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Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

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The Collectors Club Philatelist

MARCH 1952. VOL. XXXI, No. 2

HENRY M. GOODKIND, **Editor**
Editorial Committee
WINTHROP S. BOGGS
HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK
EDWIN MUELLER
STEPHEN G. RICH

Editorial

Communist Stamp Collections

The "New York Times" published the following editorial on November 12th, 1951:

"STOLEN GOODS

The Communist regimes of Eastern Europe, with Hungary in the lead, have thought up a new method of exploiting their expropriated middle classes and getting American dollars into the bargain. Thousands of former storekeepers, professional workers and the like have been deported from Budapest and other Red cities to virtual slave labor in farm areas. They have been forced to sell to their Governments many of their possessions, including art objects of diverse kinds, at prices which are virtually confiscatory. Now those Governments are thinking of ways to sell these art objects in the rich American market to procure dollars, which can be used to buy strategic goods or to finance propaganda.

The scheme is not new, of course. It was employed by the Russian Soviet Government in the Nineteen Twenties and by the Nazi regime a decade later. It is a measure of the naivete of those earlier years that such efforts had some appreciable success. Today, however, there should be little naivete left, even among the most ardent of art lovers. The goods which the satellites are planning to offer here are in effect stolen goods which have become available for sale in consequence of the cruel inhumanity shown toward their former owners. How anyone could get pleasure from possession of even the most lovely object with a background of suffering and misery such as these goods have is beyond understanding.

The United States Government has already spoken out against the inhuman deportations in the satellite countries. Revelation of this scheme by which these Governments hope to profit from their inhumanity should be all that is required to set machinery in motion to prevent realization of these hopes. We do not countenance the sale of stolen goods in domestic trade. Why countenance it in international trade?"

It is suspected that stamp collections might be included in this loot, which may not necessarily be limited to works of art. With the possibility that stamp collections from the Communist countries in Europe may come to this country for sale, the question arises—will the sale of such stolen goods be effectively outlawed? As of this writing, we have read of no action by the authorities to cope

with this. It is hoped that some action will be taken.

It is our view that the prevention of crime is far more practical and effective than the arrest and prosecution of a criminal. In line with this, philatelists should be informed by their own press of the real possibility that such collections might be offered to them for sale. Such stolen stamp collections can be disguised easily so that the buyer is unaware of their source. But a certain amount of enlightenment might make many within our ranks wary, so as to prevent at least a widespread distribution of such Communist loot. A possible offering by American dealers of *many collections mounted in European albums, following European catalogue numbers,* might be a key to arouse suspicion. We wish that more specific means could be advocated to prevent the sale of these confiscated collections to enrich Communist treasuries, should our fears be realized. We regret that nothing more effective can be offered to prevent philatelists from unwittingly financing those who would destroy us. The purchase of such a looted collection by an American is far more injurious to our fight for freedom than the sale of Communist new stamps in this country.

H. M. G.

Report of the 1951 Awards Committee

The Committee wishes to take this opportunity to compliment the Editorial Board of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for the very high standard of philatelic literary achievement during the year 1951.

It is only fair to state that in compliance with the rules, no article submitted in whole or in part by a member of the Editorial Board or a former medal winner, was considered for an award.

After careful consideration it was the unanimous decision of the Committee that the *Collectors Club Medal* be awarded to

MR. F. G. LARSEN

Colombia — The First Two Issues.

We also take pleasure in awarding three Certificates of equal merit, each to the authors of the following excellent articles which are listed alphabetically by their titles.

MR. F. E. SELLMANSBERGER

"Great Britain—The Rotogravure Varieties"

MR. ERIC HALLER

"Sweden—The Pre-adhesive Postal History and Covers"

MR. H. B. CLARKE, F.R.P.S.L.

"Wei Hai Wei"

Respectfully submitted,

SIDNEY F. BARRETT, Chairman
PAUL P. LINDENBERG
WILLIAM R. RANKIN.

Editor's Footnote

It may be of interest to record that the 1951 Awards Committee's selections were made without consultation with the Editor or the Editorial Committee. Nevertheless, the Awards Committee's decisions happen to agree with those of the Editorial Board.

With no intention to lessen the achievements of those selected in 1951 for COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST awards, it should be mentioned that there appeared in 1951 some outstanding articles, which were ineligible for consideration of an award, because the author was either a member of the Editorial Board or a former medal winner. Those which were deemed of such merit are:

Edwin Mueller.—"Austria & Lombardy-Venetia—Centenary of the 1851 Newspaper Stamps"

Cornelius W. Wickersham.—"Venezuela—The Small Guayanas"

E. F. Smythies, L. E. Dawson and H. D. S. Haverbeck—"The Postage Stamps of Nepal."

Henry M. Goodkind.—"Newfoundland—The Hawker Stamp."

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of *TIBET*

By H. D. S. HAVERBECK

FOREWORD

In volume XIX of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST published in January of 1940, my very good friend, the late Theodore M. Newman, began his series of articles on the stamps of Tibet. This was the first serious effort to compile under one heading the available knowledge concerning the stamps of this remote Asiatic nation. In the years between there have been several important discoveries made, including two stamps which had remained unknown to philatelists from 1914 to 1943; and much new information has come to light. Subsequent to the publication of Mr. Newman's work, Mr. H. R. Holmes, F.R.P.S.L., writing in "The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain" and Mr. George S. Russell, in "The China Clipper," have made important contributions to our knowledge of these stamps. However, further study has brought to light new information which makes both of these works obsolete. So, in the interest of philately, I have decided to collate the information appearing in these fine works, and to add to it the results of further studies made by myself. The result appears in this monograph, which I like to think of as a continuation of the pioneer work done by Mr. Newman. It is to the memory of Theodore M. Newman that I humbly dedicate this work. *H. D. S. H.*

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CHAPTER I

THE GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF TIBET

Tibet is located in Central Asia, stretching from the Szechuan border of China to Kashmir. It is bounded on the south by India, Burma, Nepal and separated from them by the Himalaya mountain range. On the north, it is separated from Chinese Turkestan by the Kuen-Lun Mountains, from the Mongolian plains by the Tsaidam marshes and the Amne Machin range of mountains. It embraces an area of 463,200 square miles, an area larger than Texas and California combined. It is the loftiest plateau region in the world, forming a mass of irregular uplands sloping gradually eastward and scarcely ever falling below an elevation of 12,000 feet above sea level.

Northern and western Tibet consists mainly of a series of parallel mountain ranges running from east to west, separated by valleys containing great numbers of lakes, many of them salt. It is a treeless region, diversified by grassy tracts on which many wild animals feed. Southern and eastern Tibet is of somewhat lower elevation, being the source of the great rivers of Asia, the Brahmaputra, Indus, Sutlej, Mekong, Yangtse-kiang and Hoang-Ho. It is a region of steep, well-wooded hills and fertile valleys.

The climate is severe. The cold is intense, and, owing to the elevation, the air is rarified. Violent and sudden storms occur, and extremes of heat and cold follow close upon each other. Agriculture and grazing are the chief occupations, with barley the chief crop. There are a few factories in the south and east, in which metal work, wooden ware, rugs, and pottery are produced. Weaving is done in the homes, and books are either hand-written or printed from engraved wooden blocks. Trade is mostly with China, India and Mongolia. The chief exports are wool, fur, yak tails, gold, salt and musk.

The inhabitants of Tibet, who are estimated at about 3,000,000, are Turko-Mongols. They are short, broad shouldered, with black hair and almost white skin. They are extremely conservative, good-natured, brave and cheerful. The prevailing religion is Buddhism mixed with superstitious devil worship. The priests or Lamas are numerous and powerful, and huge monasteries are found throughout the country.

Tibet is normally under the suzerainty of China. The head of the government is the Dalai Llama, who acts through a minister appointed from among the chief Lamas of the country and is assisted by five other ministers appointed by the Kashag or Assembly of Nobles. Chinese authority was formerly represented by two Ambans or Governors in charge of foreign and military affairs. Following the establishment of the Chinese Republic, the authority of China over Tibet has been relaxed and the Tibetans considered themselves independent, but during 1951 the Communist Government of China forced the Dalai Lama to accede to Chinese authority once again. Chinese Communist troops now guard the Tibetan frontiers and have established a garrison in Lhasa, the capital.

Owing to its isolated location and the consequent mystery enshrouding it, Tibet has from time long past been the goal of many exploring expeditions. In 1277, Marco Polo travelled through the wild countries on its eastern borders; between 1650 and 1720 several Jesuit and Capuchin Friars made their way to Lhasa, and in 1774 and 1783 the first Englishmen, George Boyle and Samuel Turner, penetrated the country. Thomas Manning was the first Englishman to reach Lhasa (1811); Abbé Huc, a French missionary and Apostolic Vicar of Mongolia, arrived there in 1846. In the years 1879-1881, the Survey of India sent several surveyors into Tibet, the leader of these men was Sarot Chandra Das. Sven Hedin, a Swede, made three journeys through the country (1896, 1899-1902, 1906-1908), but never reached Lhasa. Colonel Younghusband's armed mission of 1904 penetrated to Lhasa, opening the way to Anglo-Tibetan trade. Among the American explorers who have traveled extensively in Tibet are W. W. Rockhill, Theos Bernard, C. Suydam Cutting and Lowell Thomas. For further background reading, I recommend the following books:



Figure A. Outline Map of Tibet showing boundaries and major Trade Routes.

"Travels in Tartary, Tibet and China" by Abbé Huc; "The Fire Ox and Other Years" by C. Suydam Cutting; "Penthouse of the Gods" by Theos Bernard; "Out of This World" by Lowell Thomas Jr.; "My Journey to Lhasa" and "Magic and Mystery in Tibet" by Alexandra David-Neel; "Lhasa and its Mysteries" by L. Austine Waddell; "Tibet and Nepal" by A. Henry Savage Landor.

The early history of Tibet is shrouded in darkness; not until the Seventh Century A. D. were the knowledge of writing and arithmetic introduced from India. The city of Lhasa was established about 640 A. D., when Buddhism was introduced at the same time. In the Thirteenth Century (1270), the conqueror of China, Kublai Khan, subdued eastern Tibet and made Phagspa, the leading Lama, ruler over the country. This seems to have been the formal beginning of the system of Theocracy under Chinese suzerainty which, with some interruptions, has continued to the present day. In 1531, a Mohammedan ruler of Kashgar overran Ladakh, and in 1610 Balti tribes to the west started a series of raids on Tibetan territory which nearly wiped out the culture of Western Tibet. In 1644, the Mongol prince Kushri Khan swept down upon Tibet, and having conquered it, established the Dalai Lama as its supreme ruler. Mongols from Sungaria attempted in 1717 to assume control of Tibetan policy, but were defeated by Chinese arms aided by native supporters. The Gurkhas from Nepal invaded the country in 1790; after months of fierce fighting they were expelled in 1792, and for two hundred years the passes between India and Tibet virtually were closed.

In the last quarter of the 19th century, various attempts were made by British Indian officials to open up trade with Tibet; but China objected, so the attempts were abandoned. In 1890 a treaty was concluded between Great Britain and China, defining the boundaries between Tibet and Sikkim, and establishing trade regulations. The Tibetans, however, repudiated the treaty, being guilty of many outrages and insults to British traders. At length, it having become apparent that the Dalai Lama was negotiating with Russia, and rumors having been circulated that China was planning to hand over Tibet to Russian authority, an armed British mission, under the command of Colonel Younghusband, was dispatched in 1904 to Lhasa. This mission resulted in the Anglo-Chinese convention of 1906, providing for the establishment of British trading posts at Gyantse, Gartok and Yatung plus the payment of an indemnity of £500,000 to Great Britain. A convention with Russia in 1907 recognized the suzerainty of China in Tibet and provided that no British or Russian representative be appointed in Lhasa. Upon the outbreak of the revolution in China in 1911, the Chinese garrison in Lhasa mutinied, committing such acts of lawlessness and violence that the people, led by the Lamas, took up arms against them and held them in a state of siege until August, 1912, when they were evacuated from Tibet over the main trade route to India through the Chumbi Valley. At this time, the Dalai Lama fled to refuge in Darjeeling, India. There he became so impressed with British Governmental organization, that, when peace was concluded with China in 1912, he returned to Tibet to organize his government along British lines. One of his first acts was to establish a postal service to augment and partially supplant the private courier system that had been the sole means of communication in the country prior to that time. He introduced the use of adhesive stamps for the prepayment of postage and also the devices used for their cancellation. After the establishment of the Chinese Republic, Tibet declared her independence and no serious attempt was made by the Chinese to reestablish their rule in the country. During the period from 1912 to 1951 Tibet aligned herself with the British. Tibetan officials were sent to England to be educated. A telegraph line was strung from the Indian border to Lhasa. A Tibetan Trade Commission was sent to Britain and the United States in 1948. After the conquest of China by the Communist armies in 1950, pressure was again brought to bear against Tibet by the Chinese. As a result of this pressure and of the collapse of the Tibetan Army at Chamdo, a treaty was signed with Communist China which reestablished Chinese suzerainty and again placed Chinese troops and a Chinese Governor in Lhasa.

CHAPTER II

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE TIBETAN BORDER COMMISSION OF 1903

The failure of the Tibetan Government to observe the terms of the Anglo-Chinese Trade Treaty of 1890 brought about the first of the two entries of British forces into Tibet. The treaty provided that a trade mart be set up in Yatung for the free exchange of goods between India and Tibet. Letters proposing the establishment of this mart were returned by the Dalai Lama to the Viceroy of India unopened. Great Britain, worried by the recent treaty that Tibet had signed with Russia, circa 1902, decided to send a mission directly to the Dalai Lama. An effort was made through the Chinese authorities to arrange a meeting between accredited representatives at Khamba Jong, which lies 15 miles inside the Tibetan frontier north of Sikkim State. This Frontier Commission of 1903 was headed by Colonel Francis E. Younghusband, C. I. E., who was authorized to negotiate an agreement with the Tibetans.

With his staff and escort he arrived at Khamba Jong on July 7, 1903 and waited five months. As no envoys had appeared from Lhasa, he withdrew the Mission from Khamba Jong on December 11, 1903.

For the convenience of the Frontier Commission, the Indian Post Office opened a number of temporary post offices. The first of these, "Temporary P. O. D." was opened at Gangtok, Sikkim, in April, 1903, before the Commission had actually entered Tibetan territory. The first post office actually on Tibetan territory was opened on July 7, 1903 at Khamba Jong. At least eight different marks were used during the five month stay of the Commission in that town. The following table lists these post marks and the other marks used by the Frontier Commission.

An unofficial overprint was applied to some of the stamps used from the Khamba Jong post office. This consisted of the word "Tibet" applied by means of a typewriter. From an examination of the few known copies of this overprint, it is evident that two different machines were used to apply it. The overprint is known only on the 3 pies (Scott type A31) and ½ anna (Scott type A17) Queen Victoria stamps of India. At least one of these stamps is known used as late as March 10, 1904 from F. P. O. 24 which accompanied the military expedition to Lhasa. Five covers bearing these stamps are known used from Khamba Jong.

Table 1. Postmarks of the Tibetan Frontier Commission, April-December 1903

Postmark	Location	Earliest known date	Last known date	Illus.	Ref.
Temporary P. O. D.	Gangtok	4/26/03	9/28/03	Fig. 1	Type I
Gangtok (I)	Gangtok	6/21/03	7/8/03	Fig. 1	Type II
Gangtok (II)	Gangtok	6/21/03	7/8/03	Fig. 1	Type III
Temporary P. O. B. (I)	Khamba Jong	7/9/03	9/4/03	Fig. 1	Type IV
Temporary P. O. B. (I)	Tangu (Sikkim)	9/7/03	12/6/03	Fig. 1	Type IV
Temporary P. O. B. (II)	Khamba Jong	8/7/03	8/25/03	Fig. 1	Type V
Experimental P. O. C. 46	Khamba Jong	8/8/03	9/28/03	Fig. 1	Type XI
Khamba Jong Tibet (I)	Khamba Jong	8/19/03	12/4/03	Fig. 1	Type VI
Khamba Jong Tibet (II)	Khamba Jong	9/25/03	12/4/03	Fig. 1	Type VII
Khamba Jong Tibet (III)	Khamba Jong	9/26/03	11/28/03	Fig. 1	Type VIII
"C" in barred circle	Khamba Jong	9/1/03	9/11/03	Fig. 1	Type IX
"Too Late" framed	Khamba Jong	10/31/03	11/28/03	Fig. 1	Type X
Temporary P. O. K.	Rangpo (Sikkim)	12/3/03	1/2/04	Not Illustrated	
Temporary P. O. 1	Tuna (Tibet)	12/10/03	1/21/04	Not Illustrated	
Rangpo	Rangpo (Sikkim)	4/30/03	12/3/03	Not Illustrated	

For the convenience of the student the data on the typewritten overprints is given below. These covers, described by Mr. G. S. Russell are at the present time the only known usage of these unofficial overprints.

1. A cover bearing two ½ anna stamps cancelled "Experimental P. O. C. 46, 22 Au 03"

2. A cover bearing two ½ anna stamps cancelled "Experimental P. O. C. 46, 27 Au 03"

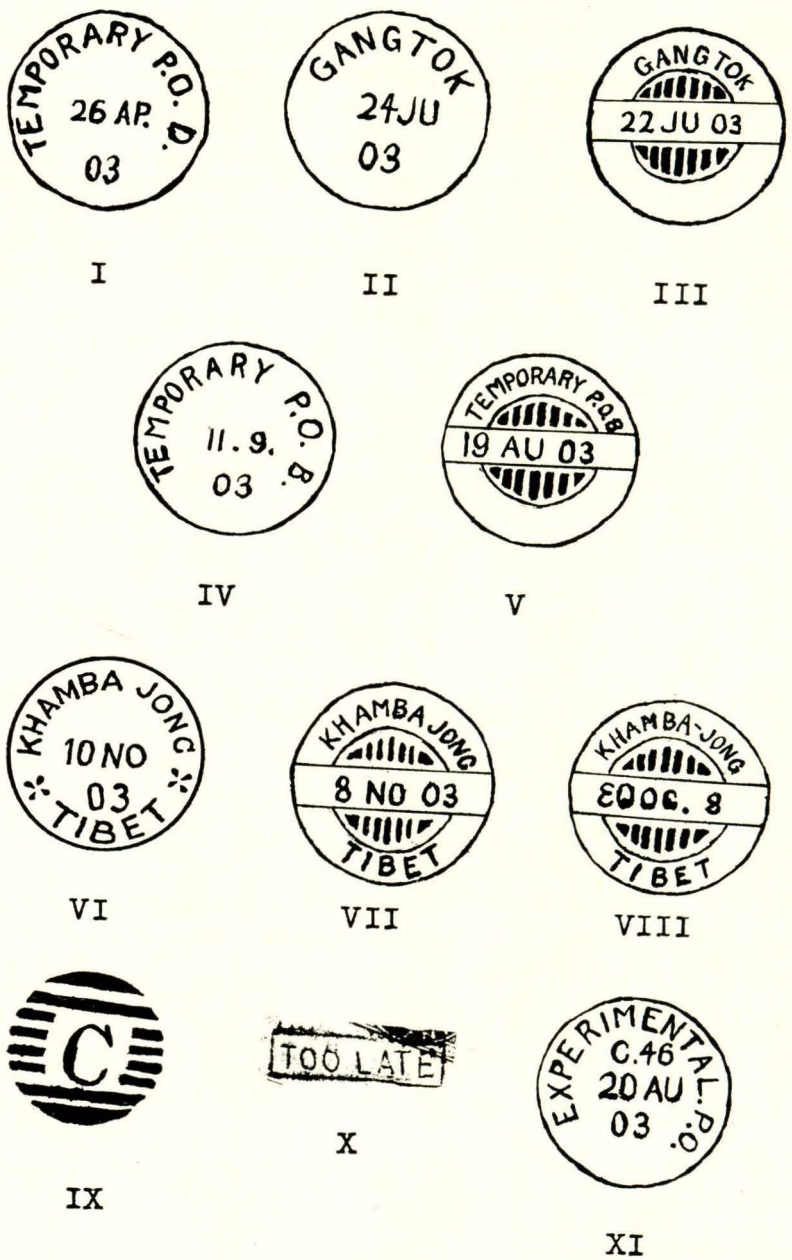


Figure 1. Postmarks of the Tibetan Frontier Commission.

3. A cover bearing one 3 pies stamp cancelled "C" in a barred circle.

4. A cover bearing two ½ anna stamps cancelled "Khamba Jong, Tibet, 24 Oc 03"

5. A cover bearing a pair of ½ anna stamps cancelled with "Khamba Jong (I) 30 Oc 03"

6. A cover bearing a pair of ½ anna stamps cancelled "F. P. O. 24 10 Mar 04" (F. P. O. 24 was then located at Tuna)

CHAPTER III

THE YOUNGHUSBAND EXPEDITION

The withdrawal of the Tibetan Frontier Commission from Khamba Jong was only the prelude to its re-entering Tibet. On the second entry it took the form of a military punitive expedition. The military commander of the escorting force was Brigadier-General J. R. L. Macdonald, who is already known to philatelists as the authority behind the issuance of the British Railway Administration stamp at Peking, China, in 1901. Sir Francis Younghusband as Commissioner, was in over all command of the expedition, being charged with obtaining a treaty from the responsible Tibetan authorities.

The military escort was composed of a field brigade, numbering about 2,800 rifles, together with five sections of Field Hospitals, plus Supply and Transport departments. The units composing the brigade were as follows:

23rd Sikh Pioneers ..... 700 men
32nd Sikh Pioneers ..... 700 men
8th Gurkhas ..... 700 men
One Company Mounted Infantry
One Company No. 3 Bengal Sappers
One Company No. 4 Madras Sappers
Two guns, No. 7 Mountain Battery
One machine gun Company from the Norfolk Regiment

Tibet was entered a second time on December 12, 1903, and the town of Phari was occupied on December 19, 1903. Tuna was captured on January 8, 1904. The force wintered at Phari and Tuna, occupying the entire Chumbi valley during this period. The Tibetans became extremely hostile to the advance and endeavoured to obstruct the Mission. Severe fighting occurred at Tuna when the advance was resumed on March 31, 1904. The mission reached Gyantse against heavy opposition and occupied the town on April 11-12, 1904. Fighting in the Gyantse area lasted until July 1, 1904. On this date, Tongsa Penlop and an embassy from Lhasa arrived at the British Camp. Tongsa Penlop was unable to accede to the British requirements, so the negotiations were broken off on July 3. On July 14, the Mission commenced its advance on Lhasa, which was reached on August 3, 1904. Meanwhile, on June 26th, additional reinforcements arrived to increase the effective British force to 3,000 rifles. These consisted of: One wing, Royal Fusiliers; two wings of the 40th Pathans; two Sections, British Mountain Battery; one Section 7-pounders; and one company of Mounted Infantry. The Tibetan regent representing the Dalai Lama, who had fled to China, was the Ti Rimpoche. He arrived at the British Camp in Lhasa on August 20th. The treaty was signed on September 7th and the Mission departed from Lhasa on September 23, 1904. The Mission re-entered Indian Territory on October 25, 1904.

When it was decided to advance into the Chumbi Valley, the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department instructed Mr. H. Tulloch to accompany the Mission. Sir Geoffrey Clarke, in "The Post Office of India and Its Story," gives the following account of the Field postal service which accompanied the Mission:—

"The rapid development of field post offices necessitated the appointment of a second superintendent, and Mr. A. Bean was deputed for field service. On the 6th January, 1904, Mr. Bean took over charge of the Base Division, but shortly after died of heart disease on 3rd March, 1904. The entire arrangement then devolved again on Mr. Tulloch until the 1st April, 1904, when Mr. C. J. Dease took over charge of the Base Division."

"The Mission advanced on Gyantse on the 4th April, 1904. From Tuna to Gyantse the mail arrangements were in the hands of the military authorities, and only one postal clerk, whose duty it was to distribute letters, was sent up with the escort. The Mission reached Gyantse on the 14th May, and a field post office had to be opened there and at several other places on the lines of com-

munications. The force remained at Lhasa from the 3rd August to the 23rd September and returned to Gyantse on the 6th October, 1904. There was by this time at Gyantse an accumulation of over 1,100 parcels addressed to the members of the Lhasa column, but Mr. Angelo, who was then placed in charge of the advance division, disposed of them in three days before the troops left on their return march. The demobilization of the force began by the end of October, and the postal officials were ordered to leave Chumbi on the 26th and to close the field post offices between Chumbi and Gangtok on their way down. Mr. Tulloch relinquished charge of the F. P. O.'s on the 28th November, 1904" *(Note:* The dates referred to in this passage are evidently the dates in the Post Office Record and not the dates of the military movements as given in the preceding paragraphs. *H. D. S. H.)*

The despatch of Brigadier-General J. R. L. Macdonald, dated 9th October, 1904, refers to the work of the postal service in the following paragraph:—

"The field postal service had many difficulties to contend with, but carried out its work satisfactorily. From Siliguri to Tuna the mails were carried by departmental agency, and thence on to Lhasa by military agency. Up to Gyantse a daily service was maintained latterly, and between Gyantse and Lhasa mails were carried by Mounted Infantry every three days."

No information is available of the number of field post offices that were opened and in operation on the route to Lhasa, neither was there any record of their locations. The information given in the following table has been pieced together from many sources, and the examination of evidence of existing covers themselves. It has not been possible to definitely locate all of the known field post offices. Where there is still doubt, it has been thought wise to give all the possible locations which have been checked with the record of military operations. The dates of earliest and latest use are of course subject to correction by scholars coming after. It must also be pointed out that the F. P. O. marks were

Table 2. Postmarks of the Younghusband Expedition, December 12, 1903–November 28, 1904

Postmark	Location	Earliest date	Last date	Illus.
Base Office	Siliguri (India)	2/14/04	6/20/04	Fig. 1 Type IV
F. P. O. No. 24	Tuna	1/23/04	10/5/04	Not Illustrated
Field P. O. No. 24	Tuna	1/4/04	10/5/04	Not Illustrated
Field P. O. No. 24 (oblong box)	Tuna	???	???	Not Illustrated
Field P. O. No. 25	Chumbi Valley	1/15/04	——	Not Illustrated
Field P. O. No. 26	Yatung-Gyantse (Note 1)	1/21/04	10/27/04	Fig. 2 Type V
F. P. O. No. 29	Lingmo ?	4/29/04	——	Not Illustrated
F. P. O. 31	Langram ? Chumbi ? Gyantse ?	6/2/04	6/18/04	Not Illustrated
F. P. O. No. 31	Tuna	5/8/04	——	Not Illustrated
Field P. O. No. 32	Gyantse	5/14/04	10/5/04	Fig. 2 Type VI
F. P. O. 81	Pharijong	1/16/04	1/25/04	Fig. 5 Type I
Field P. O. No. 83	Yatung ? Pharijong ? Lingmo ?	4/26/04	5/21/04	Fig. 2 Type VII
Field P. O. No. 84	Tuna ? Gyantse ?	6/11/04	10/2/04	Fig. 2 Type VIII
Field P. O. No. 85	Gyantse ?	11/2/04	——	Not Illustrated
F. P. O. 86	Pharijong	1/13/04	1/21/04	Not Illustrated
Lahssa	Lhasa	8/3/04	9/22/04	Fig. 2 Type I
Lhassa	Lhasa	9/2/04	——	Fig. 2 Type II

Note 1: Field P. O. No. 26 was used at Yatung between 1/21/04 and 11/2/04. This same mark was also used from Gyantse between 4/8/04 and 10/27/04.

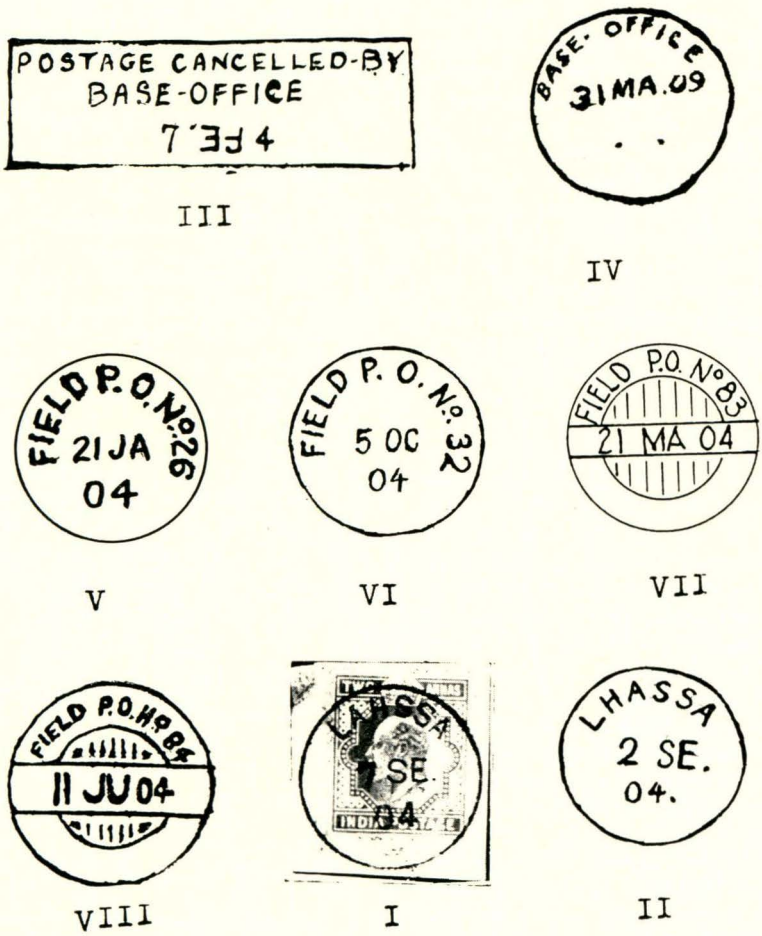


Figure 2. Postmarks of the Younghusband Expedition.

used in some cases by the Postal Agencies which were established under the terms of the Younghusband Treaty. The dates given will serve as a guide for the differentiation of these marks from strikes of the same device used at a Postal Agency at a later date. It is also known that certain of these F. P. O. numbers were assigned to other stations outside of Tibet after the completion of the Mission. So in order to definitely assign a certain mark to the Younghusband Expedition, the date must be legible.

CHAPTER IV

THE BRITISH INDIAN POSTAL AGENCIES IN TIBET

Under the Anglo-Tibetan Treaty of 1904, the British Indian Government was given the right to establish trade agencies, postal agencies, and the right to maintain a guard garrison at Gyantse. Many of the provisions of the treaty were not enforced by the British for political reasons. The establishment of the trade agencies was actually the only tangible result of the Younghusband expedition.

Trade agents were appointed to the towns of Gyantse (which agency also supervised the trade marts at Yatung and Pharijong in the Chumbi Valley) and Gartok. Postal agencies were opened at Gartok, Gyantse, Pharijong and Yatung.

It is now necessary to digress for a moment to consider the main trade routes between India and Tibet. By far the most important route is the one followed by Sir Francis Younghusband during the expedition to Lhasa. This starts at Siliguri in North Bengal, proceeds through Kalimpong to Gangtok in Sikkim State, thence into Tibet to Yatung. From Yatung it leads to Phari through the Chumbi Valley and thence to Gyantse. The route branches at Gyantse, northwest to Shigatse and northeast through Nangartse to Lhasa. The second major route lies through Bashahr (Bussahir to philatelists) State, via Rampur, capital of Bashar, Chini, thence through the gorges of the Sutlej River to Shipki in Tibet. From Shipki the route crosses the watershed between the headwaters of the Sutlej and the Indus Rivers to Gartok. Gartok is situated in the western portion of Tibet near the source of the Indus River. There is a third route through the Vale of Kashmir and Ladakh (Little Tibet) to Gartok, but as there is no evidence that mails passed over it from Gartok to Leh, the capital of Ladakh, we will not outline it more fully. There are other lesser routes into Burma through the Salween Gorges and into Nepal by way of the town of Tingri. Again there is no evidence of mail having been transported by these routes. The only routes which were used, to our knowledge, for the exchange of mail between Tibet and India were those from Gyantse to Siliguri and from Gartok to Rampur.

For the sake of clarity, each postal agency will be considered separately and in alphabetical order:

Gartok. The postal agency was opened here late in 1904 or early 1905. It had the status of a branch office. It is believed to have been closed during 1943, as it is not listed in the "Indian Post and Telegraph Guide" for that year. Two markings are known from this agency. The first is a circular type with the wording, "Gartok Western Tibet." (Fig. 3, Type I). The other is a square box with the wording, "Gartok Branch Office Western Tibet District" (Fig. 3, Type 3, Type II).



I



II

Figure 3. Postmarks of Gartok.

Gyantse. This first operated as a field post office from its establishment during the Younghusband Expedition. Until 1906 the field post office marks were used. The numeral designation was "F. P. O. 25."

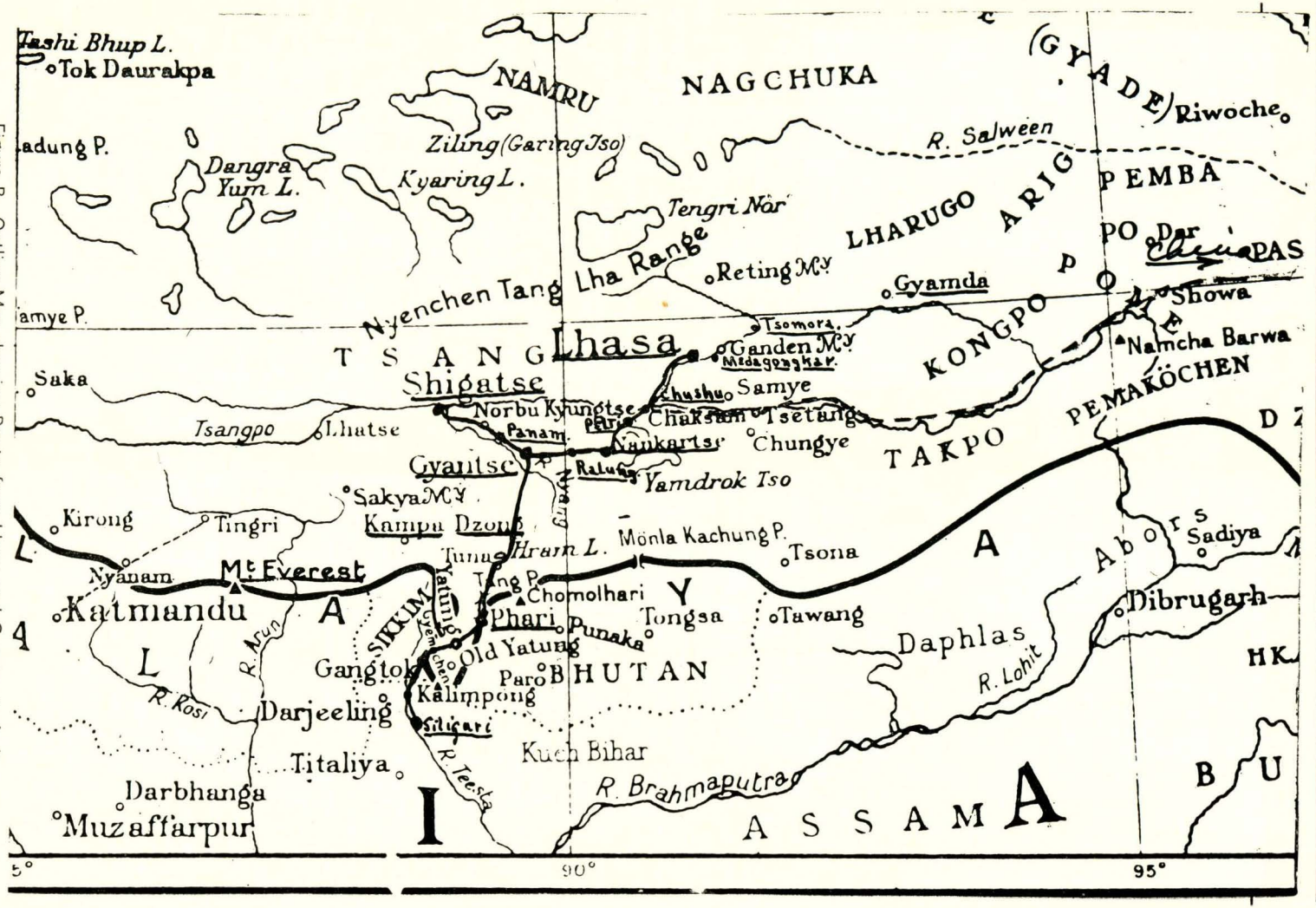


Figure B. Outline Map showing Route from Lhasa and Gyantse to India.



Figure C. Tibetan Post Office at Gyantse.

This mark was in use from 1905 to 1906. (Fig. 4, Type I). "Temporary P. O. Y" is found during the period from 1906 to 1908. Also introduced in 1906 is a single circle marking reading "Gyantse Tibet/ Siliguri Base." (Fig. 4, Type VI). This mark, which we call Type I, was used until 1914. In 1908 a second type post mark with the same inscription was introduced (Fig. 4, Type II). This differs from Type I in that it is double lined circle with the date in a bridge. Similar to this is the telegraphic marking which reads "Gyantse / G. T. O." (Fig. 4, Type III). In 1927, the large double lined circle standard Indian post mark was introduced. There are also two types of this, type I having a star shaped ornament at each side of the date bridge (Fig. 4, Type IV), and type II having solid, curved bars between "Gyantse" and Tibet. (Fig. 4, Type V). These marks were continued in use after the Indian Dominion took over the post office in 1947 and are still in current use.

Pharijong. This office first operated as a field post office during the Younghusband Expedition. After its establishment as an Agency, it was assigned "Field P. O. No. 81" and "Field P. O. No. 31." These marks occur in two types, type I being of the single circle design, and type II being the double circle with date bridge (Fig. 5, Type I). These post marks were in use from 1905 to 1909, with type II only

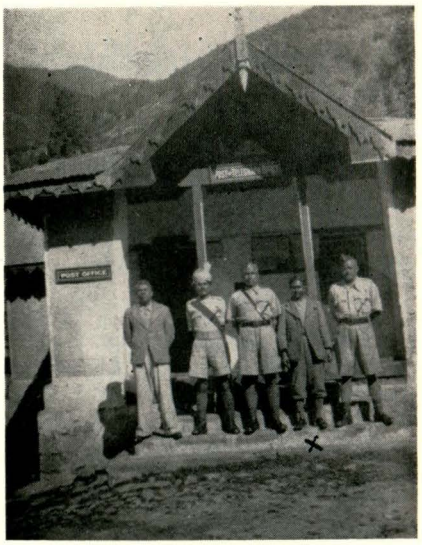
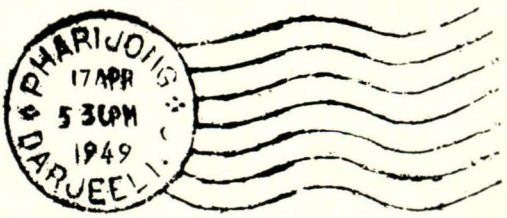


Figure D. Building and Staff of the British Indian Postal Agency at Pharijong.

known dated in 1905. During 1908 "Field P. O. No. 68" in a design similar to type II of the "Field P. O. No. 81" described above, was used. During 1912 the inscription on the post marks of this Agency were changed to read "Pharijong F. P. O. No. 81." In all other respects these marks were similar to "Field P. N. No. 81" (Fig. 5, Type II) and (Fig. 5, Type III). In the late 1920's the standard Indian markings appeared. The earliest recorded use from Pharijong is in 1935. Type I reads



VI

Figure 6. Postmark of the Dominion of India Postal Agency at Pharijong.



I



II



III



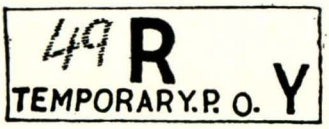
IV

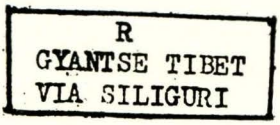


V

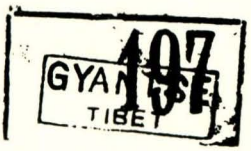


VI









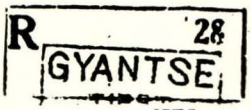


Figure 4. Postmarks and Registry labels of the British Indian Postal Agency at Gyantse.

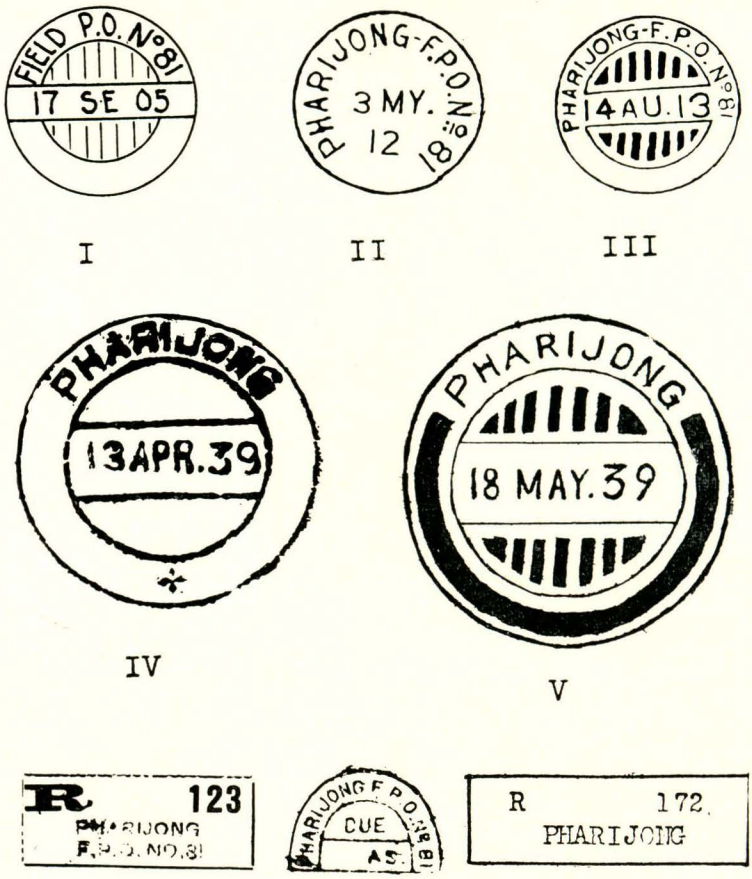


Figure 5. Postmarks and Registry Labels of the British Indian Postal Agency at Pharijong.

"Pharijong" with a star at the bottom (Fig. 5, Type IV), while Type II has a solid, curved bar in place of the star (Fig. 5, Type V). In the year 1949, a new mark was observed. This read "Pharijong / Darjeeling," and consisted of a single circle with an attached streamer of seven wavy lines. So far only one example has been recorded. (Fig. 6). This is similar to the type of marks observed in India after the establishment of the Dominion of India.

Yatung. The postal agency at Yatung is also sometimes called Chumbi on the registry labels. This wording so far has not been seen on the post marks themselves. This was one of the Field Post Offices



Figure E. British Indian Postal Agency at Yatung.

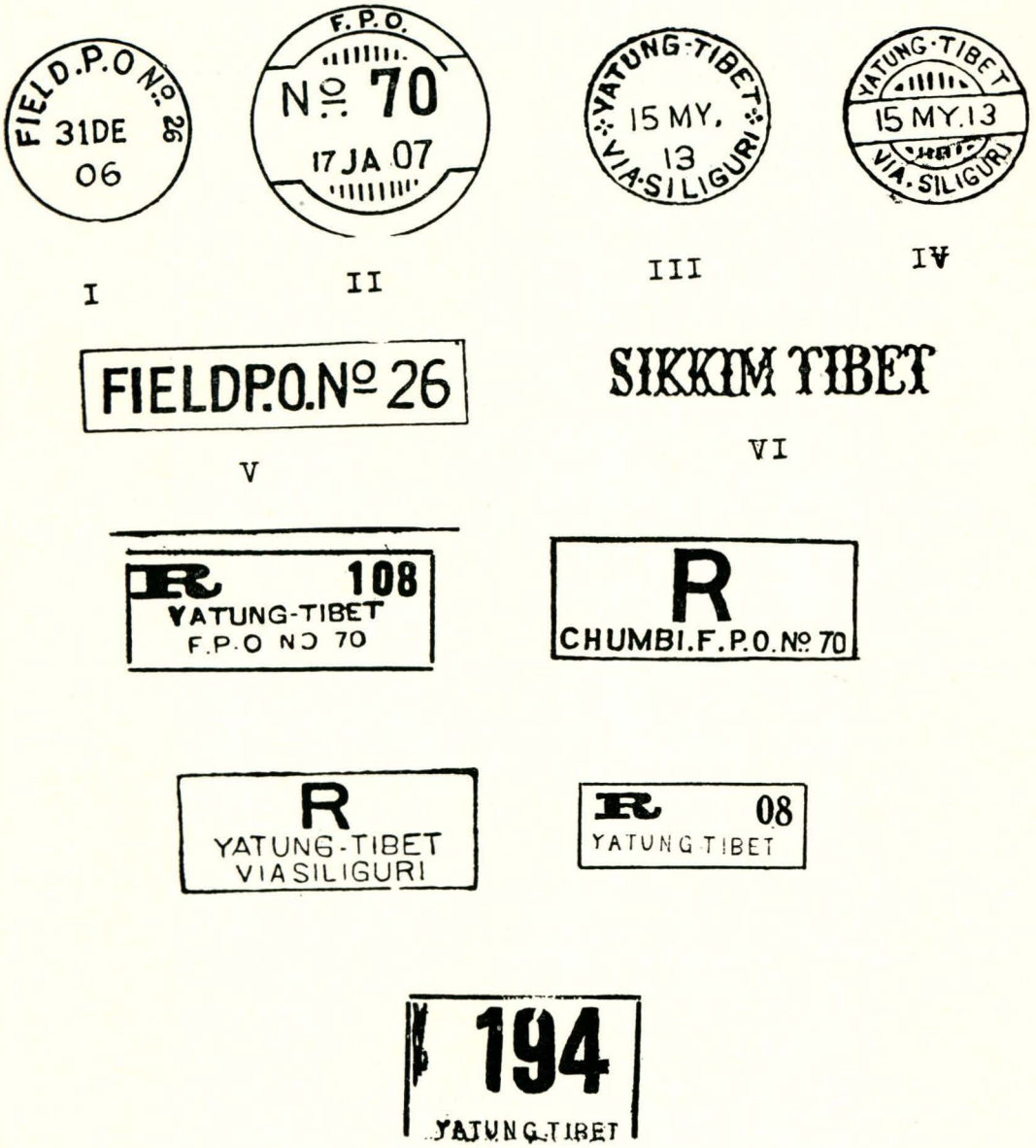


Figure 7. Postmarks and Registry Labels of the British Indian Postal Agency at Yatung.

opened during the Younghusband Expedition. The first marking found after it was made an agency is "Field P. O. 26." (Fig. 7, Type I). These are similar to the marks described above under Gyantse. Also an oblong cover bearing this mark was found in the Bailey correspondence and also bears a handstamp reading "Sikkim Tibet" in fancy letters (Fig. 7, Type VI). "Field P. O. 26" is first known used in 1905, while the latest usage is 1907. During the year 1907 a marking which read "F. P. O. No. 70" was also used in Yatung (Fig. 7, Type II). In 1911 there was introduced the wording "Yatung-Tibet / via Siliguri." There are two types of this marking, type I being single circle (Fig. 7, Type III) and type II the double circle with date bridge (Fig. 7, Type IV). These marks are still in use.

The three major postal agencies operated by the British Indian post office in Tibet, namely, Gyantse, Pharijong and Yatung have been continued in operation by the Dominion of India. With the one exception noted at Pharijong there have been no changes in the type of post marks employed. There is no information available as to whether the agency at Gartok is still in operation. As far as it is possible to ascertain at the present writing, the latest recorded post mark for Gartok was dated in 1943.

CHAPTER V

THE CHINESE POST OFFICES IN TIBET

Representatives of the British and Chinese Governments met in Peking during the month of April, 1906, to discuss the provisions of the Younghusband Treaty. As a result of these talks, China was given a free hand in Tibet and forthwith proceeded to exercise her suzerainty. In the latter half of 1909, a large force of Chinese troops marched into Tibet and defeated the Tibetan army at Chambdo. Meanwhile, the Dalai Lama, who had fled to China in 1904 before the advancing British Expeditionary Force, had returned to Lhasa after an absence of five years. He reached Lhasa in December, 1909, but within two months was again a fugitive. The Chinese troops occupied Lhasa in February 1910. The Dalai Lama crossed the border into India and received sanctuary in Darjeeling. He stayed in India for more than two years as the guest of the Indian Government.

Great Britain protested against this flagrant violation of the treaty provisions. The Chinese Government pointed out that British interests had not been disturbed and that trade was uninterrupted. Before any stronger measures were taken against the Chinese, the Revolution of October 10, 1911, broke out. The Tibetans rose against the Chinese forces and drove them out. The majority of the Chinese troops and officials made their way into India via the Chumbi Valley and were repatriated by the Indian Government.

One of the first acts of the Chinese after gaining control of Tibet was to establish a postal service. This new service was entirely distinct from the Government Service of Couriers (I Chang), which had existed within the Chinese Empire for centuries. The postal service established in Tibet in 1909-1910 organized it as a postal district of the Chinese Imperial Post. The new district was placed under the direction of Feng Wei-Ping as Commissioner with headquarters at Lhasa. Post Offices were opened at Chambdo (Chabdo is the spelling used on the post mark), Gyantse, Pharijong, Shigatse, and Yatung. The Chinese Ministry of Posts and Communications Report on the Imperial Chinese Posts Offices for the year 1911 also lists a post office at Gyamda, where a Tibetan post office had existed since 1932. The Postal Administration of the Republic of China also reports that a Chinese post office existed at Shobando for one year, 1910-1911. There is, however, no evidence other than these reports to substantiate the existence of these two post offices. No postmarks have been found nor has any traveler reported the existence of a post office during that period.

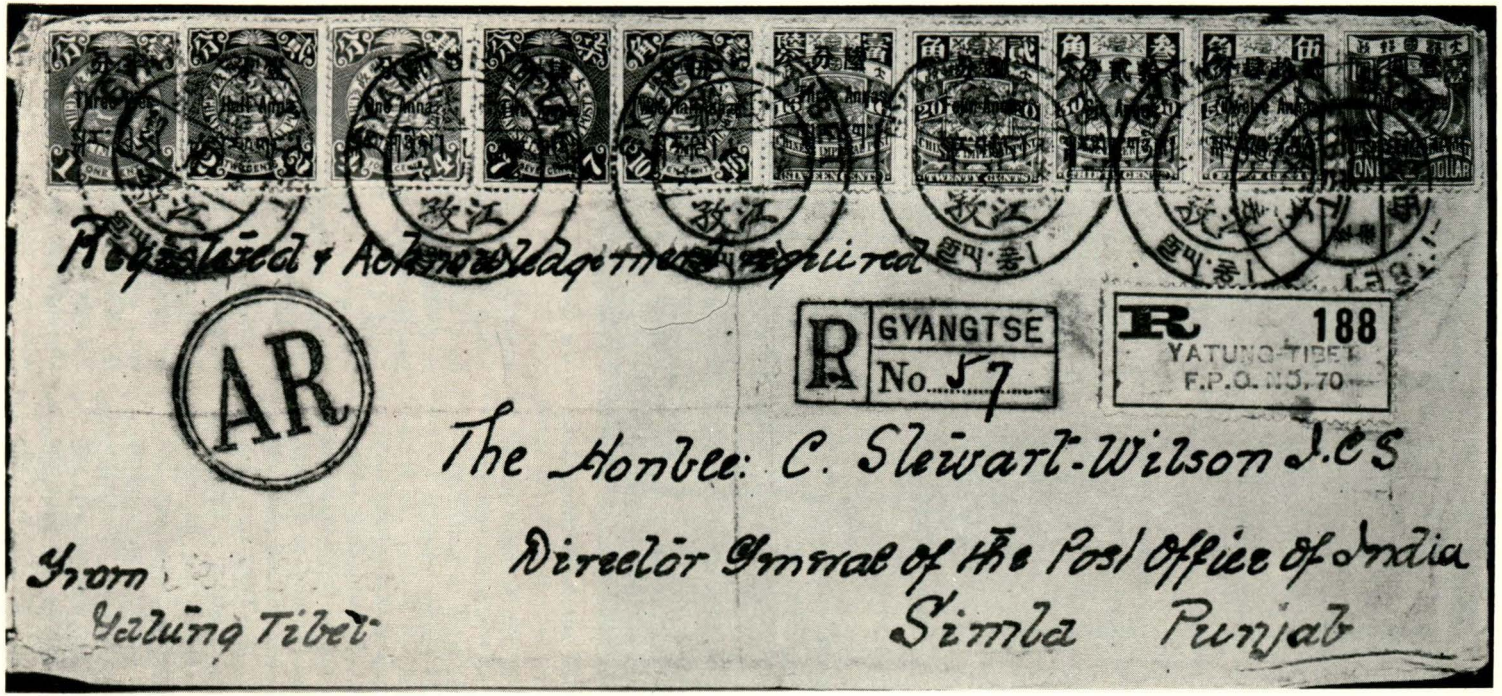


Figure F. A registered cover from Gyantse showing the stamps of the Chinese offices with the exception of the 2 Rupee.



Figure 8. The Surcharge stamps used by the Chinese Post Offices in Tibet.

The administration of the Chinese postal service in Tibet was very efficient and progressive. It offered all types of postal service including the sale of money orders.

There were two mail routes opened for outside communication. Both of these originated at Lhasa. The one to India went via Gyantse, Pharijong and Yatung to Siliguri. The one to China followed the old silk road via Chambdo, Batang, Ta-Tsien-Lu, Yao-Chow-Fu and Chengtu, covering a distance of 1666 miles. The official time to travel over this route was stated to be 55 days, but one of the few known covers was en route 189 days from Lhasa to Peking. The route through India was by far the quicker and most travelled. This carried most of the Chinese mails, even to China itself. The author has a cover from Urga, Mongolia, to Lhasa which went by way of India taking 74 days for the trip. It is probable that the route to China was used by the I Chang Service almost exclusively and that the Imperial Chinese Post used the Indian route. This would account for the rarity of covers showing the markings identified with the old silk road.

When the service was first opened, ordinary Chinese postage stamps were used. These are Scott types A17, A18 and A19 in the colors current from 1910 on. As these were used for only little more than a year, *the Chinese stamps bearing recognizable Tibetan postmarks are of extreme rarity.* During 1911, these stamps were surcharged with new values in Indian currency for use



Figure 9a. The "Inverted S error."

solely in the Tibetan post offices. The surcharged stamps were issued first to Lhasa in March, 1911. The earliest known usage is 9 March, 1911, from Lhasa, as reported by Mr. Theodore M. Newman.

The surcharge was applied in black by the printing office of the Customs Statistical Department at Shanghai and consisted of the new values indicated in Chinese, English and Tibetan. The work was carefully done and only one abnormal variety exists. This is the first tri-lingual surcharge found on the stamps of any country. The following stamps received the surcharge in quantities as indicated:

"Three Pies" on 1 cent, ochre	72,200
"Half Anna" on 2 cents, green	108,200
"One Anna" on 4 cents, vermilion	108,200
"Two Annas" on 7 cents, maroon	65,200
"Two Half Annas" on 10 cents, ultramarine	72,200
"Three Annas" on 16 cents, olive green	30,200
"Four Annas" on 20 cents, red brown	31,200
"Six Annas" on 30 cents, dull red	12,000
"Twelve Annas" on 50 cents, yellow green	12,000
"One Rupee" on $1 red and pale rose	4,800
"Two Rupees" on $2 brown red and yellow	3,704

The statement of the quantities issued is that given in Juan Mencarini and M. D. Chow's "Descriptive Catalogue of Chinese Postage Stamps." These figures differ somewhat from those of earlier authorities. It is our opinion, however, that the above quantities are more nearly accurate.

There were three settings of the surcharges because of the differing size of the sheets of the basic stamps. The 3 pies, ½, 1, 2½, 3, 4, 6 and 12 annas were surcharged on blocks of 40 stamps, two panes of twenty (4 x 5) side by side. The 2 annas was surcharged on blocks of 50 stamps, two panes of 25 (5 x 5) side by side. The 1 rupee and 2 rupees was surcharged on blocks of 48 in one pane (6 x 8).

In the setting of the "Three Annas" Surcharge occurred the one abnormal variety of the issue, namely an inverted "S" of a wrong font in the word "Annas." It occurs once in the setting, position 11 of the right hand pane. (Fig. 9a). Other varieties have been reported by students, but upon careful checking these have not been found to be constant and were probably caused by particles of dirt sticking to the type faces. As there is no constancy in these varieties, it is useless to describe them.

The use of these surcharged stamps was very restricted, and they were not recognized except in Tibet and China. Letters passing from Tibet to places abroad, by way of the Gyantse-Yatung route to India, had to be additionally franked with Indian stamps. There had been no provision made for their acceptance by the Indian postal authorities; but before such an agreement could be



Figure 9. The Major Types of the Surcharge applied to the Chinese stamps.

reached, the Chinese officials had been forced to flee, and the postal service ceased to exist. Letters for abroad sent by the Chinese post were handed over to the Indian post office at Yatung where Indian postage stamps were affixed. The Chinese lost nothing by this practice, as they charged the sender the full postage plus the cost of the Indian rate.

With the outbreak of the revolution in China in October, 1911, and the withdrawal of the Chinese garrisons from Tibet, the position of the postal officials became highly dangerous. Eventually the Chinese Postal Commissioner at Lhasa and the Chinese clerks at the other offices barely escaped with their lives. The post offices at Lhasa, Gyantse and Shigatse ceased to function by December, 1911. The post offices at Pharijong and Yatung continued to operate until the early part of 1912. The post office at Chambdo was never attached to the Lhasa Commissioner, but was controlled from Chungking. This post office was the last opened, July, 1911, continuing to function until 1918. The reason for this was that Tibetan authority was not reestablished in that area until 1918.

At least four different types of postmarks were used during the short life of the Chinese post in Tibet, Type I consisted of a small double lined circle with the name of the post office across the center between parallel lines. Above the English lettering appears the name of the city in Chinese and below in Tibetan. Type II consisted of a small double lined circle with the English inscription around the base with the remainder of the area filled with the equivalents in Chinese and Tibetan. Type III consists of a large double lined circle with the name of the city and "Tibet" between the lines at the top, at the bottom appears the Tibetan characters for the city and in the center the Chinese characters for the city and two parallel lines enclosing further Chinese characters. The English inscriptions are in sans serif capitals. Type IV is similar to Type III except that the English lettering is done in serif capitals and two stars appear between the circular lines on each side of the Tibetan inscription.

The following table shows the usage of these postmarks according to post office:

Table 3

Town	Type	Illustration
Lhasa	I, II, III, IV	Fig. 10, Types III, IV, V, VI.
Chambdo	III	Fig. 11 (Note spelling "Chabdo")
Gyantse	I, III	Fig. 12, Types VII, VIII
Pharijong	I	Fig. 13, Type VII. (Note spelling "Phagri")
Shigatse	I, III	Fig. 14 (Type I not illustrated) Type II.
Yatung	I, III	Fig. 15, Type VII, Type VIII.



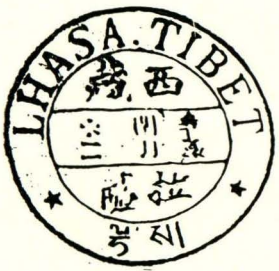
III



IV



V



VI

Figure 10. Postmarks used by the Chinese Post Office at Lhasa.



I

Figure 11. Chinese Postmark of Chamdo.



VII

Figure 13. Chinese Postmark of Phari.

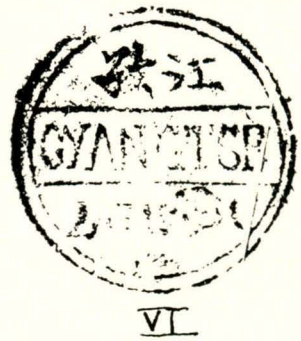


Figure 12. Chinese Postmarks of Gyantse.



Figure 15. Chinese Postmarks of Yatung.

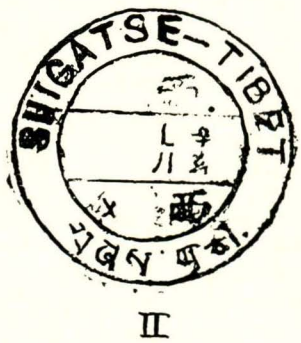


Figure 14. Chinese Postmarks of Shigatse.

Counterfeits of the surcharge are known. Most of the ones we have seen can be easily distinguished by the fact that the Tibetan characters are badly formed and much thicker than the originals. As the surcharge was applied only to the *unwatermarked Chinese stamps* of 1908 and later. Any surcharge on the *watermarked* stamps of the same design must be fraudulent.

We have also seen a copy of the 3 Annas on 16 cents bearing a Chinese vertical Republican overprint in dull blue. This overprint is very similar to the unofficial Tientsin overprints. Until we receive further information, this stamp must be classed as bogus.

(To be continued in the next number.)

GUATEMALA

The Second Provisional Issue

By FRED A. LAUPER
*(Member of the International Society of Guatemala Collectors)**



The set of five values.

Of all the numerous provisional stamps of Guatemala, the issue of 1886 on the vermilion 1 peso Northern Railway Tax stamp is a most unusual and interesting one. These provisionals were the result of a rather unethical deal between the government and an American engineer, one Charles Parker, who probably acted on behalf of the New York stamp dealer, Mr. Calman. These surcharged stamps were undoubtedly created rather for philatelic than postal purposes, although they were available for a short time at the post office windows for sale to the public and, therefore, found postal use to a limited extent. So, in spite of their unsavory origin, these provisionals have a quite legitimate status.

This issue contains numerous errors, some perhaps purposely made to produce saleable varieties; but most of them have, in my own opinion, occurred due to the carelessness of the printers who applied the surcharge, the absence of any inspection or control, and the lack of adequate printing types. These many varieties will be discussed in greater detail later. The reader can then judge for himself whether the above statement is justified or not.

The issue of these provisionals was instigated by Charles Parker, who at that time was employed by the Guatemala government. He approached the government officials with the suggestion that they should immediately produce and make available for postage a set of provisional stamps of a higher value than the then current set of 1 to 20 centavos Quetzal stamps of 1882. Simultaneously he offered to order at his own expense an entirely new series of postage stamps of 1 to 200 centavos denomination, and of a design, size and colors agreeable to the government.

The joker in this proposition was the provision that as soon as Mr. Parker would deliver this new series of stamps to the government, it would let him have in compensation, and for use as he would see fit, all the remainder of the 1 to 20c stamps of the Quetzal design, as well as those of the above proposed provisionals.

This proposition looked very attractive to the government, which at that time had been frequently in need of money. It could obtain a new set of postage stamps for only the expense of surcharging a not too large quantity

* This article is contributed to THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST by *The International Society of Guatemala Collectors.*



Five of the Scarcer errors.

of some surplus Tax stamps, of which it possessed quite a lot, and for which there was no use in the foreseeable future. The sale of the remainder of obsolete issues to stamp dealers at below face value was then a quite common practice in many countries. When, therefore, the Guatemala government accepted Charles Parker's proposition, it did not commit any worse act than what numerous other countries also have done, and are still doing. However, the really objectionable aspect of this deal was that these provisionals were primarily created for handing over to Parker, as at that time there existed scarcely any demand for stamps with these higher denominations; their availability at the post offices was, therefore, only incidental. As a matter of fact, these provisionals found very little use for postage and genuinely used copies of these stamps are for this reason very rare indeed.

The official decree for the production of this provisional issue and the contract with Parker were published in "Guatemala Filatelica" of 1943, and read translated as follows:

"Government Palace, Guatemala.
Febr. 11th, 1886.

Whereas it has become evident that a necessity for circulation of postage stamps of higher value than those of the issue of 1881 does exist, and in order to remedy this condition, the General-President decrees:

10—That a provisional issue of five values be made with the following denominations

300,000	of	$0.25
300,000	of	$0.50
250,000	of	$0.75
150,000	of	$1.00
100,000	of	$1.50

20—That these provisional stamps shall be valued at the denomination they express and be in circulation until a new and uniform series of postage stamps is introduced.

30—The procurement agency is empowered to arrange for the manufacture of two million new stamps of eleven denominations and of values from one centavo up to two pesos, in a manner that they be available for service not later than the 10th of July of the current year. To be made known.

Indorsed by the General-President.
Herrera."

"Contract for the printing of the new series of postage stamps.

The office of the Secretary of State and the Procurement Agency, as the one party, properly authorized by the resolution of this date, and the engineer Charles Parker, as the other party, have approved the following agreement:

10—The government shall have manufactured through the Consul of the Republic in New York and at the American Bank Note Company, or other equally responsible concern, two million postage stamps of the following denominations:

250,000	of	$0.01
150,000	of	$0.02
500,000	of	$0.05
300,000	of	$0.10
200,000	of	$0.20
100,000	of	$0.25
100,000	of	$0.50
100,000	of	$0.75
100,000	of	$1.00
100,000	of	$1.50
100,000	of	$2.00
2,000,000		

20—The stamps shall be made to con-

form in every respect with instructions that will be forwarded to said Consul, each denomination to be of a different color, and be inscribed with the value they represent.

30—These stamps must reach this capital at the latest by the end of next June.

40—Parker engages himself to pay for the cost of all the indicated stamps, as well as for all the charges of transport, exchange, insurance, etc., guaranteeing this assumed obligation with a bond acceptable to the office of the Secretary.

50—In recompense, the government agrees to hand over to Parker all the remainder of the postage stamps issued in 1884 and those of the stamps of the Northern Railway, which have been authorized by the decree of this date, although neither one nor the other shall retain a legal value by virtue of the new issue, subject of the present contract, having then been put in circulation.

In witness whereof and to make it binding, sign the two in compliance, at the office of the Procurement Agency of the government of Guatemala, the eleventh of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six.

Charles Parker, C. E. M. E.

C. Herrera."

It will be noted that above contract does not give the correct date for the issue of the small Quetzal stamps which were announced by a decree dated November 7th, 1881 and presumably put in circulation at that time. *The issue date mentioned in the Scott catalogue is therefore incorrect.*

The production of these provisional stamps by surcharging the Railway Tax stamps was apparently done at the Government Printing Works in Guatemala.

The basic stamp used for this purpose was an obsolete Tax stamp of which large quantities were in stock. The story in connection with them is that when President J. Rufino Barrios intended to construct the new Northern Railroad but had not the money to do so, he conceived the idea of making every citzen of Guatemala a bondholder in this enterprise. As the majority of the population was too poor to pay outright for such a bond, he introduced a scheme whereby everybody could buy every three months a 1 peso tax stamp at any post office in the country and stick it on a dated coupon card where space was provided for four such stamps. When any of these cards was completed with four stamps, it could be brought to a post office where it was cancelled "Pagado" and thus served as a voucher for the installment payment for that particular year. As soon as ten such fully paid up cards would be presented, a $40 interest paying bond was to be issued to the holder.

This financing project was put in operation in 1884 and a large quantity of the required 1 peso Tax stamps were ordered from the American Bank Note Co. of New York, which, on receipt, were put on sale at the post offices. These stamps were printed in sheets of 100—10 rows of 10 stamps each—and are perforated 12. They are of the engraved type and show in an oval center the picture of President Rufino Barrios. Around this portrait are the inscriptions: "REPUBLICA DE" at the left and "GUATEMALA" at the right. Below the oval is found "VALE UN PESO" and on top "FERROCARRIL AL NORTE." They are well executed and printed in a bright vermilion color, which makes them quite attractive looking stamps.

It is strange to note that some philatelic writers of the early 20th century made the mistake of recording that the portrait shown on these stamps is that of M. Rivera Paz, the first President of Guatemala. This is not correct as a comparison with the pictures of Justo Rufino Barrios on various subsequent stamps will obviously show.

Unfortunately, President Barrios was killed in April, 1885 in the battle of Chalchuapa in Salvador. Without its promoter, the construction of this Railway was interrupted and its financing scheme came almost immediately to a standstill. Some coupon cards that are preserved in various collections, are said to show the last Tax stamp entered in the space for the first semester of 1885 while all other spaces are empty. There were, therefore, large quantities of these Tax stamps left over; Mr. Parker apparently knew of their existence when he suggested them for these new provisionals.

The surcharges used are of quite an elaborate design and their overall arrangement is similar for all the five denominations. The

top part of the surcharge has the inscription: "Correos Nacionales," and underneath it a row of ornaments. The denomination is expressed five times on each surcharge, four times with small numerals and the letter "c." after them, and once at the bottom in larger numerals and "centavos" for the 3 lower values and "Ctavos" for the 100 and 150c surcharges. In between the smaller numerals is the inscription "Guatemala" with smaller ornaments above and below it. The whole setting of the surcharge is rather intricate and being entirely made-up of individual printing slugs for each numeral, letter, period, ornament and spacer. It is easily understandable that various misspellings, inverted letters and ornaments, unequal letters and numerals, and other mistakes should have occurred. Also there must have been a lack of a sufficient number of equal type slugs, which would account for the different letter and numeral types used in the printing plates of the surcharges of these provisionals. The full sheet of the 100c value, for instance, shows the five stamps on its bottom row with the word "Guatemala" in much heavier type, which undoubtedly was done knowingly when not enough slugs of the previous letter type were available. Such a predicament might have worried a conscientious craftsman in an United States printing plant, but the people who overprinted these provisionals apparently were not concerned a bit whether the surcharges were all uniform or not. It is, therefore, my belief that this indifferent attitude or carelessness, rather than any deliberate intention to create errors is the real reason for all these printing varieties.

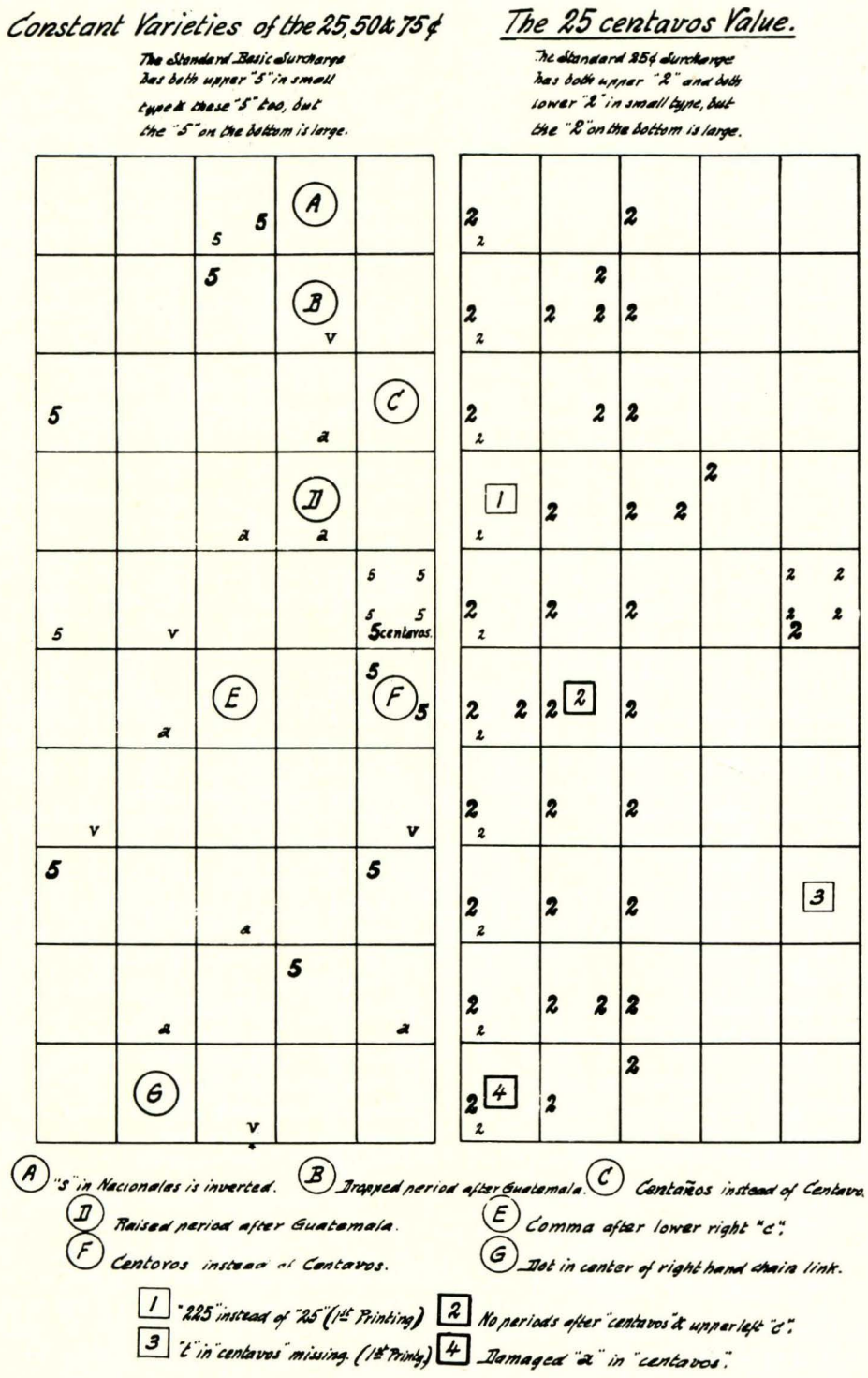
The printing plates for these provisionals were of two types:

For the three lower denominations a printing plate of 50 surcharges, 5 wide and 10 high, was used. The inscriptions, ornaments and the numeral "5" remained the same for all three denominations. This figure "5" was preceded by a "2" for the "25c" and a "7" for the "75c" value, while a "0" succeeded it on the "50c" stamps. It follows that the majority of errors in the inscriptions and in the type and size of the numeral "5" repeat themselves in the identical sheet positions for all three denominations. The sheets of the basic stamps had been separated into panes of 50 stamps, 5 wide and 10 high, with the top margin always removed for adjusting the panes in the printing presses while surcharging. The panes of the 25, 50 and 75c provisionals, therefore, never have more than two margins, one at the bottom and one on either the left or right hand side. As all four sheet margins of the basic stamp carry in their middle the printer's name, it is always possible to determine from which half of the full sheet a given pane with margin originated.

For the 100 and 150c values a printing plate of 25 surcharges, 5 wide and 5 high, was employed. The design of the surcharge is, as already mentioned, very similar to that of the three lower denominations, but for the top inscription a heavier type with letters all of equal thickness was used. The middle inscription "Guatemala" comes in a somewhat smaller type, except on 5 surcharge varieties in the bottom row of the 100c sheet where the type is extra bold. The "Ctavos" on the lower line of the surcharge has a slightly larger type. The surcharges of these two higher denominations have identical top and bottom inscriptions, and the "1" in the numerals and the small "c" behind the four small denominations are also the same. However, the "Guatemala" on the center line differs on the 100 and 150c values, and so do the ornamentations, although the middle portion of the upper ornament remains equal for both denominations.

To print the provisionals of these higher denominations the sheet of 100 of the basic stamp was separated in 4 panes of 25 each, 5 stamps wide and 5 high. The top sheet margin was again removed to facilitate the adjustment of the pane in the printing press that applied the surcharges. All panes of these 100 and 150c provisionals, therefore, have either a side and bottom margin, or only a side margin. The name of the printer found on these margins indicates again the position in a full sheet of any pane with margin.

The writer recently had the opportunity to examine a considerable number of full sheets, large pieces and special items of most denominations of these provisionals. Much of this material was loaned to him by Messrs. Denwood Kelly, Joseph Mandos and Edgar


Constant Varieties of the 25, 50 & 75¢
The standard Basic surcharge has both upper "5" in small type & these "5" too, but the "5" on the bottom is large.
The 25 centavos Value.
The standard 25¢ surcharge has both upper "2" and both lower "2" in small type, but the "2" on the bottom is large.
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
5 centavos.
1
2
3
4
(A) "s" in Nacionales is inverted.
(B) Trapped period after Guatemala.
(C) Centaños instead of Centavos.
(D) Raised period after Guatemala.
(E) Comma after lower right "c".
(F) Centovos instead of Centavos.
(G) Dot in center of right hand chain link.
1 "225" instead of "25" (1st Printing)
2 No periods after "centavos" & upper left "c".
3 "t" in "centavos" missing. (1st Printg)
4 Damaged "a" in "centavos".

C. Cantrell, who also extended to the writer the benefit of their long experience and great knowledge of this subject. Appreciation is expressed here for the cooperation they so generously gave.

With all this available reference material it is possible to check the published information on these provisionals and to add to the knowledge of the miscellaneous varieties that occur in this issue.

It was found that, as usual, the Guatemala section of the *Kohl Handbook* contained very reliable information, while many other articles published over the years on these stamps were at times somewhat inaccurate. Nonetheless, it must be recognized that these authors of by-gone generations contributed vastly to our present day's knowledge of the history of these provisionals and their many varieties.

It is believed that the present study of these stamps succeeded in establishing the definite status of a number of their varieties and in verifying their various sheet positions. Certain printings, like those of the 50 and the 150c values, unfortunately could not be checked as thoroughly as one would have liked. All the numerous sheets of these denominations that were available for examination pertained only to one or two printings and it was not possible to check whether the characteristics of the other printings, as described by J. R. M. Albrecht and other authors actually do exist.

From this investigation it appears that the great number of varieties occurring in this series of provisionals can be classified in the following groups:

1) Constant varieties.
2) Varieties pertaining only to one particular value.
3) Varieties characterising one particular printing.
4) Random varieties.
5) Inverted and double surcharges.
6) Falsifications.

In the following an attempt is made to discuss these various groups in greater detail.

1) Constant Varieties

As previously explained, a common printing plate of 50 surcharges was used for the 25, 50 and 75c values while another printing plate of 25 surcharges served for the 100 and 150c denominations of these provisionals. The numerals in the large printing plate were varied to produce the three lower values, and the numerals and certain inscriptions and ornaments were changed for the two higher values. The fundamental set-up of the two printing plates, however, remained the same and a large number of varieties occurring on either plate, therefore, show up in the identical sheet positions on all stamps surcharged with that particular plate, irrespective of their denomination.

For the 25, 50 and 75c values of these provisionals, the more prominent constant varieties of interest, are the following:

	Sheet position
Inverted "s" in "Nacionales"	No. 4
Period after "Guatemala" dropped and elongated	No. 9
"centaños" instead of "centavos"	No. 15
Raised period after "centavos"	No. 19
Comma instead of period after lower right "c"	No. 28
"centovos" instead of "centavos" and inverted "s"	No. 30
Dot in center of right hand chain link,	No. 47

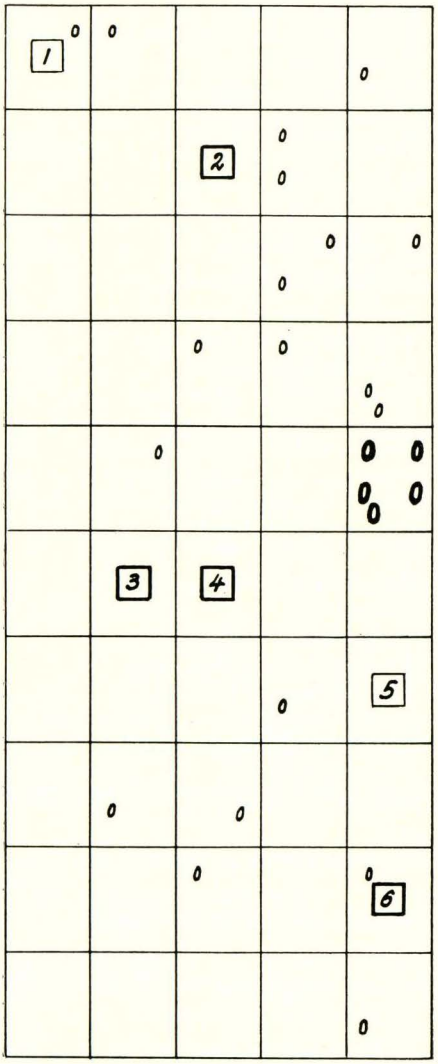
For the advanced specialist the following less prominent, but still easily discernible varieties can be mentioned:

Large "5" in lower right and small "5" in bottom value designation	No. 3
Large "5" in upper left value designation	Nos. 8, 36, 40, 44
Large "v" in "centavos"	Nos. 9, 22, 31, 35, 48
Large "5" in lower left value designation	No. 11
Antique "a" in "centavos"	Nos. 14, 18, 19, 27, 38, 42, 45
Small "5" in bottom value designation	No. 21
Large "5" in upper left and lower right value designation	No. 30
Damaged "a" in "centavos"	No. 46

There are many other irregularities which repeat themselves in the same sheet position of all three lower denominations, such as slightly different or broken letters in "centavos," defective ornaments, variations in the "5", etc., but which are scarcely important enough to be recorded here. However, they

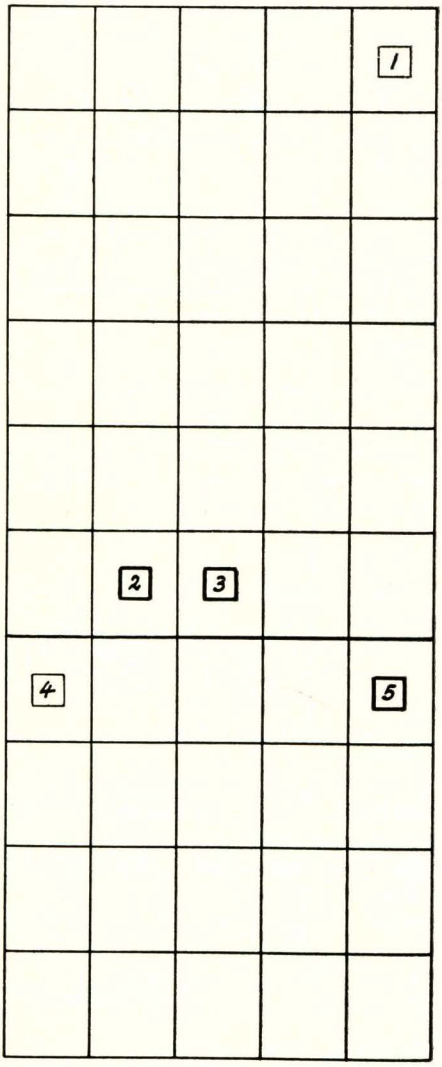
The 50 centavos Value.

The Standard 50¢ surcharge has all "0" in large type.



1 "Correos" instead of "Correos."
2 Dot in "0" of lower right "50".
3 No period after "centavos."
4 "Carreos" instead of "Correos."
5 No periods after "c's" on right.
6 Blotchy round ornament.

The 75 centavos Value.



1 "ales" of Nacionales inverted.
2 No period after "c" on upper left.
3 "Carreos" instead of "Correos."
4 "50" instead of "75" in upper right.
5 No periods after "c's" on right.

are useful to know when trying to determine the sheet position of a given copy of these provisionals. A reconstruction of the whole sheet of 50 of any of these lower values is, therefore, not too difficult.

For the 100 and 150c values of this issue the irregularities common to both these denominations are the following:

Damaged "C" in "Ctavos" ..... No. 12
Narrow "c" after upper left value designation ..... No. 24

Here again there are minor irregularities in the letters of the inscriptions, in the numerals of the value designations and the ornaments which can be used to determine the sheet position of almost any copy of these higher values.

2) Varieties pertaining only to one particular value.

The varieties that only occur in one particular value, but are present in all printings of that value, are the following:

The 25 centavos stamp.

Large "2" in upper left value designation ..... Nos. 19, 48
Large "2" in lower left value designation, Nos. 1, 3, 6, 8, 11, 13, 17, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 41, 43, 46, 47
Large "2" in lower right value designation ..... No. 12
Large "2" in lower left & right value designation ..... Nos. 18, 26, 42
Large "2" in upper right & lower left and right value designation ..... No. 7
Small "2" in bottom value designation ..... Nos. 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 41, 46
No period after "centavos" and upper left "c" ..... No. 27

The 50 Centavos stamp.

Assuming that the standard "o" in "50" is large in all five value designations, the following irregularities can be found:

Small "o" in upper left value designation ..... Nos. 2, 18, 19, 43, 45
Small "o" in upper right value designation ..... Nos. 1, 15, 22
Small "o" in lower left value designation ..... Nos. 5, 34, 37, 50
Small "o" in lower right value designation ..... No. 38
Small "o" in upper & lower left value designation ..... No. 9
Small "o" in upper right and lower left value designation ..... No. 14
Small "o" in lower left & bottom value designation ..... No. 20
Dot in "o" of lower right "50" ..... No. 8
"Carreos" instead of "Correos" ..... No. 28
Blotchy round ornament ..... No. 45

The 75 centavos stamp.

"Carreos" instead of "Correos" ..... No. 28
No periods after "c" on both upper and lower right ..... No. 35

The 100 Ctavos stamp.

"110" and "áoo" instead of "100" in upper and lower left ..... No. 16
"Guatemala" 23 m/m long instead of 18½ m/m ..... Nos. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25
Rosette with vertical leaves in black ..... Nos. 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 14, 16, 25
Blotchy ornament on right upper row ..... No. 2

The 150 Ctavos stamp.

Slanted "5" in the "150" value designations ..... No. 6
Lower ornament inverted ..... No. 21
"5" without neck in bottom designation ..... No. 21
Blotchy shell like ornament between upper value designations ..... No. 25

3) Varieties characterizing one particular printing.

The 25 centavos stamp.

The 1st printing of this value has the following characteristic varieties:

"225 instead of "25" in lower left value designation ..... No. 15
"t" missing in "centavos" ..... No. 40

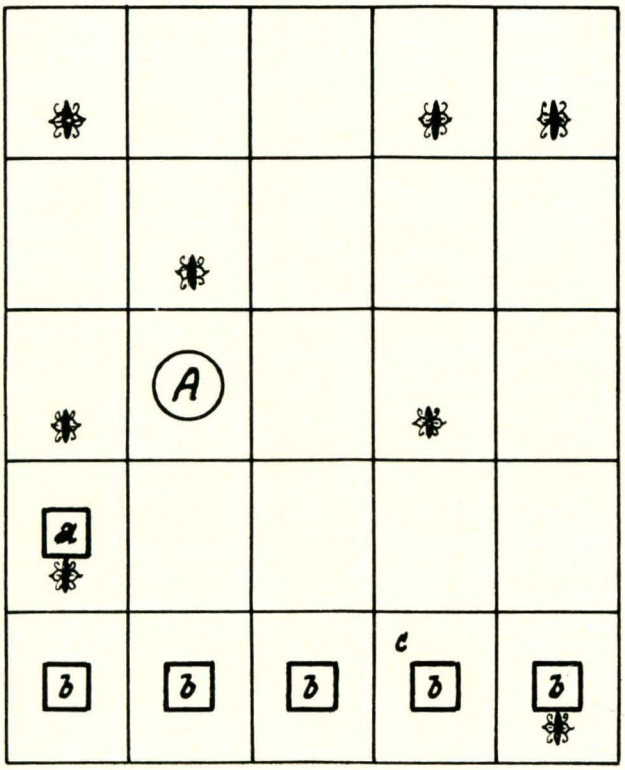
The second printing of this value has these two errors corrected. Why other equally prominent mistakes like the misspelled "centavos" were not corrected at the same time is rather difficult to understand.

The 50 centavos stamp.

The first printing of this value shows the characteristic variety that follows:

"Co
rreos" instead of "Correos" ..... No. 1

The 100 Ctavos Value.



Constant Varieties: (A) Damaged "C" in Ctavos, [c] Narrow "c".
Varieties only found on this value: [a] "110" and "a00" on left.
[b] "Guatemala" in larger and heavier type.
Rosette with vertical leaves in black.

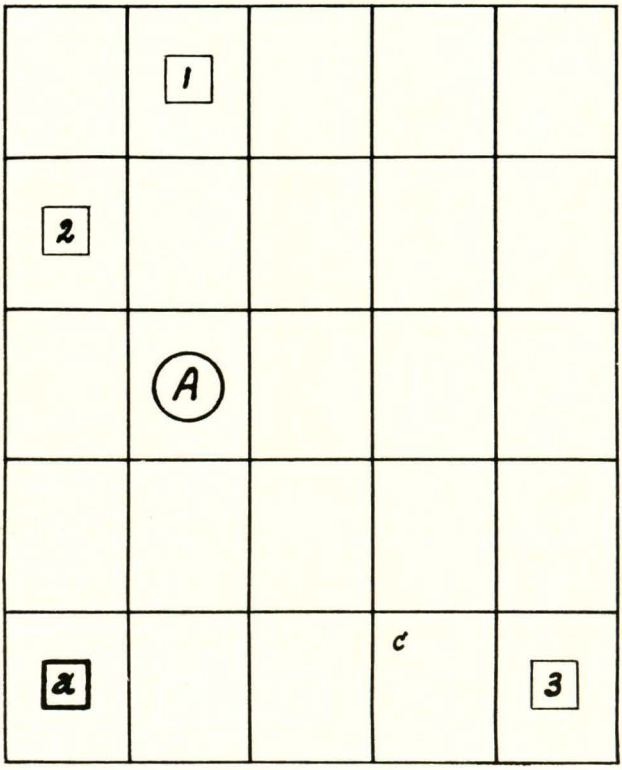
According to an article by J. R. M. Albrecht in "Gibbons Stamp Weekly" of April 16, 1910, the second printing of this value has "Co" in the normal position, but the period after "Guatemala" on the same stamp is now much too low.

The third printing is said to have the stamp in the sheet position 27 with a space between the "o" and "s" of "Correos," and stamp No. 1 has now the period after "Guatemala" back in the normal position or missing altogether.

No sheets or singles showing the varieties said to pertain to the second and third printings have come to my attention nor were available for checking. It is therefore necessary to assume that the respective statements by Mr. Albrecht are correct.

The fourth printing has all the irregularities mentioned for the three previous

The 150 Ctavos Value.



Constant Varieties: (A) Damaged "C" in Ctavos., c Narrow "c".
Varieties only found on this value: [a] Inverted Ornament.
Varieties of first Printing: [1] Inverted "G" in "Guatemala.
[2] Slanted "5's" & "Guetemala. [3] Blotchy shell ornament in center.

printings eliminated, but all the varieties listed under group 1) and 2) still remain.

The 75 centavos stamp.

The first printing of this denomination has the following curious varieties:

"ales" in "Nacionales" inverted ..... No. 5

The second and more abundant printing of this value has this error corrected, but instead the following new variety now turns up:

"50" instead of "75" in upper right value designation ..... No. 31

All other irregularities remain the same.

The 100 Ctavos stamp.

There is apparently only one printing of this value.

The 150 Ctavos stamp.

The numerous sheets of this value that were available for examination had all the following varieties:

"G" in "Guatemala" inverted ..... No. 2
"e" instead of "a" in "Gu*etemala*" .. No. 6

Sheets with these varieties are said to pertain to the first printing.

Mr. Albrecht in his above referred-to article wrote that the second printing of this value shows the inverted "G" corrected, and the third printing has also "Guatemala" spelled correctly. However, I am told of the existence of some corner blocks with stamp No. 6, having the slanted "5" in "150" and the wrongly spelled "Guetemala," corrected, but with stamp No. 2 still showing the inverted "G".

No blocks or sheets of these second and third printings have been seen by the author to corroborate the above assertions.

4) Random Varieties.

Varieties of this group exist in odd copies or in quantities of the same or similar type. They were not caused by omission, invertion or faulty insertion of letters, numerals, ornaments, etc. in the printing plates, but appear to be due to some mechanical defect during the printing, resulting in some portion of the surcharge not being printed, or only partly or defectively so.

The 25 centavos stamp.

The letters "os Na" of "Correos Nacionales" are missing ..... No. 11
Periods after upper left "c" and "centavos" defective or missing ..... No. 27

The Scott catalog lists under 26f a variety with "centvos" instead of "centavos." This must not be a constant variety as neither I nor any of the collectors whom I know have ever seen such a copy. Perhaps it does not exist.

The 50 centavos stamp.

The letters "os Na" of "Correos Nacionales" are missing ..... No. 11

This variety shows sometimes more or less letters missing or defective, indicating a gradual deterioration.

The periods after the upper left "c" and "centavos" are missing, and "centavos" is spaced "centavo s," "centav os," "centa vos," etc. No. 27. The above varieties had been caused apparently when the printing slug for the period fell out. The letter slugs thus had become loose and gradually separated, resulting in the spacings within the word. A sheet of a late printing was examined which had a heavier than normal period after "centavos." This appears to indicate that these loose letters had been noticed during printing and therefore, a new period slug had been inserted to anchor the letters in place.

No periods after the "c" on both upper and lower right ..... No. 35
The letter "t" missing in "centavos" .... No. 40

The 75 centavos stamp.

The variety with "os Na" missing is said to occur also on this value.

The period after the upper left "c" is missing or defective ..... No. 27

The 100 Ctavos stamp.

More or less defectively surcharged stamps can be mentioned as random varieties of this value. Some such copies show only portions of the surcharge on the sides of the stamp.

The 150 Ctavos stamp.

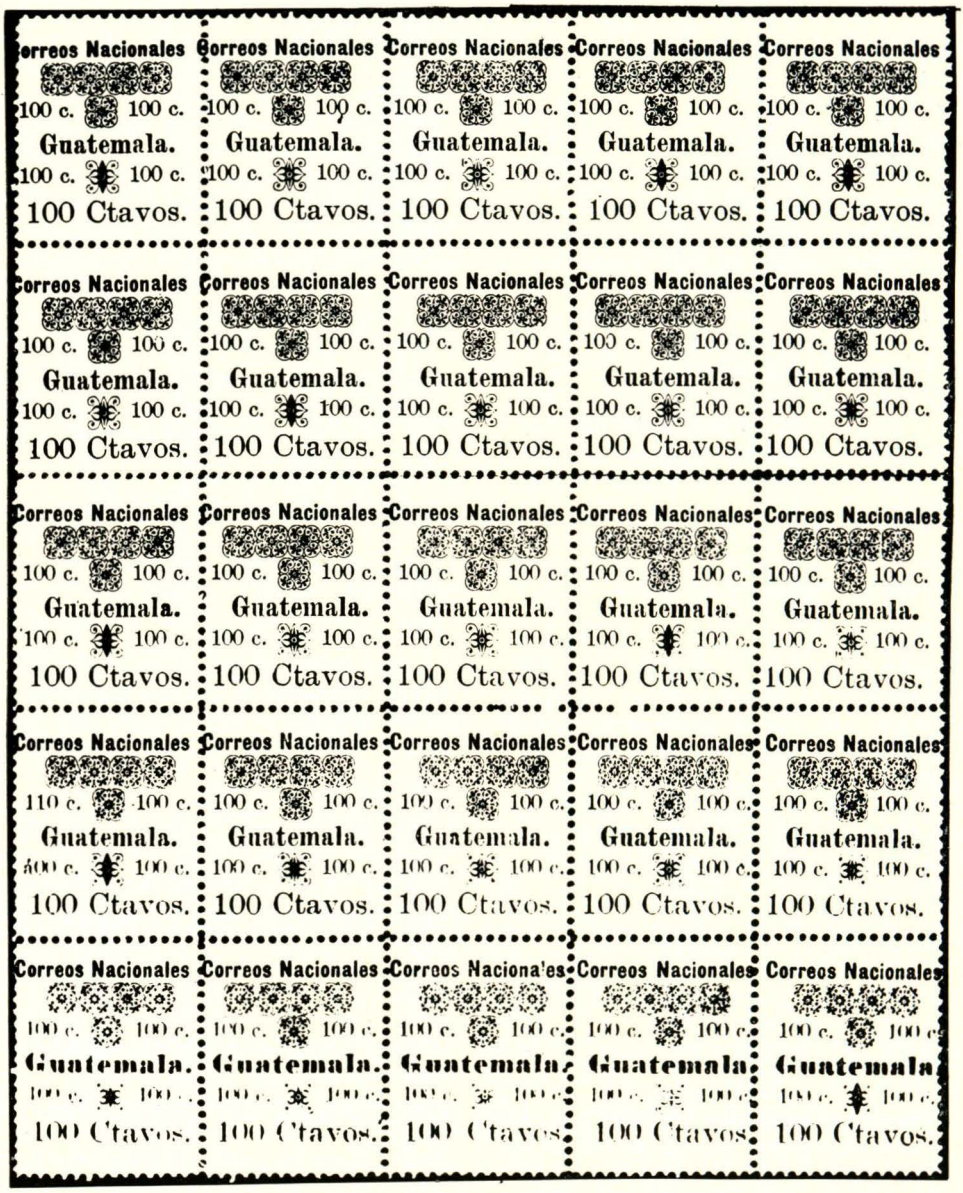
The variety with "Guetemala" in sheet position 6 comes frequently very poorly printed with the center portion of the surcharge partially missing. It seems that in this portion of the printing plate the ink did not always adhere and thus caused at times defective prints.

Such defectively printed surcharges also occur at times on stamps of the three lower denominations, but not so often.

On some sheets of the 150 Ctavos stamps the surcharge was so far misplaced that one row of it was applied to the margins, leaving a row of stamps without surcharge and thus forming five sets of pairs, either vertical or horizontal, that have only one stamp per pair surcharged.

All values of these provisionals are also known with the surcharge greatly displaced, so much so, for instance, that the inscription "Correos Nacionales" may now be in the middle or at the bottom of the stamp, instead of on the top.

Many of these stamps come with the backs



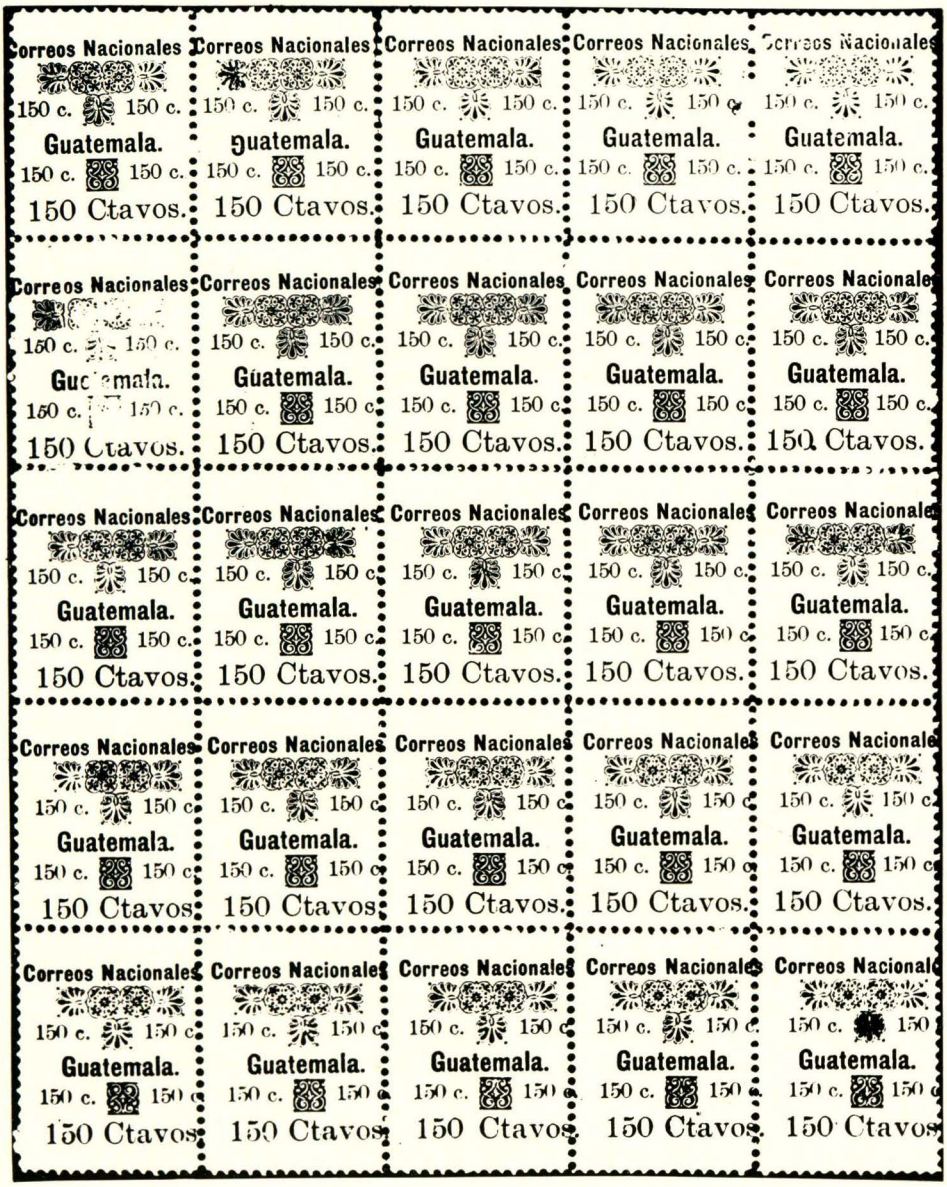
Complete setting of the 100 Ctavos. Actual size.

and sometimes also the fronts more or less blackened with printing ink.

Partial or complete offsets of the surcharges are also found.

5) Inverts and Double Prints.

All denominations of these provisionals come with either inverted or double surcharges or both. These varieties are, of course, considerably scarcer than any of those previously described because, some of them only occurred in a few sheets. The inverted surcharge on the 100c denomination, for instance, is said to have existed on only one sheet of 25 stamps. The error with "110" and "áoo" can, thus, be on just one stamp in inverted form.



Complete setting of the 150 Ctavos. Actual size.

These varieties are known as follows:

Denom.	Inverted Surch.	Double Surch.
25c	Yes	No
50c	Yes	Yes
75c	No	
	1) Both horz.	
	2) One horz. and one vertical.	
	3) One horz. and one diagonal.	
100c	Yes	
	1 horz. & 1 slant.	
150c	Yes	Yes

As could be expected, most inverted and double surcharges were counterfeited quite freely. A knowledge of all the legitimate

irregularities occurring on the various values will enable one to spot quickly any such forgeries.

6) Falsifications.

Although the basic stamps were not counterfeited nor imitated to my knowledge, the surcharges of these provisionals, especially those of the inverted and double type, received some attention from the fakers, and caution is advised when acquiring such items.

Fortunately, all the forgeries that I have seen and examined were poorly made, and should not fool any alert collector.

On the 25 and 50 centavos denominations the print on the forged surcharge is considerably coarser and more defective looking. The numerals "25" and "50" are squattier and both the top and bottom inscriptions are somewhat longer.

A forgery of the 75c value has never come my way, but presumably they exist being probably similar to those of the two lower values.

The 100c and 150c forgeries are easily spotted by looking at the top inscription, which on the counterfeited surcharges have "Correos Nacionales" printed in the same type as the three lower values. The genuine surcharges on the higher values have, as explained before, a heavier gothic type with the letters of equal thickness. Also the zeros in the numerals "100" and "150" on the forged value designations are very much slimmer than in the genuine ones. The counterfeited surcharge of the 100 Ctavos stamps show the ornament below "Guatemala" in the shape of a shell instead of a rosette. On the forged 150c surcharges, this ornament is wrong also and of the same type as those forming the upper row of ornaments on the genuine 100 Ctavos stamps.

Also, these Railway Tax stamps are known with various bogus surcharges, which, however, are not related to the provisionals here under review.

Cancellations.

This article would not be complete without a few comments on the cancelled copies of these provisionals. As it was mentioned earlier in this article, these provisionals were not really issued to satisfy an actual postal demand for such higher denominations. Furthermore, they had been available for postage during less than four months and could not, therefore, have found extensive service. *Genuinely used copies of these stamps are, consequently, scarce and far more valuable than mint copies. Covers with these provisionals properly used are, therefore, real collectors items.*

The fact that all used copies of these provisionals are much more desirable stamps, resulted, as with so many other earlier Guatemala issues, in forged postmarks being applied to these stamps. It is probably safe to state that 999 out of a 1000 used copies carry a forged cancellation of some sort or other.

The majority of these bad cancellations are not too difficult to detect. Practically all double circle cancellations with "Correos" on top, "Guatemala" or "El Quiche" on the bottom and with or without date in the center, are fakes. The color of the ink on the cancel is a greyish black; the print is not solid; and they usually were applied to the corner of a stamp. The large 5-pointed star cancellation is very questionable, and so are the large single circle cancellations in purple. However, some of these might have been genuinely applied, but unless they tie the stamp to a cover, no positive proof is available.

Provincial date cancellations with "Certificado" and the large numeral cancellations are usually considered to be genuine, although no positive proof exists unless a stamp is properly tied to a postally used cover. Rectangular postmarks and those with "Guatemala" diagonally within a single 17 m/m circle, are cancellations not applied for postal purposes, but by favor, and, do not, therefore, warrant premium prices.

With these remarks this article comes to a close. It is hoped that it will stimulate the collecting and further study of these interesting provisionals of Guatemala. Considering the age they have attained, and the fact that the quantities originally issued were rather moderate, it is surprising that these stamps, and especially some of their varieties, are priced so reasonably in the catalogs. With the remarkable rise in popularity that all the stamps of Guatemala are enjoying presently one cannot help but wonder for how much longer such a favorable price situation can prevail.

UNITED STATES

The 24c Air Mail With Inverted Center "The Greatest Show Piece in All Philately" Disassembled

By HENRY M. GOODKIND

When the first air mail stamp of the United States was studied in this journal (THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. 29, Page 337), some attention was given to the sensational error of the stamp, the sheet of 100 with the inverted centers. The largest piece still known to be in existence was a block of eight with the blue plate number 8493 and the arrow. This showpiece was illustrated in the 1950 article as Figure 4 at the top of page 343.

This block of eight had been the property of the Estate of Colonel E. H. R. Green and was auctioned in Part XVII of this collection by Harmer, Rooke & Co. of New York on November 13, 1944. In the 1950 article, only a small portion of the auctioneer's description of this piece was quoted. For the purpose of record, the entire is now given:

> Lot 166. 1918. 24c carmine rose and blue. The unique block of 8, positions 85 to 88 and 95 to 98, with bottom arrow and blue plate No. 8493. The U. L. copy has been removed and lightly replaced and the two left stamps are slightly thin. Few unimportant gum creases. Marvelously well centered, brilliant colors. A spectacular and gorgeous block, *beyond doubt the greatest show piece in all philately.*(*) The fortunate purchaser of this block will be the possessor of something which everyone—collector and non-collector alike—will envy and admire, as well as something which no other person can ever duplicate and which will be famous the world over.
>
> A very conservative catalogue value for this wonderful block would be $50,000.00, especially when one remembers that a mere single copy has brought well over $4000.00 at auction.

This block is illustrated again, now as Figure 1. It was sold in the 1944 auction to dealer Y. Souren. Obviously, dealer Souren did not share the same enthusiasm for the piece as the auctioneer did, because later events show that the buyer broke up the block.

Figure 2 shows the pair as sold by H. R. Harmer Inc. of New York, when this firm offered Part II of the Souren stock at auction on October 30, 1951. H. R. Harmer described this as follows:

> Lot 636. 24c carmine rose and blue, CENTER INVERTED. THE UNIQUE BOTTOM ARROW PAIR, Position 95 and 96 in sheet o. g. fresh color and well centered, somewhat creased and left hand stamp thinnings near left margin, nevertheless a beautiful show piece of great value.

The conclusion is obvious—the block of eight was not kept intact. First of all, in 1944 it was not a block of eight but more properly one of *seven* because the upper left stamp (position 85) had been already severed. The separation of the pair with the

(*) Italics are ours.



Fig. 1. *Courtesy of H. R. Harmer, Inc.*

arrow reduced the original block to one of five (positions 86, 87, 88, 97 and 98). This was broken up further into a block of four and a single. The evidence for this is found in Part I of the Souren stock sold by H. R. Harmer, Inc. on March, 1951. This description read:

> Lot 829. 24 carmine rose & blue, center inverted o. g., fresh appearance, two small thin spots at T and TL resp., also a light diagonal gum crease extending from RB and in no way visible on face, a rather well centered stamp comparing favorably in appearance with some of the better known copies . . . .

This single copy is the upper left copy from the original block (position 85) which "had been removed and lightly replaced." The study of its centering shows it to be that copy and not the other single (position 86), whose margins are different from the stamp illustrated on page 77 of the H. R. Harmer auction catalog of Part I of the Souren sale.

(Continued on Page 103.)



Fig. 2.

PHILATELIC EXPERTIZATION

It Relies Mainly Upon Knowledge, Not Instruments

By THEODORE E. STEINWAY, CHAIRMAN
EXPERT COMMITTEE, THE PHILATELIC FOUNDATINON and Others *

The popular trend towards oversimplification, the "capsule method" of acquiring knowledge, finally has reached the field of philately. This push-button method is one of the most noticeable trends in American culture today. It is a result of the great speed of our industrial age. We have time so seldom to do things properly and thoroughly. Our reading is digested, our newspapers are tabloid, our popular magazines mostly pictures, and our library reduced to a small shelf of books. Nothing that is thought unnecessary to the pursuit of Mammon has escaped condensation. Our institutions of higher learning concentrate more and more upon survey courses, while an education by correspondence courses is popular. The old standard of a learned man with a broad, liberal education is being discarded in favor of a group of highly-trained specialists in narrow fields, who tend to concentrate upon one small segment to the exclusion of all other knowledge.

This trend in philately is manifested in the appearance of a group who maintain that the modern scientific instruments can do the *entire work* of the philatelic expert. It is alleged that machines can detect and identify forgeries, determine whether a stamp was genuinely used on cover and solve all stamp problems. In our opinion, this group has very little notion of the proper use for which various instruments were designed or what must be learned to employ them properly. Surprisingly, some incorrectly call the ultra-violet light rays of a quartz lamp "a black light."

There is one basic tenet to be learned early in all scientific study. This is that precision instruments and analytical devices are *merely an extension of one's own senses.* The use of any instrument merely enables the scientist to measure more accurately or to analyze more carefully, the problems presented. *It requires years of patient study, observation and practice to evaluate properly what these extensions of one's own senses indicate.* This point is so important that concrete illustrations are necessary for a proper understanding of this basic concept. For instance; an examination of the purpose of one of the most widely known tools of the philatelic expert, the ultra-violet light, will be undertaken.

The ultra-violet lamp is a device for generating a beam made up entirely of light rays, vibrating with characteristic frequencies from the violet end of the spectrum. Light, which has these high frequencies, affects certain substances in such a manner as to cause them to glow in a particular way. This is called fluorescence. Each substance possessing fluorescence has also a constant form of this, which enables the object to be identified by that glow. It is only this property of ultra-violet light, which is useful to the philatelic expert. He knows that if a particular stamp has a certain fluorescence, that, *within limits,* similar copies should display the same appearance under this light. An expert knows that any foreign substance, such as ink, when applied to the surface of a stamp will leave minute traces, invisible to the naked eye, when they have been removed. He knows that these traces will fluoresce

* Messrs. Henry M. Goodkind and Harrison D. S. Haverbeck.

differently and *may* become visible under the lamp. It is fully understood, however, that chemical changes caused by atmospheric agents or frequent contact with human hands will, at times, modify the original fluorescence. For instance, a stamp may have been affixed to a letter by one who was chewing tobacco, which would affect the fluorescence. This is true especially if the stamp had been used on a letter or if the cancellation has been cleaned from the face of the stamp. It is simple to take an unused copy of a stamp, place it under the ultra-violet light to observe the effects upon the pigments which make up its printing inks and the cellulose fibres which form the paper. It is, however, fallacious to conclude that *because this particular specimen fluoresces pink that all other unused copies of this stamp must fluoresce with that identical color.*

It is on this point that one with insufficient philatelic knowledge or guidance goes astray. He makes the categorical statement heard so many times that a stamp is a forgery because it does not turn to a certain color when subjected to ultra-violet light. But the stamp may be genuine in every respect. Lacking experience and necessary knowledge, one cannot interpret properly what the eyes have perceived. *It is this fundamental knowledge which differentiates between the inexpert and the skilled philatelist.*

Knowledge and experience can never be replaced by a gadget. These are equally essential for use with the other tools which science has provided for philatelic examination. Some of them are the photospectrometer, the binocular microscope, the micrometer and micrometric calipers. Although these names sound impressive when mentioned to those unfamiliar with them, it is comparatively easy to use these instruments. It is *not* easy, however, to interpret the results correctly. Science has not yet invented, nor will it ever, a tool which by a flick of the wrist or the push of a button will disclose automatically whether a stamp is genuine or a counterfeit. No light, ultra-violet or infrared, will make the word "fake" shine upon a counterfeit stamp.

The usefulness of modern scientific instruments, however, to the philatelic expert should not be minimized. They allow the student to test more accurately certain standards, which was not possible before their invention. They offer a safer examination and more exact view of the subject being studied. And *each instrument has its specific use.* The inexpert uses only one instrument for the determination of every point to be studied on a stamp. This can be likened to a doctor who would prescribe the same medicine for every ailment. In proper expertization one instrument is used for color, a second for paper, a third for gum, a fourth for possible repairs and so on.

The knowledge necessary to interpret the manifestations of a scientific instrument comes only after years of serious study and handling of stamps. An expert of such experience will wish to see that his knowledge endures. Thus he selects younger men, who in his judgment show the necessary qualifications to carry on this work. These younger men act as apprentices for some years and those who pass the test in a veteran's opinion eventually become experts in their own right. A true expert does not hoard his knowledge to himself, as a miser his gold, envious that he possesses the know-how which no one else can possess.

The best of experts can be fooled. Then, too, there is always the chance of error. To err is human and, as long as man exists, there will be honest mistakes. But errors must be occasional and far in the minority for one to be ranked as an expert. Then too, snap judgments must be avoided. The infrequent occurrence of an erroneous opinion should not be seized upon as evidence of incompetence, especially where the integrity and reputation of an individual concerned is a matter of record.

The Importance of a Committee

The best way to reduce the margin of error to its most practical minimum is through the use of a body of experts rather than one individual. Thus the full flowering of philatelic expertization can be found only in a committee.

The personnel of an expert committee must be carefully selected. All branches of philately must be represented. But, besides the intimate knowledge that each expert holds of his particular specialty, he must have also

a broad, general knowledge of philately. Disinterest is another important factor. When one is summoned to a court for jury service, the prospective talesman is examined closely as to whether he knows anyone connected with the trial to be heard. The remotest relationship usually bars one as a juror in that case. And so it is with philatelic expertization. This disinterest exists to a large degree among amateur collectors. This in no way casts any doubt upon the ability and knowledge of any one connected with the commercial aspect of philately. Many a stamp dealer has a broad philatelic knowledge, often equal and occasionally superior, to most amateur collectors.

The dealer, dependent for his livelihood upon the purchase and sale of stamps, certainly has a vested interest in any material that passes through his hands. The reputable dealer will stand behind the genuineness of any stamp which he sells. Often upon request, a dealer will sign a stamp on the back, calling it a guarantee. Rather, this is a warranty that this dealer will refund the purchase price if the stamp is proven not genuine. A practical stamp dealer will hesitate to give an opinion upon an item which he has not handled. It is, indeed, an imposition to request this because one dealer is hesitant to pass upon the merchandise sold by a competitor. In fact, many dealers openly avoid this. For instance, many of the prominent auction houses in the United States have included this statement in their terms of sale:

"Each lot is sold as genuine but when in the opinion of *The Philatelic Foundation* or any competent authority acceptable to us, the lot is declared otherwise, the purchase price will be refunded in full."

In a similar sense, one of the most important collectors' books in America, "The Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue," has this statement:

"Scott Publications, Inc. cannot undertake to pass upon genuineness or condition of stamps, due to the time and responsibility involved, but gladly refer collectors to the *Expert Committee of The Philatelic Foundation,* 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, N. Y., for this work."

A collector purchasing a stamp is dependent mostly upon the knowledge and honesty of the dealer who sells it to him. An honest dealer is a great asset to the hobby. But, unfortunately, the field is not barred to unscrupulous persons who can easily take advantage of uninformed buyers without much fear of detection. It is this small element which undermines the entire structure of philately. The dependence of the collector is almost entirely upon the dealer's trust and honesty. No honest dealer ever has anything to fear from an expert committee.

An expert committee of amateurs continually uses the great knowledge of those dealers who are acknowledged authorities in their field. It is not generally known or appreciated how often dealers are consulted. It is not practical to publicize this work because much information is given and must be treated in confidence. But it must be stressed that no group of experts, solely amateur collectors, can function properly without consultation with the best of the stamp dealers.

Proper and careful expertization by a carefully selected group of philatelic students of fine background, highest integrity and complete disinterest, is philately's greatest protection. Different from art where every creation is individual and unique, philately has control copies. Every one interested in stamp collecting needs to support such work, especially those who had neither the time nor inclination to be well informed. Expertization by a committee such as established by The Philatelic Foundation, has been in existence in the United States since 1945. A wider knowledge and understanding of the work of this Committee should be disseminated. Those who have the least comprehension of the Expert Committee are the ones who are in the greatest need of its services.

In philately, the best authority for a certain country or specific stamp may be an individual, either a collector or dealer, But no one person is infallible. The great advantage of a committee for expertization is that it brings together at a session many such individuals for an interchange of knowledge. At times, the best analysis of a stamp comes from the most unexpected source. Innumerable instances could be cited. For example;

an early United States cover had been a matter of controversy between philatelic authorities for many years. This cover finally came before the Expert Committee, together with the dossier of all the conflicting opinions already rendered on this item. Two on the Committee, primarily students of foreign stamps, discovered certain markings on this cover, overlooked entirely by all the United States authorities who previously had examined it. These markings supplied the clue which solved the problem. In another instance, an old Canadian stamp had never been properly determined. This also had been a matter of disagreement among good authorities in this field. One of the members of the Expert Committee, known primarily as a student of 20th century issues, discovered certain new points about this stamp which had never been observed before. These proved to be the key to a unanimous opinion rendered by the Committee.

These two instances point up the fact that *the true student of philately knows stamps, not only his own specialty.* A thorough knowledge of printing methods, gum, papers, separations, postal markings and history must be possessed by any one who expertizes stamps. Practically all stamps old or new, domestic or foreign, have been printed. If a person has had a wide philatelic experience and a basic knowledge of printing processes, he is competent to examine the stamps. Of course, one person will know more about his own specialties, having the most intimate knowledge of his own fields, but this does not signify the lack of a general philatelic knowledge.

All this should by now lead to the correct conclusion that there is no "Easy Way" or "Quick Method" for philatelic expertization. This error in thinking stems directly from the previously mentioned trend of our times, namely, to oversimplify and condense all learning. A superficial veneer can be gained in a short time. The disclosure of such knowledge can be done dramatically and made very impressive. But sound knowledge and experience can be gained only after many years of hard work and study. Philatelic knowledge is and shall always remain, the expert's best tool and will never be supplanted by any instrument.

Essential Requirements

Of the greatest value to an expert committee is the quantity and quality of the reference material available to it. A person can pass an opinion upon a stamp by merely looking at it. Such a method results in the greatest margin of error. *The surest method of examination is by comparison to control copies. And the more of such material available, the easier it is to form a correct opinion.* This cannot be stressed too strongly. In scientific parlance, a control is a standard of reference. It establishes the norm from which divergence or similarity with the specimen being studied may be measured. Briefly, *it is not possible to distinguish a genuine stamp* from a forgery, *if you do not know the genuine.* Without the genuine stamp for comparison purposes, the most costly scientific instrument cannot be of the slightest aid. A rather complete collection of forgeries of a stamp is helpful, but it is quite possible that the specimen under consideration could be a new counterfeit. *Lacking a genuine stamp for control, comparison to the reference material available will not lead to the proper conclusion.*

The scope of the reference material is important. Stamps are required not only in fine, unused condition, but also cancelled and on covers, because such copies have been subjected to the rigors incident to passing through the mails.

The Expert Committee of The Philatelic Foundation has available to it one of the finest reference collections in the world. The Philatelic Foundation owns the magnificent *Luff Collection,* housed presently in 267 volumes. Of untold value in this collection are all the personal notes and much of the correspondence of the late John N. Luff, one of the greatest all-around philatelic students that this country has yet produced. In addition, many of the Committee's members own some of the finest collections in the world. Consequently, the material available is beyond description. When a certain rare stamp is under consideration, probably more fine copies of this stamp are before the Expert Committee than could be assembled anywhere else at one time.

Many who pass opinions upon stamps completely ignore two other essentials a philatelic expert needs. These are:

1. An extensive library.
2. Photographs and enlargements plus a reference collection of same.

The Philatelic Foundation owns the extensive Luff Library and has, in addition, continual access to one of the greatest libraries of philately in the world, that of the Collectors Club. At every session of the Expert Committee, books and magazines of record, are consulted.

As for photography, several of the finest philatelic photographers are used by the Committee. Camera work for philatelic purposes must be tailored to its individual needs. Photographic knowledge alone is not sufficient. It must be combined with philatelic knowledge. A certain stamp or cover under examination may require a series of ten or more photographs taken with various filters and at different angles. It is a most skilled work which only a few can do. After each stamp is examined, all photographs are then placed in the reference collection of the Expert Committee forming one of the most important records in philatelic history.

The confidence and support of every sincere collector and dealer in the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation is the insurance policy that stamps can be collected with assurance. The temptation to defraud collectors will never be removed. Even the competent and vigilant policing by Federal Agencies has not prevented counterfeiters from operating. But the combination of the philatelic knowledge and experience can focus its light upon the evils of the hobby and greatly discourage the purchase of such spurious material.

The services of the Foundation are available to all. If you wish to support this organization and its work, we shall be happy to have you visit us when in New York, or shall be pleased to furnish additional information if you will write to us at 22 East 35th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

U. S. 24c. INVERT

(Continued from Page 98.)

It is most apparent, therefore, as to what dealer Souren had done with his "Col. Green" purchase of $27,000.00. He separated it into four parts as this:

1. A block of four with the blue plate No. 8493 (positions 87, 88 and 97, 98.)
2. A pair with the arrow (positions 95 and 96).
3. and 4. Two singles (positions 85 and 86).

Out of the above four parts, two have appeared at auction in 1951. The best piece, the block of four with the plate number, is reported as having been sold privately by dealer Souren so that it should not show up in any future auction of his stock if this information is correct. But perhaps the other single copy (position 86) will be offered in a future sale, or it may have been sold prior to dealer Souren's death.

Since the block of eight sold for $27,000 in 1944, it is interesting to compare this with the later prices of some of its parts. The single copy in Part I of the Souren sale in March, 1951 sold for $1,800.00. The pair with the arrow in Part II realized $3,300.00, a total of $5,100.00. The true condition of the single (position 86) is not known to us. Assuming it free from flaws and in better condition than position 85, an estimated auction price of $3,500 might not be too far-fetched. This would make a total of $8,600.-00. Deducting this estimation from the actual sale price in 1944 of $27,000.00, this leaves $18,400 as the value of the block of four to equal the Col. Green auction price. If, however, position 86 is not a very fine copy, then our estimate of $3,500 is much too high, bringing a projected price for the block of four to over $20,000.00. Without the actual sale prices of the four parts, all these calculations are nothing but theory. It is our speculation, however, that dealer Souren would have to had sold the best piece, the block of four, for well over $20,000.00 to have realized a profit on his original cost of $27,000.00.

The important point to record is this. Now when one speaks or writes about philately's most valuable pieces judging by their auction sale prices, one that ranked among the very top no longer exists. "The greatest show piece in all philately" has gone with the wind!

French Anchor Cancellation on U. S. Stamps

By ROBERT G. STONE

(A Contribution from the France & Colonies Group)

A note by Dr. Thomas H. Meikle, in "Western Stamp Collector" of June 19, 1951, reprinted in "France & Colonies Philatelist" of May-June 1951, on a United States 3c 1861 stamp with the anchor cancellation of a French packet, brings out a type of "U. S. Used Abroad," well known to specialists and not so rare as this note implies.

The Anchor cancellation is known on various values of United States stamps current between 1866 and 1876, especially on the 3c, 10c, 12c, 15c and 24c of the 1861, 1867, 1869 and 1870 issues. Sometimes it is in addition to a United States cancellation; sometimes alone.



Fig. 1. The Meikle copy of U. S. 3c 1861 with French Anchor cancellation.

These arose on four different lines of the French packets (Compagnie Générale Transatlantique). Two of them touched at United States ports and the others at St. Thomas (Virgin Islands) and Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

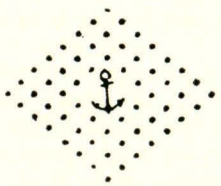


Fig. 2. The French Seapost Anchor cancellation.

From 1856 to 1876 the French mail packets carried postal clerks on board, who cancelled French stamps with the anchor in a diamond of dots. They also applied circular dated postmarks on the covers. These postmarks, or route marks as they would be called in American postal history terms, in some cases contained the name of the ship and the country or port of call. More often they named the line or route, with a number also. It is easy to understand in the case of the lines calling at United States ports, how a letter with American stamps might be mailed at the pier or on board, and cancelled by the French postal clerk with his anchor or other postmark. This probably accounts for most of the French anchors seen on United States stamps.

It seems that the mail clerks on the ships sorted mail being sent to France, put on the ship in closed pouches, say from a United States post office. In so doing, if the clerk noted a letter which the United States dispatching office or mailing office had failed to cancel, he would hit it with his anchor. Line M ("Ligne M" on the route mark) from Havana to New Orleans was opened in 1866 and discontinued in 1869. This same designation was used later, for a China line; and

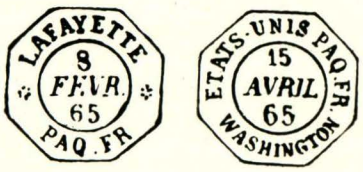


Fig. 3. Postmarks of Line H Ships.



Fig. 4. Route Mark of Line H.

still later, for an African line. Covers with the postmark of the New Orleans-Havana service are quite rare in any form; if mailed on board, extremely rare.

Line H, Le Havre to New York, was also opened in 1866. For several years it used postmarks with the names of ships: Lafayette, Washington, Europe. Covers with these are extremely rare and bring "connoisseur prices." The line carried a lot of mail, so that the anchor with the regular "Ligne H Paq. Fr. No. ——" postmark is not rare. However, covers with this combination are not as plentiful as those from some other lines. Most of the anchors on United States stamps come from Line H.

That United States stamps could get an anchor cancellation out of St. Thomas and out of Rio de Janeiro will sound fantastic, even to some specialists. However, a number of such covers are known even though they are extremely rare. The explanation is straightforward, when the postal regulations covering the service have been noted.

In 1865 the U. S. & Brazils Steamship Line, running from New York via St. Thomas, Trinidad, and Bahia, to Rio de Janeiro, was given a United States mail contract. The American Consuls and some merchants, at St. Thomas and at Rio, sold United States stamps to prepay letters from those places home. Some letters from the United States (with U. S. stamps affixed), addressed to other West Indian points went via this line as far as St. Thomas. There they were transferred to other lines which called in the Caribbean: in some cases to the French lines B. D. and E. French stamps were added to these letters by the forwarders at St. Thomas. When the packet clerk cancelled them with the anchor, he would sometimes hit the United States stamps also. If the American stamps were not already cancelled, because the letter had been mailed at the pier in New York or on board the ship, they likewise got the anchor. These, it is true, have an accidental character in their cancelling.

Letters addressed to Uruguay or to the Argentine via the U. S. & Brazils Line were put off at Rio, where the line ended. An arrangement was made to have the French line J or K pick up these letters and take them on to Montevideo or Buenos Aires. For that service French stamps had to be added. The French rate was advertised in New York; senders there could buy French stamps to put on the letters along with the American ones. The United States stamps were cancelled at New York and the French ones at Rio.

However, sometimes the letters were received at Rio without the United States stamps being cancelled. The French packet clerk obligingly put the anchor on these stamps. The cases seen were either those in which the letter was probably mailed at the pier in New York, or the post office just overlooked it. Also, several covers are known, sent to Buenos Aires from St. Thomas (and even from Havana!) with United States stamps. The U. S. & Brazils ship did not cancel these stamps, because it had no mail clerk, nor authority under its contract to service letters on board. These too were hit with the anchor by the French packet clerk out of Rio.

The Knapp collection included some covers of these various services.

SECRETARY'S PAGE

Meeting of December 5, 1951.

Display of British Empire by Members.

The program of this evening was devoted to a showing of selected pages of stamps of the British Empire.

The first speaker was *Mr. Stephen G. Rich.* His display was composed of *pre-cancelled stamps of the United Kingdom.* He mentioned that all of these, especially the early ones, are quite scarce. Pre-cancelling in Great Britain is used not only for postage, but also for revenue purposes. The pages shown contained several rare examples of this usage.

The second speaker was *Mr. Paul P. Lindenberg.* His topic was the development of the use of the standard *designs for British Colonial stamps* by means of the use of key and duty plates. He pointed out that this idea was developed by the firm of De La Rue and Co. His lecture traced the development of the idea of one single design to be used for the many colonies and varying denominations. His collection contains much new and original research especially in regard to plate numbers and the development of the standardized designs.

In the final talk of the program, the Curator of the Club Collections, Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck, was asked to display a portion of *the Charles Lathrop Pack collection of the Canada "Large Cents."* This collection is the property of the Club. It is an outstanding study of a scarce issue. It contains many rare stamps and multiple pieces. The study of the paper-maker's watermarks is especially fine and is the authoritative work on this subject.

The Meeting of December 19, 1951

Prize Winners from Capex.

The meeting was devoted to a brief display and talk by members of the Club who took awards at the Canadian International Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto. Among the members showing were: *W. S. Boggs, Afghanistan; W. S. Boggs-H. D. S. Haverbeck, Jammu and Kashmir; Henry M. Goodkind, United States, 24-cent bi-color airmail; Maurice Tripet, air mails of Switzerland; Jacob S. Glaser, Colombia; and Stephen G. Rich, Uruguay.*

As these are all outstanding collections of their kind in the United States, it is felt that little can be added in the way of comment or exposition to the Exhibition Catalogue. Certainly, the members present at Capex are fully informed of the merits of these fine examples of outstanding philatelic endeavour.

We ask the members pardon, therefore, for singling out one of these exhibitors for some detailed comment. The splendid study of the United States 24 cent airmail stamp of 1918 belonging to Mr. Goodkind had not previously been displayed in the meeting rooms of the Club. It is the basis for the monograph which appeared in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST 50/6-337 and 51/4-206. This collection is a splendid example of philatelic research as applied to a twentieth century stamp. Mr. Goodkind has proven that the method of philatelic research can be applied to twentieth century stamps and that, much more importantly, twentieth century stamps repay the research. He has established the make-up of the printing plate as being a single pane of 100 stamps (10 x 10). He has also established that many of the theories as to the occurrence of the inverted airplane are erroneous. His research has proved how this error occurred and why there was no more than one sheet printed. He has also showed that the beliefs long held as to the make up of the printing plate being in multiples of 100 subject panes are in error. Mr. Goodkind is to be complimented for this fine work. It raises twentieth century philately to the high level long held by the studies of the classical stamps.

The Meeting of January 2, 1952.

Members Competition.

This evening was "Club Competition"—

members to show twenty pages from their collections. The judges were H. D. S. Haverbeck, Max Bass and Malcolm O'Reilly.

The first competitor was *Mr. Oscar R. Lichtenstein.* He exhibited some of his *air Mail* rarities of the world. These included the United States 24 cent invert, the 6 cent on 1 cent embossed envelope of the U. S., the "missing quetzal" of Guatemala and the De Pinedo stamp of Newfoundland.

Mrs. Rae Ehrenberg was the second exhibitor. She displayed her collection of *United States* issues showing the derivation of vignettes from vignettes on bank notes. Her presentation showed the bank note on the same page as the stamp which pictured the same vignette that appeared on the note.

Mr. Stephen G. Rich displayed some pages from his collection of *South African Airmail stamps.* This showed several pages of rare first flights and a study of the stamps themselves.

Jacob S. Glaser showed some pages of early *Colombia,* including pre-stamp postal and rate markings. There were several very interesting and rare marks as well as some fine early adhesive covers.

The last competitor was *Mr. John J. Britt.* He displayed *essays and proofs of French Colonies in Africa.* They were arranged to show the progress of the design from the artist's model to the completed stamp.

The Judges presented certificates of Award to the best collections. The *first* award going to *Mr. Lichtenstein, second* to *Mr. Rich, third* to *John J. Britt.* A certificate of Honorable Mention was given to Mr. Glaser.

At the meetings of the Board of Governors held December 26th, 1951 and January 23rd, 1952, the following new members were elected:

NO.

2964 Miss Ruth Bell, New York, N. Y. Collects United States.

2965 James A. Goldsmith, Jr., Westport, Conn. Collects United States.

2966 Morris Fortgang, New York, N. Y. Collects Early United States.

2967 Hermann Schloss, Flushing, N. Y. Collects Old German States and Colonies.

2968 Walter H. Van Zuilen, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects United States, France.

2969 Edward Paul Hunzinger, Chicago, Ill. Collects France, Great Britain, Germany.

2970 Herbert A. Feist, Glenside, Pa. Collects Airmail Stamps of World in Unused Condition, United States Pioneer Covers, Zeppelins and Trans-Oceanic Covers.

2971 Willis F. Cheney, Mahwah, N. J. Collects United States, United States Possessions and British North America.

2972 Seymour Elterman, Belmar, N. J. Collects United States Singles, Plate Blocks, First Day Covers.

2973 L. E. Reager, Santa Monica, Calif. Collects United States.

2974 Frank E. Patterson, Arlington, Va. Collects Afghanistan, World Airmails.

2975 P. D. Willis, Pasadena, Texas. Collects Australia, Austria, France, Netherlands, Scandinavia, Switzerland.

2976 Eugene Mitchell Kasper, St. Paul, Minn. Collects South and Central America, and West Indies.

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

"The Commonwealth Catalogue of King George VI Postage Stamps" The Commonwealth Stamp Co. 1952 Edition.

"Dr. Ey Handbuch, German Colonies and Offices Abroad" by Dr. Eduard Ey.

"Stanley Gibbons Simplified Catalogue 1952."

"Der Brief als Kulturgeschichtliches Studien-Sammelobjekt" by A. F. Kumpf-Mikuli 1949.

"Stamp Collectors Annual," edited by Tom Morgan. Harris Publications.

"Sixteenth American Philatelic Congress," edited by Jere. Hess Barr.

"The Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World" 1952 Edition: Part I. British Empire and Burma, Egypt, Iraq, Ireland, Nepal and Palestine.—Whitfield King & Co.

"The Amateur Collector's Stamp Catalogue of Switzerland 1952" Edited by Edward H. Spiro.

"Lionism Told With Postage Stamps" by Frank A. Scofield, 1950.

(Continued on Page 112.)

BOOK REVIEWS

Distinguishing Characteristics of Classic Stamps: Europe 19th Century (Except Old German States). By Hermann Schloss. New York, N. Y., H. L. Lindquist Publications, 1951. 200 pp. $5.00.

Mr. Schloss's method, and his ability to handle this material, have been amply demonstrated by his earlier volume on the Old German States' stamps. Here he has applied the similar procedure to the rest of Europe's earlier issues, choosing the stamps of which forgeries are likely to be encountered.

The enlarged diagrams of crucial points, showing the stigmata of the genuine items, are a notable contribution again, as in the previous volume. The only possible cavil might be that in some cases, notably those of Italy, the characteristics are exaggerated to the extent that they will be sought in vain on any but the most clearly-printed copies. Comparison of the diagram of the Italy due stamp on page 58 with copies on pieces and covers which this reviewer owns, shows that this discrepancy occurs conspicuously in this case.

The practical difficulty in using this book will occur, as with its precursor, in deciding how many of the stigmata of the genuine item must be present for a stamp to qualify as real. Suppose we get a Romagna stamp, which shows 12 of the 14 characteristics but not the other two: what shall we say of it, in the light of this book? Lack of guidance as to this point, and indication of which are the "key stigmata," the crucial one or two points, is the big fault in such books as this. It deceives many into thinking that they can do their own expertising. That simply is not so.

We particularly like the very full report on reprints and their characteristic features, for each stamp or issue of which they exist. By this feature alone, the book partially atones for basic shortcomings. The fact that many "reprints" are really forgeries is not glossed over, but clearly indicated, as under Roman States.

Under France, we could wish for an unscrambling of the treatment of the 1870 Bordeaux issue, and in particular some inclusion of the stigmata for instant recognition of a Bordeaux stamp. The excellent pictures used by Poole in "Mekeel's Weekly," of March 23, 1925 and reprinted in "France & Colonies Philatelist," March-April 1946, would have been of much help. The short paragraph referring users to the Bordeaux Issue handbook of Serrane et al. is really no more than dodging the whole matter of this intriguing issue.

Again, under France, the early dues are well treated, except that the old terminology, which even so recent a writer as Saint-Brice used, of calling accents "nearly horizontal" when they are 35 degrees above horizontal and "nearly vertical" when they are only 20 degrees higher, is continued, uncritically—and this despite an excellent comment on a better way to handle these accents, published in "France & Colonies Philatelist" of July-August 1950.

Under Heligoland, the entirely new and complete systematization, for which Mr. Ben Reeves is given full, proper credit in the book, is one of the conspicuous useful, significant features of this work.

Under Poland, the comment need only be made that the present reviewer has yet to see a forgery (or even a genuine) on laid paper. Also, save for a paper-maker's name near margin of some sheets, Poland No. 1 is unwatermarked, so that the comment about "fakes are unwatermarked" might be confusing. Nor is any part of Poland No. 1 embossed.

The Introduction, aside from its condensed repetition of the elementary facts of stamp production, offers a number of very useful pieces of information, familiar to collectors of experience but woefully unknown to the very ones who are most victimized by purchases of repaired, altered or false items.

Considering that Mr. Schloss has been using our language less than six years, the small proportion of foreign-language words, unusual prepositions according to usage in other tongues, etc. is remarkable. Save for minor points and the Poland mistake mentioned earlier, we find no actual misstate-

ments other than the one on page XVIII, where he says the design of engraved stamps is "etched" on steel or copper. Omission of mention of Dickinson Safety Paper, which was used for the early Swiss stamps with silk thread across them, might be construed as a flaw by a hostile critic.

The book has many commendable parts. But none of them can overcome the misconception that reading and using this volume will make one an expert on 19th Century European classic stamps. This can never be done by such oversimplification as Mr. Schloss suggests, but only through years of study and experience with the stamps.

S. G. R.

Atlas de los Colores. By C. and J. Villalobos, published in Buenos Aires by El Ateneo, 1947, with text in Spanish and English.

This book contains a comprehensive system of designating 7,279 colors, and is primarily for industrial and artistic use. It is based upon 38 plates, 12″ wide x 8″ high, covering the spectrum. Twelve of these plates are major colors, twelve are secondary colors (intermediate shades) and fourteen are tertiary colors (subintermediate shades).

Each plate is further divided into 13 rows; the first row of each contains only black (designated 0), 19 shades of gray varying from the lightest to the darkest, and finally white (designated 20). The second row contains the grays with just a little of the basic plate color added; the third row has just a little more, and so on until the twelfth row which has almost the pure plate color, with just a touch of the grays, and the thirteenth row is to give the pure colors without the graying influence at all. The second row on all plates is designated as 1°, the third 2°, and so forth until the pure color row is 12°.

The system is set up so that an exact shade can be designated as SO-13-10° (known to naturalists as "apricot orange") or UUC-4-10° (ordinarily called "Prussian blue").

In the first example given in the preceding paragraph, the "SO" shows a secondary color plate midway between Scarlet and Orange, the 13 shows the lightness of the gray which is mixed with it, and the 10° indicates the eleventh row, showing it to be much closer to the pure plate color than to the grays. In the second example "UUC" shows a tertiary color plate, between Cobalt and Ultramarine, but closer to the Ultramarine than to the Cobalt.

In addition to the plates, there are listed in the back of the book three tables, which convert standard colors as used by naturalists, to the system given above. *No mention is made of philately in the book,* so, of course, philatelic colors will hardly agree with the naturalists ideas. It would indeed be delightful from a philatelic viewpoint if such a scientifically arranged system could be applied to the colors and shades of the ink used on stamps. There might be made up a list of philatelic colors for the benefit of catalog makers, somewhat similar to the naturalists' list. It would undoubtedly surprise them to see how many different shades they lump under "green," for example. Such a list of philatelic colors would of necessity add many more descriptive words to catalog color listings.

In this connection, the color system of the book is a bit impractical. It is hard to see how anyone can possibly *imagine* what color is designated by a seeming jumble of letters, dashes, numbers, and degree signs, unless the charts are consulted directly. No catalog is, or can be, comprehensive enough to print such a series of charts, even in very condensed form.

The book is still not without certain definite value to philatelists. All students of 19th Century United States Stamps know that the 1861 3c "pink" has to be seen to be known. It is quite an indescribable shade. However, by the use of this color atlas, we could set up a fair standard for the "pink" as meant by the catalog, regardless of the designation given by the authors, (which *might* be some such "nomenclature" as VVU-14-9°). The same sort of standard could be set up for other controversial colors, such as "steel blue" or "orange brown," and certain "lake" shades.

The book and charts may not be of much more use than the above, even to the "shade specialist." Some of the really brilliant modern colors may not be covered, also the dividing line between many of the shades is so small as to be practically non-existent, much too fine a differentiation for practical philatelic use.

Despite these faults, it is felt that many collectors, dealers, and specialists may be interested in knowing that there is a new fairly good guide to color available to them in the Club Library.

E. G. Corin

The Commonwealth Catalogue of King George VI Postage Stamps—1952. Published by The Commonwealth Stamp Co., 7, Leather Lane, Liverpool 2, England. 248 pages, illustrated, cloth binding, price 7/6.

The second issue of this "new," compact catalogue again makes its appearance. It is an excellent accomplishment in this popular field of stamp collecting.

To the many collectors of King George VI stamps it will be most welcome. And as a guide to steer them through the maze of the numerous war-time printings and perforations, it is unsurpassed. It is in this phase that the best work has been done. The numerous printing, perforation, and watermark varieties have, wherever possible, been dated as to the time of issue.

The illustrations of the printing varieties are generally very clear, making identification or the search for that elusive variety a much easier task.

The type used is large and easily readable. The paper is a good coated paper which will stand much handling, besides being right for the reproduction of the illustrations.

The prices shown seem to reflect true market values as against "list price" subject to a discount, as is usually the case with those in the general catalogues. It is natural that there should be some differences of opinion as regards prices. This reviewer would like to point out the first George VI issue of British Somaliland, which seems underpriced for copies genuinely used.

A specially competent job has been done with the stamps of Bermuda as regards identifying and dating the many color and perforation differences. These listings have brought order out of confusion in the issues of this popular colony.

Much revision has been done in the Dominion listings. Especially in South Africa, these complicated issues have been clearly set down and evaluated.

This "newcomer" to the catalogue field is recommended to all serious collectors of the King George VI issues. It should prove very useful in the field upon which it concentrates its attention.

A. H. Higgins

Dr. Ey Handbuch, "Die Briefmarken der deutschen Postanstalten im Auslande und der deutschen Schutzgebiete sowie ihre Entwertungen mit einem Anhage ueber die Post der Auslandkreuzer 1914-18." Published by the "Arbeitsgemeinshaft der Sammler Deutscher Kolonial Postwertzeichen" Ruprecht Glasewald, Hamburg 33, Hellbrook Strasse 14. 128pp. Limited Edition.

This volume presents in compact form a new handbook indispensable to the collector of German Colonies and Offices Abroad, whether beginner or advanced specialist. Next to the Kircheldork Handbook, the first comprehensive publication in this field after the war, it will take its place as a worthy successor to the well known and almost unobtainable Friedemann Handbook. Dr. Ey and his 100 members of the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft" have created a guide for the collector, although not as elaborate and detailed as Friedemann, nevertheless, a monumental work for such a small group laboring under great difficulties of obtaining paper and financing.

Much new data and facts have been added, brought to light since Friedemann published his last "Berichte" in 1930. An innovation is the listing of all Forerunners, Regular Issues, and Cancellations, by giving their valuations with a point system, a method stabilizing their respective values independent from the currency involved at the publication date. The numbers correspond in general to those in the "Michel" Catalogue.

According to notices received from abroad, the issue was limited, and is obtainable by pre-publication subscription only. As Friedemann did years ago, the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft" will issue their bulletins, also called "Berichte," from time to time, of which four have already appeared, to supplement this Handbook.

We recommend this new book to every collector of Germany, German Colonies, and Offices Abroad.

George Camnitzer

"The Stamps of the Russian Refugee's Post" by W. E. C. Kethro and P. T. Ashford. Published by the British Society of Russian Philately.

This splendid work is still further evidence of the active interest in Russian philately displayed by this outstanding British group. The book brings together under one cover nearly all of the available information regarding this interesting phase of Russian postal history. The method and arrangement of the book are very well conceived. We only hope that soon there will be sufficient funds available to the group to permit them to discard the mimeograph machine. That is the main drawback to the works published by them.

It is only fair to point out that there are some minor errors of omission and commission. "Selimie (Haidah Pasha)" should read "Selimie (Haidar Pasha)" and "Halki" is correctly "Khalki." It should also be pointed out that the surcharge was applied by *lithography* and not by typography. This error does not, however, invalidate the philatelic research reported in the book, if the process is borne in mind. In fact some of the unanswered questions will be quickly clarified. It is evident that the forged and bogus cancellations have also been omitted from this work, whether by design or by accident is hard to determine. We should also like to point out that the 5 Ruble Romanoff stamp is known used and cancelled with genuine postmarks.

If the above corrections are noted in the margins of the book it becomes extremely useful. We do not think that the errors mentioned in any way detract from the effectiveness of the book. It seems to us that it is a necessity on the shelf of any student of Russian Philately.

H. D. S. H.

Literatur-Nachrichten der Bundesstelle Philat. Literatur des Bundes Deutscher Philatelisten, e. V. und der Stadtbibliothek Műnchen. Műnchen 27, Possartstr. 15 (Bayern). (German).

The Federation of German Philatelic Societies, together with the philatelic department of the Municipal Library at Munich, started at the beginning of this year to edit a mimeographed periodical, bringing announcements and offers of recent and older philatelic and historical literature, partly with critical remarks thereon. Thus it enables the philatelist acquainted with the German language to obtain regularly a thorough picture of what is written all over the world about stamps. In particular the specialist will discover here a welcome source for important material. The publication also shows the importance of linguistic abilities as a basis for philatelic research.

P. P. Lindenberg.

"Master Global Album," published by Minkus Publications, 134 West 32nd Street, New York 1, N. Y. One Volume complete $15.00.

Those who still enjoy general collecting, as does this reviewer, should have their attention called to a new album with spaces for 55,951 stamps in one loose-leaf book. The general collector has had to contend with many problems, one of which is the mounting of stamps. Mr. Minkus, as a practical dealer who comes in contact daily with collectors' problems, has undertaken to solve this one.

Whether this new album succeeds will depend upon the user's satisfaction. This will come only after a lengthy trial with the new book. Should inexpensive and common stamps not have spaces, if supplements are not regularly issued, the general collector will be back where he now is.

Our first impression was most favorable, but "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." Mr. Minkus is about as progressive a dealer as we have in America today, bringing out new merchandise for the collector all the time. He regards this new album as about his best. If it is so, philately will be blessed with an essential tool deserving great popularity.

H. M. G.

The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. III. The Empire in Asia. Published by Robson Lowe, Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S. W. 1, England.

This third volume of the great Encyclo-

paedia of British Empire Postage Stamps deals with the Empire and British Commonwealth in Asia. It is in standard format with the first two volumes, and continues the excellent work shown in the earlier volumes.

As in all works of this type, there is much to praise but a few matters to criticize. The coverage is excellent. There is more philatelic knowledge and postal history contained in each section and subdivision than there is in most of the handbooks written about the stamps of any individual colony. From the specialists point of view, this book would supercede any catalogue as a guide and reference work in the formation of a collection, not only from the point of view of what exists but also from the good appraisal of market prices and conditions.

The criticisms are mostly those which occur in a compilation. There is occasional faulty proofreading. The editorial work has slipped in spots. In others, the treatment may be a bit too brief and certain things omitted. These views will vary with the different scholars who use the book. As this review is only one man's viewpoint, the criticisms contained here might not necessarily be those noted by another. This reviewer finds particular fault with the treatment given the Native Feudatory States of India. The editor of the Encyclopaedia evidently believes that there is little interest in these stamps. Perhaps he is correct but we rather doubt it. The notes given under the various headings are not sufficient to permit intelligent use of the Gibbons listings. We feel that more space should have been allotted to these interesting stamps.

On the credit side is the excellent treatment given India proper and the Indian Offices abroad. This is very comprehensive. The inclusion of Renouf's treatise on the Indian cancellations also is to be noted as being in very excellent editorial content; also that the treatment of the Malay States is very comprehensive. The inclusion of the Brunei local stamps is a step forward. It shows that some of the early students were not as keen as they should have been. These stamps had long been believed to be bogus, because the early collectors were not aware of the information available to them.

Our criticisms are intended more for the future guidance of the editors in preparing revised editions rather than as carping, because the entire production is excellent, far better than the average philatelic work. It has set a high standard that will be difficult to equal.

H. D. S. H.

SECRETARY'S PAGE

(Continued from Page 107.)

"Philatelic Societies' Year Book," 1951-52. Published by British Philatelic Association.

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"The Stamp Collector's Annual." Edited by Tom Morgan.

"Annual Report of the Smithsonian." 1950.

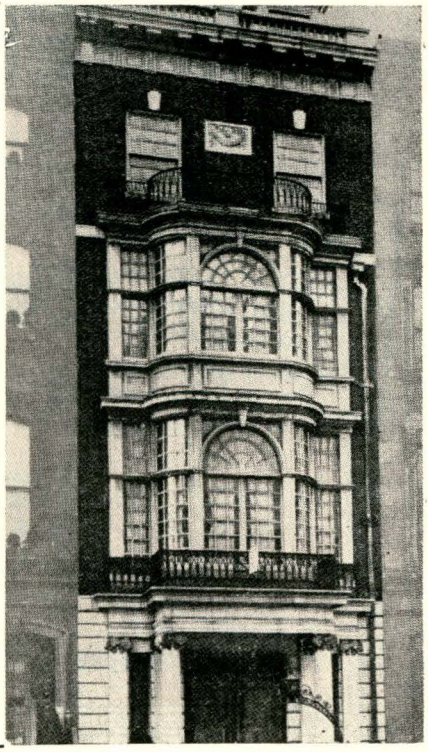
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"Geschichte Und Katalog der Deutschen Eisenbahnmarken," by H. Duesterbehn, 1918 (Gift of Mr. Boggs).

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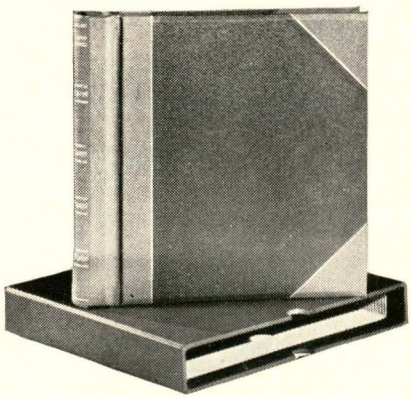
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