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Volume 47 Number 1
January 1968

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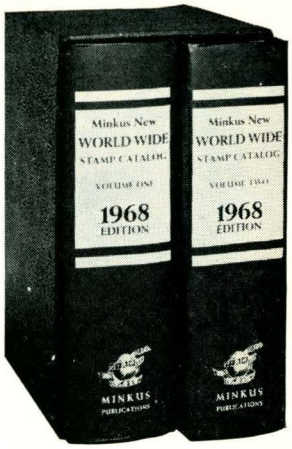
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The Collectors Club
PHILATELIST
Volume 47 Number 1
January 1968

Editorials

Philately Can Do Without:—

1. The exaggerated (and untrue) reports in newspapers of new discoveries of rare varieties, which are nothing but printer's waste.
2. Reporting every stamp show or convention as a great success.
3. Exhibitionists (mug hunters) calling themselves top philatelic scholars.
4. Reporting only the names of the prizewinners at stamp shows but not the material they exhibited.
5. Omitting the names of the hard-working judges at stamp shows.
6. Stamp organizations' and editors' over-use of superlatives. (In 1967, we read seven stamp groups calling themselves "the best." Which one is right?
7. Use of the word, "unique."
8. Use of the word, "superb."
9. Calling a book or catalogue "a must." (You *must* eat and breathe, but must not read a book.)
10. Seeing the same person's picture in practically every number of the same stamp periodical.
11. Mail auction sales.
12. Stamp dealers advertising: "We pay the highest prices." What's your experience?
13. Topical collectors in self defense constantly referring to philatelic scholarship as "fly-speck."
14. Glowing editorial comments on an auction sale in the same stamp paper where a dealer or auction house is an advertiser.
15. Book reviews by people who have never read the book.
16. Specialists from believing theirs is the only one field in philately, and who only have eyes for their own specialty.
17. Finding fault with the designs on new stamps. (One need not have one iota of philatelic knowledge to do this.)
18. Professional philatelic investment advisers. Their guesses are no better than yours.
19. Making philatelic awards to non-philatelists, such as post office people. "Philately for philatelists," should be our slogan.
20. Collecting billboard posters, coasters for drinks, large ornamental paper instead of the traditional miniature postage stamp.
21. Thinking that there are no honest stamp dealers. There are all types of people both collecting or dealing in stamps.
22. Dispensing favoritism at the expense of recognition of philatelic achievement.
23. Regarding philately as a battlefield or a racket rather than the pleasant and wonderful leisure-time pursuit it has been for nearly 120 years.

American and European Stamp Markets

The past year or so has produced comment about the European buyers' activity in the United States stamp market. Well-known New York philatelic auction houses are reporting that Europeans are buying so much high-class foreign material that the philatelic market here is being drained, somewhat similar to the flight of gold from the United States.

The cause of this has been Western Europe's economic prosperity. Add to

this the number of keen stamp collectors in Europe, and one can understand the reasons for this demand.

On the other hand, when an American philatelist visits the European stamp centers, he finds a situation exactly the opposite. All philatelic activity and interest centers about foreign stamps; one finds very little desirable United States material. For instance, the London, England stamp market ranks among the top in the world. One finds there, however, relatively little in U. S. stamps and covers.

Inquiring about this among some of the leading London stamp dealers, they maintain that everytime some desirable U. S. material or a good collection is offered for sale abroad, the American stamp dealers go over and gobble it up, leaving Europe bare of high-class United States stamps and covers.

Consequently, it looks like a standoff. British and European stamps are going over there, while our own are coming back here. The situation, however, may not be as dire, as one might conclude from current reports. There are still many fine collections of foreign stamps in the United States that promise to remain here for the foreseeable future. Also, we know of some active philatelists in the United States, who are now buying their foreign stamps abroad, competing against the Europeans.

One present event should be carefully observed. A few years ago, an enormous speculative boom started in Europe. Prices really skyrocketed; we Americans had difficulty keeping up with them. Now, "the bubble has burst." The "hot" European countries have drastically "cooled off." Now what will happen? Possibly not only will the European drain on the American stamp market stop, but this even could reverse itself. One should not forget that 20 years ago, following the end of World War II, there was a great flow of European stamps from there to the United States.

The American-European stamp market movements, therefore, could be compared to the ocean itself with its high and low tides, coming and going all the time.

Letters To The Editor

Professionals' Night Meeting June 7, 1967

In the September, 1967 issue (Volume 46 No. 5) on page 290, there is an article reporting on an evening at the Collector's Club which the undersigned feels was so slanted that it requires a reply.

Mr. Seebacher writes with a practiced ease of the professional columnist and it is not my desire to cross swords with him but he was decidedly unfair in reporting the evening with the slanted use of harsh words. Certainly it is obvious that the very proliferation of words such as: "masked opinion," "easily wounded," "contempt," "wriggling worms," "onslaught," "insecure," "attach," "noxious," "rancor," "torrid," "policing," "unscrupulous," "guilty," etc., outweighs accurate reporting and slants the article far out of normal perspective.

The undersigned came to the Collector's Club by invitation and used this opportunity to "meet" the collector. Oddly enough, such opportunities are rare. There are many areas of common interest where both the collector and the dealer can gain by open discussion of their problems; and we felt that this would be a splendid method to find a common denominator. In my humble opinion, the evening was most successful in this direction. The undersigned feels that this article was not constructive and actually renders both the collector and the dealer a disservice. We could forgive Mr. Seebacher if this were a

humorous column, but when the words used were so harsh, and when the article ends with a word summing up the evening as an "abbattoir," we feel that the record should be set straight!

Leo Scarlet, President A.S.D.A.
116 Nassau Street
New York, N. Y. 10038

Philately Is Fun

I have just read your editorial in the September, 1967 number "A Valuable Asset, But Not An Investment."

You are so correct. I wish for the peace of mind of collectors and their wives that it could be established that collecting is fun. Except for its possible salvage value, it is a hobby like golf, tennis, watching T.V., following the sports, gardening, woodworking and so on. A hobby is fun.

Personally, as I have often said, if one-half of my costs are realized, then I have done well as a philatelist.

Ellery Denison
Tokoma Park, Md.

Unsolicited Testimonial

It has been my pleasure for the past few years to read your editorials, Mr. Goodkind, in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. You are doing a wonderful service to all of us collectors and I, for one, wish to personally thank you.

We frequently discuss your editorials and elaborate on them. It's a pleasure to read a positive idea and the thinking about it. It seems that too much of the literature is devoted to either no policy at all, or the incessant carping on a few isolated cases.

Richard A. Finkel
The Philatelic Centurions
Carnegie Museum
Pittsburg, Pa.

"Hitting The Nail On The Head"

Editor hits two bent nails with one heavy hammer with his editorial in the November, 1967 number.

Having just completed an appraisal of an extensive accumulation of sheets and plate number blocks from the '40s to date, the disappointed owner realizes his imprudence and wishes that someone had told him "what to collect."

I am happy to feel that those to whom I have "delicately suggested" no sheets, no pl.# blocks nor first day covers are grateful.

Edwin A. Fiero
Ardmore, Pa.

Obituary

Louise B. Dale

After a long illness, Mrs. Louise B. Dale of New York, N. Y. and Red Bank, N. J. passed away on December 15, 1967. She had been the recipient of the 1962 *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award,* an outstanding philatelic recognition named in honor of her father, one of the world's all-time great philatelists. Consequently, it is advised that one re-read pages 81 to 82 of the March, 1962

(Continued on Page 26)

Newfoundland

The Guy Issue of 1910

By Robert H. Pratt

The short-lived Guy Issue, (Fig. 1) printed by Whitehead Morris in 1910 and 1911, bridged the gap between two Kings of England, Edward VII and George V. The death of Edward VII on May 6, 1910 occurred during preparation of the Guy Anniversary Issue, due to be released for sale on the 15th of August, 1910.

A recent purchase of all of the Guy Issue material, which had belonged to Dr. R. Willan of England brought to light certain documents in addition to his very complete collection of proofs and stamps. Their relation to this issue are here recorded. My own collection has augmented this data, and together an interesting story emerges.

Dr. Willan graciously gave me permission to quote from his letter written to me in August 1965, as follows:

"The printing works and offices of Whitehead Morris were destroyed in one of the London Blitzes during the last war. All records were destroyed. The only thing salvaged of any philatelic significance was a stout leather satchel containing material relating to the Guy issue. Somewhat to their horror, I was

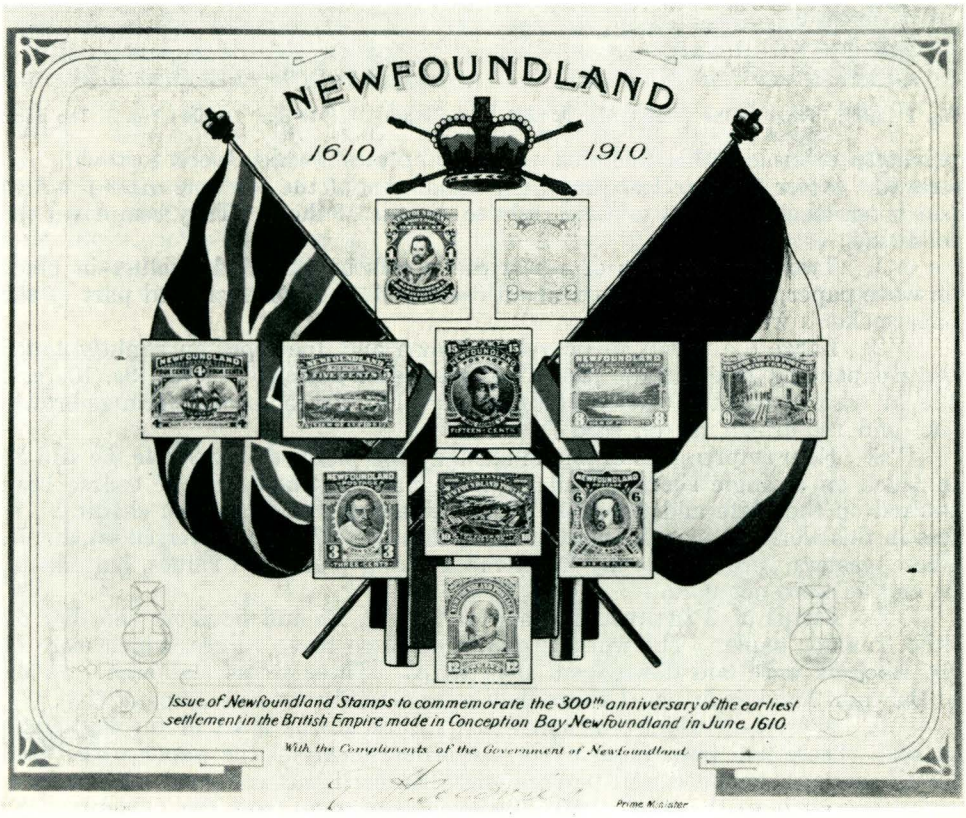
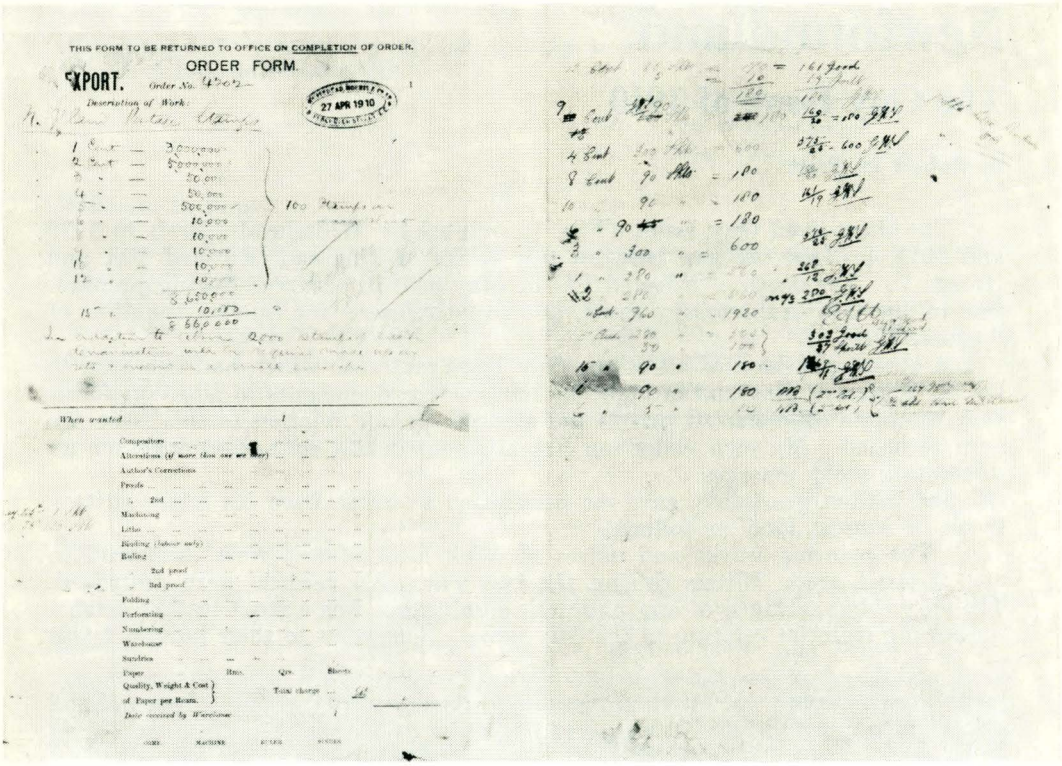


Fig. 1. Presentation Sheet.


THIS FORM TO BE RETURNED TO OFFICE ON COMPLETION OF ORDER.

ORDER FORM.

EXPORT. Order No. 4202

Description of Work

27 APR 1910

When wanted

Compositors

Alterations (if more than one set of proofs)

Author's Corrections

Proofs

2nd

Machining

Litho

Rolling (labour only)

Rolling

2nd proof

3rd proof

Folding

Perforating

Numbering

Warehouse

Sundries

Paper Reams Qrs. Sheets

Quality, Weight & Cost of Paper per Ream. Total charge

Date received by Warehouse

Fig. 2 (left): Front of the Work Order #4202, dated April 27, 1910 and (right) Fig. 3. The back.

privately informed, this included the litho 'plates', which were forthwith destroyed. After the war I acquired the remainder of the contents after the firm had taken legal advice as to their right to dispose of them. They comprised the following:

"1. Two complete sets of recess die proofs and two odd values in black on wove paper, all 10 to 12 cm x about 8 cm. Most of them showed part of the papermaker's watermark.

"2. Large die proofs of 8c yellow-brown and 15c sepia on slightly toned wove paper and 12 small die proofs (about 5 cm x 4 cm) of the 8c, 9c, 10c and 12c in various colours (violet, indigo, pale blue, green, brown, orange-brown, lake and red-brown, all on card.)

"3. Four impressions of single master litho plates of the 2c, 4c, 5c and 8c in black on a single sheet of smooth wove paper. These had of course been worked on the plate and the cross on the shield of the 2c has no shading. It was in this working over the master lithos that the "Z" was reversed on the 6c. These masters were used to lay down the working plate of 8 values, but the 1c, 2c and 5c were not used.

"4. Strips of 3 impressions each of the 1c, 2c and 5c from the dies on litho transfer paper. The working plates of these three values, which were of 200 subjects were laid down from such strips. These strips had been torn off at the right hand ends, and I think they were actually used in strips of five.

"5. A card on which was submitted (stuck down) a set of the first plate proofs. These had been required in the order, to be on the paper to be used for the stamps, gummed and perforated. The card was returned with written objections on it to the 3c (beige), 10c (yellow-orange) and 15c (black). The

same card was again submitted with a complete new set of proofs, but these were imperforate. Apparently this was approved as these are the colours of the issued stamps. The 3c had been changed to olive and the 10c to purple-slate. No change had been made in the 15c, but evidently this was accepted this time. The 4c, however, is in a definitely different colder shade of violet and the 1c is a very slightly deeper green. For all other values the first proofs are absolutely indistinguishable from the issued stamps. The 3c and 10c can be found occasionally as 'colour trials', but I think if a collector came across the 4c he would probably discard it as having been affected by sunlight in some dealer's shop window.

"6. A mass of papers, most interesting. Evidently the orders and instructions were given at personal interviews, and there are notes by Mr. Gaunt, a director of Whitehead Morris, with numbers required of each value plus an extra 2000 of each (later raised to 5000) to be placed in sets in small packets for sale at the Colonial Exhibition; colours (only the 1c, 2c and 5c were stipulated. The rest were left to the discretion of W. M. with a naive note that some colours are better than others for stamps); instructions for proofs, packing of stamps, delivery dates, prices etc. There are the complete workshop records of the printings, with numbers printed, numbers good and bad, amount of paper used, etc.

"There are the complete dispatch records with dates, numbers and methods of sending (by post or name of steamer from Liverpool). The original printing and sending comprised the entire order for 8 values, but the much larger number of the 1c, 2c, and 5c, were printed and dispatched at intervals over several months. The reversed Z of the 6c was only found when the stamps were ready for sending, so they were sent, the letter was corrected on the printing stone, a second printing of the same number was made, and was dispatched only 5 days after the original lot. There are also the workshop instructions for perforating the recess stamps in December, with the number of sheets. This was the first time I knew the number of these stamps.

"I am afraid I, like many people on this side of the water, habitually refer to the printing plates as stones though actual stones have of course not been used for many years. The printing plates for *all* values were metal (some zinc alloy), not actual stones. For 8 values, each plate of 100 was laid down from a single master litho. What material these master lithos were on I do not know, and nobody knows what happened to them. The 1c, 2c and 5c plates (2

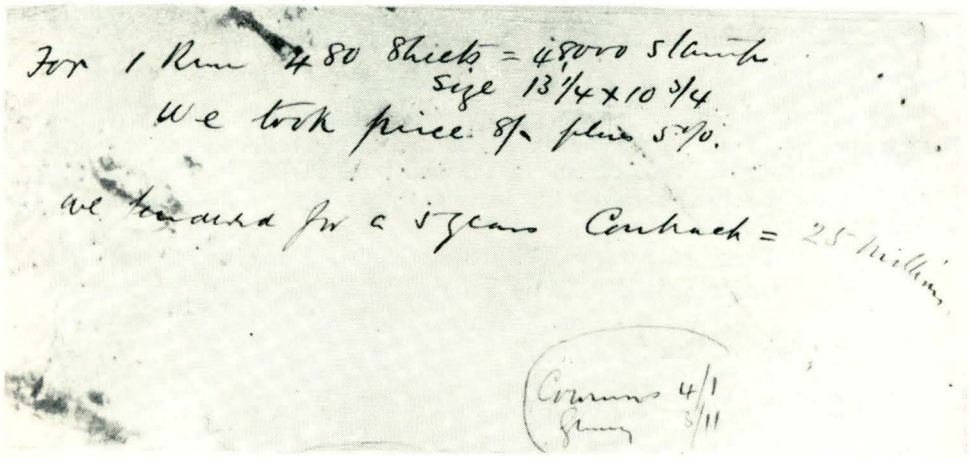


Fig. 4. Paper with Notes regarding Contract.

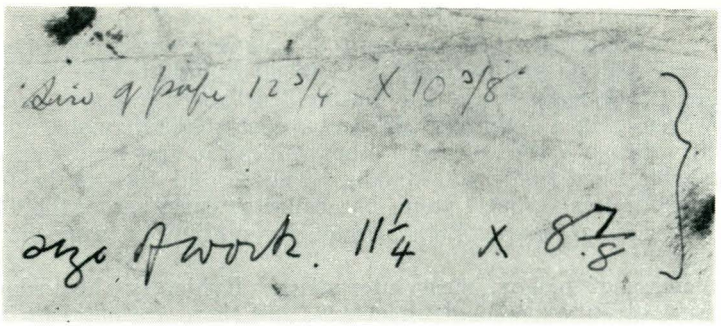


Fig. 5. Actual stamp paper.

panes of 100) were laid down from a small strip recess plates. I think these were strips of 5, but I have no proof of that number. There were certainly more than three, and five is the only reasonable number to lay down in rows of 10. The point is that no intermediate litho was used, though such was prepared at least for the 2c and 5c.

"The original Guy dies were etched. The lines show that slight woolliness characteristic of etching as compared with the clean-cut lines of engraving. Etching is, of course, not satisfactory for multiplication on a plate by transfer roller, so when it was required to produce the recess stamps the dies were worked over with a graving tool. Only the most minute differences were produced, except in the 6c where the fine shading lines in the label at the bottom are missing. Unfortunately at the time I got the Guy material, I made no enquiries from Whitehead Morris except to assure myself that they had no other philatelic material which I might acquire. At that time the Gibbons catalogue showed all issues from the 1911 Coronation to 1928 as being printed by Whitehead Morris, and I accepted that.

"My opinions then, about the stamps of 1910-1911, are as follows, and if you have had the patience to read all this you can form your own opinion as to how far they are justified.

"The dies for the Guy set and the plates for the recess values were prepared by Macdonalds. I accept this as it has been so stated from the beginning. I cannot confirm it but I know they were not produced by Whitehead Morris, Alexander, De La Rue, or Perkins Bacon.

"The litho plates and printing of the litho Guys were by Whitehead Morris. The printing of the recess Guys was by Alexander."

Lithographed Issue

The collection begins with a shop-work order form (Fig. 2) of "Whitehead Morris and Co., Ltd., 8 Fenchurch St. E.C." This order bears the number "4202," dated April 27, 1910, and is marked "EXPORT." What is written is listed below, because it forms the basis of this story. The notations on the back are just as important as those on the front.

"Work order form 'Whitehead Morris & Co., Ltd.'
Order #4202 EXPORT dated 27 April, 1910"
"N 'f' land Postage Stamps"

1 Cent — 3,000,000)
)
2 Cent — 5,000,000)
)
3 Cent — 50,000)

4 Cent	—	50,000	100 stamps on each sheet (A)
5 Cent	—	500,000	
6 Cent	—	10,000	
8 Cent	—	10,000	Work 100 sheets of each
9 Cent	—	10,000	
10 Cent	—	10,000	
12 Cent	—	10,000	
		8,650,000	
15 Cent (B)	—	10,000	
		8,660,000	

"In addition to above 2,000 stamps of each denomination will be required, made up in sets and enclosed in a small envelope(C)."

May 25th	—	1 sheet
May 26th	—	120 sheets

Item 1

In addition to the quantities to be printed, the following on back of work order 4202 over-written by other notes should also be noted:

(A) The number of stamps per sheet is specified at 100.
(B) The 15c was evidently an afterthought. It was added after the quantity was totaled.
(C) 2,000 stamps or 20 sheets of each denomination were "extra" to be made into packets. This was changed later on to 50 sheets.

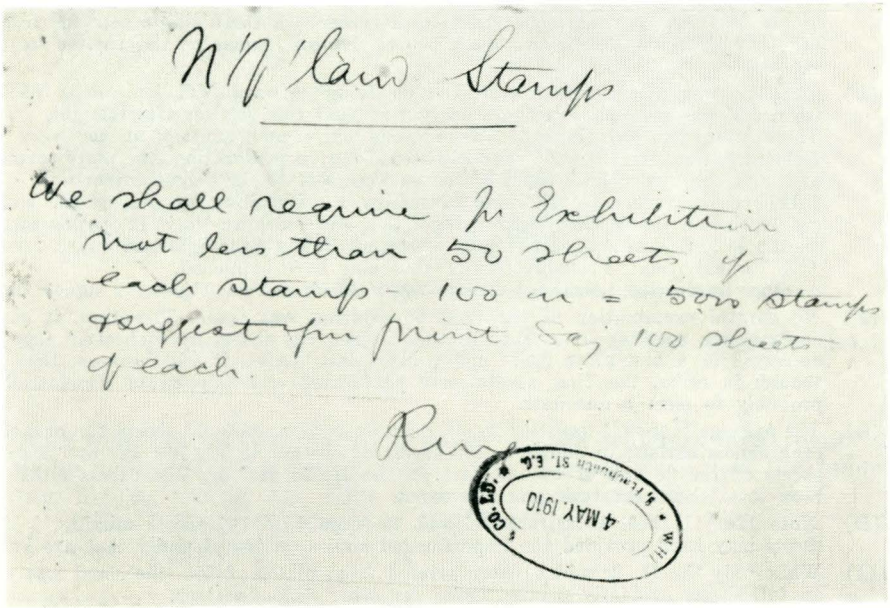


Fig. 6. Change order for packet quantities.

"Proofs - - - t (probably SENT) out (D)."

"100 on Red"	23
"100 on Brown"	24
Other denom (denominations)	192 & 23
	239
	23
	262

12 Cent(E)	85 Shts.	=	170(I)	161 Good(G)		1 Sheet Litho(H)	
	5 Shts.	=	10	19 Spoilt		record. W.B.	
			180	180 G.W.S.			
9 Cent	90 G.W.S.	=	180	160/20	=	180 G.W.S.	
4 Cent	300 Shts.	=	600	575/25	=	600 G.W.S.	
8 Cent	90 Shts.	=	180	160/20	=	180 G.W.S.	
10 Cent	90 Shts.	=	180	161/19	=	180 G.W.S.	
6 Cent(F)	90 Shts.	=	180				
3 Cent	300 Shts.	=	600	575/25 G.W.S.			
1 Cent	280 Shts.	=	560	268/12 G.W.S.			
2 Cent	280 Shts.	=	560	on A/c 280 G.W.S.			
1 Cent	960 Shts.	=	1920	E.A.W.	949	Good	
					11	Bad	
5 Cent	280 Shts.	=	560)		303	Good G.W.S.	
5 Cent	50 Shts.	=	100)		27	Spoilt	
15 Cent	90 Shts.	=	180		169	G.W.S.	
					11		
6 Cent	90 Shts.	=	180 MB (2nd lot))		164	Good W.B.	
				)	23	Bad	

(D) Evidently, 23 or 24 proofs of each denomination were sent out. If they were in blocks of four, five sets could have been made with three single sets for internal use. The "100 on Red", and the "100 on Brown" must be the 12c. as we shall see later.

(E) The 12c was printed first even though King Edward VII had died. The 15c George V was printed last, again suggesting that this was an afterthought.
There were two printings of the 6c, one early and another at the very last. Evidently, the reversed "Z" was discovered before perforating, the plate corrected, or a new one made; both types of the 6c were sent to the postal authorities.
I believe the reversed "Z" was caused by a misspelling by one of the engravers. Notice on the 2c that "colonizing" is spelled with an "s." If "colonization" on the 6c had been spelled the same way and the "s" straightened out, a reversed "Z" would result. Probably this is what may have happened.
Another interesting notation concerns the "OK" or "good" sheets signed for.

(F) No careful examination of the first 6c printing was made. Therefore, it can be assumed the spelling error was discovered when the sheets were checked, the plate corrected or a new plate made and printed last. Later, it will be seen, that even though in error, the first sheets were perforated and shipped to Newfoundland, probably to meet a due date.

(G) The average "good" quantity would be enough to provide 50 sheets for packets of each denomination; in addition, 100 sheets of the 6c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 12c and 15c; 500 sheets of the 3c and 4c and a start on the 1c, 2c and 5c. The excess either had been lost when perforating or destroyed.

(H) Note 12c "1 sheet litho record" and 6c Type II "1½ sheets missing." These sheets may have provided the imperforated copies on issued paper that are known.

(I) While only the 1c, 2c and 5c were printed from plates of 200, the count was made on full sheets evidently printed twice for other denominations.

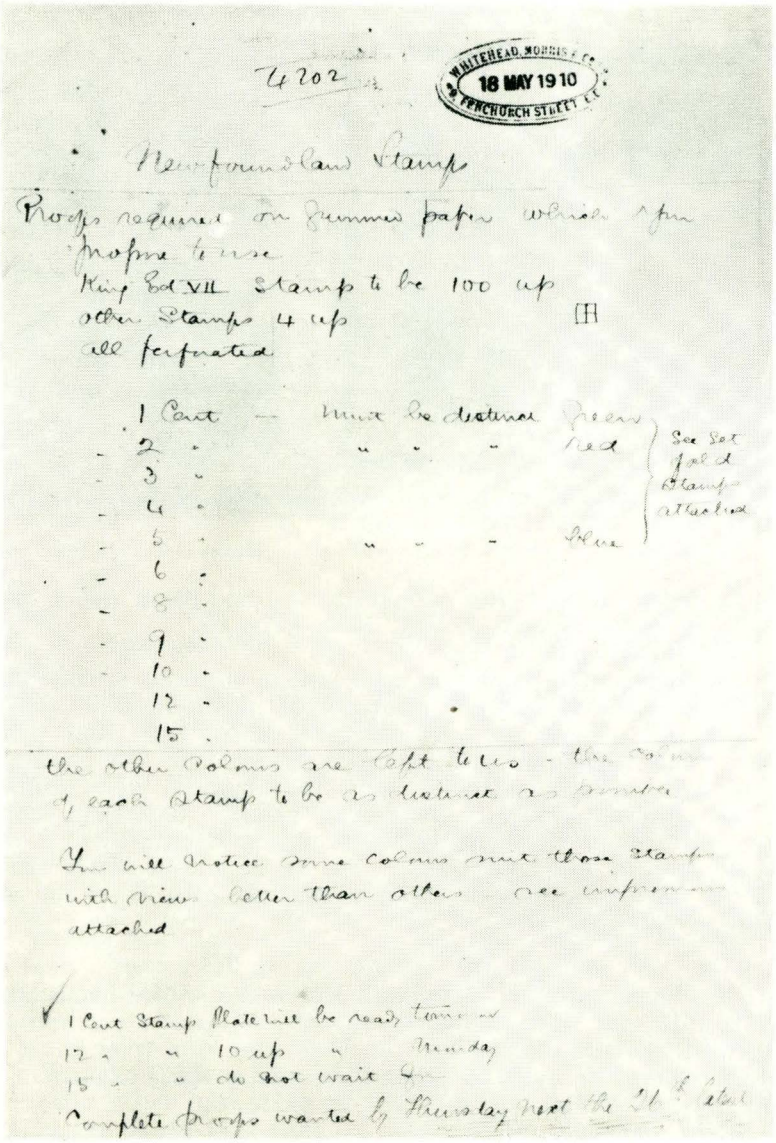


Fig. 7. Work Order 4202 — Notes on proofs and colors.

6 Cent 5 Shts. = 10 MB (2nd lot)) 1½ Sht. Had Mr. Robert*

Item 2

Next were two undated pieces of paper — each evidently blank paper used for stamp printing. This paper, .00400 thick, normal wove, had the following notation in ink: (Fig. 4). This piece has no watermark.

"For 1 Ream 480 sheets = 48,000 stamps
Size 13¼ x 10¾

*A sheet and one half are missing.

We took price 8/- plus 5%.
We tendered for a 5 year contract = 25 million
Glueing 3/11 Corners 4/1''

If it were not for the start of World War I in 1914, the total anticipated quantity of 25 million would have been printed. Whitehead Morris had printed the George V Coronation Issue in 1911, and started in 1918 to work on the Caribou Issue. They continued to produce the Newfoundland stamps until John Dickenson and Perkins, Bacon & Co., took over in 1929. It is interesting to note a standard printing measure is 25 sheets to a quire (QR), 20 Qr. or 500 sheets to a ream. Small sheets may have 24 sheets to a quire, or 480 to a ream.

Item 3

Another paper fragment .00311 thick (Fig. 5) is 13¼ x 10¾ mm, normal wove. This paper also had the stamps printed on it. It has the following message in ink:

''Size of paper 12¾ x 10⅜
Size of work 11¼ x 8⅞
1360 Nov. 07''

This was the actual stamp paper. From the date of the note, it was also used in 1907, so this was a standard product.

Item 4

Next is a document on a piece of watermarked laid paper .00511 thick date-stamped by Whitehead Morris: 4, May, 1910. (Fig. 6).

''N 'f' lan Stamps''

''We shall require for Exhibition not less than 50 sheets of each stamp 100 up = 5,000 stamps and suggest you print say 100 sheets of each. R.W.Y.''

This is the first change for work order No. 4202. See ''Note C'' on this work order. This suggestion evidently was modified in the printing room, because 180 sheets instead of 100 (80 more than needed) were printed. The printing room foreman evidently knew his ''yield.'' Referring back to the April 18th order Note ''I'' evidently 200 stamps were printed to a sheet and an unsheared sheet of 13¼ x 21½ used. The 1c, 2c and 5c plates were of 200 each so all the others must have been run through the press twice and separated on or before perforation.

Item 5

Fig. 7 is a document with Whitehead, Morris & Co. oval handstamp dated May 18, 1910 that reads as follows:

''Newfoundland Stamps''
''Proofs required on gummed paper which you propose to use.''
''King Edward VII stamp to be 100 up (12c).''
''Other stamps 4 up ⊞.
''All perforated:

1 Cent	—	Must be distinct green)	
2 Cent	—	Must be distinct red)	
3 Cent	—	)	— See set of old stamps
4 Cent	—	)	attached
5 Cent(K)	—	Must be distinct blue)	

(K) Except for the 1c, 2c, and 5c, the colors of the stamps were left to the printer. The specimens noted ''as attached'' are missing, so that the colors specified remain unknown.
Regarding colors, it is strange that for the 12c brown was selected and the 15c for the black. Edward VII (12c) had just recently died and George V (15c) just had been crowned. One would think the colors would have been reversed.

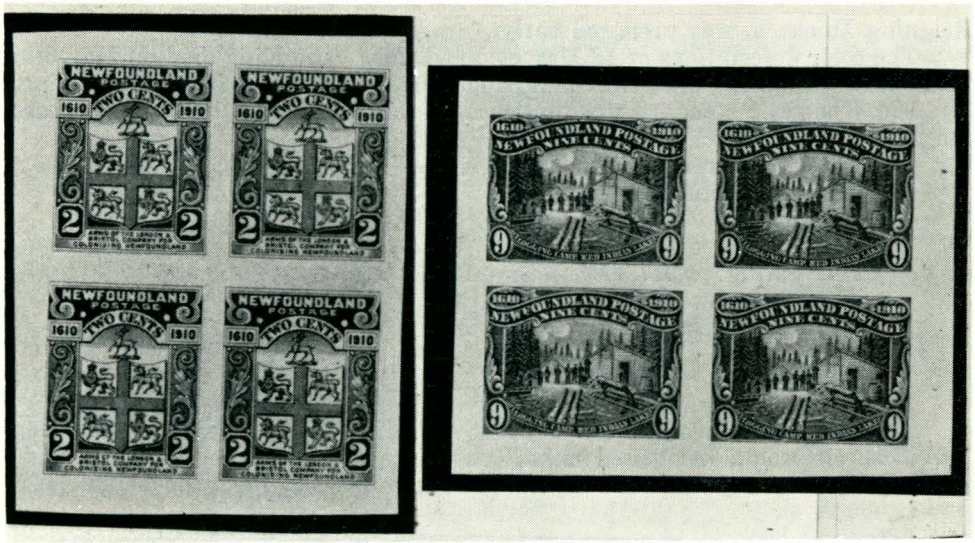


Fig. 7A. Two sample blocks of four, the 2 and 9-cent denomination.

6 Cent	9 Cent	12 Cent
8 Cent	10 Cent	15 Cent

"The other colors are left to us — the color of each stamp to be as distinct as possible.

"You will notice some colors suit those stamps with views better than others — see imprimés attached(L).

1 Cent Stamp plate will be ready tomorrow (Thursday, 19th)

12 Cent Stamp 10 up will be ready Monday, (23rd)

15 Cent Stamp do not wait for(M).

"Complete proofs wanted by Thursday next, the 26th latest.

(Probably May.")

Here is the reference to the gummed and perforated *proofs* which had different colors. All denominations were so prepared, and were submitted in blocks of four. The 12c, which evidently was to be a full sheet, was also made in red in blocks of four. These I call the *first proofs*. One collection has a set of blocks of four, perforated, in the colors of the first proofs, mounted on sunken card.

In order to prepare these sample blocks of four (Fig. 7A), special lithographed plates must have been made, as evidenced by the set of blocks of four in blue (except the 12c in red, to be described later). These could be laid down by the transfer roller into plates of four, transfer printings made and stones prepared for the blocks—(or from a "master" litho stone into blocks of four). The blue color trials of the stones were probably made around the 20th of May because the color of the stamp as yet had not been selected. Blue was necessary for the 5c and red for the 2c. Why the 12c was in red is curious, because it is known perforate and imperforate (See "Item 1" — "100 on red"). At first, perhaps the 12c was going to be printed in red, and being of the then

(L) "Imprimes" — French for "printed matter" — could be the die proofs of the 9c and 10c in colors listed later on. If so, these color trials were run at an early stage and were for the lithographed issue. Probably most of the die proofs were made for the first issue.

(M) These dates are interesting:
1c Plate ready Thursday, 19th May.
12c 10 up (top line?) ready Monday, 23rd May.
15c Evidently not ready as yet.
The first proofs probably had been submitted between the 24th and 26th of May.

Reigning Monarch, was prepared early.

The color descriptions of 18 May changed this. The King died on May 6th. These trial "samples" are printed on paper .0025" thick — .0029 after gumming.

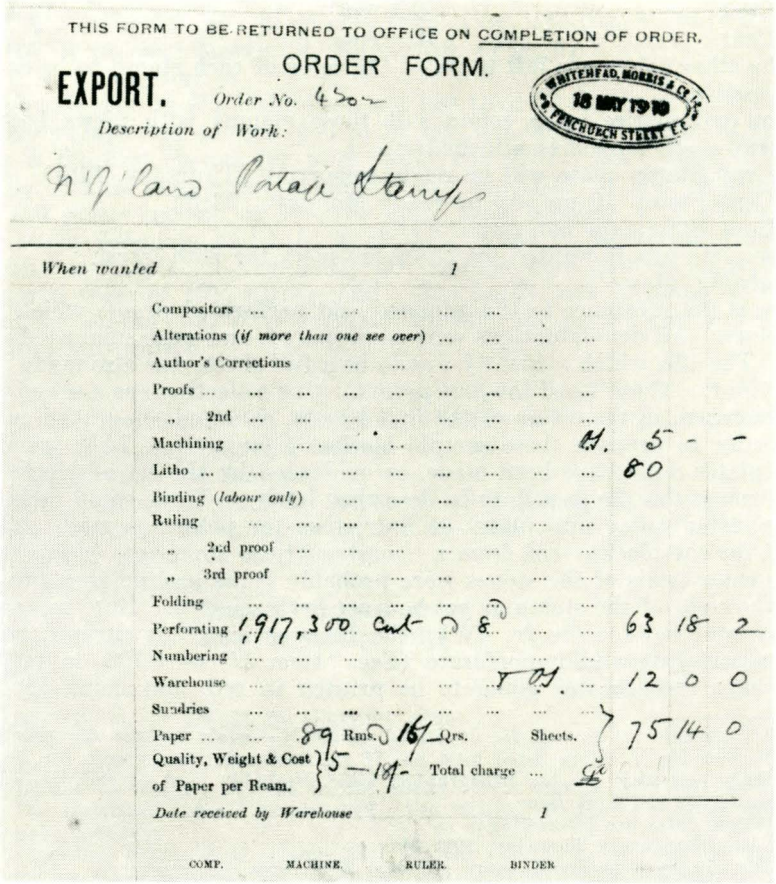
Fig. 8 shows a standard work order form dated 18, May, 1910, which bears the following message:

"Work order 4202"
"Newfoundland Stamp"

Machining		5 - 0 - 0
Litho		80 - 0 - 0
Perforating	1,917,300	63 - 18 - 2
Warehouse		12 - 0 - 0
Paper 89 Rms. 16 Qr.		75 - 14 - 0
		£236 - 12 - 2"

This must have been an interim cost collecting sheets, because perforating 19,173 sheets would have used only 40 reams of paper. The total order, including 55,000 stamps for packets, would require at least 182 reams, single size, or 91, double size.

Referring back to Item 2 at 16/ per ream for a double-size sheet and 91 reams for the printing, the cost would be £72 - 16 - 0. If 16/ is correct, 94½



THIS FORM TO BE RETURNED TO OFFICE ON COMPLETION OF ORDER.

EXPORT. ORDER FORM.

Order No. 4202

Description of Work:

N'f'land Postage Stamps

WHITEHEAD, MORRIS & Co. Ltd. 18 MAY 1910 PENCHUECH STREET E.C.

When wanted 1

Compositors				
Alterations (*if more than one see over*)				
Author's Corrections				
Proofs				
„ 2nd				
Machining			M.	5 - -
Litho				80
Binding (*labour only*)				
Ruling				
„ 2nd proof				
„ 3rd proof				
Folding				
Perforating 1,917,300 Cwt 3 8				63 18 2
Numbering				
Warehouse			T 01	12 0 0
Sundries				
Paper 89 Rms. 16 Qrs. Sheets.				75 14 0
Quality, Weight & Cost of Paper per Ream. 5 — 16 —		Total charge	£	

Date received by Warehouse 1

COMP. MACHINE. RULER. BINDER

Fig. 8. Cost sheet dated 18 May 1910.

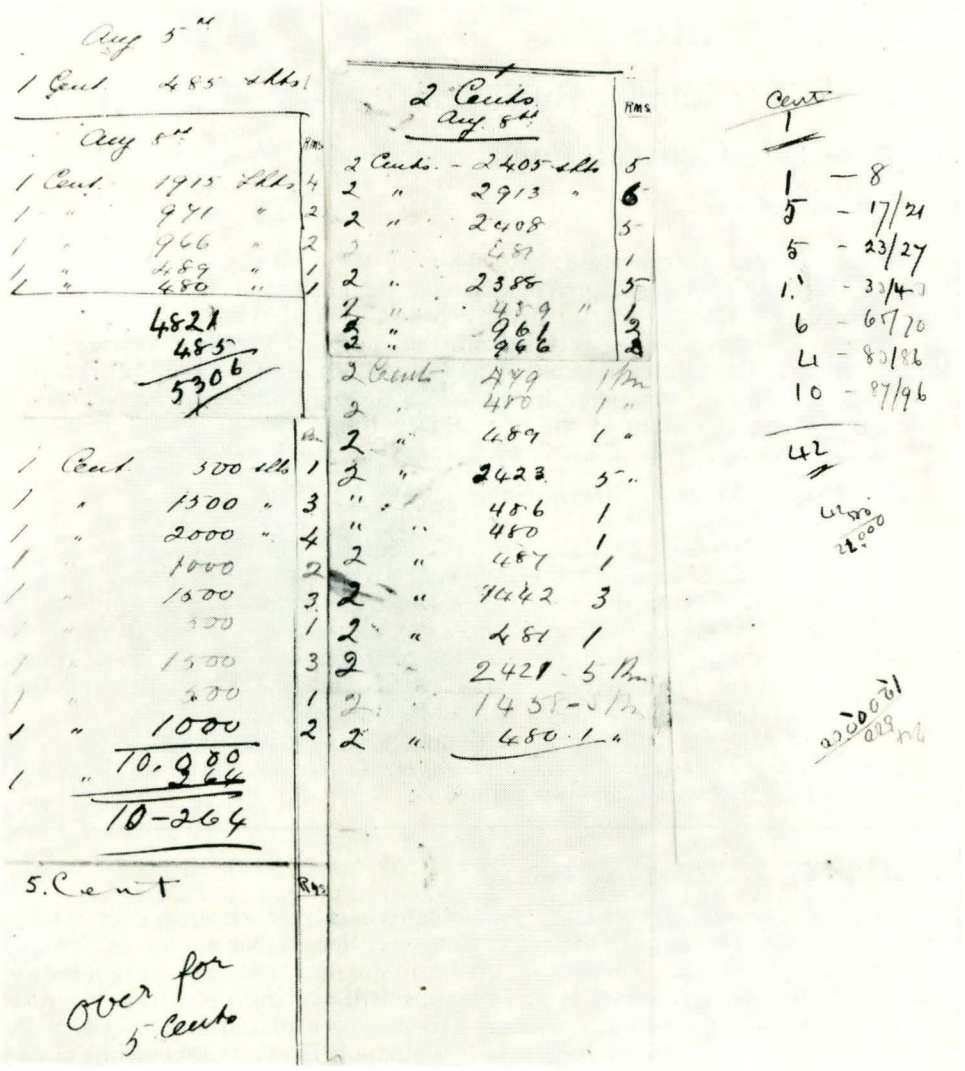


Fig. 9. Notes on paper requirements.

reams were used at the price shown, which seems plausible; the 89 reams, 16 quire appears to be low.

Item 7

Certain other scraps of paper show 87 reams, 1 quire used for the 1c, 2c, and 5c (Fig. 9).

Work order 4202, Item 1, indicates 1,235 sheets or 2 reams, 11 quire were used for the other denominations. This totals 89 reams, 12 quire. An additional 5 quire were used 26, May — total 89 reams, 17 quire. Somewhere there is an error, or the difference is in "spoiled" sheets and sheets used for packets.

(To Be Continued)

United States

Valuable(?) Stamps Buried in New York's Central Park

By Solomon Altmann

It seems reasonably certain that most of the Collectors Club's resident members are familiar with Cleopatra's Needle, the ancient obelisk that stands in New York City's Central Park, directly behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art. But it also seems reasonably certain that no resident member knows that some valuable United States stamps may be reposing for 88 years in this obelisk.

The following item was found in "The New Jersey Philatelist" of November, 1880, a monthly publication of the New Jersey Philatelic Society, 11 Reservoir Avenue, Jersey City, N. J. This is what was reported:

Philately To Be Made Everlasting.
Cleopatra's Needle.

"The Post Office Department at Washington sent to New York City a small copper case, in which the following articles were included, a copy of the Yearly Report of the Post Office Department of 1879, a copy of the Postal Laws of 1880, and a collection of stamps and stamped envelopes now in use by the United States; also the photographs of Postmaster General Maynard, of his predecessor, D. M. Key, of Asst. P.M.G. Tyner, and that of the Post Office Building at Wash., D. C.

"This case upon the desire of Commander Gorrings is appointed to be placed in the Foundation Stone of *Cleopatra's Needle,* where we suppose it will remain for an everlasting time."

OBITUARY *(Continued from Page 14)*

COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST that had comprehensively covered Mrs. Dale's distinguished services to philately, from the inception of her career as a young girl collector up to 1962. There is no need now for this magazine to repeat this.

At the time of her death, Mrs. Dale was still serving as a Governor and Trustee of the Collectors Club; her name had just been placed in nomination for another 3-year term as Governor, to be voted upon by the membership at the January 10, 1968 Annual Meeting. Also, she had continued until her death as the Chairman of the Philatelic Foundation, whose office is here at 22 East 35 Street, New York City, and also as the Chairman of this institution's expert committee.

When re-reading what had been written by me in this magazine in 1962, it was noticed that she joined the Collectors Club in February, 1931, which marked close to 37 years of membership in this club.

After 1962, Mrs. Dale had served in June, 1965 as an international judge at the WIPA exhibition in Vienna, Austria. Her health in recent years had prevented her from accepting many more philatelic services that had been requested of her. As a matter of fact, tribute must be paid to an exceedingly brave lady, who, despite of a severe burden of ill-health, was able to devote as much time as she did to voluntary philatelic work on the highest level.

Mrs. Dale is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Leffert Lefferts, and a son, John D. Jr. *(H. M. G.)*

Nicaragua

The "Seebeck" Issues (Part 2)

By Albert Quast and Dr. Robert Willer

(Continued from Vol. 46, Page 359)

1894 Issue

A. Regular Postage Stamps (Scott Nos. 61-70)



Fig. 15. 1894 Regular Issue.

We shall now discuss one of the most interesting Seebeck issues of Nicaragua, the issue of 1894.

With this issue, one must differentiate between three distinct printings. Of the second printing, the 1 and 2 centavos, and possibly some of the other lower denominations got into circulation, but no genuinely used copies of the third printing have ever been found. It is, therefore, concluded that the third printing was a reserve printing by Seebeck, which was never delivered to Nicaragua's postal administration.

As we said in the general introduction, it is likely that by 1894 Seebeck, in view of the poor quality of the remainders returned to him in former years, insisted upon delivering to the Nicaraguan postal administration only the quantities of each denominations necessary to cover its estimated postal needs. At the same time, he seems to have discontinued his practice of retaining from the first printing a substantial supply for later sale or to fill reorders from Managua. Otherwise, it cannot be explained why all ten denominations of the second printing come on different paper, and, in some instances, have quite different colors from the first printing. This leads to the conclusion that the second printing took place much later, probably in the fall of 1894, when the paper used for the first printing was no longer available and the color mix of the first printing could not be exactly duplicated.

It cannot be determined whether the second printing took place to fill a reorder of the postal administration, when it turned out that their stock of the first printing would not be sufficient, or to satisfy Seebeck's desire to have a larger supply, from which he sent a part to Nicaragua. It is unusual that mint copies of the 1 peso of the first printing are very scarce, while mint 1 centavos and 2 centavos are frequently found. We have mentioned earlier that the 1

centavo and 2 centavos denominations of the second printing are most frequently found used. These two values were possibly used by some post offices, which ran short of stock of the first printing. On the other hand, Seebeck may have retained a sizable quantity of the first printing, certainly not 200,000 of these "small" sets of these two values and shipped to Nicaragua, upon reorder, the 1 centavos and 2 centavos values from the second printing. It is also conceivable that the 1 centavo and 2 centavos copies sent by Seebeck to Calman, the New York stamp dealer, came from the remainders of the first printing, returned to New York from some post offices in Nicaragua, which had not used all of their original stock.

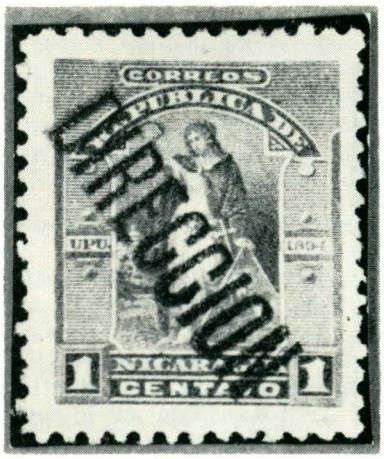


Fig. 16. DIRECCION overprint.

There are regular postage stamps, with the exception of the 25 centavos, and also Official stamps of the 1894 issue with handstamped a violet "DIRECCION" overprinted diagonally from left to right or horizontally (Fig. 16). Such a set we find, for instance, on a New Year's greeting card dated January 1, 1894, typical of those which the Postmaster General of Nicaragua sent to several prominent persons, including postmasters, and large business firms, as a courtesy or to reciprocate New Year's greetings which he had received. These cards have on one side an appropriate text in French (Spanish text also should exist but has not yet been recorded). On the other side of the card, sometimes carelessly affixed, are the complete set of twenty of both series. Kroeger originally mentioned having seen only the ten denominations of regular postage stamps so used. Later, in "Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal" (Number 17, 1912), Kroeger mentions a communication he received, in which the writer maintained that he owned one of these New Year's cards with all 20 stamps, regular postage and Official, overprinted "DIRECCION."

In our collection, there is a similar card. On this card, however, only the regular postage stamps have the overprint, while the official stamps do not. Overprinting of the regular stamps makes sense — to prevent their further use for postage. However, this does not always hold, because in some cases we find Official stamps were also overprinted. Obviously, the practice was not uniform. The idea may have been to consider the stamps used on the New Year's greeting cards as samples only. We have found "DIRECCION" overprinted on the regular postage and official, genuinely used stamps. It can be concluded that the postal administration had more sets overprinted "DIRECCION" than were needed for the greeting cards and used the remainder on official mail.

Not a single copy of an Official stamp overprinted "DIRECCION" has

been found with original gum. This leads us to the conclusion that they were removed from the post cards and that the postal administration then used them for postage. This theory is supported by the fact that a great number of these stamps later used for postage are heavily damaged in a manner which is typical of stamps carelessly removed from cards.

The stamps on the New Year's greeting cards as well, as the very scarce imperforate proofs of the first printing are of great significance to this study, because they identify without doubt examples from the first printing. The Telegraph stamps are useful for comparison to show the paper and color shades found on the first printing of postage stamps.

The very limited shipment of the first printing caused both mint and used pesos denominations to become very scarce. We have not found any copies either with counterfeit or postdated cancellations, which indicates that only a very small quantity, if any, was returned to Seebeck. With the exception of the 1 centavo and the 2 centavos, the centavos denominations, mint, particularly the 50 centavos, of the first printing are scarce. The 5 centavos mint is also exceedingly scarce.

The following table describes the characteristics of the three printings.

First Printing	Second Printing	Third Printing
	PAPER	
Rather thick (stiff) gray–white, often brownish tinted. Mesh not distinct.	Thinner, softer White or gray tinted.	Thickness similar to first printing but pure white.
	GUM	
Mostly brownish (faded) (50 centavos and pesos values lighter), often spotted.	Light yellow–saffron, or some saffron–yellow spots.	White–brownish, thick.
	COLOR	
1c. Orange or yellow–brown	Almost the same (yellow–brown preponderant)	Lighter
2c. Vermilion, also carmine–red	More of a brick–red	———
5c. Deep blue	Steel blue	Steel blue
10c. Slate	A little lighter	———
20c. Lake	A little lighter	Duller
50c. Purple	A little lighter	Still lighter
Purple*	Gray–lilac	Gray–lilac
1p. Dark brown	A little lighter	A little lighter green
2p. Deep bluish–green	Green, with a yellow tint.	With a yellow tint
5p. Carmine–brown	Red–brown	A little lighter than red–brown
10p. Red–orange	Yellow–orange	Yellow–orange

The color designations are by Kroeger as well as others. It is difficult, with only minor differences in shades, to find proper and understandable designations for the shades of the colors. Only a comparison of copies from different printings can lead to the identification of the color shades. Generally, it can be said that the first printing has duller shades, the second and third printings have lighter ones. The differences in the paper and gum are more easily recognized. Stamps of the second printing can be easily recognized by a somewhat thinner, somewhat softer paper. Furthermore, the second printing is found with the saffron-yellow gum, so that its copies are heavily spotted with saffron-yellow. The paper of the third printing is almost as thick as the first

*A second test of color shades observed under the ultra-violet lamp.

printing, but pure white. The gum is more yellowish than the rather brownish toned gum of the first printing.

Kroeger does not list the 50 centavos and 10 pesos among the stamps of the third printing. It is not easy to see the difference between the 50 centavos of the first printing and the 50 centavos of the third printing. However, the lighter purple, the whiter paper, and, if intact, the gum, all assist in identifying the third printing.

The 25 centavos green appears on paper of the first printing. It was obviously never circulated, nor does it appear on the official New Year's Day greeting cards. Mint copies are scarce; a few are known used. These were probably used on official mail. Recently, it was reported that only eight genuinely used copies were known, but this estimate seems too low.

Scott lists pairs of the 2 centavos (No. 62a) and 5 pesos imperforate between (horizontal) (No. 69a) and 20 centavos imperforate between (vertical) (No. 64a). We have not seen any. Kroeger does not state to which printing these pairs belong. We think that they did not come from the first one.

B. *Official Stamps (Scott Nos. O42-O51)*



Fig. 17. 1894 Official Issue.

As with the regular postage stamps, there are three printings. Whereas in regular stamps, the 1 and 2 centavos (perhaps also the 5 and 10 centavos) of the second printing exist genuinely used, we have not seen any Official stamps of the second printing with what we would consider genuine cancellations. One single copy of the 1 peso, that we have of the second printing, could possibly have been genuinely used. In most cases, all copies we have inspected bear outright counterfeit cancellations, not even postdated original cancellations.

The first Official stamps' printing, like the postage stamps, was on the rather thick, stiff gray-white paper with horizontal mesh. The color is dark orange, often with a strong reddish tint. Copies from the second and third printing of the Officials have a substantially lighter orange color shade, which can be described as yellow-orange.

Proofs have the same paper and color of the first printing. These have an ink line drawn horizontally on the stamp; they are very scarce. Proofs are known, in the colors of the second printing, on ungummed white paper with horizontal mesh. They are extremely hard to find.

All denominations of the first printing, mint or used, are very scarce: the same applies to used stamps overprinted "DIRECCION" as mentioned before.

Kroeger wrote that he knew only of the 1 centavo and the 2 centavos in the third printing. We have seen the 5 centavos and the 5 and 10 pesos from this printing. There are also copies of the other denominations, that may belong either to the second or third printings.

C. Mosquito Provisionals



Fig. 18. "Mosquito Provisional" overprint.

This 1894 provisional issue, in our opinion, has been unjustly discredited. The 1, 2, and 5 centavos of the first printing have an overprint "Mosquito Provisional" in red. The 2 and 5 centavos have it also in black. Leavy discussed this thoroughly.

Here is a substantial repetition of Leavy's article:

The Mosquito Indians inhabited a major part of the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. In accordance with a treaty with the Central Government they had far-reaching autonomy. When in 1893, General Zelaya—who was honored in 1903 on his 10th year jubilee by the government with a Memorial issue (Scott Nos. 167-174) — revolted against the Central Government, Chief Clarence of the Mosquito Indians barred the General Zelaya's advance to his territory.

When Zelaya, after his successful revolution, became president of Nicaragua, he declared the autonomy of the Mosquito territory null and void as retribution for Clarence's previous action against him. The territory was to become an integral part of the Republic of Nicaragua without any special privileges. Clarence resisted only a short time; in the end, he had to take refuge in Jamaica. During the few months after the abrogation of the treaty and before Clarence's departure for Jamaica, three provisional stamps were issued. "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" of March 24, 1898, published a letter from a correspondent in Bluefields, Nicaragua in which he voiced the opinion that the stamps were frauds. Kroeger contradicts this opinion, citing the fact that he never saw any mint copies, but he had seen several used ones, that came from business and private letters. If this had been a speculative issue, he believed that mint copies would surely have gotten into dealers' hands. In our collection, there is a cover with ten copies of 1 centavo provisionals. As illustrated in Figure 18, we have mint copies of this issue.

It is our opinion that these Mosquito overprints were legitimately ordered by Chief Clarence to show his independence from Nicaragua's Central Government. Logically, not too many copies later came into philatelic hands. But this is no reason to condemn them. We believe that these Mosquito provisional stamps belong in every specialized collection of Nicaraguan stamps.



Fig. 19. 1895 Regular Issue.

1895 Issue

A. Regular Postage Stamps (Scott Nos. 71-80)

It would appear that Seebeck, at the request of Nicaragua's postal administration or on his own accord, made an initial delivery of substantial quantities and also kept a larger reserve of the 1895 issue. The latter seems extremely plausible, because this issue has, with one exception, no paper or color differences identifying a second printing.

The paper is consistently thin; there are slight variations of shades in some denominations, but only of a kind which can occur during one printing. For instance, the 2 centavos is found in vermilion and brick red color shades, while the 5 centavos comes in blue and dark blue. All are known genuinely used. Kroeger also mentions a 2 pesos dark yellow-green shade in contrast to the frequently found deep green. The great scarcity of the pesos denominations has prevented us from determining if the first-named shade of the 2 pesos exists with a genuine postal use.

A striking color variety exists with the 50 centavos; Kroeger mentions only blue-violet, while Leavy mentions an additional color, the dull violet or lilac. We have several copies of the latter genuinely used, but cannot determine the genuineness of the cancellations of the used copies on the blue-violet, or more properly, violet-blue shade. It is possible that the violet-blue stamps represent a second printing, required because the color of the lilac stamp was so fugitive. It is unlikely that there could be a different explanation because there was no need to change a denomination so little used. We are sure that a reprint after demonetization can be ruled out. Possibly, it could be a reserve which did not get into circulation.

Scott lists and prices the dull violet 50 centavos (No. 76) both mint and used. The color we call violet blue is listed by Scott as a sub-variety of the dull violet 50 centavos in this manner, "No. 76b. 50c blue (error)" and is priced only mint.

The 1 centavo imperforate vertically and pairs of the 50 centavos dull violet imperforate vertically are known to us.

B. Official Stamps (Scott Nos. O52-O61)

For the first time we find, in addition to being on the same paper as the regular stamps, the same set of Officials on thin, watermarked paper. The watermark on each stamp consists of several Phrygian caps with short staffs.



Fig. 20. 1895 Official Issue.

The cap on the original stamps is always vertical or inverted but never horizontal. Kroeger incorrectly copied the horizontal watermark from an illustration in "the 1912 Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal. No. 19."

No definite proof exists as to which of the papers (watermarked or unwatermarked) was used first or whether there was simultaneous printing on both types of paper. Proofs with what is apparently a pen-drawn India ink horizontal line across the center of the stamp have no watermark. This may indicate that stamps without watermark were printed first. Further reason for this assumption is the fact that the watermarked paper was used for the next (1896) issue on both regular and Official stamps. This leads to the conclusion that the Hamilton Bank Note Company started using watermarked paper toward the end of 1895. The only genuine postally used stamps of the 1895 Officials come only on unwatermarked copies. Unless we are shown watermarked copies on covers giving indisputable evidence of postal duty, we shall remain convinced that the watermarked series was printed late in 1895 as a reserve and probably never was shipped to Nicaragua.

The color of both the watermarked and unwatermarked Official stamps of all denominations is dark green. However, the 1 centavo, 2 centavos and 5 centavos are found in a yellowish green shade, but we have not seen any genuine postally used copies. Could these yellowish green color shades be a reserve printing in addition to the watermarked set? It is peculiar that some copies with the yellow-green shade are very irregularly perforated, whereas all the other stamps, with or without watermarks, have normal perforations.

Among the unwatermarked stamps, the 1 peso is found on looser and softer paper with almost colorless gum. The other stamps usually have rather strongly brownish tinted gum. The 1 centavo and the 10 pesos unwatermarked are reported to exist imperforate.

Among the watermarked stamps, occasionally one finds stamps badly perforated, as well as copies with the yellowish green color shade on light greenish tinted paper.

While the 1895 issue does not present too many problems, the mystery about the watermarked 50 centavos of the regular and Official issues remain unsolved.

After demonetization, no reprinting seems to have taken place. It is not definitely known whether or not certain individual denominations or the watermarked Official series ever were used by the postal administration.

(To Be Continued)

The Clubhouse

Meeting of September 20, 1967

Great Britain

The 1967 Fall season opened with a talk on the postal reforms of 1839, the Treasury Competition, the first stamps and prepaid envelopes, unusual covers before 1870 and Great Britain rarities by *Wallace W. Knox of Oakland, California.* It was illustrated with colored slides, and ninety album pages were exhibited in the wall frames.

Prior to 1840, postal rates were high in the United Kingdom; there were many abuses. Rates were based upon mileage and the number of pieces of paper in a communication. An envelope was counted separately, so if a letter was enclosed a double rate was charged. Hence, envelopes were seldom used.

There had been agitation for postal reforms for some time. Rowland Hill suggested a uniform rate be charged irrespective of the distance letters had to travel. The Post Office authorities would have nothing to do with him, so he published his famous pamphlet, "Post Office Reform: Its Importance and Practicability," early in 1837. Hill demonstrated the cost of transit from one post town to another was almost negligible and that it was practicable to charge by weight rather than by bulk. He recommended that a letter weighing ½ ounce or less be sent any place in the country for one penny with the postage prepaid. At the time, most letters were sent collect; the recipient had to pay the postage.

Despite objections from the Post Office Department, Parliament adopted Hill's proposal in 1839. The Treasury engaged him to carry it into effect.

Adhesive Label

The postage stamp, or adhesive label as it was first called, was unknown in 1839. No one knew exactly how to proceed. The Treasury decided to hold a competition to seek ideas and suggestions from artists, men of science and the public in general. Accordingly, it announced a contest and offered an award for the best suggestion. More than 2600 entries were received, none of which was acceptable.

Mr. Knox showed the two entries received from Ireland. One was submitted by Augustus Godby, Secretary to the Dublin G. P.O. It was a wrapper of a primitive design. The other was sent by an unknown contestant, consisting of two envelopes, one for local and the other for general use. The principal design on each was a large harp (see Figure 1). Another entry exhibited was one submitted by Prosser of Birmingham.

Charles Whiting, a printer, submitted more than 100 designs, known as the Beauford House essays. They were elaborate designs in two colors, engine-turned and reproduced by the compound process of printing invented by Sir William Congreve in 1821 and widely used in Germany. Whiting received one of the four awards. Mr. Knox exhibited a contemporary sheet incorporating seven of his designs.

Since none of the Treasury competition entries was satisfactory, Hill and his associates decided to design and use adhesive labels in one penny and two pence denominations as well as prepaid wrappers and envelopes in like denominations. The rate for one-half ounce was one penny and two pence for one ounce.

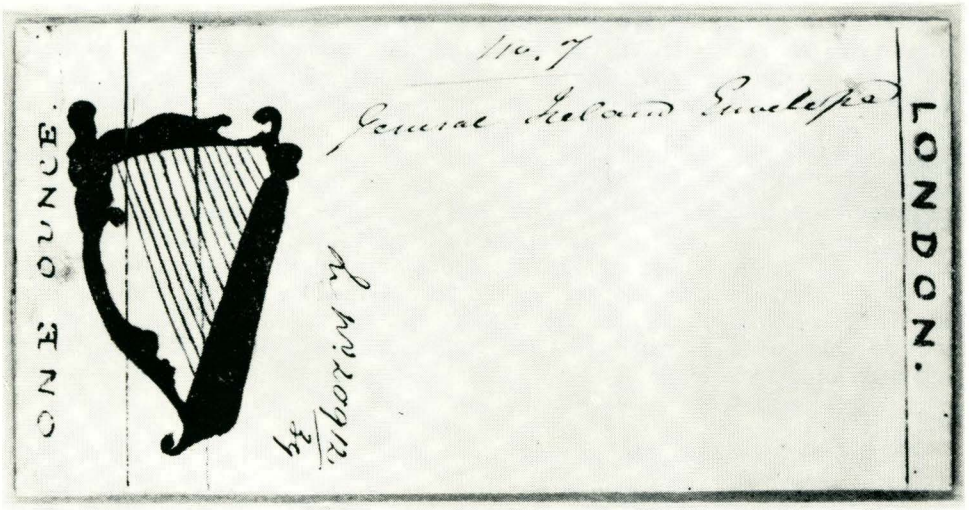


Fig. 1. "General Ireland Envelope" (Tr. Reg. No. 20912/39) submitted by an unknown Irish entrant in the Treasury Competition of 1839. It has a small harp on the reverse. Neither it nor any of the other entries was found suitable to implement Uniform Penny Postage.

May 6, 1840

The effective date for the penny post was set for January 10, 1840. Parliament established a four penny rate which lasted from December 5, 1839 until that day. The new adhesive labels and envelopes were not ready and did not appear officially until May 6, 1840. During the interim, beginning January 10, handstamps in red were used to indicate prepayment of postage. Mr. Knox exhibited examples used in Ireland showing handstamping of both the 4d and 1d rates during the periods of their respective use before May 6, 1840.

One of the abuses that was corrected with the postal reforms was that of free franking. This had been a privilege enjoyed by all Members of Parliament. It was quite customary for a business firm to hire a Member who would appear at the office at intervals and place his frank on the company mail. Special prepaid envelopes were prepared and used by Members of Parliament between January 10 and May 6, 1840. Mr. Knox showed examples prepared for the "Houses of Parliament." It is not clear as to who paid the cost of these envelopes nor whether any postage had been paid. In any event, the prepaid envelopes had been available for Members who did not pay for the postage themselves.

The penny black and its companion stamp, the two pence blue, together with prepaid envelopes and wrappers in the same denominations (known as Mulreadys), were officially released on May 6, 1840.

The postmasters were supplied with red ink and a device in the form of a Maltese Cross for cancelling the stamps. The Mulreadys were to be cancelled on the center by hitting the picture of Brittania. Attention is called to the fact that the country name does not appear on these stamps. It has never appeared on any postage stamps of the United Kingdom.

The Penny Black

The penny black was printed from eleven plates, all of which can be identified by the position of the corner letters, reentries, flaws, guidelines or other imperfections. The first plate was not hardened, so that it deteriorated rapidly. It was repaired, heat-treated and returned for use. Both stages of this plate can be easily identified. The 1840 two pence blue was printed from two plates, which likewise can be distinguished.

Of the penny black, Mr. Knox showed a first day cover used from Cork to Dublin in Ireland, examples from all of the plates used on cover (see Figue 2), and examples used on Menzies, Spooner, Southgate and Hume caricatures and one used with Anti-Corn Law wafers. Off cover items included a superb block of eight cancelled with a red Maltese Cross, various strips, blocks and pairs, and examples of the principal varieties and cancellations. Also exhibited was a block of four of the 1d black with "VR" in the upper corners. About 3,500 sheets of this stamp was prepared for official use but were never released for that purpose.

The 1840 2d blue was represented by copies from both plates on and off cover, including one with a strip of five and four singles on a cover to Hamburg, Germany and one with a strip of four to make the 8d rate to the United States. An attractive block of ten from plate 2 was shown, as was a unique cover used from Winchester on February 6, 1841 franked with four 1d blacks from Plate 9 and a 2d blue from Plate 1, being the rate for a three-ounce letter.

Mulreadys

The design for the prepaid wrappers and envelopes was drawn by William Mulready, an artist who was a member of the Royal Academy. His design did not appeal to the average Britisher. It was far too idealistic. It was laughed at, ridiculed and caricatured out of existence.

One of the first caricatures of the Mulready, an example of which was shown, was made by John Leech for a publisher named Fores. Leech signed all of his work with a picture of a leech in a bottle. Mulready saw this caricature and was insulted. He thought it was aimed directly at him and that he was accused of being a leech for thrusting such a monstrosity upon the British public. He refused to meet John Leech for a long time. Finally, he learned that this was Leech's totem. Then, they met and became fast friends.

Mulreadys shown included a first day wrapper and a first day envelope, one used unofficially on May 5 and one that was turned and used on May 1, then reversed and used again on May 2. Mr. Knox showed a 1d Mulready envelope with a strip of three 1d blacks from Plate 10 and a 2d envelope with four 1d blacks. The stamps were added because the letters were overweight.

Philatelic Use

Although the Mulready was withdrawn by the Post Office early in 1841, it continued to be used for a considerable time. A London stamp dealer noticed that used Mulreadys sold for more than unused ones. Accordingly, on March 11, 1886, he addressed a few to himself and sent them through the mail. This was probably the latest use of a Mulready. The one exhibited was marked with a black "2" to indicate postage due. This number was then scratched out, and the cover endorsed that it was still good for postage and signed by the postmaster.

At the beginning, the Treasury officials were worried about forgery. The two letters in the lower corners of the stamps were put there to prevent this. On the die, the corners had been left blank and the letters were inserted by hand on the printing plate with the aid of punches. During the years, four different sets of punches were used. They are designated as "Alphabets 1 to 4," inclusive. The letter on the left indicates the vertical row and the one on the right the horizontal row on a sheet of 240 stamps (12A-L x 20A-T). The officials believed that, if there was a forgery, all copies would have the same letter which would make it easy to detect them as they went through the post office. It soon appeared that the danger was not with forgery, but with cleaning the cancellations from stamps and using them again.

Removing Cancellations

Almost as soon as the stamps were issued, experiments commenced to find



Fig. 2. Plate 1B (JJ with recut corners) used August 8, 1840 on a cover to East Grinstead, redirected on a Sunday to Brighton. An additional 1d (Plate 5, JL) with full sheet margin showing imprint was affixed before reposting.

new colors that would make the removal of cancellations more difficult. A small plate of twelve stamps was prepared for use in these experiments. It had no corner letters; the upper right corners were voided to prevent its use for printing stamps for postage. Various colors and inks were tried with the view of finding a fugitive ink for the stamps as well as one for cancelling that could not be removed without damaging them. Printings from this plate became known as the "Rainbow Trials."

Shown were "Rainbow Trials" in all three states in various colors, trials for the new 2d blue, and two plates with the "National Bank of Ireland" oval cancellations. On one printed in black, three experiments had been conducted in an attempt to remove it. Another item in the collection was a sheet showing twenty single stamps with fugitive ink made about August, 1840 by Perkins, Bacon & Petch, to find a new color for printing the 1d stamp. Four are without and sixteen with oil. Some have prussiate of potash in the paper, while others have magnesia or tartrate.

Another experiment, of which examples were shown, had to do with the use of Dickinson silk-thread paper. On March 9, 1841, twenty-four copies were printed in red brown from the 2d plates and sixteen in blue. Of these, eight of each are now in the Royal Collection. Shortly thereafter, on May 1, eight sheets ware printed from Plate 11. A strip of three resulting from this experiment was shown. The Dickinson paper was not adopted because it was believed the silk threads might injure the stamps and would result in tearing them when they were being severed from the sheet.

Black To Red

These experiments resulted in changing the color of the penny stamp from black to red. The 1d red, printed from the black plates, was issued on February

10, 1841. A satisfactory blue fugitive ink was found so the color of the two pence stamp was not changed. However, to indicate that the ink had been changed, a white horizontal line was added above and below the Queen's head on the 2d blue so that the later printings could be distinguished.

With the change of the 1d to red, the ink for cancelling was changed to black. A 1d red stamp cancelled in red ink is unusual. Mr. Knox showed a cover used June 18, 1844 bearing two 1d reds cancelled with red Maltese Crosses.

A number of post offices had distinctive Maltese Cross cancellers. The best known is from Wotton-under-Edge, of which Mr. Knox showed a nice example on a 1d black. He also showed a range of the distinctive Irish crosses on cover — Mullingar, Eyrecourt, Hollymount, Dublin, Belfast, Limerick and Cork, as well as one from Tullamore cancelled with a blue cross.

Of the 1841 one penny red, the exhibit included the void "A" from Plate 77, both before and after correction, and an example used on cover, which is believed unique; a matched pair of "TL" in red and black, showing the double "T" and the Plate No. 2 with full marginal inscriptions; a strip of four on cover with the full marginal inscription showing Plate 120 and the "PB" reentry in red from Plate 5. Less than a dozen copies of the void "A" are known.

There was a delay in issuing the new 1841 two pence stamps. When it became time to notify the postmasters, no copies were available. On January 15, 1841, a small plate of twelve impressions was made, cut up, and copies were sent to each postmaster for his information. There were no letters in the lower corners. A complete copy from this plate was exhibited.

The first plate from which the new two pence was printed was designated Plate 3. Two interesting covers from it were shown. One was used from Edinburgh on September 17, 1844, with a strip of six (the ocean rate to the United States). It contained a signed letter written by James Buchanan, later President of the United States, to D. S. Kennedy which reached New York on the S.S. Caledonia. Mr. Kennedy was President Buchanan's banker but also was the New York agent for the Canada Postmaster General. He kept the dies and plates for the Canada postage stamps in his vault and released them to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson, the printers, as required.

The other cover has two strips of three and is from Bainbridge, Ireland, mailed on January 24, 1849. The treaty ending retaliatory rates was signed on December 15, 1848, but was not ratified until February 15, 1849. In anticipation, retaliatory rating in the United States ceased on January 3, 1849. This cover was probably carried on the S.S. Niagara on its January 27 voyage, one of four Cunarders sailing during this period. These covers are exceedingly scarce and can only be identified from the dates. Also shown was a superb block of fifteen from Plate 4 used in Ireland.

Perforating Stamps

For many years, all of the sheets were imperforate. It was necessary to cut the stamps apart with scissors. The advantage of having an easy method of separating them was first brought to attention by Henry Archer, an Irish-London businessman. He submitted his plan to the Postmaster General, and after a period of experimentation developed equipment that was accepted. His experiments were conducted with "Alphabet 1" stamps from Plates 92 through 101. Before the machines were accepted and placed in use, "Alphabet 2" had superseded "Alphabet 1." Accordingly, any "Alphabet 1" stamp with perforations is an Archer experiment. Mr. Knox showed two Archer covers and others of his perforations on single stamps. A colored slide gave an enlarged comparison of one of the Archer singles with the same lettering from an imperforate "Alphabet 2" stamp.

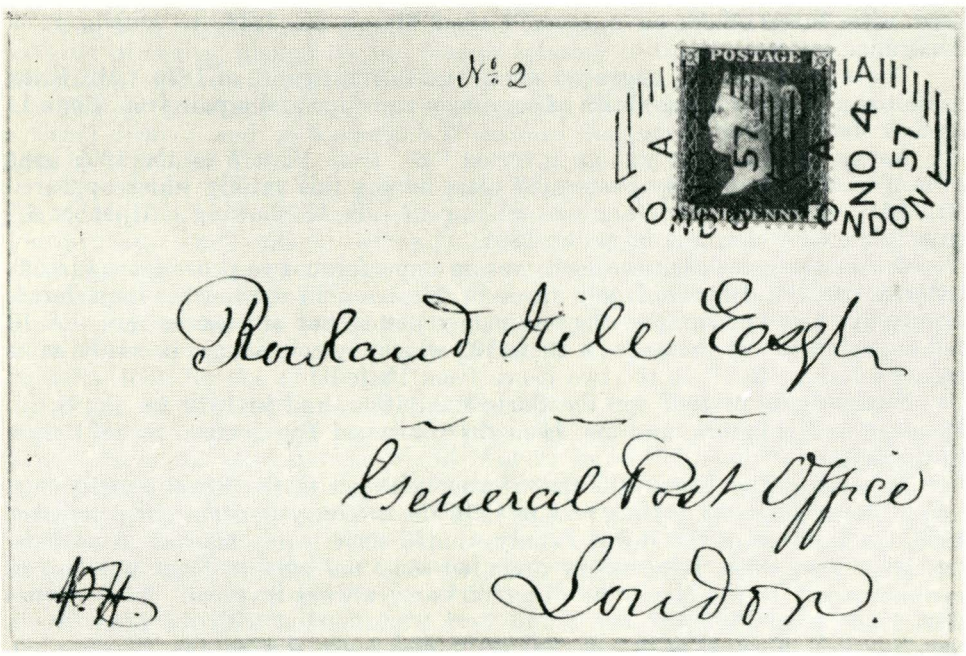


Fig. 3. The first machine cancellation made in 1857 by a machine invented by Pearson Hill, son of Rowland Hill. The example above is one of three, all dated November 4, 1857 and addressed to his father at the G. P. O. This is No. 2. No. 3 is still in the G. P. O. archives.

Archer also considered himself capable of supplying the stamps themselves to the Treasury. In 1851 he prepared essays to show his abilities but was never successful in obtaining a contract. These essays, which were included in the exhibit, have the head of the Prince Consort on them. They were surface printed of one penny denomination in brown, red brown, blue and black and were imperforate. All were lettered "FJ."

An example of the Treasury Roulette on cover used in London on December 31, 1852 was included. The stamp was "Alphabet 2" from Plate 149. This was an unauthorized variety produced by a revolving cutter resulting in stamps with serpentined edges — approximately four waves to the length of the stamp.

Cancelling Device

In 1857 Pearson Hill, son of Rowland Hill, invented a machine for postmarking letters. It could be worked by foot or steam and was given an official trial beginning September 26. It made a clear cancellation but mutilated the letters so it was discarded. One of these covers, addressed to his father, was shown (Figure 3).

It was found that parts from stamps that had not received any obliteration could be severed and pasted together for reuse. To stop this, the post offices decided in 1864 to put check letters in all four corners, the ones at the top being in reverse of the ones at the bottom. At this time, all stamps were perforated.

A three half-pence line engraved stamp was issued in 1870. One of the better known rarities is the "OP-PC" error which occurs on it, the "O" on the upper line having been punched in error or, in the opinion of L. N. and M. Williams, resulting from a double hit of the "C." Mr. Knox showed this error on copies used from England and Ireland, in a used block of six and one

used with three others on a cover mailed March 25, 1874, to Dublin from Australia.

The other major line engraved stamp was the half pence of 1870. Mr. Knox exhibited a cover showing blocks of seventeen and four and a pair from Plate 14 used in Jacmel, Haiti.

Among the varieties was an inverted "S" from Plate 5 of the 1855 issue (Die 2). This is the only perforated plate having this variety which appeared on "SD" to "SL." Another was an imperforate 1d showing "Alphabet 4" from Plate 51 which was in use in 1861.

One of the great rarities shown was an imperforate two pence from Plate 9, lettered "RC." It is said only three of these are in existence. Imperforate stamps are also known from the one penny plates, but are not as rare. A 1d red imperforate was shown from Plate 102 which, by coincidence bears the same corner letters, "RC," as the two pence from Plate 9.

Proofs made in 1867 for the Paris Exhibition, and in 1872 for the South Kensington Exhibition, and one from the retouched Die 2 taken in 1871 were in the frames.

In closing, Mr. Knox said that if you belonged to the Royal Family, you had a better chance of getting stamps than the ordinary person. In September 1865, the children of the Royal Family wanted some penny blacks. An accommodating Post Office Department prepared some not only in black but also in carmine rose. In the black, the watermarks are always inverted. These copies were made from Plate 66, Die 2 and were watermarked with the large crown then in use. Just as with our Farley imperforates during the Franklin D. Roosevelt era, extra copies were made and eventually found their way into hands of collectors, examples of which were also displayed.

Meeting of October 4, 1967

Research

Program Co-chairman, Herbert J. Bloch, is known in philatelic circles for his keen memory. He recalled that approximately 25 years ago and for some years before then, there used to be one annual meeting to which members were invited to show a frame or two of material upon which they had done some interesting research. He wondered why such a popular and instructive program had been discontinued. Last year, therefore, he was instrumental in reactivating a Members' Research Night. The favorable response showed that this type of program still remained popular, so that another Research Night was scheduled for this year.

Seven members exhibited — one or two frames. The attendance and participation was less than usual in recent years because the night of October 4th was New Year's Eve for a number of our regulars. There were, however, a few "new faces" of Overseas or Non-Resident members. Mr. Albert Quast of Hamburg, Germany, whose Nicaragua "Seebeck" series is now running in this magazine, was here along with his Nicaragua specialist friend, Col. Joseph M. Sousa of State College, Pa. Also, Mr. Richard B. Graham of Columbus, Ohio was present.

During this year, President Herbert P. Woodward began an introductory feature of having the Secretary tell the members of the actions of the Board of Governors after their monthly meeting. Since Mr. F. B. Sellers was in Europe on a business trip, our president rendered a short report before turning the meeting over to the Program Committee Co-chairman.

The first speaker was Mr. William Finnegan, who had two frames with working drawings, photostats and stamps relating to the identification of *plate varieties of the line-engraved United States stamps.*

This writer cannot render a report on Mr. Finnegan's work. It is totally a visual display, and, as President Woodward suggested, its exposition is best done by a printed article.

The second exhibit was a *fake 1945 RF cover* explained by this reporter, Henry M. Goodkind. Actually, the specific material was of lesser importance. The primary study was to demonstrate detective or research work disclosing what appeared to be a genuine cover was a faked one. When covers are faked, the same procedures are followed with those having classic stamps, more modern ones or any attempt to take a relatively inexpensive postage stamp, affix it to an envelope, apply some cancellations to have it masquerade as an expensive and desirable item for the philatelist.

Study of this particular RF cover showed two important philatelic and postal history items were overlooked by the forger. He did not read the French Navy directive during World War II as to the manner in which mail from French sailors to the United States and Canada had to be prepared and handled. Secondly, the address written on the envelope was Buffalo, 5, N. Y., whereas in response to a letter Mr. Goodkind had written to the Post Office Department in Washington, D.C. postal zone numbers were first introduced two months after the dated postmarks on this RF cover.

The third exhibitor really went to a lot of work to bring in his own screen and a special projector to show how Scott lists the *1929-33 air post provisional issues of Honduras.* Mr. John N. Myer had the stamps in two frames with the original decrees in Spanish. He proceeded to compare the catalogue listings with the decrees and the surcharges on the stamps.

Mr. Harrison D. S. Haverbeck presented a few pages of a study, on which he has been working, of the plating of *the Rajah's head issue of the Indian Feudatory State of Sirmoor* (Scott design A2).

These stamps were issued in April of 1885. Covers have been recorded as early as June and July of that year.

The design consists of a portrait of the Rajah, in an oval frame flattened at the sides; the latter and top of the frame contain the inscription, "Sirmoor State Postage stamp;" the lower portion the denomination in words, the two parts of the inscription being separated by dots. The oval is enclosed in a plain, upright rectangular frame with an ornament shaped somewhat like a fleur-de-lys in each corner (see illustration).

The stamps were manufactured by Waterlow and Sons, Ltd. of London, England, and are lithographed upon white, wove paper with a perforation of 14 to 15. The process by which the individual reports were prepared in the

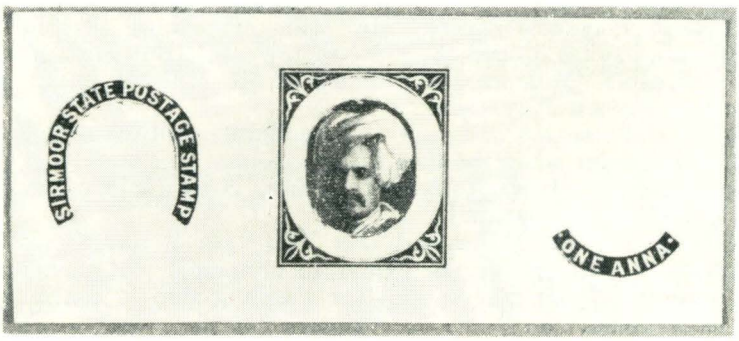


Photo by Boutrelle

make-up of the transfer is quite interesting. The basic die was engraved on copper and contains the design complete with the omission of all the inscriptions, the oval band being left blank. The words, "Sirmoor State Postage Stamp" were engraved on a separate copper die; the denominations on still another one. This may be seen by referring to the montage proof illustrated.

For the make-up of the stones from which the stamps were printed, impressions were taken from these separate dies and fitted together. Slight irregularities in this fitting produced the varieties of type that are found to exist. In addition, the process of transfer resulted in slight flaws and defects, colored specks in the white portions of the design and white breaks or specks in the colored portions. It is by means of these defects, as well as the positioning of the inscriptions, that the various transfers, and through them the various printings, can be most readily identified.

The sheets in all the seven printings contained seventy stamps (7x10). The lithographer did not in any instance take seventy separate transfers of each portion of the design and the inscriptions to fit them together. He used anywhere from two to seven, varying in the different printings and has arranged these upon an intermediate stone. Then, he took a sufficient number of transfers from a pair, block or strip, to make up the entire printing stone of seventy. Thus, we find the same varieties of type, as exist on the intermediate stone, repeated in a certain order throughout the sheet. Where the variations are due to flaws or defects, we find the same ones repeated. In dealing with the latter case, however, it is necessary to remember that besides the characteristics of the impressions upon the intermediate stone, there may be others that exist only in certain transfer reports from that stone. These are defects which position particular stamps on the sheet, in addition to those which distinguish the various members of each of the groups of stamps of which the sheet is composed.

The display illustrated the make-up of the intermediate stones for the first two printings, as well as reconstructions and entire sheets of some of the denominations. The first printing consisted of all the denominations — the 3 pies, 6 pies, 1 anna and 2 annas. The intermediate stone in this printing was made up of a vertical strip of seven reports, repeated ten times to make up the printing stone.

The intermediate stone of the second printing was made up of a horizontal strip of four reports, laid down from right to left. On the printing stone, this report was also laid down from right to left. The last two vertical columns at the left of the sheet were laid down by breaking up the intermediate stone reports and placing them in at random. These are, however, easily recognizable from the types on the intermediate stone.

When referring to the fifth exhibitor, one can say: "Often a member of the audience but seldom showing or lecturing." Mr. George F. Miller had two frames with material that this reporter did not see previously in the Collectors Club — *French Polynesia covers*. Mr. Miller explained that he had first collected Hawaii, having resided there for some years. But this speciality with its rare and valuable "Missionaries" was out of Mr. Miller's reach. He, therefore, turned to French Polynesia.

Mr. Miller did research and study in the Explorers Club's library here in New York to determine when the first correspondence was sent from this South Pacific French colony. It was folded letters from British missionaries in Tahiti to London in the late 18th century.

The earliest one Mr. Miller had was 1829. Its delivery took 597 days, whose exceedingly slow delivery he explained at length. At each way station along the route, the letter had to wait for a sailing ship to continue to carry the letter to England.

The covers shown spanned almost a hundred years. There were interesting ones with the first French Colonies General Issues, the Eagle stamps, followed by the Napoleon III heads, the Ceres and the Peace & Commerce issues. Then came the 1892-1913 definitive stamps of French Oceania, all on covers.

Mr. Miller's material was very well mounted and annotated. Unfortunately, he could not do justice to it all in the relatively short space of time allotted to him.

The seventh and final exhibit was one with *Spanish Civil War Fantasies, Faked Covers, and Bogus Issues.* Again, before the exhibitor was introduced, the regular meeting attendants would have guessed that Theo Van Dam must be the member showing the Spanish Civil War material. They were right.

Mr. Van Dam's studies demonstrated that the fakers of much of this bogus Spanish Civil War material were so inept that they even misspelled many Spanish words on the overprints. This leads the student to believe that a number of these "phonies" were manufactured in European countries other than Spain. Also, some covers had wrong date cancellation or others were hit with a postmark that was not used in the locality where the bogus stamp was cancelled. It is truly remarkable to see the great amount of philatelic garbage that was palmed off during a most trying period as the 1936-37 Spanish Civil War. As Mr. Van Dam explained, the even sadder part of this story is that collectors are still being sold this bogus material today. If they read the fine literature that Mr. Van Dam and his associates in the Spanish Civil War Study Circle are issuing, no one would be deceived. This exhibit showed us some very attractive souvenir sheets and the kind of fancy printed items that the modern collector likes to collect in preference to the classic and earlier 20th century stamps. *(H.M.G.)*

Meeting of October 18, 1967

United States Special Delivery Stamps

Robert L. Markovits, a New York City attorney, became the second person to exhibit and discuss the United States special delivery service and stamps at a club meeting. On January 17, 1940, William Learned Law Peltz of Albany, N. Y., (incidentally, also a lawyer) showed his prize-winning collection. This is now owned by Brown University, Providence, R. I.

The senior special delivery collector in this country, who said that he had become a member of the Collectors Club in 1898, two years after its founding, attended. He is Mr. W. Parson Todd of Morristown, New Jersey, now 90 years old.

Mr. Markovits noted that the United States was the first country to formally establish a special delivery service with special stamps to prepay the fee. The historical development of the service, however, had its roots hundreds of years before, at least, when Italy had used the "CITO" marking to indicate special service was desired.

In 1768 Speedy Mail Delivery Wanted

As early as 1768, in the United States, although not officially available by the payment of an extra fee, citizens sought a speedy delivery of the mail. Such notations as "Deliver with Utmost Speed as this is a letter of Importance" (1768); "Rush to Stage Driver" (1824); "Please deliver this letter immediately" (1842); were used on various envelopes on display in the frames. But the letters nowhere indicated that the postal patrons were willing to pay an additional fee for the extra service.

It was not until after the Private Posts Companies started to give outstanding service beginning in the 1840's, upon payment of a fee, that the earliest United States special delivery letter, according to Mr. Markovits' definition, was located. About 1847, one writer put on the address portion of his folded letter, the following notation: "Uncle Sam this letter you will please to convey to Miss Anna Heyburn without loss or delay, Roslyn, Queens County, State of New York, *and five cents over to you she will fork.*"

Thereafter, covers can be found with other indicia of special service demands. A 3-cent 1851 stamp on cover was shown with the printed notation "With Dispatch." A Confederate cover bore the notation "Double Quick." Certain Local Posts, especially New York City's Boyd's, even printed stamps with the words "Special Messenger." But further study of this field must be undertaken, before it can be positively stated that this was the first organized special delivery service in the United States. The late, great student of U. S. Locals, who had exhibited at the Club, Henry E. Abt, had been working on this thesis with Mr. Markovits (a fellow Cornellian, by the way). But Mr. Abt died before any definitive conclusion could be reached.

Established In 1885

To the best of the speaker's knowledge, the first formal demand ever made on the United States Post Office Department to initiate a special delivery service was in 1869, when a scientist by the name of Joseph Story Fay of Wood's Hole, Mass. wrote to his friend, Spencer Fullteron Baird, First Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, concerning the establishment of such a service.

The idea was pursued for years by Mr. Fay, without success, until about 1884 when Representative Skinner of upstate New York took up the cause. On March 3, 1885, the special delivery service was established by Act of Congress. In later years, various postal officials claimed credit for the idea of the service.

Although no cover of the first day of the special delivery service (October 1, 1885) was shown, Mr. Markovits noted that five, at least, exist. He did display, however, a cover used October 1, 1886, the first day that special delivery service was available in the more than 4000 first-class post offices in the United States. Originally, when the service commenced, messengers were available only at one of the 555 specifically designated special delivery offices. The first stamp (Scott E1) was so qualified, with the following words in its design: "Secures immediate delivery at a special delivery office."

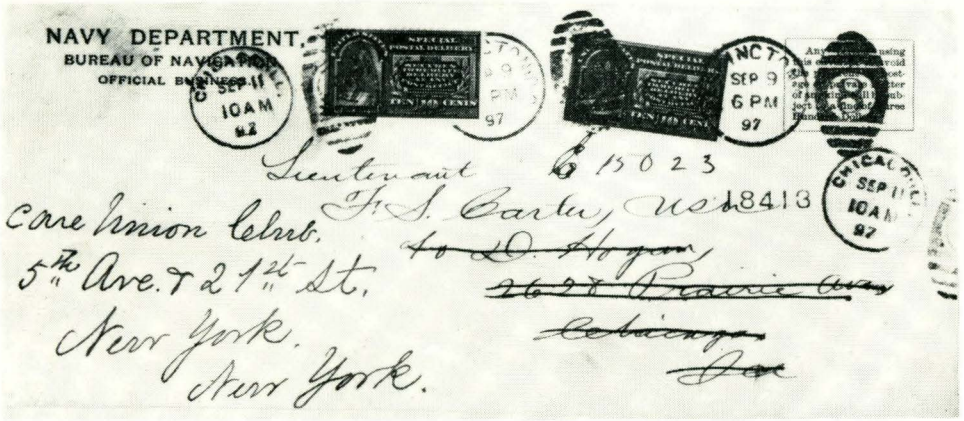
Why 10-Cent Stamp?

The initial fee was set at ten cents; a 2-cent stamp was also required to pay the first-class mail rate. No explanation is available why the special delivery stamp was made a 10-cent denomination; a 12-cent stamp would have been more practical for the user.

At first, and in fact, until about the mid-1930's, special delivery messengers were not on the Post Office payroll. They were self-employed (and during the 1930-32 depression, it has been reported that they were most pleased about it). The messenger was allowed to retain 8 of the 10-cent fee, as his compensation. In former times, there were usually many persons who sought this job.

The second special delivery stamp (Scott E2), issued more than two years after all first-class post offices were included in the special delivery system, was made from the same basic die used on the first one (Scott E1), except the wording was changed to show the broadened use: "Secures immediate delivery at any post office." The next three stamps, too, except for color and some minor detail work, followed quite closely the first die.

Therefore, the story about the design of the first stamp, concerning the problems the model for the messenger boy standing on one foot had had, can be



A most unusual cover with two copies of the 1895 Special Delivery stamp (Scott E5). It was posted originally in Washington, D. C. by the Navy Department, which had a free franking privilege. But this did not cover the 10-cent Special Delivery fee, so the stamp was affixed. This, however, paid only the special fee in Chicago, Ill. When the letter had to be forwarded to New York City, a second Special Delivery stamp (a distinctly different color shade from the first one) was required. This is the stamp at the left that was partially affixed over the Washington, D. C. September 9, 1897 postmark and then cancelled in Chicago. (Photos by Boutrelle)

told for each of the first five special delivery stamps (Scott E1-5). Frederick Pauling, an apprentice engraver working with his uncle, Charles Skinner, the vignette engraver, was made to stand on one leg so long that he toppled over from fatigue. But Uncle Charles, who had been deeply engrossed in his work, only complained about his nephew's failure to hold still.

Most First-Day of Use Still Unknown

The second special delivery stamp, changed to show the availability of service "At Any Office," supposedly came out (according to the Scott and other catalogues) in 1888. Mr. Markovits showed a cover dated in 1889, which is the earliest use so far known to him. Much work remains to be done to determine the earliest known use of all of the early special delivery stamps, except for the first one which was available on the reported first day, October 1, 1885.

Plate number blocks of eight on the first three special delievery stamps are scarce — usually, one locates strips of three or four with plate numbers which was the way most collected them in those days. One plate block of eight of Scott E1 was shown as well as matched plate strips of four; two plate numbers of Scott E2 were represented in plate blocks of eight; while of Scott E3, two plate numbers, the same ones, by the way, as were used on Scott E2, were displayed in matched (top and bottom) strips of four.

Again, Mr. Markovits was unable to show the day on which the third special delivery stamp made its first appearance. The earliest known use on cover has been February 27, 1893 in the Peltz collection. Mr. Markovits showed his earliest piece with this issue, which predated the Peltz cover. It bore a notation signed by the late Mr. Joseph S. Rich, as follows "Acquired Feb. 15, 1893, New York p. o." This item was acquired by Mr. Markovits when he purchased the late Stephen G. Rich special delivery collection.

Bureau of Engraving & Printing Takes Over

The first three special delivery stamps were the products of the American Bank Note Company with the sheets bearing its imprint. In October, 1894,

after the U. S. Bureau of Engraving & Printing had taken over contract to print our country's postage stamps, the first special delivery stamp it printed utilized the same basic dies which were turned over to it by the American Bank Note Company. The special delivery die had been reworked in several ways, mainly by the addition of a line under "Ten Cents." No date of issue has ever been established on this stamp.

Mr. Markovits showed singles, a block, and plate number pieces, plus many covers. The only six known examples of the scarce special delivery stamp were also shown, a block and a pair of the imperforates of the 1894 issue.

The issue of 1895 differs from that of the 1894 only because it was printed on watermarked paper. This issue's greatest rarity, and the second one in U. S. special delivery stamps was in the frames — the plate block of the imperforate variety, the top plate block of six, from plate 257.

Research has determined the whereabouts of 32 of the 50 copies in the pane which was originally given to Mr. Gilbert E. Jones, a former owner of the "New York Times" who collected stamps in imperforate pairs. Mr. Jones had rendered "invaluable technical advice and assistance in the organization of (the Bureau's) facilities." Since no appropriation was available to pay him, he was allowed to exchange a perforated sheet purchased at the post office for an imperforated one in the government vault.

Overprinted For U. S. Possessions

The Spanish-American War occurred during the period when the 1895 issue was in existence and caused, in Mr. Markovits' opinion, the most interesting area for specialization in the U. S. special delivery field — provided by overprinting it for use in Cuba, Guam and the Philippines. An exceptional array of plate number blocks, mainly in proper size plates of six, were shown for the stamps overprinted for these Possessions, and several covers showing the earliest use of the overprints were shown on color slides.

Were it not for a stamp dealer, Mr. John Zug, who was in military service during the Spanish-American War and stationed at various times in the Possessions virtually no covers with the Cuba, Guam, and Philippines' special delivery stamps would exist. Here is another instance where the much-condemned philatelic cover has served philately well.

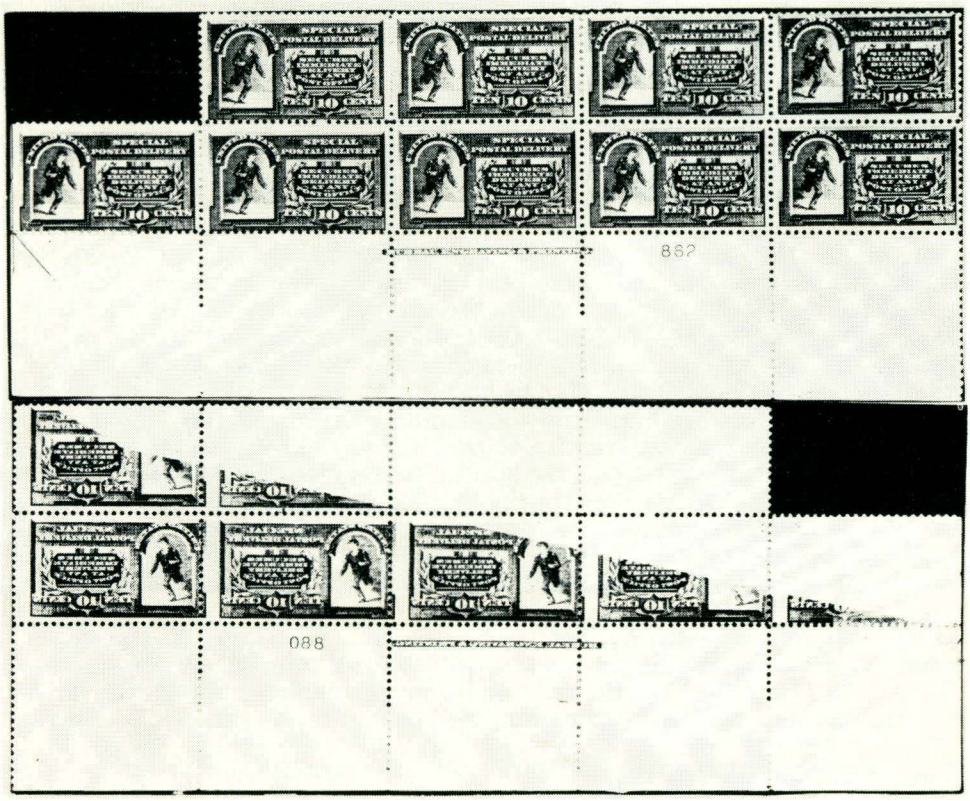
Varieties, including the Guam special printing, on Guam Scott E1 were shown. The special delivery overprint prepared for the Bureau of Insular Affairs in 1907, on the 1902 special delivery Issue of the United States PHILIPPINES, a great rarity, was displayed in a block of four, and a single (Philippines Scott E2A).

The Bicycle Design

The Bicycle special delivery stamps (Scott Nos. E6, E8, E9, E10 and E11) were displayed in depth, including the design used for the original model. Examples of the 1909 reissue of the 1902 series, following the withdrawal of the Mercury special delivery stamp (Scott Type SD5), were shown. The only way to identify the re-issue is by the plate number. At first, plates numbers 5240-43-44 and 5245 were used. Then, one philatelic writer told the Post Office Department that something should be done to show that these stamps then being printed were the 1909 re-issue. He convinced the department that "-09" should be added to each of these four plates for identification. This was done, marking it as the first and only authorized plate number alteration done by the Bureau for any U. S. postage stamps.

Mercury Helmet Design

One of the finest collections of the Helmet of Mercury stamp in the world



(Top) The front of the 1895 Special Delivery stamp in a block of nine with plate number 882. (Bottom) The back of this block of nine showing a partial offset with plate number 880. This probably was caused when the sheets were being stacked, with the ink not yet dry, as it came off the press.

was shown (Scott E7). Two of the pen and ink sketches by Whitney Warren, the Beaux Arts architect who designed the stamp, were displayed — one was signed in 1908 by Warren. Large die proofs, one signed by the Postmaster General, and another by Mr. Warren, were also displayed. More than 40 essays were on view, including some made by the Bureau and others privately for Mr. Warren. The essays were in many colors, some even bicolored. The earliest known use of this stamp was exhibited. The date was February 1, 1909 (more than seven weeks after the stamp was supposedly issued on December 12, 1908). From printing records researched by Mr. Markovits, the stamps were ready for use on the middle of December, but no such use has yet been reported.

Large die proofs, signed and approved by the Postmaster General, were shown for Scott numbers E12, 13 and 14, including two signed proofs of Scott E12 in two distinct color shades. Various other special delivery issues were represented on cover, with plate numbers, sheets, freaks and varieties, most notable of which was an upper left pane of 50 stamps, from plate 19282, showing the imperforate between variety which occurs in the first two rows of the sheet from these numbers.

Air Mail Or Air Mail Special Delivery Stamp?

For the benefit of both the Program co-chairman of the Club, Mr. Philip

Silver, and the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST editor, Henry M. Goodkind (by the way, also a fellow Cornellian) a cover showing the 24-cent air mail stamp (Scott C3), used with a special delivery stamp (Scott E11) on a May 15, 1918 cover, the first flight, was shown. The special delivery stamp was not necessary since this first air mail stamp included a 10-cent charge for special delivery service, in its rate. A cover showing the Scott C2 airmail prepaying the special delivery fee (which it included, too) was exhibited.

Mr. Markovits raised a question about the Scott Catalogue listing of the first two United States air post stamps. Since both the 24-cent and 16-cent stamps included the 10-cent special delivery fee, he believes that instead of being Scott C3 and C2 as they now are, they should be listed in the catalogue as air mail special delivery stamps. According to the speaker, Scott CE1 and CE2 should be changed to CE3 and CE4, while C3 and C2 are changed to a CE1 and CE2 listing. (Those aerophilatelists present made no comments on this.)

Unusual combinations of stamps to prepay the special delivery fee were shown, as were several unusual uses, including some to and from foreign countries. In addition, Mr. Markovits showed the earliest known use of regular U. S. postage stamps to prepay the special delivery fee yet found. It is July 21, 1907. The Post Office Department changed its regulations on this effective, on July 1, 1907 as most authorities agree. Also, in this group, were the three copies of the 5c error (Scott #505) used either to prepay, in part, the special delivery fee or as the first-class payment on cover with a special delivery stamp.

In all, there were a total of 156 album pages in the twenty wall frames, while more than 100 color slides were projected. The latter had been made especially for this meeting by the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST photographer, Mr. Adrien Boutrelle. All the color slides were very fine and added greatly to the audience's enjoyment by examining stamps and covers enlarged on a screen.

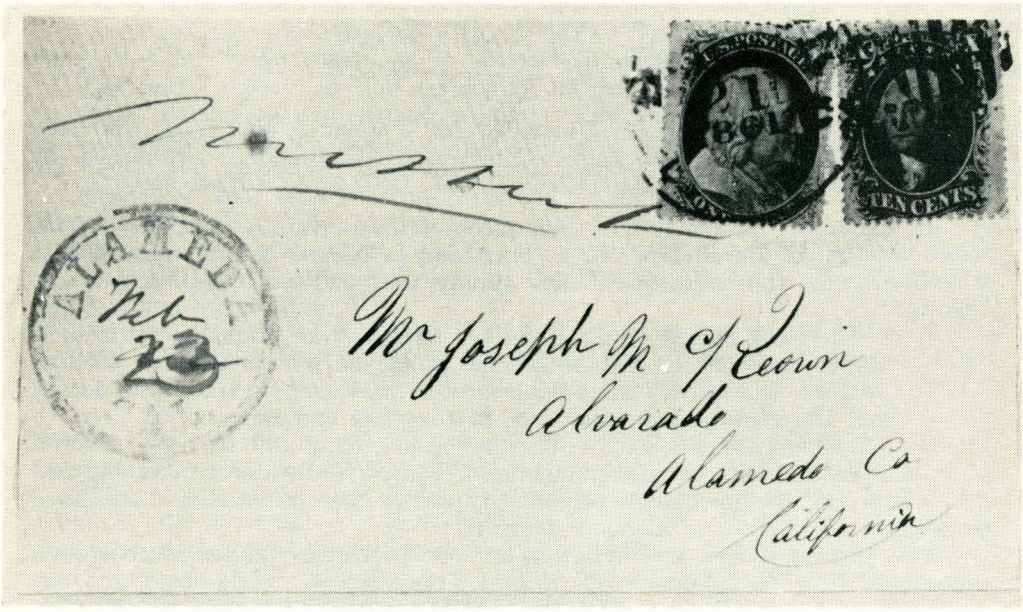
Meeting of November 1, 1967

United States 1851-1867

Mr. Mortimer L. Neinken made a presentation of 80 slides as well as displaying about 100 album pages in the frames. He explained that the lecture would be a potpourri of stamps and postal history of the 1851-67 period. Some items were those on which problems had developed and on which Mr. Neinken gave, what were in his opinion, the correct answers. On others, the lecturer had not been able to come to any conclusions and presented these items to the audience asking if perhaps they could come up with solutions. Thus, the program had been scheduled as "many questions, some answers."

A number of covers were shown with various carrier usages during the 1851-67 period, particularly the use of the 1-cent stamp of the 1851 and 1861 issues to pay the carrier fee. Combinations were shown of the 3-cent plus 1-cent; 6-cent plus 1-cent; 10-cent plus 1-cent *(see Page 49);* 15-cent plus 1-cent and the 24-cent plus 1-cent, pointing out in each case that, regardless of the amount of postage, the carrier fee always remains the same, one cent.

A circular mailed to France via Great Britain was shown with a hand-stamped marking, "G.B. 1F. P.K." Mr. Neinken stated that this is the only cover he had ever seen with this marking; that he was familiar with the "G.B. 40 cm." and also the "G.B. 1F. 60" marking on letters to France with similar transit. He had been advised that the use of the "1F. P.K." (one franc per kilogram) marking was similar to that of the others. This was a charge by Great Britain to the French postal service for the one kilogram packet of circulars, and each circular in the packet was so stamped.



This cover cancelled New York, January 21, 1861, shows the 10-cent (1859 Type V) plus 1-cent stamp paid the postage from New York to the West Coast. The 1-cent stamp (1857 Type V) paid the carrier fee to the post office at New York. The letter was mis-sent to Alameda, California, and forwarded to Alvarado.

A number of uses were shown with various denominations of the 1851 issue used in Confederate States, or during the period of Secession, and also after demonetization. Mr. Neinken pointed out that in many post offices demonetization was not carried out on a systematic basis. In late August or September of 1861, many postmasters did not recognize the use of the 1857 stamps as valid for postage, but they permitted such later usages.

A series of covers were shown of the domestic usages of the 12-cent stamp of the 1851 issue. This included a 12-cent domestic rate (4 x 3 cents); a 12-cent bisect from California in 1853 to the East Coast paying the 6-cent rate for distances over 3,000 miles; a 12-cent stamp on a cover from Boston to California paying the 6 cents x 2 rate; and a cover with a 12-cent stamp from Boston to San Francisco, which the sender had rated at the double rate letter (6 cents x 2), but which the post office had rated as a triple rate letter and had stamped 10 cents Due. If this additional postage had been prepaid, the cost would have been 6 cents. But inasmuch as this portion of the letter was sent collect, 10 cents had to be paid, or two times the collect 5 cents rate.

A group of covers, on which appeared various handstamped numerical markings, were shown and a few discussed. Mr. Neinken could not explain the significance of these and asked for possible explanations from the audience.

Mr. Neinken also briefly referred to a pending series of articles to be published in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, written by Mr. Jerome Wagshal of Washington, D. C. on the 1-cent 1857 stamps from Plate 5. A number of slides showing the problems which occurred in transferring this plate were shown.

In case of change of address, please notify Secretary, The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016.

Book Reviews

The Private Local Posts of the United States, Volume I, New York State, by Donald Scott Patton. 350 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Published by Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W. 1, England. Price $25.

In their introduction to the "Handbook of the Private Local Posts" of the world, written in March 1950, E. F. Hurt and L. N. and M. Williams explain why U. S. Local and Independent Mail stamps were omitted from their book, as follows:

> "The local stamps of the U. S. A. (with few exceptions) because their appeal must be limited until some public-spirited philatelists produce a work which will enable the collector, particularly the novice, to sift out the genuine from the mass of forgeries and reprints."

Sometime ago, Donald Scott Patton undertook this public service. A series of articles dealing with the distinguishing of United States Local fakes and forgeries from the genuine stamps began to appear in the "Philatelist," published by Robson Lowe, Ltd. of London, England.

This present book is a compilation of these previously published articles on the smaller New York Local Posts, available only in the "Philatelist" and two previously published booklets dealing with "Boyd's" and the "Brooklyn City Express Post."

The book is technically excellent. Donald Patton's painstaking comparisons by the excellent illustrations and diagrams of the genuine stamps with those of the forgeries are of enormous value. However, it has been this reviewer's experience that most Local (and I shall use the term henceforth to include Independent Mails as well, rather than constantly repeat both) fakes, forgeries and reprints are, with few exceptions, such as Price's City Express Post, childishly easy to distinguish. Of course, knowing what the original looks like is essential; and originals in this field are, for the most part, very difficult to secure. This is perhaps Donald Patton's greatest contribution.

But, the book lacks a "feel" for the stamps. Detailed comparisons by diagrams, which has been Donald Patton's forte for years, sometimes, by being so painstaking, tend to point up similarities. This would indicate a difficulty in distinguishing where none exists. A detailed comparison between a Rolls and a Bentley might confuse one in distinguishing between them, while they can be told apart at a glance.

But, please let me state at this point that Donald Patton's book is really valuable, better and far more useful than this review might sometimes make it appear.

The book is — unfortunately, in the opinion of this reviewer — replete with the cardinal sins of philatelic research. These "cardinal sins" are the unsupported assumptions which are sometimes made to "complete" a picture, and which assumptions stated as a fact. They are accepted as facts thenceforth and form a false base of philatelic writing for time to come.

Let me quote from the Introduction to this book: "For nearly 100 years, articles and notes on the U. S. Private Posts have appeared in Philatelic literature, but, with notable exceptions, many of these have been inaccurate and ill-formed or have repeated earlier mis-statements and errors."

I am afraid that many errors appear in this book, some of which could have been readily checked, and most are those of "unsupported assumption." I do not wish to belabor this matter. But having made the statement, I must point out a few errors, chosen at random.

On Page 236, when dealing with "Price's City Express," the statement is made that the "post continued in operation until 1856, possibly 1857." The often-quoted Caspary auction catalogue, lot #934 has a 2c vermilion Price #119L1, tied together by a black circular "New York Nov. 25" postmark with a 3c red, Scott #26, which first appeared in July 1857. The Price Express undoubtedly, not "possibly," operated for at least eleven months in 1857.

On Page 244, when dealing with the "Union Post," the caption of the illustration reads: "Two of the covers once in the Caspary collection." The illustration showing the stamp tied to cover by the Express Mail cancellation is of a cover in the Tapling collection in the British Museum. It was never in Mr. Caspary's collection.

Incidentally, the "Union Post" article is an example of what I feel is careless writing. It states that the "H. R. S." initials are "believed" to be the initials of the proprietor of the post. It might more properly say: "believed by some." Others, the late George Sloane and Alfred Caspary included, believed the initials to mean "Hudson River Steamer" or "Hudson River Service," because the known letters bearing these stamps went to Upstate destinations.

The statement is also made, listing five varieties, that the Union Post "issued" five stamps. The statement should read that "Scott catalogues the following five varieties" and suggests, as is possible, that the "blue on blue" and "blue on buff" varieties may well be cut-outs from letters, which were handstamped and did not bear an adhesive stamp.

Let me now, since I have referred to the Tapling collection, look at the article on "Bentley's Dispatch," on page 146, where "A second Original Type" is discussed, together with the writer's opinion that it is "indubitably genuine." Also, it cites Elliott Perry, who also is quoted as believing it to be genuine and stating "that he has known for some time of the existence of a second copy" in the Tapling collection, which the editor in a footnote states he has been unable to locate. This "second type" is now listed in the Scott catalogue. One wonders if the deciding factor in listing was another opinion, or the non-existent second copy. Incidentally, on the opposite page is an illustration of a "Faked cover bearing Scott 54L1." But it is not mentioned that the handstamp tying the stamp to cover is believed by some experts — including the Philatelic Foundation who issued a certificate so stating — to be genuine. This is an interesting puzzle since "J. W. Scott" did print the second type.

Elliott Perry is justly praised and quoted throughout the book. It was his "City Directory" approach and searching that brought so much of the background information on these Local Posts to light. Without his house organ "Pat Paragraphs" and generous personal help, and his making available his voluminous photographic files, this book, in its present form, would have been impossible; philatelically it would have suffered a great loss.

However, I do wish that more care had been used in checking things. The fact that a Local stamp adheres uncancelled on an apparently contemporary cover does not mean that it was really used on it. My respect for the book would have gone up enormously had the illustration on page 173 under "Essex Letters Express" been titled:- "The genuine stamp apparently used on cover" rather than "The genuine stamp used on cover." The story on this post is excellent, but there is no proof that it ever carried any letters.

Under "Boyce City Express Post," it is stated that "those examples which are cancelled show a black pen cross." At least two exist, cancelled by the "New York Foreign Mail" cancellation, as stated in Scott. Would it not have been better to say that "Boyce apparently did not have a cancelling device but sometimes cancelled the stamps with pen?"

Under "Clark's Circular Express," no mention is made of the possibility

(rather, I believe, probability) that these stamps are envelope cut-outs and not adhesives, although this suggestion appeared in print in England sometime ago.

On Page 103, serious doubt exists as to whether the 1c black (26L1) Broadway adhesive belongs on the cover. It is a local letter where the delivery charge was 2c, as evidenced also by the postmark on the cover. It is my belief that, in so monumental a work as this one, "doubtful" items should either be so noted or else excluded. This applies as well to the "18 Ave. D" stamp on the "23 Ave. D" cover on page 163 (East River Post Office).

However, this is enough carping. The work, as a whole, is excellent. That it is filled with errors and unwarranted assumptions is, in fact, forgivable. Scholars have hesitated to write in the field of U. S. Locals, because, if accuracy is to be the criterion, so many questions would be left unanswered, that a feeling of dissatisfaction or unfulfillment would "spoil the taste." An excellent portion of this book is the careful research and expression in dealing with the "Buffalo, N. Y." posts, condensed from a previous article by Pitt Petri.

This book belongs in every philatelic library — certainly every collector "on this side" interested in United States stamps should own it. We must be grateful that Donald Patton, in England, removed from the scene of use of so many of these stamps, undertook this monumental task. We look forward eagerly to the volumes on "Independent Mails" and "Carriers" yet to appear. Please buy the book, and then read Elliott Perry's "Foreword." Perry is deserving of all praise as a great pioneer in the field of studying the background and use of the Local stamps, as Donald Patton is the great pioneer in sifting out and, in fact, really listing for the first time, the "mass of forgeries and reprints."

I am sure that the book will do much to keep the interest in this field growing. The information is not readily available elsewhere. The forgery comparisons are — to repeat — painstakingly top-notch. The collecting of U. S. Locals is rendered a great deal easier, and, since the originals are so rare, the fostering of the intelligent collecting of forgeries, reprints, and fakes may lead the novice, or newly interested collector, deeper into this fascinating field.

For the serious student, however, one must still state the warning that in this field of Locals, where the history of the post or the use of the stamp is concerned, the book must be read with great care. It is a pity that this weakness exists, but it would be unsound to ignore it. Nevertheless, this does not lessen the appeal or indispensability of this book. *(J. R. Boker, Jr.)*

The Cherry Blossom Issues Of Japan, 1872-1876, by Dr. Soichi Ichida. A volume of 335 pages including 5 color plates and many illustrations, clothbound. Published by the All Japan Philatelic Federation. (No price stated; it is being retailed, however, at $25.00 per copy).

This, a treatise with detailed explanations and illustrations, is the second work by the distinguished Japanese philatelist on the stamps of his native country, his first being "The Dragon Stamps of Japan," 1871-72, published in 1959, which established Dr. Ichida as a philatelic student of the first rank.

The Cherry Blossom Issues treated in the present volume have intrigued capable philatelists of many countries from the time they first appeared. It is indeed most fortunate that a Japanese has seen fit to present the results of his outstanding investigations of these stamps in English, thus making them available to a wide circle of philatelists throughout the world, and serving to increase the popularity of these fascinating products of early Japanese stamp manufacture.

The organization of this book is excellent. The opening chapters are a summary of the postal history, postal markings and foreign mail handling. For the most part, they are models of information succintly presented and accom-

panied by tables and diagrams which are most helpful. Some may cavil at this portion of the book as not being comprehensive and precise enough as one would hope. But it must be borne in mind that it is the study of the stamps themselves, that is the philatelic aspects of these issues, which are Dr. Ichida's chief purpose in writing. In this he has succeeded admirably.

The general introduction to these issues is in itself a veritable treatise on the designing and manufacture of stamps at that period of Japanese philately. The copious drawings, tables and diagrams make what is a complex study readily understandable.

The classification and study of each of the six groups, into which these issues are divided, take up somewhat over 200 pages. The information is admirably arranged and illustrated by color plates, half tones and numerous line drawings, which smooth the path for anyone who wishes to study and collect these charming issues.

The information concerning each group begins with an introduction, followed by a discussion of each denomination one by one with all the pertinent information given. All this is admirably summarized at the end of each section.

There is a comprehensive discussion of the thorny problem of counterfeits as well as other aspects of these stamps.

The work closes with several appendices which greatly aid one in using the contents of the book more intelligently, and, of course, a useful bibliography.

Among Dr. Ichida's outstanding accomplishments is the identification of the various engravers and printers, and the presentation of a vast amount of material in such a compact form without sacrificing any important details.

It would be possible, of course, to write a much longer and more detailed review of this beautifully produced work. Perhaps we can convey some idea of its excellence by saying that in upwards of 50 years of reading and writing philatelic literature, we have rarely seen another work that compares in excellence with this and certainly none that excels it. It may seem trite, but in this case, it truly applies to say that no one interested in the early stamps of Japan can afford not to have a copy of this work in their library.

One final word. The fact that Dr. Ichida was awarded the Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society, London for this book leaves anything more said rather superfluous. *(W. S. Boggs)*

Commemorative Postage Stamps of Great Britain by L. N. and M. Williams. Published by Arco Publications, 3 Upper James St., Golden Square, London W. 1, England. 206 pages, illustrated, indexed. Price 45/- ($6.30).

Until recent years, the number of British commemorative stamps has been very small. Up to 1952, their number could be counted on the fingers; by 1962, the trickle had increased to a small stream. In 1964, the flood began, which probably will not stop until stamp collecting goes out of style.

The collecting of commemorative stamps is a field in which collector interest is strong. This work, which is limited to Great Britain only, is an excellent and thorough guide to all aspects: of the occasions remembered, the designs, paper, watermarks, perforations and methods of printing. It contains descriptions of each commemorative issue from April 23, 1924 (The British Empire Exhibition) up to the Christmas stamps of 1966.

The authors are experienced and well-known philatelists. It is evident from a reading of the book that they had the fullest co-operation of the British Post Office. Details are given that were not available to previous writers in this field. The completeness of the data makes this book a valuable contribution to philatelic literature.

The contents of any book of this sort is normally the author's choice, dictated by the outlook and taste of the writer. Therefore, we cannot cavil at the omission of the series which appeared on January 1, 1887, timed to coincide with the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria, since these designs remained in use until the end of the reign, although there is ample evidence in the writings of the period that the timing was not unintended. We do, however, believe that the inclusion of issues of a questionable nature such as the privately-owned local posts of Lundy Island and Herm Island is not good judgment. Perhaps the Williams brothers got carried away with their liking for Cinderella philately.

The format and production of this book are excellent; the type is readable; the illustrations for the most part clear, although in some instances the photographer should have used a filter to bring out better detail. This latter is most evident in cases where pastel colors were used in production, such as the Red Cross issue and the Post Office Savings Bank issue.

The over-all impression is of a pleasant and useful book that adds to the stature of the authors in the philatelic world. We can unhesitatingly recommend it to collectors of Great Britain and of commemorative stamps in general. *(H. D. S. H.)*

Gibbons-Whitman Postage Stamp Catalogue (Part I) 1968: United States & Possessions, United Nations, Great Britain & Commonwealth, Ireland and South Africa. Published by Whitman Publishing Co., Racine, Wisconsin, for Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, England. 710 pages, illustrated. Price $7.00.

This new American edition is an outgrowth of the mounting interest being shown in international expansion by the Stanley Gibbons Company of London, England. The Gibbons catalogues from England are among the oldest in the world, having developed from a small beginning more than 100 years ago.

While the new volume is listed as an American edition, it not only embodies the United States and Possessions, but also includes the United Nations, and a separate large section dealing with stamps of the British Commonwealth, Ireland and South Africa.

This being the first edition and a new work, there are, as expected, many "rough spots" and inaccuracies that will undoubtedly be corrected in future editions. Catalogues are, after all, "living books" that are constantly changing.

The United States section is based on revisions from the old "Part Three Gibbons Whole World Catalogue" edited by Lester G. Brookman and others. It is handled differently in many respects from the much larger British section.

The introduction makes clear the reasons for this change, together with other pertinent information regarding pricing for well-centered copies of stamps issued after 1890. Shades of color are given equal status and varieties with sub-types in smaller letters.

As was previously pointed out, there are some factual errors such as incorrect headings that should (and it is hoped will be) corrected. A story about the United States 24 cent air mail invert is full of incorrect statements and names, and there are mistakes in other parts of the book. The International Philatelic Glossary is most helpful, as well as the index to stamp designs, but this, too, has many omissions.

The Great Britain and Commonwealth section has little that differs from the information in the famous "Red Gibbons" except that the pricing is handled in U. S. dollars and cents. It also lists prices for popular complete sets, mint and used, at about 10 percent discount. The general pricing is quite realistic, showing the current trend and the increasing demand for stamps from Britain and the Commonwealth Nations. It is apparent that the anticipated change

from pounds and shillings to decimal currency in Britain is reflected in the new catalogue.*

For the new collector, the catalogue's coverage of Great Britain and many of the other countries could be overwhelming, but to the mature, advanced collector, it provides a wider vista. The collector himself is the final judge of how far he wishes to specialize and will seek his own level of stamp pleasure. With this in mind, the Simplification Table that precedes many of the national listings should be enlarged to include Great Britain and the United States, just as it is for Canada, British Guiana, Ceylon and other countries in that category. This would be most helpful to the new or general collector.

The entering of the Stanley Gibbons organization into the American market is a full-grown operation, with its retail outlet and offices in New York and the facilities of the Whitman Publishing Co., available for the printing of a monthly magazine, albums, and other stamp publications.

In view of the tremendous upsurge and mounting interest in philately, there probably will be great enthusiasm about this new American catalogue, which could become a stiff challenge for our country's publishers.

(Irwin I. Yarry, D.D.S.)

World Jet Aircraft on Stamps by Lawrence De Mars. 96 pages, many illustrations, paper cover. Published by the American Topical Association as Handbook No. 57. Price $5 from American Topical Association, 3300 North 50th Street, Milwaukee, Wis. 53216.

This reviewer has flown often in jet planes, but until he looked over this new topical book, he never knew there were so many different types of jet aircraft. This work has nine chapters divided into 158 sections; consequently, it represents a wonderful history of modern aviation since jets were introduced.

Do you realize that there are about 800 U. S. and foreign stamps with a jet airplane in the design? Before seeing this booklet, our uneducated guess would have been, at the most, a couple of hundred.

Reading all the technical information, one could not help but wonder if the author, a stamp collector, really had accurately recorded this. Therefore, documentation would have substantiated the tremendous amount of compilation the author did. This reviewer only can hope that most of the aviation data is reliable. There is no reason to believe that it is not.

Although this booklet is short on aero-philately but long on aeronautics, this reviewer remembers in the *Aero Philatelists' News*, that he had edited for eight years (1945-1953), a series of articles by the late Eugene M. Arkhanguelsky on "Airplane Designs On Stamps." Knowing the great amount of investigating that Mr. Arkhanguelsky had done years ago, this reviewer can appreciate the hard work that Mr. De Mars did in compiling his book.

It is hoped that the information will be kept updated, because the age of the jet aircraft is far from over. Many future stamps are bound to incorporate jets in their design.

There is a 5-page checklist at the end with four listings, i.e.: by country, by both Scott and the French, Yvert & Tellier, catalogue numbers (why no Gibbons?) and by the type of aircraft. This reviewer learned a lot of supplementary aero-philatelic information from this 96-page work and believes that others also will. Even if one is not an air post specialist but only interested in modern aviation, this book is recommended. *(H. M. G.)*

*This review was written before the British Pound's devaluation in November, 1967.

The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume V — The Stamps and Postal History of the Pacific Island under New Zealand Administration, Samoa, and the Ross Dependency. By R. J. G. Collins, edited by A. R. Burge and C. W. Watts. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand. 818 pages, illustrated. Limited edition of 1,000 numbered copies. Price (NZ) $16.80.

This book, in preparation for sixteen years, represents the efforts of a small army of specialists, who, with the cooperation of the postal administrations concerned, have turned out a remarkable reference work. It contains a wealth of priceless information about an area which is rising rapidly in philatelic popularity. That this information is now available should contribute materially to that rise.

To a large degree, the volume is a memorial to the late R. J. G. Collins, MBE, FRPSL, FRPSNZ, Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, who left his editorial mark on all four of the earlier volumes of the series, which dealt with the stamps of New Zealand itself.

There are three major chapters in this volume which represent a great deal of original research work: The Samoan Express issues, by Jack R. Hughes, the Palm Trees issues of Samoa, and the Makea and Torea issues of Cook Islands by Mr. Collins. The information presented is clear and well illustrated, and offers solutions to many of the problems concerned with plating these early issues. A number of controversial points are made, and the thinking behind the arguments is reasonably well chronicled. One such case is presented on Page 564 concerning the existence of the 6d Palm Trees of Samoa, perforated 12½.

The section on the Samoa Express issues points out a few errors in the usual reference sources used for plating them, although a reservation is made for its own accuracy. In checking through a few dozen of these stamps, I found that I could plate the genuine stamps with ease, and spot forgeries of different types with the guidelines given.

The first and largest section in the book covers Cook Islands and Rarotonga. When setting out to write the book, the authors established a number of formidable goals to help find the answers to some difficult questions about the early stamps from Cook Islands. These were: to determine the setting and method of printing of the Crown overprint, to identify the subtypes and the composition of the plates of the "Makea" type, and to discover whether the same plates were used in the 1915/16 printings as in the 1896 printings of the "Torea" type. The success of the results of the efforts of the study circle is left to the specialist, though there is little danger that any will be disappointed with the material to be found in these areas.

With a volume covering as large a field as this, it is difficult to give even the briefest description of the highlights without writing a book in the process.

The other island dependencies are well known to most and should not require listing. A delightful section on the early Antarctic expeditions and their philatelic problems (letters addressed to "Mr. Brown Seal" and, obviously, intended for return to sender were duly delivered to the nearest brown seal) gives a number of firsthand accounts of happenings on the South Polar Cap.

The editors do not pretend that the volume completes the story on the "Island" stamps. Where material has not been available, opinions have not been expressed; further research is encouraged.

It is my opinion that this book represents a collection of the findings of a group of experts in a broad area of philately which has probably never before received as comprehensive a treatment. The writing is eminently readable, and the illustrations leave little to the imagination. Volume V follows proudly in the footsteps of its predecessors and is a credit to the series of which it has become the latest member. *(Robert P. Odenweller)*

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Meetings convene at 8 p. m.

January 3rd	— *Ethiopia*—Norman S. Hubbard, Oyster Bay, N. Y.
January 10th	— *ANNUAL MEETING*
January 17th	— *Baden*—John A. Young, Jr., Devon, Pa.
February 7th	— *Seminar — Three Faces of Philately*—H. D. S. Haverbeck, Moderator
February 21st	— *Greenland*—Abbot Lutz, New York, N. Y.
March 6th	— *France and Colonies Group*
March 20th	— *Tales of the South Pacific*—Richard Wilson and others
April 3rd	— *Texas Postal History*—Alex L. ter Braake, Charleston, W. Va.
April 17th	— *Annual Competition*
May 1st	— *New York State Precancels*—John R. Boker, Jr., Scarsdale, N. Y.
May 15th	— *50th Anniversary of Air Mail*—Henry M. Goodkind, M.C.
June 5th	— *Peru*—John F. Rider, New York, N. Y.

Summer Recess

September 18th	— *New Zealand*—Robert P. Odenweller, Glen Cove, N. Y.
October 2nd	— *Using Automation in Research of 1847 Covers*—Creighton C. Hart, Kansas City, Mo.
October 16th	— *Essay-Proof Society*
November 6th	— *Uruguay Air Post*—Nathaniel Litt, New York, N. Y.
November 20th	— *Mails Via Panama*—James T. DeVoss, State College, Pa.
December 4th	— *Italy. Early Perforation and Watermark Varieties*—Enzo Diena, Rome, Italy
December 18th	— *Board of Governors Open House*

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