

## HSC DE 24

# STAMP COLLECTING: HOBBY OF KINGS (& Heads of State)

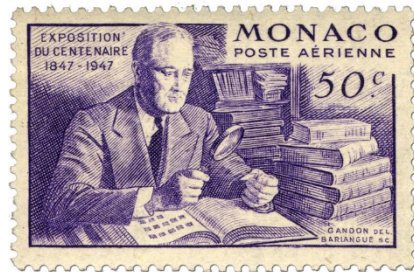
### Prince Rainier III

Smithsonian Philatelic Achievement Awards medal. His Serene Highness Prince Rainier III of Monaco (1923-2005) was an ardent philatelist and is internationally recognized for his promotion of philately. The Musée des Timbres et des Monnaies (The Museum of Stamps and Currencies) was founded under his patronage and houses his extensive personal collection. He was also responsible for the creation of the Club of Monte-Carlo of the Philatelic Elite (see stamp on this club at the end of the article) ; whose membership includes the directors of the thirteen major philatelic museums.



### Franklin D. Roosevelt

Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882 - 1945), thirty-second president of the United States, aroused nationwide interest in stamp collecting when, during the 1930s, the



White House released numerous photographs of him working on his stamp collection. Though the intention of issuing images of a relaxed president metaphorically “putting the world in order” reassured citizens during the Great Depression, other, unintended, consequences occurred – primarily a surge in collecting and stamp clubs.

### Ferdinand I of Bulgaria

Ferdinand (26 February 1861 – 10 September 1948), born Ferdinand Maximilian Karl Leopold Maria of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, was the second monarch of the Third Bulgarian State, firstly as ruling prince from 1887 to 1908, and later as king (tsar) from 1908 until his abdication in 1918. Under his rule Bulgaria entered the First World War on the side of the Central Powers in 1915.



### Nicolas Sarkozy

Nicolas Paul Stéphane Sarközy de Nagy-Bocsa born 28 January 1955) is a retired French politician who served as President of France and ex officio Co-Prince of Andorra from 16 May 2007 until 15 May 2012.



Stamp collecting. “I share your passion for stamps,” Sarkozy told the federation. “I have been a stamp collector since I was a young boy. This hobby is an opening to the world, to

history, and to great events." Some might say that presiding over one of the globe's 10 largest economies is a decent opening, in and of itself. Put the two together — et voilà. "Being French president is a perfect job for a keen philatelist," noted one expert.

### **King George V of England**

George V (George Frederick Ernest Albert; 3 June 1865 – 20 January 1936) was King of the United Kingdom and the British Dominions, and Emperor of India, from 6 May 1910 until his death in 1936.



Born during the reign of his grandmother Queen Victoria, George was third in the line of succession behind his father, Prince Albert Edward, and his own elder brother, Prince Albert Victor. From 1877 to 1891, George served in the Royal Navy, until the unexpected death of his elder brother in early 1892 put him directly in line for the throne. On the death of Victoria in 1901, George's father ascended the throne as Edward VII, and George was created Prince of Wales. He became king-emperor on his father's death in 1910.

King George V was one of the most notable philatelists of his day. In 1893, as the Duke of York, he was elected Honorary Vice President of the Royal Philatelic Society. They presented

him with an album, containing about 1,500 stamps, as a wedding present.

He is personally responsible for building the Royal Philatelic Collection into what it is today. He expanded the Royal Collection with the purchases of several high-priced stamps and covers. In 1904, he purchased the Mauritius POST OFFICE 2 P. Blue for £1,450, a record price at the time for a single stamp. A courtier asked the prince if he had seen "that some damned fool had paid as much as £1,450 for a single stamp". George replied, "Yes, I am that damned fool".

### **Czar Nikolaus II of Russia**

Nicholas II or Nikolai II Alexandrovich Romanov[d] (18 May [O.S. 6 May] 1868 – 17 July 1918), known in the Russian



Orthodox Church as Saint Nicholas the Passion-Bearer,[e] was the last Emperor of All Russia, ruling from November 1894 until his abdication in March 1917. During his reign, Russia embarked on a series of reforms including the introduction of civil liberties, literacy programs, state representation, and initiatives to modernize the empire's infrastructure.

Part of the personal stamp collection of the last czar reportedly will return to Russia in one of the biggest stamp swaps in history. The stamps were printed for Czar Nicholas II in 1913 to mark the 300th anniversary of the Romanov

dynasty. They feature portraits of all the Romanov czars. The collection, including some stamps inscribed in Nicholas' hand, disappeared in 1918 during the civil war in which Nicholas, his wife Alexandra and their children were shot by Bolshevik revolutionaries.

### **King Carol II of Romania**

Carol II (15 October 1893 – 4 April 1953) reigned as King of Romania from 8 June 1930 until his abdication on 6 September 1940. Carol was the eldest son of Ferdinand I and became crown prince upon the death of his grand-uncle, King Carol I in 1914. He was the first of the Hohenzollern kings of Romania to be born in the country; both of his predecessors had been born in Germany and only came to Romania as Club of Monte-Carlo of the Philatelic Elite adults. As such, he was the first member of the Romanian branch of the Hohenzollerns who spoke Romanian as his first language and was also the first member of the royal family to be raised in the Orthodox faith. Carol was also a fan of football, being the Romanian Football Federation's president for almost one year from 1924 until 1925.



### **Philipp von Ferrary**

Philip Ferrari de La Renotière (January 11, 1850 – May 20, 1917) was a noted stamp collector, assembling probably the most complete worldwide collection that ever existed, or is likely to exist.



Amongst his extremely rare stamps were the unique Treskilling Yellow of Sweden and the 1856 one cent "Black on Magenta" of British Guiana.

Ferrary started collecting in his youth, and then he inherited a great fortune of approximately 120,000,000 French francs (£5 million), which he dedicated to the purchase of rare stamps and coins. His collection is believed to have been the greatest ever assembled, and it may never be equaled. Amongst his extremely rare stamps were the unique Treskilling Yellow of Sweden and the 1856 one-cent "Black on Magenta" of British Guiana, which he bought in 1878 for £150 and which after his death was sold at the third bid of his collection, in 1924, at Paris for 36,000 US dollars. He also owned the only unused copy of the Two Cent Hawaii Missionary of 1851, for which its owner, Gaston Leroux, had been murdered by a fellow collector. Another piece owned by Ferrary was the only known cover featuring both values of the first Mauritius "Post Office" stamps, which has been called "the



greatest item in all philately". He also had acquired the Buenos Aires 1859 1p "In Ps" tete-beche pair, shown here.

According to F. J. Peplow of Great Britain, in his book *The Postage Stamps of Buenos Aires*, the first clue that an inverted cliché existed on the Buenos Aires "In Ps" plate of the "barquitos" (steamships) was the report of a single stamp with part of the adjoining stamp rotated 180 degrees and it had been acquired by Ferrary for his collection.

But as a citizen of Austria living in France, World War I put him at risk. Leaving his several hundred albums in the Austrian embassy, he fled to Vienna early in 1915 and then to Switzerland where he died soon afterwards, and so did not see the dismantling of his life's work after the war. The French government confiscated Ferrary's collection, claiming it as a war reparation.

**Club of Monte-Carlo of the Philatelic Elite, Monaco stamp 2000 Issue =====>**

**Final Editor Notes:**

In 1946, following **FDR's** death, his family sold his philatelic estate through H. R. Harmer Auction. The four FDR stamp sales brought high prices and controversy. Most philatelists wanted to own a piece of the nation's most famous stamp collection, but some argued that the U.S. government owned the fabulous holdings of U.S. essays and proofs. Winning bidders in



Harmer's FDR auctions could have their purchases marked with a rubber stamp to verify that they came from the president's collection. Stamp dealers bought many large lots of common stamps and mounted them on cards for sale as inexpensive souvenirs. Today, collectors still eagerly seek these ex-FDR philatelic items for their own collections.

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**George V** had the collection housed in 328 so-called "Red Albums", each of about 60 pages. Later additions included a set of "Blue Albums" for the reign of George VI and "Green Albums" for those of Elizabeth II. The collection was kept at Buckingham Palace until it was moved to St James's Palace, also in London.[4] In 1952, a catalogue of the collection was published, prepared by Sir John Wilson, and edited by Clarence Winchester. It was available in a de-luxe leather-bound edition or a regular cloth-bound edition.

Items from the Royal Philatelic Collection have been regularly shown to the public by the Royal Philatelic Society London or are lent to international philatelic exhibitions.



The last three keepers of the Royal Philatelic Collection have been John Marriott (1969–1995), Charles Wyndham Goodwyn (1995–2002), and Michael Sefi since 1 January 2003. By 2012, six men had taken on this responsibility.

The newspaper Moskovsky Komsomolets reported Friday that an emigrant from Russia who lives in Switzerland has offered to return 921 of the stamps of **Czar Nicolas II** collection, valued at \$200,000. Russia's Cabinet of Ministers accepted his offer and in exchange will give him 31,000 double stamps of his choosing from the Popov Postal Museum in St. Petersburg, where the czar's collection eventually will be displayed, the Orlando Sentinel newspaper said.

**Carol II** was forced to abdicate in favor of Michael. He took Magda into exile again, along with servants, three poodles and two Pekinese and his stamp collection. He and Magda had to lie on the floor of their carriage when the Iron Guard fired on their train nearing the Yugoslavian border. They spent time in Spain and Portugal before going to Mexico. He had to sell part of the stamp collection to raise funds.

The massive assemblage of **Philipp von Ferrary's** collection was auctioned off in Paris between 1921 and 1926, in 14 separate sales, realizing some 30 million francs. Philatelie - Auction catalog; Ferrari de la Renotière, Philipp. Print of auction catalogs included results and two additional works by G.S.F. Napier, London 1925 and F. Serrane, Paris 1932. With a statement from Prof. Dr. C. Brühl. 'sHEINRICH KOEHLER AUCTION

## To read more about this:

### **GB Royal Philatelic Collection.**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal\\_Philatelic\\_Collection](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Philatelic_Collection)

### **British Postal Museum**

<https://www.postalmuseum.org/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal\\_Museum,\\_London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_Museum,_London)

### **US National Postal Museum**

<https://postalmuseum.si.edu/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Postal\\_Museum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Postal_Museum)

### **Postal Museums of the World**

<http://stampsworld.in.rs/philatelic-museums-of-the-world>

### **Great Britain Penny Black Stamp**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penny\\_Black](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penny_Black)

### **US Inverted Jenny Stamp**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverted\\_Jenny](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverted_Jenny)

### **Buenos Aires Steamship Tete-Beche Stamp**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos\\_Aires\\_1859\\_1p\\_%22InPs%22\\_tete-beche\\_pair](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_1859_1p_%22InPs%22_tete-beche_pair)

<https://siegelauctions.com/2008/957/Intros/BuenosAiresInPsiIntro.pdf>