In last month's TELL we saw the cartoon of the Swiss rail as of next January 1st, if they do become Y2K prepared. Now we share with you another cartoon, this one produced in 1908 but in anticipation of what the Swiss army might look like in the year 2000 - with the charming ladies providing sausages, chicken and wine for the festive march!

On the obverse side of the card is a freefrank circular cancellation of Feldpost Battalion No. 25 and a message from “H.R.” to “Louise,” written in poor French. Perhaps H.R. was trying to be “on the march” with Louise as he writes, “It is our last evening here; we are leaving for Schnitrl (?) and I have received the card which gave me pleasure but my address is always the same (?). I am always in good health and... Goodbye, best greetings from your dear H.R.”

It is fascinating to see this “Buck Rogers” projection of nearly a century ago! I wonder if H.R. and Louise got together after his term of service?
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Opinions expressed in this journal are those of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by AHPS or the Editor.

Letters and articles on Swiss, Liechtenstein, UN Geneva and related philately are welcome and should be sent to the Editor. Whenever possible, submit material on 3.5" PC or Macintosh computer diskettes. Late material may be submitted by e-mail in text file format. Illustrations are encouraged and may be submitted as full-size photocopies; or, we can copy/scan your originals (please contact the Editor before sending actual stamps, covers, etc.). Please include your name, address and telephone number.

Subscriptions for 1999, include AHPS dues: North America, $20; by first class mail, $25; overseas air delivery, $30. Request membership applications from the Secretary. Change-of-Address should be sent to the Secretary.

Changing of the Guard

We have enjoyed our three-year tenure as editors of the TELL and very much appreciate those persons who have contributed articles to our periodical. The success of your journal is dependent upon the efforts of our membership to give the Editor informative and interesting material. I hope as George Struble takes over this responsibility now, that authors of past articles will continue their wonderful support and that additional new writers will come forth from the shadows of our membership to make their contributions as well!

Also, we thank Roland Essig of Kettle Moraine Printing in West Bend, WI, for the superb work he has done as publisher and mailer of the TELL. His professional advice to us has been most helpful.

David E. Durham & Mary Lou Frost

Thanks to our Advertisers

This is a reminder to our membership that part of the reason for the low cost of membership in AHPS is because of the generous support of our advertisers. In response, I hope that you are availing yourself of the opportunities presented by Matterhorn (Michael Velez), Amateur Collector (Heinz Katcher), Henry Gitter Philatelists, and now our latest supporter at Numismatik.

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The International Reply-Paid Postal Card: An Enigma

by Harlan F. Stone

When the Universal Postal Union (UPU) introduced the international reply-paid postal card to the international mails on April 1, 1886, it provided the public not only with a convenience but also with a problem. Not only recipients but also mail clerks frequently found the reply half with its return prepayment to be an enigma -- puzzling, ambiguous, even inexplicable, as the dictionary defines an enigma. Postal history evidence of this confusion is abundant. Was the origin country's imprinted stamp really good for return postage in the destination country? Was the amount of prepayment really sufficient? Should there be a charge for postage due? Let the evidence -- using examples of Swiss reply-paid, underpaid and overpaid cards -- speak for itself.

The first exhibit (Figure 1) shows how the system was meant to work. This double Swiss card bears a 10-centime imprinted stamp on the top half of the front, and the same denomination on the bottom half of the back (not shown). The Swiss correspondent sent the two-part card from Burgdorf to Linz, Austria, on September 10, 1894, and the recipient mailed it back from Linz to Burgdorf on September 14 in a very straightforward manner. Since recipients usually separated the halves before using the second, it is difficult to find a complete used double card like this one.

Now for the first evidence of a problem. Sometimes the addressee in the foreign country (or perhaps even the clerk in his post office) didn't believe that the Swiss 10-centime imprinted stamp on the reply half was valid or sufficient for return postage. In a case of overpayment of return postage in Great Britain, someone in London added a 1 penny stamp in 1907 (Figure 2), equal to 10 centimes. The supplemental postage was unnecessary.

Just to prove that overpayment wasn't just a British peculiarity, here are examples from two other countries. In Budapest, Hungary, someone added a 5 kreuzer adhesive stamp in 1892 (Figure 3), equal to 10 centimes; and in Greece someone added a 10 lepta stamp in the same year (Figure 4), also the equivalent of 10 centimes. We can assume that the repliers at least gained confidence their return messages would reach Switzerland.

The next exhibit will help prove that these British, Hungarian and Greek correspondents were wasting their money. Here another Hungarian post office clerk in Budapest in 1901 also thought that the Swiss 10-centime imprinted stamp was no good as return postage, so he stamped the card with his November 1999

Fig. 1. Correctly used international reply-paid postal card.

Fig. 2. Prepaid reply card with 50% British overpayment.

Fig. 3. Prepaid reply card with 100% Hungarian overpayment.
post office clerk who handled the reply card when it reached Bern almost went along. He used his blue crayon to note that the recipient owed “20” centimes, double the prepaid rate for an unpaid international card arriving in Switzerland, according to the UPU penalty formula. Then he realized the Hungarian’s mistake and annulled the postage due by crossing out both the “T” mark and the “20” with his blue crayon.

To make matters more confusing, some Swiss made the mistake of sending single, one-way 10-centime international cards to their correspondents. These cards lacked the required tri-lingual French/German/Italian text for prepaid two-way cards, stating “with reply paid” on the first half and “reply” on the second half. Here someone in Amsterdam in 1904 mailed back to Morges one of these one-way cards (Figure 6), which were illegal for use except from Switzerland. An alert Dutch postal clerk marked the card with a “T” handstamp, showing that the card lacked 5 cents in Dutch postage, and noted a deficiency of “10” in international gold centimes, the equivalent then of the 5 cents. Since the Swiss centime equalled the gold centime, the Swiss post office clerk at Morges doubled the missing 10 centimes postage to “20” in accordance with the UPU penalty formula, then affixed a Swiss postage due stamp for 120 centimes, the amount to be collected from the addressee.

To make matters even worse, some Swiss users of the two-way cards realized they could utilize the 5-centime plus 5-centime domestic version if they added a 5-centime adhesive stamp to each half to make up the full international rate. In the first example here, the Swiss writer almost did everything correctly, but the postal authorities didn’t catch his mistake. The writer sent his correspondent in the German Empire a
Switzerland (Figure 8). This card from Valparaiso, Chile, was properly charged only the missing amount, however, not double the 5-centime underpayment. Not until January 1, 1899, did the higher amount become effective as a penalty charge under UPU regulations.

When attentive post office clerks in foreign countries caught underpaid 5-centime reply cards after the effective date of the penalty, they imposed double the missing amount in the postage of their own country, as the following examples show. A reply half from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1904 (Figure 9), bears a 100-reis adhesive stamp, equal to 10 centimes, double the missing 5 centimes. The first instead of the second half of a double card, used by a correspondent in Bahia-Blanca, Argentina, in 1905 (Figure 10), included two 3-centavos stamps, equal to 10 centimes, double the missing 5 centimes. Although use of the first half as a second (reply) half was unusual, it was just as legal. Presumably the writer in Switzerland used the second half for his initial message to Argentina.

As this abundant evidence shows, common postal cards can have much more substance than a cursory glance would reveal. Similar postal history evidence of their misuse undoubtedly exists among the used cards of many countries besides Switzerland.

The problem of international reply-paid postal cards came to an end on June 30, 1971. The UPU halted this service at the end of that day.

President's Musings

When you read this, we will either be on the way or at the convention in Orlando. I hope to see many of you there and I'm sure it will be a rewarding experience. Thanks to about seven of us, we will have packets of stamps to distribute to kids at the show. I believe, if nothing else, this will make a positive statement about our society and be a nice addition to our club table.

We still don't have a volunteer for the auction manager position. I hope that someone will step forward at the convention to volunteer for this job. I know that many of you have used this service and the society has benefited from commissions. It would be a shame to have to discontinue this service for our members. Give it some thought and let us know if you would be willing to help your society.

I wish you all the best for the start of the new millennium. Hopefully, stamp and cover collecting will continue to be a popular hobby in the future and even regain the popularity it once had among our youth.

Jim Anderson

November 1999
"World War II Mail from Switzerland to Great Britain, Canada and the USA"
Part 3

by Charles J. LaBlonde, CPhH

Based Upon the Original Work and Additional Contributions of L.M.C. Dutton
Series Reviewers: Ernest L. Bergman, Robert Zeigler
(reprinted from the Civil Censorship Study Group Bulletin, April 1999, with permission.)

The War Continues -- January to June 1940

The dawn of a new decade...and much of the world was at war. The US remained divided but neutral, Great Britain was attempting to implement a leak-proof system of censorship around the world, Switzerland was just trying to keep the mail moving. The political history, postal history and censorship history of this period have all been addressed by many. Here we shall present a comprehensive overview of this very interesting transition period.

The previous parts of the series (Part 1-March 1999, Part 2-September 1999) have been focused heavily on postal history. In this segment censorship becomes more of the central theme.

Surface Mail

There were no postal rate changes for surface mail during this period and few obvious changes in the prescribed routings for surface letters and parcels from Switzerland.

Surface letters for Great Britain still departed from the four locations noted in Part 2 (Zürich, Lausanne, Geneva and Basel) with only minor variations in departure times, based upon current train schedules. In June, due to the German Army advances, mail service via France was suspended for a time. As noted earlier, the events of the war happened faster than the respective postal administrations could promulgate the latest routing information. Mail from Switzerland to GB stopped 12 June or earlier and the Swiss PTT announced the stoppage on 22 June, three days after the GPO in London noted the disruption.

There is evidence that the French Post Office retained 199 bags of mail to GB (minor amounts to Ireland and South Africa), caught up in the German advance on Paris, for the duration of the occupation. Of the total, 84 bags originated in Switzerland. Such mail, when finally delivered after the war, carried a boxed marking in black "Detained in France During the German Occupation." See Figure 1. Some such letters will actually show a receiving mark dated 1946. This one does not.

As soon as the respective postal administrations realized what was happening, they stopped the mail and returned it to the sender. See Figure 2.

This entire situation lasted into July. The GPO announced that mail for Switzerland would be accepted starting 10 July.

Surface letter mail for the US and Canada continued via either the Netherlands (not Canada, as noted last time) or Italy, 1 or 2 times weekly. Basel 2 was the collection point for either routing. The CPAL as late as April still listed the Netherlands as a possible routing for US surface

Fig. 1. Surface letter, 5 May 1940, from Weggis to GB, correctly franked at 30 centimes, caught up in the German invasion of France and detained until after the war.
Fig. 2. Surface letter, Geneva to Canada 11 June 1940, returned to the sender since postal connections were suspended. Correctly franked at 30 centimes. Probably reposted later. Pencil "R" most likely refers to the return of the letter to the sender on 25 June 1940. It is very doubtful that the letter could have gotten to Canada by 25 June.

CPAL continues to indicate a regular parcel service between Switzerland and GB.

AIR MAIL

Switzerland raised the airmail surcharge for North American mail on 1 January 1940 from 50 centimes to 60 centimes per 5 grams. Figure 4 shows the new rate for a single and double letter.

Due to inclement weather in the North Atlantic Pan Am continued to serve the US via Baltimore or Miami during the early weeks of 1940.

Recall in Part 1 (TELL March 1999) we noted the dedication of the new Swiss airport at Locarno and promised it would play a role later in the series. We are now at that point, as Swissair launched two new airmail services from there in 1940. During the period 18 March to 25 June 1940 Swissair served Rome from Locarno with one daily flight departing at 2:40 PM and arriving Rome at 5:10 PM (Figure 5).

Fig. 3. Surface letter, Zürich to Chicago, 16 February 1940. Correctly franked at 30 centimes. Noted by sender: "Via Count of Savoy from Genoa."

Fig. 4. Double air letter from Bern to New York, 24 February 1940. Rate is 30 centimes basic + 60 centimes airmail surcharge up to 5 grams = 150 centimes total postage. Note pre-printed routing on the envelope.

The Locarno to Barcelona flight operated from 1 April to 11 June 1940, also once daily departing at 2:35 PM and arriving Barcelona at 6 PM (Figure 6).

The obvious reason for these flights was to connect with the Pan Am Trans-Atlantic service. Pan Am was serving Lisbon twice weekly during this entire period and it was the gateway for Swiss correspondence to reach the world and vice versa. Both Swissair flights ended shortly
after Italy entered the war on the side of the Germans, 10 June 1940.

Air France launched a service from Paris to GB on 1 April. Swiss mail using this service paid a 10 centime surcharge for the convenience. The CPAL of 1 April 1940 noted this service without actually printing a schedule. This service ended on 17 May as the Germans drove towards Paris. I have seen little evidence that this service was heavily used. Mark Dutton notes that the time saving was actually minimal. Do any of our members have a letter from Switzerland to GB from this period, franked at 40 centimes?

Meanwhile BOAC (the agglomeration of Imperial Airways and British Airways as of 1 April 1940) started service between London (Heston) and Lisbon, to connect with the Trans-Atlantic Pan Am flights. There was a survey flight on 8 April 1940, followed by a series of 8 weekly "test" flights (with mail...Figure 7) until a "real" first flight on 4 June and subsequent twice-weekly service from 19 June using Short S30 Flying Boats from Poole.

One interesting development from this period is the use by the ever-efficient Swiss of various manufactured route markings. We saw already in the last installment the standard Swiss WW II route marking with a space for weight and a space for route (Part 2, Figure 3). Weary postal clerks sought ways to save time by employing a wide variety of rubber stamps to either complete or replace the

standard box (See examples in Figure 8). These characteristic markings remained in use throughout the war.

**Censorship**

**Switzerland to Great Britain**

In the fall of 1939 GB was trying to establish a network of worldwide censorship. The exact first day of censorship is not recorded. Some of the colonies responded very quickly, others not so. Mark reports a letter from Switzerland to GB dated 14 October 1939 that was opened and sealed with a PC 66 closer. Do our members have anything earlier? GB used a variety of devices to censor postcards. Figure 9 shows an early example of the new WW II censor handstamps.

But the actual application of censorship was very sporadic. Mark also has two covers dated 26 and 28 March 1940 with no signs of censorship.
During the spring of 1940 the word "censor" fell into disfavor and all handstamps and closers were reworded to indicate "examination" instead of "censorship." This coincided with the transfer of censorship responsibilities from the War Office to the Ministry of Information. We know that the first PC 90 closer was born out of this change in wording. Mark reports his first use of a PC 90 label on a letter to GB dated 3 May 1940 (Figure 10). Once again I ask for inputs from our membership, to confirm this date or to show earlier dates. I have a letter dated 13 April in the other direction, Manchester to Zürich, with a PC 90 label.

Fig. 9. Postcard from Arlesheim to London, 6 January 1940, with early GB censorship marking. Correct 20 centime card franking.

Switzerland to Canada

In the first installment of this series I suggested that I would not repeat in detail excellent work that is already available in the literature. Such is the case with WW II censorship in Canada. Peter Burrows published a fine series entitled "Canadian Censorship in World War II" starting in the CSG Bulletin of October 1997. He describes the history of Canadian censorship as well as the markings and labels known used in Canada.

Canada actually authorized censorship on 1 September 1939 and implemented it 3 September, six days before declaring war on Germany. Censorship was under control of the Canadian Government. Immediately, censorship of all mails to and from neutral countries started. My collection is sadly lacking here, as the first censored cover from Switzerland to Canada that I have is dated 5 May 1940. I hope our members will be able to help here.

Burrows notes the use of several censorship devices by Canada already in 1939 and early 1940, including foreign exchange office control marks, some hand-stamped censor markings and a small variety of envelope closers.

Switzerland to USA

During the first winter of the war the USA and GB exchanged a series of pleasantries about neutrality and censorship. The first shot was fired on 23 November 1939 when GB noted clear evidence of the "existence of an organized traffic in contraband on a considerable scale between German sympathizers in the US and Germany through the mail." The US, in turn, complained about its ships being stopped and searched on the high seas in violation of the Hague Convention in a note to GB on 27 December 1939.

The British reply of 16 January 1940 claimed that the Hague Convention did not apply to postal parcels, and cited a WW I agreement to this effect. The British published in London on 24 January an article containing examples of contraband (securities, cash, checks, diamonds) that had been found on US ships. The next day the US Post Office Department announced that in the future all Clipper mail addressed to belligerent countries or to neutrals that can only be reached by crossing belligerent countries must contain only written matter or photographs.

Meanwhile, the Pan Am "American Clipper" landed in Bermuda on 18 January and the GB censors unloaded 58 bags of mail for examination. In a New York Times report the next day Bermuda's chief censor

November 1999
was quoted as saying, "On instructions from the home government, transatlantic European mail will be
censored from now on." This first eastbound censorship was followed on 29 January by the first westbound
censorship in Bermuda.

On 20 January the NY Times reported the following statement by Brigadier General C. N. French,
controller of British postal and telegraph censorship, "Examination of mails carried by the American Clipper
service via Bermuda and the Azores started on 17 and 18 January. Mails to England and France have not been
examined and have not been touched. The examination has been confined to German mails on the eastbound
service and, in slightly lesser extent, neutral mail on that service. Mails from Germany and neutral countries
will be examined so far as practicable and in both cases the examination will be concentrated on enemy official
matter and commercial correspondence. These mails in any case will be sent on by the next available Clipper
and will not be delayed longer." This explains the existence of uncensored mail of this period.

Shortly thereafter, Pan Am announced it would no longer call at Bermuda after 18 March. Horst
Augustinovic, in his analysis of 1940 Pan Am landings in Bermuda (CCSG Bulletin Feb 81), reports 164
transatlantic flights during 1940. Of this total 93 Landed in Bermuda and 71 did not. The latter account for
the seemingly sporadic Bermuda censorship in early 1940.

![Fig. 11. Registered airmail from Zürich to Chicago, 22 June 1940, correctly franked as
follows: 30 centimes basic + 30 centimes registration + 120 centimes airmail surcharge
for second weight step = 1880 centimes. Red PC 102 Bermuda Censor closer.](image)

Landings in Bermuda "officially" resumed in
August, but there were sporadic flights that landed
in Bermuda in the interim, including 6 flights in
June. Figure 11 shows an example of a June
landing and censorship. This letter probably landed
in Bermuda on 2 July via "Atlantic Clipper" and
departed Bermuda on 3 July via "Yankee Clipper."
The Bermuda censor used the red PC 102 closer for
a very short period in 1940.

In early 1940 ship mail leaving the
Mediterranean was subject to GB censorship in
Gibraltar. Tony Torrance covered this situation very
well in the CCSG Bulletin of July 1992. The
Gibraltar censor is recognized mainly by plain
closers with blue hand-stamped numbers that
appear hollow. Torrance notes the use of these from
15 March to 15 July 1940.

In the next segment we examine the changes in
routings and markings after the entry of Italy into
the war.

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Are you familiar with or interested in the...
Swiss-American Historical Society?

This group of about 375 persons publishes articles, book reviews and books, as well as
regular mailings about the impact of Swiss in the USA. Recently they mailed a fine 29-
page article with superb bibliography on "The Miraculous Island of Switzerland in the
Midst of the Third Reich" by H. Dwight Page. They are planning to establish a center for
Swiss-American activities and study, probably at New Glarus, WI. Annual dues is $25.
Their headquarters presently is in Washington, D.C., but for information write to:

Erdmann Schmocker, President
6440 N. Bosworth Avenue
Chicago, IL 60626
Profile of a Swiss Stamp Collector
Rev. Dr. Ernest Bartels

by Rudy Schaelchli

The retired Lutheran pastor lives in Wahpeton ND (this is south of Fargo). The Reverend and Mrs. Bartels are the parents of Nancy and Robert. From 1950-95 he has pastored in several churches in North Dakota and Wisconsin. He also held several church related offices, is the author of 15 scholarly articles in religious journals and holds six earned degrees related to the holy ministry.

Ernest began collecting stamps more than 60 years ago when he was growing up in the depression days in southeastern Nebraska. Like many of us it began by saving the stamps his parents received on their mail and also with the help of uncles and aunts. There was no money for an album, so a booklet advertising the Richardson County Fair was used, attaching the stamps with flour paste. One hundred loose world-wide stamps were donated to him by a lady from Tecumseh from her son's collection. His first really special stamp was the 2¢ from the 1934 National Parks set showing the Grand Canyon and an Argentina stamp showing cattle.

He recalls as a Boy Scout reading in "Boy's Life" about the approvals offered by many Nassau Street dealers, however, the lack of money stopped him from ordering.

Ernest showed his collection to his Grandmother Liza Leuenberger. She immigrated from Bern in her youth. She produced a box filled with letters she received from relatives back home. She clipped all the stamps from the covers and her grandson now was in the possession of the most beautiful treasures he had ever seen.

During his seminary days in Springfield, Illinois he was introduced to cover collecting and for a number of years he collected both stamps and covers. Then in the early 50's he experienced a financial need and sold his entire collection to a dealer in Madison, Wisconsin, but he never lost his interest in philately and restarted in the mid 60's. This time he limited his interest to postally used covers from Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Nebraska, Wisconsin and North Dakota.

One of his collecting highlights came when the USA issued a stamp in 1991(Z-811) to commemorate 700 years of Switzerland. He prepared over 100 different cachets for the first day of issue.

Two more FDC's in his collection are special to him, the 1969 Swiss issue (Z-471) honoring the Protestant reformer Huldrich Zwingli and the 1991 Pro Patria stamp (Z-B234) by the designer Werner Otto Leuenberger.

Rev. Bartels intends to continue collecting covers and cards from the places that are significant in his own life and from the mountain country of his Swiss forebears. From time to time he contemplates adding items from Germany, the homeland of his parental ancestors, but hesitates fearing that he may spread himself too thin.

Note by RS: Ernest did not indicate if the designer of the 1991 PP stamp and the Federal Councillor Moritz Leuenberger are distant relatives going back to his Grandmother Liza Leuenberger.

∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞
AHPS Auction 116

Catalog numbers used in descriptions are per Zumstein, in some cases supplemented by Scott (Sc.). The Zumstein 1999 Switzerland catalog is the basis for the value column applying a conversion rate of SFr. 1 = US $ .70.

Please send your bids to Bruce Marsden, AHPS Bids, Newport Financial Center, 113 Pavonia Ave. PMB 151, Jersey City, NJ 07310 or by email to bruce.marsden@schwab.com. Please note that both addresses are new.

The closing date for this auction will be Saturday November 27.

All lots will be illustrated on the Internet at http://www.slip.net/~bmarsden/AHPS

I am pleased to present my final auction which includes a premium array of Standing Helvetia issues including many of the scarce perf 9-1/2 varieties. I have enjoyed serving as Auction Manager and have learned a lot. I look forward to doing it again when time permits. In the meantime, I would encourage anyone with an interest to express it to Jim Anderson. Thanks to all our bidders and consignors who make the auction a success.

Remember to bid high and bid often and most important, have FUN!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
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<td>40 (Sc. 55) 25c green, mint half sheet of 50, stamps NH, folded in half along perfs, F-VF. Cataloged as 10 blocks of 4 and 10 singles.</td>
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<td>59</td>
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<td>69AC (Sc. 84) 40c grey, used, cds, F-VF</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>70B (Sc. 92) 50c blue, perf 9-1/2, used, cds, perfin, quoting Katcher: &quot;The private perforation 'G.V' of Gebruder Volkart (Volkart Bros.) of Winterthur. Before this perforation was used, this firm was authorized to use a private postmark. Particularly rare on the short-lived 9-1/2 perfs!&quot; minor toning and perf faults, F</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>73DC (Sc. 94) 25c dark blue, unused, og HR, VF</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>75DB (Sc. 97) 1 Fr. Carmine, unused, og, HR, just touching at top</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>66EA 20c orange, used, 1905 cds, F-VF</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>69EA (Sc. 84b) 40c gray, used, SON cds, just touching at top</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>71EB (Sc. 87b) 1 Fr. lilac, used, F-VF</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>75E (Sc. 97a) 1 Fr. Carmine, used, cds, F-VF</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>89A (Sc. 108a) 40c gray, used, box cancel, VF</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>89B (Sc. 108) 40c gray, used, cds, F-VF</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>93B (Sc. 112A) 25c light blue, used cds F-VF</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>97A (Sc. 122) 40c gray, used, box cancel, perf crease, F</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**20th Century**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>116 (Sc. 145) 3 Fr. olive yellow, used block of 50 on a ledger sheet with 50 more or less SON cancels dated 25.X.13. Document has been folded twice along perforations, two stamps with torn corners, otherwise F-VF, large multiple with huge total franking of 150 Sfr.</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Officials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>DI 9,10,11,121-14 Industrielle Kriegswirtschaft second (thick lettered) overprints - 8 genuine stamps with Zumstein certificate including 6 unused (og, HR) 3c, 5c, 7-1/2c, 15c, 20c, and 25c values and 2 flag-cancelled 3c and 7-1/2c values. Also includes forgery examples of the first overprint of 10c and 30c values. F-VF</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Postage Dues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>P 21DN (Sc. J27a) 100c light green, used, cds, touching at bottom</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>P 22DK (Sc. J28a) 500c light green, used, 1893 cds, short perf, F</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Franchise**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Reserve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>PF 1 - black on violet paper 1871 military internment vignette, unused, disturbed og. Horizontal pair with bottom sheet margin. F-VF</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>PF 2A 2 cent Franchise stamp in neatly cancelled CTO block (half sheet) of 50 with control numbers 1 through 50. This is from a special printing prepared by the post office to provide collectors with examples of each of the possible control numbers. Folded once through vertical perf. VF</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**2000 Schweizer Briefmarken Katalog**

**Swiss Dealer Catalogue**

The new edition from the Verband des Schweizerischen Briefmarken-Handels (Swiss Dealer Association) has just been published by Multipress AG., Reinach, Switzerland.

The catalogue contains 636 pages, in German and French, size 5 1/2" by 8", with prices in Swiss Francs. A French only edition is also available. As in all previous years Switzerland, Liechtenstein, UNO Geneva, and Campione d'Italia are contained in this edition. Prices are listed for mint, never hinged, hinged, used, blocks, FDCs as well as on cover. All illustrations are in full color. Price is SFR 23, plus postage.

This year's edition has some modifications in that the Sitting Helvetias, The Numerals issue, and the Standing Helvetias (Strubels) are shown for the first time in their original sizes. The Pro Juventute section now lists additionally all the stamps with tabs as well.

Catalogue is available in the United States through STYNE CO., LTD. P.O. Box 656647, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365 for $23 ppd. Any New York resident please add the NY sales tax. Jim Anderson

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We have been notified by Karl Gebert that "Chronicle of all Swiss Post Offices 1849-1999" has been sold out and is not now available.

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November 1999

13 TELL
"Traveling out from the orderly wealth of Zürich, the train passes two mountain lakes, the Zürichsee and the Wallensee, before crossing the Rhine River at Bad Ragaz. Continuing south toward Chur, capital of the Swiss Canton of the Graubünden, the train stops at the small town of Landquart. Here one can change trains and take the colorful, privately owned narrow-gauge Rhätische Bahn up the valley of the Landquart River to the village of Schiers, where the Schraubach stream joins the Landquart on its way to the Rhine. From Schiers a single-lane road winds up to the mountain village of Fajauna. Few signs of civilization can be seen above the high Alpine meadows as the road curves up the southern slope of the Rätikon range that separates Switzerland from Austria. After one curve, a small white form appears through the trees. After a few more curves, it comes into full view — a bridge, connecting two mountains over a wide ravine. To laymen its form is unclear at first and then distinguishable as a bridge. To knowledgeable engineers, however, it is not only immediately clear, it is also the reason for the pilgrimage. Here is one of the most beautiful examples of pure twentieth-century structure. But it is also complex and, even to the skilled engineer, an object of mystery and wonder."

So begins David Billington's opus, Robert Maillart's Bridges: The Art of Engineering (Princeton University Press, 1979). Why should I be writing about a bridge in a stamp collecting journal? Because the village of Schiers just issued a K-cancel illustrating this engineering marvel and I thought the reader may be interested in an explanation of this cancel, particularly the inscription "World Landmark The Salginatobel Bridge, 1929/30." Who bestowed this designation on the bridge and why is it so special?

To answer the first part of this question will give us the answer to the second. The Salginatobel Bridge was designated an international landmark of civil engineering by the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1989. The citation reads:

Designed by Robert Maillart, the bridge represents a major innovation of structural-type three-hinged, hollow-bow arch of reinforced concrete using a new method of staged-arch construction. This unprecedented form by the most celebrated bridge designer of his time is considered a work of art. Completed 1930.

There have been some 29 international landmarks designated by the ASCE since the landmark program began in 1979. Some other possibly more familiar landmarks include: the Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia, the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Panama Canal, and the Zuiderzee Enclosure Dam in the Netherlands.

The dimensions of this bridge are as follows:

- length of span: 90.04 m (295.4 feet)
- length of bridge: 132.30 m (434.0 feet)
- height of arch: 12.98 m (42.6 feet)
The ravine over which the bridge passes is about 300 feet deep. To give an idea of the difficulty in building the scaffolding upon which the concrete forms rested during construction, examine this picture taken during the construction of the scaffolding.

Who was the bridge’s designer, Robert Maillart? Maillart was born on February 6, 1872, in Bern. He attended the Bern Gymnasium and qualified for entrance to the Swiss Federal Technical Institute (Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule) in Zürich, which he entered in the fall of 1890 and graduated in 1894. His first job was with the firm of P. mpin and Herzog in Bern in the design of the Bière-Apples-Morges private rail line. His first major project was the design and construction of the Stauffacher bridge over the Sihl River in Zürich in 1899. He eventually built 47 bridges in Switzerland over the span of his 44-year career. One of his bridges was destroyed in an avalanche and one was later replaced by a new bridge. The other 45 are still standing. Billington’s book gives the locations of all Maillart’s bridges. Maillart died in 1940.

For those of you with access to the Internet and who would like to see some beautiful colored pictures of the Salginatobel bridge, let me refer you to:

http://www.schiers.osemziz.ch/Info/Salginatobel

For Sale
163 different Kanton Luzern stampmarken as used between 1879 and 1992.
1992 issue complete to 5 Fr.
1996 catalog value: $332.00 US.
Fall special $79.00 US.

Gene Kelly,
Zellstrasse 7
8253 Diessenhofen,
Switzerland
Let us begin our examination of the plate varieties on Swiss photogravure stamps with two pre-war issues: the League of Nations/International Labor Organization issue of May 2, 1938, and the Pro Patria issue of June 15, 1938. These are the earliest issues where our beans, bananas, and snakes have been found. You may want to closely examine your copies of Zumstein PJ 86-88 (the photogravure values of the December 1, 1938 Pro Juventute issue). This issue was printed after the League of Nations and Pro Patria issues so our varieties are theoretically possible. Just because none of our recurring varieties has been found to date doesn’t mean that they can’t exist.

The League of Nations/International Labor Organization issue of May 2, 1938

The earliest issue where damage to the glass plate has been detected is the League of Nations/International Labor Organization issue of May 2, 1938. The Morse-N flaw has been found on the two lower values of the set, the 20c and 30c (Zumstein 211 and 212). It can be found at position B8 on the 20c value in a horizontal orientation (dash-dot). For those of you without an Abartensucher, this location is on the roof just to the right of the tree in front of the building. The exact location of this variety is not known. If you have a block with the flaw, I’m sure Herr Kubli would like to know its location within your block. If you have a sheet with the flaw, you can provide both the sheet and location. Zumstein lists several plate varieties and retouches for this stamp, but does not list the Morse-N variety. I hope there is a significant revision of the Zumstein Specialized Catalog next year which will reflect Herr Kubli’s work, as well as that of Boos and Lifart.

Zumstein listed varieties are:

211.2.01a Broken lower frame line (sheet C, stamp 2)
211.2.01b Defective C in COURVOISIER in the imprint at the bottom of the stamp (sheet A, stamp 18, and sheet B, stamp 17)
211.2.02 Missing lower half of the designer's name (H. FISCHER) (sheet A3, stamp 12)
211.2.03 Bright spot at the base of the trunk of the left tree in the right group of trees (position D12, sheet A5, stamp 9)
211.3.01 Retouch in the sky at the upper border, just to the right of the tree in front of the building. The upper frame line is defective just above the retouch (position A8, sheet C3, stamp 19)
211.3.02 Same as 211.3.01 except the upper frame line is now retouched.

The 30c value also shows the Morse-N flaw in the same orientation and in about the same location as on the 20c value — in the sky just above the mountains about in the center of the stamp (position A/B 7). The location of this variety is known, sheet D2, stamp 2.

Zumstein lists several sheet varieties on this stamp, including the famous broken column variety:

212.2.01 Bright star in the sky, just to the right of the center of the stamp at the upper border (position A8, sheet D, stamp 19)
212.2.02 Broken column. The fourth column from the left in the center section of the building has a line on it that makes the column appear broken (position D7, sheet D, stamp 13). Keep an eye out for this one as it has an appreciable value.
212.2.04 Colored vertical line at the top of the leftmost column (position D6, sheet D, stamp 18)
212.2.05 Colored defect at the base of the fourth column from the left (position E 7/8, sheet C, stamp 18)
212.2.06 Colored diagonal line in the foliage of the second tree from the right (position E10, sheet A, stamp 11)
212.2.07 Colored line on the stairs just to the left of the third tree from the right (position E7, sheet D2, stamp 23)
212.3.01a Retouch in the sky at center of the stamp (position A7, sheet D, stamp 6)
212.3.01b Retouch in the sky in the left half of the stamp (position A3, sheet C2, stamp 17)

Zumstein also lists several varieties of the 60c and Fr1 values, but I will not list them here.

The Pro Patria issue of June 15, 1938

The next issue chronologically to join the beans, bananas, and snakes group is the Pro Patria issue of June 15, 1938, showing the Tell Chapel on the Lake of Lucerne. Once again, the Morse-N flaw is found in the horizontal dash-dot position, this time above the narrows in the lake on the left portion of the large mountain (the Urirostock) (position E7, sheet A2, stamp 2)

Zumstein lists three plate varieties on this issue:
1.2.01 Colored line along upper part of the E of NATIONALE (position A4, sheet B, stamp 24)
1.2.02 Dotted line from the Urirostock to the upper right corner of the stamp (position B11/A13, sheet C, stamp 11)
1.3.01 Small retouch under the R of BUNDESFIER (position A7/8, sheet B2, stamp 1)

Werner Boos and Reinhard Lifart treated this issue in detail in the SBZ article in the March 1997 issue. I will list some of the plate varieties they describe and illustrate in their article:

1. Dark fleck in the lake above the d of Confoederatio (position G6, sheet B1, stamp 20)
2. Uneven lower violet border from the corner to the 10 (position H1, unknown location)
3. Screening flaw on border below to of Confoederatio (position H8/9, unknown location)
4. Bright spot on border below on of Confoederatio (position H4, unknown location)
5. Bright fleck below d of Confoederatio (position H6, unknown location)

That covers the photogravure issues of 1938. The next installment will cover the last of the pre-war issues — the issues of 1939.

Profiles of Swiss Stamp Collectors

Rudy Schaelchli has put out a yeoman's effort over the years to provide us with interesting stories of our members and how they began their hobby of Swiss Philately. Unless you are a recent member, you have probably already received one of Rudy's requests. He reports returns on these letters of about 12%. If you are one of the 88%, you might consider sharing your story with the rest of us. It's never too late to put it down on paper and send it to Rudy at PO Box 515, Millerton, NY 12546.

The Editor

November 1999
On March 1, 1999, the Breitling Orbiter 3 balloon lifted off from the hills of Château-d'Oex carrying 1200 covers that would hopefully be carried around the world on the first circumnavigation of the globe by balloon. As we all know, the rest is history. On March 21, 19 days, 21 hours, and 47 minutes after lift off, the Orbiter landed in the Egyptian dessert. In the course of its flight, the balloon set the altitude record of 11,737 m and a distance record of 45,755 km. Below is illustrated one of these 1200 covers, signed by the pilots Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones and cancelled at Château-d'Oex on March 1 and backstamped at the Geneva airport on March 22 upon returning to Swiss soil.

The choice of stamps used on the cover is interesting. Bertrand Piccard is the grandson of Auguste Piccard who set an altitude record for a balloon flight in 1932 of 16,940 m. That balloon is shown on the Fr 1.- Europa stamp. Bertrand Piccard's father is Jacques Piccard who set the worlds record for depth in 1960 of 10,916 m. The bathyscaph is shown on the 60c value of the same Europa issue.

The Breitling Orbiter 3 Flight

by Richard T. Hall

November 1999
As most of you also know, the Swiss Post pulled a coup and issued a stamp honoring the voyage 3 days after the landing in Egypt. Illustrated below is a special, limited edition first day cover of this issue.

Profile of a Swiss Stamp Collector
Herbert Meyers
by Rudy Schaelchli

The collector in today’s story is a retired owner of a brand and package design business, the father of two grown children and the grandfather of six.

He calls himself not the “typical collector,” having many other interests which include classical music, art, photography and, if time permits, travel.

His interest in Swiss stamps is based more on the consistently excellent quality designs than the philatelic value.

The interest in stamp collecting began in Germany where he lived until 1938 when he inherited his father’s mixed collection.

When he joined the US Air Force in 1942 he put the album on the shelf. When his son joined the Boy Scouts in the 50’s and one of the requirements for the initiation was of collecting something. The father’s attempt to get the boy interested in stamp collecting went nowhere. However, it did rekindle Dad’s interest to the philatelic world.

In addition to Switzerland he also collects France, Belgium, US, Great Britain, Israel and Germany (his most extensive collection). As the designer of the US 1949 Christmas Seal, he also collects that Cinderella.

His wife of 48 years succeeded in twisting his arm hard enough for him to retire in 1996 after 25 years of hard work. As if he had not enough to do with all his interests and hobbies, he now is working on a professional book to be published in the spring. He also has found more time for his philatelic interests.

Swiss Watch
from Mekeel’s “Stamps Weekly”
Brought to our attention by John Barrett, Ph.D.

Switzerland, as famous for watches as it is for classic stamps, has brought the two themes together in a limited-edition pocket watch manufactured exclusively for the Swiss post office by watchmaker Jacques Boegli.

The second in a series, the watch commemorates the 150th anniversary of Swiss Post and features an engraved reproduction of the classic “Basel dove” stamp. Price: about $215.00 plus $7.50 postage. One year guarantee.
The following article was written for the 100th anniversary of the Swiss Military Fieldpost (1889-1989).

The Fieldpost (FP) was better prepared for WW II on the Sept. 2, 1939 mobilization than in 1914 at the beginning of WW I.

The newly appointed FP Director, Major Hans Frütigen was promoted in 1940 to Lieutenant-Colonel and then in 1945 to Colonel. He was able to call on 17 FP Units on August 29 that were mobilized with the first Border Guard troops. At the same time the Civil Military Mail Collecting Stations were transferred to the Fieldpost. Then on Sept. 2 when the rest of the 430,000 strong Swiss Army was mobilized, another 13 FP Units were added. On January 1, 1939 the FP had 1,012 employees, but with the additional work, more and more people were needed. In 1940 for the first time, 125 FHD (women volunteer service) were called to help the mail service. By January 1, 1945 the Military Mail Service employed 2,744 men and women.

The FP regulations were contained in six manuals with 3,840 positions that changed to 10,000 by 1945.

To facilitate the mail service, they used the same vehicles as the Provision Units to deliver the mail to the troops. Each Company and Unit received an FP number, reaching 1,100 by the end of the war, that enabled for a faster way to reach the soldiers. The main transport was by railroad. To avoid overloading the civil mail, the military rail mail was organized where the mail was sorted on route by the FP soldiers. Many other modes of transport were also used like hand carts, bicycles, motor bikes, trucks, mules and skis.

Most of the equipment used by the FP, valued at SFr. 1,000,000, was donated by the Swiss PTT. The items handled by the FP reached 600,703,600 pieces by 1945, about three times as much as during WW I.

Due to the free-franc privilege of the military, the PTT lost about SFr. 120,000,000 in tax revenue between 1939 & 1945. The big mail load during the Christmas seasons called for a restriction of 12 pounds per parcel for a short time.

Another big part of the FP employees were in the lost and found office where 11,000 parcels and 190,000 letters had to be worked on due to insufficient or lost addresses. After the July 1943 ruling that all parcels had to be signed for, most of the “losses” were avoided.

Then in 1940 when 40,000 French and Polish soldiers crossed the Swiss border, the FP was also involved in that service. By 1945 the number of internees reached 90,000. The FP handled 24,000,000 letters and parcels for them. They all had to be inspected by the Censors. The manual for the internee mail was printed in German, French, Italian, English, Polish, Serbian, Greek and Russian because many of the internees worked together with the FP in the mail room. The internees also enjoyed the free-franc privileges.

The Fieldpost was only partially involved in the Red Cross mail concerning the prisoners of war in the different countries. Again the Swiss PTT carried the cost of SFr. 1,200,000 for the 19,976 railroad cars used to transport the 180,134,200 letters and 52,420,400 parcels from 1939-45.