

Vatican Notes

Volume X

January - February 1962

Number 4

VATICAN CITY PHILATELIC NEWS

NEW AIR MAILS

Two new air mail stamps are scheduled for issue on March 13th, according to the February 18th issue of "Osservatore Romano." Values will be 1,000 Lire and 1,500 Lire, and the stamps will be printed in brown and blue, respectively. They will be in vertical format, measuring 30 x 40 mm., and will be printed by photo-gravure on paper watermarked with the usual crossed keys symbols. Printing will be done by Italy's Polygraphic Institute.

The two new air mails were designed by the Polish miniaturist, Casimira Dabrowska, and will show a detail from the figure of the Archangel Gabriel which is included in the marble relief of Filippo Valle's "Annunciation." This relief is located on the left side of the cross-vault in the Church of St. Ignatius in Rome.

MALARIA ERADICATION

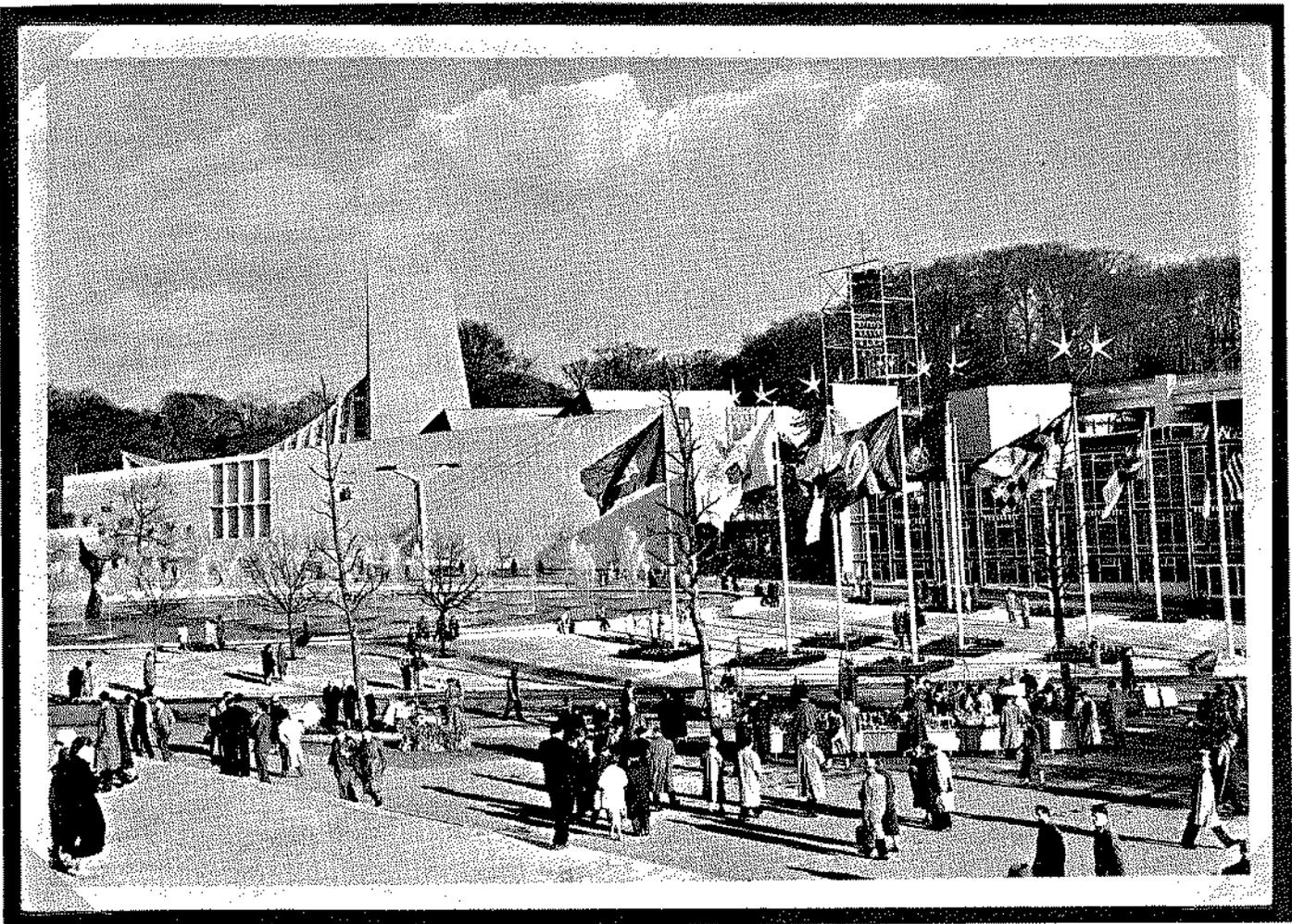
It is understood that Vatican City will join with other nations in the issuance of malaria eradication stamps. Reported date of issue is April 4.

At the present time, more than eighty nations of the world have agreed to participate in an anti-malaria program through the issuance of special stamps or the use of appropriate postal markings. The United States participation will be marked by release of an anti-malaria stamp on March 30.

Among other countries reported participating in the program are China, Turkey, Ethiopia, Viet Nam, Sudan, Ceylon, Haiti, Yugoslavia, Malaya, Colombia, Laos, Monaco, Israel, Switzerland, Ryukyu Islands, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Liechtenstein, French Polynesia, Congo (Leopoldville), Saudi Arabia and Nicaragua.

As with the Europa issues, collectors are again faced with a veritable flood of new issues, and we may expect to see the usual run of "errors," "scarce items" and "varieties" offered to collectors at inflated prices.

While the World Health Organization (WHO) and its malaria eradication program are deserving of support, many collectors will recognize in the malaria stamp deluge several aspects of a purely commercial operation. As the authoritative Gibbons Stamp Monthly puts it - "WHO" thought up this one!



On the Feast of the Assumption, August 15, a Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in the Heysel Stadium by the Pontifical Legate, Cardinal Siri. An allocution by Pope Pius XII was televised directly to the stadium after the gospel of the Mass.

At the Vatican pavilion various national days were assigned. July 4 was the national day of the United States, and Most. Rev. James Griffin, Auxiliary Bishop of New York celebrated Mass at the Pavilion Church and delivered a sermon in Dutch, English and French. Present were Msgr. Forni, Apostolic Nuncio at Brussels and Mr. Heymans, Commissioner General for the Vatican at the World's Fair.

Throughout the extent of the fair several morning Masses and one evening Mass were offered daily in the chapels, giving the opportunity for attendance and Communion to the visitors. Sunday Masses started at an early hour so that the workers at the fair could attend Mass as well as the visitors. Priests were on duty for confession in the chapels.

The exhibition closed on Sunday, October 19, 1958. A Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated in the Church of the Risen Christ, the name of the Pavilion Church, followed by a Te Deum. At 8 P.M. the doors closed on the exhibit. Between then and December 16 the exhibits were dismantled and removed. A conservative estimate indicates that a minimum of 15 million people visited the Vatican Pavilion. Guided tours had been conducted each half-hour, each time in a different language. Priests and hostesses were available at all hours to answer questions on the exhibit. On December 16 the buildings were placed in the hands of the demolition company, according to the agreement made with the Belgian Government. The World's Fair of Brussels, 1958, was indeed over.

ANTONIO CANOVA

The second centenary of the birth of this famous sculptor was commemorated by the issuance, on July 2, 1958, of a set of four stamps, each depicting one of Canova's masterpieces of sculpture. Inasmuch as the background of Canova has already been outlined in VATICAN NOTES in connection with the Pantheon issue, the biographical detail which follows will be that of the four popes whose images appear on the stamps.

Pope Clement XIII

Carlo della Torre Rezzonico was born at Venice on March 7, 1693 and died at Rome on February 2, 1769. He was educated at Bologna and Padua and in 1716 was employed at Rome. He was made Governor of Rieti in 1716, of Fano in 1721 and Auditor for the Rota for Venice in 1725. He was made cardinal in 1737 and Bishop of Padua in 1743. In this post he showed himself zealous for the sanctification of his clergy and himself lived an exemplary life. He was elected Pope July 6, 1758 to succeed Benedict XIV. Regalism and Jansenism were the two traditional foes of the Church, and a new force rising was making use of them. These were the Rationalists or Encyclopedists of Voltaire, who were bitter enemies of the Church. They had influence in Portugal and other royal courts of the Bourbons. Their first attack was on the Society of Jesus, which was the great bulwark of the Church.

Under their influence, the Portugese king imprisoned the Jesuit heads and expelled all other Jesuits from Portugese territory. Over the protests of Clement XIII the French Parliament suppressed the Society of Jesus in France. Charles III of Spain, also under the influence of the Encyclopedists, suppressed the Jesuits, and Voltairian ministers of the minor rulers of Naples and Parma followed suit. Since Parma was a fief of the Papacy, Clement XIII condemned the move. The Bourbon courts of Europe threatened the Pope with loss of territory and demanded the complete suppression of the Jesuits throughout the world. It is thought that this demand brought about the death of Clement XIII, because he died within two weeks of the demand.

The tomb of Pope Clement XIII in St. Peter's is toward the right or epistle transept. Its sculpture established the reputation of Canova, and is considered by many as his best work. It was finished after 8 years of labor in Canova's 38th year. Clement kneels in prayer. On the right is a figure representing Death with a torch inverted. On the left stands a figure representing Religion holding a cross. Two sleeping lions at the bottom are sometimes called the finest work in modern sculpture. The whole monument is gracefully arranged over a doorway.

Pope Clement XIV

Lorenzo (or Giovanni Vincenzo Antonio) Ganganelli was born at Sant' Arcangelo, near Rimini, October 31, 1705, and died at Rome September 22, 1774. He was of humble birth and was educated by the Jesuits at Rimini. At the age of 19, in 1724, he entered the Franciscans, Friars Minor, and changed his baptismal name of Giovanni Vincenzo Antonio to Lorenzo. He became Definitor General of the Friars Minor in 1741 and Benedict XIV made him a consultor of the Holy Office. Clement XIII made him a cardinal in 1759.



At the death of Clement XIII, the authority of the papacy was being attacked by Gallicanism, Jansenism, and Rationalism, backed by the rulers of

POPE CLEMENT XIV (Cont.)

France, Spain, Naples, Portugal and Parma; rather, these rulers were being used as tools of the afore-mentioned groups. Clement XIV tried a manful resistance to them but failed even to check them to any great degree. The bone of contention was the Society of Jesus. It was already suppressed in Portugal, France and Spain under Clement XIII. The election of Clement XIV was the occasion of renewed demands for its universal suppression.

The conclave that elected Clement XIV convened February 15, 1769, and the ambassadors of the above named countries tried to swing the election to a cardinal favorable to their demands. They used their power of veto on 23 of the 47 cardinals not favorable, and of the remainder, 8 to 10 were considered too old for election. Cardinal Ganganelli was one who seemed to favor neither side, and after signing a paper for Cardinal Solis of Spain that he recognized the right of the Pope to suppress the Jesuits according to Canon Law, he was elected.

The Jesuits were strong champions of the Church, and were accused of being disturbers of the peace, since they challenged the enemies of the Church and refuted their attacks. Despite the fact that they were in favor in the Germanic countries, Clement XIV started a campaign against them, removing them from schools and colleges, suppressing their publications, etc. Charles Emmanuel of Sardinia and Maria Theresa of Austria had supported the Jesuits, but with the death of Charles Emmanuel, Maria Theresa listened to her son Joseph II and her daughter, the Queen of Naples, and withdrew her active support of the Jesuits.

As a result, Clement XIV began the writing of his Brief of Abolition of the Jesuits in November, 1772. He signed it on June 8, 1773, dating it to become effective on July 21, 1773. He did this as an effort to restore peace to the Church, and without any condemnation of the Society of Jesus. The suppression was a Brief, not a Bull, and therefore easier of recall. With the papacy seemingly approving, this Brief was not put into effect in many countries for some time, and under Catherine of Russia, not at all.

The only advantage reaped by this grave act was the restoration of Avignon and Benevento to the Holy See. Both of these had been seized when Clement XIII excommunicated the kinsmen of the young Duke of Parma. Hostility continued from the enemies of the Church, and the Church was not without her most articulate and devoted defender, the Society of Jesus. Embittered by the knowledge that he had failed in his effort to bring peace to the Church despite this great sacrifice, Clement XIV took to bed September 10, 1774 and died September 22, 1774.

He was buried in the Church of Sancti Apostoli in Rome. The monument to him by Canova is placed over the door of the sacristy in the left aisle. It was executed in Canova's 25th year. The Pope is seated with his right hand raised in blessing. Below on the opposite sides of the door are two figures representing Temperance and Meekness.

Pope Pius VI

Giovanni Angelico Braschi was born at Cesena on December 27, 1717, and died at Valence, France, on August 29, 1799. Of a poor family, he was educated at Cesena and Ferrara, and became papal secretary and a canon of St. Peter's in 1755. Clement XIII made him Treasurer of the Roman Church in 1766, and Clement XIV made him a cardinal. He was Abbot of Subiaco until his election as Pope on February 15, 1775.

France, Spain and Portugal at first conspired to prevent his election because he was reputed favorable to the Jesuits. When elected, he

did not dare revoke their suppression, but he did liberate the Jesuit superior from prison. He acceded to the request of Prussia to allow the Jesuits to keep their schools there and allowed their continuance in Russia.

He took steps to stop the Gallican idea against papal supremacy which had spread to Germany. Joseph II of Austria had suppressed numerous monasteries and had forbidden Austrian bishops to ask Rome for faculties. Pius VI went to Vienna, arriving March 22, 1782, and remained until the following month. However, he accomplished nothing with the Emperor. After the Pope returned, Joseph seized papal property, and then appointed a bishop to Milan. This last act aroused Pius VI where the seizure of his property had not. He threatened Joseph with excommunication. Joseph came to Rome in December of 1783 and threatened to separate the whole Church in Germany from Rome. He was dissuaded from this and Pius granted him the right to nominate bishops in Milan and Mantua. This started a series of attacks on the papacy from nearly all European countries. Amid all this, Pius VI erected the first bishopric in the United States at Baltimore in April of 1789.

After the French Revolution, Pius rejected the Civil Constitution of the Clergy and objected to the execution of Louis XVI. France retaliated by annexing Avignon and Venaissin. The Pope cooperated with the Allies against the French Republic, and this, combined with the murder of the French attache at Rome, brought Napoleon's attack on the Pontifical State. By the Peace of Tolentino Pius surrendered to France Avignon, Venaissin, Ferrara, Bologna and Romagna; also fifteen million francs and numerous works of art. In an attempt to revolutionize Rome, the French General Duphot was killed. The French seized Rome and proclaimed the Roman Republic. Pius VI refused to submit, and was taken out of Rome by night to France, where he died at Valence on his journey as a prisoner. He was first buried at Valence, but on February 17, 1802 his body was transferred to St. Peter's in Rome.

The statue by Canova, depicting Pius kneeling before the tomb of St. Peter, in the Confession at the High Altar, is one of Canova's finest works. Pius is said to have ordered the attitude and position of his figure while he was a captive of the French.



POPE PIUS VII

Barnaba Chiaramonte was born at Cesena in the Pontifical State on Aug. 14, 1740 and died at Rome on August 20, 1823. He came from noble and pious parents, and was educated at Ravenna. At the age of 16 he entered the Benedictine monastery of Santa Maria del Monte, near Cesena, and after completing his studies taught in the Benedictine colleges at Parma and Rome. Pius VI made him abbot of his monastery in Rome and later made him Bishop of Tivoli. He was subsequently made Bishop of Imola and was raised to the cardinalate on February 14, 1785. When the French invaded Italy, Pius instructed his flock not to put up useless resistance against overwhelming French forces. In 1797 he instructed them to submit to the Cisalpine Republic.

KERALA VANQUISHES THE COMMUNISTS

In the November - December NOTES, mention was made of correspondence between V.P.S. member Rev. Cyr T. Puthenangady of South India and Bill Quinn, our former Membership Secretary. Bill's extracts from a recent publication by Father Puthenangady provide an informative account of activities within South India's state of Kerala.

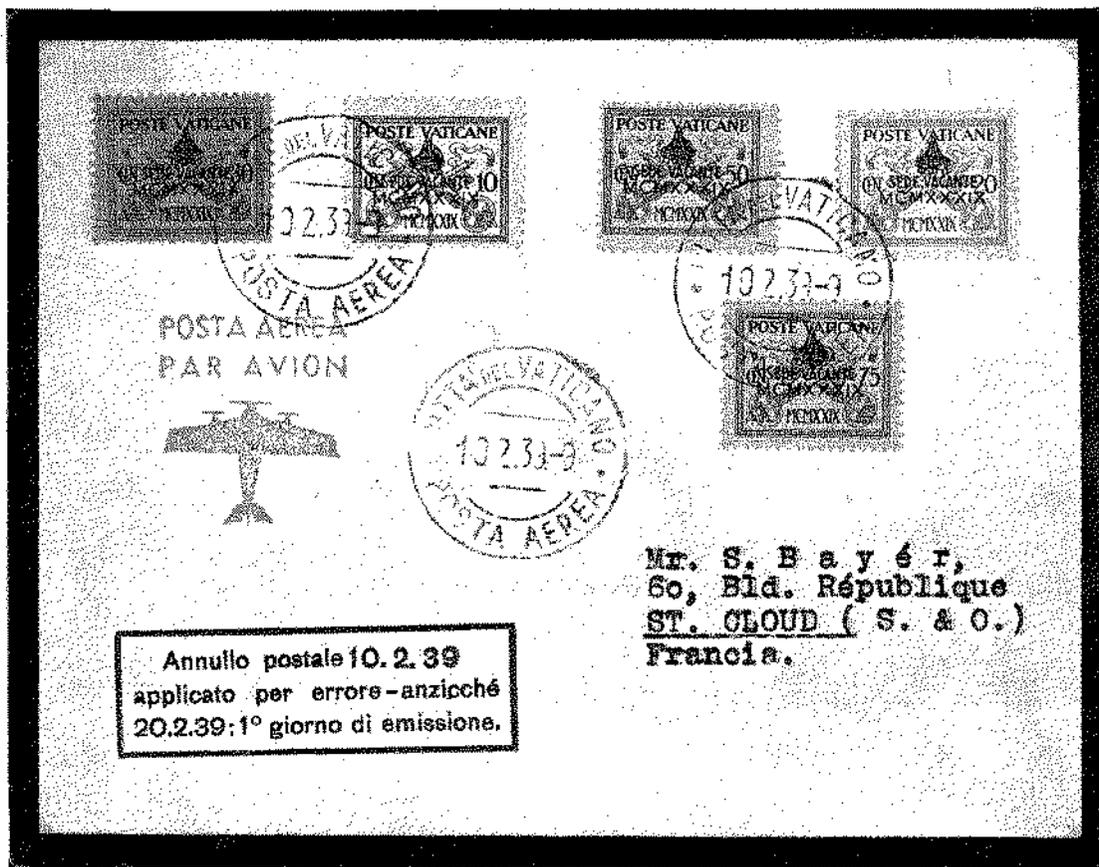
"The eyes of the whole world have been focused on Kerala since April 5, 1957, when the Communists were elected to govern this small Indian State. After the 'Deliverance Movement' began working against them in June, 1959, the attention of the world was increased a thousand fold.... Kerala is a small province on the western side of the southern tip of South India. It was formed as a separate province as a result of the division of India into linguistic states after India attained independence in 1947. It comprises three regions, namely, Travancore, Cochin, and Malabar....While Kerala is the smallest state in the Indian Union, it has the highest literacy rate of any of the provinces. It is one of the greatest strongholds of the Catholic Church in the world and nearly one-half of the Catholic population of India live there....Kerala is one of the few areas in the world that had the rare privilege of receiving the light of faith during Apostolic times. History, as well as sound tradition, has it that the Apostle St. Thomas arrived at the port of Cranganore, Kerala, in the year 52 A.D. with the message of Redemption....Later, in the 15th century, Kerala was one of the chosen centers of the apostolic labors of St. Francis Xavier, who made thousands of conversions in Kerala....Despite adverse circumstances, Kerala has preserved her faith down through the centuries.... In the 17th century, owing to political troubles and religious differences consequent on the arrival of the Portugese in India, a segment of the followers of St. Thomas the Apostle fell into a schism known as the Jacobite Church. Again in the 19th century, due to dissension among the Jacobites, another schismatic division known as the Marthomites also originated.... The people of Kerala are distributed under different religious communities as follows: Hindus, 51%; Christians, 24%; Moslems, 20%; other denominations, 5%....Of the Christian denominations, 61% are Catholics; 22% are Jacobites; 6% are Marthomites, and 11% are Protestants....There are four political parties in Kerala: the Congress Party, the prajo Socialist Party, the Moslem League, and the Communist Party.... There are also two minor parties. Of these, the Congress Party is the strongest, although the Communists attained a majority in the 1957 elections....In their election campaign, the Communists declared that they would form a government for the poor working classes and called their attention to a reform program of: (1) inauguration of new industries (2) solving of all labor problems and giving work to all poor (3) no intervention of the police in workers' disputes (4) issue of new labor regulations favorable to the workers and against the capitalists.... Nearly 40% of the Hindus are in the poor lower classes and these votes swayed the election.... The Communists took over the government and within a very short time the Communists slowly, but clearly began to show their true colors.... One of the first acts of the Communist government was the granting of amnesty to all in jail.... Disillusionment set in as weeks and months passed with no improvement in the social or economic conditions.. Situations were created, harmful to the workers.... incidents and skirmishes occurred even to the extent of firing upon the workers by the police....the price of rice, the staple food of the workers, was continually increasing... misappropriation of public funds took place and such funds were used to swell the coffers of the Party....atrocious crimes of murder and theft, and intimidation increased.. BUT, how to oust a duly elected government before the next elections, which were four years away? ... Leaders of the various parties and religious communities privately and publicly consulted on the necessary steps to be taken.... A "Deliverance Council" consisting of members of different communities, with no party allegiance, was formed.... A program for liberating Kerala was decided upon.... All manner of non-violent agitations, such as public meetings, processions, and

KERALA VANQUISHES THE COMMUNISTS

(continued)

picketing of government offices, etc., were arranged.... Meetings with Nehru and other important leaders resulted in a special election being called for on the first day of February, 1960.... The United Democratic Front won by a clear majority, with 53.4% of the votes as against 43.5% for the Communists, with the balance distributed among a few independents....The new government took over on February 22, 1960.... Did the Communists do any good at all in Kerala? ... Yes - Communist rule taught the people how ruthless and undemocratic Communism is and the evils of Communist rule.... It united the non-Communist powers in Kerala.... It brought about better understanding among parties, better union among Christian sects, and better practise of the Faith among Catholics.... Finally, the Communists are responsible for the fact that one and all are resolved never to allow Communist rule in Kerala again."

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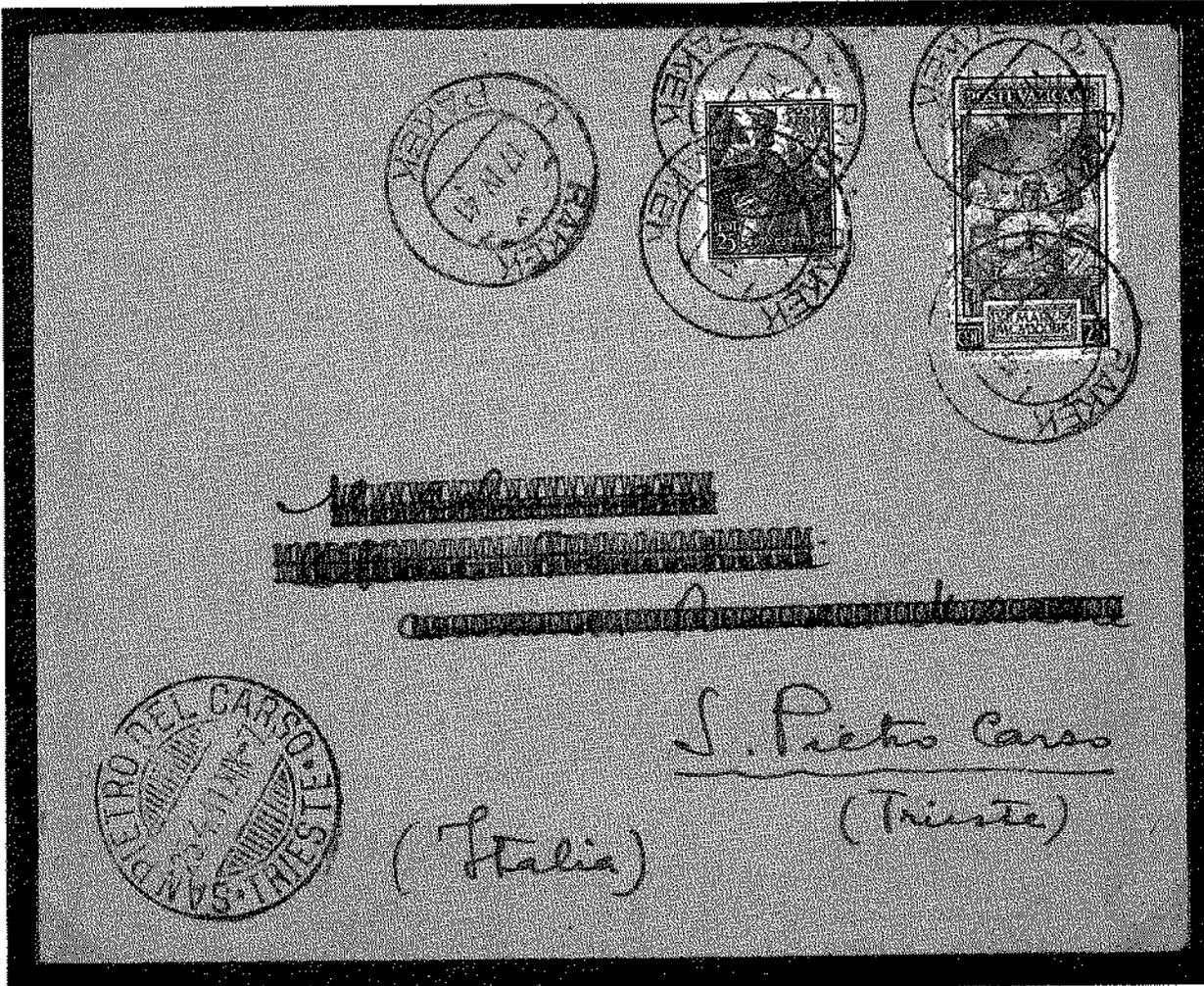
AN INTERESTING MARKING

Vatican City's first "Sede Vacante" set was issued on February 20, 1939. The mourning cover illustrated, bearing five stamps of this issue, was intended to be a First Day Cover. However, the postmark shows date of cancellation as February 10, 1939, the date on which Pope Pius XI died, and ten days before actual issue of the stamps.

The rectangular marking shown in the left corner at bottom reads "Postal cancellation February 10, 1939 applied in error - rather than February 20, 1939: first day of issue."

The cover shown below is franked with the Vatican City 25 cent. value of the Pius XII Coronation set and the 25 cent. value of the first air mail set. Although franked with Vatican stamps, it is postmarked RAKEK (Jugoslavia) April 17, 1941. Addressed to San Pietro Carso, in Trieste, it shows a San Pietro marking dated April 25, 1941, which appears on both the face and reverse of the cover.

Why the Yugoslav cancellations, and why 8 days in transit between RAKEK and Trieste, less than 50 miles distant? If you have the answers to these questions, the Editor will appreciate hearing from you.



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MEMBERSHIP SECRETARIES

A reminder that a portion of each issue of VATICAN NOTES is reserved for Chapter news. Several Chapters have failed to get their releases to the Editor for publication; one large Chapter has bypassed the NOTES and sent its news releases to other philatelic publications. If your Chapter is at all active, please keep us up to date on your activities. *****

Have you read "By-ways of Vatican City Philately" by VPS member O.J.Simpson in the 1962 Stamp Collectors' Annual? It's an excellent, well illustrated article.

Several of the specialty groups conduct annual polls of their membership to obtain an expression of opinion concerning the stamps of their particular interest. V.P.S. members are invited to use the ballot on this page to cast their votes for the best designs of the 1961 Vatican City issues.

| <u>Issue</u> | <u>First</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Third</u> |
|--|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| St. Meinrad 30L St. Meinrad | | | |
| 100L Einsiedeln Abbey | | | |
| 40L Madonna of Einsiedeln Abbey | | | |
| St. Leo Magnus | | | |
| St. Paul's Journey 10L and 30L Map of Paul's Journey | | | |
| 15L and 75L Paul arriving in Rome | | | |
| 20L and 200L St. Paul's Cathedral | | | |
| Osservatore Romano 40L Mastheads | | | |
| 70L Editorial offices | | | |
| 250L Printing press | | | |
| St. Patrick 10 and 40L Statue of St. Patrick | | | |
| 15 and 150L Church of St. Patrick | | | |
| Pope John XXIII 10L Coat of Arms | | | |
| 25L Church of St. Mary | | | |
| 30L Church of St. Mary (Monte Santo) | | | |
| 40L Church of SS. Ambrose & Charles | | | |
| 70L Chair of St. Peter | | | |
| 115L Portrait of Pope John XXIII | | | |
| Nativity, 1961 | | | |

Ballots should be sent, as soon as possible, to:

Francis E. Welch
P. O. Box 9847, Rosslyn Station
Arlington 9, Virginia

If you are engaged or interested in following up any particular phase of Roman States or Vatican City philately, our Research Coordinator will be glad to hear from you; she may be able to establish contact with another V.P.S. member who has interests similar to your own. For convenience, the card printed here may be filled out and sent to:

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Research Project:</u> | |
| V. P. S. No. | _____ |
| <u>Name and address</u> | |
| | |
| Wish information | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have information available | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Miss Rita Murphy
 44 Beaver Street
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