

# The Olympic Jubilee – Lausanne 1944

In 1944, the games of the XIII<sup>th</sup> Olympiad, to be held in London, were cancelled on account of World War II. Nevertheless, the Olympic movement persisted and a jubilee celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the International Olympic Committee was held in Lausanne, Switzerland in June and July of 1944. To mark this occasion, Switzerland issued a set of three stamps depicting the Greek god, Apollo with values of 10c., 20c. and 30c., respectively.

Section one presents the basic issue and its varieties. Section two of the exhibit focuses on various rates, services and cancellation including first day usages, special hand cancels, commemorative slogan cancels, censor markings, and registered and special delivery services.



*Above: Used pair of 30c. with "Open eye" variety. (on right)*



*Detailed comparison on normal variety on left vs "open eye" variety on right*

*Left: Block of twenty 30c. issue featuring "Open eye" variety (third row, third stamp from left) and inscription selvage. Left eye appears open due to the repair of cylinder damage during printing.*