

# THE BEGINNINGS OF THE PHILATELIC MOVEMENT

## FROM ROMANIA

The printing of the first Romanian postage stamps from the Cap de bour issue on July 15, 1858 ( put into circulation on July 22, 1858 ) and the following classic and post-classic philatelic issues as well as the internal / external postcards that circulated quickly and safely awakened people's imagination and a new hobby was born , the queen of passions , **PHILATELY**. Students were among the first to embrace the new hobby.

The exhibit pays tribute to those who founded the first philatelic society in Romania, in 1891, to the members of the leadership of the first philatelic society in Romania, to the founding members, to the members of the philatelic societies in the capital and other cities from which they carried on and continue this beautiful passion, philately.

### Structure of the exhibit

|                                                                                                                                     |                 |
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| <b>Reprints and forgeries</b>                                                                                                       | <b>p.13-16</b>  |
| Captain Constantin Moroiu, who was no stranger to the new fashion in world philately, the collecting, selling and printing of fakes |                 |

### The first commemorative postcard in the world dedicated to a jubilee

self-addressed by the engraver of the Royal House of Romania, Paul Telge, invited to the Jubilee,



PC 31a / 10-22 mai 1891 from Bucuresti to Bucuresti + Mi :RO 90....94 / 10-22 mai 1891 ;

Markings : 4 x Bucuresti tip B2 /23th mai 1891 + 1x Bucuresti arrival tip B5/Cursa 3 /23th mai 1891

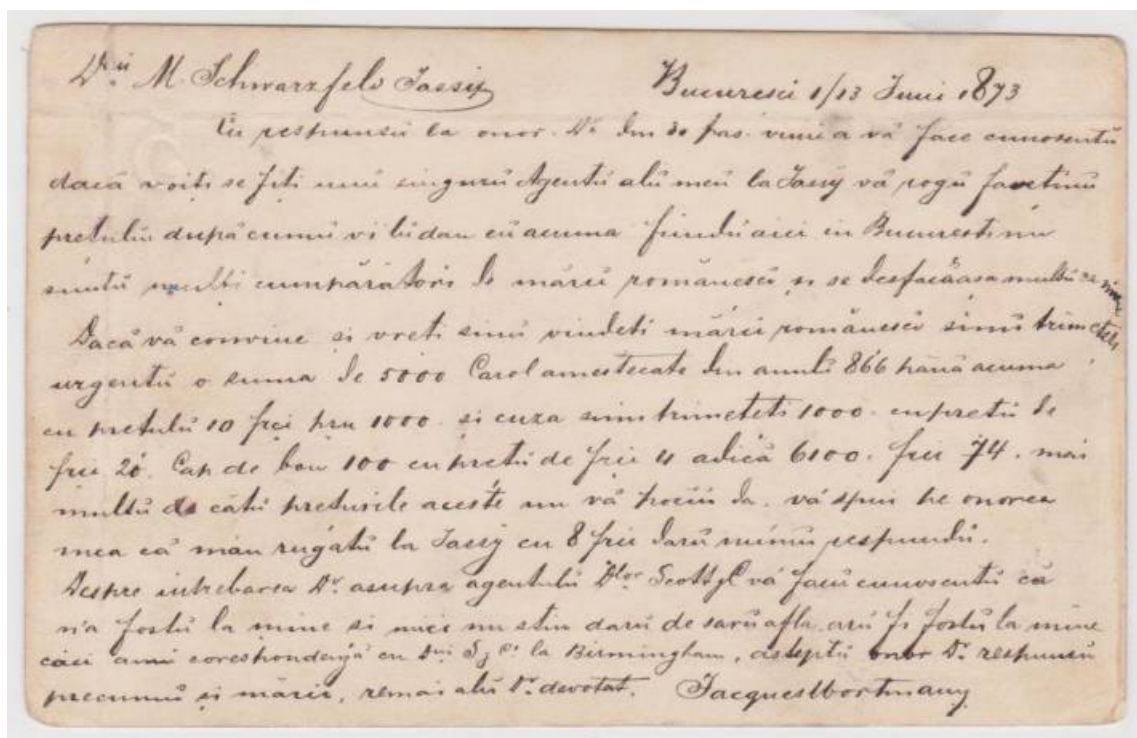
# 1 \ 13 June 1873 THE FIRST POSTCARD FROM ROMANIA



**GEORGE I. LAHOVARY** (1838 – 1909) innovated the Romanian Post by introducing new, efficient and inexpensive means of communication, the mandate and the postcard, within the postal services. " The regulation to the Law on postal cards "was approved by Decree no. 945 of April 27 / May 9, 1873

The **FIRST** postcard put into circulation on *Bucuresci 1/13 Iunie 1873*, the first day of issue is a correspondence with a philatelic theme between JAKUES MORTUARY from Bucharest and M. SCHWARTFEL from Iași, two collectors/traders of postage stamps (the famous Cap de bour 1858, United Principalities, Cuza, Carol ...)

After reading the message, this vintage perfume, I hope you can tell "that's why philately is beautiful! "



PC 1 / 1/13 June 1873 with printed stamp 5 bani blue from Bucuresti 1 / 13 June 1873  
 To Iași ( Jassy) no markings on arrival ; Markings : 1 x Bucuresti tip H / 1870

## 1891 Establishment of the first Philatelic Society in Romania

The first mention of a philatelic society in Romania dates from February 1891 when Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu publishes the note according to which, as a result of the agreement reached with Dimitrie C. Butculescu and two other collectors they decided to form a philatelic society , **the Romanian Philatelic Society** .



**Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu** (b. February 13, 1837 – d. April 27, 1918)

Fighting with the 7th Infantry Regiment in the War of Independence 1877-1878

Editor of **Timbrophilo** magazine the first philatelic publication in Romania 1881

Main initiator and founding member of the first **Romanian Society of Timbrology, SRT**, April 1891

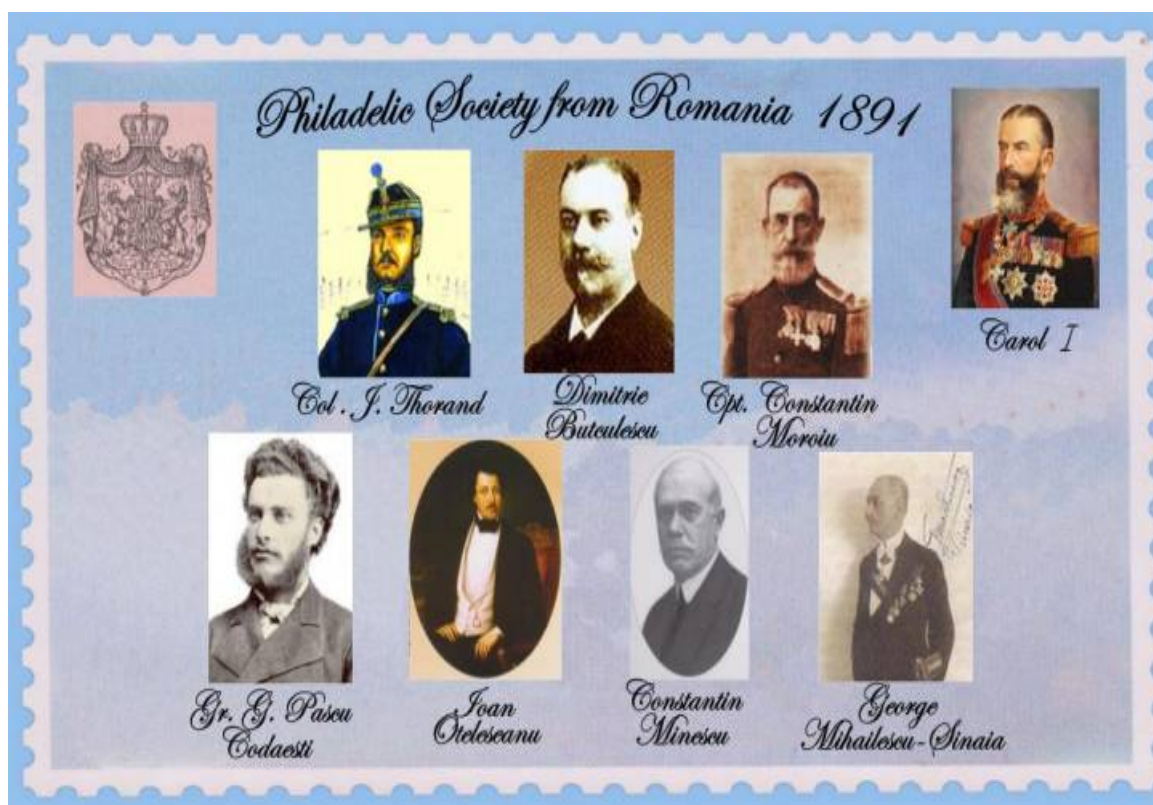
First Grand Master of the National Masonic Grand Lodge from Romania, 1880

The first registered philatelists were Constantin C. Moroiu, Dimitrie C. Butculescu, arch .E. Wincler, Elena Moroiu daughter of C. Moroiu, Grigore G. Pascu from Codăești, Christian Malhasovici from Botoșani and N.D. Potamiano from Focsani.

In April 1891, the formation of the **Romanian Society of Timbrology, SRT** and the management committee formed by president Dimitrie C. Butculescu, vice president col. J. Thorand, secretary Constantin C. Moroiu , founding members Grigore G. Pascu from Codăești , Christian Malhasovici from Botoșani, N.D. Potamiano from Focșani and C. Livadas from Brăila.

In November 1891, the **Romanian Society of Timbrology, SRT** reorganizes by co-opting new members in the management committee G. Bascovici, Al. Klenk, D. Antoniu ; founding members were considered I. Odobescu, Th. Ionescu, G. Goranescu, Cr. Săndulescu, G. Mihăilescu , R. Biscarbon all from Bucharest, C. Dessila, Gr.G. Pascu and Saxemberg from Codaesti , P. Hette from Iasi , Christian Malhasovici from Botoșani , N.D. Potamiano from Focșani, C. Livadas from Brăila and G. Matheescu from Sinaia.

On November 26 , 1891 , the statute was voted on by which he chanced the name of the company in the **Romanian Philatelic Society , SFR** .



## Dimitrie C. Butculescu ( 1845 – 1916 )

- Founding president of the Romanian Stamp Society, 1891



- He was one of the founders of the fencing hall at Jokey - Club Bucharest but also the initiator of the establishment of the "Encyclopedic Society" in 1882
- He launched the first Romanian illustrated postcard at the Exhibition of Cooperators in Bucharest , 1894
- 3 times deputy in the country's Parliament , elected in 1899 President of Universal Scientific Alliance

*D. C. Butculescu*

There were some tensions between the members of the society , visible through frequent changes in the management committee but also through some acid comments from the press. The conflicts intensified towards the end of June 1892 and on July 8, 1892 vice president col. J.Thorand and the secretary capt.C. Moroiu resigns ; col .J. Thorand reverts to his resignation , but Capt.C. Moroiu forms a new society under the old name of the **Romanian Timbrology Society , SRT**.

From July 1892 in the Romanian philatelic movement there were two philatelic societies , one led by Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu , **Romanian Timbrology Society, SRT** and another led by Dimitrie C. Butculescu , **Romanian Philatelic Society , SFR** .

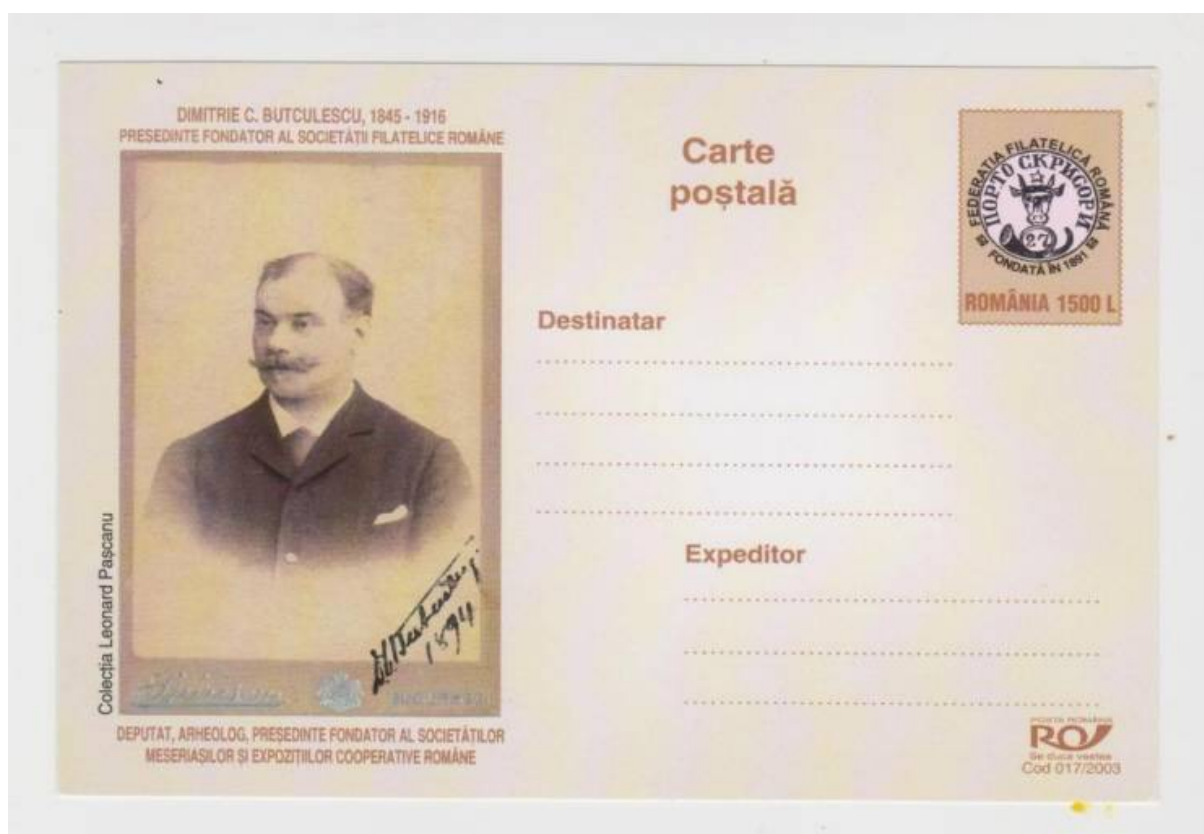
In November 1892, C. Moroiu offered some explanations in Timbrophilo magazine no. 16/November 1892 regarding the division, stating that the main purpose of the society was to to procure for its members the stamps they lacked , either by purchase or exchange and that this did not happen .

The two philatelic societies in Romania can be characterized by the following ideas : its members

- **The Romanian Timbrology Society** led by C.M. Moroiu was very active , being involved in philatelic exchanges , purchases and sales .

- **The Romanian Philatelic Society** led by Dimitrie C. Butculescu had an elitist character, fact demonstrated both by the statutory provisions "people with a certain positivity in society" but also through the personalities who were invited to the steering committee .

**Dimitrie C. Butculescu – archaeologist , philatelist , deputy**

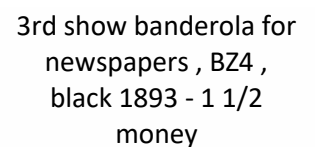


The correspondence sent by the **first vice-president** of the Romanian Philatelic Society col. J. Thorand in 1890 from Craiova to Lillehammer : "I'm looking for exchange with overseas collectors. Philatelic greetings , 

Craiova 9 Juni 1890.  
 Nach meiner Annonce finde ich Briefe mit österreichischen Timbraturen.  
 Ihre mir gesandten Marken sind für mich ganz wertlos, denn  
 ich habe viele Briefe als Doppelbriefe, ohne selbe von  
 wem zu kommen.  
 Da können jedoch von mir alle Gebührengeminderungen, welche  
 Bulgarien, Serbien, Griechenland in Gegenwart der folgenden  
 den neuvergebenen Marken aufstellen:  
Roumengen Marken: 1862-66 - 3 Stk. Lila 24 Stk. braun (Wachstafel 1 mark)  
 1867 3 Stk. Lila (Wachstafel 2 mal).  
Convent □ Aufgeklebt, Grundveränderung: 1872-73 2 Stk. blau, 3 Stk. Karmin  
 1877 5 Öre blau.  
Postkarten □ Aufgeklebt. 1873 2 Stk. blau; 1877 0.05 blau mit pff. Aufschrift  
 1879 6 Öre grün auf Cham; 6 Öre grün auf weiß.  
 1881. 5 Öre blau auf Cham.  
 1883-84 6 Öre braun; 1888 3 Öre pff. auf braun.  
 von Schweden Emission 1855 außer 4 Stk. blau. -  
 Wenn Sie mir alle von obigen Marken, u. aufstellen Gegenwärtigen  
 fand. - Auf Ihre Marken kann ich nicht. Mit größt. Eile  
 J. Thorand



CPI RO Cod 082 / 2004 - copy



**George Bascovici (Bascovitz), collector member in the management of the Philatelic Society**  
Romania Philatelic message postcard that has ... two senders :  
the first with the indecipherable name " ( .....berg ) with address on str.Gabroveni no.12 ,  
the other George Bascovitz with the following message : " I offer you the same rarities that I offer you I will indicate if you accept " *WBascovitz* .



PC 7a / 1875 with printed stamp 5 bani blue from Bucuresti 1875 to Wolfenbuttel ; Markings : 1 x Bucuresti + 1 Wolfenbuttel arrival +1 M6...

**George Mateescu-Sinaia (1870 – 1946)** left child orphan , he started life as a shop boy to a Greek merchant , he was a photographer, editor, merchant and eventually became the mayor of Sinaia , for 20 years . From pioneer of philately became one of the most titled collectors , being the first Romanian to participate at an international philatelic exhibition ; COLLECTIONS have been rewarded with numerous awards national and international .

"Philately , the queen of passions and the passion of kings"



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## Headquarters / meetings 1

Starting with 1891 **the Romanian Society of Timbrology - SRT** held its meetings regularly on Tuesday evenings in its premises in Baterilor street no. 41 but during the winter the meetings were still held on Tuesday evenings at the Ströbel cafe in Academiei Street.

### Baterior str. no. 41, the first SRT headquarters

5rd show banderola for newspapers , BZ6b , brown 1896 -  
1moneyMarkings : Bucuresti tip B2 15 mai 1896...for  
I.Panaiteescu , str BATERIILOR nr.41



Baterior str. no. 41, near the Alba Postavari Church  
- Ambrosiu plan 1911 (BCU)



In the building in Bateriilor street no. 41,  
several Masonic  
institutions operated, some led by capt. C.



Block 630 with Mi 6962A +6963A +stamp  
simple circle with date in line 08 jul 2015

**A woman also participated in the first meetings of the Society SRT , Eelena Moroiu , the daughter of Constantin C. Moroiu.**

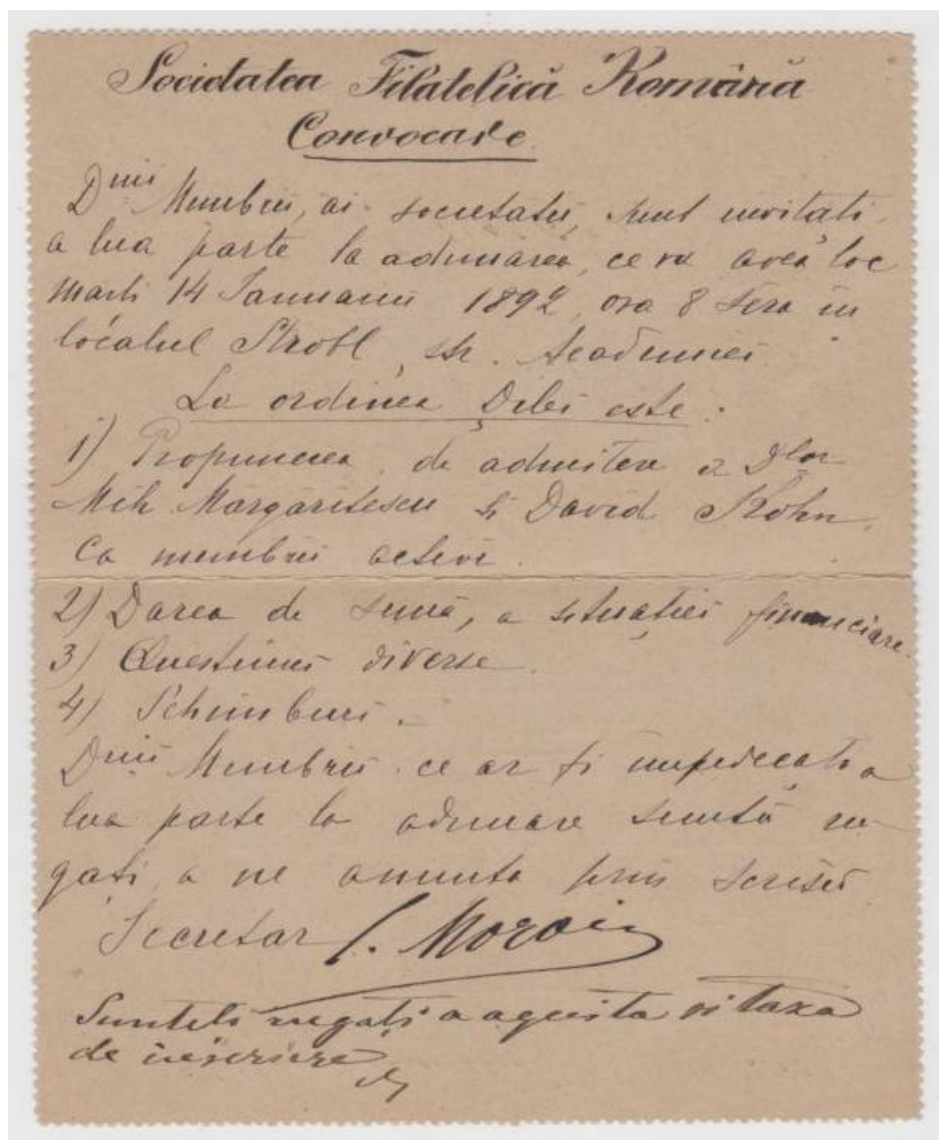
At the declared headquarters of the company, Bateriilor street no. 41, several Masonic institutions functioned, some of them led by Constantin C. Moroiu, but also apartments rented to individuals. After June 1892, the "Romanian Stamp Society" SRT , which had 23 members, continued its activity in January and February 1893: the meetings were held under the presidency of C. Moroiu at Café Colaro.



## Headquarters / meetings 2

### Convocation of members to the meeting of the Romanian Philatelic Society-SFR

The summons signed by the secretary of the SFR , Capt. C. Moroiu , addressed to the vice-president of the SFR, col. J. Thorand



Gentlemen , members of the society are invited to take part in the meeting that will take place on Tuesday , January 14, 1892 at 8 o'clock in the evening in the Strobel premises , str. Academiei .

The order of the day is:

1. The proposal to admit Messrs. Mih. Margaritescu and David Kohn as active members
2. Accountability of the financial situation
3. Various issues
4. Exchanges

Dear members , if you are prevented from taking part in the meeting, please let us know through the secretary.

Secretary , C. Moroiu

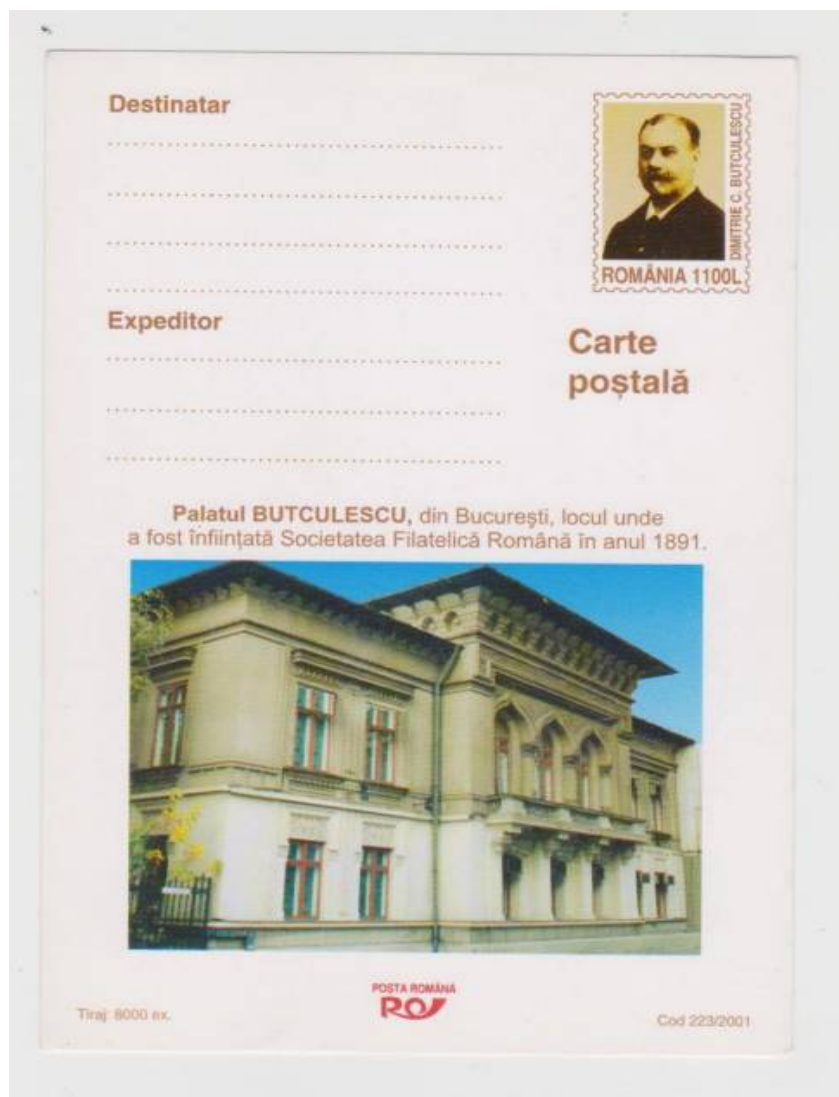
You are asked to ... and the registration fee

Short signature C. Moroiu

PC tip CPI 1 / 1891 with printed stamp 5 bani black from Bucuresti to Bucuresti ; Markings : 2 x Bucuresti tip B2 /22 th IAN 1892 + 1 x Bucuresti tip B 5 CURSA / 23TH IAN.1892



PC tip CPI 1 / 1891 with printed stamp 5 bani black front – copy

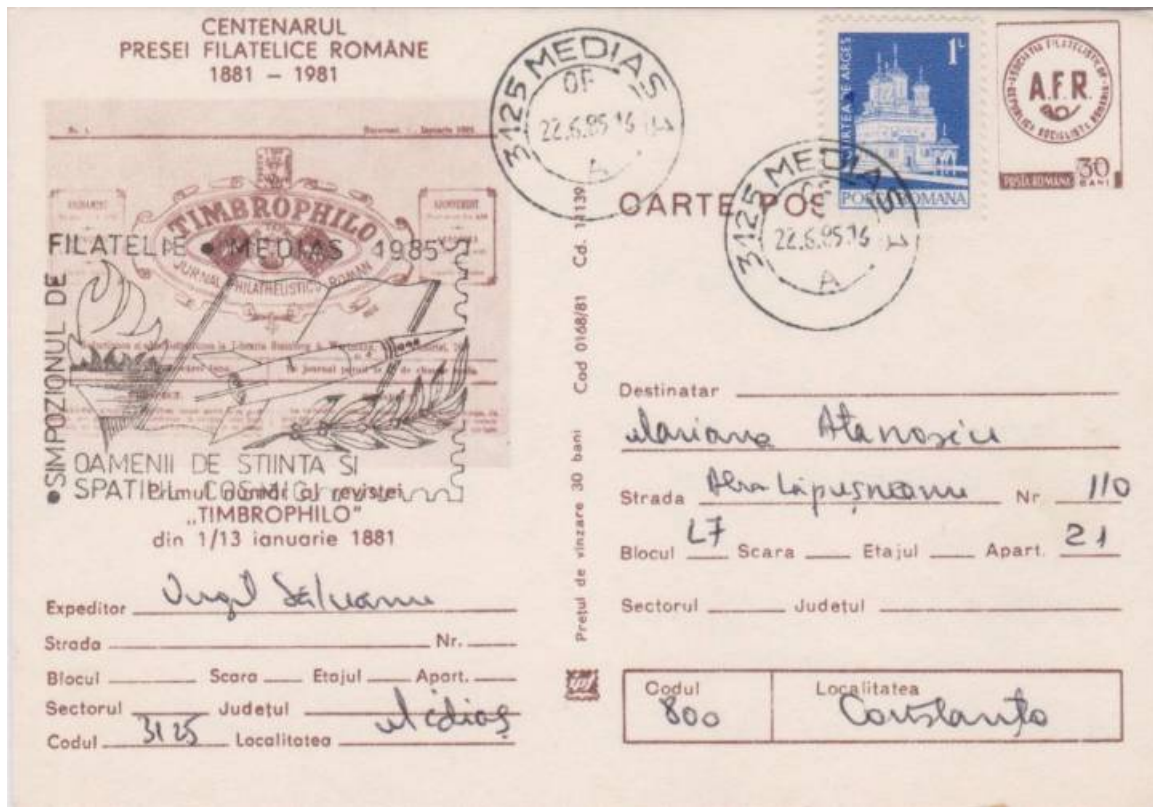


Referring to **Romanian Philatelic Society** led by Dimitrie C. Butculescu from a postcard , which summons all members of the company to participate in the general meeting scheduled for February 17, 1893 it follows that the Society's activity was carried out in the houses of the president , from Clemenței str. no. 13 being one of the few documents that mention this fact. There is also an envelope addressed to the **"Romanian Philatelic Society"**, addressed to the Palace of the President C.D. Butculescu , str. Clemenței no. 11, shipped in July 1893 from the USA.

**Membership card of the philatelic society**  
RO FDC 2002

RO CPI Code 223/2001 RO FDC 2002

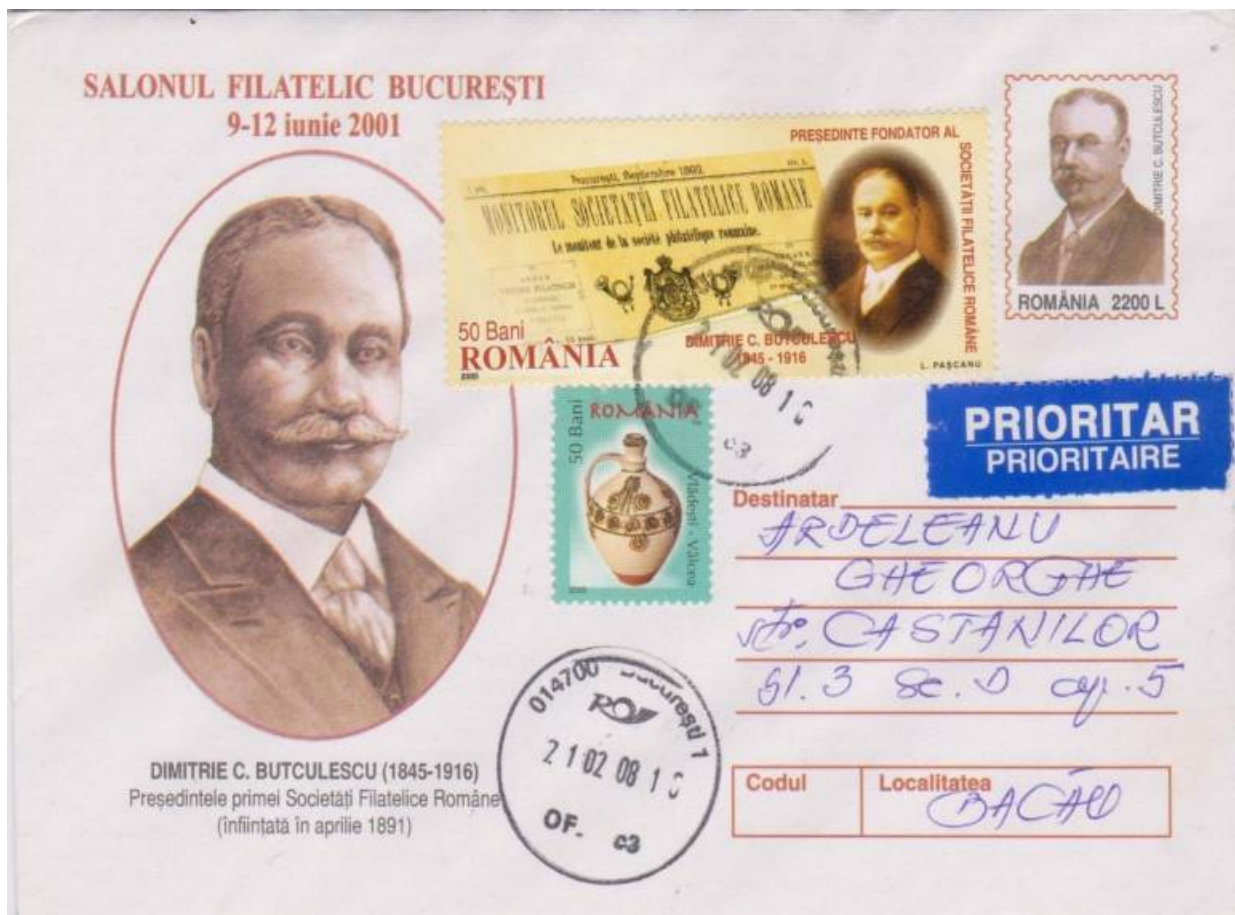




"Timbrophilo" is the first philatelic publication issued in Romania of capt. C. Moroiu on Jan. 1/13, 1881, the press organ of the **Romanian Stamp Society**.

CPI type IPT /1981 with printed stamp 30 bani + Mi RO 3165 / 1974 from Medias to Constanta; Markings : 2 x Stamp double circle with date in line/ 22th mai1985

**Philatelist – Oriental**  
Galati - 6 Jan. 1893  
newspaper strip,  
3rd issue 1893- copy

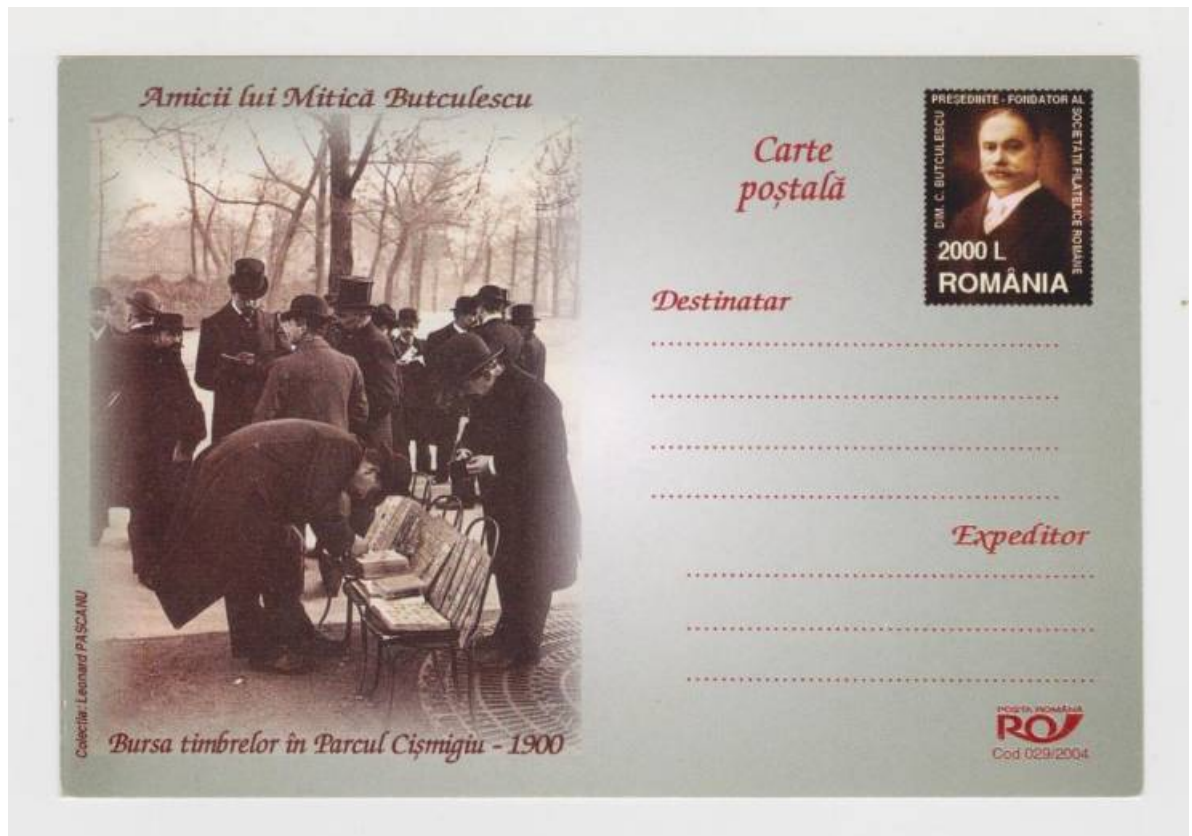


The screen **Philatelic Society Romanian**, the organ of the Society's press **Romanian philatelic**

PO EDIPOST Code 089/2001 with printed stamp 2200 lei + Mi RO 5997/2005 + Mi RO 6007 / 2005 from Bucuresti to Bacau; Markings : 2 x Stamp simple circle with date in line/ 21.02.08

## The main activities provided in the company regulations Philatelic exchanges

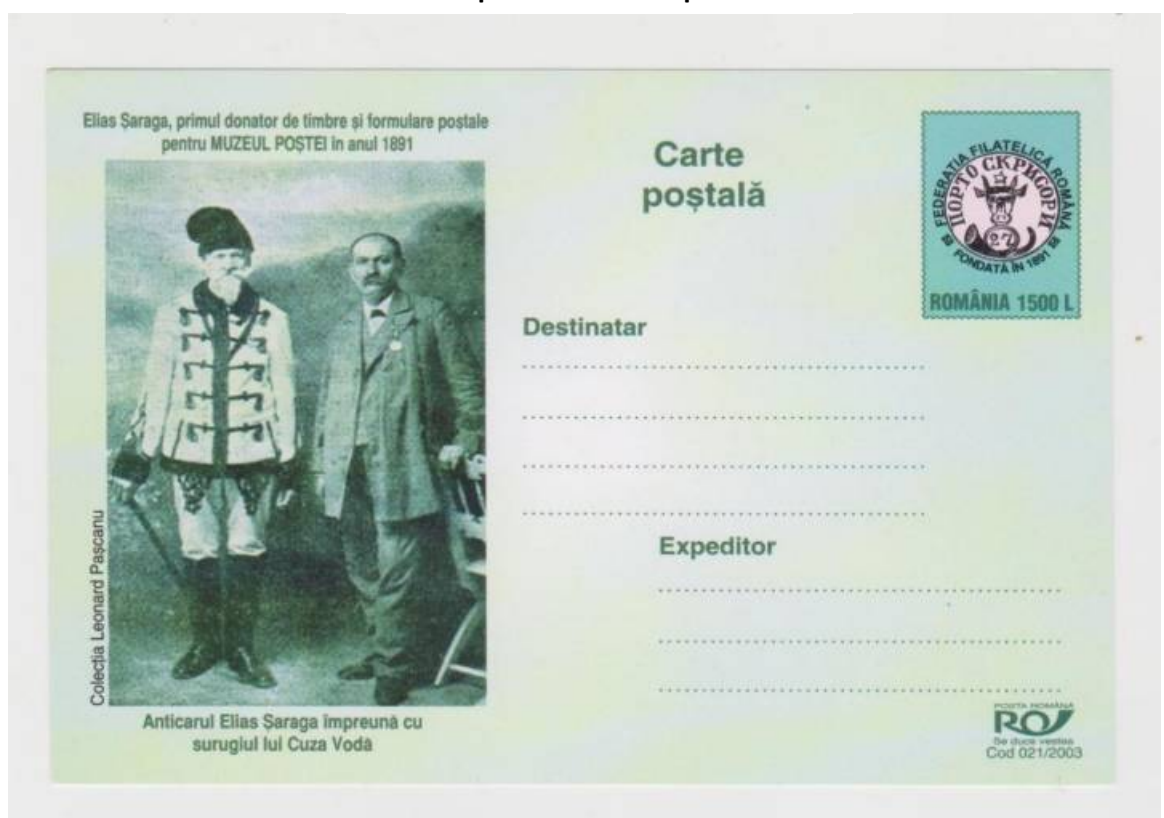
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- philatelic purchases through exchange cards
- presentation of collections : December 24 , 1891 colonel I. Thorand and Al. S. Klenk , January 2 1892 Dimitrie C. Butculescu
- philatelic conferences and communications , C. Moroiu
- Gr. G. Pascu from Codăești and other members offered stamps available for exchange buy
- consulting philatelic magazines , mostly foreign where they were informed about the various postal issues but also for the establishment of philatelic exchange relations , for the sale or purchase of stamps .
- receiving new members ; „ serious collectors and people with position in society ” ;
- stamp sellers were not admitted to society, although such a mention was not included in the regulations

### The stamp dealer and the postman

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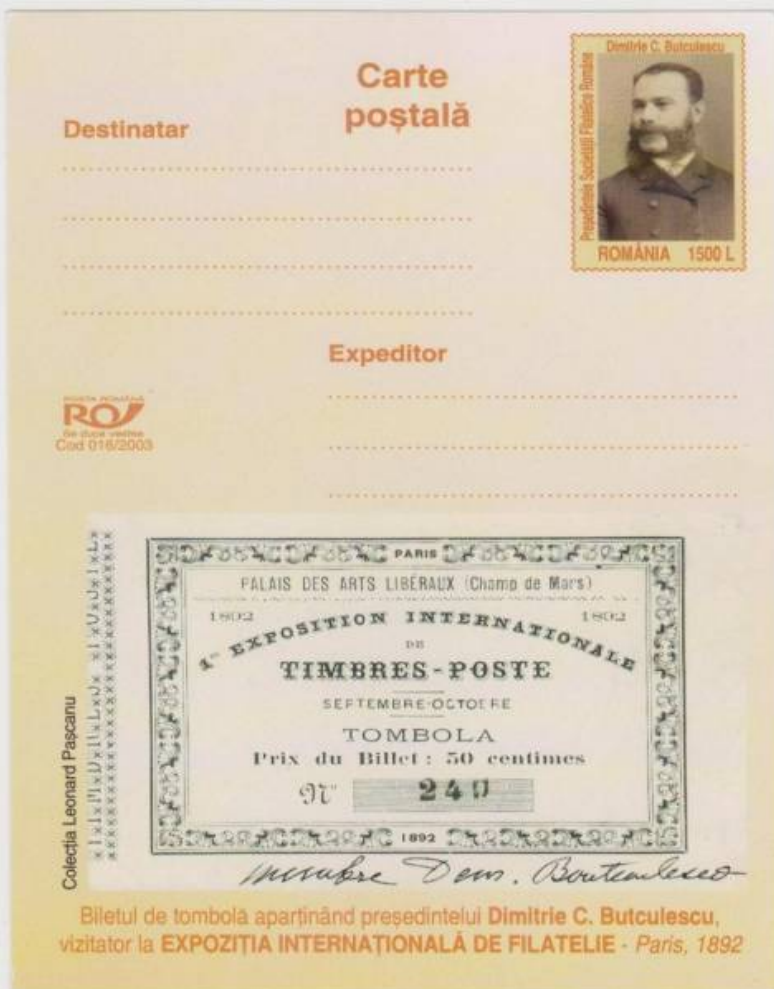
## Dimitrie C. Butculescu invited to the Philatelic Exhibition

Raffle ticket belonging to the president  
Dimitrie C. Butculescu visitor at the  
International Philately Exhibition – Paris  
1892.

Between August and November 1894, in Bucharest, the "Exhibition of Cooperators" took place, organized by "Society of Cooperatorilor" in Cișmigiu park attended by members of the two philatelic societies: The Romanian Society of Stampology and the Romanian Philatelic Society.

PC RO Cod 016/2003

**1894 First illustrated postcard  
on an letter ; FDC RO -2005**



## Reprints and forgeries

### The denunciation of Tutungiu and Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu 1

Th. Melicescu , Tobacconist  
and Antique stamp shop



Constantin C. Moroiu , a famous character of Romanian philatelic history , he is also the most controversial forger of postal and local stamps .

Postage stamps issued in Moldova were among the falsified ones .

C. Moroiu started making fake brands , selling them with the mention that they are not original . Despite these mentions , at the denunciation of a tobacconist , Grigore Mocioacă , on March 8, 1889, the first prosecutor of Ilfov, Boldur Voinescu , helped by several police commissioners organized a raid on the "Universul" Printing House , where Moroiu's stamps were made .

There are voices that claim that the former captain should have been arrested after the intervention of some philatelists who produced similar "deeds" and pressured the tobacconist to report them to the authorities .

It is difficult to determine what the truth is in the absence of judicial documentation .

### Tobacconist

USA  
Traverse  
City MI  
85655B /  
1960



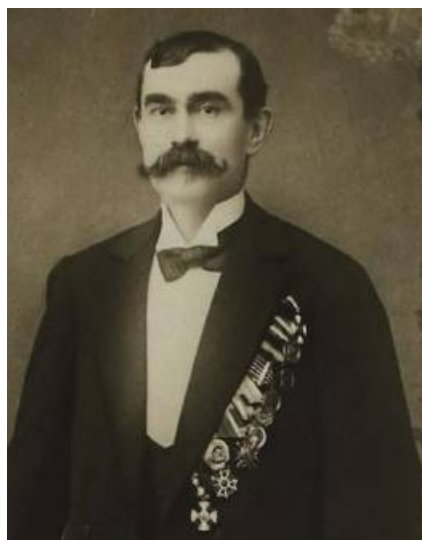
### The controversial Constantin C. Moroiu

Tribute letter  
with the  
stamp special  
and the  
vignette  
reverential  
AFB - 2020



## The denunciation of Tutungiu and Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu 2

The name Luigi Cazzavilan also appears in the research papers , the director of the newspaper "Universul", to whom the authorities requested support in the course of the investigation .

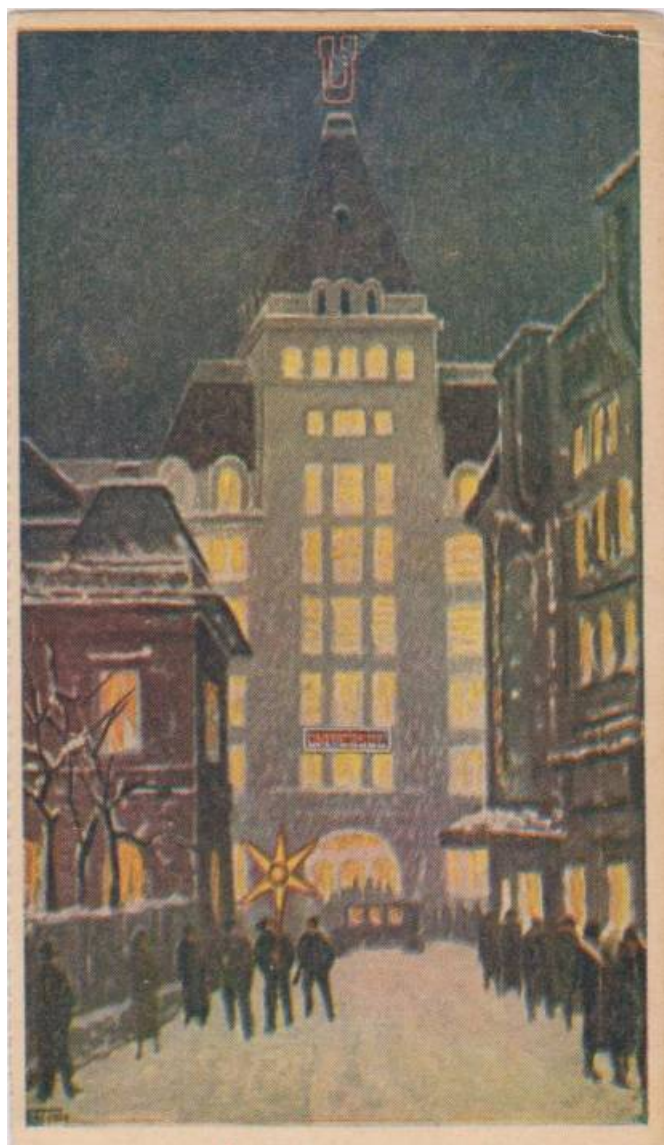


*L. Cazzavilan*



PC tip CPI 3b /1894 with printed stamp 5 bani blue from Bucuresti to Bucuresti ;  
 Markings : 2 x Bucuresti tip B1 / 4nd sept1894 + 1 Bucuresti arrival tip B4 / 4nd sept1894

### The " Universe "palace



**Worker printing "Bull head" stamps with a hand press**



Mi : RO 1750 A / 1958

**Scissors for cutting "Bull head" marks**



Mi : RO 1751 A / 1958

At the end of the 19th century it was fashionable making faithful copies of rare postage stamps that have been out of circulation for a long time . Counterfeits of this type appeared following the demand from the philatelic market , being used to complete the collections of philatelists who wanted to own all existing postage stamps .

From the documents drawn up by the Bucharest prosecutors , head. C. Moroiu bought from a workshop the clichés of the Romanian stamps issued until 1872 . He started making the fake brands with a printing press in the basement of the "Universul" newspaper.

After the authorities' visit to the printing house, a forced descent follows , at Moroiu's residence . Following the house search , thousands of postage stamps from Moldova , the United Principalities and Romania were found , all out of use . Despite these discoveries , Moroiu escapes . He is not charged due to lack of evidence .

## The denunciation of Tutungiu and Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu 3

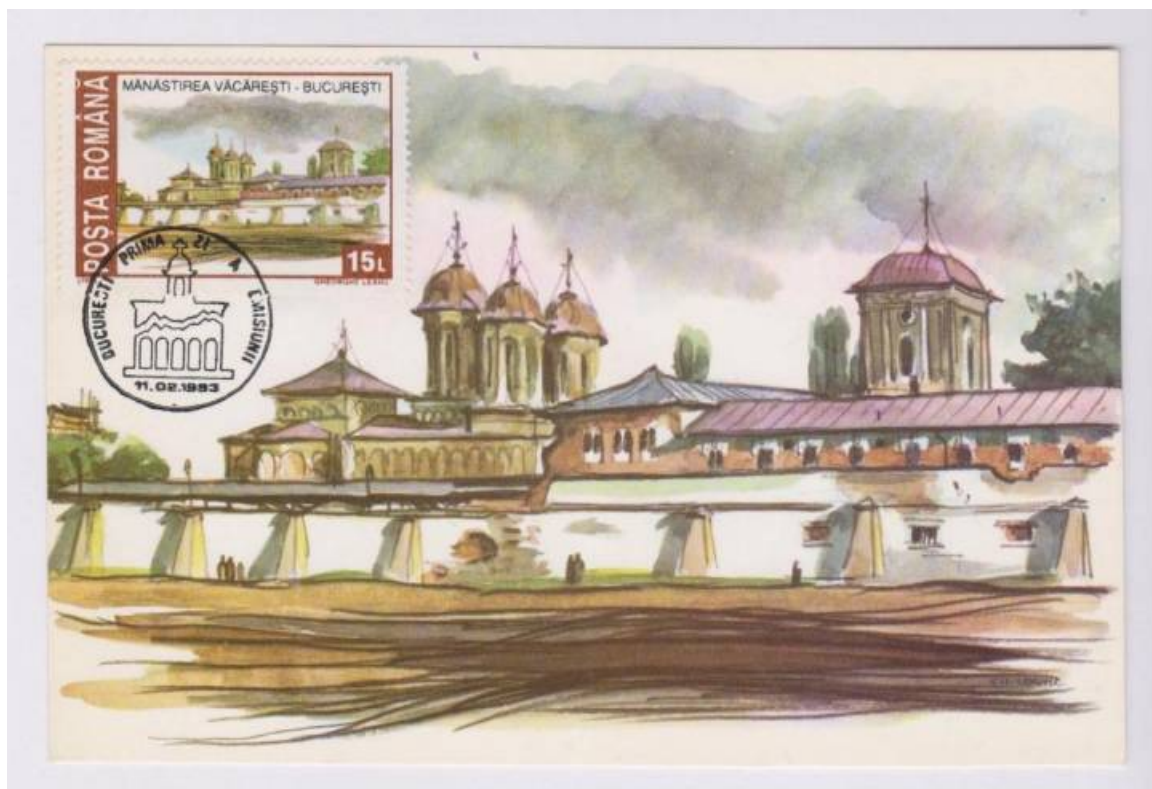
The case prosecutor receives a new piece of information: "Behind the walkway are buried clichés of old "Bull head " postage stamps. Moroiu is arrested and taken to Văcărești penitentiary. During his detention, he tries to commit suicide, but miraculously escapes.

### Detective

**Văcărești Monastery transformed by the Russians into a penitentiary - 1848 ,  
where a printing press was mentioned in operation in 1741.**



Mi : GB 1468/ 1993



CPI + SFDC /1993 ; MI : RO  
4953/1993

An arduous search follows, the file being instrumented without the prosecutors having the jurisprudence necessary to resolve this case. During the trial, for lack of evidence, it could not be proven that Moroiu would have sold his "creations" as genuine postage stamps, as a result, he escapes from prison.

### The first "Bull head "show at Centenary



FDC+SFDC/1958;

MI: RO 1754A...

1757A/1958

## The denunciation of Tutungiu and Capt. Constantin C. Moroiu 4

### Capt. Constantin Moroiu involved in controversial philatelic actions

In 1881 he created a series of phantom postage stamps with nominal values of 15 , 45 , 90 and 135 parales , presented as hand stamps , used in Moldova in 1852-1853 , but it was not successful .

#### Fakes C.Moroiu : phantom postage stamps



#### Fakes C.Moroiu : tax stamps Mangalia

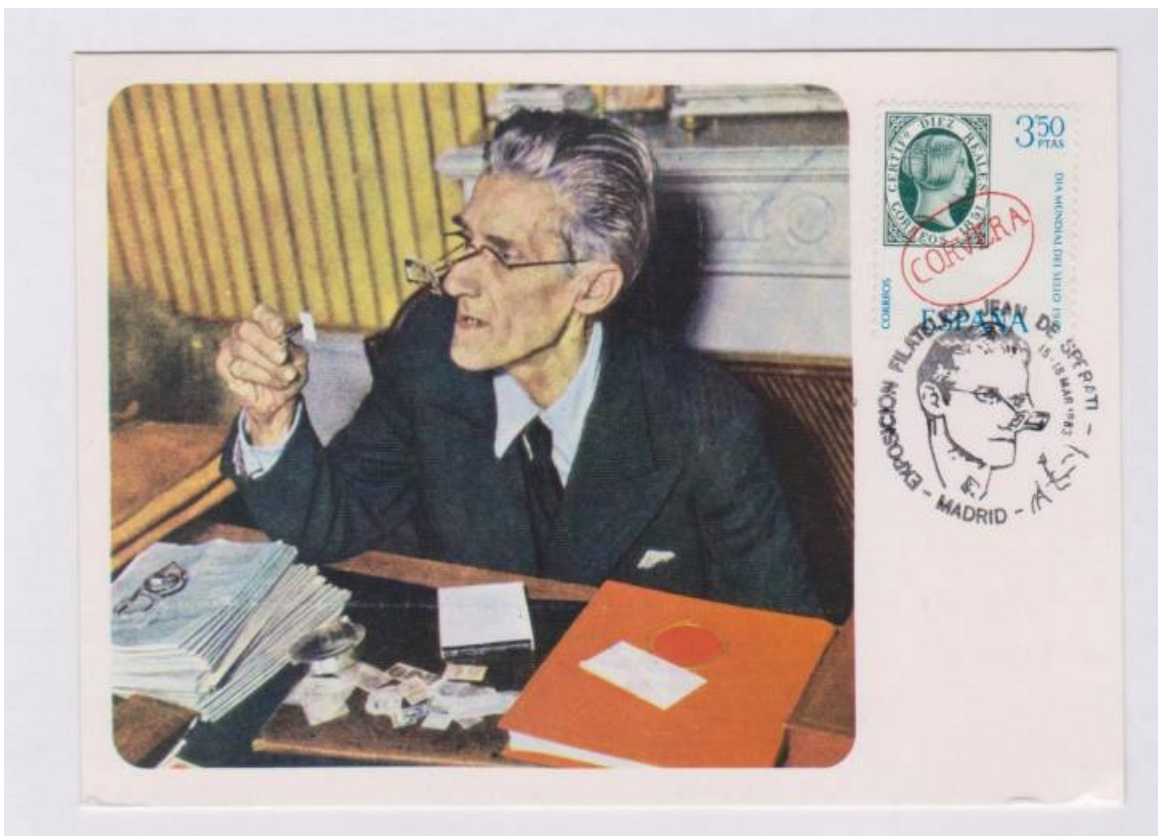


In the library of the "Royal Philatelic Society" the first Romanian philatelic catalog (1886) of C. Moroiu is discovered , where he presents his works . Also in 1994 , in "Romania The Bull's Heads of Moldavia", the work of the renowned expert Fritz Heimbuchler , reproductions of these stamps are presented , as well as an original pre-philately letter sent from Focșani to Iași in 1885 on which Moroiu applied the stamp of his own hand , which was worth 135 parales . Another feat of Captain C. Moroiu was the one with the tax stamps issued in Mangalia at the time when he was posted , in 1883 , to the garrison in this city .  
**My opinion is that it was an initiative of Cap. C. Moroiu who proposed to the authorities a model of Mangalia local tax stamps but which were not agreed , so they became Fakes C.Moroiu : tax stamps Mangalia .**

The "deal" was somewhat more successful . He issued two series consisting of four, respectively 11 local stamps . These , although not recognized as official tax marks and do not appear in the general catalogs , are well rated and sell at a fairly high price. It is curious that for these two philatelic "issues", Capt. C. Moroiu was not investigated , although he falsely claimed that they were authentic marks .

At the end of the 19th century, the beginning of the 20th century , there were dozens of such "deals" by some philatelists who tried to take advantage of the naivety of collectors .

### Jean de Sperati, the best forger of all time



According to inventories composed later by experts , Sperati realized reproductions of a number of over 500 brands different from all over the world . In 1954 , he sold them all the reproductions that they also owned , together with all clichés and stereotypes of brands and stamps , Philatelic Association British, for an amount important at that time.