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Vol. XIX. JANUARY, 1940. No. 1.

Stamp Machines and Coiled Stamps

By George P. Howard.

FOREWORD

To Collectors of Twentieth Century United States Stamps.

SOMEONE, sometime, somewhere, invented a stamp-affixing machine, and someone else, somewhere else, invented a stamp-vending machine. Have you ever stopped to realize what that had to do with your collection?

People slaved over those two inventions for years, but they just would not work accurately without specially prepared stamps. To get the right kind of stamps they pestered the Post Office Department,—who passed the buck to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing,—and they got imperforate sheets of stamps. Twenty years of issuing those imperforate sheets have given you 32 imperforate stamps to collect, more if you like shades, many times that number if you go in for line, arrow, corner or plate number blocks. But most of those imperforate sheets went to the manufacturers of stamp machines, who made them into coils and perforated them according to the needs of their various machines. If you are interested in this field you can show all varieties in 246 items,—this without specializing in 2mm and 3mm spacings, line pairs, paste-up pairs, etc.

Not only did the machine manufacturers get imperforate sheets, they also got imperforate coils:—22 more items for your collection, if you think you can tell an imperforate coil stamp from an imperforate sheet stamp. And finally they prevailed upon the Bureau to prepare perforated coil stamps. The first ones were not quite practical for machine use on account of the fine, 12-gauge perforation. Even the Bureau had difficutty in winding the coils, they broke apart so easily. So the perforation was changed to 8½-gauge, which worked exceedingly well in machines using knives to cut off the stamps, but you had to pull a vending machine almost off the counter to get your stamps. The compromise perforations was, and still is, 10-gauge. These changes in perforation, along with changes in watermarked or unwatermarked paper, changes in issues, and changes in methods of printing, have produced a number of perforated coil items:—82 to be exact, 89 if you go in for the various Dies, many more if you collect shades or spacing, line and paste-up varieties.

Even though you may not be interested in coil stamps, the affixing and vending machines have exerted an influence on your collection. There are sheet stamps made from coil plates with the words COIL STAMPS in the margin. There are sheet stamps made from rotary press coil waste, perforated 11x10 or

11x11. There is that hybrid, Scott's No. 519, the 2c of the 1908-09 Issue perforated 11x11 in 1917, which never would have existed but for a vending company in New York. There is the 1c stamp of 1910 issued in sheets of 60, Bureau perforated waste of the same vending company. There are the Cleveland Provisional perforations and the Kansas City Roulettes. But such cases are minor compared to the broader influence of stamp machines on general issues.

How do you suppose an inanimate piece of machinery could adjust itself to handle coils with both 2mm and 3mm spacings in the same strip? It could not with any degree of success, so the manufacturers of stamp machines set up a howl. Now the "Star" plates of 1909 had been introduced solely to correct the uneven paper shrinkage and give more space for perforating.

It would be reasonable to suppose that this improvement would remain in use for some time. Yet in less than two years the objections of all machine users caused the "Star" plates to be replaced by "A" plates having a uniform spacing of 2¾mm between stamps. This effected not only the coil stamps, but the entire general issue of postage stamps.

Another source of trouble in all machines was the double thickness of paper occurring every twentieth stamp at the paste-up. Constant objections to this led to early experiments with the rotary press "printing stamps by the mile", and ultimately the production of coil stamps by this method. Today the rotary presses do most of the stamp work at the Bureau. While it is not my intention to convey the idea that rotary press stamps would be unknown today but for the stamp machines, I do feel that the demands of coil users advanced the introduction of this form of stamp production by several years.

Taking all these facts into consideration, I think you will agree with me that the affixing and vending machines have exerted a considerable influence on the production of United States stamps in this century. So let us study this mechanical Adam and Eve, and pry into the private lives of some of their more prominent progeny.

EARLY STAMP MACHINES

Postmaster General George B. Cortelyou, in his report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, made the following comment on stamp-vending machines:

> Provision has already been made for additional facilities for obtaining postage stamps at railroad and ferry depots and at other public places. This may be accomplished in part by the establishment of additional numbered postal stations, and also by the use of automatic stamp vending machines, with regard to which certain preliminary experiments have already been made.

Here we have the Post Office Department's official recognition that such a field for the use of stamps existed. It begins what might be called the "Government Recognition" period, in which the Post Office Department coöperated in every possible way and the stamp machines developed rapidly. Before the fiscal year of 1905-06,—in the "Pre-recognition" period,—the machine manufacturers did what they could with sheet stamps bought from the local post office, and those stamps had to work. If they did not, the machine had to be improved or discarded, there was no hope of getting a special form of stamp from the Department.

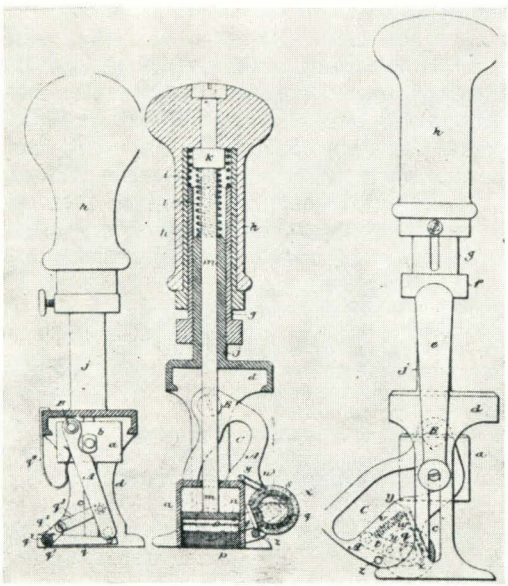
Tracing back the patents of stamp machines before 1906, one finds that the stamp-affixing machines outnumbered the stamp-vending machines by more than 5 to 1. This is only natural:—the stamp-affixer was a necessity to any business

(1) Report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909.

house having a large mailing, while the stamp-vendor was merely a convenience. Moreover, vending machines in general were not invented until 1887,—stamp-vendors two years later,—which gave the affixing machines a head start of five years.

Stamp Affixing Machines

The first American patent for "An Apparatus for Applying Stamps" was granted on July 21, 1885, No. 322578, to Victoria I. H. Bundsen of London, England. (Hats off to the ladies.) This patent application was filed on December 24, 1884. For the purposes of our study the patent application date is of more significance than the date of the granting of the patent. In this particular instance, although the British machine was the first one *patented* in the United States, an American by the name of John L. Shaw of Grand Rapids, Mich., had *applied* for a patent on a similar machine on May 27, 1884. His patent was not granted until March 9, 1886, No. 337450, but his application antedates that of the British machine. However, this will not bring to the United States the laurels for the first stamp-affixing machine as the Bundsen machine had already been patented in England on April 19, 1884, No. 6568; in France on November 28, 1884, No. 165644; and in Germany on December 3, 1884, No. 31587.



First Stamp-Affixing Machine Patented in the United States, July 21, 1885.

Both of the machines mentioned above were of the "hand-plunger" type. Separated stamps were piled face up in a box on the plunger. The descent of the stamp-box on the plunger caused a moistener to wet the portion of the envelope held under the plunger just before the pile of stamps reached the spot. The pile of stamps then pressed against the moistened spot and when the plunger rose the bottom stamp remained affixed to the envelope. Anyone who has handled stamps during a damp week near the seashore can picture what must have happened to the pile of stamps in the stamp-box. Yet this was the most common form of stamp arrangement in early stamp-affixers. Patent applications for over 100 different affixing machines were filed before 1906, and of these 36 definitely mention "stamps piled in a box or magazine". A few of these were of the "hand-lever" type which differs from the "hand-plunger" type only in

that the stamp-box is mounted on a hinged bar or lever and descends in an arc rather than vertically. None of these machines is of any great interest to the stamp collector as the stamps used cannot be distinguished from those applied by the good old "tongue and finger" method.

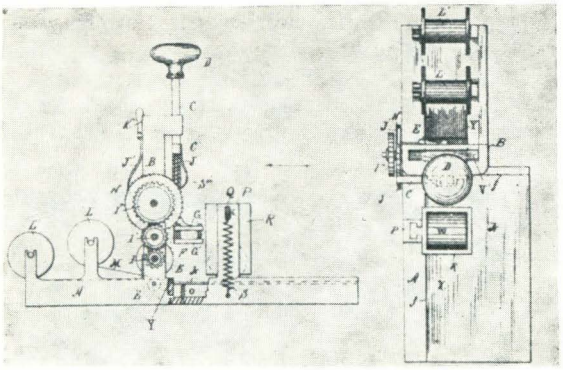
Returning to the subject of early patents, on March 18, 1885, an application was filed for "An Apparatus for Separating, Damping and Fixing Postage Stamps". This was also a British machine, the invention of Alec Browett, 161 Highbury Hill, County of Middlesex, England. The American patent was granted April 27, 1886, No. 340856. Previously the machine had been patented in England, February 12, 1885, No. 1976; in France, February 18, 1885, No. 167131; in Belgium, February 19, 1885, No. 67931; and in Germany, February 24, 1885, No. 32382. The interesting part about this machine is that it took stamps in sheets of 100. Twenty similar machines were patented before 1906, all very complicated in their workings. It was necessary for the machine to detach a strip of 10 stamps, which were fed forward to the affixing mechanism. As the tenth stamp was being affixed the next strip was detached and advanced, and when the last strip of a sheet was in the feeding mechanism the next sheet dropped in place. Most of these machines were operated by a hand crank, and some had rollers for feeding a stack of envelopes through the machine. Here again the stamp collector can find no collectable items.

So far, we have not mentionel coil stamps, or rather *coiled* stamps. Perhaps there is no difference in the meaning of the words, but the modern collector pictures a "coil" stamp as imperforate on its two outer margins. Such stamps date from the privately perforated coils of 1907, made from imperforate sheets. For twenty years before that stamps were used in coiled form, made from strips of perforated stamps pasted together at the margin. Lucky the collector who finds a cover with a "paste-up" stamp from one of these early, privately-made coils! There was no recognized name for coiled stamps in the early days, so we find a variety of expressions used in the patent applications of stamp machines:

"a plurality of connected stamps"
"a series of successively connected stamps"
"stamps in the form of a continuous fillet"
"stamps arranged consecutively in a rolled strip"
"stamps in a continuous strip"
"a string of stamps, coiled"
"a reel for winding a ribbon of stamps"
"a coiled strip of postage stamps"
"a roll of postage stamps", etc.

Whatever they were called, they were stamps in coiled form, and 27 different affixing machines used them before 1906. The first of these was the invention of William R. Miller of Polo, Ill., who applied for a patent on July 22, 1887,— granted January 29, 1889, No. 397087. In certain respects this machine was similar to all early affixing machines using coils;— a reel for the stamps, a fixed blade over which the strip passed, a vertically moving knife for severing the stamps, a moistening device, and a means for pressing the stamp against the envelope. The stamp strip, however, was fed by rollers, a method used by but few machines and which never proved practical. A more common means of feeding the stamp strip is described in a patent of the next year, application filed August 20, 1888, and granted June 18, 1889, No. 405393. In one of the patent claims the inventor, Louis J. Barie of San Francisco, mentions,—"a device on the platen for seizing the strip or ribbon of stamps at the first line of perforations". Such use of the perforations in advancing the stamps was, and still is, the customary method of feeding the strip.

Of the many affixing machines patented during the "Pre-recognition" period, a few deserve particular mention, either because of the type of machine or because they were successfully marketed:



First Affixing Machine Using Coiled Stamps, Patented January 29, 1889.

On April 11, 1890, a patent application was filed by Charles W. Tobey of New Bedford, Mass., which was unique in that the machine had a rotating head containing two stamp magazines so that either one-cent or two-cent stamps could be applied.

On May 11, 1893, an application was filed by Charles Elliot of Croydon, England. Later Elliot established himself as a tea broker in San Francisco, patented additional improvements on his machine, and in 1909 the *Elliot Post Stamp Affixer Company* was one of the large users of early Bureau coils.

On December 1, 1897, a patent was applied for by Lauritz M. Nielson of New York. This and later patents covered the machine successfully distributed around 1905 by the *Nielson Mailing Machine Company* of Erie, Pa.

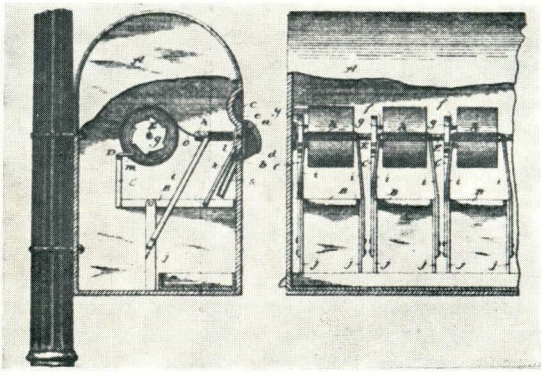
On February 4, 1899, the *Hewitt Sealer & Stamper Company* of Chicago applied for a patent on the first combined stamp-affixing and envelope-sealing machine, the invention of Frederick J. Hewitt and Charles H. Bridoux.

On January 25, 1902, an application for an affixing machine was filed by Charles J. Francher of Granby, Conn. This machine was later manufactured as the *Simplex Stamp Affixer*, the only widely distributed machine using Bureau imperforate coils.

Stamp-Vending Machines

Now as to vending machines during the "Pre-recognition" period. The idea of selling an article from a machine did not hit the country until 1887, and then it spread like wild-fire. But the inventors spent most of their genius on machines for vending candy, gum, cigars, perfume and other articles with more margin of profit than postage stamps. In all only 15 stamp-vending machines were patented before 1906. The earliest application was filed April 15, 1889, by David Olmsted of Minneapolis, Minnesota, who described his vendor as a "Coin-Controlled Postage Stamp Machine". Unfortunately he did not describe in what form stamps were used in his machine, but as the first stamp-vending machine it deserves mention. The next stamp-vendor was the invention of Samuel M. and Charles O. Dowst of Chicago, Illinois. Their application was filed July 3, 1890, and the patent granted November 18, 1890, No. 440698. This machine was manufactured and marketed by the *Automatic Machine Company* of Chicago. It was of the type having a revolving magazine with peripheral pockets, each of which dropped its contents when in contact with the delivery chute. Two similar machines were patented in the next fifteen years.

The first vending machine to use coiled stamps was the invention of Lizzie S. Darr of New York City. Her application was filed July 15, 1890, and granted February 17, 1891, No. 446434. Not only did she mention a "roll of postage stamps" in her claims, but the illustration of the machine shows three coils of stamps in the machine. This vendor was marketed from 1892 to 1896 by the



First American Vending Machine Using Coiled Stamps. Patented February 17, 1891.

United States Vending Company of New York City. Vending machines using coiled stamps were popular in the early period, 9 of the 15 machines being of this type. The only other practical type of machine used stamps enclosed in small envelopes or folders which were ejected from the machine by pushing in the coin lever. Such machines are in common use today, the product of the *Shipman Manufacturing Company* of Los Angeles, California. The first machine of this type was the invention of Sidney B. Whiteside of San Francisco, California. His patent application was filed January 28, 1891, and granted October 20, 1891, No. 461461. The manufacture of the machine was started the same year by the *Postage Stamp Service Machine Company* of New York City.

One or two other vending machines of the early period deserve mention:

On February 4, 1895, Charles M. Heublein of Louisville, Kentucky, applied for a patent on a "Coin-Operated Machine for Selling and Affixing Postage Stamps",—patent granted August 13, 1895, No. 544620. This was the only combined stamp-vending and stamp-affixing machine, the great-grandfather of the modern Mailomat of the Postage Meter Company. Pennies went in one slot and the envelope in another, finally emerging with the stamp attached.

Another odd machine was the invention of James C. Copeland of Pottsville, Pennsylvania,—application filed September 4, 1903,—patent granted October 4, 1904, No. 771767. This was the only vending machine invented taking sheets of 100 stamps which it separated and sold one at a time.

On September 23, 1903, an application was filed for a "Coin-Freed Apparatus for Stamps in Band or Strip Form with Perforations". The patent was granted December 18, 1906, in the name of Willy Abel and Heinrich Wollheim of Berlin, Germany. Abel and Wollheim formed the largest stamp-vending machine company in Germany and operated in the United States as the *American Stamp and Ticket Vending Machine Company.* The first experimental Bureau coils were sold to Mr. Wollheim for this machine.

On October 19, 1905, a patent application for a vending machine using coiled stamps was filed by Robert J. Dickie of Wellington, New Zealand. Dickie's patents were later bought up and combined with others to produce the machine of the *United States Automatic Vending Company,* the machine selected as the best of all those tested by the Post Office Department.

Before closing this chapter on the early stamp machines I should like to mention a few patents of affiliated machines:

The *Hewitt Stamper and Sealer Company* of Chicago, mentioned before, used coiled stamps in their machine. On February 6, 1899, they filed a patent application for a coil making machine called a "Machine for Cutting Sheets of Stamps into Strips". This patent was issued November 28, 1899, No. 638014.

Another "stripping machine" was invented by James N. Stacy of Portland, Oregon,—application filed June 1, 1903, and renewed February 17, 1906,—patent No. 840592. Several companies later used the *Stacy Stripper* in making coils from imperforate sheets, notably the *United States Auotmatic Vending Company* of New York City.

On February 9, 1904, the *Thexton Electric Envelope Sealer Company* of Chicago, Illinois, was granted a patent, No. 751639, on an envelope sealing machine, the invention of Joseph L. Harrington and Joseph J. Schermack. Two years later the addition of a stamp affixing unit to this machine produced the *Schermack Envelope Sealer and Stamper,* later called the *Mail-om-eter,* the largest user of privately perforated coils made from imperforate sheets.

We have now traced the genealogical tree of stamp-affixing and stamp-vending machines from its first shoot to the point where it had reached sufficient height to cast a shadow of influence on the Post Office Department and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. At that time it was just beginning to send out some of its strongest branches in the form of machine companies having considerable backing. It was the vending machine branches that first attracted the attention of the Post Office Department.

GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION

The Post Office Department's recognition of stamp-vending machines dates from November 24, 1905, when Post Office Order No. 472 created a committee "to investigate the merits of certain vending machines". The Hon. George B. Cortelyou was then Postmaster General. Although the committee reported unfavorably on the machines examined, the investigation undoubtedly drew the Department's attention to the fact that not all the faults were in the machines, but that the stamps as torn from post office sheets of 100 were not suitable for mechanical use.

The next Postmaster General was the Hon. George von L. Meyer, who remained in office only two years. Due to his unbounded interest in stamp machines, those were banner years for the manufacturers of machines. His first step was to provide a considerable appropriation for the purpose of investigating stamp-vending machines and their problems. To quote:(1)

> The Department is undertaking to demonstrate by careful experiment the desirability of adopting automatic stamp vending machines, adapted to receive our one-cent and five-cent pieces, for the sale of stamps and postal cards. This method of selling stamps is in use in other countries and the proposition to consider its adoption in the United States has excited no little interest. (Author's note: The Hon. Meyer had seen machines in use in Europe while on diplomatic service abroad.) The use of slot machines has become so universal and popular in other fields that there seems every reason why they should be adapted to the sale of stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards, provided machines can be built which combine the necessary features of moderate expense and absolute accuracy in operation. Any measure that promotes the convenience of the public should be utilized, whenever possible to do so without undue cost.

(1) Report of Postmaster General George von L. Meyer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907.

Their use in Post-Office lobbies will afford an all-night service to the public with no expense for clerk hire, and their use in post-office stations, hotels, railway stations, news stands, department stores and drug stores will add immeasurably to public convenience. An appropriation of $25,000 for experimental purposes along this line is estimated for.

The committee appointed to inspect and examine the stamp vending machines, which had been submitted to the Department for test, examined twelve machines, carefully considering the claims in support of each as made by their representatives and owners. Three proved to be valueless for the purposes of the Department, while all the others possess unquestioned merits. However, not one of the machines was found to be immediately available for use, due to defects in minor parts of construction, which it is claimed by the inventors are easy of correction or improvement. For this reason it was deemed best to grant additional time before making an actual working test. This will be done when the machines are finally submitted, sometime during the month of December. If the tests then indicate that the machines will meet the requirements of the service they will be placed in several of the larger Post Offices, where, under the supervision of the postmasters, it may be determined which are desirable for permanent use.

With such a person in office the complaints of the machine manufacturers concerning the unsuitability of the stamps as they were issued fell on sympathetic ears. In October 1906, some imperforate sheets of 400 stamps were distributed for experimental use. This was the greatest boon for inventors of stamp machines, as more than one had had to give up in disgust because the finely perforated stamps were useless. I have had the good fortune to discuss the stamp problem with a former official of the United States Automatic Vending Company. The machine they manufactured was a foreign invention which had been successfully used in England. I have read letters from the British Post Office Department reporting very favorably on this machine, which had been tried in some eighteen post offices in September 1906. But in the United States the same machine would not work. Our stamps when separated in strips to make a coil, had a tendency to curl up so that the pins on the feeding wheel could not engage the perforations. The method of feeding was changed and a "shoe" placed over the feeding wheel to press down on the stamps and prevent their curling. But then the tension was too great for the fine 12-gauge perforations and the coil strip broke. So they petitioned the Bureau for imperforate stamps. The manufacturers of stamp-affixing machines had the same trouble with the fine 12-gauge perforation. In the words of Mr. Schermack of the Detroit Mailing Machine Company:

> We tried them in every possible form, singly, in strips, in sheets and in ribbon form, all with the same result, that the ordinary perforation made the stamp too weak to handle with any degree of safety or rather certainty in a machine.(2)

These complaints from the manufacturers of both stamp-vending and stamp-affixing machines had at last produced a new form of stamp issue, the imperforate sheets. From these sheets they made coils with perforations to suit the varying needs of their machines. So a new variety appeared, the Privately Perforated Coil. It is my intention to take up separately in later chapters each company and the type or types of perforation used. At this point I shall merely discuss in general how all such coils were made.

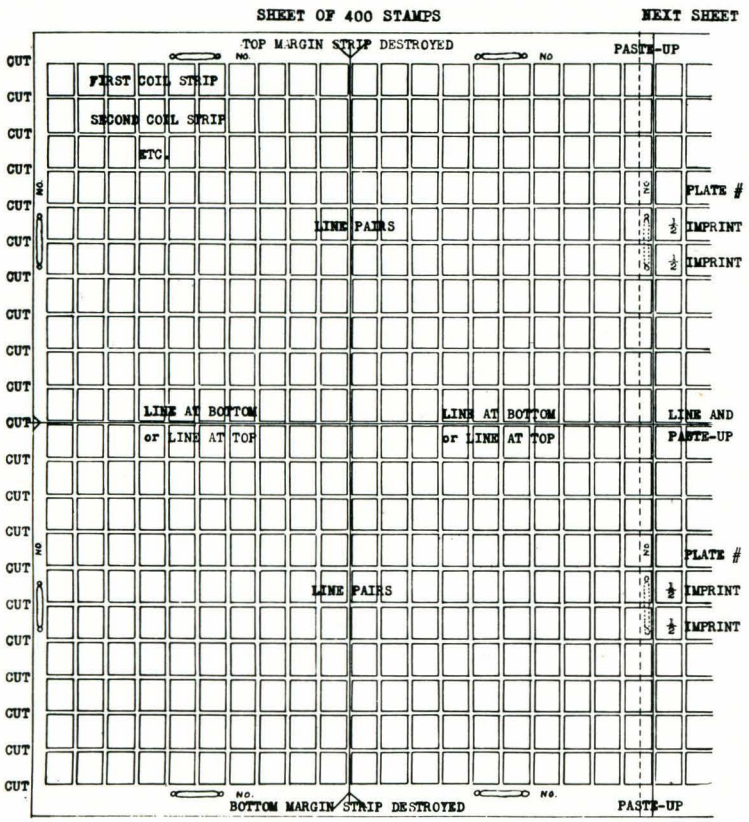
Stamps of the lower denominations printed on the flat-bed presses at the Bureau were in sheets of 400 subjects, 20 by 20, with a horizontal and vertical guide line intersecting in the center of the sheet and dividing it into four panes of 100 stamps. These sheets were perforated at the Bureau by a row of parallel perforating wheels spaced exactly to fit the blank margins between the rows of stamps. Between the tenth and eleventh rows of stamps there was a cutting

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(2) Philatelic Journal of America, December 15, 1909.

wheel instead of a perforating wheel. When a sheet of 400 stamps was run through this perforator it emerged perforated in one direction and cut into two panes of 200 stamps. Feeding these two panes through a similar perforator in the other direction resulted in four panes of 100 perforated stamps, 10 by 10, each with two straight edges and two margins. All privately coiled stamps before the 1906 imperforates were made by stripping these panes of 100 stamps and using a portion of one margin for the "paste-up". Consequently these early coiled stamps had a paste-up every ten stamps, the stamp over the paste-up having the guide line.

When imperforate sheets of 400 stamps were used in making coils, a sheet would yield 20 strips of 20 stamps each, the guide line showing between the tenth and eleventh stamps, and paste-ups occurring only every 20 stamps. Some companies perforated the sheets in one direction, then cut them into strips in the other direction and pasted the strips together to make the coil. A second method was to cut the imperforate sheet into strips, paste these together to form an imperforate coil and run this through the perforator. A third way was to paste together a sufficient number of sheets to give the required coil length. This large roll of sheets was then run through the perforator, stripped, and twenty coils wound at a time. Whatever the method used, each sheet of 400 stamps would produce, from the collector's point of view, 200 coil pairs, some showing the guide line or paste-up.



Imperforate Sheet of 400 Stamps—
Showing Treatment in Preparing Sidewise Coils.

The illustration shows a sheet of 400 stamps with part of another sheet pasted to it as would be done in the preparation of "sidewise" coils. The right margin is cut off about 2mm from the twentieth row of stamps. Part of the left margin is cut off, leaving 8mm to 12mm for the overlap at the paste-up. This narrow margin will still show the plate numbers and Bureau imprints. When the sheet is cut horizontally into 20 strips the top and bottom margins will be cut off, so of the eight plate numbers and imprints only two will remain, to be found on the under flap of certain paste-up pairs. The horizontal guide line between the tenth and eleventh strips is rarely bisected, but shows either at the bottom of the tenth strip or a the top of the eleventh strip, one coil pair showing the intersection of this line with the vertical guide line. The relative scarcity of certain of these position pairs is shown by the following table:—

152	ordinary pairs	76.0%
19	line pairs	9.5%
8	pairs with line at top or bottom	4.0%
1	pair showing lines intersecting	0.5%
1	paste-up pair with line at T or B	0.5%
2	paste-up pairs showing plate No.	1.0%
4	paste-up pairs showing ½ imprint	2.0%
13	plain paste-up pairs	6.5%
200	pairs (400 stamps of 1 sheet)	100. %

If endwise (vertical) coils were desired the same procedure was followed only the sheet was stripped from top to bottom and part of the top (or bottom) margin used for the paste-up. The above table of relative scarcity of certain position pairs is also applicable.

The imperforate stamps issued during 1907 and 1908 were used by the following companies in making coils, in most cases with one or more types of privately applied perforations:

The *Brinkerhoff Vending Machine Company,* Sedalia, Missouri, coiled endwise (vertically).

The *Detroit Mailing Machine Company,* later called the *Schermack Mailing Machine Company,* Detroit, Michigan, coiled sidewise (horizontally).

The *International Vending Machine Company,* Baltimore, Maryland, coiled sidewise.

The *Parkhurst Vending Machine Company,* Indianapolis, Indiana, coiled endwise.

The *Schermack Vending Machine Company,* Detroit, Michigan, coiled sidewise.

The *Simplex Manufacturing Company,* Thompsonville, Connecticut, coiled endwise.

The *United States Automatic Vending Company,* New York, New York, coiled endwise.

Without doubt other stamp machine inventors also experimented with the imperforate stamps. During the period of 1906, 1907 and 1908, patent applications were filed for 32 stamp-affixing machines and 19 stamp-vending machines, two-thirds of which required stamps in coiled form. But the above makers are the only ones using privately coiled stamps who established any degree of permanency.

The first official mention of the imperforate stamps is to be found in the United States Postal Guide of January, 1908, under the heading:

Unperforated Postage Stamps

The Department is prepared to issue postage stamps without the usual perforations when desired in that form for sale to the public for use in automatic stamp-affixing or stamp-vending machines.

The unperforated stamps are in sheets of 400 each.

They are issued to postmasters in lots of 10,000 stamps or multiples of 10,000 of each denomination desired.

To secure them, the requisition should be made on Form 3201 with the word "unperforated" plainly written on the face of the blank. Such a requisition should not be made unless the postmaster has satisfactory assurance that at least 10,000 stamps of each denomination ordered will be sold within a reasonable time.

Unperforated stamps may be sold to the public in any quantity not less than a sheet of 400; but postmasters will not be supplied with such stamps to be sold for use on mailings to be dispatched from other than their own post offices.

Postmasters must not sell postage stamps or other stamped paper in quantities to persons who properly post and receive their mail at other offices, except by special authority from the Department and under the provisions of Paragraph 2, Section 255, Supplement of 1907 to the Postal Laws and Regulations, as amended by Order No. 874.

The last paragraph refers to certain Departmental Regulations which did handicap the users of privately perforated coils. If, for example, the Detroit Mailing Machine Company sold a "Schermack Envelope Sealer and Stamper" to a Chicago or New York firm, the coils for the machine had to be made and perforated in Detroit. This meant that the stamps were bought in Detroit but would be used in Chicago or New York, and the Detroit postmaster had to make out a certificate to this effect. The only way to avoid the red-tape was to establish a perforator in Chicago and New York, which the company later did. But naturally every company using privately perforated coils could not establish a perforating plant in every city where they would like to sell machines. However, if the Bureau adopted the special perforation, the coils would then be on sale through any post office and machines could be sold in any city in the United States.

The next logical step was for each company using privately perforated coils to petition the Bureau to make coils with their special perforation. Naturally the Bureau could not afford to make a dozen or more different varieties of coils and keep every postoffice in the country stocked with them. But they did make an attempt to satisfy the various demands by issuing in February, 1908, the first Bureau coils. They had been perforated horizontally on the regular 12-gauge perforator used for sheet stamps, then cut in strips vertically and pasted together to form endwise coils. These first endwise coils were delivered to the *American Stamp and Ticket Vending Machine Company,* of Washington, D. C. Six months later, in July 1908, the first sidewise coils, perforated 12-gauge, were made and delivered to the *International Vending Machine Company* of Baltimore, Maryland.

If the Bureau expected that this coil issue would be gratefully received by the manufacturers of stamp machines, they were sorely mistaken. Most of the large concerns had already found the Bureau 12-gauge perforation too weak for mechanical use, and had developed their own private perforations. They immediately claimed that the issuing of a special coil form of stamps suitable for only one or two machines placed these machines in a favored class and established a precedent. They now demanded that the Bureau issue all forms of private perforations and thus place all machines on an equal footing. The Post Office Department, however, maintained that one type of coil issue was sufficient, and that the machines should be adapted to use those coils. They were kind enough to make one more gesture in behalf of the companies which could not use the Bureau perforations, they prepared imperforate coils.

Official mention of the coil form of issue is to be found in the United States Postal Guide of January, 1909, under the heading:

Stamps In Rolls

The Department is now prepared to issue limited quantities of postage stamps in rolls of 500 or 1000 for use in stamp-vending and stamp-affixing machines. The

stamps will be coiled on paper cores one-half inch in diameter. To secure stamps in this form postmasters will make requisition on Form 3201 and attach to it a letter stating:

1. Whether the stamps are desired for use in a stamp-vending or stamp-affixing machine.
2. Whether the stamps are desired in coils of 500 or 1000 stamps each.
3. Whether strips should be arranged with the stamps endwise or sidewise.
4. Whether the blank margin between the stamps should be perforated or unperforated.

Meanwhile the testing of various stamp-vending machines had continued at Washington. The second year of tests produced many new machines, as well as improved models of some of the old ones. With the various forms of privately perforated coils and the new Bureau coils less trouble was experienced with the stamps and stamp-feeding mechanisms. It remained now to find a fool-proof machine with a coin-selecting mechanism that would take no "wooden-nickels". Whereas the patent applications of 1907-08 show a large number of "feeding-devices", the applications during 1908-09 were largely for "coin-selecting mechanisms". Another difficulty connected with the coin mechanism, peculiar to the United States, was the fact that while the bulk of the sales made by machines was necessarily in 2c stamps, we had no coin of this denomination. Hence the two-cent stamp machines had to be so arranged that they would not deliver a stamp until two one-cent pieces had been inserted in the machine. Since these machines under test were for Post Office use, they all sold stamps at face value and not at a profit as stamp-vending machines do today. But although there was to be no profit, there could be no loss from counterfeit coins. Evidently no machine had passed the rigorous tests of the Department at the time the Postmaster General wrote his report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908.([3])

In the last annual report mention was made of the fact that the department was undertaking to demonstrate by careful experiments the advisability of adopting automatic stamp-vending machines for the sale of stamps and postal cards. Their adoption in post-office lobbies will afford an all-night service to the public with no expenditure for clerk hire and their use in post-office stations, hotels, railway stations, news stands, department stores and drug stores will add immeasurably to public convenience.

Twenty-five machines were submitted to a committee of this department for test during the year and six were found to possess sufficient merit to warrant practical trials under actual selling conditions in post offices. The machines tested were not mechanically perfect, but the owners assert that the defects will be corrected.

I have every expectation that satisfactory machines will result from the work now going on, but this department is not yet prepared to accept any make for its own use.

As a direct result of the department's action much interest has been aroused, and there are today in private use a number of American stamp-vending machines.

The report of the Third Assistant Postmaster for the same period includes a few additional facts of interest concerning stamp machines:([4])

The committee, appointed by the Postmaster General last year to investigate and report upon stamp-vending machines, examined about twenty-five machines which were submitted for the purpose. Of these six were found to possess sufficient merit to warrant further experiments, and the owners were given permission to install machines in their home post offices, without expense to the department, for a thirty day practical test. The owners of five of these machines have responded and tests have been made in the post offices at Baltimore, Minneapolis, New York and Washington, while the fifth machine is now undergoing test at Indianapolis. While the machines tested have not been so perfected as to give wholly satisfactory results,

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(3) Report of Postmaster General George von L. Meyer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908.

(4) Report of Third Assistant Postmaster General A. L. Lawshe for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908.

the experiments have been sufficiently encouraging to justify a continuance of the investigation, and to that end the committee has been directed to resume its labors. Since the preliminary tests Congress has provided an appropriation of $10,000 for the purpose of defraying the department expenses in the investigation of labor-saving devices, so that the committee will not be hampered for lack of necessary funds in performing its duties.

The five city post offices mentioned in the above report were testing the following machines:

Baltimore:—the *International Vending Machine* using sidewise Bureau coils or privately perforated coils with 12½-gauge perforation.

Indianapolis:—the *Parkhurst Vending Machine* using endwise coils, form of perforation, if any, unknown.

Minneapolis:—the *Thexton Stamp Vending Machine* selling stamps enclosed in envelopes or folders.

New York:—the *United States Automatic Vending Machine* using endwise privately perforated coils.

Washington:—the *American Stamp and Ticket Vending Machine* using endwise Bureau coils. All the other machines were also on test in Washington in the lobby of the Post Office Building, the Union Station and in various hotels.

So rigorous were the tests to which the Department subjected the machines that the representatives of various companies servicing the machines in Washington accused each other of tampering and worse. In reality it was the post-office officials who were doing the tampering, as the following magazine article shows:(5)

To the present Postmaster-General of the United States is due the first comparative investigation of coin-controlled stamp-vending machines for government use. A few months ago a number of promising machines were tested in Washington with a rigor that was bound to expose any inherent defects. To an official whose specialty seems to be the legal rifling of such apparatus was assigned the task of robbing each machine, either by means of counterfeit money or slugs, or by inserting thin instruments through the slots in order to operate ratchets and levers, so that stamps could be extracted without the insertion of any coin whatsoever. Most of the machines were unable to withstand this mechanical pocket-picking and were accordingly rejected. Others were too cumbrous or were so complicated that only a graduate engineer could buy a stamp from them.

As a result of this investigation, in which the machines were abused as no thief could ever abuse them, the Postal Department finally selected a simple automatic apparatus, which resists the most ingenious attempts to rob it of its contents, which rejects foreign or defective coins or slugs and which does not depend for its operation on any power or winding device. The mere insertion of a coin is the only function which the purchaser of a stamp is called upon to perform.

The apparatus selected, in reality consists of three machines compactly inclosed in a single casing and designed to sell one, two and five-cent stamps. The lower part of the casing is a letter box, in which the stamped letter may be deposited. The first machines which the Postal Department has ordered will be installed in large hotels. In all probability similar machines will soon be found in almost every drug store and public institution.

The machine referred to was that of the United States Automatic Vending Company of New York. No such rosy future was in store for it however as the first machines ordered were also the last. The machine required a coil with special perforations which handicapped its adoption for general use. The Post Office Department then appears to have abandoned the idea of using vending-machines in post offices and the field lay fallow for years. Recently tests have been made with a coin-operated Postage Meter Machine in the Stamford, Connecticut, Post Office, the first test being October 14, 1936, and continuing off and on for a year. The latest test of this nature was that of the "Mailomat" of the

(5) The Postal Department and the Automatic Stamp-Vending Machine, Scientific American, February 13, 1909.

Postage Meter Company in the General Post Office in New York, May 17, 1939. This machine was almost a complete post office in itself. Perhaps in the not too distant future we shall have an automatic "after hours" service in post offices which will surpass anything Postmaster General Meyer ever dreamed of.

IMPERFORATE ISSUES

Before taking up the individual companies which used imperforate stamps to make privately perforated coils it will perhaps be helpful to list in one place the various imperforate stamps issued by the Post Office Department, together with the various types of private perforations to be found on each stamp. Imperforate Bureau coils will be listed as some companies used these in making private coils. No attempt will be made to list the sewing-machine perforations, cog-wheel perforations, roulettes, etc., used at different times by stamp brokers and dealers, although these do make interesting items in a collection of non-governmental perforations. *The various types listed for each stamp have been examined by the author with but few exceptions, which will be marked with an asterisk.* Persons unfamiliar with the various types of private perforations will find complete descriptions and actual-size illustrations in later chapters dealing with the history of each company.

Imperforate Issue of 1906-08

The four values of this issue were printed from 400 subject plates, 20 stamps by 20, divided into four panes of 100 stamps by vertical and horizontal guide lines intersecting in the center of the sheet and terminating in arrows. Each pane of 100 stamps had a Bureau Imprint in each outer margin at the end of the fifth and sixth rows of stamps, followed by the plate number. The stamps were uniformly spaced 2¼mm apart. The paper was watermarked U S P S in double-lined Roman capitals. As the imperforate sheets were taken from stock whenever ordered the 1c and 2c denominations came from a number of different printings and show a wide variety of shades.

1c Franklin, Series of 1902

The first imperforate sheets of 400 are reported to have been issued on October 2, 1906. First-day cover collectors need not look for this date on either the 1c or the 2c value. The accepted "date of issue" of many of our stamps is taken from records of the Post Office Department and is in reality the date on which the Department began issuing the stamps to the post offices. A nearby post office might receive stamps and place them on sale the same day, thereby making the date correct for the "first day". Such was not the case with the imperforates, but it would be impossible to determine where or when the first sheet was privately perforated and used. One or two large companies which requested these stamps experimented with private perforations in the latter part of October 1907, according to their records. As they would hardly wait a year before experimenting with the stamps they had requested, can it be that someone has made an error, and that the date should be October 2, 1907?

In coil form the 1c value was issued imperforate in the early part of 1908. These stamps are exceedingly rare, only two sidewise coils of 500 and five endwise coils of 500 having been made.

Brinkerhoff—Type I, 4 holes; Type Ia, 4 large holes(1); Type II, 2 holes; Type IIa, slit between; Type IIb, 2 short cuts between; all endwise coils.

International—Perf. 12½*; sidewise coil.

Schermack—Type I, 8 holes; Type Ia, 7 holes; Type Ib, 6 holes; Type II, 6 larger holes; Type III, 2 rectangular slots; Type III precancelled Chicago; all sidewise coils.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Type I, 2 notches and slit, endwise coil; Type II, 2 notches and slit, sidewise coil; Type III, 2 notches and 7 holes, sidewise coil; also imperforate single used in "Stamp Pocket" with two 2c stamps.

2c Washington, Shield Stamp of 1903

Date of issue in imperforate sheets of 400, October 2, 1906, (see remarks under 1c stamp). The many shades of this stamp are customarily divided into three main groups: carmine, lake and scarlet, the lake shades being the rarest in imperforate form. This is not true in all privately perforated coils, lake being the commonest shade in Brinkerhoff Type II and Schermack Type III.

In coil form, the 2c imperforate was also issued early in 1908. There were ten endwise coils of 500 and two of 1000. The sidewise coils are much rarer, only one of 500 and one of 1000 having been made.

Carmine:—Principally distributed through the Chicago, Detroit, New York and Saint Louis Post Offices.

Brinkerhoff—Type I, Ia(1), II, IIa.

Mailometer—Type I, 6 holes; Type II, 8 large holes; Type III, 8 small holes; Type IV, 5 large holes; all sidewise coils.

Schermack—Types I, Ia, Ib, II, III.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

Lake:—Principally distributed through the Chicago, Detroit and Saint Louis Post Offices.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.

Mailometer—Type I.

Schermack—Types I, Ia, Ib, II, III.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Type I.

Scarlet:—Principally distributed through the Baltimore and New York Post Offices.

International—Perf. 12½.

Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.

Schermack—Type III.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III; also two imperforates used in "Stamp Pocket" together with a single 1c imperforate.

4c Grant, Series of 1902

Twenty-five sheets, 10,000 stamps, were shipped to the Detroit Post Office where they were purchased by the Schermack Mailing Machine Company on Wednesday, May 27, 1908. Earlier dates of issue have been given; May 13th, the date on which the stamps left the Bureau, and May 15th, probably the date the stamps were shipped from Washington. However, the date of the first sale of a stamp, when it can be determined, is in my opinion the correct date of issue.

For the actual date of sale we are indebted to Mr. Karl Koslowski of Detroit, who was on the spot at the time. According to his diary he left Detroit for Europe on the morning of May 28th. The previous day he stopped in at the Schermack office to say good-bye to his friends and while there the bookkeeper came in with 25 sheets of the 4c stamp. Not needing all 10,000 stamps for their coil order, they offered to sell him a sheet. But Mr. Koslowski thought the $16

(1) I believe this perforation is fraudulent, although it was originally used as the illustration of Brinkerhoff Type I in all early check lists and articles. This note applies to Brinkerhoff Type Ia wherever it is mentioned.

would be of more use to him on his trip, and moreover his friend in the office promised to save him a few of the stamps. The next morning en route to the station he stopped in at the Schermack office but all the stamps had been perforated with the Type III perforation, coiled and delivered, so there were no 4c imperforates for Mr. Koslowski to rescue for philately. Two Detroit concerns received the coils, Hamilton Carbardt & Company and the Winfield Printing Company, which printed and mailed the catalogues of the Burroughs Adding Machine Company. As the Winfield plant was on the way to the station Mr Koslowski stopped there and purchased a strip of 50, of which he used up 35. From those, and from the two commercial mailings, 26 used copies are reported to have been salvaged, which with the 15 unused copies in existence brings the total to 41.

One used copy with paste-up margin underneath has disclosed plate No. 4255. This plate, together with plates 4214, 4264 and 4271 formed a group of four plates that were certified on April 11, 1908.(2) The identification of one plate number of this group leads to the conclusion that the 4c imperforate sheets were printed from these four plates.

Schermack—Type III.

5c Lincoln, Series of 1902

Date of issue, May 30, 1908. As to the quantity issued, the "doctors disagree". In the Report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, the quantity is given as 13,000. Other figures in this same report have since been found to be inaccurate, so perhaps more recent authorities are nearer being correct when they given 13,500 as the number. However, neither number is divisable by 400 and one immediately wonders what became of the other part of a sheet.

As to the distribution of these stamps, it is the generally accepted belief that 10,000 of them were shipped to the Indianapolis Post Office. There is one dissenting voice:(3)

> The Post Office Department reports that 13,000 were issued to the various postmasters as follows:—1000 to Baltimore, 2000 to Indianapolis and 10,000 to New York. These stamps were distributed as follows:—at Baltimore to the International Vending Machine Company, in April 1908; 1200 of the Indianapolis lot were sold to the Parkhurst Company and the balance of 800 sent to the Detroit postmaster, by request, and by him sold to Howard Beck of the Detroit Philatelic Society. * * * The 10,000 sent to New York were all sold to the U. S. Automatic Vending Company, and sold through their machines from March 1908 to February 1909. It is, however, known that a considerable quantity were secured by a New York dealer and it is undoubtedly from this lot that all stamps, now being offered, have come.

In view of facts disclosed by a study of the vending companies this article in substance must be correct. Of the five machines in which the Department was interested, the Minneapolis machine did not use coils. The American Stamp and Ticket Company of Washington had received 5c Bureau endwise coils for their machines in February 1908. Of the remaining three companies the United States Automatic Vending Company of New York had designed a machine which contained three vending mechanisms, one each for one-cent, two-cent and five-cent stamps. As they required a privately perforated coil strip, this company must have placed an order for 5c imperforate stamps, and it is known that the 5c stamp with their perforation was vended from their machines over a period of

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(2) We are indebted to Mr. Arthur E. Owen for this information.
(3) The Collector's Journal, Chicago, April 1909.

some months. In filling an order of 10,000 for this company, a few extra thousand would be made for the experimental use of the other companies, the International of Baltimore and the Parkhurst of Indianapolis. Both of these companies were small and short-lived, both adapted their machines the use Bureau endwise coils, both later used the 5c Bureau coil of this early issue, hence neither company would have use for 10,000 stamps of this denomination. The order must have come from the New York company, and if the Department's records show that 10,000 were shipped to Indianapolis, there is either an error in the records or the shipment was in error and was trans-shipped to New York.

International (?)—Perf. 12½ (star plate), sidewise coil.(4)
Parkhurst—Imperforate coil; also with crudely punched round hole (*), both endwise coils.
Schermack—Types I (*), II, and III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, and III.

Imperforate Issue of 1908-09

All five values of this issue were printed from 400 subject plates having the stamps uniformly spaced 2¼mm apart. Except for the change in design, they were in all ways similar to the plates used for the preceding issue. Then the "Star" plates were introduced, having the six outside vertical rows on each side of the sheet spaced 3mm apart and the remaining center rows spaced 2mm apart. Such plates were marked with a "Star" between the Bureau Imprint and the plate number. All sidewise privately perforated coils made from these sheets will show both 2mm and 3mm spacings. All printings were made on the double-lined watermarked paper.

"One Cent" Franklin, Double-Lined Watermark

First issued December 23, 1908. Printed from both old type plates and "Star" plates, the 2mm spacing is more common than the 3mm on most privately perforated sidewise coils. In the case of the United States Automatic Vending Company, who found the wide spacing unsuited for use in their machines, the Post Office Department went to great pains to keep them supplied with stamps printed from old type plates. Consequently the 3mm spacing is scarce on sidewise coils of this company.

The 1c endwise imperforate coil was issued in March or April 1909. The Department makes no distinction between the double and single lined watermarked paper, so the number of these coils is impossible to ascertain. But of this issue and the 1910 endwise 1c imperforate coil there were almost 26 million stamps issued, so both are plentiful. Until recently it was not known that the 1c stamp was issued in imperforate sidewise coils. Part of a coil, about 300, was turned up in Frostoria, Ohio.

Attleboro—Type I, endwise coil.
Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb, endwise coils; Type II, sidewise coil.
International—Perf. 12½, endwise coil.(5)
Mailometer—Types I, I precancelled St. Louis (*), II, III, IV, IV precancelled St. Louis.
Schermack—Types I (*), II, III, III precancelled Chicago and St. Louis (*).
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III; also single imperforate used in "Stamp Pocket" together with various 2c stamps.

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(4) Philatelic mention of the 5c stamp coiled sidewise, thought to be a Bureau coil, is to be found in a few early articles. If such stamps exist they will probably be found to have a 12½-gauge perforation, the product of the International Company.
(5) The authenticity of these 12½-gauge, endwise coils is very doubtful.

"Two Cent" Washington, Double-Lined Watermark

First issued December 10, 1908. Remarks printed above under the 1c denomination are also applicable here. The New York Post Office was so plentifully supplied with sheets of this stamp printed from old type plates that many remained on hand after the United States Automatic Vending Company went out of business. These were returned to Washington in 1917 for credit, but in the interest of war-time economy they were perforated and sent back to New York. October 9, 1917. The Bureau perforation at that time happened to be 11x11, so a new variety was created.

In imperforate coil form the 2c stamp is plentiful both in sidewise and endwise coils.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.
Farwell—Group III, Types 4A4 and 4B4 (*); sidewise coils.(6)
International—Perf. 12½, endwise coil.(5)
Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.
Schermack—Types I (*), II, III, III precancelled St. Louis (*).
Sheets of 100—Bureau perf. 11x11, October 1917.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III; also two imperforates used in "Stamp Pocket" together with a single 1c imperforate.

3c Washington, Double-Lined Watermark

Issued March 3, 1909. No imperforate 3c stamps exist with 3mm spacing, printed from "Star" plates. Yet the 3mm spacing may be found with Schermack Type III perforation, showing that at least one order for the Mailometer Company was filled with stamps printed from "Star" plates.

The 3c imperforate endwise coil was first issued in May 1909. Forty coils of 500 stamps were made but the variety is scarcer than early coils. In sidewise coil form there is doubt as to the existence of this stamp, although it is still listed in Scott's.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.
International—Perf. 12½, sidewise coil; perf. 12½, endwise coil.(5)
Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.
Schermack—Types I (*), II, III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

4c Washington, Double-Lined Watermark

Issued February 25, 1909. Most private coils of the 4c value appear to have been made from "Star" plates as the 3mm spacing is more common than the 2mm.

In coil form this stamp was issued endwise only, in coils of 500. Less than 75,000 were issued and the stamp is scarce in this form.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.
International—Perf. 12½, endwise coil.(5)
Mailometer—Types I, II (*), III, IV.
Schermack—Types II, III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

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(6) Farwell stamps are identified by the number and order of the holes. "A" means one perforation skipped between the two groups of holes; "B" means two perforations skipped. Thus, Type 2B3 would signify 2 holes over 3, B spacing between groups.

5c Washington, Double-Lined Watermark

Issued February 25, 1909. No "Star" plates were used for this imperforate stamp.

Issued in endwise coil form, imperforate, in May 1909.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.
International—Perf. 12½, endwise coil.(5)
Mailometer—Types I, II (*), III*, IV.
Schermack—Types II, III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

Imperforate Commemorative Stamps of 1909

Three 2c commemorative stamps were issued in 1909. As it was then the policy of the Department to issue the lower denominations in imperforate sheets for the benefit of manufacturers of stamp-vending and stamp-affixing machines, these three commemoratives were so issued. Only the Lincoln stamp was of normal size and suited for machine use. All three stamps were printed on double-lined watermarked paper.

2c Lincoln Commemorative

Distribution of this stamp began on February 4, 1909, but the instructions to postmasters were that the Lincoln stamp was to be "placed on sale beginning Feb. 12th."

Frederick Loeser & Co.

In every detail the Leading Retail Establishment of Brooklyn.

New Lincoln Postage Stamps
In a New Stamp Vending Machine.

TO-DAY IN WASHINGTON and here in the Loeser Store will be installed the first machines ever used in the United States for the automatic vending of postage stamps at the regular Government price.

They are remarkable pieces of mechanism. They are so great a convenience that the Government at Washington has purchased all the completed ones except those which have come to Loeser's.

The installation is especially interesting because in the Machines will be the first of the new Lincoln 2-cent Stamps to be sold in Brooklyn. We believe this is the only place in Brooklyn where these Stamps may be bought to-day. The Stamps were authorized and prepared by the Government in honor of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

Three of the machines will be here to-day, on main floor at Elm Place and the Optical Store; on the second floor near the front elevators.

The New York Times,
Friday, February 12, 1909.

The illustration shows an advertisement published in the New York Times, Friday, February 12, 1909, which refers to machines of the United States Automatic Vending Company. Obviously the machine manufacturers were allowed to purchase the imperforate stamps before February 12th in order to have their coils ready for use on that date. The Lincoln plates were the first "Star" plates made and are marked with a small solid star before the plate number. The 3mm spacing is more common than the 2mm in sidewise coils.

As an imperforate coil this stamp was issued only in endwise form. Coils of this stamp are known to have been cut up and sold as single imperforate stamps so that pairs and strips are scarce today.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, Ia(1), II, IIa, IIb.
Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.
Schermack—Types I, Ia, Ib, II, III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III, IIIx (experimental, 11 holes instead of 7 between notches); also 2 imperforates in "Stamp Pocket" together with single 1c 1909 imperforate.

2c Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Commemorative

Issued June 18, 1909. Plates for this stamp contained 280 subjects, divided by the guide line into four panes of stamps arranged 7 horizontally and 10 vertically. Line pairs in sidewise coils occur more often than in ordinary stamps (one pair in seven). Paste-up pairs, however, are scarce since but few of the private perforations were actually coiled, the perforations having been applied to strips for the benefit of collectors and dealers.

Attleboro—Type I, sidewise coil.
Brinkerhoff—Type I, sidewise coil; Types II and IIa, sidewise coils; Type II, endwise coil.
Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.
Schermack—Type III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Type I, sidewise coil(7); Types II, III, sidewise coils; also used imperforate in "Stamp Pocket."

2c Hudson-Fulton Commemorative

Issued September 24, 1909. Plates for this stamp contained 240 subjects, divided by guide lines into four panes of stamps arranged 6 horizontally and 10 vertically. Line pairs in sidewise coils will occur one in six. Paste-up pairs are scarce as in the Alaska-Yukon stamp.

Brinkerhoff—Type II, sidewise coil.
Mailometer—Types I, II, III, IV.
Schermack—Type III.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types II, III; also used imperforate in "Stamp Pocket."

Imperforate Issue of 1910-11

A change to paper watermarked U S P S in single-lined capitals produced a new issue from the collector's view point. The same "Star" type plates of the 1908-09 Issue continued to be used on the new paper. However, repeated objections from machine users who had trouble with the varied spacings caused a new plate format to be introduced. On the new plates the stamps were spaced

(7) The Type I perforation when applied to sidewise coils looks like Type II. However, the notches being nearer together appear very large. Some of these coil strips have no margin above or below the stamps. On Type II the notches are so far apart as to appear very small, this stamp not having the height of a normal stamp.

a uniform 2¾mm apart. These plates were marked with an "A" in place of the "Star". Since most of the stamps of this issue had the wide spacings, the 2mm coil pairs are more valuable. The 3c, 4c and 5c values on paper with double-lined watermark were still in use.

"One Cent" Franklin, Single-Lined Watermark

Issued January 3, 1911. A very interesting form of issue of this stamp was caused by the United States Automatic Vending Company of New York. As has been previously mentioned the machines of this company required stamps with narrow spacings and the Department had stocked the New York Post Office with 1c and 2c stamps of the 1908-09 Issue printed from old type plates with uniform 2¼mm spacing. The stock of 2c stamps was never exhausted and the remainders created a new variety when they were perforated 11x11 at the Bureau in 1917. That there was no 1c stamp to be similarly treated is due to the fact that the 1c supply became exhausted in 1912. The following letter from the files of the United States Automatic Vending Company is of particular interest:

August 29, 1912.

This office has received 264,000 1c imperforate stamps in sheets of 160 (8x20) for use in your stamp vending machine.

These stamps represent the stock of "star plate" 1c imperforate sheets which were held by the Postmaster at St. Louis and from which the Department has cut the 8 center strips of uniform narrow spacings and transferred them to this office.

There are now on hand at this office 9600 of the old stock of 1c stamps in sheets of 400.

(Signed) E. M. MORGAN,
Postmaster, New York City.

Rather than destroy the left-over sections of these 1650 sheets (3300 panes of 120 stamps each) they were returned to the Bureau, perforated and cut in the usual way, producing 6600 sheets of 60 stamps each. Each sheet has two straight edges and two margins with Bureau Imprint, star and number, the top or bottom imprint being at the inner edge of the sheet. These sheets were sold at the Washington Post Office and can only be identified when in complete sheets.

The 1c stamp appeared in imperforate coil form before it was issued in sheet form. Both endwise and sidewise coils were issued in November 1910. Both were issued in sufficiently large quantities to make the stamp fairly common.

Brinkerhoff—Types II, IIa, IIb.

Farwell(8)—Group I, 2B3(6), 3A2; Group II, 4B3; Group III, 4A4, 4B4; Group IV, 4A5.

Mailometer—Types I, I precancelled St. Louis, II, IV, IV precancelled St. Louis.

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Ashland, Chicago, Covington, Flint (*), and Ft. Wayne.

Sheets of 60—Bureau perf. 12x12, September 1912.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III; also single imperforate in "Stamp Pocket" together with two 2c imperforates of the 1908-09 Issue.

"Two Cent" Washington, Single-Lined Watermark

Issued January 3, 1911. There was no reason for this stamp being used for Type I coils of the United States Automatic Vending Company, but it does exist.

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(8) Stamps from the left margin of a sheet may show a reversed perforation. These bi-lateral perforation types will be discussed under the Farwell Company.

The 2c imperforate coils, both endwise and sidewise, were issued in November, 1910. Although issued in large quantities, the sidewise coil is becoming scarce, possibly because many have been used up in trying to fake the rare 2c perf. 12 sidewise coil.

Brinkerhoff—Types II, IIa, IIb.
Farwell—Group I, 2B3 and 3A2; Group II, 4B3; Group III, 4A4 and 4B4; Group IV, 4A5.
Mailometer—Types I, I precancelled St. Louis, II, IV, IV precancelled St. Louis.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Cleveland.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

Imperforate Issue of 1912-15

New dies were made for the 1c and 2c values in 1912, Washington's head being on both stamps this time, and the denominations in numerals. All plates laid down were "A" plates having a uniform spacing of 2¾mm between stamps. Early plates were marked with the Bureau imprint, the A and number. Later the imprint was dropped, leaving only the A and number. Finally even the A was dropped. All these types of marginal markings are to be found in paste-up pairs of privately perforated coils. Watermarked paper was still in use, the watermark becoming very weak towards the end of the issue. The color of the 2c stamp also noticeably changed in 1915 becoming more of a rose shade than a carmine. These pale shades, caused by inability to get the usual color dies during the War, are generally associated with the 2c stamp of the 1916 Issue. They are worthy of mention here since they are to be found on only a few of the private coils.

1c Washington, Single-Lined Watermark

Issued March 19, 1912. Around 1914 many users of imperforate stamps went out of business and certain post offices found that they had quantities of imperforate sheets on hand. In Kansas City the postmaster rouletted 234 sheets of 400 of the 1c imperforate and 173 sheets of the 2c, the rouletting being done with cheap tracing-wheels. The stamps were then sold at the retail stamp windows along with the regular stock. This provisional perforation is known as the Kansas City Roulette.

Imperforate coils, both endwise and sidewise, were issued about the same time as the imperforate sheets. Large quantities were issued in the next two years and these are the commonest of all imperforate coil stamps.

Brinkerhoff—Types I, II, IIa, IIb.
Farwell—Group III, 4A4, 4A4 precancelled Chicago, 4B4, 4B4 precancelled Chicago; Group IV, 4A5 and 5A4.
Kansas City Provisional—Roulette.
Mailometer—Types I, IV, IV precancelled Chicago and St. Louis.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Boston, Chicago, Cleveland (*), Ft. Wayne, New York and Saginaw (*).
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III.

2c Washington, Single-Lined Watermark

As in the case of the 1c stamp, the 2c was rouletted at the Kansas City Post Office, 173 sheets of 400 receiving this provisional perforation. Some sheets were treated in a similar manner at the Cleveland Post Office in 1915. The Cleveland Provisional is of two types, one a roulette made with a tracing-wheel similar to the Kansas City Roulette. The other was made by cutting along a straight-edge with a knife, not through the paper, but deep enough so that the stamps could be torn apart.

In imperforate coil form the stamp was plentifully issued from 1912 to 1914 and is common in both endwise and sidewise coils.

Carmine:—

Brinkerhoff—Type I, II, IIa, IIb.
Cleveland Provisional—Roulette; knife cut.
Farwell—Group III, 4A4 and 4B4; Group IV, 4A5 and 5A4.
Kansas City Provisional—Roulette.
Mailometer—Types I, IV, IV precancelled St. Louis.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Cleveland.
U. S. Auto-Vending—Types I, II, III; also perforated pairs of this stamp in "Stamp Pocket" with a single imperforate 1c of the 1910-11 Issue.

Rose carmine:—

Farwell—Group III, 4A4 and 4B4.
Mailometer—Type IV.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Chicago (*) and New York (*).

Rotary Press Imperforate of 1914

As soon as the demand for coil stamps began, the expense of cutting, pasting and winding made the Bureau realize that a new method of printing coil stamps was the only way to solve the problem. The Third Assistant Postmaster General, in discussing coils in his annual report for 1909, recommended "that steps be taken, looking to a change in method of printing our postage stamps which will enable the Department to provide this service." Acting on this recommendation Postmaster General Hitchcock in 1910 authorized the expenditure of $5,600 for the construction of an experimental machine after plans prepared by Benjamin Stickney, mechanical expert of the Bureau. In the report of the Third Assistant Postmaster General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, we find: "This experimental machine is now completed", and "Steps will be taken in due course to equip the Bureau of Engraving and Printing with these new machines".

The first stamps issued from these machines appeared on June 30, 1914, in the form of 2c sidewise imperforate coils. These were printed from 170 subject plates, 17 stamps across and 10 down. Fourteen coils of 500 and fourteen of 1000 were issued through the post offices in Baltimore, New York, Washington and Sanford (Maine). This was the last imperforate coil issued by the Bureau.

U. S. Auto-Vending—Type III.

Imperforate Issue of 1916-21

This issue of imperforate stamps, printed from 400 subject plates on the flat-bed presses, was interrupted in 1918-20 by the "Offset" printing issue. The shades of the 2c stamp in the first years of issue were pale and more rose than carmine. After the "Offset" printing, when the use of engraved plates was resumed in 1921, the 2c appeared once more in the carmine of 1914 and before. The paper used in printing this issue was unwatermarked, otherwise the stamps were similar to the 1912 Issue.

1c Washington, Unwatermarked

First issued December 8, 1916. The printing of this stamp continued until the end of March, 1923 with an interruption in 1919 when the 1c denomination was printed by the "Offset" process. This stamp was privately perforated by only one company.

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Brooklyn, Chicago, Montclair (*), New York, Paterson.

2c Washington, Unwatermarked

Issued December 8, 1916. Plate No. 7942 of this stamp contained three defective entries. There were burnished out, but when re-entries were made the 5c transfer roll was used by mistake instead of the 2c. The error was not discovered and sheets printed from this plate were shipped to post offices. Imperforate sheets from this plate went to the Chicago Post Office for the Mailometer Company's branch in that city. Most of the sheets were returned by the Chicago Post Office, but some 50 reached philatelic hands. It is not known that the Mailometer Company received and perforated any of these rarities, but collectors of privately perforated coils are still looking and hoping.

Rose carmine:—

Farwell—Group III, 4A4 and 4B4 (*).
Mailometer—Type IV.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Chicago, New York, Paterson (*).

Carmine:—

Schermack—Type III.

3c Washington, Unwatermarked

Issued October 13, 1917, in preparation for the 3c postage rate which was to go into effect on November 2nd. The die of this stamp, which had served since 1908, was now called upon to produce stamps in quantities usual for the 2c denomination. A second die was prepared, from which stamps were first issued on January 29, 1918.

Type I, old die:—

Mailometer—Type IV.
Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Willoughby, Vt.

Type II, new die:—

Schermack—Type III.

"Offset" Imperforate Issue of 1918-20

Inferior and gritty inks at this time caused engraved plates to wear out in less time than it took to make them. When a change in postage rates caused an increased demand for a stamp the Bureau was forced to keep up the supply by temporarily printing the stamp by the "offset" process. In this process a touched up photograph of the die of the stamp, used as a master negative, is developed 400 times on a glass plate. From this positive master plate celluloid negatives are taken, guide lines and plate numbers added, and zinc positive plates printed from them. In printing stamps from these positive plates, a rubber roller picks up the design and transfers it to the paper.

3c Washington, Offset

The 3c stamp was the first to be printed by the offset process. There were two master negatives of this stamp, made from Die I and Die II, called philatelically Types III and IV respectively. Only Type IV is to be found on the imperforate stamp, which was first issued October 5, 1918.

Schermack—Type III.

1c Washington, Offset

First issued in imperforate form on January 21, 1919. The increased demand for this denomination was caused by its use on 2c stamped envelopes to make the new 3c letter rate.

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Chicago, Flint (*) and New York.

2c Washington, Offset

A return to the 2c letter rate in 1920 caused a sudden demand for large quantities of this denomination, and the rapid offset process was resorted to for a little over a year. There are five types of this stamp, known as Types IV, V, Va, VI and VII, all of which exist in imperforate form. As the imperforate sheets were made on order for the Mailometer Company, all of these types exist with Schermack Type III perforations. The first imperforate sheets, Type IV, were issued on April 25, 1920. With Schermack perforation the earliest known cover is from Chicago, May 7, 1920. Privately perforated Types IV, Va and VI are common while Types V and VII are very scarce.

2c Type IV

Schermack—Type III.

2c Type V

Schermack—Type III.

2c Type Va

Schermack—Type III.

2c Type VI

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled New York.

2c Type VII

Schermack—Type III.

Imperforate Issues of 1923-26

A new series of stamps in 1923 produced new 1c and 2c (and later 1½c) imperforate stamps, issued solely for the Mailometer Company. At that time stamps were perforated (Schermack Type III) for a few users in New York and Chicago. In 1924 the Postage Meter Company bought out the Mailometer Company, and from then on the private perforation was used only in the Chicago district. On December 1, 1927, special coils of 3000 stamps wound gum-side out were issued by the Bureau for users of Mailometers and no more imperforate stamps or "private" coils were made.

1c Franklin, Flat Plate

Issued March 20, 1923. These stamps, unused, with private perforations are extremely scarce. A few coils were used in the New York district in 1923-24. Most of the stock was perforated in Chicago after they had been locally precancelled. One publishing house sent out self-addressed postcards with these stamps attached, and of course not precancelled. A small supply of unused singles without gum have been salvaged from these cards, but in pairs or strips without precancel the stamp is hard to find.

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Chicago.

2c Washington, Flat Plate

Also issued March 20, 1923. Plates used during 1923-24 had the stamps placed too close together and as in 1908 there was considerable waste in perforating. Early in 1925 new plates were made with the stamps spaced 3mm apart. Imperforate sheets with the wide spacing were all printed from plates marked with a large five-pointed star below the side plate number of the upper right pane. Both spacings are to be found on Schermack coils.

Schermack—Type III.

2c Harding, Black

Issued November 15, 1923, in imperforate form, at the request of philatelists. Somewhat over 900 sheets went to the Mailometer Company, enough to make them at least 120 coils of 3000. These must have been largely used up on business correspondence and destroyed as the stamp with Schermack perforation is not common. Recently blocks and scissor-cut strips with a very ratty-looking Type III perforation have come on the market.

Schermack—Type III.

1½c Harding, Flat Plate

On April 15, 1925, the third class postage rate for circulars was raised from 1c to 1½c. In imperforate form the stamp was first issued April 4, 1925. At least 50% of the private coils are precancelled.

Schermack—Type III, III precancelled Chicago.

1½c Harding, Rotary Press

Issued August 27, 1926. The 400 subjects on a rotary press plate are separated into four panes of 100 stamps by 9mm gutters or spaces, rather than by guide lines. Naturally these spaces made them unsuited for coil use in a machine, and the Mailometer Company returned the sheets. Instead of returning the sheets to the Bureau to be perforated and issued as regular stamps, they were placed on sale in imperforate form at the Philatelic Agency. It is reported that the stamp exists with Schermack Type III perforations. If this is so the Mailometer Company could not have returned all of the sheets that were sent to them. Had the remaining sheets not been made available to collectors, we should have had another great rarity like the 4c 1902.

? Schermack—Type III (*).

The inability of the Mailometer Company to use these rotary press sheets brought to the Bureau the realization that their contemplated change to rotary press printing for all stamps of the lower denominations had run into its first snag. It would, of course, be a prohibitive expense to continue printing from the flat-bed presses just to provide imperforate sheets for one company. The Pitney-Bowes Postage Meter Company was contacted to see what form of coil could be produced for use in Mailometers. After various suggestions were refused it was learned that many Mailometers were using Bureau coils, but that they had to be rewound gum-side out. The Bureau then offered to make coils of 3000 stamps wound gum-side out for use in these machines. The first of these coils were issued on December 1, 1927,—the death-knell of "private" coils.

PRIVATE PERFORATIONS

Many varieties are suspected or known to have been issued solely for philatelic purposes and were never used in a machine. We do not price such items.(1)

A glance through the listing of private perforations in the Scott Catalogue will disclose several items not priced, which the collector will naturally assume were "never used in a machine", whereas all other priced items were. On second thought, however, one will realize that most of the items priced in unused pairs could never have been used in a machine either. If a coil were placed in an affixing machine the stamps would come out as singles applied to covers, which then would see postal service. If all privately perforated coils had been properly used in machines, there would be no unused pairs to collect. For that matter, if all stamps were used for the purpose for which they were issued, there would be no unused stamps of any kind. The basis for the distinction made in the catalogue is not, therefore, whether the stamps were *used* in machines or not, but rather whether they were *intended* for current commercial use. The unpriced items in the catalogue fall into three different classes:

1. Those which, because of their value or shape, could not have been handled by the machines of the company.
2. Those which had not been issued when a certain perforation was in use.
3. Those which were no longer in current use when a perforation was first introduced.

Such items are today in the hands of collectors, some of them quite common, others quite scarce. They are not fakes as they were made on the perforating machines, but like the illegitimate offspring of some mediaeval king they bear the stigma of the bar sinister of their escutcheon.

Unlike Bureau coils, which were available through the various post offices in the country, there was no wide distribution of privately perforated coils. If a collector of thirty years ago noticed a Schermack stamp on a cover, he could write or go to the company using it and *try* to buy some stamps for his collection. I say "try" because in most cases he met with little success. The Schermack machine counted every stamp used and the count for each day should tally with the number of letters sent. If a pair of stamps was sold to a collector, the count would be incorrect, and the mail clerk would have to account for the four-cent sale. Most large companies could not be bothered with these small sales which messed up their mailing records, so the collector was not hospitably received. Of course, if he had a friend in the company, he could get a strip of stamps, but such small distribution would not account for the present supply.

If the collector turned to the Schermack or Mailometer Company itself, he likewise met with little success. Their method of preparing coils was to paste together 150 sheets of 400 imperforate stamps, which when perforated, stripped and rolled produced 20 coils of 3000 stamps each. A coil of 3000 stamps was sold to users at fifty cents over face value. Naturally they could not cut out a strip for a collector and spoil a whole coil, nor would a collector want to buy 3000 stamps to get a pair. Some dealers did, and regretted it for the next five years as the stamps did not sell readily. In view of these facts, the unused coil pair would have been a scarce item had it not been for what was without doubt called a "racket" at the time.

Since the Schermack Company not only sold mailing machines but also derived some income from preparing special coils for their machines, they were not adverse to making money from the perforating of small blocks or sheets.

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(1) United States Stamp Catalogue, Scott Publications, Inc. under the heading Private Perforations.

Collectors and dealers of 1909, who could not obtain the private perforations in other ways, brought or sent in sheets or blocks of imperforate stamps to be perforated. When perforated and stripped on the same machine which prepared the coils of 3000, these "request" items were identical to the coils used in machines. They merely increased the supply available to collectors and kept the privately perforated coils from becoming the great rarities that they might have been. Unfortunately, however, the "request" perforating brought forth certain varieties which otherwise never would have existed. Some of these items were probably created innocently. Knowing that all imperforate stamps were issued for the special production of private coils, all types of imperforate stamps were sent in to be privately perforated. In this way the Alaska-Yukon and Hudson-Fulton stamps received the Schermack and Mailometer perforations, although no Schermack or Mailometer machine could use a stamp of that size. It is such items that are referred to in the catalogue as "never having been used in a machine";—that is they were never coiled for commercial use. Investigation brought out such facts and we find in the philatelic press of the period comments such as the following:(2)

> The mechanic in charge, however, has been approached and opportuned to make other varieties and such are known to exist.

This was in reference to the 3c, 4c and 5c values of the 1908-09 Issue with Mailometer Type I perforations, produced in Saint Louis. Later, however, these same values were ordered by different firms and commercially used. So in this particular instance the "request" items of 1910 became properly used items and are so listed today. The reverse of this situation occurred when the Schermack experimental perforations (Types I and II) were applied to the 2c lake shield stamp, the 5c Lincoln, the 2c Lincoln and the 1908-09 Issue. Those stamps were not issued until *after* the experimental perforations were abandoned, and so never saw commercial use.

We find a similar story in the case of private coils for vending machines. Only two companies in 1909 used private perforations, the Postal Vending Manufacturing Company (Brinkerhoff) and the United States Automatic Vending Company. Both were local to certain cities and consequently their stamps inaccessible to the majority of collectors. Since they were in the stamp business to make money, it cannot be held against them that they would sell any number of their stamps to anyone, anywhere. If they could not supply the particular stamps wanted, they would perforate whatever was sent in to them. The following letter explains the procedure:(3)

> If you would send us non-perforated stamps in sheets, we could work them up for you and run them through our machine, as we have a stripper that will cut them in strips first and then run them through our punch machine and that punches the two large holes, then run them through our vending machine which makes the last perforation. We would charge you 1c per stamp for this work as on some of the Lincoln stamps the plate seems to be much larger than the old plates, really about a quarter of an inch wider, so that we have to trim the stamps pretty nearly by hand as our stripper was made to fit the regulation sizes.
>
> (Signed) F. H. BRINKERHOFF.

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(2) Philatelic Journal of America, December 1910.
3) The Collectors Journal, Vol. I, No. 4.
(4) Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Boston, July 24, 1909.

Such "special" perforating probably accounts for the 3c, 4c and 5c values of the 1908-09 Issue with Brinkerhoff perforations, as there is no record of a Brinkerhoff machine ever having vended other than the 1c and 2 denominations.

Thirty years ago the "request" perforations presented a serious problem to the collector. If he was interested in private coils and wanted to collect all items, he found some that were exceedingly scarce and bringing a high price. But if he paid a high price he was never sure but what more of the same items would be produced the next day. Moreover it was claimed that certain perforations never were used, but were applied to stamps solely for the purpose of selling to collectors. You can imagine the furor that was started by the following letter from Mr. James H. Drake, Vice-President and Treasurer of the Schermack Mailing Machine Company and in charge of the Chicago office.(4)

> I have had intimate knowledge of the preparation and sale of stamps for our sealing and stamping machine, now known as the Mail-om-eter, since the beginning, and I am certain that we never prepared for sale, much less have we sold, any stamps for use in our machines with other than the perforation now being used. What may have been done outside of working hours to gratify stamp collectors in the way of unusual and odd perforations, I cannot say.

This was in direct contradiction of a letter which Mr. Joseph J. Schermack, the inventor of the machine, had written to a San Francisco collector.(5)

> The Detroit Mailing Machine Company, later the Schermack Mailing Machine Company, now the Mailometer Company, made and sold more than 50,000 specially prepared stamps in strip form of the one and two cent denomination, having a series of round-hole perforations in the center of the strip, leaving an unperforated margin on both sides of the perforations. These stamps were sold to and used by a number of the first prospective purchasers of the Schermack Mailing Machine.

Now that we can view the discussion with the perspective of three decades, we know that Mr. Schermack was right because commercially used covers of 1907 exist with the Schermack experimental round-hole perforations. But also, there was a good deal of fact in Mr. Drake's statement, because several stamps issued after 1907 exist with the experimental Schermack perforations. The unsavory publicity gave a black-eye to the collecting of privately perforated coils, but, as publicity will do, it had its good effect and stopped the "racket". After July 1909 there were no more stamps perforated with experimental Type I and Type II Schermack perforations.

The effect was even more far-reaching. In 1909 Mrs. Sara L. W. Coe, president of the United States Automatic Vending Company, made the following statement:(6)

> We have a perfect right to sell postage stamps if we choose to do so, but inasmuch as we are not in the stamp business, but rather in the stamp machine business, I have made a request of all employees of the company not to deal in stamps.

A few years later a comment was published concerning the policy of this same company:(7)

> The Company has always refused to furnish stamps or supplies to stamp dealers. It was understood that they feared that any other course would prejudice the Post Office Department, which they were seeking to interest in their machines.

Even Mr. Brinkerhoff, who so kindly offered to perforate anything at 1c per stamp, had a change of heart.(8)

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(5) Mekeel's News and Trade Circular, No. 23.
(6) United States Stamps, E. B. Power, 1909.
(7) Philatelic Journal of America, Vol. XXIV, August 1913.
(8) The Collectors Journal, Chicago, Vol. I, No. 4.

In reply to yours of the 10th inst. would say that by reference to our letter of the 27th you will notice that we only propose to handle the current issue of stamps, and ones and twos issued by the Department. * * Before the machine was shipped west, we worked up some eight or ten thousand stamps for Mr. Mekeel of St. Louis, so we presume you might get any of these other than the current one and two cent stamps from him in case you want a few.

(Signed) F. H. BRINKERHOFF.

So the "racket" drew to a close, and at least we know that there were "eight or ten thousand" Brinkerhoff stamps that were not used for postage. I, for one, have no bone to pick with Mr. Brinkerhoff or Mr. Mekeel or anyone else. Quite the contrary, I am very thankful to them. If there had been no supply made available to collectors at the time, all privately perforated coils would rank in the class of the 4c 1902 Schermack rarity and only a millionaire could collect these coils. We have a few items which were never regularly coiled for public use, but what of it? The imperforate sheets were not issued for ordinary public use, but to be made into private coils. I have never heard of a collector of United States stamps who threw the imperforate stamps out of his collection because they were not intended for use in that form. Similarly, no collector should overlook the privately perforated coils, even those which "never saw use in a machine."

In classifying and arranging a collection of privately perforated coils custom, tradition, precedent, or whatever you call it, has decreed that they should be separated by companies, alphabetically arranged. While this may be a handy method for a brief listing of items, as in a catalogue, there are various reasons why it is unsatisfactory to the collector of United States stamps. The collector is not interested in *companies* and the various perforations used by them, but in *stamps* and the various perforations applied to them. Stamps are mounted by issues, generally with the imperforate stamps immediately following the perforated stamps of each issue. As the imperforate sheet stamps were issued solely for the production of privately perforated coils, the logical place to mount the private coil items is directly following the imperforate stamps. The private coils of each issue should then be divided into two main groups; those used in vending machines, and those used in affixing machines. The accepted name of each type of perforation should be placed above each coil pair, but otherwise all reference to companies omitted. Should a collector have a sufficient number of private coils to wish to form a small specialized collection of them, the same argument holds true:—to be in keeping with the rest of his collection the stamps should be arranged by issues, the imperforate stamps of each issue followed by the private perforations applied to them.

Under the system of arrangement by companies certain absurdities occur which lead to a misunderstanding as to who perforated the stamps and for what purpose. Take for example the common Schermack Type III perforation which starts with the 1c stamp of the 1902 Issue and ends with the 1½c stamp of 1925. How can these be classed under a heading "The Schermack Company" when the Schermack Mailing Machine Company, as a name, ceased to exist in 1909? From July 1909 to August 1924 these stamps were perforated by the Mailometer Company. From August 1924 to December 1927 Schermack Type III stamps were, by right of ownership, the product of the Pitney-Bowers Postage Meter Company. It is true that all were used in the same old Schermack machines, but if the machine is to be used as a means for classifying the coils, then all Mailometer and Farwell perforations should be classed as Schermacks, since they were also used in the same machines. Not only is the alphabetical arrangement by companies at variance with the accepted method of collecting stamps by issues, but it even violates chronological order. The Schermack Company came first, changing to the Mailometer Company in 1909. Two years later the Farwell Company, a user of Mailometer machines, began to perforate their own coils.

If the stamps of the three companies which used the Schermack machine are grouped together, whether alphabetically or chronologically, there is no valid

reason for having them preceded by the stamps of one vending company and followed by the stamps of another. The vending machine companies have in common the purpose for which they existed, but no connection with the mailing machine companies other than the fact that they used stamps of the same issues. It would be more logical to group together the stamps of the various vending companies, followed or preceded by the stamps of the affixing companies. These groupings of private coils are proposed for use in the case of each different issue, following the imperforate stamps from which they were made.

Having made a brief for the arranging of private coils by issues, I now find myself forced to revert to an arrangement by companies for the purpose of this treatise.

(To be continued.)

To Readers of the 'Philatelic Bulletin'

Vol. 1, No. 1 and Vol. 2, No. 1, Published by the Chinese Philatelic Society, Shanghai, China, in 1925-26

By M. D. CHOW.

IT has been my custom to exercise the greatest care in writing treatises on philately, and my conclusions are usually supported by evidence of a reliable nature. Small errors do creep in but they are usually rectified as soon as discovered.

Two mistakes of considerable importance found in the above-mentioned publication have never been rectified in foreign languages, although in Chinese publications they have been duly pointed out to the readers. The first mistake is of comparatively little importance, but the second one cannot be regarded as minor, and unless they are corrected in a publication printed in English, a translation may be printed including these errors.

(1) There are 8 panes in a whole sheet of the small-size stamps of the Jubilee Issue of 1894, i. e. 1-cent to 6-cent, while in the case of large-size stamps of this issue, i. e. 9-cent to 24-cent, there are only 4 panes in a whole sheet. Paper bearing the Yin-yang watermark used in the Ching Dynasty from the second issue of 1885 to the regular issue printed by Waterloo & Co. in 1898 is of the same kind, that is to say, in every whole sheet, there are 2x2=4 oblong watermarked panes and every such pane accommodates space for 2 panes of stamps of small size. There should therefore be 8 panes of small-size stamps in every whole sheet, no matter whether they are Japan or Shanghai Print. In my "Handbook of Chinese Postage Stamps" it was however erroneously described as containing 12 panes of small-size stamps.

(2) In the first issue of Volume I of the "Philatelic Bulletin," the colour plate shows two kinds of Provisional Neutral Postage Due of 1ct. and 2ct. denominations, one overprinted on blue stamps and the other surcharged on brown. It has, however, been brought to light that the latter are genuine stamps but the former are not. It should be noted that when Postage Due stamps were surcharged Neutral in 1912, the supply of blue 1-ct. and 2-ct. Postage Due stamps had long been exhausted and that it could not be possible that there were still blue stamps in stock for overprinting. These forgeries were purchased through the medium of Mr. E. Busch. As I was then a beginner with only two years' experience in stamp-collecting, my knowledge was so poor that for a time I was deceived and had them reproduced in the colour frontispiece. It is to be added that these forgeries were so well made that even a connoisseur would pass them as genuine overprints. It was only after very careful measurement made three years later that I discovered a small discrepancy in the size of the overprinting.



Dalai Lama 13th.

Ngak-wang Thup-ten Gya-tsho

under whose rule the first Tibitan stamp was issued.

Tibet

By THEODORE M. NEWMAN.

Owing to the difficulty of getting accurate information on Tibet, Mr. Newman forwarded the galley proofs of this article to authorities in Lhasa, Tibet, for correction. It is of interest to note that all corrections were very minor in character and that with the completion of these articles the first real authoritative story of the Tibetan stamps will have been told.(—Ed.).

The collecting of Tibetan postage stamps is a fascinating and adventurous study. Material is very hard to obtain and information on the stamps of Tibet is even more difficult. Data must be pieced together from information supplied by the Chinese officials and from the few explorers who enter the country, and as few of these explorers are interested in philately, one may readily see why so little is known about the Tibetan Postal System.

From various authentic sources over a long period of time, and also from a large collection of philatelic material such as entires, full sheets, postal markings, etc. I have gathered together enough worthwhile material to be able to give to philately a comprehensive description of Tibet, the Tibetan Postal System, and Tibetan Stamps.

Tibet differs from most countries, as far as the collector is concerned, in that he really must have a thorough knowledge of the country, its social system, history, religion, etc., before he can appreciate his collection.

Tibet, located just north of India and south of Mongolia, is situated in a part of the world that makes access to it a very arduous task. The Himalaya mountain range borders it on the south and several high ranges run through the middle of the country, really placing Tibet on a plateau with only the valleys and lower slopes inhabited. Most of the country lies more than 10,000 feet above sea level and some towns are as high as 18,000 feet. Not a few of the mountains are snow capped the year round.

The people of Tibet are of a pure Tibetan stock, and because the nation is a religious one and is dominated by Buddhist priests who frown on contacts with other peoples, intercourse with the outside world is not allowed. (About one-quarter of the male population enter the priesthood.)

The social order is a complete feudal system such as existed in Europe during the tenth century. The people of all ranks are charming and healthy, possess a fine sense of humor and are very polite. Their houses are strongly built and as there is no fire wood in the country, yak-dung is used as fuel both for cooking and heating.(1) There is no glass made in Tibet and its transportation is almost impossible as there is not a wheeled vehicle in the country. The latter is important to the postal system as will be seen later.

Lhasa, the largest city and capital of the country, is the seat of the Dalai Lama—the Supreme Being. Shigatse is second in size and importance, while other large cities are: Gyantse, Yatung, Pharijong (Phari), Nangartse, and Chiamdo, and, there being no vehicles in Tibet, there are no roads, hence the cities are connected by trails.

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(1) One authority claims there is some wood in East and South Tibet, also a tract North of Lhasa.

All of these cities have their monasteries which are really the centers of activity of the Tibetan's life. The Potala at Lhasa is the winter home of the Dalai Lama and is the largest building in Tibet, and probably the most magnificent building in the world including the Taj Mahal. One is awed by the impressive size of such a structure in so remote a land. Other outstanding buildings are the shrine at Gyantse, whose roof is embellished with gold leaf, and the large Tashi Lunpo monastery at Shigatse.

The government of Lhasa is made up as follows: There is a council called the Kashag composed of five men—four lay nobles and one Lama, all of middle age or older. It is a very powerful unit, and, constituting the active governing body, it meets once a day. Above them in rank are: the Prime Minister, and the Regent, a reincarnate chosen by the Late Dalai Lama before his death. These latter two men have the highest authority in the country. When there is a Dalai Lama he naturally rules supreme.

The late Dalai Lama the 13th was probably the most modern of all the chief lamas of Tibet. He wrote at least a dozen letters and because of conflict at home, traveled extensively.

The Tibetan monastery Unit is the Trangka, a small silver coin, whose commercial value is one sixth of a rupee. The rupee is valued at one shilling, six pence, of the British pound, which is worth $5.05 or $5.10 today. The fair rate is $0.365 for the rupee, in American money, thus making the Trangka worth about $0.061.

The following are the Tibetan Postal Units:

One Kakang—One-sixth Trangka
One Karmanga—One-third Trangka
One Chekye—One-half Trangka
One Shokang—Two-thirds Trangka
One Trangka
Two Chekye—1 ½ Shohang—1 Trangka—6 Annas

A Tola, the postal rate unit used by the Tibetan and Indian post offices, is equivalent to three eighths ounce or 11.6638 grams or 180 grams Troy weight.

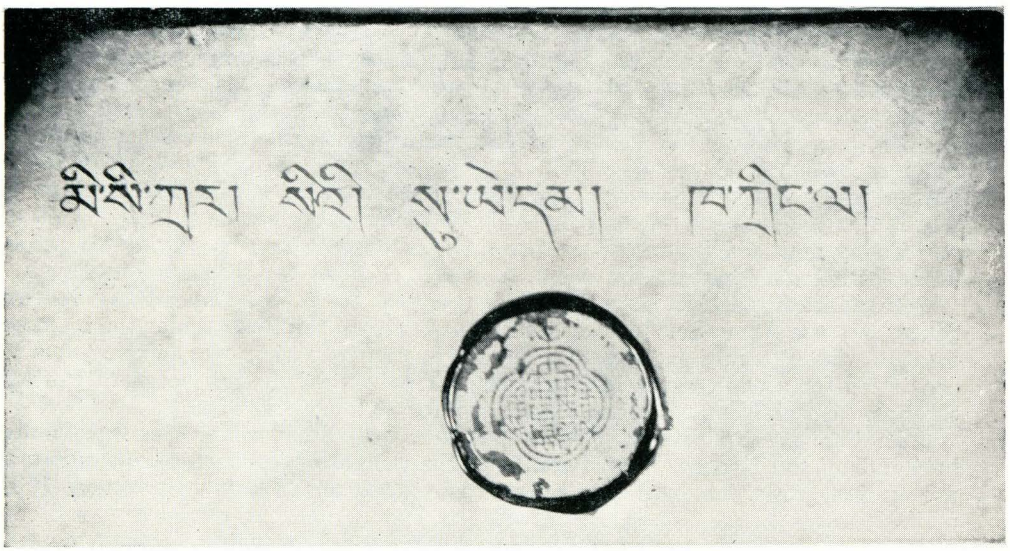
DATES IMPORTANT TO TIBETAN PHILATELY

Strictly speaking, political dates have no place in philately, but wherever, as is the case with Tibet, Postal developments followed closely those of political nature, they should not be overlooked. In addition to political dates there are also included in the list below a few dates that are strictly historical which might be enjoyed by some students.

1330 The first European to reach Lhasa was Friar Odoric.
1811 Thomas Manning went from Shanghai up the Yangtze River to Tibet on an excursion. He returned five years later at Sikkim. He gave the British Gov't. information that was the basis for further work before the MacDonald and Younghusband Expeditions.
1846 Two Frenchmen, one a Jesuit Missionary entered Lhasa. The Abbe Huc established a mission in Tibet and visited Lhasa several times during his stay in the country.
1886, August 24, The understanding between England and China regarding the condition at Burma and Tibet.
1890, March 17, Understanding between England and China regarding the border in Sikkim and Tibet.
1893, December 5, China recognizes England's power over Sikkim. The border question remains unfinished.
1903 Tibet, requested by England to send authorized representatives regarding the border question, gives no answer.
1903, December 13, Invasion of British Indian troops north of Sikkim under Younghusband.
1903, December 29, Arrival of English troops in Pharijong.
1904, April 11, Invasion of English troops in Gyantse.
1904, July 14, Removal of English troops from Gyantse.

1904, August 3, Possession of Lhasa, Dalai Lama flees to Urga, Mongolia.
1904, September 7, Declaration of peace in Lhasa. Covenant between England and Tibet, however without acknowledgement of the Chinese Government.
1904, September 23, Removal of Expeditionary forces from Lhasa.
1904, October 5, Arrival in Gyantse and dissolution of the Expeditionary forces. Two companies remained and are still there. (1939).
1906, April 27, China acknowledges the Covenant between Engiand and Tibet, made in 1904.
1907, August 31, Agreement between England and Russia regarding Tibet.
1909, December 25, The Dalai Lama returns to Tibet.
1909, China takes advantage of the agreement between Russia and England, whereby no foreign power may secure influence. Under power of attorney, Amban is sent to Lhasa, and 2000 Chinese troops march into Tibet.
1910, January 20, Defeat of the Tibetan Army at Chiamdo.
1910, February 12, Invasion of Chinese troops in Lhasa. Escape of the Daiai Lama to British India in Darjeling. Removed by decree of the Chinese Government.
1910, February 23, Protest by England against the interference of China.
1911, October Revolutionary outbreak in China, resulting in revolt of Tibet and ejection of Chinese troops.
1912, June, Return of the Dalai Lama and Declaration of Independence.
1912, July, Chinese troops try to eject Tibetans from Siangeheng, Litang, and Batang. They take Batang.
1912, August 17, The British Ambassador in Peking objects to the invasion of Chinese troops and demands revision of the 1906 covenant. Chinese troops retreat.
1912, October 28, Through decree of the Chinese President, the Dalai Lama is given back all rights and recognized as Chief of Tibet.
1913, Commencement of arrangements between England, China and Tibet in Simla.
1914, According to English sources, Russia has agreed with the arrangements made in Simla, however not much publicity has been given so far regarding the nature of such agreement.

EARLY TIBETAN POSTAL HISTORY
LETTER SHEETS AND WAX SEALS



Tibetan cover in the handwriting of the Dalai Lama with his official seal attached.

Tibet has no railroad and must rely solely on highways or Imperial roads which at best are nothing but trails. At times these roads are almost impassible because of the tremendous altitudes and raging blizzards. At certain intervals are found Signal-stations, rest houses, military guards, etc., which serve for the advantage of the mail couriers.

No one knows just when Tibet adopted letter writing and postal use thereof, but indisputable evidence shows that they had such a system as early as 1885. Service then consisted mostly of communication between the various lamasaries, and was at the disposal of the laity upon payment of a fee. As only the lamas were educated, they were the ones who wrote the letters for the common people and nobles. The letter was written on a certain hand woven native paper used only by the lamasaries, and is still in use by them, and folded similar to our early United States letter sheets; then it was taken to the person in charge of dispatching and receiving letters in that town, who upon payment of the necessary fee sealed the letter sheet with red wax, into which was impressed the amount paid for postage. These wax seals were both round and diamond shaped. The amount of postage paid varied with the weight and the distance the letter was sent. Because of their fragility, not many of these letter sheets exist today, and those that do may rightly be considered a rarity.

In 1906 the wax seals gave way to a printed circular device used in the same way as the wax seals, but as far as the posting of letters was concerned the modus operandi was the same for the printed circular device as was for the seals. The wax seal may very properly be called the First Tibetan Postal Issue and the printed circular device may as justly be called the Second Tibetan Issue. However, to avoid confusion, I think it is better to let these two issues be known as the First and Second Provisional Issues and let the First Tibetan Postal Issue start with the actual issuance of postage stamps.

Whether the wax sealed letters and the later hand stamped letters were carried by private messengers or by the Imperial Relay Service is difficult to determine, although quite possibly both methods were used. As letters between lamasaries did not pay postage they were carried by private couriers.

When letters were sent through postal channels the Imperial Relay Service was used. For a long time this was a compulsory army obligation and messengers or couriers were organized according to military order. They were armed and carried large lanterns, inasmuch as the service was continued day and night. To prevent tampering with the mails each courier wore a belt which, after the letters were put in, was locked around the outside of his person, preventing him from undressing until the mail was delivered, and at each station was examined to see that it was still locked. The guards on the streets and cities were ordered to open the gates any time of day or night for these mounted couriers, who would make in 24 hours as much as 200 Li or 55 miles (1 Li=587 yards). This is phenomenal when one considers that they were working at altitudes as high as 29,000 feet above sea level, and through all kinds of the weather.

Today mail courier-runners carry the mail on foot in relays every six miles; letters sent from Lhasa to Yatung take six days; Lhasa to Gyantse, four days.

In addition to this Imperial Relay Service there was the Official Service. Since 1910 the Army Service has been transferred to the Post, under the management of the Postmaster General. There is evidence that the Official Service continued for a while after 1910 and after Tibet issued its first series of Postage Stamps. Special cancellations were used for this Official Mail.

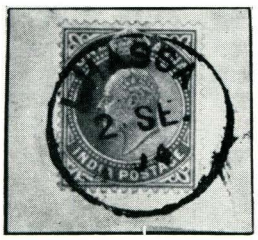
In 1903 an expeditionary force was sent into Tibet under General Younghusband by the British Government, for the purpose of opening the country to the Indian trade. A base post office was opened at Siliguri in January 1904, which was the nearest Indian post office to Tibet, then the advance started for Gyantse on April 4, arriving there May 14, 1904, and reaching Lhasa August 3, stayed there until September 23, 1904.

The Younghusband Expeditionary Force into Tibet has its own Field Post Office. This Post Office was in charge of H. Tullock, Supt. of the Mails, until April 1, 1904, at which time he was succeeded by C. J. Dease.

This Post Office was equipped with the King's Head issue of India, and other impedimenta for postal needs. During the expeditions stay in Lhasa, at least two cancellers are known to have been used, and, curiously enough, on both the name of Lhasa is misspelled. One, LAHASSA, was evidently used during the entire sojourn (Aug. 3, 1904-Sept. 23, 1904)[1] while the other one spelled LHASSA is only known used on one day—Sept. 2nd.[2]



ERROR LHASSA



ERROR LAHSSA

An Anglo-Tibetan convention settling trade and border questions was concluded on September 7, 1904, an indirect result of which was the creation of three British Post Offices in Tibet, under the authority of the Indian Department of Posts and Telegraphs. One in Pharijong, the most important town of the region between the Indian states of Bhutan and Sikkim; another in Gyantse, a town in the interior built on the Nyang river, on the road from India to Lhasa, nearly 180 miles from the Sikkim border; and finally, in Yatung, a town built also on the Amochhu river, 130 miles from Gyantse and 270 miles from Lhasa. It must be noted that no British post office was opened at Lhasa although mail was sent from here as from the other offices. These post offices were British Agency Post Offices and all the postal traffic to or from Tibet was concentrated in Siliguri.

Field Post Offices were located in the same towns as above. The distinction between the two rests solely on the date. All mail sent before September 7, 1904 is legal F. P. O. mail, all mail after September 7, 1904 is rightly classed as British Agency Mail, although many letters were mailed after Sept. 7, 1904 with the F. P. O. label on them. (The distinction between F. P. O. and B. A. P. referred to above is strictly Philatelic, not official.)

There being no Tibetan stamps at that time, Indian stamps were used for postage and cancelled from the various Tibetan cities. Indian stamps remained in use until as late as 1913, one year after Tibet issued its own postage stamps. The Indian stamps of 1902 were later replaced by those of 1906.

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1. There are in my collection copies dated Aug. 3, Sept. 7 and Sept. 22.
2. All copies I have seen are dated Sept. 2.



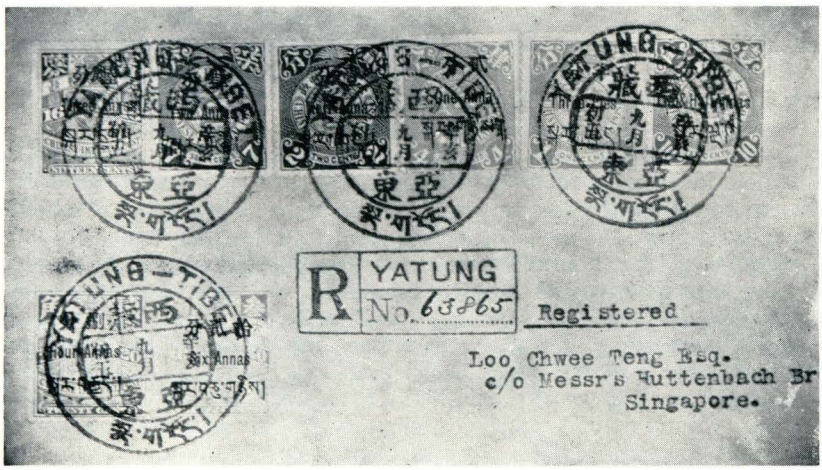
Younghusband Expedition Cover.



First Chinese Issue on Cover Addressed to Mr. Chang, c/o T. R. Shi Yang Hang (Company) Woo Mar Rue, Shanghai, China.

THE FIRST CHINESE ISSUE

In 1909, China, becoming aware that England was gaining a strong foothold in Tibet, decided to issue postage stamps and to set up postoffices in that country. An order, placed for an overprinted set of postage stamps, was not delivered until 1911, consequently ordinary Chinese stamps were used in the interim. Post offices were established at Gyantse, Yatung, Pharijong, Lhasa and Shigatse. Covers with Chinese stamps and cancellations from any of the above five Tibetan towns are great rarities.



Second Chinese Issue

THE SECOND CHINESE ISSUE

In the middle of 1911 the overprinted issue was finally delivered. Through a lack of agreement between the British and Chinese Governments, letters transmitted from the Chinese to the British Post Offices, and vice versa, were taxed as coming from abroad. It therefore became necessary, for the prepayment of this tax, to overprint Chinese stamps with the value in annas or rupees. The overprint appears in three languages, reading from the top down, Chinese, English and Tibetan. This issue had a very short life, lasting for about nine months, due to the Chinese Revolution and the withdrawal of all garrisons and Chinese Officials. The Dalai Lama sought refuge in India, and as the result of the revolution, Tibet became free and the Government passed into the hands of her own people.

Chinese postcards which were issued in 1909, in both anna and rupee values, never did receive the overprint. The only way a collector has of determining the issue to which they belong is by the date.

The amounts printed of the Overprinted Issues are:—

3	Pies	on 1	Cent Orange	72,000
½	Anna	on 2	Cent Green	108,000
1	Anna	on 4	Cent Red	108,000
2	Annas	on 7	Cent Dark Brown Violet	65,200
2½	Annas	on 10	Cent Blue	72,000
3	Annas	on 16	Cent Olive	30,200
4	Annas	on 20	Cent Brown Red	31,200
6	Annas	on 30	Cent Light Red	12,200
12	Annas	on 50	Cent Green	??
1	Rupee	on 1	Dollar Carmine and Straw	4,800
2	Rupees	on 2	Dollars Carmine and Yellow	2,700

Errors which occurred in printing the above issue are seen on the 3 Pies and the 3 Annas. Both are the same and consist of an inverted S in the word Annas.

The rarest value is the 2 Rupee.

The Provisional Revenue Stamps of the U. S. Virgin Islands

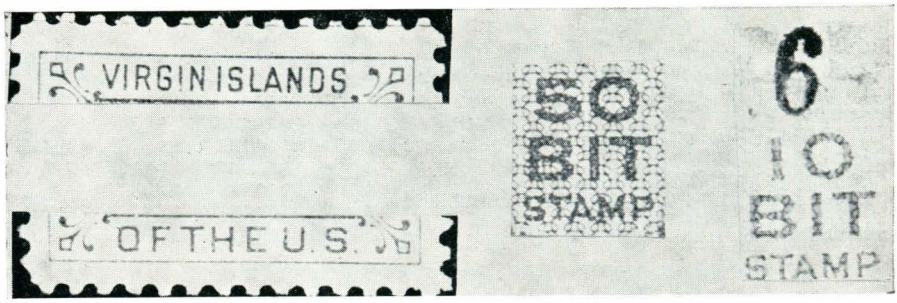
E. MACLAY GEARHART, C. C. No. 1170.

TO me one of the most attractive phases of philately is the constant immanence of the unusual. No one can foresee when or how some surprising "find" will be made. The stamps described in this article are a shining example of this truth, and there is a real human interest story connected with them.

More than two years ago a missionary friend, just returned from Puerto Rico, gave me the address of a friend of his in the Virgin Islands. I wrote this man asking if he could secure for me some of the U. S. Playing Card stamps surcharged for use in the Islands. Exactly eighteen months later, January 1939, I received a letter from another man in the Islands. He explained that my original letter had been turned over to him and that he was enclosing some of the stamps I desired, also an "improvised stamp" and asked if I might be interested in securing some of the latter. The stamp he offered was so crude that I was suspicious and forwarded it to Mr. C. V. F. Daniel, Deputy Collector of Revenue in the Islands. He not only pronounced it "Bona Fide" but also explained that it had been issued in January 1934 to meet a shortage of cigarette stamps.

It seems that in December 1933, the supply of cigarette stamps became exhausted. To meet this temporary shortage the current 10 BIT Internal Revenue stamp was surcharge "6" (Bit). The supply of these becoming exhausted, the provisionals here desicribed were then printed.

The current revenue stamps were very beautiful in design and were produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D. C. The design measures 23½mm x 32mm and is in the form of an upright rectangle. There is a continuous outer frame line. The inner frame line is broken at the corners by a trefoil-like ornament which divides the space between the outer and inner frame lines into four panels. The right and left panels bear the inscription "Internal Revenue," the top "Virgin Islands" and the bottom "of the U. S." The background of the central portion of the design is a network made up of an intricate pattern of loops. Superimposed on this background is a very attractive design. At the top is the eagle design of the U. S. Seal (the group of stars above the head is omitted) and below this is an olive wreath, open at the top and inclosing the inscription: "10 BIT (or whatever the denomination may be) STAMP." In some of the values the background is printed in a color differing from the rest of the design.



These provisionals were intended solely for use on cigarettes and the various denominations paid the tax on the different values and sizes of packs of the various brands. The tax assessed was figured on the invoice plus 25%. The stamps were supposed to be pasted to the individual packs of cigarettes but entire strips of the 6 BIT and 7 BIT stamps exist with the ends pasted together, thus forming a loop and making it appear that, at least in some instances, the strips were used as a band which encircled the entire carton.

I have definite information that the provisional stamps were for use only in the Island of St. Croix. This virtually confines their use to the city of Frederiksted, the port of the Island and the place where the tax on imported articles would be paid. This accounts for their very limited issue.

In a letter dated September 19, 1939, Mr. C. V. F. Daniel, Deputy Collector of Revenue, states "I have to say that upon investigation through the Internal Revenue Department of the Island, I have been able to ascertain (1) that there was but one order of these stamps, (2) but have been unable to secure the exact amount of stamps printed at the time, but it is estimated that they did not reach the thousand mark, as the use of them was limited to one week only."

The merchant in Frederiksted, from whom I secured the stamps that form the basis of this article, confirms the above but also states that the importers who purchased these provisional stamps were permitted to use them until their supply was exhausted. This is born out by the fact that cancellations have been observed, the dates on which range from January 17, 1934 to July 17th, 1934.

I cannot prove it but I am of the opinion that the original shortage was due, either directly or indirectly, to the change in the monetary system of the Islands. Prior to July 1934, the currency was expressed in BIT and FRANC values and after that date in CENT and DOLLAR denominations. It is all together conceivable that all of the BIT and FRANC stamps on hand at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing were shipped to the Islands in anticipation of the change and that they became exhausted either before the new issue arrived or before it became official. This idea is strengthened by the fact that while these provisionals were officially in use for but one week, copies are known with cancellations dated as late as July 17, 1934.

The provisionals are type-set and were printed in a local printery in Frederiksted. The contract for their printing was awarded on the basis of competitive bidding. They are ungummed, unperforated and printed on white paper in black ink. Here I met with another example of the intriguing romance of philately. In examining the stamps I discovered that the paper bore the watermark "Hammermill Bond, made in the U. S. A." That meant that it had been manufactured here in our own city of Erie, Pennsylvania, at the Hammermill Paper Company of which my close friend, Mr. Ernst R. Behrend is the president.

The design is in the form of an upright rectangle, approximately 31mm x 42mm and is an evident attempt to reproduce, as far as the limited type at hand would permit, the regular issue by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

An examination of the full and partial strips available prove conclusively that these stamps were printed in strips of 10, a most unusual proceeding as such strips are rather difficult to feed into the press.

It has been suggested in this connection that the form set up for the stamps may have been locked in with another form for the purpose of printing, either at the top or bottom or the side. In this manner it would have been possible to make use of the margin of a sheet of paper which might otherwise have been waste. This seems to be a very plausible explanation inasmuch as we know that the plant where the stamps were produced did the printing of the municipal records and other official stationery for the Island.

The issue is made of four denominations: 3 BIT, 5 BIT, 6 BIT and 7 BIT. Also with the 3 BIT and 7 BIT surcharged "6" (BIT) and in one instance the 7 BIT surcharged "6" (BIT). All surcharges are in violet ink and were done

with a rubber hand stamp. The "6" on 7 BIT is extremely rare. But five copies are known and as each of these is from a different position in the strip of 10 it presents the possibility that they are from a single strip which was surcharged by mistake.



Local Printing.

The same typographical set-up was used to print all denominations. The different values were created merely by the process of lifting out one numeral and inserting another in its place.

As full strips of both the 6 BIT and the 7 BIT stamps exist for comparison, it is a very simple matter to plate the stamps and determine what was the position in the strip of any single stamp.

Due to the loose set-up of the type and the frequent unlocking of the form to change the numerals, many differences may be noted in the several stamps and even identical positions show variations. But the following illustrated, constant and distinctive features have been noted and may be used as a guide for the plating of the stamps.

Numbering the subjects from left to right on the strip of 10 we observe the following characteristics:

1. The top inner frame is damaged, the right half having a wavy appearance and there is a small break in the inner left frame line opposite the "N" of REVENUE.
2. The left leg of the first "N" in "INTERNAL," in the right inscription, is broken.
3. The "A" of "ISLANDS" in the top inscription is dropped out of line.
4. The left serif of the "T" in "BIT" is damaged and there is a wide gap at the left end of the lower, outer frame line and another gap in the inner top frame line under the "I" of "ISLANDS."
5. The "O" of "OF" in the bottom inscription is broken and the top, inner frame line is missing.
6. The first "I" of "VIRGIN" in the top inscription is high.
7. The "HE" of "THE" in the bottom inscription is high and there is a wide gap at the right end of the outer, bottom frame line.
8. The left arm of the "T" of "BIT" is broken.
9. There is a diagonal break in the upper loop of the "B" of "BIT."
10. The "I" of "BIT" is badly damaged.

After printing the various denominations it became apparent that there was an insufficient supply of the 6 BIT stamps as that was the one most in demand. Ninety-five per cent. of the cigarettes imported require this value. Accordingly, the 3 BIT and the 7 BIT stamps were surcharged as noted above.

We also find an oddity in the 7 BIT stamp. This is made up of the printed frame with the numeral "7" inserted by the same method as was used in the surcharging by rubber handstamp in black ink.

In the 7 BIT stamp made up of printed frame and hand struck numeral, there appears to be two types of numeral: one thick and one thin, and in one instance of a strip of three, the center stamp has a double strike of the numeral.



Thin Numeral.



Double Strike.



Thick Numeral.

An evident shortage of type in the fonts gives us three types of numerals in each denomination. There may be more than three types in the 3 BIT and 5 BIT stamps as we do not have full strips to examine and some of the positions are missing in the singles at hand.



Type I.



Type II.



Type III.

In the 3 BIT we find the three types of numerals illustrated above arranged in the following order in the strip of 10:

Type I. #3 and #5
Type II. #4
Type III. #6 and #9

Positions 1, 2, 7, 8, and 10 are not available for study.



Type I.



Type II.



Type III.

In the 5 BIT the arrangement is:

Type I. #1 and #5
Type II. #3 and #4
Type III. #6, #8 and #9

Positions 2, 7, and 10 are not available for study.



Type I.



Type II.



Type III.

In the 6 BIT all positions are available and we have:

Type I. #1, #4
Type II. #2, #3, #5 and #6
Type III. #7, #8, #9, #10



Type I.



Type II.



Type III.

In the 7 BIT (with printed numerals):

Type I. #1, #2 and #10
Type II. #3, #4 and #5
Type III. #6, #7, #8 and #9

I have never seen the 3 BIT stamp without the surcharge "6" but it probably exists.

The demand for 6 BIT stamps is emplasized by the fact that a study of existing strips and part strips produces evidence that leads us to the conclusion that while there was but one printing of the 3 BIT, 5 BIT and 7 BIT stamps, we find conclusive evidence that there were at least three printings of the 6 BIT. While the identifying marks noted earlier in this article as a means of identification of the various subjects in each strip of 10 carry through all three printings of the 6 BIT stamp, there are variations by which the three printings may be definitely identified if in full or partial strips. These variations are probably the result of the loosening up of the type and shifting of letters and numerals in the process of the changing of the numerals of value, to create new denominations. Strength is lent to this supposition by the fact that some of the subjects in the different printings show the numeral "6" appearing in different type on stamps of the same position in the strip. The three printings may be recognized by the following characteristics:

6 BIT STAMPS

	First Printing	Second Printing	Third Printing
# 1.	A black slug mark between the words Internal and Revenue in the right inscription.	No "slug" mark. The first "I" of "VIRGIN" in the top inscription has dropped. Type II numeral.	Same as second printing.
# 2.	Type II numeral.	Left limb of "N" in "INTERNAL" complete.	Outer right frame line bent in at bottom.
# 3.	No additional markings.	Type I numeral.	Same as second printing.
# 4.	No additional markings.	Inner, top frame line has spread and buckled inward. Type II numeral.	Same as second printing.
# 5.	No additional markings.	Same as first printing.	Final "S" in ISLANDS is high.
# 6.	No additional markings.	Final "S" in "ISLANDS" has dropped. Type III numeral.	Same as second printing.
# 7.	No additional markings.	No additional markings.	No stamps for study.
# 8.	No additional markings.	No additional markings.	No stamps for study.
# 9.	No additional markings.	No additional markings.	No stamps for study.
#10.	No additional markings.	No additional markings.	No stamps for study.

These stamps have afforded a most interesting study and I offer my findings for what they are worth, acknowledging my indebtedness to Deputy Collector of Revenue, Mr. C. V. F. Daniel, for assisting with data and to Mr. George R. M. Ewing for his help in checking material.

It seems almost impossible that such an issue of stamps should remain unknown for over four years and I would be very glad to hear from any one having further information relative to this issue.

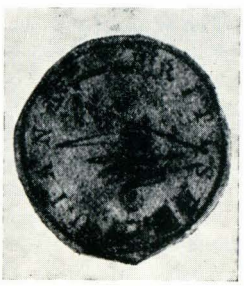
The Pedigree of Rare Stamps

By Charles J. Phillips.

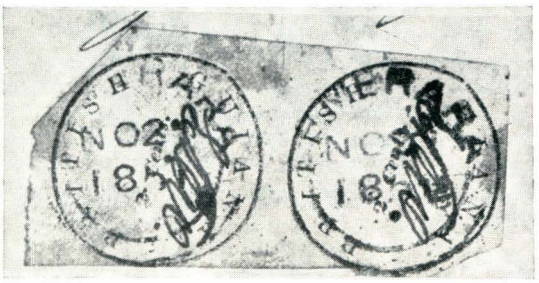
(Continued from Vol. XVIII, page 273.)



Nos. 7 and 8. Phillips, Duveen, Hind.



No. 3. British Museum.



Nos. 9 and 10. Luard, Phillips, Ferrary.

BRITISH GUIANA

March, 1850, 2 cents, rose, circular.

Luckily for those of us who endeavor to trace out the early history of the great rarities, my old friend Sir E. D. Bacon hunted up and published the history of this 2 cents, British Guiana. His article appeared in the *London Philatelist* of February, 1900. I have taken this, modified it and brought it up to date.

The 2c. British Guiana may be said to have been the last of the great rarities to be discovered by collectors, if we omit the famous 1c. 1856 issue of the same colony. The existence of both values of the "Post Office" Mauritius be-

came known in Europe in 1865, that of the first 2c. Hawaiian Islands in 1873, while it was not until the end of 1877 that the first specimen of the 2c. British Guiana arrived from the colony.

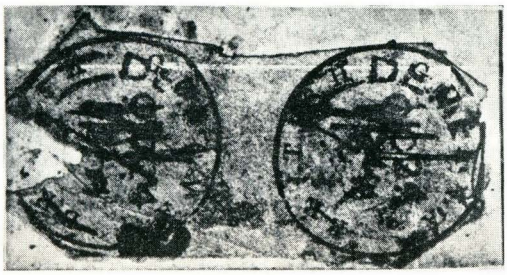
1. This specimen was bought by Thomas Ridpath from a Mr. Kirton, and was at once sold by him to Ferrary. When Ridpath acquired stamp No. 4, in the following year, it was found that the latter was a somewhat better specimen; he thereupon exchanged stamps with Ferrary, and No. 1 afterwards passed through a number of hands as follows:—Ridpath resold the stamp early in 1879 to Pemberton, Wilson and Co., who found a customer for it in Captain J. D. Cameron, J. P., at the price of £25. Pemberton, Wilson and Co. afterwards bought Captain Cameron's entire collection in 1883, and thereupon sold the specimen of the 2c. to J. Botteley for £30. On M. Giwelb acquiring Botteley's collection, in February, 1887, for £1,700, he sold the stamp to the late Douglas Garth for £75. In the spring of 1893 the stamp passed into the hands of W. W. Blest, in exchange for rare European stamps, and he sold it with other British Guiana and certain British Colonial stamps, in January, 1895, to W. B. Avery. The specimen in question, like Nos. 2, 3, and 4, is cut round, and all four stamps correspond in type and bear the initials, "J. B. S.," being those of James Belton Smith, who was a clerk in the Imperial Department of the Post Office at Georgetown. There is a tradition that all these four stamps came off the same letter-sheet, and as I believe, they are all postmarked in October, 1851, although the date is indistinct on some of the specimens and the day of the month is illegible, it looks as if there was more truth in the story than there usually is in old tales of this kind. Like all the other known specimens, No. 1 is postmarked.

2. Early in the year 1878 Alfred Smith and Co. received a specimen from Neil R. McKinnon, at that time a collector in British Guiana, and this was sold in March of the same year to Judge F. A. Philbrick, Q. C., for £20. In 1882 Judge Philbrick sold his famous collection to Ferrary and about 1884 the purchaser sold the specimen of the 2c. to the MM. Caillebotte. These gentlemen sold their collection to Pemberton, Wilson and Co. in 1887, and F. de Coppet purchased the stamp from them the following year for £70. It was again sold in the auction sale of de Coppet's collection, held in New York in April, 1893, when it fetched $1,010.00 (£210), the purchaser being F. W. Hunter. The stamp was sold in the auction sale of Hunter's collection, in New York in January, 1900, to W. H. Peckitt.

3. Alfred Smith and Co. received a second specimen from McKinnon later on in 1878, and this they sold to W. E. Image in July of that year for £20. The late T. K. Tapling, M. P., purchased Image's collection in 1882, and on Tapling's death, 1891, the specimen passed, with his entire collection, to the British Museum.

4. In the autumn of 1878 McKinnon sent over his collection of stamps to Mr. Wylie Hill of Glasgow, for disposal, and the collection was first of all offered to the late E. L. Pemberton, but the negotiations for its purchase fell through. It was then offered to Ridpath and other dealers of the same post. Ridpath wrote to me: "I received my letter at 4.45 p. m. and at 8 p. m., I was on the way to Glasgow. I saw Hill by 9 a. m. next morning, concluded the business, and was back in Liverpool all within twenty-four hours. Date, October 2nd, 1878." Ridpath gave £120 for the collection, and besides numerous other British Guiana stamps, it contained the only known copy of the 1 cent, black on magenta, large oblong stamp of 1856, and a specimen of the first 2c. The former he sold to Ferrary and the latter he exchanged for the specimen he had previously sold him. This was sold in the tenth Ferrary sale June 1924 and realized $3240.00 with the custom. The buyer was Mr. Theo. Champion.

5 and 6 (pair). For many years the above four specimens were all that had been discovered of the stamp, and it was not until 1889 that E. C. Luard, a collector in the colony, found an unsevered pair attached to a letter sheet post-



Luard, Pemberton, Ferrary.

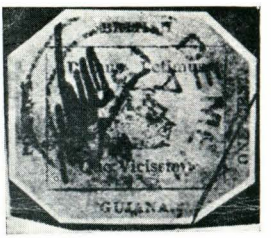
marked "Demerara Oct. 24, 1851." This gentleman sent over his collection of British Guiana stamps to the London Philatelic Exhibition held in May 1890, when he was awarded a silver medal. Later on in the same year the collection was purchased by Pemberton, Wilson and Co., who sold the pair of 2c. to Ferrary for £175. The upper stamp is unfortunately badly damaged, and both correspond in type with Nos. 1 to 4, and bear the same initials—"J. B. S." This pair was sold in the second Ferrary sale and realized $5400.00 with the surtax.

7 and 8 (pair). In the spring of 1896 a lady in the colony was fortunate enough to discover another pair of 2c., and being of a pious turn of mind she gave them to the parson of Christ Church, Georgetown, as an Easter offering. The stamps were afterwards sold by auction in the colony, and were bought by E. C. Luard for $1,005 (£205). Mr. Luard resold them in the autumn of the same year to Charles J. Phillips of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for £600. They were then acquired by H. J. Duveen. The pair of stamps is on a letter-sheet, which is postmarked "Demarara Aug. 5, 1851." Both stamps are of the same type, but of a type different from Nos. 1 to 6 and 9 and 10, and each is initialled "E. T. E. D." by E. T. E. Dalton, the then Deputy Postmaster-General. The pair is cut round at the top and bottom, but the stamps are perfect, and are but lightly postmarked. In 1923 when I distributed the Duveen collection I sold this pair to Arthur Hind for about $5000.00. In 1933 I sold the Hind collection (except the U. S.) to H. R. Harmer of London. In the second Hind sale in May 1934 this pair sold for £1300.0.0 (about $6300.00). The purchaser was Mr. Theo. Champion.

9 and 10 (pair). In the summer of 1897 E. C. Luard obtained a third pair of the 2c. in the colony, which he again sold to Charles J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., this time for £650. This firm sold the stamps to Carl Willadt, of Pforzheim, who sold them to P. Kosack, of Berlin. They were then acquired by Baron Otto von Transehe-Roseneck, a large Russian collector. This gentleman has unfortunately been obliged to abandon Philately on account of failing eyesight, and sold his entire collection to Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz. The famous pair of 2c. was once more purchased by Charles J. Phillips of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. The stamps are on a letter-sheet, postmarked "Demarara No. 25. 1851," corresponding in type with Nos. 1 to 6, and are initialled "E. D. W." by Mr. E. D. Wight, a clerk in the Colonial Department of the Post Office at Georgetown. The margins of this pair are larger than those of either of the other two pairs, and both stamps are lightly postmarked. This pair was in the first Ferrary sale, June 1921, and sold for 210,000 francs with the surtax and exchange of 8 cents to the franc. This equalled $19,760.00. Phillips sold to Ferrary about 1901 for £1000.

My story is now completed, as the above ten specimens are all that are known.





BRITISH GUIANA

August 1856, 4 Cent Black on Deep Blue Paper Colored Through

This stamp or the so-called sugar paper is several times as rare as the same issue 4c. on surfaced paper.

In the *Ferrary Sales* there were the following:

Sale Two. October 1921, fine copy cut square dated cancellation. This sold for $3160.00 with the surtax added. The purchaser was Arthur Hind.

In the 2nd Hind Sale in London in May 1934 this same copy was sold for £540, the purchaser being Mr. George E. Burghard, in whose collection it still remains.

In the same sale there was another copy with the corners cut off and remounted. This sold for $459.00.

Henry J. Duveen collection. Before I left England I commenced to sell the Duveen collection and King George bought this rare 4 cent. This copy is undoubtedly the finest and largest in the world. It is square and at least one quarter larger than the Ferrary copy. This is on the original cover, dated 15 Sept. 1856 and has been slightly repaired at the bottom. Duveen also had a second copy, with the 4 corners cut off.

In the London Exhibition of 1897 at the stall of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. there was a fine collection for sale containing a copy of this stamp, but I do not remember where it came from or the price.

In the collection of J. Pauwels which I bought in 1899 I had a copy of this stamp with the four corners cut off. Possibly this is the second Ferrary copy noted above.

In the collection of William Thorne bought by the New England Stamp Co. in 1900 there was a specimen of this stamp.

In the old collection of W. Hughes-Hughes which I bought in January 1896 I had a copy of this stamp used, lightly cancelled and clear impression, but corners cut off as usual (see *M. J.*, Jan. 1896, p. 134).

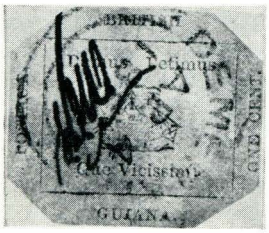
Fred de Coppet collection. Sold by J. W. Scott in 1893. 4c blue, paper colored through. On entire letter. Ex-Luard collection. This copy sold for $407.00.

BRITISH GUIANA

1856, Error, 1 Cent Black on Magenta in the Color of the 4 Cent

This is the only specimen known. It was in the Third sale of the Ferrary collection in April 1922. Lot No. 295, and sold for 300,000 francs, the surtax was 17½%. The exchange was 9.12 cents to the franc, the result being that this stamp cost $30,165.00, by far the highest price ever paid for one stamp.

The history of this stamp is interesting: It was found by a school-boy in Demerara, British Guiana, and was sold by him for eight shillings ($2.00) and was afterwards acquired by a Mr. McKinnon, of the same place.



In 1878 McKinnon sent his collection, containing this error, to Glasgow, Scotland. It was purchased by Thomas Ridpath for $600.00, who sold the error to Ferrary.

This unique error was sold in the Third Ferrary sale, April 1921, realizing $32,165.00, with the surtax of 17½% and the exchange of 9.12 cents to the franc.

After the death of Arthur Hind it was decided that he had presented this stamp to his wife and it still remains in her possession.

The 1866 Issue of Colombia

By JOHN N. MYER.

THE contract for the 1866 issue of Colombia was executed on August 21, 1866 with Daniel Ayala and Ignacio Medrano and reads as follows:

"CONTRACT

for the manufacture of stamps and covers.

Andres Montoya, director general of the national postal service, and Daniel Ayala and Ignacio Medrano, have executed the following contract:

Art. 1. Daniel Ayala and Ignacio Medrano agree to lithograph and deliver to the office in which they are to be deposited, the stamps and covers for insured letters, in the form, color and kinds which follow:

Ten pesos on orange-red paper, with design in black;
Five pesos on imperial green paper, with design in black;
One peso on white paper, with design in red;
Fifty centavos on white paper, with design in green;
Twenty centavos on white paper, with design in blue;
Ten centavos on white paper, with design in violet;
Five centavos on white paper, with design in yellow;
One centavo on white paper, with design in purple;
Two and one-half centavos, triangular in form, on pale purple paper, with design in black;
Five centavos for 'Registration' and 'Annotation' on white paper, with design in black.

Art. 2. All the stamps here enumerated shall bear the legend 'United States of Colombia,' 'National posts,' with the national escutcheon in the centre, and in the lower part the value of the stamp, with the exception of those for 'Annotation' and 'Registration,' which in place of the escutcheon shall bear in the centre, those for annotation an 'A,' and those for registration an 'R.' The design and the dimensions of each shall be the same as those which have been manufactured up to the present time.

Art. 3. The covers for insured letters shall be thirteen centimeters in length, and six and one-half in width, bearing in the upper part the legend 'United States of Colombia,' 'National posts,' and the national flag in the colors of red, blue, and yellow. There shall follow the inscription: 'Insured,' . . . 'contents,' value fifty centavos, 'dispatched from . . . on . . . of . . . 186, . .' and in the lower part the space necessary for placing the address.

CONTRATO

para construccion de estampillas i cubiertas.

Andres Montoya, director jeneral de correos nacionales, i Daniel Ayala e Ignacio Medrano, hemos celebrado el siguiente contrato:

Art. 1.° Daniel Ayala e Ignacio Medrano se comprometen a litografiar i entregar en la oficina en que hayan de depositarse, las estampillas i cubiertas para certificados, de la forma, color i clases que se pasan a espresar:

De a diez pesos en papel rojo anaranjado, con dibujo negro;

De a cinco pesos en papel verde imperial, con dibujo negro;

De a un peso en papel blanco, con dibujo rojo;

De a cincuenta centavos en papel blanco, con dibujo verde;

De a veinte centavos en papel blanco, con dibujo azul;

De a diez centavos en papel blanco, con dibujo color violeta;

De a cinco centavos en papel blanco, con dibujo amarillo;

De a un centavo en papel blanco, con dibujo color de púrpura;

De a dos i medio centavos, de forma triangular, en papel morado claro, con dibujo negro;

De a cinco centavos para "Rejistro" i "Anotacion" en papel blanco, con dibujo negro.

Art. 2.° Todas las estampillas que quedan relacionadas llevarán el lema "Estados Unidos de Colombia," "Correos nacionales," con el escudo nacional en el centro, i en la parte inferior el valor de la estampilla, con escepcion de las de "Anotacion" i "Rejistro," que en lugar de escudo llevarán en el centro, las de anotacion una "A," i las de rejistro una "R." El dibujo i las dimensiones de cada una serán los mismos de las que han construido hasta hoi.

Art. 3.° Las cubiertas para certificados serán de trece centímetros de largo, sobre seis i medio de ancho, llevando en la parte superior el lema de "Estados Unidos de Colombia," "Correos nacionales," i la bandera nacional con los colores rojo, azul i amarillo. En seguida esta inscripcion; "Certificacion," ... "contenido," vale cincuenta centavos, "salió de.... en...de...de 186,.." i en la parte inferior el espacio necesario para poner la direccion.

Art. 4.° Todas las estampillas enumeradas en el artículo 1.° serán construidas a dos pesos veinticinco centavos cada mil, quedando a favor del gobierno el uso del dibujo de las planchas que hayan servido para litografiarlas, el cual no se borrará sino por órden espresa del mismo gobierno, quien indemniza a los señores Ayala i Medrano cuatro pesos por cada uno de los dibujos que tengan que hacer, advirtiéndose que en caso de romperse alguna plancha, estos señores se obligan a reponer el dibujo sin indemnizacion alguna.

Art. 5.° Las cubiertas para certificados serán construidas a dos pesos quince centavos cada ciento, debiendo indemnizar el gobierno seis pesos por el valor del dibujo de la plancha que deban construir para litografiarlas, quedando a su favor el uso del dibujo, en los mismos términos que espresa el artículo anterior.

Art. 6.° Los señores Ayala i Medrano se comprometen a entregar las estampillas i cubiertas para certificados que se necesiten, veinte dias despues del en que se pidan. Si pasado el término no las entregaren, quedan responsables, por vía de multa, de una suma igual a la décima parte del valor nominal que espresen las que se les hayan pedido, salvo que la falta sea ocasionada por caso fortuito, que será debidamente comprobado por los señores Ayala i Medrano.

Art. 7.° Tambien se comprometen los señores Ayala i Medrano a construir una caja biclave en que se depositarán las planchas en que se timbren las estampillas i cubiertas. Estos señores conservarán en su poder una llave de esta caja, i la otra el señor secretario de hacienda i fomento de la Union. Ninguna de las llaves podrá usarse sin que esté presente el individuo que tenga la otra. Las planchas no se sacarán sino para usarlas por cuenta del gobierno.

Art. 8.° Ayala i Medrano se comprometen a avisar a la direccion jeneral de correos en el momento que estén concluidos los dibujos en las planchas, para que resuelva lo conveniente.

Art. 9.° Tanto el valor del timbre de las estampillas i cubiertas, como el de los dibujos en las planchas, será satisfecho a los señores Ayala i Medrano en billetes de tesorería o en dinero, i por la direccion jeneral de correos, luego que comprueben la entrega de los efectos construidos, en la oficina en que deban depositarse.

Art. 10. Este contrato es de forzosa obligacion para ámbos contratantes, por el término de dos años; pero si el gobierno quiere prorogarlo, los señores Ayala i Medrano se obligan a la próroga que el gobierno tuviese por conveniente.

Art. 11. Este contrato no podrá llevarse a efecto sin la aprobacion del poder ejecutivo.

En fe de lo cual firmamos el presente en Bogotá, a diez i nueve de agosto de mil ochocientos sesenta i seis.

Andres Montoya—Ayala i Medrano.

Bogotá, 21 de agosto de 1866.

Aprobado.

T. C. MOSQUERA.

El secretario de hacienda i fomento,

BERNARDO ESPINOSA.

Art. 4. All the stamps enumerated in article 1 shall be manufactured at two pesos twenty-five centavos per thousand, there remaining to the government the use of the design of the plates which have served for lithographing them, and which are not to be defaced except by express order of the same government, which shall indemnify Señores Ayala and Medrano four pesos for each one of the designs which they have to make, notice being given that in case a plate becomes broken, the said gentlemen obligate themselves to reproduce the design without any indemnification.

Art. 5. The covers for insured letters shall be manufactured at two pesos fifteen centavos per hundred, the government to pay six pesos for the value of the design of the plate which has to be made to lithograph them, there remaining to the government the use of the design, on the same basis as stated in the preceding article.

Art. 6. Señores Ayala and Medrano agree to deliver the stamps and covers for insured letters which are required twenty days after they are ordered. If they have not been delivered within this time limit, they shall be liable to a fine in an amount equal to one-tenth of the face value of those ordered, except in case the deficiency is caused by fortuitous circumstances, which fact shall be duly evidenced by Señores Ayala and Medrano.

Art. 7. Señores Ayala and Medrano also agree to construct a chest with two locks in which there shall be deposited the plates with which the stamps and covers are printed. These gentlemen shall keep in their possession one key to this chest, and the other the secretary of the treasury and public works of the Union. Neither of the keys may be used except there be present the individual who has the other. The plates are not to be taken out other than to use them for account of the government.

Art. 8. Ayala and Medrano agree to advise the central postal administration as soon as the designs on the plates have been completed in order that further instructions may be given.

Art. 9. The amount for printing the stamps and covers, as well as for the designs on the plates, shall be paid to Señores Ayala and Medrano in treasury notes or in cash, and by the central postal administration, as soon as the delivery of the items manufactured to the office in which they are to be deposited has been verified.

Art. 10. This contract shall remain obligatory on both contracting parties, for the term of two years; but if the government should not wish to renew it, Señores Ayala and Medrano agree to the action which the government may find convenient.

Art. 11. This contract shall not become effective without the approval of the executive.

In witness whereof we sign the present in Bogotá, the nineteenth of August, one thousand eight hundred sixty-six.

Andres Montoya—Ayala and Medrano

Bogotá, August 21, 1866.

Approved.

T. C. MOSQUERA

The secretary of the treasury and public works,

Bernardo Espinosa."

It will be noted that this contract includes the carrier, registration, annotation, and insured letter stamps which had been authorized by the Act of April 29, 1865 and issued shortly thereafter. The statement that "The design and the dimensions of each shall be the same as those which have been manufactured up to the present time" in Art. 2 indicates that the annotation and registration stamps had already been printed. The contract, however, does not include the foreign surcharge stamps; this may indicate that a sufficient supply was still available from the printing of 1865.

The contract includes a 1 centavo stamp but no new stamp of this denomination is known to have been issued. However, as in addition to the variety of the 1 centavo stamp of 1865 on ordinary wove paper there exists a variety on pelure paper, one of these may be of an 1866 printing. If so, it is probably the one on pelure as two other denominations of the 1866 issue—the 5 and 10 centavos—are known on this paper.

On the Foochow Bisect

By M. D. Chow, F.R.P.S.L.

I CANNOT agree with many statements in H. F. Bowker's article on the Foochow bisect appearing in the *Collectors Club Philatelist* for October 1938, particularly his statement that all those Foochow bisect covers with local addresses are forgeries.

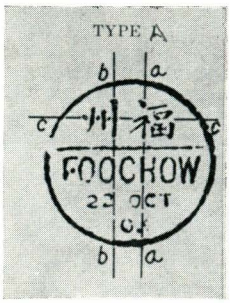
His main conclusions may be summarized as follows:

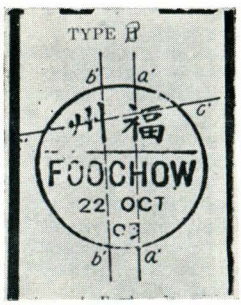
(1) Only those covers addressed to points outside of Foochow are genuine, all those with local addresses are forgeries.

(2) Only one type of cancellatiton, Type A, was used in Foochow at that time. All the forgeries have the cancellation Type B, a type which was in use in Foochow after July 1912. The surcharge chops on these faked covers are however genuine, his explanation being that somebody secured the surcharging block after 1912 and used it with the then current cancellation Type B to make these forgeries.

(3) He maintains that all the genuine bisects are cut from lower right to upper left. All those cut the other way are forgeries.

(4) He maintains that the genuine cancellations are of grayish black color, while the forgeries are in black color.





His criteria for the two types of cancellations A and B are that one should compare the lines aa and bb in Type A with the lines a'a' and b'b' in Type B respectively. Later, in a private reprint of his article, Mr. Bowker added another line cc and c'c'.

Soon after the publication of Mr. Bowker's article, Mr. L. S. Ruland wrote a comment in the China Clipper, in which many findings were presented against the conclusions of Mr. Bowker. Besides, a new type of cancellation called Type C was discovered, of which the characteristics are: (1) the line aa does not meet the letter H at all, and (2) the length of "FOOCHOW" is 21½mm instead of 20mm as in Type A.

When I read Mr. Bowker's article, I also found his conclusions in my opinion quite arbitrary and without sufficient evidence. So I have also written a short comment in the China Clipper, expressing my disagreement with Mr. Bowker, without however going into the details.

This February Mr. Bowker came to Shanghai. During a dinner party in his honor, which I gave at the Chinese Philatelic Society's headquarters, I showed him a bisect cover addressed to Shanghai (Figure 3). It contains beside the bisect also a 1c. stamp, which is probably due to overweight. There can be no doubt that this cover is genuine, yet the cancellation is Type C, not Type A. I have also shown him a cover addressed to Swatow having on its backside the postmark of Swatow, which I have carefully compared with other Swatow postmarks of about the same time and found to be exactly similar. Here we have again an unquestionably genuine cover, but the cancellation is neither Type A nor Type B nor Type C, but as in Figure 4. The lines aa and bb are as in Type

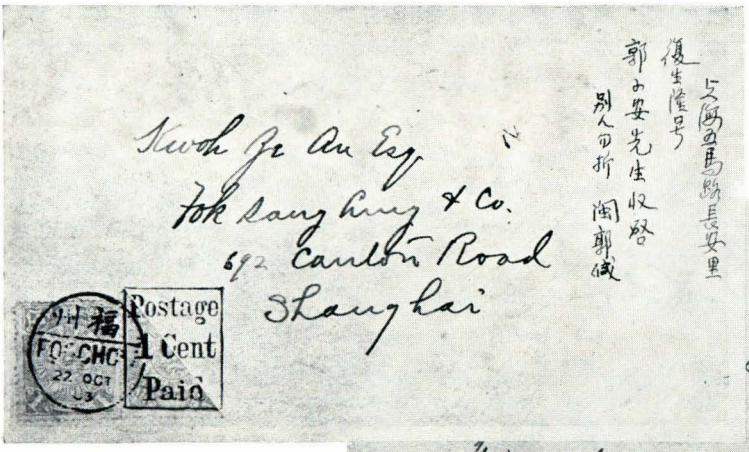


Figure 2.

Figure 3.

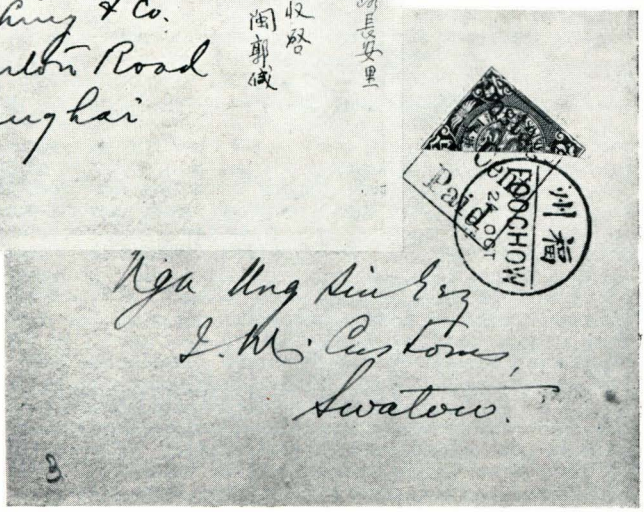


Figure 4.

A, but the line cc is as in Type B. Moreover, in the Chinese character 福 on the right side the 口 on the right touches the 礻 on the left, as indicated in Figure 5, unlike all the three types A, B, C. We can therefore call this Type D. Finally I have shown him, from the numerous bisect covers with local addresses in my possession, five covers with cancellations not of Type B. Two of them (Figure 6 and Figure 7) have the lines aa and bb as in Type A and the line cc as in Type B, yet they are different from Type D, because the 口 does not touch the 礻. We must then call this a new Type E. Thus after a brief perusal of those bisect covers in my possession alone, I have already found five different types, A, B, C, D, E. Further it is to be remarked that in Types D, E the "FOOCHOW" has the length 21½mm.



Figure 5.

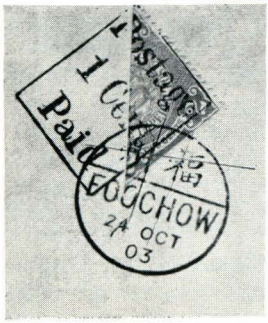


Figure 6.

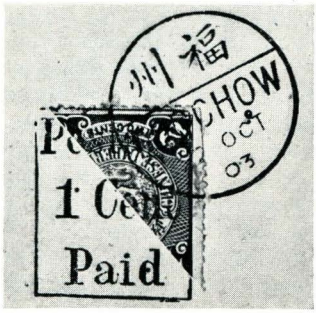


Figure 7.

In the Chinese Philatelic Society Monthly, Vol. 2, No. 3, there appeared the following letter from Mr. K. Y. Tsao, which might be of interest in this connection:

M. D. CHOW, ESQ.,

Dear Sir,

The Foochow Bisected Stamps, or "Typhoon Stamps," as contain in the various philatelic books and journals were not described in details, and in many instances not quite corrêct, for a certain friend of mine, who, in the year, 1903, was working in the Foochow Office, knew the history of these particular stamps very definitely. He said that in the October of 1903, it was customary to send in a requisition to the Shanghai Head Post Office for a supply of the various kind of stamps for the need of his Post Office, and as up to the 21st these fresh stamps were still not forthcoming from Shanghai, and as all the half-cent stamps and one-cent stamps were exhausted. It was compelled for the time being to make use of the two-cents stamps to substitute the one-cent stamps by cutting off diagonally. Thus these stamps were so used in succession for three days, until the 24th noon when the required fresh stamps reached Foochow, and at the same time these provisional stamps were stopped from sale accordingly. At that time the communication between Shanghai and Foochow was far from being convenient, and steamers were always running behind schedule, and there was no such thing as a typhoon. According to regulations at that time senders must proceed to the Post Office personally and in front of the Postal Clerk the stamp must be cut and affixed in his presence, and then a square chop was chopped on the cover as a surcharge and then it was considered valid. Since there was only one square chop, therefore the shape of this square chop was all alike. On the 1st day (i.e. the 22nd.) philatelists who went to post their letters were numerous; on the 23rd day their number reduced, and on the 24th those who went to post letters became even scarcer. The post marks of these stamps as seen by the general public were mostly of the date of 22nd. Therefore many people misunderstood the fact that such stamps were used only for one day. Those bearing the date of the 23rd were scarce, and those of the 24th were much scarcer. As these stamps were cut at random and were in diagonal corners, therefore they formed four different corners, such as A, on the left upper corner, B, on the right lower corner, C, on the right upper corner, and D, on the left lower corner, making one complete set of four denominations of A, B, C, D. Therefore it is no easy matter for philatelists to attempt to collect a complete set, and if they intend to secure a complete set bearing the dates of the 23rd or 24th, it would be even harder and harder and especially in 24th date.

Yours truly,

K. Y. TSAO.

According to this letter, one was compelled to go to the general post-office to post the bisect letters, so that here is only one type of surcharge chop. This does not mean, however, that in a big city like Foochow there was only one dater in the general post-office. One must realize, as I have already said elsewhere, that Foochow, as the capital of the province Fukien, was then already a comparatively big city with its maritime customs, foreign consulates, missions, schools, and hospitals, and numerous foreign merchants.

Although stamp collecting was then almost unknown among the Chinese, it was already quite prevalent among the foreigners. As philatelists do not necessarily have philatelist friends in other ports, it is evidently much more convenient and safer to address the covers locally to one's self, instead of sending them to persons knowing nothing about philately.

That the local rate at that time was ½c. instead of 1c. is no argument. For, firstly, we see from the above letter of Mr. Tsao that there was a shortage of both ½c. and 1c. stamps (there would be no need to use the bisects if the ½c. stamps were there), and, secondly, no philatelist would hesitate to sacrifice half a cent on a cover for philatelic purposes. Thus it is natural that there should be more local than out-of-town covers, it would be indeed extraordinary if the contrary were the case.

As to the colours of the cancellations, I have examined nearly a hundred pieces and found that those heavily cancelled are usually black in colour while those rather lightly cancelled look somewhat like gray, not that there is a separate grayish black colour.

As to the ways of bisecting the stamps, there is also no general rule. Even if the post-office had a regulation to the effect that the stamps should be bisected in only one way, there is still no reason to suppose that the post-office clerks would have much objection, if any foreign philatelist would like to have them bisected in the other way for philatelic interest.

After I had received the letter of Mr. Tsao, there was a meeting of the Examining Committee of the Chinese Philatelic Society on this question. There were some doubts about the validity of an old method for determining the genuineness of the bisects. This method consists of the following two conditions which the cancellations of the genuine bisects must satisfy: (1) The bar beneath the Chinese characters should not touch the outer circle at the ends, (2) the "3" of the "03" should have its end bending downward. In fact, during the almost thirty years from 1903 to 1930 nearly all collectors and dealers in Shanghai, Chinese and foreigners alike, had based their determination of the genuineness of the bisects on these two conditions, in case the surcharge chop itself did not present any doubts. So we wrote to Mr. Tsao, requesting him to ask the old postal clerk about this matter, and the answer was: "There were older and newer daters in use in Foochow at that time. While all of the older daters satisfy these two conditions, nothing general can be said about the newer ones." This simple answer throws much light on our question. It seems that the types A and C belong to the older sort, while the types B, D and E belong to the newer, so that the latter are almost always very clear and sharp, while the former are generally somewhat indistinct and blurred. I have seen quite a number of the types B, D and E, some of them satisfying the two conditions, others not. Thus there are two kinds each of the types B, D and E, from which we obtain six types B_1, B_2, D_1, D_2, E_1, E_2, making together, with the types A and C, in all eight different types. And all these only from what I have seen, there may be still other types which I have not seen, so that it is hardly possible to accept Mr. Bowker's theory that only Type A was then in use.

It is natural that the older daters did not last long and it is quite possible that in 1912 only the newer daters were in use. But Mr. Bowker maintains that these newer daters were used only during the period from July 1912 to May 1918, and I do not have any information that would prove this to be true. Such an exact statement can only be accepted on very accurate evidence.

As a matter of fact, the types A and C are found mostly on those covers addressed to points outside of Foochow, the types B, D and E on local covers. But this need not have any significance. It might be that those clerks attending to the out-of-town mails happened to use mostly the older daters and those attending to the local mails the newer ones. This might be simply a matter of accident and it would be misleading to found a method for determining the genuineness of the bisects on this basis. Suppose the opposite were the case, in other words, suppose it happened that those attending to the local mails used the older daters and those attending to the out-of-town mails used the newer ones. I wonder what our theories today would be.

The Collectors Club Philatelist

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Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1927, at the Post Office at Federalsburg, Maryland, under Act of March 3, 1879.

At the Annual meeting held on December 13th, the Articles of Incorporation of The Collectors Club were amended and a new Constitution and By-Laws adopted and if approved by the Courts, will become effective at once. The needs of these changes are clearly set forth in the following letter from Mr. Graham:

Dec. 21, 1939.

Editor of the Collectors Club Philatelist
22 East 35th Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. McCoy:—

On December 13, at its annual meeting, the Club members adopted an amended Certificate of Incorporation containing additional powers and a new Constitution and set of By-Laws to put it into effect. These, of course, are subject to the approval of a Justice of the New York Supreme Court. After this is obtained and the Certificate is filed the Club, it is felt, will have broad enough powers to carry out an extended program which will be of material interest to all those who collect stamps.

An examination of the Certificate discloses the old powers and the new ones. It will be seen that the Club is now in a position, if it so desires, to authorize, in its own name, or, sponsor exhibitions. In view of war conditions abroad the celebration of the centenary of the first postage stamp will be abandoned in England. Under our new Certificate of Incorporation it is now possible for the Collectors Club to lend its prestige to an exhibition, in this country, either under its own name or otherwise, as the Board of Governors may desire.

On the other hand, the Club may from time to time hold exhibitions and apply the proceeds therefrom to any worthy philatelic cause, or, even to the increase of its own facilities, such as additions to the library, lanterns and slides for the display of interesting stamp accumulations and other philatelic accessories for the use of its membership and other accredited organizations. None of the proceeds from any exhibition will of course be applied to other than philatelic development. The old Certificate of Incorporation granted no powers along these lines.

The Club now has a beautiful home. It has been the recipient of many gifts, sometimes in the form of material for its world famous library and others times such magnificent gifts as the Luff Room with its up-to-date equipment for the microscopic examination of stamps. Under the provisions of the new Certificate the Club not only will have the power to take title to its properties and its gifts, but, it can also create Trustees among its membership, who may be charged with the protection and care to which these valuable properties are entitled.

It is expected that with the coming of the new year, under the newly extended powers of the Club, it may now expand its program to educational courses in philately. These may be made accessible to the beginner and to the advanced stamp collector. Invitations for certain lectures may well be extended to accredited schools where philately may serve as an accessory to the students training in geography, history, and the arts. The Club has so many experts in each field of our hobby that will now permit others to enjoy that knowledge and those collections which have hithertofore been confined to those members who have been able to regularly attend the Club meetings and discussions.

Sincerely,

ROBERT W. GRAHAM, JR.

December 18, 1939.

Certificate of Incorporation

As Amended

The Constitution and By-Laws

As Adopted

By

The Collectors Club of N. Y.

December 13, 1939

AMENDED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

CERTIFICATE OF EXTENSION OF PURPOSES AND POWERS, INCREASE OF NUMBER OF DIRECTORS (REFERRED TO AS GOVERNORS), AND CHANGE OF TIME OF ANNUAL MEETING IN CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB, PURSUANT TO SECTION THIRTY OF THE MEMBERSHIP CORPORATIONS LAW.

We, ARTHUR W. DEAS, President, and PAUL F. BERDANIER, Secretary, of The Collectors Club, a membership corporation certify:

1. The name of the corporation under which its certificate was originally filed is The Collectors Club, and its name has not been changed.

2. The certificate of incorporation was filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of New York on the 14th day of December, 1896, and recorded with the Clerk of the New York Supreme Court for New York County on the 15th day of December, 1896.

3. The purposes and powers of the corporation to be eliminated are:

The maintenance of reading and assembly rooms; the promotion of social intercourse among its members; the encouragement of the best interests of philately by mutual improvement in and the dissemination of literary and historical knowledge relating thereto by all proper means, and for other lawful literary, social, and historical purposes.

The purposes and powers to be substituted for the foregoing are the following:

The particular purposes and powers of the Club are: The promotion of social intercourse among its members; the encouragement of the best interests of philately by mutual improvement in and the dissemination of literary and historical knowledge thereof; the authorization, sponsorship of, and the consent to philatelic exhibitions and displays, either in its own name or in the name of others, on its premises or elsewhere, the proceeds, if any therefrom not to be paid in dividends to any person or any corporation but to be applied by the Governors for the improvement and maintenance of the institution provided for herein and for the general development of philately; the acquisition and maintenance of a club house, reading and assembly rooms and library; the receiving and holding by grant, gift, purchase or devise, and the disposition and conveyance of real and personal property, subject to such limitations as the law may prescribe, and as these purposes may require for the benefit of the members, but, in no instance, for pecuniary profit.

4. The territory wherein the operations of the corporation are conducted principally is unchanged.

5. The number of directors (referred to as Governors) previously authorized is nine. This number is increased by eliminating the provision of the certificate reading as follows:

"the number of directors to manage said club shall be nine"

And by substituting therefor the following provision:

The number of directors shall be twelve, and by a two-thirds vote of the whole number of directors they may appoint individual trustees, of any or all of the property of the corporation, and confer upon such trustees such of the powers, duties or obligations of the directors in relation to the care, custody, and management of such property as may be deemed advisable,—such trustees not to exceed three in number, at any one time, and to serve for such term or terms as designated by the directors, the directors having the power to remove a trustee from office at any time with, or without, cause.

6. The time previously fixed for the annual meeting of this corporation is the second Wednesday in December. The time when the annual meeting is hereafter to be held is the second Wednesday in January.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have made and subscribed this certificate

ARTHUR W. DEAS,
President.

PAUL F. BERDANIER,
Secretary.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Adopted at the Annual Meeting of December 13th, 1939

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. *Name*

The name of this organization shall be THE COLLECTORS CLUB.

ARTICLE II. *Members*

Section 1. The members of the Club shall be such persons as shall be elected by the Board of Governors.

Section 2. The classes of members shall be Honorary, Life, Resident, Non-resident and Junior.

ARTICLE III. *Governors*

Section 1. The affairs of the Club shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Governors in accordance with this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2. The Board of Governors shall consist of twelve (12) members, four (4) of whom shall be elected each year to serve for a period of three (3) years.

Section 3. Immediately after the effective date of the amended Certificate of Incorporation, by which the Board of Governors is increased from nine (9) to twelve (12) members, the additional three (3) members shall be chosen by a majority vote of the Board of Governors. The new Governors thus chosen shall serve respectively one (1), two (2), and three (3) years. Thereafter, at each annual meeting four (4) Governors shall be elected by a plurality of the votes cast, to serve for a full period of three (3) years.

Section 4. The Board of Governors shall have the power to fill all vacancies that may occur in its body, by a majority vote of that Board. The Governor so chosen shall hold office until the next annual meeting, when there shall be elected in the usual way, a Governor to fill the unexpired term.

Section 5. The Board of Governors at their first meeting after each annual meeting shall elect from among their number a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall hold office for one year or until their successors are elected.

Section 6. The Board of Governors, shall have the power to elect or appoint other than members of the Board, as Assistant to any of the elected Officers, without the officer's powers, with definite designation of duties and at compensation, if any, to be determined at time of appointment.

Section 7. The Board of Governors shall have the power and authority to receive and hold by purchase, grant, gift or devise, real and personal property for the Club and by a two-thirds vote of the whole number of Governors, may accept deeds of trusts, and may appoint individual trustees for any or all of the property of the Club, and confer upon such trustees as much of the powers and obligations of the Governors in relation to the care, custody or management of such property as may be deemed advisable. Such trustees shall not exceed three in number at any one time, and shall serve for such term or terms as may be designated by the Board of Governors, but not to exceed a period of five years.

ARTICLE IV. *Officers and Duties*

Section 1. The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Club and the Board of Governors. He shall designate all appointees and all standing committees and such special committees as may from time to time be required and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees. He shall execute in behalf of the Club all contracts and other papers upon instructions from the Board of Governors.

Section 2. The VICE-PRESIDENT in the absence of the President, shall perform all the duties of the President and act in his place. The Secretary and Treasurer in order named shall act in place and stead of the President if he and the Vice-President be absent.

Section 3. The SECRETARY shall keep a record of all the meetings of the Club and of the Board of Governors in books belonging to the Club and provided for that purpose. He shall be the corresponding officer of the Club, give all notices of meetings of the members and of the Board of Governors, and shall keep all other records of the Club, and shall in general perform all other duties incident to his office.

Section 4. The TREASURER shall have charge of the finances of the Club, subject to the direction of the Board of Governors. He shall have the custody of all gifts and funds which have been or may be deeded or given to the Club, other than those which may be placed under the control and administration of the Trustees, he shall hold the same in such manner as may be determined by the Board of Governors. He shall pay bills only against vouchers approved by the President or such other person as may be authorized by the Board of Governors. He shall keep such vouchers in a file open to the examination of any member of the Board of Governors. All such monies received by the Treasurer, he shall keep in such bank or banks as shall be designated for that purpose by the Board of Governors. He shall issue bills for all amounts due the Club and shall keep proper accounts in books belonging to the Club and provided for that purpose. At annual meetings or at such other times as the Board of Governors direct he shall render a report of these accounts. He shall furnish a bond at the expense of the Club in such sum as the Board of Governors may require.

Section 5. At any meeting of the Board of Governors when all the officers may be absent any Governor may be elected to act as Chairman of that meeting.

ARTICLE V. *Removal of Officers*

Section 1. The Board of Governors, with or without cause, by a two-third vote of its full membership, may remove any Trustee, Governor, officer, or member of any committee. Such action when for cause shall only be taken after a ten days notice in writing shall have been mailed to such Trustee, Governor, officer or committee man, together with a copy of the charges and a date set at which he may appear before the Board of Governors and have a hearing on the charges. The person preferring the charges shall also be required to be present.

ARTICLE VI. *Suspension and Expulsions of Members*

Section 1. Any member of the Club, for cause, may be suspended by a majority vote of the Board of Governors for such period as the Board of Governors may deem proper.

Section 2. Any member of the Club, for cause, may be expelled by a two-third vote of the Board of Governors. Such action shall only be taken after a ten days notice in writing shall have been mailed to the member together with a copy of the charges and a date set at which he may appear before the Board of Governors and have a hearing on the charges. The person preferring the charges shall also be required to be present.

ARTICLE VII. *Meetings*

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Club shall be held on the second Wednesday in January.

Section 2. There shall be two regular meetings of the Club in each of the months from October to June inclusive, on such days as the Board of Governors shall fix.

Section 3. A special meeting of the Club may be called by the Board of Governors or written request of at least seven members addressed to the President and stating the object or reason for calling such meeting. Written notice shall be mailed to the members entitled to a vote, at least five days before holding the meeting.

Section 4. A quorum at any meeting of the Club shall be twenty-five voting members in good standing.

ARTICLE VIII. *Cessation of Property Interest*

Section 1. All right, title and interest, both legal and equitable, of a member in and to the property of the Club shall cease and determine in the event of any of the following, (a) The expulsion of such member, (b) The striking of his name from the roll of members, and (c) his death or resignation.

ARTICLE IX, *Amendments*

This Constitution may be amended at any annual, regular or duly and properly called special meeting of the Club, at which the required quorum of twenty-five (25) members shall be present, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, provided that written notice of proposed amendment shall have been posted on the Bulletin Board for a period of at least thirty (30) days preceding said meeting and a copy of the proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each voting member of the Club at least fifteen (15) days before said meeting.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I. *Members*

Section 1. HONORARY MEMBERS shall be such persons as the Board of Governors may deem deserving of such honor, elected by the whole Board. Honorary members shall not pay dues but shall be entitled to all privileges of Club membership excepting the right to vote or hold office.

Section 2. LIFE MEMBERS shall be such members as may qualify under Article III hereof. They shall be entitled to all of the privileges of Resident members.

Section 3. RESIDENT MEMBERS shall be such persons as may reside, have a business address or be employed in the Greater City of New York, or in Jersey City, Hoboken, Weehawken and Union City, New Jersey.

Section 4. RESIDENT MEMBERS may be considered in two classes for the determination of dues, viz:—

Class A Those over thirty-five years of age,
Class B Those under thirty-five years of age.

Section 5. NON-RESIDENT members shall be such persons who reside and are employed entirely outside of the areas mentioned in Section 3 above. Should a Non-Resident's qualification change to that of a Resident member, he shall be transferred to that classification forthwith.

Section 6. Officers of the Army and Navy of the United States, either active or retired and Ministers of established Churches may be elected as Non-Resident members.

Section 7. Any member may change the classification of his membership from RESIDENT to NON-RESIDENT or from NON-RESIDENT to RESIDENT, upon application to and approval of the Board of Governors and subject to such adjustment as the Board of Governors shall decide.

Section 8. JUNIOR members shall be the sons or daughters of members of any classification, provided they shall have attained the age of fourteen (14) years. Junior members may retain that classification until they become twenty-one (21) years of age, when their junior membership shall cease and their membership be transferred to the regular RESIDENT or NON-RESIDENT classification.

Section 9. No person under the age of twenty-one (21) years of age shall be eligible for membership, excepting in the case of JUNIOR MEMBERS, as set forth in Section 8 above.

Section 10. The decision of the Board of Governors in the determination of the eligibility of any applicant for any class of membership shall be final.

ARTICLE II. *Membership Privileges*

Section 1. LIFE and RESIDENT members in good standing shall be the only members entitled to vote at any meeting of the Club, to hold office or to have and hold any fiduciary interest in the property or assets of the Club.

ARTICLE III. *Life Membership*

Section 1. LIFE MEMBERSHIP fee shall be twenty times the maximum Resident membership dues.

Section 2. The fund received from LIFE membership fees shall be a permanent investment for the Club, and must be invested by the Treasurer as may be determined by the Board of Governors. The interest received from such investments may be applied to the regular revenues of the Club.

ARTICLE IV. *Initiation Fees*

Section 1. The initiation fee for members shall be such sum as may be fixed and determined by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE V. *Annual Dues*

Section 1. The annual dues for RESIDENT MEMBERS shall be

(a) For those over thirty-five (35) years of age, twenty-five (25) Dollars.
(b) For those not yet thirty-five (35) years of age, twelve and one-half (12.50) Dollars.
(c) When a member shall become thirty-five (35) years of age he shall pay dues at the maximum rate at the first of the following year.

Section 2. The annual dues for NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS shall be five (5.00) Dollars.

Section 3. The annual dues for JUNIOR MEMBERS shall be three (3.00) Dollars.

Section 4. All dues shall be payable in advance:—

(a) For all members on the rolls at the end of the year, the dues shall be billed and payable January 1, of each year.
(b) For members elected during the year, the dues shall be billed and payable on the first of the month following the date of election, on the basis of one twelfth (1/12) of the annual dues, in round figures, for each of the remaining months of the year.

Section 5. Any member in default in payment of dues for a period of more than sixty (60) days may be suspended or expelled by the Board of Governors.

Section 6. From all dues paid there shall be set aside and paid as a subscription to the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST the sum of two (2.00) Dollars for dues paid for the entire year, and prorated portion for dues paid for part of year.

ARTICLE VI. *Rules for Admission*

Section 1. Every applicant for admission to the membership of the Club must be proposed in writing by one member and seconded by another member.

Section 2. Accompanying the written application for membership shall be letters from the proposer and seconder stating the qualifications of the proposed new member. Where the proposer is a member of the Board of Governors, letters may be dispensed with. For Junior membership the letter from the proposer and that from the seconder shall not be required.

Section 3. Applications shall be posted on the Bulletin Board of the Club for a period of thirty days and shall be submitted to the Board of Governors at their first meeting thereafter.

Section 4. Members shall be elected by the Board of Governors.

Section 5. Two negative votes by the Board of Governors shall exclude an applicant from admission to the Club.

Section 6. Within thirty (30) days after notification by the Secretary of election an applicant must signify his assent to the Constitution and By-Laws, and pay the initiation fees and dues, otherwise he shall be deemed to have declined the membership.

ARTICLE VII. *Governors*

Section 1. The Board of Governors shall hold regular meetings once a month. Meetings for months of July and August may be omitted.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President and shall be called upon the request of three (3) Governors. A written notice of Special Meetings shall be given at least two (2) days prior to the holding thereof.

Section 3. Only Life and Resident members shall be eligible to be elected as Governors.

Section 4. A quorum shall be five (5) Governors.

Section 5. Any Governor absent from four (4) consecutive meetings without proper excuse may be dropped by the vote of the Board of Governors, but by not less than five (5) affirmative votes.

ARTICLE VIII. *Committees*

Section 1. There shall be the following standing Committees:

1. House Committee
2. Library Committee
3. Membership Committee
4. Program Committee
5. Publicity Committee
6. Audit Committee

Section 2. There shall be such other committees as the Board of Governors may from time to time determine to be necessary.

Section 3. All committees shall be appointed by the President, to whom they shall report and of which he shall be an ex-officio member.

Section 4. All standing committees shall serve for a period of one year and until their successors are appointed.

Section 5. The committees shall perform such duties as their titles indicate and shall promulgate such rules and regulations as they may prescribe, subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE IX. *Library and Library Funds*

Section 1. The ownership of the Library shall be vested in the Club and under control of the Board of Governors, subject to such deeds and gifts as may be in effect or come into being.

Section 2. The Club shall maintain a separate and permanent fund to be known as the "J. BRACE CHITTENDEN MEMORIAL FUND." In the event of the dissolution of the Club the monies then remaining in this fund shall be transferred to the assets of the Club. In the meanwhile, the principal of this fund shall be invested in such manner as approved by the Board of Governors.

Section 3. The interest on this fund shall be available only for the purchase of new material and the preservation and maintenance of the existing material in the Library.

Section 4. The Club may set aside and transfer to the credit of the Library fund a portion of its annual dues, which shall be used only for permanent fixtures or improvements of the Library. The unexpended balance at end of the fiscal year, shall be transferred to the principal of the "J. BRACE CHITTENDEN MEMORIAL FUND."

Section 5. The library shall be under the care and supervision of a committee who shall be appointed by the President, to serve for one year and thereafter until their successors are appointed.

Section 6. One of this Committee shall be designated as the Librarian.

Section 7. The Librarian and the Committee shall make rules and regulations for the ordinary use of the Library, subject to approval of the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE X. *House and Replacement Fund*

Section 1. The Club House and Real Estate shall be maintained as property of the Club and in charge of the Board of Governors.

Section 2. The Club shall set up and maintain a separate and permanent fund to be known as "HOUSE REPLACEMENT FUND."

Section 3. This fund shall be a sum of money not less than 12½% of the assessed valuation for taxable purposes.

Section 4. The money of this fund shall be invested in accordance with the approval of the Board of Governors.

Section 5. The money of this fund shall only be expended for additions to the property—legal assessments or extraordinary repairs and then only upon the approval of not less than two-thirds of the entire Board of Governors.

Section 6. If and in case the fund is reduced below the limit set in Section No. 3, then the fund shall receive the interest on investments, and an amount equal to 3% of the annual dues received, until the required percentage amount of the fund has been restored.

ARTICLE XI. *Publications*

Section 1. The Board of Governors shall have the power to originate and continue such publications as they may deem required for the best interests of the Club and the advancement of Philately, and shall make such rules for the production of, and such prices, as they may deem sufficient for these publications.

Section 2. The Editor or Managing Agent of such publications shall be appointed by the President, under such designation of duties, privileges and compensations as the Board of Governors may determine and fix.

ARTICLE XII *Fiscal Year*

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE XIII. *Nominations*

Section 1. The President shall each year, at least six (6) weeks before the date of the annual meeting, appoint a NOMINATING COMMITTEE to consist of five (5) members who are not at the time members of the Board of Governors.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee shall at least thirty (30) days prior to the coming annual election notify the Secretary in writing of the nomination for each of the vacancies about to occur in the Board of Governors because of terms of office expiring.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall also post a copy of their nominations on the Bulletin Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the coming annual meeting.

Section 4. Seven or more members may nominate members for election to the Board of Governors, by written notice to the Secretary at least twenty-five (25) days prior to the coming annual meeting, which names shall be promptly posted on the Bulletin Board by the Secretary.

ARTICLE XIV. *Voting*

Section 1. All voting shall be in person, or by proxy.

Section 2. Only LIFE and RESIDENT members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.

Section 3. The result of all voting shall be determined by a majority vote of all votes cast, except where otherwise specially provided.

ARTICLE XV. *Order of Business*

The order of business of all Meetings shall be, unless voted otherwise

1. Roll Call
2. Reading of Minutes
3. Communications
4. Reports
5. Unfinished business
6. New Business
7. Elections, (if any)
8. Adjournment

ARTICLE XVI. *Amendments*

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any annual, regular or duly called special meeting of the Club at which the required quorum of twenty-five (25) members qualified to vote shall be present, by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that a notice of the proposed amendment shall have been posted on the Bulletin Board of the Club for a period of at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting and a copy of proposed amendment mailed to each and every voting member of the Club at least fifteen (15) days before the meeting.

TRANSLATIONS FROM KOHL'S HANDBOOK

By Dr. Herbert Munk

The translations appearing under this heading are all originals prepared under the auspices of the **Collectors Club**, who hold the copyright for the English translations and who reserve all rights for republication. Suggestions for future translations are always welcome as well as criticisms on any of the translations that may appear.

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German New Guinea

By Dr. Herbert Munk
Translation by Temple Clayton, *B. Chem.*

For valuable contributions, the editor's appreciation is extended to Mr. Boden and Judge Priwe. Literature:—

A. Friedemann, Die Postwertzeichen und Entwertungen der Deutschen Postanstalten in den Schutzgebieten und im Auslande, 2nd ed., Leipsig, 1921, published by the author.

Articles in the German philatelic press, especially in Die Post. Priwe, Die deutschen Schiffsbriefentwertungen, Germania Berichte 1914, many parts.

In 1884, after the New Guinea Company had been formed under German protection, that portion of New Guinea and the New Britain Archipelago which the company held, was transferred to its sovereignty by an Imperial Letter of Protection of May 15, 1885. In this manner the German territory in New Guinea was given the name of "Kaiser Wilhelm Land," while the New Britain Archipelago was renamed the "Bismarck Archipelago." In April, 1886, the following territory was designated as German by agreement with England: Kaiser Wilhelm Land, the Bismarck Archipelago including the large islands of New Pomerania (N.P.), New Mecklenburg (N.M.), New Hanover and the Admiralty Islands, (A.I.) as well as the northernmost Solomon Islands (S.I.), Buka and Bougainville, to the east of the archipelago. At the suggestion of the New Guinea Company and in accordance with an agreement of October 7, 1898, all the German New Guinea Colony was placed under its own administration by Germany.

The first postal institutions in German New Guinea were opened in the middle of February, 1888 and later. These first postal agencies of 1888 were all closed in 1890 and 1891 or transferred to other places. Only one of them (Finschhafen) was reopened later, at about the middle of 1904. In consequence, the cancellations of these early postal institutions can only appear on the "forerunners"[1]. In two cases, moreover, the town cancellers of certain offices were used without change of name at totally different offices (e.g. the single circle canceller of Matupi at Kerawara, and the corresponding canceller of Kerawara at Herbertshöh—see below). All in all the following German post offices existed in German New Guinea. (The date of closing of those postal agencies which were not closed for the first time on seizure by Australian forces at the outbreak of the World War are given in bold-face type).

(1) German stamps used in the colony prior to the preparation of special stamps. This practice was not confined to German New Guinea. The German word is usually given its literal meaning "forerunner" rather than the somewhat more descriptive term "German stamps used in the colonies."—Translator.

1888 **Finschhafen:** From 2/15/88(2) to the middle of **Oct., 1891; reopened 6/15/1904** and continued to about the beginning of Dec., 1914.
Hatzfeldthafen: from 4/1/88 to **9/30/91.**
Kerawara (N.M.): Opened 4/4/88; transferred to Herbertshöhe in **June, 1890.** At first, April 4 to May, 1888, the town canceller of **Matupi** (q.v.), which was not opened until later, was used. It was only in May, 1888 that Kerawara received its own canceller. This canceller was returned after closing of the post office, and was employed at Herbertshöh (q.v.) from June to the end of 1890.
Konstantinhafen: From May 15, 1888 to **Sept., 1891.**
1889 **Stephansort:** From Dec. 14, 1889 to June 30, 1914.
1890 **Herbertshöhe** (N.P.): Opened in June, 1890. From June to the end of 1890 it employed the canceller of the postal agency of Kerawara (see above), but beginning in Jan., 1891 it used its own stamp. It was classed as a post office ("Postamt") until March 1, 1910 and after that as a postal agency ("Postagentur"). Closed in Sept., 1914.
1892 **Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen:** From March 1, 1892 to Sept. 5, 1914.
1894 **Matupi** (N.P.): Opened Nov. 1, 1894; closed **Jan. 31, 1906.** In April and May, 1888, before the opening of the postal agency at Matupi, the canceller prepared for use there was used in an auxiliary capacity at Kerawara (see above).
1898 **Berlinhafen:** Opened May 22, 1898. On Sept. 30, 1912 the name was changed to **Eitape,** and the office was closed as such in Sept., 1914.
1904 **Kaewieng** (N.M.): From Jan. 1, 1904 to Oct., 1914.
1906 **Simpsonhafen** (N.P.): Opened Feb. 1, 1906, made a post office on Mar. 1, 1910, removed to **Rabaul** on April 1, 1910 and closed in Sept., 1914.
1907 **Kieta** (S.I.): From April 25, 1907 to the end of Dec., 1914.
1910 **Rabaul:** (see Simpsonhafen).
1911 **Maron** (A.I.): Jan. 1, 1911 to beginning of Nov., 1914.
Namatonai (N.M.): Sept. 8, 1911 to beginning of Nov., 1914. Used its own canceller only from Jan., 1912.
1912 **Eitape:** (see Berlinhafen).
Manus (A.I.): Dec. 6, 1912 to beginning of Dec., 1914.
1913 **Morobe:** Jan. 20, 1913 to end of Dec., 1914.
Buka (S.I.): July 26, 1913 to beginning of Jan., 1915.
1914 **Deulon:** Jan. 1 to Sept. 20, 1914.

Until March 1, 1910, the chief post office was at Herbertshöhe, after that at Rabaul (Simpsonhafen). It consisted of an accounting-office and had all the official duties of the O. P. D. Bremen. As a result of the law of April 24, 1899, the German internal tariffs went into effect on May 1, 1899 in German New Guinea and all the other German colonies in the postal convention for correspondence with Germany and the several colonies.

Until 1898 (see below) the postal service for inter-island and coastwise communication was effected entirely, or almost entirely, by means of the ships of the New Guinea Company which also made connections with foreign and overseas posts. Until the end of 1898, connection was made at Cooktown, Queensland, the terminus of the English steamboat line. At first, the franking of letters was only admissible from or to Cooktown; payment for forwarding to New Guinea being collected from the addressee in cash. After the English abandoned Cooktown as a terminus in favor of Sydney, the boats of the New Guinea Company tried to make postal connections with foreign countries by means of the Dutch ships in Java. From October, 1891 connections with German boats were effected by a regular (eight-weekly) boat service to Singapore.

At this time the boats of the New Guinea Company had no cancellers of their own, and, in general, they never carried obliterators. This is in contrast with the branch lines of the North-German Lloyd (see below) which were established later and acted as official mail boats. Individual letters delivered

(2) The translator follows the American custom of placing the month first in these dates.

directly to the boat were merely cancelled with an ink line without even noting the place of origin in manuscript[3]. For this reason, letters with stamps pen-cancelled on boats of the New Guinea Company can only be recognized as 'used in New Guinea[4]' if the sender's address on the cover be compared with the destination, or if the route be noted by the sender.

Beginning in April, 1893, the North-German Lloyd started the following government subsidized boat lines to and beyond New Guinea. These acted as Imperial Mail-Steamers, and, therefore, possessed their own ship-cancellers.

1. New Guinea Branch Line—Singapore to Herbertshöhe. (4/27/93 to Fall, 1900).
2. New Guinea Branch Line—Hong Kong to Sydney by way of (Saipan), Ponape and German New Guinea. (9/5/1900 to Nov., 1901).
3. New Guinea Branch Line—Singapore to Sydney by way of German New Guinea. A continuation of the first line. (Autumn, 1900 to autumn, 1904).
4. New Guinea Branch Line—Yokohoma—Hong Kong—Caroline Islands—German New Guinea—Sydney. The so-called Australia to Japan line formed from the above lines. (Autumn, 1904 to end of July, 1914).

The ship-cancellers of these four boat lines were single-circle stamps of the same type with "DEUTSCHE SEEPOST" above, the date and canceller letter (a, b, or c) below. In the middle was the inscription "NEU-GUINEA-ZWEIG-LINIE" in three lines. In the cases of the first and fourth lines there was nothing further, but in the second and third instances there was the addition of 'HONGKONG' and 'SINGAPORE' respectively. Of the stamps without the additional word, Line 1 used only canceller b, but Line 4 used cancellers a, b and c. The last was of somewhat smaller form and was first used in 1905. According to the time of establishment of the respective lines, these cancellers appear on the stamps of New Guinea of 1898 only, of 1898 and 1900, or only on the issue of 1900. In addition to these, disguised 'used in New Guinea' stamps may be found among overprinted Imperial stamps of the issue of 1889. These are cancelled by the canceller of Line 1 [b canceller without addition (see above)] and are only recognizable as such as outlined previously.

Toward the beginning of April, 1909, the old Imperial Mail-Boat Line Singapore to New Guinea (our Line 1) was again opened independently of the more extensive Australia to Japan line (our line 4). This continued at least to the end of July, 1914. Its postal cancellation, which had only the three line inscription "DEUTSCH-NEU-GUINEA-SINGAPORE" in the middle, appears, therefore, only on the German New Guinea issue of 1900.

Beyond these ordinary New Guinea Branch Lines, there were two other Pacific lines of the North-German Lloyd passing through German New Guinea: namely, the line from Sydney to Hong Kong only in 1902 and the so-called Jaluit line from 1909 to the end of July, 1914. The German New Guinea issue of 1900 appears obliterated by the cancellers of both these lines. These cancellers have in the middle the two line inscriptions "SIDNEY-HONGKONG" and "JALUIT-LINIE" respectively. The latter occurs on stamps of German New Guinea only in its later form—the b canceller.

Even after the introduction of an Imperial Mail-Boat Line (April, 1893) the internal postal service of the colony generally was performed by boats of the New Guinea Company because the Imperial Mail-Boats of the first line (Singapore to Herbertshöhe) only ran near two or three ports. At first the contract of 1898 required the North-German Lloyd to call at the towns of Herbertshöhe, Simpsonhafen, Berlinhafen, Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen, Stephansort and Finschhafen six or seven times a year. A real requirement for the franking of ship letters and internal mail was introduced only after the administration

(3) This notation was made in other instances, cf. German Morocco.

(4) or forerunners.

of the colony had passed to the Empire. Until that time it seems that the boats carried ordinary coastal and inter-island mail given to them directly without special fee. According to a communication of Judge Priwe, the Singapore to Herbertshöhe line visited only five towns, four times a year, even as late as 1900, and the regular bimonthly visit of the imperial Mail-Boat to seven towns was only a reality after 1900—probably then due to lengthening the line to Sydney and the simultaneous introduction of a second line in the fall of 1900. Hence, during the truly provisional period[5] and until almost the very last, the time of franking internal mails was rather brief.

In 1903, in order to fulfill its contract, and with the permission of the Imperial Postal Department, the North-German Lloyd reached a postal agreement with the New Guinea Company by the terms of which the former's private boat *Siar* was to undertake the official postal service for inter-island and coastal mails. This boat did not have a ship's canceller of its own. Probably the captain obliterated stamps on loose-ship letters, or from places without postal facilities, either in manuscript with the boat's name and the date, or with a small violet hand-stamp "Siar" to which were added the date and his signature. This postal agreement was dissolved on resumption of the old Imperial Mail-Boat Line from Singapore to German New Guinea (see above) in April, 1909, yet a manuscript 'Siar' obliteration of Sept. 19, 1909 has been found. Manuscript or hand-stamp cancellations of other boats, e.g. that of the administration's boat *Komet* are unauthorized, as the *Siar* was the only boat officially authorized for receipt and despatch of mail from 1903, when compulsory franking was introduced, until 1909. On the other hand, even the authority for obliterations by the *Siar* has been questioned.

Starting in Sept., 1914, the Australian Expeditionary Forces which occupied the German colony gradually closed the German post offices[6]. Even in Berlin, where current stamps of German New Guinea (as well as those of other colonies and foreign offices) were available at the Colonial and Collectors' windows, sale of these stamps was stopped after 1914 and until June 28, 1919. All stamps of German New Guinea with watermark were available only in Berlin, and therefore are listed in italics (The Berlin Collectors' Window issue; cf. also German Post Offices Abroad).

Forerunners

In the same manner as German Post Offices in Turkey and China used Imperial German stamps, prior to the introduction of overprinted stamps, the German Post Offices in German New Guinea used German stamps without overprint. The first issue so used was that of 1880 (with the inscription in PFENNIG without an E) cf. Kohl's Handbook, vol. 1, pp 897 ff.) Later the issue of 1889 in the numeral and eagle type was employed. These latter were later overprinted with the name of the colony in type A 1. Stamps of the above sort are known only as stamps of German New Guinea by cancellations of the types shown in Fig. 1. Of these obliterations on German stamps, Finschhafen, Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen, Hatzfeldhafen, Herbertshöh (without final "e") Matupi and Stephansort (with one star) appear on both the issues of forerunners. Kerawara (see above) occurs only on the first issue, although copies on letters have been found cancelling the 50 pf. stamp of the second provisional issue. Berlinhafen, Herbertshöhe (with final 'e') and Stephansort (with three stars) are found only on stamps of the second issue and on the 2 mark stamp, No. 37, which remained in use up to 1901.

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(5) That of the forerunners—T. C.

(6) For an interesting account of the Australian Expeditionary Force to New Guinea see F. S. Burnell, Australia versus Germany, 1915.

If one compare these statements with the more extensively quoted times of opening and closing of the several post offices, it is evident, on the one hand, that the second provisional issue was already available at all offices which were closed during 1891 and was in fact requisitioned for use from about the beginning of June, 1890 (see below), and, on the other hand, the stamps supplied to the post office at Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen, which was first opened March 1, 1892, were those of the first provisional issue. The same contradiction reappears when one compares the dates of issuance of the first stamps overprinted for German New Guinea (from about the middle of Feb., 1898) with the fact that stamps of the second provisional issue are obliterated with the second canceller of Herbertshöhe (with final 'e'), although the latter was really first employed on April 22, 1900 (see Fig. 1). These facts point to the logical conclusion that, after receipt of the second provisional issue (in the first half of 1890), the older issue was not withdrawn from circulation, but, as long as its values were usable (see below), was used for over two years concurrently with the first provisional issue and that something similar occurred at the time of the distribution of the first issue for German New Guinea. According to Friedemann, all values of the second provisional issue appear with the second canceller of Herbertshöhe (first introduced in April, 1900). Since this was then the Chief Post Office of the colony, one must postulate that in 1900 a parcel of un-returned, but accounted for unoverprinted stock lay there, and that it was desired to exhaust it. Possibly this may have been accomplished in the internal service.

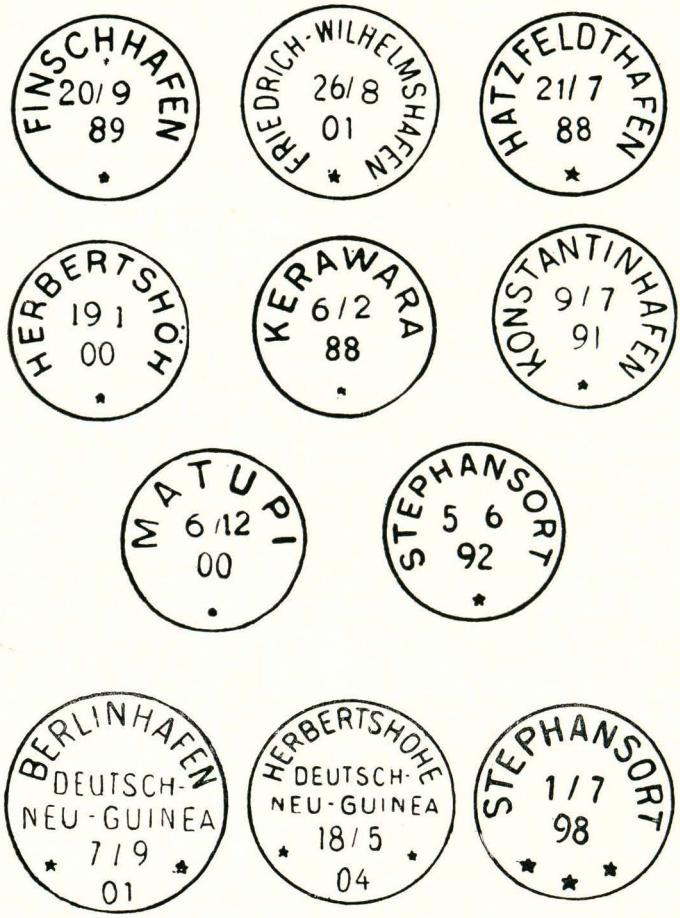
Previously we became acquainted with a similar situation in the German Offices in China, where remnants of unoverprinted stamps of the numeral and eagle type appear not to have been returned for credit after the issuance of the first overprinted series (March to June, 1898), but were consumed to a great extent in the internal service so that in 1898 and 1899 they appear on postal money order cuttings, etc. On the basis of the existence of such unredeemed supplies, we have also explained their being requisitioned still later at the time of the East Asiatic Expedition (Peking, late 1900). Although at the time there were really only the two postal institutions in China, at Shanghai and Tientsin, in German New Guinea there was an entire series of postal establishments from the very beginning. These had very different requirements and were widely scattered. Furthermore, the postal service in remote regions where there were no post offices was often performed by established trading companies. Therefore, one may assume that, until 1900, the use of older issues both before and after the issuance of a new series was quite general in German New Guinea, as in other Pacific Colonies (see also below).

ON THE FIRST AND SECOND PROVISIONAL ISSUES

(Recently Kerawara has also appeared on letters with the 50 pf. stamp of the second issue of forerunners contrary to the statement made above.)

ONLY ON THE SECOND ISSUE OF FORERUNNERS

The fact that there were five different postal establishments in New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago at the time of the introduction of the first overprinted issue greatly complicates the very general question as to what period of the German New Guinea cancellations should be recognized as actual forerunners. This case is in contrast to both Constantinople and to Shanghai and Tientsin. As we shall see presently, the principal values of the first issue for the colony were brought into use at Herbertshöhe in the middle of Feb., 1898, at Stephansort only in June and at Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen not until July of the same year. Accordingly, the termination of the true forerunner period in German New Guinea is not a certain specific time as it was in both German Le-



vant and China, but is different for each of the postal institutions then in existence. As in China, the further consideration arises of the apparently official use, or exhausting, of forerunners at a much later date than that in which the first colonial issue was known to have been placed on sale at Herbertshöhe. Although these sorts of late usage (cancellation of Herbertshöhe with the final 'e') cannot have the same philatelic interest as forerunners in the true sense of the word, on the whole such items are collectible and are decidedly more valuable than the numerous purely philatelic cancellations of the 'true' provisional period. Although the pfennig values of the forerunners were last issued to the postal agency at Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen (opened March 1, 1892), the 2 mark value was supplied to all the agencies opened before Sept. 30, 1901.

Finally, the fact that from the beginning German New Guinea had a rather large number of postal establishments has still another, rather unique consequence which renders much more difficult the determination of the really necessary usage of individual provisional values at the several post offices. In the cases of territories using German stamps which we have considered previously, we have shown that from the earliest, certain shades and tints, not officially supplied, were sent to foreign postal officials and were cancelled by them, partly on self-addressed letters. The collectors responsible for this then placed the cancelled stamps in their collections. Moreover the collecting of colonial cancellations commenced during the nineties and dealers in many colonial offices

had the cancellations of all offices prepared for collectors—even including the smaller offices with but slight correspondence. This was done by the individual post offices either on unbroken panes of stamps or on stamps pasted at intervals on sheets of white paper. Because of the lower expense this practice was usually carried out with the very lowest values. As a result of this, the 3 pf. brown occurs with cancellations of German New Guinea in numbers out of proportion to its legitimate use, because prior to May 1, 1899 the actual use of this value must have been very slight. Sheets of the 3 pf. value, which must have been sent to the colony for the purpose although ample supplies existed there, are known with the cancellation of Berlinhafen. These cancellations did occur in the true period of use of the provisionals, quite contrary to the same stamps with the cancellations of China in which case these sorts of obliterations appear almost without exceptions in a period (1898 ff.) in which the stamps were still valid, but after the appearance of the first overprinted issue.

In general, our prices apply for cancellations of Finschhafen or Stephansort. Obliterations of Kerawara and Matupi are worth several times as much. Almost equally important with the differences in scarcity of the several cancellations, is the difference between legitimate and purely philatelic frankings concerning which we refer to the above remarks.

PRINTING POSTAGE STAMPS BY LINE ENGRAVING. By James H. Baxter. Published by the American Philatelic Society, August 1939. Printed by J. W. Stowell Printing Co. Price $3.00.

Now in book form this important work, which appeared serially in the American Philatelist, well shows the years of patient research on the part of the Author. The edition, limited to 550 copies, should soon be exhausted as it is one of the "must" books for serious students of Philately. Bound in blue cloth the book contains 164 pages of text and illustrations.

Mr. Baxter in the years spent gathering information for the book, contacted 18 governments and a majority of the important note engravers and printers. The purpose of the book, to supply students with a knowledge of the methods used in the production of postage stamps and the resultant manufacturing flaws and errors, has been admirably fulfilled.

The contents of the book have been divided into three main groups: Part One —Engraving; Part Two—Plate Making: and Part Three—Printing. With various chapters covering each group. The reader is logically carried from the original artists design to the engraved die and through the steps necessary to produce a finished product.

Your reviewer was particularly impressed with Mr. Baxter's chapters covering plate varieties and the illustrations used to convey the facts to the student. They are clearly done and just as clearly explained and on the whole agree with facts known, regarding plate making. To a student, this knowledge of plate making is indispensable and by means of the illustrations Mr. Baxter has made it possible for the collector to compare his own questioned stamps and determine the type of variety. Some idea of the thoroughness of the book may be had by the following list of chapters appearing under Part Two: Producing the Relief Die; Transferring the Design to the Printing Plate; Double Transfers and Relief Varieties; Defective Plates and Methods of Correction; Plate and Marginal Markings; Finishing Printing Plates and Hardening, Plating and Electrolytic Plates. The book ending with a chapter devoted to Checking, Accounting and Administration.

Our personal congratulations to Mr. Baxter for producing a much needed piece of research. It is a truly fine book and one that will help the serious study of Philately.

—JAMES H. OBRIG.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS ILLUSTRATED AND IDENTIFIED. 3rd Edition. Scott Publications, Inc. New York, N. Y. 96 pages with covers. Price 25c.

This edition of the popular Scott book carries the illustrations up to and including the Baseball commemorative of 1939.

The listing and illustrations are arranged by design and denomination giving the distinguishing feature necessary to readily identify either the old or new catalogue numbers.

A book that will be of assistance to all, whether a beginner or a real old collector.

Book Reviews

by

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

Send all books to be reviewed to the Editor Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 E. 35th St., New York City.

Please mention sale price. It is of interest to our Readers.

A HISTORICAL CATALOGUE OF U. S. STAMPS, ESSAYS AND PROOFS. The Omaha Trans-Mississippi Issue 1898. By Clarence W. Brazer, 415 Lexington Avenue, New York. Price $1.00.

This is a reprint of an article by Mr. Brazer in the Collectors Club Philatelist with additions and corrections.

It is a beautifully illustrated pamphlet and catalogue of the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Essays and Proofs with 43 superb illustrations, with a history of the origin of each stamp design from its inception to completion, also the names of the designers and engravers, with dates, quantity and exact size and color, of 11 known essays and proofs, die, transfer roll numbers.

This brochure should be in the hands of all the many thousands of specialists in our Commemorative stamps. The author's name is sufficient guarantee that his work contains the whole of the available information of this subject in which he is recognized as a master.

STANLEY GIBBONS' PRICED CATALOGUE OF POSTAGE STAMPS, 1940. 46th Stamp Centenary Edition. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W. C. 2. Prices: The World in one Volume, 17s.5d. postfree; British Empire, 7s.6d., postfree; Foreig Countries, 11s.1d., postfree.

In Part 1, British Empire, the Great Britain lists have been very much enlarged and improved and much new material has been added, much of this under the able guidance of Mr. J. B. Seymour. Other lists that have been revised and partly re-written: Tasmania, Straits Settlements, Perak. In the United States lists I note the following notice: "The illustrations of the U. S. stamps and those of the Canal Zone and the Philippine Isles are reduced to just under ¾ actual linear size."

THE STAMP SPECIALIST. Published by H. L. Lindquist, New York, N. Y. Price $5.00 per year. Four issues per year.

Volume I Part 1 1939 of Mr. Lindquist's new publication makes us wonder why there have not been more publications along the line he has set as his aim. This publication ranks as one of the all-too-few really serious philatelic publications. There are philatelic papers by the scores but the real serious publications devoted to research and the advancement of philately by articles written by the leading experts can almost be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The list of contributors reads like a "Who's Who in Philately". There are articles by George B. Sloane, the late A. Eugene Michel, A. Maerz, Prescott H. Thorpe, Stanley B. Ashbrook, H. F. Bowker, Max G. Johl, Charles J. Phillips and Paul F. Berdanier, Jr.

Among the features, Mr. Phillips "Analysis of Prices Realized for United States Stamps Over a Period of 50 Years" gives data that is the result of long hours of study and shows very closely, the trend of prices on some of the more important stamps which every collector will appreciate.

Stanley B. Ashbrook has two contributions, "The United States Five Cent Stamp of 1847" and "The Confederate States of America. Issue of April 1863 10 Cent Blue (The Stamp with Frame Lines)." All that need be said of either of these articles is that they are in the traditional Ashbrook manner which we all know is the acme of research.

The COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST welcomes the STAMP SPECIALIST to the field of American Philatelic Literature and wishes it continued success. There is room for more papers of this kind.

UNITED STATES STAMPED ENVELOPES, ILLUSTRATED AND IDENTIFIED. 2nd Edition Published by Scott Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y. Price 25c, 68 pages.

Of the same style and makeup as their book on the Postage Stamps, this publication covers the Stamped Envelopes which have been issued by the Post Office. The general theme is the same as that of the book on stamps and makes it much easier for anyone to identify the various issues of envelopes.

One of the highlights of the book lies in the fact that on all illustrations showing recuts, slight changes in dies or design etc., there have been arrows added to call attention to the parts affected

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FABULOUS STAMPS, by John W. Nicklin. 172 pages, Price $2.50. Published by Hastings House, New York, N. Y. Illustrated.

This book is really a history of the rarities of the philatelic world. It covers items in almost all the fields of collecting and traces these rarities through various owners and gives interesting light on the prices at which they have been sold.

Mr. Nicklin from his long association with philately knows how to present his subject in the most interesting fashion which holds the readers attention in a manner unusual for a subject of this kind.

In addition to the descriptions of the various stamps the book contains a check list of almost all the rarities of the world including a large number which are not individually described in the text matter.

A book which will be of great interest to the real student of philately.

HEROES ON YOUR STAMPS. By John Gregory. Illustrated with enlarged portraits of stamps, etc. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York. Price $2.00. 248 pages.

Written by a boy fourteen years old, who writes from the viewpoint of one his age, this book nevertheless is most interesting and instructive.

The book might well be termed as a series of short biographies of persons whose portraits have appeared on the stamps of the United States.

The information contained is more of an encyclopedic nature than of philatelic value, but nevertheless is presented in a very readable form.

It is a book that will appeal to the younger generation more than to the real philatelist.

SUPPLEMENTARY MAIL MARKINGS. By Dr. W. L. Babcock, Detroit, Mich. 32 pages, 25c.

Dr. Babcock presents the results of nearly nineteen years of research and study on the subject of the Supplementary Mail Markings at New York City, Chicago, San Francisco, Honolulu and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The matter is presented in an interesting way and the check lists and illustrations will prove of much assistance to anyone interested in this phase of collecting.

Supplementary Mail covers are not common and it may be said that Dr. Babcock's book covers all discoveries and source material that have come to his attention or that of his collaborators.

HOOVER BROTHERS SPECIALISTS GUIDE TO BUREAU PRINT PRECANCELS. Published by Hoover Bros. New York. 56 Pages $1.00. 1st Edition 1939. Edited by W. G. Brown.

This book will fill a long wanted place in the field of precancel literature.

The editor has endeavored to cover every phase of the Bureau Print Precancels from the historical, as well as the production ends. The chapter on how the precancels are produced, how the various varieties occur is well written and very fully illustrated. It is a real text book on the subject.

The book is bound with the modern spiral binding which enables the pages to lie perfectly flat when opened, a great advantage when working with the stamps.

HOW THE ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMP WAS BORN. By Leah Chalmers. Published by P. S. King & Son, Ltd. London. 46 pages. Price 1s. 6d.

Written by the grand daughter of James Chalmers, this book again revives the controversy that raged for so many years as to who was the actual inventor of the adhesive postage stamp.

However, since the matter has long since been decided by various commissions which made very careful investigations of the entire matter and rendered their verdict, we believe that it is too late to again bring the question to the front.

Miss Chalmers has presented a readable book but there seems to be very little, if any, new material as most of the matter was covered by the many books and pamphlets published during the life of her father, the late Patrick Chalmers.

The REGENT CATALOGUE OF EMPIRE ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS (Priced). Vol. II January 1931-September 1939. Edited by Robson Lowe. 7th Edition 1939-40. Price 1s 6d.

This catalogue follows the first volume issued some little time ago and which listed the Empire issues to 1930. The new book carries the listings through to the end of September 1939.

The book is well illustrated and being printed on a good grade of paper the cuts show up very clearly.

Each stamp is listed with the Stanley Gibbons and Scott numbers as well as the Regent number which makes it easy to use in connection with other catalogues, or where a collector has been in the habit of using other numbers previously.

KENMORE KATALOG OF STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH WITH EGYPT AND IRAQ. Published by KenMore Stamp Co., Kenmore, N. Y. 384 pages. Price: 50c with plastic binding; $1.00 cloth bound.

The 1940 edition of this work contains 96 more pages than the last edition. Over 3000 new illustrations and over 5000 price changes. This edition shows that the publishers have heeded the many suggestions of their users and have made numerous changes which make the work more attractive from many points.

There is a description and short history of each colony which adds interest.

The stamps of Canada and Newfoundland have been specialized.

CATALOGUE FRANCE ET COLONIES (Section III—Bureaux Francais a l'Etranger et Territo'res Occupes) 1940. Published by Yvert & Tellier, Amiens, France. 324 pages. No price given.

This section of the catalogue covers the French offices in foreign parts as well as listing the issues of occupied territories. It is printed in French. Not as many illustrations as are given in some other catalogues, but enough to enable you to use it freely. The catalogue contains a great deal of descriptive matter and should be of value to any collector of the issues covered.

KATALOG SBERATELU CESKOSLOVENSKYCH ZNAMEK A ZNAMEK PROTEKTORATU CECHY A MORAVA 1940. Published by Edice Narodniho Sberatele, Praha XII, Czechoslovakia. 176 pages. In Czechoslovakian language. Price K 6

A very complete catalogue of the stamps of Czechoslovakia and the various provisional issues of that nation published by the proprietors of one of the leading philatelic papers.

The book is very fully illustrated with half-tones and line drawings to show the various varieties which occur in the many issues. Without being able to read the language of publication, these cuts readily permit the user to identify the various types of certain issues.

It is a highly specialized and detailed work.

Additions to the Library

Chinese Postage Stamps. By Clifford M. Drury. By Exchange.

Postage Stamps of China, 1878-1914. By "Collector." By Exchange.

Notes on Chinese Postal Service. By Paul King. By Exchange.

Treasure Express, (Epic Days of the Wells Fargo). By Neill C. Wilson. Through Exchange.

New Catalogue Numbers of U. S. Stamps. By Y. Souren & Co. Gift of Walter S. Scott.

Sarawak and Her Stamps. By G. E. Hansford and L. A. Noble. Gift of Francis J. Field.

A. B. C. of Precancel Collecting (3rd Ed.) By Berton Hoover. Various publications of Precancel Stamp Society. Gift of Precancel Stamp Society.

Documentary State Revenue Stamps of the U. S. By B. C. Kenyon. Gift of George D. Cabot.

Retail Cigar, Cigarette and Tobacco Stamps of Canada. By R. A. Bond. Gift of George D. Cabot.

Large number of magazines. Gift of Phillip F. Robbins.

Large number of back issues of publications. Gift of Stephen G. Rich.

The Alphabets of the British Line Engraved Stamps. Gift of R. C. Alcock, Ltd.

Complete file of Association News Bulletin and subscription for future issues. Gift of Asso. of South Jersey Stamp Clubs.

Stamp Specialist. Vol. I #1. Gift of H. L. Lindquist.

Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Canada and British North America. 6th Edition, 1940. Gift of A. H. Vincent, Montreal.

Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde—Prospectus and Sections 1 & 2 (Kamerun to Kirchenstaat). This is the continuation of the Kohl Handbuch. Gift of Publishers, Verein Handbuch Briefmarkenkunde e V. Berlin.

United States. Four books on various issues. By Fred J. Melville. Gift of Richard F. Williams.

Grand Catalogue—Special Illustre des Timbres de Belgique et du Congo Belge —1940. Gift of publisher, Willy Balasse, Brussels.

Papers of the Fifth American Philatelic Congress—1939. Gift of Eugene Klein.

James Chalmers Inventeur du Timbre Poste Adhesif. By Patrick Chalmers. Gift of Jacob S. Glaser.

Le Reforme Postale en Angleterre. By Louis Bronne 1858. Gift of Jacob S. Glaser.

How the Adhesive Postage Stamp Was Born. By Leah Chambers.

Guarding the Mails or the Secret Service of the Post Office Department. By P. H. Woodward, 1876. Through Exchange.

The Express Service and Rates. By W. H. Chandler. Through Exchange.

Passenger, Baggage, Express and Mail Service. By Marshall M. Kirkman. Through Exchange.

A Hundred Years of Postage Stamps. By Patrick Hamilton. Gift of Pub.

Kenmore Katalog of British Commonwealth—Egypt & Iraq—1940 ed. Gift of Pub.

U. S. Official Postal Guide, Part I (Domestic), July 1939. Purchase.

Postage Stamps of Canada. By Edw. E. Goodchild. Purchase.

Handbooks of Naval Postmarks. By Joseph M. Hale. Purchase.

Aden. By W. Ward. Purchase.

Rumanien, Parts I, II, III. By O. E. Stiedl & Fritz Billig. Purchase.

Report of Third Asst. Postmaster General 1901. Purchase.

Stamps of Egypt. By R. E. R. Dalwick. Purchase.

Stamps of The British Solomon Islands. By R. P. Croom Johnson. Purchase.

Postmaster's Provisionals of Memphis, Tenn. By Thos. H. Pratt. Gift of R. J. Mechin.

The Penny Black of Great Britain. By American Philatelic Society. Gift of R. J. Mechin.

Postage Stamps of Gambia. By R. E. R. Dalwick. Gift of R. J. Mechin.

The Duckwall Collection. By W. H. Colson. Gift of R. J. Mechin.

Various copies of magazines and catalogues. Gift of R. J. Mechin.

Civil War Patriotic Envelopes (Extract from Lossing's Pictorial Field Book of the Civil War). Gift of D. D. Berolzheimer.

Turkei—Forschungssammlung. by J. W. de Beer. Gift of Herbert J. Bloch.

Turkei—Spezialsammlung. By J. W. de Beer. Gift of Herbert J. Bloch.

Mitchell-Hoover Catalogue of U. S. Bureau Precancels, 23rd Ed. Gift of Pub.

Number of issues of various periodicals needed for our files. Gift of Elliott Perry.

Muller Katalog Schweiz. By Liechtenstein, 1940. Gift of Publisher.

Printing Postage Stamps by Line Engraving. By James H. Baxter. (APS Handbook.)

Katalog — Sberatelu Ceskoslovenskych Znamek, etc., 1940. Gift of Pub.

Regent Stamp Catalogue—Sept 1939 ed. (VII ed.) Gift of Robson Lowe.

American Air Mail Catalogue, 1940 Ed. Gift of Mrs. Ethel B. Stewart.

Complete file of Matchonia & Hobby Advertiser. Gift of LaV. E. Moyer.

United States Postage Stamps Illustrated and Identified, 3rd Ed. By Scott Publications, Inc. Gift of Pub.

United States Stamped Envelopes, 2nd Ed. By Scott Publications, Inc. Gift of Pub.

Bureau Print Gazette, 8 issues. Golden Gate Precancel Society Bulletin. 75 issues needed for back files. Gift of S. G. Rich.

Historical Catalog of U. S. Stamp Essays and Proofs Omaha-Trans-Mississippi Issue, 1898. By and Gift of Clarence W. Brazer.

Missing issues of several periodicals needed for our files. Gift of Elliott Perry.

Several Catalogues, etc. Gift of Philip Robbins.

Miscellaneous lot of domestic and foreign publications. Gift of Frank Zeltmann.

Here Comes the Mail. By Robert Disraeli. Gift of Little, Brown & Co.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, 1940 Ed. Gift of Scott Publications, Inc.

United States Stamp Catalogue, Specialized 1940 edition. Gift of Scott Publications, Inc.

The Tribute Book (History of U. S. Sanitary Fairs). By Frank B. Goodrich, 1865.

Heroes on Your Stamps. By John Gregory. Gift of Pub., Alfred A. Knopf.

Catalogue of France and Colonies, 1940. Gift of Publishers, Yvert & Cie.

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Stamps Magazine. Bound copy of Vol. XXVIII. Gift of H. L. Lindquist.

Catalog of Books in the Library

(Continued from Vol. XVIII, page 321.)

Greece—Continued

Griechenland (Several booklets by) A. E. Glasewald (Bound as 1 Vol.).
Postage Stamps and Greek Mythology. H. Gordon Harris 1932.
Biography of Albert Barre with plates of Greek Issues. E. Luder-Edelmann 1929.
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Historie de la Creation de Timbre Grec etc. N. S. Nicolaides 1923.
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Crete. B. W. H. Poole.
Check List of the Hermes Types. Jos. H. Pullen 1917.
Stamps of Greece. P. L. Pemberton.

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Hayti. Fred J. Melville.

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Postage Stamps of Hejaz. D. Field & D. F. Warin 1926.
Postage Stamps of Hejaz. W. B. Haworth & H. L. Sargent 1922.

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Handbuch der Ungarischen Briefmarken Ausgabe 1871-1920. Dr. A. Erdodi & E. Kner 1923.
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Magyar Katalogusa.
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Iceland

Guide for Post Offices, Nov. 27, 1925. Government publication.
Rates for Postage, Apr. 1, 1930. Government publication.
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Regulations for Addresses on Inland Mail. Government publication.
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Abstempelungen von Lombardei-Venetien. Fritz Billig.
Die Abstempelungen Siziliens. Fritz Billig.
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Die Briefmarken der Italienischen Postamter in der Levante. Richard Borek 1908.
Descriptive Catalog of Revenue Stamps of Italy 1836-1878. Walter Lee Brown 1878.
La Nostra Legislazione sui Francobolli con cenni storici del 1818 etc. G. B. Cresto 1894.
Les Timbres Municipaux d'Italie. Charles Diena 1883.
I Francobolli del Ducato di Modena etc. Dr. Emilio Diena 1894.
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Note sui Francobolli del Governo Provvisorio di Parma. Dr. Emilio Diena 1913.
Further Notes on the 1857-59 Issue of the Duchy of Parma. Dr. Emilio Diena 1930.
*Stamps of Romagna. Dr. Emilio Diena 1898.
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*Plates of Sicili (Photographs). Rudolf Friedl.
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Timbres de Moldavie et de Roumanie. Docteur Magnus 1869.
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Le Timbrature di Guerra nel periodo del Risorgimento Italiano 1848-70. By L. Rivolta 1913.
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Le Tredici Isole dell' Egeo Italiano e La Filatelia. By Gioacchino Saraceni 1915.
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Die Entwertungsstempel auf den Marken des Konigreichs Neapol. By Vincenzo Vittozzi 1929.
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Turin-Treste-Turin Apr. 1, 1926, First Aerial Line in Italy. (S. Bayer).
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Les Ecritures et la Legende des Timbres du Japon. By Dr. LeGrand 1878.
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Postal System of Japan. Dept. of Communications 1921.
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Filatelista 925-1925. Croatian Philatelic Society 1926.

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Stamps of the Levant Post Offices. Douglas B. Armstrong 1913.

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*Liechtenstein, Seine Post und Seine Postwertzeichen. By B. Du Val, 1933.
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Timbres de Grande Duche de Luxembourg. By J. B. Moens, 1879.

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De Geschiedenis van Litauen. J. H. Van Peursem, 1929.

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Los Timbres Provisorios de Campeche. Eduardo Aguirre, 1914.
*Campeche. Walter Clarke Bellows, 1909.
Campeche. Revised Edition 1910. Walter Clarke Bellows, 1909.

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