



VATICAN NOTES

VOL. 2, NO. I

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August, 1954

ROMAN STATES PROGRAM LAUNCHED FOR VPS

When the V.P.S. was first organized, we promised that one of the undertakings would be a complete and specialized coverage of the stamps and related material of the Roman States. After more than a year of searching we have finally located a person interested and informed enough to make a thorough and complete coverage of the Roman States.

We have chosen to form a committee to compile information on how to start a Roman States collection and carry it through to the advanced stages of Roman States philately, by means of a series of articles to appear in the Notes. The information at hand points to a top notch informative series of articles that should be of value to every member whether he is just considering the start of a collection or an advanced collector.

Needless to say, an authority on these issues to head such a program was needed. Such a person has been located, Louis Klein, of 526 Guarantee Trust Building, Atlantic City, New Jersey. Mr. Klein has joined the V.P.S. explicitly to start the ball rolling and will act as chairman of the Roman States Committee. His collection of Roman States material is unique and covers the rise and fall of the Roman States; has covers dating from 1458 to 1870 when the Roman States came to an end. The various types of mail carrying is also noted in this prized collection, such as courier, pony express, railroad, boat, regular delivery, etc. Another section of this large collection is devoted to documents and autographed letters of the various Popes and Cardinals.

Louis Klein has offered to translate any Roman States cover in French or Italian and examine them for members in addition to writing articles for the Notes. Some of our members have known Mr. Klein for some time and hold his opinion on Roman States material in high esteem. His knowledge of this chosen field has lead to a series of articles such as the "Ferrara Cross" and Cholera (Disinfection) covers of the Roman States.

In sending material to Mr. Klein for examination, members of V.P.S. should send remittance for return postage and insurance.

A letter from Mr. Klein to ALL V.P.S. members appears on Page. 2.

TO ROMAN STATES COLLECTORS OF VPS

Dear Member:

I have been appointed by your President to act in the capacity of Chairman of your Roman States Division.

He has requested me to select a working committee to cooperate with each other to make this section an outstanding feature, not only for those members who now collect Roman States but also to those who are somewhat timid about entering this phase of collecting.

My thoughts are to have you who so desire to act in co-operation with me in fulfilling the needs of this department.

I personally only collect Roman States on cover, both stampless and stamped, showing the RISE AND FALL OF PAPAL EMPIRE BY COVERS.

Again, I will write a column for your Bulletin, also a question and answer programme, listing not the name of the member, but his VPS number.

Also, will endeavor to show you various departments of Roman material to collect if you desire to specialize.

NOW TO GET DOWN TO BRASS TACKS. Being a Chairman is a thankless job getting Heck for not pleasing the other fellow, and THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN.

DON'T HESITATE to express your thoughts, even if at the time the suggestion is made it may appear to be ridiculous, as many times a germ lies in an idea, which can be brought out into a fine finished and interesting project. I NEED YOUR HELP AND WANT IT.

Remember, after all, I am only one person and with one's own thoughts much cannot be accomplished and the combined thoughts of you fellow-members will mean much to all of us.

I don't want to be a BIG SHOT, but just another fellow like yourself, interested in prolonging the Hobby, giving it all our combined thoughts and ideas.

WON'T YOU CO-OPERATE with me and each one of you write me a nice letter, advising first, whether you can give your time to become an active co-chairman, and secondly tell me all about your collection, your ideas of mounting, etc.

DON'T FAIL ME, I will be waiting to hear from you.

Cordially yours,
LOUIS KLEIN,
Chairman R S Committee
526 Guarantee Trust Bldg.
Atlantic City, N. J.

LET'S FOLLOW THIS EXAMPLE!!

V.P.S. Sect. Bob Kessens has called it to our attention that Bill Cote, (#58) had signed up seven members as of August 2nd -- and requested 20 more application blanks!!! If Bill can secure seven, can't YOU sign up one new member EASILY??

Congratulations, Bill -- wish we had more like you!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Following comments were written originally to Bob Kessens, and passed on to the editor.)

Dear Mr. Kessens:

I started out as a Vatican collector with little knowledge of the background of these many beautiful stamps but your Vatican Notes has endowed me with knowledge that I would not have begun to have the time to secure. It has not only been a source of "knowing" to me but to many others - and I do believe the members should take time to extend favorable comments to the various members who so graciously volunteer their time and effort in supplying their articles to Vatican Notes. I like the Bookshelf, Meet the Members, the Italian-phrase Column, very well. I keep mine for future reference. In the June Vatican Notes, Mr. Barbiera seemed a bit discouraged in that his complement was not appreciated. I feel it is very important to all of us - and I believe when you don't hear from people it is a sign an article is useful, where on the other hand if it was not useful, comments would be coming in to the contrary.

In other words, people are so busy in this world of today with many things, and it isn't really lack of appreciation. I for one am in that category, but of course that doesn't necessarily excuse one. I treasure every issue of Vatican Notes, for it is rich with information.

I believe an occasional reminder in a few ^{words} now and then in your Notes to the effect that the mail-ways are always open for compliments to our wonderful staff of volunteer members -- Don't we all need reminding.

Gratefully,

Mrs. H. Vander Vennet

(Ed. Note: Just to prove we didn't originate this column exclusively to pass on compliments of the officers and Vatican Notes, next month, we'll feature a letter by John Gaydos relating how he mounts his collection.)

MEET THE MEMBERS

"The Short and Uneventful Life of John A. Gaydos - Till Now" (#36)

The keening wind howled merrily as it whipped the snow into great drifts and I decided to come into this world. Yes, a real blizzard and its been my type of weather since. The time was January 7th, 1915, and the place was New Brunswick, N. J. I am the third child in a family of six and when my father was killed in 1920, it was quite rough sledging for all of us, especially Mom. I went to a country school and after the death of my father moved to the city. I went to New Brunswick High and graduated in 1932. I was a good student but excelled only in History. I created such a furor in High School that my younger brother when he entered new Brunswick High was warned by all the teachers not to try anything like "your brother did". Actually my teachers were wonderful and they did a great job. It was during my Junior High School years that I became interested in stamps, but soon thereafter I became interested in sports and I didn't really begin enjoying stamps again until 1950.

I got a job in Johnson and Johnson in 1933 and have been there ever since. I do clerical work which I like because of the many facets of the job. In 1942 I joined the U. S. Army thru the courtesy of Uncle Sam and served three and a half years, thirteen months of it being overseas. Visited New Guineas, Pearl Harbor, and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands which is so wide that you can run from one side to the other in thirty seconds. Actually, its just a long sand bar and water must be transported in. I don't think I'll ever have a train stamp from there!!!

My three sisters and brother have been married quite a while before I decided that two can live as cheaply as one. I married the former Miss Mary Munkacy on May 7, 1950. At the last minute I wanted to back out, but her seven brothers and her hundreds of friends surrounded the church and I was unable to leave. So here I am living happily ever after. To my lasting regret, I lost my very wonderful Mother last year. She lived long enough to see us all married.

My hobbies are stamps, reading, (Science fiction), and sports. In music I like operettas and Spike Jones records. (What -- no Liberace fan!) In stamps I have a U. S. album, Vatican City album, Hungarian album, Italian album, and I save trains, birds, and animals on stamps.

I have heard many stories and facts about Vatican City from our priest, Rev. Ernest Dunda, S.T.D., who is a good friend of Cardinal Mindszenty. Father Dunda has taught many years in Vatican City and knows Pope Pius very well."

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DON'T MISS THE VATICAN EXHIBIT OPENING AT THE NATIONAL PHILATELIC MUSEUM, PHILADELPHIA, PA. -- SEPTEMBER --

22nd

VATICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT

Period: July 1 to 31, 1954

Balance reported June 30, 1954: ----- \$150.02

Received:

Dues: 24 Payments for 1954-55-----	\$36.00	
1 Payment for 1955-56-----	1.50	
4 New Members -----	6.00	
Special Fund: 28 Payments -----	15.50	
		<u>59.00</u>

Total= \$209.02

Paid:

Bank Account Serv. Charge for May -----	\$ 0.74	
Envelopes -----	3.34	
Postage -----	0.66	
Vatican Notes (June & July)		
Master Units -----	2.35	
Paper -----	6.83	
Postage -----	5.08	
Supplies -----	1.10	
		<u>20.10</u>

Balance on deposit at Worcester County Trust Company"= \$188.92

Special Fund total equals \$40.50

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. Levitsky, Treasurer