Collecting the 1949 Engineering and Landscape Issue of Switzerland

























Background of the Issue

- Switzerland tends to issue new definitive series every 10 to 20 years; the preceding "small landscape" issue first appeared in 1934; 1949 opportunity to refresh in a larger format and highlight Swiss technology achievements
- Designer/engraver was Karl Bickel
- Printed by PTT security printers in Bern
- Rotary engraving press with cylinders of 2 or 4 regular sheets containing 10 horizontal rows of 5 stamps
- Smooth white paper without watermark or colored fibers
- 12 values issued in quantities from 1.5 million to 2.2 billion
- First day of issue August 1, 1949, Swiss National Day

Why Collect them?

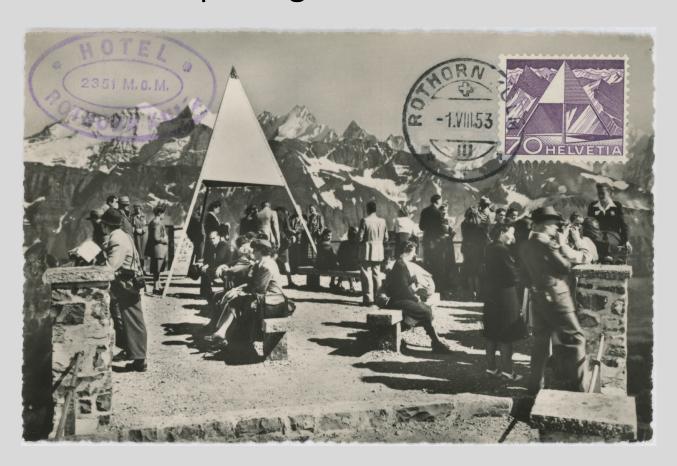
- Accessible (up to billions printed of individual denominations)
- Yet still challenging with scarce varieties and usages
- **Lengthy** primary period of use 1949-1960
- Plenty of varieties, coils, engraving and production anomalies, cancels, overprints, color shades, gum, perfins
- Changing rates and variety of postal services including use to collect postage due

Research Resources

- 1949 Technik und Landschaft by W. Frick
 - Monograph published by the VSPv in a special supplement to the SBZ magazine
 - Can be borrowed from the APRL
 - German Language
- Zumstein Specialized Switzerland Vol. I, 2000
- Die Schweizerische Flugpost-Zuschlagtaxen ab 1919 by Roland F. Kohl (Swiss Airmail Rates)
- Swiss auction catalogs such as Corinphila & Roelli

Maximum Cards

Show the Engineering features that inspired the individual stamp designs



Original Art



Essays and Proofs

- Show proposed designs and development of final versions
- Finally being released to the market after being held in the Karl Bickel (designer/engraver) archives







Engraving Types and Varieties



Prototype Printing Die had 3 lines above rock – 800,000 stamps printed but not released for sale for several months after first day of issue



Adopted Printing Die had 2 lines above rock – was released on first day of sale

Notice the design error or optical illusion in which the level of the reservoir on the lower left appears to be higher than the water level behind the arc of the dam on the right

Engraving Types and Varieties



Double Impression
Of Engraving Die

Normal

Production Anomalies



Paper Splice when changing paper rolls on rotary press

Color Varieties



Green



Darker Olive Green



Paler Bluish Green

Gum & Paper Varieties







More Transparent Paper



More Opaque Paper

Cancellations



Vintage town cancel with cross in circle at bottom



Blind ring cancels



Manuscript cancels



Early promotional cancel without illustration



Mobile Post Office cancel (First Day!) with MPO cachet





Event cancel for Travel Agents meeting





Later promotional cancel with illustration

Dues Handstamps

- Authorized T handstamps
- Other T handstamps
- Ungültig/Annule

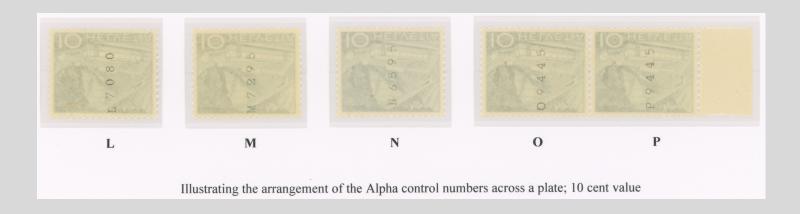




Coils



Coil Varieties







Booklets and "Tickets"















Tete-beche and Gutter Pairs







Overprints















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Perfins



Gesellschaft für Chemische Industrie Basel



AG Danzas & Cie. Basel



Altdorfer Samen Zürich



E. Glasson & Cie Bulle



AG. Von Moos'schen Eisenwerke Emmenbrücke-Luzern



Kempf & Co. Wilen bei Herisau



J Ruf Record-Verlag Luzern



Le Coultre & Cie. Le Sentier

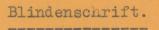


Stadt (City of) Winterthur

First Day Covers



Single Uses



Blindenbibliothek
Frauenkloster

Magdenau Flawil

Kt. St. Gallen.



Combination Frankings



Domestic Rates & Service Fees

- Postcard
- Printed Matter
- Local Letter
- National Letter
- Registration
- Express (Special Delivery)
- Insurance ("Value Letters")
- Merchandise Samples
- Printed Matter Preview and Reply
- Blind / Braille Materials

International Rates & Service Fees

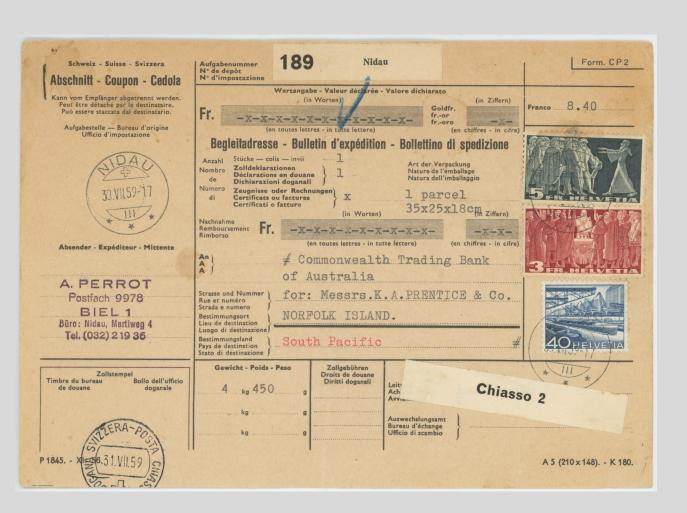
- Postcard
- Printed Matter
- Standard Letter with overweight steps
- Registration
- Express (Special Delivery)
- Airmail Supplements

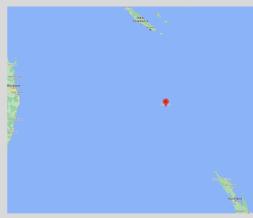
Airmail Rates – Steep Decline





Unusual Destinations - NORFOLK ISLAND





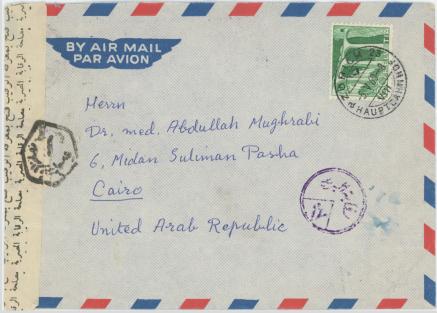
Unusual Destinations — ST. HELENA





Censorship





Auxiliary Markings / Labels





Interrupted Mail - Railway Crash



Interrupted Mail - Aircraft Crash



Official and Agency Use



Used to Collect Postage Due



Used to Collect Postage Due



Underpaid Mail



Curiosities



Alternative 20th Century Definitive Series to Consider

• Tell and Tell Boy 1907-1930





Typographed Helvetia 1907-1921



Small Landscapes 1934-1948



• Historical Figures 1941



Couriers & Architecture 1960-68





Thank you for your interest!

Q & A