

RIETUMKRASTA TREŠIE LATVIEŠU DZIESMU SVĒTKI

CATALOGUE

of the

LATVIAN PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

1967



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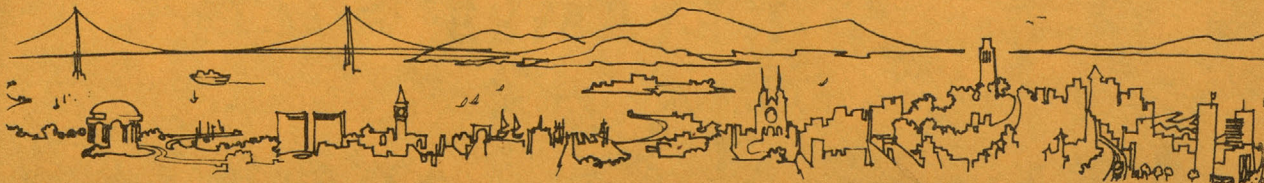
Saturday, July 1, 10 AM - 9 PM

Sunday, July 2, 10 AM - 9 PM

Monday, July 3, 10 AM - 7:30 PM

Presented under the auspices of the

THIRD LATVIAN WEST COAST SONG FESTIVAL



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LATVIJA COLLECTORS!

Welcome to the first Latvian Stamp Exhibit in San Francisco and we hope you will stop by our table to look over the wide and comprehensive selection of LATVIAN STAMPS, Latvian Philatelic magazine (KRĀJEJS), envelopes, etc. If you run out of time, then write us and we will try to fill your needs, whether you are a General Collector, Specialist or World Wide Collector.

REMEMBER: We BUY, EXCHANGE and SELL primarily free Europe and have nice things in the British area, as well as So. America, Far East and W.W. S/Sheets, even though we SPECIALIZE in GERMANY, LATVIA and ART on stamps.

Write or come over where the view is nice, any evening or weekend, by prior arrangement only, since the best material is not kept on the premises. By the way, located less than two blocks from where Burnett, Market, Portola and Clipper meet.

A-1 STAMPS

875 BURNETT AVE., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., 94131
Phone 282-3881

THE PHILATELIC EXHIBIT COMMITTEE



I. Rozentāls, member; F. Zvīgzne, honorary chairman; J. Skujiņš, chairman; V. Kent, member.

JURY

- Everet C. Erle
- Mervyn Hertzberg
- Jack R. Hughes

WELCOME!

We welcome you to the first Latvian philatelic exhibit on the West Coast, presented under the auspices of the Third Latvian West Coast Song Festival. Although traditionally called "Song" Festivals, in reality they are Latvian Cultural Festivals having varied and extensive programs. Next to the presentation of ethnic music, songs and dances, various arts and crafts, a philatelic exhibit has become an integral part of such a festival.

We are pleased to be able to present an exhibit devoted solely to a relatively small country and to trace its postal history through the last centuries. The response of the participants in the exhibit has been most gratifying and we have exhibitors representing three continents in this show. Of course, the extensive participation by the Latvian junior group, under the guidance of the Latvian Philatelic Society, has been most encouraging.

The Philatelic Exhibit Committee and the Executive Committee of the Third Latvian West Coast Song Festival extend to you the most cordial welcome and believe that you will find the exhibit highly interesting and informative and that it will give you a better insight of Latvia as a nation in its strife for independence and freedom.

Executive Committee.
Philatelic Exhibit Committee

LATVIA

Latvia is situated in northern Europe on the eastern shore of the Baltic Sea. Latvians (and Lithuanians) belong to the Baltic branch of the Indo-European language family, and are to be distinguished from both the Slavs and the Germans. The geographical position on the crossroads of Western civilization resulted in close ties with the Western World.

Since ancient times Latvians have been free and independent people, as described, for example, by the Roman historian Tacitus. Latvians fiercely defended their independence against Vikings, Slavs and Teutons. At the end of the XII century King Visvaldis of Jersika united several Latvian kingdoms to fight against foreign intrusion. The Teutonic Order, however, succeeded to establish itself in the Baltic area during the XIII century, and the country became Christianized as one of the last areas in Europe.

In later centuries the Duchy of Kurzeme (Courland) with the capital at Jelgava (Mitau) was a strong political and economical entity. Seafaring dukes of Kurzeme had colonial interests in Gambia and especially in Tobago in the West Indies. During the Swedish expansion in Europe Lutheranism was established in Latvia.

Because of its important strategic location in Northern Europe, the Baltic area was the pivot point in the military strife between Swedish, Polish, Russian and Germanic kingdoms. As a result all Latvian territory was conquered by the Russians by 1795. There were many uprisings against their rule in the nineteenth century, culminating in the revolution of 1905.

The Republic of Latvia was established on November 18th, 1918, but it took another year and a half of fighting against the invading Soviets from the east and the Germans from the south to secure its independence. The country became a member of the League of Nations and was independent until World War II when it was repeatedly invaded by the Soviet and German armies. The forcible incorporation of Latvia into the USSR has not been legally recognized by the United Kingdom nor by the United States.

Although under changing foreign dominations for many years, Latvians have preserved their national spirit, traditions and language. The survival as a nation and a fervid desire for independence are the themes that dominate the ancient and the modern history of Latvia.

* * *

PHILATELIC PERIODS

- To 1795 - Rare philatelic items from the Swedish period and the Duchy of Courland.
- 1795 - 1917 - as a part of the Russian Empire (including Wenden issues)
- 1915 - 1919 - partial occupation by Germany and by German controlled forces (Postgebiet Ober Ost; Libau; Col. Bermond-Avalov).
- 1919 - 1920 - partial occupation by Soviet Russia (no stamps issued)
- 1918 - 1940 - INDEPENDENT LATVIA
- 1940 - 1941 - occupation by the Soviet Union
- 1941 - 1945 - occupation by Germany (Ostland; Kurland)
- 1945 - present - occupation by the Soviet Union

* * *

INFORMATION FOR PHILATELIC IDENTIFICATION

Country's name: LATVIJA (LETTLAND in German; LETTONIE in French)
Area: 25,700 square miles
Population: 2,093,000 (1959)
Provinces: Vidzeme (part of the old Livonia), Kurzeme (Courland), Zemgale (Eastern part of Courland), Latgale.
Capital: Rīga, population 675,000
Major cities: Liepāja (in German: Libau), Jelgava (in German: Mitau), Daugavpils (in German: Dünaburg), Cēsis (in German: Wenden)
Major river: Daugava (in German: Dūna, in Russian: Dvina)
Language: Latvian (also called Lettish)
Religion: Lutheran (60%)
Monetary system: 1918-1922 - 1 rublis (pl.: rubli, also: rubļu) = 100 kapeikas; August 3, 1922-1940 - 1 lats (pl.: lati, also: latu) = 100 santīmi (pl. also: santīmu, sing.: santīms); the value of Ls 1.-was equivalent to 0.29 gram of gold.

* * *

TROPHIES AND AWARDS

GOLD MEDAL for the best exhibit - Latvian Philatelic Society
SILVER MEDALS for the best exhibit in the Junior Sections A & B - Latvian Philatelic Society.
FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD place Certificates in each section and subsection - Song Festival Awards.
Participation Certificates - Song Festival Awards.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Philatelic Exhibit Committee wishes to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of the first Latvian stamp exhibit on the West Coast - visitors, exhibitors, San Francisco area philatelists, philatelic press, and the Executive Committee of the Third Latvian West Coast Song Festival.

Especially we wish to express our thanks to the East Bay Collectors Club for Providing the frames, to the Philatelic Research Society, to the Junior Philatelic Society of America and to other San Francisco area clubs for their support, to the Executive Committee of the Latvian Philatelic Society (LFA) and to its Chairman of the Junior Section, Mr. A. Vēveris for their support and interest.

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ROSTER OF EXHIBITS

<u>COURT OF HONOR</u>	Frame Nr.
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JĀNIS RONIS, Brampton, Canada Coat of arms issues - varieties and errors	11 - 20
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LATVIEŠU FILATELISTU APVIENĪBA - LFA

dibināta 1954. gadā, ir vienīgā latviešu filatelistu organizācija brīvajā pasaulē.

Biedru maksa gadā \$ 1.00, jaunieši līdz 18 gadiem, invalīdi un vecāki par 70 gadiem no biedru maksas atbrīvoti.

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LATVIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Write for Information:

Mr. J. Ronis, 55 Woodward Ave., Brampton, Ont., Canada.

- YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND -

After having enjoyed the Philatelic Exhibit you are kindly invited to attend other events of the Festival:

GRAND CHOIR CONCERT -
Sunday, July 2, 2 p.m.,
Civic Auditorium

FOLK DANCE EVENING -
Monday, July 3, 8 p.m.,
Civic Auditorium

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and
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