



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

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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 Scandivavian countries (\$30.00 list), *Bale* for Isreal (\$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 thematic; 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 Mixture 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 Srive, 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

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