THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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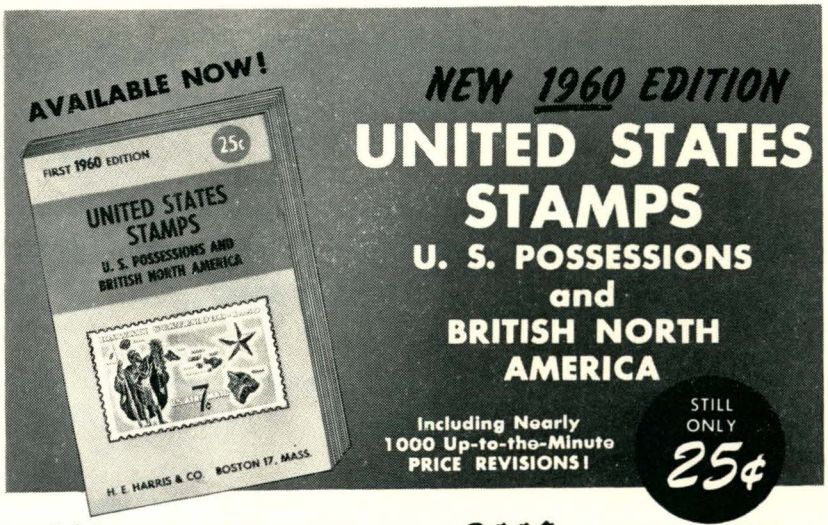
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Irwin Heiman, 2 West 46th Street, New York City, has been authorized to offer the fabulous J. M. Taylor Collection of Mexico at auction in the Spring of 1960.

This collection has a long and colorful history. Much of the material therein was assembled by Mr. Taylor's father, Mr. E. M. Taylor, prior to 1925. Many individual stamps can be traced back to collections such as those of Ferrari, Schmeckpeper, and other equally well-known early Mexican specialists. It will be noted that some of the finer pieces have not seen the market in more than thirty-five years.

In more recent times, the collection was awarded a gold medal at the Fipex Exhibition. It is filled with items of exceptional interest only a fraction of which can be described. The collection begins with a small group of choice stampless covers including two signed by Mexican presidents, and a number bearing postmarks of various Texas communities used prior to the establishment of the Texas Republic.



There follows the first issue of Mexican stamps, that of 1856, which is replete with selected multiples, cancellations, scarce districts, splits, plate varieties and covers. Among the specific items of exceptional interest are mint blocks of nine of the four and eight reales values from "Maravatio" district. A mint block of sixty of the two reales value from the same district is noted, as well as a complete sheet without overprint of the half real value. Another choice item is a strip of five of the eight reales value with "Papantla" cancellation. The 1861 issue is of similar content, containing multiples of all values including a large mint strip of the eight reales green from "Queretaro" district.

The 1864 issue, printed by the American Bank Note Company is represented by covers originating in the Schmeckpeper collection. All values on cover are included, the one peso being particularly oustanding.

The "Eagle" issue of 1864–66 follows a similar pattern. An excellent selection of the three centavos value is available, including two pairs, a copy on laid paper, and several of the scarcer consignment numbers in used condition. A cover from "Lagos" bearing seven copies of the eight reales values is noted, as well as a strip of five of the same value off cover. The collection includes a mint sheet of the one-half real denomination and a mint block of eighty of the four reales, both without overprint.

The "Maximilians" are marked by the presence of complete or reconstructed sheets of all lithographed values. A copy of the very rare seven centavos engraved used is particularly noteworthy. A number of attractive strips and a fine range of extraordinary covers will be certain to attract the attention of the knowing.

The "Gothic Mexico" emissions of 1867 are fully represented including covers and multiples of the high values. An exceptional range of provisionals is noted. Several "Chiapas" covers are available including the rare quarter of the eight reales. All values of the Campeche provisionals are represented, a pair of the twenty-five centavos on cover being particularly outstanding. A cover bearing a copy of the unlisted "Cuantla" provisional is especially interesting.

The 1868 issue continues in equal quality. Featured items are complete sheets of the six and twelve centavos, the twelve and fifty centavos color errors and a nice range of the one-hundred centavos brown, including two covers and a copy printed on both sides.

The 1872 issue includes two full sheets of twenty-five centavos value, one with "La Croix" watermark. A pair of the one-hundred centavos on laid paper and a single of the six centavos will certainly attract attention, as will the unused block of ten of the fifty centavos blue error with "Papel Sellado" watermark.

The later issues are equally well represented. Several "Porte de Mar" and "Juarez" covers are present. Mint and used copies of the five and ten peso values of 1892 are included, together with the particularly rare five peso stamp of 1897 with "eagle and RM" watermark. The collection ends with a selection of hand-picked items from the Revolutionary and modern periods.

While not included in Mr. Taylor's main collection, a large quantity of less expensive stamps, collection remainders, stock-books and covers will provide elements of interest for all collectors of Mexico.

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Editorials

New U. S. Stamps

1948 is remembered as the year of the flood as far as United States stamps are concerned. Because of congressional actions, a number of new stamps came forth that caused much criticism and ridicule. The 1948 "chicken" stamp is still cited both here and abroad as a typically horrible example of a commemorative stamp.

But they say that good often comes from evil. As a result of the 1948 stamps, the manner of selecting new U. S. issues was tightened and apparently placed in safer and wiser hands. The Postmaster General would have the final say, and he would not be bound to issue a new commemorative stamp because some zealous congressman passed a resolution to please his constituents.

Looking back to 1948, the following statistics compiled disclose:

1948.	Total number of stamps	29
	Total face value	$ .96
	Commemoratives	28
	Commemoratives' face value	$ .91

There was just one regular issue, a 5c air mail coil stamp. Of the 28 commemoratives, one was a 5c air mail.

1959 has just ended and the statistics on last year's stamps as released by the Information Service of the U. S. Post Office Department reveal the following:

1959.	Total number of stamps	28
	Total face value	$1.54
	Commemoratives	23
	Commemoratives' face value	$1.13

Of the 23 commemoratives, four were air mails—three 7c and one 10c. One of the five 1959 regular stamps was a 15c air mail.

After 1948, with the authority for new stamps placed with the Postmaster General, there seemed to be an unwritten agreement that a proper program for new stamps would call for about 12 annually. 1959 has almost doubled this figure—23 commemorative stamps. Also, it is a general belief that Republican administrations are more conservative than Democratic ones. Comparison, however, of President Eisenhower's Postmaster General 1959 new stamps with the one of President Truman in 1948 does not bear this out.

No comment will be made as to whether the subjects and designs on the 1959 stamps were better or worse than the 1948 output, because this is a matter for each individual to decide for himself. In 1948 there was the U. S.-Canada Friendship issue; in 1958 the St. Lawrence Seaway Opening—both on similar lines. Who is to decide if the 1959 Silver Centennial and the Dental Health stamps are better representations of our great American Heritage than the 1948 Salute to Youth or the Poppy Day commemoratives? After all, governments issue stamps; collectors collect them, even if one commemorative was issued for "Ham and Eggs," a typically American dish.

Whence "The Real" Buyers?

The constant repetition of a statement, either oral and written, often can convert a doubtful opinion into a widely-accepted fact. A good example of this is the misconception that the so-called little collectors and the youngsters, those with only a modest amount of money to spend on stamps are—the backbone of philately.

It appears to us that this idea needs both a challenge and some analysis to show that it is not true. These remarks are confined to stamp collecting in this country. First of all, we believe that the "little" collector (often conveniently described as mythical "average" collector) is simply trying to copy the more active philatelists, who own the bulk of philatelic properties of value. When a collection, held by an advanced philatelist for a long time, is sold, some of the prices realized are widely publicized. It may be a stamp that brought ten times its catalogue value because it was on a cover.

The impact of such an announcement sparks the imagination of many, who rashly (and perhaps foolishly) conclude that they must collect stamps *on cover*. But how do they go about it? As the philatelist did when he collected? No, they order from a postal agency ten first day covers of a new stamp shortly to be issued. Only one is needed for their collection. But they try to reason that if one cover with a new stamp should increase in value over the years, why not gamble with a surplus supply to really cash in?

Or the little collector hears about the high prices realized in a collection with outstanding multiple pieces. Immediately this sets off a craze to buy blocks of newly issued stamps to have a similar fortunate experience.

Now both of these examples are poor imitations of what a philatelist actually did. The method of the copiers are laughable to the philatelist. With his experience he knows that the present popular ways of collecting new stamps in the end will evidence *the least recovery value*.

And does the money spent by the little 'uns go to the stamp trade? Some of it, yes—but a good part goes to the philatelic agencies and post offices. To prove this, attend one of the dealer's bourses and see for yourself where the biggest lines of buyers are. The U. S. Post Office appears to be the biggest stamp dealer in this country from such observations.

As we view another factor (and please understand this is not influenced by civic pride) *THE* stamp market in America is New York City. No one can observe the American market better than a New Yorker, who is constantly in contact with stamp circles. One away from New York most of the year will not be the accurate reporter that a Manhattanite is.

If this premise is logical, then where do we find the bulk of the buying power in New York City? Not among the youth and the little collectors, but with the active philatelists, the membership of this club being a good representation.

We read so often in the popular stamp papers that they are devoted to the kid collectors, those with a few dollars to spend because they constitute the backbone of stamp collecting. Now really? We grant that they have their place, and no one need tell us that from this group the future philatelists will come. We all know this. But in stressing this point, there develops a snobbish attitude by dismissing the active philatelist of today, almost if

he were no factor. He is most important and his enjoyment of philately needs nourishment and stimulation just as the beginners do.

It is our opinion that the little collector is being influenced to collect nothing but newly issued stamps. Most all of the news he reads about stamps relates to new issues. Thus he is misled in the belief that all older, seasoned stamps are beyond his means. This is not true. Just open a stamp catalog to any country and examine the prices. 90% are less than a dollar. And catalog prices are list, not retail pricings. The easiest philatelic merchandise to sell is the newest stamps. The stocks can be easily procured. They do not require the work and knowledge that older issues do. Naturally most dealers seek the easiest method of doing business. It is our view, however, that the greatest volume of stamp business in New York City is done by the long-established dealers, especially the auctioneers. Few of these find the handling of new issues profitable or cater to the little collector.

Another good test to use is with a collection that one wishes to sell. Take it to a New York auction house and learn their attitude on the market of the recent issues. They cannot afford to offer such material at auction.

In conclusion, we fear that some people reading this will falsely conclude that we have poor opinion of the young and little collectors. No, not at all. We simply regret that they receive all the attention from so many sources with the tendency to bypass a strong group of philatelists. Rather than deride the little collectors, we have attempted to make a case for the bigger ones. And it must be stressed that only a few are wealthy millionaires. Most are typical successful middle-class American citizens with a healthy degree of financial security.

A competent observer sees that their activities constitute the real buying power in the American stamp market. These philatelists, not the little ones, are the backbone of philately in the United States.

Commenting Upon Stamp Designs

Much is being said and written these days upon the designs on new stamps. Obviously some meet praise, others critical and caustic comments. This is a popular pastime and, no doubt, many find it interesting.

But when one gets down to fundamentals, no philatelic knowledge whatever is needed to comment upon the appeal or dislike of the designs on stamps. One can take a newly issued stamp and show it to a group of non-stamp collectors. Each one, in turn, will express his opinion. Someone might innocently state that they hear that there are people who actually enjoy collecting bits of paper like this.

These remarks should not be misconstrued. We do not wish to stop the design commentators from expressing their views. Often we agree with their opinions. We do, however, object that because one frequently has such comments published in a stamp periodical, he deserves the title of "philatelic authority." Remember, expressing one's personal opinion about a design of a new stamp, in no ways represents philatelic knowledge. Anyone, stamp collector or not, can do it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"Philatelist" and "Stamp Collector"

I read with much interest, the reprint of the Severn editorial "Stamp Collector and Philatelist". This brings to my mind what to me has always been rather an annoying classification. So often we see ads relating to serious collectors or advanced collectors.

These expressions are hackneyed and while we still know what is intended, in no sense of of the word do I consider myself either a serious or an advanced collector although I have been collecting now for going on forty-two years.

There are certain specialties in which I have perhaps a little more knowledge than other collectors because I have gone into the study of them but, on the other hand I am woefully ignorant in having information about other things; so while I might be "serious" about something, I am worse than a rank amateur about others. Perhaps if we substitute "well informed" or "student" we might lend dignity to this particular subject.

What is an "average" collector? He's around, too! "Specialist" is another.

Joseph L. Eisendrath, Jr.
Highland Park, Illinois

(*The Editor's Reply*)

A few years ago, the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST ran an editorial stressing that there was a difference between *a philatelist* and *a stamp collector,* and citing that the use of such a distinction would serve a good purpose. Although the great majority agreed with the message in this editorial, a few objected to such a distinction as being a "snobbish" attitude. This is wrong.

It has been a longtime policy of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to present philately as an *adult, intelligent pursuit* rather than a transient pastime of youngsters. In keeping with this conviction, many, therefore, think that a sharply defined distinction between a philatelist and a stamp collector is essential, especially when one sees the nature of stamp collecting as the sixth decade of the 20th century commences.

In order to clearly demonstrate that it is no snobbish idea to distinguish between a philatelist and a stamp collector, in our November 1959 number, we reprinted the Severn editorial of 1893 to show that this was nothing new, but something that had been advocated 67 years ago.

Now actually who is a *philatelist* in contrast to a *stamp collector?* As we see it, many people simply acquire stamps to place them in albums. They have no desire whatever to learn anything about the stamps they own. *A person, however, who seeks some knowledge about a stamp or a cancellation, is a philatelist. One need not have encyclopedic knowledge on all phases of stamps to be considered a philatelist.* His interest in stamps goes beyond filling spaces and knowing nothing but a general catalog's prices and numbers.

Serious collectors are those wishing to spend or spending a substantial amount of time and/or money on stamps. An *advanced collector* is one, who has gone beyond the confines of a general catalog and is collecting by a specialized book or catalog. A *specialist* simply limits his interests to a chosen field rather than to all stamps of the world.

What is an *average collector?* There aint no such animal! I tried to explain this at length in a 1955 C. C. P. Editorial (Vol. 34, page 110). "Average" is a statistical term. One makes a census of a group of people and by a mathematical formula arrives at the average. But no such census ever has been even attempted with stamp collectors. Then how can we speak of "the average?" Therefore, the "average collector" is mythical, mostly a term conveniently but meaninglessly used by stamp writers. I personally must know over a thousand collectors, but I could not class one of them as "average."

There is nothing "snobbish" in trying to place philately on a high plane, sincerely believing that it deserves such a position as an adult, intellectual pursuit. It is more than the plaything of the young. This appears to be the reason why so many intelligent adult persons will not admit being stamp collectors nor want it known that they collect. But those who collect antiques or paintings do not feel that way. Stamp collectors have absolutely nothing to be ashamed of and this is one of the messages that the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is trying to put across.

Consequently the term in your last sentence is our goal—to lend dignity to philately.

FRANCE

Fiscal and Postal History Of The Postmarks and Stamps On Newspapers 1797 to 1914

By CHARLES BRETAGNE & NATHAN HALS

Preface

This work is based on the pioneer researches and writings of Gilbert Noël[1] and the collection of Charles Bretagne. In addition much valuable information was derived from the work of Léon Selafranque[2].

By placing the story of the French newspaper taxes and their related postal rights in their proper place in philatelic history, Gibert Noël has added immensely to the pleasures and understanding of collecting. His work is no less than a social and economic study of France from 1850 to 1908. Léon Selafranque had the unique opportunity, as an under-director of the Finance Ministry, to search out the historical events connected with the taxes and the unrest caused by them, while his explanations remain a model to follow. It is our contribution to begin the history in 1797 and extend it up to 1914, as well as adding material for study.

Introduction

The clarity of the Ten Commandments has, alas, no counterpart in the legal system of any country. It is a poor law that allows no room for litigation or loopholes for escape, especially tax laws. If the student's mind reels in trying to understand the laws and decrees, which we shall quote, then he is approaching this study incorrectly.

A law which bases taxes, and the rights attained by payment of the imposts, upon such ephemera as frequency of appearance, day of the week of issue, size of the paper, contents, location, and other peculiar factors, is one designed to bar enemies and let friends. It has its inevitable loopholes and wayward severities.

France, like many countries, has always been afflicted with an ambivalence concerning democracy. The fierce individualism of the Frenchman, and his energetic—even bloody—defense of liberty, is punctuated by his distrust of the masses. The French leaders have not merely proposed ideas but have been the idea, so that it was easy for them to suppress what we consider the basic rights of an idea. In most cases this led to the perpetuation of a leadership.

Paris, whose magnificent bouelvards are the envy of the world, owes her great avenues to military reactions during revolution. The years 1789, 1830 and 1848 found her streets barricaded, cobblestones torn up for weapons and the narrow ways strong points of siege and defense. No sooner was the Second Republic established in 1848 than the city was torn apart to construct the great avenues which gave troops room for maneuver against insurrectionists.

So to understand the material described in this study, it must be viewed on the broad canvas of history, because it is intimately associated with social struggles. However this last does not mean a failure to recognize that postage stamps generally reflect the times in which they were issued, but the newspaper stamps (and the type Sage of 1876) are most interesting for their social backgrounds.

General Historical Survey

The history of the publication and editorial discussion of news in many countries is marked by parallels. Previous to direct taxes administered by a finance ministry the publication of any composition, whether music, news or books, had been by royal permission. The gift to the monarch for such permission was the tax on knowledge.

With Queen Anne of England (1665-1714) we find the first modern system of taxes on newspapers. The fiscal tax carried with it a free frank which extended to the privilege of one remailing! The complexities of the laws and regulations, designed to limit the spread of news to the masses, are unmatched for murkiness anywhere. Yet most publishers did not join in the fight against the taxes, which were abolished in 1865, because they feared higher postal rates more than the taxes they paid[3]. It was these taxes with which most of us are familiar because of the attempts to apply them to the former American colonies during the six months ending May 1, 1766. The colonies, basing their resistance on their status as commonwealths, were successful, and the only known use on this continent was at Halifax, N. S. The British lost in two ways; they failed to collect taxes and they lost the value of the stamped blank newsprint that they hoped to sell.[4]

In Austria there was a straight tax of one kreutzer on domestic papers, which had no connection with any postal charges. The tax was ostensibly designed to prevent fly-by-night publications and there were no restrictive regulations as in England or France; but, to paraphrase Edwin Mueller*, none was needed in a police state. Publishers knew better than to antagonize the government.

It is to be noted that the European newspapers best remembered were the literary ones—a "Tattler" or a "Spectator"; the political papers were usually hacks of the governments. This is in contrast with the freedom, even license, of the American press creating a political heat that burned out any literary talent that might have flowered in them.

In France a mounting financial crisis forced the government of the Directory to impose new taxes in 1797, among which was one on newspapers. The tax was strictly fiscal, but a reduced postal rate was granted in connection with it. The accretion of new laws and regulations up to 1870 made the press controls as restrictive as any.

About the first trace of a cachet handstamped at the head of a legal document for official purposes is found in 537 A. D. Emperor Justinian ordered that no paper was a legal document without a seal showing the name of the authority, the date, and the purpose—the "imbreviaturam totius contactus." Precautions against forgery, misuse, and mutilation were ordered. These cachets at the *head* of the paper received the Latin name "TIMBRYS"—a tambour or casque. Through heraldic transference the word entered the French language as *"Timbre"* meaning stamp.

Famous artists earned rich fees designing and executing the various tax stamps of the 17th century, and their ornate and regular designs may be seen reflected in many of the town postal markings of 1600-1790 period. The major taxes of those times were on salt, and the heavy burden on this necessity of life, coupled with inequalities of its amount from province to province, caused many insurrections among the peasants.

The end of the Thirty Years War, with the usual financial cupidity and stupidity of the nobility, saw France foundering. Cardinal Mazarin personally took over the job of rebuilding in 1653, and in 1655 promulgated the first tax on blank paper and parchment. His taxes on legal documents were the seeds for the later fiscal laws. Due to the royal prerogative a state tax on publications was not instituted, and from 1797 to 1848 they were fiscal only. Their interest to the philatelist lies in their background to the mixed fiscals-postals of 1850 to 1870.

The taxes were attractive to governments that paid lip service to democratic ideals, but found bureaucratic red tape of more use in controlling the country. An opposition press could not be countenanced, and the various regulations made sure that only those "politically right" would have no trouble determining their taxes. One of the major tools of control

* Private conversation with the authors.

was dual tax rates; in the Department of Seine (Paris), and later Seine-et-Oise (Versailles, Pontoise, etc.), the fiscal rates were higher than in the provinces. In addition their were two postal rates for papers,—local and national.

Counting on the insularity of the provinces with their dislike of Paris was natural, especially since the tax and postal rates insured that few would get any radical news; and they doubly insured the quality of the news by keeping an eye on the press in the area where all national revolutions had started—Paris.

As usual, we find those who benefited from the tax structure. Taking the section on taxation of non-periodicals (pamphlets, etc.) literally, many export firms printed their pricelists on taxed paper and enjoyed the lower rates to foreign countries, 10 centimes carrying a message to the United States, that would have cost more than a franc otherwise. We have an example that proves the foregoing by the fact that the evidence of tax payment was struck after the pricelist was printed and folded for mailing, because the strike is found on the two parts of the fold. This was contrary to law which required taxation and the strike before printing.

The law of 9 Vendemiaire an VI (30 Sept. 1797) raised the postal rates in most classes, set new printed matter rates and imposed new fiscal taxes. Each sheet of paper, which went to form the four page papers of the day, was prestamped with a "timbre humide" or handstamp as evidence of the prepayment of taxes and the permission to print and publish. There were two names for the same strike—the "timbre ordinaire" struck on paper sold by the government for legal forms, and "timbre extraordinaire" when struck on the newsprint brought in by the publishers.

Up to 1848 relatively unimportant changes were made, the design of the strikes changing as Consulat succeeded Directory, Empire and Kingdom following. Effectively, rates were changed by decreasing the size of paper for each rate, but the postal rates remained constant. During these years, the only postal markings in reference to printed matter were those applied (most usually) to the mailing bands, and these being torn off brought about the lack of material and knowledge on postmarks and procedures of the period.

The Revolution of 1848 brought to a close a fifty year period by the decree of March 4, 1848 abolishing the fiscal taxes on newspapers. But the Second Republic was two-thirds through its short life when the law of July 16, 1850 reimposed the fiscal taxes in spite of the indignation and impassioned speeches of Victor Hugo against the "squalid mark of taxation on literature" (la griffe malpropre du fisc sur la literature). The sop of postal franchise however, was thrown in; the 5c. rate allowing for national mailings and the 2c. rate for within the departmental limits. As the postal service was under the Finance Ministry, it did not share in the receipts.

Louis Napoleon, first and last president of the Second Republic, accomplished his coup d'etat on December 2, 1851, and on February 17, 1852 the taxes were raised and the postal frank removed. Again the evidence of mailing was on a band, the postal rates being restored to 2c. local and 4c. national.

The free frank of 1850 had shown the publishers the great advantages in labor-saving by being able to deposit their papers at the posts without further ado. With the frank removed, they spent much time on their mailings, because if they were not prepaid, the papers were either charged at letter rates, or, more usually, sent to the dead letter office. The publishers raised quite a clamor, and in 1854 the postage was *added* to the tax, but they could again simply drop their papers at the posts. A color code was instituted—the basis of the color code of the later adhesives—in which a black strike was strictly fiscal, a blue represented local postage and red the national postage. In Seine and Seine-et-Oise the costs were: black-6c:; blue-6c. + 2c.; and red-6c. + 4c. In the provinces their costs were 3c., 5c., and 7c. respectively. The color was not for fiscal, but postal purposes; even a poor strike meant nothing as long as the color could be matched against the address. This time the postal administration received its share of the monies. The law of May 11, 1868 reduced the tax to 2c. and 5c., but everything else remained the same.

In 1865 the administration decided it could reduce its costs by using adhesives, and, after study, the law of July 11, 1867 was passed but not put into effect until December 1868. Up to then an enormous amount of labor was expended by both the administration and the publishers in carting great weights of paper to special warehouses, checking the sheets, counting, handstamping each sheet with the tax cachets and then carting them back to the publishers. Besides the cartage costs, a publisher had to lay out great sums of money in advance for a long period for stocks of taxed paper, because he cound not go to the tax office every day, especially if he was at one end of a department and the tax office 50 kilometers away at the other.

The violet stamps took the place of the black fiscals, while the blue and rose corresponded to the same cachets. Only the 2c. values of the blue and rose were issued, the 5c. stamps never being issued, but used instead for gum tests. After September 7, 1870 they were used postally when the fiscal taxes were finally abolished.

The fall of the Empire under the blows of the Franco-Prussian War created a period of about two years in which some of the most interesting philatelic events took place:—the balloon posts, the Bordeaux issues, the pigeon posts, zinc river ball posts, the Siege issues, the Commune locals and various emergency usages. After April 1872, the posts were stabilized. Now we enter the period of typographic cancellation of regular postal issues up to 1914, even though the method was forbidden in 1908.

Before describing the actual material of this study, a few definitions and the Revolutionary calendar are placed before the main work. It is not our intention to force these definitions; we are simply defining *our* use of these words.

Definitions

CACHET. The stamp or timbre is a transformation of the seal (sigil). The seal was early described as giving a document the "cachet of authority" and 16th century letters are known using the word in its present form[2]. Today it is used to describe the various handstamps struck on mail. In France "Estampiles" are the entire body of postal markings, and there are two main divisions—the cachet and the griffe.

GRIFFE. Originally a talon or claw, it came to mean scratch. The signatures and initials of officials developed bizzare and individual shapes in an attempt to prevent forgeries, and the "scratches" were transferred to tampons and used to strike papers with the "cachet of authority." Since the flourishes were at the end of the signature they were called griffes and the tampon received that name. Today the griffe is any control mark or sign of authority of use. Mail was franked with the griffe, or, where it was used on due mail, it was warning not to refuse it.

LIMITROPHE. The immediately adjoining part. Postal regulations permitted local rates to the immediately adjoining parts of a postal zone. The usual term is "department limitrophes."

TIMBRE HUMIDE. Wet stamp or handstrike. As it is a term peculiar to our subject and was so used in the laws it is a convenient term for our use.

TIMBRE MOBILE. Fiscal adhesive.

TIMBRE POSTE. Postal adhesive.

RARE. Sufficiently scarce to preclude getting enough study material together. Auction prices may reflect only popularity, not scarcity. We do not modify as very, or excessively rare except where we hesitate to use the word unique.

REVOLUTIONARY or REPUBLICAN CALENDAR. This was put into effect on November 24, 1793 and dated back to September 22, 1792 and was the forerunner of the world calendar now being proposed. It had 12 months of thirty days each, the final 5 (6 on leap year) being called "jours complementaires." The months were:

Pluviose	Prairial	Vendémiaire
Ventose	Messidor	Brumaire
Germinal	Thermidor	Frimaire
Floréal	Fructidor	Nivôse

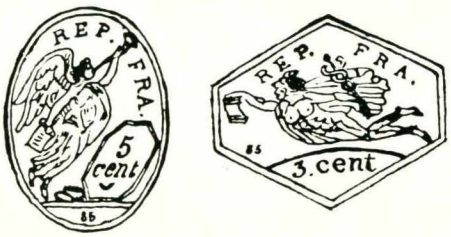


Fig. 1. First definitive Newspaper tax cachets, 1797.

Each month was divided into three decades in which the days were named numerically (unidi, duodi, tridi, octidi, etc.). On the table I the "jours complementaires" can be seen as preceding the new year. The leap years were ans III, VII, and XI, and the date cachet of the 6th complimentary day is a desirable item on cover. The use of this calendar gradually receded after 1800 and officially ended in December 1805.

TABLE I

CONCORDANCE OF GREGORIAN AND REPUBLICAN CALENDARS

Republican Year		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	XIV
Gregorian Year		1792	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05
1 Vend.	Sept.	22	22	22	23	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	24	23	23
1 Brum.	Oct.	22	22	22	23	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	24	23	23
1 Frim.	Nov.	21	21	21	22	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	23	22	22
1 Nivose	Dec.	21	21	21	22	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	23	22	22
Gregorian Year		'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06
1 Pluv.	Jan.	20	20	20	21	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	22	21	21
1 Vent.	Feb.	19	19	19	20	19	19	19	20	20	20	20	21	20	20
1 Germ.	March	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
1 Flor.	April	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
1 Prair.	May	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
1 Mess.	June	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
1 Therm.	July	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
1 Fruct.	Aug.	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19

PART I.

The Timbres Humides 1797-1850

When the decision for a tax was made, the basis for establishing the rates was the dimension of the sheets. The postal rates were tied to this base, but even after 1856 when the postage was based on weight, the fiscal tax continued on the basis of dimensions.

Law of 9 Vendemiaire An VI: (September 30, 1797)

Newspapers, gazettes, periodicals, paper novels, music and notices, other than those under public authority:—

Sheet, 25 square decimeters (or 341 sq. pouces) ..... 5c. (or 1 sou.)
½ sheet ..... 3c. (or 7½ deniers)
Sheets larger than 25½ sq. dec., for each additional 5 sq. dec. or 68 sq. pouces, extra ..... 1c.

(The pouce was approximately one inch. The square decimeter is 15.5 sq. in. A sheet of 25 sq. dec. is about 19x20 inches. 12½ deniers made one sou.)



Fig. 2. Provisionals used while awaiting manufacture of first definitives.

Among other sections of this law, the cachet to be stamped on the paper was called the "timbre humide." Article 59 specified that the two cachets of Figure 1 were to be used provisionally until the definitive designs were manufactured (Fig. 2). The 50c. excise stamp was to be used for the 3c. tax and the 1F. for the 5c. tax, and both were to be struck in red. The definitive stamps were placed in use 24 Brumaire An VI (November 14, 1797) and remained in use until January 1, 1806. A law of 6 Prairial an VII (May 25, 1799) had these two used provisionally on bills, the 3c.and 4c. and the 5c. for 8c.

A decree of the Consulat, 29 Pluviose an VIII (February 18, 1800), established separate and different cachets for the department of Seine (Fig. 3). These were replaced with the two of Figure 4 on 1 Germinal an X (March 22, 1802), which had the zodiacal signs on their circumference.

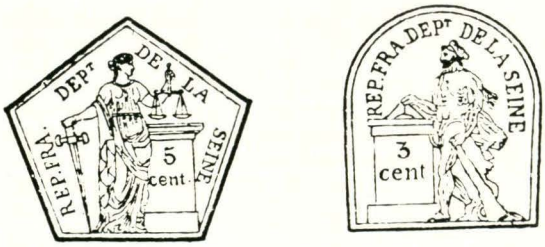


Fig. 3. The definitives of an VIII, for the department of Seine (Paris).

Law of 13 Brumaire An VII (November 3, 1798)

Art. 5. The timbres extraordinaires shall indicate the department in which actual use takes place.

But no known cachets follow this law, except upon its implementation in 1802. The decree of 7 Fructidor (August 25, 1802) an X added a griffe or control mark to be stamped along with the cachet in the provinces only. The griffe carried the legend *"Timbrer A L'Extraordinaire,"* but no departmental designation was made. Only in Seine did the cachet carry the departmental name.

Article 10 of the decree described the procedure of stamping, a method followed up to 1868:



Fig. 4. The definitives of an X, for department of Seine.



Fig. 5. The griffe of 1802.

"The tax collector who shall be responsible shall stamp each application with a griffe—*Timbrer A L'Extraordinaire*—and after receiving the fee shall give a form showing the size and the stock to be stamped, to be presented to the warehouse keeper who will complete the transaction by applying the timbre extraordinaire to the paper, appropriate to the fee paid."

Only the first provisionals were struck in red. Unless otherwise noted those following were struck in black.

The griffe (Fig. 5), introduced by this decree, was placed in use September 23, 1802 and remained in use until the fall of Napoleon in 1814. It was restored May 1, 1815 on his dramatic return for the "Hundred Days."

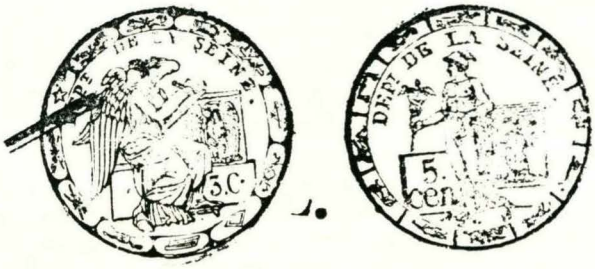


Fig. 6. Definitives for Paris, 1806.

On January 1, 1806 the cachets for Seine were modified by boxing the zodiacal signs (Fig. 6). At the same time a decree of 22 Brumaire an XIV creating three new cachets for the provincial departments was put into effect (Fig. 7); the 4c. value was for sheets of 30 sq. decimeters.

On April 11, 1814 Napoleon resigned his crown and the fate of France was placed in the hands of the Congress of Vienna. A brother of Louis XVI became king of France as Louis XVIII and the Bourbon fleur-de-lys made its mark again in the land.



Fig. 7. Definitives for the provinces, 1806.

An ordinance of November 11, 1814 required all paper stocks of the publishers which had already been stamped, to receive the new cachets with the legend *"Timbre Royal"* (Fig. 8), and Figure 8A shows one of the restamped pieces. The control griffe (Fig. 9) was



Fig. 8. New definitives of the 1814 restoration. Note fleurs de lys.

introduced January 1, 1815 and carried the name of the department. There is little doubt that the purpose of the griffe with a department name was to afford the strongly centralized ministry in Paris an opportunity to thoroughly control the press. The griffe was never used in Seine, and later Seine-et-Oise, because the central authority handled those departments directly.

The rates remained the same, but the 4c. and 6c. denominations were made necessary by the increase in the size of the newspapers. The 6c., not pictured, had the same design as the 5c. There was a single fleur-de-lys on the two low denomination and three on the two higher ones.

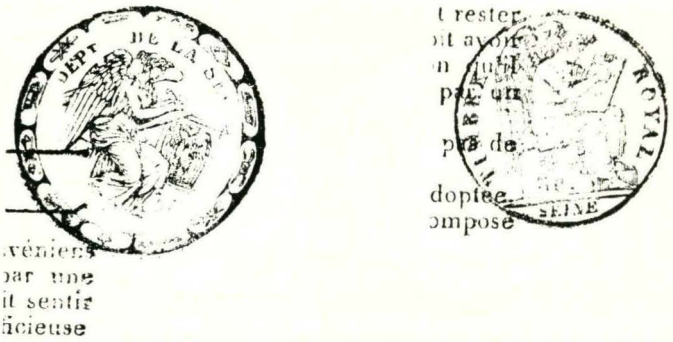


Fig. 8A. A restamped piece of the 1814 change from Napoleon to Louis XVIII.

On March 20, 1815 Napoleon landed in France, his name sending the Bourbons scampering, and the "Hundred Days" restored the griffe and cachets of his reign (Figs. 5, 6, & 7). But the adventure was over by June 22 and Louis XVIII returned, and with him the January cachets. (A very interesting sidelight, philatelically, of the "Hundred Days" are the towns that reverted to their Revolutionary names, and used the departure marks of that period, while Napoleon made his try at power again.)

On January 1, 1816 a new regulation changed the color of the strikes to red, black continuing to be used on announcements, while the rates and designs remained the same. During the time that this was in force, mixed colors of strikes are found, but they are



Fig. 9. Griffe of 1815, with departmental name and three fleurs de lys of the Bourbons.

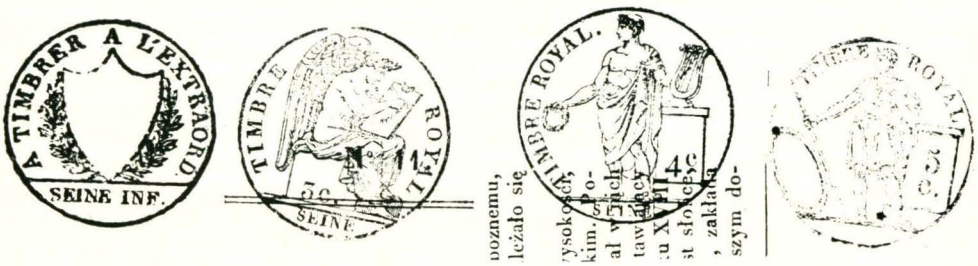


Fig. 10. Griffe and cachets of the "July Monarchy", 1830.

clerical errors. If an isolated piece bears a red griffe and black cachet it is undoubtedly from a newspaper as the griffe decided the use.

Spurred by the newspapers of Paris, the July Revolution of 1830 lasted the three days of the 27th, 28th, and 29th, and led to the abdication of Charles X. He was succeeded by "Citizen-King" Louis Philippe of the Bourbon-Orleans line, who chose to link himself with the Orleans side. For this reason a royal ordinance of February 16, 1831 established a new state seal without the fleur-de-lys, and on the 19th a ministerial decree ordered its physical removal from the extant tampons of the fiscal griffes and cachets. The designs were otherwise unaltered (Fig. 10), but the color reverted to black and the rates were changed as as follows:

3c. for 15 sq. decimeters
4c. for 20 sq. decimeters
5c. for 25 sq. decimeters
6c. for 30 sq. decimeters

These rates represent quite an increase in the tax having the effect of severely limiting the size, and therefore the contents of the papers; an amazing development from events brought on by newspapers!

The differing designs for each denomination increased the cost of the tampons, and on July 1, 1847 a new single design was introduced (Fig. 11). The griffe and rates remained the same.



Fig. 11. Cachet of 1847.

Apparently the tax laws applied to published printings, i. e. a paper could be printed but had to pay the tax to be issued. The basis of this assumption is a copy of the newspaper "PARIS" of April 1, 1842 in the Bretagne Collection. This paper bears, instead of a tax cachet, an oval strike reading: *Epreuve A Ne Pas Mettre A La Poste* (proof, do not mail), and the name *"Paris"* in the inner oval. If any attempt to mail the paper without evidence of taxes paid had been made, the publisher would have been in serious trouble.

By 1848 the "Citizen-King" idea had had a thorough trial, so the monarchy was swept out. The Second Republic came into being under a provisional government that tried to continue the newspaper taxes but desisted under republican pressures, and the decree of

March 4, 1848 abolished them. Thus a fifty year period came to a close in which the taxes were not tied to postage, but the postal rates were consistent and reduced for newspapers.

The nephew of Napoleon, Louis Napoleon, was elected president and the nation settled down to enjoy democracy in an aura of feeling that the right man was at the helm, and up to July 16, 1850 the newspapers were free of taxes.

We now enter a period of great interest to the philatelist because of the mixed fiscal and postal nature of the timbres humides that follow. The timbre humide was to become a postage stamp.

PART II.

The Timbres Humides 1850-1872

During the debates on the finance law, which was passed July 16, 1850, much heat developed in the flow of oratory against the measure. The protests of Victor Hugo were as famous in their day as other bitter reproaches against tyranny have become, but the cold money facts of the case, plus the overwhelming support of the government of President Louis Napoleon, carried the measure through.

The bill was presented by a M. Rouher, and his explanation of its necessity is a bald recapitulation of the theme of our introduction:

> "These measures would attain a double result: first it would assure our budget a revenue of no less than six million francs: second it would guard our society against the detestable doctrines purveyed by cheap printings by means of their low price in the cities and provinces, where they propagate prejudices, compound errors, excite passions, and corrupt the conscience of the public".[5]

Here is the justification for our prefatory paragraph on trying to understand the laws quoted. They are reproduced to show the rates, mainly, but beyond that they supply the slight touch of fantasy required to give some comic relief.

LAW OF JULY 16, 1850

Art. 12. Starting next August 1st the political papers, magazines or periodicals of less than 10 sheets, 25 to 32 sq. dec. in area, or less than 5 sheets of 50 to 72 72 sq. dec. are subject to a stamp tax. This tax shall be 5c. for each sheet of 72 sq. dec. or more in the departments of Seine and Seine-et-Oise, and 2c. for the rest of France.

Art. 13. Non-periodicals (e. g. pamphlets) treating of political, social or economic matters which are not regularly published, or which, before this law, did not fall into the public domain, if they are published in one or two numbers having less than three printed sheets of 25 to 32 sq. dec. are subject to a tax of 5c. For each additional 10 sq. dec., or fraction thereof, there will be an additional 1c. tax. This shall apply to these imported from abroad and they shall pay the same rate as those fixed for France. (Decree of July 31, 1850—"those entering the country through the mails prepaid are exempt of tax. The Bureau of Entry will stamp these in red with the date cachet and they can then circulate freely.")

Art. 14. All romantic novels published in a newspaper or its supplement are subject to a tax of 1c. in Seine and Seine-et-Oise, and ½c. in the other departments.

Art. 15. The stamp shall serve for a postal franchise in the following manner: the 5c. for transport and distribution in the territory of the Republic, the 2c. for within the departments and their limitrophes, except Seine and Seine-et-Oise.

Art. 16. The papers and periodicals struck with the 2c. stamp become subject to an additional 3c. charge if sent beyond their limits. This 3c. shall be paid at the posts and the paper struck with a cachet showing this supplementary payment.

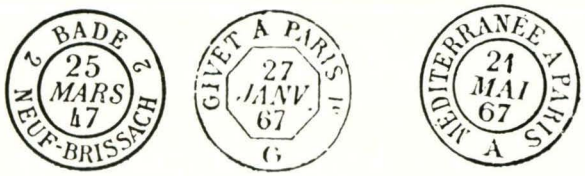


Fig. 12. Entry marks.

Art. 17. The postal franchise resulting from these stamps shall not be useable for papers and periodicals except on the day printed on their masthead. For those irregularly issued it will be used only once and the stamp cancelled by the postal clerks. (The canceller was the grill of 1849 used on the first postal issues (Fig. 13) struck in black on local mailings and in red on national mailings. After June 1, 1852 the lozenge of dots with numerals was used, but this is rare, as will be explained.)

Art. 18. A supplement which does not exceed 72 sq. dec. published by papers appearing more than twice a week shall be exempt of tax if they deal only with new politics, debates in the National Assembly and courts, and to the reproduction and discussion of acts of the government. (Supplements not meeting these conditions were subject to the regular tax.) The supplements of 'Le Moniteur Universel', no matter their number, are exempt of tax.

Art. 20. There shall be a rebate of 1c. per sheet on papers distributed directly by the publishers in their towns and environs, and, at Paris, in the suburbs. (These were struck in red.)

The rest of the law related to general financial matters, but the sections quoted shows a remarkable parallel to those of England and illustrate how a publisher, unsympathetic to the government, could be handicapped.

In reference to the entry marks on foreign papers, according to Art. 13, the Bretagne Collection has the following post-1854 examples.

1. "Bulletin de la Societe de Colonisation Europeo-Americaine-AU TEXAS," Brussels, January 1855. It bears the 6c. timbre humide of Seine, of the type of November 1853, in black. This must have been sent postage due, and from the following examples, must have been the last time it was so sent. Internal evidence suggests it was the first number, since it has no number printed on it.
2. Same, November 1856. Entry cachet in red, "5 Belg. 5 Valenciennes" (Type 3, #301 in "Catalogue des Cachets a Date d'Entree, etc.," G. Noël, editions de E. H. De Beaufond, Paris 1957. All references here are to this work.) This cachet was struck in Paris.
3. Same, September 1858. Entry cachet in black, "BELG. A QUIEVRAIN A" an ambulant or railroad strike (type 3 #342). Black is normal here as the ambulants rarely used any other color.
4. Same, January 1858. Entry cachet in red "5 BELG. 5 VAL nes." (Type 3, #298.) Struck in Paris.
5. "Bulletin du Mouvement Societaire en Europe et en Amerique," No. 15, December 1858. Struck with black ambulant (and not strictly an entry mark in this case) "QUIEVRAIN A PARIS C," night train.
6. Same, No. 19, April 1859. Red entry cachet "BELG. A ERQUELINES A," ambulant. (Type 3, #317)
7. Same, No. 32, November 1860. Black ambulant, "BELG. AMB. CALAIS L," (Type 3, #313) night train.

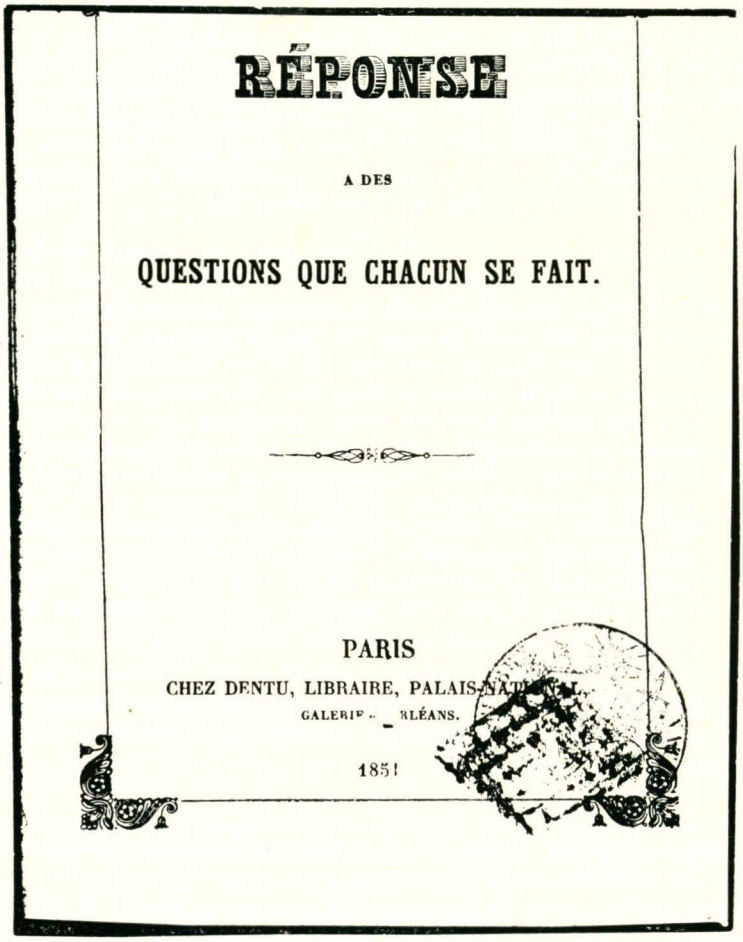


Fig. 13. Postal cancellation of cachet on non-periodical (pamphlet). The Bretagne Collection has three examples:—A. the above, cancelled in red; B. "Discours de M. le General Changarnier et de M. Thiers, Paris 1851, 5c. and 1½c. Timbre National cancelled with red grill; C. "Quelques Explications Soumises aux Hommes du Droit National", Perpignan, 1850, griffe of Pyrennes Orientale and cachet with legend "Timbre" cancelled in black.

We find, therefore, that the dated entry marks on prepaid newspapers will be the same as on regular mail and most appear on both. But certain strikes that are catalogued seldom are seen on newspapers and when thus found by the specialist command premium prices. But all strikes are of interest in mapping the points of entry and the methods of carriage.

DECREE OF JULY 27, 1850

Art. 2. While awaiting manufacture of the new stamps (tampons) the administration shall employ existing stamps as follows:

1. In the departments of Seine and Seine-et-Oise, for the 6c. tax the stamp used before the decree of March 4, 1848. For the 5c. tax the 5c. poster stamp. For the 4c. tax the former 4c. newspaper stamp. For the 1½c. tax the 1c. stamp used for notices and announcement.
2. In the other 84 departments:- for the 5c. tax, the poster stamp. For the 2½c. tax, the 2½c. stamp for notices. For the tax of 2c., 1½c., and 1c.,

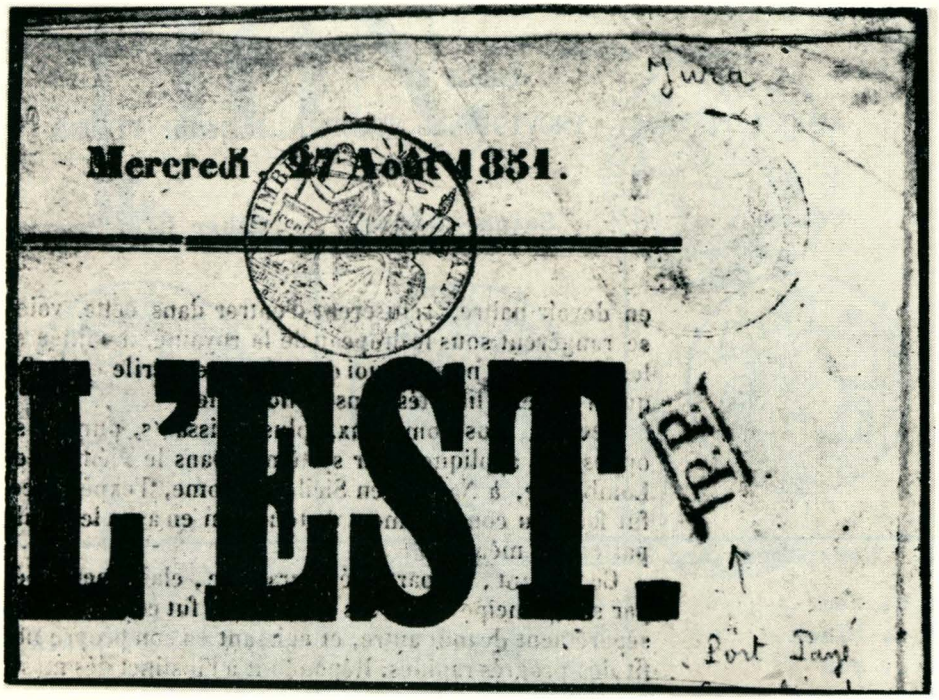


Fig. 14. Entire of Aug. 27, 1851. 2c. "Timbre National" and griffe of Jura. Boxed "P. P." indicates additional 3c. paid at posts to forward paper beyond local delivery zone. (Bretagne Collection)

the 1c. in use for announcements; this shall be applied twice without griffe for the 2c., once with the griffe for the 1½c., and once alone for the 1c. tax. (All these were in use at the end of the July Monarchy and were of the type of Fig. 11, with the word *Royal* removed.)

Art. 3. The stamp on papers destined to be mailed shall be applied at the upper right hand corner. The stamp shall not be covered with printing. The paper shall be folded so that the cachet and the date on the masthead show clearly.

The griffe mentioned in Art. 2 is the same as that shown in Fig. 10. It carries the name of the department (variants: name in one or two lines or name of the departmental seat instead) and was applied next to the cachet in all departments except Seine and Seine-et-Oise. The griffe and cachet are supposed to be the same color, differences being clerical errors. The griffe is usually the correct color.

Note again that the black strikes were on those papers going through the mails, the red strikes indicating the 1c. rebate for self delivery.

DECREE OF JULY 27, 1850

Art. 1. There shall be, for the execution of articles 12, 13, 14, and 20 of the law of July 16, 1850, stamps of 6c., 5c., 4c., 2½c., 2c., and 1c., whose value shall be indicated in the escutcheon on the stamp. These shall conform in design to those existing, and the name SEINE shall be inserted in the exergue on those stamps to be used at the Atelier General at Paris.

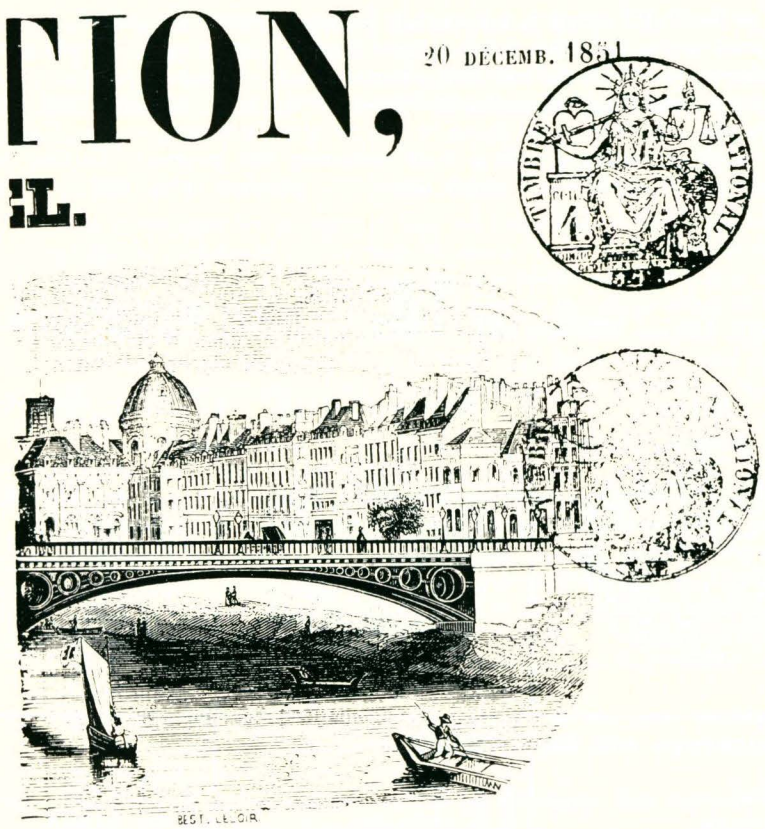
TABLE II

AUGUST 1, 1850. PROVISIONAL STAMPS. LEGEND: TIMBRE

Seine	Seine-et-Oise	Other Departments
		
1. Newspapers and Periodicals.		
4 c. red 5 c. black 5 c. red 6 c. black	4 c. red 5 c. black ? 5 c. red ? 6 c. black	1 c. red, no griffe 1 c. + 1 c. black, no griffe 1 c. red with griffe 2½ c. black with griffe Variant: 1 c. + 1 c. black with griffe Error: 5 c. black for 2½ c. (in dept. of Moselle)
2. Non-periodicals (Pamphlets, etc.)		
5 c. black ? 1 c. black(for the 1½ c. additional)	? 5 c. black ? 1 c. black (for 1½ c. additional)	5 c. black (1 known) ? 1 c. black (with griffe for 1½ c. additional)

? = May exist, but has not been reported.

Notes: Only Seine had its name on the cachet. Seine-et-Oise may be recognized by its rate. Cancellations on group 2 cachets, only, with the grill in red or black.



Ab. pour les dép. — 3 mois, 9 fr. — 6 mois, 18 fr. — Un an, 36 fr.
Ab. pour l'étranger, — 10 fr. — 20 fr. — 40 fr.

longueur où le fleuve est divisé en deux bras par l'île de la Cité, rendent toute communication à peu près impossible entre le bassin supérieur et le bassin inférieur. Aussi ne voit-on passer d'un de ces bassins dans l'autre à la remonte que des bateaux vides, et à la descente que des trains de bois et quelques toues chargées de combustibles ou de matériaux de construction. Toute embarcation qui veut faire ce trajet s'expose en effet à de grandes difficultés et à de grands dangers. On peut facilement s'en rendre compte en examinant les

Fig. 14A. From an entire of "L'Illustration" of Dec. 20, 1851, showing illegal 8c. or double tax discussed in text. Another copy in the Bretagne Collection has, in addition, a single 4c. cachet on an inner page annulled as an error. Strikes are in red.

The stamps destined to show the 1c. rebate* to the publishers, in conformity with the second paragraph of Art. 20 of the law of July 16, shall be struck in red.

* There was no rebate in the sense of money returned, nor was a 5c. cachet, e.g., struck and charged at 4c. A cachet to the value of the amount of money paid was struck — in red to indicate it could not pass through the posts without additional payment.

The table shows the creation of a 1½c. cachet not mentioned in the decree. The griffe remained the same (Fig. 10).

The griffe "P. P." struck in red which is frequently seen at the side of, or on, the black cachets, provisional or definitive, is not a cancel but indicates either the 3c. additional postage provided for in Art. 16 of the law, or the forwarding of the paper after Art. 19 ("whoever other than the publisher, shall mail a newspaper, periodical or pamphlet, shall undertake to pay the postage according to the 2c. or 5c. tax per sheet according to Art. 15. The matter shall be struck at departure with a mark indicating this payment. Lacking payment it shall be charged at arrival like a simple letter—25c. per sheet".)

TABLE III
JANUARY 1851. DEFINITIVE CACHETS. LEGEND: TIMBRE NATIONAL

Seine	Seine-et-Oise	Other Departments
		
1. Newspapers and Periodicals.		
4 c. red 5 c. black 5 c. red 6 c. black Double 4 c. or 5 c. uses, see note.	4 c. red 5 c. black ? 5 c. red ? 6 c. black	1 c. red 2 c. black ? 1½ c. red 2½ c. black
2. Non-periodicals		
5 c. black + 1½ c. added fraction	? 5 c. black ? 1½ c. black, added fraction	? 5 c. black ? 1½ c. black, added fraction

? = probably never used

Notes: The postal cancellation, on non-periodicals only, continued with the grill until January 1, 1852, being replaced with the numeral lozenge of dots on that date. No earlier date than January 3, 1851 has been seen for these cachets.

"L'Illustration" of Paris was 83 sq. dec. in area. In spite of the clear provision of a rate for 72 sq. dec. *or larger* it was charged double rates for a while. (Fig. 14A). The Bretagne Collection has a complete proof set of these cachets on laid paper. Every value and color is included — sixteen in all.

Accordingly, the griffe "P. P." indicates the supplementary postage paid by the publisher, or the whole postage paid by another. A manuscript number on the *band* indicates the sum paid and would be preceded by the initials "E. C." ("Editeur—completent", or supplement paid by the publisher) or "T. E. P." (Taxe entier, particulier"—entire amount paid by individual).

DECREE OF FEBRUARY 17, 1852

Art. 6. The newspapers or periodicals and the engraved or lithographed political periodical anthologies of less than 10 sheets, 25 to 32 sq. dec. in area, or of less than 5 sheets of 50 to 72 sq. dec. are placed under a stamp tax. This shall be 6c. per sheet of 72 sq. dec. or more in the departments of Seine and Seine-et-Oise, and 3c. in the rest of France. For each fraction of 10 sq. dec. there will be an additional 1½c. in Seine and Seine-et-Oise, and 1c, for the rest. The supplements of the *Journal Officiel,* no matter their number, are exempt.

Art. 8. The stamp tax imposed by the present law is applicable to newspapers published abroad, save where treaties state otherwise.

Art. 9. Non-periodical pamphlets treating of political, social and economic matters which are not in the course of publication (serialized) or which, previous to the present law do not fall into the public domain, if published in one or more volumes having less than 10 printed sheets of 25 to 32 sq. dec. are subject to a tax of 5c. per sheet. There shall be an additional 1½c. tax for each additional 10 sq. dec. or fraction thereof. This shall apply to non-periodicals published abroad which are imported, and they shall be stamped in the same way as those published in France.

Art. 13. Aside from the tariffs fixed by the present law, the taxes existing prior to the law of July 16, 1850 for the postal transport of newspapers and others, are repealed.

Art. 34. The terms of the present law relative to the stamp duty on newspapers and periodicals shall begin March 1st following.

Art. 36. The present law does not apply to Algeria and the colonies.

DECREE OF MARCH 28, 1852

Art. 1. Newspapers, pamphlets and periodicals reserved exclusively to art, science, literature or agriculture are exempt from the stamp duty.

CIRCULAR OF FEBRUARY 22, 1852

The 2c. and 1c. cachets are to be used provisionally, without the griffe, for the 3c. tax. Same departmental griffes as before, in use.

The timbres humides were again fiscals only, having no postal connections. The postal cancel on non-periodicals was no longer used. The Second Republic was dead.

DECREE OF APRIL 7, 1853

Art. 1. Beginning Nov. 1, 1853 the paper presented for the timbre extraordinaire shall be stamped with new stamps after the models annexed to this decree.

Art. 2. The griffe used in the departments other than Seine (and Seine-et-Oise) shall be the same as formerly.

Art. 3. Papers struck with the present stamp may be used up to July 1, 1854.

Art. 5. Holders of paper already stamped with the timbre extraodinaire, whatever the use of these papers, shall be allowed, during the three months from April 1, to have them stamped with new stamps, or to have fresh paper stamped in replacement without any payment.

Art. 6. From July 1, 1854 the use of paper with withdrawn stamps shall be subject to penalties established by law to curb the use of paper not properly stamped.

TABLE IV

MARCH 1, 1852. SAME TYPE. FISCAL VALUE ONLY.

SEINE	SEINE-ET-OISE	OTHER DEPARTMENTS
		
1. Newspapers and periodicals		
6 c. black 1½ c. for added fraction	6 c. black ?1½ c. for added fraction	2 c.+ 1 c. black 3 c. black ? 1 c. for added fraction
2. Non-periodicals		
? 5 c. black ? 1½ c. for added fraction	Same as for Seine	Same as for Seine

? = probably never used.

On September 1, 1854, soon after the issuance of the new cachets, the departmental griffe was modified, as shown (Fig. 15). The new "TIMBRE IMPERIAL" is found associated with both types of griffe. The new griffe had two variants: small letters when the name was in two lines or when long, but large letters when the name was on one line.

From August 1, 1860 the laws and decrees in force were applied in the new departments of Savoie, Haut-Savoie, and Alpes Maritimes. These were areas regained from the Kingdom of Sardinia which had been lost on the fall of Napoleon in 1814.



Fig. 15. Griffe of 1854.

MINISTERIAL REGULATION OF November 25, 1854. (Restoration of Postal Rights)

Art. 1. The (postal) franchise (by which the editors are authorized to mail up to the last hour of the posts) is to be shown by the apposition on the papers of the registry stamp in blue or red, according to their destination.

Art. 2. These papers are not to carry on their bands either the cachet of the posts, or any sign of franchise. In the case of the Registry stamp applied in blue the delivery shall be within the department of publication; in red the delivery area

TABLE V

NOVEMBER 1, 1853. LEGEND: TIMBRE IMPERIAL. FISCAL ONLY

SEINE	SEINE-ET-OISE	OTHER DEPARTMENTS
		
1. Newspapers and periodicals		
6 c. black 1½ c. for added fraction	6 c. black ? 1½ c. for added fraction	3 c. black 1 c. for added fraction ERRORS:- 5 c. instead of 3 c. black (Oise) 35 c. black of "Mandats" instead o of 3 c. (Doubs)
2. Non-periodicals		
? 5 c. black (alone) 1½ c. black for added fraction.	5 c. black (?) ? 1½ c. added fraction	5 c. black ? 1½ c. added fraction

? = May exist, but has not been reported.

Note: The Bretagne Collection has the first recorded example of the 5c.+1½c. on a fragment of a pamphlet from Seine. It consists of the bottom half of the last page, the only type being the imprimatur of the printer.

shall be all of France and Algeria. The stamp shall constitute notice of the amount due from the Registry administration to the Postal administration. (Note: Here the cachet does not represent a franchise or free frank, the posts receiving their share of the money. In 1850-1852 the Registry administration had kept all the money.)

Art. 4. The Registry stamp is valid only on the day of publication and for one mailing only, and also for those papers distributed directly by the publisher.

Art. 5. The only papers to enjoy the benefits of the Registry stamps, as to the privilege of mailing up to the last hour of the posts, are those printed on one sheet which does not exceed 72 sq. dec. (in 1856 not exceeding 40 grams in weight) and which fall under the limits of a postal rate of 2c. or 4c. depending on their circulation within or without a department. (Note: The privilege of mailing up to the last hour of the posts constituted a virtual special delivery at no extra cost.)

The law June 25, 1856 substituted weight for dimensions as the basis for taxation, and extended, save for Seine and Seine-et-Oise, the limits of local delivery to the department limitrophes. Use of the timbre humide was not modified by these changes as seen by the following text:

Bulletin Mensuel Des Postes July 1856 (Monthly Postal Bulletin) . . .

"the franchise shall continue to operate conforming to the ministerial regulation of November 25, 1854 by apposition of the Registry stamp in red or blue according to their destination".

As a result of the above texts two categories of printed matter continued to be mailed on a cash basis (porte en numeraire) as shown on their bands by the "P. P.," and after 1860, with a postage stamp. Those subject to the fiscal tax but without postal rights were: 1. Non-political journals (postage reduced by half by the law of 1856) not exclusively devoted to the arts, letters, science, agriculture or industry, but also including administrative or judical subjects; 2: Newspapers whose dimensions exceeded 72 sq. dec. (or 40 grams weight after 1856), and subject to the tax on fractions above the limits set. This explains why the cachet on these two classes is the black or fiscal only, even though many passed through the mails. The griffe of 1854 continued in use, in black, blue or red as the case required.

The non-periodicals continued without the postal rights of newspapers, being mailed prepaid at the posts. By Art. 4 of the law of June 25, 1856 their postal rate was 1c. for each 5 grams or fraction thereof, and this rate continued for several years after 1870. Their cachets were the fiscal blacks.

To recapitulate: All journals falling into the limits of a tax of 3c. or 6c. could have their paper stamped with a black fiscal, which meant that they were self-distributed, or a blue cachet costing 2c. extra and allowing mailings up to the department limitrophes, or a red cachet costing 4c. extra and allowing mailings throughout France and Algeria. All others were stamped with a black fiscal, and, if mailed, paid postage directly at the post office.

In return for prepaying the tax and postage (etre préalablement affranchis) two privileges were granted—lower postal rates than regular mail, and the equivalent of special delivery through the right to mail up to the last hour of the posts. Under ordinary circumstances the windows at the posts closed a set time before the departure of the mails, an interval allowing time to cancel stamps, strike datestamps, sort and route the letters. Mail deposited after the close of the window was stamped "Apres le Depart" and went out in the next group. But the newspapers were allowed to be brought in and handled immediately, which, with the fine and rapid service of the posts was equivalent to special delivery. After 1863 this privilege was charged for on letters with the establishment of the "Levée Exceptionelle" in which double, triple and quadruple single letter rates were charged for three periods before the actual departure of the mail bags.

(To be continued in the next number)

U.S.-CANADA MAILS

The Early Niagara Post Offices and Their Markings

By PITT PETRI

Where the waters of the Niagara River empty into Lake Ontario there lies on the east bank—the American side—*Fort Niagara* and on the western shore—the Canadian side—the villages of *Niagara-On-The Lake* and *Fort George*.

The strategic value of the "straits of Niagara' was recognized early by the French, who began fortifying the eastern point. Later the British used the fort as a base for their raids into New York State during the Revolution. Opposite the fort a village developed which was inhabited by traders, loyalists and officials. It was known under different names—West Niagara, Butlerburgh (after the famed raider) and, for a short while, as Newark. From 1793 to 1797 it was the seat of the government of Upper Canada which was transferred to York (now Toronto) in 1797.

The earliest mention of a post office for the village was found in the "Quebec Gazette" of May 28, 1789 under the name of "Niagara." The "Quebec Almanac" of 1791 and later editions list Joseph Edwards as postmaster. During the summer months communication was maintained by boat whenever the opportunity presented itself. During the winter, one trip was made by the "winter express" from Quebec to Niagara, Detroit and Michilimakinac. Apparently one "express" started at Quebec and the other in Michilimakinac or Detroit, and they exchanged their letters in Niagara.

Although the border between the British possessions in North America and the newly-founded republic of the United States was fixed so as to run through the center of the Niagara River and through Lake Ontario, it was not until after the conclusion of the Jay Treaty that Fort Niagara (and other fortifications) were turned over to the United States. Fort Niagara was occupied by American troops on August 11, 1796.

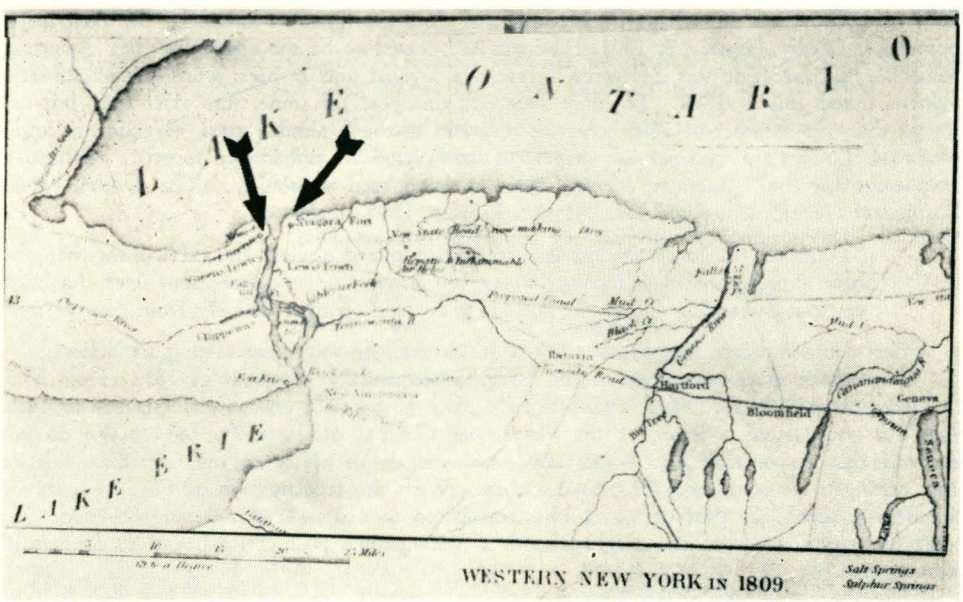


Fig. 1. Map of Western New York in 1809. The arrows indicate the towns referred to in this article.

Postal services in the United States at that time were better than in Canada. As early as 1792 attempts were made by landed interests in western New York as well as by Canadians to influence the U. S. Government to extend a postal route beyond Canadaigua to Niagara. The United States, quite understandably, showed little interest in this project as long as Fort Niagara remained in British hands. One year after its surrender to the United States, however, a post route was established and a post office opened at Fort Niagara under the name of Niagara. The existence of two "Niagara" post offices—not even a mile apart—must have caused considerable confusion. And to make the situation even more complex, the American postmaster arranged a place in the Canadian village of Newark or Niagara (as it was generally called) where "American Mail" would be delivered or accepted under the charge of the British postmaster Joseph Edwards. The following advertisement (dated September 11, 1797) appeared in the "Upper Canada Gazette" of October 11, 1797:

> "The United States' Mail has commenced running between Canadarque (Canadaiqua) and this place: it will arrive on the 18th inst., and every Wednesday successively. Mr. McClallen has taken charge of the post office until a postmaster shall have been appointed. To accomodate the gentlemen of Upper Canada, the letters etc. for the province will be left with Mr. Edwards, West Niagara. It is necessary that those which are to be forwarded should be left with him every other Thursday by twelve o'clock, preceeding the arrival of the mail."
>
> Major Art. and Eng. Commanding
> I. I. Ulrich Rivardi
>
> Fort Niagara,
> September 11

The first mail arrived at the Niagara post office in Fort Niagara October 7, 1797 slightly behind schedule. A medical officer, Dr. John Gorham Coffin, was appointed postmaster on October 30, 1797. He was succeeded by David Thompson on July 27, 1798. Dr. Joseph West was the third postmaster and served from July 3, 1804 until the occupation of the fort by the British, December 19, 1813.

Joseph Edwards remained postmaster of the British post office at Niagara until the War of 1812, when the village of Newark and Fort George were taken by the Americans. Some time before January 2, 1801, Edwards had ceased to be the agent for the "American Mails". His successor was Sylvester Tiffany, a loyalist and printer, whose latest advertisment is dated July 1, 1802. He may have had this post for some time after that, but not longer than the summer of 1803 when he returned to the United States. We do not know who took Tiffany's place since newspapers of that period are not known to exist. Collection of postage for the "American Mails" seems to have been a problem. The United States Postmaster General instructed Dr. West on July 26, 1805 as follows:

> "Yours of the tenth instant is received: to guard against the difficulties that you have experienced in collecting money for letters that you have sent over the lines, you can demand in future the postage to be paid on their delivery from your office."

This could indicate the distribution of U. S. mail at some Canadian post offices.

During the short occupation of the Niagara peninsula in the War of 1812 (from May to December 1813), Dr. West established "a place to transact his official business at New Ark" to quote from a letter of the Postmaster General of June 23, 1813. We do not know if this means that Dr. West transferred the entire office to the Canadian side or only arranged for some type of branch office. With the reoccupation of Fort Niagara by the British, the U. S. post office at Niagara ceased to exist. It was never reopened. To serve the postal needs of the neighborhood, a Youngstown post office began to operate in January 1815.

The British post office in Niagara apparently started again in 1816 when a mail stage began to travel from York to Niagara. John Crooks is listed as the postmaster.

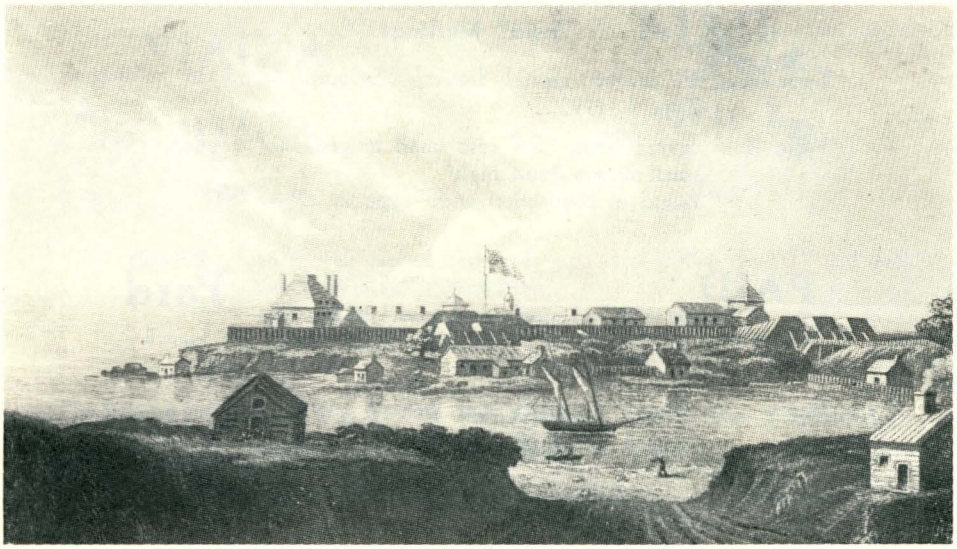


Fig. 2. An early print of Fort Niagara.

The postal markings of the Niagara offices comprise a most complicated picture. The first step in attempting their explanation and classification was a listing in chronological order of all Niagara markings found in collections, libraries and archives. Not only were various handstamps used simultaneously, but even the usual order of sequence of manuscript and handstamp markings did not prevail. No reasonable explanation, therefore, could be found by this method and a more extensive search into the history of the offices had to be undertaken.

On the basis of this study the following is the author's idea of the classification of the known postmarks.

BRITISH POST OFFICE NIAGARA, located at present Niagara-on-the-Lake. Location also known as West Niagara, Butlersburgh and Newark

Type 1 capital "N" and small letters in "Niagara," 42x5mm
capital "M" and small letters in "Mar."
"Niagara" and date on one line
reported:
a. on lettersheet addressed to Great Britain, postmarked "Niagara 1. Mar." (1792)
b. on lettersheet written Jan. 8, 1792 in Montreal, addressed to Detroit, postmarked at Niagara on 3. 1. (1792)

Type 2 capital letters in "NIAGARA" 57x4½mm
capital "F" (4½mm) and small letters (3mm) in "Feb."
asterisk after date, "NIAGARA FEB. 23*" on one line
reported:
a. on lettersheet written Febr. 23, 1798 at Queenston and addressed to Detroit, postmarked "NIAGARA Feb. 23*"
b. on lettersheet, postmarked Dec. 15, 1805 addressed to Detroit

Niagara 1. Mar,

Type 1

NIAGARA Feb. 23*

Type 2

"Paid" Markings

Type A all serifed capital letters, 16x4mm, found in connection with Type 1, 1792

Type B capital letter "P," rest small letters, 12½x4½mm, small letters 3mm high
found in connection with Type 2, 1798



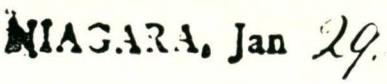
Type A



Type B

AGENCY OF THE AMERICAN POST OFFICE "NIAGARA"
located at present Niagara-on-the-Lake

Type 3 a. serifed capital letters in "NIAGARA", 25x4mm
"NIAGARA" and date on one line
capital letter "J," rest small letters (2½" high)
reported on letters postmarked Jan. 29 and May 14 (1801): color black
b. month and day on second line in 3 variations:
manuscript
month handstamped, day manuscript
month and day handstamped
handstamped month all capital letters, 2.5mm high found on letters from July 11, 1804 to Nov. 12, 1805
color: pale red



Type 3



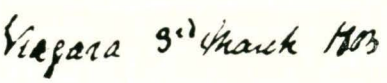
Type C

Paid Markings

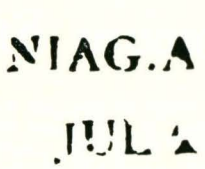
Type C capital letters, but "P" larger (4mm), rest 2½mm high
total width 10½mm
found in connection with Type 5 (Jan. 29, 1801).

AMERICAN POST OFFICE "NIAGARA", LOCATED AT FORT NIAGARA
operated from fall of 1797 to December 18, 1813

Type 4 manuscript markings "Niagara" have been found from February 2, 1802 to July 24, 1805



Type 4

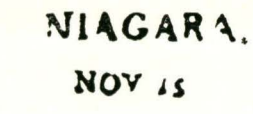


Type 5



Type 5

Type 5 all serifed capital letters of same type in NIAG. "A" and date size of NIAG. A 25x4.5mm
reported on letters from June 12, 1806 to July 2, 1807
color: blackish purple

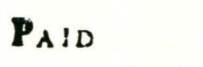


Type 6

Type 6 all serifed capital letters in NIAGARA 17x4.5mm
in 1810 month in capital letters of same type as NIAGARA
in 1811 and 1812 smaller capital letters 2.5mm high
"NIAG" and date on two lines

This type, found on letters from August 31, 1809 to July 18, 1813, was probably used until the closing of the office after the British occupation of Fort Niagara on December 18, 1813.

Paid (Free) Markings



Type D



Type E

Type D serifed capital letters (12.5x3.5)
found with types 5 and 6 in 1807 and 1810

Type E serifed capital letters (15.5x4)
found with type 5 in 1806 and type 6 in 1811

Type 5 has been found on a letter written at Fort George on July 16, 1813. It cannot be established where the postmark had been applied—either at Fort Niagara or "at the new place of business at New Ark" mentioned by the Postmaster General in the letter already quoted.

Neither can it be claimed with certainty that there was an agreement to use handstamps with the complete name "Niagara" in the British post office Niagara and the U. S. "agency" and to apply the abbreviated forms of Niagara at the U. S. post office Niagara at Fort Niagara. Maybe it was a co-incidence. Be that as it may, this consistent use of the complete or abbreviated name provides the collector with a quick method of establishing the origin of the postmark.

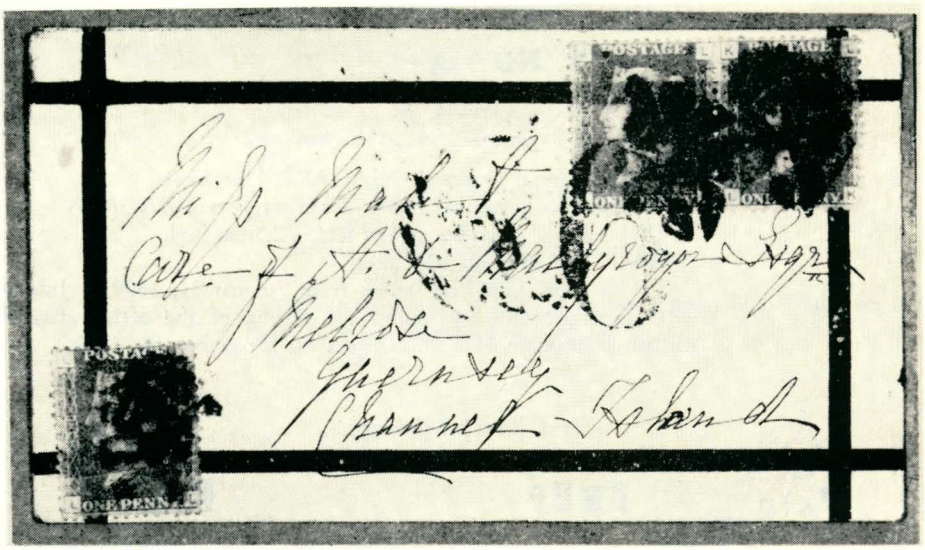
Uncommon Uses Of Common Stamps

The purpose of this feature introduced in 1958 has not been completely understood by some members. "Uncommon Usage" is what seems to confuse. A freak use of a common stamp on cover does not qualify. Such odd usage ranks similar to stamps that are printer's waste or found with unusual perforations that do not achieve standard catalog recognition.

What our readers wish to see is a properly used cover having a common stamp that catalogs for little. But on cover this item's value is many times the standard catalog price for the stamp off cover, either unused or used.

You may own such material. Then it is hoped that you will send it to The Editor, Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.

Great Britain Penny Reds Used in Chicago, Illinios



Here is a cover from Chicago, Illinois to the Channel Islands showing a most unusual usage of the common "Penny Red" Great Britain stamps.

The Great Britain stamps have been used to prepay postage from Chicago to Southampton via New York. They received in Chicago the current Chicago "killer" together with the date stamp; on arrival at Southampton, the cover received the Southampton "6d ship letter" mark and was then forwarded on to Guernsey in the Channel Islands.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Due to a great demand for back numbers of this magazine, many old issues are no longer available. A list of those on hand appears on Page X with the advertisements in the November, 1959 issue.

Many back numbers on this list are in very short supply, only one or two copies still being in stock. Anyone planning to fill in his file should check this and order now.

HAWAII

Revised Reconstruction of the Second Setting of the Numerals

By J. F. WESTERBERG

Shown here (Fig. 1) is a horizontal pair of Hawaii, 1 cent light blue, (Scott No. 12) from the second setting of the Numeral stamps. This pair, which has recently come out of hiding, is a very significant piece of evidence because it reveals for the first time the positions of the ten border types in the second setting.

The left hand stamp in this pair is type X, the right hand stamp type III. We had written in a previous article[1] that type III is most probably the top stamp in the vertical column of odd numbered types. What is now revealed is that type X, instead of type II, is the top stamp in the even numbered column.

The space between the two stamps in the pair is also significant. This space (12 points) is the same as it is in Crocker's block of six in the first setting. Thus it offers evidence that the two vertical columns were not transposed in the second setting.

In view of this new evidence, the reconstructed setting in the previous article[2] is incorrect. It is superseded by the new one shown here (Fig. 2). Therefore, we are reasonably certain that the ten border typs are now properly located in the setting.

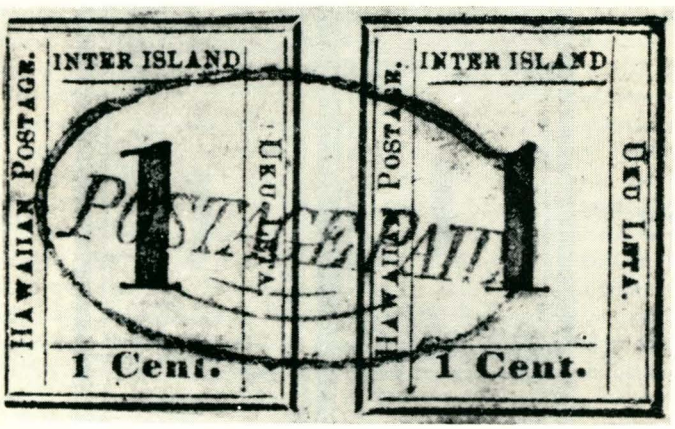


Fig. 1. Horizontal pair of Hawaii 1 cent light blue Numeral stamp. (Scott No. 12).

1. COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, May, 1951, p. 145, by the author.
2. Ibid., p. 147, Fig. 5.

(Continued on the following page)

Type X

Type III

Type VIII

Type I

Type VI

Type V

Type IV

Type VII

Type II

Type IX

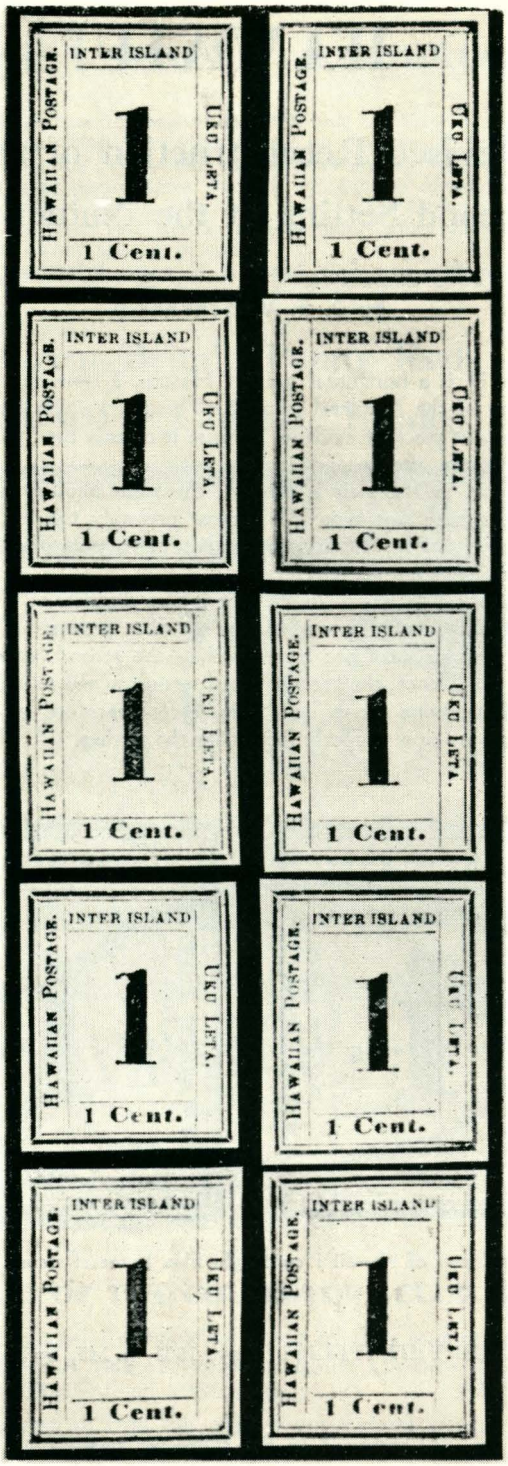
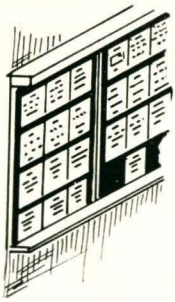


Fig. 2. Revised reconstructed setting of Hawaii (Scott No. 12).



THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of October 21, 1959

Past Presidents Night

Seven past presidents of the Collectors Club joined to demonstrate their own philatelic specialties before an interested and enthusiastic audience. In order of their terms of office, they were:

Harry L. Lindquist, 1927-1930
Robert L. Graham, Jr., 1943-1945
Hans G. Zervas, 1946-1947
Jacob S. Glaser, 1950
John J. Britt, 1951-1954
Edwin E. Elkins, 1955
General C. W. Wickersham, 1956-1957

President Haverbeck opened the meeting by saying that each past president had been allotted three frames each, and he did not know whether to begin with the most recent or the senior president. A flip of the coin gave the nod to General Wickersham who exhibited a selected group of Liberia and Colombia. The general called particular attention to a fine frame of the Liberia 3 cent black of 1903 in which he showed die proofs, plate proofs on card, then gummed plate proofs and imperforate blocks, then full sheets and last stamps printed on both sides. These were followed by *Specimen* copies, covers, combination usages, and finally by a polycolored trial proof, gummed and imperforate for use as an official stamp. Noting that the basic stamp is listed at only twenty cents catalog value, General Wickersham demonstrated what could be done in the refined specialization of a common stamp. He followed Liberia with some real gems of Antiochia; the smallest known stamps from Bolivar; and two unusual complete sheets Tolima, all Colombian States.

Harry Lindquist followed General Wickersham with two extremely interesting exhibits. One was a demonstration collection of unique pages each donated by a famous collector. Associated with this was part of his interesting "One Page Collection of Each Country," in which he showed a piece, perhaps the only such fragment existing, of the fabric of the Graf Zeppelin "HINDENBURG" which burned at its mooring at Lakehurst on May 6, 1937. He concluded his presentation with a single representative frame of his 25-volume collection of U. S. War Saving Stamps. At the conclusion, Harry Lindquist announced that his Demonstration Collection will go to the Collectors Club as a future donation.

"Eddie" Elkins was called upon next to describe his extensive collection of Penny Blacks, which included a reconstructed sheet of 240 stamps, all picked copies. His fine block of 12 stamps must be one of the largest known blocks. He showed several unusual items of the Two Penny Blue, one being a first-day cover, together with some scarce combinations of these and early United States stamps on cover. He concluded his exhibit with a fine Mulready cover that had been used, was later inverted and remailed with a Penny Black.

"Bob" Graham changed the pace by showing an unusual philatelic illustrated history of one phase of World War II, starting in July 1941 with the invasion of Russia by Germany. Event for event in this phase of world history, Bob showed a philatelic counterpart or representation, taking his illustrations from the stamps of Germany, Russia, Italy, Finland, Hungary, Romania, Albania, Vichy France, Albania, and Latvia (but I don't think he mentioned Bulgaria). Remarking about the interrelation of philately and fate, in which stamps record the world's history, he presented an extremely fascinating exhibit which he showed from two full albums on The Meeting Room lectern.

"Uncle Jake" Glaser displayed his remarkable collection of SCADTA (Colombia) air mail covers, carrying consular overprints surcharged for each country of use. His three frames were extremely colorful, attractive, and next-to-impossible to duplicate. Jake accompanied his exhibit with an interesting description of some of the rarer and more unusual items, while his pretty granddaughter in the audience beamed approval registered by everyone.

Hans Zervas who came next on the program remarked that as the audience had been seeing Tiffany and Cartier in the preceeding exhibits, they should examine his Horn and Hardart. This turned out to be an interesting plating study of Irish Free State which made a neat contrast in its compact and complete form to more extensive exhibits of less detailed scope.

In a humorously serious vein, John Britt concluded the program with a talk about Lundy Island which he illustrated with a highly specialized assortment of stamps from a place whose history goes back to the Twelfth Century when it was awarded to one of the Crusaders. John showed several interesting covers and also the scarce position 42 which contains an error. Most Lundy Island stamps, it turns out, were used to ship sheep-shears to the mainland for sharpening which accounts for the rarity of covers with Lundy stamps.

After each past president concluded his display, President Haverbeck presented him with a handsome silver tray, engraved with his name and the dates of his term of office. Each of these presentations was roundly applauded by an appreciative audience.

(Herbert P. Woodward)

Meeting of November 4th, 1959

The Philatelic Foundation's

"Stanley B. Ashbrook" Records

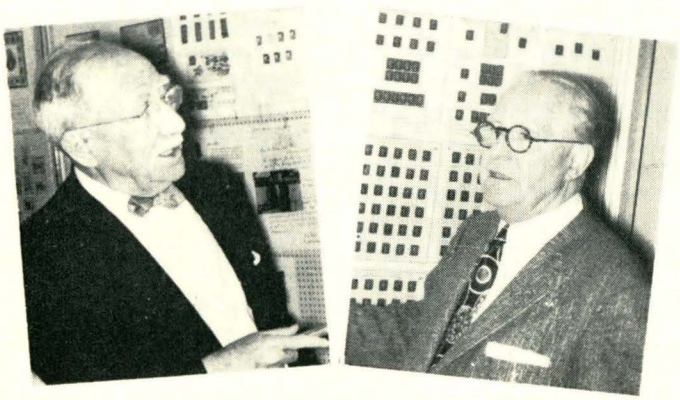
One unusual aspect of this meeting was that when the members assembled, the wall frames were not filled with album pages of stamps. One frame held a series of index cards that were filled with finely handwritten notes, which referred to adjacent photographs of stamps and covers, and a second displayed a few sheets from "Scrapbooks." This was the entire visible display. Judging from the buzz of conversation prior to the opening of the meeting, the installation of a projector and screen, provided conjecture as to what was going to be shown.

Mr. Lawrence L. Shenfield, a Trustee and Member of the Expert Committee of *the Philatelic Foundation,* was introduced as Chairman of the program. In his address he stressed the work and objectives of *the Philatelic Foundation,* and its desire to preserve the knowledge of philatelic students. It was with this farsighted policy that the Foundation had bought, during his lifetime, the tremendous accumulation of notes, photographs, correspondence, negatives and color slides that represent *"The Stanley B. Ashbrook Records"* covering U. S. A. 19th century postage stamps and postal history up to the Bank Note issues, and certain Confederate States stamps.

These records are the result of practically a long lifetime's study and years of devotion to philatelic research. Mr. Ashbrook's philatelic activities fell into three main groups: (I) Plating studies of the 1851 and 1857 1 cent stamps, (II) Plating studies of the 1855 10-







The Collectors Club Past Presidents:—Harry L. Lindquist, Lt. General Cornelius W. Wickersham, Robert L. Graham, Jr., John J. Britt, Hans G. Zervas, Jacob S. Glaser and Edwin E. Elkins. (Photos by Boutrelle)

cents stamps and (III) Postal History. His interest in plating dated back some thirty years and continued up to 1950, when his failing eye-sight prevented him from further pursuing this activity, with its attendant severe eyestrain. It was then that he turned his attention to the intensive study of U. S. 19th century postal history and postal rates with which he continued until his death in 1958.

Mr. Ashbrook also operated an expertizing service, and thereby secured practically an inexhaustable supply of material, from which he made notes and photographs, that are preserved for all time through *the Philatelic Foundation's* acquisition of these records.

It should be noted that the "Ashbrook" working records purchased by the Foundation are apart from the material which was sold by public auction after his death. The Foundation's purchase is the complete filing records that Mr. Ashbrook used.

Mr. Morris Fortgang then took the floor and gave a vivid picture of the philatelic devotion of Mr. Ashbrook, with whom he had worked closely for many years, particularly in regard to the plating of the 1851 and 1857 1-cent stamps. He reminded us that it was in 1921 that Mr. Ashbrook published his first work on the plating characteristics of this issue. He gave fascinating examples of the thoroughness, patience and determination of the man, the philatelist and the tutor, in his search for the answers to the plating problems encountered during their work together.

Mr. Mortimer Neinken was the next speaker. He told how he first met Mr. Ashbrook through an inquiry he had made concerning a simple plating question. From then on, he became involved in the absorbing mesh of plating the 1855 10-cents stamp. He also paid tribute to Mr. Ashbrook as a great student and teacher. The complete plating study of the 10-cents, second plate, on which he worked for years with Mr. Ashbrook, was not completed until after the latter's death in 1958. It is anticipated that the Plating Studies of the 1855 and 1859 10 cents stamps by Mr. Neinken, will be a "Steinway Memorial Publication Fund" handbook in 1960.

Mr. Winthrop S. Boggs announced that the Philatelic Foundation's acquisition of the "Ashbrook Records" are housed in 35 drawers each containing approximately a thousand 5"x3" index cards and photos, and 43 large "scrapbooks" of correspondence and relevent data, that are cross-indexed with the file of cards in the drawers. In addition, there is a vast quantity of glass negatives, and a comprehensive collection of color slides of outstanding pieces that had passed through Mr. Ashbrook's hands.

Turning to the wall frames, Mr. Boggs explained how the notes and photographs immaculately written up on the index cards, were cross-referenced with the complementary pages from the "scrapbooks" on display. By way of example, there are two thousand index cards alone referring only to the 1847 5-cents, covering the stamp, its usages, covers and postal rates—with all the information gleaned from Ashbrook's study of this issue and from the "patients" that he had handled. The detailed reference to the French Postal Rates, as applicable to U. S. A., is contained on one thousand cards.

Then followed a showing of a series of color slides of truly wonderful United States and Confederate stamps and covers, from the 1845 New York Postmaster's Provisional through the general issues from 1847 to 1869. The slides had been carefully selected to illustrate the use of the unusual combinations of stamps, the division of rates as indicated by handstruck postal instructional markings, and various routeings—all of which was ably explained by Mr. Shenfield.

The large audience particularly enjoyed viewing these colored slides because it permitted each one to see closely exactly what was being exhibited and described. Such viewing is far easier than examining the stamps themselves on album pages in the frames.

In response to questions raised subsequent to the display of slides, Mr. Fortgang stated that Mr. Ashbrook had also made plating studies of the New York Postmaster's 5-cents stamps, and the U. S. A. 1847 5-cents.

Each speaker stressed the value of these records to *the Philatelic Foundation Expert Committee* in their work, and also to all serious philatelic students. The Foundation is to

be congratulated on having the foresight to purchase these records in the interests of philately.

Mrs. Louise Boyd Dale, Chairman of the Philatelic Foundation, rose to express her gratitude to those who had so efficiently prepared and presented, what is undoubtedly, one of the most intriguing programs that has been enjoyed at the Clubhouse in recent years.

(Ethel Harper)

Meeting of November 18, 1959

I Air Mail Proofs and Essays

II United States and Uruguay Air Mails

The program for this meeting, originally scheduled as an exhibit and lecture by *John J. Britt* on his air mail proofs and essays, had to be divided because of Mr. Britt's illness. An entire session by him would have been too strenuous, so he asked the new President of *Aero Philatelists, Philip Silver,* to show his extensive collections of United States and Uruguay air mail stamps, as well as lecture on them, because Mr. Britt feared that he could not handle the entire program.

A large audience, filling the Meeting Room to near-capacity, showed its appreciation to Past President John J. Britt for his fortitude and spirit to carry on, if only in a limited way, under the handicap he had been suffering. The entire West Wall of the Meeting Room was filled with air mail proofs and essays from A to V—Albania to Venezuela; there are no air mail stamps from X, Y, Z countries.

Mr. Britt at the outset paid tribute to three philatelists, whom he singled out for his inspiration and their assistance in the formation of this collection. They were Henry M. Goodkind, who back in 1946 shortly after the formation of *Aero Philatelists,* had advised and encouraged Mr. Britt to specialize in air mail proofs and essays as a relatively virgin field of aero-philately. The second tribute was bestowed upon the late Clarence W. Brazer, whose great fund of knowledge on proofs and essays, was constantly available to Mr. Britt. The third one mentioned was Anthony Scala, an old friend of Mr. Britt's, who does the mounting and art work for the album pages after the owner supplies him with the information to be annotated.

Terminology and definitions in this essay-proof field are not clearly classified, so as to avoid sharp differences of opinion. Mr. Brazer taught Mr. Britt his views upon the basic differences between a die and plate proof, an essay and a trial proof. The Brazer definitions, however, apply solely to United States. Many foreign countries offer different material in this speciality, so that Mr. Britt in time had to amend Mr. Brazer's definitions for practical application in the air mail field.

Although much material from many different countries was exhibited, Mr. Britt did not comment upon all of it. While following his remarks, it became apparent that he classed air mail proofs into two distinct categories. Those from certain countries are difficult to secure because such governments use proofs primarily for their own stamp production purposes and do not seek to distribute essays and proofs to non-official sources, nor care to have them come into stamp collections.

Proof material, however, from some countries seems to be relatively plentiful, as if a postal administration desired to release proofs for philatelic sale and gain. Examples of these are post-World War II France and French Colonies, Monaco, San Marino, Liberia, Lebanon and Syria. But one cannot generalize. With Liberia, for instance, the proofs of certain issues are not readily obtainable because the stamps were printed by long-established companies like The American Bank Note Company or the British firm of Waterlow and Sons. These printing companies take strong precautions against leaks and use care with distribution of their proof material. Therefore, when and if, a collector secures a proof from Liberia of a stamp printed by The American Bank Note Company, he has made a great achievement. Proofs of other stamps printed by lesser-known, or smaller firms appear to be relatively available to the stamp collector.

Mr. Britt spoke at some length on Argentina, pointing out an interesting matter. This prominent South American country first issued air mail stamps in 1928. Over the span of the next two decades, the issuance of air post stamps was conservative, being based mostly on postal needs as aerial transport expanded. Then around 1948 Argentina came under the rule of Dictator Peron. Not only were souvenir sheets and commemorative air mail stamps introduced, but proofs began to be freely hawked on the philatelic market. Mr. Britt was first offered a long series of Argentine air mail proofs of a 1949 issue in fifteen different color trials. The following year he was sent on approval a new issue with the unbelievable amount of *thirty-five* different color proofs. Not wishing to offer encouragement by having such an offer followed by a third selection of perhaps fifty different proofs on another new air mail stamp, Mr. Britt sensibly declined to add such material to his collection.

Many air mail stamps were created by overprints. Proof pulls of the surcharges often turn out to be valuable reference material for distinguishing between the genuine and counterfeit. Mr. Britt showed some proofs of overprints from Costa Rica and Ecuador. He singled out certain vignette and frame proofs of Belgium and Belgian Congo.

In the air mail field, due to modern scientific achievements, Rocket stamps have gained immensely in recent popularity. Twenty years or more ago there had been primitive and amateurish attempts to transport mail by rockets. The entrepreneurs often printed private labels which were used on early attempts with rocket mail. Such adhesives now are assuming a philatelic status and value similar to the United States Private Posts of the 19th century and foreign local stamps. A series of colorful proofs of stamps from India Rocket Flights made by Stephen H. Smith from 1934 to 1944 were well explained. Of course, Mr. Britt could not avoid the temptation to point out some Lundy Island proofs that evoked some humorous banter between himself and the audience.

Before either Mr. Britt or the members present knew it, he had been speaking upon his air mail proofs and essays for close to an hour. In view of the fact that he had become very tired, he asked that the usual "Question and Answer" period be waived, and that the Program Director, Mr. Louis Stich, introduce Mr. Silver.

●

In the Uruguay air mail section, Mr. Silver showed the first air mail issue of 1921 and 1922 in unused singles as well as in large multiple pieces and on flown covers. One of the very scarce actually flown first flight covers of the first air mail stamp with the blue overprint was shown. As explained by Mr. Silver, proof of authenticity is the cancellation from the Main Post Office in Montevideo dated March 20 or 21, 1921 and the receiving backstamp of Rocha on March 22, 1921 to distinguish from the cancelled-by-favor, unflown covers. The second issue with the red overprint was represented with several first flight covers dated November 12, 1921 showing the different types of cancellations used. An outstanding cover was *the red overprint inverted* used on the return flight from Mercedes made on the 13th, not on November 12, 1921, as all catalogs state, the same day as the first flight from Montevideo to Mercedes.

On the third air mail, the green overprint, one of the most interesting items was the yellow-green variety used on a cover dated January, 1923. This yellow-green color is considered by Uruguayans to be a separate issue and not a minor variety of the normal green overprint. In printing these stamps, two sheets were first printed in this yellow-green color and submitted to the Postal Administration for approval. These two sheets were returned with a request that a darker shade of green would be more practical for use. But, since only 150 sheets of 100 stamps each of the basic 25c postage stamp had been withdrawn from the vaults, when the additional 148 sheets were overprinted for postal use, these were added to the two yellow-green sheets and sent to the post offices for sale to the public as the decree called for 15,000 stamps. The true yellow-green overprint is a very distinct shade completely different from some lighter shades found on the normal green overprinted stamp, the yellow-green color being almost irridescent in character.

In the perforated "Albatross" set of 1926, many scarce usages on covers were shown. Outstanding was a cover with the 3.80P, the highest denomination, perhaps the scarcest

cover to be found in the entire Uruguay air mail field. The Uruguay section finished up with a showing of the attractive first and second "Pegasus" issues. Noted especially were many of the high denominations used on flown covers.

In the United States air mail stamps display, Mr. Silver showed the issues of 1918, 1923, 1926 and 1927, up to and including the Lindbergh stamp. Special emphasis was placed on the United States first air mail stamps of 1918. In all, forty-one pages were devoted to the 24c, 16c and 6c stamps of that issue. Most of the position blocks showing the different printings of the 24c stamp were shown unused. Also, prominent in the display was one of the three known first day covers of that stamp. This cover is postmarked, New York, N. Y. May 13, 1918. But, in addition, it was held for the New York to Washington leg of the first flight of May 15th. In the lower left hand portion of the cover, the special first trip cancellation of May 15th is applied. So, this is a combination first flight as well as a first day cover. Other interesting items were two of the three known pairs of the 24c stamp used on May 15, 1918, one of them addressed to President Woodrow Wilson.

A probably unique item shown was a cover with a block of four bearing "the May 16, 1918, First Trip" cancellation. It is believed that about six covers only are known with this error in the cancellation. The cover, in Mr. Silver's collection, is probably the only one with a block of four. Another possibly unique item shown was a cover cancelled May 15th 4 PM., this cancellation being Mr. Silver's own discovery. In more than forty years since the first flight of May 15, 1918, this is the only type known other than the normal May 15, 1918 and 10 AM. Washington D. C. cancellations noted in Mr. Goodkind's book on this stamp.

Rounding out the 1918 issue, Mr. Silver showed one of the three known July 11, 1918 first day covers with the 16c stamp and one of the six known December 10, 1918 first day covers of the 6c stamp. Many other covers of the 1918 issues were shown, special emphasis being placed on the rates applicable to usage during the various periods.

Later issues to and including the 10c Lindbergh stamp were shown. Included were unused multiple and position pieces, first day covers and large die proofs of each of the issues. In the Lindbergh section were two first day covers showing different types of the recently listed "Chicago Air Mail Field" cancellation of June 18, 1927. One of these, franked with both Canadian and United States stamps, became a Chicago first day cover only because it missed a plane connection at Detroit.

Mr. Silver's collection of United States air mail stamps is very comprehensive and it probably should be shown in its entirety at some future meeting of the Collectors Club, rather than in a program as that of November 18th when the exhibitor's time was limited.

At the Board of Governors Meetings held in October and November, 1959 the following new members were elected:

4665 Harry Mark Daggett, Jr., Vancouver, Canada. Collects Air Postal Stationery, Philatelic Bibliography of BNA and West Indies, Reply Coupons, Censored Covers.
4666 Roger K. Frigstad, St. Paul, Minn. Collects Guatemala.
4667 Stanley Berman, New York, N. Y. Collects Japan, Great Britain, Postal Stationery.
4668 John H. Hall, Jr., Scarsdale, N. Y. Collects German States, Roman States.
4669 John Ernest Hoffman, Lexington, Mass. Collects Scandinavia, Germany, United States.
4670 Louis J. Horovitz, Sunnyvale, Calif. Collects World-wide Locals and Registration labels.
4671 Ward M. Robinson, Delray Beach, Fla. Collects 19th Century United States.
4672 Robert E. Adamson, Jr., Pleasanton, Calif. Collects Argentina, Chile.
4673 Robert T. Anderson, Orlando, Fla. Collects United States.
4674 Harold H. Fisher, Miami Beach, Fla. Collects British Colonies, United States, United Nations, Israel, Ghana.
4675 Jesse Burgess Thomas, Georgetown, Mass. Collects Ships, Postal History.
4676 William R. Bush, M. D., Canton, Ohio. Collects United States.

4677 Solomon Altmann, Flushing, N. Y. Collects United States Essays and Proofs.
4678 Manuel Selengut, Landing, N. J. Collects General.
4679 Harold Sherman, Newburgh, N. Y. Collects Christmas Seals, Revenues.
4680 Albert Buenger, Cincinnati, Ohio. Collects United States.
4681 Mrs. J. C. McDonald, Canton, Ohio. Collects 19th Century Canada, BNA Postal History.
4682 Alfred G. Duerst, Yonkers, N. Y. Collects Switzerland, United Nations.
4683 Vernon A. Johnson, Chicago, Ill. Collects Scandinavia, Japan.
4684 Kai H. Hansen, Detroit, Mich. Collects Scandinavia.
4685 G. M. Geldert, M. D., Ottawa, Canada. Collects Malta, Canada Pence.

1960 MEETINGS

January 6th — *UNITED STATES REVENUES*—Morton D. Joyce

January 13th — *ANNUAL MEETING*

January 20th — *DOMINICAN REPUBLIC*—His Excellency the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic, Dr. Luis F. Thomen

February 3rd — *EGYPT*—Ernest A. Kehr

February 17th — *HUNGARY*—John L. Briggs, Jr.

March 2nd — *COLOMBIA AND STATES*—Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham

March 16th — *CARIBBEAN CRUISE*—Irwin M. Yarry, D. D. S.

April 6th — *SAAR*—W. A. Katz, M. D.

April 20th — *ANNUAL COMPETITION*

May 4th — *NETHERLANDS AND COLONIES*—Netherlands and Colonies Philatelists

May 18th — *THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF MEXICO* in Relation to the Archaeology and Primitive Indians of Mexico— Abner I. Weisman, M. D., F. A. C. S.

June 1st — *SYMPOSIUM*

SUMMER RECESS

September 21st — *BERMUDA*—M. H. Ludington

October 5th — *DEALERS' NIGHT, "THINGS I DID NOT SELL"*—Ezra D. Cole, Chairman

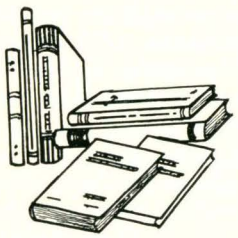
October 19th — *UNITED NATIONS AND PRECURSORS*—Maurice Tripet

November 2nd — *CENTENNIAL HERMES HEADS OF GREECE*—Hellenic Philatelic Society

November 16th — *NEWFOUNDLAND' AERO-PHILATELY*—James J. Matejka, Jr., M. D.

December 7th — *BULGARIA*—Herbert P. Woodward

December 21st — *HONGKONG AND TREATY PORT CANCELLATIONS*—George E. Burghard



BOOK REVIEWS

The Dragon Stamps Of Japan 1871-1872, by Dr. Soichi Ichida. Ikeda Publishing Co., Tokyo 1959, (16)+220+color guides+11 photo prints of full sheets. American supply limited to 200 copies. $15.00 from the American Agent, H. L. Lindquist Publications, 153 Waverly Place, New York, N. Y.

Since World War II, the remarkable rise in the interest and study of Japanese stamps has created a great demand for literature on them. This is especially true of the 19th century issues.

As far as the first issues of 1871-72 are concerned, this demand has been amply met by this newly published work of outstanding merit. Dr. Ichida is one of Japan's most distinguished philatelists, and with the cooperation of Mr. Yoshihiko Kanamori, has given his fellow philatelists an indispensable tool in the study of these complicated and charming stamps.

The charts and drawings so well done by Mr. Kanamori, together with the system of grouping and classification by Dr. Ichida, enable anyone to plate these stamps with comparatively little trouble. Not only that, but if a stamp cannot be plated according to these drawings, it must be viewed with considerable suspicion as either a reprint or a counterfeit.

With the exception of six positions of Plate III of the 1 sen, all the plate positions are individually described and illustrated, a total of 354 positions for the nine plates used.

While the book is primarily concerned with the plating of these stamps, there are comprehensive chapters on the postal history, foreign post offices, discussion of the methods of production, perforations and papers used.

One of the most unusual features is the illustration of a number of covers, each having a transparent facing on which are printed numbered rectangles fitting the various inscriptions on the covers. The captions correspondingly numbered give the English translation of these writings, an ingenious solution of a difficult problem, as well as of great assistance to this book's users.

All concerned with the production of this work deserve the unstinted praise of their fellow students of Japanese stamps in particular, and serious philatelists in general, for such a lucid presentation of the attractions of a fascinating group of stamps. *(W. S. B.)*

Stamp Portraits Of The Queen by Cyril R. H. Parsons. Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd. 391 Strand, London, W. C. 2., England, May 1959. 31 pages. Price 6s6d, postage abroad 4d.

In 1955 the author began writing articles in the Gibbons monthly magazine, tracing the sources of Queen Elizabeth II stamp portraits. As these articles proved very popular, this booklet was published to place on permanent record the sources of the various portraits of the Queen which have so far appeared on the British Commonwealth stamps.

The different stamp portraits, some of which had never been previously shown, are divided into three groups; those modelled directly from photographs by Dorothy Wilding Ltd, the ones based on photographs from various other sources, and portraits of the Queen together with the Duke of Edinburgh.

The different characteristics of the methods used by various engravers and printers are well explained and excellent photographic reproductions are shown. All stamps showing the various portraits in one form or other are listed by "The Stanley Gibbons" catalogue numbers, and space has been alotted for some of the stamps to be mounted on the pages.

Since this inexpensive booklet with its 76 illustrations is printed on one side only, the specialist would do well in obtaining two copies; one for his library and another to cut out the text and illustrations for mounting in a collection of Queen Elizabeth stamps. This well-printed and beautifully produced booklet should serve well the interested collector.

(Fred Kahn)

The Congress Book 1959. 25th Edition. American Philatelic Congress, publisher. 189 pp., illustrated with both Index and Cumulative Index at end. Cloth bound. Obtainable from Mrs. Conway Zirkle, 2307 Secane Rd., Secane, Pa. (Price not stated.)

Omitting comments upon organizational articles by philatelic societies' presidents, the Silver Anniversary edition of the APC book continues the fine philatelic tradition in respect to the recording of philatelic knowledge, as most of the past editions have.

There are in this latest edition articles on 14 different subjects by the same number of authors. A high percentage of the articles are documented, two in a most scholarly manner. A few, unfortunately, fail to mention any source material. Also, some new authors were noted, always a healthy omen for the future welfare of philately.

In this reviewer's opinion, two articles in this book represent good philatelic study and are far superior to the others. These are 'Canal Zone—The Hamilton Bank Note Issue 1906-7," by Lt. Col. James T. DeVoss and "The Development of The Postal System of The Chinese People's Republic 1927-49," by Allen D. Kerr. Some of the other articles, although not in the class of the aforementioned, offer some worthy points. As usual, one or two articles left this reviewer rather "cold."

All in all, this is a very fine book, well printed and produced with a readable type and clear illustrations. With its diversification, it seems sure that any philatelist seeking further knowledge will gain by reading the articles in this book. *(H. M. G.)*

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The Library Committee ** reports the following acquisitions:

**American Philatelic Congress, Twenty-Fifth Philatelic Congress Book 1959,* Edited by Svend Yort, 189 pages, illustrated.

The Australian Stamp Catalogue 1960, 24 pages, 2/6 (Australian), paper cover, Published by Review Publications Pty Ltd, Dubbo, N. S. W., Australia. Courtesy of the publisher.

> This is a simplified catalog of the issues of the Commonwealth only, and is not a specialist catalog in the true philatelic sense of the word. It contains information not found in the general catalogs that would prove most useful to the topical collector and the "one-country" enthusiast.

Handbook Of Austria And Lombardy-Venetia Cancellations, 1850-1864 Issues, by Edwin Mueller. Section 5, 32 pages, $25.00 for all 12 sections, Published by Heinrich Geitner, Wein, Austria, for The Mercury Stamp Company, New York, N. Y. Gift of the author.

> This, the fifth of the proposed twelve sections, lists cancellations from 2570, Schwanenstadt, to 3209, Weyer.

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* Reviewed in this number.

** The Library Committee through its Chairman, M. G. O'Reilly, has instituted a new policy starting with this first 1960 number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. In addition to the customary listings of new books, a few comments are added about each book's contents, with the exception of those that have received separate and longer reviews.

—*(The Editor.)*

A Brief History Of The Post Offices In The Town Of Craftsbury, Vt. by George C. Slawson, 12 pages, 1959, Hardwick, Vt. Published as a supplement to "The Vermont Philatelist" by the Vermont Philatelic Society.

The title is self-explanatory.

British Commonwealth Stamp Catalog 1960, Edited by George A. Tlamsa, 466 pages, $3.00, paper cover, Minkus Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y. 1959. Gift of the publisher.

This, one of the thirteen Regional Catalogs to be published by Minkus Publications, lists all stamps of Great Britain, her Colonies, Dominions, Possessions and Territories in the same complete manner as found in the Minkus general catalogs.

The Marquess Of Bute Collection Of Ireland 1867-1927, catalog of auction, R. Lowe, 1959, bound with list of prices realized. Gift of H. G. Zervas.

This auction catalog is especially valuable as it records full panes of some of the shilling values where multiples of nine and eleven were previously the largest on record.

Catalogue Berck, France And General Colonies, 214 pages, paper cover, ring binder, Published by Edouard Berck, Paris, France. Courtesy of the Publisher.

This is an extremely valuable catalog for the specialist. The classic issues are catalogued to the extreme, with postmarks, pairs, multiples, covers and plate varieties receiving thorough treatment. Specialized treatment is also given the latter issues.

Catalogue De Timbres-Poste Nations Unies 1960, 59 pages, paper cover, Edited by Clement Brun, Published by Brun et Fils, Paris, France. Courtesy of the publisher.

Lists stamps of United Nations and associated interests. This catalog will be of interest also to the topical collector.

Catalogue De Timbres-Poste Sports Et Scoutisme 1960. Edited by Clement Brun, 80 pages, paper cover, Published by Brun et Fils Paris, France. Courtesy of the publisher.

This is a topical catalog of stamps pertaining to sports and to the subject of scouting.

The Commonwealth Catalogue Of Queen Elizabeth Stamps, 1960, 127 pages, clothbound, 6/6 (plus postage), The Commonwealth Stamp Coy., Liverpool, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

The Commonwealth catalog lists and prices all stamps of the Commonwealth issues (to late September 1959) during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, including shades, retouches, flaws, booklets, etc. Although politically incongruous but philatelically harmonious, all stamps specifically issued for the Republic of Ireland are given the same thorough treatment in the catalog afforded the QEII stamps.

**The Dragon Stamps Of Japan 1871-1872,* Dr. Soichi Ichida, 198 pages illus., including diagrams and tracings, 10 plates and a color guide, $15.00, cloth bound, Ikeda Publishing Company, Tokyo, Japan. Purchased by the Library.

Early American Steamers, by Erik Heyl, Vol. I 465 pages, 1953, and Vol. II 285 pages, 1956, Published by the author, Buffalo, N. Y. Purchased by the Library.

These two volumes give a history of the steamers of this country and Canada built during the period ca. 1810-1870. They include Trans-atlantic, Trans-pacific, coastal, Great Lakes, and Gold Rush steamers. An illustration accompanies each steamer's history which has been collated from government reports, newspaper records, magazine articles and maritime histories.

Doctors Philatelic, by Oscar Gottfried 96 pages, 1954, and 16 pages, (supplement) 1958, published by The American Physician Inc., New York, N. Y. Gift of the author.

This work lists biographical data, particularly of medical significance, of the doctors portrayed on postage stamps. Well illustrated and of topical interest.

First International Rocket Mail, U. S. A.-Mexico, July 2, 1936, by Oliver Keith Rumbel, 64 pages, illus, cloth bound, Sponsored and published by the Loyal Service Post No. 37, American Legion McAllen, Texas, Number 304 of a limited edition. Gift of the American Legion Service Post No. 37 and Mr. O. K. Rumbel.

This work is a deluxe compilation of the records, newspaper reports, and information of the rocket mail carried on the flight from McAllen, Texas to Reynosa, Mexico on July 2, 1936, including color plates of the stamps, proofs and the development of their design.

Ferrari, Plates from the catalog of the fourth sale (June 14, 1922) of M. Ferrari de la Renotiere. Gift of Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham.

Jaarverslag Nederlands Postmuseum 1958, T. van Houwelingen and A. D. Huismen, 36 pages, paper bound, published by the Netherlands Postal Museum, in Gravenhage, Nederland, 1959. Gift of the museum.

These thirty-six pages are the report of the Dutch Postal Museum for the year 1958. They list the gifts received, the newer exhibits, and the other activities of the museum.

Locations And Assignments, U. S. Army Postoffices, World War II, Second Edition, by A. J. Tripp, 74 pages, loose leaf, paper cover, a publication of the War Cover Club, Detroit, Mich., 1959. Gift of the War Cover Club.

This is a compilation of U. S. Army post offices from the period of the establishment of the lend-lease bases through 1941. An eleven page Type-Chart of postmarks of the U. S. Army Postal Service 1941-1946 prepared by C. D. Brenner and M. R. Boggett and published by the WCC in 1951 accompanies the more recent publication.

Italy And Colonies, San Marino, Vatican City Stamp Catalog, 1960 Edited by George A. Tlamsa, 103 pages, $1.00, paper cover, published by Minkus Publications Inc., New York, N. Y.

Another of the compact Regional catalogs designed for the collector who concentrates on a single country or group of countries.

Mosden U. A. R. and Iraq Republic Catalogue 1960, Edited by E. H. Moshi, 48 pages, paper cover, $0.90, published by The Mosden Stamp Company Ltd., New York, N. Y., 1959. Courtesy of the publisher.

A pricelist of the publishers which catalogs the stamps issued by Egypt and Syria since their merger to form the United Arab Republic in 1958. It lists also the Egyptian stamps overprinted for use in Palestine, the Iraq Republic issues and those stamps printed for the Kingdom of Yemen in 1959.

New World Postage Stamp Catalog, Volume III, 1960, Edited by George A. Tlamsa, 1206 pages, cloth bound, $7.95, Minkus Publications Inc., New York, N. Y. 1959. Courtesy of the publisher.

Volume III of the Minkus' World Wide Catalogues lists the stamps of Europe and Colonies with the exception of those of Great Britain which are listed in Volumes I and II. As in the other volumes the historical information is extended far beyond that usually found in the standard catalogues.

Philatelic Socities' Yearbook 1959-1960, 144 pages, paper bound, 2/6d, published by The British Philatelic Association, London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

As indicated by the title, this book lists all of the active general and specialized philatelic societies in the British Isles and the Republic of Ireland, together with other timely information.

**Stamp Portraits Of The Queen,* by Cyril R. H. Parsons, 31 pages, paper bound, published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

Postage Stamps Of United Nations Philatelic Interest, 108 pages, unbound, a publication of the United Nations Philatelic Society, New York, N. Y., 1959. A gift of the UNPS.

This is a compilation, using standard catalog numbers, of stamps of United Nation's interest.

Stamp Collectors' Annual 1960, Edited by Tom Morgan, 88 pages, illus., paper bound, 3/6d, published by Harris Publications Ltd., London, England. Courtesy of the publisher.

This philatelic annual offers the usual varied fare, ranging from philatelic pulchritude to a James Negus article on the stamps and postmarks of modern Mongolia.

Stamps Of Palestine Specialized Catalog, Dr. W. Hoexter and S. Lachmann, 53 pages, paper bound, published by Dr. Hoexter, Haifa, Israel. Purchased by the Library.

Although disclaimed as a handbook by the compilers, this specialized catalogue would put many so-called handbooks to shame. It covers the period from the British Administration of Palestine down through the present. Much new material has been added to this, the second edition, and pricing has been adjusted to current levels.

Stanley Gibbons Simplified Stamp Catalogue 1960 1008 pages, illus., cloth bound, $4.25, (obtainable from Jacob Habib, New York, N. Y.) published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London England. Courtesy of the publisher.

This is the "Silver Jubilee" edition of the "Simplified" and its listing of approximately 100,000 stamps suggests the ultimate need for a super-simplified catalog. Many changes have been made in format and the former bulky volume has been reduced to a manageable book.

Ukraine 1918-20. Bezirk Poltawa, by Dr. Seichter-Soltau, 27 pages (of which 15 are plates), paper bound, a publication of the Ukraine Philatelisten Verbandes, 1959, Gift of the author.

This work is concerned with late use of these stamps and the many plates illustrate use in the early and middle twenties.

Yvert & Tellier Catalogue De Timbres-Poste 1960, In three volumes, Vol. I, France and Colonies; Vol. II, Europe; Vol. III, the rest of the world. Published by Editions Yvert et Tellier, Amiens, France. Purchased by the Library.

The change in pricing in this edition of the Yvert catalog's (to the new fanc, approximately 5 to the U. S. dollar) made it mandatory that their internationally accepted catalog be available to the members.

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Through the courtesy of *Dr. Karl Th. Meyer,* the Library has acquired the following specially bound sections of "the Club News" published by *the Berliner Philatelisten Klub von 1888*:

Gedenkschrift zur 100. Wiederkehr des Geburststages von Carl Lindenberg. 63 vereinsjahr May 1950, neue folge Nr 8, pages 107-188.

Festnummer zum 90, Geburstag von Dr. Franz Kalckhoff am 30 November 1950. 63 vereinsjahr, Nov. 1950, neue folge Nr. 10. pages 218-278.

Festnummer zur 65. Wiederkehr der Klubgrundung am Januar 1953. 66 vereins jahr, Jan. 1953, neue folge Nr. 17, pages 155-259.

Festnummer zu den 80. Geburtstagen der Herren Nils Strandell und Richard Renner. 69 vereinsjahr, neue folge Nr. 23, pages 75-132.

(Continued on Page 50)

URUGUAY

Letter-Numeral Cancellations of Interior Post Offices

By ROBERT HOFFMAN

(Continued from Vol. 38 page 307)

"F" — DEPARTAMENTO COLONIA — Capital Colonia —

1. (Martin Chico, Riachuelo, Tarariras, Estación Tarariras)
2. Colonia – (Muelle Astilleros)
3. Riachuelo – (Artilleros)
4. Migueletes – (Miguelete)
5. Colonia – (Ultima Hora)
6. (Conchillas)
7. Juan L. Lacaze – (Colonia Española, Colonia Valdense, Juan Lacaze, San Pedro)
8. San Pedro – (Antolin, Paso de Antolin, San Juan)
9. (Carmelo)
10. Juan González
11. El Cerro Carmelo – (Cerro del Carmelo)
12. (Carmelo U. H., Villa Carmelo)
13. (Nueva Palmira, Palmira, Nueva Helvecia)
14. Paso de Minuano – (Campos del Toscano)
15. Cerro de las Armas
16. Costa del Rosario – (La Agraciada, Agraciada)
17. Piedra Chata – (Cufré, Colonia Española)
18. Barra San Juan – (Rosario, Villa de Rosario)
19. (Nueva Helvecia, Colonia Nueva Helvecia)
20. (La Paz, Colonia Piamontesa)
21. Cerro de San Juan – (Nueva Palmira Artigas, Nueva Palmira U. H.)
22. Polanco – (Polancos)
23. Colonia Estrella – (Colonia Mallorquina)
24. Mart. Nueva Palmira – (Nueva Palmira)
25. Costa de Viboras
26. (Víboras – Costa de Vacas, Punta de Víboras)
27. La Laguna – (Malabrigo)
28. Rosario – (Ultima Hora)
29. (Estación Estanzuela, Laguna de los Patos)
30. San Salvador – (Cuchilla San Salvador–La Palma, Canteras del Riachuelo)
31. Paso de Artillero – (Riachuelo, Puntas del Rosario, Artilleros)
32. Estación Barker – (Minuano)
33. Colonia de Pichinango – (Colonia, Polonia, Costa del Colla, Paso de Zabala, Costa de Colonia)
34. Puntas de San Juan – (San Juan, Del Colla)
35. Puerto Rosario – (Puntas de San Juan, Puntas San Salvador)
36. Canteras del Minuano – (Tala de Miguelete)
37. Colonia Cosmopolita – (Puerto del Rosario, Cosmopolita)
38. Costas del Chileno – (El Chileno)
39. Juntas de Rosario – (Puerto de Rosario, La Palma)
40. Colonia Arrué – (Colonia Tirolesa)
41. Colonia Española – (Ombú de Lavalle)
42. Laguna de los Patos – (La Palma)
43. Colonia Suiza – (Nueva Helvecia, Hotel Suizo)
44. (Puerto Sauce, Pueblo Juan Lacaze)
45. Paso de los Indios – (Piedra de los Indios, Puerto del Sauce)
46. Paso de la Horqueta
47. (Estafeta Vapor Luna)
48. Costas del Rosario – (Pichinango, Carmelo)
49. Paso del Hospital – (Pantanoso)

50. C. de Santa Rosa – (Juan Gonzalez)
51. Tres Esquinas – (Tres Esquinas y Goya)
52. (Estación Curfé)
53. Parada Rivas – (Radial Juan Lacaze, Martin Chico, Parada Rica)
54. Concordia – (Concordia–Colonia Suiza, Concordia)
55. Colonia Estrella
56. Estación Colonia Suiza
57. Manatiales – (Estación San Luis)
58. Puerto Espinosa – (Colonia)
59. Colonia
60. Miguelete Compana – (Canteras del Riachelo)
61. (Tala Miguelete, Sauce del Miguelete)
62. Polanco – (Polanco, Puntas de Albertano)
63. Las Flores
64. El Cuadro – (San Juan)
65. Cañada de Ventura
66. Tararirás
67. Colonia San Pedro – (Colonia U.H.)
68. Paso Antolin–San Juan – (Paso de Antolin)
69. (Ombúes de Lavalle)
70. Colonia Belgrano
71. Carmelo
72. Paso de Sena – (Conchillas)
73. Rosario
74. Real de San Carlos – (Playa Ceibal)
75. Colonia Miguelota
76. Artilleros
77. El General
78. Nuevo Torino
79. Barra de San Juan
80. Esq. Santa Rosa – (Santa Rosa)
81. Puerto Carmelo – (Colonia)
82. (Estación San Luis, Curupí)
83. Cerro Carmelo – (El Cerro)
84. Martin Chico
85. Campana
86. Real de San Carlos
87. Colonia Peirano – (Costa Navarro)
88. (Punta Francesa)
89. Paso Minuano – (Puntas de Minuano)
90. Miguelete Santa Rosa
91. El Cerro–O. de Lavalle – (El Cuadro–O. de Lavalle)
92. Puntas del Chileno
93. Nueva Helvecia
94. J. Lacaze
95. Santa Elena – (San Roque)
96. Pichinango
97. Kilómetro 165 – (Riachuelo)
98. (Colonia Miguelete)
99. Playa Seré–Carmelo – (Playa Seré)
100. San Pedro
101. Colonia
102. Canteras Riachuelo – (Riachuelo)
104. Colonia
105. Colonia
108. (La Laguna)
109. Carmelo
110. Carmelo
111. Carmelo – (Barrio Centenario–Carmelo)
112. Paso de la Arena
113. (Juan Gonzalez–Hotel Casino)
114. (Boca de Rosario)
115. (Colonia Piamontesa)

"G" — DEPARTAMENTO SAN JOSE — Capital San José —

1. (San José, Estafeta) (Guaycurú)

2. (Ecilda Paullier, Santa Tilda, Escudero)
3. (Libertad)
4. San Gregorio – (Arroyo San Gregorio)
5. Piedras de Pavon – (Paso de las Piedras de Pavon, Ituzaingo)
6. Chamizo – (Paso de las Mulas)
7. (Estación Rodriguez del F. C. C. U.)
8. Paso Carreton – (Costa de San Grogorio, San José U. H.)
9. (San José, Sauce)
10. (Guaycurú, Parada Guaycurú)
11. (Estación Raigón, Raigón)
12. (San José U. H.)
13. (Estación Gonzalez, Jesus Maria)
14. Capurro – (Ituzaingó, San José U. H.)
15. Bifurcación – (Arroyo Peirera)
16. (San José, Ultima Hora de Chamizo)
17. Cañada Grande
18. (San José, Puntas del Arroyo Grande)
19. Arroyo Llano – (Estación Mercedes, Estafeta Ambulante)
20. Puntas de San Gregorio – (Estafeta a Colonia)
21. Costas de Cagancha – (Puntas a Mallada)
22. Rincon del Pino
23. Puntas de Guayabós – (Puntas de Valdez, Valdez)
24. (Tala)
25. (Capurro, Estación F. C. C.)
26. Bella Vista – (Pavón)
27. (Mal Abrigo, Cerro Pelado)
28. Puntas de Guayabós – (Costa de Chamizo)
29. Pavón – (Estafeta Ambulante)
30. Bañado – (Lata de Morales)
31. (Arroyo La Quinta, P. San Gregorio)
32. Costa de San Gregorio – (San Gregorio, San José)
34. (San José)
35. Cruz de los Caminos – (Cerro de San Juan, Flor de Chamizo)
36. Coronillas – (Coronilla, Arroyo Castellanos)
37. (San José)
38. Jesús Maria – (San José)
39. Costa de Sarandí
40. Cerro
41. Mahomo
42. Km. 39 y medio – (Buschental)
43. Paso de Valdez
44. (Tala)
45. Carreta Quemada
46. Cagancha
47. Rincon de la Torre
48. (Libertad)
49. (San José)
50. Costas de Burgos
51. Costas de Pereira
52. (San José, Puntas Laurel)
53. Cuchilla Mangrullo
54. Rincon de Cufre
55. (Parador La Boyada)
56. Manatiales – (Costas de Albornoz)
57. Paso Valdez
58. (San José)
59. (Costas Albornoz)
60. Puntas de Cañada Grande
61. Cañada Grande
62. Chamizo
63. (Libertad)
66. (San José)
69. Km 32 Carretera a Colonia
70. (Arroyo La Virgen)

(To Be Continued)

ARGENTINE

Unrecorded Proofs

By ERNEST A. KEHR

No record of them could be found in any philatelic journal[1], but the existence of ten extraordinarily striking color proofs of recent Argentine stamps has been discovered. As such items have a way of finding themselves offered in the philatelic market, a description of them is presented herewith.

In early 1950, the writer had heard reports of the operation of a Giori Press at the Casa de Moneda de la Nacion, a modern security printing plant operated by the government in Buenos Aires, for the production of paper money, postal and fiscal stamps and other government paper of value. Despite numerous attempts to inspect this plant through regular channels, permission was denied until the matter was brought to the personal attention of deposed president Juan D. Peron.

A visit was arranged, but even then a close inspection of the revolutionary printing machine which is capable of printing up to seven colors in a single operation, from a single engraved plate, was prohibited. It took a second presidential order to give the writer access to what he wanted to see. But at that time, both Mr. Giori and Mr. Cohen, heads of the Giori Press firm demonstrated everything. They produced record books which contained proof impressions of accepted stamp designs and designs of essays which never were used as stamps, all printing having been done in a wide variety of colors and combinations.

While a cursory record of what was seen in 1950 was made at the time, a list would hardly be of any serious philatelic interest for these prints were made on an experimental basis and are kept in the vaults of the Casa de Moneda with very little chance of their ever getting out.

Now, however, the ten mentioned stamps are in existence and it is theoretically possible that stamp collectors may be faced with their appearance on the market.

While in Buenos Aires last July, the writer re-visited the Casa de Moneda to witness what progress had been made with the Giori Press experiments. Where a single prototype press had been working experimentally in 1950, the Casa de Moneda now has a battery of five of them in full operation. The "bugs" obviously had been found and improved, for the Giori machines were going at full speed—they were printing paper money, not stamps—at the time of my visit.

Following the visit, the director showed me an impressive book, produced in 1956, on the occasion of the plant's seventy-fifth anniversary. Its pages describe in text and pictures, all the facilities of the Casa de Moneda; methods of engraving, etching, printing and all the other technical steps required in security printing. As a reference work, this book is as fine a source of information as the writer ever saw. But what was most impressive is one page measuring 13¾x10, upon which were printed, from engraved plates, the ten stamps plus the face of a 10-peso banknote.

Captioned, "Muestras de Estampillas y Ensayo de Billete de Banco," the stamps are neatly arranged between delicate scrolls. As a unit, the page makes a spectacular display of the fine craftsmanship of Casa de Moneda artists. However, the scrollwork is far enough from the designs that it is possible for someone to cut the stamps from the page and offer them as individual prints to excite a philatelic specialist.

The following, then, is a list of the stamps and the colors in which they are printed on this "sample" page:

1. The two-volume Kneitschel catalogue was carefully examined, but no mention of them could be found in this otherwise comprehensive handbook of Argentine philatelic material.

1. 25 centavo, U. P. U. commemorative of 1949 (Scott #586) printed in dark purple and brown instead of dark and yellow green;
2. 10 centavo, San Martin (Scott #587) black and indigo instead of indigo and dark purple;
3. 20 centavo, San Martin (Scott #588) purple and green instead of red brown and dark brown;
4. 50 centavo, San Martin (Scott #590) green and red-brown instead of dark green and indigo;
5. 75 centavo, San Martin (Scott #591) purple and greenish-blue instead of chocolate and dark green;
6. 50 centavo, Buenos Aires Harbor (Scott #633) green and purple instead of blue;
7. 3 peso, Nihuil Dam, (Scott #638) brown, blue and green instead of violet-brown;
8. 5 peso, Iguassu Falls, (Scott #639) green, brown and violet instead of gray-green;
9. 10 peso, Humahuaca Cliffs, (Scott #640) purple, brown, green and blue instead of yellow-green;
10. 20 peso, Mt. FitzRoy, (Scott #641) purple and blue instead of dull violet.

The Director of the Casa de Moneda assured me that during the two and a half years since this book has been in existence, copies had been distributed to only the highest government officials directly concerned with security printing or postage stamp production. The small supply originally produced have been kept in the vaults, lest there be any distribution to unauthorized persons for their value, should they get into the philatelic market, is fully appreciated.

After having seen it, this writer immediately checked with philatelic circles in Buenos Aires, but not even the top leaders of Argentina's stampdom had known of its existence.

So far neither the page as a whole, nor the individual specimens had been placed on the market. But knowing that some officials are inclined to dispose for cash, items they get in the normal course of their duties, it is more than likely that one day some of these will indeed make their appearance.

This article does not minimize the "value" of these proofs—for there is no question of their legitimacy and scarcity; it merely wishes to report the real purpose for which they were produced and how they were distributed.

(Continued from Page 45)

Festnummer zur 70. Wiederkehr Seiner Grundung. 71 vereinsjahr, neue folge Nr. 27, pages 33-55.

Festnummer zur Erinnerung an die 80. Geburtstage der Herren Dr. Siegfried Ascher und Alfred Boehm-Tettelbach. 71 vereinsjahr, Nov. 1958, neue folge Nr. 29, pages 77-112.

* * * *

In response to the publication of the Library's Want List the following were received:

Revista Da La Sociedad Filatelica Argentina, whole numbers; 391, 392, 393, 395, 397, and 398. Gift of Mr. Alvaro Bonilla-Lara.

Philatelic and associated literature were received also from Messrs. Oscar Gottfried, Nathan Hals, J. F. Westerberg, Sol Whitman, Dr. Cyril V. Gross and Aero Philatelists. Dr. George Camnitzer contributed a year's subscription to *Deutsch Zeitung fur Briefmarkenkunde (DBZ).*

The Library Committee and the Board of Governors of the Collectors Club acknowledge, with thanks and appreciation, the gifts to the library's collections.

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COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK PARTICIPATING IN INTERPEX 1960



Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck, President of the Collectors Club of New York, announced that the Collectors Club will participate in the international stamp exhibition INTERPEX 1960, to be held from March 25 - 27 in New York City. Mr. Haverbeck further stated, "the choicest material from the collections of the Board of Governors and the Club's own collections will be selected and displayed by invitation in 32 frames in a special Court of Honor at the Exhibition."

Classic issues from the early 19th century up to the great rarities of the 20th century will be on display, including selected pages from such internationally famous collections as John R. Boker's U. S. Local Stamps, Henry M. Goodkind's and Stanley Rice's Air Mails, H. D. S. Haverbeck's Classic Issues of Indian Feudatory States, John Britt's Proofs, Louis Stich's Corrientes, Herbert Woodward's Bulgaria Stamps, George Burghard's Hong Kong and others. A committee, headed by H. M. Goodkind, has been created to make the necessary arrangements for this outstanding presentation.

This show will be held at the Trade Show Building, and is organized by Herbert Rosen, President of Industrial Exhibitions Inc.

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