



# THE POSTER STAMP BULLETIN

Published in the interest of Poster Stamp collectors the world over

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## Editorial:

In the old days, when children were supposed to be seen and not heard, there was also the practice of treating children as though they were miniature adults. Siegmund von Suchodolski (1875-1935), a German artist who designed many outstanding Poster Stamps, created the following series of 12 angel babies to depict the months of the year. Note some of the adult activities that the children were involved with.



Walter Schmidt's Werke & Biscuitfabriken  
von F. Krieger, Wuerzen



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Children were also used as subjects to advertise tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. These advertising practices would certainly be outside the realm of political correctness today. Still these vignettes had a certain charm and subtlety that current advertising practices seem to lack. We suppose this is why we prefer to spend time quietly remembering the "good old days" rather than being assaulted and pounded into submission by ads appearing on our present day television set. This is what 'hobby-time' is for, isn't it?



**Urgent Needs and Desperate Desires Department:**

The term Cinderella is a very broad term as we have all found out. Our friend, Arnold Kornhauser, writes that he not only collects Poster Stamps, but other Cinderellas as well. He is currently looking for trading stamps. At present he has over 2,000 different stamps in his collection from all over the world. He urgently and desperately wants to hear from anyone who can help him in his quest for new material. (Write to editor if you can help). The following is a sample from his trading stamp collection:

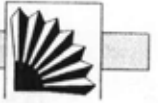


**A Bargain!**

In a recent L'Arc-en-Ciel bulletin the following vignette was offered for 35 francs: *521.00*



It was designed by Ludwig Hohlwien and demonstrates his unusual use of shadow to define his subject rather than simply outlining his subject. We would pay more for this lovely vignette.



**Vignettes of interest:**

Recently our friend, Manfred, sent us some American Indians from Germany. We illustrate them here because we like American Indians wherever they come from.



Minnie gen. "Linke Hand"



Nellie gen. "Aller Mann"



Wenona gen. "Türkenfuß"



Ind gen. "Gelb. Bursch"



**A Brief Digression:**

For some time we have been collecting, in addition to Poster Stamps, old match box labels from Japan. They are **NOT** and will never be, Poster Stamps, but we think that they just as beautiful and enjoyable to look at. Their purpose was the same as some varieties of Poster Stamps, i.e., to sell a particular vendors's product.. Just for fun we illustrate some of our favorite match box labels below. The art work, we think, is simply marvelous.





## Correspondence (Where are they now?)

In response to our queries in the last Bulletin, our friend, Manfred, replies that the reason Poster Stamps faded away after WWI was because of the worldwide economic crisis. Between 1920 and 1930, fewer Poster Stamps were printed and the children who collected them simply lost interest and stopped collecting them. Manfred reports that possibly half of the collections in Germany were later destroyed in WWII. Others, mostly children's collections, went into the garbage where they probably belonged. About 1,500-2,000 excellent collections have been purchased by a few specialists during the past 20 years. Then, there are a number of stamp dealers who have socked this material away and will not offer it for sale unless they can establish a value for it. Finally, there are hundreds of collections in the hands of people who have inherited a collection they know nothing about and have no interest in. Still they will not sell at any price for who knows why.

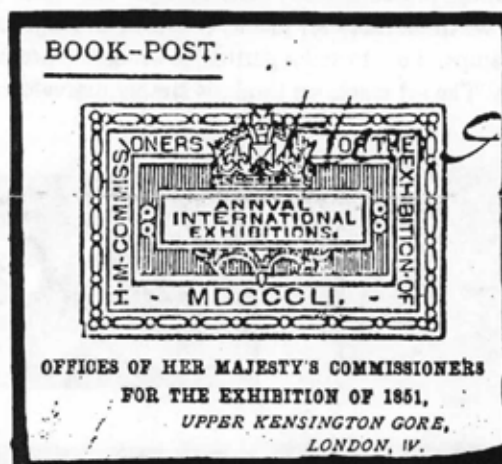
George Armstrong adds that in the United States, for reasons known and unknown, print shops all over the country simply disappeared and so did the production of Poster Stamps. George also made another comment concerning the "Old Home Week" article by Terence Hines (see P/S B #9, July 1995, Fig 4 on pg. 2). It seems the lady blowing a large horn is the town crier. After getting everyone's attention with a mighty blast, she then bellows out the news.



## More Correspondence:

We recently heard from our friend Conrad Graham who sent us the source material for the first Poster stamps ever issued. Apparently this information was gleaned from the Catalogue des Timbres Commemoratifs by Cazin & Rochas, 1914. Conrad, who is British to the core, could not allow my supposition that the 1851 Crystal Palace issue might possibly have originated in Scotland. Conrad wanted our Society to know that the Crystal Palace was most definitely in London.

Shortly after we heard from Conrad, David Stirling wrote the following letter which we found so interesting that we reproduce it in its entirety:



In THE POSTER STAMP BULLETIN, Volume 1, Number 10, mention was made of those old chestnuts, a) The first Label and b) the Crystal Palace 1851 Exhibition make-believe label. I thought I had long ago laid these ghosts to rest but it seems they have arisen again. Let us firstly deal with the first commemorative label.

It would be unwise of me to categorically announce the recipient of the laurels for the first commemorative label in the world. Trade Fairs were held in the times of Moses and, no doubt, some reader will produce a mint label from that time to confound me (possibly carved in stone). However, the first known commemorative label, in my knowledge, was a printed titled paper ticket, produced for The Edinburgh Industrial Exhibition of 1756, promoted by the Edinburgh Society for the Promotion of Arts, Science and Manufactures. This was probably the first National exhibition of the kind held in Great Britain. The ticket (poster stamp) was gummed (pasted) to exhibits and I was shown one some 50 years ago. I wish I had one.

A National Industrial Exhibition was held in Prague, in 1791, and a similar event took place in Paris in 1797 (year VI), 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802 and 1806. No labels are known from these events. Similar events were held in 1819, 1823 and 1827 and, for this last event, an award label is known with the representation of the reverse of an award medal. This was probably issued long after 1827!



In 1835, for the opening of Madame Tussaud's Exhibition in London, a small blue embossed label was printed and this same design was used for many years afterwards on Tussaud's stationery. In January, 1844, a Burns' Festival was held in the fields at Ayr, Scotland and labels in a parody of the British Penny red were printed to commemorate the event. These had a portrait of Robert Burns replacing the monarch's head. In London on June 8th. 1844. in Phoenix Park Gardens, a viewing was held of a giraffe born in London on May 29th, 1841, and commemorative labels and tickets exist for this event. Queen Victoria paid a Royal Visit to Dundee Harbour (Scotland) on September 11th. 1844 and commemorative labels and tickets were issued.

Mention must be made of the Vienna Exhibition of 1845. The commemorative label for this event is listed as the first commemorative label in Gazin & Rochas. In actual fact, this label was issued some ten years after the event. The Cazan & Rochas Catalogue is replete with "faux-pas".

Now to the 1851 Exhibition. This Exhibition was very much promoted by Prince Albert. He appointed Commissioners, whose task was to run an annual event thereafter along the lines of the 1851 Exhibition and, indeed, many were held. The exhibition took place in the Crystal Palace, London. The Commissioners were granted free-franking privilege and, for identification, a printed frank appeared on their envelopes and wrappers. This is the "label" so often misdescribed by amateur writers as a "commemorative label". I do not deny its collectability...I have many in my own collection, including one with the added inscription "Book Post", but it is correctly a label advertising the Commissioners and denoting their right to free postage .....and it was in use for very many years after the 1851 Exhibition.

I have a substantial catalogue of Commemorative labels of Great Britain in preparation, and also a similar one for USA. I can thus answer most queries on GB commemorative labels. There are other British labels pre-dating the 1851 Exhibition but space prevents mention of them all.

SOME LOVELY DESIGNS BY UNKNOWN ARTISTS: (unless someone knows something that we don't).





**A Classic Set From Chicago:**

The following vignettes advertising the city of Chicago as a Summer resort have convinced us that there was indeed a golden age. Can anyone date this series?



**THE POSTER STAMP BULLETIN**

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For sale to collector making best offer by September 20, 1995. (G. Armstrong, USA)



REKLAME  
SCHAU  
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For sale: Best offer over \$15.00 each by Sept. 20. (C. Kiddle, UK)



For Sale: Set of four WWI vignettes by Alexander CAY . \$20.00. To be sold to first responder. (W.Schmidt, USA)



For Sale: The signed Alphonse Mucha Poster Stamp is offered for \$20.00 each: Special price to Society members.(My choice of colors). Complete set of 12 is priced at \$300.00. One set available. (L. Stark, USA).

