



MIDLAND (G.B.)
POSTAL HISTORY
SOCIETY 1975



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BULLETIN NO. 12 NOVEMBER

Editorial

THE PERPETUAL SEARCH

Having once again run out of articles and bits and pieces to publish in the Bulletin the search is once more on for more material. So please stir yourselves and put pen to paper. There is enough scope in Postal History to tempt you. How about letting fellow members in on some recent acquisitions? and what you paid for them?

Make a resolution to provide the Bulletin with an 'article' or the Society with a new member - one or the other. Thanking you in anticipation.

Hinckley Meeting

First meeting of this season was held on 23rd Sept. at Hinckley and some interesting items were displayed by members. There were also four guests/visitors. If space is available a report on the items displayed should appear on 'the back page' of this issue.

COVENTRY MEETING

SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER (18th)

This meeting coincides with the Annual Coventry Stamp Fair held at Sibree Hall, Warwick Row. Stamp Fair is open from 10 am until 5 pm. and is well worth a visit. There are usually some 14 dealers there - many dealing in postal history material. Snack and refreshments are available. Our Society meeting will start at 2 pm until approx 4 pm. The Chairman would like members to bring along a record of the various Midland Duplex marks you may have to enable an initial listing to be prepared.

Suggest some
"Stand-by" Exhibits
also

BURTON MEETING

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER

This meeting follows shortly after our Coventry meeting and will take place at The Bass Museum in Burton on Trent. The Chairman will be pleased to welcome early arrivals (at 11 am) for a tour around the Museum (well worth it) snack luncheon facilities are available at very moderate prices. The Society meeting will start at 2 pm and will consist of a discussion led by Mr. Tony Barrett of the Birmingham Archive Library on renovation (and repair) of postal history material. This is an 'open meeting' at which guests and visitors will be welcomed.

A Brief History of the
LEAMINGTON POST OFFICE.

POST OFFICE

The first record of a Post Office at Leamington is given in a history of the town published in 1960, which records that a Benjamin Satchwell, one of the discoverers of the Spa water, was postmaster from 1783 to 1810, the office being in his cottage in Mill Street, and served from the posttown of Warwick. On his death, his daughter a Mrs. Hopton became postmistress and the office being transferred to Clemens Street some years later when her husband became postmaster.

In 1830 the office was moved to Bath Street under a Mr. G. Bevington and three years later moved to another site, also in Bath Street but the postmaster being a Mr. E. Enoch.

Several petitions to the Postmaster General for upgrading to a Crown Office were submitted as the population was growing very rapidly due to an increase in visitors 'taking the waters' for medicinal treatment and eventually in 1846 Crown status was achieved and an imposing new post office was built in Bath Street. This was large enough to cope with the increasing volume of postal business. Mr. E. Enoch continuing as postmaster until his retirement in 1870.

At this time increasing business required larger premises and in 1870 a new single storey building was erected at the corner of the Parade and Priory Terrace, adjacent to the Parish Church, a second storey being added later to accomodate the telegraph office.

In 1970 this office was closed to permit rebuilding of the sorting office, the counter business being transferred to the other side of the Parade and the sorting office to Bedford Street. The new Sorting Office is now in operation.

POSTMARKS

With regard to the postmarks, I feel that a straightline mark of some type would have been used, but so far have failed to find one. The earliest mark that I have is dated 1819, a Warwick Penny Post with a boxed No.1. Leamington being No.1 office of the Warwick Penny Post.

In 1826 Leamington was using a Fleuron in conjunction with the Warwick P.P. this being replaced in 1828 by an undated circular mark and again in 1832 by a similar but much larger type.

1833 saw the introduction of circular date stamps and the establishment of a Leamington Penny Post (which there are several different types) with three receiving houses. No.1 being located in Bettisons Library in the Parade, a site now occupied by Rackhams and for many years there was a posting box in the Store which disappeared sometime during the many alterations. From 1840 this office used two straight-line marks, Athenaeum Upper Parade and Upper Parade Leamington.

I have never seen either No. 2 or No. 3, although I understand one of them was Bishops Tachbrook. The other may have been in South Parade (now Clarendon Avenue) where there was a sub-office in 1856 using a straight line mark.

contd.

Leamington was issued with a Maltese Cross canceller in 1846 which was replaced in 1843 by a locally made stamp of the same basic design giving the identifiable "Leamington Cross". All the impressions from this stamp appear to be blurred.

1844 saw the Number in oval of bars type and in 1856 the Leamington Spoon, followed by at least four different types of the Duplex Mark, one of which is recorded in the Proof Book which I have yet to see.

The duplexes were followed by two types of squared circle and in 1887 the name was altered to Leamington Spa. From then on until the amalgamation of the Leamington and Warwick Offices in the 1930's the usual double circle and machine cancellations were in use.

Peter Sharp

DEAR SIR

by Alan Spencer

England in 1659 was in a state of political chaos. Cromwell was dead leaving a power struggle between the Army and Parliament. Into this seething cauldron entered General Monck, Governor of Scotland, at the head of an army of 7,000 men. After assembling at Coldstream (his army was later re-named the Coldstream Guards) he marched South on January 1st 1660 negotiating secretly as he did so for the return of the King.

The following pass was issued at Nottingham to cover some of his negotiations with Sir Charles Coote, a Commissioner for Ireland :

These are to require you on sight hereof to furnish this bearer Thomas Mitchell with his able and sufficient post horses, & a guide from stage to stage, & place to place in the roads or without between Nottingham & Holyhead. Hee paying the usuall Rates for the same. Given under my hand & seal att Nottingham the 19th day of January 1659.
To all Postm's, Constables &
others whome these may concerne

George Monck

When General Monck entered London on February 3rd Parliament was in control, alienated from the Nation by its bigoted and dictatorial policies. Whilst trying to negotiate a peaceful solution Monck wrote to the King. This correspondence formed the basis for the 'Declaration of Breda' which included a promise by Charles of a free and general pardon.

Monck then used his army to dissolve Parliament and call for a general election, enabling by his actions the restoration of the monarchy to take place without bloodshed.

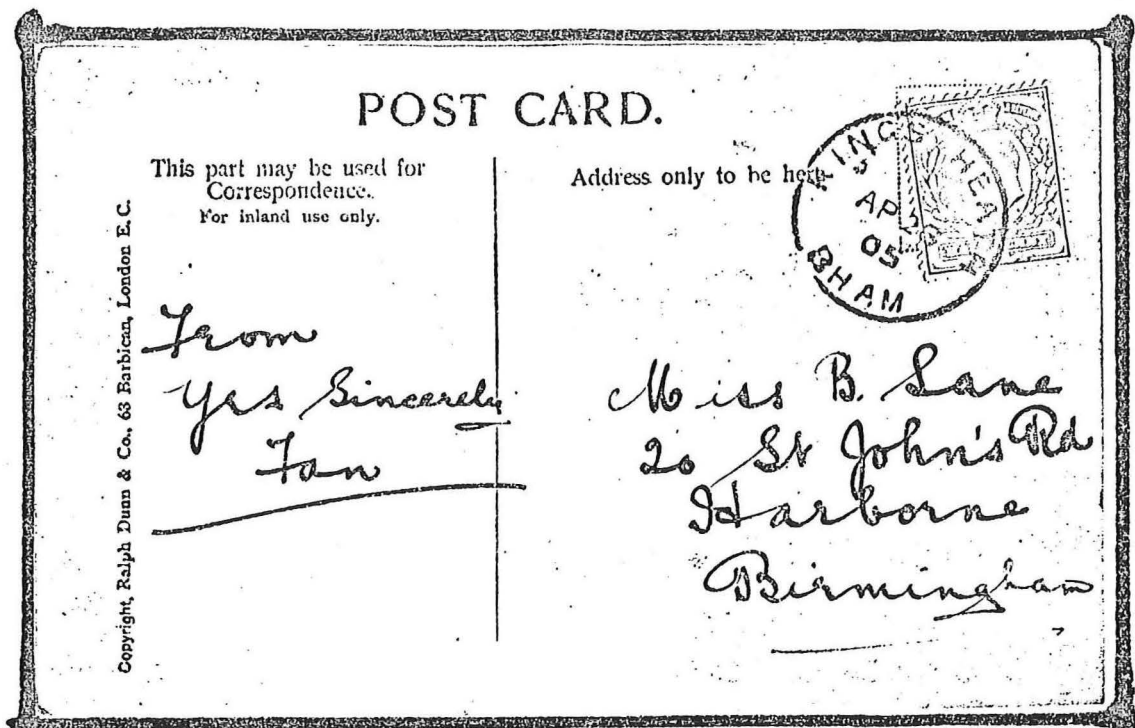
Editor's Note : This preceded the appointment by Charles of Sir Henry Bishop in 1660 as Master of the Posts and the man who introduced the first postmark. The 'Bishopmark'.

BIRMINGHAM SKELETONS

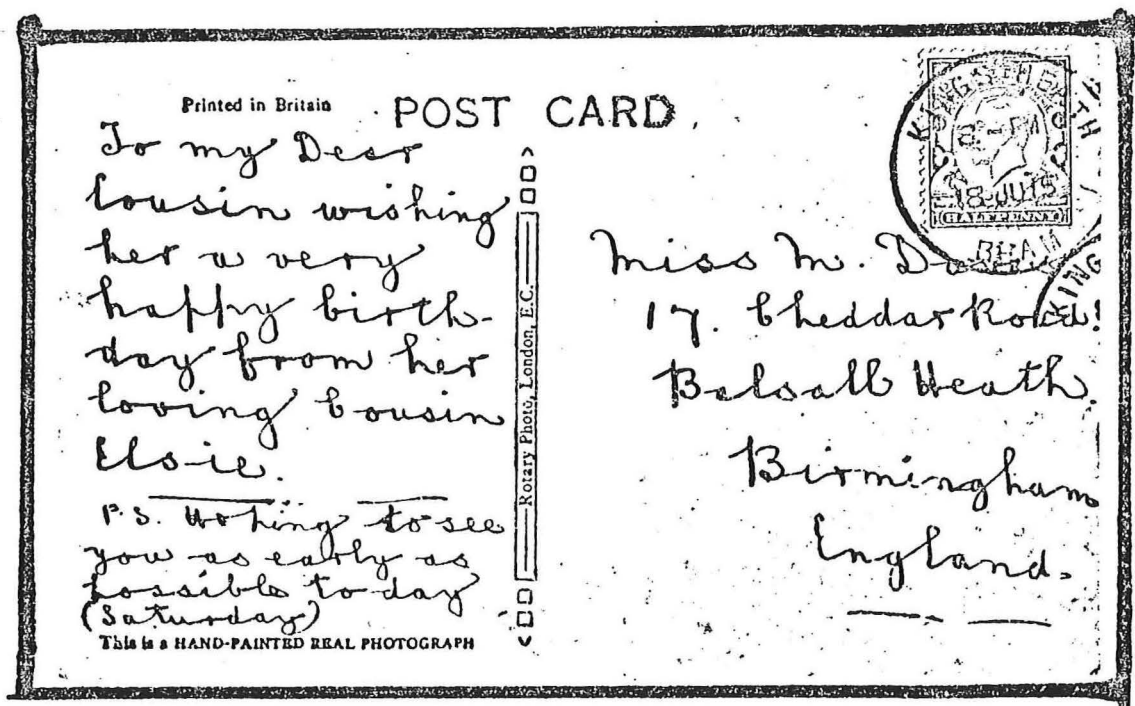
by C. W. E. Coles.

Inscription	Type	Diameter	Time	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Remarks
Acocks Green/ BHAM.	1	28	Code	MR 5 07	MR 15 07	
ditto	1	30	Clear	JA 30 13	-	
ditto	1	28	"	27 OC 14	14 NO 14	
ditto	1	30	"	5 AP 20	-	Crabb
Aston Cantlow BO/Birmingham	1	36	"	FE 20 09	-	
Bath Row BO/Birmingham	1	30	-	24 NO 33	-	
Birmingham / RLB	1	30	Code	FE 24 00	-	Reported
Blackheath/ Bham.	1	28	Clear	30 JY 14	-	
Ditto /Birmingham	1	30	"	8 AU 16	-	
Ditto Ditto	1	36	"	21 JA 24	-	
Ditto Ditto	2	30	"	2 MY 29	-	
Bournville	1	36	-	24 JA 07	FE 12 07	
BR Industries Fair/Bham.	2	28	-	? FE 28	1 MR 28)	See Special
Brit Ind Fair/Birmingham	?	?	?	? FE 29	-	) Event P/Mks
Brit Industries Fair/Bham.	?	?	?	? FE 30	-	) of U.K. by
Ditto	1	30	-	14 FE 31	27 FE 31)	Pearson
Ditto	?	?	?	22 FE 32	-	)
BR Industries Fair/Bham.	1	30	-	? FE 33	? MR 33)	
Ditto	?	?	?	19 FE 34	2 MR 34)	
British Ind Fair/Bham.	?	?	?	20 MY 35	31 MY 35)	
Camp Hill D.O/Birmingham	1	36	Clear	19 OC 22	-	
Erdington/Birmingham	1	31	"	DE 24 05	-	
Erdington/Bham.	1	27	-	DE 24 04	-	
Ditto / Ditto	1	27	Code	DE 24 06	-	
Ditto /Birmingham	1	30	"	DE 24 07	-	
Ditto / Bham.	1	30	"	DE 23 08	-	
Ditto / Ditto	1	28	"	DE 24 09	-	
Ditto /Birmingham	1	31	Clear	OC 9 09	OC 15 09	
Ditto / Bham.	1	30	Code	JU 23 12	-	
Ditto / Ditto	1	30	Clear	22 SP 13	23 OC 14	
Ditto / Ditto	1	28	"	19 JU 14	-	D of Erdington on its side (2 copies)
Ditto / Bham.	1	28	Code	JU 19 12	-	
Ditto / Ditto	1	28	Clear	HY 10 13	SP 30 13	
Ditto / Ditto	2	29	"	23 DC 15	19 AP 18	
Ditto / Ditto	1	27	"	HY 15 13	8 MY 14	
Ditto / Ditto	1	29	"	4 AP 21	-	
Ditto /Birmingham	1	36	"	24 DE 19	25 AP 21	
Halesowen/Birmingham	1	30	Code	SP 11 04	-	
Ditto Ditto	2	30	Clear	28 SP 20	-	
Ditto Ditto	1	29	-	24 MR 21	-	
Harbourne/Birmingham	1	36	Clear	JA 28 11	-	
Harbourne/ Bham.	1	30	"	OC 4 12	-	
Hasbury, Birmingham	1	30	Code	MY 29 07	-	S.Stobbs
Henley in Arden/Birmingham	2	28	Clear	29 JU 22	-	
Hockley Heath/ Bham.	1	27	-	? 06 or 08	-	
Kings Heath/ Bham.	1	27	-	AP 9 05	AP 28 05	
Ditto / Ditto	2	29	Clear	4 JU 15	18 JU 15	
Kings Norton/Birmingham	1	36	"	OC 12 20	-	
Kings Norton/Birmingham	2	29	"	4 AU 22	-	Error Morton
Langley, Birmingham	1	30	"	NO 20 05	-	
Ditto/ Ditto	2	28	"	31 JA 19	-	
Ditto/ Ditto	1	36	"	28 JY 23	-	
Moseley/ Bham.	1	28	-	AP 21 23 *	-	Note # 1883 *
Ditto/ Ditto	1	28	-	DE 24 00	-	
Ditto/ Birmingham	2	28	Clear	20 JU 22	-	Time below date

Illustrations of the two types of BIRMINGHAM SKELETONS



TYPE 1 - date in two lines



TYPE 2 - date in one line

The Bangor Penny Post 1814-1840. By J. R. Cowell. 20pp. Published by the Welsh Philatelic Society, price 50p plus 7p postage. Obtainable from P. R. Reynolds, 12 Beaconsfield Way, Sketty, Swansea.

The early postal history of the North Wales town of Bangor has not hitherto been widely studied. Mr. Cowell not only knows the subject intimately, but knows how to present it in a manner calculated to interest specialists and newcomers alike. His narrative is concise and abundantly factual, and involves broadly a survey of the postal history of Anglesey.

The author reminds us that in the first years of the 19th century, few rural areas of Britain enjoyed the advantage of official postal deliveries, and inhabitants of remote villages were in the habit of getting their letters carried to and from the nearest post town by such means as they could devise. In certain cases, however, it was possible to make convenient arrangements with the nearest postmaster for mail to be collected and delivered by one of his private messengers. An unofficial service of this sort operated in Bangor from about 1800 and was organised by John Rasbrook, Postmaster from 1795 to 1836. The fee he charged, and which went into his own pocket, was one penny for each letter, collected or delivered within a radius of roughly five miles from the Bangor Post Office. The service took in Port Dinorwic, a small harbour on the Caernarvon road and which was used largely for the export of slate, and penetrated into Anglesey as far as Plas Newydd, home of Lord Anglesey. Details of Rasbrook's operations are to be found in the Plas Newydd household accounts, now in the Archives of the University College of North Wales.

Already as far back as 1765 an Act of Parliament had authorised the Postmaster General to establish a Penny Post Office "in any city or town where such Post shall be adjudged necessary and convenient". In areas where an official local post functioned, villages situated at a distance from the post road were thus linked to the nearest post town and enjoyed a regular collection and delivery of mail, likewise for a fee of one penny in the case of letters originating or ending up within the local boundary. This compared with the then prevailing General Post minimum rate of 4d for distances of up to 15 miles. The first of these Penny Posts were set up in 1793, in England—in Manchester, Bristol and Birmingham. It was not until 1814 that the Secretary of the Post Office established a Penny Post Office at Bangor, notably to serve the village of Llangefni in Anglesey. It was pointed out that as the bags would be carried by the London-Holyhead mail-coach which passed through Llangefni, the only additional expense likely to be incurred was a salary of £15 per annum payable to an appointed receiver.

Mr. Cowell tells us a great deal about the development of the posts in the various other centres, and in particular the circumstances in which the Bangor Penny Post was extended to include Gwynndy (not a town or village but an important coaching inn located in the centre of Anglesey on the old post road between Bangor and Holyhead), and Llanerchymedd, Bodedern and Amlwch. This was to a large extent the result of the opening, in January of 1826, of Telford's celebrated suspension bridge across the Menai Straits.

The booklet contains a number of useful line illustrations, three tables and a bibliography.

English Provincial Posts (1633-1840) by Brian Austen
Published by Phillimore and Co Ltd,
Shopwyke Hall, Chichester, Sussex.
£4.95

This book deals with the development of the postal service outside London, with particular reference to Kent (thereby including the main post road to Dover) as can be ascertained from the chapter headings: Kentish Post under Charles I and up to 1784; period of expansion from 1784 to 1840; Kentish Postmasters 1660-1840; Post Office Surveyors. Postal historians will find this an enjoyable and useful book to read.

The Skeleton Postmarks of Scotland by James A. Mackay
Published by the author from 11 Newall Terrace, Dumfries DG1 1LN
£3.00 plus 25p postage

This book records over 1,400 skeletons from 1846 to 1977, the various types being illustrated, together with background notes and a county-by-county listing. A most informative book, which will prove essential to collectors of postal history.

The British County Catalogue, Volume I: 90pp. Compiled by R. M. Wilcocks and B. Jay, with the collaboration of K. A. Jacob, F. G. Peach, G. P. Green, D. J. Wills, G. T. Mansell, R. E. F. Pegg, G. F. Oxley, K. J. A. Smith, K. J. Symonds, J. F. Hine, M. J. Burrows, and W. S. Chester. Published by R. M. Wilcocks. Price £6.30.

This is the first of the Wilcocks County Catalogues and the third handbook in their Great Britain series, the first being *The Postal History of Great Britain and Ireland*, a priced catalogue of handstamp types, and the second, *England's Postal History*, both by R. M. Wilcocks. The aim of the present volume, which is designed to be used in conjunction with the two last-named publications, is to list the handstamps in use up to and including January 10th 1940, of every town and village in the following twelve counties: Cambridgeshire, Derbyshire, Essex, Huntingdonshire, Leicestershire, Norfolk, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Rutland, Suffolk, and Warwickshire (excluding Birmingham). Subsequent volumes will list those in the remaining counties.

The data is admirably put together. For each county there is a map on which the post towns are marked, but in which recent changes in county names and boundaries are ignored. The listings in each case comprise principally: catalogue number, type of handstamp, handstamp wording, size in millimetres, colour(s), period during which the handstamp is known to have been in use, and rarity coefficient. Each section also includes highly informative historical notes and an occasional cameo. In connection with Sudbury in Suffolk, for instance, we are given a glimpse of an event in 1812 which, bearing in mind the altered value of money since, is comparable with some of the more spectacular armed raids of our own day, but with a reasonably satisfactory dénouement. On September 11th of that year a daring robbery from the mail coach left the local bankers, Alexander & Company, with a loss of £31,199 in reissueable banknotes. The bank acted quickly, warning the public not to accept any of their black notes, and at the same time changing the colour of the copper-plate printing to red. No less than £28,000 was eventually recovered. As a result of this and similar hold-ups, legislation was eventually approved by Parliament relating to the return of reissueable banknotes to the bank of origin, and a handstamp was authorised to accompany the legislation.

The book has something like 150 illustrations and is well indexed.

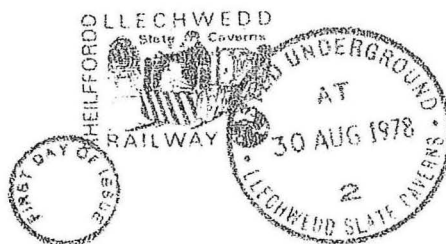
'Le Monde' Brochures. (*Inquiries to: Le Monde des Philatélistes, 5-7 Rue des Italiens, Paris 9e, France.*) The following have been received:

No. 214—Histoire Postale des Îles de la Manche, Tome II, par Yves-Maxime Danan (11 F.)

DONNINGTON'S 700th ANNIVERSARY

To mark the 700th anniversary of being granted a charter permitting the village of Castle Donnington to hold a market and fair, the Parish Council are issuing a first day cover envelope on October 29th. Covers at 75p each can be ordered from the Chairman of the Parish Council (J. Kaye), 19 Borough St., Castle Donnington, Derbyshire.

LLECHWEDD RAILWAY LETTER STAMP



The Llechwedd Slate Caverns Railway first opened for industrial use in 1846, became a passenger-carrying line in 1972 for the benefit of tourists. On August 30th, the Blaenau Ffestiniog-based railway began a railway letter service for visitors posting letters in the caverns and a 5p Railway Letter Stamp featuring a BEV battery-electric locomotive was issued. Covers, also bearing normal postage stamps, are transferred to the Post Office for cancellation at Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Steam puffers have a nostalgic fascination for most people, collectors and non-collectors alike, and it only needs an attractive postmark book like *Railway Station Postmarks (1830-20)*, by D. P. Gowen, to initiate the latter. Although station postmarks do not have the glamour of those used on the travelling post offices (which are extensively covered in other publications by the Railway Philatelic Group), they nevertheless form a very compact and interesting group. Gloucester Station has a chapter to itself as the first known station postmark (1840), while other chapters describe and list the stations using unframed circular marks, numbered obliterators, duplex, squared circle, Scottish twin-ring, double circle, single circle and other special purpose postmarks such as skeletons, rubbers, scrolls and parcel post postmarks, all with earliest and latest recorded dates of use. 44 pages.



SISTER DORA CENTENARY COVER

In aid of the Sister Dora Fund, which supports the Manor Hospital, Mont Road, Walsall, W. Midlands, a special cover, franked with four Coronation stamps and cancelled with a one-day cancellation on September 16th, are available at £1 from A. Highfield at the hospital as above. The occasion is the centenary of the death of Sister Dora.

Seven years later Coventry, England, entered the lists with a handstamp in use on June 2, 1969 to mark the centenary year of the city's cycle industry.

This time the handstamp included in its design a sketch depicting the old boneshaker cycle, introduced to Coventry by Rowley B. Turner who rode an early model from London to Brighton on February 17, 1869.



Cycle centenary, Coventry.

According to an information card compiled with the co-operation of Mr W. Adler, of the Coventry Veteran Cycle Club, the city's connection with the cycle industry began with the introduction of the Michaux velocipede from Paris by Rowley Turner, who took the machine to the Coventry Sewing Machine Company in November 1868.

As the Coventry Machinists Company Limited the firm began to manufacture a replica of the French machine.

The first models appeared in February 1869 and were . . . of wooden construction with coach built wheels which were shod with iron tyres . . . a feature which soon earned them the derisory description, boneshaker.

The brake was manipulated by a twist grip control which wound a cord round the handlebar. The cord was attached to an iron stirrup brake which operated on the rear wheel.

'From this beginning', says Mr Adler's summary, 'emerged an industry that expanded to no fewer than 15 other manufacturers of

contd.

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Inscription	Type	Diameter	Time	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Remarks
Moseley	2	29	Clear	31 OC 27	-	
Northfield/Birmingham	2	28	"	5 JY 16	13 OC 26	
Ditto Ditto	1	36	"	18 JU 21		
Oldbury/ Bham.	1	30	Code	NO 16 08	AU 16 10	
Ditto/Birmingham	1	27	"	JY 14 09	JY 19 09	
Ditto/ Ditto	1	30	Clear	AU 16 09	SP 1 09	
Ditto/ Bham.	1	30	"	14 FE 14	30 MR 14	
Ditto/ Ditto	1	28	"	21 DE 14	23 JA 15	
Ditto/ Ditto	2	29	"	29 MR 17	15 AP 17	H of Bham and latter part of Oldbury usually missing.
Ditto/Birmingham	2	28	-	20 AU 20	1 SP 20	R of Oldbury missing & large second I in Birmingham.
Ditto/ Ditto	2	29	Clear	3 AP 22		
Ditto/ Ditto	1	29	"	6 AU 22	28 AU 22	
Rounds Green /Bham.	1	30	Code	SP 5 06	-	
Selly Oak /Bham.	1	30	"	10 OC 18	24 DE 18	8mm between Y&O
Ditto / Ditto	1	30	Clear	27 AU 19	8 SP 22	5mm between Y&O
Shirley, Birmingham	1	28	Code	AU 19 05 ?	-	
Smethwick	1	28	-	JA 22 04	-	
Solihull/ Bham.	1	31	Code	AP 30 05	22 MY 05	
Ditto/Birmingham	1	36	Clear	DE 24 12	-	
South Yardley/ Bham.	2	29	"	9 AU 16	17 AU 16	M of BHAM usually missing
Stirchley/Birmingham	1	30	-	OC 21 03	-	5mm between Y&M
Ditto / Ditto	1	30	Code	JA 11 06	JA 13 06	8mm between Y&M
Ditto/ Ditto	1	32	"	12 FE 17	25 AP 17	
Ditto / Ditto	2	28	Clear	24 FE 22	28 FE 22	
Sutton Coldfield/ Bham	1	27	"	6 FE 14	7 FE 14	
Ditto / Ditto	2	29	"	14 JU 16	-	10mm between S&B
Ditto / Ditto	2	29	"	1 MY 20	-	8mm between S&B
Wyldo Green/Birmingham	1	30	Code	SP 27 05	-	
Ditto/ Ditto	1	36	-	20 DE 16	-	
Wythall/Birmingham	2	32	-	17 DE 9	31 DE 59	Crabb (1959)

NOTES

Except where indicated the source in the remarks column e.g. Crabb (The Skeleton Postmarks of Great Britain by G.F.Crabb) all the date stamps have been seen by me - in a few cases the dates have been extended by Brian Brooks.

The two types of datestamps can be distinguished as follows:

TYPE 1 - date in two lines (see illustration)

TYPE 2 - Date in one line (see illustration)

The datestamps for Bournville and Smethwick which do not include 'Birmingham' in the inscription have been recorded because, in the case of Bournville it has always been a Birmingham Sub-Office, and in the case of Smethwick, because it was at one time a Birmingham Sub-Office although in 1904 when the 'skeleton' was used - it was no longer one.

It is not evident why a few Sub-Offices used so many different 'skeletons'; many were brought into use to deal with the Christmas mail as the dates indicate. This was not so in many other cases and the reasons for their use will probably never be known.

This type of datestamp is said to have been first brought into use in the 1880's, so the Moseley stamp of 1883 must be one of the earliest and the Wythall the latest (1959). Nevertheless other dates and Sub-Offices are likely to exist and I shall be pleased to hear of these to enable a supplementary list to be published.

J.W.E.Coles

103 Alcester Road South, Birmingham.

Acocks Green/Bham 1 30 - MY 6 09 - Addendum item

WANTS AD.

NUNEATON, BEDWORTH and BULKINGTON

Just starting collecting - absolutely anything from these areas purchased from pre-stamp to 1970 - including slogans, meter marks, registration labels, parcel post, postcards and local views etc. etc. Send item/items with price required to:-
Robert Hunt, 11 Newtown Road, Bedworth, Nuneaton,
Warwickshire CV12 8QB.

LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE

Am particularly interested in pre stamp material (i.e. before 1840) of this County. Send item with price to Jon Baker, 13 Station Road, Hinckley Leics.
OR let me know what you collect to see if I have anything to exchange with you.

Report on First Meeting of Society 23rd September

Hinckley Philatelic Society were the hosts for the first Society meeting which consisted of an excellent display by Society members. Seven members bought material along for display as under:

C.W.E.Coles 'Midland Mixture' which included some pre-stamped postage dues on cover (an unusual item.) and a comprehensive selection of Staffordshire Parcel Labels.

P.Baxter - A fine study of 'squared circle' postmarks many of which related to Railway Stations.

F. Peach - 'Derbyshire Miscellany' was the title given by the displayer. Included a superb DERBY as well as a thrice mis-sent cover.

Jon Baker - entitled 'recent acquisitions' but included some beautiful early items from Hinckley.

Mrs. E. Lewis - a very interesting selection of 18th century covers from Birmingham including BIRMI
NGHAM

E.Lewis - an equally fine continuation of the same City - with some fine 19th Century covers and great interest.

S.Stobbs - 'Shrewsbury around 1840' commencing with an very unusual item consisting of the original Town Requisition calling for a public meeting to support Rowland Hill's Penny Post - followed by Mulreadies and 1d blacks on cover.

All present were sorry that our Chairman and Secretary had to miss such a fine show. (due to previous commitments).

SUBSCRIPTIONS - come along to Coventry on Saturday 18th Nov with your Annual Sub - otherwise post it to our Treasurer as soon as possible. Thank you.

MATERIAL FOR NEXT ISSUE OF BULLETIN - a final reminder that items are required for publication in January issue of Bulletin. Send anything of interest to : Jon Baker Editor, 13 Station Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire.