

Jan 1965 Nr 61

The AUSTRIAN STAMP EXHIBITION



of Great Britain

CONTENTS

A.S.C. Officers and detailed information
Objects of the Club and Application form
EDITORIAL The Revd. Harold Bacon
PRESIDENTIAL T.H. WILCOX
SECRETARIAL J.W. Syddall
Auction Prices - Again H.B.
From the Exchange Packet
Superintendent T.J.L. Showell-Anderson
THE PEOPLE ON AUSTRIAN STAMPS
- Addenda 7,8, and 9
by J.F. Giblin
MILITARY POST 1918-19
by F.F. Meyer
Those were the Days!
a light-hearted(?) look into the past
by J.F. Giblin
A.G.M. Secretary's Report
INCOME and EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
to 31st August 1964
MORE from the SECRETARY
by J.W. Syddall (continued on back page)
THE AUSTRIAN POST ABROAD
COMMENTARY NUMBER 5
by S.D. Tchilinghirian
with Illustrations.

This issue printed and published
by the Austrian Stamp Club of Great
Britain:

JANUARY 1965

THE AUSTRIAN STAMP CLUB
OF GREAT BRITAIN

President Thomas H. WILCOX
54, Desford Road,
LIVERPOOL 19

Secretary James Syddall
21, Moscow Road
Edgeley, Stockport
STOCKPORT 5925

Editor The Revd. Harold Bacon
Park Cottage
58, Singleton Road,
Salford 7, Lancs.
CHEETHAM HILL 7944

Treasurer Edward Hulme
40, Thorn Road,
Swinton, Manchester
SWINTON 3100

SUBSCRIPTIONS are due on the 1st. September
each year. Membership, including subscription
to the magazine: 15s0d per annum.

THE ASC is affiliated to the VERBAND ÖSTERREICHISCHER
PHILATELISTEN-VEREINE, Universitätsstrasse 8
WIEN IX/71.

PLEASE direct all enquiries to the appropriate
officials. A stamped addressed envelope
would be a courtesy. Enquiries for member-
ship to the Secretary, please.

THE NORTHERN GROUP meets at the HOULDSWORTH
HALL, Deansgate, Manchester, at 2.30 p.m.
Dates: December 19: January 16: February 13:
March 13: April 10: May 8. Members and
visitors are very welcome.
LONDON GROUP: see special announcement.

The
AUSTRIAN STAMP CLUB
of
GREAT BRITAIN.

Membership is open to all who are interested in Austrian stamps, and who are 21 years or over. The objects of the Club are to further this interest in the following ways:

1. By arranging meetings in all parts of the country. There is one Group in existence at the moment (the Northern: in Manchester): and it is hoped that others will follow. Members of the Northern Group are prepared to travel, and to give assistance in the formation of other regional Groups.
2. By publishing a Magazine at regular intervals containing articles of interest to the specialist, the semi-specialist, and the beginner. The Magazine is also open as a forum in which any member may express his opinions: and serves as a clearing-house for questions and answers.
3. By giving advice and opinion (expert, where possible) on any subject related to Austrian Philately.
4. Handbooks and catalogues are available at reduced rates prior to publication. ASC publications covering specialised subjects are made available at concessionary prices. (A member may easily save his annual subscription by this alone).
5. Automatic membership of the Verband Oesterreichischer Philatelisten-Vereine in Vienna.
6. By providing an exchange packet for purchase and sale by members for the financial benefit of the Club: and by organising, if required, a New Issue and First Day Cover Service.

Some of the most attractive stamps in the world have come from Austria. Special study may also be concentrated on one or more of the following subjects:

Old Austria 1850-1918: The Empire Period: Pre-adhesive postmarks: postmarks of countries once part of the Old Empire (Hungary, Poland, Italy, Jugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, etc.,etc): Field-Post: Imperial Navy cancellations: Siege material: Occupation postmarks: Classic, Modern, and Special postmarks: Vienna postmarks and the Pneumatic Post: Ship postmarks: Postal Stationery: Austrian Levant: Proofs: Essays: Forwarding Agents cachets, Private and Local Post Offices: German Issues of 1938-45: Allied Occupation: Plate flaws: bisected stamps: and a host of other subjects covered in the study of Austrian Stamps and Postal History. There is enough variety in Austria to keep one completely absorbed without looking further afield: and it is a most rewarding country.

(The paragraph above is condensed from a brochure written by Member Arthur Godden: to whom due acknowledgement and thanks are made).

APPLICATION FORM.

To James W. Syddall, Esq.,
 Honorary Secretary A.S.C.,
 21, Moscow Road,
 Edgeley,
 STOCKPORT, Cheshire.

I should like to become a member of the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain: and enclose herewith my subscription for the coming year.

(Subscription 15s0d per annum, due on September 1st.)

Name and Address. (BLOCK letters or TYPE)

Main Interests:

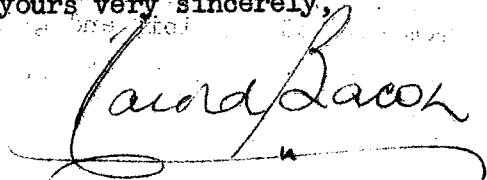
5

EDITORIAL

Dear Members,

You will find a surfeit of letters to you this month: and perhaps I may be forgiven if I have much less to say than usual. There is a letter from the new President of our Club: which will speak for itself. There is a letter from the new Secretary, which will have much to tell you of very great importance to all of us. I have no intention of stealing anyone's thunder: so you will find nothing of this in what I have to say. I would, however, like to say just this. Most of you will know that I have tried for some time to carry out the dual task of Secretary and Editor: and, quite honestly, for a variety of reasons - one of them very personal - I decided that I must relinquish one or the other, or both. I am persuaded, however, that I should be doing a disservice to the membership if I did the latter. In this event, I agreed to carry on as Editor: and James Syddall has taken what many consider to be his proper place: as Secretary of our Club. You will see that he is already making a wonderful start. Those of you who know anything at all about Austrian Philately will, no doubt, need no introduction to his name: and those who do, can rest assured that in him we have a first-class philatelist, who has already served many years in the service of this great hobby. And the same - with perhaps a few years added! - can, and should be said, of our new President. At last we have the beginnings of a team that can lead the ASC forward into greater things than have ever been; and with past differences in the past, we can perhaps all look forward to a brighter future. This, at any rate is the view of many: and the very sincere wish of

yours very sincerely,



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear fellow-members,

I feel that I must thank you and would like to express my gratitude to you all for the honour you have conferred on me in electing me President of the Club. This is particularly pleasing, as the formation of my collection of Austria is of recent date, although I have specialised in one or another country for some 43 years, and have not neglected the challenge of forgeries at any time.

And now the collection of Austria is providing me with a most satisfying experience, and while I have a long way to go before reaching the high standard of some of our members, at least I'm having a lot of pleasure exploring the various aspects of such a collection.

I have always believed in the great truth of the saying that "it's better to travel hopefully than to arrive" and would like to exhort everyone to keep travelling.

This is a good opportunity for me also to thank all those members to whom I have turned for their ready and valued help: and I would like to pay a special tribute to Mr. Keith Tranmer, whose deep knowledge of Austrian stamps has always been available and who has always been such a help and encouragement to so many of us. He deserves the best thanks of us all for the time and energy that he has expended on the club and for the publicity he has obtained for Austrian stamps.

Now let us look forward to the continued success and expansion of our club with the co-operation of all collectors of Austrian stamps.

W.I.P.A. '65 is before us and I hope that some of our members will exhibit and gain distinction there.

Again, my sincere thanks and best wishes to you all.

Yours,

Thurstan Cox

7

SECRETARIAL

Dear fellow members,

Most of you will be aware - particularly the members in this country - that there are at present two organisations of Austrian Collectors in existence in the U.K., namely, this - the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain: and the Association of Austrian Philatelists. A proposal is now before us for the amalgamation of these two organisations. Our common interest should be our common bond. Both have much to gain by joining forces.

On the 4th November a meeting took place in London between myself - your Secretary - on behalf of the ASC, and officials of the Association of Austrian Philatelists: for preliminary discussion on this question. The results were most encouraging. We were all agreed that such a union would be of great benefit to all concerned: and ought to take place as soon as possible.

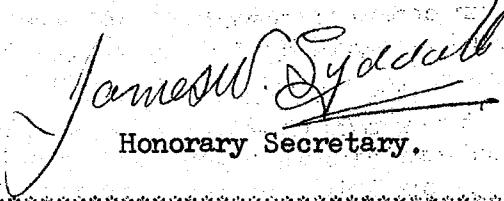
There is, of course, much to be done, and quite some negotiating to take place before such a union could take effect. The first thing is for both Committees to put the proposals to their respective membership. This we are now doing: we want your support in putting these proposals into effect.

One aspect of the discussion, which mainly concerns the members residing in the London area, is the immediate resumption of the London meetings. The AAP extend a very cordial invitation to ALL ASC members to attend their meetings, which are held at Debry's Cafe, 191 Brompton Rd. Kensington - a rendezvous well known to most of our London members. Here you will be made welcome, not just as guests, on invitation: but as Austrian Philatelists, or Stamp Collectors - whichever term you prefer to use - on equal terms with the AAP members; for after all, this is what we all want: a common meeting ground for people with a common interest.

This is as far as we have gone for the present. The

suggestions for the future are: that we run as two autonomous groups for the remainder of the current year: and at the next Annual General Meetings in September 1965 we merge the two groups under a new title as "The AUSTRIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN": with two meeting places, in London and Manchester: and then anywhere else where we can find enough members with sufficient active interest to hold meetings.

All correspondence or suggestions on this subject should be addressed to me.


Honorary Secretary

AUCTION PRICES - AGAIN

The Editor had the pleasure of attending one of the recent London Auction Sales: that of Messrs. Harmer Rooke, held on Thursday 26. November. The Catalogue promised 'choice issues of Austria with Lombardy-Venetia, France and Monaco': and the Austrian sections were put up for auction at the morning session. An impression may not be altogether out of place. This was the first such 'big' auction that we had attended: although we have been to many in the Provinces: and, from recent conversations with members, some have yet to experience a 'big' auction. We write 'big': although it was held in quite a small (but very pleasant) room: and there were only about 20 people present. Our will-power was much tried, in that cigarettes and matches were scattered about to be had for the taking! - one cannot imagine this happening at Manchester, or Liverpool!! I struck up a conversation with a neighbour: and he told me he had flown over for this Sale from Dublin! Someone quite near, I heard talking in German: and I thought - Boy, you are in the wrong company here!! As, perhaps, may of you would have thought! But still, I knew what I wanted: and I was prepared to wait and see. Not for nothing had I caught the midnight train from

9
Manchester Central: arrived in London just after 6, wandered around until breakfast could be had, looked at the Thames and pondered on the vagaries of human existence in the cold, grey light of dawn! But now it was 11: and we had all had about half-an-hour to gaze at the various treasures - the property of an old-time dealer - WHY he had never managed to sell them all, I shall never know - some of it easily baffles any description but 'beautiful'. I know several members up here in the North who would have relieved the said old-time dealer of his unwanted wares in very quick time, indeed. But now the auctioneers had it: and, with a quiet "Now, gentlemen -", we were off! Lot number 1: unused 1850, 1k orange, collection of shades and pmks. incl. cover, varying shades of orange to yellow, condition fair to fine (1) Items 18: estimated value: £20. Against that one, I had to write the amount - £42. And apart from lot 2 (Estimated £10: £6-5-0) it went like that for most of the time. Lot 3: 2k black, range of this issue incl. two unused, interesting covers, some cancelled with red pmks., etc. (2) Items 13: Estimated £18: actual £52! - so that my neighbour whispered: "I may as well pack my bags": and I began to wonder if knowledge was so expensively to be bought. But that was how it was: there were the occasional bargains, of course: the lot number 59: one of the rarest items of the Austrian Empire and in exceptionally fine condition. A Connoisseur's item (Photo-Front cover) (And how that capital "C" in "Connoisseur" tickled my fancy! It went for the paltry sum of £2200 against the £2750 which the old-time dealer was expecting to help finance his new home in - Tonga? One or two other items may interest you, though: 1850 5c orange, rare used corner marginal pair cancelled, with Lovore, full margins all round, fine used pmk. (My neighbour told me "It's quite a magnificent piece!"): fetched, instead of £12, £140 - and there is no printing error there! Milan postal forgery 30c, superb example - £130 instead of £75. Verona ditto magnificent: £220 instead of £140. Marvellous to behold: and a real 'day out'. I thoroughly enjoyed it. And - oh yes: I only bid four times: but each time I was successful. So- even the little man can sometimes win! 2,3 and 5 soldi - part sheets! LOVELY!! H.B.

FROM THE EXCHANGE PACKET SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Fellow-members,

As the newly-appointed Packet Superintendent for the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain, may I be allowed to mention one or two matters that are in the forefront of my mind? I have never yet in the past attempted such a task: and it would be of very great help to me if members would let me know - that is, those who wish to receive a packet! - what their interests are: Classic, 1900-1918, 1918-1938, modern only, Levant, or Bosnia, or whatever else. Some members have already mentioned that they have an interest in cheaper material (for postmark interest only): and, while this type of material means a great deal of work with only very little financial gain for the ASC, I will try to meet this requirement. It would, obviously, however, be of little use to send the more elusive (and perhaps more highly priced) material to members who do not wish to pay the prices. My intention is, to circulate small selections to a limited number of members. In this manner, members will not receive packets which are of little interest, and merely serve to annoy, in view of postal expenses incurred. If members have a difficult signature, will they please also invest a few coppers in an individual stamp? - a small rectangle or circle with initials will amply fill the bill. All that I require in addition to all this is that you will now please send whatever material you wish to dispose of. Approval packets have been specially printed - that is, approval books: and may be had at 3/- dozen plus postage. This will be essentially a partnership between myself as Superintendent and yourselves as members. Let us hope that it will be a successful one and that I, and you, and the Club will all benefit by it.

Yours faithfully
and very sincerely,

168 Clowes Street, T.J.L. Showell-Anderson
Manchester 12.

THE PEOPLE ON AUSTRIAN STAMPS

Addenda numbers 7, 8 and 9

by

J.F. Giblin

Joseph, Saint and Confessor (S.G. 667-1963)

Joseph, the spouse of Mary, was born about the decade 70-80 B.C. at Bethlehem in Palestine. He was the son of Jacob (Matt. i. 16) and of the latter's levirate wife, who was the widow of Heli (Luke iij 23). Although of the royal house of David, Joseph lived as a humble carpenter and smith and it was probably the search for work that had led him to settle in "a city of Galilee called Nazareth". Here he was espoused to Mary (q.v.): "but they had not yet come together, when she was found to be with child, by the power of the Holy Ghost. Whereupon her husband Joseph (for he was a right-minded man, and would not have her put to shame) was for sending her away in secret. But hardly had this thought come to his mind, when an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and said, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take thy wife Mary to thyself, for it is by the power of the Holy Ghost that she has conceived this child; and she will bear a son, whom thou shalt call Jesus and Joseph awoke from sleep and did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him." (Matt. i. 18-25). Only a few months later Joseph and Mary had to travel to Bethlehem to be enrolled. There Jesus was born in a stable and eight days later was presented at the Temple by his parents. (Luke i. j. 1-39). After the visit of the wise men from the east: "an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, Rise up, take with thee the child and His mother and flee to Egypt ... for Herod will soon be making search for the child to destroy him." (Matt. i. j. 13-14). The Holy Family remained in Egypt for a few years, until the death of Herod, before returning to Palestine and settling in Nazareth. The last reference to Joseph, the Nutritor Domini, in the Gospels is in relation to the loss of the child Jesus in the Temple. (Luke i. j. 40-52). He had died before the opening of the public ministry of our Lord. According to tradition his death took place at

Nazareth on 20th July 18-19 A.D.; on which day of the year the Eastern Churches celebrate his feast. This feast is, however, kept in the West on 19th. March. The only first hand sources of information are those given here of which the earliest text is that in Greek Uncials in the Codex Sinaiticus and the Codex Vaticanus of the 4th. century A.D.

(Ref. 5.vol.9.p620; Ref.6.vol.9.p458; Ref.6a.vol.6.p88; Ref. 7.vol.13.p150; Ref.8.vol.8.p504; Ref.8a.vol.6.p791).

Mary Magdalen, Saint. (S.G. 674-1964)

Mary Magdalen was born at the beginning of the Christian era at Magdala near Tiberias on the western shore of the Lake of Galilee. Nothing whatsoever is known of her parentage or of her early life and she is first mentioned in the Gospels as: "Mary who is called Magdalen, who had had seven devils cast out of her" (Luke viij.2; Mark xvij.9) when she was of the band of women who ministered to our Lord and the twelve apostles. Some of the Fathers of the Latin Church held that she was the same person as the "sinful woman in the city" of Nain who anointed the feet of our Lord when he was in the Pharisee's house (Luke viij.36-50). They also believed that she was the same person as Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus (Luke x.38-42; John xi.1-44) and indeed St. John clearly states: "this Mary, whose brother Lazarus had now fallen sick, was the woman who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair." (John xi.2). The first anointing had occurred early in the Galilean ministry but again, two days before the last Passover: "while He was in the house of Simon the leper, at Bethany, sitting at table, a woman came in with a pot of very precious spikenard ointment, which, first breaking the pot, she poured over His head." (Mark xvij.3: Matt. xxvi.6-7) Mary Magdalen is next named as standing at the foot of the cross (Matt. xxvij.56; Mark xv.40; Luke xxiiij.49; John xix.25) and she saw the entombment (Matt. xxvij.61; Mark xv.47). Finally she was the first recorded witness of the Resurrection (Matt. xxvij.1-9; Mark xvij.1-9; Luke xxiv.10; John xx. 1-18) and she "brought news to the disciples, of how she had seen the Lord and He had spoken thus to her."

The identity of the "sinner" and Mary of Bethany with Mary Magdalen is not maintained by the Greek Church. The latter, however, holds traditionally that Mary Magdalen went to Ephesus with our Lady and St. John and died there and this tradition is supported by St. Gregory of Tours in "De Miraculis" I.xxx (Patrologiae Latina 1849.71.p. 751); her feast being universally celebrated on 22nd. July. The French tradition that she came to Marseille and converted Provence has been definitely disproved by Mgr. L. Duchesne in his "Fastes Episcopaux" Vol.1. pp. 321-329.

(Ref.5.vol.13.p283; Ref.6.vol.12.p130; Ref.6a.vol.7.p528; Ref.8.vol.9.p761; Ref.8a.vol.8.p138)

Kinsky von Wchinitz und Tettau, Josef Graf von (S.G. -1964)

Josef von Kinsky was born on 22nd February 1731 at Prague. He was the eldest child of Graf Franz Ferdinand (1678-1741) a celebrated statesman of his day, and of the latter's second wife: Maria Augustina Gräfin Pálfry (1714-1759). The boy was educated under tutors and then, on 3rd August 1751, entered the Imperial Army as an ensign in the Liechtenstein Regiment of Dragoons. It was, however, after the Seven Years War opened in 1756 between Austria and Prussia that Graf Kinsky began to distinguish himself in the military sphere. He was promoted to the rank of captain after the battle of Reichenstein and later became the Lieutenant-Colonel in command of the Löwenstein Regiment of Dragoons. At the battle of Kunersdorf on 12th August 1759 this regiment was attached to Laudon's Corps and Graf Kinsky so distinguished himself at the head of his troops that, when the Prussians had been defeated, F.M.L. Laudon sent him to Vienna to announce the great victory to the Empress Maria Theresia. The scene at Schönbrunn, when this announcement was made, is the subject of a contemporary painting by Bernardo Bellotto (1720-1780). Graf Kinsky was promoted to a full Colonel and again distinguished himself at the battles of Landshut, on 23rd June 1760, and of Schweidnitz, on 1st October 1761. In 1762 he was made Commandant of the 11th Regiment of

Dragoons; being promoted in the April of that year to the Knight's Cross of the Military Order of Maria Theresia. In 1768 he became a major-general and, in 1771, a lieutenant general which, in 1773, led to his being made the proprietor of a cavalry regiment. During the War of the Bavarian Succession, in 1780, he commanded his division at Oedenburg whilst, in 1787, he was appointed as the General Commandant in Hungary. In September 1787 Graf Kinsky was promoted to the rank of General of Cavalry and took the field against the Turks between 1788 and 1789. In 1790 he became the General Commandant in Lower Austria and Vienna; and in 1796, a Field Marshal. Graf Kinsky retired from the army on 5th September 1800 and died unmarried in Vienna on 7th September 1804.

(Ref.1.vol.11. p296; Ref.3.vol.15.p774; Ref.5.vol.10.p130; Ref.6.vol.10.p151)

MILITARY POST

Post Offices of the British Occupation Forces in Austria
1918-19

by

F.F. Meyer

After the Armistice of November 1918 the British Army in Italy was reduced by 30th December 1918 to four battalions with a few other Divisional troops. In addition, on 28th November 1918, a token occupation force consisting of the 2/1st Hon. Artillery Company was sent to Imst in the Tyrol. This was replaced by the 22nd Manchester Regiment on 3rd, February 1919, who were withdrawn in April of that year due to the difficulty of supply - from Italy, by means of sleighs over the Stubai Alps. For a time correspondence for these troops was forwarded to the Army P.O. in Italy and cancelled there (A.P.O.R7): but from about the beginning of January 1919 Field Post Office FD3 was used by the troops in Imst. On 7th January 1919 a relief supply train of food was sent to the inhabitants of Vienna with a guard of two officers and 100 men: and this was followed at intervals by further

15

supply trains, with much reduced escorts. A Food Mission was set up in Vienna which appears to have remained in the city until about the signing of the Treaty of St. Germain, as correspondence as late as 27th October 1920 is recorded. This Mission used A.P.O. I15 and also two cachets which were inscribed "INTERALLIED FOOD MISSION BRITISH DELEGATION/ VIENNA" and "BRITISH TROOPS/VIENNA": each circular with Arms in the centre.

Any further information which members may have on this subject would be appreciated: and could, perhaps, be communicated to the Editor for reproduction in the next issue of the Magazine.

THOSE WERE THE DAYS!

From Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 1908 8 (1) p.14.

"According to several continental journals the 35 heller of the current issue of Austria, commemorative of the 60th year of the reign of the Emperor Franz Josef, has been found with a variety in the lettering close to the head. The word FRANZISCUS reads ERANZISCUS, something having rested on the plate in printing, and so caused the addition of an extra stroke to the letter "F". Various Viennese newspapers reported this variety, and in consequence half the population of the Austrian capital seemed to be hunting for it; in fact, the price rose as high as 10 krcnen (8s. in our money)! That price will undoubtedly soon come down with a run ..." (NB. S.G. 1965: 15/-mint: 12/6 used).

ibid. 1908 8 pp. 83 and 101: "Description of New Stock Books arranged and priced during the last week" - "Austria: Two very fine volumes, especially strong in unused and also in curious postmarks, errors, etc. Of the first type, unused, there are no less than 114 stamps mostly choice specimens with gum, and including some five blocks with "St. Andrew's Cross" attached to the normal stamps. The later issues include a fine lot of the rare perforations and a good many errors that are not catalogued. These new stock books include many fine stamps in Austria from the Mann, Breitfuss and Horak collections".

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: SEPTEMBER 19th 1964
SECRETARY'S REPORT.

At the Annual General Meeting, held in Manchester on 19th. September 1964, the then Secretary, the Revd. Harold Bacon, presented the following report:

Since the inaugural meeting of the Northern Group, the ASC has held meetings only in Manchester. Since October 1962 twentyone such meetings have been held. The Annual General Meeting, originally scheduled for July of this year, was postponed until this present date in order that the position of the ASC, in many respects, could be further clarified. This has proved to be a wise decision. I have now to report that the President, Mr. K. Tranmer, has, according to his Packet Bulletin No.3, resigned from this office, and is concentrating on his business as a dealer. No official letter to this effect was, in point of fact, sent to me: but one addressed to the Treasurer, in which this news was indicated, was eventually passed on to me. Much correspondence has taken place with Mr. Tranmer over the past twelve months, with particular reference to the financial standing of this Club, the running of packets, and the whole question of priorities. It will be obvious that the present circumstances may prove to be the best solution to many problems. Not least, perhaps, is that the possibility of an amalgamation with the Association of Austrian Philatelists is now open: and, if this meeting decides, will be explored.

There are now 115 members of the Asc, according to my record. In the last twelve months, three members have died: and four have resigned. Not all the membership are paid-up members: and it becomes obvious that the issue of the magazine, which is not cheap, must shortly be restricted to those who are.

The ASC have participated in two exhibitions since the resuscitation of the Club: one at Bolton and one, more recently, at Stockport. Both were very successful. Contacts with Vienna have been somewhat difficult: and it may well be that next year will be an appropriate time for a more personal approach. It is obvious that a healthier state

of affairs now exists in this country. With a rapprochement with the London Group of the AAP and renewed contact with Vienna and the Verband, there seems no reason why the ASC, even if perhaps eventually under another name, should not flourish hereafter.

STATEMENT of INCOME and EXPENSES
as presented to the AGM by
the Treasurer: E. Hulme

INCOME

Balance handed over by L. Scadden 3 19 7
Subscriptions 53 4 6

Bank Interest

BIBLIOGRAPHY

den	3	19	7
	53	4	6
		1	0
TOTAL	57	5	1

EXPENDITURE

Hire of Rooms	15	5	0			
less N. Group cont.	2	7	6	12	17	6
Secretary's expenses				1	9	4
K. Tranmer's expenses				1	9	11
Treasurer's expenses					15	7
Bulletin expenses				13	13	7
Bulletin postages				4	16	3
Cheque book					8	4
				Total	35	10
Balance in hand as at 31.8.64					21	14
				TOTAL	57	5

Balance at Bank	26	12	10
Petty cash owing to			
Treasurer	4	18	3
BALANCE at 31.8.64	21	14	7

MORE from THE SECRETARY.

At the AGM of the Austrian Stamp Club on Saturday 19th September, it was decided that I should take office as Hon. Secretary: which I must admit was accepted on my part with some reluctance; but, having accepted, let there be no doubt but that I shall carry out these duties to the best of my ability: and not without some knowledge of the requirements of this office: having had some 20 years experience as Hon.Sec. with various organisations and societies, and 16 years membership of the ASC. Perhaps the primary reason for accepting this office is to take some of the work off the shoulders of our worthy and capable editor, the Revd.H.Bacon, who has held the dual office of Hon.Sec. and Editor for some time: and can now perhaps devote a little more time to producing the magazine without having to reply to lots of letters and queries from members: which now becomes my responsibility.

Let me here answer perhaps a lot of letters before they are written! In the last issue of the magazine we published a list of known "Paid-up" members. This was for a dual purpose: to assure those listed that their subscriptions were in order: and, more important, to try to ascertain how many other of our members were up to date with subs, as quite a number have written to state that they have paid their subscriptions to other ex-officials. WE NOW accept, or assume, that all members are 'paid-up' to 1st. September 1964: on which date all subs are due for renewal. So will you all please take this as an official notification that your subscription for 1964-5 is now due, and should be paid to the treasurer - and not to any other official - immediately. Some, indeed, have already paid. Any member not having paid subscription by the time the next magazine is issued - will not receive any further notice, or magazines, and will be deleted from the A.S.C. membership list by default: unless exceptional circumstances prevail. I cannot less this issue pass without a word of praise for the efforts of our Editor. I don't know how many members take "The Philatelic Journal", but in a recent issue of this journal there was a review of the magazine. Knowing full well that the Editor would

(Continued on the back page - Ed.)

by

S.D. Tchilinghirian

In the first place, this writer and his colleague Mr Stephen wish to thank the many members who have written to express their satisfaction with Part IV of "Austrian Post Offices Abroad", and also all those who are giving such invaluable help in the preparation of the remaining sections by supplying particulars of the material in their possession, or by notifying fresh finds. As these lines are written, Part V is about to be published, and Part VI is in active preparation. In both, the material contributed by these enthusiastic helpers is more numerous than ever, and is proving the major factor in reaching the high level of comprehensive coverage of each office, which is the main aim of this work.

(1) PIRAEUS - In Part V, one of the chapters the authors liked best was the one dealing with the Lloyd Agencies in Greece, as most of it consisted of hitherto unrecorded information. In the section covering Piraeus, for instance, four different types of cancellers were illustrated and listed, comparing with a single type in Mueller's works. Yet even this higher total is now known to be incomplete, as member J. Luscombe has since submitted a 20 lepta Greece 1889 on piece (SG.89) with a fresh marking of this port, illustrated in fig.C.24. Colour: violet. Readers should enter this as Type 5 on page 327, and also add the stamp concerned to the Check-List on the same page, with a valuation in the range of the other listed items.

(2) MITROVITZA - Readers of Part IV will know about the Austrian Branch P.O.s in Macedonia, as their unusual story was mentioned on page 253. These offices are duly covered in Part V, and the cancellers they used are illustrated, but the illustration of the date-stamp of MITROVITZA could only be given in an approximate form, being reconstructed from a description by Mueller, as no examples had been seen by the authors. Member D. Morrison has since supplied an incomplete impression of this very rare marking on a 1pi. Levant 1908, which establishes that the initials following

the name SALONICH are "MI" in capitals (fig.C.25), not "Mi" with a lower-case "i" as shown on fig.625 in Part V. Will members please correct page 392 accordingly, and enter Mr. Morrison's item in the Check-List. Its rating, for the time being, should be: RRR.

It will, however, be very interesting to see how many further copies of this marking, and of those of the three other companion Branch P.O.s, will come to light after the publication of Part V, when collectors, in full knowledge of all the facts will begin to scrutinise their many duplicates of the very common SALONICH cancellations, which many will have dumped away as useless rubbish. After all, these Branch P.O.s were in operation for some eight to ten years, and more examples should exist than those few notified so far to the authors.

(3) LLOYD AGENCIES ON THE SYRIAN COAST (1902-1906 PERIOD)

While the Branch P.O.s referred to above were being created in Macedonia, the Austrian Post was also opening (or re-opening) four Postal Agencies operated by the Lloyd in ports of the Syrian coast, where they had remained dormant (or been discontinued) since the 1860s (see Part IV, page 253). These four establishments were at MERSINA, ALEXANDRETTA, LATAKIA and TRIPOLI, and they were supplied in 1902 with a special type of canceller, consisting of a double-circle with name at top, a large star at bottom, and date in 3 lines in the centre. Circa 1906, the Agency at Latakia was discontinued, and the three others raised to the status of full Post Offices. With this change of status, the cancellers with star at bottom were withdrawn, and replaced by date-stamps in Standard Type "L" or "M", with name at top, OSTERREICH-ISCHE POST (in full or abbreviated) at bottom, and date in 1 line. These latter exist with several serial letters at left and, although far from common, are not unduly hard to get.

In contrast, the early types with star at bottom rank among the most elusive XXth century cancellations of the Austrian Post Abroad, and the authors would much like to hear from members who own examples of these markings, even in incomplete form, together with particulars of the stamps on which they have them, for inclusion in the Check-Lists. The MERSINA marking, illustrated in fig.C.26, will give readers

24

an idea of what this type of canceller looks like. It is understood that member A. Kohane has examples of both this and of the companion ALEXANDRETTA date-stamp. In addition, member E. FitzHenry very kindly submitted an impression of the left half of the TRIPOLI marking, as reproduced in fig. C.27. The position of the name TRIPOLI in relation to the date shows that the complete inscription was TRIPOLIS(SYRIEN) that is identical to the one appearing on the later date-stamps in Type "M" (of which there were quite a few, including some very large ones). This left half is so far the only example of this elusive marking known to the authors, and any member owning examples of the missing right half is requested kindly to submit them, even if the inscription appearing on them is limited to (SYRIEN) - as it should be - without any indication allowing it to be associated with the Tripoli office.

This still leaves the LATAKIA marking to be accounted for: at this writing, the authors still have to see it, even in incomplete form, and this is a gap which will not be easy to fill, because the very fact that this office was the only one that was discontinued in 1906 clearly indicates that its activity was negligible during its four years of operation. However, a number of letters will have gone through it, as evidenced by the "COL VAP. DA/Lattaquie" partly manuscript cancellation in the collection Rubin, illustrated as Fig.C.23 in Commentary No.4. Examples of its date-stamp with star at bottom must therefore exist, and whoever finds himself the lucky owner is requested kindly to communicate with this writer or with Mr. Stephen.

(4) ANOTHER FORGED CONSTANTINOPLE DATE-STAMP - Five different forgeries of Constantinople date-stamps were illustrated in Part IV (page 262). Member D.P. Brooker has now added to these the fresh type illustrated in fig. C.28, which he found on a 50 soldi 1883 issue of Levant. This is an imitation of Standard Type "K", and features the usual very thin inner circle which provides the best clue in comparison with the genuine handstamps in this Type (compare fig. C.28 with fig.404/405 or 438 in Part IV). The name is also in much thinner characters than on the genuine types. The ordinal number does not show on Mr. Brooker's stamp, and may be

either I or III.

(5) SHIP MAIL IN THE LEVANT - Many fresh finds in this field have been notified since publication of Parts I to III, and the most outstanding of these are described and illustrated hereunder:

(a) Navigazione a vapore del Lloyd Austriaco (fig.C.29): member F.J. Tritsch has secured a 15kr. of Austria, 1861 issue, cancelled with this attractive oval marking, in greenish. No name shows in the centre, and it is not possible to assert whether this hitherto unrecorded marking was used on a ship or at a port of arrival.

(b) D.A.a.L. (fig.C.30): a stampless letter, communicated by Mr. R.C. Steinbauer, of Cape Town, sent on 11 Febr. 1855 from Larnaca in Cyprus to Italy via Beirut, has this mysterious marking in Black. Considering that mail from Cyprus was in those years a virtual monopoly of the Austrian Lloyd, this marking should belong to this Company, but this writer is unable to identify its origin, or even the meaning of the four initials concerned. If any reader has seen it, or can offer an explanation of its inscriptions, it will be much appreciated if he would kindly communicate with us.

(c) Framed "Arrivato (col) vapore" (fig. C.31): member A. Kohane has an example of this marking on a 1pi. Levant 1890 issue, in Black. Can anyone supply information as to where this arrival marking was used?

(d) Single-line "COL VAPORE DA SMIRNE" (fig.C.32): this has been notified by member F. Pirotte, of Paris, on an 1879 letter. With its slanting capitals, it is strikingly different from the various better-known arrival markings illustrated in Part I (page 76). Does anyone know more about it?

(e) Framed "POSTE I.R. D'AUTRICHE/SMIRNE" (fig.C.33): this is another little-known marking of Smyrna, the story of which has not yet been satisfactorily reconstructed. The name of the town on the second line has the Italian spelling SMIRNE, while the inscription on the first line is in French, and translates "Imperial Royal Post of Austria", a rather incorrect wording. Incomplete examples have been known for some years: but Dr.Kohane recently supplied further copies

which enabled its reconstruction to be made in full. Examples recorded include the 1pi.1901, the 1pi.1906, and the 20pa.1908 of Levant, also the 25 lepta 1901 of Greece: this latter indicating that it was applied *inter alia* on arriving uncancelled ship mail. It will be noticed that all these stamps are of the 1900s, at a time when German was in general use on all Austrian date-stamps, and the bilingual French/Italian inscriptions on this special type appear anachronistic. Besides, why should such an unusual type have been found necessary when the Austrian P.O. had so many other regular date-stamps at its disposal? Admittedly, it may have been introduced much earlier, but the circumstances leading to its issue require clarification. Could it be that it is the ancestor of the "Rosinenstempel" described in Commentary No. 3? Has any member seen it on XIXth century stamps? This writer would be much obliged for any further information relating to it.

(f) Negative seal of the CONSTANTINOPLE-VARNA Ambulant P.O. (fig.C.34): an incomplete impression of this unusual marking, on a 5 soldi Levant 1867, has been submitted by Dr. A. Kohane. The arrangement of the inscriptions, and the position of the initial "C" of the first name at bottom, make it practically certain that this seal belongs to the Ambulant P.O.s functioning in 1876 on the Lloyd Ships engaged on the Constantinople-Varna Line (see Part II, pages 85/86). This handstamp was evidently intended to seal the mail bags, but Dr. Kohane's example establishes that it was also occasionally used as a canceller on stamps, although it must be of great rarity in this form. This fresh type should now be entered as Type 6 on page 86, and also with rating RRR in the Check-List on page 87.

(6) "ROSINENSTEMPEL" - As several members kindly wrote to point out, the correct spelling of this word is with an "O", not "OE". Before closing this instalment of the Commentary, this writer wishes to express his thanks to the many readers - too many for individual mention - who contributed information on this interesting subject. As a result, several further sub-types have now been added to those recorded in Commentary No.3, and all will be listed in the Chapter dealing with SMYRNA. While, as regards

TRIESTE "8", Mr. P. Schoenmann's contribution in the June 1964 issue of this magazine evidently settles the matter. It will now be up to members to decide whether this "Trieste "8" P.O. in the "Free Port Area", qualifies as an "Office Abroad", or not. It certainly looks a 'border-line' case: and not only from the geographical angle of approach.

For the benefit of new members who may have information to communicate to Mr. Tchilinghirian, may we append his address:

S.D. Tchilinghirian
Claire-Ville,
10, rue du College,
1815 CLARENS, Switzerland

?

AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES ABROAD PART V

by

S.D. Tchilinghirian & W.S.E. Stephen

The above work is scheduled for publication towards the end of 1964. Price 30s0d:
4:50 dollars U.S.A. and Canada.

CONTENTS : Greece, Crete, Aegean Islands,
Macedonia.

80 pages with fully 100 line drawings, a map, and 8 half tone illustrations.

Members interested in securing this book can order it at the special pre-publication price of

TWENTYONE SHILLINGS
THREE DOLLARS, U.S.A. and CANADA
POSTAGE FREE.

Applicable to all pre-paid orders received up to the end of 1964. Orders, with remittance, to: W.S.E. Stephen
94 High Street, Aberlour
Banffshire, Scotland.



FIG.

c.24



FIG.

c.25



FIG.

c.26

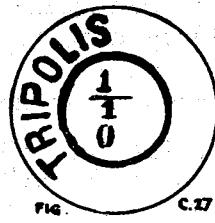


FIG.

c.27



FIG.

c.28



FIG. C.29



FIG.

c.34

D.A. a. L.

FIG. C.30

rrivato
vapore

FIG. C.31

COL Vapore DA SMIRNE

FIG. C.32

**POSTE I.R.D' AUTRICHE
SMIRNE**

FIG. C.33

MORE from the SECRETARY (Continued)

never reprint this, I am pressing him to include it in this issue, so that others can see what others think of us. (Sorry - no room this issue! - Editor). Finally: a word to an unknown member. Will the member who wrote to me about 'writing up' with 'UNO' stencils please write to me again: as I must very sincerely apologise to this member: I have lost his letter. I received it in a morning post just as I was leaving home for a few days: and though I've turned the house out since returning - I still cannot find it! How many members will be exhibiting at WIPA in 1965? It would be nice to know - just for the record. J.W.S.

ASC Manchester Group: Syllabus to end of session:

February 13: J.W. Syddall: 1945-7 Landscapes Series
March 13 : A. Godden : Designers of the Second Republic
April 10 : T.Wilcox : The Production of Austrian stamps.
May 8 : T.J.L. Showell-Anderson and H. White: Austrian pot-pourri.

AAP London Group: at Debry's Restaurant, 191 Brompton Rd. London, S.W.1. At 7.15 p.m.

February 10:
March 10 : Auction
April 14 : K.F. Chapman: Sperati Forgeries
May 12 : E.P. FitzHenry: Vienna Postmarks
May 26 : ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Editor would like to know: if a list of the Thimble-postmarks of Austria (Fingerhutstempel) would be of interest to the membership: and, similarly, if a list of those cancellers which show the year date in full (i.e. with four figures) would also strike a chord in anyone's breast? You may have both - but only if they are wanted!