THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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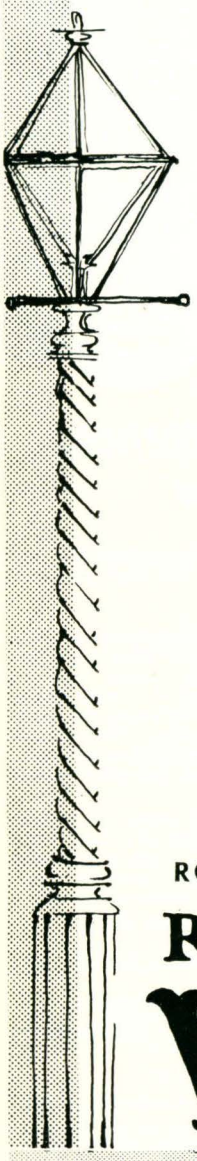
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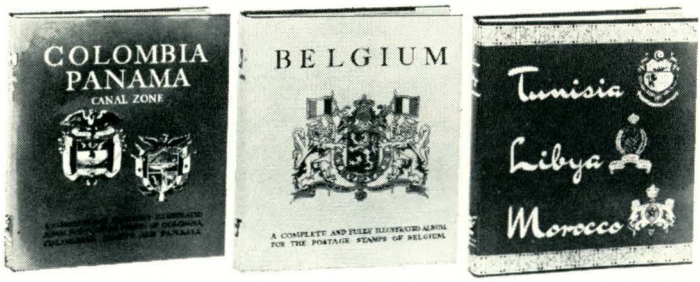
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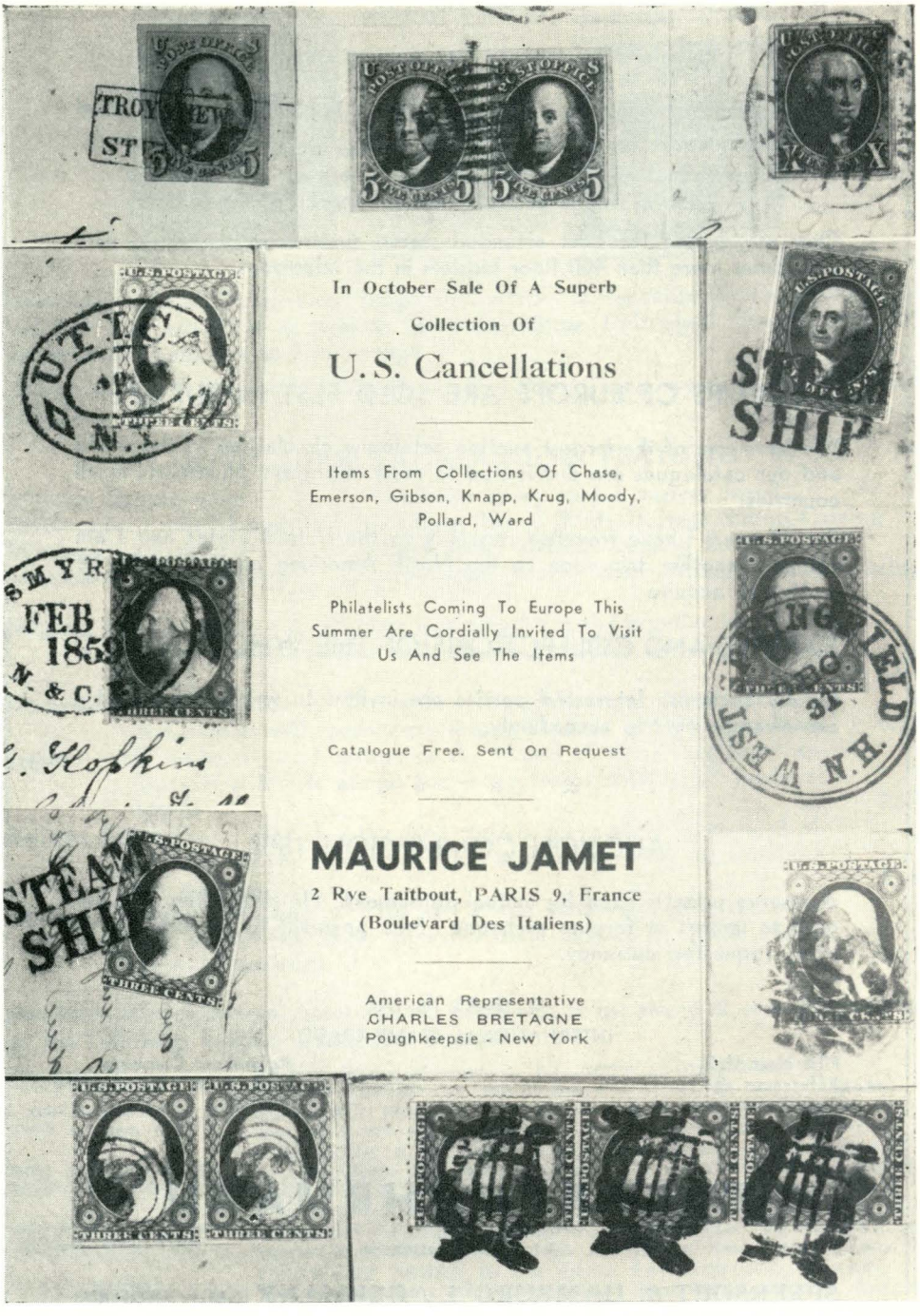
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Editorials

Conformity In Philately

Those following the popular panel discussions on television or radio, reading books, newspapers and magazines, listening to some of our eductional and political leaders are aware of a movement in this country against the growing practice of conformity. Some, fearing its possible further growth, make dire predictions for the future of American democracy. A fervent urge is heard and read to return to the glory of the individual.

A close observer of American philately in the past decade notices a similar trend towards conformity among stamp collectors. Rather than have a collector exercise his individuality, he seeks to collect what the others do. Thus, recent United States commemoratives, plate number blocks, souvenir first day covers, United Nations, Israel, Ghana and various topical subjects—to only mention some—become the rage. These are what every one "must" collect. There are collectors in the United States, who sincerely believe that no one is interested in foreign stamps nor that they have much value. People start off at once with United States stamps, collecting the very latest issues in plate number blocks. Ask them why, and they fail to offer any explanation, except that they have been told that this is the "right" way to collect, so it is blindly followed.

There is evidence all around us that the so-called average collector is a conformist. Granting that this is factual, one may properly raise the question whether there is actually anything wrong with such conformity in philately. Yes, there is, because this goes against the basic appeal of stamp collecting.

Ever since men and women derived enjoyment from collecting stamps, they have become fascinated by this great hobby, because of the challenge to form a collection different from the others. The blessing of philately is the inner satisfaction that it brings to the collector. Philately allows us to express our individuality. Perhaps this is often construed as eccentricity, leading to the undeserved, insulting opinion that "stamp collectors are nuts." We disagree. It is believed that stamp collectors are envied by their fellow men, because they possess a hobby that allows them to express their own individuality with complete freedom.

When a popular trend like conformity moves into philately, this defeats the basic appeal of the hobby. The conforming stamp collector is not happy. Watch, and listen to him. He constantly frets whether he is doing the right thing, or whether he is following the rules of stamp collecting, seeking the impossible because philately has no regulations. He worries about his purchases, wondering if he is buying the right material for future profit. He believes everything he hears or reads. The conformists in philately have sidestepped and consequently missed the hobby's greatest source of pleasure—the complete license to exercise one's own individuality.

Never Hinged

A recent dealer advertisement caught our eye. It read:

"Used U.S. Never Hinged"

The practice of seeking copies never hinged is growing more popular. It applies, however, only to unused copies with gum. Those punctilious about conditon want the gum on the back of an unused copy undisturbed. Therefore, it has become a regular practice of auction catalogs to include in the description the letters, "n. h." meaning never hinged, but only with mint stamps.

As for a used copy, it is immaterial if there is a hinge mark on the back or even if it is heavily hinged. There is no gum to lose by soaking. Is there some method whereby a collector can detect that a used copy had been hinged after it has been soaked in water?

Since "condition-conditioned" collectors are willing to pay premium prices for mint copies never hinged, one wonders if they now follow this same practice with cancelled copies. The appearance of advertisements like the one quoted above may indicate this. If so, it seems that only the very inexperienced collectors would seek only used copies never hinged and pay extra for this. On the other hand, there may be some factor about a used stamp never hinged that is unknown to us. If so, some veteran philatelists need to be educated about new collecting practices.

Clean Philately

Here is a word that one comes upon often these days. Its true meaning escapes us. One person uses the words "clean philately' 'and the rest blindly accept it, shaking their heads in agreement.

Some philatelic groups have established "watchdog committees" to keep our hobby clean. Beware of the dog! He bites not always the thief or scoundrel, but all too often the innocent. The services of any "protective committee" becomes impaired when it acts upon gossip or innuendo. Its advice, to be fair and effective, must be based upon proven facts. This is not easy, requiring a careful investigation.

None of us are gullible enough to believe that even a great hobby like stamp collecting is a paradise. A percentage of sharp operators always shall be with us. Some will be caught and driven from philately. Others come upon the scene to take their place.

An effective campaign for "clean philately" can be based upon one factor—knowledge. A generally well-informed body of stamp collectors will not fall for deceptions nor be misled to collect labels for postage stamps.

The trouble now is that our sources of information are not as effective as they should be, because too many write without the required basic knowledge. The intentions are good, but the execution falls short of the mark.

So throw the soap and brush away! Make less emotional appeals for "clean philately". Instead see that the information being spread is based more upon fact. "Clean philately" is fine except too many have been getting soap in their eyes.

Obituary

Carroll Chase M. D. passed away in Amherst, N. H. on May 11, 1960. The Collectors Club honored his achievements when he was the 1954 recipient of the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award "for distinguished service to philately." In this connection, a detailed biography of Dr. Chase was published in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST Vol. 33, No. 4, pages 182-3. Furthermore, as an indication of the respect held for Dr. Chase's philatelic accomplishments, this magazine's lead editorial in Vol. 34, pages 1-2 should be read. Anything now written after his decease would be repetitious.

President's Letter

As one sits in the meeting room at the Club's regular bi-monthly display and lecture, he has often wondered whether the members truly appreciate the amount of preparation that has to go into these presentations. Much time and effort must be devoted in advance to the selection and mounting of the pages, as well as to arranging one's thoughts for the lecture in order to bring out the salient points. Therefore, detailed notes are prepared by the exhibitor to guide him. The speakers face a real challenge because they are amateurs, not experienced nor professional lecturers, appearing before the Collectors Club audience.

All this is done to make a presentation, which a philatelist fondly hopes, will convey to the members a clear idea of the knowledge, pleasure and thrill of collecting a specific group of stamps. These efforts deserve their reward.

The best recognition of all this difficult work is a large and respectful attendance. The Collectors Club lecturers are not scheduled unless the Program Committee, with the approval of the Board of Governors, believe that the speaker is capable of an offering of real interest. In practically every case, our speakers are the outstanding students in their field. Therefore, a full meeting room and an appreciative audience is the fullest reward for these efforts. *H. D. S. Haverbeck*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

International Philatelic Exhibitions

While the number of international philatelic exhibitions today is almost impossibly great, and the development of philatelic pursuits has been drastically changed and broadened, the classifications for competitive exhibits generally accepted and used are horribly antiquated. It is true that the International Philatelic Federation (F. I. P.) has introduced some few modifications to temporarily take care of some of the more blatant failings, these are rather crude patches instead of a complete overhaul such as is vitally needed if participation at international competitions will resume its former importance.

During the early era of international shows—more than half a century ago—philatelic leaders carefully prepared a set of rules and classifications for competition to meet the contemporary requirements in placing a quality rating upon the important collections of that day. With relatively less stamps available, and the advancement of philatelic study somewhat limited, it was possible to pit the Worthingtons against the Duveens; the Packs against the Napiers; the Mirabauds against the Bacons; the Crockers against the Ayers, and have a well-balanced exhibition in which the majority of entries were on a par on the basis of rarity, scope and philatelic study. The standard classifications devised at that time, then, were equitable and fair. The winner of a gold medal in the "Europe" section was on a par with the winner of another gold in the "South America" section. In short, the purely geographical division of the world, and the use of such classifications was simple, yet reasonable.

Today, that same method of classification is used, but it no longer is satisfactory or just.

As a consequence of classification inadequacy and antiquity, many a collector of today wins medals at international philatelic exhibitions which are excessively higher than they ought to be. In some cases, where a jury is composed of a majority of veteran philatelists, they can (and often do) take classification weaknesses into consideration, make allowances and keep the gold medals for entries that truly deserve them. But even under such conditions, the jury is handicapped if not hamstrung by prevailing regulations and rules under which collections are submitted for competition.

Under present rules, for example, a specialized collection of Fiume automatically competes with one devoted to a study of Romanian "Bulls' Heads" or Swiss "Cantonals," simply because all three must be entered in a section for "Europe." A collection of Egyptian

stamps must compete with one of Ghana, because both of these countries are classed in the "independent nations of Africa" section.

It is true that a top-notch philatelist can build up an important study-collection of Fiume stamps; he can do tremendous research in the fields of technical stamp production and postal history of that entity, but the fact still remains that the best possible Fiume collection never can attain the stature of the accepted European classics. Certainly, it is true that all philatelic study ought to be rewarded. The fact that it required a fortune to purchase and acquire the costly classics should remain a secondary consideration. But by the same token, it is extremely unfair to both collectors to enter them in the same category of competition. Yet, under present classifications and award systems, they must vie on an equal basis.

This sort of inequity exists all the way down the line, simply because there have been no basic improvements in the exhibition rules and regulations.

Roughly about 1930, as specialty in the field of air mail stamps began to become a universally wide and popular one, efforts were successfully made to add an "air mail" section to the classes at international exhibitions. For many long years the philatelically "long hair" jury members ignored air mails almost completely, refusing to recognize them as anything but come-lately novelties beneath the dignity of serious consideration. Only since the end of World War II have international juries come to realize that air mail collecting could be as truly philatelic as plating the Sidney Views of New South Wales. But even then—and now—while a jury is willing to award a gold medal in this class, there seems to be some measure of inequity. A collection of air mails may be extensive and to a degree, complete, but even the best of them just have not the scope and classic importance as say, a highly specialized collection of 19th century Portuguese colonials. A gold medal for each puts them on the same level, while indeed they are not. By comparison, a gold is too small for the one; a gold, too high for the other.

Four years ago, the F. I. P., in an effort to justify award ratings, passed a resolution to add two grades of medals to the four universally accepted. They added a gold-and silver which was to be regarded as a "small gold" medal, to be given to any collection in any category which was broad and complete enough to warrant more than a silver-gilt (vermeil), but not quite good enough for a gold. With the same intentions, they added a silver-plated bronze medal to be recognized as between a full silver and a bronze.

The intentions were good, but in practice, there are any number of failings. The juries, since the introduction of these supplementary awards used them as additional prizes rather than as "arbitration" medals. As a consequence, some collections still obtain awards higher than they deserve.

Let us analyze the situation from yet another standpoint. According to international exhibition rules, any collection which wins two gold medals within five years (or the equivalent thereof) automatically is forced into the class of Honor at future shows.

In the class of honor all collections entered automatically get a gold medal. But beyond this they have only one goal to reach: the best collection in this class is given the Grand Award.

Now, to be eligible to win a Grand Award, a collection really must be superb, both as an example of philatelic study or research and as comprising all major known varieties in the field under consideration. Today, there are roughly forty collections which are eligible for the Class of Honor. Of these, perhaps half have reached this stage of advancement by accident, caused by the failings of classification.

There is one collection in particular of which this writer knows. By itself, it is a good collection of its kind. It was displayed in the country whose stamps it represents and because of its size and scope was given a gold medal. As the best entry in the national class, it was worth a gold medal *in that country*. However, at a subsequent show, certain members of the jury argued that "since it won a gold once, it must be given a gold again."

No amount of reasoning by veteran jury members could convince the small bloc of opposition that the first gold was given because of the location of the exhibition. And only to resolve a deadlock did that collection come out with its second gold medal by a one-vote majority.

That collection now, must be entered in the Class of Honor where it has not a ghost of a chance of ever winning a Grand Award. After five years of fruitless entry in this class it must again revert to the open competitive class and the chances of it ever getting a gold again are slim.

There is yet another failing that needs revision. At the present time most international exhibitions have accepted topical collections as worthy of inclusion. We shall not discuss the matter of whether all topicals are worthy to be considered for international shows, for many are not. But the fact remains that since topicals are accepted by the exhibition committees, the jury must make awards.

To protect themselves against complaints, the exhibition committees, F. I. P. and jury members offer a distinct medal for winners in this class. Actually the medals are the same design and size, but they are inscribed, "thematic." This, no matter how one looks at it, is discrimination. It's a substitute, perhaps, but again, a form of inequity which needs substantial improvement or correction.

There is only one way in which all of these failings can be considered and rectified if future international philatelic exhibitions are to be fair and reliable crucibles in which all the world's stamp collections can be appraised and judged.

It is high time that a responsible, qualified and experienced group of philatelists from all the major stamp centers of the earth scrap existing rules and regulations and establish entirely new ones in keeping with today's fields.

In the first place, this survey committee ought to carefully study every stamp-issuing entity and classify it, not according to its geographical location, nor its political associations, but purely on the basis of:

1. The number of stamps it has issued and for which there is an opportunity for serious philatelic study.
2. The number of really "difficult" stamps that entity has produced.
3. The popularity of the entity on the world-wide philatelic scene.
4. The availability of the stamps of the entity.

When this is done, we shall find, for example, that "France" could be put in the same category as "Argentina" or "Cape of Good Hope" because these three are approximately on the same philatelic level. All three have about the same number of great rarities; the same number of errors and minor varieties; offer about the same room for study.

"Israel" could be placed in the same category as "Ghana" or "Laos."

After all entities have been properly classified, it then will be necessary to place top ratings on the value of the medals that can be allocated for each class. Those in the highest grouping will be given a full gold as the highest possible prize in open competition. Those in a second highest classification bracket will be offered a "small" gold, or silver-and-gold.

And so on, down the line. In this way the best possible collection of Egyptian stamps, for example, might be rated as being worth a vermeil, or perhaps a "small" gold. The best possible collection of Togo Republic, on the other hand might be put in the "bronze top" group.

Such classification may be applied to many types of specialty collections such as air mails and topicals, each rated as being worth a medal of specific value as the best possible award.

The offering of top medals in the various classifications, and the subsequent awarding of prizes by the jury would not necessarily mean that the "best entry" at any particular show would necessarily have to get the top medal offered. The judges could still rate the collection according to its contents. But they would not be subjected to many disputes. For instance, there never could be any discussion as to whether a collection of Poland No. 1 ought to get a "small" gold or a vermeil, if Poland happened to be classed among those entities for which an international "vermeil" is thought to be the top prize it could take.

By the same token, if a vermeil is considered to be the highest award a collection of Ecuador might take, the judges need not have to give such a high award to an entry

(even if it is the best one at the show) which is not the best possible collection of that country. They still could give it a bronze or even a diploma of participation if it is below the established "par."

"Such classification would put a premium on the amount of money necessary to build a collection," one may say. "It never would give the person who puts much study into philatelic endeavors the chance he deserved to get international recognition just because he can't afford to devote his labors to a more expensive field."

True, to a certain degree. But this could be remedied. Medals are offered for the collection presented, not alone for the "philatelic study" that went into it. No matter how one looks at it, a complete collection of British Guiana is far more important than a complete collection of Union of South Africa.

If an entry displays superior study of an "original" nature, the jury can very well add to the medal the collection wins, a special prize (every international exhibition has an amplitude of such prizes available) for the work and time that went into it.

This, naturally, will be no small undertaking, and will require the utmost consideration and careful study on the part of the members of the committee who are willing to do the preliminary work. It probably will require discussion among the world's leading stamp groups. But if it could be done, there would again be a measure of fairness in the ratings of international prize medals.

A philatelist, who wins a gold medal, would know that he has won the truly important honors. The winner in a "silver" top group would automatically know that while his efforts and possessions are not quite in the same class as the gold medal winner's, he has taken the top award possible for his particular field.

Ernest A. Kehr
New York, N. Y.

Australia — U. S. A.

The arrival, today, of the March, 1960 COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST with the news of "Bill" Purves" award of the 1960 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Medal for distinguished services to philately and the very fine article about him compels me to write . . . Incidentally, this award was warmly welcomed here and will do much to enhance the esteem with which The Collectors Club is regarded in Australia.

Also I have read with interest the report of the Annual Meeting, particularly those of the editor and the library. So much parallels problems and aspirations of my own, as editor of "Philately From Australia" and our society, the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. I was also intrigued to note the developments in our society were following the pattern set by The Collectors Club.

Horace Chisholm
Melbourne, Australia

The Women's Stamp

I see that the U. S. P. O. is issuing a stamp honoring "American Women." I'm going to mail first day covers to my mother-in-law, my two sisters-in-law, my wife's aunt and my neighbor's wife asking that they be cancelled, *Pray For Peace.*

R. U. Fordames

In case of change of address, please notify Secretary, The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.

This Central American Republic
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HONDURAS

The 1959 Lincoln Commemoratives

By IRVING I. GREEN



(Photos by Boutrelle)

The Lincoln commemoratives of Honduras have received a somewhat unfavorable press. The editor of an American stamp newspaper wrote: "I think that it is fine that Honduras remembers our famed President, but wonder if THAT many stamps are necessary when his home country is issuing so few, and at such low prices, and in such quantities. Are stamp collectors suckers for such bait?" Because of such disparaging remarks, this writer feels impelled to defend his favorite philatelic country by explaining the justification for the issue.

Historical Significance

On September 15, 1821, the five sister provinces of Central America, namely Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica, declared their independence from Spain after three hundred years of subjugation, amounting to virtual slavery for the native masses. After two years of unsatisfactory alliance with Mexico under Iturbide, the five provinces organized the Federation of Central American States. Then, amid intense enthusiasm, an assembly was convened to draft a constitution patterned after that of their great northern neighbor, the United States of America, the first to recognize Central American independence.

The Constituent Assembly enacted many liberal decrees, but none more far-reaching than those of April 17 and 23, 1824, which abolished slavery, and declared slave trade piracy, punishable by death. The completed constitution was signed on November 22, 1824, and became law the following day, thus gaining for the Federation the distinction of being the first nation to outlaw slavery.

The Federation was a progressive idea, but its successful operation was hampered by provincial jealousies and constant bickering between the Liberal and Conservative factions. After nearly a score of years of disastrous internal conflict, the National Congress dissolved the Federation in 1839, permitting each component province to revert to its previous free, independent, sovereign status.

That the Federation was able to endure as long as it did, was due to the leadership and inspiration of Francisco Morazan, a native of Honduras. A man with integrity, true liberal spirit, and extraordinary military ability, he guided the union as its President and Commander-in-Chief during the last ten years of its existence. Morazan, to this day, is considered the greatest Central American patriot. His name is always associated with any movement toward the reestablishment of a Federation of Republics in that region, a dream still cherished by many, especially in Honduras.

William Walker, The Filibuster

Once again slavery reared its ugly head when, in 1855, William Walker, an American adventurer with fifty-eight followers accepted an invitation to participate in a struggle of arms in Nicaragua on the side of a losing Liberal faction. Within a year Walker, greatly reinforced by more Americans, controlled Nicaragua, and had himself elected President. Then, by his decree of September 22, 1856, he declared all the Acts and Decrees of the Federal Congress null and void, thereby opening the way for legalized slavery.

Meanwhile in the United States, the extreme wing of the Southern Democrats, foreseeing inevitable defeat in their campaign to carve some slave states out of the newly acquired Western Territories, supported Walker enthusiastically. Here, they believed, was a golden opportunity to develop a powerful slave republic or even a new slave state for the Union. This, they argued, would assist in the restoration of slave trade in Africa, prohibition of which was detrimental to the prosperity of the rice and cotton Southern States, where the high death rate of slaves in the work gangs more than offset the natural increase and importation from Virginia, the center of the domestic slave breeding industry.

But Walker had no thought of relinquishing his empire. On the contrary, he intended to introduce slave labor on the Nicaraguan plantations allotted to his faithful followers. He despised the indolent native half-breed and advocated their extinction. Africa, he argued, could provide a dependable supply of negroes so necessary for economic welfare, and the slaves themselves, would fare better as such in Nicaragua than as free savages in Africa. Furthermore, Walker believed the South could exert sufficient pressure and influence on Britain to prevent her from interfering with his plans. In fact, he felt that England, inspired by his success, would herself restore slavery in the West Indies, then growing decadent as a result of the freedom granted to the black natives.

Walker's favorable attitude toward slavery lost for him the support of the Northern States. Heretofore they had approved his policy of "go ahead and control the continent" under the then-popular conception of Manifest Destiny.

Walker's Downfall

The Central American governments reacted furiously against Walker's Decree of Slavery and united their forces in an effort to oust the usurper of their liberty. After a year of sustained effort, with valuable assists from Great Britain's Navy and Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt's millions, Walker's forces, having interrupted the latter's remunerative Nicaraguan transit, the filibuster and his cohorts, were finally captured and forcibly returned to the United States.

There, Walker was tried for violating the neutrality laws but was freed after getting a hung jury. He made two more efforts, both abortive, to retrieve his lost empire in Nicaragua. Then in 1860, in a third attempt, he was captured by a British man-of-war off the coast of Honduras and handed over to the local authorities. After a semblance of a trial, he was found guilty of unlawful invasion and shot to death at dawn the next day, September 12, 1860 at Trujillo, Honduras. Now with the "Scourge of Central America," as he was locally known, gone, the natives breathed easier although still harboring a deep



resentment toward the United States, considered Walker's sponsor.

The cooperation between Great Britain and Honduras in 1860 was the result of the Treaty of November 28, 1859 by which the former agreed to:

1.) Turn over to Honduras the Bay Islands provided she never part with them to any other power.
2.) To abandon her protectorate over such of the Mosquito Indians as dwelt within the borders of Honduras, only stipulating that such grants of land as the natives had already made to Englishmen along the shore should be respected.
3.) Making Honduras agree to pay these Mosquito Indians an annual indemnity of five thousand dollars for ten years.

Great Britain, by this treaty, hoped to gain favor with Honduras in order to advance her own scheme for an immediate transit system across that state as on April 28, 1854 she had been granted a concession by Honduras under the name of the Honduras Interoceanic Railway Company. This venture was to provide opposition to a projected American canal across Nicaragua and also to siphon some of the profits from the Panama Railroad Company, then operating successfully across the Panamanian isthmus.

Walker's intervention in June, 1860, at Roatan, one of the Bay Islands, and Truxillo on the north coast mainland of Honduras seemed inimical to Britain's plan in that area and so he was captured by the crew of Her Majesty's steamer Icarus, Captain Salmon commanding. As might be expected, Walker, despite a violent protest, was handed to Honduran authorities, and promptly tried by a court martial. The charge——unlawful invasion of the state; the verdict—guilty; the penalty—death by fusillade; the execution seven-thirty on the morning of September 12, 1860 at Truxillo, Honduras.

General John McAuley Palmer, an eminent American military authority, in his outstanding book, "Washington, Lincoln and Wilson—Three War Statesmen", published by Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc. in 1930, states:- "If there had been one more Stonewall Jackson in the Mississippi Valley, it is doubtful if even Lincoln could have saved the Union."

It is quite possible that Walker, had he survived, might have been that "one more Stonewall Jackson." Certainly he would have fought in the War of Secession on the side of the South, and his remarkable military ability would have enhanced the possibility of a quick Southern victory.

Great Britain favored the South as it was the source of raw cotton for her busy spinning mills. By assisting in the liquidation of Walker she committed a triple faux pas:—first, by aiding the Northern cause in eliminating a military genius sympathetic to the Southern cause; second, jeopardizing her source of cotton, a condition which eventually materialized as a result of the tight blockade by the North of Southern seaports; third, fostering the construction of the interoceanic railway, a project destined to dismal failure.

Honduras, on the other hand, ever recognizing in Walker the spectre of slavery, had

cooperated with her sister states toward his extinction, and did, in fact, strike the final blow to accomplish it. Thus, in addition to easing the tense situation in Central America, Honduras unquestionably aided the Northern cause by dissapating the threat of that "one more Stonewall Jackson."

So the Wheel of Fate spins.
Where will it stop, and who wins?

A Change Of Opinion

As the American Civil War ran its dark and bloody course, Central American misgivings toward the North were gradually dispelled. Suspicion and hatred changed to whole-hearted symathy and cooperation for the Northern cause and its great leader, President Abraham Lincoln, who bitterly opposed the dissolution of the Union and slavery. The sentiments expressed by Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address struck in them a responsive chord for their nations were also "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." The eventual victory of the North and the adoption of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, abolishing slavery, provided ample concrete evidence that the confidence of all free men in the principles, for which the North had fought, were not misplaced.

Especially idolized was Lincoln, whose fortitude and leadership played such an important part in winning the bitter struggle. This fervid adoration of Lincoln has remained undiminished through the years, especially in Honduras as she recognizes in him the counterpart of her own idol, Francisco Morazan. Both of the same mold, they champoined freedom and geographic preservation of their respective Unions. Lincoln successful in his efforts, Morazan a failure, although leaving a smoldering heritage toward union that periodically bursts into flame at the instigation, usually, of Honduras.

Transportation Conditions

Back of the coastal lowlands, Honduras presents a succession of deep valleys and overhanging mountain ranges. In fact, it is the most mountainous of all the Central American republics. Such a rugged terrain made the building of an adequate highway and railroad system a financial impossibility in the past. Even to this day, Tegucigalpa, the capital, has no railroad connection.

With the advent of airplanes, many a Honduras town, that for centuries had relied upon pack-mules and oxcarts to bring in its goods over the rough, tortuous mountain trails, suddenly found itself with a large airfield. Thus extensive areas, almost overnight, jumped from the primitive modes of transportation to the most modern, by-passing completely the intermediate stages of highways and railroads.

Today all Hondurans, and there are nearly two million of them, are keenly air-minded. Landing fields, even in the most remote regions, dot the 44,000 square mile area, while many airlines provide efficient interior and international mail, passenger, and freight service. Practically all Honduras mail is airborne, proof being that since 1944 only airmail stamps have been issued. Even the high denominations of these attractive multi-valued issues are in constant demand for registration and heavy mailings going by parcel post.

Official Stamps

Puzzled by the recent common use of official stamps on regular private mail, this writer asked the Postmaster General of Honduras for an explanation. The following reply was received:-

"The official Lincoln issue was produced to frank official mail sent to the exterior of the Republic by government offices and dependencies in our country in compliance with Article 75 of the Postal Laws which reads:- 'Article 75—Official mail will be carried



free of charge in the interior of the land: that sent to exterior points is to be franked with official postage stamps.' Due to unforeseen condition requiring their use, the Treasury Department has sold them to some persons for use on regular mail. Now we are investigating the matter and hope as a result to eliminate this deviation of the law. We are presenting our findings to the Treasury Department and expect favorable action."

In the past decade Article 75 of the Postal Laws has not been rigidly enforced as postally used non-official first day covers have been franked with official stamps. Possibly postal employees have permitted this occasional infraction feeling that the government was losing no revenue thereby. In an emergency however, the Treasury Department, which controls the accounting, storage and issuance of postage stamps, makes official stamps available to the general public for its use. A stamp shortage certainly existed as an aftermath of the Custom House fire, next to be discussed, and explains the recent frequent use of official stamps on non-official mail.

The Custom House Fire

On the evening of April 21, 1958, the day prior to the inauguration of Roman Villeda Morales as the new liberal President of Honduras, a devastating explosion and resultant fire laid waste the principal Custom House in Tegucigalpa, the capital. An on-the-spot witness wrote me:-

"In this Custom House was kept the main stock of postage stamps for the entire country. Also stored were quantities of alcohol, dynamite, and contraband stuff, picked up by revenue agents as evidence against moonshiners, fish dynamiters and smugglers. Nobody seems to know how many stamps were destroyed or stolen as the result of the fire but doubtless the loss was considerable. Probably all the high values were lost as subsequently the government was unable to supply complete sets, lacking the high values. The cause of the fire is anybody's guess, but I'll leave it to your discretion by mentioning rumors that are current here. It is well known that during the two preceding administrations crooked deals were pulled, a lot of them with government money. It is said that the fire destroyed all the tax records and all sorts of documents pertaining to custom, income, etc. The fire thus saved a great many people from scandal and embarassing questions and possibly from prison terms as the new Ramon Villeda Morales administration couldn't dig up any concrete evidence with which to accuse those suspected of wrong doing."

Government Action After The Custom House Fire

In the confusion following the fire, a large portion of the reserve stock of the country's postage stamps was stolen. Later, quantities of correspondence bearing some of these

stolen stamps were presented at the post offices for forwarding. To foil the use of these stolen stamps, the government, on July 25, 1958, issued an order to all post offices to honor only stamps bearing a facsimile rubber-stamped signature of the Administrador de Rentas (Chief Treasury Official) of the Department in which the post office is located. Persons legitimately in possession of stamp stocks were required to exchange them for stamps bearing the signature-control overprint. As there are seventeen departments (states) in the republic, a galaxy of overprinted varieties resulted.

Upon issuance of the Bi-National Institute set (Scott C279-88, Sanabria 410-419), then on order since March 18, 1958, all other postage stamps were to be withdrawn from service. This regulation was not enforced as the Bi-National Institute issue placed on sale October 2, 1958, was not a large one and rather than face a continued stamp shortage, the government decided to extend the validity of the signatiure-controlled stamps for postal use.

Inception And Authorization

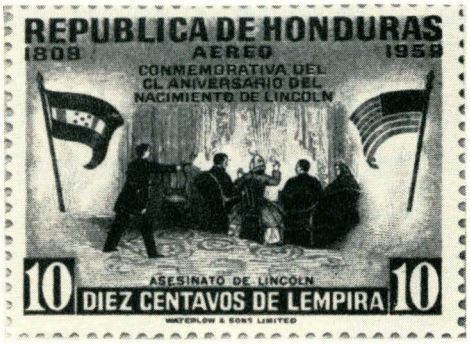
On August 1, 1958, an official notice signed by the Postmaster General appeared in the Tegucigalpa newspapers. It solicited bids from local agents of accredited foreign concerns for the production of a postal issue commemorating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Sealed bids were acceptable until 3 P. M. on the 21st of that month when they would be opened and announced in the presence of the bidders. This was done as scheduled and the award went to the well-known firm of Waterlow and Sons, Limited, of London, England.

Executive Decree Number 2790 of July 30, 1958, reads:

"As a result of a memorandum from the Postmaster General to the Secretary of State in charge of Communications and Public Works in which was requested authority for an issue of postage stamps commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln of the United States, falling on February 12, 1959, it is hereby decreed:- 1.) To authorize the issuance of 29,790,000 International Airmail and Official postage stamps commemorating the CL Anniversary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln of the United States of North America, and 20,000 miniature sheets of the same commemorative issue in two varieties, Airmail and Official, with each sheet composed of six stamps from their respective sets. 2.) Identical values of the two sets, internationals and officials, to be in different colors to avoid confusion, keeping the former to a format size of 40x30mm; with perfect perforation, gum suitable for tropical climate, and paper of the first quality. The quantities, values and motifs of the international and official sets to be as follows:-

Value	*Quantity Official*	*Quantity International*	*Design*
L.0.01	2,000,000	5,000,000	Lincoln Portrait
L.0.02	2,000,000	2,000,000	Birthplace
L.0.03	2,000,000	2,000,000	Gettysburg Address
L.0.05	2,000,000	5,000,000	Freeing Slaves
L.0.10	500,000	1,000,000	Assassination
L.0.12	500,000	1,000,000	Washington Memorial
L.0.15	500,000	1,000,000	Same as L.0.01
L.0.25	500,000	1,000,000	Same as L.0.02
L.0.50	500,000	1,000,000	Same as L.0.03
L.1.00	50,000	100,000	Same as L.0.05
L.2.00	50,000	50,000	Same as L.0.10
L.5.00	20,000	20,000	Same as L.0.12
Total	10,620,000	19,170,000	

10,000 airmail miniature sheets with each sheet containing six stamps in the value of L.0.01, L.0.03, L.0.10, L.0.25, L.1.00 and L.5.00 with the motifs identical with those of



the same values in the airmail set.

10,000 official miniature sheets with each sheet containing six stamps in the values of L.0.02, L.0.05, L.0.12, L.0.15, L.0.50 and L.2.00 with the motifs identical with those of the same values in the official set.

All the stamps of the airmail and official sets are to carry near the top the wording REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS—CL ANIVERSARIO DEL NACIMIENTO DE ABRAHAM LINCOLN. The word AEREO will appear on each stamp of the international set, and the word OFICIAL, overprinted in red, will appear on each official stamp. Every stamp to have an impression of the national flag of Honduras and of the United States in their true colors; also to show the date of the anniversary, 1809-1959. All values to be shown in Arabic numerals and letters. The international and official stamps of the regular sets are to be made in sheets of twenty-five stamps each; shipment required sent in secure packing cases, with contents well protected with paraffin paper to avoid water and adhesive damage enroute.

The quantity of stamps herewith authorized is to be shipped by the producers and consigned to the Ministry of Political Science and Treasury.

Signed—Villeda Morales, Chief Executive."

Comments On The Decree And Finished Product

The finished product provides ample proof that the specifications of the decree were faithfully followed. Final stamp colors and designs, mode of printing, as well as the production of the miniature sheets in an imperforated condition, are subjects that were undoubtedly discussed in detail by the manufacturer and the government authorities, and given final approval by the latter before actual printing began. The regular international and official sets were produced by the recess-engraving process with all formats horizontal, with the exception of the Lincoln Portrait which is vertical.

The miniature sheets were produced by lithography with their component stamps in colors that are substantially the same as those of like denominations in the engraved sets, making due allowance for the different mode of printing. In contrast to the imperforated miniature sheets, the regular international and official sets are comb-perforated a clean cut 13½. The subject matter is very appropriate and well designed, covering a range of important highlights in the life and in commemoration of Lincoln. Production of the sets and miniature sheets is of the highest order.

Herewith follows is a chart indicating final colors and format arrangement. Note that the differentiation of colors between the same denomination of both sets is achieved by reversing their order, that is, the color of the lowest value of the international set is the same as that of the highest one of the official set; the second lowest value of one set is the

same as the second highest one of the other, and so on. As there are an even number of denominations in each set, no two have the same color.

Value	*International Color*	*Official Color*	*Format Arrangement*
L.0.01	green	ochre	vertical
L.0.02	blue	gray olive	horizontal
L.0.03	violet	red brown	horizontal
L.0.05	carmine	ultramarine	horizontal
L.0.10	gray black	purple	horizontal
L.0.12	brown	orange	horizontal
L.0.15	orange	brown	vertical
L.0.25	purple	gray black	horizontal
L.0.50	ultramarine	carmine	horizontal
L.1.00	red brown	violet	horizontal
L.2.00	gray olive	blue	horizontal
L.5.00	ochre	green	horizontal

Conclusion

In summarizing this case in the defense of Honduras for issuing the Lincoln commemorative postage stamps, listed are the following reasons which were explained at some length during the course of this article:

1.) That the international stamps in the quantities issued were required due to an existing stamp shortage occasioned by the Custom House fire.

2.) That the official stamps were also required due to the shortage resulting from the Custom House fire. Although it is true that a greater quantity were produced than needed at the moment, Honduras will overprint whatever of them remain in excess, thereby making them valid for regular postal use. This procedure has been regularly followed in the past with the excess of official issues.

3.) Both varieties of the miniature sheets because of their high face values and cumbersome size (180x140m.m.) are merely philatelic souvenirs. These sheets do have some favorable aspects that will somewhat assuage such sporadic resentment as may be vented toward them. These favorable aspects are:-
   a.) They were produced in relatively small quantities.
   b.) There was no premium required over the face value.
   c.) Sheets were freely available to anyone in any quantity.
   d.) They can be used postally in part or their entirety.
   e.) They are exceedingly attractive.
   f.) They could not have honored a greater person.

4.) Historically Honduras is amply justified for honoring Lincoln. That she chose the medium of postage stamps for so doing is especially significant as the postal service was near and dear to him, his first government position being that of postmaster in a small rural community in the United States.

5.) That the multi-valued, attractive sets with their interesting pictorial highlights, represent the first of this kind to honor this great humaniarian.

In conclusion, it is my feeling, and I hope also yours, that instead of being unfairly critized for commemorating the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's birth because of a few trivial philatelic aberrations, Honduras should be heartily congratulated for expressing such tangible good will to our country.

FRANCE

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

By CHARLES BRETAGNE & NATHAN HALS

(*Continued from Vol. 39, Page 154*)

PART IV

Typographically Cancelled Postage Stamps

Since we have presented in their proper chronological place the story of the few postage stamps used on papers previous to 1870, and we shall not repeat this. The rate table preceding the section on the timbres mobiles, and the catalogue following this section contain the bulk of the information on this subject, but there are other matters to point out to have the story more complete.

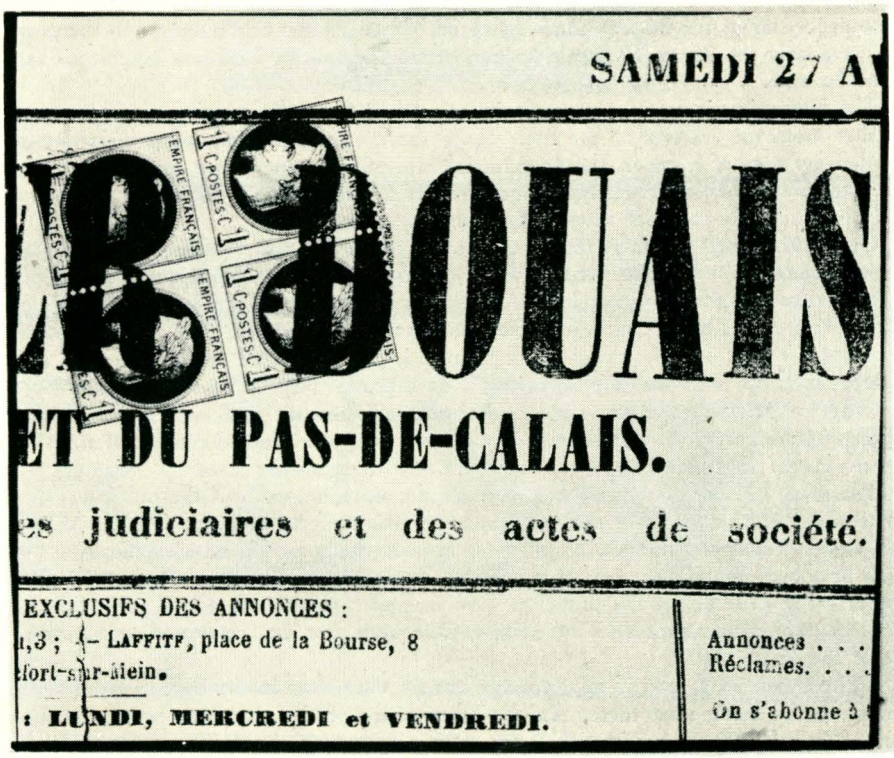


Fig. 26. Block of 4 of 1c. Laureated Napoleon on entire. (Bretagne Collection)



Fig. 27. Block of four of 1c. Laureated Napoleon. (Bretagne Collection)

Through the Second Republic, the Empire and the Third Republic, no stamps were demonetised until 1924. Therefore we find every issue except the first two on newspapers while the 1849 Ceres and 1850 Presidency issues may have been used, but are not yet reported. As a matter of fact, the early issues are not the scarcest in singles, typographically cancelled.

The confusions and breakdowns attending the Franco-Prussian War created some of the world's most interesting philatelic items, but not much for the collector in the newspaper field. The Balloon Posts, Pigeon Posts, Zinc River Balls, the Bordeaux issue, the Siege issues, and the Commune locals are prized possessions, but we know of no uses from Paris of newspaper stamps for the seven months of the Siege and the Commune. In the provinces there were only the 2c. violet fiscals postally used, and the 4c. Laureate Napoleans bisected for the 2c. rate.

The interesting items in our catalogue arise then from the scarcity of the stamp used, or rather from the scarcity of the use. Since there were not many subscribers out of the local delivery area of a paper, the 4c. national rate provides the major cause of interest. A prime example is the 4c. brown type Sage which is common mint or used, but attains a value multiplied hundreds of times when typographically cancelled.

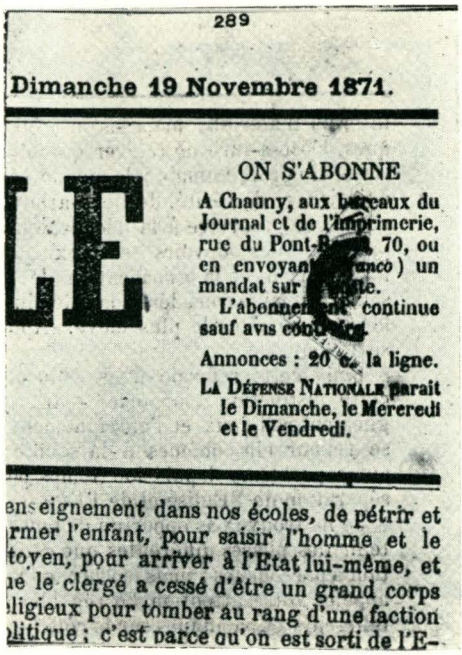
Until 1872, when a regular timbre mobile was issued for posters—the "Affiche" stamp—the regulations did not specify exactly what was to be used on posters, and we find postage stamps used as well as timbre mobiles. All denominations over 5c. are definitely from posters; those under are usually not unless on a piece that proves it a poster. The 5c. was used mostly on posters, the use on papers being scarce because it represented an overweight rate. For the philatelist such use is shown only by having it on a proven piece or entire.

Years of newspaper taxes, and the knowledge that they had come back after being abolished once before, made publishers wary of increasing the size and content of their papers. Only the law of 1878 convinced them they were safe from further taxes.

The great number of papers, and their large circulation, enabled the publishers of Paris to take advantage of the labor savings bands for their national mailing; and they distributed their papers locally themselves, so that no known examples of typographically cancelled stamps have been found on papers from Paris. Those papers which had "escaped" the higher fiscal taxes by printing in the provinces (see timbres mobiles) are found with 2c. and 4c. rates typographically cancelled. In Seine-et-Oise very few 2c. frankings are known, and none of the 4c.

Up to April 1872 few, if any, postage stamps were used in the departmental seats, the timbres mobiles being used there. In the other towns of the provinces postage stamps are found cancelled in the press, but they are often struck with a date canceller as well, either because they were not obliterated properly or because of a postal clerk's unfamiliarity with the procedures.

The loss of the printing facilities in Paris for the seven months ending June 1871, coupled with the low production and poor distribution from Bordeaux of the lithographed issues, caused a shortage of low value stamps, thus we find the two gems of our study—the 2c. violet postally used (previously considered) and the 4c. Napoleon Lauree bisects. Two


289

Dimanche 19 Novembre 1871.

LE

ON S'ABONNE

A Chauny, aux bureaux du Journal et de l'imprimerie, rue du Pont-[illegible] 70, ou en envoyant (franco) un mandat sur la poste.

L'abonnement continue sauf avis contraire.

Annonces : 20 c. la ligne.

LA DÉFENSE NATIONALE paraît le Dimanche, le Mercredi et le Vendredi.

enseignement dans nos écoles, de pétrir et rmer l'enfant, pour saisir l'homme et le toyen, pour arriver à l'Etat lui-même, et ue le clergé a cessé d'être un grand corps ligieux pour tomber au rang d'une faction litique ; c'est parce qu'on est sorti de l'E-

Fig. 28. A rarity—the 4c. Laureated Napoleon bisect on piece for the 2c. rate. (Brun auction catalog)


Mercredi 14 Septembre 1870

RÈS

IRE

EMPIRE

UMÉRO :

BUREAUX

Fig. 29. Nine days after fall of Napoleon III. Early use of typographic cancel. It is postally cancelled as well either because of ignorance by the postal clerk or because of insufficient typographic cancel. (Bretagne)

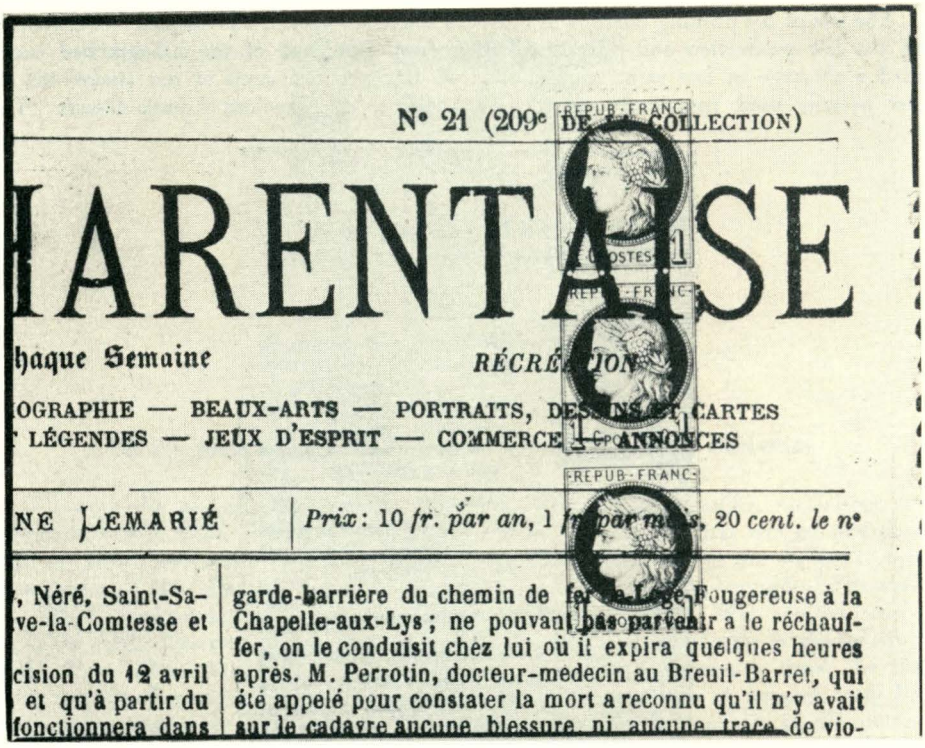


Fig. 30. Strip of three, 1c. Ceres perforated on entire. (Bretagne)

copies of *LA DEFENSE NATIONALE DE CHAUNY*, one of December 19, 1870, and one of November 15, 1871, are known as entires, and a piece with the latter is illustrated (Fig. 28).

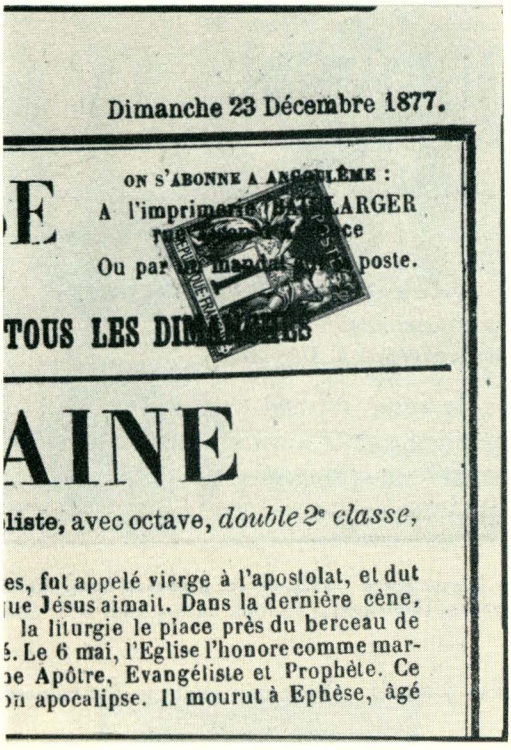
Because of the relatively small use of the 4c. rate, and the even lesser use of stamps of that denomination to make the rate, the 4c brown type Sage which catalogues low both mint or used, is "the Cinderella" of the typographically cancelled stamps. It attains a value of 60 to 400 times catalogue price depending on whether it is off paper, on piece, or on entire!

Within the framework of relative scarcities there are those due to date of use. Up to 1878, for example, the non-political papers were numerically less than other types, so that a 3c. rate on them is a rarity as compared to others. We speak, of course, of copies on entires.

The typographic cancellation was a convenience for the Postal Administration, not to the publisher who had to carefully count and then stamp each sheet for the 2c. or 4c. rate before printing. In Paris and in the departmental seats, the prepaid bands were the preferred method of mailing, so that we find the majority of typographically cancelled stamps are from provincial papers.

The use of stamps to make up the 8c. rate to the colonies is quite scarce, the examples known being before 1875. *The General Instructions* of 1878, Article 244-3, dealt with the franking of papers to the colonies and foreign countries. It specified the postage to be placed on the wrapper, an order apparently faithfully carried out. The treaties with foreign countries, previous to the formation of UPU, specifically forbade the postage to be on the paper, requiring it, instead, to be on the wrapper. This last is an important point to remember when fakes are later discussed.

It will be noted that the catalogue following this section lists uses by certain dates. When correlated with the table of rates, it will be seen that these dates have reference not to the date of issue of the stamp, but to the relatively small use of the rate before or after a certain date. The 1c. type Sage, black on lilac, would be scarce on non-political papers befor 1878, as an example, because of the few in that class. The examples in the Bretagne


Dimanche 23 Décembre 1877.

ON S'ABONNE A ANGOULÊME :

A l'imprimerie LARGER

Ou par mandat poste.

TOUS LES DI

AINE

liste, avec octave, *double 2e classe*,

es, fut appelé vierge à l'apostolat, et dut
ue Jésus aimait. Dans la dernière cène,
la liturgie le place près du berceau de
. Le 6 mai, l'Eglise l'honore comme mar-
e Apôtre, Evangéliste et Prophète. Ce
n apocalipse. Il mourut à Ephèse, âgé

Fig. 31. Scarce use of 1c. Sage, black on lilac, before May 31, 1878. Entire is a religious paper about size and weight of two pages of "the Collectors Club Philatelist." (Bretagne)



Fig. 32. Rare block of four of 1c. Sage, off paper. (Bretagne)

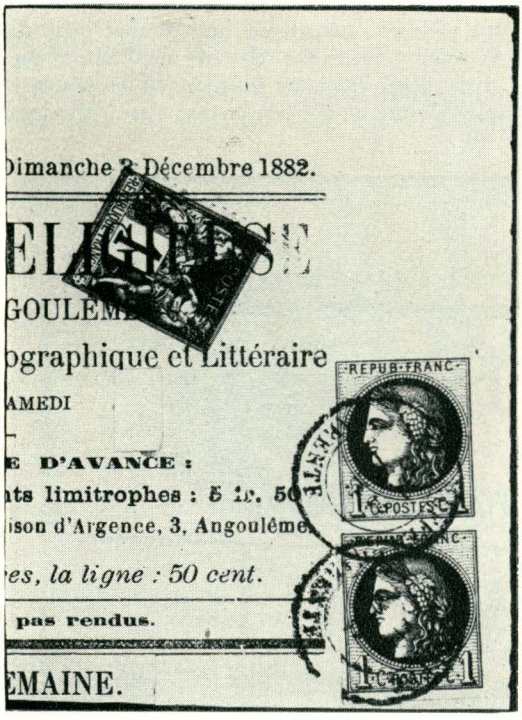


Fig. 33. Scarce late use (December 3, 1882) of 1c. Bordeaux issue. Pair used to forward paper beyond local limits. On entire. (Bretagne)

Collection are on religious journals. Other uses relate to the reduced rates and overweight charges.

As the years progressed the typographic cancel was used less and less until it was abolished by the decree of May 31, 1908. This reduction in use was brought about by the extension of post office services in provincial towns, where they changed from simple mailing depots to office providing general services such as preparing bands. After 1890 the typographic cancel becomes scarce, being found only where limited postal service and limited mailing areas prevailed; the bother of using the ½c. rate after 1900 making it worthwhile to apply 1c. stamps and cancelling typographically. In this connection two extremely rare copies of *LA FEUILLE VILLAGEOISE,* Tarn et Garonne, one of August 14, 1908, and the other of December 1914, are in the Bretagne Collection with the 1c. type Blanc cancelled in the press. That they exist through complaisance of the local postmaster does not negate their interest.

The last example of the use of the type Sage, in the Bretagne Collection, is the 1c. on a newspaper of November 1896. But in the light of the example above, there must be copies used late into 1900, when the type Blanc was introduced.

Charles Darwin once said that the mighty British navy was due to the old maids of England! He showed how they kept cats which killed rats which did damage to the bees who pollenized the clover that fed the beef of England which were used to feed the sailors! In a similar way the potbellied stoves of France were the cause of the inexactitude in our study. What more convenient kindling for the morning fire than yesterday's paper and the band it was wrapped in!



Fig. 34. Possibly unique entire of December 13, 1914. 1c. Blanc, overpaying ½c. used 6½ years after method was abolished. This copy proved difficult to illustrate. (Bretagne)

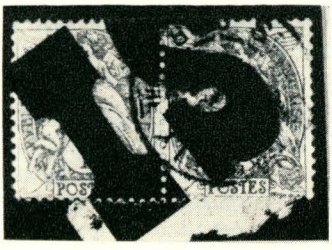


Fig. 35. Pair of 1c. Blanc on fragment. Postmark is over typographic cancel and 1903 date is clear.

Fakes and Fantasies Of Postage Stamps Typographically Cancelled

To our present knowledge all fraudulent material in this field consists of counterfeit cancellations applied to genuine stamps. Since there is not too great an increase in value for most of the cancelled stamps over their mint value, it may be that few fraudulent items if any, have been manufactured. It is with multiples that we enter a world of imitation, and the typical example is such an exaggeration that it can be easily spotted. Knowledge of the postal rates and regulations is about all that is needed to distinguish them.

The 2c. brown Sage and the 3c. gray have been the most popular with the fakers. A



Fig. 36A Fig. 36B Fig. 36C Fig. 36D

block of sixteen of the 2c. rate is known and the Bretagne Collection has a block of four, (Fig. 36A) impossible rates with stamps after 1876. It is most likely that the block of four would match up with the block of sixteen. In addition, the complete lack of evidence of an impression from behind condemn them. The 3c. gray (Fig. 36B) is represented in the collection by a pair (no 6c. rate known), as well as two pairs of the 4c. which, by the fortunate accident of having been pasted down for the printing at an off angle, proved to match for the reassembly of a block of four. (Fig. 36C)

A lightly cancelled copy is a natural for doctoring, and many deceptions exist here. Careful examination plus the lack of the proper impression will show up most of them. Too, the character of the type is wrong; it is too modern. However, the type Blanc is often found cancelled postally over the typographic cancel, but this happened because of the unfamiliarity with the procedure, the clerk striking it again. Fig. 35 shows a typical example of this on fragment, with newsprint on the back.

One of the clumsiest and pointless of bogus items is shown in Fig. 36D where the type Blanc, surcharged in 1919 ½c. for the newspapers, is apparently typographically cancelled with a horseshoe. Covering the surcharge would have destroyed the purpose of the faker, but the very dodge was self-destructive.

The '½ Centime En Plus'

The postal regulations of 1878 gave rise to fractional rates by reason of the ½c. charge for each additional 25 grams of excess weight on newspapers, both in Paris and the provinces. The law permitted the fractions to be accumulated in an accounting kept by the post office and paid for at regular intervals, the main portion of the postage being paid immediately in stamps or prepaid bands. It was not until 1938 that fractional amounts were advanced to the next full centime. The practice of sending a number of papers under one wrapper is the immediate concern of this study; we do not know of any singles mailed with extra postage.

By 1884 there was evidently some reason for further regulating the practices involved, and a circular of August 1884 prescribed a timbre humide reading "½ centime en plus" (½c. additional) and allowed manuscript notations until the tampons could be manufactured and distributed.

The method of its use was to strike it on the band, near the stamp which was cancelled by a *JOURNAUX* or *IMPRIMES* datestamp. Frequently it was struck so that it hit the stamp; it was in no way a canceller but an additional stamp—a timbre humide.

The postal administration has been shown to be frugal and mindful of costs. We must conclude, therefore that there was definite need for the stamp or it would not have been prescribed, but a string of circumstances combined to make any example from before 1908 a true rarity.



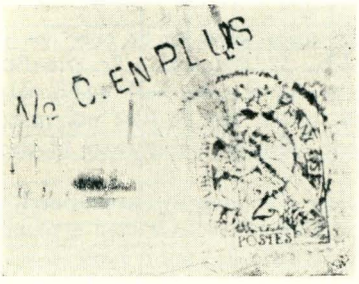
A. Maury counterfeit, but illustrative of proper use.



B. Maury fantasy.



C. Typical Maury bogus item.



D. Genuine linear cachet of Nantes.

Fig. 37.

First and foremost is the destruction of the wrappers to get at the papers. In addition, the following four factors reduced the possible number of surviving examples:

1. In the provinces papers over 50 grams in weight were scarce.
2. Even 25 grams was a trifle more than the average paper.
3. In Paris and Seine-et-Oise few, if any papers, were mailed locally.
4. There was just as likely to be an even as odd number of papers in a bundle. The rates were based on the weight of individual papers, not the total; in Seine three 30 gram papers would cost 4½c., not 2½c.

A fifth reason was shown in the example of the type Blanc used after 1908,—it was cheaper in labor to overpay a ½c. than to spend time at the post office.

Noël, after the most painstaking search of the literature, by questioning his wide circle of acquaintances and appeals in philatelic journals, does not believe that certain examples of the 1c. type Sage on pieces are genuine. Lacking the whole band, they offer unsatisfactory evidence. One correspondent wrote Noël of a 2c. brown of 1886, but gave no details. The sad truth at the moment, is that nearly all round strikes of pre-1908 are considered fraudulent.[8]

In 1896 the 3c. imprinted bands were withdrawn from circulation because of their small use. This is apropos of a large number of made-to-order items that must be considered. At the time these counterfeits were made, the Sage issue was current, and therefore cheap enough to use, so that the stamps are genuine.

It is in 1896 that our old specter, Arthur Maury the "Barnum" of French philately, rises to haunt us here as he has with the fraudulent Susse perforations, the counterfeit surcharged timbres mobiles, the counterfeit perforated "T" of the Tunisian postage dues, and

others. Through his connections at the posts, he was able to secure a round "½ centime en plus" tampon and several date tampons, and proceded to satisfy his stamp collecting friends in their desire for examples of the use. Using the 1c., 2c., and 3c. postal bands, cut squares of paper looking like band paper with the stamps pasted on, and mint stamps alone, he manufactured fraudulent items and fantasies.

On the bands and cut squares Maury applied the cachets and cancelled the stamps with the following four datestamps of the years 1896 to 1899:- *"Imprimes 3 Paris PP 78;" "Imprimes 2 Paris PP 52;" "Journaux Paris PP 13;"* and *"Journaux Paris PP 17."* The stamps were cancelled with either the datestamp or the "½ centime en plus"—whereas the post office very strictly called for cancellation with the datestamp. At the 1958 ISPEX exhibition in New York City a dealer at the bourse sold a large quantity of pads of the bands with the gum still fresh on the bands. Of the mint stamps Maury made a real fantasy—he cancelled (or surcharged) them with the timbre humide, these being impossibilities because of the postal regulations and because they are fully gummed.

These bogus items have actually been catalogued in the present-day Maury catalogue, but they are now virtually off the market because of the demand for them by collectors of fraudulent material.

In resumé, for the period of 1895 to 1908 there seems to be only one genuine use known—a band of *"LE GAULOIS"* of Paris, May 5, 1908, with a 2c. type Blanc[8].

The tariff of 1908 (½c. for the first 50 grams, ½c. for each additional 25 grams) created a period from which copies are known; scarce, but at least not rare. However, the same reason for their limited use applied, but collectors, being aware of them, watched for them more closely.

The linear cachet (Fig. 37) is found only after 1908, only in the provinces, and only in conjunction with the type Blanc stamps. Rouen is known to have used a round as well as the linear cachet. There were several types, but the following are typical:

½C. En Plus (Rouen)
Un Demi Centime En Plus (Lyon)
Un Demi Centime En Plus, Paye (Rennes)
½ Centime En Plus (Nantes)

The known provincial offices using the cachets were: Angouleme, Besancon (2 types), Lyon, Marseille, Nantes, Orleans, (2 types), Rennes (2 types), Rodez, Rouen (2 types), Vendome, Auxerre (2 types) and Moulins sur Allier. Auxerre used the strike on one known example in 1930—eleven years after it was superseded by the issuance of the 1c. type Blanc surcharged in red "½ centime" in 1919.



1884

T. P. de 1876-98 surchargés type 13.

13	½ c. sur 1 c. (N° 83)	350 »	150 »
14	½ c. sur 2 c. (N° 85)	350 »	150 »
15	½ c. sur 3 c. (N° 87)	150 »	300 »
16	½ c. sur 4 c. (N° 88)	400 »	325 »
17	½ c. sur 5 c. (N° 75)	600 »	500 »

Le cachet n'est pas toujours forcément sur le timbre.

Fig. 38. French catalog listing, 1953 (Maury), of the fantasies. Note price columns for mint and used! The italic note explains that the strike is not always "on the nose."

The Precancels (Les Roulettes) Of 1893, Used In Paris Only

In 1893 the postal administration tried an experiment in precancelling stamps for use by the publishers of Paris. This brings up the question of whether the timbres mobiles or this issue are the first precancels of France.

If a precancel is a stamp cancelled by the posts before sale to the user then the issue of 1893 is the first. If it is a stamp cancelled by any agency in any manner before being brought to the posts then the timbres mobiles are the first. Philately, in many instances,

	EMPIRE NAPOLEON IMPERF		PERF		NAPOLEON LAUREATE			BORDEAUX				CERES			
	1 c.	5 c.	1 c.	5c.	1c.	2c.	4c.	1c.	2c.	4c.	5c.	1c.	2c.	4c.	5c.
Single	35	R	12½	20	1½	4	12½	15	40	60	R	2	1	10	25
*- on piece	50	R	20	100	7½	6	25	60	50	R		6	1	20	
- on entire		R		R	12½	10	37½	75	70	R		7½	1	30	
Pair	R				4	12½	50	35	100			6	5	40	
- on piece					6	25	75	50				8	7½		
- on entire					10	37½		70				10	10		
Strip of 3 or Combination												12½			
of 1c. + 2c - on piece								R				20			
- on entire												25			
Block of 4	R				R							R			
- on entire					R										
Bisect on Entire							R								

	SAGE, TYPE I				II GREEN		TYPE II					TYPE BLANC 1900			
	1c.	2c.	4c.	5c.	2c.	5c.	1c.	2c.	3c.	3c.grey	4c.	1c.	2c.	3c.	
Single	10	35	10	20	2	7½	1	1½	15	3	5	2	5	R	
- on piece	30	50	30		3		1	3	30	9	20	5	10	-	
- on entire							1	3	45	15	30	10	20		
- Before May 31, 1878							5								
- After Nov. 25, 1893							2	6		30					
- After Apr. 16, 1895										45					
- After May 31, 1908												R			
Pair	25	90			5		1½	5			R	5			
- on piece	30				7½		3	8				10			
- on entire	40				10		5	10				20			
- After 25 Nov. 1893							2								
Strip of 3 or Combination	35						3								
of 1c. + 2c. - on piece	60						6								
- on entire	70						12½								
Block of 4							R								

*The 1c. Prussian Blue Type Sage is known on one entire and one piece.
The 10c. Empire Napoleon, Imperf. and the Bordeaux are known on posters.
The 2c. Choclate Bordeaux is rare in all categories.

lacks rules and definitions, so one may choose as one wishes. Too, the typographic cancel was for the convenience of the postal administration.

"Les Roulettes", the precancels of 1893, were an experiment to relieve the load on the posts in Paris that were swamped by the mass of printed material that descended upon them. Tried only in Paris, these precancels were a failure because of the usual postal concern over reuse which caused regulations that made their use too clumsy and expensive for the publishers.

The idea was tried in two periods, January 28 to March 24, and September 5 to December 1. In the first period the endless roller (roulette) (Fig. 39) of type I was used. It was applied by hand and is found running in all four directions. The four lines were: *"PARIS, IMPR."* (imes), date and the month. They were valid only on the four days beginning with their date, and this was the seed of their failure. Since they were allowed only on mailings out of Paris and with the limitations on the period of their use, we can put

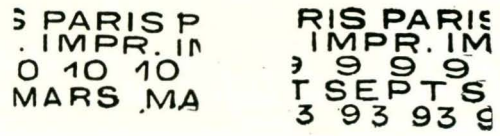


Fig. 39. The "Roulettes" of 1893. Precancel overprints on type Sage stamps.

ourselves in the position of a publisher and understand his arguments against the experiment.

If a large user of the mails (and we are not necessarily speaking only of newspapers, but of pamphlets, books and periodicals), a publisher might think in this manner:- today there are a thousand pieces to mail, tommorow five thousand; stamp purchases cannot be planned If he overbought, he lost the excess when their validity ran out. If he underbought, he would have to stop, count and then run around for postage. No, for him the prepaid bands were the best; they allowed better accounting methods.

For the irregular users of the posts who could plan each mailing, the precancels were ideal, but the smaller publishers were not the ones who swamped the mails. So the experiment temporarily stopped on March 24.

On September 5, when it resumed, the form of the roulette was changed to five lines to include the year (type II), and a concession was made by leaving off the day on some of the issues. Those, without the date, were valid until the fourth day of the following month. But this did not remove the objections to the basic idea, and coupled with the fact that the stamps were only sold in sheets of 150 which insured losses on their date running out, the experiment died in December. Precancels did not appear again in France until 1920.

All the current denominations of the type Sage, up to 75c., were used with the overprint, but the 1c., 3c., and 75c. are known only from the second period. The stamps (Scott numbers and color descriptions) are as follows:

1c. black on lilac blue (86)
2c. brown on straw (88)
3c. gray (97)
4c. claret on lavender (90)
5c. green on greenish (78)
10c. black on lavender (91)
15c. blue, quadrille (103)
20c. red on deep green (98)
25c. black on pale rose (100)
30c. yellow brown on yellowish (82)
40c. red on straw (95)
50c. rose on rose (101)
75c. deep violet on orange (102)

These precancels have today achieved fabulous catalogue values. They have been treated in several articles[7] with some of the precision and research done on the Balloon Posts, but little, if anything, has been reported on their newspaper uses. That they were used on bundles, or even singles, is not doubted at the present time. We hope that the publication of this section will stimulate reports to complete the picture. We have not tried to write authoritatively in this section, but rather to fill in the details on newspapers*.

*The collection of the late Stephen G. Rich yielded no clues. He had two on pieces, but neither showed their origin. One was a single 3c., and the other had two singles of the 5c.

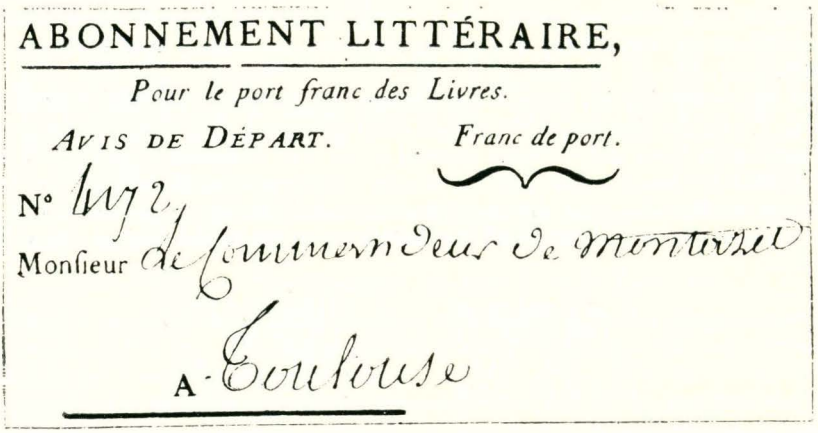


Fig. 40. Front of band of 1790. "Franc de port" meant postage paid.

The Bands

Previous to 1882, when the first postally imprinted bands were issued, all bands or wrappers had been privately prepared. Figures 41 and 42 show typical examples. The vast majority were used by the "porte en numeraire" method, many of the examples with stamps coming from extra mailings after the originally planned amounts had been mailed. Some bands are known with only a half a postage stamp on them, the other half having been placed on the newspaper to keep the band in place. Many bands have arrival datestamps on their backs, but in the progress of time with the great increase in volume, this practice was usually bypassed.

The bands of major interest, aside from accidentals of scarce postmarks, are those printed up in accordance with an "abonnement" agreement with the posts. "Abonnement" means subscription, and with an established subscription list for a year in advance, the publisher could declare the number and distance of his mailings to the post office and pay for them in advance at a reduced rate. This was not like the "porte en numeraire" which simply entailed efficiency of operation on a daily basis.

Fig. 40 shows an abonnement band of 1790, and we translate into English the notice printed on its back:

> "Literary subscription serving for the mailing, within the province, of paper bound books, music, and all other literary works, printed with Privilege and Permission (the Royal permission to publish and protection of the rights thereto) which are sent prepaid to a post office (poste restante), to all the towns of the kingdom, to all who request it."

The study of the postmarks on the journals is still disorganized so that we cannot give any dates of beginning or end of the abonnement class of mailings. But 1807 would appear to be near the end of their use. As a matter of fact, our idea of including the postmarks in this section had to be postponed because of a lack of information. We refer the reader to references 9 and 10 at the end for what is available.

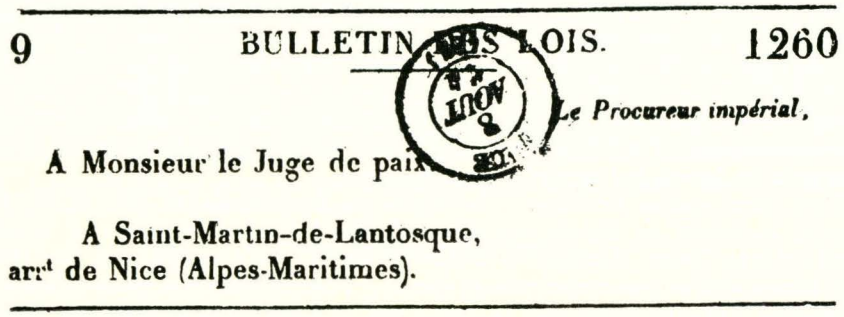


Fig. 41. 1864. From Nice Aug. 8, and arrival stamp of St. Martin — Lantosque with outer circle of dots is on back.

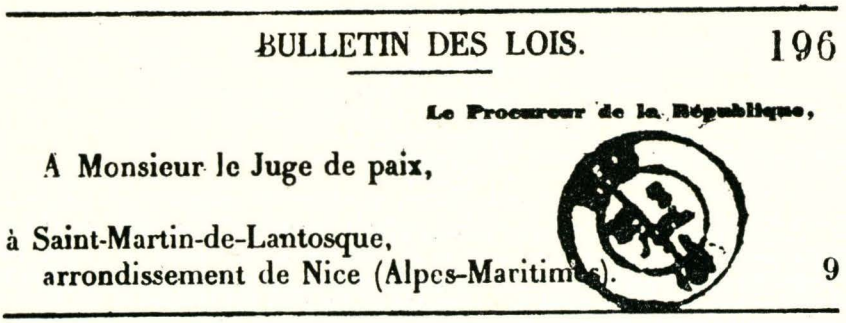


Fig. 42. Same paper and addressee. Same type of arrival stamp on back.



Fig. 43. Cachet of the Bureau Central of Paris which had charge of the mailings of printed matter and papers. Reads: "IMPRIMES PARIS P. P." Circa 1844, typical of "porte en numeraire" bands.

The postally imprinted bands of 1882 bore the 1c., 2c., and 3c. types Sage stamps in somewhat the same colors as the adhesives. The 3c. saw little use and was withdrawn in 1896. Like many other items in a catalogue, the bands can be expanded in listings by paper varieties, colors of paper, accessory printing such as lines, size, and other factors, but our major interest lies in their use. Aside from accidentals of scarce or rare postmarks. there is little of interest in them.

Occasionally a 1c. band will be found with additional adhesives on it. Many of these have full postage applied so that there is an overpayment of 1c. These mean that the sender may have thought the band no longer valid for postage, or that the proper amount in stamps was not at hand. We have a 1c. band with two 4c. stamps added for the 8c. rate to the United States; this probably was a private mailing by someone who only had 4c. stamps at hand.

The same remarks apply to the 1c. and 2c. type Blanc bands of the type Sage, although there is more chance of finding a "½ centime en plus" on them.

The finest material in bands, after 1850, are the private ones franked with a type Blanc adhesive by a newspaper that had run out of regular "porte en numeraire" bands for the day and had to make more mailings. The tariff law of April 29, 1908 was supplemented by enabling decrees and regulations, such as Art. 35 of the Ministerial Decree of May 4, 1908, which specified that in such cases where the prepaid bands had been used up for the day. Thus it was neccessary to mail out additional pieces, a postage stamp could be affixed to the band and mention made that the copy was franked with an uncancelled stamp. Technically, the stamp was supposed to be cancelled on the train, but the various papers made up rubber stamps with the legend and applied it over the stamp.

There were various wordings. The legend on the example of Fig. 45 is: "Bande affranchie au moyen de timbres non obliteres" (band franked by means of uncancelled stamps). Others were: "Exemplaires affranchie de (or 'en') timbre-poste non obliteres" (copy franked with an uncancelled postage stamp). It seems violet was the usual color of the cancelling ink, but other colors may be found, and as many forms or shapes as papers that used the system.



Fig. 44. Cachet, circa 1864, of the same purpose as that of Fig. 43. In this case the absence of a date in the center indicates that it was used on an "Avertissment"—a notice or warning sent to a person owing the Registry Administration money, and mailed under a band which merely had the address on it. These forms were struck up beforehand by the posts and charged to the fiscal agency, which recovered on spoiled or unused ones. If the date was in the center it would indicate printed matter use, but in this form it must be differentiated as a non-newspaper use.

The entire point of this type of mailing was to avoid last minute rushes, and to insure the newspaper's right to deposit mail up to the last minute of the posts.

The procedure for the bands in the "porte en numeraire" method was as follows: the proper number of bands for each days mailings were brought to the posts the day before. They were counted, datestamped and struck with the "P. P." and, when called for, the account was presented and paid. No marking of the amount paid was on the bands.

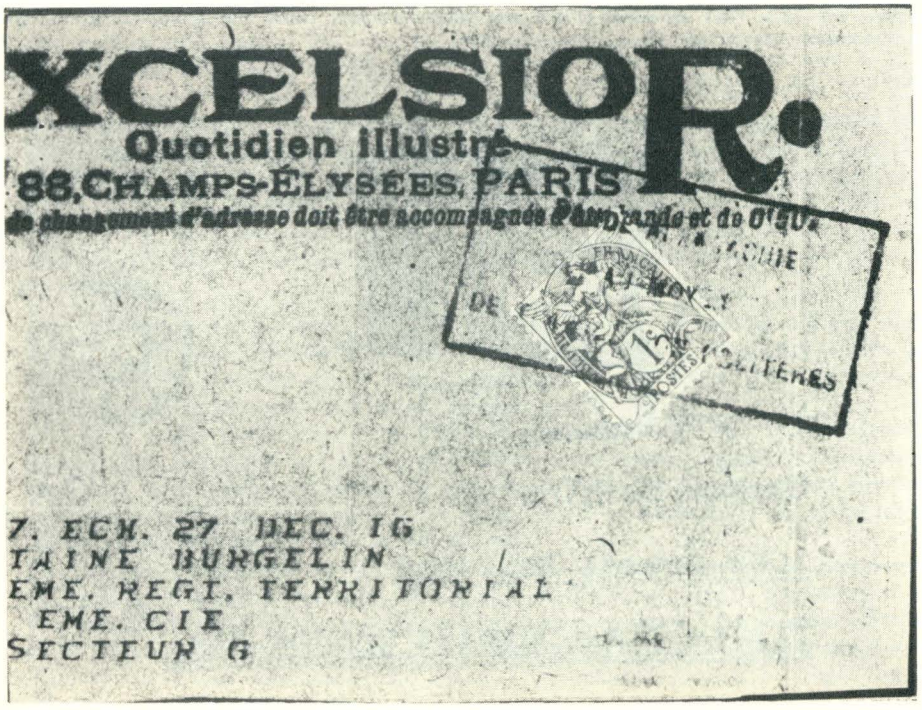


Fig. 45. Late mailing band under the law of 1908. Strike, in purple, reads: "Bande Affranchie/Au Moyen/de Timbres Non Obliteres" (Bretagne)

All photographs by Adrien Boutrelle

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With the exception of Nos. 3 and 4 all books are available at the Collectors Club Libary.

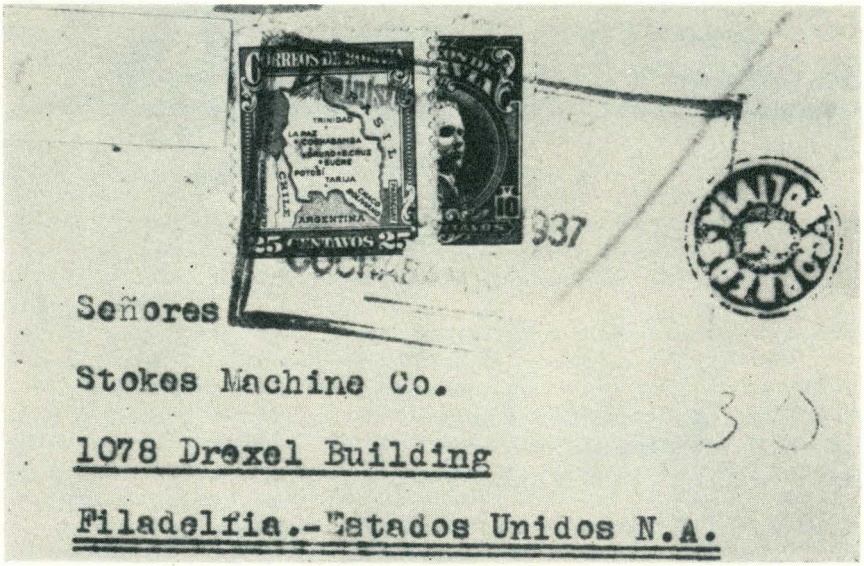
The End

Uncommon Uses Of Common Stamps

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

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

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



BOLIVIA

1937 Bisect

Shown here is a cover sent in 1937 from Bolivia to the United States, paying the proper postal rate of 30 centavos. This letter was prepaid with the 25c of the regular 1935 postage series (Scott 227) and a bisected 10c stamp of 1928 (Scott 190).

In 1937 Bolivia exhausted her supply of some of the more popular denominations used for both postage and air mail. Before the stock of these needed stamps were replenished with a new series, provisional stamps (surcharges) had to be issued (Scott 223-38, C52-62). But even before this overprinted emergency issue was placed on sale, the use of bisects as illustrated with this cover was permitted.

(Carl E. Bohn, Atlanta, Ga.)

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

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

See Inside Back Cover for the recently published books.

UNITED STATES

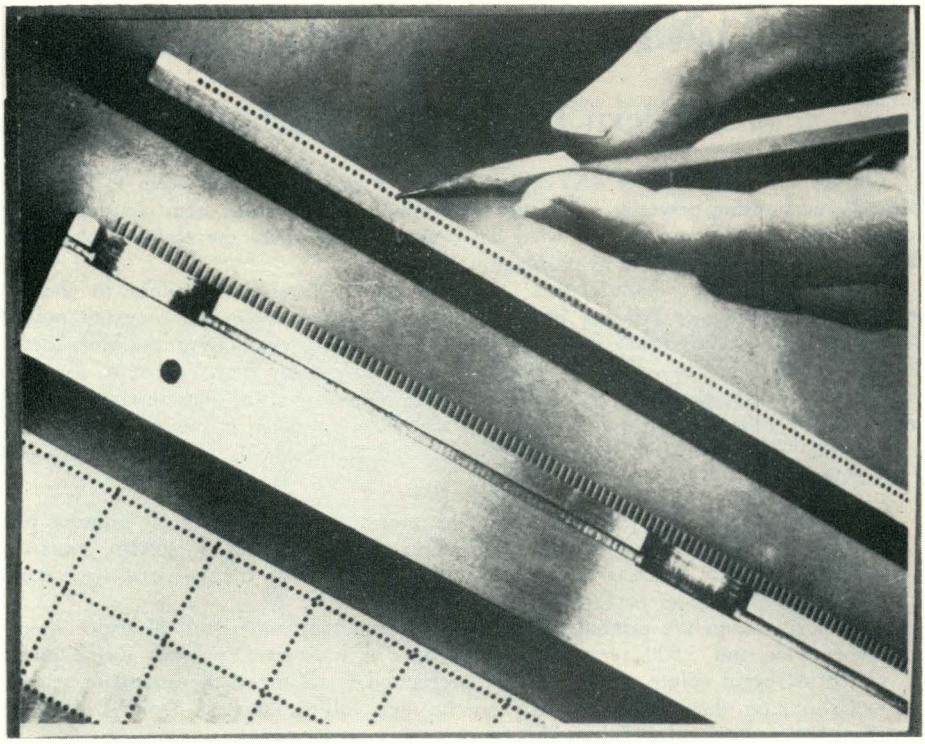
Modern Perforating Machines

Out of the great number who collect United States stamps, few seem to know much about the perforating processes. All that collectors know or rather seem concerned with is securing well-centered copies. But what has been done to satisfy the philatelic demand for stamps perforated as perfectly as possible?

The company that manufactures and sells the perforating machines to the U. S. Bureau of Engraving & Printing is *Harris-Seybold*. In the past this company published for the graphic arts industry some information on their perforating machines used in Washington, D. C. The editor of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST wrote to *the Harris-Seybold Co.* of Cleveland, Ohio, requesting permission to reprint substantially from their writings. We believe that those U. S. stamp specialists interested in our stamps' production will find the following that is reprinted with the kind permission of *The Harris-Seybold Co.* of great interest.

> Punching holes in paper is a simple business in most commercial printing plants, but when the holes are tiny perforations around 22 billion U. S. postage stamps produced every year, it becomes a critical operation. Until twenty years ago, spoilage because of off-register perforations ran as high as 25%.
>
> U. S. stamps are printed from fine steel engravings on a roll of paper about 18 inches wide and 3,000 feet long. The paper is moistened, printed, dried, gummed and dried again before the stamps are perforated.* With all the attendant stretching and shrinking, dimensions may vary on the same roll as much as 3/32" in length per plate impression, and ¼" in width of the web.
>
> In spite of these variations in register, stamps are now perforated in close register at high speed with the amazingly low spoilage of only 1 to 1½%. The secret of this near-miracle is the electric eye perforator, an ingenious combination of electronics and ultra-precise machinery. The basic design was conceived and developed by research and developmental staff members of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Here's how it works:
>
> As the web of printed and gummed stamps whips through the machine at approximately 340 feet per minute, an electric registering system adjusts the perforating mechanism "on the fly." Rows of printed dashes along one edge of the web and down the center of the printed roll are scanned by electric eyes. In the split second after scanning, automatic relays shift the entire web carriage into perfect register for the longitudinal perforations. An instant later, a similar set of relays adjust the position of a set of perforating cylinders for accurate lateral punching. These constant correcting actions keep the margin between stamps centered over the perforating dies, and give the paper a sort of weaving motion as it unrolls into the machine.
>
> If you go into the Bureau's special perforating room today, you'll find a battery of five electric eye perforators that bear a curious resemblance to printing presses. You might call it a family resemblance, since the machines were built by Harris-Seybold in the same plant where Harris presses are made.
>
> Just as fascinating as the electronic registering system is the story behind the tiny punches and dies that do the perforating. Experts who have seen them being made say that they require the closest-tolerance production machining being done in the United States today.
>
> In each electric eye perforator there are two separate perforating units, one for the holes down the length of the paper and one for the lateral holes. The longitudinal

*This was written in 1952 before the use of "dry" printing.



unit has a series of wheels fitted with punch pins that mesh perfectly with a series of wheels drilled to act as dies. The lateral unit consists of two 13″ diameter cylinders, one equipped with 36 or 44 rows of punch pins, depending upon the size of stamp being perforated, and one with 36 or 44 rows of die holes.

The photo shows one of the lateral punch bars with its corresponding die bar. The punch bar has 247 pins in its 18″ length. Now here's the item to startle any machinist or engineer: these 247 pins, each exactly .042″ in diameter, with .070″ between centers, must be fitted into the bar with a cumulative tolerance of not more than one-thousandth of an inch—.001″—on the 18″ bar! This work is so exacting that it must be done on specially built machines in an air-conditioned room at the Harris plant in Cleveland.

* * * *

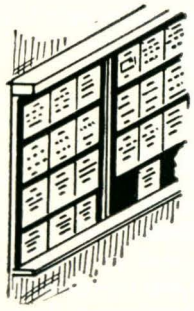
HARRIS—SEYBOLD COMPANY PERFORATING DEPARTMENT

Harris-Seybold manufactured 5 United States Postage Perforating Stamp Machines in 1941. The sole purpose was to increase production and decrease spoilage. Spoilage at that time was 35% and should have even been more.

We designed new machines electronically controlled for registering the perforations in the center of margins. The punch and die elements were subcontracted to an outside concern and for about one and a half years this concern found it impossible to produce these units to stand up for the amount of perforations guaranteed.

At this point our Engineering Department designed two special drilling machines to drill and ream the holes in the punch and die bars and rings. These bars are 18″ long and have 247 holes drilled .039″ in diameter and reamed to .044″. The accumulated error in 247 holes must not exceed .001″. The center distance is .070″ and the dimension from base or bar to center is .0002″ .The punch rings have 415 holes in a

(Continued on Page 207)



THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of March 16, 1960

A Caribbean Cruise (The British Colonies)

This meeting was conducted by one of our newly-elected Governors, *Dr. Irwin M. Yarry*. What follows are the notes used by Dr. Yarry, when he was lecturing on the material exhibited in the frames.

The luxury liners and jet-planes now leaving daily for the West Indies, in the Caribbean, carring the pleasure-seeking tourists to the "islands in the sun", are a far cry from the adventurous souls that roamed these shores in the distant past. Names like Captain Kidd, Hawkins, Drake, Nelson, Morgan, Rodney and many others, are all part of the colorful history of these islands that were fought over by the Spanish, French, English and Dutch for over three hundred years.

To describe all these islands in any fashion would be beyond the scope of a single evening's talk; therefore, let us just cruise among a remote group that comprise the Leeward Islands; namely Antigua (108 sq. miles), Barbuda (62 sq. miles), Anguilla (35 sq. miles), Dominica (291 sq. miles), Montserrat (32 sq. miles), Nevis (38 sq. miles), St. Kitts (68 sq. miles) and Virgin Islands (58 sq. miles).

Historically, these were all discovered by Columbus in 1493, on his second voyage, and then were depopulated by the Spanish conquerors for the richer gold fields in Mexico. These islands formed a suitable haven for the English bucaneers, who waited for the rich laden galleons of Spain, carrying the gold and silver from the mainland of Mexico and South America. Attempts at settlement of these islands by the French, Dutch and English resulted in continuous warfare in conjunction with the many wars in Europe which engaged these respective countries. Naturally they involved these ideally situated islands which formed a shield between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean.

It remained for the British skill as colonizers to finally settle in these islands between 1623 and 1666 to form The Caribbee Islands of America. In November, 1832 Dominica, which was previously acquired from France in 1763, was placed under a single governor, appointed by the Crown as a Confederation with individual representation. In 1871, the Federal Colony of the Leeward Islands was constituted by the Imperial Act No. 34, 35, Victoria. These islands were thus united and it was only as recently as December 31, 1939 that Dominica separated from the Leeward Islands. But on May 1, 1956 Dominica rejoined with the other island groups; Windward, Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad to form The Federation of the British West Indies, a sovereign part of the British Commonwealth of Nations which was finally ratified in March 1958. The British Virgin Islands did not ratify and still retains its colonial status.

Regarding the postal history of the Leeward Islands, the student has a field of study that is as wide and as colorful as the many other attractions of this tourist paradise. The proximity of the area, the common language and close association with our American history, blends with many of our leading personalities who had roots in the common heritage during the colonial period of our own country. Alexander Hamilton was born in Nevis and his family lived in the Virgin Islands. George Washington visited Barbados, while his brother Lawrence's illness brought him to these islands to recuperate. The transportation of the

mails from the mother country to the colonies was by merchant vessels under most hazardous conditions. Letters were privately carried, or by arrangement with the captain of the vessel, or through the coffee houses and other private agents.

In 1702, E. Dummer, who had previously provided a letter packet service in England to parts of Europe, received a charter to provide a packet service to the West Indies from Falmouth for carrying the mails. This service proved disastrous financially and bankrupted Mr. Dummer. The mails for the West Indies were now dispatched by the post office from Falmouth via British Packets, a service assumed by the Admiralty in 1710. This continued until 1823 and many of these packets, being armed for combat, were manned by British naval personnel. The Royal Navy, in 1823, assumed this mail carrying until the contract was given to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Service on January 1, 1842, which continues up to the present time to render excellent facilities in transporting the mails to the West Indies.

Postal markings of the various colonies are recorded as early as the middle of the eighteenth century. The Codrington Correspondence find of recent years expanded the islands' postal history manyfold. The actual use of the name Leeward Island is known in only two markings—as a receiving mark at Falmouth, England, for the mails from these islands (Fig. 1) and during World War II, when mail from a United States Marine Detachment stationed in Antigua used a cancel bearing Leeward Islands. With the beginnings of prepayment of postage by adhesive stamps and the speeding up of the mails to the colonies in the West Indies, a versatile handstamp was devised to denote payment of postage. The Crowned Circle handstamp came into use at all ports of the vast British Empire serviced by its mail packets. (Fig. 1). This handstamp "Paid At ....." in a crowned circle is known used in Antigua, English Harbour-Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, and Tortola-Virgin Islands for many years, during which period they were controlled as branch offices of the British G. P. O. Several other handstamps were used to denote prepayment of postage. But London frowned upon the idea of use of postage stamps in the colonies for fear of forgery and possible confusion by postal employees to recognize different types of stamps. On May 1, 1858, however, British postage stamps were sent out to the West Indian colonies with distinctive numeral cancellers for use in each of the colonies as follows:

Antigua (AO2), Dominica (AO7), Montserrat (AO8), Nevis (AO9), St. Kitts (A12), Virgin Islands (A13), English Harbour, Antigua (A18). The search for these British postage stamps with these distinctive cancellors showing "Used Abroad" has provided collectors with some scarce items, especially when found on cover. The period of "Used Abroad" in the islands ended after August 1860, and definitive stamps, although not yet available, gradually were issued as follows: Nevis (1861), Antigua (1862), Virgin Islands (1866), St. Kitts or St. Christopher (1870), Dominica (1874) and Montserrat (1876). During the interim periods, handstruck stamps came back into use. The study of the various issues of these early stamps has provided philatelists with the many pleasures. One of these postal markings, has today attracted many students, who have given new romance to old classic stamps and even later issues, by showing odd cancellations, usages, and especially rates. Covers from small obsolete areas can thrill any collector. The Leeward Islands stamps that came into use on October 31, 1890, replacing the definitive issues for each of the respective colonies, provides a storehouse of postmarks for the postal historian, many of these are still unrecorded such as the one shown in Fig. 2, the abbreviated townmarking for Plymouth, Montserrat. The use of Leeward Islands stamps from each of the islands can be distinguished by the respective numeral obliterator as above, or a cancelled datestamp. The key plate design showing the Queen's Head as designed and printed by De La Rue developed one major error.

The stamps of the islands became very unpopular following the sale of the recalled remainders of the discontinued and obsolete stock. In spite of this and adding to the disaffection, a special commemorative issue appeared in 1897, for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, which did not sell well. The agitation and virtual boycott of these stamps by "the Society for Suppression of Speculative Stamps (or the S. S. S. S.)" had a sobering affect because of the loss of revenue from the sale of postage stamps to collectors. The answer



Fig. 1. (Left). An example of an old Leeward Island receiving mark; (Right). The Crowned Circle handstamped cancellation.

to the problem only aggravated the situation when in 1899, the Virgin Islands, again issued definitive stamps, although the Federal issues were also valid, and by 1903, the other islands followed with their own respective issues of stamps.

Thus, two separate issues were valid in each of the islands—the Federal stamps of the Leeward Islands and the definitive issues or Presidentials. This prevailed up to May 1, 1956 when the Leewards were discontinued with the formation of British West Indian Federation, while the Presidentials remained. To the adventurous collector, a new field came into being—to show use of each Leeward stamp cancelled in different islands in combination with definitives. Many types of cancellers were introduced, so that the study and collecting of these can furnish a delightful pastime even on some of the George V penny values; a lot of stamp hunting at small expense.

The following lists some of the towns offering such cancellations that may be of interest to collectors.

Antigua—Parham, Johnson's Point, Seatons, Bolans, Bendals, Liberta, All Saints, St. Johnstons, Cedar Grove, Falmouth, Montpelier, Barbuda, Pares, Green Bay, Gunthorpes, Swetes AO2, A18, St. Johns, G. P. O.

Dominica—St. Josephs, Rosalie, Vielle Case, Point Michel, Mahaut, Delices, Colihaut, Castle Bruce, Soufriere, Marigot, La Plaine, Grandbay, AO7. Roseau G. P. O., Dominica G. P. O.

Montserrat—Plymouth (P), G. P. O. Plymouth, AO8.

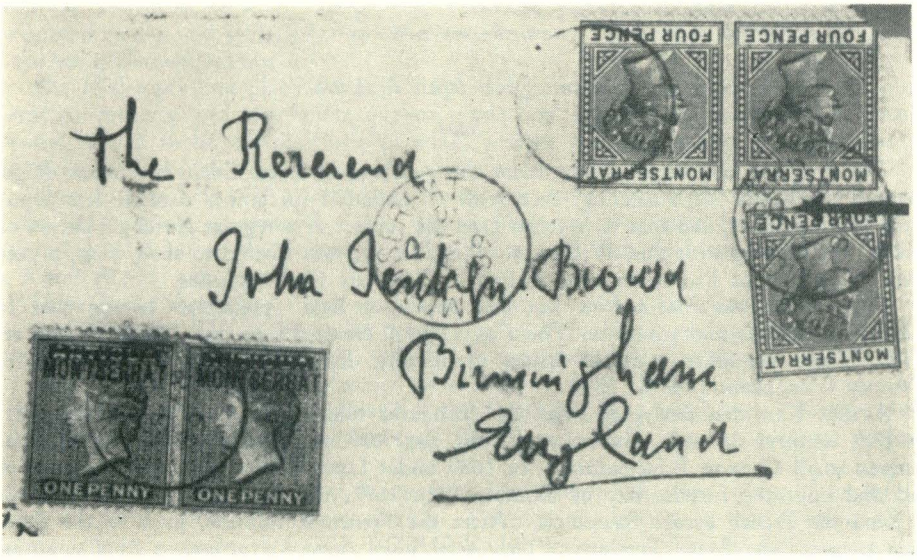


Fig. 2. The letter "P" cancellation indicating Plymouth, Montserrat.

Nevis—Charlestown, AO9.

St. Kitts—Sandy Point, SP, Anguilla, AN, Valley, Cayon, Ca, Old Road, OR, Dieppe Bay, DB, A12, G. P. O.

Virgin Islands—Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Roadtown, East End, West End, A13, A91, Anegeda, G. P. O.

In 1922, Leeward Islands stamps were overprinted Barbuda, for use in a small island belonging to the Codrington family. This issue up to the 5/ was strictly a money-raising venture, actual postal use being limited. The cancellation, "Barbuda, B. W. I.", can be found on ordinary Leewards and Antigua stamps because Barbuda was a branch post office.

Dominica left the Leeward Islands group on December 31, 1939 to join the Windward group. George VI stamps of Leewards used in Dominica are quite scarce, But Dominica rejoined the B. W. I. Federation in 1956.

Other interesting items are the abbreviated town markings found in the cancelled date-stamp in the upper quadrant. These are known for Anguilla (AN), Sandy Point (SP), Dieppe Bay (DB), Old Road (OR), Plymouth (P), Cayon (CA). New ones may be discovered.

There are a few major varieties such as the dropped "R" variety of Edward VII shilling of Plate 2, 1st stamp, lower pane; duty plate shift on Queen Victoria 1 penny; 1902 overprint varieties are listed and not too difficult to find. The 1897 Sexagenary issue have a few double overprints, but these are scarce and counterfeits are prevalent on these. The George VI printings have several varieties of interest.

The situation today with the formation of The Federation of the British West Indies, as a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, holds the possibility of a new issue of Federation issues on even a larger scale. It is doubtful whether each of the islands will give up the revenue that has helped their fiscal problems through the sale of stamps to collectors. The Virgin Islands did not join the Federation because it hopes to gain more by the sale of its own postage stamps.

The popularity of the British West Indies as a tourist and winter resort is second to none. The postage stamps of these colorful islands are now part of a tourist's purchase because he desires to bring home souvenirs of his Caribbean cruise. These remarks are made here to show the marked difference between present-day stamp collecting and the philately and postal history of bygone years. *(Dr. Irwin M. Yarry)*

Meeting of April 6, 1960

Saar

The Program Committee, while under the guidance of Louis Stich, had made diligent attempts to schedule some meetings every year on philatelic specialities that are less popular in the United States, and that have never been the subject of a regular evening's lecture and exhibit. In keeping with this, *William A. Katz, M. D.,* was invited to show *Saar,* a postal entity whose stamps had never come before a Collectors Club audience.

This exhibit was confined to just two phases of Saar's philately. In the first few frames were entires and covers on *The Early Postal History* from the 18th and 19th centuries. These pre-adhesive stamp letters graphically depict the political history of this Territory from about 1747 to 1850.

As Dr. Katz described each item, the postmarks told the story. Towards the end of the 17th century, the area now known as the Saar or Saare-Territory was divided among fourteen small German Principalities. In 1680 under Louis XIV, the French occupied this land and built the fortress city of Saarlouis. In 1697, the Peace of Ryswick took away all from the French except Saarelouis. After the French Revolution, in 1793 the French again occupied the Saare Territory. They established three Departments: 1) Department de la Moselle with Saarelouis, its name now changed to Sarre-Libre and Saarebrück. The

postal mark was No. 55; 2) Department de la Saare with Treves (Trier) as its administrative seat (No. 101); and 3) Department Mont Tonnerre with Homburg its headquarters (No. 100).

In 1814-15 France lost the entire territory again to Germany. Most of it joined with the Rhine Province of Prussia, but a small eastern portion went to Bavaria.

Displayed was a postal marking of Saarelouis in 1747, which Dr. Katz maintains is the earliest known. There was a 1774 mark of Francsaarlouis, which is exceedingly scarce because this town marking was in use for one year only. Five Saarelouis markings between 1776-92 were shown, as well as one Saare Louis dated November 1793. Then followed other interesting items during the French rule up to 1814. There were several interesting and scarce postmarks during this period used by the French and German armed forces. Two from Bliscastel contrasted the German town name, "Zweibrucken" with the French, "Deux Ponts."

After the Germans re-occupied the Territory, the leading specialized catalogs give the date of the earliest known postmark as 1839, but Dr. Katz showed one from Merzig in 1819. This postal history part concluded with postal markings of the Saar on the stamps of Bavaria 1849-1920, on Prussia 1850-68, and the adhesives of the North German Confederation 1868-71 and on the issues of the German Empire 1872-1920.

* * * *

The stamps of Saar start with the 1920 Provisional issues, when the Treaty of Versailles following World War I established the land between France and Germany as the Saar, which was administered by the League of Nations from 1920 to 1935. Overprints were applied to two basic postage stamps—those of *Germany* (The Germania type) and the King Ludwig III stamps of *Bavaria*. Dr. Katz confined his lecture and exhibit to the first provisional issues of 1920. He did not show ony of the later issues nor those of the Saar following World War II. Therefore, this was a meeting mostly devoted to an interesting study of overprints.

Following the end of World War I, in 1920 the French Army occupied the Saar. Its commander, General Wirbel, on January 19, 1920 ordered all existing stocks of German stamps in the post offices to be sent to the Ober-Postkasse (Main Post Office) in Saarbrücken, which in turn sent the stock to the printing plant of Gebrüder Hofer (Hofer Bros.) in Saarebrücken to be overprinted. The stamps were to have the word "Sarre" overprinted on top and a black bar to obliterate the words "Deutsches Reich" on the bottom of the basic German stamps.

The Hofer printing plant was unfamiliar with postage stamp work, being set up for newspaper printing and not better quality production required for stamps. The results, however, proved to be a philatelist's paradise, because the poor quality of work plus the difficulties encountered created a mass of errors and varieties.

Then on March 3, 1920 a second order went out that all existing stocks of the Bavarian stamps be similarily overprinted. This time a new type was used for "Sarre" and the obliterating solid bar at the bottom was changed to one with five separated lines, but on the 5 and 10 Mk. only four.

There was a shortage of type, so that on sheets of stamps all letters in the overprints were not constant. The stamps were overprinted on full sheets, as originally issued. The German stamps were sheets of 100 (10x10), except the 1 Mk., a sheet of twenty (4x5). But with Bavaria's stamps, the pfennigs were sheets of 100 (10x10); the 1, 2 and 3 Mk. fifty (10x5), while the high denominations, the 5 and 10 Mk. were sheets of twenty (4x5).

This, too, demanded different settings. The slugs used for the bar were not uniform, also creating many constant varieties.

As the overprinting progressed, it was seen that some of the type, being of an inferior quality due to the War, wore down quickly. Other type loosened, so that resetting of the type was almost a continual process. The philatelist approaches this material to attempt to make an orderly classification. Consequently, he has resolved the entire process of over-

printing on the stamps in the following manner:

There are three basic settings. The first is with a solid bar. Then in order to foil the malpractices of forgers, who soon got busy to cheat the Post Office, a short line of a few millimeters length was inserted under the solid bar. This is the Type II. Both of these types were handset. The specialist divides these two into sub-types based upon the formation of the bar, which often is found broken, both horizontally or vertically. Also the bar was not uniformly set with solid type, often being joined with two slugs, ¾ and ¼ inch lengths with an obvious separation.

Type 3 is with slightly smaller type, both the letters and the bars. This was first handset with the varieties removed. Then a stereo plate was made for the actual printing. On Type 3 there are consequently the least number of varieties and no split bars.

Dr. Katz showed practically every variety, errors such as inverted overprints, proofs, essays and trial printings. A most interesting (and valuable) stamp is the 20 Mark of Bavaria. This high denomination comes in sheets of twenty. General Wirbel knew a good thing when he saw it. So he ordered the printer to save him a block of four. The printer was no philatelist, as shown by what followed. To satisfy the General, he removed the top four stamps from the 20 Mark sheet and then overprinted only the remaining 16 stamps. Thus the General received an unoverprinted strip, not a block of four, and philatelists can explain why only 16 of the highest denomination exist.

Dr. Katz described his material thoroughly, so that after he had concluded, there were but few questions from the floor. The meeting concluded with the customary presentation of The Collectors Club Certificate to the speaker accompanied by a hearty round of applause for an interesting journey into one of philately's lesser known fields.

Meeting of April 20, 1960

Annual Member Competition and Award Night

As has been the custom for the last few years, this building was jampacked on the night that the awards for the Annual Competition along with others would be announced and presented. The 1960 program closely followed the pattern of the previous two years.

There were 55 exhibits mounted in the Meeting Room. From Monday April 18th through Friday April 22nd, the exhibits were on display from 1 to 6 p. m., with the exception of April 20th, when the exhibit remained open until 10 p. m. Each day two members acted as hosts for the visitors. *Mrs. Pritchett* had prepared printed programs as each frame was numbered. The following acted as hosts and hostess,—*Mrs. Pamela Taylor, Miss Agness Burlingame, Messrs. Edwin E. Elkins, Hans Zervas* and *Sol Altman.*

Many members gathered on April 20th for dinner at the Champs Elysees before the meeting, when we surprised *John J. Britt* by having him as the Guest of Honor, because he is the first recipient of the newly-created *Collectors Club Medal* for distinguished services to the club.

At the outset of the meeting, President Harrison D. S. Haverbeck called upon *Ernest A. Kehr,* just back from Barcelona, Spain, for a report on this philatelic congress.

Second, *Ezra D. Cole,* Chairman of the Program Committee, told the audience of the amount of work entailed in staging an exhibit as this. Without the loyal help of members, who volunteered, the Annual Competition would be impossible. Therefore, Mr. Cole presented *Collectors Club Certificates of Appreciation* to *Adrien Boutrelle, Nathan Hals, Maurice Tripet, Emanuel Reggel, Sol Whitman, Albert H. Higgins, Max Bass, Paul Lindenberg, Miss Beatrice Berner* and *Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, Chairman.* Mr. Cole also acknowledged the helpful services and advice of *Louis Stich,* his predecessor as Program Committee Chairman as well as the work done by our staff, Mrs. Pritchett and Mrs. Eldridge.

Next came the yearly practice of presenting specially bound volumes of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to the *Editorial Committee.* The 1959 volume with index was stamped



(Top to Bottom). President Haverbeck presenting the 1959 CCP Medal for the best article (South Bulgaria) to Dean Herbert P. Woodward (left); Vincent Lopez making the presentation to John J. Britt of the CC Medal for outstanding services to the Collectors Club; Malcolm G. O'Reilly receiving a special award for services to the Club; Sol Rozman (right) receiving the Program Committee Medal for the best exhibit in 1959 from Louis Stich; Dr. Ludwig Simon (right) accepting the Grand Award for the 1960 Member Competition from H. D. S. Haverbeck: and the editor of "the Collectors Club Philatelist" accepting the specially bound volume 39. (Photos by Boutrelle.)

in gold-leaf with each recipient's name. *Henry M. Goodkind,* the editor, presented these attractive books to *Winthrop S. Boggs, Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, Edwin Mueller* and *Louis Stich.* The editor received his after some especially praiseworthy remarks from the president. This is the eleventh bound volume received by the present editorial board.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Awards Committee, John R. Boker, Jr., the President did the honors with the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST awards for 1959. Two *CCP Medals* were presented to:

French Colonies by Robert G. Stone, Belleville, Ill.

South Bulgaria by Herbert P. Woodward, Newark, N. J.

A *Certificate of Honor* went to:

Hawaiian Numerals by J. B. Westerberg, Mill Valley, Calif.

The former chairman of the Program Committee, Louis Stich, presented *The Collectors Club Medal for the Best Program* given in 1959 to *Mr. Sol Rozman* for his *Palestine, Forerunners and Mandate Period.*

The next order of the meeting surprised the two recipients. In recent years, it has been a custom to remember meritorious services given to The Collectors Club. This is not an annual award nor is it done by any formal balloting nor special committee. The President and some members of the Board of Governors are permitted by our Constitution and By-Laws to formally acknowledge the services of certain members. Silver trays, suitably engraved, were presented to *Malcolm G. O'Reilly* for his services to the club as secretary 1957-59, and as Chairman of the Library. A second silver tray was handed to one, many consider the club's most dedicated worker, Past President *John J. Britt,* who has continued to serve the club in many capacities.

Following this, President Haverbeck spoke upon and showed the 1960 *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award* for distinguished service to philately. Since the 1960 recipient, *J. R. W. Purves* of Melbourne, Australia, will not visit the United States this year, the formal presentation has been arranged with the kind cooperation of Mr. Ewart Gerrish, Chairman of the 1960 London International Exhibition for the banquet at the Hotel Savoy, July 9th in London, England. This will mark the first presentation outside of the United States. President Haverbeck spoke of The Collectors Club's deep appreciation to our good friends in England, who have so graciously permitted our club to make the Lichtenstein Award during these ceremonies.

John J. Britt was called to the front of the room to receive the first *Collectors Club Medal* for distinguished services to the club from his good friend and our long-time member, Vincent Lopez. Due to his great experience with appearances in public, on radio and television, Mr. Lopez's remarks were well received by the large audience.

Meantime many of the exhibiting members and their wives were anxiously awaiting the announcement of the results of the Annual Competition. *Edwin Mueller* was the Chairman of this year's Board of Judges. The others were *Eugene N. Costales,* co-editor of the Scott Catalogues, *John R. Boker, Jr., Malcolm O'Reilly* and *Herbert P. Woodward.*

SIXTEEN (16) CERTIFICATES OF HONOR were awarded to:-

Bosnia & Herzegovina, Army Occupation Covers and Stamps—John F. Conner, N. Y.
U. S. Proofs, 1869 Issue—Julian F. Gros, N. Y.
U. S. Wells Fargo Covers—Dr. A. Jay Hertz, N. Y.
China, Essays and Proofs of The Early Republic Issues—Dr. Warren A. Kauder, Newark, N. J.
U. S., The Weston, Mass "Killer"—John L. Norbeck, Minneapolis, Minn.
Czechoslovakia, Official Mail of the Pre-Republic Czech Army—Dr. Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, N. Y.
Antarctic Expedition Covers 1901-28—Herbert Rosen, N. Y.
Greece, 1896 Olympic Issue—Ira Seebacher, Rosalyn, N. Y.

U. S. Air Mails 1918-35—Philip Silver, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Israel, First Postage Due Stamps—Martin J. Taub, N. Y.
U. S., New York Foreign Mail Cancellations 1870-76—Morrison Waud, Chicago, Ill.
Mexico, Early Stage Coach Cancellations—Dr. Abner I. Weisman, N. Y.
U. S., Idaho and Montana Territorial Covers and Bannack City Express—Oliver Wolcott, Copley, Ohio
Great Britain Used Abroad, St. Thomas—Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, N. Y.
Ceylon, Covers Showing Early Postal Rates—Lawrence L. Shenfield, Bronxville, N. Y.
Jordan, The First Overprinted Issues—John F. Rider, N. Y.

SIX (6) SILVER TRAYS AS THE MAJOR AWARDS TO:—

Corrientes, Costa Rica and Guatemala, Early Issues on Cover—Max H. Bass, Great Neck, N. Y.
U. S. Revenue Stamps, The 2nd Issue—George H. Deuble, Canton, Ohio
Foreign Disinfected Covers—Herbert Dube, Toronto, Canada
India, No. 1's of The Feudatory States on Cover—Dr. Alexander Levine, Jersey City, N. J.
Jugoslavia, Forerunners—M. R. Rasic, Toronto, Canada
Steamship Companies' Stamps—J. P. Steindler, Chicago, Ill.

BEST-IN-SHOW (GRAND AWARD):

Confederate States of America—Dr. Ludwig L. Simon, Newark, N. J.
(This collection showed beautiful copies of the General Issues and Postmaster Provisionals, mostly on covers.)

Those present, who gained an award, stepped forward for the presentation as their name was announced.

Following these ceremonies, the members and guests retired to the Library for a few light refreshments, while many returned to the first floor Meeting Room to re-examine the exhibits, while trying to compare their own opinions with that of the Board of Judges.

Most everyone present seemed to radiate pleasure over another fine Collectors Club member competition. The appeal of the exhibit was not that it turned out to be the one with the greatest number of entries yet, but the wide diversification shown. Even with seven Israeli entries, only two of these were similar. Once again members from as far west as California and several from Canada exhibited. In fact, two of the Major Awards went to Toronto, Canada members.

Those other members who exhibited in the 1960 Competition were:

Israel—Harry Abelson, Short Hills, N. J.
U. S. Essays 1861-67—Solomon Altman, N. Y.
Israel, Richon Le Zion Local Issue—Leslie L. Blake, Williamson, N. Y.
U. S. 1938 $2 Presidential Stamp—Dr. Robert S. Breakey, Lansing, Mich.
China, The Small Dragon Issue—E. Robert Clas, Baltimore, Md.
Israel, Nahariya By The Sea—Arthur Cohen, Rochester, N. Y.
Hanseatic States, Prestamp Covers—M. C. Dillingham, San Francisco, Calif.
Maldive Islands, Edward VII Provisionals—John F. Field, San Francisco, Calif.
Israel, Interim Period—Raymond Groden, N. Y.
Germany, Local Stamps of Prisoner of War Camp Ruhleben, World War I—Herman Herst, Jr. Shrub Oak, N. Y.
Leeward Islands, George VI £1 Stamp—Fred Kahn, N. Y.
Polar Exploration Postal History—Harold N. Kaufman, San Juan, Puerto Rico
U. S. Plate No. 57, Black Jack Re-issue—Mrs. Arthur G. Lane, St. Petersburg, Florida
Egypt, Air Mail, Royal Imperforates—George L. Lee, Bernardsville, N. J.
Brunei, First Day of Issue—Howard Lee, Larchmont, N. Y.
Egypt, Railway Cancellations—P. P. Lindenburg, N. Y.
Maldive Islands, Ceylon Stamps Overprinted for the Maldives—Millard H. Mack, Cincinnati, Ohio

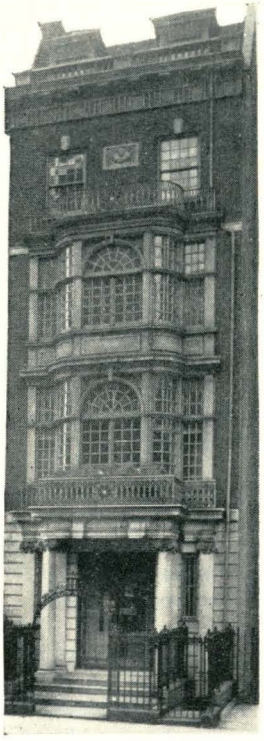
Colombia, The First Issue 1859—John N. Myer, N. Y.
Canada-Great Britain, Pre-Cunard Transatlantic Mail—Mrs. J. C. McDonald, Canton, Ohio
Yemen, The Early Issues—Emmett Peter, Jr., Leesburg, Florida
Nepal, Official Stamps and Covers—M. L. Ricketts, Lovington, Illinois
German Courier Mail of the 16th and 17th Centuries—Arthur Salm, Chicago, Illinois
Haiti, President Solomon 1887 and 1931 Issues—F. Burton Sellers, Tarrytown, N. Y.
Air Mails, Semi-Official Stamps of Scandinavia—Dr. R. H. Shrady, Englewood, N. J.
Errors on Cover—Robert Sperring, Trenton, N. J.
Israel—Leon Walters, N. Y.
U. S., Plate Numbers Used in More Than One Issue—Jerome Wolf, Bloomfield, Conn.
Mauritius, The Brittania Issues—George R. Wren, Canton, Ohio
Hungary, 19th Century on Cover—John L. Briggs, Jr., N. Y.

Not For Competition

South Bulgaria—Herbert P. Woodward, Newark, N. J.
1850 Issue of Lombardy-Venetia—Louis Stich, N. Y.
Egypt—Ernest A. Kehr, N. Y.

* * * *

All agreed that the success of this evening was due in a large part to the efficient management and work by our staff—Mrs. Pritchett and Eldridge, Phil Dinnelle and Charles McLaughlin.



THE COLLECTORS CLUB

22 EAST 35TH STREET, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

1960 OFFICERS

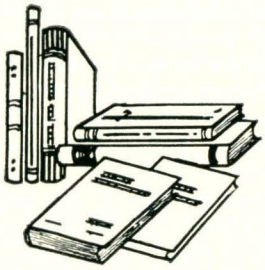
H. D. S. Haverbeck	*President*
Louis Stich	*Vice-President*
Herbert P. Woodward	*Secretary*
Albert H. Higgins	*Treasurer*

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Stamps of New South Wales, by Guybon John Hutson, 125 pages, illustrated (three plates in color), buckram bound, $30.00 (Limited edition of 120 copies for sale). Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1960. Gift of the publisher.

The primary object in writing this book, as expressed by Mr. Hutson in his preface, was to bring together all the available information on the subject and put it into easy reach of the philatelist, whether novice or advanced specialist. To this end he has incorporated the vast amount of information available in the earlier work of Mr. A. F. Basset Hull*, the work of the students who followed Mr. Hull and the results of his own extensive studies. Unlike many of those attracted to New South Wales philately, who succumb to the glamour of the "Sydney Views" and proceed no further, Mr. Hutson recognizes the intellectual challenge inherent in the study of the Lauriated Issues, the Diadem stamps printed from the Perkins, Bacon plates, yes even the unpopular surface printed issues of the period 1862-1893; and these issues as well as subsequent stamps of New South Wales all receive the same thorough treatment.

The essays prepared for each issue, the paper and ink (pigments) used, the plates, dates of use, varieties of issue as well as the color shades are here in detailed listing for each value. Forgeries, faked watermarks and perforations are discussed in detail. With his detailed notes on these, Mr. Hutson renders philatelists a great service. Many students are reluctant to write on these unfortunate and evil aspects of philately. Therefore, it is refreshing to find one who accepts the necessity of acknowledging that they exist and then gives freely of his acquired knowledge, to enable others to recognize the bad ones.

Postmarks and cancellations are scattered here and there among the bibliography of his subject and Mr. Hutson has cataloged this information and presented all pertinent data in the proper sequence of use.

The very close study of perforations has long been a forte of British philately, and the author too is a champion of their interest. He even expresses sympathy for those who for various reasons spurn the study of perforations. His studies of the perforation varieties of the stamps surface printed from the plates of Thomas De La Rue & Company is reported in great detail. The tables used by Mr. Hutson to summarize the results of his observations are most valuable; those expressing the relative scarcity of the different perforations will prove of great interest to the specialist as well as the perforation enthusiast. Mr. Hutson has set high (and logical) standards of acceptance for the different varieties of perforation, denying the existence of some, which are apparently of great scarcity, and doubting others of almost equal rarity. Some of those of which he is sceptical, because they are the only copy known, are in his own collection.

Although the author limits himself quite properly to the stamps of New South Wales, he recognizes the need for an explaination of the early postal history of the country. Mr. John Easton, with the approval and blessing of Mr. Hutson, gives an eight page summary of the postal history, extracted from Mr. A. F. Basset Hull's earlier work.

*The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards and Telegraph Stamps of New South Wales, by A. F. Basset Hull, 2 vols. 574 pages plus 41 plates, London 1911-1913, Stanley Gibbons for the Royal Philatelic Society.

It is not too difficult to appraise the qualities that set this work apart as an achievement of optimum merit. Possessing one of the finest collections of New South Wales ever assembled, Mr. Hutson uses it almost exclusively as the basis for his meticulous listings. He writes with the tone of authority of one familiar with his subject, a familiarity founded not only on a long association, but also with the certain knowledge that no effort has been spared in the study of all available material, not only in his own collection, but in those collections that are in museums both in England and in Australia. The Royal Collection too has been extensively studied, proving a most valuable source of information. To all this add Mr. Hutson's gift of organization, his rigid sense of integrity and one has the reasons why his book will stand as a standard reference work on the stamps of New South Wales.

The workmanship is excellent throughout. The printing, plate preparation and binding are examples of fine craftsmanship and place this book among those that are a joy to own and to view as well as valuable to use.

There is a short Foreward by Sir John Wilson. *(Malcolin G. O'Reilly)*

An Airmail Collector's Notebook, extracts made by L. N. & M. Williams. 132 pages, cloth cover, profusely illustrated. Privately published. Printed by Harrison & Sons, Ltd. (Gift of "The Collector.")

Some years ago a valuable collection of air mail stamps and covers, formed by an English lady, was presented to the British Museum, London. This lady had printed privately in most attractive form a write-up of the France and Italy portions of this collection. Because "The Collector" choses anonymity, no author's name appeared upon these books. "The Collector," however, is known to this reviewer, and this gracious lady presented these two books to this club's library for the information of its many members interested in air mail.

In 1960, after a lapse of many years, this air mail collection in the British Museum is the subject of a third book, a copy of which was presented to the library, and another to this reviewer. This latest book covers selected air mails alphabetically from A (Afghanistan) to Y (Yugoslavia).

This collection was formed years ago and consists of the pioneer flights and early air stamps of the 1920's. There are a few exceptions of later stamps and covers, but none after World War II. The importance of this book lies in the illustrations of the scarce stamps and covers. After all, in the vast field of aerophilately, most of the rarities date from the earlier years. Since this British collection had many of them, one will find a number of magnificent rare items illustrated.

Undertaking this book was no easy matter. The services of the well-known British authors, L. N. and M. Williams, were used. In a way, this was an unfortunate choice, because the Williams brothers are top-notch journalists, but their knowledge of air mails is not their strong point. The results in the text would have been far better, if an air mail specialist had done the job, or even been consulted.

The extractors had to call upon previously published articles. Sadly, many have become very antedated, being replaced by newer and more accurate writings that were not used. An air mail student would have known what past articles to select. On the other hand, some writings have been well chosen to describe particular items.

If a philatelic writer, often underpaid and frequently unpaid, has "injury added to insult," it is with the all too-frequent practice of having his writings "pirated" without any credit line. When this reviewer started reading this book, of course, he turned to those parts that interested him most. As author of the popular book, "United States the 24c Air Mail Inverted Center of 1918," he read with interest what was written on pages 125-26. "Tis a wise father who knows his own child." Most all of page 126 appeared in The COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST of 1950 (Volume 29, No. 6). In fact, page 126 is copied intact from page 342 of the 1950 number of this magazine, without any mention of the

publication nor the author. Going further into this book, more instances of quoting from this reviewer's writings were found without any credit line.

Consequently, this book was read with mixed emotions. Its appearance is important. Its production is first-rate. Unfortunately, the air mail specialist will rue that the text was assigned as it was, making this a detraction rather than an attraction of this beautiful book. *(H. M. G.)*

The Stamps and Postal History of Sarawak, by W. R. Forrester-Wood, 576 pages illustrated, plus map and corrigenda (1 page), cloth bound, published by the Sarawak Specialists Society, 1959. 50/plus postage. Purchased by the library.

Here is a country which has never lacked in either philatelic popularity or bibliography. And yet another book on the subject? But this is not just another book! This work does not join the others, it replaces them. Here is *the* authoritative work on Sarawak. The members of the Sarawak Specialists Society are to be congratulated for their achievement.

Dr. Forrester-Wood has, with the cooperation of the members of this Society, written a complete account of the stamps and postal history of Sarawak. Much of the information published in this book appeared first in the pages of the Society's quarterly, "The Sarawak Journal." It is fortunate for philately that this material, and the extensive studies of the author have now been made availble for a much wider sphere of collectors. Free use has been made of the studies of others of earlier years but always with proper reference to the work used.

After a short Foreword by H. H. The Rajah of Sarawak, Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, and the author's Preface, there is a brief but fascinating introduction to the history of Sarawak. The first chapter deals with the postal history prior to the issuance of the first stamp in March, 1869. A table lists the 14 covers known from this period, and six of them are illustrated. The chapters on the lithographic stamps of 1869, 1871 and 1875 are replete with information. Not only do we have the complete postal history of these stamps, but also the complete philatelic history including tables of all the plating flaws for the full sheets and for each stamp in the sheet. This series of chapters is a study in the lithographic method of printing stamps, universally applicable whether it be Sarawak or Switzerland. The same detailed treatment is given the typographed, the later engraved issues and the plentiful provisionals, but not of course with the same emphasis on reconstruction of the printing plates as was vested in the early lithographed issues.

There is no phase of the postal story of Sarawak which is not exposed. The cancellations of each period are well described and illustrated. This is especially true of the period of Japanese occupation, and that immediately following it. Postal stationery, Revenue and Telegraph stamps all receive proper treatment. The chapter devoted to the history of the development of the Air Post is of absorbing interest.

This book having established itself as the standard work on Sarawak also sets a standard for the future productions of specialists' study groups. It also sets a standard for the efficient use of space for the presentation of the maximum amount of information. The tabular listings of summarized data are most convenient to use. Well illustrated, long descriptive text is not needed. This too saves space. The only unfortunate feature of the book is that economy was necessary in its production, when, in fact, its contents warrant a lavish production.

Dr. W. R. Forrester-Wood richly deserves the 1960 *Crawford Medal* which was awarded to him for this most valuable addition to the literature. *(M. G. O'R.)*

COLLECTORS CLUB LIBRARY
WANT LIST

Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica Argentina, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Ano LIV, Nos. 364-

(Continued on Bottom of Page 202)

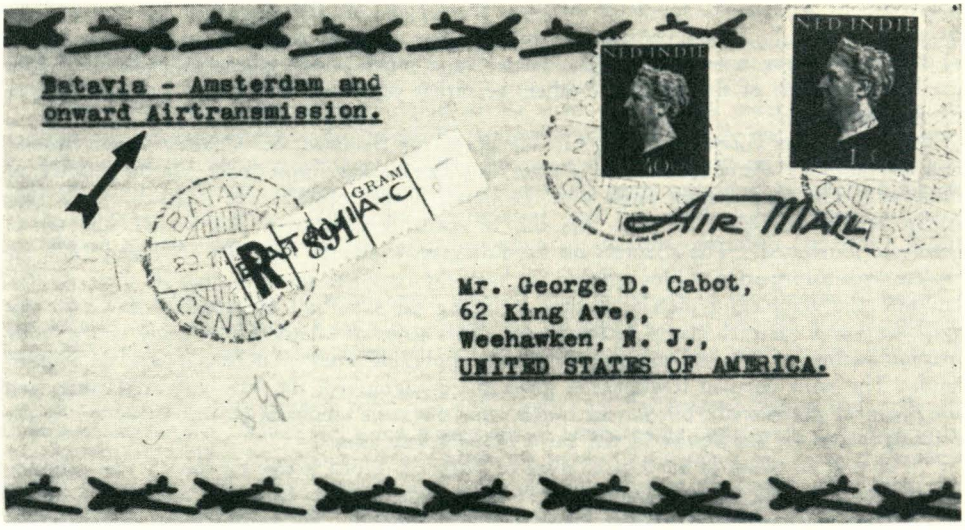
O. A. T. POSTAL MARKING

Further Evidence

By HENRY M. GOODKIND

In the November 1959 number of this magazine (THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. 38, No. 6, pp. 279-285), two versions were given for the meaning of the initials O. A. T. One, on page 280, stated that the well-known British aero-philatelist, Mr. Francis J. Field had information O. A. T. was the abbreviation of "Onward Air Transport." On page 282, however, Dr. Gordon Ward of England wrote the following:

> "The letters O. A. T. were sometimes found on air mail letters posted during the war years, 1940 to 1945. They mean 'Onward Air Transmission' and these words are sometimes written in full on covers from the Netherland East Indies. I had also in my collection of these marks (since disposed of) a cachet which gave the words in full, but I cannot remember further details about it."



An air mail cover flown from Batavia, Netherlands East Indies on November 29, 1948. The arrow in the upper left corner points to the significant words: "Onward Airtransmission." (Photo by Boutrelle.)

Illustrated is a cover given to the writer by an old-time Collectors Club member, Mr. George D. Cabot. In the upper left hand corner is the typewritten instruction reading: "*Batavia-Amsterdam and onward Airtransmission.*" Obviously this was typed by the sender and not applied later as a cachet, as Dr. Ward's above-mentioned cover. Nevertheless, this does offer evidence that O. A. T. did mean "Onward Air Transmission," thus going one step further to the solution of a problem that has confronted many of our members.

LIBRARY **(Continued from Page 201)**

369, 1949; Ano LVII No. 383 - Ano LVIII, No. 390, 1952-1953; Ano LIX, Nos. 394, 396, 399, 1954; Ano LX, Nos. 400-401 and 403, 1955.

The London Philatelist, London, England. Vol. XXVII, No. 314, February 1918.

The Australian Stamp Journal, Sydney, Australia. Vol. VII, No. 8, June 11, 1917.

Deutsch Zeitung fur Briefmarkenkunde (DBZ), Bad Ems, Germany. Vol. 30, No. 12, 1955.

URUGUAY

Letter-Numeral Cancellations of Interior Post Offices

By ROBERT HOFFMAN

(Continued from Vol. 39 page 156)

"I" — DEPARTAMENTO FLORIDA — Capital Florida

1. (Cuchilla San Gabriel, San Gabriel)
2. Florida – (Paso de la Tranquera de Mansevillagra, Estación Florida, Mansevillagra)
3. (Estación Illescas del F. C. C.)
4. Estación Florida – (Cerro Colorado)
5. Florida – (La Cruz)
6. Tala Maciel – (Costas de Maciel)
7. Florida – (Sauce del Yi)
8. Tornero – (Tornero Margen Izquierda, Tornero Margen Derecha)
9. (Tala de Maciel, Chamangá)
10. Florida – (Fray Marcos, Estación F. C. C.) (Latorre)
11. (Puntas de Maciel, Talita)
12. Pantanoso de Castro – (Arroyos del Paraná, de los Negros y Castro, Puntas del Pantanoso, Castro)
13. (Sauce del Yi, Costas de Illescas, Pantanoso de Castro)
14. Cardal – (Santa Lucía Chico)
15. Estación Florida – (Sarandí Grande, Sarandi, Estación F. C. del Estado)
16. Puntas de San Gregorio – (Puntas de San Geronimo, San Geronimo)
17. Molles de Timote – (Mansavillagra, Estación F. C. C.)
18. Sarandí Chico – (Cuchilla de Palermo)
19. Palermo – (Santo Domingo, Cerros de Rospide)
20. Mendoza – (Isla Mala)
21. Molles de Timote – (Tornero Margen Izquierdo, Tornero Derecha)
22. P. del Prado (Paso del Prado, Goñi, Estación)
23. Talita
24. Juan Perdomo – (Camino San Geronimo, Chamizo, Parada, F. C. C. U.)
25. (Barra de Illescescas, Mouzon)
26. (Sauce de los Molles, Molles de Timote)
27. Berronda – (Berrondo, Puntas del Pescado, Valentin, Valentines, Molles del Pescado)
28. (Talita, Paso Guello de Santa Lucía Grande, Paso de Cuello)
29. (Parada Arteaga, Rincon de Aldama, Cerro Mulero)
30. (Cerro Chato, Castro, Puntas del Yi)
31. Polanco del Yi
32. Reboledo – (Estación F. C. C. U.)
33. (25 de Agosto, Sauce del Yi, Juan Chaso)
34. San Gabriel – (Molles de Timote, Sauce de Timote)
35. Castro – (Tala de Castro, Chamamé, Estación Florida)
36. (Barra de la Cruz, Costa Arroya de la Cruz)
37. Nico Pérez – (Battle y Ordoñez, Hotel Estación Nico Pérez)
38. (A. Casupá)
39. (Ombues de Castillo)
40. (Sauce del Yi)
41. (San Geronimo)
42. (Mendoza)
43. San Juan – (San Juan Puntas de Arias)
44. Pintado
45. Sarandí – (Sarandí Grande)

46. Chamamé
57. Talita
48. Palermo – (Timote)
49. Timote
51. Monte Corral
54. Piedras Blancas–Mendoza – (Piedras Blancas)
55. Florida – (Fray Marcos)
58. Colonia Laureiro
62. Barrio Nueva Paris – (Barrio Nuevo Paris–Sarandi Grande)
63. Costa de Arras – (Puntas de Arias)
64. Santa Teresa ....

"J" — DEPARTAMENTO DURAZNO — Capital Durazno

1. (Pueblo Sarandi)
2. Capilla de Farruco
3. Caballero – (Costa de Caballero, Arroyo de Caballero)
4. Las Palmas – (Puntas de Caballero)
5. Puntas de Tejera – (Tejera, Punta de los Toros, Costa de Tejera, Molles)
6. Carpintería – (Paso Real de Carpintería, Paso de Carpintería)
7. Cuadra – (Costa de Cuadra, Pantonoso de Cuadra, Cordobés)
8. Durazno – (Ultima Hora, Villa Durazno, Km 319 Estación)
9. Sauce Feliciano – (Sauce, de los Tapes, Rincon de los Tapes)
10. Las Acacias – (Cuchille de las Acacias, Cuchilla de Comercio, Paso de Quinteros)
11. Sarandí de Cuadra – (Cuadra)
12. Carpintería – (Higuera de Carpinería, Sarandi de los Perros, Puntas de Carpintería)
13. (Pueblo del Carmen, Carmen)
14. P. Antonio Herrera – (Arroyo Herrera, Costa del Yi, Malvajar)
15. (Puntas de Malbajar, Cañas, Farruco Cordobés, Cordobés)
16. (Cordobés, Villasboas, Puntas de Villasboas, Paso de Herrería Vieja)
17. Chileno 6a. Sección – (Chileno, Estación Durazno, Puntas del Blanquillo)
18. Maria Cejas – (Arroyo de las Conchas, Puntas de las Palmas, Paso de las Conchas, Puntas dlC)
19. Paso de Ramirez – (Paso Arroyo Villasboas, Paso de Villasboas)
20. Maestro Compo – (Maria Ceja, Maestre Campo)
21. Las Cañas
22. (Cuadra, Sarandi de Cuadra, Las Tunas)
23. Palmar de Porrúa – (Cabellero, Estación Molles F. C. C., Molles, Puntas de Caballero)
24. Durazno – (Puntas de Carpintería)
25. La Paloma – (Pueblo La Paloma, Cuchilla Comercio)
26. Chileno – (Chileno Grande, Puntas de Cuadra)
27. Las Cañas – (San Ramon de las Cañas, Paso de Ramirez)
28. Blanquillo – (Blanquillos, Camino Real a Villasboas)
29. Puntas de los Tapes – (Punta de los Tapes)
30. Rolón – (Puntas de Cuadra, Pueblo Sarandi U. H., Sarandi del Yi U. H.)
31. San Jorge – (Sarandi San Jorge)
32. Cerrezuelo – (Punta de San Juan)
33. Pantanoso de Cuadra – (Costa Pantanoso de Cuadra, Cordobés Pantanos de Cuadra)
34. Cuchilla de Ramirez – (Cuchille de Comercio, Costa Antonio Herrera, Antonio Herrera)
35. Cuchilla de Comercio – (Sauce del Yi, Carmen)

35(bis). Cuchilla de Comercio–Carmen

36. Durazno – (Villasboas, Parada Villasboas)
37. Mariscala – (B. de la Maiscala)
38. Los Tapes
39. Puntas de Herrera
40. Sauce del Yi – (Parish, Malvajar)

40(bis). Parish

41. Blanquillo – (Estación Yi)
42. Ombúes de Oribe
43. Cuchilla de Cuadra – (Cuadra)
44. Puntas de Carpintería – (Puntas de Cuadra)
45. Colonia Rosell y Rius – (Rosell y Rius)
46. Estafeta F. C. Sauce del Yi – (Sarandi del Yi, Estafeta Florida Sauce del Yi)
47. (Estación Yi)

48. San José de las Cañas
49. P. Mouriño – (Carpintería, Pueblo Mouriño)
51. Blanquillo
52. Villas Boas – (Estación Villasboas)
53. Chileno Carpintería – (Pueblo Sentenario)
54. Durazno
55. Puntas de Mariscala – (Mariscala)
56. Chileno Chico – (Chileno)
57. (Barra de Chileno)
58. Puntas de Chileno – (Puntas de Chileno Chico)
59. Durazno
60. Estación Blanquillo – (Blanquillo)
61. Chacras del Sarandi del Yi – (Rincon de las Piedras)
62. (Cerro Chato)
63. Aguas Blancas – (Blanquillo)
64. Kilómetro 32 – (Blanquillo)
65. Arroyo de los Perros
66. Costa del S. del Rio Negro
67. Capilla de Farruco
68. Durazno
69. La Teja
70. (Paso Carpintería)
72. Puntas de Caña
73. Los Médanos
74. Chileno – (Estación Chileno)
75. P. Maltasar Brum – (Pueblo Centenario)
76. Maestro Campo
77. Tomás Cuadra – (Maestre de Campo)
78. Pueblo Nuevo

"K" — DEPARTAMENTO TACUAREMBO — Capital Tacuarembó

1. (Paso de los Toros, Rio Negro)
2. (San Greogorio, Polanco Rio Negro)
3. Cinco Sauces – (Quebrada, Punta Tacuarembó Chico)
4. Estación Pampa – (Pampa, Cuchilla de la Pampa)
5. Cuchilla Peralta – (Peralta)
6. Bañado Rocha
7. Cuchilla del Ombú – (Tres Cruces)
8. Cuchilla Yaguarí
9. Cerro del Ombú – (Ombú del Cerro)
10. Tacuarmebó – (Sauce del Caragnata, Cuchilla de Pereira)
11. Piedra Sola – (General Netto)
12. Valle Eden – (Cerro del Arbolito)
13. Estación Laureles
14. (Tambores, Tambores San Bentos, San Bentos, Estación Tambores F. C. C. U.)
15. Estación Chamberlain – (Chamberlain, Cuchilla de Bálsamo)
16. Cuchilla Haedo – (límite departmental)
17. Lambaré – (Estación Paysandú y Salto, Paso de los Toros a Paysandú, Estafeta Ambulante F. C. M.)
18. (Curtina, San Maximo, Arroyo Malo)
19. Cerro Travieso – (Tranqueras, Estafeta Ambulante del F. C. C. U.)
20. Tacuarembó – (U. H., Barrio Ferrocarril)
21. (Achar)
22. Picada de Quirino – (Cerro de las Animas)
23. (Guayviyú)
24. Paso Haedo – (Paso Hondo, Clara, Estación F. C. C.)
25. (Cardozo)
26. (Cruce de los Caminos, Cerro Travieso)
27. Tacuarembó – (Paso del Cerro, Parada del Cerro)
28. (Caraguatá)
29. (Paso de Aguiar)
30. Cerro Caraguatá – (Cuchilla de Caraguatá, Cuchilla de Pereyra)
31. (Casildo de Yaguarí)

32. Paso de las Poscas
33. Menendez (Menendez, Parada Menendez, Cuchillt de la Gloria) Estación
34. Clara – (Rincon de Zamora)
35. Laureles – (Laureles–Achar, Cerro de Pereyra)
36. Cerro Pereira – (Paso de Pereira)
37. San Joaquín – (Aldea San Joaquin)
38. Pasa del Borracho
39. Helira – (Zamora, Punta del Caraguatá)
40. Paso de los Novillos – (Paso del Novillo)
41. Cuchilla del Ombú
42. (Cuchilla de la Palma)
44. Carpintería – (Carpintería–Achar)
45. Tacuarembó Chico
46. "Zapara" – (Zaparà)
47. Paso de la Laguna
48. Paso de Bonilla
50. Carpintería del Yaguarí
51. Cuaró
52. (Sarandi de Rio Negro)
53. Tacuarembó
54. Paso de los Toros
55. (Puntas Cinco Sauces)
56. Luján
57. (Local Ultima Hora)
58. Salsipuedes
59. Tacuarembó

"L" — DEPARTAMENTO CERRO LARGO — Capital Melo

1. Sarandí de Barceló – (Sarandí)
2. Minuano Tpambaé – (Ramon Mundo)
3. (Pueblo Tupambaé, Melo, Santa Clara de Olimar, Olimar Grande–Santa Clara)
4. (Paso de las Piedras, Avestruz, P. Piedras Tupambaé)
5. Buena Vista
6. Rincón Urbano – (Rincon de la Urbana, Puntas de Pablo Paez)
7. Puentes del Chuy – (Sierra de Rios, Chuy, Puente del Chuy)
8. (Melo U. H., Agencia C. Largo)
9. Pueblo Mundo – (Rincon de la Urbana, Cerro Chato, Puntas del Cordobés)
10. Melo – (Corral de Piedra)
11. Sierra de Ríos – (Artigas, Villa de Artigas)
12. Puntas del Tacuarí – (Tacuarí)
13. (Rio Branco U. H., Villa de Artigas U. H.)
14. Tres Islas
15. Tararirás
16. Pablo Paez
17. (Aceguá)
18. Villa Viñoles – (Laguna del Negro, Puntas del Chuy)
19. Cerro de las Cuentas
20. (Manzangano, Punta de Corráles)
21. Los Mimbres
22. Quebracho – (Cerro Chato)
23. Tupambaé – (Laguna de Junco, Ambulante, Diligencia)
24. Estación Dragón – (Dragón, Paso del Dragón)
25. (Frayle Muerto)
26. Cuchilla del Paraiso – (Puntas de Tupambaé, Tupambaé)
27. Sierra de Ríos – (Senturión)
28. Cerros de Mieres – (Sarandí del Quebracho, Cerr de Nieves)
29. Guazunambí – (Infiernillo)
30. (Laureles, Zapablar)
31. (Tupambaé)
32. Gertulio Vargas – (Cañada de Santo)
33. (Puntas Frayle Muerto)
34. Asperezas
35. (Melo–Viviendas Economicas, Arroyo Malo)
36. (Puntas de Lechiguana, Cañas)
37. Paso Dragón – (Garao)
38. Paso de Mario Isabel – (Cañada Brava)

39. Piedra Alta
40. Amarillo – (Puntas de Amarillo)
41. Bañado de Medina – (Manantiales)
42. Centurión
43. Saldaña
44. Minuano de Aceguá
45. Puntas de Molles
47. San Diego
48. Arbolito
49. Cuchilla de Carmen
51. Campamento – (Cañas del Parao)
52. (Melo)
53. Mangrullo
54. Melo
55. Rio Branco
56. Puntas de la Mina – (Puntas Arroyo de la Mina)
57. La Lata
58. Paso de las Piedras
50. Paso de la Cruz
60. (Tres Boliches)
61. Arroyo Laguna
62. Zapallar
63. C. de la Villa–Rio Branco – (Melo)
64. Paso Pereira
65. El Ppretado
66. Melo
67. Cuchilla de Melo
68. (Campamento)
70. Sarandí Aceguá
71. (Puente del Chuy)
73. (Melo)

(To Be Continued)

U. S. Perforating Machines (Continued from Page 188)

circle of 9.910" diameter, and the accumulated error must not exceed .001" and from base to center .0002".

One set of units contain 19,998 punches. These punches are made of needle steel ground to a tolerance of .00001" diameter, each having a beveled edge and a flat for safety in soldering. These pins are soldered in place with a special solder having a very low melting point (200° F.). After these punches are soldered in place and the excess solder machined off, the rings and bars are held to a tolerance of .0002" for thickness. The punch and die rings are assembled in a unit which has 22 rings. The punch and die bars are assembled in cylinders of 44 bars each, which must line up perfectly.

The paper travels through the Perforating Unit at about 350 feet a minute. The Bureau of Engraving perforates approximately 150,000,000 postage stamps daily. Harris-Seybold and the Bureau keep accurate records of the number of sheets perforated. Our company guarantees the bar unit will perforate 4,500,000 sheets which represent 1,800,000,000 stamps; the wheel unit 3,500,000 sheets which represents 1,400,000,000 stamps.

The electronically operated machines have saved our government in spoilage alone $500,000 annually. They previously had 18 machines each requiring 3 girls to operate, or 54 girls. Now they have 5 machines each requiring 2 girls to operate, or only 10 girls. This resulted in a saving of salaries for 44 girls, and in addition they now produce 25% more stamps with spoilage reduced to less than 1%.

We have had some units that have perforated over 13,000,000 sheets or 5,200,000,000 stamps. There are three different sizes of stamps: regular stamp; air mail-special delivery; and the book stamp. The average production the Bureau gets on bar units runs about 6,000,000 sheets and on wheel units 5,000,000 sheets.

J. M. Kohler, Foreman

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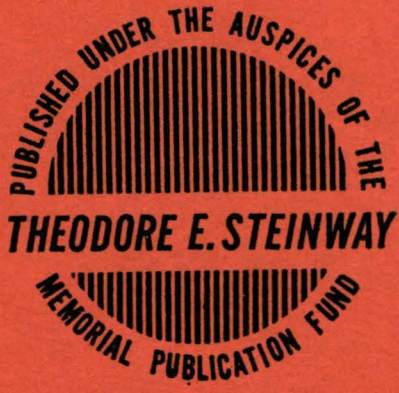
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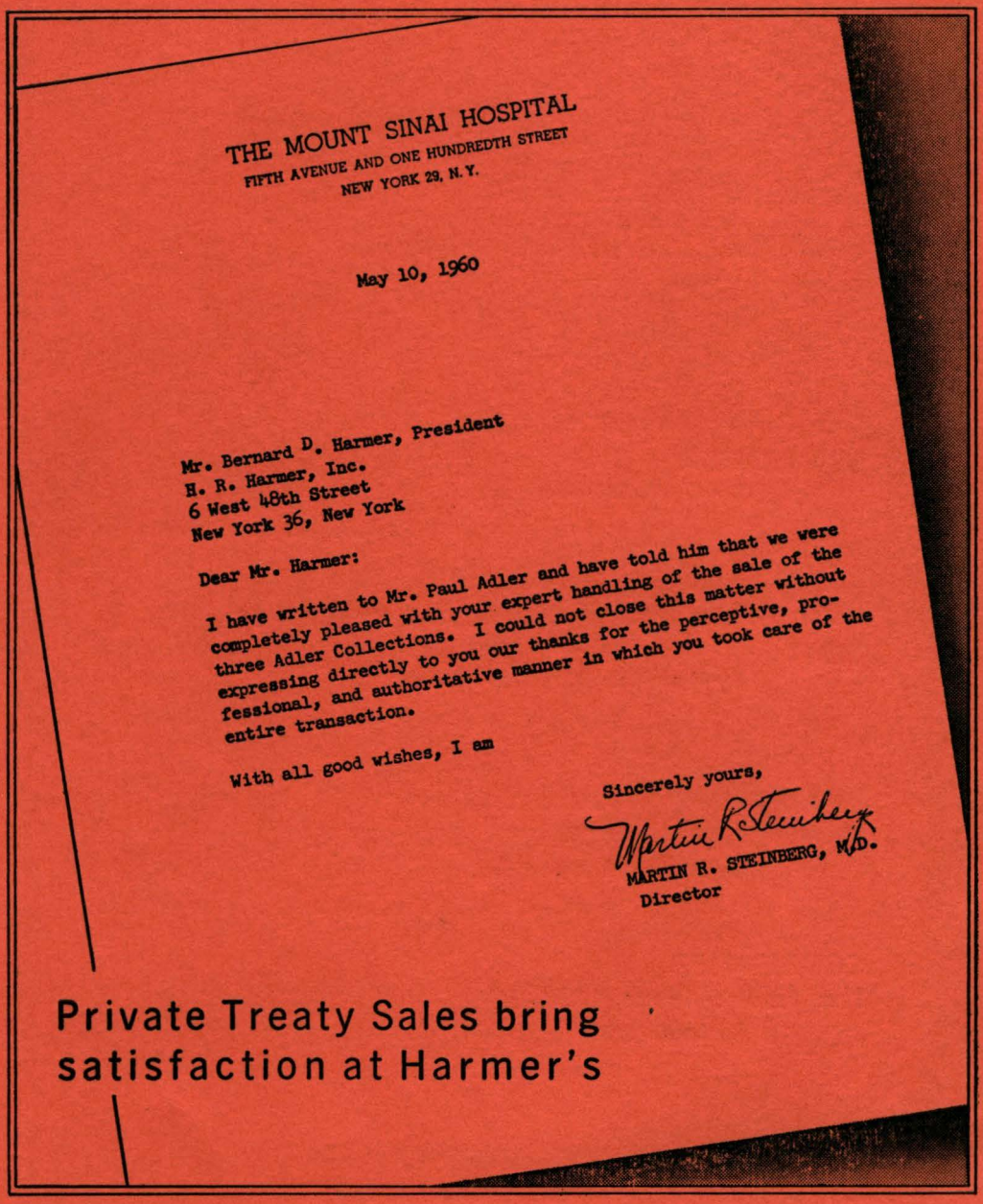
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