THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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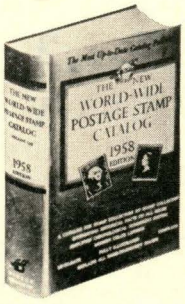
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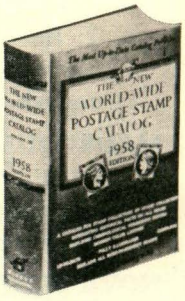


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THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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Editorials

The Big Event Of 1957

The annual practice of some few stamp writers selecting their choices for the most important philatelic events in the year just past is here again. As previously written, these selections are made by stamp journalists. Since this magazine represents philately as opposed to the very popular past time of stamp collecting, is in order for the more mature philatelist to render his opinion about the best that happened to philately in 1957.

There were not 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3 or 2 leading events. There was just one that outstripped everything else that happened to American philately. This is the continued world-wide stability evidenced by the stamp market through the orderly liquidation of first-class philatelic material.

1957 saw a number of auction sales from estates owning some of the finest stamps and covers in existence. New record prices were established after spirited, competitive bidding. The classic issues are in great demand. The rarest 20th century stamps sold for new record highs. The philatelic connoisseur was making his influence felt.

People seek scarce philatelic material with the accent on condition. Time and again one noticed that a stamp in average condition sold at prices not much more than in the past. But when a stamp or cover's appearance was pristine, being pleasing to the eye condition-wise, it was usual for such top-notch material to bring three, four—yes, even fifty times catalog.

The mature philatelist can tolerate, but pays small attention to all the hue and cry over the sky-rocketing antics of the very latest material. A newly-issued Souvenir Sheet with a face value of a few cents jumps within a year to a price of many dollars. So what? It, no doubt, made those owning this Sheet happy, but the ones, who failed to get in on the ground floor, unhappy. The philatelist has no concern with this. Experience shows the coming and going of philatelic fads.

Stamp collections represent property of value. It does not greatly concern us if the price of certain stamps today is higher or lower than yesterday. However, all of us do care about the overall stability of the stamp market. If we had to liquidate our collections, we all ask ourselves this question—"Will there be any trouble?"

Consequently, witnessing the sales in 1957 of outstanding collections, collectors and dealers are reassured. We see a greater demand, and more competition for first-class philatelic material. Covers and postal history have shown enormous increase in demand. And if the philatelists in America happen to value first-class philatelic material too conservatively, foreign collectors pay more taking such stamps away from here.

Thus as 1957 ended, a philatelist could rest assured that if his collections were first-class (and this does not mean a value in millions, but just as well in thousands of dollars), he or his heirs will have no trouble selling. But the run-of-the-mill collection, that also may represent an investment of thousands of dollars, with average material is a different matter. There seems to be a great supply of the latter with a lesser demand for it. But regardless of this circumstance, most all philatelic material has a market. 1957 confirmed this again and again. The new 1957 stamps and the activities of the postal administrations are of a far, far lesser significance, as will be clearly demonstrated in future years.

The Progress of Philatelic Research

It may not be generally realized, but research in philately has made some remarkable progress over the past few decades. But this is the general pattern existing today in every field. Everyone recognizes that in medicine, education and science, research has been improved both quantitatively and qualitatively. However, this in no way reflects upon the researchers of past generations. Considering both the past times and conditions, the work done by the pioneer researchers was truly remarkable. Certainly, the results when viewed by present day standards might seem far lesser. But it is well to remember that the knowledge of today is founded upon the work started years ago. Dr. Jonas Salk, of polio vaccine fame, stated this when he was recently honored. He stressed that his accomplishment never would have been possible were it not for many who had worked upon the challenge of polio before him.

Ever since the birth of philately, there were a handful of serious collectors or dealers, who sought to study stamps. The first ways of doing this now may seem primitive. Yet much of the earliest recorded philatelic knowledge has stood the test of time.

Progress in the pursuit of philatelic research has many manifestations. It is no longer the work of one rugged, misunderstood individual. Now a group of serious philatelists work together on a problem, pooling their information. Then again records are no longer treated as the patented property of one person. Philatelic knowledge is filed and preserved by public institutions such as The Philatelic Foundation, the sole tenant in The Collectors Club building. This means that knowledge is not only preserved, but also is freely available. Furthermore, with the aid of modern scientific instruments, philatelic material can be better analyzed and tested. But as wonderful as these aids are, they cannot replace the bedrock of stamp collecting—philatelic knowledge.

Serious philatelic writing also has improved. This is due in part to the present day researcher, who has had the advantage of a higher education, that ingrained in him the proper approach to a search for knowledge. Most old-timers were self-educated and consequently lacked any plan for order. This is why so often in the past controversy ensued. Others could not follow the train of thought and obviously became confused. However, if one bothers to go back to unravel the essential knowledge disclosed, he will find information that is truly remarkable for its accuracy.

Many now pursuing philatelic research believe it is not properly understood nor appreciated by the mass of collectors and dealers, who would be lost without philatelic knowledge. A spirit of creative loneliness exists. Spasmodically a confused critic comes forth to castigate all philatelic students because a mistake has been made. The illogical conclusion drawn is simply phrased in that, "There are no philatelic experts." This is completely wrong. One may as well argue that because mistakes are made in medicine, we should do away with doctors.

We learn by our mistakes, and here too one can see the progress of philatelic research. Surely, there are still within philately a few of the old-fashioned medicine men, who continue as rugged individualists. They too depreciate modern philatelic researchers and their methods. All of us hear them speak, maintaining that they have handled stamps for years. They allege that they know everything and nobody else knows anything. No amount of persuasion will get them to change. But the true scholar never becomes upset. Instead he distills from them the necessary knowledge and puts it to good use by modern means.

Mention of philatelic experts offers the opportunity to clearly demonstrate one of the

great strides made in philatelic research. Now we have expert committees, a body of leading philatelic authorities. Formerly, there were usually only individual philatelic experts acting alone. This old method denied interchange of ideas. One expert could only challenge the other by open argument, not quietly behind closed doors. This is a great improvement.

Finally, look at the general calibre of written philatelic research as now published, and compare it to that of years gone by. Although no one should be complacent and not be aware of the need for further improvement, yet present-day writings are presented far better. There is documentation, more coherence and clearer explanations. Furthermore, although all technical writing is dry reading, yet the researcher of today has humanized, to some extent, his writings.

It is probable that 50 years from now, the philatelic student of the year 2,000 will look back today, just as we have done, and observe many of the primitive means used to garner, publish and preserve knowledge. Yet this is the pattern of progress. Certainly, philatelic research has shown great progress in the last 50 years.

Philately's Greatest Asset

The following letter was recently received from a friend in South America, who has been hard at work attempting to organize a national philatelic society. It read:

"Mr. H. M. Goodkind, Editor
Collectors Club
22 East 35 Street
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Henry:

After one year of preliminary hard work, our Club is coming along, though not by leaps and bounds as I would like. It is just as you wrote me last year after I announced the formation of our new society. It is a rough, rough climb.

We now have some 70 members. We need stationery. Already have bought some furniture and a standard metal cabinet. Also for proper financing, we need more members. We feel that the best thing to help put us over is a quarterly magazine. And we need someone like you badly. We need an editor who can take over the reins and bring out a magazine—someone, who knows how to edit, get good articles, seek advertising and all the other essential details. Without a publication and a good editor like yourself, I think any progress is handicapped.

I hope to order the stationery soon. One of our members, who is an engineer, has a draftsman in his office who will lay out our stationery without charge. Of course, since this is free work, we have to wait until this man can have some spare time. Also I am arranging to have my firm donate the letterhead paper to save the Club money. Then another member has a printing press that will supply the work at cost.

Now we have on hand about $1,000. But this is only enough to put out two numbers of a quarterly magazine as we plan. This does not allow us for other expenses. I personally have advanced the Club $100. for the metal cabinet, which another one of our members got for us at cost through a friend in the office furniture business.

Then only a few are working. Everything seems to fall on me. Believe me it is tiring and discouraging. The others on our Board of Directors are too busy. Tomorrow I hope to meet with my firm's accountant to set up the books. Up to now, our Treasurer has kept the books in a very haphazard way. Every penny coming now goes through my hands. I set up a special account in my name at the bank. Although others did not want it this way, I insisted and they all finally agreed. Also I insisted that every check issued must have two signatures as well as written authorizations to withdraw any funds.

Another problem is that the Club has not been legally registered as yet. Each officer seems to have a different lawyer friend, each of whom gives us different advice. It would be more practical if we had the funds to hire a good lawyer and stick with his advice.

Well, in the next few weeks, we hope to have the stationery and accounting book problems licked. Then it looks like I'll have to get to work on getting a magazine out. But before that I'll have to be run-

ning around town getting more funds and new members in order to have enough in our treasury to be assured of at least 4 issues of the quarterly magazine. I and a few others have to do all this in our free time. Between my business, which is presently keeping me very busy, and my growing family of young children, it is a tough job.

I don't see how you up at The Collectors Club can do all you do. Anyone, who tries to either organize or run a philatelic society, can appreciate the marvelous contributions you as editor and all the officers and directors are making."

There is just one postscript to be added. Over the years, one's thoughts go to those petty fault finders, who have gone into print to criticize various philatelic clubs, societies and institutions. There is no doubt that if these fault finders ever had devoted just a few hours of voluntary services to some philatelic endeavor, their demoralizing tactics would cease. Oh! it's so easy to criticize others, but so hard to do some work instead of spending time finding fault.

The great strength within philately lies with the many dedicated workers, like this South American collector, in every section of the United States and practically every country in the world, who slave and sacrifice for our hobby's welfare. Truly over the years, philately must have received millions of dollar worth of free service from efficient workers and conscientious scholars, for which not one red cent was paid. What a wonderful record of sacrifice and achievement! Thus philately's greatest asset, in our opinion, is the unselfish philatelist, who has given service ever since the first stamp was collected.

When A Cover Is Not A Cover

This year has been exceptional in a certain respect. Never have so many non-resident and foreign members visited this Club when in New York. Many pleasant talks and luncheons have been spent with members from practically every part of the United States, from a number of Latin American countries, Europe, and even a few from the Orient. These visits always are fruitful, because they afford an interchange of ideas on philately, from different parts of the world.

Seeking to act as a competent reporter of the conversations with these non-New York members, one can state that there is one constant theme, namely:—each member enjoys philately. Our hobby has led everyone into fields that have given him a great deal of inner satisfaction. For example, all seek to study not only the stamp, but the postal history connected with it. A stamp or cover is acquired solely for the pleasure of ownership, not for any potential financial gain. This latter causes tension, and nervous agitation.

On the other hand, every visiting member deplores the influence of those in stamp collecting who just seem to aimlessly accumulate or "save" stamps. They do not withhold expressing their disdain for the collector or dealer, whose whole attitude towards philately is exclusively commercial. They wonder why so many collect full sheets or plate number mint blocks without understanding why they are doing it, nor bother to learn a single interesting fact associated with one stamp purchased.

But if there is one new trend in collecting that is universally deplored by sincere philatelists, it is the modern first day cover. This is a fancy, specially printed envelope with a new stamp or set affixed, plus a first day cancellation applied by favor. The crowning blow to a philatelist's enthusiasm is that such covers must be unaddressed, and are considered to be better only if they do NOT show postal use.

Cover collecting in the true philatelic sense has become popular, because it combines the study of the stamp with postal history. The markings and cancellations on a cover afford one additional pleasure by offering more to study. Even what is called a philatelic cover will bear postal markings that offer more to learn and study. But a cover that never went through the mail lacks any philatelic significance.

This attitude represents no desire to campaign against collecting favor-cancelled covers that did no postal duty. The dedicated philatelist's attitude is "live and let live". One may collect as he wishes. So if thousands have been collecting these non-postal covers, those with different beliefs will not try to stop the others.

(Continued on Page 51)

FRENCH COLONIES

THE GENERAL ISSUES

(With Special Notes On Their Use in Guadeloupe)

By ROBERT G. STONE *

INTRODUCTION

For thirty-three years (1860-92) the French colonies used their general issues. They represent what may be called the classic stamps for the colonies, [1] which did not have any regular postage issues of their own until after 1880 (although earlier some locals, postage dues stamps, and postcards had appeared here and there). Between 1880 and 1891, but especially from 1884 on, provisional definitive issues (overprints) began gradually to replace the general colonial issues. This transition was suddenly completed by a wholesale conversion around 1891-92.

The general issues in themselves are full of interest. In the first place, those of them (61 out of 81) printed from plates of French stamps have most of the features which make the latter so popular. Not the least of the special attractions derives from the wide geographical use of these stamps, quite unparalleled by any others of the period except perhaps the British "used abroad". Only in the last two decades have they become the object of much specialized collecting and research. However, the attention has been confined mainly to the first three issues (1859-76).

Nearly all aspects of the general issues need further study, including the reasons for adoption or change of design-types, the identification of the printings, the quantities printed and their distribution to the various colonies, the die and plate varieties, reprints, forgeries, shades, periods and modes of use, types of cancellation, and relation of denominations to postal rates. As relatively few of the pertinent official documents are preserved, these problems must be worked out largely from the philatelic material. Most of the main facts known about the production, characteristics and use of the general issues are due to the life-long researches of the late Dr. Pierre Bouvet of the Académie de Philatélie in Paris.[2,3] A convenient but rather inaccurately compiled summary of information to 1944 was given by the specialized catalogue of Locard.[4] Bouvet's many papers [3] include chapters which attempt to show how greatly the use of these issues varied from colony to colony; but this phase of the subject still remains to be thoroughly explored for most colonies, and especially for the last two issues (1876-92).



Fig. 1. An enlarged reproduction of a die proof of the 40c Eagle (in issued color, on ordinary white paper). Note the oversized first "S" of "POSTES" and the "secret mark" (dot) in the upper right petal, which characterize all genuine Eagle stamps.

* A contribution from the France and Colonies Group.

The present writer has given an extended study to the cancellations, shades, and use on entires in certain colonies: Martinique,[15] St.-Pierre-Miquelon, and particularly Guadeloupe.[5] It was, in fact, our original intent to discuss in this article only the use of these stamps in Guadeloupe. For that purpose it would have been necessary to include much of the general information on the issues as a background, since such information is not available in English elsewhere. In view of this, we have instead treated these issues from a broader point of view by including the main data on their distribution to or use in each of the colonies and subordinating details on their use in Guadeloupe. Thus we hope the following Chapters will interest all collectors of French colonies, and encourage more specialized studies of individual stamps and colonies.

We have reviewed all information available to us on the subject and tried to construct from it as consistent a picture as possible. After judging the many conflicts of opinion and observation that inevitably appear, it seemed necessary to discard or ignore certain statements in the literature which are evidently without basis in fact or good reason, or are contradicted by better sources. At the same time major differences of opinion on important unresolved problems are noted. Our debt to Bouvet is obviously heavy, though we have given our own interpretations to certain of his data. Dr. Carroll Chase and Mr. S. G. Rich were most generous in putting at our disposal their exceptional knowledge and valued opinions about certain difficult problems. We are grateful to many others, dealers and collectors, who have assisted us in various ways. Leo F. Goerth has been of very material help by making the drawings of the large tables so they could be reproduced.

A Chapter will be devoted to each issue, covering more or less systematically, and usually in the same order, the design, manufacture, colors, paper and gum, minor varieties, proofs and reprints, cancellations, use on entires, multiples, quantities printed and their distribution, as well as special topics peculiar to certain of the issues.

CHAPTER I. THE EAGLE ISSUE, 1859-70 (SCOTT NOS. 1-6)

Prologue [2]

Already in 1850 the Minister of Colonies became convinced by the preliminary success of stamps in France that the Colonies should follow suit. Accordingly an experiment with the sale of French stamps in five colonies was made during 1851-53.[4,6] Their use, which was purely optional, met with little public acceptance and was discontinued. However, the ultimate issuance of stamps for the colonies was definitely forecast by the Law of 3 May 1853 standardizing the postal exchange between France and colonies.[22] The provisions of this Law were interpreted by decrees and circulars of the Ministry to mean that if the monies collected by the colonial post offices on mail prepaid to France were to benefit the colonial treasuries (as provided by the Law), then French stamps could not be used and special or local postage stamps * for the colonies would have to be issued. Indeed, the governors of Martinique and Guadeloupe had already written the Ministry before May 1853 proposing that stamps of a uniform type for use in all colonies on both internal and external mail should be provided. However, nothing was done about this for some years hence. The reason is revealed by a wistful remark in the Ministerial circular of 24 May 1854 [2]: (translated) "The prepayment of letters can, as in the past, be made in cash, or by means of local stamps*. You previously had occasion to examine the preference which is to be given to that of the two modes of prepayment which offers the population the greater facilities for prepayment of letters. I have not yet had any comments on the matter from any of the colonies." Apparently the colonies were not sufficiently interested to even reply to the proposal of 1853.

* By "local stamps" the Ministry presumably had in mind such issues as that of Reunion in 1852. The only colonial local issue to appear between 1853 and 1860 was the famous New Caledonia stamp of 1859. However, it was issued not only without reference to nor cognizance of(?) the 1853 directives but also with full knowledge that the Eagles were on the way, though New Caledonia had not ordered any in 1858. The Ministry did not learn of the New Caledonia issue until 1861 and then promptly condemned it. The next year (1862) the colony asked to be supplied with the Eagles.

Finally in 1857, the colonies received a circular letter (dated 10 Sept.) stating that the Ministry was again considering the production of a general issue of colonial stamps, to be of a uniform type and have standard denominations of 10c and 40c.[22] In advancing this proposal, the Ministry noted that it was desirable to make the rates and regulations for mail within the colonies parallel those for within France and to treat intercolonial mail on the same basis as that between France and colonies (—these categories were not covered by the Law of 1853). Also the emphasis which the Metropôle was putting on prepayment of mail was mentioned. If, said the Minister, the colonies would use stamps and adopt the above rate reforms, a great increase both in correspondence and in prepayment would result.

This time the reaction of the colonies was more favorable than in 1853. In reply to the Ministry's queries in the 1857 letter, many, but not all, of the colonies registered their intent to order and issue the proposed stamps, and stated the quantities they would need for the first fiscal year of use. During the next few months there was a further exchange of views with the colonial governors as to certain details of the project. Sufficient support by the colonies being assured, the Ministry in early June 1858 requested the Mint (which was under the Ministry of Finance), to prepare a design. It was to be distinct from that of French stamps. A large octagonal format containing the imperial crowned eagle (or other attribution of the Sovereignty) was suggested. To start with, only 10c and 40c denominations were envisaged (as proposed in the letter of Sept. 1857), while the colors would correspond to those of French stamps of the same value. As the French stamps were still imperforate there was no suggestion at this time of issuing the colonial stamps otherwise.

The Mint objected to the proposed large octagonal form as one that would be too difficult to produce. It recommended instead a smaller square one, which would be sufficiently distinct from the rectangular French stamps. A sketch in this form and incorporating the eagle motif was submitted by the Mint's designer-engraver, Albert Barre. Presumably it was accepted without essential change, though the drawing has not been preserved for us to verify. The engraving was

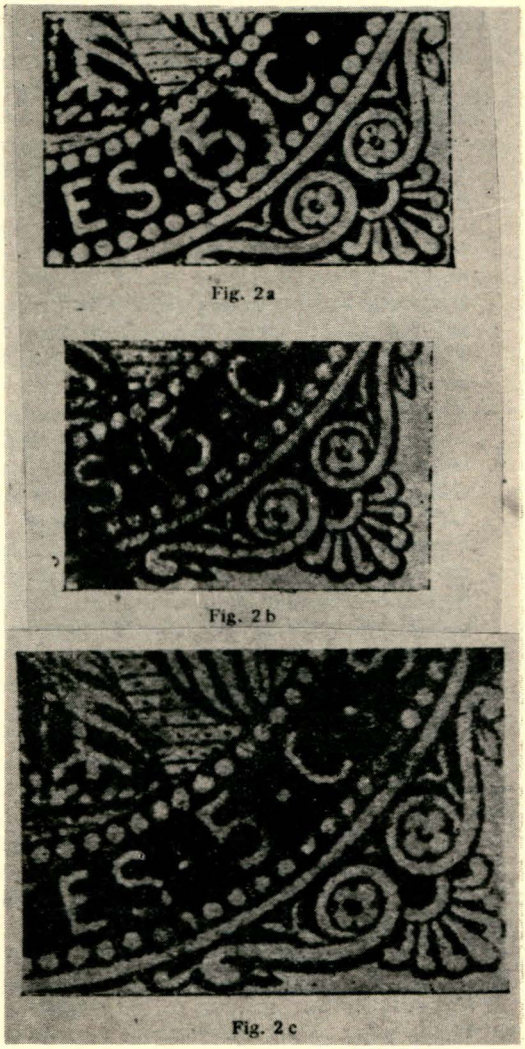


Fig. 2a

Fig. 2b

Fig. 2c

Fig. 2. Enlargements of the right "5" on the 5c Eagle, showing: (a) and (b) the circle normally outlining the numeral plug (note that the plug carried several of the medallion pearls), and (c) the rare variety without circle.

commissioned in July 1858, after approval of the Finance Ministry had been obtained for the whole project. On the final die the design shows the crowned eagle in a medallion circumscribed by the words "Colonies de L'Empire Francaise (value) Postes (value)", with fancy scroll-and-petal ornaments filling out each corner. However, Barre evidently had had to make some retouches or modifications to the die. Thus, a ruled border surrounding

the whole had been tried out but (fortunately) abandoned, as shown by an extant die essay.

The eagle was an old imperial symbol; Napoleon III merely put his crown on the bird. The Ministerial choice of the imperial-eagle motif was characteristic of the sentiment of appointed office-holders in that regime for celebrating the aegis of their Emperor. This theme also had a number of dutiful applications among the French fiscal, telegraph, and newspaper stamps issued during the 1860's, most of them designed by E. A. Oudiné, who as a member of the Consultative Committee of Engravers to the Mint may have discussed it with Barre. Left to his own inclinations the junior Barre might have submitted something purely classical in theme, after the taste of his father, the creator of the Ceres type of France. It was, however, only natural for the Barres, who had been occupied primarily with the designing of coins and medals, to choose the medallion as a basic element of all their stamp designs; in this respect at least, the eagle design for the colonies is characteristic of the Barre style. The corner ornaments are perhaps not so felicitous as the framing of the classic French stamps; evidently Barre had trouble in finding a suitable design for the borders of the Eagles, as indicated by his experiment with an outer frame line. The fancy scroll work was chosen to make counterfeiting difficult. (Even so, the printer of the French stamps, Hulot, did not think the Eagles were as proof from counterfeit as the French stamps.) If the Eagle stamp fails quite to measure up esthetically to the other Barre projects, it is more because the dimensions are too small for an effective result than a fault of the engraver. One notices, on the other hand, the lack of a clear effect of relief in the engraving, which critics have pointed to in some of the Barres' Napoleon III stamps also. In this connection the modern French stamp engraver, Ouvré, observed that while the Barres were highly accomplished as medal modellers, they were not fully at home with the burin, which calls for a very different technique.[21] Moreover, the Eagle type was Albert Barre's first engraving for an issued stamp, though he also made his well-known "Essai 1858" (Ceres) in the same year.

Early in November 1858 the die proofs of the accepted Eagle essay were approved and the plates (two half-plates of 10c and one of 40c) and stamps ordered. The original print order called for 205,000 of the 10c and 177,000 of the 40c, but it was evidently modified later as the quantities actually printed were somewhat larger (see below).

Earliest Use in the Colonies

The first printing, consisting of 216,360 of the 10c and 181,080 of the 40c, was completed at the Mint on June 1, 1859.[2,18] During July the shipments were sent to the colonies, the total printing being distributed. Senegal and Gorée, the colonies nearest to France, received their allotments first (July or August?), and put them on sale in August or September.[22] Other colonies not only received their consignments some weeks or months later, but also dallied for many more weeks while preparing the decrees necessary to implement sale and use of the stamps (see table below). A number of the colonies, which at that time were not so advanced in civil administration, or which were still under military jurisdiction owing to the recent establishment of French control, did not order any stamps until 1862, 1863, 1864 or 1865. (Cochinchina, as a military territory, used a few French stamps from 1860 to 1863.) It was mainly the "old colonies" long-settled by creoles, that embraced the Eagles from the very beginning. When shipping the Eagles to New Caledonia for the first time (1862), the Ministry stated that the request was being accommodated because the colony had meanwhile set up a *"bureau d'échange"*, that is a regular post office able to collect postage monies and where mails could be received and dispatched for internal and foreign destinations. Thus apparently a colony was not allowed to use the Eagles unless it had an adequate postal system; but the creation of such systems was left to the initiative of each colony.

The decrees of the colonies authorizing the sale of the new stamps are interesting, as they differed greatly from colony to colony in specifying the conditions under which they would be sold, the type of mail they could frank, the kinds of offices and agents which could sell them, and the applicable postage rates. Bouvet's articles[3] quote all the decrees which have been found (—many are still missing—), so the specialists interested in particular colonies will want to consult them.

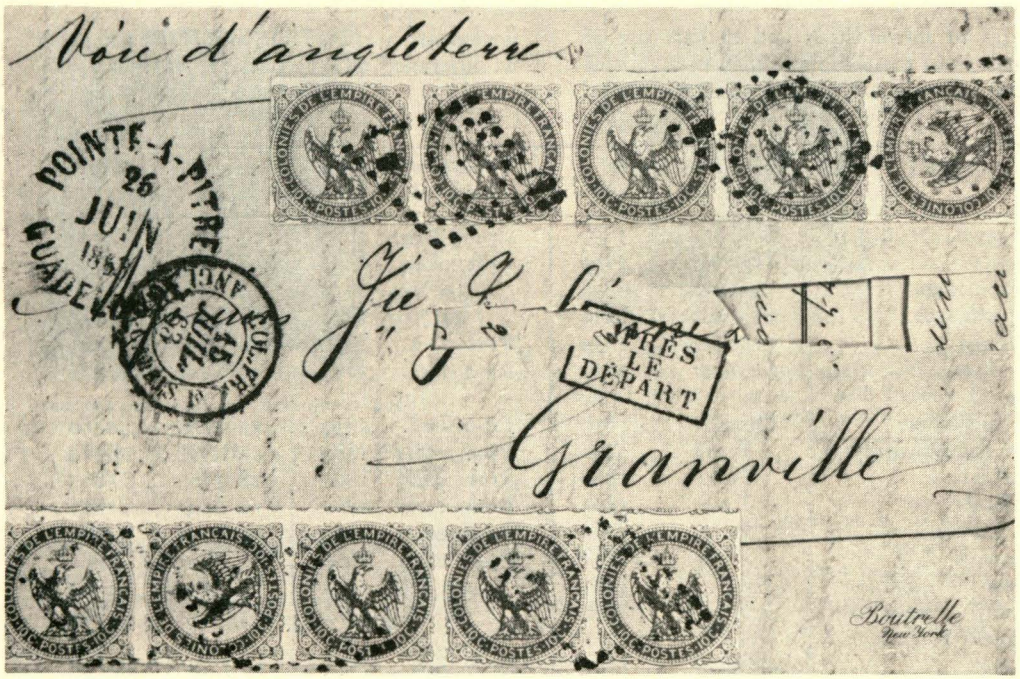


Fig. 3. Entire letter from Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, to Granville, France, June 1863, sent via British packet. There are two strips of five of the 10c Eagle, each strip containing the sideways-turned variety, a remarkable coincidence. These stamps are from the 3rd printing, in which the absence of a noticeable papertint is typical. Note the rare "Après le Depart" marking, used in Guadeloupe during 1863 and occasionally later, the only early use of such a mark in the colonies.

We quote, as a sample, a translation of the Guadeloupe decree:

No. 542.—Decree of the Governor Concerning Colonial Postage Stamps

Basse-Terre, The 5th November 1859

We, The Commissioner General of the Navy,
The Governor of Guadeloupe and Dependencies, P. I.,
Have decided, and so direct that:

Article 1—From the 10th of this month and thereafter, the letters, packets, newspapers and printed matter of all kinds destined for the interior or outside the colony, will be franked by means of colonial postage stamps.

The only exceptions will be those letters and packets for which the postage is collected directly for the account of the British transatlantic packetboats.

Article 2—The postage stamps which will be placed in circulation will be of two kinds and will represent two different values:

1. The yellow-colored stamp ..... 0.10c.
2. The rose-colored stamp ..... 0.40c.

Article 3.—The postage stamps will be on sale by the receivers of the mails at Basse-Terre, Pointe-a-Pitre, Moule and Grand-Bourg.

Done at Basse-Terre, the 5th Nov. 1859
Signed: *Bontemps.*

For the Governor:
The Director of the Interior
Signed: *De Ruthye-Bellacq*

The colors were not very accurately described in this document: likewise some of the other decrees had a peculiar vision of them:—Martinique's said "olive" and "red", Reunion's "bistre" and "red". We describe them as *yellow-brown* and *orange* (see "Colors," below).

Dates of introduction and earliest use of the stamps in the different colonies are listed in the following Table; where no official documents are available, the dates are based on inference and philatelic experience:[3]

Colony	*Date Stamps Probably Rec'd*	*Date of 1st Sale (Decree)*	*Earliest Recorded Use (Covers)*
Senegal (St. L.)	Late July 1859	Prob. Aug. 1859	17 Oct. 1859[17]
Gorée	Late July 1859	Prob. Aug. 1859	early 1860?
Guadeloupe	September 1859	10 Nov. 1859	10 Jan. 1860[5]
Martinique	September 1859	25 Nov. 1859	12 Dec. 1859
Guiana	September 1859	Prob. Dec. 1859	30 May 1860
St. Pierre	October 1859	Prob. Dec. 1859	10 June 1860[17]
India:			
Pondichery	October 1859	Prob. Dec. 1859	22 Feb. 1860
Chandernagore	Early 1860	Prob. early 1860	early 1870's
Karikal	Early 1860	Prob. early 1860	18 Jan. 1865
Mahé	Early 1860	Prob. early 1860	6 Jan. 1867
Yanaon	Early 1860	Prob. early 1860	29 June 1865
Reunion	Early 1860?	Prob. early 1860	— April 1861
New Caledonia	June 1862	17 Sept. 1862	5 March 1864
Tahiti (Oceanie)	September 1862	28 Oct. 1862	3 Nov. 1862
Assinie (C.d'Or)	October? 1862	Prob. late 1862	5 June 1863
Gabon	October? 1862	Prob. late 1862	late 1862 (pmk)*
Cochinchina	April? 1863	1 June 1863	Sept. ? 1863
Mayotte	Ca. 1864	Probably 1864	27 July 1864?
Nossi-Bé	Ca. 1864	Probably 1864	late 1860's?

* Earliest cover Aug. 26, 1865.

The Additional Denominations

In 1857-59 the Ministry felt that for economic reasons the issue had to be limited in scope and that 10c and 40c values would adequately serve for the predominating rates. Indeed, the initial 10c and 40c denominations made it feasible to frank all the internal and overseas letter mail, as the prepaid letter rates were in multiples of 10 (e.g., in 1857-63; 20c, 50c, 60c, 80c, etc.)[8] However, printed-matter rates, because they were odd amounts such as 2c, 4c, 8c, 12c, 13c, 19c, 23c, etc., could not be franked by the 10c and 40c values;[9] there was an irony in this, in that prepayment was mandatory on such material.[8] Also the larger overseas-letter frankings, which might exceed several francs, often required more 10c or 40c stamps than there was convenient room for on the small envelopes popular then. Naturally, therefore, demand for more denominations soon arose. In fact, the Commandant of Gorée had already in 1858 recommended that a 20c stamp be included.

In September 1861 it was decided to prepare 1c and 5c denominations. These were distributed in April 1862, and are known used as early as May or June in some colonies. They were printed in *olive green* and *yellow green,* respectively. The appearance of the 1c and 5c coincided, probably intentionally, with the Ministerial Circular of 2 April 1862, which made it mandatory to henceforth use stamps on all prepaid mail (with some exceptions for certain overseas destinations and routes). However, prepayment itself, except on printed matter and registered mail,[8] was still not required (until 1864-76) and remained unpopular.

The somewhat less essential 20c and 80c denominations were not ordered until November 1864 (along with the order for the 6th annual printing of the other values) and were not ready until August 1865. The 20c is *blue* and the 80c *rose.* It was, incidentally, a complaint by a recipient of a letter mailed at the Yanaon post office in India, where only 10c values had been stocked though the 60



Fig. 4. Enlarged reproduction of Fournier counterfeit of the 40c, with fake French grill. The margins are large enough to reveal the border lines, which are not found on the genuine Eagles.



Fig. 5. An example of one of the better counterfeits of the 80c Eagle, obliterated with good imitations of the lozenge of French Guiana or Reunion and of the British packet agency postmark for Guadeloupe. The tuft on the back of the eagle's head readily identifies the counterfeit.

and 80c rates were predominant, that led the Ministry to consider issuing the 80c stamp. This letter had 10c stamps on back. These were overlooked by the clerk, who therefore unjustly marked the letter for postage due. The 20c permitted franking most *internal* letters and all the military-franchise mail with one stamp. But even after all six denominations were finally available most of the *overseas* rates (considering the colonies as a whole) still did not coincide with any of the stamp denominations. Nevertheless, by 1868 probably 85% or more of the colonial mail was being franked with the Eagles; although prepayment was not obligatory on ordinary letters except to a few foreign countries, the colonial public, as in France, gradually became educated to the practice of prepayment.

A mint of continuing dissatisfaction with the Eagle denominations even after 1865 is revealed by a letter of the Ministry in 1869 which noted that two colonies had suggested that 2c and 30c denominations be added.[22]

The Annual New Printings [2,3]

Printings (or rather, additional printings) were made at approximately annual intervals on the basis of statements requested yearly from the governors of the colonies as to the quantities they estimated to be needed for the forthcoming year. The Ministry combined the estimates from the various colonies and passed them on to the Mint in a single printing order. These orders were called by Bouvet "general printings", as they usually included all denominations. We have related earlier how this custom began with the very first printing. Although the Ministerial archives contain no documents that would prove it was intended at that time to continue the practice, Bouvet believed that the continued annual new printing must have been intentional rather than accidental. At any rate, until 1868 the Ministry simply wrote each year to ask for the statements; they in January 1868 it formally directed the Governors that henceforth they must submit their requisitions annually by a certain date (as well as statements of quantities used in the previous year and on hand). It seems to us that annual requisitioning was a logical procedure, because the colonies had agreed in 1857-58 to pay a nominal sum (1fr per 1000 francs face value) for the cost of printing the stamps they were furnished (plus a share in the cost of the dies and plates) and because they had to budget in advance for these costs. Also, annual requisitioning could help prevent supply and demand from getting too far out of balance. But the real explanation for continuing the single annual orders more likely lies in the complaints of the Mint (after the emergency printings of 1860) that frequent small press runs were too costly.

However, the annual stamp procurement did not work out with perfect regularity, for the general printings of different years were made at dates ranging from December to March. Introduction of the new denominations occasioned considerable delays, not to mention the number of emergency requisitions owing to bad estimates of the annual consumption. The yearly requisitions from each

colony were apparently asked for, or were due, in time to reach the Ministry during the late autumn. Some colonies were tardy causing the Minister much vexation, because he planned on placing his combined printing order with the Mint around November or December. If the printing were much delayed some colonies might run out of stocks.

In addition to the regular general printings, there were, as already noted, a number of emergency printings; Bouvet termed them "supplementary printings". In most cases, they were made for an individual colony, and of one or certain denominations only.

The dates cited by us for the printings in the appended Synoptic Table were compiled by Bouvet from the archives. They are the dates on which the Mint completed the manufacture (including gumming). Delivery of the stock to the Ministry of Colonies usually followed within a few days to three weeks after "printing"—though some shipments seem to have gone direct from the Mint to the Colonies. Actual time required for press runs of the size of the Eagle stamp printings ranged from one to 15 days, a single hand-press being able to turn out about 300 sheets per day.

The eleven general printings of the Eagles are numbered in chronological order. In the years when new denominations were first created (1862 and 1865) the old and the new denominations were not printed on the same date. But Dr. Bouvet nevertheless regarded them as constituting one and the same general printing—a convention we follow in our Table. He assigned the 1c and 5c of April 9, 1862 to the third printing (the rest of which had been completed already on January 29, 1862) because these two denominations were printed again with the 4th printing in February 1863. However, the 20c and 80c of August 12, 1865 are assigned to the 7th general printing (15 Dec. 1865) rather than to the 6th (Dec. 1864), because Bouvet could not find any evidence (in the records or in the shades) that these values were printed so soon again after August as December of the same year. He was also inclined to this conclusion by the fact that the Mint Controller's earliest file sheets of the 20c and 80c are dated "14 Dec. 1865" in the margins, which presumably was prior to the date when the control sheets of the 15 December printing were deposited.

In 1860 the Mint on its own initiative began to build up a reserve stock of the Eagles by printing more sheets than requested by the Ministry of Colonies, holding this overage to use in partially filling later orders (both supplementary and general). In view of this, one cannot assume that shipments to the colonies were always made up entirely of the latest printing. Also, this may explain some of the *apparent* variations in shades within a supposedly single printing (see "Colors"). Printings, of which Bouvet found some evidence in the records, that the Mint kept a reserve are marked in the appended Synoptic Table with an asterisk. The reserves were generally far too small to completely fill all the requirements of a later general printing order. However, very large reserves of 10c (633,600) and 40c (235,200) were held from the February 1863 printing; from these half of the 10c and all of the 40c requirements for 1864 (no 40c printed in that year) were filled. The records do not indicate what was ultimately done with the considerable reserve from the last (1869) printing, which reserve was still on hand in July 1876.

It seems that no colony ordered all (or even some) of the denominations of every general printing—though the archives are unfortunately incomplete on this point. Even such a populous colony as Guadeloupe did not need to do so. Thus, as far as can be judged, the 1c of the 8th and 9th printings, the 5c of the 5th and 7th printings, the 10c and 20c of the 9th, the 40c of the 2nd, 9th and 11th, and the 80c of the 9th and 11th general printings were not sent to Guadeloupe. It may be inferred from this that the Guadeloupe authorities tended at times to overestimate their needs (—a tendency which is certainly confirmed by what happened during the 1872-92 period,[1] as we shall see). But some colonies, in the first two years for example, tended to underestimate, as did Guiana (1860) and St. Pierre-Miquelon (1860) (—note the supplementary printings for them listed under "Quantities Printed - -," *infra*). Unforeseen changes in rates or regulations[9] probably accounted for most of the later supplementary printings of the general issues. A large supplementary printing of 10c was made in August 1863 for Cochinchina. This was needed because the reserves available in the spring of that year were inadequate to serve the colony from June when



Fig. 6. Front of letter from Port-Louis to Pointe-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, about 1868, illustrating use of the boxed "P.P" mark instead of the lozenge to obliterate the stamps. This was done but seldom and only in Guadeloupe. (In Reunion "P.D." marks were frequently used thus.)

the use of Eagles was first authorized until the next annual printing.

Method of Manufacture [2,3]

The Eagles were surface-printed at the French Mint *(La Monnaie)* in Paris, under the supervision of A. Hulot, the Director of Stamp Production. Since 1848 the Mint had been printing French postage stamps with plates made by the particular technique of electrotypy * *(galvanoplastie)* previously adapted by Hulot to the printing of playing cards (1846) and banknotes.[21] The method of constructing the dies, electros *(galvanos)*, and plates for the Eagles was very likely identical in most respects with that used for the French postage stamps of the same period —a description of which will appear in Chapter II (on the 1871 Issue). However, there were apparently no "working dies" made for the individual Eagle denominations. Instead, the master die, which was not hardened, probably was used with movable numeral plugs *(goujons)* to strike the guttapercha matrices for electrotyping all the plates. This procedure was tolerable so long as the quantities printed per year and hence the number of plates were relatively small.

The plates were composed of either one or two large electrotypes, called *galvanos* in French, each containing 180 subjects in 18 horizontal rows of 10. The trim-size of the full paper sheets was the same as for French stamps (probably the largest size the presses would take). Since the Eagles are smaller than the French stamps, 360 instead of 300 subjects could be accommodated on a sheet. In order to print the full sheets of 360 subjects, either two of the 180-subject galvanos (more accurately termed half-plates) were temporarily locked together to make a full plate, or a single such galvano was used for two consecutive press runs.

The records of the Mint and of the Colonial Ministry, as well as the plates still preserved,[7] indicate that for the Eagle 1c, 5c, and 20c denominations only one half-plate (galvano) ever was made. Therefore, all the sheets of these values had to be printed by two successive press runs.[13] For the 10c, 40c, and 80c there were two half-plates each; yet as we shall explain later *(cf:* "Varieties"), there are reasons to believe that some printings of even these denominations (at least of the 10c[13]) were made by use of only one half-plate at a time. This was possibly done after 1865 to avoid further using the more worn of the two galvanos.

As with French stamps, the sheets of 360 were probably always cut into two panes or half-sheets *(panneaux, demi-feuilles, feuilles*

* The principle of electrotypy was invented by Prof. H. Jacobi at Dorpat, 1837, but was independently developed as a practical process in Russia, England, USA, and Scotland during 1839-41. Application to printing was started in USA in 1841, but not generally adopted in Europe till the 1860's; Hulot pioneered its use for printing in France (1846). Early electrotypy in Europe was mainly for metal artwork.

de vente) either by the Mint or by the Ministry of Colonies before shipment to the colonies. The only inter-pane pairs and blocks known of the Eagles are probably from an escaped waste or proof sheets (5c). Stamps within a pane are separated at their closest points (medallion rims) by about 1mm, on the average.

All the stamps were issued from Paris imperforate (—for local or private perforations—see "Minor Varieties"). However, in 1863, soon after the French stamps were first issued perforated (1862), the Minister of Colonies requested that the Eagles also be perforated. This and later pleas for perforation were discouraged by the Mint or flatly turned down by the Finance Ministry, on grounds of economy. The Mint's perforating machines would require an expensive modification to adapt them to the odd shape and size of the Eagles. Approval was finally obtained in 1870, but owing to the War with Prussia no more Eagles were printed.

The Paper and Gum [21]

The Eagles were printed on a machine-made paper stock of a rather uniform quality, fine-wove, thick, strong, smooth and unwatermarked. It was undoubtedly made to the same specifications as the paper for contemporary French stamps. Several printings of some values are on a noticeably thicker or thinner paper, however. Rarely one sees minor defects such as stamps on creased paper. In selecting paper the Mint sought primarily for one with a strong affinity for greasy printing and cancellation inks *("amouroux pour corps gras")*.

An important characteristic of the paper is the special tinting *(teinte du fond)* to which it was subjected prior to printing, the same as that applied to the paper used for early French stamps. This tinting consisted of two distinct processes: (a) a tinting of the paper throughout its substance in a hue similar to that of the stamp design but usually much lighter (on the Eagles only the 1c tint is normally as dark as the stamp), by which Hulot thought to make the stamp design stand out in better relief; and (b) a surface wash of thin clear "varnish", termed *fond du sureté* (safety background), supposed to prevent forgery by direct (decalcomania) transfer and to make it difficult to wash off cancellations. The first was done during the manufacture of the paper (color mixed into the pulp), while the second was applied later to the printing surface of the sheets by a lithographic block slightly larger than the plate. In a number of printings of the Eagles of certain values, the paper is almost pure white, either because the tinting was very faint, or was omitted by accident, or the specially prepared paper was not available at time of printing. In most cases the surface wash, if present at all, is to the eye completely masked by the darker color tint, since the shade of the paper appears practically identical on both sides. Hulot blamed some poor impressions of early French stamps on the lithographic wash being too thick, but this seldom happened. The wash alone has only a faint grayish or yellowish cast.

The original gum, of a rather pure arabic, was uniform, supple, medium thick and brilliant white, but with age often became somewhat discolored and crackly. It is believed that the sheets were always sent gummed from Paris, though a very few stamps or sheets may accidentally have escaped the Mint without gum. But when, as apparently often occurred in tropical colonies, some sheets were received or became stuck-together, the Ministry recommended [22] that the colonies soak them apart and regum. It appears nevertheless that some sheets were sold ungummed. Unused copies of the Eagles, and of later general issues as well, are frequently found without gum and many authorities, including Serrane,[14] have been accepting them as mint. (See also comments on gum staining, under "Colors".)

The Colors and Shades

With each denomination the color varied considerably from printing to printing, and even within some printings, resulting in a range of shades, both of the stamp image and of the papertint. This is particularly striking in the case of the 10c and 40c, less so for the 5c, 20c, and 80c, whereas the 1c is relatively uniform. These shades have been given much attention by some specialists. Bouvet especially hoped to find in them a key for identifying the printings (so that their quantities and distribution to the various colonies could be estimated). Also many expertizers have used the shades for distinguish-

ing the colonial stamps from their reprints and from certain French stamps. Even if these efforts seem to have pitched us into an impassable morass of subtle complexities, the shades themselves remain a pleasant fact.

There are two sources of original variation in the colors of the stamps:—the tinting of the paper, and the ink (a mineral or vegetable pigment) used for printing the design itself. For studying the shades of the stamps on the tinted papers, it is necessary to specify the shade of the paper as well as of the stamp design, because the shade of the background tint varies independently from that of the stamp and has a marked influence on the appearance of the latter. This can best be appreciated by comparing with normal stamps the proofs in issued colors on untinted paper. For example, when the paper tint is rather dark, the darkness of the design is proportionately enhanced. But when the hue of the paper differs somewhat from that of the design ink, the apparent hue of the latter is altered. As a result, a given color or shade of ink for the stamp can look quite different on different papertints.

System of Color Description

The colors of the stamps and their shades as listed here (see appended Synoptic Table) are in most cases qualitatively in parallel with the descriptions of Bouvet [3] and Locard [4] (who sometimes themselves disagree). But we have been unable to translate their terminologies literally with consistent results. Instead we have attempted to describe the shades by the designations of the most recent Inter-Society Color Council—National Bureau of Standards scheme [10,11] using as color names the major hues of the well-known Munsell [12] system. Hue names of Munsell are mostly the traditional ones for spectrum colors, known to all, such as: red, yellow-orange, orange-yellow, yellow, yellow-green, etc. In addition intermediate hues are described by Munsell as yellow-yellow-orange, orange-orange-yellow, yellow-orange-yellow, etc., but we have hesitated to use these.

The scheme of the ISCC-NBS designations is concisely illustrated by the following Table (presumed French equivalents in parentheses);

Table of Modifiers That May Be Applied To Each Hue (ISCC-NBS)[11]

Lightness:
(Synonyms: Value, Brightness, or Luminosity)

Increasing admixture of black ← → Increasing admixture of white

Pure or Saturated Color ↑

Increasing Chroma ↓

(No Color)

		Vivid (pur)		
Very Deep (tres foncé)	Deep (foncé)	Strong (foncé vif)	Brilliant (vif)	
Very Dark (tres foncé)	Dark (foncé terne)	Moderate (terne clair?)	Light (clair)	Very Light (tres clair)
Blackish (noirâtre)	Dark Grayish (grisâtre)	Grayish (pâle terne)	Pale (pâle)	Very Pale (teinté; blanchâtre)
Black (noire)	Dark Gray (gris foncé)	Medium Gray (gris)	Light Gray (gris pâle)	White (blanche)

These adjective designations of the color quality are prefixed to the name of the hue when applicable and desired. They represent a two-dimensional combination of scales: one scale (which runs horizontally in the above Table) is for the *lightness* (syn.: brightness, value, or luminosity) characteristic and is given in five steps from extreme darkness to extreme lightness, which indicate the relative amount of black or white pigment that has been mixed with the color. The other scale (which runs vertically in the Table) is for the *chroma* (syn.: purity, or degree of saturation) characteristic, which is also given in five steps, ranging from a pure or saturated color to a total absence of color (which for psycho-physical reasons is taken to be gray).

In describing the shades we have used the above designations entirely by visual judgment, there being no color charts or cards available which have sufficient gradations within the hues concerned. (The human eye can distinguish over 10,000,000 color gradations in all!) Moreover, the use of color charts is apt to be invalid where the paper-tint and printed color must be judged separately, and where lines of color (stamp) have to be compared with a solid color-area (chart).* It follows that any consistency which our descriptions of the shades may possess is probably only an internal one relative to this particular group of stamps and for this particular observer. Another observer will very likely have to establish his own color scale for these stamps through his own judgment and correlate it with ours or other's by comparison of the same specimens. However, this correlation should be greatly simplified for other observers if they can anchor their scales to ours on a few shades for which independent identification is easy by virtue of their distinctiveness. (We find that the stamps of the 11th general printing of the Eagles tend to have distinctive shades, and to a somewhat lesser degree those of the third and fourth general printings.) Results of judging colors will be more definite and consistent if one always decides while examining specimens surrounded by a neutral gray shield and in clear-sky daylight from a north-facing window.

The designation "moderate" is customarily omitted [11]; hues cited here without any prefix are understood, therefore, to be of that quality. Certain intermediate hues are described by popular names which we believe evoke a rather universally standard connotation, such as: rose, olive-green, buff, turquoise, lilac, currant, claret, etc.

The use by philatelists of the term *bistre* (bister) as though it were a *single* hue leads to confusion. Bistre was anciently made from soot and whiting, which gave it a definite hue. But in modern times it is made by synthetic mixtures of red, yellow, and black pigments or dyes, giving a *range* of hues. This is why French cataloguers often use the dubious qualifications "yellow bistre", "brown bistre", "orange bistre", etc.[21] (The true brown commercial inks in France differ from the bistres only in having an admixture of some blue pigment or dye.[21])

In the columns for color of stamp and paper, in the appended Synoptic Table, many of Bouvet's or Locard's French color terms are inserted in parentheses after ours in order to facilitate comparison, though we are not always certain of the identity.

Discolorations

In discussing shades, the question of discoloration of the paper by gum-staining or climatic and post-use environmental influences inevitably comes up. It is agreed among recent students that climatic effects are not directly responsible for shades of the general issues of French colonies, except perhaps in some of the cases of the 40c orange stamps which have turned brown or black through sulfuretting (not "oxidation"), i. e., reduction of the lead chromate pigment to lead sulfate by atmospheric pollution. There is said to be evidence that heat and moisture caused some of the sheets to stick together while enroute to or stocked in tropical colonies, requiring the colonial authorities to soak them apart and either put them on sale ungummed or regum them locally.[3,4] The local gums, or the mucilages used by individuals in lieu of official gum, were apparently impure and likely to discolor the paper in time, especially when the stamp is put in water. Numerous very dark-papered examples of the 10c from Guadeloupe during the mid-1860's could have been affected thus.

The original gum also sometimes caused a discoloration of the paper and of the stamp color. The Mint rejected all sheets noticeably so affected at time of manufacture, but any slow changes from the gum would, of course, not appear until later. Evidence of this is very problematical; Bouvet did not

* It would be feasible to compare stamps visually with the color cards of Munsell by the NBS method,[10] but the 267 color *names* provided by the NBS in Munsell notation would not be sufficient to distinguish many of the shades. The Maerz and Paul "Dictionary of Color" (which has about 10,000 shades) would provide perhaps enough distinctions but it has very few satisfactory names. Thus only numerical physical designations of chroma, hue, and value can be used to identify so many shades, and of course such designations would mean nothing to a philatelist. On the other hand the assigning of the standard NBS-Munsell names [10] to the *prevailing* colors of the general issues would be useful, provided the stamp catalogues were generally compiled in those terms and an appropriate color chart was widely available to collectors for reference.



Fig. 7. 20c Eagle tied with anchor lozenge to "army" correspondence cover mailed in 1869 on board a French mail packet of Ligne A, probably from a soldier returning to France from Martinique. Postmark reads: "COR. D. ARMEES/LIG. A. PAQ. No. 3". Commandant's countersignature on back.

mention it as being of importance for colonial shades. Discoloration in the paper and ink of used stamps from soaking in water is sometimes noticeable, but not a serious problem; of course shades which can be found only on used stamps are suspect.

Shade Variations of the Different Denominations

In general, the shades of the 5c and 10c are the most difficult to distinguish and designate. In the 10c especially, the problem is laid before us in acute form. Not only are its shades numerous as a consequence of the many printings, but also they tend to merge in hue, chroma, and lightness so that few are very distinctive. The 10c hues grade from a brown tinged with a little yellow or some gray to a slightly-brownish yellow, centering around a shade, which is perhaps a bit more yellow or orange than the typical French conception of bistre. Ordinary hue names are inadequate to convey these fine distinctions. However, we are convinced that many philatelists and cataloguers have often described as different in hue, distinctions which are really variations in chroma or lightness, and described as different hues of the stamp design what are only differences in shade of the papertint. The latter confusion seems to account for certain of the varieties of bistre listed by Bouvet.[3] We have accordingly described the majority of the 10c shades as simply yellow-brown (although some are almost brown), while the papertint ranges from very pale to moderate brown, yellow-brown, yellow or brownish pink. The paper is thus really a very important factor in the 10c shades.

With the 1c and 5c the hue of the stamp varies narrowly, if any, while the range in paper shades is particularly effective. The 80c represents the opposite situation, variations in paper shades being relatively insignificant to those of the stamp. Between these extremes lie the 10c, 20c, and 40c, having distinctive shades of both stamp and paper. Yet the 20c like the 1c and 5c is surprisingly uniform in hue for a stamp which was printed five times and fairly abundantly (total *ca.* 1,800,000). The hues of red, yellow, and orange in the 40c are perhaps the most frank; but in the later 40c printings chroma variations and paper shades tend to overshadow the hues.

Some tendency is noticeable for within-printing variations to be mainly in lightness, whereas most of the hue and chroma variations are between printings—which is of course what one would expect when the inks had to be mixed anew for each printing.

Identification of Printings by Shades

Dr. Bouvet devoted much effort to the determination of the characteristic shade(s) of each printing of each denomination. His main object in this was to develop a key for studying the distribution and use of the stamps, since it appeared to be the only way to approach that problem in view of the scanty archival documentation. But Bouvet admitted that the shade sometimes varies greatly within a printing and that it overlaps much between printings. Within-printing variations could be due to use of paper with varying tint, and in case of large printings to the use of several mixes of ink. We have noticed in some large strips and blocks that the shade may even grade somewhat from the edge toward the center of the sheet; this was perhaps due to blotchy discoloration from the gumming, a paper defect that Hulot complained of and which led to many sheets being rejected. Moreover, a certain printing may have a characteristic or prevailing shade quite different in one colony from that in another. In part this probably resulted from the practice of filling some shipments out of reserve stock held over from a previous printing. For these various reasons we do not believe it is, nor ever will be, possible by the shades alone to readily and surely identify all the printings of the Eagles, even when the stamps are on cover.

To appreciate the more subtle shade distinctions one need access to much material. There are, however, many specimens that will confound the most experienced student, when, for example, one has a cover so dated that a stamp which it bears could have been from any one of several printings in a nearly identical shade. It cannot be presumed that such a specimen must necessarily be from the latest printing, for at any one time the post offices were apt to be selling stamps from two or more previous printings. Although new printings might have been received practically every year, it was usually two or three years that each printing would remain in stock in the larger post offices and often much longer in the smaller ones. Moreover, as already noted, the annual supplies sent from Paris were not always entirely from the latest printing.

The difficulties can be foretasted by reference to the columns in the appended Synoptic Table describing the colors and paper-tints of the printings: of the 1c there are only three different shades described (stamp plus paper) but there are nine printings; of the 5c there are five or six distinct shades but nine printings. The situation is reversed with regard to the 10c and 40c, for which there are more shades to be found than printings. In all denominations some shades are common to more than one printing. Only a few printings have unique shades that can be spotted easily on stamps off cover and without close comparison with other stamps. There are, of course, other techniques for identifying printings, such as dated covers, cancellations, paper, make-ready effects, wear of plates, flaws, inking, reaction to ultra-violet light and other means. But of these only dated covers offer much help with the Eagles. Thus the use of shades remains very necessary for expertization and for the specialized study of Eagles distribution by printings in spite of the limitations and difficulties involved. Apart from this, Bouvet's detailed notes [3] on the shades seen used each year in each colony are valuable as a record of facts, on occasion useful for expertizing purposes, while always intriguing to the specialist.

Comparison with French Stamps

It will be noted that the color assigned to given denominations are the same for the Eagles and contemporary French issues, following the original suggestion of the Minister of Colonies. There are also many close similarities in shade between the Eagles and French stamps printed at about the same date. This might be expected since all were done at the Mint; but the French stamps having been printed oftener and generally in very much larger quantities, show a wider range of shades, especially into the darker and deeper tones. Comparison of shades with French stamps of the 1862 Issue is said to be a helpful way to distinguish Eagles stamps from their Granet reprints (1887).

Minor Varieties

The Eagles are scant in minor varieties. There are several of the sort due to original irregularities in the dies or plates; but the type due to wear, so prolific on the Ceres issue, are negligible. Breaks in the outer circle are found, one on the 1c being rather con-

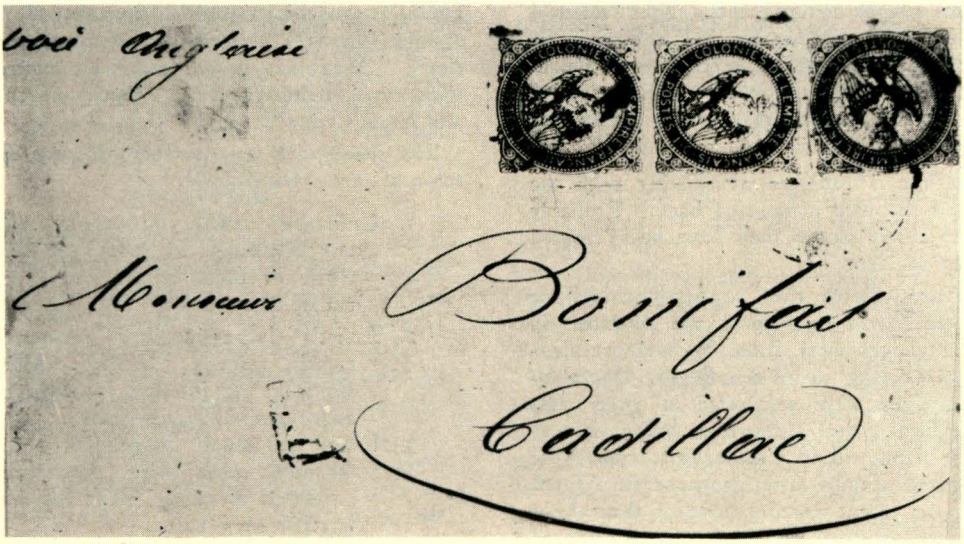


Fig. 8. Printed Circular (prices current) from Guadeloupe with pair of 1c and 10c Eagle prepaying 12c circular rate to France via British packet, 1866. The 1c on cover is very rare.

stant; and the 1c also has some examples with the points between the head and crown of the eagle worn away. Worn impressions with background lines broken and erased are common on some of the later printings of the 10c and 40c (1865-).

The only true die variety is a curious defect on the 5c which apparently resulted from a maladjusted numeral plug.[7,17] One of the plugs probably did not fit properly, leaving a depression or crack around the edge (or of the die-hole). This produced a corresponding depression in the plate, which in printing left a thin white (i.e., colorless) circle around the right-hand "5" on the stamps. However, due to variations in inking only a few stamps show the complete circle and usually it appears merely as a pair of parentheses. Very rarely (as on some of the 6th printing) the circle disappears completely, even under magnification. Pairs and strips can be found in which the circle graduates in prominence from stamp to stamp. (It will be noted with the lens that the plug carried the dot after the "5" and parts of pearls above and below—see Chapter II for explanation of die construction).

Mention may be made here of the so-called "secret mark", though not strictly a variety. There is a dot in the middle petal of the upper-right corner ornament. Being from the master die, it is constant in all subjects of all the galvanos. The master die has another singularity in the form of an oversized first "S" of "POSTES" (see "Forgeries").

A plate variety, the sideways (leftwards) —turned stamp of the 10c (called the *couché* or *pseudo-tête-bêche* variety in France), is the only Eagle variety which is well-known among general collectors. It occurs in half-plate positions Nos. 26, 64 and 174 in but one of the two galvanos made for this denomination. However, the only known full sheet of 360 of this stamp shows the sideways stamp in identical half-*sheet* positions (25, 67, and 177) in both half-sheets (i.e., six in all). From this fact it has been concluded [3,7,13] that, for a period at least, the sheets of the 10c were printed by use of this one galvano in two successive operations. Since the other of the two galvanos of the 10c (both are still preserved [7]) contained no sideways subjects, other compositions of the 10c full sheets must have existed. The sideways variety is abnormally scarce on certain of the 10c shades. The reason for the sideways subjects remains a mystery, just as with the tête-bêche pairs of France, the various hypotheses put forth being far from convincing.[13] It is remarkable and suggestive of intent, however, that all the sideways

stamps are turned the same way!

Some alleged double-prints (slight "shifts") of the 5c and 20c stamps are attributed by Bouvet to overinking; however, the frequent double-impressions of marked displacement found on all values are printer's waste, not issued stamps, though some are gummed.

The 10c is reported as existing with the gum on the face instead of back. Probably one or a few sheets may have been treated thus by accident.

Perforations of the "sewing-machine" or pin type *(percé en points)* and roulettes in several gauges were listed by early catalogueers as existing on all the Eagles denominations. They were attributed in some cases to the local postal authorities, but mainly to private firms, all in Cochinchina, where the perforated stamps first appeared in March 1866. In recent decades none of these have been seen on cover, and it is now considered impossible to be assured of the genuineness of the copies off cover. Hence they are being ignored. Even 60 years ago most of these perforations were regarded as counterfeit. Moreover, most of those we have seen are perforated *inside* the existing margins and are obliterated from many different colonies.

A handstamp in blue, reading "CONTROLE/T.P.", inscribed in an oval of 14 x 8 mm, was usually impressed by the Mint twice on the margin of each full sheet before the stamps were printed on it. One control mark was supposed to be at the top right corner, the other at the bottom left. Occasionally a marginal row of the stamps would accidentally be printed *over* the control mark. This rare variety is reported on the 10c and 40c Eagles; of course, the colors of these two denominations are the ones on which the blue underprint should be most readily detectable.

Essays, Proofs, and Reprints

A *die essay* without inscription, similar to the adopted square form but with a borderline around the design, is illustrated in Marconnet's *"Vignette Postales"*. Another alleged essay, made by lithography(!), is mentioned by him.[4] This shows the eagle with thunderbolts in its talons, the whole on a radiated background (black on white), and with "N.L." below. Possibly this may have been a preliminary more sensitive essay made by another artist, but which Barre used as a guide, as was probably done for other Barre stamps (Ceres?) according to some authorities[21]. However, it has more in common with some of the essays for French telegraph and fiscal stamps[23].

The *proofs* are of a number of types, and some of them plentiful:—

1. Unfinished master-die proofs, without lettering: in black on thick white or blue china paper—(very rare).
2. Artist's large-margined master-die proofs, signed "A.B." (Albert Barre): 10c in black; 40c in orange; 40c in bistre.—(rare).
3. Large and small die-proofs on thin untinted china paper (sometimes pasted up on card), made for color trials in most cases:—
   a.) large margins, without numeral of value, in black—(rare).
   b.) small margins, with numeral of value, all denominations, in various colors, both issued and unissued (mostly the latter)—(common to scarce).
4. Plate proofs on untinted ordinary paper and on untinted thin paper, made for color trials, some in issued colors but mostly in unissued ones—(common).

On July 2, 1868, a special printing of two sheets of each colonial stamp was made for an exchange of *specimens* with postal administrations of other nations.

The *Granet reprints* of the Eagles, made in 1887 (see Chapter V for general discussion), are rather rare. They are sometimes mistaken for proofs as well as for the issued stamps. They were made of all denominations in their original colors but the shades are too bright, deep, or dark, especially of the paper tints. It is to be noted that the paper was surface tinted in the manner used for the Sage and Dubois issues rather than colored throughout its substance as in the genuine originals (see "Paper and Gum"). The 1c paper is bronze green, the 5c paper almost white, and the 20c-80c papers too dark; the 20c blue is too deep[23]. The reprints are ungummed. They were printed

from small new plates of 12 subjects (4 x 3) with wide margins. The 5c have the "5" in parentheses [23], but the 10c turned sideways is lacking. The paper is said to be thicker than on the originals. Impressions are fine. We have seen several Granet's with allegedly bogus cancels of Haiphong, Tonkin[3p].

Counterfeits

The common Fournier imitations of all denominations are so crude and off-color as to fool no one who has seen the genuines. They are usually cancelled with a fake "anchor" lozenge or a fake French diamond grill of the 1850 type, though other bogus lozenges are seen. No counterfeit 10c turned-sideways variety are known.

Of the 80c there are some rather good counterfeits made by lithography. Serrane describes four of them (in addition to the Fournier [14].) They can be detected easily by close comparison with the genuines, which are characterized by:—the secret mark, 112 pearls in the outer circle, 96 pearls in the inner circle, a dark eagle's eye, eagle's head without tuft behind, an oversized first "S" in "POSTES", and 39 horizontal lines in the medallion background, one of which is beneath the eagle. Even the better 80c counterfeits are quickly spotted by one or more of the following *wrong* features:—a tuft behind the eagle's head, lack of secret mark, thicker paper than normal, too rosy papertint, no period before "C" of "COLONIES", white spot in the eagle's eye, or normal-sized first "S" in 'POSTES".

Early writers (Moens, Marconnet, Maury) claimed to have seen forgeries of the 80c postally used on cover from several colonies (including Guadeloupe) to defraud the post *. Later students have been unable to verify this [3]. We have, however, seen a number of 80c counterfeits off-cover cancelled with an imitation of the "GUADELOUPE—PAID" postmark of the British Packet Agency there and/or an imitation of the Guiana lozenge. This is the most interesting of the 80c counterfeits, even though it is a poorer facsimile than some. The incorrect features include:—116 and 92 pearls, 36 horizontal lines, no secret dot, tuft behind eagle's head, white eagle's eye, cross above the crown tilted to right, first "S" in "POSTES" normal, color too carmine, paper too shiny and rosy. Its maker evidently had studied genuines on cover because rather desirable cancels were chosen and fairly well imitated:—the "GUADELOUPE—PAID" postmark has letters only slightly too small, whereas the 8 x 8 square lozenge, though its round points are too large and spaced too wide, would easily pass for a genuine Guiana or Reunion lozenge if not carefully examined (see "Cancellation: - - - "). Quite possibly some partly-faked covers with these counterfeit 80c and cancels were circulated long ago and led to the notion of a postal forgery. The addition of the "accidental" British Packet Agency mark to the lozenge was very cleverly calculated to whet the appetite of a connoisseur—and this at a time when collecting covers was not so enlightened as now. "Papa" Maury, who is known to have played philatelic practical jokes, may himself have fathered this hoax.

* (*Editor's Note*). The reader's attention is directed to the precise terminology with the use of the words *"Postal Forgery"* and *"Counterfeit"*. This differentiation is useful. A *Forgery* is an imitation made to deceive the post office. Therefore, postal forgeries that passed through the mails can have a definite philatelic value. However, *counterfeits* are imitations made to deceive collectors. These are the true "album weeds", usually marketed in large supply so that they have little value except to the experts and authorities for reference.

(To Be Continued)

BACK NUMBERS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

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

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

UNITED STATES

The 30c of 1857
Earlier Use Than Previously Recorded

By RENÉ HAMER

John N. Luff in "The Postage Stamps of the United States"—published in 1902—gives as date of issue of the 30c denomination of 1857: August 14, 1860; Scott's Catalogue of United States Stamps Specialized: August 10, 1860.

Through a fortunate coincidence, I was able to acquire a folded letter-sheet sent from Boston and addressed: "Au Consul Hollandais á Tunis". The letter is dated: Boston *August 8, 1860* and signed by Geo. Gould. On the cover is a 3c 1857 type II and a 30c 1857 tied to the cover by a black Boston PAID in grid as killer.

The cover bears various transit and arrival markings.

A) On front the sheet is stamped with:

1.) The numeral 28 in red; 2.) arrival postmark: London BX Aug. 22 '60 and PD in circle both in red; 3.) PD in oval in red; 4.) a railroad post office—Calais to Paris-mark for mail from England in black. (See Fig. 1)

B) On back are these markings:

1.) *Boston BR. PKT.* Aug. 8; 2.) Paris Aug. 23 '60; 3.) Marseilles Aug. 25 '60; 4.) Tunis Sept. 6 '60; all are in black. (*See Fig. 2 on Page 51*)



Fig. 1. The front of the folded lettersheet.

Photos by Roel de Weerd. Amsterdam, Netherlands

INDIA

The Convention States' Arms Imprints on Indian Postal Stationery

By F. M. COWEN

Introduction

The existence of separate postal systems in many of the feudatory states was a source of considerable irritation to the Postmaster Generals of the Indian Imperial Post Office. The state systems were usually much less efficient than the Imperial Post Office. They had a poor or no method of exchanging mails with the central system; there was a complete lack of uniformity between the postal systems of the various states; and, in many states, there was a duplication of effort—both state and British Indian offices existed side by side.

Since the Indian Postmaster Generals had no power to abrogate existing treaties, they often resorted to reasoning with the ruling sovereigns of the states. This brought occasional results but, as a rule, the Indian princes refused to accept any changes that might reduce their powers.

One of the earliest steps * taken by the Government of India to improve the postal situation was the issuance of a circular in 1877, directed to the princes, asking that the postal paper of the feudatory states be approved by the Government so that it would not conflict in design or color with British Indian issues. Unfortunately for the Indian Post Office, this circular suggested to at least one state, Patiala, that it issue its own stamps for its small local service. The state sent in for approval an essay for a postage stamp. Although this design was not rejected, the central government countered with a suggestion that the Imperial service be extended to the state. This was rejected by the Durban of Patiala who, however, did agree to consider a further proposal that steps be taken to improve the exchange of correspondence between the state and India. Out of these discussions arose the first convention, which was finally executed in October 1, 1884.

By the terms of the convention [1,2,3] each party recognized the franking power within its own territory of the postal paper issued by the other party. Hence the adhesive stamps and postal stationery of Patiala would be recognized throughout British India and vice-versa. In addition, the Government of India agreed to supply Patiala with stamps and stationery current in British India but overprinted with the name of the state. The charge made to the state for this service was the combined cost of the stamp printing (at that time by contract with Messrs. de la Rue, London) plus the freight to India and the cost to the India Central Printing Press, Calcutta for overprinting.

Thus the first "Convention" State came into existence to be followed by Gwalior, Jind, and Nabha in 1885 and Chamba and Faridkot in 1887, of which only Faridkot and Jind had previously issued their own local postal paper. Although other states such as Jaipur, Kashmir and Mysore, toyed with the idea, no further conventions of this type were signed.

History of the Arms Imprints

The purpose of this study is limited to a discussion and illustration of the various dies employed by the India Central Printing

* This story is told by C. Stewart-Wilson and B. Gordon Jones (Ref. 1).

Press (Calcutta) and the Security Press (Nasik) for preparing the casts used to print the state arms of each of the "convention" states *below* the impressed stamps of Indian envelopes, wrappers and postal cards. Except for the early Patiala issues the practice of an overprint on the impressed stamp plus an imprint of the state arms below the stamp was followed by all of the "convention" states for their postal stationery right down to the final abolishment of their separate postal systems in 1950.

To the author's knowledge, there has never been a correct exposition of the dies used for these arms imprints. Hence he wishes to place on record the results of observations made during the preparation of the India lists for the forthcoming general postal stationery catalogue. The knowledge about these imprints is still far from complete, so the author wishes to apologize for the lack of official data which could answer questions about the preparation, printing and actual dates that each die was pressed into service. Hence the reader must rely upon conjecture and assumption based on a study of limited material and general information already published. Perhaps others will be induced to fill in the gaps of our knowledge about these most interesting and attractive series of postal stationery items.

Chronologically, Patiala was the first "convention" state (October 1, 1884) and its first stationery issues showed only the overprint "Puttialla State", first curved ("Puttialla" to left and "State" to right) around the bust of Queen Victoria (Fig. 1a) and later as a two line horizontal overprint below the bust, but on the impressed stamp (Fig. 1b). These were similar to the overprints placed on Indian adhesive stamps for Patiala.

When Gwalior was negotiating for an overprint on adhesive stamps and postal stationery, prior to the execution of its convention with the Imperial Post Office (July 1, 1885), it requested that its overprint consist of the arms of the state (sun flanked by two cobras). The area available for such an overprint was felt to be too small by authorities at the India (Government) Central Printing Press (Calcutta), which was in charge of the overprinting work for the "convention" states. As a compromise it was agreed that adhesive stamps of Gwalior would be overprinted with a two line overprint consisting of a top line above the Queen's head of the Hindi word for "Gwalior" and the same in English below the bust. The stationery, on the other hand. would receive this same overprint on the impressed stamp plus an imprint of the state arms below the stamp.

This compromise of the Gwalior suggestion was adopted by all the other "convention" states including Patiala.

The dies employed for producing the casts or electrotypes were probably prepared at Calcutta and, later, Nasik by the Government of India. The Calcutta casts or electrotypes were employed by the India Central Printing Press (Calcutta) to place the arms imprint on Indian postal stationery, most of which was produced by Messrs. de la Rue, London, with the exception of a few locally printed postal cards. With the opening of the Security Press, Nasik, in late 1925, all printing work of this nature was gradually transferred to the new plant, and an entirely new set of arms dies was engraved and used on Nasik printed Indian postal stationery.

Since some of the arms dies had long terms of service, their casts being used for the imprinting of relatively large numbers of items, and since multiple forms were probably employed to print sheets of postal cards, a large number of casts must have been prepared. The onerous task of identifying all of these minor types by their flaws would be of little value philatelically, and probably impossible practically. However, such a job was tried on two arms types of Jind and some dozens of varieties were identified.[5] Needless to say, the present article is only concerned with the identification by enlargement and comparison of the individual dies used to produce these printing casts.

One final note should be injected at this point before proceeding with the arms story chronologically by states. Every issued arms imprint is associated with one or more types of overprint. The overprints except for Gwalior were similar to those used on Patiala stationery before arms imprints were introduced. Where employed, the curved type (Fig. 1a) was soon superseded by the horizontal type (Fig. 1b) with little change over the years except for new spellings or small

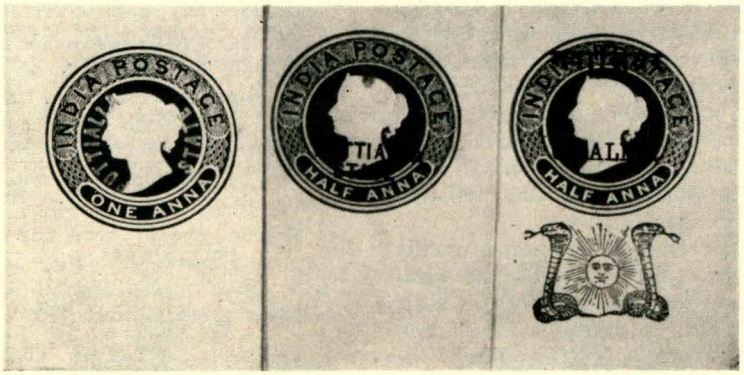


Fig. 1. (Left) a. Patiala. The curved overprint. (Center) b. Patiala. The horizontal overprint without arms imprint. (Right) c. Gwalior. The first Hindi-English overprint employed by Gwalior combined with arms type I imprint below the stamp. The first issued example of the overprint-arms combination. *Photos by Boutrelle*

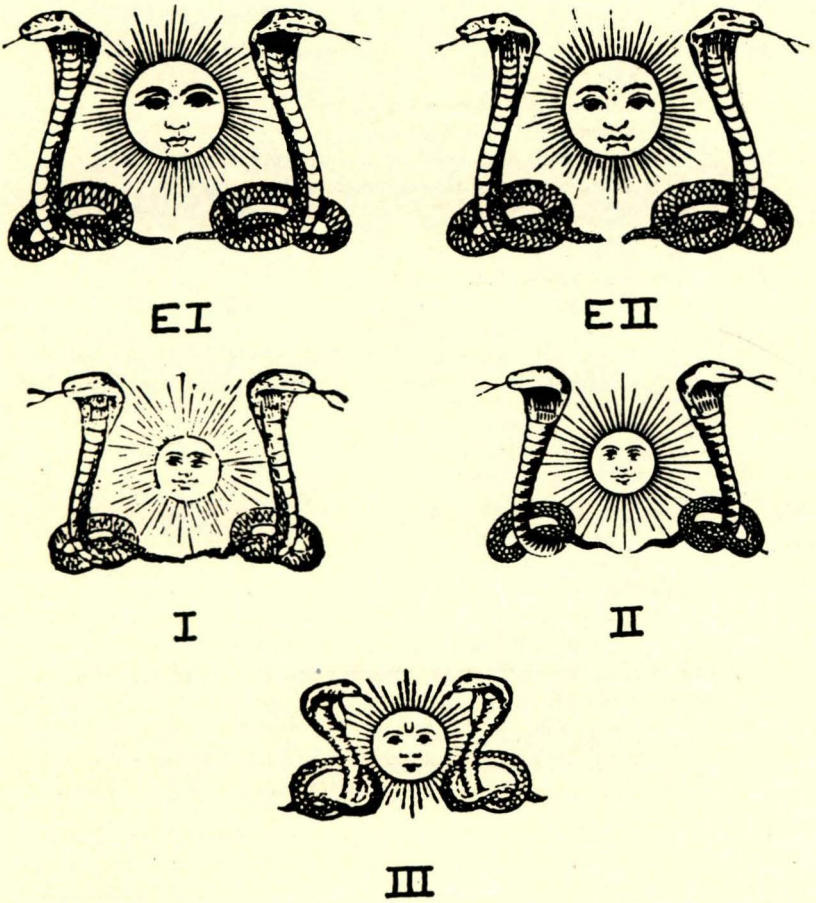


Fig. 2. Gwalior. The die types of the arms imprints. EI, EII—essay dies; I-III—issued dies. Magnified 2 diameters.

changes in the type fonts used. Gwalior first employed the overprint shown in Fig. 1c. Later this was modified to a two line overprint below the bust with "Gwalior" in English (1st line) and Hindi (2nd line). In the 1940's Chamba, Jind, Nabha and Patiala introduced a one line (state name only in English) overprint which was also followed through on the adhesive stamps.

Official stationery for these states usually employed a three line overprint, the additional line being the word "Service". Here again Gwalior was an exception with a two line overprint—one being "Gwalior", the other "Service", both in Hindi.

The early printings of the overprints were usually in black, red, or blue; whereas the arms imprints were in the color of the impressed stamp with a few exceptions. Soon thereafter this two color printing job was replaced by printings with both the overprint and arms imprint in black.

Readers should keep the above general facts in mind as this article is not concerned with the various overprints *per se,* but only with the arms imprints.

Gwalior (Table A; Figs. 1, 2)

TABLE A

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Arms Imprint Dies Employed for Gwalior State

(See Fig. 2)

Die Type	*Characteristics*
E I	Essay (Calcutta). (1) Dimensions: 26 x 16 mm. (2) Seventy-six Unequal rays. (3) Five small dots between and above eyebrows. (4) Tails of cobras almost touch.
E II	Essay (Calcutta). (1) Dimensions: 26 x 16 mm. ()2 Sixty-seven unequal rays. (3) Four small dots between and above eyebrows. (4) Tails of cobras 1 mm. apart. (5) Facial features differ from E I, especially mouth and nose. (6) Crosshatch shading on back loops of tails closer lined than E I.
I	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Dimensions: 21 x 13 mm. (2) Fifty-seven unequal rays.
II	Issued (Nasik). (1) Dimensions: 20 x 13 mm. (2) Forty-eight unequal rays. (3) Rays touch sun circle which is even and strong. (4) Shading of forward portion of the cobras different from I, especially noticeable at bottom of outer loop of left cobra. (5) Die carefully made, printing usually clear and sharp. Symmetry preserved.
III	Issued (Nasik). (1) Dimensions: 17 x 10 mm. (2) Sun circle larger, cobras smaller and facing each other.

Gwalior was the largest of the Central Indian native states with an area of 26,357 square miles and a population of 3,523,070 (1931). Its postal system was well organized along the lines of the Imperial Post Office and handled an impressive volume of mail. During the "pre-convention" negotiations its request for state arms on its postal paper resulted in the engraving of at least two essay dies (E I, E II), very similar in

appearance but differing in detail. These two dies differ from the issued die, type I, in dimension—they are larger—and minor details.

On July 1, 1885, the convention between Gwalior and India went into effect and the first stationery showed arms type I imprinted below the impressed stamp in the color of the stamp with the two line Hindi-English overprint on the stamp in black. An example of this grandfather of the overprint-arms imprint type is shown in Fig. 1c. Casts taken from this die were used from 1885 till about 1929, the entire period of Calcutta printings, giving it the longest service record of any of the arms dies used by the "conven-

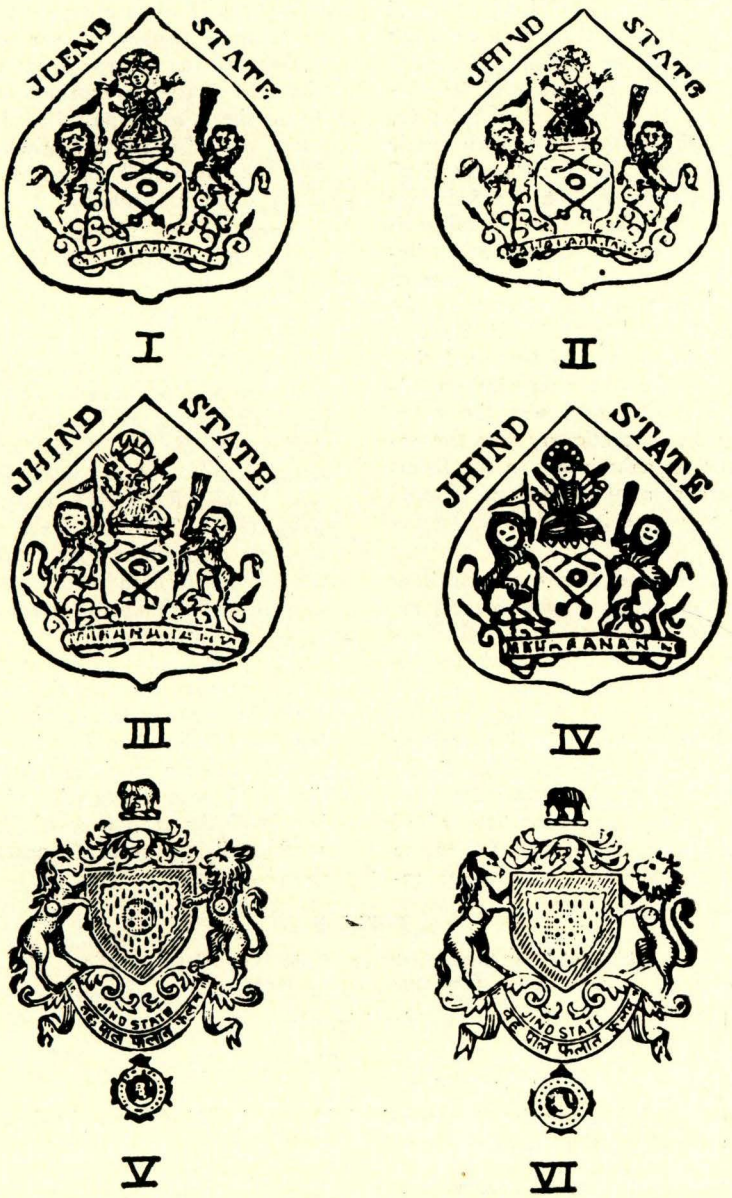


Fig. 3. Jind. The die types of the arms imprints. All are issued dies magnified 2 diameters.

tion" states.

When the printing operations were transferred to the Security Press, Nasik, a new die (type II) was prepared and used until about 1942, when it was superseded by the small die, type III.

Jind (Table B; Fig. 3)

Jind (also spelled Jeend or Jhind), a small Cis-Sutlej Sikh state, had an area of 1,259 square miles and a population of 324,676 (1931). Prior to the execution of its convention (July 1, 1885) it had a primitive postal system which issued its own crude stamps and stationery. Its first "convention" stationery issued showed both the influence of Patiala and Gwalior. Like Gwalior it requested and received a special arms imprint (type I), but instead of a horizontal overprint, the first stationery issues show the curved overprint characteristic of Patiala. To avoid confusion it should be noted that unlike Patiala, where the overprint on adhesive stamps and stationery was the same, the Jind overprint on stationery was the reverse of that on its adhesives. In the former, "Jhind" appears at the right and "State" at the left; the reverse is true with the adhesives.

The first arms type shows the spelling "Jeend". But in 1886, at the State's request that the spelling be changed, the second arms type (II) was issued with the inscription "Jhind". A comparison of types I and II indicates that die II was prepared from I by removing the offensive spelling and engraving the new. Casts from die II were used until about 1890 when type III came into use. One interesting "error" of this period is known. In 1893 (?) some British Indian postal cards (¼ anna, redrawn Br. India arms) issued in 1890 were overprinted by mistake or design with arms type I in black. Since this variety appeared some years after type I had been superseded, it can only be surmised that its production came about either as a result of accidental or purposeful replacement of a damaged or lost cast from the printing forms made up with type II arms casts, or the accidental or purposeful temporary use of an obsolete form made up of type I casts (it is believed that the states' overprints were applied to uncut sheets of 16 postal cards). The above card "error" is known legitimately used during the "nineties" period and there is no doubt of its authenticity.

Type III is similar to type II but both the state name in the upper right and left sides and the details of the arms within the "inverted heart" are enlarged, so that the latter fills up the area within the "heart."

Type IV evidently came into use when the death of the Maharajah resulted in his replacement by a Maharanee (female). Not only is the die of IV different from III in many details, but the word in the ribbon is now MAHARANANN instead of MAHARAJAHN. The first date of use of this new die was about 1910. Its existence has not previously been reported, to the author's knowledge, although it bears striking differences to its predecessor.

About 1912, an entirely revamped cast of arms appeared as type V. Its use extended from the replacement of type IV until printing was undertaken by the Security Press (Nasik). As a result of this shift, the Nasik die (VI) was engraved and casts from it imprinted the stationery of Jind from about 1928 until the separate postal service was closed on April 1, 1950.

TABLE B

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Arms Imprint Dies Employed for Jind State

(See Fig. 3)

Die Type	*Characteristics*
I	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Immediately recognized by word JEEND at the left and above the "inverted heart."
II	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Spelling now JHIND, otherwise identical and probably derived from Die I.

III Issued (Calcutta).

(1) The words JHIND and STATE immediately above the "inverted heart" measure 7½ mm. and 6¾ mm. respectively. In Die II they measure 6 mm. and 5¾ mm.
(2) The letters are 1½ mm. high instead of 1 mm. high as in II.
(3) The arms within the "inverted heart" are larger and fill the space more completely than in II. Note the size of the panel containing the word MAHARAJAHN and the much longer tail of the lion at left.

IV Issued (Calcutta).

(1) Similar to type III but background more solid and many other differences.
(2) The "idol" seems to float above the arms as contrasted to III.
(3) The headdress contains colorless dots. In III it is a series of lines.
(4) The lion faces are caricatures; the tail of the left lion is cut short.
(5) The panel now contains the word MAHARANANN.

V Issued (Calcutta).

(1) New arms quite different from types I-IV.
(2) Elephant shaded by dots and tail points down.

VI Issued (Nasik).

(1) Very similar to V and close examination necessary.
(2) Elephant shaded by vertical lines and tail is slender and points to lower right.
(3) Horse and lion shaded by short lines originating from outline rather than crosshatching and brown lines as in type V.
(4) JIND STATE, above ribbon, larger with S of STATE directly below point of shield. In type V, T of STATE is directly below point of shield.
(5) Lower left and right portions of the ribbons are wider. The medallion is completely redrawn.

Nabha (Table C: Fig. 4)

Nabha, one of the smallest of the Cis-Sutlej Sikh states, had an area of 928 square miles and a population of 287,574 (1931). With the execution of its convention on July 1, 1885, it issued stationery very similar to that of Jind. However, in the case of this state, its curved overprint on stationery was the same as that on the adhesives. Arms type I accompanied this overprint which was later replaced by the conventional two line horizontal overprint. During the life of this die one interesting error was produced. About 1898, the British Indian ¼ anna postal card (redrawn Br. India arms) was overprinted for Nabha State official use and the setting contained at least one example of an inverted arms cast. Hence the well-known inverted arms came into existence. This is the only reported example of such an error from any of the "convention" states.

About 1900 arms type II replaced type I. Because of its close similarity to the latter it is often confused with it. Identification is important because, in some cases, the same Indian stationery items are known with both types of imprint. This new die continued in use until printing operations were transferred to Nasik about 1929.

The first Nasik type die (type III) differs enough from its Calcutta predecessors to make identification easy. When it was replaced in the early 1940's a new coat of arms was adopted by Nabha and this was reflected in arms type IV which remained in use until the postal service was closed in April, 1950.

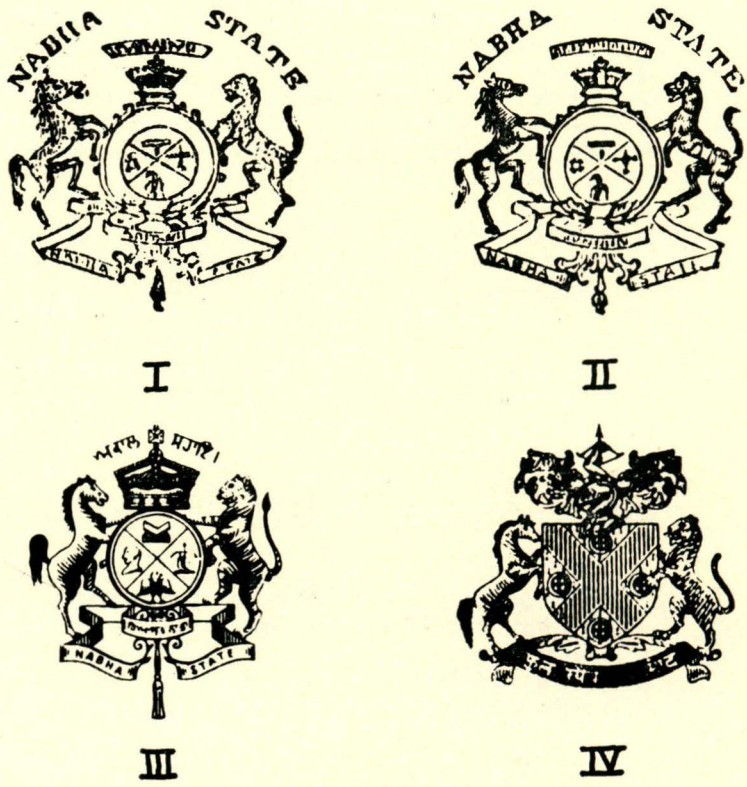


Fig. 4. Nabha. The four issued die types of the arms imprints. Magnified 2 diameters.

TABLE C

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Arms Imprint Dies Employed for Nabha State

(See Fig. 4)

Die Type	*Characteristics*
I	Issued (Calcutta).
	(1) The curved label at the top is wide (in contrast to type II) and the sides are angled making the bottom shorter than the top.
	(2) Horse shaded by vertically curved broken lines; lower right leg does not touch ribbon.
	(3) Lower left ribbon, portion containing NABHA, is folded under.
	(4) The field is divided into quarters by two intersecting diagonals.
II	Issued (Calcutta).
	(1) The curved label at top is slightly narrower and the sides are vertical top and bottom of equal length.
	(2) Horse shaded by strong straight lines; the tiger is also shaded by stronger lines than in I.
	(3) Lower left ribbon, portion containing NABHA, is folded over; lower right ribbon is wider and STATE is larger.

III Issued (Nasik).
(1) Same general type of arms but completely revamped.
(2) Crown much larger than I and II.

IV Issued (Nasik).
(1) Completely new arms.

Patiala (Table D; Fig. 5)

Patiala (also spelled Puttialla or Puttiala), the largest of the Cis-Sutlej Sikh states of Northwest India, had an area of 5,942 square miles and a population of 1,625,520 (1931). The pioneer role played by this first "convention" state and its early overprints have already been discussed. The request of Gwalior for an arms overprint or imprint did not pass unnoticed by this state. The essay (type E I) is evidence that planning was in progress before the first issued arms type (I) of 1885. The interesting thing about this essay is the original idea of dispensing with the overprint entirely and, instead, to incorporate the state name in the arms design which would appear below the impressed stamp. The influence of this suggestion on the early Jind and Nabha types is apparent although they did not abandon the overprint.

Unsatisfaction with type I probably resulted in a similar but new die (type II) about 1903. This continued in use until replaced by the Nasik die (type III) about 1929. Type III superficially appears to be a copy of types I and II, but some important differences make this die easy to distinguish. It continued in use until the state postal system was absorbed by that of India in 1950.

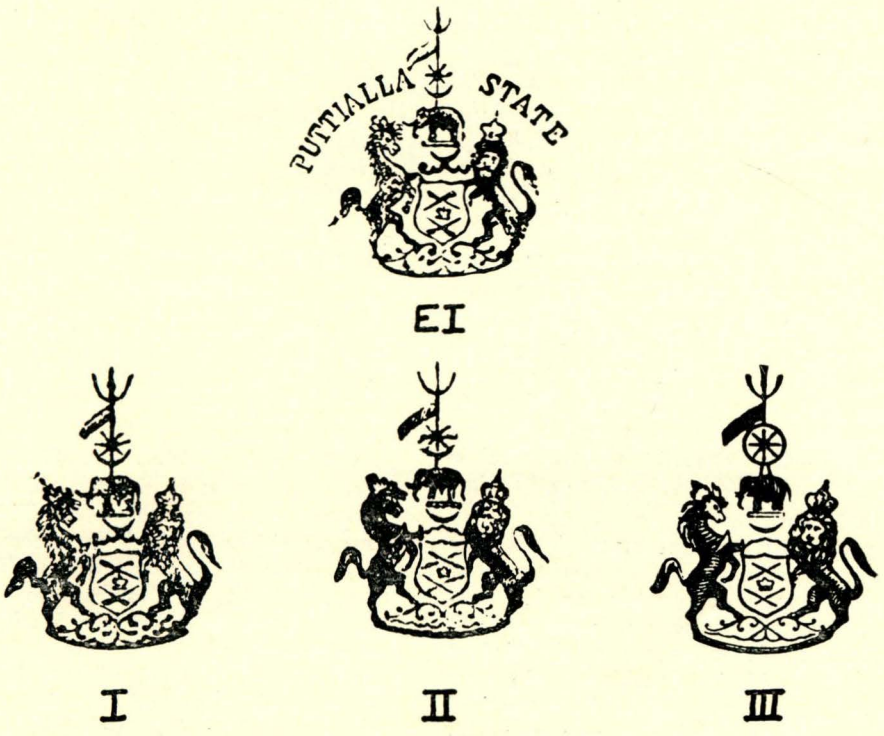


Fig. 5. Patiala. The die types of the arms imprints. EI—essay die; I-III—issued dies. Magnified 2 diameters.

TABLE D

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Arms Imprint Dies Employed for Patiala State

(See Fig. 5)

Die Type	*Characteristics*
E I	Essay (Calcutta). (1) Very similar to Die I but the words PUTTIALLA STATE at the upper right and left distinguish it.
I	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Without words PUTTIALLA STATE. (2) Elephant's tail points down. (3) Crescent under base of elephant touches top of shield. (4) The curved line at the bottom is touched in several places by the scalloped line immediately above.
II	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Similar to type I. (2) Elephant's tail curves out. (3) Crescent does not touch shield. Crest on horse different from type I. (4) The curved line at the bottom is thicker and does not touch the scalloped line immediately above. (5) The crossed "rifles" in the shield are thin lines without thick endings at one end. (6) The "vine-like" design at bottom differs from Dies I and III.
III	Issued (Nasik). (1) The six-pointed device above the elephant is enclosed in a full circle; the circle is attached to the elephant by a double line. (2) The curved line at the bottom is now a double line; the top part does not touch the scalloped line. (3) The entire design is much better executed and usually shows as a clear print.

Chamba (Table E; Fig. 6)

Chamba, small Himalayan state located southeast of Kashmir, had an area of 3,216 square miles and a population of 146,870 (1931). Along with Faridkot it became a "convention" state in January, 1887, and adopted the by then standardized horizontal two line English overprint plus arms below the stamp current on Jind, Nabha and Patiala stationery.

The study of the arms types of this state is made more difficult by the very simplicity of the state coat of arms—a sun face surrounded by rays. However, in the author's experience all five types can be classified at sight once familiarity is achieved. In cases of doubt the proper type can be determined by a count of the number of rays surrounding the sun face. Even if one or two rays are missed due to faulty counting or poor printing, assignment is still possible.

During the course of this study the author was struck by the close similarity of the suns in enlargements of Chamba type I (Fig. 6) and Gwalior type I (Fig. 2). A close check of the two revealed beyond a shadow of doubt that the former was derived from a cast of the latter by the removal of the two cobras surrounding the sun. This altered cast constituted the basis for a secondary die from which casts or electrotypes were prepared for printing Chamba type I. Figure 6 also shows Gwalior type I with the approximate areas removed covered by diagonal lines. It can be surmised that the Calcutta press was burdened with work in late 1886 and stumbled on this time-saving idea. It is certainly the only known case of the arms of one state serving for those of another.

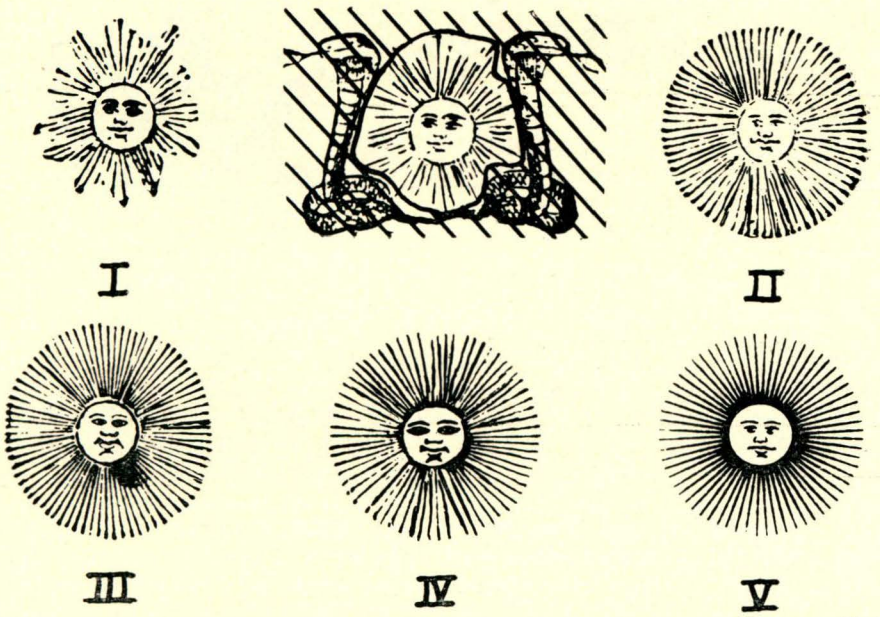


Fig. 6. Chamba. The die types of the arms imprints. For comparison the upper left example is that of Gwalior type I with suitable areas lined out to show approximate cutting done to convert this type to Chamba type I. Magnified 2 diameters.

The fact that Chamba type I was in use for only a short period (1887-1888) further emphasizes its provisional nature. It was replaced by type II. The "starred" rays of type I make it easy to separate from the other types.

Arms type III has evidently been recognized for some years but considerable confusion has resulted because German and English cataloguers have described it as having "two rings around the sun's face."[4] The enlargement should dispel this notion which was based on a superficial study of this type. The "two rings" idea is probably due to the thicker sun circle and the even inner ending of the rays which do not touch the sun circle but leave a rather even spacing around it (as compared to type II).

From the evidence of the actual items imprinted with arms type III it appears that this die was in use in the 1914-1915 period. It is known on both Edward VII and George V stationery, but used copies of the former are dated in the above period. Since this was after the ascent of George V to the throne and after certain stationery items with his portrait had been issued in British India, it can be assumed that, as an economy, surplus Edwards were so overprinted and imprinted along with George V stationery. The same Edward VII and George V items are known with the type II imprint. This along with the fact that the earlier Victorias and later George V issues also received the type II imprint is the justification for dating type III as a temporary die falling within the type II period which continued until printing operations were transferred to Nasik about 1929.

There is one other puzzling aspect with regard to die III. It is known imprinted on a George V ½ anna India postal card issued in 1923—this same card was also issued with the die II imprint. The German specialist, Walter Beckhaus, recently reported this situation.[6]

Type IV is a mystery die. The author has seen and heard of only one example showing its use. The overprinted item is an unused ¼ anna gray George V postal card first issued in India in 1912. Since the overprint seems genuine in all respects, the example is being accepted as a short-lived type issued at about the same time as those items with the type III imprint. Of course it may be an essay and firm proof is needed.

Type V replaced type II for the Nasik printings and remained in use until the suspension of the separate Chamba state postal service on April 1, 1950.

Faridkot (Fig. 7)

Faridkot, the smallest of the Cis-Sutlej Sikh states, had an area of 642 square miles and a population of 124,912 at the time its postal service was absorbed by that of British India in March, 1901.

Like Jind it had a primitive stamp-issuing postal system which was reorganized with the commencement of its convention in January, 1887. During its short life as a "convention" state only one arm type was employed by Calcutta to imprint its postal stationery.



I

Fig. 7. Faridkot. The lone die type of this state. Magnified 2 diameters.

TABLE E

Distinguishing Characteristics of the Arms Imprint Dies Employed for Chamba State

(See Fig. 6)

Die Type	*Characteristics*
I	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Fifty-seven unequal rays (2) Rays touch sun circle. (3) Rays between 7 and 9 o'clock slope downward at wrong angle.
II	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Seventy-six rays, equal in length. (2) Rays generally do not touch sun circle. (3) Eyes seem to look left. (4) Facial expression (eyebrows, eyes, nose, mouth) differ from types III, IV.
III	Issued (Calcutta). (1) Eighty rays, equal in length. (2) Rays clearly do not touch sun circle. (3) Sun circle stronger than in type II. (4) Facial expression quite different from types II and IV, especially noticeable in formation of eyes and mouth. (5) Eyes seem to be crossed.
IV	Issued (?) (Calcutta). (1) Seventy rays, equal in length. (2) Inner end of rays forms the sun circle. (3) Facial expression different from type III with larger eyes which seem to look straight ahead.
V	Issued (Nasik). (1) Sixty-four rays, equal in length. (2) Rays touch sun circle which is strong and even. (3) Facial expression quite different from other types. (4) Die carefully made, printing usually very clear and sharp. Symmetry carefully preserved.

(Continued on Page 51)

POLAND

Its Philatelic Literature

By W. KOLAKOWSKI

First of all I must point out, that Polish literature generally, and Polish philatelic literature specifically is very little known outside of Poland, due to the language barrier. Very few works have been translated into foreign languages. Therefore, the knowledge of the subject is rather strictly confined to Poland proper. On top of this, we must consider many political and geographical ramifications which, of course, contributed to further isolation of Polish art and literature.

It must be remembered that over the past 125 years Poland was divided between three neighbors, each of them trying to suppress and annihilate the Polish people's spirit, culture, customs and civilization. Yet, in spite of all those efforts to suppress and obliterate everything that was genuinely Polish, it was the Pole, Samuel Koprowski, who published one of the first philatelic works in Brussels, Belgium in 1875. The language was French, but the presentation of subject matter depicted all stamps—at that time—circulating on Polish territory. Koprowski's book had very detailed descriptions of every stamp, with current prices, also some short introductions to the story about the rural post offices, as well as many other historical and geographical notes.

At about the same time one should know of the start and development of several serious philatelic societies in Poland, which in turn usually issued some kind of bulletin or short newsletter. One of the best examples is Cracow's "Polski Filatelista". Another deserving comment is the carefully edited "Illustrowany Kurjer Filatelistyczny".

At the time of the first World War, philately in Poland had grown tremendously. Maybe it could be explained by pre-occupation with war at that time. Anyhow, Warsaw Artistic Society conceived of an idea of issuing a whole series of Polish stamps illustrating the history of Poland. In 1917, a panel of 32 of the most prominent artists participated in a special contest, which resulted in the Warsaw Artistic Society issuing a book with 33 plates, reproducing 144 works of highest artistic value. It is worth mentioning that the German Occupation Forces deemed it necessary to confiscate Plate No. 8, containing proposed designs for two stamps depicting architectural beauties in the towns of Gniezno and Kruszwica. But fortuately these confiscations and censorings ended with the defeat and collapse of all three occupying powers.

After the end of World War I an independent and free Poland made astonishing strides towards establishing its position among the European family of nations. Philately in Poland grew to its greatest stature. The Polish Philatelic Society edited a very fundamental piece—"Manual of Polish Postal Stamps", which was instantly sold out. Today it belongs with the bibliographical rarities of philately. Another monumental piece issued by "Ikaros" - "Polish Postal Stamps" represented the combined work of the most celebrated Polish philatelic authors such as: Adamski, Czarnecki, Dudzinski, Gryzewski, Mikstein, Rachmanov, Rembielinski, Tislowitz and Laszkiewicz. This book is the most thorough and most detailed job ever done with Polish philately. It is a tribute to post-War I philately in Poland.

Virtually dozens of other items to illustrate the excellent growth of Polish philatelic literature could be cited. I could list and describe many excellent periodicals, bulletins, specialized catalogues, and many special books issued for philatelic exhibitions, but space limitations prevent me from going further into details.

Hitler's invasion of Poland began in September, 1939. Then everything abruptly ended. As everybody knows, all cultural activities in Poland, including stamp collecting, were absolutely forbidden. The famous or rather infamous "Kulturtraeber" would not even allow the harmless philatelic societies to exist, nor even permit books on Polish philately. It is a fact that the Germans looted and stole collections, public as well as private, destroyed books and catalogues and burned down entire libraries.

Finally, the Second World War ended. In my opinion, it is now the task of the Polish philatelists in exile to maintain and to continue the golden era of Polish philatelic literature that started and developed during Poland's independence. To "practice what I preach"—I have chosen a small segment of Polish philately to throw some light on one of the events which occurred in Poland at the end of the year 1950.

The issue itself seems to be rather unimportant, just a simple overprint on the stamps—this is all. But the way it was executed, the character of overprints and its appearance created much confusion among philatelists. The world's leading catalogues have failed to list the issue. Most of them omit the multitude of Groszy overprints, or at best list only one or a few of the most common types.

Naturally, as is always true in totalitarian countries, information is seldom broadcast beyond the Iron Curtain. The background of this issue is interesting. It all started with so-called financial reform done in 1950, in typical Moscow style. It can be explained in simple terms.

On October 29, 1950, the State decreed that everybody's money was worth 1% of its face value. In other words, one with $1,000.00 in a savings account was officially notified that as of the next day his account was worth only $10.00 in a new currency. All cash on hand had to be exchanged at the same ratio, however, with many further restrictions. For example, a ceiling was set and it was a very small one. Everything above this small ceiling was confiscated, representing a net loss to the individual. It was plainly seen that a fraud was perpetrated on every citizen—the thrifty ones being hit the hardest. Exactly the same pattern was later adopted in other subjugated countries like Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and East Germany. Now what repercussions did this "currency reform" have on philately?

Of course, everything had to be done very quickly. Although the public was officially assured that nobody will lose anything on the "reform"; this was not the case. The public expected that the prices on all goods would immediately go down to 1/100 of their previous level. But this did not happen. For example, the postal rates went up 300% overnight. To meet the emergency, there were not the technical facilities to convert the entire country's stock of stamps overnight. Instead an order went forth to provide *at once* to the many thousands of post offices throughout the entire country the rubber stamps for handstamping the "Groszy" overprints. This was really a unique situation. A prominent country, like Poland, in the middle of the 20th century during peace time, has to resort to such a primitive method of postal administration. Obviously, confusion followed.

Many places did not receive the overprinting devices and so resorted to provisional rubberstamps. But the order had to be carried out throughout all of Poland. The new "Groszy" currency legend had to be marked on every stamp. There was no question about the validity of this order. The "Groszy" overprints were official.

However, with the confusion created, some schemers entered into the picture. "Rarities" and "oddities" were created. "Groszy" was overprinted on every conceivable form of postal paper with all sorts of errors. Who could determine which may have been the work of a private individual or of a government post office? Collectors rightly threw up their hands in disgust. Catalog editors, denied authoritative information, could not be blamed for bypassing the issue.

(Continued On Page 52)

THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of November 6, 1957

The scheduled speaker for this evening's meeting was Mr. Henry M. Goodkind, who was to speak on the Air Mails of Italy and her Colonies. As this date was the most opportune for the presentation of *the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award* to the recipient for 1957, the meeting was expanded to include the formal awarding of this medal to Mr. Harry L. Lindquist. A dinner given in honor of Mr. Lindquist by over one hundred of his friends, preceded the meeting. The locale was The Champs Elysee Restaurant at Madison Avenue and 40th Street.

After dinner, the guests joined those already gathered in the main meeting-room of the Club and listened to brief speeches by President C. W. Wickersham and the Chairman of the Awards Committee, Mr. John J. Britt. The presentation of the award was made to Mr. Lindquist by Mrs. Louise D. Dale, the daughter of the late Mr. Lichtenstein.

After a most gracious presentation, Mr. Lindquist in accepting the award, expressed his gratitude for being named to this honor. He emphasized that *the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award* was not only the premier American philatelic award, but that to him it held considerable personal appeal because of his close association with Mr. Lichtenstein and the high esteem in which he held his memory. Mr. Lindquist dwelt briefly on the many benefactions made by Mr. Lichtenstein in order to attain for the Collectors Club the leading international status it now enjoys.

He spoke briefly about the times when this Club grew from more or less of a local one to its national and then world-wide standing. Since Mr. Lindquist was one of "the team" that worked hard for this, his reminiscences kept the audience's attention. He spoke all too little about his great work in inaugurating this magazine and guiding its growth over many years. He was gracious in his praise for the achievements of those who followed him, especially the present editor of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST



(Photo by Boutrelle)

Left to right: General C. W. Wickersham, President of the Collectors Club; Harry L. Lindquist, first editor of the CCP, the 1957 Recipient of the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award For Distinguished Service to philately; Mrs. John D. Dale, daughter of Mr. Lichtenstein, who presented the Medal.

In concluding his thanks, Mr. Lindquist spoke enthusiastically and at great length of the Hobby Committee's work on the "Person to Person" program organized by the President of the United States, Mr. Dwight D. Eisenhower. His fervent appeal for volunteers for this most worthy work did not go unheeded.

The exhibition frames in the meeting room were filled with the material prepared by Mr. Goodkind for this meeting and it could not help but serve as a tantalizing distraction during the presentation ceremony. Many in the audience felt that Mr. Goodkind would not in the short time remaining, be able to do justice to the panorama of Italian Air Postal History as exemplified by the exhibition material. Mr. Goodkind sensed this apprehension and graciously refrained from prostituting this fascinating subject by a superficial treatment. Instead mindful of the wishes of those present, he agreed to return during the coming season when he will have adequate time to cover the subject fully. While the disappointment the audience felt in missing Mr. Goodkind's talk was keen, it has but enhanced their pleasant anticipation of his showing next fall. (*Malcolm G. O'Reilly*)

Presentation Ceremony on Nov. 20, 1957

The international character of modern philately was strikingly shown on the occasion of



Presentation of the Gold Medal to the Collectors Club for its exhibit at Bombay, India of the Charles L. Pack Brazil Collection. Consul-General B. Menon, shown at the left, is handing the medal to Malcolm G. O'Reilly, Secretary of the Collectors Club, while Mr. Shoukla of the Government of India Publicity Office looks on.

the presentation to the American winners of the medals from the Dijupex International Stamp Exhibition at Bombay, India, held March 6 to 9, 1957. Consul-General Bopal Menon of India personally came here to bestow the medals in person, after receiving them only in November by government diplomatic transmission.

Mr. Menon, who had been the guest of the Governors of the Collectors Club for dinner, along with Mr. Shoukla of the India Publicity Office, opened the proceedings when introduced by President C. W. Wickersham. Mr. Menon spoke gracefully in appreciation of the American contribution to the international character of the Dijupex show, and its significance in international amity. He then bestowed the medals singly upon the exhibitors or their representatives.

First, Secretary Malcolm G. O'Reilly of the Collectors Club received for the Club the gold medal won by the Charles L. Pack collection of Brazil. The Collectors Club, long owner of this collection, had sent it as their exhibit.

Cardinal Spellman, who won a silver plaque for his exhibit of Stamps Picturing Religion, was represented by Rev. Dr. John H. Harrington, rector of St. Joseph's Academy, who also was our dinner guest. On behalf of the Cardinal, he received the plaque from Mr. Menon.

Vice President H. D. S. Haverbeck was then given the gold medal which his showing of Jammu and Kashmir issues 1866-1878, circle type stamps, had won.

Mr. Ernest A. Kehr, well known stamp editor of the New York Herald-Tribune, was next given the silver-gilt medal for his showing of Egypt.

For the exhibitors not present, Secretary O'Reilly then received the gold medal on behalf of Dr. Jerrold M. Holmes, Shaker Heights, Ohio, who had won it with his George V Leeward Islands research collection; and the bronze medal for Mr. Joseph L. Bond, Craig, Alabama, for his exhibit of Evolution of Naval Vessels as shown on stamps. The Club has sent these medals to the two winners.

The last bestowal was a gold medal to Stephen G. Rich, past secretary of the Collectors Club, for his exhibit of United States 1845 to 1857.

General C. W. Wickersham responded for the winners, thus ending the ceremony. (*S. G. R.*)

Meeting of November 20, 1957

Surcharges and Expertization

The second (and major) part of this meeting night was given over to *Mr. Herbert J. Bloch,* chief describer for the philatelic auction house, H. R. Harmer, Inc., New York, N. Y., and a member of the Friedl Expert Committee. Louis Stich, Chairman of the Program Committee, introduced Mr. Bloch with some very laudatory remarks about his record of achievement and his highly respected standing in American philately.

Our speaker certainly lived up to all that Mr. Stich had said. In fact, in our opinion, this was one of the more glorious meeting nights in this Club's history. The aftermath observations from the large audience in attendance heartily agreed with this view. Several old-time members came up to us at the close to independently express their view that "tonight was an example of philately at its best."

Fortunately, also because the Caspary and Cromwell auction sales were taking place during this period of time, there were a number of British and European stamp dealers in the audience.

In his opening statements, Mr. Bloch said that he would use the terms "surcharge" and

"overprint" as synonyms, although he did recognize that many considered a surcharge a new printing upon a stamp that altered its denomination; whereas an overprint was simply an additional printing or legend applied to a stamp. Also, he remarked that although most of the material exhibited was his own, he had borrowed from others and wished to express his gratitude to Messrs. John R. Boker, Jr., Henry M. Goodkind, Jacob S. Glaser, Walter Neisser of Lima, Peru, The Philatelic Foundation, and H. R. Harmer, Inc. for the loan of certain stamps or covers.

The exhibit was classified in two different manners. The first part was in the frames chronologically. Various past sources had tried to name the *first* surcharged postage stamp. Mr. Bloch surprised many with his candidate. It was the U. S. City Despatch Post of 1846 that was done right in New York City. This is the very rare 2c on 3c green (Scott 6LB7) of which only a few copies are known, none unused. One of the rare covers with this stamp was shown.

Other early examples of surcharges exhibited were the 25c on 20c unissued 1850 of France with the later re-issue and the manuscript "5" of Hawaii. The first government-issued surcharge is the 1854 Mauritius 4 pence green. Cuba's 1855-57 surcharges for local use—Y¼—were shown, but the speaker did not comment long on these, because Dr. Cruz Planas of Havana had fully covered them in the October 16th meeting.

Among other 19th century surcharges discussed were Siam's 1885 1 Tical on 1 solot and some of the early French Colonials.

Basically surcharges fall into two general classifications, as follows:

Handstamped
Printed

There is one small group that does not fall within the above two categories. These are typewritten overprints that appeared on some Tonga and Siam issues.

As for the printed surcharges, these too can be divided into two classes—

a) lithographed
b) typographed (letter press)

Many examples of the printed surcharges were shown. Here the speaker dealt at length in the reconstructing of settings, which is the keystone for expertization. If a stamp can be plated according to the setting of the surcharge and yields a secondary proof by knowing the basic stamp, then one can render an opinion of an overprint's genuineness with control material beyond a reasonable doubt. There were five and one-half frames with the St. Pierre and Miquelon 1942 Free French surcharges made during the last World War. Plating the setting of the overprint is very tricky and tedious work. But fortunately, Mr. Bloch also was able to identify the basic stamps. Thus a certain position in the setting of the surcharge with a broken letter must come on a certain basic stamp. The original research that Mr. Bloch has done on these St. Pierre surcharges is of the highest order, the difficult work of a true pioneer.



Mr. Herbert J. Bloch explaining his exhibits. *(Photo by Boutrelle)*

Also, he exhibited and explained his work on Poland's 1919 "Poczta Polska" surcharges, Czechoslovakia's scarce "Posta Ceskoslovenska 1919" overprints, Cuba's 1c on 3c purple of 1902, Albania's first issue, the first air mail stamp of Peru, the Poznan Issue of Poland and several others.

Mr. Bloch's most recent research work with surcharges was the reconstruction of the plating of the first air mail stamp of Colombia. The matter of whether Colombia Scott C1 was issued by official decree or not is irrelevant to the student. Most all of the world's leading catalogs list this stamp, so it is universally collected. Some years ago a few misguided writers maintained that the accepted genuine copies of this stamp were reprints and vice versa. The speaker disproved such contentions and has determined, once and for all, the complete setting of ten, the manner by which the air mail

wording was surcharged. This stamp has become very valuable, making the assembly of material for study very difficult. For years it was believed that the setting could not be reconstructed for that reason. But when an extensive air mail collection came on the market this year, it was a good stroke of fortune for the student that a strip of 4 of Colombia C1 was in this collection. This proved to be a key piece. Mr. Bloch also acknowledged the cooperation of many aero-philatelists, who had loaned him stamps and covers to pursue this study. So much for a report on the material.

The shining portion of Mr. Bloch's evening was his remarks and observations on expertizing. He stated that in these times of scientific rivalry in the world, one hears much about the training of youth as scientists and educating them to pursue basic scientific research. This also is applicable to philately. Many more are needed to pursue basic philatelic research. Philately has suffered through too many with good intelligence, but insufficient training having a tendency to express opinions. Their lack of thorough education in basic philatelic research has handicapped their opinions. Consequently, too many ill-prepared experts have rendered divergent opinions that have led to bitter controversy and a resultant general confusion.

Mr. Bloch believed that philatelic expertization was based upon four fundamental factors, that anyone who wishes to do this work must have. They are:

1. Theoretical knowledge
2. Practical knowledge
3. Reference material
4. Scientific instruments

Of course, no single person will be completely equipped with the total of the four. This demands perfection, which no human can achieve. However, an expert must be thoroughly equipped and know enough of each of the above to be reasonably accurate. A margin of error must be expected and tolerated. But the margin must be small. One who is right only 50% of the time is no philatelic expert.

Each of the four basic requirements were touched upon, although practical knowledge and scientific instruments received more discussion than the other two. Mr. Bloch said that his experience with the Quartz lamp has proven somewhat disappointing. This instrument has its use in expertization, but he believed that far too many were misguided as to the number of things this lamp could show on a stamp or cover. He felt that most amateurs were relying far too much upon the examination of stamps under a Quartz lamp.

Our speaker said, that one of the most important things he had learned was that in philately there was always the exception. Therefore, expertization never can be a true science, and no machine or x-ray ever will be invented or perfected that will, by pushing a button, reveal whether a stamp is genuine or a counterfeit. Nothing ever can or will replace philatelic knowledge.

Mr. Bloch proceeded to demonstrate how slowly and tediously expertization with surcharges proceeds. Often there is a setting of 100. Under magnification, a copy of a stamp must be compared to every position in the setting of 100. This generally takes an hour or more, with the resultant eye-strain and fatigue. Thus no one can expertize more than a few stamps each day. If he had 50 stamps to examine, it is not unusual for this to take a total of 100 hours. With everyone having his time rationed, even a person doing nothing but philatelic work 10 hours a day, six days a week, would ever be able to expertize 50 stamps in a few days time. Obviously, the "quick look" philatelist is the one most prone to err.

The speaker, moving from frame to frame, while discoursing on many of the above mentioned matters (and many more that space limits prevent reporting) consumed close to 2 hours. The capacity audience followed Mr. Bloch's every word with keen attention.

Mr. Bloch ended by stating his sincere conviction that in the collecting and study of surcharges, one often can make more progress and expertize more accurately than with printed stamps. He felt that too many failed to understand surcharges, and because of this formed confused deductions. Many collectors shy away from surcharges because they fear deception through counterfeit material. But the opposite is true. Actually with the progress being made in expertizing surcharges, they can be collected with assurance.

Furthermore, there is a general misconception about the number of counterfeit surcharged stamps. Actually the percentage of fakes is very small. This fact coupled with the assurance that surcharges are being scientifically studied by leading students should be realized. Perhaps the prejudices and fears against collecting surcharges will gradually diminish. Mr. Bloch hopes so.

At the conclusion, there were just two comments and questions from the floor. Then it was this reporter's pleasure not only to sincerely compliment Herbert Bloch for his magnificent performance, but to request those in attendance to give our speaker a rising vote of thanks as he was presented with The Collectors Club Certificate of Appreciation. (*H. M. G.*)

Meeting of December 4, 1957

Research—One Stamp, Issue or Postal Marking

Competitive Display by Members

What promised to be a most interesting meeting with 14 exhibits entered by members was sadly curtailed (almost abandoned) by the weather. This day and night saw a heavy snowfall. A number of our "rural" members from New Jersey, Long Island, Westchester and Connecticut found themselves snowbound, being unable to appear.

But, "the show must go on." Under such bad conditions, it was remarkable that *28* members tramped through the snow to arrive at 22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y., while *8* out of the 14 entrants had a frame or more of material to show and speak upon.

Our Presiding Officer, Vice President, H. D. S. Haverbeck, had some reservations about going through with the program. (Editor's Aside: He was sure after speaking to Mrs. Haverbeck before 8 p. m., that he would never reach his Summit, N. J. residence. He did not know that Stephen G. Rich had just purchased a new auto with new snow-grip tires, so that a later safe transportation to the New Jersey farmlands was assured.) Those present were asked to express their views for or against the meeting with a show of hands. There were 27 "yeas", nary a "nay."

It had been anticipated that this novel evening of having members show a competitive display of research on one stamp, one issue or one postal marking would be most popular. This was borne out by two exhibits being shipped here from long distances—California and England. Since both arrived a few days before the snowstorm, both exhibits were placed in the frames by the Program Committee. Each travelling exhibit was accompanied by the exhibitor's notes to explain the studies and examinations made. Those present felt very gratified that two exhibits had been shipped from such far-away places. The following are the eight exhibits in the order in which they were presented:

1. *France 1929 Joan of Arc Stamp by Miss Agnes Burlingame*

This modest lady in explaining her research stressed the help received from many of her co-members in "The France & Colonies Group" and from *the Philatelic Foundation.* She has attempted to study every philatelic aspect of the stamp from the original artists drawing, those designs rejected, the one accepted, proofs, essays, the methods of printing, various postal uses, booklets and the quantities printed during the stamp's currency.

2. *Uruguay The First Air Mail Issue 1921-2 by Philip Silver*

The research described was extracted from a series of articles published in 1956-7 in the quarterly magazine, "The Aero Philatelist Annals". This exhibitor also acknowledged the help received from others. He explained the first flight of March 22, 1921 and the three essential tests necessary to classify a cover as properly flown. He showed favor covers, that did not go by air mail.

Then, he discussed the second stamp of this issue,—the red overprint—showing the various cancellations used on its first flight from Montevideo to Mercedes.

He concluded with the third stamp of this issue,—the green overprint—demonstrating through government archives that there are two major varieties, a regular green and a yellowish green. The latter is not a color variation. He explained how most catalogs have erred about the first day of issue. Probably one originally made the mistake, and others copied, until "The Sanabria Air Post Catalogue", 1957 edition, finally printed

the correct date, April 1, 1922, due to this research.

The most interesting point was that Mr. Silver's research truly was admitted to be not original. The work had been done years before in Uruguay. But it had become forgotten. So, Mr. Silver returned to these, and by translating from Spanish to English was able to solve a number of matters long misdescribed about Uruguay's first air mail stamps. Consequently, research is recalling the forgotten.

3. *Bermuda 1940 ½p. on 1p. rose red and black Provisional Issue by Fred Kahn*

During the last war, Bermuda ran short of half-penny stamps, and so had to resort to an emergency issue by surcharging. This was done locally, in the plant of the newspaper, "The Hamilton Gazette". Mr. Kahn showed where there were two settings of the surcharge and also different basic stamps used, including one scarce shade. He has attempted to reconstruct the setting. Fortunately, full sheets are available and were shown. When this work has been completed and verified, it will mark a fine philatelic contribution.

4. *Great Britain's Penny Red, Plate No. 121 of 1868 with the Mysterious Dollar Sign by B. Lilywhite*

This is one of the two exhibits sent in. This one came across the Atlantic. The exhibitor's write-up did not explain nor offer any research. It simply pointed out the mystery of a dollar sign appearing upon a stamp of Great Britain. The remarks were humorous, and all enjoyed seeing this exhibit.

5. *Denmark "Retouch" Variety of Scott No. 2 by J. F. Westerberg*

This is the exhibit that travelled across the continent from California. Mr. Westerberg is well-known to the readers of this magazine for his excellent studies on Hawaii; one of which received THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST Award of Merit in 1956. Mr. Westerberg showed some stamps along with explanatory typewritten notes.

6. *Germany 1912 Bork-Bruck Air Mail Stamp by Dr. R. H. Shrady*

Despite the claims of others, *this stamp is recorded in aeronautical archives as the first to transport a letter by air mail.* Documentary proof was shown. The stamp is a semi-official, needed to be used along with the 3 or 5pf. national postage stamp.

Within the envelope shown by Dr. Shrady with one of the first air mail stamps in the world was a 1912 advertising notice. This was read to the audience to demonstrate how far advanced the proprietors of this air mail service were back in 1912. Favorable wind conditions, large sheds, ample landing space, accessibility to railroad stations and proximity to factories for spare parts were all advertised. It is hard to believe—that some enterprising pioneers in the infancy of aviation had such foresight.

7. *India's B172 Cancel Used on the Malayan Peninsula by Paul P. Lindenburg*

The history of this cancellation was traced. Four sub-types were shown. Later use in Straits Settlements, after it became a Crown Colony were exhibited.

8. *Poland 1957 Philatelic Exhibition Air Mail Semi-Postal Issue by W. Kolakowski*

The speaker considered this stamp interesting because it was the first air mail stamp of Poland that carried a surtax. The printing of the stamp was in small sheets of 12 (4 x 3), with a blank space on each row running diagonally. Thus, the first on the top row, the second on the next was the pattern. The stamp was placed on sale March 28, 1957.

However, this Polish Philatelic Exhibition did not open until May 26th. On May 11, 1957 a Souvenir Sheet with this same stamp was placed on sale.

Mr. Kolakowski showed the various cancellations used on this issue. He concluded by pointing out a few lesser varieties, and some of the special stationery printed especially for this exhibition.

Three judges were selected from the audience. They were *John J. Britt,* Chairman, *Stephen G. Rich,* and *Stanley R. Rice.* The judges retired for deliberation after the final speaker had concluded.

The balance of the audience remained on the floor, while engaging in a lively discussion over surcharges sparked by the exhibit of the Bermuda ½p. Provisional by Mr. Fred Kahn. Leaders in this discussion were *Henry Kraemer, H. D. S. Haverbeck, Louis*

Stich, John F. Rider, and this reporter.

The judges returned with their selection as follows:

FIRST PRIZE .....URUGUAY AIR MAILS
(Philip Silver)

SECOND PRIZE .....FRANCE
(Agnes Burlingame)

THIRD PRIZE .....BERMUDA
(Fred Kahn)

The judges also recommended that the other five exhibitors receive a *Certificate of Appreciation.* This was accepted by the Chair and the Chairman of the Program Committee.

The meeting ended. Then the audience filed out to don rubbers and galoshes, along with heavy clothing to brave the elements. A later check disclosed that all arrived home safely, although the usual hour trip to the suburbs required three or more hours on this night.

A repeat of a similar program under more favorable weather conditions should prove to be very well received. The attendance, spirit, quality of work under most adverse conditions confirms the belief that a night at this Club devoted to philatelic research and study will prove highly entertaining and instructive. (*H. M. G.*)

1957 Collectors Club Philatelist Medal

To Corrientes By Louis Stich

The Committee appointed by President C. W. Wickersham to select the best article published by THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST during 1957 consisted of *John R. Boker, Chairman, Sidney F. Barrett* and *Malcolm G. O'Reilly.* Their selection was made early in 1958 and first announced at the Annual Meeting of The Collectors Club on January 15, 1958. The choice of the best article published was unanimous; its announcement should meet with the general approval of all, because the series of articles selected have shown remarkable original philatelic research, clear exposition and many of the helpful illustrations were the original art work of the author. The CCP Medal for 1957 is awarded to:

Corrientes
Issues of 1856-1880
By Louis Stich



The Awards Committee, following the usual custom, has selected other articles for HONORABLE MENTION. For 1957 two articles were chosen and both are deemed of equal merit so that the following announcement is made in alphabetical order. Each of the following will receive at a later date to be announced *Certificates of Merit* from The Collectors Club. They are:

INDORE
The Provisionals of 1889
By Leonard C. Parton

UNITED STATES
Certified Mail
By Edward B. Murphy

An important amendment was passed by *the Board of Governors* of The Collectors Club to the rules and regulations for THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST MEDAL. Now members of *the CCP Editorial Board* with the exception of The Editor are eligible for the Medal. Up to 1957 no member of this Board was eligible. The only others ineligible for the CCP Medal are previous winners. This change was made upon the recommendation of *The Awards Committee,* who believed that in past years many of the finest articles

were written by members of *The Editorial Board,* and since the committee making the selections is an independent body, it was unfair to bar some of our greatest philatelic authors from an honor they may justly deserve.

COLLECTORS CLUB LIBRARY WANT LIST

Periodicals

La Settimana Filatelica, Torino, Italy. (Predecessor to *Il Collezionista*) Volume I, 1945; Volume II, 1946; Volume III, 1947; Volume IV, 1948, Nos. 1-30, 32 and 33.

Postal Stationery, Claremont, N. H.
Volume I, Nos. 1, 2, 4 (1948)
Volume II, Nos. 3 and 7 (1951-52)

Deutsche Zeitung fur Briefmarkenkunde (DBZ), Bad Ems, Germany. 30 Jahrgang, Nr. 12. 1955.

The B A P I P Bulletin, London, England. No. 9. July 1954.

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Cross 1937 Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue of Germany. Cross Stamp Company, Newark, N. J. Gift of Mr. Herbert J. Bloch.

Stach's Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue of Czecho-Slovakia 1941. Alfons Stach, New York, N. Y. Gift of Mr. Herbert J. Bloch.

Billig's 1942 Specialized Postage Stamp Catalogue of Austria. Billings Stamp Company, Jamaica, N. Y. Gift of Mr. Herbert J. Bloch.

Murray Collection of South Australian Departmental Stamp 1868-1874. Publication of The National Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia. Gift of Mr. Edwin Mueller.

The History of the R. A. F. Postal Service Overseas, 1942-1957 by John A. Smith. Published by the author, South Harrow, Middlesex, England. Gift of Mr. Albert H. Higgins.

Airgraphs by N. C. Baldwin. Reprint from The Aero Field. Gift of Mr. Sol Whitman.

1958 Philatelic Informant, compiled by Mrs. Alma McLing. Van Dahl Publications, Inc., Albany, Oregon.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue 1958, Volume I. Scott Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y.

The Vest Pocket Philatelist, Vols. 1-4 (1908-11). Gift of Mr. R. Bartleson.

Everybody's Philatelist, Vols. 1-3 (1910-12). Gift of Mr. R. Bartleson.

Chiu's Supplement, Vol. 5, Nos. 10, 11, 12; Vol. 6, Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Gift of Mr. A. Appleton Lane.

Osterreich Netto-Katalog 1958. Hamburg, Germany. Gift of Mr. Ralph S. Von Kohorn. (German).

The Airmails of the Channel Islands by William Newport. Published by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society, Sidcup, Kent, England.

New York City Guide and Alamanac 1957-1958. Publication of New York University Press, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Neuer-Ganzsachen-Katalog, 3 Lieferung, Europa Deutschland, edited by Walter Beckhaus. Berliner Ganzsachen-Sammler-Vereins, Berlin, Germany. (German)

The Peace of Portsmouth, edited and published by Thomas C. Wilson, New York, N. Y. Gift of Mrs. Mary A. Orpin.

Twenty-Third American Philatelic Congress Book 1957, edited by David Lidman. Publication of The American Philatelic Congress, Inc.

The New World-Wide Postage Stamp Catalog 1958, Volume III. Minkus Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Facts and Reasons in Support of Mr. Rowland Hill's Plan for a Universal Penny Postage by W. H. Ashurst. Publisher, Henry Hooper, London, England. (1838) Presented by Mr. Edwin Mayer.

On the Establishment of an Extra Post for Multiplying and Improving the Means of Postage Communications by Henry Burgess. Excerpt from The Monthly Magazine, London, England, December 1819.

Gift of Mr. Edwin Mayer.

An Examination of the Inland Letter-Carriers' Superannuation Fund. Published by B. Bennett, London, England. (1815) Gift of Mr. Edwin Mayer.

A Plan for Obtaining a More Speedy Postage Communication Between London and the Distant Parts of the Kingdom by Henry Burgess. Published by the author, London, England. (1819) Presented by Mr. Edwin Mayer.

A Full and Impartial Account of All the Robberies Committed by John Hawkins, George Sympson and their Companions by Ralph Wilson. Publisher, J. Peele, London, England. (1722 ?) Gift of Mr. Edwin Mayer.

Reflections on the Postmaster's Demand of a Half Penny for the Delivery of Each Letter. Published by C. Pope, Bath, England. (1773 ?) Presented by Mr. Edwin Mayer.

Catalogue des Cachets a Date d'Entree France, Algerie, Levant by Gilbert Noel. Les Editions E. H. de Beaufond, Paris, France. Gift of Mr. Stephen G. Rich. (French)

A Catalogue of Imperial Reply Coupons and Commonwealth Reply Coupons, edited by Dr. Allan Hauck. Published by The Society of Reply Coupon Collectors, Auburn, Ind.

Florida Postal History and Postal Markings During the Stampless Period by Mrs. Harold Major Pickett, Kenneth L. Rice and Henry M. Spelman, III. Published by the Palm Beach Stamp Club, Palm Beach, Fla.

Philatelic Journals. Gift of Mrs. M. Charles Hoffman.

One year's subscription to *"Der Sammler Diense".* Gift of Mr. Charles L. Horn. (German)

Fun With Stamp Collecting by Fred Reinfeld. Garden City Books, Garden City, N. Y.

The Postal Stationery of the Possessions of the United States, Including Canal Zone, Cuba, Hawaii, Philippines, Puerto Rico, edited by George C. Slawson. Published by the United Postal Stationery Society.

Handbook of Icelandic Postal Stationery, edited and published by Captain Robert W. Scherer, Oklahoma City, Okla.

One year's subscription to *"Deutsche Zeitung fur Briefmarkenkunde"* (D. B. Z.) Gift of Dr. George Camnitzer. (German)

Decret imperial portant promulgation de la convention additionelle de poste conclue entre la France et la Prusse. Photostat. Gift of Mr. Robert G. Stone. (French)

The Cape of Good Hope Triangular Stamp and Its Story by Eric Rosenthal and Eliezer Blum. Publisher, A. A. Balkema, Capetown, South Africa.

The Newspaper Branch "Killers" by W. G. Stitt Dibden. Publication of The Postal History Society, Bath, England.

The Early Postal History of the British West Indies and North America by H. C. Westley. Published by The Postal History Society, Bath, England.

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Corrientes, the Issues from 1856-80 by Louis Stich. Publication of The Collectors Club, New York, N. Y.

Cash For Your Stamps by Henry Hausdorff. Sterling Publishing Co., Inc., New York, N. Y.

The National Archives Preliminary Inven-

tory Number 99. Records of the Office of the Postmaster General, compiled by Arthur Hecht. Publications of The National Archives, Washington, D. C. Gift of the author.

The War of 1812 and the Post Office Department of St. Mary's County by Arthur Hecht. Manuscript. Gift of the author.

United States-Canadian Postal Relations of the Eighteenth Century by Arthur Hecht. Manuscript. Gift of the author.

Catalogo Hevia de Sellos de Espana 1958. Casa Filatelica Hevia, Madrid, Spain. Gift of Aero Philatelists. (Spanish)

Muller-Katalog Schweiz-Liechtenstein 1958. Ernst Müller, Basel, Switzerland. Gift of Aero Philatelists. (German)

Polish Special Postmarks Catalogue by John C. Crimlisk and Jerzy Kwiatkowski. Published by the authors, Filey, Yorks., England.

Special Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Russia, Part I, Imperial Section, compiled by John H. Reynolds. Publication of The British Society of Russian Philately.

Artists Create Postage Stamp Pictures by Hans E. Gaudard. Publication of The Direction General of PTT, Berne, Switzerland. Gift of Mr. Maurice Tripet.

Philatelic Literature. Gift of Mr. Harry Holman.

Current Philatelic Journals. Gift of Aero Philatelists.

The Cancellations of the Travelling Post Offices of Queensland by Dr. Albert Narath. Reprint from the Bulletin of The Postal History Society, Bath, England. Gift of The Postal History Society.

Afghanistan, The Cinderella of Philately by Major Adrian E. Hopkins. Reprint from The Holy Land and Middle East Philatelic Magazine. Gift of the author.

Zumstein Europa Katalog 1958. Zumstein and Cie., Bern, Switzerland. Gift of Aero Philatelists. (German)

Zumstein Spezial Katalog Schweiz-Liechtenstein 1957. Zumstein & Cie., Bern, Switzerland. Gift of Mr. Henry M. Goodkind. (German)

The "Emblems" of Victoria 1857-63 by J. R. W. Purves. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia. Gift of the publisher.

The New World-Wide Postage Stamp Catalog 1958, Volumes I and II. Minkus Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Valuable Philatelic Reference Volume, Gift of Mr. Sol Zipser.

A Postscript to the Postal Historian, Volumes 1-7. Gift of The Society of Postal Historians, London, England.

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BOOK REVIEWS

300 Jaar Postmerken Van Nederland 1570-1870. By P. C. Korteweg, published by J. K. Rietdijk, N. V. The Hague, Holland. Cloth bound, 328 pages and over 1700 illustrations. Available from J. de Kruyf, 45 Quincy Lane, West Englewood, N. J. Price $7.50.

Written by a dedicated philatelist and published by another devoted one, it was to be expected that a book dealing with the early postal markings of the Netherlands would turn out to be a work of inestimable value. This reviewer has been in the fortunate position of seeing this work develop since the end of World War II, having been in constant touch with both author and publisher. Even after having been supplied with a "dummy" copy of the book, he did not visualize the magnitude and magnificence of the final, complete version. And yet, in Mr. Korteweg's own words, the book is incomplete and is more in the nature of a "picture" than of a "reading" book. The advantage of this treatment is evident. It makes the information readily available to all, regardless of language facility. The Dutch text has been limited to a short and concise description of the illustrations. To the English speaking person with ingenuity, the closely related Dutch language is not too difficult to comprehend, especially after a study of the list of words and expressions (in Dutch, English, French and German) before reading the text.

The illustrations of the markings and cancellations used in a period of 300 years of Holland's Postal History, have all been handdrawn by the author during a lifetime of meticulous study. Whenever Mr. Korteweg came across a cover of this period, he made a drawing of all postal markings and noted all pertinent facts as to date and place of use, exact measurements and other details. Not only did he have a tremendous collection of his own, but he had access to practically all existing material in the hands of other collectors, museums and government archives. This, combined with his years of experience as an editor and writer, and his scrupulous honesty, guarantees the authenticity of the information presented.

One of the stumbling blocks in the study of postal markings are accurate measurements. Mr. Korteweg rightly starts his book with an illustration of the method of measuring markings used throughout the book, and with a comparison of time reckoning during the period, including the Napoleonic and French Revolutionary calendar. A short pictorial introduction follows, showing delivery of Clerical mail from 900 to 1500; City mail from 1300 to 1650; Merchants mail since 1450 and finally the Postillions or mounted carriers, beginning at about 1600 and gradually developing from individual—to Postmaster—to Provincial Post—to National Post. For this purpose the book is divided in four distinct parts:

Part I begins illustrating the known handwritten markings found on letters from about 1560 to 1625 and indicating that postage is to be paid to the carrier upon delivery. This is followed by handwritten markings made by carriers and postmasters indicating the town of departure. The famous three stuiver markings of the Amsterdam Skipper's Post are shown in great detail as are their counterparts of Rotterdam and those from the Hamburg, Zeeland, and Texel posts, the West Indies Company and the East Indies Company (V. O. C.). Next come the straight line town markings, hitherto almost impossible to identify properly. Imagine this reviewer's thrill to find illustration upon illustration of straight line town markings for a period from about 1720 to 1829, positively identifying numerous items in his own collection hitherto just set aside as being different but not knowing the reason why. In his booklet "De Postdienst hier te Lande tot 1811", published in 1941, Mr. Korteweg touched upon part of this fascinating period. But in this latest book the subject is treated in such detail and with such accuracy that the whole picture falls into place. This period includes the French Treaty markings

(Masan), the French occupation markings followed by the removal of the department numbers and the issuance of similar markings by the Kingdom of the Netherlands (including Belgium and Luxemburg). Not neglected are the large round town markings and the markings of the Belgian forces occupying some towns of the province of Limburg.

Part II deals with the markings and cancellations of the Kingdom after 1837 (without Belgium and Luxemburg) and the development of various round town markings until 1870. These "newer" postmarks were fairly well covered in "Vellinga's" book published in 1933, but much in the way of "new" material has been added. Also the chapters on the Sub-Postoffices and Postal Stations show a wealth of new and additional information.

Part III is devoted to Fieldpost, Occupational markings and Military mail in general, followed by Administrative markings of the Post Offices and Border Offices and chapters on Free Franking Privileges and Telegraph, Railroad and Amsterdam Canal Company markings.

Part IV is most interesting, illustrating as it does with numerous reproductions of contemporary drawings the transportation of mail and passengers by canal barges, sailing vessels, inland steamers, stage coaches, wagons, etc. Also shown are page after page of notations found on letters indicative of these modes of transportation.

Besides periodic summaries throughout the book, there is a Register listing every town name, service and abbreviation with reference to the catalog number used in the book. If, for example, you have a cover with a marking showing the initials G. W. C. within a circle, you look up these initials in the Register and find you are referred to "number 11." Under marking "number 11" you find the West Indies Company listings and your marking will be either 11-1, 11-2 or 11-3 as illustrated. A complete index follows the list of words and expressions translated from the Dutch into three languages.

The Collectors Club acted with very good judgment and great foresight to place an order for this book before publication. Not only did we obtain a regular edition, but also a copy of the de Luxe edition limited to 50 numbered copies. Books of this type are usually issued in very limited editions, and this work is no exception; the de luxe edition was sold out before it was printed. The regular edition is rapidly being sold throughout the world. The reason? The content is superb, the printing and binding are done in traditional Dutch excellence and beauty; last, but not least, the price is below cost. This is a "life's" work produced to serve for a lifetime or more. *(Johannes de Kruyf.)*

23rd American Philatelic Congress Book (1957). Edited by D. Lidman. Published by American Philatelic Congress. 224 pp. Paper bound. Available from Mrs. Conway Zirkle, 2307 Secane Rd., Secane, Pa. Price $5.00.

Once again it is a pleasant task to read and review an annual American publication that has served philately well through the dissemination of philatelic knowledge and research done so unselfishly by a large number of past writers and editors, who admirably have performed this service upon a voluntary basis for more than two decades.

The 1957 book of 224 pages is about the largest that we can remember. It has 16 articles on the stamps and/or postal history of many countries, ranging from the United States, Canada, South America, Europe, Asia—yes, even Yemen. Also, there are some general articles on postage stamp designs and fantasies. Local posts, postal markings, registration labels, express company mails, postal cards and air mails are written about in this latest book. So a vast variety is here. Topping it off, is the continuation of the excellent feature of a Cumulative Index for all the American Philatelic Congress books, from one through twenty-three. This Index is sensibly divided into general Articles and Articles by Countries. The greatest liability with American philatelic literature is the lack of indexing of most publications. Even some, when indexed, leave much to be desired because this work has been so carelessly done. There is nothing more frustrating than to try to "look something up", only to discover no index or an inaccurate one. Since the American Philatelic Congress books are an exception, they deserve praise and thanks from all interested philatelists.

Now, what kind of a book is No. 23? It is good—not as good as some of the past volumes, but superior to a few others. It contains some papers with fine original research. Many articles offer none, but they are well written so as to stimulate a reader's interest. A general appraisal of the contents leads to the opinion that book No. 23 does not offer enough serious studies on the more important philatelic matters. As much as one enjoyed reading or admired many papers, nevertheless he believes that too many were on the fringe elements or minor subjects of philately. Book No. 23 had far too many.

A few of the articles represent first-class philatelic study, because even if one disagrees with an author's conclusion, such papers are documented in proper scholarly manner. On the other hand, some papers are nothing but "rehashes", and also not adequately documented. However, our main criticism of this type of article is that the past works consulted or quoted are not the accepted or most accurate in the field.

There will be no attempt made to comment upon each paper because space does not permit. Some of the articles that appealed most to this reviewer oddly enough did not win the 1957 awards. But this indicates the great diversification in this book, so that it is certain that every serious stamp collector will find at least one article of interest and guidance.

Before concluding, there is a minor point to discuss that may seem like quibbling. We do not think so. Many authors are members of The Collectors Club. Each article includes a short biography of the author or authoress. Constant reference reads: "Member of The Collectors Club of New York." This is *not* our name. Founded in 1896 and being an international philatelic institution, we are *The Collectors Club* and this journal is called THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. It is true there are other "Collectors Clubs" in the United States that followed ours. But it is well to remember that we are the original COLLECTORS CLUB, and since this has been our name for over 60 years, it is pleasing when one calls another by his correct name. (*H. M. G.*)

Florida Postal History and Postal Markings of the Stampless Period. By Mrs. Harold M. Pickett, Kenneth L. Rice and Henry M. Spellman 3rd. Paper, 70 pages, mimeographed and photo-offset. Palm Beach, The Palm Beach Stamp Club, October 1957.

Starting with Bounds' excellent handbook of Delaware Postal History in 1938, Perry's 1940 Postal History of Bergen County, New Jersey, and Dows' 1943 Maine Postal History and Postmarks, we have had a fair number of published treatises on various areas or states. The Southwestern Indiana Postal History Bulletins have set the norm for adequate treatment in this type of work.

The new Florida book is a really competent production in this genre. It has been done with due regard for the convenience of the user, to an extent hitherto not attained. Covering the stampless period to its end in mid-1855, including the years of overlapping stampless and stamped mailing, it is divided into sections.

The first is the history of the post offices, given alphabetically. We note with pleasure the frequency of the candid notations: "No stampless covers are known," "No known covers," "No postal markings are known."

The second part is a listing, with dates, and with numbers of each as far as known, of the manuscript postal markings.

The third part is a well-done catalog of the handstamped postal markings of this period in Florida. We note with approving interest the giving of two values—territorial and state periods, in this portion of the book. Accompanying this section are four pages of photo-offset illustrations of the markings. These are actual photographs, evidently not retouched, nor with indistinct letters filled in.

A final short section lists Florida Pre-Territorial covers, from the period between annexation and establishment of the Territory.

Looking for material on postal doings in Spanish and British days, we find the matter completely covered by a paragraph in the introduction. It amounts to saying that no such covers show any signs of postal handling.

Methodology and scholarship are beyond reproach in this handbook. If there are omissions or errors, this reviewer is not sufficiently acquainted with Florida material to find any. No doubt publication of this work will immediately spur reporting of numerous items which will close many a gap, but whose significance had been hitherto unknown to their owners. (*S. G. R.*)

The New South Wales Philatelic Annual, 1956. Published by The Philatelic Society of N. S. W., Box 601, G. P. O., Sydney, N. S. W., Australia. Price 2/6.

The ninth number of this annual has several articles in a lighter vein that can provide food for thought in philatelic writings. To mention two of these—"Fun From Philately" by D. B. Moloney and an article on Thailand, both by the same writer, adds spice to serious collecting without being facetious. Several other topics are given a very thorough delineation for the specialist and the general collector. One of these on German Shipmarks, by Peter Jaffe, is well worth the nominal price of this annual. He gives some excellent illustrations of postal markings of the less familiar expanses of Pacific Oceania and many of the vessels that traversed these waters. The only lack in this fine annual is the absence of an article by the editor, Romney Gibbons, whose writings on Australasian philately have been so delightful. (*Dr. Irwin M. Yarry*)

Handbook of Icelandic Postal Stationery by Robert W. Scherer, P. O. Box 523, Oklahoma City, Okla. 52 pp., card cover. Price $3.50 postpaid. Available from the author.

Captain Scherer, an officer in the U. S. Air Force, has done an admirable and adequate study of Iceland's postal stationery from the first postal card (1879), through the provisional surcharges, up to and including the 1937 letter-cards. Air letter sheets are the only Iceland stationery not listed.

The author used the Dr. Siegfried Ascher catalog as the original basis of his work but then goes far beyond it. This handbook lists and prices the regular issues along with many minor varieties, states the quantities issued, describes the 1904 reprints and how they can be distinguished from the originals, and even includes proofs, trial printings and printer's waste.

The specialist frequently organizes his studies so that one can follow them only with difficulty, especially if one is unfamiliar with the specialty This handbook, however, is so well planned that it can be used by either beginner or mature specialist. By following the major numbers, the collector is able to form and write up a basic collection of Iceland stationery.

The author admits that pricing offered problems. For the earlier stationery, Ascher's catalog was used as a base, assuming that now the value has doubled from 1928 when the German catalog went to press. Scherer thus uses an 80 cent Ascher gold mark as a rule-of-thumb. For instance, if a postal card listed at 1½ marks in the 1928 Ascher, Scherer values it at $1.20. On the used material he simply doubles the unused price. (This formula works sometimes—many of the more common mint items are scarcer postally used.)

The handbook is mimeographed but the printing and paper stock are both of high quality. It is to be regretted that it contains no illustrations. (*Emmett B. Peter, Jr.*)

The Airmails of the Channel Islands, by William Newport. Published by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society, Farm Cottage, 33 Halfway Street, Sidcup, Kent, England. 12 pp. Paper bound. Price $1.00.

This small pamphlet represents the seventh section of a series being produced by the Channel Islands Specialists' Society. Because this latest part deals with aero-philately, this reviewer was requested to express his views. However, it must be admitted that the air mails of the Channel Islands are neither collected by nor familiar to this reviewer. In fact, he was surprised to learn that air mail collecting connected with these British Islands offered sufficient material for a 12-page booklet.

The greatest portion of this pamphlet describes aero-postal history starting with a pioneer attempt of a flight from England to the Channel Islands in 1919. In 1953, what American aero-philatelists consider "semi-official air stamps" were introduced for use on air mail to the Islands. The "stamps" are the British European Airway issues (B. E. A.). Only one cover is illustrated, appearing to be of a philatelic nature. This reviewer would have preferred seeing the use of these B. E. A. semi-official air mails to the Channel Islands on commercial or social mail. Do non-philatelic covers exist?

(Continued On Page 51)

UNITED STATES (Continued From Page 22)

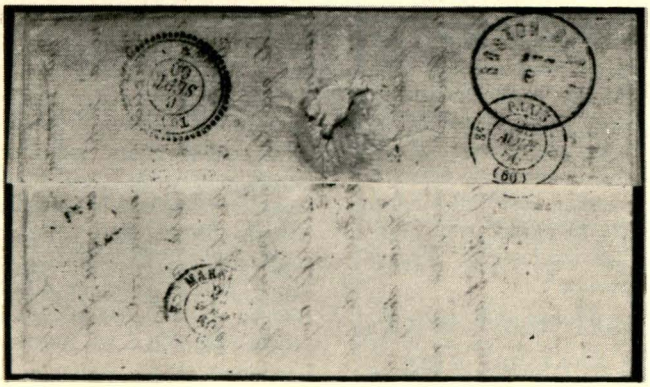


Fig. 2. The back.

EDITORIAL

(Continued From Page 4)

However, philatelists believe in all sincerity that faced with this situation a distinction must made between "covers." One that did postal duty should be called an ENTIRE, whereas the term "cover" will apply only to an envelope with a cancellation that never went through the mails.

The philatelist and postal historian will collect ENTIRES. The stamp "saver" will collect COVERS, the unaddressed piece cancelled by favor on a post office counter.

INDIA

(Continued From Page 34)

Acknowledgements

The author wishes to express his appreciation to the editor of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST who arranged for publication of the photo-enlarging types, thereby easing the lot of the author during the study.

Thanks are also due to Mr. L. H. Scisco, who confirmed the identification of many of the dies with material in his own collection.

References

Extensive data used in this article was obtained from Ref. 1, an excellent study, which unfortunately ignored postal stationery in its detailed exposition of the "convention" states adhesives. Most of the statistics were obtained from Ref. 7.

1. C. Stewart-Wilson and B. Gordon Jones, "British Indian Adhesive Stamps (Queen's Head) Surcharged for Native States," Philatelic Society of India, Cambrian Press, Calcutta (1904).
2. "Jai Hind", *Philatelist,* XVI, 45.
3. "The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps," Vol. III, The Empire in Asia, p. 217, Robson Lowe Ltd., London (1951).
4. *Ibid,* p. 225.
5. *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal,* IV, 197-199 (1894).
6. W. Beckhaus, *Die Ganzsache,* 30, nr. 5, 39-40 (October 1956).
7. "Encyclopaedia Britannica", 14th Edition.

BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued From Page 50)

Part 2 covers "Aerial Propaganda Leaflets" 1940-44. We fail to see a philatelic connection with these, because no postal service was performed. Part 3 is most interesting, since it describes mail to Jersey during the Franco-Prussian War by "Ballons Montes" during 1870-71, and some covers sent to Jersey in 1911 on the historical London to Windsor Coronation Air Mail Flights. It is believed that very few collectors know that such pioneer air mail material exists. (*H.M.G*).

POLAND

(Continued From Page 36)

Later on, the writer began receiving reliable information. He began compiling it and finally published a book, printed in the United States, that attempted to orderly classify these confused "Groszy" overprints. My idea was not to allow the reputation of Polish philately to become adversely affected by a lack of understanding and knowledge. It took over two years to garner the information and then publish the booklet, "Polish Stamps 'Groszy' Overprints".

In time, this work of mine may only become a drop of water in the large ocean of philately. Nevertheless, I sincerely believe that philatelists originally from Iron Curtain countries like Poland, and now living in free lands where philately is neither hindered nor nationalized, should continue writing about stamps of their homeland. They know the languages and can translate it into English, French or German. They can receive the information about new issues while it is fresh, and while good sources for information are accessible. Philately never will flourish in darkness. To collect stamps, we must know. This explains my desire to keep alive Polish philatelic literature, to publish works about Polish stamps in English and to serve philately, no matter how small the contribution.

1958 PROGRAM OF MEETINGS

The Program Committee has announced with pleasure and pride the schedule for this year. This involved much work and advanced planning. The objective of the Program Committee under the Chairmanship of *Mr. Louis Stich* was to seek diversification as well as interesting topics and talented speakers. It is believed that the following schedule of programs shows the results of this work.

(Meetings convene at 8 P. M.)

January 8th

Philatelic Symposium

January 15th

Annual Meeting

January 22nd

Competition, Locals & Private Posts World Wide

Open to all members present at the meeting.

February 5th

Early U. S. Covers—Mr. Courtlandt P. Dixon
Liberia—Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham

February 19th

Mexico—John W. Taylor collection
Presented by Col. Charles S. Hamilton and Mr. John K. Bash

March 5th

Transjordan—Col. John F. Rider

March 19th

British Bechuanaland & Stellaland — Mr. Stephen G. Rich

April 2nd

Austria, the 1850 3 kreuzer Type I, machine made paper—Mr. Louis Stich

April 16th

Annual Competition

May 7th

"Postal Stationery"—Mr. Emmett Peter, Jr.

May 21st

"U. S. Department Issues"—Mrs. Berthold Ehrenberg

June 4th

Uruguay—Mr. Robert Hoffmann, FIPEX Grand Award Winner

SUMMER RECESS

September 17th

Nepal—Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck

October 1st

Philatelic Foundation Night

October 15th

Airmails of Italy and Colonies—Mr. Henry M. Goodkind

November 5th

The Classics of Perkins & Bacon—Mrs. John D. Dale

November 19th

Hongkong—Mr. George E. Burghard

December 3rd

Sarawak—Mr. Paul W. Savage

December 17th

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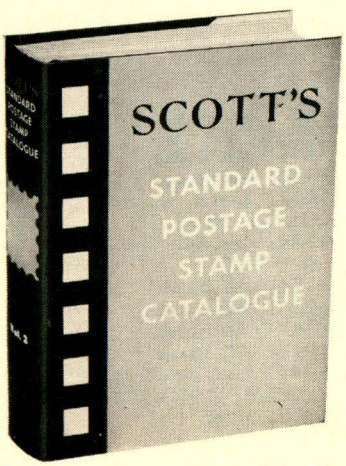
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CONTENTS

A complete philatelic description of the various issues of King George V, covering the preparatory stages of production, plates, printers, controls and perforations; supplemented by a detailed description of the electro markings, with their controls, which makes plating possible. No less than 158 plates of the Halfpenny and 233 plates of the One Penny are thus identifiable, and similar information is provided for the other duties. Very full information, including references to the actual inks used, is provided for the essays which were made as colour trials, and unconnected with the design; this is coupled with notes on the use of the Quartz Lamp. To complete the picture the correspondence between the designer, G. W. Eve, the General Post Office, The Royal Mint and Somerset House is reproduced in full.

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