The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

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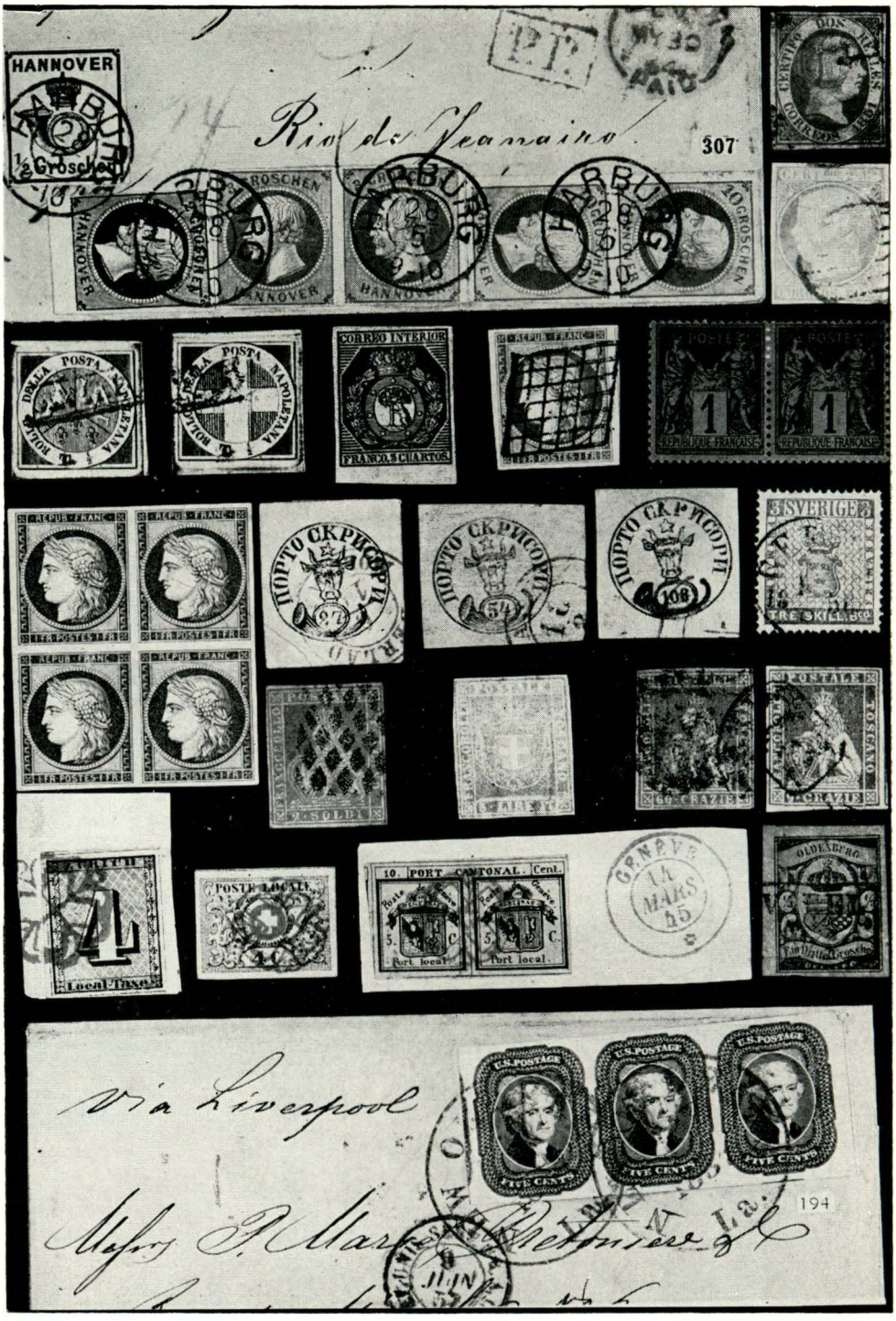
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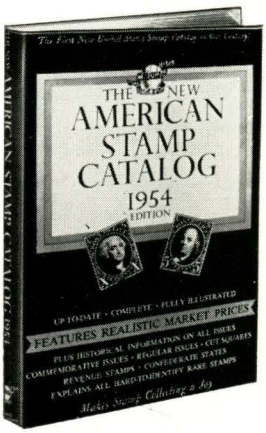
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March 1954 **Vol. XXXIII, No. 2**

Editorials

Where are the Snows of Yesteryear?

Coming up for air after leafing through the mountainous pile of stamp papers and periodicals sent to this Club, our head was swimming because of the many groans and gripes aired in print. At the risk of being critical, most of the current writers and writings seem so insipid because those who pen the printed words seem to know and understand so little about stamp collecting. We admit that it is unfair to generalize. But finding a good, accurate article about stamp collecting in this country's popular philatelic press seems to be an exception. The bulk does not appear fit to print.

Were we asked to account for this (and believe us that one hears it mentioned continually not only in this Club, but on Nassau Street and midtown Fifth Avenue of this City) it is our belief that there is much more to philately than most people realize. Therefore, the present writings come from those whose knowledge of philately is far too superficial. Lest anyone think that this writer speaks from professional jealousy, that is not true. The COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is an American magazine in a class by itself, not being a profit venture, catering only to a limited and select small circle of the more mature philatelists.

Our interest, however, in what can be called *popular stamp writing* is great because it was THIS that introduced us and then furthered this interest in the fascinating hobby of collecting stamps. So if you and I were stimulated in the past, the same will apply now. One can look back to the stamp papers of thirty or forty years ago to find a good amount of fine, popular articles on stamp collecting for the less advanced philatelist. They were good and popular because they not only were entertainingly written, but reasonably accurate in the philatelic facts. Now we seem to have less entertainment, but, worst of all, too many facts have turned into fiction.

One remembers those past writers such as John N. Luff, Fred Melville, Charles J. Phillips, Louis Quackenbush, Geo. L. Toppan, Clifton A. Howes and Charles Severn, to mention a few names, and wonders:—where are "the snows of yesteryear"? Who are the 1954 counterparts of these writers of a generation or more ago? The answer, sad to relate, is that they are not to be found today. If this is factual, then one is entitled to follow with the question—"Why?".

The answer is that the present crop of stamp collecting writers are primarily journalists, publicists, tipsters and hack writers, but *not* philatelists. All those former writers mentioned above knew and loved stamps. They had collected them for years. Solely for the love of the hobby and with no thought of financial remuneration, they had sought to share their knowledge and stimulate the less-informed's interest in collecting stamps. Time and again we wonder when reading the current bylines of writers in the popular press, where their collections are and what they do collect.

Specifically there are before us *seven* articles from *seven* different stamp periodicals of America on various stamp issues from *seven* different countries ranging alphabetically from Canada to the United States. Unfortunately each is replete with mistaken notions. This does not bother the real philatelic student because he can spot the mistakes. The harm in publishing these writings is that the uninformed collector is being misled. He is directed to seek non-existent varieties, to collect rather common issues as scarce or even to discard genuine copies as counterfeit or bogus. Consequently since all these mistakes are published, one has the right to criticize because such information is definitely misleading.

So much for the problem, now what about the solution? Here we are stumped because no one can forbid the publication of erroneous and misleading information in stamp papers. It might be of interest to report that in the six years your present editor and editorial staff have handled this magazine, only a few articles were refused publication. Those few were turned down for one reason only. They were too full of misinformation and too inaccurate. But every single manuscript rejected by the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was published, *with no changes but as submitted originally,* in another publication.

The solution to this vexing problem, therefore, lies with the few philatelic publications with a large degree of accurate information. It is true that most of these are not the more popular. These latter cater to the less mature collector, the one who requires accurate guiding most. But the fact that accurate writings in philately are constantly being made available is important. In time, if a person stays with stamp collecting, he finds out for himself what is pure tripe and what philatelic literature is enduring.

An actual experience can be cited. Three times a collector exhibited in competition his specialty and never once received even an honorable mention. He was dismayed and finally inquired about it. He explained that he thought he had exercised a good grasp of philatelic knowledge because he had followed the writings of that well-known philatelic writer, Richey Boobley, the weekly columnist for "Philatelic Blurbs".* The disappointed exhibitor was advised to read instead some of the more authoritative works. Soon he discovered for himself into what blind alleys the first hack writer had led him.

It is a shame, therefore, that so much is being written about our hobby which is wholly unreliable. The deterioration is so marked that the literary "pirates" (those who copy without acknowledgement) are so lacking in philatelic knowledge that they cannot even copy correctly. We know this as a fact from material taken out of this magazine without a credit line. But it is, on the other hand, re-assuring to know that the more thorough and careful student of philately is having his knowledge published.

Another serious defect in current publications is the slanting of articles and columns. A good journalist is advised to write without *fear or favor.* It must be conceded that some comment fearlessly upon stamp collecting, but oh! how they favor their own "little red wagon". One requisite is no good without the other. So *both* an absence of *fear* and *favor* is essential.

But we hope that the day is not far off when we will see a revival in the popular philatelic writing, giving the mass of stamp collectors the same stimulation and information that the Luffs et alia offered years ago. Meanwhile it is sad to relate that never before has no much been written by so many with so little knowledge of stamps that the aspiring collector is sadly being misled. The quantity has increased manyfold, but as for the quality—words fail us.

H. M. G.

Stamp Collecting When Retired

Last December an "Associated Press" news report was published in a number of newspapers throughout the United States. It concerned the results shown so far of a 3-year survey now being conducted by a group of university professors as published

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* All names are fictitious, bearing no intended resemblance to any person or publication.

in "The American Journal of Sociology". A good part of this scientific survey concerned the usefulness of *hobbies* to people when retired from business, following a study of a number of such persons. This portion of the article is quoted:

"Engaging in hobbies is called leisure for the person engaged at work but actually they are only a 'pause' between activities. So the hobbies a man undertakes in isolation are satisfying during his working life because it is good to escape the hustle and bustle of daily living. In retirement, however, isolating hobbies are not so satisfying since the new leisure should force a person into activities with others."

This report will jolt many of us because it refutes a commonly-held belief that collecting stamps is ideal for our later years. Certainly many are looking forward to the time of retirement when we can devote more hours to stamps and make some order out of the accumulated mess of material now in our possession. But maybe these are false dreams. Lacking the hustle and bustle of our regular grind, the anticipated future will not be as now envisioned.

There is no question but that the observations these sociologists are presently conducting with retired people's activities cannot be passed off as untrue. A hobby, stamp collecting included, does play an important role as an escape mechanism from the daily grind. So evidently when "we are put out to pasture" the need for an escape lessens. We do believe, however, that the results of the survey, as published, are too much of a generalization.

The key in the survey, as we analyze it, is the word *isolation*. In other words, loneliness must be overcome. But stamps are not always collected in isolation. A retired person never need feel lonely if he will mingle with other collectors. The solution lies in joining a stamp club. As a matter of fact, stamp collecting offers an open invitation to combat isolation because most communities in this country have a stamp club where, with no introductory difficulties, one can meet and discuss his kindred interest with others. Thus one can form new friendships and find companionship with people of all ages and from all walks of life. Furthermore, a retired person can enter into a club's many activities and have far more time to do the necessary organizational work that so many must decline because of the press of business activities.

Non-collectors seldom regard our activities as they truly exist because there is so much more to philately than most realize. Surely if one regards it simply as pasting bits of small paper in books, this can become boring within a short time. But boredom never will confront the real philatelist. The problems that lay before him unsolved because of a lack of time, now can be tackled if one has retired from business. Trips can be made to libraries, museums and halls of record. Also one can visit other collectors and dealers seeking out material necessary for examination to complete philatelic study. There will be challenges and frustrations, many quite similar to those faced daily while formerly on the job. Certainly any or all of this will result in many activities and contacts with others. In fact, it is not improbable to hear a philatelic student, during his years of retirement, bemoan the fact that there are only 24 hours in a day for all his work.

Another attraction for a real stamp collector, when he faces the retired years of his life, is the opportunity to capitalize on the knowledge he has gleaned from his hobby. Retirement means usually years of fixed and moderate income. Philately can supplement that. A philatelic student can build up collections and then pass them along to others at a profit. Or even a bit of dealing, if that has an appeal to an individual, can be followed without any great investment or continuing overhead.

But we cannot envision any great hope for a person who first turns to collecting stamps after his retirement. In general, it seems quite futile to advise someone, who has gone through many years of life without a hobby, to start to collect stamps. The chances of the collecting bug biting him in his late years are ever so remote. It may work with a few, but the great majority will not persevere with philately.

The only true stamp collectors during their years, who might not enjoy stamp collecting in their retirement, are the lone-wolf type; or possibly the ones who did nothing but gamble with full sheets of new issues. These latter actually never were collectors. You

cannot collect stamps without some sort of an album and stamp hinges.

The real collector or philatelist (a practical distinction) can eagerly anticipate his years of retirement when he will have the time to devote to stamps. There are only a few possible handicaps to fear and which can upset the enjoyment of our hobby. One is the impairment of eyesight; another will be almost total inactivity because of old-age infirmities. But if the philatelist will be granted reasonably good health and mind in his late years, he can anticipate a life of retirement as a happy and active one. This cannot be said for those with no outside interests or hobbies, those whose whole life has been nothing but their daily hustle and bustle.

These are, at least, our thoughts on this question of facing our years of retirement even if they happen to disagree in a large part with the survey now being conducted by a learned group of professors and sociologists working on the problems of geriatrics.

H. M. G.

Eric W. Mann

Word reached here in the middle of February of this year that Mr. Eric W. Mann of England had passed away. Owing to his long time association with and devoted services to the Royal Philatelic Society, it is anticipated that the British journals will publish lengthy obituaries on Mr. Mann.

It is in order, however, to have some few words written from America on behalf of Mr. Mann's many friends in this Club. Most of us saw him last when he travelled over here in 1947 to serve as one of the British judges in the Cipex International Exhibition held in New York. Many may suspect that being President of the "Royal", Mr. Mann's interests in philately were narrowed to the study of the production methods on the early classic stamps only. But the scoffers again would be wrong. We personally spent hours with Mr. Mann in his ardent hunt for material relating to the 1910-18 stamps of Nicaragua and modern China.

Those who had the pleasure and privilege of both knowing and working with Mr. Eric W. Mann saw that he was a true lover of stamps ready always to approach them with broad shoulders and a broad mind.

(*H. M. G.*)

Challenging the Accepted

The normal result of studies such as are presented in this magazine, is to challenge the accepted statements of fact, or the accepted relationships between facts, or the accepted explanations, in things philatelic. Our purpose certainly is not to be iconoclasts. But whenever a stamp or issue is restudied, or when a more detailed study than hitherto available has been made, the inevitable result is the slaying of some philatelic sacred cows.

To the extent that the material in articles of the caliber which THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST wants to publish is of high quality, that material is bound to upset views previously and generally held. This is more likely to happen than one would offhand suppose. The accepted ideas on most stamp collecting matters are normally the uncritical acceptance of the first judgments made on such matters.

Thus, though John N. Luff correctly abandoned calling the U. S. 1861 Premieres Gravures the "August 1861" stamps as early as 1902, pulling that term out of the catalog he then edited, that terminology has persisted to this day. Since it was established as far back as 1901 or 1902 that the regular 1861's, save for the 12c, 24c and 90c, actually saw use within August 1861, the absurdity of retaining the old name for the preliminary and unissued printing, is evident. It is even more so when the 10c, the only stamp from the preliminary plates that actually surely saw use, is known no earlier than Sept. 17, 1861.

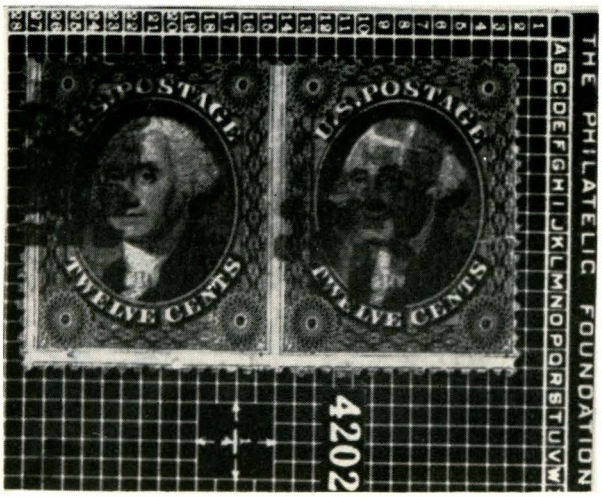
This particular case is chosen because it illustrates how long the lag can be between publishing of the results of research and general use of this information. Though the catalog in question has been corrected some fifty years, collectors and writers on stamps blithely continue the old guesswork terminology and arrangement of ideas.

(Continued on Page 80.)

EARLY AMERICAN PERFORATING MACHINES AND PERFORATIONS

1857 - 1867

By WINTHROP S. BOGGS



Courtesy of The Philatelic Foundation

The recently discovered pair of United States, 12c 1857, imperforate between (#36b). Probably not more than ten such pairs ever existed, of which this is so far the only known pair.

Introduction

The recent discovery of a horizontal pair of United States 12c 1857, imperforate between, now listed as No. 36b in the United States Stamp Catalogue, Specialized(1) has aroused considerable interest among philatelic students. Although similar varieties are known on the 1c and 3c of this issue, heretofore it was unknown on the 12c. This item (illustrated above) was passed as "genuine in all respects" by the Expert Committee of the Philatelic Foundation in May 1953, Certificate No. 4202.

The discovery of this new variety spurred us to seek an explanation of how it occurred. In so doing we not only had to collate what was known about early American perforations and perforating machines, but also make some independent research. This has led to some interesting and new discoveries which we hope may serve to clarify some of the problems surrounding the stamps made by American firms prior to 1867.

Thus our study and conclusions are of significance not only to students of *United States* stamps, but also to those interested in thirteen other countries, namely:—

(1) Scott Publications, New York, N. Y. 1954 Edition.

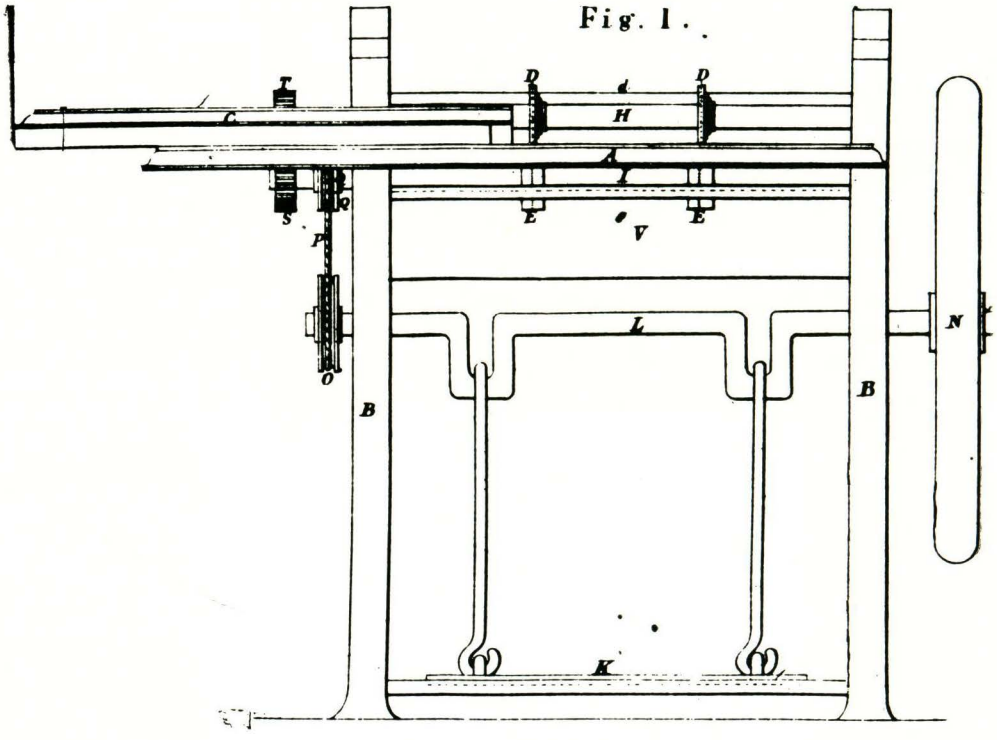


Fig. 1. The Bemrose machine, front view (reduced). Note that the treadle (K) was wide enough to be operated with both feet, similar to a sewing machine. The sliding guide table (C) enabled the operator to place the left edge of the sheets against the guide thus assuring their proper placing.

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This study is divided into three parts, viz:

1. An examination of the early perforating machines used in America, their construction and mechanism.

2. An examination of the stamps perforated by such machines from 1857 to 1867.

3. The occurrence of varieties in the perforating done by the said machines, and the causes of such varieties.

Perforating Machines in General

Before discussing any actual perforating machine, we should point out that there are two general types, differing in their principle of operation. The two types are known as *stroke perforators* and *rotary perforators* respectively. The proprietor of almost any printing and binding shop can show you a stroke perforator. Such a machine consists of a head bearing flat tipped pins, known as punches, arranged in a row or pattern. The corresponding bed or counterplate has holes in it drilled to fit the pins on the head. Thus a piece of paper placed between the pins and bed plate is perforated on each downward stroke of the head. A machine perforating a single line of holes at a stroke is a single cutter or guillotine; one that perforates three sides of a stamp at once is a triple cutter or comb; while those that perforate a whole sheet at one time are harrows. Machines of this type were in use in Great Britain as early as 1847 for experimental purposes.(2)

(2) Henry Archer's experiments began in 1847, if not earlier.

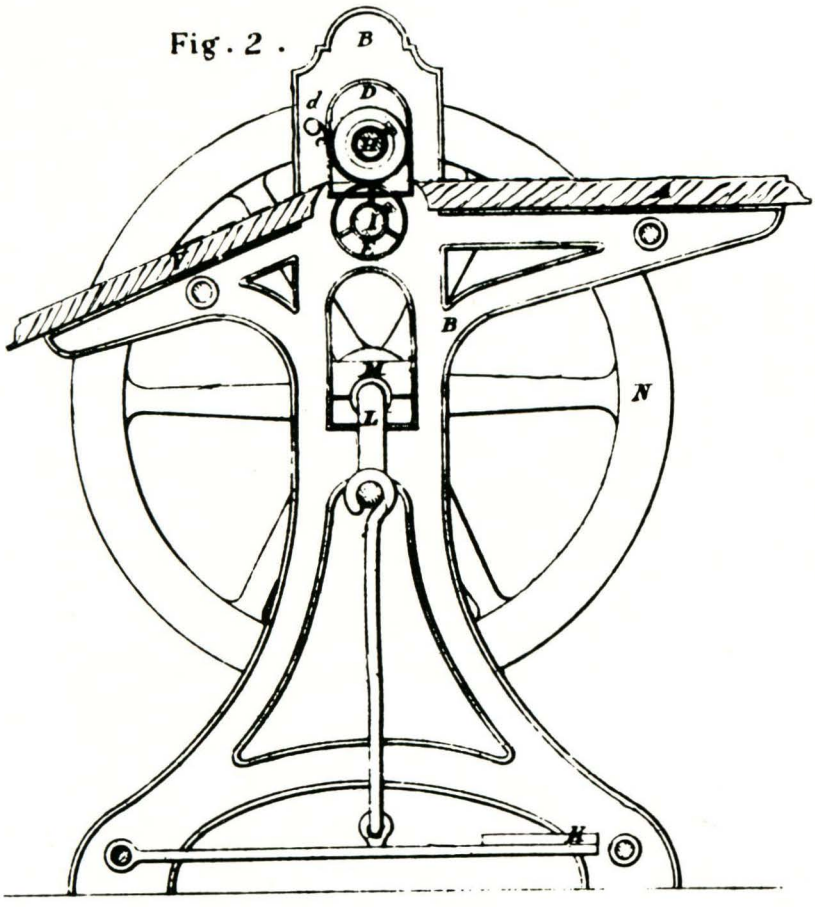


Fig. 2. The Bemrose machine, side view (reduced). The large fly wheel enabled the operator to start, stop or reverse the machine at will.

Stroke perforators have been adopted quite generally by British and European stamp manufacturers. The principle of their operation is so simple that the occurrence of varieties is easily explained and understood.

However, the rotary perforating machine, although invented in England, never attained popularity among stamp and security makers there or on the Continent. First used in America by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. in Philadelphia in 1857, it met with instant acceptance, and is the only type that has been used extensively by United States and Canadian security makers since its introduction. Its method of operation and mechanical arrangement are somewhat more complicated than that of the stroke perforator. Because of this, its operation and the occurrence of varieties are not so easy to visualize.

Early Rotary Perforators and their Mechanism

Fortunately there is considerable documentary evidence concerning the early rotary perforating machines, and we are reproducing, *First:* the patent specifications of the rotary perforating machine patented by William and Henry Bemrose of Derby, England, in 1854. We are also illustrating the *drawings in the exact size as they appear in these specifications.*[3] The importance of this

Fig. 3.

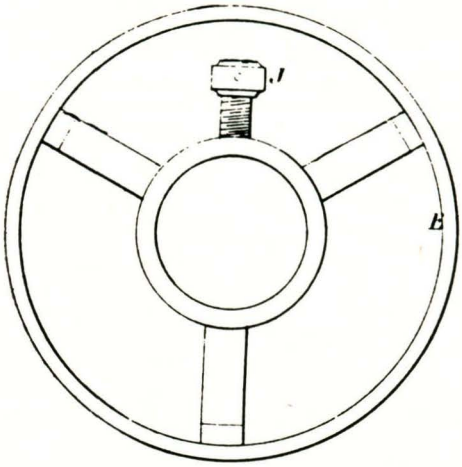


Fig. 7.

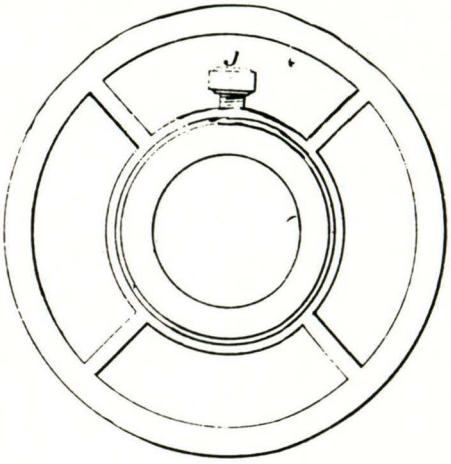


Fig. 4.

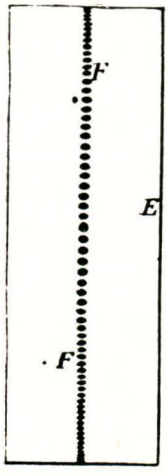


Fig. 5.

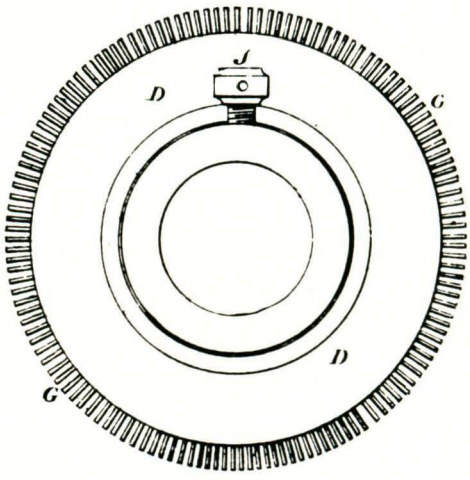
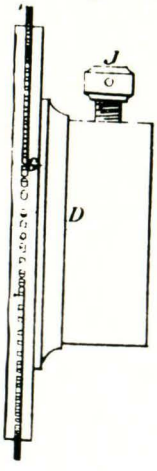
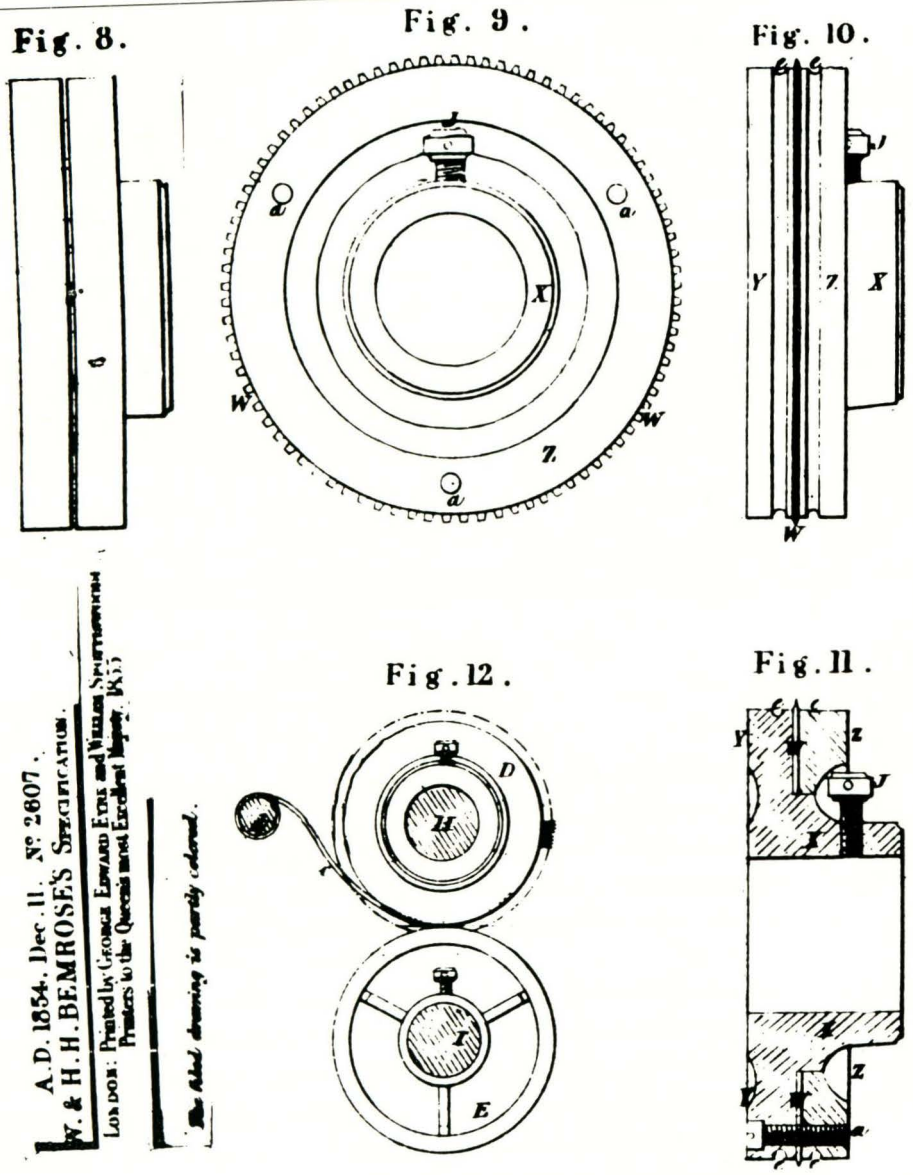


Fig. 6.



Figs. 3 to 7. Further drawings of The Bemrose machine. According to the specifications these are in actual size. Fig. 3 is side view of counterpart wheel, the periphery view being Fig. 4. Figs. 5 and 6 are side and periphery views respectively of the perforating wheel. Fig. 7 is side view of one of the rouletting counterparts. Note that the diameter of the counterpart wheel is equal to the diameter of the perforating wheel measured from tip to tip of pins. However as Fig. 12 shows the perforating pins fitted into the counterpart wheel to their full length. Each rotation of the counterpart wheel resulted in 1.15 rotations of the perforating wheel. Thus it would take about 7 rotations of the wheels for the same pins and counterpart holes to coincide.

(3) The patent papers are on file at the New York Public Library. They were also printed in "The 3c Stamp of the United States 1851-57" issue by Carroll Chase. Pp. 169-179, Second Edition 1942. Tatham Stamp & Coin Co. The drawings therein are on a reduced scale.



Figs. 8 to 12. Final drawings of the Bemrose machine. Figs. 8, 9, 10 and 11 show details of rouletting wheel. This has 87 teeth or 12 per inch which is a 9½ gauge Roulette. Fig. 12 is reduced and clearly shows that the perforating pins penetrated the counterpart to their full depth. Note also the device for removing the perforated sheet from the wheels set at the base of the pins, or rouletting teeth.

will appear later. *Second* we are reprinting seven letters (No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 23, 24, 25) on perforations from the handbook of Grenada by E. D. Bacon and F. H. Napier.(4)

These documents should be read with great care as they have *an important bearing upon our conclusions.*

(4)Published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London (c. 1903). Letters Nos. 1, 2, 3, 23, 24 from this book, were also reprinted in Carroll Chase's work on the 3c 1851-57, pp. 165-179, Second Edition 1942, and Nos. 1, 2, 3 again in "The United States One Cent Stamp of 1851-57" by Stanley B. Ashbrook, Vol. II, p. 23/25, 1938. H. L. Lindquist, Publisher.

A.D. 1854 . . . . . N° 2607.

Machinery for Punching and Perforating Paper, &c.

LETTERS PATENT to William Bemrose the younger, and Henry Howe Bemrose, of Derby, in the County of Derby, Booksellers, Printers, and Stationers, for the Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OF AND MACHINERY FOR PUNCHING AND PERFORATING PAPER AND OTHER SUBSTANCES.**"

Sealed the 8th June 1855, and dated the 11th December 1854.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with their Petition, on the 11th December 1854.

We, WILLIAM BEMROSE the younger, and HENRY HOWE BEMROSE, of Derby, in the County of Derby, Booksellers, Printers, and Stationers, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OF AND MACHINERY FOR PUNCHING AND PERFORATING PAPER AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**" to be as follows:—

This Invention relates to the punching or perforating paper, &c. by means of circular perforators or punches, placed on a cylinder, which is made to rotate at a rate equal to that of the material to be perforated or punched, such material being passed under such perforators or punches by being placed on a roller or carrier beneath them. Any number of these perforators or punches may be placed upon the cylinder or spindle, and may be adjusted in any convenient manner to suit the materials to be perforated or punched. It is obvious

that this arrangement, in addition to being applicable to marking or perforating division lines of paper, &c. to be divided, is also applicable to the production of ornamental patterns or devices upon card and other materials, the main feature of the Invention being the application of the rotating perforators or punches to perforating, punching, or ornamenting materials when such materials are carried by apparatus also rotating.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 11th June 1855.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, we, WILLIAM BEMROSE the younger, and HENRY HOWE BEMROSE, of Derby, in the County of Derby, Booksellers, Printers, and Stationers, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Eleventh day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, in the eighteenth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto us, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, Her special license that we, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, our executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as we, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, our executors, administrators, or assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MODE OF AND MACHINERY FOR PUNCHING AND PERFORATING PAPER AND OTHER SUBSTANCES**," upon the condition (amongst others) that we, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, by an instrument in writing under our hands and seals, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

NOW KNOW YE, that we, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, do hereby declare the nature of our said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement, reference being had to the

accompanying Drawings, and to the letters and figures marked thereon, that is to say:—

Our said Invention relates to the punching or perforating of paper and other substances by means of circular perforators or punches, placed on a cylinder, which is made to rotate at a rate equal to that of the material to be perforated or punched, such material being passed under such perforators or punches by being placed on a counterpart roller or carrier beneath them. Any number of these perforators or punches may be placed upon the cylinder or spindle, and may be adjusted in any convenient manner to suit the materials to be perforated or punched. It is obvious that this arrangement, in addition to being applicable to marking or perforating division lines of paper, &c. to be divided, is also applicable to the production of ornamental patterns or devices upon card and other materials, the main feature of the Invention being the application of the rotating perforators or punches to perforating, punching, or ornamenting materials, when such materials are carried by apparatus also rotating.

And in order that our said Invention may be more properly understood, we shall now proceed to describe and refer to the several Figures on the Sheet of Drawings hereunto annexed, the same letters of reference referring to corresponding parts throughout the various Figures.

Figure 1 of the Drawings represents a front elevation of our perforating machine; and Figure 2 is a corresponding vertical section of the same, taken through the centre of, and at right angles to, Figure 1. The rest of the Figures are various details which we shall herein-after more fully refer to. The paper or other material to be perforated or ornamented, which is represented by the blue lines, is laid upon the fixed bed or table A, which is supported by brackets cast on the side standards B, B, of the machine, and is fitted with a moveable guage C, against the edge of which the sheet is placed, and pushed forward until it comes in contact with the punching or perforating rollers D, E, when it is carried forward and perforated. The lower one E of these rollers serves as a counterpart to the upper roller D. It is represented in full sized detail side and edge view, at Figures 3 and 4, the periphery being perforated with holes F, to correspond to the punches G on the roller D, which is shewn in detail, side and edge view, at Figures 5 and 6. Any number of pairs of rollers may be used in one machine, according to the number of rows of holes to be perforated at one time; in our Drawings we have only represented two pairs of perforators. The perforating rollers are secured on the shafts H & I by the set screws J, and are actuated or rotated by means of the treaddle K in connection with the cranked driving shaft L, which works in suitable brasses

M in the side standards of the machine, and carries a fly wheel N to regulate the movements of the same. On the extremity of the crank shaft is keyed a grooved pulley O, which, by means of the driving band P, gives motion to the second grooved pulley Q, fast on the end of the lower spindle I, which carries the lower or counterpart rollers E, E. On the end of this shaft is keyed a small spur wheel S, gearing with a corresponding spur wheel T, fast on the end of the upper spindle H, which carries the perforating rollers D. The sheets on being perforated are received on the sloping table V, whence they are removed to be placed in boxes or other convenient receptacles. In place of the counterpart and punching rollers, represented in Figures 3, 4, 5, & 6, a counterpart roller of the construction shewn by the detail side and edge views, Figures 7 and 8, may be employed, in conjunction with the knife-edged perforating roller, represented in side and edge view at Figures 9 and 10, and in section at Figure 11.

This roller does not actually punch out a portion of the material, as is the case with the last-described rollers, but merely perforates it. The perforating portion is composed of a disc of thin metal W, which is serrated or toothed at its periphery, and is fitted on to the boss X of one-half of the roller Y. It is secured in that position by the other half Z of the roller, which is also fitted on to the boss, and is secured thereon by the screws *a*, *a*, *a*, which pass transversely through the roller and through the disc W, as is clearly shewn in the section, Figure 11. The counterpart of this roller has a continuous slit *b* formed in its periphery, in which slit the teeth of the perforating disc W enter when the two rollers are working together. In order to ensure the paper leaving the perforators after passing through the rollers, and to prevent its being carried round with them, we employ two curved pieces of wire *c*, represented more clearly in the detail, Figure 12, which pieces of wire are fitted or soldered at one end to a short tube capable of sliding along the fixed rod *d*. They are situated on each side of the perforating teeth or punches, and their lower ends are curved slightly and fit into the grooves *e*, *e*, (Figures 10 & 11) formed in the upper or perforating roller. By this means the paper or other material is taken off the points of the perforators as fast as it passes through the rollers. In place of wires and grooves, a strip of thin brass or other suitable material may be used and applied in connection with the perforator, Figures 5 and 6; but we prefer to use the wires herein-before described and illustrated in Figure 12 of the Drawings. The same principle of punching or perforating apparatus is obviously applicable to the perforating of various devices on paper or other similar materials, for the purpose of ornamenting the same, by using cylinders or rollers with punchers or perforators suitably

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W. & H. Bemrose's Impts. in Machinery for Punching & Perforating Paper, &c.

disposed thereon, in conjunction with corresponding counterpart cylinders or rollers.

Having now described and particularly ascertained the nature of our said Invention, and the manner in which the same is or may be used or carried into effect, we would observe, in conclusion, that we do not confine or restrict ourselves to the precise details or arrangements which we have had occasion to describe or refer to, as many variations may be made therefrom without deviating from the principles or main features of our said Invention; but what we consider to be novel and original, and therefore claim as the Invention secured to us by the herein-before in part recited Letters Patent, is,—

The system or mode of punching or perforating sheets of paper, cardboard, parchment, or other similar materials by the aid of rotatory, punching, or perforating cylinders or rollers, in conjunction with corresponding counterpart cylinders or rollers, for the purpose of facilitating the subsequent division of such sheets, or for ornamenting the same.

In witness whereof, we, the said William Bemrose and Henry Howe Bemrose, have hereunto set our hands and seals, the Thirty-first day of May, One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

W. BEMROSE, JUN. (L.S.)
HENRY H. BEMROSE. (L.S.)

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1855.

Pages 1 to 4 of the Bemrose Patent Letters have been reproduced slightly reduced. But the above Page (5) is shown in actual size.

In reading the specifications, the first significant statement is on page 3, line 31, concerning the perforating wheels, viz: "It is represented in full sized detail . . . ". Also note on page 5, lines 5 to 15 wherein the system of punching or perforating "by the aid of rotatory, punching or perforating cylinders or rollers" was the essence of the patent, and not any particular dimension or number and arrangement of wheels or the pins. So much for the patent specifications. We now reprint the letters from the Grenada book:

(1.)

London, 69, Fleet Street,
October 16th, 1855.

Gentlemen,

We duly received your letter accompanying the perforating machine, and regret the delay that has taken place in acknowledging it, but the party who has charge of that machine had another for a different purpose, which was putting up when it arrived and we could not attend to both at once; it is now, however, erected, and although very little has yet been done we think it will answer by increasing the length of the treadle, which as you had it would not allow of any leg larger than a boy's, and the pin was missing, but both these things are easily remedied. You may therefore draw upon us for the £13 through your Banker or any other way.

We also received your letter of the 12th on Saturday announcing that Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co. had ordered a perforating machine, and yesterday we received one from them, a copy of which we annex, to the same purpose. When your Mr. Bemrose, Junr., was in Town he stated that you could make a considerable difference in price if two machines were ordered instead of one, and it was in consequence of this, which we communicated to Messrs. T. C. & Co., that they made the observations which you will find in their letter.

Will you give us your views in regard to the price? Messrs. T. C. & Co. are right as to the size of the heads being alike in the English and American Stamps, and they are right also as to the number of twenty heads one way, but those twenty are not placed at all the same as to distance between each stamp; we think, however, that your machine can easily be adapted to the variations which they present.

We have examined the subject of shrinkage of the paper by gumming and although the American Paper is less tough and consequently may shrink less than the English (we allude to the adhesive Stamps in both cases) still the difference occasioned by that circumstance alone must be very trifling and we find that it amounts to so little as not to be worth mentioning, so that you may act upon this information or wait for a gummed sheet from the United States, whichever you think best.

We are, &c., &c.,
(Signed) PERKINS BACON & Co.

Messrs. W. Bemrose & Sons,
Derby.

(2.)

Derby, May 1st, 1856.

Gentlemen,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of yours of April 29th and assure you we had very much rather the cost of machine had been less. As we before stated, the size, &c., were quite altered from the original idea. The estimate given was for sheets 12½ x 10½ inches. The machine, requiring as it did to take sheets twice the size, completely changed our plans, and compelled us to give greater stability and firmness throughout, besides the increased number of cutters, and additions, such as pointing, &c. The extra work for these we do not consider has cost more in proportion than the original.

Touching the reduction in price to you, we say truly when we tell you that by your machine we shall not now clear a Five Pound Note. Though we are confident in the knowledge that the machine cannot be made for less, we had much rather—on account of the cost being (necessarily though it be) greater than machine you first contemplated—and more especially on account of your kind recommendations and interest—we had much rather sink the profit on the transaction. The invoice standing thus:—

	£	s.	d.
Machine	109	0	0
Hand apparatus	5	0	0
Packing cases	2	15	0
	£116	15	0

Net cost.

The "hand" apparatus you are aware was not included in first estimate.

With reference to Messrs. Toppan & Co.'s machine. It has more work in it than yours—double axles, &c., consequent on the variations in width of their stamps, and is £40 more than yours. In a letter dated March 21st, they say, "The cost is much greater than we had contemplated, but—in

consideration of what you say in reference to the changes, additions, and improvements made to the machine in order to make it perfect, and in every way suitable for our purpose, we shall make no objection to the charge." This was while the machine was on its way to New York.

We are sorry to hear there is a probability of your never using your machine. We trust this will not be the case. We have been applied to respecting one for the Continent.* Should the plan be approved and our estimate accepted, it will give us pleasure to relieve you of yours provided the size is available, which we think it would.

Trusting the revision of price will meet your approval.

We remain, &c., &c.,

(Signed) WM. H. BEMROSE.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

(3.)

69, Fleet Street,
May 6th, 1856.

Gentlemen,

Your favour of the 1st instant was duly received and we notice its contents. We do not question what you say as to the cost of perforating machine, but the difficulty with us is this, such a one is of no use but for Postages—this Government have their own of a different kind—the United States have negotiated with you for one, and all the Stamps used by our Colonies put together would not pay for the outlay, and therefore the cost of the machine was the principal ingredient that induced us to order it and which we probably should not have done had we been told at first that it would be £120. Moreover, when you first named the price of £80 nothing had been said of 12 in. ½ by 10½, but it was a machine for postage labels similar in size to those in use in the country and which we hoped to assist you in getting for Messrs. Toppan & Co., and it was at this stage of the business that you proposed to allow us a commission on one of them but if you have been deceived as you probably have in the real expense you have been put to in preparing the machinery and it has really cost you £116 15s. we have no wish to have you work at a loss nor to deprive you of the £5 more to have any commission which we have always repudiated on that done for Messrs. Toppan & Co. You may therefore draw on us a draft at one day's sight or a cheque payable to order on demand for the full sum after deducting one guinea for our charge against you for engraving. We were serious in what we said as to the probability that we should not have any use for the machine, but of course that is a thing with which you have nothing to do; if, however, the negotiation you write about should go on, we shall be very glad if you will take it off our hands and will make you a reasonable allowance for so doing, and then if afterwards things should look brighter we could order another at your leisure. We are well satisfied with the small machine which is a useful one to us.

We are, &c., &c.,

(Signed) PERKINS BACON & Co.

Messrs Bemrose & Sons.

(4.)

Extract from a letter from Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. to Mr. Edward Barnard, Agent-General for the Crown Colonies. The letter is dated August 21st, 1856, and contained an estimate for various articles required by the New South Wales Government.

"Third. The perforating machine used by our Government is their property but we think permission would be given to have a similar one made on application to the proper authorities. That machine is very cumbersome, very liable to get out of order, would require a good engineer to superintend it, should be worked by steam power and would then need three hands to attend it, and would cost 300 guineas. There is now, however, a much simpler one, far less cumbersome, less likely to get out of order, can be worked without steam power by three or four persons, requires less talent to superintend it though even that demands some, and would cost 150 guineas. The only advantage the former has is that it perforates the whole sheet at once while the latter only takes the sheet one way at a time and it

* In a subsequent letter, dated May 8th, 1856, Messrs. Bemrose state that this was for Spain.

slits rather than perforates. The quantity which can be done in a given space of time is as great in one machine as in the other. There are machines at far lower prices where merely one cut through a cheque or bill of exchange is to be done at a time, but the two above named are the only ones now known which will perforate sheets of postage stamps satisfactorily."(5)

(23.)

69, Fleet Street, E.C.,
January 5th, 1860.

Gentlemen,

You will doubtless recollect that some time back we purchased of you a small and a large perforating machine upon the slitting principle.

We soon found that the paper was frequently so much cut as to fall to pieces before it was required and our customers would not allow us to use it; we therefore had to alter one of them, so as to work with wheel and pins and which answered very well where only one line of perforation is required even if it is a very long one, but we are frequently asked to perforate sheets of postage stamp labels, &c., where the single operation would have to be repeated 80 or 100 times, and which would render the expense unbearable. We now therefore write to enquire whether you have made any improvements in those machines, and if so will you inform us what they are and about what would be their cost. If you have not gone any further in this business and know of any one else who has and will inform us thereof, we shall feel obliged.

Our present opinion is that nothing but a punctured opening in the paper will answer, although this might be done by machinery in which the pins had an up and down or a circular motion, the latter producing a great saving of power.

An early reply will oblige.

We are, &c., &c.,

(Signed) PERKINS BACON & Co.

Messrs. Bemrose & Sons,
Derby.

P.S.—We understand that Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co. altered the machine you made for them; so as to perforate the American postage stamps by pins instead of slitting, although we never learnt how it was done, and we are much puzzled to know how they accomplished it with that machine.

(24.)

Derby.
January 9th, 1860.

Gentlemen,

We acknowledge receipt of yours of 5th respecting perforating machine.

We regret you did not find the slitting process satisfactory. The paper's falling to pieces must be in consequence of your cutting it too deep, *i.e.,* letting the cutters press too closely together.

With reference to our paying attention to the machine — We have been so extremely occupied with our own business that we have had no time to do so; or we should have done, as the machine is gradually getting into use, and would do rapidly if pushed.

There is no DIFFICULTY about the *punching* by rotary motion—the EXPENSE is the obstacle.

The holes in the counterpart were all drilled in those we did, but they can be *punched* we are told, which will at once reduce the cost to a reasonable figure, and accomplish the end. We have no one here whom we could recommend to experiment and undertake the matter, but you can have no difficulty in meeting with such an one in Town. If you do so, we shall be happy to render you any assistance in our power, as regards advice or anything of that kind.

We had not heard that Messrs. Toppan & Carpenter had done as you say, but from the experiment we made, we feel quite convinced of the *practicability* of the thing; and are equally assured that the mode is inexpensive.

We are, &c., &c.,

(Signed) WM. BEMROSE & SONS.

Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

(5) The entire letter is now given in "Perkins Bacon Records", Vol. I, pp. 74, 75. Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953. Perkins, Bacon erred in stating that the Government perforating machine "perforates a whole sheet at once". It was a Napier Comb machine that perforated one row of stamps at a stroke.

(25.)

London, February, (16) 1860.

Sir,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th stating that if the order given by you on the 17th September for the perforation of your postage labels should entail the preparation of a new die, the Government would wish to have the stamps prepared and forwarded in the same way as formerly.

We beg in reply to express our regret at the great delay that has in this one instance taken place in the execution of your orders, which has arisen from the instructions to perforate the stamps, as the printing and gumming were done in October.

Had such an operation been anticipated when your plates were ordered provision would have been made to meet it, but it was not then thought of by anyone.

Our Government have machinery which operates satisfactorily, but it can only be applied to stamps arranged as to number and distance from each other similar to their own, and it is incapable of doing yours; we have been led on by the hope and expectation of maturing a plan which should meet your case and that of some other customers, but gave it up in despair and had only completed the perforation of your 100,000 blue postage stamps one day before the receipt of your letter, but this we had to do by perforating singly and one row at a time the whole of the sheets whereas our Government do 12 rows at a time and 6 sheets deep or 72 times as fast as anyone else can at present do it.

Your stamps thus perforated will be forwarded by the present mail.

We are still endeavoring to hit upon a machine which shall perforate various rows at a time and various distances from each other so as to be of general utility and should we be successful you shall be immediately informed thereof.

We have long had perfect machinery for perforating one line at a time whether it be a long or a short one, such as folio cheques, drafts, &c., but that is too expensive an operation for your sheets which would require 24 different perforations for each sheet.

We have charged the perforations at as low a price as possible, and regret that the operation has been so expensive.

We are, &c., &c.,

PERKINS BACON & Co.

James Walker, Esq.,
Colonial Secretary, Barbados.

In regard to the above letter we would like to point out that the figures about the perforating capacity of the Somerset House Comb machine are inaccurate—that machine could perforate 12 stamps at a time, and in a sheet of 120 stamps would require only eleven strokes to complete a sheet. The fact that six sheets could be perforated at a time is interesting. But in spite of this, the Bemrose Rotary Machine could perforate as fast, if not faster, even though only one sheet at a time was handled by it.

Reference to "Perkins Bacon Records"(6) shows that they were singularly obtuse when it came to problems of perforating.

Brief comments on No. 1, 2, 4, 23 and 24 now follow.

From letter (1) by Perkins, Bacon of October 16, 1855 to Messrs. W. Bemrose & Sons, we learn that Toppan, Carpenter & Co. had ordered from Bemrose & Sons a perforating machine late in September or early October 1855. In the next paragraph, apparently in comment on a remark made by Bemrose in their recent letter concerning the American stamps, Perkins, Bacon point out that the American stamps are 20 heads one way just as the English ones, but the arrangement and spacing was different. At that time the British stamps were printed in sheets of 240 arranged 12 x 20, while the United States stamps were printed in sheets of 200, arranged 20 x 10, divided into panes of 100 (10 x 10). Thus the printed area of the British sheets was approximately 9½″ x 18⅞″, while on the United States sheets it was approximately 10½″ x 22″. As a matter of fact, the printed area on the United States sheets of 20 x 10 varied in size from 21″ to 22½″ x 10″ to 11″ due to differences in the sizes of the designs, and the width of the spacing between the panes. On the early

(6) 2 vols. published by The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1953. This work has also enabled us to fill in the date of the above letter.

plates used for the imperforate stamps, the spacing between the panes varied from 3/32″ to 1″, while on the later plates made for perforated stamps it only varied from about 1/16″ to ¼″. Thus the total printing area might vary as much as 1½″ in width and 1″ in height. Including the sheet margins, the sheets might be as large as 25″ x 13″. This difference is reflected in the remarks made in letter (2) which is from Bemrose to Perkins Bacon on May 1, 1856. In referring to the cost of the Toppan, Carpenter machine they say:

"The estimate was given for sheets 12½ x 10½. The machine requiring as it did to take sheets twice the size completely changed our plans, and compelled us to give greater stability and firmness throughout, besides the increased number of cutters, and additions such as pointing, etc."—and further "with reference to Messrs. Toppan & Co's. machine, it has more work on it than yours—double axles, etc., consequent on the variations in the width of their stamps, —". Note also the significant quotation from Toppan, Carpenter's letter—"in order to make it perfect and in every way suitable to our purpose.—"

In letter (4) Perkins, Bacon point out to the Agent General for the Crown Colonies that the stroke machine used by the British Post Office is cumbersome, difficult to operate and expensive. The cheaper machine "slits rather than perforates". *(Author's note:* roulettes instead of perforates), and there is no difference in the volume of work that can be done by either type of machine.

Perkins, Bacon in letter (23) to Bemrose say that they altered a rouletter to a perforator, although it had only one wheel. The last paragraph is significant—"nothing but a punctured opening in the paper will answer. —in which the pins had an up and down or a circular motion, the latter producing a great saving of power." In the "P. S." is "we understand Messrs. Toppan, Carpenter & Co. altered the machine you made for them so as to perforate the American postage stamps by pins instead of slitting—".

In letter (24), dated four days later, Messrs. Bemrose answer and say, "there is no difficulty about the punching by rotary motion. The *expense* is the obstacle". The next paragraph however is an example of a misunderstanding which has misled philatelists for years(7), namely:

"The holes in the counterpart were all drilled in those we did, but they can be punched we are told—."

This changes the discussion. Perkins, Bacon are talking about punching holes in paper to perforate stamps. Bemrose are talking about punching instead of drilling holes in the counterpart wheels. No doubt Toppan, Carpenter punched holes in new counterpart wheels instead of drilling them—and said they had altered the method of making perforating wheels. We are of the opinion after carefully studying these letters (a) *that Bemrose shipped a perforating machine to Toppan, Carpenter;* (b) *that Toppan, Carpenter therefore did not alter a rouletting machine to a perforator, but merely devised a new way to make counterpart wheels by punching the holes instead of drilling them, and thus saving considerable expense, as Bemrose note in their letter of January 9, 1860 to Perkins, Bacon.*

Reconstruction of the action and setting of the perforating wheels on the Toppan, Carpenter machine, and later American Rotary Perforators

With the information we now have, let us proceed to reconstruct the action and location of the perforating wheels—*The statement in the patent specifications telling us that Figs. 3 to 11 on these drawings are actual size is now of great help.*

We illustrate (Fig. 13) the top row of a sheet of the United States 3c 1857 — and since Figs. 4 and 6 are actual size, we have superimposed them on this photograph. From this it can be seen that the eleven perforating wheels needed to perforate a pane of 10 stamps across would be separated from each other by about ⅛″ each, while the counterparts are only about 1/16″ apart. The closeness of the wheels effectually disposes of the idea that a wheel could slide along the shaft and cause double perforations any distance apart. We also illustrate (Fig. 14) a portion of the perforating wheel and counter-

(7) The original misunderstanding was Perkins, Bacon's who, as we have noted previously, were most obtuse concerning perforating problems.

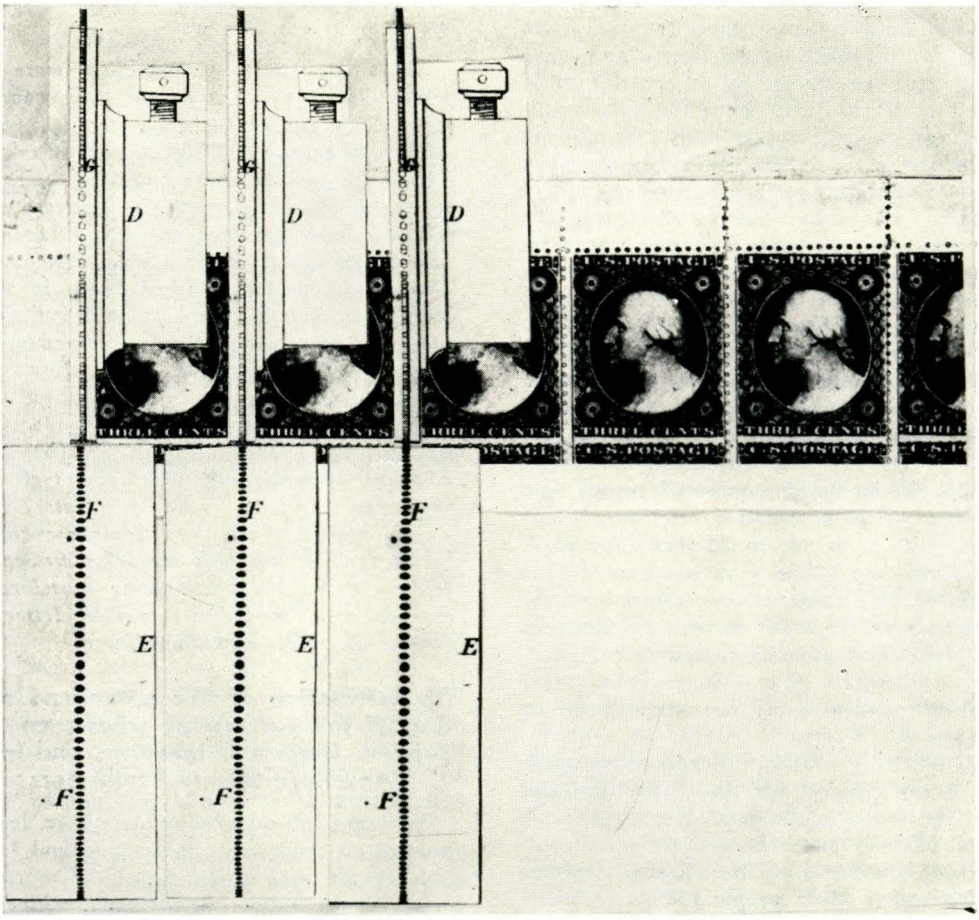
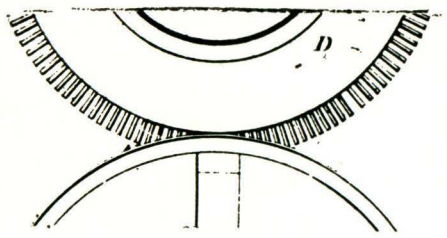


Fig. 13. This "reconstruction" of the Bemrose rotary perforator as used by Toppan, Carpenter shows how close together the wheels were when set to perforate the vertical rows of a sheet of stamps. Normally only one sheet of stamps at a time was passed through the machine but it is reasonable to suppose that by mistake it would be possible to pass two sheets through at once.

part engaged, as they would appear when being operated, from which it can be seen that from 14 to 16 pins were more or less engaged at any one time. Even were two or three pins broken off, it would be impossible for the wheels to disengage. The misalignment of an occasional perforation hole, therefore, is due to other causes than a bent pin. Such a pin would not engage properly with the counterpart wheel because the same pins and counterpart holes did not engage at every rotation of the wheels, but only about every seventh rotation.

This is a significant fact. It shows that the wheels of a rotary perforator must have the pins and counterpart wheels made very accurately, otherwise the machine would not function properly, if at all. Thus one of the characteristics of rotary perforation is the regularity of the gauge of perforation. Varying gauges of perforation along the same line of holes is evidence of the use of a stroke perforator. Further, a moment's thought will show that the same perforating pin and hole would never correspond more than once on any given sheet. This would be true even if



From the PATENT Drawings

Fig. 14. Segments of the perforating wheels of the Bemrose machine showing that from 14 to 16 pins were more or less engaged at any one time. Thus a broken pin or in fact several broken pins would not cause the wheels to slip or disengage.

the perforating wheels were much smaller in diameter than those in Figs. 4 and 5. However, missing pins, of course, would be evident on every rotation of the wheels, or about every 6¾".

Misaligned perforations most likely are due to stresses in the paper as the eleven or twenty-one pairs of wheels did the perforating.(8)

Now to examine the machine further. The perforating wheel (Fig. 5), which we remind you once again is actual size, has on it 140 pins. The wheel is 6¾" in circumference. Thus there are 20-21 holes per inch. The 1857 issue of United States stamps have 20 holes plus 19 teeth, followed by 19 holes plus 20 teeth to the inch or 39 holes every two inches, equal to 19½ holes per inch, a perforation gauging 15¼. Since the 1857 issue of United States stamps have 15 gauge perforations, we have further evidence that Bemrose sent Toppan, Carpenter a machine with wheels very similar if not of the same dimensions as those in the patent drawings. In this gauge of perforation about 2/3rds of the paper was punched out leaving only 1/3rd along the perforated line, making an easily separated division, as those who handle multiples of these stamps are only too well aware. This was the only 15 gauge machine used by the American stamp makers.

(8) A sheet 10 rows across would need 11 wheels, while a sheet of 20 rows would require 21 wheels if the space between the panes was perforated with one row of perforations.

Origin of The American Bank Note Company's Perforating Machine

As early as October 1858, the American Bank Note Company was using a perforating machine that gave a gauge "11¾" perforation.

Let us see how this came about. In January 1854 Great Britain, after many experiments, began the regular issue of perforated stamps. This improvement was quickly noted by other postal administrations. In a letter to Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson on the 13th of November 1854, W. H. Griffin of the Canada Post Office Department said, among other things, "A change has lately been made in England which is viewed as an improvement in the form of Postage Stamps and which we should therefore be glad to try with our stamps, and particularly with those now ordered—it consists in marking by punctures the line of each square comprising a stamp and greatly facilitates the separation of a stamp when required for use.(9) "In their reply of November 17th, 1854, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson said that they could not undertake to puncture around the stamps."(9)

In the meantime, perforations had been introduced on the stamps of Norway, Sweden, and the United States, as well as other countries. In reply to another inquiry from the Canada Post Office Department, Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson replied on April 6, 1858 as follows:

"A perforating machine that will be sufficiently reliable and effective cannot be procured in this country. It will therefore be necessary to procure one from England.(10)

This was about three weeks before they and eight other Bank Note Companies, including Toppan, Carpenter & Co., merged to form the American Bank Note Co.

However, on July 21st, 1858, less than three months after the merger (which took place May 1, 1858), they wrote — "on the subject of perforating your postage stamps, we have had occasion to change our minds

(9) "Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada", by Winthrop S. Boggs, 1945—Vol. II, Appendix H, No. 34, 35. Chambers Publishing Co.

(10) Op. cit. App. H. Nos. 64, 65, 66, 68A, 70. See also "Ten Decades Ago" by Winthrop S. Boggs, Pp. 71, 72. A. P. S. 1949.

in regard to procuring the machinery for that purpose from England, and we are now awaiting the result of an attempt to procure it in this country,—and if desired we will undertake to perforate your stamps at the rate of five cents per 1000 stamps,—we will be prepared to perforate them at any time after five or six weeks from receipt of your acceptance of this proposal."(10)

On August 5, 1858, they state "that the machine for perforating your stamps is now being made, and will be completed within the time specified in our letter of 21st ult." Thus by the middle of September 1858, they were ready to perforate the Canadian stamps—and on October 14th said "Our perforating machine is now completed and the present order for stamps will be furnished with the improvement as directed." Shipment of the stamps was made on November 25, 1858.(10)

Unless a patent was filed in the United States, there was no protection for a British or any foreign patent. American manufacturers, therefore, felt free to adapt or make other machines on similar principles—and there is no doubt that they did so.(11)
Since Toppan, Carpenter & Co. were one of the several firms which merged in 1858 to form the American Bank Note Co., a new perforating machine, modeled after the one that firm had, was made for sheets of 100 stamps with wheels that perforated a gauge "11¾" (actually 11.6, or 14.5 - 15 pins per inch).

How closely it was modeled after the Bemrose machine can be gathered from Fig. 15 showing the American Bank Note Company's perforator in action. This is taken from an article in "Harper's" magazine for February 1862(12), which describes this machine as follows:

"In a small room we find a machine for the invention of which almost everyone has daily cause to be thankful. It is used to perforate those little holes in a sheet of postage stamps which enable us to separate them so readily. It consists of a couple of cylinders revolving together. The upper one is studded over with little punches which fit into holes in the lower one. A sheet of stamps—already gummed, dried, and pressed—is passed between these cylinders, and each punch cuts out a piece; the lower cylinder being hollow these pieces fall into it and do not clog the punches. A hundred stamps are usually printed on a sheet, and 250 of these sheets can be perforated in an hour. Simple as this machine is, no one hit upon it for years after the introduction of stamps.—The cylinders are made in sections like a row of wheels, so that the points may be adjusted for stamps of any size."



Harpers Magazine Feb. 1862

Fig. 15. The American Bank Note Company's perforating machine, 1862.

This description is very significant, for it tells something of the operation and capacity of the machine. Also it indicates that one sheet at a time was fed into it and that the sheets were gummed, *dried* and pressed.

The description and illustration are no doubt of the 11.60 gauge machine. While we cannot be positive, the internal evidence of the entire article suggests that it was written during 1861, probably several months before publication. From the evidence we have, there is no reason to suppose that

(11) Not only did the American Bank Note Co., but the National Bank Note Co. also had rotary perforators. This form of piracy was not exceptional. Many British and foreign books were pirated by well known publishers in America at that time.

(12) "Making Money—The American Bank Note Company". Reprinted in its entirety in "Ten Decades Ago 1840-1850" by Winthrop S. Boggs, A. P. S. 1949 pp. 56-73.

there was more than one perforating machine in the New York plant at that time. As we shall see later, a second perforator, gauging 11.85 was introduced apparently late in 1861—November or December. It is interesting to note also that, in describing the plate vault, the same article mentions the plates of various foreign bank notes, and then specifically says, "and postage stamps of the British provinces"(13), which are the only stamp plates mentioned.

In 1861 when the National Bank Note Co. undertook to print the United States Stamps, they also had rotary line perforators which did excellent work. It is generally overlooked that after May 1, 1858, the American Bank Note Co. was a holding company for a group of firms, each of which continued to fulfill its respective contracts.(14)

We are now in a position to discuss the perforating done by these machines. We must remind our readers that all perforation gauges involving decimals are based on the use of the *Instanta perforation Gauge*(15), a device which permits a difference in gauge of one-tenth perforations to be accurately determined.

Assuming that the stamps perforated by American banknote companies were perforated on machines with wheels of the same diameter as that illustrated in Fig. 5, let us construct the following table:

Perf. Gauge			Pins per Inch		Circumference of wheel		Number of pins on wheel		
Practical		Actual					Theoretically		Actually
11½	=	11.4	=	14.5	x	6.75	= 97.875	=	98
11½	=	11.60	=	14.75	x	6.75	= 99.56	=	100
11¾	=	11.85	=	15	x	6.75	= 101.25	=	101
12-12¼	=	11.95	=	15.25	x	6.75	= 102.9	=	103
12-12¼	=	12.2	=	15.5	x	6.75	= 104.625	=	104-105
12½	=	12.6	=	16	x	6.75	= 108	=	108

Thus we can see that the difference of 10 pins on the wheel would result in a variation of 1.2 in the gauge of perforation.

To a user there is no difference between perforation 11½ or 12½. It is rather doubtful that any of us, if blindfolded, could tell whether a sheet of stamps was perforated 11½ or 12½ by tearing them apart. Consequently, the explanation for these variations lies in the construction of the machine. Note that perforation 12½ is 16 pins per inch, a common fraction at that time. The difference of 14½ to 16 pins per inch is probably due to the interpretation given to the instructions by the maker of the perforating wheels. Thus if the mechanic interpreted the expression 16 pins to the inch as *16 pins within the inch,* we would get 16 holes plus 15 teeth followed by 15 holes plus 16 teeth, equal to 31 of each every 2 inches or 15½ per inch, a perforation gauging 12.2. Correctly interpreting 16 holes per inch and 16 teeth per inch or a true 16 per inch, results in a perforation gauging of 12.6. Thus 12.6 - 12.2 = .4 or slightly less than a ½ perforation in gauge.

Thus there are two classes of machines, one in which the number of pins to the inch has been correctly worked out, and the other where the words "to the inch" have been understood to mean "within the inch". There is also consideration to be given to the fact that a wheel bearing 100 pins, but slightly smaller in circumference, by .1″ would give a gauge of 11.85. Although the English system of mensuration was used here, we early began to use decimals rather than fractions.

Let us clarify this statement. Place an inch scale so that the *left* end of the inch marks the *left* side of a perforation hole. If the *right* end of the inch is on the *left* side of a hole, we have "pins to the inch". If, on

(13) Op. cit. p. 69.

(14) Stamp printing continued at the Toppan, Carpenter & Co. plant in Philadelphia until termination of the contract in 1861.

(15) Made by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, England.

the other hand, the *right* end of the inch is on the *right* side of a perforation hole, we have "pins within an inch"(16).

From the foregoing discussion, we are now ready to present some conclusions, which are:

1. That Bemrose & Sons sent Toppan, Carpenter & Co. a perforating machine (not a rouletter), similar to the one described in the patent papers, that was set to perforate a sheet approximately 22″ wide with 20 or 21 pairs of wheels bearing 20 to 21 pins per inch which gave a 15 gauge perforation(17).

2. That Toppan, Carpenter & Co. used this machine. However when it became necessary to have new counterpart wheels made, the holes were punched in them, instead of being drilled, as Bemrose & Sons did.

3. That when Toppan, Carpenter & Co. became one of the components of the newly formed American Bank Note Company in May 1858, said new company ordered a new perforating machine for sheets of 100 stamps (10 x 10) or approximately 12½″ wide, modelled after the Bemrose machine, but with 16 pins more or less per inch. This set a standard for American perforating machines. Furthermore, the 16 holes per inch perforation resulted in an almost equal division of paper and holes between the stamps —a much more satisfactory gauge for practical purposes. In addition owing to the, smaller size of the Canadian stamps the counterpart wheels at least were made a little narrower.

4. That although philatelists have adopted the metric system for gauging perforations, the early perforating machines manufactured in England and the United States were made by mechanics using the English system of mensuration and, therefore, the number of holes per inch was the usual unit for setting up the perforating machine.

5. That depending on the interpretation placed upon the instructions by the mechanic the gauge of perforation may vary by ½ a perforation or more.

(16) For a fuller discussion of this problem see "Notes on Perforation" by the late Gordon Smith and L. L. R. Hausberg—"London Philatelist" Vol. XXI 1912, pp. 188, 217.

(17) The so-called "Chicago perforation" occurring on the 1c, and 3c 1851 United States stamps, which gauges 12-13 is in our opinion not the product of Toppan, Carpenter & Co., but was done by a party or parties unknown. We are also of the opinion that the so-called experimental roulettes on the 3c of the same issue (described in Dr. Chase's book on this stamp, pp. 174, 175, 2nd Edition) were done by Bemrose & Sons, to demonstrate the work of both kinds of wheels to Toppan, Carpenter & Co.

(To Be Concluded in the next number.)

EDITORIALS

(Continued from Page 60)

Our function is to present the new facts and the new relationships, which have been discovered. It really is not a matter of concern to this magazine's editorial staff whether or not it upsets views previously and generally held. But we recognize that the tendency normally will be to challenge the accepted ideas, partly or wholly. Let it be noted, however, that really only a small proportion of accepted statements about things stampic will be affected. To the unthinking, doubtless the impression is that everything in United States stamps from the 1847 issue to the current commemoratives is being reshuffled, renamed, differently evaluated, by the studies of the last twenty years. The cold fact is that not even 10% of the thousand different stamps involved are affected. But those are the conspicuous ones, about which most collectors want not to be disturbed in their placid judgments.

Even if we aim to be conservators rather than innovators, the cold facts make us challenge the accepted ideas, fully and often.

S. G. R.

Correction by Author

In the article on the first United States Special Delivery stamp, January 1954 number, page 5, the dates of the Belgian special delivery service were incorrectly given. The start was 1874 in Bruxelles; extension to Antwerp, Liege and Ghent was in 1875; and to all offices in 1883. *S. G. R.*

TIBET

Further Discoveries

By H. D. S. HAVERBECK

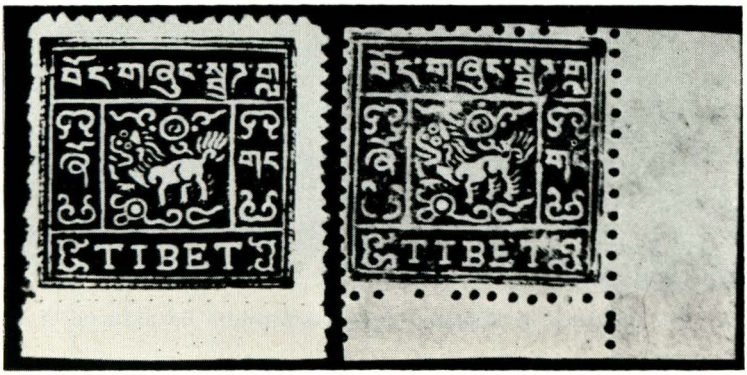


Fig. 1 The two types of perforation. Left, that on the first setting. Right, that on the third setting.

The reward of any form of the pursuit of knowledge is the discovery of broader and broader views and new horizons. This reward is continuing. It is a process of construction, building upon the foundations and walls which have already been laid. It is the new discoveries which are responsible for this article being written.

Subsequent to the publication of the "Postage Stamps and Postal History of Tibet" * in 1952, two leading philatelic scholars took up the study of the 1933-39 issues. The results of their independent studies may be found in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. XXXII, No. 5 (E. A. Smythies) and in "The Philatelist" Vol. 19, No. 7 (A. C. Waterfall). The result of their labors has established the sequence of printings and settings of the 1933-39 stamps. They have also determined the existence of a thirteenth cliché of the 4 Trangka stamp which was prepared to replace the one that was lost or broken. Their studies also have shown that it is a practical impossibility to make a distinction between the perforated and imperforated stamps on any basis that has sound grounds. The first setting is known both ways. It is interesting to note that the third setting is found also perforated, but with a type of perforation that is entirely different to that found on the first setting. (Figure 1) Further, Mr. Theo Klewitz has shown us the ½ Trangka yellow with a clear positive print on the back, making a variety of this stamp: "Printed on both sides".

The most amazing discovery resulted from the wholehearted co-operation of a friend of Mr. Philip H. Cummings, now

* For those readers who have a copy of the handbook, reprints of this article will be available from the Collectors Club at a cost of $.50 (Fifty cents) a copy.

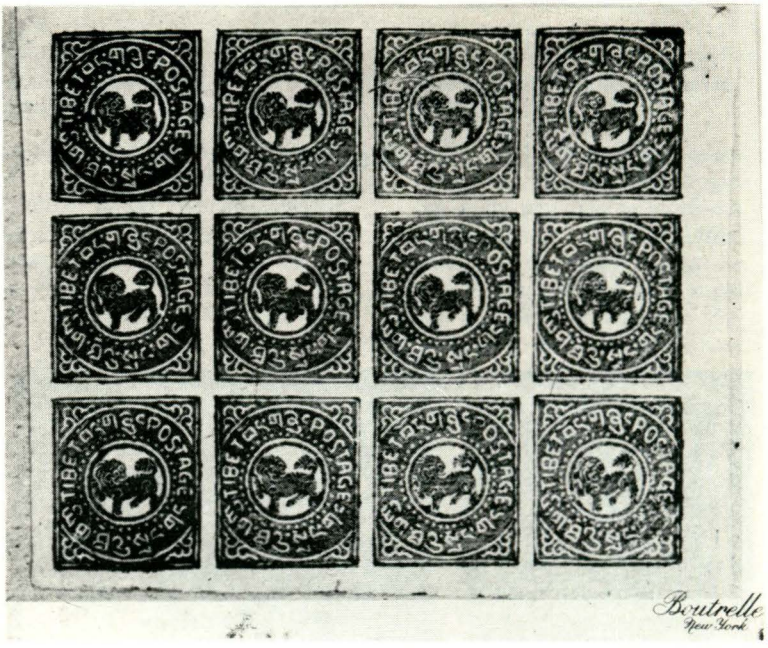


Fig. 2 The complete sheet of the newly discovered 1 Sang Stamp of 1912.

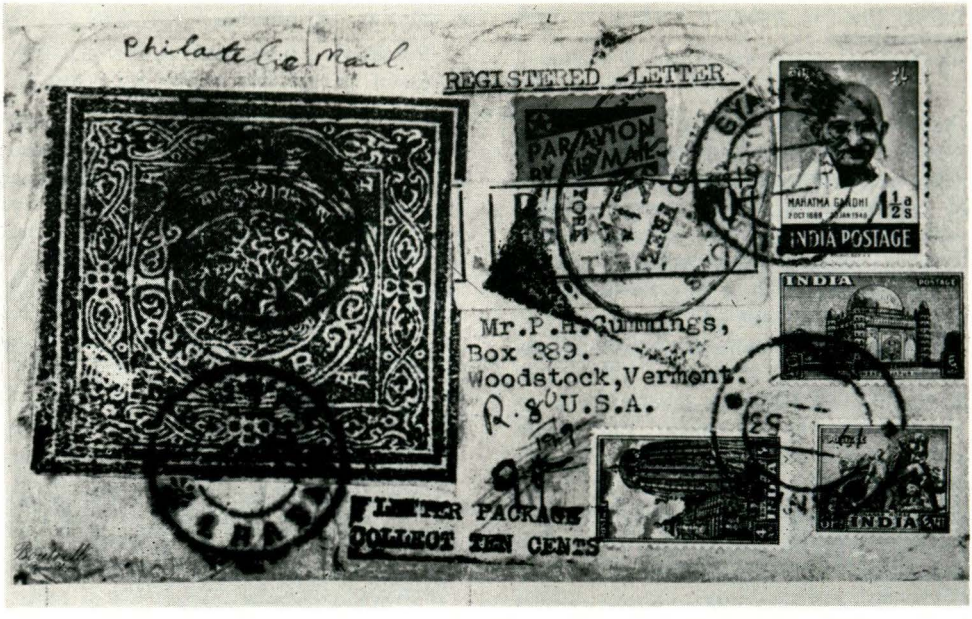


Fig. 3 Actual postal use of the Official Stamps.

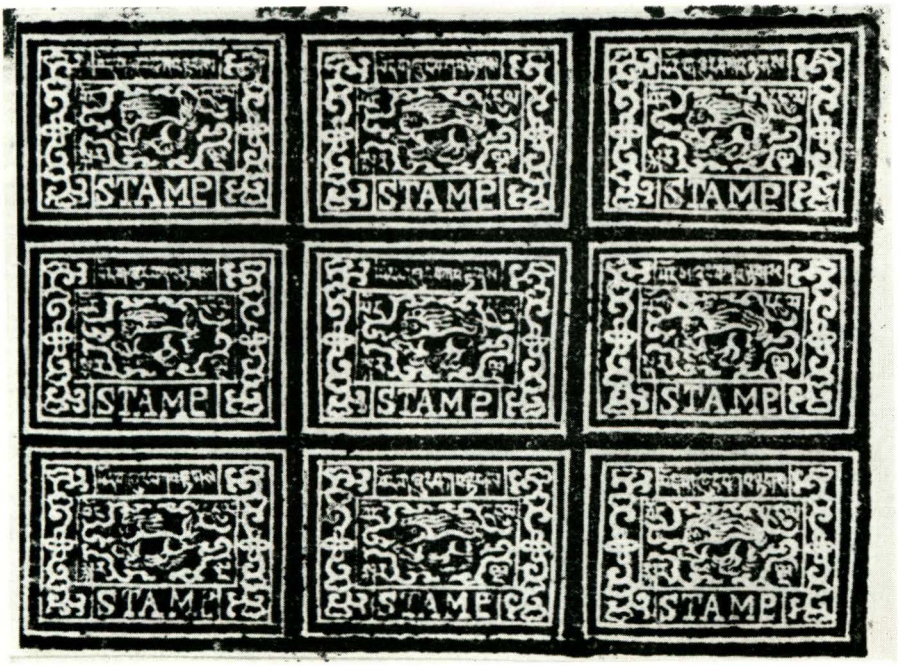


Fig. 4 Block of 9 of 2 Khakang Official Stamp.

resident in Tibet. His interest in the stamps of his own country caused him to make the discovery of a sixth denomination in the 1912 series. This is a 1 Sang (6 2/3 Trangka) stamp printed in a greyish yellow green. (Figure 2) A complete sheet of this stamp was displayed at the Collectors Club for the first time on October 7, 1952. It is the author's opinion that the main reason for this stamp remaining unknown for such a long time is the fact that the color is very similar to that of the 1/6 Trangka. It is entirely possible that this stamp had been mistaken for a forgery of the 1/6 Trangka or that the ignorance of the characters of value has led to its being classified as the 1/6 Trangka stamp. Collectors should examine their copies of that stamp to see whether they have wrongly classified this elusive stamp. The proof of the existence of this stamp is a discovery of major proportions.

Through the same source, Mr. Cummings has established the existence of a series of stamps for use on Official correspondence. Whether this set was placed in use as a result of the Communist conquest of Tibet still remains to be proven. They have been seen for the first time during the past year. That they are actually used for postage is proved beyond question by the cover shown in Figure 3.

The central design is uniformly the White Lion symbolizing the Delai Lama. The only English inscription is the word "stamp". The Tibetan inscription translates as follows: "Tibet Government order stamp". The denominations and colors are:

2 Khakang, Slate grey (Figure 4)
1 Shokang, Brown (Figure 5)
2 Shokang, Yellow green (Figure 6)
1 Sang, Slate blue (Figure 7)

We are informed that the plates are carved from wood. The 2 Khakang and the 1 Shokang come in sheets of 12 (4 x 3) (Figure 4 shows only 9 types). The 2 Shokang and 1 Sang are in sheets of 8 (4 x 2) (Figure 6 shows only 6 types).

Some further information has come to light regarding the 1912 stamps. Lt.-Col. F. M. Bailey has supplied us with the information that these stamps were printed from inks composed of European enamel paint

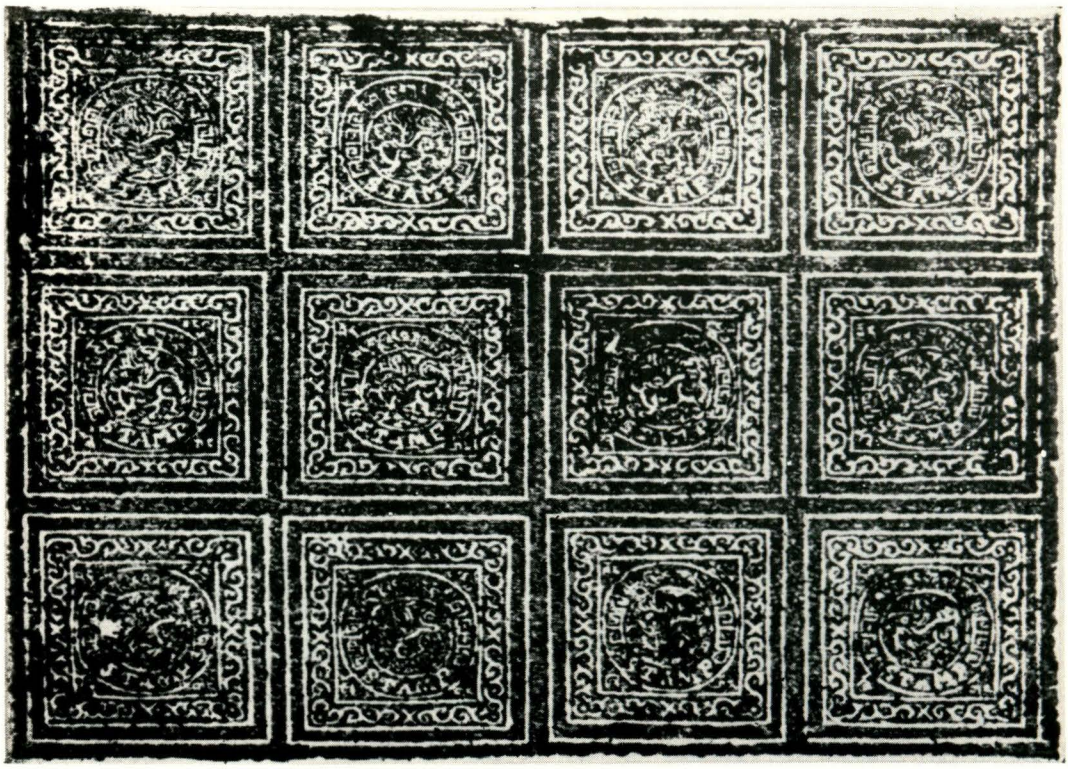


Fig. 5 Complete sheet of 12 of 1 Shokang Official Stamp.

during the period from 1920-1926. A close examination of stamps from this period shows that the inks used have a decidedly glossy appearance.

Col. Loren Thompson has called to our attention an error in our description of the 3 annas on 16 cents Chinese Offices in Tibet issue. We stated that the error, large "S" inverted, occurred on position 11 of the right hand pane. This is not correct. It occurs on position 14 of the right hand pane. The basic 16 cents Chinese stamp is printed in sheets of 200, each pane being 25 stamps (5 x 5). The setting of the surcharge, therefore, consists of 2 panes of 25, making 50 subjects.

In the field of Tibetan postal history, the research of the past year has produced a considerable addition to our knowledge. We present here a revised table of the Field Post Office marks used by the Younghusband Expedition. This is furnished by the courtesy of Mr. A. C. Waterfall, who has done outstanding research in this field.

Further study of the Tibetan Postal markings has brought to light the existence of several new town marks which had not been identified before. In Figure 8 we illustrate two of the early or fretwork type marks type I from Gyamtha and type II from Penam. These marks are found associated with the 1912 stamps. In Figure 9 is shown the current marks from the towns of Chushu and Penam, type I being Chushu and type II being Penam. Figure 10 shows the current marks from three other towns, type I, Tsomora; type II, Dechen; and type III, Holdga. The town of Holdga has not been previously reported as having a post office.

With regard to the characters appearing within the central circle of these town marks, Lt.-Col. Bailey informs us that these signify "Month" and "Day". The postmaster was instructed to fill in this with a

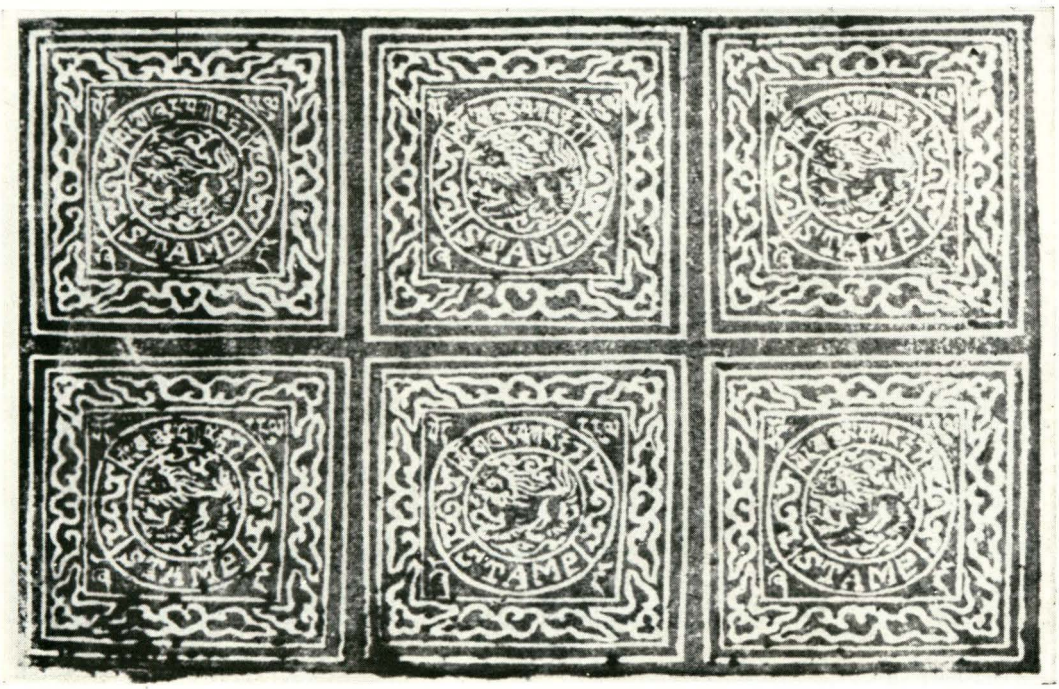
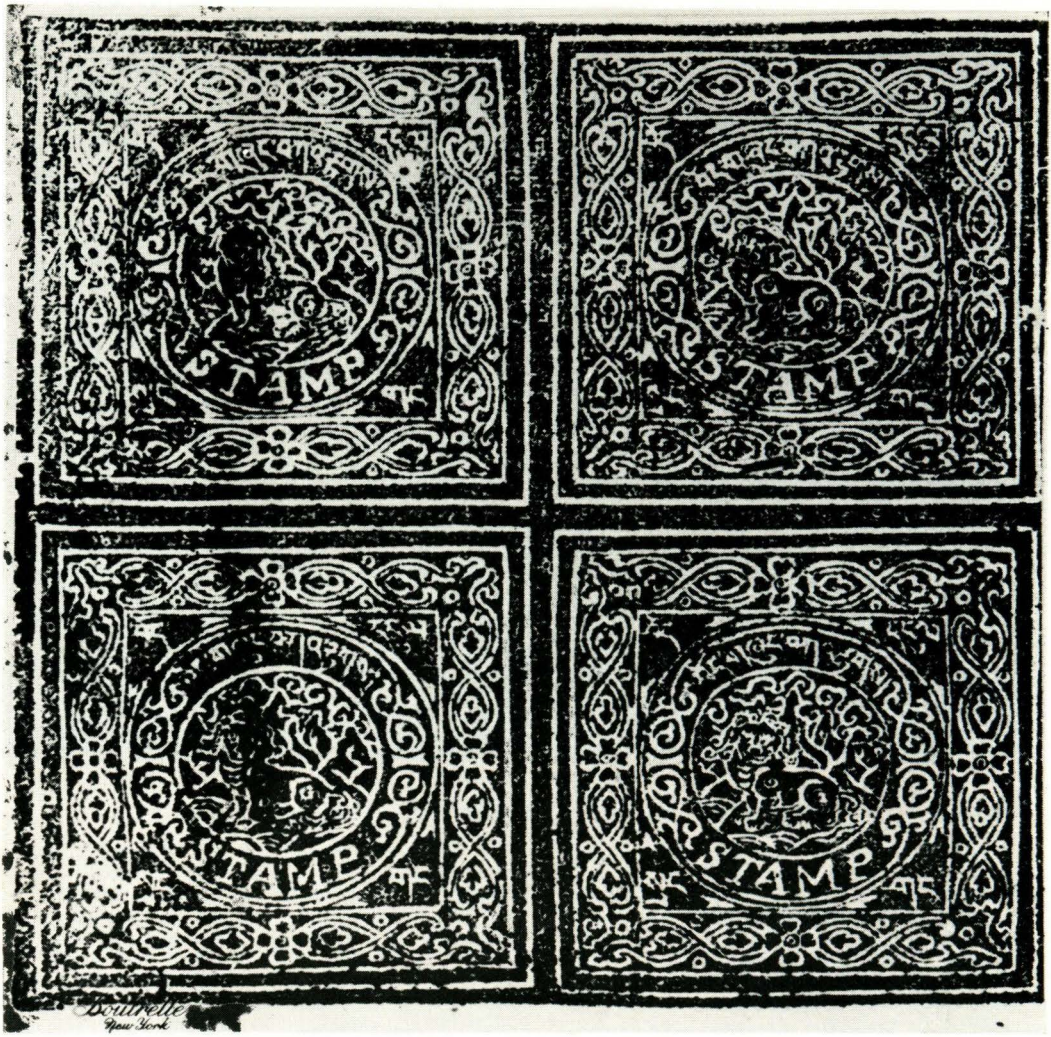


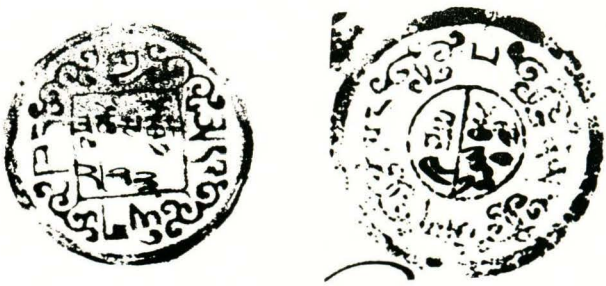
Fig. 6 Block of 6 of 2 Shokang Official Stamp.

Table 2 Revised. Postmarks of the Younghusband Expedition, December 12, 1903 - November 28, 1904.

Postmark	Location	Earliest Date	Last Date	Illus.*
Base Office	Siliguri	1/25/04	10/29/04	Fig. 2 type IV
Base Office, Dely	Siliguri	7/26/04	——	Fig. 2 type IV
Field P. O. No. 21	Chumbi Valley	1/6/04	——	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 23	? ? ?	4/21/04	——	Fig. 2 type IV
Field P. O. No. 24	Tuna	1/23/04	10/5/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 24	Tuna	2/4/04	10/5/04	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 25	Gyantse	1/15/04	6/21/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 26	Chumbi	1/21/04	10/27/04	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 26	Chumbi	2/22/04	10/29/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 27	Camp Dotha	8/3/04	——	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 29	Lingmo	4/29/04	——	Fig. 2 type V
F. P. O. No. 31	Tuna	6/2/04	6/18/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
F. P. O. No. 31	Tuna	5/8/04	——	Fig. 2 type V
F. P. O. No. 32	Gyantse	5/16/04	8/8/04	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 32	Gyantse	5/14/04	10/5/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
F. P. O. No. 34	Camp Champethang	8/5/04	——	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 81	Phari	1/16/04	1/25/04	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 81	Phari	Doubt its use before 1905		Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 82	? ? ?	8/—/04	——	Fig. 2 type V
Field P. O. No. 83	Phari	4/26/04	5/21/04	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 84	Tuna	10/2/04	——	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 85	Gyantse	11/2/04	——	Fig. 2 type VIII
Field P. O. No. 86	Phari	1/13/04	1/21/04	Fig. 2 type V
Lahssa	Lhasa	8/3/04	9/22/04	Fig. 2 type I
Lhassa	Lhasa	9/2/04	9/20/04	Fig. 2 type II
Temporary P. O. 1	Chumbi	12/10/03	1/21/04	Fig. 2 type VIII

*The figure and type numbers refer to Figure 2 on page 9 of the handbook, *"The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Tibet"*.





I II

Fig. 8 Early Postmarks. Type I, Gyamtha. Type II, Penam.

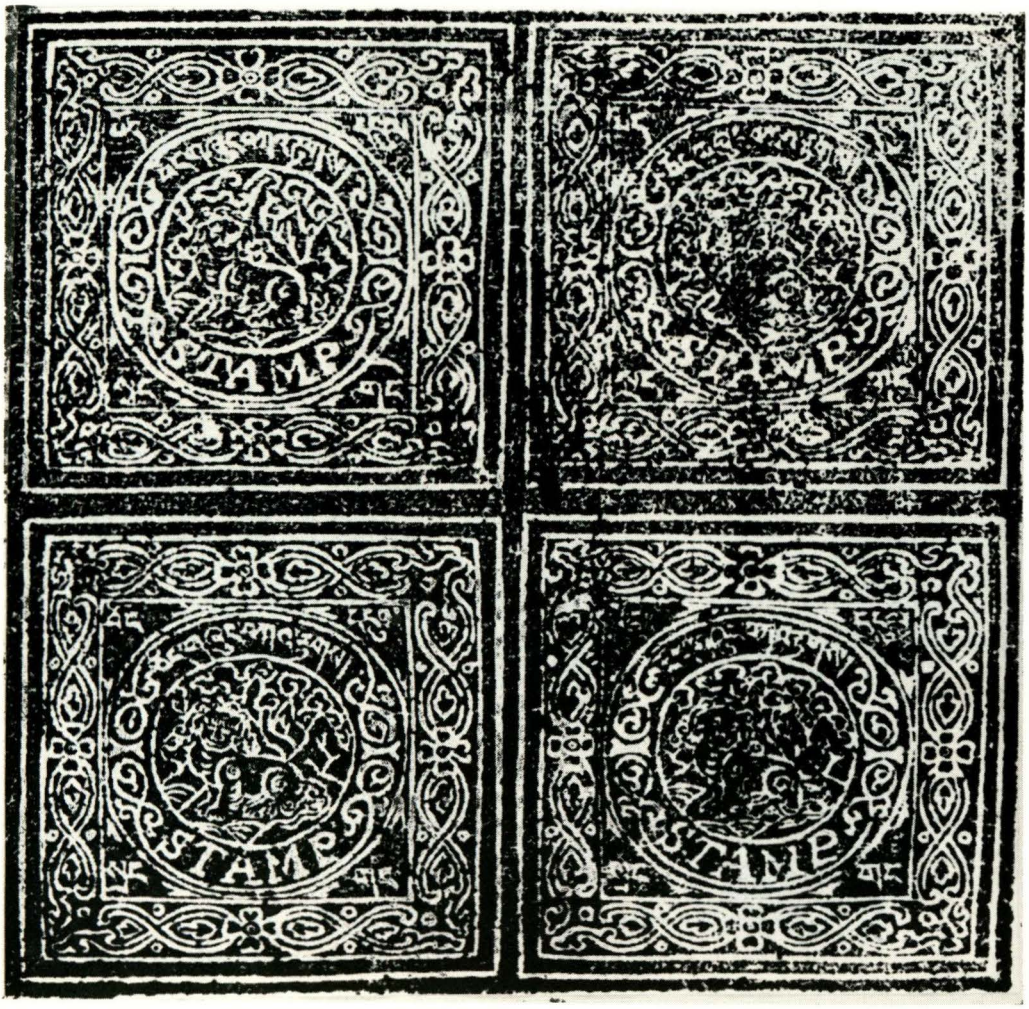


Fig. 7 Complete sheet of 8 of 1 Sang Official Stamp. For purpose of illustration, the sheet is divided in half. The left-hand half is on Page 86.

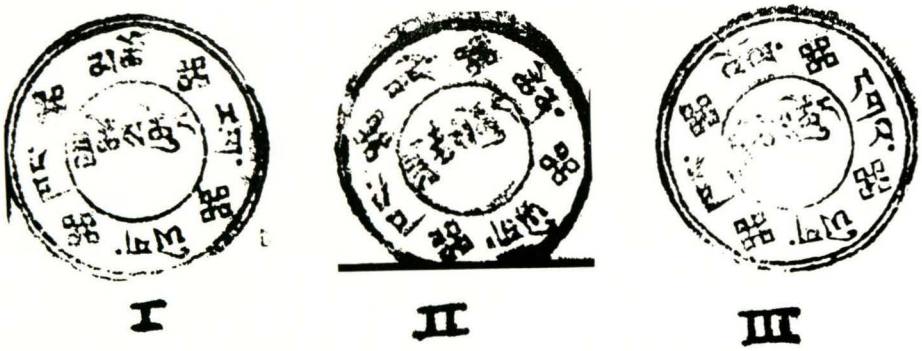


Fig. 10 Current Postmarks. Type I, Tsomora. Type II, Dechen. Type III, Holdga.

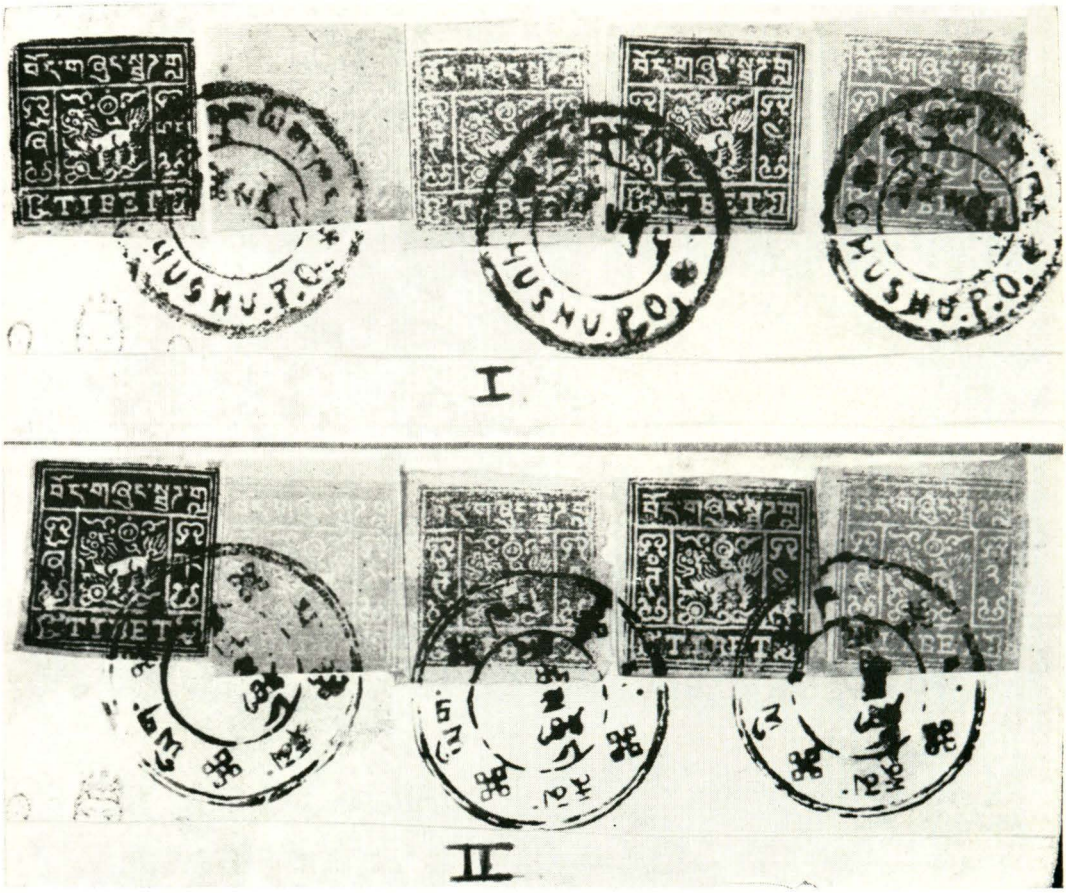


Fig. 9 Current Postmarks. Type I, Chushu, Type II, Penam.

pen by hand when applying the mark. Experience has shown that this is done very seldom. An examination of the marks in Figure 8 shows that this has been done on these two examples.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Cumming's friend, we have been furnished with a complete list of current post offices now open and operated by the Tibetan Government. The spelling is that given from Tibet. Shown in parentheses are the spellings as generally accepted by English and American map makers which had been followed in our previous writings, as follows: Lhasa, Dhechhen (Dechen), Malgung (Medagongkar), Chhoragh (Tsomora), Holdga (Holgha), Gyamda (Gymatha), Chhusur, (Chushu, or Chushul), Pelti, Nangche (Nangartse, or Nagartse), Gyalche (Gyantse), Panam (Penam, or Pena), Shiche (Shigatse), Phaghri (Phari).

In conclusion, we would like to thank the many collectors in various parts of the world who have written to us regarding these fascinating stamps and many of whom have supplied some small scrap of information. When pieced together with existing information this all proves to be a clue which opens a new line of research. The most important of our collaborators have been mentioned by name in the text.

TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

Its Postage Stamps and Postal History

By FRANK M. COWEN AND J. DEVASYA

(Continued From Page 26)

Counterfeit of Form III (Fig. 23)

Some time ago the illustrated pair of 8 cash ("SERVICE" in block letters) Travancore stamps (3rd Birthday Issue) with inverted overprint came into our possession. Certain oddities about the Indian currency overprint aroused our suspicions about its authenticity. For one thing, if this were a genuine invert, it is supposed that the words "FOUR PIES" should appear at the base of the stamp and the Malayalam equivalent at the top instead of the reverse. Of course, this argument would lose its validity if the sheet were placed in the press off center so that one line of the overprint appears on one stamp and the other on the next. However, the spacings between the two lines, if the latter were the case, are only 9 mm. and, as we have already mentioned in the discussion of Form III, the spacing varies from 16½ to 18½ mm. Eliminating this possibility leaves only one other, that the typesetter prepared another form in which the two lines of the overprint were inverted in the form and spaced about 15½ mm. Since there is absolutely no reason to believe that this occurred, we can eliminate it from serious consideration. The Roman and Malayalam letters of this counterfeit are somewhat similar to the genuine ones, but slight differences in some of the characters are obvious on close examination. Also the ink on the counterfeit is oilier in appearance and the impression is not as clean as with the originals.



Figure 23. Counterfeit of Form III, Inverted Overprint.

Mr. R. F. Stoney, *Phil. J. of India, LIV,* 140 (1950), has independently reported this counterfeit and his reasons for its classification as such are similar to ours. In correspondence with us, he has indicated that he believes the "SERVICE" overprint (Form B) on his copy is also forged. On the pair in our possession this overprint seems to be genuine in every respect.

Form IV (Diagram 2). 4 pies on 8 cash. Official (Fig. 20, A).

Evidently the overprint utilizing Form III was still unsatisfactory. As a result, a new setting was prepared *from the elements of*

Form III incorporating the word "SERVICE" in larger roman letters. This overprint was applied to the 8 cash regular stamp of the 3rd Birthday Issue. In resetting the type lines, the typesetter overlooked the "FOUB" error in position No. 10L which, in turn, passed the scrutiny of the printing officials for the second time (Fig. 22). In addition, over a half dozen minor flaws noted in certain positions of Form III are again found in the same position of Form IV. The error was later discovered so that later printings utilized stereo or electroplates prepared from the corrected setting. As before, the overprint is in black. It was applied so that the English words denoting the value appear above the portrait, the word "SERVICE" and the Malayalam words denoting the value appear in two lines directly below the portrait in that order. The stamp is known in varying shades of carmine. Some sheets were perforated 13½ x 13½ on the new comb machine in addition to the three guillotine machines regularly employed. The first day of issue is unknown but probably occurred late in 1949 or early in 1950.

Form V (Diagram 1). ½ anna on 1 chuckram. Regular (Fig. 18, C) and official (Fig. 19, C).

The black overprint, consisting of "HALF ANNA" in roman type and the equivalent in Malayalam directly below, was applied generally to the center of the 1 chuckram regular stamps of the 1st Birthday Issue and directly above the black, block "SERVICE" overprint (Form A) of the corresponding official stamps. The color of the stamp varies from a decided shade of apple-green through yellow-green to a strong green. Only one major typesetting error, in which "ANNA" appears as "NANA", is known. (Figs. 12, 24). The position of this error has been located by Mr. Stoney at No. 11L[14] and, as it was corrected at an early date, copies of both the regular and official stamps containing it are comparatively rare.

Generally speaking, the setting shows the earmarks of haste and numerous raised and lowered letters are evident. The overprint has been seen inverted on the official stamps (Fig. 24). It is not known whether the "NANA" error was present in any sheets of these inverts. A few of the outstanding constant minor varieties deserve mention. In stamp No. 35R the second "A" of "ANNA" is smaller. Stamp No. 36R shows two constant flaws; the top of the "F" in "HALF" is badly bent upward and, in the fourth Malayalam character of this same position, the right lower half of the letter is cut off. Mr. Stoney has reported (*Phil. J. of India, LIV*, 153) a tall and narrow final "A" in "ANNA" but was unable to locate the position. He has also found one stamp with a tall, narrow "H" in "HALF". We have not detected these varieties. They are both illustrated through his courtesy in Figure 24A. The regular stamp was first issued on July 1, 1949, and it is presumed that the official stamp was also made available on this day.



Figure 24A. Top: the long and narrow "H" in "Half". Center: the long and narrow "A" in "Anna". Bottom: Inverted overprint, 2 annas on 4 chuckrams. (From the Collection of Mr. R. F. Stoney, taken from a photo sent to us by his courtesy.)

[14] Reported to one of us (F.M.C.) in a letter dated December 9, 1952.



Figure 24. Errors of Forms V and VI. Top left, inverted (V). Top right, lower stamp, "AANA" (VI). Bottom, "NANA" (V).

Form VI (Diagram 1). ½ anna on 1 chuckram. Official (Fig. 20, B).

When supplies of the 1 chuckram service stamp ran low, a new form was set up to simultaneously overprint the regular 1 chuckram 1st Birthday Issue stamp in the new currency with the word "SERVICE" in roman letters. The overprint, applied in black to the center of the stamp, consists of three lines: (1) "HALF ANNA" in roman type, (2) the equivalent in Malayalam, and (3) "SERVICE" in roman type. As with the setting in Form V, many slightly raised or lowered letters are in evidence. One major typesetting error is known. Stamp 49R shows "ANNA" as "AANA".[15] (Fig. 24). It is believed that this error was corrected prior to the overprintings of stamps printed on Cochin Arms paper. Several constant minor flaws and spacing differences are known, which establish the use of a standard master form for the plates throughout the life of the Travancore conch shell paper stamps. The color of the stamp shows the usual variations. The date of issue is unknown but was probably sometime in late 1949 or early 1950.

As was noted above this overprint appeared on stamps printed on Cochin Arms paper in late 1950 or early 1951. The color of the stamps on this paper usually tends toward the intermediate to darker shades of green. The form employed was a resetting of Form VI. Several minor flaws occur at the same points in the same positions but the "AANA" error has been corrected. In addition spacings differ somewhat and one very noticeable line shift has occurred on stamp No. 25L. In this position, the 2nd (Malayalam) and 3rd ("SERVICE") lines have been shifted to the left, so that they are directly below the 1st line on the left side instead of being indented slightly. Evidently the form was wearing by this time, because the overprint is generally heavier and not as clean-cut.

15 An amusing story in connection with this error is told in *Stamps, 79,* 24 (April 5, 1952).

These printings presumably occurred in 1951, many copies being seen with postmarks dated after the abolition of the Anchal (April 1, 1951) but before the demonetization of the stamps (September, 1951).

Form VII (Diagram 2). 1 anna on 2 chuckrams. Regular (Fig. 18, D) and official (Fig. 19, D).

The basic stamp, the 2 chuckrams from the 1st Birthday Issue printed in shades of yellow-orange varying from pale to dark, was overprinted in black in two closely spaced lines immediately beneath the portrait. The first line reads "ONE ANNA" in roman type, the second, the equivalent in Malayalam. No major typesetting errors have come to light, although minor flaws and spacings prove the constancy of the setting. The typesetting job was done cleanly with few raised or dropped letters. A double overprint, possibly printers waste, is known. In addition to the usual guillotine perforations, this overprinted stamp for regular usage was perforated 13½ x 13½ on the new comb machine. First day of issue was July 1, 1949.

The stock of 2 chuckrams official stamps of the same issue ("SERVICE" in block letters, Form B) was converted to Indian currency adhesives with the same form. Since the service overprint was applied below the portrait, the position of the printing plate was shifted so that it struck the small available area above the portrait. Unlike the 4 pies on 8 cash overprint (Form B official overprint), where a special form from a new font of type was prepared, no such change occurred with this particular value. Thus it was difficult to avoid defacing a portion of the portrait. We think that the reason for this lack of change must be due to the relatively small stock of these official 2 chuckrams stamps on hand. Of all the values and types on the two papers, this particular stamp seems to be the rarest of the group. In any case, its life was short and the authorities shifted to the "SERVICE", in romans, overprint (Form VIII) in a short time. We have only seen the 12½ perforation although it is quite probable that Perf. 11 and 12 could exist. The production of this type was probably terminated before the 13½ x 13½ comb came into use for the small-sized stamps. The first day of issue is presumed to be July 1, 1949.

Form VIII (Diagram 2). 1 anna on 2 chuckrams. Official (Fig. 20, C).

The new three line overprinted 2 chuckrams stamp soon replaced the one described above. The words "ONE ANNA" in roman type appear above the portrait. The second line, "SERVICE" in romans, and the third line, the Malayalam equivalent of one anna, appear directly below the portrait of His Highness. Although the same type font was employed for this setting as that of Form VII, there is no evidence that it was made up of elements of the latter form. No major typesetting errors are known and there are few flaws of any consequence. No stamps perforated 13½ x 13½ (comb) have been seen on conch shell paper. The date of issue was probably in late 1949.

The same overprint was applied to 2 chuckrams stamps printed on Cochin Arms paper. Minor constant flaws and spacing differences show conclusively that the original setting had not been changed, although a few letter shifts have been noted. In these final printings, the wear on the form becomes quite evident. Not only are the letters generally heavier but positions No. 71R to 75R show signs of breakdown and wear in the word "SERVICE", many letters preparing with little or no serif. The usual shades of color have been noted. In addition to the usual guillotine perforations, this variety is known perforated 13½ x 13½ on the comb machine. The stamp was probably issued in late 1950 or early 1951.

Form IX (Diagram 1). 2 annas on 4 chuckrams. Regular (Fig. 18, E) and official (Fig. 19, E).

Both the 4 chuckrams regular and service (Form A) stamps, varying in shade from very light to dark chestnut, were overprinted in two lines in black. The first contained the words "TWO ANNAS" in roman type, the second, the three letter Malayalam equivalent. In the case of the official stamp, the overprint is found above the word "SERVICE" which was usually applied near the bottom of the central design. The regular

postage stamp has been found with an inverted conch shell watermark, a rather rare occurrence. No major typesetting errors are known for this form and the setting is generally free from dropped letters and minor flaws. Mr. Stoney, *Phil. J. of India, LIV,* 154 (1950), has reported an inverted overprint on the regular stamp, and through his courtesy we are able to illustrate it in Fig. 24A. The regular stamp appeared on July 1, 1949, and it is presumed that the official stamp also was issued on this day.

In late 1950 or early in 1951 the official stamp appeared on Cochin Arms paper. We have checked spacings and constant flaws on both the Travancore conch shell and Cochin Arms paper printings and find no evidence of any change in the setting. Since this value was also overprinted for official use with the roman "SERVICE" form (X) described below, it is difficult to explain why the authorities chose Forms IX and A over X. Two printing operations were involved in the former, only one in the latter. In the case of the 2 pies on 6 cash (Forms I and A), the reason was apparent since no roman "SERVICE" form had been set up. The other two official stamps on Cochin Arms paper, ½ anna on 1 chuckram (Form VI) and 1 anna on 2 chuckrams (Form VIII) were converted in one overprinting operation. Perhaps Form X was accidentally destroyed or lost, and the stereo or electroplates remaining were worn beyond useful continued service.

Form X (Diagram 1). 2 annas on 4 chuckrams. Official (Fig. 20, D).

Although we have not had the opportunity to examine sheets of this value, in the multiples seen by us the printing is generally good. The black overprint consists of three lines: (1) "TWO ANNAS" in romans, (2) the equivalent in Malayalam, and (3) "SERVICE" in roman letters. No errors or major flaws have been seen. The shade of the basic stamp varies from light to dark chestnut. The date of issue was probably in late 1949 or early 1950.

Form XI (Diagram 1). 3 annas on 7 chuckrams. Regular (Fig. 18, F) and official (Fig. 19, F).

This form departs from the previous ones in that the overprint consists of the English version of the value as a numeral instead of a word. In the two line overprint the first is "3 ANNAS"; the numeral *ca* 4 mm. high, the roman letters *ca* 2 mm. high. The second line is the Malayalam equivalent consisting of four normal size letters separated between the second and third by a small "u" shaped character raised about 1½ mm. above the line. Both the regular and official (Form A) stamps of 7 chuckrams value were overprinted with this form. No major typesetting or printing errors are known although two interesting major constant flaws have been seen. Stamp No. 28R shows a complete break, a horizontal line of "no color", through the upper half of the "3". Stamp No. 48R contains the "3" with about half of the top cut off at the left. Other minor constant flaws can be recognized. The basic 7 chuckrams stamp (1st Birthday Issue), as used for the overprint, appears in two distinct colors, shades of turquoise-blue and blue. The official designation as celeste blue is appropriate, the stamp design (Cape Comorin) blending well with this rather pleasing color. The overprint was applied to the right of His Highness' portrait over the view. In the case of the official stamps, the overprint was struck above the service overprint. Notification No. FIN(C) 3-1177-A/49, dated August 5, 1949, first described this overprint and thus indicated that both the above stamps were issued soon thereafter.

Form XII (Diagram 1). 3 annas on 7 chuckrams. Official (Fig. 20, E).

This black overprint is of unusual interest on several counts. It is similar to that of Form XI but contains a third line consisting of the word "SERVICE" in roman type. From an examination of the right panes of XI and XII it is apparent that the latter was derived from the former. The spacings between the "3"s are the same and several minor constant flaws of Form XI appear at the same positions in Form XII. In resetting Form XI, however, the typesetter re-



Figure 25. Errors of Form XII. Pair with bottom stamp having inverted "S" in "Service".



Enlargement of the above error. The two INVERTED "C" errors. The second "C" in "Service" inverted.

moved the two major "3" flaws in positions No. 28R and No. 48R, noted above, but at the same time introduced five major errors in the settings of the word "SERVICE" (Fig. 25). Stamp No. 10L shows the second "E" inverted and reversed, stamps No. 13R and No. 17R contain inverted and reversed "C"s, stamp No. 23L shows the "S" inverted and reversed, and in stamp No. 28L, the first "E" is inverted and reversed. The reason(s) for this sudden splurge of errors cannot be explained unless the compositor had become inefficient for some unknown reason. Except for an inverted "S" in the 6 annas on 14 chuckrams, noted below, this type of error is unknown in the rest of the series. However when clearer heads prevailed, a serious attempt was made to correct these errors. We have an extremely interesting sheet of Form XII in our possession, which tells the story of this correction. In this sheet the inverted, reversed "C"s (positions No. 13R and No. 17R) have been reset correctly. The inverted, reversed "E"s in positions No. 10L and No. 28L and the inverted, reversed "S" in position No. 23L evidently continued Someone in the Anchal system caught the "E" errors and neatly extracted them from the sheet. They have been replaced by two normal stamps *taped* into position with strips of gummed paper on the reverse! If it is assumed that this patchwork job was done by employees of the Government Press a further assumption would lead to the conclusion that a second resetting corrected these two errors. It is quite probable, of course, that some philatelically-minded employee of the Press or the Government Treasury, which supplied official stamps to government departments, took advantage of this opportunity to complete his collection of errors. In any case the "S" error, being difficult to see, possibly continued through all printings, and should, therefore, rank as the most common of the lot. The usual colors and shades have been noted. The date of issue probably occurred in 1950.

Form XIII (Diagram 1). 6 annas on 14 chuckrams. Regular (Fig. 18, G) and official (Fig. 19, G).

As with the three annas' overprint, this one consists of two lines printed in black of which the first contains the English inscription "6 ANNAS", the figure of value being a little over 4 mm. high and the roman letters, 2 mm. high. The second line consists of four normal size Malayalam characters separated between the second and third by the same raised small "u" shaped device noted with the three annas stamps. This character is generally placed slightly higher above the line of type than in Forms XI and XII. Both the regular and official (Form A) 14 chuckrams' 1st Birthday Issue received this overprint to the right of the portrait over the view and, in the latter case,

above the service overprint. The stamps were printed in light to strong shades of blue-green and they were issued overprinted with Form XIII soon after August 5, 1949 (Notification No. FIN(C) 3-1177-A/49). One typesetting error has been seen for this setting, position No. 52R showing no small "u" shaped character. This has been reported only on the official stamp, although it must also occur on the regular. From the small amount of material of this value at our disposal, we cannot state whether this ever was corrected. Outside of a few small unorthodox spacings and positions of the letters, the printing is relatively free from flaws and is neatly done. A compound perforation, 12½ x 12, has been found on the regular stamp.

Form XIV (Diagram 1). 6 annas on 14 chuckrams. Official (Fig. 20, F).

This last value of the set also received the black three line overprint, applied over the view, the third line being the word "SERVICE" in roman letters. Although only a small amount of material was examined, we are relatively certain that Form XIV was composed of elements from Form XIII. Position No. 52R still shows the missing "u" character. In addition, positions No. 4R, No. 48R, No. 53R, No. 17L and No. 44L show these same errors (Fig. 26) which have not been reported for Form XIII. Mr. R. F. Stoney was unable to locate the position that we ascribe to No. 17L, simply stating that it occurred in the left row of the left pane.[16] From a block in our possession with full margins on the left, we were able to decide that it was definitely from one of the following—No. 5L, 9L, 13L, 17L, 41L, 45L, 49L, or 53L. A careful comparison of this error-containing block with the left pane of Form XIII brought us to the conclusions that (1) Form XIV was constructed from Form XIII and (2) the position of the error is No. 17L because of several minor constant flaws evident in both Forms at the corresponding positions. Mr. Stoney reported to one of us (F. M. C.) in a letter dated July 13, 1952, that he had found an inverted "S" in "SERVICE". We have located an interesting flaw, position unknown, wherein the "6" is "cracked" horizontally by a wavy line of no color passing through the center. As with the stamp overprinted with Form XIII, the usual shades of color have been noted. The issue date is unknown but probably occurred in 1950.*



Figure 26. Errors of Form XIV. The two middle stamps show the Missing Malayalam "u" Character (Positions #48R, 52R).

16 In a letter to one of us (F.M.C.) dated Dec. 9, 1952, Mr. Stoney confirms our deductions, having located the position as #17L.

* *Note:* In his published survey of the errors and varieties of these Travancore overprints, *Phil. J. of India,* LIV, 151-155 (1950), Mr. Stoney mentions stop varieties in what we designated as Forms V, VI and X. We have seen one of these and believe it is not a true stop variety but rather a flaw due to a portion of raised type metal.

Travancore Overprinted Postal Stationery

At the time of political amalgamation, two items of postal stationery for regular postal usage were current in the State Anchal of Travancore, an 8 cash post card and a 1 chuckram envelope. These were said to have been first issued in 1942 and 1945 respectively.

The 8 cash card portrays His Highness the Maharaja in an irregular frame within the impressed stamp located in the upper right corner. This stamp, in addition, contains the value in both English and Malayalam (words and numerals), a conch shell at the top and, immediately below the portrait, the initials "BRV" (=Bala Rama Varma) of His Highness, the present Raj Pramukh. To the left of the imprinted stamp appears a three-line inscription extending across the top of the card, the lower two lines of which are broken in the center by a large numeral "8" and "CASH" immediately below. The first line consists of "TRAVANCORE" in roman letters. The left side of the second line consists of the words "ANCHAL CARD" in roman; the right side is the equivalent in Malayalam characters. The left side of the third line contains the Malayalam inscription translated as *writing space;* the right side, the Malayalam equivalent of *address*. The card is separated below the figure of value by a vertical line of color extending from the bottom of "CASH" to a point within a few millimeters of the bottom of the card. The card paper is of medium weight cream-colored wove stock measuring approximately 6 x 3½ inches. The stamp and inscriptions are in shades of carmine red. These cards were printed in sheets at Trivandrum by letter-press methods, and then cut into individual units. We do not know the number of units/sheet, although varying lengths of the vertical line indicate at least four.

The imprinted stamp in the upper right corner on the 1 chuckram envelope portrays His Highness within an oval containing the words "TRAVANCORE ANCHAL" on the left and "ONE CHUCKRAM" on the right. The usual conch shell is inserted at the top, and the value in Malayalam characters appears in a fancy panel at the bottom. The stamp, in shades of magenta, was printed at Trivandrum by letter-press embossing from single dies on the already folded envelope. The envelope paper is a light buff-brown diagonally laid stock watermarked with a large conch shell above which appears the word "GOVERNMENT", in a curved line, and below, the words "OF TRAVANCORE", in a straight line—all in large double-lined roman letters. Portions of this watermark occur on all envelopes. The back top flap is rounded and gummed. Under it, on the top of the left flap, is embossed in colorless block letters, "TRAVANCORE ANCHAL". The envelope measures approximately 4¾ x 3¾ inches.

4 pies on 8 cash. Post card (Fig. 27)

On July 1, 1949, Anchal Offices in Travancore placed on sale the overprinted 4 pies on 8 cash card. The black overprint consists of two parts: (1) A three line inscription applied over the printed stamp below the face of the portrait. The first line consists of the words "FOUR PIES" in block letters; the second and third lines are the Malayalam equivalents of *four* and *pies* respectively. (2) A two line inscription applied over the large figure of value in the center of the card. The first line being a large figure "4"; the second, "PIES" in serif letters.

Since the overprinting operation was probably done principally on uncut sheets of the 8 cash cards, several settings of the overprint should be expected. Such seems to be the case. In addition two distinct type fonts were employed which results in two major types.[17]

Type I (Trivandrum) A first day card in our possession is overprinted with a small font of type. At least two settings of the three line portion of the overprint were employed. What we shall call Setting [a] has the following characteristics: (1) The three line inscription: both English and Malayalam letters 1¾ mm. high; the first line is

[17] Soon after the amalgamation in 1949, a Lorry-load of Travancore & cash cards and 1 chuckram envelopes was despatched from Trivandrum to Ernakulam, the ex-capital of Cochin, where the described overprints (Types II) were applied by The Ex-Cochin State Press.

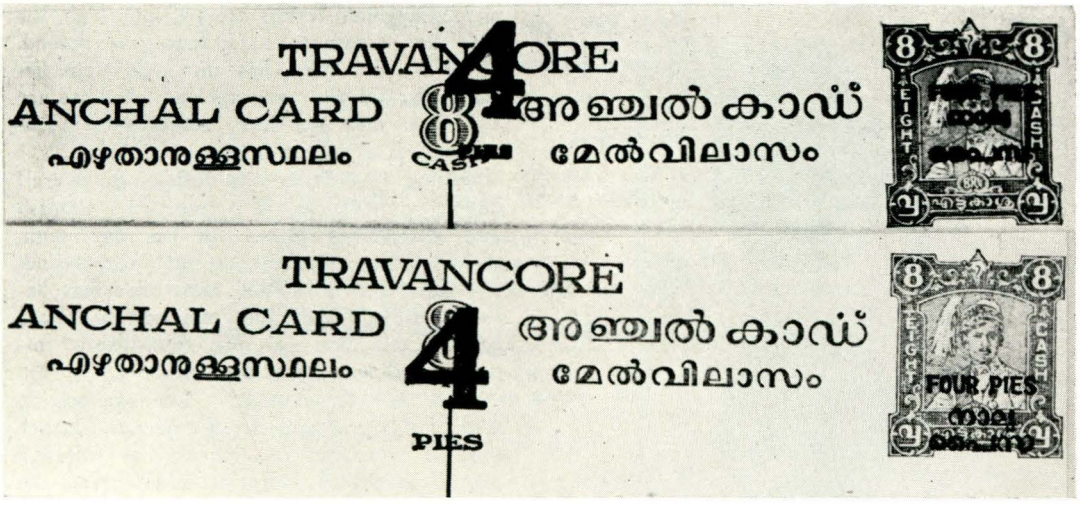


Figure 27. Travancore Overprinted Post Cards. Upper, Type I (Setting[a]). Lower, Type II.

spacing between the two parts of the overprint varies from 51½ mm. to 54 mm.

Setting [b] has exactly the same characteristics as Setting [a] except that both the 2nd and 3rd lines are shifted to the right; as a result the right side of the third Malayalam character of the second line (three line inscription) points upward to the space between "I" and "E" of "PIES" (1st line). In Setting [a] the arm points up to the "I" of "PIES". In Setting [b] the two portions of the overprint are separated by a distance of 53 mm. to 54¾ mm.

Type II (Ernakulam) A larger font of type was employed to produce this type. Only one setting of the overprint has been noted. It has the following characteristics: (1) The three line inscription: both English and Malayalam letters are 2¼ mm. high; the first line is 13½ mm. long, the second, 8 mm. long, and the third, 13 mm. in length. Spacings between the 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd lines are 2 mm. and 1¼ mm. respectively. The overall height is 9¾ mm. (2) The two line inscription: the figure of value is 13 mm. high and 10 mm. wide. The word "PIES" is 2 mm. high and 8¼ mm. long. The two are separated by a space of 3¼ mm. and the overall height is 18¼ mm. (3) The spacing between the two portions of the overprint varies from 54¾ mm. to 55½ mm.

The varying spacings between the two portions of the overprint can be ascribed to one of two reasons. Either the overprinting was done in two operations, or the different spacings represent different units in the form set up to carry out the overprinting operation on sheets of the cards. We believe the latter explanation better represents the facts.

½ anna on 1 chuckram. Envelope (Fig. 28)

As with the above post card, the ½ anna on 1 chuckram envelope appeared on July 1, 1949. The black overprint, applied below the face of the portrait, consists of three lines. The first is the English expression of value, "HALF ANNA" in block letters; the second, the Malayalam two character equivalent of *one-half;* and the third, the Malayalam equivalent of *anna.*

This overprint was applied singly to the already folded and printed envelopes and, like the cards, two type fonts were employed, one at Trivandrum and the other at Ernakulam.

Type I (Trivandrum) Two settings of this type have been noted. Setting [a], seen on an envelope used the first day, has the following major characteristics: overall height of overprint is 10 mm.; the English



Figure 28. Travancore Overprinted Envelopes. Upper, Type I (Setting[a]). Lower, Type II.

and Malayalam letters are 1¾ mm. high, the first line measures 14¼ mm., the second, 6½ mm., the third, 8¾ mm. Spacings between the 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd lines are 1¼ mm. and 3¼ mm. respectively. Impression of overprint is generally sharp.

Setting [b] shows the following: overall height of overprint is 9 mm.; the English and Malayalam letters are 1¾ mm. high, the first line measures 14 mm., the second, 6½ mm., the third, 8¾ mm. Spacings between the 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd lines are 1½ mm. and 1¾ mm. respectively. Impression of the overprint is blurred.

Type II (Ernakulam) The one setting seen of this overprint, from a new and larger font of type, can be described as follows: overall height of overprint is 9¼ mm.; the English and Malayalam letters are 2¼ mm. high, the first line measures 14¾ mm., the second, 6¾ mm., the third, 9 mm. Spacings between the 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd lines are both 1¼ mm. The overprint is generally sharp and well-defined.

Check List

Travancore Overprints, 1949-1951

NO. OF FORM IN PARENTHESES

Regular Issue, 1949 (all July 1 except 3 and 6 annas)

Thin white wove paper

Perforated No.	11, 12, 12½	Gummed	Wmk. Conch Shell
1	2 pies on 6 cash (R), blackish violet (I) a. Third Malayalam character wrong (#54R)		
2	4 pies on 8 cash, carmine (II)		
3	½ anna on 1 chuckram, apple green, yellow green (V) a. "NANA" for "ANNA" (#11L)		
4	1 anna on 2 chuckrams, yellow orange (VII) a. Perf. 13½ x 13½ (comb), 1951 (?)		
5	2 annas on 4 chuckrams, chestnut (IX) a. Inverted overprint		
6	3 annas on 7 chuckrams, turquoise blue, blue (XI)		
7	6 annas on 14 chuckrams, blue green (XIII) a. Small "u" character missing (#52R)		

Official Issues, 1949-1951

Thin white wove paper

(a) Previously overprinted "SERVICE" in black block type

Perforated	11, 12, 12½	Ungummed	Wmk. Conch Shell
8	2 pies on 6 cash (R), blackish violet (I) a. Third Malayalam character wrong (#54R)		
9	4 pies on 8 cash, carmine (III) a. "FOUB" for "FOUR" (#10L)		
10	½ anna on 1 chuckram, apple green, yellow green (V) a. "NANA" for "ANNA" (#11L) b. Inverted overprint		
11	1 anna on 2 chuckrams, yellow orange (VII)		
12	2 annas on 4 chuckrams, chestnut (IX)		
13	3 annas on 7 chuckrams, turquoise blue, blue (XI)		
14	6 annas on 14 chuckrams, blue green (XIII) a. Small "u" character missing (#52R)		

(b) "SERVICE" in black roman type

Perforated No.	11, 12, 12½	Ungummed	Wmk. Conch Shell
15	4 pies on 8 cash, carmine (IV) a. "FOUB" for "FOUR" (#10L) b. Perf. 13½ x 13½ (comb)		
16	½ anna on 1 chuckram, apple green, yellow green (VI) a. "AANA" for "ANNA" (#49R)		
17	1 anna on 2 chuckrams, yellow orange (VIII)		
18	2 annas on 4 chuckrams, chestnut (X)		
19	3 annas on 7 chuckrams, turquoise blue, blue (XII) a. "S" in "SERVICE" inverted and reversed (#23L) b. First "E" in "SERVICE" inverted and reversed (#28L) c. Second "E" in "SERVICE" inverted and reversed (#10L) d. "C" in "SERVICE" inverted and reversed (#13R, #17R)		
20	6 annas on 14 chuckrams, blue green (XIV) a. Small "u" character missing (#17L, #44L, #4R, #48R, #52R, #53R) b. "S" in "SERVICE" inverted and reversed		

Thick light cream wove paper

(a) Previously overprinted "SERVICE" in black block type

Perforated	11, 12, 12½	Ungummed	Wmk. Cochin Arms
21	2 pies on 6 cash (R), blackish violet (I)		
22	2 annas on 4 chuckrams, chestnut (IX)		

(b) "SERVICE" in black roman type

Perforated	11, 12, 12½	Ungummed	Wmk. Cochin Arms
23	½ anna on 1 chuckram, yellow green (VI)		
24	1 anna on 2 chuckrams, yellow orange (VIII) a. Perf. 13½ x 13½ (comb)		

Post Cards

1 4 pies on 8 cash, carmine on cream (Type I of overprint, English and Malayalam letters 1¾ mm. high). July 1, 1949.

2 4 pies on 8 cash, carmine on cream (Type II of overprint, English and Malayalam letters 2¼ mm. high).

Envelopes

1 ½ anna on 1 chuckram, magenta on light buff-brown diagonally laid, watermarked paper (Type I of overprint, English and Malayalam letters 1¾ mm. high). July 1, 1949.

2 ½ anna on 1 chuckram, magenta on light buff-brown diagonally laid, watermarked paper (Type II of overprint, English and Malayalam letters 2¼ mm. high).

2. The Cochin Overprints, 1949

Beginning in 1911 the Cochin Anchal instituted a policy of issuing a series of regular and official adhesive stamps and postal stationery portraying the current Raja of the State; the all-India currency of pies, annas, and rupees having been adopted in the meantime as legal tender. Whenever a new ruler ascended the throne, the entire series was re-issued with a new portrait. As a result, the stamps and stationery of Cochin can be conveniently classified as those of the Raja I, Raja II, Raja III, Raja IV, Raja V (two types), and Raja VI([18]) issues. Rajas I, II, III, V, and VI were of the Rama Varma family. Raja IV was from the Kerala Varma family. Raja VI was the last Maharaja of Cochin and retired when the union with Travancore became effective in 1949. Except for the different portraits, the designs of all these issues are very similar. The four symbols of the Raja's shield appear in the four corners of the stamps. These are the palanquin denoting progress (N. W. corner), the conch shell denoting plenty (N. E. corner), the lamp denoting instructions (S. W. corner), and the umbrella denoting protection (S. E. corner). These are the same emblems already noted as a part of the Cochin Arms watermark. The adhesive issues with Rajas I, II, and III were recess-printed by Perkins, Bacon and Co., London. During the reign of Raja III (1938), the printing contract was transferred to The Associated Printers, Madras, who produced the same Raja III series by lithography. This firm continued to produce all the subsequent issues for the Government of Cochin. With the exception of the abortive pictorial issue of 1949—only two values were issued of a planned full set showing Cochin scenes—all of the Raja types were issued generally lightly gummed and in fully perforated sheets of 48 (8 x 6) with full sheet margins. The sheet size is approximately 10½ x 8⅜ inches. Details on the Cochin Arms watermarked paper used from about 1943 onward, were given in Part I of this chapter. In the period with which we are concerned The Associated Printers employed two guillotine machines, perforating 11 and 13 respectively. The regular stamps were converted to official stamps by the overprinting, $C \begin{smallmatrix} ON \\ S \end{smallmatrix} G$ (= On Cochin Government Service), over the face of the stamp. Both this job and that of change-in-value overprints were probably done at the Government Press in Ernakulam. Their general policy was to typeset a form for overprinting the entire sheet in one operation. Stereo or electroplates were cast from the forms and used for the actual printing operation. The Cochin Anchal Department resorted quite often to change-in-value overprints to cover rate changes or shortages of certain values. Generally these overprints were expressed in English only (witness the provisionals of the 1939-44 "War Period"), but with one or two possible exceptions, the 1949 overprints were in two lines—the first, at the top of the stamp, expressed the new value in English; the second, at the bottom, gave the value in Malayalam.

Since all Cochin Anchal stamps, starting with the Raja I issue of 1911-23, were valid for Anchal purposes throughout Travancore-Cochin, it would be confusing to classify any Cochin postal paper issued around July 1, 1949, as Travancore-Cochin material. This would result in the separation of certain Raja VI issues and 1949 change-in-value overprints from their logical classification as Cochin Anchal emissions. In the later days of the united Anchal, Travancore overprinted stamps and the Nasik permanent series were widely distributed in the ex-Cochin Anchal Offices as supplies of the Cochin Anchal issues were allowed to run low once existing contracts with The Associated Printers had been fulfilled. As we have already seen, the Anchal of the United State called in supplies of paper employed by the Cochin Anchal for its stamps and stationery, utilizing them for emissions of the Travancore-Cochin Anchal.

The purpose of the 1949 overprints was probably to increase stocks of certain values needed to cope with rate changes that occurred right before or on July 1, 1949. For example, the Raja VI envelope was of a 9 pies value and the increased rate to 1 anna/

[18] These numerals are for convenience only and do not represent any number adopted by the Raja.

tola necessitated the addition of a 3 pies adhesive stamp to convert the envelope to the proper rate. Stocks of the Raja V (both types) and Raja VI regular and official stamps were utilized. Because of a lack of material at this writing, we are not certain of the number of forms set up for these overprints although we have included a provisional assignment in the discussion below. These forms are numbered from C1 to CX for the value overprints. The "ON C. G. S." forms are classified as CA Raja V—1st Type), CB (Raja V—2nd Type) and CC (Raja VI).

The following general facts should be kept in mind about these overprints. The earliest date of issue is not known at present for any of the values, but is assumed to have been in 1949([19]). The Raja V (both types) overprints were perforated on a guillotine machine gauging 13, the Raja VI, on a guillotine machine gauging 11. Although we have not uncovered examples, it is possible that Raja V, perf. 11 or compound, and Raja VI, perf. 13 or compound exist. Imperfs. and part perfs. can also be assumed to have escaped the eyes of the Cochin Inspectors although the number of errors and varieties of these overprinted stamps are practically nil. All the overprinted stamps are on Cochin Arms paper and, therefore, can be found with or without portions of the watermark and with the watermark inverted, reversed, etc. The other details already have been covered in the general discussion. The colors of the stamps are the same as the unoverprinted types and a variety of shades can be found on some values. In the discussion below, we have generally indicated the catalogued color only as a lack of material prevents us from covering this point adequately.

The 3 pies overprints.

The two line overprint was applied in black to the 9 pies Raja V (Type 2), ultramarine, and the 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine, regular issues (Fig. 29, A, B). The first line consists of the English inscription "THREE PIES" in roman letters. The second line, the Malayalam equivalent in two groups of characters about 2 mm. high. The length of the second line is 19½ mm. Although we have only examined a limited amount of material, we believe plates from the same form (CI) were used for both stamps.

The same size and type of overprint was applied in red to the 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine, regular issue (Fig. 29, C). The wider spacing between the lines leads us to believe plates from a new setting (Form CII) were employed.

The 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine, regular issue (Fig. 29, D) was also overprinted in a two line black overprint from a new form (C III) differing from Form CI in that the spacing between the lines is similar to Form CII, the Malayalam characters are from a smaller font of type (1½ mm. high), and the length of the Malayalam line is ca. 16 mm.

Other than shades no varieties have been seen or reported for the 3 pies overprints.

The 6 pies overprints.

A two-line overprint was printed in black on the 1 anna 3 pies Raja V (Type I), magenta, regular, 1 anna 3 pies Raja V (Type 2), magenta, regular[20], and the 3 pies Raja VI, carmine, official stamps (Fig. 29, E, F, G). From an examination of spacings and minor type varieties one form (C IV) was used for the overprint. This consisted of the English line "SIX PIES" in romans and the Malayalam equivalent in characters 2 mm. high and a line length of 19½ mm. The 3 pies Raja VI stamp, mentioned above, includes the additional C $\frac{ON}{S}$ G overprint (block letters) in black (Form CC) and shows the varieties common to this form; *i.e.* position No. 4 is the error C $\frac{ON}{S}$ C (some authorities believe the so-called "C" error to be a defective "G"), positions No. 5 and No. 16 show the "G" with a flat back, and the "C" of position No. 15 is defective on the lower right side giving it a similar

[19] Information now on hand leads us to believe that most, if not all, of these overprints were issued prior to July 1, 1949.

[20] The basic stamp is unknown without the "ON C G S" overprint.

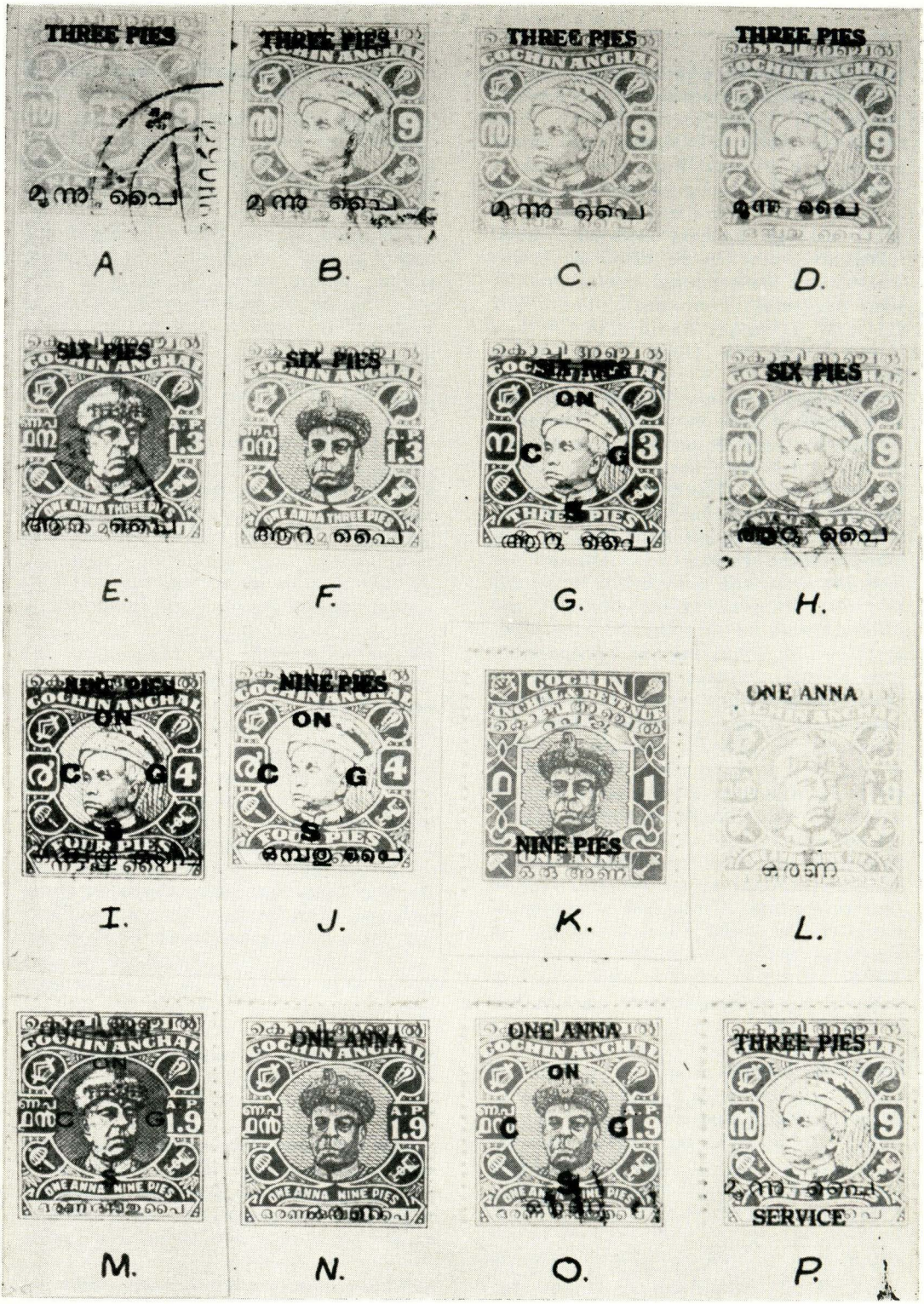


Fig. 29. The Cochin Overprinted Stamps.

appearance to the "C" for "G" error in position No. 4. The only other error we have seen is a distinctive double overprint on the 1 anna 3 pies Raja V (Type 2) regular stamp. To all appearances this is a true double strike and not a slippage of the overprinting plate during the printing operation.

A new form (C V), differing from Form C IV in that it shows a shorter spacing between the two lines of the overprint, was applied in red to the 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine, regular stamp (Fig. 29, H). No varieties are known.

The 9 pies overprints.

This overprint, in two lines, was struck on the 4 pies Raja VI, green, official stamp in black (Fig. 29, I, J). The first line of this change-in-value overprint consists of the words "NINE PIES" in roman letters. The Malayalam equivalent is found in two line lengths from two fonts of type. In Form C VI the characters are 2 mm. high and the length of the line is 22 mm. In Form C VII the characters are 1½ mm. high and the line is about 17½-18 mm. long. Form CC (see above) had been used to convert the regular stamp to one for official usage. The usual varieties of this black letter overprint (positions No. 4, 5, 15, and 16), already described below, are present.

Gibbons lists a 9 pies black overprint on the 1 anna Raja V (Type 2) "Anchal and Revenue", orange, and implies by its listing that it is a two line English-Malayalam overprint like the others of this series. The only overprint (other than the later "U. S. T. C." and "T.-C." series) we have seen on this stamp is a single line "NINE PIES" black printing in serif letters struck below the portrait (Fig. 29, K). We have contacted authorities (both collectors and dealers) for copies of this stamp and invariably have received ones with the single line English overprint. Therefore, we believe that the two line overprint does not exist and should be so indicated in the catalogues. The fact that we have several covers in our collections with this stamp (single line overprint) being accepted for postal duty would seem to imply that it is essentially an Anchal stamp unlike its unoverprinted brother. We are designating the form for this printing as C VIII. No varieties are known.

The 1 anna overprints

The 1 anna two line overprint was applied in red to both the regular and official 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type I), ultramarine, and 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type 2), ultramarine[21], issues (Fig. 29, L, M, N, O). The English line consists of the words "ONE ANNA" in romans. The Malayalam line, the equivalent in characters 2 mm. high and a line length of 9½-10 mm. There seems to be some variations in the spacings but due to a lack of sufficient material we shall designate all 1 anna overprints as originating from Form C IX. The official stamps included above were prepared by previously overprinting the basic stamps in black from plates prepared from Form CA (Raja V Type 1) and Form CB (Raja V, Type 2). These two forms differ between themselves and Form CC in the size and shape of the letters "ON C G S".

No typesetting or printing varieties are known but the 1 anna on 1 anna 9 pies (Raja V, Type 1, regular) has been seen in a distinct violet color.

The 3 pies "SERVICE" overprint

This last overprint of the series differs from the others in that it consists of three lines, applied in black to the 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine, regular issue (Fig. 29, P). The first line of this form (C X) consists of the English words "THREE PIES" in roman type at the top of the stamp; the second line, immediately beneath the portrait, is the Malayalam equivalent with characters ca. 2 mm. high and a line length of ca. 20 mm.; the third line, at the bottom, consists of the word "SERVICE" in roman letters from the same font of type as the 1st line. In other words, except for the additional 3rd line and spacings between the 1st and 2nd, the overprint resembles that from Form CI. Although we have contacted several collectors interested in these stamps, we are unable to verify Gibbons (1953) listing of this stamp with two sizes of the Malayalam characters and line length. We concur with the general feeling that this listing is probably in error. No varieties of this overprint are known.

[21] Like the 1 anna 3 pies value, the 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type 2) is not known without the "ON C G S" overprint.

Unlike the other overprints of this series there is reason to believe that this official stamp should be more properly classified as a general Travancore-Cochin issue. In replacing "ON C G S" (= On Cochin Government Service) with "SERVICE", the authorities responsible imply a recognition of the change in government. If it can be shown that this overprint first appeared on or after July 1, 1949, we recommend that it be listed under Travancore-Cochin rather than Cochin.

Check List

Cochin Overprints, 1949
NO. OF FORM IN PARENTHESES
Regular Issue

Thick light cream wove paper

Perforated 13 (Raja V, both types), 11 (Raja VI) — Generally Gummed — Wmk. Cochin Arms

No.

1 3 pies on 9 pies Raja V (Type 2), ultramarine (C1)
2 3 pies on 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine (CI)

Note: In Forms CI and CII the Malayalam letters are 2 mm. high and the line measures 19½ mm.

3 3 pies on 9 pies Raja VI (R), ultramarine (CII)
4 3 pies on 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine (CIII), Malayalam 1½ mm. high, Malayalam line 16 mm. (long)
5 6 pies on 1 anna 3 pies Raja V (Type 1), magenta (CIV)
6 6 pies on 1 anna 3 pies Raja V (Type 2), magenta (CIV)
a. Overprint double
7 6 pies on 9 pies Raja VI (R), ultramarine (CV)

Note: In Forms CIV and CV the Malayalam letters measure 2 mm. high, the line is 9½ mm. long.

8 9 pies on 1 anna Raja V (Type 2), orange (CVIII)

Note: Unlike the others, this overprint consists of the single line "NINE PIES".

9 1 anna on 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type 1) (R), ultramarine (CIX)
10 1 anna on 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (type T) (R), ultramarine (CIX)

Note: The Malayalam letters of Form CIX are 2 mm. high, the line measures 9½-10 mm.

Thick light cream wove paper

Perforated 13 (Raja V, both types), 11 (Raja VI) — Generally Gummed — Wmk. Cochin Arms

(a) Previously overprinted in black "ON C G S" from Forms CA (Raja V, Type 1), CB (Raja V, Type 2) or CC (Raja VI)

11 6 pies on 3 pies Raja VI, carmine (CIV)
a. "C" for "G" in service overprint (#4)

Note: The Malayalam letters are 2 mm. high, the line is 19½ mm. long.

12 9 pies on 4 pies Raja VI, green (CVI)
a. "C" for "G" in service overprint (#4)

Note: The Malayalam letters are 2 mm. high and the line measures 22 mm.

13 9 pies on 4 pies Raja VI, green (CVII)
a. "C" for "G" in service overprint (#4)

Note: The Malayalam letters measure 1½ mm., the line, 17½-18 mm. long.

14 1 anna on 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type 1) (R), ultramarine, violet (CIX)
15 1 anna on 1 anna 9 pies Raja V (Type 2) (R), ultramarine (CIX)

Note: Same characteristics as regular 1 anna overprint.

(b) Three line overprint in black, the third line being "SERVICE" in roman letters.

16 3 pies on 9 pies Raja VI, ultramarine (CX)

Note: The Malayalam letters are 2 mm. high, the line length is 20 mm.

(To be Continued.)

THE CLUBHOUSE

Annual Meeting

January 14, 1954

Report Of The Membership Committee

At the start of our campaign last year over 800 Resident and U. S. Non-resident Members were sent an individually typed letter, personally signed and mailed with enclosures and a return stamped addressed envelope. Each Member was requested to suggest the name or names of worthy candidates, known to them, and whom they would be willing to sponsor, if they would care to join us.

Our Members responded with enthusiasm. Several hundred replies were received. Every person suggested received an individually typed and personally signed letter of explanation, a brochure and an application blank to be handed or forwarded to his sponsor when and if he decided to request membership.

Of the several hundred applications sent out, 199 were returned, correctly filled out and sponsored by a Member. Every one of these candidates successfully passed the scrutiny of The Admissions Committee. This speaks very highly of our Membership at large, who must ever have the good name of the Collectors Club at heart, when they select their candidates with so much care and forethought.

To even intimate that the final results were achieved single handed would not only be erroneous but a direct misstatement of fact.

Comparative Membership chart follows.

Sidney F. Barrett, Chairman

Collectors Club

Membership Comparisons

Commencing 1953 and 1954

	Total Membership January 1st, 1953		New Members		Reinstated		Total		Resigned		Dropped		Deceased		Total Membership January 1st, 1954
Resident	249	plus	36	plus	4	=	289	minus	6	minus	3	minus	1	=	279
Resident under 35	21	plus	3	plus	0	=	24	minus	0	minus	0	minus	0	=	24
U. S. Non-resident	605	plus	127	plus	4	=	736	minus	25	minus	12	minus	6	=	693
Junior	3	plus	0	plus	0	=	3	minus	0	minus	0	minus	0	=	3
Foreign	154	plus	33	plus	1	=	188	minus	2	minus	2	minus	2	=	182
	1032	plus	199	plus	9	=	1240	minus	33	minus	17	minus	9	=	1181
Honorary or Life Members, United States 5, Foreign 5															10
Total Membership, January 1st, 1954															1191

Report Of The Library Committee

In order to give all the members of the Collectors Club a better idea of their Library and its work this Report is being made in two primary divisions.

No. 1. Library Activities and Problems.
No. 2. Library Committee Activities

I doubt if many of our club members realize that Mrs. Bradford, our librarian is busy the entire day, five days a week in the Club's Library. This is not just an isolated case, but every week in and out throughout the entire year.

You may ask where is all this time spent? Here is your answer:

A constant stream of periodicals, magazines, books arrive each month. We receive every worthwhile stamp magazine which is published not alone in the United States but throughout the entire world. We have on file in our Library hundreds of these weekly or monthly periodicals. These all have to be entered on cards and individually catalogued. When a volume is complete, all the various issues must be packed and sent to the binder with instructions as to color and lettering. When new books are received they have to be acknowledged, entered and placed on the shelves. This last operation is complicated as our space is inadequate. A list of all new books which are received is made out and sent to the Editor of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST as many of the outstanding books are reviewed.

Your Librarian is daily in receipt of letters, phone and personal inquiries for information. Out-of-town members request data which has to be looked up and the volumes taken from the shelves, packed and then a trip to the Post Office for mailing. On meeting nights, members ask for books and information; and mind you this is after a busy day.

Regarding the Library Committee's Activities.

The interest from the Chittenden Fund is used primarily for binding our magazines, and renovating old volumes. Besides this fund, an appropriation of $350.00 is added each year by the Board of Governors to enable the Library to purchase new works and complete our old files by purchasing missing books. This year one of the outstanding acquisitions was the volume "Royal Philatelic Collection" by Sir John Wilson.

For the year 1954 the Board has increased the Library's appropriations to $500.00. It has also approved the Library Committee's request that the Library be made available to the Public five days a week as a community service. Hours 1-5 P. M. This year our Club can be proud of a very outstanding achievement. Negotiations were finally concluded between the Library Committee and the Board of Governors which resulted in our President's request to Dr. Beals, Director of *the New York Public Library,* for a Professional and Technical Survey of the Collectors Club's Library in all its technical, administrative and service aspects. Dr. Beal agreed to make this extensive survey at no cost to the Collectors Club.

With this survey in mind your Library Committee held many meetings seeking information from the best qualified sources. The results were:

Memorandum
on
The need for and the Nature of
A Declaration of Library Objectives,
Functions and Policies
For the Consideration of
The Board of Governors of the
Collectors Club, New York
Prepared for
The Chairman of the Library Committee
By
JOHN BOYNTON KAISER
(a member of the Committee)

These policies were approved by the Board of Governors, which recommended and authorized the Committee to represent the Club in negotiations with the Survey Committee and specifically that Mr. John Boynton Kaiser (Director of the Newark Public Library) serve as liaison on technical questions between the Club Library Committee and the Technical staff making the survey. The survey staff composed of Mr. Paul Kebabian, Chief Cataloger and Mr. Joseph Hansbery, Technical Assistant, and Mr. Robert E. Kingery, Chief of the Preparation Division of the Reference Department of the New York Public Library, have had several meetings with the Chairman of the Library Committee, Mr. Julian Gros: Mr. John B. Kaiser, Director of the Public Library of Newark, who is acting as Liaison between the Library Committee of the Club and the survey staff and the Librarian of the Club. An interim report dated December 30, 1953, has been submitted by the survey staff and is being made a part of this report. We expect a final and complete report of this survey after February 1st.

The Library Committee does not wish to anticipate the survey report's recommendations, and in fact cannot, but certain needs are obvious to those attempting to use the library and get the most out of it, such as the need for:

1. Better classification and cataloguing of resources.
2. More space.
3. More professional and clerical help if the real objectives of the library are to be realized.

All of which means *more money,* but not more than a club with our membership should be able to supply if properly approached.

Julian F. Gros, Chairman

Report Of The Publications Committee

Few clubs owe so much to so few as does this club. THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and the Handbooks are the result of the efforts put into them by the Chairman, the Editor and the Editorial Board plus the splendid group who contribute their time, energy and thought on the writings they have so generously given us. The Editor will tell you more of our future prospects.

Many members fail to realize the value and significance of the Club's publications. To those who are unable to visit our building and attend the meetings our publications are a constant reminder of the calibre and substantial standing of the Club in the Philatelic World—and we use that term in its broadest sense.

We cannot refrain from quoting at this time from an editorial run recently in "Philately from Australia":

"In the long run it is the written word, in every branch of knowledge, that ensures prolonged health. Exhibitions, collections, collectors come and go, but the publications of the past still remain for reference, to whet the interest of later generations".

What we publish here is not a philatelic newspaper; it is not "topical", but merely aims at being a journal of record. Its main object is to assist the advanced collector and at the same time to aid intelligent medium collectors to become, if they so desire, more advanced. It is equally desirous of seeing that, in all its features, everything is done, by way of presentation and style, that can be done, to make the matter most intelligible and interesting.

The Editor and the Publications Committee are proud to feel that it may help you, but you must not expect always to find something that necessarily impinges directly on your own collecting interests. We believe that you will help yourself if you are prepared to read sometimes about the other person's interests, and that a breadth of mind is necessary if you are to achieve happiness and success in collecting.

We do not know how many of you have read the charming books by the modern Chinese philosopher, Mr. Chiang Yee — under the titles of "The Silent Traveller", but in his latest "The Silent Traveller in Dublin" he remarks on politics and good literature — saying: " . . . it is a curious fact that no matter how great political issues may be, their significance is often confined to the region of the globe in which they originate, while the influence of works of literature and philosophy may be world-wide. A political issue fades with time: good literature and sound philosophy do not".

We are sure that if you carefully consider what we have just quoted, you will agree that in following a similar philosophy in the publications of The Collectors Club, we are doing much to enhance the respect in which the Club is held by philatelists everywhere.

It is our intention, which we hope meets with your approval to continue the policies which have resulted in the splendid magazine and publications of the past five years.

Winthrop S. Boggs, Chairman

Report Of The Editor

The production on schedule of a 64-page magazine six times a year probably is the most exacting and laborious task being performed in this building. The results speak for themselves. Thus the past and present of your magazine, THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is on the record. So this report will look ahead to the future.

There are some exceptionally fine manuscripts in our file ready for publication. One concerns the first perforating methods of the American printing firms. Another will present for the first time a story about the relatively unknown but scarce "Victory" handstamps of the Philippines during the last war. Latin America is well represented with Mexico and Venezuela. European studies on Austria, France, French Colonies and Poland should come to you this year. The

Orient with China, India and Tibet will continue in the same scholarly manner as in the past.

In each number, the editor strives to assemble a good balance selecting from his file feature articles diversified from America, Europe, Asia and the rest of the world. Over a year, there should be, therefore, at least one feature of interest to every reader. If your specialty is lacking, it is not the editor's fault. For instance, we have been asking our friends here in the Club to make available an original article on their particular specialty, such as Ireland, Netherlands and Switzerland. We are hopeful that their promises will soon materialize.

Now for some comments upon the Handbook program. This has materialized. What started as a good idea has become an actuality. At least one Handbook is planned for every year. "French Morocco" by Charles Neidorf has just been published. The year before, it was Haverbeck's "Tibet" and before that "Nepal". Our object is to make available needed information for the interested collector in those fields of philately where little is presently on hand. Philatelic literature seems overbalanced towards the more popular countries. The soundness of our ideas has been proven by the sales of our Handbooks, all of them being in demand far beyond our first estimates.

French Morocco graphically illustrates our Handbook program. Here the author took a very recent issue of which the most expensive stamp catalogs about one dollar and demonstrated the great philatelic possibilities for both enjoyment and deep study about which so few seem aware.

That is what editor and his staff strive for with your magazine—even in the more serious aspect of philately—to enable you to more thoroughly enjoy your hobby. THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is this Club's best ambassador, showing all who happen to see it, how this long established Club regards philately. We promise to continue our efforts to have your magazine reflect respect towards this Club.

Henry M. Goodkind, Editor

Report Of The Publicity Committee

During the year, your committee sent out eight releases. One of these dealt with the officers elected for the year; one with the Library's service to non-resident members by loans of books out-of-town through the mails; one with the Collectors Club Philatelist Awards; and the other five with the numbers of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST as they appeared. One number, which came from the printer late, was not covered by a release, lest the apparent long lapse between publication date and release might seem to make it of little value.

Except for two special matters which gave occasions for special releases in 1952, your committee has thus held the same pace as in that year. This does not yet represent even an approximation to all that ought to be done. The problem of getting real news copy for releases is, however by no means easy beyond what we have done.

The Lichtenstein Award publicity was not handled by this Committee, since this matter attracted the philatelic press so that their own representatives covered it fully.

Our releases were seen in the stamp papers somewhat more than in previous years. Some journals which had neglected to use them have begun to do so.

Stephen G. Rich, Chairman

Report Of The Program Committee

This report is necessarily brief. You have all savored the program during the past year, which is now ancient history.

Perhaps every program was not to the taste of every member, and for that I ask forbearance, because being a general society as we are, it is not possible to satisfy all of the people all of the time. If, however, a large majority of the membership found the major portion of the programs interesting to them, then we feel that we have completed a job well done.

The Program for the coming year represents your Committee's best efforts to attain the same well-rounded presentation that characterized the program of the year just past.

H. D. S. Haverbeck, Chairman

Report Of The Committee On Study Groups

As in 1952, your Committee had very little to do in the way of problems to solve. Some adjustments of meeting dates were

the only matters needing attention. The groups formerly meeting in the Board Room have been shifted to the Luff Room, as requested by vote of the Board of Governors. They have been happier in the new quarters than hitherto.

Saturday use of the main meeting room for the Women's Philatelic Society and for the Girl Scouts, was given as in previous years. The Italy Stamp Group, our newest study group, also had this room for a two-day exhibit during the autumn.

The problem of maintaining the needed number of Collectors Club members is not easy for some of the study groups. However, steady attention to this point has been kept up on our part, and at least an effort is being made by those most affected, to cooperate in reaching and passing the minimum requirement. At least five new resident members can be traced to this source. We need to recall that most of the groups have already passed this minimum, so that adding even five new resident members represents a real extension of the Club's influence.

The Souvenir Issues Association has become inactive during the year and apparently the same is true for the Hellenic Philatelic Society. Because of their desire to hold Sunday "Roundup" meetings, the New York Precancel Stamp Club, which was the first study group to meet with us, back in 1932 in the old 42nd St. clubrooms, may leave us during the next year. It remains to be seen whether they will want to continue their regular midweek meetings with us also.

Stephen G. Rich, Chairman

Report Of The House Committee

You must have noticed the recent improvements in your Philatelic Home. Allow me to cite some of them.

The Meeting Room has at last been given much needed attention. The torn rug has been removed and the floors have been refinished. The frames were materially rebuilt. New backing has been installed on the advice of Mr. Franc Ritter who supplied the new masonite backing with his compliments. New modern fluorescent lights have been installed over the frames.

The Entrance Hall and the steps leading into the Clubhouse have been completely renovated and new heavy carpeting laid.

Much new furniture was placed throughout the building. The Lounge on the second floor has had many practical additions.

Thanks to your House Committee and many members, it can be truthfully said that this building at 22 East 35th Street is in better condition now than it has ever been.

Jacob S. Glaser, Chairman

The President's Report

You have just heard the reports of the various Chairmen of the active Committees of your Club. I am certain you will agree with me that 1953 was indeed a good year for the Collectors Club. We have made marked progress in several directions, due in a good part to the fine spirit of cooperation of your Board of Governors and the various members of the Club who served on their Committees. This year particularly we count our blessings in multiples, some tangible, others intangible.

The tangible achievements made during the year 1953 follow:

1. The COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST under the editorship of Henry M. Goodkind and his Editorial Committee has reached new heights of philatelic journalism.
2. A survey of our Library was begun under the direction of the New York Public Library, thanks to the efforts of our good member, John Boynton Kaiser.
3. A dignified Invitation membership campaign was conducted by Chairman Sidney F. Barrett. Because of this campaign, we now have the largest membership in our long and honored history plus the highest potential revenue from dues.
4. Another very successful ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN MEMORIAL AWARD affair was held, with Dr. Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago, the recipient of the '53 medal. This event added a considerable amount to our treasury, thanks to the generous contributions of our members.
5. Our building received much extra care and replacements, thanks to the House Committee. These improvements were made possible by the increase in our financial position.
6. On December 9th, 1953, the case of the Collectors Club versus the City of New

York, asking for relief from realty taxes, was tried in Supreme Court. A decision in our favor was rendered by the Court, stating that the Court was satisfied that the *Collectors Club was an educational, literary and scientific institution.* This far-reaching decision means that we may no longer be subject to New York City Real Estate Taxes which will result in a saving to the Club of $1,800.00 annually. In addition, the Court also allowed us to proceed against the City for the refund of our realty taxes since 1951, which if all goes well, will mean a repayment to the Club of the amount of $4,401.58. All this was made possible by the voluntary efforts of our good member and Governor, Lt. Gen. Cornelius W. Wickersham, and his legal firm of Cadwalader, Wickersham and Taft, over a period of three years. The City of New York has exercised its right to appeal and the case now goes to a higher Court.

The intangible accomplishments for the year 1953, may be summed up as follows:

1. Increased recognition in philatelic circles that the Collectors Club is the 'Host to Philately' in this country.
2. International acclaim of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST has resulted in our prestige being enhanced abroad.
3. The Collectors Club has been designated by the Government of Nicaragua to be the repository of their duplicate philatelic records for safe keeping.
4. The continued research and scientific scope of our philatelic investigations carried on during the entire year by the members of the Collectors Club truly qualifies us as an educational, literary and scientific organization.

In closing this report, I should like to thank our membership for their loyal support as well as their regularity in attending our program meetings. I should also like to congratulate the Board of Governors on their remarkable attendance at scheduled Board meetings.

It has been a real privilege to have had the opportunity to serve as your President in 1953, and I desire to thank each and every one of you for your very fine cooperation during my administration.

John J. Britt, President

Balance Of The Meeting

Other reports were read at the Annual Meeting, which are not included here. For instance, the Report of the Awards Committee for the best articles in The 1953 COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST has been published in the January, 1954 number.



Mr. Charles Neidorf receiving the 1953 medal for the best article published in last year's COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST from Mr. John J. Britt, President of this Club.

The Treasurer's Report, including those of all the special funds, will be incorporated into the Club's *Financial Statement* when audited by *Marshall Granger & Co.* All statistics as rendered by the Insurance Committee and the other Committees will be shown substantially on the Audited Financial Statement.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

March, April and May

1954

March 17, "U. S. Locals" to be presented by Henry E. Abt.

April 7, "St. Vincent", to be presented by Arthur Pierce.

April 21, "Annual Competition".

May 5, Program to be presented by The Ancient and Honourable Order of Bird Watchers, Indoor Branch.

May 19, "German States", to be presented by H. Bloch.

Meeting of December 2, 1953

Balkan States

A group not as large as on some other evenings, but much interested by the fine showings, attended on this occasion. The exhibits were by members who had responded to invitations to show any Balkan material of their own choosing on this occasion.

Dr. Herbert P. Woodward, who claimed to be more a "stamp collector" than a "philatelist", showed what he called "just some pages of Bulgaria". Starting with original maps, those of Ochelius 1586, a Dutch map of 1833, and so on up to 1856, he showed the changing status of the lands in the Balkan Peninsula. Forerunners of Bulgaria followed directly: Austrian Lloyd Steamship Co. stampless from Bulgaria; Turkish stampless and stamped covers from what is now Bulgaria; and a cover from the almost unknown Russian occupation of Bulgaria in 1878. This last, a piece of great interest per se, was also a Danube Steam Navigation Co. cover and a turned cover after the manner used in our own South during the 1861-65 period.

Dr. Woodward's showing went on through the various stamp issues, from the first ones, made in St. Petersburg (Russia). A cover with Nos. 1 and 2 together on it was a conspicuous rare item. The language error, wrong gender numeral word, and its correction, was explained as well as shown. On this issue the "dot on tongue of lion" variety, hitherto reported on only three values, appeared on eight others in this exhibit.

Of the many unusual items, space allows mention only of: the 1887 essays made in Austria and rejected; the Genuine Shipka stamp (of which most copies in collections are forgeries); the very scarce miniature sheets; the range of varieties of the 5 lev 1944; the many perforation varieties of the Austrian printings of the second issue; the Balkan Games stamps of 1946, with sheets arranged so that except for vertical pairs across the two middle rows, all stamps occur tete-beche; Greek stamps used in Bulgaria during the World War I occupation.

Paul P. Lindenberg, who is our spokesman for Moslem philately, showed Turkish covers bearing postmarks of places now in the Balkan succession states. Starting with a 1781 stampless, Saloniki to Marseille he went to the the early Turkish adhesives. The two-circle types of 1865 appeared on covers from Scutari, Sarajevo, Sofia, Varna, Monastir, Nish and many other places. Mr. Lindenberg explained the problems in identification of this material, especially as they link up with the variations of letter forms in the Arabic alphabet, and the generally blurred striking of these postmarks. Numerous questions were asked and answered in the course of this showing.

Ira Seebacher showed the various Balkan Games issues, 1921 to 1946, from Bulgaria, Greece and Albania. The comments which he made on the stamp designs and their significance were very well received, especially when he came to discussing stamps showing ancient sports such as "hoplomachy", no longer practiced.

John Connor exhibited in great detail the second issue of Bosnia, starting with proofs in black and in color. The main feature was the great range of perforation varieties: on these he emphasized the 1905 experimental perforations, 6¼, 9½, 12½ and their many compounds. Most interesting was his account of the unusual Bosnia items, such as those punched with large holes to prevent use. Covers of the scarce items, such as the 1h perf. 10½, the 40h, gave real standing to this showing.

Miss Agnes Burlingame wound up the evening with a showing of Yugoslavia. Starting with covers from stampless days, when this area was Turkish, she went on with Bosnia stamps used in 1918 after the new country had been set up, newspaper stamps used for first class mail in 1918, and the special Croatian issues when the Germans occupied the country during World War II. Fortified by her ability to read the languages of Yugoslavia, Miss Burlingame gave a compact historical treatment of the development of the whole range of this country's stamps, right into the present "Five Federated Republics" under Marshal Tito.

M. V. O'R.

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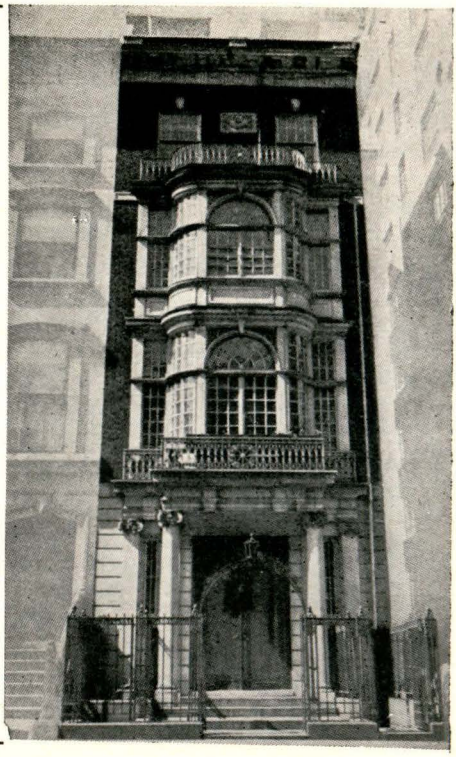
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The Library Committee reports the following acquisitions:

"Catalogo de Colonias—Ex-Colonias Espanolas 1954—Hevia". (Gift of Aero Philatelists Inc.)

"A Postal History of Brighton 1673-1683" by Ernest Trory. (Gift of Author.)

"Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue Vol. II." 1954 edition.

"Danmarks Jernbanefrimaerker 1865-1947" by Reinhold Jensen. (Gift of Copenhagen Philatelist Club.)

"Perkins Bacon Records" 2 Vols. by Percy De Worms. (Gift of Royal Philatelic Society.)

"Speciale Catalogus van de Postzegels van Nederland — Indonesie — Nieuw Guinea — Nederland Antillen — Suriname" Gift of Nederland Veerenigiging van Postzegelhandelaren".

"Postage Stamps of the Irish Free State 1931" by R. A. King. (Gift of Eire Group.)

"Post Offices of Ireland 1952" by Eire Philatelic Association. (Gift of Eire Group.)

"British Post Office Numbers 1946" by G. Brummell. (Gift of Eire Group.)

"The City Philatelist (Oct. 1901-Dec. 1903)" 6 leaflets (Complete). (Gift of Eire Group.)

"Evolution of Postal Rates in Luxembourg" by Charles Rousseau. (Gift of Mr. John F. Jarvis.)

"Luxembourg Philately" a specialised Journal edited by Mrs. John F. Jarvis. (Gift of editor.)

"The New American Catalogue 1954". Edited by L. Brookman et al. Minkus Publications.

"Stanley Gibbons' Two Reigns Postage Stamp Catalogue. Queen Elizabeth II - King George VI 1954".

"Stanley Gibbons Simplified Catalogue 1954".

"France. Plating of The 20 Centimes, Blue, Issue 1863" by General G. Dumont. Billig Specialized Catalog No. 5.

"Round the World With a Postage Stamp" by Unesco. (Gift of P. P. Lindenberg.)

"Scott's Postage Stamp Catalogue 1954—Combined Edition."

"Scott's United States Stamp Catalogue—Specialized 1954".

"Catalogo dos Selos do Brasil—Unico—1950. As Filigranas dos Selos do Brasil—Separata No. 1". Gift of A. J. Hillel.

"Catalogo Normal Galvez de Colonias y Ex-Colonias Espanolas 1954".

"The New South Wales Philatelic Annual 1953" by The Philatelic Society of New South Wales.

"Bibliography the Basis of Philatelic Research" by J. B. Kaiser.

"Jaarverslag 1952—Drei en Twintigste Jaarverslag" by Het Nederlandse Postmuseum.

"First Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, 1909, Manchester" by the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society.

"How to Gain Pleasure and Profit from Stamp Collecting", by Henry M. Ellis.

"Eighth American Philatelic Congress Book 1942" by Lt. Col. James T. De Voss, Editor.

"Ninth American Philatelic Congress & Pan American Centenary of the Postage Stamp" by Pan American Union.

"Westervelt's post, Chester, New York—published privately for Iver R. Johnson". Gift of S. Colby.

"Deutscher Luftpost-Katalog 1945-1954" by Kurt Dahman.

"Katalog der Helicopterpost—Berlin 1954" by Kurt Dahman.

"The Palace Collection of Egypt at Auction Feb. 12, 15, 17, 1954", by H. R. Harmer, Ltd.

"Philatelic Informant—Useful Directory" by Alma McLing. Gift of Publisher Van Dahl.

"Essential Information. United States Commemorative Issues 1943-52" by Wm. W. Wylie. Gift of Van Dahl Publications.

"Guatemala. The Large Type Numeral Surcharge of 1922" by Jose Mandos. Gift of Pan American Union.

"Scott's Dollar British American Catalogue 1954".

"Italy's Liberation Locals of World War II" by Pierson Ostrow.

"Simon's Catalogue of Israel Stamps 1954". Gift of Author.

"Unique Canal Zone Error". Handbook No. 2 of Canal Zone Study Group. Gift of Edward S. Conger.

"The United States Ten Cent Stamp 1855-57" by Stanley Ashbrook. Gift of A. Boutrelle.

"Les Obliterations des Bureaux de Poste de l'Afrique du Nord" by M. Langlois & V. Bourselet. Gift of A. Boutrelle.

"Catalogue des Ballons Montes du Siege de Paris 1870-71" by J. Le Pileur & E. H. de Beaufond. Gift of A. Boutrelle.

"Catalogue et Description des Timbres de France 1849-70" by F. Serrane. This is a photographic copy made by Mr. Adrian Boutrelle and donated by him to the Club.

"Catalogue des Etoiles de Paris" by Andre Rochette. Gift of A. Boutrelle.

"Bureau Specialist 1953" beautifully bound volume. Gift of George R. M. Ewing.

"Bureau Issue Association Plate No. Check List 24800-849". Gift of George R. M. Ewing.

"United States Bureau Precancels" by George Klein. Gift of author.

At the Board of Governors' Meetings held on December 30, 1953 and January 27th, 1954, the following new members were elected:

No.

4181 John W. Funkhauser, Palo Alto, Calif. Collects Ecuador.

4185 Miss Edna L. Johnson, Albuquerque, New Mex. Collects Thurn & Taxis and Greater Germany.

4186 O. K. Rumbel, Mission, Texas. Collects U. S. Plate No. Varieties, Air Mails.

4187 Nick Lagios, Montreal, Canada, Collects Greece.

4188 Alfred A. Solomon, New York. Collects Scandinavia, British Dominions, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

4189 Eugene V. Connett, South Orange, N. J. Collects U. S., Early U. S. Covers and Sporting Stamps.

4190 Otto Yag, La Grange, Ill. Collects Mexico (19th Century).

(Continued on Page 115.)

BOOK REVIEWS

"People and Pianos" by Theodore E. Steinway. Published 1953 by Steinway & Sons. New York, N. Y. 119 pp. Illustrated. Price $5.00.

This book has been published in conjunction with the celebration of the 100 years of Steinway pianos in this country. A gift copy was donated to our library by the author.

As we read it, we tended to overlook the two "P's" in the title "People and Pianos", and look for Theodore Steinway's other "P", Philately. Fortunately we found two illustrated instances, a cover cancelled Steinway, New York, and the Paderewski stamp of Poland autographed by this famous pianist. Of course, both are from the collections of the author of this book.

Our interest in this work centered mostly upon the exceptional century-old record of the Steinway family. Realizing this interesting heritage, we believe that philately can be ever so proud that it has played the important role, which it has, in the life of Theodore E. Steinway. He brings to our hobby a wonderful cultural background.

Since so prominent in philately as well as being such an active member in The Collectors Club we recommend its reading, so that all of our members can know a bit more about our Mr. Theodore E. Steinway. It is fine American History. Many of the illustrations, especially from the earlier years, will be enjoyed by anyone who reads this book. (*H. M. G.*)

Essai Sur "Les Semeuses.," d'une Collection Étude, a la Portée de Tous. By Louis Barrier. Montpellier (France), Le Bulletin Philatelique du Mili, paper, 231 pp., October 1951.

Mr. Barrier's book, when first examined, did not seem to offer anything significant when measured against the treatment of these stamps in such books as that of de Vinck. However, reference to this book, in solving various philatelic problems in the two years that have passed, has made it clear to this reviewer and others that the former low estimate was in error. Therefore a review is in order.

The "Sower Type" stamps of France, from 1906 to 1932, present an interesting series of philatelic problems. The remaking of the design and of the dies, the various printing methods used, the booklet and coil stamps, and the huge range of varieties, require a really intensive guide work if the collector is to avoid confusion. Mr. Barrier has set out to provide precisely that.

Not only are the basal stamps treated. Surchargings for use outside of France, special issues, precancels in much detail, the "G. C. paper" printings, etc. are all adequately reported. In particular, the date of appearance of any item is carefully noted. Printings which show dating millesimes are carefully listed as to color shades accompanying each millesime.

Introductory sections on Mr. Roty who designed the "Sower", Mr. Mouchon who engraved the dies, on the methods of making the dies, plates etc. and the actual printing methods, cover the needs most adequately. That on "Defects in Printing" is specially noteworthy in that Mr. A. Bargilliat, one of the best informed technicians of the Imprimerie National, was co-author of that section. Thus accurate detailed knowledge of printing is brought to philatelic service.

The illustrations of the various types, such as the four of the 25c, might be criticized as drawn with somewhat more license than would make them accurate guides. In fact, stamps printed from somewhat worn plates or when the make-ready on the Kelly type of press used for the flat-plate printings was not perfectly adjusted, provide copies which cannot by any means be surely placed according to the illustrations and descriptions by Mr. Barrier. We also note an almost complete absence of reference to cancelled copies as establishing any datings of any varieties.

With those slight shortcomings noticed, and with the caution to users not to translate French technical printing terms according to general usage of the same words or the meanings in small French-English diction-

aries, Mr. Barrier's book may properly be reported as a most useful help. Inclusion of sample album pages to guide the collector in arranging the Sower Type stamps, may well turn out to be a really valuable contribution. The American taste would prefer to have an index included, as well as the table of contents. (*S. G. R.*)

United States Bureau Precancels by George Klein, Publisher, Feon Park, Fla. 1st edition (1954). 22 pp. Paper pamphlet. Price 10c.

There are not many things nowadays that you can buy for a dime. But here is a little booklet on a branch of stamp collecting that sells for the good old price of ten cents. At first glance, we were tempted to pass it by because it seemed to be just another of those routine flyers that some energetic but superficial philatelic dabbler compiled. Besides U. S. Precancels never beguiled our catholic collecting tastes. We always imagined them for the "wastepaper basket" type of stamp hunter. Nevertheless, some of our good friends, for whom we hold great respect because of their philatelic knowledge, collect Precancels. So we thought that we would leaf through this pamphlet to see if we might better understand their collecting tastes.

To our surprise, this little booklet contains a lot "of meat". We were impressed with the clear system and lucid planning in presenting the subject. The object of this dime product its hope to make it a best seller for those *not yet* bitten by the Precancel bug. This is a "how-to-do-it" work and well did it succeed. Consequently, we recommend to all interested in 20th century U. S. issues who have shunned Precancels.

Without trying to appear captious, we do object to a long text printed in sans-serif capitals, which is the style of this pamphlet. However, it is nicely illustrated and despite the eye-strain it caused us, we must confess that we found this booklet a real bargain for ten cents. The author succeeded well in what he set out to do. (*H. M. G.*)

The New South Wales Philatelic Annual, 1953. Edited by Romney Gibbons. Published by The Philatelic Society of New South Wales, Box 601, G. P. O., Sidney, N. S. W., Australia.

This small, slick paper journal consists of a number of papers that have been read before the Philatelic Society of New South Wales during the year 1953. With the exception of one on the postal history of Norfolk Island, they are mainly of a general nature and slanted towards the beginner and the general collector. The personalities mentioned and the authors of the papers are unknown outside of Australian Philately, consequently this journal is of little interest to American Collectors.

The paper on the postal history of Norfolk Island is useful and should be checked by any interested students. (*H. D. S. H.*)

CLUBHOUSE

(Continued from Page 113.)

4191 Dr. Robert N. Evans, La Grange, Ill. Collects Mexico.

4192 Harry Sutherland, Toronto, Canada. Collects German Empire.

4193 Mrs. Emily Moorefield, Long Beach, Calif. Collects "Penny Blacks", "2c Red Brown 1883".

4194 Ernest J. Muzzy, Jamestown, N. Y. Collects Patriotic, Civil War and related material.

4195 Carl Hansen, Jr., Trenton, N. J. Collects U. S. Plate Blocks, Imperforates and Zeppelins.

4196 Herbert Dube, Toronto, Canada. Collects Early 19th Century, Austria 1850 including Cancellation, France & Colonies, Czechoslovakia.

4197 Fred Kahn, New York. Collects Geo. VI Mint.

4198 Knut Ring, San Francisco, Calif. Collects Old Scandinavia and German States.

4199 Milton Evans Cornman, Cleveland, Ohio. Collects philately relating to U. S. Presidents from Ohio.

4200 Cleo Fee, Ontario, Can. Collects Canada.

4201 Jose M. Costa Amigo, Barcelona, Spain. Collects General.

4202 Mrs. Eva Stalton, Scarsdale, N. Y. Collects General.

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The following are selected at random from my February Bulletin, which offers 34 small collections, all of prime quality, with no cheap or damaged stamps or fakes included in catalogue values.

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