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CHAPTERS OF UNP

Midwest UN Collectors: intermittent, usually at shows in the Iowa-Kansas-Nebraska area. Contact Ruth Grissmann, 2817 61st St. Des Moines, IA 50322. UN Collectors of Chicagoland, Inc.: second Thursday of each month, September through May, at 55 W Monroe #2400 Chicago, 7:30 p.m. An informal dinner gathering preceeds the meeting. Contact Harry Collier, Box 1674, Chicago, IL 60690.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The leadership of any activity depends on the willingness of individuals to support, participate, and lead - developing the path along which others may follow. Each two years the members of United Nations Philatelists select those who will perform these tasks for the ensuing period. 1 July was the beginning of such a term. As president of UNP for the previous two years, I want to thank those elected officials who gave of their time--Steve Cohen, Ron Hollinger, Marcia Galletti, Ben Cohen, Don Miller, Bob Paterson, and our previous president, Charles Smith--to assist in steering UNP. The most "unsung hero" is our Journal editor, for without his constant attention to our publication, we would have little cohesive contact. Both Duane Lamers and Blanton Clement have conscientiously risen to the task, deserving of our most gracious acknowledgement.

Now we embark on a new term of activity with some shift of characters. Ron Hollinger has moved from secretary to treasurer, Don Miller remains on our Board with newcomers Harry Collier and Bob Smith. Pearl Borah as secretary and Greg Galletti as vice president, both very active members, move in to complete our new leadership team. Of course, dependable former president Charlie Smith continues on. As re-elected president, I want to welcome this new Board and I am sure we will do all we can to continue to build our specialty organization.

At our recent annual convention meeting, 25 August, at the APS STaMpsHOW '84 held at Dallas, Texas, the entire Board along with our editor met to discuss our activities. Enthusiasm ran high. We have a fine team of leaders.

Not to be forgotten are the many hours given by other volunteers within our organization for the many projects and responsibilities that need tending. To those, past and present, we commend and thank you for your time and energy. Without you we would not be the strong and vital organization we are today.

There is a bright future forecast for United Nations Philatelists. Let us all enjoy it!

COVER

Pictured on the cover are four of the sixteen stamps issued 21 September to honor Flags of United Nations member countries. The four shown are for Paraguay, Bhutan, Central African Republic, and Australia. The stamps were designed by Ole Hamann of Denmark, and printed by Helio Courvoisier S.A., of Switzerland. This is the fifth group of 16 such stamps. The series will continue to all member countries have been included.

UNP ANNUAL MEETING

The 1984 Annual meeting was held on August 25 at STampsHOW 84 in Dallas, Texas. We certainly had an excellent turnout. All the officers and directors and the editor of the Journal were present, having traveled to Dallas from Washington state, Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and "nearby" Houston, Texas. We had a good number of Texas members, and members also came from Arkansas, Oklahoma, Washington state, and Quebec, Canada.

The program of the meeting was David Alexander's slide show on UN Philately, which is reviewed separately. This was followed by an informal session where each collector present told of his collecting interests, and the club, the Journal, and UN stamps in general were discussed.

Unfortunately, the UNPA was not present, and no UN dealers were there. But a number of the dealers present had UN material. For us postal history enthusiasts, one dealer had an accumulation of League, ILO, and UN service covers which an employee at the A.F. of L. in Washington, D.C. had saved over many years.

The Board had a good meeting and a good discussion about the future of UNP was had. The location of next year's meeting was not decided, and will be studied further. The 1986 meeting will be held at AMERIPEX in Chicago. Ron Hollinger reports on the financial situation separately. It was decided to sponsor an award for writing excellence in UN philately; you will be hearing details in a future Journal.

Lastly, there were some interesting and informative UN exhibits in the show exhibition. These are written up in "NOTES". Those who take the time and trouble to exhibit deserve all of our thanks for their contribution to promoting UN Philately.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

We try to have something for every United Nations collector in each Journal. As UN collectors, we are bound together by a common interest, but each of us has a special area that "turns him on". I hope that most of you will find that something special, as well as find something of interest that may not be in your area of collecting at all. But I have a problem. I get very little feedback from you. I don't know whether I'm reaching you or not. Please let me hear from you. Tell me what you like or don't like, what you would like to see more of or less of. I promise you that you will be heard.

The Journal can always use new writers. You don't have to be a specialist to do a little research and write up something that interests you. Chances are, it will interest someone else, too. You can also participate by asking a question about some "mystery" item you have, or writing a paragraph about some prized item for "Odds and Ends".

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Ronald Hollinger

For the past five years dues for the United Nations Philatelists have remained at the same level: \$8 for domestic and \$14 for international membership. Over this period of time our costs of operation have increased drastically. Cost of printing has increased by 100%; postage expenses have increased by 50%. Other expenses of producing our Journal and monographs have also increased.

Although the UNPI board has held other expenses to a minimum, we have come to the point of cutting the size and quality of the Journal and monographs, or increasing dues. The Board of UNPI has decided that the quality of our publications cannot be compromised. Therefore we have reluctantly decided to increase annual dues by \$2 per year. This makes our dues of \$10 domestic and \$16 international still a great bargain.

Since the August Journal has already been mailed with a dues notice, the Board has decided to allow 1984-85 dues paid or postmarked before November 1 to remain at the previous rate. Any dues postmarked after November 1 will be at the increased amount.

The Board has also voted to increase the cost of back copies of our Journal. The current cost of \$1 per issue will be increased 1 November to \$1.50 per issue with a discount rate of \$7 for a complete volume (six issues of one fiscal year). If you are interested in back copies, order them now.

A complete financial report will follow in a future issue of the Journal. If you have any questions, feel free to drop me a letter.

BUY, TRADE, SALE

Your ad could appear here. UNPI members are entitled to two free ads of three lines or less in the Journal each year. Send your ad to the editor.

NEW MEMBERS

John W. Murry Chester Handley Jacques Hanoune D. Edward Taylor James McAnally

Oshawa, Ontario, Canada Mt. Clemens, MI Paris, Prance Seneca, KA Auston, MN By B. Clement, Jr.

It was a pleasure to finally see David Alexander's slide show on UN Philately at the Dallas annual meeting. Unfortunately Mr. Alexander could not be present, but he sent an excellent recorded commentary. The show gives a non-UN collector a very good idea as to what UN collecting is all about. As such, it would be an excellent program for a meeting of a general interest stamp club. If Alexander is willing to send the show out across the country, he might well attract some new UN collectors.

The quality of the slides in the show was excellent. And Alexander's commentary adds a touch of authority to the presentation. It should, since Mr. Alexander was a member of the UN secretariat for 30 years, and was long-time president of the UN Philatelic Society, which is open only to the UN secretariat, delegates, and the press at the UN. Alexander was member of the UN stamp design selection committee from 1957 to 1975.

Alexander's story starts in San Francisco with the U.S. "Towards United Nations" issue, then moves on to the London slogan cancel, the UN meter used at Hunter College, and the Lake Success "Courier of the United Nations" cancel. He tells the story of Flushing Meadow and the new UN building on the East River, blending in photographs and stamps to illustrate his narrative. He mentions study of the UN first issue, the 1½¢ precancel, Scott \$38, and Scott \$29. He notes UN military mail and UNTEA. He tells the story of UNPA branching out to Geneva and Vienna. He admits that he thought Vienna was a mistake. An interesting note was the fact that the Austrian Postal Serice advertises UN stamps along with its own.

In summary, Mr. Alexander has done UN Philately a service by preparing and presenting this slide show. We should encourage him to keep up the good work. If you would like to invite David Alexander to present this excellent slide show to your local stamp club, please write to him in care of the Editor.

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STANLEY J. ROACH UN SPECIALIST 199 Prince Street New York, NY 10012 1. At STaMpsHOW 84 in Dallas, there were a number of excellent United Nations exhibits by UNP members. Award winners were as follows:

Show Silver Medal and UNP President's Award-Les Timbres S.D.N. et B.I.T., Greg Galletti

Show Silver Bronze Medal and UNP Gold Award-The First Issue of the United Nations, Dr. Reuben A. Ramkissoon

Show Bronze Medal and UNP Silver Award-The 2¢ United Nations Definitive of 1964: A Detailed Study, Charles Berg

UNP Bronze Award-United Nations Support Cancellations-U.S., Benjamin H. Cohen

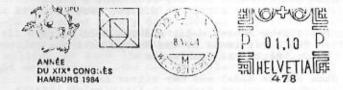
- 2. At Modern 84 show in Rottweil, West Germany, in the literature competition, The UN Conference Study by Blanton Clement, Jr. was awarded a Silver Medal. The UN Conference Study, in two editions, was published jointly by UNO-Philatelie of West Germany, and UNP. The study was distributed free to members at that time. Each edition is available from the Treasurer for \$8.50, or \$17.00 for both. Note that the second edition is a supplement to the first, and does not replace it.
- 3. In the June 1984 issue of the Journal, Jack Mayer notes the first use of P.B. 6 meter by UN-New York. He mentions the fact that P.B. 5 has not yet been observed. Here is an example of P.B.5 observed in July 1984 on a meter tape without a slogan and another example with the new slogan, dated 24 August 1984. The July date, JUL --'84, is used on bulk mailing from the UN. Jack Mayer, our meter man, will certainly elaborate on this information as he learns more details.







- 4. Some additional notes on the Universal Postal Congress which was held in Hamburg, West Germany, 18 June-27 July 1984:
- a. UPU-Bern has been using a meter with a slogan noting the Congress.



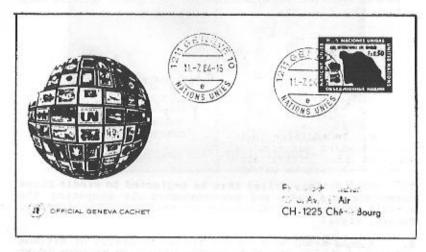
b. In addition to the oval pictorial cancel for the Congress which was shown in the August 1984 Journal, the Congress post office also used a regular Hamburg hand cancel with letters wa, wb, wc, wd, we, wg, and wh, and a regular Hamburg roller cancel with the letters wi.



c. Here is an official cover from the Congress with the special Congress corner card and the oval Congress cancel.



5. The Second International conference on assistance to Refugees in africa was held in Geneva 9-11 July 1984. The post office set up to serve the conference used the UNPO hand cancel, letter "e" (without stars), as shown below:



Also, the Conference used special stationary, as shown below. The CIARA II/ICARA II and the UN and other emblems are in green. The rest of the printing is in black. This cover used the UN-Geneva meter on 9 July 1984, the first day of the conference, and also uses the origin cachet, UNHCR. The conference was organized in cooperation with the OAU, the Organization of African Unity, and the UNHCR, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.



6. UNICEF continues its series of European show cachets with planned visits to Walsrode 14-16 september 1984, Stuttgart 5-7 October 1984, and Ingolstadt 20-21 October 1984. Cachets for Walsrode and Stuttgart are shown below.



7. Clay Wallace writes that he neglected to credit Steve Cohen for his help and encouragement in preparing the article on the Saar Plebisite in the June 1984 Journal. Thanks, Steve!

8. A gold-medal winning collection of League of Nations and United Nations European Office stamps is being sold at unreserved auction by Cherrystone Stamp Center, Inc., 132 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001 on 10 October 1984. An auction catalogue is free to prospective bidders, and mail bids are welcome.

UNPA NEWS

By the time you receive this issue of the Journal, the 1984 Flag series will have been issued. Here is the New York first day cancellation for the issue:





The UNPA-New York show imprints in conjunction with the Flag issue are illustrated for SEPAD and AUSIPEX.





The last stamp issues of the year will be on 15 November, for International Youth Year. Two New York issues, one Geneva issue, two Vienna issues, and a Souvenir Card will appear.

Addresses:

United Nations Postal Administration P.O. Box 5900 Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

United Nations Postal Administration Palais des Nations CH-1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland

United Nations Postal Administration P.O. Box 900 1400 Vienna Austria

By David S.J. Alexander

There has been very little United Nations philatelic news this summer and it is not too feasible to invent some. I have just completed an article on the countries to be honored by the next sixteen flag stamps, giving data about their lcoation, their history, political and economic development, when they became independent and joined the United Nations, etc. and I chose a representative stamp from each one of these countries to convey something typical of the nation represented. I think that whenever we who are committed to the cause of UN stamps can draw attention to some of the basic facts that lay behind the stamp issues, rather than perhaps belaboring our own individual speciality we will have done the cause of UN stamps good service.

It is only by chance that I noticed that the issue of one of the sixteen flag stamps, that of Australia, coincides to the day with the opening in Melbourne, Australia of AUSIPEX, the first big international philatelic gathering to be held down under. Indeed the first day of the stamp issue is 21 September and so is the opening day of AUSIPEX for which Australia is issuing a 30¢ stamp reproducing Scott No 2, the lp. stamp issued in 1913 showing a kangaroo siting on a map of Australia. I believe UNPA is to be represented at AUSIPEX also. I am still under the impression that flag stamps are decided upon after names of countries are drawn out of a hat. I have not been able to receive any confirmation whether this is in fact still being done as Secretary General Kurt Waldheim did at the beginning of the series. If this practice is still being continued, the choice of Australia is certainly more than a coincidence. But strange things are known to happen.

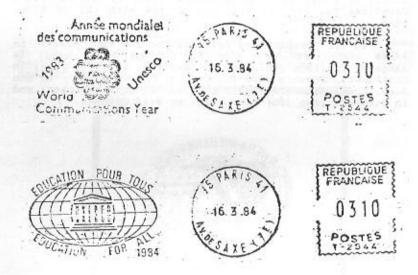
The only news of real interest to reach me these past summer weeks and months is by way of Geneva. A UNPA Press Release dated 9 August from the Palais des Nations announces that UNPA has been awarded the honor of having had the best stamp of the year. The award was announced by the President of the International Prize for Philatelic Art, Mr. Mariono Rumor of Asiago, Italy. Mr. Rumor is an Italian Senator and the stamp selected is the Frs 1.20 designed for Human Rights Day 1983, by none other than Priedensreich Hundertwasser.

The Jury that made the award of the best stamp of the year, 1983 said: "By far the best stamp both in regard to originality of subject and technical quality as well as by the talent of the artist who has succeeded in interpreting his subject by combining contemporary art and precolumbian traditions". This to me does not sound a properly rounded up sentence but I am quoting the Press Release; the text is obviously a rather rough translation from the Italian. The prize itself was handed out on July 15 at a ceremony held in Asiago's town hall. We always knew Hundertwasser was a winner - of a sorts.

10

By Jack Mayer

Nearly every year UNESCO makes a change in the slogan that it uses with several of its meters. This year was no exception. New slogans were given to meters with numbers T-1473, T-1645, T-1752, T-1762, and T-2544. The apparent first day of use of these new slogans was 16 March 1984 and on at least one of these machines, T-2544, the slogan was not changed until sometime during the day, resulting in both the old and new impressions on the same day as shown in the illustration below.



Meter # T-1645 may have been out of service for a brief period during this change as no impressions have been reported on this machine for the period between 14 Feb and 10 Apr.

For approximately two years, UNESCO mailings have also been franked by use of Meter #T-92843. The last reported use of this machine is 12 March 1984. No slogan was ever given this machine and whether its use was discontinued or not, we do not know at this time. However, we do note another meter being used, perhaps as a replacement, # F-1226, with its first reported use on 22 March 1984. Again, this meter has not been supplied with a slogan. As future reportings are made, these dates may change.

1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR*

By Adolf Schipper

The International Youth Year is a world-wide project of the United Nations which seeks to improve understanding for the problems of young people and to show the necessity for and the effects of fostering youth. A West German organizing meeting for IYY took place on 16 January 1984. Events on an international scale are anticipated, and should improve the cooperation with third world nations on matters dealing with the politics of youth and should serve particularly to identify and resolve the problems of youth in these countries. The coordination of the International Youth Year lies with the CSDHA, the Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in Vienna. Mohammad Sharif of Nepal has been appointed Chief of the Executive Committee for IYY; he has been active with the UN since 1965.

In 1983 preparatory sessions for IYY took place: in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (for Africa) on 20-24 June; in Bangkok, Thailand (for Asia and Pacific) on 26-30 July; in Costinesti, Romania (for Europe) on 5-9 September; in San Jose, Costa Rica (for Latin America) in early October; and in Baghdad, Iraq (for West Asia) on 9-13 October.



The IYY emblem was designed by Lee Kaplan of the New York School of Visual Arts. His design appears on the special cancellation (pictured above) which will be used at Jubria '85, a philatelic exhibition which will take place in Rheda-Wiedenbrueck, West Germany, on 23 March 1985.

AN UPDATE OF PHILATELIC ITEMS RESULTING FROM UNPA PARTICIPATION AT WORLD PAIRS

By Richard Powers

Although the Gaines Catalog is an extremely comprehensive listing of United Nations philatelic material, I have occasionally come across a few items that have not yet made their way into the catalog or are only partially described. I would like to share with you some unlisted or partially listed items resulting from UNPA participation at various World Fairs.

1958 - The Universal and International Exhibition in Brussels

On 17 April 1958 the Belgian postal administration issued a set of 16 stamps to help finance the participation of the United Nations at the Brussels World Fair. These stamps were valid for postage for mail posted only from the United Nations Pavillion. These stamps, as well as some related material are pictured in the Gaines Catalog beginning on page 1635. I would like to mention two items that are not included in the Catalog.



Fig. 1

The first, pictured in Fig. 1, is a 6-page Belgian PTT leaflet measuring 15 cm by 21 cm containing the sixteen stamps cancelled with the special FD cancel, which features

^{*}From Unopost 2-84, Journal of UNO-Philatelie.

the UN symbol. The legend in Flemish on the cover reads as follows: The Postal Administration presents the series of United Nations stamps. There also exists a corresponding leaflet in French. The one French language leaflet that I have seen contains a set of stamps cancelled on the day of issue with the working day cancel BF/HC2. Gaines mentions the existence of a PTT leaflet (language unspecified) with the hand cancel BF/HC4.

The second item is a first flight cover posted at the United Nations Pavillion on 1 June 1958. This cover, pictured in Fig. 2, bears a cachet (black rubber handstamped) indicating that the first flight connecting Brussels with Moscow by Sabena Airlines took place the next day. On the reverse side is a Moscow backstamp dated 3 June 1958 at 9 AM.



Fig. 2

1962 - The Seattle World's Pair

The Gaines Catalog makes no mention of UNPA participation at the Seattle world's Fair in 1962. Recently I have come across two souvenirs indicating the presence of the UN at the fair. Both are first day covers of the UN stamps issued in memory of Hammarskjold's death (Scott \$108-9). Fig. 3 shows a FDC bearing a cachet featuring the United Nations Pavillion at the Seattle World's Fair. The cachet of the other cover shown in Fig. 4 indicates that the day of issue of these stamps 17 September 1962 was apparently declared to be United Nations Philatelic Day at the Fair. Unfortunately neither of the covers indicates who prepared the cachets.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

1967 - Expo '67 World's Fair in Montreal

Recently I came across a cover bearing a modification of the WFUNA Pavillion cachet prepared for use for FDC's of the Expo '67 United Nations stamps. Apparently general purpose cachets were also produced by WFUNA without the legend Premier Jour D'Emission or First Day of Issue. Fig. 5 shows such a modified cachet with rubber stamped legends UN Special Day and the date 3 June. The cover bears the 8¢ Expo '67 (Scott \$172) cancelled with a machine cancellation for that date. Apparently these general purpose cachets were also used for a flight aboard the Canadian Centennial copter. According to the 6th Edition of the Lindner



Fig. 5

Catalog WFUNA prepared 1000 such helicopter covers (p. 344). Although the Gaines Catalog does not explicitly mention this all-purpose WFUNA cachet, it pictures one on page 463 in Fig. 2 used as a FDC for UN 172. It is my impression that most WFUNA FDC's bear the cachet shown in Fig. 2A and not that shown in Gaines' Fig. 2, which makes no mention of the first day of issue.

THIRD PRINTING FOR GENEVA DEFINITIVE

By Duane E. Lamers

UNPA-Geneva has been issuing postage stamps since 1969, and only the designs for the 30-centime and one-franc adhesives have been replaced, in 1982. Two of the originals, the five- and 20-centime values have been reprinted.

Recently UNPA announced that the third printing of the 20-centime stamp was placed on sale 1 June 1984 following withdrawal of remaining stocks of the second printing on the preceding day. Only 200,000 stamps were printed and released in June. Among the definitives issued since the First Issue, only two other stamps have been given such low printing totals: 126.2, the seven-cent issue of 1964, and 149.3, the embossed 25-cent stamp printed on phosphor-coated papaer.

If past sales are an indication, the present printing of G-3 will have a shelf life of less than two years. Perhaps officials are planning to replace this stamp in the near future.

16

The new printing is easy to spot. This time the blue, green, and black inks are glossy against a flat-finished or matte paper. The inks of the first two printings were matte on matte paper. The paper itself differs from its predecessors only in that it is considerably whiter, as is the gum. The first reprint of this stamp was on slightly whiter paper, but time and storage conditions may have rendered the difference undetectable by now.

The gum of G-3.3 also appears to have slightly less sheen to it.

The UV lamp reveals a deep blue-red fluorescent paper highlighted by an occasional thick, bright fluorescent fiber. It is possible that an MI block will be without these fibers, but they are found "fer sher" in larger blocks and in sheets. Compare to the paper of the 1982 definitives.

G-3.1 and G-3.2 are among the few later UN definitives that give up their identities only to the UV lamp. The original contains small fluorescent flecks while the first reprint does not. Except for the slight (and questionable) difference in paper coloration, no ink or gum qualities distinguish one printing from the other.

G-3.3 will be easy to identify but difficult to locate. It is unlikely that any but some East Coast specialty dealers will ever stock this printing. A full sheet can be purchased directly from UNPA for about \$5. Because of the low face value of the stamp, a minimum of ten stamps must be purchased to obtain an inscription block.

This writer would like to hear from collectors who obtain third-printing specimens with some different paper, ink or gum characteristics. The information is needed for inclusion in a soon-to-be-published catalog of printing varieties of the later definitive stamps.

QUESTION CORNER

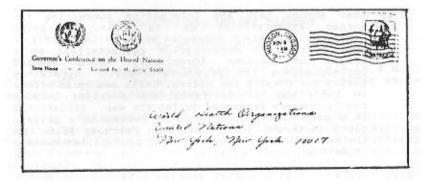
Q.9. What is the "World Power Conference" referred to in this slogan cancellation from Washington, D.C. in 1936 (see illustration)? Is this related to the League of Nations?



- A.9 The World Power Conference is a non-governmental organization (renamed World Energy Conference in 1971) in consultative status with the United Nations. It may have had similar status with the League of Nations. The conference is concerned with world energy resources, and was first held in London in 1924. Other conferences have been held in Berlin (1930), London (1950), Vienna (1956), Moscow (1968), Bucharest (1971), and Istanbul (1977).
- Q.10 What is the "MAB" which appears on this 1981 USSR postal card and postmark? It appears to be related to UNESCO.



- A.10 MAB refers to the Man and the Biosphere Programme of UNESCO. The USSR postal card commemorates the 10th anniversary of this programme. The MAB programme focuses on the study of changes brought about by man in the biosphere and its resources, and the effect of the changes upon the human species. It is not clear to the editor why this program is presently needed, since it would appear that this subject would be adequately covered by the United Nations Environmental Programme.
- Q.11 What was the "Governor's Conference on the United Nations" which appears on the corner card of this New Hampshire cover from the 1960's?
- A.11 Note that the corner card refers to only one "Governor", that of New Hampshire. This probably was John W. King, who was the Democratic governor of New Hampshire from 1963 to 1969. One would assume that the governor held this conference in support of the UN, but it could have been just the opposite. Do any of our readers have any information on this conference?

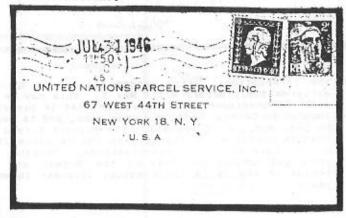


Q.12 Does anyone have any information concerning the United Nations Parcel Service, Inc.? Here is a post card bearing French stamps cancelled in December 1945 (?) and a rubber stamped date 31 July 1946. The card is apparently an acknowledgement of receipt of a parcel from the organization whose address appears printed on the card, the United Nations Parcel Service, Inc. in New York. On the message side is the printed message:

We have received your parcel in good condition, and God bless you for this gift. It will be a saving for all of us to get gradually your gifts. With many thanks and love,

(Signature of Consignee)

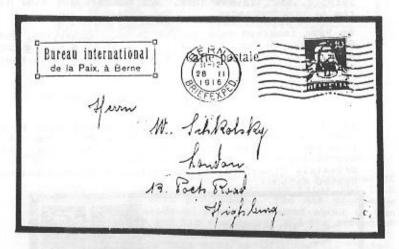
It is speculated that this organization must have been involved in relief work after World War II, presumably similar to C.A.R.E. The fact that the organization is incorporated suggests that it was privately organized and not directly related to the United Nations.



A.12 Your speculation sounds reasonable. Does anyone know anything about this organization? Q.13 Does anyone have any information concerning the Bureau International de la Paix, a Berne (International Peace Bureau in Bern, Switzerland)? I have heard this organization characterized as a League of Nations forerunner, which handled correspondence for prisoners-of-war. Apparently during World War I the neutral Swiss set up an office in their capital to facilitate messages between family members separated during the war. Illustrated is a post card mailed from the Bureau to a private party in London and is dated 28 February 1916. On the message side is the following handwritten message in German:

We notify you that your parents and the others are all well. They anxiously await word from you.

Beneath the message is a rubber stamped message with a hand-written file number, "in Ihrem Brief ist die Nr 5578 zu wiederholen" (In your letter refer to No. 5578). This file number suggests that the BIP served as a clearinghouse for simple messages.



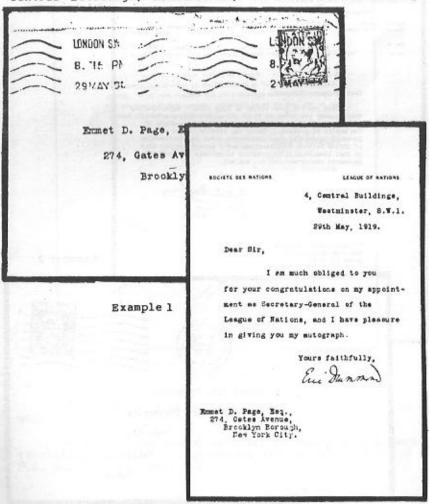
A.13 The International Peace Bureau existed in Bern as early as 1911, before World War I. This may be the same non-governmental organization that is presently located in Geneva, under the same name, and is headed by Sean McBride of Ireland. The present Bureau has been in consultative status with the UN since 1979, but so have 607 other organizations. Probably the principal connection between the Bureau and the League or the UN is their mutual interest in world peace.

AUTOGRAPHS AND POSTAL HISTORY

By Stephen Cohen

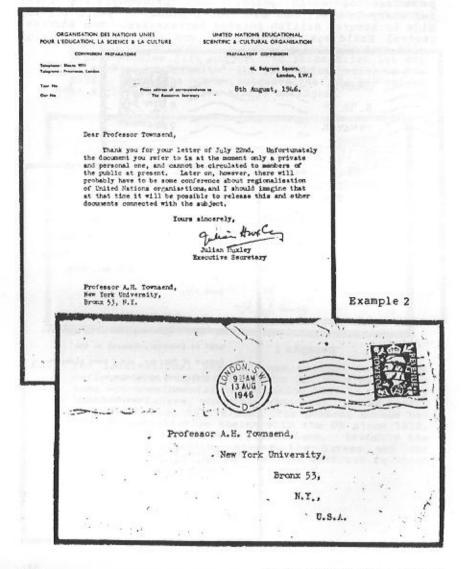
Autographs and postal history? Yes, this is a most happy marriage. To show how it can work, I offer three examples, all obtained from autograph dealers.

1. This was part of a lot of autographs of delegates to the Paris Peace Conference and the League of Nations Commission in 1919. This letter and cover are the earliest known from the infant League of Nations, born only a month previously as an international organization for the promotion of world peace. Mr. Drummond, the first Secretary-General, had been for a number of years the top aide to several British Foreign Secretaries. The address, Central Buildings, Westminster, was that of the Poreign

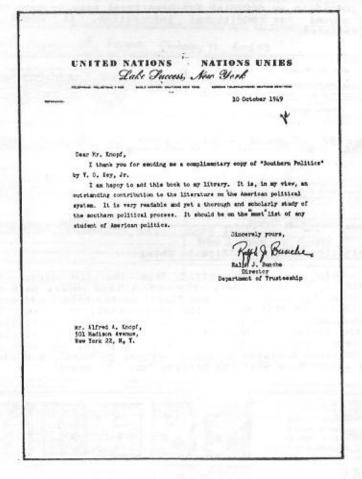


Ministry, and, apparently, the first offices of the League. The League moved into offices at 117 Piccadily about 10 June 1919.

2. UNESCO, the well known specialized agency of the United Nations, was preceded by a Preparatory Commission which had its offices in London in 1946. This letter and cover were saved not for the postal history, but for the autograph of Julian Huxley, the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory commission, and the first Director General of UNESCO. These are dated a month before the commission ended and UNESCO moved its permanent seat to Paris. This is the only known postal history from the London period.



3. Here we see a really fancy letterhead from the United Nations. It was saved for Ralph Bunche's autograph. There is a wonderful story here. This letterhead, and matching envelopes, with a special blue printing, were produced only one time in the history of the UN, to honor a new state and a new member, Israel. Yes, Israel! Also the letter from Bunche was typed in blue ink.



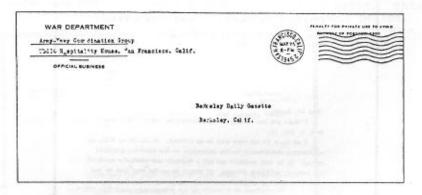
Example 3

So with a little knowledge, you have a happy marriage.

If anyone has any questions, or would like material identified, please send questions and photocopies to me at P.O. Box 867, New York, NY 10150.

New UNCIO Discovery

This cover is from the Army-Navy Coordination Group that provided security at the United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO) in San Francisco in 1945. The UNCIO founded the United Nations. This letter is posted in an official War Department penalty envelope. If anyone has additional information, it would be appreciated.



International Labour Office in China

This cover was mailed from the ILO office in Chungking, China in 1943. The censor tape covers part of the words "International" and "East" in the return address. The letter is sent to the ILO in Montreal, which was the headquarters of the ILO during World War II. The routing of the letter is interesting. It was sent by British Overseas Airways (B.O.A.) to Lagos, Nigeria, and then by Pan-American Airlines (P.A.A.), by way of Miami, Florida. Does anyone know what the marking "DHF/20" means?



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