THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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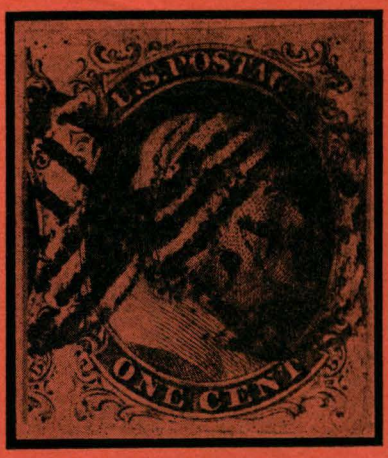
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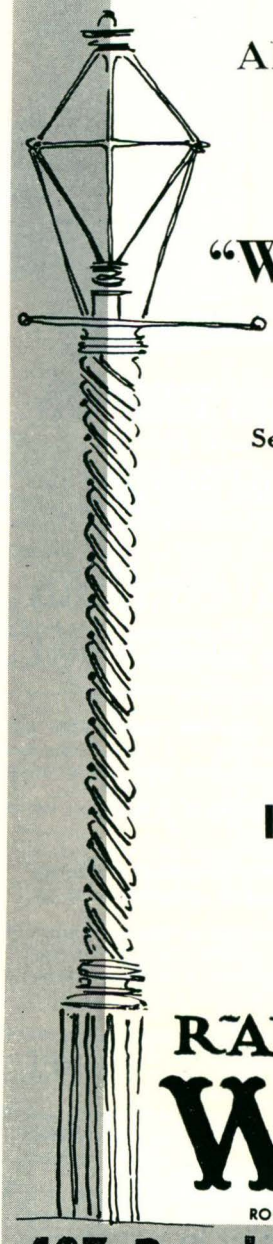
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Editorials

Tricks Of The Trade

Policemen, reformers, commissars and detectives are not needed in philately. One should look at stamp collecting broadly. Then he will not become myopic by sensationalizing a minority of ills. Out of the thousands of stamps to collect, certainly a few are tarnished with an unsavory record of connivance in issuance. Let us not become panicky by generalizing that philately is becoming a racket where every purchase is made by an innocent buyer from shrewd, high-binding sharpies.

Philately will never be perfect—a true Garden of Eden with everyone completely honest. Some always will be greedy for a fast buck. But evil practices must be exposed to be stopped. No solution, however, comes from hysteria, such as calling our hobby a racket.

If there is a trade practice that is not conducive to the best interests of philately, it should be exposed. Here is one.

Practically every year the stamp catalogs list and price stamps that previously had not been recognized for the first time. Also some stamps listed for many years are dropped because new evidence shows their status has been questioned. Philatelic research had disclosed that certain catalog-listed stamps were either counterfeit or bogus. When the catalog editors are satisfied by such studies, a stamp is removed.

Now after this happens, some dealers and stamp auction houses continue selling stamps dropped from the catalog. But they do it in a very clever manner. They describe the stamp in an auction sale catalog and then refer to it by the former catalog number and price. For example, say a stamp was removed from the 1960 Scott Catalogue. It had, however, been listed and priced in many previous editions. In order to sell this type of stamp, a dealer describes it with the 1959 edition catalog number and price. Usually the description is normal, except that (1959) is placed at the end in parenthesis.

As a consequence, many are misled. Looking over the lists of auction realizations, we have noted where delisted stamps have been sold for substantial amounts. For instance, our book on the "RF Overprints on United States Air Mails" was published in 1958. In the 1959 editions, the Scott and Sanabria catalogs revised their listings by dropping certain R. F. types that appeared from all available evidence to be either counterfeit or bogus.

Are all dealers stopping their sales of this counterfeit or bogus R. F. material? By no means! Some continue selling it with a cleverly worded reference to the former catalog listing and price. This is not right. It is hoped that the continuation of this questionable trade practice will cease. There are thousands of genuine stamps on which stamp dealers and auction houses can make a profit. They need not continue to try to make a few dollars more by selling material no longer catalogued.

Philately 1960

The following telephone conversation between a New York stamp collector and dealer took place this year, after the collector had read this dealer's advertisement in one of the weekly stamp papers:

Collector: "My name is W. I just read your ad in "Winnkel's Stamp Chit-Chat' that you pay top prices for U. N. stamps on first day covers. I have them complete through 1959. How can I show them to you?"

Dealer: "Let me ask you a few questions. Are the stamps singles or blocks?"

Collector: "All single copies."

Dealer: "Are they on Brand X printed cachet covers?"

Collector: "Yes, every one."

Dealer: "Are they addressed?"

Collector: "Why, certainly! I had each issue mailed to me as they came out."

Dealer: "Sorry, I can't use them, my customers want unaddressed covers only."

Collector: "No deal. I see; people no longer are collecting stamps, only cachets."

Has Philately A Spokesman?

Some stamp people presume that they speak for all philatelists. You constantly read one person writing that collectors approve of this or object to that. We wonder if most collectors actually do, and if any one—stamp editor, writer, banquet speaker, collector, dealer, publisher or columnist—has the right to assume the role of philately's spokesman.

The editorials in this magazine are almost exclusively the work of the editor. Actually they are one man's opinions, so that an editorial may not even express the views of the majority of this club's members. Our editorials try to reflect the beliefs of serious philatelists as heard and seen.

No editorial has been published without some previous consultation. Frequently topics used have been suggested by others. But we never have been under any delusion that we speak for every Collectors Club member, much less for the majority of philatelists either in this country or abroad.

Thus it strikes us that others, who express opinions, should not be so presumptive as to believe that they speak for all philately. No samplings of public opinion among stamp collectors have been made to warrant this.

Correspondence to an editor or writer can be misleading. Usually only a small percentage of the readers bother to write. This editor receives a good-sized volume of mail. Occasionally an editorial may stimulate two-hundred letters at the most. Even if all of the letters are favorable, we have no right to believe that this indicates unanimous approval.

Philately hopes to permit everyone his ideas whether they are good, bad or indifferent. But when one reads the writings of another, he will be well advised to remember, that it is simply one person's opinion.

Another Valuable Gift

We are pleased to announce that we have received recently *the Mrs. S. F. Sharpless collection of Monaco* contained in five volumes.

This is a fine collection of a little known and appreciated country. It is especially strong in the early issues and has numerous show pieces. Furthermore, it is most attractively mounted.

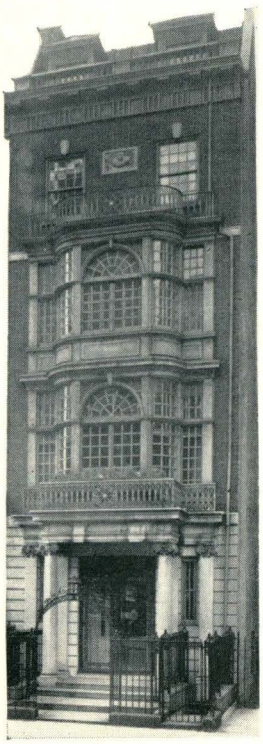
In accordance with established policy of the Collectors Club, this will be available for display in national and regional shows upon application.

Morris Fortgang

A sincere New York philatelist passed away on August 5, 1960 at the age of 60. Morris Fortgang had exhibited and spoken several times at the Collectors Club on his specialty, "the One Cent Franklin U. S. stamp of 1851-57." His interest in this one issue was so intense that his good friends often kidded him that he did not think any other stamps existed.

The endearing quality of Morris Fortgang's character was evidenced by his performances of so many services for individuals as well as philatelic organizations in a quiet, unassuming manner. He was a gentle man with quiet voice. When asked to do a service, he softly went his way to perform. For instance, there were many things he did for this club. To mention a few, he saw that the Library received all publications on his specialty. If they were not donated by the publisher or author, he would personally buy them. He suggested to authors that their manuscripts be submitted to the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST for publication and he helped this magazine's editor in reading proof when such assistance was badly needed.

Philately prospers because it has devotees of the type of Morris Fortgang. Unfortunately, there are not enough, so that we can ill afford to lose him.



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LONDON, JULY 1960

As this air mail collector was flying home by jet plane after the close of the 1960 London International Stamp Exhibition, he had about seven hours to review all that had taken place during his visit. Although many of the lesser events and details were recalled, one could see the entire forest as well as remembering many of the trees. It was not intended to report upon this London philatelic event. On the return home, many inquired about this writer's experiences at the exhibition. Noting his tone of enthusiasm, suggestions came from numerous quarters to record these impressions for this magazine. (Frankly, not too much urging was needed.)

This report will be general. Names shall be omitted. Philately will be stressed. At the end, however, a few terse comments upon certain events and matters are included.

Looking back, one can say that London staged a first-class philatelic exhibition. In many respects, the British demonstrated how an international stamp show should be staged. But one should not seek perfection. There were numerous liabilities. For each of these, however, there were at least ten assets, so that the balance sheet is most favorable.

It is believed that too few in the United States fully comprehend the true meaning of the word "international." Stamps are recognized as being collected the world over. But how many know stamp collecting and collectors outside of those in their own locality? It is thought that the correct answer to this question is "very few." One, who has participated in philately in many parts of the United States, Canada, Latin America and Europe, has the advantage of seeing its broad international scope. There are consequently only a few large stamp centers. Outstanding are London, England and New York, U. S. A. The former has a longer tradition, but New York is not too far behind.

This long-established British tradition and decorum were most evident in London. They know stamps and know how to care for them. The material on display was as fine as one could wish to see. But more impressive was the method of presentation. In this respect, American philatelists have a long way to go. Our album pages, on the whole, are sloppy compared to the Europeans, who correctly treat stamps as one would rare gems. It is not only the ownership of choice material that counts, but just as with a gem stone, the mounting is equally important.

Philatelic material is valuable, much of it cannot be replaced. The British evidenced a clear understanding of this. The management of the individual exhibits from the very beginning was most efficient. The security arrangements were remarkable. No strong sunlight came upon the frames. Everyone handling an exhibit knew what he was doing. Nothing was done haphazardly. Unfortunately, this has been lacking in most of our international exhibitions. That was what made the 1960 London Exhibition "big league." It was run by understanding philatelists, who conscientiously sought to do the best possible job, rather than try to attract attention with a high pressure publicity campaign.

If we Americans respect freedom for the individual, then London demonstrated it. The philatelic exhibition was a complete private enterprise. All governments from the official point of view were conspicuously absent. No subsidy came from the state nor was there a first day sale of stamps for the exhibition opening. Oddly, there was a new set of two commemorative stamps, but these were issued two days before the opening. One can think of no other country where this would happen. To paraphrase Lincoln, this show was, "philately of the people, by the people and for the people."

The Locale and Layout

The choice of securing a suitable building for a large international philatelic exhibition in London was most difficult. The Royal Festival Hall is a beautiful, modern building situated in an attractive setting on the Thames River. It is a concert hall, its main portion being the auditorium. Thus the prime section of this building was closed to philatelic displays. The frames had to be placed in the entrance halls, the foyers, the corridors, the promenades and the balconies—be scattered here and there throughout the entire building.

These difficulties were met with the best possible planning. But try as one would, the underlying drawback was not overcome. The Royal Festival Hall is not for an exposition, certainly not a great philatelic exhibition.

There were, however, compensations. Most exhibition halls, where extensive stamp exhibitions have been staged, have hard concrete or wooden floors. The carpeting in many parts of the Royal Festival Hall made a visitor's feet far less tired. Furthermore, one could always find a nearby spot to sit down and rest, a convenience not often afforded. Finally, the arrangements for refreshments and dining were excellent. There were buffets for sandwiches and light refreshments, several bars, a large cafeteria with a wide selection of food at modest prices and a most lavish dining room. These were conveniently situated throughout the hall.

Entering the hall, one came upon the Court of Honor, the featured exhibits and then all the British frames. Also many of the British stamp dealers had their booths placed here and there on the main floor. Then one started climbing stairs. There were two elevators, but most times with a sign, "not running." On the second floor or setback (British terms such as "level" will not be used), one found the Europe and Colonies exhibits, again with stamp dealers' booths placed here and there. The latter here were less British, more European and a few from the United States.

Going up a further flight of stairs one continued seeing Europe and Colonies exhibits where now the dealers were non-British. On the fourth setback were the United States, Latin America, air mail and miscellaneous exhibits with dealers scattered about, many of them being from this country. The top floor had the lounges of the British philatelic societies. But on a balcony between the fourth and fifth floors was the exhibit of the British Post Office. Here also one came upon dealers' booths, most of them being British.

The International Aspect

London, because of its location, has a great advantage for an international stamp show. Many from the European continent can come to England in a short time and with moderate travel expenses. New York suffers in this respect. Paris to London is as easy as Boston to New York. Vienna to London is simpler travelling than Chicago to New York. While Athens to London is a shorter and less expensive trip than San Francisco to New York. Thus London, in all respects, was far more international than New York in 1956 and 1947.

This reporter estimated, that including wives, over 500 from the United States visited the 1960 London Stamp Exhibition. This certainly represents a great turnout. In contrast, the U. S. International Philatelic Exhibitions have never drawn more than 50 overseas visitors from any one country. Also it is believed that the United States representation in London was the largest from any country.

In the city of London itself, a visitor was constantly amazed by seeing the number of street stamp stores. If one walks in any section, he soon comes upon a store with a sign, "Stamps." Never have so many been seen. This gives the impression that London must be the most active stamp center in the world. Nevertheless, one then faces a paradox. The 1960 Exhibition in London was not well attended. The total paid admissions probably did not equal the first day attendance at the Coliseum in New York in April 1956. Many of the hard-working Britishers, who staged this exhibition, expressed their keen disappointment over the attendance. Some attributed this to the inclement weather. It rained almost every day. Most Londoners, however, carry umbrellas or wear raincoats every day of the year. It may have been a lack of public notice. Little was seen in the London newspapers. The shop windows had posters about the Royal International Horse Show that followed the philatelic exhibition, but nothing about stamps. Others thought that the summertime was more for active hobbies like sports and not a popular sedentary one like stamp collecting. Consequently, July is not a good month for a stamp exhibition.

The Exhibits

Now let's talk about the material exhibited. We start on the Main Floor with the British Empire. These exhibits were breath-taking. So many agreed that never before

have finer displays of Great Britain been seen. The material was there in quantity and quality. If this writer never sees another "Penny Black," it matters not. Large unused multiple pieces and covers of the early issues that one never thought existed were in the frames. These made any prize-winning British collection shown in the United States look second-rate. British North America showing was equal to CAPEX in 1951. Newfoundland from the first issues to the rare air mails were exhibited by four or five individuals; one better than the other. The British Colonials were first-rate. The stress was on the 19th century. This reporter was disappointed in the paucity of 20th century stamps, and there certainly are some more modern classics in the British Empire, that could have been displayed.

In the rear of the first floor (and not with too good lighting) one found Asia. There were two Persia exhibits that showed material never seen before. Of course, Persia is not a popular philatelic entity, so one seldom sees an outstanding collection from here. China was among the best. The collection that gained the gold medal was the greatest Chinese collection a philatelist has ever seen. There were several top-grade India collections with large blocks and covers of the early issues, that are as fine as they come. This reporter, for instance, did not spend time viewing the outstanding Hong Kong collection, because this is familiar to him, being owned by an American and it had been exhibited here.

This reporter made it a point to view every exhibit. It took him the entire week of the Exhibition to do it, but this was finally accomplished. There were so many interruptions, when one met another collector or dealer, that on several occasions it was feared that the original objective of viewing all the frames would not be realized.

In the central portion of the main floor were four non-competitive sections, all of which were well worth viewing. The Court of Honor consisted mostly of the international judges' exhibits. In the center was the feature, The Royal Exhibit. If one may be permitted to voice some patriotic sentiment, the two finest showing in this section was the frame of Mauritius and the other, the early Pence issues of Canada, both exhibited by Americans. Many voiced some disappointment over the pages selected from the Palace Collection. Certainly if one tries to select the outstanding philatelic gems, the material in the one Mauritius and Canada frame take the honors.

A second section was called "100 years ago." This was a composite showing of stamps and covers 100 years old. It was solicited by the Exhibition Committee from many collections. Herein one found a few U. S. stamps and covers, that were interesting but not outstanding, and not up to the higher standards of the surrounding foreign material.

A third part nearby was "Forgeries," certainly edifying for most collectors. Unfortunately, our laws forbid such a showing over here. What a pity! The result of this regulation is to deny American collectors an education for their own protection. Perhaps, since our stamp illustration laws have been liberalized, the time will come when these counterfeit restrictions will be amended. Surely the U. S. laws regarding counterfeit postage stamps have not stemmed the criminals' operations.

Finally there was a section showing famous recent finds. Featured were such errors as the recent Kenya and Canada Seaway inverts.

In the rear on the left were exhibits by stamp printers, that commended a close study by this writer. The showing of Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Thomas De la Rue & Co. and Harrison & Sons Ltd. graphically depicted how stamps are produced from the original idea to the finished product.

Next to these interesting printers' frames was the Holy Land. The material shown here was not as fine as seen in New York exhibitions.

Tucked away in the rear left and right were what the British call "Thematics," or "Topicals" in this country. Here criticism seems justified, because the material was far inferior to all the rest in the London international exhibition. A showing of aviation on stamps can be cited as a typical example of the lack of philatelic know-how and appreciation. In a topical collection, obviously the design is its crux. Then why show heavily cancelled copies of cheap stamps? In this aviation display, there was a straight-edge, badly centered U. S. Lindbergh stamp. If one has a proper philatelic appreciation, he certainly will endeavor to display a choice copy of a relatively common stamp. In frame after frame in

this Thematic section, one was shocked to see that the theme would be presented with any sort of copy of a common stamp. Even a heavy cancel made no difference.

As for the European collections on the second and third floors, they were remarkable. But again the complete accent was on the 19th century. There was a Switzerland exhibit, that as soon as one viewed it, he knew it would gain one of the highest awards. This was also true of a collection of early France. Every philatelist knows that many of the early Italian States stamps and covers are scarce. One exhibit featured these stamps, where it was obvious that these came from the former "name" collections. Belgium, Netherlands, Spain, Austria, Portugal and Czarist Russia had material that deserves to be individually described. Unfortunately, space limits prevent this. Furthermore, if one did this, then this report would read as an auction catalog.

Moving further upstairs, this reporter thought that the South American section was one of the finest ever seen. Argentina and Brazil were wonderful. Chile and Bolivia were not far behind. But outside of one collection of Mexico, Central America had a comparatively poor representation. Also there was nothing from Cuba and little from Haiti, usually strong points in New York. In this Latin American group, one also found most all exhibits concentrating on the early 19th century issues.

Now the United States section was reached. It was a long, hard climb, but it was worth it. Unfortunately, there were not many sturdy souls, who did this. Once while standing in the U. S. section, a large group of schoolboys nattily dressed in blue blazers and caps were being conducted through the Exhibition. Their leader, no doubt a school teacher, looked at his watch saying, "I am sorry, but there is less than 30 minutes left. Therefore, we must pass over these American stamps and go now to view the British, because I know these are what interest you." Overhearing this, one realized at once this was England. In New York, the exact opposite would have happened.

The U. S. stamps were well represented. In fact, if one had a Scott catalog and checked off every stamp listed therein, he would in the end find only one or two numbers missing. The Confederate States collections were equally fine. Many of the scarce Postmaster Provisionals were shown. If you wanted to see a copy of every Hawaiian Missionary, one frame had them. Also there were two frames of outstanding U. S. 20th century stamps in the best possible condition. This reporter believes that the scarcity of 20th century United States is grossly underestimated.

Outside of a few top collections, this reporter was not greatly impressed with the air mail showings. Newfoundland obviously was strong. He was astounded not to find at least one New Zealand Great Barrier Islands Pigeongram entry. The general air post stamp collections stood out. The specialized and one country showing were not of top international grade.

The Social Side

So much for philately and the stamps. It is believed that most collectors visit a great international philatelic exhibition primarily to view the stamps. But such an occasion can also be likened to a convention. Many visitors are afforded the great opportunity of renewing old acquaintainships and meeting new friends from all over the world. This was a constant occurrence for many visitors from here. One cannot stress too strongly the value of making these contacts. This reporter met fellow philatelists from Europe, Africa, India, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and many other places.

Where London shone, however, was with its hospitality. In this respect, the United States is far behind. We stage an international exhibition every ten years, invite foreign exhibitors and visitors, but plan very little for their entertainment. If anything, the overseas visitor to London was over-entertained. Perhaps the paid attendance by the general public was relatively small. But there was an opening banquet at the Savoy Hotel and a closing one at the Dorchester. They sure packed them in. One also had to admire the efficiency, the decorum, the dignity and the formal dress at these dinners. There were just a few long speeches, most of them were pithy with some subtle humor—just right! The Collectors Club was honored to be permitted to make the Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award at the opening banquet.

Besides these two formal affairs, there were garden parties, dinners, luncheons, buffet suppers, cocktail parties, private dinners and luncheons. During the eight days of the Exhibition, one estimates that an overseas visitor had been invited to at least ten affairs. Each was well-planned and a model of friendly hospitality.

Odds and Ends

Before concluding, some capsule thoughts of matters recalled should be included.

The United States exhibitors did very well. They took four Gold medals and a total of 39 Gold-Silver, Silver-Gilt, Silver and Bronze.

The U. S. commissioners handled the exhibits sent to London with the utmost efficiency. This is sharply in contrast to exhibits in other international shows, where commissioners sought more personal publicity than conscientiously performing a difficult job.

The judges worked very hard. In the British, European and other foreign sections they made awards that met with general approval. This, unfortunately, cannot be said of the United States nor the air mails. Although the international jury was instructed to base its awards with the first consideration on up-to-date philatelic knowledge, as the printed regulations read, one found a tendency in these sections to reward bankbooks rather than philatelic books. One's ability to spend seemed favored over another's philatelic knowledge.

Philatelic literature was not in competition. In the 1960 London Exhibition Catalogue six pages listed most of the important books and monographs published in the English language since 1950. All journals and magazines were excluded. This is some token acknowledgment of philatelic scholarship, but still it does not help philately as it should. Our great international exhibitions must devise some better and more practical plan of rewarding our students. Now too often the international philatelic honors go only to the big spenders.

The stocks of the stamp dealers at London were far more comprehensive than one finds in the United States. A number of British dealers are merchants, interested in more than a profit. No report was heard about the business side of this Exhibition. Many individual collectors happily reported a purchase of stamps for which they had been looking for some time. Also many British stamp dealers prominently display literature to a much greater extent than in the United States.

It is believed, that many from this country, who visited London in July 1960, learned much about the manner of staging a large exhibition. It seems certain that when the United States has its next international in 1966, the influence of what was seen in England will be felt. Certainly vast improvements will be made on the social side. The dignity of the British was impressive. The London Exhibition was a philatelist's paradise. A great stamp exhibition need not be a six-ring circus to be successful. Most people want to see fine and rare stamps, just as those interested in art go to a museum to see the great paintings.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this reporter thinks that the personal contacts and friendships made through international philatelic exhibitions is most valuable. One finds so many sharing similar ideas as to what philately is or is not. Also one learns about the various philatelic personalities. The publicity seeker, who is interested in promoting himself and a few cronies rather than serving the hobby, fools no one. A reputation for politics instead of philately is recognized everywhere. The sincere, conscientious philatelist, who regards stamp collecting as basically a pleasant pursuit and philatelic study, is re-assured by meeting so many, who share these views. The fringe element interested in making quick profits, using high-pressure tactics to promote his group, the tub-thumping over the newly-issued postal paper, and all the rest do not interfere with the basic enjoyment of a philatelist. Having an experience such as these few weeks visit to the London International Stamp Exhibition makes many philatelists most enthusiastic about the stamps they collect, the manner in which they regard them and that thousands more all over the world think and act as they do.

Enough praise cannot be bestowed upon the hundreds of workers, who for three years, sacrificed time and labor to plan and run this exhibition. Without them, there will be no future exhibitions in London or New York. *(H. M. G.)*

HAITI

The "LARGE PALMS" Issue Of 1891-93

By J. R. W. PURVES

Introduction

When a student is interested in plate making procedures, particularly those of the past, there is no knowing in what particular direction his fancy will stray.

Many years ago, recognising what seemed to be the same plate flaw on *two* values of this series I became sufficiently intrigued to slowly acquire a holding of this issue. The catalogue's prices would certainly not indicate any great difficulty in acquiring quantities of these stamps. Although inquiry has been frequently made in England and America it has literally taken me years to acquire sufficient material to complete the study. Halfway through it I ascertained that the subject *had* been covered before—and covered pretty effectively—by L. W. Crouch in an article in "The Stamp Lover" for December 1912 (at p. 164)—further that Crouch's findings had all been adopted and included in Munk's encyclopedic work, a translation of which latter I had made of the German, "Kohl's Handbuch."

Perusal of the Crouch opus, however, indicated some points on which further clarification seemed most desirable, in view of the apparent "leads" from my own work, so that more material was accumulated and the study brought to practical completion. My main object was to complete the reconstruction of the sheet of fifty. This was at length accomplished with the assistance of sufficient mint and used multiples. Crouch had *complete sheets* of the 1c, 2c and 3c. Where those sheets (or his collection) now are, I know not. I have only a block of fourteen, another of twelve, and a number of blocks of four, strips and pairs of various values to work with, apart from nearly 500 used singles.

As a result my studies, in relation to the plate making procedures, mean that Crouch's findings need a complete revision and it will be convenient if we deal with one stage at a time.

Stage 1: The Die:

Only the original steel die was engraved, and I am quite certain that it was a die for the 2c value with both "2's" engraved on it. Crouch stated that the die bore no value, "The value tablets in the top corners being left blank." This is not correct, as I shall show, but I think Crouch was misled in this matter by the Paris printed issue of 1896, in which case the original die certainly was in blank.

The main reasons for my belief are as follows:

(a) The figures "2" at left and right respectively are identical *in size and format* on every stamp in the 10 group (see Stage 2) and consequently on every stamp in the sheet of 50. They also occupy the *identical relative positions* in the two tablets on every stamp in the 10 group (and in the 50 sheet). These figures, therefore, could not possibly have been engraved on each impression of the original "10 master," nor could they have been plugged in. Had either of those procedures been used there must have been some variation in their positioning and, if engraved, in the sizes and shapes of the figures (as there *is,* indeed, in all the other denomination of this series).

(b) There is a colored dot inside the top middle portion of the left hand "2", which identical dot is found on all the ten 2c master units; therefore, on every one of the fifty 2c stamps in the sheet. This is clearly a die marking.

(c) No *die* proofs with blank tablets are known as in this issue. It may well be that 2c die proofs exist, somewhere.



Fig. 1. Proof sheet of the "10 Master" made from the original 2c steel die. (All photos by Boutrelle.)

Stage 2: The "10 Master."

Comparatively early in my study I discovered—independently— from two large blocks in my possession, the use of a master group of ten (2x5), five of which groups made up the sheet of 50 (10x5). I believe the first "10 group" made, i. e. the "10 master" was a small steel (possibly copper) plate laid down from a matrix relief taken from the original die. It *may* even have been a copper electrotype grown from 10 moulds stamped direct from the die but what it was almost certainly *not* (in view of then French procedures) was a steel plate laid down from a transfer roll, the method suggested by Crouch.*

Crouch apparently assumed from certain recurrent flaws he could distinguish, e. g. that on No. 5, that *each* of these 10 impressions showed characteristic flaws. *That is not so.*

*In this connection Crouch mentions a block (in another collection) of 10(2x5) proofs of the 2c with margins all round. Crouch, believing (erroneously) that the "10 master" was in blank and that the "2's" were added at the next stage, referred to this block as "experimental." It was not, of course, anything of the kind but was simply a pull from the "10 master." One would expect that such pulls would be taken before embarking on the next stage.

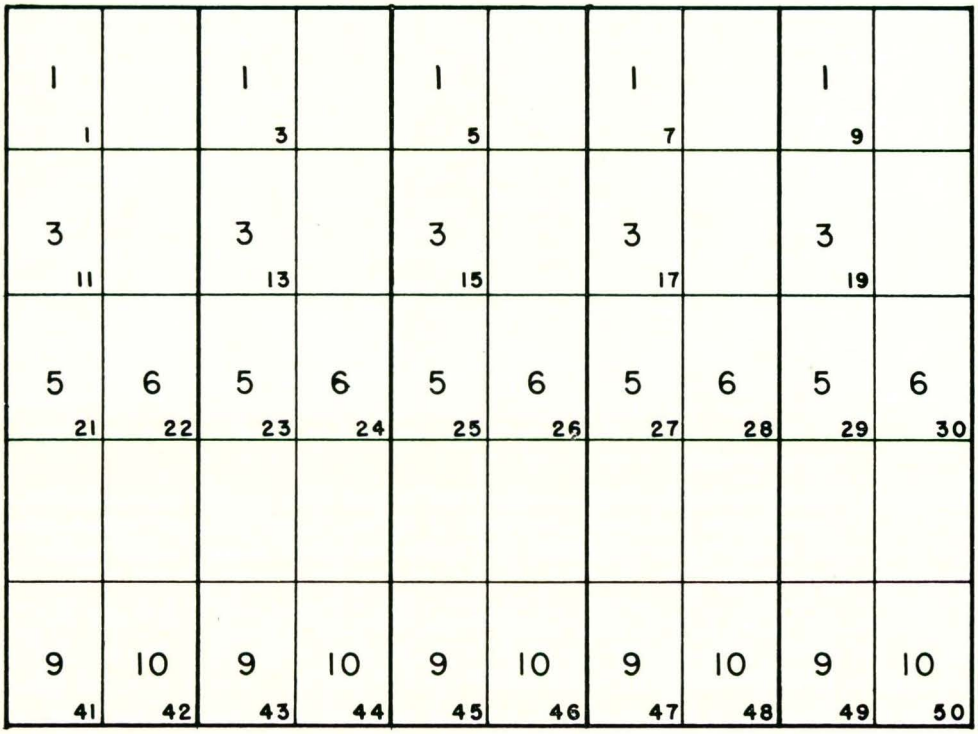


Fig. 2. Layout of the plate of fifty showing the repetition of the "10 Master."

Only six of the 10 grown (Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10) *show recognizable "primary" flaws* (which are found on *all* values) and the closest scrutiny with a magnifying glass has failed to reveal any others. Each of these six types occurs five times in the sheets, the makeup of which is indicated in Fig. 2:-

Type 1 is therefore found on Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 in the sheet.
Type 3 is therefore found on Nos. 11, 13, 15, 17, 19 in the sheet.
Type 5 is therefore found on Nos. 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 in the sheet.
Type 6 is therefore found on Nos. 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 in the sheet.
Type 9 is therefore found on Nos. 41, 43, 45, 47, 49 in the sheet.
Type 10 is therefore found on Nos. 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 in the sheet.

With the plating guides given later, the above thirty positions, once they are identified by their "primary" type, present little difficulty. The *other* twenty positions (unidentifiable by primary type) can only be fixed by going through the descriptions of these positions, one by one. A description of the "Type" flaws follows:-

TYPE 1. Shows (a) a tiny colored, more or less vertical, line of color, in left margin, at middle, close to the outer left frame (is to the N. W. of the mouth of the cannon at left); (b) a small colored excrescence protruding downwards from the lower of the two thin colored lines under (and between) the "HA" of "HAITI;" (c) a spot of color immediately to the left of the tip of the leaf to the N. E. of the mouth of the cannon at right; (d) a thinning in the inner side of the outer left frame, about 1 mm. above the level of the colored line described under (a).

TYPE 3. Shows (a) spots of color inside N. E. corner of top right hand tablet and other spots on vertical white to right of and below the first spots; (b) two colored spots to left of top portion of "N" of "CENT" and another between the two right strokes of the "N"; (c) a spot of color in left margin, at center; (d) a vague, more or less horizontal, dash, in base margin, under "HA;" (e) a small diagonal color dash in top margin, close to top frame, over right end of top left hand tablet; (f) base of colored line over "T" of "CENT" is swollen.
This type, in the *2c only,* shows a further "primary" flaw viz. (g) a color dot inside the top of the right hand "2," slightly to the right of center. This dot was doubtless removed when the "2's" were cut from the 2c mould of 50 (*see later*) prior to the production of a master-electro in blank from which the printing plates for the values *other* than the 2c were made.

TYPE 5. Shows (a)* a prominent colored flaw on the right of the "Q" of "REPUBLIQUE," at its middle; (b) a tiny line of color in the top margin, close to the top frame, over (and slightly to the left of) the left end of the "N" of "CENTS;" (c) another short colored line, in left margin, close to left frame, opposite middle of top leaf at left.

TYPE 6. Shows (a) a blob of color across the left vertical white opposite the mouth of the cannon at left; (b) the left portion of the base frame is concave in nature as far as the "Q" of "REPUBLIQUE;" (c) a colored swelling on the inside of the left side of the top left hand tablet, about .75 mm. up from its S. W. corner.

TYPE 9. Shows (a) a small colored excrescence on the inside of the outer right frame, about 6 mm. up from the S. E. corner of the stamp; (b) outer right frame protrudes outwards for about 1 mm. at S. E. corner.

TYPE 10. Shows (a) a blob of color on inside of outer left frame, opposite the center of the top left hand tablet; (b) a tiny diagonal colored line in base margin under right of second "U" of "REPUBLIQUE."

Stage 3: The Production Of The First 2C Moulds Of Ten Impressions.

We shall never know the exact material used for moulding. But my guess is that something very similar occurred to what we now know was done by De La Rue's in their so-called "copper plate" process, viz. that using a hydraulic press five impressions in lead were taken direct from the plate of ten. These lead impressions were, of course, reliefs, in positive. Five of them were clamped together, placed in the electrolytic bath and the usual copper shell grown thereon. This, detached, duly backed and mounted, provided a 2c printing electro of 50 impressions. (10x5).**

Stage 4: The Production Of Four Printing Electros For The Other Values By The 2C Printing Electro.

The new study indicates exactly what actually now happened; the procedure followed is both curious and interesting, as the following shows:

(a) From the 2c printing electro (later used to print the 2c stamp) a complete mould of 50 impressions was, of course, in relief, in positive. *Each figure "2" (there were 100 in all) was then cut out of the mould.* In the course of cutting out these figures damage was occasionally done to the *surrounding* portions of the design. The parts mainly affected were the little ornaments on top of and below each of the two figures respectively and the framelines of the two tables. The cutting out procedure described provides the *only*

*(a) above was the "primary" flaw the "repeat" of which in the sheet indicated to Crouch that the "build-up" was via an original group of ten (2x5).

**Crouch postulates the "10 master" as having been in blank and goes on to say that the "2's" were engraved by hand (i. e. 100 of them) on a "blank" plate of 50. This cannot have been the case.

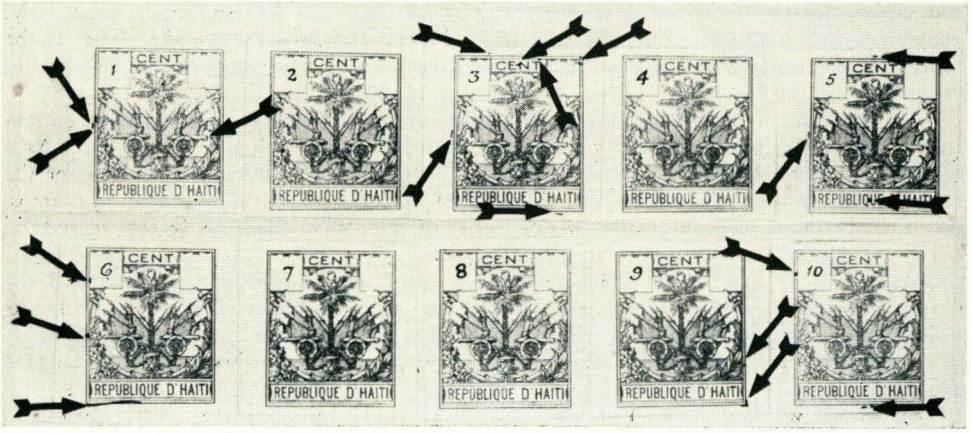


Fig. 3. The Types in the "10 Master."

explanation for the large number of constant white (uncolored) abnormalities found in all these stamps (*excluding the 2c*) in the way of breaks, dents and weaknesses in the parts in question. Bear in mind all the time that these stamps are *recess-printed*. The only way a constant *white* variety could arise on such stamps would be by damage (purposive or accidental) to a relief employed at some stage in the process. The "capped 2" varieties of the U. S. A. "no triangles" issue of 1890-94 afford a useful comparison, these being due, unquestionably, to damage to a transfer roll which was, of course, in relief. The process under discussion is a far cry from Perkins, Bacon, but the principle mentioned is applicable to both.

Crouch mentioned the two main white varieties found—on Nos. 27 and 34—in the sheet, but did not refer to the large number of smaller *white* varieties. Also he stated that the varieties described did not occur in the 2c. and that one of them, that on No. 27, was not found on the 1c, having apparently been noticed and partially retouched on the 1c printing plate. What Crouch did not appreciate was how such damage must have arisen. None of these cases of constant damage to the surround of the figures are found in the 2c. They are *all* found (with the exception of the said retouch on No. 27) on *all* the other values.

(b) The mould of fifty impressions with all the 2's removed was then placed in the electrolytic bath. The shell grown thereon, detached, duly backed and mounted, became the "master plate in blank." If you remember that it was only the relief on the mould that produced recesses in the shell and that recesses in the mould (which were probably first filled in) could not have produced any recesses in the shell, you will understand how the "blanks" occurred.

(c) The master plate in blank was used (by the necessary moulds) to produce four other electrotyped reproductions of itself. (Three, if the master plate itself was used as a printing plate.) These four plates were then used, after the addition of the necessary one hundred figures, as the printing plates for the 1c, 3c, 5c and 7c respectively.

(d) How were the figures added? I think, almost certainly, that they were engraved *by hand*. Had they been *plugged* in, one would have expected occasionally to find damage in the surrounding design as a result of the plugging, such damage being necessarily peculiar to one value only. Nothing of this sort is to be found, so that one must suppose that hand engraving is the answer. This is in full accord with the evidence gathered from a study of these figures (i. e. apart from the 2c) viz. that the figures vary in position, size and shape from stamp to stamp. The 5c shows up these variations particularly well. The top bar of the figure, for instance, sometimes tilts downwards. The "ball" varies in size and angle, and the figure is closer or farther away, as the case may be, from the small ornaments over

and under it respectively, and from the frame of the tablet at left and right respectively. Sometimes, in a particular value, if the postmark hides a flaw, the shape and position of the figures are of use (if one has another undoubted copy of a particular position) in checking the plating of the first copy.

To sum up, there now are, five separate printing plates of which four, those for the 1c, 3c, 5c and 7c, were produced via a mould of the 2c plate with the 2's cut out. As a result of the lesser number of transfer operations involved, the printing electro used for the 2c produced *sharper* impressions than those used for the *other* values. The 2c stamps, therefore, possess a slightly greater overall clarity of impression than the 1c, 3c, 5c and 7c.

CONSTANT VARIETIES: Here we find (a) the six sets of primary type flaws; (b) the recuts (all of the framelines); (c) colored varieties (spots or dashes of color) and (d) the white varieties referred to above.

As to (a) these consist, as we have seen, of small colored markings and slight frame abnormalities. They all arose on the original plate of ten 2c impressions.

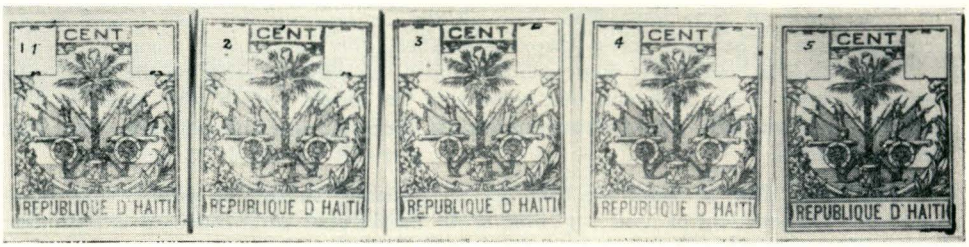
As to (b) we meet with (i) recuts found on all values *including* the 2c. In such cases the recutting must have been done on the original 2c plate of fifty before the mould was taken and the 2's removed: (ii) recuts found on all values *excluding* the 2c. Such recuts must have been made on the "master plate" in blank before it was used to produce the printing plates for the 1c, 3c, 5c and 7c values; (iii) recuts found on one value only. To date the only case I have encountered of this is in the 3c. (No. 4 in sheet). Such a recut could only have been made on the printing plate of the particular value. A similar case is the retouching, mentioned on the 1c plate only, of the broken tablet variety on No. 27 in the sheet.

(c) *Colored varieties*: In the main these originated on the 2c printing plate and, therefore occur in *all* values. A few have been found peculiar to one value only, these, of course, arising solely on the printing plate concerned.

(d) *White varieties*: Already dealt with. Not found in the 2c but occur in *all* other values. Arose during the removal of the "2's" from the mould taken from the 2c plate.

The above stages are referred to in the plating description of the fifty sheet positions which now follows:-

Plating Description*



No. 1. (Type 1) (a) Spot of color outside right frame, just above S. E. corner; (b) little ornament under right hand figure has a cut down (straight) top; (c) similar ornament under left hand figure has top similarly cut down.
(a) appears on all values, (b) and (c) on all except 2c.

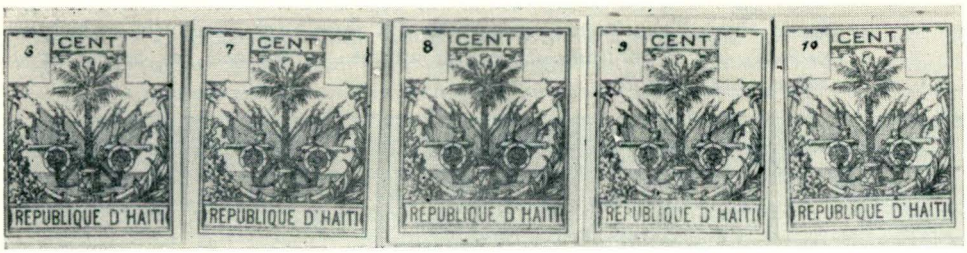
No. 2. (a) A colored excrescence on top right and "C" of "CENT" (all values); (b) small ornament under right hand figure is broken in top middle (all values except 2c); (c) spot on white in middle of ball of left "5" (on 5c only).

*Crouch described, in his article, the main features found on Nos. 27, 30, 33, 34 and 40.

No. 3. (a) Ornament over right hand figure has base line weak or missing at right end, the S. E. point missing; (b) a slight vertical color dash in left margin, opposite (and just above) level of base of left hand tablet; (c) a color spot in the top left tablet about 1.75 mm to the N. W. of the S. E. corner.
((a), (b) and (c) appear on all values except 2c.)

No. 4. (a) A colored excrescence across vertical white on outer side of right side of top right tablet, at middle (all values); (b) outer left frame thinned in top portion (probably recut). (3c. only).

No. 5. (Type 1) Outer frame at base noticeably thickened at S. E. corner, due probably to re-cutting (all values).



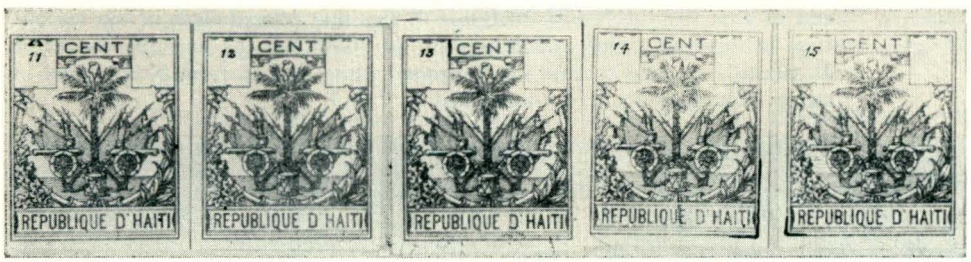
No. 6. (a) Color across vertical white to immediate S. E. of S. E. corner of top right hand tablet. (All values).

No. 7. (Type 1) Slight nick in inner side of right frame of top right hand tablet, just above middle (all values except 2c). Otherwise I cannot find another "secondary" flaw for this position.

No. 8. (a) Extra color on top of white over left of "P" of "REPUBLIQUE." (b) a small colored dash in base margin under "LI" of "REPUBLIQUE." (a) and (b) appear on all values.

No. 9. (Type 1) (a) A swelling in the outer edge of the inner solid color at right, just above the level of the base of the cannon-wheel; (b) a small colored excrescence on the outside of the outer left frame, about 1.5 mm. below the S. W. corner of the top left tablet. (a) and (b) appear on all values.

No. 10. (a) A spot of color (prominent) on white immediately above palm leaves to left of cap, under "CE." (All values).



No. 11. (Type 3) (a) A colored excrescence on the left of the upper portion of the vertical stroke of the "T" of "HAITI;" (b) color across vertical white to right of and slightly above level of mouth of right hand cannon. (a) and (b) appear on all values. (c) small ornament over left hand figure has base broken in middle. ((c) on all values except 2c).

No. 12. A colored swelling in top of two thin lines over first "E" of "REPUBLIQUE."

No. 13. (Type 3) (a) Weak lower half of vertical colored line to left of "C" of "CENT." (All values except 2c). (b) Spot of color on white about 1.25 mm. to left of center of left hand cannon wheel (5c only).

No. 14. (a) Lower 12 mm. of outer right frame has been recut, this portion veering inwards. The recutting also affects the right half of the base frameline; (b) colored flaw to immediate S. E. of base of "T" of "HAITI." (a) and (b) appear on all values.

No. 15. (Type 3) (a) Lowest of three thin horizontal lines at base tilts upwards at its left and, under the "R" of "REPUBLIQUE;" (b) outer left frame is thicker towards S. W. corner. (c) small ornament under right hand figure is broken at top left; (d) a break in the base of the right frame about 1 mm. to the right frame about 1 mm. to the right of the (c) flaw. (a) and (b)—which are probably due to recutting—appear on all values. (c) and (d) appear on all values except the 2c.



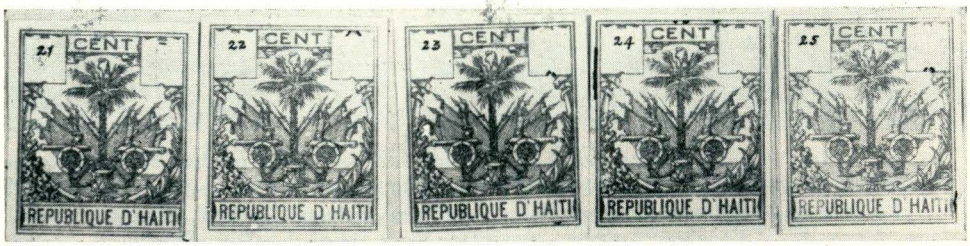
No. 16. Color across vertical white just under N. E. corner of stamp (all values).

No. 17.* (Type 3) Base of small ornament over right hand figure is weak. (All values except 2c.).

No. 18. (a) Extra color inside N. W. portion of lower loop of "B" of "REPUBLIQUE," (b) color spot in lower margin, close to base frame under second "U" of "REPUBLIQUE." (a) and (b) appear on all values.

No. 19. (Type 3) (a) Color spot in base margin, under second "U" of "REPUBLIQUE" (all values); (b) color spot on white in middle of "C" of "CENT" (all values except 2c.)

No. 20. (a) Colored excrescence on bottom of lower of top two thin lines under right and of first "E" of "REPUBLIQUE;" (b) tiny colored dash in top margin, close to top frame, over middle of "N" of "CENT." (a) and (b) appear on all values; (c) color spot on top horizontal white, just in from N. E. corner of stamp. (found on 3c, 5c, *not* on 1c and 2c. ? 7c.)



*It seems impossible to distinguish accurately, in the case of the 2c, between Nos. 13 and 17 in the sheet respectively.

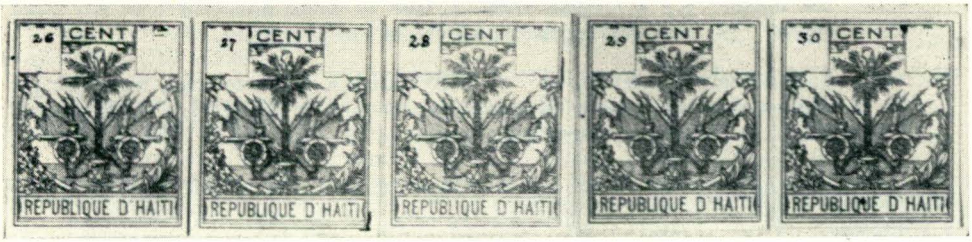
No. 21. (Type 5) (a) Short line of color immediately under ornament over right hand figure (all values save 5c, where it is not visible, being doubtless obscured by the figure "5"); (b) tiny colored line in margin to immediate S. E. of S. E. corner of stamp. (a) and (b) appear on all values.

No. 22 (Type 6) (a) A tiny colored excrescence on the outside of the base of the downstroke of the "B" of "REPUBLIQUE" (all values); (b) base of small ornament over right hand figure is weak throughout, there being little or no point at its left end. (all values except 2c)

No. 23 (Type 5) (a) A fine horizontal colored line on lowest horizontal white, under first "T" of "HAITI" (all values); (b) top portion of right half of small ornament under right hand figure is broken. (all values except 2c).

No. 24 (Type 6) (a) Outer left frame line thinner than normal opposite top half of top left tablet. From that part down it presents, for another 5 mm. a thicker appearance; (b) colored excrescence on base of top frameline over N. W. corner of top right hand tablet; (c) other colored excrescences on base of same line over right of "E" and left of "N" of "CENT" respectively. (a), (b) and (c) appear on all values although (c) is not very apparent on the 1c.

No. 25 (Type 5) (a) A slight dent in outer right frame opposite the top portion of the second "I" of "HAITI" (all values); (b) top left portion of small ornament under right hand figure is broken. (all values except 2c).



No. 26 (Type 6) (a) A colored excrescence on the outside of the outer left frame, about 2 mm. up from the S. W. corner of the top left tablet (all values); (b) Small ornament over right hand figure has weak base at left and there is a colored stroke immediately under it. (All values except 2c).

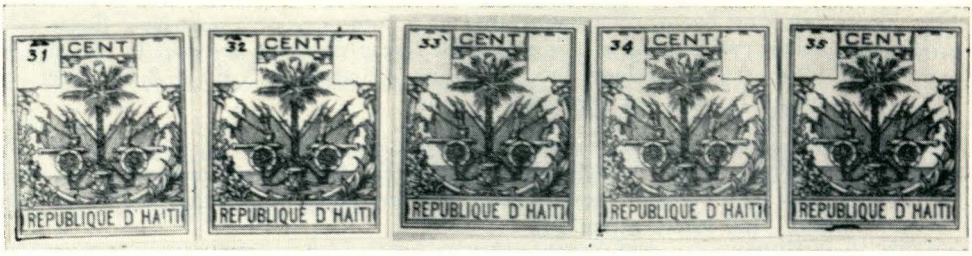
No. 27. (Type 5) (a) Outer right frameline thinner (pinched) at S. E. corner of stamp (all values); (b) lower half of vertical line to left of "C" of "CENT" is missing (3c, 5c and probably 7c only); (c) the (b) fault corrected by retouching (1c only).

No. 28. (Type 6) Outside of outer right frame thickened for about 2 mm., starting over 1 mm. above the lower level of the top right hand tablet. (All values).

No. 29. (Type 5) (a) Dot (or stroke) of color in outer left margin opposite (and just above) middle of top leaf at left. (All values).

No. 30. (Type 6) (a) Extra color on outside and inside respectively of top of left arm of the second "U" of "REPUBLIQUE" (all values); N. E. corner of the tablet containing the word "CENT" is filling in with heavy color—this being probably due to the retouching of a "break." (all values except 2c).

No. 31 (a) Base of base frame slopes downwards at left end (all values); (b) small ornament over left hand figures has its base broken in middle (all values except (2c).

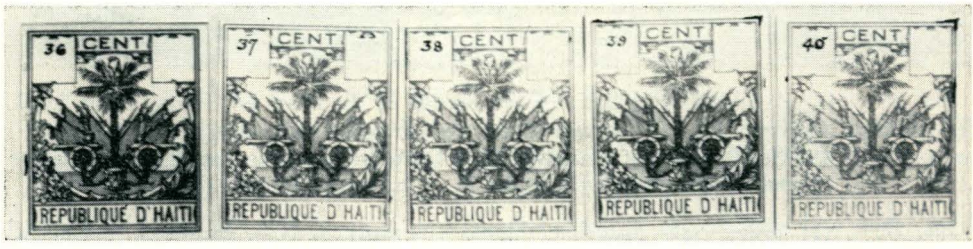


No. 32. (a) A prominent colored spike protruding up from top frame over left end of top right hand tablet (all values); (b) small ornament over left hand figure has S. W. portion missing; (c) small ornament over right hand figure has practically no base, and point at its right end is missing. ((b) and (c) on all values except 2c).

No. 33. (a) A dot of color on the white between "E" and "N" of "CENT" (all values); (b) a thin diagonal line of color in N. E. portion of top left hand tablet (all values except 2c).

No. 34. (a) Two tiny dots of color in base margin, immediately under S. W. corner of stamp, which corner is slightly blunted (all values); (b) a very marked break, about 1 mm. long, in the right side of the top left hand tablet, just below the middle; (c) a marked break in base of small ornament over left hand figure. ((b) and (c) appear on all values except the 2c).

No. 35. Base frameline under "UBL" of "REPUBLIQUE" is thinned, there being a slight downwards colored excrescence under the left of the "U." (All values). This is one of the most difficult positions to identify.



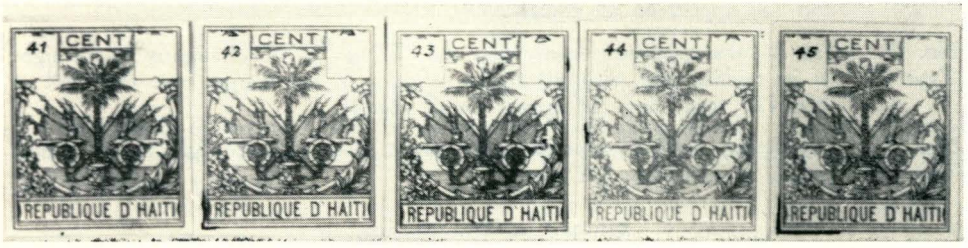
No. 36. Part of the outer left frame has a split appearance, extending downwards for about 2 mm. from about the level of the mouth of the left hand cannon. (All values).

No. 37. (a) A colored excrescence on outside of outer right frame line, to N. E. of second "I" of "HAITI" (all values); (b) middle of base of small ornament over right hand figure is broken; (c) vertical line to left of "C" of "CENTS" is weakened at left center; (d) a colored line, partly obscured by the figure of value, under right end of small ornament over left hand figure. ((b), (c) and (d) appear on all values except the 2c).

No. 38. (a) Left outer frame is thinner opposite the left side of the top left-hand tablet; (b) a small blob of color on the top of the two horizontal lines over the "RE" of "REPUBLIQUE," (c) a small colored excrescence on the outside of the inner vertical frameline, about 1 mm. down from the N. E. corner of the stamp. ((a), (b) and (c) appear on all values.)

No. 39. (a) N. E. corner of stamp ends in a sharply protruding point (almost certainly the result of recutting); (b) the top frame has several irregularities over top left hand tablet; (c) short vertical dash of color (and usually traces of a fine vertical line above this) in right margin opposite and also over top flag at right. ((a), (b) and (c) appear on all values.)

No. 40. (a) Prominent colored excrescence over right end of "T" of "CENT;" (b) N. E. corner of stamp, as in No. 39, ends in a protruding point, which here is not quite so prominent; (c) a colored blob on the white immediately under the base of the top right hand tablet, slightly to the right of its center; (d) a colored excrescence on outside of outer left frame, opposite base of top left hand tablet.
((a), (b), (c) and (d) appear on all values).



No. 41. (Type 9) A small color dot in base margin under left of "B" of "REPUBLIQUE." (All values).

No. 42 (Type 10) (a) Outer portion of outer left frame hollowed opposite lower half of "R" of "REPUBLIQUE;" (b) colored excrescence on outside of outer left frame opposite (and rather under) mouth of cannon at left ((a) and (b) appear on all values); (c) most of base of small ornament over right hand figure is missing, except the right end; (d) left half of base of small ornament over left hand figure is missing. ((c) and (d) appear on all values except 2c).

No. 43. (Type 9) (a) A prominent blob of color immediately over right end of right hand cannon; (b) outer right frame swollen just below center of right side of top right hand tablet; (c) a rather faint color blob to immediate N. E. of "T" of "CENT." ((a), (b) and (c) appear on all values); (d) right point of small ornament over right hand figure is missing. (All values except 2c).

No. 44 (Type 10) (a) Outside of left frame swollen (and, just below, dented in) opposite lower portion of upper leaf at left; (b) two dots of color in right margin at N. E. corner. ((a) and (b) appear on all values); (c) base of small ornament over right hand figure is very weak (all values except 2c).

No. 45. (Type 9) (a) Base frame slopes upwards at S. W. corner and outer left frame slopes outwards at S. W. corner (the results of recutting); (b) color on vertical white



to left of top of "R" of "REPUBLIQUE" ((a) and (b) appear on all values); (c) short stroke of color in S. E. portion of top right hand tablet (all values except 2c); (d) heavy color (staining) down inside of lower right edge of stamp (2c only).

No. 46. (Type 10) (a) Outer left frame thickened and distended at S. W. corner (due to recutting); (b) two tiny color dashes in top margin over middle of "C" and left of "N" of "CENT" respectively. (a) and (b) appear on all values).

No. 47 (Type 9) (a) Colored excrescence on outside of outer right frame, about 9 mm. up from S. E. corner (and to E. S. E. of mouth of cannon); (b) outer right frame above and below the (a) flaw, is uneven. ((a) and (b) appear on all values).

No. 48. (Type 10) (a) A small color dot to right of lower portion of downstroke of "P" of "REPUBLIQUE;" (b) color dot in S. E. portion of top right hand tablet. ((a) and (b) appear on all values).

No. 49. (Type 9) (a) A color spot immediately over the "E" of "CENT," slightly to the right of its middle; (b) diagonal stroke of color in top margin over the "N" of "CENT." ((a) and (b) appear on all values).

No. 50. (Type 10) (a) A tiny dash of color in right margin, close to outer right frame, almost exactly in the center. (all values).

Notes On The Plating

At the time of writing I have not been able to locate, in the 2c. value, copies of positions 12, 15, 21, 23, 28, 31, 35, 37, 41 and 43. I have, however, good reasons for believing—in relation to *that* value—that the descriptions given are correct but if they are not I shall be pleased to know. I am, of course, continuing to search for these missing positions.

The majority of the constant abnormalities are *small,* some very small, but the faithfulness of the reproduction, even of the smallest, is almost uncanny. A magnifying glass is naturally required when working on the stamps, but it is hoped, for those interested, that with the descriptions given identification should be relatively easy.

Differences in the alignment of the same units inside the different groups of ten (2x5) in the sheet of fifty (10x5).

Crouch noted variations in the alignment of the same stamps within the different groups of ten, but was not able to offer any explanation. If the variations in alignment has been in *horizontal* rows only, it might be concluded that an electrotype printing plate of continuous surface had been cut up into ten single vertical rows of five impressions each, the whole then being clamped together. This would have made the plate more resilient and, therefore, more capable of standing the heavy pressures encountered in recess printing.

Examination of some multiple pieces and a photograph of a full sheet of the 1 centime imperforate, however, show variations of alignment in *both* the *horizontal* and *vertical* rows. The only explanation for this would be that the whole plate of fifty impressions was cut up into fifty separate units so as to facilitate replacement of individual clichés which might become damaged during printing. Presumably the cutting was done carefully one way and then the other way, so that the units preserved their original positions. It is possible that the clichés could have had their positions altered as a result of this, but there is *no such evidence* to date.

It was a common procedure in those days to cut up electrotype plates into separate units, so that those developing defects could be taken out and substituted without the need of making an entirely new plate.

Printer And Papermakers

Crouch made out an excellent case (adopted by Munk) for believing that this issue

was produced and printed by M. E. Cote of Paris, the producer and the printer of the two later issues of 1904. He was also able, through the deciphering of the papermaker's watermark in the margin of a sheet, to identify the makers as *the Papeterie de Renage,* which was owned by the firm of Bruel Freres, who also supplied the paper for the 1904 issues.

Perforation

The stamps of this issue are single-line perforated 13½. All of the values are known imperforate — some of them in full sheets. The imperforates may be proofs or just printers waste, although they are generally gummed. All values are also known imperforate vertically and the 3 centimes in a horizontal pair imperforate between.

Dates Of Issue

Crouch gives the respective dates of issue as follows :-

2c	February	1891
1c, 7c	May	1891
3c, 5c	June	1891
3c (overprint)	November 1,	1892.

One would, of course, expect the 2c to be the first stamp issued. In confirmation of the correctness of the information given about the other values, there is an interesting piece of internal evidence.

If the plating pescription of No. 20 in the sheet is referred to, it will be seen that a constant flaw (c) appears on the 3c and 5c—but *not* on the 1c (and probably not on the 7c, where the position has not yet been seen by me). This suggests that the flaw in question arose on the blank master of fifty *after* it had been used to produce the 1c (and 7c) plates but *before* it was employed to provide those for the 3c and 5c plates.

Printings And Shades

1c. The Scott Catalogue only lists one shade—violet— but three distinctive shades—*mauve, violet mauve,* and *violet* respectively—may be met, probably indicating *three* printings.

2c. Here the shade varies, not substantially, from *blue* to *deep blue.* There must have been more than one printing.

3c. This is the only case where two shades—*gray lilac* and *slate* respectively—are listed by Scott. There are two distinct shades of "lilac"—a *gray lilac* and a *lilac* respectively—so that here again we have the indication of *three* printings.

5c. Here again there seem to have been at least *three* shades (and hence printings), viz. a *dull brownish-orange,* an *orange* and a *bright orange,* there not being very much difference between the two latter.

7c. This is, of course, the scarcest of the five denominations. Owing to the somewhat *aniline* qualities of the inks employed one cannot be too dogmatic, but at least *two* distinct shades (and printings) can be discerned, viz. a *scarlet rose* and a *rosin* respectively. The description "scarlet" in Gibbons does not seem to me the correct one, while Scott uses "red".

A Comparison

It is interesting to compare the "Liberty Heads" of 1881-87—also produced in Paris—with this issue. Those interested in the details of the earlier issues have only to turn to the articles in the London Philatelist 1912 by that great philatelist, L. R. R. Hausburg. Those stamps were surface-printed. The stamps under discussion were recess-printed. But in both cases we get the use at a certain stage of a plate in blank, for which by means of plugs or of a master plate in blank printing plates for *more than one value* were prepared.

The result is that one finds *in both cases the same "secondary" flaws in more than one value.* The English firm of De La Rue were very happy about the economy of their key plate methods. Here, in France, was another type of economy, involving the engraving of



Figs. 4A to 4G. Cancellations.

one die only for sets of six (up to 1886) and five respectively, the stamping of a minimum number of small size moulds and the use of a master-plate in blank, via which by plugging (1881-7) or electrotype and further engraving printing plates for different values were produced. The only apparently arduous task in the case of the 1891 series was the engraving of 100 figures (2 for each impression) on the electrotype in blank. Presumably, to an experienced craftsman, working on a soft metal (copper), the engraving of the same figure again and again presented no great difficulty.

Cancellations and Covers

As in many small countries of the time, mail of Haiti originated for the most part in only a few of the principal cities. At the time of the instant issue, most of Haiti's mail was between business firms and much of it to foreign destinations. A French "double-circle" type postmark was used and cancellations have been noted thus far from only ten post offices. They are:

Port-Au-Prince	Port-De-Paix
Cap Haitien	Petit-Goave
Gonaives	Les Cayes
Jacmel	Aquin
Jeremie	Saint Marc

Fully 90% of all town cancellations are those of Port-Au-Prince, however, with Jacmel, Cap Haitien, Les Cayes and Gonaives accounting for most of the balance.

Although town cancellations are the type most frequently found, there is an interesting group of other cancels which are encountered. Of these, the paquetboat cancels of the Amsterdam West Indies and Hamburg-American steamship companies are the most numerous. The former is an oval marking, see figure 4A, usually struck in black, but occasionally in magenta or blue. There are several varieties of Hamburg-American markings which are encountered. Most are various types of straight-line markings of ships names, such as shown as figures 4B and 4C. The markings are usually struck in blue, but other colors are known.

Another marking is that applied by the United States to Incoming Foreign Mail (IFM). (See figure 4D for this type marking). This cancellation comprised a figure inside bars. Number 12 is the usual one found, but numbers 1 through 6 are also known. A very un-

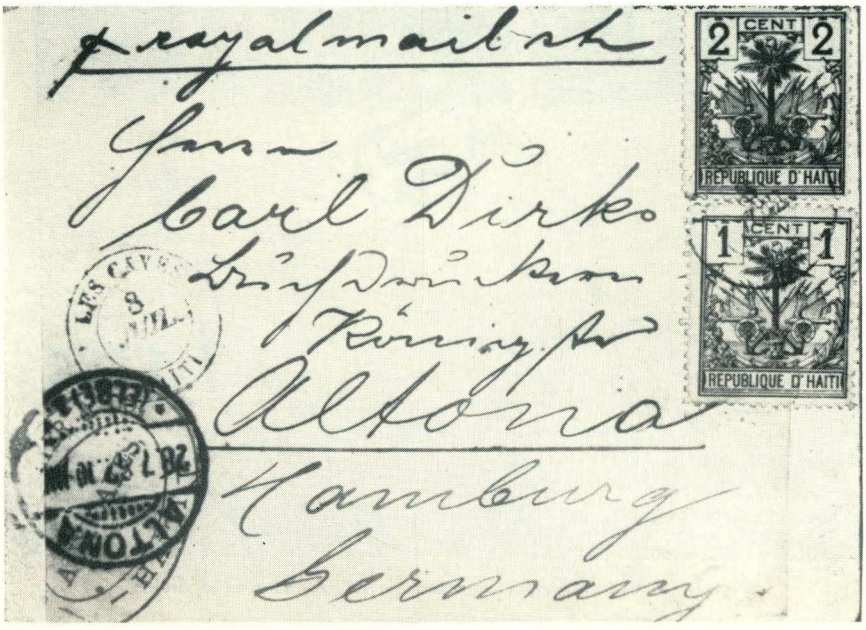


Fig. 5. Post card with the proper rate to Germany.

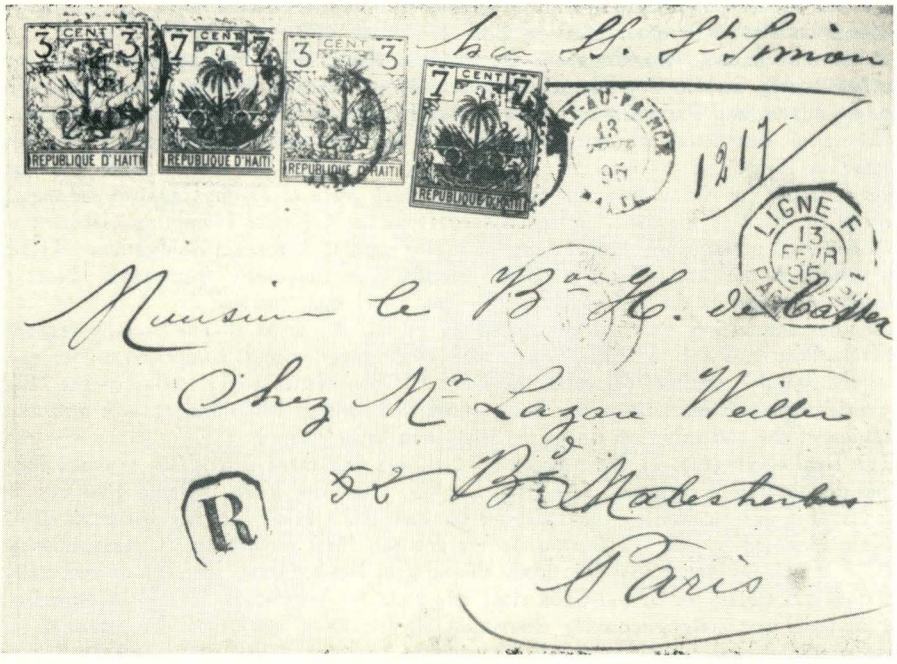


Fig. 6. A double weight registered letter to France.



Fig. 7. A double weight registered letter to the United States.

common cancel, also illustrated as figure 4E, is that of the German post applied on receipt of mail from the West Indies by Hamburg steamer. Not quite as scarce is the octagonal cancel of the French paqueboats of Line F, applied to mail carried on French boats, usually to destinations in France or other parts of Europe (Figure 4F).

Other miscellaneous markings are the business stamp of a Hamburg-American agent (Otto Schutt and Co.) in Cap Haitien (Figure 4G) and various foreign town cancels which include Le Havre and Paris, France; New York; Havana, Cuba and Kingston, Jamaica.

Covers of this issue are not great rarities, but are rather uncommon. The cover illustrated as figure 5 is unusual as it is not truly a "cover", but a homemade post card. A sheet of paper for the address was pasted on a thick piece of cardboard, with the message written on the back of the card. It was mailed from Les Cayes to Hamburg, Germany and bears 3 centimes postage, the proper rate for a post card to a foreign destination. The Les Cayes cancel in the usual "double circle" French type previously mentioned. Note the manuscript direction at the top of the card—"per royal mail steamer".

Another interesting cover is illustrated as Figure 6. It is double weight registered letter from Port-Au-Prince to Paris, France with 20 centimes postage comprised of two copies each of the 3 and 7 centimes values of this issue. It also carries a clear strike of the "Ligne F," French paqueboat marking at the right, dated 13 February 1895, and again a manuscript designation of the steamship on which the letter was to be carried.

The final cover (Fig. 7) has a pair of 7 centimes and three 2 centimes to make the 20 centimes double weight registered rate from Les Cayes to New York. Dated June 20, 1891 at Les Cayes it was received by the addressee on June 29, a fairly fast trip for those days.

I am indebted to *Mr. F. Burton Sellers* for the final section on "Cancellations and Covers." It was my belief that this study should also include some remarks on the stamps' postal uses. A philatelist in Australia does not have the advantage of one in America to secure material for comprehensively describing all the town markings. Furthermore, this Haitian specialist was most cooperative in reading my manuscript before publication and making some valued suggestions.

SEYCHELLES

A Catalogue of Cancellations

By W. J. MOON*

Introduction

The purpose of this "Catalogue of Cancellations" is to set out in orderly manner, the details of all marks struck in the Post Offices of the Seychelles from 1861 to date.

It should not, however, be considered the standard work of reference, as the information has been collected by my fellow-member of the Mauritius & Seychelles Study Group, Mr. S. G. Phillips of Southgate, London, England, and myself, on the basis of specimens of strike on or off cover, actually seen by us. Likewise, the dates shown as "Earliest" and "Latest," are those which we have been able to vouch, being in our own respective collections or actually seen by us. Other dates will, of course, be found, and information on this subject will be welcomed. The details given are intended as what is known to the author and as a basis for further study.

This introduction cannot be concluded without reference being made to the invaluable assistance given in the work of Mr. H. V. Farmer "SEYCHELLES, POSTAGE STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY" Chapter XXV., and the willing help of Mr. Chipperton of Eastbourne.

I. General Types

TYPE G1. An oval made up with 6 horizontal bars with B64 inserted between, and oval measurements of 23mm long and 16mm high. It was first used circa 1861 on the current stamps of Mauritius, and continued in use, on and off, until 1920. Impressions usually in black, but blue was used occasionally. Its purpose was to obliterate the stamp while a circular date stamp was struck elsewhere on the cover for identity purposes. It was not in any sense a duplex. Counterfeits are known, but are easily recognized.

TYPE G2. A circular date stamp of 21mm, with a piled date. The word SEYCHELLES occupies much more than the upper half of the circle. Letters and figures are 3mm high, and is seen with, and without the code letters "A, "B," and "C." They are often seen inverted and reversed. The code letters indicates:-

A. Posted before 8:30 am.
B. Posted between 8:30 am and 1 pm.
C. Posted between 1 pm. and closing.

Earliest date:- 17-7 93. Latest date:- 6-5-1911

TYPE G3. A circular date stamp of 22mm somewhat similar to Type G2, letters and figures 2½mm high. The word SEYCHELLES occupies only the top half of the circle, none of the letters appear below the top line of the piled date. Code letters "A." "B." and "C." are used, and, as with the previous type are struck in all positions. It was intended that this c. d. s. should supercede Type G2, but the two were used together long after the issue of this canceller in June 1901.

*A contribution of the Mauritius & Seychelles Study Group.

Earliest date: 17-2-1900!! Latest date: 14-7-13.

There was a considerable overlap in the periods of use of the above three types of c. d. s. from 1893 onwards. The B64 outstripping them all with dates in 1920.

2. Victoria Postmarks

TYPE V. 1. On June 1, 1893, size circular date stamps, each of 20mm diameter and similar to type G. 2. were despatched to the Colony from London, for use in Rural post offices established in local Police Stations under the terms of Ordinance 84 of 1893. They carried a piled date but instead of code letters, the numerals 1 to 6 were substituted. It is now considered that the key was:-

1. for G. P. O. at Victoria
2. for Anse Boileau.
3. for Port Glaud.
4. for Anse Royale
5. for Bay St. Anne, Praslin.
6. for La Digue.

It is very likely that these c. d. s. failed to reach the Local Police Stations as intended, being kept in the office at Victoria and used from time to time on mail brought in from the rural offices. In any case, they were used sparingly and the marks are far from common. Numeral 4 is more often met with than 1 and 5, while 2, 3, and 6 are as yet unknown.

The Police Station post boxes were officially discontinued on 31-7-94, but the public continued to use them for a time until they were warned that letters found therein would be destroyed. Most of the strikes seen bear a date subsequent to 31-7-94 which confirms in some measure that they were used in the Victoria G. P. O.

Earliest known with code 1:- My 95. Latest:- 20-5-95.

TYPE V. 2. A 25mm c. d. s. introduced about 1-3-15. It has VICTORIA above, and now SEYCHELLES below, with no code letters, and a piled date in between. Letters were 3mm high and figures 2½mm. The lettering on the canceller is characterized by the O's and C's being of oval form, and the LL of SEYCHELLES being widely spaced. Its use probably continued until 1936.

Earliest known:- 10-7-19. Latest:- 29-7-33.

TYPE V. 3. A canceller of 24½mm appeared during 1917, with piled date and letters of 3mm, and figures of 2½mm. The code letters "A," "B," and "C" were provided, but not always used. This stamp is characterised by well rounded O's and C's, whilst letters LL in SEYCHELLES almost touch.

Earliest known:- 30-4-16. Latest:- 28-2-30.

TYPE V. 4. Another c. d. s. somewhat similar to Types 2 and 3, which it superseded, was put into use in 1933 or earlier. On this the C and O have straight sides and all letters are more condensed. Again, as in Type 2 the LL in the word SEYCHELLES is well spaced. The diameter of the circle is now 23½mm, letters 2.75mm and figures 2.5mm high; the date is piled and the codes "A," "B," and "C" are generally used. In 1946 strikes were made in purple; they are genuine.

During the issue period of the George V Silver Jubilee stamps, counterfeits of the postmark appeared, and are easily recognized by the smaller characters and in some cases the date shows the month (JULY) in full.

Earliest known:- 7-9-33. Latest:- 10-11-48

TYPE V. 5. This double circle canceller with circles of 28 and 18mm. was at first thought to be an authoritative postmark, but information now available indicates that it is a commercial stamp with a slogan "Cable and Wireless" and "Send

via Imperial." In the space between the two circles are the words SEYCHELLES and VICTORIA. The date is generally one in February 1940.

TYPE V.6. A canceller in all respects similar to Type V4, but of 23mm. diameter and distinguished by the year "41" being printed in a different type. It usually bears the date 16-1-41, but so far no covers have ever reached this country. It may be another fraudulent postmark but it closely resembles Type V4, so an open verdict is returned.

TYPE V.7. Another canceller similar to Type V3 except that the circle is of 23mm diameter, is also under suspicion, as date shown is usually DE 12 41. If fraudulent, it is a skillful one. In use during the hectic days of 1941, it may have been used to cancel mail stored for sometime awaiting a means of transport abroad, thus one accumulation would bear but one date. The



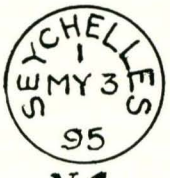
G.1.



G.2.



G.3



V.1.



V.2



V.3.



V.4.



V.5.



V.6



V.7



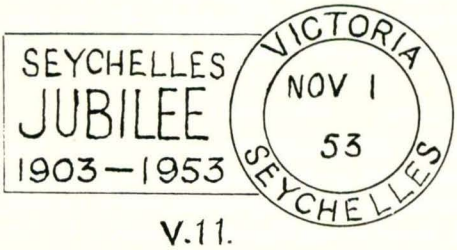
V8.



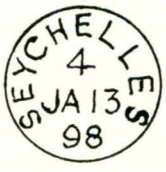
V.9



V.10.



V.11.



A.1.



A.2

appearance of strikes with some other date would settle this issue.

TYPE V.8. A crude counterfeit which would deceive none but the novice. A 25mm. circle with tall narrow letters and figures packed closely together, it is of a type completely foreign to the general run of Seychelles postmarks. Strikes are usually dated SP 17 41 and coded B.

TYPE V.9. In 1948 a new canceller with a "all in one line" date was placed in use and continued duty until 1950. The characters are taller and more condensed in the single 24mm circle, being approximately 3½mm high. Above the date the word VICTORIA, and SEYCHELLES below, the code letters "A," "B," and "C" in the usual place but very small in relation to the other letters in this mark.

Earliest known:- 11-11-48 Latest:- ?-?-50.

TYPE V.10. This is the canceller in current use. The single circle is of 23mm diameter, with letters and figures very much the same as Type V2., in that the C and O are oval but smaller (2.75mm) and the LL are separated in the same manner. The date is piled in the center with code letter "A," "B," or "C," above. Examples have been seen where one or more of the letters or figures differ, although the postmark is not otherwise altered. This would indicate that more than one handstamp is in use or that damaged characters are replaced. Cases in point are:-

1). C in Victoria, with upper part larger than the lower.
2). R in Victoria with 'tail' stroke set at different angles and, in one case, curved.
3). T's with various sizes of head.
4). L's in Seychelles—horizontals vary in length, and spacing between LL varies.

Many examples show uneven spacing between letters.

The canceller was introduced in 1947 and was intended to supercede Type V. 4., but as usual there was some overlap extending well into 1948.

Earliest known:- 5-JY-47.

TYPE V.10a. This canceller is similar to Type V. 10 described above, except that an asterisk replaces the code letters. Its period of use was short, only in 1951.

Cover seen with postmark dated 1-3-51.

TYPE V.11. Issued on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the final separation of the Colony from Mauritius on October 31, 1953. (Independence was actually proclaimed on November 9, 1903.) This commemorative cancellation consisted of two concentric circles of 28.5 and 19.5mm respectively, with a "flag" slogan frame making it 58mm overall. The space between the circles bore the words VICTORIA and SEYCHELLES. The inner circle enclosed a piled date, while the frame enclosed a 3-line slogan:- SEYCHELLES-JUBILEE-1903-1953. Letters and numerals are all 3mm high with exception of the word JUBILEE which is 4.5mm. It was only authorized for use during the month of November.

3. Anse Royale

TYPE A.1. All details of this c. d. s. are given in the previous section on Victoria Type V. 1. The code numeral 4 is considered to apply to the sub-office at Anse Royale. The most used of the numbered code series, it must still be regarded as uncommon. At Anse Royale no other cancellers were available for use,

but in the case of the G. P. O. at Victoria, many were including the old B. 64. Thus the code 1 is now a great rarity.

Earliest known. 13-JA-98. Latest 22-9-98.

TYPE A. 2. This c. d. s. bears the name of the sub-post office for the first time. A circle of 20.5mm, with Anse Royale in the upper half over a piled date. It is apparently permanently coded with C but it seems to alter its position from time to time, sometimes reversed, and often on its back. Method of dating also varies—16 AP and AP 16 have been used on one day. The year has also been seen upside down.

Earliest known:- 7-DE-01. Latest:- 6-DE-06.

TYPE A. 3. The size of this canceller was increased to 25mm to allow for the inclusion of the name of the Colony in addition to Anse Royale. Codes "A," "B," and "C" over a piled date. Letters were 3mm and numerals 2.5mm high.

Earliest known:- 5-DE-17. Latest:- 5-JA-27.

TYPE A. 4. This double circle canceller with a "one-line" date was something novel in Seychelles postmarks. Issued only to the sub-offices Anse Royale, Bay St. Anne and Grand Anse on Praslin Island, and La Digue, it consisted of two circles the outer 26mm, and the inner 15mm. The inner circle was intersected by parallel lines 8mm apart, and the space between the "one-line" date. Hyphens were used as separators in the date, but occasionally blanks were put in for this purpose. Being set too far forward in the frame, they appeared as black oblong marks. Code letters "A," "B," and "C" continued in use, in this case after the year date. Letters and numerals were 3mm high, and the usual mistakes in type positioning occur as in the previous marks. A particular instance was 83 for 38.

Earliest known:- 10-MY-38. Latest:- 12-JA-49.

TYPE A. 5. A new canceller first noted in 1951, and very similar to Type A. 3., indeed identical except for a smaller diameter of the circle, 24mm. Letters and numerals are of the same size, and code letters "A," "B," and "C" used.

Earliest known:- 1-7-52 Latest:- 27-9-57.

TYPE A. 6. As in Type A. 5. above, but with asterisk code.

Earliest known:- 6-2-51. Latest:-

4. Bay St. Anne Praslin

TYPE B. 1. This c. d. s. of Type V. 1. with code number 5 is now considered to have applied to Bay St. Anne Praslin, and intended for use in the post office cum Police Station. It is much scarcer than number 4, and almost as rare as the number 1.

Earliest known code 5. 6-7-95. Latest:- 6-9-95.

TYPE B. 2. This canceller of 22.5mm diameter was sent out to the Colony on April 29, 1901. The words Bay St. Anne and Praslin together occupied approximately two-thirds of the circle, and the word Seychelles was omitted. Both letters and numerals were of 2.5mm, and all of codes "A," "B," and "C" were used. The word "Saint" was abbreviated to a large S with smaller T with a stop underneath.

Earliest known:- Latest:- 13-OC-12.

TYPE B. 3. Another canceller with a circle increased in size to 24mm to allow for the inclusion of the word SEYCHELLES was issued circa 1915. This entailed the use of 3.5mm type, and the lettering was much more condensed, so much

so, that letters appear to join in some cases, i. e. LI in Praslin, and LL in Seychelles. The type used for the date remained, however, at 2.5mm and codes "A," "B," and "C" were used.

Earliest known:- 26-FE-16.

TYPE B. 4. The double circle canceller fully described as Type A. 4 in Chapter 3. It carries the lettering BAY ST. ANNE PRASLIN. above the lined date, and SEYCHELLES below. Specimens are known bearing 1933 and 1934 dates, which are very early if compared with this type used in the other sub-offices.

Earliest known:- 9-11-33. Latest:- 12-10-49.

TYPE B. 5. A 24mm canceller of the B. 3 type followed the discontinuance of the double circle canceller. Still using the ST. abbreviation, its chief difference is the use of an asterisk code instead of the letter "A," "B," or "C." In general the lettering is more adequately spaced than in Type B. 3.

Earliest known:- 8-Jly-51 Latest:-

TYPE B. 6. Very similar to the Type B. 5. above, this canceller with 24mm. circle superseded it late in 1951 or 1952. Differing only in the method of abbreviation of the word SAINTE (now STE without a stop) it continues in current use.

Earliest known:- 14-AU-56.

5. Grand Anse

TYPE C. 1. One of a set sent out from London on April 29, 1901 for use in the Island sub-offices. A circle 21mm in diameter PRASLIN GRAND ANSE filled the upper part and the date the lower part of the circle. All letters and numbers were 2.5mm high, and code letters "A," "B," and "C" were used.

Earliest known:- 1904 Latest:-

TYPE C. 2. A somewhat larger cancellation which permitted the inclusion of the word SEYCHELLES under the GRAND ANSE PRASLIN. It had the usual piled date and used code letters "A," "B," and "C." Exact date of arrival in the Colony is not known, but between the 1st and 15th of March 1915 is probable. It remained in use until 1936.

Earliest known:- ?-AP-20 Latest:-

TYPE C. 3. The double circle canceller of Type A. 4 described in Chapter 3 as used in the other sub-offices. With GRAND ANSE above the lined date and SEYCHELLES above, the name of the island was excluded.

Earliest known:- ?-?-34B. Latest:- 19-10-49B.

TYPE C. 4. The c. d. s. with the asterisk code as in Type B. 5. of Chapter 4. The words "Gra Anse. Praslin" occupy the top half of the circle and Seychelles the lower, thus putting right the omission in the double circle canceller. Used during 1951 and 1952.

Earliest known:- 30-MY-51. Latest:-

TYPE C. 5. A canceller almost identical with the above, except that the diameter of the circle was 23.5mm. Put into use at the end of 1951 or early in 1952. Code letters have replaced the asterisk; still in current use.

Earliest known:- 24-SP-52 Latest:- 27-JY-57.

6. La Digue

TYPE L. 1. A single circle canceller of 20mm diameter, with LA-DIGUE in the upper half of the circle and the piled date occupying the lower half. Code letters "A" and "C" have been used. The letters and numerals are 2.5mm high.

There is a hyphen between LA and DIGUE. Issued on April 29, 1901, it is far from common.

Earliest known:- 24-DE-07. Latest:- 31-DE-12.



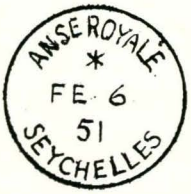
A3



A4.



A5.



A.6



B.1.



B.2.



B.3.



B.5.



B6



C.1



C.2



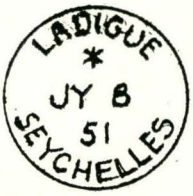
C4



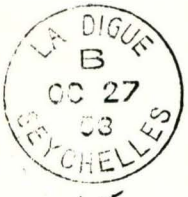
C5



L.2.



L4.



L5



M.1.



M.2.



M.3.



M.4.

TYPE L. 2. Issued probably in March 1915 a new and larger c. d. s. with a circle of 24.5mm to supesede Type L. 1 above. The word SEYCHELLES is now included. Letter code "A," "B," and "C" and with letters 3mm high and numerals of 2.5mm. Its use extended over a period of twenty years, but its strikes are uncommon. No hyphen in LA DIGUE.

Earliest known:- 3-8-16. Latest:-

TYPE L. 3. The double circle canceller described in full in Chapter 3 Type A. 4. Inscribed LA DIGUE and SEYCHELLES.

Earliest known:- 8-11-37. Latest:- 8-1-49.

TYPE L. 4. Similar to Type B. 5 in Chapter 4 having an asterisk code. The words LA DIGUE are so close together as to read as one word. The letter D in DIGUE is much narrower than in Type L. 2. Circle 24mm in diameter.

Earliest known:- 27-10-50. Latest:- 18-7-51.

TYPE L. 5. Similar to Type L. 4. above. Diameter of circle reduced to 23.5mm and wide space between A and D of LA DIGUE. It is noticeable that the G in LA DIGUE is from another fount, having no cross-stroke above the upright of the tail. Coded "A," "B," and "C" as before. Issued in 1952.

Earliest known:- 60-OC-54. Latest:- 10-MY-57.

7. Obsolete Sub-Offices

TYPE M. 1 Cascade.

TYPE M. 2 Takamaka.

TYPE M. 3. Anse Boileau.

TYPE M. 4. Bel Ombre.

Cancellers for the above sub-offices were despatched from London on April 29, 1901, and probably arrived in Victoria in June 1901. They were all of the single circle type 20.5mm in diameter each bearing the name of the sub-office in the upper half, with a piled date below. The usual code letters "A," "B," and "C" were available but not always used. Code "C" remained permanently on Cascade and Takamaka marks, while "A" was used only on the strikes of Anse Boileau.

The periods during which they were in use also varied; that of Cascade continued until 1914, Takamaka until end of 1909 and the latest strike of Anse Boileau bore date AP 9 04.



O.1.



O.2



L.1.

8. Official Marks

TYPE O. 1. A 24mm canceller with single circle with OFFICIAL PAID above the piled date and Seychelles below, was despatched to the Colony on July 10, 1901 for the use of the Postmaster on official correspondence.

(Continued on Page 242)

Uncommon Uses Of Common Stamps

The purpose of this feature introduced in 1958 has not been completely understood by some members. "Uncommon Usage" is what seems to confuse. A freak use of a common stamp on cover does not qualify. Such odd usage ranks similar to stamps that are printer's waste or found with unusual perforations that do not achieve standard catalog recognition.

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

You may own such material. Then it is hoped that you will send it to The Editor, Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35 Street, New York 16, N. Y.

UNITED STATES

The 3c. Statue of Liberty Stamp

The illustrated cover (Fig. 1) is offered as the candidate of *the most common stamp* with *the most uncommon use,* since this column began in this magazine in 1958. Everyone must recognize the ordinary 3c stamp (Scott 1034), so there is no need to describe it. But what is so unusual about the usage?

Notice that the cover was burnt, as seen at its top and bottom. (Fig. 1) It was in an airplane crash on December 19, 1955 near Jacksonville, Florida. Some of the mail was salvaged from the wrecked Eastern Airlines plane. How come a 3c postage stamp was doing air mail duty? Where was the 6-cents postage necessary in 1955 for the air mail fee?

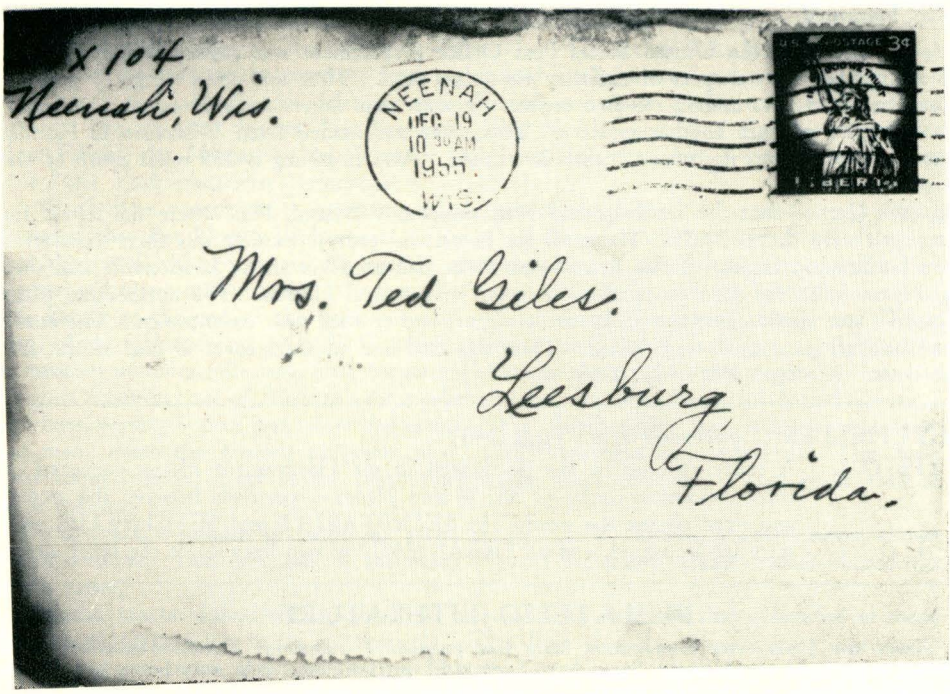


Fig. 1. The burnt cover with the ordinary three-cents postage stamp.

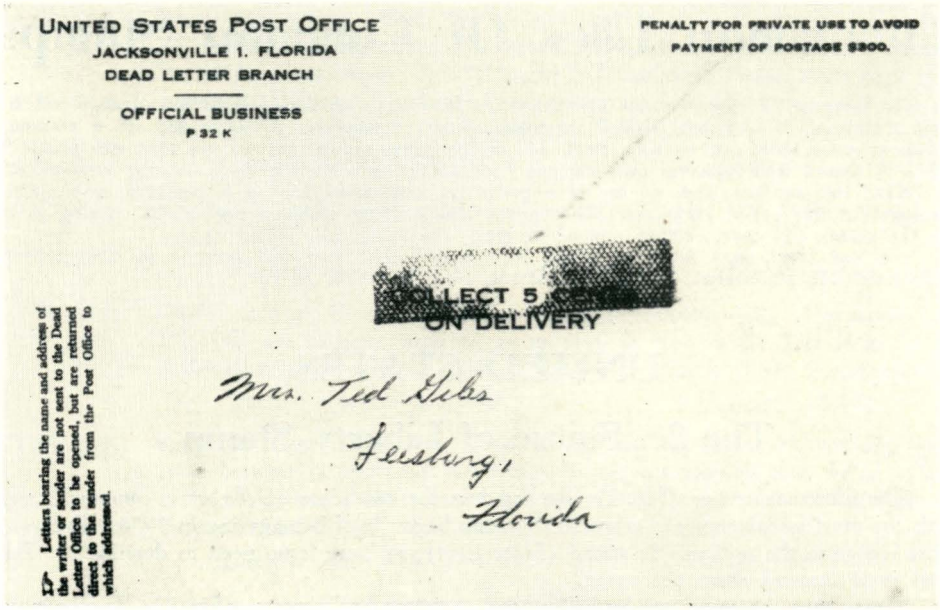


Fig. 2. Photo of the brown manila envelope in which the cover was forwarded by the U. S. P. O. (Photos by Boutrelle)

The answer came from a mimeographed sheet enclosed in the Official U. S. P. O. envelope from the Dead Letter Office Branch in Jacksonville, Fla. (see Fig. 2). Here is what happened.

At that time, the United States Post Office Department was experimenting with use of airlines for the transport of ordinary first class mail. Thus this cover (Fig. 1) and the others salvaged were among *the first ordinary non-air mail letters to be in an airplane crash.*

But now we face another mystery. This cover was mailed from Wisconsin to Florida. But the airplane was *northbound* when it crashed. Also Leesburg is 135 miles *south* of the point of crash.

We learned that the mailbags had been shipped to Miami, Fla., where the letters for that area were dropped off. The mail for north and central Florida was then transferred to a northbound flight. These covers were to be delivered via air at Jacksonville and then placed on trains for their destinations in north and central Florida. The northbound plane clipped a tree approaching the Jacksonville airport and crashed near its entrance. The entire crew and all passengers were killed. Thus this odd and unusual cover is one of the few survivors. *(Emmett Peter, Jr., Leesburg, Fla.)*

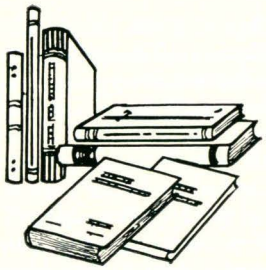
SEYCHELLES (Continued from Page 240)

TYPE O. 2. A canceller used by the Secretariat in the Government House consisted of three concentric circles of 38, 36 and 26mm respectively between the second and third circles, the words The SECRETARIAT and SEYCHELLES with stars are separated, and OFFICIAL PAID in two lines inside the inner circle.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

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

See Inside Back Cover for the recently published books.



BOOK REVIEWS

Nassau Street by Herman Herst, Jr. 305 pages, no illustrations, clothbound. Duell, Sloan & Pearce, Inc., New York, N. Y., publishers. Price $5.00

There are few pleasures for this reviewer equal to reading a good book and then telling others about it. On the other hand, if one finds a book disappointing, he prefers to remain silent. But a copy of "Nassau Street' was sent here, requesting a review. Every page of Pat Herst's book was read, because both the New York City stamp trade and the author are well-known to this writer. It bothered him why he found this book unsatisfactory and dissappointing, and also as to whether it was proper to publish these views. As these impressions were analysed, it was found that they were based on the following factors.

For just as many years as Pat Herst dealt in stamps at 116 Nassau Street, this writer, as an active, enthusiastic stamp collector, visited many New York City dealers' offices several times a week. For example, a weekly trip to Nassau Street in downtown New York meant a visit to the Economist Stamp Co., where Sid Barrett and Eddie Stern held forth; or to Gene Costales; Homan, Krassa; Lou Charlat; the Nassau Stamp Co. with the contrasting two Klemann brothers, John and Jake; or to Stanley Gibbons then run by the erudite Capt. Usticke. His Gibbons pricelist on U. S. stamps was *THE* thing. Everyone uptown or downtown asked all the time—"How much Gibbons?"

Then uptown there was the influential Scott Co. The stamp firm headed by Norman Serphos and the publications company issuing standard catalogues under, first, John Luff, then Hugh Clark and later Gordon Harmer with the able assistance of Gene Costales and Sid Barrett. The air mail dealers, Nic Sanabria, John Nicklin and Fred Kessler; others like Edson Fifield, the Mozians, Carl Pelander and Irwin Heiman were a vital part of every active New York philatelist's education.

All of these constituted a most important part of the New York stamp trade during the period that Pat Herst's book covers. But all of them are omitted—why? Did he not know them well enough to tell his readers some fascinating anectodes about them? This reviewer and many others could. Or were Pat's contacts mostly with the lesser lights as the index names at the end of the book reveals? What about Dr. Carroll Chase and Elliott Perry, whose influence on every U. S. stamp collector and stamp dealer was great? Why the mention of some collectors, long forgotten by most Newyorkers, and neglect to mention Theodore Steinway, one of America's most colorful collectors or the powerful Alfred Caspary? Pat Herst seemingly does not know the name of the Number One lady collector, who owns what many deem the greatest philatelic piece. All these omissions puzzle us. This book is not about Nassau Street or the New York stamp trade, but only a part of it, thus at best a halfway job.

In contrast, a number of pages are given to the late Y. Souren, a dealer never known by this reviewer. But very few of his many New York stamp dealer friends shared the Herst's views.

Another matter dulled our enjoyment of this book, an objection that is levelled at many television programs—too many commercials. This book for the greatest part was stamp business, but too much about the author himself.

Furthermore, there were many inaccuracies of different sorts. The anectodes were well written, but they were spelled out as Pat remembered them. Here one finds such a

common human trait. Accuracy diminishes with retelling. There are also simple mistakes such as found on Page 59. Major U. S. Stamp shows took place in 1926, 1936, 1956 and most likely 1966. The exception was 1947, because it was the centenary year. So the last number is "6," not "7" as Pat states. Many similar instances could be cited throughout the book.

This review should not sound totally critical, because "Nassau Street" has many pages that stamp collectors and dealers will enjoy. Perhaps "half a loaf is better than none." One must give Pat Herst full credit for his work at recording the operations of the New York City stamp trade when many of its colorful members were operating. Certainly the author has a fine, moving style adding to the reader's enjoyment. Also it is to his credit that a large New York publishing house places a philatelic book in its extensive line. And most important, any reader will be attracted to stamp collecting after he has read "Nassau Street." *(H. M. G.)*

Indian Rocket Mails, Stamps and Vignettes by Jal Cooper, F. R. G. S. 92 pages, illustrated, paper cover. Publisher, Jal Cooper, Standard Bldg., Hornby Road, Bombay, India. Available in the U. S. A. from Cleary Bros., 44 Chassee Avenue, New York 65, N. Y. Price $3.75 postpaid.

This new catalog of the rocket experiments conducted by Stephen H. Smith and compiled by Jal Cooper, is actually a second edition by the same author—the first appearing in 1940.

An introduction to the reader of the author, Jal Cooper, might well be in order. Mr. Cooper has for many years been a leading stamp dealer in the city of Bombay, specializing in the postal issues of India. He has written several books and catalogs pertaining to the stamps of India and their usage abroad. He also publishes the "India's Stamp Journal" which is a monthly publication now in its 23rd year.

This review, however, is concerned with the current publication relating to "Indian Rockets." In this connection it may be said that Jal Cooper was perhaps the best informed person to write on the rocket exploits of Stephen H. Smith, as they were friends for more than 20 years, and this Indian stamp dealer handled the bulk of the Smith rocket material. As a matter of fact, Mr. Cooper purchased the personal collection of Mr. Smith of artists drawings, original sketches, essays and proofs after his death in 1951. He also had access to the Smith data while Mr. Smith was alive and, therefore, was in the position to eventually write the catalog of Mr. Smith's rocket endeavors.

This catalog of 92 pages and 75 different listings of rocket experiments in India may well be considered the authoritative work on the subject. The author is to be complimented on his use of coated paper, the distinct quality of the various illustrations which are quite clear and the absolute completeness of listings, because of the inclusion of several heretofore unknown experiments by Stephen H. Smith in the year 1944 with gas propelled and compressed air projectiles. The latter are based upon specimens discovered in the personal rocket collection of Stephen H. Smith.

In addition to the abovementioned new listings, several other items are catalogued for the first time, including some special flown missives with extra rocket franking, evidently made by Stephen H. Smith for his own collection. These items are all unique as attested to by notations of Stephen H. Smith as he states he made only one of each. Incidentally, it may be pertinent to say here, that all memoranda and data relating to his rocket experiments when made personally by Mr. Smith in writing, have stood the test of time and no errors in his data have yet been found.

The catalog itself may be divided into six sections, beginning with the Introduction on Page 7, The History Of Rocket Mails, Page 9, Rockets & Philately, Page 11, The Life Of Stephen H. Smith, Page 13, Nine Brief Extracts Selected At Random (From various world's newspapers, relating to Rocket mail experiments in India), Page 15, and finally the actual listing of Indian Rocket Mails, beginning on Page 17 and continuing to Page 90.

The author in his introductory chapters gives a vivid picture from the time of the first rocket mail experiments conducted by F. Schmiedl in Austria on February 2nd, 1931, up to the present time of the fantastic developments of space rockets and missiles made by the United States and Russia. The author presents the subject of rocket mails in a manner calculated to attract the interest of collector and layman alike. Generally speaking, this new catalog about "Indian Rockets" is most timely, what with the broad news coverage of recent space experiments, the world has indeed become very "Rocket" conscious.

Regarding the pricing of the various items in the catalog, these may be considered as arbitrary by some. But yet recent auction realizations reflect the ever upward trend of these fascinating aero philatelic items, and would therefore, bear out the authors optimistic pricing.

Finally, this newest work on the subject of rocket mails is the first book of major importance to appear in some time, and no collector of rocket material can afford to be without it. This reviewer predicts that this excellent catalog by Jal Cooper will fast become a best seller in aero philatelic circles. *(John. J. Britt)*

Fundamentals of Philately, Section 2, by L. N. and M. Williams. 120 pages. Illustrated. Paper cover Published by the A. P. S., P. O. Box 800, State College, Pa. Price $1.50.

The second section of the "encyclopedia" by the British journalists, the Williams Brothers, takes up the matter of printing, but only with intaglio printing, no doubt leaving the other methods for future series to be published.

It seems as if every few years, a new book on printing processes appears. This makes one wonder what can be said about line-engraving in a philatelic book that has not been done before. As to the basic knowledge, one can state that nothing new has come forth in this book. The manner of presentation, however, is different from past works. Thus although this is a story retold, this newest approach had much that appeals, and showed that authors did not just copy from past works, but set their own ideas and plans on paper.

The preface maintains that this book "is intended, primarily, to be of assistance to adult 'beginners'—at the same time we hope that collectors and students with advanced knowledge will find within these pages matters of record and some fundamental considerations that help to refresh the memory." This reviewer thinks that this view is entirely too modest. It is doubtful if those he would class as adult beginners may use this book for reference purposes, as they should. As for the advanced philatelist, he may find, as this reviewer did, not only that his memory was refreshed, but that he learned of matters not known before.

The opening sentence of this review used the word, "encyclopedia." The work of the Williams Brothers could be used as a standard. We may not accept all their definitions. But in these pages is an opportunity for philately to unify and have all English speaking stamp collectors use the same language. It would be beneficial to the future welfare of philately if all editors and writers would decide to use the same definitions. Certainly "The Fundamentals of Philately" offers such an opportunity. But a pessimistic attitude on this must prevail, because it is doubtful if the typical stamp writer will take the time or make the effort to do this.

There is just one minor criticism to mention. In the definimtions of printing terms redundancy could have been avoided. Almost each one of the many definitions began, "This term is used to designate." Its constant repetition began to annoy this reviewer. Its entire omission seems advisable.

Along with this Section 2, was sent a Second Edition (revised) of Section 1. No thorough check was made to see where and how often revisions had been made from the First Edition, but our random sampling gave evidence of many new improvements. L. N. & M. Williams certainly are devoting much time to this work. They are manufacturing a fine tool for all collectors. It deserves a wide-spread use. Those of us who are bombarded with inquiries can hope that more and more will use reference works as these. One cannot help but wonder how many of the more than 13,000 A. P. S. members will not only buy these books, but use them for their own eduction and philatelic betterment? *(H. M. G.)*

The Library Committee reports the following acquisitions:

Topical Issues of 1959 with 1960 Catalog Numbers, Compiled by O. Frank Freedner, 18 pages (unnumbered), illus., $1.00, published by the American Topical Association 1960. Courtesy of the publisher.

In this the latest publication of the ATA some 4000 stamps issued in 1959 are classified under 47 topical categories; each stamp is given a brief but topically pertinent description.

The Ship Penny of South Africa, by Gordon Ward, M. D., 81 pages, illus., stiff paper cover, $1.75 postpaid, published by C. E. Sherwood, Sale, Cheshire, Great Britain 1960. Courtesy of the publisher.

The author will be remembered, by those who seek the specks, spots and other printing minutiae which may be used to position a stamp or detail an issue, for his previous exhaustive study of the ½d springbok stamps of South Africa. This too is a monumental work. Fifty-eight main issues and thirty-four of lesser importance are listed in detail. The illustrations (diagrams) are very clear and complement the text admirably. The tabular summary of the many issues between 1926 and 1954 is most impressive.

Switzerland 1850-1958, by Marian Carne Zinsmeister, 79 pages, illus., $1.50, published by the Society of Philatelic Americans, 1960. Courtesy of the author.

The author has assembled most all of the information available as to printing, paper, perforation, days of issue, designer, engraver, printer, description of design and historical background for the Swiss stamps issued between 1850 and 1958, and has produced a work of easy reference for the collector of Swiss stamps. It is not a specialist's handbook, but an adequate guide for the one-country collector.

Stanley Gibbons 'Two Reigns' Postage Stamp Catalog 1960, 323 pages, illus., paper cover, $1.65, (obtainable from Jacob Habib, New York, N. Y.) published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., London England, April 1960. Courtesy of the publisher.

Announced by the publishers as having been published in conjunction with the 1960 London International Stamp Exhibition, this, the first new edition of the 'Two Reigns' in over eighteen months has expanded considerably over the previous edition. Delayed by the printers' strike of last year, this edition contains listings up through January, a bonus of almost six months. The stamps of each reign are clearly divided and those of Queen Elizabeth contain much information new to this catalog. Where necessary for identification, enlargements of overprint varieties are included; enlargement of prices are also featured.

Catalogo Galvez Especializado Espana 1960, 392 pages, illus., stiff paper cover, $8.00 postpaid (also available cloth bound in a de luxe edition, $10.50 postpaid), published by Manuel Galvez, Madrid, Spain 1960. Courtesy of the publisher.

This, the 25th edition, lists all stamps issued from 1850 thru 1959. It is perhaps the most complete catalog devoted to the stamps of any one country. Truly a handbook, this work encompasses every type of stamp issued by Spain; postage, air mail, special issues, locals, fiscals, telegraphs, war tax, and the surtax for charity stamps. One hundred and twenty pages are devoted to the last group. Prices are quoted for multiples, special cancellations and the many varieties. The illustrations throughout are very clear and preclude the necessity of knowing Spanish in order to identify a plate fault, double print, forgery or counterfeit. The illustrations in the Foreward are also of considerable value; types of cancellation are portrayed, as are examples of non-postal use. The illustrations contrasting normal, poor and well centered stamps of certain issues are a boon to both dealer and collector.

URUGUAY

Letter-Numeral Cancellations of Interior Post Offices

By ROBERT HOFFMANN

(Continued from Vol. 39 page 207)

"LL" — DEPARTAMENTO LAVALLEJA — Capital Minas

1. Casupá Chico – (Soldado)
2. Cuchilla Juan Gómez – (Sierra de Palomeque)
3. Tapes Grandes – (Puntes de Gutierrez, Gutierrez)
4. Barracas – (Mataojo de Solis, Santa Lucia, Battle y Ordoñez, Gutierrez Abajo, Corrales Mataojo)
5. Estación Minas – (San Francisco)
6. (José P. Varela, Corrales de Gutierrez, Gutierrez y Corrales 10a. Sección Judicial)
7. (Paso de la Arena, Paso de los Molles, Laureles, Marmarajá)
8. Estación Solis – (Solis Grande, Estación F. C. C. U.)
9. Polanco – (Polanco de Barriga Negra)
10. Casupá–4a. Sección – (Casupá)
11. Sauce de Corrales – (Retamosa, Gutierrez)
12. Carretera a Montevideo Km 97 – (Barriga Negra)
13. (Puntas de Chamamé)
14. Paso de los Molles – (Aiguá)
15. Estación Retamoza – (Pirarajá, Gutierrez)
16. Barra Lenguazo – (Barra de Chamamé, Cerro Colorado, Lenguaso Soldado)
17. Cerro Pelado – (Barriga Negra, Santa Lucía y Barriga Negra)
18. Puntas de Barriga Negra – (Puntas de Godoy, Barriga Negra)
19. La Calera – (P. La Calera Santa Lucía)
20. (El Aguila, Tapes, Lorenzita)
21. Minas – (U. H.)
22. Barriga Negra
23. Marmarajá – (Costa de Marmarajá)
24. Parada Sarandí – (Picada de Sarandí, Nico Perez, Battle y Ordoñez)
25. Poblado del Sauce – (Minas, Olimar Chico, Laureles)
26. Estación Ortiz – (Paso del Rey de Cebollatí)
27. Poblado Colón – (Lorenzita)
28. Laureles de Polanco – (Molles de Godoy)
29. (Minas, Mataojo Solis, Pueblo Solis)
30. Espuelitas – (Sierra de Espuelitas)
31. Barra Chileno – (Casupá, Casupá y Chileno)
32. Sierra Palomeque – (Molles del Sauce, Costa de Gutierrez)
33. (Zapican, Sauce de Olimar Chico, Pueblo Zapican)
34. Puntas de Marmarajá – (Carapé)
35. Minas – (U. H.)
36. Manguera Azul – (Santa Lucía Arriba)
37. (Nico Perez, Pirarajá, Santa Maria)
38. Aguas Blancas – (Mataojo de Solis)
39. (La Mariscala, Aiguá Abajo)
40. Penitente – (Sierra Catalan)
41. Paso del Sauce – (Sauce Olimar Chico)
42. Barrio Olímpico – (Minas, Arequita)
43. Parada Km 96 – (Pueblo Battle y Ordoñez U. H., Estación Km 96)
44. Puntas del Soldado
45. Rincon de Mariscala
46. Puntas de Vejigas – (Vejigas, Cerro Blanco del Aiguá)
47. Molles de Carapé – (Carapé, Paso de la Azotea de Mendez)
48. Paso Barrancas – (Sarandí de Cebollatí, Paso Barranca)

49. Costa del Soldado – (Soldado)
50. Perdido – (El Perdido)
51. Rincon del Sauce
52. Rincon de Silva
53. Arequita
54. Puntas de Chamamé – (Chamamé)
55. Mariscala – (Gutierrez de Varela)
56. Molles de Olimar – (Olimar Chico)
57. Minas
58. Minas
59. Minas
60. Minas
61. Paso Averías
62. Lavaderos
63. Puntas de Santa Lucía – (Santa Lucía)
64. Cerro Vichadero
65. Cerro Vicheo – (Campamento)
66. Desvío Vernún
67. Fuente Salus
68. San Francisco
69. Naciente de Tapes – (Los Tapes)
70. Paso de los Troncos – (Marmarajá)
71. Pirarajá – (Pueblo Pirarajá)
72. Campanero Chico – (Campanero)
73. Minas – (J. Battle y Ordoñez)
74. Barra Lenguaza – (Barra de Gaetán)
75. Sarandí de Cebollatí
76. Barrio Las Delicias – (Minas)
77. Puntas de Olimar
78. Paso Doldán – (Paso Roldán)
79.
80. Bajo Hondo
81.
82. Solís
83. Polanco
84. Vejigas
85. Kilómetro 229 – (Km 253 F. C. C.)

"M" — DEPARTAMENTO ROCHA — Capital Rocha

1. (Pueblo San Vicente, Castillos–San Vicents, Villa Castillos)
2. (Chuy)
3. (Pueblo Lascano, Lascano)
4. (Velasquez, La Paloma, Paloma)
5. San Luis Abajo – (San Luis)
6. (Rocha, Costa de Don Carlos, Don Carlos)
7. Las Talas (Costes de Alferez, Alferez, Paso de las Talas)
8. Gervasia – (Colonia Santa Teresa, Pueblo Gervasio, Colonia Gervasio, Santa Teresa)
9. Abra de Alferez – (Abra, Bañado de Pintos y Abra)
10. Pueblo Pallares – (Pueblo Paralle, India Muerta, Paso de India Muerto)
11. Lagunita – (Lagunitas, Cebollatí)
12. Tres Islas – (Costa de Pelotas)
13. Lascano – (Villa de Rocha, Rocha U. H.)
14. La Centinela – (India Muerta al Este)
15. Garzón Arriba – (Garzon)
16. (Cebollatí Abajo, Cebollatí)
17. Valizas
18. Rincon del Manducá Rubio – (Rincon de Rubio)
19. Sauce Rocha – (Sauce, Estación Sauce, Higueron)
20. Cuchilla de los Piriz
21. 19 de Abril – (Puntas Real de Chafalote)
22. Puntas re das Sierras – (Puntas de la Sierra)
23. 29. Sección – (Oratorio)
24. Garzón al Medio – (Garzón, Garzón Abajo)
25. Siete Cerros
26. Rocha – (Rocha U. H.)
27. Paso San Luis – (Paso de San Luis)

28. Llanadas Valijas
29. (Puerto La Paloma)
30. Coronilla – (La Coronilla)
31. Cuchilla de India Muerta – (Paso de los Cerros)
32. Cuchilla de la Tuna – (Rincon de Valizas)
33. Rincon de Valizas
34. Puntas de India – (Puntas de India Muerta)
35. Sarandí del Consejo
36. Rocha
37. Rocha
38. Rincon de Garzón – (Garzón al Centro)
39. Pedrera Rocha – (La Pedrera, Cuchilla de Techera)
40. Alferez – (Cuchilla del Alferez)
41. Alferez – (Alferez Abajo)
42. Horqueta – (La Horqueta, Horqueta de Castillos)
43. Buena Vista
44. Costa de Pelotas
45. Lomas – (Estación Lomas, Estación Abra)
46. Cuchilla de Don Carlos – (Don Carlos Chico)
47. (18 de Julio)
48. Rocha
49. Rocha
50. La Sierra de Rocha – (La Sierra)
51. Fortaleza de Santa Teresa – (Santa Teresa)
52.
53.
54. Higueron – (Higueron de India Muerta)
55. Estiva de Chafalote
56. Puntas de Alferez
57. Polonia – (Faro Polonio)
58. Arbolito – (Cuchilla de Arbolito)
59. La Carbonera
60. Rocha
61. Rincon de Techera
62. Parada Costa Azul
63. Puntas de la Sierra
64. Abra de Lascano
65. La Sierra
66.
67. Rocha
68. Picada Tolosa – (Garzón)
69. Puntas del Alferez
70. (Parador San Miguel)

"N" — DEPARTAMENTO MALDONADO — Capital Maldonado

1. (San Carlos)
2. (Pan de Azucar)
3. (La Sierra, Solis Grande, Agencia Menezes)
4. El León – (Puntas de Pan de Azucar, León, Costa de León)
5. Garzón
6. Sauce
7. Sarandí Grande – (Paso de las Talas, Sarandí Chico Alferez, Arroyo Alferez)
8. Estación José Ignacio
9. Estación Las Flores – (Sierre de los Animas)
10. Las Cañas
11. Coronilla – (Asferezas del Aiguá)
12. (Carapé)
13.
14. Paso José Ignacio
15. Valdivia – (Baldura)
16. Paso Cantero – (José Ignacio Arriba)
17. Balneario Solís – (San Antonio del Aiguá, Aiguá)
18. Abra Perdomo – (Abra de Perdomo, Estación Abra de Perdomo, Avenida Porvenir)
19. Mataojo

(Continued on Page 259)



THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of May 4, 1960

Netherlands and Colonies

At this meeting the Netherlands & Colonies Philatelists, one of the oldest specialist groups in the United States, were guests. The group put on a display from parts of the collections of six members that filled every frame. The individual participants were introduced by their President, Burton E. Bauder, as they discussed the following subjects in this order:

L. E. Keiffer	*Japanese Occupation stamps & covers*
Harold N. Zalstein	*Dutch Indies & Netherlands stamps*
F. A. Keizer	*Netherlands & Colonies air mails*
Harry S. Heymans	*Dutch East Indies stampless covers*
Burton E. Bauder	*Netherlands Postal Stationery and Netherlands Syncopated Perforated stamps*
Johannes de Kruyf	*Netherlands & Colonies demonstration collection*

Mr. Keiffer spoke first on the Japanese Occupation issues of the Dutch East Indies 1942-45. With the official capitulation of Java on March 8, 1942 the Dutch East Indies was, for all practical purposes, under the control of the Japanese invading forces. The Military Occupation forces were in control of Sumatra and Java, while the Navy Occupation forces controlled Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas and the Lesser Sunda Islands. The stamps used during the Occupation are generally classified in these two catagories.

During the early stages of the Occupation, postal services were for the most part prohibited. After a short period, such services were resumed under strict military censorship. The Occupation forces were not provided with uniform instructions or with postage stamps to service the areas occupied. In order not to "lose face", they overprinted the stamps of the Dutch East Indies with Japanese characters to signify *Dai Nippon* (Great Japan), emblems, symbols, or special overprints to identify the area of occupation. More than fifty different overprints were used and the varieties of each overprint are numerous. While some of the definitive stamps of Japan were eventually brought to the Indies, the stock was inadequate for general distribution. About one year after the occupation, the first definitive issues were produced for local use. These were printed both in the Indies and in Japan, for the Army and Navy respectively.

The postal cancellations during the occupation used the dates to conform to (1) The Japanese Calendar, e. g. 20-10-03 (2603), or October 20, 1943, (2) The Year of the Emperor's reign, e. g. 18-10-20 or October 20, 1943.

The use of overprinted stamps above 1 Gulden for postal purposes is questionable. While such values were overprinted, the means by which they were made available to the general public was such that only favored persons could obtain them. In many areas,

letters or registered parcels were only accepted for postal service if the sender was of Japanese nationality. Commercial mail out of the Indies was limited to Japanese Occupation Civil and Military personnel. Relatively few others had permission to do so.

Two frames of the Occupation issues were exhibited to show a cross-section of their usage. These items were obtained from numerous correspondents in the Indies and are considered authentic. They are either complete covers, post cards, postal stationery, or money order forms and almost all have military censorship control markings to confirm actual use.

The interesting items are the money order forms with the Malayan overprint stamps used in the Indies special cancellations to commemorate the Anniversary of the War and Occupation; mixed frankings (overprinted stamps with definitives of Japan); postal stationery (especially the Japanese Military post cards reprinted as definitive); cancellations, registration labels and censorship markings.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the Military Occupation Authority for the island of Java did not permit the overprinting of the postage stamps of the Dutch East Indies. Therefore, the low values up to and including 10c can be distinguished only as items used during the occupation if they show the proper date cancellation.

Next Mr. Zalstein showed four frames of stamps, two from the Netherlands, one from Dutch Indies and one from Surinam.

Starting with the Netherlands, first shown was a cover dated August 3, 1868 having a revenue cancel and a notary stamp in addition to the regular date marking. This cover was trimmed in black, so that it probably contained a death notice.

In the 1894 issue, the scroll on the left hand corner was broken. Shown were two mint copies and also a post card with two copies of this scroll. This card was probably philatelically prepared.

In 1901, the Dutch authorities used a machine to burn a cancellation on the stamps by electricity. Many contents were seared by this machine as shown by the stamps. Because of complaints this was discounted after being in use a short time.

In 1923, the Netherlands post office printers went on strike, resulting in the 5 cent and 10 cent stamps being issued imperforate. Both values were unofficially perforated by two of the Netherlands post offices. The 5 cent value has a sewing machine perforation by the post office at Blokzijl, the 10 cent was roulletted by the post office at Bergen N-H.

Next shown was a sheet of the 7½ cent stamps with the two center rows tete-beche, followed by the partially broken "T" and the final disappearance of the "T" on the 1½ cent stamp of the 1928 issue. A copy of the broken "T" was shown on cover.

In the Netherlands, coil stamps are issued with perforations on all four sides. The coil stamps have greater spaces between them, and so can be distinguished from the other postage stamps. Next displayed were two tete-beche strips of ten with a blank gutter between, the 10 cent and 1½ cent and 12½ cent on 5 cent.

In 1921, special series of stamps were issued called "the Floating Safe" issue. These stamps were issued to cover the extra charge for the storage of letters in "van Blaaderens's Drijvende Scheepsbrandkasten" while on board ship between the Netherlands and the Dutch Indies. If the ship should sink, the safe would float free and would remain on the surface of the water until picked up by another ship. Although the floating safe was a practical idea, it was not a success. These stamps used on covers are quite scarce. A cover with the 60 cent value was shown.

In 1914, the Department of War issued labels (stamps without a value) to the interned soldiers and sailors for franking their mail. Due to the large format of the stamps, which would facilitate smuggling information underneath them, Germany refused to accept letters bearing these labels. The stamps were discontinued and the free franking privilege substituted. As these stamps were in use for only about one month, copies on cover are scarce. A cover mailed to Germany showing this label with the refusal marking was shown.

In the Dutch Indies group, the first issue was displayed, showing some mint and used copies in singles, pairs and a mint strip of three. In 1901, the town of Semarang ran short

of 10 cent stamps, the local rate, and used a 10 cent revenue stamp as shown by the cover. In 1901, the postmaster at Djohjarta prepared some covers with a copy of the ½ cent on 2 cent yellow brown having the double surcharge. At first, only a few covers were known, but during the last fifteen years more covers came to light. Next is a block of four of the ½ cent on 2 cent yellow brown, surcharge inverted. These stamps are known only cancelled June 25, 1902. Next were the 2½ cent on 3 cent violet with inverted surcharge, also strips of stamps mint and used with the surcharge missing on one stamp. Horizontal and vertical displacement of the surcharge were shown. The Java and Buiten Bezit issue of 1908 also have many varieties, misplaced and inverted surcharges, periods and part of Buiten Bezit missing as shown on several pages.

In November 1912, to prevent removal of cancellations and re-use of stamps, seven of the most commonly used varieties were printed on specially prepared paper from which the ink would wash off on being immersed in water, the so-called "loose color" stamps. The stamps were printed on prepared white paper and may be recognized by the shiny wavy lines on the surface; used copies generally have white spots from which the ink has gone. In September, 1922, The Third Netherlands Indies Annual Fair at Bandoeng was opened. Eleven stamps of the current issue were overprinted. These stamps were sold on the Fair grounds from the opening to October 8, 1922 and from its office after that date.

Next came one of the modern rarities of Dutch Indies philately (Scott 274)—80 cent stamps with the control overprint 1947. With the end of hostilities in the Dutch Indies, all pre-war stamps were no longer valid for postage. In 1947, in order to use a large supply on hand the 12½, 25, 40, 50, 80 cents, 2 and 5 guilder stamps were overprinted "1947." This was done as a control measure, preventing the use of any of these stamps which may have been looted from the post offices at the outbreak of the war. On May 3, 1940, the printer, John Enschede & Sons, delivered the stamps to the Netherlands post office. Shipment to the Indies did not take place, because the German Army invaded the Netherlands a week later on May 10, 1940. The cases of 80 cent stamps were kept in the cellars during the war and were shipped to the Indies after the war. The 1947 overprint was applied in the Indies and in doing so a sheet or sheets of the 80 cent unwatermarked issue of 1934 had the overprint applied also. The Scott catalog mentions that the 80 cent watermarked stamp was issued in 1939, but in correspondence with John Enschede & Sons, the printers, it was indicated the stamp was issued on May 3, 1940. This stamp with the vertical watermark is known only with the 1947 overprint.

On the next few sheets, gutter pairs of the Dancers issue, the "Netherlands Will Arise Again" and the Moehammadijah issue were shown.

Due to a change in the postal rate on February 1, 1921, shortly after the announcement of the change in January, it was decided that during the month of February only deficient postage would be charged instead of the normal, double amount of the insufficient postage. Because of this, the supply of 2½ cent postage due stamps was exhausted at some post offices and handstamps were used. The cover shown had the handstamp in red.

Merauke Provisional Handstamp. The great demand for postage stamps by the Allied Forces depleted the stocks at the post office necessitating the use of the provisional handstamp. The amount of postage collected was written on the letter, the normal Merauke datestamp was applied, and Frankeering Betaald and Postage Paid in a box was applied with a rubber stamp.

Next shown were the official stamps, overprinted "D," also the set with inverted surcharges and an authenticated copy of the 2½ gulden handstamp variety.

To conclude the Dutch Indies, the complete set of 49 stamps with the specimen overprint in red was shown. This set was presented to each delegate to the Eighth World Congress of the Universal Postal Union held at Stockholm, Sweden in 1924.

Shown were just a few varieties of Surinam such as imperforate, horizontal imperforate, vertical imperforate on the 1892 and 1912 issues. The 1945 surcharge issue also offer a large number of varieties, a few of which were displayed. A complete set of the DO-X air mail issue on the first day cover was next, followed by a mint, used on cover inverted copy of Scott C23. And, in conclusion, the various overprint varieties of the 1926 Postage Due series were shown.

Now the air mail stamps displayed by Mr. Keizer. Since the inception of air mail service, nearly forty years ago, Holland and her colonies have issued a small but very interesting group of stamps. The first set, consisting of three stamps, issued in 1921, was used originally for air mail service only, but later on for ordinary postage. The proceeds of these stamps, for air mail use only, were turned over to K. L. M., since the flights themselves were not subsidized by the government.

The second set of two stamps, was issued in 1928 and also used first for air mail and later on for ordinary postage. The interesting part about these two stamps is that these are the only stamps issued in Holland, which show a likeness of living persons on stamps other than members of the Royal Family. In 1929 another set of three stamps was issued in the same manner as the previous issues. In 1931 Holland issued a stamp to pay for air mail (30c) and ordinary mail (6c). Even though this stamp actually cannot be classified as an air mail, it was used to pay the air mail postage for letters weighing 3 grams. This stamp appears with two different perforations. Subsequently, Holland issued a few single stamps for special flights only.

As far as the Colonies are concerned, the following facts are worth mentioning. The first issue of Netherlands Indies was made by overprinting of some of the 1913-25 ordinary issue. The 1928 issue also appears "imperforate," 5 stamps. The 10c of this issue appears with either the right or the left side "imperforate." In 1931 a stamp exclusively to be used for the Flight Netherlands Indies to Australia was issued.

As far as Curacao (now Netherlands Antilles) and Surinam are concerned, the interesting part is that some of these issues, due to wartime conditions, were printed in England, the 1942 issue and the 1943 overprint, and in the U. S. A., the "Prince Berhard" set, all for Curacao. Some of the Surinam issues, such as the 1941 issue, were printed in the Netherlands Indies, an issue of three stamps was printed in England, about the same time and the "Red Cross Issue" in 1946 in the U. S. A. Otherwise, all air mail stamps were printed in Holland by Joh. Enschede & Sons.

Each of the items discussed were shown either as single unused or used stamps or on the distinctive first or special flight covers by Mr. Fred Keizer.

Mr. Heymans then went back from the more recent period to the 1792-1880 of Dutch East Indies, showing a number of interesting stampless covers. From his collection, 32 pages were exhibited in two frames. The first cover was from 1792 and was stamped with the V. O. C. 6 ST(uiver) marking being the postage for mail from Holland with ships owned by the V. O. C. This abbreviation stands for "Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie" (United East Indies Company). The strikes in black only were placed in the Indies, after arrival, and the rate of 6 ST(uiver) was for a normal size of letter, and according to the sizes of the letters there also was as shown a double 6 ST marking; further rates of 1-2-3 and 10 Guilders, the latter value for very large size envelopes.

For mail used locally in the Indies there are 3 rates, according to the distance at 5-10 and 15 stuiver. These markings, in smaller size, appear in black as well as in red, without any specific meaning for the color.

During a short period in the year 1811 and under the rule of the French Administration, stampings with L. N. (for Louis Napoleon) were used. One cover was shown L. N. in capital letters, 7½ Stuiver with the town name of Cheribon, another showed L. N. Monogrammed, with a rate of 10 Stuiver and the town name of Samarang. These copies are quite rare as only very few copies are known.

Since 1813 the British Administration ruled over this territory, and so British types of postmarkings, in red, were applied. Large round stamps, with the inscription General Post Office or just Post Office, plus the town name, like Batavia, Sourabaya, Semarang etc. were used. The rate of the postage was written in ink. After the Congress of Vienna (1815) the Netherlands got back the Islands of the Indies, and large size oval stamps came in use.

A large variety of so-called Chinese covers were exhibited, all addressed to officers in the Camp of Rembang. They were from various towns, and carried as postmarkings all

the different markings used by the many post offices, in large oval, small round, straight line and fancy markings.

In 1850 with a better organized postal administration more uniform types of postmarks came in use, and particularly a small round—or semi-round—town cancellation, which was used later also on the adhesive stamps. The early ones were without year date. But later in 1863 the postmark was complete, with the name of the town, year, month and day. These markings are also known in semi-circle, with "Franco" at the bottom to show that postage was paid in advance, as in most cases the receiver still had to pay the postage. The last stampless cover was dated as late as 1880, a late date, as the adhesive stamps were already obtainable since 1864.

From stampless covers to postal stationery was the next transition. Mr. Bauder showed a frame of fifteen representative items from his postal stationery collection of the Netherlands including the following:

1. The first envelope issued in 1876.
2. Letter sheets, examples of the second issue 1894.
3. A copy of the first regular postcard, issued in 1871 with a clear 1872 cancellation.
4. Paid Reply Postal Card—an example of the first issue of 1872.
5. An example of a commemorative picture postal card.
6. The first issue of the Netherlands change of address forms—first used in 1919.
7. A variation of the change of address forms—one for the announcement of a new changed telephone number, issue of 1939.
8. Air mail letter sheets, first used for the Netherlands forces in the Dutch Indies—1947.
9. A prisoner of war card, with reply card attached.
10. Examples of private postal stationery with the name of the sender in the same color as the printed stamp.
11. Working hour postcards, used as a requirement of the Netherlands Labor Law to record hours of work.
12. Examples of semi-official postal stationery—cards printed with advertising slogans.
13. Another example of semi-official postal cards, showing commemorative printing designs.
14. Netherlands Railway post cards for advising of the receipt of goods.
15. A postal money order with imprinted stamps.

Mr. Bauder then showed selected pages from his collection of the Netherlands syncopated perforated stamps. These stamps were first issued in 1925. The P. T. T. found a need existed for stamps that could be used in vending machines. The stamps with the special or interrupted, syncopated, perforation resulted. Pins from the perforating machines were removed, and different types were tried on an experimental basis to determine the best and most reliable one. Three different types resulted, known as A, B and C, which were used on the regular issue stamps as well as eight sets of the semi-postals. Ultimately 101 stamps received the syncopated perforation including one stamp of a special type of which only three rolls of 1000 were prepared.

Shown also were the semi-postals. Besides the stamps themselves, a number of covers were contained in the exhibit. While the stamps can generally be procured without undue difficulty, it is quite the contrary to obtain these stamps on covers. A particularly choice item, the special three hole perforation variety was shown in mint single and used on cover, both scarce items. The final section of the display showed these syncopated perforated stamps with perforated initials. Each of over 100 companies with affixing machines also perforated these stamps with the initials of individual concerns.

Johannes de Kruyf closed the presentation discussing his demonstration collection depicting twenty-five different ways of collecting Netherlands and Colonies philatelic material, as follows:

1. Pre-stamp covers. Letter dated 1596; First 3 stuiver marking in 1667.
2. Proofs and Essays. Die and plate proofs of Netherl., Indies, Curacao, Surinam.

3. First Issues. Netherlands 1852, Indies 1864, Curacao and Surinam 1873.
4. Plate reconstruction. Netherlands first issue, 1852. 5 cent plate 3, 10c plate 10.
5. Straight stamp collection.
6. Specimen imprints (for use of the Postal Union).
7. Plate faults and printing errors—in stamp design and overprints.
8. Special occasion stamps—Jubilees, Commemoratives.
9. Charity Stamps. Sold with a surtax for child welfare, cultural purposes.
10. Special Perforations. Coils (Syncopated perfs) first issued in 1925.
11. Air mail Stamps of Curacao and Surinam.
12. Air mail. First flight to the Indies (1924), Do. X and Lindbergh.
13. First Day of Issue covers.
14. Information on stamps. Personalities, events, and designs.
15. Postage Due Stamps.
16. Cancellation on covers and stamps.
17. Pre-cancels. First in Amsterdam 1871, 'sHertogenbosch in 1877.
18. Officials. Telegraph, Money order, Parcel post, Internees, and others.
19. Occupation Stamps. Japanese Occupation of the Indies, Army and Navy.
20. Postal Stationery.
21. Censor Markings. Curacao, Surinam.
22. Revenue Stamps. Holland inverted Stamp Tax in 1624—Johan van den Broek. Spain followed in 1636, France in 1673, England in 1694 (Wm. & Mary).
23. Booklets and Booklet Panes.
24. International Reply Coupons.
25. Feather Post Special Delivery.

Meeting of May 18, 1960

Mexico's Archaeology, History and Primitive Indians as depicted on its Postage Stamps

When Louis Stich, the program chairman of 1959, invited *Abner I. Weisman, M. D., F. A. C. S.* to present his collection of Mexican stamps before this club he was a bit bewildered since anyone who collects Mexico to any degree knows of the myriads of overprints, surcharges, consignment numbers and sub-consignment numbers of the stamps of early Mexico. Equally challenging are the various surcharges and insignias on Mexican stamps during the revolution (1913-1915). Fully realizing that the members collect many country's stamps, aside from Mexico alone, Dr. Weisman felt that the subject of the evening should be broad enough in scope and general enough in text so that even those who collect such remote places as Afghanistan or Tasmania, might remain awake during the presentation. Actually, he believed that a presentation of this type, from Mexico, has never been presented before.

Up until 1895, the postage stamps of Mexico, for the most part bore the various portraits of the founder of Mexico, Father Hidalgo; and a greater, more saintly priest, with the true spirit of independence of the people, will be difficult to find in world history. In the 1880's the great President and favorite son of southern Mexico (Oaxaca), El Presidente Benito Juarez, was given a prominent place in Mexican philately by having had Mexico's first stamps for foreign use (as authorized under agreement with the formation of the Universal Postal Union), engraved with Juarez's serious face.

In 1895 however, the government printing office of Mexico issued a new series of stamps, this time honoring no particular single individual, but each stamp telling a story relating to the growth and modernization of Mexico. The issue included engravings of a local postman delivering mail, mail by burro, by stagecoach (diligencias generales), other means and finally the higher values showing Mexico's most modern railroad locomotive of the ninties. Included in this historical issue, for some reason which is still not known, was

an engraving on the 5 centavos value with a statue of the great Aztec leader, Cuauhtemoc. Why the director of the government printing office included Cuauhtemoc with Mexico's history of postal delivery and railroads, Dr. Weisman doubts whether we shall ever know. But one thing is certain, from a cultural viewpoint in the ancient history of Mexico, no one man was ever more deserving of honor than the Aztec chieftan, Cuauhtemoc.

Aztec history, while not complete by any means, is certainly definitive. By studying Aztec symbols and signs, much has been learned of their customs, manner of living and everyday routine. The various rulers from Moctezuma through Tizo and Moctezuma II, and finally Cuauhtemoc have left indelible history found in many places in the great Valley of Mexico. The Spaniard, Bernal Diaz, who accompanied Hernan Cortes in his conquest of the Aztec nation, acted as historian for the group of invaders. His mementoes and daily accounts serve to tell the full story of the last days of the Aztecs. As most all know, Cortes landed in Mexico, near what is now Vera Cruz in 1512. He conquered Moctezuma II in 1519 and caused him to surrender. Moctezuma II, however, was a 16th century collaborationist and showered gifts on Cortez, hoping to buy him off. The famous treasure of the War God's skull incrusted with precious stones and other gems was given to Cortes to take home and show his rulers in Spain. (This great specimen now is in the archives of the British Museum in London, a far cry from the Valley of Mexico, where it should have rested.)

But when Moctezuma II died, the young Prince Cuauhtemoc became Emperor of the Aztecs. He and his group of younger Aztecs could no longer take such humility as was suffered under Moctezuma. In 1520 he led the great Aztec uprising and chased Cortes and his men to the sea. In Cuauhtemoc, Mexicans see a spirit of democracy, a young man who refused to show the other cheek. Unfortunately, Cortes and his army returned, and finally Cuauhtemoc and his warriors proved no match for the gunpowder of the Europeans. Cuauhtemoc was captured, tortured, even to burning his feet, but he refused to reveal the secret hiding place of the Aztec imperial treasure. Therefore, one notices the absence in Mexico's postage stamps of Moctezuma and the frequency of Cuauhtemoc's presence on many of the stamps of Mexico. Here in a nutshell is the essence of the spirit of Mexico. They are people who are liberty-loving, democratic, and fair-minded; a people today who are, in the majority mistezos, (a mixture of original American Indian and European extraction) and who have carried the philosophy of their Aztec ancestors, Cuauhtemoc and his followers. Thus democracy and refusal to accept oppression is the password in Mexico today. So much for Cuauhtemoc! It should suffice to point out that on Mexico's postage stamps Hidalgo and Cuauhtemoc bear practically equal popularity on a basis of frequency of appearance on the various issues.

In 1923, the first historical ruin of Mexico's ancient history is depicted on a postage stamp. As would be expected, this was the Pyramid of the Sun, at Teotihuacan, just northeast of Mexico City, and about an hour's drive from the capital. The cultures of the Indians who dwelled at the Teotihuacan area, far antedated the Aztecs and the original findings at this famous excavated area dates back almost two thousand years.

In 1933, under President Cardenas, Mexico issued its famous Pro-University series (for the benefit of the new University in Mexico City). Each of the stamps of the regular postage issue show an Indian at some type of task or work. Of the air mail set only three of the stamps have Indian themes, with the famous 20 pesos stamp showing the Indian girl standing in front of the massive Aztec calendar. The stamps are of the finest issued by the Mexican government, both from the viewpoint of artistry, subject matter and philatelic beauty. They are well worth studying. The high air mails are valuable stamps today, especially the 20 pesos.

Since the issue of the Pro-University issues in 1933, Mexico has printed many stamps. Among them are a goodly number denoting special ancient archaeologic findings in connection with various commemorative events. Actually, a study of these recent stamps is equivalent to a tour of Mexico, itself. The Mexican government, well realized that it has historical treasures, far in excess of any other country in the world, is using these treasures for excellent propaganda purposes by sending letters by air or regular mail bearing

wonderful artistic photographs of some of the world's rarest archaeologic finds. Anyone, travelling to Mexico, would do well to collect the entire series of stamps telling the Mexican story of its native Indians, their temples and shrines. With the exception of but three or four of the stamps, the vast majority of the stamps can be obtained for a few pennies each.

Among the stamps and archaeological designs exhibited were the following:

Teotihuacan — Temple of Sun and the Moon, and Temple of Quetzalcoatl
Mitla — Palace of Mitla
Uxmal — The Queen of Uxmal
Chichen Itza — Kulkulkan and Serpents of the Temple of the Warriors
Merida — Mayan sculptures
Aztec Symbols — 1955 issue
Vera Cruz — masks
Tamuin — Statue of the Adolescent (National Museum)
Tabasco — Giant monolithic head discovered by the American, Mr. Stirling
Chiapas — Native musicians
Tula (Hidalgo) — Warriors of temple in war dress
Puebla — Dance of the Half-moon
Michoacan — Modern art and masks, and dance
Mexico — Aztec calendar and Stone of Tizoc

In addition, to the archeologic-type theme, there are numbers of interesting stamps depicting various Indian runners, maidens, and mother and child.

The story of ancient Mexico on postage stamps can without difficulty, and with a minimal amount of expense, teach stamp collectors much about this wonderful country. Any philatelist, intending to visit Mexico, would be wise to collect a group of Mexico's modern stamps, to get to know them and their history. It will not only be enriching, but will give one a decided advantage over the average American tourist seeing Mexico. They will know, not only Mexico and its history, but also learn why those who visit the Mexicans, yearn to return again and again.

This was an unusual meeting that stressed iconography rather than stamp production and printing and postal use. There were guests in the audience, citizens of our neighbor to the South. Dr. Weisman asked their help in the pronounciation of those Mexican names that have proven such tongue-twisters to English-speaking philatelists. The pace of this meeting was lively, the timing excellent. This allowed for many interesting questions from the audience, along with some added information. Often the doctor's comments about the comments from the floor greatly amused the audience. Dr. Weisman genuinely deserved the praise voiced by our president at the conclusion that he was one of the best speakers to come before this club in a long time.

Meeting of June 1, 1960

Symposium

The Program Committee inaugurated a new type of program in 1958 that proved popular. A selected group of about six well-versed philatelists—usually divided equally with collector and dealer representation—sit as a panel in the front of the Meeting Room, while some in the audience ask them questions. The queries can be on any philatelic matter or problem except that of expertizing is barred.

A philatelic symposium was repeated in 1959 and the third successive one closed the first half of the 1960 program before the summer recess.

Our "Irish wit," *Malcolm G. O'Reilly,* again assumed the role of moderator. The 1960 trade members of the panel were *Herbert J. Bloch* of the Mercury Stamp Co. and

Bernard D. Harmer, president of H. R. Harmer, Inc. The non-professional representatives were *John R. Boker, Jr., H. D. S. Haverbeck* and *Herbert P. Woodward.*

There were general questions and also specific ones. The former proved of far greater interest, both to the panel and the audience. A specific question, such as "What does the numeral '23' on covers from Camemburg in the 1890-1901 period mean?" is not the type that generates interest except to one person, the individual questioner.

The discussion led off with a question—"How do you define a classic stamp?" Messrs. Bloch, Boker and Harmer spoke at length on this, giving their views on the definitions of philatelic classics. It may have surprised some, but they did not limit classics to the early years of philately. Some do consider the period before 1870 the classic one. These panelists believed that many later stamps are truly classics. Some of the 20th century air mails like the Newfoundland "Hawker" or "DePinedo" and the United States 24c air mail inverted center of 1918 were cited as examples. Thus they defined "classic stamps" more as those having "class," rather than relating to the first issues of the 1840-70 period.

A question currently being publicized in some of the popular stamp weeklies as to whether private philatelic agents were good or bad for the hobby aroused little or no response.

A further query about the removal of original gum on stamps brought out some sage observations from Messrs. Bloch and Harmer. They maintained that gum is an integral part of a mint stamp, often offering strong evidence as to its genuineness. It is true that collectors residing in very hot, humid climates may be forced to remove the gum from a stamp to preserve it, but for most people the deliberate removal of gum is philatelic mutilation.

"What is a 'Gold Medal' collection?" One panel member quickly replied, "The best collection exhibited in a section." Mr. Herbert J. Bloch at once voiced a strong dissent, ably supported by Mr. John R. Boker, Jr. They pointed out that in one section of a large international philatelic exhibition there can be as many as five or six "Gold Medal" collections. It has happened at international shows that six or more "Grand Award" collections were entered in the European section. Each one deserved and was awarded a "Gold."

Are detailed handbooks on counterfeits, forgeries and fakes worth publishing? Here again the panel disagreed. One collector thought all such books a waste of print since most great experts work mainly with genuine material. Mr. Bloch, however, found great contributions made by many books on counterfeits and forgeries. First of all, the genuine stamp was clearly illustrated and described in some books. Secondly, with Sperati's reproductions, a book discloses this man's method of operation, thus alerting the philatelic authority in his expertizing work.

Today's stamp prices—are they too high?—stimulated some interesting observations. Mr. Harmer correctly pointed out how most commodities had trebled in price during our lifetime, so that stamp prices were actually on the low rather than the high side.

This meeting was well-attended. This reporter shared the disappointment of those in the audience around him, that only a few asked questions, and some of them were too highly specialized, as previously mentioned. On the other hand, it was a fruitful evening. The members and guests thoroughly enjoyed hearing much of the discussion by the panel members. After all, philatelists such as those who sat up front answering questions, are as informative as they come. Thus their remarks were not only interesting but educational. In addition, that the panel members did not always agree is a healthy sign. It demonstrates that philately is so deep that its top adherents frequently hold divergent opinions. *(H. M. G.)*

At the Board of Governors Meetings held in April, May and June, 1960 the following new members were elected:

4708 Clifford H. Adams, Rabat, Morocco. Collects Classics.

4709 Paul F. Beaver, Longmeadow, Mass. Collects United States, Canada, British Colonies, General Foreign.
4710 Horace Descartes Westbrooks, Griffin, Ga. Collects Aviation covers, United Nations.
4711 Alexander Weiss, New York, N. Y. Collects Israel, Independent Africa.
4712 Herbert Bernstein, Vineland, N. J. Collects Faroe Islands, Canary Islands.
4713 Clarence K. Chatten, Jackson Heights, N. Y. Collects United States, United Nations, Israel, Ghana.
4714 Ralph E. Lombardi, Brooklyn, N. Y. Collects France and Colonies.
4715 Alfred N. Johnson, Baytown, Tex. Collects Jamaica, Turks & Caicos, Cayman.
4716 Robert Topaz, Waban, Mass. Collects Jamaica.
4717 Edwin M. Erickson, Columbus, Ohio. Collects Jamaica.
4718 Fred R. Wegner, Jersey City, N. J. Collects Old German States.
4719 Norman W. Kathrinus, Glendale, Mo. Collects United States, Germany.
4720 Magnus L. Jonsson, Arlington, Va. Collects Iceland.
4721 Col. Leon J. Numainville, Fort Dix, N. J. Collects France, Germany, Vatican City, Israel.
4722 McIver W. Woody, Plainfield, N. Y. Collects letter rates prior to 1932.
4723 Francis D. Kane, M. D., New York, N. Y. Collects Mexico, South America.
4724 Ralph S. Willard, Sunnyvale, Calif. Collects United States.
4725 Elliott Elkin, Detroit, Mich. Collects Mexico, Cuba, Israel.

1960 MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER and NOVEMBER

September 21st — *BERMUDA*—M. H. Ludington

October 5th — *DEALERS' NIGHT, "THINGS I DID NOT SELL"*—Ezra D. Cole, Chairman

October 19th — *UNITED NATIONS AND PRECURSORS*—Maurice Tripet

November 2nd — *CENTENNIAL HERMES HEADS OF GREECE*—Hellenic Philatelic Society

November 16th — *NEWFOUNDLAND AERO-PHILATELY*—James J. Matejka, Jr., M. D.

URUGUAY (Continued from Page 249)

20. Punta del Este – (Agencia Liga Fomento)
21. (Piriapolis)
22. (Repecho de Pan de Azucar)
23. Paso F. Alferez – (Paso de Fariña)
24. Manantiales 1 (Tomás Gomensoro)
25. (Faro José Ignacio)
26. (Piriapolis)
27. José Ignacio Abajo
29. Parada Repecho – (Estación Parada Repecho)
31. Paso Real de Garzón
32. (Agencia Balneario Solís, Estación)
33. (Cerro Pelado)
34. Cerrillos
35. Cuchilla Alta – (Cuchillas Altas)

(To Be Continued)

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	Same flight, C62, C64 tied by cachet	25.00
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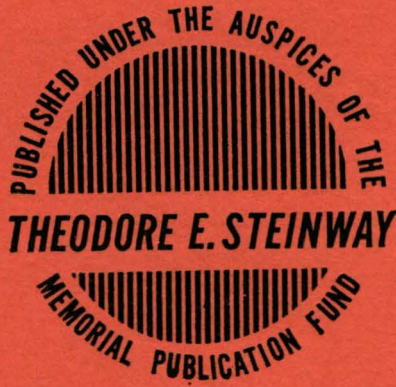
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