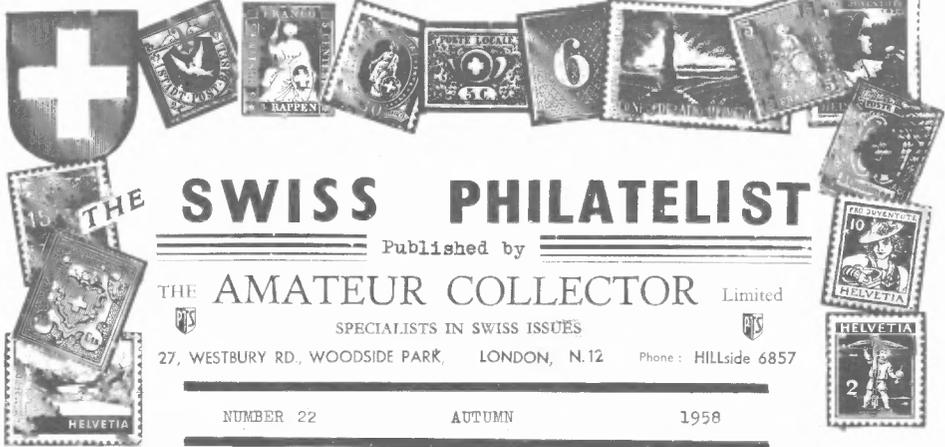


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THE SWISS PHILATELIST

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NEW DESIGNS

for

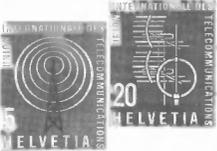


In accordance with the policy of reducing the number of international stamps, new designs of only six values for the international Education Office (BIE) were issued on September 22nd. The current set of 20 values (technic and landscape, historic and symbolic designs) has therefore become obsolete. The new designs are inoffensive, from which remark readers will gather that we are not terribly impressed. However the book design with the globe as an international reminder is quite to the point. We do not think that everyone will recognise the central figure of the second design to be Pestalozzi. The 5, 10 and 40 cent values are of the book design while the 20c 60c and 2fr. designs picture Pestalozzi with children. The former design is by Donald Brun of Basel and engraved by Karin Lieven. The latter was designed by Hans Hartmann and engraved by Karl Bickel, Jun. Colours: 5c grey, 10c green, 20c red, 40c blue, 60c brown, 2fr. purple. The stamps are recess printed on ordinary white paper. The size of the stamps is 24x29 mm (actual design 21 x 26 mm). Validity, from Sep. 22nd until further notice on mail emanating from the International Offices in Geneva only. The stamps are not on sale at normal post offices and can only be obtained from the International Offices at Geneva or PTT Berne.

and



* We recommend the early acquisition of the obsolescent set as prices are bound to rise. We can supply:
 5c - 70c 9/6m or u
 80c - 2fr 19/6m or u
 3fr - 10fr 47/-m or u
 Complete set £3.12.6



2ND ATOMIC CONFERENCE



On August 25th the Swiss PTT issued a commemorative stamp for the Second Atomic Conference, held by the United Nations in Geneva. This stamp is of a purely postal nature and, although inscribed with 'U N O', has no connection with the international offices. It is valid for postage on ordinary mail. The very dignified design is by Hans Schwarzenbach after a drawing furnished by the U N offices in New York. Curvoisier are the printers and they used the normal white slightly coated paper with an admixture of red and blue fibres. The stamp is printed in three colours: blue, red and pale yellow. Size of stamp is 36x26mm (actual design 32.5 x 22.5 mm). The sheets consist of 25 stamps. The stamp will be on sale until Dec. 31st 1958 unless stocks are previously exhausted, and will be valid for postage until Dec. 31st 1958. The special first-day post-mark used is illustrated here.



Changed Colours FOR 1941 HISTORICALS



Yes! we have been presented with another International Office (and aren't the initials just what we have been waiting for?) It seems that the International Telecommunication Union has started to write a lot of letters and it naturally follows that they should have their own stamps. As far as the designs are concerned we are not left in any doubt as with what International Office they are connected. One of the designs represents receiving aerials, but we are not told what we can receive with them. The simplicity of the transmitting tower on the other design is commendable. Designers Transmitting tower, (5c, 10c, 40c) by Donald Brun, engraved by Heinrich Heusser. Receiving aerials, (20c, 60c, 2fr.) designed by Hans Thoen and engraved by Albert Yersin. Details of colours, size of stamps, printing, paper, make-up of sheets and postal validity as for the BIE set, (see above).

On the eve of going to press we learn that, pending an entirely new issue of Swiss definitives, a number of current values will be printed on paper of a different colour than hitherto. The reason for this temporary change is that stocks of the grey paper are exhausted, and for the short period of time it is not worthwhile to produce new stocks. The first two values affected by this change will be 80c Dying warrior and fr.1.20 Jurg Jenatch. These two stamps will from now on be printed on violet paper and will be available thus as from October 29th.

SWITZERLAND—1900



THE ISSUE FOR THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

SECOND
INSTALMENT:

Page 2.

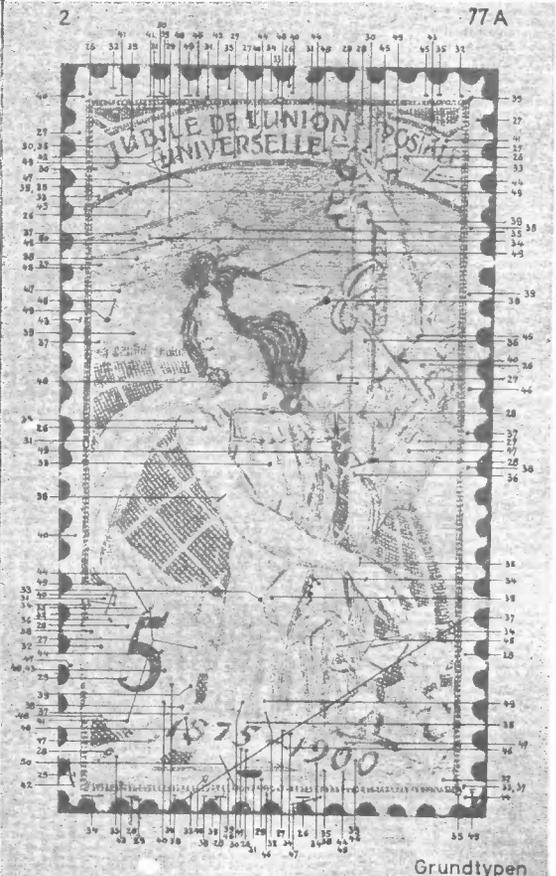
After the basis had been assembled, detail work was ready to begin. All varieties and irregularities can be detected by the eye armed with a magnifying glass of 6 magnifications (a special lens has even been developed for this purpose). In sheets I - IV, there is hardly one stamp exactly like another, and the trained eye can distinguish 200 types.

Issue A: 3 stamps: 5, 10 and 25rp @ 200 = 600 types

Issue B: 3 stamps: 5, 10 and 25rp @ 200 = 600 types

Issue C: 3 stamps: 5, 10 and 25rp @ 200 = 600 types

Total therefore 1800 types
Other varieties have developed during the printing, but the surviving "Good for Print" first pulls indicate that most of these hairline varieties were present even then. Consequently we are working on similar principles to the collectors of Rayon plates or stones. The difference here is that the material is more easily available. An exception is formed by No. 790, which will hardly be found postmarked (Contd. P 4)



Every effort has been made to reproduce these illustrations as clearly as possible. Whether we have succeeded will only be apparent after printing, and we should like to apologise for any deficiencies which may then appear.

You and Your Hobby

SWISS



This page will give a brief insight into the state of the Swiss market to-day. Much more should and could be said, but space limits us to only a brief summary:

Swiss Have An Impeccable Philatelic Reputation

(Excerpt from a front page article in LINN'S WEEKLY (U.S.A.) by Ernest H. Kehr). After briefly describing Swiss postal history since 1843 Mr. Kehr continues: "Never once in all those years and decades has there been even a hint of exploitation of the collector; never once have officials allowed private manipulators to corner supplies and rig false markets. In short there isn't a single stamp or set to which even the most prejudiced critic can point with charges of chicanery. Switzerland is one of the few - very few - nations of the world whose stamps have been and remain consistently popular. The "Cantonals", "Transitionals", the "Rayons" and "Strubels" always have ranked among the favourite classics of philatelic students. The more modern issues have enjoyed a popularity with general collectors, specialists and topicalists alike, with good reason.

(Continued on page 4)

The leading 1959 Catalogues (Zumstein and Müller) though naturally not out of touch, only partly reflect recent tendencies as they mostly went to press in the early spring and their prices are two or three months behind.

Investment

The smaller catalogues such as Kottelat and the forthcoming Amateur Collector Supplement give the complete picture, having a later printing date. The Müller catalogue (this year in an attractive newly designed cover) shows the highest number of price increases since the war; there are 4,402 of them and NOT A SINGLE REDUCTION! Zumstein also has several thousand price increases but the exact number has not been published. If two articles such as those reprinted on this page appear within one month as far apart as Britain and the U.S.A. it is quite obvious that we are really on to something good. Although collectors are obviously not only interested in the monetary aspect of Swiss stamps, (after all we smoke and drink, we go to the cinema and spend money on many other pleasures without expecting any financial return) a collection not only gives pleasure but shows something left over at the end, and if we can pick a country which is a certain winner we would be fools not to heed the signs. Such territories as Saar and Vatican may have shown spectacular increases of 300-500% in one year, we shall nevertheless prefer our 'Switzerland', although only showing modest increases of 20-50% will still be popular when these others have fallen from favour. THERE IS TREMENDOUS SECURITY IN COLLECTING SWISS.

1959 SPEZIALKATALOG REVIEW

The 15th edition of this truly magnificent handbook of Swiss stamps was revised completely from start to finish. There are about 10,000 price alterations which will show how carefully the catalogue has been re-edited. Upward price alterations are particularly heavy for used blocks of fours, but many varieties have been equally marked up. We are very pleased to note many additional illustrations and the inclusion of hundreds of hitherto unrecorded varieties. In the preface of the catalogue Zumstein says: "On account of the steadily increasing number of collectors specialising in Swiss stamps a lack of material is perceptible for issues which were on the market still in great numbers some years ago...." ZUMSTEIN SPECIALISED CATALOGUE IS AVAILABLE AT 26/3, (Plus 1/3 Postage).

Swiss Stamps Shortage Booms Prices

Reprinted from Britain's Leading Wholesale Stamp Journal - 'The Philatelic Exporter'

SWITZERLAND is now more denuded of stocks of Swiss material, with the exception of current stamps, than at any time in the history of philately. To obtain quantity supplies of the more popular modern sets is impossible and even if only a few sets are required the search is difficult and the price usually very high. This follows the fantastic upsurge in demand for Swiss stamps in the U.S.A. consequent upon the appointment of Jacques Minkus as agent to the Swiss Philatelic Agency. The heavy sales promotion campaign to popularise Swiss stamps carried out by the Minkus organisation has apparently met with tremendous success. Dealers all over the U.S., inundated with orders for twentieth century Swiss material, have been frantically searching Europe for supplies. Wants lists have been going the rounds of London and the leading Continental dealers with, of course, every likely source in Switzerland being tapped incessantly. If any Swiss dealer is holding reserve stocks he can count on a very considerable appreciation in the value of his holdings as the unfulfilled U.S. demand forces prices up further and further. Already firms handling Swiss stamps are asking, and getting, more than the prices quoted in the latest editions of the European catalogues and they are not anxious to sell at even these levels. Swiss stamps have always been considered gilt edged items; the present trend suggests that shortly they will outshine the shiny Israel, Ryukyus, and Laos material which has held the spotlight so much in recent years.

PRO JUVENTUTE 1958



Shortage of space in this issue does not permit the full reviewing of this year's Juventute set to be issued on Dec. 1. All details about it will be published in our next number.

SUPPLEMENT 1959

(See Page 4)

We estimate that there will be 2,500 price increases and advise clients to forward their wants lists before these take effect.

 * Woman would be more
 * charming if one could
 * fall into her arms
 * without falling into
 * her hands.



Christmas Message

THE DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF THE AMATEUR COLLECTOR WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING ALL OUR CLIENTS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

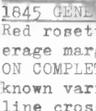
U.P.U. (Continued).

in its 200 types (edition 3850 copies). More detailed study reveals a greater similarity between sheets I and III as well as between II and IV. This must be attributable to the manner in which the electrotyping of the plates was carried out. All four sheets however show such similarities in their varieties that we can note basic types on issues A and B and partly also on issue C. These are types on fixed positions, which occur on all four panes, for instance on positions 1, 51, 101 and 151. It will be enough for many collectors, who may like to compose something from their duplicates, to know these basic varieties on each type of stamp. The enlargements therefore bear indications of the basic varieties, i.e. Plate 1 for stamps 1 - 25, Plate 2 for stamps 26 - 50 etc. These mean: **Dark patches:** varieties in the printed colour. **Light patches:** colourless part in the stamp normally coloured. Those who are not satisfied with basic types can research further into their sorted stamps on positions 1-50 and allocate these to their correct positions on the sheet of 200. In view of the special markings for each basic type which are compiled into a special index for No. 77A (to be published in one of the next issues) this can easily be accomplished. On stamp 1 we must therefore distinguish between positions 1, 51, 101, and 151, etc. There are many other special markings which are peculiar to each position. We cannot consider chance variants thus for instance a division into position 110A, 110B etc. would be possible. All notes were compiled only after several copies of each stamp in positions 1 - 200 were available for confirmation of correctness. Also available were the original sheets with the marginal markings. Later we hope to publish in order stamps No. 78A, 79A, 77B etc. We hope thereby to open up a new field of philately, and to enable plate reconstructions to be undertaken even by a collector of limited means. The work involved - and we must be clear about this - is not small. It can occur especially when considering Issue C, that a whole hour must be spent on a single stamp before its exact plate position is ascertained. (To be Continued)

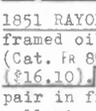
The publishers of the 'Swiss Philatelist' gratefully acknowledge that this article has been translated from "Schweizer Briefmarken-Zeitung".

Special Offer!

 1845 BASEL DOVE ESSAY: A Superb brilliant copy, appearance as if printed yesterday. Unusually fine relief. At only list price of £15 (\$126.00).

 1845 GENEVA SMALL EAGLE. Red rosette pmk. Above average margins. Lightly pm'd ON COMPLETE COVER, with well known variety of diagonal line crossing out the capital 'E' in Tenebras. ONLY £12.10.0. (115.00)

 1843 ZURICH 6, Type II, vertical lines. Fine copy on cover front: £37.10.0. (\$105.00). 1843 ZURICH 6: Type II horizontal lines. Superbly margined copy. MINT! with practically full gum. (Slight unimportant thinning on back) Bargain at £30. (\$81.00).

 1851 RAYON II The scarce framed oily cross on cover (Cat. fr 85.-) only 115.- (\$16.10). 1851 RAYON I: pair in fresh colour, 3 excellent margins but cut into at top and pen-cancelled on registered cover. Bargain at 30/- (\$4.20).

 STRUBELIS The rare Munich print (22A) full margins, lightly pm'd but has small closed cut - only £5. (\$25.20)

2 Rp. Strubel (21G) fine used (usual price £5 and 115/- respectively); A deep grey copy, close but showing all frame lines, ONLY 65/- (\$8.75). 10 Rp. (23G) A MINT original gum copy in average quality (usually £3) ONLY 35/- (\$4.55). 5Rp (22D) Black silk thread IN USED BLOCK OF FOUR! Very rare item in good average condition. (Cat. fr 300) ONLY £15.15.0, (\$44.10).

Postage Due (22G) a fine used copy of this very rare stamp £6, (\$16.80).

SWISS IMPECCABLE REPUTATION

(Continued from Page 3)

From the cold, heartless point of view of monetary consideration, Swiss stamps have superb 'investment' futures. When they are issued all Swiss stamps are placed on sale in every Swiss post office, the main ones of the large cities; the tiny ones in mountain hamlets. Quantities are sufficient to satisfy all normal demands during currency periods. Such remainders as might be available after the specified date (always announced before the stamps are released) are withdrawn and destroyed. Face values are kept low to enable even the most modestly situated youngster to buy new specimens. The rises in catalogue values and market prices are due to legitimate increment, never to false, artificial juggling of supplies. This is evidenced by the steady risings of value over the years. Study a decade of catalogues, you'll find no sensational hikes or drastic reductions. There is always a slow, persistent increase in quotations as more and more collectors set up a greater demand for the limited number of past issues available on the market.

1914: 3 fr GREEN MINT (Rarest of all Swiss high values) copy with minute thin and nick in bottom left-hand corner instead of £12 ONLY £6 (\$16.80)

1913 PIONEER AIRS



We have accumulated a few in slightly substandard condition which we can offer most advantageously, (usual price printed in brackets): I Aarau (22/6) - 15/- (\$2.10), III Berne MINT (£5) ONLY 55/- (\$7.70), IV Burgdorf MINT (130/-) 90/- (\$11.90), IV Burgdorf Used, (130/-) 95/- (\$13.50) VII Laufen MINT (65/-) ONLY 45/- (\$6.30), IX Lugano MINT, (Great rarity, usually £45) exceptional bargain at £22 (\$61.60), X Sion MINT (90/-) only £2 (\$5.60).

PUNCHED HOLE, INTER-SPACED PAIR, No. S29, MINT: Right hand stamp tragically severed from strip but firmly reattached making a perfectly collectible item of this rare stamp. (£17!!) BARGAIN at £8.10.0



ONLY 1/9 PER 1,000 (Post free)

USED ABROAD!

We have a few of these scarce items to offer, used in the Swiss Postal Agency Morez du Jura (France) 20c. (86C) 50/- (\$7.00), 30c. (88A) 40/- (\$5.60), 40c. (97B) 27/6 (\$3.95), fr 1.- (71D) 30/- (\$4.20), fr 1.- (91A) 27/6 (\$3.95), fr 1.- (91C) 27/6 (\$3.95). Every collection should contain one of these historically interesting stamps.

THE AMATEUR COLLECTOR'S 1959 free! SUPPLEMENT

Will be available in Dec. against s.a.e. to users of the 1958 catalogue. We regret that users of older catalogues cannot be served.