

## One letter, 3 pharmacists



The present letter from my father's correspondence bears a stamp with plate error 358R.2.02: red line on the left hindquarters of the horse. It is a roll stamp, which I did not know at the time. So I visited various post offices around Lake Thun in the hope of finding more copies. In the meantime, I had learned that it was a roll stamp, and my search at various machines was successful in Bern at the main post office.

My laboratory colleague Peter Weber and our doctoral supervisor Prof. Dr. Ernst Steinegger were stamp collectors like me, and so we went together to this vending machine with a large number of 20-centime pieces. One of us inserted the coins, the second operated the crank, and the third removed the stamps. I don't remember by how many stamps in the roll the variety was, maybe every 10th or every 20th? We were at the machine at rush hour, if a passerby also wanted a stamp, we had to see that he fell between the variety.... One roll contained 2000 individual stamps, and our yield was a few dozen of the variety we were looking for.



Foto: Markus Doyon