ROCHESTER PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

February 1968

Meeting place: Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences
657 East Ave.
2nd and 4th Thursdays - September through June. 8 P.M. Swappers from 7:30

OFFICERS - 1967-1968

President James G. Papin
Vice-President Norman Stevenson
Secretary Miss Suzanne Meyn
Treasurer Leslie J. Roll

FEBRUARY 8, 1968

Our speaker for this meeting will be Arthur Cohen a member of the Rochester Philatelic Association. He is a well known collector of the stamps of Israel and his collection has won many awards at exhibitions, including SIPEX in Washington, D.C. in 1966.

The title of his talk will be "The first Coin issue of Israel". Let's show him a good turn-out for his presentation.

FEBRUARY 22, 1968

This meeting will be another Members Sales Night. All members must have some material, a few single stamps, some covers, plate blocks, odd stamp magazines, stock books, whole collections - anything you would like to swap, trade or sell. Bring it in and set up your own exchange for cash or stamps.
UN NEWS

The United Nation's Postal Administration will issue the 2nd stamp in the "United Nations Art" series on March 1, 1968, which will illustrate the statue by the Danish Sculptor, Henrick Storcke, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber at The United Nations Headquarters, in New York.

The statue illustrated is carved from a single teakwood trunk and arms streched towards the bluebird above, symbolizes mankind reaching for greater heights and happiness in the future.

The 6 cent denomination will be a commemorative, issue while the 75c stamp will be a definitive issue. 2,700,000 of the 6 cent will be printed by Courvoisier S..A. of Switzerland by Photogravure and perforated 11½. The 75c will be printed in a quantity of 2,300,000.

A 6-cent stamp will be issued April 15, 1968 to commemorate United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and a new 20 cent Airmail Stamp.

The UNIDO stamp will be printed by photo-offset by the Canadian Bank Note Co. Ltd., Ottawa, Canada. It was designed by Ole Hamann of Denmark. The two stamps will be multicolored and printed in denomination of 6-cents and 13 cents in quantities of 2,700,000 and 2,400,000 respectively.

The 20-cent airmail stamp was also designed by Ole Hamann and printed by photo-offset by Suomen Pankin Setelipaino, of Finland in an initial quantity of 3,000,000.

NOTICE

To the members who did not read the last issue of the Bulletin thoroughly: R.P. A. membership dues of $3.50 for the calendar year 1968 are now due and payable at a club meeting or by mail to the Treasurer.

Leslie J. Roll
4389 St. Paul Blvd.
Rochester, N. Y.
14617
THE OLD GERMAN STATES AND THEIR POSTAL SERVICE

By

ROLF HEBENSTREIT

In the days of the Mid-Nineteenth century, Germany was an odd patch work of more than thirty sovereign states and free cities, served by seventeen different postal administrations.

The first stamp to appear in Germany was not German at all; it was issued by the Royal Bavarian Postal Administration November 1, 1849. More than twenty years had yet to pass before Germany became a political entirety.

Some of these minor principalities were rather small, a few square miles of territory with a town or two, and some villages. To maintain a postal service of their own was a luxury they could not afford. Here we usually find the princely house of Thurn and Taxis ready to take care of the postal needs of these small states. This remarkable family played an important part in the development of the post in Central Europe for more than 350 years.

Postal rates must have been a postal clerks nightmare. Each of the seventeen postal administrations had their own idea of what to charge for a letter. Rates were based on distance and weight, different in each state.

To top it all, several currencies were circulating. We find Gulden and Kreuzer, Thaler and Groschen. The free City of Bremen had a Thaler worth 10% more than that used by other states. It was made up of 72 Grote rather than 30 Groschen. Hamburg used the Mark Currant, about 1/3 of a Prussian Thaler.

Suppose you wanted to mail a letter from Hamburg to Frankfurt. First one had to go to the right post office. Hamburg had its own and also six foreign offices operating. Frankfurt was served by Thurn and Taxis. Before the letter could reach Frankfurt, it had to pass several other states in transit. Each one would claim a part of the postage fee. When a letter was accepted, complicated calculations had to be done and a record of each letter was kept to figure out who owned what at the end of the year.

The whole affair of mailing a letter may have been a cumbersome sort of business. But just the same the mail did go through and it made pretty good time too.

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CLUB NOTES

Don't forget a few lots for the Federation Auction that will be held in Batavia, New York on the 27th of April. Our club should be able to come up with a hundred or so lots to help then out.

Here is the address mentioned by Norman Stevenson at our last meeting. All of us should be concerned about this ruling of the Internal Revenue Service on Taxation of the advertising income of tax exempt organizations. So let's all take a moment and write our Congressman, or:

Barber B. Conable Jr.
1313 Longworth Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Committee: Ways and Means

The new 6 cent Flag stamp that is used on your bulletin this month was issued on January 24th from Washington, D. C. The design was the work of Steven Dohenos of Westport, Conn. artist member of Postmaster General O'Brien's Stamp Advisory Committee. The stamp introduces two new marginal inscriptions "Mail Early in the Day" and "Use Zip Codes". It was printed on the Glori press in natural colors.

The source of this design is "The White House - an Historic Guide", a publication of the White House Historical Assn.

THE SALES CIRCUIT

This month the APS circuit will include stamps from the following: Ryuku, Sweden, U. S. Precancels, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, U. S. Plate Number singles, Canada, Br. Colonies, Denmark, Norway.

If any member would like to see any other country, please let me know. Warren Stevens - APS Representative.

Two new members were added to our rolls last month
Robert Hackenan of 85 Amherst St. Rochester, N.Y.
Peter G. Gleason of 224 Hollywood Ave., Rochester