The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

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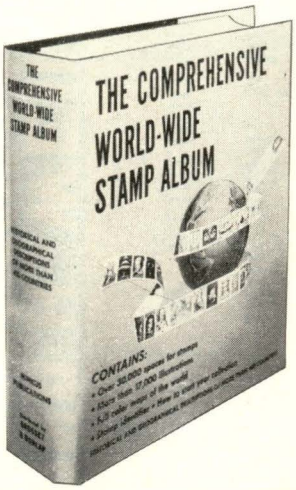
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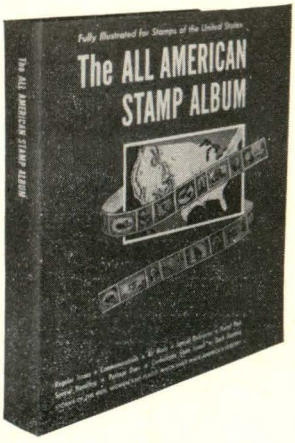
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The Collectors Club Philatelist

NOVEMBER 1952. Vol. XXXI, No. 6

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Material for the Library

One of the Collectors Club great assets is its library. It ranks as one of the greatest philatelic libraries in the world. Despite this topmost position, those who use our library know that it still lacks philatelic handbooks, periodicals and other journals, which should be in its bookcases.

This void can be overcome in an economical and simple manner.

The Collectors Club plays host to close to twenty Study Groups, who use our clubhouse for their regular meetings. In view of this hospitality, each Specialty Society could see to it that most all of the literature published annually in its own field be presented to the library.

For instance, the Collectors Club Library lacks many fine foreign publications, most of them having been published since the end of World War II. The France and Colonies Group could see that all literature it or its members receive during a year will find a place in the Club's Library. So could the Scandinavian Group, the German, Austria, Precancel, Air Mail and all the others. A cumulative result of this sort would work to the advantage not only of the Collectors Club, but to all collectors as they would find the reference material available in a central, accessible place.

"Additions to the Library" is a regular feature of this magazine, appearing under the section called "Clubhouse". Your attention is directed to that feature in this number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, where it will be noticed that one Study Group meeting here at the Club has given to the Library all the literature which it has received from all parts of the world within the last five years or so. It is hoped that other Groups might follow this practice. It can be done by a group or an individual.

H. M. G.

A Philatelic Connoisseur

In the last number of this magazine, it had been our sorrowful task to record the unexpected death of JOHN HUDSON HALL at the comparatively young age of 56. Space did not permit us to detail much about his career as a philatelist which was regrettable because it had been such an illustrious one.

A lengthy obituary could be written only about Mr. Hall's positions of leadership in the foremost philatelic organizations of this country such as a Governor and Trustee of the Collectors Club, Chairman of the Board

of Trustees and member of the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation, Vice President of the Association of Stamp Exhibitions. Suffice it to record that he had served all long and well. But a complete catalog of these will be omitted in order to describe Mr. Hall as a collector and student of stamps.

It seems proper at times to write about the individual collector in a magazine of record such as THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. Too often one read only generalization as "X was a great collector; Y was one of our foremost students; Z owned some of the finest collections". In reality each of us collects differently, making an interesting story.

John H. Hall throughout his lifetime had had the advantages of culture, gentility and a fine education. Therefore it seemed logical that he would collect as a connoisseur. Imbued with such high standards, he sought only stamps that were matchless copies, those called superb. This term is too often used in an exaggerated manner, because many lack the experience or discrimination to spot a philatelic gem. Mr. Hall had within that basic sense for the finest, which he proceeded to develop almost to a fine art.

Being such a dilletante, it was understandable that some would misunderstand this gift. Instead of admiring a connoisseur, some are wont to criticize such collectors of taste as "condition cranks" or "fuss buckets". In reality, the critics seem motivated by envy regretting that they lack this trait.

Many knew little about Mr. Hall as a collector of the early issues. To our knowledge, he never wrote one line about any stamps. Yet he collected and knew much about the United States Local and Carrier stamps, the first issues of our country and the classic stamps from all foreign countries especially Chile and Spain. Any one who talked with him or examined parts of his collections realized that he was a true connoisseur of antique stamps. When he was inspecting imperforate varieties, his eyes sparkled as a very fine, fresh copy with wide margins all around was discovered. His joy, when seeing superb multiple pieces, was equal to that of a youngster on Christmas morning. And this admiration was not only for his own stamps but those in other collections.

We would like to relate one personal experience. It happened during the 1947 International Exhibition in New York, when serving together on the International Jury, John Hall made a few judges walk with him across the entire length of Grand Central Palace just to inspect one copy of a classic stamp in a frame. He stood before it with great admiration just as one does in a museum with a work of art.

With his fine artistic sense and educational background, Mr. Hall's mind became a veritable index of the finest material in the classic period. He could quote with "chapter and verse" the pedigree of most all the leading items, knowing when and where they were found and the owners over the years. Looking about now that John is no longer with us, we find very few others who had cultivated such an intimate and accurate knowledge.

In addition to his deep interest in philately, Mr. Hall was a student of art and an admirer of classical music. He seldom mentioned these in philatelic circles except to a few close friends. For some years and up to the time of his death, he had been a member of the Board of famous Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington, D. C. and the Fogg Museum at Harvard University, his alma mater. He knew fine wines, and when he had enjoyed what he considered a wonderful vintage, he removed the label from the bottle so that he could show it to those whom he believed also would appreciate it. That was so typical. John Hall wanted others to share with him those pleasures whether it was stamps, wines, paintings or music.

He protested frequently that he had little time to devote to the organizational end of philately. Yet when an important meeting was called, John H. Hall was present, always punctual and ready to work. In addition he could be numbered among the more generous contributors if any financing was needed.

Many in philately who had worked with and knew John H. Hall think that he was the type who deserved the title—a gentleman and a scholar. Ponder a moment this combination. Philately has had many great

(Continued on Page 314.)

The Stamps and Postal History of

BERGEDORF

By JOHN R. BOKER JR.

Introduction

During its short philatelic history, the small (ninety square kilometers) Bergedorf area in northwest Germany, consisting of the City of Bergedorf plus a few surrounding townships, had been the joint property of the Free Cities of Hamburg and Lubeck, until, on August 8, 1867, it became through purchase the sole property of Hamburg. The Bergedorf coat-of-arms, the vertically bisected "Eagle of Lubeck" and "Castle of Hamburg," which formed the central design of its single stamp issue, evidenced this joint ownership. At that time, the population of the area was a scant 13,000, that of the city of Bergedorf proper, 3,000 inhabitants.

It would appear from the extensive philatelic literature on the subject, that all about the postal history of Bergedorf is known. The original postal regulations detailing everything down to the correct behaviour of the individual letter carrier have been preserved. The names and occupations of all the postmasters and post-mistresses are on record. Bergedorf has been the subject of intensive philatelic study, and yet, certain rather vital questions, particularly with respect to the use of the stamps of other postal administrations in Bergedorf, especially those of Hamburg and Prussia, remain only partly solved.

Postmarks of the Pre-Stamp Period

As an aftermath of the Napoleonic campaigns, the early postmarks of Bergedorf show a French influence, noticeable in the spelling "Bergedorff" with two "f's". The Bergedorf postal system began its independent operation on April 1, 1847. All of these postmarks, as well as an early straight line postmark of about 1840, have been well discussed in an article by C. Ott which appeared in Hennig's "Philatelistische Mitteilungen" in 1926.



Fig. 1 One of the three known used blocks of the ½ sch. black on light blue.



Fig. 2 One of the two known used blocks of the 1 sch. black on white.

After 1847, several straight line postmarks were introduced:

1. Three-line, unframed straight line postmark: "Bergedorf, Month, Day." Earliest known date: Feb. 28, (1848.)

2. Two-line, unframed straight line postmark: "Bergedorf, Month, Day." Earliest known date: Feb. 8, (1848.)

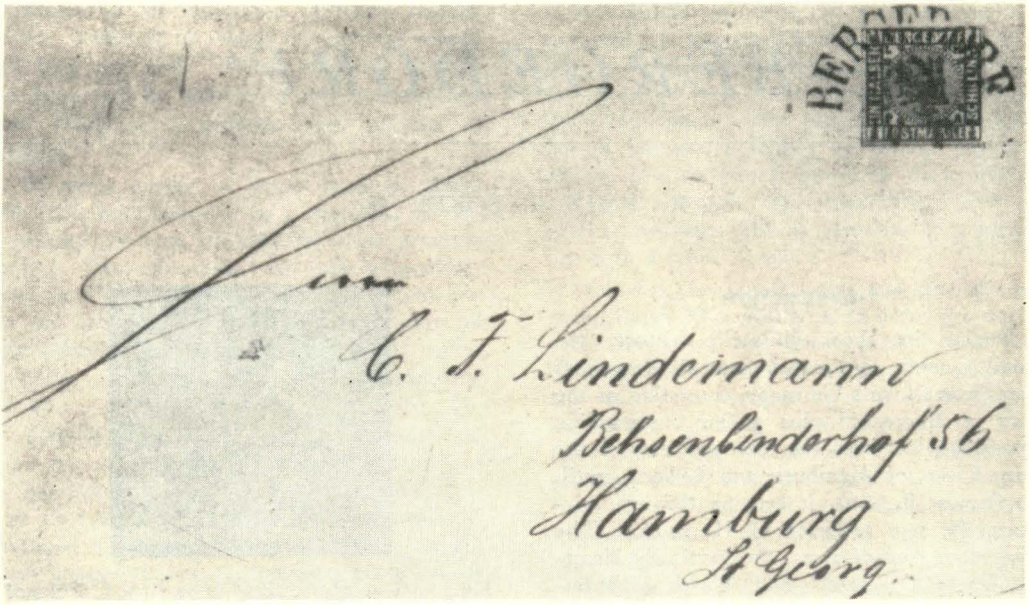


Fig. 3 ½ sch. black on light blue tied to cover with Town cancellation, possibly the nicest single franking with this stamp.

Apparently these were used concurrently as receiving marks from April 1, 1847 on. Postmark 2 was cut down to a one-line mark at a much later date and is reported to have been in use until 1895.

As noted above, (postmark 2) has Bergedorf spelled with two "f's". This Bergedorff spelling is found also in the well-known half-circle postmark, used very occasionally during the stamp period as a cancellation. According to Dr. A. Werner, this half-circle postmark exists in the following colors:

Bergedorff—grayish black from February, 1852 to early 1853
Bergedorff—red from early 1853 to July, 1854
Bergedorf—gray black from July, 1854 to August, 1855
Bergedorf—bluish from August, 1855 to the end of 1855
Bergedorf—gray black from 1856 to April 1868.

(*Note:* Occasionally during the 1854 to 1868 period the postmark (also cancellation) is found in a deep oily black. This is scarce.)

The use of stamps to frank letters was never compulsory in Bergedorf, so that many more letters were mailed without stamps than with them. Therefore, Bergedorf stampless covers are of especial interest, not only because it is essential to study them for the purpose of completing our knowledge of the postal history of the area, but because so many of the stampless letters of the 1861 to 1867 period have been used to forge "Bergedorf on cover". Bergedorf covers are rare. But "plausible" fake covers are found with genuine postmarks, genuine stamps, but forged cancellations.

The double circle "Geesthacht" and date postmark also falls into the pre-stamp period since it was first used in October, 1853. It occurs in various colors of ink; grayish black, bluish, greenish, and red, being used throughout the stamp period as well. It is frequently found in conjunction with the "BLPA" box (see below) and the Bergedorf half-circle postmark.

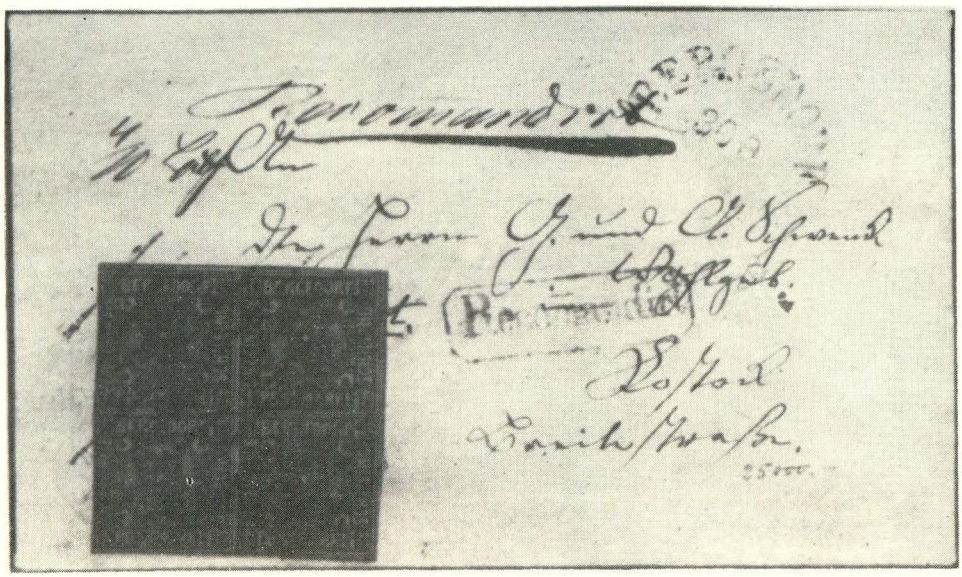


Fig. 4 The only known used block of the 1½ sch. black on yellow

Postmarks & Cancellations of the Stamp Period

During the 1861 to 1867 stamp period, it should be emphasized that the half-circle "Bergedorf" postmark (with the single final "f" as altered in 1854) was used *primarily* as a postmark, it was not intended as a cancellation. Therefore, stamps cancelled by it *alone,* and not where a stamp already cancelled was accidentally touched by its application to the cover—are rare. The following are known:

½ sch. blue—several singles, one single on cover
1 sch. white—several singles
1½ sch. yellow—two singles
3 sch. blue on rose—one single on piece, one single on cover
4 sch. brown—one horizontal pair on piece.

Concurrently with the introduction of stamps on November 1, 1861, the Bergedorf Main Post Office (located in the Railway Station in Bergedorf) was provided with a stamp *cancelling device.* This was a metal handstamp having five nearly parallel lines, each line approximately 19 mm. long, and ¼ plus mm. thick, the overall height from bottom to top line being 16½ mm. This device was in use *only* during the stamp period, from November 1, 1861 to December 31, 1867. At one time, philatelists believed that two similar devices had been in use during this period, since the appearance of known genuine cancellations frequently was quite different. This increased the difficulty of expertization. However, later research (initiated by Krotszch and confirmed by Werner), and the examination of many covers has shown conclusively that there was *only one device,* which had gone through four general changes in appearance. These changes resulted from ink incrustations on and subsequent cleanings of the metal face of the device—as follows:

1. Thin, almost straight, solid bars.
2. Thin, almost straight, solid bars, one outside bar much heavier, producing a thick smeary print.
3. Heavy, somewhat smudgy bars, all of about equal thickness.
4. Thin bars, showing small breaks in some of the bars, the ends of the outside bars being slightly curved inward, this curving having developed throughout the life of the device. This bar cancellation was fre-

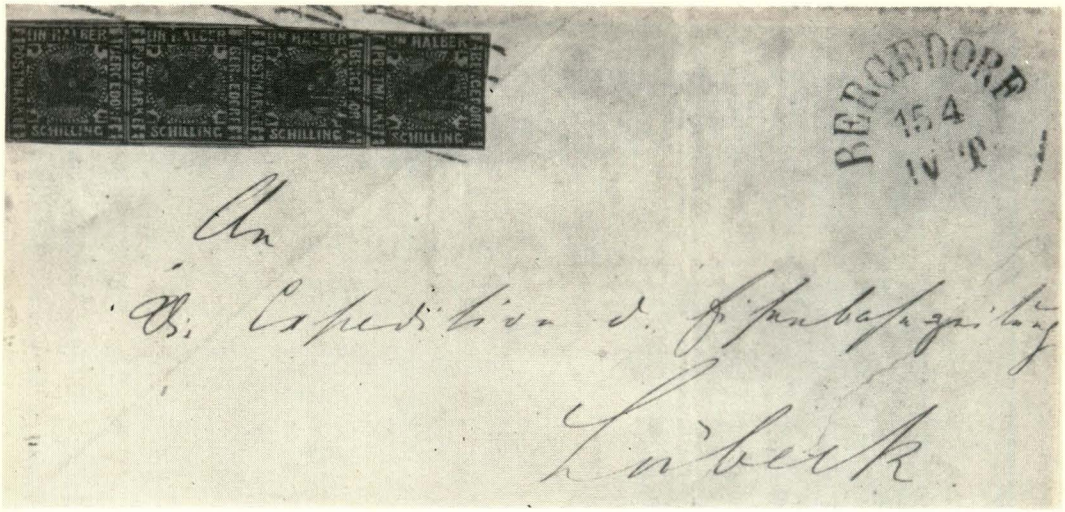


Fig. 5 Vertical strip of four of the ½ sch. black on light blue.

quently applied twice to each stamp, often crossways.

Geesthacht, a small town located only a few miles due east of the city of Bergedorf, was made a "Post-Expedition" in the Bergedorf postal system at the beginning of 1856, using (see above) a double circle town postmark. This postmark was used as a cancellation as well, but is never found on the stamps of Bergedorf itself. (A previously recorded 1½ sch. yellow on piece with this cancellation as illustrated in Hennig's "Philatelistisch Mittleilungan" in 1926 has been proven to be a forgery as noted in Michel "Deutschland Spezialkatalog" 1938). The explanation of this lies in the probable supposition that Bergedorf stamps were never on sale in Geesthacht, but only in the Bergedorf Main Post Office and, after 1866, in Kirchwerder—but only certain denominations, excluding the 3 sch. and possibly the ½ sch.

In any event, "Geesthacht" exists as a cancellation on the Hamburg 2 sch. red perforated (Scott No. 15) off cover, probably cancelled on arrival. It is also known on various Schleswig-Holstein stamps probably originating on letters mailed from Geesthacht, as follows:

Scott No. 8 1¼s green "Herzoth-Schleswig"
Scott No. 18 1¼s blue and rose, rouletted
Scott No. 11a 1¼s gray lilac "Herzoth-Schleswig"
Scott No. 20 1¼s red lilac "Herzoth-Holstein". (Used as pairs or as two singles on piece in all five known instances)

All of these, except No. 20 of which ten copies (including pairs) have been recorded, are rare.

Kirchwerder, a small town situated about five miles due south of the city of Bergedorf, was created a "Post-Expedition" on September 16, 1866, to maintain one daily mail delivery with Winsen a.d. Luhe in neighboring Hanover. As a postmark found on stampless covers (which are very scarce) it employed a single circle town marking always found in a brilliant blue ink. As a cancellation, it is known on the following Bergedorf stamps:

1 sch. white (approx. four copies known)
1½ sch. yellow (unique)
4 sch. brown (approx. three copies known)

None are known on cover. The ½ sch. dark blue offered as Lot No. 1177 (illustrated) 52nd Köhler Auction (1928) on a small piece, has been declared to be a forgery. It is believed possible that a ½ sch. dark blue exists with this cancellation, but so far only this declared forgery has been reported.

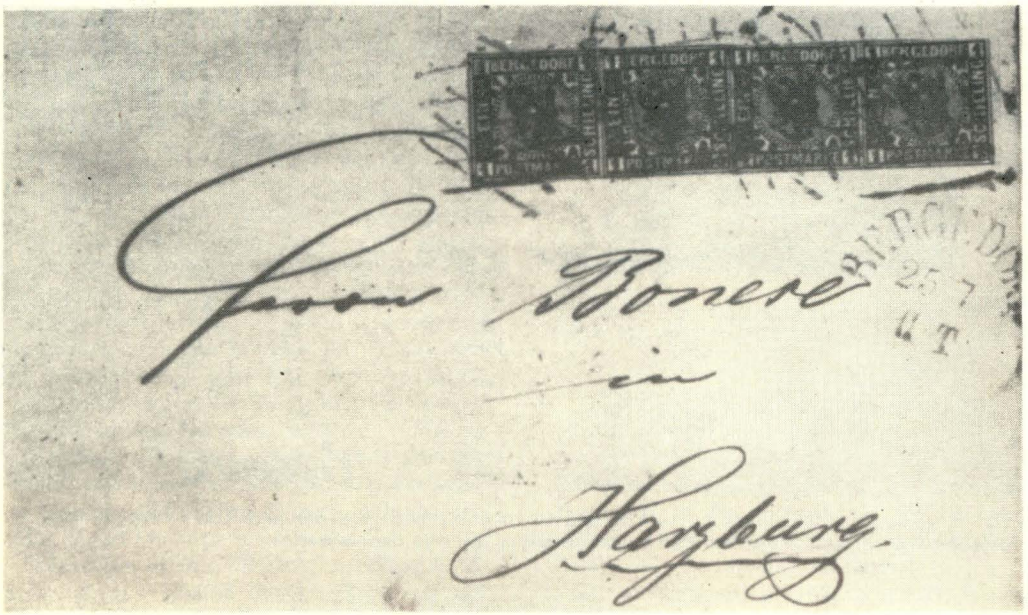


Fig. 6 Horizontal strip of four of the 1 sch. black on white.

In addition to these stamps, the following are also known with the Kirchwerder town cancellation, all on cover:

Schleswig-Holstein No. 11 1¼ sch. red lilac "Herzoth-Schleswig"

Hamburg No. 19 1½ sch. rose rouletted

Hamburg ½ sch. black entire envelope. (Three copies are reported. The Michel "Deutschland Spezial Katalog" states only ~~one is known.~~)

Zollenspieker, a little hamlet, barely three-quarters of a mile south of Kirchwerder, and right on the Hanover border, is also reported to have been made a "Post-Expedition" on September 16, *1866*, to maintain direct daily mail delivery with Winsen a.d. Luhe. It is believed never to have used a postmark (or canceller) and that the order creating it a "Post-Expedition" has been misread. From a postal point of view it is believed that it should be regarded as a part of Kirchwerder. The only known piece of mail addressed to Zollenspieker during this period is a Hamburg Postal Money Order, franked with a Hamburg 3 sch. blue perforated adhesive stamp, made out to: "Herrn. Dr. med. Grapel in Zollenspieker". The stipulated 50 Mark was paid out in Kirchwerder on January 12, *1867*, and the Money Order is so backstamped with the Kirchwerder town mark. (Note: This important postal history item was known and treated extensively by Krötzsch in his Handbook, but was sold unnoticed as such in a 1950 Grobe auction in Hanover).

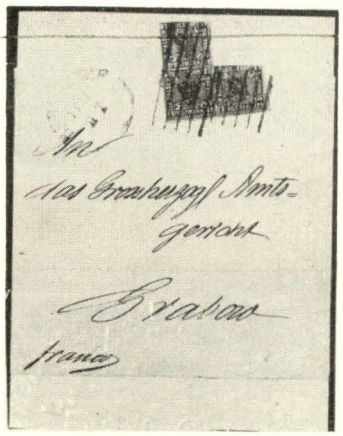


Fig. 7 A block of three of the ½ sch. black on light blue tied to wrapper, believed to be unique.

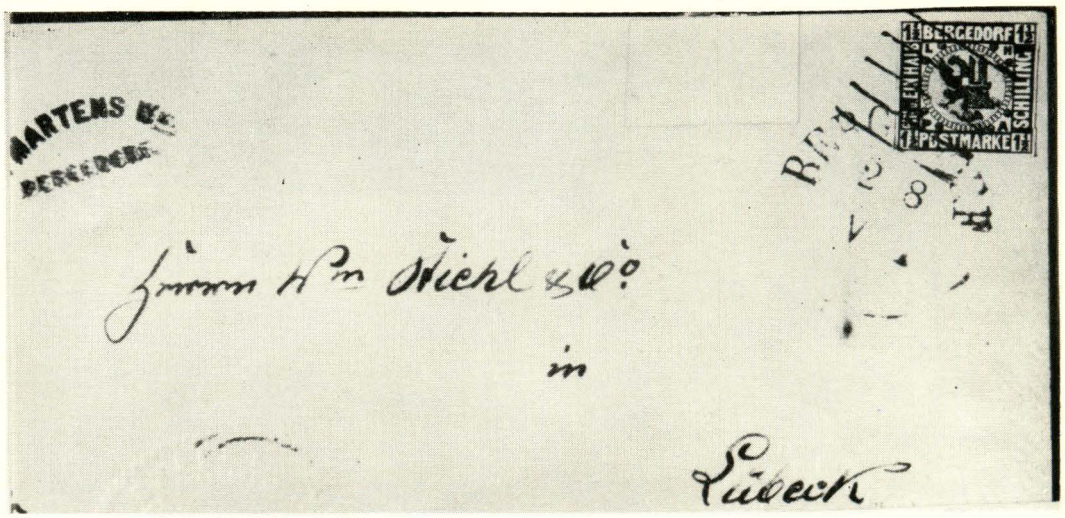


Fig. 8 The 1½ sch. black on yellow tied to cover by both the Bar and Town cancellation, probably the nicest singly franked cover known with this denomination.

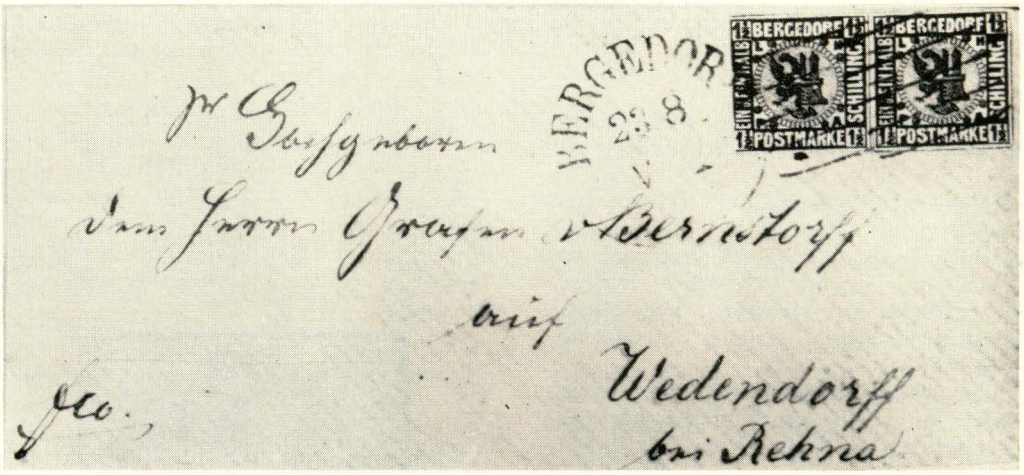


Fig. 9 Horizontal pair of the 1½ sch. black on yellow tied to cover, the finer of the two known horizontal pairs on cover.

Unique as a cancellation on Bergedorf stamps is a 3 sch. blue on rose on cover cancelled with the *blue* Prussian "Hamburg-Berlin" railway marking. This is undoubtedly a cover that either escaped cancellation in the Bergedorf post office or was handed in directly to the trains just prior to departure, but in either event was cancelled in the railway mail car.

Various additional postal markings are known to have been used during the stamp period, but no other cancellations.

"BLPA"—this postal marking is a 27 mm. wide and 11¼ mm. high clipped corner rectangular double lined box, containing only the letters "B.L.P.A.", meaning "Bergedorf-Land-Post-Amt." It was applied in the city of Bergedorf post office to letters originat-

ing in the Bergedorf area, outside of the town proper, and not by-passing the Bergedorf post office as was possible in Geesthacht and later Kirchwerder. It is often found on stampless covers, as well as a few covers with Bergedorf stamps, almost exclusively those with a ½ sch. or 1 sch. (or two ½ sch. stamps) franking. One cover with the ½ sch. yellow stamp and this marking is known. It is also known on *several* ½ sch. black Hamburg entire envelopes (important as supporting the contention that these were on sale as the postal stationery *of* Bergedorf). In one instance only it is known on a Hanover 1 sch. rose entire envelope which also shows the Bergedorf half-circle; likewise in one instance on a cover bearing a Hamburg ½ sch. black perforated adhesive stamp, this stamp, however, being cancelled on arrival in Hamburg (1867) with the circular blue Hamburg town mark.

The color of this "BLPA" marking is almost always grayish black—in a few instances, deep black. As an additional (fortuitous) cancellation, where it accidentally hit the stamp in being applied to the cover, this exists on the Bergedorf 1 sch. black and 1½ sch. yellow off cover and on piece.



Fig. 10 The only known 3 sch. blue on rose with Town cancellation on a piece.

"B.A.P."—This postal marking consists of the letters B.A.P. in a single lined oval, always in gray black, and so far known only on stampless covers addressed to Geesthacht and Bergedorf in the approximate 1844 to 1846 period. It probably means "Bergedorf-Amts-Post" and was applied in Bergedorf, but its exact implication is unknown. It is also possible that "B.A.P." means "Bergedorfer Alzugs Porto" which would make it a "postage collect" marking.

"Aus Vierlanden" — This postal marking consists of the words "Aus Vierlanden" ar-

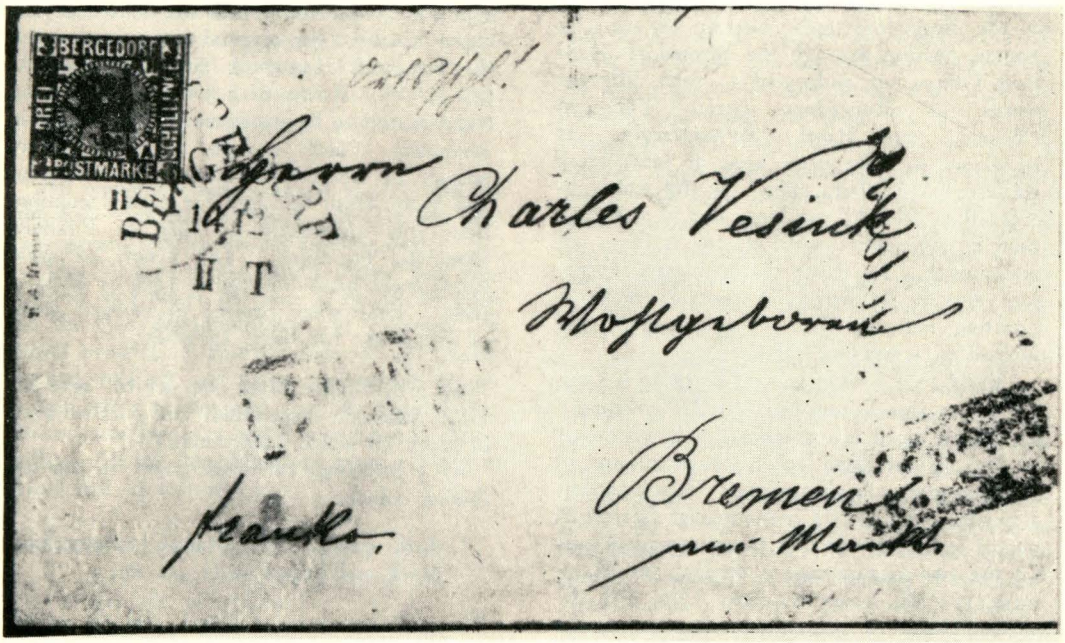


Fig. 11 The only known 3 sch. blue on rose tied to a cover with Town cancellation.

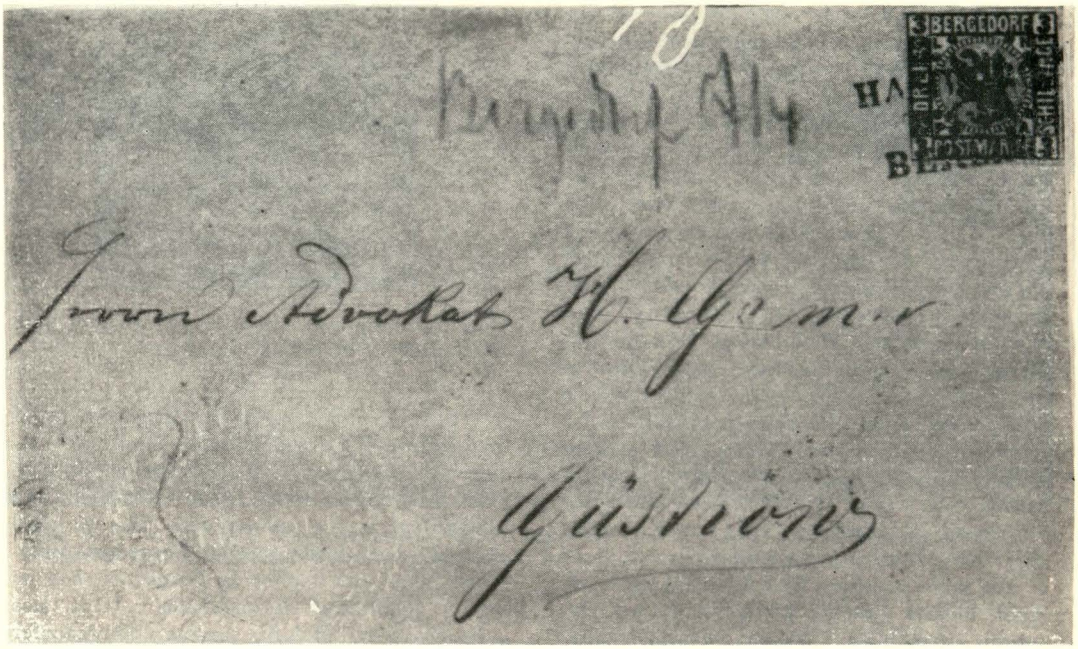


Fig. 12 The 3 sch. blue on rose tied to a cover by the blue "Hamburg-Berlin" railroad cancellation, a unique piece, also a very fine copy of the stamp.

ranged in two lines in a large single-lined oval, always in gray black. It is so far known only on stampless covers, originating in the Bergedorf area, outside of the city proper, passing through the Bergedorf Main Post Office, but addressed to such different places as Bergedorf itself, Tubingen (Wurt)., and Basel (Switzerland). It is known to have been used at least from August to October, 1866. It did not supplant the "BLPA" marking, nor is it known used in conjunction with it, nor is it an arrival mark. Its exact status is still uncertain, but it is possibly a central office accounting marking for unfranked mail paid in cash to a sub-post office.

"Kw.L.P.A."—This postal marking is similar to the above described "BLPA" rectangular double lined box marking, and exists only in the bright blue color characteristic of Kirchwerder. It abbreviates: "Kirchwerder-Land-Post-Amt." It is the rarest Bergedorf postal marking and has been recorded only on the two known covers bearing the Hamburg 1½ sch. rose rouletted (No. 19) described below. It undoubtedly served the same purpose to Kirchwerder as the "BLPA" marking did to Bergedorf.

Essays

In June 1859, the Bergedorf Postmaster, Paalzow, requested permission to secure adhesive stamps (the original letter reproduced in "Krotszch Handbook der Post". Vol. 4 pp. 33/35). Essays of a 3 sch. denomination were caused to be produced by Ch. Fuchs in Hamburg. Oddly enough, the main characteristic of Bergedorf stamps of a different size from small to large for each denomination, was apparently an idea of Paalzow from the beginning. The proofs of these essays were available late in 1859 or early in 1860. They were printed in vertical strips of five in the following varieties:

a) 3 Schillinge black on white, reversed (i. e. numbers, inscriptions and coat of arms in black on white background).

b) 3 Schillinge on white paper, in the following colors:

dark green, red, orange, ultramarine, black and brown.

These designs were rejected, and the proofs of them, while not common, are fairly readily available, particularly in Germany.

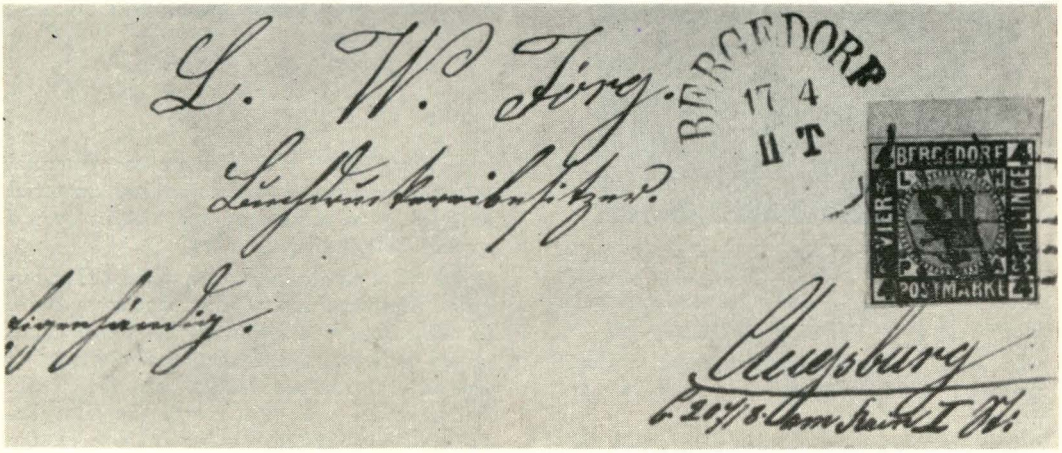


Fig. 13 4 sch. black on brown tied to cover believed to be the finest copy of this stamp; known on cover.

Proofs

In the spring of 1861, the design for the stamps was chosen. It was first thought that white paper would be used. Proofs of the chosen design were drawn from transfer blocks in the following arrangements:

½ sch. 12 subjects arranged 2 horz. x 6 vert.
1 sch. 10 subjects arranged 2 horz. x 5 vert.
1½ sch. 12 subjects arranged 2 horz. x 6 vert.
3 sch. 10 subjects arranged 5 horz. x 2 vert.
4 sch. 8 subjects arranged 4 horz. x 2 vert.

All denominations exist, on white paper, in the following colors: black, ultramarine, yellow green, reddish brown and carmine.

The idea of using white paper was discarded, and paper of color differing for each of the five denominations was selected. A proof printing on colored paper in full sheets in the size of and from the actual plates, which were to be used for the about-to-be-issued stamps, was made sometime in June, 1861. All the denominations were printed in *black ink*, as follows:

½ sch. on light lilac paper
1 sch. on white
1½ sch. on yellow
3 sch. on dark rose
4 sch. on brown salmon

Because of a misinterpretation of the meaning in an exchange of correspondence between the Bergedorf Postmaster, Paalzow, and J. B. Moens, a contemporaneous stamp dealer, some catalogues, notably Scott, erroneously list the ½ sch. black on light lilac and the 3 sch. black on dark rose as issued stamps. The evidence points unmistakably to the fact that they are merely *plate proofs* and at the same time *paper samples*. They come in black ink on colored paper (the ½ sch. paper color was changed to blue, the 3 sch. ink color to blue for the issued stamps). All the plate proofs are on a thicker, more nicely finished and better grade paper. In fact, since the plates were made and approved on the basis of the proofs of the essays on white paper, this second set of plate proofs were of an essay nature intended to show how the finished stamps would look on colored paper.

The quantity of these plate (paper essay) proofs in black on colored paper still in existence is problematical. *At least* one full sheet of each of the ½ sch. and 3 sch. still existed in a European dealer's stock as of July, 1950. At least one full sheet (not pane, see below) of each was submitted to Paalzow at the time. It is known that a supply was sent to the Lubeck Postal Administration (from Paalzow's sheets?). Probably some were sent to the Hamburg Postal Administration, but this is not record-



Fig. 14 Horizontal pair of the 4 sch. black on brown. This is tied to a small piece of cover by the Town cancellation, believed to be unique.

ed. It is probable, however, that at least two full sheets of each denomination were printed.

The approximate quantities of each denomination definitely counted and, therefore, in philatelic hands is as follows:

½ sch.	300+
1 sch.	68++
1½ sch.	85++
3 sch.	240+
4 sch.	38+

(*Note:* The "+'s" indicate the potential believed uncounted based on the material that has been offered on the market over a considerable period of years.)

All of these proofs were furnished gummed. Despite the possibility that many more of these proofs exist than the above count would indicate, the 1 sch. and 1½ sch. in tête-bêche pairs and blocks, and the 4 sch. denomination are quite rare, the first because of the limited number in a sheet, the latter because of the small number of subjects in the sheet.

The Issued Stamps

a. Mint

The five denominations of ½, 1, 1½, 3 and 4 Schilling which comprised the definitive issue, were issued on November 1, 1861. They remained current until December 30, 1867 when they were replaced by the stamps of the North German Postal District. The stamps were lithographed in Hamburg. The following is a list of the quantities issued, together with the remainders as estimated by Krotzsch:

Denomination	*Issue*	*Remainder*
½ sch. blue	200,000 (160,000 blue	(43,000 blue
	(40,000 dark blue	(10,000 dark blue
1 sch. white	90,000	40,000
1½ sch. yellow	100,000	75,000
3 sch. blue on rose	80,000	64,000
4 sch. brown	80,000	64,000

It is possible that the quantity given for the ½ sch. on dark blue is too high, and that the issue was about 15,000 at most. The dark blue color actually represents a separate issue, because it was printed from a newly prepared stone in 1867(?). *(See Note).*

Note: ½ sch. on dark blue.

The statement that the ½ sch. on dark blue actually represents a separate issue printed from a newly prepared stone in 1867 has always been the accepted theory. It has been based primarily on the two facts—that the stamps were a) printed from a different stone than that used for the ½ sch. on (light) blue, and b) that all of the very few known covers bearing the stamp show usage during the latter half of 1867.

This does not fit in with the situation as existed in Bergedorf in 1861. The large remainders of the ½ sch. stamp from both printings indicate that no further supplies had to be ordered, and this takes into account the rate reduction from 1 sch. to ½ sch. on ordinary letters to Hamburg which would cause an increase in the use of ½ sch. denomination. After six years, there were still 40,000 1 sch. stamps remaining out of an order of 90,000 and the more than 50,000 ½ sch. stamps on hand (even taking the (light) blue quantities alone) were ample



Fig. 15 The finest of the three 7 sch. frankings known on cover. In addition this is the only Bergedorf cover known addressed to England.

for at least three years more.

Therefore, it is believed that during the printing of the order for 200,000 ½ sch. stamps in 1861, the printing stone was in some way rendered unusable, and ground off after somewhat more than 185,000 satisfactory stamps had been printed from it. Damage to finished sheets, a miscount, rejection of badly printed sheets, damage to the printing stone—all are possibilities. The first explanation is quite likely, since the printer probably had ordered enough paper to complete his order for 200,000 stamps. However, with less than 200,000 stamps in 1861, the printer for some reasons which can only be indicated by assumption, found himself with no printing stone for the ½ sch. and no blue paper. Therefore, he prepared a new stone and ordered more blue paper, which was delivered in a *darker* blue color. This paper delivery could have been made, and considering the existing production facilities, would have looked just as different from the first shipment whether several weeks or months as well as six years had elapsed.

All of these stamps are extremely interesting, but can be studied since many full sheets of the remainders are available. A brief description of the printing layout is as follows:

½ sch. on blue: Sheet size approximately 284 x 223 mm. (printed surface 268 x 210 mm.) consisting of two panes of 100 stamps each, each pane made up of 8 transfer blocks of 12 (2 x 6) subjects, plus a bottom row of four blank spaces and four stamps, the blank spaces being on the margin of each pane of 100. (Sheet of 200).

½ sch. on dark blue: (New printing from new stone): Sheet size approximately 286 x 220 mm. (printed surface 261 x 209 mm.) identical in layout with the first printing on blue, but with the transfer blocks of 12 much more evenly placed so that the spaces between them are neither slightly crooked nor misplaced as in the first printing. (Sheet of 200).

1 sch. on white: Sheet size approximately 340 x 185 to 190 mm. (printed surface 312 x 171 mm.) consisting of three panes printed from 18 transfer blocks of each 10 (2 x 5) stamps. Pane one consists of two vertical transfer blocks, pane two, of eight transfer blocks (arranged 4 x 2), pane three, of the same size as pane two, but arranged so that

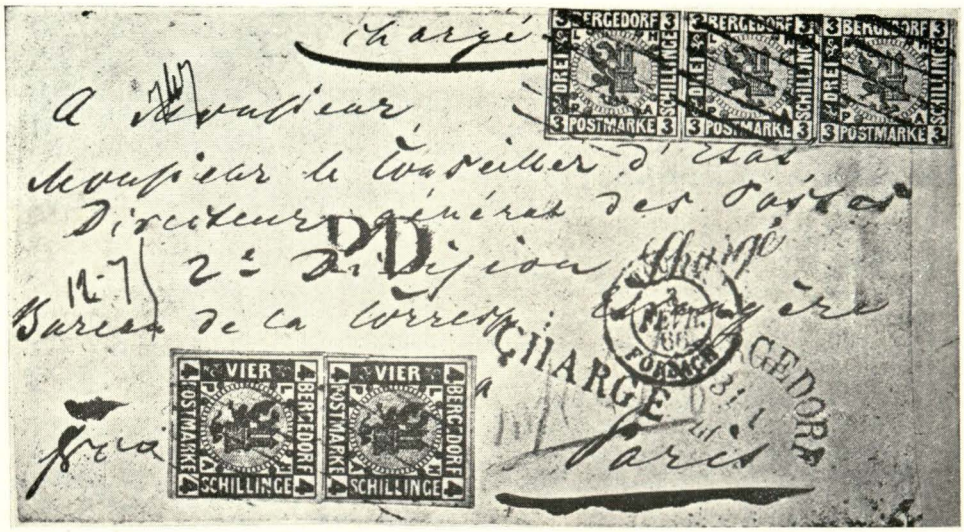


Fig. 16 The franking of 17 sch. on the front of a cover made by a horizontal pair and single of the 3 sch. plus two singles of the 4 sch. This represents the highest Bergedorf franking known.

Courtesy Mercury Stamp Journal.

the top four and lower four transfer blocks of 10 are tete-beche to one another. Therefore, all tete-beche pairs, whether horizontal or vertical, show the small space between the panes, (sheet of 180). The stamps vary in color from a grayish black to an intense deep black, the latter being somewhat scarce.

1½ sch. on yellow: Sheet size approximately 364 to 372 mm. x 247 to 254 mm. (printed surface 337½ to 345 x 227 to 228½ mm.), consisting of two panes of each 100 stamps (with a wide space between the panes as opposed to the narrowly spaced ½ and 1 sch. panes). Each pane printed from 8 transfer blocks (4 x 4) of twelve (2 x 6) stamps, and each pane having at the left center a vertical strip of four stamps tete-beche to the pane, there being four blank spaces above and below each of these vertical strips. This resulted in four horizontal tete-beche pairs to each pane, or eight to each sheet. (Sheet of 200 stamps).

Note: On the transfer block, the spelling "Schillinge", as it appeared on the original stone, was corrected to read "Schilling".

3 sch. blue on rose: Sheet size approximately 220 to 235 x 354 to 370 mm. (printed surface 200 to 206 x 332 to 339 mm.), consisting of two panes, one above the other, each pane identical in format, and each consisting of 80 stamps printed from 8 transfer blocks of 10 (5 x 2), the horizontal space between the panes being approximately 4½ mm. (Sheet of 160).

4 sch. brown: Sheet size approximately 198 to 210 x 244 to 265 mm. (printed surface 185 to 187 x 232 to 235 mm.), consisting of two panes, one above the other as with the 3 sch., each pane identical in format, and consisting of 40 stamps printed from 6 transfer blocks. The top four transfer blocks consist of 8 (4 x 2) stamps, and the two lower transfer blocks consisting of 5 (1 x 5) stamps. (Sheet of 80).

The differences in the sizes on the printed surfaces of the sheets of the same denomina-

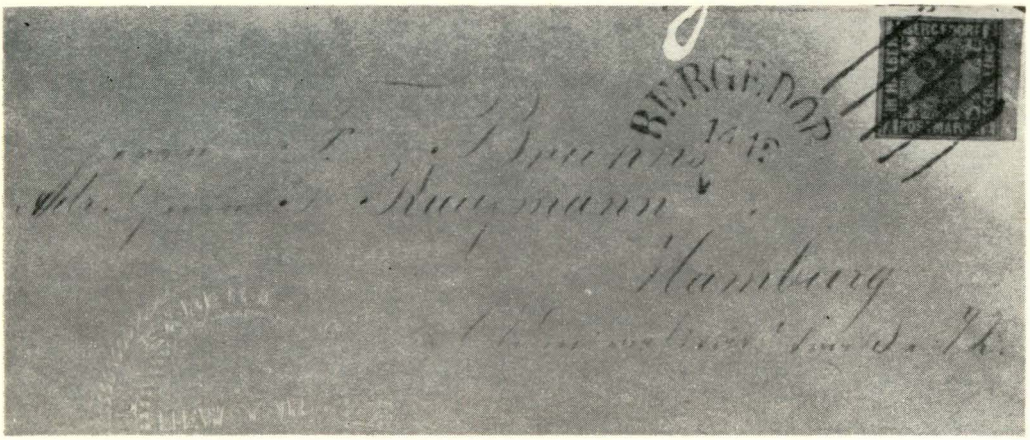


Fig. 17 The ½ sch. on dark blue on cover. This is a superb right sheet margin stamp, probably the finest copy known. At most, twelve copies of this stamp are known on cover, none but this are ranked as fine copies. Probably less than one hundred genuinely used copies exist, of which only a few are free from defects. This cover can be ranked as a philatelic "gem" of Bergedorf.

tions was due to an uneven paper shrinkage caused by the gumming and subsequent uneven drying.

Because full sheets of these mint stamps are available, the individual stamps have been minutely studied so that many minor plate flaws and transfer varieties, as often the case with lithographed stamps, have been observed. These differences are too detailed and relatively too well-known to be discussed in this article. (Those interested will find an exhaustive analysis in Krotzsch's "Handbook der Postfreimarkenkunde, Book IV", pp. 48 to 74 inclusive).

Collectors should be careful to differentiate between "sheets" and "panes". A "full sheet" consists of two panes each for the ½, 1½, 3 and 4 schilling, and three panes for the 1 schilling. Obviously, not all of these remainder sheets exist in equal quantities for each denomination. In order of scarcity, the scarcest being mentioned first, the sheets are: ½ sch. on dark blue, 1 sch. on white, ½ sch. on blue, 1½ sch. on yellow, 3 sch. blue on rose and 4 sch. on brown.

b. Cancelled

Genuinely used Bergedorf stamps are very scarce. A very high percentage of those in collections are forgeries, either forged cancellations on genuine stamps or often fraudulently obliterated reprints. The various German catalogues and handbooks, which strongly recommend that all used Bergedorf stamps should be submitted for expertizing, are right.

Because of the small size on the lower denominations, and the narrow and irregular spacing between the stamps, full-margined used copies are rare. A "full-margined" copy is one with the basic design intact. If it shows the dividing lines between the stamps on any one side, it is "super-margined" on that side. The paper on which the stamps as issued were printed is also of very poor quality causing thin spots all too frequently.

Used multiples are rarities, although horizontal pairs are known of all denominations, and vertical pairs of the ½, 1 and 1½ sch. Used strips of three of the 1 sch. also exist, as well as strips of four of the ½ and 1 sch. Three blocks of four of the ½ sch. off cover, two blocks of four of the 1 sch. off cover, and one block of four of the 1½ sch. on cover are known.

c. Covers

Bergedorf long has been considered to be the scarcest of the Old German States used on original cover, and is, in fact, one of the rarest of "on cover" countries. This is the

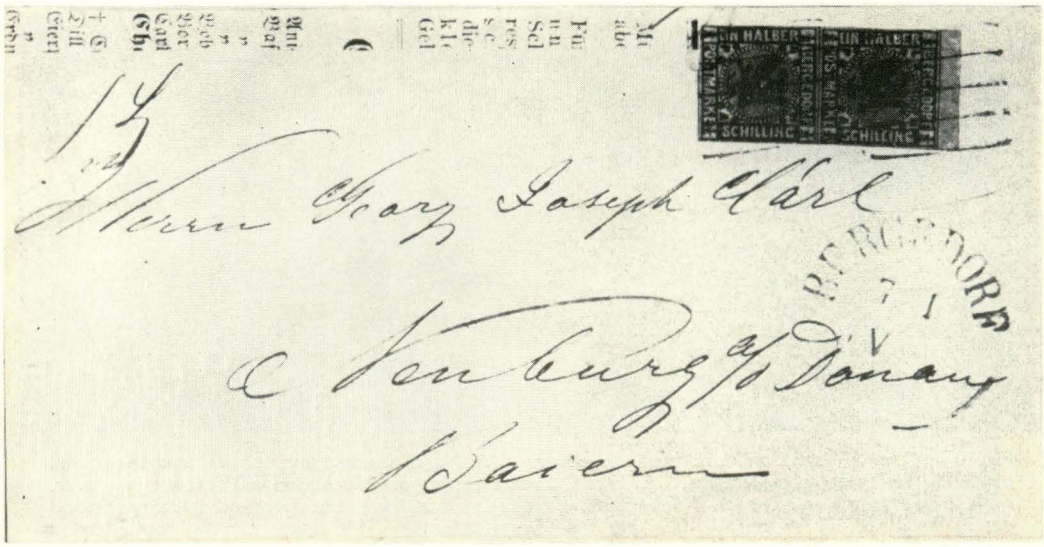


Fig. 18 The only known pair of the ½ sch. black on dark blue tied to a cover, considered one of the three most valuable Bergedorf covers.

result of many factors. In 1861, the total Bergedorf area had only a bare 13,000 inhabitants, the town of Bergedorf itself, 3,000. The franking of letters with stamps was not obligatory. Bergedorf stampless covers of the 1861 to 1867 period are not too scarce. Almost all known Bergedorf covers come from only about ten correspondence "finds", of which perhaps the best known is the group of 1½ sch. on yellow frankings on letters addressed to Fritz Wiegels, mostly Luneburg, rarely in Buxtehude.

Despite the rarity of the covers, several combinations of frankings are known. Certain franking combinations on piece of cover are difficult to classify because of the possibility that they might not represent the entire franking. Listed below are the known cover frankings, together with an estimate of the numbers of each existing:

One denomination only on cover:

½ sch. on blue single (50)
½ x 2 (pair or two singles) (10)
½ x 3 (block of three) (1)
½ x 4 (vertical strip of four) (1)
1 sch. on white (80)
1 x 2 (pair or two singles) (8)
1 x 3 (pair and single, strip of three, three singles) (3)
1 x 4 (horizontal strip of four) (1)
1½ sch. on yellow (25)
1½ x 2 (horizontal or vertical pair) (5)
1½ x 4 (block of four) (1)
3 sch. blue on rose (12)
4 sch. brown (15)
½ sch. on dark blue (10)
½ sch. ditto x 2 (vertical pair) (1)

(The number of full marginal stamps in the above tabulation varies from 20% in the case of the small sized to 50% in the case of the larger 3 sch. and 4 sch. stamps. All but four or five of the 4 sch. covers recorded are either cut into on one or more sides, or have tears, creases, repairs or other defects). Most of the 3 sch. covers are with stamps in good condition.)

Combinations of denominations on cover:

½ sch. + 1 sch. (4)
1½ sch. x 2 (vertical pair) + 1 sch. (1)
1 sch. + 3 sch. (4)
3 sch. + 4 sch. (3)
3 sch. x 3 + 4 sch. x 2 (1) (Cover front, registered letter to Paris).
3 sch. + ½ sch. *dark blue* (1)

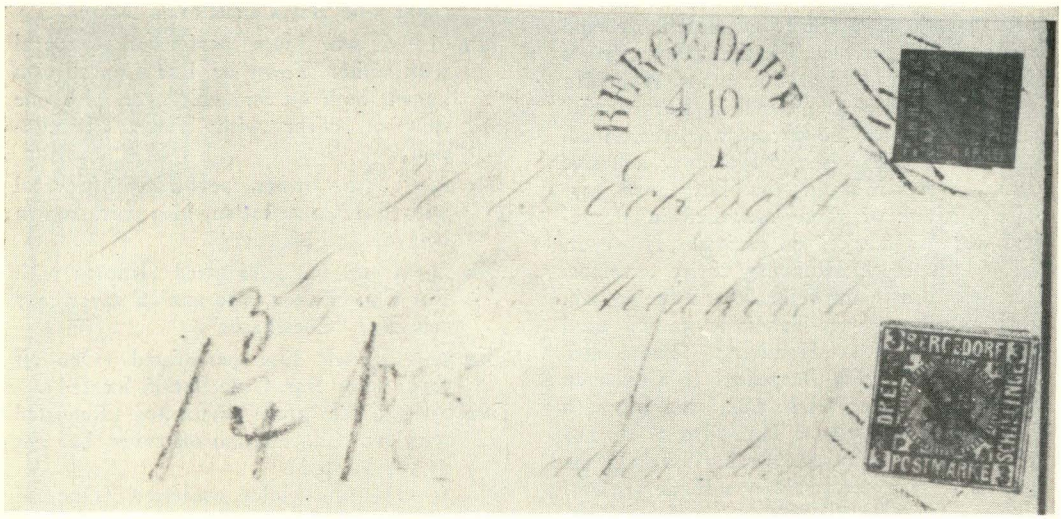


Fig. 19 One of the most interesting covers known franked with a ½ sch. on dark blue plus a 3 sch. blue on rose. The franking is ½ sch. overpaid. The letter was originally franked with the ½ sch. stamp and returned for an additional 2½ sch. in postage as the partly erased crayon markings indicate. The 3 sch. stamp then was affixed to make up the full rate, thus overpaying by ½ sch.

Stamps of Other Postal Administration used in Bergedorf

These "Used in Bergedorf" present a rather complex problem, particularly in the case of Hamburg and Prussia, since, in the absence of official records, a discussion of them must rest upon observation and deduction—the latter being unfortunately too often faulty.

These stamps will, for the sake of an orderly treatment, be grouped roughly according to their chronology of earliest use in Bergedorf, as follows: Denmark, Hamburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Prussia, Hanover, and the North German Postal District.

Denmark

By postal treaty of 1857 between Denmark and Bergedorf, the use of Danish stamps in Bergedorf for mail going to the Schleswig-Holstein provinces and to Denmark proper was authorized, and these stamps were placed on sale in the main Bergedorf post office. (Note that the "bar" cancellation of Bergedorf was not introduced until November 1, 1861). The following are known:

Scott No. 2—4 sch. brown imperforate (Two copies with town cancellation, both off cover, are known).

Scott No. 3—2 sch. blue imperforate (one copy known on small piece of cover with both town and bar cancellation—probably an accidental item since only the 4 sch. denominations are believed to have been available in Bergedorf.

Scott No. 4—4 sch. brown imperforate dotted background. (Several pairs as well as singles on cover, all with Town Cancellations are known. All shades of the stamp have been noted).

Scott No. 7—4 sch. brown imperforate wavy line background. (A few with Town Cancellation and a relatively large number with Bar Cancellations, on and off cover, are known. All shades of the stamp have been noted).

Scott No. 9—4 sch. brown rouletted. (A few covers with Bar Cancellation are known).

In order of scarcity, the scarcest first, these rank: No. 3, No. 2, No. 4 and No. 7.

Hamburg

As the joint property of Hamburg and Lubeck, and because of the proximity of Hamburg, it is logical that many Hamburg stamps should exist "Used in Bergedorff," particularly since the currency corresponded. It is still doubtful if any Hamburg adhesive stamps were sold in the Bergedorf post office. Many of those cancelled in Bergedorf were so marked on arrival. However, the ½ sch. black Hamburg entire envelope, the 1 sch. brown imperforate and the ½ sch. black perforated are definitely known used *from* Bergedorf *to* Hamburg. There also exists a cover from Bergedorf to Cuxhaven bearing the proper 3 sch. rate, made up of a Bergedorf 1 sch. plus a Hamburg 2 sch. red perforated. The 1 sch. is cancelled with the Bergedorf bars, the 2 sch. by a Hamburg bar. This need not be a combination rate, as has been mentioned often elsewhere, of a payment of the letter to Hamburg by 1 sch. and thence to Cuxhaven by 2 sch., but a proper 3 sch. rate.

Also a Hamburg ½ sch. black entire plus a Hamburg 2½ sch. (No. 26) cancelled with the Bergedorf town cancellation and sent from Bergedorf to Oldenburg is known. This is the proper 3 sch. rate and is of especial interest since it is the only instance of the use of non-Bergedorf stamps from Bergedorf to outside of the Hamburg-Bergedorf area.

The following Hamburg stamps cancelled in Bergedorf are known:

No. 1—½ sch. black imperforate (known on cover and on piece with Town Cancellation, usually as a pair or two singles, and singly off cover with the Bar Cancellation).

No. 2—1 sch. brown imperforate (Town Cancellation, rarely over original Hamburg bar or oval cancellation, but usually by itself; scarcer with Bar Cancellation. Several covers known).

No. 3—2 sch. red imperforate (Three or four copies with Town Cancellation off cover or on piece, and a couple off cover with Bar Cancellation are known).

No. 4—3 sch. blue imperforate (Reported with Bar Cancellation off cover, but not as yet located).

No. 11—1¼ sch. blue imperforate (one off cover with Bar Cancellation located).

No. 13—½ sch. black perforated (Several with either Town or Bar Cancellation known both on and off cover, also one copy on cover with Town Cancellation).

No. 14—1 sch. brown perforated (Several with Bar Cancellation, also pair, known both on and off cover).

No. 15—2 sch. red perforated (Known with Bar Cancellation, also one off cover copy cancelled "Geesthacht").

No. 22—1¼ sch. lilac perforated (One off cover with Bar Cancellation located).

No. 23—2½ sch. green perforated (Reported with Bar Cancellation off cover, but not as yet located).

No. 24—1¼ sch. violet rouletted (One off cover with Bar Cancellation located).

No. 25—1½ sch. rose rouletted (Two copies, each on cover cancelled "Kirchwerder", one copy off cover cancelled "Kirchwerder".

No. 26—2½ sch. green perforated (One copy on Hamburg ½ sch. black entire with Town Cancellation known).

½ sch. black entire, both unwatermarked and watermarked (Town Cancellation, also with "B.L.P.A."; three are known cancelled "Kirchwerder".

Schleswig-Holstein

Schleswig-Holstein may be regarded as a continuation of Denmark, since with the termination of the Prusso-Danish war in 1864, the same regulations for the use of these stamps on mail from Bergedorf to Schleswig-Holstein was in force. Only the 1¼ sch. denomination was used. Most copies of No. 8, 15, 17 and 18 (relatively the least scarce) which have been preserved were used on weekly bills sent out by the "Eisenbahn Zeitung", a newspaper published by a Mr. Ed in Bergedorf. These have been the most fruitful source of study of the Bergedorf Bar Cancellations, since all of the letters were dated.

These are relatively the least scarce of the "Used in Bergedorf" stamps, but because of the wide group of country specialists to whom they appeal, are rarely offered. The following are known, all used *from* Bergedorf:

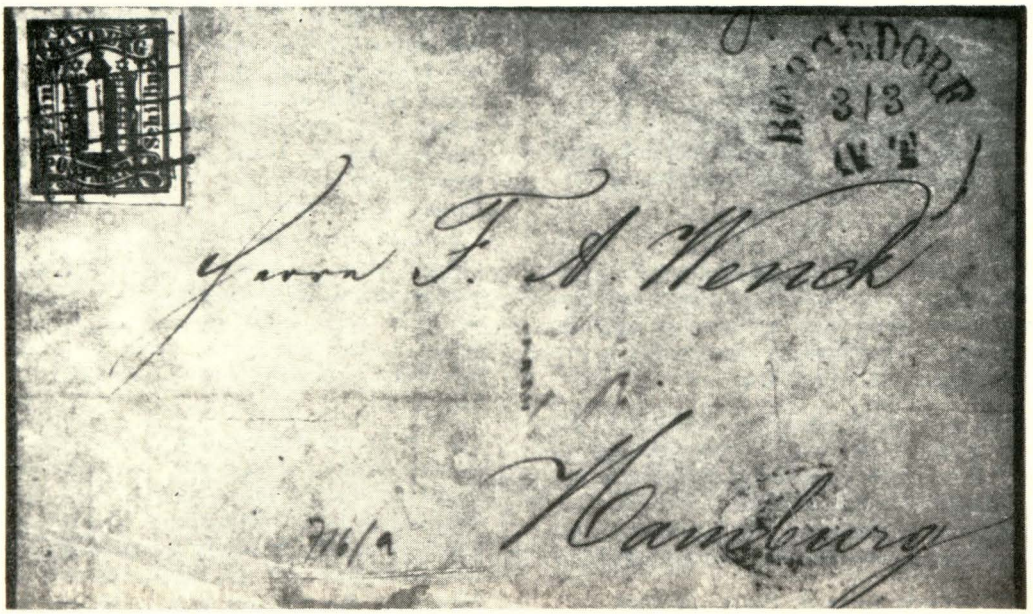


Fig. 20 The 1 sch. brown imperforate Hamburg stamp on a cover paying the proper rate from Bergedorf to Hamburg and so recognized by the Bergedorf post office. This cover is unusual because most of the 1859 Hamburg issue cancelled in Bergedorf were stamps used from Hamburg, having escaped cancellation and being obliterated on arrival.

No. 8—1¼ sch. green "Herzoth, Schleswig". (Bar Cancellation: "Geesthacht").
No. 15—1¼ sch. blue small lettering. (Bar Cancellation).
No. 17—1¼ sch. blue large lettering. (Bar Cancellation: unique with Town Cancellation.)
No. 18—1¼ sch. blue and rose rouletted. (Bar Cancellation: "Geesthacht").
No. 4—1¼ sch. green "Schleswig-Holstein". (Bar Cancellation).
No. 11—1¼ sch. red lilac "Herzoth-Schleswig". (Town Cancellation, Bar Cancellation "Kirchwerder").
No. 11a—1¼ sch. *gray lilac* "Herzoth-Schleswig". (Town Cancellation "Geesthacht").
No. 11a—1¼ sch. *gray* "Herzoth-Schleswig". (Town Cancellation).
No. 20—1¼ sch. red lilac "Herzoth-Holstein". (Bar Cancellation, "Geesthacht").
No. 22—1¼ sch. red lilac "Herzoth-Holstein". (Town Cancellation, Bar Cancellation).

Prussia

Prussia took over the Schleswig-Holstein postal system on January 1, 1867 but the Bergedorf-Schleswig-Holstein postal regulations remained in effect. It is likely that from about this time, Prussian stamps were sold in Bergedorf and used on mail directed to Prussia. For example, covers are known from Bergedorf to Berlin, Leipzig and other places in Prussia. The following Prussia "Used in Bergedorf" are known:

No. 15—4 pf. green (Town Cancellation, Bar Cancellation).
No. 16—6 pf. orange (Bar Cancellation).
No. 17—1 sg. rose (Town Cancellation, Bar Cancellation, known also as several strips of three on cover).
No. 18—2 sg. ultramarine (Town Cancellation).
No. 20—3 sg. bistre (Town Cancellation, Bar Cancellation).
No. 21—10 sg. rose (Town Cancellation, one off cover copy known).

3 sg. yellow entire envelope of 1853/60 (Town Cancellation).
1 sg. rose entire envelope of 1863 (Town Cancellation, both as entire and cut-square used for postage).
3 sg. bistre entire envelope of 1863 ("Kirchwerder" cancellation, both as entire and cut-square used for postage).

Hanover

Two odd items, both unique, are known of Hanover stamps used in Bergedorf. They were apparently both accepted as valid for postage, but probably merely through courtesy or oversight. They are:

1 sg. rose percé (No. 27) on cover. The stamp is not cancelled but definitely belongs on the cover on which is the Bergedorf town cancellation.
1 sg. rose entire envelope, showing both the town cancellation and the "B.L.P.A.".

North German Postal District

These stamps do not fall into the above categories since they are merely the regular stamps which became valid for postage in Bergedorf when it was absorbed into the North German Postal District. They are interesting, however, since they exist cancelled with the old Bergedorf half-circle which was continued in use for a short time. (The Bar cancellation was discarded on December 31, 1867 when the Bergedorf stamps went out of use). The following exist:

No. 1—¼ gr. red lilac
No. 3—½ gr. orange (Only one copy used together on cover with the ¼ gr. has been reported).
No. 4—1 gr. rose
No. 5—2 gr. blue
1 gr. rose entire (only one reported).

Reprints

a. Proof and Essay Reprints

After dealer J. B. Moens received the original stone in 1868 along with all the remainders which he had purchased, he caused impressions to be drawn, partly on plain white, partly on white "Chinese" paper. Thus, all denominations exist, plus the 4 schilling essay. This 4 schilling essay is of especial interest because it exists only as a reprint essay and not as an original. This proposed 4 schilling stamp was drawn in on the original stone containing all the other values in 1866 by Ch. Fuchs because of the report that Bergedorf stamps were being counterfeited in Hamburg. However, the proposed new issue was never materialized because the Prusso-Austrian War interfered.

In addition to these impressions from the original stone in 1868, Moens in the same year produced this proposed 4 schilling stamp on white paper with the following colors: yellow green, blue green, cobalt blue, dull rose, brick red, violet, brown, gray, blue and blue gray.

It is unfortunate that Bergedorf stamps as well as their *proofs* have been so extensively reprinted. These reprints have been classified as both "official" and "private" reprints. Actually, it would appear that since they were produced not only under the influence of the old-time dealer, Moens, but also since they were printed from transfer blocks taken from the original transfer stone but *not* from the original printing plates, they should all be classified as "private" or "unofficial" reprints.

Moens had in his possession, as was seen above, the original transfer stone for which he had paid 50 Marks.

b. Reprints of June, 1867

Two new printing plates from the original transfer stone were made for the ½ sch. and 3 sch. in June 1867, the arrangement of these plates duplicating the arrangement of the originals described above. The purpose was to secure an additional supply of the ½ sch. black on lilac and 3 sch. black on rose plate proofs which were erroneously represented as issued stamps, and were, as a result, in demand by collectors.

Twelve sheets of each value, that is 2,400 of the ½ sch. (12 x 200) and 1,920 of the 3 sch. (12 x 160) were printed in black on light lilac and dark rose paper respectively. Moens paid face value for these reprint proofs so that the Bergedorf Post Office would suffer no possible loss of revenue, which undoubtedly accounts for the relatively small printing.



Fig. 21 This ½ sch. black Hamburg envelope additionally franked with 2½ sch. green 1867 Hamburg issue is regarded as the finest "used in Bergedorf" cover. It is unique in several respects. It is the only 2½ sch. Hamburg issue of 1867 known used in Bergedorf. It is cancelled with the Town Cancellation, and it is the only letter existent franked with non-Bergedorf stamps fully prepaid to a destination outside of the Bergedorf "Treaty Group" of Denmark, Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein (3 sch. rate to Oldenburg).

At least two complete sheets of each value still exist. Aside from minor printing differences (for example, the ½ sch. reprint has a small dot at the top right of the "N" of "EIN" lacking in the original, and the 3 sch. has two tiny dots in the center curve of the "S" of "POSTMARKE"), the paper of these 1867 reprints is better and smoother than that of the original proofs. The color of the paper also differs, that of the ½ sch. being more reddish violet than lilac, while that of the 3 sch. being brighter than the dark dull rose of the earlier printing.

c. Reprints of 1872

In order to reduce his sales price for the set of five Bergedorf stamps to below 20 pf. (the cost of packet material), Moens had the entire set of five reprinted, using his original transfer stone. Oddly enough, "proofs" of these reprints exist, in black ink on thin white cardboard. These were proofs supplied to Moens by the printer to show how his sheets would look. The sheet size of these 1872 reprints differed from the 1861 originally issued stamps as follows:

½ sch. sheet of 100 instead of 200.
1 sch. sheet of 80 instead of 180.
1½ sch. sheet of 100 instead of 200.

(Spelled "Schillinge", with the final "e", since uncorrected from the original stone as for the 1861 stamps).

3 sch. sheet of 80 instead of 160.
4 sch. sheet of 40 instead of 80

These reprints exist both gummed and ungummed. The gum, whenever found, had been applied apparently by Moen's dealer customers, among the principal of whom was Goldner of Hamburg. These reprints have slight differences in design which distinguish them from the originals, the color of the paper shows differences, and the printing is a little less neat.

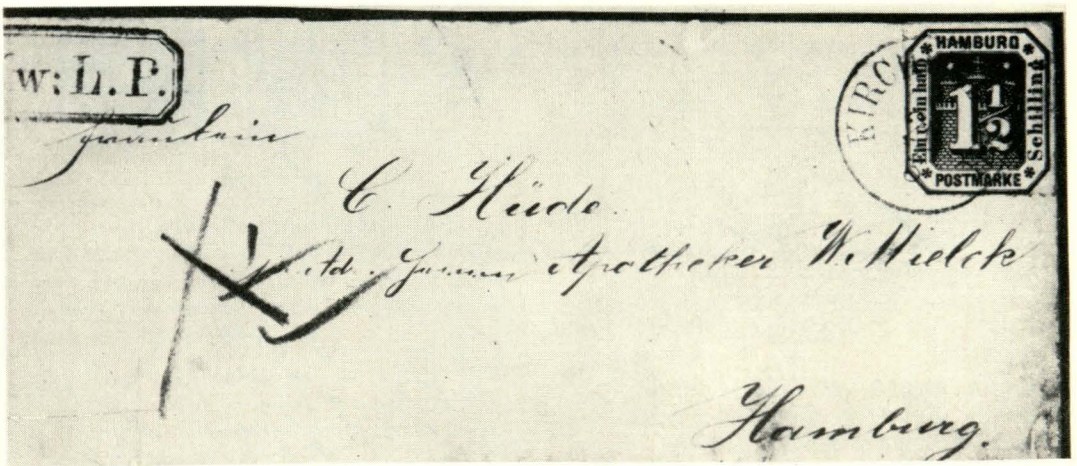


Fig. 22 A cover with the 1½ sch. carmine of the 1866 rouletted Hamburg issue tied with the blue circular "Kirchwerder" cancellation, the only manner in which this stamp exists "used in Bergedorf". In the upper left is the blue boxed "Kw:L.P. (Kirchwerder Land Port) which is the scarcest Bergedorf postal marking.

Among the reprints of 1872, also there exist horizontal pairs of the 1½ sch. on yellow, with one stamp spelled "Schilling", the other "Schillinge". These come on what is apparently the paper of the originals. Although some mystery surrounds these productions, they probably were printed as pairs on paper cut from the margins of the plentiful remainder sheets. But they may well be proofs made for Moens to determine whether on these 1872 reprints the "Schillinge" spelling should be corrected throughout. It is reasonable to assume that Moens did not wish to incur an additional cost to correct this.

d. Reprints of 1874

The reprinted supply of the 4 sch. stamp having proven to be inadequate, this denomination was again reprinted in 1874 in sheets of 40, each stamp from an individual cliché rather than a block of 8 (or 4). These stamps again show definite differences from both the originals and the 1872 reprints.

e. Reprints of 1887

The entire set was again reprinted (by a printer other than the one who produced the 1872 and 1874 reprints) and the work was done rather carelessly. The stamps were printed as follows :

½ sch. sheet of 200 (10 horiz. rows of 20)
1 sch. sheet of 200 (10 horiz. rows of 20)
1½ sch. sheet 190 or 200 (10 horiz. rows 19 or 20)

(Note: Again spelled "Schillinge".)

3 sch. sheet of 200 (10 horiz. rows of 20)
4 sch. sheet of 200 (10 horiz. rows of 20)

The color and type of paper is quite different from that of the originals, and the printing was very poorly done. The individual stamps all have definite distinguishing characteristics being determinable at a glance.

f. Reprints of 1888

The reprints of 1887 were such poor copies of the originals that the 1sch. and 3 sch. had to be redone. The 1 sch. was printed in sheets of 180 like the originals but without tete-beche pairs, while the 3 sch. was printed in sheets of 120, consisting of two panes of

60 each. These were printed from plates made from transfer blocks prepared for the 1887 reprints.

Fortunately this flood of reprinting ceased with these 1888 productions. In 1895 Moens presented the original stone to the German Postal Museum.

Conclusion

For the collector with limited means, the study of unused Bergedorf, combined with all the many semi-official and purely private reprints, is very rewarding because it provides a thorough education in the production of lithographed stamps, the methods of setting up the printing stones, and the multitude of minor transfer flaws. A big question to be answered is: "What happened to the original stone of the transfer blocks and who made the reprints from them?"

The used stamps and covers are of course much more interesting and desirable. Bergedorf covers are the "gems" of any collection of Old German States. The "used in Bergedorf" covers have also always been justly prized. Because of the relatively complex and yet extremely interesting postal history of Bergedorf, it is in some ways unfortunate that Bergedorf covers are so rare. It is possible within a relatively short period of years to build up a representative collection of stampless covers, but to secure even a fairly good representation of Bergedorf stamps on cover can take a lifetime. This is true because while the number of specialists in Bergedorf has always been limited, they have been intense collectors. From 1900 to about 1920, practically all outstanding Bergedorf material was in one collection, when it was dispersed. From 1920 until 1949, all of this material along with some new discoveries gradually found its way into two other collections, one in that of a specialist in "Used in Bergedorf" material, the other that of the world-famous collection of Dr. Werner of Erlangen. Dr. Werner was, without doubt, the collector who did most to consolidate the expertizing knowledge of Bergedorf and it is doubtful if his collection, now dispersed, will ever be surpassed as a whole. The "Used in Bergedorf" material is still intact but was sold in 1949 as a collection and did not come onto the open market.

Once again, most of the famous Werner collection has found its way into two or three collections where it is likely to remain for many years. However, newer philatelists should not be discouraged from attempting to collect the country because the lure of possible "finds" is ever present. And new discoveries through research for which there is ample need in Bergedorf is great. And, indeed, the presence of at least a few Bergedorf pieces of covers in any Old German States or European collections, is not only necessary but impressive.

The assistance tendered by *Edwin Mueller* in the planning, preparation, writing and illustrating of this article is gratefully acknowledged.

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His stamp collecting interests include 19th Century United States precancels, United States Locals on cover, Ionian Islands and German States. His collections have been exhibited at the leading international exhibitions where they were awarded high honors. He has published over thirty articles on United States precancels, and also edited the New York State section of the "Official Precancel Catalogue." His New York State precancel collection is the largest of a single state ever formed consisting of over 70,000 varieties housed in forty albums.

He is a past president of both the New York Precancel Club and the Precancel Stamp Society. He has served on the Board of Governors of the Precancel Stamp Society and the Collectors Club. Mr. Boker is at present a member of the Board of Trustees of the Philatelic Foundation and a member of the Philatelic Foundation's Expert Committee.

Philately Behind the Iron Curtain

By H. D. S. HAVERBECK

The fate of stamp collecting, sport and recreation of free men, has paralleled that of human freedom in the Communist dominated nations behind the "Iron Curtain". The stamp collector has been suppressed, exterminated and driven out. Stamps themselves have become only instruments of propaganda and a source of hard currencies for the Communist States. This can be seen in every nation that has fallen before the juggernaut of the Kremlin. One of the earliest acts of the communist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia was to outlaw the stamp dealers by declaring the export of stamps to be a government monopoly. This pattern had been already formed in Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania but was brought to its full fruition with the conquest of the Czech nation. Collectors themselves have been nearly eliminated except for a few trusted, old-line party members who are allowed to attempt the spread of propaganda by means of "pen pals" in the western countries. Even these trusted minions disappear as suddenly as they appear, liquidated, no doubt, because of some minor "deviation".

Having been a serious student of Russian philately for many years, I have been in a position to observe the workings of the Communists. I propose to explain in this article the reasons for the decay of philately in Russia, the subversion of the hobby to propaganda and, far more serious to us in the United States, the use of stamp collecting for the purpose of acquiring badly needed dollars.

Soon after the October, 1917 Revolution, the Communist masters of Russia saw the propaganda value of our hobby. It was at first encouraged as a means of recreation for the workers. To further this an All-Russian Philatelic Society, under government control, was established. This Society published a journal from 1922 to 1924, called the "Soviet Philatelist". It was printed in four languages, Russian, English, French and German, with the articles published in these tongues so arranged that each number contained all four. It was printed at the State Printing Office and received wide circulation throughout Europe. The Society had among its members several good philatelic students. In 1926 it sent an exhibit to the International Philatelic Exhibition in New York. The propaganda value was good, because, as in every free nation, collectors wanted to correspond with collectors in other countries. This, however, led soon to the discovery by collectors in Russia that theirs was not the "workers paradise". The Soviet Government, fearing to let the Russian people become aware of its shortcomings, suppressed stamp collecting. The fate of the philatelic students was that which re-appeared in the pattern of the purges of 1937 onward. Chuchin "disappeared". Schmidt managed to escape to Germany where he died broken in health. The export of stamps from Russia then became a government monopoly.

The stamp monopoly is vested in an organization called "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga", which distributes books and publications abroad as well as serving as the sole wholesale supplier of Russian postage stamps for collectors. It is notoriously unco-operative with foreign collectors as proven by my own experience. It does not maintain a philatelic agency to sell stamps retail directly to the collectors at face or even at a slight premium. It will not service first-day covers. It will not reply to inquiries from collectors. It will only sell stamps wholesale at its own price, no order less than 10 sets of an issue, no order less than $15.00.

Today in Russia there are no stamp collectors and no postage stamps in the true meaning of the word. The multi-colored labels, which are sold abroad for foreign currency, are not to be found in the post offices in Russia. Where stamps are used, they are the drab so-called "standard stamp". Letters from the "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga" itself do not have even these common stamps

affixed to the envelopes. Instead there is a red handstamp reading, "Moscow, Tax Paid" in French.

Recently I was presented with the 1952 wholesale price list published by this monopoly. It is very nicely printed, written in English with prices quoted in *United States dollars*. A careful study of this publication shows the extent to which the stamp monopoly is used for the purpose of gaining dollars which are in turn used to fight us on the fronts of the Cold War and in the *"Police Action in Korea"*.* The flood of labels began in earnest in 1927, but we will concern ourselves only with those printed since 1947. The statistics garnered from the price list prove very enlightening.

In the period 1947 to and including 1951, Soviet Russia issued *588* different stamps with a dollar value amounting to *$118.71*. This means that every stamp collector who has purchased one copy of each stamp printed in Russia from January 1, 1947 to December 31, 1951 has contributed $118.71 to a government which has the avowed intention of exterminating our way of life. Such a collector has also enriched the dealers who sell these labels to the amount of $23.74 which represents the normal stamp dealer's new issue profit of 20%. This is added to the price which the dealers pay directly to Moscow for the privilege of buying and reselling the Soviet's colored labels. If the collector prefers to spend less, he can buy used copies. These are the same labels but with a cancellation printed on them at the Russian State Printing Office as they come off the press and *not* a post office cancellation. Then the collector contributed only *$82.21* toward the overthrow of his free way of life.

Some of our philatelic publicists claim that there are 10,000,000 collectors in the United States. Let us be conservative by estimating that only 500,000 or 5% are sufficiently gullible to be taken in by these scraps of paper. This would mean that the staggering total of *$59,355,000.00* had been contributed to Russia from the United States alone in a period of only *five* years. This would provide roughly enough money to build one carrier of the Forrestal class. This is a rather amazing set of statistics to consider. And remember that this does not include any of the Soviet labels sold in other countries. For a clearer comprehension of what these figures mean and what the trend has been, included is a tabulation by years of the period discussed:

Year	*No. of stamps*	*Money Value* *Mint*	*Used*	*U. S. Dollars gained by Russia*
1947	139	$ 23.87	$16.01	$11,935,000
1948	133	$ 20.47	$14.36	$10,235,000
1949	133	$ 30.16	$22.17	$15,080,000
1950	108	$ 28.00	$18.83	$14,000,000
1951	75	$ 16.21	$10.84	$ 8,105,000
TOTALS	588	$118.71	$82.21	$59,355,000

It must be emphasized that the above figures apply only to the United States and Russia. They do not show what stamps have been sold to other countries for either U. S. dollars or Pounds Sterling, Swiss Francs, Portuguese Escudos, Dutch Guilders, etc. Nor do they show any of the money contributed to the coffers of the Comintern through similar state monopolies in the other Communist Countries such as Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, East Germany, China and Albania. A quick look at the Scott Catalogue will show that these nations have been just as prolific as the senior partner in issuing fancy labels in the guise of postage stamps for collectors since they came under Soviet rule.

* The author served as an officer in the U. S. Navy during World War II fighting dictatorships in both the European and Asiatic theaters. (H.M.G.)

To further heighten the significance of the above figures, let us stop for a moment to consider the record of our own country. In the same period, January 1, 1947 to December 31, 1951, *the United States has issued a total of 66 different stamps with a face value of $3.09.* These stamps were and are valid for the prepayment of postage. They were on sale at any post office window or at the Philatelic Agency in Washington for several years. If the same 500,000 collectors bought one copy of each of these stamps, the net gain to the United States was only $1,545,000.00, hardly enough to build one heavy bomber.

For the serious philatelist there is much more to be gleaned from the pages of the wholesale price list of "Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga". It can be seen at a glance that the printer of the stamps and the wholesale distributor are the same. The stock of stamps is inexhaustible because anything can be printed on order in any quantity required. This can be seen quickly from the following quotations taken directly from the price list appearing on page 39:

"355B Scott Cat. No. 42-46 (†) 1920 Blagoveshchensk, 2 R to 30 R, cancelled in sheets (5 diff.) Price per 10—$1.00. Price per 100—$8.00. Price per 1000—$70.00."

These particular stamps were issued originally towards the end of 1920 by Soviet Red Army Forces in Blagoveshchensk during the Civil War in Eastern Siberia. S. A. Pappadoppoulo ("Les Emissions de la Russie D'Asie") originally recorded that approximately 30,000 stamps of each denomination were issued. The obvious conclusion is that the plates were preserved and are now being used to print more stamps for sale to collectors. Similar listings are made for the following scarce and sought after Civil War Issues: Siberia, Scott Nos. 1-7, 8-10, 12; Far Eastern Republic, Scott Nos. 8, 25, 30, 32, 38, 39, 50-51, 53-58, 60, 66-70.

And again we quote:

"510B 1893/1914. Rural post stamps. Coat of arms of different cantons, 1 k. to 20 k. (11 diff.) Price per 10—$3.50. Price per 100—$30.00."

These are obviously some of the rare Zemstvo or Rural Post stamps. During the years mentioned, many stamps were printed for these rural supplementary posts by the Imperial Printing Office in St. Petersburg.

Similar listings can be found for stamps of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia and the Transcarpathian Ukraine. All of these countries have fallen under the iron heel of the Russian invader. Stamps reprinted from plates seized during the conquest are being sold to provide money to continue the oppressor's rule.

These few illustrations should be enough to show the intelligent American stamp collector the nature of philately behind the Iron Curtain. The free spirit has been crushed and the body prostituted for the uses of the Communist Dictatorship. Also it should show that great care is to be exercised in collecting the older issues of the presently Communist-occupied nations, so that one does not purchase reprints in the place of the originally issued stamps. But by far the greatest lesson to be learned is that stamp collectors are being victimized for the benefit of the Communist treasury, not by reprints alone, but by the printing of multicolored labels solely for the purpose of obtaining American dollars. These self same dollars are being used to finance attempts at destruction of the American way of life and the destruction of American lives on the battlefields of Korea.

(†) Listed in Scott under "Far Eastern Republic."

TRANSLATIONS FROM

KOHL'S HANDBOOK

COSTA RICA

By DR. HERBERT MUNK

Translated by JAMES A. QUIGLEY and the late FRITZ DREYFUSS
Annotated by H. D. MITCHELL and JAMES A. QUIGLEY

(Continued from Page 271.)

Provisional Issues of 1911-12

For the following overprinted stamps first the remainders of the issue of 1907 were used, then the issues of 1901 and 1903 and, 1910 telegraph stamps were overprinted. starting in November, the remainders of the

57. I UN CENTIMO on 20 ct. wine

(*Comment:* The order of use of previous issues for surcharging as given above is not essentially correct. One cent stamps of both the 1901 and 1907 issues were overprinted at the same time for instance, and the 4 ct. 1903 was not overprinted until 1912 after the various telegraph stamps had been surcharged. We have relied heavily on the work of Alfredo Moya for data on these issues. His article "Study on Counterfeits and Counterfeit Surcharges of Costa Rica" appeared serially in "Costa Rica Filatelica" over a period of several years, the part pertinent to these provisionals having been printed in Vol. III, Nos. 10, 11 and 12, Vol. IV, Nos. 14 and 15 and Vol. V, Nos. 16 and 17. For the authorizing decrees we have, of course, relied on the government daily, "La Gaceta." *End of comment.*)

1911 (April and following) First provisional issue. Stamps No. 58 and 59 of the issue of 1907 and No. 44 of the issue of 1901 with surcharge A9 or A10.

1911

1911

A 9 - 10

Red Overprint, Type A9

76. 2 ct., yellow green and black (No. 59)
(a) "Stars" level: *1911*
(b) Inverted.

Number issued: 25,000. The error, "Stars" level, comes from positions 28 and (78?) in the sheet.

(*Comment:* The decree authorizing the 2 ct. provisionals (No. 251) is dated December 24, *1910* and was published in "La Gaceta" on the 27th. It authorized the overprinting of 400,000 two centavos stamps and refers to both Kohl's Nos. 76 and 78. This and all subsequent overprints were applied to half sheets of fifty at one time, the sheets being folded for the purpose. Because of this, varieties should occur twice in each sheet of 100 so that 76a should be found in both sheet positions 28 and 78. Actually this will not always be the case, as more than one setting appears to have been used for some of the overprints and one-half sheet would receive one overprint and the other half a

different one. In the "stars" level variety here referred to the "stars" are level with the base of the numerals. Moya mentions a second setting in which a similar variety occurs with the "stars" level with the top of the numerals. He was unable to identify the position of this error in the setting. *End of Comment.*)

Black Overprint, Type A10

77. 1 ct., brown and black (No. 58)
(a) "Stars" inverted * 1911 * * *
(b) Inverted

78. 2 ct., yellow green and black (No. 59) Perf. 14
(a) "Stars" inverted * 1911 * * *
(b) Inverted

78A. 2 ct., yellow green and black (No. 59) Perf. 11½ x 14
(a) "Stars" inverted * 1911 * * *

Number issued of No. 78, 375,000. The surcharge error, "stars" inverted on Nos. 77 and 78 occurs in positions 41 and 91 of the sheet. It is supposed, therefore, that only fifty stamps of each sheet of 100 were overprinted at one time and that the printing form was composed of 50 examples. Small malformations of single "stars" and figures are noted. Other varieties have been noted as follows: No. 78 with double overprint, sometimes in red, sometimes in black; No. 76 and No. 78 in se tenant pairs (also No. 59 with red overprint type A9 and black overprint type A10!) These should be regarded as printer's waste.

(*Comment:* The 1 ct. stamps, No. 77 above and No. 79, below, were authorized by decree of April 12, 1911 in an edition of 450,000 without discriminating between the two basic stamps as to quantities to be overprinted. There were also two settings of this type of overprint, according to Moya, in the second of which there occurs the error "stars" on right inverted, thus: * 1911 *. * *
This variety is said to occur in position 50 of the setting. Moya does not make it clear whether this second setting was used on all the stamps receiving this type of overprint but we have seen it only on the 1 ct. 1901 (see below). *End of comment.*)

Red Overprint, Type A10

79. 1 ct., green and black (No. 44)
(a) "Stars" inverted * 1911 * * *

The same stamp with black surcharge is said to be printer's waste. The error, "stars" inverted, comes from positions 41 and 91 in the sheet.

(*Comment:* Moya states that the black surcharge mentioned above is not known postally used but only cancelled-to-order. It has been extensively faked and great care should be exercised in purchasing it. Moya states that setting No. 2 was used for making the black surcharge. *End of comment.*)

—— (June 7 and following) Second provisional issue. Stamps No. 61 and 62 of the issue of 1907 with overprint A11 and stamp No. 54 of the issue of 1903 with overprint A12.

Habilitado Habilitado

1911 *1911*

A 11 - 12

Overprint Type A11

80. 5 ct., orange and black (No. 61, P. 14) blue overprint

81. 10 ct., blue and black (No. 62, P. 14) black overprint

81A. 10 ct., blue and black (No. 62, P. 11½ x 14) black overprint

81B. 10 ct., blue and black (No. 62, P. 11½ x 14) red overprint
(5,000 of 81B issued)

Printing errors of No. 80:
"Habilitad*a*," "2911," "*I*911," "19*I*1," "191*I*" inverted.

The error 'Habilitad*a*" occurs on positions of the sheet 45 and 95 but may not be found, however, on all sheets. Surcharging of this issue similar to previous issue, i.e. in blocks of fifty. The Roman numerals are

perhaps not errors but were probably purposely inserted in the setting, there not being enough italic numerals to finish it out. The three different combinations are said to occur one or two times on some sheets.

In addition to inverted overprints, double and triple overprints are also found. The errors "Habilitad*a*," "2911" etc. should also be found with these double and triple overprints. We have not quoted prices on such printer's waste which these, together with the inverted surcharges, appear to be. According to Scott (1924) the errors "Habilitad*a*" and "2911" also appear on No. 81.

(*Comment:* The 5 ct. was authorized on 30 May 1911, the 10 ct. not until January 6, 1912. It is worth noting that in the decree authorizing the latter, it is directed that the overprint shall be applied in *red* but it is evident from the comparative scarcity of stamps with this color of overprint that the great majority were overprinted in black. Moya, op. cit., states that the 10 ct. with red surcharge also occurs on the stamp perforated 14. The varieties with Roman "I" substituted for the numeral "1" appear to be legitimate enough since we have found these postally used and even on commercial cover —an unusual thing for any varieties of these issues. The variety "*I*911" occurs in positions 6 and 21 of the setting; "19*I*1" in position 19 and "191*I*" in position 50. There are several settings and neither these nor the "Habilitad*a*" variety occur in all. The varieties "191*I*" and "2911" are from an entirely different (and probably speculative) setting. Moya stated that there is even one setting in which no varieties are found! All of the substituted Roman "I" varieties and the "Habilitad*a*" variety are found on the 10 ct. in both colors of the overprint. *End of comment*).

Black Overprint, Type A12

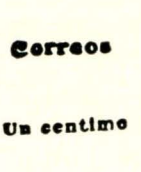
82. 4 ct., lilac and black (No. 54)

No. 82 was apparently issued several months later than No. 80 and 81.

(*Comment:* This provisional was authorized in the same decree as the 10 ct. (No. 81) above, that is on January 6, 1912. The quantity was 50,000 and, miracle of miracles!, there are no known varieties whatsoever! *End of comment.*)



M 42



A 13

1911 (November 19) Third provisional issue. Telegraph stamps of 1910 design M42 (engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co., perforated 12.) converted to 1 ct. postage stamps by two line surcharge A13.

83. Un centimo on 10 ct. blue, red surcharge
    (a) double surcharge
    (b) "Coereos" (?)

83A. Un centimo on 10 ct. blue, red surcharge, distance between lines 9¼ mm.
    (a) black surcharge

84. Un centimo on 25 ct. violet, black surcharge
    (a) double surcharge
    (b) "Coereos"

85. Un centimo on 50 ct., red brown, blue surcharge
    (a) double surcharge
    (b) inverted surcharge

86. Un centimo on 1 colon, dark brown, red surcharge

87. Un centimo on 5 colon, red, blue surcharge
    (a) double surcharge

88. Un centimo on 10 colon, black brown, red surcharge.

No. 83 to 88 were authorized by decree of November 15, 1911 and issued several days later. In addition to double and inverted overprints, other varieties known include double surcharge, one inverted; pairs, one without surcharge and so on. (See remarks above concerning previous issues.) The numbers issued are reported so variously that we have decided not to give any quantity figures at all.

(*Comment:* The first decree authorizing the surcharging of the American Bank Note

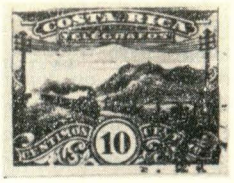
Co. type telegraphs was dated on the *eleventh* of November and published in "La Gaceta" on the 14th. It called for the surcharging of "285,000 telegraph stamps of various values" without making any distinction as to quantity of each value to be overprinted. On 6 December another decree authorized the surcharging of an additional 806,176 25 centimos Telegraphs of this type. There were thus 1,091,176 small Telegraphs of all values overprinted. The black surcharge on the 10 ct. is wrongly ascribed as a sub-variety of the 10 ct. with 9¼ mm. spacing as it is also in Scott. The genuine black surcharge only occurs in the 8 mm. spacing. The variety "Coereos" is No. 5 in the setting and in the sheet as well; Moya states that it is never found in sheet position 10 even though, as with other of these provisionals, the printing was done on half sheets of fifty. Caution should be observed in purchasing any of the "errors" and the black surcharge on the 10 ct., especially in used condition. There are many forgeries in the market in which the counterfeiters took telegraphically used stamps to make their wares, either with or without removing the cancellation before applying the false overprint. *End of comment.*)

(Date?) 5 ct. telegraph stamp converted into a 5 ct. postage stamp by application of blue overprint, type A14.

89. 5 centimos on 5 centimos, orange.
    (a) double
    (b) inverted
    (c) pair, one without surcharge

No. 89 was issued later than Nos. 83 - 88 and perhaps as late as 1912. This item occurs with double surcharge, inverted surcharge and as pair, one without surcharge.

(*Comment:* Two printings of this stamp were authorized: the first, by the same decree authorizing the 1 ct. on 25 ct. small telegraph (6 December, 1911) called for 633,220; the second, on 12 February 1912, called for an additional 649,801. The same cautionary remarks about counterfeits of the varieties apply to this stamp. *End of comment.*)



M 43

Correos
5
5 centimos

A 14

Correos
Dos centimos
2

A 15

		P. 14 x 11½	P. 14	Correos Inverted	Number Issued
90.	2 ct. on 5 ct., yellow brown	—	5.00	?	15,500
91.	2 ct. on 10 ct., blue	45.00	45.00	—	1,500
92.	2 ct. on 50 ct., wine red	.30	12.50	—	86,000
93.	2 ct. on 1 Col., brown	.35	.60	—	92,000
94.	2 ct. on 2 Col., carmine rose	.50	—	10.00	90,000
95.	2 ct. on 5 Col., green	.60	—	10.00	42,000
96.	2 ct. on 10 Col., brown lilac	.60	—	—	42,000

From private sources, the actual number issued of No. 91 is said to be only 1,000 stamps. The error, "Correos" inverted, on No. 94 was found by "Illustr. Briefm. Zeit." to be from position Nos. 91 and 96 in the sheet. This error is also reported on No. 91 by Scott. Double and inverted surcharges occur (including Nos. 94 and 95 with "Correos" inverted) on nearly all values; there are also pairs, one without surcharge. Refer to remarks above.

(*Comment:* The 2 ct. provisionals on large Telegraph stamps were authorized on December 6, 1911. The total quantity called for by the decree was 370,778, slightly more than the total of the individual quantities given by Munk (369,000). All denominations exist perforated 14 all around. There seems to be no question that the "Correos" inverted variety occurs on 90 and 91 as well as 94 and 95. The position in the sheet is correctly given but it may occur in one-half of the sheet and not in the other. It is extremely scarce, especially in the 10 ct. of which, assuming that the error occurred in both halves of all sheets, there could only be 20 to 30 copies. For this reason, it has been extensively counterfeited in all values, particularly the 10 ct., and the market is flooded with these fakes. It is advisable not to purchase any errors on these stamps in used condition for the same reasons as given above, and copies without gum should also be suspect. There are no genuine varieties of the 2 ct. on 10 colon. For an extended discussion of the large telegraph provisionals see "The Costa Rican Philatelist," Vol. I, No. 6, August, 1952. *End of comment.*)



M 44

1921 (June 17) Type M44. (large rectangular). Commemorative issue to celebrate the 100th Jubilee of Coffee Cultivation. Lithographed, printed in San José. Perforated 11½.

97. 5 ct., blue and black
(a) tete beche pair

Plate of 50 stamps; the two rows in the middle of the sheet are said to be inverted (tete beche).

(*Comment:* The tete beche pairs are probably due to the use of two transfers of twenty-five stamps each to make the plate. Also known imperforate. *End of comment.)*



In September, 1921, there came into the market an apparently official issue commemorating the Centenary of Central American Independence. These stamps showed the design printed herewith, a rectangle with busts of Presidents Mora and Acosta. According to "Scott's Monthly Journal" of June, 1924, these stamps had neither official sanction nor any franking power; rather that J. M. Arias, the director of the Government Printing Office in San José, after conferring with the Philatelic Society of Costa Rica had suggested the issue of such stamps. The director was permitted by decree of September, 1921, to print these stamps at the Government Printing Office at his own expense and then sell them to the public. The stamps had no franking power and they could be used on letters as additional stamps only providing they had a special control cancellation, the purpose of which was to prevent their being used as regular stamps. Use of these stamps on any postal matter without this special cancellation was forbidden. The stamps were divided between the printing office and the Society, which had paid for the printing cost, and were apparently sold to the public through the Bank of Costa Rica. The proofs and printer's waste (unfinished stamps, printing errors and inverted centers) were retained by the printer who later sold them to the stamp trade. The colors of the

stamps are: 2 ct., orange yellow; 3 ct., green; 6 ct., red; 15 ct., blue, and 30 ct., brown, all with black centers. Perforated 12.

(*Comment:* It is not our intention to defend this questionable issue when we set forth the following data to correct misinformation as given in the text. Despite the fact that it had government sanction, it was, apparently, an entirely speculative issue, and the rule of "caveat emptor" should certainly apply to it. The decree, No. 25, was issued on 6 September 1921 and published in "La Gaceta" on the 8th. It called for the "issue and circulation" of 2,000 of the 30 ct. value and 5,000 each of the four lower values. No mention is made in the decree of the expense being borne by any private party. In article 2 of the decree it is stated that "The use of these stamps shall be optional from the 10th to the 20th of September next inclusive." Article 4 directs that the issue "shall be used obligatorily during the day of 15 September of the current year" as translated by J. A. Weston in his article on this issue in the "American Stamp Journal" for March, 1939. An alternative translation would read "The said stamps shall have legal currency on the day of 15 September of the current year." Weston, in the article cited, stated that the issue was sent to the U. P. U. for distribution and was so distributed on October 8, 1921. This he confirmed in correspondence with the then incumbent director of the Postal Union. Most covers bearing these stamps are obviously philatelic bearing the commemorative cancellation which Dr. Munk erroneously refers to as a control mark. (This cancellation was also used to cancel the stamps in the sheet and most used sets are found so cancelled.) We have seen just one cover on which the stamps were cancelled by the regular San José dated postmark. Regardless of the official sanction which the issue received, we believe that far more than the authorized number of sets exist, that it is considerably overpriced at the rate at which generally offered and that all sub-varieties (imperforate, inverted centers, etc. etc.) with the exception of the tete beche pairs which occur in the sheet naturally, should have no philatelic value. *End of comment.*)

On the occasion of the same celebration and bearing a similar inscription, a large, rectangular 5 ct., violet, commemorative stamp in type M46 (see below), designed by G. Prudhomme and printed in France was brought out. In spite of a report by "Illustr. Briefm. Zeit." (1922, p. 271) noting this stamp used on letters several times, the fact that it was later overprinted "Correos" calls for caution. Also it was never proved or stated whether the stamp when used had franking power or whether an additional stamp was required. Nor has it been proven whether it was used in September, 1921, or thereabouts. Atfer the issue of No. 105 (with surcharge) there was an easy opportunity to pass it off as a regular postage stamp. We have, therefore, for the present decided not to give this stamp a catalog number.

5 ct., violet, perf. 11 (M46 without overprint)

(*Comment:* This stamp is, of course, Scott's No. 104. It was regularly authorized by decree No. 13 issued on March 2, 1920, which authorized its preparation, and No. 20 dated 6 September 1921 which authorized its circulation. The former decree stated that the circulation period should be from September 15 to December 31, 1921. It is rather scarce on cover and appears to have been not too greatly used. The decree authorizing Kohl's No. 105 (the "Correos—1922" overprint on this stamp) called for revalidating 500,000 of this stamp, an amount which represented the entire printing of the basic stamp. This would tend to confirm Dr. Munk's theory, but it probably represents a "round number" quantity rather than the actual quantity of the remainders. *End of comment.*)

Furthermore, during the war with the neighboring Republic of Panama, stamps are supposed to have been issued in the town of Almirante under occupation by Costa Rican troops, carrying a three-line overprint "Almirante - Occupation - Costarricense" in capitals in black or violet. According to "Stamp Collecting," Vol. XVI, p. 646, the current 5 ct. stamp of Panama was the one overprinted while Gibbons reports the 5 ct. stamp of Costa Rica, No. 71, as the one surcharged.

(*Comment:* We have seen only the 5 ct., 1910, stamp of Costa Rica so overprinted although it is quite probable that the overprint exists on Panamanian stamps as well. The covers which we have seen are cancelled with the regular Almirante postmark on March 5, 1921 and backstamped at Limon on the 7th and San José the 8th. The overprint, which is handstamped, is in the same color ink as the Almirante postmark. *End of comment.*)



M 45

1921 (Autumn) M45. Supplemental value for the issue of 1910 Recess engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co., Perforated 12.

98. 15 ct., violet

(*Comment:* The issuing decree for this stamp refers to it as a commemorative in honor of Bolivar which was to be issued on his birthday in 1921 on which date also a bust was to be unveiled in a park which was to be renamed in honor of the Liberator. The issue date was 24 July not "Autumn." This stamp was also ordered to use for the increased single foreign first class rate which had been increased fifty per cent by decree of Congress in 1917. *End of comment.*)



A 16

1922 (Spring) Commemorative issue celebrating 100 years of coffee cultivation. Stamps Nos. 68 - 72 and 98 with surcharge A16.

		Overprint	Quantity
99.	1 ct., brown	blue	400,000
100.	2 ct., dark green	red	200,000
101.	4 ct., scarlet red	blue	100,000
102.	5 ct., orange	blue	100,000
103.	10 ct., deep blue	red	75,000
104.	15 ct., violet	gold	50,000

Inverted overprints have been seen on all values.

(*Comment:* This was a propaganda overprint for the promotion of Costa Rican coffee and not a commemorative as stated. It was authorized in January and probably appeared then, because essays are known with the date 1921 indicating that earlier issue had been contemplated. The color of overprint on the 4 and 5 centimos stamps is black, not blue. *End of comment.*)

1922 M46. Large rectangular stamp com-



M 46



A 17

memorating Centenary of Independence (see above) with black two line surcharge type A17 issued as a regular postage stamp. Perforated 11.

105. 5 ct., violet Printing: 500,000



A 18

1922 (End of year) Semi-postal stamp issued for the benefit of the Red Cross Society. Stamp No. 71 with red overprint type A18.

106. 5+5 ct., orange. Printing: 200,000

1923 (June 18) M47. Commemorative stamps honoring the centenary of the birth of President Jesus Jimenez. Locally manufactured. Lithographed. Perforated 12 x 11½.

108. 2 ct., brown
109. 4 ct., green
110. 5 ct., light blue
111. 20 ct., rose carmine
112. 1 colon, dark violet

These stamps were supposed to have been demonetized on December 31, 1923.



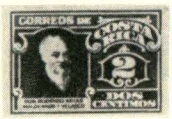
M 47



M 48 - 49 - 50 - 51 - 52 - 53 - 54 - 55 - 56

1923 M48-56. Design by Postmaster General G. Noriega. Engraved and recess printed by the American Bank Note Co., New York. Perforated 12.

113. 1 ct., purple (National Monument)
114. 2 ct., chrome yellow (Coffee harvest)
115. 4 ct., green (Banana harvest)
116. 5 ct., bright blue (General Post Office)
117. 10 ct., brown (Columbus Seeking Aid with Indians)
118. 12 ct., lt. carmine (Columbus' Head)
119. 20 ct., blue (Columbus Landing at Port Limon)
120. 40 ct., orange (Map of Costa Rica)
121. 1 C., olive green (M. M. Gutierrez, Composer of the National Anthem.)



M 57

1924 M57. (Don Rodrigo Arias Maldonado) Small rectangle. Design by T. S. Guell. Engraved and recess-printed by Waterlow and Sons. Perforated 14.

122. 2 ct., green

The proposed issue was 1,000,000. This stamp was issued for use on calling cards and invitations for local delivery.

1924 (July 24) Commemorative issue celebrating the centenary of the annexation of the peninsula of Nicoya (Province of Guanacaste).

Nos. 123-126: Map of the province of Guanacaste similar to type M55.

Nos. 127-129: Cathedral at Nicoya. Designs by G. Noriega. Printed by the American Bank Note Co. Perforated 12.

123.	1 ct., red	200,000
124.	2 ct., lilac	200,000
125.	5 ct., deep green	200,000
126.	10 ct., dull orange	100,000
127.	15 ct., blue	100,000
128.	20 ct., grey black	75,000
129.	25 ct., brown	50,000

This issue is said to have remained in circulation until February 23, 1925.

(*Comment:* The period of use originally authorized for these stamps was from July 24, 1924 to February 28, 1925 but a decree issued in November, 1925 continued the series in legal use indefinitely. *End of comment.*)

Postage Due



P 1



P 2

1903. P1. Engraved and colored recess printing by Waterlow and Sons, London. Numeral of value separately printed in black. Perforation about 14.

1. 5 ct., slate blue
2. 10 ct., orange brown
3. 15 ct., green
4. 20 ct., rose carmine
5. 25 ct., ultramarine
6. 30 ct., brown
7. 40 ct., brown olive
8. 50 ct., red lilac

According to contemporary stories in the philatelic press, postal clerks because of laziness are said to have used only the 5 and 10 ct. values. On the other hand, during the period of use of Nos. 1 - 8, whole rows of these stamps were cancelled to order and sold under face value. According to "Gibbons Monthly Journal," Vol. XV, p. 8, about the middle of 1904, 300 lines of such cancelled-to-order stamps, still with gum, were offered for sale at the price of two francs per line. Later on the stamps were also provided with the mass cancellation of five thin parallel lines. For further information refer to comments under stamp No. 53. For this reason we have not quoted prices on used stamps of this issue. On the other hand, genuinely used stamps, especially of the higher values, of this issue are worth several times the price of mint copies.

(*Comment:* We do not entirely agree with the last statement. Completely mint copies of this issue, i. e., without the bar cancellation, are extremely scarce. We believe that they should be on a par with genuinely used stamps as to value. *End of comment.*)

1915 (August 1) P2. New design with value in same color as design. One color lithograph by American Bank Note Co. Perf. 12.

9. 2 ct., red orange
10. 4 ct., blue
11. 8 ct., green
12. 10 ct., violet
13. 20 ct., brown

According to "Stamp Collector" these stamps were first issued in September. Our date of issue is, however, taken from "Illustr. Briefm. Zeit.," 1915. The name of the printing company is printed at the bottom of each stamp with the addition "Litho" (-graphic department).

(*Comment:* The August date of issue is correct. *End of comment.*)

Official Stamps

According to official regulations of the post office department, Official stamps are not to be cancelled. Cancelled Official stamps are the result of favor or connivance of the postal clerks. The remainders sold to the trade occur with the same fake cancellations as are found on ordinary stamps. Stamps of type M1 with overprint "Oficial" are frauds prepared by J. J. Ross from the remainders he purchased.

Oficial

DA 1

1883 (April) Stamps Nos. 12 - 16, type M2, with colored overprint; Nos. 1 and 2 after 1885 with black overprint. DA1 (upper and lower case Antique type, length of overprint 13½ mm.)

1. 1 ct., green overprinted in red
   (a) black overprint (February 1885)
2. 2 ct., carmine, overprinted in blue
   (a) black overprint (1885)
3. 5 ct., blue violet, overprinted in red
4. 10 ct., golden yellow, overprinted in green
5. 40 ct., deep blue, overprinted in red

OFICIAL OFICIAL

DA 2 - 3

1886 (About August) Stamps Nos. 12 - 15 as before but with new official overprint in Antique capitals, DA2 or DA3 (length of overprints, DA2, 13 mm.; DA3, thicker letters, 15½ mm.)

	Overprint Color	I (DA2)	II (DA3)
6. 1 ct., green	black	1.00	1.00
7. 2 ct., carmine	black	1.25	1.40
8. 5 ct., blue violet	red	12.00	10.00
9. 10 ct., gold. yellow	black	16.00	7.50

(*Comment:* The prices are here preserved simply to complete Kohl's tabular form of listing these two overprints. They are, of course, obsolete. *End of comment.*)

Both of these overprints were first reported at the same time in "Timbre Poste," August, 1886. In the Albrecht collection there was a pair showing the two types of overprint se tenant. ("Gibbons Stamp Weekly," Vol. IX, p. 151). There are no reports in the contemporary stamp press ("Timbre Poste," "Illustr. Briefm. Zeit.," "Philatelique Record" etc.) concerning the appearance of the next overprint, type DA4. It is chronicled for the first time in the "American Journal of Philately," 1888, p. 22, with the date of issue given as 1886. This date was adopted from Collin and Calman and from there has apparently gotten into the catalogs.

Oficial

DA 4

—— (date?) Stamps Nos. 14 and 15 with black overprint type DA4 in upper and lower case. Antique. Length 12 mm.

10. 5 ct., blue violet
11. 10 ct., golden yellow

Concerning the date of issue and period of use of Nos. 10 and 11 nothing is known except as given above.

(*Comment:* It might be well here to inform the reader that it was not the practice to issue the Official stamps by formal decree in the earlier period. We are unable, therefore, to throw any light on the probable dates of any issues prior to that of 1908, which see. *End of comment.*)

OFICIAL.

DA 5

1887 Stamps Nos. 12 - 16 of the issue of 1883 and Nos. 19 and 20 of the issue of 1887 with black overprint DA5 (with or without period).

		Without "OFICIAL" Period
12.	1 ct., green	x x
13.	2 ct., carmine	x x
14.	5 ct., blue violet	— —
15.	10 ct., golden yellow	x x
	(a) double overprint	
16.	40 ct., deep blue	x x

On the Stamps of the 1887 Issue

17.	5 ct., blue violet	x x
18.	10 ct., golden yellow	x x
	(a) (OF)1(CIAL)	

(*Comment*: In the above table an "x" indicates that Kohl listed and priced the variety; a double dash that it was unknown. *End of comment.*)

This overprint was first reported by the stamp press on the two stamps of type M4. No. 18a was reported by "Gibbons Stamp Weekly," Vol. IX, p. 151, (from the Albrecht collection). As for the surcharge without period it appears to be only from sheets with overprint type DA5.

(*Comment:* No. 14 above is, of course, Scott's old No. O21, removed from the catalog in the 1951 edition. Leading specialists have long been on record that the stamp did not genuinely exist. *End of comment.*)

OFICIAL

DA 6

1889 (Fall) Stamps of the issue of 1889, type M6, with black overprint type DA6.

19. 1 ct., sepia brown
20. 2 ct., blue green
21. 5 ct., orange
22. 10 ct., red brown
23. 20 ct., green
24. 50 ct., rose carmine

1892 Postage stamps of the 1892 issue (Coat of Arms) with black overprint as above.

25. 1 ct., green blue
26. 2 ct., golden yellow
27. 5 ct., violet
28. 10 ct., green
29. 20 cts. cinnabar
30. 50 ct., grey blue

1901 Stamps of the issue of 1901 (M11-17) with black overprint as above.

31. 1 ct., green and black
32. 2 ct., orange red & black
33. 5 ct., pale blue & black
34. 10 ct., yel. ocher & black
35. 20 ct., wine red & black
36. 50 ct., lilac and blue
37. 1 C., olive yellow & black

The Overprint DA6 on the issue of 1889 shows the same skillful workmanship as Guanacaste overprint GA14 and the type face is similar. On the other hand, overprint DA6 as applied to later issues appears to be of cruder workmanship. If the report of Senf is true that GA14 was made in London, the suspicion would be justified that DA6 was first applied in London and that later printings were made in Costa Rica. None of the higher values of these issues, other than those listed, were overprinted. Remainders of Nos. 19 - 24 were sold to the highest bidder in early 1893. Quantitities of remainders were: Nos. 19, 20 and 22, about 100,000; Nos. 21 and 23, about 150,-000 each and No. 24, 24,000.

PROVISORIO

OFICIAL

DA 7

OFICIAL

DA 8

1903 (January) Provisional official stamp. Stamp No. 45 with green overprint DA7.

		Normal
38.	2 ct., red and black	4.00
	(a) Inverted	8.00

"PROVISOIO"	"PROVISIORO"	"PROVISIORIO"
Unpriced	20.00	Unpriced
Unpriced	40.00	Unlisted

The errors "Provisoio" and "Provisioro" occur once in each sheet. These two errors have also been reported inverted by "Gibbons Stamp Weekly," Vol. IX, p. 143. "Provisioro" is from position 100 in the sheet.

1903 Additional values. Stamps Nos. 54, 55 and 56 with black overprint type DA6.

39. 4 ct., lilac and black
40. 6 ct., olive yellow and black
41. 25 ct., pale violet and black

1908 (About April) Stamps of 1907 with overprint type DA8.

42. 1 ct., brown & blue black
43. 2 ct., yel. green and black
44. 4 ct., carm. rose & black
45. 5 ct., orange & blue black
46. 10 ct., blue and black
47. 25 ct., pale violet & black
48. 50 ct., red lilac & black
49. 1 C., dark brown & black

(*Comment:* Since the Service stamps above were authorized by the same decree as the basic postage stamps, it seems likely that they could have been issued earlier than the 1908 date generally given. *End of comment.*)

OFICIAL

15 VI-1917

DA 9

1917 (About Sept.) Stamps Nos. 71 and 72 with black two line overprint DA9.

50. 5 ct., orange
51. 10 ct., light blue

Amount of issue apparently 30,000 and 20,000. Overprinting errors are printer's waste, trash or something worse.

(*Comment:* The authorizing decree for these stamps was dated in June. The correct amounts are 50,000 of the 5 ct. and 30,000 of the 10 ct. *End of comment.*)

1920 Stamp No. 73 with red overprint type DA10.

52. 15 ct., on 20 ct., olive

1921 Officials on the 1908 issue with additional black overprint "1921-22" and (Nos. 54 and 55) with additional surcharge altering the face value. (Numbers in parenthesis refer to the official stamps.)

53. 4 ct. carmine & blue blk (44)	10,000
(a) "1291" instead of "1921"	200
54. 6 ct./1 ct. brown & blk (42)	10,000
55. 20 ct./25 ct. violet & blk (47)	20,000
56. 50 ct. red lilac & dk. blue (48)	2,200
57. 1 col. dk. brown & blk (49)	4,000

1921 Official stamp No. 50 with additional red overprint "10 CTS."

58. 10 cts. on 5 cts., orange (No. 50)

No. 54 and 55 are known without period after "CTS". No. 54 without period apparently occurs 4 times on the sheet, total number of this error, 400 examples.

(*Comment:* The overprint color on No. 58 should, of course, be black. *End of comment.*)

1923 Jesus Jimenez commemorative (Stamps No. 108 etc., type M47) with black overprint "OFICIAL."

OFICIAL

(NOTE: Where the word "Oficial" appears above it was printed in the same type as the actual overprint.)

59. 2 ct., brown
60. 4 ct., green
61. 5 ct., light blue
62. 20 ct., carmine rose
63. 1 col., dark violet

For official use only 1,000 sets of these commemoratives were supposed to have been overprinted but at the present time according to "Scott's Monthly Journal" there is an offering of ten times that quantity at a cheap price.

(*Comment:* This is a serious *error* for which Scott's and their informant, a Mr. Edward Evans, must assume the blame. Actually there were just as many Service stamps of this series authorized as there were regular stamps, in other words 25,000 complete sets. Although at first ordered to be demonetized on December 31, 1923, the use of the Officials was prolonged indefinitely by decree of November 24, 1925. Finally, on October 25, 1926, the remainders were officially incinerated. *End of comment.*)

End.

TIBET

Some Forgeries of the 1912 Issue

By E. A. SMYTHIES

Mr. Haverbeck in his excellent and comprehensive articles on Tibet,* recently published in this magazine, describes three types of forgeries of the 1912 issue, the salient features of which are given as follows:—

Type III. Lithographed on laid paper (3 lower values only).

Type II. The space between the outer circle and outer frame at top is too wide.

Type I. Measurements incorrect, i. e. too tall.

Mr. Haverbeck specifically notes the "POTSAGE" error on the 2/3 tranka does *not* occur.

While I was living in Kathmandu, Nepal, I acquired a number of Tibetan stamps, some genuine covers to Nepal, some genuine singles, and—rather unexpectedly in such a remote locality—quite a number of forgeries. Amongst the latter was a POTSAGE error, but before describing it I shall venture to comment on Mr. Haverbeck's definition of Type I.

Measurements of the genuine stamps vary appreciably, which is not surprising, considering that each impression was from a separate engraving on a wood block. Mr. Haverbeck's article suggests that stamps measuring 20 mm. across are forgeries of Type I, but actually a few genuine stamps also measure 20 mm., e.g. the 1/6 tranka No. 1, the ½ tranka Nos. 3, 6, the 2/3 tranka Nos. 1, 5, and 9.

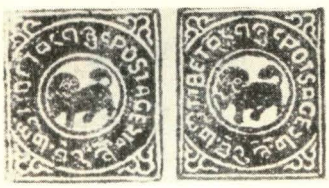


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

In reference to the POTSAGE forgery. I illustrate (Fig. 1) a pair Nos. 5 and 6 which are genuine, (Fig. 2) a single, which is a forgery, although the measurements—19½ x 22½ mm.—are correct. The more obvious mistakes are as follows:—

1. *The Lion's legs.* Genuine. The two near legs both touch the inner circle. The back off-leg bears little resemblance to a leg.

   Forgery. None of the legs touches the inner circle and the back off leg looks like a leg, and like nothing else.

2. *T of POTSAGE.* Genuine. A very short top.

   Forgery. A very long top.

* COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. XXXI, Nos. 2 to 4.

3. *White dots in circle around the Lion.* Genuine. Close together and about 46 in the whole circle.

Forgery. More widely spaced, and only 38 in the circle. These differences are of design, and establish a forgery.

I have another forgery of the 2/3 tranka, which is not Type II, and has the correct measurements (see (Fig. 3) of the illustrations). In this forgery, all four legs touch the inner circle, and the 3rd. Tibetan character after E at 5 o'clock is the wrong character. This, too, does not fall into Mr. Haverbeck's classification.



Fig. 3

I have two more forgeries, one green, one blue, showing the same mistake, i.e. the first Tibetan character after T at 11 o'clock is much too large a rectangle (see (Fig. 4) of the illustration). In the genuine stamp it is always small.



Fig. 4

These notes, and the accompanying illustrations, suggest that there are more forgeries of the Tibet 1912 issue than mentioned in Mr. Haverbeck's article. But perhaps one has to go to Kathmandu to find them(?)

In the 1933 issue also, Mr. Haverbeck notes there are several forgeries of which the salient points are:—(1) the colors are not good, (2) the frame lines are poorly printed, in most cases appearing as a thick single line rather than two thin double lines. I have a number of forgeries of this issue also, many of which show good colors and thin double frame lines. But the feature common to all values, and which gives the best means of recognizing these forgeries, is



Fig. 5

the 6th Tibetan character (above the Lion's tail). The bottom part is definitely angular ག in the genuine stamps, and definitely curved ག in the forgeries. (Fig. 5) and (6) of the illustrations compare the genuine with the forgery.



Fig. 6

All philatelic students of this fascinating country will be immensely grateful to Mr. Haverbeck for his beautifully illustrated articles in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, and the information they contain.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 276.)

scholars but the standing of all of them as gentlemen could be questioned. On the other hand, there have been a number of gentlemen who collected stamps without knowing very much about them. Therefore, the combination, a gentleman and a scholar, appears to occur most seldom in philately.

H. M. G.

BREMEN

The British Post Office

By EDWIN MUELLER

Among the many interesting problems that postal-historical research still has to solve is the comparatively large percentage of "mysteries" concerning post offices established and operated by a number of countries on foreign soil. There are three categories of such unsolved problems. The first concerns post offices, which according to official documents existed, but from which no postmarks or other evidence of actual operation have been found. To the second category belong post offices where no official documents disclose their existence, but postmarks and other evidence of actual operation have been found. In the third category are post offices, which are suspected of having existed by students of postal history, but for which no postmarks or other positive evidence of existence have been revealed. This article deals with a post office, which up to now belonged to the third category, but which now can be transferred definitely, based on the evidence presented, into the second category.

Before we go into the matter with which this article deals, we want to consider the fact that there were actually two quite different kinds of post offices on foreign soil, to which the students of postal history have failed to give the attention it deserves. There were real post offices which functioned almost exactly as a post office at home, accepting letters and other mail from the public, forwarding them to their destination, receiving mail from home and other countries for delivery to the local population. In some cases, mail in transit from one post office to another was also handled. In sharp contrast to these real post offices were other postal institutions also called "post offices" but which did not really warrant this name. They neither accepted nor delivered mail to and from the public. They dealt only with other post offices, handling mail obtained from them in transit to other post offices. In most cases, one of the postal services involved was that of the host country, the other that of the mother country. In such cases the post office on foreign territory was solely an agency to facilitate the transit of mail from the host country to the mother country or vice-versa. Also it cannot be called a "post office" for the reason that, in a large number of cases, it was not a real "office" because all functions were executed by a postal agent directly employed by the home post office, working on a temporary foreign assignment. His job was to take charge of the mail addressed to his home country or in transit through it from the foreign post office and see it safely to its destination. Such postal agents simply extended the operating radius of the home post office to the foreign countries by taking charge of the mail at the point of origin and not merely after arrival in the country of destination. In the reverse direction, they could keep possession of the mail after it left the country to see that it safely reached its destination, where they delivered it to the foreign postal service. Postal administrations with world-wide interests, protecting the trade of their country, in that way acted like an octopus which extended its tentacles all over the world.

The problem which we are trying to solve concerns the *British post office* at the Free City of *Bremen*. The only reference we find in philatelic literature is in Robson Lowe's "Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps", which on page 278 of Volume I under the heading "Germany" remarks: "It is probable that there were British P. O.'s in Bremen and other northern

ports; so far only Hamburg has been recorded." The Hamburg postmarks, listed and pictured, are, aside from a rather questionable "HAMBURG" of 1802-03, two HAMBURG markings for paid letters, undoubtedly of British provenience, used from 1859 to 1866.

The postal connections between the postal service of Bremen, the "Stadtpost", and the General Post Office at London were based upon a postal treaty prior to the issuance of stamps by the "Stadtpost". The letter rate was 7sg for each ½ loth (equal to about ¼ ounce). On April 10, 1855, the "Stadtpost" issued its first postage stamps, which were for domestic mail only. The postage on mail to foreign countries continued to be paid in cash. Later postage stamps were gradually introduced for use on foreign mail. On mail to Great Britain and Ireland, an amended postal treaty, of June 20, 1859, led to the introduction of stamps. From July 1, 1859, the single letter rate was reduced to 5sg and shortly thereafter—the earliest dated copies are from October, 1859—a green 5sg stamp, equivalent to 11 grote, was issued by the "Stadtpost". Almost all letters to England were franked with single copies of this 5sg stamp. One of the few recorded cases of two Bremen stamps on a cover to England is a registered cover with 5sg plus a 5 grote stamp, the latter covering the registration fee. This rare cover also is one of the few known mixed frankings between stamps in grote gold currency and the 5 silbergroschen and it provided the clue in regard to the British postal service at Bremen.

Mail from Bremen to England originally was sent in transit through Belgium via Ostende, but on May 1, 1860, a direct service by steamers of the North German Lloyd, a new shipping company, established only three years earlier, started to operate between Bremerhaven, the seaport of Bremen on the one side, Hull and London on the other side. The steamers left every Monday from Bremerhaven for Hull and every Thursday for London. Mail was accepted at the Bremen "Stadtpost" office until 7 P. M. of the preceding evening. The letter rate for this new service was the same, 5sg, as for the mail route via Ostende which remained in operation concurrently. In addition to letters, book packages could now be sent to England via Bremerhaven at a reduced rate of 2½sg for 4 loth, 5sg over 4 loth to 8 loth, 10sg over 8 loth to 1 pound and 15sg over 1 pound to 1½ pound. This was supplemented from Jan. 1, 1865, by a reduced rate for samples, which now paid 2 grote for each loth, with a maximum weight of 15 loth. Postage was divided between Bremen and Great Britain; of the letter rate each obtained 2½sg. The Belgian transit charges for letters via Ostende were paid by both countries in equal shares.

The letter on which we base our findings about the British postal service at Bremen was originally in the Baron Alphonse de Rothschild collection, then sold at a London auction and finally came in the Bremen collection of the late George W. Siedenburg of New York, which now belongs to the Collectors Club. It was mailed on December 15, 1867—only two weeks before the end of the "Stadtpost" as the separate Bremen postal service—at the Bremen "Stadtpost" office, a registered commercial letter sheet, sent by a Bremen business firm to a business firm in Liverpool. Postage was paid by a 5sg stamp, the registration fee by a 5 grote stamp, both perforated. The stamps are cancelled by the usual boxed BREMEN postmark, with date "15.12.* 9-10". The cover has other markings—a red handstamp "Registered" in an octagonal oblong frame, another red handstamp "P.D. 2½ Sgr.", which shows the division of postage between the Bremen post office and the British post office, and, the most important feature, a red circle "BREMEN / REGISTERED" with check letter "A" and date "DE 16 / 67", of typical British manufacture and the same type as used by many other British post offices. On the back of the letter sheet is an arrival marking, a red double circle "REGISTERED / LIVERPOOL" with check letter "A", dated "DE 17 / 67".

If we try to reconstruct the journey taken by this letter we arrive at interesting conclusions. The letter was mailed at the "Stadtpost" office on the morning of December 15, 1867, which was a Sunday. The "Stadtpost" cancelled the stamps and stamped the octagonal "Registered" as well as "P.D. 2½ Sgr." on the letter. The evening of the same day, the letter was handed over to the British postal agent at Bremen, proba-



Registered letter from Bremen to Liverpool showing registration postmark of the British postal agent at Bremen. (The Siedenburg Collection, property of the Collectors Club.)

bly at the same time paying to him the British share (2½sg) of the postage. The agent affixed his circular handstamp for registered letters on the letter and dispatched it by railroad to Bremerhaven, whence it left on Monday, December 16, for the 400 mile boat trip to Hull. It arrived there on Tuesday, December 17, and was forwarded by railroad to its destination, Liverpool, about 100 miles away. It was delivered to the addressee the same day, as is revealed by a filing note inside the letter.

The letter, unusual and perhaps unique, establishes beyond doubt, that a British postal agent operated at Bremen. Obviously he did not accept any mail from the public, but he worked in close cooperation with the "Stadtpost". It remains to be ascertained why only this one cover is known with a British postmark of Bremen. The reason seems to be that only registered letters were handed to the British postal agent singly and were handled by him individually, while regular letters were delivered to him in closed mail sacks, which were opened only in London or Hull where they received the usual "Paid" markings for foreign mail. A rather large number of unregistered letters from Bremen to England, which we have examined, partly from the same correspondence to Liverpool as the pictured letter, all franked with 5sg stamps, show no sign of individual handling by the British postal agent at Bremen. We can safely assume that he used his handstamp on registered letters only. Possibly he had no other handstamp. Registered letters to England, for reasons unknown, are extremely rare. We know only the one we have described, and also the marking of the British postal agent at Bremen is extremely rare.

From this meager evidence, it is rather difficult to arrive at the proper conclusion as to which period of time a British postal agent operated at Bremen. The earliest day should be May 1, 1860, when the direct mail boat service from Bremerhaven to England

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NETHERLANDS INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION, 1952

By HARRY S. HEYMANS

This exhibition held in Utrecht, Holland from June 28 to July 6, 1952 celebrated The Centenary of the issuance of Netherlands' first postage stamp in 1852.

The exhibition was opened officially on June 28, 1952 by His Royal Highness Prince Bernhard. But before the opening, a Meeting of Celebration was held in the Monumental Hall of Utrecht's Post Office, on the same spot where a century ago the first issue of the Netherlands was printed by the Mint.

The ceremony started with a Hadyn symphony, followed by speeches from the Director in Chief of the Postal Services, The Postmaster General, The Chairman of the Netherlands Philatelic Society, while the meeting was terminated by the Netherlands National Hymn.

His Royal Highness, Prince Bernhard, joined the celebration near the end. Then all guests and participants were followed by the band of the Postal Administration and an old style Post Coach through the narrow streets of old Utrecht to the building of the Utrecht Fair, where in the Beatrixhall the exhibition was opened.

At the opening, the first mail with the new Centenary stamps was forwarded by an old style postman on horseback to H. H. Queen Juliana.

The exhibit in the large hall of the Fair Building was mounted in frames, well apart, with good lighting coming from the roof and the side windows.

When the Exhibit was opened to the Public at 2 p. m., the large hall was almost too small, as everyone wanted to buy the four new stamps, which were for sale only at the post office inside the building. A different set of four stamps with the same design but in other colors was on sale in post offices all over the country. Each entry ticket permitted the purchase of one Exhibition set, but nobody was limited to buy only one entry ticket, so one could buy as many entry tickets as desired.

Over 60,000 visitors had been counted when the Exhibit closed on Sunday, July 6th.

There were 278 Exhibitors from all over the world. Although stamps of the Netherlands and Colonies were well represented, this group was certainly not dominating.

The Postal Administration showed in 200 frames the history of the early Postal Service, as well as much connected with the Postal Administration for the past 400 years. Also there was an exhibit from the Postal Museum, the first Netherlands issue in full sheets replated, proofs, essays, designs, as well as special cancellations and markings, including the very fine collection of A. J. Warren, donated to the Postal Museum in the Hague.

In the Court of Honor were such famous collections as that of H. M. Queen Elizabeth II, Sir John Wilson (London), stamps from Great Britain and Colonies highlighting early British Guiana and two copies of the rare Post Office Mauritius.

The list of the award winners has been well publicized in the philatelic press here and abroad so that it will not be repeated. Many top honors went to members of THE COLLECTORS CLUB, such as the well-known Latin-American collections of Dr. Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago, which again earned a gold medal.

Out of the total number of exhibits, there was a comparatively small group of exhibitors from the United States. No prominent American philatelist was represented on the International Jury. The late *John H. Hall* had been invited but was reluctantly unable to accept.

Before closing, some short description should be given of the exhibit shown by the Netherlands Postal Museum. It consisted of a drawing by Dr. A. Vrolyk of the first stamp of the Netherlands, also the original drawing by J. W. Kaiser without the value. The proofs in black of the 5c 1852 issue and colored proofs of the 5c, 10c and 15c as well as proofs of the unissued 20c were shown.

The collection of A. J. Warren (1847-1930) which had been donated to the Post

(Continued on Page 325.)

THE CLUBHOUSE

The Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award

The ceremonies inaugurating the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award took place on Saturday, October 18, 1952, with a dinner held in New York, N. Y. Its success was beyond expectations, as no doubt most have read in the philatelic press, which reported this event.

Due to the fact that the fund solicited is still receiving contributions, no final report to members can be given at this time. It is planned, therefore, to treat this plus all the inaugural ceremonies in the next number of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

But as an interim report, it must be recorded that the response from the Club's members through their contributions has greatly exceeded the total amount anticipated. This is remarkable because the solicitation of funds had been done by only one or two letters at the most and very little publicity. This can only be attributed to the revered standing of the name of *Alfred F. Lichtenstein* in philately. Many contributors throughout the United States and in foreign lands, when mailing their donations, specifically mentioned that they were proud and pleased to participate in a Memorial Award in honor of the one whom they regard as such a great philatelist in an overall sense.

Theodore E. Steinway was the recipient of the first medal, a most appropriate selection to all who know of the close friendship between Messrs. Lichtenstein and Steinway, and how as a pair they continually served philately as almost its unsung heroes.

Meeting of September 17, 1952

Guatemala

The first gathering of the 1952-1953 season of the Collectors Club, was held at the Club Rooms on the evening of September 17, 1952.

Immediately following the call to order by President Jacob Glaser, all of the 52 who were present, including six guests, joined in a moment of silent prayer in memory of those distinguished philatelists who have recently departed,—*John H. Hall, Otto W. Friedl* and *Walter McCoy.*

All present were then requested to congregate in the newly refinished room on the third floor, which Richard S. Bohn proceeded to dedicate as the *Joseph S. Rich Room.* It was completely redecorated in honor of the late Joseph S. Rich, by his well-known son, *Stephen G. Rich,* with the help and cooperation of President Glaser; the Library Committee headed by Julian Gros, with Malcolm O'Reilley and Albert Higgins, who did yeoman work in preparing this room. The new filing shelves contain a wealth of books, catalogues and items—all of historical interest—and the new light fixtures make it a very pleasant spot to pursue research work or just occasional delving into the past.

Vice President John J. Britt reported briefly on the progress made toward the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award Dinner. All were urged to support this important philatelic event. Surprisingly good response has been attained, especially from the non-resident and foreign members.

The meeting was then turned over to Edwin E. Elkins, Chairman of the Program Committee, who introduced *Joseph Mandos,* President of the International Society of Guatemala Collectors. Mr. Mandos spoke most intelligently on his beautiful collection of Guatemala, showing page by page all types of rare covers, proof and die essays, and stampless covers dating back as far as the sixteenth Century. A wealth of detail was presented, including many die essays and die proofs of definitive issues from the 1871 "firsts" up through the issues as late as 1926. This display was philatelic as opposed to a conglomeration, being a fitting send-off for the Collectors Club's 1952-53 season.

E. G. C.

Meeting of October 1, 1952

U. S. 1851's and Boer War Material

At the second meeting of the 1952-53 season, fifty-six members and visitors had the pleasure of hearing two interesting talks and displays on widely separated fields of philately.

Before the speakers began, however, Mr. John J. Britt reported on the great support so far accorded *the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award.* It was then announced that *Mr. H. D. S. Haverbeck* was the new Chairman of the Program Committee. Members were urged to send their program suggestions to him.

The first display was selections from a collection of United States 3c 1851-57, formed by *Mr. Abe Rubel, Jr.* Two speakers commented on it, Mr. Hicks of Philadelphia, and Mr. Sylvester Colby.

The material shown was mainly covers, classified according to cancellations, and included a fine lot of Railroads, Express, Territorial and Colored Cancels, also College Covers, Valentines, Multiple rates, Ship covers and so on. Among the stamps there were included complete reconstructions of both panes of plates V and VII. Altogether it was a fine showing of philatelic interest.

The second display was by *Mr. Stephen G. Rich.* Mr. Rich prefaced his talk by presenting to the President of the Collectors Club Mr. Jacob S. Glaser, on behalf of the SPA, an honorary Souvenir Plate celebrating the occasion of the SPA's 58th Convention, which was held in August, 1952 in New York.

Turning to his material, Mr. Rich launched into the "Melange" of the Boer War Issues. He described them as neither "fish, flesh nor fowl". The various issues are quite complicated, and fail partly in the 19th Century and partly in the 20th Century. The stamps involved include those of Transvaal, Natal, Cape of Good Hope, Orange Free State and the Bechuanalands. Much of the territory changed hands several times between the British and Boer Armies. They are overprinted by the besieged and besieging forces. In at least two instances "local" stamps were prepared for use in besieged towns.

As usual, Mr. Rich's remarks were interesting and illuminating. He dealt with a difficult and complicated subject but in his presentation he brought out many parallelisms with our own Civil War, showing the manner in which the Boer Wars progressed and what happened to some of the personalities involved.

The conclusion related to a display of prisoner of war covers from Boer prisoners who had been sent to widely scattered camps in Ceylon, St. Helena and Bermuda.

E. G. C.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors held on September 24, the following new members were elected:

No.

3050 Vincent Lopez, New York City. Collects Air Mails, and all Stamps from 1940.

3051 Benjamin F. Jumper, Philadelphia, Pa. Collects Postal Stationery, Mexico.

3052 Manuel Galvez, Madrid, Spain. Collects Spain and Colonies, Air Mail, Proofs.

3053 S. Sanford Engel, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects Middle East, Palestine, Israel.

3054 Theodora Marie Koch, Hoboken, N. J. Collects General, Topicals,—Music, History.

3055 James B. Helme, Jr., M.D., Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects Panama, U. S. Commemoratives.

3056 Pitt Petri, Lake View, N. Y. Collects U. S. Postal History, especially Western New York.

3057 Richard H. Leach, Evanston, Ill. Collects Great Britain, France & Colonies, U. S.

3058 Louis D. Kugelman, Toledo, Ohio. Collects Czecho-Slovakia.

3059 Alan Ascher, Fleet P. O., N. Y. Collects U. S. General.

The Library Committee reports the following acquisitions:

"Australian Commonwealth Postage Stamps" by H. Marshall Cummins.

"Les Entiers Postaux de Belgique, Congo Belge et Luxembourg" by Societe Belge de L'Entier Postal 1949.

"The 1d King George V Australian Commonwealth Stamps" by D. M. Neil 1947.

"Memorial Philatelique. Ce que disent les Timbres. Pt. IV L'Italie" by Gustave Bertrand.

"Memorial Philatelique. Ce que disent les Timbres. Pt. VII—3 La France de 1849 a 1900" by Gustave Bertrand.

"Les Marques Postales de la Grande Armee" Edition Jacques Lafitte 1948.

"Postal History of the Falkland Islands" by Richard W. Bagshawe. Reprint—"The Polar Record".

"Notes on the Postal History of Canada From 1760 to Confederation in 1867" by W. E. Durant Halliday.

"Notes on the Early Cancellations of New Zealand" by Dr. K. J. L. Scott.

"Consular Offices in Japan" by Robson Lowe 1947.

"The Development of the Postage Meter Machines of the United States" by Walter M. Swan.

"Stamp Collecting for All" by Stanley Phillips.

"King George V 1½d Die 2 Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia" by Gordon Ward M.D.

"URUGUAY—Sellos 10, 15 y 20 Cts. Emision del 10 de Enero de 1866 (Tipos y Subtipos)" by Jose Romon Seijo.

"Grand Catalogue Special Illustre des Timbres de Belgique et du Congo Belge" by Willy Belasse and Andre de Cock 1935.

"Catalogue WILLY BALASSE Belgique et Congo Belge" Tome II 1949.

"Cyprus. Its Postal History and Postage Stamps" by Wilfrid T. R. Castle.

"Tillaeg Handbog Over Danmarks Staalstukne Frimaerker" by A. Tholl & Mogens Juhl.

"Danmarks Jernbanefrimaerker 1865-1947" by Reinhold Jensen.

"Dafranko. Danske Frankoafstemplinger fra Postkontorog Hijemmefrankeringsmaskiner" by E. OHlhues.

"Danmarks Kataloget (DAKA) Tavler" by J. Schmidt-Andersen.

"Danmarks Kataloget (DAKA)" by J. Schmidt-Andersen and Flemming Ronne.

"Julemaerkerkatalog" Stella Vorlag.

"Handbog Over Danmarks Staalstukne Frimaerker 1933-1948" by Mogens Juhl.

"Danish Postal Booklets—Danmarks Frimaerkehefte" by A. Tholl and Mogens Juhl. In Danish and English.

"R. A. De Villard and the Stamps of China" by Lyons F. Livingston. Reprint "C. C. P. January 1949."

"The Government Dockwra (1683-1794)" by J. K. Sidebottom.

"Slaegten Glucksborgs pa Frimaerker. The Glucksborg Line on Stamps" compiled by Meinert Ruben; text by Sivard Gunst.

"De Danske Brevsamlingsstempler" by P, Thomassen. English Resume by R. King-Farlow.

"L'Union Postale—Sept. 1942. How Postage Stamps are made in the Printing Office of the French Post, Telegraph and Telephone Administration" by M. Pouget.

"Catalog VIII of Hans Lagerloef's Donations to the Swedish Postal Museum 1948-49".

"Stanley Gibbons' Postage Stamp Catalogue 1953. Part I British Empire (Complete)".

"The Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue. Thirteenth Edition 1951" published by Orlo-Smith.

"The Postage Stamps of the Falkland Islands" by B. S. H. Grant.

"United States Stampless Cover Catalogue 1952 Edition" by Harry M. Konwiser.

"Zumstein Europa Katalog 1953".

"Que sais-Je?" Histoire des Postes jusqu'a la Revolution by Eugene Vaille.

"Que sais-je?" Histoire des Postes depuis la Revolution by Eugene Vaille.

"Que sais-je?" Histoire du Timbre-Poste by Eugene Vaille.

"Le Musee Postal a Travers la France" by Le Musee Postal de France. Text by Eugene Vaille.

"Le Musee Postal de France" Text by Eugene Vaille.

"Poste de Timbre-Poste—Centenaire du Timbre-Poste Francais 1849" by various authors.

"Histoire Generale des Postes Francaises des Origines a la Fin du Moyen Age" Tome I by Eugene Vaille.

"Histoire Generale des Postes Francaises de Louis XI a la Creation de la Surintendance Generale des Poste" Tome II by Eugene Vaille.

"Histoire Generale des Postes Francaises de la Reforme de Louis XIII a la Nomination de LOUVOIS a la Surintendance Generale des Postes 1630-1668" Tome III by Eugene Vaille.

"Histoire Generale des Postes Francaises. Louvois, Surintendant General des Postes 1668-1691" Tome IV by Eugene Vaille.

"Histoire Generale des Postes Francaises. La Ferme Generale et le Groupe Pajot-Rouille (1691-1738)" Tome V by Eugene Vaille.

"Le Cabinet Noir" by Eugene Vaille.

"Sellos de Chile—Catalogo VARGAS 1952" by Victor Vargas.

"Stanley Gibbons Color Guide for Stamp Collectors" by Stanley Gibbons.

The following have been received from the Aero Philatelists:

"Historical Air Mail Catalogue"—1930 (K. Lissiuk Phil. Co.)

"Air Mail Stamps 1933"—Sanabria

"Sanabria's Air Post Catalogue 1944"

British Air Mails. Baldwin—1947

The Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Mails by Ian Morgan

The Air Mail and Pigeon Poste of New Zealand—1931

Musson's Air Mail Catalogue Pt. I. Europe 1948

J. Stephen's Airgraph and V. Mail Catalogue 1948

British Colonial Stamps in Current Use. Sept. 1949

Catalogue de Timbres-Poste Aerienne—France & Colonies J. Foret 1947

La France d'Outre-Mer et la Philatelie—1950

Catalogue des Etiquettes Aeropostales—1947

Catalogue de la Poste Aerienne—Jean Silombra 1945-47-50-52 editions

Les Aerogrammes de France—Paul Maincent

Catalogue de Poche de la Poste Aerienne par Series—1951 Henri Trachtenberg

Aerophilatelie—1ere Annee No. 1 Janvier-Mars 1952

Par Avion "Constellation"—Revue de Poste Aerienne No. 3, Mars 1948

"Prinet" Catalogue of Belgium . . .

Catalogo Landmans 1948 Posta Aerea Italiana

Landmans 1946 Italia e Colonie, Can Marino-Vaticano

Landmans 1949 I Francobolli d'Italia

Catalogo delle cartoline e vignette ufficiali e semi-ufficiali di posta aerea italiana. G. Landmans (1847-1948)

Catalogo de Sellos Aeros with Album—Peru

Galvez Catalogo de Sellos de Espana—1950 and 1951 editions

Galvez Catalogo Especial de Colonias espanolas 1950-1951 editions

Catalogo Hevia 1950, 1951, 1952 (de Sellos de Espana)

Mueller's Liechtenstein (Schweiz) Katalog 1948

Katalog fur schweizerische Flugpostsachen 1947. In French and German

"Oesterreichische Briefmarken Zeitung—Geschichte der Osterreichischen Flugpost Mai 1948

Die Europaische Luftpost—W. H. Siegmeier

Handbuch der Luftpostkunde by A. Berezowski

Universal Post—a bulletin for friends and customers of Erich Haide, British Zone, Germany.

1. Special number—Check to Forgers Feb. 1, 1948
2. Same as one but date is June 1, 1948

Schach den Falschungen 1932 (A Schroeder)

SCHEDULED MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1952.

November 19 Display from the Smithsonian Institution's Stamp Material by Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. —The Philatelic Curator.

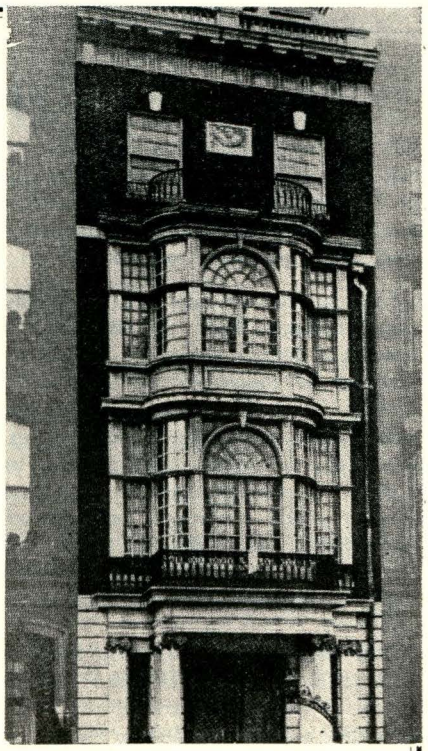
December 3 Philatelic Foundation — Luff Reference Material by Winthrop S. Boggs.

17 Club Competition—Members to show 20 pages from their collection.

There have been several changes, caused by death and resignation in the Board of Governors and Trustees. This is shown by the new appointments which appear in the complete listing on the next page—323.

The Collectors Club Inc.

22 East 35th Street
New York 16, N. Y.



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BOOK REVIEWS

The Post Always Runs A Story of the British Post Office, by E. G. Ardouin, London, The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 1952. 45pp., num. 111. Price 3sh.6d.

After an introduction dealing briefly with postal services back in Biblical, Persian, Greek and Roman times, the author presents a survey of messenger services and routes starting from the reign of King Henry I. (1100-1135), the gradual extension of these during the following centuries, the attitude of the various English rulers to the improvement of postal conditions, and the work of postmasters. Mr. Ardouin then described the introduction of handstamps, the first stamp the Penny Black, and the modern air mail.

This booklet is useful only as a general introduction to British Postal History, but is superficial when compared to the more comprehensive works published in the British and American philatelic press on this subject.

Paul P. Lindenberg

An Introduction to the Study of the King George V ½ d. Die 2 Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia, by Gordon Ward, M.D., (London). Published by Orlo Smith & Co., Melbourne, 55pp., numerous ill. and diagrams. No price given.

The postage stamps of Australia have from their beginning been the subject of very intensive research work. This was due to the fact that the "King's Head" design, in use from 1914 to 1937, gradually underwent countless changes of dies, shades, watermarks, perforations, thickness of paper and gum, which have become the delight of the Australian specialist, although criticized by others as "minutia".

It must have taken a tremendous amount of time and labor to enable the author to compile all the data, to locate all the flaws, cliché varieties, re-entries, damages, which finally accumulated into an amazingly large quantity. The drawings by Mr. Ward are excellent, his publication is another instance of high standard and intensive specialty research on stamp production.

Paul P. Lindenberg

Sanabria's Air Post Catalog, 1953 Edition. Published by Nicolas Sanabria Co., Inc., New York, N. Y., 496 pp. Cloth bound. Price $4.75.

With the modern, popular trend towards specializing rather than collecting generally, it follows that more catalogs will be offered devoted to a single branch of philately. It is true, of course, that in the leading countries of the world, each produces a general catalog. But more and more the specialists have not found them to their satisfaction because many items collected are omitted from a general catalog.

In this country we began to produce specialized catalogs some years ago. The number has been increasing. But more important, so has the quality. The above is the 16th edition of the Sanabria air mail catalog and, in our opinion, the very best yet. It has about everything for the air mail collector. First of all, the stamps are priced three ways: mint, used and on cover. Then all the many stamps that saw public service such as the Colombia Scadtas are listed and priced. Semi-Official stamps as well as Official Stamps with perforated initials are included. Aero-postal stationery, post cards and air letter sheets are in Sanabria. And finally, one has Essays, Proofs, Presentation Sheets, Souvenir Sheets, specimen stamps and postage stamps created especially for an air mail rate (Air Rate stamps) are all listed and priced.

This catalog has informative text notes and each country's currency is not only stated but its present equivalent in United States Dollars has been added. Furthermore, all text about dates of issue, method of printing, perforations, the printer, the designer and such data of philatelic interest have been corrected, revised and expanded.

The catalogue is unabridged, including even such mysterious items as the 1948-9

Indonesia sets, whose public franking rights never have been satisfactorily established.

The pricing is on the whole accurate with an attempt to show a close relation to market values. Of course, some prices will be questioned, but by and large the 1953 Sanabria prices for air mail material should be standard for values in this country.

This catalogue is popular priced, well printed, amply illustrated, indexed and, most essential, easy to handle and use.

H. M. G.

The Channel Islands, Their Postal History, Stamps and Postal Markings. By William Newport, F.R.G.S. Edited by H. Garratt-Adams & Co., Elmdon Grange, Elmdon, Birmingham. Price 5sh. 66 pages, ca. 70 ill.

The author of this booklet is to be admired for having compiled practically every bit of information concerning both the general and the philatelic history of those tiny islands off the northern coast of France, which represent the last remnant of British power that once had stretched over more than half of the old kingdom of France.

Its Postal History, prior to the introduction of postage stamps, the postmarks used then and later at the various town-sub-and-branch-offices, ship letter markings, Field Post cancellations, the very popular French markings, as well as introduction and usage of the Occupation Issues during World War II, are all comprehensively described. Also included are descriptions of the Herm Island Locals and the local revenue issues.

Unfortunately a good map of the islands is missing, which in our opinion would have been a help to the reader.

Paul P. Lindenberg

Stamp Collecting for All. By Stanley Phillips. Edited by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London, W. C. 2, sixth edition, 62 pages with numerous ill. No price given.

One of the more experienced British dealer-philatelists, the editor of the Gibbons Catalogue, gives both the beginner and the more advanced collector, a highly interesting guide on how to search for details in order to catalogue and identify correctly every postage stamp in the world. Countless bits of information are compiled with regard to printing, the design, varieties of perforations, overprints, surcharges, errors, mounting and arranging of material. Even the experienced philatelist will find here hints on certain points of which he may not be aware. The title is well chosen.

Paul P. Lindenberg

NETHERLANDS

(Continued from Page 318.)

Museum was on display. Its highlights were the reconstructed plates of the 5c and 10c almost complete and the 15c complete.

Postal History, illustrated with items about the old postman on horseback, with coaches, ship mail from the middle ages to the present, were on exhibit. In addition many stampless covers with interesting markings were in the frames, the Postal Regulations of 1753, Postal Orders during Napoleon Rule, and many other historical philatelic documents were exhibited.

The Exhibit was considered one of the best held on the European Continent in recent years.

BREMEN

The British Post Office

(Continued from Page 317.)

started. But it could be several years later, possibly as late as 1867. The British postal service must have ended not later than December 31, 1867, when the separate postal administration of Bremen ceased. The postal service of the North German Confederation which took over all postal services at Bremen on January 1, 1868, closed not only the Bremen "Stadtpost" but also all foreign mail services. We can be reasonably sure that no British postal agent was allowed to function at Bremen after that date.

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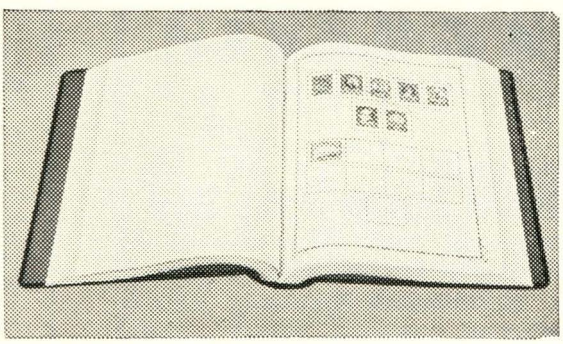
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