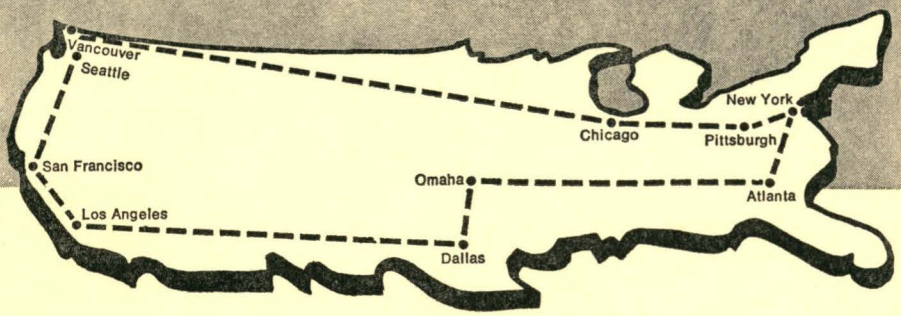
VV



The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

Volume 51 Number 1
January 1972

if your problem is the best way to sell your stamps ...ask the man from Harmer Rooke!



HE MAKES HOUSE CALLS!

...in big cities and small towns, too

Collectors and dealers everywhere depend on the traditional expertise and integrity of Harmer Rooke and monthly, cross-country trips are a regular part of our unique service. With scheduled appointments in major cities, a key executive from Harmer Rooke is readily available to you in any outlying part of the country as well. Whether it's a collection, an accumulation, individual rarities or dealer stock...you owe it to yourself to get the advice of the man from Harmer Rooke...without obligation on your part. A toll-free phone call is all it takes to arrange an appointment, at your convenience, in your home or office.

If YOU have significant material and need expert advice,

DIRECT INQUIRY MAY BE MADE BY CALLING, TOLL FREE, ON THE HARMER ROOKE "HOT-LINE" 800-221-7276
from anywhere in Continental U.S.A. except New York State
(In New York, Call (212) PLaza 1-1900)

HR *Harmer, Rooke & Co., Inc.*

INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONS • SALES AGENTS • APPRAISERS
EDITORIAL MANAGEMENT of SCOTT'S CATALOG

3 East 57th Street New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) PLaza 1-1900

ESTABLISHED: LONDON 1903 • NEW YORK 1939

The Collectors Club Philatelist is published bi-monthly (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov.) by the Collectors Club, Inc., 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016. Annal Subscription Rates: — $10.00; $5.00 for non-profit institutions. Individual copies — $2.00 ea.

© The Collectors Club, Inc., 1972


RECOGNIZED
Roger G. Weill
407
ROYAL ST.
RAYMOND H. WEILL CO.
NEW ORLEANS
LA.
Raymond H. Weill
BUYERS



CORINPHILA

SPECTACULAR AUCTION SALE

in Zurich

24 - 29 April 1972

break-up of
— important general collections (mostly from estates)
— large specialized collections of outstanding quality

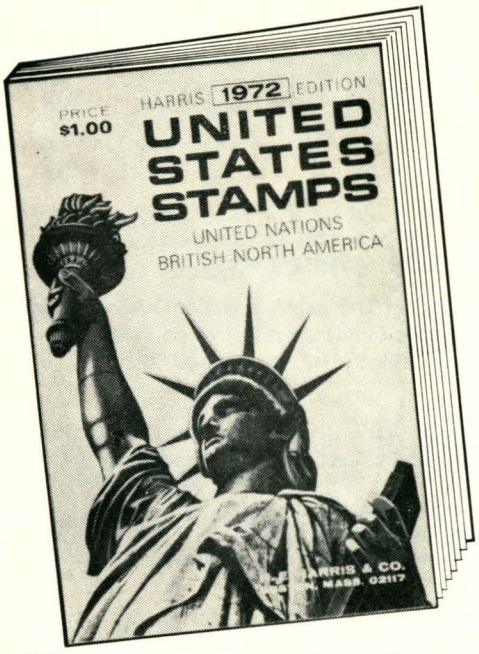
strong in
— all European countries/British colonials/U. S. A./ Latin & South America

your chance to buy
— from over 7,500 different lots of all price categories
— single rarities including multiples and covers as well as choiced sets or complete collections
— at prices established by the purchasers; we do not accept any reserve prices from the vendors

we offer
— accurate description and tempting estimation price for each lot
— 5 years guarantee of authenticity for all stamps being sold
— de luxe catalogue with 116 photoplates (partly in colour) free of charge to serious collectors

CORINPHILA **8023 ZURICH** **(Switzerland)**
Phone No. (01) 23 80 81 **Bahnhofstrasse 102** **P.O.B.**

AVAILABLE NOW !



NEW 1972 EDITION

AVAILABLE NOW

THOUSANDS OF UP-TO-THE-MINUTE REVISIONS AND PRICE CHANGES!

$1.00

208 PAGES
2,361 ILLUSTRATIONS

Harris US/BNA Catalog

Deluxe Flat-back Binding • Heavy Washable Cover • High Quality Paper

This is one of the most important editions in our more than 39 years of publishing this most widely used catalog – a "must" for every stamp collector. Compiled and edited by the experts of H. E. Harris & Co., The World's Largest Stamp Firm, it has all these features: • All major U.S. Postage and Airmail issues – PLUS Special Delivery, Parcel Post, Envelope Squares, Postal Cards, Officials, Revenues, Postage Dues, Plate Blocks, Booklet Panes, Line Pairs and other popular specialties • U.S. Possessions, Confederate States, United Nations and British North America • U.S. Stamp Identifier, fully illustrated – Check your own collection for valuable hidden stamp treasures • Mounted collections, albums, popular supplies and accessories.

AVAILABLE FROM YOUR FAVORITE DEALER
OR MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

H. E. HARRIS & CO., Catalog Dept., Boston, Mass. 02117

Please RUSH me, post free, the NEW 1972 EDITION of your 208–page catalog, UNITED STATES STAMPS, U.S. POSSESSIONS, UNITED NATIONS & BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, including the U.S. Stamp Identifier, etc. I am enclosing $1.00.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

What does the ASDA mean to you?

Here are eight beneficial answers:

1. Every member of the American Stamp Dealers Association has signed a Code of Ethics and Pledge to promote fair trade practices and good relations with the public, assuring the collector of the highest standards of ethics in all their dealings.
2. ASDA members offer a medium for trade through the outright purchase or sale of individual stamps, covers and collections or by conducting public auctions, or both.
3. The ASDA disseminates accurate and reliable philatelic information to the collecting fraternity either through the medium of the public press or by private means.
4. The ASDA and its members individually, assist recognized agencies of the government in the prosecution of law violations relating to philately.
5. The ASDA and its chapters hold annual exhibitions for the benefit of the hobby, to promote and encourage new collectors and educate the public at large.
6. Advice and council is available from the members with respect to all aspects of collecting and particularly with respect to purchase or sale of valuable properties.
7. The ASDA has recommended a code of conditions for the conduct of public auctions.
8. The American Stamp Dealers Association together with the American Philatelic Society has formed a joint Expertization Committee which for the first time in the history of philately offers the collector and dealer alike a group of experts in every field of collecting who can authenticate rare stamps with a certification of their true state.

AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

147 W. 42nd St., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036

THE TWO OF US

Robert A. Siegel, Inc.

"The House of Classics"

maintains one of the world's finest and most important stocks of United States Stamps of all issues as well as many choice Foreign "classics" and covers.

-:-

Want Lists and Special Requirements will have our prompt and careful attention.

-:-

We are consistent buyers of fine properties and are always interested in considering anything you may have to offer us.

Robert A. Siegel

Auction Galleries, Inc.

Offers through Public Auction an unparalleled selection of the finest material the market affords. Through some 20 to 25 sales each year, serious, interested collectors and dealers are offered the opportunity to bid for a wealth of choice material placed in our hands for sale.

Lavishly illustrated catalogues are carefully prepared for each sale.

Annual subscription to all catalogues $5.00; With Prices Realized, $10.00.

No charge is made for catalogues picked up in person at our offices.

ROBERT A. SIEGEL, Inc.

"The House of Classics"

-:-

ROBERT A. SIEGEL AUCTION GALLERIES, Inc.

120 East 56th Street (Eleventh Floor) **New York, N. Y. 10022**

Phone (212) 753-6421

MINKUS 72



The Complete Catalogs

Lead the Complete Line

WHAT'S UP? Almost every category — some spectacularly!
WHAT'S DOWN? As little as you'd expect — but there **are** surprises!
WHAT'S NEW? Tens of thousands of price changes in the two-volume WORLD WIDE Catalog, still more in the NEW AMERICAN Catalog.

Details like these, vital, fascinating, authoritative, add up to catalogs that set the standard of the world. More than price updating, there's rich illustration and meaningful detail. Well produced, interestingly written . . . . the pleasurable way to gain the most information and knowledge.

MINKUS NEW AMERICAN CATALOG 72

Complete with full-color supplement, 'U. S. Classics'

Over 12,500 entries, over 2,500 illustrations. Prices for singles, blocks, plate blocks, sheets, FDCs. Commemoratives, regular issues, duck stamps, savings, revenues, stationery, Confederate, Possessions, U. N.

348 pp. $4.95

MINKUS WORLD WIDE CATALOGS 72

Winner of Silver Medal at London's Philympia '70

Some 3,800 pages, tens of thousands of vital prices changes, the most meaningful descriptions and illustrations of any catalogs — adding up to really pleasurable as well as really informative reading.

Vol. I: U. S. and possessions. British Commonwealth and Ireland, U. N., Central & S. America, Mexico and free nations of Africa and Asia.

1,900 pp. $10.95

AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER — ORDER NOW! (Last year's sold out by November)

REGIONALS 72

Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein $2.00
British Commonwealth (69 only) $3.00
Germany & Colonies $2.50
Italy & Colonies, San Marino, Vatican ('70) $2.00
Russia, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria $3.50

AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER — ORDER NOW TO UPDATE YOUR PRESENT CATALOG

Minkus Catalogs and Regional Catalogs will be available at your nearest Stamp & Coin Department:

New York, N. Y.—GIMBELS.
Omaha, Nebr.—BRANDEIS.
Panorama City, Los Angeles, Calif.—J. W. ROBINSON CO.
Paramus, N. J.—GIMBELS.
Pasadena, Calif.—J. W. ROBINSON CO.
Philadelphia, Pa.—GIMBELS.
Pittsburgh, Pa. — KAUFMANN'S.
Portland, Ore. — MEIER & FRANK.
Richmond, Va.—THALHIMER BROTHERS.
Rochester, N. Y.—SIBLEY'S.
San Antonio, Texas—JOSKE'S OF TEXAS.
San Diego, Calif. — THE MAY CO.
San Francisco, Calif. — THE EMPORIUM DOWNTOWN.
Seattle, Wash.—THE BON MARCHE.
Skokie, Ill.—MARSHALL FIELD AND COMPANY.
St. Louis, Mo.—FAMOUS-BARR CO.
Valley Stream, N. Y. — GIMBELS.
Washington, D. C.—WOODWARD & LOTHROP.
Yonkers, N. Y.—GIMBELS.
Atlanta, Ga.—RICH'S.
Baltimore, Md.—HUTZLER'S.
Beverly Hills, Calif.—J. W. ROBINSON CO.
Boston, Mass.—JORDAN MARSH CO.
Chevy Chase, Md.—WOODWARD & LOTHROP.
Chicago, Ill. — MARSHALL FIELD AND COMPANY.
Cincinnati, Ohio—POGUE'S.
Cleveland, Ohio—HIGBEE'S.
Columbus, Ohio—LAZARUS & CO.
Denver, Colo. — MAY D.F.
Detroit, Mich.—THE J. L. HUDSON COMPANY.
Garden City, N. Y. — GIMBELS.
Hartford, Conn.—G. FOX & CO.
Houston, Texas—FOLEY'S.
Indianapolis, Ind. — L. S. AYRES & CO.
Los Angeles, Calif.—J. W. ROBINSON CO.
Milwaukee, Wis.—GIMBELS.
Minneapolis, Minn.—DAYTON'S.
New Orleans, La.—MAISON BLANCHE CO.
Newport Beach, Calif. — J. W. ROBINSON.

GREAT BRITAIN



Strip of 4 of the 1p black, P-H to P-K, Plate 4, margins all around but close at top, tied by fine red MC cancels on large part of cover to Yorkshire, fine to very fine $250.00

1913, Waterlow ten shillings indigo-blue; beautiful, lightly hinged, fresh color. Gibbons #402, Scott #175a. Mint block of four $700.00

1913, Waterlow, 2/6, 5/, and 2/6 sepia brown, Gibbons #399-401, Scott #173a, var., 174a, mint single stamps $400.00

1912-22, 1 shilling, deep bronze brown, fresh and lightly hinged, block of four, mint, Gibbons Spec. #N32.10, Scott #172 var. $400.00

SG

STANGIB LIMITED

595 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10017

212 - 758-2210 Cable: Stangib

In Association with Stanley Gibbons Ltd. of London



Just in case . . .

You would like to sell your TREASURES Naturally at TOP PRICES only. Why not make use of our services.

EDGAR MOHRMANN & CO.

well known all over the world

During the long years of doing business, we have handled practically all existing rarities of world renown — including the BLUE and RED MAURITIUS POST OFFICE.

High-class collections and singles from all spheres of philately are always offered in our auction or bought outright.

Entries should reach us till the end of this year.

Suitable material is being accepted n o w .

EDGAR MOHRMANN & CO.

The partner for ambitious customers.

Speersort 6

HAMBURG 1 / Germany

Cables: EDMORO

The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

HARRISON D. S. HAVERBECK, Editor
Bramble Hill, Post Rd., Bernardsville, N. J. 07924

Table Of Contents

Editorial — Philatelic Scholarship Today and Tomorrow 12

Across the Editor's Desk 13

The Anniversary Report 16

It Happened in St. Pierre, Those Overprinted Issues of 1885-1892. (Robert G. Stone) 22

United States, The 10ct. Registry Stamp of 1911. (Robert L. Markovits) 39

Book Reviews 51



Volume 51 Number 1
January 1972

Editorial Board

Winthrop S. Boggs
Ezra D. Cole
Albert H. Higgins
Alex Rendon
Philip Silver
Ira Zweifach

PHILATELIC HANDBOOKS

Published by The Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund

No. 1 UNITED STATES, 24c AIR MAIL INVERTED CENTER OF 1918
By Henry M. Goodkind — 32 pages . . . 9 Illus. . . . $1.00

No. 2 CORRIENTES. THE ISSUES FROM 1856-80
By Louis Stich — 84 pages . . . 20 Illus. . . . $2.00

No. 7 UNITED STATES. THE TEN CENTS STAMPS OF 1855-59
By Mortimer L. Neinken — 252 pages . . . 530 Illus. . . . $10.00

No. 8 ROBERT MORRIS, POSTMASTER OF NEW YORK
By Winthrop S. Boggs — 206 pages . . . 24 Plates . . . $25.00

No. 10 CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA, SPECIAL POSTAL ROUTES
By Lawrence L. Shenfield — 112 pages . . . 88 Illus. . . . $10.00

No. 11 FRENCH COLONIES, THE GENERAL ISSUES
By Robert G. Stone — 118 pages . . . 82 Illus. . . . $2.00

No. 12 CIVIL WAR PRISONS AND THEIR COVERS
By Earl Antrim — 251 pages . . . 176 Illus. . . . $10.00

No. 13 HONDURAS, THE BLACK AIR MAIL
By Irving I. Green — 32 pages . . . 14 Illus. . . . $1.00

No. 14 THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF NEPAL
By H. D. S. Haverbeck — 128 pages . . . 59 Illus. . . . $5.00

No. 15 THE PONY EXPRESS
By M. C. Nathan & W. S. Boggs — 105 pages . . . 102 Illus. . . . $5.00

No. 16 MANCHOUKUO
By Helen K. Zirkle — 131 pages. . . . 168 Illus. . . . $5.00

No. 17 UNITED STATES. THE 1851-57 TWELVE CENT STAMP
By Mortimer L. Neinken — 74 pages . . . 65 Illus. . . . $4.00

No. 18 AFGHANISTAN, ITS 20th CENTURY POSTAL ISSUES
By Frank E. Patterson III — 208 pages . . . 225 Illus. . . . $7.50

No. 19 UNITED STATES, THE 5c BEACON AIR MAIL STAMP OF 1928
By Henry M. Goodkind — 64 pages . . . 90 Illus. . . . $2.00

No. 20 THE NEW HEBRIDES, POSTAL STAMPS AND THEIR HISTORY
By Nathan Hals and Phil Collas — 176 pages . . . 66 Illus. . . . $10.00

No. 21 POSTAL HISTORY OF VERMONT
By George C. Slawson, Arthur W. Bingham, Sprague W. Drenan
310 pages . . . Illustrated . . . $10.00

No. 22 NEW ZEALAND, 1898-99 GT. BARRIER ISLAND PIGEON POST STAMPS
By J. Reg Walker, H. L. Chisholm, H. M. Goodkind
110 pages . . . 70 Illus. . . . $5.00

No. 23 PHILATELIC HANDBOOK FOR KOREA, 1884-1905
By Korea Stamp Society — 128 pages . . . 80 Illus. . . . $10.00

REPRINT OF FIRST SCOTT CATALOGUE ISSUED IN 1868
21 pages . . . $2.00

CUMULATIVE INDEX, THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST,
Vols. 1-50, 1922-1971 — 71 pages . . . $10.00

Kindly send me the books I have checked on the above list. Enclosed you will find my check, payable to the Collectors Club, in the amount of $.....
I desire to make a contribution to the 'Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund', in the amount of $.....
(All contributions to this Fund are deductible for Federal income tax purposes and official receipt will be sent to all donors for the full amount of their contributions.)

NAME (Please print) .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

THE COLLECTORS CLUB

22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y. 10016

1972 PROGRAM OF MEETINGS

January 5th	— *PAPUA*—Richard S. Wilson, Bedford, N. Y.
January 12th	— *ANNUAL MEETING*
January 19th	— *DEALER'S CHOICE*—Bernard D. Harmer and Herman Herst, Jr.
February 2nd	— *LATIN AMERICA*—Alex Rendon, Woodside, N. Y.
February 16th	— *PHILATELIC PHOTOGRAPHY*
March 1st	— *RESEARCH NIGHT*
March 15th	— *PORTUGAL AND PORTUGESE COLONIES* — José Gonzalez Garcia, Lisbon, Portugal
April 5th	— *ROMAN STATES FIRST ISSUE AND BISECTS*—Giorgio Bizzarri, Rome, Italy
April 19th	— *ANNUAL COMPETITION*
May 3rd	— *COVERS OF CANADA, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, AND RUSSIA*—W. E. Lea, London, England
May 10th	— *ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER*
May 17th	— *SAGA OF THE MAILS, 2600 B.C. TO THE MODERN ERA*—Edith Faulstich, Yonkers, N. Y.
June 7th	— *LICHTENSTEIN-DALE NIGHT*—Anne Boyd Lichtenstein Foundation

Summer Recess

September 20th	— *VALENTINES*—Jules G. Plancquaert, Brussels, Belgium
October 4th	— *GREECE*—Ronald A. G. Lee, London, England
October 18th	— *BERMUDA*—Sir Henry J. Tucker, Paget, Bermuda
November 1st	— *PHILATELIC FOUNDATION NIGHT* — Philatelic Foundation, N. Y.
November 15th	— *SOLANO COUNTY (California); Express Covers, Ghost Towns, California Penny Post, Generals Vallejo and Denver, and other Fascinating Historical Characters*—William C. Robbins III, Oakland, California
December 6th	— *UNITED STATES*—Wilber H. Schilling, Minneapolis, Minnesota
December 20th	— *BOARD OF GOVERNORS OPEN HOUSE*—Robert P. Odenweller, Theo Van Dam, Co-chairmen

Editorial

Philatelic Scholarship Today and Tomorrow

In this highly industrialized age, with practically everything mass-produced, certain highly skilled labor is slowly disappearing. Artisans, such as master engravers, watchmakers and those with similar skills, are fewer and fewer. It is said that today's artists want to complete their work quickly in order to sell as many paintings as possible, rather than sweat and slave for years over one creation, as the old masters did.

Philately also seems to be affected by today's prevailing atmosphere. It is quite evident that many more are collecting stamps than formerly. But the interest of the present generation in postage stamps is not in scientific philately, nor do very many show a desire to study stamps. Instead, their interests are relatively shallow; furthermore, far too much emphasis is being placed upon trying to make money through forming and selling stamp collections.

Such new trends immeasurably hurt philately. Unfortunately, too few are aware of this. They assay the pleas for philatelic scholarship as nothing more than the nostalgic wailing of old-school philatelists for the good old days. Such evaluation of scholarship is a threat to our hobby.

Plating stamps, for example, is the greatest insurance that philatelic scholarship offers. But today how few know and appreciate this. Instead, we so often read about plating as the useless pursuit of a lonely eccentric, ruining his eyesight by the study of "fly-specks." This is an example of destructive criticism at its worst.

The philatelic student, who plates, identifies every copy in a sheet of stamps. This work is comparatively easy when full sheets exist. It is an exceedingly difficult challenge when the sheets no longer exist and, instead, have to be reconstructed. But either way, plating work writes philately's insurance policies. Knowing the individual characteristics of every copy in a sheet permits positive identification of the genuine. *If a copy does not plate, it is not genuine.*

With the passage of time, many stamps become more valuable. The supply cannot meet the stamp collectors' demands. Stamp dealers run out of stock. Only the counterfeiters can furnish a new supply. For years, the counterfeiters have been very obliging. Consequently, counterfeiting stamps to deceive stamp collectors and dealers will never stop if only because new stamps gain in value with the passage of time.

If, in the future, no one were to be interested in scientific philately nor in plating stamps, who would be able to spot and confound the counterfeiters?

There is one form of plating work that is by no means scientific. It is no different than filling blank spaces in a printed stamp album. References is to those who use past, proved plating studies by trying to repeat them. For instance, an early United States stamp had been plated years ago. A collector buys the book describing it, gets some large album pages, and proceeds to follow what already has been done. Sure, it's fun, but nothing more.

There is, however, an important exception in working upon past plating studies. Nothing is so nearly perfect that it should not be subjected to review. This is real philatelic research. Research means to search again. One carefully studies the achievements of past scholars in the hopes that one may be able to supply new information, make some revisions or improvements.

There appears to be no good reason for fearing about philately's future. A small number of philatelic students, fortunately, are coming from this generation. It is true that there should be many more. But this requires more publicity and much more general notice of the great value of philatelic scholarship.

Unfortunately, the present-day stamp journalists are riding the waves of popularity in order to build up media circulation. A request that articles in the stamp press be devoted to the study of stamps is turned down with the reason that they are of very slight interest. This strikes us as false reasoning. People can be interested only in what they are offered to read.

The philatelic student does not want publicity. The true scholar seldom cares to see his name in print. But his work is important for the good and welfare of philately, and the value of his studies should be broadcast in order to interest more in scientific philately.

It is axiomatic: counterfeiting never will become a danger to philately as long as there will be a number of philatelists interested in the scientific study of stamps. This is why more should be written about it and more practitioners should be attracted to it.

Nothing, moreover, affords the inner satisfaction and enjoyment which philatelic study and plating work can. It is a misconception that it represents torturous, difficult work in contrast to the pleasure found in just "playing with stamps." Perhaps the versatile collector is the happiest. He can "play with stamps" or pursue study and research. It is the opinion here that the primary goal in philately is inner satisfaction, and that it is best found through philatelic study.

(H.D.S.H.)

Across the Editor's Desk

Though personally advised by Bernard Harmer that he "just might" write an answer to previous remarks by me in the January '71 CCP regarding man's inhumanity to man, or more specifically, auctioneer's inhumanity to buyer, I was surprised to note his answering remarks in the July CCP. Of equally leisurely disposition, I have consumed a like time to rebut.

I was also surprised he had chosen to take on two adversaries, not one, in his July piece. Not that he lacks in forensic redoubtability, merely that he succeeded in confusing this commentator. I was certainly aware he was summoning me to task for my various observations that I had made concerning the "conditions of sale" his ASDA committee had recommended for the working relation between auctioneer and buyer. But he also tilted a lance or two at "I.R.S." of his writing this deponent knoweth not, always having personally left such matters as I.R.S. might decree to our accountant.

In his remarks, Mr. Harmer constructed his own bed of coals, then safely conducted himself over them, and, ergo, proved by test and beyond question both his probity and his greatness of heart. We accord him the attribute of altruism in his willingness as a "seller" (c.f. auctioneer in Webster's Unabridged) to draw up a set of rules to protect buyers. So altruistic, indeed, was Mr. Harmer and his committee members, so concerned was he—and they—for buyers that not one non-professional was asked to serve on the committee or even sit in on proceedings as an observer.

Then having posed a set of rules for all auctioneers, Mr. Harmer defends, not the code, but how H. R. Harmer & Co. operates within the rules as he chooses to interpret them, unmindful that they can be and are being interpreted literally by others and, in so doing, detrimentally to buyers. Laws and rules, unfortunately, are subject to interpretation by everyone, in this case by *all* auctioneers, not just H. R. Harmer & Co. And so, for example, where the conditions of sale contain a non-returnable clause, it is folly to argue, as does Mr.

Harmer, that, by implication, this "applies basically to quality, not authenticity." The woods are filled with shysters who will deliberately invoke the wording of the Harmer committee literally. Who kids whom, B.D.H.?

Also it is an old and, if he'll excuse the expression, shoddy trick to get involved in semantics, yet twice B.D.H. (we hope Mr. Harmer finds us initially correct, if the privilege of punning is not exclusively his) with properly restrained anguish, denied the synonymity of "dealer" and "auctioneer." While his countrymen may have invented the language, Webster disagrees. The dictionary states a dealer can be a negotiator or agent and also provides the interesting information that an auctioneer is a seller, who believe it or not, Mr. Harmer, is "agent for a seller before a sale, and agent for the buyer after a sale."

But even accepting the semantic difference on which Mr. Harmer insists—what auctioneer has never bought a lot and then later auctioned it as his own material?

And look at the great number of highly respected professionals who are admittedly both dealer and auctioneer in the conduct of their business. Hardly a disgrace, merely a fact. So much for semantic one-upmanship B.D.H.

It is now proposed to reiterate those arguments we made in our original protest—if that's what it was. Our belief was then and yet that many of the "conditions" militate heavily against the buyer. We insist that these "conditions" virtually lift all responsibility off the auctioneer in every sale, be he honest, blunderng or a rogue. Those interested in the facts of who said what need merely reconsult the original articles and see the recommended terms and our personal reaction to them. Where, in the interim, some of these terms have been modified, conceivably our position may have modified too (we like to believe that just perhaps some of our remarks wrung concessive modifications from the little old code maker that since have been wrought). But where the rules flatly state certain conditions it is purest sophistry to argue that, by inference, they really mean something else. Mr. Harmer glibly uses such sophistries as "The ASDA Committee recommended, did not regulate"; "any known and competent expert to whom a purchaser has submitted an item WILL BE acceptable to the auctioneer" (known to whom?, acceptably competent in whose judgment? and, parenthetically, how can a buyer send a stamp to an expert first and ascertain later if that expert is mutually acceptable?) Still other equally obnoxious sophistries: "this isn't a condition meant to catch the legitimate purchaser" (just the illegitimates, of course, and parental wedlock has little to do with earning the implied seven-letter epithet); "no auctioneer remains in business by being foolishly adamant in the application of the rules." Here again B.D.H. speaks for all auctioneers but if he's willing to pay bounty on the exceptions, we just might undertake to learn the color of his "scratch."

Having received a number of letters (well five, maybe) and phone calls following our article, it is fair to say that whether I was right or only partially right, some of our reader-members heartily concurred with the opinions expressed. This denotes, if nothing more, that Mr. Harmer's clientele—and presumably that of many other auctioneers qually involved—is not happy. To dismiss this—even if it's only a suspicion—without investigation would be sheer arrogance. The rules for philatelic auctions should be equitable for buyer, seller and for the auctioneer who has truly an investment in time and money both. The rules, however, must enforce upon the auctioneer some share of real responsibility for what he describes, auctions and sells. With 20% commission, he is not, after all, scrubbing along. There must be rules that boldly state what is intended, not rules that are to be loosely interpreted, one way for

scoundrels, another for honest buyers. It has been said there is some larceny in most of use. Certainly the law makes no attempt to differentiate. Laws are so designed that, in effect, ignorance of the law is no excuse. This puts both the larcenous and the fair-minded both on warning. No court attempts to interpret the laws from both sides of the statute books—dexter and sinister. Incursions into no-no areas are calculated risks. Philatelic auction rules must be devised to minimize this risk taking, that is for sure. But not at the expense of the buyer alone. Cheaters there are in all walks of life, one reason authorities are turning law-school applicants away in droves. If Mr. Harmer is so smugly sure he has hammered out a straight-as-a-string code, why not now ask a similar group of collectors to draw up a set of "conditions" and set both codes before a board of arbitrators to winnow the best from each? Would B.D.H. and his ASDA committee submit to such arbitration? *(J. Ira Seebacher)*



Distinguished philatelists from overseas gather at ANPHILEX. Left to right, John Hubbard, Pres. Royal Philatelic Society, London; M. A. Bojanowicz, Philatelic Congress of Great Britain; George South, Secretary, Royal Philatelic Society, London; H. D. S. Haverbeck, F.R.P.S.L., R.D.P., Editor of the Collectors Club Philatelist; Stanley Hodziewich, Curator of the United States Postal Service Archives; John R. Boker, Jr., Chairman of ANPHILEX.

The Anniversary Report

The Diamond Anniversary Year of the Collectors Club is now a part of philatelic history. It is not likely to be soon forgotten by those who participated in the events of the past few months.

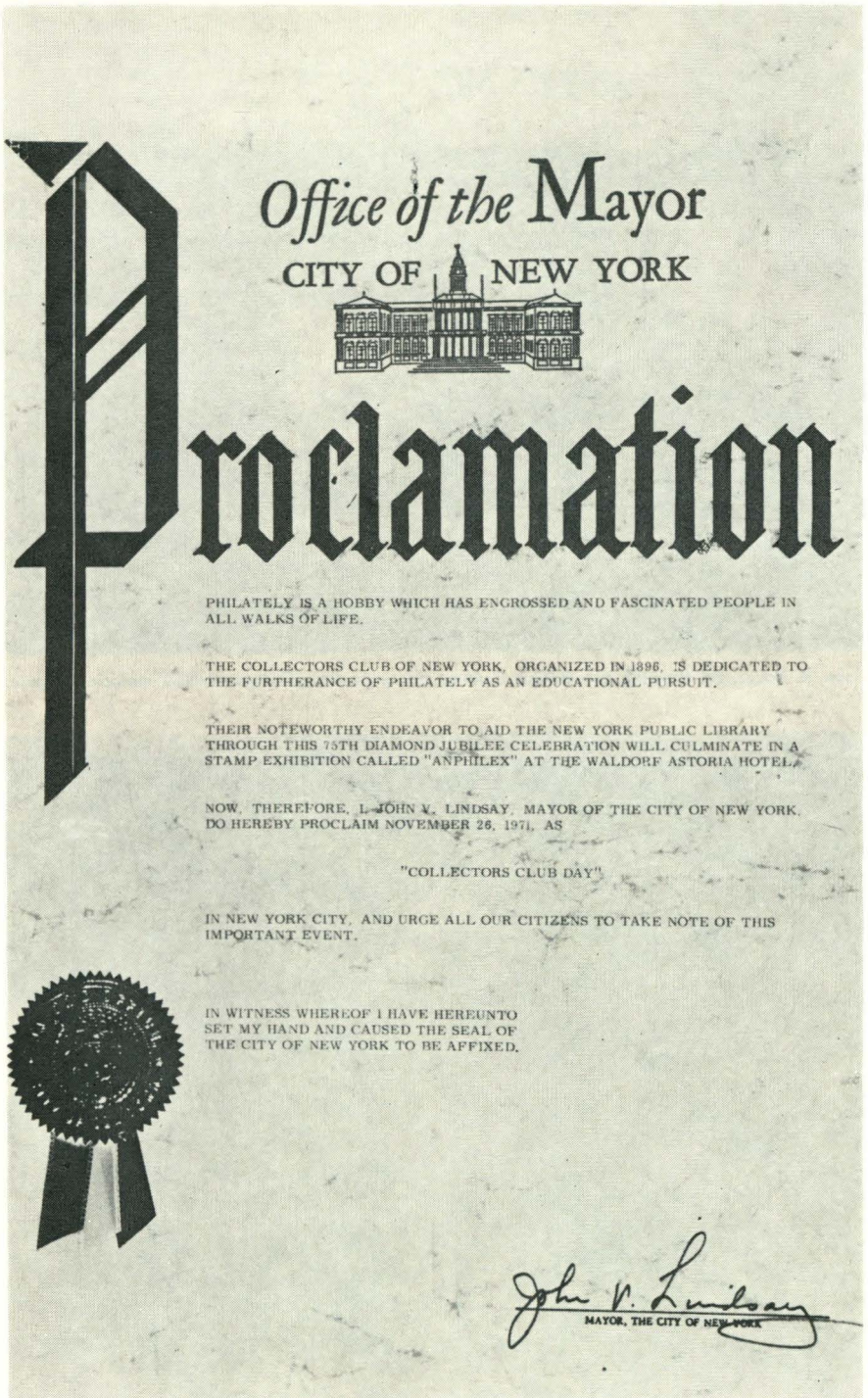
The special Anniversary Night program at the meeting of the club on November 3 marked the beginning of almost 60 days of festivities which reached their peak with the 6 days of the ANPHILEX show, terminating with the Governors Open House at the club on December 15.

The November 3 meeting was a night for nostalgia and recognition. A full report of this affair will appear shortly in the CCP. Those who attended found the frames filled with memorabilia of past years of the club, from its origin in 1896, and a program built around recognition of 22 past and present Governors and Officers. A feature of the meeting was the reading of a Proclamation by New York's Mayor, John V. Lindsay, naming November 26, the opening day of ANPHILEX, as *"Collectors Club Day"* throughout the City.

Thousands of words will be written about ANPHILEX, the finest show of this or any other year. Although many people had a part in the show, Norman and Joan Hubbard spent months in detailed preparations. It was my privilege to recognize their efforts by presenting them with the *Collectors Club Medal for Distinguished Service*. Presentation was made at the Anniversary Banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria on November 28.



Stanley Hodziewich, curator of the United States Postal Service Archives, formally opens ANPHILEX.



Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK

Proclamation

PHILATELY IS A HOBBY WHICH HAS ENGROSSED AND FASCINATED PEOPLE IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB OF NEW YORK, ORGANIZED IN 1896, IS DEDICATED TO THE FURTHERANCE OF PHILATELY AS AN EDUCATIONAL PURSUIT.

THEIR NOTEWORTHY ENDEAVOR TO AID THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY THROUGH THIS 75TH DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION WILL CULMINATE IN A STAMP EXHIBITION CALLED "ANPHILEX" AT THE WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN V. LINDSAY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM NOVEMBER 26, 1971, AS

"COLLECTORS CLUB DAY"

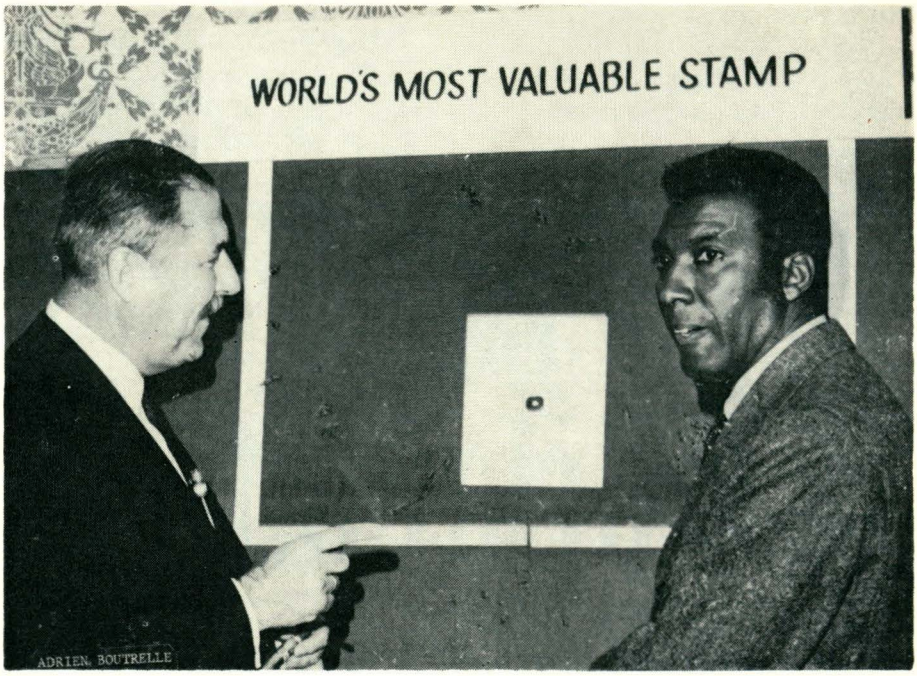
IN NEW YORK CITY, AND URGE ALL OUR CITIZENS TO TAKE NOTE OF THIS IMPORTANT EVENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO BE AFFIXED.

John V. Lindsay

MAYOR, THE CITY OF NEW YORK

The Proclamation of Mayor John V. Lindsay of New York designating November 26, 1971 as "Collectors Club Day."



Mr. John R. Boker, Jr. showing the British Guiana stamp to Bob Teague, NBC Television Newscaster.



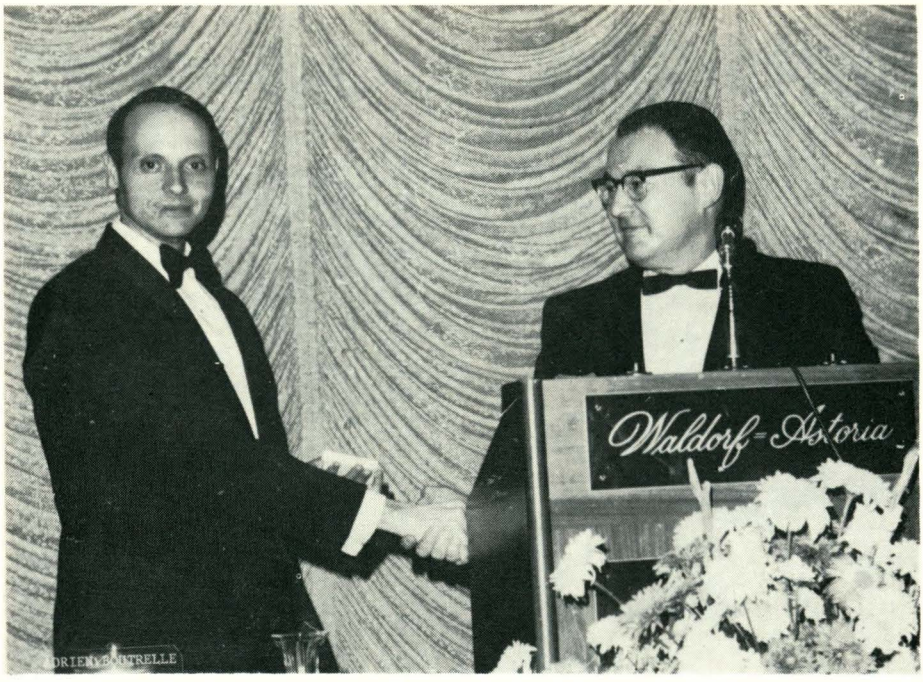
Panoramic view of the main exhibition area at ANPHILEX.



The Collectors Club Lounge during the Anniversary Open House.



A conversation during the Open House Reception. Standing, left to right: John Levitt, London; R. G. Stone; Bernard D. Harmer; John R. Boker, Jr.; Seated, Editor and Mrs. H. D. S. Haverbeck.



President F. B. Sellers presents the thanks of the Collectors Club for the ANPHILEX exhibition to Dr. Norman S. Hubbard.



The ANPHILEX Banquet at the Waldorf Astoria. From the left: Mrs. F. B. Sellers, Dr. Norman Hubbard, John R. Boker, Jr., Mrs. Boker and Mrs. Hubbard.



Sr. Leon Bilak presenting a plaque given the Collectors Club by The President of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala. Pres. F. Burton Sellers, at right, receiving it.

Several other people also deserve special recognition for their help in our anniversary celebration. They must be given credit for the History of the 75 years of the Collectors Club and the *Cumulative Index to the Collectors Club Philatelist,* covering the first 50 volumes through 1971. The History was written by William H. Wylie and donated to the club through the generosity of Duane Hilmer, owner of Scott Publishing Company. The Cumulative Index is the result of more than year's painstaking effort by Ernest Wilkens and John Dowd of the Club's Library Committee. Every Club member will shortly receive copies of both these valuable volumes.

In addition to the individuals mentioned previously, there are two groups of people who contributed to the success of our Anniversary Year. The contributions of all those fine workers who helped during the ANPHILEX exhibition, and the club members who gave so generously to the clubhouse rehabilitation fund cannot be overestimated. The Officers, Governors and members of the Collectors Club are indebted to them all.

Now as we start our 76th year, we have much to look back at with pride and satisfaction, but even more to look forward to. The next 25 years, as we move to our Centenary Celebration, can be years of continuing achievement for the Collectors Club. As long as we continue to attract to our membership the type of people who will contribute to its welfare as past and present members have, the Collectors Club will continue to be the pre-eminent philatelic organization. *(F. Burton Sellers)*

IT HAPPENED IN ST. PIERRE:

Those Overprinted Issues of 1885-1892

By Robert G. Stone

Introduction

The catalogue browser well knows that the French Colonies issued a complex lot of locally-made surcharges in the 1881-1893 period (not to mention later ones). They put a stain on the philatelic repute and a drag on the collector popularity of these countries that eighty years have not fully erased. Not all of the opprobrium was deserved, for out of insufficient documentary information and lack of research, have crystallized all sorts of misunderstanding about these stamps. Indeed, catalogs and opinions about some of them contain as much folklore as fact.

The series issued at St. Pierre-Miquelon 1885-92 are particularly poorly documented, a deficiency which would be little lamented if only trivial matters were kept from us. However, the SPM issues happen to hold a special interest on account of the presence of three major rarities as well as some unusual techniques of production. In consulting the standard references on the French colonial surcharges, Baron de Vinck's book of 1927 and the Yvert et Tellier specialized catalogue of 1936, we are struck by the relatively superficial treatment given the SPM issues. In fact little is added to what one finds in Marconnet's old book of 1898 (which is full of erroneous information). It is all the more surprising since few of the 75 stamps plus 3 items of stationery in question are really rare and many are common. However, several circumstances peculiar to the availability of SPM material probably account for this:—

1). One of these is the rarity or lack of blocks and complete panes and sheets of even the common overprints. The great collections of French Colonies — Ferrari, Bernichon, d'Étiolles, Hind, deVinck, and Dwight (as well as some lesser ones: DeCoppet, Curie, Duveen, Clapp, Caspary, Lichtenstein, *et al)* — were comparatively weak in SPM material, though they had some outstanding items. Because the regular communications between St. Pierre and the outside have been mainly through Canada, French dealers and collectors did not know of the early (1885-6) overprints until after several Canadian stamp dealers and some St. Pierre merchants had more or less "cornered" the limited supplies. Supplies of the small issues were so hard to get in Europe that forgers (especially in Germany) immediately went to work; also some local merchants managed to have clandestine "reprints" made for them. Many of the overprints were from handstamps, which created great difficulties in expertizing them. Much uncertainty developed as to what was genuine. Philatelists soon lost interest and became wary of SPM. In making the November 1891-November 1892 series of overprints the SPM authorities sought to repair their unsavory reputation by overprinting enormous quantities of each stamp. These stamps were so common and artificial that nobody thought to carefully study the settings before the sheets were practically all broken up (to take out the "good varieties)" or lost.

2). No competent disinterested philatelist was in the colony at the time of issue to record the facts. Thus mostly second-hand, very incomplete and slanted information has come down to us.

Over a period of 25 years the writer accumulated enough unusual SPM material to discover there is much to be learned about the overprints from studying them. The many heretofore unreported or little-known observations still do not solve all the problems. Indeed, it is probably no longer possible to uncover a very complete understanding of how these issues were produced. But the material available does give some fascinating glimpses into what was evidently a rather complicated production with the somewhat primitive means available in the colony.

The General Background of the Colonial Overprints

The reader is reminded that all the French colonies used the so-called "General Issues" of a uniform design from 1859-60 to 1892. The series of overprints on these issues which began in 1881 in New Caledonia, followed by Tahiti 1882, Guadeloups 1884, SPM and Reunion 1885, and 11 more colonies by 1892, were of three types:

a) provisionals of certain denominations which were in short supply surcharged on other denominations which were overstocked,

b) the overprints of colony name only, made in 1891-92 at the direction of the Colonial Ministry (May 1891) when the policy was decided to convert from general to definitive issues for each colony, and

c) a combination of a) and b) on the same stamps.

Actually the unoverprinted General Issues continued to meet most of the postal needs until late 1891 or mid-1892. The 1881-90 provisionals were officially and in some cases actually justified by temporary shortages of heavily used (lower) denominations that developed when Paris delayed printing or filling requisitions for new supplies (— the supplies were supposed to be ordered once each year sufficient to meet the needs for the next year —), or when there was a sudden change in postage rates that caused some denominations to run out. The real postal need, if any, for the provisionals was brief in almost every case, and the quantities overprinted were usually modest, sometimes too modest because the philatelic demand had not been anticipated.

The 1891-92 definitive overprints, on the other hand, were supposed to entirely replace the General Issues. However, several colonies did not make any such definitive overprints, others did not so convert all their stocks of General Issues on hand, and some (as SPM) obtained additional supplies of the General Issues from Paris during 1892 to overprint for purely philatelic demand. We think it likely that the Colonial Ministry abetted the latter practice because it seemed to be a convenient way to legitimately sell off the Paris supplies of the General Issues that would have otherwise soon become obsolete by late 1892 when the new Allegorical Group ("Peace and Commerce") type was to be issued to all colonies.

In the case of St. Pierre, at least 600,000 and perhaps quite a few more stamps were obtained from Paris in 1891-92 and overprinted in various styles with low denominations of 1, 2, and 4 centimes so that sale to speculators and collectors would be facilitated (or so they thought). Such a tremendous quantity of these denominations would have served SPM's regular postal needs for many many years. The last of the 1892 SPM overprints were made on General Issue postage-due stamps of 1884, apparently because Paris had by that time run out of stock of the Dubois (1881) Type. There was no legitimate justification for overprinting the dues as the Paris directive of May 1891 did not include them, and they continued to be printed for general use in the colonies until 1908.

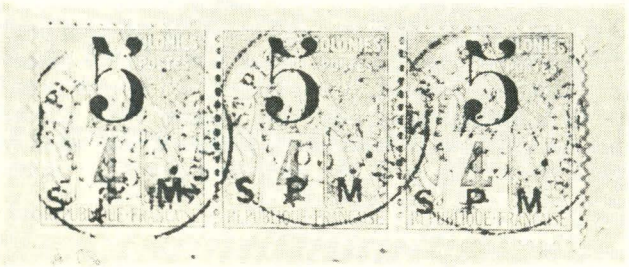


Figure 1. A strip of three of the 5 on 4c overprint of March 27, 1885, cancelled (to order no doubt) on 28 March. The left stamp has the "S P M" doubled (one faint). Multiples of this issue are rare.

About two weeks after the last SPM overprints were issued, the first shipment of the new Allegorical Group Type arrived at St. Pierre and the Roman holiday of its overprinters came to an abrupt end. The Colonial Ministry, and the colony too, were relieved that the excuses for overprinting were now eliminated; for the demands of the speculators and complaints about the abuses of these issues had given the administration a long siege of bureaucratic jitters. Monetary advantage to the colonial treasury could not have been a strong motive for the overprints; the total face value of the 1885-92 SPM issues, excluding that of October 1891, was hardly $2000. The overhead and costs certainly left little real profit.

We do not intend in this article to rehearse the catalogs, nor to analyze all the details of settings and characteristics of genuine vs forgery — for that separate articles could be devoted to almost every stamp or issue but would interest only a handful of specialists. We will, however, describe the character of each issue, how made, how sold, how used, how rare, in the framework of some basic general questions, such as the environment that produced them, their sequential interrelations, and their place in the perspective of postal history.

Elsewhere (*Coll. Club. Phil.*, Sept. 1970-Jan. 1971) we have emphasized the common denominator of circumstances behind the French Colonial provisionals of this and other periods. Here we examine the individuality of the situation at St. Pierre; for the equation of factors, influences and effects was not precisely the same in each colony. At St. Pierre, the probity of the officials does not seem dubious (as it was in some other colonies). But in the harsh economic realities of St. Pierre life, the populace was quick to grasp at any opportunity to turn a *sou*. The pressure of the local merchant speculators on the administration was met in a manner of accommodation that did not undermine its basic integrity. The Paris dealers did not call the tune as they did in so many other colonies, and the oft-questioned actions of a certain Halifax dealer were mediated thru the local merchants who must take the blame for such low-echelon irregularities as occurred.

Legality

The first question that may cross the collector's mind is whether all these stamps were legally authorized. Yes indeed, the Commandant of the Colony and his handful of bureaucrats were respectful of formalities; nearly all of the provisional issues were authorized by an *arrêté* or *décision* published in the *Feuille Officiel* and/or *Bulletin Officiel* of the colony. As the *F.O.* and *B.O.* for the period are unavailable in American libraries, we cite references to philatelic

publications where most of the *arrêtés* and *décisions* have been reproduced:

Issue date	Date of *Arrêté* or *Décision*	Reference in Philatelic Lit.
5 Jan. 1885	3 Jan. 1885	*Révue Philatélique,* v. 1, #3, p. 18 (1890)
7 March 1885	?	Not pub'd. in phil. lit. but Maury reported he had seen the decree
27 March 1885	?	Not pub'd. in phil. lit.
3 Aug. 1885	27 July 1885	*Bull. Soc. Fr. de Timbrol.,* v. 45, 1887, p. 16
(20 Oct. and 6 Dec. printings done under authority of same decree)		
22, 29, 30 Dec. '85	?	Not pub'd. in phil. lit.
11 Feb. 1886	22 Jan. 1886	*Stamps,* July 25, 1936, p. 115
27 April 1891	1 May 1891	*Révue Philatélique,* #14, 1891, pp. 177-8
15 Oct. 1891	15 Oct. 1891	*Am. Jn. Phil.,* 1891, pp. 523-4; and *Rév. Phil.,* v. 2, 1891, p. 225
24 Nov. 1891	24 Nov. 1891	*Révue Phil.,* v. 2, 1891, #20, p. 242
29 Dec. 1891	29 Dec. 1891	*Rév. Phil.,* v. 3, #22, 1892, p. 30
26 June 1892	20 June 1892	*Rév. Phil.,* Jy. 1892, #27, p. 115
4 Nov. 1892	?	Not pub'd. in phil. lit.
1 Dec. 1892	?	Not pub'd. in phil. lit.

Some of the specifications in the decrees were vague, some were not followed to the letter, and some liberties of interpretation taken, but these vagaries do not seem to us serious under the specific circumstances of these cases.

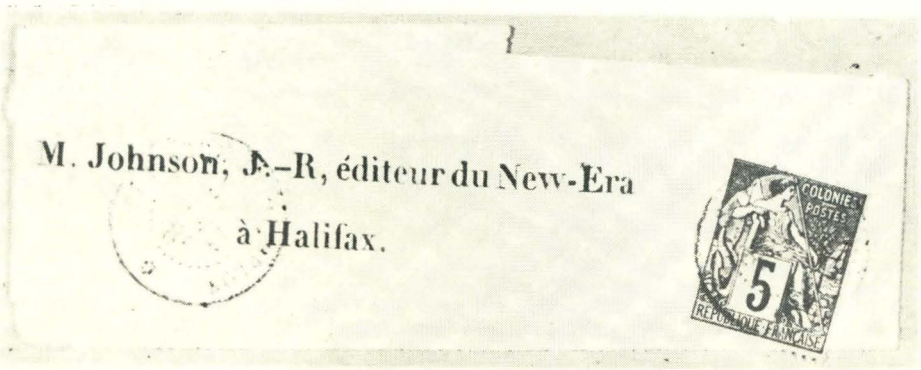


Figure 2. A newspaper or circular wrapper with printed address to Halifax, with 5c unoverprinted Colonies stamp used on 30 April 1885, indicating that the 5c Colonies stamps were probably never out of stock in early 1885 or that new supplies of it had arrived. This publisher probably bought many sheets of them every month.

The 1885–1886 Surcharges

The six issues of 1885-6 form a distinct group chronologically and in background and aspect. They are listed in sequence of issue in the foreign catalogues but not in Scott. The two early 1885 issues were surcharges of 5c (on 2c) and 25c (on 1fr) and small in quantity. The remaining three of the 1885 issues were 5, 10, and 15c and much larger in quantity except for the 05/35 and 05/75 of late December. The 5, 10, and 15c labels of February 1886 were issued in relatively small quantity. All of these 14 items were produced by handstamping.

Was there a real postal justification for them? In each case the *arrêtés* or *décisions* state that since supplies of certain denominations would *soon* be exhausted and since requested new supplies from France had not yet arrived, overprints are needed to assure the needs of the service *will* be met (i.e., in case new supplies are not received within a certain unspecified time). Note that the overprints were authorized *before* the denominations were actually out of stock. A high probability of the latter event happening seems to have been assumed; this could be a reasonable attitude because the colony was likely being advised several months or so in advance (by cable) whenever Paris was printing or getting ready to ship any stamp supplies. It was thereby possible to foresee at least that far ahead whether the colony's stock of any denominations would run out.

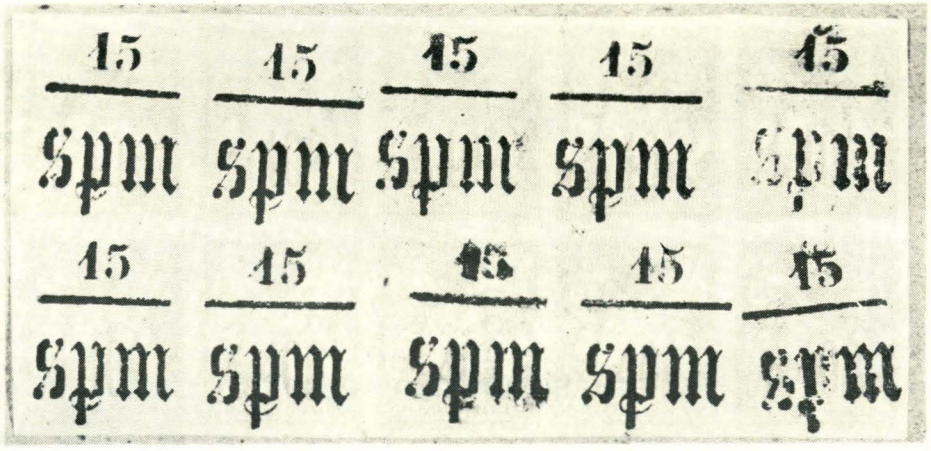


Figure 3. A block of 10 (5 x 2) of the 15/40 of August 1885, showing the use of the 2-cliche handstamp device for overprinting the four left-hand columns of the pane (5 x 5) and the single-cliche device for the right column. We have full panes like this for both the 10/40 and 15/40, and strips of 5 showing use of 3+3 and 3+2 cliche handstamps.

Note also that the denominations involved were always the 5, 10, 15, or 25c — those most used for ordinary mail. The largest quantity of provisionals made in 1885-6 was for the 5c, somewhat less for the 10 and 15c and only a few 25c. The 5, 10, and 15c were values used largely for local letters and printed matter; we have evidence that St. Pierre merchants, shipping agents, and fishermen often mailed out their announcements of prices and sailing plans to others in the community, even though St. Pierre was a rather small town.

We have to assume or have no reason to doubt that the *threats* of shortages alleged at St. Pierre from late 1884 to early 1886 were genuine; not only because the above recounted circumstances sound plausible but because similar threats of or actual shortages were claimed in various other colonies in these years,

apparently on account of the Colonial Ministry delaying or failing to take action to provide the annually requisitioned resupply of stamps — why, it has never been explained. However, as we shall see, SPM must have called for overprints while their stocks on hand were still quite generous and their forecasts of when the stocks would be exhausted were overly pessimistic (— which perhaps reflected the colony's lack of faith in Paris' promises).

The quantities of the surcharges of early 1885 were, as we noted, very small, which could be interpreted as indicating the administration was being conservative and taking only short-term postal needs into account in case Paris would come through in another month or so. But beginning with the overprints of 27 March 1885 and through December the quantities were large, totalling for the 5c over 40,000, which just happens to be about equal to 8 months normal 5c postal usage for a town of 5,000* and might be taken as evidence that for sake of good official appearances they limited the overprints to what would take care of the regular postal demand. However, it seems to us that this was just a coincidence. Very likely the increased quantities were a reaction to the fact that the early 1885 overprints had generated great philatelic interest, but so few were issued that many philatelists wanting them could not get any, at least at reasonable prices. The total of 40,000 was probably indirectly determined by the amount of overstocks and obsolete stamps available to be overprinted. Even though these later 1885 issues were quite ample, speculators (local merchants and Canadian dealers mainly) bought them up so fast that already by 5 January 1886 the authorities announced that until new supplies came from Paris they would henceforth frank all letters at the window rather than sell stamps. And from 11 Feb. to 26 Feb. they affixed 5, 10, and 15c handstamped labels at the window to show payment had been received in cash. Finally on 27 Feb. the fresh supplies of stamps arrived from France; use of the labels and overprinting ceased until 1891. What is not clear in this bit of history is whether the unoverprinted stamps of 5, 10, and 15c actually ever did go out of stock during 1885 and whether some new supplies of them were received one or more times during 1885 to at least partially relieve or defer the threatened exhaustion of the unoverprinted stocks. We will return to this question after looking at some further facts about the overprints.

Correspondence we have seen from local merchants of the period indicates they found the business of selling stamps to foreign dealers was brisk and could be lucrative if they could handle enough of it. But with the limited supplies of the early 1885 issues and too many speculators trying to get a piece of the action they could not fill the customers demands and therefore put great pressure on the administration and government employees to make more overprints, clandestinely if necessary. There is considerable evidence that for a favored few individuals some "reprints" were thus made of the scarcer handstamped overprints and the 1886 labels, but most of this was done after 1885. Outright counterfeits were meanwhile being made in Europe. We are inclined to believe that the higher officials and the Chief of Posts were blameless and correct in this affair.

**SPM postal receipts in 1880 were 11,570 frs; assuming 30% of this was from sale of 5c stamps, about 75,000 5c were normally consumed in a year.*

The surcharges of 1885 and labels of 1886, except for the two August stamps and 05 on 20c of December, are rare to extremely rare on covers, few of which appear to be truly "commercial." Most "used" stamps, except perhaps of the 25c of March, were cancelled-to-order, because at that time used stamps were preferred by collectors and the local merchant-speculators thought the cancellation was proof to their customers of the genuiness of the overprints. The scarcity of covers is undoubtedly due in part to the fact that the low denominations involved were used mostly on local mail, little of which ever found its way into philatelic hands. The local speculators were, at first at least, quite innocent of the philatelic interest and value of covers; but we note that later several of them did make up some covers addressed to stamp collectors and dealers abroad and bear combinations or multiples in order to make up the higher rates on such mail.

However, during 1885 the low denominations, except perhaps the 15c, of the unoverprinted French Colonies General Issues continued to be used at St. Pierre in fair quantity, especially the 5c. Of course many residents probably had some unoverprinted 5, 10, and 15c Dubois which they had purchased earlier, but we are led to suspect that the post office had these values in stock through most of 1885 and continued to sell them. From mid-December to March 1886 one sees quite a few commercial uses of the 05/20c and the stocks of the unoverprinted low values may have really runout or gotten very low during that time. Nevertheless, the local merchant-speculators during 1885-6 nearly always used unoverprinted 5, 10, 15, and 25c on their own correspondence with customers, except when the latter requested overprinted stamps be used, because the overprints were too valuable for mail.

All of the 1885 overprints partake of a rather uniform style consisting of a large numeral of value and the initials of the colony, with or without a separating bar, a style established by New Caledonia in 1881 and already copied by Tahiti, Reunion, and Guadeloupe. It had an obvious utilitarian virtue in that the large numbers and letters were readily visible to the postal clerks. But a hankering for some variety seems to have found a mild expression in the fancier style of Guadeloupe's 1884 issue and St. Pierre's of August 1885, though we suspect it was not so much for variety's sake as philately's. Also by keeping the inscription brief the overprints were all intentionally horizontal — discounting the few inverts and verticals that were "errors.". The labels of 1886 are of quite a different order in so far as they lack the colony name, since they were not thought of as stamps in the usual sense but receipts.

1) The January 7, 1885 Issue

This was the "5/SPM" on 2c Dubois of Colonies 1881. The overprint is always inverted, any upright ones are fakes. According to the postmaster and Amédié Bréhier, the speculator who claimed he bought most of them, 300 were printed (— *Arrêté* did not specify any quantity). It is now a very rare stamp, the rarest of St. Pierre prior to 1942; but we can find some reasons to believe that perhaps somewhat more than 300 were issued. Mr. Larsen, a Halifax dealer of the time, reported quite a few were used on mail and lost, which accounted in part for their rarity.

At this point it is appropriate to quote a letter from A. M. Bréhier, a merchant speculator of St. Pierre, to Henry Hechler the well-known Halifax stamp dealer, because of the remarkable statements made about the 5/2 surcharge:—

St. Pierre
14 Jan. 1886

Mon. Hechler

In response to your honored letter of 28 Dec. last, I beg you to find enclosed for the sheet [of stamps] of $27.21 which you sent me:—

22 copies of the 5/2 at $1.00	$22.00
the balance of a sheet	$ 5.21
	$27.21

You can be certain that you will be making a magnificent deal as there are but 300 5/2 issued and it is I who had nearly all of them. I guarantee you that no other single stamp merchant has received as many as 22 at a time; you are the one to whom I have sent the most. I think that they have been imitated but if you see any that are not cancelled I advise you to declare openly that they are fakes and I authorize you to use my name to support your assertion. At present they [the fakes?] are priced at 12Fr in Paris.

I still have some, very few, but these I will only let go for $1.50 each in exchange for good stamps — same price for the 25c/1fr and $0.60 for the 5/4, again on exchange basis — if you have need of these latter items you could send me another sheet like the last one you sent me.

I am always at your service to procure all the other surcharges of SPM.

In hope of hearing from you,
Accept my sincere greetings
A. M. Bréhier

Bréhier's remarks open a pandora box of questions:— are the mint copies which one sees and which appear to be genuine really counterfeits or "reprints," or were there more issued than the 30 that Bréhier thought he knew about, including mint copies sold to others? About 1 in 3 of the apparently genuine copies are mint. If we assume that a third or fourth of the issue was lost on commercial mail and that some mint copies were sold beyond the nearly 300 Bréhier claims he obtained cancelled, then it could be that as many as 400 or 500 were issued. Bréhier obtained his figure of 300 from the postmaster, Mon. Denouée. But some of Denouée's figures on the quantities of certain later SPM issues have been found implausibly low, so we may be skeptical about the 300. In 1887 Larsen reported that 50 copies were still in hands of Halifax dealers; this and the fact that Bréhier had so many on hand yet at the beginning of 1886 is indicative of deliberate hoarding and cornering. In another letter of Bréhier's of the same date he offered a British dealer "all SPM transformed issues at reasonable prices" and stated "I can even sell you a monopoly on some"! Was this sudden flurry of salesmanship due to sales resistance in the past months, or was he peddling fresh reprints? And Bréhier's price of $1.00 was indeed to prove a bargain, for Hechler by 1887 was selling them at $5 (— today one will bring $400-$1000)!

Easily half of the copies offered in auctions in recent years have been readily identifiable forgeries, some very grossly so and others very good imitations (or "reprints"?) but struck on stamps with wrong cancels or of the wrong 2c printing (— the shade should be medium reddish-brown on yellow-buff). There are no varieties on the genuines; the "varieties," like that reported by Hechler in 1888 with 5 upright and SPM inverted, are very suspect and no longer listed by any catalog. Cancels on genuines are nearly all dated between January and April 1885. The handstamping was positioned carefully as a rule, though slightly tilted or smudged prints are frequent. The ink varies from black to



Figure 4. Cover registered (50c rate) to Nice, France, bearing a 10/40 and a 15/40 of August 1885 and 25c yellow unoverprinted colonies stamp, cancelled faintly in red 15 Aug. 1885 (—red ink was frequently used for postmarking at St. Pierre from April to October 1885). The 25c stamp was crossed with a blue crayon by some postagent enroute probably because the postmark was so faint it looked as if the stamp had not been cancelled at all. This use of the 10/40 and 15/40 to make up the 25c or 50c rate to foreign countries is characteristic of many covers with the August issue. Note the 10/40 is the inverted "M" variety (only one of the handstamp devices had it and only in one cliche). This cover may be "commercial" — the address is not in the handwriting of Denouée, Bréhier or Girardin. The 25c yellow Dubois stamp is seen on numbers of covers from SPM up the spring of 1886, though the 25c black was supposed to have been issued in the spring of 1885.

grayish, as the ink pad dried up during the course of the overprinting work, which moreover may not have been done all at once but pane by pane (25) or sheet by sheet (50) as needed. We believe only several covers are extant.

The type for the "5" was fastened in one wooden holder, with a handle for stamping, and "S P M" in another such holder. The type came presumably from printer's metal font obtained at the local *Imprimérie du Gouvernement,* the only printery in town.

2) The March 7, 1885 Issue

Two styles of numerals "25," a serifed and a non-serifed one, were applied in conjunction with the same "S P M" device as used on the January issue, on remainders of the obsolete 1Fr Sage colonies stamps. The "2" and the "5" were fixed together in a wooden holder (Fr. *composteur).* Why the two styles of type for the "25," which means there were two devices? The cancellation dates seem to belie the notion that one type was used first and the other issued after the first was exhausted. Rather we presume that they were made, not

just for sake of variety to interest philatelists, but to permit two employees to be working on the handstamping job simultaneously in order to expedite the task. The difference in type faces was probably to readily distinguish the two devices (for control purposes?). There may well have been two "S P M" devices also. The "5" of the non-serif type is from the same type-foundry stock as the "5" of the January overprint.

The postmaster at first informed the merchants that about 600 of each type were issued. And in truth these stamps are not as rare as the January stamp, being nearly twice as frequently offered in auctions. A relatively larger proportion of the issue may have fallen into philatelic hands because most of the ones used on mail went abroad (prepaying the 25c UPU foreign letter rate) where they were more likely to be saved. Later information given to dealers was to the effect that a total of 3,000 or 3,600 were overprinted, which seems absurdly exaggerated and the earlier figure is much closer to correct. Mint copies are somewhat rarer than "used" (or cancelled) ones, in the ratio of about 3 to 5. The much greater rarity of the non-serif 25 mint claimed by some dealers is doubted by others who feel the serif 25 is rarer mint — the cataloguers have not been able to make up their mind on this. However, cancelled, the two types are now generally regarded as equally scarce. Very few covers are extant — perhaps a half dozen (Ferrari had four). Those cancelled copies (and covers) postmarked much later than the period of issue are of course philatelic. Most of the cancels are dated in March and April 1885.

We have no evidence that the 25c Dubois ever actually went out of stock but if so it was probably only briefly. The occasion for the threat of a 25c shortage was the change from the 25c yellow Dubois to the 25c black — no yellows had been printed for some time (early 1884?) and the blacks were not ready until early 1885. St. Pierre may have received the blacks by the spring of 1885 but we have not seen any used there before 1886.

In Jan. 1886 when Bréhier sold the 5/2 to Mr. Hechler for $1, he offered him 25/1fr at $1.50 each! This would imply Bréhier did not have as many of the 25s as of the 5/2, either because he had experienced greater demand for them or had to share the supplies with his competitor speculators. However, in 1887 Hechler was asking only $2.50 for the 25/1fr (compared to $5 for the 5/2), and he must have been able to obtain a considerable supply — he imported from several speculators in St. Pierre as well as from the postmaster. It has long been rumored that Hechler had arranged to have reprints of the 25c made for him. He apparently sold some copies which have been considered reprints, but they were probably obtained from the St. Pierre speculators who may or may not have stimulated some clandestine reprinting. The reprints are said to be the copies in shiny jet black ink. Some of these may be reprints, but the notion that all the jet black prints (with correct dimensions) are necessarily reprints is illogical and unconvincing; the ink pad had to be "freshened" from time to time in the course of the overprinting, which probably took several days or was done in stages, so a range of shades from black to gray resulted. Conversely, many of the dull grayish prints that alone are supposed to be genuine, may only be gray because they have been washed in removal from covers. We have seen properly cancelled copies with the jet black ink as well as some with incorrect type of postmark backdated.

The shade of the 1fr Sage on which the 25c were overprinted appears to be rather uniform (dull olive green) as it should considering that there was only one printing (1876) of the 1fr colonies Sage; there are, however, some variations in shade (olive to bronze green) within the printing, and the St. Pierre stocks

had all of them. It is not safe therefore to claim that overprints not on a certain shade must be fakes or reprints. Indeed, four or more "postoffice sheets" of 150 had to be used up for this issue.

The most intriguing (and perhaps disturbing) aspect of these overprints is the variety of positions of the handstamps. A fairly large proportion of the issue have the "25" inverted or sideways, and the "SPM" likewise is often varied in position independently of the "25" — we find it at top or bottom, inverted, and at the sides. One can compute the number of possible positions and combinations of the two parts of the overprint — it is 32 in all. About 14 of these possible variations have been reported, and they are predominately ones with "SPM" at top or bottom and "25" upright or inverted, which would be the more "natural" ones. The extant sampling out of all copies issued is not large enough to decide very confidently whether all possible varieties may have been made, nor whether stamped more or less randomly or systematically (i. e., intentionally). If done systematically one would expect whole panes of 25 (or sheets of 50) were made alike, but since some pairs are reported (Ferrari/Hind) with different variations se-tenant, this may be doubted. We also wonder why positional variations are so frequent on this issue but absent on the January issue and quite negligable on the later issues. Were the employees just bored and careless? The fact that the inverted and sideways placements were fairly precise would seem to argue for intentional variation — perhaps as a fancy or lark and perhaps because somebody (a merchant-speculator?) suggested it. (The following issue of March 27 offered the same opportunity but very few varieties of it were made). The 25c varieties are found in about the same mint-to-used ratio as the normals. No multiples larger than pairs are known, and these are extremely rare. A good copy having the "25" non-serif doubled was in the Ferrari and Lichtenstein collections, and Ferrari had another non-serif and a serif one doubled which went to Hind; The doubled 25 serif and SPM sold by Niel in 1930 looks very dubious. Of course, there are many counterfeits of these stamps.

3) The Issue of 27 March 1885

Presumably the promised supplies of 5c Dubois stamps had still not arrived from Paris and by March the January 5/2 overprints had long been exhausted; so a new overprinting of 5c was felt to be needed as a cushion against a still-threatened depletion of the 5c Dubois (— we have not seen the decree for this issue). This time a serifed type "5" was chosen, and in conjunction with the same "S P M" device as before, applied to the 4c Dubois Colonies stamps (— a little-used value, probably well stocked). The overprint is normally upright with the "S P M" at bottom, but a few inverts of either the "5" or the "S P M" or both are found as well as a few with "S P M " at top — also reported are some doubled "5"s and doubled "S P M" (even one inverted) and unique(?) "5" or "S P M" missing. The handstamps are often tilted or displaced, indicating haste or carelessness of the overprinters. It must have taken several days of work for them. On some stamps the edge of the round type-holder partially shows because the handstamp handle was not held perfectly vertical. The type font for the "5" and "S P M" are the same as on the March 7 issue.

Only 900 of these stamps were made according to the postmaster, but later impressions of most of the dealers who imported them (and our too) are that more likely about 3,000 were issued, for it is a relatively common stamp. The catalogues have always overpriced it on the basis of the alleged 900 issued. In

January 1886 Bréhier offered 5/4s to Hechler at $0.60 and Girardin offered them to him at 1.35fr each in quantities of 50 or more. This was much less than was being asked for the 05/75 of December (1,800 issued) and which was selling for 8.10fr; Hechler sold 5/4s at $1.50 in 1887 and the 05/75 at $1.75.

Commercial use must have been small as practically no covers of the correct period and usage are known (in fact only one has come to our notice). If the 5/4 had taken care of much of the regular postal needs until December when the next 5c overprints came out 10,000-35,000 would have been needed and few would have been available for philatelic sales. Obviously that didn't happen. Cancelled copies with postmark dates in the March-December 1885 period are common but many of these look as though they came from cancelled-to-order sheets; later dates, in 1886-8, are also common (including counterfeits) and likely philatelic. Multiples are now very rare; the only mint pane (25) we ever heard of being offered in the last 30 years was broken up by a New York dealer in the late 1940's. Several very different shades of the 4c stamp are found overprinted, indicating the stocks used came from a number of different printings accumulated from past year's requisitions of which there were at least 3 or 4. Reprints and poor imitations abound, many on a wrong stamp or cancel.

4) The Issue of 3 August–6 December 1885

The *Décision* of 27 July 1885 referred to the "insufficient provisions" on hand of 5c, 10c, and 15c stamps and therefore authorized overprints of these values on the 40c Sage colonies stamps (obsolete remainders from 1877) specifying as well the style of the overprint but not the quantities. According to postmaster Denouée, 11,250 each of the 10c and 15c were issued on Aug. 6, the handstamping taking 2 or 3 days (3rd to 6th). The 10c was reported to have been overprinted further on October 20, bringing the total of that value up to about 20,000 (— there is some confusion about this in the literature, as some authors have assumed the 20,000 applied to both the 10c and 15c). The 5c, however, were not issued until the 6th of December, in 6,759 copies according to the postmaster. The delay in getting out the 5c would imply that there was no great shortage of 5c back in July, either because considerable stock of the 5c Dubois remained yet from 1884 or some new supplies had come from France meanwhile, or the use of the 5c overprints of March 1885 had staved off the shortage for a few months. We have already stated our suspicions, and reasons for them that unoverprinted 5c Dubois were available in the postoffice during most if not all of 1885, and that the 5c overprints of March were very little used commercially.

This issue was a real heyday for the philatelists, whose fancy was taken by the antique style of the SPM letters and the numerals, not to overlook the several more or less minor variations in spacing and the inverted "M," plus a few rare inverts and double strikes (a pair, one without surcharge reported also) — and the supply that was plentiful enough for everybody. In early 1886 the local speculators were asking 25 to 50c a copy wholesale, quite a hefty mark-up over face, but in 1887 Halifax dealers were getting only $0.30 a copy for the 05/40 at retail.

Although many covers with the 10c and 15c are still around nearly all of them are with combinations or multiples to make up the 25c or 50c foreign rate and addressed to stamp collectors and dealers abroad. The cancelled copies are as common as mint and evidently predominately cancelled-to-order (certain dates are very numerous) usually in the correct period (Aug.-Jan.). All the extant blocks and panes of 25 of the 05/40 we have seen are CTO. We do not thus have evidence of much purely commercial use prepaying the rates for which the



Figure 5. A block of 20 of the 05/40 of December 1885, cancelled to order on 23 Jan. 1886. The handstamping was done with the 3-cliche device causing strikes to extend onto the sheet margin at left. Note the careless alignment of some of the strikes, with smudges and overlaps.

denominations were intended, though there undoubtedly was some on local mail. A number of covers (overpaid) addressed by Bréhier to himself are found. The local speculators apparently were stuck with some of these stamps for years, as we see them on philatelic covers of local origin down to the mid-1890's.

Since the "errors" are somewhat rare, and the *Décision* prescribed and illustrated the exact style of the handstamps, we find it easy to believe that the administration was trying to avoid unnecessary varieties. The 5c has fewer varieties and is a much scarcer stamp than the 10 and 15c; its commercial use was almost nil and even on philatelic covers it is very scarce. A large proportion of the cancellations are in 1886 (or later), i.e. after the December 27-31 overprints of 5c on 20c, 35c, 75c and 1Fr came out.

The overprints on 40c were made, as before, from printer's type fixed in wooden holders, the numerals, separating bar, and SPM composed in one solid device. What is especially interesting and generally unknown (though mentioned in a footnote in the Yvert et Tellier specialized catalogue) is that there were a number of different devices of each denomination made up for the job, some with only one cliche, some with two and some with three se-tenant in the same holder. From a study of complete panes of 25 (rare) and strips and blocks (very scarce), we have deduced that at first several holders with 3 cliches each for the 05c, 10c, and 15c were made up and used; but since there are only 5

stamps in the rows of each pane, one of the cliches was always being carried over to strike in the left or right margin or gutter. Having 3 cliches se-tenant of course made the work of handstamping go a lot faster (5 cliches together would have been still better but impracticable because too unwieldy). However, the extra strikes in the margins must have worried the postmaster as a potential nuisance because the public and collectors might try to use them or sell them as valid stamps. So then they cut a cliche off at least one of the holders of each denomination, probably remounting the handle to center it, and proceeded to use one of the remaining 3-cliche holders to stamp the left (or right) side of the pane and then the two-cliche holder for the balance of the pane. Thus we have panes and blocks showing, by varying alignment and the absence of marginal strikes, the combined use of the 2- and 3-cliche devices. At the same time, other panes were being stamped by using the 2-cliche device twice in a row and finishing the row with a single cliche which was either the one cut off from the 3-cliche holder or a new one. Altogether, we have identified as many as 12 different cliches of the 10c (the most printed value), 4 of the 15c, and 5 of the 5c, and more may yet be discovered. They differ in length of the bar and alignment of numerals with the letters, but the smudginess and carelessness in inking and striking on so many copies makes it often very difficult or impossible to measure them accurately. With such a large number of stamps to be overprinted, probably several employees of the *Imprimérie du Gouvernement* or the post office were working steadily together at it for days, and one cannot blame them for getting sloppy even under the supervision of the overseeing commission. The mental concentration required to keep the cliches aligned with the rows of stamps must have been tiring. We hope the merchants, dealers and collectors appreciated the effort.

As we have suggested happened in case of the preceding issues, the overprinting of this issue attributed to the Aug. 6 and Oct. 20 and Dec. 6 dates was possibly not done all at one "sitting" but in batches from time to time as needed to meet sales demand. This would more readily account for the change in the number of cliches per holder as a result of ongoing experience; however, it is but a surmise that they used the 3-cliche holders only at first, for in fact they could have started out using all the holders concurrently from the beginning, illogical as that might seem. We will probably never know at this late remove, just what the sequence of events was in this affair, there having been no curiosity in St. Pierre at that time to record such trivia for posterity.

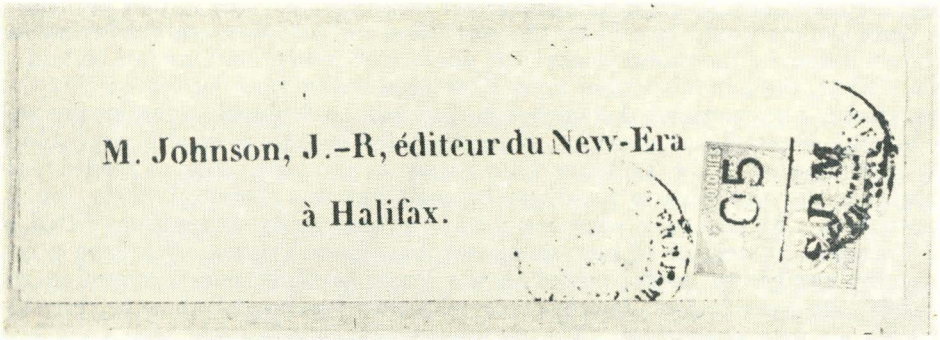


Figure 8. Newspaper wrapper from the same source as Figure 2 with 05/20 of December 1885 issue, addressed to Halifax, and postmarked 3 Jan. 1886, showing commercial use of this stamp.

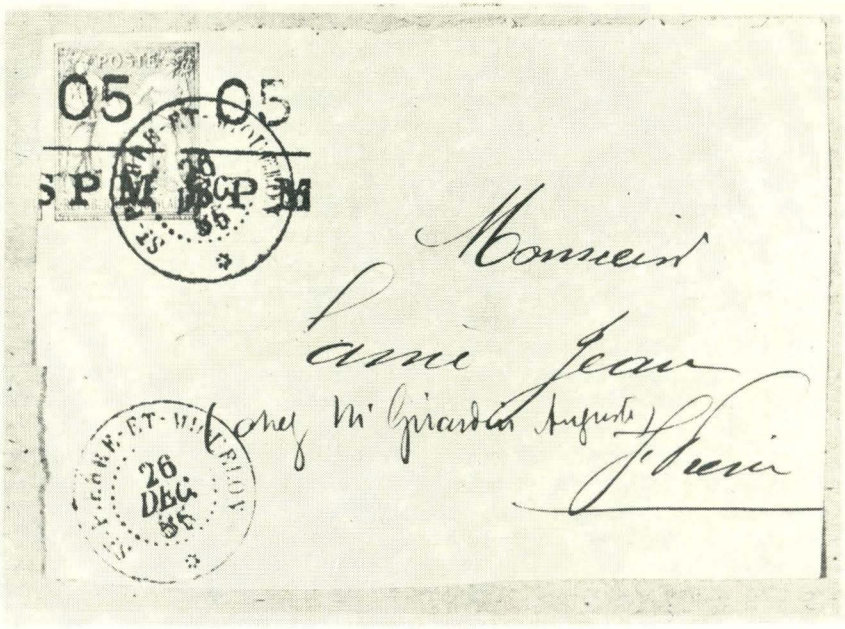


Figure 6. Front with corner-margin copy of the 05/1fr of December 1885, locally addressed to a person in the household of one of the merchant-speculators (Girardin), cancelled 26 Dec. 1885, probably a "first-day cover". Note the extra strike in the margin.

5) The Issue of December 22–30, 1885

This series consisted only of "05" and "SPM," separated by a bar, overprinted on four different colonies stamps: 20c of 1881, and remainders of the 35c, 75c, and 1fr Sage, totalling 31,700 stamps. We have not seen the decree for this; even if the 5c were still or once again very low in stock after the 6,750 printed on Dec. 6, only a primarily philatelic demand could justify such a large additional quantity two weeks later. It is believable that all of the December 6 issue were bought out by speculators in several weeks, but more taxing of our credulity that the plupart of these 31,700 stamps of late December could be already gone by January 5th 1886. Yet on that date the Commandant of the Colony published the announcement, which we mentioned earlier, that henceforth no more stamps would be sold by the post office and all letters would be franked at the window by the postal clerks! A number of interpretations can be laid on this. First, the administration must have been really running scared this time that stocks of unoverprinted stamps would shortly be depleted — not crying wolf as before. Secondly, if many of the overprinted stamps were still available in the post office or in the Treasury (for release to the post office as needed), the post office did not wish to use them on mail but was "saving" them for the speculators. At any rate, whatever degree of emergency existed was lifted on 27 February by arrival of new stamp supplies from France. We have a considerable number of covers posted in the December-July period spanning this episode; there are in Dec.-Jan. as many with unoverprinted Dubois 5c, 10c, 15c, and 25c as with overprints. The unoverprinted Dubois could well have been stamps bought by the users earlier in 1885. Commercial covers with the 05/20 overprint are seen from this period, but practically all the covers we know of

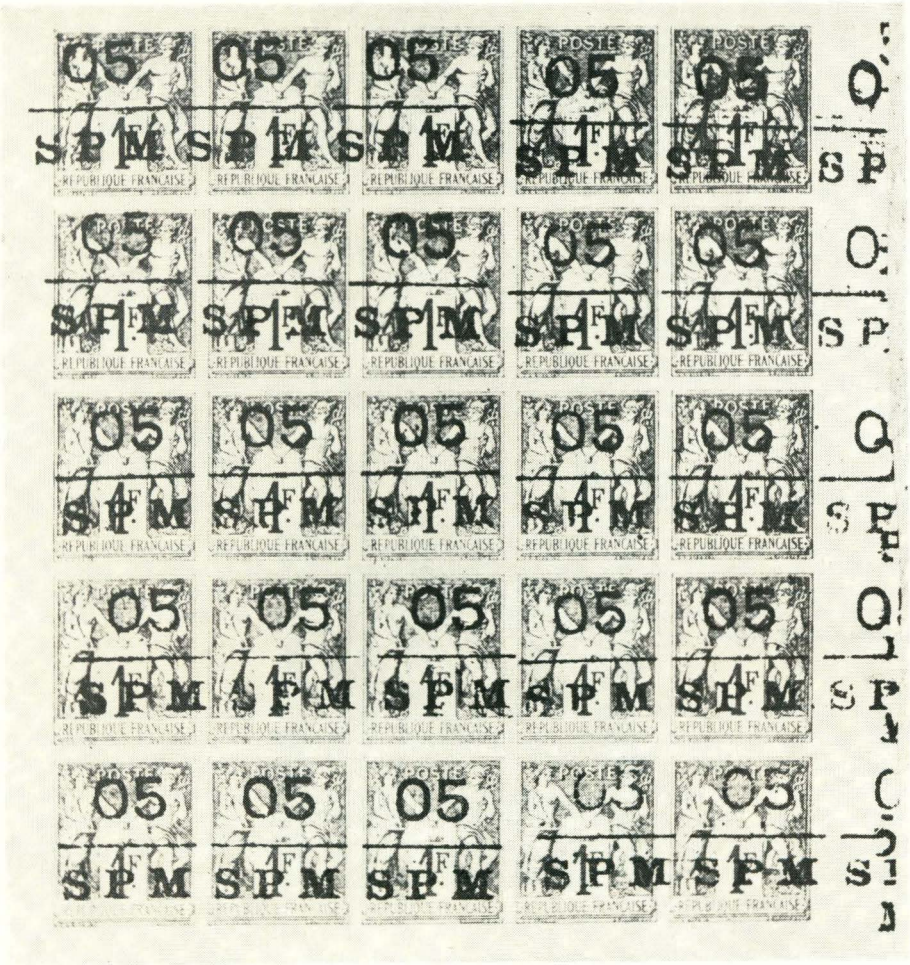


Figure 7. Pane of 25 (5 x 5) of the 05/1fr of December 1885, showing use of the 3-cliche hand-stamp making "ghost" strikes in the right gutter-margin where they overlap similar strikes from the neighboring pane — this sheet probably had the margins trimmed too close causing the overprinter to extend all the extra strikes onto the gutter. This happened on only a few sheets. Note the rather carefully centered overprinting on this pane.

with the other December overprints are philatelic, addressed to stamp dealers or collectors, and they are noted through 1886 and 1887, occasionally later even to 1893. The speculators were so overloaded with some of the commoner December issue that they sold them off to townspeople and used them on their own mail for years. The 05/20 certainly obtained a considerable commercial use; at the same time it did not appeal to collectors on account of the very dark color of the stamp. Whereas the 05/1fr was printed in 13,500 copies and the 05/20 in 11,150 copies, the 05/35 with 5,250 and 05/75 with only 1,800 issued are not common and on cover very rare. Mint stamps are rarer than cancelled in the ratio of about 3 to 5, the used ones being predominately CTO with dates well distributed through 1886 and into 1887.



Figure 9. Cover sent by Bréhier to one of his customers in France, with combination of 05/1fr, 05/35, 05/20 and 10c and 20c unoverprinted Colonies stamps, to make correct 50c rate for registration, postmarked 3 Jan. 1886. The 05/35, being a scarce and "high priced" stamp, was rarely put on covers. Bréhier usually used unoverprinted stamps (5c and 25c yellow) on his mail to customers during 1885-6.

The style of type in this overprint is once more plain like the January and March issues, though with a mixture of serif and non-serif font as in several of the March overprints. They used the same sort of handstamp device as before, consisting of a row of 3 cliches se-tenant in a single holder, identical on all four of the stamps. Thus all the panes overprinted had the extra cliche strikes in one margin; they did not see fit this time to worry about these margin strikes, no doubt because of the large size of the issue. In a few sheets (of 50) the margin strikes of neighboring panes fell in the common gutter and thus overlap. There are otherwise no genuine varieties or errors, except for some rare so-called double-prints on the 05/20 and 05/35 which are really faint "kisses." (The copies with "MSP" and "PSM" are palpable fakes). The stamping was generally carefully done, especially on the 35c and 75c, though smudgy, slanting, displaced or overlapping strikes are not uncommon on the 20c and 1Fr. The task of handstamping this issue stretched over more than a week and we are greatly impressed that there were essentially no errors of either the contrived or accidental sort. Poor imitations of the 05/20 with wrong cancels have been reported (Fournier?). An invert of the 05/75 is reported.

A considerable number of mint panes and many blocks of the 05/20 and 05/1fr are extant, but the 05/35 and 05/75 are very rare even in pairs; a block of 4 of 05/75 is reported.

(To Be Continued)

The 10¢ Registry Stamp of 1911

United States

By Robert L. Markovits

(Continued from Vol. 50, Page 354)

The precancel field in the Registry stamp remains one of the most challenging. For the record, I include a listing taken from the Hoover Precancel catalogue. I just acquired my first, from Kansas City, Missouri — few were legitimately used. (Fig. 21). The precancel specialists advise that most were made as favors.

According to the Hoover Official Precancel Stamp Catalogue, the precancelling of this issue was done by several local post offices. The Kansas City, Missouri precancel appears to be the easiest to find. These local precancels were not viewed with pleasure in official Washington.



Figure 21. Precancel: From Kansas City, Missouri.

The following list was made from the Hoover catalogue (Hoover #345):[24]

CITY and STATE	PRECANCEL TYPE
St. Johnsbury, Vermont	9
Swanton, Vermont	1
Bellingham, Washington	2
Tacoma, Washington	1
Monte Vista, Colorado	1
Pueblo, Colorado	2
Chicago, Illinois	18
Chicago, Illinois	18 double
Chicago, Illinois	39
Chicago, Illinois error (CHIACGO)	39
Chicago, Illinois	40
Auburn, Indiana	1
Mer Rouge, Louisiana	1
Amherst, Massachusetts	1

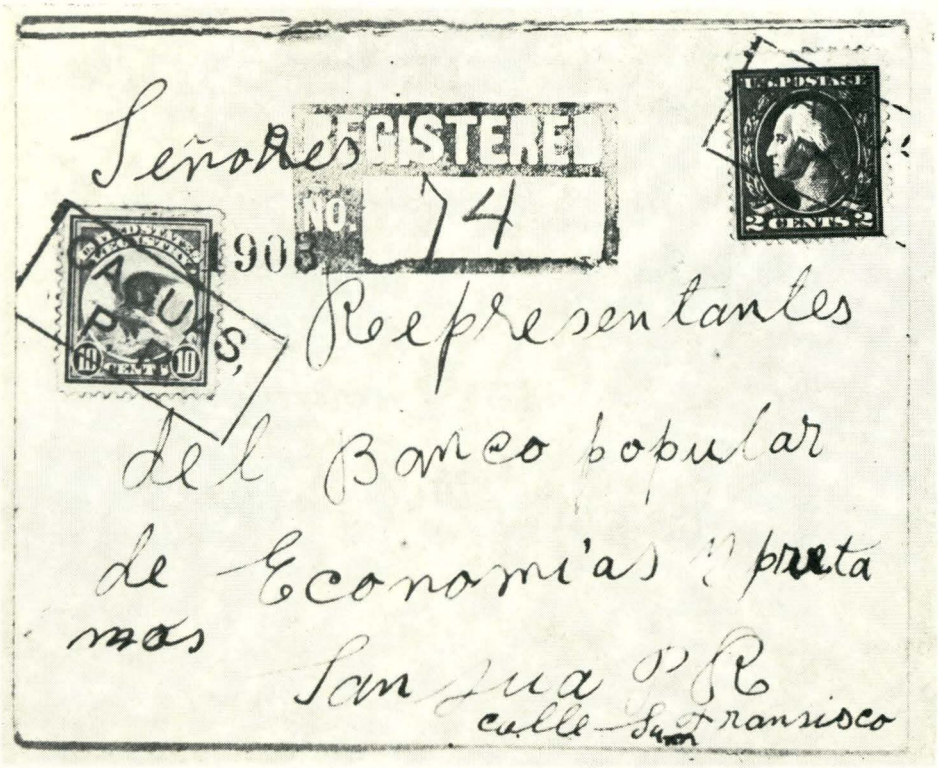
24. Hoover Bros., Pre-cancel catalogue, 1930 edition (Hoover #345).

Hyde Park, Massachusetts	1
Saginaw, Michigan	1-3
	3
	4
Kansas City, Missouri	4
	11
Butte, Montana	2
Lewistown, Montana	2
Lincoln, Nebraska	3
	4
Claremont, New Hampshire	1
Claremont, New Hampshire	1 double
Hanover, New Hampshire	1
Keene, New Hampshire	3
Plymouth, New Hampshire	1
Glen Falls, New York	3
Barre, Vermont	2 up
St. Johnsbury, Vermont	2

To date, covers bearing the ten cent registry stamp have been found showing uses from Alaska; Hawaii; Puerto Rico; Samoa; Shanghai, China; Vera Cruz, Mexico and the Virgin Islands. These are the most sought after uses and are quite difficult to find. It is entirely possible that covers could be found from the Canal Zone, Guam, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, Carolina, Mariana and Marshall Islands, Wake Island, or from Siberia on AEF mail — to date, none have been recorded from these places.



Figure 22. Eagles abound! An "Eagle" cornercard on a commercial over from Craig, Alaska in 1914.



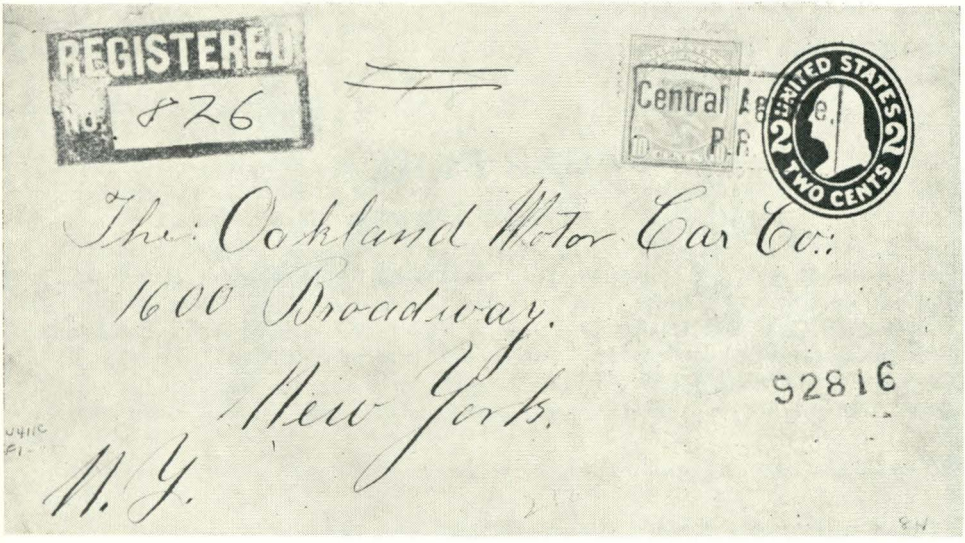


Figure 23. Puerto Rico uses: A. Caguas Box Cancel. B. Central Aguirre, 1912 (front).

Previously described was the finest 10c registry cover known to me, postmarked from Craig, Alaska in 1914 bearing the corner card of "The Eagle," a local newspaper. (Fig. 22). At least two examples of this 'gem' are known. Several towns in Alaska apparently had supplies of the F1 stamp, because I have seen at least eight towns.



Figure 24. Pago Pago, Samoa, to New South Wales (front and back).



Figure 25. Shanghai Use: A commercial cover, from the Astor House Hotel.

Although there was no provision for double or triple rated registered mail based upon increase in value during the decade in discussion here, multiples of F1 are known. Most probably originated in Alaska; they were used in lieu of regular postage. I know that the Bethel postmaster used multiples. Used blocks, by the way, although not possible from a registry rate point of view, are desirable and belong in any specialized study.

My collection and records show the following uses from Alaska towns: Bethel, Candle, Craig, Eagle, Eureka, Juneau, Holy Cross, Kasaan, Kenai, McCarthy, Nome (although only a backstamp where the Candle cover was forwarded to its destination), Seward, Trendwell, and Unga. Additions to this listing will be appreciated. Interesting uses on shipping labels from Alaska — probably originally tied to furs — sparkle in a collection.

The stamp found its way to the Hawaiian Islands and covers are known from Honolulu, which used a circular town killer without date to cancel this stamp, and from Oahu.

Numerous covers used from Puerto Rico are known mainly because a bank correspondence was saved by an enterprising dealer. Covers addressed to the Bank Popular in San Juan, among other places, were mailed from Arecibo, Caguas (Fig. 23a), Camuy, Morovis, Ponce, Central Aguirre (Fig. 23B), Guayama, Rio Grande, Rio Piedras, and San Juan. One especially interesting cover illustrated here went to Santo Domingo where it was stamped "address unknown" and the letter was returned and rested in the San Juan Dead Letter Office.

A cover showing the stamp used from Pago Pago, Samoa, addressed to Sydney, N.S.W. is a prize. (Fig. 24).

The Shanghai, China uses are interesting and provide a specialty within a specialty; a lot still has to be learned before this full story can be told. Major Durrah was operating the U. S. post office in this location in 1911. Several

uses from that post office are known, including a copy carried to the United States on the ship "Empress of India." A non-philatelic hotel cover is unusual (Fig. 25) — most of the known pieces were addressed to famous United States stamp dealers such as Bartels or Mann.

Durrah apparently was not content with just using the stamps supplied to him from Washington, and although no official overprints were made in 1919 on the Registry stamp, Durrah privately had overprinted it in 1913, and even favor cancelled a few with the receiving mark of his office. (Fig 26A). The private overprints have been written up elsewhere but two examples of the SHANGHAI, CHINA private overprints, one normal (Fig. 26B) and one with defective type (Fig. 26C), are illustrated. Canman,[25] as well as Sloane,[26] noted that another type of private Shanghai overprint exists, to wit: S"HAI/CHINA in two lines, in black. The Tows collection auctioned in 1949 contained a lot with this second overprint, but did not include one on the Registry stamp. Sloane, however, in STAMPS, reports that this abbreviated overprint does occur on the registry stamp.

Lot 127 in the Tows China sale of March 16-18, 1949 had a variety on the SHANGHAI CHINA private overprint, to wit, the letters "AI" spaced closely together, but I have not seen a copy with such a variety on the Registry stamp, although the fact that the printing was done in a local shop in Shanghai probably accounts for this variety as well as the broken letters illustrated herein.



Figure 26. A. Private Durrah overprint used on piece with Shanghai receiving cancel. B. A mint single. C. A mint single showing defective lettering.

25. Richard W. Canman, Special Postage Stamps for the United States Offices at Shanghai, Congress Yearbook, Vol. 20, 1954, 17 et seq.

26. George B. Sloane, Columns from *STAMPS*, BIA compilation (G. T. Turner, editor), pps. 390-391 (1961).



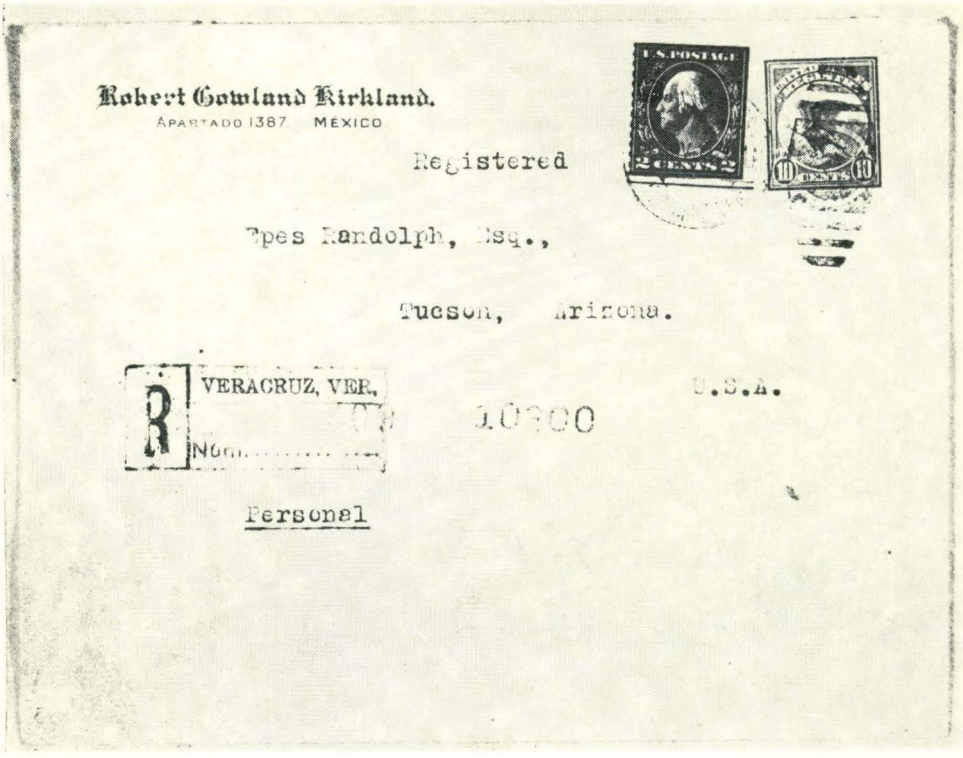
Figure 27. Vera Cruz, Mexico uses, 1914. A. U.S. Cancel.

When Washington heard about the private overprint in 1913, it quickly directed Durrah to cease and desist. These, then, are unofficial overprints, not precancels as the late Stephen G. Rich once wrote.

The United States Marines were stationed in Vera Cruz, Mexico during the 1914 uprisings there and the post office followed our fighting men. On April 21, 1914, a United States post office was opened and remained operational until November 23, 1914 to serve our more than 6000 troops under General Funston. The Mexican post office was also open there from April 24 through May 3, 1914, and covers with the 10c registry stamp are illustrated, used from both local post offices. (Fig. 27A & B). Another cover with a 10c registry stamp and a 10c special delivery used from Mexico is also shown. (Fig. 27C).

The covers showing the F1 used from the United States Virgin Islands are in the collection. These are two different postmarks from Christiansted (Fig. 28), St. Croix, one in a box. These, of course, were both uses after the stamp was officially withdrawn, but since the stamp was never demonetized, it was and still is valid for use.

With this in mind, it should be pointed out that late uses of the stamp can be obtained, although I have never seen one used after 1925; of course, there is no reason why such a cover could not be found or even made today! I have several late uses showing combinations with the various first class rates in effect from 1918 to 1925.



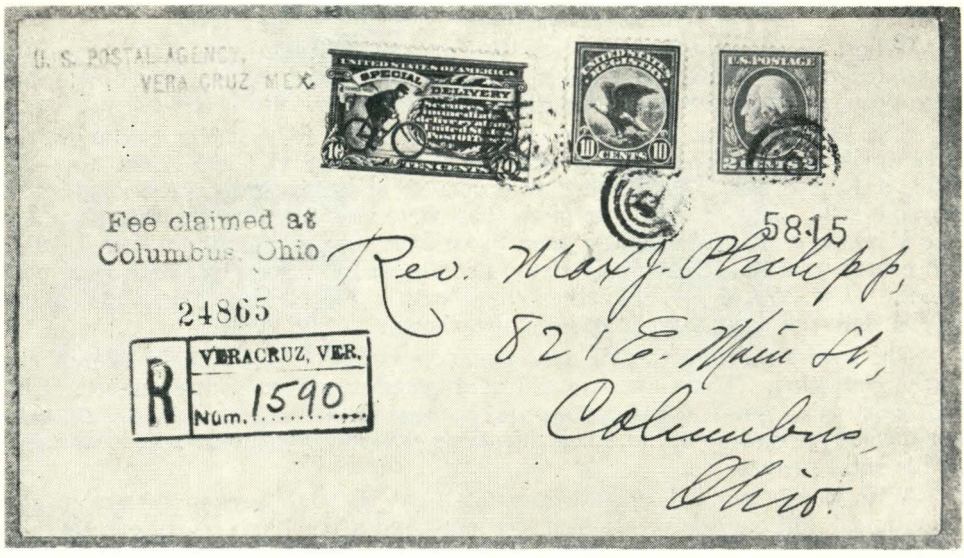


Figure 27. B. Mexican Cancel. C. Special delivery registered cover showing the Postal Agency Imprint.

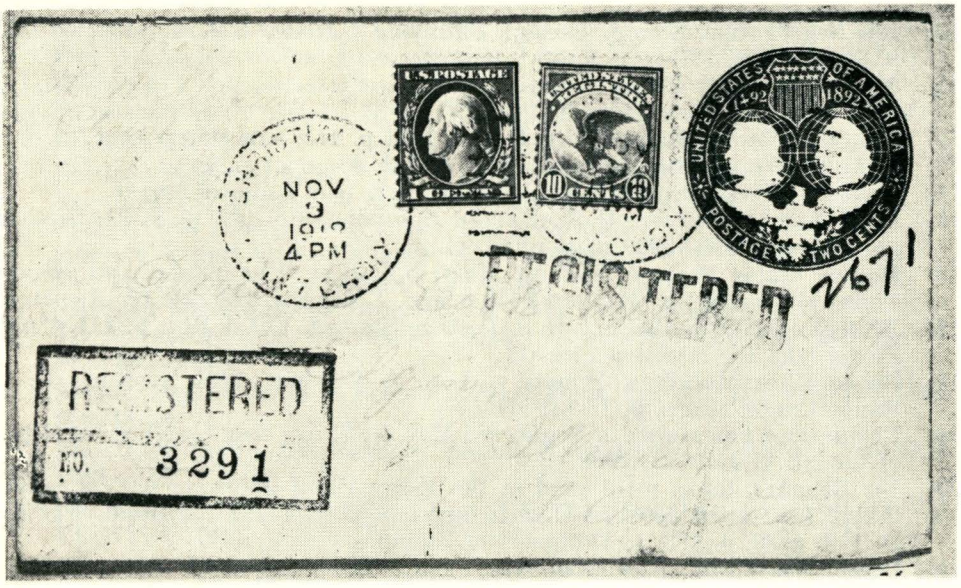


Figure 28. Virgin Islands Uses: Circle cancel from Christansted, 1913.

It is believed that all of the most important aspects of this one stamp have been covered in this article. Other unusual examples of this stamp probably lie buried in the depths of a dealer's cover boxes; in non-specialized collections; or in untapped lots of correspondence in someone's attic; but, after six years of study, I believe that I have uncovered about as much as one can, and I report here enough to be able to conclude that few new discoveries will be made.

If you have or know of anything which would add to this study of the ten cent registry stamp, it would be greatly appreciated if you would communicate with the author at P.O. Box 891, Middletown, New York 10940.

PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF REGISTERED MAIL

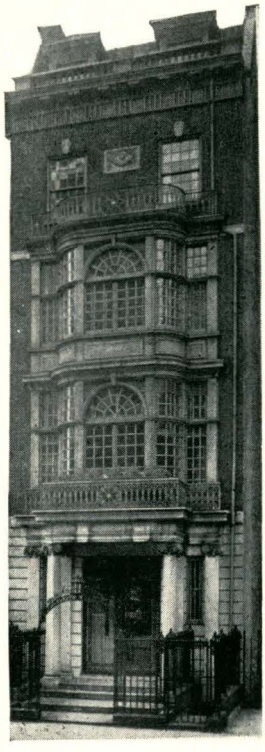
1. U. S. Ten Cent Registry Stamp by Harold Kjellstedt, The American Philatelist, Vol. 26, p. 195, Aug. 1913.
2. History of U. S. Registry System, 13th Congress Yearbook (1947) p. 44 by Donald S. MacGregor. (Mentions F1 on p. 51.)
3. U. S. Registry Fees, 1855. 1955, Barbara R. Mueller, 21st Congress Yearbook, p. 29 (1955) (mentions F1 on p. 34).
4. U. S. Registry Labels, Postal & Philatelic Significance, by Barbara R. Mueller, 23rd Congress Yearbook, 1957, p. 65.
5. Postal Markings Found on Registered Mail of the Bureau Issues Period, Barbara R. Mueller, 1955 Bureau Specialist, p. 78-81, 110-113.
6. Laws pertaining to Registered Mail, United States Code Annotated, Title 39, The Postal Service (1921) S384.
7. Ten Cent Registry Stamp, Issue of 1911, Postage Stamps of the United States, U. S. Government publication, 1969, p. 42.
8. John G. Ross, Stamp Tips, STAMPS Magazine Oct. 8, 1966, 10c Registry Issue of 1911.
9. G. B. Sloane's Columns, Stamps Magazine, July 11, 1936, re Die Similar to 10c Registry Die.

10. 10c Registration Stamp, Second Philatelic Gazette, Vol. II, 12/15/1911, p. 31, 111, and 137.
11. New 10c Registry Stamp proposed., Philatelic Gazette, Vol. I #12, 8/15/11, p. 217.
12. Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Dec. 9, 1911 p. 413, new stamp issue.
13. Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, 1911, p. 384, editorial on issue.
14. Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, 1914, p. 413, new issues chronicle.
15. Plate Number Survey, U. S., Bureau Specialist, Vol. 30, p. 21-21, Section pertaining to 5000-5999 plate numbers.
16. United States Postage Stamps, How to Collect, Understand and Enjoy Them, by Barbara R. Mueller, 1958, Chap. XXI, pps. 223-234. 10c Registry.
17. King & Johl, 20th Century U. S. Postage Stamps, Vol. I Rev. p. 111, "A" Plates (the 10c Registry format).
18. Registration Markings, summary, Loso & Dewindt, 20th Century U. S. Fancy Cancellations, p. 13 (1952).
19. Regulations Pertaining to Registered Mail on Ships, Gen. Order #74, Dept. of the Navy, June 27, 1908.
20. 10c Registry Issue, mentioned in the Essay Proof Jounral: A. Vol. #34, 9:2 p. 119, April 1952 re Heiman auction of 10/11/51 for proof. FIP2a. B. Vol. #39, p. 183, re Designers of Stamp.
21. Perfin News, Edited by David Stump, May 1968, p. 4 re 10c Reg. perfin.
22. Sloane's columns, Stamp Magazine, June 27, 1936, p. 446 re private Shanghai overprints on 10c Registry Issue.
23. Richard W. Canman, Special Postage Stamps for the United States Office at Shanghai, China, Congress Book (1954) p. 17, illustrates 10c Registry Issue.
24. U. S. Registry Labels, a Preliminary Study, Barbara R. Mueller, The American Philatelist, Oct. 1954, p. 21.
25. Valuable Mail to Philadelphia 1845-1855, by Franklin Barnett, The American Philatelist, July 1956, p. 701; August, 1956, p. 796.
26. Registration, Philip H. Ward, column, Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, January 20, 1956.
27. The Eight Cent U. S. Registry Rate of 1874-1875. Cyril F. Dos Passos, The American Philatelist, Feb. 1958, p. 351.
28. Registered Package Envelopes by Charles S. Thompson, Weekly Philatelic Gossip, June 13, 1942, p. 323;
See also Weekly Philatelic Gossip, April 18, 1942, Article.
29. Registry of United States Mail, by Mannel Hahn, Philatelic Gossip, (Weekly) Jan. 29, 1938, p. 690.
31. Registry Mail, Harry M. Konwiser, Weekly Philatelic Gossip, Aug. 13, 1938, p. 702.
32. Registered Mail, Philip H. Ward, Column, Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Feb. 8, 1952.
33. New York City Registry Markings, Donald S. MacGregor, The American Philatelist, April & May, 1946, pps. 700.
34. Stanley B. Ashbrook, 5c of 1856, STAMPS Magazine, Oct. 25, 1952.
35. Stanley B. Ashbrook, Special Service, various articles on Registered Mail, 1951-8, pps. 26, 187, 243, 254, 285.
36. U. S. Registration before 1855, James W. Milgram, M.D., SPA Journal, Aug. 1961, p. 592.
37. Registration, Barbara R. Mueller, Bureau Specialist, March, 1955, p. 79, 110.

38. Registration, Barbara R. Mueller, Western Stamp Collector, March 29, 1955.
39. West German Automatic Registration, Linn's Weekly Stamp News, July 1, 1957.
40. Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Vol. 28, Discontinuance of 10c Registry, 1911, pps. 26, 248.
41. Postage Stamps (London) Vol. 6 (1910) pp. 26, 230, 232.
42. New England Philatelist, May (11-2) p. 12; II (12-3) p. 105.
43. Philadelphia Stamp News (2nd) II (11-2) p.22.
44. Monthly Report Herts Philatelic Soc (London) Vol. V (11-2) p. 16.
45. Fowlers Stamp and Coin Age (12) p. 15.
46. Southern Philatelist (Shreveport, La.) III (11-2) p. 22.
47. The Numbers Game, 10c Registry Issue, Bureau Specialist, byAuthor, Vol. 35, Feb. 1964, p. 56 .
48. Second Day Cover, 10c Registry, *First Days,* By Author, Vol. 7:2 1961, pps. 14-15.
49. First Day Cover, 10c Registry Stamp, *First Days,* By Author, Vol. 7:4, 1962, p. 20.
50. 10c Registry (F1) Precancels, United States Specialist, (By Author) Vol. VLI (9) p. 360.
51. Genesis of the Registry Markings System, American Philatelist, May 1934, Delf Norona, Vol. 47 (8) p. 405-420 (also appears in Cyclopedia of U. S. Postmarks & Postal History, Vol. II (Norona).
52. Stanley B. Ashbrook, U. S. One Cent 1851-7, Vol. II, Registry, pps. 352-362
53. Stanley B. Ashbrook, Various articles in the American Philatelist.
54. U. S. Domestic Postage Rates, GPO 1956, 1789-1956, Pub. #1215.
55. G. B. Sloane, Registry, BIA Reprint of Stamps Magazine Columns, 1961, pps. 390-391.
57. 1882-1902 Registered "Letter" Marks of New York City and Some Collateral Information. Jere. Hesso Barr. 18th Cong. 1952, p. 69.
58. Harry Konwiser, Registry Stamps, Mekeels's Stamp Collector, Feb. 25, 1946, p. 176.
59. Columbia A. R. Stamps, Mekeel's Stamp Collector, Vol. 16 #45, 11/30/03, p. 567.
60. French Colonial Registration Labels, E. E. Keys, Linn's Weekly Stamp News, Vol. 12 #32 June 8, 1940, p. 507.
61. Canal Zone, Registry, William Evans, 1911 (includes useful Registry Label data).
62. Barbara R. Mueller, Registry Labels, The American Philatelist, Oct. 1955.
63. Various Postal Guides and Postal Laws and Regulations re Registry.
64. Elliott Perry, Pat Paragraphs, contains many references to the Registration System and Mail Service.
    a. #17 1/34, p. 404-5 re 1855 Act.
    b. #41, p. 1271 re 15c Webster & Reg. Rate 1866-1874.
    c. #45 9/43 p. 1424 Registry Fees to Foreign Countries.
    d. #45 9/43 p. 1464 Registry Fees.
    e. #50 2/48 p. 1647 re 5c Domestic Fee for Registration.
    f. #55 4/51 p. 1851 & 1878 New Regulations on Registry.
    g. #57 8/52 1938, Act of 1855 rates.
    h. #58 2/58 1969, Act of 1855 rates discussing article in Mekeel's for January 4, 1952, p. 2. See further 4/18/52 Mekeel, p. 122.
65. Regulations Respecting the Registration of Letters, A. W. Randall, PMG, January, 1867 .

66. Barbara R. Mueller, U. S. Registered Covers and the System which Produced them. Vol. II #1, p. 19, 1958. Postal History Society Jounral.
67. Registered Mail in Puerto Rico 1898, Postal History Society, IV:I (1960) p. 53, 58. Postol History Society Journal.
68. Henry A. Meyer, The Registry Rates and Markings of Hawaii. American Philatelic Congress, 1960.

THE END



THE COLLECTORS CLUB

22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y. 10016

1972 Officers

F. Burton Sellers ..... *President*
Alex Rendon ..... *Vice-President*
Richard S. Wilson ..... *Secretary*
Philip Silver ..... *Treasurer*

Governors

Class of 1972	*Class of 1973*	*Class of 1974*
H. D. S. Haverbeck	Herbert J. Bloch	Ezra D. Cole
Norman S. Hubbard	John R. Boker, Jr.	Ernest A. Kehr
William H. Miller, Jr.	Albert H. Higgins	Howard B. Lee
Robert P. Odenweller	Alex Rendon	F. Burton Sellers
Stanley R. Rice	Theo. Van Dam	Philip Silver
Lawrence L. Shenfield	Richard S. Wilson	Ira Zweifach

Trustees

John R. Boker, Jr. H. D. S. Haverbeck Philip Silver

Book Reviews

Fundamentals of Philately. By L. N. and M. Williams. 660 pages, illustrated. Published by American Philatelic Society, P. O. Box 800, State College, Pa., 16801. Price $20.

This widely heralded unabridged handbook, the latest in the handbook series of the American Philatelic Society must be regarded, for what it is, a monumental excursion of sorts. It is hardly, by any known yardstick, a handbook, as its name implies, of the fundamentals of philately.

First, it purports to be, by its very introductory remarks, "a survey of the basic knowledge requisite to serve as a groundwork of philately." So broad a coverage in itself, could very well have been an encyclopedic task, certainly so if it had been carried to the same completion as that with which the Williams's have undertaken to describe so many and varied minutiae of yawning unimportance.

Second, it is not, as it stands, a guide to philately whatsoever, although we would hazard a guess, and back it with folding green, that nowhere in one volume is there so much information gathered on the printing of stamps and the inks and papers involved in their production. But all must agree that a walking, breathing "Last Word" on stamp production could hardly be called a philatelist, and that is the curious thing about this treatise. It's real, perhaps only genuine, contribution, is the exploration of printing processes and an accompanying large glossary of printing terms — the use of these last, if done airily at a chance meeting at the Collectors Club, might have a certain "knock 'em dead" impact and cow the easily cowed but such esoteric knowledge is hardly fundamental and, even, hardly philatelic. Yet all but 110 pages of this book are devoted only to stamp production and its terminology.

One might then conclude without giving it great thought that all else that concerns itself with philately is in some way discussed or broached upon in the earlier going, slim as 110 pages would be for such an assignment. Such is not the case!

There is, in fact, a huge scurrying around in these opening pages and a faint-hearted attempt to tag a lot of bases with a melange of definitions (hardly original) of such terms as postmarks, postal stationery, perfins and other items under the letter "P", which incidentally stands for "padding" and "pooh" as well. Then there is an equally gut-grabbing disquisition on the various types of paper used and the methods used in watermarking it. A few other general headings such as essays, errors and freaks of design, some added definitions of such terms as tete beche, se tenant, strip, pane and plate numbers and, presto, you have been fundamentalized as the Williams brothers see it.

As you may have surmised by now, or most certainly would have, in the event this review were less turgid, there is much to the glitter and romance of collecting stamps that simply does not exist in this text. Nothing of covers, of mounting, of presentation, of exhibiting, of buying and auction bidding, of hinging vs non-hingeing, of specialization, of overprints and their study, of forgeries and how to avoid them, of stationery, of postal history, of rates, of photography as a tool of the collector, of club activities, of how and where to find information, of — well, let's face it, there's a tragic lot of nothing about a whole heap of something we all call philately — all of us, that is, but those fantabulous fundamentalists, the Williams's.

So what else? The editing and the printing leave, to invent a cliche at its birth, something to be desired. The English spellings such as "endeavour" and "colour" crop up often but not consistently which is a form of annoyance to

such carping critics as we. The type was NOT cast by that good soul Gutenberg but might well be properly ascribed as the work of one of Johann's pupils. It is no trick to find pages with 58 lines of type with a character count of 90 to a line. The book will certainly present reading problems, even for a far-sighted gorilla with arm extensions.

In conclusion, this is a fusty tome, pedantic, heavy, often redundant, beautifully researched in some areas, totally lacking in others. It is cumbersome, execrably printed though well and liberally illustrated. It will have its use, unquestionably, for students of printing methods. As for the rest of us, it will be a reminder that what we could use is an up-to-date definitive work on the fundamentals of philately. *(Ira Seebacher)*

Stanley Gibbons 'Stamps of the World' Catalogue 1972. Published by Stanley Gibobns Limited, 391 Strand London, W.C. 2. 1960 Pages, illustrated. Retail Price £3.50 (approx. $8.75).

'Stamps of the World' is a philatelic phenomenon — the only illustrated and priced guide to the postage stamps of the whole world in one volume. Basically, it contains the famous long-standing straightforward listing — no complicated changes of paper, perforation, shade or watermark to worry about — yet it records over 157,000 stamps with more than 30,400 illustrations of stamps, including the most up-to-date listings of all Commonwealth and Foreign Countries.

The particular fascination of a whole world stamp catalogue lies in the fact that whatever postage stamp you come across — old or new, commonplace or bizarre — you know it's in there, somewhere. And when you've found it, all the information you need is there, too — 'date of birth,' details of event and design and, perhaps most important (there's not a collector living who is not interested in the value of his/her stamps!), the catalogue prices, unused and used.

(H. D. S. H.)

Scotland's Postal History. Haldane, A.R.B.: Three Centuries of Scottish Posts. University Press, Edinburgh, Scotland; 1971, xvi + 336 + 22, illustrations + 2 maps in end pocket. $9.75 from Aldine Publishing Co., 320 West Adams St., Chicago, Ill. 60606.

In an introduction, eleven chapters, eleven appendices, and three tables, a professional historian has presented a scholarly and entertaining account of the development of his country's mail, from its beginning in the 16th century (the earliest source dates from 1531) until 1836, i.e., just before the introduction of penny postage in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Haldane's aim has been to present a book on a subject not covered so extensively before. Completion of this difficult task required seven years. Still, "no claim is made that this book can be regarded as a definitive history of the Scottish Post Office", but the author hopes to have made "a contribution to the social and economic history of Scotland". Though clearly not intended for philatelists, the work is of great interest to us.

The first four chapters deal with the 17th century, the early 18th, the late 18th, and the early 19th century, resp., describing postal developments of Scotland as a whole. There follow chapters about the town and city posts, the village and country posts, country postmasters, island mail, budget, abuses and evasions, and a chapter labeled "Problems of the Spreading Posts" that concerns primarily two of the strongest personalities who worked with (or against) each other in the Scottish P. O. from 1799 to 1836. That last story is quite

remarkable and appears to be based on enough archival material to be made into a book all by itself.

The writing is well polished, and there is enough overlap and duplication from chapter to chapter so that each can be read by itself.

Of special interest to students of postmarks is the 1813 Act of Parliament, abolishing the exemption from toll of mail vehicles with more than two wheels. Hence the extra halfpenny for letters carried by mail coach in Scotland, to reimburse the post office (pp. 89-90). This charge was repealed only at the end of 1839 (p. 93). The penny post, which originated in 1653 at Paris as the "petite poste", came to Eedinburgh in 1774, but with a difference: The sender might prepay or not. The former required a red "Penny Post Paid" handstamp, the latter a black "Penny Post Not Paid" (p. 108).

Cases of censorship are mentioned on pp. 223 and 242. The former refers to an order of the town council of Dumfries in the summer of 1689 that "the post bag with letters for despatch should be brought to the council's clerk so that any suspected letters could be opened before the bag was sealed, and the bag with letters from Edinburgh was also to be brought to the council." Fumigation of mail was suggested in connection with a cholera epidemic in 1832, remembering that during the Great Plague in London, in 1665, letters were 'aired over vinegar' (p. 257).

Noteworthy, philatelically, among the illustrations are a 1647 newspaper (fig. 1), a 1664 letter (2), a 1745 letter "opened by the rebels" (3), a mail-coach surcharge postmark of 1816 on a letter by Sir Walter Scott (6), a Penny Post Not Paid postmark on a letter to Scott's father (8), a 1662 letter (from abroad?, 11), a form for returning undeliverable letters (1827, 12), and a citation form sent to a person accused of transporting letters outside the mails (fig. 21).

The volume is set in legible type, printed on good paper, and well bound. The most obvious error occurs on page 244, where "*sp*ighland" and "corre-*H*ondence" (the latter divided and on two lines) resulted from a transposition of letters. A 25-page index appears ample for the size of the book, yet it contains no entries for mail coach and Edinburgh postmarks, censorship, or disinfected mail. Nor does the author show awareness of connections with parallel and, in some cases, prior postal developments in continental Europe, which a student of covers from that period knows full well. It is a pity that historian and philatelist don't converse more.

The postal historian, or historical philatelist, will find the volume useful not only for its facts but also for its leads to further source material.

(Ernest M. Cohn)

The General Revenue Stamps of Czechoslovakia. By Josef Burianek and William Ittel. (11 pages, illustrated, paper cover. Published by William Ittel, 136 Dickson Avenue, Ben Avon, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15202. Price $3.25).

This brief Anglo-German catalogue is the initial essay on the subject of Czech fiscal stamps, which is somewhat surprising when one considers the deluge of literature to which present-day philatelists are subject.

Mr. Ittel is no stranger to the field of European revenue literature. Having written or edited works on the fiscals of Croatia, Fiume, Finland, Lombardy-Venezia, Serbia, and Yugoslavia during the the past five years, his expertise is virtually unquestionable.

Although the slender volume is presently before us covers only the general issues of Czechoslovakia, Bohemia-Moravia, and Slovakia, ignoring the various

special-purpose stamps, it is nonetheless a worthy contribution. Mr. Burianek is a resident of Prague, hence the listings have been checked for accuracy.

Nearly all of the stamps listed have been priced (in U. S. dollars), and if the pricing is accurate, many of these items are virtually unobtainable. A top price of twenty-five dollars may not seem high to the uninitiated, but in such an esoteric field, the degree of scarcity must necessarily be extreme to command such a figure.

The General Revenue Stamps of Czechoslovakia will be a helpful guide to any student of Czech philately. *(Louis S. Alfano)*

Pharmaceutical Fiscals — Medicine Tax Stamps, Worldwide. By George Griffenhagen, R.Ph., M.S. (127 pages, illustrated, paper cover. Published by the American Topical Association, 3306 North 50th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53216. Price $6.00).

Mr. Griffenhagen is a philatelic pioneer. In this, his latest work in the field of pharmacy on stamps, he opens up a new vista — true thematic collecting by usage (as opposed to design). There is no "force-play" here, as in the more traditional type of thematic collecting wherein, for example, if the theme is "bridges" every stamp with a bridge depicted, albeit miscroscopically, must be included for "completeness" to be achieved. Griffenhagen's outlook is indeed more practical — if a stamp was *used* in the taxation of pharmaceuticals or pharmaceutical sundries, it is a pharmaceutical fiscal, presence or absence of a drugstore-related vignette notwithstanding.

As we have come to expect of Mr. Griffenhagen, the text, which covers the taxation of medicines and related items in 44 political entities (including 5 states of the U. S.), is both thoroughly researched and written in a comfortable style. The numerous illustrations are sharp and clear, adding to our appreciation of the work.

This volume is well worth the asking price, even if you collect but one of the areas which it covers. *(Louis S. Alfano)*

The Stamp Duty of Great Britain and Ireland (A Catalogue of the Embossing Dies and of the Impressed Stamps Used for Fiscal Purposes From 1694 Onward). Volume 2. By Samuel B. Frank, M.D. and Josef Schonfeld, with William A. Barber and Marcus Samuel. (145 pages, illustrated, paper cover. Published by Samuel B. Frank, M.D., 3 Fairway Drive, Mamaroneck, N. Y. 10543. Price $8.00).

This second volume of a projected three-volume series is worthy of its predecessor, reviewed in this journal about a year ago. The volume concerns itself with the Designated (or so-called "Special") Duty dies of Great Britain; each of which was used in the collection of a particular tax, as opposed to the General Duty dies (covered in the first volume), which could be used for any tax in the amount indicated thereon.

As with the previous volume, this work is based principally upon the official registers at Somerset House, which were examined by special permission of the British Board of Inland Revenue.

The eighteen pages devoted to introductory material offer considerable insight into the nature of British taxation throughout the subject period of nearly three centuries. The writing is as lucid as is possible in light of the complex nature of the subject, and is as necessary to the volume as is the catalogue listing which comprises the balance of the book.

The catalogue listings are profusely illustrated with superb line drawings, leaving little doubt as to the appearance of each stamp.

Your reviewer is eagerly anticipating the appearance of the third and final volume of this series, which will cover the General and Special Duty dies of Ireland. If it meets the standard set by the first two volumes, the entire series will be without a peer in the realm of British fiscal philatelic literature.

(Louis S. Alfano)

Catalogo Galvez Especializado de los Sellos de Correos de España, 1960. M. Galvez, Madrid, Spain 1960, reprinted by the Spanish Philatelic Society, c/o Ronald G. Shelley, 75 Middle Street, Brighton, BN1 1AL. England. Price $18.00.

This is still the "champion of them all," as far as Spanish catalogues are concerned. Of course it only lists to 1960, which eliminates the newer stamp issues. This should not be a deterrent for the serious specialist.

Part I treats the classic issues in detail. It displays enlarged pictures of the various major and minor varieties and the plate flaws. It shows, for example, very clearly the difference of the three plates of the 4 cuartos rose of 1856/1859 (Scott No. 45), and the many plate differences of some of the commoner stamps ignored by Scott. It prices the stamps on cover, in multiples and with the major types of cancellations. The prices are out of date but are still useful for comparison sake.

Mr. Galvez gives also, in the earlier part of the catalogue, a running commentary on the Postal History of Spain (mostly culled from the "Duro" Handbook of 1881) which is highly useful.

The more modern issues, such as the "Cadets" of 1900/1905 (Scott Nos. 272/286), the "Medaillons" of 1909/1922 (Scott Nos. 297/317), and through the Republican issues of 1931/1936. The 1936/1939 "Isabella and El Cid" adhesives are treated comprehensively, giving plate flaws, perforation varieties, shades and much information not found in any other catalogue. On the basis of this listing one can form a very interesting specialized collection of stamps, which are still very cheap and readily available especially in used condition.

Part I contains detailed information on such esoterica as the local revenue overprints of Tarragona in 1874, the private telegraph issues of the Andalucian railways and many other "cinderellas." It treats the "patriotic overprints" of the Civil War of 1936-1939 (Scott "L" series) and, very importantly, mentions the doubtful and fake issues.

It gives a fairly comprehensive listing of the various types of revenue stamps, which were at one time or another postally used.

Part II lists first the "back of the book" babies, which baffle all the Spain collectors bound by the traditional catalogues, like the charity issues for the orphans of postal and telegraph employees, the "Zaragoza" cathedral stamps, so beloved by our topical brethren, the "Barcelona municipals" and various other surtax and charity issues. It gives also a very comprehensive listing of the local charity surtax issues of the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939, mentioning most of the ones of the "Nationalist" side and some of the most important ones of the "Republicans".

This catalogue is a *must* for every serious Spain collector. A limited amount of the reprints are still available either from R. G. Shelley (address above) or through Sylvester Colby, 17 East 48th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. *(Th. v. D.)*

Chicago Postal History. Dr. Harvey M. Karlen, Editor. Published by The Collectors Club of Chicago, 1971. 191 pages. Illustrated. Price $17.50

To the student of postal history who has not fragmented his research to include Chicago, the material contained in this book is informative and interesting. It is an exciting excursion into a little known aspect of United States philately.

To the specialist or aspiring collector of pre-stamp covers, territorials, 19th century stamped covers, postal markings, patriotics and Civil War philately, this book is highly recommended.

The book begins with a brief biography of Richard McP. Cabeen to whom the book is dedicated and who has, in fact, authored some of the chapters, the first being a condensed, tightly knit and factual postal history of Chicago and environs from the later part of the 18th century to 1874.

The precise date of the founding of the City of Chicago, on the site previously known as Fort Dearborn, appears to be August 12, 1831. In this respect, a reader might wonder, as did this reviewer, "Where then did the name Chicago originate?"

That is far less significant, however, than the proofing gremlin's mischief which cites the first Chicago post office date as 1831 on page 13, then giving it again on page 31 as the year 1832. For those who are interested in searching for the earliest Chicago postmarks, this could be a handicap, particularly with regard to forgeries.

On the other hand, the chapter on stampless covers or pre-stamp covers is highly revealing. It contains a listing of various known postmarks from Chicago and some interesting sample of those fascinating multiple rate markings on the same cover.

The "mysterious" Chicago perforations of the 1857 issues (Scott #7, #9 and #11) are discussed but the quandry remains.

Advertised covers are discussed briefly and advertised markings are illustrated. These refer to unclaimed letters for which advertisements were placed in the newspapers by the local postmaster to advise the addresses that letters were waiting for them at the post office since there was no delivery of mail during this period.

An edited version of an article by Mr. Cabeen discusses Chicago postal marking from 1860 to 1865 and gives the reader a fine overview covering the era before, during and after the Civil War.

Various subjects relating to Chicago and the Civil War such as demonetization, patriotics, Camp Douglas, Chicago double circle and initialed postmarks and supplementary mail cancellations are discussed thoroughly as are independent main, local posts and express services. Here, a good bibliography would seem warranted.

Waterways and foreign mail markings are profusely illustrated.

The book closes with a fine discussion of post office expansion and postmarks into the 1870's with profuse listings and illustrations. The illustrations throughout are excellent.

Although the lack of an index, footnotes and bibliography makes the researcher's job needlessly difficult and frustrating, the book is highly recommended and should be considered an essential reference work for the student of postal history. *(Leonard J. Milling, DDS)*

Canada's Registry System. 1827-1911 by Horace W. Harrison. Published by the American Philatelic Society, P. O. Box 800, State College, Pa., 16801. Clothbound Library Edition, $7.50 postpaid. (A.P.S. members are entitled to a discount of 20%).

This is an amply documented and profusely illustrated study of an important aspect of the Canadian Postal System.

The first portion of the work (some 52 pages), is a detailed study of the origins of the money letter and registry system, illustrated by numerous covers explaining the various rates and application of the various regulations. This section also includes a careful study and tabulation of the rates applicable to registered letters up to 1967. This is of immense value in interpreting the rates on covers.

The remainder of the work is a copiously illustrated section divided into suitable categories (9 in all), showing the various types of registry markings, all being described and attributed.

Mr. Harrison is to be congratulated on compiling a most commendable work, one which is indispensable to every student of Canadian Postal History. We will go further and say that it is a model of what a serious study should be in presentation, documentation and proper identification of sources.

(W. S. Boggs)



A group at the Banquet, in usual order, Stanley R. Rice, Mrs. Rice, Pres. F. B. Sellers, H. D. S. Haverbeck, Ernest Kehr. Seated, Miss Jeanne Pogue.

SWEDEN, NORWAY, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, SWITZERLAND, CANADA & CLASSIC SOUTH AMERICA

At the moment we hold extensive stocks of these countries — mostly early issues, except Switzerland where we deal in all periods, and we would welcome your enquiries.

For the convenience of our numerous customers in the U. S. A. these can be addressed to our representative in your country:—

Mr. John F. D. Baresch,
Suite 31,
3 Baron Park Lane,
Burlington, Mass. 01803,
U. S. A.

who would also be pleased to send you our latest price list of Switzerland.

LEO BARESCH

Mansfield House, 376-9 Strand, London WC2R OLA, England
(All invoiced in Dollars, payable to our account in New York.)

LONDON BUYERS ! !

The London Philatelic market is still the strongest in the world and WE CAN PAY THAT LITTLE EXTRA FOR GOOD CLASS STAMPS, COVERS AND COLLECTIONS.

OUR OLD ESTABLISHED BUYING DEPARTMENT is world renowned and experienced buyers are constantly travelling the globe to view worthwhile properties. In fact our Managing Director Mr. Eric Etkin is frequently in the United States and if you have a good collection or individual rarities for disposal you are invited to write to us in order to make an appointment to be visited in your home.

Material of lower value may be sent by registered post for our immediate attention and opinion.

OUR REQUIREMENTS ARE WORLD WIDE and if you have a collection or single items of merit of which you wish to dispose it will pay you to contact:

A.S.D.A.
A.P.S.

ERIC ETKIN LIMITED

P.T.S.

45 NEW BOND STREET
LONDON W1Y 9HB, ENGLAND.

Telephones: 01-499-1781 — 01-499-1782 **Cables: Erikin, London, W. 1.**

1971 — Our 53rd Year

STAMPS WANTED

Each Year Our Public Auctions
and Gold Medal Mail Sales
Sell Over 75,000 Lots !

We Urgently Need Additional Material !

You want the most for your stamps. We gladly pay it without delays or bargaining. Bring in personally, or send in by insured mail or express, attention: Appraisal Dept. All shipments are held aside intact awaiting your instructions after we send our offer or advice. Informal appraisals are free, and our buyer can visit you to inspect larger properties.

J. & H. STOLOW, INC.

915 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10016 **Tel.: (212) 533 – 0790**

"Rated first in stamps by all standard authorities"

Stolow's has purchased outright, at the top market price, with immediate cash payment, more than *$50,000,000* worth of fine stamps. Our needs are unlimited.

Fair treatment is always assured

Covers

Proofs, Specimen Stamps

and Postal History material

of all Countries

Enquires welcome:

Argyll Stamp Company Ltd.

Directors: C. ANGUS PARKER and W. R. HART

265 STRAND, LONDON, WC 2R 1AJ, ENGLAND

CLOSE TO ST. CLEMENT DANES CHURCH – NEAREST UNDERGROUND: TEMPLE

OUTSTANDING COLLECTIONS

for sale by auction in Basle . . .

The unique collection of

SHIPPING COMPANIES STAMPS

formed by the late

Julius P. Steindler

of Chicago

MARCH 14th

• • •

UNITED STATES of AMERICA

The specialised study of the first stamps, City Posts from 1842, Inter-City Posts from 1844, Postmasters' Provisionals and many later rarities.

MARCH 15th

• • •

Special handbook catalogues with many illustrations, some in colour, £1.75p. *each* including second class airmail postage.

LATER in LONDON

. . . we shall have some more exciting sales including the second portion of the "*Dr. Warren G. Kauder*" *CHINA* and the intriguing collection of *REVENUE AND RAILWAY STAMPS* formed by *Dr. Albert E. Thill* of California—the dates are *May 2/3* and *16/17* respectively.

ROBSON LOWE LTD.

Head Office: 50 PALL MALL

LONDON, SW1 Y 5JZ,

ENGLAND

Cables: "Stamps, London, S.W.1."

Telex: 915 410.

CLASSICAL NORWAY ON COVER

1. 1855. 4sk. blue. Superb used single on cover showing the "D34" retouched corner flaw. Very rare item used on cover! Facit 1.XIV. **$375.00**
2. 1855. 4sk. blue. Fine single on cover to Christianssund cancelled with 5 pen strokes. "Agir 27/7/56" alongside in m/s. Rare steamship marking! Facit 1 ..... **$400.00**
3. 1866. Superb "mixed franking" cover to Amiens bearing 3sk. lilac grey (3) of 1857, a single 4sk (1863 issue) and 8sk. pale rose (5). An incredible 53 skilling cover carried per the Dampskibet "Louis". Facit 3, 8, 9 ..... **$560.00**
4. 1866 cover from Bergen to Bordeaux bearing two copies of the 3sk. lilac grey (very fresh colour)! and a single 24sk. brown. VERY RARE mixed franking. Facit 3, 10. **$370.00**
5. 1857. Remarkable Cover to Purmerende bearing a single 2sk, 4sk and a strip of three of the 8sk — all cancelled with the GRID POSTMARK as used at Sandosund. A great cover rarity. Facit 2b, 4a, 5a (3) **$575.00**
6. 1865. 2sk. yellow. Horizontal pair on cover to Christiana in 1866, tied by two light strikes of the Christianssund. c.d.s. Facit 6 ..... **$225.00**
7. 1865. 2sk. yellow. Fine single used on cover cancelled "364" in black with red c.d.s. of Christiana By-post alongside. Rare single usage. Facit 6 ..... **$185.00**
8. 1867 cover to St. Petersburg bearing pairs of the 3sk. lilac grey and the 8sk. pale rose cancelled with c.d.s. of Bergen. Rare franking. Facit 7, 9 ..... **$560.00**
9. 1868. Very fine cover to Trondhjem bearing a single 4sk. cancelled by a single strike of the "Hmrfst-C-Hmbrg" in black. A rare and desirable coastal steamer item. Facit 14 ..... **$16.00**

A more complete listing of fine classical Norway may be had on request — together with our newly produced brochure "FINE STAMPS No. 5" — containing hundreds of offers of fine stamps of the world.

W. E. LEA

(Philatelists) Ltd.

I The Adelphi

John Adam Street

Strand, London W. C. 2

England

Cables: Leastamps

FEBRUARY 2-3 AUCTION

FINE CANADA

NEWFOUNDLAND

PROVINCES

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

U. S. A.

FOREIGN

the property of over 30 owners and estates

Illustrated Catalog $1

Subscription to Catalogs and Prices Realized for all 1971-72 Sales — $5

J. N. SISSONS LTD.

SUITE 27, OFFICE MEZZANINE
KING EDWARD HOTEL
37 KING STREET EAST
TORONTO 1, CANADA

Cables: Sistamp, Toronto

Phone 416-364-6003

SPECIALIZING IN

CHOICE

UNITED STATES

Stamps and Covers

CANADA

PENCE ISSUES

Bruce G. Daniels

ONE BOSTON PLACE — Room 1220

BOSTON, MASS. 02108

125 YEARS OF PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The SECOND EDITION OF THE PRICED GUIDE TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE brings you:

50,000 listings of philatelic books, articles, catalogs, handbooks, auction catalogs, tear sheets, and periodicals on thousands of subjects covered by the world-wide philatelic literature of the past 125 years. Each listing is priced and available from HJMR Co.

Over 500 pages, 5¾" x 8¾" typeset by computer, fully indexed for fast and thorough reference. Paper Bound Edition $5.00, special Deluxe Hard Bound Limited Edition, $7.50, postpaid in U. S. Credit coupons enclosed with each book; each of the 5 coupons is good for a $1.00 credit on a $3.00 purchase of any of the literature listed in the Guide.

HJMR CO., P. O. Box 308, Dept. CC
North Miami, Fla. 33161

To: HJMR CO.
P. O. Box 308, Dept. CC
No. Miami, Fla. 33161

Please send me ..... copy(s) of the PRICED GUIDE TO PHILATELIC LITERATURE at $5.00 ($7.50) per copy. I enclose $..... in payment.
Ship to:

Name .....

Address .....

City .....

State ..... Zip .....

As Duveen was to distinguished art collectors and Dr. Rosenbach was to famous bibliophiles so Ezra Cole is to the discriminating philatelist

●

EZRA D. COLE

NYACK, N.Y. 10960

Telephone: 914-EL 8-0964

LARGE GENERAL and SPECIALIZED AUCTIONS

Including Postal History Held Monthly

Moderate Commissions

Sample Subscription $1.00
Yearly Subscription $5.00

all subscriptions include Prices Realized

Earl P. L. Apfelbaum, Inc.
1420 Walnut St., Phila., Pa. 19102
215 – 985–1550

Collectors Club Philatelist ● ● ●

THESE BACK ISSUES are available at the following prices:

From 1926 to 1940		$3.00 per copy
*Vol. 3	(1924)	Oct.
*Vol. 4	(1925)	Apr., July
*Vol. 5	(1926)	Oct.
*Vol. 7	(1928)	All issues
*Vol. 8	(1929)	Oct.
*Vol. 9	(1930)	All issues
*Vol. 10	(1931)	All issues
*Vol. 11	(1932)	Apr., July, Oct.
*Vol. 12	(1933)	Jan., July, Oct.
*Vol. 13	(1934)	All issues
*Vol. 14	(1935)	Jan., Apr.
*Vol. 15	(1936)	All issues
*Vol. 16	(1937)	All issues
*Vol. 17	(1938)	All issues
*Vol. 18	(1939)	All issues
*Vol. 19	(1940)	Apr., July, Oct.

From 1941		$2.00 per copy
Vol. 20	(1941)	All issues
Vol. 21	(1942)	All issues
Vol. 22	(1943)	Jan., Apr., Oct.
Vol. 23	(1944)	All issues
Vol. 24	(1945)	All issues
Vol. 25	(1946)	All issues
Vol. 26	(1947)	All issues
Vol. 27	(1948)	All issues
Vol. 28	(1949)	Jan., Apr., July

Starting in 1950, no longer a quarterly magazine but 6 issues a year.
Vol. 29 to 31 (1950-52) All 6 issues
Vol. 32 (1953) All but Jan.
Vols. 33 to 50 (1954 to 1971) All Issues.

*Only a few copies

● ● ● **THE COLLECTORS CLUB**

22 East 35th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016

AIRMAIL NEW ISSUES

For years we have specialized in supplying airmail new issues. Our service is tailored to suit the needs of each individual customer. Whether the airmail stamps of the whole world or of only a few countries are required we can supply them. Each monthly new issue distribution is accompanied by a copy of our "Topical Notes" (samples sent free on request). See for yourself how much you will save. No postage values.

APPROVALS FOR THE SPECIALIST

We carry a comprehensive stock of Air Posts of the World and welcome want lists for sets and individual items. Many errors and varieties are always available.

Sanabria

RIDGEFIELD, CONN. 06877

510th SALE

UNITED STATES, B.N.A.

Quality singles and blocks, incl. $2.00 Omaha imprint block – Errors incl. lot. Pan American invert – Commemoratives, Columbian and Omaha – Wonderful Revenues incl. pieces of the first issue, imperf. – Canada incl. Jubilees, etc.

Suitable quality material solicited for future sales for outright purchase or auction.

Interest–free advances arranged.

Daniel F. Kelleher Co., Inc.
Est. 1885
40 Court Street
Boston, Mass. 02108

COVERS

POSTAL STATIONERY

Specialist Material

•

WHAT ARE YOUR NEEDS?

•

New England Stamp Co.
45-X Bromfield Street
Boston 8, Massachusetts

SAAR

From specialized collections, we are able to offer now scarce DE–LUXE SHEETS, ARTIST DIE PROOFS and rare INSPECTION DIE PROOFS, (only 3 exist) from several issues, including Charity, Paintings, etc., only one of each available.

We have been specializing for the past 40 years in unusual varieties of many other countries, AIRMAILS, and all TOPICALS, etc., etc.

Please write for prices and details for individual selections.

S. SEREBRAKIAN
P. O. BOX 448,
MONROE, N. Y., 10950

If you are searching for a truly choice classic cover, your prime source is:

MIDWAY STAMPS LTD.

BOX 337
MOHEGAN LAKE,
N. Y. 10547

Do Not Sell Your Collection

as long as you enjoy collecting and as long as you have fun with your stamps. But when you get tired of a collection because it has reached its goal, when you want to start in another philatelic field, do not hesitate to dispose of the "finished" collection. In this way you will obtain additional funds for purchases in your new field. When you decide to sell, talk with a dealer whom you have trusted with your purchases. He is the right man to sell for you the items he has once sold to you. We are always happy when we can give advice and help of this kind. Contact us when the time is ripe and we will do our best to arrange a satisfactory sale of your material, either by private sale or by auction.

MERCURY STAMP CO., INC.
10 East 40th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
Tel.: MUrray Hill 3-6745
Cable Address: Mercstamp Newyork

Herbert A. Klee



Scott 120 Unused

United States
British America
Falkland Islands

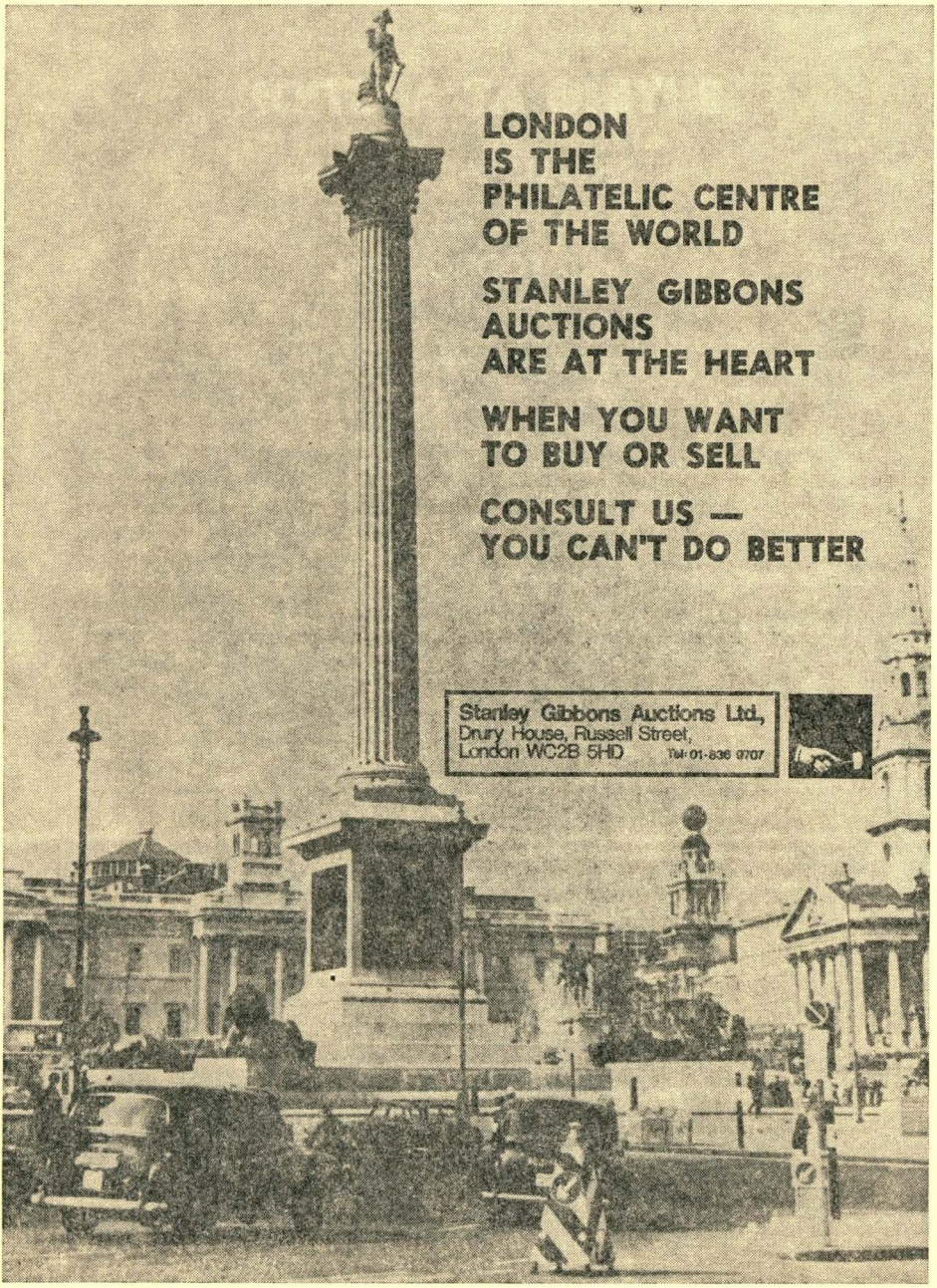
HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035
PHONE 312/432-4139

VATICAN CITY COVERS

41-46	Juridical Cgr. on reg. letter	$180.00
47-54	Catholic Press	$95.00
55-60	on reg. letter Arch. Cong.	$60.00
61-67	fl. to France Interreg. FDC	$25.00
122-131,	E11-12 Basilicas FDC	P. O. R.
132-139	Holy Year FDC	$50.00
140-42	— Palatine Guard FDS	$45.00
143-44	— Dogma of Ass. FDC	$40.00
145-48	— Pope Pius X (Gold) FDC	$70.00
149-53	— Calchedon FDC	$80.00
155	— Roman States Centenary FDC	$18.00
155A	— Roman States Souv. sheets FDC	$60.00
158-68,	E13-14 Popes & Basil. FDC	$22.50
239-42	Brussels Fair FDC	$15.00
242A	Brussels Fair Souvenir sheet FDC	$19.00
C9-15	2nd Airmail FDC	$35.00
C16-17	Tobias FDC	P. O. R.
C18-19	UPU FDC	P. O. R.
C20-21	regist. w. cachet FDC	P. O. R.
C22-23	Dome I FDC	$60.00
C24-32	Angels FDC	$28.00
C33-34	Dome II FDC	$45.00
C45-46	Auto. by designer FDC	$38.00

Prices subject to change without notice.

Penny Black Stamp Co.
P.O. Box 57, Dumont, N. J. 07628
S. L. BAYER, Prop. Est. 1912
Member Collectors Club - ASDA



STANGIB LTD., 595 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

HRH
NEW YORK

BUYING AT AUCTION

(ESPECIALLY AT HARMERS)
IS SIMPLE, PLEASANT
AND ECONOMICAL

Auction catalogues. Illustrated auction catalogues, free at the Galleries, are available, accurately listing the stamps, the Scott nos. and the specific quality.

Exhibition of lots. Lots are available for inspection for four to five days prior to and during the auction in Harmers separate, well-lighted exhibition room. Leading catalogues, Scotts, Gibbons, Yvert, Michel, Zumstein, etc. are available for reference. Viewing time: 9:45 a. m.-12:45 p. m. and 1:30 p. m. to 5:15 p. m., leaving plenty of time for leisure, careful examination. Postal viewing of lots of small size also available.

Valuations of lots. An estimate of every lot is available in the exhibition room. Valuations of particular lots always available by mail or phone.

Auction room. Harmers auction room, on the pent-house floor of their building, is attractively laid-out, pleasantly lighted, air-conditioned and conducive to relaxed particpation in the world's most interesting buying procedure.

Price levels. Lots sell for the market price, not fictitious levels dreamed up by vivid imaginations; a price arrived at by competitive bidding, either from the auction floor or from mail bidders.

Drop in and pick up a copy of Harmers next auction catalogue; alternatively send 50c (to cover postage) for a copy to be sent to you by first-class mail.

Or even better yet, request the catalogue application form to avoid missing any of the approximately 25 auctions held by Harmers each year.

H. R. HARMER, INC.

The International Auctioneers

6 West 48th Street, New York, New York 10036

NEW YORK — LONDON — SYDNEY