

**LITHUANIAN PHILATELIC
SOCIETY
of
NEW YORK**



BULLETIN

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LPSNY BULLETIN SUBSCRIPTION RATES & MEMBERSHIP DUES for 1987

UNITED STATES & FOREIGN COUNTRIES	Two Sides Printed:	\$ 6.00 US
	One Side Printed	\$ 8.00 US
FOREIGN COUNTRIES: AIR MAIL AUCTION PAGES	Per Year	\$ 2.00 US

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SHOULD YOU GIVE HOBBY UP IF "RARE" IS OUT OF REACH?

Reprinted in "Stamp Collector" July 11, 1987

Every week, super all-color, glossy Auction Catalogs arrive on my doormat offering me marvels- the existence of which was hitherto unknown to me.

Should I cut out the color illustrations and make my album pages look fabulous? Certainly, I shall never come any closer to representing these items in my collection. But I confess, I often sit and read, think about it all, and ponder giving up collecting altogether.

It must have been marvelous to collect stamps when you could swap a strange (and virtually worthless) Indian Native States stamp for a copy of Mauritius No. 1. Ferrary did it, but I don't recall whether he got the better end of the exchange.

Now, everything seems to be known, prices have gone thru the roof and we are all walking in each other's footsteps. OK, so that block is being offered at less than one-third of Scott's valuation. If, like me, you can't afford \$1,000. let alone \$12,000. on a single purchase, the bargain becomes purely academic and even depresses you, because, if such a rarity is discounted that much, how can your own stamps be worth much?

I think these super catalogs, these infrequent sales of rarities, are a warning to us all. They show that there is still big money in fine stamps, which will help to uphold the value of all hobbyist spending. They also indicate clearly that philately is no longer "one World".

So, should you, the average collector, be deterred? If you don't aspire to join the top collectors outside your own more imaginative dreams, would you be better off closing those albums and gone fishing?

My answer is clearly NO! What we must do is to get it clear in our own minds just what stamp collecting means to each one of us. It means getting FUN out of stamps, or postmarks, or covers; or whatever philatelic items amuse you most.

First, decide what stamps you can afford, and which appeal to you. Next, mount them neatly and take pleasure from your creation of a unique collection. Third, share that pleasure with others. Never be a lone collector. Join a Club and talk to non-collectors, too. Fourth, try and find some small area of your chosen country or topic that you can make your own, something nobody else has done- and do it well. And, finally, forget all about the value of your collection as a saleable item. Concentrate on its very real value to you; for all the FUN it is giving you; and all the worry it has driven away while you are enjoying it.

Patronize your local dealers, milk the great hobby of ours for all the KUDOS you can. Write about stamps, read about them, play with your catalogs and handbooks. But, please, don't take yourself seriously. Remember, the bottom line is that "stamps are for sticking on letters."

LPSNY CLUB NOTES- VOX POP- DIGEST of BALTIC PHILATELIC ACTIVITY.

CHRISTINA GRINIUS (Arsonaitė)- Deceased May 2, 1987 in Washington D.C. at the home of her son Liutas. She was the wife of the former President of Lithuania KAZYS GRINIUS. (born in Saliamos Buda in 1866 and deceased June 4, 1950 in Chicago, Illinois) She was an Honorary Member of the Chicago Lithuanian Philatelic Society. She had been ailing for the past three years from emphysema. She was born in Suvalku Kalvarija on Sept. 29, 1896. A Nurse by profession, she was the Director of the "Pieno Laso" Society's Children's and Day Nursery. She was active in the campaign against Tuberculosis and a Member of the Lithuanian Underground. During World War I, she resided in Moscow and in Saratova; later in Kaunas and in Germany with her husband and son as Displaced Persons. Emigrating to the United States, they resided in Philadelphia, Pa. Chicago, California, Buffalo and Washington, D.C. Son, Liutas and family are in mourning. Christina was also a Postage Stamp Dealer in Lithuania and also in these United States. Philatelically, she will be remembered for having produced Lithuanian Covers for many of her clients: The Resumption of Postal, Air and Regular Mail with Poland Covers in 1939 and for the many new issues covers that she serviced for her many clients.

U.S. Postal Bulletin 21614 announced new requirements as of May 1, 1987 for the completion of certain Customs Forms accompanying mail and parcels being sent to the Soviet Union (USSR) The Soviet Union now advised that the French or Russian translation requirement applies to all Customs Declarations on mail that it receives. Effective immediately, All Customs Declaration Forms: Form #2976, Customs Douane (Green Label), Form 2976A Customs Declaration; and Form 2976B Parcel Post Declaration and Dispatch Note- must list the contents in English and include an interline translation in French or Russian.

VOX POP- My one frame (16 pages) Exhibit of Latvia: A Short Postal History- took First Place among the twelve one-framers of the Tower Stamp Club at COMPEX '87.

The Darius-Girenas Transatlantic Flight Association annually commemorates the Transatlantic Flight. On July 18, 1987 on the 54th Anniversary of the Flight that took place of July 15-17, 1933. Memorial Exercises were held on July 18, 1987 at 3:00 PM in Brooklyn, N.Y. in Lituanica Square at the Flight Memorial that had been erected there. These exercises are sponsored annually by the various Lithuanian organizations and the general public.

LPSNYer AL. LUKOSEVICIUS has been entered on the Hazlet Stamp Clubs Honor Roll for having shared with their members their philatelic knowledge and enthusiasm. Al gave a comprehensive overview of his specialty, LITHUANIA, with a set of slides that he made himself to enable them to see exactly what he was talking about. Lithuania is not one of the more popular specialties which made Al's presentation all the more intriguing, especially for those of us (more than one) who trace our ancestry back to the nation.

FINLAND NATIONAL EXHIBITION in TAVASTEHUS (Hameenlinna)- The Exhibit of MARTIN HOLMSTEN "Russian Maritime Mail from 1714-1927" was awarded a VERMEIL. The Exhibit of AUGUST LEPPA "EESTI POST" also merited a VERMEIL.

MEMEL PHILATELY - The 1939 Transition Period Cancels: One of the least publicized Periods in Memel Philately is the March 22, 1939 to April 30th, 1939- the time period during which Lithuanian and German postage stamps were allowed. The incoming German Army provided a New Style, Double-Ring, Bridge Cancel for the Town of Memel; and a Small, Boxed Rubber Stamp Town Cancels for all of the other postal stations / agencies. Quite a few of the cancellers from the Memelgebiet Period that disappeared when Lithuania took control of the Postal System reappeared during this Transition Period. The Use of these Cancels, as well as Patriotic and Commemorative Slogans during this Transition Period was condoned by the German Postal Authorities.

Among the Notables listed for Jury Duty at HAFNIA '87 to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark October 16-25, 1987 are LPSNYer GEORGE B. LINDBERG as an Honorary Consultant and LPSNYer F. LEMOS da SILVEIRA of Lisboa, Portugal, A Specialist in Air Mails.

ESPERANTO- An Artificial International Language, celebrates this year its 100th anniversary. Created by Dr. Lazar Ludvik Zamenhof (1859-1917) in 1887. His Book "Ekzercaro de la Lingua Internacia" spread the international language throughout Europe in a very short time. Msgr Aleksandras Dambrauskas (Adomas Jakstas) spread its use among the Lithuanian intelligentsia. The language is based on common Latin, French and English words. A Lithuanian Esperanto Association was formed in Kaunas on December 10, 1919. In his Pamphlet "Kas Yra Esperanto?" J. Mačernis maintained that the Founder of the Language Dr. Zamenhof considered himself a Citizen of Lithuania.

A Catalog of Portuguese Air Mail Cachets, 1968-1985, a beautiful 40 page illustrated Brochure by LPSNYer F. LEMOS da SILVEIRA has just been published by the TAO Air Portugal. A Free Complimentary copy for interested LPSNY Members may be had from the Author. Address: Apartado 5194, P-1777, Lisboa, Portugal.

There was a Bi-Lateral Postage Stamp Exhibition: FINLAND-USSR. A Very Good One! There were very nice collections from both countries and from the Baltic States, as well as Pre-Philatelic Exhibits from both Estonia and Latvia. A Member of the Vilnius Stamp Club showed me a Specialized VILNIUS Collection in Three Volumes. A Beaut! with many cancellations that I had never seen before. Sorry, I had too little time to study it.

CONGRATULATIONS to LPSNYer JERRY LACONIS for having been awarded a BRONZE for his Exhibit "The French School of Painting" by LEBPEX '86 held Oct. 24-25, 1986 by the Lebanon Stamp Club in Penna.

Among the Winners at NAPEX '87 held May 29-31, 1987 at Silver Spring Maryland- The National Philatelic Exhibition of Washington, D.C. A VERMEIL was granted to "Magipöiss" for an Exhibit of "The 1920-1923 Air Mail Issues of Estonia."

VOX POP- I visited VILNIUS in April 1987. It is a very nice City, Modern, with many Cars, broad new streets, a new Opera House - All Very Nice, indeed. The new Hotels are very good!!! Everything functioning: European Breakfasts!!! But, NO Vodka at receptions!

From 1795 until the Lithuanian Revolution in 1918, the Lithuanians used Russian currency. Although the Russians issued coins for Poland after the Czar assumed the title of the King of Poland, they issued no specifically Lithuanian coins.

The German Army occupied Lithuania during most of World War I. In 1916, the Germans introduced a new currency in Lithuania and in the other occupied territories, the so-called "Ostruble" (East Ruble), consisting of 100 OstKopecks. Officially, the OstRuble was equivalent to one Russian Ruble, or two German Marks; but it had no backing other than German bayonets. The only coins issued under this standard were the Iron Kopecks, Two Kopecks and Three Kopecks, minted at Berlin and Hamburg.

The Council of Lithuania proclaimed its Independence on February 16, 1918, but the Lithuanians were unable to end the German occupation. In April 1918, the Germans introduced a new currency: the OstMark, consisting of 100 Pfennigs. The OstMark was equal to one German ReichsMark, or one-half of an OstRuble; but no coins were issued in this denomination.

Later in 1918, after the Germans finally left the newly-independent country, Lithuania adopted the OstMark as its currency. In 1919, Lithuania changed the name to AUKSINAS (from the Lithuanian word "Auksas", meaning Gold). The name change was meaningless; however, as Lithuanians never issued any OstMark or Auksinas coins (nor any gold coins at all, for that matter, although a gold coin was authorized and a few Gold Patterns were struck in 1938).

In 1922, Lithuania established the LITAS as its national currency. "LIT" is taken from the first three letters of the word for "Lithuania" in major European language (Except for Lithuania itself, where the name is "Lietuva"); while "as" is a standard Lithuanian ending for masculine singular nouns. The LITAS was equivalent in value to .150462 grams of Gold (about 2.32 grains or one-tenth of the U.S. Gold Dollar of 1849-1889).

Perhaps, remembering the economic chaos of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, the Lithuanians linked the LITAS very closely to Gold; and the LITAS remained strong in relation to foreign currencies until the Fall of the Republic in 1940. In 1922, the LITAS was approximately equal to \$.10 U.S.; by 1934, following the monetary reforms which came about during the Depression and the New Deal, the LITAS had increased in relative value to \$.1693 U.S.

The Currency Law also regulated the total value of the coins which could be placed in circulation. The Law permitted the National Bank of Lithuania to issue no more than Four Litai in Bronze coins; and no more than 20 Litu in Silver coins per capita. The weekly income of the average Lithuanian household in 1936-1937 was 63 Litu.

Lithuania issued Eight Coin Types in 1925. These coins were minted in England and include the Aluminium-Bronze "Centas", Five Centai, 10 Centu, 20 Centu and 50 Centu, together with the Silver Litai, Two Litu and Five Litai. The Coins share a common Obverse,

showing the VYTIS, the Date, the Columns of Gediminas and the Name of the Country: (LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKA). To the Left and Right of the Date is a Leaf of the RUTA, a plant which figures prominently in Lithuanian Folklore (traditionally, Unmarried Lithuanian Girls wore a Sprig of Ruta in their hair as a Symbol of Purity).

The Reverse of these Coins generally commemorate the agricultural life of the country. The Centas, Five Centai and Five Litai all show the Flax Plant (Linai in Lithuanian), which provided the fiber for Lithuania's Linen-Weaving industry. The 10 Centu, 20 Centu and 50 Centu all show an Ear of Wheat mixed in with a Stalk of Barley. The Litas shows an Oak Branch, a traditional Symbol of Strength for the Lithuanians, as for all of the Indo-European peoples. The Two Litu shows a Wreath of Ruta Sprigs.

In 1936, Lithuania minted five more coin types. These coins were minted in Kaunas, the provisional capital between the two World Wars. (Poland captured the legal capital Vilnius in 1920-1922 and refused to return the city to Lithuania) The coins include the Bronze Centas, Two Centai and Five Centai; together with the Silver Five Litu and 10 Litu.

The Bronze Coins of 1936 partially follow the pattern set in 1925 with the Vytis appearing on the Obverse of each coin. These coins modify the country's name to "LIETUVA", and the Columns of Gediminas no longer appear. The Reverse of the Bronze coins again portray Lithuania's agricultural heritage, with an Ear of Wheat appearing on the Centas, a Wreath of Oats on the Two Centai, and the Flax Plant on the Five Centai.

The Silver Coins of 1936 mark a change of pattern of the Lithuanian coins. While the Vytis still appears on one side of each coin, the portraits of Lithuanian national heroes begin to appear on the other.

The Five Litu portrays Dr. Jonas Basanavičius (1851-1927) a Physician, Folklorist and Lithuanian Patriot who was in many ways the Father of Modern Lithuania. Basanavicius nurtured the Lithuanian Struggle for Freedom from Russia through his patriotic writings and worked tirelessly himself to bring an end to Russian rule. In 1918, his efforts were crowned with success, when he became a Signer of the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence,

The 10 Litu portrays and names VYTAUTAS DIDYSIS (Vytautas the Great). Although Vytautas was Lithuania's greatest Statesman and one of the major actors on the European stage during the later Middle Ages, this is the only coin which bears his portrait. He does appear on Lithuania's Paper-Money, including the Five Litu, 20 Litu and 100 Litu Notes.

In 1938, Lithuania issued its final coin type, another Silver 10 Litu. This coin commemorates the 20th Anniversary of Modern Lithuania's Independence and represents another break from the pattern of all previous issues, it being the only modern Lithuanian coin which does not depict the Vytis, though it does include the Columns of Gediminas.

This coin portrays ANTANAS SMETONA, a Journalist by profession, President of the Lithuanian Council when it proclaimed the Independence of Lithuania, a Signer of the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence, and the First President of the Republic.

He was also the Fourth (and last) President, having seized power in 1926 following a Military Coup which ousted President Grinius.

One of the tragedies of Eastern and Central Europe between the World Wars, was that with the exception of Czechoslovakia and Finland, all of the nations which rose from the ashes of the Russian, German and Austrian Empires fell under the rule of dictators. Many of the dictators (including Smetona and his Polish rival Pilsudski) were benevolent despots sincerely concerned with the well-being of their countries, but dictators nevertheless.

Smetona, himself, was ousted by the Soviet invasion in 1940. He came to the United States and died in Cleveland in 1944. As it happened, Grinius also came to the United States, dying in Chicago in 1950. The name "Smetona" is Slavic rather than Lithuanian, and means "Sour Cream", which may or may not be meaningful.

In 1938, Stalin compelled Lithuania to sign a Treaty proclaiming Eternal Peace and Cooperation between Lithuania and the U.S.S.R. In 1940, as part of its 1939 Pact with Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union invaded, conquered and annexed Lithuania. Neither the United States nor its Allies has ever recognized this annexation, and the Lithuanian Republic still maintains a small Legation in Washington, D.C.

In addition to the usual mass murders and other acts of oppression that typically accompany Soviet annexations, the Soviet government destroyed Lithuania's national economy. Under one of their earliest decrees, the Soviets allowed Lithuanian coins to be used in commerce, but valued the Litas at 90 kopecks (The Free Market valued the Litas at more than 300 kopecks). By 1941, the Soviet Government had abandoned all pretext of respecting Lithuanian Autonomy, and banned Lithuanian Currency- burning the Paper Money, and melting or restriking the coins. This marked the end of Lithuania's Coinage History.

A complete Set of the 14 Modern Lithuanian Coins is well within the means of most collectors. In extremely fine condition, the full set catalogs at less than \$250; the 1938 Litu is valued at \$80; and the other 13 coins catalog less than \$25. each. In uncirculated condition, the entire Set catalogs less than \$625. Again, the 1938 10 Litu at \$125. is the most expensive, with the other coins in the set ranging from \$20. for the 1936 Centas up to \$75. for the 1925 5 Litu.

Obtaining the coins in true uncirculated condition is quite a challenge, as many (if not most) of the coins advertised as uncirculated appear to be no better than borderline uncirculated. Most of the modern Lithuanian coins available in the United States came here with the Lithuanian Refugees who fled the Soviet and Nazi occupations of World War II, and the coins they brought with them were typically taken from circulation rather than from the original bank rolls.

Because modern Lithuania only issued 14 coin types, advanced coin collectors often move on to collecting Pattern and trial strikes. There are at least 13 Patterns known. In 1938, the Bank of Lithuania produced Four Versions of the Silver 5 Litai and one of the Silver 10 Litu; From 1938, the Patterns include a Brass Version of the Two Litai, Five Silver Versions of the Five Litai,

A Silver Ten Litu, and a Gold 10 Litu. Unfortunately, while very interesting, these Patterns are very expensive, with Catalog Prices starting at \$400. each.

There are also Ten Single-Sided Trial Strikes of the Aluminum-Bronze Issues of 1925; Five of the Trial Strikes show the Obverse and Five show the Reverse of the Actual Coins issued. While these Trial Strikes are less expensive than the Patterns, they are, nonetheless, rather expensive themselves, with their catalog prices ranging from \$90. to \$165. a piece. Although Lithuania has not issued any coins since 1938, its coins continue to be involved in controversy.

The 10 Litu coins of 1936 and 1938 each contain about 18 grams of .750 fine Silver; somewhat less than one-half of a Troy Ounce of Pure Silver, so that they fall between the U.S. Half-Dollar and the U.S. Silver Dollar in both size and weight. Although the 10 Litu coins are among the largest and most attractive of all Lithuanian coins and compare very favorably in appearance and metal content to most 20th century Crowns (After all, they did have greater buying power than our own Peace Dollars), the leading Authority on Crowns, John S. Davenport refused to catalog them as Crowns, arguing that they do not meet his size criteria.

The only Lithuanian Crowns which Davenport accepts are those issued by the Grand Prince Stefan Batory. These coins include a Two Taler, One and One-Half Taler and a Taler of 1580, and Talers of 1585-1586. These coins feature Bathory's portrait on the Obverse with variations of the legend STEPHAN-D-G-REX-POLON-MAG-DUX-L- (Stephen, by the Grace of God, King of Poland, Grand Duke of Lithuania).

The Reverses show the Lithuanian and Polish Arms quartered and are inscribed with variations of the legend RUS-PRUS-MAS-SAM-LIVO-PRIN-TRAN (Russia, Prussia, Masovia, Samogitia, Livonia, Prince of Transylvania) All but the Talers of 1585-1586 are extremely Rare, and even those relatively common Talers catalog at \$500. or more in collectible condition.

Davenport does not give Lithuania credit for any other Crowns, although some of Sigismund II's Talers of 1564-1565 are generally regarded by both Polish and Lithuanian Numismatic scholars as Lithuanian. As a result of these cataloguing decisions, Davenport has become involved in a acrimonious debate with coin collectors who feel that he has slighted Lithuanian Numismatics.

Krause Publications has also become embroiled in a dispute concerning the Cataloguing of Lithuanian Coins. The First Edition of the Standard Catalog of World Coins listed the coins of modern Lithuania; but later editions listed Lithuanian Coins with the coins of the Soviet Union on the ground that Lithuania was, in fact, a part of the Soviet Union. After much argument (negotiation?) with collectors, a compromise was reached in the 11th Edition of the Catalog, in which the coins of modern Lithuania (and the other Baltic States) are listed under "Baltic Regions".

It is perhaps appropriate that the coins of Lithuania - a country which had played so many different and difficult roles through history - should themselves be subject to so much controversy. At the very least, the controversy insured that the century old story of the coins of Lithuania will continue to unfold and not be forgotten.

Dear Friends and Readers of the LPSNY BULLETIN:

I was really surprised, and at the same time so pleased to have received from the Lithuanian Philatelic Society of New York a gift of such precious metal - A Gold Ingot.

Both, my wife and I, are most appreciative of such a nice gesture. At the same time, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have participated in the purchase of my publication and trust they do not regret having paid the Twenty Dollar purchase price.

It was only through the generosity of the Lithuanian Philatelic Society of New York that such a publication was made possible. Through philately and the project of this publication, both, my wife and I have acquired many new friends and relationships. So, too, it is that such an experience for a spouse can be very trying for her while her husband is wholly wrapped up in his hobby. She was extremely patient.

While publicizing this work, I sold some thirty copies to members of the Baltic Philatelic Society of the Netherlands at their semi-annual meeting. We spent several lovely days at the gracious home of Mr. Ruud van Wijnen, the "spiritus movens" of this philatelic group in Borne. The sale of these catalogues provided us with a free sojourn in the Netherlands.

The previous year, we had Dr. Doniela from Australia as our House Guest. He gifted my wife with a very charming brouch of Australian Opal which she appreciates tremendously. This was a Token of appreciation with the hope that she will permit us to spend more time on another edition.

In regards to the Medal (One Ounce of Pure Gold), the gold contents of which must be worth well over five hundred dollars. My wife has herewith arrived at the conclusion that such a second editions should be prepared.

Some two years have passed since the publication of this work. In the interim, I have noted more than 550 unrecorded findings of various cancellations, Registry Markings, etc. Even enthusiastic colleagues from behind the Iron Curtain have answered from places as far as Riga and Minsk.

All are willing to contribute such unrecorded data for a new edition. My hope is now to meet up with some of the prominent collectors of Postal History on my upcoming visit to Lithuania, which I trust will be fruitful and beneficial.

If all goes well, I do intend to publish a new revised edition of my catalogue in 1990. I look forward to hearing from all of you, dear friends, regarding any and all aspects of this catalogue, be it suggestions or photo copies of unrecorded varieties.

Sincerely yours,

Vytautas Fugalevicius

ED: Note: The original Edition of 100 copies are completely sold out!

How has the City of Vilna acquired such a sacred name? Have enchanting lights glittered through the windows of stately palaces of Jewish Kings there? Because of high and imposing buildings of Jewish ministers and the multitude of their functionaries? Because of the magnificent building of the Sanhedrin financed by the Rothschilds of the Maccabean period? Was the Mount of the House with its Sanctuaries there, whose mysterious sanctity of High Priests strengthened and purified the spirit of Jews the world over?

NO. The Sanctuary was not there; but, there were times when the sorrow and agony over the destruction of the Sanctuary built a Temple, not of stones, but of Jewish tears and the Divine Presence abandoned exile and found a home in the hearts of a Jewish Community.

Royal Palaces were not seen there, even in a dream! There, palaces were erected of the mind. Homes were appointed with a mastery of the Talmud or proficiency of grammar. There, towers were erected of acumen with the aid of countless brilliant minds, who came to refresh their spirit in the labyrinth of the Babylonian Talmud.

There were NO High Priests there! But, there were poor people there whose souls and virtues shone like the breast plate and ephod on the High Priest. Other Jewish communities- too rich in creative personalities- Rabbis, Heads of Yeshivas, Scholars, Authors, Artists, Cantors, Preachers- and in philanthropic, political and cultural institutions, yeshivas and modern schools. But, all of these creations. such color, such a diversity of colors, such scope- in this respect, Vilna ranks above all the other communities.

Vilna is a cradle nurturing brilliant scholars, insistent misnagdim, caustic maskilim, the city is rich in such unusual personalities as Rabbi Moses, the Author of "helkat Mehokek"; Rabbi Sabbatai, the Shakh; Rabbi Aaron Samuel Kaydanover, the Author of "Birkat Hazevah", Rabbi Moses Rivkin, the Author of "Beer Hagolah"- a commentary on the "Shulham Arukh; The Gaon of Vilna; his son, Rabbi Abraham; Rabbi Abraham Danzig, the Author of "Haye Adam"; For a while, Rabbi Israel Salanter resided in Vilna. There, withdrawn from the world, lived Abraham Isaiah Karelitz, the Author of "Hazom ish"; and there Rabbi Kahyim Oyzer Grodzenaki was active.

Moreover, Vilna could boast of such Writers and Scholars as Ayzik Meir Dick, Adam Hakohen, and Mischa Joseph Lebonson, Yehuda Leyb Gordon, Isaac Ben Yaakov, the Author of "Ozar Hasfarim"; and the saintly Khayki Lunski.

"The Vilna Jew is poor; but, possessed of initiative and boldness" writes the Maskil Leyb Mandelshtam. The first Jewish Labor Leaders hail from Vilna: Aaron Liberman, Aaron Zundeleovich, Arkadi Kremer and the ShoeMaker Hirsh Lekort, who gave his life for Human Dignity and the Rights of the Jewish Worker.

Here, the "Bund" was born and the foundation was laid for Yiddish secular culture and education. In addition to the Yeshivas, there sprang up modern secondary and higher schools with Yiddish or Hebrew as the languages of instruction there.

Here Yivo was established, the PEN Club and the writer's group "Young Vilna", and an inspiring list of new names of prominent scholars, writers and poets is added to that of the old one: Max Weinreich, Zalman Rayzen, Max Erik, Moyshe Kulbak, Chaim Grade, Abraham Sutskever; moreover, the sculptor Mark Antokolski; the pianist Leopold Godowski; the violinist virtuoso Jascha Heifetz grace the City and beginning with the legendary "Vilna Balabesl", the City became a Conservatory for Jewish Cantors.

Vilna housed the Strashun Library - the richest public collection of Jewish books in possession of Eastern European Jews, the publishing house of Widow and Brothers Rom, which provided Ashkenazim, Sephardim and even Karaites with books.

The most beautiful editions of the Talmud, Babylonian and Palestinian, the Prayer Book "Ozar Hatefilot", the "Midrash Rabbah" with commentaries and numerous other publications to which a large number of celebrities, scholars and proof readers piously devoted their lives - these are among the most beautiful gifts that Vilna bestowed upon the Jewish people.

In Vilna, one meets everywhere Yeshiva students or modern teachers who fulfill the Talmud dictum: "A morsel of bread with salt thou must eat, and water by measure thou must drink... the while thou toilest in the Torah". Here the study of the Torah is pursued day and night. There are Jews here to whom study is as natural as breathing, and Jews who are geniuses in the love of fellowmen and in extending a helping hand to others.

And a remarkable thing is not only Vilna Jewry, but also Vilna as a City is an image that radiates Jewishness, devotion, sincerity, a beauty that enchants not only with external dazzle, but with soul, not with boast, but with sincerity.

"You are a Psalter spelled in clay and iron
A Prayer is every stone, a Melody is every wall."

Thus sings the Poet Moyshe Kulbak. Only, he, who has been privileged to behold Jewish Vilna, will grasp the full sense of Kulbak's words. Jewish Vilna was an environment whose walls, corners and cellars breathed memories of gigantic intellects, reminiscences of self-sacrifice for Jewishness, of reverence of God and Man, of charity and the thirst for knowledge.

But, the unfathomable beauty of Vilna is especially revealed in its poor simple Jews, shoemakers, porters, toilers. Let us take, for example, one radiant figure! Shimole Kaftan. He came to Vilna around the middle of the nineteenth century, where he lived in poverty and loneliness. He sustained himself by hard labor in the evenings by

pressing tobacco leaves or by twisting rope. In the daytime, he was occupied otherwise. He goes around "from one puddle into another" with an alms tin in his hand, calling: "Drop a half-penny!" and nobody refuses him. Jews run after him with their pennies. Later on, he is come upon wherever poverty dwells, where children cry for bread, in the homes of poor willows and impoverished householders, poor lying-in women and the sick in need of medication. He saves orphans from disease and sees to it that the Yeshiva students do not go hungry.

A Polish Poet wrote a Poem about him. "The Jewish Alms Collector." and Y.L. Peretz translated it into Yiddish. The Poem tells that after Midnight, Shmuel Kaftan sits in a tavern bent over a book, chewing a few chick peas. He ignores the mockery of the people about him. They are drunk, given to buffoonery; and his face is sad, his eyes full of yearning. He is far from here, far from all taverns. His soul soars afar, and its destination is Zion.

"What prompts you to do this?" he was once asked. And his reply was: "Shapsel, the ChimneySweep who donated his house to a Yeshiva, retaining for himself the garret, whence he would listen in rapture to the sound of the study below."

The writer of these lines who lived for a while in Vilna and was a co-founder of "Young Vilna" was privileged to absorb the spirit of the City, where even the poorest were the bearers of refinement and spiritual exaltation. The readiness of self-sacrifice for justice and the dignity of man, inherited from many holy generations, was also glowing in the modern Jews. So many secularist Jews who lived the life of saints and did not know it.

What shall I compare thee, Vilna, Holy Jewish community? Every Jew- a page of Talmud; a chapter of the Psalms, a Song of Faith and Sorrow, a Silent Cry, a Humble Chant.

And we knew not how good we had it!

ESTATE LIQUIDATION - FOR SALE - FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED

- | | |
|--|----------|
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LITHUANIA- A Hidden Tip for Collectors & Researchers. H. Logsch
Part XVIII- continued from page 8713

XLVII - LOCAL ISSUES of LITHUANIA

March 4, 1919 - SOUTH LITHUANIA (Grodno) LOCAL PROVISIONAL ISSUE

This issue also has a truly interesting Historical Background. The City and District of the Grodno Situation upto and after the evacuation of German Troops of the OberOst Military Administration.

belonged to the Bialystok-Grodno District. In the City of Grodno is found a Military Field PostOffice to which is attached a Civilian 13-6 PostOffice, both operated by the Ober Ost Military Administration. The Designation of "South Lithuania" was traced back by the Military Administration to Historical Literature.

This was not customary, judging from the Official Correspondence of the Military Administration. It is quite probable that they first introduced it in the Transitional Phase of the Introduction of the Lithuanian Administration. The approximately 200,000 Inhabitants of the Grodno District were in the main: White Russians - 125,000; Russians - 13,000; Jews - 40,000; and Poles - 11,500. The Population of the Lithuanians here was estimated at scarcely 3,000.

In the Winter 1918/1919, with the Evacuation of the German Troops and the Abolition of the Military Administration, the question arose as to which Government had the Best Claim to the Territory. The Lithuanians, with the Assistance of the German Government and the White Russian Population remained, after all, the Victor.

The Post Office was handed over to the Lithuanians by the German Military Administration, and the Assigned Lithuanian PostMaster, a White Russian installed. Hardly had the German Troops withdrawn from Grodno when the District was Occupied by a White Russian Volunteers.

With the Approval of the Lithuanian Government, this Odd Administration by a White Russian Minister was installed in Grodno, thus placing it under the Lithuanian Sphere of Influence. The Common Managed PostOffice remained under further Lithuanian Administration.

From Unobjectional Evidence and Documents, the Lithuanian Post Master in Grodno documented that the Stock of Lithuanian Postage Stamps was exhausted at the End of February 1919 and the resupply from Kaunas was delayed in forthcoming. On the Proposal of the PostMaster, with the Approval of the White Russian-Lithuanian Administration, the Production of a Provisional Local Issue was authorized.

The Basic Postage Stamp Stock for this Local Provisional Issue was Czarist Russian Postage Stamp Issues of 1909/1911 and Three Imperforate Values of the 1917/1922 Issue, that were found in the Post Office Storehouse.

These Stamps were Surcharged with a Five-line Text in both the Lithuanian and Russian Cyrillic Alphabets. The Surcharge was applied to Sheet Panes of 25 Stamps (5x5) in Black (B) or Red (R) and they are Comb Perforated 14½.



				Russia	
				No.	Issue
L1 - 50sk./ 1 kop.	Orange	(Imperforate)	(B)	#109	50
L2 - 50sk./ 3 kop.	Red		(B)	# 66	500
a	Double Print				
L3 - 50sk./ 5 kop.	Lilac		(B)	# 68	500
a	Imperforate			#113	25
L4 - 50sk./10 kop.	Blue		(R)	# 70	500
L5 - 50sk./15 kop.	BrownLilac/Blue		(B)	# 72	500
a	Imperforate			#115	20
b	Last Line Missing				
L6 - 50sk./25 kop.	Green/Violet		(R)	# 74	500
L7 - 50sk./35 kop.	BrownLilac/Brown		(B)	# 75	500
L8 - 50sk./50 kop.	Lilac/Green		(B)	# 76	500
L9 - 50sk./70 kop.	Brown/Orange		(B)	# 77	500

Minor Printing Defects and accidents are no rarity'. The greatest Printing Variety is a type of an exclamation point after the word "skatiku" in Cliche No. 6 (!)

The stamps were sold from the Post Office window on March 4, 1919 and were quickly sold out. However, they remained valid for franking purposes even after the receipt of additional regular Lithuanian postage stamp issues. It gives unobjectional genuinely used covers with cancellation dates to the end of April 1919. Loose stamps and on piece, as such, have been seen, without exception, cancelled with the UnDated, Violet, Circular, Two-Ring Cancel: "GRODNENSKAJA POCHTOVO-TELEGRAFI" with "KONTORA" within the Bridge. After the occupation of Grodno by the Poles, the era of the White-Russian Lithuanian Administration ended.

CAUTION: FORGERIES of the Surcharge and the Cancel exist on both Covers and on Stamps.

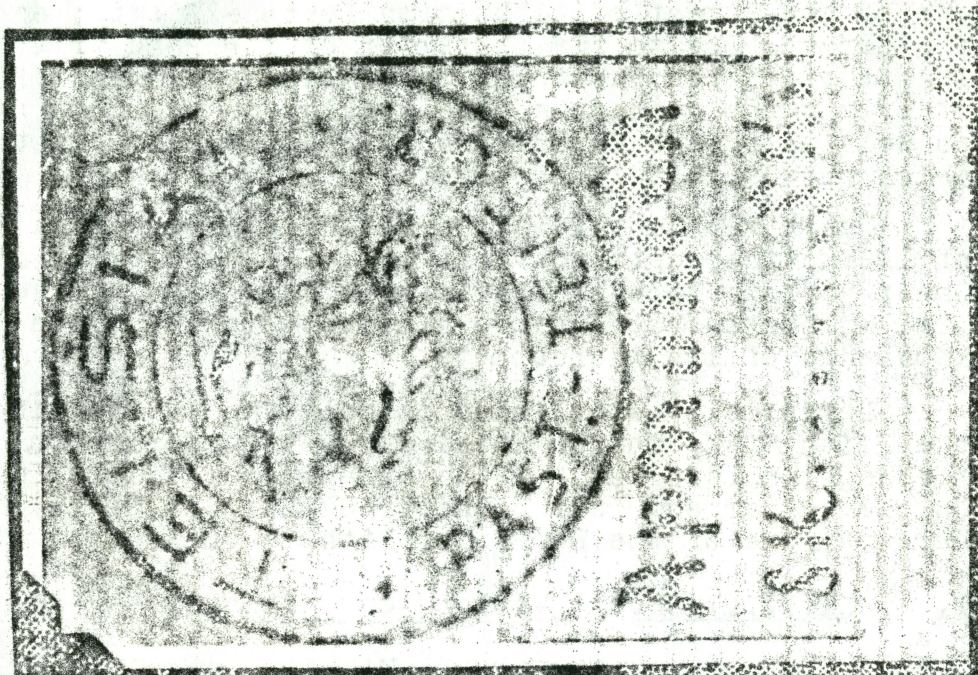
3. TELSIAI POSTMASTERS PROVISIONAL ISSUE of JANUARY 14, 1920

Like the two foregoing issues, the Telsiai PostMasters Provisional Issue owes its existence to the disorders of the years 1918-1920. TELSIAI, a small town of 8,000 inhabitants in NorthWestern Lithuania was, beginning with the last days of December 1919, overrun with the Repatriation Troops of the "Eiserne" Volunteer Division and the remainder of the dissolution of the Bermond-Awalow Army.

The masses of soldiers daily overflowed the town and they attempted to send letters to their relatives from this Local PostOffice. For such a rush, the local PostOffice was not prepared. On January 10, 1920, the stock of the postage stamps on hand came to an end. The postal personnel sought, in the next few days, to expedite the situation by stamping the PostOffice Official Seal on the letters and by writing thereunder the amount of the paid postal tariff.

It soon became evident that this method of dispatch for the large rush temporarily overloaded the Post Office personnel and led to attendant long lines of prospective users.

On suggestion by the Later Well-Known Lithuanian Philatelist Dr. J. Mikulskis, and after much preliminary discussion, the PostOffice finally agreed to consider the Production of a Provisional Local Postage Stamp Issue by the Simplest Means at Hand. The Design of the Original Sheet Pane was furnished by Dr. J. Mikulskis, personally.



For the Design, Dr. Mikulskis drew on a Sheet of Plain Note Paper 18 Vertical Rectangles $34\frac{1}{2}$ mm. x 48mm. in Three Horizontal Rows of Six such Pockets. In each of these Pockets was the Telšiai Official PostOffice Seal placed Above, and thereunder in Manuscript "Vipneka" (Paid) and below that: "sk.....sk." inserted. The Gap between the Two "sk." was left for the Entry of the Postal Tariff Paid Amount.

The Overall Size of the Sheet of 18 Stamps was 165mm. x 209mm. on which Above and Below are found Blank Margins of 7mm. to 10mm. The Whole Sheet was Reproduced on a Hektograph Plate, and of these there were 25 Sheets produced of which 22 Sheets were on Unlined White Note Paper and 3 Sheets were on White Lined Note Paper.

The Sheets were Produced on January 13, 1920 and were affixed to Letters and PostCards at the PostOffice Window on Jan. 14, 1920. For Franking Purposes, they were used only on this day and the day after- when on January 15, 1920, a ReSupply of Lithuanian Postage Stamps was received from Kaunas, and the subsequent use of the Provisional Issue was withdrawn.

It has been established that the best part of this Provisional Issue was only on these Two Days Cancelled; but, in ignorance, the stamps were considered as Old Paper without any Philatelic Value.

There is much evidence that this Telšiai Provisional Local Issue was genuinely used for Franking Purposes. Such preserved genuinely used Covers and Cards are extremely Rare. Known also are Letters with this Franking that were sent by Dr. J. Mikulski to various Postage Stamp Dealers, Catalog Publishers and Collectors in Germany amongst which were to Michel, to Borek, to Senf and to Kossack.

This Provisional Issue was subsequently acknowledged as a Regular Lithuanian Issue by the Lithuanian Postal Administration. The particular circumstances of its Origin was reported in the Publication: "The Lithuanian Post", the Official Organ of the Lithuanian Postal Administration, Year Issue 1925, on page 25.

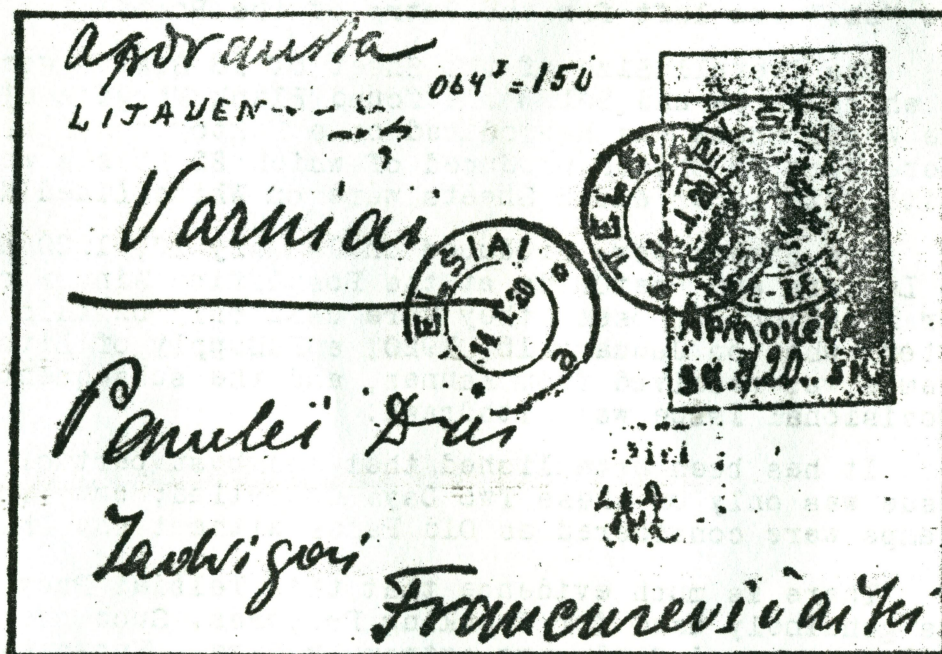
Undoubtedly, this Telsiai PostMaster Provisional Local Issue is one of the Rarest of Lithuanian Postage Stamps; and, overall, possibly the Rarest. Due to the Character of its Hand Written Production, the 18 stamps of the Sheet can be distinguished individually, one from the other, by the number and the spacing of the dots between the "sk....s" as well as by the Variations in the Lettering or the Hand Written Line which are Definitely Distinct.

Positive Identification of their Arrangement in the Sheet is still lacking, upto now. It had been reported that such a Single Full Sheet of this Telsiai Provisional Issue was in the possession of Dr. Mikulskis; but, since his death in 1960, his family has no knowledge of its whereabouts.

Definitely established is only the outstanding Error in Cliche # the Fifth Stamp in the Third and Bottom Horizontal Row on which is missing the Left "sk." With a Maximum Possible Issue of 22 Sheets on Unlined Paper and Only 3 Sheets on Lined Note Paper, makes this Error Variety, one of the Rarest of Lithuanian Postage Stamps.

1.	"SK.....SK."	Violet	On Unlined Note Paper	396
a.			On Lined Note Paper	54
b.			Missing Left "SK" Unlined	22
c.			Missing Left "SK" Lined	3

CAUTION: This Stamp should, in no case, be exposed to SunLight for any extended time- as the Hektograph Ink Color will quickly Fade Away.



CAPEX '87 - Toronto, Canada - June 13-21, 1987
An F.I.P. Sponsored Philatelic Exhibition

ENTRIES of INTEREST to LPSNYers

DISINFECTED MAIL (Austro-Hungarian) VERMEIL AWARD
LPSNYer Jozef Kuderewicz (USA)

BARANQUILLA, COLUMBIA LARGE SILVER
LPSNYer Vytautas Stasiukynas (Columbia)

ESTONIA, 1919-1940 SILVER
Warren F. Dickson (Canada)
Proofs, Covers, A Study of Postal Rates (6 Frames)
The Proofs were mostly of the Early Issues, The Balance
a good study of rates on covers from the Independence Period.

AIR MAIL in the NORDIC COUNTRIES, Inc. ESTONIA LARGE VERMEIL
1912-1946 Edwin Rasmussen (Denmark)

POSTAL HISTORY of LATVIA, 1780-1915 (5 Frames) VERMEIL
LPSNYer Arnold Engel (USA)
Letters, Covers, PostMarks, Postal Routes used in the
Province of Livonia and Kurland. This area covered
much of the three Baltic States. A very interesting
Exhibit of the 18th and 19th century material.

POLAND AIR POST to 1939 GOLD
James Mazepa

POLAND and its PEOPLE, WORLD WAR II LARGE SILVER
Thomas Gobeay

POSTAL HISTORY of KATOWICE to 1959 SILVER
Piotr Malesz (Canada)

POLAND, 1720-1945 LARGE SILVER
LPSNYer Miet Kamienski (Canada)
Postal usage in lands which became Polish after 1918.
Includes Stamps, Covers, Military Mail, Local Issues,
First Scheduled Air Mail Services, Central Lithuania,
and Western Ukraine. Mostly Czarist material with some
items from Vilnius during both Czarist & Polish Invasions.

AROUND THE RUSSIAN BORDERS, Oct. 1917 - Oct. 1922 LARGE VERMEIL
RUSSIA'S CIVIL WARS Moishe Shmueli (Israel)

SOVIET AIR MAIL, Early Years LARGE VERMEIL
Many "Deruluft" Covers G. Ackerman (USA)

THE LETTER in FLIGHT LARGE SILVER
Vsevolod Pritule (USSR)
Write Up in Russian and English included Air Mail
material from the Baltic Countries, "Deruluft" and
"Zepellin" Flights.

IMPERIAL RUSSIAN CENSORSHIP MARKS on MAILS LARGE SILVER
Mieczyslaw Iubinski (Canada)
This Exhibit really centered on St. Petersburg, but
there was also a RIGA and a VILNIUS Cover. Perhaps
there may have been more, but my limited knowledge
of the Russian Language doesn't go much beyond those
two cities.

Note: The commentary is by LPSNYer Fred W. Baumgartner.

A chance of a life-time recently occurred, when a lot of some eight hundred old Lithuanian covers from the period of 1919-1926 was auctioned off in Germany and found its way into Lithuanian hands.

Practically, the entire lot of the covers was mainly the correspondence of a single individual, a resident of Anykščiai through Lithuania's formative years:

Dr. Med. Hermann Sumacher
Anykščiai, District of Utena.

The correspondence was mainly with but two addressees, one in Germany and the other in Latwija.

Rechtsanwalt Dr. Jur. Horst Berkowitz or his wife Ernestine
Hannover, Germany. Errinstr. 3

and to
Rosa Schumacher
Julianner iela 47
Liepaja, Latwija.

The town of Anykščiai in 1923 had a population of only 3711 inhabitants. Dr. Sumacher may have been the only medical doctor in town, which also most likely had but a single apothecary (drug store). During the period of 1920-1921, we find 150 covers addressed to these two, of which 130 are Registered and only 20 were not Registered.

Registered Letters usually indicate that they contain content of value, so what might this country doctor be sending through the mails that would be of such value?

An examination of the Post Card that he sent (Not included in the above count) shows messages that relate to the offering of various issues and varieties of Postage Stamps of Lithuania. So we can deduce that, besides being in the medical profession, he also had plenty of time to be engaged in the postage stamp business. This would account for the many beautiful covers he sent franked with multiple stamps, with blox of four, and partial sets of stamps on covers.

Anykščiai was occupied by the Russian Bolsheviks in late December 1918 and raised much havoc and damage in the area. Also active in this area was the Latvian Bolshevik 15th Infantry Battalion consisting of about 600 shabbily dressed Soldiers. They were finally ousted from the area on May 19, 1919 by a Lithuanian Regiment under the leadership of K. Ladyga.

The Town inhabitants immediately set up a Command Post, organized a Militia and a Town Administration apparatus with a Post Office; however, any early 1919 mail from this Post Office was not in evidence in this accumulation. Perhaps, for good reason, as the Bermondts-Awalow Ex-Russian and German soldiers also occupied this North-Eastern part of Lithuania until July 26, 1919 and could have affected activity in Anykščiai.

Until the Lithuanian Army disposed of the Russian Bolsheviks in this area, they were not in a position to confront the Bermond-Avalow units which were in occupation of Biržai, Linkuva, Radviliškis, Šiauliai and the surrounding areas. Eventually, they were confronted and evacuated and with the aid of the League of Nations pressure, the German units withdrew from Lithuania ultimately by December 15, 1919.

Meanwhile, there was also the conflict with the Poles who were intent on occupying Lithuania from the South. This conflict began in April 1919 and continued until October 1920, when the Zeligowski units occupied Vilnius and the surrounding territory.

The Postal History of Anykščiai is thus affected by these three occupying powers: Russian, German and Polish. 1919 postal correspondence from this area is almost completely lacking.

Registered Mail posted from Anykščiai during December 1919-January 1920 addressed to Latwija, Germany and the United States was censored by the Lithuanian Military Authorities.

Besides the listed in Fugalewitsch Postal Cancellation Catalog on Page 48, the Circled "A", "B" and "C" Censor Cachets, we here find two additional such Cachets: The Circled "D" and Circled "E" Censor Cachets. This would seem to indicate that foreign destined mail all must have been forwarded to Kaunas where it was then censored by the various individuals, each with his own Circular Censor Cachet. It is inconceivable that such Lithuanian Censorship would have been applied in Anykščiai as the other covers sent from Kaunas, Skaudvile and Josvainiai, for example, also carry these same Censorship Cachets in this period of use.

In addition to the Rectangular Lithuanian Censor Cachets also illustrated on Page 48 of Fugalewitsch's Postal Cancellation Catalog, 36x13mm. in size, which have been seen used on the destined Foreign Registered Letters

Cenzuruotas
No. 1

Cenzuruotas
No. 2

we find other, hitherto unlisted Lithuanian Censoring Cachets

Cenzorius
No. ?

(illegible)

This Censor Cachet was found on a Registered Letter No. 270 sent from ANYKŠCIAI * * *, a 30mm. diam Circular Violet Cancel dated: 12.III.1920 and was addressed to Frau E. Berkowitz in Hannover, Germany where it was received on 24.3.20 as evidenced by the Receiving Back Stamp.

Otherwise, All Mail, Registered or UnRegistered, sent from Anykščiai, in this Lot of Covers addressed to Berkowitz in Hannover, Germany by Dr. H. Sumacher, passed through the Königsberg, Prussian Censorship Office, and received their M.P.k. Censorship Cachet, their size varying from 18x8mm. to 19x11mm., evidencing varying degrees of wear and use.

At times, the Hannover, Germany destined letters received a M.P.k.
D Königsberg Censor Cachet indicating that the letter had passed through the Customs Office for the examination of its contents for dutiable enclosures.

Blue and Black Cachets are seen in sizes: 19x14mm., 19x15mm., 18x12mm., 18x13mm. in all stages of wear and usage. This Cachet also appeared on some Post Cards whose messages were written in German. Why? such should have been checked and passed by the Königsberg Customs Censor Office is a little puzzling at this point.

Evidently, not all such M.P.k. and M.P.k.
D Cacheted letters are necessarily opened for examination as we find some of the letters that had been opened, were ReSealed with a Gray-White Sealing Strip, 88x54mm. with the following translated text:

Opened pursuant to Regulation of
15 November 1918 (R.G.Bl.S. 1524
The Post Control results from tax
interest and on economic grounds.
Post Control Office Berlin W. 8

However, most of the Registered Letters originating in Anykšciai between July 13, 1920 and September 30, 1921 that were opened for Censorship examination or Customs (only 1.) bore a different Sealing Strip: 90x63mm. / 93x58mm. that came in varying Strip colors:

2	Orange	5.XI.20	&	30.XI.20
2	Rose	3. 5.21	&	12. 8.21
2	DkGray	30.IX.21	&	11.IX.21
1	Tan	30. X.20		
3	Violet	15.VII.20	&	27.VII.20 & 3.VIII.20
9	Yellow	Between 23.VIII.20 to 30.IX.20		
		and 10. V. 21		to 14.VII.21
9	Gray	Between 12.VIII. 20 to 8.XIII.21		
		and 15.VI. 21		to 19.VII.21

The evidence seems to indicate that the Sealing Strips were printed on whatever available paper was at hand and were thus used indiscriminately.

However, on two of these Sealing Stripped Covers, dated 12.VIII.21 and 30.IX.21, we find additional evidence to support the allegation that Dr. H. Sumacher was engaged in the Postage Stamp business. An additional affixed Sealing Strip bore this text, translated:

Main Customs Office
Contents: Postage Stamps
Contents: ~~Goods~~

(Mss. Hannover)

(Crossed Out)

This will tie in with the many Registered Letters that were sent by Dr. H. Sumacher to Attorney H. Berkowitz.

Now Anykšciai is located on the PANEVEŽYS-UTENA Rail Line (Narrow Gauge). In this Lot were Five Covers with a 26mm. diam. Circular Rail Wagon No. 9-10 Cancel, dated 11.XI.25 to 29.VII.27 and one UTENA-PANEVEŽYS Rail Wagon No. 10 a Oval Cancel (illegible)

1921-1940 AIR MAIL SERVICE in LITHUANIA. SPECIAL FLIGHTS.

For the German Philatelic Society, Chapter #2's Entry in competition for the Vincent Domanski Trophy in the SEPAD '87 Philatelic Exhibition to be held in October 16-18, 1987 in Philadelphia, Pa., LPSNYer WALTER E. NORTON entered this One-Frame Exhibit as part of the German Philatelic Society Chapter #2's Five Frame Ex.

Page 1 - Title Page: AIR MAIL SERVICE in LITHUANIA, 1921-1940

Page 2 - 1921-1922: Pioneer Air Service by Lloyd Ostflug.

Foreign Letter Sent Lloyd Ostflug Kowno to Aabenraa, Denm.
22½AuksPostage by 14.VI.1922 16.VI.22

Letter Flown By Air from Kaunas to Berlin.
Lith. Frankinf: Nos. 53, 56-57, 59-60, 99, 101-106, C7

Page 3 - 1921-1926: Pioneer Air Service by Deutsche Luft Reederei

Foreign Letter Sent K A U N A S to LIBAU, LATVIA vis Königsberg
10Auks.Postage from 20.IX.21 20.IX.21

Lithuanian Franking: C1 - C7

Page 4 - 1922-1926: Pioneer Air Service by Deutsche Luft Reederei

Foreign Letter Sent K A U N A S to ROESSEL, Germ.via Königsberg
20Auks.Postage from 26.XI.22

Lithuanian Franking: #108, C18-C20

Page 5 - 1922-1926: Pioneer Air Service by Deutsche Luft Reederei

Philatelic Letter Sent K A U N A S to DANZIG, Germany
25Auks. Postage from 20.VII.22 22.VII.22

Lithuanian Franking: C15-C17, C18-C20

Page 6 - 1922-1926: Pioneer Air Service by Deutsche Luft Reederei

Foreign Letter Sent K A U N A S to BERLIN, Germany
1.80Lt.Postage from 26.IX.24 27. 9. 24

Lithuanian Franking: C27, C27a, C28, C30, C30a

Page 7 - 1922-1926: Pioneer Air Service bu Deutsche Luft Reederei

Philatelic Letter Sent LIEPAJA, Latvija to KLAIPEDA
30Rg. Postage from 7.VII.24 7.VII.24

Latvian Franking: C1-C2

Page 8 - 1927: DERULUFT AIR LINE- FIRST FLIGHT: KAUNAS to MOSCOW

FirstFlightLetter Sent K A U N A S to LENINGRAD, USSR
2.20Lt & 16Auk. from 20.V.27 24.5.27

Lithuanian Franking: C18-C20, C35, C37-C39

Page 9 - 1928: FIRST FLIGHT: GRAF ZEPPELLIN: UNITED STATES to KAUNAS

Post Card Sent C H I C A G O to VEFRIAI, Lithuania
55¢ U.S. from 25.X.28 5.XI.28

United States Franking: #552, 554, 570

Page 10- DARIUS-GIRENAS TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT: NEW YORK to KAUNAS

Flight Cover #664 Sent BROOKLYN, NY to KAUNAS, Lithuania
5¢ US from July 15, 1933 17.VII.1933

Page 10-cont'd.

- Flight Cover #664 Returned via Surface Mail

Registered Letter No.169 Sent K A U N A S to NEW YORK, NY
1.40 Lt. Postage from 13.VII.33 7.29.33

Lithuanian Franking: #223, 235 (2), 20st. DG Flight

Page 11- 10th SOUTH AMERICAN "GRAF ZEPPELIN" FLIGHT - 1934

Registered Letter #160 Sent K A U N A S to BRAZIL via BERLIN
7.65 Lt. Franking from 26.X.34 31.X.34 C. 12

Lithuanian Franking: #212, 292 (2) C81, C84

Page 12- 1935- FELIX WAITKUS TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT: NEW YORK to KAUNA

Flight Cover #328 Sent BROOKLYN, NY to KAUNAS, Lithuania
6¢ U.S. from Sep 21, 1935 2.X.25

- Flight Cover #328 Returned via Surface Mail

Registered Letter #324 Sent K A U N A S to KOHLER, WISC.
1.20 Lt. Postage from 31.X.35 Nov.11, 1935

Lith. Franking: C79, C81 & 40ct. Waitkus Flite Commem.

Page 13- 1936: 3rd NORTH AMERICAN ZEPPELIN LAL29 HINDENBURG FLIGHT

Registered Letter #168 Sent JONISKIS to NEW YORK, N.Y.
4.90 Lt. Postage from 13.VI.36 Jun 22, 1936

Lithuanian Franking: #292, C83, C86-C87

Page 14- 1938: POLISH "LOT" AIR SERVICE: FIRST FLIGHTS from LITHUANI

FIRST FLIGHT COVER Sent K A U N A S to VILNIUS
40ct. Postage from 16.VII.38 16.VII.38

Lithuanian Franking: C80 (Printed Matter)

- FIRST FLIGHT COVER Sent K A U N A S to WARSZAWA, Poland
40ct. Postage from 16.VII.38 16.VII.38

Lithuanian Franking for Printed Matter: C80

Page 15- LITHUANIAN AIR LINE: FIRST FLIGHT: KAUNAS to PALANGA, 1939.

Registered Letter #135 Sent K A U N A S to PALANGA
60ct. Postage from 1939.VI.3 3.VI.39

Lithuanian Franking: C79, C80

Page 16- TRANSATLANTIC "CLIPPER" FLIGHTS: FIRST FLIGHT AIR SERVICE
FRANCE - ETATS UNIS via WASHINGTON? D.C. to NEW YORK

Registered Letter #502 Sent K A U N A S to NEW YORK, N.Y.
15.90 Lt. Postage from 5.I.40 JAN.31, 1940

Via. WASHINGTON, D.C. JAN. 30, 1940

Lithuanian Frankings: #224, #295, #307, #309

MEMBERS MAIL AUCTION

FINAL DATE for BIDS: OCTOBER 15, 1987

Mail Bids to: M.E. Norton, 2647 Eddington St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19127 U.S.A.
 Postage, Handling, Registration & Insurance will be EXTRA.

ABBREVIATIONS: E- Envelope; M- Mint; P- Proof; Pc- Piece; PC- PostCard; S- Stamps;
 PS- Postal Stationery; R- Registered; Y- Used; V- Variety;
 (Scott Nos. or LPSNY Handbook Variety Nos. Used)

LotNo.	Code	L	I	T	H	U	A	N	I	A	MinBid
800	E	PreStamp Stampless: Sept. 5, 1937 SERNY to SERNY									20.00
801	EPS	Czarist 7k. SIAULIAI 4.XI.83 via PostWagon to PODOLSK									6.00
802	PSPC	Czarist 4k. VILNA 22.8.07 to BERLIN 5.9.07									5.00
803	SM	#1, 10sk. Position #2, Mint, VF									55.00
804	SPcU	#1, 10sk. " #12, GRODNO Circ. Cancel									36.00
805	SUPc	#1, 10sk. " #20, " "									36.00
806	SUPc	#3, 10sk. " #16, " "									27.50
807	SU	#3, 10sk. Hor. Pair, Pos'n #4, KAUNAS *a* -8.I.19									37.50
808	SUPc	#4, 15sk. Position #18, GRODNO Circ. Cancel									27.50
809	SU	#4, 15sk. Pos'n #17-18, Hor. Pair; GRODNO Circ. Cancel									50.00
810	SUPc	#5, 20sk. " #20, " "									6.00
811	SUPc	#7, 40sk. " #19, " "									6.00
812	SUPc	#8, 50sk. " #18, " "									6.00
813	SUV	#10a, "5" Error, Pos'n #10- KAUNAS *a* 1.II.19									27.50
814	PC	#17, 40sk. KAUNAS *a* 27.VI.19 to TIBSIP / MPE; Censor									17.50
815	SUPc	#20-#26, 3rd Kaunas Issue, KAUNAS *a* Cancels									6.00
816	SUPc	#22, sk.20sk. Reconstructed Sheet from Singles KAUNAS *a* 20.00									20.00
817	E	#27-#29, 1st Berlin Issue, Unaddressed KAUNAS *a* 2.II.19									20.00
818	E	#30-#39, 2nd Berlin Issue, Sheetlet- VILKAVISKIS *a* 15.V.19									7.50
819	SM	#37, 1auk. 2nd Berlin Issue Block of 15 (5x3) Imperf. VR									12.50
820	PVM	#38, 3auk. Proof: Double Center, One Inverted, Mint Single									20.00
821	SM	#42, 20sk. Top Margin Block of 4- Imperf.									4.00
822	SM	#42, 20sk. Imperf. Right Margin Block of 15 (5x3)									12.50
823	SMV	#48, 3auk. Imperf. Single, Center Shift Left 2mm.									3.00
824	SM	#49, 5auk. Imperf. Right Margin Block of 15 (5x3)									12.50
825	SUPc	#50-#54, #56-#58, KAUNAS *a* Bulls Eye Cancels									1.50
826	SMV	#55h, 50sk. Dot After Lietuvos, Mint Single									2.50
827	SMV	#56c, 60sk. Double Center, Imperf.									2.50
828	SMV	#57e, 75sk. Center Shift 1mm Right, Right Margin Single									1.00
829	SMV	#58b, 1auk. " " 1mm Left, Imperf. Hor. Pair									2.00
830	SM	#70-#80, 2nd Independence Issue, Mint Singles									10.00
831	SM	#81-#91, 1st Assembly Issue, Mint Singles									4.00
832	SM	#93, 15sk. Perf. 11 1/2. No Gum & #95, 20sk. Imperf Vert. Wmk									4.50
833	SU	#95, 20sk. Perf. Vert. Wmk & #96, 40sk. Perf. Hor. Wmk									2.00
834	SM	#97-#115, 2 Sets. Mint Singles, Light Hinged									5.00
835	SM	#116-#119c, De Jure Issue, Mint Singles									2.25
836	SU	#165-#173, #189-#193, 208-209, #279-#282, Used Singles									2.00
837	SMU	#210-#215, Mint & Used (2 Sets) & #233-#240 Used Singles									1.00
838	E	#215, 25ct. (2) KLAIPEDA 20.II.28 to Konigsberg									4.00
839	SM	#216, 5ct. Wmk Parquetry, Mint Single									12.00
840	S	#219-#222, Mint & Used (2 Sets) & #223-#225 Used Set									7.00
841	E	#222, 5ct. Printed Matter, KONISKIS *a* 14.IX.28 to Riga									3.50
842	E	#234, 5ct. KYBARTAI-RYGA b Rail Wagon Cancel 1932									5.00
843	E	#235, 10ct. (2), KLAIPEDA *P* to Konigsberg (Printed Matter)									3.50
844	E	#235, 10ct. (2), KLAIPEDA PASTAS M -6.IV.32 to Konigsberg									4.50
845	E	#237, 15ct. (2), KYBARTAI-SIAULIAI No. 6b Rail Cncl									6.00
846	SV	#242, 2ct. on Card Autographed by Artist Adomas Varnas									5.00
847	E	#247, 30ct. (2) KLAIPEDA xxx -4.VI.30 to Konigsberg									4.50
848	SM	#256-#263 Perf. & #272-#277b, Perf. Mint Singles									14.00
849	SM	#277c-#277k, Perf. & Imperf. Mint Singles (2 Sets)									14.00

MAIL AUCTION, October 15, 1987 - continued

Lot	Color	I	T	H	U	A	N	I	A	MinBid
852	S	#283-#285, Smetona 60th Birthday Issue, Mint Singhes								10.00
853	E	#283-#285 Used; #298-#300 Mint & Used (2 Sets) & #317-#322M								.75
854	S	#284 (2)- Mach Cncl "PIRKIME...; KAUNAS CENTR. 14.IX.35								4.00
855	E	#286-#295, Definitive Issue, Mint Singles								15.00
856	SMU	#288, #289 (2), KAUNAS CENTR. *H* -4.VII.35 to USA								4.50
857	SM	#306-#309 M&U 2 Sets, & #310-#313 Mint Singles								6.50
858	SM	#309A, Souvenir Sheet, Mint Light Hinged								6.00
859	SM	#309B, " " Imperf. Mint NH								12.50
860	SMV	#309B, " " " Mint, Light Hingrd								9.00
861	SM	#314-#316, Mint & Used, 2 Sets, Singles								3.00
862	SU	#314-#316, Imperf. Mint Singles								20.00
863	SMV	#316A, Souvenir Sheet, Mint, Light Hinged								5.00
864	PC	#316A, " " CTO N.VILNIA 2, 23.8.40								4.00
865	SU	#319, 15ct. & #321, 30ct. Imperf. Hor. Pairs								10.00
866	SM	B44 15+5ct. & C79, 20ct. PANEVEZYS *a* 23.X.38 to Liechtenstein								5.50
867	E	B47-B50, Scouts Issue, Used Singles								17.50
868	E	C1-C20, 4 Sets, Mint Singles								14.00
869	SM	C8-C14, KAUNAS *L* 12.IX.22 to LIEPAJA 12.9.22								17.50
870	SM	Back Only: C15-C17, NEW YORK REG'D 8.1.38 Cncl (Oddity)								15.00
871	E	C21-C31, Surcharges, Mint Singles								11.00
872	E	C32-C35 & CB1-CB4, Mint Singles								25.00
873	PC	C34, (2) Registered MALETAI *a* 19.V.21 to USA (on Back)								6.00
874	SMU	C38, #235 (2) KLAIPEDA PASTAS o 25.III.33 to London								5.00
875	SMU	C40, #213 KLAIPEDA *a* -9.XII.30 to Germany								5.00
876	E	C47-C54, Perf. & Imperf. Mint & Used- 4 Sets								28.00
877	SM	C55-C62, Perf. & Imperf. Mint (2 Sets)								14.00
878	E	C55, #233, KLAIPEDA PASTAS o -7.XII.32 to Vienna								10.00
879	E	C63-C70, Perf. Mint Singles								7.00
880	SM	C63, C65, C70, KAUNAS CENTR. *e* 12.V.33 to USA(GWLinn)								15.00
881	SMU	C67, 272, 275-276, MachCncl: "PIRKIME..." to Austria								10.00
882	E	C71-C78, Perf. & Imperf. 2 Sets, Mint Singles								14.00
883	E	C79-C84, Darius-Girenas Sets, Mint & Used (2 Sets)								4.50
884	E	C81, 60ct. D&G, BARZDAI *a* 18.XI.40 to USA								5.00
885	SU	WAITKUS Flight Cover #577 with 6¢ US & C80 (ALTASS Cover)								125.00
886	SU	CB2-CB4, KAUNAS *a* 12.II.24 to Libau-2.III.24								22.00
887	PC	2N9-2N16, Vert. Margin Pairs, CTO N.VILNIA 2 14.I.41								7.00
888	E	2N9-2N16, Margin Blox of 4, CTO N.VILNIA 2 Cncl in Center								16.00
889	PSPC	AirCover: Germany C21, #330 BERLIN 3.10.24-KAUNAS-RASEINIAI								12.50
890	PSPC	FIRST FLIGHT: WILNO-KAUNAS 15.VII.1938								20.00
891	PSE	H&G #5, 15cent. SIAULIAI *a* 9.IV.27 to Germany(2PunchHoles)								6.00
892	PSE	H&G #15, 15ct. JUODKRANTE *a* 14.XII.33 to Berlin								7.00
893	E	H&G Letter Sheet #1, 25 cent. Mint								6.00
894	E	H&G Envelope #1, 25 cent. Mint								6.00
895	E	METER: LIETUVOS BANKAS KAUNAS CENTR. 1.7.38 to Belgium								12.50
896	E	D.P. 4-Line FREE FRANK, BritishZone to Lith Consul NewYork								12.00
897	SM	D.P. PCIRO Area Team 1062, APO #178 (Augsburg) to USA								7.50
898	SM	D.P. BritishZone, Army FieldPost #432, 12.X.46 to LithConsul								8.00
899	SM	1941 Local: PANEVEZYS Violet Ovpt Set 4 Values Mint Sgls								12.50
		1941 " " Red Ovpt Set 3 Values Mint Sgls								20.00
		Lith. Official PostOffice Seal, Mint Hor. Pair, Perf								2.50

UNSOLD LOTS - AVAILABLE at MinBid Prices Listed

#700, 701, 702, 703, 708, 715, 743, 781, 795

#713, 714, 719, 722, 723, 724, 727, 728, 729, 730, 733, 746

#753, 757, 765, 770, 775, 782, 784, 785, 786, 787, 791, 792