



# BULLETIN

VOL. V.



NO. 7/8/9

“Helvetia”

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SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

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BULLETIN

"HELVETIA SOCIETY FOR COLLECTORS OF SWITZERLAND

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317 So. 15th. Street  
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HEIGH - DE - HO BOYS and GIRLS! - In case you folks of "HELVETIA" have forgotten that just a lovely, rainy summer past, the evidence of the absence of the BULLETIN should have clearly reminded you that vacation time was here. - Not that I had a vacation in the sense of its meaning, but it was at least a change from the regular routine of digging into philatelic mysteries.

I tried to snatch a week-end and invited myself to visit a rather notorious, stamp minded family, but it seems that at that time the frivolous husband left his wife to build a harem for hens that have'nt learned yet how to cackle. To make the story short, this week-end came never about and left me no other alternative than to keep on plugging. - Requests for informations, mostly philatelic, came pouring in to remind me that there is NO rest for the weary. The long looked for trip to the S.P.A. Convention at Detroit had at the last moment to be called off since Uncle Sam seems to have priority on my daily time and production. That's what happens when your contracts run in the AA's. So if everything goes well, I look forward to receive mayhem a better treatment for next summer. Going through my file, I note that some of you enjoyed their vacations touring the country; others recuperating on the beach of some shore resort; others closed their doors and went fishing for a month, still others spent their leisure time on country estate watchinh their pedigreed stock in the meadows.

Jack Brupbacher of Cliffside employed his time off to research to bring his collection up to date. Jacques Kilcher's daughter "Mimmi" got married to a future Admiral in the Navy and Vincent Domanski has become a "Grand Pop". Oh yes, George Huguenin also joined the ranks of Domanski, only he is used to it by now and does not spring any handstands. By the way - George is one of the most thought tool designers for airplanes, is greatly in demand and has been sent to most all air-plane factories in the East.

The patriotic philatelist makes the greatest sacrifices. He may be busy re-arranging his stamps when the Air Raid siren calls him to hus duty. Leaving the collection with his priceless jewel unguarded on a table, he reaches for his armband and storms out on the

street to enforce rules of the "black-out" regulations. He has no vacation. He is a soldier of the Civilian Defense and subject to call at any hour.

Joseph Jaeger, the lively dispenser at the Hotel Lucerne in New York has come to life and wishes to be remembered to his friends.

Your August issue of the BULLETIN appeared in "STAMPS" on August 1st. and those not subscribing to "STAMPS" magazine, better buy this copy.

Last, but not least, THIS IS WAR! Buy War Stamps and War Bonds; keep up your courage and good spirit. Spend more time on your hobby whenever you can and keep philately alive.

G.A. v.G.

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Information Wanted  
Conducted By

George W. Caldwell

Through the kindness and co-operation of Mr. Lucien Rosse, one of our members in Long Island City, I am now able to supply some data on Question #1. Mr. Rosse gave me his data early in May but due to the pressure of other work I have been unable to prepare copy for an earlier issue of our bulletin.

Answer #1. The following refers to inscription on the revenue stamps of Fribourg; it may also be applied to such stamp of some of the other Cantons and Municipalities.

a) Visa en lieu de timbre de commerce.

Visa is the same as the English word Vise and means official endorsement. En lieu is an old French legal term used in place of Au lieu and means in place of. Timbre de Commerce literally translated means stamp of commerce, i.e. a stamp that would be used on Bills of Exchange, Receipts, etc. It would appear therefore that the stamp in question is used where a Vise is required or perhaps desired. Further information on the use of this stamp would be interesting.

b) Timbre de dimension.

Certain legal papers are taxed according to the size of the sheet, i.e. , quarter sheet, half sheet, etc. This is also true in Luzern. Mr. Rosse says these stamps are probably used by lawyers and notary publics. He also adds that some legal papers have the value

embossed or printed in the sheet itself, the value changing with the size of the sheet; these are obtained at the office of the District Collector.

c) Visa on lieu de timbre de dimension

"Visé in place of stamp of dimension; probably used in blank sheets of paper to make them legal sheets."

d) Timbre mobile gradué.

I shall answer this part of the question by quoting Mr. Rosse's complete statement - "Displacable, movable, graded stamp (doesn't make much sense to me). Could be a fiscal stamp used on legal paper in addition to stamp of dimension for certain transactions. ( I have not seen any specimens)."

Can any of our members add to this?

The gradué (graduated) part of this inscription is quite evident from a survey of the stamp itself. The tax is based on the value of the item being taxed. For example one stamp shows 8 Fr. de 7000 a 8000 Fr. which of course means a tax of 8 francs on an item valued between 7000 and 8000 francs. If it were not for the word "mobile", one might believe this stamp would be used on Bills of Sale or Bills of Exchange, etc.

e) Visa en lieu de timbre gradué.

Visé in place of graded stamp.

Mr. Rosse concludes by saying "A Visa stamp I imagine would be used to file or register papers or certain permits."

Thanks a lot Mr. Rosse for your help. I appreciate it very much and I am sure my appreciation is echoed by Mrs. Hilda Yant of Canton, Ohio, who does collect Swiss Revenues.

Now that the mid-point of Summer has been passed, our thoughts begin to turn toward Fall and Winter activities. I hope that some of these thoughts will be directed toward this column; not that its conductor wishes to prepare reams of script but rather, and more important, that the membership, particularly the "tyros", can learn more and thereby add strength to our society. There are many well informed Swiss students in our group but we can't sit by and rest on our laurels; we must train the new-comers as well as broaden the knowledge of the better-informed. Knowledge of Swiss stamps and postal history is not the only activity that makes for our strength, for we have made very definite and outstanding progress in other directions. Knowledge however is of real importance and it should be given serious consideration if we wish to keep ahead of the other specialized groups that are making names for themselves in the philatelic world.

Nice plugging Mr. Caldwell, you have started the ball rolling and I sincerely hope that our members will make freely use of your "Wanted Information" column; so - members don't forget, don't be bashful in directing your philatelic questions to:

Mr. George W. Caldwell,  
5512 Hatfield Street,  
Philadelphia, Penna.

he will be only too glad to give you your desired information.

Referring to Question 1, d) Timbre mobile gradué

the following explanation might ease George's mind:

The term "mobile", as applied to taxes, conforms to "Personal Property" and "Inheritance of Personal Property Tax".

"Gradué" implies that the tax may be paid at intervals during the fiscal year, as for instance, "quarterly, semi-annually or annually", or whatever the stated period may be; and is more or less just a convenience for the tax payer.

G.A.V.G.

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For Membership applied:

Herant Mozian	505 Fifth Ave.	New York, N.Y.
John A. Casale	1408 Spruce Street	Philadelphia, Pa.

\* \* \*

John Randolph among the missing!

Last heard from - Canton, Ohio. Disappeared at a "black-out", no trace has been found of him dead or alive. Anyone knowing his whereabouts communicate to head-quarter, 317 So. 15th. Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Important!

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Albert Schollenberg of Columbia, S.C. has submitted quite some philatelic interesting items. The article will be printed in "STAMPS" and we are anxiously looking forward to the release by our friend Harry Lindquist, who promised to include it in a future issue of his magazine. We are indebted to our member Albert Schollenberg for the designed stencil, a replica of the special 1941, 1st. of August cancellation. He states, both, he and his wife are well. He hails from Wintertur, is an exceptionally fine landscape architect and those who have not seen his artistic brochure of tropical gardens transplanted in Florida, have missed a masterpiece of landscape architecture.

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CANCELLATION AND CACHETS  
 USED BY THE SWISS POSTAL AUTHORITY  
 DURING THE 650<sup>th</sup> SWISS INDEPENDENCE DAY



SIZE: 22½ x 49 mm

CACHET USED AT SCHWYZ, CANTON SCHWYZ.  
 AUGUST 1, 1941.



43 mm Long

CACHET USED AT BERN, CANTON BERN.  
 AUGUST 1, 1941.



CANCELLATION AT SCHWYZ.

CANCELLATION AT BERN.

MAIL DURING THE SWISS NATIONAL DAY WAS HANDLED  
 THROUGH THE SCHWEIZERISCHE AUTOMOBIL POSTBUREAU  
 (SWISS AUTOMOBILE POST OFFICE) No. 2 and No. 3.

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 \*  
 \* THE SWISS HOTEL POSTS \*  
 \* \*  
 \* BY \*  
 \* \*  
 \* George W. Caldwell. \*  
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Continuation.

KURORT-STOOS, in the Canton of Schwyz at an elevation of 4000 feet and eight miles from the post office in Brunnen, was the last of the hotels to issue hotel post stamps. The first stamp issued by this hotel consists of a double circle containing in the upper portion the words "Hotel--Pension" and in the lower "ob Brunnen Ct. Schwyz" and in the center the one word "Stoos." This was printed in red on white paper without watermark and is one of the rarest of the Swiss hotel post stamps.

In 1877 a stamp of new design and of a nominal value of five centimes came into use. This is a horizontal rectangle with a triple frame. A post horn occupies most of the space, while entwined about this is a label in the form of a ribbon. On this ribbon is the name of the hotel and that of its proprietor, Carl Muller. It is found in several colors; imperforate and perforated 12. The imperforate form is noted in brick red, in blue, and in light green. The perforated form appears in red, brick-red, blue, light blue, green, and yellow green. This stamp was lithographed on white, unwatermarked paper. Judging from the number of specimens with one or two straight edges, it would seem that the sheets were straight edged. Specimens imperforate between are known. Some authorities claim the red and the blue stamps appeared in 1877 and the green during the following year. The Zumstein Special Catalog Ninth Edition lists all three under the 1877 date.

After the suppression of the Hotel Posts by Federal Decree in 1883, Kurort-Stoos issued two stamps for advertising purposes; these are upright rectangles. The first, imperforate, shows the Swiss Cross in the center on a violet background with the inscription, "Hotel--Pension Stoos, Brunnen, Ct. Schwyz." The second is perforated and is found in four different colors. The design consists of a spray of Alpine roses entwined with a ribbon which contains the words "Kurort-Stoos Carl Muller." The frame consists of three lines, the middle one being quite thick in comparison with the others. This stamp was lithographed on white, unwatermarked paper and perforated 12. It appears in carmine red, blue green, yellow green, and blackish blue.

Two different postmarks were used at Kurort-Stoos both of which are double circles. In one the words "Carl Muller--Camenzino" appears between the two circles, and in the center "Kurort Stoos ob Brunnen" in two lines. In the other, "Kurort-Stoos ob Brunnen" is between the circles, and in the center "Vierwald Stattersee (Schwyz)" in three lines; the outer circle is a double line. These postmarks are always in blue. Apparently the y came into use in 1880 at the time the telegraph office was opened here.



would cut through the bottom frame of the stamp, between O and S of POST. There are, as in the genuine, four horizontal white lines in the boss, at the centre of the crozier; but the third from the top is as wide as the second, while in the genuine, the second from the top is the widest of them all. The crozier is narrower above the boss, than it is below it. The white line in the upper half is too long, and runs up a little way into the boss. The bottom point of the crozier is nearly 1 mm. from the bottom of the shield; the points do not touch the shield. The hanging leaf-ornament, above the L of BASEL, is more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. from the side of the frame, but the other three leaf-ornaments all touch the frame. The lettering is rather ragged in this forgery, and the foot of the A of STADT is joined to the D.

SEVENTH FORGERY.

This is the same as R.B. Earce's seventh forgery. - Lithographed, better than the last, on thick, white wove paper. The dove is very slightly embossed. There is no hyphen after POST, and there is a stop after BASEL. (These of course are very easy tests.) There is no "burly"; only a plain background of greenish-blue. The O of POST leans very much over to the right, and there is a dot in the inner black outline of the red shield, over the space of OS of POST. This must not be confused with the second forgery, in which the dot is in the outer outline of the red shield.) The L of BASEL slopes a little to the right; and a line drawn along its lower edge would cut through the center of the S of STADT. The head of the large 2 is too big for the foot, which is short, and perfectly straight. The little l just touches the fraction-line. The said fraction-line; if prolonged, it would cut through the bottom of the right-hand frame. The inner black outline of the frame, is thick all the way round, and the outer outline is thin all the way round. Beside these, when there is margin enough, a third black outline may be seen,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. from the second outline. The red outline is too wide for the space between the two black ones. The foot of the R of Rp. touches the bottom frame; the top of the P is exactly level with the central division of the R; and the stop is merely a projection from the side of the frame. In the genuine, the P is of a peculiar shape, having its vertical shaft coming up above the level of the head. In this forgery, the top of the head is exactly level with the top of the shaft, and in one unbroken line with the serif. There are four horizontal, white lines in the boss of the crozier, but the top one is the thickest, and some distance above the others. In the genuine, the widest space is between the second and third lines. All four leaf-ornaments touch the frames. The curled top of the crozier is fully  $\frac{3}{4}$  mm. from the outline above it, and the side-points do not touch the sides of the little shield. The left foot of the A of BASEL has a clumsy blotch on it, and it is so long, that it almost, or quite touches the base of the B. The S of this word leans very much over towards the E, but in the genuine it hardly leans at all towards the E.

R.B. Earce's EIGHT FORGERY.

Lithographed, on medium, white paper. There is very little trace of embossing in the dove, and it has no letter in its beak. The hyphen after STADT is long and slanting, and there is no hyphen after POST.

There is a large stop after **BASSEL**, and some copies show a small black dot just before the **B**, rather lower than the level of its centre. The corners are solid, of a dull olive-green, without any bureli. The lower outline of the lettered label does not touch the inner outline of the bottom frame in this forgery, though it touches in the genuine, and in all other counterfeits. The **O** of **POST** leans very much over to the right. There is a little dot or flaw in the inner outline of the red shield above the **T** of **POST**, and a longer and larger one in the same line, above the **B** of **BASSEL**. The **L** slopes down to the right, so that a line along the lower edge would pass very nearly clear above the **S** of **STADT**. The foot of the large **2** is quite straight. The little **1** just touches the fraction-line. The said fraction-line slopes considerably up to the right; so that, if prolonged, it would graze the foot of the **P**, cut through the **OST** of **POST**, touch the foot of the **B** of **BASSEL**, and pass through the right-hand frame, clear above the **Rp**. The head of the little **2** touches this fraction-line. The inner, black frame line of the frame is thicker than the outer one, all the way round. The red frame is very badly done, being in some parts only  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. wide, increasing to as much as  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mm. The foot of the **R** is firmly joined to the bottom frame; its tail very nearly touches the **P**; the head of the **P** is very little above the level of the central division of the **R**, and its foot is joined to the right-hand frame; while the stop is simply a projection from the said right-hand frame. There are only three horizontal lines in the central boss of the crozier, the uppermost one being some distance from the other two. The crozier, below the boss, is even wider than the boss itself. In the genuine, the boss is a great deal wider than the crozier is, either above or below it. The side-points of the crozier are not alike; the right-hand one touches the side of the shield, while the left-hand one curls much more upwards, so that its point is turned away from the side of the shield. The lowest point is only about  $\frac{1}{3}$  mm. from the bottom of the shield. The leaf-ornament in the left top corner does not quite touch the side of the frame, but all the other three leaves touch the frame. The foot of the **A** of **STADT** is joined to the **D**.

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To be continued in the next issue of the **BULLETIN**.

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Contribution of articles for future publication will be gladly welcomed by your editor.

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At the September meeting which was held on October 5, the President appointed the following Nomination Committee:

George W. Caldwell, Philadelphia, Chairman  
and  
Eddie Buser, Jr. New York, N.Y.  
Lucien Rosse, Long Island City, N.Y.

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