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Jan.-Feb. 1986 Volume 65 Number 1

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Very sincerely yours,

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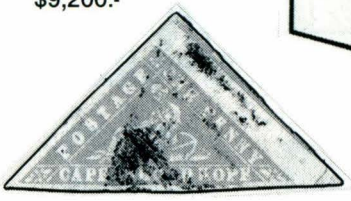
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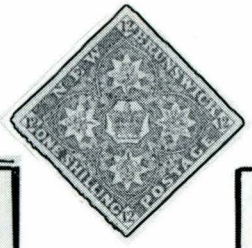
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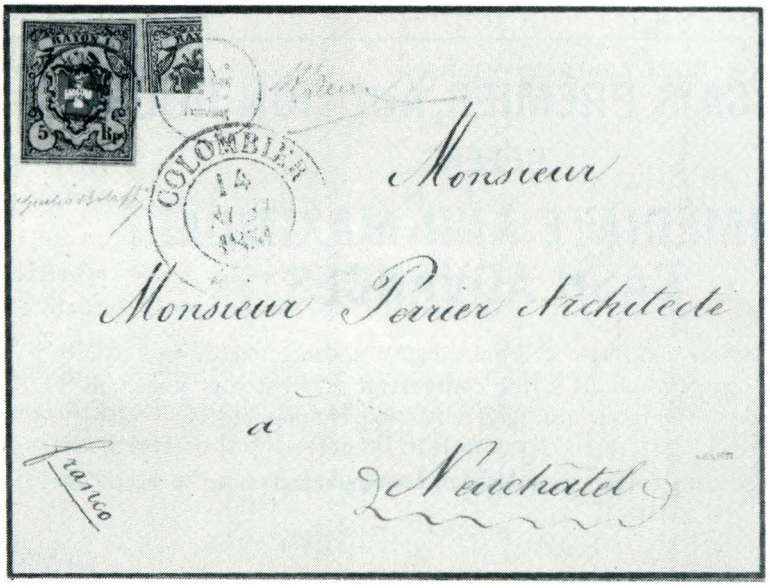
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Volume 65, Number 1 **January-February 1986**

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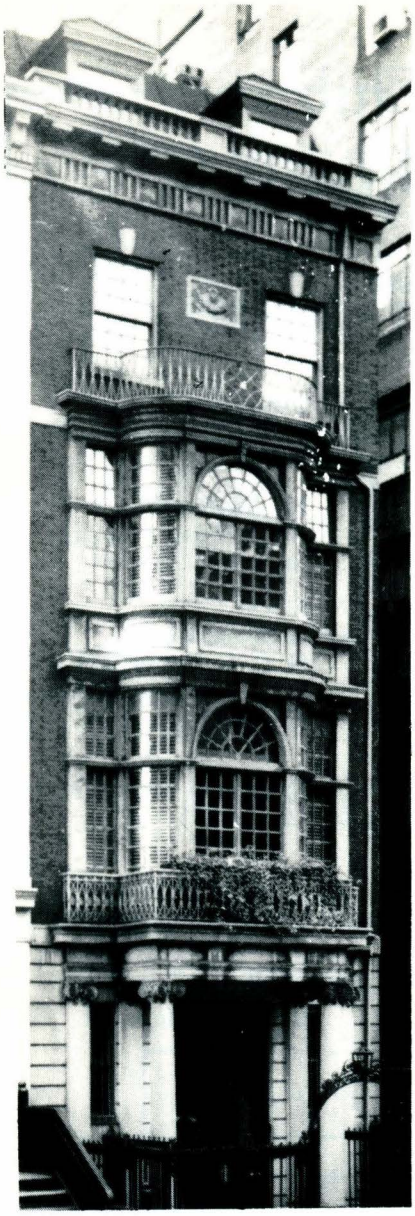
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1983 ESPAMER '82 Medalla de Plata Grande for Volume 60.
1983 Dorothy Colby Award to Philip Silver for "United States: The Beacon Air Mail Stamp of 1928 Revisited".

The Manhattan Express Local

by Calvet M. Hahn

A dozen years ago in the May 1973 *Chronicle*, I first discussed the published data on the Manhattan Express local as part of an article on the Bouton locals. Since then, enough new data has come out to require a new report.

The data involves early use, nature of the handstamps and the rates, quantities of surviving covers, and the shift to the succeeding local posts.

Every published authority holds that the Manhattan Express was established by William V. Barr. Barr first appeared on the New York City scene in the 1846 *Doggett City Directory* as "post man", located at 121 Norfolk Street. In *Pat Paragraphs* no. 36, pg. 1063, Perry stated Barr was in New York less than one year previous to July 1846 and that after July 1847, he was engaged in the coffee business.

Perry's data is essentially correct and is based upon the fact that neither Barr, nor Bouton who bought him out, was listed in the 1845 *Directory*, not even in the "late arrivals" column which was compiled in May. If Barr was not in New York at the time of the May 1845 compilation, it is equally true he was there just a few months later. The new evidence for this is seen in Fig. 1.

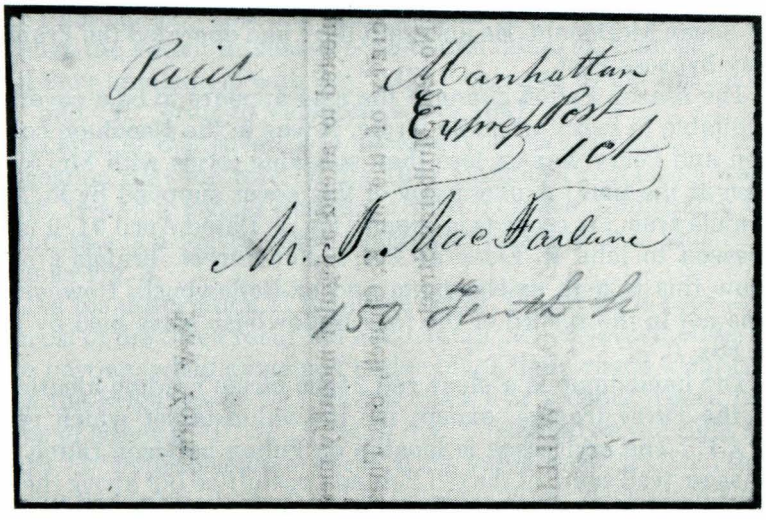


Fig. 1.

This cover, reported here for the first time, contains an October 3, 1845 notice for the Ashbury M.E. (Methodist Episcopal) Church Society located at 200 Mulberry Street. It is addressed to Mr. T. McFarlane at 150 Tenth St. and is marked in red ink "Paid" and "Manhattan Express Post/1 ct". These would appear to have been applied in Mr. Barr's hand when the letter was handed in. Mr. McFarlane's address is added in pencil as a directional. This is the earliest documentation of the Manhattan Express local post. It makes clear that the earliest rate was one cent per letter.

The origin of this letter was on Mulberry between Broome and Spring Streets, while Mr. McFarlane lived on the almost undeveloped portion of 10th Street near 2nd Avenue. The old maps show that Barr, at 121 Norfolk, was at the corner of Rivington or about halfway between Delancey and Houston on the lower East Side in what today is called SoHo (south of Houston and north of Canal). This was about eleven blocks away from the M.E. Church and 19-20 blocks from Mr. McFarlane's address.

The next published record of a Barr cover is found in *Pat Paragraphs* in issue no. 36. There Perry illustrated a tracing of a handstamp found on a February 14, 1847 Valentine addressed to Hannah Price. As the outerleaf is not illustrated, it is not possible to determine where she lived as there were numerous Prices and she did not have a listing of her own in the city directories.

The tracing reads: MANHATTAN EXPRESS./W V/*BARR*/half moon design/·C. Note that the value tablet does not give a rate. Perry commented that the rate was unclear and suggested it might be "2 Cts" instead of the "1.CT." shown in the 1938 Scott catalog. I note that the cover changed hands in the 1968-73 period with Perry buying it for a client at $100.

The late Donald Patton repeated Perry's data with two significant changes. He changed the rate to 1 cent relying upon the "1 CT." illustration found in the Konwiser/Mason article in *Stamp Specialist* and reprinted in *American Philatelic Miscellany* edited by Susan McDonald. He also said Barr had operated the Franklin City Express Post.

The reason Patton changed the rate appears to be a cover not available to Perry when he wrote. It was in the Needham collection and Perry was on less than speaking terms with Mr. Needham at the time! A photocopy of this cover supplied by Richard Frajola from his records is seen in Fig. 2. Dated April 21, it is addressed to John R. Elder at 112 Fulton Street. Frajola's notes show this is both ex-Needham and ex-Hollowbush. However, it was not in the record of the four Hollowbush sales held by John A. Fox.

The handstamp is a clear red 24mm circle reading identically to the Perry tracing, except for the value tablet which reads "1.CT." The addressee is located on Fulton between Dutch and Nassau, well south of the old Rotunda postoffice but above the Old

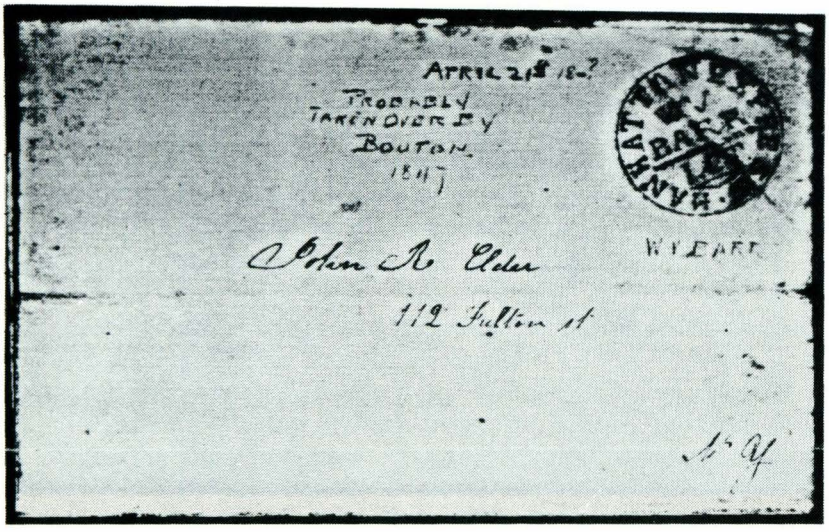


Fig. 2.

Dutch Church. The address is as far south as I have recorded any Barr cover.

John Elder was a ship joiner who moved almost every year. In 1843 he was at 321 Delancy, in 1844 at Goerick and Houston (now part of the Baruch project) where he stayed in 1845. He then moved to 6th near Lewis (on the south side of the Jacob Riis project) and in 1847 he was at 314 Stanton. None of these addresses are near Fulton. All are north of Barr's home and office. Nevertheless, it is not unreasonable in light of his movement to suppose he might have had a temporary residence on Fulton in 1846 or 1847.

The date of the letter eliminates 1845, for manuscript was used in October of that year, while we know that the value tablet read "·C" and was blurred in 1847. The only logical date for this Barr item is the spring of 1846 before he moved to 6th and Lewis. The alternative is to consider it a fake.

If I am correct that this is 1846, then the 1 cent rate applied through the Valentine season of 1846 and this is an example of the first Barr handstamp with the "1.CT." changed by cutting out the "1" and "T." prior to Valentine's Day 1847.

Because of this cover, it is necessary to take seriously Perry's suggestion that the rate on the 1847 Hannah Price cover was 2 cents. It was a logical time for a rate increase. Confirming this hypothesis is a fourth cover which sold recently. It is illustrated here as Fig. 3.

Like the description of the Price cover, the strike is poor—the poorest of the three recorded handstamp items. Nevertheless, the rate portion, when examined under black light, reads identically with the Price cover, "·C" rather than 1 or 2 cents. There is no trace of either a "T" or "S" with the "·" located on the right side of the "1" in the Needham cover. If the value were "2 CTS", there should be traces of an "S". The balance of the inscription would



Fig. 3.

also be different.

I should like to propose that the rate was 2 cents but that Barr merely cut the 1 and T out of the old handstamp and left the value unstated in the handstamp. This way he could change the value as desired. He also had the advantage of not having to pay for a new handstamp.

Fig. 3 is addressed as a Valentine to the widowed Mrs. Knight of 128 Monroe Street. This is Jerusha P. Knight who was the widow of Earl Knight. In 1845 she lived at 256 Division and in 1846 at 128 Monroe with the 1847 listing reading 130 Monroe, just next door, providing this is not a two family building. The address is between Pelham and Rutgers on Monroe, about six blocks from Barr's home and office, on the old East Side. It was just three blocks from the East River. I would date it as 1847 along with the Hannah Price cover.

The text of this Valentine suggests that both the writer and Mrs. Knight were widowed recently,

> Fond heart, thy lonly (sic) course pursuing,
> From lifes young promise to its grey decline
> Thy memory oft, perchance reviewing
> Past pleasures, buried, with thy Valentine.
>
> Ah me! My own lone heart is turning,
> To see the shadow of some loving vine,
> Nay, I confess an inward yearning
> To be thy lov'd and honor'd Valentine.

I have not checked the subsequent *Doggett's City Directories* to see if Mrs. Knight disappears from the listings having accepted this proposal. Someone who is particularly romantically inclined might like to add to this story.

Barr sold the Manhattan Express Post to John Bouton sometime after Valentine's Day in 1847 and went into the coffee business at

37 Stanton by the time the 1847 *Doggett's* was compiled in April-May of that year. John Bouton had not even been listed as a Manhattan resident in the 1846 *Doggett's City Directory.*

The 1847 *Doggett's* was published June 30, 1847, with the basic listings compiled during April and May of that year. As the regular listings show: "John Bouton, Manhattan Express Post, 10 Spring St.", we know that Barr transferred title after Valentine's Day but before sometime in May 1847. We also find in the express listing, one of the last compiled before publication,

> Franklin and Manhattan City Express Post for letters and small hand packages. John Bouton, 10 Spring

This change in wording strongly suggests Bouton acquired the Franklin City Despatch Post after the Manhattan Express and probably in mid-May to late June 1847.

The earliest cover purportedly used by Bouton is one lotted as 1254 in the Robson Lowe Basle sale of 1972 which went unsold at the sale. It is dated February 18, 1847—just four days after we know Barr was delivering Valentine letters. Lowe describes the cover as having a red New York City cds with a 17L1 stamp "uncancelled but tied by filing crease to an entire letter 18 Feb. 1847 to Watesolich, N.Y."

Lowe's notoriously poor illustrations of covers make it difficult to evaluate the genuineness of this cover which is addressed to a non-existent town. Fortunately, the cover was earlier sold in the Lilly sale lot 637 and was illustrated there so we know the town is Watervliet, N.Y.

The problem is that the cover is too early. It is quite unlikely that Bouton could have bought the post after Valentine's and four days later have a stamp being used without a handstamp. The traditional pattern of locals is to begin with a manuscript then use a handstamp and finally go to an adhesive. As Bouton did use handstamps, they would normally precede the stamps or at least appear simultaneously. Consequently it would appear that this cover had a stamp added to a cheap stampless to "enhance" it for Lilly.

The first authentic Bouton Manhattan Express cover that we can date is from the Thompson collection. It is dated April 12, presumably 1847, and bears a red brown oval 30x23 mm handstamp reading BOUTON'S/MANHATTAN/EXPRESS as well as a black 24x5½mm PAID and a pen "J.R.B." authenticating it with Bouton's initials. It is addressed to Luther Bradish at 36 E. 16th Street, which is between Union Place and Irving Place (see Fig. 4). Mr. Bradish is known to have been at that address in both 1847 and 1848 according to *Doggett's.*

I record three other covers with this precise handstamp. One is on a front that also bears a Bouton local adhesive (17L1) that sold as lot 611 in the 3rd Caspary sale. This item is ex-Ferrari, lot 91 in

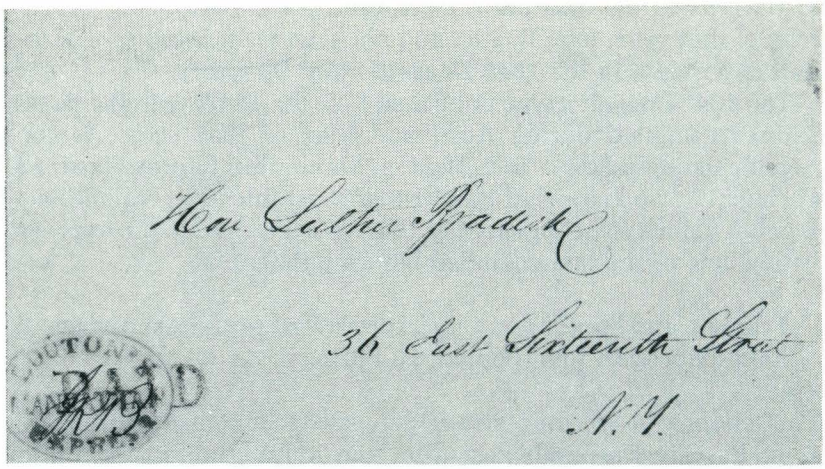


Fig. 4.

the 10th sale, and the cover and stamp have been extensively cleaned. It is probably a later use as the handstamp appears to be dented at left and breaking at the bottom.

The second item sold as lot 1255 in the Lowe 1972 Basle sale and is described as a "fine impression" on "local entire letter" with date of May 31, 1847. The bottom appears even more broken than the Ferrari item, suggesting, at least, that it is still later. Again, Lowe's unfortunate practice of illustrating only the handstamp makes it impossible to authenticate the addressee of this cover or confirm the accuracy of the catalog date. Interestingly enough, Coster, in a letter to the editor of the *American Journal of Philately*, published in February 1872, reports this cover then had a Franklin City stamp with manuscript 'Bouton'!

The third item with this style is found as lot no. 176 in the Lazarus 50th Mail Sale with a certificate from John A. Fox. It is listed as being from July 16, 1848 and bears the Bouton handstamp oval and a red-brown adhesive with a negative 27x7mm PAID. The problem here is that the handstamp is the early Manhattan style, when there is a second style. Further, no other Bouton Manhattan handstamp is known within months of this item. Bouton had been using his own City Dispatch Post handstamp since the fall of 1847.

Admittedly, the Knapp collection has as lot no. 1066 an August 5, 1848 bill of lading from the Carroll Hoy correspondence that does have a cut-to-shape Bouton Manhattan Express stamp, untied.* Further, the 1848 *Doggett's* did still list the Manhattan and Franklin City Express under the express late listings for a change of address to 175 Bowery.

A major problem in accepting such a late listing is the obvious deterioration of the handstamp on early covers. In addition, we

* A tied cut-in at top Manhattan local on cover to Boston without the Bouton Manhattan handstamp sold for $41 as lot 306 in the Kelleher Emerson sale of 2/23/39. As it was not illustrated I can't report the date of the tying New York City cds.

know that Bouton introduced a second handstamp by April 29, 1847. The earliest example of this new style is on a cover in the Richard Schwartz collection that sold as lot 402 in the 1972 Kaufmann sale.

The cover is dated April 29, 1847 and is addressed to a party we know lived at the address in 1847. It bears a reddish brown oval handstamp of 32x24mm size reading BOUTON'S/MANHATTAN/lozenge/EXPRESS. As can be seen, the two handstamps differ in size, position of the letters and in the inclusion of the lozenge in the second version.

The other lozenge types are May 23, 1847 on a Kennedy cover, received in New York on May 26th, an undated item with a pencil "Paid 2" addressed to William Clark and ex-Hollowbush and a September 1, 1847 example. Fig. 5 shows the Kennedy cover in this style.

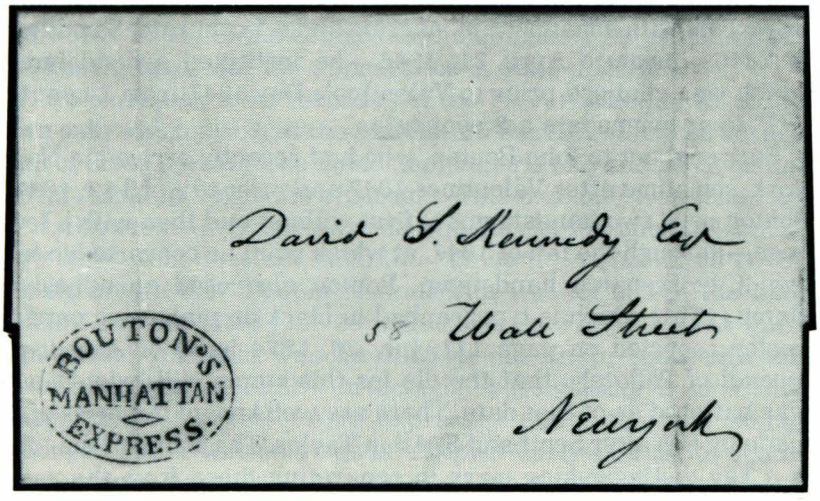


Fig. 5.

As can be seen, there is a problem of overlapping dates. It is possible that both handstamps were used at the same time for a month or so with the early style being abandoned as it broke down, but even in that case it is unlikely that a late (1848) revival occurred.

Another possibility is that Lowe misread a Mr. 31 for May 31 in describing the 1972 Basle sale item. While this idea poses a problem in analyzing the handstamp deterioration it leaves a clear line of date uses with the shift in handstamps in late April 1847.

John Bouton began using his red 31x19mm oval BOUTON'S/CITY/DISPATCH POST. handstamp at least by October 2, 1847, for we find an example of that date in the same reddish brown color as the Manhattan Express Post handstamps. It is ex-Donald Malcolm lot 1669A. Later City Dispatch handstamps are in a redder color. As the addressee of this undated October 2 cover had moved by 1848, 1847 is the only acceptable date for this cover.

I have been able to find no record of the Manhattan Express Post handstamp used after the introduction of the Bouton City

Dispatch handstamp other than the one in the Lazarus sale from July 1848. We do find, however, that Bouton continued to list the post at least in 1848.

In the late listings of the 1848 *Doggett's City Directory* published June 30 of that year we find,

> Franklin and Manhattan City Express Post for letters and small hand packages John Bouton 175 Bowery.

The regular listing shows Mr. Bouton as an express post at 10 Spring with his home at 25 Dominick, so the change occurred shortly before publication date. In this directory William V. Barr is listed as in the coffee business at his home 121 Norfolk.

Summarizing the data thus far, Mr. Barr arrived in New York in the summer of 1845 and began operating the Manhattan Express Post with a manuscript marking and a 1 cent rate. Sometime in 1846—prior to April 21, 1846—he instituted a handstamp which was changed prior to Valentine's Day 1847 from 1 cent to "·C" to accommodate a 2 cent rate.

Barr sold out to John Bouton, who had recently arrived in New York, sometime after Valentines 1847 and prior to April 12, 1847. Bouton used two handstamps—first without and then with a lozenge—through the fall of 1847, at which point he converted to his own City Dispatch handstamp. Bouton also used an adhesive stamp (17L1) which is typographed in black on pink wove paper. Coster reported on page 111, July 20, 1874 issue of *American Journal of Philately*, that the die for this stamp still existed but was battered as of that date. There are well known forgeries of it made by J. Walter Scott and S. Allan Taylor. The shape of the "2" is a key distinguishing mark in separating these from the rare genuine type. An interesting example of a fake on cover is lot no. 223 of the Stolow June 21-23, 1982 sale of the Harris locals collection.

There are only a handful of Bouton adhesives known. Two off-cover and uncancelled examples are from the Caspary and Lilly collections (Lilly lots 634,635). I record no examples that are canceled or tied to cover with the Bouton handstamp. There is one tied by cds.

Of the three on-cover pieces, the very early use (February 18, 1847) that is ex-Lilly and Patton is suspect because of its date. The cover was probably a stampless cover to which the Bouton adhesive was added. There is also a very late piece, ex-Knapp (lot 1066) on an August 5, 1848 bill of lading. It too may have been added but is possible. The one appropriate use example is ex-Ferrari, Caspary and Lilly (Lilly lot 636) on a front with the Type I Bouton Manhattan handstamp.

After selling out to Bouton, Barr continued for some years in the coffee business at both a Stanton Street address and his old Norfolk Street address. Bouton continued with the Bouton City

Dispatch operation which he eventually sold to Aaron Swarts in 1849. Throughout the Bouton operation, the rate was 2 cents.

Barr's operating area was the lower East Side, basically north of the old Rotunda post office.

Franklin City Dispatch

The one problem area with the Barr operation is the assertion by the late Donald Patton that Barr operated the Franklin City Dispatch, page 53 of his *Private Local Posts of the United States Vol. I.* I know of no factual basis for this assertion; however, data on the Franklin City is hard to come by.

We have only a few surviving examples of the Franklin local adhesive to guide us as to their history. This local (Scott 16L1) is typographed in black on green colored paper with a glazed surface. It was forged by both J. Walter Scott and S. Allan Taylor and the word "Free" in the center helps distinguish the genuine from the known fakes, for the appearance is quite different.

Two examples were recorded in the Ferrari sale (lot 91 of the 10th sale which also had the Manhattan Express stamp on cover). One of these is on a piece dated September 2 (47) and has a manuscript "Bouton" over the right end. This example was found by W.P. Brown in 1878 and was subsequently in the Lilly collection. The other item does not have the "Bouton." A second on cover example with the "Bouton" manuscript was lot 633 of the Lilly sale on a cover dated June 25 with inside date of June 23. A third "on cover" example was lot 1065 of the Knapp sale with the stamp bearing a "FREE" in octagon barely tying it to a City Despatch Post cover. Perry expressed doubt that the stamp belonged and it was sold "as is". It previously sold as lot 305 in the Emerson February 23, 1939 Kelleher auction where Knapp bought it for $57.

A fourth example sold as lot 608 in the Caspary sale on piece. The item is marked "not current" and there is docketing that it is May 13, 1847. The fifth example is the one discussed as lot 1255 in the Lowe 1972 Basle sale, from which the Franklin City stamp was removed.

The only apparent use during the life of the Franklin City local itself appears to be the ex-Ferrari item that does not have the Bouton manuscript. I have thus far been unable to find a modern photo of it. The inscribed Bouton items make it clear that the takeover was by mid-June 1847 if not earlier. The "not current" Knapp example might suggest the post had ceased operation by May 13th and that Bouton bought the shell of a company.

None of this tells us who operated the local before Bouton bought it. We have two logical choices. One is that it was based on Franklin Street in the West Side area now known as Tribeca. It was south of Canal and ran from Drake Street (one block east of Centre) to the Hudson. Unfortunately, there has been no party located on this street that shows as a postman, carrier, etc. in the

1846 or 1847 *Doggett's City Directory*. Admittedly no one has read this telephone directory-like book through line by line in its entirety to see if such a person does exist.

The second possibility is that it was operated by a member of the Franklin family. Such a family lived on the East Side at 144 Eldridge Street, between Delancy and Rivington about 5-6 blocks away from Barr towards the middle of the island. In 1846 and 1847 the widow Franklin lived there with her children. Her husband, Thomas, had been a collector and died in the early 1840s leaving her and her eldest son, George, who was a clerk at that address from 1842 through 1847. Another Franklin, Edward, was at 146 Eldridge in 1842, so that there were several members of the Franklin clan in the area.

It is quite possible that in a family of this type the widow and some of the younger children were used to operate a local mail service to bring in funds. It is also logical that they would sell out to Bouton if they found the income not particularly large and as the children qualified for other better paid jobs.

Admittedly, the concept of the Franklin family running the post is speculative. But it is just as speculative to assume a different operation on Franklin Street or that Barr operated the post separately from his Manhattan Express Post. The evidence is quite strong that the Barr and Franklin operations were quite separate. The few Franklin Dispatch covers do not give us enough data to project its operating area. It could have overlapped with Barr. Until we can locate an advertisement or a "postman" listing on Franklin Street, both possibilities seem equally probable.

NEW MEMBERS ADMITTED

The following were admitted to membership at the Board meeting indicated:

September 26, 1985

Howard Barnstorm, *Texas**
Stephen Braham, *UK**
James Campbell, *Florida*
Guido Craveri, *Switzerland**
Terrence J. Dodson, *Texas**
Raymond R. Erickson, *California*
Calvet M. Hahn, *New York***
Larry Joseph, *Illinois*
Reinhold Koester, *Brasil**
Daniel S. Pagter, *California*
Murray R. Pearce, *North Dakota*
Hal A. Reynolds, *New Jersey*
Steven J. Rod, *Nebraska*
Vivien J. Sussex, *UK*
William L. Welch, *Pennsylvania*

October 30, 1985

Michael Aldrich, *Minnesota*
John R. Hill, Jr., *Texas*
Satish Misrah, *India*
Ronnie C. Truslair, *Louisiana*
John W. Watts, *New York*

* *Reinstatement*
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A New Look at the Official Stamps of Tibet

by Robin H. Mix

One of the on-going nagging questions in Himalayan philately is the true status of the Tibet Official stamps (Scott 01 to 05). H.D.S. Haverbeck, who first wrote about them in his Collectors Club handbook,[1] believed then and still believes (Postal Himal #41, January 1985)[2] in their bona fides despite the mysteries surrounding them.

A.C. Waterfall[3] by contrast has nothing but scorn for the Officials ("so-called" as he puts it). He stops just short of saying they are fraudulent, but the implication is clear.

A more recent writer on the topic, Dr. Armand Singer,[4] takes a less didactic approach but raises a legitimate question about postal validity of the Officials. He states he has never seen an authentic cover bearing *only* Tibet Officials as pre-payment of internal postage—that covers with Officials invariably carry them in combination with regular issue Tibet stamps. The point is important, because if such were indeed the case, the Officials would be reduced to a status little different from a charity label.

In fact, however, at least three such covers do exist.

All three covers are from the correspondence of Dr. Philip Cummings, recipient of the first cover with a postally-used Official on it, which is illustrated in Haverbeck's handbook and here as Fig. 1. Curiously, the evidence for postal validity of the Officials has been under our noses for many years in the Haverbeck handbook but it has perhaps been discounted or ignored because the back of the cover (with remaining stamps) has *not* been shown. Here, for the first time to my knowledge, are photos of the front *and* back of this famous cover, showing clearly that there is no other Tibet stamp on it—nor has there ever been.

The other two covers, also from the Cummings correspondence, are shown here as Figs. 2 and 3. It will be noted that the cover in Fig. 2 carries one copy each of Scott 02 and 03, whereas the cover in Fig. 3 carries a pair of each of these stamps (or twice the internal Tibetan postage rate indicated by Fig. 2). Yet both covers carry identical Indian postage of 3 rupees 6 annas—thus they presumably weighed the same for international mail purposes. More about the explanation for this "internal rate discrepancy" later on.

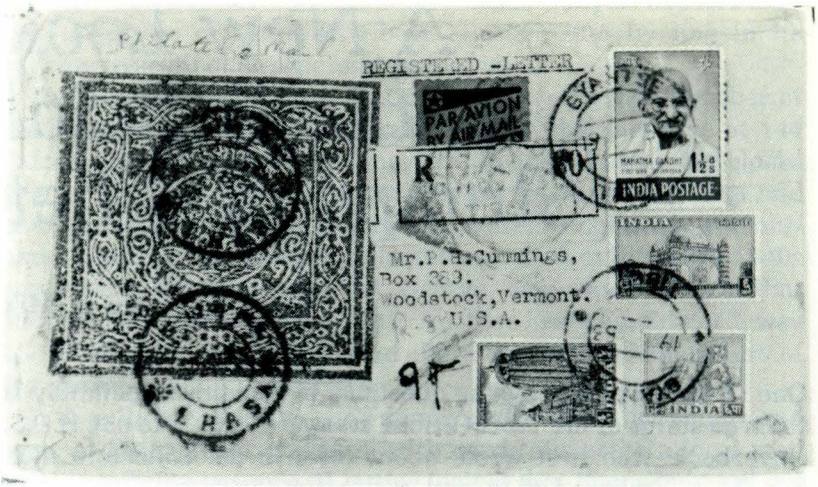


Fig. 1a.

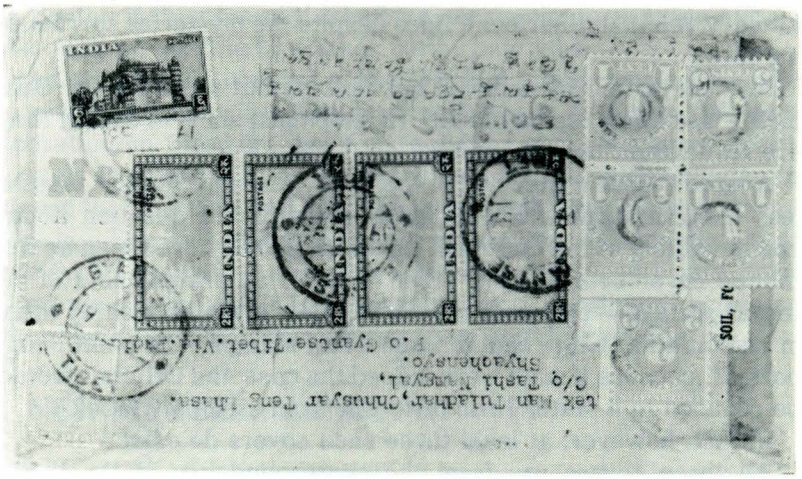


Fig. 1b.

It is pertinent at this juncture to give some facts about the Cummings collection. Cummings is a retired economist and lecturer who has lived for over 40 years near Woodstock, Vermont. He is a linguist, a world traveller and a life-long collector (of many things besides stamps). Our friendship goes back over a decade and it is germane to report on it here. I had been mildly interested in Tibetan philately for some years, principally through having acquired in 1962 a large cache of India-Tibet commercial covers from a totally non-philatelic source. To that cache I had occasionally added an item from auction. One of the latter, in turn, was a cover (philatelic) addressed to a Philip Cummings in Woodstock. Leafing through my collection one day in the '70s I came upon this and wondered, since I was by then a resident of Vermont myself, if the addressee was still alive and still lived in Woodstock. The telephone book answered both questions. I called him, drove the 45 minutes over to see him, and thus started an on-going friendship.

Sometime later Cummings offered to dispose of his collection to



Fig. 2a.

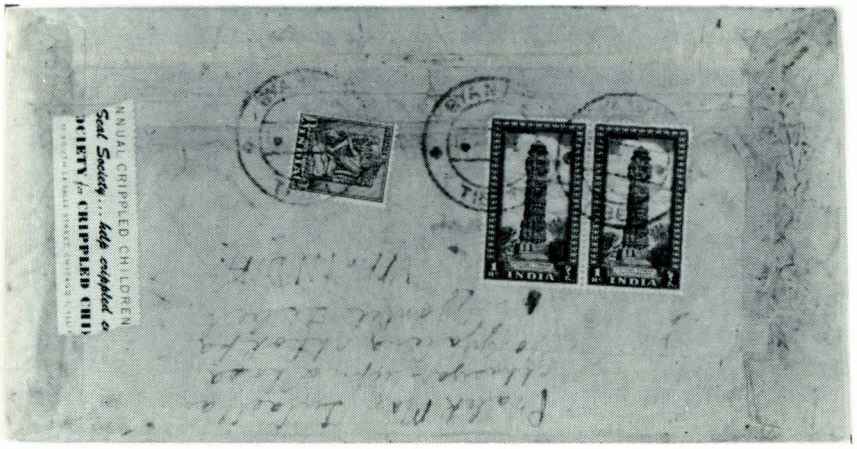


Fig. 2b.

me, a somewhat younger man. Note that I do not say "sell." He had stated, virtually from our first meeting, that the collection had cost him very little in cash since it had largely been formed by trading with a person in Tibet. As it turned out I, an art importer, had some objects which appealed to him. In sum, we traded. Cummings' one stipulation was that his Tibet collection not be broken up during his lifetime. It has not been and will not be. Which brings us up to the present.

I have never thought of myself as a Tibet specialist, only a "pack-rat" collector—although I have at least been in Little Tibet (Ladakh). (Jammu & Kashmir is my real philatelic field.) So I paid little attention to the brou-ha-ha about Tibet Officials, even after reading Waterfall's disparaging comments on the subject. In recent months, however, I have become intrigued in the topic and have had several further discussions with Cummings—obtaining new information about the collection's background.

Cummings formed his collection principally through correspondence with one Pratek Man Tuladhar in Lhasa, Tibet. Tuladhar was not, as some mistakenly believe, a Nepalese trader in Tibet but rather Keeper of the Privy Purse of the Potala (fiscal

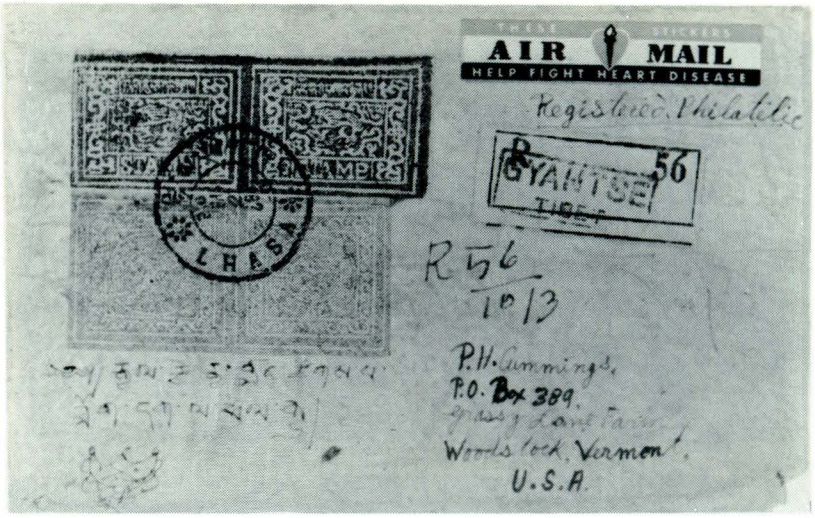


Fig. 3a.

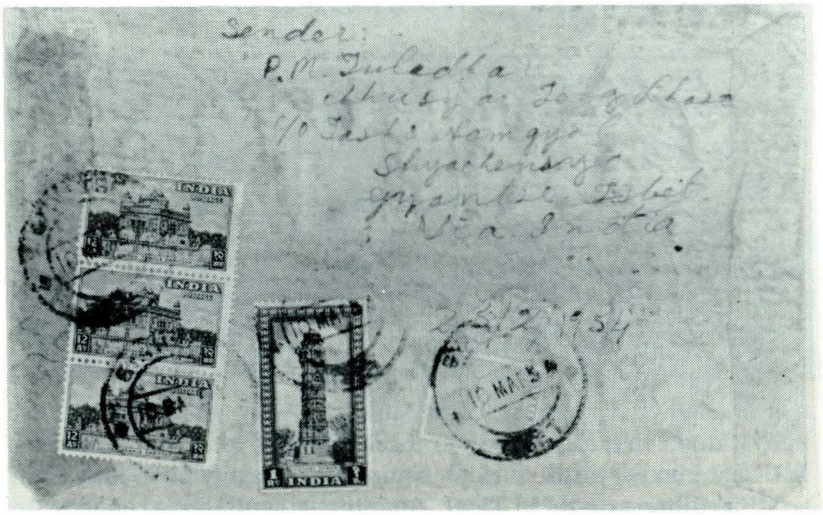


Fig. 3b.

agent of the Dalai Lama) and thus an official of considerable rank in the Tibetan government. Tuladhar had apparently developed an interest in philately and published a stamp-trading offer in a 1952 philatelic paper which caught Cummings' eye. Cummings wrote. Tuladhar responded. Today, 33 years later, they are still corresponding—with Tuladhar now living in retirement in Kathmandu.

It is interesting in our mercenary "cash-up-front" age to learn that Cummings never paid anything to Tuladhar for any of the items he received. Cummings sent him stamps, both U.S. and foreign. He sent him stickers and charitable organization labels (which Tuladhar was very fond of putting on his return envelopes from Tibet). And he sent him garden seeds, acquired in Woodstock, Vermont, which Tuladhar reported as flourishing in the Dalai Lama's summer gardens! But never any money.

In return Tuladhar sent stamps, c.t.o. covers from obscure

Tibetan post offices, coins, bank-notes, telegraph stamps, mantras (Tibetan prayers) and paper and parchment objects (the only word for it) reflecting Tibetan culture. Tuladhar's written English was poor and his meaning sometimes unclear (as I can attest from notes of his included with the Cummings collection). But his intentions were good and, as far as Cummings is concerned, he was and is an honest man.

The foregoing account of the Cummings collection is given in I-hope-not-too-tedious detail to underscore one basic point: the collection was formed *without* financial benefit being derived by any stamp "dealer"—whether in the U.S., Nepal, India or Tibet itself. While realizing that "no profit" does not in itself assure Simon-purity, I believe it goes a long way to ensuring the credibility of the items in the Cummings collection—the first-mentioned Officials-on-cover included.

Cummings has said that Tuladhar did *not* send him any off-cover Officials before sending the cover illustrated in Fig. 1. He did send some later. The Officials had been seen and reported on in the late '40s by Haverbeck, but this spectacular cover was the first international-mail evidence of their postal validity. In the accompanying letter (unfortunately it has not survived) Tuladhar referred to the stamp as "Official," according to Cummings' recollection. Thus the term was applied in Tibet itself—not simply coined by Western philatelists.

Let us then, for the sake of argument, take these Official stamps at face value. What have we? A responsible official of the Tibetan government uses first one, then several more, on international mail essentially to please his overseas correspondent. Since there are no other Tibetan stamps on any of these three covers it must be assumed that the Official stamps had franking power within Tibet—else the letters would not have been accepted for posting within the country. (It must be re-stated, once again, that Tibet was not a U.P.U. member, its stamps had no franking power beyond its own borders, all mail destined for foreign countries *had* to enter the international mail system at a UPU-member's office (usually India's) at either Gyantse, Yatung, or Pharijong and carry the full international postage rate from that point forward.)

As to Tibetan internal postage, despite Waterfall's comment on page 114 that "any Tibetan Postmaster would only be too pleased to cancel any kind of stamp or label of an envelope and send it through the post—as long as the postal fee was paid to him"—there is simply no substantive evidence to support this. Favor-cancel: Yes (with the envelope handed back). Send through the post: No. (If for no other reason than that there was always the un-bribed postmaster at the recipient's end to reckon with.) It should be borne in mind that Waterfall claims no personal experience of the Orient, much less Tibet, and his understanding of the way things really worked in the high Himalayas is open to

much question. In fact, there is considerable evidence of probity in Tibetan postal matters (forgeries to defraud the Post aside) before the final days of the theocratic regime. Haverbeck has commented favorably on this (page 56 of the handbook) noting the punctiliousness of use of the free-franking privilege by authorized Tibetan officials.

So let us take up the question: What in fact were these "Officials"? What was their real purpose? As we have seen, at a late date they could legally be used for prepayment of postage within Tibet—but surely that was not their original intent. They are too rare on genuine covers, too prevalent on late-date c.t.o. covers and too readily available as unused stamps to warrant any such conclusion. The material known to the world philatelic market all points to its having been dispersed during and after the Communist take-over. (Which is in no way to imply that the Chinese had a hand in its distribution. I would look rather to Tibetan refugees and Nepalese scavengers.) Above all, why are the stamps so physically large?

I raised this question to Cummings in the very recent conversation which led to this article. He had no ready answer but did, almost off-handedly, muse: "The Tibetans did use parchment scrolls for messages between monasteries."

And there, suddenly, was the solution. Were the Officials originally monastic—and *governmental*—scroll-sealing labels? I think so.

Consider: By its nature a scroll is rolled up, not folded like a letter. To prevent the scroll from unrolling a ribbon would be tied around it (rubber bands would hardly have been in common use in Tibet). The ribbon, even if its knot had been sealed with wax, would *not* ensure against unauthorized reading of the scroll while in transit. It would be too simple to slide the ribbon off—and replace it undetected. Equally, a wax seal could *not* be applied to the flap of the scroll because applying pressure to the wax with a seal-ring would crack the parchment of the scroll itself. The result would be unsightly, to put it mildly. (Visualize the last time you received a calendar or poster in a mailing tube crushed in transit.)

The solution would have been a largish paper label to be glued over the flap of the scroll. Any tampering in transit would immediately be visible to the recipient because the label would be torn through. Most important, a replacement label would *not* readily be available to the unauthorized scroll-reader (as a stamp from his local post-office, for instance). In short, a virtually foolproof way of ensuring inter-monastery privacy of administrative directives (government business in a theocracy).

Who would have been the carriers of these scrolls? Almost certainly not peasant postal runners. Such government-monastic missives would scarcely have been entrusted to them, precisely because they would constitute religio-administrative business.

Under such a concept, it is perfectly logical for the Official stamps' Tibetan inscription to read "Tibet Government Order Stamp" as Haverbeck has stated. The scroll-carriers would have been monastic emissaries attached to the lamaseries — and quite possibly monks themselves.

It is on the fact of the theocratic state that the Officials' "Tibet Government authenticity" must ultimately rest. If they were created and issued for use by a monastic courier service — a kind of parallel to the regular postal service — they could readily have been turned over to the latter in a time of trauma and stress such as the Chinese invasion. That is exactly what I believe happened.

It is unlikely in the extreme that the Officials were removed from monastic control as a liberalizing gesture by the lamas themselves. Far more plausible is the notion that it resulted from Chinese advances into Tibet and their continuing efforts in the process to de-stabilize the Tibetan theocracy. A stated Chinese aim was to "liberate the Tibetan masses from monastic oppression." Prostituting the exclusive monastic courier system and its symbols would be a small but potentially effective step along this path. And once the "secret" (for lack of a better word) stamps had fallen into lay hands, the as-yet-unconquered Tibetan authorities might well feel they had no choice but to release the remainder to the postal system. A secret once exposed has no further value.

The probably sudden appearance of these Officials among his stamp stocks must have posed a dilemma for the Tibetan postmaster. He might never have seen them before (since they were never intended for lay use or lay eyes) but he probably had a clear understanding of what they were. I cite Haverbeck's anecdote in *Postal Himal No. 41* about showing an Official stamp (received from Smythies) to the chief of the Tibetan Trade Mission to the United States in 1948 who responded "the 'ticket' was only for Tibetan officials and that I should not have had it as it must have been stolen." Why 'stolen'? It seems a very strong word unless we put it in the context of Tibetan theocracy: a *closed* religious government to whose conduct and secrets no layman had authorized access. Thus, incidentally, explaining Waterfall's cited examples of Tibetan lay officials' professed ignorance of their existence.

What does our hypothetical Tibetan postmaster do when presented with the Officials? I believe he approached them with caution and diffidence. He might be authorized (ordered?) to use them for ordinary postage but their near-sacrosanct monastic origin would certainly cause him to hesitate. Hence, I believe, the almost invariable practice noted by Singer of using them in conjunction with regular postage stamps. Not because the postmaster doubted their postal validity (the three covers illustrated with this article prove that beyond dispute) but because he was in his own eyes "walking where angels fear to tread." He simply *shouldn't*

be using them in this way, and knew it.

One puzzling question remains: Do the Officials bear Tibetan currency denominations? Haverbeck says they do—a statement accepted and used by the cataloguers. In a very recent conversation with Haverbeck, he informed me that he got this information from the Curator of the Tibet Collection at the Newark (New Jersey) Art Museum—an institution with one of the world's finest collections of Tibetan artifacts and one long associated with Tibetan refugee elements in the U.S. Thus the authority for the statement was almost certainly a Tibetan refugee (probably a layman) interviewed by the museum. But how reliable is that statement? We simply don't know. We do know that many characters in written Tibetan are ambiguous, capable of differing meanings according to context. The corner symbols on the Officials, allegedly denoting face value, may originally have had no monetary significance at all. Certainly Cummings believes the stamps were non-denominated. He discussed this with Tuladhar when the two met in Kathmandu in the mid-'60s and was told by Tuladhar that the sizes and colors of the various Officials denoted their values, but he made no mention of a printed denomination.

The question is somewhat more than academic because if (as I believe) the Officials were made postally valid *by decree* their cost to the purchaser at the Post Office could have been a movable feast. This provides a potentially plausible answer to the puzzle posed by the apparent double internal rate on the cover in Fig. 3. If Tuladhar could buy two Officials for the price of one (or four for that matter) why not oblige a friend with an additional curio by putting more stamps on that particular envelope? This is all pure speculation, of course, but if the use of an Official (*any* Official) stamp on a cover indicated "postal fees paid" without any amount stated this could explain the otherwise incomprehensible "rates" seen on other late-date Tibetan covers bearing Officials in combination with regular-issue Tibetan postage stamps. A confusing concept no doubt but, in a disintegrating country, a distinct possibility.

In closing: Are the "Official" stamps *stamps* in the usual philatelic sense of the term? The answer is perhaps NO insofar as their original intent—but YES in the use to which they were ultimately put. And certainly, all through their functional life, they were "Government labels."

References

1. *The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Tibet*, 1958.
2. Quarterly of the Nepal and Tibet Philatelic Study Circle.
3. *The Postal History of Tibet*, 1981 edition.
4. *Postal Himal*, No. 40, October 1984.

Angola's Strange One-Way Airline, 1945-47

by Joseph F. Albert

Interior airmail service within Angola was established by Decree No. 3493 of October 2, 1940. Payment was originally indicated by the use of blue labels (etiquettas) and later by paid handstamps. The rate was indicated in gold francs in keeping with the U.P.U. regulations established in 1874 governing international air letters.



Fig. 1. Cover mailed from Lobito on January 8, 1939. Note the amount inserted in the blue etiquette: 0,3 fr. The postal clerk has indicated the weight of this letter to have been 4 grams. Arrival date at Lisboa was January 19, 1939.

By the beginning of 1945, the volume of mail had grown to the extent that the use of labels and handstamps were no longer practical. Accordingly, a special series of airmail stamps were printed by Imprensa Nacional de Angola and were placed in service by Ordem de Servicio No. 13 of April 27, 1945, which also set the rate to be charged at 90 centavos for each 5 grams or fraction thereof. This fee was in addition to the regular surface rate and was to be affixed by the postal clerk at the time of the payment of the fee. No stamps were sold over the counter. There were 30 stamps in the set from 90 centavos and progressing in multiples of 90 centavos up to and including 27 angolars. Being of a provisional nature, and produced locally, the stamps appear rather crude in design and the perforations and centering vary consider-



Fig. 2. Lowest value in airmail series: 90 centavos. Note the crude design and the breaks in the frame line due to uneven inking of roller during printing.



Fig. 3. Middle value of the 30-stamp series. This set is notorious for poor perforations as clearly illustrated here.



Fig. 4. Highest value in the airmail series was than 27 angolar value. As shown here, centering varies considerably.

ably. They may be found listed in the Sanabria airmail catalog as nos. 12-46. (Figs. 2-4)

The following facts concerning this airmail service have been documented solely by examination of the covers found thus far:

This was a high cost service. The surface postage rate was 90 centavos for each 20 grams, while the airmail rate being 90 centavos for each 5 grams means that mail using this service would cost anywhere from 4 to 8 times as much. Therefore, apparently only the most important mail would justify this cost.

The service was remarkably efficient in maintaining schedules. Two air routes were operated during this period: the northern route, connecting Landana and Cabinda with the capital of Luanda, accounted for roughly 10 percent of the mail flown; the southern route, connecting Mossamedes and Sa. de Bandeira with Luanda accounted for about 90 percent. So remarkably efficient was this service that it was not unusual for mail to be posted early in the day at one end of the route and arrive in Luanda the same day! (Figs. 5-7)

Now comes the strange part. Of the more than 350 covers that have been found bearing these airmail stamps, all but about ten were addressed to Luanda. Very few have been found going the other way (and almost all of those have been suspected to be philatelic). Why? Did the plane fly out of Luanda empty? Several hypotheses have been proposed to explain this amazing fact. Although none have been substantiated, the one that appears to have the most validity is that, since only the most important mail would justify the cost, most individuals of any importance were in Luanda, the capital. Evidence of this comes from the fact that more than 75 percent of all covers found have been addressed to either company executives or government officials. It would follow then that the most important mail would go where the most important individuals reside. This, however, continues to be only a hypothesis.

Mail during this period has been found originating from at least 23 towns within Angola. The number of reported covers so far is as follows:

1. Benguela	67	13. Ambrizette	8
2. Lobito	53	14. Landana	4
3. Lubango	41	15. S. Antonio do Zaire	4
4. Mossamedes	31	16. Bela Vista	3
5. Silva Porto	20	17. Ganda	3
6. Novo Redondo	18	18. Villa Robt. Williams	2
7. Porto Amboim	18	19. Catumbela	1
8. Nova Lisboa	17	20. Vila Novo de Seles	1
9. Camacupa	17	21. Malanje	1
10. Cabinda	14	22. Porto Alexandre	1
11. Gabela	12	23. V. Teixeira de Sousa	1
12. Sa. de Bandeira	12		

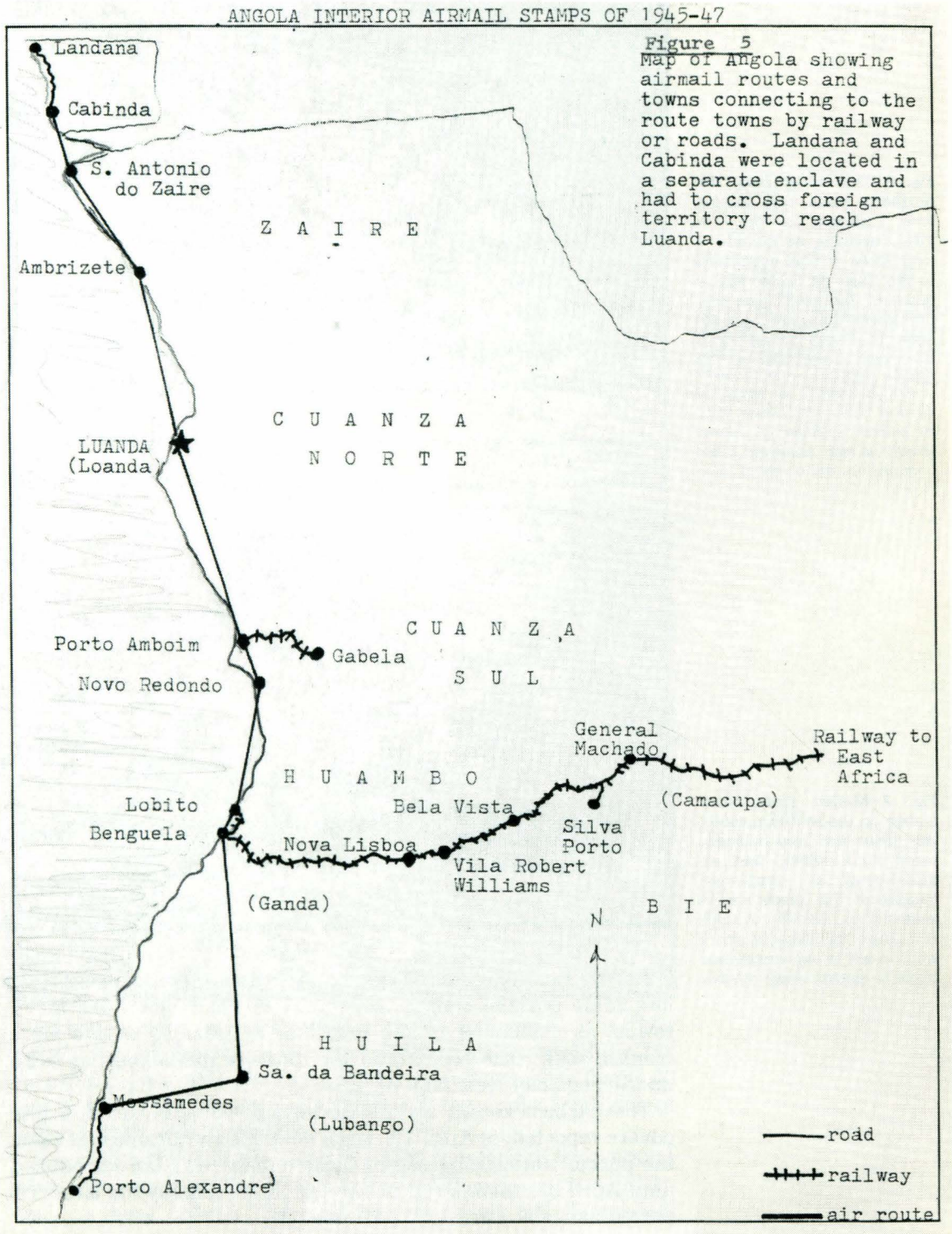


Figure 5
Map of Angola showing airmail routes and towns connecting to the route towns by railway or roads. Landana and Cabinda were located in a separate enclave and had to cross foreign territory to reach Luanda.

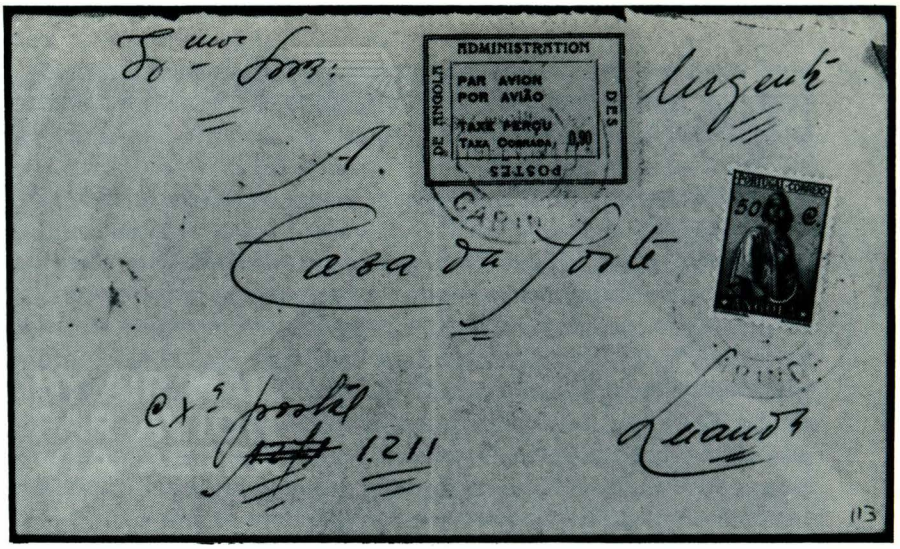


Fig. 6. This cover from the northern route was mailed from Cabinda on Feb. 19, 1947, arriving at Luanda 3 days later. It was addressed to the Casa da Sorte, where much of the mail from this period was going, giving credence that this might have been used to mail some sort of lottery stubs.



Fig. 7. Mailed from Nova Lisboa on the southern route, this cover was sent by registered mail, which cost an additional 50 centavos. Weight of this piece was 4 grams.

During this time, there was, apparently, an acute shortage of low value postage stamps, especially in the remote, provincial towns, as evidenced by the fact that at least 53 covers were franked with some combinations of postage due stamps to make up the required fees. (Fig. 8)

The earliest known use of the airmail stamps, based on the covers reported, is April 12, 1945, which is rather unusual since the decree authorizing use of these stamps was not introduced until April 27, 1945, a full two weeks later! (Fig. 9) The latest reported usage is April 12, 1947. (Fig. 10)

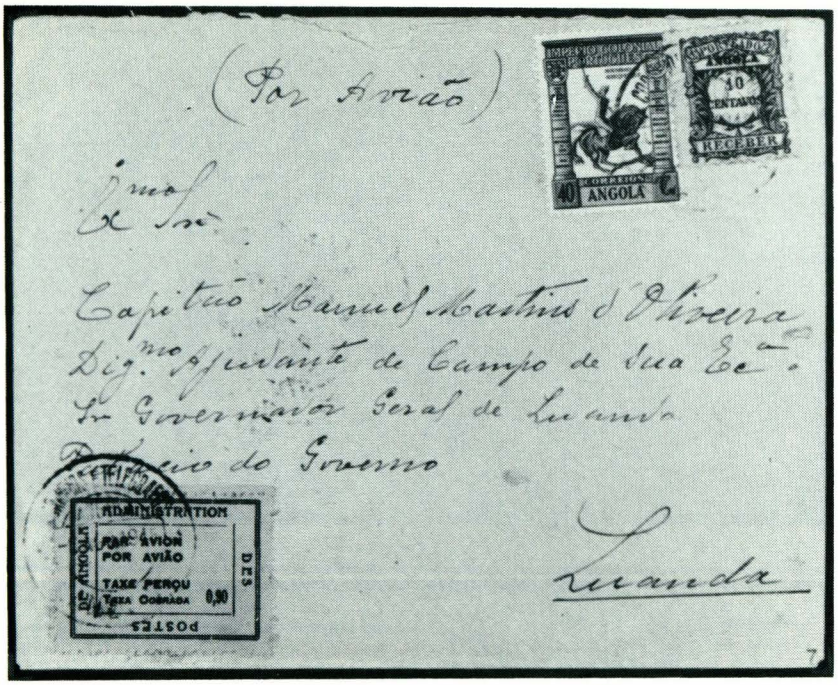


Fig. 8. Usage of postage due stamps to make up regular postal franking is evident in this cover, mailed from Landana on August 6, 1945. Mail from this point had to travel by surface means to reach Cabinda, the northernmost town on the air route.



Fig. 9. Mailed from Silva Porto on April 12, 1945, this represents one of the earliest uses of these airmail stamps.

Although there were 30 values in the airmail series, it is quite evident that all the values were not widely distributed. Of the 353 reported covers, only 10 are franked with values higher than 3.60 angolars. In most cases, when higher rates apply, multiples of lower values were used. (Fig. 11)

At certain times of the year, postal tax stamps of 50 centavos were also required. The covers examined show consistent adherence to these orders. "Assistencia" or postal tax stamps are



Fig. 10. This cover, mailed from Lubango on March 7, 1947, represents one of the latest usages of these special airmail stamps.

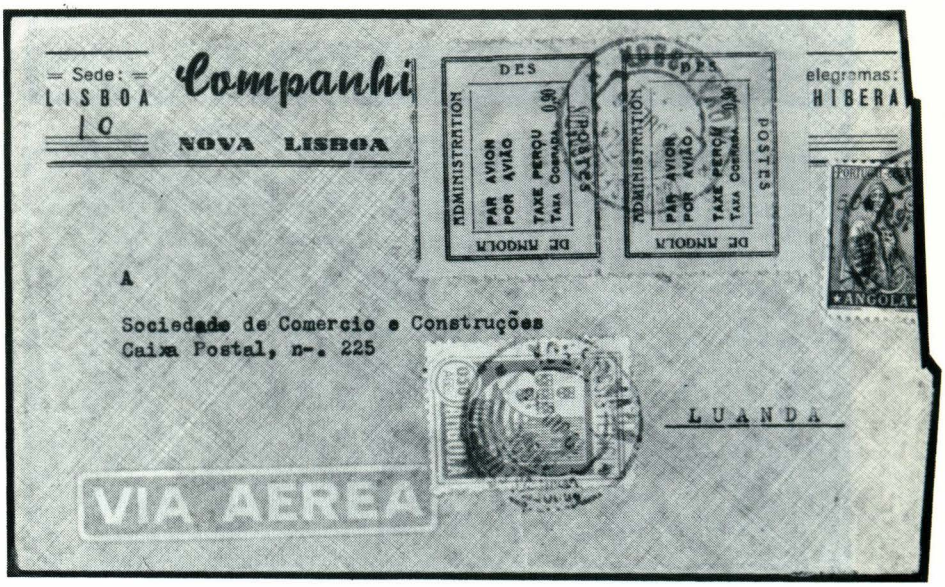


Fig. 11. Mailed from Nova Lisboa on July 10, 1946, this letter weighed, apparently over 5 but less than 10 grams and required 1,80 angolars. As was common during this period, apair of 0,90 centavo airmail stamps were applied. Note also the use, again of the postal tax stamp, since the date mailed required it.

found from July 3 to 30, 1945; December 11 to 30, 1945; July 10-31, 1946 and December 11, 1946 to January 5, 1947. (Fig. 12)

Official mail, although exempt from both regular and postal tax franking, were obligated to use these special airmail stamps (Fig. 13).

This special airmail service continued into April, 1947. Use of the stamps was discontinued when a uniform system for domestic and international airmail was introduced under Decree No. 5884 of April 2, 1947. All stocks remaining unsold at that time were burned. No one knows how many of the 400,000 stamps originally printed still survive today and one can only speculate how many postally used covers still exist.

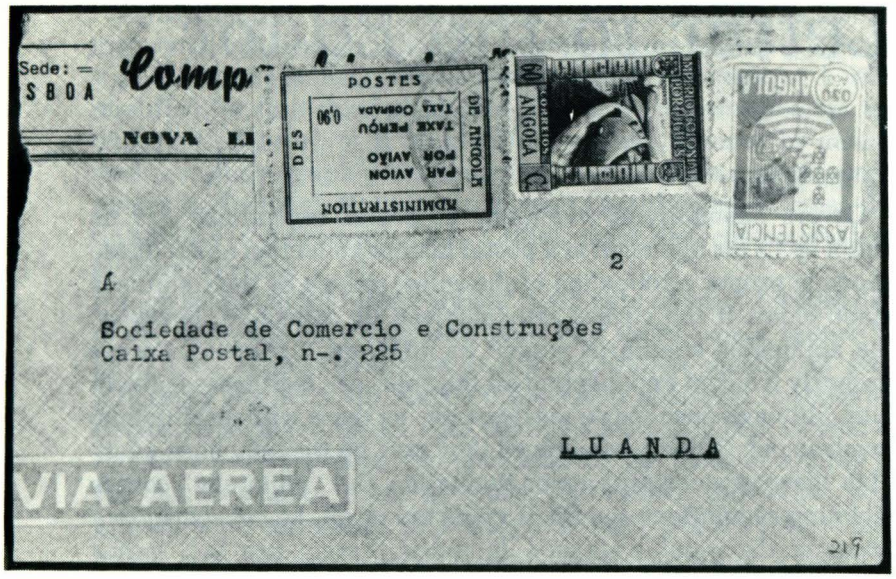


Fig. 12. This letter, mailed from Nova Lisboa on July 24, 1945, required the special "Assistencia" or postal tax stamp, since it was mailed on that day. Note that this letter was apparently overfranked as the regular postage rate was 50 centavos for 20 grams. This piece has 60 centavos, due, evidently, to a shortage of low value postage stamps.

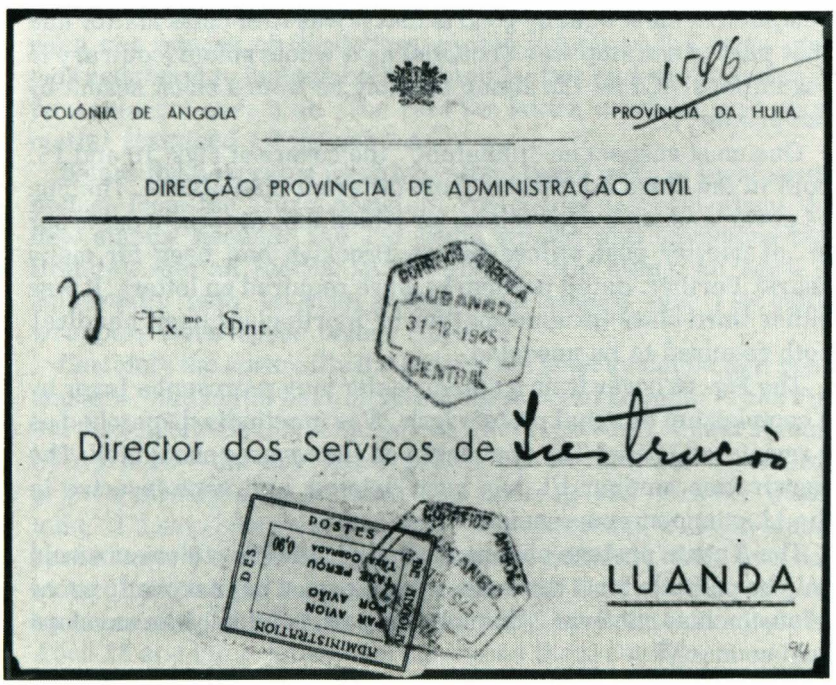


Fig. 13. This official correspondence from the Provincial Director of Civil Administration for the Province of Huila on December 31, 1945, required only the special air-mail stamp. No postage or "Assistencia" was applicable.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Covers exemplifying violations of postal regulations are no doubt as fit for inclusion in a postal history collection as are those showing proper application of the rules, so long as their status is made clear. If the covers are contrived by collectors, however, the applicable standards should be different, I contend. Covers properly franked and meeting all the rules are legitimate collectibles, although perhaps not as desirable as those with no philatelic involvement; indeed, sometimes they may be the only ones available showing a certain rate or regulation. But "philatelic" covers violating regulations should, if collected at all, be consigned to a "beyond the pale" category. Included therein are the "fancy cancels" of the 1920s and '30s and a great part of the bisects after the 1870s.

The following comments on the articles by Henry Stollnitz on nineteenth and twentieth century U.S. bisects in the July-Aug. and Sept.-Oct. *CCP* mostly reflect my feeling that their author did not sufficiently stress the need to suspect collector hanky-panky. Some point to incorrect or ambiguous statements about rates.

A 2 cent rate is ascribed to the Fig. 7 cover. That implies third-class contents (printed matter). If the contents are unknown, and if the envelope was unsealed when mailed is unknown, then an assumption at least equally good is that it was first-class matter and that part of a stamp was accepted as a whole stamp (contrary to regulations). (Could the stamp possibly be from a sheet miscut by the printer?)

One must suspect as "philatelic" the covers of Figs. 10 and 15: both to the same addressee, from different post offices. The Fig. 14 cover was not a drop letter, for which the rate was 2 cents per oz. at carrier post offices (which Brooklyn had been for many years). Further, dated postmarks were required on letters. It was either third-class (printed matter) or fourth-class (merchandise), both required to be unsealed.

The Fig. 16 cover from a stamp dealer may represent a favor by a complaisant or venal postal clerk. Was it actually dispatched as a registered letter? The postmarks on the reverse should tell. The registration number UL has been deleted, and none inserted in the LL stamped endorsement.

The 3 cents postage charge posited for the Fig. 18 cover would only be possible for a third-class piece over 4 but not over 6 oz. or a fourth-class one over 2 but not over 3 oz. Is it likely the envelope held so much?

If the stamp on the Fig. 36 cover is a coil, I would say its bisecting represents a malfunction of a stamp affixing machine. It is not true that "bills mailed unsealed were one cent postage. . . ." Bills qualified for that third-class rate if entirely in print (except for date and address), or if 20 identical copies prepared by means such as mimeograph were mailed at a time. Some utility companies had enough flat-rate customers that they could meet the third-class requirements, but I think most gas customers had metered service.

I am skeptical that there was a "1925 rate fiasco." I would like to see contemporary documentation that there was a failure to have 1½¢ stamps available at any significant number of post offices by April 15. On March 6 the Third Assistant Postmaster General instructed direct- and central-accounting post offices to requisition 1½¢ stamps and envelopes on the basis of a three to six months supply. I am not sure, but believe that other post offices were supposed to requisition their stocks from those larger post offices. Perhaps some postmasters failed to do so in time. But I doubt if any post office in the continental U.S. was so distant from its stamp supply office that stamps could not have been procured within a day or two.

The Post Office Department may have made some announcement (press release?) of the April 15 rate changes on April 1, but that was hardly the first. The rates were set by Act of Congress approved Feb. 28, 1925, which undoubtedly was well publicized. The Postmaster General implemented them by Order 1605 on March 3 (in *Postal Bulletin* 13714 (March 5)). The 1½¢ rate was not for "unsealed domestic letters." There has never been a rate lower for unsealed than sealed letters. The 1½¢ rate was for each two ounces of third-class matter, which at the same time was redefined to include both printed matter and merchandise in packages not over 8 oz. (The rate for books, catalogs, and plant matter remained 1 cent per 2 oz.)

Before the new rates went into effect there were at least seven notices from the Third Assistant Postmaster General about the new stamps needed. The 1½ cents stamps and envelopes had first-day sale on March 19 and the ½ cent stamp on April 4. Apparently both ½ cent postage due stamps and 1½ cents wrappers were issued before April 15.

Certainly the covers illustrated are not good evidence that postmasters "had to fall back on bisecting one cent stamps." Take Fig. 37: very likely the *U.S.S. Ridgely* had not received 1¼ cent stamps by April 15—but how many sailors are in the habit of mailing printed circulars or merchandise under 2 oz.? Purely "philatelic," I'd say. Likewise, any bisect of a Huguenot-Walloon stamp (issued nearly a year earlier) was almost certainly made by a collector. It is hard to believe that neither St. Paul nor Minneapolis had received the new stamps in time. By April 21, and surely by April 26 and later dates, I am convinced there could be no excuse

for any post office not having stocks.

That leaves the cover from the resort post office of The Geysers. Again, I wager that 1½ cent stamps could have been secured from nearby larger post offices. And if there were no "philatelic" considerations, I daresay the resort management (probably the only normal mailer of third-class matter there) could have waited a day or so to send out circulars or small souvenirs.

Henry W. Beecher

JUNIORS' STUDY GROUP MEMBERS — WINNERS

In October, the U.S. Postal Service announced the winners of the Youth Exhibiting Stamps competition. Christine M. Campbell, 13, and Marc Fisk, 17, members of the Juniors' Study Group that meets at the Collectors Club on Saturdays were among six finalists selected. The grand prizes of the competition were expense-paid trips to AMERIPEX '86 in Chicago.

U.S. Postal Service

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Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

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PS Form 3526, July 1986 (See instruction on reverse)

The Unadopted Portrait Design by a Baltimore Firm for an Issue of Soruth

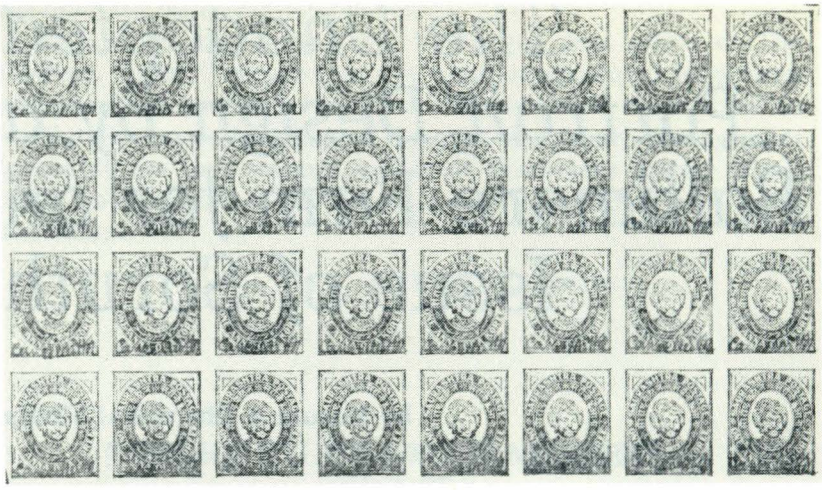
by Kusum & Dhirubhai Mehta

The 1923 issue of the former Indian Native States of Junagadh, known to philatelists as Soruth and Saurashtra, depicted the portrait of Nawab Sir Mohobat Khanji III in two denominations. The use of the portrait in 1923 was not the first attempt to do so for these states. This article deals with that earlier attempt and the essays that resulted. These essays were described in 1965 by the late L.E. Dawson:

> About 1905, there appeared two essays for the 1 anna and 4 annas of a koree with the Nawab's portrait, the work of Messrs. W.S. Cowell Ltd., of Ipswich. These were rejected as the firm would not send out the plates to India and the Nawab insisted that all stamps must be printed in the State. An enlarged photograph of the 4 annas is reproduced.
>
> 1905(?) Essay, 1 Anna Carmine, Imperf; 4 As black, Perf 12, Typographed on glazed white paper, thin for the 1 anna and thick for the 4 annas.

About 1895-97, it was suggested to the Nawab of Junagadh to issue postage stamps depicting his portrait. While this was in line with the general trend in stamp design, the Nawab opposed the suggestion as contrary to his Islamic beliefs. After great persuasion, however, he reluctantly agreed and C.H. Pandya, in Diwan's Office in the state, was asked to proceed with the work. In November 1898, after obtaining a good portrait, Pandya contacted Pearre E. Crowl & Co., engravers and printers in Baltimore, Maryland.

This firm specialized in handstamps, seals, chalk punches, nailing machines, brass designs, memorial plates, metal and ribbon badges, etc. In reply to a letter from Mr. Pandya, Crowl agreed to do the drawings and guarantee full satisfaction. They also indicated that if the drawings were not satisfactory, they would make any changes and alterations to conform to the wishes of the customer and, if necessary, prepare new designs.



We believe that the authorities requested samples of the work done by the engravers for postage stamps. As the engravers did not have any such samples, since they had not done any work for postage stamps, they did enclose samples of commercial engravings, which they believed would serve the purpose.

It is difficult to understand why the Baltimore firm was commissioned to do the work when earlier dies for the typographed issue of 1877 were prepared by John Dicksons of England and when De La Rue had the contract to print the stamps of British India. It is possible that someone recommended Crowl. As this was the first effort to depict a portrait, it represented a major change in design; in any event, the American firm was chosen. The authorities were very keen to have a good engraving and may have selected the Baltimore firm for this reason in preference to the other firms in the UK, despite Crowl's lack of experience in engraving for postage stamps. Apparently the authorities, as we will see below, contacted other firms and secured quotations.

Crowl quoted for plates of 32 designs instead of 40 with the bust of the ruler in the vignette at $30 for an original die and $8 each for duplicate plates. This would make the price $76 in all; Crowl requested a remittance or references in the United States. The Baltimore firm asked that any writing in "native characters" be made very clear to avoid any error. About ten days would be required by them to complete the plates.

Apparently the state authorities corresponded with a firm in London which appears to have suggested lithography. This would require special processes not available in Soruth and would not meet the requirement that stamps be printed within the state.

In May 1899, the details of the portrait and enlarged specimens of the inscriptions were provided to the engravers. The engravers were also informed of the two values.

> As the stamps are to be of two values, I have placed a piece of paper with vernacular writing to substitute the original in the

second design. Thus when the first stamp with the word "..." is engraved, you can put extra plate replacing the words "..." and make the corresponding change in the English words— Four Annas of a koree, substitute the words one anna of a koree. All other writing will remain the same.

The ornamental work and the actual shape were left to the artist. Crowl was further informed that the printing was to be done by ordinary printing press in Junagadh. It was emphasized "the portrait has to be perfect reproduction in all respects, a resemblance alone will not do and if the likeness is not exact, the designs will be returned for correction." The number of stamps in a sheet would be 32 and not 40 as earlier suggested, which Crowl felt would reduce the cost.

In July 1899, Crowl sent the die proof for the 4 annas stamp. They said that the portrait would make a fine appearance when printed in colored ink. In commenting upon the proof, Mr. Pandya wrote that he was glad that the plate had the approval of His Highness, whose features were correctly brought out in the miniature. However, the English letters on the border were rather thick and not well shaped. If possible, their shape should be improved. He suggested that there be more space between the letters. All the corners in the engraving should be etched a little deeper and the size of the stamp should be the size of the 1 cent U.S. stamp, in accordance with His Highness' wishes. Mr. Pandya suggested sending the proofs before preparing the plates.

By the end of December 1899, a fresh proof was made according to the suggestions and marked "Improvement on the old proof." If this was approved, the plates could be made without further delay. In the meantime, half the amount of the cost of the plates was remitted in part payment.

Mr. Pandya commented on the new proof in February 1900, opining that the improved proof was better than the old one insofar as the shape of the stamp was concerned, but "the comparison of the two show that the likeness of His Highness in the middle is very dim owing to the heavy shadow in the new proof." It was therefore especially desirable that the drawback should be carefully removed and the face would be made as bright and clean as in the old proof. The lines in the background of the picture should be removed so as to give a bold and prepossessing appearance and all shadow from the face taken out. The eyes in the new proof were considered quite dim and required correction and the portrait must be the actual reproduction of the photograph as per the sample. A mistake in the lettering was pointed out and the correction given. Further, suggestions were offered for the lettering as they were not distinct due to crowding. The proofs were returned.

The engravers acknowledged the letter in early April 1900 and stated that the alterations were being done; the job would be available for shipment in ten days' time. Crowl awaited shipping

instructions as the parcel could not be sent charges collect. They suggested that it would be possible to ship to someone in Calcutta by "expressage" for an additional cost of $3.

While the arrangements were being made, the state authorities requested final proofs of the entire plate. Their letter in May 1900 stated that it would be inconvenient to have the plates sent to Calcutta. Mr. Pandya wrote that he was making arrangements with his Bombay agents to have one of their American contacts receive the plates on the state's behalf.

The plate for the 1 anna value was prepared first and sent to the state about July 1900. It can be seen in Fig. 1 that the numeral 'One' is corrected to 'Four' in vernacular. In the 4 annas value, the word 'ANO' is singular rather than 'Annas'; this suggests that the same die for the 1 anna was used for the 4 annas stamp.

Crowl was informed that New York Export & Import Company, Pine Street, New York had been requested by the state's Bombay agents to take delivery of the plates and all the accessories, and arrange for their despatch to Bombay.

In a letter in August 1900, the state authorities wrote that they had not seen the proofs despite the fact that the dies had been expected to be ready within ten days. Considering the state's offer to pay for the plates as soon as the proofs were approved, they remonstrated with Crowl for the tardiness attending the work.

In September 1900, Crowl wrote that the plates were ready and that there was a satisfactory arrangement with the New York firm. They sent the final proof of one plate and a section of the other. They explained that the work could be completed in no time but had been set aside until the arrangements for the despatches were finalized. The New York firm was not willing to accept the plates until their Bombay agents, Messrs. Nuzzerally & Camroodin assigned satisfactorily. While Crowl expressed regret at the annoying delay, but they "do not see that we are at fault."

Mr. Pandya wrote to Crowl at the end of December 1900, drawing attention to defects in the design:

> The photograph of His Highness is not reproduced quite faithfully as much as the part under the chin does not show the hair which is a distinguishing mark of Mohameden. On comparing reduced face similar with the original photo sent to you, you will at once notice the difference and will, I trust, have it corrected, so that the likeness of the stamps may exactly correspond with the original.

He also pointed out the error in the Sanskrit inscription.

In their letter of February 1901, Crowl agreed to correct the native numbers and send a corrected sketch but they were unable to make other corrections as the engravings were already made.

Mr. Pandya wrote in June 1901 that the proofs were disapproved by His Highness Nawab Saheb, who "regrets to find that the reproduction of the face is not at all satisfactory. So he has given up the idea of taking his portrait on the stamp altogether and has arranged to have another sketch prepared here by local artist which is sent today with the one received from the Baltimore firm." It was stated that the coat of arms of the state were substituted for the portrait in the vignette. Pandya hoped that Crowl would be able to reproduce the same in a better way before any final orders were given. He wrote:

> I enclose herewith some photos taken from the revised design to show you what work we can do here. Even zinc plates can be had here for these stamps but when we place order with a firm like yours working in a civilized country like America where all the latest appliances of the science are available, we naturally expect that your engraving should be far superior to and more artistic than what we can get done locally. The present design prepared by you does not fulfill our expectations in any way and your charges too compared with those of other firms well-known to the public are heavier. We trust, you will therefore make all reasonable corrections and send revised proofs at your earliest.

In their reply in August 1901, Crowl declined to make the new designs as they had already prepared the plates on the basis of earlier orders. They said:

> As you are aware, the plates have all been completed for the other style of design as originally ordered by you with the photo of his Royal Highness in the center and we cannot now make an entirely new set of plates without charging for them.
>
> We sent you proofs of the plates before we completed them and you accepted them and returned one of the proofs and returned the other one instructing us to make some slight alterations such as the hair on the chin. . . .
>
> It is too late at this time to talk of entirely new designs after the design originally has been completed. We will have to ask you to accept the uncompleted plates or pay for such additional work as will be occasioned by making changes in the plates that you now mention.

In his mild reply, Mr. Pandya wrote:

> . . . Beg to inform you that in consideration of the proportionately heavy charges we have to pay your firm (as compared with that of other firms doing even better and nicer work than yours), you will, I hope, not deem it unreasonable to comply with the request of the State authorities to have the proposed

alteration in the design of the postage stamps made free of extra charge, especially as any satisfaction you may be able to give to the execution of this order, the first of its kind placed with you, will naturally be an incentive to them to entrust you with further work in the future, in preference to other engravers. As shrewd businessmen, you will therefore, I trust, not stick to the cost (slight as it evidently must be) of a little extra labour that may be entertained in the alteration of the design but finish the work for the amount originally fixed and send revised proofs as soon as practicable on receipt of this letter.

Mr. Pandya further requested to have the lowest extra charges if this proposal were not acceptable, and further requested Crowl not to send the plates as the designs were disapproved.

Two months later, on receipt of this letter, at the beginning of November 1901, Crowl replied that they saw no reason to make new plates without any extra charges. They reiterated that their charges were not higher than others and that the question of the price now taken up was inappropriate as the rates were quoted and accepted earlier. They agreed, however, to find a solution:

> The proposition that we can make you and which is liber 1 is to make the new set of plates for one half the price originally quoted, which would make the new plates cost at $38 and request to clear the balance of the first order, i.e., $37 and odd.

In mid February 1902, Pandya wrote, after the chief minister (Diwan) ordered that the plates be accepted as they were prepared by the firm and arrange for payment:

> I am arranging to remit the balance of the charges to you through our Bombay Agents M.s. Nuzzerally & Camroodin & co., who will have it sent to their agents in America with instructions to pay you the same on delivery of the four plates—two for each kind of stamp.

The engravers were also requested to send the final revised proof to see if corrections in the vernacular letters were properly executed. "You are aware," wrote Pandya, "that postage stamps should be free from any kind of mistakes whatsoever, and if the vernacular writing does not correspond with the one in English, the plates will be worse than useless." Mr. Pandya requested full instructions for printing stamps from the plates.

In March of the same year, Crowl sent the proofs and said that the work was completed and they could make no further alterations in them. Acknowledging this letter, Mr. Pandya stated that he was no wiser than before.

> You have not taken the trouble to understand where the mistake in the design lies, even though I had made myself sufficiently clear on this point in my previous communication.

> You can be now unaware that the design required is for two values of stamps—the one being four annas of a koree (our silver coin here), and the other one, one anna of a koree. You must have understood that the value is shown both in English and Sanskrit changeable in each of the two designs. Now it is plain that the two characters should read the same i.e. express same in each stamp and on looking to the proofs, I find that one of the plates of the higher value (four annas) is correctly prepared but not so the other. In this one, the letters one anna of a koree are correctly given in English but in Sanskrit it is incorrectly engraved.

As to the bust, Mr. Pandya commented that the "face of His Highness" in the center did not print exactly well in all the stamps, nor did it show like the busts in American or British stamps. He returned the correct proof of four annas of a koree but retained the other.

In June, Crowl prepared a new cut and sent for approval with the corrected denomination. The denomination was accepted but again the issue of the portrait was taken up in a letter in July 1902. Much correspondence with the engraver was entered into for the plates and payment was finally made through Mr. Purshottamda Vithaldas & Co. of Bombay and the New York firm who remitted payment to the Baltimore firm. The plates were sent to Muller Maclean & Co., 115 Broad Street, New York, on August 28, 1903.

With the arrival of the plates in Junagadh, the state authorities tried various color trials at the Nitiprakash Press in red, green, and mauve on wove and laid paper. It is possible that the trials may have been made in other colors though the possibility is remote. This may stand to reason because all throughout the colors used by the state for the stamps have been identical colors for the typographical stamps. Even in the subsequent issues and the bicolored stamps of Nasik of 1929, the selection was similar.

It is not clear why black color trials were made when the printers had suggested that colored stamps would look better. It may be that they were made by the Baltimore firm and sent to Junagadh in the normal course—usually the first proofs are made in black. The proofs of the four annas stamp were prepared in black on white glazed paper with perforation and that of one anna on a glossy paper in black, red, and green in sheets of 32 imperforate.

Finally, the Nawab portrait design was abandoned and the stamps with the Baltimore firm design did not see the light of day.

Pakistan Overprints on India—Postal Stationery 1947-1947

Part II of an Article by Ron Doubleday

Nasik Machine Overprints With Various Surcharges

On Ordinary

½ Anna Postcard
Surcharged 9 Pies
Light Violet/Plum
George VI. 1946.

BLOCK LETTERS. NO STOP. 16½ x 2/2¼mm. BLACK.

The Nasik "Pakistan" overprint is well-known to all, but there occurred, largely in East Pakistan, a series of overprinted surcharges converting to the new postcard rate on 1 April 1948.

These postcards were widely used for the Judiciary correspondence from Chittagong (Patiya) Court throughout 1948-49 and well into 1950. Many have survived, since towards the end of 1950 the Courts decided on a "Spring Cleaning", and a large number of registered, re-addressed and, in particular, returned-to-sender items came to light. It is exceedingly beneficial to us that they did so since we have been able to benefit by the wealth of overprints and postmarks thereby revealed, though the doubtless human tragedy in the form of population uprooting is a sobering thought. (See also Chittagong and Dacca).

The following are the results of my long-term studies—but there may well be other examples not so far seen by myself.

1. Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 17/17¼ x 2½mm. Black. Used Cox's Bazar 21 May 1950 and Temporary P. O. C-280 24 May and late June 1950. The overprint (Pakistan) shows on the latter example a slight increase in length to 16¾mm with lettering slightly uneven, possibly due to plate wear. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.*

   (U)

2. Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 19½ x 5mm. Black. Very probably used Sabhar, Dacca District 11 May to Debottar, Pabna District 12 May 1948. One example only

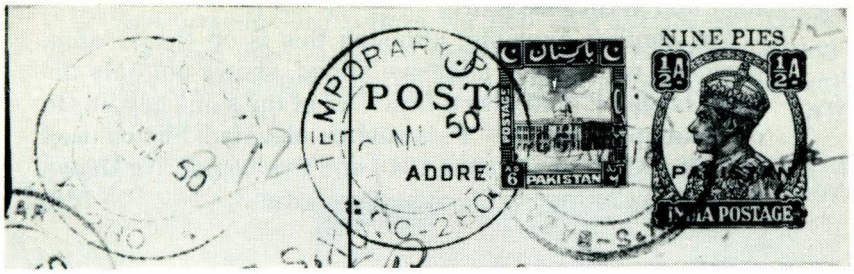


Fig. 13. 17/17½ × 2½mm. overprint. Used Temporary P.O. C-280, 21 May, 1950.

has been seen. *A Dacca Machine Surcharge.* (R)

3. Surcharge in Block Letters. No Stop. 23½ x 4mm. Black. Used Khitarchar, Chittagong 10 and 17 April 1950 and also at Chittagong 18 April 1950. A further example in Black dull inking shows the "I" of "NINE" bent to right at top whilst discrepancies in height for other letters are as follows:

2nd "N"	=	4 mm.
"E"	=	3½ mm.
"P"	=	3¾ mm.
"S"	=	4 mm.

Used Padua on 27 March 1950. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (U)

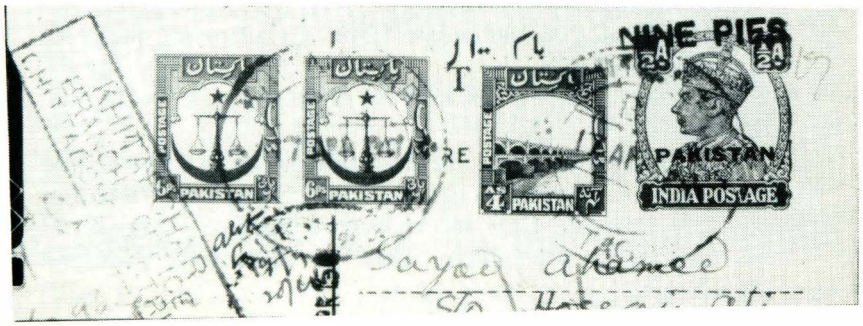


Fig. 14.

4. Surcharge in Block Letters. No Stop. 22 x 3½mm. Black. Used Brindabanhat, Chittagong 15 April 1950.

Of more import, however, are two examples I have seen recently of a Nasik overprinting with this particular "NINE PIES" surcharge but showing a much larger "P" in "Pakistan". This is the first I have seen of what must be a rare Nasik error and it has long lain undetected. One example was posted from the Court at Cox's Bazar on 28 June 1950 and the "P" measured 2 x 2½mm in marked contrast to the remainder of the letters.

The second example is in mint condition and is on a ½ anna Service postcard preprinted by North Western Railway at Lahore and numbered C.M.18. It is interesting to note that the result of this error was spread between

East and West Pakistan!

Yet another example, although this is on the ½ anna postcard with 3 pies adhesive added, shows not only the same large "P" but also a first "A" of the same height. On one example seen the "I" is slightly elevated. Shown used at Gujar Khan 12 October 1948 and five copies are known to exist. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (VR)

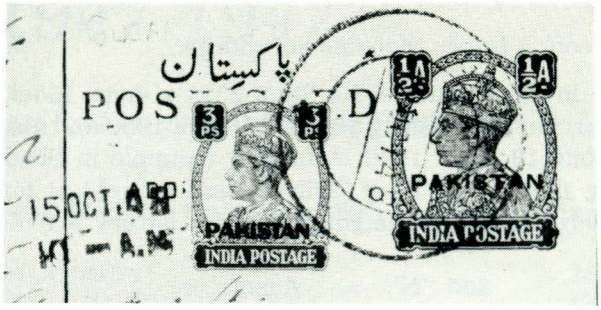


Fig. 15. Used at Gujar Khan.

5. Surcharge in Block Letters. No Stop. 18/19 approx. × 2½mm. Black.

   From the examples seen the overprinting has been somewhat haphazard and with varying traces of plate wear. For example "PIES" has worn more quickly than "NINE". Used Dengapara, Chittagong in July 1948 and at Experimental P.O. C-706 December 1948. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (U)

6. Surcharge in Block Letters. No Stop. 20¼ x 2¾/3 mm. Black.

   With the same characteristics of wear as in 5 above, this is known used at Patiya (4th Court) 23 September 1948 and 27 May 1950. Further use known at Binajuri—registered at Raozan, 2 September, 1948. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (U)

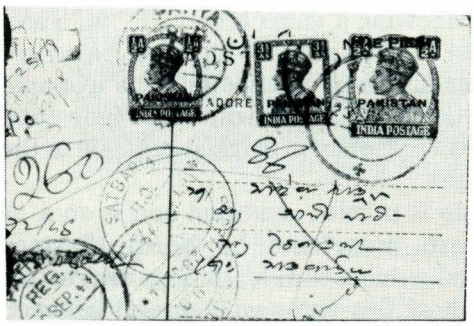


Fig. 16.

7. Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 25 x 3¼/3½ mm. Black.
Known used at Patiya (postcard only) 22 October 1948 and Chittagong Court Building (reply portion of postcard) 15 April 1950. (U)



Fig. 17.

A further example of this particular surcharge has lately come to light and is of great interest since it shows a printing error of "NINF PIES". The error is clearly visible to the naked eye and there is no doubt whatever as to its authenticity. Used from the Court at Patiya 22 October 1948. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (ER)



Fig. 18.

8. Within the category of the seven previous examples must be placed this item which I have been privileged to see and verify. A note of same was first made by the late Mrs. Earl but I can now describe the whole as follows:

Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 18½ x 2½/2¾mm. Black.

An obliterating bar in Black measuring 25½ x 2½mm partially erases the ½ anna frames and the top of the effigy's frame; this bar is 2½ mm above surcharge. Most rare is the addition of a small "Nine Pies" handstamp to the left of the effigy. This is in capital letters and lower case measuring some 13½ x 2¼mm for "N" and "P" and the whole is some 6½mm from the effigy's frame.

It must be pure conjecture when this die was applied. Most likely at Quetta and small enough to have been overlooked when the machine surcharge was applied. An excel-

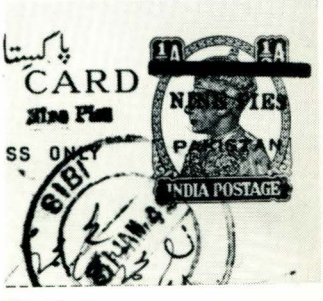


Fig. 19.

lent example is from Sibi to Peshawar 31 January 1949. *A Quetta Machine Surcharge.* (ER)

8A. Surcharge has the same lettering and measurements as in 8 above except that the former is not so clear-cut. The obliterating bar measures 27 x 2mm and on this occasion the handstamp has not been applied.

An example seen and verified was used from Sibi 27 December to Peshawar 29 December 1948. A further example was from Quetta R.S. 25 October 1948 to Kasur, Lahore District and here the obliterating bar fails to erase the value tablets falling below them and above the surcharge by some 2mm. *A Quetta Machine Surcharge.* (R)

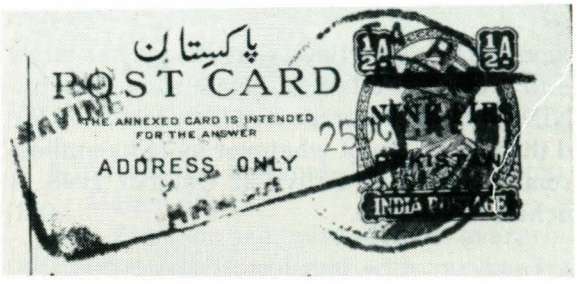


Fig. 20.

9. Surcharge in Block Letters. No Stop. 25¼ x 4¼/4½mm. Black.

This surcharge is so far the largest known and I am hard put to write whether it is machine printed or handstamped. I believe it to be the former. Although even in alignment, the letters are not particularly well-formed, the second "N" of "NINE" and the "I" of "PIES" differing in height. The inking is a dull and deep black, all letters having the same density with the exception of the "P" in "PIES." Here the round of the letter is considerably underinked.

The whole is a card from Mymensingh—and I believe the surcharge was applied at this place—to Debottar in Pabna District. The date of posting is of the order of 28 July with Debottar's mark 1 August 1948. (VR)

10. Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 24½ x 2½mm. Black.

In May 1972 I had the chance to study an accumulation of Chittagong Court returned mail and once more the size of the surcharge impressed me. It has been surpassed only once so far—see 9 above. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (R)

11. Surcharge in Serif Letters. No Stop. 17 x 2mm. Black.

Also in 1972 this surcharge impressed on my mind the fact that it was near to the dimensions of the Nasik overprint. A comment had been made on the item that "Only Cox's Bazar had the overprint", i.e. surcharge. I have no

evidence as to the basis on which this assertion was made since to date I have not seen another example. *A Chittagong Machine Surcharge.* (VR)

Nasik Machine Overprints

On Service

½ Anna Postcard
Light Violet/Plum
George VI. 1946.

BLOCK LETTERS. NO STOP. 16½ x 2mm. BLACK.

"Service" overprint on this postcard measures 13½/13¾ x 2mm.

The survival rate of used examples is very small indeed although for mint condition survivors it is a totally different story.

It is a curious anomaly and out of step with character that some time during the mid-1950s a fairly large stock of unused postcards came to light in the offices of the North Western Railway, Lahore. ("Out of step" since it is not a Pakistani characteristic to waste material.) They had been overprinted at Nasik before the postcard rate was increased from ½ anna to 9 pies on 1 April 1948. In most cases however, a 3 pies adhesive of the Lahore Service overprint had been affixed—and in some cases removed for other purposes—to make up the new rate.

It is worth noting here that on the 3 pies value emerged the error of a Double Overprint—One Inverted, of which only 11 examples are known, all from these railway postcards.

That overprinting was fairly widespread by Nasik on N.W.R. postcards is beyond doubt as witnessed by the number of card notifications seen so far by me and listed by card reference as follows:

(1) C.M. 18—Pay order issue.
(2) T.M. 508/C.M. 189—Advice of damage or deficiency other than loss.
(3) Genl. 78—Acknowledgement of receipt of letter.
(4) T.M. 440/C.M. 126—Sum provisionally passed as refund.
(5) C.M. 33—Advice of no reply to office letter.
(6) Genl. 69—Appointment regarding employment.

Most likely there are other examples and all would appear to have been printed on cards of varying shades of brown or buff.

It is of interest that Col. Martin was once informed that the "Pakistan" overprint on these cards had been done at the Railway Workshops Press, Moghalpura, Lahore. He knew better, as indeed do I, that this was not so. That they are of Nasik origin there is no doubt. (U)

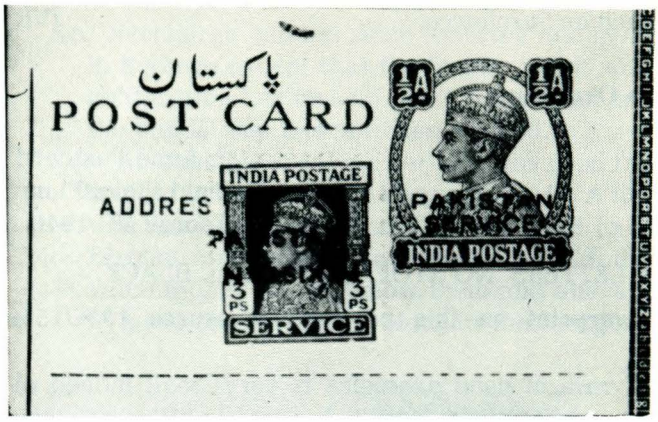


Fig. 21.

On Service

½ Anna Postcard
Surcharged 9 Pies
Light Violet/Plum
George VI. 1946.

BLOCK LETTERS. NO STOP. 16½ x 2/2¼mm. BLACK.

This surcharge is identical with No. 5 on Ordinary and although I cannot claim to have seen this item I can verify its existence and the fact of its undoubted rarity. (VR)

PART III
MACHINE OVERPRINTS AND HANDSTAMPS BY GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

The system of stock holding and distribution of stamps and postal stationery with the various authorities concerned has been explained by Col. Martin and possibly others, i.e., provinces divided into Districts and so on. With all due respect to these forerunners, I have not always found it easy to pinpoint a locality within a certain District or Province — and the geographical layout of this World has always been of the greatest interest to me. It has come to mind therefore that it would be best to alphabetically chronicle, irrespective of District or Province, the various areas in both West and East Pakistan; these now follow.

AFGHANISTAN

On Ordinary

6 Annas Airletter
Light Blue on White
George VI. 1945.

Typewritten and Manuscript Overprints.

BLOCK AND SERIF CAPITAL LETTERS.
NO STOP. BLACK.

Typewritten (2 machines involved) Serif Capitals.
19½ x 3mm. and 20 x 3mm.
Manuscript with capital "P", large "K" and "T" and small "i".

The following story has been related to me by Frank E. Patterson III writing from Holland. I found it so unusual that I have taken the step of placing it under the above heading which may seem a little odd. I will leave that to the reader to decide.

In November 1946 he arrived in Kabul to take up his duties in the Ministry of Public Works as chief of the National Planning Bureau. As he remarks, his title of "Royal City Planning Architect Engineer" sounded very imposing.



Fig. 22.

To be continued.

CAPITAL FUND REPORT

Sometime late in 1980, a CAPITAL FUND ROLL OF HONOR bronze plaque was installed on the west wall in the main lobby of our Clubhouse. Approximately 250 members' names were listed on that plaque for contributions received up to August 1, 1980. The names were listed under five categories: PATRON, BENEFACTOR, SPONSOR, DONOR and CONTRIBUTOR.

Since that time, an additional 128 members have either made contributions to the Capital Fund in one of those five categories or have upgraded their category. Those names are listed here. And they will be inscribed on the new plaque to be unveiled this year.

Again, as in 1980, all contributions received as of August 1, 1986 will be listed on the second ROLL OF HONOR bronze plaque to be installed sometime in October of this year. So, it is requested that those members who desire listing on the new plaque for the first time or in an upgraded category make their contributions prior to August 1st.

It is amazing how small an additional contribution is necessary for some members in order to upgrade their category of giving. In some cases, the amount is as low as $5.00. If any member desires such information, I suggest a post card addressed to me at the Club or at my home address, 863 Red Oaks Drive, Elberon, New Jersey 07740. As soon as possible, please.

Please also check the spelling of the names listed below and advise me of any needed corrections.

Philip Silver

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Renato Mondolfo
Robert A. Paliafito
Rudolf G. Wunderlich

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John M. Beard
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Ellery Denison
Lt. Col. Alexander M. Dickie
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Ernest E. Fricks
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John Gartner
Dr. Soichi Ichida
Jerold M. Massler
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Pamela K. Taylor
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Dr. Gordon H. Torrey
Henry Uihlein II
Arnie Weiss
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Book Reviews

Richard Wilson, Editor

The Post Office Seals of the United States, by Adam Perkal and Seymour Kazman; 161 pages linen bound, illustrated. Published by George Alevizos, 2716 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405.

Most collectors of U.S. stamps consider Post Office seals "back of the book" items but during the last few decades there has been a growing interest in them, and a surprising number of philatelists have subjected them to serious study. Adam Perkal, of California, and Seymour Kazman, of Canada, are two of the latter, and their new book on this exciting subject proves it.

Here is the result of years devoted to the research and investigation to make it a valuable contribution to our literature and a precious reference source for those who look upon postal paper as more than catalog numbers with list prices.

These two scholars have uncovered a wealth of archival information and heretofore unpublished facts, then collated it all with earlier philatelic articles with true thoroughness and wordage which makes reading enjoyable, and understanding, facile.

The book is divided into three parts: the registry seals of the U.S. Post Office Department; the Official Seals of the P.O.D., and the proofs, essays and trial color prints known to exist. In addition there are five appendices and a bibliography of earlier literature which was carefully consulted before the first words of the authors' work were written.

The first part deals with the conditions which led to the introduction of the first seals:

> The close of the American Civil War signalled the beginning of an era for the Post Office Department. Like so many other post-war periods, this one was noted by an increase in crime. Lawlessness spilled over into increasing mail depredations. As a result, the P.O.D. felt a need to take new measures to secure the safety of the mails. One such measure naturally affected the Registry system since so often money was inclosed in registered letters.

From there it details the perspicacious care with which the P.O.D. studied the situation and the meticulous rules it formulated in the distribution and use of the large green adhesive that came into use on June 30, 1872.

The authors not only treat the adhesives, but also the special "registered package envelopes" that were distributed to postmasters and in which the public's registered letters were inclosed for transport from dispatching to destination postoffices. The rules for their use and the very strict accounting demanded, are quoted and described to reveal how the postal administration of those by-gone eras insisted on uncompromising security of communications entrusted to it.

This chapter continues with a description of later seals produced for use on packages of stamps shipped from Washington to the nation's postmasters to prevent pilferage of contents while in transit.

The second part of the book treats the seals made for and used by postal employees in handling mail which either could not be delivered as addressed, or which might have been damaged in transit. The first of these, known as the "Post Obitum" design came into use in 1877, when stocks of them were sent to dead letter offices. There, "undeliverable" envelopes (about

three million of them!) were opened, and if the contents gave some indication of the sender or addressee, they were closed with one or more of the seals and sent on their way. Roughly one million such were handled in the first year.

While they were produced with a quality worthy of *postage* stamps, they had no franking value so the P.O.D. ranked them as "supplies" and expected no accounting of them from postmasters who got them.

In 1879, Washington experienced a need for a "general purpose official seal" for use other than that of Dead Letter Office. For example, some mail might not stand the handling of the masses and the envelopes (or other wrapping) could become damaged. To assure the addressee that this damage was accidental, it was felt that an official "apology" would be appropriate through the affixing of a seal over the ripped area. The design was very similar to but not the same as the "Post Obitum" (After Death.)

These and other ones that were issued and used through 1919 had similar designs, but because of the huge quantities necessary, production quality deteriorated and led to the emergence of "varieties" of all sorts. The Perkal-Kazman team lists and describes the most frequently encountered ones. In 1919 the layout was modified with an open panel at bottom in which the clerk using seals could add the name of the office in which they were affixed. In 1972, Liberty head vignettes were replaced by the Postal Service's perched eagle. The new book does not deal with these latter two types. (Publisher Alevizos gives the book a subtitle "Volume One," to intimate that at least one additional supplement is being readied to carry the seal handbook coverage beyond 1919.)

Ever since working with the late Edward Gottlieb and his wife, Elsie, in the collection and study of these seals, upon which we based the article which was published in Vols. 53 and 54 of our own *Collectors Club Philatelist*, we developed more than a passing interest in this "back of the book" specialty. This, we think, qualifies us to appraise this work's importance as a definitive contribution to our reference literature.

One thing that impresses us most is the fact that the text is so pregnant with *postal history* which so many newer philatelists seem to regard as a field of its own, whereas veterans feel is an integral, inseparable part of *philatelic study*, not a supplement to it. *EAK*

Postal History of the United Nations, by Norris G. Robinson. New York/Cologne 1985. 106 pp., illustrations, stiffbound.

Published just in time for the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, this book provides a complete survey of the world organization's postal developments. It is written by a real insider: Mr. Robinson was a functionary of the U.N. from 1945 to 1980 and has been involved in the work of many of its agencies.

The book is well printed and illustrated, and supplements furnish complete charts of all UNRRA Offices and of the many UN Peace-Keeping and Peace-Making Field Operations. Mr. Robinson offers as comprehensive a report of the many happenings involving postal operations as one might expect at this time; in fact, the author covers many aspects that are only of tangential interest to the philatelist or postal historian. Still, the reader will not mind; after a perusal of the work he or she will have a better knowledge and understanding of the role of the U.N. and the many problems it has encountered during the first forty years of its existence.

Werner Elias

Maryland Postal History and Handstamped Markings of the Stampless Period, by Rev. D. Homer Kendall. Published by David G. Phillips Co., Inc., P.O. Box 611388, North

Miami, Florida, 33161. 276 pages, illustrated.

This book deals mainly with the markings from the date of Maryland statehood, 22 September, 1788, through the mid 1850s when prepayment of postage on domestic letters became compulsory. The information recorded has been gleaned from newspapers of the period, surviving records of postmasters appointments, letter books of the Postmasters General, archives of the Maryland Historical Society, records at Annapolis and Washington, etc. There are also special sections covering the Annapolis and Baltimore Postmasters Provisional issues. Some space is devoted to recording the details of the Hagerstown Bank Find of the mid 1930s.

One can see that this has been a labor of love. It has taken many years to assemble all the bits and pieces of information and to locate the material from which the markings are illustrated. One can certainly be sure that additional markings remain to be discovered.

While the book is strong in postal historical research, it is a shame that it was not given a better format. The type makes a prolonged reading very difficult. It is small and crowded and there is no differentiation for emphasis. The paper is too glossy, giving off glare when the book is held at even a slight angle. On the other hand, the illustrations and tables are clear and of excellent quality.

The search goes on. The final postal markings of the state of Maryland remain to be recorded. The definitive postal history remains to be written. If this book interests others in carrying on the work, then it shall have served its purpose.

H.D.S.H.

The Nova Scotia Post. Its Offices, Masters and Marks, 1700-1867, by J.J. MacDonald, Ph.D. Published by the Unitrade Press, P.O. Box 172, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, M5W 1B2, Canada. 295 pages, illustrated.

Colonial development has been a complex pattern woven of many strands. The postal system was a particularly strong one in Nova Scotia. This book relates the development of the postal system based primarily on those individuals who led and served it. It is an account of human failings as well as devotion and sacrifice, covering couriers and way-office keepers as well as postmasters general. It is the result of research into long unanswered questions about offices, masters, and marks.

For philatelists it provides a detailed compendium of all markings of the Nova Scotia post, and the opening dates and the initial postmasters of all 93 official offices. It details the when, and often, the way, of the introduction of the postmark types and instructional markings, and includes information on their relative scarcity. Many of the rare examples are illustrated on original letters.

For the historian there is an outline not only of the earliest colonial correspondence to, from, and within the colony, but also information on the relationship of transportation and prosperity to postal development, on boundary changes for the colony itself and name changes for post offices and their localities. The pervading presence and influence of partisan politics are emphasized and illustrated by extensive quotations from archival sources.

J.J. MacDonald, born in New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, holds a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Toronto. A senior Canadian academic, he was a professor and researcher at St. Francis Xavier University in the 1950s, a dean in the 1960s, and then an executive vice-president. Besides the ivied tower, he has served as science delegate to UNESCO, advisor to the National Research Council, the Defence Research Board and many other services to government and industry.

This is one of the best organized, written, and produced volumes that has crossed my desk for many years. It belongs in any representative philatelic or historical library.

H.D.S.H.

Carlrichard Bruhl, *Geschichte der Philatelie.* Two volumes, 1200 pages, illustrated. DM 300 from the publisher, Georg Olms Verlag, Hagentor 7, Hildesheim, West Germany. 1985.

Stamp collecting, "the king of hobbies and the hobby of kings", is here revealed, in these two mammoth volumes, in all its variety: the ideas, the people, the literature, and the institutions of philately.

Carlrichard Bruhl, Professor of Medieval History at the Justus Liebig University in Giessen, has an international reputation as a philatelic author and exhibitor. He is thus ideally suited by vocation and avocation to write a history of philately. And the result is a triumph.

This history of philately is the first of its kind. Until now we have had only bits and pieces: reminiscences of the veterans, names and stories in the older literature, and surviving momentos from shows and exhibitions. Prof. Bruhl has brought all this together and distilled it into a smooth narrative of wide-ranging research that is a pleasure to read. I want to emphasize the word pleasure—the professor covers everything, he does not shy away from making judgments about people or policies, and his style is a lively one.

The year 1985 seems to have witnessed a flowering of interest in the history of philately. We have the publication of this two-volume history; advertisements in U.S. stamp magazines have appeared for seals and labels and even for show banquet menus; a society has been formed in London, the Philatelic History Society.

As an aside, I must mention that Prof. Bruhl, a Collectors Club member, has given the Club's Library much credit for its unrivaled world-wide holdings and for the unrivaled helpfulness of its librarians, from Mrs. Eldridge on to Werner Elias.

In sum: it is a huge work, it costs almost $120.00 and it is written in German, but nothing like it will come along again.

Ernest C. Wilkens

Antonini, E., and Grasset, J., *Histoire Postale des Lacs et des Rivieres du Monde,* 1984, David Feldman S.A., Geneva.

After working with the Salles' opus, with Robertson, Hargest, Kirk, Bonsor, and a number of other books on maritime postal history, one assumes that there is little more that can be added to the saga of carrying mail across water. But then, along comes a small, well written book opening an entirely new area of postal history: lacustral/fluvial postal history. I'm sure most collectors are aware of the two areas specifically omitted from discussion in this book—United States Inland Waterway Mail, and mail carried by the Danubian Steamship Company. Both these areas have been the subject of a number of in-depth articles and publications over the years. Thus, it is with some surprise that a whole book comes to hand covering this new, little suspected, area of postal history. The authors are to be congratulated for their persistence in ferreting out and organizing information about fluvial and lacustral mail from such diverse places as Thailand, Surinam and Mongolia.

The book is well organized, treating the subject by continent beginning with Europe, with its many entries, and ending in Australia, with its one entry. It is complemented by a small pamphlet giving an appraisal of the relative scarcity of the marks illustrated and discussed. Each section is prefaced by a map showing where the various lakes and rivers are situated as well as their relationship to the major railway lines in use at the time. While some of the entries are limited in scope by the paucity of information available, many are quite detailed with large-scale maps, lists of ship's names and their years of service. Many stamps and special postmarks are pictured, along with an occasional cover, and, as much as possible, each country entry is terminated with a bibliography of available literature.

While the text is in French, it is of a simple and straight-forward nature such

that even armed with only one or two years of an elementary course, the interested collector can make sense of the material presented. My only question refers to the entry "Arabian Coast", which was brought to my attention by a collector friend. It is placed in the middle of the British Guiana section, but, alas, there are no entries for services along this coast, either here or elsewhere in the book, so we can only guess what might have been. This enigma notwithstanding, the volume is a beautiful production of the David Feldman Organization, and deserves to be on the bookshelves of serious collectors. *Martin F. Stempien, Jr.*

S. Ringstrom, *Danish Postal Stationery, Denmark, Danish West Indies, Schleswig and Iceland from 1871 to 1984.* Available from Leonard S. Hartmann, P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233. Clothbound, 218 pp, $20 ppd., 1985. In Danish with English glossary.

Not just a thoroughly detailed catalog, Sigurd Ringstrom's latest literary output functions as a handbook that will delight both Scandanavian collectors and postal stationery enthusiasts. Every aspect of these postal emissions is dealt with comprehensively from paper, printing details, essays, and rates. Obviously Denmark receives the lion's share of the attention, based on number of items issued. Single cards, double reply cards, officials, railway and library cards are followed by the stamped envelopes, aerograms, and wrappers.

Last published in 1968, this edition reflects both very high standards of philatelic scholarship and printing. The illustrations are clearly done on coated paper stock and catalog values as well as text are presented in a readable modern sans serif type font. Prices are given in Swedish Crowns, which should stir the embers of controversy. Even in years to come, however, the value indications can be used, on a relative basis, as a guide to pricing.

Certainly, this book belongs in the library of any collector or student of the subject area. *EEF*

American Air Mail Catalogue, Fifth Edition, Volume Five. Hard cover, 571 pages. Available from Dan Barber, P.O. Box 23055, Lansing, Michigan 48909. $18 postpaid. Remittances payable to the American Air Mail Society.

This is the last and final volume of this edition of the definitive United States air mail catalogue published on a continuing basis for 50 years by the American Air Mail Society. Always highly regarded and anticipated by both air mail collectors and philatelists in general as well, this concluding volume is an impressive and justifiably prideful ending for this edition of the catalogue.

That this *Fifth Edition* runs to five volumes—prior editions have ended with four or less—is itself a tribute to the thoroughness and ever-expanding challenges the several editors and many expert contributors have been willing to undertake in a successful labor-of-love effort to bring to the philatelic community as comprehensive a coverage of aerophilately in its many aspects that expectations have dared to demand of them.

Half of the materials in *Volume Five* are new to the catalogue. These sections include: United Nations air mail stamps and stationery, Ryukyu Island flights, 1947-1972, Cuba flights, DO-X flights, U.S. Glider flights, U.S. Autogiro and Helicopter flights and Supersonic Transport. Other sections are completely revised and updated as follows: United States air mail stamps, Jet flights, Alaska flights and U.S. Souvenir-Historical flights. One supplement to the C.A.M. sections in *Volumes II* and *III* is included: Contract Air Mail (C.A.M.) flights to the date of "deregulation", December 1, 1978. Finally, and a tre-

mendously helpful aid in using the catalogue, there is a 66-page cumulative index covering all five volumes of the *Fifth Edition*. The postmark date of a cover is easy to locate in this chronological listing.

A welcome deletion by the editors has been the pricing of United States air mail issues, and their omission from the new United Nations section. Always quickly outdated, these monetary values have been left to the annual general catalogues which more correctly reflect ever-changing current market conditions. Values are assigned as previously to used covers in the various sections, contingent upon the caution with reference to the interrelationship of condition and price as noted in the beginning of the book. Paraphrasing here my thoughts contained in a previous review, I remind that we have dared to call pricing an "art form" with a bit of science thrown in as a tether. The resultant mix of the subjective and objective provides merely a welcome and useful guide for comparison and tentative evaluation.

I would be remiss in closing my opinions on this fine book, with its beautifully slick paper and superb printing and overall polish, were I not to single out thanks for the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Perham C. Nahl, who has worked as an editor on all five editions, and who has indicated to the Society his intended and well-deserved retirement at this time. Our supreme gratitude.

William H. Miller, Jr.

Imperial Japanese Post Offices in Chinese Mainland, Part 2, by Meiso Mizuhara, published by Japan Philatelic Publications; 2, Yoygi-2, Shibuya-ku Tokyo, 275 pp., ill., hardbound, 188mm × 237 mm, price 5,000 yen, postage 1,080 yen.

This issue is part of vol. 4 of Mr. Mizuhara's *Magnificent Collection of Chinese Stamps*. Part 1 will cover the Japanese post office in Shanghai; Part 2 covers all the other International Japanese Post Offices (IJPO) in China and the Japanese post offices in the Shantung peninsula (Tsingtau). It does not cover the Japanese post offices in the Kwantung Leased Territory and the South Manchurian Railway Zone. Mr. Mizuhara will cover these areas in another book.

Going through this book is very similar to viewing Mr. Mizuhara's exhibit at a stamp show. He has photographed each page of his exhibit and has presented them in book form. It begins with the Japanese post office at AMOY and ends with the post office in YIHETUNG. In the Shantung peninsula, it starts with the military post offices in Tsingtau and then covers all the post offices in the peninsula. Throughout, dates post office opened, closed, and in some cases reopened, are given. Information and notes on each page are in English. All Japanese Roman Lettered and Japanese language cancelations are given numbers and typed by design. Most cancelations are explained and some in Japanese are translated into English. This classification of cancelations gives the postal historian an excellent base for referring to these cancelations in the future. Information is also given on the earliest/latest usage of the cancelations, the material used to manufacture them and the color of inks used. Rates and routes are explained and there are many illustrations of entires and explanations of the amount of postage applied to them.

This book is a must for collectors of the postal history of China and as a minimum for those who desire to have a basis to classify the cancelations.

Michael E. Ruggiero

Publications Received

Werner Elias, Librarian

Austria — Serials

Dr. Ruediger Wurth, Ed., *Oesterreichisches Jahrbuch fuer Postgeschichte und Philatelie No. 8.* 1985, Pub. by the author, 142 pp., illustrations, stiffbound. Gift of Frank Kohn.

British Commonwealth — Catalogues

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue Part 1: British Commonwealth 1986, 88th edition. 1985, Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., 5 Park Side, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants. BH24 3SH, Gt. Britain. 810 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price £19.75 ppd. Gift of the publishers.

Catalogues — General

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogues in Parts, Part 21: South-East Asia, 2nd edition. 1985, Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd., 5 Park Side, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants. BH24 3SH, Gt. Britain. 295 pp., illustrations, softbound. Price £13.75 ppd. Gift of the publishers.

Scott 1986 Standard Postage Catalogue, Vol. 1: U.S., Canada, Gt. Britain & Commonwealth, United Nations; Vol. 2: Countries of the World A-F; Vol. 3: Countries of the World G-O; Vol. 4: Countries of the World P-Z. 1985, Scott Publishing Co., 911 Vandemark Road, Sidney, Ohio 45365. 1089, 1111, 1121 pp., respectively, softbound. Price $20.00 per volume. Gift of the publishers.

Cinderellas

George W. Linn, *Linprint Catalog of Philatelic Labels,* 1st edition. 1940, Linprint Inc., Columbus, Ohio. 36 pp., illustrations, softbound. Gift of anonymous donor.

France — Airmail

Jean Silombra, *Histoire de l'Aerostation et de l'Aviation Francaise de 1783 a 1930.* 1981, pub. by the author. 186 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Gift of France & Colonies Phila. Society.

Great Britain — Serials

James A. Mackey, *The Postal History Annual 1980.* 1980, pub. by the author. 56 pp., illustrations, softbound. Purchased with library funds.

Japan

Meiso Mizuhara, *Imperial Japanese Post Offices in Chinese Mainland: The First Half.* 1985, Japan Philatelic Publications, Box 1 Shinjuko, Tokyo, Japan. 275 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price not indicated. Gift of the author.

Shogoo Nishino, *Tazawa Series 1913-1937.* 1978, Japan Philatelic Society, 200 pp., illustrations, softbound. Gift of anonymous donor.

Literature — Philatelic

Leonard H. Hartmann, *Tenth Stock Catalog,* P.O. Box 36006, Louisville, KY 40233. $2.00.

Newfoundland

C.H.C. Harmer, *Newfoundland Air Mails. Revised 1984 edition.* 1984, American Air Mail Society, c/o Dan Barber, P.O. Box 23055, Lansing, Mich. 48909. 181 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price $18.00 ppd. Gift of the publishers.

Philately

Dr. Carlrichard Bruehl, *Geschichte der Philatelie, Vol. I.* 1985, Georg Olms Verlag, Hagentorwall 7, 3200 Hildesheim, West Germany. Illustrations, hardbound. Price DM 148.00 plus postage. Gift of the author.

Postal History — General

Charles F. Meroni, *Evolution of World Posts.* 1954, published by author. 34, IV pp., softbound. Gift of Michael Ruggiero.

Printing

Colin Fraser and Robson Lowe, *The Die Proofs of Waterlow & Sons, Part I: Great Britain & The Empire to 1960.* 1985, Christie's Robson Lowe, 47 Duke Street, London SW1 6QX, England. 120 pp., illustrations, stiffbound. Price £12.00. Gift of the publishers.

Scandinavia — Catalogues

AFA-FORLAGET, Skandinavien Frimaerkekatalog 1986. 1985, AFA-Forlaget, Bruunsgade 42, 8000 Aarhus, Denmark. 329 pp., illustrations, stiffbound. Price Dkr. 80.00. Gift of the publishers.

Switzerland — Catalogues

The Amateur Collector, *Switzerland Catalogue 1986*, 28th edition. 1985, The Amateur Collector Ltd., P.O. Box 242, London N2 OYZ, England. 156 pp., illustrations, spiral binding. Price $10.25 ppd. surface, $13.25 air. Gift of the publishers.

United States

David G. Phillips, Ed., *American Stampless Cover Catalog Vol. 1*, 4th edition. 1985, David G. Phillips Publishing Co., P.O. Box 611388, North Miami, Fla. 33161. 396 pp., illustrations. Price $40.00 softbd., $50.00 hardbd., ppd. Gift of the publishers.

U.S. — Airmails

Thomas J. O'Sullivan, *The Pioneer Airplane Mails of the United States*. 1985, American Air Mail Society, c/o Dan Barber, P.O. Box 23055, Lansing, Mich. 48909. 338 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price $25.00 ppd. Gift of the publishers.

U.S. — Military Mail

James Shaffer, *Geographic Locations of U.S. APO's 1941-1984*, 5th edition. 1985, War Cover Club, c/o Lincoln E. Kieffer, Box 173, Jamesburg, N.J. 08831. 215 pp., illustrations, loose leaf. Price $15.00 ppd. ($12.00 for members). Gift of the publishers.

U.S. — Possessions

Rick Schwartz, Ed., *The Postal Stationery of the Canal Zone*. 1985, United States Postal Stationery Society, P.O. Box 48, Redlands, Cal. 92373. 62 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price $10.00 softbd., $16.00 hrdbd. (Members $8.00 and $12.75 respectively). Gift of the publishers.

U.S. — Serials

Compex 1985 Annual. 1985, Compex '85, P.O. Box 123, Chicago, Ill. 60690. Illustrations, softbound. Price $2.50 ppd. Gift of the publishers.

U.S. — States

William F. Rapp, *Postal History of Nebraska Part 2*. 1985, J-B Publishing Co., 430 Ivy Avenue, Crete, Neb. 68333. 149 pp., illustrations, hardbound. Price $19.50 ppd. Gift of the publishers.





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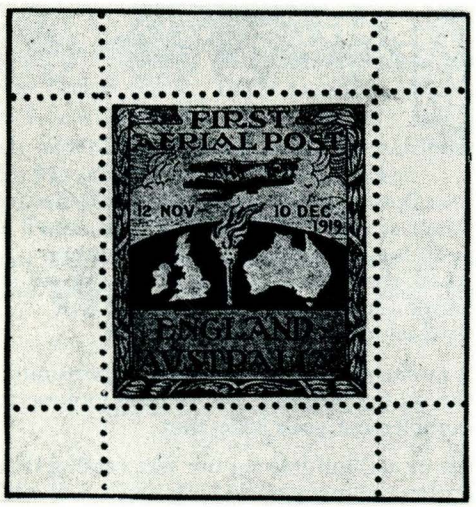
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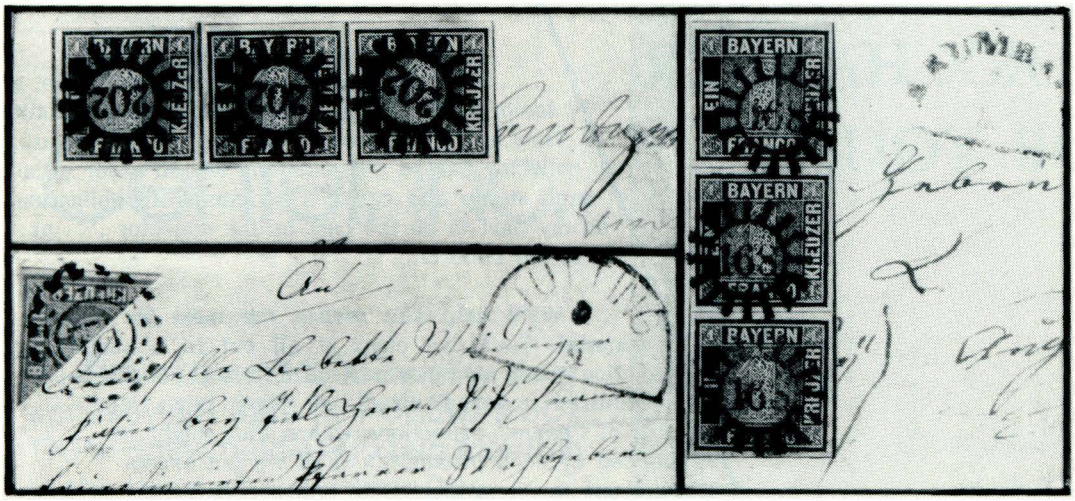
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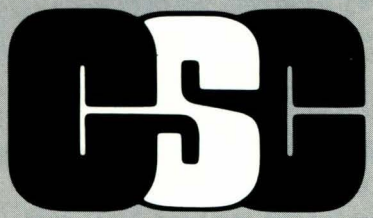
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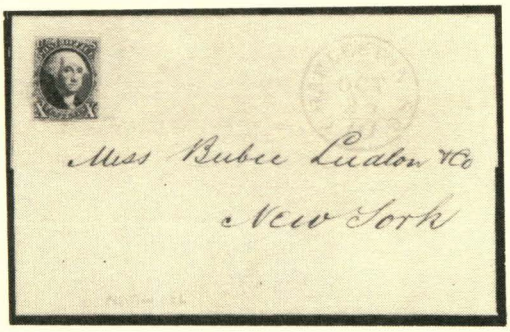
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