



THE AMATEUR COLLECTOR'S

**STAMP
CATALOGUE
of
SWITZERLAND
1952**

having temporarily been sold out, we are pleased to inform customers that

THE SECOND PRINTING IS NOW AVAILABLE. Please order immediately to ensure supply! Price 2/6^d (2/9 Post free)

**SUBSCRIPTION FOR
THE SWISS PHILATELIST.**

May we remind those readers who have not yet sent us the ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION of 2/- that, to our great regret, it will be impossible for us to send them the next issue of the "SWISS PHILATELIST".

Production cost and postage are so high that the moderate charge made hardly covers the actual expenses.

We are confident that the information which is contained in the "SWISS PHILATELIST" and many more interesting articles and notes which will appear in future, will compensate our readers manifold for the small outlay. Please send your 2/- (which include post-free delivery) now, to insure that you remain on our mailing list. Thank you.

100 YEARS SWISS TELECOMMUNICATIONS

In 1952 it will be a hundred years since telecommunications were introduced in Switzerland. From very modest beginnings they have developed into a complex, world-wide organisation. In order to celebrate this occasion the Administration of P.T.T. issued a set of four special stamps.

The set comprises four values of 5, 10, 20 and 40 Centimes. They will be sold at all Swiss post offices at the nominal face value from the 1-st of February, as long as stock lasts, but not later than until the 31-st of December 1952.

The designs and colours are as follows:

5 C. Telegraph, orange and yellow; 10 C. Telephone, green, blue-green and pink; 20 C. Radio, reddish violet, pink and grey-blue; 40 C. Television, dark blue and light blue. Stamp size 29x24 mm Picture size 26 x 21 mm. The designer was Pierre Gauchat, graphic artist, Zurich. The stamps were printed in rotary intaglio-etching at the Imprimerie Courvoisier S.A., La Chaux-de-Fonds.

The paper is white, lightly hatched, with admixture of red and blue fibres, the gum is smooth. There are 50 stamps per sheet, printed from a cylinder of two sheets (A and B). The margins bear a legend indicating the jubilee, motif, value and duration of validity.



A special postmark was designed by Hans Thoeni, graphic artist, Berne, and served exclusively for cancellations done by the Philatelic Agency on February 1, 1952. The inscription in German means: "100 YEARS ELECTRICAL COMMUNICATIONS IN SWITZERLAND". The cancellation was applied on February 1-st to all postal articles sent to the PIT Philatelic agency not later than on that day and posted at a Swiss post office. The postmark was also applied, on request, to loose stamps and sheets, stamps mounted on collectors' leaflets, sheets of paper etc.



The Amateur Collector Ltd. supply the new set at the following New Issue Service prices:
Complete set of 4 values MINT 1s.9d.
Complete set of 4 values USED 1s.9d.
ditto on First Day Cover..... 2s.4d.

Postmarks and Cancellations

By Eduard Greninger (Direction general of PTT)



Among the rare postmarks of the period are those of Swiss offices abroad. Already before the transfer of the postal services to the Confederation, several of the Cantonal Post Offices maintained such post offices in France and Italy, to speed up the carriage of mail by Swiss post coaches. But as late as 1865 Swiss postage stamps and Swiss postmarks were used by Swiss post agencies in Northern Italy, where the postal services - partly owing to political upheavals - were not altogether

reliable. Of special interest are the postmarks of the agencies in Camerlate near Como, which still operated in the Sixties, and those of Chiavenna, Domodossola, Luino, Pontarlier etc. Switzerland also maintained - if only for a short time - a post office in Milan. Even to-day there are two Swiss postal agencies on Italian soil, at Luino and Domodossola, because Swiss postal coaches and a Swiss railway line run through

In 1880 we encounter larger circular postmarks once again. For over 20 years prior to that the usual diameter was 20 to 23 mm. From 1880 onwards, for a long time, the diameter was widened to 25 mm. The vertical lines in the two segments now become much more heavy, the reason being that the Post Office authorities hoped to prevent in this way an abuse of using already postmarked light and easy to remove (see illustration, top right).



With the increasing trade and postal traffic the great reorganisation had now become Post offices in larger towns were

split into various departments, dealing with the sorting and delivery, parcel mail, money orders ("Mandate", see illustration), journals, Poste Restante, Accounts, etc. All these main departments were equipped with postmarks indicating the special purpose, and there is still a host of these postmarks in use, complicated by the three languages of the country. With the increase of population the need for many new branch offices arose, and we now find postmarks either indicating the location of the post office (for instance ZÜRICH -PREDIGER PLATZ, or numbers, like ZÜRICH -FIL. IV, the FIL. standing for Filiale which means Branch Office). Ambulant post offices are now becoming quite frequent and the postmarks indicate the train route in addition to the word BAHNPOST, as the illustration on the right shows. The first "special post office" comes into being on the occasion of the National Exhibition in Zurich in 1888. The special cancellation used there is now



fairly difficult to obtain. In 1905 yet another change in the diameters was decided upon, the Basel 10 post office was the first to receive the new large postmark measuring 27 mm. But the enormous increase of the post traffic finally brings the end to hand stamping in the large sorting offices and the machine takes the place of the hand instrument. The first machine was installed at the Berne main office in 1911, and Geneva, Lausanne, Basel, Lucerne, Zurich 1 and 3, and St.Gall followed suit.



SPECIAL OFFERS

valid during FEBRUARY and MARCH only

Cat.No.	Normal Price	Special
87 A	Used ... (1/6)	1/1
90 A	" ... (1/9)	1/3
93 B	" ... (1/8)	1/3
190	" ... (1/1)	10d.
Nat.Fete Miniature Sheet 1940, Mint ... (42/6)		39/-

The rapid and interesting development of the methods of cancellation, the introduction of slogan and propaganda postmarks and many other features in this enthralling field of collecting will be sketched in a concluding article. On some future occasion we hope to deal with modern methods of mass-mail cancellations.



Owing to pressure on space we regretfully postponed the publication of an article on the work of the Swiss P.T.T. until the next issue. This interesting contribution, based on official material and well illustrated, will provide an instructive survey of the manifold tasks the Swiss Post Office is fulfilling.

STAMP CATALOGUE of SWITZERLAND 1952

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

Page 18: 1951. Centenary of Telecommunications in Switzerland. Designs by P.Gauchat. Rotogravure by Courvoisier. Granite Paper. No Wmk. Perf.11

309	5c. orange/yellow (Telegraph)	0 2	0 2
310	10c. grn./bl.grn/pink (Phone)	0 4	0 2
311	20c. viol./pink/gr.blue (Radio)	0 7	0 2
312	40c. dk.blue/1.blue (Televis.)	1 10	0 10
Complete set of 4 values		1/10	1/4

Page 5: 1841 Zurich should read 1843.

Page 8: 1882-99 issue - "Disregarding the diff. controlmarks etc." should follow the SIMPLIFIED LIST (not Specialised List)

Page 8: No.60Ba should read DEEP brown lilac. No.54 should read 5 c. lilac

Page 9: No.76F should read 72F

Page 10: No.84, the price for Mint is 1s. (not 1d)

Page 14: 3c.Landscape is No.201 (not 210)

Page 17 (at bottom, varieties) No.267A (broken wheel) should read No.277A.

Page 18: 1949 Landscapes, Delete "Complete set of 12 val."etc., and substitute "Compl. set of 14 values.....11/- 5/-"

Page 35: Issue year of Defence Loan stamps and Miniature sheet (No.2 to 8) is 193b.

Page 39: No.41 is 1 f. No.241 is HFLVETIA variety; the same applies to no.164I (Page 13)

Page 40: No.49Az is missing. It should read - 10c.purple (Type 1I)(203Az) price 5/6

Page 41: No.21I is missing. It is the HFLVETIA - variety

Page 47: No.1 of the Frank Stamps is missing. It is the GRATIS Label for the mail of the French P.of W.in 1871, interned in Swiss camps. The price for a mint label is £ 2, used on cover £45.

There were a few other minor misprints, such as "troy" for grey etc., but most of those are self-evident. The Publishers tender their apologies for any inconvenience caused.

PRICE ALTERATIONS

Page 36: No.32 and No.33 (Lunaba Min.Sheet) new price 8/- mint, 8/- used.

Page 18: No.297 (3c.black) 1/6 mint, 1/6 used; No.297A (3c.grey black) 6d.mint, 6d.used.

Page 31: Pro Juventute 1950 Compl.set MINT 4s.3d.

Page 34: Nat.Fete 1951, No.52 (10c.) 8d mint, 4d.used ditto No.53 (20c.) 1/-s. mint, 4d.used ditto Complete set USED 3/-s.

MINT S.d.N. AND B.I.T. STAMPS. We can offer the rarest of these, the Disarmament sets of 1932, with both overprints, at the exceptionally favourable price of only £150 for the two sets. Catalogue price is Francs 2,400 (Approx.£ 230) and our list price is £ 180. A real opportunity for the investor.



Pionier-Luftpostmarken 1913

PIONEER FLIGHTS 1913

We are breaking up a very fine collection of these flights, and shall be pleased to send on a p p r o v a l any item singly or the lot.

"Among those present" are the following covers and cards:

- II. BASEL (March 9th)
- III. BERNE (March 20th)
- V. HERISAU (March 31st)
- VI. LANGNAU (May 4th.)
- VII. LAUFEN (Septemb.28th)
- VIII. LIESTAL (April 27th)
- IX. LUGANO (April 6th.)



Erste Flug Post

BIEL-BERN

Transportiert durch Aviatiker Bider

Sonntag, 8 Juni 1913

- X. SITTEN (May 18th.)
- XI. SOLOTHURN (August 17th)
- XIIa BIEL-BERNE (June 8th)
- XIIc BIEL-BERNE (June 8th)
- XIIItb MORGES-LAUSANNE (June 15th)

Also the following rare items:

- 1909 Gordon Bennett card
- 1921 30 c. Air overprint superb on cover
- 1919 First Flight Zurich-Lausanne, with 50c. Air overpr.
- 1923 First Flight Zurich-London, (Handley Page, one of the rarest only 189 sent!)

and many others of great interest

FORGERIES OF CROSS-OVERPRINT OFFICIALS

We hear from Berne that copies of the 10c. purple, No.203, Type I, have appeared on the stamp market with a Cross overprint (as the Officials of 1938), and are being offered at exorbitant prices as a "rarity". These overprints are forgeries. The Type I of this stamp was never overprinted with the Cross for official use, and does not exist thus. The only genuine overprint was applied on Type II (redrum No.203 A) both on smooth and grided papers.



THINGS TO WATCH



THE LUNABA SHEET

is the fourth best miniature sheet of all issued since 1934. This is made clear by the official announcement by the

PTT that only 121,147 Lunaba sheets were issued

of which number only 108,000 were actually sold to the public. Only three other Miniature sheets exist in smaller numbers, namely the NABA-sheet (50,000)

National Fete 1940 (75,384) and National Fete 1941 (118,041). In the last case, it should be noted, that the actual sales of the LUNABA sheet were lower. Although miniature sheets are not popular with some collectors, the LUNABA sheet undoubtedly offers a very good "investment" at to-day's price.

"DAY OF STAMP" SPECIAL POSTMARKS are meeting lately with greatly increased interest from collectors and dealers in Switzerland, and some of the earlier postmarks are now extremely difficult to come by. It was not until 1937 that the Swiss Post Office granted a special cancellation for the "Day of Stamp" and the following postmarks of this kind exist: 1937 (5.XII), Berne; 1938

(4.XII), Basel, Lausanne, Lugano; 1939 (3.XII), Berne and St. Gall; 1940 (1.XII), St. Gall and Lucerne; 1941 (7.XII), Zurich; 1942 (6.XII) Geneva; 1943, (5.XII), Fribourg and Zurich; 1944 (3.XII) Winterthur; 1945 (2.XII), Berne; 1946 (8.XII.), Sion (Sitten), 1947 (7.XII.), Lucerne;

1948 (5.XII), Schaffhausen; 1949 (4.XII), Vevey; 1950 (3.XII), Grenchen; and 1951 (2.XII), Berne. On most of the occasions local philatelic societies or dealers issued special envelopes or postcards, but even on ordinary covers the special cancellations provide an interesting and inexpensive sideline of Swiss collecting.

THE "THIRD" TYPE OF THE 20 CENTIMES LANDSCAPE 1949

As if the two types of the 20 C. No. 301 had not caused enough fuss, some of our readers excitedly report the "discovery" of a "third type". But, fortunately, this is not a rarity and there is, indeed, nothing new about it. The "third type" is simply the coil stamp, distributed from automatic machines. The few minor differences and the lighter shade are the results of different printing method. The coil stamps can be bought in sheets of fifty stamps - parts of the endless strips from which the coils are made up. The coil stamp certainly deserves a place in the collection, and we will describe it in more detail in the next issue.

(We can supply the coil stamp at 7d. mint & 4d. used)

NATIONAL FETE 1951. Numbers issued: 5 C. 1,637,282; 10 Centimes 2,871,390; 20 C. 2,408,843; 30 C. 846,028; 40 C. 951,355.

REAL BARGAINS!

CANTONALS AT EXCEPTIONALLY
REASONABLE PRICES



- ZURICH 6: VERTICAL, Type 4. Very fine.....£ 24
ZURICH 6: VERTICAL, Type 4. Very fine appearance, average margins£ 14
ZURICH 6: HORIZONTAL, Type 4. Excellent margins, two "outside"£ 23
GENEVA SMALL EAGLE, fine, but small repair £ 7
GENEVA LARGE EAGLE, Red Rosette Postmark, perfectly centered, large margins, just touching at right top. A really nice stamp £ 19.10/-
GENEVA DARK GREEN, Red Rosette Postmark, very fine£ 20
GENEVA CUT-OUT, Luxury copy with almost invisible minute thinning. Rarely found so fine, with Red Rosette Pmk., perfectly centered ... £ 22.10/-
BALE DOVE, Very fine relief, good average margins, Red circular Pmk., minutest thinning ... £ 55
BALE DOVE, Appearance "as mint", rare red PD postmark, fine margins. Thin.....£ 55
BALE DOVE, Finest possible relief, very good margins (two "outside"), red circular pmk., practically invisible pin-hole. Superb...£ 125
VAUD 5, three good margins, one close. Black Rosette Pmk., thin spot at top. Average...£ 7
VAUD 5, Luxury margins, Black Grille Pmk., minutest thinning, superb appearance.....£ 13
NEUCHÂTEL, Black Grid Pmk., Luxury Margins, with all four division lines showing. Grease suspected but not visible. Bargain at... £ 47.10/-
WINTERTHUR, Superb margins all round, rare Blue Rosette Pmk., Luxury appearance, but rep. £ 25
* WINTERTHUR, Black Rosette Pmk., average margins very fresh appearance. A fine item..... £ 40
ALL MARKED THUS (*) ARE WITH CERTIFICATES BY Dr. FULPIUS OR ZUMSTEIN.
Ask to see our approvals of RAYONS and STRUBELI Large selections always available.

Libertas

PROOFS AND ESSAYS

We have been fortunate in securing what may well be the largest collection of Blocks, Die Proofs & Singles in this country. It is doubtful if some of the items could even be duplicated in Switzerland. They have been mounted in approval books and are very reasonably priced. Customer interested should ask to see these selections. A few RÜTLI-essays and STRUBELI colour trials are also available.