



The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

WORLDWIDE - 1840 to 1940: A LIFE OF ADVENTURE & TRAVEL PROMPT THIS COLLECTOR'S SOLUTION TO COLLECTING WORLDWIDE STAMPS

Beginning my collection in a *Scott's Imperial* junior album in 1925, at the age of 12, and gradually advancing through the *Modern* one, and finally through the *International Junior*, in two volumes, up to World War II. My collection was stored in the early 1940's as I went off to war.

In Europe, and later Japan and Washington, D.C., I continued accumulating stamps, specializing in Japan and Japanese occupation issues of Southeast Asia and a small collection of Yemen, started in 1931 with my two-volumes still in storage.

Moving to Lebanon and the Arab world in 1950, after finishing my war service in the Pentagon, I purchased a later volume of the *International* in order to attempt to keep up with the enormous worldwide output of the late 1940's and early 1950's, but soon came to the realization that the task would be out of my means, with a new album necessary every year or two! As my specialties, Japan, Yemen and Hawaii, together with my worldwide postal stationery, would have been sufficient to keep me philatelically occupied the rest of my life, even if I left the worldwide scope dormant, I seriously considered that solution. But, what about my extensive U.S. collection and worldwide issues going back to my 1925 beginnings?

While pondering these questions in 1962, in Beirut, the Yemen civil war broke out, and, as I had become a Yemen citizen in 1958 and was a personal friend of the new king, Mohammed al-Badr, having known him since a preliminary Yemen trip in 1953 and during my 1956-60 residence there, I accepted his request for me to return to Yemen as an officer in the Royal Army, which I carried out until the end of the war in 1970.

Very early it became evident that someone would need to organize and administer the Royalist Yemen postal services, continuing the issues of the Mutawakelite Kingdom of Yemen, which had begun in 1926. The governmental ministers concerned prevailed on me to assume the task in addition to my military, publicity, and other duties. Accordingly, by November 1962, I was able to issue the first sets of the old Mutawakelite Kingdom of Yemen stamps overprinted in Arabic and English: "Free Yemen Fights for God, Imam and Country", prior to definitive and commemorative issues of the new kingdom in its half of Yemen.

My general and specialized collections again had to be stored "for the duration" (which lasted 8 years), but during this time I had the time of my philatelic life with regular and philatelic issues, running from revalidating overprints on consular stamps, Royalist surcharges on captured "Yemen Arab Republic stamps of the Nasserist Egyptian regime, issuing imperfs and provisional overprints, printing stamps on colored paper, devising postal cards and aero-

grams, printing all types of postal forms, preparing First Day cachet-cancels and attractive regular cancels for all post offices and laying aside extra copies for my collection and for trading. I also arranged lists of postal and governmental employees to whom were distributed copies of all our new issues, gratis, and maintained postal relations with friendly countries' postal services, going to Britain to coordinate our issues being printed by Harrison and Sons and other British stamp printers and also having some done in New York, Budapest, Warsaw, Bucharest and other countries, including Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

On the conclusion of hostilities in 1970, by which time I had reached the rank of Major General and Communications Ministry Advisor, I retired to my old Moorish house in Spain, got my albums and stocks, on top of a mass of Royalist Yemen issues, original covers and postal history of the war.

It now became evident that my problem of the 1950's, after the eight year war delay, never having brought my two original albums from America, and with very little accumulated in my post 1940 album and with international issues increased overwhelmingly, had come to a head and needed solution.

My final decision, adhered to from 1970 to date, was to confine my worldwide collecting to the issues between 1840 and 1940 only, with slight exceptions made for Yemen, etc. In the meantime, word was received from the states that my general collection, except for a pack of loose-leaf album pages containing between 1,000 and 2,000 stamps waiting integration into new post 1938 pages and rearranged earlier ones, had been stolen and irrevocably lost.

But I still had the specialty albums, a U.S. mint block album, the whole of the postal stationery items and considerable material accumulated during the two wars and subsequently. So I took the 1938 album pages, with their expectant transfers (including some choice items of my early collection, particularly of 1925), sold my Japanese stocks (for \$31,000, as I had purchased at least a hundred souvenir sheets of all Japanese issues since 1945 until my emigration to Yemen in 1956, including Ryukyus), and had been searching the auction markets for a fairly good pre-1940 collection.

Thus, on emigrating from Spain to Morocco in 1980, I had my pre-1938 pages, two new *International* albums, with their flags, arms and personalities common to Scott albums prior to 1950 — labelled: The First Hundred Years of Philately, 1840 - 1940, great quantities of items collected in envelopes during and after the wars, an accumulation sent from my unmounted stamp stocks in America in 1980, and, at last, an old general collection, mostly before World

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Worldwide 1840 - 1940:

War I, including many of the old Victorias of the British Colonies (and "Penny Blacks" and "Two Pence Blues").

Within less than ten years, the new collection grew to more than 20,000 different 1840-1940 stamps, surpassing what I had lost in the 1978 robbery and satisfying me by leaving the remains of the beloved collection of 1925 plus all the other old favorites down to 1940, with my want lists coming and going and my eyes alert for convenient pre-1940 offers.

Together with my postal stationery (mostly 19th Century) and Yemen Kingdom specialties, I found the 1840 - 1940 collection a satisfying solution to worldwide collecting without attempting to keep up with the many unnecessary and speculative items which increasingly appeared in new stamp issues throughout the world after 1940. My new system of collecting satisfied my love for all the old favorites and offered an unending search for fill-ins.

Following my original desire not to insist on expensive full sets or completeness, but to try to have at least something from each stamp-issuing entity after 1840, and something of each country's principal sets, I find myself almost up to date with all but a handful of minor states.

Furthermore, as it is a study collection, I am not insistent on having everything in perfect condition, as long as the stamps are facially presentable. The entire collection is hinged, so that never hinged mint is no problem, but rather, a bit of a nuisance, averted when possible.

Although some of the items in the pre-1940 (actually pre-World War I) collection, including a number of Cape of Good Hope triangles and some elegant early mint U.S. items, catalogued in the hundreds of dollars, individually, it is not an investment collection, and I have willed it to the Philatelic Library of the American Philatelic Society for the amusement and instruction of the younger recruits to our hobby.

I thought myself a "lone wolf" until last year, when a few paragraphs of philatelic news in the *American Philatelist* and *Stamp Collector*, respectively, alerted me to the growing interest in worldwide collecting through the ISWSC, and I offer the 1840 - 1940 solution as one of the many ways to make this a practical and enjoyable facet of our hobby. ••• Bruce Conde (# 430)

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Several large donations of stamps have been received from both old and new members. ISWSC greatly appreciates the extra effort!! I have been able to fill requests from Ben Franklin units and also to send parcels to youth group leaders as recognized in articles in *The Circuit*, *Linn's Stamp News* and the *American Philatelist*. Secretary Holland has just forwarded a request to me from a stamp club in Brazil for help in their kids program, which would provide an incentive to national and global philately.

Letters and notes included in the donated stamps are appreciated. I strongly agree with a comment made by a new member recently: "...we need to get the young people's interest in stamp collecting - not only for the future of the stamp hobby but also to help fill the time they so often complain about having nothing to do." Of course, there are many other benefits that evolve from our youth's interest in stamp collecting, but that is one that had not come to my attention. ••• Ken Costilow, (#142) Vice President

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

In the last issue I mentioned that we were starting a system of regional secretaries for our non-U.S. membership areas. I am now happy to announce that our first one is now officially operational. Karl Steinberg (#416) and Allen Soule (#417) are now our Australia co-regional secretaries. The address for both or either will be Karl's: P. O. Box 12017, A 'Beckett Street, Melbourne - 3000, Victoria, Australia. In contacts with any of your collector friends in Australia; or even New Zealand, about membership in ISWSC, tell them to contact Karl or Allen.

Speaking of New Zealand, Manuel Domingo (# 375) has offered a New Zealand 1988 Stamp Pack (Cat. \$20.09) to the first member who recruits a new member from New Zealand. Thank you, Manuel.

And speaking of Manuel, he is going to be our regional representative for Latin America, as soon as your "always behind" secretary gets the new roster format, including coding member's interests, accomplished and published. (I've got to quit traveling so much!)

It is with regret that the club announces the death of one of our charter members: Sid Nielson (# 29). Sid was a personal friend of mine, a great guy, an incredible collector, and a most generous person. We will miss him very much. (See additional item elsewhere in this issue.)

If any of you want copies of our brochure for distribution at stamp clubs or shows or to give to collector friends, please contact our Publicity Chairman, Dave Nelson (# 25). He holds the main supply of these.

When Walter Johansen (# 172) sent me his dues some months ago my desk was piled even higher than usual. Unfortunately, therefore, his envelope slipped down behind and out of sight and I did not know about it. Thus my error in the last issue when I dropped him for non-payment of dues. So, I now apologize profusely and please, all of you, reinstate him on your rosters. Walt is one of our best members! I'm sorry, Walt.

Happy to announce that Dalene Thomas (# 101) has rejoined us after a short absence. Be sure to add Dalene to your roster again. Glad to have you back, Dalene!

It is with thanks that we acknowledge the following donations:

Johansen (# 172)	\$10.00
Schatz (# 362)	5.00
Valencia (# 447)	1.00

Please note address changes and new member listings elsewhere in this issue. And lastly, with regret, the following members are dropped for non-payment of dues: (# 44) Metcalf • (#149) Siler • (# 166) Smith • (# 332) Campbell • (# 337) Gifford • (# 341) Frola • (# 350) Socrates.

I close by wishing "Happy Stamping" to you all.

••• Herb Holland, (# 31) Sec'y-Treas.

DEATH OF MEMBER REPORTED

I wanted to pass on to you the news that Sid Nielson (# 29), one of the Club's founding members, died suddenly on April 8, 1990. Sid was a life-long collector of everything that bore a cancellation and had a super collection until arthritis affected his ability to deal with hinges. He was a fine, gentle person and a close friend for more than twenty years. I and other ISWSC members will miss him and his cheerful letters. ••• Dr. Jerome H. Farnum (# 143)

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

In mid-April I attended ARIPEX 90 in Pheonix, Arizona. There was a diversity of exhibits and a good number of dealers. I was only there for one day so I was kept busy attempting to see all the stamps on exhibit, buy all the stamps from the dealers (according to my wife, Maxine), and still have time to talk to friends and members that I see once a year or so at stamp shows. Included in that category are two of our members, Joe Foley (# 308), President of the American Philatelic Society (APS) and John Hotchner (# 62), a member of our board of directors and the same position with the APS. I hope all of the APS members read Joe's column in the *American Philatelist*. We got a really good plug for worldwide collecting. I left about fifty brochures of our organization with membership applications at various tables at the show. They were nearly gone when I left, so hopefully we will get a few responses. One of the busiest tables at the show was the one for 15 year olds and under. It was attended by a couple of adults to answer questions and several large penny boxes were kept occupied by youngsters. I did notice that I did not get nearly so many strange looks or comments from dealers as I used to when I told them I collected the world.

By the time you read this I will have been to ROMPEX in Denver, Colorado; in mid-May and hopefully have met several more of our members from the Denver area.

Bob de Violini, Co-ordinator of APS Affiliates, told me at ARIPEX that ISWSC will be featured in his column "Our Active Affiliates" in the *American Philatelist* in the near future. Watch for it.

The representative from the US Postal Service at ARIPEX got a lot of flak at the APS spring meeting concerning the cancellations his organization has been putting on your covers. Philatelic or not, it should not be necessary to have it delivered looking like a truck had driven over it.

Now I'll quit so Rita will have room to put important things in *The Circuit*. Have a stamping good summer.

... Ken Jenkins, (# 15), President

TIME TO ORDER 1991 SCOTT CATALOGS

The new catalog season is here and the release dates out of Scott Publishing. Members who are interested in using our program to buy the 1991 Scott Catalogs can order them again thru Nordic Stamps (William Radford - # 413).

Release dates are as follows:

Volume # 1 - US/UN/Brit. Commonwealth	June
Volume # 2 - Countries A through F	Aug
Volume # 3 - Countries G through O	Sept
Volume # 4 - Countries P through Z	Oct
Volume # 5 - US Specialized	Nov

The price is \$20.95 POSTPAID (Scott Retail \$26.00). To receive each volume as soon as released, order and pay in advance of release dates. We will order as we hear from you, so Scott will ship to Oshkosh and we will reship immediately.

... Tom Ginsberg (# 70), Catalog Coordinator, 1041 Bowen Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901

SCOTT-BASHING — A FINAL WORD (?)

I have followed with some amusement the current uproar over the Scott pricing policy and offer a 'cold shower' to all those, dealers and collectors alike, who do not like the prices listed in the Scott catalogs.

Wake up - all of you - prices in *any* catalog are basically fictitious. We, the dealers and collectors, live in a world of supply and demand, where the price of every stamp offered for sale is either acceptable to a buyer, in which case buyer and seller haggle out a different price (did you ever refer to the catalog when haggling?) or there is no sale.

True prices occur and fluctuate daily whether in an auction, mail sale, dealer's table or between two collectors. No stamp is worth more nor less than what a buyer is willing to pay for it at any given time.

The Scott's Catalog's true value is twofold - we all have a common standard of reference as to what stamps exist (what if there were no catalogs at all?) and a rough sense of price *range* that establishes the arena of negotiation in bidding and buying.

By the very nature of our hobby, I doubt any catalog could comprehensively provide accurate price data even if it were an on-line computer system.

In closing, I must say that the Gibbons, Michel, and Yvert systems of cataloging with regular, semi-postal, airmail, etc., issues commingled (by date of issue) does make more sense to me than Scott's segregated format. ... Ralph R. Chapin (# 158)

**Deadline Next Issue
July 7th**

ISWSC MAIL SALE # 2 - POSTSCRIPT

Mail Sale # 2 is now history. 280 lots were offered; bids were received on 195 lots; nine lots were returned by the winners, leaving 186 lots sold. Total of all winning bids was \$1,177.05. Of this \$1085.00 was for regular lots and \$92.05 was in donation lots with all proceeds to ISWSC. The ISWSC Treasury received a total of \$309.05.

There were 36 bidders from 3 countries and 32 of them secured at least one lot (89% success rate). The average lot sold for \$6.33. The highest bid was \$114.00 on lot # 181, reduced to \$94.50, the highest selling price. The lowest bid (and lowest winning bid) was \$0.10 for lot # 254. The average successful bidder got 6 lots for about \$40.00. Nine lots had tie bids, going to the earliest bidder.

What seemed to be most popular were mixtures, packets and foreign classics - 19th Century. The most popular lots were the last two, both worldwide mixtures of over 10,000 stamps — months of pleasure but not many valuable stamps. In the Mail Sale last year, the most popular lots were the full sets of *Scott's Catalogs* (1989); a similar lot in this sale failed to attract a bid. This may reflect the extreme price change from 1989 to 1990 in the *Scott's Catalogs*. What did less well was U.S., including airmails and "Back-of-book", covers, philatelic literature (though that did well in Sale #1); damaged or faulty stamps.

Prices Realized Listings for Sale # 2 are elsewhere in this issue; likewise, instructions for submitting lots for Sale # 3.

... Wallace D. Johnson, M.D. (# 212)

PRICES REALIZED - MAIL SALE #2

nb = nb • T = Tie • xx = Lot # not used

1.	\$ 4.75	56.	.nb	109.	.nb	164.	1.00	222.	4.25
2.	.nb	57.	16.00	110.	4.25	165.	7.25	223.	.nb
3.	.nb	58.	.nb	111.	19.00	166.	.nb	224.	4.00
4.	.nb	59.	4.75	112.	.nb	167.	3.25	225.	.nb
5.	1.00	60.	1.10	113.	.nb	168.	.nb	226.	3.00
6.	3.25	61.	9.00	114.	5.50	169.	.30	227.	4.00
7.	1.60	62.	.70	115.	.nb	170.	5.00	228.	5.00
8.	15.00	63.	2.00	116.	4.25	171.	.nb	229.	2.25
9.	15.00	64.	3.75	117.	.nb	172.	.nb	230.	3.00
10.	.nb	65.	10.00	118.	.nb	173.	17.50	231.	3.00
11.	13.50	66.	8.75	119.	.nb	174.	2.25	232.	3.00
12.	5.00	67.	5.00	120.	T 3.00	175.	.nb	233.	2.50
13.	5.00	68.	6.25	121.	2.50	176.	8.00	234.	3.00
14.	.nb	69.	2.25	122.	.nb	177.	.nb	235.	11.00
15.	16.00	70.	8.75	123.	T 5.00	178.	.nb	236.	.nb
16.	1.10	71.	14.00	124.	.nb	179.	6.25	237.	.nb
17.	5.00	72.	.50	125.	13.00	180.	5.25	238.	.nb
18.	.nb	73.	12.00	126.	5.25	181.	94.50	239.	.nb
19.	3.25	73A.	7.25	127.	.nb	182.	3.50	240.	.nb
20.	5.00	74.	15.50	128.	.nb	183.	T 4.00	241.	.nb
21.	5.50	75.	3.50	129.	.nb	184.	3.25	242.	.nb
22.	.nb	76.	3.00	130.	.nb	185.	3.00	243.	11.00
23.	15.50	77.	19.75	131.	13.00	186.	.nb	244.	5.25
24.	.nb	78.	5.25	132.	13.50	187.	3.00	245.	11.00
25.	.30	79.	4.25	133.	3.25	188.	.70	246.	7.75
26.	4.50	80.	3.50	134.	3.25	189.	.60	247.	11.50
27.	3.75	81.	6.50	135.	.nb	190.	2.00	248.	15.75
28.	8.50	82.	4.25	136.	3.25	191.	.30	249.	.nb
29.	6.50	83.	1.30	137.	4.25	192.	2.75	250.	.50
30.	1.80	84.	5.00	138.	3.25	193.	.nb	251.	.nb
31.	3.50	85.	5.25	139.	3.00	194.	.nb	252.	9.00
32.	2.00	86.	2.25	140.	4.00	195.	.nb	253.	.nb
33.	.nb	87.	3.50	141.	5.25	196.	.nb	254.	.10
34.	3.75	88.	2.25	142.	9.00	197.	6.50	255.	.nb
35.	12.00	89.	.nb	143.	2.15	198.	10.25	256.	.nb
36.	.nb	90.	.60	144.	4.25	199.	6.00	257.	T 26.00
37.	.nb	91.	2.25	145.	2.50	200.	.nb	258.	2.25
38.	12.00	92.	2.25	146.	3.00	201.	5.75	259.	5.00
39.	12.25	93.	1.50	147.	3.75	202.	4.25	260.	.nb
40.	.nb	94.	2.25	148.	3.25	203.	.nb	261.	.nb
41.	2.75	95.	T 1.00	149.	T 4.25	204.	2.50	262.	.nb
42.	1.70	96.	4.25	150.	4.00	205.	2.25	263.	1.40
43.	.nb	97.	13.00	151.	.nb	206.	3.25	264.	1.00
44.	.nb	97A.	5.75	152.	10.00	207.	.nb	265.	1.00
45.	4.50	98.	.nb	153.	.nb	208.	1.25	266.	4.00
46.	9.50	99.	4.00	154.	4.25	209.	3.00	267.	1.00
47.	2.25	100.	3.50	155.	.nb	210.	2.00	268.	26.00
48.	5.25	101.	15.00	156.	.nb	211.	15.50	269.	26.00
49.	20.00	102.	8.00	157.	.20	212.	.nb	270.	11.00
50.	3.00	103.	5.00	158.	5.25	213.	.nb	271.	11.00
51.	.nb	104.	1.50	159.	3.25	214.	1.10	272.	4.50
52.	.nb	105.	T 10.00	160.	5.25	215.	.nb	273.	6.00
53.	.nb	106.	1.75	161.	.nb	216.	.nb	274.	5.25
54.	.nb	107.	4.25	162.	6.25	217.	2.75	275.	.xx
55.	.nb	108.	.nb	163.	6.25	218.	.nb	276.	3.75
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