

Philatelic Bulletin



Volume 5: Number 10 June 1968

**VOTES
FOR
WOMEN
1918-1968**



9_d

ABBOTT / HARRISON

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Introduction

This month's main feature is the article on the Trades Union Congress which is published as background information to the stamp issued on 29 May.

Those who can visit London before 22 June and would like to add a Bridges, Discovery or Anniversaries presentation pack to their other shopping should visit our display and sales counter which we have in Selfridges as part of their Festival of London Stores exhibition.

We have articles on such subjects as the new gum, the ultra-violet lamp and first day hand-stamps to cover some of the widely differing aspects of our fascinating hobby.

Philatelic Posting Boxes

Special philatelic posting boxes will be provided at Warrington, Lancashire and Louth, Lincolnshire from 1 July 1968.

Royal Highland Show

Ingliston, Edinburgh, 18–21 June 1968

Once again, the Philatelic Bureau will have a small display at the Highland Show, Post Office this year and a counter will be open for the sale of all current Pictorial, Commemorative, Regional and definitive stamps. A member of the Bureau staff will be in attendance to advise on Bureau services.

A special pictorial hand stamp will again be in use at the Highland Show Post Office and letters posted in the box there, will receive this special Cancellation.

We hope to meet many old customers and to welcome new ones.

Conditions

The Philatelic Bureau, 2–4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh 1, will be pleased to supply any number of stamps shown on its current order form, subject to stocks being available, in mint condition only. For stamps not shown on the form, enquiries should be made of a stamp dealer.

We do not guarantee to supply stamps from particular cylinders or plates, position or cylinder blocks, particular editions of books or books with selected watermark.

Stamps are NOT supplied cancelled to order. Remittances, which *must* be sent with orders, should be made payable to 'GPO Philatelic Bureau' and should include a handling charge of 6d for orders under 10s, and 3s 9d for orders of 10s and over (9d and 4s respectively for orders to Overseas Countries, other than the Commonwealth). For orders to be sent by Air Mail the cost of the airmail postage should be added. Stamps are not accepted as payment for orders.

The Use of the Ultra-Violet Lamp

The collector of the stamps of Great Britain can find much to interest him when he delves into the realms of different watermarks, different printers for the same stamp and the introduction of phosphor-lined stamps. Some assistance in identification would be welcome. Such help can be afforded by an ultra-violet lamp; but it must be emphasised at the outset that such lamps serve merely as an aid, and will not by themselves solve all the problems. Do not expect the lamp to reveal all watermarks, even the so-called 'watermark detectors' on the market do not always do that successfully. To find a stamp's watermark, it is still best to place the stamp face downwards on a black bakelite tray, and add a drop or two of benzine or ether to the back of the stamp. Remembering to be very careful with stamps which are not printed in fast colours, this method should suit most needs for detecting watermarks.

Ultra-violet lamps can come in one of two basic forms consisting of either a coated tube which generates the ultra-violet light, or a white light tube, the light from which is directed through a sheet of cobalt. Care should be taken not to look directly at the light source in the later type of lamp, although it is advisable to be cautious with any type of lamp. Certainly it is not wise to try experimenting with an amateurly produced or old ultra-violet lamp.

When using a lamp for philatelic identification, the stamp is placed in the path of the light from the lamp, preferably in a dark or dimly lit room. The light should only be focused on the stamp for a short period of time, say no longer than ten seconds. Results will only be obtained when the lamp is used for comparisons, that is the doubtful stamp is compared under the ultra-violet lamp with a 'known' stamp.

One use of the lamp is in detecting shade differences which are the result of the printers preparing a fresh consignment of ink which differs in composition from that previously used, such shades frequently receiving catalogue recognition. The lamp will reveal the different compositions of the ink, since the differ-

ent stamps will glow in different colours when subjected to the light. This naturally differs from other causes of shade changes, such as stopping and re-starting the printing presses. Here the basic composition of the printing ink remains fixed, and the lamp will reveal no change.

Changes in the composition of the paper on which the stamp is printed will be revealed in the same way, although now it is best to focus the light on the back of the stamp. Thus normal uncoated paper will give a different reaction under the lamp to chalky or coated paper. It is quite easily seen therefore, that if more than one printer produces the same stamp; and the second printer makes any changes in the composition of either the printing ink or paper, the lamp will detect these changes, and consequently help distinguish the work of the two printers. Equally, if when a stamp's watermark was changed, the composition of the paper was also changed, this would offer a method of distinguishing watermarks, although, of course, the point made earlier concerning 'known' reference copies comes to the fore in this instance.

When a phosphor-lined stamp is placed in the beam from an ultra-violet lamp, the phosphor bands will glow in a different colour from the rest of the stamp. This method is not completely reliable, however, when dealing with used stamps; then it is advisable to have an undisputed phosphor-lined, and a non-phosphor stamp in used condition near at hand for easy comparison. After a little experience, and relying to no small extent on reference copies, the identification can be carried further to include different types of phosphor (the familiar 'blue', 'green' and 'violet').

A great deal of comment was made in 1966 when the gold-blocking process was introduced concerning fears that the gold could be removed chemically. Such chemical means frequently also change the appearance of other colours in the design, and the forgery can be detected. However, the lamp will easily reveal where the gold has been, either by focusing the

Overseas Mails – Air Letter Form

lamp on the front or the back of the stamp. Another form of forgery which has resulted from the desire for unmounted mint stamps, is re-gumming. Not only will the lamp reveal the change in gum, but will also show where any previous stamp hinges have been attached to the stamp.

Acknowledgements are due to A. M. Stuart of Southampton and G. Nissel and Co. Ltd. of London for their invaluable help with this article.

Withdrawal of Bureau Stock Items

The British Discovery stamps will be withdrawn from sale at the Bureau on 18 September 1968.

Polyvinyl Alcohol

The term alcohol is used by the layman to describe one chemical only – ethyl alcohol – present in beers, wines and spirits. To the chemist, however, alcohol is a group name describing thousands of organic chemicals, each one containing the hydroxyl group, which is a combination of hydrogen and oxygen atom, as in water.

The adhesive Polyvinyl Alcohol is one of these alcohols which has nothing in common with everyday alcohol. It is synthesised from petroleum bi-products into a molecule which is highly complex, and has much in common with vinyl plastics. The introduction of the hydroxyl group produces the solubility in water.

The chemist, by controlling the size of the molecule and amount of hydroxyl, can produce adhesives of exactly the viscosity and adhesive strength required. This gives the synthetic gum a distinct advantage over natural adhesives, which may vary from crop to crop and thus affect the adhesives which are to be manufactured from them.

Reprinted with acknowledgements to the Editor of Harrison forme.

The Postmaster General has announced an alteration in the shape and make-up of our overseas Air Letter form. The background to this announcement is that the present form which has remained unaltered in shape and make-up since the introduction of the service in 1944 does not meet our sorting office mechanisation needs, as when folded it is not sealed or closed on all four sides like a sealed envelope.

The form which is to be introduced on 1 July 1968 will measure overall 15×31.8 cm and when folded in three will present a folded form completely sealed, measuring 15 cm long and 10.7 cm broad, (these dimensions being the international maxima for a postcard).

A new stamp design is to be used; the price will remain unchanged at 9d.

First Day Handstamps

We have been the target of many complaints about our ruling that items posted in philatelic boxes should bear the full range of special stamps in order to be given a hand cancellation and hope that the following explanation may make things clearer.

The rule is not new but has always been a normal condition of this special philatelic service and, because we found that it has occasionally been overlooked in the past, we have recently reminded our local managers about it.

We are sorry if this rule causes hardship, but the provision of special 'philatelic' posting boxes and the use of handstamps instead of machine cancellation – to meet the needs of philatelists – involve us in extra costs which we do not expect the ordinary poster to bear. We therefore ask philatelists to meet these costs either by paying a special charge for services provided by the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh, or by affixing the full set of new stamps to covers posted in philatelic posting boxes.

Because of the unique nature of the four separate Anniversaries we relaxed the ruling on that occasion and will be making a similar relaxation for the new high value issue of 9 September.

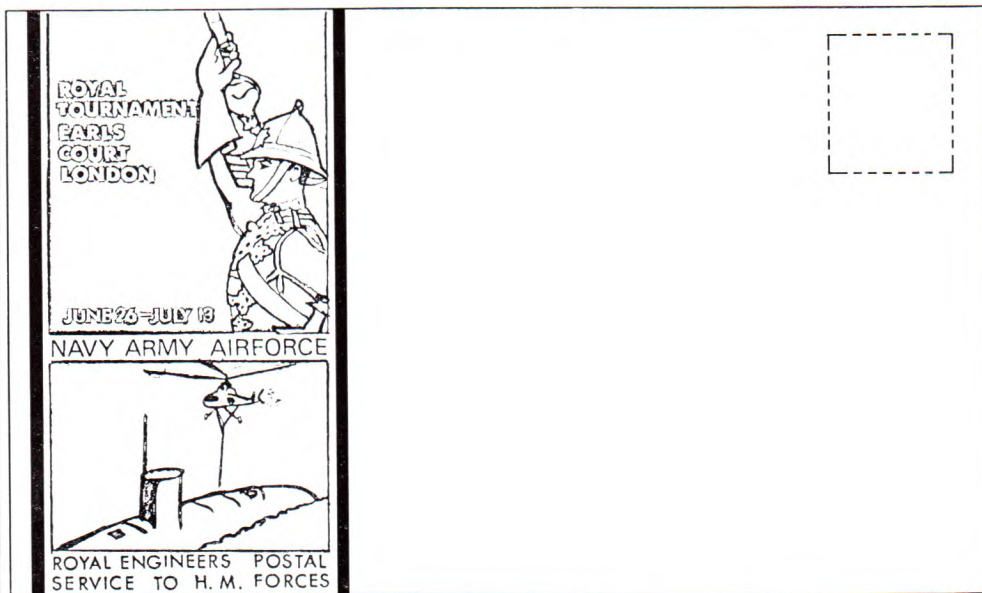
Royal Tournament at Earls Court 26 June – 13 July 1968

The British Forces Postal Service is providing a Forces Post Office Stand at this year's Exhibition.

To mark the occasion a new date stamp illustrated right, which incorporates the Combined Services Cypher, will be in use, to cancel covers posted in the special posting box. In addition a Special Commemorative Cover, also illustrated, below, designed by J. A. Wilson DA (Edin) MSIA, will be available, price 6d.

One point of special interest is that the new GPO definitive issue of 5d, 7d, 8d, and 10d, stamps will be on sale on 1 July.

The 'Philatelic Section, Home Postal & Courier Communications Depot RE, Mill Hill, NW7' will arrange to cancel, with the special date stamp, pre-addressed, prepaid, covers received by post.



Designed by J. A. Wilson DA (Edin) MSIA

Postmark Slogans

'Industrialists Stay on the Map Invest and take Advantage of Easy to Develop Sites now Ask Aberdare UDC' was re-introduced on 25 February and will continue until 24 February 1969 at Aberdare.

'Racing at Ayr The Ideal Holiday' will be re-used from 3 June until 23 August at Ayr.

'Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Y Barri 1968 - National Eisteddfod Barry 1968' will be re-used from 8-20 July at Barry.

'Bath Festival 1968 June 19-30' is being used in the transposed position at Bath from 1 April -28 June.

'Bexhill-on-Sea Regatta Sailing and Rowing' will be re-used at Bexhill-on-Sea from 1-31 July.

'Cambridge Festival 17 July-1 August' will be used in the standard position at Cambridge from 16 June-20 July.

'Send to Town Hall for Guide Cheltenham Centre of the Cotswolds' will be re-used at Cheltenham from 13 July until 12 September.

'Colchester 1968 Tattoo 18-20 July' is being used in the transposed position at Colchester from 7 April-20 July.

'British Association for the Advancement of Science Dundee 1968 August 21-28' will be used in the transposed position at Dundee from 1 July until 30 August.

'Scarborough Filey For Happy Holidays' will be used in the transposed position at Filey and Scarborough from 22 April until further notice.

'Racing At Lanark' will be re-used at Glasgow SDO from 13 July until 6 September.

'Harlow Town Show Bank Holiday Fun' will be used in the transposed position at Harlow from 27 July until 1 September.

'Hull - Capital of Humberside' will be in continued use from 11 April until further notice.

'Historic Gawsworth Hall near Macclesfield open Weekends and Wednesdays' will be re-used at Macclesfield from 9 June until 3 August.

'Maidstone 1968 Aug 31-Sept 21 Son et Lumiere' will be used in the transposed position at Maidstone from 10 July until 25 September.

'Newmarket Races' will be used in the transposed position at Newmarket from 15-28 June, 29 June-10 July, 11-19 July, and 20 July-2 August, 3-9 August and 10-23 August.

'Northamptonshire County Show Overstone Park Saturday July 27' will be used in the transposed position at Northampton from 1-27 July.

'Son et Lumiere Peterborough Cathedral July 20-Sept 28' will be used in the transposed position at Peterborough from 19 July until 20 September.

'Prestwick For Golf' will be re-used at Prestwick from 20 July until 31 August.

'Stranraer in Bonnie Galloway' will be in re-use from 1 February until 31 July at Stranraer.

'York Races' will be re-used at York from 29 July until 18 August.

'Newcastle Co. Down Civic Week 25 May-1 June' will be used in the transposed position at Newcastle Co. Down from 11 May until 1 June.

'Ship through Newport The Home of the Mole Wrench' will be in continued use at Newport, Mon., from 1 May until 31 December.

'Bexhill-on-Sea Outdoor and Indoor Bowls Mecca' will be re-used from 1-31 August 1968 at Bexhill-on-Sea.

'Stranraer Welcomes New Industry' will be re-used at Stranraer from 1 August 1968 until 31 January 1969.

'Holiday Festival Sport & Drama Omagh July 27-Aug 11' will now be used in the transposed position until 10 August and not 10 July, at Omagh.

The Art-Nouveau Stamps of King George V

'Thurso for Industrial Development' will be used in the transposed position at Thurso from 2 June 1968 until 1 June 1969.

'International Order of Good Templars Centenary 1968' will be used at Bromley from 2-30 June.

The slogan 'POEU Conference Brighton and Hove 10-14 June '68' will be used in the transposed position at Brighton from 1-14 June.

'Chichester Festival Theatre May 21 to Sept 14' will be in use at Chichester until 7 September.

'Come to Captivating Colwyn Bay' is in re-use at Colwyn Bay from 23 April until 11 December.

'Visit Tatton Park Knutsford Cheshire's Stately Home' is being re-used at Knutsford from 6 May until 31 August.

'Thurso for Industrial Development' will now be used at Thurso from 3 June 1968 until 2 June 1969.

'Weston-Super-Mare Fine for Family Holidays in Sunny Somerset' is in continued use at Weston-Super-Mare from 24 March 1968 until 22 March 1969.

As from 1 June, the slogan 'Jodrell Bank Open Daily 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Easter-October' will appear in the transposed position at Manchester.

New Definitive Stamps

The low value definitive series will be complete on 1 July 1968 with the issue of the 5d, 7d, 8d, and 10d denominations.

The details are:

Designer: Arnold Machin, OBE, RA.

Machine: Reel fed rotary

No. to sheet: 240

Perforation: 15 × 14

Printer: Harrison and Sons

Process: Photogravure

Paper: Coated unwatermarked phosphor lined

Colours: 5d Stewart Blue

7d Paris Green

8d Scarlet

10d Olive Brown

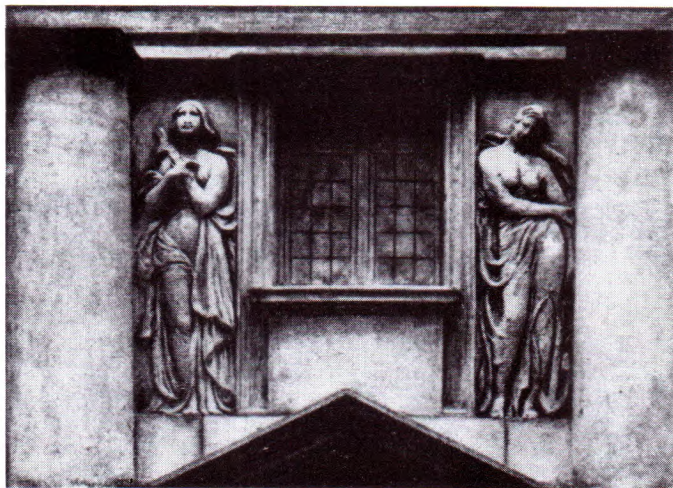
On 1 July 1910, following the death of King Edward VII on 6 May of that year, the Postmaster General invited Bertram MacKenna, later Sir Bertram, George W. Eve and other artists to produce designs for the Postage Stamps of the new Reign. It was stipulated that at least one of the designs should include a lion, couchant, at the foot of the stamp. The invited artists mirrored in their work the artistic climate of the age in which they lived.

It is not surprising therefore to find that the motifs which appeared on the stamps of King George V were influenced by the Art Nouveau movement which had such far reaching effects on the applied arts in the early years of the 20th Century. Nothing could have been more suitable, for the Art Nouveau style originated in England. Having its roots in the work of William Morris it spread to France, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Spain, Italy and the United States - a culture pattern flow in which we may take legitimate pride.

Many of the Artists' original stamp designs, both accepted and not accepted, are among the Treasures of the National Postal Museum where they will be shown when the Museum proper opens later this year in much enlarged accommodation. Our illustrations show a few of these drawings together with examples of similar decorative devices used on fireplaces and other items of domestic equipment. These contemporary examples of the applied as distinct from the fine arts demonstrate the pre-occupation of Artists and designers in the rejection of divisions between these two aspects of art.

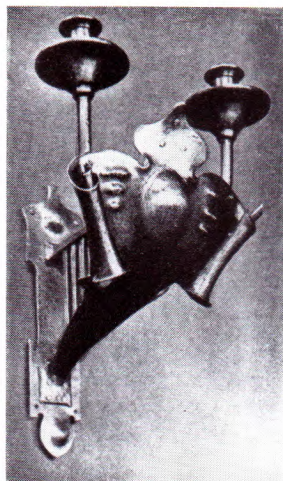
During the 19th Century there had been a divorce between Artists and Manufacturers: at the turn of the century serious attempts were being made at a rapprochement between art and industry, a trend which continues and which today is officially encouraged by the Council of Industrial Design.

Art Nouveau ornament, based on natural forms re-styled, swinging with curvilinear motives, simplified, transformed and often abstracted played an important part in creating a



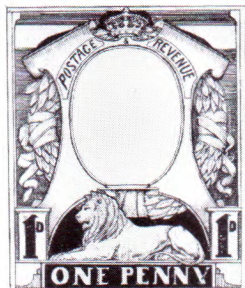
*Sketch model Virtues
by E. E. Schenck, 1906.*

*Bertram MacKenna
Design 'D'.*

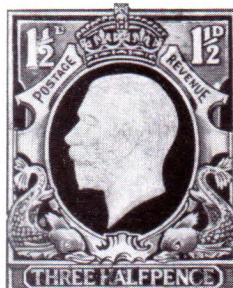


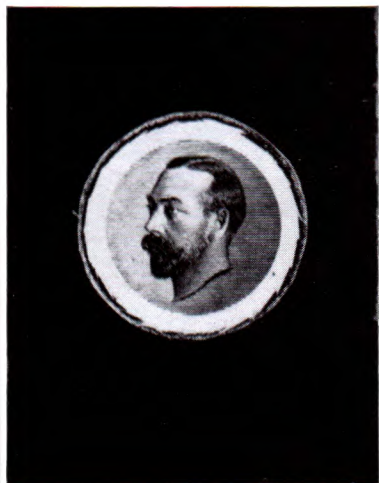
*Candle wall bracket in hand-wrought iron
Designed by C. S. Freeman
Executed by N. & E. Spittle.*

*Bertram MacKenna
Design 'C'.*



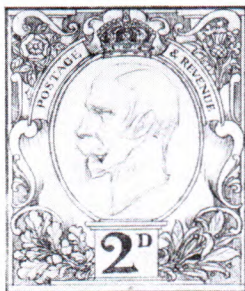
Bertram MacKenna.





14 November 1910. Impression from steel die engraved at Royal Mint from W. & D. Downey's photograph.

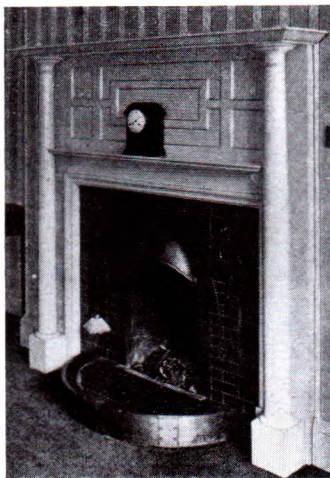
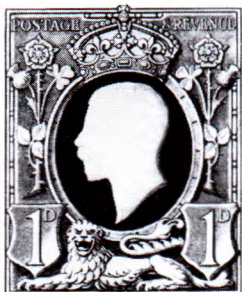
*Design by Garth Jones
not adopted.*



*George W. Eve
wreath design.*



*George W. Eve
Design 'A' not adopted.*



*Fireplace
Designed by D. Baker, architect
Executed by the
Well Fire Co., Ltd.*

*Bertram MacKenna
Design 'A'.*



new richness to daily living in this country and overseas. As collectable 'antiques' Art Nouveau styled 'Edwardiana' are now the vogue and the 'tote' bags and gay clothes of today revive wall paper and fabric printing patterns of that era.

The frame designs for the Halfpenny to Fourpence value stamps of King George V's reign were designed by Sir Bertram MacKenna and those for the Fivepenny to one shilling stamps by George W. Eve. The work of both these artists is in this Art Nouveau tradition.

The first head of the Sovereign incorporated in the stamps was taken from a photograph by Messrs. W. & D. Downey which was chosen personally by King George V. In the Museum's collection is a copy of this Photograph supplied

on 30 June 1910 to the Post Office by Sir Arthur Bigge (later Lord Stamfordham) Private Secretary to His Majesty, together with proofs from a die cut at the Royal Mint based on this photograph. This three quarter face profile on the issues of 1912 and 1913 was replaced by the MacKenna head taken from his design for the coinage and for the Coronation Medal. At the suggestion of Eve the size of this head was slightly reduced on the stamps he designed and this version of MacKenna's portrait head is sometimes known as the 'improved Medal head'.

The 1914-18 war froze the design of stamps over those years. What happened later during the Reign of the Philatelist King will be told in another article.

F. MARCUS ARMAN

Special Issues 1967

The number of stamps delivered to us for each of the 1967 special issues is given below. We will provide the 'net issue' figure after the expiry of the sale periods.

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Good Stamps Delivered</i>	
			<i>Plain</i>	<i>Phosphor</i>
E.F.T.A.	20.2.67	9d	9,182,040	8,340,720
		1s 6d	9,122,040	7,920,720
British Flora	24.4.67	4d	79,203,480	39,870,720
		9d	7,382,040	6,300,720
		1s 9d	7,246,080	6,408,000
British Paintings	10.7.67	4d	—	103,896,000
		9d	—	10,891,440
		1s 6d	—	10,827,240
Chichester	24.7.67	1s 9d	—	24,362,040
British Discovery	19.9.67	4d	—	108,962,040
		1s	—	14,042,040
		1s 6d	—	12,602,040
		1s 9d	—	13,262,040
Christmas	27.11.67	3d	—	274,658,400
	18.10.67	4d	—	385,163,040
	27.11.67	1s 6d	—	20,341,380

Trades Union Congress

The first Trades Union Congress was held in Manchester in Whit-week, 1868, when 34 delegates representing 118,367 union members gathered for a conference convened by the Manchester and Salford trades council. In its early days, the Congress was predominantly concerned with trade union legislation; however, political topics were soon under discussion – as early as 1869, direct labour representation in Parliament had been suggested.

By 1890, the TUC had changed from being economically individual to being a follower of Socialist philosophy; in 1899, a resolution was carried for a special congress of trade unions and Socialist organizations to be held, following which the Labour Representation Committee was inaugurated. Thus, an independent political labour movement had been founded.

As the trade union membership increased, so the influence of the TUC grew. An important stage of its history was reached in World War I when the congress decided to take part in wartime administration and emerged, after the war, with greatly increased membership and influence.

In 1919, plans were put forward to replace the old Parliamentary committee of the congress with a larger executive body, consisting of 32 members representing the 17 groups of trades and industries into which the membership of the congress was divided, including two women representing the female members of the congress. This was proposed in order that the congress and the Labour Party might co-operate more closely, and that a joint administrative body could be set up under their joint auspices.

In 1920, the congress accepted proposals for the establishment of 4 joint departments: research and information, press and publicity, international, and legal. This reorganization resulted in a pronounced expansion of the activities of the general council of the TUC, with the result that in 1925, because of the great increase in the amount of work, these joint departments ceased to exist, and separate departments took their place.

One of the roles of the general council was to establish better relations between the trades and labour councils. Before 1895, trades councils were represented at the annual Trades Union Congress. Between 1895 and 1924 however, there was no such direct contact, although the trades councils sent representatives to the annual Labour Party Conference. In 1925, to remedy this defect in the organization, a model form of trade council constitution was proposed. By the end of 1924, there were 476 trades councils known to exist in Britain, compared with only 328 in 1913.

As the Labour Party have common origins with the TUC, close relations between the two bodies have naturally existed. In 1920 the TUC accepted proposals for the establishment of a national joint council consisting of the chairman, secretary and three members of the general council of the TUC, the national executive committee of the Labour Party and the executive committee of the Parliamentary party.

Thus, it can be seen that, during the past 100 years, the Trades Union Congress has grown rapidly, from a comparatively small gathering of 34 delegates representing 118,367 members, to over a thousand delegates representing nearly nine million members of over 170 trades unions at the last Trades Union Congress.

The Post Office at Selfridges

The Post Office is providing a philatelic display and a special sales counter at Selfridges famous London store as part of their 'Britain is Great' exhibition.

On show in the Exhibition Hall on the third floor will be a selection of British stamps, first day covers, presentation packs and the new stamp booklets. The presentation pack feature will display the attractive British Discoveries and the recent British Bridges and British Anniversaries stamps and the packs may be purchased from the counter. No other items will be on sale.

The exhibition started on 13 May and will run for several weeks.

Special Handstamps

'1968 Whitfield Fair Dover Kent' will be used on 13 July at Dover. A rectangular design with a motif of a horse and carriage.

'SAGA 68 Beeley, Matlock, Derbyshire' will be used on 3-18 August 1968 at Matlock. A circular design with a motif of the Scouts and Guides Association Emblem in the upper perimeter.

'Surrey Philatelic Convention and Exhibition Kingston-upon-Thames' will be used on 2 November 1968 at Kingston-upon-Thames. A circular design with the old coronation stone incorporated in the motif.

Three special handstamps will be used at Buxton on 4, 5, 6 June. All three are rectangular designs and bear the legend '50th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Buxton'. The design for the 4 June has a motif of an 1870 obliterator on left hand side, that for 5 June has a flag motif across the centre, while that for 6 June has shield motif on left hand side.

The Manchester Central Philatelic Society has sponsored a special hand stamp '50th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain' to be used at Manchester on 7 June. This design is rectangular also and has a motif of an 1870 Obliterator on left hand side and a Maltese cross on the right hand side.

'Union of Polish Philatelists in G.B. Philatelic Exhibition Z.F.P. 1958-1968 London, W.2' will be used at Paddington District Office, 20-23 June 1968 - a circular design - no motif. A special posting box will be provided at the exhibition held at Polish YMCA 46-47 Kensington Gardens Square, Bayswater, W2

'Union of Polish Philatelists' Congress, London, S.W.5' will be used on 23 June 1968 at South Western District Office. A rectangular design with a motif - the initials Z.F.P. above an eagle standing on a post horn on the left hand side. A special posting box will be provided at the Polish Air Force Association, 14 Collingham Gardens, SW5.

'Nalco Conference 1968 Llandudno, Caernarvonshire' will be used at Llandudno on 14 June 1968. A circular design with a motif of a wyvern in a central position above the date.

'Fifty-fifth Annual Convention - All One in Christ Jesus - Portstewart Co. Derry' will be used on 22, 24-29 June 1968 at Coleraine, Londonderry. A circular design with a motif of a marquee with five flags in the top half of stamp.

'1st Hook Scout Group SUMMER FAYRE Surbiton Surrey' will be used on 22 June 1968 at Kingston-upon-Thames. A rectangular design with a motif of the Boy Scouts Badge on the left hand side.

'Scott Centenary Plymouth Devon' will be used on 6 June 1968 at Plymouth. A circular design - no motif

'Clogher Civic Week 10-15 JUNE CO. TYRONE' will be used from 20 May-15 June 1968 at Armagh. A circular design - no motif.

'RAF 50th Anniversary Celebrations Abingdon Berks' will be used on 14-15 June 1968 at Abingdon. A circular design with a motif of the RAF eagle in a central position.

'Norwood Philatelic Society London SE 27' will be used on 6 July 1968 at South Eastern District Office. A circular design with a central motif of a '21st Anniversary Key'.

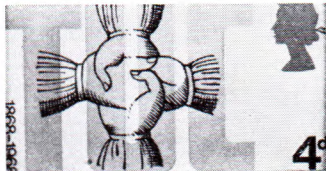
'The Royal Tournament - British Forces 1968 Postal Service' will be used from 24 June to 13 July 1968. A circular design with a crown above the date and the Naval Anchor, the Army Crossed Swords and the RAF Eagle combined in an emblem below. Special posting boxes will be provided at the Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London.

Items for reposting for this handstamp should be sent to Philatelic Section, HPPC Depot RE, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, NW7.

Items for reposting for the 'Norwood Philatelic Society London SE 27' should be sent to the District Postmaster, South Eastern District Office, London, SE1. Items for reposting for the other handstamps should be sent to the Head Postmasters concerned.

Unaccepted Designs – British Anniversaries

Issued 29 May 1968



C. Abbott



D. Gentleman



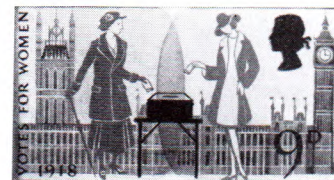
M. C. Farrar Bell FRSA



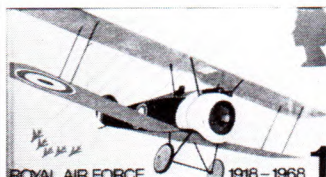
D. Gentleman



D. Gentleman



M. C. Farrar Bell FRSA



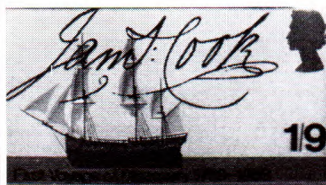
C. Abbott



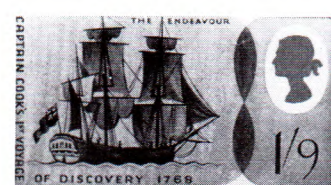
D. Gentleman



J. Matthews



C. Abbott



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Photographs by courtesy of Stamp Weekly.

The above illustrations are a selection of unaccepted stamp designs. Also submitted but not shown were further designs by M. C. Farrar Bell FRSA, D. Gentleman and J. Matthews.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the latest edition of your very enjoyable *Bulletin*. I was particularly pleased to see that you were again publishing unaccepted designs proposed for special issues, which, although there was a fair range of variety, goes once again to show that the choice of designs for special issues should be drawn from a much wider field of designers.

I was also intrigued by your display of ten cigarette cards. I thought for a moment they were designs for a suggested new issue. And what a good idea if they were. An issue for a special 'Day of the Stamp' when the Post Office would go mad giving free stamps to every hundredth customer, advertising its stamps in the national dailies and on television and generally making a great noise about its stamps.

A series of stamps with designs similar to the cigarette cards and printed in the same soft glowing colours, telling the story of the posts and stamp, issued over a period of years on a special day would go a long way towards helping to achieve the £10 million philatelic sales figure which the Post Office is reported to want. Perhaps a more obvious underlying theme of the story of Britain through her stamps, rather than the present apparently haphazard collection of new issues would also help philatelic sales.

One final plea: would the Post Office consider issuing a First Day Cover large enough to take all 18 values for use on the 9 September.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM J. ROSS

Wallasey, Cheshire

Dear Sir,

About the letter of Mr S. G. Yates in your April number, is he quite certain that the name is not HOTWELLS, a suburb of Bristol?

I have myself been foxed by reading an E in a faint postmark as B!

Yours faithfully,

D. McDONALD

Bromley, Kent

Dear Sir,

A belated reply to your reader S. G. Yates of Redbourn, Herts (April *Bulletin*).

His postmark is almost certainly THORNBURY, a small town 10 miles on the Gloucester side of Bristol; Thornbury has always been in the Bristol postal area.

Yours faithfully,

LIONEL J. LANHAM

Bridgwater, Somerset

Dear Sir,

Mr Boardman's letter in your May issue, recalls a very handsome modern equivalent of the 'Postage Stamp Container' which was authorised by the Canadian Government in 1966.

Strongly constructed of plastic, its lid has a complete set of the then-new definitive issue, mounted and sealed under a perspex window. There is also a most ingenious device at the top of the box for containing water and a little roller which enables one to 'lick' the stamps mechanically. There are separate internal components for holding stamps, stationery, etc.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS BRYEN

Longthorpe, Peterborough

Dear Sir,

I experience great difficulty in identifying phosphor lines on some values of the previous definitive issues and especially on some values of regional issues. I know the answer would be a 'Phosphor' lamp but these I believe are rather expensive.

Has any reader any ideas for overcoming this problem, or details of a 'do-it-yourself' Phosphor lamp that could be made at a reasonable cost?

Yours faithfully,

W. T. PARKER

Enfield, Middlesex

Dear Sir,

I refer to the letter from P. Ramsay in the March issue of *P.B.* and support his thoughts on the subject of postmark slogans and the applications thereof.

Surely all philatelists appreciate an exclusive cover, for instance I have sent an envelope with two 2½d 'Lifeboat' stamps to the Head Postmaster at Middlesbrough with a request for its return with the Birth of Teesside 1 April 1968 handstamp thereon.

I will agree that the two have no connection whatsoever but at least I am prepared to bet no one else will have such a cover. My next will be to the Head Postmaster at Wembley, an England Winners cover for posting on the day England meet Spain – and if England should lose so much the more 'odd'. Also I feel that I must have the forthcoming Women's Suffrage postmarked Isle of Man – at least this will soften the blow of the celebration of a tragedy(!)

I consider that similar 'weirdies' can form a new branch of philately (at least the GPO will profit) – after all most philatelists are awfully 'square' and respectable – 'tis time we had off-beat humour in the hobby and made ourselves 'with-it', for which contention I could almost apologise but still remain unrepentant!

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

COMMANDER J. FEARNSIDE-LUNN, RN (RTD)
Kingston-upon-Hull, Yorks

Dear Sir,

I have been reading your *Philatelic Bulletin* regularly for the last year or so, and I must congratulate you on a magnificent journal.

One letter in Volume 5, Number 7 provoked me into writing this letter. In his letter A. A. Taylor thought that it would be a good idea to issue a £5 stamp. I disagree with this policy as not many people would use this stamp. I also disagree with issuing stamps purely for the philatelist.

I think this is wrong because stamps should be issued primarily to collect a fee for the conveyance of mail, and as a £5 stamp would not

be used by many people for this purpose, I disagree with it.

Even if it were to be a commemorative issue the denomination would be too high for the average person's use. If it were to be issued for the philatelist alone many teenage collectors like myself would not be able to afford it.

If you start issuing stamps purely as a gimmick British stamps are going to become cheap.

Yours faithfully

STEPHEN J. H. EVANS

Bridgend, Glamorgan

Dear Sir,

The series of Cigarette Cards described in the May *Bulletin* is only one of several. Thus Lambert & Butler had a series in the 1930s with the cumbersome title 'Interesting Sidelights on the work of the G.P.O.' and illustrating the then new devices such as the speaking clock and facsimile picture sending as well as Transorma sorting and the mobile post office. This was a series of 50.

At the same period W. H. & J. Woods Ltd. issued a set of 25 of 'Romance of the Royal Mail' from the XVth century mounted relays to the Airmail.

Rather earlier W. Clarke & Son had issued 50 'Royal Mail'. My solitary example of the series shows an Indian postman in Calcutta. Players included postmen of the world in more than one series, 'Riders of the World' and 'British Empire Series', and their 'Cycling' includes a fascinating card showing four bearded postmen pedalling along on 'centre-wheelers'.

Yours faithfully,

F. E. DIXON

Dublin 6

Corrections

Croydon, Surrey should be added to the list of philatelic posting box offices shown on page 11 of the May *Bulletin*. Our apologies for the omission.

The slogan 'Carnival Week Eastbourne' was introduced on 1 June and not as stated in the May *Bulletin*.

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