

Vatican Notes

Volume VI

March - April 1958

Number 5

VATICAN CITY PHILATELIC NEWS

LOURDES CENTENNIAL - On February 21, 1958, the Vatican released a set of six commemorative stamps (Scott 233-238) to mark the 100th anniversary of the



Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette at Lourdes, France from February 11th to July 16th, 1858. The issue consists of three designs all executed by Miss Casmira Dabrowska, well-known Vatican designer. The 5 and 25 Lire stamps are ultramarine and carmine respectively and depict the apparition of the Blessed Virgin. They were printed from plates engraved by S. Vana, Inc. The 10 and 35 Lire values are green and slate respectively and show an invalid at Lourdes. These were printed from plates engraved by F. Pagani, Inc. The 15 and 100 Lire stamps are brown and violet respectively and show St. Bernadette near the grotto with Lourdes in the

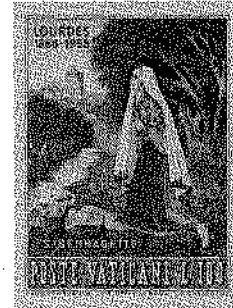
background. These were printed from plates engraved by V. Nicastro, Inc. All stamps were printed by the State Printing Office in Rome, in sheets of forty-five stamps with standard Vatican watermark and perforations.

The Lourdes Centennial issue is not the only means by which the 100th anniversary of the eighteen apparitions will be commemorated. Pere-Marie Cardinal Gerlier, Archbishop of Lyons, and formerly the Bishop of Lourdes, inaugurated the ceremonies on February 11, 1958. The centennial year will conclude on February 11, 1959, at ceremonies presided over by Maurice Cardinal Felton, Archbishop of Paris.



A number of major celebrations will take place during the year. These include: February 18th, the feast day of St. Bernadette; March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation when the Blessed Virgin identified herself to Bernadette Soubirous by saying "I am the Immaculate Conception"; also on March 25th, the solemn consecration of the new church (honoring St. Pius X) at Lourdes by Angelo Giuseppe Cardinal Roncalli, Patriarch of Venice. This new church is an underground structure capable of seating 20,000 people. It is a part of a larger building project

which will include a 900-bed hospital for invalid pilgrims and a rest center for poor pilgrims. The new church lies to the left of the main approach to the Basilica of Lourdes. The International Mariological and Marian Congress will be held at Lourdes from September 10th to 17th. It will be attended by leading Catholic theologians of the world.

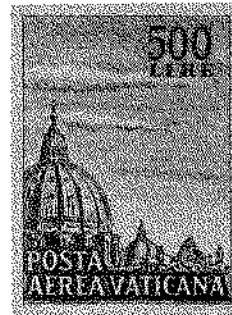


An extraordinary plenary indulgence has been granted by Pope Pius XII during this special year honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary. It may be obtained by all who worthily receive Holy Communion at Lourdes. For those who are unable to make the pilgrimage to Lourdes, the plenary indulgence may be gained by visiting a local church designated by the local Bishop and praying for the Pope's intention with the usual accompanying requirements of Confession and Communion.

It is expected that other countries will also issue commemorative stamps in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Apparitions at Lourdes. Collectors who formed topical collections of the Marian Year issues of 1954 will find another opportunity in the Lourdes issues of 1958.

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On January 31, 1958, Vatican City reissued the 500 and 1000 Lire airmail stamps of the 1953 "Dome of St. Peters" issue. The stamps (033-34) are identical to the previous issue (022-23) except for their colors. The 500 Lire stamp, which was formerly in brown, is now in dark green, and the 1000 Lire stamp has been changed from ultramarine to carmine.



VPS President William Wonneberger made the following interesting comments to the Editor concerning this issue: "The reasons behind this unprecedented move by the Vatican postal authorities at this time is unexplained. It is certainly hoped that the practice of causing new issues by simply changing colors is not to become a matter of policy. With the many worthwhile subjects available to be honored by stamps of Vatican City, there is no reason to resort to a practice which has been followed by some countries and strongly criticized by philatelists."

In connection with this issue, Matthew D. Kelly of the Delaware Valley Chapter has pointed out an interesting peculiarity in the make-up of the two stamps. It will be noted that, at least in certain sheets, the two stamps are of different size and have different perforations. As Mr. Kelly points out, if this is a common occurrence, a quick examination of other Vatican City issues does not disclose this difference. He reports that the 500 Lire stamp measures 29 x 42 mm. from the inside of the perforations which appear to be to scale 13 1/2, while the 1000 Lire stamp measures 30 x 40 mm. with perforations to scale 14. Inquiries are being made and the results thereof will be reported in the next issue of VATICAN NOTES.

VPS CHAPTER NEWS

Delaware Valley Chapter - A high mark in this chapter's activities occurred on Friday, January 31st and Saturday, February 1st when Sister Fidelma of St. Regis College of Weston, Massachusetts made her first public appearance to speak solely on the subject of stamps and exhibited parts of the Francis Cardinal Spellman Collection of which she is the Curator. Sister spoke at a meeting of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Vatican Philatelic Society held at the National Philatelic Museum, Broad and Diamond Streets in Philadelphia; the exhibits occupied the entire first floor of the Museum and, in addition to the Cardinal's stamps, included showings by Edward P. Fichter (President of the Reading Chapter), Miss Margaret Wurtz, Mr. Angelo J. Zappacosta, Joseph C. Bones, jr., William A. Johnson, M. D. Kelley, jr. and the National Philatelic Museum.

Advance notice of the meeting was given in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, the stamp column of Franklin Bruns in the Inquirer, and in the Catholic Standard and Times. On Friday between three and four hundred pupils from the seventh and eighth grades of St. Elizabeth's School attended to see the stamps, and on Saturday, despite four inches of snow, thirty-two persons came to hear Sister Fidelma and see the exhibits of Vatican City and Roman States material.

Following the regular Chapter business meeting, Sister Fidelma first traced Cardinal Spellman's interest in stamps to his school days while at the American College in Rome. She pointed out that the general public knew nothing of the Cardinal's collection until the CIPEX Show but now that the collection has been shown all over the world it has received wide acclaim. Sister Fidelma then outlined her responsibilities in connection with the collection and concluded with a description of the collection itself. Following the talk, portions of the Cardinal's collection were shown including the 1934 overprints in mint blocks and the beautiful illuminated autographed souvenir sheet bearing the signature of Pope Pius XII. Before her departure, Sister Fidelma was made an Honorary Life Member of the Chapter.

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Long Island Chapter - Under the sponsorship of Wallace R. Smith, VPS Secretary (165-15 Union Turnpike, Flushing 66, N.Y.) and Walter S. Kowalczyk (86-01 Avon Street, Jamaica 32, N.Y.) a new VPS local chapter is now in the formative stages. Regular meetings are to be held at the Morris Park Council, 123-08 Jamaica Avenue, Richmond Hill, N.Y., on the third Tuesday of each month with the organizational meeting scheduled for April 15th. Residents of Long Island who are interested in joining this group, with all the advantages of exchange of information, stamp auctions of member material and other special features, are urged to contact the sponsors.

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VPS local chapters are again invited to send in news of their activities to the Editor. Reports of elections of Chapter officers, exhibits held, and interesting talks given are among the appropriate material to submit.

BOLAFFI VATICAN CITY CATALOGUE

The specialized catalogue comprised of an English language version of the Vatican City section of "Bolaffi's Standard Catalogue of Italian Stamps" has long been awaited. The catalogue, published by S.C.O.T. Publications of Turin, Italy arrived in this country at the end of January. It is available from all Vatican dealers and from other firms at \$1.00 postpaid. Its acceptance by Vatican collectors has been enthusiastic and widespread. Comments from the beginner as well as from the advanced collector specialist have been extremely complimentary. Without a doubt it is the finest catalogue of Vatican City yet published, and its effect on Vatican philately will be tremendous. For the first time English-speaking collectors have a listing which is accurate, concise, complete and priced realistically.

The 64-page catalogue is bound between attractively colored paper covers. Four pages are given to advertising but the remaining 60 pages present the listing of all Vatican City postal issues from 1929 through 1957. Each issue includes information on values and colors, date of issue and end of postal validity, designer and engraver, reason for issuance, biographical information on persons depicted, explanation and source of design, printing details including sheet composition, printing process, paper, watermark, perforations and quantity printed. Major varieties are included in the main listings with minor variations given in footnotes. Where an issue has been reprinted, details for identifying the various printings are also given.

Stamps are grouped according to purpose as in Scott's catalogue. Symbols are used throughout to conserve space but they are readily identified by means of the Key to the Catalogue. Postal stationary is priced, illustrated and clearly identified, a long needed guide to aid the collector. A more detailed listing of stationary is promised for future editions. Catalogue numbers are according to the Bolaffi standard but each stamp is also designated by the Scott, Stanley Gibbons, Michel and Yvert & Tellier catalogue systems. Illustrations are 9/10 actual size and show every different design used thus far. Where enlargements would aid the collector to distinguish various printings, they are provided, as in the case of the 1934 overprints. The illustrations are extremely clear and identified with their respective stamps for easy reference.

Each stamp is priced individually and by sets, blocks, FDC's. Pricing is accurate and approximately that of the United States market. Collectors can use the quotations as a guide for buying and selling as there are no substantial discounts either way to be had at today's market price. The pricing feature alone makes this catalogue worth the small price.

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ERRATA

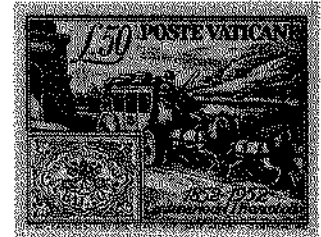
There is an omission in the fourth paragraph on page -4- of Volume VI, No. 4, January - February 1958 issue of VATICAN NOTES in the article on the Council of Chalcedon. The second sentence should read "At this session, the Emperor Marcian and the Empress Pulcheria were presentetc."

ROMAN STATES CENTENARY

On June 9, 1952, after considerable delay, the long-awaited commemorative of the first postage stamps of the Roman States was issued by the Vatican. Once again the engraved plates were used and the crossed-keys watermark was retained, but this time the paper used was cream colored. The issue comprised a single stamp and a souvenir sheet of four. The issuance of the souvenir sheet brought strong protests from the Italian Press, but it was issued nevertheless.

The design of the single stamp and those on the souvenir sheet were identical and depicted a mail coach leaving the covered Ponte Molle bridge with the hills of Rome as a background. A miniature reproduction of the 50 Bajocchi stamp of 1852 is shown in its original color in the lower left corner of the commemorative stamp. The top of the souvenir sheet is adorned with the Papal Tiera and Crossed Keys symbol with silken cords draped down the sides. The translation of the wording at the bottom is "Centenary of Postage of the Pontifical States 1852-1952."

The Roman States stamp portrayed on this Vatican City commemorative is not one of the original eight values issued by the Pontifical States on January 1, 1852, but is, in fact, one of the additional values added to the series on July 12th of that year. In unused condition, it is one of the rarest of all regularly issued Roman States stamps. This is probably the reason that this stamp was chosen by the Vatican for use on this commemorative issue.



While the stamps of the former Pontifical States will not obtain a prize for the most beautiful design in existence, they are among the most interesting stamps ever issued.

The multitude of shades, variety of papers used for the printing of the stamps, and the many plate varieties which have come to the attention of collectors in recent years have all added to the notable increase in the popularity of these stamps among collectors. It seems clear that the Vatican Philatelic Society has had a major role in creating the increased interest in these stamps, the majority of which are within the financial reach of most Vatican collectors. Anyone truly interested in the stamps of Vatican City cannot help but be fascinated by at least a simplified collection of these forerunners of the present Vatican stamps, particularly since the Roman States are themselves rich in legend and historical significance to the entire civilized world.

Again, those VPS members who are also collectors of Roman States stamps or covers or both are urged to contact the Roman States Chairman and indicate to him your interests in this fascinating field of philately. Correspondence should be addressed to William A. Johnson, 104 Marshall Road, Lansdowne, Pa. Information thus obtained will serve as a guide to Mr. Johnson and the Editor in scheduling future presentations of Roman States material.

The souvenir sheet is shown on the following page together with a very brief background on the Pontifical (or Roman) States.

BRIEF BACKGROUND OF THE ROMAN (PONTIFICAL) STATES

As early as 321, the Emperor Constantine declared the Church legally qualified to own and dispose of property. This law saw a series of gifts of property to the Church including that of the Emperor of the Lateran Palace. Such gifts were later supplemented by confiscation of certain lands, starting about 600 A.D., to support the Papal household and its many charitable works. Conflicts between the Popes and the Emperors, and the danger of outside conquest and subjugation, kept the Roman States in a highly unsettled condition. It was not until the Papal territories were secured by Pepin and given as a Donation to the Church in 754 that the Roman States had their real beginning. This Frankish King restored the provinces to the Pope and not to the Emperor who was too weak to defend the territory. Upon the death of Pepin the Short, his son, Charlemagne, took the throne. During his reign the Lombards again invaded Central Italy. The Pope appealed to Charlemagne who succeeded in driving the Lombards out of Papal territory. He went to Rome for the Holy Week services and while there renewed the Donation of Pepin, adding the island of Corsica and several cities to the Popes' domain. The 1100-year history of the Papal States which followed represents in fact and in fiction a far from peaceful interlude, wracked by intrigue and wars and ending with the establishment of Rome as the capital of Italy in 1870.

ROMAN STATES POSTAGE
CENTENARY SOUVENIR SHEET

The history of the Roman States is a fascinating study from both the political and the religious viewpoint. It forms an excellent background for the collecting of Roman States stamps and covers. Both Roman States history and Roman States philately will be the subject of future series in VATICAN NOTES.

The Editor

THE POPES SERIES (Continued)

12 Lire - POPE SYLVESTER I (Continued)

There is little positive history concerning St. Sylvester. His name is connected with the Church of Equitius near the Baths of Diocletian. He was probably responsible for drawing up the martyrology of Roman Martyrs. He is reputed to have contributed to the development of the liturgy of the Church, and is associated with the establishment of a Roman school of singing. He built a cemeterial church over the Catacombs of Priscilla on the Via Salaria. Legends arising from the "Vita Beati Sylvestri" and the "Constitutum Sylvestri" still extant have him healing and baptising Constantine and receiving gifts and privileges from the Emperor. But all are in the realm of legend.

Old St. Peters

Beneath the likeness of Pope St. Sylvester on this stamp is shown the Old St. Peters. A number of drawings and plans of this church built by Constantine's architects still exist, the most detailed of which is that by Toberio Alfarano made about 1571. Recent excavations show these plans to have been accurate with reference to the parts now uncovered. The church was a high, five-aisled basilica nave about 276 feet by 208 feet, with a narrow transept at the west end from which extended an apse. The apse was above the tomb of Peter. At each end of the transept were chapels projecting a short distance beyond the walls of the nave.

At the east end (St. Peter's Square) of the nave was an atrium attached to the facade. The atrium was an open square enclosed by covered colonnades and paved with marble. In the center was a sixth century fountain, a pine cone with water jets surmounted by a dome supported by eight porphyry columns. The atrium was used as a place to feed the poor on festival days and where pilgrims could buy flour or religious articles.

The facade of the basilica was adorned with mosaics and entered by five doors each with its own name. Through the Porta Judici entered funerals; men used the Porta Ravenniana; the main door, opened only for Popes and Emperors, was named the Porta Argentea because of its silver ornaments; the Porta Romana was used by women; and the Porta Guidonea was reserved for tourists and pilgrims.

Old St. Peters, which was begun about 306 A.D., was of pure basilica form, with wooden roof, and the five aisles divided by antique columns, the center space being the largest. The interior was decorated with beautiful mosaics and gold and precious marbles. St. Peters began to be used as the official mausoleum of the Popes in the fifth century. At first burials were made under the floor of the vestibule and later under the floor of the aisles.

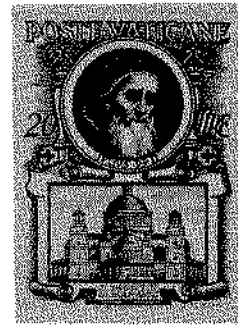
In order to build the Old St. Peters in its position over the grave of St. Peter, over a million cubic yards of fill had to be used and the side of Vatican Hill cut away. The axis of the building follows the exact axis of the grave of St. Peter as found under the Red Wall during the recent excavations.

Representations of the Old St. Peters are found in Raphael's "Conflagration" in the Borgo in the Vatican and in the subterranean chapel of St. Peter in "Sta. Maria in Portico." In the Museo Petriano is preserved a complete model.

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20 Lire - POPE JULIUS II

Pope Julius II (Giuliano Della Rovere) was born December 5, 1443 at Albissola, near Savona. He died at Rome on February 20 or 21, 1513. He came from an impoverished noble family and followed his uncle (Francesco Della Rovere) into the Franciscan Order and was educated at Perugia. When his uncle became Pope Sixtus IV in 1471, there also began the public career of Giuliano. He was made a Cardinal the same year and was Bishop in many cities, holding many ecclesiastical benefices, whose surplus was spent to encourage the fine arts. His early private life was not blameless. In 1474, he was sent with troops to restore Papal authority in Umbria; after that he was given many diplomatic missions. He was the great influence behind Pope Innocent VIII and at his death was considered as a candidate for the Papacy. Passed over at that time, and again after the deaths of Popes Alexander VI and Pius III, he was finally elected Pope on October 31, 1503.



A man of military ability, he led his army to reconquer Papal territories lost by previous Popes. By 1509 he had restored all of the lost territory. To free Italy from French domination, he allied with the Swiss and the Venetians and took the field at the head of the troops. At this, the French Cardinals evoked a Schismatic Council at Pisa. Spain, Germany and England joined against France, at first with little success, but by 1512 France had been driven beyond the Alps.

While chiefly known for his restoration of the Papal States, Pope Julius II did not neglect his spiritual duties as Head of the Church. He founded new Dioceses in the recently-discovered America, and he called the Fifth Lateran Council to eradicate abuses in the Roman Curia and to counteract the Schismatic Council of Pisa. He was a renowned patron of the arts and under his patronage worked Bramante, Raphael and Michaelangelo. At his direction, Bramante united the Vatican Palace and the Belvedere and began the building of St. Peters. Michaelangelo decorated the Sistine Chapel at his commission, and Raphael painted the Stanze and Loggia.

The Project of Bramante

With more than 1100 years bearing down on it, the old Basilica of St. Peter's threatened collapse. Pope Nicholas V decided to reconstruct it and in 1450 began the apse from designs of Bernardo Rossellino who had a design for a basilica in the form of a Latin cross. With the death of Nicholas V in 1455 the walls of the apse had risen but a few feet and the work was discontinued for about fifty years.

Julius II employed Bramante to continue the work after a contest of designs between Bramante of the Umbrian Lombard School and Sangallo and his protegee Michaelangelo of the Florentine School. On April 18, 1506, the cornerstone of the pier of St. Helena was laid and a year later those of the other three

pillars of the transept were in position. Bramante's plan was to build in the form of a Greek cross, all arms of the cross to be of equal length. There still exist two complete sets of drawings showing the Greek cross floor plan with apsidal ends with a central dome modeled after the Pantheon surrounded by four smaller domes. Pillared aisles lead to the main space under the dome. In one set of plans the arms of the cross are enclosed by semi-circular ambulatories, which are not in the other set of plans. Four smaller domes, half the diameter of the central dome, were not to rise above the gabled arms of the cross. Four chapels, bell towers and sacristies were distributed in the external angles. The stamp shows what appears to be the accepted design without the ambulatories.

The principal ideas of Bramante were taken from the Pantheon and the Temple of Peace. This gave rise to a quotation attributed to Bramante that he would "set the Pantheon on the Temple of Peace." Bramante lived to see only the initial steps of his plan executed. The dome supports with their arches, the southern transept and side dome were carried out under his direction. By this he firmly established the lines of the building for the architects who followed. (See also footnote below.)

Donato Bramante was born about 1464 at Monte Asdrualdo and died in Rome on March 11, 1514. As an architect he followed High Renaissance style. His early work at Milan was in a picturesque, decorative style. In Rome, in his later years, he adhered strictly to the classic ideas of the Renaissance, free from decorations and making the impression from the proportion, grandeur and power of his designs. Works of his up to 1499 are found in Northern Italy, but from then on in Rome. A ground plan for his project can be found in Baedeker's "Central Italy" opposite page 306 or in Volume XIII of the Catholic Encyclopedia, page 370, which also gives the floor plan of Michaelangelo and that of the completed Basilica of St. Peters.

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25 Lire - POPE PAUL III

Biographical information on Pope Paul III was included with the Council of Trent series - VATICAN NOTES, Volume V, Number VI, April - June 1957.

The Apse

At Bramante's death in 1514, Pope Leo X appointed Giuliano di Sangallo, Giovanni da Verano and Raphael as architects for St. Peters. Sangallo died in 1517 and Raphael in 1520, having accomplished little more than the strengthening of the four main



NOTE - For additional information on Bramante's Project and on all phases of St. Peters Basilica, VPS members are referred to the excellent article by Bert Happ entitled "Rebuilding of the Basilica of St. Peter and the Vatican Palace from the Early Years" which appeared in eight parts in Linn's Weekly Stamp News during the last part of 1957 and early this year.

pillars. Raphael had planned to return to the Latin cross design. Leo X appointed Baldassare Peruzzi to continue the work, and he reverted to the Greek cross plan; however, again little was accomplished.

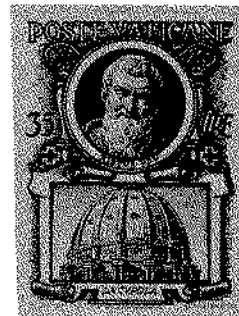
Pope Paul III succeeded Leo X and employed Antonio di Sangallo (see VATICAN NOTES, Volume V, Number IV, Pontifical Academy series). He planned to alter the building completely, but died before he could carry out his plan. Giuliano Roman was next called by Paul III but died in the same year. The work was then assigned to 72-year old Michaelangelo Buonarrotti. Paul III died in 1549 and Julius III confirmed Michaelangelo in his post. Most of the work on the apse was done under Paul III but was completed under Julius III.

Paul III was buried in the gospel side of the apse. His monument is by Giuglielmo della Porta, probably supervised by Michaelangelo. It shows Paul III giving his blessing, while below at the right is "Prudence" and at the left is "Justice." Above the altar at the apse wall is the Cathedra Petri by Bernini, a bronze throne supported by four Doctors of the Church - Sts. Ambrose, Augustine, Athanasius and John Chrysostom. It is intended as an enclosure for the ancient wooden episcopal chair of St. Peter.

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35 Lire - POPE SIXTUS V

Pope Sixtus V (Felice Peretti) was born on December 13, 1512 at Grottamare near Montalto and died at Rome on August 27, 1590. He came from a Dalmatian family which had fled to Italy from the Turks. His father was a gardener and Felice is said to have been a swineherd. He entered a Minorite convent at Montalto, where his uncle was a friar, when he was nine years old. He was educated there, and at Ferrara, Bologna and Siena and became a fine preacher as a Priest. Having been Rector of many convents, Pius IV called him to various offices at home and abroad in the Holy Office. Pius V, in 1565, appointed him Bishop of Sant'Agata dei Goti, and in 1570 made him a Cardinal. In 1571 he was made Bishop of Fermo. He re-edited the works of St. Ambrose. On the death of Gregory XIII, he was elected Pope Sixtus V on April 24, 1585.



He was firm as a ruler and stemmed the lawlessness and disorder which had broken out at the end of Gregory's reign. He wiped out brigandage with a severe hand. The Papal treasury was empty at his election, and he economized everywhere except for building, and through his reign he brought the Pontifical States to a secure financial standing.

He rebuilt the Lateran Palace; completed the Quirinal; restored the Church of St. Sabina; ornamented the Chapel of the Cradle of St. Mary Major; completed the dome of St. Peters; raised the obelisks of the Vatican, Lateran, St. Mary Major and Sta. Maria del Popolo; erected the Vatican library and Printing Office.

(This series will be continued in the next issue of VATICAN NOTES.)

OBSERVATIONS ON THE VARIOUS PRINTINGS OF THE SERIES ON THE POPES AND THE
VATICAN BASILICA - 158-168, E13-14

(Editor's Note - The following material was compiled by the Eastern Massachusetts Chapter of the Vatican Philatelic Society and has proved to be quite helpful to that group. With the Popes issue currently being covered in the Background Historical Series, it seems particularly appropriate to include this material in this issue of VATICAN NOTES.)

A careful study has been made of various blocks of the stamps of the Popes series. From this study the following observations have been made which assist greatly in identifying the various printings which this series has undergone in the last several years. There have been three printings of the 5, 10, 12 and 35 Lire values; two of the 3, 20, 100 and 50 Lire Expresso; and one only of the 25, 45, 60, 65 and 85 Lire Expresso.

In the first printing of all values, the central vignette of the Popes' heads show through on the back as BROWN. In the second and third printings, these vignettes show through the back as BLACK. Further, the use of black light shows that the paper more recently used exhibits a gray or gray-blue color. Under black light, the previous paper shows as tan or cream. With these two facts all stamps which have been issued to this date (November 1957) can be identified. For this reason, these two characteristics are given first in the Table of page -12-.

On the second printing of the 5, 10, 12 and 35 Lire values, ornamental margins in color were printed on the selvage edge of the pane. In the second printing of some stamps and in the third printings of others, only traces of this colored margin can be found on the selvage edge of the pane. If a stamp or block has the selvage edge attached, this will aid in the identification of the printing.

The stamps of this series are comb perforated. This means that the three sides of a vertical file of stamps were perforated with each stroke of the perforating machine. In order to complete the perforation of the fourth side of the last column of stamps, the final stroke is made on the selvage of the pane. If the perforations were started from the right and moved to the left, then the right margin does not have horizontal perforations, while the left selvage or margin of the pane will have the horizontal perforations. If the perforations were started from the left and moved to the right, then the left selvage or pane margin will not have horizontal perforations, while the right selvage will have these horizontal perforations. Thus a block or single which has the pane margin or selvage attached of a side of the pane, will again help in the identification of the number of the printing of the stamp.

While some of the observations reported here are original, many are not. Other VPS members who have material of interest on this subject are invited to contact Rev. Herbert A. Phinney, 377 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury 19, Massachusetts.

The Table on the next page gives the four characteristics discussed above for all the printings of the Popes series which have thus far become available.

TABLE OF REPRINT CHARACTERISTICS - POPES SERIES - 158-168, K13-14

Legend: 1. Central vignette shows through back as _____. 2. Paper under black light shows _____. 3. _____ margin on pane. 4. Perforations move _____.

VALUE	ORIGINAL PRINTING	SECOND PRINTING	THIRD PRINTING
3 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. NONE 4. R to L	
5 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. TAN 3. COLORED 4. L to R	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. TRACES 4. R to L
10 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. TAN 3. COLORED 4. L to R	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. TRACES 4. L to R
12 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. TAN 3. COLORED 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. NONE 4. R to L
20 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. GRAY * 3. TRACES 4. L to R	
25 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L		
35 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. TAN 3. COLORED 4. L to R	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. NONE 4. R to L
45 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L		
60 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L		
65 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L		
100 Lire	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. TRACES 4. R to L	
50 Lire Expresso	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L	1. BLACK 2. GRAY 3. TRACES 4. L to R	
85 Lire Expresso	1. BROWN 2. TAN 3. NONE 4. R to L		