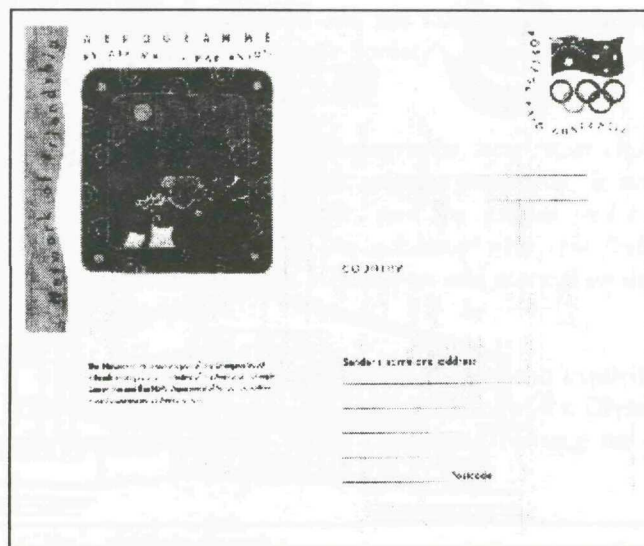


Figure 2. Australia Post has already begun its philatelic commemoration of the 2000 Games to be held in Sydney. This aerogramme promotes an educational program they are sponsoring for those Games.

As reported to us by Helen Cockburn of North Epping, Australia, a special "Network of Friendship" aerogramme was released on September 7, 1995 (Figure 2). The Network of Friendship "links schools in Australia on a one to one basis with schools overseas ... sending information on Olympic activities, school sports, etc."

The indicium on the aerogramme shows the Australian flag with the multi-color Olympic Rings beneath. The cachet and background pattern were designed by Sally Morgan who is well known in Australia for her distinctive Aboriginal style artwork. Imprinted on the back side (when folded): "The Network of Friendship is part of the Olympics 2000 Schools Strategy, a joint initiative of the Australian Olympic Committee and the NSW Department of School Education. Proudly sponsored by Australia Post."

From our SPI member in the PR of China, Henry Wei Hsu, comes a very nice cover with cancel for the wrestling competition at the China National Urban Games (Figure 3). The wrestling events were contested in Suzhou City on October 10, 1995. Only 500 covers were produced by the local Suzhou Sports Philatelic Association.

It seems that the Czech Republic is way ahead of the U.S. on attractive meters for the Atlanta Olympics.

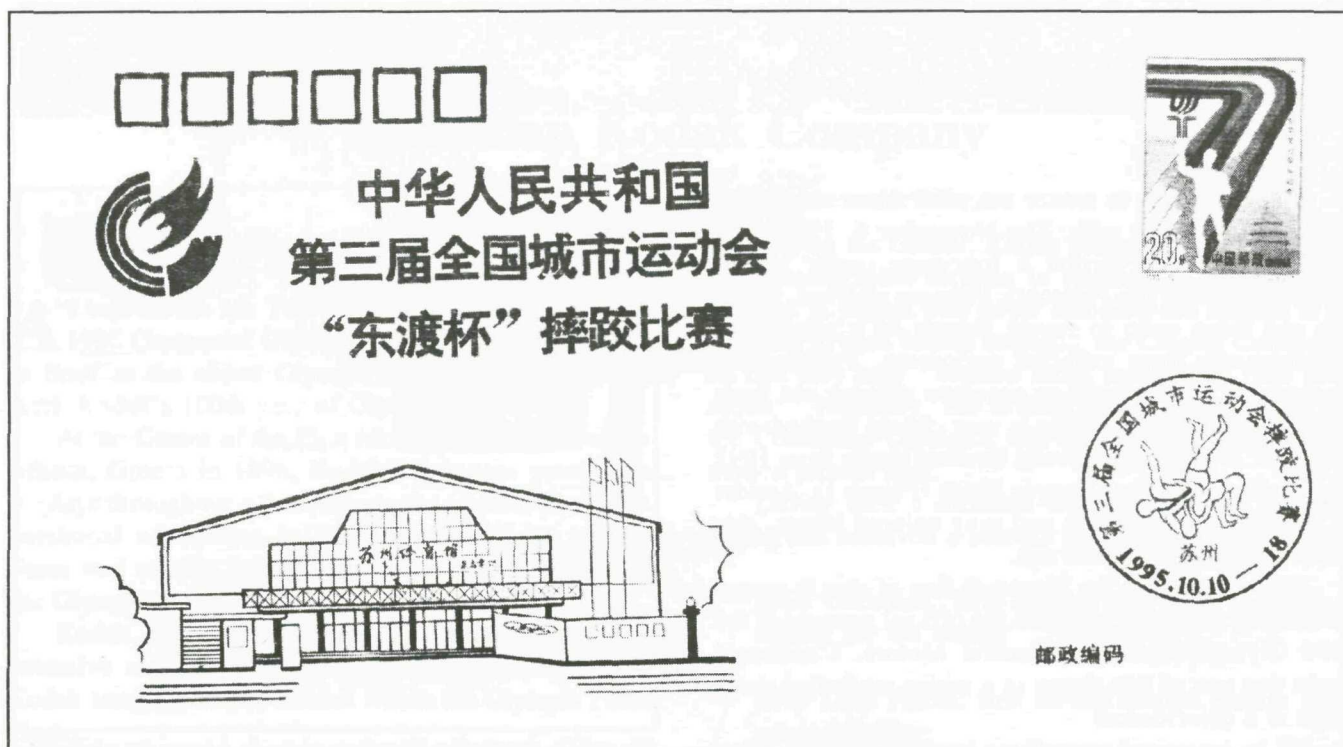


Figure 3. The city of Suzhou, PR of China, commemorated the recent wrestling competition for the China National Urban Games with a special cacheted cover and hand cancel on October 10, 1995.

Olympsport, our sister society there, used a very nice red meter depicting the upper half of the Atlanta Centennial Games logo, and the words "Olymphelex '96" below. The meter also advertises the international philatelic exhibition held earlier this year in Plzen. The example illustrated in Figure 4 bears a July 11, 1995 date.

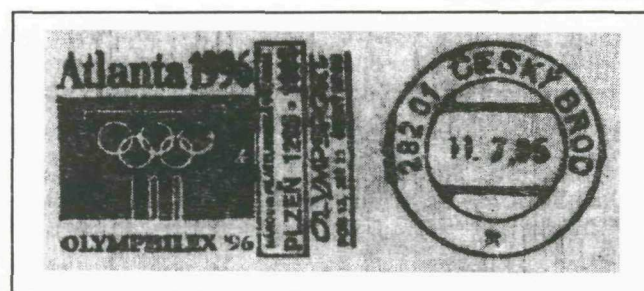


Figure 4. Czech Republic meter produced by Olympsport for the Atlanta 1996 Games and Olymphelex 96.

Athens 1896-1996 World Exhibition of Olympic-Sport Stamps & Documents 25 March - 6 April 1996

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the revival of the Olympic Games, the Hellenic Society of Olympic-Sport Philately is organizing a World Exhibition of Olympic-Sport Stamps and Documents in the Zappeion Hall in Athens. The exhibition is under the aegis of FIPO, the Hellenic Olympic Committee, and Mayor of Athens, with financial support from the Hellenic Post Office.

An honorary class of distinguished collections will be exhibited. The competitive class includes both philatelic and literature entries. The non-competitive Olympic Document class includes correspondence, medals, photographs, newspapers, pins, etc. The deadline for entries was December 15, 1995.

Trips to Marathon and Ancient Olympia are also planned. For information, write the committee at: 20, Didotou Street, 106 80 Athens, Greece.

On Sports and Olympic Exhibiting

by James Bowman

Having just finished reading the November 1995 issue of the *Torch Bearer*, I felt compelled to share some thoughts on the reprint of a paper delivered by Maurizio Tecardi at the recent 2nd Olympic Collectors Fair in Lausanne. Titled "Collecting Olympic Postcards," the paper served, as stated in *Torch Bearer's* preface, as a catalyst for the round-table discussion that followed the talk.

Rather than detailing Tecardi's description of the evolution of postcards (which is quite interesting), I direct my comments to the report on the round-table discussion. It related to a problem faced by most exhibitors of sports and Olympics: is it proper to use postcards in a thematic exhibit?

As a starting point, I cite the following regulation from the American Philatelic Society's *Manual of Philatelic Judging*:

"The use of items such as photographs, newspaper clippings, letters, press releases, picture postcards, is not acceptable within an exhibit, and the exhibit will be downgraded accordingly. An exhibitor who still feels that the material must be included should place it on the Title or Plan pages."

The meaning of the regulation is clear and explicit. This creates some problems for exhibitors of the Olympic Games, especially those exhibitors focusing on a



Figure 1. Hungarian cover with non-philatelic thematic connections to the 1936 Olympic Games.

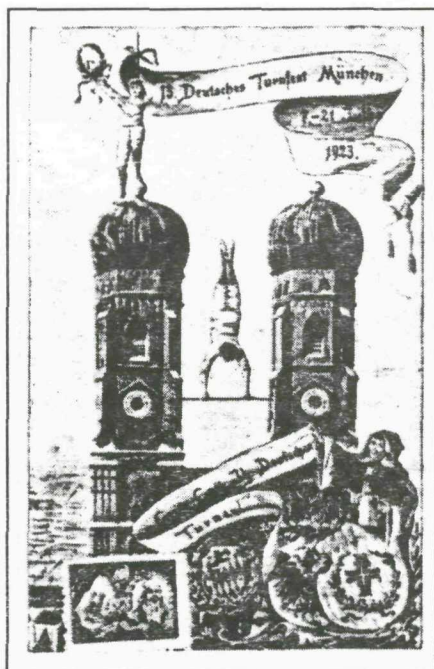


Figure 2 (left & above). PTPO stationery: 13th German Turnfest in Munich, 7-21 July, 1923. Inflationary period usage to Zurich; proper rate of 480 Marks.

single Olympiad held prior to the outbreak of World War II. The problems of exhibiting a single Olympiad were ably discussed by Franceska Rapkin in her article "Collecting a Single Olympiad" (see *JSP*, volume 30, numbers 1 and 2). The problem is that there is not the wealth of material for some of the early Olympiads as compared with today's Games. Although there is a substantial quantity of philatelic material for the 1896 Games in Athens, those issues are difficult to incorporate thematically.

Now back to the round-table discussion. The question was put to the floor:

"Should postcards be permitted in a competitive exhibit, particularly where very little philatelic material exists for a particular Games (for example 1908), and also when considering the vast range of material that may now be included (for example neck-ties depicting a stamp design)."

The discussion concluded with the observation that if those attending were representative of Olympic philatelists, then "FIPO could claim a mandate to approach the FIP and lobby for the acceptance of postcards in competitive exhibits."

I have difficulty embracing such a proposal, yet my alter ego tells me that it is worthy of further consideration. Personally, I would expand the discussions to include more than just postcards. There are other types of documents that could be considered appropriate.

The quality of thematic exhibits has vastly improved over the past two decades. Even some of the "hard-line traditional philatelists" have accepted thematics to

the point of realizing that a quality thematic presentation is more difficult to put together than a traditional exhibit. I would hate to see any action taken that would undo the progress achieved to date. However, if such items were kept in balance with other elements of the exhibit, and assuming guidelines to justify their use could be developed, I could possibly be convinced of the merits of such a proposal. Debate will no doubt continue and it would be interesting to hear from our readers as to their opinions on this matter.

Figure 1 is a large philatelic cover that I purchased while attending the LONDON 90 World Philatelic Exhibition. The corner card is of the Budapest Holiday Travel Office of the German Railway. Note the imprinting at lower left relating to the 1936 Olympic Games. The envelope contained business papers addressed to Corvette Captain Crusemann, a naval officer who was a member of the Kiel Olympic Organizing Committee. He is credited as being the designer of the 1936 Olympic slogan canceller featuring Kiel Bay and the Marine War Memorial at Laboe.

This was the first time I had seen such an entire. Its Hungarian origin prompted me to purchase it. At the same time, I was completely aware that this item would most likely never become part of my 1936 Olympic Games exhibit. First of all is the unusual size — it measures 10½ by 14½ inches! Second, it lacks thematic philatelic significance for the 1936 Games. Corner cards and other non-postal imprints do not cut the mustard! I would submit that if postcards eventually become acceptable for inclusion in thematic exhibits, I would be extremely disappointed if this and similar examples continued to be excluded by the "rules."

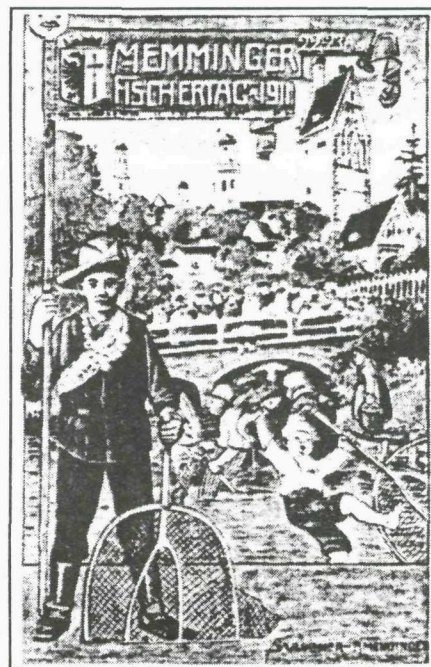
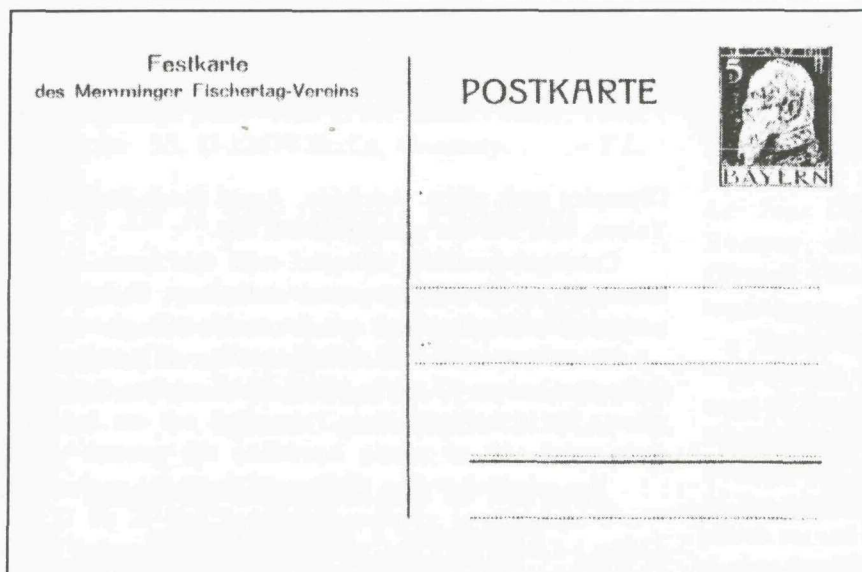
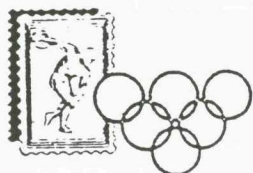


Figure 3 (above & right). PTPO stationery: Memminger Fishing Day, 22-23 August 1911.

While on the subject of postcards, I will close with some examples of “postcards” that are not “postcards,” but rather “printed-to-private-order (PTPO) postal stationery. These are acceptable philatelic elements that can be used to provide pictorial support to the thematic text (see Figures 2 & 3). For additional

details regarding PTPO stationery cards, please refer to my earlier column in *JSP* (volume 31, number 1).

[Editor's Note: The topic of whether or not to allow postcards in thematic exhibits deserves more discussion. Please send your views directly to the editor.]



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Reviews of Periodicals

by Crockett, Lippert & Maestrone

Basketball Philatelic News Volume 9, #3

The November 1995, issue of this newsletter for basketball collectors features a long article on netball, a game derived from basketball and played mainly by women. Its popularity extends chiefly to countries of the British Commonwealth and former British colonies. The article provides a good history of the game and reproduces the philatelic material which exists picturing the sport.

Other topics covered in this issue include pok-tapok, a Mayan ball game; the unissued essays for Ecuador Scott C326; philatelic information about the South Korea stamps (Scott 588 and 589) issued for the 48th National Athletic Meet; similar information about the 1995 stamp of Greece which saluted the 5th World Junior Basketball Championship; and discussion of a minor variety of the Peru Olympic basketball stamp of 1948 (Scott C79) overprinted in 1957 (see the long note in the Scott catalog after the listing for C78-81).

Basketball collectors should write to the editor, George E. Killian, about subscribing to this newsletter. His address is P.O. Box 7305, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7305 U.S.A. - D.C.

IMOS Journal, #87

The August 1995 issue of the German IMOS journal is, as usual, an eclectic mix of articles on both sports and the Olympics. What immediately strikes the eye is the illustration on the cover: an upcoming IMOS hand-cancel dedicated to the first victor at the 1896 Athens Olympic Games — James B. Connolly of the United States. The cancel will be used at Alzey on April 27, 1996 in conjunction with the annual meeting of IMOS.

Konrad Wartgen discusses the symbol of the 1936 Olympic Games, the Olympic bell, in his article "I call the youth of the world." Philatelic elements (stamps, cancels, meters, stationery) as well as non-philatelic items (tickets, vignettes) depicting the Olympic bell are examined. Dieter Kochling continues with his series on the "Biathlon." A brief, but thorough, listing of stamps, cancels, FDCs and stationery produced by Italy for the 1956 Olympic Winter Games in Cortina d'Ampezzo is presented by Hans Georg Lehmann. The recent IMOS trip to Australia is reviewed in pictures and text by Konrad Wartgen and Charly Biernat. The group began their journey in Sydney, site of the 2000 Olympics, then continued on to Melbourne where the 1956

Olympics took place. Adelaide, Ayers Rock Resort in Yulara, and Darwin completed the trip.

Catalogs/checklists included with this issue: team handball; sports-related postal stationery; badminton telephone cards; and new sports cancels listings.

Those interested in more information on IMOS may write the secretary, Herbert Huber, Justus-von-Liebig-Str. 14, 67105 Schifferstadt, Germany. - M.M.

Journal of the Olympic & Sport Philatelic Club of Berlin

The centennial of the German Olympic movement is the theme of the second issue of the club's semiannual journal (No. 2, 1995).

Throughout this 78-page periodical, various authors present different facets of the picture. Dieter Germann begins with a look at "Turnvater" Jahn, the founder of modern gymnastics. Volker Kluge describes the beginnings of the German Olympic movement, followed by philatelic specialties from the Olympics in Berlin, 1936 (Karl Biernat).

Further articles include: a review of the 1936 Olympic Zeppelin flight (Dieter Germann); sessions and congresses of the IOC in Berlin (Gunter Sauer); philatelic use of fund raising labels by the GDR for their 1972 Olympic Team (Alfred Peter); German stamps that were planned for the boycotted Games of 1980 and 1984, but never released (Peter Fischer); postal and advertising cards for the Berlin 2000 candidature (Dr. Dieter Diehlmann); and German sportsmen on stamps (Wolfgang Marx). A final article, by Thomas Lippert, spans the gap to Atlanta 1996.

A very unusual item is examined: a variation of the 1936 Olympic telegramme for the Danzig postal administration. Because some background information is still missing, there remain doubts about this piece.

The lion's share of this issue is occupied by the contributions of journalist and Olympic history expert Volker Kluge on the German Olympic movement. In his various articles, we learn a great deal of the beginnings of Olympism in Germany. Also discussed is the struggle of an outstanding Olympic personality, Dr. Willibald Gebhardt. He encouraged German participation at the first Games in Athens, despite opposition from more nationalist figures. Interestingly, much of the narrow-mindedness found its roots in the ideas of Turnvater Jahn.

This journal is recommended to all those wishing more detailed information on German-related Olympic

themes. Although well-illustrated, the extensive text requires a command of the German language. Single copies are still available from the club for 10 DM, seamount postage paid. Write to Mr. Gunter Sauer, Franz Stenzer Str. 35, D-12679 Berlin, Germany. - T.L.

Ti Yu Ji You (Sports Philately)

Issue #3 carries a cover story on Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the International Olympic Committee. The editor, Henry Wei Xu, continues his multi-part article, "100 Years of the Olympic Games." Covered are the Summer Games of 1948, 1952, and 1956. Among the additional pieces in this issue are discussions on chess, wrestling, and volleyball.

Ti Yu Ji You is printed entirely in Chinese. For more information, please write Mr. Xu, 204-2 Longkang Bridge, Suzhou 215008, People's Republic of China. Mr. Xu also invites all SPI members to submit a free advertisement to his companion publication, the *Pen Pal Guide*. - M.M.

Torch Bearer

Torch Bearer for November 1995, features three long articles. One uses the postcards of the 1952 Helsinki Olympics to discuss and describe highlights of those

Games. Another relates to the Belgian stamps (Scott B48-50) issued May 20, 1920 for the VII Olympiad. In particular, the article questions the validity of these stamps for franking correspondence sent abroad. A recently published study, in French, devoted to this stamp issue, should prove valuable in this regard. It is *Les Jeux Olympiques de 1920 a Anvers* by R. Van Rompay, obtainable from Julien De Vuyst, Belgian Olympic Philatelic Club, c/o Belgian Olympic Committee, Avenue de Bouchout 9, B-1020 Brussels, Belgium.

The third major article is entitled "1992 Barcelona — The Role of the Ships." It concerns, first, the movement of the Olympic torch from Piraeus, Greece to the Iberian peninsula aboard the Spanish frigate *Cataluna*. Second, the article discusses and provides photocopies of the postmarks and cachets of the many tourist ships which served as floating hotels in the Barcelona harbor during the 1992 Games.

Numerous shorter articles concern: 1994-95 Olympic-related phone cards issued in the Czech Republic; a report on the 2nd Olympic Collectors' Fair held in Lausanne, Switzerland in October; and finally, a number of pages are devoted to identifying new sponsors of the British Olympic Association and of the 1996 Games.

Torch Bearer is published quarterly by the Society of Olympic Collectors. For information, contact the secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU, England. - D.C.

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Book Review

by Mark Maestroni

Meccanofilia Sportiva (Sports Philately Meters). Published on the occasion of the 1st National Exhibition of Sports Philately Meters, March 5-6, 1994, Alessandria, Italy, by the Circolo Filatelico Alessandria and Panathlon Club de Alessandria. 80 pages with cardstock covers. Italian language. Available for \$10 US (banknotes only) from Nino Barberis, 24 Viale Famagosta, 20142 Milano, Italy. Two specimen meters (one soccer, the other for cycling) are enclosed with each copy.

The popularity of collecting topical slogan meters seems to constantly increase. This is especially true in Europe as evidenced by the fact that now there is an Italian philatelic exhibition devoted entirely to that single philatelic element! It is hard to imagine such a development in the United States.

That notwithstanding, slogan meters are an integral part of any sports or Olympic collection. This soft-cover publication is a good overview of what is available for many different sports. The Olympics are dealt with very superficially, usually as a result of the sport an Olympic meter depicts. 69 short articles deal with subjects ranging from the basic (American Football Meters) to the rather odd (non-sports meters from publishers of sports magazines). In other words, there is likely something for everyone.

The quality of the publication is excellent. Printed on slick paper, it is profusely illustrated with crisp reproductions of meters. Although written entirely in Italian, the illustrations really speak for themselves. I am advised that as of mid-October, very few copies remain. Those interested should contact Mr. Barberis at their earliest convenience.

'88 Calgary Official Report For Sale

Mint condition in original box. \$150 plus postage from Mark Maestroni, 2824 Curie Place, San Diego, CA 92122, USA.

GAISF Postal Card Available

Special postal card and cancel for the 29th GAISF Congress and General Assembly (International Sports Federations), Seoul, South Korea. Available for \$1 US, postage paid, from Park Jeong Kye, P.O. Box 1028, Busan, 600-610, Republic of South Korea.

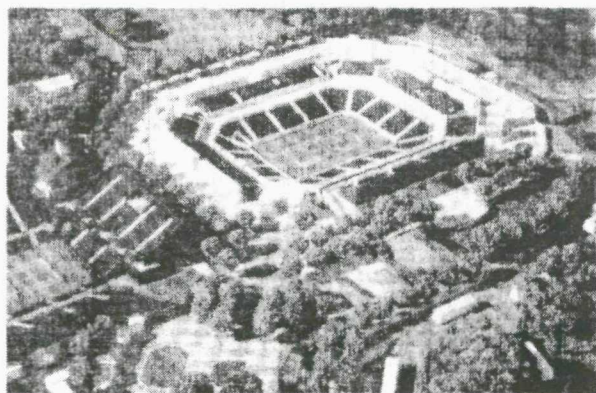
DELPEX '96 Honors 1996 Olympic Games

DELPEX '96, a regional stamp show, will be held on April 13 and 14, 1996 at Brandywine High School in Wilmington, Delaware. A special theme for the exhibition and bourse will be the 1996 Atlanta Centennial Olympic Games. A special award for exhibits with this theme will be presented (providing there are more than 2 qualifying exhibits in this category).

Exhibit frames are standard 16-page (4 x 4) Ameripex-style. Minimum exhibit size is one frame; the maximum is eight frames. There is a frame fee of \$5.00 each. Entry forms must be received by April 3, 1996. For a prospectus and application, please write the exhibits chairman, Mr. J.R. Fahs, 109 Rockingham Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803-2615.

A special cacheted cover commemorating the 1996 Olympics will also be available. The price is expected to be \$1.50 per cover with a SASE. To order covers, please write Mrs. A.A. Gruber, P.O. Box 1073, Newark, DE 19715 USA.

Peach State Stamp Show salutes



the new Stone Mountain Tennis Center, site of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games tennis venue.



Figure 1. 1995 Peach State Stamp Show cacheted cover with the offending "Olympic" words struck out by a coil handstamp.

OLYMPHILEX 96 News

No doubt most readers were upset to read the article by Les Winick in *Linn's Stamp News* in the October 16, 1995 issue (reprinted in the last issue of *JSP*). Fortunately, the situation has changed substantially since then.

In the November 27, 1995 issue of *Linn's*, Winick describes in detail the maneuvering which finally led to the inclusion of the United States Postal Service in plans for the 1996 Olympic Games. A summary of these actions may be found elsewhere in this issue, so I won't repeat them here. Suffice it to say that we faced the prospect of having the Olympic Games in the United States with no participation by the USPS. Imagine stamps with the Olympic Rings being issued by virtually every country in the world *except* the host country, as well as no special cancels, no Olympilex participation by the USPS, etc.

Thankfully, we escaped this ridiculous prospect due to a lot of political pressure exerted on ACOG, as Winick describes. I hope that future organizing committees will avoid these mistakes which take the concept of sponsor protection to an untenable extreme. When a parcel delivery service such as United Parcel Service (UPS) has paid \$40 million for sponsorship rights, one

might expect that it would be the official carrier for express mail and packages. But, this should not extend to freezing out the host nation's postal service from carrying out the philatelic activities that are traditionally part of the Cultural Olympiad. It would make much more sense for organizing committees of future Olympic Games to actively seek out full participation of their Postal Service in appropriate commemorative and philatelic activities, regardless of who pays the big bucks to be the official expedited mail and package delivery sponsor.

Now for the good news. The USPS will issue stamps with Olympic Rings. A discus thrower souvenir sheet and a pane of 20 stamps picturing Olympic athletes in action are planned.

In addition, special pictorial cancels will commemorate the Games with different cancels available at particular venues. According to an article by Lyle Harris in the *Atlanta Journal/Constitution* of November 24, 1995, ACOG spokesman Bill Marks has confirmed that USPS will be able to offer the special cancellations at Olympilex. This will provide an opportunity for collectors to obtain the pictorial cancels without traveling to the venues.

Believe it or not, ACOG had originally planned to allow the USPS to process cancellations only inside the

venues, which would have meant that no one could obtain the cancels unless they had a venue ticket! As of now, the plan is to have a USPS drop mailbox outside each venue so that anyone who wishes can obtain the cancels. It is not yet clear what additional services may be available (e.g. registration), or where. However, I will report on these details as they are worked out.

Another question is what happens to Express Mail addressed to the Olympic Village? Will the USPS be allowed to deliver it? I wonder what postal markings they will place on returned Express Mail to signify that it has been barred because of the sponsor protection program!

Since the final contract between USPS and ACOG has not yet been signed, these may not be the last of the surprises. However, if the negotiations progress as anticipated, the Youth Area and Savvy Stamp Center at Olympihlex will benefit greatly from the USPS presence.

By the time you read this, the United Nations will have officially announced that it will issue Olympic stamps. According to my information, Leroy Nieman, the renowned artist, has agreed to design three Olympic stamps (one for each of the three United Nations offices). At least the stamp for U.N. headquarters in New York will have its first day of issue at Olympihlex on the opening day of the show. I expect that there will be other issues by other countries during the show as well. The official opening ceremony for Olympihlex will be held July 18, 1996 at 5:00 p.m., and will be by invitation only.

Norway has announced an Olympic stamp issue for the Games. This will be the first time they have released a stamp for the Summer Olympics. I will try to report on other countries' plans as details are made public.

Any SPI member who plans to be in Atlanta during the Games is encouraged to volunteer at Olympihlex. This does not commit you to staying for the whole show. Like most philatelic exhibitions, the committee will be delighted to put you to work for whatever time you can spend. For more information on how to volunteer for Olympihlex, please write to the Olympihlex chairperson, Nancy Z. Clark, P.O. Box 1996, Lexington, GA 30648.

An Olympic Cachet Gets Caught in the Middle

Remember the American Express ads during the Lillehammer Olympic Games? We witnessed a big-money conflict between the sponsor (Visa) and the interloper (American Express) who both invested megabucks in television commercials to try to turn the Olympic connection into a corporate success story. You may be surprised to hear that a cachet produced by an Atlanta area stamp show became embroiled in a similar controversy over sponsor rights. The Peach State Stamp Show, Atlanta's annual show which is apprenticing for WSP status, decided to honor the new Stone Mountain Tennis Center as the show theme for 1995. Originally the pictorial cancel was designed to include the word "Olympic," but this was not approved by the Postal Service. At that time, USPS negotiations with ACOG were stalled and ACOG would not approve the use of any of the registered Olympic devices by the postal service.

The cancel was redesigned (Figure 1). A cachet was printed that showed a photo of the tennis center and the words "Peach State Stamp Show salutes the new Stone Mountain Tennis Center, site of the 1996 Summer

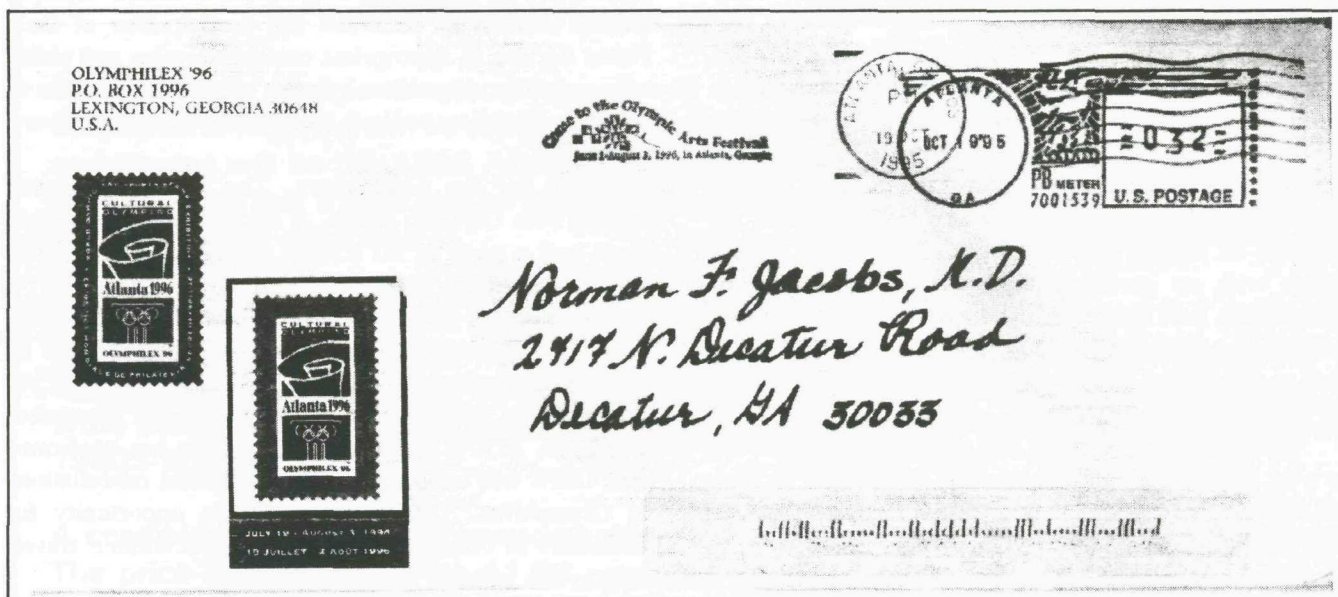


Figure 2. The newest red ACOG meter, released October 19, 1995, invites the world to Atlanta's Olympic Arts Festival. This is the third in a series of five meters to be used by ACOG.

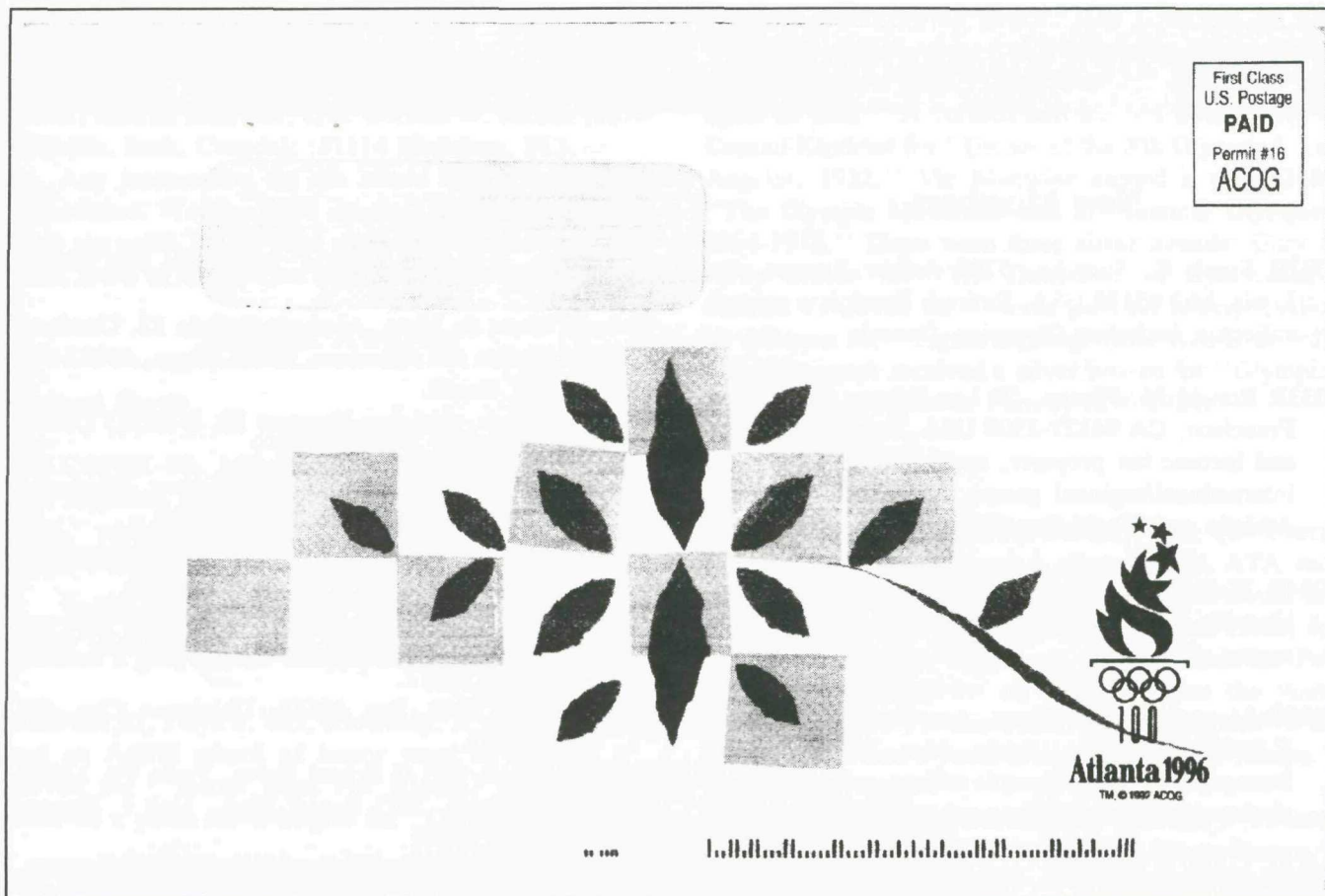


Figure 3. Olympic ticket confirmation notices were mailed in a large envelope printed in green. Franking is with a paid permit that includes the acronym "ACOG" in the indicium.

Olympic Games tennis venue." When the north metro Atlanta postmaster saw this, he refused to let his employees cancel the covers. The Peach State committee was required to use a looping coil handstamp to cover the offending words on the cachet. This is the same handstamp used to block out incorrect bar codes. Covers prepared in this fashion were cancelled on October 28, the first day of the show.

Unfortunately, the forbidden words showed through the looping coil handstamp. As a result, the covers cancelled on October 29 also have an indelible black line obliterating the words. These show covers, originally intended to include an "Olympic" cancellation, but then produced without it, are certainly evidence of the political controversy and tension between the USPS and ACOG, as well as the lengths to which ACOG will go to protect the designation "Olympic."

Covers — Some Better Than Others

Shown in Figure 2 is a first-day-of-use cover of the newest meter which shows the quilt of leaves theme and reminds us to "Come to the Olympic Arts Festival June 1-August 3, 1996, in Atlanta, Georgia." The envelope

has a printed Olympilex corner card as well as a purple and gold label, making it a very attractive cover overall.

Unfortunately, ACOG chose the cheap route for its official ticket confirmation forms which were recently mailed out to everyone who ordered tickets. My form arrived in the cover shown in Figure 3. It has a permit imprint to pay first class postage, and a one-color green logo and leaf pattern on the cover. Frankly, it blends in very easily with the huge amount of junk mail that I receive at my office. I wonder how many of these were thrown away?

Considering that ACOG had the use of our money for almost five months interest-free, I think they could have done a much better job on the design of the confirmation envelopes.

[Editor's Note: In actuality, the confirmation envelopes are definitely worth holding on to. The U.S. postage paid indicium clearly incorporates the acronym "ACOG." This provides a legitimate thematic philatelic connection to the 1996 Olympic Games.]

Since you will be receiving this issue of *JSP* in January (although it is Thanksgiving at this writing), let me close by wishing all SPI members a healthy, happy and very Olympic 1996.

News of Our Members

by Dorothy Crockett & Margaret Jones

New Members

- 2032R Frank C. Swatske, 5735 Arthur Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63139 USA. Retired, Frank is a general collector, including Olympics. (Jones)
- 2033R Ronald M. Hirano, 59 Los Pamos Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127-2309 USA. Ronald, a drafter and income tax preparer, specializes in Olympics, international/regional games, and World/European Athletic and World Cup Championships. (Jones)
- 2034R Wallace H. Henderson, P.O. Box 523, Hopkinsville, KY 42241 USA. Wallace specializes in soccer. (Jones)
- 2035R Mercedes Amat Ricart, America, no. 10 atico, E-08041 Barcelona, Spain. Mrs. Ricart collects Summer Olympics, Olympic sailing, and international championships. (Maestrone)
- 2036R William D. Cox, 338 Santa Helena, Solana Beach, CA 92075 USA. (Jones)
- 2037R Brenda J. Patterson, P.O. Box 3456, Phoenix, AZ 85030-3456 USA. Mrs. Patterson, a jewelry designer, specializes in tennis. (Jones)
- 2038R Mark H. Sidman, 6666 - 32nd Place NW, Washington, DC 20015 USA. An attorney, Mark's special interests are pre-1964 Olympics, baseball, winter sports, and martial arts. (Maestrone)
- 2039R Heinz A. Potschka, P.O. Box 524, Helen, GA 30545 USA. A resort manager, Heinz specializes in the Olympics. (Reiss)

Resigned:

Ewert R. Arwidsson (1085)
Helmuth Hagin (1809)
Thomas W. Terry (311)
Olympic Museum (1871)

Deceased:

Jose Turo Carol (281L)

Name Correction:

Jerome Wachholz

New Addresses:

- Bob Burns, P.O. Box 421054, Plymouth, MN 55442-1054.
- Roberto Gesta de Melo, Alameda Bolivia 12, Condominio Jardim das Americas, Ponta Negra, 69037-280 Manaus, Brazil.
- Werner Eismar, Auf dem Horstert 10, D-52353 Duren, Germany.
- Bob Farley, 3 Wain Green, Long Meadow, Worcester WR4 0HP, Great Britain.
- Boris Fomenko, Apt. 7, 302 Marine Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209-8020.
- Joe Hopper, 850C Travis, Carson City, NV 89701.
- Ronald A. Jones, 1040 Sunset Drive, New Richmond, WI 54017.
- Peter Martin, P.O. Box 45553, Oklahoma City, OK 73145-0553.
- Bob Mummert, 303 G Bristol Drive, York, PA 17403.
- Chris Northwood, 2633 Sunset Blvd., Unit 1, Stevens Point, WI 54481.
- Endel Pool, 1B Thyme Drive, Lakewood, NJ 08701-2453.
- Andrew F. Potter, Flat 9, Radley Court, 144 Selhurst Road, South Norwood, London SE25 6LP, England.
- Rick Van Tassell, P.O. Box 1948, Philadelphia, PA 19105-1948.
- William E. Wollney, 1571 W. Ogden Avenue, Apt. 1536, La Grange Park, IL 60526.

Total Membership, October 31, 1995 = 452

A Message From The Membership Chairman

The following members had SPI correspondence returned marked "forwarding time expired." If you know any of their whereabouts, please inform me:

Joseph T. Brezinski (1595)
Carol Costa (1370)
Edgar P. Kaiser (1908)
Olympic Moments Philatelic (1633)

If you are a member who has multiple numbers, please contact me, including both your current and any previous numbers. Your original number will be restored to you.

Members with possible duplicate memberships that could not be contacted:

William Anderson (#0435 Toledo, OH); (#1064 Shreveport, LA). Art Brooks (#1178 Smyrna, GA); Charles A. (#936 Detroit, MI). Wirt Gammon (#719); Wirt H. Sr. (#201) both of Rossville, GA. Gordon W. Jukes (#670 Melville, Sack, Canada); (#1114 Marathon, FL).

Any information on the above would be greatly appreciated. We also need every U.S. member's nine-digit zip code. Please send all correspondence to Margaret Jones at the address inside the front cover.

Exhibit Awards

National Shows

MILCOPEX 95, Milwaukee, WI (October). A silver was awarded to Patricia Loehr for "The World of Golf," while a junior silver and the ATA Youth Award went to Tracy Zavrl for "Olympics."

BALPEX 95, Baltimore, MD (October). Morris Rosen received a gold for his "Olympic Games 1896-1932."

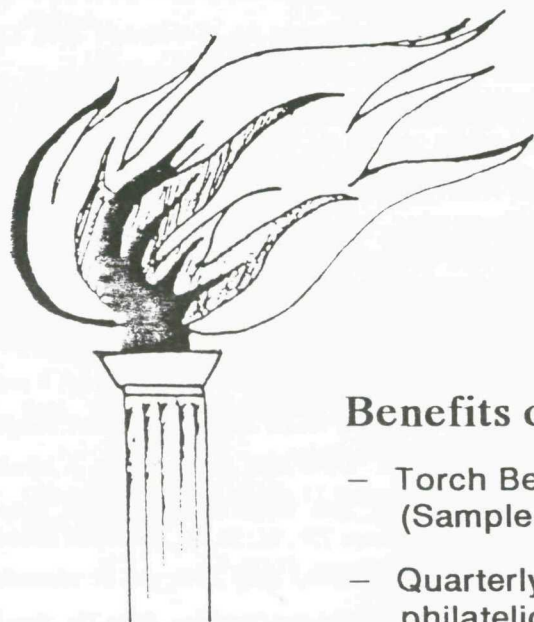
AIRPEX 95, Dayton, OH, (October). A vermeil award and an AAPE award of honor went to Charles V. Covell for "Soccer (Just For Kicks)." Tracy Zavrl received a youth silver-bronze for "Olympic."

VAPEX 95, Virginia Beach, VA, (October 20-22). VAPEX hosted this year's SPI Convention. Cora Collins won a gold and the SPI President's Trophy for "The Sport of Golf." A vermeil and the SPI award went to Conrad Klinkner for "Games of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, 1932." Vic Manikian earned a vermeil for "The Olympic Movement and the Summer Olympics, 1894-1948." There were three silver awards: Gary & Holly Gibson for "The Dimension of Gymnastics"; Charles V. Covell for "Soccer (Just for Kicks)"; Alice V. Johnson for "Figure Skating" (also AAPE award). Edwin Parrasch received a silver bronze for "Olympics in Philately, the Classic Period, 1896-1928."

Local/Regional Shows

Peach State Stamp Show, Duluth, GA, (October). Norman F. Jacobs Jr. won a silver-bronze, ATA second place award, AAPE award, and novice award for "Tennis." A silver-bronze went to Heinrich Hahn, for "Olympic Games — Germany 1936." Nicholas Palmer's "Olympic Sports on Stamps" won the youth grand, vermeil, ATA third, and ATA youth grand. John Robert White won a youth bronze for "Sports Stamps."

Eureka Stamp Show, Eureka, CA (October). Thomas Fitzpatrick won a youth silver for "US Sports Stamps."



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Mrs. E Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster LA1 2TU
Great Britain.

New Stamp Issues

by Brian Bjorgo

The following list of sports stamps has been reported in *Linn's*, *Stamps* and *Scott's Monthly Journal* between July and September 1995. If any errors or omissions are noted, please contact the editor of this column.

Albania: 1994, IOC Centenary. 80 lek, Olympic rings and maps of continents in a circle. #2457.

Andorra (Fr.): 24 April 1995, World Rugby Cup. 2.80f, rugby player and globe.

Antigua & Barbuda: June 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG/Olympic Medalists. 15c, 20c, 65c, 90c, \$1.20, \$5, two \$6 s/s: athletes or teams.

Armenia: 31 December 1994, IOC Centenary. 40r.

31 December 1994, Armenian OC. 30r, stadium.

Azerbaijan: 1994, World Cup Soccer. 5m, 10m, 20m, 25m, 30m, 50m, 80m, 100m s/s: soccer plays. #438-445.

Austria: 28 April 1995, Nature Lovers Club Centenary. 5.50s, hiking. #1676.

Belgium: 21 August 1995, Centenary of Royal Belgian Union of Soccer Societies. 16f+4f semipostal, soccer ball.

Bhutan: 17 July 1994, World Cup Soccer. 15ng, trophy and mascot with soccer ball.

Bulgaria: 15 December 1994, Winning Bronze Medal in World Cup Soccer. Overprint in margin of previously issued s/s.

Burkina Faso: 1994, IOC Centenary. 320f, Olympic rings and Pierre de Coubertin.

Cayman Islands: 15 April 1995, CARIFTA & IAAF Games. 10c, 20c, 30c, \$1.30: sports. \$2 s/s, sports complex. #699-703.

Cambodia: 23 January 1994, Lillehammer 1994 WOG. 150r, 250r, 400r, 700r, 1000r and 1500r s/s: winter sports.

20 March 1994, Atlanta 1996 OG. 150r, 200r, 250r, 300r, 600r, 1000r and 1000r s/s: winter sports.

23 April 1994, IOC Centenary. 100r, 300r, 600r: Olympic flag, torch and Pierre de Coubertin.

17 June 1994, World Cup Soccer. 150r, 250r, 400r, 700r, 1000r and 1500r s/s: soccer scenes.

Central African Republic: 1994, IOC Centenary. 60f, 405f and 675f s/s: flag, Pierre de Coubertin, and runner with torch.

1994, Lillehammer 1994 WOG Medalists. Overprints of winners names on 1994 WOG stamps (#1031-32): pane of eight 100f stamps and pane of nine 200f stamps.

1995, World Cup Soccer Winners. 300f, 385f, 405f, 430f, 500f, 1000f and 2000f s/s.

China P.R.: 1 May 1995, 43rd World Table Tennis Championships. 20f, player; 50f, arena. #2567-8.

Colombia: 1995, World Offroad Bicycle Championship. 400p, bicyclists and medal. #1111.

Croatia: 2 November 1994, IOC/Croatian Olympic Committee. 16 postal tax stamps, 50 L, issued as 1 se-tenant pair, two m/s of eight stamps. #RA52, a-b, RA53, a-h, RA54, a-h.

4 May 1995, World Team Handball Championship. 4k, player. #283.

Cuba: 11 March 1995, Pan-American Games. 10c, 15c, 65c, 75c, 85c, 90c: various sports. #3624-29.

Dominica: May 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG. 15c, 20c, 25c, 55c, 65c, \$1, \$2, \$5, two \$6 s/s: scenes from past OG.

Dominican Republic: 20 April 1995, Pan-American Games. 4p, 13p: taekwondo and teams. #1180-1.

1995, Central American Basketball Championships. 3p.

Finland: 10 May 1995, Motor Sports/Finlandia 95. S/s of four 3.50m stamps: drivers and cars. #961, a-d.

Gabon: 1994, World Cup Soccer. S/s of 4 stamps: 100f, 175f, 200f and 300f.

Gambia: August 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG/Olympic Athletes. 1d, 1.25d, 1.50d, 2d, 3d, 5d, 10d, 15d, m/s of eight se-tenant 3d stamps, two 25d s/s: athletes in various sports.

Ghana: 2 May 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG/Olympic Gold. 500c, 800c, 900c, 1000c, m/s of 12 se-tenant 300c, two 1200c s/s: sports, athletes, Pierre de Coubertin. #1797-1803.

Gibraltar: 8 May 1995, Island Games. 24p, 44p, 49p: sailing, running and swimming.

Greece: 21 June 1995, 5th World Junior Basketball Championship. 10dr, symbolic design.

Grenada: 8 May 1995, 18th World Scout Jamboree. Strip of three se-tenant stamps 75c, \$1, \$2. \$1, mountain climbing. \$6 s/s repeats the stamps. #2426-7.

July 1995, Atlanta 1996 Pre-Olympics. Four 75c, four \$2, two \$6 s/s: sports and athletes.

Grenadines: July 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG. Three 15c, three \$3, two \$6 s/s: sports.

July 1995, Classic Racing Cars, M/s of six \$1 stamps and \$6 s/s: racing cars.

Guyana: 8 February 1995, Babe Ruth Birth Centenary. \$1000 gold-foil stamp, Babe Ruth.

DOI unknown, German Gold Medalists. S/s of two (\$135, \$190): German athletes.

Hungary: 12 June 1995, Olympiafila 95. Two se-tenant triangular stamps (22f+11f): symbolic design of Olympic rings.

12 June 1995, Hungarian Olympic Committee Centenary. Strip of three se-tenant stamps (22f, 60f, 100f): gymnast, javelin thrower and fencer.

Isle of Man: 8 May 1995, Classic and Vintage Cars/90th Anniversary of Motor Car Racing in British Isles. 20p, 24p, 30p, 36p, 41p, 42p, 1L s/s: drivers and their cars. #643-9.

Iran: 18 July 1994, Islamic University Students Games. 60r, symbolic globe. #2633.

Ireland: 6 April 1995, World Rugby Cup. 32p, 52p, 1L s/s: players in action.

Israel: 7 June 1995, 15th Hapoel Athletic Games. 1s, canoeing.

Italy: 8 May 1995, Italian Sport/Volleyball Centenary. 750L, volleyball.

5 June 1995, Italian Sport/National Soccer Championship. 750L, soccer players and emblems.

Japan: 3 March 1995, Japan-Brazil Friendship. 80y, soccer players. #2456.

Korea P.D.R.: 20 January 1994, Lillehammer WOG Winners. 10ch, 20ch, 30ch, 40ch, 1w, 1.50w, six 1w s/s, 2.50w s/s: athletes.

28 April 1995, Pyongyang International Sports and Cultural Festival for Peace. 20ch, two 40ch, 1w s/s: emblem, wrestler, stadium and mascot.

20 May 1995, Folk Games. 60ch, tae kwon do; 70ch s/s.

26 June 1995, Atlanta 1996 OG. Two 50ch, boxing and weightlifting; 1w s/s, shooting.

Kuwait: June 1995, Volleyball Centenary. 50f, 100f, 150f.

Laos: 5 April 1995, Atlanta 1996 Pre-Olympics. 60k, 80k, 200k, 360k, 700k, 700k s/s: sports.

Liberia: 4 August 1995, Fifth IAAF World Track and Field Championships. S/s of two \$1 stamps: athletes, flags, stadium, mascot.

Lithuania: 30 July 1995, Fifth Lithuanian World Games. 30ct.

Luxembourg: 15 May 1995, Games of Small European States. 16f, logo. #930.

Malagasy: 19 January 1994, Olympics. 5000f gold-foil stamp, s/s: pole vault (Atlanta 1996 OG). 10000f gold-foil stamp, s/s ski jump (Lillehammer WOG).

1994, Summer (Olympic) Sports. 5f, 140f, 525f, 550f, 640f, 720f, 1500f: sports.

1994, IOC Centenary. Three se-tenant stamps (two 2500f, one 3500f): flag, flame, and Pierre de Coubertin.

3 April 1995, Summer Sports. 5f, 140f, 525f, 550f, 640f, 720f, 1500f, 2000f: sports.

Mali: 1994, IOC Centenary. 225f, 240f, 300f, 500f, 600f s/s: Pierre de Coubertin, torch and torch bearer, Olympic rings, medal, flame and statue of bearer.

1994, Lillehammer WOG Medalists. Overprints on 1994 WOG stamps in se-tenant pairs (150, 200, 225, 750f) and two 2000f s/s: names of medalists.

World Wide Web Addresses

Following are a variety of World Wide Web addresses of interest to sport and Olympic collectors. The URL (universal resource locator) is printed in italics. The URL should be entered exactly as printed — no extra spaces should be entered; observe case of letter. (*=new listing)

SPI: <http://www.infopost.com/philately/index.html>

American Philatelic Society:

<http://www.west.net/~stamps1/apshows.html>

Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (1996)

<http://www.atlanta.olympic.org>

Croquet in Canada:

<http://www.wimsey.com/~dms/Croquet.html>

Designs By Margarita (Olympic & sports pins):

<http://www.infopost.com/margarita.html>

Nagano Olympic Organizing Committee (1998):

<http://www.linc.or.jp/Nagano/index.html>

NationsBank (an Olympic sponsor):

<http://www.nationsbank.com/olympic.html>

Olympic Page (unofficial):

<http://www.intadv.com/olympic.html>

Pacific '97 International Philatelic Exhibition:

<http://www.west.net/~stamps1/pacific1.html>

Philatelic Resources by Joe Luft:

<http://www.execpc.com/~joeluft>

*Pittsburgh Oly. Bid Organizing Com. (2012):

<http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/usr/mmdg/pgh~home.htm>

*Salt Lake City Olympic Org. Com. (2002):

<http://www.sl2002.org/olympics>

*Sydney Org. Com. for the Oly. Games (2000):

<http://www.sydney.olympic.org>

United States Postal Service:

<http://www.usps.gov>

Commemorative Sports Cancels

by Mark C. Maestrone

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[Special Note: No new cancel information was received from the USPS from June - September due to a breakdown in their notification system.]

SPORTS CROSS INDEX OCT-DEC '95

ARCHERY: 95X18-457.

AUTO RACING: 95X14-273.

BASEBALL: 95X12-027, 95X27-837, 95X28-054, 95X28-208, 95Y04-198, 95Y04-207, 95Y05-207.

BASKETBALL: 95X27-837.

FISHING: 95X23-757.

FOOTBALL: 95X07-691, 95Z09-241.

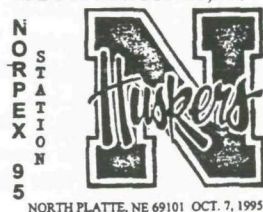
GOLF: 95X21-134, 95X23-741.

ICE HOCKEY: 95X07-152.

ICE SKATING: 95Y25-458.



95X07-152 PITTSBURGH,PA 7



95X07-691 NORTH PLATTE,NE 7



95X12-027 FALL RIVER,MA 12



95X14-273 RANDLEMAN,NC 14-15



95X18-457 SYRACUSE,OH 18



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THE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP
95X23-741 TULSA,OK 23-29



95X23-757 LAKE ATHENS,TX 23



95X27-837 BOISE,ID 27



95X28-054 BURLINGTON,VT 28



95X28-208 GAITHERSBURG,MD 28



Judy Johnson

William Julius Johnson 1900-1980

Memorial Station

Marshallton, DE 19808

November 4, 1995

Inducted into the
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Hall of Fame
1975

95Y04-198 MARSHALLTON,DE 4



Lions Salute "Graniteman"

Cal Ripken, Jr.

November 4, 1995



95Y04-207 GREENBELT,MD 4



Lions Salute "Graniteman"

Cal Ripken, Jr.

November 5, 1995



95Y05-207 GREENBELT,MD 5

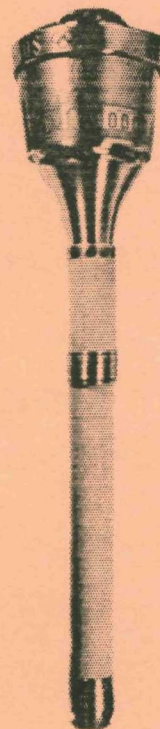
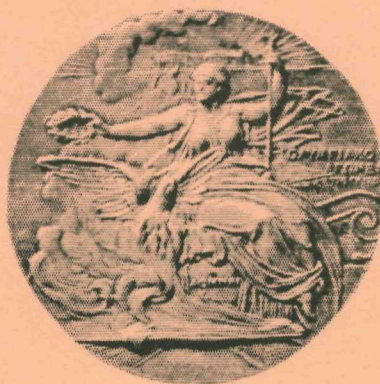


95Y25-458 BLUFFTON,OH 25



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