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The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

CATALOG POTPOURRI

by Thomas Fortunato (# 379)

As worldwide collectors, our second "Bible" must be our stamp catalogs. No matter how advanced a collector you are, a few minutes thumbing through your catalogs will yield a new discovery or two. However there is no Tower of Babel in stampdom. Different countries use various catalogs, each with their own numbering system and organization.

American and Canadian collectors and dealers use the *Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalog*. Volume 1 covers the United States and possessions, the United Nations, Great Britain and the rest of the British Commonwealth. Volumes 2 - 4 divide the rest of world. An Additional volume is a Specialized United States catalog. Each volume of the 1991 edition lists a retail price of \$26.00. Scott's numbering system is somewhat unusual as semi-postals and airmails have separate listings after the main body of commemoratives and definitives. Most other international catalogs combine these. Due to political reasons, stamps of North Korea, Kampuchea, North Vietnam among others are not listed. Since 1990 the editors have adjusted their price evaluations to more accurately reflect dealers' prices.

British and Commonwealth collectors use Stanley Gibbons catalogs as their base. Comparable to Scott's worldwide set is *Gibbons' Simplified Stamps of the World*. Volume 3 handles the Commonwealth countries while volumes 1 and 2 split the rest of the world. Unlike Scott's, these catalogs do not list watermark and perforation varieties, nor do they list any souvenir sheets. This set lists for \$140.00. More detailed listings are left to 22 additional catalogs of various collecting regions, totalling over \$725.00 retail, in the most recent editions. Part 1 - the British Commonwealth is a must for collectors of these countries (\$75.00 list).

It has the most detailed listings for these countries. The prices used in their catalogs are supposed to be the prices found for such stamps at their London store. Recently Stanley Gibbons is no longer selling stamps of all countries, deciding instead to stock only selected countries.

For collectors of Germany, *Michel Catalogs* set the standard, starting with the *Germany Specialized Catalog* (\$50 list). Their junior catalog (\$25.00 list) is in full color covering post 1872 Germany, the occupied zones, Berlin, and the DDR among others. They also produce... worldwide catalogs in regional volumes like Gibbons. Seven overseas volumes list for \$429.00, not counting a variety of European catalogs needed to complete a truly worldwide set. Michel catalogs are written in German.

In France, *Yvert et Tellier* publish two French catalogs and five other worldwide volumes, along with one supplemental volume, for a list price of \$410.00. Two even more specialized *France and Colonies* volumes list for \$240.00 per set. A rival of Yvert are *Ceres Catalogs*. Their two volumes cover *France* (\$31.00 list) and *French Colonies* (\$35.00 list), are in full color and illustrated enough to understand. Stamps on and off cover, proofs, specimens, booklets and postmarks are all covered in *Ceres Catalogs*.

Although Scotts, Gibbons, Michel and Yvert numbering systems cover the entire world, other specialist catalogs exist. *Zumstein's Swiss and Liechtenstein Catalog* is written in German and French. It is in color and includes the various international stamp issuing organizations in Switzerland, including Geneva's United Nations offices. List price for Zumstein's is \$25.00.

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Philatelic Items Provide Inexpensive Trip Souvenirs

by Irving C. whynot (# 490)

Most of us come back from a trip with photos and perhaps a few brochures and dining room menus, as reminders of our visits. As a stamp collector, I go one further and look for philatelic souvenirs.

Now my photo albums are interspersed with stamps and covers, often colorful First Day Covers picked up at a local dealer. An additional benefit to this is that the dealers are invariably happy to greet out-of-town visitors and can often point out a local show, bourse or auction of possible interest.

For instance, our last two visits to the United States to escape Canada's icy March winds took us first to San Francisco, California, with a side trip to Reno, Nevada, and then a year later to Las Vegas, Nevada.

In San Francisco I picked up the twenty-five-cent airmail stamp issued in 1947, showing a plane over the San Francisco-Oakland bridge which we viewed many times from our waterfront hotel and crossed over on trips outside the city.

The 100th anniversary of the discovery of gold in California was commemorated on a three-cent stamp issued in 1948. I purchased a block of four on a First Day Cover dated January 24th. Another three-cent stamp was issued in 1950 to mark the centennial of California's admission to statehood. My First Day Cover is dated September 9th.

From Reno, we drove into the surrounding area and had lunch in Carson City, capital of Nevada which celebrated its centennial of statehood in 1964. A colorful five-cent stamp marks the event and the First Day Cover I picked up is

Continued Page 2

Catalog Potpourri - Continued

Japanese collectors refer to *Sakura* (\$10.00 list) or their rivals' *JSDA catalogs* (\$10.00 list). Both are in color and are written in Japanese. The *Sakura* catalog, published by the Japanese Philatelic Society, has English sectional headings and descriptions for each issue. It has useful sections covering booklets, postal stationary, Manchuko and occupation issues. Those of you who can read Japanese will enjoy the twenty plus pages of advertisements at the back of this catalog. For a more detailed catalog, buy the *Japan Specialized Catalog* (\$45.00 list).

South Pacific Commonwealth fans will like the two color catalogs published by Seven Seas of Australia. *The Australian Stamp Catalog* (\$23.00 list) covers the Australian colonies, Australia proper, AAT, Christmas Island, Cocos Islands, Nauru, Norfolk Island and Papua-New Guinea, including postal stationary for all of these areas. There are highly detailed descriptions after each issue along with design and printing information. Similar treatment is given to the New Zealand and Dependencies Catalog (\$23.00 list).

One standout of the former Iron-Curtain published catalogs is the *Czech Specialized Catalog*, from Prague. My copy is from 1978 and as followed by yearly supplements. It is preceded by a 415 philatelic term translation list in six

languages. It has enough illustrations detailing many varieties unlisted elsewhere, including watermarks, perfins and postmarks. Most unique is a cross-reference of the publisher's numbers with those of Scott, Gibbons, Michel and Yvert. I have never seen this catalog listed on any price list.

Other catalogs of interest include *Facit* for Scandivania countries (\$30.00 list), *Bale* for Israel (\$36.00 list), *Ma's* for pre-1949 China (\$47.00 list), *Vlastas* for Greece or Cyprus (\$8.00 each), *Anfil* for Spain (\$7.00 list), and *Sassoneor Bolaffi* for Italy. Many others are around.

Foreign catalogs can be a great source of your philatelic knowledge. If the listed retail prices mentioned scare you, here are some hints. Many dealers offer discounts off of these prices, which are for their most recent editions. Consider buying used or older editions. One major New York City supply dealer offers brand new copies of older editions at great discounts. For example, the *French Ceres '91* catalog costs about \$25.00, while the 1987 and 1988 counterparts are only \$3.00 and \$6.00! Similar bargains can be had for a *Gibbons Part 1 - British Commonwealth Catalog*, 1991 being \$59.00 versus \$5.00 for the earlier 1987 version. So "seek and ye shall find," then spend the saved money on more stamps. ...

DOUBLE WHAMMY FOR CANADIAN COLLECTORS

Prices went up for Canadian collectors with the dawn of 1991. First, postal rates increased to 40 cents from 39 cents for a first class letter and to 46 cents from 45 cents to the U.S. On top of that, the federal government introduced a new goods and services tax (GST), a form of the value added tax in other countries, and it applies to postage stamps.

So now, a 40-cent stamp plus the 7% GST rounds off to 43 cents — an increase of four cents over the previous rate. For a letter to the U.S., it is 46 cents plus GST which rounds off to 49 cents.

The GST also applies to commercial transactions such as dealers and at auction. With all provinces except one also levying a provincial sales tax, a typical auction bid winds up costing more than 25% over the actual bid. For example, a \$100.00 bid

becomes \$110.00 with the usual 10% buyer's premium; the \$110.00 is taxed at 7% GST which adds \$7.70; and for a buyer in, say, Ontario (other provinces have different rates) a provincial tax of 8% adds another \$8.80 — making the \$100.00 bid wind up as \$126.50. For mail bidders, there would be additional postage and handling charges!

... Irving C. Whynot (# 490)

**DEADLINE
NEXT ISSUE**

... JULY 7th, 1991 ...

Souvenirs - Continued

dated July 22nd and postmarked in Carson City.

The trip to Las Vegas was a bit more difficult to match up in the stamp store. But we had made a side visit to the giant Hoover Dam and that led me to the 1935 stamp marking the dedication of that massive structure. My memento is a First Day Cover dated September 30th, from nearby Boulder City, created originally to house the thousands of workers during dam construction.

The dam is named after President Hoover, so I also picked up a cover with a 1965 stamp issued in his memory the year after his death.

One of the best things about these philatelic souvenirs is that they are inexpensive. With the exceptions of the Hoover Dam Cover (cost \$6.00), all the items mentioned here are in the one dollar or less range. ...

CANADA POST CLOSES U.S. AGENCY

Canada Post has closed its U.S. stamp agency, operated by Unicover Corporation of Cheyenne, Wyoming, after just over two years of operation. Collector demand for the service was below expectations, according to a spokesperson. U.S. customers can order Canadian stamps direct from the National Philatelic Service in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, using the toll-free number 1-800-565-4362. Canadian customers call 1-800-565-1336.

... Irving C. Whynot (# 490)

CUBAN DESIRES TRADERS

I would like very much to obtain colleagues from your Club with whom I could have philatelic exchange.

I'm the President of Philatelic Club in Havana City and would like to obtain postmarks of Judo, dogs, trains, chess and space. I'm also in need of complete sets mint of the above thematics; also fauna, transport and sport.

I consider that we can help each other and there will be no forceable to avoid the relations and ties between free people. Thank you. Antonio Creo Reyes, Apido. 7052, Habana 7, Cuba 10 700.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I have been observing what programs are being used the most in an effort to determine why people join. It follows then that this is the direction the club should slant their recruiting programs. The Omni Exchange "took off" right from the beginning and the mail sales and sales circuits are now beginning to gain ground. I have received no mail concerning exhibiting, awards (from shows) and very few requests for any other type of services. This tells me that we have the right mix. We have one group I have not heard from, that is the dealer members. I know we have several, perhaps quite a few. I would like to hear from you, too; how you rate us as an organization from a business viewpoint. Responses will be kept in confidence if requested.

From communications the club has received and from talking to the exchange manager, we seem to have few collectors of U.S., especially FDC's, plate blocks, etc. This is perhaps as it should be in a worldwide collectors group.

The area of promoting youth collecting, which is one of our prime objectives (see Art. 5 & 6 of our Bylaws), has been moving along rather well. We have always received an ample supply of stamps for filling all requests. We also have several members devoting considerable time and effort working hands on with beginners. Some have asked me for no publicity so I will not name any of them. They know who they are and I will take this time and space to acknowledge their contribution. Well done and keep up the good work.

My wife and I are planning a couple trips in the next six months. One of to the Northwest US and the other to the Southeastern area. As has been our practice on past trips, I will make phone calls if I am in your area. I enjoy talking to our members and possibly meeting some of you and hearing your ideas and impressions of ISWSC.

Sorry the mail sale/auction schedule had to be changed this spring. I hope you all got your bids in on time. The schedule of *The Circuit* and events in the Middle East created a problem in getting your newsletter to you on time. We should get back on track now. Drop your notes, letters, and articles to our editor, Rita Kallal (# 26) so she can keep putting out a super paper.

... Ken Jenkins, President (# 15)

MEMEBER CODE LISTING

Since publication of the March/April issue, I have received codes from seven members, plus President Ken who gave me his back in the draft stage:

- # 15 Jenkins - B (to 1940), F, X (50), DD, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 70, 80
- 121 Pruitt - A, D, X (45), DD, 50, 70, 80
- 371 Meek - A, G, X (15), CC, 1, 3 (limited #), 4, 6, 7 (Austria), 50, 60, 80
- 379 Fortunato - A, F, X (25), CC, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 50, 80a
- 404 Wheelock - B (thru 1986), F, X, EE, 4a, 50, 80
- 449 Burge - A, F, X (19), EE, 50, 83 (German)
- 474 Heinz - A, X (40), EE, 7 (Philippines), 50, 70, 80
- 478 Sobel - B (to modern), D, X (5), DD, 1, 7 (Japan & Germany), 50

Send your code listing to me soon for publication. These should be very helpful to our fellow traders.

... Herb Holland, Secretary/Treasurer (# 31)

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

We now have a regional representative for Canada: Rima Carver (# 493) has taken on this new task and this should help the club very much. Canadian members, please send dues renewals to Rima. I'll let Rima write any details or instructions in a coming issue. Thanks a lot, Rima, for volunteering.

Several members have received advertising from an outfit calling itself "ISCS." This is NOT us. There is NO connection between ISWSC and ISCS.

One member sent me a South Korea 1,000 won note. Is there one of you out there that lives near a bank that will exchange it for U.S. dollars? If so, please let me know, and I'll send it to you and when you remit what it's exchange is, the club will be that better off financially.

I hope some of you have written Dave Nelson (# 25) to volunteer to run for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. My tour of duty is coming to an end!

Joe Palko (# 421) wrote to me some time ago suggesting that there should be a short article in *The Circuit* explaining how ISWSC started, when, why, by whom and about the charter members. This sounds like an excellent idea to me. Who will write it? How about it, one of you charter members? When it's published, I will copy it and send it out as part of the packet for new members. Aubrey, you ought to write it!!! But, if not, someone else!!!

A donation of \$.60 by Compton (# 73) is acknowledged with thanks.

If any member would like an alphabetical roster of all members, I can provide same for \$3.00.

Steiner (# 94) and Collazo (# 366) are restored to full membership. Steiner's address is: P. O. Box 155, Warminster, PA 18974.

Voight (# 186) has resigned due to eye problems which limit his activities. We will miss you, Otto!

Walter (# 477) no longer wants to trade.

Kroll (# 525) is looking for pro-life penpals.

The following addresses are changed:

188 Kellogg — change to: 1202 Half Street SW, Washington, DC 20024

226 Trent — change to: 7912 Charles Thomson Lane, Apt. 3, Annandale, VA 22003

321 Manzevich — change to: 12117 - 49th Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5w 3A6 CANADA

366 Collazo — change to: 1708 William Miller Drive, Anaheim, CA 92804

371 Meek — change to: 259 Middle Road, Falmouth, ME 04105

375 Domingo — change to: 10450 Pomeroy Road, Downey, CA 90241

387 Shaw — change to: 5317 Dunsmore Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

441 Duval — change to: Duval Trust, 4054 Harclare Lane, Encino, CA 91436

New member roster additions are listed elsewhere in this issue. I will close by stating that we now have 319 paid up members.

Happy Stamping.

... Herb Holland, Secretary-Treasurer (# 31)

Classified Ads

NEW TRADING PARTNERS WANTED. Let's trade on CV for CV approval basis. I am an advanced BC and Western Europe collector and have plenty of good material to trade. Prefer high value trades. Prompt responses. SASE first trade only. (ISWSC # 434) Please write: Arthur Clarke, Box 133, Whittaker, MI 48190

(3/3)

MEMBER SEEKS JOINED SE-TENANTS, postally used only, complete as issued (blocks, full strips, panes, etc.). I offer two better British Isles or worldwide for your one. (Eight stamps for block of four). State interests. All countries wanted, duplication OK. (ISWSC # 510) Chad Neighbor, 28 Relugas Place, Edinburgh EH9 2PY, Scotland UK (2/2)

BEAUTIFUL QUALITY WORLD-WIDE Commercial Registered/Airmail Clipping Mixtture on Single Paper. Many Exotic Countries including BWI, Papua, Europe, Etc. Commemoratives, Pictorials, High Values Galore. Unconditional Moneyback Guarantee. Lots offered through Linns and Stamp Collector for 5 years with many regular customers. APS Member. Trial lot \$10, Better lot \$25, Half pound \$40, LB. \$75. James Paton, 547 Elm Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530 (4/1)

USA, CANADA, AND WORLDWIDE! I need serious exchanges. I offer Brazil + Others. Only mint complete sets. Prompt reply. (ISWSC #518) Geraldo Jose Volpon, Cx. Postal 223, Paranagua PR, 83200 BRAZIL (2/1)

NATIONAL MEETING INFORMATION

As of this writing (end of April), I still have not received a confirmed date for an ISWSC meeting to be held during the World Columbia Stamp Expo '92 in Chicago. These things usually take time with the organizing committee. I Will Write as soon as this date and time is set for the Chicago show. This should be advertised in each issue until the show itself rolls around.

I was a little disappointed that only one member wrote to me stating an interest in the meeting; that was member # 97, Della Burmeister of Wisconsin. with more advertising and as the date draws closer, I'm sure more members will be making plans to attend. *** Tom Fortunato (# 379)

Courier Mail: East Germany issued four stamps in 1947 for sealing confidential official correspondence. They had a mauve background, with large white letters 'DDR' and were overprinted 'Zentraler Kurierdienst'. Departments receiving them on their mail were supposed to destroy the stamps. Collectors could not buy them and possession rendered one liable to five years in prison. Both mint and used copies have been seen in London.

Overton & Co. Letter Express: A local USA mail operating from New York in 1844. This company issued its own stamps.

Officers, Chairpersons, & Managers

President: Ken Jenkins (#15), Box 42271, Las Vegas, NV 89116-2271 USA

Vice President: Ken Costilow (#142), 621 Virginius Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23452 USA (Send Required Stamps for Dues for Youth Stamp Program to the Vice President)

Secretary-Treasurer: Herb Holland (#31), 825 East Torrey St., New Braunfels, TX 78130 USA

ISWSC Archivist: Hal Erickson (#173), 217 Redstone, Las Vegas, NV

Editor/Publisher: Rita Kallal (#26), PO Box 1513, West Monroe, LA 71294-1513 USA

Membership Chairman: Herb Holland (#31)

Youth Stamp Program: Ken Costilow (#142)

Public Relations Chairman: Dave Nelson (#25), 305 Kentucky Street, Petaluma, CA 94952 USA

International Foreign Secretary: Ray Compton (#73), Box 1772, Manassas, VA 22110-1772 USA

Australian Secretaries: Karl F. Steinberg & Allen F. Soule, P.O. Box 12017, A Beckett St., Melbourne - 3000, Victoria, AUSTRALIA

Canadian Secretary: Rima A. Carver (#493), 80 Wellington St. E., Brampton, Ont. L6W 1Y5 CANADA

Sales Circuit Manager: W. K. Dow (# 418), 3337 Cesery Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32211 USA

Auction Manager: Dr. Wallace D. Johnson (#212), 806 Overlook Drive, Beckley, WV 25801 USA

OMNI Exchange Manager: Tom Allison (#42), Box 252, Wilmette, IL 60091-0252 USA

Co-Managers: Dave Paul (#59), Dr. Isaac Tannenbaum (#163) & Jerry Gross (#429)

Round Robin Exchange Manager: Dalene Thomas (#101), 8612 W. Warren Lane, Lakeood, CO 80227

Board of Directors: Aubrey Dunn, Past President (#1); Dave Nelson (#25); John Hotchner (#62); Hal Erickson (#173) and the Elected Officers.

**BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**

Advertising Policy: All ads dealing with philatelic concerns are acceptable. We reserve the right to edit out objectionable language. Advertisers are expected to respond to all inquiries, so be sure you can handle the responses before you offer to trade, buy or sell. If you have a bad result from answering an ad, contact the editor. We will try to resolve the conflict.

Display Rates (Camera Ready) per Insertion:

Full Page \$25.00

Half Page 10.00

Quarter Page 7.00

Per column inch 2.00

Classified Rates per Insertion: First 30 words, including name, address, and zip code are \$3.00. Additional words are 20 for \$1.00. State abbreviations are one word. "P.O. Box 12345" is two words. Zip Code is one word.

Make all checks payable to ISWSC.

ISWSC SALES CIRCUIT

**WRITE
FOR A SAMPLE SELECTION
OR INFO TO SELL YOUR
DUPLICATES**

CONTACT:

ISWSC Sales Circuit • W. K. Dow (# 418)
3337 Cesery Blvd. • Jacksonville, FL 32211

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Stamps have been coming in at a fairly regular pace so that there has been no problem in filling requests. I usually get an acknowledgement or a thank you note from most of the youth group leaders to whom the stamps are sent.

There are several new members from foreign countries. I recently received donations from new members in Malaysia and Romania, and other member sent donations for dues of others in Poland and Bulgaria. Our membership is truly worldwide!

One new member in Pakistan stated that he wants stamp partners worldwide for exchange. His address is: A. Razzaq Gani, Room No. 9, Star Centre, Tariq Road, P.E.C.H.S., Karachi-2913, Pakistan.

I regret that our current President and Secretary will not be seeking "re-election." Both have done an outstanding job of keeping the Society in order and making ISWSC a viable organization. As for myself, I would welcome the opportunity to pass on the Vice Presidency to someone else. If neither the President's or the Secretary's positions don't interest you, then maybe you would be willing to volunteer for Vice President! Happy Collecting! *** Ken Costilow, Vice President (# 142)

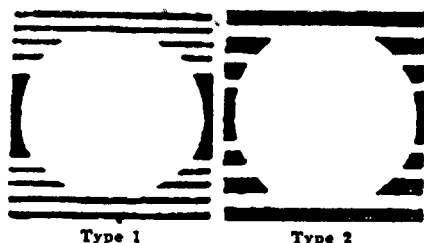
VOICES FROM "DOWN UNDER"

Allen Soule and I have just received a copy of the March/April edition of *The Circuit*, which, of course, we shall now have duplicated in readiness for forwarding to members in this region.

It has come to our notice that two club members, one from New Zealand and the other Australia, intend not to renew their respective memberships due to the treatment received by fellow members. In each case those concerned have written letters re: an exchange and received no replies. This kind of treatment is bad for the Club, especially when Allen and I are doing our best to support the recruitment of foreign membership. Surely those members contacted could have the decency to acknowledge mail regardless as to whether they do or do not wish an exchange — it is only common courtesy to do this. From the Club records we have seen it is only in recent months that ISWSC has listed other countries other than Canada. Both of us I might add, are often out of pocket at times and it is disheartening to receive these complaints. Please members, let's be fair and answer all letters! The adoption of the new coding system is most welcome — it no brings the Club in line with other Clubs throughout the world. Our thanks to all Staff for an excellent publication.

*** Karl F. Steinberg (# 416), South Pacific Secretary

SQUARED CIRCLE CANCELS:—(Canada 1893 to c 1910).



RAECH'S RUMINATIONS

In the previous issue of *The Circuit*, I offered a few comments concerning mixes/mixtures. Maybe that whetted your appetite to the point where you actually broke down and ordered a mixture. I did!

I selected a one-ounce on-paper mixture of Ireland. The description identified the mixture as a "new mixture" of large and/or commemorative stamps and was priced at \$3.30 per ounce.

My mixture arrived in about a week or so and I set to work. I'll skip over the soaking process since we're all familiar with that (???) and have developed our own method of performing that task.

After the stamps were soaked, dried and flattened, I stored them in a large glassine until I had time to sort them. The only problem here is that I had to remember where I put them. For some strange reason, they never seem to be where I remember putting them. It took a day or two, but I found them.

The next step I follow it to sort the stamps by variety. Now I get to see what this particular mixture consists of. I also pull out any damaged stamps and confine them to the "round file." Maybe I shouldn't, but what else do you do with them? (Suggestions wanted.) After finishing the sorting and placing varieties in a stock card, I take a second look. Was it a good buy? Did I get what I wanted? Would I buy another ounce? Let's see.

This particular mixture consisted of a total of 131 stamps, including one Italian definitive (??). There were 10 damaged stamps in the lot, plus one which was stained while soaking. The lot had 46 different varieties, including 14 different Christmas and 6 different Love stamps. There were no definitives (forget that Italian rascal). I was able to add a total of 11 (eleven) stamps to my collection. The current Scott value, excluding the rascally Italian and damaged, came to about \$45.02. The oldest stamp as one Christmas stamp issued in 1977, while the most recent was one of the 1990 Love stamps. In addition, one variety as represented with 18 copies, while 25 varieties were represented by one copy each; the rest fell somewhere in between. I won't break the remainder down as I expect you get the idea.

My reaction to this mixture was good in most respects. I added needed stamps to my collection and have many nice ones to trade with. I feel that number of damaged stamps is average. The cost, excluding damaged and the Italian definitive, averaged about .027 cents per stamp. The average catalog value was about .37 cents per stamp. The stamps received fell in line with the lot as described — "large and/or commemoratives." One minor disappointment was that there was only the Love stamp from 1990. I ordered this lot in February 1991, and had hoped that it would contain "more than a few 1990 stamps." I was satisfied; but would you have been? How do you judge a mixture? By the number of stamps you add to your collection? The total number of stamps in the lot? By the catalog value? The cost per stamp? Or don't you bother fiddling With mixtures? *** RH (# 363)

Greek Post Offices in Turkey: Greece operated a number of post offices in the Ottoman Empire until 1881 and in Crete until 1882. Stamps used by these offices can be distinguished only by the cancellations.

ROSTER ADDITIONS

Mbr #	Name & Address	Date Joined	Will Trade	Mint Used or Both
525	Edward J. Kroll, Jr. 828 Superior Wyandotte, Michigan 48192 USA	3 Mar 91	Yes	Both
526	A. Razzaq Gani Rm. 9 Star Centre 315/c/2 Tarik Rd. Karachi, 75400 PAKISTAN	19 Mar 91	Yes	Both
527	Eddie A. Fort 108 Seagull Way Goodview, Virginia 24093 USA	22 Mar 91	Yes	Both
528	Albert Rosenberg 36505 Florida Ave. # 150 Hemet, California 92343 USA	25 Mar 91	Yes	Both
529	Michael B. Kleintank 1849 Cleveland Ave. Norwood, Ohio 45212 USA	28 Mar 91	Yes	Both
530	Alexander Kuzmins Uzvaras 20-13 229820 Kandava Latvia USSR	28 Mar 91	Yes	Mint
531	Jean-Marc Villemagne 47, rue de l'Abattoir 68330 Huningue FRANCE	1 Apr 91		
532	Charles G. Cilwik RR 1 Box 171-A Derby, Vermont 05829 USA	4 Apr 91	Yes	Both
533	Kestutis Krivickas PO Box 1248 Vilnius 232001 Lithuania USSR	9 Apr 91	Yes	Both
534	Budei Mihai Intrarea Jean Steriadi 2 B 1 G 1 Ap 82 74712 Bucurestie ROMANIA	22 Apr 91	Yes	Both
535	Udo Ammon 5306 Hickory Drive Schenectady, New York 12303 USA	30 Apr 91	Yes	Both

HINTS, TIPS & OTHER BRAINSTORMS

Continuing the ongoing search for good hinges, President Ken Jenkins sent an article published in *Linn's Stamp News*, April 29, 1991. The article, written by Michael Schrieber, discusses hinges past and present. According to the article, it seems that any hinge presently manufactured in the USA, is being made by Harold Cohn & Company, of Chicago, Illinois, regardless of the brand name under which it is sold. As various companies have gone out of business, including Dennison, Fold-O-Hinge, and Tension, Harold Cohn & Company has purchased their equipment, patents and rights to their brand names. He presently also makes wholesale hinges for Scott and his own brand, Harco.

Although Harold Cohn & Company makes Dennison hinges for the Dennison Company of Canada, these hinges are not the same green type Dennison used to manufacture because green glassine paper is no longer being made, being available only in white today. Oh, well, so much for the idea of obtaining my favorite green Dennison hinges from Canada!!

The article pointed out that over the past two to three years certain white glassine hinges under various brand names have been defective in that they would not peel off stamps, instead they tended to thin used stamps. The company spokesman says this problem was due to a defective batch of glassine and has been remedied. However, since there will still be some packages of these defective hinges remaining in wholesalers and dealers stocks, it may be wise to test hinges from any newly opened packages before extensive use. *** the Editor

I have gathered a lot of foreign catalogues by bidding on them in auctions. You can get them for a few dollars a piece. Even if they are ten years old or so, the specialized information is all there and seldom changes on the older stamp issues. I find these catalogues every helpful, especially where Scott just lists one stamp in a set. The foreign catalogues usually list all the pictures. Then I can go back and get the Scott number.

*** Albert H. Feinberg (# 361)

In certain Chinese ports some of the European powers formerly enjoyed treaty privileges. Stamps of Hong Kong used at British post offices in the treaty ports (distinguishable only by the postmarks) are a popularly collected topic by specialists.

JOIN OMNI EXCHANGE

Fill Empty Spaces in Your Collection

without a Lot of Money

Trade Your Duplicates

For Info Write:

OMNI EXCHANGE

Tom Allison, Manager

Box 252

Wilmette, IL 60091-0252

WIFE CATCHES COLLECTING FEVER FROM HUSBAND

Today, I am a retired housewife and I would like to share my interest in stamps with other collectors' wives.

It all started when I was 13 years old; I sent away to Pensupreme Ice Cream, who advertised a starter album and stamps. All it cost as a certain amount of popsicle wrappers. I couldn't wait to get it. Finally it arrived and I had so much fun trying to figure out where the stamps went in the album; but unfortunately when I tried to get more money to buy some stamps, as cheap as they were, my father soon discouraged me. Since we were poor, he said it was a waste of money. One dollar would have bought a package of several thousand stamps, but since I couldn't get the money, I soon lost interest.

When I got married, at age 26, I discovered my husband as a stamp collector. In my spare time, I started to look through his stamps. It brought back my old interest. I didn't take long to find my old Pensupreme Album, and try to fill spaces with his doubles. That really got me going. When my husband would go to the stamp store, of course, I tagged along. While he was talking to the dealer, I was busy going through the penny box. I had so much fun, he had to drag me away from it, when it was time to go home.

After that we started to buy worldwide assortments. He would help me identify the countries I couldn't figure out.

I really got into it, when he was re-cataloging his collection; which he does every four years and I started to learn to identify colors and shades, from there I learned about perforations and watermarks. I started to ask questions whenever I got stuck using the catalogues. I soon learned that every mark in the catalog means something. I'm now familiar with tagging and don't have such trouble identifying different types of paper and different kinds of printing. Some stamps are really a challenge and you get the greatest feeling of satisfaction once you identify the stamp and can give it a catalogue number. I get the greatest kick helping my husband identify stamps in *The Circuit*; it really is fun!

Besides Scott, we now have quite a few foreign specialized catalogues. To help us read the foreign catalogues, we purchased books to translate different languages to English. It's really not that difficult; once you learn a handful of words, you've got it made.

I'm writing this to *The Circuit*, hoping to get some collectors' wives interested. I'm sure you'll find the hobby very rewarding. It will keep you abreast of current events and past history. You will learn more geography and enjoy doing it. Our grandchildren now come to us to help with their homework and without the knowledge I received from my stamps, helping them would be very difficult.

My only regret is that somehow, I should have stayed with my hobby when I was 13, but as you can see, it's never too late to go back and pick up where you left off.

... Mrs. Mildred M. Feinberg, wife of Albert H. (# 361)

Gumpaps: Early collector slang for labels masquerading as postage stamps.

SCOTT CATALOGS GOING UP!!!

Since the last issue, Nordic Stamps received 1992 pricing from Scotts Publishing on the catalogs. Scott has increased the price per volume from \$26.00 to \$30.00. The price of \$19.95 and \$20.75 as based on a retail price of \$26.00. The corrected price is now \$22.45 east of the Rockies and \$22.85 west of the Rockies.

Release dates for 1992 catalogs are:

Vol. 1 May 1991

Vol. 2 June 1991

Vol. 3 July 1991

Vol. 4 Sept 1991

Vol. 5 Oct 1991

Sorry for the increase, but blame Scott!

... Tom Ginsberg, Catalog Coordinator (#70)

Russian stamps overprinted "Trebizonde" were first issued in 1909-10 for use at the former Russian post office in the Turkish city of that name.

NOMINATIONS FOR UPCOMING ELECTION NEEDED

Elections are coming up. None of the current officers have contacted me to place their names in nomination again and Ken Jenkins, President, has absolutely declined to run. Collecting the ballots for this elections is going to be my last official act, but. Public Relations Officer is an appointed post nowadays.

We have lots of active, outspoken new members now — we want three or four of you to step forward and take the club into its next phase of growth. The first years were just a struggle to grow membership and stay in the black while finding out what worked and what didn't. Now we do have a critical mass of members and a bit of treasury which suggests that we will survive. Now we need to grow services and start making our influence known on the rest of philately. Can you help?

Please drop me a note and offer yourself for a position. My address is: 309 Kentucky St, Petaluma, CA 94952.

Ballots will appear in the October issue, along with resumes of those running, and I hope to see two or three candidates for each post. ISWSC NEEDS YOU!!

... Dave Nelson, Election Chairman (# 25)

ISWSC SWAP CIRCUIT

To become part of a Swap Circuit
Send a SASE to:

Swap Circuit - Dalene Thomas
8612 W. Warren Ln.
Lakewood, CO 80227

STAMPS AND PHILATELIC WRITING HELP MEMBER THROUGH ILLNESS

I have been meaning to write for some time to say how much I enjoy *The Circuit*. I look forward to each issue with eager anticipation, ever since joining ISWSC a bit less than a year ago.

I take part in the sales circuit and have been both a buyer and seller through the auction, so you can see why I am a real booster of the club any chance I get.

I was recuperating from a heart attack when I joined, and after that wound up requiring a triple by-pass operation in August, followed by a three month recuperation period. By that time I decided I had enough of work to took slightly early retirement (I was due to retire the first of May of this year anyway). Throughout all this my stamps have been a big hlep and now (in theory at least), I should have more time for them.

My working career was 28 years in journalism and 17 more in public relations, so naturally turned to writing for my own amusement during retirement. (American Philatelist accepted the first piece I did since retirement but it will be some time before it sees the light of day due to a long backlog).

All of which reminds me I should contribute to *The Circuit* and to that end I enclose a few pieces for your to use as you see fit.

Congratulations on an excellent newsletter.

... Irving C. Whynot (# 490)

WATERMARK TRIVIA ANSWERS:
1. Sudan (Scott Watermark # 345)
2. Malawi (Scott Wmk # 357)
3. South Africa and SouthWest Africa (Scott Wmk # 177)
4. Israel (Scott Wmk # 302)
5. Persia and Bushire (Scott Wmk # 161)

Whatzit?



91-12



91-13



91-14



91-15



91-16



91-17

Whatzit? Answers

91-6: People's Republic of China Central China Posts and Telegraph Administration - Scott # 6L51. Everyone found this one, including Albert Feinberg's wife, Mildred.

91-7: The consensus seems to be Peru, RA 7 - 11, depending on the color. Tom Fortunato points out the "Lima" at the bottom of the stamp. Ray Compton, however, thought it was a Spanish propaganda label publicizing that country's claim to Gibraltar.

91-8: Everyone agreed that this is some sort of Local charity stamp for the city of Przedborz.

91-9: No one seems to be able to figure this one out. Two respondents didn't even venture a guess. Tom Fortunato says it is a real stumper, but something about it makes him think it may be from Costa Rica, but he can't be sure. My favorite answer came from Ray Compton: "God only knows!"

91-10: Everyone agrees that it's written in Spanish. Ken Jenkins suggests it is a Spanish civil war local tax issue. Ray Compton says a Spanish charity label - note inscription at top which translates to "Not valid for postal or telegraph fees." Al Feinberg thinks it may be a telegraph stamp from a South American country. Tom Fortunato thinks the lower two lines read something like: "The Huerfondo College of Telegraphers - 90th Anniversary of the founding of the organization." The 10-cent value looks like charity stamps from Spain. He couldn't quite read the postmark which might be an additional clue.

91-11: All agree that this is Lebanon # 146 or 146a, depending on whether the surcharge is in Black or Red. Al Feinberg adds Yvert et Tellier catalog # 158 and 158a, for your information.

Our thanks to Ken Jenkins (# 15), Tom Fortunato (# 374), Albert H. Feinberg (# 361) and Ray Compton (# 73) for their help on these puzzlers.

WATERMARK TRIVIA

Can you identify what countries these animal watermarks are from?



1



2



3



4



5

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Floods hit our area with 10-12 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. Between the time we got home Sunday evening on a clear road and arising for work Monday morning, the road was impassable to anything but high-riding pickup and vans. We were flooded 'in' as far as transportation. My little Merkur sportscar sat in the garage for over three weeks. Luckily our home is in a subdivision high on a hill, so no possibility of flooding the homes. However, we had to paddle boats about 15-20 minutes to get out of our subdivision. Everyone carpooled with those who had gotten their trucks out Monday morning. The flood waters were record setting - the highest since the big flood of 1927, which prompted the building of numerous earthen levees and concrete 'seawalls' during the depression. The waters exceeded the Army Corps of Engineers "Worst Case Scenario" and many homes built at levels they had recommended as safe filled up with several inches or even feet of water.

I am so pleased to have several members contributing regularly to *The Circuit*. Makes an editor's job a lot easier. I was especially happy to hear from Mildred Feinberg and learn that some spouses do catch collecting fever from their mates. All you collectors be sure to leave your issue of *The Circuit* out where your non-collecting spouse will see Mildred's letter. Anyhow, many thanks to all of you who contributed to this issue. Keep those philatelic articles, news, letters, etc., rolling in.

It is distressing to hear that a couple of our members "down under" are unhappy about not getting any replies to their correspondence. I have no idea of the circumstances and I am truly sorry they had such a problem. I would make a couple of suggestions to anyone asking to exchange, enclose an IRC (International Reply Coupon) and a Self Addressed Envelope or Postcard. It might help you get a reply. Also, it seems to me that it might be advisable to send a follow-up postcard inquiry asking if your first letter was received — not all mail gets delivered. Someone can't answer a letter he didn't receive. Members, if you are guilty of not answering letters from other members, please be kind enough to send a postcard reply even if you don't want to exchange stamps. If you are not interested in exchanging stamps, please let Herb Holland know so he can change your listing on the roster. It is not fair to others who waste their time and postage writing to someone who never intended to exchange

stamps.

With all or nearly all of our Officers leaving office soon, I hesitate to add one more position to the filled, but I cannot continue being editor forever. I enjoyed it when I had the time, but I seldom have time to do a good job and I will soon have less time as I must take a full-time paid position to supplement our income when Mel retires from the National Guard later this year. I took the editorship again because no one else could be found, so I want to make it clear that this is not a lifetime position for me either. It was suggested quite some time ago, that a permanent paid position of editor be created, but it was decided the club couldn't afford it at that time. Is it perhaps time to give consideration to that idea again? Is there anyone out there who would like to takeover as editor? Paid or unpaid? Let's hear from you — your ideas, suggestions, or to volunteer for the job.

Regarding the exchange problems with checks and cash money (the Korean won note), how would it work out to have foreign members pay dues with IRCs? Herb could purchase stamps at the post office to use on his club correspondence. Perhaps there is some restriction on it that I'm not aware of.

I wish to thank Peter Scannel (# 453) for the nice gift of five First Day Covers from his native Australia. I am happy to add them to my personal collection. (Being editor does have its benefits!!) There are so many friendly, helpful and generous stamp collectors in ISWSC. It certainly is a pleasure to "meet" so many nice people from around the world. Thanks, Peter!!

What could one do with damaged stamps? They are great for kids to decorate tin cans or trash cans for their rooms or to give as gifts. When I had a youth group, we used torn stamps to decorate the cigar and shoe boxes the kids kept their philatelic supplies and tools in — made them special "stamp collecting" boxes! Give them to Scout leaders, grade school teachers, etc., for crafty projects. The kids love them. Another neat idea was a stamp collectors stamp room that was wallpapered in common and damaged stamps. He laid multiple copies of different stamps in patterns of color. It was quite pretty and really a conversation starter. Your junk is someone else's treasure!! Good Luck on your search for that one special philatelic jewel!!

... Rita Kallal, Editor (# 26)



**THANK YOU
THANK YOU**

**Stamps perfect
kids will really
enjoy them.**

**THANK YOU NOTES
FROM YOUTH GROUPS**

Your Stamp Friend,

John J. Lee



ST. VINCENT SCHOOL

ensuring excellence in education

Dear Mr. Costilow,

Thank you for
the stamps and
the pamphlet!

Sincerely
Courtney
Pazzy

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Other References and/or Comments: _____

DUES: Our membership year is Oct.-Sept. -\$5.00 and a donation of 250 different stamps per year. (* All stamps donated by members are given away free to youth groups to encourage stamp collecting among young people.) Join in Oct. \$5.00; Nov. or Dec. \$4.20; Jan. or Feb. \$3.40; Mar. or Apr. \$7.80 (to Oct. plus 1 year); May or Jun. \$7.00; Jul. or Aug. \$6.20; Sep. \$5.40. You may pay up to 3 years at one time (saves us and you time).

Send \$5.00 (USA) DUES for the next 12 months to:

ISWSC • Herbert S. Holland, Secy Treas.

825 E. Torrey

New Braunfels, Texas 78130 USA

AND: Send 250 (or more, don't be shy) mint or used STAMPS of any country to:

ISWSC Youth Programs • Kenneth L. Coslow, Vice President

621 Virginius Drive

Virginia Beach, Virginia 23452 USA

You will receive by return mail the By-laws, a membership roster with society officers annotated thereon, a membership card with your official number, and a copy of the society newsletter, *The Circuit*. Membership benefits include society stamp exchange, sales circulars and auction, all available at very low cost.

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