

# The International Peace Bureau

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The ‘*International Peace Bureau*’, (IPB) founded in 1891, was one of the earliest efforts attempting to internationalize the many local and national peace organizations. It brought these organizations together in the form of an international federation. The organisation was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1910 for acting “as a link between the peace societies of the various countries.”



International Peace Bureau (IPB), Bern, Switzerland to Belfast, Ireland  
2 August 1896, 5 centime rate wrapper  
Circular IPB origin cachet, *Earliest recorded service cover from IPB*



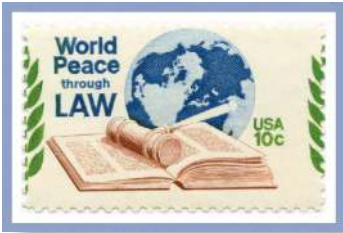
Henri la Fontaine

Henri la Fontaine (1854-1943) of Belgium served as president and Bertha von Suttner (1843-1914) of Austria as honorary vice-president.



Bertha  
von Suttner

The IPB held conferences attended by recognized personalities advocating cooperation and world peace through law. It was the driving force for the Hague Peace Conferences of 1899 and 1907, sponsored by Tsar Nicolas II of Russia and Queen Wilhelmina of Netherlands.



World Peace through Law  
Left/Right Perforation shift

Many members also attended the 1899 and 1907 Peace Conferences in the Hague, Holland



Centennial of the 1899  
Hague Peace Conference

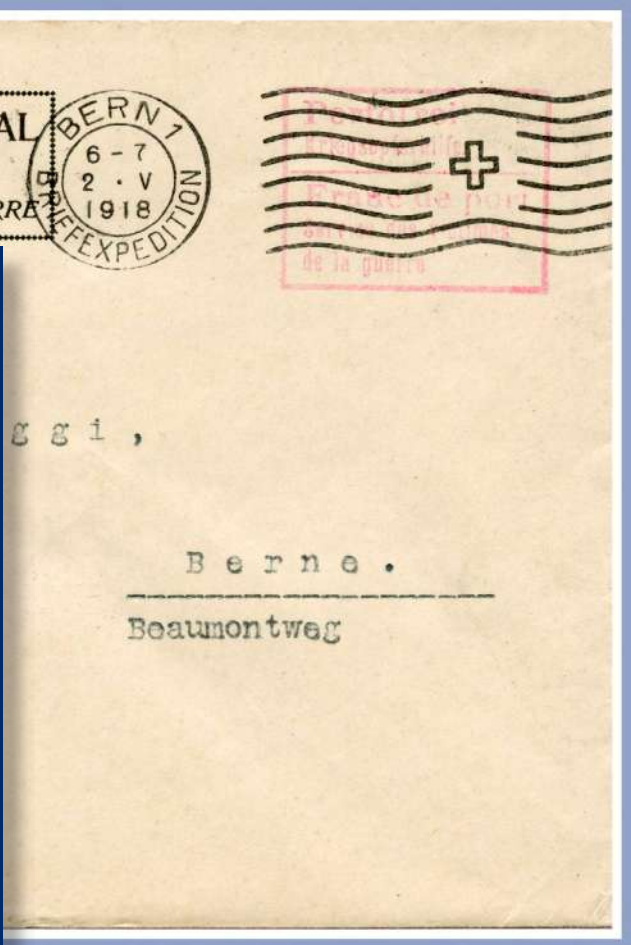


Auguste M.F. Beernaert  
Represented Belgium

The Swiss IPB acted as an intermediary, forwarding mail between war victims or prisoners and families.



South Africa to the International Peace Bureau, Berne, Switzerland  
26 April 1918, circular censor C14  
via S.S. Kenilworth Castle which collided with  
British destroyer H.M.S. Rival on 4 June; The accident set off the  
Rival's depth charges which damaged both ships (Incident)



IPB, Bern, Switzerland  
local delivery, 2 May 1918  
Postage free  
War victim handstamp (red)  
Printed dotted box origin cachet