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Volume 44 Number 4
July 1965

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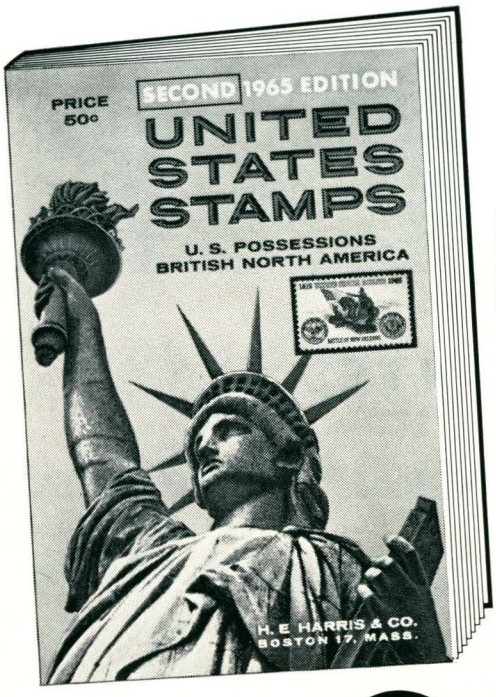
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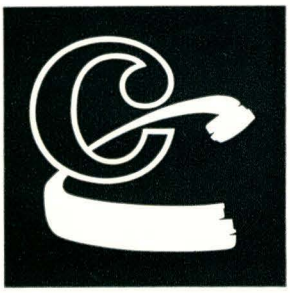
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The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

Volume 44 Number 4
July 1965

Editorials

Stamp, Coin Collectors, $$ and Millions

The 1965 Philatelic Release No. 10 from the Information Service of the United States Post Office Department is the best refutation ever read of the claim that there are 15 million stamp collectors in the United States. This release announced that, "There were 13,369,039 first day covers canceled during the calendar year 1964."

The same report from the Post Office Department in Washington, D. C. stated that of the first 1965 commemorative stamp, "There were 466,029 first day covers canceled when the 5-cent Battle of New Orleans stamp was released . . . In all there were 777,424 stamps sold that day with a value of $38,871.20."

These statistics of the sales from Washington, D. C. during 1964 disclosed a rather consistent pattern of approximately 450,000 covers and about 800,000 mint stamps sold on each first-day of sale.

These figures seem to indicate that very possibly there may be no more than a million collectors of United States stamps, but that often-mentioned "15 million stamp collectors in the United States" is a phony statistic, if there ever was one.

A keen observer of stamp collecting at the present time in this country might note, from all that is being said among the stamp trade, that speculation with United States stamps has lessened. There are several indications of this.

The 1965 postal notice from Washington, D. C. to the post offices throughout the country ordering them to place all commemorative stamps on sale to the public is one sign that mint sheet hoarding has slackened. This might seem difficult to explain, in view of the nation's present prosperity. Coin speculation appears to offer this explanation.

The growth in coin collecting (rather speculation) is phenomenal. No doubt that many of the mint sheet stamp savers have turned to coins. The boom is affecting everyone, as evidenced by the coin shortage that the U. S. Mint is trying to overcome.

Also, stamp dealing throughout this country has undergone a change. In many cities, there used to be at least two or three stamp dealers. Some years ago, many of these dealers added coins to their stock. Consequently, a number of stamp dealers became stamp and coin dealers.

This, too, has altered in the past few years. As the coin boom accelerated, stamps were pushed aside, so that many of the former stamp dealers now devote most all of their time to coin collectors.

Another indication of the boom in coins in contrast to stamps is the weekly papers devoted to both hobbies. The present-day coin weeklies average over 100 pages, compared to 30 in the typical stamp newspaper. Furthermore, the circulation of coin weeklies is three to four times that of the average stamp paper, while the advertising also runs in a similar ratio.

This all boils down to a current situation of an exceptional boom in coins, while stamps have not grown in popularity, but perhaps have slightly diminished. Consequently, there seems to be no typical or general consensus of opinion now existing among active stamp collectors and stamp dealers to report about the present-day status of our hobby.

Some philatelists believe that because stamps have been free of any wild speculation, our hobby is in better shape than numismatics. One hears forecasts that the boom in coins will bust with the usual consequences of a sharp

depression. A number of stamp collectors and dealers are not at all worried about any competition from the enormous growth in coin collecting. They are busy and happy with their stamps and pay very little attention to coin collecting, almost as if it did not exist.

On the other hand, we hear stamp collectors and dealers voicing their concern over the great growth in popularity of coin collecting, while stamps seem stagnant or even retrogressing in comparison. Some are advocating publicity campaigns to have more people collect stamps. Others advise more activities and commercial stamp shows in banks and business places throughout the country "to sell stamp collecting."

It so happens that most of the philatelists, the leading stamp dealers, auction houses and publishers in New York with whom we have spoken, share the first viewpoint, that stamp collecting is in a far healthier position than coins. Their concern with philately, if one has any, is not with the competition from numismatics, but rather from the type of philatelic material that presently enjoys the greatest popularity. Reference, is of course, to the new topical issues and souvenir sheets. Fear is expressed that many are quitting stamp collecting in disgust over this very expensive new philatelic material, while more will do so unless this trend slackens.

This entire matter is a complex question, that cannot be adequately covered in one editorial. Nor can one hope to have a final solution. The purpose, therefore, of this writing was to bring this question to the attention of our readers.

In summation, certain events seem evident. There never was, nor is there now, anywhere near 15 million stamp collectors in the United States. Secondly, judging by the sales as reported by the United States Post Office Department, speculation in commemorative stamps has diminished.

Thirdly, the great boom in coin collecting has taken speculators from stamps to coins. Fourthly, a number of stamp dealers throughout the country have turned to coin dealing. And finally, numismatics is today far more popular than philately.

Sound and sober judgment would not call for a complacent attitude among active stamp collectors and dealers. Greater efforts are required to interest more young people, not only in collecting stamps, but to go into stamp dealing to make it a lifetime profession.

On the other hand, stamp collecting is a very popular hobby and its universal appeal has not changed. There is no leisure-time pursuit better geared to present living conditions. Stamps can be collected and handled with no requirements for large storage space. There is no comparison when it comes to having a collection of 5,000 different stamps or 5,000 different coins.

Both philately and numismatics have their cultural and commercial appeal. Here no one can claim that it is more interesting or more fun to collect coins instead of stamps. Therefore, it comes down to just one basic factor. In the large field of hobbies, the one easiest to handle and most convenient to collect is stamps. Based upon this, there should be little cause for serious concern about philately's future.

Auction Sales

In advocating a more standard style and a more precise use of philatelic terms, the one now discussed relates to the commercial and not the cultural aspect of philately.

The dictionary on the editor's desk offers the following two definitions:

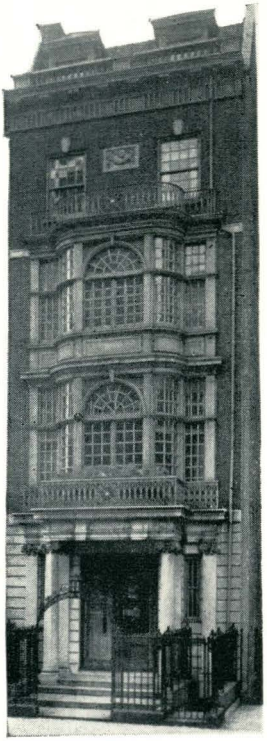
"*Auction* — A public sale of property to the highest bidder, usually by a person licensed and authorized for the purpose."

"*Auctioneer* — One whose business it is to cry sales at auction; one licensed to sell property at public sale."

Stamps for collectors are being sold at both public auction sales and mail sales. There is a practice in the stamp press to combine a listing with both types of sales. One stamp paper runs a regular box headed with a cut showing an auctioneer's gavel. Thus, the implication is that all the sales listed below this cut are public auctions conducted by a licensed or authorized person. This is not so.

All auction sales, not only philatelic ones, long have had some supervision and control. In many places in the United States, one needs a license to conduct a public auction. This affords the public some recourse if there is evidence that the auction was not honestly conducted according to the announced "Terms of Sale."

This practice in the stamp news mediums of listing all sales as if they were conducted by a licensed auctioneer should stop. A proper and more accurate distinction between the public auction and the mail sales of stamps should be made so that stamp collectors may be better informed.



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Honduras

Postal History Of Spanish Honduras To 1877 And Its First Postage Stamps Of 1866

By Irving I. Green



Map of Central America, the black arrow points to Honduras.

Editor's Foreword. Mr. Irving I. Green has been intently collecting and studying the stamps of Honduras for many years. A number of his articles on both the 19th and 20th century issues have appeared in print, some in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

The first issue of Honduras and the postal history that preceeded it long has been clouded in mystery. Mr. Green began collecting official documents and information on this early period many years ago. He noticed that the documentation he had secured both corrected and added much new information to that previously known and recorded by philatelists.

Because of the importance of Mr. Green's records, his friends urged him to record this knowledge. Consequently, he began writing about six years ago, never realizing the great detail involved.

His article that follows, because of its great length, will have to be serialized in this journal. It starts with this number and will continue without interruption in consecutive numbers until completed.

Preface

This thesis will first briefly sketch the postal history of the Spanish-dominated Kingdom of Guatemala, during what is generally known as its Colonial Period (1550 to 1821). Then will be related, in somewhat more detail, the postal history of Honduras as a member of the States of Greater Mexico (1821-1823), of the Federation of Central American States (1823-1839), and finally as a sovereign State (1839-1865). From 1865 on, the entire effort will be concentrated on all phases relating to the manufacture, use, and abuse of the first postage stamps of Honduras (1865-1876), with occasional references to the following issue of 1877, insofar as it related to the first postal emission of 1865.

Nearly one hundred years have elapsed since the first postage stamps of Spanish Honduras made their appearance. Yet, to this day, many problems concerning their conception, design, production, and usage are shrouded in mystery and, hertofore, have been considered insolvable. In this thesis, a clarification of these enigmas will be attempted, offering in support of the philatelic revelations, considerable historical data mostly coeval with the period of the stamps' production and usage, from 1865 to 1876.

There are instances when the lack of factual data has necessitated calculated conjecture, and, in such cases, this author will not be reluctant to accept more plausible explanations, should they be forthcoming. In any event, it is hoped that this effort will stimulate a greater interest in the postal history of Honduras or in research of a similar nature in other philatelic fields, where all too little is known.

Philatelic writing is, at best, a compromise, and rarely, if ever, does one achieve perfection. A shred of new evidence, a hitherto unknown document, or a new stamp variety invariably pops up shortly after publication; any one of which can change a train of thought completely and haunt the author. Yet this possibility, if one of the hazards, is also one of the intriguing facets of philatelic research and its subsequent expression in the written form.

Postal History from Colonial Days to Independence

In ancient Central America (prior to 1492), oral messages had been delivered for centuries between the various native tribes by relays of messengers or couriers, who covered great distances afoot with surprising speed. With the conquest of this area by Cortes and his conquistadores during the first half of the sixteenth century, there began the interchange of ecclesiastical and official documents, and some private messages, still carried by Indian runners under the Royal Government's control.

The new Spanish laws of 1542 authorized the reorganization of certain colonial governments in America. Therefore, on May 16, 1544, a new Audiencia (a body with judicial and political powers) was set up and became the Captaincy-General or Kingdom of Guatemala, with Honduras as one of its provinces. Honduras, in turn, was later divided into two political divisions, that of Tegucigalpa and of Comayagua.

Some years afterwards, along with the founding of communities with the distribution of lands, and the relocation of the natives, began the organization of the Spanish Colonial Government, and with it came the organization of the *Real Correos* (The Royal Mails).

In 1580, the office of *Correo Mayor* (Head of the Mails) was established in each of the five captaincies-general, and in the vice-royalties of New Spain

(Mexico) and Peru. This office was sold to the highest bidder, always a nobleman born in Spain, as was then the custom, since no important offices were elective. In fact, substantial prices were demanded and obtained by auction for all important offices, titles, privileges, concessions, and grants in the Kingdom, thus concentrating the wealth and privileges in the hands of a few. No official from Captain-General down could take over his post until he had paid half the sum agreed upon, and had given a bond for the balance.

The voluminous postage-exempt official and church correspondence, plus the small amount of private mail of the colonial period, was despatched by relays of government messengers, who, sometimes on muleback but usually afoot, followed the *Caminos Real* (The Royal Highways). These were, in fact, mere trails or bridle-paths that wound over precipitous heights and through tropical forests to the next posthouse, and so on to the point of destination.

Throughout the length and breadth of Central America, the lines of communication in all directions were but tracks more or less trodden or worn by continual use, irregular in direction as traced by man and animals making their way as they met the fewest obstacles, and continually made worse by the effects of the weather.[1] The transit, therefore, was difficult to travelers; the conveyance of foreign and home produce was slow, laborious, and costly, as no specie of wheel carriage could be used; and the only applicable mode of transportation for articles of moderate weight was the mule or the back of an Indian. Mules were always preferable to horses, especially on long journeys, as they were surefooted on rough and steep ground, and more adapted to heat and fatigue.

In 1764, there was established between the mother country, Spain, and her possessions in the New World, a Royal Naval Communication Company known as *Correos Maritime,* which was in charge of Royal Income from Naval Mail and Posts. It was also set up for the purpose of transporting, under a regular schedule of sailing, overseas passengers and merchandise from La Coruna (Spain) to Havana (Cuba), Cartagena (Colombia), and Montevideo (Uruguay). The possibility of capture by pirates made overseas shipments and travel a major risk. Incidentally, mail addressed to or coming from Spain (mail service to other countries was prohibited) to or from Honduras took many months to reach its destination and was routed by way of Havana, Cuba, or along the route from north to south via Porto Bello, Panama, and thence with the South American and European mails.

The Administrators in charge of the mails were located in all the principal ports and capitals of Spanish America. A few years later, the *Correo Maritimo* (overseas mail) was consolidated with the *Correo de Tierra* (land mail) to form the *Administracion Principal de Correos* (The Main Mail Administration).

The arrival of overseas mail, once or twice a year, was always an occasion

1. With the conquistadores in the first half of the 16th century came the use of the North Sea (Atlantic Ocean) and the South Sea (Pacific Ocean). During the latter half 16th and all of the 17th centuries, however, foreign piracy became a menace, necessitating a north-south foot-trail came into use extending from Mexico through Central America to Panama. Thomas Gage in the early 1600's comments on this trail so: "This is the yearly and only trading by land which Guatemala, Comayagua (Honduras) and Nicaragua hath with Panama over that narrow isthmus lying between the North and the South Seas, which is very dangerous by reason of its craggy ways, rocks and mountains, but more especially by reason of many heathens, barbarians and savage people."

The purpose of the foot-trail was to ship overland by mule train or human carrier to one of the fortified seaports, and from there to forward the goods to the mother country at certain intervals under guard of a strong, protective convoy. By 1700, piracy was on the wane and again sea travel flourished. Roads of poor grade now led from the important areas across the isthmus to the nearest seaport, whereas the north-south trail fell into disuse with deterioration making it impassable in many places except by difficult detours. The trail's passable segments served local interests as feeders to the crosswise routes.

greeted with pomp and ceremony. The postmaster at the head of officials, all in uniform, rode out to receive and open it. During the latter part of the 18th century, there was a somewhat increased use of the Royal Mail by private persons. Such mail was sent either prepaid or collect. If sent collect, a manuscript notation was made on the face of the letter indicating by a figure the amount in reales owed by the addressee.

This last system was in effect until the advent of independence in Central America on September 15, 1821, when the six provinces — Chiapas, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, San Salvador, and Costa Rica — were joined, in some instances forcibly, with Mexico under the name of *the Union of Greater Mexico.* This Union lasted but two years, until Iturbide, the leader, was exiled in July, 1823. During the two years of its existence, the former Royal Mail system continued to operate as previously, but with the abolition of Spain's commercial monopoly and with no mention of royalty.

With the dissolution of the Union of Greater Mexico, five of the six independent States of Central America — Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica — were joined in a new union called *the Federation of the States of Central America.*

The sixth province, Chiapas, held a plebiscite to determine whether to remain a part of Mexico or to join the Federation. The vote favored union with Mexico. Consequently, Chiapas has since been united with Mexico, although Guatemala has always felt that the election was rigged.

Up to the 1880's, she sought to recover Chiapas, considering it her own territory, but to no avail. Finally, President Justo Rufino Barrios of Guatemala irritated Mexico concerning the issue to the point of war, and then his better judgment dictated that he permit the matter to rest.

The Decree of April 24, 1824

On April 24, 1824, the Constituent Assembly of the new Federation of the States of Central America issued a decree listing postal regulations and setting up postal rates, all this to assure the collection of postal fees and the proper administration of the postal service. This decree was really the forerunner of later independent Central American postal decrees, as all in this category were, for the next quarter of a century, more or less a copy of it. Now follows the 1824 decree in its entirety in English translation:

"The S.P.E. (The Supreme Executive Power) has forwarded to me the following Decree.

"The S.P.E. of the United Provinces of the Center of America: Whereas the National Assembly of these same Provinces has decreed the following: The National Constitutional Assembly of the United Provinces of the Center of America, considering:

"1. That the Institution of Posts is of great and vital importance to the Political State Government in its relation with the individual, and

"2. That the income received from this Institution is completely exhausted and thus cannot be used in the maintenance of the expenses of this establishment. That this deficit was the precise result of maladministration and further, the refusal to continue various sub-offices in this dependency, and

"3. That this Institution is absolutely necessary and therefore should exist, regardless of the system of government formed, and being disposed to decree, therefore decrees the following:"

Administration for the Income from Posts

"Article 1: The Income of Posts shall hereafter be under the orders of the Ministry of Finance, in the parts related to management, without prejudice

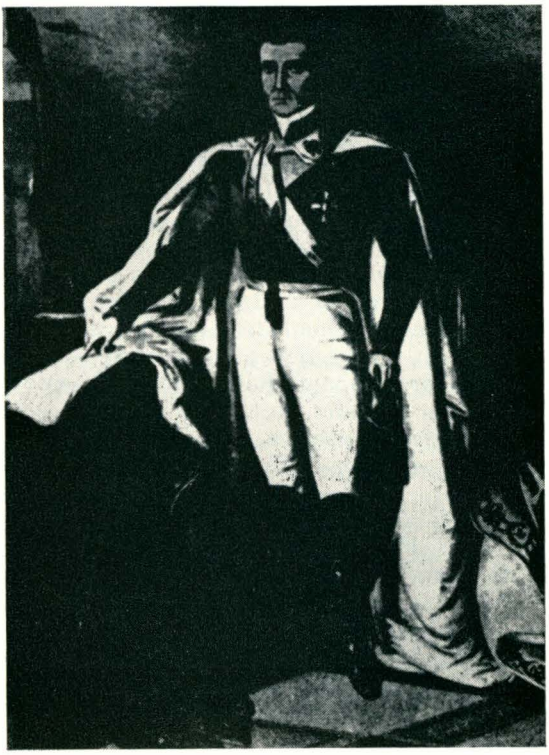


Fig. 1. Agustin de Iturbide, 1783-1824, "My country was transformed from a colony into a great and independent empire."

towards the Ministry of the Interior, which will have charge of inspection, etc.

"The products will enter into the General Treasury in the same manner as all other incomes and contributions that are designated to meet the general expense of the Republic.

"Article 2: The General Administration of Posts will resolve all that is necessary in regard to employees' salaries, regular and special expenses which will occur in the service of mail and posts. The obligations in relation to these or anything similar will be sent to the General Treasury so that payment can be made in the same manner as it is for the rest of the obligations of the nation.

"Article 3: The Administrators of Mail, established in the various points of the states, will deliver monthly, to their respective state treasuries, the income of their administrations, without further deductions than those described in the preceding article, which shall be credited in the monthly reports and in its general account, and which should be sent to the General Administration. These funds will be on deposit and at the disposition of the General Treasury.

"Article 4: The government shall present to the legislative body, for its examination and approbation, a system of orders and accounts of a uniform nature, which will assure an exactness in the collection of the values and provide better service to the public using correspondence, starting wherever possible from where the charges are made to the point of departure of the letters.

"Article 5: During the interim, the sub-administrations of mails will render accounts to the General Administration, which, in turn, will render all pending accounts to the Auditor of Accounts. The government will be in charge of these accounts and report the results to the National Representation.

Of the Employees and Dependents of the Postal Branch

"Article 6: The number of dependents in the General Administration of Posts in this district will be reduced to: one Administrator, one Chief Clerk Supervisor, one clerk, and one servant.

"Article 7: The Administrator will receive the sum of 1500.00 pesos annually; the Chief Clerk Supervisor will be allowed 800.00 pesos, also annually; while the clerk and the servant will receive 600.00 pesos and 300.00 pesos respectively. The Administrator will receive free lodging.

"Article 8: The government will see to it that a statement of accounts of the yearly income of each of the sub-administrations is promptly made on a basis of a five year report, so that it can be used to determine the salary or percentage which the various Administrators should receive, which Administrators will, in the meantime, continue with the present amount assigned to them.

"Article 9: The Administration and Sales Office of *papel sellado* (stamped revenue paper) will join the sub-administrations of mail, wherever they are, but first advising their respective treasuries, and also bearing in mind that each Administrator receives a percentage of the income resulting from the sale of this *papel sellado.*

"Article 10: All the Postal Administrators, the employees of the General Administrations, Masters of Post Houses, mail carriers, and drivers will continue to be exempt from all municipal offices, army drafts and duties, and they are also equally exempt from furnishing quarters and baggage, as described in the General Ordinances of Mails.

"Article 11: The abovementioned mail carriers will wear on their breast a silver shield with the Arms of the Republic impressed on it.

"Article 12: The government will take care, circumstances permitting, to establish Masters of Post Houses all along the routes of the mails.

"Article 13: Mails for neighboring nations will be arranged for in the agreements signed with these various countries.

"Article 14: Special Mails despatched for the account of the Government will be paid for as ordinary. However, the Special Mails which are requested by individuals will be paid by them in accordance with the tariff for the packages being carried.

"Article 15: The Section of Parcels will continue in the same manner as before, and its income turned over to that of the Mails.

Postage and Franking

"Article 16: The postage on letters will be paid in accordance with the newly approved tariff, which should be placed in view of the public in all the Administrations.

"Article 17: The packages and letters for the Ministries, the National Assembly, of the various State Governments, and of the Consultive Board for War, are classified as postage free.

"Article 18: Packages and letters addressed to the various Secretaries of the Legislature of each of the States comprising the Federation as well as the respective Ministries, will also enjoy the free franking privileges.

"Article 19: Correspondence from the Diocese Prelates, when in official correspondence with the Supreme Authorities of the Federation, with the Authorities of the various States, in those cases pertaining to affairs of their district, will be considered as postage free.

"Article 20: Free franking privileges will be granted on all letters and packages addressed to the Secretariat of the Senate of the Federation, to the office of the High Court of Justice and to the Secretariat of the Senate of each of the respective states.

"Article 21: The Intendants of Finance, the Superior Political Chiefs, and the

Commander Generals will not pay postage on letters and packages received from the cities and towns under their jurisdiction, but must render satisfaction on those received from other points.

"Article 22: The free postage referred to in the preceding Articles does not refer to those letters and packages, etc. which really do not come under the title of official. In such cases, those letters will be charged as per the tariff.

"Article 23: The Administrators and employees of the mails in actual service will also enjoy the benefits of free franking, with the exception of the letter carriers. Their private correspondence will be franked at the point of departure and a note made, under a separate column, on the voucher.

"Article 24: The writs, warrants, and business papers, contracts, etc. in part, whether civil or criminal, sent to the territorial courts, whether in appellation, consultation, etc., or other legal motives by the District Attorneys, the Clerk of the Court or prosecutors, will satisfy the postage in the respective post offices by depositing them for the franking privilege, and without this requisite, they will not be admitted.

"Article 25: In the civil cases where one party is a pauper, or in criminal cases where the prisoner is also a pauper, correspondence from them addressed to clerks and prosecutors, will be sent postage free only upon the application and the signature of the clerk, on the cover, as well as that of the judge attesting the fact of poverty. The corresponding voucher for the free franking will be kept with the letter, so that should the pauper be favored in the case, it can be used to reimburse the Administration.

"Article 26: The Administration of Mails will turn over to the respective judge the respective letters etc. that come free franked, so that the same judge can determine if these are from paupers or prisoners in the same category.

"Article 27: Letters and packages addressed by an individual to the Secretariat of National Representation, to that of the States and to the authorities and employees as mentioned in Articles 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, will have to bear postage, and not meeting this requirement, they will not be accepted.

"Article 28: To distinguish the correspondence classified as official, sent from the post office of this district as well as the others, an inked stamp will be used and impressed on the outside of the correspondence. This marker will bear the National Emblem and also indicate the Department from which it came.

"Article 29: The correspondence mentioned in the preceding Article will be sent in sealed packages and addressed to the Administrator of the respective post office. At the bottom of the package will appear the name of the Secretariat of precedence or the name of the Secretary. The Administrator will deliver through his office these packages to the addressee or his delegate. All other letters, although sealed, which do not meet these conditions, will be kept while an account is given to the Intendant of the Province, who, having made the necessary inquiries to determine the facts, will recover the tariff and determine the punishment to be given.

"Article 30: The custody of the marker (rubber stamp) mentioned in Article 28 will be in the hands of the Section Chiefs, or the Chief Clerk, or the secretary of the post office to which it belongs, and each one who handles this marker will make sure that it is used only on official correspondence.

"Article 31: If there has been discovered a fraud or abuse in the use of this marker stamp or in any other manner affecting the income of mails, the Administrator to whose notice this has been called will notify the Intendant, so that a competent judge may sit in judgment in the presence of the prosecutor of the Public Treasury, and by processing the trial in a legal manner, may impose the required penalties.

"Article 32: It is strictly prohibited to send letters through the medium of individuals without the marking of the post office.

"Article 33: From any ship touching ports in any part of the nation, the

correspondence being carried will be asked for at the same time as the cargo manifest, and this correspondence will be collected and sent to the Administrator of Posts, who will see to its distribution. The Commanders of the Plazas will be held responsible for the compliance of this Article.

"Article 34: Any or all Articles or ordinances of previous postal decrees will be considered null and void should they enter in conflict with the Articles of this present law."

"Communicate to the Supreme Executive Power (S.P.E.) for its completion and let it be published and circulated. Given in Guatemala on the 24th of April, 1824."

(Signed) *Mariano Beltranena, Diputado President,*
Jose Domingo Estrada, Diputado Secretario,
Toribio Arguello, Diputado Secretario.

Send to the Supreme Executive Authority

"Therefore do we send this to be kept, compiled with and executed in all its points. It will be received and held by the Ministry of Interest and the Secretary will see to its printing, publication and circulation.

"National Palace, Guatemala, May 7, 1824. Approved by the two following individuals in the absence of C. Manuel Jose de Arce, with the permission of the Assembly."

(Signed) *Jose del Valle, President*
Tomas O'Horan

Send to C. Marcial Zebadua

"Therefore, in compliance with the orders of the Supreme Executive, the undersigned enclosed a copy for your knowledge, etc."

Dios — Union — Libertad National Palace of Guatemala
May 7, 1824 — Zebadua.

The Tariff Established by the April 24, 1824 Decree

"The tariff that will be observed in the General Administration of Posts of the United Provinces of Central America for the collection of the land and sea fees for correspondence, as approved by the National Constitutional Assembly.

"*Section 1.*	*Simple letters under ½ ounce*	*Double letters of ½ ounce*	*Triple letters of ¾ ounce*	*Fee for each ounce*
United States of C.A.	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Province of Chiapas	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Republic of Mexico	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Republic of Colombia	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Republic of Peru	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Republic of Chile	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Republic of Buenos Aires	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
Islands of the Continent	2 reales	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales
"*Section 2.*				
Spain and adjacent islands	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales	12 reales
United States of the North	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales	12 reales
The rest of the foreign countries	4 reales	6 reales	8 reales	12 reales

"For each exceeding ounce over the first three, of the *pliegos* (parcels of letters) circulating in the provinces and states, comprising Section 1, the fee will be 3 reales, 8 reales to be collected for the first three ounces.

"For each exceeding ounce over the first three of the *pliegos* comprising Section 2, the fee will be 4 reales, 12 reales to be collected for the first three ounces.

Registration

"For registration of correspondence that circulates in the countries com-

prising Section 1, the fee will be 8 reales, providing that the weight is one ounce or under. If it is over one ounce, the fee will be 12 reales.

"The same applies for those countries in Section 2, except that there the fee will be 12 reales if under one ounce and 16 reales if over one ounce.

Guatemala, April 24, 1824

(Signed) *Jose Domingo Estrada, Secretary*
Toribio Arguello, Secretary

About the April 24, 1824 Decree

Articles 32 states: "It is strictly prohibited to send letters through the medium of individuals without the marking of the post office." This is equivalent to saying that private conveyance of mail is prohibited, thereby ruling out the use of private carriers.

It is difficult to believe that this regulation was strictly enforced, as private carriers had been the custom for centuries. A continuation of this private usage was, therefore, considered inevitable, since the government service was so unreliable that private individuals and commercial firms refused to make use of it.

Article 34 reads: "Any or all Articles, or Ordinances of previous Postal Decrees will be considered null and void should they enter into conflict with the Articles of the present law." Inasmuch as the decree of April 24, 1824 was the first postal decree of the Federation, it seems odd why voiding previous conflicting Articles and Ordinances should have been mentioned.

Doubtless, this nullification of previous postal decrees refers to those of the 1821 Union of Greater Mexico, which, in turn, continued most of the regulations of the Royal Spanish Mail system — with the omission, of course, of all reference to Spain's commercial monopoly or of royalty.

The Decree of April 13, 1826

"The President of the Republic had caused to be sent me the following:

"The President of the Federal Republic of Central America: "Whereas, the Congress decreed and the Senate sanctioned the following:

"The Federal Congress of the Republic of Central America, considering that the income from the mails has decreased considerably and when applied to the expenses of the General Government, does not meet the requirements, therefore, it is necessary to dictate regulations which will assure the collection of the fees and the good administration of the same income, has decreed:

"Article 1: The franking privileges and exemptions of postage on letters and official correspondence, granted to the authorities and functionaries, as described by law, given them by the A.N.C. (Asamblea Nacional Centro-Americana) on April 24, 1824, shall cease subsequently.

"Article 2: That as a consequence, the old system shall be reestablished, and in conformity to this, the Public Treasury will credit to the Postal Administration the postage for official mail.

"Article 3: Official mail will be considered as that of the Authorities and functionaries, as described in Article 3 of the now annulled law, but this is also to include the Director of the Public Treasury.

"Article 4: The Governments, Authorities, and functionaries of the various States will honor the postage of their correspondence, and payments to the Treasury shall be made monthly. The General Treasury will verify its own and turn over, every two months, the income realized from the correspondence of the Authorities of the Federation to the Postal Administration.

"Article 5: The income received, in all the Republic, will be sent to the General Administration of Posts by those in the States and other established points.

"Article 6: Each State will have a Principal Administrator, appointed by the Federal Government but under the dependency of the General Administration. This Administrator must satisfy the law by obtaining the necessary bonds, etc., and will enjoy the necessary guarantees and exceptions the law grants or will grant in the future.
"Article 7: Sub-postal Administrations will also be established in those points, designated by the government as the most convenient. The naming of these new Administrators will be done in accordance with the preceding Article.
"Article 8: Printed matter from foreign countries will pay only 1 real for each piece or package, provided it does not exceed four ounces; but should it exceed this weight, the tariff will be 1 real for each additional ounce. Those papers being sent out from the Republic will be franked free.
"Article 9: The printed matter, mentioned in the previous Article, to enjoy the privileges granted, must be tied in such a manner as to be easily recognizable in the postal offices. However, those being received from the foreign lands that do not meet this requirement will be opened by the recipient, in the presence of the respective Administrator. If, however, the recipient is not in agreement with this system, he may remove them by paying the tariff for correspondence.
"Article 10: The law will determine which post will be established and where, for the easiest, fastest, and surest means of communications to all points of the Republic, fixing the days and hours of departure, from which no changes whatever can be made.
"Article 11: Neither the General nor the State Governments, in any case whatever, have authority to detain the mails. However, when the interest or urgency demand it, such as prompt communications, a special post will be dispatched.
"Article 12: The State Governments shall not interfere in the management of the Postal Administration. However, when the Administrators are lax in the performance of their duties, or in error, the same State Government will notify the General Administration, citing the cases and furnishing the corresponding proof. The Supreme Government, in reply to the complaints of the States, will in the least possible time notify the Legislative Body of the action taken.
"Article 13: Any or all past dispositions, ordinances, etc. are declared null and void, in the respect where there is a conflict with this law."

Send to the Senate — Guatemala, 13 April, 1826
(Signed) *Jose del Valle, President*
Doroteo Vasconcelos, Congressman, Secretary
Calixto Jose Arevala, Congressman, Secretary to the Senate

"Senate Chambers — Guatemala, June 13, 1826
(Signed) *Mariano de Beltranena*
Jose Miguel Alvarez, Secretary

"To the Executive Power

"Therefore, executed in the National Palace of Guatemala on 14 June, 1826."

(Signed) *Manuel Jose Arce*

"To the Minister of Finance

"The undersigned, who brings this to your attention and compliance."

God — Union — Libertad — Guatemala, June 19, 1826
(Signed) *Arguello.*

Regarding the Decree of April 13, 1826

These regulations assured the proper delivery and collection of mail, and the proper administering of the income. Also, some of the regulations of the April 24, 1824 Decree are annulled. However, Article 32 of the latter still remained in force.

(Continued on Page 238)

Denmark

Variations Of Its Early Stamps

By Sten Christensen

1. The Mystery Of The 2 Rigsbankskilling Of 1851 Proofs

As almost every collector knows, before a stamp is issued, proofs of it have been prepared and approved. Some of these proofs later come into philatelic hands, so that essays and proofs have become desirable material for the philatelist.

This study will deal with a proof made of the 2 Rigsbankskilling of Denmark issued in 1851 (Scott No. 1). Evidence exists that shows that *only one proofsheet* of Plate No. 1 was made and this was done primarily as a test of the color.

The proof was run off on unwatermarked paper, the burelage was engraved, while the stamps themselves were printed by typography (letter press).

In regard to the burelage, on the proofs this is a Type 1B, while the stamps designed and engraved by Ferslew, the Court Engraver (Hofgraveur), always have the burelage Type 1A (see Fig. 1). As for the Plate 1 printing, no exceptions exist.

Regarding the color, that of the proof differs somewhat from the stamps' color shades. The proofs have a more brilliant color. Also, there are small but significant printing differences on each position in the sheet of 100. Those on the proof sheet are not as prominent as on the printed stamps, making the former's individual positions more difficult to plate.

One Half Of The Proof Sheet Missing

This proofsheet seems to have been prepared during the first days of April, 1851. There was only one sheet made by the engraver, Ferslew, who delivered this sheet to the Director General of Posts for his examination and approval.

In the sheet margin, there is the following notation in Danish:

"Approberet of General post direct euren med hensyn till farven, 16/4-51 Fristrup." (Color approved by the Director General of Posts, 16/4/51. Fristrup.)

The proofsheet of this stamp is in the Postal Museum, but it is only *the upper half*, the one with the General Post Office's notations on it. The lower half is missing and its disappearance is a mystery.

As is known, a complete sheet consists of 100. Since only a sheet of 50 is in the Postal Museum, where are the other 50 proofs?

In an effort to solve the mystery of this missing lower half of the proofsheet, the writer inquired of well-known authority on the early stamps of Denmark, Mr. Svend Grønlund, who replied as follows:

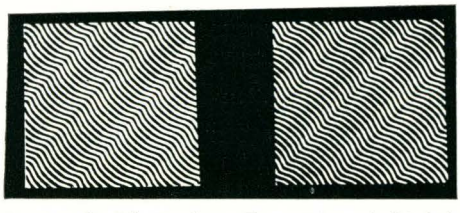


Fig. 1. (Left) Burelage Type 1A and (right) Type 1B.



Fig. 2. The Position No. 87 and 97 proofs joined together as a pair after being separated from the missing lower half of the proofsheet in the Postal Museum many years ago.

"How the lower part of this sheet could disappear from the Postal Museum is a mystery!"

More inquiries threw no further light on this matter. It does seem obvious, however, that some person trusted by the Postal Museum had access to its collections and some years ago stole the lower half of the proofsheet. At this late time, it would do no good to find out who the thief was. He probably has been dead for a long time.

Proofs Appeared On The World Philatelic Market

It does seem evident that the 50 stolen proofs were sold on the philatelic market. The way they were detected is remarkable. Some observant philatelists inspecting old stamp collections noticed some copies that had different color shades from the issued stamps. As the catalogue states in a footnote, reprints of Scott No. 1 and No. 2 were made in 1885 without burelage. The color shades in these old-time collections were mounted as reprints. They were not, but some of the missing proofs from the lower half of the proofsheet.

For many years, the writer has examined several collections of Denmark, and to his pleasant surprise discovered two of these missing proofs. The first one was found in a small and not especially well-known collection in Denmark. The second one was discovered in a very well-known American collection. It had been incorrectly classified as a reprint.

Seeking confirmation, that the copies the writer had secured were proofs and not reprints, he wrote to the aforementioned authority on Danish stamps and the latter's reply asked for the opportunity to examine the stamps.

They were sent to this expert and he returned them to the writer with the following statement:

"Enclosed please find your two proofs returned together with a Certifiicate for each one of the stamps, which you can see are genuine. We have been able to find out by certain printing characteristics that these two copies once were a vertical pair, Position No. 87 and 97 in the sheet. From a philatelic point of view, these proofs are ranked among some of the rare stamps of Denmark, because up to now, only six such proofs are known."

Joined Together After Years Of Separation

It seems remarkable to note how these two little pieces of paper years ago became separated, travelled to different parts of the world — one in the United States, the other in Denmark, thousands of miles apart. Now these two copies have been reunited by the writer, who presently is a collector residing in Sweden.

Of the known proofs, we can account for them as follows:

1. Position No. 51 in a New Orleans, La. collection
2. Position No. 58) in a Copenhagen, Denmark collection
3. Position No. 71)
4. Position No. 79 also in a Copenhagen, Denmark collection
5. Position No. 83 in a collection in England
6. Position No. 87) in the writer's collection in Trelleborg, Sweden
7. Position No. 97)

This leaves 43 out of the missing lower half of the proofsheet of 50 still unaccounted for. It seems reasonable to speculate, since some of the above-mentioned proofs were found in collections among reprints, that other collections may have the same. It is possible that one possesses copies of Denmark Scott No. 1 and now has it incorrectly identified as a reprint. It well could be a valuable proof.

The writer would be glad to examine any copy of the 1851 2rs. stamp without charge and notify the owner as to its proper classification. Please write to: Sten Christensen, Norrvallavägen 7, Trelleborg. Sweden.

2. Private Perforations, Genuine and Fraudulent

When it came to the public's use of the first postage stamps, the people in Denmark were no exception. They found that using the first issues was inconvenient and time-consuming, because the imperforated sheets had to be cut apart by scissors. Also, the postal clerks selling the stamps to the public made similar complaints.

But even more than a hundred years ago there were some enterprising people in Denmark, who solved for themselves, the great inconvenience in using imperforated sheets. Two large commercial firms in Denmark privately perforated some of the 1854 to 1863 issues for their own use. These privately perforated stamps were only to be used by these business houses and no copies were distributed to other people.

Several firms in Copenhagen (Sallin og Sønner and Chr. L. Lange have been identifled) privately perforated stamps that gauge about 12. Another firm was



Fig. 3. A cover from Altona with the stamp fraudulently perforated. The cancellations and cover are genuine, only the perforations are imitated.

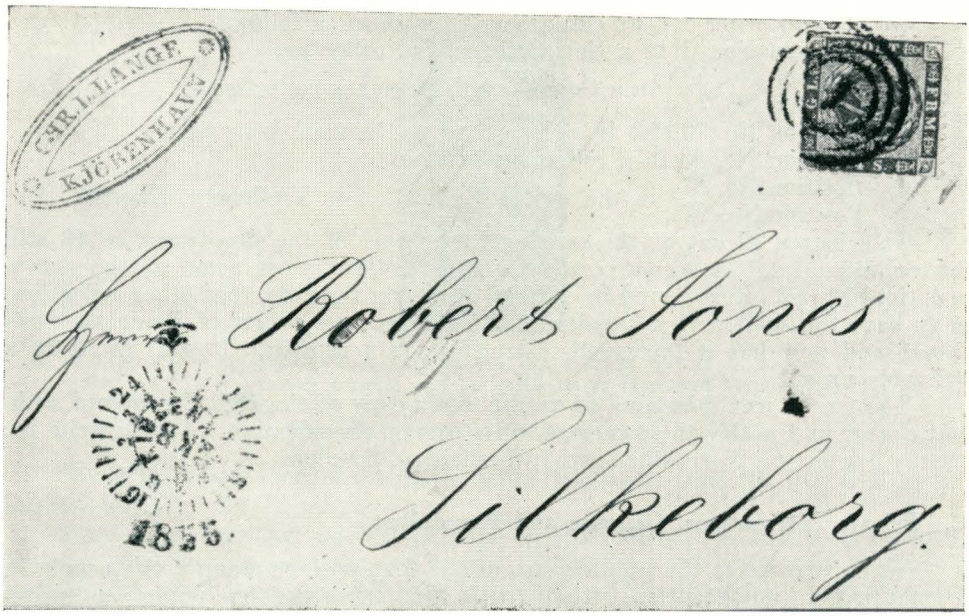


Fig. 4. A cover with genuine private perforations.

in Altona (name unknown) and their private perforations measured about 12½. The cancellation numerals for Altona are "113" and for Copenhagen "1."

The firm of R. Thiedemann & Co. used a private perforation (about 12). Their mail always was posted at Hamburg, numeral cancellation "2" and sent to Newcastle-on-Tyne, England.

The Stamps' Paper

One should remember a few facts about the first issues of Denmark. The stamps' paper was coarse, thick and strong. Therefore, it was difficult to perforate them. The perforation holes always are very rough and ragged. Actually, few sheets, especially of the 4 Rbs. values, never were completely perforated. Therefore, when someone tried to separate the stamps from the sheet, either the paper tore or somtimes a pair of scissors had to be used.

Even with these private perforations, a stamp could be separated from its sheet only on two sides. Often the other two sides had to be cut by scissors. Most all of the 4 Rbs. stamps came this way.

This is important to remember, because by now copies of the early Danish stamps, that were permitted to be privately perforated, have become very scarce. On original covers, they are rare, especially the first issue of 1851, the 2 and 4 Rigsbankskillings. The later skilling stamps also are very scarce on covers, but not as rare as the first issue.

Imitations Made

Danish specialists are very interested in these early stamps with private perforations. Because of their scarcity, fraudulent copies have been manufactured for philatelic sale. These latter usually have all four sides perforated and the holes are neat and clean, entirely different from the original private perforations.

It is advisable to remember that most of the original privately perforated stamps exist on covers. Consequently, an off cover copy at once should be re-



Fig. 5. An enlargement of the stamp on the Fig. 4 cover, showing the rough vertical perforations and the scissor cuttings on the horizontal sides.

garded with suspicion. Then, the perforation holes should be examined. If not rough, and if a copy has all four sides perforated, one may be sure that he has an imitated copy of no philatelic value.

But even if on cover, this is no assurance that the perforations are genuine. It is known that imperforated copies of the first issues of Denmark, especially the less valuable 4 rs. and 4 s. (Scott Nos. 2, 4, and 7) were removed from their original covers, fraudulently perforated and then re-affixed to the cover. Fig. 3 illustrates an example of these fraudulent private perforations.

The best way to study a copy on cover is to note the name of the sender. *It must be commercial correspondence*, because the private perforations were only used on such covers. Notice the Fig. 3 cover is not from a commercial firm.

Next, one studies the perforations, remembering that the genuine are rough, usually only having two sides perforated and the other two cut from the sheet by scissors. A copy with clean, sharp holes and no evidence of a scissor-cut cannot be an original.

Also, one should know that the original private perforations gauge 12 for Copenhagen and 12½ for Altona. This is not exact, but close enough. But copies gauging 13, 13¼ and 14½ are the imitations.

Returning to the Fig. 3 cover, this has the stamp cancelled "113," which identifies it as from Altona. There is, however, no evidence of commercial use, and with the clear holes on all four sides of the stamp, this is a fraudulent piece.

Genuine Private Perforations

The Fig. 4 cover is genuine. It shows that it was mailed by a commercial house in Copenhagen. A study of the stamp is important. Therefore, Fig. 5 is an enlargement of the stamp on this Copenhagen cover with the 4 skillings stamp.

One sees in Fig. 5 the rough perforations on both of the vertical sides. The two horizontal sides evidence cutting by a scissors.

Also, there is known a private perforation from Oldenburg. This is very rare and the writer cannot illustrate nor describe it in great detail. This was not perforated but rouletted, and it gauges about 9½.

Since no records were kept, it is possible that other Danish business houses perforated stamps for their use before the government officially issued the first Danish perforated stamps in 1864.

This entire field of private perforations before 1864 still has not received the study and research it deserves. Much more investigation is required.

Uncommon Use Of Common Stamps

What our readers wish to see is a properly used cover having a common stamp that catalogs for $10 or less. But on cover this item's value is many times the standard catalog price for the stamp off cover, either unused or used.

You may own such material. Then it is hoped that you will send it to The Editor, Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016.

United States

Martin Van Buren's Presidential Frank

On page 170 of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST of May, 1964 (Vol. 43, No. 3) in this same column was illustrated a cover similar to the one shown below.

The one previously described had the "Free" franking of President Martin Van Buren and also a 1 cent 1861 postage stamp that was required to pay for the Carrier Fee.



(Photo by Boutrelle)

This second cover has the same two matters, the handwritten "Free" of President Martin Van Buren and the 1 cent postage stamp for the Carrier Fee. But now there is a third addition that was not on the cover illustrated in the May, 1964 column.

In the center are the postmarks "Forwarded" and "Due 3." This was required because President Van Buren addressed this cover to Clifton Springs, N. Y. Since the addressee had moved to Schenectady, N. Y., three cents postage due had to be collected for the forwarding of this cover.

In case of change of address, please notify Secretary, The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016.

The Clubhouse

Meeting of March 3, 1965

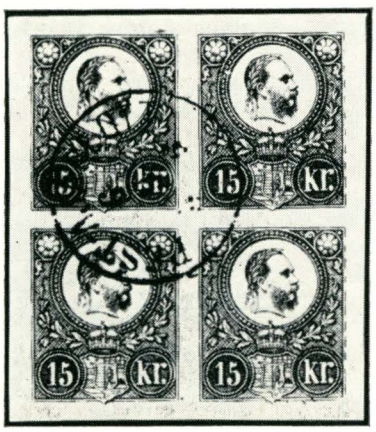
Classic Hungary

Mr. Otto Gabor Schaffling told his audience that years ago in his native country, Hungary, he learned of The Collectors Club in New York through the magazine in the most famous Hungarian stamp club, Lehe. At that time, he did not even dream of becoming a resident member of the Club or learning the English language. First, he apologized for his shortcomings in English as he has been an American for only a few years. But there were so many Hungarian-Americans in the audience that he almost started to give his speech in Hungarian.

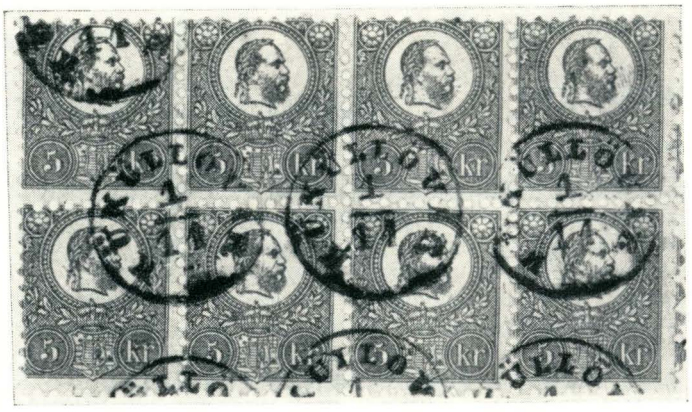
He exhibited and lectured on his collection under the title "*Classic Hungary.*" Perhaps "Old Hungary" would be a more apt title because, as is customary in Hungary, everything from the prestamp era to 1914 is called "Old Hungary." With the exception of the 1900-13 *Turul Watermark collection*, every item shown has been assembled since 1945. At the end of World War II, Mr. Schaffling's original collection was stolen by the Soviet Russian soldiers in May 1945, and he had to start again from the beginning. How well he succeeded in forming a new collection was shown in his 1965 presentation. Now, he is a successful chemist with a large chemical company in Connecticut.

It was pointed out that one cannot and should not judge the centering of Hungarian classic stamps by modern standards. If one wants to collect only perfectly centered or just well centered copies of Hungarian classics, he will not succeed. It takes at least ten years of searching to find a nicely centered copy. In the famous Caspary collection there were only three Hungarian stamps, the lithographed 3, 15 and 25 kr. of the first issue of 1871 in mint condition. Not even with Caspary's great resources was it possible for this famous American collector to get all the lithographed stamps (Scott 1-7) in very fine condition. This is true for mint as well as for used copies. Blocks of the first two Hungarian issues must be collected as they come; they just do not seem to exist in fine condition, most being poorly centered.

With the help of one hundred color slides, the highlights of the collection were shown. Also, seventeen frames were filled with an unusually high quality



A block of four of the 15 kr. engraved of the 1871 issue with the scarce color shade.



A cancelled block of eight of the 5Kr. lithographed of the first issue of 1871.

of Hungarian stamps, including many scarce and rare items.

The Schaffling collection begins with pre-stamp times. The most important piece is a letter from King Leopold of Hungary, dated October, 1692. At this time, the royal seal served as the "cancellation." The letter is addressed to the Hungarian "Bergstatte Neusohl."

Then the collection continues with Austrian stamps used in Hungary from 1850 to 1867, beginning with a strip of three 1850 1 kr. on thick paper with "Iglo" cancellation in unusually fine condition. A return receipt with two 5 kr. cancelled in 1858 at Füzesgyarmat, Mr. Schaffling's hometown in Hungary, is the only piece in his collection which he had not recently acquired. He found this stamp many years ago and somehow managed to save it and bring it to the United States.

All Austrian issues up to 1867 are represented, some on covers. The 1867 issue showed the boxed "Nagy Károly" cancellation and many others. The Austrian issue of 1867 (Scott #27-33) is practically a dual state stamp, valid with two independent postal administrations. These stamps bear no lettering other than the letters "kr." This could be read by a German as "Kreuzer" or by a Hungarian as "krajczár" for the stamp's denomination.

The first of all Hungarian postage stamps is not the one of May 1, 1871, but Money Order cards and postal cards with the same first stamp design, issued on February 15, 1871. A Money Order card with two copies of Austria 5 kr. (Scott #29) cancelled at the military border town of Neu Gradisk on March 1871 was shown.

Hungary planned originally to issue the postage stamps on the same date. But the first printed lithographed issue was made so poorly that the postal authorities ordered it destroyed. As recent discoveries show, somehow or other, one sheet or a few sheets of the first lithographed printing were not destroyed but used unnoticed with the later regular printing. Mr. Schaffling displayed one of the chrome yellow 2 kr. first printings and he believes that this marked the first time that this stamp was shown in the United States. The so-called first printing is poorly made, the face of the king is covered with ink marks and does not look like any of the known types of the 2 kr. lithographed stamp (Scott #1).

The first lithographed Hungarian stamps issued on May 1, 1871 were shown complete in a mint set in exceptionally fine condition for this issue. The mint copy of 10 kr. is considered as the finest one known. Mint copies of the 2, 5, 10

and 15 kr. well centered are very difficult to locate. The quantity of the lithographed stamps issued is very small, as follows:

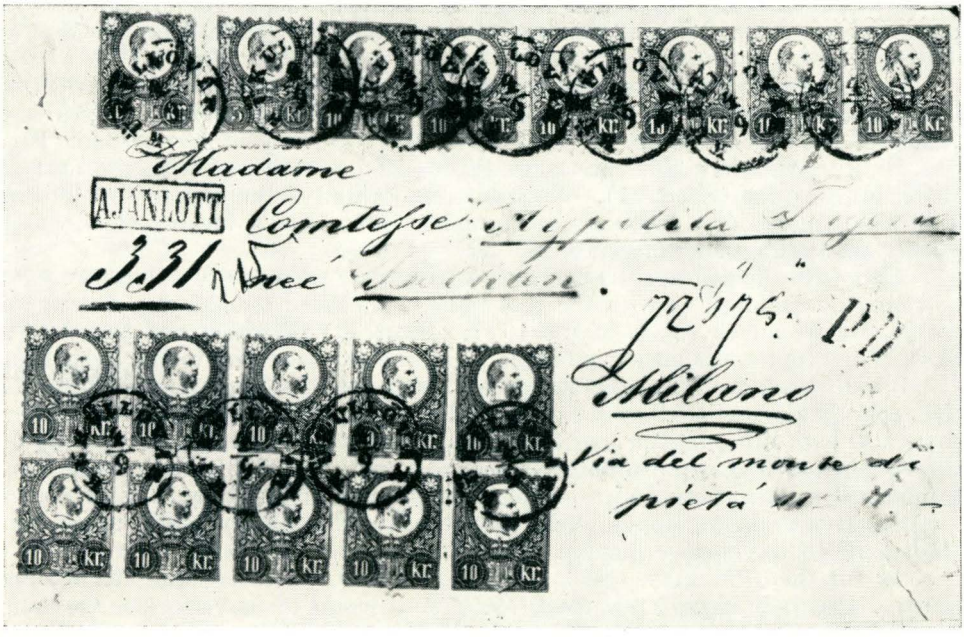
2 kr. —	300,000
3 kr. —	46,000
5 kr. —	2,800,000
10 kr. —	700,000
15 kr. —	166,000
25 kr. —	161,000

Every stamp of the first issue is represented also with used copies both in singles and pairs, and selected with an eye to have the best possible condition. Also, each denomination comes with a number of different types. For instance, nine types have been identified of both the 2 and 5 kr., six of the 3 kr., while there are ten different of the 10, 15 and 25 kr. Mr. Schaffling exhibited these type differences by clear, enlarged photographs.

The Hungarian post office archives had proof sheets of the first issue. The sheets had no perforations. They were cut up and in 1883 imperforate pairs were presented by the Post Office to prominent government officials and some privileged philatelists. Later, these presentation proofs came on the stamp market. A complete set of the first issue in imperforate pairs was shown.

The entire showing of the first issue was very comprehensive. Many interesting covers were exhibited; only a few will be mentioned. One had the 3 kr. used on a cover in combination with an 1867 stamp of Austria. The 3 kr. denomination is the one most common on cover. The 2 kr. lithographed is scarcer and this denomination used on a cover along with the 3 and 10 kr. were shown.

The different color shades of the first issue are exceedingly interesting and some of them are rare. Nearly every one was displayed. The scarcest suffered from a real tragedy. This has a very delicate color shade and it was exhibited at the international stamp show in Hamburg, Germany in 1959. Unfortunately,



A cover with seventeen copies of the 10 kr. of the 1871 issue. The block of ten in the lower left is believed to be the largest multiple piece known of this issue.



The 10 kr. of the 1888 issue perforated 11½ in a mint block of six.

care was not taken to keep the sun away and the color shade was bleached out, permanently losing to philately a very rare item.

The lithographed stamps of the first issue are not easy to find in blocks, either mint or used. The 25 kr. is seen the most, because this denomination was frequently used on Money Orders.

The study of the different cancellations and town markings also are interesting on the lithographed issue. They come in various colors, some, of course, being scarcer than others. Shown were a "Fingerhut" and "Csavos" red cancel, which Mr. Schafflling rated as scarce ones. Also, covers having mixed frankings with the lithographed and engraved issues are desirable items. The section on cancellations was extensive. Mr. Schaffling was very proud that many of his cancelled copies were used by the late Edwin Mueller for illustrations in his articles on the "Classic Stamps of Hungary" in "The Mercury Stamp Journal."

On the second (engraved) issue, the display was equally comprehensive, so that space permits only a few items to be reported. Many consider the scarcest Hungarian stamp the 15 kr. copper brown (Scott 11a) in mint condition. Mr. Schaffling showed how this rare color shade often is confused with the normal 15 kr. brown color (Scott 11). Therefore, he exhibited the rare copper brown color shade alongside a block of the normal brown. Seeing the two side-by-side clearly shows the color difference.

Also, with the engraved issue, many covers were shown with different usages and mixed frankings, as with the first issue. The most outstanding one was a cover with seventeen copies of the 10 kr. (Scott 10) of which one part was a block of ten copies, the largest multiple piece known, according to Mr. Schaffling.

Besides postage, Telegraph stamps also were issued. These are not listed in the Scott Catalogue, but they are of great interest to Hungary specialists. They come also both lithographed and engraved. Next, there was a large showing of the Newspaper Tax stamps, both mint and cancelled copies including the 2 kr. copper red color variety and a complete mint sheet of the 1 kr. of 1898.

Postal stationery, Money Order post cards and ordinary postal cards concluded the comprehensive display of the first issues.

As for the 1874 issue (Scott 13-17), a number of interesting items were shown. Proofs in imperforate condition in mint blocks of four and also the same proofs perforated were exhibited. With the latter, we saw a variety of different perforations. One exceptional item pointed out was a mint block of six of the

1874 10 kr. perforated 11½, which Mr. Shafflling believes may be unique, because he has not heard of another.

Next followed the 1881 issue (Scott 18-22) that was the first one printed on watermarked paper. There are a few interesting watermark variations and also some scarce perforations such as 13½. A showpiece that commanded attention was a copy of the 10 kr. (Scott 21) with the numeral inverted. Also, a few unusual covers were displayed. The stamps from this 1874-81 period concluded with a display of oddities and freak printings, such as paperfolds and retouches.



The 1906 Postage Due stamp, the 20f. green and black with the center, having the numeral "20" inverted.

There was also a fine representation of the 1888 issue with copies in fine condition, unusual multiple pieces, perforation varieties and interesting covers. The two high denominations, the 1 and 3 Ft. (Scott 34-35), were exhibited in large multiple pieces, while the entire issue was on display in unused imperforate blocks of four. Of interest, although not catologued, were some oddities that Mr. Shaffling correctly identified as printer's waste.

The 1898 issue also was extensively displayed in a manner similar to the previous ones with varieties of color, paper, watermark and perforation.

For the 20th Century, Mr. Schaffling exhibited the "Turul" design stamp (Scott Type A4) with much unusual material. Imperforate copies were shown that are not listed in Scott. The exhibit ended with the 1913 issue.

Concluding this fine exhibit and display of Classic Hungary, Mr. Shaffling ended with an interesting observation. The collection will be on exhibit at WIPA 1965 in Vienna, Austria. Thus, the new Hungarian collection, "made in America," may be seen not very far from the land from which they originated.

Meeting of March 17, 1965

Lithography

Mr. Falk Finkelburg gave a practical demonstration on lithography, and how this printing process is related to philately.

About 1794, a Bohemian, named Alois Senefelder, was dabbing with greasy inks on a calcium stone. He observed that since grease and water do not mix, the greasy inks repelled the water. This was the beginning of lithography. From then on, it became an important medium for printing, the full impact of which has not yet been felt by the printing industries.

In the beginning, art images and lettering were drawn on the surface of the stone. The artist used fine penpoints with special handrubbed water-soluble inks called "tush." Engraving on stone was developed later.

Mr. Finkelburg explained the various steps taken to produce a color job. Also, he explained the process used for preparing a stone for an engraving, and then demonstrated the actual engraving of a line of script in reverse.

During the course of his talk, Mr. Finkelburg had colored slides projected on the screen showing a handproving press and a flatbed power press. He explained the operation of these presses in detail. Pictures of a Benday machine and two engraving presses were also projected on the screen and the speaker explained how they operated. Also, he explained how various shading effects were obtained. A slide of a stone graining table was shown and a description given of how stones were grained.

All the frames on both walls of the meeting room were covered with proof prints in multiple colors, dating from the middle of the 19th century to the present time. There were also many beautiful specimens from stone engravings, which had been engraved and printed in America and various countries in Europe.

Lithography is an art which contains many more details than there was time to present. Mr. Finkelburg, who is thoroughly experienced in his field, could have continued to speak on this subject much longer. But the meeting ended at 10 p.m., as scheduled. It was an unusual and very stimulating session, despite the length of the lecture and exhibit.

Meeting of April 7, 1965

The Collectors Club Exhibit For The Royal Philatelic Society, London

On page 268 of the September, 1964 number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST an article by W. S. Boggs commenced as follows:

"A new epoch in the history of philatelic displays and inter-club visits was begun on the evening of May 20th, 1964, when the Royal Philatelic Society, London by means of displays, recorded talks and slides 'visited' The Collectors Club in New York."

Following this introduction, a fifteen-page illustrated article described in detail the Royal Philatelic Society's "visit" to The Collectors Club, which ended with this statement:

"The Collectors Club is to pay a return 'visit' in June, 1965, when it will be our turn to entertain our British colleagues."

Early in 1965, The Program Committee began making plans for the "return visit" from New York to London. Under the guidance of the 1964 Co-Chairman of the Program Committee, Mr. Bernard D. Harmer, eight Collectors Club members were invited to show selections from a collection specified by the committee.

Therefore, on April 7, 1965, The Collectors Club "guest speakers" at the Royal Philatelic Society, London on June 17, 1965 staged a "dress rehearsal" before a large New York audience. Few may appreciate the great amount of advance planning and preparation required to stage a program as this.

Each exhibitor mounted his album pages in one or two frames. Secondly, from fifteen to twenty color slides had been taken to be shown on the screen, and thirdly, a tape recording had to be made of the speaker's remarks as he spoke on his slides.

It was fortunate that this "dress rehearsal" took place, because there were a "lot of bugs" to be ironed out. One exhibitor had not had time to have his color slides ready for the night of April 7th. Several others had not made advance tape recordings. Therefore, Mr. Harmer had a recorder in the Rich Memorial Room to tape four of the lectures. One exhibitor's color slides were

the wrong size for the Club's projector. Another had taped his remarks in advance, but at the wrong speed, so that his lecture sounded like "ten hens laying twelve eggs." Then, one exhibitor had made his own color slides, the results being most "amateurish." Only one exhibitor, L. L. Shenfield, went off as required. His slides were ready and his remarks previously and properly recorded on tape.

Thus, it was just like a dress rehearsal of a Broadway play, if one is familiar with one of them. So much goes wrong at a rehearsal all in attendance are sure the play never will be ready for its opening night. Despite the usual fear, the play does go on and seldom, if ever, with a hitch. It was apparent that The Collectors Club's visit to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, in June 1965 benefited thoroughly from the April 7th dress rehearsal.

The exhibitors were called upon in the alphabetical order of their last names. Now follows a brief description of what the audience heard and saw on April 7th. No attempt will be made to offer a comprehensive report.

1. *United States. The Butterfield and Pony Express Mail Routes — San Francisco, Calif. to the East, 1857 to 1861 by J. David Baker, Indianapolis, Ind.*

Some of this exceptionally fine material was shown by Mr. Baker when he displayed his 19th Century United States here on February 7, 1962. There was just one frame with twelve covers of Pony Express, Wells Fargo Co. and other historical mail. Each cover is an outstanding piece for its stamps, its postal markings and history and its condition.

2. *New Zealand. Great Barrier Islands Pigeon Post 1898-1900,* by Henry M. Goodkind, New York, N. Y.

This collection, exhibited under the disguised name of "P. C. Crotide" ("Editor CCP" spelled backwards), won one of the major awards at the 1962 Collectors Club Annual Members Competition. It includes covers, called "flimsies," because the message carried by the pigeons were written on thin tissue-paper. The stamps were displayed in full mint sheets, blocks and other multiple pieces, color shades and different varieties. Also, some new research with plating work was included.

3. *India. The Sind District Dawk* by Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, Bernardsville, N. J.

This lecture and display was based upon Mr. Haverbeck's article in the March, 1965 number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST on pages 79 to 85. There is, however, one matter that the reader of this article missed. These are the stamps and covers as the audience saw them on color slides, a vast improvement over the black and white illustrations in this magazine.

4. *Guatemala. 1871-86 covers explaining the changing postal rates* by Norman S. Hubbard, New Haven, Conn.

When the International Society of Guatemala Collectors, exhibited here on November 18, 1964 (see THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, January, 1965, pages 36 to 38), some of the same covers were exhibited. But at the society meeting, Mr. Hubbard just exhibited; he did not speak.

This time he fully explained the postal rates and the complications connected with them. Guatemala had no previous experience with postage stamps before 1871. Her currency was not only complicated, but subject to change from reales to pesos to quetzals. When Guatemala joined the Universal Postal Union, her entire postal requirements had to be totally revised. Explaining this presented as complicated a philatelic problem as one can imagine. Without recourse to notes, Mr. Hubbard explained every rate — old, new and revised.

5. *Sports. Stamps and Covers of Great Britain and British Colonies* by Ira Seebacher, Roslyn, N. Y.

If this professional sportswriter did not show sports stamps, one would be in for a real surprise. But with his usual display of good sportsmanship, his profound knowledge of sports history, some philatelic knowledge as well as a "wisecrack" now and then, Mr. Seebacher showed the same two 19th British covers that he did on January 6th. He also displayed some of the original artist's work for the Great Britain 1948 Olympic Games issue as well as errors on the overprints of this same issue.

Two stamps of Canada were featured — the 1929 "Bluenose" that Mr. Seebacher said is "a howling rarity on cover" and the 13 cents of 1939 showing the Royal Yacht "Britannia." Both of these are sports stamps, because racing was involved.

The 1923 set of St. Kitts-Nevis (Scott 52-64) was shown because of the well-known story about the money raised from the sale would go to building a cricket field. Incidentally, one of the reasons for the present-day high price of this set was due to its being blackballed at the time of issue. Thus, collectors shied away from buying the issue at the "new issue" price. Later, when the set was catalogued, few people had it, so the demand was far greater than the supply.

6. *Pot-pouri of non-rarities* by Lawrence L. Shenfield, Bronxville, N. Y.

Mr. Shenfield established five standards in forming this exhibit. 1) It is to consist of early British colonial covers; 2) no stamps on the covers are to be rare and valuable; 3) the earlier the use the better; 4) each cover must carry the correct postage rate and 5) the covers must be unusual and attractive.

The showing consisted of the following covers:

Three from *Western Australia,* one used in 1855 during the Crimean War; 1858 *Ceylon; Cape of Good Hope,* the 1sh. in 1854 with the proper rate to England; *Dominica,* earliest known use of the 1875 issue; *New South Wales* 1852 via Marseilles, France; *Sierre Leone* November 1871 and 1872 usage; *Griqualand* from the Diamond Mine Territory in 1874; *Labuan,* a non-philatelic cover; *St. Helena* to the U. S.A. in 1870; *Lagos,* the 1876 issue on a registered cover; *Turks Island; India* during the Crimean War in 1855; *Bahamas* to Denver, Colorado; *Hong Kong* to the United States in 1869 and the only non-British cover — *Persia* to the U. S. A. in 1881.

7. *United States. First Air Mail Issue of 1918* by Philip Silver, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Some outstanding material was in this two-frame display. Proofs of the stamps, especially the red frame and the blue airplane vignette of our first air post stamp, the 24-cent, attracted much attention.

Also, each of the three 1918 air mail stamps were issued for inaugural flight, but sold a few days in advance. Consequently, first-day covers are exceedingly rare — only three of the first stamp are known. All three stamps of the 1918 air mail issue on these rare first-day covers were shown, as were scare position blocks and covers showing unusual rates and early commercial use.

8. *Confederate States of America. Strange Stamps and Postal Markings* by A. Earl Weatherby, Greensboro, N. C.

This exhibitor's Confederate States collection is well known as an international "gold medal" collection. This, too, had been exhibited here at the Club in 1961.

The "strange stamps" are those Postmaster Provisionals such as the oval Limestone Springs, So. Carolina and Pleasant Shade, Va.

The postal markings were not only some scarce town ones, but the one that Confederate specialists considered the rarest — "Southern Letter Unpaid." Since this marking has been counterfeited, Mr. Weatherly showed his with enlargements on color slides in order to clearly study the characteristics of each letter in this postal marking.

There was one page with the General Issues, mostly in beautiful unused blocks of four. The outstanding one was a mint block of four of the "Jefferson Davis frameline" (Scott #10) which Mr. Weatherly believes to be unique.

This ends the brief description of the eight Collectors Club exhibits that were shown on June 17, 1965 at 41 Devonshire, Place, London, England. Viewing the eight as a unit, it would seem to reflect a fine and comprehensive range of philately and postal history. Stamps with varieties and proofs, along with covers having interesting usage and postal markings, combined to show material from the early days of postage stamps in the 19th century down to air mails of 1918 and as recent as the 1948 Olympic Games.

It is hoped that the London reaction to the New York showing in June, 1965 was as favorable as the latter's enjoyment of the Royal Philatelic Society's display here on May 20, 1964. *(H. M. G.)*

Meeting of April 21, 1965

Newfoundland, The 1910-11 Guy Issue

Mr. Robert H. Pratt of Milwaukee, Wisconsin exhibited and lectured with the aid of color slides on Newfoundland's Guy issue of 1910-1911 that spanned the end of the reign of Edward VII and the beginning of George V's. Little, so far, has been written about this issue. Certain original documents and proofs make this an interesting story. This issue, except for the 1c, 2c and 5c, had probably the smallest printings outside of the very early Newfoundland stamps and the later rare air mails. The large number of original documents shown prove the printing by Whitehead Morris & Co. of the lithographed 1910 stamps in the following quantities:

1c	—	3,000,000	6c	— Type II	— 10,000
2c	—	5,000,000	8c		— 10,000
3c	—	50,000	9c		— 10,000
4c	—	50,000	10c		— 10,000
6c	—	500,000	12c		— 10,000
6c	— Type I	10,000	15c		— 10,000

The surviving official post office records also verify that the 15c George V stamp was decided upon after initiation of the work on the issue began and that the 6c Type II, was created last, after the 6c, Type I, had been printed. The former was probably done by altering the transfer strip and remaking the stone.

Also these documents show that 5,000 sets of stamps were produced in envelopes for sale at the London Exhibition in 1910. The furnishing of two sets of proofs, the first perforated 12 x 12, and the second imperforate is shown in the record.

The original papers note the care used in verifying the count of sheets produced as well as the exact amount and kind of paper used in the printing. The shipping papers show when and how the shipments were made to Newfoundland

from England. Certain dates are established.

The die proofs for the London Exhibition include a rare vignette and certain die proofs or impremés which were probably made as color trials. A complete group of die proofs of this issue was shown, probably made after the transfer strip for lithographing was produced from engraved partial strips of ten. A scarce trial etching of certain values on the lithographed stone also was exhibited. An extraordinary die proof of the 12c bears the message "Completed only yesterday, May 6th, 1910, the day of his death. (Edward VII) This will now not be issued, having already received orders for the new King's head thereon. (J. W.)" The stamp, however, was produced, evidently the order to stop was cancelled.

The plate proofs contain a unique folded cardboard (part of the original documents) which were the printing instructions to the Whitehead Morris of London, England printing room. This lists on the outside, the quantities to be printed with certain other instructions and, on the inside, both sets of plate proofs in color and instructions about changing certain colors. In addition, a complete set of plate proofs on heavy paper were shown which either were from sheets saved for "Litho record" or sheets run off as a favor.

An interesting new discovery is an imperforate sheet of 6c Type II on a watermarked paper unlike the issued heavier paper. This, too, is probably from the "Litho record" group. Imperforate examples of the 6c, both types, and 12c were noted.

A discussion about the estimated quantities of the various perforations which exist in the lithographed issue raised an interesting question about the scarcity ratio. About the only definite conclusion that can be reached is that the 2c, perforted 11.8 x 11.3, is a very scarce stamp, with probably about 30,000 or only 6% of the total quantity of 5,000,000 being perforated thus. It is interesting to note that the 6c, 8c, 9c, 10c, 12c and 15c are scarcer by a 3-1 ratio but easier to find, especially in blocks.

An official mourning cover for the death of Edward VII was shown; also an official presentation card with the compliments of the Government of Newfoundland. The manner of creation of the "NFW" error was explained.

Original orders to the perforating department of Whitehead Morris prove that the second Guy Issue (engraved) was perforated there. But it does not indicate who printed the issue. A set of die proofs engraved, which differ from the originals, were shown as well as a curious trial plate made from some of these dies. Plate proofs in issued colors were shown for all denominations except the 12c. Also exhibited were certain trial color proofs which evidently were produced by partially inking the finished plates. Some interesting color effects were noted. A study of enlargements of the original 9c die proof and 9c engraved plate proofs determined that the plates were made from the original, not from the secondary (altered or re-engraved) dies. A new die must have been made for the 6c, but so far a die proof has not been seen.

The original papers also give a close approximation of the quantities of the engraved issue that had been shipped to the colonies. No shipping papers exist, but a reasonable estimate indicates the following quantities of engraved Guy stamps were shipped:

6c	— 22,500	10c	— 15,000
8c	— 15,000	12c	— 15,000
9c	— 15,000	15c	— 15,000

Thus, the quantities for the high denominations of the lithographed and engraved (8c through 15c) are approximately equal. The exception is the 6c

lithographed probably had 15,000 each, Type I and Type II, while the engraved was 22,500.

An interesting supposition arises out of comparing a large die proof of the 15c George V stamp with a similar one of the 15c Coronation issue which followed. The paper seems the same, the die sinkage is about the same, the quality of the work is about equal. It has been assumed that Alexander Co. made the engraved plates and that MacDonald made the engraved dies. Did these firms also prepare certain values of the Coronation issue for Whitehead Morris? It is known that De La Rue did not make all the dies and plates.

Several studies could be made which would help unravel some of the mysteries still existing. The first concerns a study of the earliest dates of use of the various perforations which would, by backtracking, establish an estimated time of shipment. The other would be a study of the 6c Type II to determine constant varieties and, if possible, plate the sheet. This probably would determine how the incorrect "Z" was eliminated.

The outstanding feature of this exhibit was the production of all the original records and printing instructions between the stamps' printers and the Newfoundland Post Office. Seldom do philatelists have this fortunate opportunity to know so thoroughly the intimate details concerned with postage stamps' production.

Mr. Pratt has prepared a lengthy paper about this Newfoundland issue that will be a future article in this magazine.

Awards Dinner

May 12, 1965

In the surprisingly few years since its inception, the Annual Awards Dinner of the Collectors Club has become a firmly entrenched institution. Add to that the happy thought to hold it at the Tavern-on-The-Green Restaurant in New York's Central Park and there is achieved a felicitous blending of a grand idea and magnificent surroundings.

The dinner, held this year on May 12th, followed a customary pattern. In the pre-dinner hour, the members enjoyed the usual refreshments plus sparkling conversation. For this occasion, the weatherman cooperated fully. The outdoor veranda made available for our convenience was surrounded by trees. On the lawns, dottings of early spring flowers mingled their fragrances in the evening air.

As in past years, the dinner served in a fine, private dining room adjoining the veranda was excellent, a compliment to our hosts. Then, all settled back to enjoy the festivities to come.

Mr. John J. Britt, who has achieved somewhat of a reputation as a philatelic master of ceremonies, opened the activities by introducing President Herbert P. Woodward, in turn, graciously welcomed the members and guests with a few short but entertaining remarks. Dean Woodward, it should be noted, is no stranger to the public podium.

The medal for the best program at the Collectors Club during 1964, previously voted to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, was entrusted to Mr. Bernard D. Harmer to be presented to that organization on the occasion of the return program to be presented by the Collectors Club in London at 41 Devonshire Place on June 17, 1965.

A Certificate of Honorable Mention for the second best program, awarded to the combined display of Canada by Mr. Vincent G. Greene and Dr. Clare

M. Jephcott, was given to Miss Ethel Harper for safekeeping.

The presentation of *the Collectors Club Philatelist medal for the best article published during 1964, Mr. Robert Hoffmann's "Uruguay, Plate Varieties of the 1861 Issue,"* was made by Vice President Philip Silver. This was also entrusted to Miss Harper for safekeeping.

Two Certificates of Honorable Mention for articles in the Collectors Club Philatelist were then presented, the first by Treasurer Albert H. Higgins to *Mr. Herbert H. Moll for "Peru, The 2 Centavos Llamita Stamp of 1873."* Mr. Moll had travelled several thousand miles from his home in Lima, Peru to accept his certificate in person. *The second Certificate of Honorable Mention for Mr. Robson Lowe's "United States, Blood's Penny Post"* was presented by our Secretary, Mr. F. Burton Sellers.

An added attraction for this "Awards Night" was the presentation of bound volumes of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for 1964 to the editor and members of the editorial committee. *Recipients in person or absentia were Editor Henry M. Goodkind and Messrs. Solomon Altmann, Ezra D. Cole, Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, Franc Ritter and Philip Silver.* In Mr. Goodkind's absence, the presentation of these volumes was made by Mr. Haverbeck.

Of course, the climax to any awards dinner is the presentation of the *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award for distinguished service to philately.* This, the major United States philatelic award, is always announced several months in advance, so the physical tender of the medal occasions no surprise. *For 1965, the recipient was Mr. Alvaro Bonilla Lara of Santiago, Chile.* Following a custom of many years, the medal was presented by *Mrs. Louise Boyd Dale,* Mr. Lichtenstein's daughter, herself a previous recipient. Mr. Bonilla had also travelled a sufficiently long distance from his home in Santiago, Chile to receive the medal in person. This, incidentaly, is the first time that the Lichtenstein Award had been voted to a South American philatelist. Mr. Bonilla's credentials for the award have been adequately recorded in the May number of this magazine, so no attempt will be made to enlarge on them here. But, it would be remiss not to record some of the things he said when he accepted the medal from Mrs. Dale. Because of the emotional impact of his words, we depart from the customary summary and quote his acceptance remarks in full:



(Left) Mr. Herbert H. Moll of Lima, Peru received from Mr. A. H. Higgins his Certificate of Honorable Mention for his article on "Peru. The 2 Centavos Damita Stamp of 1873."



Mrs. Louise Boyd Dale presenting the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award to Mr. Alvaro Bonilla Lara of Chile. (Photos by Boutrelle)

Mr. President, Mrs. Dale, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with the greatest emotion that I rise to thank you for the honor accorded to me this evening by The Collectors Club — THE ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN MEMORIAL AWARD — one of the highest prizes to which a philatelist can aspire and which was created as a tribute to one whose memory is so deeply respected.

I must also thank you most sincerely, Mrs. Dale, for the flattering words you have used in referring to me.

If on those occasions in our lives when we are honored and given distinctions, we were to make a careful examination of our hearts, I ought to be in a very humble frame of mind, with my head bowed and hardly daring to raise my eyes to meet those of the many eminent philatelists that fill this room. I ought to feel small, very small and insignificant and receive this award with trembling hands.

But as I must be sincere and spontaneous, I must confess, Mr. President, that I am intensely happy. My soul is so filled with joy that I can only smile at you, and everyone, and show my happiness undisguised. Thank you very much.

Two months have passed since that day in Santiago, a lovely morning at the end of summer, that I received a letter from the Collectors Club. By chance it was handed to me in the street and it was there that I opened it; I must admit that after reading the first paragraph I felt quite dizzy, and had to steady myself against a wall, so great was my emotion. As far as work was concerned that day was a lost one; my body was in my office but my spirit was here, in East thirty-fifth street, among my great and good friends of the Collectors Club. I found I could not even telephone the news to my wife; I could not find the proper words to express my feelings and had to wait until I arrived home to be able to tell her what I felt. If I have any regrets on this happy day, it is that my wife could not be here with me at this moment; she has been my loyalest ally in all my philatelic pleasures.

That morning my thoughts went back to 1956, the year of the FIPEX and to the session when Sir John Wilson received the Lichtenstein Award from the hands of Alfred Lichtenstein's own daughter, who in her own right was to receive it some years later. During the ceremony my attention was attracted not so much by the man who received the award but rather by the charming lady who made the presentation. That evening I felt as far away from the possibility of *my* receiving a similar honor, as I do now when I see a film showing astronauts preparing their incredible journeys — out of this world.

I find it difficult to adequately express my gratitude to the Board of the Collectors Club for this honor they have given me, an honor which many of my friends at home feel belongs, in part, to all Latin-American Philately. And as I do not know any other

expression in English with which to show my gratitude, I can only repeat, once more, Thank you.

And now a few words of explanation.

When General de Gaulle became Premier of France for the second time, he created a special medal in commemoration of services during the last war. Winston Churchill was invited to Paris to receive that medal and, when giving thanks, he made a speech in English, his closing words being:- "In the dark days of the war I usually spoke to you in *French,* but now I see no reason to continue causing you such suffering!"

You may be asking yourselves, if Bonilla-Lara knows Churchill's opinion on the matter of languages, why does he speak to us in English and not in his native tongue. The reason is that there is nothing more intimate, more personal, more distinctive of a nation than its language. It is what characterizes a people, it is part of them and to reach down to their soul one must speak to them in their own language, even though one's pronunciation is strange and ungrammatical, so that they can comprehend fully and grasp the sincerity of one's meaning.

I could have expressed my feelings in my own Spanish language and some one of my friends here could have translated for me. But that would have seemed like kissing a beautiful girl . . . through a pane of glass! I have preferred to speak to you in my incorrect English, but in this manner I hope you will all have appreciated my real feelings. It is like that kiss . . . but without the pane of glass.

Once again, muchas gracias.

The ceremonies were now over. Mr. Britt turned the meeting back to President Woodward. With a few well-chosen words, Dean Woodward closed the evening, one that, at least in this viewer's opinion, will be long remembered by all those present. *(Philip Silver)*

Sequel

Mr. Bonilla, before leaving to return to his home in Santiago, addressed a few words to the writer intended for the Board of Governors. These were written in Spanish with a request that they be translated into English. What follows is the writer's translation:

"My dear Felip Plata (Philip Silver),

"Tomorrow morning I must leave New York very early and I want to take leave of you and all the members of the Collectors Club. You will understand the reason I am writing to you: the desire to say it in Spanish in the most spontaneous way possible.

"I owe to the Board of the Collectors Club the greatest honor I have received in my philatelic life and perhaps in my entire life. You understand how great is my thanks and how sincere.

"I ask you to translate my words in all their intensity and emotion to all the members of the Board, those whom we call Directors in Spanish. I would have wanted to see each one of you but it was impossible. Therefore, I address myself and and entrust this mission to you which I hope you will discharge with deep affection.

"I have been informed that the 1966 Exhibition will not be held that year but rather in 1967. In either case, I will be prepared since I want to take that opportunity to return to this beautiful city; this time, I will be accompanied by my wife.

"Again, I reiterate my request and take leave of you as your sincere and affectionate friend."

Alvaro Bonilla Lara

The following have qualified for membership in The Collectors Club and have been duly elected by the Board of Governors:

5066 Capt. Edward J. Benchik, South Bend, Ind. Collects Czechoslovakia, Zululand, United States Possessions.
5067 George Popkin, New York, N. Y. Collects Italy, San Marino, Vatican.
5068 Roy V. Lockwood, Ridgewood, N. J. Collects West Indies, Colombia, Panama, United States, Turkey.
5069 Charles W. Deaton, Houston, Tex. Collects United States, Confederate States, Texas Postal History.
5070 Carl B. Whyte, Glenview, Ill. Collects Great Britain.
5071 James E. Monroe, Fort Lewis, Wash. Collects United States.
5072 Robert O. Lockman, West Bend, Wis. Collects United States, Zeppelins.
5073 Haydon E. LaNois, El Cajon, Calif. Collects Iceland, Greece, United States.
5074 J. Howard Rossbach, Bronx, N. Y. Collects United States and Possessions, United Nations, British America.
5075 Harold S. Smith, Schenectady, N. Y. Collects Feudatory Indian Native States.
5076 Louis K. Robbins, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects Manchoukuo, Estonia, United States.
5077 Roman H. Lienarz, Bainbridge Island, Wash. Collects Venezuela.
5078 Mitchell J. Vogel, Plainfield, Ind. Collects United States.
5079 Nicholas E. Ruiz, New York, N. Y. Collects Air Mail, Topical.
5080 Carl A. Cato, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. Collects United States, United Nations, Canal Zone, Canada, Scandinavia.
5081 Dr. Howard Harmon, Harrison, N. Y. Collects Confederate States, Australia.
5082 John G. Williams, Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y. Collects United States, Great Britain.
5083 F. H. Ames, Jr., Rawlings, Md. Collects Iceland, Cinderella, Air Mail.
5084 Rafael De Santis C., Valencia, Venezuela. Collects Venezuela Postal History, Egypt.
5085 Nathaniel Litt, New York, N. Y. Collects Germany, United States, Uruguay air mail.
5086 Martin Garfinkel, M.D., Yeadon, Penna. Collects Israel.
5087 Stanley Lawrence Stutman, D.D.S., Seaford, N. Y. Collects Laos, Roosevelt, Kennedy.
5088 Ernest F. Vilter, Milwaukee, Wis. Collects United States.
5089 Andrew S. Levitt, White Plains, N. Y. Collects United States.
5090 Elmer C. Betts, Jr., Hyattsville, Md. Collects Canada, Hong Kong, Ireland, Denmark.
5091 Jacob J. Greenwald, M.D., Wilmington, Del. Collects United States, Vatican, Israel.
5092 Robert D. Morris, Scotia, N. Y. Collects United States.
5093 H. Brunckerhoff MacCully, Ocean Grove, N. J.
5094 Bruce W. Hazelton, Cumberland Center, Me. Collects Maine Postal History, Scott #1 stamps of the World.
5095 Robert K. Herbst, Fargo, N. Dak. Collects Great Britain, British Commonwealth.
5096 Dudley Hilborn, New York, N. Y. Collects United States.
5097 A. R. Kleiner, London, England. Collects Poland, United States.
5098 Paul F. Berlin, M.D., Bay Shore, N. Y. Collects Revenues of the World, Medicine.

Haiti

A Postscript On The Black Handstamp Of Cap Haitien, 1889

By Samuel Dalsimer

In 1959 an article of mine appeared in this publication purporting to list all the known copies of a circular, black handstamp, applied to certain letters in Cap Haitien, Haiti, during the revolutionary period in 1889 (Fig. 1).

This black handstamp was applied as provisional postage, according to various authorities and the author's researches, during the short existence of a revolutioary government in the north of Haiti, called *La République Septrionale*. In all instances, except one, the town cancel was Cap Haitien, the capital of the north.

In that first article (COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST Vol. 38, No. 6 — November, 1959) 13 covers were listed as having come to the author's attention after rather diligent search.

The passage of time has had its usual clarifying effect. In the intervening five years, three "new" covers have been discovered, and also I found out that at least two in my original list had been misidentified.

Therefore, to make amends, a newer and revised list, hopefully more accurate, is offered. This time 15 covers in all are tabulated, with one "doubtful," making a possible 16. The list now follows:



Fig. 1

Copies Now Known To The Author

of Black, Circular Cap Haitien Handstamp of 1889

Source	*Circular Date Stamp (c. d. s.)*	*Address*	*Other Dating*
1. *The Philatelist,* (see Robson Lowe, August, 1939 Vol. 5, No. 11)	Cap Haitien, July 16, 1888	Paris	Not Shown
2. Author's Collection (Orig. Tows)	Cap Haitien, July 16, 1888	Messrs. Charles Delinors & Co., St. Thomas	Face: Ligne F, July (?) 16, 1889 Backstamp: St. Thomas, July 22, 1889

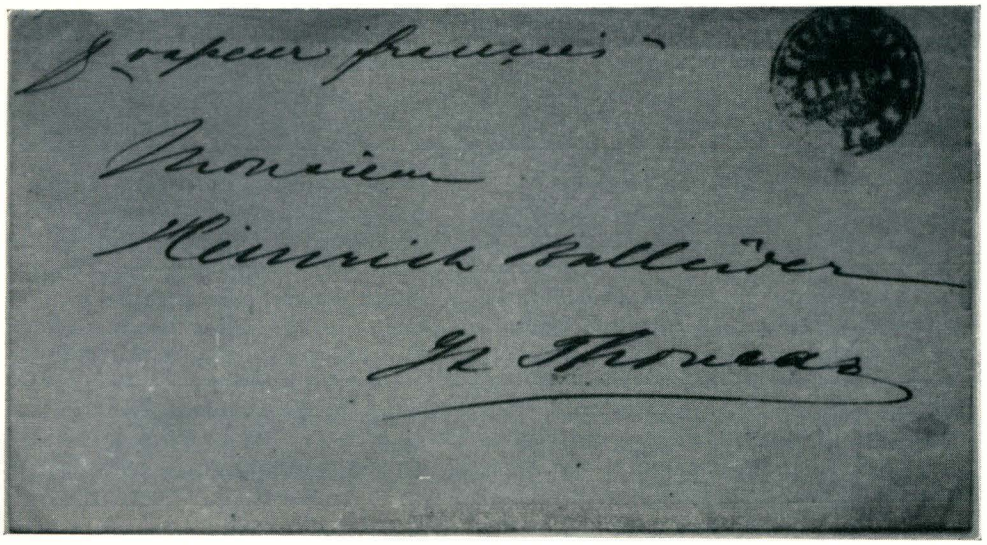


Fig. 2

3. Author's Collection	Cap Haitien, May 10, 1881	M. Cleo Fraser, Pta. Plata	None
4. Author's Collection	Cap Haitien, August 22, 1889	Madame Nicolas, couturière, Porta-Plata	Face: Purpose c. d. s., Puerto Plata, August 25, 1889
5. Tows Sale Catalog (also De Coppet)	Not Given	New York	Not honored by USPO U. S. J19 tied plus duplex "Due 10 cents"
6. Tows Sale Catalog	Description "Similar cover No. 5"	New York	Not Listed
7. *La Timbrologie Haitienne,* by Montes (p. 121)	Saint Marc, December 13, 1889	Monsieur I. C. Antoine, avocat, Port-au-Prince	Port-au-Prince December 14, 1889
8. Wolff Collection (probably mentioned in *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung,* June 3, 1909)	None	Monsieur Heinrich Ballüder, St. Thomas	None
9. Illustration in *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung,* June 3, 1909	Cap Haitien August 5, 1889 (upside down)	St. Thomas	Backstamp: August 10, 1889

10. Bass Collection (Double strike)	Cap Haitien 7 (?)/9/1888	Messrs. Jacob Walker & Co., Londres	Backstamps: 1. St. Thomas July 11, 1889 2. London, July 30, 1889
11. Bass Collection	Cap Haitien August 5, 1889	Heinr. Ballüder, Esq., St. Thomas	Backstamp: St. Thomas, August 10, 1889
12. Wolff Collection (almost identical to No. 11)	Cap Haitien August 5, 1889	Heinr. Ballüder, Esq., St. Thomas	Backstamp: St. Thomas, August 10, 1889
13. Author's Collection	Cap Haitien August 5, 1889	Heinr. Ballüder, Esq., St. Thomas	Backstamp: St. Thomas, August 10, 1889
14. Crouch articles in *Stamp Lover,* 1908-09	Cap Haitien August 5, 1889 (upside down)	Not Given	Not Given
15. Sellers' Collection	August 5, 1889	Heinr. Ballüder, Esq., St. Thomas	Backstamp: St. Thomas, August 8, 1889

Some comments may be in order concerning the difference between the 1959 list and this new one.

The Tows cover, listed as No. 6 in the previous article, is not included in the above list. This is due to the fact that not enough information is supplied to make sure that it is actually not one of the 1889 covers addressed to St. Thomas (Nos. 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15 in this article). It could, of course, be a 16th cover. However, until one can be sure, it will have to await further clarification in the list.

Nos. 11, 12, 13 and 15 are all almost identical. But small differences in the position of the handstamp, datestamp and handwriting distinguishes them from each other.

The new covers bearing this rather scarce mark, that have come to light, were furnished by Helmut Wolff of Caracas, Venezuela, and Max Bass of New York, N. Y. to whom the author expresses thanks. Mr. Wolff's unusual cover without any dating whatsoever, front or back, is shown (Fig. 2).

Again, the author invites other owners of covers with this Cap Haitien handstamp to communicate with him. If further new information is revealed, this will be offered later in another follow-up article on this interesting marking.

HONDURAS

(Continued from Page 214)

Next, over the following decade and a half came the various "Memorias," in which the Cabinet Ministers made their reports to the Assemblies. They contain some references to the mails, but were mostly reports of movements, and not about regulations or tariff changes.

(To Be Continued)

Book Reviews

Afghanistan. Its Twentieth Century Issues by Frank E. Patterson III. 208 pages 6½ x 9¾. Clothbound with dust cover. Very fully illustrated. The Collectors Club, New York, 1965. Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication. Price $7.50.

At the turn of the last century, Afghanistan was a popular choice among collectors. Plating was the leading study in those days and the early issues of Afghanistan provide a plater's paradise. They have always been "difficult" stamps though, and include many unobtainable rarities. As a result, modern stamp collectors have turned to easier fields, and the masses of multicolored pictorials and "plate number blocks" have stolen the thunder. Afghanistan has become a "Cinderella of Philately," and is "Caviare to the general."

One evidence of this is that the great study by Sir David Masson and B. Gordon Jones was published in 1908, and there has been nothing authoritative since. The only writings which have appeared are those published by The Postal History Society in England — the treatises on the First and Second Afghan Wars, by Colonel D. R. Martin, and various articles in *The Bulletin*.

Now the 57-year old gap has been filled by Frank E. Patterson III, with the fruition of his years of work, which first appeared as a serial in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and ran through fourteen issues of the journal, making it the longest article ever run in this magazine (Vol. 40 No. 6 to Vol. 43 No. 1). It rightly received the 1964 *Collector's Club Philatelist Medal* for excellence.

These fourteen instalments, with amendments and additions, now form the new book. All concerned — author, editor, printer, and publishers, deserve the thanks of the philatelic and postal history community, and this reviewer is proud to have played a small part in its genesis.

Of particular interest is the first chapter, which contains a mass of relevant information which I do not remember having seen in print before, and certainly not correlated into one chapter. Historical, geographical, the postal system, money, weights, calendars, Arabic inscriptions, and so on are admirably set forth.

The issues are dealt with one by one, from 1900 onwards together with their pictures. A chapter is devoted to postal stationery, which is particularly welcome, as nothing here has been listed before. The illustrations are clear throughout, though there is one exception which was reproduced from a negative photostat instead of from a photograph, and it happens to be "my own baby!"

There are fifteen pages devoted to the postal markings, and this is the first time such a chronicle has been attempted. The forged cancellations are mentioned, but more elaboration here would have been welcome, as they are rife. In my experience, 50% of the colored "batilas" are bad, together with *all* cancellations on the registration stamps, and *all* on the 1929 insurrection issue. The author says "Genuinely used copies are extremely scarce." I regard this as an understatement, and would say they do not exist! The large numbers seen, many on part covers, invariably were forged.

All in all, here is a book which deserves nothing but praise. The author has tackled a subject where he had to rely almost entirely on his own findings and research. There are no government archives in the country, and the Afghan Post Office does not appear to have any records. This is not surprising in view of the turbulent history of a country where few rulers have died in bed. His present Majesty, King Moh'd Zahir Shah, born in 1914, has already set up a record in this respect, as he has been on the throne since 1933. Long may be reign! *(Major Adrian E. Hopkins)*

Los Primeros Sellos de Chile (The First Stamps of Chile) 1853-1867 by Joaquin Galvez. 128 pages (7″ x 9″) with 14 color plates and 10 full-page black and white plating charts. Published and printed (1965) in Santiago de Chile. Foreword by Alvaro Bonilla Lara. Price $20.00.

This book is published in three languages — Spanish (pages 1 to 49), English (pages 53 to 82) and French (pages 85 to 118). The illustrations with Spanish captions are scattered throughout the 128 pages of the entire book.

The 1853-67 stamps of Chile almost from the time of their issuance have attracted the attention of many fine philatelists, not only in Chile, but also in England and the United States. In The Collectors Club library, one can find both monographs and articles (some in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST) on the classic stamps of Chile.

As most philatelic students know in the early years of stamp production, only a few countries such as the United States and Great Britain had the facilities and the know-how to print postage stamps. Printing presses were manufactured in only the more industrialized countries in Europe and America.

Therefore, for her very first stamps, Chile had to order stamps from abroad — in this case Perkins, Bacon & Co. England, as was true of many other countries. But national pride was strong and many countries preferred to print their postage stamps in their own country, as soon as practical.

This is what happened in Chile. After ordering the first postage stamps from England, Chile then imported plates from Perkins, Bacon & Co. and from these made her own printings with new inks and papers. Also, copying the original design of a bust portrait of Christopher Columbus, stamps were made in a local Santiago de Chile printery by lithography.

It seems that in the early years, only a few countries such as Great Britain and the United States had the ability to print stamps by line engraving. Outside of Mexico, domestic printings all were done by lithography in the Western Hemisphere.

A philatelic student of these classic stamps fully realizes the less advanced printing conditions existing in the 1850's and 1860's. The mixing of inks was not a uniform process, as it is now, and much work was done by candle and gaslight. Consequently, one is sure to find a myriad of different color shades and printing impressions.

Often, if the work was not satisfactory, it was not scrapped and redone, as now is the practice. Instead the plates were corrected and repaired. This has resulted in so many variations that the philatelic student has strained his eyes time and again searching for them. Furthermore, he records the degree of scarcity of each variation, as he proceeds in this work.

In THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST of March 1964, Mr. Joaquin Galvez offered a 6-page article on the early stamps of Chile with some new research. He correctly pointed out that the listings of these stamps in the standard postage stamp catalogues had been in existence without change for many years. These listings had been based mostly on pre-World War I studies and it was about time that a more modern student re-examined the long-existing knowledge.

This is exactly what Mr. Galvez has done in the new book. First, he has carefully studied all the past writings. He then decided which have stood the test to remain, or which ones should be either revised or completely disregarded.

In pursuing this work, the author has amassed an enromous amount of material. He has built one of the finest collections of Chile ever seen and, when exhibited abroad, it has won not only gold medals, but a grand award.

This book is a beautiful production, well printed and the fourteen color plates are outstanding for their faithful reproductions of the color of the stamps.

It makes all previous works on these stamps inferior in this respect.

The philatelic knowledge is carefully set forth. The book demonstrates the years of hard work on the part of the author. The presentation is thorough; both the stamps and postal uses are examined in detail.

The English language translation, however, is not always as clear as it should be. Often passages quoted from previous studies are not clearly delineated from the author's. This is not a serious fault. This reviewer sometimes had to reread a passage to gain the proper understanding.

As a result of his long and careful studies of much material, Mr. Galvez believes that complete revised listings in the Scott, Gibbons and Yvert & Tellier catalogues are called for, and he outlines exactly how it should be done.

Thus, here is a book full of new research. But the important question is — will this new information be accepted and will the old catalogue listings be changed?

Mr. Bonilla in his Foreword mentions this, and we quote him: "Of course, in his descriptions of stamps, his classification, his definitions of colours, his attributions of the sources of issues, he frequently expresses views at variance with the traditional ones. Is he always right? We do not know."

By "he," Alvaro Bonilla Lara, of course, refers to Mr. Galvez. But who knows if the author always is right? One of Chile's foremost philatelists does not know, nor have we heard of another specialist who corroborates all of Mr. Galvez's findings.

It seems to us that Mr. Galvez's research should be studied carefully by the catalogue editors. Also, other specialists of early Chile should do the same. Even if the concensus of opinion will be that Mr. Galvez was only 90% correct, then the greater part of his suggestions for catalogue revision should be accepted.

So much for the book's contents. It is one of the finest philatelic works that has ever come from South America. As said before, it is a beautiful production, both with the clear printing type and the illustrations. Offering the information in the three aforementioned languages also is a great asset. No one can feel not fully informed because of a language difficulty.

Finally, this is a book that every philatelic bibliophile will admire and want to add to his library. *(H. M. G)*

Stamps of Italy Used Abroad. Part Three; Dodecanese: Calymnos to Castellorizo. S. D. Tchilinghirian and Rag. R. Bernardelli. 79 pp., 15 pp. of illustrations, 2 maps, paper covers. Harris Publications, Ltd., 27 Maiden Lane, London, W.C.2, England. Price $6.00.

The introductory review of this new series of handbooks that appeared in the July 1964 COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST very adequately covered the basic objectives and competence of the authors. This reviewer can only add his praise for the series' scholarship and can personally vouch for the authors' persistence in searching for the facts, however obscure.

An example which readily comes to mind is the case of the history of the military campaigns in the Dodecanese during the Second World War. This is a very confused period which the official histories have yet to cover fully. Information on this subject was gathered from Greece, Italy, Great Britain, Germany, and the United States. This has been sought, not only from published sources, but from a wide range of collectors who possess this material.

The reader is immediately impressed by the wide scope possible in a collection of the postal history of these islands. There are Ottoman, Italian, and Greek periods, all fully discussed and illustrated. Castellorizo is a study in itself

with its ten different postal periods from March 1913 to April 1948. Certainly, no other work covers this small island so adequately.

Every conceivable aspect of postal history is treated; the stamps and postal stationery, post offices, cancellations, (genuine and counterfeit), valuations, forgeries, questionable issues, postal rates and the island's population. Valuations are given for stamps, covers and "philatelic" covers. Nothing seems lacking. Of special value is the part given on the Greek postal history of the region, information on which is sparse in any case and generally in Greek.

The pricing probably will surprise many readers and, if the Russian Used Abroad handbooks are any guide, present prices for this material soon will be floors. Material in many cases is exceedingly scarce. There is little doubt that this series will spur a number of collectors to enter this fascinating and hitherto little known area of collecting. *(Dr. Gordon H. Torrey)*

Jamaica: A Review of the Nation's Postal History and Postage by Alfred N. Johnson, A.P.S. 62 pages. Published by The American Philatelic Society, 1964. Illustrated. Price not stated.

In attempting to form a specialized collection, recourse must be made to previously published information. In many cases, unfortunately, the handbooks are out-of-print and the articles are so scattered, that an amalgamation of this information is difficult, if not impossible, for the interested collector. Mr. Johnson has consolidated much of the previously published literature into one handbook, providing a fine jumping-off place for the collector of Jamaica.

The postal history and postal markings are well covered, the latter copiously illustrated. Postal stationery and booklets are listed in detail.

In many instances, however, the adhesives are treated much too superficially. A definitive work should indicate dates of emission for all stamps, or if this is unknown, should report the earliest date known. The quantities printed should also be noted unless unknown. This data is lacking in many cases in this book. For example, the author states "over 32 million stamps of the penny value (1889) were printed during a period of approximately nine years . . ." but details as to dates and numbers are not provided.

This publication is profusely illustrated and typographically pleasing. The postal history and postal markings alone make this an asset for the collector of Jamaica. *(Howard Lee)*

Stampilele Postale folosite în Tările Romîne, pînă în anul 1881, by Gr. Racoviceanu. (Postmarks Used in The Romanian Principalities Until 1881). 114 pp. plus 1 map, with hard paper cover, profusely illustrated. Published by Editura Transporturilor Si Telecomunicatiilor, Bucuresti (1963). No price. (Editions in foreign languages: 425 copies plus 190).

The author is the 71-year-old Bucarest lawyer, Gr. Racoviceanu. He is a well known collector and authority not only in Romania's postal history, but also on that of the whole of Eastern Europe.

We must state from the start that the greatest merit of this author is to have given us a systematic picture of all cancellations and postmarks known so far. His initial historic chapter facilitates the understanding of later developments. He starts, with his account, around 1830. In a second chapter he lists the pre-philatelic postmarks (1852-1862) in both Principalities.

Then he tackles the classic issues and their cancellations, starting with the 1857-1862 period. Here are the first 15 Moldavian double-circle postmarks, with

the German spelling of the town name and the word "Moldova" at the bottom. The date is indicated by a fraction giving the day and month only. A very useful color table of cancellations listed helps the research worker and the expert. From this chapter, just as in Val. Tebeica's book, are missing the later postmarks (of 1859) from the three southern counties of Bessarabia — Bolgrad, Ismail and Kahul.

The same chapter lists and illustrates eighteen of the twenty-one Franco marks. These were made at the request of the Romanian postal officials, as the second issue Moldavia, just as the first one, carried the wrong inscription of Porto instead of Franco. These marks remained in use as late as 1866, although they are most common on the second issue of Moldavia. (The three missing are Franco/Kahul; Franco/Ismailu and Franco/Bolgrad). These marks are very picturesque because of their different shapes. They add greatly to the pleasure of collecting early Romania and also to the difficulties of sorting out the early and late dates used by the different post offices. Two little known octagonal marks of Jassy are illustrated and their relative rarity degree established.

With the next chapter (1862-1866), the history gets more complicated but Racoviceanu's guidance more valuable. The postmarks assume different shapes, ornaments and sizes. But for each there is a different classification along with a list of all known to the author within that class. With the development of postal services, after the union of the two Romanian Principalities, Wallachia and Moldavia, the number of county, district and rural post offices was increased. Each received its special canceller; some post offices were issued several. Each, in turn, was different, or had a distinct destination like those with the inscription "Dim" (short for "Dimineata" — meaning Morning) or "Sera" (the old spelling for "Seara" — meaning Evening). The mention of the year also appeared, first in 1869 in just one or two cancellers and then in almost all in 1870 and 1871.

A very useful chapter is that of the marks for Registration, Late Posting, PP, PD., FRANCO, starting with pre-philatelic ones and ending with those in use around 1881.

It would have been a better arrangement, if the author had inserted his chapter on the Rural Post immediately after the one on the disinfection marks, those used on "lettres chargées," by rail-ambulant-offices, railway-expeditions, river and military special offices. This chapter is much more sketchy and wants further elaboration (let us hope in a new edition), just as the one following — on Foreign Postal Services and Postal Facilities (French, Greek, Russian, Austrian, DDSG, Lloyd-Agency, Danube-Black-Sea Railway called English, when in fact it was Turkish), is far from complete.

Gr. Racoviceanu's book ends with the official documentation as to the forged postmarks found on some of Romania's classic stamps. It is a very interesting and supplementary documentation to the book of Val. Tebeica. Once more it establishes beyond a doubt that certain stamps (5 Par. broken frame, 6 Par. 1864) never reached a post office counter and that certain colors used by forgers were never used by the postal authorities.

In conclusion, we must underline the great merit of Mr. Racoviceanu's book, in spite of its very obvious shortcomings. He is the first to have attempted to put order in a great diversity of postmarks and cancellations. His classification is sufficiently elastic to now allow other people to complete his evidence. Actually, he would be were grateful if any marks or cancellations not listed by him are brought to his notice. Also, we should mention that an English translation of his work exists in manuscript, but that for the time being no publication date can be given for an English version, which at the same time would be a fuller revised edition. *(Dr. L. N. Cristea)*

Stanley Gibbons Elizabethan Postage Stamp Catalogue (1965). Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 301 Strand, London, W.C. 2. U. S. Agent: Mr. Jacob Habib, 154 Nassau Street, New York, New York, 10038. Price $2.80.

This "entirely new catalogue of the Elizabethan issues of the British Commonwealth" was issued to mark the Centenary of the first Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue. It covers all the Elizabethan issues of the British Commonwealth plus, following Gibbons Part I, those of Ireland and South Africa. Included also, as necessary to a complete picture, are certain stamps issued prior to, but used in Elizabeth's reign, such as those of the Australian regular postage issue of 1949-1957, not bearing the royal portrait.

This catalogue is new in its quotation of U. S. prices as well as British, in completeness of information and in format. Advertisements stress the feature of quoting prices in dollars and cents. The publisher must consider the value of this sufficient to warrant the expense of setting up and printing this item.

There is no doubt about the value of the added technical information. The description of the stamps is more detailed than in the *Two Reigns* catalogue. Shades have been added, especially those linked to particular printings and easily identified. Many hundreds of varieties are listed for the first time with excellent, useful cuts illustrating them, as well as illustrations of every stamp. Booklets and miniature sheets are recorded. Printings with dates, plate numbers, sheet sizes, imprints, quantities sold, dates of withdrawal and invalidation are given, in addition to the usual information about printer, type of printing, watermark and perforation.

Part I catalogue numbers are used with a special suffix when the Elizabethan has added shades. This is explained in the Notes on p. viii. At the beginning of each country is a brief note giving geographical location, governmental status and currency used. The volume lies perfectly flat when open making it a joy to use. Highly recommended. *(Pamela Taylor)*

Austrian Post Offices Abroad; Part Five, Greece, Crete, Aegean Islands and Macedonia, by S. D. Tchilinghirian and W. S. E. Stephen. 78 pages, profusely illustrated. Published by the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain, 94 High Street, Aberlour (Banffshire). Price: $4.50.

Another part, the fifth, of Messrs. Tchilinghirian and Stephen's excellent work on Austrian offices abroad, has made its appearance. This volume deals with what now is for the most part the Kingdom of Greece, but at one time consisted of different political entities.

As in the previous works, this part is liberally endowed with facts of history and postal history. Wherever pertinent, detailed studies of the stamps used in the sections covered, are included. Of special interest here, is the chapter on the stamps in French currency issued by Austria originally for its offices in Crete. It is refreshing to read a studious and truly informative discussion of these stamps, whose status, use and reason for issuing, is only too often presented in a vague or confusing manner.

Other chapters of unusual interest are those concerning mixed franking. Here the authors are very helpful in explaining how this term is often misapplied to covers bearing stamps of Greece together with stamps of other nations, where the former were used as postage dues.

Once again, a large part is devoted to postmarks, including the forgeries which so plague the collector. Not only post office markings, but those of the Austrian Lloyd and the Danube Shipping Company (D.D.S.G.), used in the

areas under discussion, are featured.

As was the case with its predecessors, the usefulness of this volume also is enhanced by countless clear illustrations, together with a map showing the locations of the Austrian post offices in the Aegean and the Balkans.

Thus, the authors have succeeded in maintaining the high quality of philatelic research which we have come to expect of them. *(Thomas G. Klein)*

Scott's Guide to Stamp Collecting by L. N. and M. Williams. (1963) Reprint 1965. Cornerstone Library, A Division of Pocket Books, Inc. 630 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, 10020. Price $1.00.

As the authors state, "General or introductory handbooks, of which this guidebook is an example, are legion." Of course, they do not say that this is one of the best.

L. N. and M. Williams of London, England are well known among philatelists as the writers of many excellent books and articles on philately. In this volume they select from their vast knowledge facts of interest and usefulness to a beginner. They start with a few words about the history of collecting stamps and the types of collecting, thus helping the novice to orient himself.

Then, they explain the relationship of philately and postal history clearly and without bias. The seven chapters following form the meat of the book for the aspiring collector.

Stamps are discussed from all angles: mint, used, on cover, condition; the handling of stamps, soaking, hinging, mounting; choosing and using an album; and the selection and use of tools, magnifying glasses, perforation guages and watermark detectors. They tell how to add to a collection through exchange, buying from dealers and at auction and through club sales books. They describe and explain how to use a catalog.

The interesting chapters on *Stamps Outside the Catalogues*, on *Rarities and Famous Finds* and on *Salvage and Investment* will intrigue the beginner. In *Clubs and Shows* and *Reading about Stamps* he is introduced to these important aspects of collecting. Finally, there are chapters on technicalities, technical terms and a stamp identifier, giving "the English equivalent or country of origin alongside the foreign name, initials, inscription or overprint."

It is extremely difficult to think of any point that should be mentioned in the education of a beginner that is not covered here. A few minor faults may be found, as the following. Some of the cuts are poorly reproduced. "*Proper* air conditioning is *good for* stamps." If stamps are soaked as illustrated with a lot of pieces of gluey paper in a little water in a small basin, a sticky film will be deposited on both sides of the stamps. Whenever plastics are mentioned in connection with stamps, there should be a warning about the kind of material. Thousands of mint stamps have been ruined by being "protected" by a harmful plastic. This Guidebook is truly outstanding and is highly recommended. A beginner, who reads it and follows its precepts with care, will be well started on the way to becoming a knowledgeable collector. *(Pamela Taylor)*

Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World, edited by Alexander D. Gage. Section 1, Aden to Azores. 1964, First Edition. 60 pages (30 looseleaf sheets). Published by and available from Higgins & Gage, Inc., 23 No. Santa Anita, Pasadena, Calif. $2.00.

After many hesitant steps and false starts, the first section of an English

language catalogue of the *Postal Stationery of the World* has made its appearance after a lapse of 50 years. This is very welcome news for collectors of this material. Up to now postal stationery collectors had to rely for most of their information and guidance on the new issue column of "Postal Stationery," the official organ of the United Postal Stationery Society; on specialized listings of a few countries and listings made of air mail stationery; on foreign catalogues, long out-of-print; and on German language listings of recent origin for European countries, A to F. The efforts of Mr. Gage are to bring together all the data required for the needs of the general collector.

As a departure from previous catalogues, "Postal Cards and Reply Cards" are given primary listing because of their popularity. The other listings of postal stationery are divided into seventeen categories, each of which is assigned a letter which prefixes a number given to a listed variety. For example, B17 would be an Envelope variety; H4, a Telegram variety; while 28, without a letter would be a postal card.

Descriptions for identifying the postal stationery items are brief and, in most cases, sufficiently clear. Where the identification of a later listing is based upon one or more earlier descriptions, some difficulty may be experienced. Under Austria, reference is made to nine different types of colorless seals embossed on the back flaps of envelopes, but these are not illustrated. This may not bother the general collector, but it will be unsatisfactory to the specialist.

Although this section of the catalogue is dated 1964, no listings are later than 1960. There are some omissions and inaccuracies, which do not interfere with the overriding usefulness and importance of this catalogue.

Although Austria issued Telegram forms, these were omitted. A specialized listing of Afghanistan, that very difficult country to collect, appeared in 1963 in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. In it are varieties of Letter Sheets and a Postal Card, 5 poul violet, Figure VI, which are not found in Mr. Gage's listing. However, one is bound to find some inaccuracies and omissions in a listing of such magnitude. What is remarkable is that there are so relatively few.

Mr. Gage asks for information and help from all collectors who could be of assistance. It is sincerely hoped that he gets the cooperation for which he is asking, so that the issue of future sections of this catalogue will be expedited. Mr. Gage is to be commended for taking on this necessary chore. *(Harold Gross)*

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Stone Engravers' Needles. Gift of Mr. Falk Finkelburg.

Stamps of Italy Used Abroad, Part III, by S. D. Tchilinghirian and Rag. R. Bernardelli. Harris Publications Limited, London, England. 1965. 80 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the authors.

Die Klassischen Markenausgaben von Ungarn by Dipl.-Ing. Otto G. Schaffling. Reprint from Der Sammler-Dienst. 16 pages. Illustrated. German text. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Greece: Large Hermes Heads Specialised Retail Catalogue. Edited and published by Daniel Sefton, Bethesda, Md. 1965. 23 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Duck Stamp Data by Edna N. Slater. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C. 1961. 32 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Albert Philip Cohen.

A Priced Catalogue of "Post-Independence" Indian Stamps. Compiled and published by Jal Cooper, Bombay, India. 1965. 30 pages. Illustrated. Paper bound. Gift of the author.

A Specialised Priced Catalogue of Indian Stamps. 1852-1964. Compiled and published by Jal Cooper, Bombay, India. 1965. 90 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue (circa 1920). Scott Stamp & Coin Co., New York, N. Y. Section specially bound with interleaving. Gift of Mr. Ernest A. Kehr.

The Pre-Stamp Postal Markings of Mexico by Otto Yag and John K. Bash. Published by the Elmhurst Philatelic Society. 1965. 153 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Gift of the Society.

50 Years of Australian Air Mails. Edited and published by H. N. Eustis, Dubbo, N.S.W. 1964. 16 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. B. R. Peace.

Japan's Pacific Occupation. Edited and published by Oceanic Australian Stamp Co., Kilkenny, South Australia. 24 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. B. R. Peace.

Cumulative Index to the Kiwi, Vols. I to XIII, Apr. 1952-Nov. 1962. Compiled by B. R. Peace. Gift of the author.

The Australian Air Mail Catalogue by H. N. Eustis. Review Publications Pty., Ltd., Dubbo, N.S.W. 1965. 63 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Frank E. Adams.

Catalogue of a Private Collection of Books on Philately and Postal History. Compiled and published by Alb. A. Kronenberg, Binningen, Switzerland. 1965. 92 pages. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. John R. Boker, Jr.

An Introduction to the Postal History, Postage Stamps and Postmarks of France 1849-1876, Vol. I, Part 3, by Wilfred Bentley. 16 pages. Paperbound. Gift of Mr. Robert G. Stone.

Palmares WIPA 1965 International Postage Stamp Exhibition. Gift of Mr. H. M. Goodkind.

Gifts were received also from:

Messrs. B. R. Peace, Paul P. Lindenberg, Solomon Altmann, Robert G. Stone, W. Kenneth Minuse, Sol Whitman and Dr. Oscar L. Winkelstein.

Purchased by the Library:

Perou Obliterations Postales de 1857 a 1873 by Georges Lamy et Jacques-Andre Rinck. Audin et Cie., Lyon, France. 1964. 235 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Text in French, English, German and Spanish.

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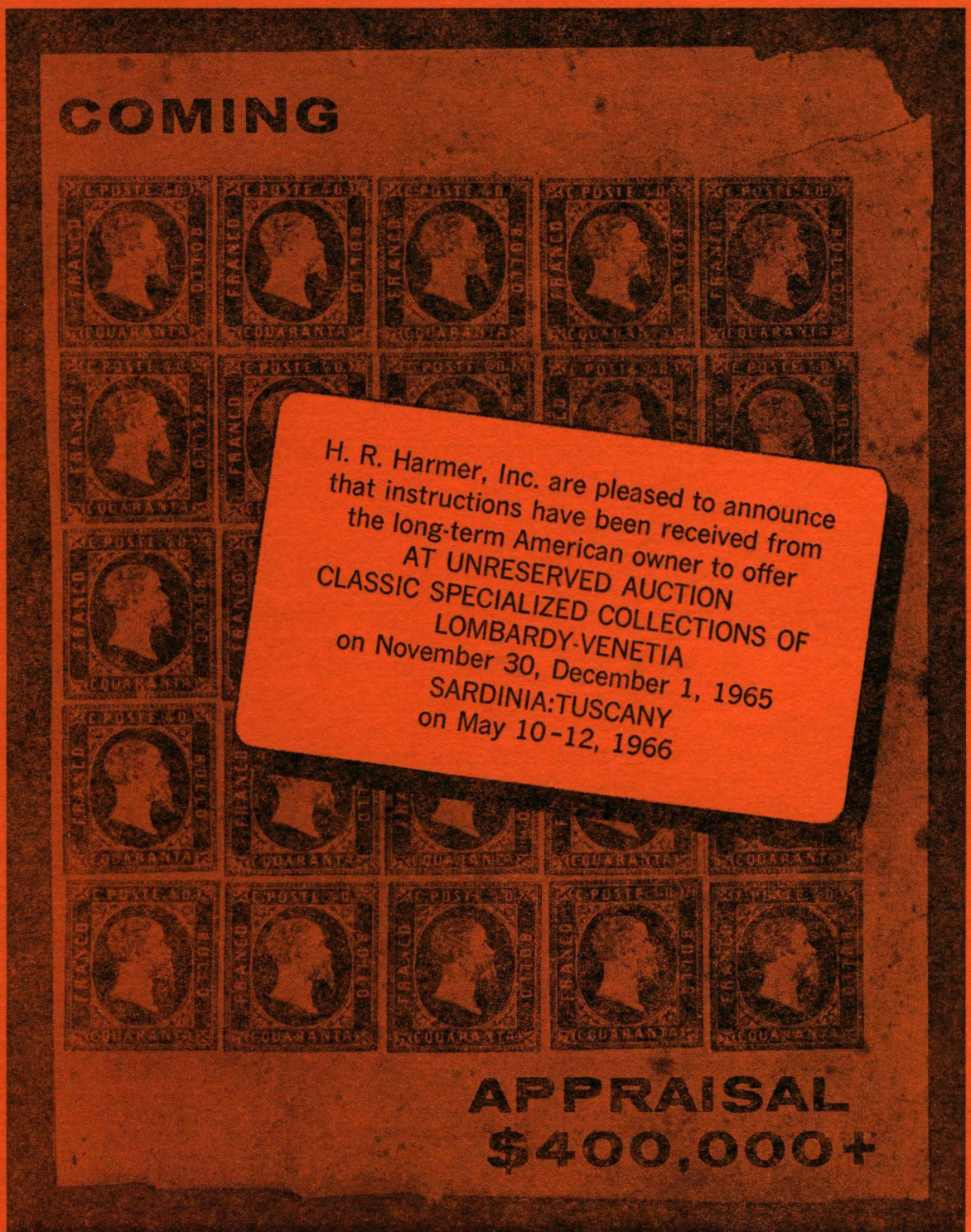
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