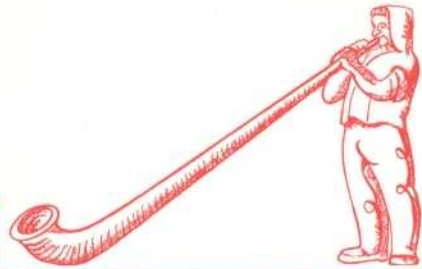


HELVETIA ALPHORN



Vol. 26, No. 9

November, 1974

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for Collectors of Switzerland

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Helvetia Calendar

Nov. 19 -- Helvetia Society monthly meeting, Fair Lawn Arts Center, 12-56 River Road, Fair Lawn, N.J., 8 p.m. Program: 1960-68 Messenger and Monument series, varieties and flaws.

Dec. 5 -- Bid deadline for Helvetia Mail Auction No. 23

Dec. 14 -- Annual Christmas dinner (see below for details)

Final AHPS Merger Vote Is 183-1; Elections Scheduled

Official tallies show that Helvetia members voted 98-0 and SASS members 85-1 by Oct. 15 to merge into a new American Helvetia Philatelic Society, effective Jan. 1. The total of 184 votes came from some 350 members who belong to one or both of the two present national groups.

By the Nov. 8 deadline for mail nominations, the slate proposed by a joint committee (see last Alphorn issue) remained unopposed for office in 1975. Although George H. Wettach, the candidate for treasurer, was nominated by SASS members also for president, he has withdrawn his name for the top office.

In mid-November members of only Helvetia or SASS will receive a ballot and dues notice from their respective secretaries, and members of both societies will receive theirs from the SASS secretary. Ballots are to be returned by Dec. 6. Under the merger agreement, dues remain at \$3 for 1975.

In preparation is a fact sheet that will contain photos and biographies of all elected officers, for distribution when AHPS starts up. Robert C. Ross of New Jersey is coordinating preparation of the sheet, to be printed with money contributed by an anonymous member.

Annual Helvetia Christmas Dinner To Be Dec. 14

Plans are underway to hold the annual Helvetia Christmas dinner on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., again at the Homestead Restaurant, 307 Terrace Ave., Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. Interested members and friends are asked to make reservations with treasurer George Wettach, dinner chairman, at 17-20 Well Drive, Fair Lawn,

N.J. 07410. The society must guarantee a minimum attendance in advance.

New Members

754 Heinz Lang, 15 Princeton Drive, Howell, N.J. 07731
755 J. Franklin Campbell, 3806 39th Ave., Apt. 4, Oakland, Cal. 94619
756 Frank R. Geddes, 5725 Carter Ave., Bakersfield, Cal. 93308
757 Adolf Walt, 57 13th St., Roxboro, P.Q., Canada H8Y 1L5
758 Roger S. Hinze, 7 Penny Corner Road, Portland, Conn. 06480
759 James P. Hubert, Blackberry Lane, Morristown, N.J. 07960
760 L. H. Sparks, 2806 Ivy Ave., Rapid City, S.D. 57701
761 Mark Ellis, R.R. 4, Wellington, Kan. 67152

New Address

623 Dr. Michael R. Wertheimer, 91 Somerville Ave., Montreal, P.Q.
Canada H3Z 1J4

Pro Juventutes Show Poisonous Plants

This year's set of four Swiss Pro Juventute semi-postal stamps, due out Nov. 29, will continue the "plants of the forests" theme begun last year. Devoted to poisonous blooms, the quartet will acquaint people with plants to be shunned while hiking in the country's woodlands. The designs show: 15+10c., daphne; 30+20c., belladonna; 50+20c., laburnum; and 60+25c., mistletoe. A booklet containing the first two stamps will also be issued.



Northern N. J. Members Will Form AHPS Chapter

The active northern New Jersey group within Helvetia plans to re-organize as a chapter of AHPS with a local president, secretary and program chairman. Nominations will take place at the Nov. 19 meeting and elections in December. All members who wish to attend meetings of the new chapter beginning in January must send 10 stamped and self-addressed envelopes (#10 size) to the Alphorn editor. He will use them on a monthly basis to distribute a meeting notice, program description and other chapter news.

One of the new chapter's first activities will be to man a booth for AHPS at the second annual Garden State Stamp and Coin Show in Wayne, N.J., on Jan. 10-12. In anticipation of at least three Swiss exhibits there, the show will award one or more Helvetia medals, using for the first time AHPS medals purchased in Switzerland. The Alphorn editor has agreed to receive, mount and mail back all exhibits from AHPS members who participate. Dec. 10 is the deadline for entry forms, which are available from the editor.

Recent Helvetia Exhibitors Are Big Winners

Edward S. Hochul of New York received the best in show award at the Indianapolis Western Electric Stamp and Coin Show in October for Swiss airmails.

Michael Naughton of Illinois won the top junior award (a gold medal) at SEPAD in Philadelphia, and a small gold medal in open competition at NOJEX in Cranford, N.J., in October with his display of Tell Boy stamps and covers.

The early Swiss postal history display of Harlan F. Stone of New Jersey won a gold medal at CENJEX in Eatontown, N.J., in September; runner-up (gold medal with felicitations), best postal history trophy, and the Postal History Society's grand award at SEPAD; & the reserve grand award at NOJEX. His perforated Sitting Helvetia display won best in show, a first place section award and the A.P.S. medal at SOUTHWESTPEX in Los Alamos, N.M., in October.

Filatellic Fun

From a recent issue of Orben's Current Comedy: Recently a patron in the post office overheard another fellow cry out, "Fifteen cents for an airmail stamp? I want you just to fly my letter ... don't show it movies."

And this item: People are really getting excited about the Bicentennial. Even the post office is going to honor 1776. They're going to finish delivering all letters mailed that year.

And finally: It's the first time I ever saw anybody drink Parcel Post Style. He went in half-bagged and came out completely smashed.

FOUR "HARD AND FAST" RULES FOR INVESTING IN SWISS STAMPS

By Edwin L. Chalfant
(Helvetia # 559)

Continued from October Issue

Rule 3 -- Material purchased must be genuine and authenticated in the case of expensive early issues.

The early cantonal issues of Switzerland, as well as the beginning of the Federal issues, have been extensively counterfeited. This is true not only of early Swiss stamps, but of early issues of most West European countries, as well as of many other nations throughout the world. The reason so many forgeries of early issues exist is that during the turn of the century, many competent engravers were unemployed. To occupy their time, they turned to forgery of postage stamps, since this represented a challenge to their ability, rather than any real intent to defraud. However, plates fell into the hands of unscrupulous stamp dealers, and many, many forgeries were thus circulated for very low prices. Some of the forgeries were very crude and are very easy to detect. However, there were many excellent forgeries as well, and so today it takes an expert to determine whether any given early rarity is genuine or not. Some of these forgers are very well known today, and even their forgeries are sometimes collected. Some well known names are Sperati, Reuterskiold,

Fournier, de Thuin and so on.

The number of forgeries on the market requires that the purchase of any early stamp, especially with a value over \$50, be accompanied with a guarantee from the seller, and one exceeding \$100 be accompanied by a certificate of genuineness, with initials or some mark on the back of the stamp, and in some cases a certificate with photograph for higher priced items. Stamps having a surcharge or overprint with a value of from \$50 up, no matter how old or new, should also have a certificate. Stamps like Switzerland's C1 and C2 airmails are very cheap but have a red overprint of an airplane propeller which enhances the value hundreds of times over the plain stamp. Many forgeries of these stamps exist, and a certificate is almost a necessity, especially for C1. At the very least a written guarantee from the seller should be provided. There also are many forged cancellations, even of stamps on cover, and so you must take extreme care when buying any 19th century issue valued at over \$50, and even of lesser value.

Every year thousands of counterfeit stamps are sold as genuine to unsuspecting collectors and dealers. Thus, the above rule is one of the most important, elementary as it may seem. You would no doubt be surprised at how many buyers do not ascertain their purchases of old, rare issues, simply because they bought an item at a very low price. Some auction firms are especially guilty of this, and so pay particular attention to the sale terms of auction houses. Many give you only three days to prove a lot is not genuine, while the better ones not only guarantee a stamp; to protect you, they issue a certificate with the rarer stamps. So read those terms!

For Swiss stamps there are several highly reputable experts in Switzerland, recognized worldwide, who will examine your stamp, cover or whatever, and issue you a certificate if it is genuine, all within 10 days to two weeks, which is about the best service you can get anywhere.

To Be Continued

SWITZERLAND - SPECIALIZED

We have just acquired a delightful, specialized collection of Switzerland which includes such rarely seen items as Scott B2b, B2 interspace pair, C25a, League of Nations 3F and 10F in used plate number singles, Labor Bureau first issue mint singles and the 3F, 5F, and 10F in USED BLOCKS of four, plate varieties, classics, etc. Want lists are invited by Scott or Zumstein or request our Price List OR:

VISIT US AT ASDA SHOW, BOOTH 15, MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NOVEMBER 22-24

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ASDA APS SASS SPA ATA

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P.S.: If you have any interest in Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg, or Colonies, our 52-Page 1975 Price List with about 20,000 prices is available for \$1 (deductible).

Hello!

Beginning this month, all cat. values given are from the Zumstein catalogue (or other specialized catalogues). I have dispensed with using Scott values altogether. Some will be higher than Scott, & some lower, but overall, Zumstein is a more reliable indicator of the Swiss market.

Also, where the cat. value is given, only that figure will appear, but when an estimate is given, the figure will be preceded by "Est.", or in some cases "E." for lack of space.

Have you noticed that the new specialized cat. now prices all Cross & Numeral & Standing Helvetia issues on cover? They are also starting to list many of the "y" ghost flaw varieties.

Sincerely,

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
1	47(Z.34) VF Used 40c Sitting Helvetia - light cancel.....	\$17.00
2	50(Z.36) F-VF Mint O.G. NH block, very fresh.....	\$34.00
3	50(Z.36b) 1fr gold-bronze(orangish background) F-VF Used.....	\$34.00
4	58(Z.42) 40c gray VF Used w/ nice cancel.....	\$27.00
5	64(Z.48) 20c on granite paper-Fine Used w/ control mark shifted down to bottom of stamp.....	\$19.00
6	60(Z.44)2c w/ "Ausser Kurs" ovpt. O.G.,VF appearing,thin spots	\$ 1.75
7	74(Z.62Bb)12c "mattblau" shade VF Mint O.G. LH well cent.....	\$48.00
8	75(Z.63A) 15c yellow Cross & Numeral, Fine Used.....	\$ 7.50
9	76(Z.64Bb) 15c brownish red lilac, F-VF Mint O.G., small paper hinge remnant, very fresh.....	\$34.00
10	30c Standing Helvetia bicolored Essays-similar to issued stamp, 1st has frame & fig. of Helvetia in dark brown, rest of oval in maroon, other is similar, but oval & Helvetia are in maroon. VF - Imperf, w/ large margins.....	Est. \$50.00
11	88(Z.72A) 3fr Standing Helvetia perf 11 3/4 F-VF Used.....	\$ 6.00
12	89(Z.66B) 20c perf 9 1/2 F-VF Used w/ nice "Willisau" boxed cancel	\$17.00
13	96(Z.74D/pa.1) 50c w/ worn plate by oval & spear,F-VF Used. Est	\$ 4.00
14	98(Z.77B/ret.4) 5c UPU w/o "D" after "Grasset. etc. F-VF copy, but has disturbed gum.....	\$17.00
15	107(Z.88A) 30c perf 11 1/2 x 11 on white paper F-VF Mint O.G. NH...	\$ 1.50
16	127(Z.102) 3c Tell Boy VF Used.....	\$ 2.75
17	130(Z.105) 12c brown, Used block w/ nice central cancel, Fine centering, 8 perfs sep. between top 2 stamps-rare,C.V.400fr.Est	\$40.00
18	147(Z.118) 3c. Tell Boy Type I VF Used block w/ central cancel	\$10.00
19	167a(Z.126I) 10c Tell type I VF Used.....	\$ 4.25
20		
21	180(Z.160) 30c William Tell VF Mint O.G. lightly hinged.....	\$ 6.00
22	328(Z.297) 3c gray VF Used.....	\$ 2.75
23	347-50(Z.316-19) 1954 Publicity set F-VF Used.....	\$ 4.50
24	351-4(Z.320-3) 1955 Publicity set VF Mint NH margin copies....	\$ 3.50
25	359-62(Z.328,29a,30-1)VF Mint NH margin set-10c w/ black line.	\$ 4.50
26	382-99B(Z.355-72,91-4) VF Mint LH 1960 defin. set.....	\$21.00
27	B4 3c 1916 Juventute VF Used.....	\$17.00
28	B7-9 1917 Pro Juventute set F-VF Used.....	\$32.00
29	B41-4 1927 Juv. set F-VF used.....	\$3.75
30	B53-6 1930 Juv. set F-VF Mint LH.....	\$ 2.50
31	B61-4 1932 Juv. set F-VF Used.....	\$ 5.00
32	B81-4(Z.WI 77-80) 1936 Juv. set F-VF Used.....	\$ 7.00
33	B146-9(Z.WII 26-9) 1945 Pro Patria set VF Mint NH.....	\$ 6.00
34	B158-61(Z.WI 117-20) 1946 Juv. VF Mint NH.....	\$ 3.00

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
34	B162-5(Z.WII 34-7) 1946 Pro Patria set F-VF Mint LH.....	\$ 5.00
35	B170-3(Z.WIII25-8) 1948 Olympics F-VF Mint LH.....	\$ 3.75
36	B237-41(Z.WI 153-7) 1954 Juventute VF Used.....	\$ 9.00
37	B242-6(Z.WII 71-6) 1955 Patria set F-VF Mint NH.....	\$ 6.75
38	B247-51(Z.WI 158-62) 1955 Juventute set F-VF Used.....	\$ 7.50
39	B308-12(Z.WI 188-92) 1961 Juv. set VF Mint NH.....	\$ 4.00
40	B394a-61 1970 Pro Juventute Complete Booklet VF Mint NH.....	\$ 4.00
41	C13 (Z.14) F-VF Mint O.G. Hinged.....	\$25.00
42	C43-4 new colors-F-VF Used set.....	\$ 6.00
43	Ø19-27 (Z.DII/46-54) F-VF Used set.....	\$ 7.00
44	1Ø7(Z.DI/7) 25c w/ thin ovpt. F-VF Mint O.G. LH-CV \$50.00Est.	\$25.00
45	7Ø33 5fr U.N. VF Mint NH margin copy.....	\$ 3.50
46	9Ø1-6(Z.DX/1-6) UPU Official set F-VF Mint L.H. margin copies	\$ 5.00
47	J28a(Z.22CIIN) VF Used block-well centered, each stamp w/ nice cancel. Unusual block as all stamps have normal frame, the scarcer one for this stamp.....	\$70.00+
48	J18(Z.20AIIN) 50c blue green VF Used, well centered w/ nice cds	\$27.00
49	J56-9(Z.50-3) F-VF Mint Hinged surcharge set.....	\$ 3.75

COVERS

50	40(Z.26G) 40rp Strubeli, 3f.l. copy tied by "Unterseen Aug.28, 1861" cds, envelope is very thin paper& has various creases & small tears, also boxed "PD" and orange "Suisse-St. Louis" transit marking.....	\$48.00
51	Money Order 50c light green H&G 47 <u>USED</u> w/"Basel 13.I.71." cds scarce used. creased and a tear, but still Fine for this.Est	\$12.50
52	5c Post Card H&G 3a w/ nice blue "Columbier 12.II.74" cds on front & "Geneve-Sion" Railway cds & "1" in circle (orange-A&E #18/c 4) on reverse. VF.....Est	\$ 3.00
53	25c envelope-H&G 14-VF from "Neuveville2.XII.82" to Pittman, Ohio, bkstpd NYC and Pittman.....Est.	\$ 2.50
54	90(Z.67B) 25c perf 9½ off center copy(o/w Fine) on Fine cover from Geneve to Mobile, Alabama.....	\$13.50
55	71,73(Z.60a,61A)5c,10c(2) wide control mark, tied on VF cover by "Ambulant #25" cds.....Est	\$ 2.50
56	72(Z.65B) strip of 3 & pair of 5c green on VF cover from Martigny-Ville to Kinderhook, NY, backstamped.....Est	\$ 2.00
57	2c Tell Boy(1907 type A23) imprinted on nice private printed-to-order envelope.Cover has nice pictorial advertising.. Est.	\$ 4.00
58	J30,1(Z.24-5) 5c,10c dues on German card(crease) w/ interesting postage due markings.....	\$ 6.00
59	Frank label #1 tied by "Luzern4.VIII.21." cds & has very nice "Luzern/Briefaufgabe" straight line cancel.....Est.	\$ 7.50
60	Z.182(block & single)K26(in strip of 6) etc, on back of cover Fine..... Est.	\$ 8.00
61	219(Z.194) 3c landscape VF block w/ central cancel on 10c post card.....Est	\$ 4.00
62	1939 20c Nat. Expo lettercard (german) w/ Z.207,28,32...Est	\$ 2.50
63	1940 & 1954 Official Bundesfeier cards franked w/ 10c 1940 Patria 30c 1954 Juventute, etc.....Est	\$ 5.00
64	WWII Military labels-1939 Ter.Mitr. KP.IV.181 (in block) and 1940 (single) on 2 covers, both properly.....Est	\$ 2.50
65	C44 40c blue Air-VF Used block w/ central cancel on cover..VF	\$15.00
66	328(2),C44 etc.3c gray, 40c air on VF Registered cover to US.	\$ 8.50
67	B196-200(Z.WI 133-7) 1950 Juv. set complete on cover to U.S..	\$12.00
68	10 diff. Automobile Post covers w/ special cancels for many diff. events-cancels in all 3 languages, many good frankings(Z.318-19, 323,27,K41,S62)stamps are VF, covers are VG-VF(most F-VF) Est.	\$10.00

(All covers from above lot are circa 1953-4)

LOT #	DESCRIPTION	VALUE
69	1954 Publicity set-each stamp from set on cover (single, pair or block) w/ stamp, cancel & cachet all commemorating same event. Stamps VF, covers, VG-VF.....	Est.\$ 8.00
70	B237-41(Z.153-7) 1954 Juventute set on cover w/ 10c-40c bottom margin singles (Latin inscriptions) 40c creased, o/w F-VF..	Est.\$ 9.00
71	1955 "Tag der Briefmarke" official cacheted env., franked w/ 10c & 30c Juv. F-VF.....	Est.\$ 5.00
72	1956 Juv. set(B257-61-Z.WI 163-7) on cover, tied by pictorial "Bethlehem" cancels, Fine.....	Est.\$ 6.00
73	1956 40c Juv. tied by Automobile Post cds to cach. cover, has commem. Pro Juventute pictorial auto post cancel.....	Est.\$ 3.00

FIRST DAY COVERS

74	322-4(Z.294-6) 1949 UPU F-VF Cach. FDC w/ french cancels.....	\$17.00
75	345-6(Z.314-15) blocks of each w/ central frenc F.D. cancels (1 stamp in 10c creased)o/w F-VF cover.....	\$13.00
76	344(Z.313) 40c airport on nice pictorial F.D. card w/ Zurich Flughafen F.D. cancels.....	\$12.00
77	351(2),352a(both singles)(Z.WIII33&34)on cach. FDC tied w/ Italian cancels. Cover is heavily creased at 2 corners(not near stamps) but is o/w Fine. Stamps VF.....	\$40.00
78	7021-6(DVII/22-7) on VF cacheted Unaddressed FDC.....	\$17.00

FIRST FLIGHTS

79	1924(May 29) Z. V/A 6 Lausanne-Zurich on 20c card franked w/ C5, etc. Registry label is normal Lausanne label w/ "Blecherette" airfield ovpt. in purple.....VF.....	\$13.00
80	1927(Feb. 17) Z.V/A#21 Pestalozzi flight card franked w/ B37-8, C4, VF.....	\$ 3.50
81	1928(May 14)(Z.III/A#24) Lausanne-Biel flight(only 520 flown) nice picture post ward franked w/ C5 & backstamped.....	\$50.00
82	1928(Aug 1)Z. VI#1f Basel Flugplatz cds(in red-Zum. says 100% premium for red cancels) on 25c Bundesfeier card-looks VF but 1/4" tear at left.....	\$17.00+
83	1939(May 16) Z.V/A#56 Europe North flight to "Talinn" franked w/ Z.Air 9z & block (central cancel) of Z. 221. VF.....	\$12.50
84	1946(May23) C46 on F-VF Locarno-Lausanne Pro Aero flight.Cach.	\$22.00
85	1949(April 28) Z.V/A#67 C45 on St. Gallen-Chaux de fonds Pro Aero flight-Fine.....	\$24.00
86	1954(May 30)Combination helicopter & balloon flight card from "Hospes Bern-1954" 2 cachets on nice p.c. picturing balloon over city.Franked w/ 25c Z.318.....	Est. \$ 5.00
87	1960(Aug. 20) ZV/A#75 Neuchatel-Langenthal cach. balloon flight franked w/ block of Z.353,etc.....VF.....	\$ 8.50

"Caboose"
(Military S.S.)

88	1939-40 S.S. of 4 "Mitr.Kp.IV/74" showing soldier & old man VF NH	\$3.00
89	1939-41 "Aktivdienst Art.Beob. Kp.5" showing eye & barbed wire, F-VF Mint w/o gum..... Souvenir sheet of 4.....	Est \$3.00
90	"Flieger Beob. Gruppe 6" in orange, S.S. of 4 VF Mint NH.....	Est \$3.00

End of Sale

Please send bids to: Henry Gitner
Box 382-A
Baldwin Place, NY 10505

Bids must be postmarked by the closing date for this auction.



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BACK TO NORMAL

We are happy to advise you that after the recent months of upheaval, caused by moving our offices, we have now resumed our usual services.

The INTERNABA Exhibition at Basel was extremely successful for us. This was in no small way due to our prices being unbelievably competitive, compared with the Swiss market.

After Basel, we must seriously replenish our stocks in the coming months. Then everything we buy will have to be raised in price sharply. Our 1975 catalogue, which will be published in the autumn, will once again be a very pleasant surprise to those who have bought stamps before its publication but a source of great regret to those who have waited too long! The coming two or three months therefore are an ideal opportunity to save money!

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XVIIe Congrès de l'Union postale
universelle
XVIIo Congresso dell'Unione
postale universale
Lausanne 1974



Bern

Lausanne



Eugène Borel, Suisse
1835 - 1892



Heinrich von Stephan
Deutschland
1831 - 1897



Montgomery Blair, USA
1813 - 1883

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The Swiss Postal Administration's Philatelic Service Office was deliberately named. When it was established more than 40 years ago we determined to **serve** collectors and dealers.

Through this Philatelic Service Office orders for the world's most consistently beautiful stamps are filled with the same prompt and courteous efficiency as though the client were personally in Switzerland. It provides, at face value, supplies of all stamps currently valid for postage, including definitives, commemoratives, semi-postals, tete-beche blocks, postal stationery, etc. First day covers also are available. And what makes it all the more convenient, the Philatelic Service Office introduced a "charge account" service for its clients through which all new issues and first-day covers are automatically dispatched. Never again will you miss any items because you overlooked ordering them.

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