The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

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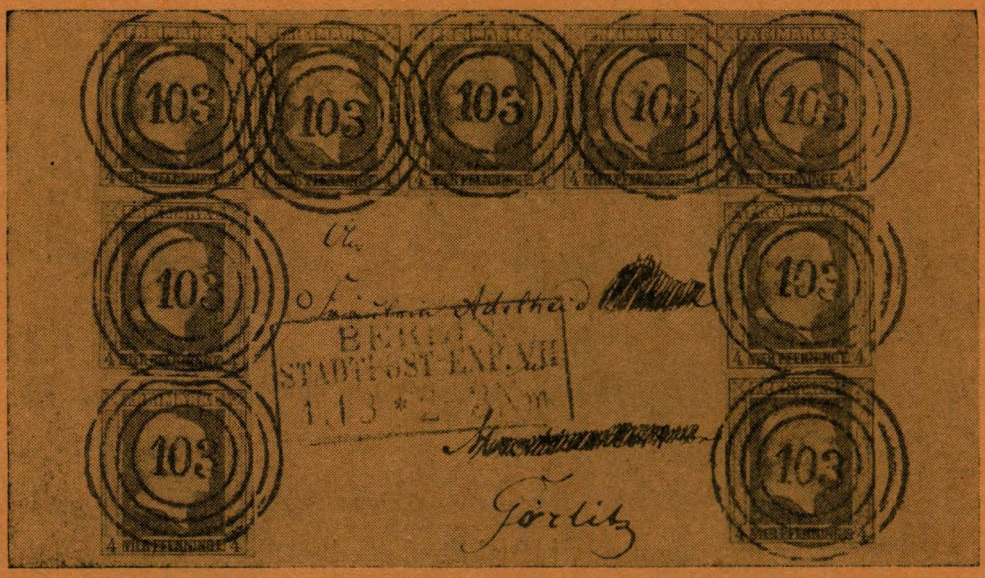
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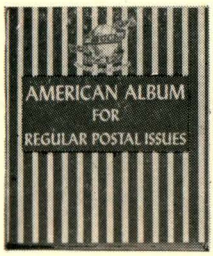


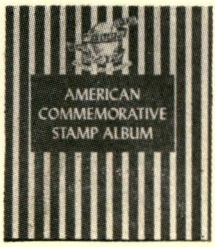
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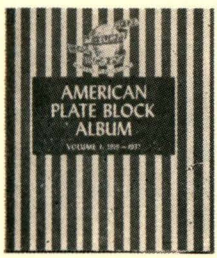
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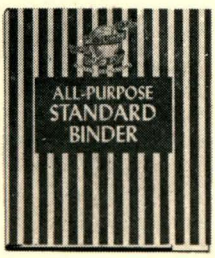


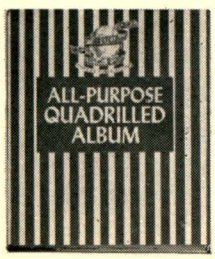


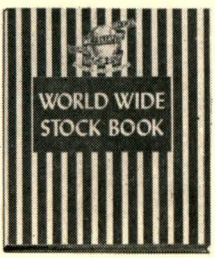












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March 1955 **Vol. XXXIV, No. 2**

Editorials

A Glance Back to 1954

It has become increasingly popular for journalists writing upon stamp collecting to review the past year, and then itemize what is thought as the outstanding ten events during the past calendar year. In reading these, one must remember that such writing is nothing more than one individual's opinion. Those who have indulged in this "highspots of the year" feature are mostly all writers for the mass of readers of stamp news. Since this magazine speaks and writes for the more serious collectors, it seemed proper that a spokesman from these ranks jot down some of his views of the year just past. It is not a goal to name exactly ten events. The year is reviewed. Maybe only five or perhaps as many as twenty-five important philatelic results will be cited.

In contrast to the popular writer, the more mature philatelist is little interested in events connected with the U. S. Post Office Department in Washington, D. C. The new United States stamps were not newsworthy. It remains to be seen whether any 1954 issue will turn out to be of lasting philatelic value. Most important was the fact that no important errors like the $1 stamp on U. S. I. R. watermarked paper came to light in 1954. Also the volume of business done in 1954 U. S. commemoratives is not too significant. First day covers with cachets is far from the quintessence of stamp collecting as everyone who tries to sell a collection of them quickly discovers.

1954 seemed to be a reasonably prosperous year for the American stamp dealer. The vital matter for a serious philatelist to regard is the healthy state of the world market. Big collections of stamps offer no problem. Some often wondered what would happen to the stamp market when a collection of great value had to be sold. Results manifest clearly a most satisfactory picture. The established dealers strongly compete for the sale of such collections. The proceeds from sale shows realizations considerably above pre-sale estimates. The year 1954 confirmed this situation time and again.

Last year produced little or nothing in the way of outstanding philatelic exhibitions. A few disappointing international (not American) philatelic exhibitions were held. In the way of showmanship, the American dealers staged some successful bourses without the benefit of any philatelic material worthy of note on exhibition.

1954 was marked by an important event, the "Life Magazine" feature. In our eyes, it was not the publicity for stamp collecting that was as important as the many illustrations in color. Many in our ranks have been misunderstanding and misinterpreting the laws of the United States upon reproduction of stamps in color. "Life" investigated carefully before publication and made sure that this colorful story on philately did not run counter to any law of our country. It demonstrates clearly that many stamps can be illustrated in color, the ideal way to show them. If our own publications can solve the cost problem, more and more color illustrations will be done in the future.

The year past showed some healthy moves in educating the mass of collectors. Again although misunderstood and misinterpreted

by most writers, fake material received far more publicity. If any one becomes scared by reading about imitations of stamps, philately is fortunate to lose such timid souls. An informed, enlightened group of stamp collectors is the finest future insurance for philately. Also publicity was focused upon some issues alleged to be bogus, again a service to philately by making people better informed. The popular press on the whole is still too timid in the complete reporting of such informative news.

1954 was not too good a year for philatelic scholarship. One of America's great scholars, Dr. Carroll Chase, received through this Club a deserved recognition of his great achievements. No great books were written or published in this country. Perhaps the finest philatelic work came from England, "The Perkin, Bacon Records". For the British specialist (and there are many in America), this will prove a source book of invaluable aid. The results of the studies of the archives in this book have not begun to show themselves as yet. In this country, the best 1954 book in the opinion of this magazine's editorial group was "The Thorp-Bartels Centennial Catalogue on U. S. Postal Stationery". An event connected with the appearance of this book also is noteworthy. A patron served philately by underwriting the publication through financing. Many individual specialty groups produced some outstanding studies of value, but none of sufficient general interest to be worthy of special mention.

The Philatelic Foundation had a very good year which evidences a great promise for education in philately. Its Expert Committee's services are gaining both wide use and its opinions international acceptance. Its courses on philately, its advice to libraries, individuals and institutions all bespeak well for the future of philately. Last year saw plans taking form for an 1956 International Exhibition in New York. The big news is the assurance that the stupendous New York City Coliseum now under construction will have among its inaugural shows an International Philatelic Exhibition.

And finally, in our estimation, 1954 saw the blossoming into fuller bloom of a growing circle of mature philatelists. Many collectors are demanding better quality works to read and study about stamps. They speak out against trivia, and an abundance of personal notes in their reading matter. This journal has increased its readers by over 30%. The membership of this Club stands at an all-time high. The philatelist in America is coming of age. He is not accepting everything blindly. Our ranks have seen the addition of many "new faces" from millionaire collectors down to enthusiastic young students of stamps. Those catering to stamp collectors must tailor their offerings to meet these new and more discriminating demands. For a growing number, philately is no spring outing, no summer picnic, no chicken-dinner banquet, no first-day ceremony nor gambling device. It is a pleasant pursuit, to be taken as seriously or as lightly as one chooses. But those who maintain an interest in philately look for its basic elements, not a lot of transitory or superficial matters that may touch its fringe. Philately in America still has much to overcome. Even 'tho they may represent a numerical minority, there are enough ardent collectors to assure many prosperous years ahead. The future for progress and improvement never showed greater promise nor a more solid backing than philately in America evidences as 1955 commenced. (*H. M. G.*)

Allergic to Headlines

A tribute to a professional sports figure who had died recently called him a sportsman with tremendous ability but who seldom received the acclaim he had deserved. Others seemed to take the play away from him. But he never became discouraged and continued to perform as if he were a national hero. The article concluded by saying that he seemed allergic to headlines, so it was astounding that he could be such a champion but still end up in what amounted to virtual anonymity.

How applicable this is to philatelists. Very few of the really great collectors make the headlines. In fact when their final day on this earth arrives, the journalists of stamp papers have absolutely no biographical details for the required obituary. Also the editor believes that it would be nice to publish the late collector's picture. He was

camera-shy, so none is available except some old, torn snapshot taken years ago.

In contrast, one cannot help but think of a certain likeable chap who worked for a popular magazine. Somehow or other he received an assignment to write a story about stamp collecting. That did it! Being gifted with a fine journalistic style, he became in demand as a columnist for a stamp newspaper. He travelled about the country from stamp club to stamp club, meeting hordes of collectors. Within time, he regularly made the headlines with the misnomer "philatelic expert". His picture appeared again and again prominent at this testimonial banquet, at that charity drive sponsored by a philatelic group or with the 4th assistant postmaster when a new stamp was put on sale. To this very day, it is doubted whether he owns a stamp collection. If he does, it is so slight that it only gives him the license to call himself a collector.

It is well to remember that the philatelic greats, past and present, operate in virtual anonymity. One does not collect stamps for publicity purposes. It is sadly true that the mass of readers are misled into believing that the headline hunter is a great philatelic expert. One cannot be expected to know about someone who collects fine stamps but whose name seldom appears in print. Personally we believe that "the little people" in philately like to have their ego inflated. To add to their desire for importance, printed publicity serves their ambition. If one shares these beliefs, then it is well to know always that the greats in philately shun publicity. For instance, the great collectors who allowed their philatelic gems to be used by "Life Magazine" mostly remained anonymous, using nom-de-plumes. As one humorously suggested, oceans rather than people must collect stamps.

Has your name been in the stamp papers recently? And even if your picture were published, would it really make you a better philatelist? Better known, perhaps, but not adding one iota to your true stature as a collector. There must be good reason and logic behind the fact that most great philatelists are allergic to headlines. Modesty and a flair for philately must go hand-in-hand.

Philatelic Agencies

In more than the century history of stamp collecting, a comparatively recent development is the widespread practice of stamp-issuing countries having a Philatelic Agency to sell the new stamps. An important function of a philatelic agency is promote the sale of new issues.

Obviously then one would expect that to aid this work, mail from philatelic agencies would be franked with the stamps they wish to sell. But with a very few exceptions, letters from philatelic agencies come via metered mail. Or if a stamp is used, it never is a commemorative but the common value of a long-standing regular series.

If stamp-issuing governments are sensitive to the criticism coming from collectors because of complaints on the flood of new and unnecessary stamps, they should at least take steps to see that their new issues bear some signs of postal need by having the Philatelic Agency use the newest stamps. Philatelic agencies should stop the use of metered mail. Before us are a number of announcements on new stamps from philatelic agencies in America, Europe, Asia and Australia. Each was mailed via metered mail. This just strikes us as poor promotional tactics. (*H. M. G.*)

Junk Mail

Postmaster General Summerfield announced that after March 31, 1955, the Post Office will discontinue delivery of "Junk Mail".

All this directive does is to discontinue some one phase of unwanted mail. But judging by some of the philatelic publications and writings received, the distribution of "junk" in the mails will not cease.

Publicity For Stamp Collecting

Those with an interest in publicity and promotion for stamp collecting through the various mediums of public information should look at "the New York Times" of December 7, 1954, because five news items closely related to philately were to be found in the first section of this newspaper. When one

refers to publicity, of course, all of it may not be favorable. But without any added comments on our part, here are the five news items:—

1). A front-page account commencing—"Albany, N. Y.—The State Library found itself today in the position of a housewife who had pitched her husband's prized stamp collection into the waste basket and had to search through the whole village dump for it."

2). Picture with caption of the new U. S. commemorative stamp for Fine Arts issued on Jan. 15, 1955.

3). A detailed report of a proposed long series of new stamps from Panama carrying portraits of all the 259 recognized Popes who had served the Roman Catholic Church.

4). "King Of Lundy Island is Dead at 69." An obituary of M. C. Harmon, the owner of the small island off the southwest coast of England, that gave the story of his puffin stamps and coins.

5). "Letter to the Times" criticizing the mail delivery in New York City, and ending with this sentence—"The postal service is worse right now than at any time in the history of this country."

ALFRED H. CASPARY

A Memorial Tribute

By LAWRENCE L. SHENFIELD *

When a monumental figure in philately passes from our scene it is difficult to appraise the loss. The first impulse is to list the noted collections the man had put together, to speculate upon what will become of them; how, when, and where. These speculations have already been fully expressed; yet only time will provide the answers. From my years of association with Mr. Caspary (A. H. C. as I call him) in the pursuit of collecting, I do not hesitate to predict that all his treasures will eventually become the joy of others. He told me often that he sincerely believed stamps belonged to collectors who understood them, but that bequested collections reposing in museums behind glass brought only the curious, while cheating stamp lovers of the pride of possession and study.

So if we view the future availability of A. H. C.'s collections as assured, then some will say there is a gain and not a loss in his death. But that is a false belief. True, his stamps may be distributed, but his wonderfully deep knowledge of them is lost forever. Here was a collector who knew the classic stamps of the world and their usage as few did. It may be that his wealth enabled him to accumulate knowledge with his acquisitions through the years; but those who knew him well realized that his love of only rare beautiful stamps and his knowledge of them were merely co-incidental. I believe that had he only the means to collect common stamps of small value, he would have become as expert on them as on the rarities he owned. This man loved stamps, and knew them.

Yet, as many of his friends observed, A. H. C. was never known to have studied intently volumes of research and discovery about the stamps he collected. I know of no philatelic library that he had formed. Never to my knowledge did he write a line of philatelic research on any stamp. And he read only what he considered a few of the better scholarly works. Nevertheless, there was scarcely a classic issue of any country that one could mention, which did not draw from him a wealth of interesting information. Often it was information on the desirability of the stamp from a scarcity viewpoint, or an aesthetic side, or the comparative scarcity of a block or large piece, or the attractiveness of a particular shade.

* The author was associated with Mr. Caspary as both a Trustee and Member of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Always there was interwoven the history of some outstanding piece or cover; who found it—whose collection it had graced; or the story of some famous find. Well do I recall his story of the discovery of the famous pair of Livingstons of the Confederate States on cover; or the story of the great find in Marseilles of the Mauritius "Post Paid" covers bearing 2c Indigos of indescribable beauty and impression. And his recounting of how he got the finest cover in existence (in my opinion)—the 2c plus 5c Hawaiian Missionary cover—still rings in my ear.

What a memory the man had! It was photographic to minute detail. Apparently once he had seen a stamp or cover, it was forever printed upon his mind. Once he telephoned me from his Bonnie Doone Plantation, asking whether I had noted in a coming auction sale of an important collection a certain cover bearing a pair of the 2c Mobile stamps of the Confederate States. He described the cover, the stamps, the cancel, in accurate detail; he had owned the cover many years ago, thought it *might* be in this collection and now wanted it back. The cover *was* in the sale and he acquired it. He had a gift for divining the desirability of stamps very rare in multiple pieces, and he gathered such things in whenever they were available.

Never did plating stamps as a pursuit per se interest him unless plating knowledge was necessary to distinguish relative rarity of types, as, for example, with the U. S. 1c 1851 or the St. Louis Postmaster stamps. Nor did pure postal usage or handstamps intrigue his interest. Nor could he be influenced to pay greatly for a stamp just because it bore some fancy cancellation. Once when we attended a sale together, a pony express cover bearing a common 3c 1857 stamp plus extremely rare handstamps brought a fabulous, record price at auction. He turned to me to remark "that was a high price to pay for a stamp worth a quarter!" But a few minutes later he acquired a similar cover—equally beautiful—but *with a pony express stamp instead of the rare handstamps*—at less than the price of the preceding cover. Such action did not indicate a lack of appreciation of the attraction of postal history items; A. H. C. knew what they were, but to him the "stamp was the thing". This view has always been traditional among collectors of the older school, here and abroad.

Perhaps the most remarkable gift he had was his knowledge of the classic stamps of the world—not merely of the United States or Confederate States or Carriers' Stamps or Locals. His United States collections are justly famous because they are most popular in this country. But also Swiss Cantonals, British North America, Ceylon, France, the Italian and German States, among many other European classics were his pets. His knowledge of them was profound. How did he acquire such a fund of knowledge? We have remarked that seldom was he known to refer to philatelic writings on any stamps, nor did he have a philatelic library. He must have acquired his knowledge throughout his years of international contact with leading professionals or collectors over the world who often were specialists on particular countries; and their knowledge was absorbed by his remarkable philatelic memory.

Probably no one in frequent contact with A. H. C., philatelically, wished more devoutly than I, that his invaluable knowledge and memoirs of half a century of collecting the classics might be written down. Often I suggested to him that if he would merely sit back and talk of stamps, I would supply a secretary to take it all down, help him edit it later, and so preserve it for all of us. Although he considered it a worthy idea, he kept postponing the start until his last illness struck down the plan forever. Perhaps it was his shyness and reticence which prevented it. He was retiring almost to a fault. He was most voluble, most enthusiastic, most fascinating when one was alone with him and his collections in his home or the great vault-room of his bank. Only a few of us were accorded this privilege—at the vaults or at his home. But once he was convinced of your interest and knowledge, once he was sure his stamps were not to be publicized, he spread his collections and his knowledge lavishly before you. There was one condition attached to the loan of any piece for research or photography: his name was never to be used or quoted. Under these conditions, it was my great privilege to be able to borrow many of his finest pieces—or to make any notes that would advance philatelic learning. The edi-

torial staff of this magazine enjoyed his cooperation whenever requested because they respected his wishes. Recently an author desired to illustrate two covers for publication of an important study in this journal. He feared to ask. One of his friends on the staff did. A. H. C. produced them at once, entrusted them to him for photography and illustration, asking only the owner not be identified.

When I had finished a piece of research, I often sent him the manuscript for reading or suggestions. He was ever glad to help. Once he produced triumphantly from his collection a cover which double-checked perfectly a particularly difficult finding. On another occasion he wrote me at length advising the omission of a comparison I had made between the subject stamp of my article and a famous copy of an Hawaiian Missionary stamp. His reason was excellent—he was convinced the Hawaiian stamp had had a margin added, and therefore the comparison which concerned the spacing of the stamps was pointless.

A. H. C. was a collector of simple taste in the mounting of his collection. There were no elaborate decorations, no notes nor description except those which pertained to the cover or stamp itself. Many priceless things were kept simply in envelopes—often left that way following their exhibit at some International Court of Honor. Since he never exhibited competitively, he had little use for eye-catching pages or mounting. Nevertheless the stamps never failed to speak for themselves!

Well do I remember the 1947 Centenary Exhibition in New York. I had the honor to be responsible for the Confederate States stamps to be placed in the Court of Honor. Naturally A. H. C.'s Confederates were to be my main reservoir of supply. We talked over the matter and agreed to meet at the Grand Central Palace to discuss the details. There among the clatter of hammers, the forest of lumber, glass and wood shavings, I found A. H. C. sitting on a half-completed scantling platform with a plain stamp book tucked under his arm. He said he thought we could save time if he brought his Confederates along, and we could select together the best things to place in the Court of Honor. Then he opened the album. In it were all of his fabulous Confederates—some mounted —dozens of covers loose. I had seen them all often, but the impact of going over them as an unit for selection in those surroundings left with me a deep consciousness of the man's simplicity and directness. We selected, after long discussion, about fifty wonderful pieces, and proceeded to arrange them in the frames. That was the first time most collectors ever knew of the existence of the 10c Knoxville Provisional, the 10c Baton Rouge, the pair of Livingstons and many others, all on immaculate covers. Later, A. H. C. tucked the album under his arm and walked out as unpretentiously as he had come.

As all collectors of classic Europe know, their pitfalls are deceptive counterfeits, altered varieties and skillful repairs. What an eye A. H. C. had for those pitfalls. And for forged cancellations! Of course, if the cover or stamp was extremely rare, he usually knew the history of the piece, down through many collections. He knew, too, which stamps expert forgers had worked upon through the years. Yet his sure philatelic instinct guided him to the acquisition of many "only-one-known" things, especially in the Postmasters' stamps of the Confederacy. I recall checking the authenticity of the Hallettsville, Texas Confederate Provisional with him; he owned the only known copy on cover. His rationalized explanation of why it must be genuine, and not a forgery, was a lesson in philatelic logic. As to repairs, he abhored them. His eye for philatelic beauty was perhaps the most accomplished and discerning in the world of rare stamps. He told me he never owned a "Post Office Mauritius" because he never had the opportunity to acquire an example on cover in the superb condition he desired. And that brings me to the greatest gift he bestowed upon collectors.

He was considered by many to be the first great collector to recognize the importance and worth of superb condition. He started collecting as a young boy, but really began his great collections in the early years of this century when, even to important collectors, a rare stamp was a rare stamp regardless of its condition. The auction descriptions of those years abounded with qualifications—"imperceptible crease"—"tiny thin"—"slightly cut into, as usual"—"cover a little ragged"—

(Continued on Page 107)

UNITED STATES

The Plating of the City Despatch Post Stamps 1842 - 1850

By FRANK S. LEVI, JR.

Much has been written about the history of the first United States adhesive postage stamp. To date the most authoritative account is contained in the American Philatelic Society Handbook, entitled "One Hundred Years Ago" by Elliott Perry and Arthur G. Hall, which was published in 1942. I have no intention of repeating or enlarging on what already has been so well described. But instead these notes will be limited to the actual plating of this very interesting stamp.

Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, the engravers, laid out a plate of forty-two subjects (7 x 6). Each subject is surrounded by a frame which was drawn upon the plate prior to entering the subject in the same fashion as the Confederate "framed" 10-cents Davis. This network of frames is a series of *nearly* parallel lines; seven horizontal and eight vertical. I have said "nearly" parallel for the outer dimensions of the engraved portion of the plate reveal a very slight deviation from a perfect rectangle. The top outer frame line measures 129 millimeters; the bottom line is 130½ millimeters; the left outer line is 174¼ millimeters against 173½ for the right outer line. Thus the spacing and the alignment are of necessity not perfect. Yet the variation is never great enough to become a major factor in the plating.

The die design measures 18½ by 21½ millimeters. In most cases it is quite well centered between the four outer frame lines. The die was impressed onto a transfer roll which was used to make the engraved plate from which the sheets were printed. *This was the first die, roll and plate made for an adhesive stamp in the United States.* Perry and Hall state that the transfer roll was rocked across the die sideways, hence each entry on the plate had to be made with the roll rocking from side to side instead of from top to bottom as was done on subsequent issues. This most peculiar method of entering the design was rarely, if ever, used again.

This same plate was used again for all of the Two Cent City Despatch Post stamps that followed the initial "Three Cents" issue. The word "Three" on each position was burnished out and the word "Two" was re-engraved instead. Thus in most cases the plating information contained in these notes can also serve to locate the positions of all of the Two Cents values as well as those on the Three Cents.

Figure "A" depicts the plate layout before the subject was entered. This shows the various lines that extend beyond the actual layout and all that are doubled or partly doubled. At the bottom of the plate is a large well defined scratch starting well below stamp number 37 and ending inside the design of stamp number 41. Also all of the guide dots as they appear on the printed sheet have been shown in the illustration, Fig. A.

Before going into the details of the various positions on the plate, a summary of what to look for in order to simplify the plating follows:

Top outer frame line fully doubled. Positions 3, 4, 25, 26.

Top outer frame line partly doubled. Positions 1, 2, 5, 27.

Bottom outer frame line fully doubled. Positions 19, 20, 41, 42.

Bottom outer frame line partly doubled. Positions 21, 38, 39.

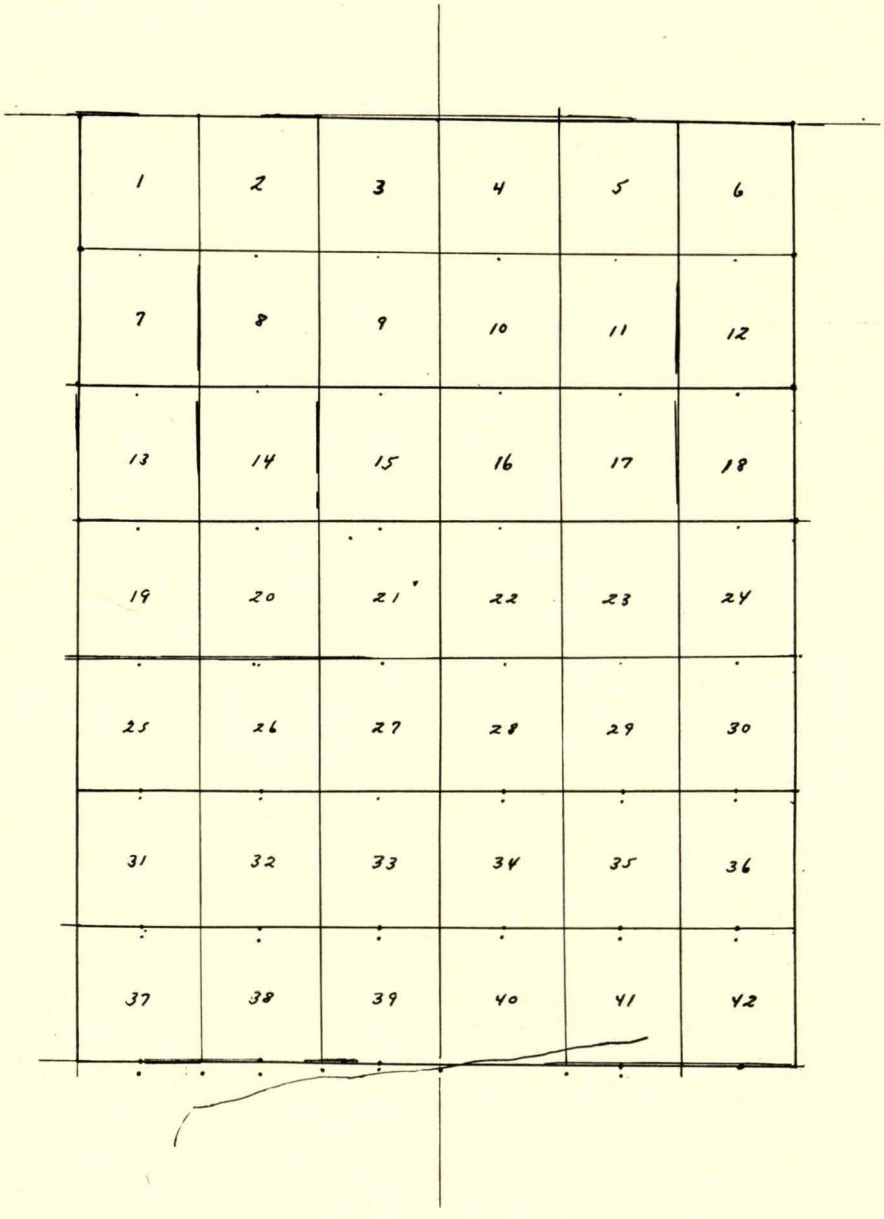


Fig. A

Bottom outer frame line partly tripled. Position 37.
Right outer frame line partly doubled. Positions 7, 11, 13, 14, 17.
Left outer frame line partly doubled. Positions 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18.
No guide dot at top. Positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 23.
No guide dot at bottom. Positions 17, 40.
Double guide dot at top. Positions 26, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42.
Double guide dot at bottom. Positions 20,

25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41.

Triple guide dot at top. Position 37.

Triple guide dot at bottom. Position 31.

The above listing covers thirty-seven out of the forty-two positions on the plate leaving only the following seemingly difficult positions: 9, 10, 16, 22, 24. Of these five positions none should present any great difficulties as they are all blessed with definite plating marks. (See figures "B" and "C").

Figure "B" is a composite of the extra dots that appear on fifteen positions of the plate. They cover the following: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 16, 20, 22, 24, 27, 33, 36, 38 and 42.

Figure "C" is a composite picture of various other definite plating marks. These cover the following thirteen positions: 2, 9, 10, 14, 17, 20, 21, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36 and 37.

Positions number 20 and 36 appear in both of the composites. Thus we have a total of twenty-six of the forty-two plate positions that are easy to locate and can be readily plated even if none of the outer frame lines are showing. The remaining sixteen positions are as follows: 6, 8, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 23, 25, 26, 29, 31, 34, 39, 40 and 41. Of these we can eliminate positions 40 and 41 because they show the large scratch (see figure "A"). Position number 19 can also be eliminated because it has a blank inner right top corner. Position number 23 has the top inner frame line badly broken. Position number 26 is the only position on the plate that has two guide dots at the top that are side by side. Positions 8, 11 and 12 have faint extra lines below the design. And position number 6, of course, has no guide dot at the top. This then leaves only seven positions that can be very difficult to plate if none of the outer frame lines are showing: 15, 18, 25, 29, 31, 34 and 39.



Fig. "B"

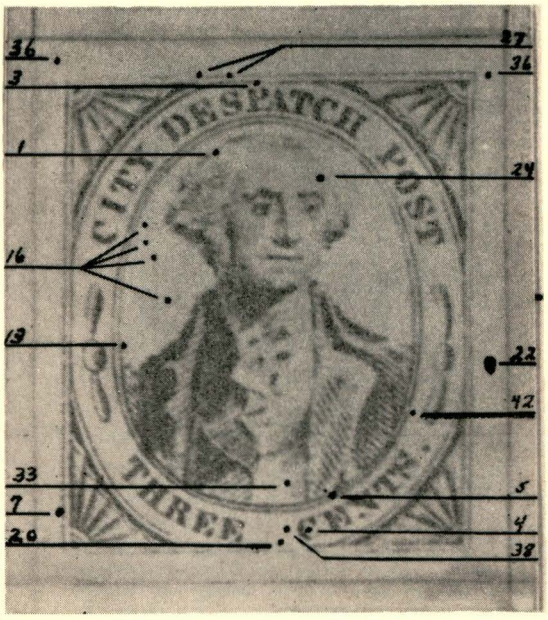


Fig. "C"

Before saying a word or two about the forty-two illustrations that follow, I would like to acknowledge the assistance and advice of Ezra D. Cole, John A. Fox, Elliott Perry and George B. Sloane. Without their help, this plating would not have been possible.

In the following series of illustrations of the forty-two plate positions, all of the outer frame lines and all of the guide dots have been drawn in as they appear. No attempt was made to describe these lines or dots as

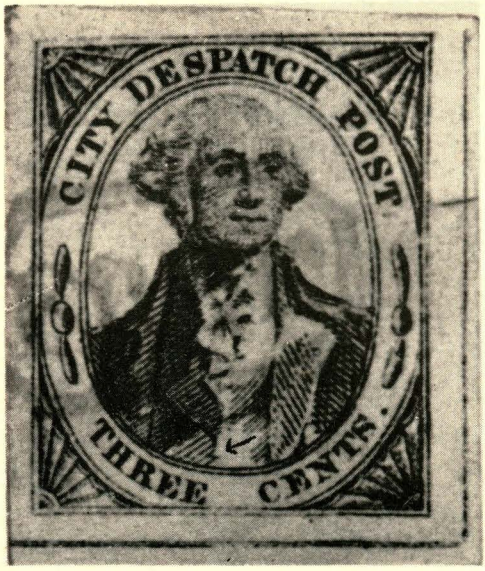


Fig. D Enlargement of the Sperati counterfeit of the stamp only.



Fig. E The Sperati counterfeit reproduced in the manner of all copies seen.

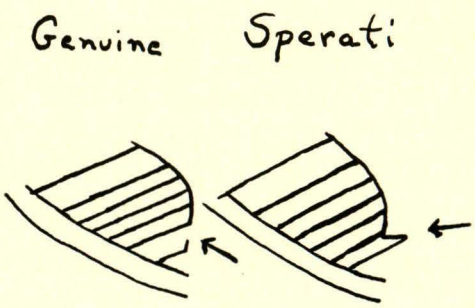


Fig. F Sketch of the lower right lapel on the coat to show the difference between the original and the Sperati.

they are self-evident. All of the illustrations show the top inner frame line. This varies greatly in strength and completeness, and in most cases is shown only as an added guide (exceptions Nos. 2, 19).

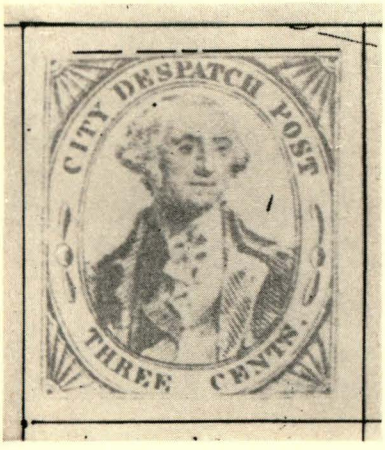
Sperati, the celebrated French forger, produced a fairly good imitation of this stamp. (See figure "D"). It should be considered as dangerous for the person not familiar with the genuine. Thus should you have a copy of the stamp that you cannot plate, check it against the following specifications:—

GENUINE	SPERATI
Paper—Grayish with a tinge of green	Too much on the dirty white side.
Ink—Gray black	Too black, almost blue black.
Cancellation—Red	Orange red.

Mention is made of the cancellation because all of the Sperati counterfeits seen have been with this fake cancel on a small piece of a cover. (See figure "E"). They are tied on by the fancy boxed "FREE", showing a portion of the circular "City Despatch Post, N. Y." on another part of the paper.

I believe that Sperati copied from the original position number 42. However, he neglected to add the top position dots and also failed to extend the bottom outer frame line far enough to the right. Finally he made a fortunate error in his engraving of the lower right lapel of Washington's coat which is illustrated in Fig. F.

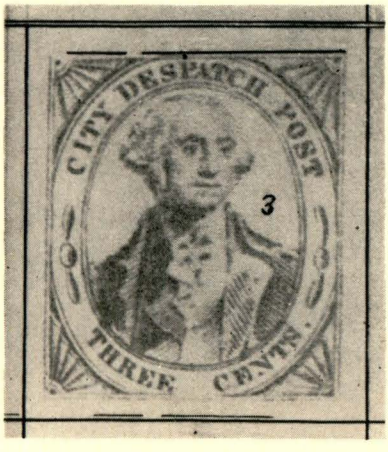
In conclusion I should like to state that any correction or criticism of these notes will be welcome. Should one encounter difficulties in this plating, I shall be more than pleased to lend any assistance that I can. Please direct all communications to the author, c/o The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.



No. 1. Small dot at top of head below "E" of "Despatch". Faint diagonal scratch in upper right corner. Small dip in top outer frame line at right.



No. 2. Faint diagonal scratch to left of left side ornament. Faint diagonal scratch in upper left corner. Several faint scratches at bottom above bottom outer frame line. Top inner frame line badly broken.



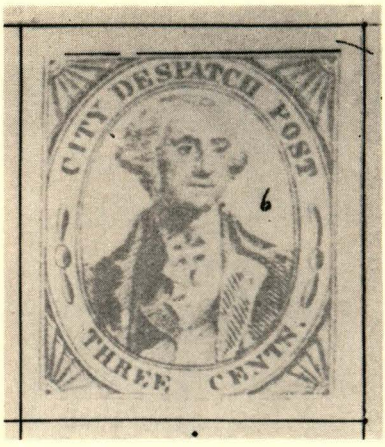
No. 3. Dot directly above "P" of "Despatch" between top inner frame lines. Faint scratches above bottom outer frame line.



No. 4. Large dot in the "C" of "Cents". Faint diagonal scratch in upper right. Very faint almost complete second line above bottom outer frame line.



No. 5. Strong dot on inner oval lines above "E" of "Cents". Faint diagonal scratch in upper left. Top inner frame line strong but very short. Faint almost complete extra line above bottom outer frame line.



No. 6. Faint diagonal scratch in upper right. (This is a very difficult position to plate unless the top or right outer frame lines are showing.)



No. 7. Strong dot towards bottom of left inner frame line. Faint diagonal scratch near bottom outer frame line below the "E" of "Cents".



No. 8. Faint traces of second line above bottom outer frame line. Several faint scratches at top above top outer frame line.



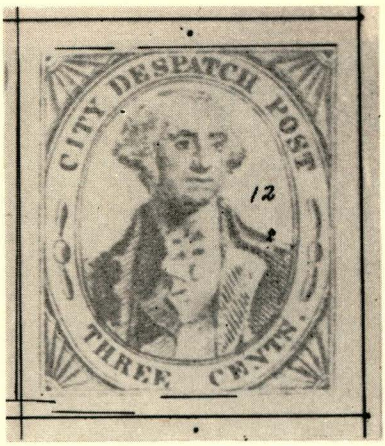
No. 9. Scratch to the right of the right ornament. Faint scratches above top outer frame line. Part of a second line shows faintly above the bottom outer frame line.



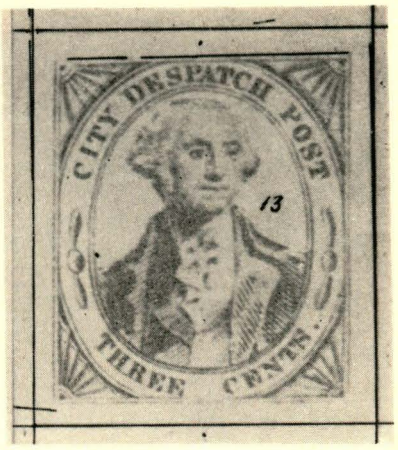
No. 10. Scratch to the left of the left ornament. Very faint almost complete second line above top outer frame line. Faint scratches above bottom outer frame line. (Note upward curve.)



No. 11. Faint almost complete extra line above top outer frame line. Three faint lines above bottom outer frame line; two close to inner frame. "C" of "Cents" misshapen due to two dashes at the left.



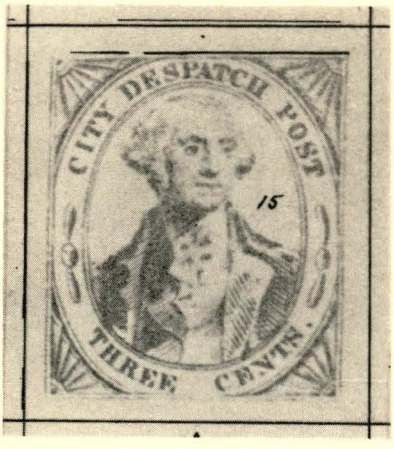
No. 12. Faint lines above the bottom outer frame line; one is very close to inner frame line.



No. 13. Small dot above Washington's right shoulder near inner oval line. Faint diagonal scratch near top outer frame line. Faint line in lower left.



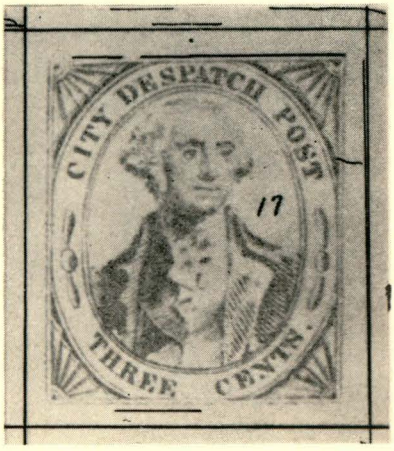
No. 14. Diagonal scratch above the "E" of "Despatch". Faint traces of second line above top outer frame line.



No. 15. Lack of shading in bottom of right lapel of coat. Part of a second line shows faintly above top outer frame line.



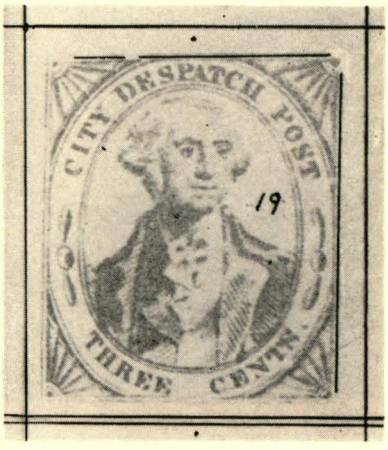
No. 16. Four dots in the oval to the left of Washington's head. Faint scratches above top outer frame line. (Note upward curve.)



No. 17. Scratch in the margin to the right of top part of the "T" of "Post". Three faint lines above top outer frame line; one is very close to the line. Faint line below and close to bottom inner frame line.



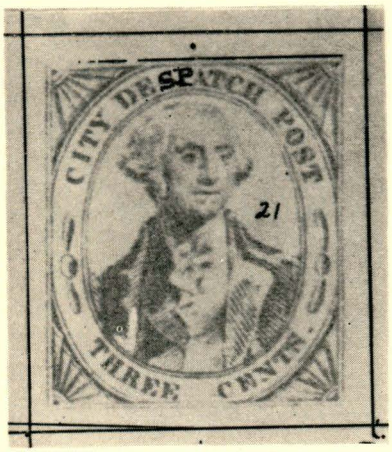
No. 18. Faint lines above top outer frame line; one quite close. (This is a very difficult position to plate without the outer frame lines showing.)



No. 19. Top and right inner frame lines fail to meet at corner leaving it very blank.



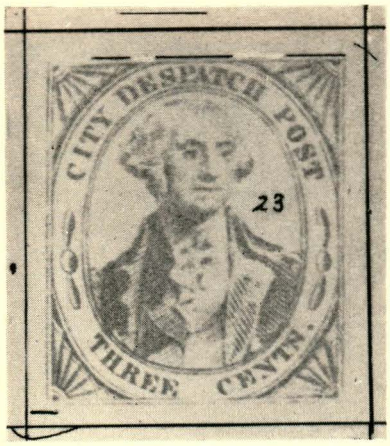
No. 20. Small dash between the "H" of "Despatch" and the "P" of "Post". Dot before the "C" of "Cents". Dashes above and below the "E" of "Cents". Dash on shirt front about 2/3 of the way down.



No. 21. Dash of color joining the "S" and the "P" of "Despatch".



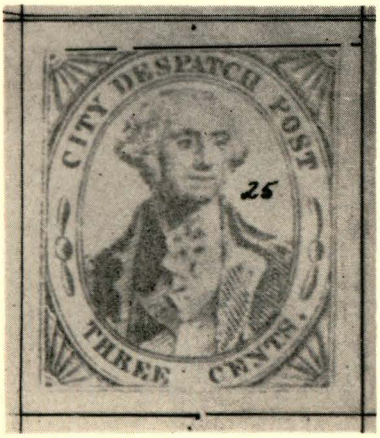
No. 22. Heavy spot of color in the margin to the right of the right ornament. Faint scratches in lower right corner below bottom outer frame line.



No. 23. Heavy spot of color to left of left outer frame line. Top inner frame line badly broken. Faint scratch well above top outer frame line. Faint curved scratch in lower left corner below bottom line. Faint scratch at upper right. Faint dash below inner line in bottom left corner.



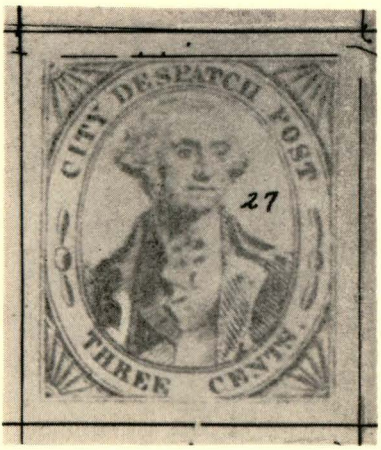
No. 24. Pronounced dot above Washington's left eye. Lack of shading in bottom of right lapel of coat. Faint scratch at upper left.



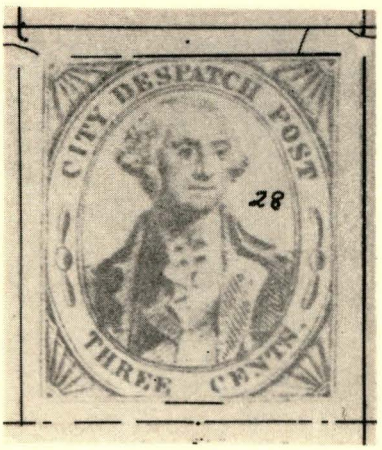
No. 25. Faint horizontal scratch to the left of the right outer frame line almost level with the top inner frame line.



No. 26. Faint scratch at upper right. Faint line below and fairly c'ose to the bottom inner frame line.



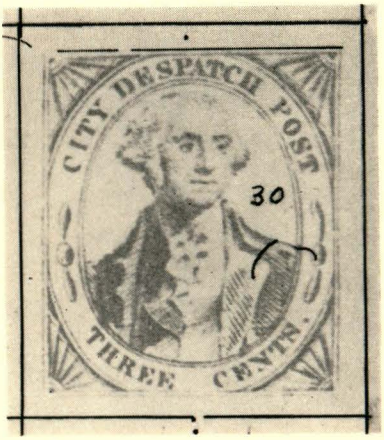
No. 27. Two small dots on top inner frame line, one above the "E" and one above the "S" of "Despatch". Faint curved scratch at upper right. Outer right frame line broken towards the top. Great lack of shading in bottom of right lapel of coat.



No. 28. Faint almost vertical scratch at top right between inner and outer frame lines. Faint horizontal scratch below and fairly close to the bottom inner frame line. Faint curved scratches in both upper corners. Both left and right outer frame lines broken towards the top.



No. 29. Faint curved scratches at both upper corners. Guide dot above "Despatch" extremely faint. (May not show at at all on some copies.)



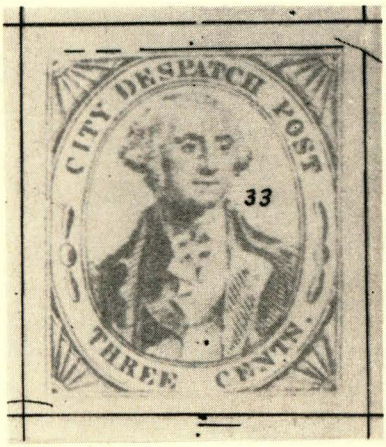
No. 30. Small curved scratch extending from the shoulder line across into the right side ornament. Faint curved scratch at upper left corner. Curved scratch from Washington's left shoulder down into the lapel.



No. 31. Faint curved scratch at lower left corner. Another faint scratch below the triple guide dots. And another more faint between the second and third of the triple guide dots.



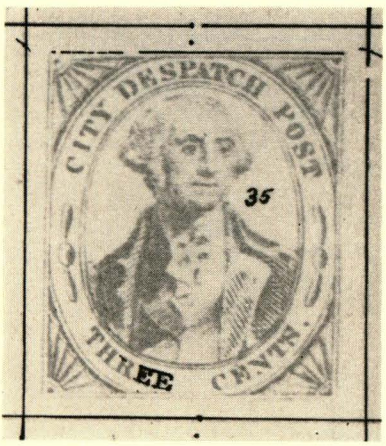
No. 32. Diagonal dash before the "T" of "Three". Faint long scratch below the bottom inner frame line under the word "Three". Faint scratch in lower right corner. Faint horizontal scratch well above top outer frame line.



No. 33. Heavy dot on bottom of the shirt front. Faint curved lines in upper right and lower left corners. Faint horizontal scratch at the bottom between the two guide dots. Outer right frame line broken towards the top.



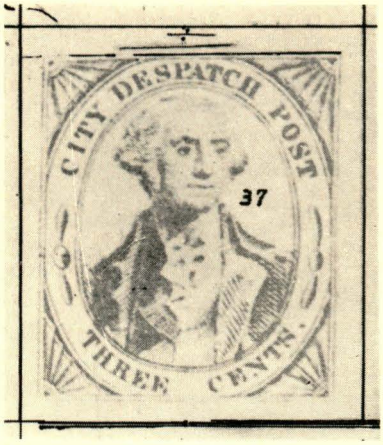
No. 34. Guide dot almost touching top inner frame line. Faint scratches at upper left and upper right corners. Faint horizontal scratch well above top outer frame line. Left outer frame line broken towards the top.



No. 35. Top inner frame line more complete than normal. Faint scratches in upper corners. The "Es" of "Three" are joined at the top.



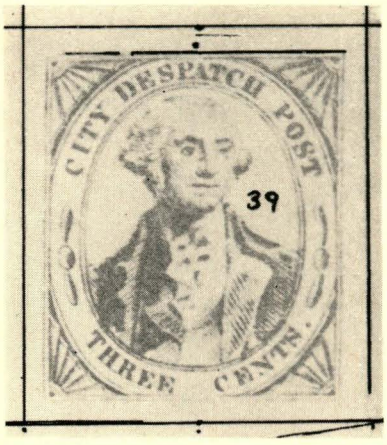
No. 36. Faint scratch between the last "E" of "Three" and the "C" of "Cents". Extra dot just to the right of the top inner frame line. Extra dot to the left and a little above the top inner frame line. Faint curved scratch at upper left.



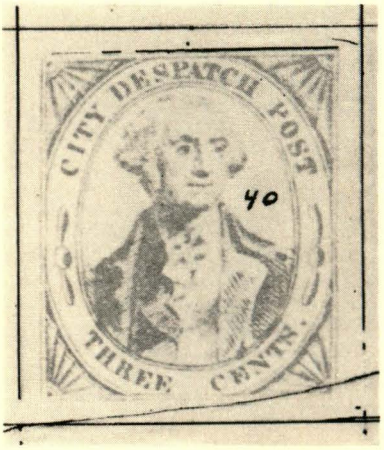
No. 37. Faint scratch below the triple guide dots and between dots 2 & 3. Faint scratches in upper left corner. Faint scratch to left of the top inner frame line: like an extension of the line. (With a very large sheet margin at the bottom the large scratch will show. See Figure "A".) Note bottom outer line appears to be tripled on the right side.



No. 38. Large dot before the "C" of "Cents". (Do not confuse with Position No. 20). (With a large sheet margin at the bottom the large scratch will show. See Figure "A".)



No. 39. Faint scratch between the top guide dots. Part of the large scratch will show below the bottom outer frame line. Outer right frame line broken towards the bottom.



No. 40. The large scratch completely crosses the bottom portion of the stamp. Very faint scratch at upper right corner. Both left and right outer frame lines broken towards bottom.



No. 41. Continuation of large scratch ending in the "S" of "Cents". Both side outer frame lines broken.



No. 42. Small dash above "T" and "C" of "Despatch". (This appears in most positions but is much more pronounced on this stamp.) Left outer frame line broken. Small dot above the "S" of "Cents" between the inner oval and the right side ornament.

FRANK S. LEVI, Jr. bears a name well-known to many old-time philatelists in America. His father, the late Frank S. Levi, started him as a collector when a boy of six. The Levi family is one of the exceptions to the rule of philately about inheritance because there is a Frank III, aged ten, who is avidly collecting British Colonials.

The author of the above plating study is quite a hobbyist. He raises tropical fish, breeds Irish setters, plays tennis, has a small U. S. coin collection, owns an extensive library on the U. S. Navy and helps Mrs. Levi garden and raise orchids. As for stamp collecting, until his father's death in 1950, Frank, Jr. leaned heavily upon his senior. As a boy, he owned a worldwide collection, then went into 19th century issues, from this to mint British Colonials, followed by blocks of U. S. and finally into early U. S. issues. Then the philatelic bug really bit. Now Mr. Levi is trying to plate the 10-cent 1855 hoping to carry on where scholar, S. B. Ashbrook, left off.

This article on the plating of the three-cent City Dispatch marks the evolution of a stamp collector, who commenced, as a boy, playing with stamps, went through the various elementary schools of philately, then on to college. Now he has earned his Master's degree in philately. This incidentally, marks Mr. Levi's first attempt as a philatelic author. Up to now, he collected for his own enjoyment, never having exhibited.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

Over the years, the COLLECTORS CLUB has published numerous Handbooks relating to almost every field of philately. Some have been sold out long ago, now only being obtainable at an auction sale at prices far above their original selling price.

A complete list of all our Handbooks still available can be found on the Inside Back Cover. A recent check showed that the supply of some is dwindling fast, and they will be out of stock soon, not to be reprinted. Better order what you wish now.

BOOK REVIEWS

Catalogue des Cachets des Courriers-Convoyeurs (France, Algerie et Tunisie) de l'origine a 1900, Les Boites, Les Mobiles, Les Cachets de Gares. By Dr. Carroll Chase. Paris, 1954, Editions E. H. de Beaufond. Paper, 126 pp.

At first sight the usefulness of this work seems far from obvious to anyone not deeply versed in French philately. Quite the contrary is the real case. French Railway Post Office service has a dual nature, and only one portion of it has been covered by adequate handbooks, adequate lists of the postmarks, their dates and their significance. Dr. Chase himself, as co-author with Mr. de Beaufond, gave us a handbook or list in this field in 1951, reviewed in this magazine. It superseded all previous works.

But, right up to our own days, a certain number of apparent R. P. O. postmarks of France fail to be found in the lists, or show aberrant dating or inscription. The nature of these items has been far from easy to determine, for most of us. Now the man to whom such inquiries have for years been referred, puts his knowledge on permanent record.

France has had, in addition to regular R. P. O. service, the same sort of service as we used to have in this country under the title of "Route Agents." But while our route agents were discontinued, France appears to continue this type of service on minor or branch lines to this day. The French "Courrier-Convoyeur" handles closed pouch mail, picks up mail from dockside or railroad station boxes, receives for handling last-minute "late mail" from offices along the route—and has his own postmarking device for all mail picked up, even as did his American equivalent previous to 1880.

But the French route agents' marks are not readily distinguished from regular R. P. O. marks, nor in early cases from town postmarks, by any but the more skilled collectors of French postal material. A book such as this was needed, to provide the required information, particularly in the form of classified and indexed listings by which puzzling items might be identified. Now, between the 1951 R. P. O. book and this, no collector need be confused or stray into error.

The "Movable Box" ("Boite Mobile") is another characteristic French usage with its special postmarking, which has caused much puzzlement. Dr. Chase brings this usage into order, explaining it as well as reporting all the marks.

Railroad Station postmarks, of which certain Paris ones are familiar to most collectors, likewise are subject to confusion. Some are genuine Terminal R. P. O.'s; others seem to be only branch offices at railroad stations; other usages also exist. Dr. Chase brings this material into order, though he has not been able in many cases to discover the exact type of service involved.

In short, this book gives us an adequate list, and for the most part a sufficient classification, of everything that might be confused with a regular R. P. O. cancellation or postmark of France, Tunis and Algeria.

This review is based fundamentally on using the book for some few weeks on the reviewer's material which had been confusing or unidentified, in his own Type Sage collection. On that basis, the rating can be: a useful book, wholly adequate in its listings, and written with lucidity. As with the previous listings by Dr. Chase, one must pay attention to his statements as to how to use the tables. They are not intended to be self-explaining; full explanations of their use are included.

Without going into treatment at such length that space beyond reason would be needed, it is difficult to do justice to this work. However, the report of its scope, plus the fact that it is done in the usual Dr. Chase manner, with that combination of reporting fully what is known and definite interpretation which is characteristic, should suffice to indicate what service it can render.

The remarkable type of postmark used from 1866 to about 1880, with town name at top and Route Agent designation in the center, for this service, is a major source of

confusion to collectors. We mention this in closing, because it is on this particular group that this book most strikingly brings order out of previous confusion. *(S. G. R.)*

Souvenir Album Issued by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department on the occasion of the Indian Postage Stamp Centenary, 1st. October, 1954. Obtainable from the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, New Delhi, India, for Rs.25/. (Approx. $5.00).

This attractive volume has been published as a part of the program for the centenary celebration of the first Indian postage stamp. It was prepared and printed by the Nasik Security Press of the Government of India by the photogravure process. There are twenty four plates with facsimile stamps showing all designs and denominations issued from October 1, 1854 to October, 1954. The facsimile stamps are very beautifully reproduced in the true colors in which they were issued, reflecting great credit on the producers of this volume. A short history of the stamps is printed as text in eight pages following the color plates. This text was prepared by Mr. N. D. Cooper, Vice-President of the Philatelic Society of India, which is the oldest and most respected philatelic group in India.

The album is a fine production. It is my belief that India is the first country in the world to have produced such a representative record of the stamps issued during its philatelic history. India has set a standard of excellence here that will be very hard to match. The producers of this album are to be complimented for using restraint in the preparation of the color plates. As they appear, it is impossible for the stamps to be cut out of the pages and passed off upon the unsuspecting as the genuine article because of the moiré background which surrounds them. An examination under magnification also shows up traces of the photogravure screen. So philatelists should not fear the misuse of these plates.

We recommend that all Indian collectors acquire this album as an outstanding example of what a wise Government can produce to aid philatelists. *(H. D. S. H.)*

Topical Time, magazine of the American Topical Association. *Doctors Philatelic* by Oscar Gottfried. 96pp. Paper cover. Published by the American Physician, Inc. Price $5.00. *Birds on Stamps,* A. T. A. Handbook No. 10. 35pp. Paper cover. Price $1.00.

The above three pamphlets all on topical collecting came to us for review within a short space of time. They are grouped because all three can be viewed from a philatelic point of view, allowing us to express some general opinions held on this field of the hobby. Our ideas are expressed frankly. They are not intended to hurt, to discourage nor to mock. Let no one impugn a motive that this criticism is that of a smug pedantic castigating a less mature branch of philately. The topical collector has been bewildered and hurt. He feels frustrated believing that many refuse to admit him into our ranks. We bristle at any form of discrimination. Every field of stamp collecting belongs within philately. And we shall strive to have the topicalist accepted. However, this demands that all topicalists be stamp collectors first and foremost. And this is where the majority of topicalists fail and why they face difficulties of their own doing.

When one speaks of philatelic knowledge, that does not signify research. It means a basic understanding of stamp collecting. Using these three publications as examples, we shall cite specific instances of a lack of philatelic knowledge.

First of all, there is the stamp itself. A good collector does not go for any sort of copy. His enthusiasm for collecting creates within him a sense of appreciation. But what do most topical collectors do? Time and time again, as illustrated in the above works, *undesirable copies of common stamps are shown.* This defies the basic rule of philately. There is no reason whatsoever to show the design of a stamp on a common modern United States or foreign stamp by a heavily cancelled, off-center copy. In fact, when a topical collector needs an inexpensive stamp, cancelled copies should be avoided. One can excuse cancellations on stamps in a topical collection only when an unused copy is difficult to secure.

The second requirement for appreciation of philately is that a collector must evidence some understanding of our literature. What matter how learned one is in medicine, astronomy, ornithology or all the many themes connected with postage stamps, if the rudiments of philately are not learned! But to miscall the early United States Postmaster Provisionals "Postmaster Provincials", or to state that our Local Posts' stamps were sanctioned by our government displays a lack of philatelic knowledge. Other similar errors about philately could be cited to illustrate this point.

The third requirement of an enthusiastic collector is the ability to discriminate between bona-fide philately and its imitations. In the anxiety to illustrate as copiously as possible, care must be exercised to omit reproductions of bogus stamps, reprints and fake cancellations. Our eyes spotted 17 illustrations in this latter class in the above literature. This is another instance of lack of philatelic knowledge.

And finally it is our opinion, with which others may take issue, that topical stamp collecting must put the emphasis on philately. For instance, there is a commemorative stamp with a crowded design. One insignificant figure relates to the topic. Its notice is fine. But that is no license to omit all the philatelic information as to the reason for issue, the date, philatelic facts about different watermarks and perforations, mentioning only that the motif belongs to a selected topical category and then giving the background sketch of the topic. Why neglect philately? We ask this question with proper justification. These books are expensive to publish due to the mass of illustrations needed. "Doctors Philatelic" is priced at $5.00, which is comparatively excessive when compared to other philatelic handbooks currently selling at the same price. They are striving to serve our hobby well, so their efforts are praiseworthy. But as long as any publication carries the word "philatelic" or "stamps" on its title page, one has the right to demand much more philately than the topical publications coming to our attention have so far shown. (*H. M. G.*)

The Journal of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately Editor, Dr. Gregory B. Salisbury, 49th and Locust Streets, Philadelphia 39, Penna. Mimeographed. 48 pp. Paper Cover.

It is with considerable pleasure plus a bit of nostalgia that we received the initial effort of the Rossica Society of Russian Philately. Your reviewer was a member of the original Rossica Society, and then was active in the formation of its American successor, The Russian American Philatelic Society.

The new editor is to be praised for his enthusiasm which has been the spark of the revival of this society for Russian collectors. We note also that many of our former colleagues in Russian Philately are associated with this new venture.

We, therefore, looked for something of considerable importance, something to be read with pleasure. After finishing, we placed the journal down with mixed feelings. There was a good deal of real philatelic interest, such as some very fine articles on stamps and postal history of Russia by Sklarevski, de Schramchenk, B. Legky and the editor. But there was also far too many personal matters, like reminiscences of the past Russian collectors that formed the greater part of this periodical. These, while interesting to hear over a midnight bowl of borscht, can be questioned as out-of-place in a journal of mature philately. If this is to be a magazine of record for Russian collectors, then personalities should not occupy so much space. We were also greatly disappointed that the journal was produced on a mimeographed machine. Photo-offset costs so little more, is so infinitely easier on the eyes so that no journal, no matter how limited in budget, should be mimeographed, particularly on both sides of the page. It makes for such difficult reading when the ink strikes through with equal force from both sides.

To sum up—when the editor has gained more experience and the technical problems have been overcome, this journal should develop into one of the finest endeavours in the field of specialized philatelic writing and publishing. A sound journal, such as this promises to be, is needed. (*H. D. S. H.*)

SORUTH

The First Two Issues

By L. E. DAWSON, F.R.P.S.L.

Introduction

Imagine, kind reader, a country which issued its first postage stamp in 1864 (and its last in 1950), its second issue four years later, but whose philatelic existence was unknown until 1877, just as its third issue was coming out. Even then, it was only the later varieties of the second issue which came to light. Not until 1891 did specimens of the 1864 issue become known, and along with them the earlier varieties of the 1868 issue. Furthermore, used copies of the stamps discovered in 1877 were practically unknown up to, at least, 1885—the second issue being represented only by unused blocks and sheets for some years. And this country was not situated in the heart of Central Asia or the back-of-beyond in the Himalayas, no "Shangri-La", but was a small, though fairly well-known, State lying along the Western coast of India, some 200 miles North-West of Bombay. Nor were its stamps used only upon internal correspondence; they appear upon covers addressed to Karachi, and handled by three Imperial Post offices *en route*. As if all this

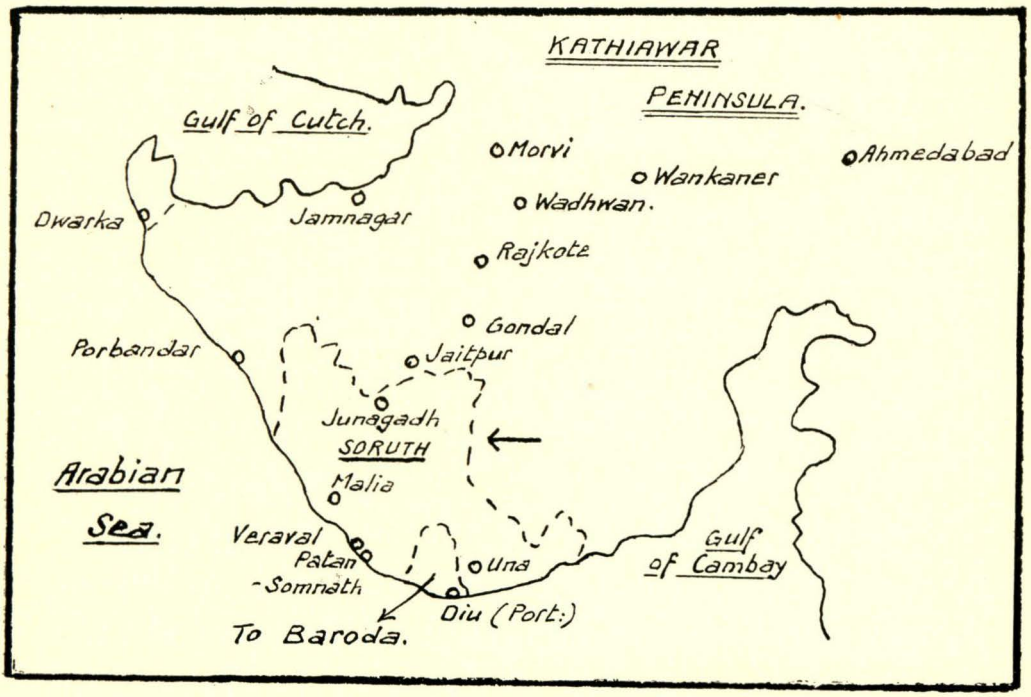


Fig. A. Outline Map of Kathiawar Peninsula.

were not strange enough, at least four stamps issued by the State are represented by single specimens only—a record no other country can boast of!

Here are a few particulars about the former Feudatory State of Soruth, or Junagadh, as it seems to have been officially called. It lies in the Kathiawar peninsula, which is bounded on the North by the Gulf of Cutch, and on the south by the Gulf of Cambay. It is 3,283 square miles in area, and its population at the time were in use, was about 285,000. Capital city is Junagadh, or Joonaghur.

One of the principal towns in the State is Patan-Somnath. Here stood in the old days the great temple dedicated to Siva, and a famous place of Hindu pilgrimage. Its sanctity and wealth attracted the unwelcome attention of Mahmud of Ghazni, who, on his sixteenth raid into India in 1025, besieged and took the city, which was sacked and plundered. The sandalwood gates of the temple were carried off in triumph, with immense wealth looted from the priests and citizens.

We have no knowledge of the postal arrangements of the State in the period in which the first two issues dealt with here were current. In his articles on the stamps of Soruth in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* in 1910, Major Edward B. Evans quotes from an article on the "Postal Arrangements in some of the Native States", which appeared in the *Philatelic Journal of India* in 1906. It was stated that there were then 22 State post offices. The Head Postmaster at Junagadh, the capital, received 33 rupees per mensem, and the total monthly expenditure on the Post Office Department amounted only to 123 rupees. This represented the cost of the Headquarters establishment only. Apparently, there were no regular postmasters in the other towns and villages; the limited postal work was probably carried out by *munshis* * in the Government *tehsils* * or Police *thanas*,* as part of their duties. The rate of a single letter was 1 anna of a koree (for a quarter of tola, or one-tenth of an ounce?), and the registration fee 5 annas. There was also a parcel post. Hence it is evident that by 1906, at least, there was a well-organised postal service throughout the State.

Until 1913, when Indian currency was adopted, the States' monetary system was based on the koree, four of which went to the Indian rupee. The Koree was divided into 16 annas; hence one anna of a koree was equal to one Indian pice, or farthing. The rate for single letters in the Imperial Post Office was ½ anna, or 2 pice. But in the late sixties and the seventies of the last century there was, apparently, only one Imperial post office in the State, at Junagadh (P. O. No. 304 in the Bombay circle of the Indian Post Office Department). When Major Evans wrote his article all the principal towns and villages had Imperial post offices, yet the State postal service continued to be used extensively for internal correspondence because of its cheapness. A letter addressed to any place in British India had to bear the appropriate Indian stamp as well. If not so stamped, the letter was charged "postage due", at double the amount of the deficient postage.

Another reason for the continuance of the State postal system (as in other Feudatory States), when its necessity had lapsed with the extension of the network of the Imperial post offices to every place of any importance, was the pride the ruling Prince took in having his very own postal service; as the P. J. I. article put it; *"Junagad*—As regards the Junagad State, there are Imperial post offices at all the places, (except at Navagad and Sesan) where there are State post offices. *Bhor*—Though the Nawab of Junagad and the Chief of Bhor have no objection to the opening of Imperial post offices and lines in their States, they are unwilling to abolish their State *daks* * and stamps. The Government of Bombay is also unwilling to bring pressure to bear on these chiefs to accept postal unity".

The State Post office was a symbol of sovereignty and *izzat*.*

Major Evans' G. S. W. articles dealt, as fully as was possible at the time, with the 1864 and 1868 issues, as well as with the subsequent issues. Students of Indian States stamps owe a very great debt of gratitude to Major Evans for his extremely compre-

* *Editor's Note*: These terms, while familiar to persons who have lived in India, are not known in the United States. Therefore we give a translation of them for the benefit of our readers.

Munshi—clerk; *Tehsil*—tax office; *Thana*—station, as "police station"; *Dak*—postal service or post; *Izzat*—glory, power, prestige.

hensive and accurate articles on all the older Feudatories. They form the foundation of all subsequent research into these stamps. As regards the second issue of Soruth, he illustrated and described the twenty varieties on the sheets, and he noted the different settings of the two values that appeared during the nine years they were current.

On the foundation laid by Major Evans, and during the course of some thirty years, Lt. Colonel George S. F. Napier greatly extended our knowledge of these primitive stamps. His article entitled "Notes on the Early Issues of Soruth", in the October 1927 number of the *Philatelic Journal of India,* was the second land-mark in the study of

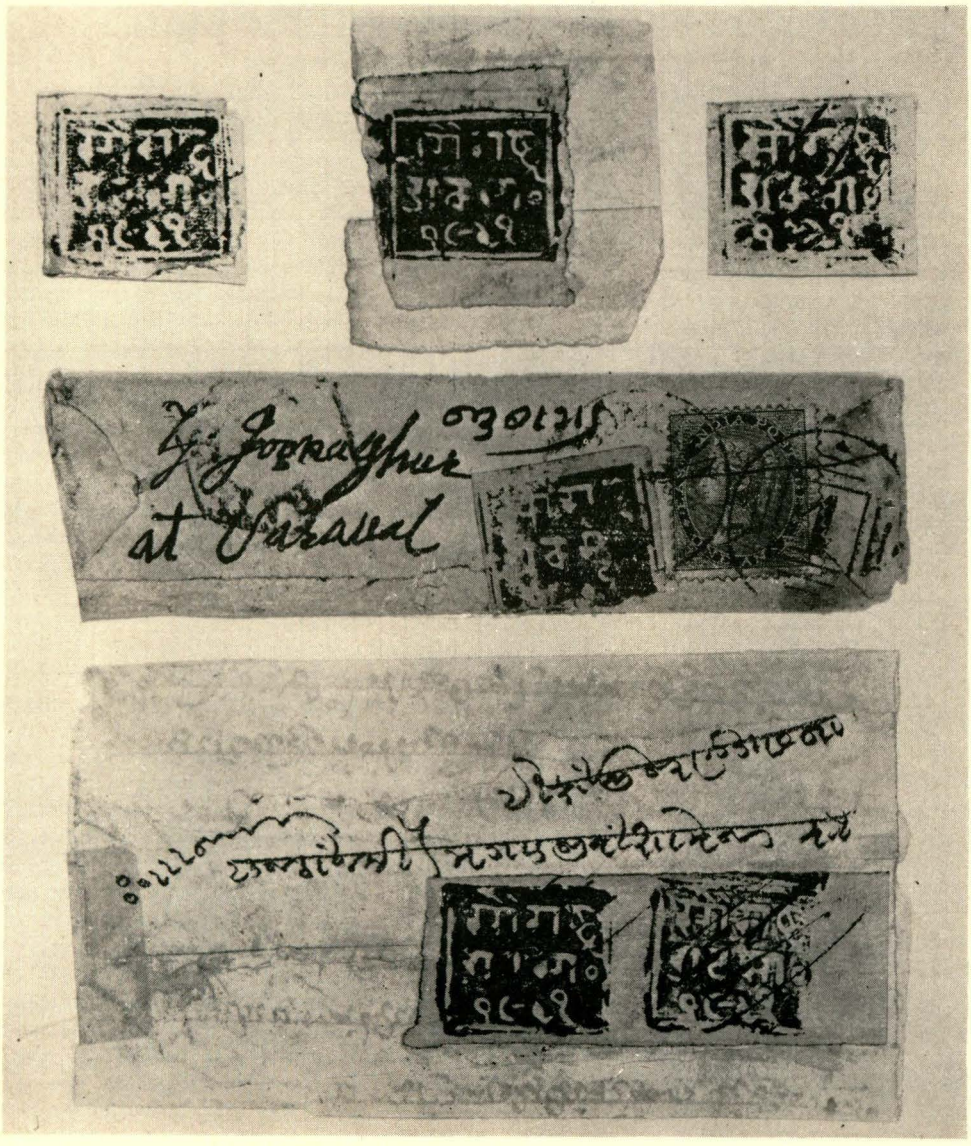


Fig. 1. First Issue, 1864. The "Seal" stamp. Two copies on rough white wove paper. Single on grey laid. Two covers, with single and pair, on azure laid paper.

these stamps. However, through lack of sufficient material, he arrived at some erroneous conclusions. These have now been sorted out, and the writer believes that the printings of the second issue as set out below are at last correct, though the reader will realise that there still remain some problems to be solved. Col. Napier supplied some additional valuable information in letters to the writer in 1935 and 1939, and allowed him to study his collection, and take notes therefrom.

First Issue, 1864

(i) 1 anna; black on white pelure paper.
(ii) 1 anna; black on rough white wove paper.
(iii) 1 anna; black on grey wove paper.
(iv) 1 anna; black on grey, vertically laid paper.
(v) 1 anna; black on soft azure, vertically laid paper.
(vi) 1 anna; black on stout azure, vertically or horizontally, laid paper.

One value. Handstamped from a single die in black water-colour, on various papers.

The date of issue of this stamp is problematical. 1864 may be too early by at least one year, as the date in the last of the three rows of inscriptions is 1921 of the Hindu Samvat Era, corresponding to A. D. 1864-65.

The die was probably made of brass, engraved by a local seal-engraver. Hence, we may refer to it as the "seal" stamp. The impression is always more or less indistinct. The three rows of inscriptions read, in transliteration:—

SAURASHTRA - DAKSA - 1921

The stamp was first chronicled and illustrated in a German philatelic paper early in 1891. Major Evans sent Col. Napier, then a subaltern stationed at Ferozepore in the Punjab, a cutting from the paper, and asked him to find out all he could about the stamp. Lt. Napier got into correspondence with an Indian gentleman in Junagadh, and offered ten rupees for each copy he was sent. In his own words; he was "let in for several hundred rupees; a serious matter in those days!"

From the same correspondent he received the first copies of the 1 anna on pink wove paper of the second issue—but of this later on. Col. Napier became from thenceforth an enthusiastic collector and student of these stamps, and, to quote him again, he had "practically swept the market" by the time Mr. W. Dorning-Beckton started to collect Soruth. "I had all the cream of the Evans collection from Gibbons; also the pick of the Ferrari".

Whatever paper was available in Junagadh at the time was used, but the commonest found is (vi), the stout azure laid paper. Of (i), the white pelure paper, only one copy, on a piece of the original letter-sheet, is known. There were five copies of (ii), the rough white wove paper, in the Ferrari sale. Col. Napier knew of only two copies of (iii). Another great rarity is (iv).

Unused specimens are excessively rare. Cancellation was effected by pen and ink, in the form of crossed lines or wriggly scrawls. Covers addressed to places in British India alone bear dated postmarks. The earliest date seen by the writer is 18th April 1867, and the latest 8th July, 1868. The Imperial post offices marks found are (all impressed in black):—

(i) Joonaghur, forming an arc of a circle; (ii) Jaitpoor, around a circle; (iii) Rajkote, in a semi-circle, inside a hexagon; (iv) Rajkote, in a straight line across a hexagon; (v) Ahmedabed, around a circle; (vi) Ahmedabad, in a straight line across a hexagon; (vii) Kurrachee, around a circle.

Letters from Junagadh (then spelt Joonaghur) took from five to seven days to reach Karachi (Kurrachee), passing through, and receiving transit markings at Jaitpoor and Rajkote; sometimes at Ahmedabad also, or at Ahmedabad and not Rajkote.

The "seal" was used to cancel the second issue towards the end of the currency of the latter. Specimens are not very uncommon, but a good impression is rarely found.

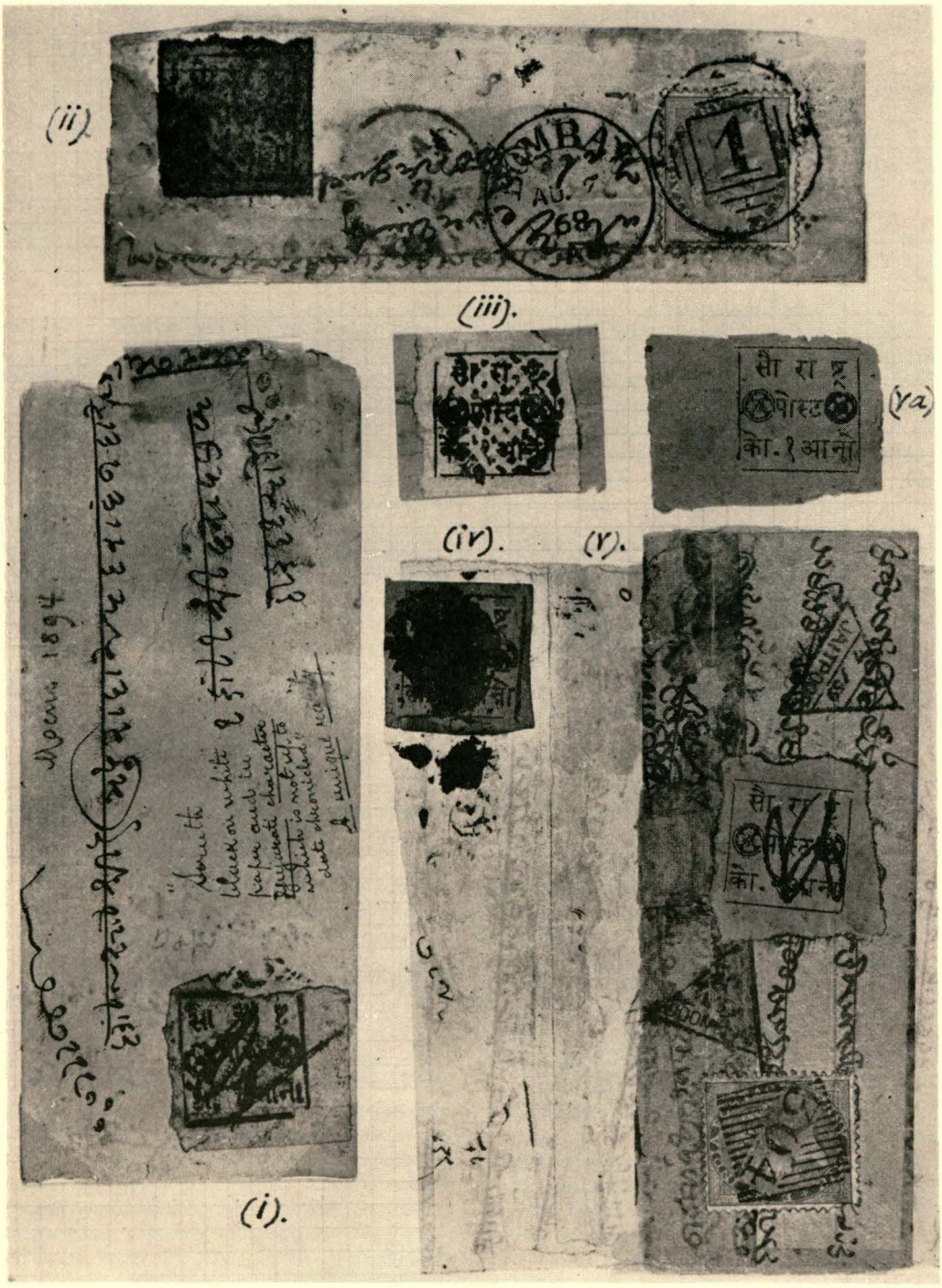


Fig. 2. Second Issue, 1868. Earliest Printings. ONE ANNA (i) Black on white wove paper; Gujrati lettering. (ii) Red on deep blue wove paper. (iii) Black on white wove paper; same type as (ii). (iv) Red on green wove paper. (v) TWO ANNAS; black on yellow wove paper. (va) ONE ANNA; black on pink wove paper; same type as (v).

Second Issue, 1868

Experimental Printings

One value. Type-set design.

(i) 1 anna, black on rough white wove paper. Inscribed in Gujrati characters.
(ii) 1 anna, red on thin blue wove paper. Inscribed in Nagri characters (as all the following stamps).
(iii) 1 anna, black on rough white wove paper.
(iv) 1 anna, red on thin green wove paper.

The design was type-set, and consists of three rows of lettering inside frame lines. The second row is flanked by two rosette ornaments. With the exception of (i) above, the inscriptions are all in Nagri characters. They read as follows, in transliteration; SAU RA SHTRA - POST - KO 1 ANO, or "Saurashtra Post, 1 anna of a koree". The stamps dealt with in the next two chapters were printed in sheets of 20 stamps, five rows of four, with a long sheet inscription in Gujrati along the top or at the bottom, but as these four stamps are known by single copies only, it cannot be said of what size their sheets were:

It would appear that when it was decided to replace the very primitive and unsatisfactory "seal" stamp with a type-set production, there was considerable doubt whether Gujrati or Nagri lettering should be used (the former is normally used in this part of India; Kathiawar and the adjacent districts on the mainland being known as Gujrat), in what color of ink the stamps should be printed, and on what kind of paper. Hence, we may describe these four stamps as coming from very limited "Experimental Printings". Eventually, black on pink wove paper was decided upon, and these stamps are dealt with in the next chapter.

Taking the four "Experimental Printings" one by one, we have:—

(i) *1 anna, black on rough white wove paper. Gujrati lettering.*

The only known copy is a SE corner stamp, on cover. As all other type-set stamps are inscribed in Nagri, it is concluded that this represents the earliest printing of all.

The stamp was described in Gibbons' "Monthly Journal" on page 193 of Vol. IV (1893-94), and was admitted to the Part 1 catalogue as No. 10. After a lapse of years, as all track of it had been lost, Gibbons, apparently, concluded that it did not exist (or was a forgery), and omitted it in the 1926 catalogue. In the last Ferrari sale, however, the cover turned up, and was acquired by Col. Napier. It has been reinstated in the 1955 catalogue.

In the Napier album were two letters, one from the well-known dealer, the late Mr. W. T. Wilson, to Col. Napier, dated August 28th, 1926, and the other, an enclosure therein, from Major Evans to Wilson.

Mr. Wilson wrote: "I see no reason to doubt it, and am convinced it is quite good. My correspondent could never procure me more of the Soruth. He was half a collector himself, and presumably what he sent me was his collection of Soruth . . . Curiously enough, our correspondence ceased; I could get no reply from him, and about this period there was an epidemic in Bombay, and I came to the conclusion that he died".

Mr. Wilson gave the following information about this cover. "This is the Soruth I sold to Mr. Ferrari in 1894. I bought it from K. A. Chinai, Bombay, 26.1.94. The red ink description on cover is in Chinai's writing—the "Top" is in my writing—the "Moens 1894" has been added afterwards, probably by Mr. Mahé".

Major Evans' letter to Mr. Wilson is dated April 4, 1894. He writes:—"Very many thanks for the sight of the Soruth. I see no reason for doubting its genuineness, except, of course, the general reason one has for looking on all *finds* with some suspicion! It looks right enough and, as I daresay you have noticed, it is printed in similar type to that employed in the lower margins of the known sheets, which is perhaps in its favour".

(ii) *1 anna, red on thin blue wove paper. Nagri lettering.*

Only copy known. On complete cover, with an East India, ½ anna stamp. The latter was cancelled at the Bombay G. P. O., with the type 9 duplex cancellation. The left half bears the date Au 2 68. There is also the Joonaghur arrival mark, in red, with the date Au 4 68. The Soruth stamp is cancelled with a smudge of ink. Apparently, the cover originated from Bombay, and the Soruth stamp was added on arrival at Junagadh, to carry the letter to the addressee, somewhere out in the country. Now reinstated in the 1955 catalogue, after 30 years' absence.

The stamp reproduces very badly, but it so happens that its details agree exactly with:

(iii) *1 anna, black on rough white wove paper. Nagri lettering.*

The stamp is on a small piece of paper, and is cancelled with a number of dots arranged in a circle, which is the earliest form of "killer". This has never been in the catalogue, and still remains outside it. It is an entirely new discovery in the Napier collection, and nothing is known of its past history. Either it and the red on blue stamp are both genuine, or both counterfeits! The writer is convinced of their genuineness.

(iv) *1 anna, red on thin green wove paper. Nagri lettering.*

Only copy known. Attached to a corner of a large folded letter sheet, and cancelled with a smudge of ink.

This stamp was received by Col. Napier in 1891, along with the first copies of the pink wove stamps. About it he wrote:—"I offered a bigger price for more of this, and was urgently begged to let P. see it again. This I never did, luckily . . . The green stamp turned up long before any attempt was made to imitate them, and repeated efforts were made to get me to let Junagadh see it, presumably in order to copy".

Napier sold the stamp, through the late Mr. C. J. Phillips, to Ferrari for a large sum. He bought it back at the Ferrari sale.

Second Issue, 1868 (continued)

The First Definitive Printings

Two values. Printed in sheets of 20 stamps. Nagri lettering.

A. with "accents" over the first letters in the top and bottom inscriptions.
   (i) 1 anna, black on thin pink wove paper.
   (ii) 2 annas, black on thin yellow wove paper.

B. with "accents" over the second letters in the top and bottom inscriptions.
   (iii) 1 anna, black on thin pink wove paper.

(i) *1 anna, black on thin pink wove paper. Type A.*

After experimenting with various inks and papers, a pink wove paper was adopted, printed on in black, for the 1 anna, and a new value was added, a 2 annas, for which a yellow wove paper was used. The first pink wove stamps were received by Col. Napier in 1891, though issued during 1868-69!

In his 1927 P. J. I. article, Col. Napier pointed out that the 1 anna on pink wove could be found in two states, with the "accents" over the first or the second characters, respectively, in the top and bottom inscriptions. The "Experimental Printings" are all in the first state, and the subsequent 1 anna, black on azure laid, and red on white laid, and 4 annas, black on white laid, are all in the second state. This distinction has been made in the 1955 catalogue, and is an important one.

Major Evans pointed out in 1910 that, though slight alterations had to be carried out every time it was necessary to change the plate from printing 1 anna to printing 4 annas sheets, and back again for 1 anna stamps, yet

the "forme" of the plate was never broken up, and remained unchanged from the 1 anna on pink wove (type B, of course—Major Evans had not recognised type A separately), throughout all subsequent printings to 1877. As the twenty units in the plate were set up from type, there were, consequently, as many varieties on each sheet, and these can easily be distinguished.

Col. Napier claimed to have reconstructed the sheet of the 1 anna on pink wove, type A, yet how he did so the writer could never

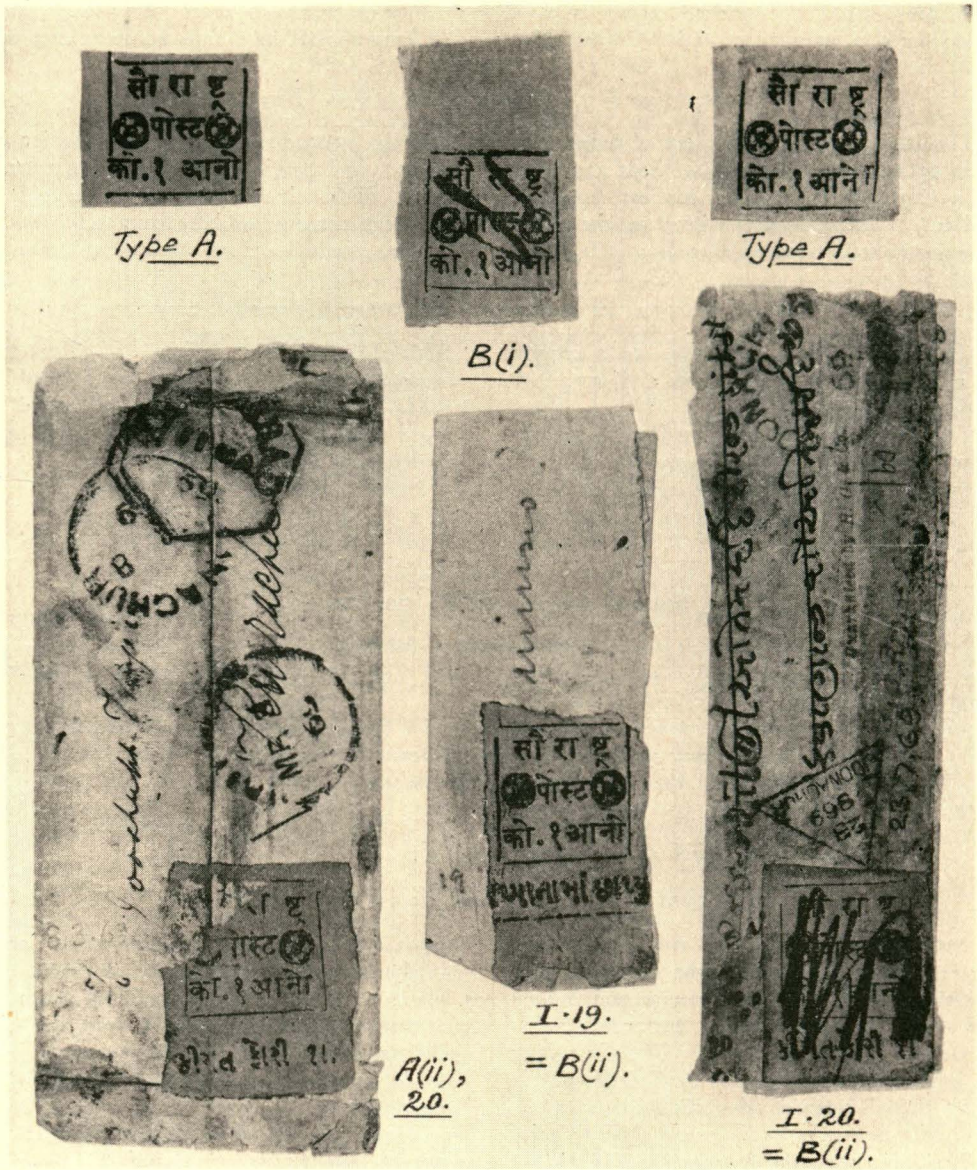


Fig. 3. 1868. ONE ANNA; black on pink wove paper. Two unused singles Type A. Used single, Setting B(i). A(ii) 20, and B(ii) 19 and B(ii) 20 for comparison of sheet inscriptions. All on covers.

make out. Probably, what he did was to sort out 20 different varieties, and put them together in 5 rows of 4, in quite a haphazard way. He noted in his P. J. I. paper that the type A sheets had the marginal inscription at the top of the sheet, as shown by specimens from the top and bottom rows, with, fortunately, the complete margin attached, whereas all type B printings have it at the foot.

In 1939, however, the writer obtained two copies of a type A stamp, one of which



Fig. 4. ONE ANNA; black on pink wove paper. Examples of setting A(i), with top and bottom sheet margins.

had the bottom margin attached, with the end of the sheet inscription, showing that it was No. 20 in a sheet from a second setting of type A. The question then arose—did this second setting differ from the first merely by having the sheet inscription transferred to the bottom, or was a fresh set-up of the "forme" used for it? Examining all the stamps both in his own collection and in Col. Napiers', the writer found more than thirty, apparently, different types, indicating that an entirely new setting had been made.

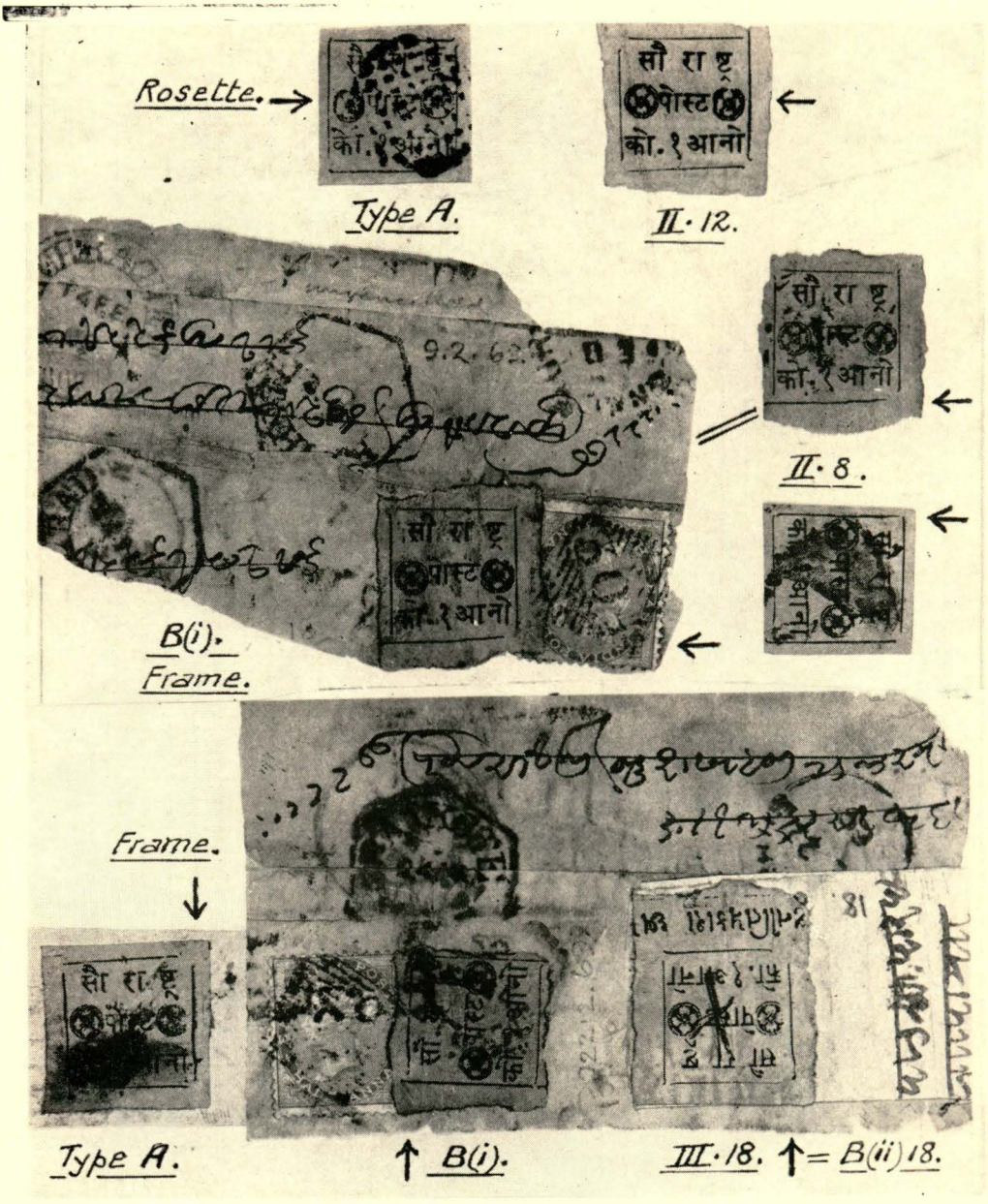


Fig. 5. ONE ANNA. Comparison of pink wove stamps with azure laid stamps, showing same frame lines and rosettes.

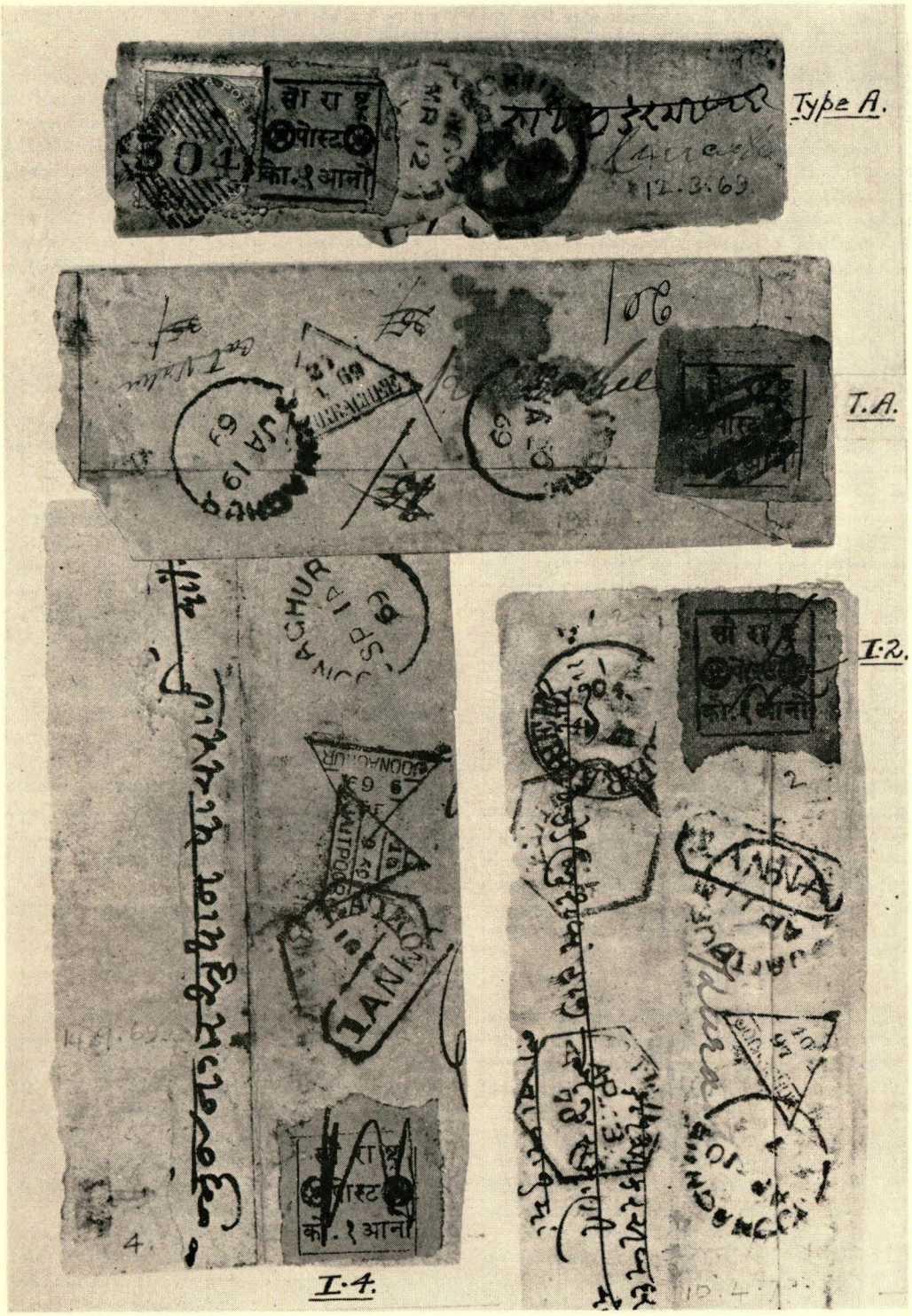


Fig. 6. ONE ANNA; black on pink wove paper. Four covers, showing various Imperial Post transit and delivery marks; also 1 ANNA (postage due).

What had happened must have been:—

The "forme" was dismantled after a number of sheets of the first setting had been printed. When more 1 anna stamps were required, it was re-assembled, though, of course, in an entirely different order, the sheet inscription placed at the bottom, and a fresh stock of sheets prepared.

Another question that arises is—were the "Experimental" stamps printed from the first setting of the pink wove stamps? The writer has been unable to find any one of the latter whose details fit in with any of the "Experimental" stamps. So it appears that these were printed from a different set-up, or set-ups, of the "forme", which had then been broken up and reset for the first pink wove stamps.

These two settings of the 1 anna will be referred to as A (i) and A (ii).

(ii) *2 annas, black on thin yellow wove paper.*

To print off sheets of this value the numeral 1 in the bottom inscription was changed to a 2 and the accent removed from over the last word, thus converting the singular ANO into the plural ANA. In the Napier collection were two copies of this stamp on covers, one with a large piece out of it.

The cover illustrated shows the perfect copy. It was acquired by Col. Napier at the 14th Ferrari sale. The East India ½ anna stamp bears the Joonaghur P. O. cancellation (No. 304, Bombay Circle; Renouf type 4). There are two black triangular Imperial Post Office transit markings, reading, respectively, Joonaghur—12-7-1869, and Jaitpoor—14-7-69. The stamp is just tied to the cover by an indistinct red circular postmark, reading, apparently, Joonaghur, 12 Jy 69. The first 1 anna, type A, cover known to the writer is dated 8th October 1868, and the last 9th April 1869. The first type B cover is dated 25th January, 1869. It would seem, therefore, that the 2 annas were printed after all the A (ii) 1 anna had been prepared; after which the "forme" was again dismantled.

With this cover is illustrated an unused (?) 1 anna, pink wove stamp which "plates" with the 2 annas, alike in every detail, except for the numeral and last accent. This is most interesting, and the authenticity of the 2 annas is thus established beyond any suspicion of a doubt. Gibbons used to catalogue a 1 anna, black on yellow wove—a misreading of the numeral—but took it out in 1926. However, it was restored to favour in the 1953 catalogue.

The much-damaged copy, also on cover, with half a 1 anna, East India, cancelled 304, cannot be "plated" with any type A 1 anna so far. The 2 annas is tied to the cover by a red circular postmark, which is indecipherable. Another red circular mark reads Joonaghur Au 5 69, and there are two black triangular marks of Joonaghur and Jaitpoor, respectively.

Both 2 annas are cancelled with the usual pen scrawl.

(iii) *1 anna, black on thin pink wove paper. Type B.*

At the end of 1868 or beginning of 1869 a new printing of the 1 anna took place, from a new set-up of the "forme". As in the previous printing, the Gujrati sheet inscription was at the foot of the sheet, but the first accents in the top and bottom rows of lettering are now, more correctly, over the second characters (vowels); and this feature was to persist through all subsequent printings of this value and of the new 4 annas.

The sheet inscription reads—"Saurashtra Niti Prakash, price Koree 1¼". Niti Prakash was the name of the press where the stamps were printed. It means "Light of Justice".

It was easy to plate the pink wove, Type B stamps from the very much commoner azure laid stamps. Major Evans illustrated a complete sheet of setting III of these. The writer possessed 27 copies of the pink wove, Type B, and plated all but six successfully. This did not cause any great surprise, as it is seldom possible in such cases to plate 100 per cent of single specimens. Later, upon a rearrangement of this issue in the writer's collection, another attempt was made to plate the six recalcitrant stamps. It was then discovered that one copy, on cover, had for its top frame line the twisted left frame of No. 18 of the final arrangement of the "forme".

It had already been noticed that two stamps of Type A had this same "bit" for their right frame line. Thus this twisted "bit" can be found in three different positions. Hence, there were two settings of Type B, as of Type A. These have been designed B(i) and B(ii). All pink wove stamps with accents over the second letters which cannot be plated as B(ii) may be put down as coming from setting B(i).

Additional evidence of the existence of two settings was found in the Napier collection. Here a Type B stamp has for its bottom frame line the twisted spear-like frame which appears on the left side of No. 8 of the final B(ii) plate.

A digression will have to be made here. In the course of repeatedly setting-up and taking-down of the "forme", and of printing the stamps, some of the frame line "bits" got twisted or bent, some of the rosettes were distorted in shape, or had their outer circles dented in or broken, and the last character in the top row of lettering became damaged, in four or five units of the plate. These defects developed gradually, but are found throughout all settings of the B(ii) stamps. No attempt was made to replace them with undamaged type. They are thus very useful for plating.

Some of these damaged pieces of type can be found in Type A stamps, and it is interesting to compare such stamps with B(ii) having the same defective pieces but in different positions. Some comparisons are noted here.

(a) Type A. Right frame. Appears as top frame in B(ii) 13.
(b) A(ii) 20. Bottom frame. Appears as top frame in B(ii) 17.
(c) Type A. Left frame. Appears as bottom frame in B(ii) 19.
(d) Type A. Left rosette. Appears as right rosette in B(ii) 12.
(e) Type A. Left rosette. Appears as right rosette in B(ii) 5.

The damages to the last letter in the top row do not appear to have occurred until the "forme" was set up to B(ii) stamps.

The writer has seen some 23 covers of the 1 anna, pink wove, stamps, bearing Imperial Post office markings, and the chronology of these is most instructive. Here it is:—

Date	*Value*	*Type*	*Remarks*
8.10.68	1 anna	A(i)	No. 1 in top row.
4.11.68	1 anna	A	
2.12.68	1 anna	A(ii)	Top row stamp.
5.12.68	1 anna	A(i)	Bottom row stamp.
19. 1.69	1 anna	A	
25. 1.69	1 anna	B(i)	First B(i) date.
29. 1.69	1 anna	A	
5. 2.69	1 anna	A	
9. 2.69	1 anna	B(i)	
22. 2.69	1 anna	B(i)	
8. 3.69	1 anna	A(ii)	No. 20 in bottom row.
12. 3.69	1 anna	A	
21. 3.69	1 anna	A	
25. 3.69	1 anna	A	
4. 4.69	1 anna	A	
8. 4.69	1 anna	A(ii)	No. 20 in bottom row.
17. 4.69	1 anna	B(i)	
12. 7.69	2 annas	A	
23. 7.69	1 anna	B(ii)	First B(ii) date.
5. 8.69	2 annas	A	
14. 9.69	1 anna	B(ii)	
13. 2.70	1 anna	B(ii)	

(Continued on Page 98)

GUADELOUPE

Catalogue of Postal Markings

By ROBERT G. STONE

(Continued from Page 53)

T445	"SAINT-BARTHELEMY" , purple
T446	"SAINT-CLAUDE", red
T447	"SAINT-FRANCOIS", blue
T450	"SAINT-LOUIS-MARIE GALANTE" , purple
T451	"SAINT LOUIS" , blue, purple
T452	"SAINTE-MARIE" , purple
T453	"SAINT-MARTIN" , blue
T454	"SAINTE-ROSE", blue
T454a	"SAINT-ROSE" (error) , blue (1940-42?)
T455	"SAINT-SAUVEUR"
T456	"TERRE DE BAS" ("DE" in small caps.), blue
T457	"TERRE DE HAUT" ("DE" in small caps.), blue, purple
T458	"TROIS-RIVIERES", blue (two dies)
T459	"VIEUX-BOURG"
T460	"VIEUX-PORT" (error for "FORT"), blue
T461	"VIEUX-HABITANTS", blue

NOTE: Without doubt Type H exists also for: Matouba, Grands-Fonds-Ste.-Anne, Grands-Fonds-du-Moule, Bas-Schoelcher, Campeche, Douville, Duzer, Ferry, (La) Grippiere, (Le) Calvaire, Massioux, Prise-d'Eau, Riflet, Saint-Guillaume, Sainte-Genevieve, Village, and Robert.

TYPE M: Machine postmark, continuous roll image 88mm long, consisting of single-circle 24mm in diam. inscribed in Gothic caps. with the name of postoffice *at top,* a star and date in 4 lines *in center,* and "GAUDELOUPE" *at bottom;* in duplex with a "flag" of straight horizontal parallel lines (seven) enclosing a box 40 x 23 mm with a slogan inside it.

T475 1936-41? "POINTE A PITRE", with slogans nos. K5 or K6

TYPE N: Machine postmark, continuous roll image 60mm long, consisting of a single-circle 23mm in diameter inscribed with small Gothic caps. reading: *at top* name of postoffice, *at bottom* "GUADELOUPE, and *in center* date with hour of collection in 3 lines; in duplex with an unframed slogan 37mm long.

T480 1936-41? "BASSE TERRE", with slogans Nos. K7 or K8.

TYPE O: Single continuous circle, 29-30mm in diam., inscribed in large Gothic caps., *at top* name of postoffice, *at bottom* "GUADELOUPE", *in center* date in one line; with or without fleurons at sides.

T506	1938-	"BASSE-TERRE"
T506a	1938-	" * BASSE-TERRE *"
T511	1939?-	"CAPESTERRE" (GP), no fleurons
T534	1939-	"MOULE"

T538	1938-	"POINTE A PITRE"
T538a	1938-	" * POINTE-A-PITRE * "
T546	1939-	"SAINT-CLAUDE"

Note: This type may exist for a number of other postoffices.

TYPE P: Single-lined circle, 28mm diam., inscribed with name of postoffice *at top, at bottom* "GAUDELOUPE", *in center* date in three lines: hour of collection, day, month and year. Gothic caps. 3mm high; no fleurons.

T600	1952-	"ABYMES"
T602	1952?-	"BAIE-MAHAULT" 27.5 mm, purple, 1954
T605	1953?-	"BASSE-TERRE" 27.5 mm.
T611	1952-	"CAPESTERRE" (GP)
T627	1953?-	"LAMENTIN" blue, 1954
T634	1952-	"MORNE-A-L'EAU" "A" is 2½ mm high
T635	1953?-	"PETIT-BOURG" purple, 1954, "GUADELOUPE" spaced out wide letters
T638	1948-	"POINTE-A-PITRE", "A" is 2½ mm.
T638a	1951	Same as T638, but no accent on "A" and "GUADELOUPE" shorter
T639	1953?-	"POINTE-NOIRE" 28.5 mm, "GUADELOUPE" spaced out, wide letters
T640	1953?-	"PORT-LOUIS" "GUADELOUPE" spaced out, wide letters
T646	1953?-	"SAINT-CLAUDE" 27.5 mm.
T647	1953?-	"SAINT-FRANCOIS" 27.5 mm, asterisk in place of hour of collection
T653	1953?-	"SAINT-MARTIN" purple, 1954, asterisk in place of hour of collection
T654	1953?-	"SAINTE-ROSE" purple, 1954
T658	1953?-	"TROIS-RIVIERES"

TYPE Q: Single circle, 28 mm, of dashes, otherwise like Type P. This type is issued to postoffices of reduced service, called "Bureau de Distribution", whereas Type P is used only by full-service offices called "Bureau de Recette", Pointe-a-Pitre being the "Recette Principale" (R. P.).

T702	1953-	"ANSE-BERTRAND" (asterisk)
T807	1953-	"LA BOUCAN"
T720	1953-	"GOYAVE" blue
T736	1953-	"PETIT-CANAL"
T751	1953-	"SAINTE-MARIE" (asterisk)

IV. Army-Correspondence Postmarks (A)

These are for use on mail sent by military personnel claiming special postal privileges under the Law of June 17, 1792, as Amended, —such as reduced rates, permission to send letters unpaid or without stamps (postage collect). Usually these marks are inscribed "Correspondances d'Armées" or abbreviations thereof. Until 1901 the letter or cover had to be endorsed on back by an appropriate officer. Since 1901 the reduced rate must be franked only with the French stamps overprinted "F.M." but occasionally the Paymasters ran out of the stamps and endorsed the letters with "FM" or "Franchise Militaire" in manuscript and likewise during wartime when postage was not required.

Cat. No.	Period of Use	Description
A1	ca1865-80?	"*CORR. D.ARM.*" at top, "BASSE-TERRE" at bottom, in center date in three lines, in octagonal frame 21mm diam., inner circle, blue?
A2	ca1880-95?	"CORR. D.ARMEES" at top, "BA^{SSE} TERRE*" at bottom, date in center in three lines, in octagonal frame 21mm, inner circle, date is often omitted, blue?
A4	ca1865- ?	As A2 but "G^{d} BOURG" at bottom, blue?
A8	ca1880?-90?	As A2 but "P^{TE} A PITRE" at bottom, blue?
A9	1865-85?	As A1 but "SAINTES" at bottom
A10	ca1870?-	? Similar to A2 but "COR.", and "SAINTES. T.D.H." at bottom, blue 1879

A11 ca1890- ? Type E, outer circle 22.5mm diam., inscribed "COR. D'ARMEES / POINTE-A-PITRE"

A12 ca1890- ? Similar to A11, but "SAINT-CLAUDE" at bottom

A20 ca1893- ? "CORRESPONDANCE D'ARMEES —— GUADELOUPE ——" in Gothic caps., inside an octagonal frame 24.5 mm diam., inner circle continuous, in center in two lines: "Camp/Jacob" in Roman caps. and lower case. (This is possibly a military cachet rather than a postmark.)

A25 ca1914-46? "F M" or "Franchise Militaire" in manuscript, on letters without stamps.

V. Registration-Insurance Marks (R)

These indicate the sender has paid an extra fee for registered handling, with or without insurance *(chargements)*. Usually such mail in French countries is marked "Recommandé", "R", "Chargé", or "Chargements"; marks of this type are mostly identical for France and all the colonies.

Cat. No.	Period of Use	Description
R1	1860?-1920?	"CHARGE", Rom. caps. 28 x 4.5 mm, red or purple only
R3	1920?- ?	"CHARGE", Gothic caps., in box 12 x 33 mm, purple only.
R5	1890?-1920?	Oblong box, 39mm x 17mm, divided into six columns, two of them headed "POIDS" and three "CACHETS", with subheads, and spaces left for the postmaster to fill in MS; red, purple. (On back of insured letters)
R10	1887?-1923?	"R" in octagonal box 15x13.5mm, serifed cap.; struck next to the registration serial number (MS or hs., up to 5 digits, purple)
R12	1887?-	"A R" in octagonal oblong box 15x26mm, serifed caps., purple. (For *"Avis de Reception"*; on face of registered letters)
R15	1880?-	Straightline handstamps in Rom. caps. 2.5-5mm high, similar to T40, T41, consisting of "GUADELOUPE" and name of postoffice separately struck; used on *Avis de Reception* forms.
R16	1923-	Handstamps similar to R15, for names of postoffices only, used on the registration labels; a special stamp for the chief of posts at Basse-Terre reads: "Le Chef du Service/des P.T.T. et de la T.S.F."

VI. Mobile-Post Markings (M)

These are the indications of collection by a traveling post-courier or post-agent on a horse, wagon, automobile or boat, usually from individuals and/or boxes put up along the route or on board. The inscription "BM" stands for "Boite Mobile", meaning movable box or travelling box. Such marks may be used by the courier or by the post-offices receiving the mail from the courier (as probably in Guadeloupe). (See also "Ship-Letter Marks", which often have inscriptions implying mobile post but actually represent a distinctly different function.)

M1 ca1887- "B M" 4.5-5mm high Rom. caps., in an oval 19.5-20mm long and 10.5-11mm high (very similar to ones used elsewhere in French empire), used by the postoffices on the Pointe-a-Pitre—Basse-Terre route. (On face of letter or back)

VII. Ship-Letter Marks (S)

These indicate arrival by or dispatch by ship (either as loose letters or in closed mails) but they are applied in the colonial postoffice on land. The "PAQUEBOT" marks since 1892 are, in accordance with UPU rules, supposed to be used only on loose ship-letters; they often are struck on the stamps, except on stamps of Guadeloupe (some exceptions seen, however).

Cat. No.	Period of Use	Description
S1	1870-July'76	"*PAQ. ANG.*BASSE-TERRE-GUADE.", inscribed in Type E postmark of L. & B., Rom. caps., date in center in 3 lines, blue 1870-72

S2	1870-Jy'76	"*PAQ. FR.*BASSE-TERRE-GAUDEL.E.", otherwise as S1, blue 1870-72
S3	1870-73	As S1, but "*PAQ. ANG.*POINTE-A-PITRE-GUADE.", blue 1871-74, red Jy. '76
S4	1870-83	As S3, but "*PAQ. FR.*", blue 1871-74
S10	1925?-	"PAQUEBOT", straightline, Gothic caps., 24 x 3.0-3.5 mm, often smudgy, used at Pointe-a-Pitre on loose ship-letters received
S11	1925?-30?	"BASSE TERRE/PAQUEBOT", Gothic caps., 3.5-3.75mm high, (separately struck?) on loose-letters
S12	1930?-38?	"BASSE TERRE", Gothic caps 29 x 3.75mm, appears to be S11 with the word "PAQUEBOT" cut off, used on loose-letters from ships

VIII. Official-Frank Marks and Official Postmarks (F)

Occasionally special marks have been used to indicate that the letter was accepted as entitled to the official free-franking privilege or was officially prepaid in cash or stamps. In the early period, it was usually a manuscript or handstamp mark reading "Franche", "Affranchi", "Franc", etc., and the paraphe (conventionalized sign) of the postal or countersigning official, or a word such as "vu", "verifié", "autorisé", "service", etc. Since the 1860's government agencies have generally had to use stamps, for which they budget; official cachets or datestamps might be used in certain special cases to show a franking privilege—as noted from the Colonial Prison; and mail to the Governor during the last War was often sent without stamps.

Cat. No.	Period of Use	Description
F1	ca1740-?	A fleur-de-lys, 11 x 9mm, struck in black, seen on letter of 1740 to France; is probably a French arrival mark of Bordeaux, but could be some sort of official cachet for GPE (no postoffice yet in existence)
F4	ca1786-1848?	Paraphe, consisting of overlapping ovals or spirals made with one flourish or stroke of a pen; brownish; used with P1 to P6, F7-F9
F5	ca1816- ?	"FN" in fancy intertwined script capitals, inscribed in an oval 19 x 21 mm, struck in reverse impression (seal-type); used in association with a paraphe (F4)
F7	ca1816-48	"Affranchi(e)" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4; brownish (See P1)
F8	ca1816-48	"Franche" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4; brownish (See also P2)
F9	ca1816-48	"Port Paye" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4 (See also P3)
F20	1944?-	"DIRECTION DES POSTES—(date in one line)/GUADELOUPE", fleurons at sides, in double circle 30mm diam., used at Basse-Terre

IX. Paid Marks (P)

Various styles of markings serve to indicate that postage has been paid or prepaid, in cash or stamps, part way or all the way to destination. They read "Franche", "Affranchi", "Port Payé", "PP", "PD", etc. Before 1851 a large pen cross or diagonal stroke on the face of the letter might be added. (For "PAID" and "PAID at GUADELOUPE" see XIV. British Packet Agency Postmarks). In early times the same numerals used for indicating postage due were also used for indicating the amount of postage paid or prepaid (see D1-D2).

Cat. No.	Period of Use	Description
P1	1765-1849?	"Affranchi(e)" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4; brownish (See F7)
P2	1765-1849?	"Franche" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4; brownish (See F8)
P3	1765-1849?	"Port Paye" in manuscript; used with paraphe F4? (See F9)
P5	ca1830?-48?	"FRANCHE/B^{E} T^{E} Guadeloupe", in Rom. letters in 2 lines, inscribed in a box 24.5 x 15 mm, Basse-Terre (This may have been used for free-franking, see F4)
P6	ca1830?-48?	"PORT PAYE/B^{sse} T^{re}/ GUADELOUPE", in Rom. caps., in 3 lines, inscribed in a box 23 x 15 mm, Basse Terre (See also F4). Blue 1843.
P8	Oct. 1851-Jy'76	"PD" in Rom. caps., in a box 7 x 10.5 mm, red 1851-76, black & blue 1860-76 (used only at Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre ?)
P11	1862?-71?	"P.P" Rom. caps. 5.5-6mm high, in box 19 x 10mm, red 1871 (Pointe-a-Pitre)
P12	1871?-76	"P.P." Rom. caps. 7mm, in box 20.5 x 11.5mm, red 1871-76, blue 1872-73, (Pointe-a-Pitre)

P13	1862?-72?	"P.P" Rom. caps. (thick) 5.5 mm, in box 19 x 10mm, blue 1864-72, red 1864-71 (Basse-Terre)
P14	1872?-76	"P.P" Rom. caps. 5.5mm, in box 19.5 x 10mm, blue (Basse-Terre)
P15	1862?-76	"P.P." Rom. caps., 7mm high, in box 22 x 11.5mm, (Moule)
P16	1862?-76	"P.P." Rom. caps. 7mm, in box 22.5 x 12.5mm, blue 1864-69, greenish-blue 1867 (St.-Francois)
P17	1862?-76	"P.P" Rom. caps. 7mm, in box 22 x 12mm (Port-Louis)
P18	1862?-76	"P.P" Rom. caps. 6mm, in box 22 x 12.5mm (Grand-Bourg)
P19	1865?-76	"P.P." Rom. caps. 7mm, in box 22 x 12.5mm (Pointe-Noire)
P20	1862?-76?	"P.P" Rom. caps. 7mm, in box 22.5 x 12mm (place not known)

Note: "PP" marks similar to P11-20 probably exist for all most other postoffices having Types D and E postmarks

P50	1900-01	"P.P." Rom. caps. 6mm, in box 19.5 x 10.5mm (probably Pointe a Pitre), used only between Dec. 21 and Jan. 9
P51	1900-01	"P.P." Rom. caps. 6mm, in box 16 x 9.0-9.5mm (Basse-Terre), used only between Dec. 21 and Jan. 9
P52	1900-01	"P.P." Rom. caps. 6mm, unboxed (probably Vieux Habitants) Dec. 21-Jan. 9.

X. Postage-Due Marks (D)

The amount of postage due, to be paid by the destinaire, has generally been indicated by a numeral of some type. After adhesive stamps were introduced such numeral marks were also used to indicate the amount due on partially or insufficiently prepaid mail. In later years special cachets other than numerals are sometimes used to indicate that some postage is due.

D1	1765-93?	Numerals in manuscript, "2" to over "100", in thin or thick, short pen strokes, sometimes followed by "s" (for sols or sous), black or brownish. (Only on mail destined to places within the colony)
D2	1799?-1849?	Numerals in manuscript, "0", "1", "2", etc., in thin short pen strokes, probably for centimes, often followed by "c", sometimes by "f" (francs), in black, brown or greenish. (Only on internal mail)
D4	1849?-1876	Numerals in manuscript, "0", "1", "2" up to ca. "49"?, in long thick or thin pen strokes, black or brownish; usually for decimes, if for francs then followed by "fr". (On internal mail and mail to France; after 1850, use on mail to France limited to rates for which no handstamps, such as D12-D31, existed.)
D12	1850?-76	"6", handstamp numeral in script style, 36 x 14 mm, blue 1871-76, (for decimes) (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre only?)
D13	1850?-76	"7", 39 x 11 mm, hs. in script style (Pointe-a-Pitre)
D14	1850-76	"8", 35 x 8 mm, hs. in script style (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre)
D18	1850-76	"12", 34 x 15 mm, hs. in script style (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre)
D21	1850-76	"15", 34 x 13 mm, hs. in script style (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre)
D22	1865?-76	"16", 33 x 18 mm, hs. in script style (Pointe-a-Pitre)
D30	1864-76?	"8", 18 x 5 mm, hs. in narrow symmetrical type with small opening at top (used at Pointe-a-Pitre only)
D31	1864-76?	"8", 18 x 13 mm, hs. in a full-bodied font (used at Basse-Terre only)
D45	1862?-84	"30", 26 x 17.5 mm, hs. in large double-lined (outline) numerals (for centimes) (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre only?) blue 1871
D55	1862?-76?	"30", 28 x 20 mm, hs. in thick solid numerals. (for centimes; Pointe-a-Pitre, Basse-Terre only?)
D70	1862?-1920?	"AFFRANCHISEMENT/INSUFFISANT", in box 39.0 x 14.0 or 38.5 x 13.5 mm (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre only?)
D71	1862?-76?	"TIMBRE/INSUFFISANT", in box 34 x 12 mm. (Pointe-a-Pitre & Basse-Terre only?)
D80	1876-1930?	"T" in a triangle 12.5 x 11.5 mm, Rom. cap. 5.5 mm high, many dies varying slightly in style and size (many postoffices)
D90	ca1920-	"T" in thick Gothic ("block") style, various sizes: 12 x 7, 12 x 10 mm, etc. (many postoffices?)

XI. Censorship Marks (C)

Cachets indicating that the mail has been inspected and passed by an official postal or military censor of the colony were used during World Wars I and II. Printed censor's sealing-labels were not available and instead plain manila, bond, or tissue papers in various colors were used for closing censor-opened letters.

C1	1914-18	"OUVERT/PAR L'AUTORITE MILITAIRE" in double ovals ca.40 x 25 mm, with a numeral in the center
C2	1939-45	"OUVERT/PAR/L'AUTORITE MILITAIRE" in single oval 42 x 23mm
C5	1939-44	"CONTROLE POSTAL * Commission A *" in double circle 34.5mm diam., "GUADELOUPE" in center
C5a	1939-44	Same as C5 but reads "Commission B".
C6	1939-44	"B/1" in a circle 16mm diameter
C7	1939-44	"B/2" inside a circle 16mm in diam.
C8	1939-44	"B/3" inside a circle 16mm in diam.

XII. Instructional Marks (I)

Various markings have been used to explain to postal clerks or to the receiver of a letter that some special treatment has been accorded the letter, or that normal treatment could not be given for some reason or other, etc.

I2	1863-?	"APRES /LE/ DEPART" in three lines in a box 19.5 x 11mm, Rom. caps. 2mm high; seen on letters from Pointe-a-Pitre 1863
I2a	1936?-	"APRES le / DEPART" in two lines in box 19.5 x 11 mm, Rom. caps. 2.5 mm high ("le" is lower case) (Pointe-a-Pitre)
I3	1872	"PASSE A LA COMPE", straightline hs. Rom. caps. 33 x 3 mm, seen on letter from Grand-Bourg to France via Pointe-a-Pitre. Means: "passed through the accounting"; possibly a French mark. Blue
I5	1890?-	"INCONNU", in box
I2o	1890?-	"RETOUR/A/L'ENVOYER", various sizes and type, boxed and unboxed (1936: in purple box 35 x 12 mm)
I12	1914?-	"RETOUR", in box

XIII. Slogan and Commemorative Postmarks (K)

K1	1920?-28?	"TOURISTES/VISITEZ LA GUADELOUPE/L'ILE D'EMERAUDE", in a box 67 x 27 mm, with short "flag" of horizontal bars at right end (Pointe-a-Pitre; used to cancel stamps)
K5	1936-41?	"CONSOMMEZ/LA BANANE/GUADELOUPE", in box 40 x 23 mm, fastened in duplex with postmark T475 of Pointe-a-Pitre
K6	1936-41?	"BUVEZ/LE RHUM/GUADELOUPE", in box 40 x 23mm, fastened in duplex with postmark T475 of Pointe-a-Pitre
K7	1936-41?	"CONSOMMEZ LE CAFE/GUADELOUPE/LE MEILLEUR DU MONDE" in three-line unframed format 23 x 37 mm, fastened in duplex with postmark T480 of Basse-Terre
K8	1936-41?	"BANANE GUADELOUPE/EXQUISE PARFUMES/ - - - - (illegible) - - - - ", in three-lined unframed format 23 x 37mm, fastened in duplex with machine postmark T480 of Basse-Terre
K10	8-9 June 1946	"EXPOSITION PHILATELIQUE/ —— /POINTE A PITRE/GUADELOUPE" in the left part of a box 56 x 28 mm; in right side of the box is a double-circle dated postmark: "Pointe a Pitre * Journees du Timbre/8 et 9/ Juin/ 1946". (An unofficial cachet)
K15	Dec. 1948	"CONFce DES INDES OCCLES BASSE TERRE" in circular dated postmark of Type P, 28mm diam., Gothic caps 3mm high; dates in two lines in center, 10 to 16? December only
K50	26 Apr. 1935	Cachet in rectangular box, inscribed at top: "Guadeloupe", and at bottom "Et Dependances", and between these two lines is another smaller box inscribed: "1re Depeche aerienne/pour les/ Antilles-Sud". (Pointe-a-Pitre)
K51	11 Jan 1936	"(hand)—1 Liaison Aerienne — (hand)/Guadeloupe-Martinique/Par Lieutenant de Vaisseau Paris/ 1936", in four lines, unframed, red (Pointe-a-Pitre and Basse-Terre)
K52	10 Mar 1936	Cachet in box 67 x 40 mm: "1re Liaison Postale Aerienne/de Propagande/ — / Guadeloupe-Martinique/ —— / 10 Mars 1936" (Pointe-a-Pitre)
K53	5 July 1936	"1re Liaison Aerienne/Pointe-a-Pitre—St.-Martin / St. Barthelemy", in a double-lined box 58 x 25 mm. (Pointe-a-Pitre)
K54	8 July 1936	"Premiere Liaison Aerienne/ Saint-Martin — Pointe a Pitre", unframed (St. Martin)
K55	3-4 Aug.1936	Cachet in double-lined box 59 x 25 mm: "1re Liaison Aerienne/Guadeloupe—Les Saintes/Marie Galante et Desirade", (Pointe-a-Pitre, some covers cacheted Aug. 3 but flight departed on Aug. 4)
K56	4 Aug.1936	"1re Liaison Aerienne/ Desirade—Guadeloupe", in box? (Marie-Galante)

K58	4 Aug.1936	"1re Liaison Aerienne/ Les Saintes—Guadeloupe", in box? (Saintes)
K59	2 Aug.1936	Cachet in double-lined box 58 x 23 mm: "GUADELOUPE/ ET DEPENDANCES/ 1re Depeche Aerienne/ pour Amerique du Nord et Europe". (Pointe-a-Pitre)
K60	11 Aug.1936	In box 53 x 20 mm:"1r Courrier Aerien/ Guadeloupe/ Amerique du Sud/et Europe" (Pointe-a-Pitre)

XIV. British Packet Agency Marks for Guadeloupe (BP, BG, BR)

For a time, 1849-74, either the British Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. agent at Basse-Terre or the Guadeloupe postoffice there used British-type postmarks, paid, and rate marks on letters forwarded via British packet to American countries (rarely to Europe), usually but not always in addition to the Guadeloupe postmarks. The British marks all spell "Guadaloupe" with an "a" after the "d". Dates of the British marks are almost always one day later than those of the Guadeloupe postoffice on the same letter. Normally the letter with the paid mark on the face has the postmark (on back) and the rate mark (on face) also, but a few examples with the postmark and rate mark only are seen. When the paid mark is used the "PD" cachet of the Guadeloupe postoffice is omitted.

BP1	Apr 1849-May'68	"PAID/AT/GUADALOUPE", in crowned circle, normally red but blue occasionally, also maroon, and rarely black (Basse-Terre)
BP2	Feb 1868-74(Jy?)	"GUADALOUPE" at top, "PAID" at bottom inscribed in a single circle 22.5mm diam., in center in three lines "A /(month, day)/(year)", normally red, but black occasionally (Basse-Terre)
BG1	Apr 1849-May'68	"GUADALOUPE" and double-lined are making a circle of 25 mm. diam., in center in three lines: "(month, day)/(year)/ A", in Gothic caps. normally red, occasionally blue, rarely black; used as a backstamp only (Basse-Terre)
BG2	Feb 1868-'74(Jy?)	"GUADALOUPE" in single circle 20mm diam., in center in three lines "A/(month,day)/(year)", in Gothic caps., normally red, but black occasionally; used only as backstamp (Basse-Terre)
BR1	1849-74	"4" in ms, crayon or ink, red or black (four pence Brit. packet postage)
BR2	1849-74	"1/" in ms, crayon or ink, red or black (one sh. Brit. packet postage)

(END)

SORUTH

(Continued from page 91)

9. 3.70	1 anna	B(ii)	
10. 4.70	1 anna	B(ii)	
17. 4.70	1 anna	B(ii)	
21. 5.70	1 anna	B(ii)	Azure laid paper.
28. 5.70	1 anna	B(ii)	Azure laid paper.

Cancellations were either ink smudges or pen scrawls, but a few stamps show the rows of dots arranged in a circle, as on the "Experimental" 1 anna, on rough white wove paper —additional evidence of the authenticity of this "uniquity".

Of the 149 pink wove stamps examined to date, the distribution is as follows:—

64 stamps of Type A.
17 stamps of Type B(i).
68 stamps of Type B(ii).

Thus B(i) seems to be easily the rarest variety. Uncancelled copies are extremely rare, and the writer has not seen even a used pair! The following dates are interesting:—

Last "seal" cover, 8.7.68.
"Experimental" 1 anna, red on blue wove, 4.8.68.
First Typeset A cover, 8.10.68.
First B(i) cover, 25.1,69.
First B(ii) cover, 23.7.69.
First azure laid cover, 21.5.70.

This chapter has gone on long enough. The writer is weary of it (and so, very probably, will be the reader!). Hence the plating of setting B(ii) will be postponed till the next chapter.

THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of December 1, 1954

Postage Stamp Design

Mr. Franc Ritter's presentation on Postage Stamp Design as originally scheduled for this meeting, due to his illness, was of necessity modified to a discussion of this topic by a panel composed of Messrs. *Stephen G. Rich, Louis Stich* and *Harrison D. S. Haverbeck.* They were ably assisted in their efforts by comment from the floor. Especially valuable were the learned comments of Dr. Clarence Brazer, and Messrs. Goodkind, Britt and others. It became quite discernible, early in the meeting that each member in the audience had strong personal opinions as to what constituted beautiful and adequate stamp designs.

Mr. Rich began with a rather general display to exemplify an outsider's views on stamp design or the non-technical appreciation of stamp design. A page of his Poland "number one's", the 1860 issue, illustrated his explanation of the meda of a particular stamp. In this case, it must positively be identified with the Russian Empire but sufficiently different to be associated with the Polish territory. In passing he pointed out a few of the printing flaw varieties to be found on this stamp. Mr. Rich spoke of the omission of lines of engraving on certain United States stamps, as the 1-cent National Defense stamp, and the success attained in getting impact on the design across to a greater degree. He then compared the designs of the United States Columbian Exposition issue to those of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition analyzing each in terms of this contemporary criterion of beauty. As a fine example of pleasing work, Mr. Rich offered the black 2-cent of 1861 portraying Andrew Jackson (the "Blackjack").

The 1910 Union Parliament commemorative of the Union of South Africa was in Mr. Rich's opinion a beautiful and successful stamp design incorporating all the fine detail in its design and emphasizing it without detracting from the central design.

The inability of certain designs to take specific colors was brought out examples of Franc's "Type Sage" issue. Dark color made the design emphatic, light color such as yellow almost completely nullified the design, becoming only a smear of color under strong light. Mr. Rich then went on to speak of the other pitfalls in stamp design, such as the size itself to show the need for historical and factual accuracy. Several pages of factual errors in stamp designing were shown like the St. Kitt's with Columbus using a telescope and France with the Sower violating a basic agrarian rule. Motivated by a bit of mischievous emotionalism, Mr. Rich then stated that he thought the Penny Black an example of "horrible stamp design". This statement prompted considerable rebuttal which enabled Mr. Rich to disagree with most of the members for several minutes.

Mr. Henry M. Goodkind led off the discussion by speaking on the dominate characteristics of the stamp as the deciding factors in determining its aesthetic status, rather than its emotional appeal. *The functional value and security purposes also bear strong influences,* Mr. Goodkind contended. Clarence W. Brazer then gave the historical background of the development of the stamp per se (a design to indicate a receipt for payment of a tax or a service fee). He approached the subject of design from the technical aspect and spoke of those problems rather than those of specific design. The extemporaneous remarks were sufficient to conclude the first of the triumverate.

Mr. Louis Stich discussed the basic development of the stamp. One entire side of the wall frames was filled with artist's drawings, pencil sketches, and other design development indicia belonging to *Mrs. Paulette Newmann.* These were exclusively of France and Colonies, which were indeed a rare privilege to behold. Mr. Stich spoke most eloquently on each item in the exhibit, explaining why various artists' designs were re-

jected or why a particular modification in a drawing was made. He explained each design must be made with the knowledge that it was to be printed by a specific method as each presented different problems and offered certain limitations. Almost all of the famous French and Colonial stamp designers of the twentieth century were represented by some example of their work—Cans, Delzers, Decaris, Barlangere, Cheffer and Corttet with the latter of considerable representation. His allegorical design as used for the 75th anniversary of the U. P. U. was represented by various sketches for the design, detail used to modify the original design, the various steps in alteration until the final acceptance, the essays, color trials, then the proofs, de luxe presentation sheets and finally the finished stamp. A listing of this exceptional material should be made for the edification of the future students of these issues and of stamp design itself. The opportunity to view this type of material is offered only too infrequently and those who missed it have much to regret.

To complete the showing of material to support the discussion on stamp design our modest President, *Mr. John J. Britt,* allowed our Secretary, *Mr. Haverbeck,* to speak on several frames of material from Mr. Britt's collection. These were essays, proofs and the final stamps of certain airpost issues of the world. The material needed little elaboration and thus the talk here was short.

The final added attraction was one frame of recent *Nicaragua* issues and Souvenir Sheets with sports, U. P. U. and United Nations themes from the Collectors Club collection presented by the Government of Nicaragua. *Mr. Ira Seebacher* commented upon the designs in the sport series showing that the artist had a poor knowledge of many athletic games. For instance, a pole vaulter would break his back if he performed as depicted on the stamp.

This meeting held much attraction for most all who attended. Mrs. Newmann's exhibit was worthy of artistic appreciation. The remarks and the whole spirit of both the speakers and the audience evidenced a genuine emjoyment of a night somewhat different from the usual, orthodox philatelic display and lecture. (*M. G. O'R.*)

Meeting of December 15, 1954

Mexico 1856-68

The early issues of Mexico have fascinated many ardent philatelists in the past. This Club's records show that some of its finest exhibits and most scholarly articles in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST were on the 1856-80 Mexican postage stamps. Names like Chittenden, Chapman, Gilbert, Luff, Odfjell, Stier and Wilson are still remembered for their great studies. Now the present generation stepped forth to exhibit and speak about their knowledge of these same stamps. The three "youngsters" who handled the above program were *John K. Bash, James Beal and David Golden.*

Mr. Bash, who acted as the spokesman, fittingly introduced three veteran philatelists on Mexico who had travelled to New York especially for this meeting. They were *Col. Hamilton* of Washington, D. C. and Messrs. *Taylor* and *Woodward* of Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Bash opened his remarks by orienting his audience with a short history of Mexico. He remarked that Mexico's history is older than ours and that it has been a turbulent one. It is not known definitely when a postal service commenced, but Mr. Bash spoke upon a representative showing of early Mexican stampless covers, the most fascinating being from Texas towns when under Mexican control in the early 19th century. He also called attention to a most interesting range of postal history from Mr. Woodward's collection. These were early stampless covers from the 1700's mostly from Mexico to Guatemala, shown in one frame.

The attraction for collectors to early Mexico is due, in a great measure, to the cancellations. It was opined, and representative material was exhibited for substantiation, that no country used more appealing cancellations than Mexico. Another factor that has aided the philatelist was the Spanish influence upon Mexico's postal administration which caused detailed records to be kept. Just as our country is a union of states, Mexico has her districts. For security reasons and to guard against robberies, a control had been kept by overprinting each district's name on the stamp when a consignment was received. Reference to past articles in this magazine will show the research

done on compiling the District overprints.

Mr. Beal was the next speaker. His selected material from his collections covered all the east side frames. He spoke on the stamps from the first ones of 1856 on, and their falsifications. Mr. Beal referred to the official Rules and Regulations as they were published prior to the issuance of the first stamps. Then he touched upon the succeeding issues through the Emperor Maximillian of 1866-67. Once again one saw the attraction in early Mexico with its wonderful range of fancy cancellations and interesting covers. Because it was the practice of business houses in Mexico to keep records through correspondence, the philatelist has been blessed because of this.

Mr. Beal then dwelt upon the counterfeits, reprints and falsifications of Mexico stating that without fear of contradiction, no other philatelic field is as full of such imitated material as Mexico. The counterfeits, probably of European manufacture, are so crude they deceive mostly youngsters or neophytes. But the reprints made from the original plates are a different story. This is not a pretty one. But the facts as uncovered by students show that many stamp dealers in the United States and abroad had their fingers in this. The reprints were made and sold upon philatelic order, while their distribution was largescale. In fact, present-day collectors, who have gathered little or no philatelic knowledge, still are victims of this trade in reprints. Despite the publication of knowledge, traffic in falsifications continues. Nor did the fakers overlook cancellations often using great guile and intelligence. Mr. Beal was provoked into his excellent studies of this Mexican fake material because he had been swindled when a beginner. He feels strongly that the only way to effectively stop this traffic is by study of the material and making this knowledge known.

The final portion of this evening was devoted to the exhibit of Mr. Golden who showed the 1868-72 issues after the fall of Emperor Maximillian. Mr. Bash spoke for Mr. Golden stressing the chaos that followed the fall of this foreign ruler and how to maintain a postal service, each district resorted to different provisional methods. Some created new temporary stamps such as the Guadalajara provisionals while others used the older issues with different methods of control.

The meeting closed with a brief question and answer period with some in the audience participating. Our three "youngsters" showed through their exhibits and knowledge of the material that they are carrying on the tradition of having some of the keenest philatelic minds enjoy the early issues of Mexico. Despite all of the past scholarly studies, much still remains to be learned. Messrs. Bash, Beal and Golden are seeking the solutions to as many of the unsolved problems as possible. An interested audience showed its appreciation for what those present had seen and heard. Another fine meeting night devoted to the classic period of Mexico's stamps has been recorded in this Club's history. (*H. M. G.*)

The Meeting of January 5, 1955

Kingdom of Korea

The first meeting of the new year was, as is customary, devoted to the exhibition and discussion of one of the collections that has been donated to the Club. This year it was the "Joseph S. Rich" collection of Korea. The pages carried the old name "Corea", which was the practice when this was being assembled. No one was more fitted to lead the discussion of this collection than the son of the donor, *Mr. Stephen G. Rich.*

This collection is not one of those vast accumulations of stamps which some collectors delight in gathering, but rather a small representative grouping which reflects exactly the stamps and philately of the old Kingdom and the later Empire of Korea.

The Kingdom of Korea had been for several centuries tributary to China, so the first postage stamps used within its boundaries were Chinese stamps available at the various Chinese post offices. The Japanese had long cast envious eyes upon this peninsula which is like a dagger pointed at the heart of Japan. In 1884 they obtained sufficient influence in Korea to be allowed to administer a re-organised Korean post office. On November 27th or 28th, 1884 the Korean post office placed on sale the first Korean postage stamps. *Mr. W. Lloyd Heath,* who lived in Korea from the end of World War II up to the outbreak of the North Korean invasion, related a talk which he had had with the son of one of the

original postal clerks of the Seoul post office. This man told Mr. Heath through an interpreter that the post office had opened about 10 A. M. on the day the stamps were first put on sale. Riots were taking place in the city, either against the Japanese or against the innovation of postage stamps, one cannot be sure which. The post office was invaded within minutes of its opening, the postmaster was murdered and the supply of stamps, which had been printed by the Japanese Finance Department, were thrown into the street and burned. Many of the stamps were stolen in the process. These looted stamps were later brought into the post office and cancelled to order by the clerks. As the morning mail for Inchon had left early, probably around 6 or 7 o'clock, it is impossible that any of these stamps were genuinely used on letters.

The Koreans did not try stamps again until the 1895 series printed in Washington, D. C. by A. B. Graham. The collection showed a good display of these lithographed stamps with the range of perforations and overprints which were later applied to them. In 1900, the overprint "Tai Han" signifying "Empire of Korea" was applied to the stamps. This change of title was a token of the overthrow of Chinese influence and was tantamount to a declaration of independence. The Chinese Government, weakened by the Boxer Rebellion, and the subsequent invasions by European, Japanese and American forces could not prevent this.

The issues of 1900-1902 were printed by the Stamp Printing Bureau of the Korean Government. By 1902 the Japanese influence was again growing. So we find that the stamp issued that year to commemorate the fortieth year of the Emperor Kwang My was designed by the Japanese and the plates prepared in Japan, while the printing was done in Korea.

In 1903, the Korean Government ordered its final series of stamps from the French Government Printing Works in Paris. They also ordered post markings and cancellation devices from the French. This was the final protest against Japanese influence.

During the Russo-Japanese War, the Japanese forces occupied Korea to use it as a base of operations against the Russian troops in Manchuria. On June 1, 1905, the Korean postal service was amalgamated with that of Japan and the issue of separate stamps was discontinued.

The display was remarkable for the number of covers from the middle period, some of which are quite scarce, and for the complete sheets of the 1903 provisional overprints. A short discussion period closed the meeting, led by *Miss Zirkle,* an ardent specialist in this country, who donated an important catalog to the collection. Any of the members of the Club who may desire to inspect or to study this collection may do so upon application to the curator of the Club's collections.

Annual Meeting

January 12, 1955

The Annual Meeting of THE COLLECTORS CLUB took place on January 12, 1955. President John J. Britt called the meeting to order at 8 P. M. It is estimated that about 70 members were present.

It is not feasible in a journal of this type to print all of the 19 Committee Reports read before the membership. Only those Reports that are considered of general interest to the majority of our readers are published. For instance, the lengthy Report of the Treasurer is omitted because later in the year the financial position of the Club will be included in this magazine by the Auditor's Statement. Also the Report of the Library Committee dwelt almost completely upon the Survey of the New York Public Library made last year which was published in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST of July, 1954.

Report of the Awards Committee

The Awards Committee, to select *the best article appearing in* THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST during 1954 are pleased to announce that they have unanimously agreed upon—

Travancore-Cochin
Its Postage Stamps and Postal History

by

Frank M. Cowen and J. Devasya

as the Medal Winner for 1954.

As in previous years it is also our pleasure to award *three Honorable Mention Certificates of equal merit* to the authors of the following articles, listed in alphabetical order—

ROBERTO GARCIA-LARRANAGA
Additions to S. Chapman's, "The Postage Stamps of Mexico" ,

IDUS L. MURPHREE
Philippines—The 1944-45 Provisional "Victory" Issue

ROBERT G. STONE
France used in Guadeloupe. A History of the Postal Markings

We again wish to compliment the Editorial Board for the continued excellence of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and to express our appreciation to all those who so kindly contributed articles and to Messrs. *Boggs, Haverbeck, Mueller, Rich* and *Wickersham* for their eight articles that could not be considered for an award as the authors were either a member of the Editorial Board or a previous winner.

President's Report

You have just heard the reports of the various Chairmen of the active Committees of your Club. I feel certain you will agree with me that the year 1954 was indeed a good year for the Collectors Club. Once again we have made marked progress in several directions, due in most part to the fine spirit of cooperation of your Board of Governors and the members of the Club who served on their Committees. This year again our blessings are manifold, thanks to the unified efforts of our entire membership who participated in the annual campaigns and by their devotion and generous response assured each event of being a well merited success.

The year 1954 witnessed several new innovations among which was the reactivation of the COLLECTORS CLUB MEDAL for "Devoted Service to the Club" and medals were tendered to *Hiram E. Deats, George R. M. Ewing, Abraham Hatfield, John A. Klemann, Harry L. Lindquist,* and *Theodore E. Steinway,* with the presentations taking place at the Collectors Club affair last October.

Another important event was the creation of the "Community Service Committee", for the primary purpose of fostering interest among the younger element in stamp collecting and in this way do our share in combating juvenile delinquency. The Committee was responsible for sending a great many parcels of stamps and philatelic supplies to Junior Stamp Clubs throughout the country and at a later date the service was extended to include stamp clubs in Veterans Hospitals.

The normal functions of the Club proceeded smoothly during the entire year, with the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST again attaining new heights of philatelic journalism.

The survey of our library under the direction of the New York Public Library was completed and plans were in process for increasing the facilities of our library in the future.

Our invitation membership campaign was again responsible for bringing into our fold a select group of members and thanks to the efforts of that Committee, our membership now stands at over 1200—giving us the largest membership in our long and honored history and the highest potential revenue from dues.

Another highly successful annual Collectors Club Fund affair was staged at which *the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award* was presented to *Dr. Carroll Chase.* This event added a considerable amount to our treasury, thanks to the generous contributions of our members. Incidentally, the entire amount raised through this fund in 1954 is being channelled to the Library.

The House Committee functioned again in its usual manner, the results being shown in the condition of the clubhouse.

Our New York City tax situation is still in status quo, with the City's appeal before the Appellate Division slated to be heard during the month of February.

The constant research and scientific scope of our philatelic investigations carried on during the year by our membership is best exemplified by the scholarly articles in the

COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and the publication of at least one new handbook a year by the Collectors Club.

Most gratifying of all, however, is the continued enhancement of our integrity and prestige which we have maintained over a period of 58 years—a truly remarkable record indeed. It may well be said that the COLLECTORS CLUB in 1954 has truly earned the right to retain its proverbial position as the 'Host to Philately' in this country.

In closing my report, I should like to take this opportunity to thank our membership for their loyal support and to congratulate the Board of Governors on their remarkable attendance record at scheduled meetings.

As in 1953, so in 1954, it has been a real privilege to serve as your President and I desire to thank each and every one of you for your very fine cooperation, during my administration.

John J. Britt, President

Following the re-election of the Governors, this Board elected the following officers for the year 1955:

President—Edwin E. Elkins
Vice President—Harrison D. S. Haverbeck
Secretary—Stephen G. Rich
Treasurer—William R. Rankin

Secretary's Report of Membership 1954

Membership Report as of January 1, 1954		1191
Resident (including 4 Honorary or Life)	284	
Resident under 35	24	
U. S. Non-Res.	696	
Junior	3	
Foreign (including 5 Honorary or Life)	184	
Add New Members Elected during 1954:		
Resident	24	
Res. under 35	1	
U. S. Non-Res.	49	
Foreign	19	
	93	93
		1284
Losses during 1954 were as follows:		
Resignations		
Resident	5	
Non-Resident	19	
Foreign	4	
	28	
Dropped		
Resident	5	
Non-Resident	16	
Foreign	11	
	32	
Deceased		
Resident	1	
Non-Resident	8	
Foreign	5	
	14	74
		1210
MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY as of December 31, 1954:		
Resident (including 5 Honorary or Life)	297	
Resident under 35	26	
U. S. Non-Res.	702	
Junior	2	
Foreign	183	
	1210	

Meeting on January 19, 1955

United States Coil Stamps

For the United States 20th Century collectors amongst us, this night was specially provided, so that their specialty might not be neglected amid the programs of classic and foreign issues. On this occasion, a comparatively little known and sparingly cultivated portion of the field provided the subject of two excellent showings.

Mr. Edward Hill, guest exhibitor from Verona, N. J. and the West Essex Philatelic Society, has made the 1939 Presidential coils his special field of study for the past three years. He opened the evening with some 60 pages in the wall frames on one side of the meeting room. The material was so well arranged on each page that every frame was an object of some beauty.

The showing was arranged by each feature in its occurrence through the series of stamps, rather than by the usual method of each stamp in all its variants. Thus, the pages commenced with the first day of use of each of these 13 stamps. Mr. Hill mentioned the relative obscurity of the coils, as shown by the fact that the whole set of 13 produced less than 250,000 covers on the first day. This is somewhat under the normal first day cover output for any one sheet stamp of 1938 or any commemorative of this period.

Particularly interesting was the comprehensive showing of the outer coil wrappers, each with from two to a dozen of the stamps left attached. Mr. Hill commented on the succession of different styles of imprint, of colors of imprint and of kraft and white paper for the wrappers. The interesting revalued wrapper, converted from 1c to 1½c coil use, and found in 1954 at Albany, Oregon, was shown. This was followed by the plate numbers. Since these are normally lost in coil making, and appear only in part on coils cut with bad centering from the edges of the web of stamps as printed, several reconstructed complete numbers from two opposite web-edges were featured. Mr. Hill explained the several peculiarities of coil plate numbers with clarity.

Then followed the plate-joint-line pairs, and their correlative on Bureau Precancelled coils, the gap pairs—further, the line-gap or combination pair, occurring once every 204 stamps on Bureau Precancelled coils. A natural sequel was the pairs and strips showing repairs of broken coils. On this the complete glassine repair strip, gummed both sides and perforated 11, was shown. Mr. Hill explained why such paste-up repairs are normally line pairs, because for accounting convenience, an entire "sheet" of stamps, line to line, is removed when a coil web gets torn in manufacture.

Covers showing various interesting uses, such as a regular 6c coil for airmail (most unusual) and a pair of 1c coil on a postal card to make up the 4c foreign postal card rate, filled most of the rest of the exhibit. A final short section was devoted to color varieties, which in several cases exceed mere "shades".

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs then showed, on the other side of the room, in frames, the coils prior to 1939 from *the Philatelic Foundation's Luff Reference collection.* Beginning with the experimental coils of the 1902 types, issued in 1908, and going through the flat plate coils of the 1909 type, he explained in considerable interesting detail the methods of coil manufacture, the occasions for introduction of coils, and the various false imitations of the scarce early coils.

Passing on through the changes of perforation—12, 8½ and 10—and the reasons for them, Mr. Boggs proceeded to the rotary press printed coils and then to the various private coils. On these last, his explanations of the purposes of the various special perforations brought order into a group usually thought of as chaotic. In several cases, the full story of certain scarce items, such as the first 10 cent coil, was given.

There was considerable discussion of features in each exhibit, after formal adjournment of the meeting, with the exhibitors. In fact, those of the "U. S. 20th" collecting group present discovered much that had previously escaped them, but that was of real interest, in the half hour ere the exhibits were taken down. (*S. G. R.*)

Our library has a need for "Foreign Language Translators" mainly for classification of material. All those with the right qualifications please communicate with our Librarian, Mrs. Eldridge.

At the Board of Governors meetings held December 22, 1954 and January 26, 1955, the following new members were elected:

4291 Owen L. White, Victoria, Australia. Collects China, Nepal, British and French Colonies.

4292 Martin J. Warmbrand, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects America and Israel.

4293 Charles Y. Pfoutz, New York, N. Y. Collects Latin America.

4294 J. H. Scruggs, Jr., Birmingham, Ala. Collects United States, Confederate States and South America.

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Jaarverslag 1953. Vier en twintigste Jaarverslag uitgebracht aan de directeur-generaal der Posterijen telegrafie en telefonie. Published by the Netherlands Postal Museum. (Dutch)

Grece: Grosse Tete de Mercure. Les Causes des Chiffres Deplaces by N. Garas. (Greek and French)

Birds of the World on Stamps by Sidney R. Esten. Published by the American Topical Association.

Checklist of Swedish Travelling Post Offices (Rail-P.K.P.) 1914-1954. Compiled and published by Capt. K. Jahr.

A Christmas Story by C. W. Meredith, F. R. P. S. L. and Cyril Kidd, A. S. A. A. Published by R. C. Alcock, Ltd., Cheltenham, England.

Doctors Philatelic by Oscar Gottfried. Published by the American Physician, Inc., New York.

Scott's Dollar British America Stamp Catalogue 1955. Scott Publications, Inc., New York.

Scott's Dollar United States Stamp Catalogue 1955. Scott Publications, Inc., New York.

Michel Briefmarken Katalog Ubersee 1938. Verlag des Schwaneberger Album, Leipzig. Gift of Mr. Alfred J. Hillel. (German).

Katalog over Norges Frimerker 1955. Published by Oslo Filatelistklubb. Gift of NORWEX, Oslo, 1955. (Norwegian-English Introduction and Vocabulary.)

Philatelic Information Service of Croatian Government in Exile. Published by Boletin Filatelico Croata, Buenos Aires.

Blue Ribbon U. S. and Plate Number Checklist. Published by Plate Blocks, Inc., Chicago.

L'Index Philatelique de France Catalogue 1849-1955 by Pierre A. Cubells. Soissons (Aisne). (French).

Stamps of the Italian Republic by Pierson Ostrow.

Vatican City by Pierson Ostrow.

Stamps of the B-Zone Trieste by Pierson Ostrow.

Czechoslovakia Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia 1939-1945 by George C. Kobylka, Berwyn, Ill.

Czechoslovakia - 2nd Republic, Supplement No. 1. 1953-1954 by George C. Kobylka, Berwyn, Ill.

Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society. Several issues of back numbers to complete file. Gift of Mr. Myron E. Steczynski.

Korean Philately. Several issues to complete file. Gift of Mr. Harold D. Bearce through kindness of Mr. W. Lloyd Heath.

Die Markenheftchen, Kehrdruck - und Zwischenstegmarken der Schweiz 1904-1954. Published by Ernst Muller, Basel. (German).

Cassell's French-English, English-French Dictionary. Edited by Ernest A. Baker, M.A., D.Lit. Revised by J. L. Manchon. Published by Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York.

Appleton's Revised Cuyas Dictionary. English-Spanish, Spanish-English. Revised and enlarged by Lewis E. Brett and Helen S. Eaton with the assistance of Walter Beveraggi-Allende. 4th Ed. Published by Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., New York.

The following were received from the National Philatelic Museum, Philadelphia, Pa. through an exchange of duplicates from our Library:

Free French Stamps Catalogue and Guide. 1945. Published by F. L. Stamp Co., New York.

France Catalogue. Edited by Pierre de Brimont. 1946. Published by Barclay Press Co., Montreal.

Postal Stationery of the Netherlands, by J. VanDeth, Blaricum, Holland. 1948.

Polish Post 7 Years War 1939-1945 by H. M. Smith, P.T.S., S.D.A. Published for The Pulaski Philatelic Club, Detroit.

List of Religion on Stamps 1950, by Rev. Aloysius S. Horn, Fremont, Ohio.

Alabama Steamboats 1819-1869 by J. H. Scruggs, Jr.

Specialized Price Catalogue of the Confederate States General Issues by Charles J. Phillips.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

March, April, May, 1955

March 16th

"Brazil" by A. J. Hillel and others.

April 6th

"Haiti" by Samuel Dalsimer and F. B. Sellers.

April 20th

Annual Competition.

May 4th

Program to be presented by the Boston Philatelic Society.

May 18th

U. S. Postal Stationery to be presented by P. H. Thorpe and Marcus White.

ALFRED H. CASPARY

(Continued From Page 60)

ad nauseum. But these bore no influence because A. H. C. never strayed from his own rigid standards of condition. If he could not find a stamp or cover in "his" condition, he went without it. Virtually, he taught collectors to regard fine condition as indispensable to the enjoyment of stamps. And of course his natural eye for condition was sharpened by the countless examples of all the classic stamps that he saw and from which he made his choices. Whence came this gift for discernment? Probably it was born in the man, because it is apparent also in the quality of his collection of English Porcelain. His fine taste was evident in his home furnishings, manifesting time and again a rare sense of appreciation for fine things like American antique furniture.

What were his stamp affiliations? Not many. His close friends were few. But those few sometimes spent long hours with him over his stamps. His greatest alliance was with the Philatelic Foundation. For the past few years, he served as its first Honorary Chairman. Also he had been an active member of its Expert Committee since its inception in 1946. To members of this Committee he was always available for his opinions, and his great collections were always open to the Philatelic Foundation for reference or comparison. He was quick and positive in his opinions, but always they were backed by fact or historical knowledge of the item in question. Apparently the Philatelic Foundation was to him the bulwark of philately for collectors, a sort of patrician society for the advancement of probity, honor and knowledge in the stamp world.

Of late years, relatively less was added to his collections. How can one add greatly to perfection—or completeness? For nearly half a century he had the pick of great collections, of great finds. Naturally it was difficult for him to be attracted by the vastly increased values of rare stamps today. A. H. C. acquired them all at the time when few appreciated the bargains he bought. But never did his interest in stamps cease. His failing eyesight finally consigned his stamps to the vaults, but he always kept some in his home to talk about. Until his end, a philatelic friend dropped in for a talk.

A great lamp of philately has gone out. The interest and vast knowledge of A. H. C. will be missed by the Philatelic Foundation, by THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and by the friends who were privileged to know him. And probably many years will pass before the man, the knowledge and the wealth will meet together again as they did in Alfred H. Caspary.

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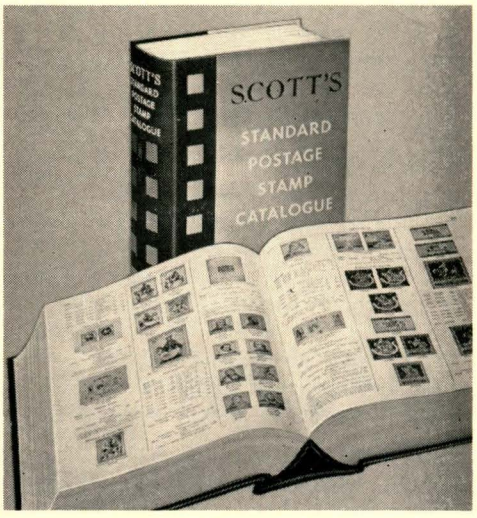
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