The Collectors Club

# Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

Volume XXX No. 1 SECTION I January, 1951

## CONTENTS

EDITORIAL . . . . . 1

Program of January, February and March, 1951 Meetings . 2

AUSTRIA AND LOMBARDY-VENETIA . . . . 3
*Centenary of the 1851 Newspaper Stamps*
By Edwin Mueller

SECRETARY'S PAGE . . . . . 22

VENEZUELA . . . . . 25
*The Small Guayana Issue*
By Cornelius W. Wickersham

COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST . . . . 38
*Award for Best 1950 Article*

CANADA . . . . . 39
*The 2c. of 1868*
By Winthrop S. Boggs

CONFEDERATE STATES . . . . . 42
*The 10c Uniontown, Ala.*
By Lawrence L. Shenfield

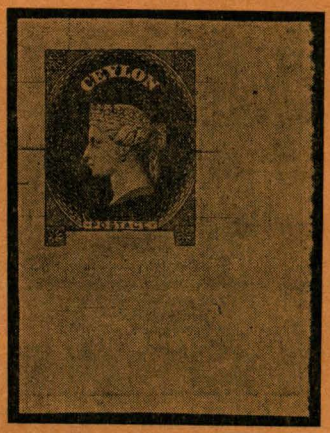
BOOK REVIEWS . . . . . 49

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION . . . . . 54
*Stamp Colors 1878-1898*
By Stephen G. Rich

FRANCO-BRITISH POSTMARK . . . . . 55
*Solution of a Problem*
By Dr. C. Hennan and C. Jewell

The Collectors Club Philatelist is published six times a year by The Collectors Club, Inc., 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1927, at the Post Office at Federalsburg, Maryland, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**Copyright, 1951, by The Collectors Club, Inc.**




*Here's your chance to bid in two Outstanding Sales*

**The Admiral Frederic R. Harris**

# CEYLON

**FEB. 13, 14, 15**

The world's finest collection of Ceylon. Rare and choice copies of the 1857 imperforates, with multiples, stamps on cover and a handsome mint 4 pence dull rose. Fourteen albums full, cataloguing more than $100,000.

**The Dr. Lewis L. Reford**

# BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

**(Part III)**

**FEB. 27, 28, MARCH 1, 2**

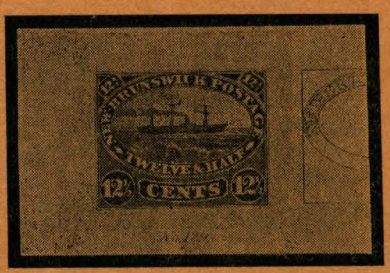
The third sale of this famous collection will include stamps and proofs of Canada as well as Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

*Write for Catalogue today!*

# HARMER, ROOKE & Co., Inc.

*International Auctioneers of Fine Stamps*

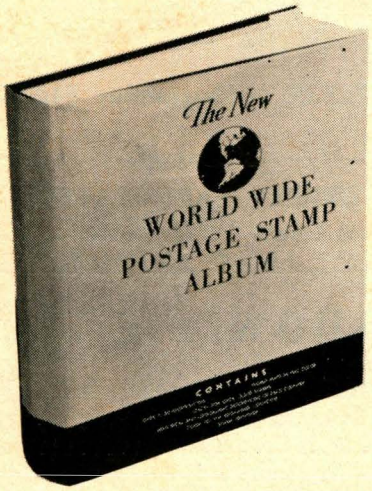
**560 Fifth Avenue** **New York 19,**



*for fun and knowledge . . . .*

THE NEW

# WORLD WIDE POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM




Gimbels—World's Largest Stamp Departments—takes great pleasure in introducing a new, up-to-date stamp album which provides spaces for over 15,000 stamps. It has over 7,150 illustrations, World maps in full color, Historical and Geographic descriptions of each Country, a guide to the beginning collector and a stamp identifier. It's looseleaf with a sturdy cloth bound binder.

**ALBUM COMPLETE WITH BINDER** ..... **$3.95**

For the perfect gift that will last a lifetime give the

**WORLD WIDE STAMP COLLECTORS OUTFIT**

It includes the new World Wide Postage Stamp Album, 1,000 different stamps of the World, set of Flags in color, hinges, stamp tongs, stock book, and magnifying glass ..... $5.95

**20c postage extra outside dclivery area. New York City residents add tax.**

# GIMBELS

**WORLD'S LARGEST STAMP DEPARTMENTS**

*33rd and Broadway*
*New York 1, N. Y.*

*9th at Market*
*Philadelphia 5, Pa.*

## J. N. SISSONS asks you to

*SUPPORT*

# Canada's First International Stamp Exhibition

**Toronto** **September 21 - 29, 1951**

*by joining CAPEX today*

**Membership: Life $25.00 Sustaining $10.00 Annual $2.00**

For full information and prospectus write:

**CAPEX HEADQUARTERS**
**70 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Canada**

---

## SHOW PIECES

**NEW BRUNSWICK #5** ..... 5c CONNELL
Vertical pair, centered and choice. The only known multiple.
(Cat. $1,200.00+) .....Unique $1,000.00

**CANADA #C5a** .....1935 6c pair imperforate vertically in plate block of 9. The only known pair.
Superb and unique .....**$500.00**

**CANADA #C5** .....1935 6c imperforate
Superb mint .....Pair **$75.00** Block **$150.00**

**CANADA San. #534** .....1927 25c London to London Airmail. One of the 3 known copies superb.
(Cat. $2,500.00) .....$1,250.00

**CANADA #B53a** .....1868 **$2.00** Bill stamp inverted center. Only known pair, very fine and unique.
(Cat. Jarrett $1,000.00) .....**$700.00**

**52 Page Illustrated B. N. A. Catalog**
**Price 25c (Refundable on first order)**

**U. S. Customers 5% Discount if you remit by Check, U. S. Bills or M. O. payable at New York City.**

# J. N. SISSONS

**59 Wellington Street West** **Toronto 1, Canada**

The Collectors Club Philatelist

JANUARY, 1951 VOL. XXX, No. 1

HENRY M. GOODKIND, **Editor**

**Editorial Committee**
WINTHROP S. BOGGS
HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK
EDWIN MUELLER
STEPHEN G. RICH

## The Past, Present and Future

This number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST starts our 30th year. To a historian, three decades is a short span. But thirty years in the field of publication, and especially the philatelic one, is an enviable record, one with few rivals. There are today only a very few other stamp publications in the entire world which surpass this achievement of longevity.

As stated upon our masthead, THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is "a Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study and Research." We realize that with this aim we cannot reach a vast circulation because we serve only the students of stamps. No one has estimated if this group is small or large, a minority or majority of the hobby. Our own belief is that students comprise only a small segment of philately.

It is not to our taste to extol the quality and accomplishments of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. Our magazine must stand on its record. It behooves the Editor and his staff not only to continue the reputation but strive mightily to enhance it.

We do believe, however, that we are unknown to many students of stamps in this country. We attribute this, to a great extent, to a popular fallacy about our contents. It has often come to our attention that we write upon only the rare and expensive stamps. Valuable and helpful as our articles are, many believe they are about stamps which few can afford. This misapprehension exists among both collector and dealer. We deem this an opportunity to refute it.

The easy rebuttal to such a fallacious thinking about THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST lies in the Index to the 1950 volume. It can be seen that little relates to stamps with a catalog value over $25.00. We think we suffer from the same erroneous idea as shown by people who bypass a high-class jewelry store because they fear nothing is priced under $1,000.00. We ask our readers' cooperation to help us get the true picture before other students of stamps. Let them know we do NOT concentrate our writings upon rarities.

Let us examine another problem we face. It is caused by the necessity to specialize in stamp collecting. The big tree of philately is suffering because of the growth of its branches. But without *the* tree, there will be no branches. Too many of us are devoting our time, efforts and funds to our own specialty. Far too many writings are buried within specialty publications, although they are of interest to most everyone collecting stamps. We all should remember that although we have our particular interests, we still remain one unit of stamp lovers. This diversion of interest, if carried too far, can have its harmful effects. Appeal should be made to the various leaders in the many specialty groups to see that some of their

valued contributions are channelled into the general philatelic fund of knowledge.

So much for the past, so now for a bit upon the present and then a look to the future.

1. We have started something recently about which we believe you would like to know. Those authors whose studies are published in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST will receive a handsome Certificate of Appreciation from The Collectors Club, suitable for framing, if desired. It had been the Club's practice for some years past to present Certificates of Appreciation to those who exhibited at our Meeting Nights. We calculated that the preparation of an article for publication in this magazine required more work than a display and talk upon stamps. The Governors agreed and the Club will show this tangible evidence of its appreciation. We personally wished such gratitude could be better expressed, but we do believe this new policy will meet with approval and satisfaction.

2. This year of 1951 marks the 100th Anniversary of Canada's first postage stamp. Accordingly, we shall publish during this year articles relating to the stamps of British North America. We plan to have one in each of the 1951 numbers.

3. We had announced a year ago a new policy in regard to our outside cover. For the convenience of those who keep a file of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, the Publications Committee thought a different colored paper for each volume would be helpful. Thus we changed from the white cover which had been used for a few years previously. We started out with the light brown paper for many years this magazine's hallmark. So many wrote us to cheer the return of a long lost friend that we were convinced to continue the present cover rather than change.

4. We take pleasure in announcing that we hope to have a *Cumulative Index* of Volumes XIX through XXIX of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST in your hands before 1951 closes. Most of you know that there is a *Cumulative Index* for Volumes I to XVIII (years 1922 to 1939). Many requests have been received in recent years for this to be brought up-to-date. Mr. Roland F. King-Farlow of London, England has kindly volunteered to undertake this difficult task. We are indeed fortunate to have received the offer from one whose reputation for philatelic indexing is so high.

Although we are never complacent, our immediate future appears bright. We have established and maintained a punctual six times a year schedule. Thanks to those who have been willing to spare the time to pen their particular knowledge of philately, we feel assured of offering our readers the type of articles which they seek. Also we are most optimistic about the future of philately in this country. Only a pessimist or a skeptic flirts with failure. Consequently, we anticipate continued success and greater achievements with your help, cooperation and interest.

*H. M. G.*

**SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH, 1951**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| January | 3 | — Exhibition of United States Stamps by Members. |
| | 10 | — Annual Meeting. |
| | 17 | — Stamps of Hawaii by Mr. Philip H. Ward, Jr. |
| February | 7 | — Nineteenth Century Mexico—Preference given to the 1856-1883 Issues by Colonel Charles S. Hamilton of Washington, D. C. |
| | 21 | — Gold Medal Prize Winning Collection of Afghanistan by Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs. |
| March | 7 | — The Stamps of the Pan American Union. |
| | 21 | — Nineteenth Century Chile by Colonel John F. Rider. |

# *Another Stamp Centenary*

# *THE 1851 NEWSPAPER STAMPS OF AUSTRIA AND LOMBARDY-VENETIA*

By EDWIN MUELLER

During the first ten years following the birth of the first stamps, only postage stamps, to pay the regular postage on letters, printed matter, etc. were issued by various countries. January 1, 1851 marks the day on which were issued the first stamps for a special purpose which were sold only to and used by a specific group of people. *Austria* on that day issued its first *Newspaper Stamps* and in this way started the long lists of stamps intended for various special purposes. The centenary of that event went by almost unnoticed but it was an important date in the history of philately.

The first Austrian newspaper stamps, which were also used in Lombardy-Venetia, commonly known as *"Mercuries"* because they featured the head of Mercury, Roman god of commerce—identical with the Greek god Hermes—were the first to use this symbol of commerce as a stamp design. They have caught the imagination of many collectors because of their rarity, which places them, except for the blue stamp, among the rarest of European stamps, the "scarlet Mercury" in used condition being the rarest stamp of Europe and one of the great world rarities. The yellow and rose stamps, due to their delicate pale color, are not very popular, but in general, the Austrian "Mercuries" belong to the most interesting and sought for classic issues of all countries.

There have been quite a number of articles written about the forgeries of the "Mercuries" but very little about the stamps themselves and their history. Since we wrote our book about the postage stamps of Austria which was published in 1927,* very few additional findings have been published. Some of the statements made in our book require correction, especially in regard to the types, in which field we were able to establish new facts which put the listing on a new basis. The official files at Vienna, which we scrutinized, also yielded some new data. All this as well as a number of additional findings will be published, in many cases for the first time, in the following paragraphs. They constitute a new monograph concerning these interesting and attractive stamps based on our present knowledge.

* "Die Postmarken von Oesterreich" (Vienna, 1927, in German).

## History of Issue

Before January 1, 1851 the postal fees for *newspapers mailed by publishers* in Austria were paid in cash, as had been the case with letters, printed matter, samples, etc. prior to June 1, 1850. Newspapers mailed by publishers had special privileges, among them being reduced postal fees. When adhesives were introduced in Austria, this reform was not extended to newspapers mailed by publishers because of these privileges. Newspapers mailed by those others than publishers were rated as printed matter and had to pay the regular fee of 1kr (in Lombardy-Venetia 5c) for each loth (1 loth equivalent to about ½ ounce).

It seems that soon after postage stamps were introduced in Austria the idea was born of using the same system for payment of the fees for newspapers mailed by publishers. The official files give no indication whose idea it was and we can assume that one of the officials of the Ministry of Commerce who was concerned with postal matters, originated the idea. The definite decision to introduce newspaper stamps was made on *August 12, 1850,* according to the files. The drawing of

the design was presented to the Ministry shortly afterwards and accepted on August 26, 1850. The first printing order, for 12,000,000 blue stamps, each being the fee for mailing one newspaper, was given to the Austrian State Printing Works on September 12, 1850. Early in November 1850, the State Printing Works delivered proofs of the new stamps, which were found satisfactory and the speedy manufacture of the first printing order was requested. A suggestion also to issue wrappers with imprinted newspaper stamps was rejected at the same time.

Shortly afterwards it was decided—there is no indication in the files whose suggestion was followed—also to issue stamps paying the fee for 10 and 50 newspapers respectively. These were to relieve the publishers from putting a great number of the stamps issued for the single newspaper rate on the packages of newspapers sent to distributors in large cities. As color for the single fee stamp, blue had previously been selected, now rose was chosen for the stamp representing the fee for 10 newspapers and black for 50 newspapers. But this was quickly changed because black was found unsuitable due to poor visibility of the cancellations. Yellow was now chosen for the former and rose for the latter. The necessary orders were transmitted to the State Printing Works without delay.

The new regulations concerning the blue newspaper stamps were published under date of *September 12, 1850,* those concerning the yellow and rose stamps on *December 3, 1850.* The regulations which came into force on *January 1, 1851,* provided that the stamps should be sold only to newspaper publishers, in quantities of 100 or more, always in full sheets of 100. The price was fixed per sheet of 100 at 1 gld for the blue, 10 gld for the yellow and 50 gld for the rose stamps. Therefore, single stamps had a face value of 0.6kr, 6kr and 30kr respectively. The newspapers, each in a wrapper with the address, had to be delivered by the publishers at the same post office at which the newspaper stamps were bought. This made it possible for the post offices to check on compliance with the regulations and to prevent any fraudulent use of newspaper stamps.

While the introduction of newspaper stamps was rather well received by the newspaper publishers, the need for the higher values proved to have been greatly overestimated. The main reason for this was that the stamps could be bought only in full sheets, which run for the higher values into a lot of money. Only the largest newspapers had sufficient shipments in bulk to justify the purchase of these denominations; especially of the rose 30kr stamp only very small quantities were sold. After two and a half years of unsatisfactory sale of the rose stamps it was decided to abolish them and to use the remainders in the same way as the blue stamps, namely as fee for one newspaper. This was ordered on *October 9, 1852* and the remaining quantities, issued for 1 gld per sheet of 100 to newspaper publishers in Vienna, were used up in the following months as substitutes for the regular blue stamps.

Three and a half years later, the yellow 6kr stamp had a similar fate. The reason this time was different. The files mention that due to its pale color the stamp had frequently been mistaken for the 1kr and 5c postage stamps and furthermore it had been detected that the color of the blue stamp could be changed with chemicals into yellow. This led to the decision to change the color to scarlet. The change was announced on *March 21, 1856.* The remainders of the yellow stamps were issued in the following months to newspaper publishers in Vienna, for 1 gld per sheet of 100 and were used up as substitutes for blue stamps, as had been the case with the rose ones.

The scarlet 6kr stamp remained in use until October 31, 1858. Its sale stopped at the end of that day but copies in the hands of publishers could be used until *December 31, 1858.* The blue 0.6kr stamps were not withdrawn but the remainders sold out concurrently with the newspaper stamps in the new currency, of which only one value in blue, constituting the fee for one newspaper, was issued. The blue 0.6kr stamp of 1851 was for the time being not demonetized; this was done only 5½ years later, when the 1858 and 1860 newspaper stamps were demonetized on *May 31, 1864.*

## The Printing Material

It is not known who was the author of the design of the newspaper stamps. The drawing presented to the postal authorities in



**Engraved and recess-printed Proof** of the Newspaper Stamps by **Josef Axmann.**

August 1850 seems to have been lost. The design was simple and remarkably artistic. The youthful head of Mercury, facing to the left, with the characteristic winged helmet, was set in a square frame, which included the inscription "K.K." (at left), "ZEITUNGS—" (at top), "POST—" (at right) and "STAMPEL." (at bottom), which means "Imperial Royal Newspaper Postage Stamp." It is remarkable that the old orthography "Stampel" (with two dots above the "a") was used contrary to the postage stamps, for which it was used on proofs only but changed to the modern version "Stempel" on the issued stamps. It cannot be explained why the old orthography was used again on the newspaper stamps.

It seems that it was first intended to issue recess-printed newspaper stamps. This is not surprising as the typographed postage stamps of 1850 were considered a "provisional" issue and trials to produce definite recess-printed stamps had started early in 1850. The highly regarded contemporary Viennese engraver, *Josef Axmann,* was commissioned to make an engraving of the design of the newspaper stamps. He did the job quickly and delivered proofs of his copper engraving, gray black on India paper in October 1850. The recess-printed proofs are in the size of the issued stamps and the design is, except for the missing corner rosettes, quite similar to that of the issued stamps. Six such proofs were found in the estate of Josef Axmann, who died on November 9, 1873, at Salzburg. A seventh copy is preserved in the collection of Axmann's engravings which is in the possession of the "Albertina" Museum of copper engravings at Vienna.

The postal authorities soon found out that it would be impractical and too expensive to issue recess-printed newspaper stamps and it was decided to print the stamps on the letter-press from typographed plates in the same way as the contemporary postage stamps. The State Printing Works were ordered to provide the necessary printing material. At that time, the State Printing Works had their own wood-cutting department, which was under the direction of *Friedrich von Exter,* a wood-cutter of reputation. Here, the design was cut in wood, probably by von Exter himself, quite faithfully following Axmann's engraving. This original wood cut is still preserved in the Austrian Postal Museum at Vienna. Proofs were presented to the postal authorities early in November, but they seem to have been lost, as none was found in the remaining files and we know of no contemporary proofs in official or private possession.

Different methods were used for the production of the printing material. The developments were similar to the various trials made to produce satisfactory printing material for the postage stamps. This task was less involved for the newspaper stamps, as their design had no value indication and the same printing material could be used for the different values, which were distinguishable by their color only. All typographical printing material consisted at that time of single cliches. These single cliches were assembled




Print made in 1897 from the **original wood cut.**



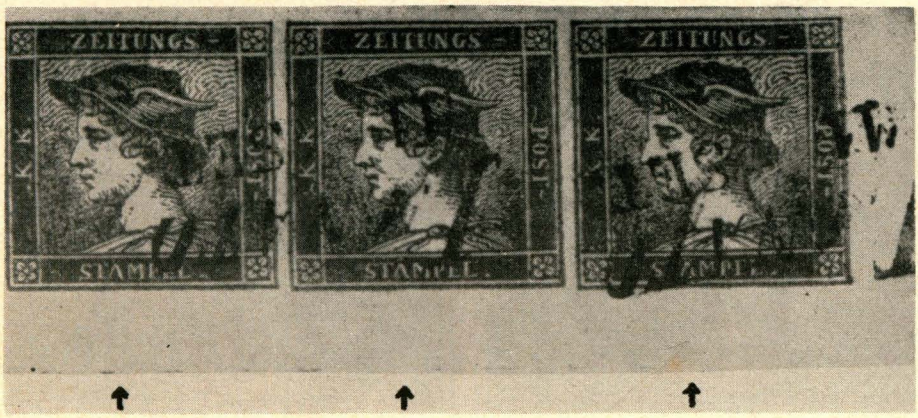

**Type I,** early print (at left) and later print (at right).

in the same way as a form of printer's type is made up. After each printing the cliches were taken apart and cleaned in a bath of turpentine, which removed hardened ink and other foreign matter. After defective or worn cliches had been replaced by new ones, the form was reassembled for a new printing. This method was used by the Austrian Printing Works for decades in their stamp production, in line with the policy of preserving material, which at that time was expensive, by using more labor, which was cheap. As its result, the same cliche, identifiable by certain particularities, may be found in different positions—we know of cases where the same cliche has been recognized in four different positions—which makes plating of the classic Austrian stamps a very difficult, if not impossible, task. For this reason we will use the term "setting" for the printing material as by strict philatelic principles it is incorrect to speak of "plates" of these stamps.

For the first setting the wood cut was directly used to produce the cliches. For this purpose, matrices of the wood cut were made in gypsum and from them the cliches were cast in type metal. As each gypsum matrix had to be broken to obtain the cliche, at least 400 matrices had to be obtained to manufacture the 400 cliches needed for each setting of four panes of 100 (10x10) cliches.

The stamps printed from this first setting show the design exactly as the proofs from the wood cut must have shown it and which we will call *Type I.* But only the earliest printings show the design clear and well printed. Very soon the soft type metal of the cliches showed signs of wear and tear and later printings are more or less worn, eventually to an extent that the design became blurred and the inscriptions illegible.

The first attempts to improve the appearance of the stamps must have been made as early as in the *middle of 1851.* It seems that the authorities were especially annoyed by the poor legibility of the inscriptions and in particular about the disappearance of the two dots over the "A" of "STAMPEL," which changed the pronunciation of that word. Therefore the first step toward improvement was in this direction. The first setting was taken apart, defective and worn cliches were removed and the balance of the cliches, together with the necessary new ones, were assembled into a new setting. As the new setting did not produce better prints than the previous one—especially the many dots still missing on the "A" of "STAMPEL" were an unwanted feature of the new setting—it was decided to do some retouching. This retouching, which must have been done in the second half of 1851, extended only to the two dots on the "A" of "STAMPEL." It can be assumed that the two dots were retouched on all or almost all cliches but that no other retouching was done. The retouching job was done with a burrow by engraving the two dots above the "A". In a




**Type I retouched,** strip of three showing the dots on the "A" of "STAMPEL" in different position on each stamp.

small number of cases the worker who did the job engraved the dots on precisely the same place where they were originally, probably guided by the traces of the dots still visible in the cliche. In such cases we may well be in doubt whether the cliche had been retouched at all, but usually the dots are much more distinct in the retouched than in the unretouched cliches. In the great majority of cases the worker engraved the new dots independently of the original ones, although in a number of cases one dot is in the same place as the original one and only the second dot is in a new position. Anyway, the dots on the retouched cliches were either nearer together or wider apart, or one dot stands higher than the other. Frequently they are asymmetric in regard to the "A" and one dot is larger than the other. Actually, each cliche of the setting became an individual by this retouching, but it does not seem to make much sense to group them as sub-types. It would be possible to make several groups, for example, dots narrow together, dots wide apart, left dot raised, right dot raised, left dot thicker, right dot thicker, with sub-divisions relating to the position of the dots in respect to the "A," but this would be so complicated that classification of individual cliches would be a difficult task and leave many doubts in the minds of collectors. We prefer to call the stamps from this setting *"Type I retouched"* and leave it to the collector to assemble characteristic examples of the retouching. It may be taken for granted that the retouched cliches, together with a number of reserve cliches which were produced and retouched together with the 400 cliches needed for the setting, were used for several settings, as these retouched cliches remained in use for about two and a half years, delivering fairly good to rather worn prints. We believe that these settings included only retouched cliches as no multiples containing both retouched and undoubtedly unretouched stamps are known to us.

Although the postal authorities obviously did care less about the appearance of the newspaper stamps than of the postage stamps, toward the *end of 1853* a new attempt at improvement was made. The retouching of each individual cliche was not an ideal method and aside from this the type metal cliches wore too quickly so that replacements were frequently necessary. Starting again from the original wood cut, a gypsum matrix was taken and a cliche in type metal was cast, which, after some re-engraving, now was used as a secondary die. The re-engraving consisted in inserting the missing dots above the "A" of "STAMPEL." They were now much closer together than on the wood cut and the dot at the left was slightly thicker than the one at the right. The letters of the inscriptions were also slightly strengthened without changing their basic character, which is especially visible in the "Z" of "ZEITUNGS-" in which the oblique bar is now obviously thicker. The cliche, re-engraved in this way, was now hardened by giving it a



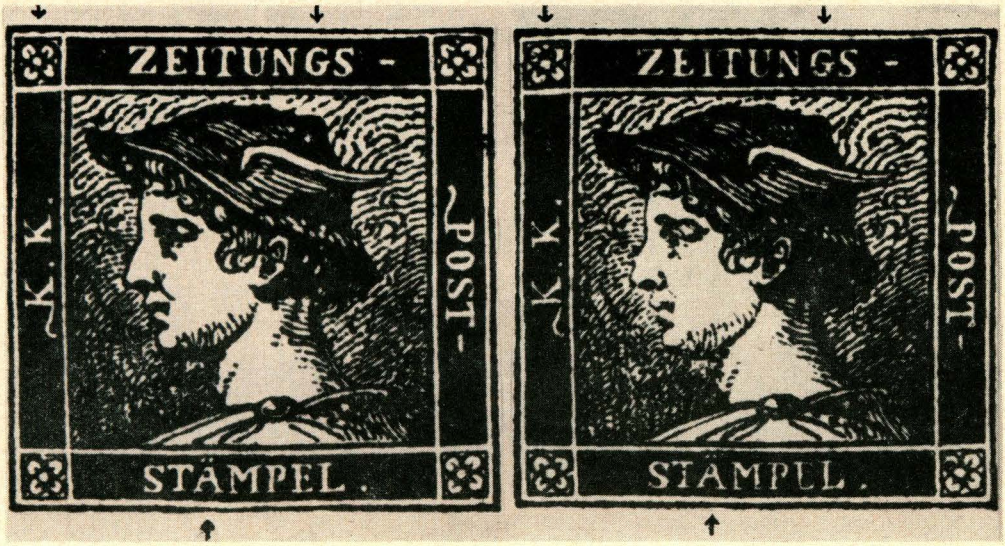

**Type II**, dots above "A" of "STAMPEL" and oblique bar of "Z" of "ZEITUNGS-" re-engraved.

galvanic copper coating and now used as a secondary die. The printing cliches were obtained by way of an electrotyped matrix and casting in type metal. These cliches were hardened by a galvanic copper coating and used in the same way as previously for assembling new settings. These settings contained only cliches in this new *"Type II"* as we will call it for practical purposes despite the fact, that by strict philatelic consideration it is only a sub-type of Type I. The new setting worked satisfactorily and produced good to medium prints; no really worn prints are known.

Toward the *end of 1854* a new change in the production methods of the cliches took place, combined with a new re-engraving of the design. Again a gypsum matrix was taken from the original wood cut and a cliche cast from it in type metal. The re-engraving this time was much more efficient, as the inscriptions on all four sides were strengthened. This is quite obvious from the pronounced foot strokes of the letters which were only fragmentary in Types I and II, as well as a distinct cross bar in the "G" of "ZEITUNGS" and many other improved details of the letters. The "A" of "STAMPEL" now has not only a distinct cross bar but also two clear dots above it. As had been the case for Type II, the re-engraving of this new *"Type III"* extended to the inscriptions only; there is no evidence of any re-engraving of the design itself. The re-engraved cliche was hardened and used as a new secondary die, but now the cliches were produced by galvanoplasty; they are therefore electrotypes, while all cliches in Type I and II were stereotypes. A matrix was first obtained by galvanoplasty and the necessary cliches electrotyped from this one matrix. Each copper electrotype was mounted on a lead block and then used to assemble the settings in the same way as had previously been done with the stereotypes. It can be assumed that the thorough re-engraving was done to make the design more suitable for electrotyping, the same consideration which led to the re-engraving of the design of the postage stamps in 1852.

The new settings worked satisfactorily, although they never produced as fine prints as the earliest prints in Types I and II. But there also exist no really worn prints in Type III; blurred printings which can be found occasionally are the result of overinking. There were several settings in Type III, the secondary die remaining in use until late in 1858 when further printings of these stamps ceased. But the matrix used for electrotyping the cliches must have been damaged shortly after the first setting was produced because all further settings show defects in the design, especially noticeable in the top left corner rosette, which now looks quite irregular, and in little colored dots in some letters, one each in the "E," "T" and "U" of "ZEITUNGS" and in the "T" of "STAMPEL," and two in the "G" of "ZEITUNGS." Those dots sometimes do not come out clearly on all printed stamps, but most of them do, especially the two in the "G", and provide together with the irregular corner rosette a method of distinguishing between the first setting in Type III, without irregularities, which we call *"Type IIIa"* and the later settings, which are all from the defective matrix and which we call *"Type IIIb."*

Proof of the changed methods in the production of the cliches is given by the printing material, preserved in the Austrian Postal Museum at Vienna. Aside from the original




**Type III,** inscription completely re-engraved, in its original state with regular top left corner rosette (**Type IIIa**) and in its later state with deformed corner rosette and the characteristic colored dots in the "G" of "ZEITUNGS-" (**Type IIIb**).

wood cut in Type I, there are preserved two electrotyped matrices of which one is in Type II, but in its cleaned state as used for the later reprints about which we will report in another part of this monograph, the other in Type IIIb. There is also other evidence. When we measure the size of a number of copies of the "Mercuries" we are surprised to find that there are variations up to a full millimeter, as sizes exist from 18¾ mm. to 19¾ mm. square. The stamps in Type III are generally smaller than the others. We could ascertain that the average measurement of stamps in Types I and II is 19½ mm. x 19½ mm., in Type III 19 mm. x 19 mm., with slight variations to ¼ mm. more or less.

Each *setting* consisted of four panes of 100 cliches (10 x 10) each. The cliches were clamped together in horizontal rows and these rows separated from each other by spacers. These spacers occasionally came high up and then were inked, leaving their marks in the spaces between the stamps. Such horizontal spacers are known on blue stamps and are scarce; vertical spacers, probably from spacers put at the sides outside of each pane, are very rarely found. There was no margin print, except colored needle points in the four corners of the setting, about 5 mm. from each corner. The setting was a peculiar one, with the spacing between horizontal rows more than three times as wide as between vertical columns. This was purposely done to facilitate use of the stamps on address labels and wrappers. If these labels or wrappers, each about 23 mm. high, were printed in sheets, vertical strips of the newspaper stamps could be pasted on them and the labels or wrappers cut afterwards, at the same time leaving one stamp on each of them. The big newspaper publishers accepted this system beforehand and the wider spacing in one direction was introduced to make the job easier. For the settings in Type I, the horizontal spacing was ¾ mm. to 1 mm., the vertical 3½ mm. For the settings in Types II and III, the stamps were horizontally 1¼ mm. to 1¾ mm. apart, vertically 3 mm. to 3¼ mm. There are no multiples known including the gutter between the panes of Types I and II, but there exist stamps in Type I which show small parts of stamps from the neighboring pane, proving that the vertical gutter was 2½ mm. wide. Of Type IIIb, unused and used multiples with vertical gutter are known which show the gutter 5½ mm. wide. No singles or multiples with




Print made in 1897 from a cliche cast in lead from the **matrix in Type IIIb.**

horizontal gutter are known, the width of the space between the upper and lower panes is therefore unknown.

It is quite easy for a collector to distinguish between Type I and Type III and with a little experience it is also not difficult to distinguish the much scarcer Type IIIa from Type IIIb. But in trying to recognize Type II and to distinguish between Type I and Type I retouched the collector may run into difficulties. It was previously assumed that several colored spots—one on the nose and one on the chin of the Mercury head—may be helpful, but they proved unreliable. They are always absent in the first printing in Type I, but in later printings of this and all other types they may or may not be found, apparently without any systematic scheme. Sometimes none of the spots, sometimes both, but frequently only one, can be found and after a thorough study we are inclined to believe that they are unsuitable either for identification or for subdivision of the types. The spots seem to have come from "weak" spots in the wood cut and seem to have become visible only by special circumstances during the casting of the cliches. Another colored spot, between the outer frame and the design at the left, above the first "K," can usually be seen on stamps in Type II, but it is also not a typical mark, as it is sometimes missing and occasionally can be also found on stamps in Type I. All this leads to the conclusion not to subdivide the types as has been previously done and to leave it to the specializing collector to pay attention to these varying particularities of the various types and printings.

The blue stamp comes printed from all settings and therefore exists in all types. For the yellow and rose stamps, the same settings were used, but it is only safe to say that the first printing was from the first setting, in rather worn state, in Type I. Chronologically, the rose stamp could also have been printed from the setting in Type I retouched, the yellow stamp in addition to this also from the settings in Types II, IIIa and IIIb. There is no doubt that no printings of the yellow stamps were made after 1852, therefore neither it nor the rose stamp, which, had already been withdrawn in 1852, can exist in Types II, IIIa or IIIb. But no definite opinion is possible concerning the existence of Type I retouched for the yellow and rose stamp, because all later printings of both these stamps are so badly printed that no details of the design can be ascertained. We can safely assume that both the yellow and the rose stamp exist only in Type I with the possibility that both also exist in Type I retouched, which possibility becomes a probability for the yellow stamp. But as all printings of the yellow and rose stamp are so blurred that the inscriptions are hardly decipherable this question will probably be left unsolved forever. The scarlet 6kr stamp of 1856 was printed from a setting in Type IIIb only and, as obviously only one printing was made, exists only in that type.

## The Manufacture

The newspaper stamps were printed on steam-driven cylinder presses of which the State Printing Works had twenty at that time. Make-ready, to improve the appearance of the stamps, was used less obviously than for the postage stamps. But from machine offsets which can occasionally be found we can see that the make-ready was partly used to make the Mercury head more prominent. The printing was partly quite careless and overinked printings are rather frequent. Although they can be found in all

types, they are characteristic of the later printings in Type I and Type I retouched, for which such overinking combined with the worn plate condition produced greatly blurred and bad looking stamps. Almost all printings of the yellow and rose stamps fall also into this category.

The *colors* used were in part the same as those for the postage stamps. The blue stamp was first pale blue like the corresponding 9kr postage stamp and became darker at the same time as that stamp. These darker colors appear on the newspaper stamps from late in 1851, and lighter and darker shades appeared alternately until 1858. The first printing of the yellow stamp was brownish orange, later printings yellow, the same as the 1kr postage stamp, including a deep yellow color but with pale shades prevalent. For the 30kr rose and the 6kr scarlet issued in 1856 new color mixtures were used. The rose comes in dark and lighter shades, with pale shades prevalent for the last printing. The scarlet of the 6kr is a distinct bright color, without any shades, because only one small printing was made.

The *paper* used for the newspaper stamps was from the beginning a machine-made paper. Due to the different size of the settings, the hand-made paper of the postage stamps was not usable and a regular machine-made paper without watermark was used in a size of about 450 mm. x 500 mm. The paper was first rather thin and this paper was used for the first printings of the blue, yellow and rose stamps. From early in 1851 paper of regular thickness was used, from 1854 occasionally thicker paper, even in rare cases up to very thick, 0.14 mm. in thickness. Natural paper folds during the printing can be found occasionally. Stitch watermarks, horizontally and vertically, are also known on the blue stamps.

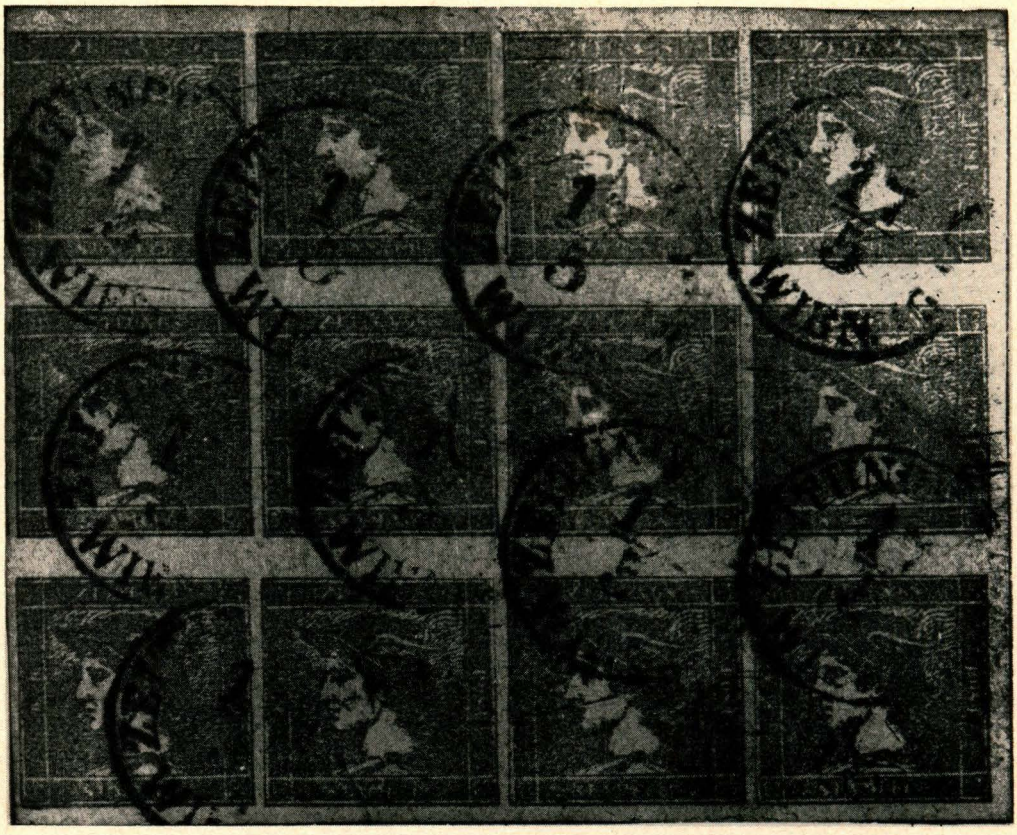
The blue stamp also comes with the same *vertical ribbing* as several values of the postage stamps. It is quite common in this state and we can assume that the whole first printing on thin paper was ribbed, therefore first day cancellations—we do not know any—would have to be on such stamps. The ribbing, vertically and consisting of about 30 ribs on 2 cm. width, was applied to the printed and gummed sheets. Natural paper folds which occurred during the ribbing can be found occasionally. The files do not provide any clue as to the purpose of this ribbing but it can be supposed that it was to prevent cleaning and re-use of the stamps; therefore it had the same purpose as the grills applied ten years later to United States stamps. We know ribbed blue stamps on thin paper in Type I only. The ribbing is sometimes strong, but frequently only faint and there exist stamps on which no sign of any ribbing can be detected. They seem to come from sheets which partly escaped the ribbing; probably all blue stamps on thin paper without ribbing, which are rare, are from such partly ribbed sheets.

The *gum* used was the same as for the postage stamps. It was an animal glue of a more or less yellowish tint and was applied by hand with broad brushes. After the gum was dry the sheets were pressed.

The newspaper stamps were issued *imperforate* only and no private perforations or roulettes are known to have been used. Although the newspaper stamps were printed in sheets of 400 (four panes of 100 each) they were delivered to the post offices only after having been horizontally divided into two half sheets of 200 each. The post offices sold them either in such half sheets consisting of two panes of 100 each, side by side, or they divided them further into single panes of 100 each. As no smaller quantity than 100 was sold to the newspaper publishers, no further division by the post offices took place. The sale of half sheets explains why multiples with vertical gutter, but none with horizontal gutter are known.

## The Four Values

The *blue* newspaper stamp would be quite a common stamp if most of the stamps used had not been destroyed. The wrappers with the stamps were usually taken off and were not preserved. Fortunately, some publishers, instead of using wrappers, pasted address labels directly on the newspapers, usually placing the newspaper stamps partly on the label and partly on the newspaper, in this way providing additional protection against the address label's falling off. Most of the newspaper stamps still existing come from this sort of use which did not exactly conform to the regulations but was obviously



**Yellow Mercury,** the famous block of twelve.

widely tolerated. A small number of wrappers with stamps was also preserved when newspapers or magazines were filed or kept intact unread. The quantities printed and used of the blue stamp must have been quite large. We know from the files that the first printing was 12,000,000 stamps, in all probability all ribbed and being the whole quantity printed of this variety. There are no official figures known about the total quantity printed of this stamp. In older literature * we find a figure of 135,790,000 blue stamps given as the total printing. This figure seems high and lacks official confirmation, although it is claimed that it was supplied by high officials of the State Printing Works. There were no remainders, as the blue stamps, after being replaced by the new issue of 1858, were used up simultaneously with the new issue.

Real unused copies of the blue stamp with full original gum are rare. Several large mint blocks, also ribbed, are known, even two full panes of 100 in Type I, one of which was in the Ferrari collection. But the great majority of all unused copies are really only uncancelled, as they were used on newspapers but had escaped cancellation. Such stamps have either no gum or part of the original gum and are much more common than really unused copies. Cancelled, the blue stamp is not scarce in pairs and in strips of 3. Larger strips are scarce and blocks are rare. The largest cancelled blocks we know are a block of 30 and one of 15 of the ribbed stamp. A few unused and used multiples in Type IIIb which include the vertical gutter are also known.

* E. J. Jaszai in "Die Postmarke" (Vienna), 1926, p. 267.

The *yellow* stamp was used for 10 newspapers or magazines, and therefore never placed on the newspapers themselves but on the wrapping paper and destroyed with it. It would be at least as rare as the scarlet stamp, which also paid for 10 newspapers, had it not been withdrawn in 1856 and the remainders used up as fee for a single newspaper. Now the conditions became the same as for the blue stamp and the yellow stamp comes from this period on newspapers as well as wrappers. The using up of the remainders, by newspaper publishers in Vienna only, took several months. The first copies used in lieu of blue stamps are known from April 1856, shortly after publication of the decree ordering this use (March 21, 1856), most copies being used in May and June 1856, a small number in July 1856. Careful checking of all available copies of the yellow stamp did not reveal any copies used in months other than April, May, June or July, therefore giving strong indication that all were used in 1856 while the stamps were being used up. We know no copy which undoubtedly was used before March 21, 1856 as fee for 10 newspapers and even of no copy which, due to the date of the cancellation—other than April, May, June or July—may be suspected of having been used as such. We nevertheless suspect several known copies as used before 1856 and believe that such copies really exist although they must be rarer than used copies of the scarlet stamp. Without the using up of the remainders the yellow Mercury would have certainly become one of the great world rarities, with less than half a dozen copies known unused and used all told. No official figures are known for the quantities printed but the same source as quoted for the blue stamp states that no printings were made after 1852 and gives the total printing for the yellow stamp at 720,000 stamps, which figure has some probability of correctness.

We know of no unused copy of the yellow stamp with full original gum. All existing uncancelled copies we know were used during the using up of the remainders and have escaped cancellation. Sometimes the original gum has been almost completely preserved when such stamps were removed from the wrappers or newspapers but they are nevertheless only uncancelled copies and no longer mint. No unused multiples of the yellow stamp are known. As stated before, all used copies we know were used in 1856 when the remainders were used up. Of used multiples, one defective pair and one equally damaged strip of three are known, aside from the outstanding multiple, the block of 12 discovered in 1925, which was sold in 1927 in a Koehler sale at Berlin for 33,000 goldmark and which is now in one of the largest collections in this country. All the multiples were used in 1856, in lieu of blue stamps.

The *rose* stamp, which paid for 50 newspapers, would be the rarest of all "Mercuries." The condition for survival of copies were similar to that of the yellow stamp, but the period of use was shorter. The rose stamp when used for its original purpose paying for 50 newspapers, must have been used only on large wrappings and it is very unlikely that such wrappings were preserved. We doubt that any copy would have survived at all, if the remainders had not been used up in 1852 as fee for single newspapers. We know of no copy used before this using up was ordered; all known unused and used copies originated from this use of the remainders. All cancelled copies we know were cancelled in October, or more frequently, in November, December and January, a small number in February; therefore all in the months of the using up of the remainders as fee for a single newspaper and after the stamps ceased to be used as fee for 50 newspapers. We are pretty sure that no copy undoubtedly used before October 9, 1852, the day on which the using up was ordered, has been preserved and we have never seen a copy cancelled in any month other than October, November, December, January or February. Several years ago a copy cancelled at Jablunkau, with the date February 9, 1852, was found, but in all probability this is a date error, it really being February 9, 1853, during the using up, the postmaster using the old year date "1852" during a period of 1853. No official figures are available for the printing of the rose stamp but the same semi-official source previously quoted mentions no printings after 1851 and gives the total printing at 240,000 stamps, which seems quite possible.

No really mint copy of the rose stamp with full original gum is known to us, all uncan-

celled copies coming from wrappers or newspapers where they escaped cancellation. In some cases, almost full original gum was preserved when such stamps were removed but they are still not mint, only uncancelled. There are no multiples of the rose stamp known, neither unused nor used.

The *scarlet* stamp, issued in 1856 to replace the yellow stamp as fee for 10 newspapers, can attribute its rarity to the fact that its remainders were destroyed and not used up. For the same reasons as given for the yellow stamp almost all stamps used on the wrappings of 10 newspapers—for which the scarlet stamp constituted the fee—must have been destroyed with the wrappings and it is surprising that a few copies have survived. From official sources it is known that the first and only printing of the scarlet stamp consisted of 120,000 stamps and the semi-official report previously cited confirms this figure. The remainders of the scarlet stamp were destroyed in 1859 after the stamp was withdrawn and demonetized after December 31, 1858. The quantity destroyed is not known, but we would not be surprised if it comprised a large percentage of the total printing.

While of the yellow and rose stamp, owing to the using up of the remainders of these stamps, several hundred copies each must have survived, the circumstances for survival were less favorable for the scarlet stamp and this fact has made it one of the world rarities. There are about 30 to 40 unused copies known, singles only, which, contrary to the other values, are not used copies which escaped cancellation but must come from a small number of unused copies preserved in the files and later gradually passing from official to philatelic possession. No exact information about the source of the unused copies—of which about 20 may have no defects, but half of them being without gum—is available and we have to be satisfied with the above explanation which may be only a good guess. One of the great world rarities and the rarest stamp of Europe is the scarlet Mercury in used condition. Our records show that we know seven used copies of the scarlet stamp, but unfortunately we can identify only six copies thereof, while we have only insufficient notes about the seventh copy. Of the six copies on which we can give more exact information, three were in the Ferrari collection and were sold in the auction sale held in Paris from November 7 to 9, 1923. Two copies were sold singly, the third—the finest of them—was in a mixed lot of "doubtful" items, but was just as genuine as the others. This copy is now in the Max Oberlander collection; of the others a rather defective copy was acquired by the Berlin Reichspostmuseum. We do not know what happened to the third copy. Two more copies were in the Alphonse de Rothschild collection, when this collection was broken up in this country in 1947. One of them, rather defective, was sold privately and is now in a collection in England. The better copy, which originally came from the Ludwig Schwarz collection, and from a London auction, was sold at auction and acquired by Erich Levin and with his collection it has again recently been sold in this country. The sixth copy, probably the finest known copy—although still not perfect—was in the collection of Alfred Weinberger.

It is impossible to make reliable estimates of how many of the blue, yellow and rose stamps have escaped destruction. For the postage stamps, we have made reliable estimates based on the number of copies which have survived of varieties of which in all probability only one sheet was printed. We came to a figure of 2% for the stamps used mainly for letter postage (2kr, 3kr, 6kr, 9kr) while the figure for the 1kr stamp, mostly used for printed matter, must have been much lower. We were not able to give an estimate for this latter stamp as there was no comparative basis available and there is no tangible evidence to make an estimate of the surviving copies of the newspaper stamps, because there exist no varieties of them which could provide a lead. There can be no doubt that a much smaller percentage of the newspaper stamps than of the contemporary postage stamps, even when compared with the 1kr stamp, have survived.

The quite obvious fact that the newspaper stamps come much rarer in full-margined copies than the postage stamps also requires some discussion. There are various conditions which can be blamed for this fact. One of the most compelling is the narrow spacing of only 1mm or less between vertical rows. When, in addition to this, we consider the

usually pale color of the yellow and rose stamps we can understand why these stamps are usually cut into the design at least on one or two sides. This goes for unused as well as used stamps, because the former are in the great majority also used stamps which escaped cancellation. Another fact which contributed to many badly cut into copies was the practice of pasting the stamps in strips on sheets of address labels, because no care was taken to cut the stamps properly when the address labels were cut apart. Full-margined copies should have about 1½ mm. margin at top and bottom, and close to ½mm. at the sides, but copies which have any margin at all at the sides are considered very fine copies. The blue stamp, unused and used, although a very large percentage of all existing copies are more or less cut into, can be found without too much difficulty in full-margined copies, but the yellow and rose stamps are extremely rare in such condition, uncancelled even more than cancelled. Full-margined used copies of these two stamps, in good color, are almost as rare as the unused scarlet stamp; unused ones are much rarer. Of the latter a much larger percentage of the known copies are full-margined—although partly defective in other respects—because they were obviously cut from a sheet for collecting purposes. Of the seven known used copies none is full-margined, the best one being cut into slightly on one side.

Many newspaper stamps have been torn as a result of the practice of some publishers of pasting the stamps partly on the wrapper and partly on the newspaper. When the wrapper was taken off the stamp was usually torn in half. Such torn yellow and rose stamps have frequently been used for repair jobs, in making one full stamp out of two or three such fragments.

## Use of the Newspaper Stamps

The regulations for the use of newspaper stamps, published on September 12, 1850, provided that each issue of a newspaper or magazine regardless of size, weight and the number of sections and supplements, had to be franked with *one* blue newspaper stamp. It was not specified what was considered a "supplement" and questions concerning this arose soon after the use of newspaper stamps began. The postal authorities held a very broad view in this matter and an additional regulation issued on January 30, 1851, even provided that an evening edition mailed in the same wrapper with a morning edition of a newspaper was to be considered a "supplement," therefore requiring together only one blue stamp.

The newspaper publishers normally had to pay for the newspaper stamps in cash. For political reasons, the publishers of a small number of newspapers, as well as one official magazine were granted before January 1, 1851 the privilege of mailing their newspapers and magazines free of charge and this practice was continued after that date. This was done in the manner that the publishers received the necessary number of newspaper stamps free and the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Education respectively paid for them. In the files of the Postal Administration we found a notation that such gifts of newspaper stamps in 1851 were made to the newspapers "Oesterreichische Volkszeitung," "Wiestnik dla Rusmin" and "Slowenske Nowine" for the Ministry of Interior, and "Der Schulbothe" for the Ministry of Education.

The regulations of September 12, 1850 provided that any newspaper or newspapers to the same addressee had to be enclosed in a wrapper with the address and the necessary number of blue newspaper stamps pasted on. To make use of the privilege of newspaper stamps, all newspapers to be delivered by the same post office had to be made up into a bundle, with the destination marked on the outside. The post offices where the newspapers were mailed put their postmark outside on such bundles and, without opening them, shipped them to their destination. There the bundle had to be opened, the newspaper stamps cancelled and the newspapers delivered to the addressees. Newspapers were usually held at the post offices and had to be picked up by the addressees. Only when ½kr for each issue was paid for one month in advance, were the newspapers delivered by the mail carriers.

From the regulations it can be seen that the newspaper stamps were usually cancelled on arrival; therefore, the postmarks found on them do not give the place of mailing. Only in such cases where only one newspaper was mailed to one destination, the post office

where it was mailed cancelled the stamp before forwarding the newspaper to its destination. The regulations for the issue of the yellow and rose stamps of December 3, 1850, and for the scarlet stamp of March 21, 1856 stated that these stamps were to be used on shipments of 10 or more newspapers to the same addressee in the same wrapper, without making any change in the other regulations. It was especially stated in the regulations that newspaper publishers who did not want to comply with them could mail the newspapers as printed matter, paying the regular fee of 1kr (5c) for each loth.

The idea of issuing the newspaper stamps without a value indication and to distinguish them by their colors only was also a new idea not previously tried by any other country. This measure had several advantages in that the stamps were sold for a special purpose only and their use was strictly controlled by the fact that the newspaper publishers had to buy the newspaper stamps at the same post office where they mailed the newspapers to be franked with them. The selling price could be increased or lowered without changing the stamps, were the rates for newspapers to be changed. Furthermore, no special issue for Lombardy-Venetia was necessary, as the stamps could be sold in the silver currency used there without any danger that someone could make a profit by buying stamps in Austria proper for paper money, about 15% cheaper. This fact necessitated the issue of special postage stamps for Lombardy-Venetia, but was unnecessary for the newspaper stamps. They were sold there to newspaper publishers at the official equivalent in Lira currency, therefore 3 Lire for a sheet of 100 blue stamps, 30 Lire for yellow or scarlet stamps and 150 Lire for rose stamps. The face value of the single stamps was therefore 3c for the blue, 30c for the yellow and scarlet and 1½ Lire for the rose stamp. Furthermore, the face value could be reduced to get rid of remainders as was actually done when the remainders of the rose and yellow stamps were eventually sold for the price of blue stamps.

Theoretically, all four kinds of newspaper stamps could have been used in *Lombardy-Venetia* and we believe that they were. But positive proof of this is available only for the blue stamp, which comes in all types quite frequently on newspapers mailed in Lombardy-Venetia. The yellow and rose stamp are known cancelled in Lombardy-Venetia —although much rarer than in Austria proper, especially the yellow stamp—but we know of no copy on a newspaper or wrapper undoubtedly mailed in Lombardy-Venetia. None of the copies with cancellations of post offices in Lombardy-Venetia was used, as far as can be ascertained, in Lombardy-Venetia for their original value but all originated from the using up of these stamps as blue stamps, in 1852 and 1856 respectively. As these remainders were sold only to newspaper publishers in Vienna, the Lombardy-Venetia cancellations on them are arrival postmarks and do not prove use of the yellow and rose stamps in Lombardy-Venetia. The same can be said about the use of the scarlet stamp, as none of the few known used copies is cancelled in Lombardy-Venetia. Dr. Emilio Diena claims in his catalog of Old Italian States * that the scarlet stamp was not used in Lombardy-Venetia, indicating that the yellow and rose stamps were. But there is neither proof that other than blue newspaper stamps were ever used there nor is there any proof that they were not. The question must be left open until unassailable proof of use can be established and we doubt this can ever be done. The existence of the earliest printings of the yellow and rose stamps on thin paper with Lombardy-Venetia cancellation is of no help, as the remainders used up in 1856 and 1852 respectively included all printings and quite a number of stamps from the earliest printings as can be proven from copies of the yellow and rose stamps on thin paper, used in 1856 and 1852 respectively. The use of these two stamps at their original values seems to have been so small and their necessity so wrongly estimated that when they were withdrawn the post offices obviously returned in part consignments they had received in December 1850, before the stamps had been issued.

The newspaper stamps could generally be used only for newspapers mailed within the borders of the Austrian monarchy. But in the older literature, decrees of March 28, 1851 and again of July 31, 1851, are cited

* "Catalogo dei Francobolli d'Italia" (Genova 1923, in Italian).

which were to have permitted their use also on mailings to foreign countries, which permission expired on December 31, 1851. We have to confess that we have never seen any newspaper stamps on newspapers addressed to a foreign country and we think that the two decrees mentioned above—which we could not find in the official files—were misunderstood and did not concern the franking with newspaper stamps; all newspapers mailed to destinations abroad we know are franked as printed matter with postage stamps. It was expressly stated in the regulations that the newspaper stamps were not valid for newspapers mailed to Austrian post offices abroad, except those in the principality of Liechtenstein and in Belgrad (Serbia). In 1854 the validity was extended for newspapers to the Austrian post offices established during the Crimean War in Moldavia and Walachia. In Liechtenstein, which was postally considered Austrian territory, there may also have been newspaper stamps sold and newspapers mailed franked with them—although we do not know of any newspaper or magazine published at that time in that small country—but the Austrian post offices in Belgrad and Moldavia-Walachia only delivered newspapers received from Austria and did not accept them at the special newspaper rates.

There exists the possibility of *mixed frankings,* on the one hand between the blue and the other newspaper stamps, on the other hand with the following newspaper issue of 1858. Of the first category we know of only one example, a yellow stamp with two ribbed blue stamps, used together on a piece of wrapper, with a Lombardy-Venetia cancellation. There is a strong probability that in this case the yellow stamp was used in Lombardy-Venetia and at its original franking value for ten newspapers, because we do not know of ribbed blue stamps used after 1852. It would then probably be a franking for 12 copies, quite frequently used for mailing a volume of a monthly magazine, of which the famous block of 12 of the yellow stamp is another example. But there is no real proof for this speculation and the date of use —June 18—does not exclude the possibility that the item comes from the using up of the yellow stamps in 1856, the mixed franking therefore paying only for three newspapers. Of the second category, we know also only one example, a blue stamp with two blue stamps of the 1858 newspaper issue on a wrapper. The date of cancellation is November 15, indicating that it was 1858, just two weeks after the new issue had first been sold to publishers. No other mixed frankings except these two—of which the first one originally was in the Alphonse de Rothschild collection and both later in the Admiral F. R. Harris collection—are known.

There exist no postage stamps used as newspaper stamps as is claimed by some authors. Postage stamps were regularly used for postage of newspapers or magazines at the normal printed matter rate when they were mailed by private persons or even by newspaper publishers who for one reason or another did not want to comply with the regulations connected with the privilege of using newspaper stamps. Such a use of postage stamps for printed matter is something entirely normal and is not an emergency or unusual franking. On the other hand, the use of newspaper stamps for regular postage was expressly forbidden, but nevertheless was occasionally practised. Some newspaper publishers occasionally franked printed matter with newspaper stamps, either with one, cheating the post office by 0.4kr, or with two, giving the post office an additional 0.2kr. This was not permitted but in a few known cases was tolerated. In some such cases, the newspaper stamps were not recognized and the sender had to put on additional postage stamps. A few "mixed" frankings between postage and newspaper stamps which occurred in that way, are known, for example, a blue newspaper stamp with a 5c and two 10c postage stamps on a wrapper, mailed in Venezia.

More spectacular is the fraudulent use of newspaper stamps for postage. The public frequently received, on newspapers and magazines, newspaper stamps which were left uncancelled. Especially in Lombardy-Venetia where many other methods were devised to cheat the postal and other government authorities—claimed to be a kind of patriotic duty and a protest against the hated Austrian rule, but continued after the liberation—a number of attempts are known to use such uncancelled newspaper stamps for postage, the blue newspaper stamp usually on covers as substitute for the 45c stamp, which

was also blue. A brazen attempt at cheating was the use of a yellow Mercury as a 5c postage stamp to pay, together with an equally invalid 2kr postage stamp, the 15c rate for a letter from Salo on June 15, 1856. Similar fraudulent use of newspaper stamps for postage is also known from Austria proper, but in rare cases only.

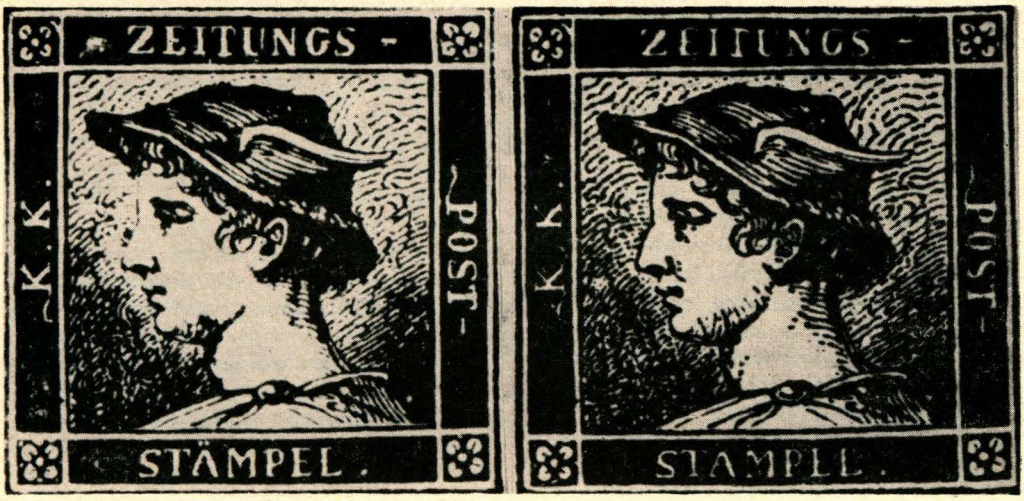
## Cancellations

As most newspaper stamps, as can be deduced from the regulations, were cancelled on arrival, the postmarks used on them do not necessarily indicate where they were used. For example, the remainders of the yellow and rose stamps which were used up exclusively in Vienna, come with the cancellations from all parts of the monarchy. While the blue stamps must have been available at the post offices of all cities or towns where newspapers or magazines were published, the yellow and scarlet and especially the rose stamp as long as they were sold and used at their original value must have been available only at the large cities where there was demand for them because publishers there made bulk shipments to out-of-town distributors. From the cancellations found on the six copies of the scarlet stamp of which we have a record—three are cancelled in Vienna, two in Bruenn, the capital of Moravia and one in Prague, the capital of Bohemia—we may conclude that only the post offices in the capitals of the provinces had stocks of the yellow, scarlet and rose stamps for sale. In these cities, and in a few others, special branches of the main post offices existed, dealing with newspapers and magazines only, the so-called "Zeitungs-Expeditionen" and it is probable that only these branch post offices had other than the blue newspaper stamps for sale. They used special oval or circular cancellers, inscribed "ZEITUNGS-EXPED." or similar legends, in Lombardy-Venetia "SPEDIZIONE GAZZETTE." Four of the six scarlet stamps previously mentioned—those cancelled in Vienna and Prague—show such special cancellers. They can frequently be found also on the blue, yellow and rose stamps, being used for outgoing and less frequently for incoming newspapers. Other post offices which had to cancel newspaper stamps on outgoing newspapers used the same postmarks which were in use for the cancelling of postage stamps on letters. The same was done in many cases where post offices had to cancel newspaper stamps on incoming newspapers. But frequently the special arrival postmarks in use at some post offices were applied or other postmarks which seemed suitable for that purpose. In some cases old postmarks which had previously been retired from regular use, even a number of pre-stamp postmarks, were put to use and employed as cancellers for newspaper stamps. When we add the few special "mute" cancellers which a number of post offices used for the same purpose, we can see that it is a rather diversified group of postmarks which can be found used as cancellers on newspaper stamps, many of them unknown on postage stamps. No special study has been made of them up to now but it would be a rewarding task to try to record them all.

The ink used for cancelling the newspaper stamps was usually black. Aside from these black cancellations, a few blue ones are known and these are scarce. Green cancellations are even rarer and red ones the rarest of all. They all come on blue stamps only, the others being known only with black cancellation.

## Reprints, Fakes and Forgeries

All four newspaper stamps of 1851 were officially *reprinted* seven times. All reprints are in Type II; as originals in this type exist only of the blue stamp, the yellow, scarlet and rose reprints are readily distinguishable. For the first reprint the matrix in Type II was used, showing the characteristics of that type and always, quite distinct, having colored spots on nose and chin. For the later reprints, this matrix was cleaned, by which process the colored spots and some other small details disappeared and the cleaned matrix was used. The cliches were electrotypes in all cases. The setting for the first reprint was of 50 cliches (5 horizontal rows of 10), which was printed twice, one above the other, to obtain sheets of 100. For the later reprints settings of 25 (5 x 5) cliches were made and printed four times for each sheet of 100. The spacing between the cliches was in all these settings much wider than on the originals, horizontally 1¾ mm. to 3½ mm., vertically 5½ mm. to 5¾ mm.,




The design of the **Reprints,** Type II (first reprint, at left) and Type II from the cleaned matrix (later reprints, at right).

but irregular spacing can also be found from the center of the sheets separating the two or four printings needed to complete a sheet.

The first reprint was mainly made for official exchange purposes and was to a large extent used for collections of all Austrian stamps presented to foreign postal administrations. The other reprints were principally made to satisfy the demands of stamp collectors and dealers and were sold at face value to them.

The following list gives the characteristics of the various reprints, which by their types, more vivid colors, paper, gum, etc. can be easily distinguished from the originals. In doubtful cases comparison with a cheap blue original will always be helpful.

*First Reprint.* Ordered on January 12, 1866, delivered on March 20, 1866. 500 copies of each. Spaced 1¾ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors blue, yellow, lilac rose, scarlet. Paper without watermark, white and rather thick. Gum white. Careful printing. We know copies with stitch watermark of the rose stamp.

*Second Reprint.* Ordered on December 16, 1869, delivered between January 27 and August 25, 1870. 10,000 copies of each. Spaced 2½ mm. horizontally and 5½ mm. vertically. Colors dark blue, yellow, lilac rose, scarlet. Uneven colors, sometimes different shades on same sheet. Paper with sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (first type of this watermark), white and rather thick. Gum yellowish and cracky. Printing uneven, frequently bad and smudged.

*Third Reprint.* Ordered on June 14, 1884, delivered on October 18, 1884. 1,000 copies of each. Spaced 3½ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors in pale shades, pale blue, yellow, light claret, scarlet. Paper with sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (second type), thin and rather strongly yellowish. Gum yellowish white and smooth. Very careful printing.

*Fourth Reprint.* Ordered on October 20, 1885, delivered on April 21, 1886. 2,000 copies of each. Spaced 1¾ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors pale dark blue, yellow, violet rose, scarlet. Paper with sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (second type), thin and strongly yellowish (colored with tobacco juice?). Gum yellowish and smooth. Careful printing but not as good as for third reprint.

*Fifth Reprint.* Ordered on February 24, 1887, delivered on May 3, 1887. 10,000 copies of each. Spaced 1¾ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors steel blue, yellow, pale claret, scarlet. Paper with sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (second type), yellowish white and thin. Gum yellowish white and smooth. Rather careful and clean printing.

*Sixth Reprint.* Ordered on November 21, 1892, delivered in April and May 1894. 10,600 copies of blue, 10,700 of yellow, 10,000 of rose and 11,300 of scarlet stamps. Spaced 1¾ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors pale greenish blue, yellow, pale claret, scarlet. Paper with sheet watermark "ZEITUNGS-MARKEN." (second type), yellowish to grayish white, thin. Gum yellowish white. Rather careful and clean printing.

*Seventh Reprint.* Ordered on April 1, 1903, delivered in 1904 in two parts. 20,000 copies of each. Spaced 1¾ mm. horizontally and 5¾ mm. vertically. Colors grayish blue, yellow, brownish rose, scarlet (first printing), light blue, deep yellow, lilac rose, scarlet (second printing). Paper without watermark, thin with distinct mesh. Gum white. Rather careful printing.

There exist a few others, so-called "unofficial" reprints, of which only two are on the market and therefore require discussion. The one is the so-called *"Fellner-Reprint,"* supposedly made in a small quantity about 1885 for a Viennese collector, Ernst Fellner. We know the blue, yellow and rose stamp, on grayish paper of inferior quality, of this reprint, in Type II from the cleaned matrix, but the scarlet stamp may also exist.

Another instance of an unofficial reprint occurred in 1907 when *Hans Kropf* wrote his monograph about the stamps of Austria.* The contemporary Minister of Commerce was Kropf's brother-in-law and this resulted in an order to deliver to Kropf prints of all dies and cliches preserved in the Postal Museum at Vienna. These prints, black on white paper or thin yellowish card, include prints of the original wood cut as well as of cliches in Type II and IIIb of the newspaper stamps. They are frequently offered as "Proofs" but are actually "Proof Reprints" of little philatelic value.

There also exist *Reprint Proofs* made in 1870 when the second reprint was prepared. They are printed in Type II, in colors quite similar to the reprints, on grayish pieces of paper of about 85 mm. x 80 mm. size. These Die Reprint Proofs supposedly were made in 120 sets for official purposes and are rare.

A number of regular reprints can be found handstamped *"SPECIMEN"* in black. This handstamp was used by the postal authorities from 1878 for marking stamps which were given away free to high officials, especially important foreigners. We have seen it on the third, fifth and sixth reprint but it may also be found on the others, probably except the first and last.

The original die of the newspaper stamps was used in 1933 for the manufacture of a kind of *sample stamps* printed during the International Stamp Exhibition in Vienna 1933, in one hall of the exhibition. For this purpose, in a working die the original inscriptions were removed and replaced by "WIPA" at top, "1933" at bottom and ornaments at the sides. A plate of 16 (4 x 4) such "stamps" was used and printed in eight different colors. 8,000 sheets of each—4,000 of the scarlet color—were printed and sold to the public.

The rarity of the "Mercuries" soon led to *fakes* and *forgeries* and some of them may be seventy or eighty years old. The fakes were made either by chemically changing the color of the blue stamp into yellow, which is a quite simple procedure, but easily detectable because aside from other particularities, the yellow color obtained in this way always has a greenish tint. This must be the oldest fake, possibly even made to defraud the post office and leading to the official color change of 1856 from yellow to scarlet. Other fakes were made by doctoring of reprints and putting a faked cancellation on them. These products are not dangerous, but some forgeries are, of which quite a number of different ones exist. They are either made by bleaching or removing the color of cheap genuine contemporary Austria stamps and printing on a design in yellow, rose or scarlet, or the whole stamp is forged. As paper and cancellation on the former kind of forgeries are genuine they are sometimes quite tricky. Among the complete forgeries are also some rather dangerous ones but none which the specialist or expert could not spot. The fakers and forgers did not know that the yellow and rose stamps came genuine only with certain dates—we have explained this in a previous paragraph—; their dates do not conform and therefore immediate suspicion is aroused.

* "Die Postwertzeichen des Kaisertums Oesterreich" (Vienna 1908, in German, with 35 plates).

## Collecting "Mercuries"

There are many collectors who, specializing in the stamps of Austria, are attracted by the newspaper stamps because they are the rarities in the field. But we know of only a few who have made the newspaper stamps of 1851 their special field of interest. The main reason for this is the fact that only large quantities of the blue stamps necessary for every specialization or for research are obtainable, while the rarities, due to their high price, make only a moderate specializing in them possible.

But the blue stamp, although not a "cheap" stamp, with a catalog value of $5 for the most common variety, has ample opportunities for specializing and even for research, because it has been somewhat neglected by students of Austrian stamps. The various types, the paper varieties and shades, the different kinds of use, the diversified and attractive cancellations all provide features for a specialized collection, which, if the means of the collector permit, can be crowned by a few copies of the yellow and rose stamps and even by a copy of the scarlet "Mercury." Such a collection will draw attention in every club meeting and in every exhibition.

The research possibilities are equally numerous. Nobody has successfully tried to plate any of the settings, a task certainly quite difficult due to the flexibility of the single cliches used for the settings but nevertheless not insoluble. Especially the setting in "Type I retouched" has possibilities despite the difficulties posed by the usually worn or overinked printings. For such an undertaking, the collector will be forced to abandon a high standard of condition and if he ever wants to accomplish his task will have to take the usual cut-into copies, which constitute about 98% of all available material of the newspaper stamps of 1851. Similar considerations will have to be taken into account before a research collection of the cancellations on the newspaper stamps, an equally fertile field, is started. Here the collector will find some guidance in the literature concerning the cancellations on postage stamps as well as the pre-stamp postmarks, but in view of the special conditions existing for the cancellation of the newspaper stamps, he will have to build his research on an entirely new basis.

Collecting "Mercuries" is a pleasant and attractive task. If any collector will be tempted by this monograph to enter this field, he will be not only able to enlarge our philatelic knowledge but will have also found a satisfying and genuinely rewarding field for his collecting activities.

# BOYD CITY EXPRESS POST

Our readers will note with regret, the absence from this issue of Chapter IX in Henry E. Abt's series on BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST. The successive chapters of this history have appeared, without interruption, since our quarterly issue of July, 1949, and we expect that the series will be resumed in an early issue of 1951, and continued thereafter until the full story of this private postal enterprise has been told.

By way of explanation, the author of this series has heavy responsibilities as President of Brand Names Foundation, Incorporated, an organization sponsored by the principal manufacturing, advertising and publishing interests of the nation. When he undertook, from his extensive data on the private posts and United States carrier service, to prepare the manuscripts we have been publishing, we were then on a quarterly publishing schedule. It was possible for him to sandwich in time, between his frequent business travels, to bring us each of the interesting chapters, promptly and in good order.

Despite the fact that the acceleration of our publishing schedule to six times yearly at the beginning of 1950 greatly increased the difficulties attendant to this performance, until now, Mr. Abt managed to keep pace with us. Finally, however, an unusually heavy business agenda made delivery of the manuscript for the current issue impossible and it became necessary for us to give the author a "breather." We are confident that his appreciative readers will understand the delay and will welcome him back when he "returns."

*H. M. G.*

# SECRETARY'S PAGE

The Meeting of October 4, 1950.

*Dr. Clarence Hennan*

The exhibit at this meeting was devoted to a showing of portions of the collections of Dr. Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago. As Dr. Hennan was unable to be present, the material was shown and explained by Elliott Perry.

The first part of the exhibition consisted of a selection from the Chicago Postal History Collection, including stampless covers from 1835 to 1861, both domestic and foreign use, showing various post marks and rate marks. A number of covers with the 1847 issue were shown, including three pairs of the 5 ct., one vertical. Foreign usage was illustrated by covers with the 1851 issue to Belgium, the 1857 issue to Germany, the 24 ct. 1860 to England. Other items of special interest were covers showing supplementary mail markings, a number of patriotics, and several Prisoner of War covers, one showing combination usage of U. S. and Confederate stamps.

The Chicago Local Posts were represented by covers bearing the stamps of Wells and Co., Bronson and Fobes, Chicago Penny Post, Allen's City Dispatch, Floyd's Penny Post and Moody's Penny Dispatch. Specimens of the rare McMillan's Dispatch and Whittelsey's Express.

The second part of the program consisted of a selection from Dr. Hennan's extensive collection of the stamps of Latin America.

Argentina was represented by a selection of die and plate proofs of the early issues from 1862 to 1878, including an electrotype die of the three denominations of the 1863 "Rivadavia Issue," made in London. These particular proofs were printed on the "Star" watermarked paper extensively used for British Colonial stamps. There were also shown a number of essays for unissued designs.

Costa Rica was represented by a comprehensive showing of the 1862 issue, including a page of the Medio Real showing the various stages of the crack in the plate, a block of the Medio Real, imperforate horizontally, and an unused specimen of the Quatro Reales, from position 8, showing a prominent double transfer. The used specimens included the distinctive cancellations and post marks used in the various towns, a 2 R. with the "E88" cancellation of the British Post Office at Colon, Panama, and examples of British stamps bearing the town post mark of Limon, Costa Rica.

The showing of the stamps of Guatemala was confined to the "Quetzal" issue of 1881-82. The material included die proofs of the 1, 2, 5 and 10 Centavos, the 2c. and 20c. with inverted center, both in singles and blocks, and fine specimens of the rare 5c. with inverted center. The 2c. inverted center was also shown used on cover. A number of covers were shown, used locally as well as to England, France, Germany and the United States. There was a fine selection of used stamps showing the various numeral cancellations used in the different cities and towns of the Republic, also numeral cancellations applied at U. S. Post Offices upon arrival.

The stamps of Honduras were represented by a showing of the "Morazan" issue of 1878-89 including die proofs of the ½ Real and 2 c., plate proofs of the several denominations on both India paper and cardboard. Covers bearing these stamps are far from common, but the collection included covers used to France and the United States and an outstanding item, that of a cover to Nova Scotia. The used portion of the collection included a page showing U. S. markings.

The wonderful lot of the early stampless covers from Haiti takes the student of Haitian Postal History back to the period prior to the French Revolution, beginning with the year 1781. Included was a cover of 1798 signed by Toussaint L'Ouverture, and Army orders of 1802 and 1803, during the occupation of the island by Napoléon's troops. An interesting group of covers from 1845-46 showed the handstamped local stamps used in Gonaives, Cap Haitien and Port Republicain. A number of covers from Haiti to France, via England, showed the marks "G.B.—1f60c." "Colonies—Art. 12" and "Colonies—Art. 13" peculiar to that service. Included in this group might be mentioned the rare "Crown" post marks, used at British Post Offices in Jacmel and Port Au

Prince. The selection included two covers with French stamps used in Haiti and a goodly number with British stamps used in Haiti and bearing the Port au Prince "E53" cancellation, Jacmel "C59" and St. Thomas transit "C51" markings. Other outstanding items were: a cover from Port au Prince to Mazatlan, Mexico showing the rare handstamp of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., a very early cover to Germany, Dec. 1849, with Hamburg "Ship Letter" marking, four covers showing the use of the Hamburg-American Packet Co. adhesive, one bearing a pair tied with the handstamp of the agent and believed to be unique; a cover of 1801 written at the Palace of the Citadel and signed by Christophe; an interesting cover of 1837 from Le Havre, France, and stamped with the Censor mark of the Bureau of Police at Port au Prince; a cover to the United States from Haiti bearing a 10c. 1869 U. S. stamp affixed at St. Thomas.

### Meeting of October 18, 1950

*Mr. Theodore E. Steinway*

Our old and honored friend Theodore E. Steinway presented the program of the evening. Humorously, he titled it, "Mixed Pickles and Olives." If we may be permitted to carry the metaphor to its logical conclusion, the program was a full-course dinner. There was a dish for every philatelic taste and each collector. It is, indeed, seldom that one man can show the catholicity of interest in stamps in one short evening.

For the collector interested in essays and proofs, there were the original drawings and designs of the Canal Zone Gold Centenary issue and an original drawing for the United States "Old Ironsides" commemorative stamp. These items had never been shown before.

For the Topical collector, there were several pages from the famous Steinway "Music on Stamps" collection; as well as a philatelic memento of the International Red Cross, including original letters from Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale. The Portuguese Red Cross franking stamps were shown with a copy of the decree authorizing their use and issuance.

For the collector of precancels were shown the s'Hertogenbosch precancels of the Netherlands. These were used on newspapers and were not only precancels, but also had a special perforation applied to them which was very distinctive. They are found on the ½ Cent, rose of 1876.

For the specialist in British Colonial issues, there were the New Zealand stamps of 1893 with the advertisements printed on the back. Those interesting stamps which used to be so common a few years ago have become quite scarce. Each stamp in the sheet had a separate advertisement printed upon its back. As these were set up in the same way as the sheet of issued stamps it is possible to reconstruct the entire settings of these advertisements. All of the various types were shown printed on the back of the 1d. rose first issued in 1882 and current at the time.

The program ended with a soufflé for the collector of the classics. Among the outstanding items shown were a mint block of four of Great Britain's 1d. black Official stamp of 1840 with the initials "V" "R" in the upper corners. There was also a single copy of this stamp with a large portion of the marginal inscription attached. The beautiful Paris prints of the first issue of Greece were shown in superb mint condition. Of course, no Steinway Night is ever complete without his New South Wales and Old German States. The New South Wales was represented by a reconstruction of the plate of the Laureate Heads of 1851 in state III. The Old German States were displayed by a showing of the stamps of Mecklinburg-Strelitz in superb mint condition.

There were many other items which space does not permit us to discuss. We regret that we can only write-up the highlights

### The Meeting of November 1

*Mr. W. Lloyd Heath*

Our good friend and former Librarian, Lloyd Heath, had recently returned to the United States from a five year stay in Korea, first with the United States Occupation Forces and then with the ECA. Mr. Heath was in a position to observe the development of the Postal Service in Korea having served as advisor to the Korean Post Office Department. He was evacuated from Korea on June 27, 1950, by air, a few hours before the North Korean Communist forces captured the city of Seoul.

Mr. Heath has formed a fine collection of the stamps of Korea, issued under the U. S.

Military Rule, and the issues of the Republic of Korea. The collection is complete, showing the stamps mint, used and on first day covers wherever possible. In displaying his stamps Mr. Heath had many anecdotes to relate regarding the symbolism of the designs, the circumstances around the printing and issuing of the stamps.

We regret, however, that there was not more study and knowledge displayed about these stamps, now while the knowledge is fresh. It is also noted that more attention was paid to getting examples of commemorative cachets and first day covers than to the study of the postal system, its method of operating, the services rendered by the Post Office, and the methods of transporting the mails. We hope that the short notice that Mr. Heath had to prepare his program was responsible for this omission.

Before the conclusion of his program, Mr. Heath showed some examples of the stamps issued under the communist government in North Korea. This was of great interest, especially his discussion of the propaganda letters and the method of indicating that the letters were prepared under Party supervision. These letters were marked with a small circle near the stamp and letters bearing this mark received the Censors chop without having been opened.

We are grateful to Mr. Heath for the pioneer work that he has done upon modern Korea. We hope that he will write up these stamps fully in some future issue of this magazine. One, on the spot, as Mr. Heath, has the great advantage over others who have to secure their information second-hand. Club programs as this are popularly received. Although we expressed our regret as to the omission of much philatelic study, the large audience on hand enjoyed every moment and gave our speaker most enthusiastic receptive at the conclusion.

The following new members were elected to membership at the Board of Governors' meetings held October 25th, 1950:

NO.

2891 Mrs. Benjamin Lee, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Collects U. S. and Autographs on cover.

2892 Norman H. Lee, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Collects Germany, Zeppelins, Air Mail, and Autographs.

2893 Samuel Adam Culverwell, Decatur, Alabama
Collects Air Letter Sheets

2894 Miss Travilla Ioor, Indianapolis, Indiana
Collects Poland

Elected November 29th, 1950

2896 Robert C. Masters, Falls Church, Virginia
Collects United States

2897 Dr. Gregory B. Salisbury, Wynnewood, Pa.
Collects Russia (Imperial) and Russian States

2898 Robert H. Shellhamer, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Collects U. S. and Possessions

2899 Al Van Dahl, Albany, Oregon
Collects Scandinavia

2900 Russell T. Waines, Toronto, Canada
Collects Austria, Belgium, Plate Varieties and cancellations of both

2901 Paul Wolf, London, England
Collects Early Europe

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

"Billig's Specialized Catalogue No. 6" by E. F. Hurt and L. N. and M. Williams

"Stichting Het Nederlandse Postmuseum" by Postal Museum

"U. S. Postal Slogan Cancels" by Moe Luff

"New South Wales Philatelic Annual 1950" by the Philatelic Society of New South Wales

"French Philatelic Facts" Types of Cancellations 1853-1862 Issues by Brainerd Kremer

"I Francobolli D'Italia" by Guglielmo Oliva

"Type Chart of N. U. Postage Meters" by W. C. Steiger & W. Pamperier

"Know Your Stamps" by Frank Aretz

"Tenth American Philatelic Congress"

"So You Want to Invest In Stamps" by C. Ellis Milbury

"Post Og Telegraf Haandbogen" by J. Jorgensen & Co.

"First Hundred Years of U. S. Territorial Marks 1787-1887" by Dr. Carroll Chase and Richard Cabeen

"Sixteenth American Philatelic Congress held 10/27-28-29, 1950"

"Postage Stamps of Great Britain 1840, 1853" by J. B. Seymour

"Imperial Airways" by N. C. Baldwin

*H. D. S. Haverbeck, Sec'y.*

# *VENEZUELA*

## The Small Guayana Issue

By C. W. WICKERSHAM

The years 1902 and 1903 were periods of internal disturbance in Venezuela. Castro had come into power a short time before. In 1902 European countries, looking for compensation for damages, blockaded La Guaira and seized the custom house. A revolt occurred in the Orinoco River country, where the most important town was Ciudad Bolivar, situated in an area of Venezuela that was remote from the capital at Caracas. These various disturbances resulted in the Carupano and Guayana provisionals, about which even today too little is known.

The "State of Guayana," now the State of Bolivar, issued two sets of stamps, if we omit those for the Districts of Maturin and Marino. These were the large and the small "Guayanas," both of which had a short postal use in the spring of 1903. Most, if not all, of the genuinely used copies, on or off cover, bear a Ciudad Bolivar cancellation.

In both cases a control mark in blue was impressed on a number of stamps of each value. As this control mark bears the words "FISCALIA DE INSTRUCCION PUBLICA," it is evident that the intention was that stamps with the control would be used for fiscal and revenue purposes. Ever since the issue in Venezuela of the first "ESCUELAS" stamps in 1871, the use of the same stamps for postage and revenue purposes had been common.(1) In several cases this dual purpose had been specifically authorized by governmental decree. It was a custom that continued in fact, well into the 20th Century.

---

(1) See Wickersham, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for October 1949, p. 243; January 1950, p. 53.

(2) Other covers with the control mark used as an additional cancellation are in the author's collection.




Figure 1. 50c **gray blue** tied to cover with Ciudad Bolivar cancellation and blue control mark (2).

But on the Orinoco, the use of the blue control mark was not confined to preparing postage stamps for fiscal use. We find it used also as an additional cancellation on some of the few genuine covers known. Thus on a cover bearing the 50c on gray blue of the small Guayana, the stamp is neatly tied on the right by a typical pink Ciudad Bolivar postal cancellation and on the left by the control mark in blue.

In this article, we will deal with the small "Guayanas," issued and used in the spring and early summer of 1903.

These stamps were typographed at Ciudad Bolivar and issued in the name of the "State of Guayana," by the revolutionaries. They were in use for a short period in April, May and June, 1903. No genuine dated cancellations have been seen for any other month.

The stamps were perforated 12, and there were five values, namely 5, 10, 25, and 50 centavos, and 1 Bolivar. All were printed in black on colored paper.

The colors used for three of these values have philatelic significance, as we shall see. All values are known with and without the large blue control mark already mentioned. This consists of three circles, the inner circle enclosing a coat of arms surmounted by seven stars, while the words already quoted and the words "ESTADO GUAYANA" appear between the inner circle and the two outer circles, which are close together. In preparing panes or sheets for fiscal use, the control mark was placed generally so as to cover portions of four stamps.

All values are of the same design, and show a three masted ship which is supposed to represent the revolutionary steamship "Benbigh." At the top appear the letters "Correos de Venezuela," at the left "Estado," at the right "Guayana" and at the bottom numerals of value and the word "centimos" or "Bolivar." The frame is composed of a row of ornaments, six at top and bottom, and five on each side. These are joined, or partly joined by straight lines. With exceptions to be noted, there are three inter-ornament dots in both top and bottom frames.

The stamps were printed in panes of twenty-four, arranged 4 x 6 rows. The panes are made up of three types, which are repeated eight times in the pane. These types differ in several respects from each other, particularly in the frames, but they show clearly, on close examination, that there were several settings. The types were arranged vertically, and unused vertical strips of three, showing three types are not uncommon.

We may refer to these as Types 1, 2, and 3; Type 1 at top, Type 2 in the middle, and Type 3 at bottom of the vertical strips of three. Thirty-six strips of three have been examined, as well as sixteen full panes of twenty-four. All values are included, and with some exceptions to be noted hereafter, the types are the same in all values in the particular setting. All of the strips of three and all the full panes examined are unused.([3])

Type 3, as is well known, is readily distinguished by a break in the masts and jib rigging, although this is not as complete in some settings as in others.

The examination referred to above confirmed statements in catalogs and articles that there were two separate impressions or so-called plates of each value, an additional setting or plate of the 5 centimos, where the main difference was in the length of the value ("5 Centimos 5") and a third setting or plate of the 1 Bolivar. The identification was not too difficult from the amount of material examined. If we call these settings Plates I and II, and the additional settings of the 5 centimos and the 1 Bolivar Plate IA, we find all unused panes, strips, blocks, pairs and singles easy to place, except the rare 10c on orange paper. In addition to the other differences, Type 1 in Plates I and IA have a large dot over the "C" of "Correos." This does not appear in Plate II, but Type 1 of that plate has a clear break in the mizzenmast, just under the smoke from the funnel.([4])

Type 2 of Plates I and IA have no dot over the second "e" of "Venezuela." Type 2 of Plate II has the dot in some values,

([3]) There is a photograph of a vertical strip of six, apparently used, in Mr. Woodward's article in *The American Philatelist*, March, 1929, p. 363. Unfortunately the size is reduced and it is difficult to identify the types from the picture. This strip has not been examined by the writer of this article, but from the photograph the types appear to be, from top to bottom, Types 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, of Plate X, and hence genuine originals, and not reprints.

([4]) By the mizzenmast is meant the mast nearest the stern of the ship.

but the frames, and especially the breaks in the frame, are quite different from Type 2 of the other plates. In the 10c *crimson* there is also a large blob in the jib rigging in Plate II.

Type 3 of Plates I and IA have the break through the masts and jib rigging, and so has Type 3 of Plate II, although sometimes without affecting the mizzenmast or mainmast. There is only one dot between ornaments in the bottom frame, except in Plate II of the 1 Bolivar. In this type of Plate II, except in the 1 Bolivar, the left upper ornament is defective, looking like a small triangle, and below it is a hooked line to the left of the "C" of "Correos," easily seen.

Having gone thus far in the examination of unused strips and panes of all values, attention was then turned to twenty-one used copies on piece or on cover with genuine cancellations, including four pairs.([5])

Not one stamp, clearly of genuine and actual use, was found to be identifiable with the types of any of the settings of the unused stamps. This led to a critical study of the used stamps, as a result of which it is clear that all came from a different setting than Plates I, IA, or II. We may call this setting the original plate, or Plate X.

Fortunately a vertical pair of the 25c on cover, and a horizontal pair of the same value, also on cover, have given the clue to the types of this setting. The vertical pair is composed of Types 2 and 3, while the horizontal pair is composed of two Type 1's. All known used copies with genuine cancellations, on cover or piece, and including specimens of all five values, are of one or the other of these types. Three unused copies of the 10c on orange paper in this writer's collection also belong to this setting.

As no proof has been found of genuine use of any stamp from Plates I, IA or II, we may safely say that they are reprints, probably made to supply collectors, dealers and friends with souvenirs, including strips, blocks, and full panes, sometimes imperforate or part imperforate, and to supply a demand for specimens of the issue.

It is possible, however, that the printer of the reprints used the same type as was used to produce the originals, especially in the case of Plates I and IA. The differences, while clear and unquestionable, are relatively minor, and the similarities are such that this possibility cannot be ruled out. It is possible, also, that stamps from Plate II were made elsewhere. Whatever the facts as to these points, the reprints cannot be given the same rating as the originals.

## COLORS

In the 5c, 10c, and 50c, the colors of the paper are different in the originals from the colors used in the reprints. The 5c is a very light gray, whereas in Plates I and IA this value is printed in a slightly deeper shade and in Plate II it is a granite. The original 10c was printed on orange paper, whereas all the reprints are on crimson.([6]) The 50c originals are on dull gray blue paper, whereas the reprints are on gray blue or blue. A few copies of the 50c were also printed on crimson. This is a manufactured error. The 25 centimos is on pink paper which does not vary much as between the originals and the reprints. The 1 Bolivar is on a straw colored paper generally without much variance.

## CANCELLATIONS

Three different cancellations were used for the originals, which may be described as town, bars, and control. The first two are in a distinctive shade of pink, while the control mark is, of course, blue. The town cancellation consists of a circle with the date in the center, and the words "CORREOS—CIUDAD BOLIVAR" surrounding the date. The bar cancellation is composed of six or seven parallel bars, the top and bottom (or end) bars with curved outer edges, and the lowest bar sometimes connected with its neighbor.

Several copies show the use of both town and bar cancellations, and in some cases the control mark as well, as is shown by the photograph of the 50c *gray blue* on cover. In at least one case, a stamp with the control mark was used for postal purposes where

([5]) A small number of "used" copies have been seen with town cancellations on specimens from Plates I or IA. None are on piece or cover, and all but one have full gum. The color of the cancellation is generally wrong. These are fakes or "cancelled to order" and cannot be considered as stamps of genuine or actual use. None have been seen from Plate II.

([6]) A few copies of the 10c *crimson* "used" have been examined. See Note 5.

the mark was not used as a cancellation, as a portion appears on the stamp without being extended to the cover. This is so in the case of the horizontal pair of the 25c, Plate X, in the photograph.

### DATES OF USE OF ORIGINALS

Genuine dated cancellations examined on stamps from Plate X on cover or piece run from April 29, 1903 to June 20, 1903, as follows:

5c—29 April
10c—29 April
25c—29 April (3), 20 May (2), 20 June.
50c—29 April (4), 5 May.
1b—29 April (4).

It is possible that April 29, 1903, is the first day of use. It is the earliest date shown in two large collections containing many full panes of all values unused and a total of twenty-one genuinely used stamps on cover or piece. But as in our hobby new pieces turn up from time to time, we cannot be dogmatic on the subject. If April 29 is not the first day of use, it must be close to it.

### THE CONTROL MARK

Whether used to indicate intended fiscal use, or as a cancellation, the control mark on the originals is a rather dull blue, almost an ultramarine. The inner circle does not appear to be a wavy line as shown in catalogs. The design below the shield is fairly elaborate, with the inscriptions, including the word "Libertad" on spandrels. However, with a few exceptions, it is difficult to find a control mark on the panes or other pieces of Plates I, IA or II which shows more than five or six stars, or where the shield and the design below the shield is clear enough to conform, or where the inner circle is not wavy. The color is sometimes a deeper blue. The impression is generally so poor that it is impossible to see the whole design. It looks as if it was different from the genuine design, although this may be due to poor impressions. The evidence is preponderate, however, that an imitation control mark was used on many of the reprints, particularly Plate II.

We may now describe the three types of the original stamps, having in mind that occasionally poor printing may not show the breaks in the frame or the absence of them in a particular specimen. Nevertheless, any stamp which is not in substantial conformance with the types of Plate X is probably not an original. The descriptions give the principal means of identification.

### ORIGINALS

#### PLATE X

Value 22½ mm. long except on the 1b when it is 19½ mm.

Type 1.




Figure 2. 25c horizontal pair on cover. Plate X, Type 1.




Figure 3. 25c vertical pair (on cover), Plate X, Types 2 and 3.

No dot over "C" of "Correos."

No break in masts or jib rigging.

Dot over 2nd "e" of "Venezuela" minute, much smaller than the two other dots between ornaments in top frame.

Period after "Venezuela" appears as a comma.

Wide break between first two ornaments on left in bottom frame; end ornament (left) defective; small break in top of other ornament.

Outer line of flag at stern broken or missing.

Break in lower left corner.

Fairly wide break between 3rd and 4th ornaments on left (counting from the top down).

Top left corner weak or broken.

The following stamps on cover or piece conform to the foregoing description:

5 centimos *light gray* on cover (combination)

10 centimos *orange* on cover (combination)

25 centimos *pink*, horizontal pair on cover | 1 | 1 |;

Same, vertical pair on cover | 3 | / | 1 |

Same (with 50c and 1b) on large piece.

50 centimos, *gray blue*, on small piece.

1 bolivar, *straw*, on small piece.

1 bolivar *straw* on large piece (with 25c and 50c, the 1b being partly covered).

Type 2.

Three normal dots between ornaments in top frame. (including dot over 2nd "e" of "Venezuela").

No breaks in masts or jib rigging.

No wide breaks in frame lines, except above or below the 3 dots (top and bottom) and between 3rd and 4th ornaments of the right frame (counting from top down).

Lowest ornament on right broken.

Outer line of flag at stern broken or missing.

No corner breaks, except top left corner —generally weak or slightly broken.

Two right ornaments of bottom frame broken.

The following stamps on cover or piece conform to the foregoing:

25c *pink*, on piece | 2 |

Same, vertical pair on cover | 2 | / | 3 |

50c *gray blue* on cover (combination)

1b *straw*, on cover (combination)

1b *straw*, on piece

A 10c, *orange,* single, not on piece or cover, is of this type.

Type 3.

Break through masts and jib rigging.

Three dots between ornaments in bottom frame (Type 3 of the other plates have only one dot, except in Plate II of the 1 bolivar).

Inner and outer lines of flag at stern broken.

Slight break between two right ornaments in bottom frame and wider break between 3rd and 4th ornaments on right (counting from top down).

Break between 3rd and 4th ornaments from top on left.

The following used stamps conform to the description of Type 3:

25c *pink,* vertical pair on cover [2 / 3]

Same, [3 / 1]

Same, single on cover (combination)

50c *gray blue* on cover (See Photo).

Same, on piece (with 25c and 1b, but breaks larger, probably due to poor impression—stamp partly hidden).

1b *straw,* used single

The items marked "combination" are on a large cover with singles of all valuations of the small and large Guayanas with town and bar cancellations and addressed to L. I. Bernstein, Esq., Port of Spain, Trinidad.

In addition to the foregoing two unused singles of the 10 centimos on orange paper, one with the control mark, are Type 3 of this setting. We may safely assign these orange stamps to Plate X. None have been found except those from this setting.

While the 3 types of Plate X are constant for all values, the measurements of the numerals in the case of the 1 bolivar, might call for a different plate number designation for that value, such as Plate XA. But this seems to be an unnecessary refinement.

We may now consider the later settings or reprints.

## THE REPRINTS

### PLATE I




Figure 4. 5c, strip showing the 3 types of Plate 1. The top stamp is Type 1.

Value measures 22½-23 mm. in length, except in the 1 bolivar, where this measurement is 19½-20 mm.

Type 1.

Large dot over "C" of "Correos."

Period after "Venezuela" looks like a comma.

Top ornament of left frame broken.

Breaks in top corners.

Small hook in vertical downstroke at top left corner.

Left end ornament of bottom frame broken.

Wide break between the two left ornaments of bottom frame.

Wide breaks between the two right ornaments of top frame and between the two upper ornaments of the right frame.




Figure 5. 1b, double strip showing the 3 types of Plate I.

Exceptions: (1) the 10c, *crimson,* has a small break in the lower left corner; (2) the 50c, *crimson,* has no breaks between the right top corner ornaments and their neighbors. The right frame is partly out of line. Evidently these two were not perfectly set. Indeed the 50c *crimson* is more like a separate setting. But with the exceptions noted, it is the same as Type 1, including the dot over the "C" of "Correos."

Third exception: in the 1b the right dot between ornaments in the bottom frame is minute or non-existent. Where visible, it is almost on the level of the straight frame lines. There is no break in the upper right corner itself. Otherwise the 1b conforms to the description of Type 1, and probably calls for the same remarks as the two other exceptions.

With the exceptions noted, the description of the type conforms to Type 1 in a strip and a reconstructed strip of the 5c, 3c strips and a full pane of the 10c *crimson,* 2 strips, a block of twenty and a full pane of the 25c, 2 strips, a block of 24, and a full sheet of the 50c *blue,* and a strip, a double strip, and a full pane of the 1b. The description of the 50c on crimson paper is from two strips.([7])

The types of the 1b are arranged as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 |

([7]) The word "strip" as used in this article means a vertical strip of three showing 3 types. In the block of twenty-four of the 50c, *blue,* the horizontal rows are Types 3, 1, 2, 3, and 1 and 2, in that order from the top down, instead of 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, as in the ordinary full pane.




Figure 6. 10c, **crimson,** strip from Plate 1. The middle stamp is Type 2.




Figure 7. 50c, **crimson,** strip from Plate 1. Showing variations of the 3 types.

It will be noted that the second "A" in "Guayana" is broken in all three types. It is weak or broken in almost all copies of the 1b examined from this plate, and is, therefore, nearly a constant flaw.

Type 2.

No dot over 2nd "e" of "Venezuela." (i. e., only two dots between ornaments of top frame.)

No breaks in top corners.

No wide break in frames.

Normal breaks above and below the inter-ornament dots (or space therefor) at top and bottom.

No break between two left ornaments in bottom frame.

Second ornament from right in bottom frame usually broken.

*Exception:* in the 50c *crimson,* there are one or two slight differences in the frame.

The description of Type 2 conforms to all the stamps of this position in the multiple pieces mentioned in discussing Type 1. The outstanding characteristic of the type is the absence of the dot over the 2nd "e" of "Venezuela." This occurs in no other type of any of the settings. It occurs also in Type 2, Plate II of the 1cc, 25c, and 1b. It occurs in Type 2 of Plate IA, where the difference in the measurement of the value allows us to identify the plate. The small-

ness of this dot in Type 1 of Plate X can cause no confusion, because while very small, it is always clearly present, and, of course, the breaks in the frame are quite different.

Type 3.

Break in masts and jib rigging.

Only one dot between ornaments in bottom frame (the middle dot).

Break in upper left corner.

Top ornament on left defective.

Large break between two lower ornaments on right.

Right hand bottom corner ornaments often overinked or touching or close together.

*Exceptions:*

(1) In the 50c, *crimson,* the lower right ornaments are well apart, and there is no break between the two lowest ornaments in the right frame.

(2) In the 10c there is usually, and in the 25c sometimes, a small break in the lower right corner.

All stamps of Type 3 in the strips and panes mentioned in connection with Type 1 of this plate conform to the type, with the exceptions noted. The 10c and 50c, both on the crimson paper, evidently received slightly different treatment. However, the difference was slight and the main means of identification of this type appear in all values. Type 3 of Plate IA can be distinguished by the measurement of the value and the frame of Type 3 of Plate II is quite different, as we shall see.

In Plate X, Type 3 has the three dots between the bottom ornaments instead of only one dot, and there are differences in the frame.

### Plate 1A (8)

This setting exists only in the case of the 5 centimos and the 1 bolivar. The three types are practically the same as in Plate I, except that the value measures 20½ mm., in length instead of 22½-23 mm. in the 5 centimos, and 16½ mm., instead of 19½-20 mm. in the 1 bolivar. In Type 2 of the latter value, the right hand dot between ornaments in the bottom frame is displaced to a higher level; and in Type 3 the lower part of the right frame is set out beyond the line of the upper part. Otherwise there is very little difference of consequence between the types in Plates I and IA, except for the measurements of the figures and words of value. In the 1b, however, the break in the second "A" of "Guayana" does not occur, as in Plate I.




Figure 8. 5c, **granite,** strip showing the 3 types, Plate II. The top stamp is Type 1.

The types shown by two strips of each value and a full pane of the 1 bolivar, Plate IA, show complete conformity with the foregoing description. In the 5 centimos the "o" of "centimos" is broken, and this may be a constant flaw.

We may now proceed to consider the remaining setting of the reprints.

(8) Sometimes called Plate II in the case of the 5 centimos and Plate III for the 1 bolivar. Plate IA is a better designation in both cases.

Plate II [9]

Value measures 22½-23 mm in length, except the 5c (20-20½ mm.) and the 1b (18½ mm.)

## THE CENTIMOS VALUES

Type 1.

No dot over "C" of "Correos."

Break in mizzenmast just below the smoke from the funnel.

Wide breaks between the top four ornaments in the left frame.

Wide break between two right ornaments of top frame.

Wide break between two left ornaments of top frame, rarely connected.

Fairly wide break between third and fourth ornament of right frame, reading down.

Three strips, a block and two full panes of the 5c and similar multiple pieces of the 10c, *crimson,* conform. So do four strips and two full panes of the 25c, and two double strips and two full panes of the 50c *gray blue.* Also a block of the 50c *crimson,* showing types 3 and 1. The break in the mizzenmast is one of the outstanding characteristics of this type.

Type 2.

No break in masts.

Dot over 2nd "e" of "Venezuela." (I.e., three dots between ornaments of top frame).

Break between two left ornaments in top frame.

Wide break between two right ornaments in top frame.

Breaks in left frame narrower than in Type 1.

Break between second and third ornaments of right frame, counting down.

Slight hook at end of line on left of second ornament of top frame (counting from the left).

*Exceptions:*

(1) In the 10c, *crimson,* there is a heavy blob half way up the jib-rigging.[10]

(2) No dot over 2nd "e" of "Venezuela" in the 10c, *crimson,* or the 25c.

The same strips and full panes referred to in connection with Type 1 conform to the type description and the exceptions noted. The condition of the masts and the location of the breaks in the frame give us the necessary means of identifying this stamp. The large blob or flaw in the rigging of the 10c, *crimson,* is not evidence of a new "Type Five," or of a new Plate IV, as stated by Mr. Woodward, who, in the absence of sufficient material, naturally thought it might be an indication of this. It is simply a peculiarity of Type 2 of this value in this setting. The two full panes of the 10c examined show the normal arrangement of the three types in the pane, thus:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

Each of the four strips examined are Types 1, 2 and 3, from the top down. The stamp with the blob is clearly Type 2 of this setting of this value. This large flaw does not occur in any other value or setting. It is true that the absence of the dot over the 2nd "e" of "Venezuela" differentiates this type from Type 2 of this setting of the 5c, and 50c, but as the values were of course different, we should expect some variations. In all other respects, it conforms to the other values, as stated.

Type 3.

Break in masts and jib rigging. (See below)

Only one dot between ornaments in bottom frame.

Break in top left corner.

Top left ornament defective, and appears as a triangle.

Hooked line below the top left ornament.

Right ornament at top broken.

Break in lower right corner.

No break between two lower ornaments of right frame.

Break between two lower ornaments of left frame.

[9] Sometimes called Plate III in connection with the 1 bolivar. For reasons given already, the designation "Plate II" seems better. In any event, there were only two main settings for the reprints of the other values, except the 5 centimos.

[10] Described by K. N. Woodward in *The American Philatelist* for March, 1929, p. 321.




Figure 9. 10c, **crimson,** upper portion of full pane, Plate II showing the 3 types repeated four times.

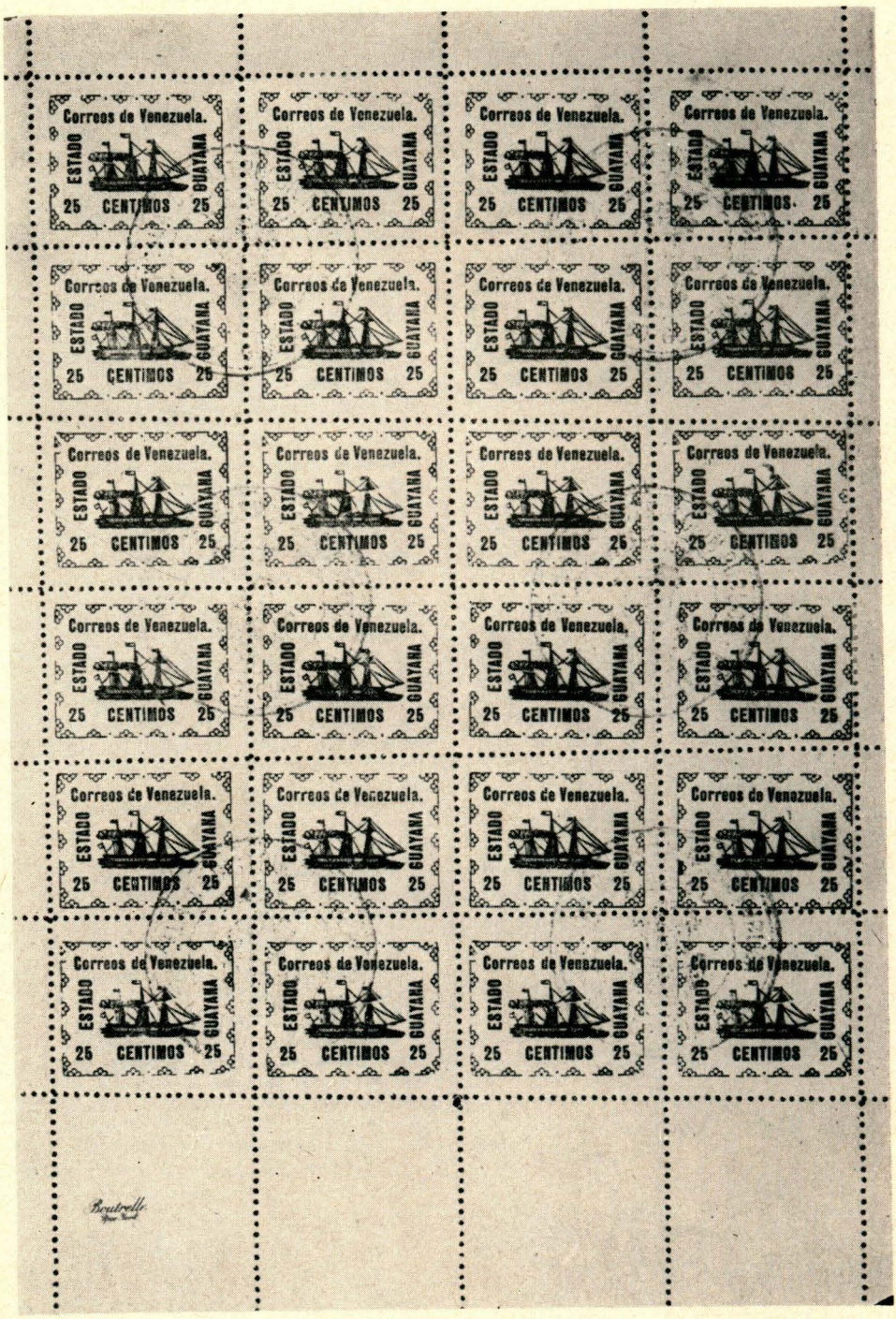



Figure 10. 25c, 3rd horizontal row of full pane, Plate II, Type 3 showing minor differences in breaks in masts on same pane.

The same strips, blocks, and full panes already mentioned under Type 1 show Type 3 conforming to type as described. The break in the masts is usually not as extensive as in the other settings. The mizzenmast is scarcely affected at all, and the mainmast only partly or barely affected in many copies. However, bad printing or overinking accounts for some of the differences, as they occur on the same sheet in some cases. The triangular top left ornament and the hooked line below it are distinctive of this type of Plate II.

## THE 1 BOLIVAR (Plate II)

Type 1. This type is similar to Type 1 in the Centimos values, except that the right dot between ornaments in the bottom frame is shaped more like a scrawl than a dot.

Type 2. Practically the same as Type 1, including the distinctive break in the mizzenmast below the smoke, except that there is no dot over the 2nd "e" of "Venezuela." The right dot at bottom is a dot and not a scrawl as in Type 1.

Type 3. The frames are like Type 1. There are three dots between ornaments in the bottom frame, instead of one, as in Type 3 of Plates I and IA. The break in the masts and jib rigging barely affects the mainmast at all, and there is no break in the mizzenmast.([10a]) The top left ornament is normal. No hooked line below it. Many specimens are badly printed.

This description, based on two strips, one double strip and two full panes of the 1 bolivar, indicates that the type was differently set up for this value. But there is no evidence of more than three types for each value, arranged in the same order as before, that is a vertical strip of three types repeated, so that all stamps in a horizontal row are the same type.([11])




Figure 11. 1b, strip showing the 3 types, Plate II.

### REPRINT'S COLORS

The 5c, Plate II, was printed on granite paper, quite easily distinguished from the gray of the other settings. The paper used for the 10c is a slightly darker and duller crimson than that of Plate I. The color of the 50c paper is a gray blue, instead of the blue of Plate I. In the error (50c on crimson), the paper of the block of four already referred to and the only single from this setting that has been examined (Type 2) is a distinctly darker crimson than the several copies examined from Plate I. These include two strips, a pair with full top sheet margins and five singles. The 1b of Plate II was sometimes printed on a light buff paper, as I have a top right corner block with control mark (imperf. vertically) on this paper. The types are 1 and 2.

([10a]) No. 24 in the pane appears to be an exception. This is probably a case of bad printing.

([11]) In examining the small Guayana stamps, breaks are sometimes found that do not fully conform to the descriptions given in this article. These are due to bad printing or poor impressions. The principal distinctive identifications occur in the great majority of cases, and no stamp has yet been found that cannot be identified as one of the types described in this article. Very small breaks are usually not mentioned except where necessary for identification of types.

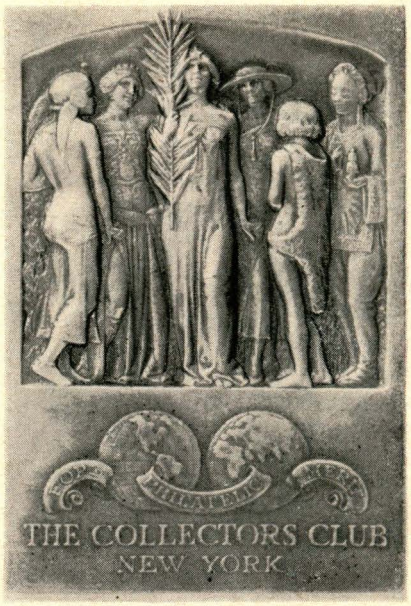
Reprints from Plate II appear to be more common than those from Plates I or IA, and it is thought that they were made later. Whoever made them did not hesitate to apply a control mark, as it appears on many, including full panes. Not even "made to order" cancellations have been seen on any stamps from Plate II.

So much for the types of the reprints.

In conclusion, the only unused genuine originals of the small Guayanas that have been seen are three of the 10c *orange,* Plate X. All other unused singles, strips, blocks and full panes examined are undoubtedly reprints. Those from Plates I and IA may have been produced by or for or under the authority of the revolutionary government to sell to dealers and collectors. The only proof of this is extremely slight. Those from Plate II were probably produced later, without any governmental authority. The only used reprints that have been seen are believed to be clearly fakes. We must conclude that the number of stamps printed from Plate X in its original state was very small. The later settings are of only nominal value. But genuine stamps from Plate X are true rarities, especially on cover. Unused specimens from Plate X must be considered to be among the great rarities of philately.

The large Guayana stamps will be described in a later article.

# COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST
# AWARDS FOR 1950




The *Award Committee,* appointed by The President of the Collectors Club, has made its selection for the two best articles published in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for the year 1950. Abiding by the rules and regulations previously established (see Vol. XXIX, page 72), the following choices were made.

1. **The Collectors Club Medal** to **C. W. WICKERSHAM** for his article on **Venezuela—The First Escuelas Stamps.**

2. **The Collectors Club Certificate of Merit** to **CALVERT STIER** for his article on **Mexico —Studies in the 1874-1883 Issues.**

# *CANADA — 2c 1868*

## The Solution of a Philatelic Problem

By WINTHROP S. BOGGS

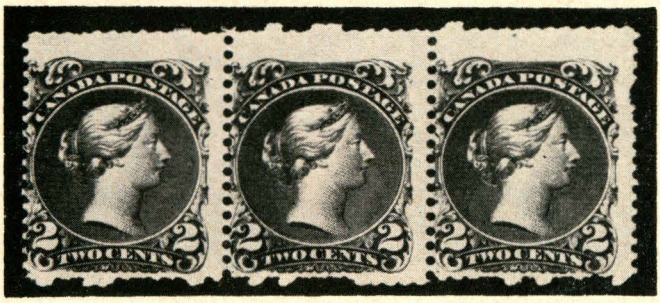



Fig. 1. Strip of three showing portion of top imprint. The Middle stamp of the strip shows the re-entry.

The first issue of the Dominion of Canada engraved and printed by the British American Bank Note Co., at Ottawa, generally known as the "Large Queen" issue, has always been deservedly popular with collectors. Such popularity has, undoubtedly, been due to the handsome design, exquisitely engraved by those master craftsmen, Alfred Jones and Henry Earle, Sr., and printed in bold colors. The resulting work has seldom, if ever, been equalled and certainly never surpassed.

So skillful were the workers at the British American Bank Note Co., that the plates for this series were as nearly perfect as any similar number of stamp plates. As a consequence they offer little if anything to the student of plate varieties with one exception. This one exception is the re-entry on the 2c plate. It is a very prominent variety which shows, to the practiced eye, throughout the design. It is, however, especially noticeable in the doubling of the foliate ornament at the upper right and in the words CANADA POSTAGE. The lower left numeral "2" is also so distinctly different in appearance that the variety can be readily recognized without the aid of a glass. (Fig. 1)

The exact location on the plate of this variety has been a problem intriguing students for a number of years. In 1943 when we began studying these stamps, we found a fine, used example in the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Collection. Some time later when examining an unused block of ten (5x2) in the Kay Collection,* (Lot No. 705) we

* Sold by Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., New York, January 13, 1944.




Fig. 2. Enlargement of the stamp with the re-entry showing the characteristics of this variety.

noted that it was the fourth stamp in the block. The block was in the same color shade as the Lichtenstein copy. The location of the re-entry in the block in the Kay collection eliminated the first three or last vertical rows or the bottom horizontal row of the sheet as possible positions. Since 46 positions were not possible, we had only 56 remaining out of the plate of one hundred subjects.

The magnificent unused block of twenty showing the *"E. & G. Bothwell Clutha Mills"* watermark, now in the Collection of Mr. R. W. T. Lees-Jones, F. R. P. S. L. of England, does not show the re-entry. This certainly eliminates the 5th and 6th horizon-

tal rows for another 12 positions, leaving only 42 positions for which to account.

The method of plate production by the British American Bank Note Co., and the process of printing, made it reasonable to assume that the variety probably was located in the upper part of the plate. This supposition was confirmed by Mr. Lees-Jones who informed us that he was certain that it occurred somewhere in the top row positions No. 4 to 9 and, probably, either No. 7, 8 or 9. Theoretically, all that was now necessary was to locate stamps definitely from the top row and from these six positions.

In the Part II of the Reford Collection,** lot 727 was a mint strip of three, the middle stamp of which showed this re-entry, (Fig. 2). The top perforations were so far above the stamps that a small portion of the imprint is visible above two of them. Sufficient evidence is now available to definitely place the re-entry as No. 7 on the sheet.

We also examined in the same portion of the Reford Sale Lots No. 705, and No. 706, respectively, which were plate proofs in blocks of four. They showed portions of the imprint. These blocks fitted together and proved to be positions No. 7-8-9-10; 17-18-19-20 on the sheet. No. 7 did not show the re-entry. It is evident, therefore, that the plate originally did not have this variety. This confirms it as a re-entry and not a double transfer.

Because it is a re-entry made at some time during the use of the plate, the next problem awaiting solution is; When was this re-entry done?

There were five orders for this stamp as follows:—†

| Date | Quantity |
|---|---|
| Dec. 23, 1867 | 2,000,000 |
| May 22, 1868 | 2,000,000 |
| Dec. 17, 1869 | 300,000 |
| Mar. 14, 1870 | 1,000,000 |
| Aug. 4, 1870 | 2,000,000 |
| Total | 7,300,000 |

This is a total of 73,000 impressions. If the variety had been a double transfer occurring on all the impressions, it obviously should be found considerably more often than it is. In addition the few copies we have seen have all been of the same or similar shade, seeming to indicate that they were from one order. Search, therefore, should be made for dated copies of this re-entry or dated copies of this position without the re-entry, in order to more closely determine this fact. The dating of this re-entry may be impossible to ascertain for lack of evidence. Or, it could happen that the solution will come to hand quickly. We live in hopes.

** Sold by Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc., New York, October 3-6, 1950.

(†) Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada by Winthrop S. Boggs, Vol. 2, p 5-J.

(From Page 42.)

**LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD**, of the well-known advertising agency of Doherty, Clifford & Shenfield, Inc. of New York, N. Y., needs no introduction to the collectors of Confederate States stamps. In fact, both he and his collections are familiar to many outside of this specialized field. "Larry" likes to share his philatelic knowledge with others, having written close to twenty-five articles upon Confederate issues and some of the early Express Companies' mail for various philatelic publications. His collections were awarded a Silver-Gilt medal in 1936 and a First Prize in 1947 at both of the International Philatelic Exhibitions held here in New York City.

Mr. Shenfield is presently the General Vice President of the Confederate Stamp Alliance and Chairman of its Authentication Committee. He also serves as a Consultant upon Confederate States stamps to the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

The present study of this scarce and fascinating Confederate item was the result of much work and study, as well as the careful inspection of collections other than his own. Several years were required for the compilation of all the information, the location and examination of both the stamps and covers described.

# *CONFEDERATE STATES*

## THE 10c UNIONTOWN, ALA.

### Census of a Rare Postmaster Provisional

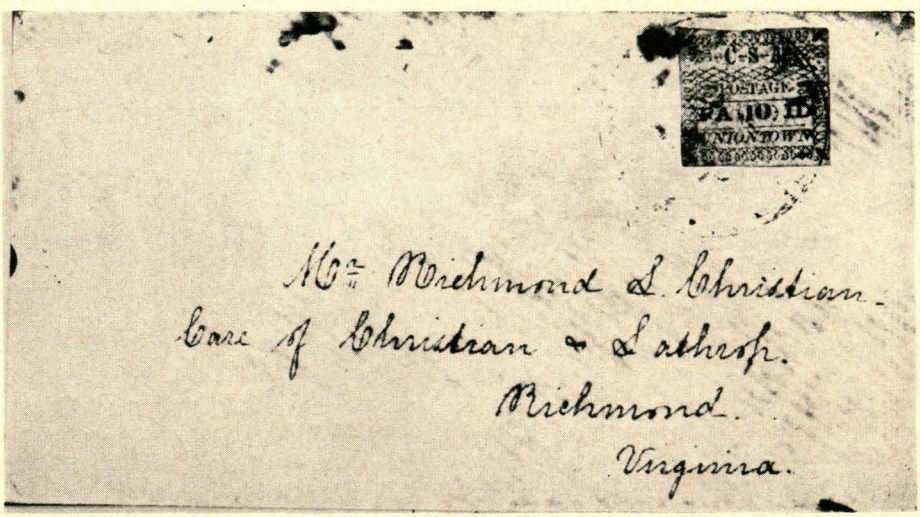
By LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD*

This is the story of a very rare stamp. It is possible to tell only because the International Philatelic Exhibition of 1947 with its Court of Honor rounded up all known copies permitting the writer to study the usage of the known covers, and to record them in photographs. This kind of story has been told of other rare stamps—the Post Office Mauritius, the 2c Hawaiian Missionaries and several others. But never before to the writer's knowledge, has a Confederate States Provisional been the subject. Many years ago, the late Charles S. Phillips wrote a series of excellent monographs for *Stamps*, on the Confederate Postmaster's Provisionals. But his census of known copies of the rarities was not complete in every case, and no attempt was made to study the rates and usage of these rare stamps.

In the Phillips' article *(Stamps*—August 21, 1937) on the Uniontown stamps, it was recorded that there were three copies of the 10c known, all on gray-blue paper. August Dietz, Sr. in a splendid article "The Uniontown, Plated" *(Stamp & Cover Collecting,* March 1934) stated that he had record of four copies of the 10c value, all on gray-blue paper. Before commenting upon the Dietz article, an observation must be made upon the color of the paper upon which the 10c value was printed.

For several years the Scott Specialized Catalog has carried the listing of all three values of the Uniontowns, the 2c, 5c and 10c as existing on "gray-blue" and on "white" papers. Certainly the 5c value is known on both gray-blue and white paper, and the 2c is known on white in an unused block. But diligent search has failed to substantiate the fact that the 10c value exists on white paper

* See Page 41.




*(Photos by Boutrelle)*

Fig. 1 Dark red and No. 3 in the plate. The date Sept. 27 (1861); the rate is the single letter rate of 10c for distances over 500 miles in effect in the C. S. A. until July 1, 1862. This copy is slightly damaged. Originally in the Ferrary Collection.

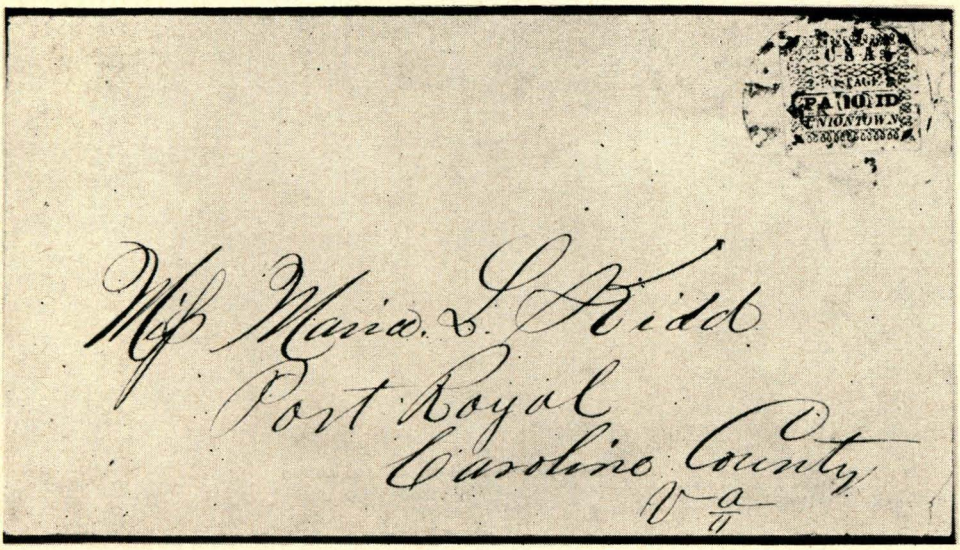



Fig. 2 Used Sep. 22 (1861); in dark red color and No. 1 in the plate. This example is the earliest known use. The rate is the single letter rate of 10c for distances over 500 miles, and from same find as cover shown in Fig. 3. The condition is superb.

although the Scott catalog lists it unused ($2,000.00) and used on cover ($3,500.00). The stamp on gray-blue is listed at $1,000.00 off cover, $2,000.00 on cover. It is unknown unused and strange to say no copy is known off cover although it is so listed and priced. The Dietz Handbook & Catalog does not list the 2c nor the 10c on white paper. All the copies which illustrate this article are on gray-blue paper. Furthermore, not one of the most studious collectors of Confederate Provisionals can recall ever seeing a copy of the 10c Uniontown on white paper. Whether the listing is based upon a copy on white paper reposing in some foreign collection or upon a copy on gray-blue faded to a near-white is not known. However, none of the copies shown here are printed upon a paper that is faded or pale. In every case the paper is a brilliant gray-blue. If any reader knows of a copy on white paper, it should be reported.

To return to the splendid article on the plating of the Uniontowns by August Dietz, Sr., there can be no question of the validity of this research. The forty-one copies of the 5c, 2c and 10c subjects which formed the basis for this plating, including the pair of the 5c with sheet margin left, bottom and right, established the plate or form of the Uniontowns as two rows of two stamps each, for all values with only the numerals of value changed. And confirming this plating, a complete unused sheet of four of the 2c value was discovered a few years later.

Although this article is not concerned directly with plate positions of the 10c Uniontowns, but rather with the usage, rates and dates of use of the stamp, it should be recorded here that probably not all copies of the 5c value at least were printed from a complete form of four subjects. For there was in the collection of the late Stephen Brown, a 5c green on white on cover (Lot No. 2443) with enormous sheet margins right, bottom and left and with a very large margin at top. This remarkable copy appears to have been printed from a single subject, setting No. 4 in the plating, or, possibly but not probably, from a vertical form of two settings. It is evident that for a short time the form of four subjects was separated for an unknown reason and that impressions were made from single or from double vertical settings. Possibly the substitution of the "2" or "10" numerals of value instead of the "5" necessitated the separation of the four settings in the form, and at the same time demand for the 5c value made emergency printing of this value nec-

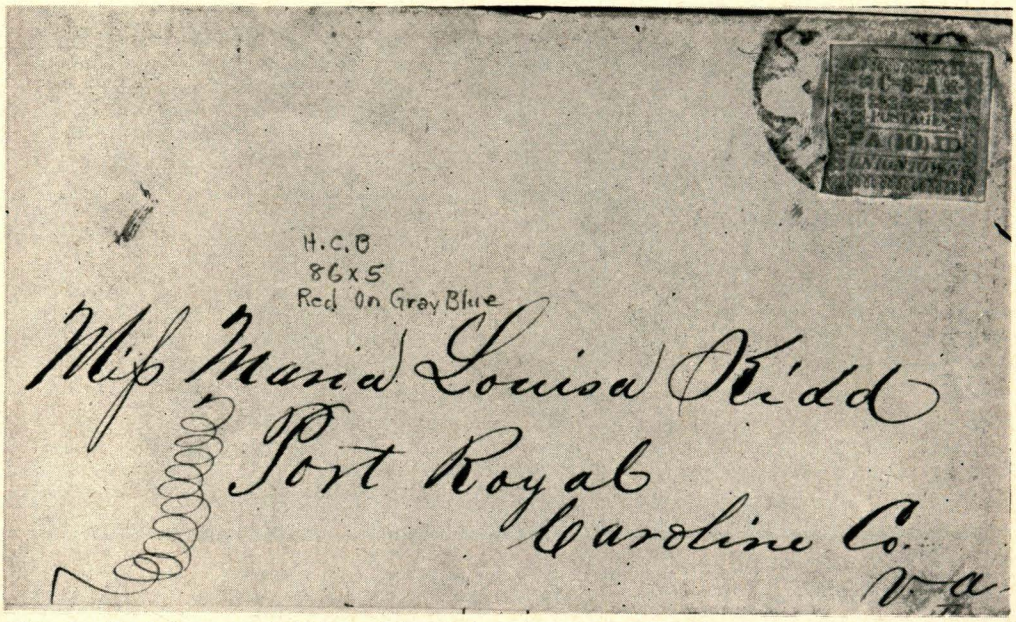



Fig. 3 Used Oct. .... (1861). Color dark red and stamp is No. 2 in the plating. The single letter rate for distances over 500 miles. The illegible cancel on this example is typical of the 1861 usages of the stamp (See Figs. 1, 2 and 4). This cancel is apparently of a different form of lettering than the clearly struck cancels of 1862. A fine copy.

essary from a form of less than four subjects. No other copy of the 5c from this apparent single setting is known.

With the plating of all values of the Uniontowns confirmed, we may proceed to the study of all the known examples of the 10c value—seven singles and all on cover (one on part). No pairs or multiples larger are known. The color of the ink of these stamps divides clearly into two distinct shades: a dark intense red and a light red. There are no intermediate shades. In the copies which are dark red the impressions are very heavily inked and show great intensity of color in the larger solid portions of the typographical ornaments. The light red copies are of a "softer" more even impression and the thinnest lines of the design have printed well and evenly. The paper is a nearly uniform gray-blue laid rather bright in color. One specimen shows the lightly embossed impression in the paper of a tiny colonnaded portico of the type seen at the top of letter sheets of the period. In fact, the paper itself is apparently from stock used for letter sheets.

One odd point—the margins of nearly all the 10c Uniontowns known are good to large; two show sheet margins. This contrasts sharply with the known 5c Uniontowns—which usually come clipped very close—especially those of the Cobb correspondence.

The postage rates of the C. S. A. from June 1, 1861 to June 30, 1862 were:

(1) Five cents, single letter rate, ½ oz. for distance up to 500 miles;
(2) Ten cents, single letter rate, ½ oz. for distance over 500 miles

Therefore the 10c Uniontown if used before July 1, 1862 could prepay either:

(1) Double weight letters, not exceeding 1 oz. for distances up to 500 miles.
(2) Single weight letters, ½ oz. for distances over 500 miles, and if used after July 1, 1862 could prepay only:
(3) Single weight letters, ½ oz. for any distance within the Confederacy because on July 1, 1862 the uniform rate of 10c superseded the previous 5c and 10c rates.

It is a remarkable fact that although only seven copies of the stamp are known, every possible rate for which the 10c Uniontowns could be used is represented in this census. Here is a tabulation of the known copies:

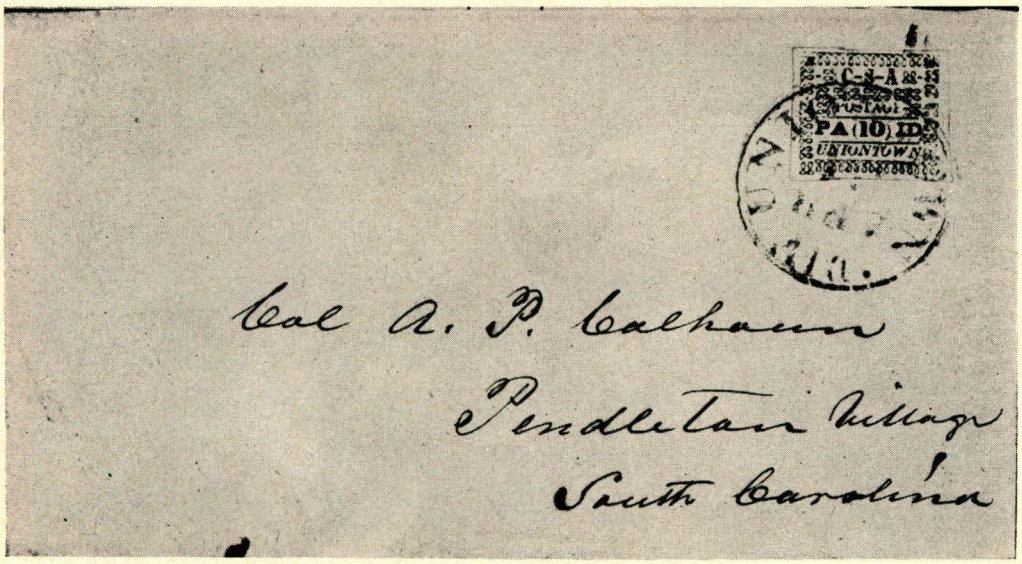



Fig. 5 Clearly cancelled APR. 21, must be 1862 to judge by dated letters enclosed in the covers shown as Figs. 7 and 8 which are from the same correspondence. Color dark red, No. 2 in the plating. The longest route to-day from Uniontown to Pendleton Village is 408 miles, so it is assumed this is a double-rate usage. Cover shown in Fig. 8 proves that 5c stamps were available as late as June 1862. A beautiful copy.

| Copy | Date of Use | Plate Position | Color | Address | Dist. from Uniontown | Rate & Usage |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| #1 | Sep. 22 (61) | #1 | Dark Red | Miss Maria L. Kidd<br>Port Royal<br>Caroline County, Va. | Over 500 mi. | Single Lett. over 500 mi. |
| #2 | Sep. 27 (61) | #3 | Dark Red | Mr. Richmond L. Christian<br>c.o Christian & Lathrop<br>Richmond, Va. | Over 500 mi. | Single Lett. over 500 mi. |
| #3 | Sep. 27 (61) | #4 | Lt. Red | (Part cover, stamp not tied)<br>(S. Price . . . .<br>. . . . P. Office<br>. . . . orland Co. Va. | Over 500 mi. | Single Lett. over 500 mi. |
| #4 | Oct. (?) (61) | #2 | Dark Red | Miss Maria Louisa Kidd<br>Port Royal, Caroline Co., Va. | Over 500 mi. | Single Lett. over 500 mi. |
| #5 | *Apr. 21 (62) | #2 | Dark Red | Col. A. P. Calhoun<br>Pendleton Village, S. C. | Distance to-day 382 to 408 miles | †Double Lett. Rate |
| #6 | *Jun. 9 (62) | #1 | Lt. Red (Top sheet mar.) | Mr. John D. Pitts<br>4th Reg. Ala. Vol.<br>near Richmond, Va. | Over 500 mi. | Single Letter over 500 mi. |
| #7 | Jul. (?) (62) (Letter dated July 5/62) | #4 | Lt. Red (Bott. sheet mar.) | Col. A. P. Calhoun<br>Pendleton Village, S. C. | 382 to 408 miles | Single after July 1/62 |

* Could not be 1861; very probably not 1863 or later.

† A pair of 5c Uniontowns, cancelled JUN 13 (1862) on cover and addressed to Col. J. P. Calhoun tends to confirm the Double Letter Rate. Letter enclosed dated Jun 11, 1862. Improbable that error in rating the distance as over 500 miles would occur twice.

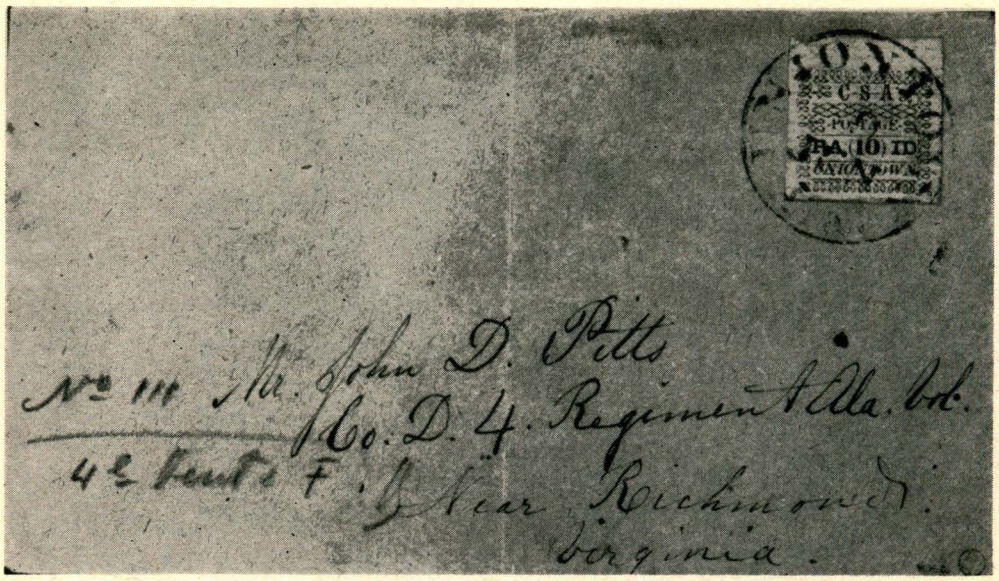



Fig. 6 The second example from the Ferrary collection. Clearly dated 9 JUN (1862), No. 1 in the plate; the color is light red. The rate for distances over 500 miles is the correct single letter rate of 10c. Beautiful clear impression with top sheet margin.

Study of the above table shows that of the seven covers:

(1) Four were used in 1861; three in 1862, and of these one after July 1, 1862.

(2) Five prepaid the single letter rate for distances over 500 miles.

(3) One paid the double letter rate of 10c.

(4) One paid the single letter rate of 10c after July 1, 1862 for any distance.

(5) Two stamps are position No. 1; two are position No. 2; one position No. 3; two position No. 4.

(6) Of stamps used in 1861, three (positions No. 1, 2 and 3) were dark red; one (position No. 4) was light red. This would indicate that *at least* two sheets of 4, one dark red, the other light, were being used during September-October of 1861.

(7) Of stamps used in 1862, one (position No. 2) was dark red; two (positions No. 1 and 4) were light red. This would indicate that *at least* two sheets of 4, one dark red, one light were being used in 1862 after April 21.

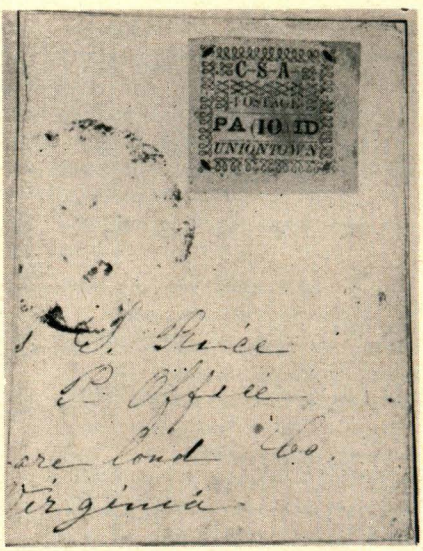



Fig. 4 Example dated Sep. 27 (1861) and though not tied seems to belong on this part cover. Color is light red with very clear impression; plates as No. 4. The rate is correct single letter for distances from Alabama to Virginia. A lovely copy.

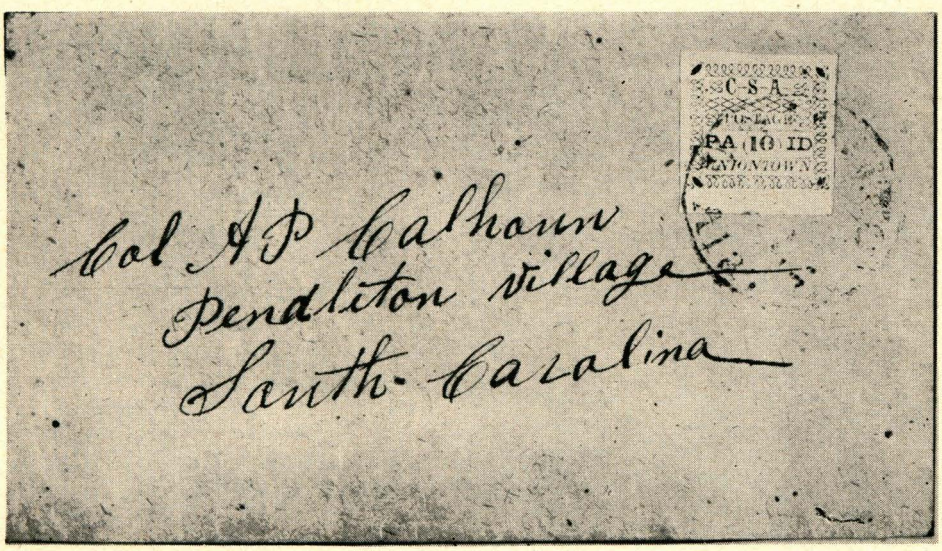



Fig. 7 Color light red, No. 4 in the plate. The cancel reads JUL .... (1862) and the rate is the single letter charge of 10c for all distances in the Confederacy after JUL 1, 1862. The writer of this letter (dated July 5, 1862) and of the letter in cover shown as Fig. 8 was the plantation supervisor for Col. Calhoun. The letters reported upon local crop conditions. A beautiful copy and cover.

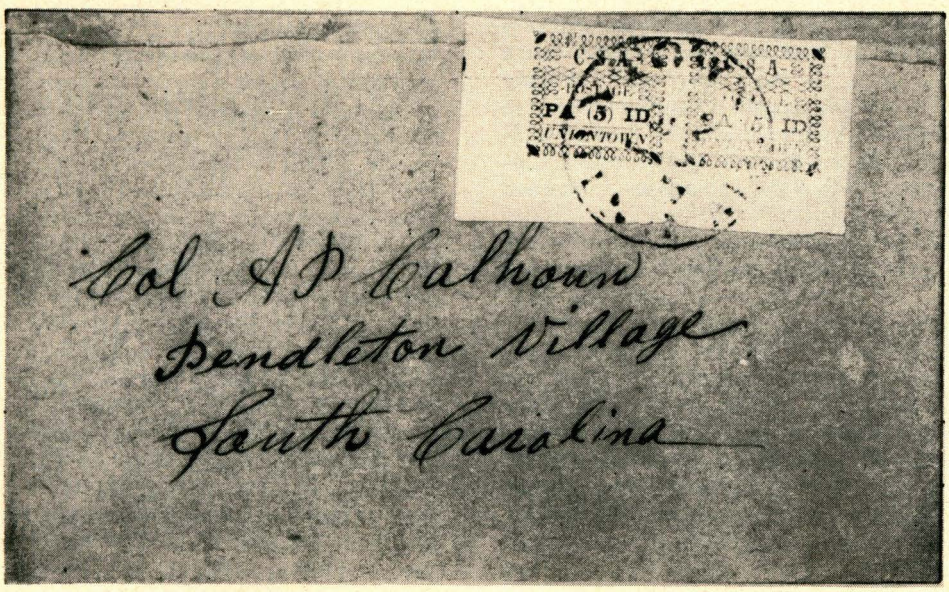



Fig. 8 From the Calhoun find came this pair of the 5c green on white, Nos. 3 & 4 in the plate with full sheet margins. The cancel is dated JUN 13 and the letter enclosed is dated JUN 11, 1862. The figure "3" is inverted in the cancel. Apparently this was a double letter rate of 10c. Although the letter enclosed was not heavy, possibly the cover originally contained an enclosure of some sort. A wonderful pair.

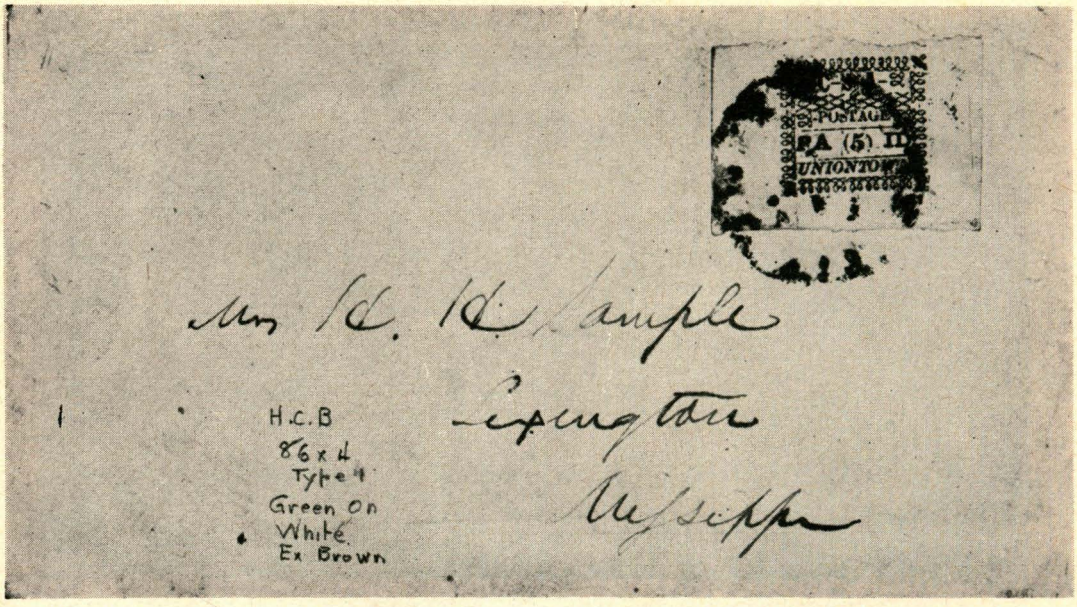



Fig. 9 The enormous copy of the 5c green on white from the Steve Brown Collection probably from a single cliche removed from the form of four. It is No. 4. The date is illegible but the use is probably 1861. No other example of this single cliche impression is known.

It is interesting to speculate upon the possible number of the 10c Uniontowns issued. It could not have been great for although the stamp is not as rare as the 2c value, it was believed that only four copies were known up to a few years ago. Actually there were five copies which had come to light, of which two were in the Ferrary Collection; then the two copies of the Col. Calhoun find swelled the number to the present seven.

In 1861 the population of Uniontown was 875 (est.) of which 225 were white and 650 slaves; today it is just short of 2,000. On the railroad only 30 miles from Selma, it was not important. Almost the only find of any Uniontowns was the Mrs. R. A. Cobb material made by R. S. Nelson years ago, consisting of twenty-nine covers bearing 5c stamps. Next was the Calhoun find of three covers, two bearing 10c stamps, one a wonderful pair of the 5c. The rest of the Uniontowns have come to light usually one or two at a time, here and there. Of all values, 2c, 5c, 10c known at the present writing, the total number probably does not exceed forty-eight on covers, six 5c off cover, and the unused block of 4 of the 2c value on white paper. And if the Rev'd R. A. Cobb had not written to Mrs. Cobb, who was in a Montgomery hospital, twenty-nine letters in three weeks, 5c Uniontowns would be a lot rarer even than they are. No large finds of business house correspondence of the period ever turned up any numbers of these stamps.

The earliest usage of the 5c Uniontown is September 6 (61); earliest of the 10c September 22 (61); earliest of the 2c, no record. Both the 2c and the 10c were used into 1862, probably the 5c also to judge by the pair. Blurred, faintly inked cancels which never contained year dates prevent identification even of the month or day of use in many cases. Some of the Cobb letters were mailed in December of 1861. From these facts it is apparent that the 5c and 10c values were issued in September. Use of the 5c and 10c in 1862, April, June and July, indicates that the government stamps may not have been available regularly. If a reader of these pages has an example of the 5c or 10c Hoyer and Ludwig lithographs used from Uniontown in 1861 or 1862, the writer would like to see them. And if any reader has seen a 10c Uniontown on white paper please report it to the writer. Thanks go to the collectors who permitted their 10c Uniontowns to be examined and photographed for this census.

# BOOK REVIEWS

*British Colonial Stamps in Current Use September 1949,* written by R. Courtney Cade, published by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, England. (Available in the U. S. A. through N. Sanabria & Co., Inc., 521 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Price 90c postpaid.)

Comparisons fail to achieve accuracy because many parts of an item are similar to that in another in some respects but in others totally different. We do believe, however, that this handbook of 104 pages resembles the United States Post Office Department booklet, "A Description of United States Postage Stamps" printed by the United States Government Printing Office in Washington, D. C.

George VI issues of the British Colonies are highly popular among collectors, although perhaps beneath the dignity of the haughty "serious philatelist." This well-written, informative and finely illustrated booklet upon such a popular segment of stamp collecting should be well received. The stamp lover will find accessory information for a better understanding of recent British stamps without being forced to become a printer's apprentice or being compelled to strain his eyes to discover whether he owns the common Die A or the better Die B.

The data in this book covers every British Colony from Aden to Zanzibar. It is keyed to general interest and makes no pretensions to do otherwise. This is its paramount appeal.

Each colony is treated in this manner. Its location is given, its area, often accomplished by a comparison to that of the British Isles, its population, currency and its present stirling equivalent. It lists the number of Colonial post offices, postal agencies, travelling postal agencies. Then all the names of the post offices and travelling post offices are given. What a valuable guide for the cancellation collector!

Next comes a description of the entire series, how they were printed and what firm executed this, a four-column table containing the denomination, color, subject and date of issue in that order. And finally usually three or four lines are devoted to the inconography of each denomination with an accompanying plate of clear illustrations. The subject-matter or topical collector, who complains that so much philatelic literature neglects him, will be cheered by this part.

A 3-page Appendix containing a "list of Postal Authorities to whom orders for postage stamps should be addressed, and to whom remittances should be payable" ends this handbook. Careful attention must be paid to the Notes at the very end outlining exactly just what service Colonial Post Officials can and cannot perform for stamp collectors and dealers.

The philatelist of 20th century stamps will find this handbook affording him an adequate background for these modern stamps. All descriptions are concise, and of interest; and fortunately relevant, not overburdened with unnecessary details, such as first-day-of sale speeches, having nothing to do with stamps. A publication as this will assist to maintain the popular philatelic appeal of George VI stamps of the British Empire. *H. M. G.*

---

*Stamp Exhibitions.* Compiled Under Direction of The Association For Stamp Exhibitions. By Prescott H. Thorp, Editor; Harry L. Lindquist, Associate Editor, and 32 Contributing Editors. Cloth. Pp. 190, with 73 illustrations. Association For Stamp Exhibitions, New York, 1950.

This is a How-to-do-it book, one long in the minds of a few forward-looking members of the Association For Stamp Exhibitions, who have, over the years, been asked to compile data for the service of show-minded stamp collectors and stamp clubs. Many having asked "How?" this book supplies most of the answers.

Naturally the activities of the past are useful in advising people as to the probabilities and possibilities relating to a stamp show (or stamp exhibition). This book covers the past, of course, but likewise clearly points to the day and the later future. Many show activities are standard, but not all of us know the standard routine deemed important to organize and then to realize results that can acquire the applause and the hoped for profit. While stamp shows, as such, are not promoted for cash profit, the clear objective should be to avoid financial loss. This book helps in that respect.

A friend, reading the book, said that since

many stamp hobbyists — stamp-collecting-minded people—believe that the hobby (call it philately, if you prefer) shows a cultural and social angle, it also has an economic trend, and all these being conceded the book (Stamp Exhibitions) is the correct answer to all the angles of general interest.

Many important things are required to promote "an international exhibition," likewise a "local stamp show." The many contributors to this book have had proper experience in these activities and so are qualified to present their opinions.

First, if there is a "first" in the operation, is the organization of a Permanent Organization Committee—a Working Committee, which group will establish a budget and make all arrangements for the proposed show. There will be sub-committees of judges, publicity, insurance, operating details for the receipt and handling of exhibits, and other special committees for the numerous other activities required to put over a show.

No book, of itself, can show the way to perfect promotion. The book (Stamp Exhibitions) does point to the correct procedure; does make it possible to avoid the pitfalls that develop when enthusiastic, but inexperienced show-folks seek to put over a show that will please the "philatelic-minded" as well as a show that will please the general public. Every stamp show should try to interest non-collectors.

In essence this is a handbook on how to run a show, based on the experience of the Association For Stamp Exhibitions, which has sponsored and conducted several international shows, as well as the experience of a number of other groups and clubs in the United States. The information is adaptable to local, regional or international shows.

The Association For Stamp Exhibitions has done an estimable job in supplying the book, without charge, to the clubs in the National Federation of Stamp Clubs. These clubs aim to stimulate an interest in stamp collecting—as a hobby—in their localities, thereby developing increased interest in stamp collecting. These clubs can profit by consulting the book—and what more can one say about it?

Others than Federation member clubs can buy the book for $5., from the Association For Stamp Exhibitions.

*Harry M. Konwiser.*

*French Philatelic Facts.* Vol. 2, Nos. 1, 2, 3; February, June and October 1950. Montclair, N. J., Brainerd Kremer; 20, 20 and 28 pp. respectively.

Kremer's new "compilation," of which we reviewed the first year's sections in this magazine for May 1950, continued to appear regularly as it works through successive stamp issues. It continues to furnish us coordinated information hitherto scattered, and normally buried in French-language publications no longer readily accessible. Of the new volume, what was said previously holds true: the task is adequately met.

No. 1 starts with a practical, useful set of valuation tables for the 1849-50 and Presidency issues, indicating the actual market ranges for various color and other varieties, together with various cancellations on each. Since this appeared, those who have quarreled with these valuations, claiming they "ought to be" higher in most cases, have admitted that the retail market was actually as herein reported, around Jan. 1, 1950.

Most of No. 1 and all of No. 2 deal with the first two Empire issues, imperf. and perforated. This reviewer has, for the first time, with the aid of these two books, been able to get these issues clearly understood. Every previous work, in whatever language, had left confusions.

No. 3 is devoted mostly to the cancellations on the Empire issues. The treatment not only is convenient to a conspicuous degree; it also covers the difficulties and confusions which beset the novice, giving distinctions hitherto left to word of mouth. Eight full-page pictures in actual size leave no doubt as to what is meant by each cancellation listed. Explanations of wordings, as a much needed addition to all previous treatments, are given in most cases. The last portion of No. 3 starts treating the Laureate Empire issue, covering rates, dies, plates, essays, envelope essays and other matters which come before the actual stamps.

Language and style have improved steadily over previous sections, especially in elimination of untranslated French terms. Coordination of information from various sources also improves. Kaepplein's typographical work continues to be excellent, as for example in making the many pictures of plate flaws come out with welcome clarity. *S. G. R.*

*"India Used in Burma,"* by Jal Cooper. We are pleased to note that Mr. Cooper has again scored a bulls-eye with his latest work on Indian Philately and Postal History. This interesting 64 page book, with numerous illustrations is a worthy successor to his earlier work on Indian Postmarks. It is indeed gratifying to see that the line of fine philatelists starting with Sir David Masson is still being continued in India.

This book begins with an historical introduction, works up to an excellent study of the pre-stamp markings and Campaign Postmarks. The markings used on the Indian stamps are well covered and completely illustrated. It is interesting to note that the stamps of India were first used and placed on sale in Burma rather than India proper. They were recorded first on August 10, 1854 from Toungoo, Burma, one month earlier than the date of the first sale in India.

The study of the postal markings during the Burmese Wars is especially complete, receiving a special chapter devoted to them. Another interesting chapter is given over to the use of Indian stamps from the Andaman Islands. A list of Post Offices existing in Burma at the time it received Dominion status in 1937 completes the work.

We are sure that this book will be welcomed by all students of Indian Philately not only for its fine coverage of the subject but also for its excellent illustrations.

*H. D. S. Haverbeck.*

---

*"British Postage Stamp Varieties Illustrated,"* Q. V. surface-printed issues to K. G. VI. Compiled by R. C. Alcock & C. W. Meredith. Published by R. C. Alcock Ltd., Cheltenham, England. 122 pages with numerous illustrations.

British postage stamps have always been famous for their plate varieties on account of the great numbers printed from individual plates, through incidental damage of plates, wear and tear, use of wrong cliches, etc. Now the co-authors have tried successfully to bring into one handy volume all the material concerned generously giving enlarged illustrations, drawings, explanations, which all will enable the specialist to look for the right spot where such varieties occur.

As these varieties were not so fully described in the Kohl Handbook or in the somewhat later English edition arranged by the late J. B. Seymour; and as the authors go up to the Peace and Olympic Games Issues, we find here one of the most useful additions to literature on British postage stamps.

*P. P. Lindenburg.*

---

*"I. Francobolli D'Italia"* by Guglielmo Oliva, Genoa, Italy (A Catalog in Italian) 204 pages. $3.00 Obtainable in U. S. A., Penny Black Stamp Company, 116 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Volume I of the Tenth Edition (1950) of the catalog of G. Oliva covering the issues of the Italian States from the earliest to 1868 includes Lombardy-Venice, Modena, Naples (Two Sicilies) Parma, Roman States, Sardinia, Sicily (Two Sicilies), and Tuscany.

In addition to many new illustrations and the bringing of prices up to date, there is a new twenty-six page section devoted to listing and pricing of many of the pre-adhesive letters and postal stationery used in these localities. The earliest illustration shows a letter dated 1416. There are illustrated some from each century up to and including the "post-boy on horse" postally stamped paper of Sardinia of 1819 and 1820.

As with former editions, this catalog lists each type and minor variety of all of these interesting issues of stamps, including blocks, usages in other states, strips, reprints, revenues used for postage, and gives complete lists of towns which had post offices. The catalog also illustrates forgeries and in general, provides a background which the collectors of this group cannot afford to be without.

The printing and illustrations are clear, the paper is excellent, and it is nicely bound. Its size (5″x8″) is convenient.

There will be two more volumes issued to complete all issues pertaining to Italy.

Although we call this a catalog, and consider it as such, it has the additional value of being a comprehensive reference book which we can recommend to all collectors interested in the early Italian States. While written in Italian, it can be used to good advantage by those unfamiliar with the language due to the many illustrations. The listings and es-

pecially the descriptive notes would require more or less knowledge of the Italian language.

*Elliott Corin.*

---

*"Sixteenth American Philatelic Congress Handbook."* Original Papers on Philatelic Themes, Presented by Invitation. Edited by W. R. McCoy, Hotel Warwick, New York 19, N. Y. Price $3.00. 161 pages plus the Cumulative Index of the First to Sixteenth American Philatelic Congress Books.

The past standards of the greater part of these handbooks have always been upon a high level and the 1950 edition continues with this in every respect. The many articles are again varied, having the wide range from the stamps, revenues and postal history of the United States to studies of foreign philately such as Estonia, Greece, Guatemala and Romania, both 19th century and modern stamps. Some of the authors are well-known, such as Jere. Hess Barr, Dr. Carroll Chase, P. J. Drossos of Athens, Greece, Van Dyk MacBride and B. W. H. Poole. The overall quality of research and originality is top-grade, although in a few instances certain authors fail to meet this high quality. The illustrations, both many and more than average, are finally presented, adding to the appeal of this handbook. Unfortunately, many lack captions, while others with captions are too brief to fully appreciate the cuts shown. It would be more to our taste if the only illustrations were those of stamps and collateral material, with the omission of the authors' pictures. This is, however, purely a personal preference whereas others might enjoy seeing the physical features of these authors.

The inclusion of the Cumulative Index at the end is most helpful, but it is puzzling why no mention of this is given neither on the outside cover nor within the Table of Contents.

It has been generally remarked, both in these columns and elsewhere, that not too much highgrade philatelic writings are being produced in this country. Thus, this handbook is far and away above the usual average, being a fine contribution to American Philately. More works of this type are needed and it is hoped that these American Philatelic Congress books will continue, of course, upon their established standards. Those interested in philatelic study and research in this country should encourage and support this. The popular stamp papers and columns in America are not giving enough notice to such works. Their reviewers, commentators and editors devote more space to literature, which are nothing but compilations of past writings, offering nothing new or original. Also (and perhaps due to lack of knowledge), past errors and omissions are continued, not corrected. More appreciation for literature such as this should be broadcast and the dealer element of the hobby should be urged to lend more support to the encouragement and publication of such original studies. Without it, philately will become barren and profitless.

Hats off to Messrs. Barr, McCoy and all the authors who made this fine contribution to American Philately and most important, as a labor of love.

*H. M. G.*

---

*"Catalogo Sport,"* edited and published by G. Landmans, Milan, Italy, ($2.00), has reached this country after a great deal of preceding fanfare. As might be surmised from the title, it is a catalogue "containing sports stamps of the whole world." While not the first published catalogue based on a topical or subject-matter grouping, "Catalogo Sport," is unquestionably the most elaborate and the most ambitious. It is probably an astonishing point to make that this catalogue is not even by way of being the first sport stamp catalogue, having been preceded by one published by Guy Depolier, of France, which has run to several editions to date.

The new Landmans sport stamp catalogue, however, is meant to be the last word on the subject since the text is in four languages—English, Italian, French and German. It is a quite simple book to handle with an accompanying illustration of virtually every stamp listed. It is printed in clear type and on a glossy paper.

It is only after superficial examination has been completed and more intensive examination made that one notices the many defects in this rather stylish-looking effort. The errors are of two types—those of inclusion and those of omission. Included errors are the listing of certain stamps which cannot, by the greatest stretch of the imagination, be

termed sports stamps. As an example, we cite the listing of many stamps, having to do with aviation. It is not sufficient that Otto Lilienthal, Count Zeppelin, Italo Balbo, Professor Piccard, Santos Dumont and many others were trail blazers in aviation and lighter-than-air aeronautics. They may even, by loose use of the term, have been "sportsmen" but those stamps listed which honored them, were neither conceived nor issued as sports stamps or to recall their subjects as sportsmen. In fact, this reviewer, in a lengthy correspondence with Mr. G. Landmans, asked why such stamps were included and received the following opaque explanation: "I put them in as sports records." It is this writer's personal opinion that such stamps have no place in a sports collection but seemingly this is not a universal viewpoint as they are also listed in the previously mentioned catalogue published by G. Depolier.

While on the subject of included matter which, while not incorrect, is terribly incomplete, we refer to this catalogue's attempt to list sports cancellations together with sports stamps. Probably through incomplete knowledge of the vastness of such an undertaking, this gilding of the lily was attempted. To have done so was to be misadvised as there must be literally thousands of special sports cancellations. The Landmans Catalogue lists less than 150 such cancellations though it contains 297 pages. That Mr. Landmans must realize other such cancellations exist, we cannot doubt, but he surely must have had no idea of how many more there actually are.

Another new wrinkle included in this catalogue that certainly will furrow the brow of the classic philatelist is the inclusion—in a few cases—of the results of sports events in connection with which stamps had been issued. The results, for example, of the various Olympic Games are included but here again, there is little consistency shown: totally ignored are such events as international baseball tournaments, ski meetings, etc. The results of these events are certainly obtainable if its editor had so desired.

Concerning some rather startling omissions, one finds that even certain sports stamps issued by Italy have been overlooked. We cannot quite understand this since the catalogue has the blessings of Count Alberto Bonacossa (who wrote the foreword), President of the Italian Olympic Committee, and a renowned collector of sports stamps. In justice to Mr. Landmans and Count Bonacossa, certain stamps fall into the realm of sports for not particularly obvious or well-known facts. A typical example is the Roosevelt set from Costa Rica, ostensibly issued to honor our late President. However, on reading the enabling decree for this set, one learns that the revenues obtained from its sale went towards defraying the costs of sending a Costa Rican sports team to a meet in Colombia. Other omissions include the Honduras air mail set issued for the First International Archaeological Conference of the Caribbean but which depict the ruins of the famous Ball Game Temple. It is not carping to point out that omissions have been made in compiling this catalogue for they number more than several score of stamps and issues just as several score of stamps are included that do not belong.

Nevertheless, this reviewer feels that this catalogue is a very important contribution to topical philately. Important because it is merely the first effort of a publisher who has every intention of making the second edition immensely better. In his letter to this writer, Mr. Landman asks for the collaboration of sports stamp collectors of the entire world. He explained that the catalogue was prepared to meet a deadline. It had originally been intended that an exhibition of sports stamps be held in Milan in December 1950. Plans were changed and this exhibition has been postponed to May 1951 and it is now planned to be held in Rome. Evidently, the exhibition has some powerful sponsors for a special stamp issue by the Italian Government has been promised. Thus, when this stamp appears, it will be the first whose sole purpose is to honor topical philately. This sports catalogue thus plays its important role in helping popularize a branch of philately that, so far, has had to do some rude jostling to find for itself a place in the sun. Ours is not the purpose here to defend topical stamp collecting, merely to point out that it is taking giant forward strides.

*Ira Seebacher.*

# *UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION*

## Stamp Colors 1878 - 1898

By STEPHEN G. RICH

This article is designed to start tracing the development of the scheme of uniform colors for stamps of the Universal Postal Union unit rates, between the advisory resolution of 1878 and the adoption of the scheme as binding on members in 1897. Future articles are planned to cover aspects not here included.

The 1878 resolution recommended that stamps of value equal to 5 centimes French gold be *green,* those equal to 10 centimes *red,* and those equal to 25 centimes *blue.* These units were the U. P. U.'s international single rates for printed matter, postal cards and letters, respectively. In estimating the degree of adherence to the recommendation, we strike the obstacle that even approximate equivalents for these rates are by no means always found in the stamps of various member countries.

The United States and the British countries offer no difficulties on this point; but others do. Austria's old kreuzer currency, for example, makes the nearest practical equivalents of 10 and 25 centimes about 20% high, and that used for 5 centimes nearly 40% high. From Mexico southwards to Cape Horn, most countries then had a peso or other monetary unit equivalent to 60 cents U. S. money or 3 francs French gold. For such countries 2 centavos, 3 or 4 centavos and 7 or 8 centavos are the rate equivalents. Yet we find that many of them applied the advised colors as if the stamp values were in United States money.

France was using green 5 centime and ultramarine 25 centime stamps when the resolution was adopted. But the resolution had hardly been adopted, when the 25 centimes was made black on red. The next year the 25c was made yellow-brown; and in 1886 black on pink. The 10 centime stamp, black on pale lavender, continued that way from before 1878 to 1900. The 5c green was therefore the sole value on which France heeded the recommendation. The 5c change of color to yellow green in 1898, which has been ascribed by some writers to the 1897 convention, is known definitely to have been caused by other reasons. Quite obviously such a change from green to yellow green had no relation to any U. P. U. requirements.

Hawaii, which joined the U. P. U. in 1882, had long had blue 5-cent stamps, and changed its 2-cent stamp to red in that year. The 1-cent stamp then issued was blue; but was changed to green in 1883. We thus far lack any evidence that the U. P. U. 1878 advisory resolution was even known to the Hawaiian postal administration or had any effect in this case, despite efforts to trace some connection made by Lt. J. B. Kremer 3rd, U. S. N., to hunt up the matter when he was stationed in Hawaii in 1945. These efforts were made at the instance of Mr. Henry A. Meyer, for inclusion of results in the Hawaii book by the late Admiral Harris et al.*

Hawaii, which continued as a member of the U. P. U. after the revolution in 1893, departed entirely from these colors in the 1894 stamps. Continuing as a member after becoming part of the U. S., until the consolidation of postal services, Hawaii's 1899 change to green 1-cent, light red 2-cent and blue 5-cent stamps was governed by the 1897 resolution and is not here in point.

Hawaii's change from blue to ultramarine for the 5-cent stamp in 1882 and the later further printing of this value in deep blue, have been considered as linked with the U. P. U. by some writers, notably Dr. Munk in the *Kohl Handbook.* The evidence for such relation has never been published. Since blue, ultramarine and dark blue all come within the general color recommendation of "blue" in 1878, quite likely the claim for U. P. U. influence is without foundation —possibly Dr. Munk projected the 1897 resolution backwards in time, subconsciously.

Our own U. S. stamps for the 5-cent international letter rate were blue when the 1878 resolution was adopted. In 1882 we changed this to sepia; in 1887 back to a very dark blue; and in 1890 to brown. Thus far, we

(Continued on Page 57.)

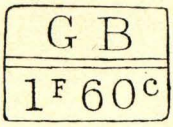
* "Hawaii, its Stamps and Postal History" by Henry A. Meyer, Admiral Frederic R. Harris, John K. Bash, Wm. J. Davey. Philatelic Foundation. 1948.

# *PUZZLING FRANCO-BRITISH POSTMARK*

## Found Upon Mail From About 1843 - 1870

*Extract from letter from Dr. C. Hennan of Chicago to Mr. C. Jewell of the Postal History Society of London, England.*

. . . A discussion has arisen over the following postmarking and I come to you for information. You told me this was applied at the exchange office in Britain. It has always been my opinion that this was the amount owing Britain. Now comes one of your local students with a statement that this was the amount that Britain had to pay France. Who's right? Just what does it mean?




*Extract from letter from Mr. C. Jewell to Dr. C. Hennan of Chicago. U. S. A.*

. . . now to answer your query. These "trays" with GB and a figure in francs put on unpaid letters which travelled from abroad homeward to France by British Mail, correspond with similar shapes and figures, this time with FR and a similar currency figure in francs, which were applied to letters sent by French mail with destination Great Britain. Such letters had incurred a heavy maritime postage, due to the country whose mail packet had carried the letter, and the amount so due had to be recovered: but the addressee lived in another country. Accordingly, some system had to be organised to cope with this particular complication.

It must be remembered, at this point, that British Post Offices worked in ounces, and the smallest weight treated was ½ oz. The French Post Offices used the metric system, and the smallest weight treated was 5 grammes. One ounce weighs, more or less, 28.6 grammes. It was decided, therefore, that these exchange mails should be weighed in bulk, and it was agreed that the same rates should be applied, and they could then be charged to the other country. It was held convenient that all transactions under this agreement should be calculated in French francs, and in order to simplify the calculations, 1 oz. should be taken as 30 grammes. for the purpose of the scale of payment. It would then become a simple matter to weigh the mails on arrival in Europe, and to debit the other country with the bulk charge on the transaction.

In my own case, I am familiar with the use of this system on the mails incoming from the East and West coasts of South America.

The material point is that these handstamps were used on unfranked letters, that is, letters sent "postage due," postage to be paid by the addressee. Take, for example, a Packet belonging to the British Royal Mail Company arriving at Southampton from South America with thirty sacks of mail for the United Kingdom and one sack of mail for France. The United Kingdom mail requires no comment: what we are interested in is the treatment of the "unpaid" French mail. This "unpaid" mail would be weighed: and this "tray" gives the rate (the *rate,* I repeat, *not* the exact amount for each letter: it is vital to grasp this point.) Here, usually, Fcs. 1.60 per 30 grammes. Each letter that went through this process would receive the "tray" handstamp, and this was applied by the British Postal Officials. The purpose of the "tray" is now clear, and the place of its application scarcely matters.

I think this may be even clearer if I extend the example. Let us assume the sackful of mail, minus the prepaid letters, weighed at Southampton 105 lbs. 12 ozs. Convert into kilogrammes: 47.5. Convert into grammes: 47,500. Convert into units of 30 grammes: 1,583. Charge these units at Fcs. 1.60 per unit: Fcs. 2,533.—. London debits Paris accordingly with Fcs. 2,533.— for the sackful of mail. The letters accordingly receive the Fcs. 1.60 "tray". Paris receives the sackful: and then works out the individual postages due on each letter according to its weight, source of origin, route etc., and hav-

ing done so, Paris handstamps the letter with its total "due postage" in décimes.

Décimes are tenths of a franc, just as centimes are hundredths of a franc. Ten décimes, therefore, are very nearly equal to 10d., but not quite, since the old gold franc was worth 9.58 pence (gold), that is, slightly less than ten pence.

Alternately, if we take the journey by French mail with transfer to Southampton on arrival, although the same rates were agreed on, you will appreciate the subtle point that the Frenchmen scored over the slight difference between 1 oz. and 30 grammes, for they were paid the same rate for carrying the ounce (28.6 grammes) as the British were paid for carrying 30 grammes.*

If you have a copy of Yvert's catalogue of post-marks, you will find, on pages 430/432, a very complete series of illustrations of both British and French. The rates covered are very revealing. There is a 40c rate, which is certainly applicable to Caribbean mail. Moreover, they are even highly fractioned. One example I have seen from the West coast of South America is Fcs. 2.875. This, it is quite clear, must be a *rate,* not an amount. Another revealing mark from France is Fcs. 1.22 4/10's. If you work this out you will see that it is 1/- almost exactly. There is also Fcs. 1.62 4/10's, which equally must represent 1/4d.

Another interesting point about these marks is that they cover printed paper rates. The GB marks have the small letters "pk" inserted in a few marks, and it should be clear, by now, from what I have said, that this represents "per kilogramme." And more: the French marks show a similar insertion occasionally, "p.£". This, equally clearly is "per lb."

This confirms the point I have insisted upon throughout, namely, that these figures are *rates.*†

In passing, in the case of a letter to an addressee in France, the exact amount due from him can be found handstamped in large figures on the face of the letter. Common figures are "8," "10," "12," "16," "20," and "24." These, as I have indicated, stand for décimes, which I have said are roughly pence. They may look like mss. scribbles, but they are handstamped in black obliterating ink.

In the case of a letter through French mail to an addressee in England, the British Post Office did not always use handstamped figures: in some cases, especially early, the amount due was written in mss. in ink. Nevertheless, "due" figures do appear, sometimes in a form resembling the French system, undoubtedly a 1/- mark. This is a crazy-looking affair, and certainly not recognisable as a 1/-. It is the case that letters sent by this route are rare. Very few appear to have survived. Generally, it appears to have been the tendency of French firms to keep the letters, and for British firms to throw them away.

It may happen that these "trays" were struck on the stamps themselves, but this is merely an accident. I have just seen that you call it a "cancellation," but it is not that: it is a handstamp, and an "Accountancy mark." Some covers may bear stamps, but they, in all likelihood, represent internal local postage at the point of departure. I can conceive it possible that these handstamps may cover fully stamped letters. Neverthe-

* Elliott Perry supplied the following upon which he believes this information was based.

Anglo-French Convention, April 3, 1843

"ARTICLE 29: The British Post Office shall pay to the Post Office of France for postage upon all unpaid letters originating in France and addressed to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and those British Colonies and possessions where the British Post Office maintains post offices at the rate of two francs for every 30 grams, net weight. The French Post Office shall, on its part, pay to the British Post Office, for postage upon all unpaid letters originating in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and addressed to France and those countries on the shores of the Mediterranean where France maintains post offices, at the rate of one shilling per ounce British, net weight.

ARTICLE 30: The French and British Offices shall mutually account to each other for the postage of ordinary letters which, in either of the two countries, may be paid to their destination in the other, according to the rates respectively allowed to each Office by Article 29 for the postage of unpaid letters."

(Note; according to Article 25 the sender had the option of sending a letter either wholly prepaid or wholly unpaid, except that under Article 26 registered letters had to be fully prepaid.

None of the nineteen articles between 1 and 30 of the Convention of 1843 mention any rate other than those stated in Article 29.)

2 frs. per 30 grams = 38.6 cts. (U.S.)
1 sh per 1 oz. = 24 cts. (U.S.)

† *Not per letter,* but for a specified (agreed upon) weight of bulk mail (Elliott Perry).

less, the purpose of these "trays" must remain the same. They are an indication of international accountancy covering overseas mails, as between the British and French Post Offices.

Elliott Perry notes the appearance of somewhat similar markings upon mail from areas other than the Caribbean. He cites the following United States cover in his possession.

Buff envelope bearing 21c in U. S. stamps, Mishicott (State unknown), to Martigny, (Canton Vallois), Switzerland.

On face; Mishicott OCT 26 pmk; and also in black "GB/40c" in a diamond-shaped border and "F./27" in an oval.

On face; New York AM PKT. (NOV 4?) in red (very faint).

On back in black; Paris, NOV. 18, 65; Martigny NOV 19, 65 and "AMBULANT-CIRCULAIRE 19-X1-65" struck over London pmk of Nov. 17 which last is in red.

## UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

(Continued from Page 54.)

lack all evidence that the 1878 advisory resolution was even remembered at Washington. Our 2-cent stamps were red-orange from 1875 on; brown in 1882; green in 1887; and became red in 1890—with a lapse to dull purple for the 1893 Columbian. Our 1-cent stamps were various blues throughout this whole period. Thus far, if any evidence of the U. P. U. resolution of advice of 1878 having been involved in making the 2-cent stamp red in 1890 exists, it has not come out. Neither Luff (1900) nor Brookman (1947) mention the matter, in our two major handbooks.

Great Britain's one penny stamp, which conformed to the 1878 advisory resolution, departed from red color in 1881, not returning thereto till after 1898. The halfpenny stamp (5 centimes equivalent) was made green in 1881 but only up to 1884. Until 1900 it was first slate, then orange. The 2½d was changed from red brown to ultramarine in 1880. This change is, however, recorded as directly traced to a local cause, confusion in color with other values. In 1884 this value became lilac; and from 1887 on till after 1898 was purple on blue paper.

Further articles will consider other countries and more particularly the international postal cards of the period as well as the adhesive stamps.

*For Our. . . .*

**NEXT AUCTION**

COLLECTIONS, RARITIES, ACCUMULATIONS and **idle surplus material can be turned into cash by means of our most thorough auction activity.**

Your material is brought to the attention of an **active** and **buy-minded clientele built up over a period of 25 years** of business embracing dealer customers thruout the world.

Or, should you prefer an outright sale, please send us full information of what you have and how much you want for it. The probability is that we can suggest a plan that will be acceptable to you.

If you are not on our mailing list, please write for free catalogues.

"The Third Part of the Stock of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.—U. S. A. and Foreign—will be offered in our February Sale."

**S. SEREBRAKIAN**

**220 W. 87th St., Cor. of Broadway, New York 24, N. Y.**

**TRafalger 3-3757**




# A World Rarity - - Is Found!

It is certified by several Philatelic Experts, that **ONE** of the about 70 known genuine used copies of the Rural Postage Due Stamps of **BADEN:** 12 kr. black on yellow: Scott LJ3 was used as a regular postage stamp instead of a Due stamp, which is proved by the "red charge post-mark" shown, (see illustration).— Faultless, very fine copy, cancelled "STAUFEN 6. April" on piece of envelope, good perforation, Price on demand.

We stock many very rare and good items, especially classical stamps of Europe. Special offers will be gladly sent, if you would care to state your wants.—

## Casa Filatelica Antillana,

Apartado 141

Ciudad Trujillo, Republica Dominicana, West Indies

MEMBER: "THE COLLECTORS CLUB — NEW YORK" No. 1130 and No. 2839

**JUST OUT** HANDBOOK OF BRITISH COLONIAL STAMPS

**In Current Use, September 1949**

*comprising*

**Historical, Geographical and General Information**

obtained from official and other reliable sources and compiled by R. Gourtnel Cade M.B.E.

**A BRITISH GOVERNMENT PUBLICATION .....PRICE 90 CENTS**

Orders are now accepted for post free delivery upon arrival.

## NICOLAS SANABRIA CO., INC.

**521 Fifth Avenue ● New York 17, N. Y.**

# *A Lifetime Investment*

## *Scott's* Loose-Leaf Blank Albums

**Spring-Back Binders**

**NE PLUS ULTRA (Style B) . . . $12**
Has 100 leaves of linen ledger paper, with glassine interleaving. Page size, without hinge, is 8¼ x 11½ inches. Overall album size is 11 x 11½. Back binder, gold stamped, Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $6.

**BRUCE . . . . . $12**
Red, green or black binder. Has 100 linen-hinged pages, size 8½ x 10¾. Gold stamped backbone. Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $6.

**DOUGLAS . . . . . $12**
Like the Bruce, but larger. Page size: 9½ x 11½. Overall album size: 12 x 12.

**Post Binders**

**BRUCE POST . . . . . $10**
Red, green or black binder in imitation leather with gold decoration. 50 linen-hinged pages, size 8½ x 10¼. Overall album size: 10½ x 10¾. Extra pages, 25 for $1.50. Binder only, $7.

**BRUCE POST SPECIAL . . . . $17.50**
Like the Bruce Post in size and binder colors. Has morocco back and corners, linen-covered slip case. 50 pages of special Crane linen paper, with transparent interleaving. Extra pages, 25 for $3.75. Binder only, with case, $11.

*ORDER FROM YOUR DEALER*

**Scott Publications, Inc.,** 1 W. 47th St. New York 19.



# U. S. PRICE LIST

**OUR 68 PAGE ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST**

*Free On Request*

INCLUDES:

**Confederate Issues**
**U. S. Possessions**
**Canada**
**Newfoundland**
**Separate Listing of U. S. Plate Number Blocks**

Your Want Lists of U. S. Stamps and Covers Will Be Appreciated.

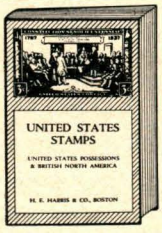
JOHN A. FOX

116 NASSAU STREET, N. Y. C., 7, NEW YORK



**COMPLETE 128-PAGE U. S. CATALOG!**

**Pictures More than 1000 Stamps!**




Lists and prices all major varieties of United States, U. S. Possessions and British North America. Most dependable market guide in print. Invaluable for collectors. Sent for only 25c to cover handling and postage. Write today!

**H. E. HARRIS & CO.**
**61 Transit Bldg., Boston 17, Mass.**

# BOMBAY PHILATELIC Co.

**ESTABLISHED IN 1889**

Mr. J. F. Droucette Dias, well-known Indian Philatelist and proprietor of the Bombay Philatelic Company, is pleased to inform Philatelists that he has opened a New York Office. He will personally attend to all orders and want lists for better grade India and Indian States Stamps.

## INDIA and STATES

### Special Offers

| | |
|---|---|
| Mounted Collection, 300 diff. **India (No States)** | **$10.00** |
| Mounted Collection, 200 diff. **India (No States)** | **$ 6.00** |
| Mounted Collection, 1000 diff. **Indian Native States** | **$32.50** |
| Mounted Collection, 500 diff. **Indian Native States** | **$ 7.50** |
| 100 diff. **Afghanistan** | **$ 9.50** |

**BOMBAY PHILATELIC Co.**
**65 Nassau St., Suite 114,**
**NEW YORK 7, N. Y.**

**FOR YOUR**

# SPECIAL NEEDS

SOMETIME every collector wants some special service. He wants to sell his collection for the best possible price; he wants to buy a great rarity or an unusual group of stamps, not to be found in dealers' regular stocks; he wants reliable information about his philatelic affairs. Just such service is the sole function of J. C. Morgenthau & Co., Inc. The company has nothing to sell; it acts, on commission, for collectors who wish to add to their collections or dispose of them in whole or in part. Collections for disposal are examined without cost (except postage) to the owner and commissions are charged only on completed transactions. If you want to buy or sell . . .

**Always Ask Morgenthau**

**J. C. MORGENTHAU & CO., INC.**

(Subsidiary of Scott Stamp & Coin Co. Inc.)

**172 Fulton St., New York 17, N. Y.**

# *Cape of Good Hope*

●

Mint triangular blocks of four.

**1863.** 1d. carmine .....$150.00
4d. dark blue .....$210.00
6d. mauve .....$235.00
1/- emerald .....$530.00

*All other Capes in stock*

●

# DOUGLAS ROTH

**Fairways, Mona Crescent, Newlands,**

**Cape Province, South Africa**

## STAMP COLLECTING
## is an INTERNATIONAL HOBBY

It is not enough for the collector to know only his own country's activities: to be on top he must know what is going on all over the world.

That is why more and more Americans are reading the London weekly—

**"Stamp Collecting"**

*The paper with all the news from Britain, Europe, The British Commonwealth, and most other countries.*

**Send $3 now by money order for 52 weekly copies, or ask for a free sample copy from:—**

**STAMP COLLECTING LTD.,**
**27, Maiden Lane,**
**London W.C.2. England**

## *Cape of Good Hope*

●

Mint triangular blocks of four.

**1863.** 1d. carmine .....$150.00
4d. dark blue .....$210.00
6d. mauve .....$235.00
1/- emerald .....$530.00

*All other Capes in stock*

●

**DOUGLAS ROTH**

**Fairways, Mona Crescent,**
**Newlands,**
**Cape Province, South Africa**

## ESSAYS and PROOFS

Are regularly offered
in my

## Auction Sales

Request Free Catalogues

**EUGENE N. COSTALES**

99 Nassau Street.,
New York 7, N. Y.

## *Your Collection*

*is important to you*

**We Are Prepared To Offer Outstanding U. S. Items To Enhance It**

**ALSO:** We are prepared to sell your collection or single items of merit through the medium of our Public Auctions. We will advance 75% of our appraised valuation.

**ALSO:** We are prepared to buy your collection in its entirety or single items of merit.

**Correspondence Invited**

sylvester colby INC.
505 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 17

## FACTS ABOUT SELLING YOUR STAMPS

- Public Auction is the modern way to sell most collections.
- We have been conducting sales for over 20 years and our efficient, up to date, PERSONALIZED SERVICE assures the maximum in results.
- We can offer early dates and attractive terms. Liberal advances pending sale. Expert supervision of all material by experienced philatelists.
- **OUR PRIVATE SALES SERVICE** successfully places Philatelic Properties privately, where this method is preferred. Our advice, backed by over 20 years of ethical dealing is at your service.
- We are also prepared to purchase for cash Collections, Accumulations, Rarities, etc.

**INFORMATION CHEERFULLY GIVEN**

**IRWIN HEIMAN, Inc.** 2 West 46th Street
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Telephone: LUxemburg 2-2393

*Our*
**MERCURY STAMP JOURNAL**
*edited by*
**Edwin Mueller,**

contains
a wealth of information
in
all fields
of philately.

**Bound Volume I (No. 1 to 12)**
**$5.00, post free.**

**Last issue 25c, sample copy free.**

**MERCURY STAMP COMPANY**
**522 Fifth Ave. (at 44th St.)**
**NEW YORK 18, N. Y.**
Telephones: MU2-7106 and 2-6976
Cable Address: MERCSTAMP NEWYORK

# COVERS

**For The Specialist**
**or The Postal Historian**

Our stock contains covers from the 19th as well as the 20th Century. Try us for your needs in Old Classics, Postal Stationery or Air Mails.

We have covers from Europe, The Near East, Africa, Asia and the Americas.

**Penny Black Stamp Co.**
**(Established 1912)**
**116 Nassau Street**
**New York 7, N. Y.**

★ STAMPS RL ★ **$240,000**

worth of fine properties have been dispersed under this sign through our London and Bournemouth Salerooms during the first half of the current philatelic season.

Properties already entrusted to us for sale during January, February and early March represent a further **$164,000**

The world-wide auction service which is available through the

# ROBSON LOWE AUCTIONS

is at your disposal.

Our branches in:

**LONDON**
**BOURNEMOUTH**
**PHILADELPHIA**
**MELBOURNE**
**BOMBAY**

ensure that every single rarity, specialised collection, specialised study, general collection or wholesale stock finds the right market and secures

# THE BEST NET RESULTS

If you have stamps to sell you cannot do better than place your property in our hands for disposal.

Full details of our comprehensive, international organisation together with typical Illustrated Catalogues will be sent on request.

# ROBSON LOWE LTD.

**LONDON**
**50 PALL MALL**
**LONDON, S.W.1**
**Telephone: Trafalgar 4034**
**Cables: "Stamps, London."**

★

**PHILADELPHIA**
**1820-27 LEWIS TOWER**
**15th. and LOCUST STS.,**
**PHILADELPHIA 3, Pa., U. S. A.**
**Telephone: Ki. 5-4324/4325**

# The Y. SOUREN

*Stock, Part I*

*to be sold at auction by*

## *H. R. Harmer, Inc.*

*International Stamp Auctioneers*

**32 EAST 57th STREET** **NEW YORK 22, N. Y.**

American Philatelic Research Library
P.O. Box 8338
State College, PA 16803