THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

Volume 40, No. 1
January, 1961

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The Collectors Club Philatelist is published bi-monthly (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept., Nov.) by the Collectors Club, Inc. 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y. Second-class mail privileges authorized at New York, N. Y.

Annual Subscription Rates: — $10.00; $7.50 for non-profit institutions. Free to all members. Individual copies — $2.00 each.

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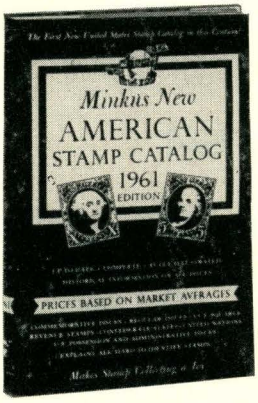
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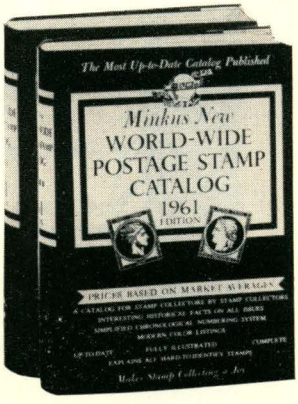
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Editorials

40 Years

You hold in your hands *Volume 40, Number 1 of* THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. To mark this achievement, the following has been done:

1. A new deluxe paper for *the C. C. P.* cover. This was selected by Louis Stich, our Art Director, shortly before his death in September 1960.

2. A more readable type.

3. *Cumulative Index Of Volume 30 to 39 (1951-60).* This has been compiled by *Herbert P. Woodward,* our Secretary. Our last *Cumulative Index* was published in 1950. This covered *Volumes 1 to 29.* With the March 1961 number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, each member will also receive the *1951-60 Cumulative Index,* covering Volumes 30 to 39.

   There are a limited number of the *1922-50 Cumulative Indices* still in stock. It has been decided to bind these together with the new 1951-60 Index. Thus for those, who desire a *complete Cumulative Index of Volumes 1 to 39,* one hundred (100) copies only will be available. *The 1922-60 Index* will be sold under the auspices of the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund at $2.00 per copy.

4. In this number is a special feature, consisting of a reprint of some portions of *the first number of* THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. It is believed that all will greatly enjoy reading what had been written forty years ago.

5. The first editor of *the C. C. P.* is still going strong. It was fitting that *Mr. Harry L. Lindquist* should write for this number about his recollections of the times when this magazine started. This is philatelic history.

* * * *

Forty consecutive years of *the C. C. P.* is an outstanding accomplishment. The mortality rate among all magazines, not just philatelic — is great. Newspapers and magazines come and go. Some last less than a year, others for far

longer, but then many cease publication. Few survive for more than a decade. The older members can recall many magazines read in their younger days, that have departed from the scene. Thus, anyone who has had anything to do with THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST can share a great sense of pride and achievement.

From 1922 through 1949, *the C. C. P.* was a quarterly magazine. *In 1950, it increased to six numbers a year,* which has been maintained. Over the years this magazine has had a fairly consistent average of 68 pages for each number.

Another outstanding accomplishment is that during this long 40-year period, *the C. C. P.* has had only *four editors,* i. e. — Harry L. Lindquist 1922-39 Walter R. McCoy 1939-42; Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. 1942-47; and Henry M. Goodkind 1948 to the present. An observer of the field of stamp publications notices that the editorship of philatelic periodicals is subject to frequent changes. Thus it is a rare exception when one serves ten years or more as the editor of a stamp newspaper or magazine.

When one of America's leading philatelists recently learned of the 40th year of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, he made some pertinent remarks to the editor. This prominent philatelist has been active in stamp collecting for close to fifty years. In his opinion, this magazine has published over the 40-year period articles that have gained top rank as contributions to philatelic knowledge. As the veteran philatelist views it, *the C. C. P.* has consistently published articles of the highest quality, often written by leading philatelic authorities. They were read and respected when they were written. But of far greater importance, the knowledge has stood the test of tiem as to overall accuracy.

Consequently, the long record of *the C. C. P.* now being noted because of its fortieth year, represents a tribute to the stability and welfare of mature philately. It is a common belief, that for something to be successful in America, it must cater to the masses. A magazine of record as THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is not a medium of news, but a journal of scholarship. Names and personal notices have remained a minimum fare in this magazine. Thus, it never has been the "popular type" of journal. That it has not only endured, but increased both in content and circulation proves that in the New World, there is a demand for philatelic scholarship. Those, who tend to bemoan that the good old days are gone from philately, may see the error of their thinking in the record of this magazine. There are sixteen readers now for every one when *the C. C. P.* began.

It seems customary, when writing about a fortieth anniversary, that some remarks should be directed to the future. But who can prophesy with even reasonable accuracy? Certainly this magazine has made a great record, upon which it should continue in the future. Nothing, however, stands still. We either move forward or backwards. Thus, just one forecast will be attempted. *The C. C. P* should not only continue for many years, but improvements can be expected. First of all, education is becoming more widespread in America. This means that those, who will take up stamp collecting in the future, will be better equipped than those in the past. In the second place, all seem to agree that we Americans will have much more leisure time. Philately must benefit from this.

No doubt the majority of stamp collectors will enjoy the hobby without bothering to garner any philatelic knowledge. This was the situation in the past; it continues at present, and there are no indications for a change in the future. But there will always be an active minority keenly interested in the study of stamps and postal history. The relative percentage of the more serious group may not grow. But as the number of stamp collectors increase, not by

exaggerated millions, but only perhaps by thousands each year, so will the ranks of serious philatelists. One factor is certain. As long as people collect stamps, there will be some, who will be students of them. These latter will want and demand some medium of information for their needs. This magazine, because of its past record, should be the source of supply in America.

International Prestige And Our Postage Stamps

As our new President takes office, one of his main arguments in the recent campaign for the presidency is recalled. He hammered away upon the declining state of the United States' prestige abroad. Although such talk was largely for campaign consumption, it was based upon a certain amount of truth. Our national image may have been blackened to an extent by some "Ugly American" foreign representatives, by movies exported from Hollywood, California, or those backslapping, loudly dressed American tourists. These all do work against us.

On the other hand, there are many American cultural and industrial exports that gain prestige for us. Also, many an American representing this country abroad, or touring foreign lands has made friends in other countries, and has commanded the respect of many foreigners.

It seems that an important but overlooked U. S. export that can do much for America's international prestige is our postage stamps. On the surface, stamps may seem like trivia to high government officials. Certainly history shows that to most all of our presidents, one of the least important cabinet posts is the Postmaster General. This is why it usually goes to the head of the administration's political party, as a reward for victory. Knowledge of postal service, postal history, and post office operation does not seem to be the prime requisites for this cabinet post.

Our postage stamps, however, are ambassadors that go to every place in the world. Nothing can more easily penetrate the so-called "Iron Curtain." In many places, one of the few things American seen by people is a United States postage stamp affixed to an envelope or post card.

Philatelists visiting abroad, having contacts with foreign stamp collectors and dealers, reading the stamp publications from other countries are very aware of the criticism directed against our recent postage stamps. It is, therefore, true that the international prestige of America is at a low point, judging by the reaction to our stamps.

Foreign criticism of our stamps is directed in two ways — both against their quantity, but more against their quality. A few random quotations from recent items in foreign stamp magazines prove this:

From South Africa: — "Surely we are not so far behind that mass hysteria which we hear reported from the U. S. A. when they issue a first day item."

From New Zealand: — "Commemoratives arrive with monotonous regularity and the United States will really have to look to its laurels if it wishes to hold on to its 'Commemorative' title in the near future."

From Great Britain: — "With our long history we wonder why Britain's postage stamps have neglected the past, some of it older than one thousand years, whilst the United States proudly depicts its motor cars, banks, poultry, gardens, women and children on stamps. Are these history-commemorating issues or fancy advertising posters?"

From England: — "Sorry if this seems like a political column, but we can hardly escape it . . . we are getting into a sorry state when the powers are using party propaganda for philatelic purposes, and even the latest U. S. car exhibition stamp is inscribed 'Wheels of Freedom'."

These words are written by our friends and allies. What are the others saying?

Nor is criticism of our postage stamps limited to people abroad. A stamp collector often is subjected to the following question by a non-collecting friends: — "Why do we issue such unattractive stamps?" The public mistakenly believes that because we collect stamps, we are the ones responsible for them, or that we approve of them. Furthermore, the American public at large dislikes using our large-sized commemorative stamps. They do not serve the letter-writing public in a practical sense.

This writing is no expression of dissatisfaction upon the part of one or two individuals. Rather it is a report upon what is being said here and abroad. The editor of this magazine firmly believes that governments should issue stamps, while philatelists collect them. The less that one has to do with the other the better.

What has been done in the past cannot be undone. The crux of this whole question lies in the future. Will our postage stamps begin to bring us prestige, not ridicule? As patriotic Americans carrying the image in our minds that the United States is the finest country in the world in which to live, we want to see our stamps respected, truly representative of the best United States culture and history. We want to see these continual ambassadors free from political patronage and propaganda. As a visitor to foreign shores, we receive many pleas from people abroad to help them immigrate to the United States. They want to come to "The Land of Liberty," not to socialistic nations. This is the best evidence we know of the great standing of our country.

Stamps must not be issued to please one section or group. It is not difficult to portray much in our great American heritage, if those responsible for stamps have some sense of history, if they will be realistic by heeding the general criticism of our stamps and take the necessary steps to overcome this. We anxiously await the day when we hear and read praise of United States postage stamps. It is hoped that those now assuming responsibility for our stamps will properly grasp the situation, which has unfortunately endured for too many years, and take the steps necessary to elevate every new issue of a U. S. postage stamp to the world position and standing it deserves.

With our new presses to print multi-colored stamps, with our talents, abilities and strong sense of patriotism, the proper results can be achieved. We want and expect to proudly hail our future postage stamps, and to hear expressions of approval from every quarter of the world.

Edwin E. Elkins

One of New York's most enthusiastic stamp collectors unexpectedly passed away on December 20, 1960 in Brooklyn, N. Y. *Edwin (Eddie) E. Elkins* was very well known in philatelic circles in this country. For years with his devoted wife, "Nan," who died a few years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Elkins attended almost every stamp show in the northeastern part of the United States. Whenever there was a stamp dinner, affair or show in New York City or its suburbs, one could be sure that the Edwin Elkins would be there. Furthermore, they

were not only a husband and wife, who collected stamps, but they both liked exhibiting them.

Thus, one can think of no one to whom stamp collecting has meant more in the sense of daily giving time to it in some form. "Eddie" had a beautiful collection of early Great Britain and a fine specialized collection of Malta. When he secured an exceptional item for his collection, it at once became a proud possession, and "Eddie" showed it around to all in sight. He truly lived for this; it was an important part of his life. His joy became complete when his exhibits gained high awards.

Edwin E. Elkins joined the Collectors Club in 1937, and soon began a record of many years of devoted service to this club. He was Treasurer from 1943 to 1955, Program Director from 1949-53, Governor 1946-55, Vice President and in 1955 served as President of the Collectors Club. Upon his retirement in 1956 he was elected to Honorary Life Membership, an honor bestowed upon few in the long history of our club.

Back in the early 1930's, Edwin Elkins became interested in stamp exhibits. Being very active in the Flatbush Stamp Club of Brooklyn, N. Y., he was one of the organizers of several metropolitan stamp shows that were successful. This brought him to the attention of the Directors of *The Association For Stamp Exhibitions* that is always in need of people who are hard, conscientious workers and have had experience with the many difficult details that arise out of a stamp show. Thus, for the 1936 TIPEX, Edwin Elkins was one of the hard workers. By 1947 when CIPEX was staged, he was an important factor in this Centenary New York International, being both an Officer and Director of *the ASE*. Again in 1956 for FIPEX, Edwin Elkins was an important member of the team that ran this great international philatelic exhibition. As recently as December 6, 1960 he attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of *the ASE*, who already have begun working for New York's next international philatelic exhibition in 1966.

Edwin E. Elkins' last years clearly demonstrated what philately had meant to him. It was about all he had outside of his church. He was a devout Roman Catholic. But "Nan" had gone; his son was working and living in California; he had retired from his position at the Chase National Bank. Stamps became his mainstay. He was in his 76th year when he died.

It is difficult to picture this building at 22 East 35 Street, New York City without "Eddie" Elkins in it. He loved his stamps; he was so happy working with other philatelists in some capacity for organized philately; the Collectors Club was "his second home;" his best friends all were stamps collectors.

Alan R. Fernald

Another oldtime member of this club passed away almost at the same time Mr. Elkins did. *Alan R. Fernald* died in Georgia on December 19, 1960. He joined the Collectors Club in 1947, shortly after moving to New York from Detroit, Mich. Mr. Fernald was a regular attendant at all this club's meetings and functions until advancing years forced him to become inactive about a year ago.

His great interest was in philatelic literature. Thus, this club's library became one of his favorite haunts. Mr. Fernald through his wide use of the library noticed many books and periodicals not on the shelves. Thus, he made many efforts and often was successful in supplying the library with missing works. In order to make sure that the Collectors Club library would maintain its leading position as one of the greatest philatelic libraries in the world, Alan R. Fernald made a generous gift to our library a few years ago.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PUBLICATIONS

VOLUME I, NUMBER 1

Dated January 1922, a forty-four page quarterly magazine with an attractive tan paper cover made its first appearance. It was called *the Collector Club Philatelist*. The first number had been put in the hands of two members. According to its masthead, *J. Brace Chittenden, Ph. D.* and *H. L. Lindquist* had been appointed the Publication Committee.

In another part of this present number, H. L. Lindquist has recalled the first years of our magazine, and therein he quoted a portion of the first *C. C. P.* editorial written by Dr. Chittenden. In order to more fully appreciate the reasons for *the C. C. P.*, we start by repeating the entire editorial as follows:

EDITORIALLY

In the year 1862, Mount Brown obtained his primary place in the philatelic hall of fame by publishing the first catalogue of "British Colonial and foreign Postage Stamps" in London, wherein he describes twelve hundred varieties as issued since 1840. In September, 1862, "The Monthly Intelligence," published at Birmingham, England, began the long list of journals devoted to the furtherance of the interests of stamp collectors.

About one year later, December, 1864, "The Stamp Collectors Record," was issued at Albany, New York, by S. A. Taylor to succeed as a new series a publication with the same title, two numbers of which were published in Montreal, Canada. The oldest paper still in progress dates from Paris, July, 1864, and is the celebrated "Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste." In Germany, the "Magazine fur Briefmarken-Sammler" issued its first number in May, 1863, to be discontinued in April, 1867.

While a few months late in starting, English America has easily established its supremacy as to quantity, for in 1911 Lord Crawford records over one thousand different journals published in the United States alone. Unfortunately, the same may not be said as to quality.

Ninety per cent of all these American publications are juvenile, amateurish, and ephemeral, contributing little of permanent value to the history and still less to the science of philately. They testify primarily to the early and extensive interest in the collection of stamps as a source of amusement, as a hobby, prolific of educational force, and enduring substance. From among them all, ten perhaps might be worthy of a prominent place in a philatelic library, as important and essential to the student. It is easy for some to recall those days in the eighties, when a small printing press came at Christmas and many a prominent editor in later times received his first education as a publisher and a business man, by issuing his own stamp journal.

The mortality among these American papers has been equally extraordinary until the great war closed the existence of nearly all, even those that were conducted by experienced and practical editors.

Sixty years have passed since the initial publication of Mount Brown, and by the issue of a journal in January, 1922, the Collectors Club makes its entry with the first attempt in the fourth generation.

It will hardly be questioned that the date is timely, nor, all things considered, that our hope for ultimate success is unreasonable. Nearly all journals associated with philately have been issued primarily to advertise some firm, and aside from their importance in this respect, have been conducted at a financial loss. Frequently such publications have sought the viewpoint of the collector and have placed in permanent form researches of the best philatelists, available to the student in the future.

On the other hand, they were always stamped more or less with the commercial spirit. While they were the first to deplore this attitude, obvious in nearly every collector, they certainly emphasized and catered to the commercial and investment spirit with paramount success. This is the worst that can be said of some of them, and their readers received exactly what they wanted. At the same time, ninety per cent of the valuable studies in philately have been preserved through their agency, and taking it all in all, the professional element has done much more for the student of stamps than our amateurs.

One conspicuous exception is the "American Philatelist," now in its thirty-fourth year, which is national in its scope and represents to this day all that is best in American philately. Older by a year, we still have with us Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News. This is a money maker for Severn, Wylie, Jewett & Co., and deserves to be. Without question it meets the requirements of the American stamp collector from California to Maine. It is the best example we have of the American genius for publishing the news, and it does more than this for its pages are at the disposal of the philatelist, if he will not insist on too much detail.

The criticism that will be raised against this effort in New York will be that our energies might be better directed to support and improve old and established enterprises, and the answer is that we hope to do so and to strengthen each and every effort, no matter where it may be made, by organizing and making more potent for good the comparatively strong local interest at our command.

More readily than in most centers, New York by sheer force of numbers, can hope for support elsewhere, if it is only deserving. It becomes a duty, but too long neglected. Primarily this journal is for the benefit of the Collectors Club. We are not conscious of any mission or any expectation of bettering results obtained over and over again elsewhere.

The primary aim is to give our own members something more for their support, to establish an opportunity for publishing the results of their studies if they so desire, to increase if we may such influence as we may have in the service of philately. *(J. B. C.)*

In reading this first number, one receives a very fine impression of its high quality. Following the "Table of Contents," we find it commences with a most thorough study of "U. S. 1901 Pan-American Exposition Issue" by George B. Sloane. John Murray Bartels, a prominent dealer of the time wrote on the U. S. "Revalued 3-cent Envelopes." Plans for an "Expertizing Service" operated by the Collectors Club were outlined by A. Krassa, a well-known Nassau Street dealer. A pioneer aero-philatelist, Major Joseph A. Steinmetz, commented upon air mail collecting with a short article entitled, "The Ups and Downs of Airmail."

The story of the establishment of the U. S. Philatelic Agency in Washington, D. C. is reported by Harry L. Lindquist. Let us repeat its opening paragraph:

At one of the first departmental cabinet meetings held shortly after March 4th, which meetings were established by Postmaster-General Will H. Hays and consists of the Postmaster-General and his assistants in the Post-Office Department, the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, W. Irving Glover, in whose bureau the Division of the Stamps is located, suggested that the Department establish a Philatelic Stamp Agency. The Postmaster-General and the others, although all of a most progressive mind, rather laughed at the idea and passed on to the next important matter on hand, namely the printing of another five billion of the every-day, old-fashioned George Washington 2c stamps, and with them the matter was dead.

(After the 1960 outpouring of new stamps from the U. S. P. O., many philatelists may wish that the matter had remained "dead." Oh! for the bygone days of 1c Franklins and 2c Washington stamps with their 594's and 595's. They don't make 'em anymore.)

"New Issues" were handled by one of America's greatest philatelists, John N. Luff. He started his first article this way:

It is a satisfaction to say that the prospect is favorable for a decrease in the output of new issues. We appear to have passed the height of the flood . . . . Years ago, when there were only a few new stamps to chronicle each month, they were welcome, for they helped to keep up the interest of collectors.

But there can be too much of a good thing. When collectors begin to feel that there is an excess of new stamps, or that they do not represent postal needs but are issued for the purpose of making money, they are apt to indicate their dissatisfaction by refusing to buy the stamps of the offending countries.

(That was 1922. Were the famous Mr. Luff still with us, what would he have to write in 1961 on New Issues, and the new way they are being merchandized by private philatelic agents?)

Auction Sales of October, November and December, 1921 are reported by J. C. Morgenthau, himself a famous philatelic auction dealer. Seven pages of prices realized in the following auction sales comprise this feature—Part II, Ferrari Collection in Paris, France; J. M. Bartels, New York; Daniel F. Kelleher, Boston, Mass.; Kelton & Sloane, New York; Marken und Ganzsachenhaus, Berlin, Germany; J. C. Morgenthau and Vahan Mozian both of New York City. (In retrospect, these prices are not too low for 1921. Of course, all are very much below those at present. But one must consider the value of currency in 1921. I was running errands, being paid three dollars a week. With a penny, I would buy a newspaper to bring home for my father. My lunch was a sandwich and a glass of milk; cost 12 cents. Those were the days of the penny postal card.)

"Current Literature" was commented upon by John A. Klemann, still well remembered as the proprietor of the Nassau Stamp Co., New York. Also Mr. Klemann contributed a short article on "The U. S. 24c Continental," concluding that there is no reason to question this stamp. (How wrong he was!)

Hugh M. Clark, who succeeded Mr. John N. Luff as the editor of "the Scott Catalogue," wrote a column called, "The Trend of The Times." He began as follows:

There probably never will be a better time to purchase really fine stamps at reasonable rates than the present. Even at the high prices secured for the United States and British North America issues, they still are splendid investments and no one can predict to what heights they will soar . . . The present situation speaks well for the stability of stamp values . . . they did not suffer the reaction to any great degree incurred by industry in general . . . To the collector who must consider the value of his collection as an investment, these better issues offer a tempting opportunity. No true philatelist cares to give too much heed to his stamps from this point of view.

Mr. Clark concluded:

The new issues of the last years are of particular interest to the man who can collect for amusement . . . Catalogue quotations of many sets, especially those of the "New Europe," while already reduced shockingly, will go still lower. As an amusement they are without competition but the man who must consider the investment value would be wise to avoid them.

(Very sound and accurate prophecy, as the later years show.)

There are a few shorter articles—"Fake Cancellations on Confederate State Stamps" by Edward S. Knapp, a famous collector; "An Interesting Cover." (Very similar to our regular column, "Uncommon Uses of Common Stamps," showing that a number of ideas that we deem original, are not); and "A Scarifying Canceller Used Abroad" by William Evans.

The balance of our first number is devoted mostly to Club activities. We think it of great current interest to reprint the names of the C. C. Officers and Committees as they appeared in Vol. I, No. 1.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB

120 West 49th Street New York City

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

1922

OFFICERS

President—John N. Luff
Vice President—Emil M. Sperling
Secretary—J. Brace Chittenden
Treasurer—Harry M. Lewy

TRUSTEES

Alfred F. Lichtenstein, *Chairman*
Julius C. Morgenthau
Theodore E. Steinway

LIBRARIAN

Dr. J. Brace Chittenden

EXECUTIVE

Dr. J. C. Morgenthau, *Chairman*
Dr. J. Brace Chittenden
Alfred F. Lichtenstein

PUBLICATION

Dr. J. Brace Chittenden
Harry L. Lindquist

HOUSE

V. A. Riddiough, *Chairman*
A. Hatfield, Jr.
Henry E. Schinzel
Joseph T. Lozier

EXPERT COMMITTEE

A. Krassa, *Chairman*
Dr. Julius C. Morgenthau
Percy G. Doane

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Class of 1922	*Class of 1923*
J. Brace Chittenden	Harry M. Lewy
Theodore E. Steinway	John N. Luff
Thomas L. Wells	Emil M. Sperling

Class of 1924

Alfred F. Lichtenstein
Harry L. Lindquist
Julius C. Morgenthau

ENTERTAINMENT

Alfred F. Lichtenstein, *Chairman*
Harry L. Lindquist
George R. Brown
Dr. Carroll Chase
A. H. Caspary

LIBRARY

J. Murray Bartels, *Chairman*
Arthur D. Ballard
Eugene Klein
John A. Klemann
Joseph S. Rich
Emil Sperling

BOURSE

E. M. Sperling, *Chairman*
John H. Hall, Jr.
Emil Fried
Elliott Perry
Walter S. Scott
Sigmund L. Rothschild

Another item in the first number of *the C. C. P.*, that seems very worthy of present comment, is the lengthy report of *the Collectors Club Twenty-fifth Anniversary Celebration.* This club was started on *DECEMBER 4, 1896* with one hundred founder members. How many of the present membership know that one of the original founding members is still with us? He is *Mr. Hiram E. Deats of Flemington, N. J.*, one of our few living Honorary Members. Our 25th Anniversary was celebrated on December 3, 1921, because the 4th fell on a Sunday. The program started with a luncheon at 1 p. m. in the Collectors Club's private dining room at 120 West 49 Street. An exhibition was staged in the Meeting Room from 2 to 5 p. m. There were fifteen exhibits (one was U. S. coins) among which were:—U. S. 1851-57, Dr. Carroll Chase; U. S. Used In Canada, Alfred F. Lichtenstein; Canada Queen Heads, Charles Lathrop Pack; New South Wales, Theodore E. Steinway; U. S. 1847 E. Perry; Mississippi River

Steamboat Cancellations, George B. Sloane and Air Mails, Major Joseph A. Steinmetz.

A banquet (formal dress) was held at the old Brevoort Hotel in the Greenwich Village section of New York. All who attended were listed, and there were 108 (it was a stag affair). Of the original *100,* who founded the Collectors Club in 1896, those who had survived by 1921 numbered eight, of whom all but one attended the 25th Anniversary celebration.

At the end of Number One we find a number of small reports. There are short comments about other collectors clubs in Philadelphia and Washington. Two meetings held in the fall of 1921 at the West 49th Street clubhouse are noted briefly. There is more than a full column devoted to the gift of three very rare books to the library. They were "Manuel de Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste" third edition, by J. B. Moens and the second edition, plus "Handbuch fur Briefmarken-Sammler, Leipzig, 1863."

There were bourses in the clubhouse that are briefly noted. A pre-meeting dinner at Zucca's restaurant is announced. Usually from ten to twenty members and guests attended. Then there is a full column report on "Recent Visitors At The Club." One sees that they came from Europe and many parts of the United States. Special note is made of the visit of Mr. S. Chapman of London, England and his talks with members on the stamps of Mexico.

This first number concludes with a list of *NEW MEMBERS* who joined since October 1921. Among the names of the *Resident Members* were noted: George B. Sloane and Stanley R. Rice (now on the Board of Governors). *The Non-Resident Members* joining in 1921 included Hon. J. A. Calder, Ottawa, Canada; Major T. Carlton Henry, Philadelphia; Alvin Good, Cleveland, Ohio; O. A. Schenck and George W. Linn of Columbus, Ohio; C. E. Severn, Chicago; B. W. H. Poole, Los Angeles; Senator J. S. Frelinghuysen, Washington, D. C.; Charles J. Phillips, London, England and Stanley B. Ashebrook *(sic)*, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The following stamp firms advertised:—Scott Stamp & Coin Co., 33 West 44 St., New York, N. Y.; Stanley Gibbons, Inc. 198 Broadway, New York, N. Y.; Economist Stamp Co., 87 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.; Nassau Stamp Co. 116 Nassau Street, New York; B. L. Drew & Co. (Daniel F. Kelleher), Boston, Mass.; Burger & Co., 90 Nassau St., New York; Martauco Stamp Co. (Marshall H. Hancock), New York, N. Y.; H. F. Colman, Washington, D. C.; B. W. H. Poole, Los Angeles, Calif.; Elliott Perry, Westfield, N. J.; George W. Linn Co., Columbus, Ohio; Kelton & Sloane, 116 Nassau St., New York; P. M. Wolsieffer, Philadelphia, Pa.; Max Beck, New York; Metropolitan Stamp Co., 7 West 42 St., New York; L. W. Charlat, 537 Fifth Ave., New York; J. M. Bartels, 116 Nassau St., New York; Vahan Mozian, Inc. 1358 Broadway, New York; J. C. Morgenthau & Co., 87 Nassau St., New York; Percy G. Doane, 154 Nassau St., New York; A. Krassa, 116 Nassau St.; Max Ohlman, 75 Nassau St., New York; and Theodore Champion, Paris, France.

This list of stamp dealers advertising in the first number of the *C. C. P.* totals twenty-three; only six firms are still doing business.

Of the authors in our first number, none are now alive. Checking the 1922 Officers, Governors and Trustees, there is only one still with us—Harry L. Lindquist. As for the Committees previously listed, there are only two who have not passed on—Harry L. Lindquist and E. Perry. Obviously, "the bells have tolled" a lot over this forty-year period. But the names of many of the departed have not been forgotten.

What will be said and written in the year 2001, forty years from now? How many of those now active will be here in 2001, and who will be remembered? Will there be any stamp collecting, any world forty years from now? We are not predicting, but simply making an inquiry in view of all the dire things being said and written in 1961. *(H. M. G.)*

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Its First 18 Years

By HARRY L. LINDQUIST



Harry L. Lindquist, the first editor of The Collectors Club Philatelist.

On a gloomy day in February 1921 I wandered into the Collectors Club for the first time. It was then located over Zucca's restaurant at 120 West 49th Street, New York, N. Y., and except for the bright countenance of *Dr. J. Brace Chittenden,* the sight which met my eyes was no less cheerless than the world outside that day. The room was dusty and unkempt, and Dr. Chittenden was surrounded with papers on which he had been scribbling extensive plans for expanding the club's activities and services. He had just returned from a meeting with *Alfred F. Lichtenstein* and *Julius C. Morgenthau,* from whom he had gained agreement to finance his project; he was in high glee.

With total disregard for the unpromising setting in which Dr. Chittenden was projecting his ambitious program, he told me of his plans with an enthusiasm that soon proved contagious. What at first had sounded like a visionary dream too impracticable for fulfillment, soon began to emerge as a well-thought-out plan with very real possibilities.

"Now," said the Doctor, "having secured the financial backing, the next most important step is to launch a magazine through which we can tell the members about our plans and win their cooperation in carrying them out." I began to realize what he was driving at. For some years I had published a monthly philatelic magazine in Chicago, and now I knew why he had taken so much of his busy time to explain in such detail the full scope of his plans.

My arrival at this psychological moment struck the good doctor as more than a coincidence, he assured me; it must indeed be an act of providence which I dare not refuse to recognize. No amount of insistence on my part that I would be unable to find the time was of any avail. What if I *did* have a full-time job with a publication in another field? What if I *did* have other commitments that tied up my spare time? Here was an opportunity to render a real service to philately; how could I ignore the challenge? *The Collectors Club* had a great future, he was convinced, and I could not refuse to do this little service towards reaching its place in the philatelic sun.

His persistence and his earnestness combined finally to wring from me an agreement to prepare a dummy, select a name, secure some articles and advertising, and get the new publication off the ground. After this, I would look to him to find a permanent editor.

Dr. Chittenden was elated, and his dedication to the club was so persuasive that I was by this time convinced that after all this *was* only a "little service." I felt lucky too to have come off the hook with so limited an offer. I had little reason to suspect then that the hook was in deeper than I thought. It wasn't until some years later that I realized Dr. Chittenden had never agreed to the provision that an editor other than myself would be found.

The first issue of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST appeared in January 1922, when the Collectors Club iteself was exactly twenty-five years old. Immediately following its publication I submitted my resignation as editor. But nothing happened. I had no choice but to go ahead with the next issue. After each issue I would again resign, but Dr. Chittenden blithely brushed off such "nonsense" each time. He was himself doing so much for the club that it was not easy to feel justified in turning him down, when he so earnestly pleaded his cause. But pressure on my own time was such that I decided I must take the bold step of publishing my "swan song," which I did in the number 4 (the last one) of the first volume, only to be overruled by the Board of Governors after Dr. Chittenden had convinced its members they must add their pressure to his to keep the journal going. This kind of thing went on for about five years, when at last I accepted the inevitable and ceased to struggle against it.

So my temporary offer extended into nearly eighteen years. But I must say that they were gratifying ones; years when I saw achieved most of the great visions that Dr. Chittenden had advanced that bleak day in February 1921. And I was glad that I had had a part in rallying together the forces that had made this possible. Through the *C. C. P.* we had been able to inspire the membership into contributing time and effort towards the achievement of the goals originally envisioned by Dr. Chittenden, to whose memory also all credit belongs for the bringing into being and the continuing of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST in those early years of its existence.

In the first issue of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Dr. Chittenden wrote an editorial outlining our policy and purpose. He summed it up concisely in these words: "Primarily this journal is for the benefit of the Collectors Club. We are not conscious of any mission or any expectation of bettering results obtained over and over again elsewhere. The primary aim is to give our own members something more for their support, to establish an opportunity for publishing the results of their studies, if they so desire, to increase if we may such influence as we may have in the service of philately."

It was our original intention to present in each quarterly issue a broad and authoritative resumé of the outstanding features of the preceding three months. These would include a review of the new issues of stamps by *John N. Luff;* auction reports by *Dr. J. C. Morgenthau;* philatelic literature reviews by *John Klemann;* and a survey of the "Trend of the Times" by *Hugh M. Clark.* This gave us a group of regular columnists of outstanding competence, supplemented with feature articles by another impressive group of contributors. The latter included *George B. Sloane, A. Krassa, Charles Lathrop Pack, Alfred F. Lichtenstein, Abraham Hatfield, Jr., Edward S. Knapp, Elliott Perry, Herman Toaspern, Senator J. A. Calder,* and many others of equal philatelic prominence.

Beginning in Volume II, Dr. Chittenden wrote some splendid articles on the early history of the club, especially in relation to the library, and about various members. These attracted wide attention and of themselves did a lot to renew and widen interest in the club. His articles were supplemented a few years later by those of *Charles J. Phillips.*

The Phillips articles recorded, among other things, the roving existence that had fallen the lot of the club. Its first quarters, from 1896 to 1905, had been at 351 Fourth Avenue. When the landlord raised the rent on the building to $1,500.00 a year, new quarters had to be found. On March 20, 1905, the

club moved to a single floor at West 26th Street at a rental of $70.00 a month.

It was at this time that *Dr. J. Brace Chittenden,* who was to play such an important role in the club, became a member.

The next move was apparently to 14 East 23rd Street, for it is recorded that *J. W. Scott* held an auction at the Collectors Club at that address in 1909. But in 1911 the headquarters was at 14 Park Place, over Kalil's restaurant. It was here that plans were laid for the first international philatelic exhibition ever to be held in America, and which also resulted in the formation of *The Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc.* Under its auspices all of our succeeding international exhibitions have been held at approximately ten year intervals.

Due to financial misfortunes of the landlord, the club was without a home for some months, but quarters were finally secured at the Carbon & Carbide building, 30 East 42nd Street. There the club remained until December 1917, when it moved to the first floor over Zucca's restaurant at 120 West 49th Street. During the next five years the country was engaged in the first world war, and interest in stamps was at a low ebb. Practically all of the members were contributing to the war effort, many in active participation. The club was still at this address when the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was born, as earlier recorded in this article.

It was felt that a publication committee to discuss policies, and to stimulate editorial and advertising support would be desirable. Thus, to this end the "Hot Stove League" came into being. This was just an informal group made up of a few active contributors to the journal, who would meet in the Library before the general meeting on club nights. The discussions would revolve around any problem that might arise in relation to the journal, but inevitably they expanded into other problematical matters in the field of philately generally. This latter, in fact, eventually became the group's most important activity, and when complaints had been filed, we would "summon" members involved to appear to answer the charges. Many members clamored for admittance to this "select" group, but as our room could hold only a dozen, we had to limit "the Hot Stove League" membership to that number. As I recall, the original group consisted of *Herman Toaspern, Harry M. Konwiser, George B. Sloane, Sidney F. Barrett, Elliott Perry, E. R. Radford, Hugh M. Clark, Theodore E. Steinway,* and *Eugene N. Costales.*

Dr. Chittenden devoted much of his time to the development of the club's library and to writing exhaustive articles based upon his research in it. Probably his masterpiece in this field was his history of the life and achievements of *John Walter Scott,* which appeared in three large installments in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. This made available for all time a comprehensive store of information covering the whole development of philately in the United States.

Under Dr. Chittenden's energetic and dedicated efforts, the Collectors Club Library was given an excellent start towards its present pre-eminence. During the first twenty-five years the Collectors Club had had only three librarians: *Charles DeWitt Drew, Joseph S. Rich,* and *J. W. Scott.* In his librarian's report in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST of July 1922 Dr. Chittenden presented a resumé of their activities, which included a report by *J. W. Scott* that fortunately gave a complete catalog of the library, which at that time contained a total of 944 bound volumes.

Contributions began to pour in as soon as it became known that Dr. Chittenden was working on the library. *J. M. Bartels* sent two truckloads of literary material, while many other dealers, collectors, and publishers sent important additions. In the department of periodicals alone, Dr. Chittenden reported the receipt of 1,022 different publications, including 475 bound

volumes and 328 complete but unbound volumes. The other sections of the library were equally well represented.

The January 1923 issue of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST annuonced the great news that the world-famous philatelic library of *Judge Victor Suppanschitch,* of Austria, had been purchased. *This acquisition contained material from all countries of the world up to the year 1900, with a total of 27,164 periodicals and 1,180 handbooks.* So extensive was the Suppanschitch library that 750 pages were required for the *Bibliography of German Philatelic Literature,* based on this collection, when it had been published in sixteen parts in 1892.

When Dr. Chittenden had first learned that this library was for sale, he started to raise a fund for its purchase. But *Theodore E. Steinway* came forward requesting that all contributions be refunded, as he wished the privilege of presenting the entire library to the club. The complete story of this venture is included in the announcement in the January 1923 *C. C. P.,* and makes fascinating reading.

Early in the history of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, we drafted into service *William R. Ricketts,* whose great work in indexing all philatelic periodicals in the English language was being published serially. In addition to compiling an annual index to the *C. C. P.,* Mr. Ricketts supplied us with a philatelic literature supplement for each issue from October 1924 to July 1931. Dr. Chittenden enlisted Mr. Ricketts' aid too as an assistant librarian. In the course of time much material came to us from his splendid library, especially the small ephemeral publications, which are chiefly valuable for the historical record.

One of the initial projects of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was to stimulate articles on the early postal history of the United States. These included such topics as the story of the early Expresses, the recording of postal markings, and in fact, Americana in any of its phases. The purpose was twofold: to have the magazine serve as a source of research in this field for years to come, and to present material that would be of interest and value to the noncollector as well as the collector.

Those selected to do these articles were such outstanding students of our early postal history as *Henry C. Hitt, Victor M. Berthold, Henry C. Needham,* and *Ernest Wiltsee,* a very fortunate choice, because none of these students, with their vast and unique store of knowledge, is with us today. Most of these articles were reprinted in handbook form, a policy that is continued by the Collectors Club up to the present time. Much of the writings of *Henry Hitt* and *Victor Berthold* were based on the collection of Western material gathered by *Alfred F. Lichtenstein.* The thorough task done by *Ernest Wiltsee* included engaging a corps of research students to comb early newspaper files and works in libraries throughout the Western States, particularly in California.

Several articles, which originated in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, later formed the basis for books that became the classics in their field. Among them was the series on "U. S. Postage Stamps of the 20th Century," started in the *C. C. P.* by *Beverly S. King,* and later in collaboration with *Max G. Johl.* who carried on these studies after Mr. King's death March 4, 1935. The series by *Edward Stern* on the *History of the Free Franking of Mail in the U. S.* is still the standard handbook of this subject. It began in the *C. C. P.* for January 1931 and continued to January 1934.

The first important series of articles undertaken by the *C. C. P.* was the remarkable study of "the Plating of the U. S. Ten Cent 1847," by *Elliott Perry.* This started in the issue of April 1924 (Vol. III, No. 2) and continued through the issue of July 1926 (Vol. V, No. 3)—ten installments. This was based on the collection of *Ernest R. Ackerman,* who sponsored the study. It was origin-

ally planned to publish this later in book form, but unfortunately that intention never materialized.

It was during this period that *Dr. Herbert Munk* of Berlin, Germany became the editor of a series of specialized handbooks in German on the stamps of the world under the title of the *Kohl Handbook*, each country being in charge of a leading specialist. By July 1925 six sections had appeared; and the seventh, bringing the *Kohl Handbook* through the country of Denmark, was ready for distribution. However, the firm sponsoring the work was unable to continue, and a group was formed in Germany called the "Friends of the Kohl Handbook." *Alfred Lichtenstein*, who was visiting Germany at the time, took out a membership at $250.00 in the name of the Collectors Club. He guaranteed to interest twenty other collectors in sending the same amount for a total of $5,000.00, in return for the exclusive rights to translate the German work into English for publication in the *C. C. P.*

The first two installments of English translation of *Kohl Handbook* on Denmark, revised and repriced, appeared in the January and July 1928 issues of the *C. C. P.*, occupying a total of forty-five pages. To make it easy for collectors to bind them separately, if desired, each installment was printed as a separate unit, which could readily be removed from the regular issue of the magazine.

L. Meinertzhagen, of London, England, who wrote the original section on France, wanted to have that part inserted in a single issue of the *C. C. P.* Therefore, he supplied the funds (with an "assist" from Mr. Lichtenstein) to make this possible, as our own budget would not permit publishing the seventy-nine pages required.

France was followed by the countries most in demand or for which we could secure translations without cost; these included China (44 pages), Bulgaria (53 pages), and other smaller groups.

So popular were these translations from the *Kohl Handbook* that we received many requests from philatelists for the rights to reprint them in other countries. However, we transfered our English rights only for one country, Great Britain. This permission was given to the *Royal Philatelic Society, London*, which reprinted it in two volumes: Part I—The Line Engraved Issues 1840-1853; Part II, The Embossed Adhesive and Surface Printed Issues up to 1865.

It was during this period of eventful activity in the club that *Charles J. Phillips* came on the scene. He had just sold his controlling interest in Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., of London, and decided to make his permanent home in New York City. He was bursting with energy and enthusiasm, and soon started things humming on his own account. He had much to offer, and the club was indeed fortunate to have the benefit of his fine intellect and "know-how." He introduced so many excellent ideas for interesting meetings that the club was soon attracting capacity crowds. He was by nature a keen historian, and had written some outstanding works in this field. He at once went to work compiling many valuable statistics on the Collectors Club from musty and forgotten old records. From them he produced articles for the *C. C. P.* which have made the task of our present chronicle a comparatively simple one.

Charles J. Phillips also conceived the idea and also financed a series of sessions which he called "Reminiscences of the Veterans." To these meetings he would invite men like *John N. Luff, Hugh M. Clark, Alfred F. Lichtenstein, Percy Doane, Elliott Perry, J. M. Bartels, John A. Klemann, Eugene Klein, A. Krassa, Walter Scott, Edward Stern, the Burger brothers*, and other old-timers in philately. One story would stimulate another. These were all transcribed by a stenographer, whom Phillips had inconspicuously placed in a corner of the meeting room, where the consciousness of being recorded would

not hamper easy flow of thinking and talking. Later these explorations into the past were compiled, edited and published in the *C. C. P.*, as well as in Phillips' own "Philatelic Classics." What wonderful foresight was his in doing this; most of these old-timers are now dead. But much of the information now has become ours and of future generations through their recording in these publications. Otherwise, all of this would have been lost.

A plan that grew out of these meetings was a series of interchange visits with other philatelic clubs in the eastern seaboard area, with a delegation from each club attending designated meetings of the others. These were invariably highly interesting, and our *C. C. P.* published voluminous reports on them. This project lasted for several years, during which we exchanged visits with stamp clubs in Boston, Philadelphia, New Haven, Waterbury, Springfield, Washington, Providence, Albany, Westchester County in New York and West Essex and the Oranges in New Jersey.

Foremost in the plans Dr. Chittenden had originally projected, and which had remained uppermost in the minds of all of us, was the securing of a permanent home for the Collectors Club. Our quarters over Zucca's restaurant were totally inadequate. But it was not until the twenty-seventh annual dinner, held on December 8, 1923, that the project really got under way. *J. C. Morgenthau*, who was acting as toastmaster, started the ball rolling by offering $500.00 if five others would join him. This was achieved forthwith, and Mr. Morgenthau then said he would double his offer to $1,000.00 if each of the others would do the same. To this they readily agreed, and thus, in the space of a few minutes a fund of $5,000.00 had been pledged. Everyone present then contributed to the extent he felt he could afford, and the Permanent Home Fund started off at this dinner with a total of $9,530.00.

With this nucleus the search for a clubhouse began in earnest. In 1926 *Alfred F. Lichtenstein* located a site at 51 West 48th Street, which required an initial investment of $60,000.00. A syndicate was formed to whom shares were sold. Although there were many trials and tribulations along the way, we eventually raised the money and took possession of the building. It required major repairs throughout; an elevator had to be installed, and other needed expenses soon piled up to an appalling figure. But Mr. Lichtenstein carried right on through, and on February 16, 1927, we held a "Housewarming and Dutch Treat" in our new quarters, with 120 members and guests present.

One important factor during this transition period, which I do not believe has ever been published, is this: general membership funds never supplied any money for the 48th street building beyond the initial payment of approximately $60,000.00, although I had evidence that the costs were approximately $108,000.00. *Alfred F. Lichtenstein* supplied all the balance and refused to render any bills or ever take any credit. All we got from him was a receipted bill of sale for the entire property, free and clear.

As luck would have it, there was one catch in our title, however, which was based on a leasehold from Columbia University that was subject to cancellation, if and when the property was needed for a major development. This occurred around 1930 when the Rockefeller interests wished to acquire the entire area for their projected Radio City, which now occupies this site. Appraisers set a valuation on our leasehold and the improvements which we had added, subject to their approval by the University. This was just a formality, which could have been secured on request at the time the improvements were undertaken, but unfortunately this provision had been overlooked and had not been followed through by us. Thereby we unfortunately lost a substantial portion of the award that had been alotted us.

Despite this, we did receive a check for almost $35,000.00 which, with our original Permanent Home Fund that had not gone into the 48th Street deal,

enabled us to purchase our present building at 22 East 35th Street. *Our first meeting at this address was held on October 6, 1937.* The total cost of the building, including legal and other expenses was $36,600.00. Alterations cost another $24,000.00; and the members contributed $3,500.00 for the furnishings. In the period from February 18, 1931 to October 6, 1937, while we were seeking a new location, we occupied a suite of offices in the old Carbon and Carbide Building, at 30 East 42nd Street, the same building in which the club had been located in 1917.

Meanwhile, the club had suffered a grievous loss in the death on March 21, 1928, of the man whose farsighted plans had started the ball rolling for a clubhouse of our own so many years earlier. He had lived to see this achieved in the 48th Street location, but was no longer with us for the opening of our new and present East 35th Street quarters. As a fitting recognition of his work and devotion, the Collectors Club established a *J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund.* In the July 1931 issue of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, the then incumbent librarian, *Harry M. Konwiser,* reported that hundreds of volumes of loose periodicals were in process of being bound from the income of this fund.

In the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for April 1930 we reprinted an article the writer had done for the January 27, 1930 issue of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News,* outlining briefly what the Collectors Club had achieved and, more in detail, what it now proposed to work towards. To quote from this article:

> "The work of rehabilitating the Club, of founding and maintaining a club journal, of building the finest philatelic library in existence, of securing our present clubhouse, of creating the nucleus of a permanent home fund, and of carrying on in an ever-widening field of usefulness are all stories of splendid achievement, but our energies are all directed to even greater accomplishments for the future. The past efforts have laid an excellent foundation, but we would be untrue to our trust if we did not use them as stepping stones to more enduring and worthwhile achievements."

Then we continued with an outline of what was now proposed as a goal towards which to set our sights:

First, a new permanent home, now that the 48th Street site had been lost to us, and we gave figures of what would be required to secure it, aside from the special endowments that would be needed to carry out the full program we outlined. We reported on the amount already on hand, on sites that had already been found which would meet our requirements, and the figure we had set as feasible for us. We presented illustrations and architect's drawings which had been prepared by our architect member, *Beverly S. King,* both of the proposed building and of the main rooms suggested.

For the first floor, a reception room and club offices were planned, as well as a large exhibition hall for continuous public exhibits. On the second floor, the club rooms and committee rooms for members only. On the third floor, the Library — *J. Brace Chittenden Memorial; Theodore E. Steinway, Joseph S. Rich,* and *Wm. R. Ricketts* Foundations, and perhaps additional smaller rooms for study and conferences. The fourth floor would be devoted to a series of smaller rooms, each to house one of the special activities that were proposed, as follows:

A Publishing Foundation which would carry on the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, and undertake preparation and publication of handbooks and pamphlets on philatelic subjects.

A Recording Room and Study Laboratory which would be provided with every device suitable for the study of stamps, and eventually provide headquarters for an *Expert Committee,* which would build up a reference collection

and be prepared to pass upon the genuineness of stamps submitted to it. "But by far the most important function of this Recording Room," we commented, "would be to 'pedigree' every important stamp in existence." "The activity we felt to be most vital," we said, "was to provide extension lectures and exhibits by competent lecturers, such as had proven so successful an educational venture in other fields of culture when undertaken by art museums, public libraries, and similar institutions."

The amount that we felt was necessary to finance this plan was $300,000.00, which included $100,000.00 as a start towards an endowment fund. Within a few days after this article appeared, we received a visit from *Charles Lathrop Pack,* one of our foremost philatelic students. He said he was very much interested in the plan and would pledge the first $100,00.00 on the condition that we could raise the second $100,000.00. If we succeeded in doing that, he would give us the third $100,000.00 "and as much more as might be required."

It looked as if all our troubles were over, for we already had a large part of the "second $100,000.00" in cash in the bank in our "Permanent Home Fund," and with little effort, we felt, could raise the balance. Another enthusiastic stamp collector, *Colonel E. H. R. Green,* also visited me within a very short time after publication of the article to discuss the idea of "pedigreeing" stamps. "This kind of thing was a pet project with him," he told me. He had established pedigreeing systems for certain animals on his Texas farm, and felt that it was a sound idea for stamps. "He was not interested in financing our building and other plans," he said, "but if we would provide space for the pedigree activity in our building, he would supply it with all necessary equipment and supplies, and he would set up an endowment to finance its operation in perpetuity."

Unfortunately, before we were able to bring our project to fulfillment both Mr. Pack and Mr. Green had passed away, and their offers were forever lost to the Collectors Club.

During the entire existence of the club its members have taken an active part in the international philatelic exhibitions held in the United States. The *Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc.,* under whose auspices they are held, have had their headquarters and meetings in our clubrooms.

The first exhibition was held in New York, N. Y. in 1913. At the time that the *C. C. P.* was started in 1922, plans were launched for our second one, which was held in 1926 in the Grand Central Palace. As editor of the C. C. P., I naturally inherited the job of chairman of the publicity committee. It was for this show that the U. S. Post Office issued the White Plains Miniature Sheets. This started a precedent that was continued in 1936, 1947 and 1956. Our third international stamp show was held in 1936, also at the Grand Central Palace. Each of these exhibitions was highly successful and were fully reported in the pages of the *C. C. P.*

When the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was inaugurated in 1922, the membership of the club had dwindled to a mere 90. By 1925 it had reached 510; and in April 1939, which is the end of the period we are covering, this had grown to over 1,000. This remarkable growth was largely credited to the existence of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, which had served so well to publicize our plans, stimulate new interest in the club and its activities, and become a repository of philatelic knowledge for present and future generations.

Twenty-one years have elapsed since the end of our story in 1939 and most of the plans that we dreamed about in our early days have been fulfilled. The foundations upon which Dr. Chittenden and his associates have built is sound, and will make it possible to carry the work forward with confidence to whatever heights our imaginations can visualize.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PUBLICATIONS

It is with considerable satisfaction that we usher in with this number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST its 40th year of publication. This is a record seldom equalled in the annals of philatelic publications; it is only through the devoted services of its editors, both present and past, that we have been able to maintain an unbroken record of publication of this magazine of philatelic maturity and high standing.

It is also a source of pride for the members of The Collectors Club that we can point to another achievement in the field of philatelic publishing. You no doubt have read Harry L. Lindquist's interesting story in another part of this number about the former years of this Club, where he mentioned a great number of excellent handbooks published by the Collectors Club in the 1920's and 1930's. This laid the groundwork and foundation for a permanent publication program with the idea of bringing out at least one book each year. To our knowledge, the Collectors Club has been the first philatelic organization to have a planned and adequately financed program for publishing books on philatelic subjects, which have been brought to its attention. This has been made possible by the establishment in 1957 of *the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publications Fund.* This Fund established in memory of one of the great philatelists in the United States, a man of outstanding international reputation, not only in his chosen field of industry but in his avocation — has made this possible.

Since the institution of this memorial it has enabled The Collectors Club to publish the following seven works in a three-year period:

United States, THE TEN CENT STAMPS OF 1855-59, by Mortinmer L. Neinken
AUSTRIA, Handbook of Pre-Stamp Postmarks, by Edwin Mueller
The Early Stamps of VENEZUELA, by C. W. Wickersham
United States RF OVERPRINTS ON AIR MAIL, by Henry M. Goodkind
The Postage Stamps and Postal History of TIBET, by H. D. S. Haverbeck
CORRIENTES, The Issues from 1856-80, by Louis Stich
United States, 24c AIR MAIL INVERTED CENTER OF 1918, by Henry M. Goodkind

As you can see from the list of the above titles, this is a well rounded program of important handbooks by authors outstanding in their respective fields.

We take pleasure in announcing the forthcoming program of five books which have already been approved by the Publications Committee. Scheduled for publication before the end of 1960 is a limited, deluxe edition of the letters of Robert Morris during the years 1847-48 entitled ROBERT MORRIS, Postmaster of New York, edited by Winthrop S. Boggs. Scheduled for publication in the year 1961 are two works having significance in view of the centennial of the Civil War. These new handbooks are "CIVIL WAR PRISONS AND THEIR POSTS" by Earl Antrim and a study of "CONFEDERATE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY" by Lawrence L. Shenfield. Also expected during this year is the work by Robert G. Stone upon "THE STAMPS OF THE FRENCH COLONIES" based upon his series of articles in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and "THE POSTAGE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY OF NEPAL" by H. D. S. Haverbeck. We confidently expect that these five future publications will meet long-felt needs in their respective fields and will bring further honor to The Collectors Club.

(Continued on Page 32)

Uncommon Uses Of Common Stamps

FRANCE

China Expedition 1860-61

Because China had refused entry into her territory of all foreign diplomats, although this had been granted in the Treaty of Tientsin in 1858, British and French Armed Forces landed in China in August 1860. Peking, the capital, was occupied on October 12, 1860. A few weeks later a new Peking Convention guaranteed the 1858 promises. Consequently, diplomatic representation, trade agreements and protection of religious missions were granted to England, France and other foreign countries.

Thus, France withdrew her troops from China in 1861. Some returned home; others were reassigned to Cochin and Indo-China.

Mail used by the French Forces in China during the 1860-61 period is not easy to find. The illustrated cover with the common 40c. orange (Scott 18) shows such a usage. The cancellation "CECB, C[1]" (abbreviation for Corps Expedition Chine Bureau Central) was applied to the stamp. The circular postmark in the cover is dated "April 6, 1861." The cover was addressed to Lyon, France.

There were five French Military Post Offices in China, and they employed the key capital letters "CEC" (Corps Expedition Chine) in the killer. The final letter, "A B C or D" was used by four different post offices, the fifth being the "Bureau Central" that used the initials "BC[1]" as carried on the stamp on this cover. The circular postmark in the outer ring has this wording—"Corps Exp. Chine. Bureau Central."

These same markings were used during the expedition into Cochin-China until 1863, when they were replaced by a new one, "C CN."

(Dr. Fred C. Brock, Burbank, Calif.)

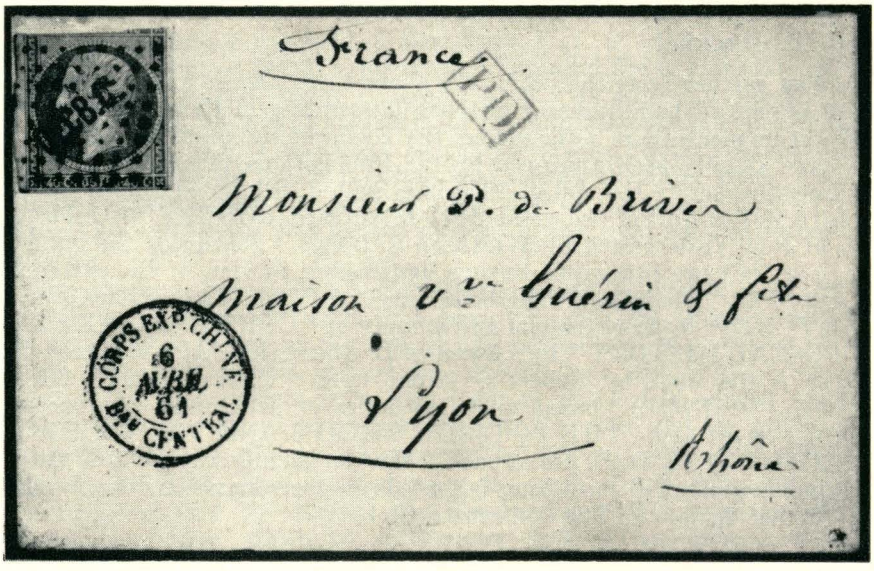


Photo by Boutrelle

The postal historian has intently studied and written upon the Pony Express. But the stamps have been neglected. Thus, this is a contribution to the celebration of the Centenary of the Pony Express.

UNITED STATES

Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Pony Express Stamps 1861-64

By WINTHROP S. BOGGS

CHAPTER I

Introduction

The clattering hoofs of the Pony Express have echoed down the years, and in the Centenary year of 1960 echoed even more in the hearts of those to whom the opening of the Great West is an ever thrilling story.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Flying Pony of the plains, the most spectacular mail service the world has ever known was celebrated last year by the re-enactment of the First Pony Express. Riders from the East and the West, covering as far as possible the same route as the first ponies did, left St. Joseph, Mo., and Sacramento, Calif., on July 19, 1960 amid appropriate ceremonies. A commemorative stamp and envelope were issued by the U. S. Post Office Department as part of the Centenary events. All these served to remind us again of the most thrilling episode in American postal history.

The saga of the Pony Express is enthralling for postal historians, of interest to the student of American history, and, of course, to the ordinary reader. From the dime novel read as a boy to the serious works of the scholar, as well as the theme of numerous motion pictures, radio and television programs, the Pony Express has captured the imaginations of young and old alike. Although a financial failure, it was an epic that has become a permanent part of our American heritage.

Philatelically also the Pony Express has been extensively studied, as the numerous articles and booklets which have been written about it testify. The covers carried by the intrepid horsemen have been eagerly sought, lovingly kept and studied. The rates charged, when the runs were made, who rode the ponies, the time made from point to point, and a host of other details have been discussed again and again. It would seem that little or nothing more could be said about the Pony Express and its covers. Strangely enough, *the stamps* issued by Wells, Fargo & Co., as agents for the Trans-Continental Pony Express and later as operators of the Virginia City Pony Express, have been neglected. Aside from the listings and notes in the stamp catalogues, there is practically nothing readily available to the collector concerning the stamps themselves. Therefore

this article comes as a contribution to the Centenary celebrations of the Pony Express and its stamps. It is a study of the eight "Pony Express" stamps (Fig. 1) issued by Wells, Fargo & Co., to pay the fees on letters carried on the various Pony Express routes.

Historical

Before discussing the actual stamps, and their philatelic as contrasted with their historical significance, it might be well to briefly recapitulate the history of the Trans-Continental Pony Express. This falls into two distinct periods, viz:

1. From April 3, 1860 to March 12, 1861.
2. From April 1, 1861 to November 18, 1861.

During the first period the Pony Express was the private operation of the famous freighting firm of Russell, Majors & Waddell. This company was hoping to secure the Government contract for carrying the mail over the Central route, which was the route of the Pony Express. The purpose of the Pony Express was not only to expedite communication between East and West, but also to prove the suitability of the Central route from Sacramento, California to St. Joseph, Mo., by way of Salt Lake City, Fort Bridger, Wyo., Fort Laramie, Wyo., and Julesburg, Colorado.

Instead, Butterfield & Co., proprietors of the southern route, which went by way of Los Angeles, Yuma, Ariz., El Paso, Tex., and Fort Smith, Ark., to St. Louis, Mo., were awarded the contract, but with the stipulation that they run the Central route. Therefore Russell, Majors & Waddell agreed to consolidate, and the southern route was abandoned, all operations being conducted along the established Central route. The Pony Express did not cease operation, but began its second period on April 1, 1861.

From this latter date, although operated by the Butterfield interests, the agents for the Pony Express were Wells, Fargo & Co. The Transcontinental Pony Express continued its runs until November 18, 1861, when the final letters by Pony Express reached San Francisco.

It thus can be seen that the Pony Express had a life of only one year, seven months and fifteen days, and that the stamps issued by Wells, Fargo & Co., were in use for only seven months and eighteen days.

The usual reason given for the demise of the Transcontinental Pony Express has been completion of the transcontinental telegraph line, thus rendering the former unnecessary. This is not quite so. There were important letters, documents, drafts, and other papers requiring speedy communication, and which could not be sent by telegraph. It was in fact hoped that the Pony Express would be re-established. While a great success as an operation, and as a stirring example of what horse flesh and human flesh could do, the economic facts of life at that time made its continuance or resumption impossible.

The Virginia City Pony Express

Although the Transcontinental Pony Express was never re-established, the value of rapid communication by such means was recognized. Wells, Fargo & Co., as owners and operators, began another Pony Express between San Francisco and Virginia City on August 11, 1862. This route was by way of Sacramento and Carson City, Nevada. Later a branch line was run from San Francisco and Sacramento north to Marysville, and another from San Francisco south to San Jose. These services continued until the end of 1864.

It was during the last period of the Transcontinental Pony Express and the running of the Virginia City Pony Express, that the adhesive stamps and envelopes were issued and used. (See Fig. 1)



Fig. 1. The five denominations. Their dates of issue. $2.00 red and $4.00 green April 1, 1861. The $1.00 red, July 1, 1861, when the colors of the $2.00 and $4.00 changed to green and black from red and green respectively. The 25c, in both red as well as blue, August 1862. The 10c brown sometime in 1863.

The Rates

When Wells, Fargo & Co., became agents for the Transcontinental Pony Express on April 1, 1861, they issued two adhesive stamps, namely a $2.00 red for letters up to one half ounce in weight, and a $4.00 green for letters over one half ounce but less than one ounce in weight. On July 1, 1861 when the Government Contract became effective, the rates were reduced, as required by law, to $1.00 per half ounce. Accordingly a $1.00 stamp became necessary, and it was issued in red. The $2.00 adhesive was changed to green and the $4.00 to black.

For the Virginia City Pony Express and its branch lines, established in August 1862, three stamps and envelopes were issued. The stamps were a 25c red, 25c blue and 10c brown. The original rate was 25c per half ounce, later reduced to 10c per half ounce. The exact date of the beginning of the reduced rate is not known, but it was apparently in 1863. The 25c blue was used to Virginia City, and the 25c red to Marysville, and San Jose. In addition, the 3c United States stamped envelopes of 1861 issue were impressed with the Wells Fargo 25c in red, and the 10c in blue or red. (Scott U34, Thorp-Bartels 92, 93)

The Stamps

Let us now consider the stamps to be discussed under these two main headings, viz:

1. The originals.
2. The reprints.

As far as counterfeits are concerned, all known are so crude that few will be

deceived, so that they are not worthy of description in this article.

As mentioned before, the treatment of these stamps in philatelic literature is scanty indeed. Only three sources of any importance are known to us.

The first is an excellent article by A. H. Weber in the April 1897 issue of *"The Philatelic Californian."* The second is the pithy remarks of John N. Luff in his great work *"The Postage Stamps Of The United States"* pages 238 to 240, much of which was based on the article by Mr. Weber. Finally, there is the fine article in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, for July and October 1927 by Henry C. Needham and Victor M. Berthold, entitled "Handstamped Franks used on Pony Express Letters, 1860 and 1861, and the Pony Express Stamps and Their Use," which was later published in booklet form.

Production Of The Stamps

All the Pony Express stamps were lithographed from stones. The design was probably suggested by the officers of Wells, Fargo & Co. It was engraved, probably on copper, by Jacques J. Rey, then in the employ of Britton & Co., lithographers of 533 Commerce Street, San Francisco. The partners of this firm at that time were Joseph Britton, Henry Steinegger, and X. Van de Casteele. In 1865 or later when Mr. Rey became a partner, the firm became known as Britton & Rey.

The original engraving consisted of the design complete except for the denomination numerals. These were engraved separately (Fig. 2), to be transferred as required. From the die, an impression was made on lithographic transfer paper, and the desired numeral then added. The completed design was then transferred to a "report" of ten subjects (2x5), which in turn was transferred to the printing stone four times to make up the required forty subjects of the printed sheet. The arrangement was in two panes of twenty (4x5), and the entire sheet was arranged (8x5), as shown in Fig. 3. The subjects of the "report" show minute differences in each denomination, thus each of the dollar values consists of ten transfer types, repeated four times on each sheet. In Chapter 2, the ten transfer types of the $1.00 and $2.00 and as many of the $4.00 types, that we have so far identified, are described.

The first stamps to be printed were the $2.00 red, followed by the $4.00 green. When the rate was reduced to $1.00 per half ounce (as required by law), the new denomination was made and printed in red, while succeeding printings of the $2.00 were in green, and the $4.00 in black. The stone for the $1.00 was laid down with the word "Dollars," then the "S" was erased on each of the forty subjects leaving only the tip of the tail of that letter as a period after "Dollar." Thus in this stamp there are not only the ten primary transfer types of the "report," but forty secondary types, as each of the stamps on the sheet shows minute differences in the extent of the erasure of the "S" of "Dollars."

For the Virginia City Pony Express stamps, a new but similar design was engraved, which is slightly taller than that of the dollar denominations. Further in transferring this design to the lithographic stone, a report of twenty subjects in two panes of ten was used. Thus there are twenty transfer types of the 10c and 25c Pony Express stamps. Each type occurs twice on the sheet as the transfer was repeated once. The sheet arrangement is forty (8x5) as before, but in four panes of ten instead of two panes of twenty (Fig. 4). In Chapter 3 we describe the twenty transfer types of both these denominations.

The Reprints

Perhaps it would be well to begin the discussion of these with a quotation from Mr. Luff's "Postage Stamps of The United States" page 241, to wit:

"There was a considerable quantity of remainders of most of the values, but rumors to the contrary notwithstanding, there is no evidence that any re-



Fig. 2. The last state of the original die retouched for the reprints showing the denomination figures separately. This shows that the $1.00 and the 10c were the last made.

prints were made until about the first of April, 1897." Previous to these remarks, Mr. Luff, in discussing the originals, says (Also p. 241), "The first printing of the Pony Express stamps was on a quite thick paper. The paper of the later printings varies from ordinary to thin. It is said that only the stamps of the first printing were gummed and that subsequent printings were issued ungummed."

Further Mr. Luff wrote: "By a circular dated October 26th, 1861, the company announced to its agents the discontinuance of the service and called in all the stamps remaining unsold. At a subsequent date the stamps were re-issued and used for the business of the express company but they were of course, no longer government carriers stamps. The ten and twenty five cent stamps were thus added to the series . . ."

Let us now refer to the helpful article by Mr. A. H. Weber in the April 1897 issue of *The Philatelic Californian*. He says: "The transfers* were all destroyed when the necessary numbers of stamps had been struck off and the stones used for other purposes." This was in accordance with the usual practice of lithographers. When designs on a stone were no longer needed the surface was planed, and the stone was then ready for fresh designs.

Continuing, Mr. Weber wrote: "It was just a piece of good luck that the original design was placed alongside of others which were occasionally used, else this might have disappeared likewise." Although last sentence is a continuation of the same paragraph as the previous quotation, it refers to the matrix from which the transfer reprints were made (Fig. 2). As Mr. Weber says, it was sheer luck that the matrix survived.

From this it can be seen that the original printing stones had been rendered useless for printing these stamps many years prior to 1897, probably in 1864.

Quoting Mr. Weber again, he says regarding reprints: "At this late date it is practically impossible to obtain any figures as to the total number of stamps issued thirty seven years ago**, but judging from the frequency with which a few values are met with, their number must have been considerable. A quantity turned up a year or two ago† that gave rise to some talk about reprints, but on investigation they proved to be remainders found in large offices like City of Mexico, Salt Lake City, and others. Up to the present year (1897) no reprints were made."

*This means the actual subjects on the printing stone.
**About 1860
†1895

Further in *Filatelic Facts And Fallacies* for April 1895 (Vol. III, p. 114), a small find of Pony Express stamps, was reported as being "found in the papers of an old time official of the express company now deceased." The quantities found were:

25c red 52 copies
$1.00 red 87 copies
$2.00 green 17 copies
$4.00 black 2 copies.

It was also noted that this find made it possible to reconstruct a sheet, as no sheets were previously known.

Finally there is the following enlightening item also from "*Filatelic Facts And Fallacies*" for March 1896 pp. 92, 93, of which H. B. Phillips was the editor, to wit:

More About the Pony Express of Wells, Fargo & Co.

We give space for a communication from Mr. Fred V. Bennett bearing upon the question of reprints of these interesting stamps. Mr. Bennett is an authority well worth attention whenever he discusses his hobby, the "Pony" stamp, and I fully concur in his conclusions concerning them:

DEAR SIR:—In answer to recent enquiries among my Eastern correspondents regarding Pony Express stamps, they all reply, that while nearly all collectors acknowledge they should be collected, being authorized by the government, they are afraid of them—afraid of counterfeits and reprints. I suppose it is on this account that those on original covers have found a speedy sale at a good figure, while for others there was hardly any demand. I want to assure our Eastern philatelic brethren that their fears are groundless. There has never been a counterfeit of these stamps that I have ever seen (and I have seen many) that could not have been detected at once by any one who has given any attention to counterfeits of any stamps, and has closely examined a genuine "Pony." The center of each of the eight varieties is identical, and in all the counterfeits that have come under my notice the "tail of the horse" and the steam from his nostrils were poorly done—and the "bogus" stuck out very plainly. No glass was needed. It is an easy matter to get one genuine specimen, and with that as a starter no one need have any fear of counterfeits.

As to the second objection—reprints—I wish to say with years of enquiry in every direction where I had any hope of getting any information. I have not been able to find anyone with any knowledge on the subject. But I have reached the conclusion that no reprints were ever made of them, and I have good reasons for so believing. I have been informed by those high in authority now, and who were in a position in "Pony" days to be able to speak from knowledge, that the dies were all destroyed shortly after the Pony Express was discontinued. So if reprints were made at all it must have been at the time of the discontinuance of the Pony. But such a thing was not necessary, for there were quantities left on hand at various offices which were valueless to the company. I remember about fifteen years ago there was on hand in the stationery department Pony stamps of the 10c, 25c, and $1.00 denominations, and they were freely given to anyone who asked for them. About a year ago there were three lots of these stamps that came to light from three different sources, and their being hawked to all the dealers led many to think that some one had got hold of the dies and started a reprinting bureau; but I know it was simply a coincidence, and that all three lots were originals. The whole lot did not make a very big pile, for there were only about two hundred each of the 25c red, $1.00 red and $2.00 green with four or five scattering of the other denominations. *(Fred. Y. Bennett)*

The evidence of these and other writers of the 1890's, coupled with our own studies, has satisfied us that no reprints had been made until April 1897. Furthermore since all the original printing stones had been destroyed years before, all stamps, which can be plated in the original transfer types of ten for



Fig. 3. Complete sheet of the $1.00, showing the arrangement of the "Dollar" denominations.

the dollar values and twenty for the cents values, are originals. We grievously underrate the astuteness of the collectors of earlier days, if we think that reprints would not have been recognized almost as soon as they appeared.

Reprints of 1897

The reprints of 1897 were made from a new stone (Fig. 5) containing a vertical strip of four of each of the five denominations, each strip being made up of four transfer types, which are described in Chapter 4. In addition, we point out the major differences between the originals and the reprints. The history of these reprints is rather curious, and we again quote from Mr. Weber's article, this time rather fully;

The Reprints

Up to the end of March it was supposed that the original dies or plates of the Pony Express stamps had been destroyed, so completely had they been lost track of. At this time, however, a request was made of Wells, Fargo & Co. (to Mr. Aaron Stein, assistant to President John J. Valentine), for the colors of the Pony Express stamps. The idea, as stated at the time, was to supply a young nephew of one of the partners with a set of the stamps and to help his collection along by providing a few extras for exchange.

This was the first intimation that the original stone was still in existence and was in the possession of Messrs. Britton & Rey, who printed the original stamps.

The request for the colors of the stamps created considerable surprise and was the first notice of the intention of reprinting the stamps.

The request was complied with, Mr. Britton being referred to Geo. V. Leroi, clerk in the president's office. The various denominations and their colors were explained to Mr. Britton, who made a memorandum of the same. A few days later Mr. Britton again called on Mr. Leroi, and asked to examine some of the Pony Express stamps, at the same time showing a black proof copy of the original die, asking if it were all right. After further conversation a request was made for a set of stamps to take along to be used as color models by the lithographer.

A small frame containing a set of German counterfeits retained in the office for comparison was examined. As the colors approximated those of the originals, and, moreover, this set was in the best form for handling, it was taken along.

Upon close examination the original design on the stone showed considerable wear and had to be retouched before satisfactory transfers could be made.

The reason for this was the presence of several other designs on the same stone. It is a regular custom among lithographers to group a number of small designs on the same stone. In the case before us a vignette that was frequently used occupied the place next to the design of the Pony Express stamp, and the stone was subjected to considerable wear and tear.

A transfer was made of all the values to one stone, making up a working plate of twenty stamps, being four of each value. The reason for placing all values on the same stone was one of economy, for it is easier and cheaper to use several colors on the same stone than prepare separate stones for each value. The order of the values from left to right was $4.00, $2.00, $1.00, 25c, 10c.

The plate thus prepared was used to print the several stamps in their proper colors. *Of course all values were printed in all the colors; and it could not be otherwise, seeing that the plate contained all the values.* From each sheet printed in black, brown, blue or light red but a single vertical strip of four stamps was available, while those printed in green and dark red furnished two strips, or eight stamps each. The remaining parts of the sheets, for they were all cut, are "freaks," as they have been dubbed, and are of comparatively little philatelic value except in so far as they demonstrate the make-up of the plate.

One point of interest they do show, however. They prove that the black and the blue stamps were printed before those in the other colors. Th original design is that of the one-dollar stamp with the value in the plural. In the transfers, the word "DOLLARS" remained unchanged for all the dollar values, making an error, 1 DOLLARS. The "freaks"

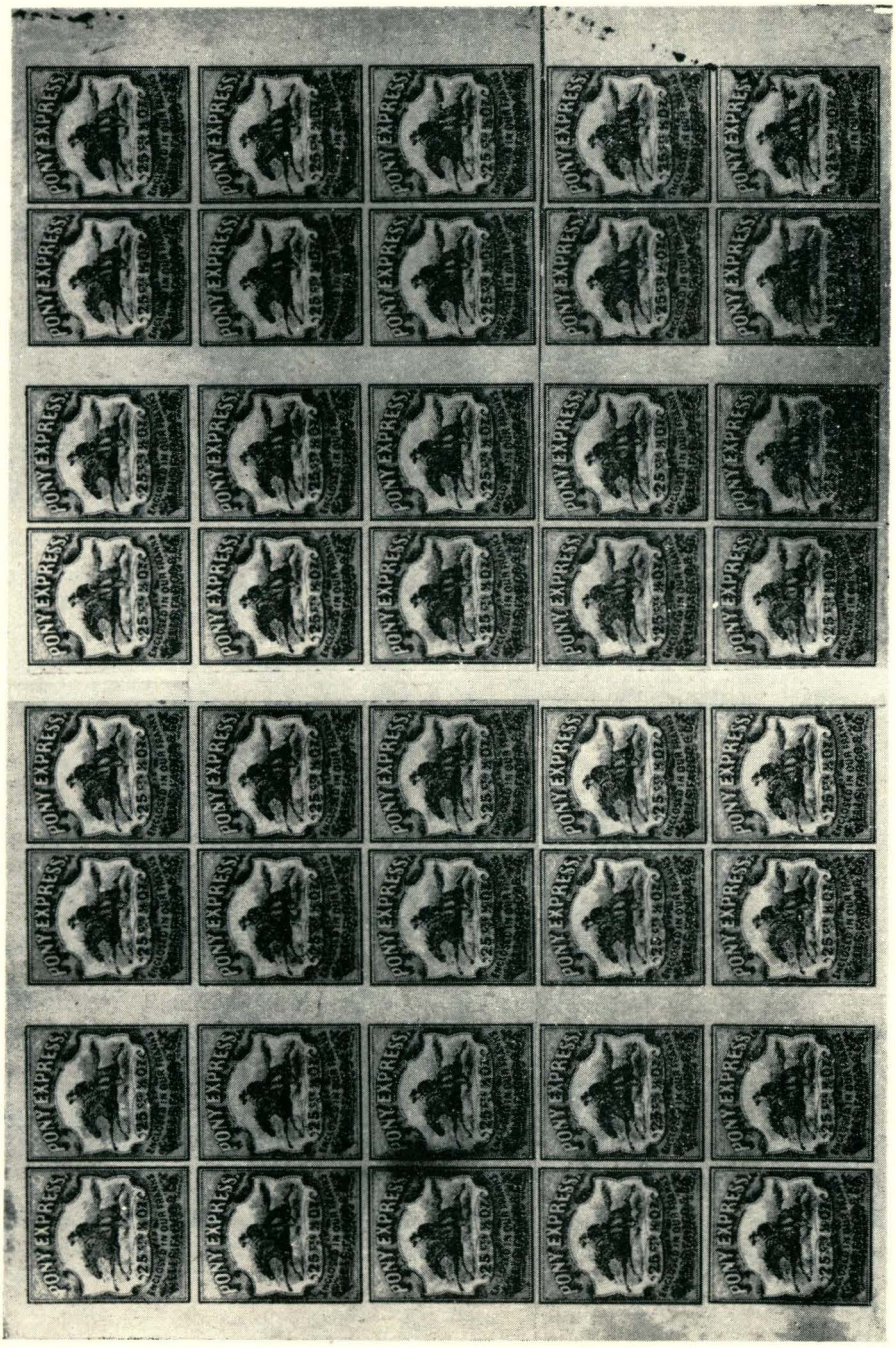


Fig. 4. Complete sheet of the 25c,, showing the arrangement of the "cents" denominations.

in black and blue show this, but those of the other colors do not. The erasure of the letter "S" of DOLLARS in the one-dollar stamp was not made until the impressions in black and blue had been struck off.

The reprints were printed on thin, white, wove paper in sheets 5⅝ by 5⅞ inches in size, the impression covering a space of 4⅛ by 4⅝ inches.

The stamps are differently spaced than the originals, being placed farther apart. The vertical spaces between the stamps are 2½ mm., and the horizontal spaces are 2 mm. for the dollar values and 2½ mm. for the 10c and 25c values.

As stated above, the original design showed considerable wear and was retouched before the transfers for the new working plate were taken.

The differences between the originals and the reprints will be discussed in Chapter 4.

Before stating our conclusions, we quote in full a letter written July 27, 1897 by the Secretary of Wells, Fargo & Co., in San Francisco to the assistant Secretary in New York, evidently in reply to a request for a set of the Pony Express stamps.

Wells, Fargo & Company,

Express and Banking

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
AARON STEIN,
Assistant to the President

Mr. T. B. Parsons,
Asst. Secretary Wells, Fargo & Co.,
NEW YORK CITY.

Dear Sir:-

The letter of W. D. Macy, Jr., July 13th, addressed to you applying for "a set of Wells, Fargo & Co. stamps—those which are no longer used," and your endorsement on same making it payable *by* me, has been in my hands some days—for the reason that compliance with requests of the kind is no longer an easy matter. I take it Mr. Macy has reference mainly or wholly to "Pony Stamps," so-called, and not to the franked envelopes, in which this Company dealt largely until within a few years past, when the Letter Service was abolished. Genuine Pony stamps have long been an article of barter and sale by dealers in the Philatelic line, but up to a year or so we have been able to accommodate anxious inquirers having a pull on us out of some reserved stock (finally exhausted), without money and without price. After this the subject quieted down, and the "fiends" gave us a needed rest. But it was not to last long. In April of the present year there was created all of a sudden a sensation and commotion in the ranks of the enemy as if a dynamite bomb had been exploded among them, the details of which are duly narrated and recorded in the Philatelic Californian of that date, two copies of which I enclose with this one for yourself and one for Mr. Macy.

The foregoing remarks are introductory all to the explanatory statement that it is a set of these reprints of Pony Stamps, from the original engraving on stone, by the same lithographic printers that did the originals, I hand you herewith for Mr. M. Please have them delivered with my compliments. It is the best and only thing I can do for him on this occasion.

From the above we can see that genuine Pony Express stamps were circulating in the trade, and furthermore Wells, Fargo & Co., occasionally gave away a set of genuine Pony Express stamps drawn from the reserve stock to those having influence with the Company. This reserve stock was finally exhausted.

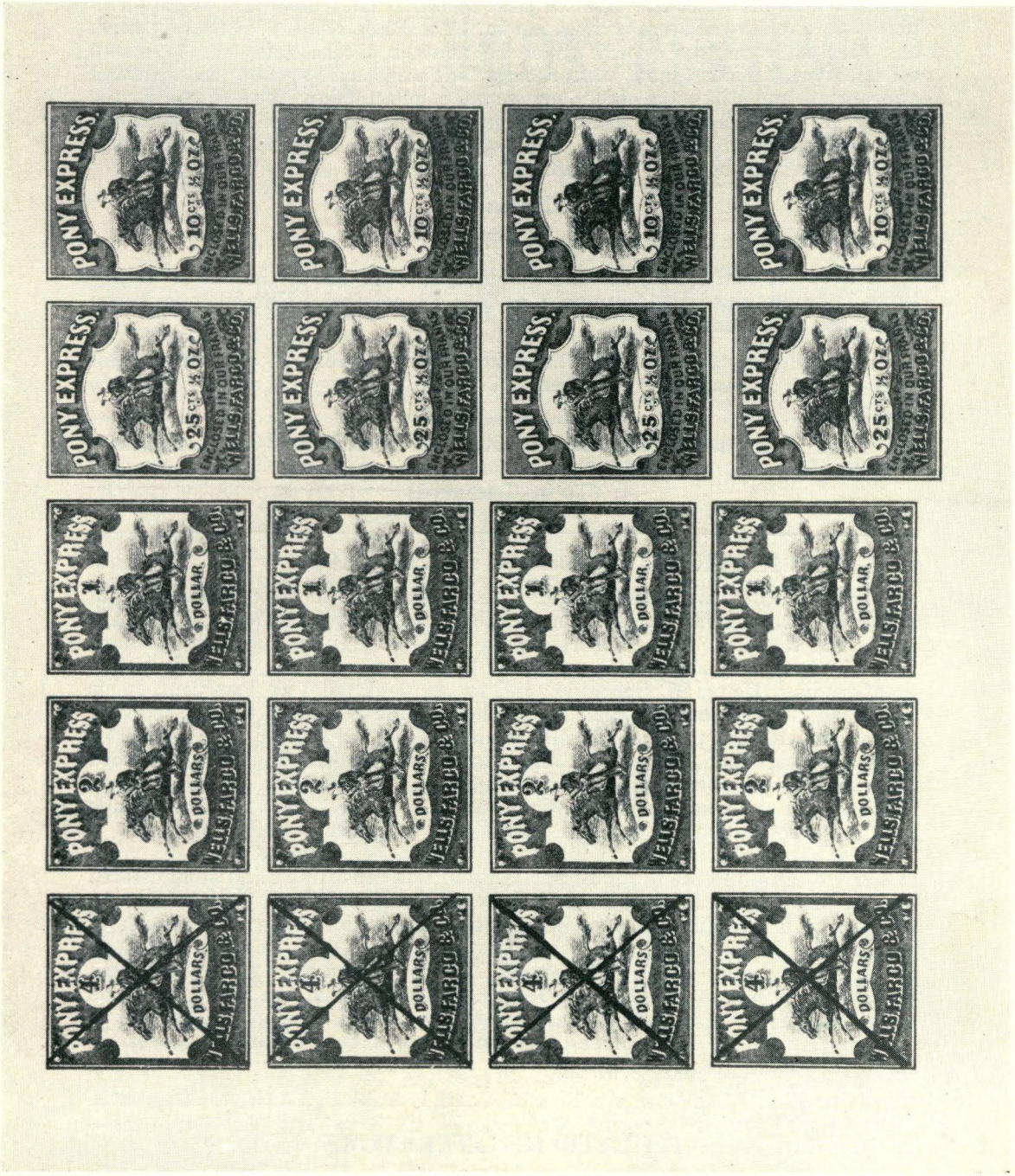


Fig. 5. Complete sheet of proofs of the reprints, showing the arrangement of the denominations.

The reprints were made in April 1897, and Mr. Stein infers that the stamps enclosed with his letter are a set of the reprints. They created a sensation in philatelic circles, and were written up in "The Philatelic Californian," which has been so copiously quoted. We are amused at the reference to stamp collectors as "fiends" and "the enemy." The former appellation we think appropriate and still applicable to many stamp collectors and dealers. As for the enemy, no group has done more to perpetuate the story of the Pony Express than philatelists, especially that group specializing in Western Covers. Thus the "enemy" has become "a friend."

Conclusions

Our conclusions, therefore, are as follows

First: Any stamps that can be identified with one of the ten or twenty types later described in Chapters 2 or 3 *is an original.* Unused, ungummed copies are remainders.

Second: Any stamps that can be identified with one of the four reprint types of each denomination described in Chapter 4, *is a reprint of 1897, the only ones made.*

Third: Any stamp that does not fit in one of the above two catagories is a *counterfeit.*

(To be Continued)

C. C. PUBLICATIONS (Continued from Page 19)

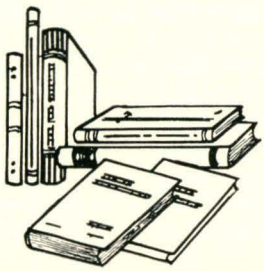
In presenting this report we would be remiss if we did not pay our grateful respects to the persons who have made this record possible. The raising of the initial funds and the man in charge of the continuing financing of this project, John J. Britt; the man mostly responsible for the technical work of editing, proof-reading, Henry M. Goodkind; and to our departed Vice President, Louis Stich, who contributed so much to the design, layout and to the art work in connection with this program; to all the members of the Publications Committee for their descerning judgment in selecting the works that should be published from the large number of manuscripts submitted. It is to these people that you, the members, owe your thanks for the outstanding progress which has been made by The Collectors Club in philatelic publication in this short period of time.

It is expected that this handbook program will be continued for many years to come, because the Steinway Memorial Fund was constituted and administered so as to plough back into the fund the receipts from the sale of these books. In this way it is visualized as a revolving and self-sustaining operation which, if as successful in the future as it has been in the past, will not need to call upon the general account of The Collectors Club for financing. It has not been intended, nor is it intended in the future, that the sale of the books should do more than meet the actual costs of publishing them. It is important that if this program is to continue and expand in scope that additional donations should be raised. *(H. D. S. H.)*

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

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

See Inside Back Cover for the recently published books.



BOOK REVIEWS

The United States Ten Cent Stamps of 1855-1859 by Mortimer L. Neinken, with *Foreword* by Henry M. Goodkind. Cloth, 252 pages, 7"x10", 545 illustrations plus plates. Published under the auspices of the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund by The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th St., New York 16, N. Y. Price $10.00. ($7.50 to Collectors Club members.)

Stamps of the United States 1851-60 issue and their uses are being extensively studied by an ever-increasing number of collectors, because they exemplify early-day methods of line-engraved plate making, and they were used when the Post Office Department utilized many unusual kinds of mail service that have no counterpart today.

The late Stanley B. Ashbrook was a leader in this study. It is the Ashbrook book on the 10 ct. stamp, published by H. L. Lindquist Publications in 1936, that is the basis of the present Neinken work. Mr. Neinken's book contains all parts of the 1936 Ashbrook book that can stand today as originally printed, or that require only minor revisions. The Neinken book also contains much new information relating to matters covered by the Ashbrook text. Also because the Ashbrook *1938* book on the *1 ct.* stamp (vol. 2) was more complete on Western Mails (for which the 10 ct. stamp was primarily produced), the 70-page section of the latter book applying to Western Mails is also reproduced in the Neinken book, a boon to the many new collectors of "Westerns" who are unable to obtain the Ashbrook book, long out-of-print.

The outstanding feature of the new book, however, is its illustrated position record of the reconstructions of plates 1 and 2 of the 10 ct. stamp, the result of original research by Neinken, assisted by previous Ashbrook work, and with support from Elliott Perry as to the probable method of preparing and entering the reliefs on plate 2.

When it is recalled that authorities have heretofore agreed that plate reconstruction is virtually impossible unless the stamps show guide dots, have recut lines, or plainly distinguishable characteristics on individual stamps, the Neinken achievement is all the more remarkable, particularly as to plate 2 which shows no guide dots or recut lines. Neinken's unique method of identifying the six reliefs used for plate 2, principally by noting differences in color blurs above or below the stamps, and his interesting "triangulation" method of identifying guide-dot positions on relief-A stamps of plate 1 represent a new advance in the art of plate reconstruction. The position illustrations are well made, and from them the tyro should be able to plate single stamps, except for a very few positions that have no identifying marks. These can be plated only when in a pair or multiple piece the positions of which are known.

Another exceptional feature of the book is a 23-page chapter that illustrates and describes 26 covers from leading collections. Each cover represents some unusual use of the 10 ct. stamp, accompanied by a detailed explanation

of the associated postal markings. These examples have not heretofore been published in any generally available source.

Mr. Neinken has been a student of the U. S. 1851-60 stamps since 1938, and is well-known as an authority on the 1 ct. and 10 ct. stamps of the issue. His early training as a civil engineer stands forth throughout the book, as evidenced by the precision of thought and deductive reasoning necessarily employed by him to bring the 10 ct. plate reconstruction to a successful conclusion, after it had been the despair of others for so many years.

The book is a classic in that exemplifies the highest ideals and practices of modern philately. *(Tracy W. Simpson)*

The Postal History of Western New York, Its Post Offices, Its Postmasters by Pitt Petri. 272 pages, hard-board paper cover. Available from Pitt Petri, 378 Delaware Ave., Buffalo 2, N. Y. Price $6.95.

Many historians, students and historical societies are commencing to study Upper New York State more, because this part of our country was the chief one whence the movement west began. As for the student of early U. S. mails and postal history, Western New York State has not been studied as intently as the more western parts of this country. Therefore, this book offers much detailed information and data for the first time. The author, Mr. Pitt Petri, has long been interested in this section, because he is a resident and merchant in Buffalo, N. Y.

This work has been done in a scholarly manner, and its presentation has been carefully planned and executed. Also its length demonstrates a compilation on the part of the author that required much time searching in libraries, old directories and postal guides. Being a labor of love, enough credit cannot be tendered to Mr. Petri for his work.

There is, however, one serious omission, if this book is to serve as the standard work for a philatelist or postal historian interested in Western New York. Unfortunately no postmarks or cancellations are illustrated.

The book is well organized. It has a brief introduction, followed by a discussion of the Political Organization, Postal Service and Early Postal Routes. The bulk of this work is devoted to the post offices and postmasters, each presented by county; there are eight in all. This last part covers 200 out of the 272 pages. At the end is an alphabetical tabulation of the Western New York post offices.

Western New York was greatly affected by the Erie Canal, that started in 1817 and was completed in 1825. The main postal routes before 1817 were abandoned, and new ones established after 1825. In fact, cities, towns and villages relocated on the Erie Canal. This book, unfortunately, does not explain this as fully as should be. With maps of postal routes before 1812 and later ones in 1840, one notices the radical changes. But this period between 1813 and 1839 is omitted for some unknown reason.

Furthermore, railroads played an important role in relation to the mails. Little mention of them is to be found in this book.

As we say so often, one must always look at the entire picture. Little, if anything, is ever perfect or near perfect. A few faults can be offset by a preponderance of assets. Thus it is with this fine work on Western New York's postal history. So much information, never before available, has been given in this work, that all students of U. S. postal history will want to consult and use Mr. Petri's book. It is truly a pioneer work, most creditably done. *(H. M. G.)*

Stamp Collecting by Stanley Phillips. Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, England. Cloth bound, 211 pages, with 48 plates of illustrations. Price 21 Shillings. ($2.94 U. S. currency.)

This, the seventh edition of a very useful book, is a guide to intelligent stamp collecting. It is divided into three parts plus four appendices.

Part one deals with the early history of the posts, through the various stages of their development until the coming of the postage stamp. Then follows the story of the stamps, how they originate as a design, the various steps necessary to carry the design through to the printing plate depending upon which method of reproduction is to be used. The various printing methods are described, as are the varieties of paper used in stamp production, the watermarks appearing in some of the papers, and the several means separation used for the easy removal of stamps from the larger post office sheets. Errors and varieties are discussed, and how they arise in the various printing methods used for the production of stamps. The chapter on postmarks and obliterations, the many sorts of them, the reason for their use and what the collector can learn from them is very well done. Finally this part ends with a discussion of forgeries, reprints and fakes.

Part two discusses the collection; its housing in the various types of albums whether in printed or blank leaf form, mounting, writing up and some of the tools needed for the proper handling and study of the stamps. Various methods of compiling collections are described ranging from general through specialized, in various forms, topical and so-called stunt collections. This is very well done and should be of great help to the collector who has not yet definitely committed himself to a definite field.

Part three deals with the hobby as a whole. It tells the story of early beginings of stamp collecting and how it has grown into the worldwide hobby of today with its local, national and international organizations. Literature and libraries are also discussed—catalogs, periodicals and handbooks from the early beginnings in the 1860s to the present time. This part closes with some romantic tales of famous finds of stamps, famous collectors and collections.

The book contains 48 plates of illustrations in addition to about 300 pictures of subjects discussed in the text. They are printed on smooth paper and very well reproduced. This reviewer would have preferred to have these plates more generally distributed throughout the book closer to the text they illustrate, rather than have them inserted in three groups in three widely separated parts of the book.

The book ends with four appendices covering stamp currencies, philatelic terms in three languages, stamp inscriptions translated, and the meaning of overprints, plus a very comprehensive index.

For a book of such modest compass, it contains a tremendous amount of information presented in a most charming and readable manner. This reviewer recommends it most highly to any collector seeking a guide to intelligent stamp collecting. *(Hans G. Zervas)*

The Canadian Map Stamp Of 1898 by Frederick Tomlinson, F. C. P. S. A Handbook of the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. First edition, June 1960. (4) + 47 pages, profusely illustrated. Price $2.00 or 12sh 6p.

This, the second handbook published by the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain, is up to the same high standard as the previous work by E. A. Smythies on Canadian Duplex Cancellations.

Incidentally this 1898 map stamp is the only tri-colored postage stamp of Canada as well as one of the few such stamps issued in the 19th Century.

In the course of nine chapters, every aspect of this colorful stamp is discuss-

ed. Beginning with the historical data, the three succeeding chapters are devoted to the printing plates, one for each color, black, lavender/blue/green and red printings. The fifth chapter is concerned with the quantities issued and the stamp's shades. The next three chapters deal with the plate varieties, Chapter VI being a particularly careful study of the four line-engraved plates used to print the black portion of the stamps. This chapter has excellent illustrations of the various varieties that occur on these plates. The red plate varieties are the subject of Chapter VII, while the following one offers comments on the identification of varieties by the system the author has worked out. The concluding chapter brings together information on counterfeits, proofs, imperforates, essays and items of similar nature.

Mr. Tomlinson is to be congratulated in presenting a single stamp study in such an orderly and competent a manner. This work represents worthy addition to the growing corpus of literature on the stamps of Canada. *(W. S. Boggs)*

The Handstruck Postage Stamps Of India by D. Hammond Giles, M. B. E. 256 pages and X pages in forword including illustrations. Published by E. Franklin DeSouza, Hon. Secretary for the Philatelic Society of India, Bombay. Price Rs. 26.50 ($4.75).

When your reviewer was handed this book with the remark, "it's up your alley," he was pleasantly surprised to again see the imprint of the Philatelic Society of India, a name much honored among Indian philatelists for the scholarship of its publications and the enduring fame of its authors, such as B. Gordon Jones, Sir David Masson, L. E. Dawson and E. A. Smythies. At first glance, we seemed to have another in their series of outstanding handbooks on the various facets of Indian philately and postal history. The prologue, extracted from the poem, "Overland Mail," by Rudyard Kipling very appropriately set the scene. This was followed, in the first two chapters, by a very comprehensive introduction to the handstruck postage stamp, besides a good, brief history of early postal services going back to 1296, the service of Allah-ud-din Khilji, one of the early Pathan kings. Here was a labor of love by a man who had done much painstaking research. As your reader went deeper into the book, he had to refer more and more frequently to his "Glossary of Indian Terms" as the postal and governmental terms used were those most familiar to the "Pukka Sahib" of the old British Raj. There is no basic objection to this, as we have a glossary handy. But these books are scarce, and there are not enough to go with each copy of "The Handstruck Postage Stamps of India." Mr. Giles should certainly have included a glossary, if he intended to set his atmosphere by so liberal a spicing of words borrowed from Urdu and Hindi.

The book is a detailed history of the handstruck stamps reaching from the Calcutta bishopmark of 1775 down to the introduction of adhesive stamps. Besides the descriptive material, there is also included a catalogue of the known impressions arranged according to the area of administration. The appendices present an extensive documentation of postal routes and rates. The entire work reflects a high order of scholarship and research. The material is well organized and easy to follow once one gets the feel of the method of presentation.

The Philatelic Society of India is to be complimented on the publication of Mr. Giles work. It maintains the high standards set by previous books bearing their imprint.

(Continued on Page 42)

BOLIVIA

The Handstruck Postmarks

By DEREK PALMER*

Of the ten South American republics, Bolivia was the next to the last to issue postage stamps, her only issue of the classic period— the Condors— appearing in 1866. But as befitted a country, which during its early days could boast the largest city in the entire Western world, Potosi, with 160,000 inhabitants in the 17th century, had an organized post, serving a vast territory.

Until 1776 Bolivia, then known as Upper Peru or the Audiencia de Charcas, was governed from the Viceroy of Peru. In the year that the United States was declaring its independence, Upper Peru became a part of the newly-formed Viceroyalty of La Plata (Capital: Buenos Aires). During those years its postal affairs were run on the same lines as were customary in the other Viceroyalties of Spain. Presumably letters with their postal markings exist from this time, but almost all must be filed away in public museums and libraries; very few can be in private hands.

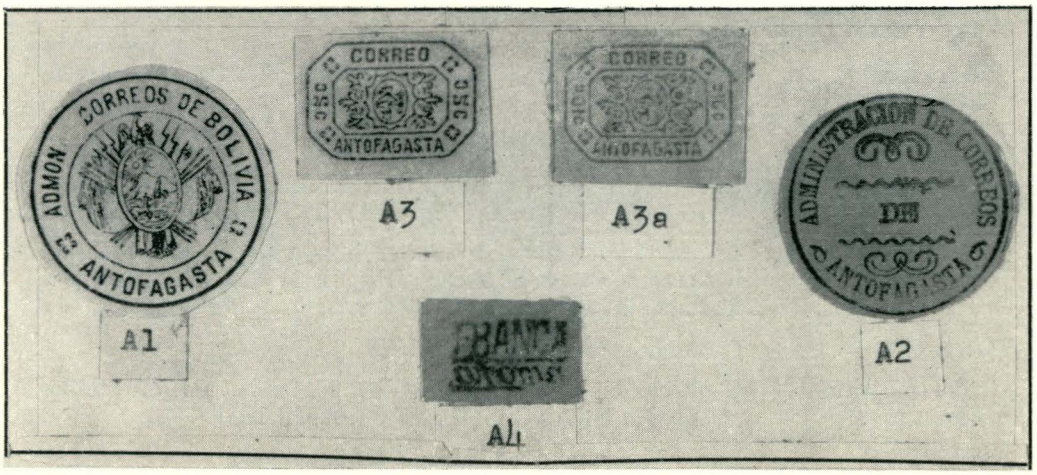
Independence of this land was won from Spain in 1825; the country took the name of Bolivia in honor of Simon Bolivar, the "Liberator," who wrote its original constitution and became its first ruler.

Little appears to have been written about Bolivia's early handstruck postal markings. These notes, which are undoubtedly far from complete, are based mainly on covers and fronts in the writer's collection, and on a Spanish article that appeared in 1898 in the "Anales de la Sociedad Filatelica—Santiago."

Even after the introduction of adhesive stamps in 1866, handstruck stamps continued to be used, especially in the Litoral Department, where the postmasters were authorized to retain the fees paid to them for postage, in lieu of salaries. Until Bolivia joined the U. P. U., they continued being used on much mail sent abroad.

The earliest handstruck postmarks appear to have been straight-line town names, frequently accompanied by a straight-line FRANCA. Later came ovals,

*Of Santiago de Chile.



some ornamented with laurel leaves, others displaying a condor in flight. A lemon-shaped design was used in some places, while the ports in the Litoral Department favored the simple round ones.

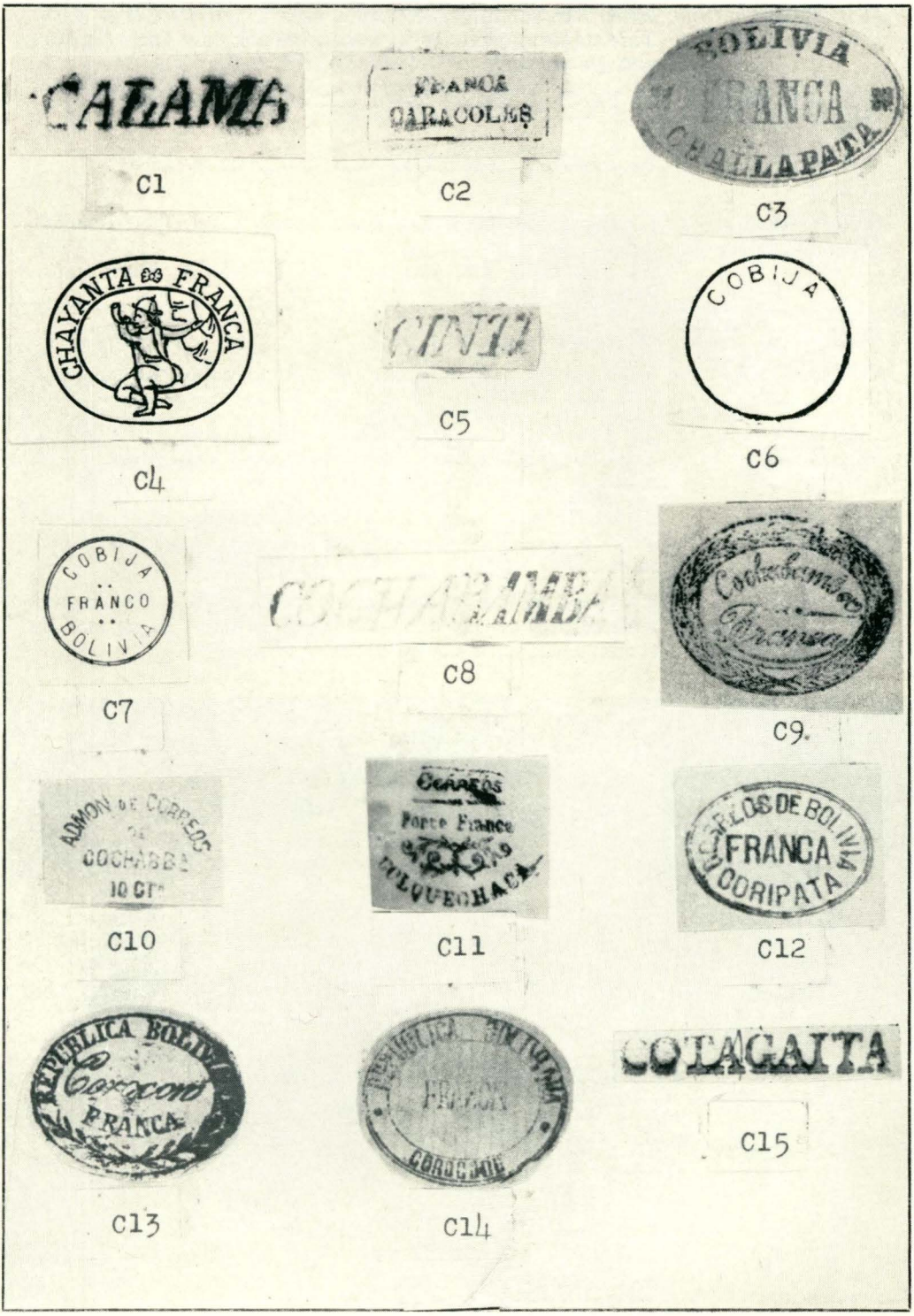
The finely-made Antofagasta octagonals, the La Chimba "ship," the upright Condor of Potosi, and the Macha postman, leading his burro and blowing his horn, are all very unusual and attractively designed postmarks. Clear impressions of these handstruck stamps are items to be treasured.

The following list gives in alphabetical order, the places from which handstruck stamps have been seen, together with the type, size, color of the strike. Where possible, the dates of the copies have been noted. All but a few are illustrated.

It would be a great satisfaction to the writer, if the publication of these notes will induce collectors to list and describe other types which they may own.

List Of Handstamps

ANTOFAGASTA. (Fig. A-1)	Litoral Department; circular 36mm., Bolivian coat of arms, green, used in combination with gothic FRANCA (Fig. F-1), 1876.
(Fig. A-2)	Circular 34mm., green, used in combination with "ship" handstamp of La Chimba (Fig. L-3), August 1877.
(Fig. A-3)	5c value, Octagonal 26x18mm., Bolivian coat of arms, blue, 1878?
(Fig. A-3a)	10c. value, as above, blue, 1878. Note: There is an inverted letter "c" placed before the figures of value in these stamps.
AROMA. (Fig. A-4)	La Paz Dept., double straight line, 16x10mm., green, March 1892.
BENI.	See Veni.
CALAMA. (Fig. C-1)	Litoral Dept., straight line, 38x7mm., blue, 1850, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-2).
CARACOLES. (Fig. C-2)	Litoral Dept., boxed straight line, 32x12mm., black, 1875-76.
CHALIAPATA. (Fig. C-3)	Oruro Dept., oval, 40x25mm., red, 1884.
CHAYANTE. (Fig. C-4)	Potosi Dept., oval, 31x27mm., postman blowing horn, green, 1864.
CHIMBA.	See La Chimba.
CINTI. (Fig. C-5)	Chuquisaca Dept., straight line, 22x7mm., blue, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-4), 1854.
COBIJA (Fig. C-6)	Litoral Dept., circular 22mm., blue-green, in combination with oval CANCELADO (Fig. L-1), 1875? This port was also known as LAMAR, q. v.
(Fig. C-7)	Circular, 23mm., carmine, 1878?
COCHABAMBA. (Fig. C-8)	Cochabamba Dept., straight line, 55x9mm., red, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-5), April 1851.
(Fig. C-9)	Oval, 35x29mm., red, March 1856.



C1 C2 C3

C4 C5 C6

C7 C8 C9

C10 C11 C12

C13 C14 C15

(Fig. C-10)	Oval, 28x22mm., green, violet, blue, April 1877-May 1878. This stamp appears to have been struck once for each 10c. postage charged.
COLQUECHACA. (Fig. C-11)	La Paz Dept., fancy design, 22x25mm., black, June 1885.
CORIPATA. (Fig. C-12)	La Paz Dept., oval, 29x22mm., red, August 1883?
COROCORO. (Fig. C-13)	La Paz Dept., oval, 33x25mm., black, green, March 1866.
	As Fig. C-13, but without word FRANCA, black, blue, dates?, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-6).
(Fig. C-14)	Oval, 31x27mm., blue, date?
COTAGAITA. (Fig. C-15)	Tupiza Dept., straight line, 40x6mm., green, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-7), 1872.
INQUISIVI (Fig. I-1)	La Paz Dept., oval, 32x25mm., black, 1886. Struck on cover together with "Falta franqueo" (no postage), in m/s.
LA CHIMBA. (Fig. L-1)	Litoral Dept., CANCELADO, oval 27x17mm., blue, black, 1875-76, in combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-8) same colors.
(Fig. L-2)	Triple straight line, 40x20mm., green, 1876. Also known with figures of day of month smaller, 3mm., high; and in combination with CANCELADO (Fig. L-1).



(Fig. L-3) Oval, 30x21mm., Ship design, black, blue, 1876-1877; in combination with FRANCA (Figs. F-9 & F-10) and CANCELADO (Fig. L-1), same colours.

LAMAR. (Fig. L-4) See also COBIJA. Litoral Dept., straight line, 31x7mm., red, 1844-50. In combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-11).

(Fig. L-5) Circular, 22mm., green, blue, 1860-65. This stamp is also known with date, in three lines, in center, black, 1855.

LA PAZ. See Paz.

MACHA. (Fig. M-1) Oruro Dept., postman leading pack mule, oval, 32x27mm., black, 1864. Macha was, presumably, an abreviation for Machacamarca.



MEJILLONES. (Fig. M-2)	Litoral Dept., circular, 28mm., blue, black, 1871-72. In combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-12). A similar stamp, but without date, was used concurrently with Fig. M-2). Do not confuse this port with Mejillones del Norte, Peru.
OCURI. (Fig. O-1)	Potosi Dept., Condor design, oval, 31x25mm., violet, date?
ORURO. (Fig. O-2)	Oruro Dept., boxed straight line 35x7mm., black, 1864.
(Fig. O-3)	Circular, 25mm., black, 1865.
(Fig. O-4)	Oval, 35x26mm., black, 1865.
(Fig. O-5)	Oval, 35x21mm., black, date?
PADILLA. (Fig. P-1)	Chuquisaca Dept., straight line, 33x8mm., black, 1864. In combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-14).
PAZ. (Fig. P-2)	La Paz Dept., straight line, 17x6mm., red, 1846. In combination with rate marking "2½," same color.
(Fig. P-3)	Oval, 27x20mm., red, 1853.
(Fig. P-4)	Oval, 31x24mm., blue, red, dates?
POOPO. (Fig. P-5)	Oval, 35x25mm., green, date?
POTOSI. (Fig. P-6)	Potosi Dept., straight line, 26x6mm., red, 1845. In combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-15).
(Fig. P-7)	Octagonal, Condor design 22x26mm., blue, black, 1859-63. In combination with a variety of rate markings, ½, 1, etc.
(Fig. P-8)	Oval, 31x25mm., black, 1865.
(Fig. P-9)	Circular, 27mm., blue, 1866. In combination with FRANCA (Fig. F-16).
(Fig. P-10)	Circular, 25mm., green, blue, violet, 1877. In combination with rate marking "20," in same colors.

(To be Continued)

BOOK REVIEWS (Contnued from Page 36)

The book is probably the most comprehensive work on early Indian postal history in existence. It certainly belongs in the library of students of Indian postal history. Also it has much of value for the specialists of maritime postal markings. The stamp (adhesive, that is) collector can pass this work by. Except for a few references to postal rates which carried over into the adhesive period, there is little in this attractive volume for a philatelist. *(H. D. S. H.)*

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.

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 list and order now.



THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of October 19, 1960

United Nations and Precursors

Many of us, who know *Maurice Tripet,* have always been aware that, in addition to his main interest in the stamps of Switzerland, he had a "sideline" collection of United Nations. But, none who were present on the night of October 19, 1960 could have guessed at the degree of specialization of this, his secondary interest. For this was not merely a collection of the stamps of United Nations, New York, the issues from 1951 to date which are so popular today. Nor did it merely include, as well, the issues of Switzerland overprinted since 1950 for the European Office of the United Nations. Included in the twenty-frame exhibit were the very earliest precursors of today's United Nations, the stamps of Switzerland overprinted for the Leage of Nations starting in 1922 and, in addition, those overprinted for the International Labor Bureau beginning in 1923. But Switzerland also overprinted its stamps for other organizations, the International Bureau of Education in 1944, the World Health Organization in 1948 and the International Organization for Refugees in 1950. These were connected with the League of Nations.

Earliest use on official correspondence of the League of Nations using Switzerland's overprinted stamps with the three line legend "*SOCIETE/DES/NATIONS*" dates from October 3, 1922. Swiss stamps overprinted in four lines "S.d.N./Bureau/international/du Travail" for the International Labor Bureau were first used on March 27, 1923. Originally, these overprinted stamps for the League of Nations and the International Labor Bureau were not available to the public in mint condition. Cancelled copies could, however, be obtained at the Office of the Postal Administration in Geneva and also at the League of Nations Post Office until March 1, 1943. From 1942 they were also available at the Postal Philatelic Division in Berne. However, mint stamps were sold, in error, by the Lugano Post Office from December 10 to 15, 1928 on the occasion of the meeting of the League of Nations Council. In addition, approximately 400 mint copies of each issue were sent to the U. P. U. which distributed a complete set to each member nation of that organization. Since many member nations had no archives, the employees of those governments sold the mint stamps to collectors. Also, from February 1, 1944, the Post Office sold to the public mint stamps bearing the new type overprint *COURRIER DE LA SOCIETE DES NATIONS* and *COURRIER DU BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL.*

Mr. Tripet showed many scarce copies of the several Swiss issues in both mint and used condition. Also, exhibited were early covers of the 1922 and 1923 period.

In addition, the Netherlands overprinted stamps for the International

Court of Justice. The overprint *"COUR PERMANENTE DE JUSTICE INTERNATIONALE"* was applied on various issues in 1934, 1937 and 1940. A new overprint *"COUR INTERNATIONALE DE JUSTICE"* was used in 1947, 1950 and 1951-1953. The Netherlands overprints only exist in used condition and these were included in Mr. Tripet's exhibit.

Other countries overprinted their stamps on various occasions for several organizations connected with the League of Nations. Some of these are:

Germany Overprint "I. A. A./10-15, 10, 1927" in connection with a meeting in Berlin of the International Labor Bureau.

Spain Overprint"Sociedad/de las Naciones/LV reunion/del Consejo/Madrid" for the fifty-fifth assembly meeting of the League of Nations held in Madrid.

France Overprint "CONGRESS/DU/B. I. T./1930" in connection with a meeting in Paris of the Administrative Council of the International Labor Bureau.

Belgium The Centenary of Belgian Independence stamps overprinted in 1930 with a two-line inscription "B. I. T./OCT.1930" for the International Labor Bureau. Mr. Tripet pointed out that on the overprinted stamps of this Centenary issue, the names of the printers and the initials of the engraver were added at the foot of the stamps.

Norway In 1935, Norway issued a set of four semi-postal stamps. The surtax aided the International Nansen Office for Refugees.

Czechoslovakia In 1937, three stamps were overprinted B. I. T. 1937 in one line for the International Labor Bureau in connection with a meeting held by that organization from October 6-9, 1937 in Czechoslovakia.

After his showing of these precursors, Mr. Tripet showed various types of United Nations cancellations including those used prior to the definitive issue of 1951 for the United Nations, New York.

The balance of the exhibit featured the stamps for the New York headquarters, air mail stationery, an extremely interesting showing of diplomatic mail, United Nations Expeditionary Forces mail and Prisoner of War mail from the Gaza strip.

For those fortunate enough to be present, Mr. Tripet's exhibit provided a memorable evening, one that will not soon be forgotten. We were honored to have here, Mr. T. Clements, Head, The United Nations Postal Administration and Mr. A. Sternman, also of the U. N. Post Office. Among the guests were Dr. Chang, President of the U. N. Stamp Society and several other members of this stamp group. *(Philip Silver)*

Meeting of November 2, 1960

The Large Hermes Heads Of Greece

Back in 1930, a play by Zoe Akins was produced on Broadway. It was called, "The Greeks Had A Word For It." In time, the phrase became a rather well-worn cliché in the English language. Well, on the night of November 2, 1960, the members of the Hellenic Philatelic Society had a few hundred choice words of their own in their collective presentation on the large Hermes heads of Greece. When one speaks about stamps of classic beauty, surely these stamps must be numbered among them.

The meeting had been advertised as a symposium of four speakers, Messrs. Mavrovitis, Artemis, Lecatis and Hatzakos. However, only Messrs. *Mavrovitis and Hatzakos* spoke, although material belonging to the others was on display in the frames. Mr. Hatzakos, incidentally, is the President of the Hellenic Philatelic Society.

The large Hermes head stamps of Greece from 1861 were in use for more than twenty years. The stamps may be divided into two main printings, those that were printed in Paris, and those that were made in Athens. The Greek postal authorities decided to issue adhesive stamps some fifteen years after the appearance of the Penny Black in England. Negotiations were instituted with Perkins, Bacon and Company; however, the bid submitted by that firm was considered too high. In 1859, contact was made with Albert Barre of Paris, France. Mr. Barre engraved the die using the head of the Greek god Hermes as the central vignette. The first printing from the plates was made in Paris by the firm of Ernest Meyer. Individual plates were made for the 1 lepta, 2 lepta, 5 lepta, 10 lepta, 20 lepta, 40 lepta and 80 lepta denominations, the only difference being in the value. The stamps printed in Paris from these plates are obviously known as the Paris prints. These stamps, together with the plates, were then delivered to Greece and the stamps first placed on sale on October 1, 1861. Of these seven different stamps, only the 10 lepta had a control number printed on the back. None of the others has this. The control number is identical with the denomination of the stamp. Thus, for the 10 lepta stamp, the control number is 10. The size of the numerals is approximately half the height of the head of Hermes. There exist many rare errors of the control number on this 10 lepta stamp of the Paris prints; the "0" in "10" inverted, the "1" in "10" inverted, the "10" inverted and the stamp with no control numbers at all. Practically all of the control number errors, whether on the Paris or Athens prints, are quite scarce. Fortunately, the exhibitors had collected for some twenty-five years, so that the members were treated to a display of many of these rarities. For these Paris prints, the number printed for the 1 lepta was 1,500,000. For most of the others, the number printed ran less than 30,000.

As noted previously, the first printing from the plates was made in Paris. All subsequent printings from the plates were made in Athens, and are collectively designated as the Athens prints, the first being made on November 1, 1861. For easy classification, these Athens prints are separated into the nine major categories according to the Scott catalogue, as follows:

1. 1861 provisional issues with both coarse and clear impressions.
2. 1862-67 coarse and clear impressions prior to the cleaning of the plates.
3. 1868-69 printings from the cleaned plates.
4. 1870 special printing made under the supervision of German workmen.
5. 1870-71 later printing from the cleaned plates.
6. 1872-75 printing on thin transparent paper.
7. 1875-80 printing on cream paper.
8. 1876 the two new denominations, 30 lepta and 60 lepta, in the clear impression of the Paris Print and in the coarse impression of the Athens print.
9. 1880-82, the last Athens print on cream paper without control numbers.

The only thing common to all the printings is the fact that all the large Hermes head stamps are imperforate. Perforated stamps are known but are considered unofficial. Other than that, there is an almost endless variety of papers, inks and gum to help confuse the collector. But, if the speakers can be taken at their word, this lends zest and interest to the collecting of these

stamps. Thus, they present a challenge to any collector worthy of his tongs and hinges. The Scott catalogue major classifications are of great value as this unitiated reporter found to his evident delight and education.

As noted previously, one characteristic found in most of the large Hermes head stamps is the presence of the control numbers on the back. Only the 10 lepta Paris print comes with control numbers. Of the Athens prints, the following table shows the stamps which have this number:

1861 — 5L, 10L, 20L, 40L, 80L.
1862-67 — all stamps have control numbers except the 1L and 2L.
1868-69 — all stamps have control numbers except the 1L and 2L.
1870 — both denominations of this printing have control numbers,
1870-71 — all stamps have control numbers except the 1L and 2L.
1872-75 — all stamps have control numbers except the 1L.
1875-80 — all stamps have control numbers except the 1L and 2L.
1876 — none of the stamps has a control number.
1881-82 — none of the stamps has a control number.

Although this may seem confusing to the neophyte, and the writer must confess that at first he was quite confused, actually a little study of these issues indicates that the control number or lack of same on the individual issues is of great help in identifying the several issues just as perforations, single-line and double-line watermarks help identify the United States postage stamps of the 1908-1921 period.

Some of the greatest rarities of these Hermes head stamps are those with errors in the control numbers. Both speakers showed these varieties, Mr. Mavrovitis concentrating on the mint and Mr. Hatzakos on the used copies. Some of the outstanding control numbers of the Athens prints are the 5L of 1861 with double "5," the 10L of 1862-67 with "10" on face instead of back, the 20L of the same issue with control number "80" instead of "20," the 40L of 1867-69 with "20" instead of "40," the 80L of 1870-71 with "80" inverted and the 40L of 1872-75 with double "40."

Control number errors fall into four general categories:

1. Errors caused because the printer inserted the numbers incorrectly: 01 for 10, 02 for 20, 1 in 10 inverted, 2 in 20 inverted, 20 for 40, and so on.
2. Printing the control number twice on one stamp, both normal or one inverted.
3. Inserting the sheet in the printing machine upside-down so that the control numbers are inverted.
4. Errors caused by the inserted plate being damaged.

Included in Mr. Hatzakos exhibit were many scarce covers. Among these, this reporter noted an interesting cover with the 40L addressed to the Archbishop of Constantinople. The 1L stamp paid a newspaper rate. Since most newspapers were thrown away, this stamp is extremely scarce used on cover. The 2L paid no rate. Thus, it could only be used in multiples or in combination. Consequently, it too is exceptionally scarce used on cover.

In the discussion and exhibit of the covers, much stress was placed on cancellation types. These may be classified into four main categories:

1. Lozenge cancellations with the number of the town post office in an open space in the center. These ranged from a one to a three digit number.

2. Dated town post office cancellations in a double circle about 21 mm. in diameter. The post office number appears at the bottom between the inner and outer circle, enclosed in parentheses. At the top, in the same position, is the town name. The day, month and year are in the center of the inner circle.
3. Dated town cancellations in double circle about 23 mm. in diameter. There are no parentheses around the post office number. Otherwise, the information is identical with that in (2) above.
4. Cancellations used on Greek stamps on mail sent abroad. The first two types (1) and (2) were used. On type (2), at the bottom between the circles, the word ΤΟΥΡΚΙΑ in parentheses appears.

Mr. Hatzakos' remarks included frequent praise for the four handbooks published about twenty-five years ago by the Collectors Club. These are the four-part English translation of the *Kohl Handbuch*. The part on Greece in this great German reference work is outstanding, having been done by two of the greatest students of Greek philately. Rendering the German text into English was a most difficult task. It required not only a thorough knowledge of German, but also familiarity with philatelic scholarship. This was the achievement of our former President, Hans G. Zervas, who appropriately was present so that he had the pleasure of hearing praise for this accomplishment.

The 100th anniversary of first use of Greek stamps will be celebrated in Athens in 1961. In a sense, the showing of November 2, 1960 may be considered an American preview for this celebration. Our members were treated to as comprehensive a display of the classic large Hermes heads of Greece as it possible to assemble for one exhibit. All that was missing from this preview were the crossed searchlights on the corner of Hollywood and Vine Streets, Hollywood, California. *(Philip Silver)*

Meeting of November 16, 1960

Newfoundland Aero-Philately

Those, who attended when Newfoundland air mails were the subject of the exhibit and lecture, enjoyed a rare treat. The program was well-nigh perfect. Practically all the stamps were here, including the standard rarities. The stamps were mounted on pages in a most attractive manner. The best factor, however, was the speaker's presentation and his remarks. *Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr.* of Chicago, Illinois, who had placed material from his collection in all the frames of the Stephen G. Rich Memorial Room, did not talk upon every item shown. He moved at a fast pace, and rather than repeat philatelic information already known or recorded, he told anecdotes or personal experiences, not related before, so that the audience found the evening all too short.

Before Dr. Matejka spoke, President H. D. S. Haverbeck introduced our Non-Resident Members, Mr. and Mrs. John Pope of St. Louis, Mo., who were visiting New York City. Then he called upon Ernest A. Kehr, who presented awards to members at the October Exhibition in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The recipients were Edwin Mayer, Philip Silver and the late Fred Kahn.

Only a few may remember the evening of March 3, 1953, when the late Oscar R. Lichtenstein and this reporter presented a Newfoundland air mail program. But in 1953 there was no mint block of four of the DePinedo nor Columbia stamps. Only one unused Hawker was shown then, while the Doctor had four on covers. Thus, although the 1960 program repeated the same

topic as in 1953, the two were different in many respects.

Human interest prevailed throughout Dr. Matejka's lecture. He commenced by relating how he became interested in Newfoundland aero-philately, attributing the stimulation of his interest to those writings on these stamps (incidentally, all members of the Collectors Club). Before this, he had been the ordinary "one-of-a-kind, Scott Album space-filler." Thus when he finally could afford a Hawker stamp, he secured a copy on cover and floated it off in order to place it on his printed album page. Also he confessed that in time he became one more collector, who tired of the increasing flow of new issues of the world, and sought a new field that would stimulate rather than bore him.

Furthermore, "Doc's" exhibit showed that he was "a complete philatelist" to suit the most exacting demands of the traditionalist. He had stamps — unused, used and on covers. There were multiple pieces in pairs, strips and blocks. Most all of the errors and varieties were displayed. One saw a lavish display of proofs, essays, trial printings and artist's designs. Nor was postal history omitted. In the last frames were cancellations and interesting markings on special flights, besides aerogrammes used by the U. S. and Canadian troops when stationed in Newfoundland during the last war.

This report will not describe all the material on display. For instance, the two frames with Alcock-Brown stamps, not only had the rare first Trans-Atlantic flight covers and a full mint sheet of twenty-five stamps, but actual photographs taken in 1919, that were never published.

Dr. Matejka had twice visited Newfoundland to personally see the historical spots associated with these famous flights. Also he advertised in the newspapers when he was there, mentioning his interest in any air mail material that might be available. He did not have any success at first, but later made a purchase that every collector or dealer would relish doing. Further on in this report this story will be told, as "Doc" related it.

When speaking about the DePinedo covers, Dr. Matejka showed three with the stamps affixed upside-down. This Italian aviator was highly superstitious about carrying mail. He thought it a bad luck omen. Therefore, to placate his fears, the stamps were affixed to flight covers upside-down to ward off any jinx. DePinedo raised no objections to this. But when the postal official affixing the stamps — they were not to be sold mint — went out for his lunch, he failed to tell his successor about affixing the stamps. Consequently, for more than an hour, covers were prepared with the stamps in the normal position. These have come to be known as "luncheon covers."

The aforementioned exemplifies many of the other tales told; some were new, others had not been related for many years, so in all probability they were new to most of the audience.

Many wonder why so many Newfoundland proofs and essays, besides air stamp errors such as imperforate between, have come into philatelic hands. Much of it was originally presented to the Gosling Museum in St. John's by various individuals, who had worked for the Post Office, when Newfoundland was a British Colony. But there was a proviso that any contributor could reclaim his donation to the museum whenever he wished. This applied to a donor's heirs after his or her death. After confederation with Canada, many donors reclaimed their stamps fearing that someone would get his hands on their valuable stamps, and therefore, the donors should get to their material first. At least, that was the reason given. Dr. Matejka did think it unusual, however, that most all of the material reclaimed from the museum quickly found its way into the hands of St. John's stamp dealers and collectors.

The showing of the first definitive air mail issues was as comprehensive as one could wish. Few realized that first day covers with each of the three denominations are very scarce. All of them later were prepared by Newfoundland

dealers for special flights, so that most all the covers now seen are the flight ones.

Many of the Newfoundland air mail stamps were done by surcharging. Certainly beauty or graphic art appeal never has been the factor that attracted so many to collect this field. The setting of the overprint on all air mails, except perhaps the most important one, is known. The Hawker's setting has never been plated. Mr. Cyril Harmer of London, co-author of the authorative work, "Newfoundland's Air Mail Stamps," believes that this will remain unsolved. The source of this theory must be respected, because Mr. Harmer is perhaps one of the best Newfoundland air mail students, who knows the intimate details of Newfoundland's air stamps. He has spent much time there, besides having married a Newfoundlander. Mr. W. S. Boggs and this reporter have also written on Newfoundland stamps, and we both believe that someday in the future, philately will determine the Hawker overprint setting. Of course, the high prices of these stamps — only 200 were surcharged — offer the biggest obstacle. With copies now bringing more than $1500, material is obviously difficult to assemble for study. Dr. Matejka also agrees that eventually students will determine the setting. He has studied thirteen copies, which disclose differences in the vertical alignment of the five-line lettering.

When speaking of the 1933 Balbo Flight stamp, Dr. Matejka told about his stroke of good fortune while visiting Newfoundland. This stamp's overprint comes in a setting of four. Inverted overprints are known; they are rare, only *eight* being recorded. No one knows exactly how they came into philatelic hands. It seems that all eight copies were destroyed in the St. John's G. P. O. by cutting the inverts in half and then throwing them away. Rumor has it that the pieces were found in a waste basket. Thus no whole copy of the inverted overprint exists. The copies now in collections all have been repaired by joining the two halves together.

One day in response to his notice in the St. John's newspapers, a poorly-dressed man appeared and offered to sell a stamp cut in two to Dr. Matejka. He at once saw this had the inverted surcharge. Once again a philatelist gambled and paid the asking price of $200. for this mutilated copy. The seller agreed to refund the money if the copy was declared not genuine. Dr. Matejka almost lost his purchase in a ship accident before he could have it examined. When he later arrived in New York City, before his return to Chicago, it happened to be a Saturday in mid-summer. He could not find one stamp dealer open, who could express an opinion on his purchase. Upon his return home, he sent this copy to the Philatelic Foundation, New York, N. Y. and shortly thereafter received a Certificate of Genuineness from the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation.

Dr. Matejka proudly displays his copy of the Balbo inverted overprint as he purchased it in Newfoundland. Thus, it is probably unique, still being severed in two parts, because all the other few copies known have been repaired. As for the good fortune of this $200 purchase, a joined copy sold in a New York City auction last October for $1,250.00.

The final portion of this evening showed that, even a connoisseur with the taste and the means to secure rare and valuable stamps, also derives enjoyment out of collecting common, ordinary material. Dr. Matejka showed later air mail covers with interesting cancellations and cachets. Such material included military mail, and covers carried when the large commercial airlines started using Gander, Newfoundland as one of the important terminals on the regular scheduled Trans-Atlantic flights.

The joy of philately and the spice to stamp collecting is its wide diversity. Combining the rare with the common, the stamp with postal history, the normal with the errors; the whole develops into a fascinating field. This was excellently exhibited and described by Dr. Matejka. *(H. M. G.)*

McKinley Stamp Club, Canton, Ohio

On November 23, 1960 the McKinley Stamp Club of Canton, Ohio staged a *Collectors Club Night*. Upon the request of the Program Chairman, Mr. George R. Wren, twelve pages from *the Collectors Club's Charles Lathrop Pack Canada "Large Cents" collection* had been loaned to this Canton, Ohio stamp club for exhibition.

We have a report from the Program Chairman that besides the aforementioned exhibit, eight people (all members of both the Collectors Club and the McKinley Stamp Club) each exhibited one frame and spoke for a few minutes on their material. These were—Messrs. George H. Deuble, Frank Kwett, Joseph Frease and George R. Wren, Drs. William Bush, President of the McKinley Stamp Club and C. V. Gross, and Mrs. J. C. McDonald.

MEETINGS FOR 1961

January 4th	— *Philatelic Literature*—Malcolm G. O'Reilly
January 11th	— ANNUAL MEETING
January 18th	— *United States Locals*—J. W. Middendorf, III
February 1st	— *Asia*—L. F. Livingston
February 15th	— *Valentines Postally Used over 100 Years Ago*—Van Dyk MacBride
March 1st	— *19th Century Liberia*—Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham
March 15th	— *United States 1847 Issue*—Creighton Hart
April 5th	— *Photography and Philately*—Lt. Col. James T. DeVoss
April 19th	— ANNUAL COMPETITION
May 3rd	— *Confederate States of America*—A. Earl Weatherly
May 17th	— *Collectors Club Study Groups*—Herbert P. Woodward, Chairman
June 7th	— *Imperial Russia to 1917*—Dr. Gregory Salisbury

SUMMER RECESS

September 20th	— *Air Mails*—Aero Philatelists, Henry M. Goodkind, Chairman
October 4th	— *Dealers Program*—Bernard D. Harmer, Moderator
October 18th	— *Louis Stich Memorial*
November 1st	— *Hartford, Connecticut Locals*—Francis Stern
November 15th	— *Western Covers*—Dr. A. Jay Hertz
December 6th	— *Scandinavia*—Lauson H. Stone
December 20th	— *Open House*—Board of Governors

URUGUAY

Letter-Numeral Cancellations of Interior Post Offices

By ROBERT HOFFMANN

(Continued from Vol. 39 page 306)

46. Olimar – (Estación Santa Clara, Pueblo Olimar)
47. Cuchilla de Avestruz
48. (Santa Clara de Olimar)
49. Cañada Grande – (Cañada Chica)
50. Arroyo Malo
51. Parada Sarandí – (Sarandí del Parao)
52. Arroyo Zapata
53. Costas del Cebollatí
54. Cañada Chica
55. Paso del Convoy – (Treinta y Tres)
56. Trienta y Tres
57. Puntas de Leoncho
59. Cerro Pelado
60. Valentines
61. Arrozal 33
62. El Paraíso – (Arroyo Olimar)
63. Arrocera Olimar
64. (Rincon de Quintana)
65. (Cañada Chica)
67. Bañado Barreto – (Cañada Chica, Puntas de Cañada Chica)
70. Las Pavas

"Q" — DEPARTAMENTO FLORES — Capital Flores

1. (Trinidad U. H., Flores)
2. Paso Hondo – (Paso Hondo del Arroyo Grande, Arroyo Pintos, Pintos)
3. Arenal Chico – (Rincon de Palacio)
4. Cerro Colorado
5. Puntas de Manatiales – (Manantiales, Ahogado, Chamangá)
6. Arroyo Malo – (Cerro de Ojolmí)
7. Puntas del Sauce
8. Juan José Castro – (Maciel, Cuchilla de Villasboas)
9. Rincon del Palacio – (Marincho, Paso de Zabala)
10. Paso de los Molles – (Diligencia)
11. Estación Cordobesa – (La Cordobesa)
12. Costa de San José – (Puntas de San José)
13. (Costa del Chamang)
14. Puntas de Chamangá – (Puntas del Arroyo Grande)
15. La Guardia
16. Atahona – (Cerro Colorado)
17. Cuchilla Villasboas – (Villasboas, Camino de Villasboas del Yi)
18. San Gregorio
19. Chamangá
20. Flores – (Trinidad)
21. Paso de Ahogados – (Ahogados)
24. Flores – (Trinidad)
26. Talar
27. Costa de Tala
28. Paso del Puerto – (Arenal)
29. Paso Tortiral – (Tortoral)
30. Baso Lugo
31. Flores – (Villasboas)
32. Villasboas – (Cuchilla Grande)
33. Cañada Amarlibis – (Corral de Piedras)

(The End)

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BRAZIL	1866/79	HAITI	1898	PERU	1866/1900
CHILE	1867/92	HONDURAS	1889	EL SALVADOR	1867/89
COSTA RICA	1863/89	MEXICO	1863/74	URUGUAY	1877/88
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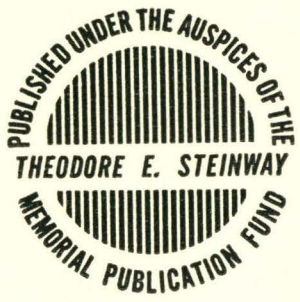
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