

COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

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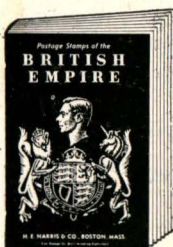
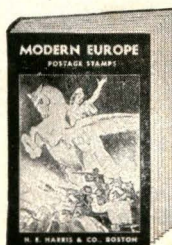
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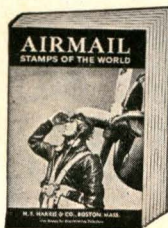
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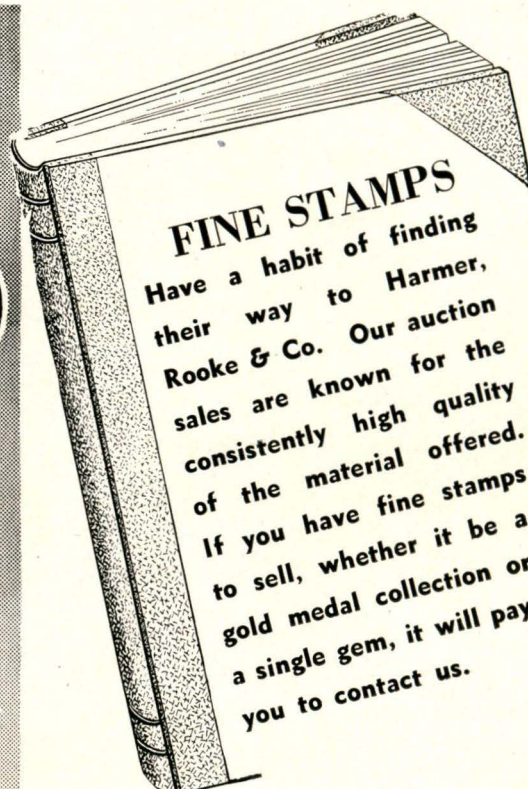
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No. 3

The Districts of Mexico and Their Stamps

By REDERIET ODFJELL

So much has been written by able philatelists about the stamps of Mexico, their overprints, numbers and sub-numbers and postmarks, that it would seem difficult to add anything, except perhaps for those who are able to dig out information from the postal archives about dates and quantities forwarded to the respective districts re the issues of 1868 and 1872.

Students have also presented us with research work of the highest standards as to the printing, the plates and the reconstruction of the plates, so that there seems to be little left for new work. But that is not so—quite the contrary. When one has played and worked with the stamps of Mexico it is a surprise to find so many queries not yet answered.

John Drinkwater wrote about stamp collecting:

"The collector affords himself one of principal pleasures of the human mind, namely the assembling of scattered elements into an orderly and harmonious whole."

Therefore it will be a privilege for the lovers of the stamps of Mexico to gather such information required—all within their own limited ability—and to present their fellow-collectors with the results of their philatelic research work—like those before us have done.

The writer tried some time ago to give a few historical dates (L. P., Vol. XLIV p. 206) over a certain period of the stamps of Mexico. Here he will try to add some geographical dates which, taken district by district, may add to the understanding of the rarity of some of the district names and numbers. One will further understand why there still are so many postmarks of various sub-offices unknown, but with better publicity together with improved collaboration between the collectors of the stamps of Mexico new names may be added to the interesting list of the postmarks of Mexico.

Re the numbers of the inhabitants in a town, village or a hamlet I have used the excellent work of Don Antonio Garcia, Cuba's "Diccionario of 1888." Sometimes the numbers represent the inhabitants of the town only, at other times the figures also include the inhabitants of the surrounding district.

Beside Cuba's work I have used the works of S. Chapman and W. T. Wilson, Dr. J. Brace Chittenden's, Marquis Fayolle's and de Smeths, Lic. don Jose L.

Cossio Hijo and Charles J. Phillips catalogue. I am indeed much indebted to all of these works for the valuable information each one contains.

I certainly, and I know all collectors, would appreciate it, if a fellow student (a Mexican collector), would correct what here is written and add new details to this amateur work.

ABR. ODFJELL

DISTRICT OF ACAPULCO

The principal office is the port of Acapulco situated on the Pacific coast. The port is a good natural harbour and serves the largest vessels. Most of the liners passing North and South call at Acapulco. The import is general merchandise, the exports are maize, cotton, coffee and tropical fruits.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries grand old galleons and frigates sailed from and to Acapulco, crossing the Pacific ocean from the Spanish Eastern domains, the Philippine Islands, bringing muslins, silks, jewels, spices and negroes—returning with silver, cochineal and cacao.

Acapulco was in those days indeed an important maritime town. It had then only one poor road (a mule trail) leading over the high mountains of the states of Guerrero and Morelos, where thousands of mules and donkeys brought the valuable cargoes in twelve days up to Mexico City. This has, during the last decade, changed. A modern highway has been built from the Capital to Acapulco. The road is 470 km.; it runs through mountainous districts, crosses the rivers of Amacuzac, Balzas, Mexcala and Papagayo. This highway opens access to the natural resources in the states of Morelos and Guerrero. It also offers an attraction to the tourists—and Acapulco is blooming.

A road leads northward along the lagunas through the jungle from Acapulco to the suboffice of *San Jeronismo*, about 250 inhabitants and *Tecpan*—about 80 km. away. In the old days communication on this road was irregular (weekly, monthly—and it was unsafe). Even to-day one must rough it in the small pueblas (villages), where from ancient time the natives are mixed indians and negroes. The suboffice of Tecpan (de Galeana) district, about 3000 inhabitants, was founded by the Aztecs on their way to the land of Anahuac.

The third post suboffice *Ometepec* lies about 190 km. east of Acapulco. The district has about 3200 inhabitants. Ometepec lies about 15 km. in the interior from the fishing place Tecomapa. The soil of the district is exceptionally rich with three annual crops of maize. The rice gives 216 for 1.

Cossio advises that the village of *Atoyac* became a suboffice in 1879 and *Vela de la Union* in 1880. The same day a foot-service was created from Acapulco to Union de Galeana.

Postmarks from the suboffices are rare on all issues—while postmarks from Mexico City are common on the 1868's and 1872's.

Forged postmarks: "Acapulco" in one line and a circular 20 mm. like Mexico's are common on the two first issues.

The district of Acapulco received during the various periods the following consignments of stamps:

	½ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
1856					
Sept.—invoice nr. 55	2.940	2.520	1.020	180	420
1857					
April—invoice nr. 78			1.900	240	
	2.940	2.520	2.920	420	420

The overprint is 19 mm. including two stops. In forged o/p the last stop is at the foot of "O."

The first consignment nr. 92 was lost in transit and replaced with

	½ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
1861 —invoice nr. 158	394	530	1.510	1.680	480
1862 —invoice nr. 152	600	1.000			
	994	1.530	1.510	1.680	480

The stamps may be found without overprint—otherwise the same o/p as the 1856 issue.

1864. Eagles	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
1866 Invoice nr. 115	500	500	2.500	800	200

I have not seen any Eagles surcharged Acapulco. Chapman and Fayolle say that it is unknown with a surcharge—

1866 Maximillians—none was received.

During the period 1863-1867 Acapulco only received the above one consignment of the Eagles—(this was due to the disturbed state of the district—although there were quite a few foreigners and some trade—both amongst the neighboring pueblos and haciendas as well as on the coast.

1868. District nr. 25

Thin figures—imperf. and perf.	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1868 imperf.	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Varieties: Without name		12 c.	25 c.		
Perforated	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Brown on brown					100 c.
Brown on brown printed on both sides					100 c.

Thick figures 1869					
1870	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	
1871	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.		
1872			25 c.		

Varieties:

Nr. and date to left			25 c.		
Without name	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.		
Acapulco and Vera Cruz o/p			25 c.		
Thin paper 15 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$			25 c.		
Mexico print 14 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$			25 c.		
Anatado on 25 c. 1870			25 c.		

100 c. thick figures are unknown.

The o/p—on both thin and thick figures are 15 x 2.

This issue had beside the name also the district nr. and the dates: 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871 and 1872.

1872. District nr. 2

Imperforate only—1872	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Varieties:					
Wm. Papel Sellado 1872	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.		
laid paper 1872			25 c.		
1873	6 c.			50 c.	
1874			25 c.		

The common postmark is an oval with “EN” in circle.

The overprint is 16 x 2—usually vertical—but is found vertical/horizontal.

1874. Number and date wide apart.

District nr. 2.

Cossio says the following stamps were sold in the fiscal year

	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1874-75	1.077	2.501	5.066	642	295
1874	1.077	2.501	5.066	642	295
1875			5.066		
1876	1.077		5.066		
1877		2.501			
Varieties: without name				642	
paper wide hor. laid			5.066		
The paper is thin, hard— o/p is 16 x 2					

1878. Number and date close

			black	orange			
District nr. 53	4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1878. Nr. at foot					25 c.		100 c.
1878. Nr. at top		5 c.		10 c.	25 c.		100 c.
1879		5 c.		10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1880		5 c.		10 c.	25 c.		
1881		5 c.		10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1882		5 c.		10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	
1883	4 c.	5 c.		10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.

Chapman has given me a list of stamps of the 1878 issue sold in the year—ending June—1882.

4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
18	768	2,562	5,303	410	179

Varieties: 5 c.—72 for 79; 79 on hor. wide laid paper; 4 c. 25 c. and 50 c. o/p inverted; 100 c.—nr. double. Paper is medium for 1878-1881 and thin soft for 1882-83 O/p is 16 x 2—mostly horizontal, but found vertical. Red o/p is good. Without name is rare. Postmarks are mostly a large oval with date inside.

1879: Stamps for foreign use. Perforated nr. 53

Cossio says:

Stamps sold in

fiscal years	1 c.	2 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	85 c.	100 c.
1879/82—Thick paper	.974	1.295	6.644	2.190	263	100	16	66
1879			6.644			100		
1880						100		
1881				2.190		100		
1882	.974				263	100	16	
Thin paper								
1882	.974	1.295	6.644	2.190				

Varieties: 25 c. 5379 has "1" printed over "3"; 50 c. 5382 "5" missing

Additional values	2 c.	3 c.	6 c.	12 c.	18 c.	24 c.	50 c.	100 c.
1882	2 c.	3 c.	6 c.					
1883		3 c.	6 c.	12 c.				

Varieties: With red o/p 3 c. and 6 c. Without name 3 c., 6 c., 12 c. 1883—o/p inverted.

Habitados are unknown.

o/p 15 x 1½ was black from 1879-82, red o/p 1882-1883—also blue o/p is found. o/p usual horizontal, sometimes diagonal.

AGUASCALIENTES:

This district was a suboffice under Zacatecos up to 1867. During 1858 Zacatecas headquarter was moved to Aguascalientes owing to the revolution. After 1867—Aguascalientes became a principal office.

The whole district is mountainous with altitudes up to 3,000 m. It is rich in mines of various minerals. It has a pleasing climate except in the high north-western parts—Sierra de Asientos y Tepezala, where the climate is cold and in the Cavillo district where it is hot. As the name indicates there are several "Hot water springs" with health-giving resorts.

In the eighteenth century this district together with the districts of Zacatecas, Guadalajara and a part of San Luis Potosi formed the province of "Nuevo Reino de Galicia." In 1791 it changed to "Zacatecas y Independencia." In 1838 Aguascalientes was separated from Zacatecas, (Politically but not postally). In 1857 Aguascalientes was one of the 27 states which formed the Mexican Confederation. During Maximilian's reign Aguascalientes figured officially as a department. This was changed in 1867 to a state again.

The district is a center historically as well as commercially. The following legend is told of the mountain Cerre de los Gallos. The interior of this

mountain holds precious treasures. The legend relates that the brave (but brutal) conquistador Pedro de Alvarado with a party of Spaniards, Aztecs and Teaxcatecas under their way to Tepic met a multitude of Indians in the neighborhood of "Cerro de los Gallos." The Spaniards triumphed in this big battle and Don Pedro allowed the prisoners to suffer torture to disclose where their treasures were hidden. The prisoners pointed towards the mountain and the legend is told to-day at Aguascalientes.

As said the district is a commercial center, very rich in minerals—and it exports cattle, maize and beans from its abundance.

The city of Aguascalientes is situated on the east side of San Pedro river.

The Spaniards founded Asuncion de Aguascalientes in 1535, where the first houses of adobe and a chapel were built. The church of San Diego is situated there to-day. Aguascalientes suffered terribly in 1576 from the small-pox plague and the greater part of the population died. What was left was killed by the furious Chichimecas Indians a few years after.

In 1596 the building of a new town started. This became in 1611 a village—Villa de Nuestra Senora de la Asuncion de Aguascalientes. It became a town in 1824 and a state in 1835.

The city of Aguascalientes is an attractive town situated nearly 2000 m. above the sea—with about 65,000 inhabitants. There are 15 hot springs in the town, one of which shoots a column of water 21 m. high in the air. Under the city there are great numbers of catacombs, the origin of which is unknown. The catacombs existed before the conquest. One explanation is that some ancient tribe made these dens for hiding places from their northern enemies.

The district is connected with ancient and modern roads. One road leads north to *Calpulalpan* (or *Ricon de Romos*), 13,000 inhabitants. The town is picturesque. The streets of the town are steep and narrow. From Calpulalpan the liberator Padre Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla proceeded on 24th January 1811 to the village of Pabellon, where he met Generals Allende and Abasolo.

About 50 km. west from Aguascalientes a road leads to *Cavillo*—now 10,000 inhabitants. The district is rich in agriculture (fruit trees) and the town itself is surrounded by mountains.

Ocampo (now Asientos) situated east of Calpulalpan about 9,000 inhabitants. The district is one of the oldest mining districts and holds several old and famous mines.

About 45 km. north-east of Aguascalientes a road leads to *Villa de Garcia*, 8,000 inhabitants—an important mining district—30 km. further in the same direction is *Pinos* (4,000 inhabitants also rich in gold and silver mines.

These five towns were sub offices under Aguascalientes.

1856:	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r-4 r.	8 r.
1858—Invoice nr. 174	60	400	380	60

The Aguascalientes o/p is $22\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$, but stamps are found mostly without o/p and are known by the postmarks only.

Postmarks from the sub-offices are rare—but are more common with Zacatecas overprint. This is probably due to the fact that the suboffices already had stamps in stock and did not receive any from Aguascalientes.

1861:	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
Invoice nr. 139	72	52	120	240	80
Invoice nr. 199	55	67	74	9	
1862.					
Invoice nr. 126	300	800	950	120	120
1863.					
Invoice nr. 2		1.200	1.520		
Invoice nr. 315	160			50	25
1864.					
Invoice nr. 26		400	380		
	587	2.519	3.044	419	225

There are two postmarks "Aguascalientes" 23 x 3 and "Aguascaltes" with period 22½ x 3½. This later was used up to October 1862—after that "Aguascalientes" only.

1864. The Eagles: these were all received from Zacatecas, and have the consignment numbers of Zacatecas although the stamps have Aguascalientes o/p. (See Zacatecas district).

1866. The Maximilians—	7 c.	13 c.	25 c.	50 c.
Invoice nr. 134	700	2.000	3.000	1.000

This consignment was returned to Mexico as Juarez occupied the town at the time.

1868. District nr. 36	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Thin figures, perf. 1868	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
C6 for 36	6 c.				
imperforate	6 c.		25 c.		

Varieties: Error— 39 for 36, 25 c. 63 for 68 and 6 for 36 on 6 c.
Without name, value missing 6 c.

Thick figures, perf. 1869		12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	
and imperf. 1870	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.		
1871	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.		
1872		12 c.			

Varieties—no name, 100c not known.

Errors: All on 12c: 59 for 69, 39 for 36, 30 for 36, 12 for 36.

There are two o/p 26x2¾ and 24x2. The latter is rare in this issue.

1872. District nr. 3.	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Imperforate only 1872		12 c.	25 c.		
1873	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	
1874			25 c.		

Varieties:

Wm. Papel Sellado	6 c.		25 c.	50 c.	
Error 1 for 3			25 c.		
100c not known.					
o/p—26x3.					

1874. Number and date wide apart ..	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
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District nr. 3

Cossio figures for stamps sold in

the fiscal year 1874-75	1.147-2.675.-10.392.		259	120
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Thin hard paper 1874	1.147-2.675.-10.392.		259	
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1875	1.147-2.675.-10.392.			
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1876	1.147-2.675.-10.392.			
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No name 1876			259	120
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1876	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
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Narrow vert. laid paper	5 c.		25 c.		
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1877		10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
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No name 1877	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	
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Hor. wide laid paper		10 c.	25 c.		
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Wm. Papel Sallado 1877		10 c.			
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1878. District nr. 52	4 c.	5 c.	black 10 c.	Orange 25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
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Thick paper.

Nr. and date close.

Nr. at foot 1878	5 c.	10 c.		25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
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Nr. at top	5 c.		Orange	25 c.	50 c.	
------------------	------	--	--------	-------	-------	--

Hor. laid paper	5 c.					
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1879	5 c.		Orange	25 c.		
------	------	--	--------	-------	--	--

1880	5 c.		Orange	25 c.	50 c.	
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1881	5 c.		Orange	25 c.	50 c.	
------	------	--	--------	-------	-------	--

No name	4 c.		Orange	25 c.	50 c.	
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Error 56 for 52			Orange	25 c.		
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Error 31 for 81				25 c.		
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1882 4 c.	5 c.					
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Thin paper	1882	5 c.	Orange	25 c.	50 c.	
Narrow laid p.			Orange			
Thick p.	1883	4 c.				
No name		4 c.				
Vertical laid		4 c.	Orange	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Thin paper		4 c.				
Varieties: name only.		5 c.				
Zacatecas 25c 280-281						
changed to Aguascalientes						
5280 and 5281 by printing						
5 before nr. and surcharging						
o.p over original o/p				25 c.		

According to Chapman stamps

sold year 1882	4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
	924	855	2.928	12.436	459	230

1879. Stamps for foreign destination. District nr. 52 No o/p.

Cossio figures of stamps sold

in the years 1879/1882	1 c.	2 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	85 c.	100 c.
	121	125	690	408	5		1	
Thick paper	1879	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thick paper	1880	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thick paper	1881	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thick paper	1882	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thin paper		"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thin paper	1881	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Additional values:	2 c.	3 c.	6 c.	12 c.	18 c.	24 c.	50 c.	100 c.
	1883	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

Cancelled V. de Ocampo

only without nr. or o/p. ..

Cossio gives five overprints on this last issue. My stamps seem all to be remainders. The used ones (?) have a bar cancellation—except the 6 c. with “Villa de Ocampo.”

DISTRICT OF APAM

The postal district of Apam is situated on Mexico's wonderful high plateau with immense fields of cereals and pulque—all of which goes to the capital. Formerly the district had many large haciendas—most of them are however lately divided into one family farms, according to the political program of the last 35 years.

Of Apam's six suboffices Calpulalpan and Soltepec are located in the state of Thaxcala; Otumba and Teotihuacan are in the federal district of Mexico, Irolo in the state of Hidalgo, and Chignahuapan in the state of Puebla.

Apam—with 2000 inhabitants is situated in the center of the pulque country only a few km. south of the Laguna Lake and about 90 km. northeast of Mexico city.

Calpulalpan—3000 inhabitants is about 105 km. from the Capital by rail. It is a clean village, but a dull one with a plaza, palacio Municipal, juzgado and a church.

Most of the inhabitants work on the neighboring haciendas.

Soltepec—600 inhabitants—is located about 2700 m. above the sea. From here the plain gradually declines towards Mexico city.

Otumba—1800 inhabitants—is a solitary place, located on the plains of Otumba on the west side of the famous volcano of Popocatepetl. It is an historical place. Here Cortés spent the famous “Noche Triste”, with what was left of his troops, almost but not quite, defeated. The spirit of Cortes, Sandoval and Salamanca was able to bring both courage and faith back into the hearts of their soldiers and their Indian allies.

San Juan Teotihuacan—City of Gods—(600 inhabitants) lies at the foot of Cerro Gordo, which raises 800 m. above the village, the altitude of which is about 2300 m. The village is built on the hillside with a nice church in the

lower part. About 3 km. from the village are the famous pyramids of the Sun and the Moon between the "Valley of Death." The old Mexican names are Tonatirel Iztacuatl, pyramid of the sun and Mexthli Iztacuatl, pyramid of the moon.

Some ruins of the smaller heathen temples—(Tecallis) may be found in the surroundings. Or some obsidian knife (or the fragment of one) which the ancient priest may have used to cut out the hearts of their young victims.

Irolo is a small pueblo with about 200 inhabitants. To-day it is an important railroad junction for both the Mexican and the Inter-oceanic railways.

Chignahuapan—9,000 inhabitants, was a suboffice under Apam from 1856 to 1865, when it came under Puebla. It is 15 km. south of Zacatlan. The town is well known for its baths, the water being charged with iron and other minerals. Here is a 1000-foot waterfall most beautiful and capable of producing 2,000 horsepower.

Apam received the following stamps.

1856. Invoice nr. 8.	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
	12.300	11.400	2.220	300	840

On account of this early consignment all the stamps of this issue are from plate I.

The o/p is black and blue, 9 x 2. The black o/p may be found forged. So also are the Apam postmarks.

1861.	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r.	4 r.	8 r.
Invoice nr. 121	1.230	1.266	1.110	300	560
Invoice nr. 139—1862	300	800			
Invoice nr. 75—1863		1.000	570		
	1.530	3.066	1.680	300	560

The o/p is the same as on the 1856 issue—but there is also a new o/p in black (Apam between two blocks) the same o/p as is used on the eagles. One meets frequently with stamps without o/p with a grid or the black circle Apam cancellations. To me they seem to be remainders. The Mexican philatelist, Mr. Phillip Mendoza, points out in an article in the *American Philatelist*, April 1934, that this name between blocks overprint may be a forgery. In the November 1934 number of the *Revista de la Asociación Filatélica Mexicana* the late dealer Mr. Eduardo Aguirre protests against this. As many overprints and postmarks on Mexican stamps may be discussed between experts who differ in opinion—one must take care not to pay high coefficient prices by which some sellers prefer to value their rarities.

1864. Eagles	$\frac{1}{2}$ r.	1 r.	2 r.	8 r.
Invoice nr. 20, name only		500	200	100
Invoice nr. 81, name only		500	500	
		1.000	700	100
Invoice nr. 182 small		600	200	200
Invoice nr. 228		500	200	
1865.				
Invoice nr. 25		1.000		
Invoice nr. 79		2.000		
Invoice nr. 96			1.500	500
Invoice nr. 186		1.000	also with Lagos o/p	
1866.				
Invoice nr. 15		5.000		
Invoice nr. 85			2.500	

Apam has none with "large figures."

Apam returned 1 r, 2236; 2 r, 2286, and 4 r, 328.

Remembering the numbers of $\frac{1}{2}$ r and 8 r, used in the two previous issues against none of the Eagles, one must stop and ponder.



Apam applied subnumbers both on the Eagles and the Maximilians. They are rare. Suboffice cancellations may be found on stamps without subnumbers.

1866. Maximilians.	7 c.	13 c.	25 c.	50 c.
Invoice nr. 20	140	210	700	
Invoice nr. 34	350	490	840	
Invoice nr. 78		1.400	1.400	
Invoice nr. 100(+)		58	54	
1867				
Invoice nr. 16		1.600		

I don't like the grid cancellation of these stamps.

1868. Apam had no district number of its own on the stamps of this issue. The name of Apam may be found in connection with the Mexico of which Apam was a suboffice during this period.

1872	6 c.	12 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Apam. District nr. 4					
Imperforated 1872	6 c.	12 c.			
and perforated 1873	6 c.		25 c.		

The o/p 19½ x 2 incl. blocks—50 c. and 100 c. are unknown.

1874. Number and date wide apart.

District nr. 4	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
Cossio says the following stamps					
were sold in fiscal year 1874-75	319	5.314	1.440	71	42
		5.314	1.440		
		5.314	1.440		
		5.314			
					42
wide hor. laid 1877		5.314			
o/p black and blue.					

+ Chapman's book gives nr. 100 to Apam. However, nr. 100 has Mexico o/p. It may have been exchanged to a private person

1878. No. & date close

			black	orange		
District nr. 51. Thick paper	4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
No. & date at foot	1878		10 c.	25 c.		
No. & date at top	1878		10 c.	25 c.		
	1879	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.		
	1880	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.		100 c.
	1881	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.		
vert. laid paper		5 c.	10 c. on thin	25 c. thin p.		
	1882	4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c. 100 c.
Thin paper	1882		5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c. 100 c.
Thin paper	1883			10 c.	25 c.	50 c.
No name	1883		5 c.	25 c.		

o/p are found black and blue 9 x 2 and 14 x 3

1878. According Chapman

stamps sold year	1882	4 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	100 c.
		20	511	17.926	7.355	79	143

On this issue there is a postmark from Ometusco, which is a hacienda—300 inhabitants. It is situated 67 km. north-east of Mexico City, which leads one to think that there may be more hacienda postmarks about. In case of unknown names of postmarks confer with Cuba's dictionary, which is rich on information.

1879. Foreign mail only.

District nr. 51.	1 c.	2 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	85 c.	100 c.
Cossio says sold in fiscal years 1879-82	39	24	391	501	5		1	
	1 c.	2 c.	5 c.	10 c.	25 c.	50 c.	85 c.	100 c.
	39	24	391	501	5			

1879

1880

1881

1882

1882 no name

o/p 9 x 2—a

Additional values	2 c.	3 c.	6 c.	12 c.	18 c.	24 c.	50 c.	100 c.
			6 c.					
No name	1882							
Name & date	1883			12 c.		24 c.		
	1884					24 c.		

o/p—9 x 2 and 14 x 3

During the late 70's and the early 80's Apam became connected with Mexico City by rail—which explains the railway cancellations one frequently meets.

Tepeapulco received regular mail service with Apam from April 1880. Hacienda de Guadalupe became a suboffice from August 1880.

Tepeapulco is a village 20 km. north-east of Apam. Hacienda de Guadalupe is within Tepeapulco's district.

(To be continued.)

(Continued from Page 116.)

ninety years. Fewer and fewer accumulations of letters prior to that date will turn up as more and more have been and will be destroyed. Although it cannot be proved, the war drives for old paper probably swallowed up many a trunk-full of Great-Aunt Suzie's letters, which had for years reposed in a haircloth box in the attic, but which in response to the Government's plea were sent to war. Hence, it seems doubtful whether the supply of stampless covers will increase, whereas the demand, will, if current indications are accepted, rise very sharply. Today the bulk of available stampless covers is in the hands of dealers, who, rather against their will, bought them for next to nothing and still regard them as dead stock, housed in shoe boxes. One may be sure that they will not be slow in sensing increased interest and will revise their prices accordingly.

Morocco

POSTAL CONDITIONS BEFORE 1912

By ALF. G. JOHNSON

(Cont'd from Vol. XXVI, Page 73.)

ROUTE NO. 4

FEZ - SEFRO

Distance 38 km.

THE FRENCH POST

Sefro is a small town of which there are no special details. It must, however, have had some importance as a trading place when a mail route was set up.

It has been a vexing question as to whether the route really existed. In the handbooks Brunel includes the route without any remark, and so does Kohl. Duerst writes that one must be suspicious, but he has no authentic information. Rommel mentions that certain quarters maintained that the issue was purely and simply speculative—but—he includes them in his list. In his supplement he maintains that the route never operated and this was certainly the general opinion given in philatelic literature of the time.

At Benatar, however, I found an article cited from *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* of June 15th, 1895. It states:

"As rumors were circulating that the stamps issued for the mail route Fez-Sefro are a swindle, we have written Mr. de Marcilly, the French vice-consul at Fez and received the following reply:

"The post connection established between Fez and Sefrou functions regularly. Accordingly the latest information I have come up with there is one mail a week."

L'Echo writes further:

"We have read in "Le Reveil du Maroc" the following note:

"The special foot postman service between Fez and Sefrou which we announced a few months ago shows each day an encouraging development. Due to the cooperation between the administration and the committee of the French post a direct connection has been opened between Sefrou and the coast towns."

"Contrary to what the Stamp Collector, London, reports, this service functions regular, as we ourselves have been able to make sure of."

After this I must take it for granted that the route was operated by one named Ben Simon with mails twice a week.

The route operated up to 1901.

1894. Lithographed, thin smooth paper, perf. 13.

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 59 | 5 cents carmine |
| 60 | 10 cents purple |
| | a. perf. 14 |
| 61 | 25 cents green |
| 62 | 50 cents orange yellow |
| 63 | 1 peseta brown |
| | a. perf. 14. |

I cannot say if there are two printings of this issue, but at any rate the stamps are found perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$. The monographs give various perforations; Brunel, Rommel and Kohl give 13, Duerst 13 and $11\frac{1}{2}$ and Benatar $12 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$. He writes that he has heard about a second on toned paper perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, but that he lacks further particulars. I have in my collection four values perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$, hence I think it only right that it should be listed.

1894. As before, perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

59b	5	cents	carmine
60b	10	cents	purple
61b	25	cents	green
62b	50	cents	orange yellow
63b	1	peseta	brown

ROUTE NO. 5

TANGER - ARZILLA

Distance 50 km.

THE SPANISH POST

(The handbooks do not always agree as to the nationality of those who operate the route. I have followed Benatar who seems to have the best information).

Arzila, or old Roman Iliis is situated south of Tanger by the Atlantic. The town was for a long period occupied by the Portuguese, afterwards demolished in ruins; later the town recovered. The port was a poor one at the time the route was started and the outward commercial connection was insignificant. The population was roughly 3000 inhabitants.

According to Rommel and from information given by the newspaper-publisher and stamp dealer Mr. Aaron J. Cohen at Tangiers, the mail route should have been organized in the summer of 1894 by the Spanish government and it was planned to issue a series of stamps in August that year at the opening of the route. Both were delayed and the route was only started in December 1st, 1895.

1895. Lithographed, perf. 13.

64	5	centimos	dull mauve
65	10	centimos	red
66	20	centimos	yellow
67	25	centimos	blue
68	50	centimos	grey brown
69	1	peseta	red brown
70	2	pesetas	grey
		a.	vertically imperforate
		b.	perf. $13 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$
71	5	pesetas	green

Stamps perforated 13 are found—probably from a later print. There is no difference in the design, therefore the same plate must have been used. There is not any difference in the colors except that the 5 pesetas has a lighter shade of yellow green. On the other hand the gum is partly thicker and rough on this print. It is also always a bit larger owing to the margin on one side being wider.

The same issue, perf. 14.

64b	5	centimos	mauve
65b	10	centimos	red
66b	20	centimos	yellow
67b	25	centimos	blue

68b	50	centimos greyish brown
69b	1	peseta red brown
70b	2	pesetas grey
71b	5	pesetas yellow green

The route discontinued in 1898.

ROUTE NO. 6

ALCASAR - QUAZZAN

Distance 40 km.

THE FRENCH POST

Quazzan (Quazzan, Ugassan) the holy city of Morocco is situated high in the mountains south of Alcasar and it has about 10,000 inhabitants. Most of these are recognized as descendants of the prophet. The town is also the seat of the large religious brotherhood of Mulay Tail, founded in 17th century and widely spread over the whole of North Africa. The leader of the brotherhood, his title is sherif, has great influence with a standing independent army. The sultan of Morocco must have the investiture of the sherif before he can obtain general acknowledgement. The town has the right of an asylum, which gives refuge something similar to the churches of the middle ages. As a trading post the place is of small importance.

At one time there was a certain disbelief present with regard to the existence of this mail route. It was astonishing to see a route established between two towns of such importance. Further it must be remembered that a British as well as a French local mail route from Tangiers to Fez passed Alcasar-Quazzan. The route was opened in the meantime but did not operate more than a few weeks. The sherif of Quazzan—the holy city who also was almighty and the religious head, prohibited the route so that Quazzan would not be brought into direct communication with any other city of Morocco.

1896. November, Perforated 11½

72	5	c. rose
73	10	c. blue
74	15	c. orange
75	20	c. green
76	40	c. dull mauve
77	50	c. yellow
78	1	F. chestnut

All monographs state the perforation to be 11½, while Benatar states 11½ or 12½. Benatar writes he has been informed by one of his correspondents about a series of these values: 10 c. yellow, 50 c. red and 75 c. of the Tetouan-Checkouan type, but with the inscription Alcasar-Wazan (a variety of Quazzan). Benatar does not catalogue these stamps as he lacks reliable information.

ROUTE NO. 7

TETOUAN - CHECKOUAN

Distance 70 km.

FRENCH POST

Tetouan (Tetuan) is situated 35 km. south of Ceuta and 4 km. from the Mediterranean coast. The town is placed terrace-like from the riverbank and gives it a genuine Moorish appearance with its flat-roofed houses and its narrow filthy streets. It is now surrounded by a partly decayed wall. There are 43,000 inhabitants of which 25% are Jews. The latter own the greater part of the trade.

The industry is quite large; principally leather goods, clothes and weapons. The port is a good one with quite a trade with Spain. There is no railway in connection with Ceuta. Tetouan was founded about 1490. In 1860 it was conquered by the Spaniards, but it was later returned to Morocco. In 1912 the town became a Spanish protectorate according to the French-Spanish agreement.

Checkouan with about 3000 inhabitants is situated in the highlands south of Tetouan. The town is an important market place for foodstuffs.

1896. December, Lithographed, perf. 11 ½, Thick paper.

79	5 c. ultramarine
80	10 c. dark green
81	20 c. rose
82	25 c. orange yellow
83	40 c. mauve
84	50 c. vermillion
85	1 F. brown

None of the handbooks give information as to who was backing this route. It most likely was managed by one named Benchimol with an authorization from the authorities of Morocco. (This according to the *PHILATELIST* of 15-6-97). Although Checkouan is small its importance as a trading place justified the route. Due to the absence of sympathy—however—the route had to be closed as early as 1898,

It therefore seems strange when Benatar also mentions a *Spanish route* on this range. It must be admitted that he says that he has no knowledge whatever about the route and strongly doubts it ever existed. He catalogues the issue, however and gives it continuous numbers. It was supposed to be issued in 1897 by lithography and perforated 10. Benatar gives an illustration of the stamps, but it is reproduced so poorly that it is impossible to give any description of its appearance. The stamps do have both the town-names horizontal across the centre. I record the issue here without including it in the numerical order.

5	centimos greenish yellow
10	centimos orange
20	centimos rose
25	centimos yellow
50	centimos carmine
75	centimos blue

ROUTE NO. 8

TANGIERS - TETOUAN

Distance 45 km.

PORTUGUESE POST

Tangiers, the most important trading centre of Morocco, lays, as we all know, at the Strait of Gibraltar, 22 km. east of Cape Spartel. The town is built like an amphitheater on the slopes of the limecliffs, at the top of which are the ruins of a castle. At the time the private mail routes were started the town had 50,000 inhabitants, but has later grown considerably partly by outsiders so the population in 1930 reached about 150,000, of which 12,000 were Europeans and 8,000 were Jews—the balance Berbes, Arabs and Mòors. Tangiers' appearance is Moorish with narrow and crooked streets, flat-roofed houses and plenty of mosques. Being the entranceport of the empire of Morocco and its situation nearest to Europe it has been swayed by the western influence. This is signified by paved streets, more cleanliness and lighting particularly in the more cosmopolitan zones of town. Tangiers is patronized as a winter resort and has numerous European villa residences and large hotels on the surrounding heights, which are also the seats of the diplomatic corps.

In the older times the name of the town was Tingis and then occupied by Rome, but it has later been possessed by the Vandals, Byzantines and Moors until 1641 when the Portuguese took possession of it. From 1660 to 1684 the British governed the town, and then it again came into the hands of the Moors. An European police force was, in 1906, set in charge under a French-Spanish supervision. The custom came likewise in European hands. Tangiers with the surrounding country (400 square km. and 70,000 inhabitants) were separated from Morocco in 1912 and became an international zone with a complicated management.

This route as well as the next (between Tetouan and Alcazar) was named by all authors before Benatar as a Spanish mailroute. Benatar says, however, that both of these routes were set up by a rich Portuguese banker, whose head office was at Tetouan, with branch offices at Tangiers and Alcazar.

The mail service was quite private in the beginning and the bankers Rekas carried only his private correspondence. Later on also outside mail was also carried and the following stamps for both routes were issued.

1897. Lithographed, perforated 11½, thick paper.

86	5 centimes	yellow green
87	10 centimes	red
87a	imperforate vertically	
88	15 centimes	grey
89	20 centimes	dull blue
90	25 centimes	lilac
90a	perforation double	

These stamps are very primitive and ugly both in design and workmanship. The design represents a lion resting under a palmtree. Above is "correos" in a curved ribbon below is the value. The names of the towns are missing. Here are numerous shades of color of the various values. There are also perforation varieties.

ROUTE NO. 9

**TETOUAN - ALCAZAR
PORTUGUESE POST**

Alcazar, is a Portuguese name meaning castle or palace, from the days of the Moors in Spain and Portugal. Many of these give evidence of outstanding Arabic architecture. The town Alcazar (in Arabic El-Ksar-El-Kabir) is situated in the interior south-west of Tetouan and is an important road centre. Although the town is said to have about 25,000 inhabitants, it has not been possible for me to secure further information about it. (This monograph has been written during the second world war). The encyclopaedia refers to it as a decayed town. It is renowned for the 16th century battle in which King Sebastian of Portugal was slain by the Moors.

1897. Lithographed, perforated 11½

91	5 centimes	vermillion
92	10 centimes	green
93	20 centimes	blue
94	25 centimes	lilac
95	50 centimes	brownish yellow
96	1 peseta	grey
97	2 pesetas	

A postcard was issued at the same time.

5 centimos 140 x 92 m.m. red on yellowish paper

Duerst sets up two series, one on white paper (No. 20 c.) the other on yellowish paper (No. 25 c.). This cannot be right as I have in my collection the 20 c. value on pure white paper.

ROUTE NO. 10

FEZ - MEQUINES

Distance 56 km.

FRENCH POST

Operated from March 17th, 1895, in cooperation with the British mail route (Tangiers-Fez).

Mequines (Meknes) is situated west of Fez. Primarily it was one of the three capitals of Morocco. It is now forsaken by the sultan except when visited as a summer residence. Mequines has about 56,000 inhabitants, of which 6,000 are Europeans. To be an oriental town it is clean and well built. It is situated in a fertile valley surrounded by hills with pretty orange groves. The imperial residence is a large fortified building. It is said that the imperial treasury is located here. The mosque of the Muley Ismael is amongst the prominent buildings. Being formerly the imperial burial ground it is much visited by pilgrims and is a lively trade centre.

This route, which produced the best income, was opened in January, 1897. The administration of the British post soon discovered its importance and the mail-carrying route was announced to the public in the following communication.

POST FOR MEQUINES

"Correspondence for Mequines may now be forwarded through the British post office at Morocco as an agreement has been made that such mail will be forwarded from Fez to Mequines by a private route which depart twice weekly. This will correspond with the corresponding British route between Fez and Tangiers which arrive and depart twice a week. The British post office does not undertake any responsibility as to the transport of letters etcetera between Fez and Mequines. The mail will be received and forwarded for the dispatchers and receivers own risk and responsibility. A postage of 5 centimes per half ounce for letters and 5 cts. for each two ounces of samples or printed matters is to be paid for the above named private mail service and is to be paid at the delivery at Mequines or before the departure there. Or the extra postage may be paid prior departure with special issued stamps for the route Fez-Mequines. These are for sale in all the British post offices of Morocco.

J. M. MacLeod,
British Post Agent.

British Postal Agency, Fez (Morocco)
17, March, 1898.

The Rekas started from Mequines each Monday and Friday and returned each Wednesday and Saturday.

A series of eight stamps and for a change one in two colors were issued. The stamps are printed in Paris probably by the government printing office.

1897, January, Perforated 11½, the sheet of 100 stamps was divided into four blocks of 25 (5x5).

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 98 | 5 centimes, green value in carmine |
| 99 | 10 centimes, carmine value in blue |
| | a. imperf. vertical |
| 100 | 15 centimes ultramarine value in yellow brown |
| | a. imperf. horizontal |
| 101 | 20 centimes brown yellow value in mauve |
| | a. imperf. horizontal |
| 102 | 25 centimes mauve value in green |
| | a. imperf. horizontal |
| 103 | 35 centimes dark brown value in carmine |
| 104 | 50 centimes pale red value in brown |
| 105 | 1 Franc dark green value in brown |

The series is also found perforated 14. The stamps are otherwise quite similar both with regard to paper and colors. The only one that mentions this perforation is Benatar, who however gives no information if it is two different prints.

Postage due stamps were also issued for this route in eight values printed by the same printers as the ordinary stamps were.

1898. Lithographed—perf. 11½, sheet of 100 is divided into blocks of 25 (5 x 5) on a white or light yellowish paper.

106	5 centimes light blue value in green
107	10 centimes yellow green value in carmine
108	20 centimes carmine value in brown
109	30 centimes chestnut value in mauve
110	40 centimes lilac value in brown
111	50 centimes brown value in blue
112	60 centimes mauve value in vermillion
113	1 franc red brown value in blue

Both Kohl, Rommel and Benatar give the perforation as 12 for the postage due stamps, but this is wrong.

This mail route was closed on May 27, 1901. On this day the German postal authorities opened their office at Mequines.

ROUTE NO. 11

TANGIERS - LARAICHE

Distance 80 km.

BRITISH POST

Laraiche (Larache) in Arabic "El Araisch" meaning "Grape Hill" is situated in a fertile district on the Atlantic coast south of Tangiers. It has about 15,000 inhabitants. It is surrounded by old decayed ruins of a former wall. The town exports (mostly for Marseilles) oranges, celery, hides and wool. Laraiche is the ancient Lixus. The town belonged in the 17th century to Portugal. It was then surrendered to the sultan of Morocco. Since 1909 it has been under Spanish supremacy.

There has been some doubt about this mail route. It seems that the route was not absolutely needed as Tangiers and Laraiche in 1898 both had French, Spanish and British post offices who all forwarded the mail by sea between the two towns.

When the weather was unfavorable the vessels which carried the mail often did not leave Tangiers or would not enter the port of Laraiche, especially in the winter months. The start of a mail route overland served its purpose as otherwise the towns would be isolated from each other.

The European post offices perceived the necessity of starting a connection overland with the consequence that the private undertaking was closed. I can not tell when this took place—all I know is that it was carried on for a few years.

1898. Lithographed, perforated 11½.

114	5 centimos lilac
115	10 centimos light blue a. imperf. vertically
116	20 centimos gray green
117	25 centimos blue green
118	50 centimos greyish black
119	1 peseta purple a. imperf. vertically

The second "O" in Morocco looks like a "D," figure "1" in "10" is shorter than the "o." "E" in "centimos" has an accent sign added wrongly.

ROUTE NO. 12

TANGIERS - ALCAZAR

Distance 105 km.

SPANISH POST

In the philatelic press many authors disavow the existence of this route and doubt the genuineness of these stamps without giving any explanation for this doubt. *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* (31-12-98) states that the stamps are unknown both at Tangiers and Alcazar. Both Duerst and Brunel catalogue the issue without reservation, while Rommel and Kohl are of the opinion that the route never existed and call the stamps a swindle. The motif of the design is a two-masted steamer which also is extraordinary as Alcazar is an inland town being an intermediate station on the important Tangiers-Fez route. Mail service was good here with both French and British mail-routes.

Benatar maintained that the route was in use and served by the issued stamps. He says that Alcazar in 1898 was almost without any postal service with Tangiers. France had only a distribution office at Alcazar, while the mail service was handled only through Laraiche, which is a coast town 36 km. northwest of Alcazar. The establishment of a direct mail through route was for this reason a legitimate means to avoid the transit through Laraiche.

1898. Lithographed, perforated 11½.

120	5 centimes	dark green
121	10 centimes	rose
122	20 centimes	olive
123	25 centimes	light blue
124	40 centimes	brownish red
125	50 centimos	lilac
126	1 peseta	yellow brown
127	2 pesetas	black

The route was closed as soon as the European powers opened their regular mail route. I have not found out when this took place.

ROUTE NO. 13

MAZAGAN - AZEMOUR - MARRAKECH

Distance 210 km.

SPANISH POST

Azemour is situated at the mouth of a river north of Mazagan. It has about 8,000 inhabitants and is of small importance.

We have heard formerly that the politics in Morocco had an influence on postal conditions. This route is a political one, had but little justification, and was therefore also of short duration.

The range from Mazagan to Marrakech was an important trading route and had regular mail service from 1889 by means of J. Brudo's French line. Once before there had been competition from the Italian consul in connection with the route started by the British post office in 1897. This had to close the following year as it could not compete (see Route No. 1).

The Spanish decided to have a try among the towns in Morocco of which Mazagan was the one with the largest Spanish population. They requested their countryman, Messod Bensimon, to open a mail route and compete with Brudo and the French to a finish.

This did not succeed and it didn't help that the route was laid via Azemour which was a roundabout way from Mazagan to Marrakech. The excellent and well organized mail service of Brudo was unassailable.

The remainders of the stamps were sold to stamp dealers. Genuine post-marked stamps are rare.

1899. Typographed, perforated 13½. The value is in black.

128	5 centimos	green
129	10 centimos	red
130	15 centimos	red brown
131	20 centimos	light green
132	25 centimos	blue
	a.	perforated 11
133	50 centimos	mauve
134	1 peseta	brown orange

Rommel doesn't mention this route in his book.

The perforation is given in different figures. Duerst 13½ x 11. I have six of the values perforated 13½ and the 25 c. perf. 11, but with the lack of information at hand I only catalogue perforation 13½.

ROUTE NO. 14

SAFI - MARRAKECH

Distance 160 km.

FRENCH POST

Safi, (Saffi, Asfi, Azaffi) is situated on the Atlantic coast between Mazagan and Mogador. It has 8,000 inhabitants of which 1500 are Jews. Safi was under Portugal's rule from 1508 to 1641. It is a picturesque town but it has decayed and lost much of its former lustre. Lately it has become a trading place for wool, oil and wax from the surrounding fertile district called Abda.

Before this route existed (between Safi and Marrakech) the mail had to go by sea from the ports of Mazagan or Mogador, which are south and north respectively of Safi.

I repeat what Benatar says of the establishment and management of this route and its stamps.

J. Brudo, who started the first successful mail route in Morocco, also started the Safi-Marrakech route. The senior in the French colony at Safi, Joseph Andre was a good friend of Brudo and he was requested to organize and manage the route. This had two weekly departures in each direction. The Rekas covered the distance in 48 hours and were paid 15 pesetas, "Lassani" for the round trip.

A sherif post existed already with three weekly departures. These Rekas—"Maghzen" meaning "employed by the government" needed up to eight days as they travelled slowly. And, contrary to the private Rekas, who could carry a large and heavy bag, they only carried letters beside the official mail—sometimes one or two private letters. This official route worked practically for the natives only and had scarcely any customers at Safi, and only two at Marrakech. Eight days after opening the route Brudo took over the whole of the mail transport on the Safi-Marrakech route. In spite of this addition the route did not pay and after a year's trial it was given up.

The stamps used in this service exist in two printings although all authors before Benatar (1930) mention only one series, perforated 11½. I only have this series unused. Benatar says however, that he has received stamps direct from Brudo perforated 13, the size is 33½ x 22 m.m. The figures are thin, the colours usually dull, and the stamps are poorly gummed and mostly in a sorry condition. This series should, according to Benatar, be genuine.

There exists a series (No. 2) which Benatar believes either is a clandestine print or a forgery. The size is 34 x 22 m.m. and the perforation 11½. The figures are thicker and the colours brighter. The stamps are well gummed and

always in good condition. Benator includes this series in his catalogue, because it is the most commonly circulated, but he regards it as valueless.

1898. Lithographed, perforated 13, value in black.

135	5 centimos	olive green
136	10 centimos	emerald green
137	20 centimos	blue
138	25 centimos	dull mauve
139	50 centimos	rose
140	75 centimos	brownish grey
141	1 peseta	carmine

The same series perforated 11½, clandestine print or forgery.

135a	5 centimos	greenish yellow olive
136a	10 centimos	emerald green
137a	20 centimos	blue
138a	25 centimos	mauve
139a	50 centimos	rose
140a	75 centimos	brownish grey
141a	1 centimos	carmine

ROUTE NO. 15

MOGADOR - AGADIR

Distance 130 km.

SPANISH POST

Agadir is the most southern port on the Atlantic coast. It has 1500 inhabitants and an excellent harbour. It has long been on the decline after the population had been evacuated to Mogador—due to a revolt in 1743. The town was Portuguese until the Moors conquered it in 1536. The desert commences not far south of Agadir, which has given the town its Arabic name “Bab—Sudan,” meaning the “gate of the black.” Agadir is best known from the earlier mentioned episode of 1911, when the German gunboat “Panther” and the cruiser “Berlin” arrived at the port of Agadir in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Mogador was the most important port of Morocco next to Tangiers. Its harbour is well protected by two large islands. For vessels in stormy weather it is well known as a port of refuge. Spanish vessels on the Canary Islands route used it as a port of call. It was the natural embarking place for the trade in a rich district, reaching from the Mogador-Marrakech line southward to Sous.

After the Portuguese deserted it in 1620 it decayed but again has commenced to grow in importance. The caravans from the south stayed in the town to exchange their goods with goods coming from north of Mogador. The native traders in this town had their trading agents at Agadir—connections necessary after the withdrawal of the sherif government, as well as the Europeans, from this dangerous and unsafe district with such poor access.

1900. Lithographed, perforated 14. The sheet has 25 stamps (5 x 5). The banner and the value in black.

142	5 centimos	yellow green
143	10 centimos	ultramarine
144	20 centimos	red brown
145	25 centimos	mauve
146	40 centimos	yellow brown
147	50 centimos	dark brown
148	1 peseta	dark green

ROUTE NO. 16

DEM NAT - MARRAKECH

Distance 80 km.

FRENCH POST

It is only Benatar who gives information about this route. Kohl just had it in the catalogue. None of the other authors name it. I have no copy in my collection of the stamp issued. The following information is from Benatar's handbook:

The route was opened in 1906 by a Frenchman, Charles Firback. After he had ordered the stamp from a Lyon house (which had received an order to print the stamp) Mr. Firback decided the postage should be 20 centimes for a single letter. The native merchants found the postage too high and declared that they would pay no more than 10 centimes. Hoping to overcome the opposition Firback had the stamps printed with the double value 10/20, that it might suit both cases.

The small industrial trading place, Demnat worked hard to extend its connection with Marrakech and the mail-service thrived. Unfortunately the Caid of Demnat did put many obstacles in the way of this route, most likely encouraged by the sheriff, and at last Firback was obliged to leave Demnat in 1907—when the mail route ceased.

1906. Lithographed, perforated 12, printed in Lyon in sheets of 25 (5 x 5). The stamp is $14\frac{1}{2} \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ m.m. Above and below, and inside a double-line, are the two town names "Demnat," and "Marrakech." In the centre 10/20 and at the sides C and F (the initials of Firback.)

149 10/20 cent red

The stamps were gummed in a primitive manner. The gum forced itself through the perforation holes and set itself on the front of the underlying sheet.

Firback used two circle rubberstamps for cancellation one for use at Demnat, the other at Marrakech. The postmarks have between two circle lines the town name above and Morocco below. Due to wear there came on the Marrakech postmark two breaks in the outer circle.

MOROCCO OFFICIAL POST

There were no official posts worth mentioning in Morocco before 1860, as the government mail carriers merely conveyed official correspondence. In 1860, however, the sultan Moulay Hassan announced a change by which the mail carriers were permitted to convey private mail. The postage was 8 centimos, paid in advance. Only ordinary letters were forwarded. Post Offices were erected in most of the larger towns.

The service became rather irregular and slow, therefore it was not much used and then only by Arabs. The establishment of one European post office after another limited more and more the use of the official post. By and by the Arabs commenced to use the European mail service and even the government used it for express. The Morocco official post in this way became reduced just like any business that cannot compete, but it did exist on the paper until 1892. In this year the same Moulay Hassan worked to organize a modern postal organization. He was well supported by his grand vizier, Si Ba Ahmed.

The sultan tried in vain to compete with the private Brudo route, "Mogador-Marrakech," and finally offered to buy it. The offer was refused and the grand vizier received, as said before, an order to organize the postal service. This resulted in the previously mentioned decree of November 22nd, 1892 (2. Djoumada 1 Toula 1310). The intention was to secure a large revenue as well as to obtain a modern postal service. As we know the attempts failed.

The following eight routes were started:

1. Rabat-Casablanca-Azemour-Mazagan-Safi-Mogador.
2. Rabat-Casablanca-Azemour-Marrakech.

(Departure from Rabat every Monday and Thursday. Arrival at Mogador and Marrakech the following weekday. Return every Tuesday and Friday).

3. Rabat-Laraiche-Alcazar-Tangiers-Tetouan.
4. Rabat-Mequines-Fez.

(Departure from Rabat every Monday and Thursday. Arrival at Tetouan Friday and Monday. Arrival Fez Thursday and Sunday. Return from Fez Friday and Monday and return from Tetouan Saturday and Tuesday).

5. Mogador-Safi-Marrakech.
6. Mequines-Fez.
7. Fez-Alcazar-Laraiche-Tangiers-Tetouan.
8. Laraiche-Alcazar.

(For the four last routes departure was every Monday and Thursday in each direction.)

The mail was received and forwarded by the "postmaster" (in Arabic "Amin" pluraris "Oumanas.") These received two stamps (seals). One was for cancelling the mail, the other for sealing the mail bags delivered to the Rekas. The cancellation was a proof that the postage was paid. It was stamped at the post office on arrival in water-colors. The stamp was made of wood octagonal. They exist in many colors, several shades of blue and violet, grey-black and black. The twelve cancellations which I possess are all 27 m.m. in diameter. The postmarks have a frameline which is often defective, but all the postmarks seem to have been made with the same irregularities. The words are in Arabic in white on a coloured base in three lines. The first and third lines have the same wording on all stamps. The middle line gives the name of the town. In the first line "El Maluth," in the second the town name "Tangiers" (or another town) and in the third "billah"—reading thusly:

"El Maluth
Tangiers
Billah"

meaning "Tangiers, by God protected."

Any arrangement for the securing of registered mail or remittance of money was not made. The manager at the departing post office was to inform his brother officer that the mail bag contained valuables and the Amin was charged to use care, but the official post had no obligation or responsibility for correct delivery. As a result the official mail contained hardly anything but ordinary letters.

The postage was 8 mouzounat, equal to 5 centimos, for a letter weighing up to half an ounce (above 14 grams), the postage increasing with each half ounce additional weight.

The octagonal stamps were used in the following 13 towns:

Rabat - Casablanca
Fez - Safi
Tetouan - Laraiche
Tangiers - Laraiche
Tangiers - Mequines
Mazagan - Alcazar
Marrakech - Azemour
Mogador.

According to Benatar the rarity grade should follow the consecutive order of the above list—Azemour being the rarest.

The "Maghzen" (government stamp or seal) ought to be collected on covers, but these are hard to obtain, so one must be satisfied with pieces of a cover.

The value of an entire cover is double that of a piece.

In spite of the promising program given by the sheriff, the service of Brudo didn't disappear—to the contrary new routes were opened up. The official Rekas, as well as postal officials, showed little interest in their work and did not obtain the confidence of the public. Therefore the expectations for a flourishing postal service vanished for the sultan and his grand vizier. Wherever the trades' requirements were sufficient for a reward or in a way to cover expenses did the private postal service continue. Brudo's route worked until 1909 when it was taken over by the French postal authorities. The route run by Messrs. Marx & Co. between Mogador and Marrakech was still going in 1909.

The sheriff post (the official post) made a shift to get through and carried on until 1911—but in reality transported merely the official mail. Private and business people continued to use private or European routes. The government of Morocco was restive and would not admit improvements until the new sultan, Moulay-Abd-El-Asis, with a decree of December 26th, 1911, combined the postal administration with that of the telegraph and the telephone. These had been under the clever administration of de Biannay. Under his rule the postal service also worked out satisfactorily. The first statistics taken from Oct. 1, 1912 to Feb. 28, 1913 showed a volume of 500,000 pieces of mail handled.

A series of stamps was issued according to the decree of Dec. 25, 1911.

SHERIF - POST

The official post of Morocco had up to now been without stamps. The general postmaster, de Biannay, contracted on January 20, 1912, with an engraver in Paris to have stamps printed.

1912, May 22, Typographed on white paper from Messrs. Lecocq, Methorel & Chr. Bernard, Paris. The design and engraving are by Mr. P. Leyat. Perforation 11. The sheet of 50 in two blocks of 25 (5 x 5). The design shows Aissaonas Mosque at Tangiers viewed through a Moorish gate. The wording is in Arabic.

- | | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 1 | mouzouna grey, edition (50,000) |
| 2 | 2 | mouzouna violet, edition (50,000) |
| 3 | 5 | mouzouna green, edition (200,000) |
| 4 | 10 | mouzouna red, edition (200,000) |
| 5 | 25 | mouzouna blue, edition (100,000) |
| 6 | 50 | mouzouna greyish mauve, edition (100,000) |

The values 2, 5 and 10 m. have the engravers name under the left value—the name not being always readable. Due to the small margin 50 m. has a dash in front of the right "5."

The distance between the stamps is only 2 m.m. so the perforation touches the stamp design.

A new issue of 200,000 sets was issued Sept. 4, 1912. The printing plate was altered with 3 m.m. between stamps. The paper was a bit heavier and had a light creamish tone. Printing was in sheets of 150 stamps in blocks of 25. Each block is framed with a 3 m.m. wide border in the color of the stamp.

Benatar refers to a third printing in February, 1913. The paper is rather strongly toned. The margins are large—Perforation 11.

- | | | |
|----|----|--|
| 1a | 1 | mouzouna dark grey |
| 1b | 1 | mouzouna brown grey |
| 2a | 2 | mouzounat brown red |
| 2b | 2 | mouzounat brown on bluish paper |
| 3a | 5 | mouzounat greenish yellow |
| 3b | 5 | mouzounat imperf. in bottom row of sheet |
| 4a | 10 | mouzounat vermillion |
| 4b | 10 | mouzounat imperf. in top row of sheet |
| 5a | 25 | mouzounat blue |

5b 25 mouzounat imperf. in bottom row of sheet
6 50 mouzounat light violet grey

The 2 m. value has no engravers name.
The lines forming the sky are somewhat retouched.
The inverted ! has been removed.
The colors are different from the first issue.
The edition of 2 m.m. on bluish paper is small.

A few authors refer to a 7th value, 100 mouzounat, but the contract with the printers shows that this value was never printed. The imperforate stamps are proofs. Morocco became a French protectorate on April 30, 1912 and the sheriff post terminated in 1914. This was followed by big changes in the postal conditions of Morocco, but this is beyond the domain of this article and cannot be discussed here.

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British Philatelic Association

The organisers of the British Philatelic Exhibition, 1947 felt that if at all possible this year's event should be made available to a very much wider public than would be possible if the Exhibition was confined to London. They are therefore glad to be able to announce that arrangements have been made with the "Daily Graphic" whereby in addition to the fortnight's show at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington from October 23rd-November 5th, the Exhibition will be taken to Glasgow and, it is hoped, to Manchester and Birmingham. Philatelists in these areas will now be able to enjoy the facilities of which London for so long has had the monopoly.

All philatelists will welcome this very generous gesture on the part of Viscount Kemsley who, whilst creating a precedent in co-operating in a philatelic Exhibition of this magnitude, carries on the principle established in 1907 when the same National Paper made philatelic history by inaugurating the first balloon post from London to Sweden.

Postage Stamps of the Dominican Republic, 19th Century

By CLARENCE HENNAN, M.D.

(Continued from Vol. XXVI, No. 2, Page 55.)

Other Errors of Surcharge

The Scott catalog listing includes the following errors of surcharge;

Thick 10c on 2c (No. 57b and c); "10" omitted; "O" omitted.

Thin 25c on 5c (No. 60e and f); "25" omitted; normal surcharge on back.

With network, thin 10c on 2c (No. 58a); "centimos."

With network, thin 25c on 5c (No. 77b); normal surcharge on back.

Phillips listed all these varieties except No. 57c and No. 58a, and in addition listed a thin 10c on 2c with "0" omitted, and with "10" omitted, which do not appear on the Scott list. Apparently only single copies had been seen. Unless the surcharge with "10" omitted is in a pair or other multiple with a normal surcharge the present writer would anticipate considerable difficulty in determining whether a "10" which was entirely missing and so *could not be seen at all*, was thick or thin. And the same applies to the "25—centimos" surcharge with the "25" missing. As a matter of collateral interest the reader may note that as late as 1922 the Gibbons catalog listed these two surcharge errors under "figures omitted," and the "10" without "0", all as belonging to the thin figures set only.* From the information which is available one may reasonably conclude that any of these three errors could belong either to the thick figure or to the thin figure surcharges, or to both of those groups.

A genuine example of No. 60f has been seen in the present study, but none of the other varieties mentioned above. A forgery of No. 57b (and No. 57c) is known which apparently came from a single electro printed on stamps from various positions of the 2c pane, one at a time.

Thick "2" with top broken off

There are two of these, very similar but not identical. One or the other has been found on positions 4 and 5 of the 25c Series B form and on position 3 and 6 of the 2f50c surcharge (Series B form?). On 25c forms position 5 (Series B) and position 4 (Series A) also occur with normal "2", as does position 3 on 2f50c forms A and B.

Straight flag on thick "5" surcharges

On the series B form position 18 exists with normal "5" and also with the flag on the "5" straighter than usual. This is not the flattened "5" which occurs on positions 3 and 20 of the Series A form.

Crippled "centimos"

On position 19 of the thin "5" surcharge (Series A form?) "centimos" evidently met with an accident. The "ti" is jammed together and other letters of the surcharge appear to have been damaged.

Irregular alignment

In the 10c thin numeral surcharges the type may not have been locked tightly enough in the form to prevent slipping. The "1" is not always in

*One of the anecdotes told about those interesting Pennsylvanians who are called "Pennsylvania Dutch" altho they are not Dutch, concerns a soda fountain waitress who, when her customer had struggled through repeated attempts to make her comprehend that what he wished to drink was plain soda without **any** flavoring, replied, "yah, but vat you vant him midout—midout fanilla, or midout lemon?"

alignment with the "0". On position 22 with thick and thin "10" the letters of "centimos" are not always properly aligned. In some instances these inaccuracies appear to have been corrected. Position 6 of the 25c thin figures surcharge exists with "mos." dropped a little.

Irregular Impressions

On the Phillips plate of the thin "10" the numerals on position 19 are rough and appear as if slightly double struck with the "1" a trifle too high. Several stamps from position 19 with this surcharge oddity are known. Other copies of No. 19 (from the same form?) have the "10" normal. Similar but perhaps less noticeable peculiarities of the numerals or in "centimos" appear on several positions in the second and third rows of the Phillips plate and have been found on stamps from the same positions. A reasonable conclusion is that one or both thin figure "10" forms existed in more than one condition.

Double impressions

Phillips listed a double surcharge of the 5c with thick numerals. This variety has been found overprinted from the Series A form on a stamp with network. One impression is faint but legible. The tall spaced thin "5" surcharge has been found distinctly double and is not listed under Scott No. 55.

75c—Paper Varieties

The 75c stamp is found on four varieties of paper. The approximate average thickness of each is given in decimals of an inch;

"Thin"—a smooth, semi-transparent wove paper, (.0024).

"Medium"—a similar wove, less transparent and thicker, (.0030).

"Thick"—a thicker wove, less smooth, quite opaque, and found only with orange network, (.0038).

"Laid"—found with the vergures horizontal, (.0027).

The proportion of each which has been noted is given below but altho these percentages as obtained are factual they are not claimed to represent the relative scarcity in any market or supply.

	Thin	Medium	Thick	Laid	Totals
Unsurcharged	plain 26 %	plain 14 %		plain 16 %	56 %
Unsurcharged network rose	2 %		orange 31 %		33 %
Surcharged	plain 4 %	plain 2 %	network 4 %	plain 1 %	11 %
Totals	32 %	16 %	35 %	17 %	100 %

Colors of the 75c stamp

In the official records the color of the authentic 75c stamp was "marine blue," and that of the clandestine issue on laid paper was "dull blue." In the article by Phillips the 75c without network is listed in dark blue and ultramarine, and in ultramarine with network. But in listing the 3f75c surcharge on 75c stamps without network on wove or laid paper, and with network on wove paper only, Phillips called the color "blue." In the Scott catalog all varieties, including those on laid paper, are called "ultramarine." The color is indeed similar to that of some other stamps which are described as ultramarine in Scott catalogs.

As compared to the 5c stamp the color of the 75c is a decidedly bluer blue. The 5c blue contains black, gray and green. This greenish hue is found around 46 on the Ridgway hue scale. The blue of the 75c contains black, gray and a little violet or red, and is found around 50 on the Ridgway hue scale. It is not far from an "ultramarine blue" containing pure blue (i.e., spectrum blue, Ridgway 49), darkened with black. Variations from pale to deep, which may be

due entirely to intensity, have been found on 75c stamps with or without network and with or without surcharge. Stamps on laid paper are found in the same color.

Colors of the 2c stamp

In the official records the color of the 2c stamp was red or carmine rose. That of the clandestine issue on laid paper was carmine red. In the Scott catalog all varieties of the 2c stamp, including pelure and laid papers, are called "red." Some color variations are due no doubt either to intensity of the ink film or to fading, and the variations as found today may have small significance. It is also possible that marked differences of hue occurred when the stamps were printed. In the tabulation below the colors listed by Phillips in 1906 are marked (P).

No network	2c colors	With network
red (P)		red (P)
orange red (P)		orange red (P)
orange red (horizontally laid paper)		orange yellow
orange red (pelure paper)		

Thick Figures Surcharge

red (P)	red (shades) (P)
orange red	orange red
orange	

Thin Figures Surcharge

orange red (P)	orange red (P)
reddish pink (P)	yellow orange
dull orange	

All of these colors can be matched by combining spectrum orange with proportions of red up to about 80%, or with yellow up to about 35%, and dulling with 25% to 33% of gray. The reddest contains only 20% orange and was found on pelure paper. The next reddest is scarlet (60% red) on wove paper. Other stamps contain more orange than red. Laid paper (40% red) and pelure paper are also found in this common group. In the orange-yellow group the range noted is from 9% to 35% of yellow and 65% to 91% of orange. Hence the entire range of hue in the 2c stamps extends from 3.1 to 17.1 on the Ridgway scale, with spectrum orange (11.0) near the middle between the reddest and the yellowest stamps.

100c—Paper Varieties

Three of the four varieties of paper on which the 75c was printed were also used for 100c stamp. The thin paper calibrates from .0022 to .0027, averaging about .0024, and altho it is less transparent on some stamps than on others, none of it has been identified with the "medium" paper of the 75c stamp. As on the latter, the thick paper is found only with network, which is a pale brown, such as might be obtained by making the orange network of the 75c much duller. The same remarks apply to the percentages given below as in the case of the 75c.

	Thin	Thick	Laid	Totals
Unsurcharged	plain 53 %	network 26 %	plain 9 %	88 %
Surcharged	plain 2 %	network 10 %		12 %
Totals	55 %	36 %	9 %	100 %

"SPECIMEN" Stamps

The 1c, 2c, 5c and 75c without network or surcharge have been found bearing "SPECIMEN" in sans-serif capitals in black, apparently handstamped. Nothing of their history is known to the present writer.

1885-91 ISSUE

These stamps were engraved and printed on wove paper and perforated 12 by the "AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY, NEW YORK."* The sheets (or panes?) probably contained 100 subjects (10x10). The die proof which is illustrated shows that the 10c and 20c designs were on a single die and were numbered "C-132" and "C-133" respectively, with "AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. N. Y." below each. According to Phillips' article in 1906:

"These new stamps were first noted in *The Philatelic Record* for February, 1885, and were probably issued at the end of 1884, or very early in 1885. * * * The first values that appeared were the 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 centavos, which, as late as 1891, were followed by the 50c and 1 and 2 pesos."

The October 1933 issue of the *Revista Postal* of Santo Domingo contained other information on these stamps, viz., that they were lithographed by the "Bank Note Company" of New York, that the five lower values were issued January 1, 1885, and that the three higher values (50c, 1 and 2 pesos) were issued on April 21st of the next year—1886. The quantities are given as follows;

1 centavo green	300,000	20 centavos brown (café)	50,000
2 centavos vermilion	500,000	50 centavos violet	5,000
5 centavos marine blue	100,000	1 peso carmine	5,000
10 centavos orange	100,000	2 pesos chestnut red	5,000
Total stamps	1,000,000		65,000
Total face value (pesos)	28,000		27,500

"Lithographed" and the 1886 date are most surprising. No lithographed impressions of the 1895 design(s) are known to the present writer. It seems incredible that the above record refers to lithographed stamps which were never placed in use and have disappeared, leaving no trace. No other reference to a date earlier than 1891 has been found for the 50c and peso values. Even tho the stated quantities were not large it is indeed strange if all three of these stamps could have been bought and used at post offices for five years before the philatelic world heard of them.

POSTMARKS AND CANCELLATIONS—1885-'91 ISSUES

(In purple unless otherwise stated)

Puerto Plata Markings

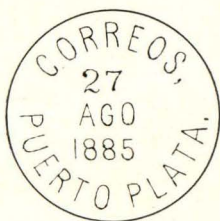
PP-2; dates of use were found from January 19, 1887 to September 23, 1890 in purple, and December 12, 1890 in blue. The month is under the day and over the year as in 1880-'85. The first date is on a post card from Santo Domingo to Puerto Plata. The last date is on a cover bearing two 2c stamps of 1885 to Paris, cancelled with the FRANCA oval Type PP-F2 in blue.

PP-4; this cogwheel is known with date "JUN-13-1892" cancelling a 5c stamp of 1885, and "AGO-19-1892" on a post card from Monte Cristy, both sent to New York. The post card stamp is cancelled with a similar cogwheel of Monte Cristy having 41 points.

PP-5; day under the month and over the year. Recorded dates are "ABR-14-1894" cancelling a 10c stamp of 1885 on cover to New York, and "NOV-22-1894" cancelling a similar 10c stamp on a piece of cover bearing a Turks Island postmark of Nov. 27, 1894.

PP-F2; this oval of one heavy line measures about 30-14 mm. and encloses "FRANCA" in block capitals. It was used to cancel a 20c stamp of 1885 ("17-DIC-1888"), and two other such 20c ("16-ENE-1889"), on cover to Hamburg which were postmarked with the PP-2 circle on the dates mentioned. It also exists in blue "12-DIC-1890" as stated above.

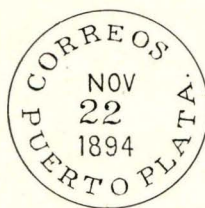
* A block of four with this imprint in the right hand margin is illustrated.



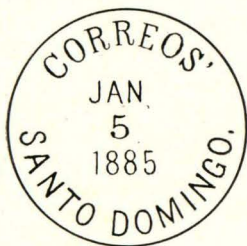
PP-2



PP-4



PP-5



SD-L



PP-F2



SD-M



SD-N



SD-O



SD-Q



SD-S



SD-R



SD

Santo Domingo Markings

SD-L; the only example seen was used as a postmark "JAN-5-1885" on a cover to Canada bearing a "25c thin figures" surcharged 5c stamp of 1881, the stamp cancelled with the oval SD-F1. In the absence of Santo Domingo postmarks dated in 1884 it is assumed for convenience that postmark Type SD-K continued in use from December 1883 throughout 1884 and was replaced by Type SD-L about January 1, 1885.

SD-M; this postmark-canceller was used as either or both and is found on domestic and overseas mail. Colors noted are purple in November 1885, blue in May 1886, April and November in 1888, and black in January and April 1887.

SD-N; evidently this is Type SD-L with an inner circle added. The example seen cancelled a 10c stamp of 1885 on a cover of January 28, 1888 to Austria and another strike postmarked that cover. The month and year dates were incorrectly inserted.

SD-O; the ornamental stars are often blurred and appear as large dots. The date may have the month second, as "18 NOV. 91," or first, as "ENE 28 92." This postmark and canceller is believed to have been in use as early as July 4, 1889. It has been found in blue only, except black on one cover in July 1893. Covers to Canada ("11 NOV. 91") and to Germany ("28 ENE. 92") are noted, also covers bearing various stamps with the Parisot "U. P. U." surcharges and dated in April and May 1891, and July 2, 1893. A single 2f50c surcharge of 1883 with network, evidently used late, was cancelled with this handstamp "4 JUL." the year not showing.

SD-P; four lines of type, unframed and measuring about 34x22 mm. over all, reading "ADMON PRINCIPAL-DE CORREOS-ABR 10 1891-SANTO DOMINGO." This handstamp was found only as a postmark-canceller on stamped envelopes which had Parisot "U. P. U." surcharges. One of these is illustrated in connection with the Parisot issue.

SD-Q; this handstamp was used to cancel a 5c stamp of 1885 on cover to New York "25-AGO-1892" and the same date is known on a loose 10c stamp of that series.

SD-R; evidently this postmark was affixed to a grid killer of eight heavy bars forming an open oval. The postmark appears on a cover of May 21, 1893 to New York and a 5c envelope stamp which was used as an adhesive on that cover was cancelled with the oval grid which is also illustrated. The same date appears on a loose 50c stamp of 1891. Both examples are in black, as is this grid cancelling a single 2c stamp of 1895-'97.

SD-S; the few examples seen are in blue cancelling a pair of 1c stamps of 1885 in April 1894, and a single 10c of 1885 on "15 NOVI 94," on two covers to Switzerland, and a 10c of the 1895 issue with date "14 NOVI 96" on a cover to Bordeaux.

SD-F2; two dates are noted for this oval cogwheel canceller, viz., struck on a 10c stamp of 1885 on cover to France which was postmarked with Type SD-M on "3 NOV 85" in purple, and also cancelling 1c, 2c and 5c stamps on a cover to Tuscany which has "1 MAY 86" in postmark SD-M in blue. A single 2f-50c surcharge of 1883, without network, evidently used late, was cancelled with this oval.

THE PARISOT "U/P/U" ISSUE—1891

In Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal of October 31, 1906, the article by C. J. Phillips includes a paragraph on "The so-called Parisot Issue," as follows;

"In 1891 some of the stamps of 1879 and 1880 were surcharged * * * and some of them were allowed to frank letters to France and elsewhere. These stamps are looked upon as speculative, and they are not generally collected, or

listed in the leading catalogues. A full account of them may be found in the Monthly Journal for 1901 and in *Le Timbre-Poste* for the same year."

The facts appear to be that as a speculation one H. K. Parisot* had various adhesive stamps of the 1879, 1880 and 1883 issues, and certain stamped envelopes of the 1881 series, overprinted in various colors with two diagonal crossed lines separating the letters "U P U" from each other and from a new value £ which was surcharged as part of the same impression. The letters "U P U" signified the Universal Postal Union which the Dominican Republic had joined late in 1880. Through the connivance of a high official these surcharged stamps and envelopes were accepted for postage and allowed to pass in the mails altho they were not surcharged by authority of the Post Office Department and were never on sale at any post office. They were not recognized as legitimate by the Postmaster General who, in fact, objected strongly to their use.

The following ten varieties have been seen. All the adhesives except varieties (b) and (g) are noted on covers which bear satisfactory evidence of having passed through the mails, as did the stamped envelopes which are listed here.

With U P U and new value in blue

- (a)—50c on UN REAL on salmon, 1879 issue.
- (c)—90c on UN REAL on white, 1879 issue.
- (f)—2c on 20c brown (i.e. olive, and also yellow brown), 1880 issue.
- (g)—2c on 20c brown (olive) of 1880 with 1 franco surcharge of 1883, (Scott No. 63).
- (j)—40c on 10c stamped envelope on straw colored paper.

With U P U and new value in red

- (b)—80c on MEDIO REAL on white, 1879 issue.
- (d)—1 PESO on MEDIO REAL on bluish, 1879 issue.
- (e)—1c on 5c, 1880 issue.
- (h)—30c on 10c stamped envelope on blue paper.
- (k)—50c on 10c stamped envelope on blue paper.

In the 1894 edition, under "PROVISIONAL ISSUE," the Scott catalog listed 12 adhesive varieties and 31 stamped envelopes as occurring with "U P U" surcharges. No prices were quoted. In the 1895 edition the "PROVISIONAL ISSUE" heading was omitted and no prices were quoted on the envelopes. The adhesives were priced unused only at from 15c for the 2c on 20c (with or without network) to \$10 for the 90c surcharge. In the 1896 catalog all "U P U" surcharges on adhesives and envelopes were omitted.

The listings of adhesives in 1894 and 1895 comprised six varieties on the four stamps of 1879, and six surcharges on the 1880-'83 issues—three with and three without network. Altho the three varieties with network were priced only 15c, 30c and \$1 in 1895, and the four surcharges in red on the 1879 issue were priced only \$1.50 each, the three former and two of the latter have not been found in the present study. The five varieties on the Scott list of adhesives which do not appear in the list given above are the 80c on MEDIO REAL on bluish, 1 PESO on MEDIO REAL on white paper, 1c on 5c of 1881 (with network), all three surcharged in red, and the 2c on 20c network surcharged in blue, with and without a 1 franco black surcharge of 1883.

Many of the Parisot surcharges were used on registered letters in March, April and May of 1891. Frequently the covers are addressed to "Madame L. Ritter" or "Monsieur P. Ritter" at "Poste Restante" (General Delivery) in

* H. K. Parisot is stated to have been the dealer in Paris who was responsible for forgeries of the first issue of Dominican Republic stamps, (Kohl Handbook, page 246). An authentic cover of August 1881 from "K. PARISOT & CIE, St. DOMINGO" to Puerto Plata is illustrated in the section on the stamps of 1880-'81.

† Except that the 1 peso envelopes were surcharged "1 PESO."

Paris, or to "H. K. Parisot, General Delivery, New York." However, other uses are known, such as a cover of June 12, 1893 to Scott Stamp & Coin Co., New York, which is illustrated. The latest use of record is a cover of February 12, 1898 which arrived at Lyon, France, nearly a month later—on March 8th.

Postmarks and Cancellations

Types SD-O and SD-T which are found on covers bearing the Parisot surcharges are noted in the sections on the 1885-'91 and 1895-'97 issues respectively.

Type SD-P has been found only on Parisot surcharges, viz., on stamped envelopes and on a single UN REAL of 1879 (salmon paper) with the 50c surcharge. A stamped envelope cancelled with this handstamp is illustrated. Until or unless this marking is found used on or with legitimately issued stamps its status may remain a matter of conjecture.

Forgery

Curiously enough, the Parisot surcharge has been counterfeited. The specimen noted is a forgery of the MEDIO REAL of 1879 on white paper which is thinner than that of the genuine stamp. It has a forged "U P U—1 PESO" in red, and is cancelled in black with a forgery of the Puerto Plata postmark Type PP-1 or PP-2, but not one of the imitation postmarks which are found on the genuine stamps. As the color of the forged stamp is purple (reddish) instead of dark gray violet, and the perforation ($11\frac{1}{2}$) is also wrong, this attempt to deceive may rate, in reverse sense, as "the perfect crime."

Stamped Envelopes

Scott catalog listing of the stamped envelopes of "ST. DOMINGO" began in the 44th edition (1883-84). Ten denominations were listed under the date "1880," viz., 2c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 30c, 40c, 45c, 60c, and a 3c black which later was listed as a wrapper stamp. This listing was continued thru the 47th edition (1886-87) in which the name of the country was changed to "DOMINICAN REPUBLIC." In the 48th, 49th and 50th editions (1887-90) the envelope listing was changed to include blue, white and yellow papers, and each of the eight denominations from 5c to 60c was listed on two of the three papers. Nine varieties (eight values) were under the date "1881" and seven varieties (all



values except a 30c) were under the date "1885." In the 51st edition a 5c on white paper (under "1888") and a 10c on blue paper (under "1889") were added. The next year (1891-92) further additions were made to the envelope list, all envelopes which were in the design of the adhesives of 1880 were under the date "1881", and a long list of Parisot surcharges appeared dated "1891."

Following editions of the Scott catalog to 1903 list a total of 34 stamped envelopes as having been issued in 1881. There were fourteen denominations, in various colors, all in the designs of the adhesives of 1880. The colors of nine values of the envelopes corresponded to the same values of the adhesives. The other five values—15c, 30c, 40c, 45c and 60c—were not issued in adhesive form. The 2c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 45c and 60c envelope stamps are listed on three papers each—white, straw, and blue—making 27 varieties. The other seven varieties were the 1c green which was listed on orange paper only, the 25c violet on white only, the 50c orange on white and straw, the 75c blue on blue and straw, and the 1 peso gold on straw only. All the 1c, 2c, 25c, 75c and 1 peso envelopes and the 50c on straw colored paper were priced at \$10 each, the 50c on white paper was not priced, and the other envelopes were priced at 2c for each 1 centavo of face value. These prices were for unused condition.

Volume I of the 1899 edition of the Scott Co.'s International Album provided spaces for 26 varieties of postal stationery with the stamp designs of 1880, viz., 5c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 45c and 60c stamped envelopes, each on white, straw, and blue papers, and two wrapper stamps—a 2c printed in orange and a 3c printed in black. It may be noted that no 1c, 2c, 25c, 50c, 75c or 1 peso stamped envelopes were included.

The varieties which are illustrated here,* (and a 5c on white wove paper), were found cut square in one of those albums more than 25 years ago. To print them four kinds of paper were used. The 15c, 40c, 45c and one 10c are on white wove. The 5c, 20c and one 10c are on straw, wide laid. The 60c is on blue, narrow laid. The 3c is on manila wove. That all the white paper on the 5c to 60c values was wove, all the straw color paper had 11 vergures to 20 mm., and all the blue paper had 15 vergures to 20 mm., may be assumed, but is not certain.

The 3c wrapper has a black smudge (cancellation?). The 5c, 20c and 60c are cancelled with a 30 to 31 mm. Puerto Plata circle in purple showing the month "MAR," "AGO" or "SET" above the day. The year is "1880" or later in that decade. The other values show a complete or nearly complete purple grid of 7 heavy bars or 9 thin bars. Reference to these grids and the Puerto Plata handstamp will be found in the chapter on the adhesives of 1880-81.

Envelopes with U P U surcharges

Of the 31 varieties of Parisot "U P U" envelopes on the Scott catalog list 22 are 1 peso surcharges on one or two papers each of all values except the 10c and 15c. The nine other surcharges comprise one 30c and two 40c on the three colors of the 10c envelope, a 40c on 30c, a 50c on 10c, and one each of 60c (on blue), and 70c, 80c and 90c on white, on the 15c envelopes. Strangely enough, the 22 "1 PESO" surcharges include most of the rarest envelopes—seven of the nine which were priced by Scott at \$10 each unused, and the unpriced 50c on straw paper! And, as will soon be seen, that is not the only remarkable result of Parisot's activities.

On checking the list of 34 stamped envelopes of the 1881 issue against those which Scott listed with the Parisot "U P U" surcharges of 1891 another most peculiar fact appears. The 2c, 5c, 15c, 20c, 40c, 45c, 60c and 75c on straw colored paper do not appear on the list of envelopes which were surcharged. Neither do the 30c on white nor the 60c on blue. But if the Scott catalog listing

* with cordial thanks to Harry L. Jefferys.

of the envelopes of 1881 was complete, the list of surcharges of 1891 in the same catalog includes four Parisot surcharges *on envelopes which were never issued!*

It is difficult to understand how Parisot "U P U" surcharges could have been printed on 25c, 50c and 1 peso envelopes on blue paper, and on 75c envelopes on white paper, if those envelopes did not exist without surcharge. Furthermore, it may be of interest to note that if these four of the envelopes which are listed with Parisot surcharge should have been included on the unsurcharged list, only the 25c on straw and the 1 peso on white would also need to be added to have the Scott list include all values from 2c to 1 peso on white, straw, and blue paper, without "U P U" surcharge.

The Scott catalog listings of 1895 are combined in the resume of original envelopes of 1881 and "U P U" surcharged envelopes of 1891 which is given below. The four varieties of paper are separated to bring all values which are listed on any paper into the same group.

SCOTT CATALOG—1895

1881 ENVELOPES			1891 "U P U" SURCHARGES		
Value	Color	Unused Price	New Value		Color
Orange Paper					
1c	green	\$10.00	1 peso		carmine
White Paper					
2c	red	10.00	1 peso		carmine
5c	blue	.10	1 peso		black
10c	rose	.20	40c		blue(?)
15c	yellow	.30	70c		black
15c	yellow	.30	80c		black
15c	yellow	.30	90c		black
20c	bistre	.40	1 peso		green
25c	violet	10.00	1 peso		brown
30c	carmine	.60			(not listed)
40c	brown	.80	1 peso		(not given)
45c	purple	.90	1 peso		brown
50c	orange	(no price)	1 peso		carmine
60c	green	1.20	1 peso		black
75c	blue	(not listed)	1 peso		carmine
Straw Paper					
2c	red	10.00			(not listed)
5c	blue	.10			(not listed)
10c	rose	.20	40c		blue
15c	yellow	.30			(not listed)
20c	bistre	.40			(not listed)
30c	carmine	.60	40c		(not given)
40c	brown	.80			(not listed)
45c	purple	.90			(not listed)
50c	orange	10.00	1 peso		carmine
60c	green	1.20			(not listed)
75c	blue	10.00			(not listed)
1p	gold *	10.00	1 peso		carmine
Blue Paper					
2c	red	10.00	1 peso		carmine
5c	blue	.10	1 peso		black
10c	rose	.20	30c		carmine
10c	rose	.20	50c		carmine
15c	yellow	.30	60c		black
20c	bistre	.40	1 peso		green
25c	violet	(not listed)	1 peso		brown
30c	carmine	.60	1 peso		black
40c	brown	.80	1 peso		(not given)
45c	purple	.90	1 peso		brown
50c	orange	(not listed)	1 peso		carmine
60c	green	1.20			(not listed)
75c	blue	10.00	1 peso		carmine
1p	gold	(not listed)	1 peso		carmine

* This large envelope exists with one stamp printed in the upper right corner and a second impression printed sideways and to the left. The information has been kindly supplied by Burger & Co.

1895 ISSUE

The engraver or printer of these stamps is not definitely known. Some students believe they were produced in Paris. Imperforate pairs and blocks exist, some with sheet margins, but no imprint has been seen. These imperforates are rated as unissued impressions.

At a casual glance the designs appear to differ from the 1885 issue only in the addition of a numeral of value to each upper corner, but they were not made by transferring any part of the 1885 designs. Careful examination shows that altho the 1885 designs were closely imitated there are many differences between them and the engravings of 1895. This would hardly be true had the 1895 issue been produced by the American Bank Note Co.

Much of the information which is available appeared in the C. J. Phillips article in 1906. Therein is embodied a quotation from the *American Journal of Philately* for October 31, 1894 and from the *Boletín de Correos y Telegraficos* of September 20, 1894:

"Mr. John H. Drummond, of Santo Domingo, writes us the following:—

"About the middle of February or March we will have a new issue of stamps. I send you an extract from a daily paper here giving full particulars.

"Extract from *Boletín di Comercia*: We read in the last number of the *Boletín de Correos y Telegraficos*, dated September 20, 1894, that it has been decided by the Ministry of the Department to issue new postage stamps of the following types and in the quantities given:—

150,000	1c green, of the value of	\$1,500
150,000	2c red, of the value of	3,000
150,000	5c blue, of the value of	7,500
50,000	10c orange, of the value of	5,000
500,000 stamps		Total \$17,000

"These are similar to those of the preceding issue, differing only in having the figure representing the value in the four corners. The National Bank will issue the stamps by agreement with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General."

The American Journal of Philately of September 2, 1895 announced that the 1c and 2c perf $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ had been issued on July 5th, and in the November 1st number stated that the 5c and 10c had just been issued. Phillips stated that the perforation was changed about 1898, mentioning a 2c perf 14 all around used on May 10th of that year. After examining a number of stamps the present writer concludes that the horizontal perf $12\frac{1}{2}$ is quite constant, while the "perf 14"—either horizontally or vertically—may actually measure from $13\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 and most frequently will come between them. A 5c stamp measuring $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ is noted used December 25, 1897.

If the half million stamps of 1895 constituted the only order and delivery it is obvious that all varieties of perforation must have been included in that supply regardless of when any particular variety went on sale in a post office. A comparison between the 90,000 pesos face value of the stamps which apparently were sold during 1880-85 with the 17,000 pesos face value of the 1895 issue which presumably were delivered in that year, leads to a conclusion that those 500,000 stamps of 1895 would not have been sufficient to keep the offices thruout the republic supplied for nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ years until the 1899 issue appeared.

However, a comparison with the quantities of the 1885 issue may lead to a different conclusion for if the quantities given in the *Revista Postal* are correct and constituted the only supply of the 1885 series, then 28,000 pesos face value of 1c, 2c, 5c and 10c stamps of 1885 lasted for ten years and part of 1895 in addition.

A supply of one million stamps of 28,000 pesos face value in 1885 would permit an average sale of about 2,650 pesos per year for more than ten years.

A supply of a half million stamps of 17,000 pesos face value in 1895 would permit an average sale of about 4,850 pesos per year for about $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.

It seems reasonable to conclude that if this is a true comparison the half million stamps of 1895 could have been the only supply of that series and therefore necessarily included whatever varieties of perforation were sold and accepted for legitimate use. The color of each denomination is so uniform as to suggest that any or all deliveries of any stamp came from one printing of that stamp. At 20c per thousand stamps the printing bill for half a million stamps would amount to exactly *one hundred dollars*.

POSTMARKS AND CANCELLATIONS—1895-'97 ISSUES

(In purple unless stated otherwise)

Puerto Plata Markings

PP-5; 29 mm. circle, used as a postmark on cover with 5c stamp of 1895, "ENE-25-1896" from Santiago to Canada; 27 mm. circle, as postmark and canceller on two 5c of 1895, "SET-15-1896" to Bordeaux; 28 mm. circle cancelling five 2c of 1895, "ENE-23-1897" to Turks Islands. More than one handstamp may have been in use. The strikes vary from heavy to light and for convenience they are grouped here as one type.

PP-6; the example seen cancelled two 1c and four 2c stamps of 1895 on cover of May 12, 1896 to Bordeaux.

PP-7; this 27 mm. handstamp is very similar to Type PP-2 but there is a dot between "PUERTO" and "PLATA," no comma or period after either, and the leg of each "R" is more slanting. It is noted on cover with 5c of 1897 "DIC-25-1897" from Santiago to New York, also cancelling a 1c and two 2c of 1895 to New York "DIC-26-1897", and on cover with 5c and 10c of 1895 "JUL-3-1898" to Turks Island.

PP-8; the example seen cancelled a loose single 10c stamp of 1895 on March 2, 1898.

PP-9; one example seen evidently was attached to an open grid killer at right, 4 mm. away, the latter cancelling a 10c of 1897 on "MAY-23-1899" to Washington, D. C. The same combination was found on a registered letter of "FEB-1-1899" with three 10c of 1895 to Germany. Another strike cancelled a loose 10c of 1897 "JUN-23-1899" which was also struck with a grid killer.

Santiago Markings

STI-2; the upper line may read "ADMON DE CORREOS." The example noted cancelled a 5c of 1895 on a cover postmarked with Type PP-7 "JAN-25-1896" to Kingston, Ontario, via New York.

STI-3; the strikes seen vary in very dull purple, cancelling a single 2c of 1897 "DEC-7-1897" and a single 10c of that series "OCT-6-1898"; also as postmark and canceller on cover bearing a 5c of 1895 to New York "DEC-24-1897"—with additional postmark of Type PP-7 the next day.

Santo Domingo Markings

SD-S; the latest use found was struck in blue to cancel a 10c stamp of 1895 on cover of November 14, 1896 to Bordeaux. The French Packet octagon reading "HAITI A FORT DE FRANCE"—L. E. No. 2" also appears on this cover.

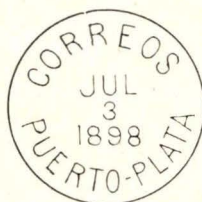
SD-T; this cogwheel does not always show a line above and below the date. It was used as a postmark and also canceller on a registered cover to New York "DEC 21 1897" which has a horizontal pair of 10c 1895, again cancelling a 5c of 1897 on cover of "DEC 2 1897" to New York, also on a single 2c of 1897



PP-5



PP-6



PP-7



PP-8



STI-2



STI-3



SD-T



PP-9



SP-M

"JUL 6 1897", and on a 10c of 1895 in 1898. Another cover is a 2c stamped envelope bearing a 1c of 1885 and a Parisot "U. P. U." 2c surcharge on a 20c of 1880. The stamps are cancelled with two strikes of this handstamp and apparently were valid for 5c postage "FEB 12 1898" to one Francis Deloche, 27 Rue Ferrandiere, in Lyon, France.

Oval of eight heavy bars; this killer is illustrated in connection with postmark Type SD-R to which it was apparently attached. It has been noted cancelling 1c and 2c stamps of 1897.

San Pedro de Macoris

SP-M; this handstamp was found cancelling a 5c and 10c of 1895 on a registered cover to Turks Island which was postmarked on "JUL-3-1898" with Type PP-7. Other strikes dated "AUG 11 1897" cancelled a block of 12 (3x4) of the 5c of 1895.

A Case for Stampless Cover Collecting

By JOHN HEARD

Unlike the method used in teaching geometry to small boys, I shall begin by assuming my conclusion, which is:

I believe that among the various specialized fields of philately, the one which has the rosiest outlook in the relatively near future is that of United States Stampless Covers. I think that both in terms of dollars and cents value and expanding interest, this field, until comparatively recently generally ignored, will very soon come into its own. In support of my thesis, I offer these reasons.

Stampless covers are as legitimately postally used and as properly collectable material as are covers bearing adhesives, which, for many years, have been held in high esteem. In addition they fall into the category of early Americana on which the hallmark of popularity has long since been placed.

The fantastic rise in the value (and so in the cost) of early United States stamps has already and, to an increasing degree, will continue to put them beyond the financial reach of more and more collectors. For the present, at least, that is not true of stampless covers, which can still be had in great varieties at from a few cents to five dollars each. The very fact that run-of-the-mill covers, which only a few years ago were a drug on the market at a dime a dozen, now sell at from a few cents to a dollar each, proves that the move is underway.

The field is enormous; in fact, far larger than that of adhesives. In the current United States Specialized Catalogue, Scott lists somewhat over nine hundred postage stamps and perhaps twice as many more miscellaneous items. In Konwiser's (very incomplete) Stampless Cover Catalogue, New York State alone is down for over seventeen hundred and fifty varieties. If minor differences were enumerated, the number might easily reach to over five thousand. Sub-divisions offer endless choices for specialization. Thus, you can collect only straight-lines or ovals, or a particular state, or even city, or ships, railroads, etc.

Another angle is that in a general way, except for advanced specialists, stamp collectors are concerned with filling spaces on album pages. Once you have, say, a fifty-cent Columbian or a fifty-cent Omaha, that much of the job is done. Within limits, the rarity of a stamp depends on the size of the issue. The same stamp was used all over the country. In the case of stampless covers, their rarity, but not necessarily their value, depends on the volume of mail handled by a given Post Office. Obviously, the smaller the town, the fewer the letters which originated there and hunting for the strike of some crossroads Post Office out in the sticks, and now long defunct, becomes fascinating, although the cover may only be worth a dollar when finally found. Again, a stamp has not much of a story to tell, whereas, a stampless cover can, especially to the student, tell much. Its markings indicate rates, distances, transit routes, methods of conveyance, and much other interesting and historical data. Furthermore, most stampless covers are folded letters, which often prove to be amusing or interesting.

For nearly three-quarters of a century the value of old stamps has been a matter of such common knowledge that most old correspondences and trunks of letters have been searched and, where the letter bore stamps, the stamps have been torn off, but the stampless covers were left, as being of no value. Then, when years later the accumulation was re-examined and no stamps were found, it was frequently destroyed as worthless.

In 1856 prepayment of postage by the use of adhesives was made mandatory. That marked the end of the stampless cover era, which, in the United States, began exactly one hundred years before. Now 1856 is a long time ago—

(Continued on Page 88.)

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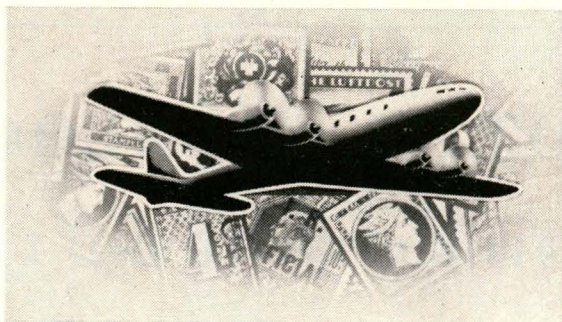
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