

IN THE LIBRARY

From the waxed tablets to the internet



Postal card from the library of the German prison, camp in Thuringia: LANGENSALZA. For Fayl-Billot (Haute-Marne, France) October 1918.

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Total sheets: 84



The necessity to have a library, intended both as a collection of books, is as old as writing, as evidenced by texts discovered in Mesopotamia and dated back from 3000 to 2000 BC. They were kept in rooms used as archives. The most ancient libraries were probably the Sumerians one, where they kept tablets with inscriptions, mostly legal or commercial documents in cuneiform characters.



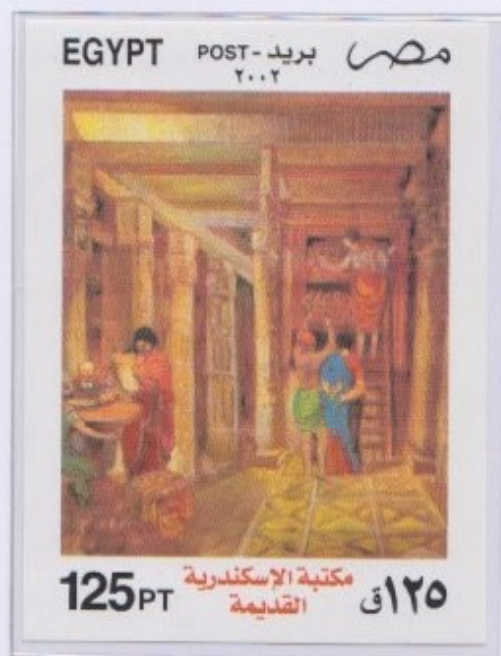
The oldest libraries traces have been found in *Babylon*. Here were found 50,000 clay tablets.



France 1867 40 c. orange, tied by lozenge "5080" on somewhat aged cover to Marseille with cds of the French P.O. in Alexandria (Dec.26), black framed "PD", and red French entry mark "PAQ. ANGL. AMB MARSEILLE 1 JAN. 68."

The first great library of the Hellenistic period was born in *Alexandria of Egypt*, in the III century BC. The library was an immense collection of papyrus rolls, which the scribes copied and transcribed. It seems there were about 700,000 rolls there. The library was destroyed after 47 a.C.

The papyrus rolls were kept in special wardrobes.



Today the library of Alexandria; is one of the most important libraries located on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea.



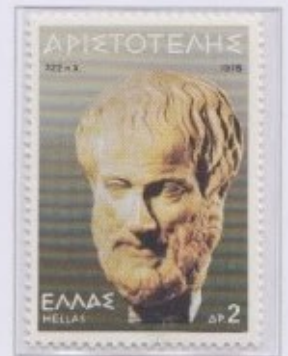
The Pergamo Library (Today Bergama in Turkey), was founded between 241 and 197 BC. Later it was enlarged and it arrived to possess up to 200,000 volumes. This fact provoked the city of Alexandria's jealousy so it responded with the block of exportation of the papyrus. In Pergamo to avoid this embargo was invented the parchment.



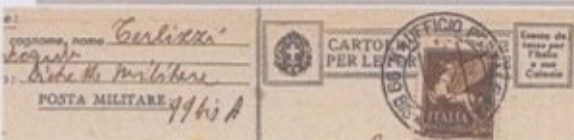
Turkey (1968) Postal stationery: Pergamo theater.



In Greece there were mainly private libraries, also useful to friends and disciples of their owners. The most important had to be that of *Aristotle*. The first public library was almost certainly established in Athens in 330 BC.



With the end of papyrus imports from Egypt, the parchment became the most important European "desk" material in the Middle Ages



The Greece- Italy 1941. Free postcard for the Italian Army. (Post office 99 bis. Albania to Rome).



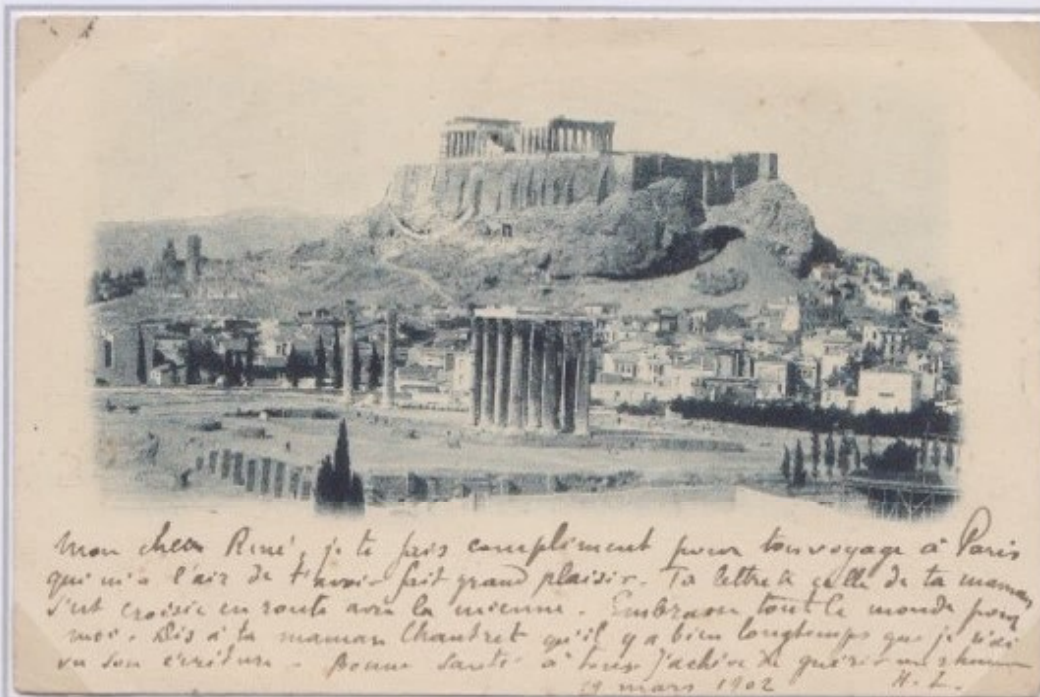
Rome had no libraries until sixth century from its foundation. He began to have private libraries such as Cicero's one, Cicero was a bibliophile and possessor of a rich collection of books. Public libraries arose late, but they had a good success. Ceasar was the first who designed a public library and he commissioned to build it in Marco Terenzio Varrone, but his death prevented him from seeing his dream come true.



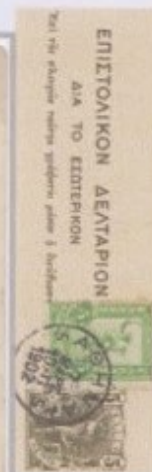
Italy 1936: Postal Stationery: Roma Forum of Caesar.



The first public library was founded in 38 B.C. Other important libraries were founded by Augustus: the Ottaviana and the Palatina arose in 28 BC.



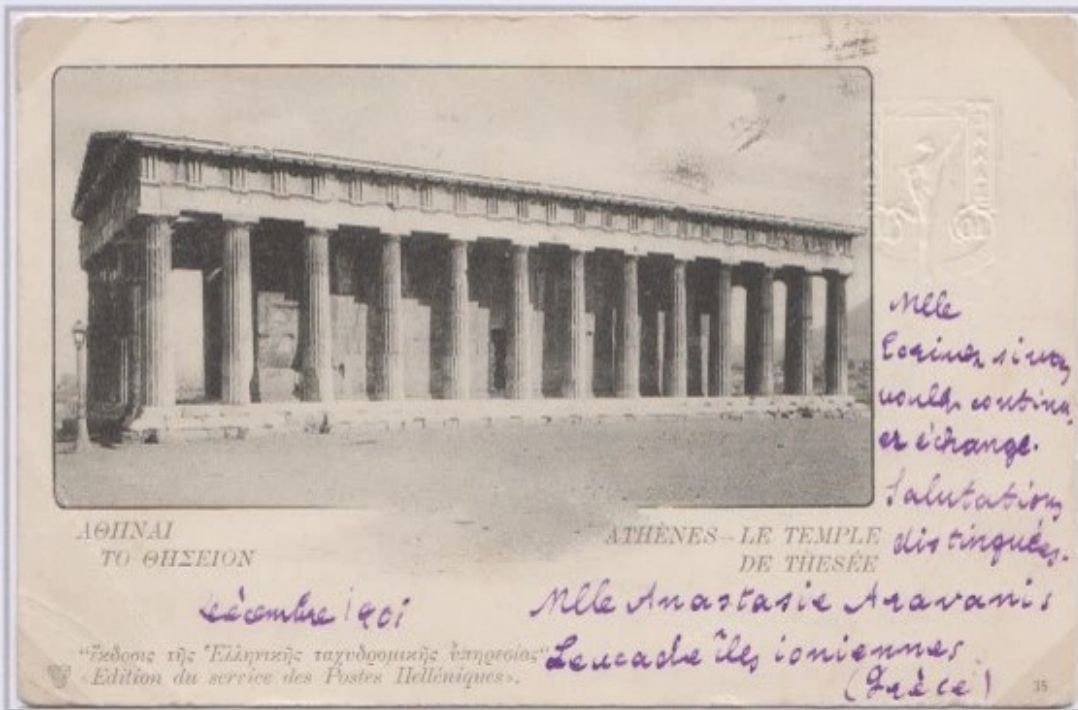
Greece 1902 -Postal Stationery 10 lepta.



Around 370 d.C. it is believed that Rome possessed 24 libraries. In the Empire territory there are two great libraries: the Athens one and that of Ephesus one founded in 110 AD.



In the Greek part of the empire, libraries existed since Hellenistic times. Here in the first and second century AD, together with the rest of the Mediterranean world, there was peace and prosperity of the Pax Romana. In this period even more libraries were built in numerous centers of importance.



Greece 1901 Postal Stationery 10 lepta.



We know that there was a library in Carthage. The great Punic capital, had been burned to the ground by the Romans in 146 BCE. Then it was rebuilt, it flourished and became similar to Rome in terms of size and importance, obtaining much fame as an education center.



Timgad was founded by Trajan in 100 AD. And soon it became a thriving city. Thanks to extensive archaeological investigations we know that here was built a library.



Tyre became Roman in 64 BC, within the Roman province of Syria. (Souvenir sheet imperforated)



With the transfer of the Empire's capital to the East, Constantinople acquired the physiognomy of the great culture center. The imperial library established in 354 and after a short period it possessed over 120,000 volumes. With the recognition of Christianity, it began the transcription of sacred and religious texts.



18.10.1896- East of Austria from Costantinople to Dresda.



Diocleziano



The oldest Christian library was founded in Jerusalem between 212 and 250. Another important library was Caesarea one where the papyrus was replaced by the parchment.



Meter stamp "Havas prefix MG"



The St. Catherine Monastery, located at the foot of Mount Sinai in Egypt is dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexandria and it is the oldest surviving Christian monastery. It contains the second largest collection of manuscripts and codes in the world.

Egypt Postal stationery 30.8.1894 from Alexandria to Döbling (Vienne). "Via Trieste"





The decadence of the Roman Empire and subsequent barbarian invasions, which took place between the 5th and 8th centuries, had broken the political and cultural unity of the Roman world. Entering in the Roman structures and then forming their own kingdoms, Germanic, Slavic and Oriental peoples were established in territories once belonging to Roman empire.



The dominance of barbarian peoples didn't favor the development of letters, so this activity was mainly cultivated in the monasteries and in the main bishop's headquarters continuing the Roman tradition.



1944- British field post office. Airgraph- From Central Mediterranean Forces (C.M.F.) to Hertfordshire (England).



In the VI century the first "Vivario" monastic library (Squillace, Calabria) was founded by Cassiodoro. Here he established a "scriptorium" for the collection and reproduction of manuscripts, which was a model for subsequent libraries of medieval monasteries.



Code of the monastic library of Zwettl.



Flavio Magno Aurelio Cassiodoro

The basilicas developed when the Church gave peace in 317. In the apse there were niches for the preservation of the codes. This was the origin of Episcopal libraries. In the same period in the hermitages and then in the cenobi, monastic libraries also developed.



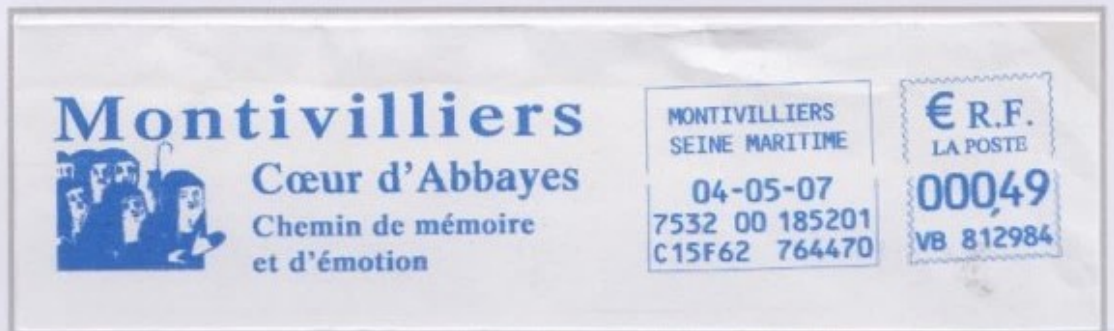
The dissolution of the Roman Empire caused the ruin of cities and their social and economic role, of the comfortable paved roads that allowed rapid and secure connections, and also of other structures including public libraries. However, from the ruins of the ancient world will born monasteries and cathedrals libraries, resurgent from the ashes of classical culture.



Italy. Free postcard for the Italian Army "Vincere"



In this period, in the Aegean Sea the Mount Athos monasteries libraries were rich.



Meter stamp. Pitney Bowes/Secap: prefix C "VB"



From Verona to Venezia (1818)

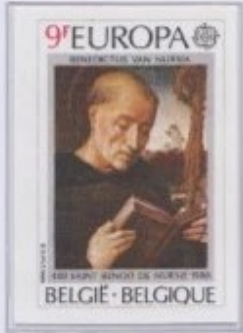


Hippona (Today Annaba)

Sant' Agostino donated his great library to the city of Ippona, then dispersed by a Vandals's raid. In Italy one of the first and most important chapter libraries is the Verona one born around the year 380. Its birth takes place simultaneously with the spread of Christianity.



In the Rule of St. Benedict (Chapter XXXVIII) is prescribed the obligation to read in the various circumstances of the cloistered life. The monk held the book in the choir, on the altar, in the refectory, in the cell, a faithful companion in his day. Many of those readings were made in common (*fratres sedentes omnes in unum*).



imperforated



The library possessed not only the codes necessary for liturgical practices and the daily necessities of the monks, but also the indispensable works for their studies. *Desiderio* was the abbot of Montecassino from 1058 to 1086. Desiderio was elected pope in 1086, with the name of Victor III.



Vekenegas illuminated Book of Gospels.
Written in Benevento.
Writing that developed in Montecassino.



The San Benedetto's Rules the constitutive act of the famous libraries of *Nonantola di Subiaco* and of many other. The religious, historical, philosophical, juridical and literary contemporary culture owes much of its knowledge of the classical medieval period to these libraries.

Signed artist di proof (black) on stamp designed and engraved by: Michel Monvoisin.



The important contribution to European civilization was offered by the monks with the patient transcription of the ancient writers. In the *abbey of Melk* in Lower Austria, the library has countless medieval manuscripts. On the shelves there are about 90000 volumes including precious 9th century manuscripts and hundreds of "incunabuli".



Benedictine monk

Melk: Postal stationery. (Aerogramme first flight: Vienna to Roma 1927.8.1.)



1932 Echternach: Postal stationery, from Petange to Osijek, ex Jugoslavia.

The 7th century *abbey of Echternach* in Luxembourg was a Benedictine monastery and owned a large library with the famous Codex Aureus of Echternach. The Abbey was founded in the 7th century by St Willibrord, the patron saint of Luxembourg.





The *Abbey Library of Saint Gallo* is a significant medieval monastic library located in St. Gallen, Switzerland. The library was founded by Saint Othmar, founder of the Abbey of St. Gallen. The library collection is the oldest in Switzerland, and one of earliest and most important monastic libraries in the world.



The library hall, designed in a Rococo style, was constructed between 1758-67.



Saint Ludger, founder Benedictine monastery of Werden Abbey in 799.

Postal stationery 1947- Abbey Library of Saint Gallo (Stiftsbibliothek).

The *abbey of Saint-Wandrille de Fontenelle* is located near the village of Saint-Wandrille-Rançon. It was consecrated in 657. The library and the school were quite famous and here was studied the literature, science and art of calligraphy.



Meter stamp: Havas "C"



Abey of Citeaux. (The wing of the library is depicted in the stamp)

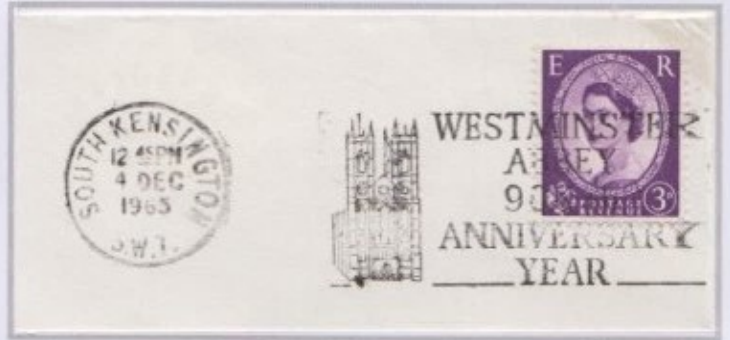


In Spain there were numerous copy schools and important libraries at the monasteries scattered throughout the peninsula like *Ripoll monastery* founded in the year 880 on the Pyrenees in Catalonia.

The *abbey of Farfa* was founded in the 5th century. The abbey is annexed by the state library where many manuscripts, codes, etc. can be found. The library of the *Abbey of Grottaferrata*, built in 1004, collects priceless manuscripts.



With the decline of the monasteries, the cathedrals, with their canons, occupying the pre-eminent place of the culture elaboratio. Since the ninth century the ecclesiastics who officiated the cathedral church were required to live common life, to observe a rule or canon (hence the name "canonical").



COIMBRA — CLAUSTRO DO SILÊNCIO — SANTA CRUZ

Postal Stationery- The Santa Cruz Monastery, is a National Monument in Coimbra, Founded in 1131.



The Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Amiens.



The Capitular was a large hall where besides the library there was a chapter, that is, the college of monks. The Maulbronn monastery located near the small town of Maulbronn. Cistercian abbey was founded in 1147. It is one of the most important of this historical period.

Germany 1936- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order (6 Pf.)

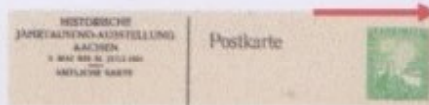




Thanks to the influence exercised by Charlemagne in the tenth and eleventh centuries, the princely libraries had a notable development. At his court in the headquarters of *Aix la Chapelle (Aachen)* an important library was developed. The librarians and writers went to bring their work to the monasteries of Germany, where splendid illuminated manuscripts were prepared ...



Trial color proof – Imperforated. Cathedral and Cappella Palatina They were erected at the behest of Charlemagne in 786 AD.



In the Germany two other important abbeys, with important libraries within it are: the Imperial one of *Lorsch*, and the Benedictine one of *Fulda*, founded in 747.



1925. Germany Reich (Aachen) Postcard with stamp imprint on private order.



Germany Reich (1922) Postal stationery



Miniature of the Fulda library. (Frederick Barbarossa)



With the development of monasticism, the figure of the *amanuensis*, humble and anonymous monks who had the task of patiently reproducing the Holy Scriptures by hand, Greek and Latin works, texts of great historians, poets and naturalists were also affirmed. The copied books were used by the monks for reading and teaching. It was in the monasteries that culture was preserved and handed down and some of these monasteries had libraries where the precious books were kept.



amanuenses at work

During the Middle Ages in the major monasteries groups of monks gathered in the scriptorium to wait for the transcription of codes; they were almost the only ones to continue "the copyist's immortal work" until the invention of printing.



Postal Stationery. Orval Abbey is a Cistercian monastery founded in 1132 in the Gaume region of Belgium and is located in Villers-devant-Orval.

The art of writing was rather tiring. A 218-page commentary by *Saint Augustine*, with 20 lines per page, was copied (823) in seven days by a single scribe, this represents an exceptional work rate. The average should have been 10-12 pages a day: a full year was needed to copy the Bible.



Miniature of the bible of Aslak Bolt thirteenth century.



The scriptorium was a spacious hall illuminated by numerous windows. However, the scriptorium was not found in all the monasteries; in this case, the monks did the writing work in the refectory or in the individual cells. Inside the scriptorium there was a specific division of tasks. Preparation work, such as smoothing parchment sheets and drawing parallel lines that would guide the copyist's hand, belonged to common helpers called *Scriptores*.



The *monastery of Corbie* built in the second half of the 7th century. It elaborated various types of writings that have a common starting point: the primitive lowercase letter and the "semionciale". Writing used for a long time in French monasteries



The *abbey of Clairvaux Cistercian monastery*. Founded in 1115 by *Bernard of Clairvaux*, in France it was one of the four so-called primeval abbeys. He had his scriptorium like the other abbeys.



Definitive stamp

Belgium 1990- St. Bernard. Die Proof in violet signed by engraver Paul Huybrechts




It was *Isidore of Seville* who first spoke of bird feathers used in parchment writing in the 7th century. Due to the consistency and durability in the Middle Ages, goose feathers were established, which became the most widespread writing instrument until the nineteenth century, even though they had the drawback of having to be often tempered to restore their efficiency.



The feathers were subjected to a special treatment to degrease them.



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VENTE EN GROS SEULEMENT

Belgium (1933) Official envelope. Postal payments order.

The metallic nib appeared sporadically since the Middle Ages, but it began to be used more frequently only from the end of the 600s.

Another writing support tool was the writing desk which was usually in an oblique position and contained all the writing equipment. An indispensable ink support tool was also what we call an ink pot in antiquity.





The decoration of the codes belonged to the miniaturists who had certainly a secondary task respect to the fact of reproducing and passing on a text, but certainly more striking, more artistic and with a strong visual impact.



Fra
Angelico,
Jean
Fouquet



A few names of scribes are handed down, but many names of miniaturist artists are mentioned, some of whom were also talented painters in the traditional sense of the word.



Rome 1953/54. National exhibition of the miniature.



Stična manuscript (Stiški Rokopis in Slovenian), 1428-1440, containing short texts of a religious nature.

The miniatures, over time, became small masterpieces contained in the space of a few square centimeters within the "Evangelari" (collection of sacred texts, missals), in the "salteri (collection of salms) and in the Bibles they had, thanks to the use of gold and purple, a very elegant appearance.

The medieval code did not have a page dedicated to the title, but it began with the sentence written in red ink and with enlarged letters: it was the "incipit" (beginning) and ended with the word "explicit" (end), after which it could be find the subscription indicating the name of the amanuensis monk, the date on which he had finished writing and the people for whom he had written.



Every book, every page, every word and every letter were the result of an artistic and artisan effort that saw a true specialized team collaborate with each other.



V-Mail: Feb 1 1945. Written on Valentine Day. (From the United States Naval Construction Battalions, better known as the Seabees).



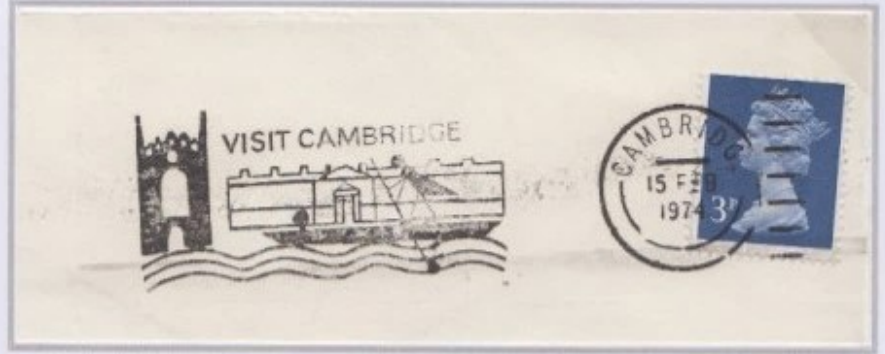
Postal stationery. With the birth of secular culture, the monasteries will lose their dominance over copying the codes in the 14th century ...

illuminated letters from an 11th century giant Bible

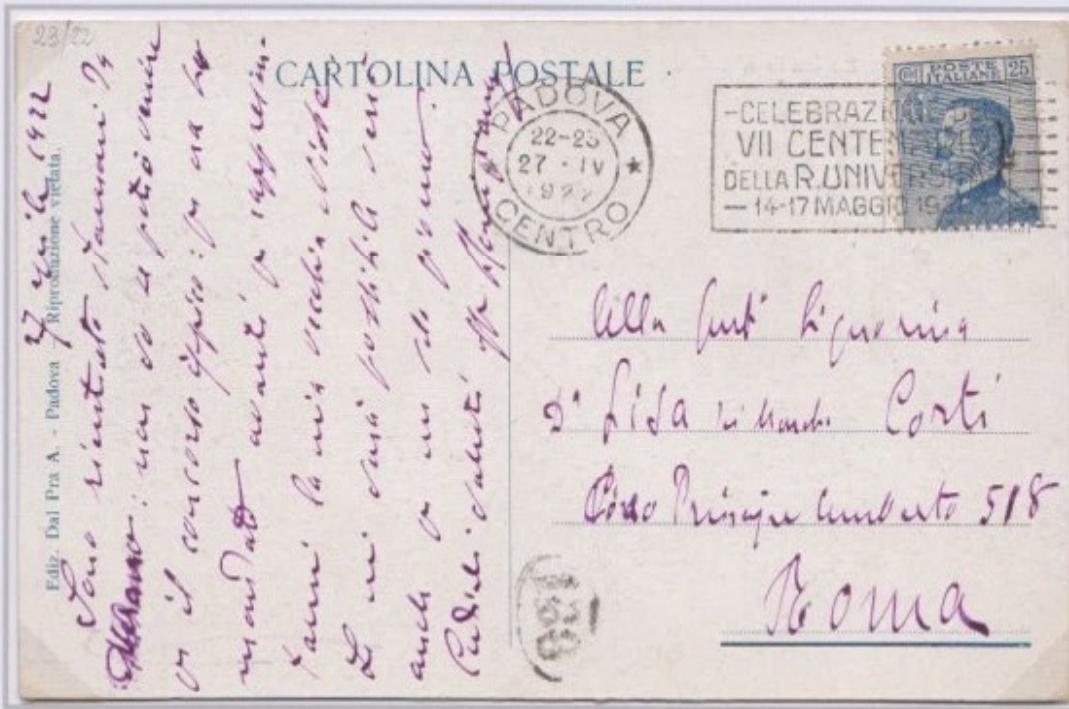




The thirteenth century also saw the establishment of the first universities (the one in *Bologna* was founded in 1088) instead of the ecclesiastical schools that, in the centuries that preceded it, were headed to the main episcopal headquarters and to many monasteries.



In 1215 the *University of Paris* was born. Around 1230 the English *Cambridge University* was born. In 1222 a group of Bolognese students founded the *University of Padua*.

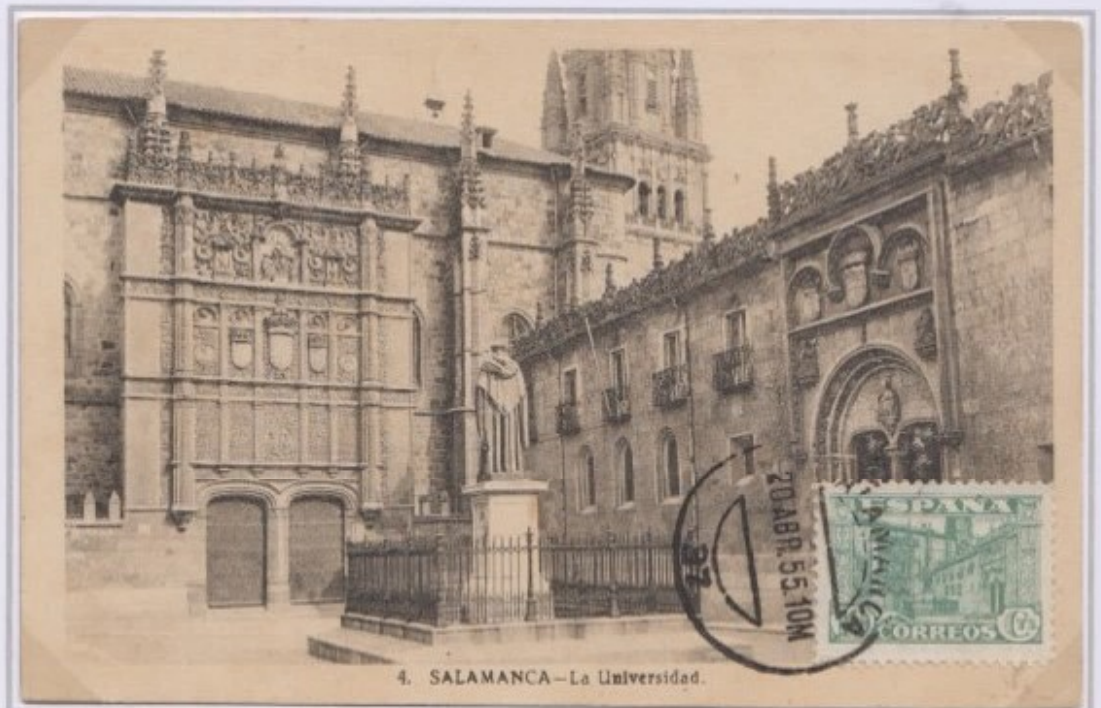


In the XI century the "*Scuola Medica Salernitana*" was born and it was the first and most important medical institution of Europe in the Middle Ages. Considered by many to be the forerunner of modern universities.

The *University of Salamanca* was founded in Spain in 1218. The *University of Coimbra* in Portugal founded on 1 March 1290, the oldest Portuguese institution.



The *Joanina library* of the *University of Coimbra*.



4. SALAMANCA - La Universidad.



Regarding university libraries, they should certainly be remembered for their historical interest: the Jagellonian Library of Krakow and that of Heidelberg, born respectively in 1364 and 1386.



Ottonian code



Poland 1939-Postal Stationery.



Today the Jagellonian library is considered as a national library. It has over four million volumes, including the autograph manuscript of the *De Revolutionibus* of Copernicus.



(1915) Free-frank. Heidelberg University library

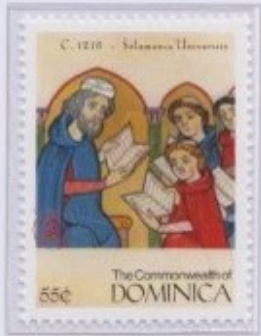
The Heidelberg Library has among others the "famous" manuscript of *MANESSE* or Minnesanger (Germanic Palatine Code 848) a collection of songs by "Trovatori" described and illuminated in Gothic.



Aliénor d' Aquitaine



While in several European university colleges, they had large libraries since the end of the 12th century, Italian universities lacked them. This lack was "replaced" by specific forms of trade organized by the "Stationarii", that is to say the booksellers, who provided for the copying and selling of the texts needed for the studies.



The collection of the Bolognese jurist *Giovanni Calderini* would have reached about 300 volumes. **Meter stamps "Postalia"**



In the thirteenth century lay corporations were born (*exhibition of illuminated manuscripts of Bolognese corporations between the thirteenth and early sixteenth centuries*).



In the 13th and 14th centuries the library changed profoundly. Important factors contributed to the evolution. The use of paper, (in Italy the first paper mills date back to the 12th century) with the consequent increase in the book trade, the flourishing of lay culture, with the birth of university libraries.

Postal stationery.

Leiden University is the oldest university in the Netherlands. Founded in 1575.



Born from the dream of great humanists or created thanks to the passion for books of noble families and famous patrons, Renaissance libraries are characterized by the absolute value of their manuscript and book heritage despite the *constant wars*. Built between the end of the fourteenth century and the middle of the fifteenth century, these libraries still preserve rare and precious manuscripts of Greek and Latin classics.



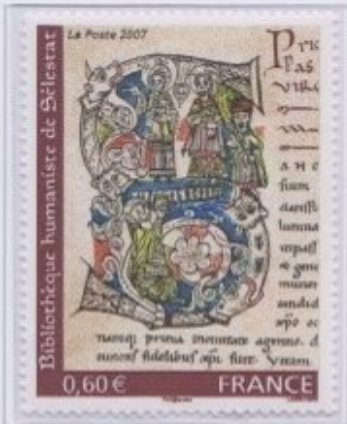
Die Grafen und Ritter von Montfort, Hohenems etc. mit reisigem Troß vom Turniere kommend.

Historischer Festzug: 5. Hauptgruppe a)

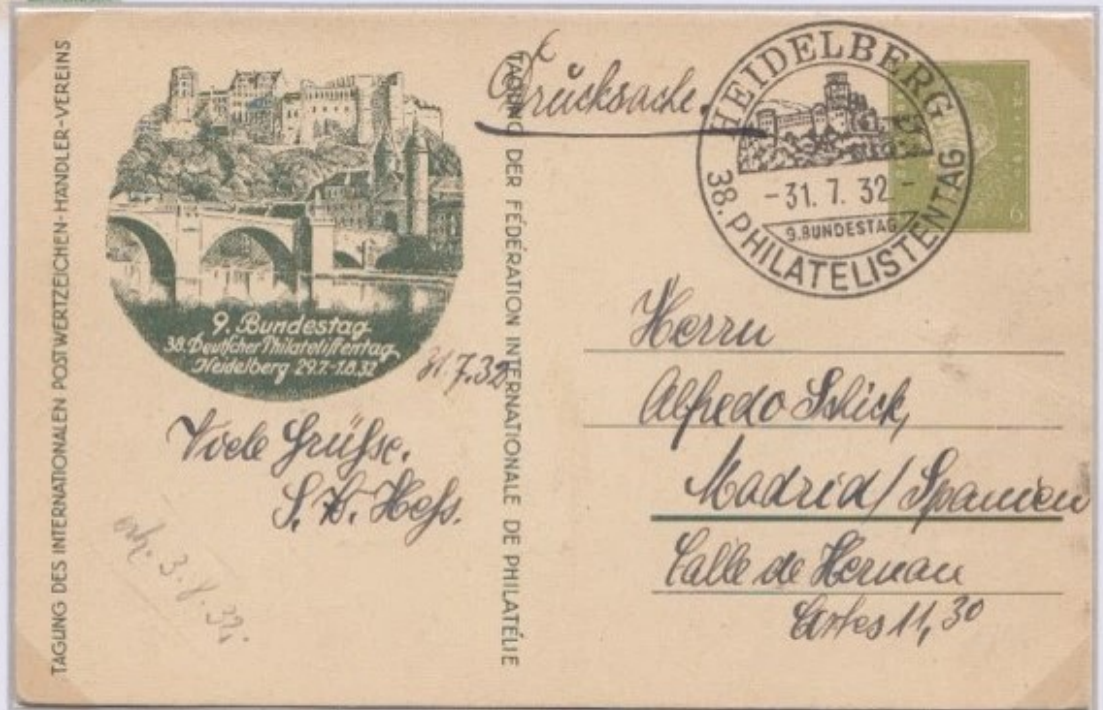


KORRESPONDENZKARTE

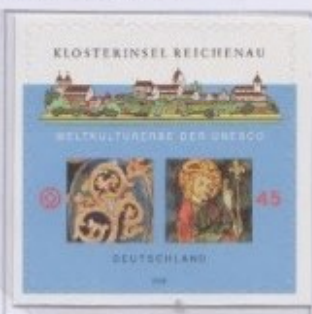
Austria 1909- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order (5 heller).



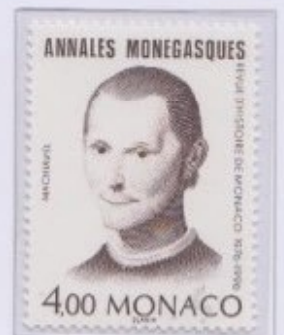
The Renaissance began with the rediscovery of Greek and Latin texts preserved in the Byzantine Empire and in the main European monasteries.



The *Bibliotheca Palatina* of Heidelberg was the most important library of the German Renaissance.



The cultural and scientific renewal began in the fifteenth century in Italy, where one of the main centers was Florence, and then spread throughout Europe....





In this period there were many libraries founded by princes and patrons, some of which were outstanding in terms of importance and size. The library of the *Dukes of Urbino* in which *Federico da Montefeltro*, in five years, procured over 2,500 volumes.



Off centre

Papal States (1853). 1 baj fee for local post. Urbino to Pesaro.



Imperfection in print



The *Malatestiana* of Cesena born between the 12th and 14th century in the convent of *S. Francesco*, *Malatesta Novello*, lord of the city. It was the first civic library in Italy and Europe and is the only example of a humanist monastic library that has survived to this day perfectly preserved in the building, furnishings and library.



The Bible of Borso d'Este. The work is held in the Estense Library.

The *Estensi* library collection was born with the princely family and has always followed the events. Made up of a considerable number of miniatures and works of literary, historical and artistic interest.



The *Gonzagesca* of Mantua, founded in the 14th century ...
(Meter stamp Francopost: missing A)



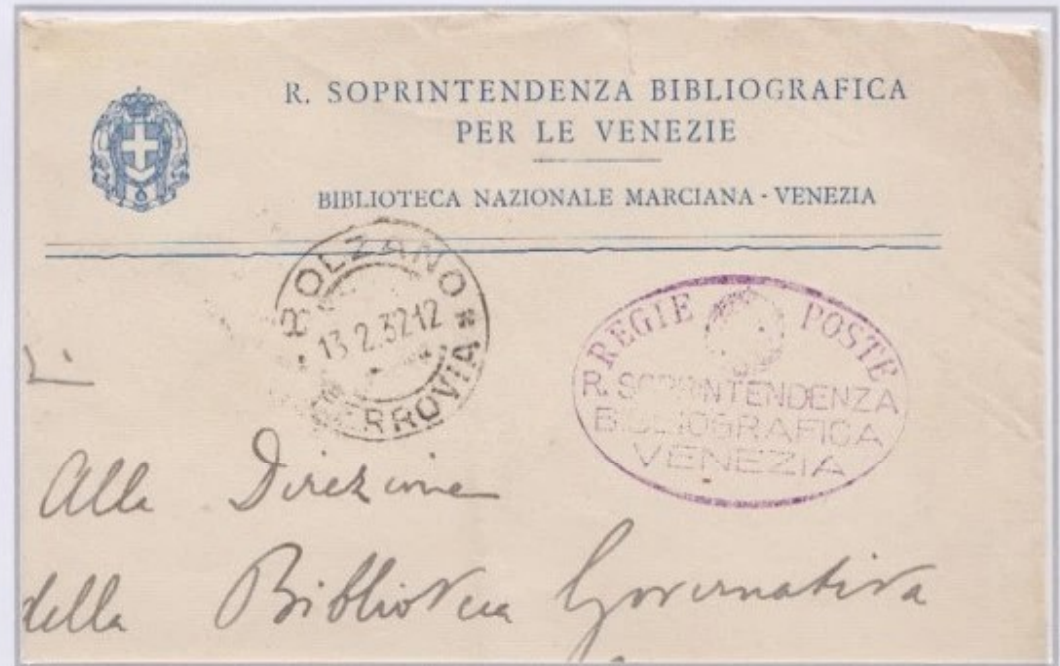
Before the Renaissance libraries, we should consider that of *Petrarca*. The library after his death would have passed to the Venetian Republic but this perhaps did not happen ... The library of great interest was born in this period, is the *Marciana of Venice*. Started by *Cardinal Bessarione* who in 1468 donated his "bookshop" to the Venetian Republic.



In 1559 it was transferred to the *Piazzetta San Marco*, where the library was built.



The foundation of the *Forteguerriana Library* of Pistoia, one of the oldest in Italy, is traditionally dated 1473, when, following a donation by *Cardinal Niccolò Forteguerri*, the *Pia Casa di Sapienza* was established.



Free-frank of Marciana Library (1932)



The libraries of the period of Humanism and of the Renaissance have characteristics consequent to different factors: the decay of the libraries entrusted to the religious, the work of the humanists, but above all for the invention of the press.

Incunaboli: "*Il Lectionario by Bernardino di Split*" and "*Spovid Oscena*", printed in Italy in the fifteenth century.



With the advent to power of the Medici in Florence, the first Florentine public library was born. It was then *Lorenzo the Magnificent* who brought together manuscripts from all over Europe, thus forming the first nucleus of the *Medicea-Laurenziana* library.



The entrance of the "Medicea Laurenziana" in the cloister of San Lorenzo built by Michelangelo and inaugurated in 1571.



The "Laurenziana" also has the largest Italian collection of Egyptian papyruses.

Free-frank of the *Medicea-Laurenziana* library.



Among the "Treasures" of the Laurenziana, which has one of the main collections of manuscripts in the world, there is The Florentine Code, the only bilingual Spanish and Nahuatl text of the *Historia universal de las cosas de Nueva España*, written by Brother Bernardino de Sahagún, richly illustrated and of fundamental importance for the knowledge of the Aztec culture.





In the second half of the 1400s Hungary had established itself as one of the most important states of Europe. It is in this historical period that *the kingdom of Mattia Corvino* (Mátyás Hunyadi), who was elected king of Hungary in 1458, was placed. Mattia was a great patron and his court in Buda became an important artistic and cultural center frequented by humanists and Italian artists.

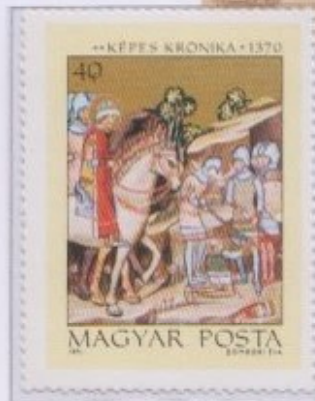


The Epitalamio composed for the wedding of Bianca Maria Sforza with Giovanni di Mattia Corvino, with a miniature that reproduces Mattia Corvino. preserved in the *Guernacci Library of Volterra*.



Mattia founded the *Corviniana Library in Buda*, one of the most famous libraries in the Renaissance world that on the death of the king contained about 3000 volumes or codes, called *Corvinae*, and about 4000 works mainly by Greek and Latin classical authors.

Budapest: Postal stationery



Specimen

The Chronicon Pictum is a medieval illustrated chronicle from the Kingdom of Hungary from the second half of fourteenth century.

After the death of King Mattia the *Corviniana* library remained in its place, but its existence was only a slow agony. Great then was the (*Corviniane miniatures*) dispersion of the library throughout Europe.



The actual *National Library of Paris* was born as a king's library. In 1522 Francesco I will transport the collection to Fontainebleau, entrusting the care to the humanist *Guillaumè Budé*.



Francis I

Budé: Maître de la Librairie du Roy, created the library of Fontainebleau, the first nucleus of the future Bibliothèque Nationale. Also, the national typography was created by Francesco I in 1538.



Signed Artist die Proof (brown) on stamp by artist Ch. Mazelin (Charles).



Final colour



French miniature of the fifteenth century of d'Antoine Rollin kept at the BNF.



The library will experience a period of great development starting from 1666 with *Jan Baptiste Colbert* who wanted to make the library a tool of glory for *Louis XIV*.





The Austrian National Library the, founded in the mid-fifteenth century as a court library, was known as the "Imperial Library of Vienna". It became the Austrian National Library in 1945.



Meter stamp: Francotyp-Postalia "JetMail" (digital).



Codex 695 (Austrian National library)

With 7.4 million documents is the richest Austrian library. He has the right to legal deposit and carries out the activity of bibliographic control. It also has important collections of incunabula, maps and globes, papyrus, artificial languages, musical scores and images.



The origins of the royal library of Belgium date back to 1559 when Philip II united the approximately 900 volumes belonging to *Filippo il Buono*. Thus, the Bibliothèque Royal was born. A fire destroyed it in 1731, but many works were saved.



The Library of Trinity College is a legal deposit library for Ireland and Great Britain, containing over 6.2 million printed volumes and significant quantities of manuscripts, including the *Book of Kells*. The Library is founding in 1592.



With the decline of the empire, Roman libraries were largely destroyed, and the preservation of books passed into the hands of the religious: it was thus that in the fourth century Pope Damaso founded a library in Rome, transferred in the 7th century to the Laterano, which became the central nucleus of the Vatican one.

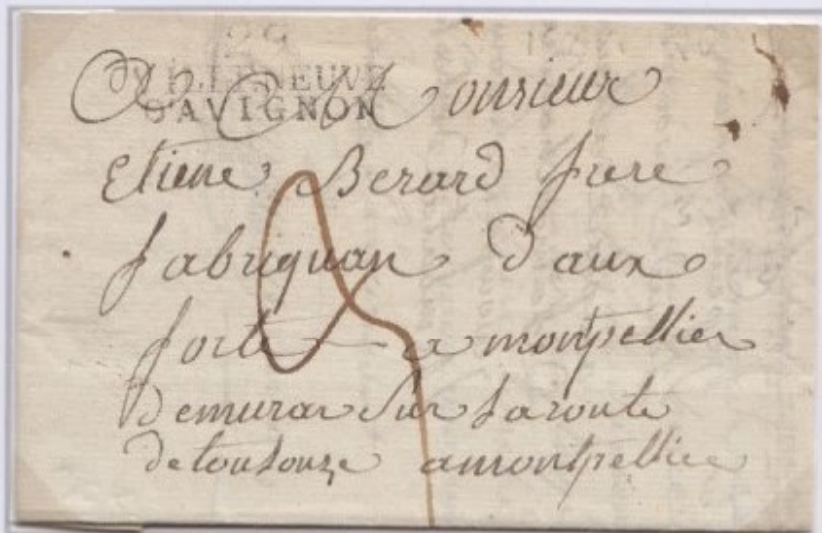


The Benedictine monks who fled *Montecassino* after the occupation of the monastery by *Frederick II* in Laterano brought with them many precious codes that were later transferred to Rome.



Federico II

Die Proof



(1826) 29 Villeneuve D'Avignon

The French invasion contributed to a considerable dispersion of the collections. A part of these codes reached Avignon, where a new library was built in the Papal palace. The so-called *Avignon Captivity* lasted from 1309 to 1377.



Pope Clement VI. He was the fourth Avignon pope.



After a period of no great success for the development of the library, in 1471 *Sisto IV* rose to the papal throne and in 1475 issued the seal "*AD DECOREM MILITANTIS ECCLESIAE*", with which the Vatican Apostolic Library can be considered officially founded.



The investiture as first librarian of the humanist *Bartolomeo Secchi* called Platina by *Pope Sisto IV*. Di Melozzo da Forli.

Carlo Pollaiuolo
XII. *Assemblea Generale Ordinaria del Senato dei Veneziani*



Vatican 2008: Postal stationery: *Incipit di Matteo sec. XV*

The Librarian was assisted by three subordinates and a reviewer. Reading was practiced at site, with the discipline of a strict regulation; but in this period the external loan also existed, of which the registers for the years 1475-1547 remain (Vat. lat. 3964 and 3966). The collection continued to increase, rising from a total of 2,527 codes in 1475 to 3,498 codes in 1481.



The humanist and historian *Bartolomeo Sacchi* called Platina was appointed Librarian. In the same year the library was founded, the codes rose to 2,527. While from the Platina catalog it is deduced that already in 1481 there were about 3,500.



Throughout the fifteenth century the increase in collections continued, until reigning *Giulio II* new rooms had to be added to those previously prepared ...

Aristotele "De Historia Animalium"
(ms. Vaticano latino 2094, f.8)

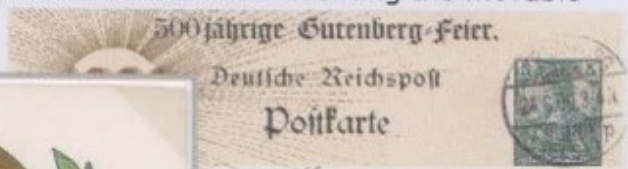


Tito Livio, "Ab Urbe Condita"
(Reg. Lat. 720, f. 253 - sec. XVI)





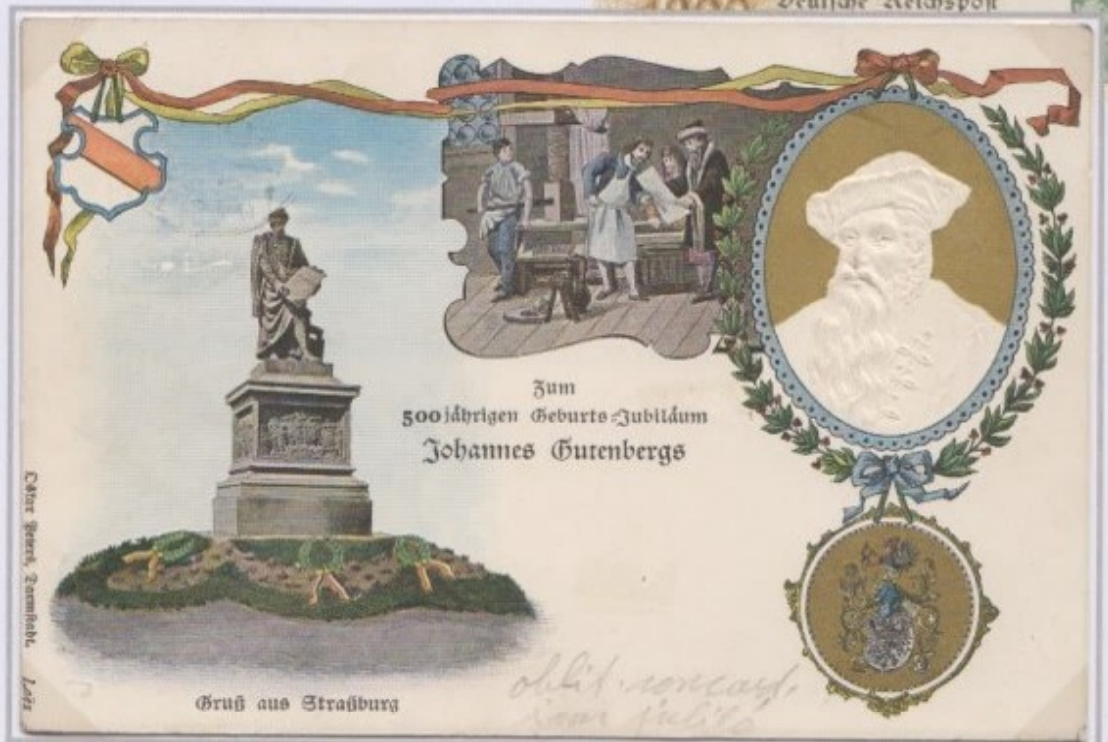
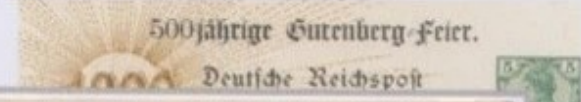
Western typographic art was born in Germany in the middle of the fifteenth century. The merit is attributed to *Johannes Genfleisch*, called *Gutenberg* born in *Magonza* around 1400. Inventing the movable characters, he laid the foundations for modern typography.



Imperforated

Deutsches Reich 1900- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order. (5 Pfg.)

On Gutenberg's youthful years we can only make conjectures. The good knowledge of the Latin language and its technical baggage suggest that Gutenberg had studied in a convent school, perhaps even in a university.



Deutsches Reich 1900- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order. (5 Pfg.)

From 1437 Gutenberg taught the art of polishing and grinding precious stones in *Strasbourg*. In 1448 Gutenberg returned to *Magonza*. In 1455 he had to face a legal dispute ... a borrower asked the judge to regain possession of a large capital paid to Gutenberg to manufacture equipment capable of producing the "*werk der bucher*".



Gutenberg's most important work was undoubtedly the print of the *Bible*. Printed in gothic and composed on 42 lines. In the composition at least six people were involved, the fusion of one hundred thousand characters required took at least six months, the compositional work at least two years....



Gutenberg probably went back to a manuscript bible, copying its main aspects.



With the invention of typographic characters, Johann Gutenberg not only realized the first modern book but overwhelmed the course of history.

Düsseldorf 1954-International press and paper fair.



For the printing process it was also necessary the staff that dealt with the inking, the laying of the sheets etc. The printing of 1282 pages of 180 copies in fact involved 330.670 passages to the press.



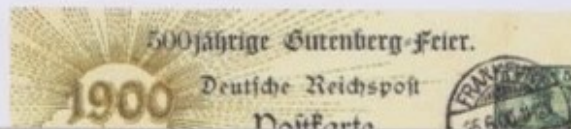


The Bible, published between 1455 and 1456 without a date or typography, is known as the "42-line Bible" or even the "Mazarina Bible", this name due to the fact that one of the most exemplary known is kept at the Mazarina Library in Paris. The work was printed in Gothic characters in two columns of 42 lines each in whole pages, consisting of 641 papers and divided into two, three and four volumes according to the requests of the time.



The Mazarin Library, is located within the Palais de l'Institut de France, at 23 quai de Conti in the 6th arrondissement. Among the library's collection of 2,370 incunabula is a Gutenberg Bible known as the Bible Mazarine. **Meter stamp Havas "M"**.

The bible will become the most printed book with the new technique.



Gutenberg in Magonza, founded a company with the goldsmith Johann Fust for the production of a book printed with the new technique. In 1449 Gutenberg was assisted by the engraver Peter Schöffer.



Gutenberg died in 1468 and was buried in the Franciscan church at Mainz.

Deutsches Reich 1900- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order. (5 Pfg.)



From 1454 to 1500, about 25,000 works appeared on the book market, printed with countless types of every shape and size, from willing and intelligent pioneers, often notable artists. All contributed to the spread of the book, and often to determine religious and philosophical currents that changed the face of society.



Meter stamp: Postalia "MS5/WK4" Prefix C



Aldo Pio Manuzio born between 1449 and 1452 He is considered one of the greatest publishers of all time, among the first publishers in the modern sense in Europe. With his numerous innovations he marked the history of publishing and promoted advances in typography.



Book Printed in Venice in 1573.

The book of the *Spiritual Exercises* of Saint Ignatius of Loyola of 1548.



The first Bible printed in the Netherlands in Delft in 1477.



In all the main European cities printing workshops were born. According to one estimate, at the end of the 15th century there were at least a thousand printing presses scattered in 200 European cities. From the printing presses came volumes of different types: from ancient texts of law, to flying papers and texts on various subjects, both in Latin and in the vernacular.



In the same period in which Gutenberg was active, the art of printing was also developing in Italy. The first Italian printing press was established in the *Benedictine monastery of Santa Scolastica a Subiaco*, the first book was printed on October 29, 1465.



The monastery also had a remarkable library.



1868.8.23 From Subiaco to Roma. Third issue (1868.12.3) of Papal State stamps.



Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia. From Soncino to Rovato (Brescia) January 9...

In Soncino, thanks to the *Soncini family*, a typography had been active since 1483. In 1488 the first Bible was printed in Hebrew. A few years earlier, in 1472, the first valuable Editions of *Dante Alighieri's "Comedy"* had been printed. The first three editions were printed in *Jesi, Mantova and Foligno*.



The first three editions of the *Divine Comedy* printed in 1472. The *Jesina* edition actually never came out. The *Venice* one of 1472 had to be remembered.

Parable: Printed in Brescia in 1491. It is the first illustrated incunabula in Hebrew



Andrea Hess was the first to print in Budapest a "Cronica Hungaricum" in 1473. The volume by Mattia Corvino "Le Liges in Dieta", also from 1473, was published with no notes from the printer.



In Spain, 24 were the cities that saw the establishment of printing houses in the 15th century. In Valencia and Zaragoza, the first arose between 1474 and 1475.



ancient printing press (1941 meter stamp: Francotyp mignon)



William Caxton (1422 - 1491)

The introduction of the press in England is instead linked to the name of William Caxton, who set up a typography in the Westmister abbey in 1476.



After the invention of printing, the use of manuscript ex-libris is found in not a few incunabula but was gradually abandoned; the indication of ownership was intended to give greater decency, and leaflets were adopted, bearing the name of the owner printed or engraved.



In Switzerland and more precisely in Geneva, Adam Steinschaber began printing on March 24, 1478. While in neighboring Austria in Vienna from 1482 the first books were printed by Stephan Koblinger.



Switzerland 1893- Postal stationery



Empire of Austria: 1858.17.6 from Wien to Rudweis. (franking 9 Kreuzer)



Towards the end of the 1400s, two other European countries began to have their own printers. In Denmark in Odense in 1482 (*Breviarium Ottoniense*), while typographer J. Snell emigrated from this country, he went to Sweden and precisely to Stockholm where he published the first Swedish book in 1483: (*Dialogus Creaturarum*). In 1512, the first Armenian book, *The Book of Friday*, was printed in Venice. In 1551 also Ireland had its first typography



In the second half of the sixteenth century, *Antwerp* was the most important European financial center. *Cristophe Plantin* set up his printing house there in 1563. Thanks to Plantin and the *Elsevier*, the art of printing found its greatest splendor in the Netherlands.



Elzevir or *Elsevier*, is the name of a large family of Dutch printers and booksellers. The forefather was Lodewijk who opened a bookshop in *Leiden* in 1580. **Meter stamp: Francotyp.**



Imperforated



In 1543 *Vesalio* published the first edition of human anatomy, with splendid descriptive tables. *Mercator* and *Ortelio* created modern cartography.



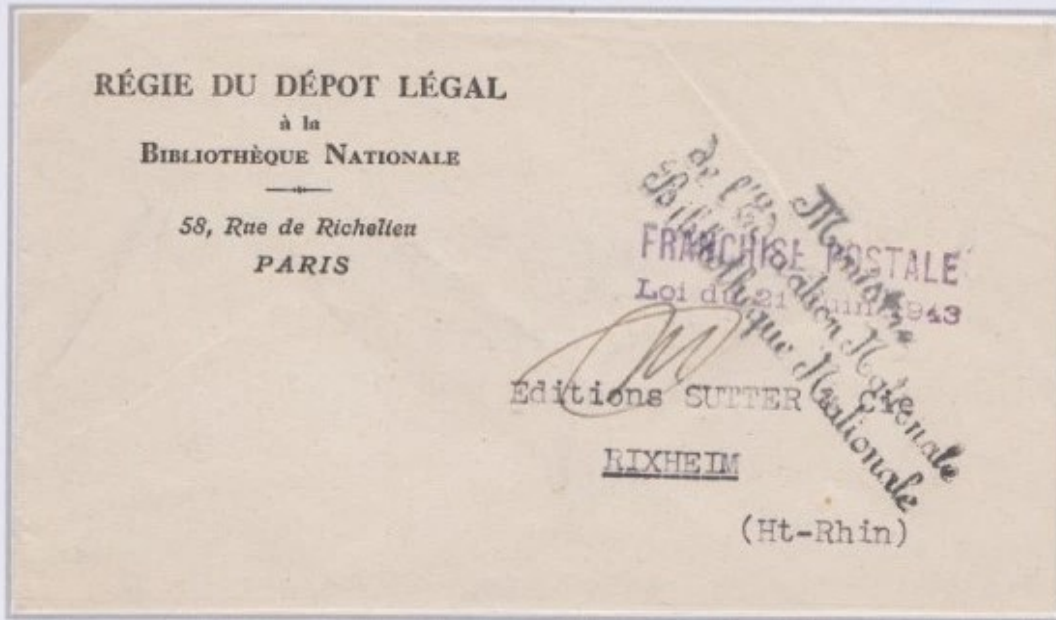
Meter stamp: Havas "C"



The printers in the '500 worked at full speed, and supplied the great European libraries, but the axe of the church of Rome was falling on them ...



In the sec. XVI borned a fundamental institute for the life of modern libraries, the "right to print": in 1537, in fact, *King Francis I* of France established the *Dépôt legal*, for which the publisher or printer must deposit a copy of each of their books to a specific library, in the case the real one.



Free-franck. French national library (Act June 21, 1943) "Régie du Dépôt Légal". From Paris to Rixheim.

Meanwhile, the invention of the press radically changed the nature and the dimension of the problem related to the control, both political and religious, of the production and circulation of books.



Between 1517 and 1530 Luther's writings were disclosed in over three hundred thousand copies.



Scipposfarte sur Luther, Seier Juvosfarte 1922 in Wittenberg



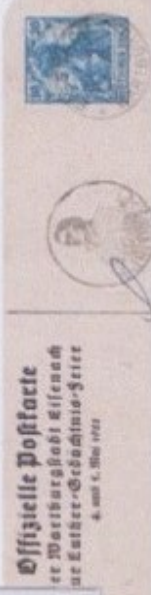
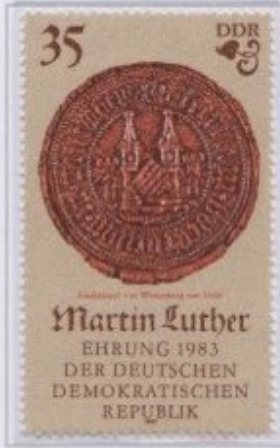
The extraordinary potential of the use of new technology was soon made evident by the rapid spread of the Protestant Reformation led by Martin Luther.

Germany Reich 1921- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order.



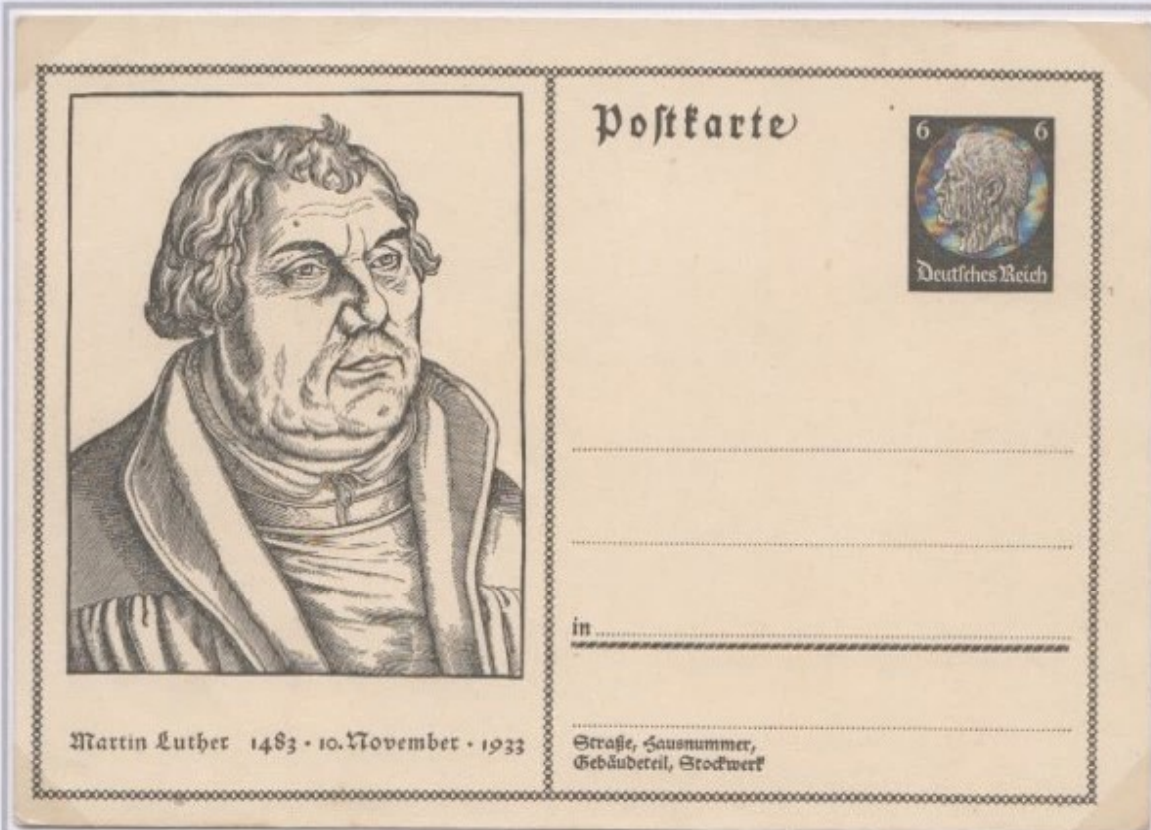


The beginning of the reform is traditionally made to coincide with the publication, on October 31, 1517, by Luther of the 95 Theses on indulgences in *Wittenberg in Saxony*, in which this custom was criticized by preachers and pope's contemporary to him.



In Wartburg castle (1521-1522) Luther devoted himself to translating the Bible into German.

Germany Reich 1921- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order.

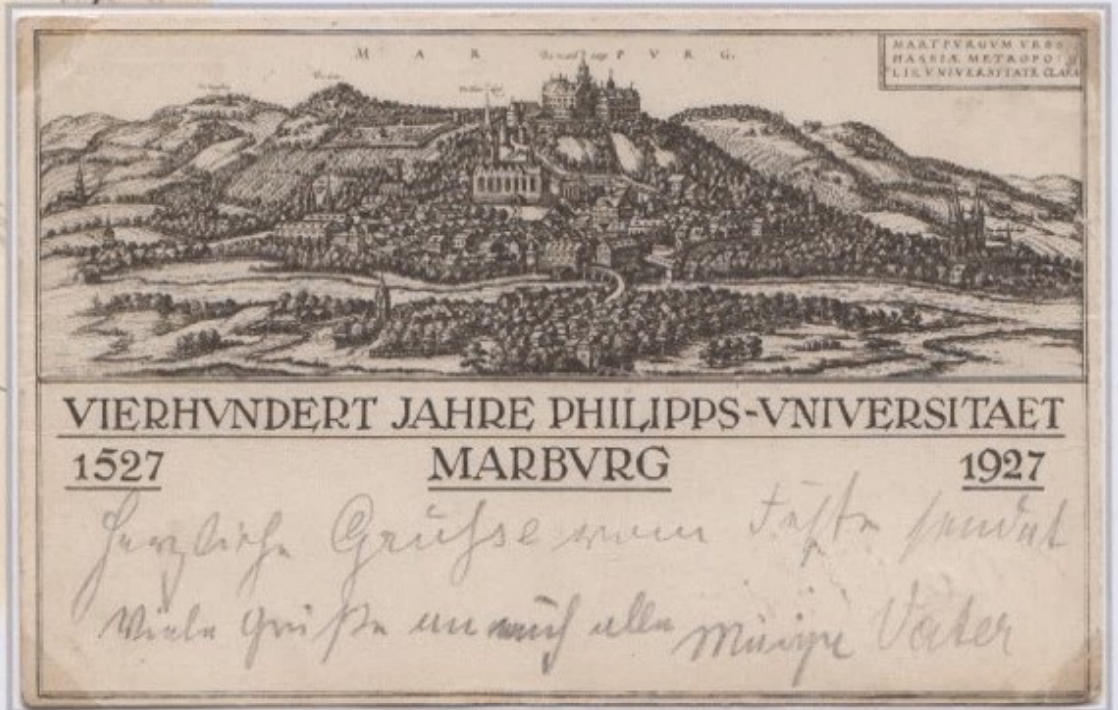


Katharina von Bora (1499 -1552) German Christian nun converted to Protestantism who later became the wife of Martin Luther.

Germany Reich 1933. Postal stationery (portrait of Cranach the old man)



Also, the birth of new universities and university libraries in this period of "Reformation and Counter-Reformation" clashed between them. In 1527 the first Protestant university was born in *Marburg*. The Catholic church of *Graz* was born in 1585.



Germany Reich 1927. Postcard with stamp imprint on private order. (Cancellation for 400th anniversary of foundation)



Calvinism in Switzerland gave rise to the *University of Geneva* in 1559. The *University of Lausanne* was born later as a school of Protestant theology.



Calvin was, with Luther, the greatest religious reformer of European Christianity. From his name the term Calvinism has been coined to indicate the movement and the theological and cultural tradition born of his thought and which, in many ways, differs from Lutheranism.



The *Debrecen Collegium* was founded in 1538. The *College Library*, with its collection of 60,000 pieces is the largest of the Protestant Church in Hungary.



Consequently to the schism produced by the development of Protestantism, the Catholic Church, after the work of the Council of Trento, (1545-1563) to stem the effects of the Reformation and to combat the spread of heretical theories, fielded a vast action of defense of the orthodoxy, in which the control and censorship of book production played a central role.



Pope Paul III called the Council of Trento.

The action of control and repression that the Church applied was extremely violent compared to the past. Think about *Giordano Bruno*, *Girolamo Savonarola* who died at the stake, which the Church tried to hinder until the last.



1640 To the Church of Rome...



Bartolomeo dei Martiri Portuguese Dominican. He actively participated in the Council of Trent.



Meter stamp Frama M prefix "A". In this period (1543) the *Albertina university library in Leipzig* was founded. One of the oldest in Germany.

In the first edition of the *Index librorum prohibitorum* Boccaccio's *The Decameron*, Machiavelli's *Prince* and many others excelled. The index was updated twenty times to prevent the contamination of the faith and the corruption of morals by reading books....





Bayern 1897- Postcard with stamp imprint on private order (5 Pfennig)

The European seventeenth century is a century of hard conflicts and profound transformations. It is in this century, in fact, that the clash between the counter-reformation and the reform finds its solution, but it is also the century of the great epidemics (1624-1630).



Despite big names like *Shakespeare* to gather the necessary funds to publish the works, special companies had to be created. This was also the case for the first edition in "Folio" by William Shakespeare in 1623, printed by a group of London booksellers.



In Spain, the publishing event of the century can be considered the publication of the publisher Juan de la Cuesta of the two parts of the "*Don Quijote*" by Cervantes in 1605 and 1615.

In the seventeenth century the book lost much of its public due to the economic crisis and the constant wars. The printers of the previous century disappeared, the book declined into imitative and standardized forms, both for the typographical format and for the illustrations, with some exceptions



March 14, 1668. From Pisa to leghorn the plague had recently ended in Italy.



An important role for the dissemination of the thought of the book and the development of libraries, was carried out by the Academies, which sprang up all over Europe especially in the seventeenth century. This is witnessed by the "Accademia dei Lincei" founded in 1603 and popularizer of Galileo Galilei's works...



Badly centred



... or that of "Crusca", the oldest linguistic academy in the world, publishing the first edition of the Vocabulary already in 1612.



1943.3.5- Register letter: from Bolzano to Verona. Second day of use of the Galilei series, franked with 2.25 lire (lire rate 1 double port letter, + lire 1.25 for the registered letter).



(1934) Free-frank of R. Accademia della Crusca di Firenze



The Groningana Academy then University of Groningen was established in 1614.



In the seventeenth century the character of the libraries also changed with the study method, which became public in the modern sense of the word. In Milan on December 8th 1609 the *Ambrosiana* rises. One of the first librarians will be *Ludovico Muratori*.



Muratori on cancellation envelope Rome Borghi XXV Holy Year (23.9.1950)



The *Ambrosiana* has, among others, autograph of *Ariosto* over 2000 drawings collected in the 1119 sheets of *Leonardo's Codex Atlanticus*, plus many autographs including those of *Tasso*.

But the first European library open to the public is the *Angelica Library*, founded in Rome in 1604. It was one of the first libraries of the Counter-Reformation.



1989-Frinking of The Angelica Library



Meter Stamp: Pitney Bowes

The *Bodleian Library* is the most famous library of Oxford University, dating back to 1602, when it was opened by *Thomas Bodley*, professor and former diplomat, who had participated in the reorganization of the University Library.



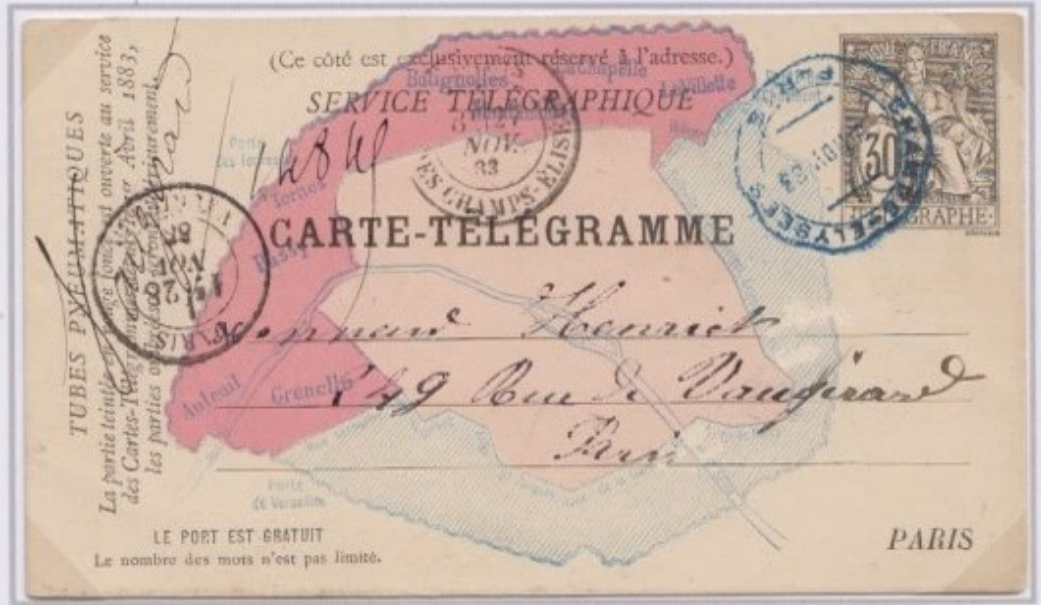
Le "Livres du Graunt Caam" 15th century illuminated manuscript. Bodleian Library. (ms. Bodl.264)



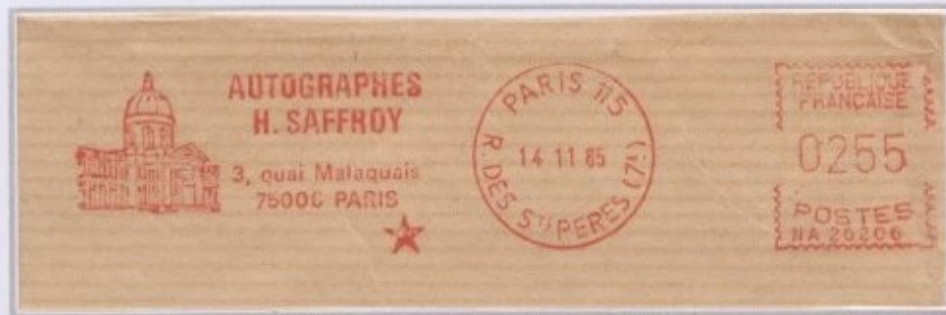
Gutter



The *Mazzarino Library* is the oldest public library in France. It was initially the personal library of Cardinal Mazzarino (born on 14 July 1602 in Pescina in the Abruzzo) who a great bibliophile was also. His first library was lost when he had to flee Paris during the "Fronde".



Paris 1883-Telegraphic service for the city. The Mazarino Library is located at 23 quai de Conti in the 6th arrondissement.



Meter stamp "Secap N prefix A"



At his death he bequeathed his library, which he had opened to scholars since 1643. Reopened in 1682, the Mazzarino library now occupies the eastern wing of the *Palais de Institut de France*. Among the volumes owned: the "*De Historia stirpium*" by Leonhard Fuhs a German botanist, a copy of the Gutenberg Bible, known as the *Bible of Mazzarino*.



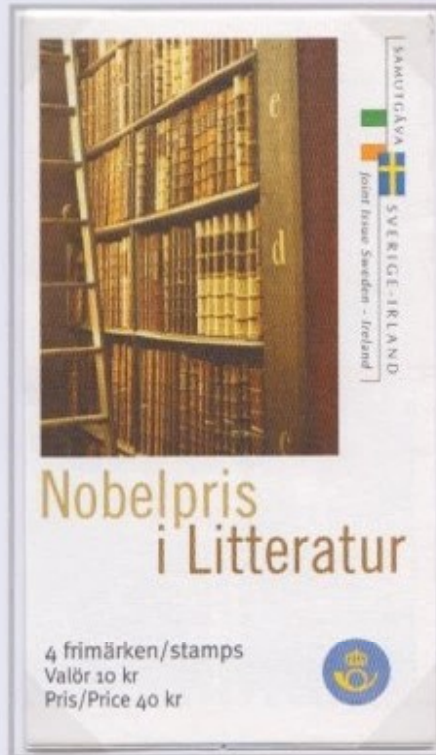
In 1635 a Jesuit university was born in Trnava, it was the only university in the kingdom of Hungary was founded by Archbishop Péter Pázmány. It was born with the aim of supporting the Counter-Reformation. The City already had a library in the archbishop's palace from 1615.



In 1600 the Bohemian physician, politician and philosopher Jan Jesenius aroused considerable public interest by publishing the publication "Autopsy in Prague". In 1670 the theological-political treatise by Baruch Spinoza was published anonymously in Amsterdam.



In Sweden in 1621 a royal ordinance gave birth to the future National Library the *Olmienis Bibliotheca Regia in Stockholm* with the aim of preserving all that was given to the press in the Kingdom. Today it has over one million volumes.



The Stockholm State Library



The shelves of the Stockholm National Library.

Sverige 2004 Stamps Booklet

.. Another important and historic library is the university library of Lund...
Sverige 1964 Stamps Booklet



Photo Essay



The National Library of Denmark: the "Kongelige Bibliotek" was founded in 1673. In neighboring Finland in 1640 the university library was founded in Turku, then transferred to Helsinki in 1828.



The cultural life of the eighteenth century was dominated by a important intellectual movement which, in homage to the clearing role assigned to reason, was called *ILLUMINISMO*. Even the press "enlightened". The good taste returned, it reached the perfect architecture of the pages, the harmony of the characters. It is the century of the "Encyclopedism".



(1913) Free-frank of the Konigliche Bibliothek Berlin.

At the origin of the *Berlin state library*, there is the court library of 1661. Its increase was curated by Frederick the Great, with the purchase of entire libraries. In 1701, it was renamed the "Royal Library of Berlin" and kept this name until the end of the monarchy in Germany in 1918, then renamed "Prussian State Library".



In the *Berlin Staatsbibliothek* the musical manuscripts with autographs by *Bach and Beethoven* are preserved.



In the eighteenth-century Italy had the largest printer: *Giovan Battista Bodoni*. In 1771 he opened his own printing house by merging the characters called "**BODONI**". The characters were published in the famous: "*Manuale Tipografico*". Printing technology knew no innovations until the end of the century, when *Aloys Senefelder* introduced lithography (1796).



Meter stamp "Francopost"



The history of the *Vicenza library* began in 1696 when Giovanni Maria Bertolo, noble from Vicenza, decided to donate to the city his library, of about 9,000 volumes. In 1708, the library was opened and called "*Bertoliana*" in honor of its founder.



The first Irish public library was opened in 1701 by the *Archbishop of Dublin Marsh*. In 1714, the *Magliabechiana*, now the National Central Library, stood in Florence by Antonio Magliabecchi, one of the most important and historic in Italy.



(1947) – Free-frank of The National Central Library of Florence.



The largest Spanish Library is the National Library of Madrid, founded in 1712 by Philip V. Today it has 30,000 manuscripts and 7 million documents inventoried.



Commentary on the Apocalypse National Library of Spain.



The *University Library of Coimbra* in Portugal boasts a splendid baroque seat in the *Joanina*, a collection of 250000 volumes opened in 1717. Furthermore, in *Mafra's* Royal Palace from the 18th century there is the most important Portuguese Monastic Library.



It was in the eighteenth century that the library was more clearly good for public consumption. A bit everywhere, precious collections are made, which then end up in public libraries. This is the case of the *British Library in London*, opened in 1759 after large donations from wealthy English men.



Meter stamp Hasler (Mailmaster HF)



British Library. (Ms. Yates Thompson 36)



Lisley Psalter of the British Library.



In Italy during the eighteenth-century numerous libraries were born. Two important and historical are: the *Pesaro's Oliveriana* of 1756 founded by Annibale degli Abbatì Olivieri, and the *Agrigento's Lucchesiana* founded in 1765.



Signed Artist die Proof (brown) on stamp by artist: Charles Paul Dufresne.

Charles-Louis de Secondat, baron of La Brède and Montesquieu, better known only as Montesquieu. The spirit of the laws is the most important writing of the philosopher. Montesquieu publishes the work anonymously in 1748. A veritable encyclopaedia of political and legal knowledge of the eighteenth century. The work was attacked and put on the Index (*Index Librorum Prohibitorum*) in 1751.



In 1742 the University library of Pisa, was established with a substantial fund donated by professors. Today it has over six hundred thousand volumes...



The library has Galilei's autographs.

(1953) Free-frank of the University Library of Pisa



...a few years later they would be born: the Ventimillian university of Catania (1755), that of Sassari founded in 1765.



From the trivulziano code 905

Another Italian library developed in the eighteenth century is the Trivulziana of Milano, specializing above all in humanistic texts and housed in the Castello Sforzesco. Among others, it has the famous "Trivulziano Code 905" with miniatures by Francesco Antonio del Chierico.

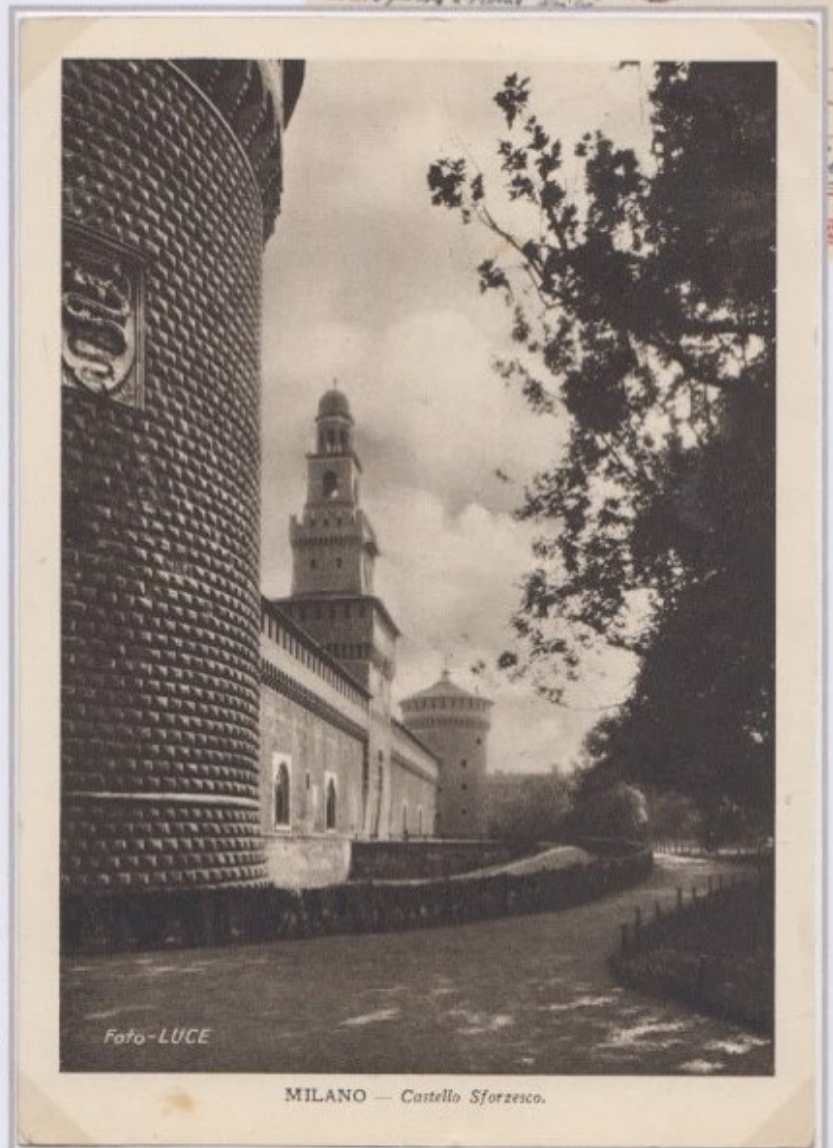


Foto-LUCE

MILANO — Castello Sforzesco.

Kingdom of Italy (1939) - Postal stationery



The great library commissioned by the Empress *Maria Theresa of Austria* in Milan is the Braidese which, thanks to the dissolution of the Society of Jesus decreed in 1773, acquired the Palace of the Jesuit College of Brera, built on the area of the 13th century Umiliati convent, and destined for the library. Since 1880 has the qualification of "National".



Maria Theresa



The library opened to the public in 1786. In 1778 came the collection of the *doctor Albrecht von Haller* of Berne, full of valuable scientific texts. The suppression of religious congregations, decreed by *Emperor Joseph II*, led to the confiscating of a portion of the funds of ancient cloistered bookshops.



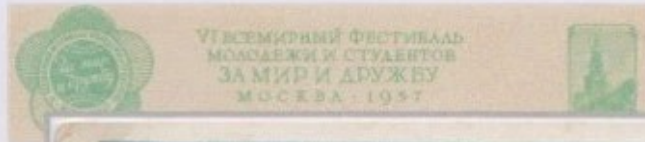
(1949) Free-frank of the National Braidense Library.



In Brera there are also some manuscripts by Carlo Porta, representative of Milanese dialect literature. Among the special funds, there is the Manzonianiano one donated in 1885. It consists of autographs and editions and translations and works by Manzoni, from his correspondence, from the books he wrote. The Braidese also has an important Bodonian Collection. 922 volumes published by Bodoni.



At the end of the eighteenth century the national library of Portugal was born, created by decree of February 29th 1796 with. The Royal Dutch Library (Koninklijke Bibliotheek) established in 1798 is the national library of the Netherlands and is located in The Hague.



The Russian State Library is the national library of Russia, located in Moscow. It is the largest in the country and the fifth largest in the world for its collection of books (17.5 million). It was named the Lenin State Library of the USSR from 1925. The library was founded on July 1862.

Postal stationery (1957).

Important technical advances led to a veritable revolution in the field of book production in the nineteenth century, with the definitive passage from craftsmanship to the book industry. The real revolution came with the introduction of stereotypy.



Meter stamp: francotyp "C".



In 1886 Ottmar Mergenthaler invents the Linotype. The first flat-cylindrical press was made by Friedrich Koenig in 1814 and in 1928 the "four-cylinder" machine was introduced. After Karel Klic, he will invent the procedure called "photoengraving".





The national library "Vittorio Emanuele III" of Naples was opened to the public on January 13, 1804 under the name of Reale Biblioteca di Napoli, it assumed in 1860 with the unification of Italy the name of National Library.



Monumental salon



"Galen in Ippocratis aphorismos et in librum pronosticorum" National Library of Naples.

In 1813, after its foundation, the Library of the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa was established, which was then placed in the Palazzo dei Cavalieri.



Kingdom of Italy (1932). Postal stationery



C. QUINDICI



Free-frank - Roma National Central Library (Cancellation Roma Holy Year 1950).

The new headquarters of the National Library of Rome opened in 1975

The Central National of Rome was inaugurated on 4 March 1876. Also known as "Vittorio Emanuele II". The library's assets include 8,355 manuscripts, and seven million printed volumes.



In the small Greenland in 1830 the first public library was born.



The National Library of Ireland originates from the Library of the Royal Dublin Society, founded in 1731. Purchased by the State in 1877, it was destined in 1890 to be the seat of the National. The University of Oslo is the oldest and most prestigious university in Norway. The library was founded in 1811 under the name of Det Kongelige Frederiks Universitet.



Meter Stamp Hasler "F88"



Specimen



Greece 1902 Postal stationery with 5 Lepta to France.

The Greek National Library was founded in 1829. But it was in 1866 that the collections were merged together and in 1902 they moved permanently to their current location. The Strasbourg National in Alsace founded in 1872 until 1945 had the German name Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Straßburg.



One of the last European national libraries was that of Luxembourg, established in 1899.

(1946) Free-frank of The National and University Library of Strasbourg.



In the first post-unification decades, in an Italy where three quarters of the population was illiterate, libraries were almost completely lacking for "popular" users, alongside those of "high culture", frequented by a small circle of scholars. The economic and social backwardness had not yet triggered that demand for widespread education.



Switzerland 1922. Postal Stationery Issued for the National Holiday



The history of popular libraries in Italy began in 1861 when the first circulating library was established in Prato. Citizens who want to use the service pay a contribution of 30 cents a month. According to official statistics of the Kingdom in 1863 there are 210 popular libraries in Italy, of which 164 are open to the public.



Milan March 7, 1921. Free-frank card Italian Popular Libraries, to Treviso.



In 1903 the Consortium for Popular Libraries was established within the Humanitarian Society in Milan. President will be Filippo Turati.



In 1908, in Rome, the congress organized by the Milan Library Consortium is held. The Italian Federation of Popular Libraries is established. Libraries can join the Federation by paying a fee. The Federation prints a Bulletin and publishes a series of informative essays and a manual for the management of libraries.



Milan October 24, 1925: Free-frank card Italian Popular Library Federation. to Rome.



In 1924 special stamps were adopted with different vignettes (three) depending on face value. Officially to facilitate the accounting of Parastatal Agencies. This was also the case for the Italian Popular Library Federation.



The Popular Library of Rho founded in 1908.



In 1928 the census of Italian popular libraries reached 3270 functioning structures, mainly in Northern Italy.

Milan January 18, 1932: Free-frank card Italian Popular Library Federation, to San Remo.



On June 28, 1914 the heir to the throne of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, *Francesco Ferdinando*, was with his wife *Sofia* on a visit to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Francesco Ferdinando found himself facing the attacker who, armed with a pistol, fired two shots, killing both the heir to the throne and his wife. on July 28, Emperor Franz Joseph signed the mobilization of troops against Serbia and Montenegro. We all know the rest.



The need to communicate with those who were far away and give voice to their experience was common to all fighters, from the most cultured, to the least literate.



Free-frank of Braidese

Austria World War I Military free-frank card. Imperial Austrian Army (K.U.K.) Pro the widows and orphans of war - The Soldier's House of Zita Queen and Empress ... the table of books (library).



In Italy a Committee was set up which, through the management of the *Braidese Library*, spread widely a large quantity of volumes among all the realities of the army.



Wenn ich Dich anrufe, so erhörest Du mich
und gibst meiner Seele große Kraft. . . . Wenn ich
mitten in der Angst wandle, so erquickest Du mich.

Psalm 138, 3. 7.

Donnerstag 11. 4. 15
L. U! Gmüthe habe für mich einen
großen Vorrath von dem besten Wein
weil ich mich nicht weiß zu wech-
seln. Ich habe schon, die ich
schon habe. Ich habe aber
noch zu kaufen, nicht weiß ich,
was ich von dem Wein haben
will. Ich habe schon einen Vorrath
von dem besten Wein.

Germany World War I. Militar free-frank card. 8°
 Feldartillerie-Brigade Mansfelder Feldartillerie-
 Regiment Nr. 75 (Halle a.S.).

Surely at the "front" one of the most read books on the various fronts was the Bible. Also, this *Feldpostkarte*, most probably illustrated by the Bible, but also by a sword, shows the Psalm of David 138 verses 3 and 7.



Erich Maria Remarque, a German writer, participated as a volunteer in the First World War where he was wounded several times. He was also a librarian and in 1929 he published his most famous work: *Nothing new on the Western front.*



Carlo Emilio Gadda writer, poet left as a volunteer in the territorial departments of the Alpine troops. Between 24 August 1915 and 31 December 1919, he kept a detailed diary, partly lost. Partially published in 1955.



France march 11, 1918: World War I. Militar free-frank letter of the "officers library Military hospital" of Amelie-Les-Bains. To S. Etienne.





The French conquest of Morocco began in 1911 as a result of the Agadir Crisis when Moroccan forces besieged the French-occupied city of Fez. On March 30, 1912, the sultan signed the Fez treaty, formally surrendering the sovereignty of Morocco to France, de facto transforming its state into a French protectorate, which lasted until 1934.



Fez

The French occupation of Morocco began in Casablanca in 1907.



French conquest of Morocco (1911). Free-frank to Casablanca military library. French army corps, from Casablanca to Le Lue (Dep. of Varo).



Marrakech is one of the most important cities in Morocco. French Protectorate. He had a garrison: "the troops of Western Morocco" since 1912.



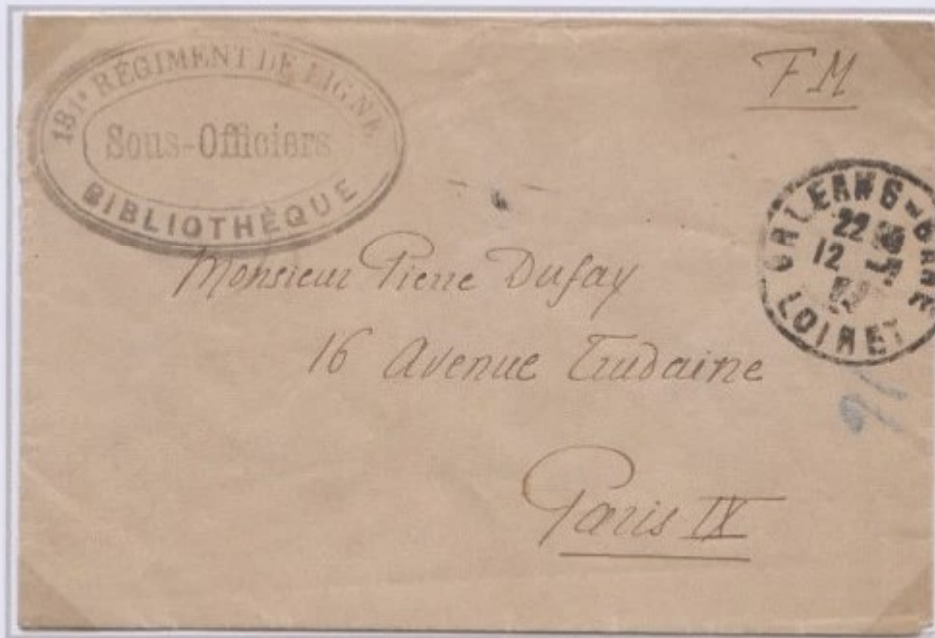
Garrison Library in Marrakech. Morocco French Protectorate (1913). free-frank from the French army corps in Marrakech to Amiens (Dep. Di Somme)



Regimental libraries for officers in France have existed since the 18th century, but the first real libraries are those of military schools: in 1834 the artillery schools has a library. However, it was not until 1 June 1872 (after the war of 1871) that an official instruction ordered the creation of libraries, places of education and recreation for the officers.



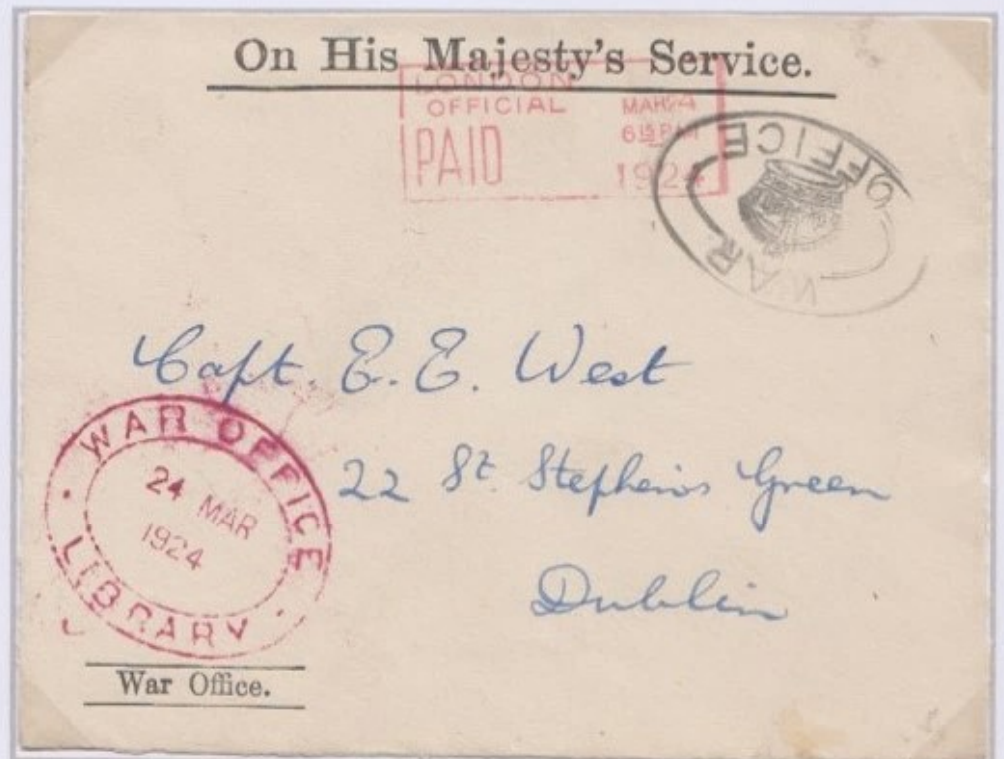
The libraries of the Official Circles were created by the decree of 12 July 1886 on the organization of military circles and libraries, the decree was then repealed in 1939.



France. Free-frank of the 131st Line Regiment (NCOs - Library) created in 1794. Taken part in the First World War deployed in Orleans.



The WAR OFFICE was a Department of the British Government, responsible for the army from 1587 to 1964. The library was also part of this department.



England- (1924) Free-frank of His Majesty's Service. War Office -library.



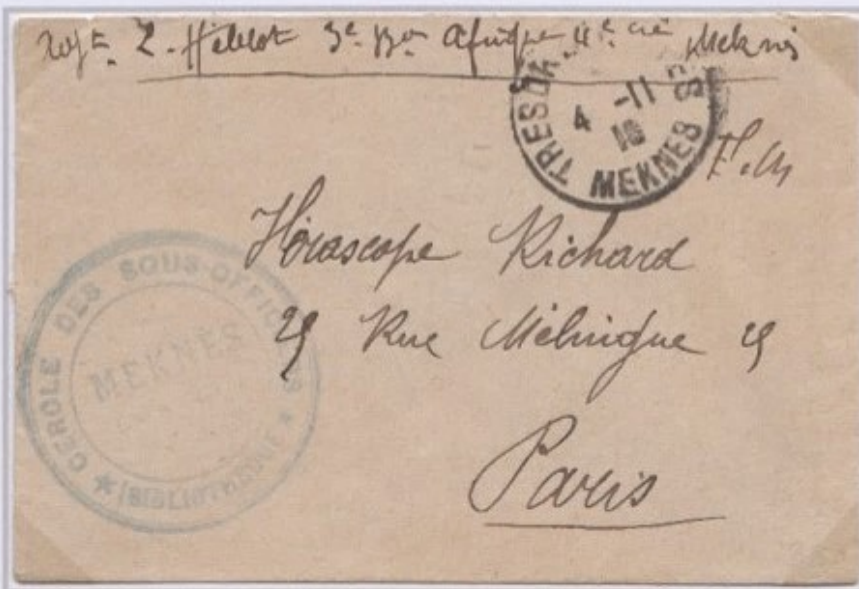
In 1919, after the First World War, the devastated bookshops were reorganized and restored in France. The libraries were moved or closed. A law decree of 1939 organized the circles of officers, non-commissioned officers, but reduced the library to the status of "auxiliary activity", therefore subject to the self-financing of the circles. The decline of this type of library began in this post-war period.



In 1939 there were 244 libraries circulating in metropolitan France and 147 in the colonies. "As of November 10, 2010, only 8 libraries remain open.



The colonial Library of Senegal, has origins in 1837. It is one of the oldest colonial libraries of the Côtes d'Afrique Noire. *Garrison colonial library, From Saint Louis (Senegal 1941) to Nice. With censorship.*



France 1918 free-frank from Meknes to Paris. Library of NCO club of Meknes in Morocco. Which was the headquarter of a garrison of the French Foreign Legion.



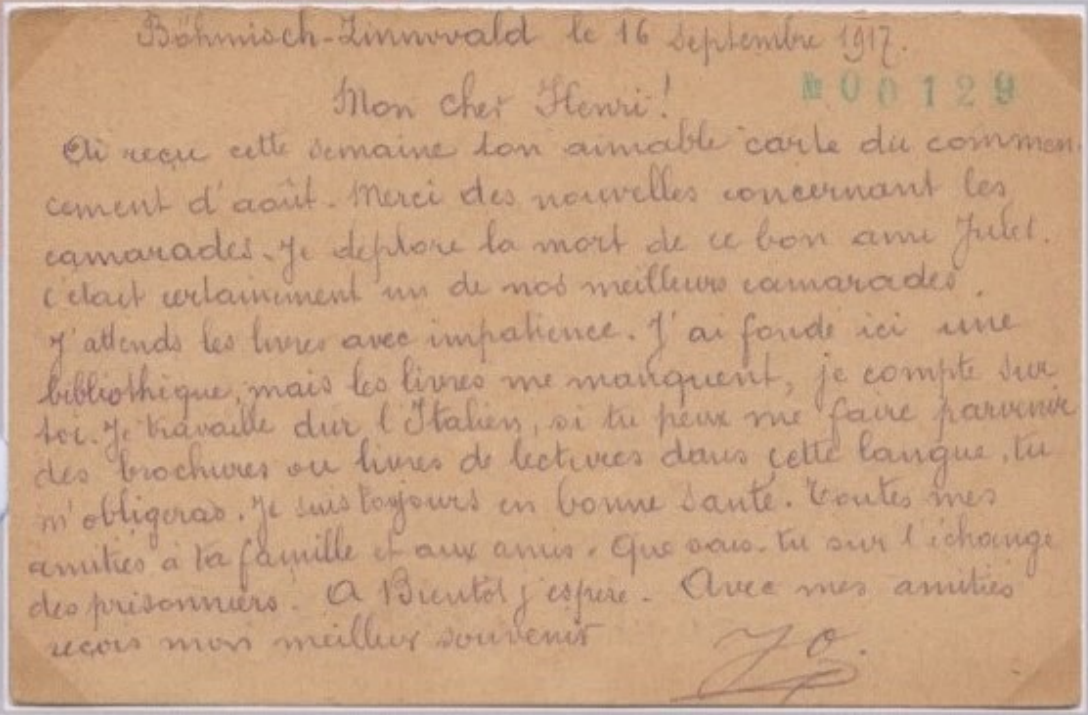
In Italy in Civitavecchia there is the library called "Presidio". Former war library of the Army War School established in Turin in 1867 and then rebuilt in Civitavecchia in 1947. It has about 136 thousand specialized volumes.





Especially during the *First World War*, many prison camps, on one side and on the other, had or gave permission to organize libraries in favor of the officer of the troop soldiers' prisoners of war.

It reads among other things: ... Here I founded a library, but books are missing ... Counting on you. I'm working hard with the Italian ... you can send me brochure's and books in this language ...



1917- from the K.u.K. prison camp Kriegsgefangenenlager in DEUTSH-GABEL of Bohmisch-Zinnwald, today Cinnvald in the Czech Republic to Outry-le-Chalet in the department of Loiret (France).



Leuven destruction of the university library, 1914.



Ex Yugoslavia 1938. Postal Stationery. Entrance to the Belgrade National Library before its destruction.

Even the libraries during the wars have suffered serious damage: such as the *National Library of Serbia of Belgrade* it was bombed in the *Second World War* by the *Luftwaffe* which completely destroyed the Library building along with a collection of books of 500,000 volumes. Or like the *university library of Leuven*, razed to the ground by the Germans during the *First World War*. then rebuilt in 1928.



If until the nineteenth century many libraries were housed in universities, princely residences or historic buildings. Today the offices of the new libraries are designed in such a way that they can be easily extended or modified to adapt them to the changes taking place regarding the conservation and consultation of the works and the public's needs.



Germany Reich 1930. Postal stationery: Konisberg University



The University of Helsinki and the Berlin State Library.



Off center

The Thomas Jefferson Palace home of the Library of Congress one of the most important libraries of the world was opened in 1897. John L. Smithmeyer and Paul J. Pelz designed the library in 1873.



Meter Stamp: Francotyp.

The main building of the German National Library in Leipzig was built 1914–1916 after plans of the architect Oskar Pusch. The impressive facade is 160 m long and faces the "Deutscher Platz" The building was opened on October 19, 1916.



Meter stamp : Francotyp-Postalia. Freiburg university library.

Buildings born or later used as libraries during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries found themselves managing significant library assets, which in many cases imposed to build new and modern libraries.



Today's modern buildings house several libraries in the world. Some futuristic others a little less, all for the well-known reasons of space and functionality. But also, to create new environments adapted to new technologies.



On 3 September 2013, the new and technological public library in Birmingham was inaugurated. The new National Library in Berlin, it was built between 1967 and 1978 by the architect Hans Scharoun. American Memorial Library is one of the largest public libraries in Berlin, although it was inaugurated on 7 September 1954 it is extremely functional and modern.



At the end of the 1980s, the French National Library was brought together in a modern and functional complex on the banks of the Seine. The new national library of Iceland was opened in 1994. In Mexico, the UNAM Central Library, 50 meters high with 14 floors, was inaugurated in 1955. A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2007. In Denmark in 1999 the new national library was inaugurated: called "Black Diamond".

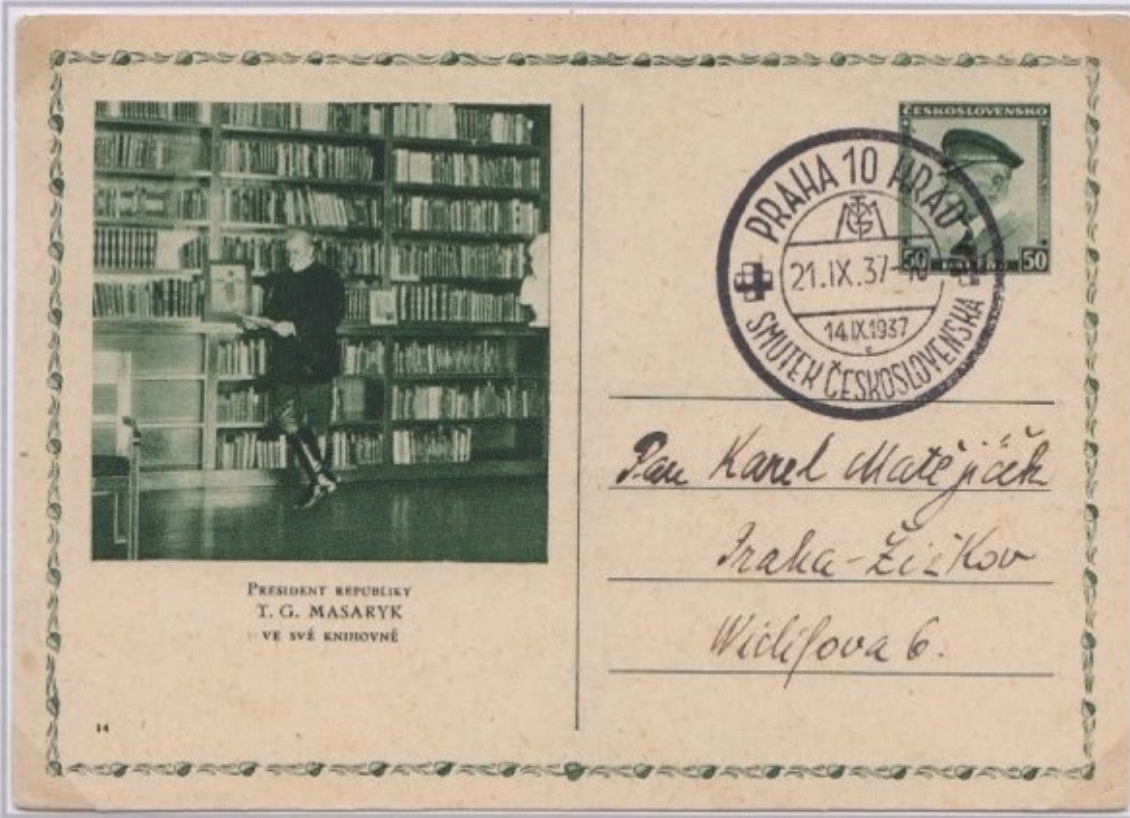


Even in the small Faroyar islands, they have a modern and functional library.

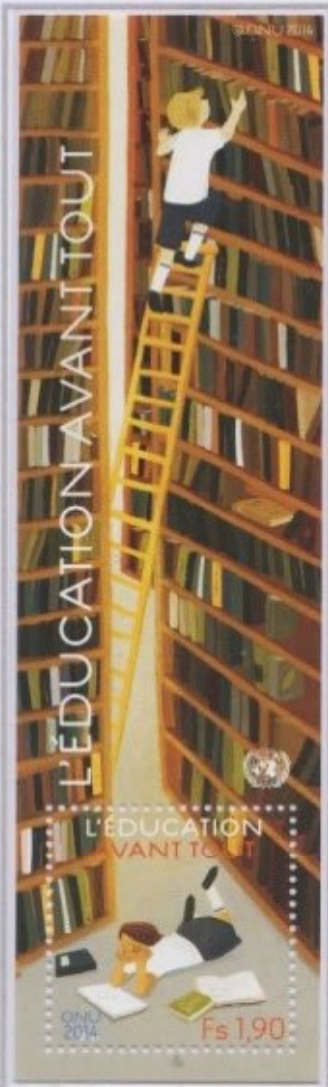
Postal stationery
The library "Cubo" Permeke of Antwerpen.



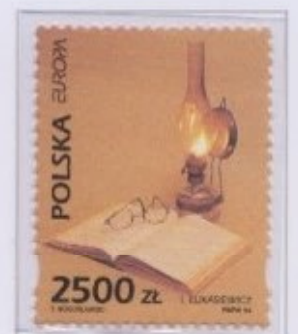
Until the nineteenth century, precious wood shelving was used. Today, for practical and safety reasons, iron shelves are generally used. These in fact, in addition to occupying less space, are safer and in the event of a fire and more easily expandable.



Postal stationery 1937. The library of President Czechoslovakia Masaryk.



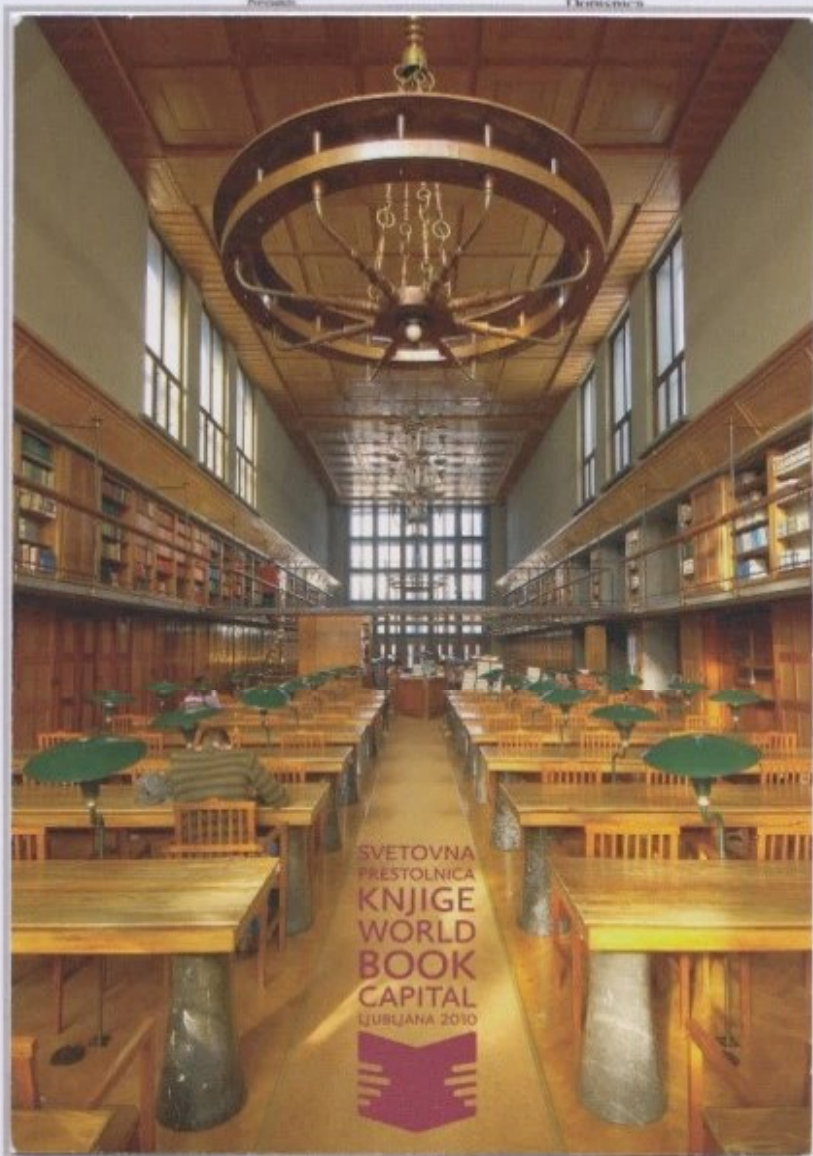
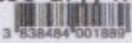
In many libraries the shelves are "open", so the reader can directly access the document. In library deposits or archives, they are sometimes closed. **Meter stamp : SECAP prefix "N"**



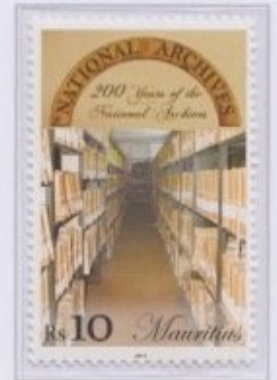
In modern libraries, artificial or natural lighting must be homogeneous, and it will be the librarian's responsibility to arrange the tables so that they are all sufficiently illuminated....



The book which is the absolute protagonist in a library and should have the maximum possible protection. Modern libraries today have adequate tools for their preservation. The rooms should be well ventilated, not too wet, neither too dry, nor exposed directly to sunlight, as both humidity and sunlight are detrimental to the paper.



Postal stationery- Ljubljana Capital of the book 2010. The reading of the National library.



In order for the library to perform its function, it must be in a well-located and suitable location. To optimally preserve the materials ...



Tempere City Library, Metso. The library opened in 1986. The municipal library of Albacete in Spain, formerly the "Deposito del Sol" water depot. It was renovated in 2001.



2015 the opening of the Museum of literature at the Austrian national library.



The night between 7 and 8 August 1943, the Turin civic library was destroyed by bombs from Anglo-American planes. on November 3, 1960, the new headquarters was inaugurated. **Meter stamp: Hasler.**

Each library obviously has different structural needs depending on the tasks it must perform and the needs of the users of its services.



Before arriving on the shelves, the main stages of the book's process in a library are: Registration, cataloging, collocation. Books can enter a library for various reasons after purchase or as a gift. In some libraries (National) it enters by right....

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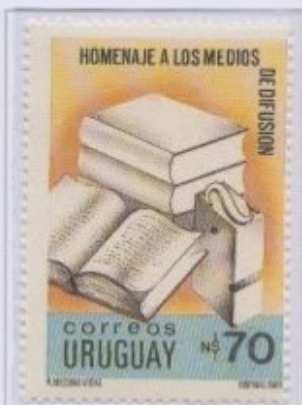
The Capital, C. Marx. Hamburg 1867.



Rainer Maria Rilke

Postal Stationery (Publibel 1984)

The volumes entering the library are recorded on special registers, and for each work a tab is produced which shows the name of the author, the title and all that useful information for its recognition.



Until the eighties the librarian filed the books with the "old" typewriter.



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Italy 1921/B.L.P. (Busta Lettera Postale). Postal Letter Sheet, issued to benefist blind/disabled war veterans.



The cataloging is a set of procedures that allow the library to let its readers know the documents it has and give indications to be able to identify them and then retrieve them on the shelves where they are stored.



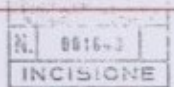
Der Bürgerkrieg in Frankreich di Marx. Lipsia 1871

Among the main catalogs there is the one for authors, ordered alphabetically, indicating which works of a particular author the library possesses. The catalog by subjects indicates instead which works of a particular subject are in the library.



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Data Autorizzazione P.T. *17/05/94*

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Il Datario scade il



Among the classification systems, the decimal system has found greater application, based on ten numerical classes divisible to infinity. However, the classification systems are different, and their application also depends on the preparation of librarians.



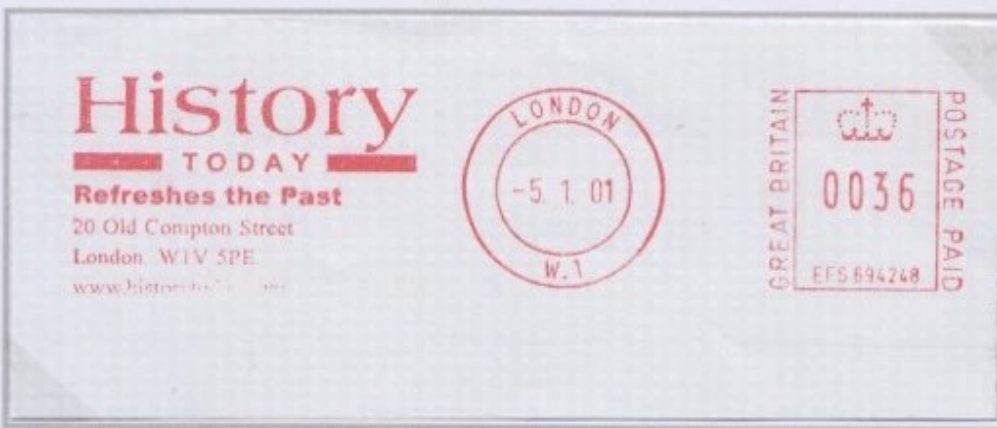
The librarian



Periodicals are often kept in libraries in rooms separate from those used for books; also, the consultation rooms are usually separated from those of the books. Often the last numbers are directly available to the public, while the back issues are kept in the archive.



Switzerland 1922. Postal Stationery Issued for the National Holiday.



Meter stamp: Francotyp-Postalia "EFS3000"



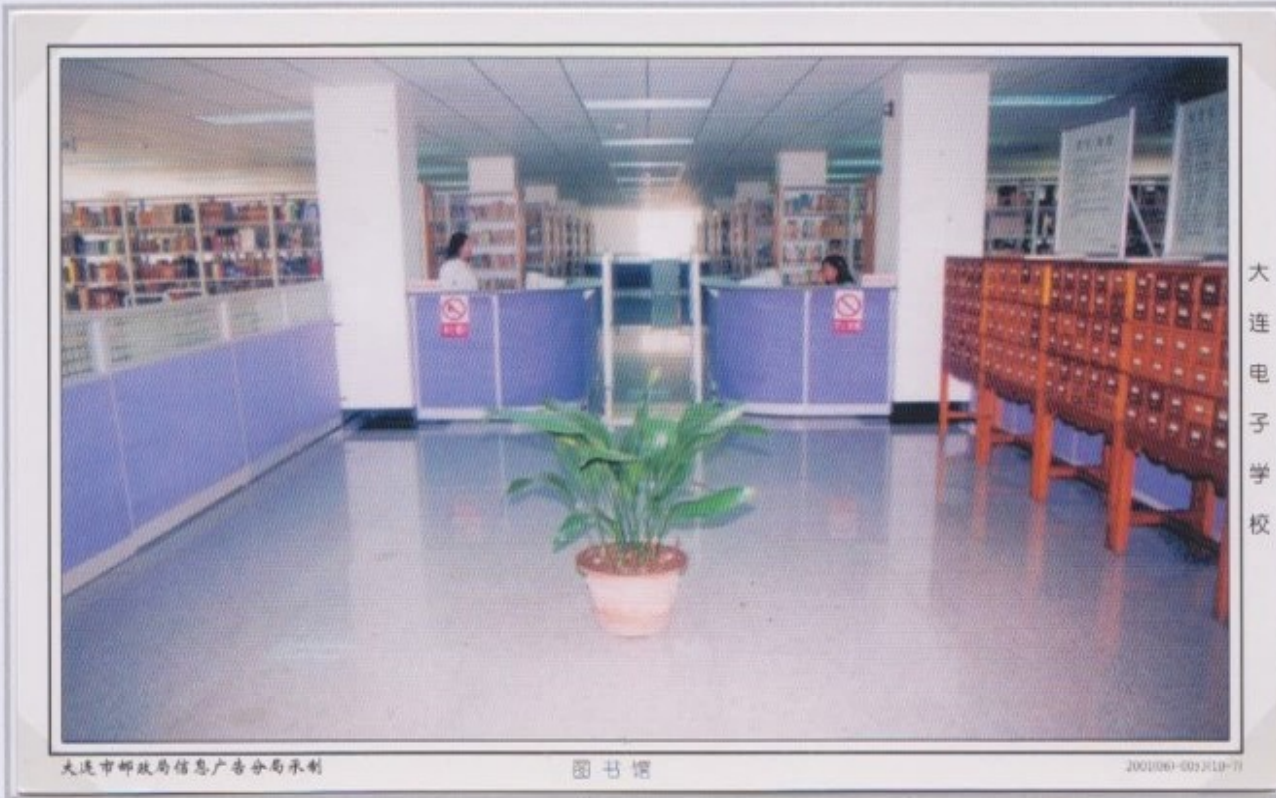
Annales der Physik



Each library then has its special catalogs, manuscripts, incunabula, prints, etc. Each of which requires particular norms and specialized studies.



At the entrance of the libraries the "reference" service is carried out, which indicates the consulting, information and guidance activities that librarians carry out with library users. Reference can however be associated with the Italian idea of the library consultation room where specialized librarians assist users in their research using reference works.

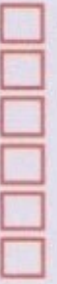


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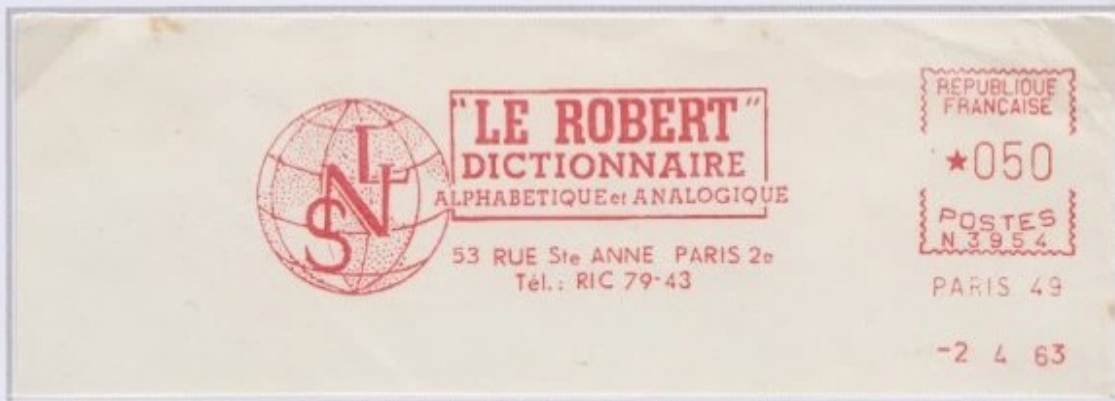


Postal Stationery. Entry to the *Dalian Electronic School Library*. The catalogs, the references for the first access.



Information resources for reference:

general and thematic encyclopedias; encyclopedic dictionaries and vocabularies; bibliographies, catalogs, indexes; biographical repertoires, geographical, historical and thematic atlases; manuals, guides, treatises.



Le Petit Robert is a popular single-volume French dictionary first published by Paul Robert in 1967. It is also widely used across European nations. It is published by *Dictionnaires Le Robert*. **Meter stamp: Secap "N"**



The most important room of a library is the *consultation room* in which all the study tools are made available: such as the Encyclopedias, the dictionaries, etc. Another important room is that of the catalogs, indispensable tools for searching for books in a library.



Booklet advertising "Larousse Larousse XXth Century" 50 cent stamp (Peace type Yv.283) Issue 1923-32. Advertising appendices.

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Adresse.....

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Meter Stamp: Francotyp "B"



In the consultation room there are very often encyclopedias and dictionaries and manuals of current use.



Postal stationery envelope

Boys in the library. In the image you can see the library card catalogs.

HP БЪЛГАРИЯ
4 ст
8 ст
8 ст
8 ст

Schweiz

Гр. (с.) ZURICH гр. ст. №.....

Ул. № Uraniastr. 20
(ОКОЛНЯ)

Получател: Herrn John Bianchi

Подател: гр. (с.) P.O. Box 128, Sofia

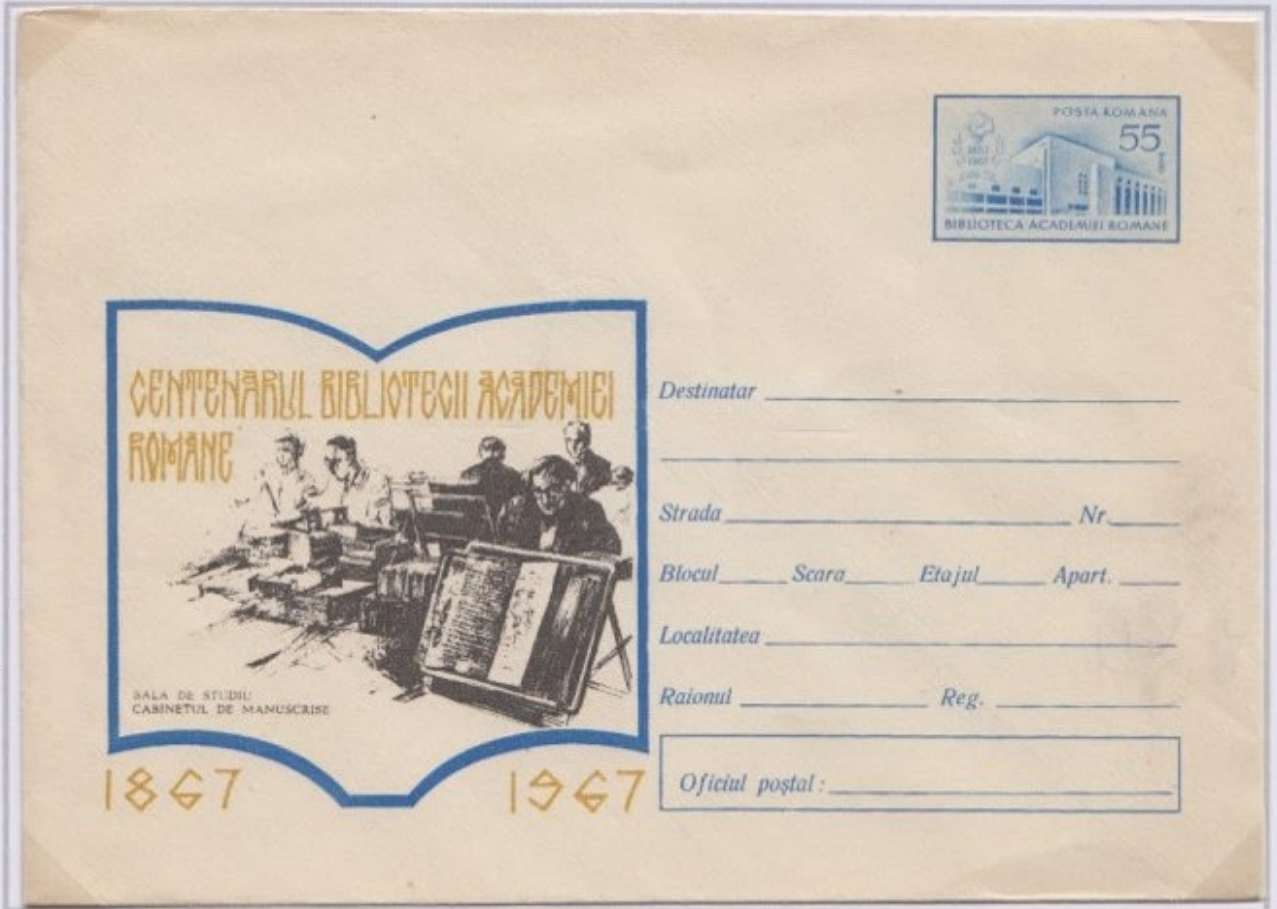
DA НАПРАВИМ КНИГАТА ДРУГАР НА ДЕЦАТА!



In addition to the general consultation room, some libraries also have private rooms for consulting particular texts such as manuscripts, incunabula.

Postal stationery envelope

The hall of the Manuscripts of the library of the Romanian Academy.



Annexed mostly to research institutes or companies operating in a specific sector, there are also specialized libraries. They are structured to satisfy needs, for example of a medical, legal, economic or scientific nature.



Inside the Rizzoli Orthopedic Hospital is the *Umberto I Library*, established in 1922. Inside it is one of the most complete and rare libraries in the orthopedic field.



The British Council library

In Vienna there is the *Central Physics Library* named after Erwing Schrodinger, while in Italy the library of the Rome *Tagliacarne Institute* has publications on economics and statistics.



In 1972, the first audio library for blind and visually impaired people on tapes was opened in France. Thus, was born the Association of "voice donors" and the creation of a library and sounds in the north of France. Recognized as a public service, it is run by 4,600 volunteers.



The Zurich Library for the blind and visually impaired.



Meter stamp (Sima) 1949 - National Institute of the Blind Vittorio Emanuele II, Florence

In Italy the first library for the blind arose in Florence at the end of the nineteenth century, on the initiative of Queen Margherita of Savoy. It was then the *Italian Union of the Blind* that founded the "Regina Margherita" National Library for the blind people in Monza, which since then has always been the main library at the service of the blind in Italy.



Regina Margherita's book patrimony, which consists of over 50 thousand titles, including works in Braille, on audio cassette, on computer media and works in enlarged characters - covers the most diverse disciplinary sectors and addresses different groups of readers.



In libraries one of the most important functions is the Loan. In modern ones it is now automated and often self-service. In others the card filled by the applicant is still used. Also important is the interlibrary loan, that is between libraries, which is regulated by various rules valid throughout the world.



Meter stamp: Hasler "Mailmaster"



The "Supply Center" of the British Library. It processes over three million loan applications every year.



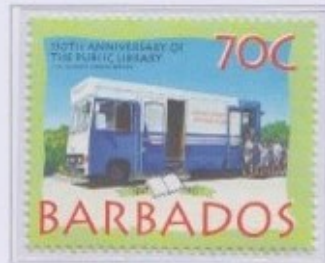
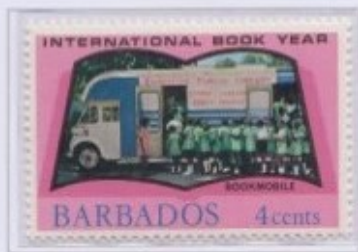
Halldor Hermannsson Icelandic librarian



Imperforated



Each library has its own rules of procedure. Usually works of value up to a certain year cannot be loaned.



bookmobile



The bibliobus or bookmobile is used as a library. The bookmobile often provides library services to places without libraries, located in rural or mountain areas, or can reach groups or individuals who have difficulty going to the library.



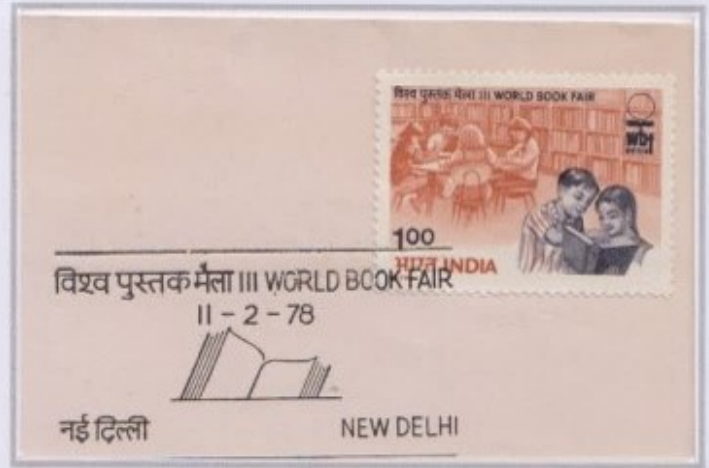
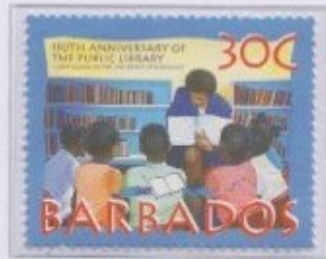
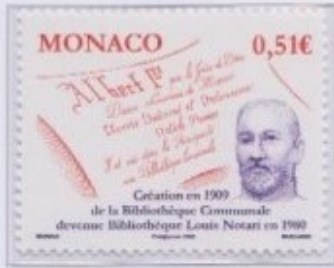
Chester F. Carlson
He was the inventor of the electrophotographic technique, better known as xerography, on which modern photocopiers and laser printers are based.



To complete the services that the public requires from the library (catalogs, loans, etc.) there may be those for reproduction such as xerography. In many large libraries there is also a binding service and for the restoration of ancient material.



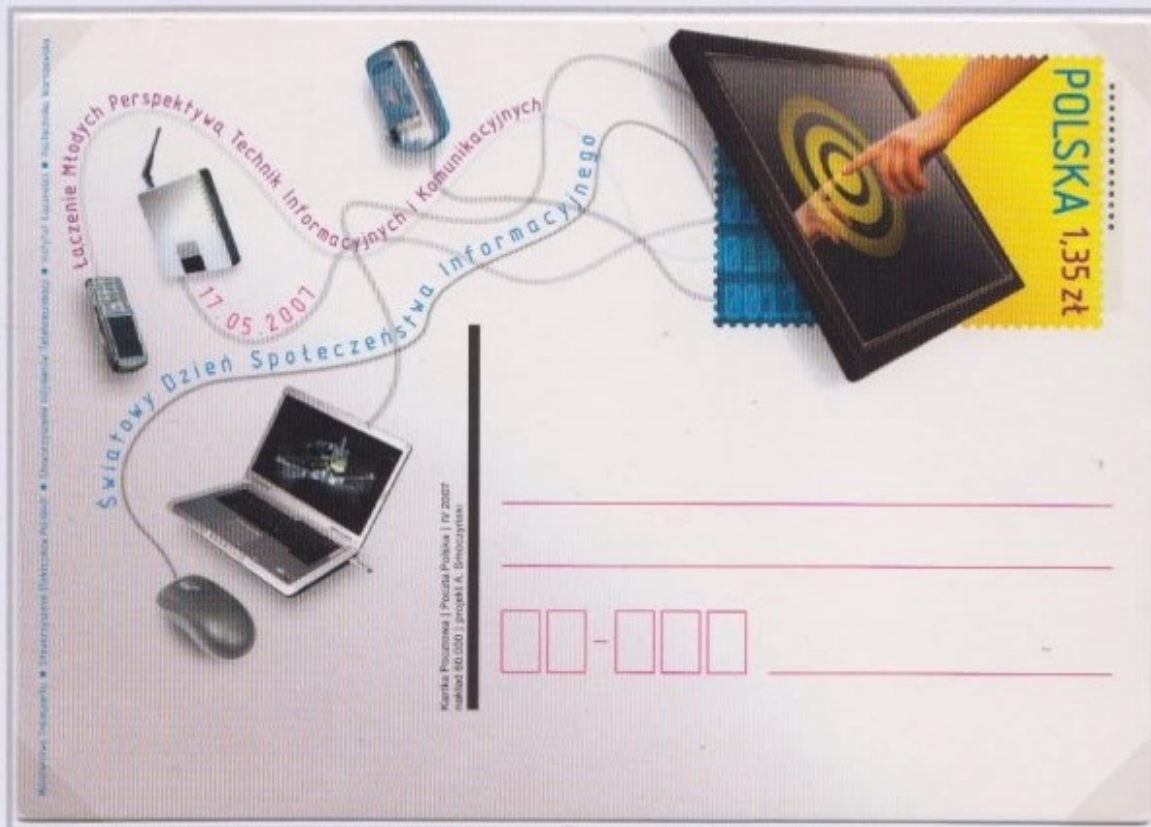
From the 1980s the development and use of computers for the computerization of catalogs and for loan management began; the spread of PCs favors the automation of small and great libraries.



Meter stamp: Havas "CG"



The first PC was produced in 1981 by IBM and in a very short time it flooded the market completely modifying the world of information technology: from centralized systems composed of a calculation center manager and work organizer for all, to which users connect to perform operations with methods defined by the center itself without the possibility of any autonomy, the use of PCs in the network is passed, to the distributed sharing of resources.



Specimen

Postal stationery (2007). The new tools of librarians

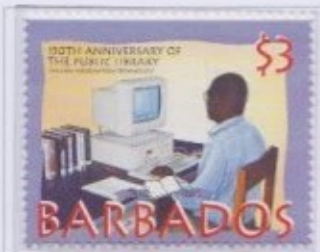
The PC spreads because it is a friendly tool that allows the user to personalize their work, to build archives according to their needs without depending on the ever-busy computer scientists of the computer center. Even in the field of libraries, PC development will represent a revolution ...



Since the mid-1990s, with the impetuous development of the **WWW** and the launch of public telematic networks that allow even ordinary citizens access to the Internet, we progressively turn to catalog consultation interfaces (*OPAC - on line public access catalog*) very simple and intuitive.



Qatar Digital Library was first announced in 2012. The partnership sought to digitize a rich trove of heritage material documenting Arab and Islamic history and to make it freely accessible to the public. **The new Qatar National Library in Doha.**



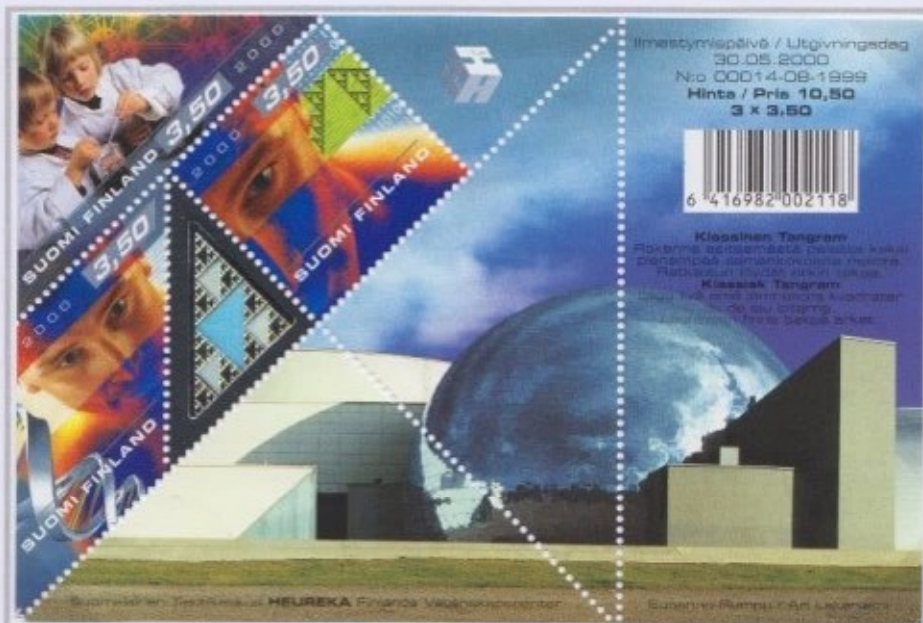
Network search terminals

Internet networks are an ideal means to build a universal global information structure that is very complete. This is why large and small libraries have equipped themselves, not forgetting what the origin of the library is.



Meter stamp: Pitney Bowes "DM900" (digital).

The mouse



Scan this QR code



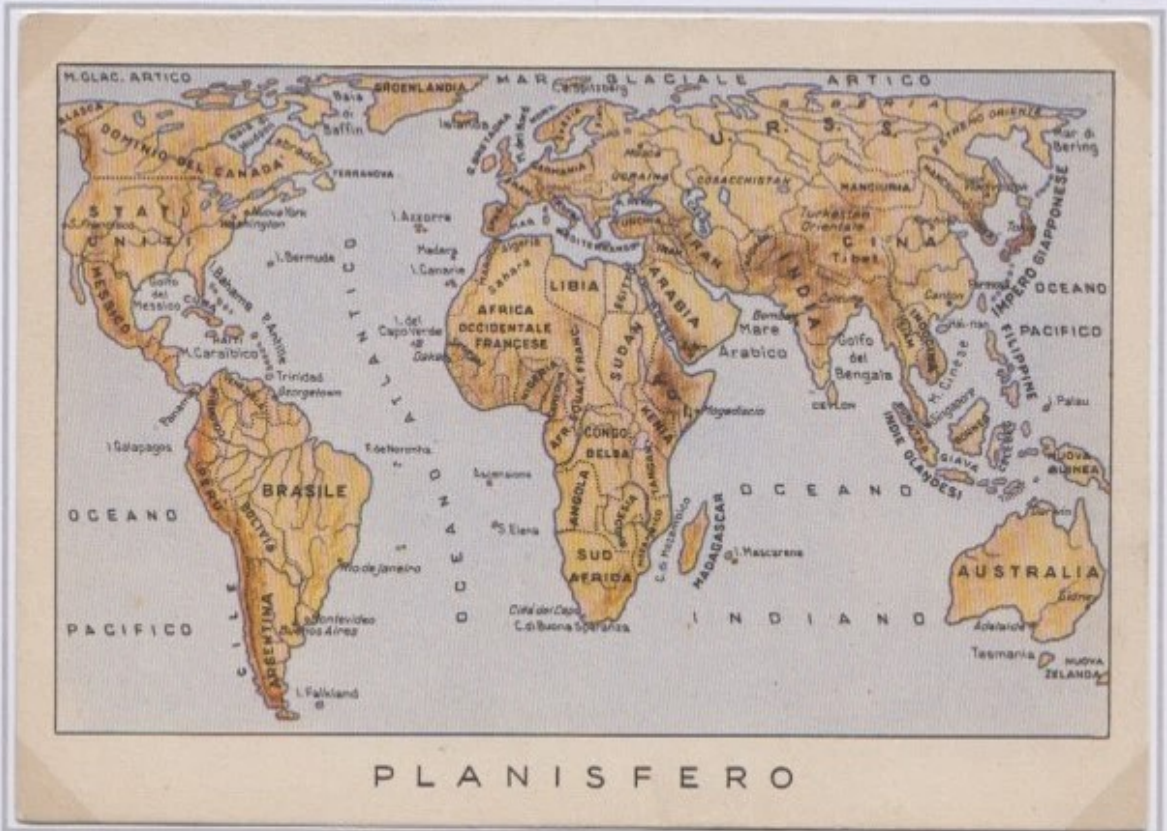
to view available HSLs e-books

QR Codes have been affixed to the shelves of many libraries, bar codes used to store information through smartphones.

The new book recognition systems, and the application of the **"BARCODE"** allows to know immediately the position of the book.

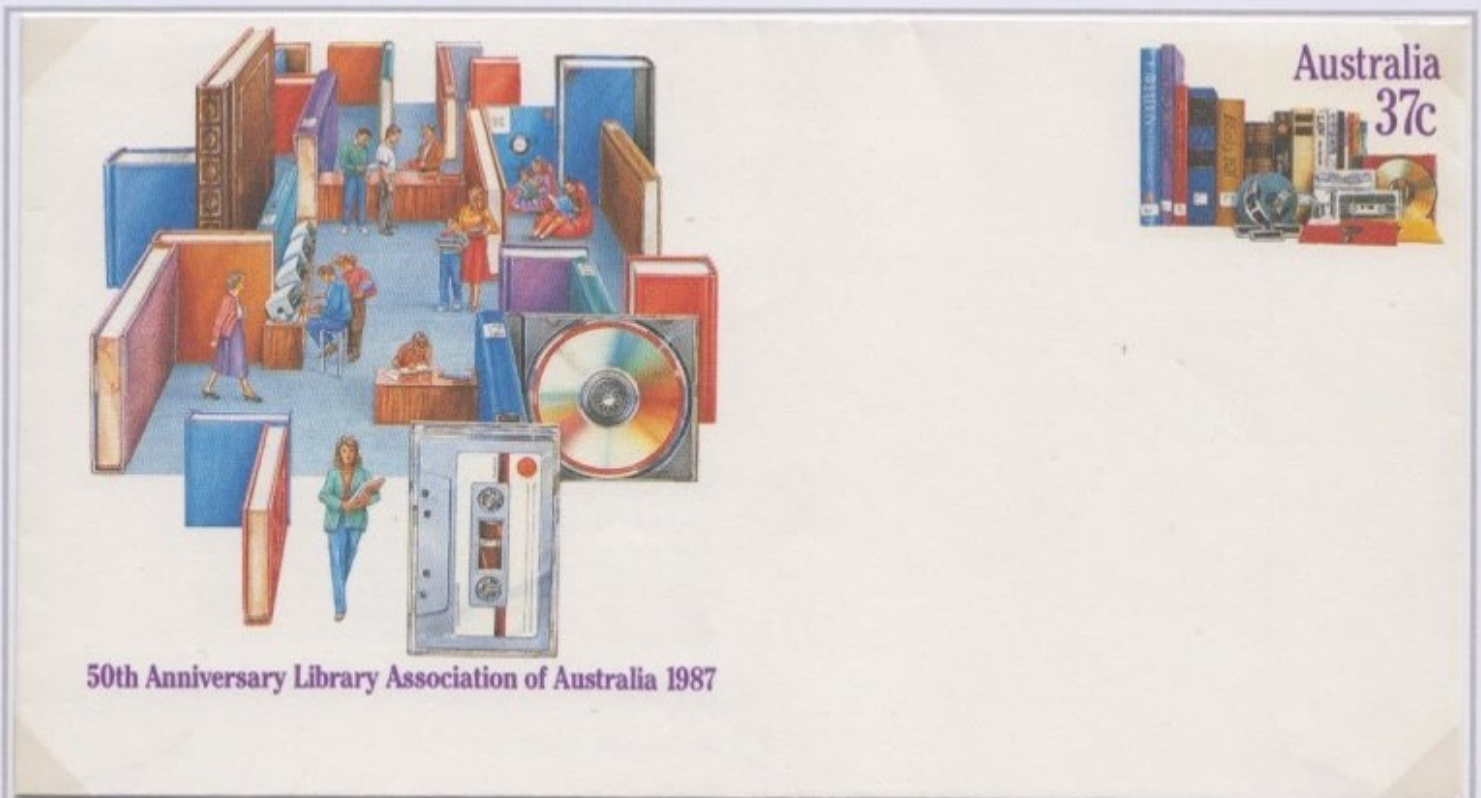


The spread of information technology in the world has now produced significant changes in the way information and documents are searched and in the provision of services: to the cataloging work, and to the integrated management of the various procedures, e-mail ...



PLANISFERO

Italy. Free postcard for the Italian Army. Now the whole world is connected to the Internet.

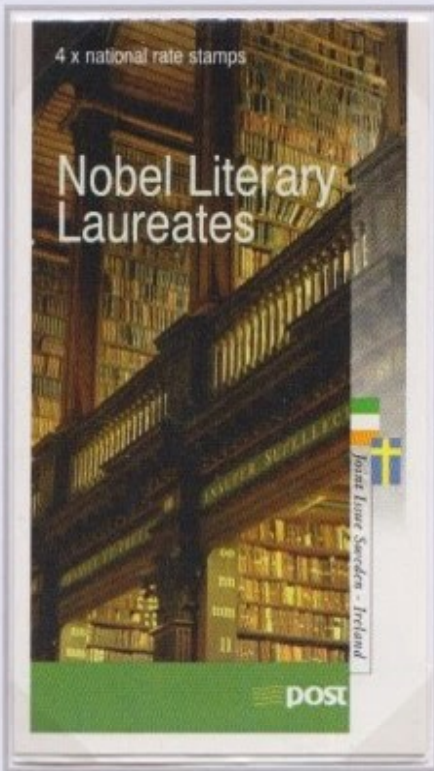


50th Anniversary Library Association of Australia 1987

Information and communication in the dynamics of contemporary society contribute to giving a new dimension to the libraries of the 21st century ... *Postal stationery envelope.*



The profession of librarian has often fascinated, even many men who were or would become famous in various fields of human knowledge. Future Popes, politicians, philosophers, writers and scientists, have contributed to the formation of large and small libraries around the world.



Eire 2004-Stamp booklet

Trinity College library



Among the librarians Popes, we can mention *Tommaso Parentucelli* librarian of the Medici before becoming *Niccolò V. Marcello Cervini* the future *Marcello II*, appointed Apostolic Librarian in 1548. *Achille Ratti* (*Pius XI*) first librarian to the Ambrosiana then from 1911 Vatican Prefect.



Ludovico Muratori, librarian the Ambrosiana in Milan.

Janus Dousa (1545-1604) Dutch statesman and historian was the first librarian of the university library of Leiden. The German philosopher *Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz* in 1691 was appointed librarian at the *Erzog Augustus Bibliothek* until his death in 1716.



Stamp meter: Pitney Bowes 6330 series. "Prefix E"



Immanuel Kant was assistant librarian at Königsberg in Prussia in 1776.



Johann Christian Friedrich Hölderlin German poet, was librarian at *Hessen-Homburg*. *Kark Diechman* born in *Odense* in 1700 is considered the "father" of the public library in *Norway*. The Egyptologist *Ippolito Rosellini* was a librarian in *Pisa* in 1835.





Jacob Ludwig Grimm and Wilhelm Karl Grimm better known as the Grimm brothers, were two German linguists and philologists. Outside of Germany they are known for having collected and reworked the fairy tales of the German folk tradition in the Tales (Kinder- und Hausmärchen, 1812- 1822) and Germanic Sagas (Deutsche Sagen, 1816-1818).. They were librarians in Göttingen.



Specimen



Grimms' Fairy Tales



German Reich- Postal stationery (Proof printing). Jakob, professor of ancient letters and librarian at Göttingen, was dismissed for his liberal ideas. Wilhelm also taught at the University of Göttingen and was expelled as his brother.



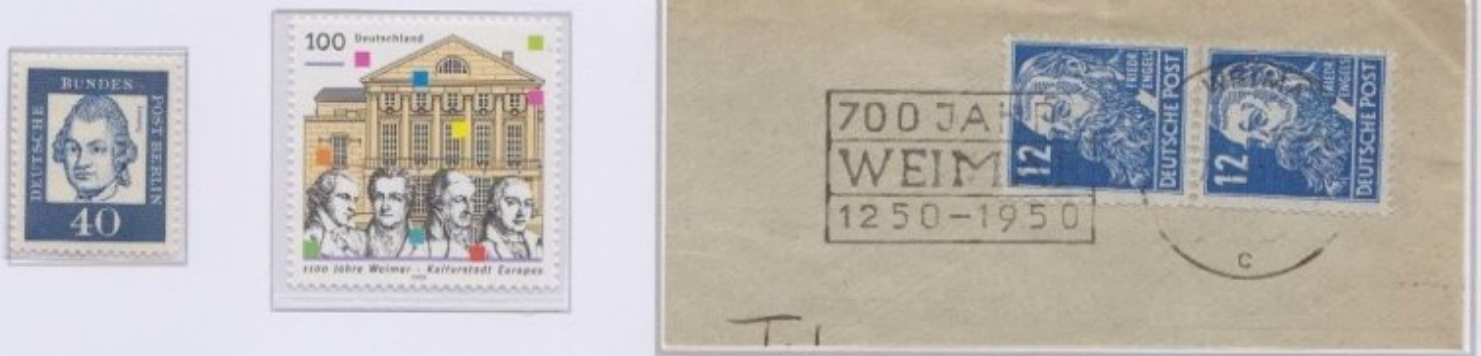
Johann Joachim Winckelmann (1717-1768). German archaeologist and art historian. In 1754 he worked at the library of the apostolic nuncio in Dresden.



German Reich Postal stationery. The Raczyński municipal library of Posen, when it was under German occupation (from 1939 to 1945) today: Poznan. It was opened in 1829 in Poland.



Gotthold Ephraim Lessing in 1770 worked in the small town of Wolfenbüttel as a librarian of the Duke Augustus' library. Wolfgang Johann Goethe was librarian at the Weimar court. Between the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries the Weimar ducal court brought together some of the most creative minds of the time, which helped transform the small city into a center of high spiritual and artistic value. It was Goethe himself who directed the library until his death in 1832.



Register letter from Weimar to Erfurt (August 28, 1949) Goethe commemorative issue.



Hector Berlioz was assistant librarian at the Paris Conservatory in 1838. Marcel Proust in 1896, worked at the Bibliothèque Mazarine. Robert Musil was librarian at the Vienna technical institute. Marcelino Menéndez y Pelayo Spanish writer, he was director until his death of the Spanish National Library (1898-1912). María Moliner was a Spanish librarian and lexicographer.

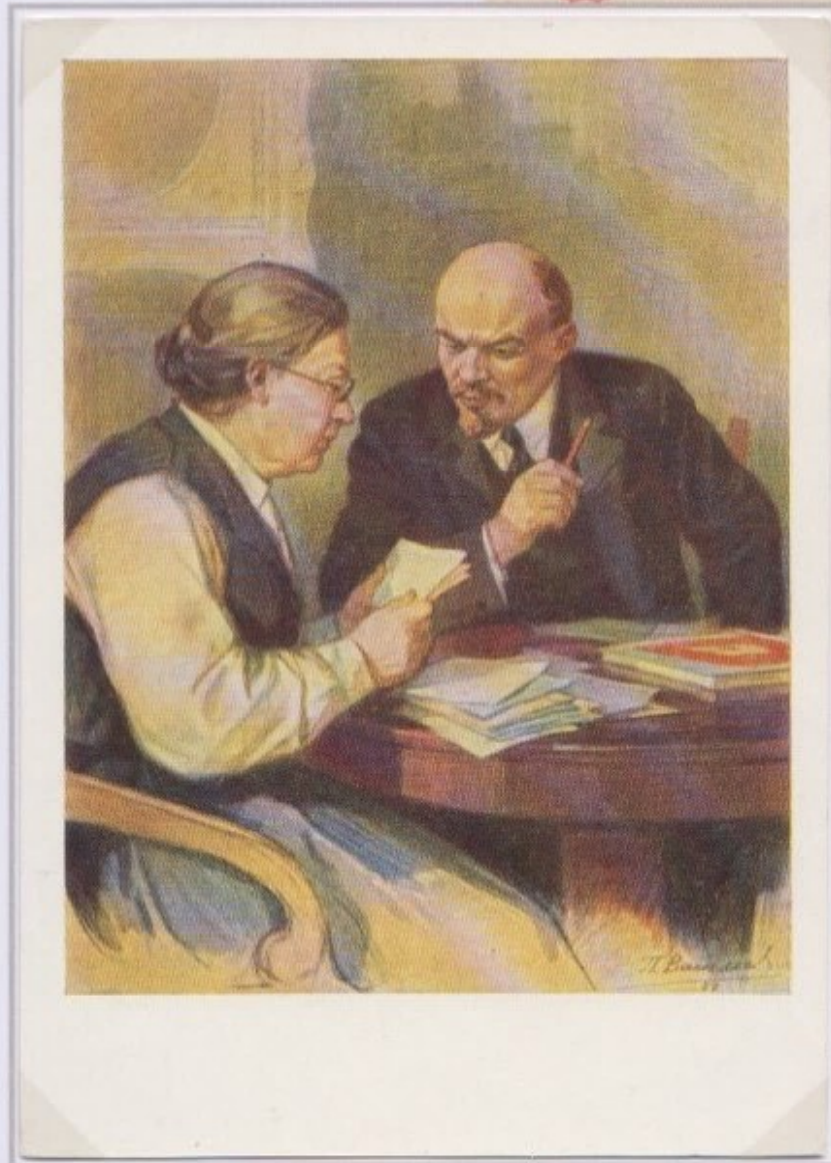


Shiyali Ramamrita Ranganathan (1892-1972), father of Indian library science, is universally known for the formulation of the five laws of library science (published in his first and most important work: *The five laws of library science*, 1931). The five laws represent his famous thought, for their expressivity, for their universality and for their extreme ability of synthesis:

- *Books are made to be used*
- *To each reader his book*
- *For each book its reader*
- *Do not waste reader time*
- *The library is a growing organism*



Rampur Raza Library opened in 1794



URSS 1957 Postal stationery. Nadezda Krupskaja Wife of Lenin

In the period of socialist revolutions, *Friedrich Engels* during his stay in Manchester (1859-69) was librarian at the Schiller Anstalt. *Ervin Szabò* librarian and socialist theorist, from 1904 he began to work at the Municipal Library of Budapest, where he adopted the American public library model.



Imperforated

Mao Tse-Tung worked at the Beijing University library from 1918 to 1919, *Boris Pasternak*, became librarian after the Revolution to the Soviet Education Commissariat. *Nadezda Krupskaja* Wife of Lenin. In 1929 she wrote a very popular text among Soviet librarians: *What Lenin Wrote and Said about Libraries*.



Nadezda Konstantinovna Krupskaja Russian revolutionary and educationalist.