

1982

Note: these notes were written in 1993 and have been restyled but not totally fact-checked. The date-of-issue (taken from the ANK catalogue) is when the stamps became valid for postage, not the earlier date when you could buy them to prepare first-day covers etc.

SKIING CHAMPIONSHIP, JANUARY 27 1982.



The Alpine Skiing World Championship competitions were held at Schladming-Haus in Styria from 27 January to 7 February 1982. To mark these competitions, a 4S multi-coloured stamp was issued on January 27, 1982. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a skier descending at speed in a race, and was printed by the photogravure process (yellow, madder-red, bright cobalt, dark grey-blue and black) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 14.

The foundation of the alpine ski sports took place on February 2 1924 when the F.I.S. was founded in Chamonix. The first championship competitions were in 1931 in Murren and the first official competitions for the title of World Champion were held in 1936 in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in connection with the Olympic Games. After the second World War the sport became an important part of the Olympic tradition

THE DOROTHEUM, MARCH 12 1982.

The 275th anniversary of the foundation of the Dorotheum Auction, Pawn and Banking Society was commemorated by issuing a 4S multi-coloured stamp on March 12, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict the Dorotheum building in the Dorotheergasse Vienna, engraved by Maria Laurent and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (grey-brown, gold and carmine-brown) in an impression of 3.4 million; comb perforated 13¾.



On March 14 1707, Emperor Leopold I, in a period of difficult economic conditions, founded a “Versatz und Fragant” (Pawn and Enquiry Office) in Vienna; an example to be followed in Salzburg in 1747 and in Graz in 1775. This imperial patent was included, in 1748, in the third volume of the “Codex Austriacus” of Maria Theresia; so important was the concept of a loan bank considered. Due to the reforms of the Emperor Joseph I, this Vienna bank was placed on a more secure basis and, in 1787, it was located in the disused Augustinian monastery of St. Dorothea founded originally by Duke Albert II in 1357. This is the reason why the bank obtained the name of DOROTHEUM.

A special Dorotheum law (1979 BGB 24 66) was passed on November 8 1978 (effective January 1 1979) to give the bank a new title of “Dorotheum Auction, Pawn and Banking Society m.b.H.” and the institute is now one of the great auction houses of the world. Since then, in over 2000 auctions, it has dealt with sales of pictures, furniture, carpets, miniature art, precious objects, postage stamps, coins, books and other artistic objects. In the realm of stamps it sold the Swiss Basel No.1 (Basel Dove) for 94,000S; a world record.

WATER LIFESAVING SERVICE, MARCH 19 1982.



The Silver Jubilee of the foundation of the Austrian Water Lifesaving Service, on in Linz, was commemorated by issuing a 5S multi-coloured stamp on March 19, 1982. This stamp was designed by Ferdinand Dorner to depict lifesaving in action, and was printed by photogravure (deep new blue, vermilion and new blue) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

From its small beginnings the O.W.R. (Oesterreichischen Wasser-Rettung) has grown into a powerful and important body. By 1982 it had 939 teachers, 16,481 rescuers and 54,629 helpers. In the 25 years of its existence, it had saved 5,110 lives and provided help in 68,037 instances. O.W.R. is a member both of “World Life Saving” and of F.I.S.S.

St. SEVERIN, APRIL 23 1982.



An exhibition entitled “St. Severin and the end of the Roman period” was held at Enns (Lorch - Lauriacum) during 1982. To mark the opening of this exhibition, a 3S multi-coloured stamp was issued on April 23, 1982. This stamp was designed by Friedrich Mayer, to depict St. Severin from the portrait in the Church San Severino e Sussio Naples, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed by both recess (black) and photogravure (yellow, orange-yellow, brown red and dark blue) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

KNEIPP CONGRESS, MAY 4 1982.

The International Confederation of the Kneipp Movement held a congress in Vienna during May 1982. To mark this event a 4S multi-coloured stamp was issued on May 4, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller to depict Mgr. Sebastian Kneipp (1821-1897) the founder of this movement of holistic medicine. It was engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (light violet, bluish-green, green, light orange-red and gold) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 14. Mgr. Sebastian Kneipp was born on May 17 1821 at Stefansried bei Ottobeuren and died on June 17 1897 at Worishofen in Germany.



He came from a poor family but, by dint of very hard work, he was able to enter a grammar school with a view to studying for the priesthood. When his health broke down, his attention was drawn to the benefits of hydro-therapy and he started his own water cure. After ordination he was sent to Worishofen and practised hydro-therapy for the benefit of his poor parishioners. He was so successful that both rich and poor flocked to be treated by him. The 'Kneipp Cure' consisted of a simple diet coupled with an abundant use of water both internally and externally. In 1893, the Archduke Josef visited Worishofen for the first time and this helped to publicise the treatment. On December 14 1890, friends of Mgr. Kneipp formed a Kneipp Society at Worishofen to perpetuate his work, and by 1982, Germany had 130,000 members in 550 places. The movement had spread to 36 European countries and an International Confederation has been formed.

PRINTING ANNIVERSARY, MAY 7 1982.



The 500th anniversary of the introduction of printing into Austria was commemorated by issuing a 4S multi-coloured stamp on May 7, 1982. This stamp was designed by Auguste Boeskor to depict the coat-of-arms of the printers, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel, and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (gold, silver, red and olive grey) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 14.

The earliest known printed book of Austria, by an unknown printer, bears the inscription “Impressum Wienne Anno Domini MCCCCLXXXII” (i.e. Printed in Vienna in 1482). Vienna was invaded by the Hungarian King Matthias Corvinus in 1485 so that the printer of 1482 made only a sporadic appearance. However, at this period a German printer, Johannes Winterburger, appeared in Vienna to print liturgical works. The second important Viennese printer was Johannes Singriener the Elder who printed the works of Erasmus.

The Emperor Friedrich III (1440-1493) granted the coat-of-arms, as on the stamp, to his printers and the document itself is still in existence. The double headed eagle is depicted black on a golden field. To the right of the shield is shown a “tenaculum” (copy holder) with a “divisorium” (manuscript-holder), whilst to the left is a composing-stick held in the eagle's fangs. From the crown of the clasped helmet with a red and silver coverlet comes a silver griffin, armed in red, holding two black printing balls in its fangs. Over all the whole coat-of-arms, a mantlet provides the background between the lower shield and the upper crest. This stamp, therefore, is an excellent example of heraldry in philately.

UROLOGY CONGRESS, MAY 12 1982.



The 5th Congress of the European Union for Urology was held in Vienna from 12 to 15 May 1982. To honour this congress, a 6S multi-coloured stamp was issued on May 12, 1982. This stamp was designed by Auguste Bocskor to depict a miniature “Urine Analysis” from the “Canon medicinae” of Avicenna (980-1037), and was printed by photogravure (light cobalt, yellow, cinnabar, grey-black and brown-carmine) in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforation 14. The actual manuscript shown on the stamp was written in Hebrew in Salerno in the 15th century. This “Canon” remained the most important medical textbook from the 13th to the 17th centuries.

FRANCISCAN EXHIBITION, MAY 14, 1982.

A provincial exhibition “500 Years of St. Francis of Assisi; Franciscan Art and Culture of the Middle Ages” was held in Krems-Stein in May 1982. To mark this exhibition, a 3S multicoloured stamp was issued on May 14, 1982. This stamp was designed and engraved by Werner Pfeiler, to depict “St. Francis preaching to the birds”, from a miniature of the 14th century painted in Liege, and was printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (blue, yellow-ochre, brown violet, red and blue-green) in an impression of 3.575 million; comb perforation 14. St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226), the founder of the Franciscan Order in 1209, became famous for his simplicity and for his love of nature.



HAYDN EXHIBITION, MAY 19 1982.



On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Josef Haydn, the provisional government of Burgenland organised a large exhibition at his work place, Eisenstadt, held from 20 May to 26 October 1982 under the title; “Josef Haydn in his Times”. To mark this exhibition, a 3S bronze-green portrait stamp was issued on May 19, 1982. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict the head and shoulders of the composer, with the house at Rohrau where he was born in the background. It was engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 13½.

Franz Josef Haydn (1732-1809), the eminent Austrian composer, was born in Rohrau, the son of a Croatian wheelwright (he rarely used his father's name 'Franz'). He became a member of the choir at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, attending the school there until 1749. Subsequently he played in street bands and occasionally taught music to earn a precarious living. In 1761 he obtained employment with Prince Paul Esterhazy at Eisenstadt as a court musician and after his patron's death in the following year, he remained in the service of Prince Nicholas and moved with him to the new Esterhazy Palace by the Neusiedler See in 1766. Haydn, who wrote his first symphony in 1759, now became court composer and musical director, writing symphonies, string quartets and operas. He twice visited England where he was very well received, Oxford University conferring an honorary Doctorate of Music on him in 1791. He wrote much church music, including a famous “Stabat Mater”, and more than a hundred symphonies, among them the “Surprise”, the “Military”, the “Drum-roll”, the “London” and the “Oxford”. Finally he settled in Vienna where he produced his two great oratorios; “The Creation” and “The Seasons”.

WORLD DAIRYING DAY, MAY 25 1982.

The 25th World Dairying Day (Milk Day) (1957-1982) was celebrated in Vienna on May 25 1982. To mark this occasion a 7S multi-coloured stamp was issued on May 25, 1982. The stamp was designed by Johannes Kral, with a globe inside a milk churn together with the words “25 WELT MILCH TAG”, and was printed by the photogravure process (yellowish-green, cornflower blue, black and brown) in an impression of 3.45 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. The propaganda exercise of Milk Day in raising the consumption of



the liquid is usually combined with a slogan such as “Milk is Health” “Milk has Priority”, or “Travel safely - drink milk”.

Normally the event is staged in Austria in Vienna (1958-1967, 1978 and 1982) but it has also been held in Klagenfurt (1968 and 1981); Linz (1969 and 1976), Salzburg (1970 and 1979), Graz (1971 and 1977), Bregenz /Dornbirn (1972), Eisenstadt (1973 and 1980), Innsbruck (1974) and Melk (1975). The work in Austria is coordinated by the Austrian National Committee of the International Milk Economic Association together with the Austrian Milk Information Company. Because of the economic importance of the milk industry in Austria, Milk Day is patronised by the Federal President of Austria. Thus, for example, during 1980 558 millionSs were invested in Austria in the dairy industry itself.

800th ANNIVERSARY OF GFOHL, MAY 28 1982.



The 800th anniversary of the foundation of the town of Gfohl im Waldviertel in lower Austria was celebrated by issuing a 4S multi coloured stamp on May 28, 1982. This stamp was designed and engraved by Werner Pfeiler to depict the town coat-of-arms taken from a flag of 1804, and was printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (cobalt, yellow ochre, minium, brown-violet and ochre-yellow) in an impression of 3.4 million; comb perforation 13¾. The village of Gfohl is first mentioned in a manuscript that can be dated between 1180 and 1190, in which a priest Rudwinus de gevelli gave a farm in Kreams to the Monastery of Garstein. At a height of 578 metres above sea level an area of 80 square kilometres and 3,800 inhabitants, Gfohl is now a flourishing market town.

LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION, JUNE 11 1982.

The 80th anniversary of the Austrian Lawn Tennis Association was celebrated by adding on June 11, 1982 a 3S multi-coloured stamp to the various stamps with sport designs previously issued. This stamp was designed by Valentin Wumitsch, naturally depicting a tennis player ready to return the ball, and was printed in photogravure (ultramarine, yellow-orange, sienna, ochre-yellow, matt purple and black) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforation 14.



The English Lawn Tennis Association was founded in 1888 and tennis began to overtake cricket in popularity in England. The English tennis master players then spread the new sport abroad, and by 1894 there was already an Austrian tennis mastership. In 1912, the Austrian Lawn Tennis Association was formed with 28 societies in all parts of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy.

LANGENLOIS ANNIVERSARY, JUNE 11 1982.



The 900th anniversary of the town of Langenlois, the largest wine centre of Austria, was commemorated by issuing a 4S multicoloured stamp on June 11, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller to depict the main square of the town, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (greyish brown, bright cobalt, gold and silver) in an impression of 3.4 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. In 1082 Bishop Altmann of Passau invested the Monastery of Gottweig with the vineyards of Liubisa and Chremisia in Lower Austria. Liubisa meant “Liebliches Tal” (lovely valley) which finally ended up as Langenlois.

WEIZ ANNIVERSARY, JUNE 18 1982.



The 800th anniversary of the town of Weiz, now a small industrialised town in Upper Styria, was commemorated by issuing a 4S multicoloured stamp on June 18, 1982. The stamp was designed by Karl Schoberl to depict the town's coat-of-arms, and was printed in photogravure (red, green, ultramarine, brownish-orange, black and red-orange) in an impression of 3.5 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. In 1140 the name "Weiz" (the name of a river) was mentioned in a cultivation document of a priest Ortofl as the pastor of "Weizberg". The town of Weiz is first recorded in 1152, and in 1182 an Otto of Weiz is mentioned in a document so this appears to have been taken as the reason for the 800th anniversary.

EUROPA, JULY 30 1982

The fourteenth value in the sequence of Europa:C.E.P.T. stamps was a 6S value that was issued on July 30, 1982. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a passenger coach on the Linz-Freistadt-Budweis horse-drawn railway of 1832, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and recess printed in an impression of 3.85 million; comb perforated 13½.



On August 1832 the first overland railway of the European continent, horse-drawn from Linz to Freistadt to Budweis, was opened in its entirety, although previously on July 21 1832 the Emperor Franz I had made the journey on it from Urfahr as far as St. Magdalena, and it was not until spring 1835 that the connection from Urfahr to Linz was completed. The line was designed by Franz Anton von Gerstner and ran for 128.9 Km; construction cost 1,654 million gulden. It was not until December 15 1872 that it was completely replaced by a normal steam locomotive system and the entire original horse-drawn line was demolished between 1 and 13 June 1884. The route taken still exists, however, and is now used as a country linear walk.

MGR. SEIPEL, JULY 30 1982.

The 50th anniversary of the death of Mgr. Ignaz Seipel (1876 - 1932), the fifth and seventh Chancellor of the First Republic, was commemorated by issuing a 3S maroon portrait stamp on July 30, 1982. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.5 million: comb perforated 14¼:13½.

On his death Mgr. Seidel had been portrayed on a 50 gr.+50 gr. deep ultramarine stamp, designed by Rudolf Junk, engraved by Ferdinand Lorber, recess printed, and issued on October 12, 1932. Ignaz Seipel was born in Vienna's XIV district on July 19 1876. He was the son of Ignaz Karl Seipel (1842 - 1901), then a hackney coachman, and of the latter's wife, Elizabeth Zehentner. The boy was educated at the K. K. State Grammar School at Untermeidling and went thence, in 1895, to the Vienna Seminary; being ordained priest in St. Stephen's Cathedral in 1899. For a time he worked in a village parish but his intellectual gifts were such that in 1903 he obtained his doctorate of theology as a professor at the University of Salzburg. There he met Heinrich Lammasch (1853-1920), a celebrated jurist, and together they worked until 1917 preparing the writings of Hugo Grotius, on international law, for publication.



In 1917, Fr. Seipel returned to Vienna to teach moral theology there but he began to be interested in Christian Socialism and became a member of the last Imperial Government in October and November 1918 as the Minister of Social Affairs. During the First Republic, he was a Christian Socialist deputy, becoming Chairman of his party in 1921, and in the same year was made a Domestic Prelate by Pope Benedict XV, with the title of "Monsignor". In May 1922, he was elected as Federal Chancellor at a time of great financial depression, and it was mainly his efforts which, between 1922 and 1924, put Austria onto a sound financial basis again.

In 1924, Mgr. Seipel was shot in the lung by a socialist and he had to resign on November 18 1924. Although he never recovered fully from his wound, he took office again as Chancellor on October 20 1926 and held this post until April 4 1929. During this period of office his one ambition was to free Austria from the financial control of the Western Allies. Mgr. Seipel resigned the chairmanship of his party on April 30 1930, because of continued

bad health, and although he became Foreign Minister later that year, he soon had to retire completely from public life. He died at Pernitz in Lower Austria on August 2 1932.

POSTBUS SERVICE ANNIVERSARY, AUGUST 6 1982.



The 75th anniversary of the postbus service in Austria was commemorated with a 4S multicoloured stamp issued on August 6, 1982. This stamp was designed by Johannes Kral to depict a modern postbus passing beneath the castle of Ottensstein in Lower Austria, and was printed by photogravure (blue, yellow-orange, green, dark rose-lilac and black) in an impression of 4 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

The information provided in English, by the Austrian Postal Authorities, regarding the postbus service, has already been printed in Austria (see the 28th stamp day issue, December 1 1978). In 1982, this service was providing about half the passenger service in Austria, with 130 million passengers per year and a total route of 70 million kilometres per year - 30,000 Km traversed by 1,500 postbuses.

U.N.O. SPACE CONFERENCE, AUGUST 9 1982.

The second U.N.O. Conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space took place in Vienna from 9 to 21 August 1982. To mark this conference a 4S multicoloured stamp was issued on August 9, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict a rocket launch, and was printed in photogravure (ultramarine, lemon-yellow, red and black) in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforated 13¾:14. Whilst the Conference itself took place in the Vienna Hofburg, the Messepalast was used to stage an exhibition on space exploration together with a demonstration of the use of satellites for that purpose.



GEODESISTS' DAY, SEPTEMBER 1 1982.



The Austrian Society for Geodesy and Photogrammetry and the German Society for Geodesy combined to hold a Geodesy Meeting in Vienna City Hall from 1 to 4 September 1982. To mark this meeting a 3S multicoloured stamp was issued on September 1, 1982. This stamp was designed by Ferdinand Dorner to depict the symbol of the meeting together with the globe that stands on the tower of the Austrian Federal Office for Standardisation and Surveying in Vienna. It was engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (Turkish-blue, reddish-ochre and blue-grey) in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½. Geodesy is the science of measuring the earth's surface, or

large portions of it, as distinguished from surveying which deals only with limited tracts. This was the first meeting of the Austrian Society but the 66th of the German Society.

ENDANGERED ANIMALS, SEPTEMBER 9 1982

A set of three stamps was issued on September 9, 1982 to draw attention to the need to protect endangered animals. These stamps were designed by Valentin Wurnitsch, engraved by Alfred Nefe and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure in an impression of 3.6 million; comb perforated 14.



The 3S value (ochre-yellow, Turkish blue, carmine brown and dark olive-green) shows the Great Bustard (Latin name: *Otis tarda*, German name: Grosstrappe) of which only 150 still remain in Austria whereas before the Second World War there had been about 2,000.

The 4S value (orange-yellow, straw- yellow, Turkish blue, dark rose-lilac and dark olive- green) shows the Eurasian Beaver (Latin name: *Castor fiber*; German name: Biber).

The 6S value (orange-yellow, Prussian blue, cinnabar and dark olive-green) shows the Capercaillie. (Latin name: *Tetrao urogallus*; German name: Auerhahn)

A research institute, the Wilhelminenberg, has been established in Vienna to protect and breed endangered species and, for example, this institute has now founded a colony of beavers below Vienna on the Danube - the first there since 1863.

APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS INSTITUTE, OCTOBER 4 1982.



The tenth anniversary of the foundation of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis was commemorated by issuing a 3S in two colours on October 4, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller to depict the Laxenburg Palace in Vienna where the Institute is housed, and engraved by Maria Laurent. It was printed by both recess (olive-sepia) and photogravure (brownish-black) in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforated 14. The Institute, I.I.A.S.A., was founded on October 4 1972 at the Royal Society in London where its charter was signed. By June 1973 it had started its work in Vienna to consider the problems of the future of world energy sources, management problems of large organisations and environmental concerns.

DENTISTS' FEDERATION CONGRESS, OCTOBER 11 1982.

The 70th International Dentists' Federation (F.D.I.) Congress was held in Vienna during October 1982 and was marked with a 4S multi-coloured stamp that was issued on October 11, 1982. This stamp was designed by Sepp Buchner to depict Saint Apollonia, the patron Saint of Dentists, engraved by Kurt Leitgeb and printed by both recess (black) and photogravure (dark blue-grey, Turkish blue, straw-yellow, carmine and gold); comb perforation 14. The first International Congress of Dentists was held in Paris in 1889. At the third, in Paris in 1900, it was decided to form the F.D.I. and congresses were held at regular intervals: the 11th congress held in Vienna in 1936 and the 53rd A.G.M. of the F.D.I. was also held in Vienna in 1965.



EMMERICH KALMAN, OCTOBER 22 1982.



The centenary of the birth of the famous Austrian composer, Emmerich (Imre) Kalman (1882-1953) was commemorated by issuing a 3S deep blue portrait stamp on October 22, 1982. This stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Rudolf Toth and recess printed in an impression of 3.6 million; comb perforation 13¾.

Emmerich Kalman (1882-1953), one of the leading exponents of the Viennese "silver" operetta, was born on October 24 1882 in Siofok on the shores of Lake Balaton in Hungary. Following the collapse of his father's business, the family moved to Budapest where Emmerich attended the High School, having to earn the fees himself. His ambition to become a pianist was shattered when he suffered a crippling ailment in his arm, and he studied composition at the Budapest Music Academy with fellow students Bela Bartok and Zoltan Kodaly. Failing success in the classical field of music he started writing songs for cabaret, and then wrote his first operetta, 'Autumn Manoeuvre', which had an indifferent premiere in Budapest in 1909, but in the following year was staged in Vienna with overwhelming success. Many successes included "The Countess Mariza" (1924) and the "Empress Josephine" (1936); all featured Hungarian Music. In 1940 he emigrated to the United States, returning to live in Paris in 1949 until his death there on October 30 1953.

MAXIMILIAN MELL, NOVEMBER 10 1982.



The centenary of the birth of the Austrian writer Maximilian Mell (1882-1971) was also commemorated by issuing a 3S multi-coloured portrait stamp on November 10, 1982. This stamp was designed by Otto Zeiller and printed by photogravure (dark-blue, salmon-pink, brown-ochre, sepia, Turkish blue and gold) in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Max Mell (1882-1971), the Austrian poet and dramatist, was born on November 10 1882 in Marburg am Drau, the son of a teacher of the blind. When the family moved to Vienna, he studied German literature and art at the University there, and resolved to become a writer. His first book, "Latin Stories" (1904), demonstrated his potential talent and, though influenced by his close friendship with a fellow writer, Hugo von Hofmannsthal, a prominent Viennese banking family, he developed his own individual style based upon his fundamental Christian beliefs. After World War I, he concentrated on drama and, between 1923 and 1926, he wrote a trilogy of plays which made him famous throughout the German speaking countries: "The Apostle", "The Guardian Angel" and "The Imitation of Christ". Among his great plays, "Seven against Thebes" was premiered in 1931, while "The Nibelungs Fall", Max Mell's version of the Nibelungen, was banned during the Nazi occupation of Austria. "Jeanne d'Arc" appeared in 1956, and "The Garden of Paracelsus" in 1964. Most of his plays were first performed in the Burgtheatre, Vienna, and he was awarded many literary prizes and honours. He died on December 12 1971 in Vienna.

CHRISTMAS, NOVEMBER 25 1982.

The annual Christmas stamp was a 4S multi-coloured stamp issued on November 25, 1982. It was designed by Sepp Buchner, to depict the Christian crib in the church of Darnuls in the Vorarlberg, engraved by Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (Turkish blue, matte-yellow, rose-lilac and gold) in an impression of 5.3 million; comb perforated 13¾. These wooden crib figures, of the Christ Child (27 cm long) in a little bed surrounded by Our Lady and St. Joseph (51 cm high), can be dated to Christmas 1624 and attributed to Erasmus Kernen (Bildner) and Dietrich Meussen (Mahler). The figure of St. Joseph was originally just a shepherd as is shown by his pouch.



St. GEORGE'S COLLEGE, NOVEMBER 26 1982.



The centenary of the foundation of St. George's College in Istanbul was commemorated by issuing a 4S multi-coloured stamp on November 26, 1982. This stamp was designed by Anton Lehmalen, to depict a symbolic bridge across the Bosphorus, and was printed, in straw-yellow, bright cobalt, scarlet and moss-green, by offset lithography in an impression of 3.55 million; comb perforated 14.

On November 25 1882 the Church and Monastery at Galata was purchased by Franciscan Priests from Bosnia and there they established a college for boys and girls. By 1900 it contained 231 girls and 174 boys including 96 orphans. It was closed between 1919 and 1923 and again between 1944 and 1947, due to the political situations of the times. It now teaches mainly Turkish and Muslim pupils although 75% of the teachers are Austrian and the subjects are taught in German.

29th 'DAY OF STAMP', NOVEMBER 26 1982

The 29th annual 'Day of the Stamp' was a 6 + 3S multi-coloured stamp which appeared on November 26, 1982. Designed and engraved by Werner Pfeiler, it shows a mail-box of the "Mainz-Weber" type used around 1870. 1.9 million were printed by both recess (black) and photogravure (orange-red, yellow-orange, and olive-green), in comb perforated 13½.

This is really the Tag der Briefmarke (Day of the Stamp) but the subject of design is a fine old Mail-box and the postal authorities have provided an interesting account of mail collection from June 1 1817 when mail-boxes were first installed as a general service. Up to that date both sender and recipient had to pay the postage in equal shares (*um...*), but afterwards the addressee alone had to cover the expenses on delivery. Some customers, however, misunderstood the facility of the mailbox and posted letters that should have been prepaid (such as letters going to public departments and foreign mail), and it was not until June 1 1850 - when postage stamps were introduced - that all letters had to have postage pre-paid.

Further confusion was caused by the existence of two different kinds of post offices - the government or fiscal offices with their own mail-boxes, and the postmasters in the private sector who organised their own mail collection. Despite a remarkable diversity of form, all mail-boxes were coloured the so called postal yellow (as were the contemporaneous mail-coaches).

The stamp shows a "Mainz-Weber" type of mail-box which was in use at the Vienna Head Post Office around 1870. Later types include the "Wlczek" used around 1890, the "Paris" circa 1899-1918, the "Braun" after 1918 and the "Dworschak" 1948-1980 named after the Director General of Posts. Since November 3 1980, a modern and expedient design - "Mail-box 80" - has been used."



MODERN ART, DECEMBER 10 1982.



The eighth value in the sequence of "Modern Art in Austria" appeared on December 10, 1982. This 4S bi-coloured stamp was designed and engraved by Professor Ernst Fuchs to depict his work "Head of a maiden", also known as "Muse of the Republic". It was printed in both recess (dark violet) and photogravure (lilac-red) in an impression of 3.7 million; comb perforated 13½:13¾. Ernst Fuchs was a philatelist in his youth and thought of his stamps as windows into the great world. When asked to design this stamp he also wanted to have a corresponding one from the same work which was a self-portrait. However, since only the Federal President is allowed to be portrayed on a stamp whilst still alive, this was not permitted.