THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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CONTENTS

EDITORIALS 55

1956 C. C. P. MEDAL 58
Purves' Victoria and Connett's Maldives Co-winners

OBITUARY (George B. Wray) 59

THE COLLECTORS CLUB 60
Officers, Governors and Trustees

BOLIVIA By Bertram W. H. Poole 61
The 5c. Condor Stamp of 1866-67

INDORE By Leonard C. Parton 69
The Provisionals of 1889

FRANCE By Nathan Hals 73
Peace and Commerce Issue, Se-Tenant Pair, Types I-II

CORRIENTES By Louis Stich 75
The Issues from 1856 - 1880 (Part 3)

UNITED STATES By Stephen G. Rich 92
The Challenge of The 24c Bank Note Stamps

BOOK REVIEWS 93

THE CLUBHOUSE 95
Meetings, Library Acquisitions, New Members

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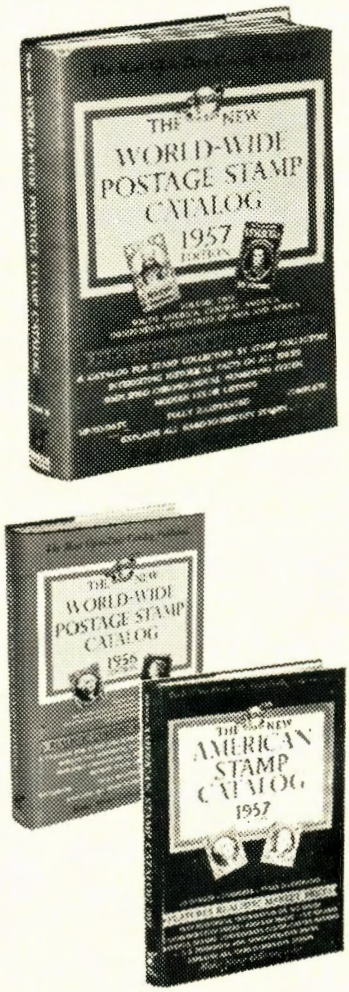


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THE COLLECTORS CLUB

PHILATELIST

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Editorials

More Than 60 Years

Although it is admitted that we Americans are living intently under dynamic, material and pressurized standards, some still pause on occasion for contemplation. Consequently, it is appropriate to do this with this COLLECTORS CLUB, now that its 60-year milestone has passed.

The fast-moving American way of life often causes us to forget our heritage. We have only time for today's headlines or tomorrow's prophecies. The past is so obtuse that is is quickly forgotten. Thus it appears with many members of this club, who only see what exists today, but seldom, if ever, give thought to the long parade of philatelists, many distinguished, but many more now unknown, who helped build up this institution since its founding in 1896.

No philatelic historian has written that THE COLLECTORS CLUB burst upon the scene as a powerful influence. Its history shows a very gradual record of accomplishment over the years. If one looks at the beautiful clubhouse as it now stands in the center of one of the world's great cities, he must not forget that hundreds of philatelists since 1896 figuratively built this institution brick-by-brick. The names of many of these "philatelic bricklayers" are not remembered. However, it is a fact that were it not for all of them, this building here would not be the wholly-owned home of stamp collectors.

Members are inclined to take for granted the facilities in this clubhouse, or fail to see the essential significance of this institution. This oversight always becomes apparent when a non-New Yorker pays us a visit for the first time. All these visitors are envious of our advantages. They look with disbelief upon a 5-story building exclusively owned and operated by and for stamp collectors. They tell us of the difficulties they encounter to maintain a stamp club in their home town. Few cities have adequate meeting places that even offer a minimum of the requirements a group of stamp collectors need. After a complete tour of this clubhouse, the usual remark heard is as follows:

"Do you mean to tell me that all this is yours—free and clear? That there are not some non-philatelic owners? This certainly is a great tribute to stamp collecting"!

But yet so many take this institution for granted. As they walk through the front entrance door, never do they give a thought to former members of 20, 30, 40, 50 or 60 years ago, who both laid the groundwork and then built this institution into what it has now become in the year 1957.

Oh! The path of progress was not easy. Nor did every year mark success. Sometimes this organization suffered badly from mismanagement or lack of management. Our

history shows this. But then a new group of dedicated philatelists came on the scene to work unselfishly and hard for this organization. Many fine new books came into the library, which was then placed into an orderly condition so that a volume could be quickly located. Some outstanding philatelic exhibits and lectures were held. This has been maintained so that in recent times an invitation to exhibit at this club on one of the regular meeting nights is deemed a high philatelic honor. A magazine covering the more serious side of philately was started over 35 years ago. It has continued without interruption with only four editors in this span of time. The place that THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST has gained in world-wide philately need not be described.

There are many other philatelic organizations in this country—some relatively large, others small—that have striven to further the welfare of philately. Even 'tho all have the same goal, obviously some have achieved far more than others.

If one has the good fortune to travel not only from coast-to-coast in the United States but to foreign countries, when he meets other philatelists, then can he properly evaluate the stature and prestige of THE COLLECTORS CLUB. The following statement is not based upon boasting nor pompous conceit. Everywhere one travels, when mention is made of philately in America, the number one rank goes to THE COLLECTORS CLUB. This is our standing and our reputation.

Of course, all of us cherish this. But more of us should pause to look back to see the great parade of former members, who worked hard to build and cement this high standing.

There have been critics. Some criticisms have been deserved. Others were motivated by jealousy. For instance, a few wish to confine our philatelic services to a local level, refusing to concede the national and international complexion of this institution. Others felt that serious, scholarly philately means snobbishness. But they failed to see that there is a great difference between seeking high standards and being a snob.

Returning to the topic of this Club's high rank in world philately, the greatest potential danger to a diminution of this position is complacency. Some feared that after so many years this Club may be inclined to coast on its reputation. Others, noting the passing of some outstanding members, whose philatelic accomplishments were great, wondered if equal replacements would be forthcoming. As we see it now, this Club is under new management. It must prove itself.

Many are confident that this new leadership may exceed the achievements of bygone years. We happen to share this opinion. This institution still has many opportunities for philatelic services that have not materialized up to the present time. They are being discussed, which shows an awareness. But action is needed for accomplishment. Thus as we progress and do more, we must never forget our wonderful heritage nor the many, many members of the past that helped make the reputation of THE COLLECTORS CLUB so outstanding all over the world of philately.

The Land of Opportunity

A rather popular concept of stamp collecting in the United States seems out of tune with democratic practice. Many seem to view the possession of a rare and expensive stamp or cover as a special privilege. Thus the best philatelic material seems to be regarded with ridicule. Since its high price obviously denies possession to the great majority, the cheaper stamps are glorified as the possessions of "the common man". This misconception ties the idea of popularity with the American way of life.

The fallacy in such a belief directly refutes the concept of this country as a land of opportunity. Most of our presidents were of poor, humble birth. The penniless immigrant coming to our shores this day may be a financial leader tomorrow. As one's lot and financial position improves, so does his standards for possessing the finer things.

Consequently, the humble stamp collector of today, who can afford only the commoner stamps, lives in the hope that in the future he can collect the better philatelic items. Thus some day he too may be the proud owner of one or more of the great philatelic gems. This represents the true American way of thinking. Therefore, collectors should be instructed to think along these lines. One should learn to admire the philatelic rarities,

and respect those, who possess them. Never should one lose sight of the fact that he too in the future may own such admired stamps. Then the new owner would wish to have proper respect, rather than a sneering attitude that because he possesses wealth, he has had more luck than brains.

When we were young, we formed a common bond with some other boys of our age, all interested in stamp collecting. It was not a large group—just five or six youngsters living in our neighborhood. Our ways and means of collecting were typical of all in this age category. None of us had more than a few cents to spend at any one time on stamps. Our supply came mainly from stamps on letters to our family and friends, and the wastepaper baskets.

One day our group became very thrilled by the news that there was a man living down the block owning one of "the greatest" stamp collections. One of the boys' fathers knew this man well, and thus an appointment was made for us to visit this "great collector".

It was a pleasant Sunday afternoon when we youngsters trooped into this man's home and soon were seated around a large table in his living room, where he displayed his albums. We were thrilled to see for the first time some "St. Louis Bears", a 10c. 1847, and the high denomination Columbians. It was a lasting experience.

Now the name of this great collector has escaped us. Perhaps his "St. Louis Bears" were not originals. But the thrill of actually seeing such philatelic rarities permanently left an impression on those young minds. This man became our hero just like Babe Ruth, John McGraw or Teddy Roosevelt. We went around telling others in the neighborhood or at school that we actually saw some of the most valuable stamps in the world.

And we like to believe that this has not changed in the slightest. Today's young collectors (and older ones too) always are thrilled if invited to see a collection containing the more famous stamps. But one receives a different impression when reading the popular current stamp writers. They allege a youngster's interest is solely in the common stamps he can own. We call this "bunk".

All of us aspire to be successful, perhaps to be President of the United States. And all stamp collectors hope some day to perhaps be able to own a 24c. air mail invert, a Post Office Mauritius or a St. Louis Bear. Hope springs eternal.

In sports the American public will pay to see only champions play. In museums, the star attractions are the famous masterpieces. And with philately, people will flock to see the famous rare and expensive stamps. We know because ever since we were young collectors, these were what thrilled our gang. This feeling of excitement is just as prevalent today as it was when we were very young. Don't let anyone tell you differently!

And there is a postscript to this account of our boyhood experience as a stamp collector. Some of the stamps that thrilled us when young later became proud personal possessions of ours. A dream of youth that, at the time held out little promise for fulfillment, did become a reality when manhood was achieved. Thus we firmly believe that many a young man today longingly looking at the philatelic rarities will sometime in the future be the owner of some of them.

"Let George Do It"

Philately is blessed by a number of conscientious, voluntary workers. Daily in every part of the world, a few collectors and dealers are sacrificing their time and working for a stamp event of some local, national or international nature. Perhaps only two collectors spend hours securing a suitable place for a local stamp club's banquet. Others spend time studying and writing for philately motivated only by a devotion to philately. Not one red cent is paid for all this work. But remove it—philately becomes barren and bankrupt.

It is so typical to see out of the thousands of stamp collectors and dealers only a handful coming forth to volunteer some worthy service to philately. It may be expertizing a stamp, editing a club paper, staging an exhibit, mailing a specialist publication or sending out bills for dues of a stamp club.

The only reward that these hard-working volunteers can receive is a pat on the back or some small evidence of appreciation for their

services. Instead what do we find far too often?

Read our stamp papers, go to a stamp club meeting or sit in a stamp dealer's office. There one finds those discontented philatelic parasites, who not only are willing to "let George do it," but go out of their way to criticize. Ask them to pitch in and help. Oh! no, they haven't got the time. But notice how much time they spend gabbing in a stamp dealer's office.

We cannot prevent people from voicing such harmful criticisms. But responsible editors and publishers of stamp papers can stop printing these harmful castigations of our great voluntary workers.

Let us grant that there are occasions when some stamp event is mismanaged. Often the cause is because just a few workers could not competently contend with the overwhelming amount of work required, with the lack of free time at their disposal. Just a few more volunteers and success would have been guaranteed. Successful or not, it is inexcusable to allow one word of criticism to escape into print. Those, specializing in this nasty type of criticism, always are second-rate philatelists, who never work for the good of philately unless they can be assured that there is something in it for them.

Continue this type of criticism and you wreck philately! Those, who have worked hard, quit completely demoralized. And others, who are on the threshold of voluntary serving philately, sensibly shy away. We admit a stinging tone to this editorial. We happen to be bitter against those who are willing "to let George do it," and thus gloat over seeing their name in print by deprecating "George's" unselfish work. We have gone on record to continue a bitter campaign against those who would undermine philately's greatest asset—all of its devoted servants who volunteer to work.

1956 CCP Medal

In "The Clubhouse" section of this number among the reports at the 1957 Annual Meeting will be found that of the *Awards Committee,* which has announced the winners of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST MEDAL for the two best articles in the 1956 volume and the three other awards for the other 1956 articles of merit.

Some comments are in order about this medal that was first awarded in 1947. This year for the first time there are two medals awarded. One goes to *J. R. W. Purves' Victoria 5/1867-1912;* the other to *Eugene V. Connett's Maldive Islands.* Incidentally, both of these prize-winning articles are on stamps of the British Empire.

As most know, J. R. W. Purves is from Melbourne, Australia. He has gained philatelic fame through outstanding work for many years (See pages 235-36 of Vol. 34 THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST). All of "Bill" Purves honors were British. Outside of his appointment as an International Judge here at CIPEX and FIPEX, this marks the first time that a tangible American award goes to this dedicated Australian philatelist. Furthermore, it comes at an appropriate time, because Mr. Purves has just seen the successful culmination of his hard work with the opening of a permanent home for *The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria* in Melbourne, Australia.

The 1956 medal marks the *fifth* time that this coveted award goes abroad. In fact, one may pause to examine the subjects of the prize-winning articles. *Not one was on the stamps of the United States.* The winners have been on the stamps of *Costa Rica, China, Venezuela, Colombia, French Morocco, India* (*Travancore-Cochin* and *Soruth*), now *Maldive Islands* and *Victoria.*

There is some further significance to be noted behind these 1956 awards. The medal to *Victoria* actually is for the fine work of a classic philatelist concentrating mostly upon the intricate production and printing of the stamps. Whereas *Maldive Islands* is strictly little-known 20th century philately. In a sense, it is believed that two medals were awarded—one for the 19th and the other for 20th century stamps.

Too few have taken cognizance of the increasing stature of 20th century philately. Many believe that when the stamps of the two centuries compete, the honors automatically will go to the 19th century. Not many complimented the management of FIPEX that established a Grand Prize for both the best 19th and the best 20th century collection. Frankly, we had personally been urg-

ing this for close to 10 years. When it was finally achieved in 1956, there was not one word of praise or approval seen in print. However, most of the FIPEX critics, who incidentally, take occasion to complain about the dominant position of classic stamps, failed to mention this progressive step.

The consequences seem to be that many experienced philatelists, when asked to choose the best, recognize equal merit in both work on the stamps of both the 19th and 20th century. Thus co-winners are the result, as shown with THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST MEDAL for 1956.



The Collectors Club Philatelist Medal

Obituary

George B. Wray, 1883-1957

The passing of *George B. Wray* on January 22, 1957 brings to mind some comments made on page 319 of Vol. 35 of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST under the heading: "Philately's Unsung Heroes." Here was a man, who always was doing "little" things and services for philately, philatelists and this Club. He neither sought a dominant position in philately nor desired to be a great philatelic authority. He did, however, enjoy stamp collecting. As for his services, they were continuous, always given with such a wonderful spirit.

George B. Wray had been a Governor of The Collectors Club for some years. His favorite work was with our Community Service that went to the trouble of assembling philatelic material to be distributed free to various institutions or groups needing assistance. His devotion to this work bespoke the man. His happiness was always radiated in making others happy.

He left here at 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. many fine memories. Perhaps the telling of a few incidents will do justice to this lovable collector. This clubhouse is rather inactive in the hot, summer months. However, to carry on the essential services, a few do work here. Often on a hot day, there was ice cream in an afternoon to cool off. George B. Wray had stopped by to leave a container for the workers here.

His profession was dealing in office furniture. Anytime the Club needed some furniture, George B. Wray would secure it at a most reasonable price. He went to a great deal of time and trouble to secure it, and had it shipped here at his own expense. Before us in this editorial room is his final purchase —a steel cabinet needed for many years to store in an orderly manner this magazine's old cuts.

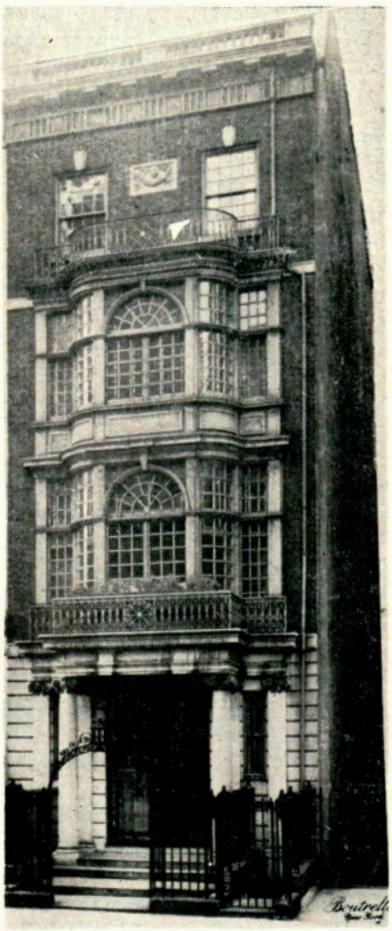
Some few years back a trip to Philadelphia, Pa. for a specialty society function typified George Wray's attitude towards philately. Riding on the train with him, one person remarked that he was surprised to see Mr. Wray, because he did not collect this particular specialty. Mr. Wray replied that this was true. But he had admired the hard work and services done for philately by the leaders of this specialty group. So he joined simply to lend them his support and encouragement.

George B. Wray was a little man physically. But he was a great friend, because of his big heart. He always enjoyed the social side of philately. And the reason was very simple. He liked the men and women who collected stamps. He firmly believed that there were many fine people among philatelists. So the best way to get to know them was in a social gathering.

When an exhibition or an affair was staged in New York, George Wray not only would be among the first to purchase a ticket, but he would stand ready to help make up a deficit, a frequent occurrence in stamp collecting circles. He would come up to the Chairman of a dinner after it was over and say:

"That was a fine affair you put on. How did you make out? Do you need any money to pay for everything? If so, here is my share!"

There are not too many George Wrays around. Fortunately, philately is blessed with more than most realize. But when it loses a George Wray, a similar replacement is needed. And this will not be easy. This Club mourns the loss of a truly dedicated member, who always was ready and willing to happily do so many small favors for his fellow philatelists. George Wray did this for years never once asking himself—what's in it for me?



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BOLIVIA

The 5c. Condor Stamp of 1866-67

By BERTRAM W. H. POOLE

One of the most interesting and, in some respects, mystifying stamps ever issued is the 5 centavos green of Bolivia which appeared in 1866. Probably it would have made no stir at all in the philatelic world had not that well-known English philatelist — Mr. H. R. Oldfield — decided it would make an excellent subject for intensive research. He studied the stamp with his usual thoroughness. His findings were published in the "London Philatelist" for 1896 and 1897, and in the "Philatelic Record" for 1898, with a final note clearing up some misconceptions with regard to the so-called six "types" in the "London Philatelist" for 1921. These earlier articles induced a prominent American philatelist — Mr. William Moser — to study this stamp and his thoroughness culminated in an excellent article in the "London Philatelist" for 1905. Since then, so far as I can trace, nothing more of importance regarding this stamp has been published in any of the philatelic journals, although both Oldfield and Moser left many points unexplained — possibly because no explanation is possible, as I discovered when making a specialised collection of this stamp for Mr. Edward M. Taylor about 1912. This collection, by the way, was shown at the first International Philatelic Exhibition held in New York in 1913 and was awarded a gold medal. Possibly the description of the collection given in the Official Catalogue of the 1913 Exhibition may be of interest, viz:—

> "A specialised collection of the stamps of the first type issued in 1867? It is chiefly remarkable for a wonderful study of the 5c green. The various re-engravings and retouches are not only shown in numerous uncut or reconstructed sheets but, by means of single stamps, pairs, blocks, etc., the connection between the different states of



the plate is clearly traced and their logical order is established. Proof is given of a hitherto unsuspected retouch and some states, previously considered as retouches, are proved to be due only to wear. The other values are also extensively specialised, the most noteworthy items being an uncut sheet of the 5c lilac; a reconstructed sheet of the 10c brown; and a reconstructed sheet of the 50c blue. Lastly, there is an excellent display of the famous Eberhardt forgeries, including two unique blocks".

Fortunately at the time when Oldfield and Moser made their studies and also when I was engaged on the Taylor collection entire uncut sheets — with the exception of the true yellow greens — were comparatively plentiful. And, obviously it is much easier to "plate" a stamp from an entire sheet than it is to build up the same plate correctly from smaller pieces.

Bolivia was a little dilatory in issuing postage stamps for, when this 5c appeared in

1866, it became the fifteenth of the Latin-American countries to do so. However, this is hardly surprising when one considers the backward state of the country at that period. It had no railroads and no highways of any consequence to connect the various towns. Although its mineral resources were known to be quite extensive, little development was possible until foreign capital — chiefly American and British — became interested. But backward as it was, its postal authorities must have been well acquainted with postage stamps for some of their neighbours had used them for years on letters entering Bolivia. What was the spark that persuaded the authorities to issue stamps will probably never be known. Possibly it might have been due to the prodding of outsiders, residing in the country, who were irked by the primitive methods then used in the handling of mail. Or, the man, who engraved the plate, might have been a leading influence, if he had been able to convince the powers that be that such a task provided no insurmountable difficulties. He might have shown that, even with the meagre facilities available, the task of printing from such a plate or plates which he could engrave would be no great problem.

When the stamp first showed up in Europe its authenticity was questioned, and, owing to the backward state of Bolivia, it seemed a matter of impossibility to obtain definite official information. It may, therefore, he interesting to trace the story of this 5c stamp during its early period of use. It really began with another stamp of entirely different design, which was received in England and recorded in the "Stamp Collector's Magazine" in April 1865 as follows:

"The Argentine cap of Liberty, the shield of the Grenadine Confederation, the branches of Peru, and a reminder of the landscapes of Nicaragua or Costa Rica, with half-a-dozen stars taking a bath at sunrise or sunset, compose the stamp closing our rather voluminous list of novelties this month, and purporting to represent the Republic of the brave Bolivia".

It makes an attractive picture but its bona-fides were soon questioned. In July a gentleman hiding his identity under the pseudonym of "Conservative" wrote a lengthy letter to the editor of the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" in the course of which he made some sarcastic comments on this label and others of similar ilk, which were being foisted on collectors of that time. He observed that this Bolivian and similar "essays" all emanate "from one or two engravers living at Milan, and I do not believe that their productions are any other than fraudulent speculations on the gullibility of stamp collectors; nor do I suppose for a moment that they were ever submitted to the authorities of any of the countries whose names they bear. Beautiful as engravings they doubtless are, and so are a good many Yankee medicine stamps, but no more entitled to admission into postage-stamp albums than the labels on bottles of Bass's ale, or those on tins of Colman's mustard". This castigation brought a disclaimer from a Mr. Reisler, of Paris in September. This gentleman asserted that not only was he the engraver of the Bolivian "essay", but he could also prove that he had actually submitted it to the authorities of that country. However, no one seems to have taken this claim very seriously, and no further mention of the matter was made.

Bolivia then dropped out of the picture, philatelically, until February, 1867 when the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" illustrated another stamp purporting to be from that republic. However, the editor was somewhat skeptical for he listed the newcomer as follows:

"It is some time since we gave an engraving of an essay, purporting to be for this country, from the burin of M. Reisler. Now we have to lay before our readers an illustration of a stamp, nominally for the same republic, which may turn out to be equally apocryphal. It is roughly engraved, badly printed, and in colour red-brown. Time will prove whether it be genuine or not."

The picture shown is somewhat similar to the design of the unissued stamps shown in the Scott catalogue immediately preceding the government issues. The border is almost exactly the same but the centerpiece shows three mountains, the tallest of which is surmounted by the cap of Liberty on a pole. No indication of value is given.

No further mention of this spurious "essay" was made, but in its September (1867) issue brief mention was made of the Condor stamp by the "Stamp Collectors

Magazine" viz: "The current number of 'Le Timbre-Poste' contains a brief statement of the emission of a 5 centavos green for this country". A month later (October) this new stamp was illustrated and described as follows:—

"BOLIVIA. — We have at length the pleasure of welcoming a stamp which unquestionably does postal duty in this inaccessible country. Though we are not in possession of the government order for its emission, the fact that the stamp has been received upon letters from Bolivia, sufficiently establishes its character. We are indebted for our own specimen to a correspondent, who came into possession of it from private sources. We give an engraving of this last acquisition, whereby our readers will see that Bolivia has still to equal the issues of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. The design is simple and its execution rough, just such as might be expected from such a country, and showing withal a rude, but not unpleasant individuality. In size the stamp is rather above the average; in colour, a deep sap-green. The paper is white, but slightly tinged with the hue of the impression, and having thence an old and worn look. To judge by our specimen (which we may remark, *en passant,* bears the postmark PAZ), the stamps are widely spaced upon the sheets. The inscription on the right (CONTRACTOS) signifying 'contracts', we take to mean that the stamp may be affixed to contracts as well as letters".

It is interesting to note that this illustration is a picture of a forgery—or, more likely, the forgery was made some time later from this cut. In December, 1867, the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" made another reference to this new stamp viz:—"It is worthy of note that there are as many varieties as stamps upon a sheet of the newly-issued 5c., evidencing the fact, that each stamp is printed from a distinct die."

In 1868 this magazine recorded the issue of some other denominations similar in design to the 5 centavos. A 50c orange was mentioned in February; the 10c brown and 50c blue in April; and a change of color for the 5c from green to violet though it was observed that "the former colour is not obsolete". Then complications arose to confuse the editorial staff, for in May a 15c blue stamp was announced on the say-so of a correspondent. This label had the word ANOTADOS in place of CONTRATOS so was presumed to be for registration purposes. Then in July a 1 peso blue stamp was recorded though two months later collectors were warned that this might be spurious. It seemed likely that a new denomination of this design would be necessary when the new stamps, printed by the American Bank Note Company of New York were beginning to appear.

In January, 1869, the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" printed a rather amazing letter received from a Mr. W. C. Bancroft, of Philadelphia, stating:—

"I am indebted to F. C. Milne, Esq., of the United States Consulate at Cobija, Bolivia, for the following information, which he obtained through the courtesy of Don Alberto de Barios, of the Bolivian postal department, together with a complete set of the old Bolivian stamps, which are now in my possession.

"Stamps for postal and revenue service were authorised by the Bolivian government in January, 1867, and are engraved by M. de Ribas, of La Paz".

Then he gave an itemised list of the various stamps including, in addition to those generally recognised, a 15c in both dark blue and green for registration, a 20c red, and 1 peso stamps in both deep red and blue. As regards the two latter he says:—"Both the one peso blue and the red unquestionably did duty in that almost inaccessable republic, as copies properly postmarked have been received upon letters direct from that country, and I myself have received them direct from Cobija, which fact is positive evidence in their favour".

The veracity of this gentleman from Philadelphia was soon challenged and a writer in "Le Timbre-Poste", after demolishing most of Bancroft's claims concluded his article as follows:—

"As for Mr. Bancroft himself, may he not be in correspondence with the Boston imposters, and his letter possibly nothing more than an attempt to pass off their wares, and give them the seal of authen-

ticity? We think so, but if mistaken, shall be ready to make the *amende honorable".*

It will be noted Bancroft says he obtained his information from a United States Consul located at Cobija, Bolivia. I have searched diligently but can find no town of this name in Bolivia though there is a Cobija on the coast of Chile. He also supplied a name, even if an incorrect one, for the engraver of the stamps and, furthermore, insisted he had copies of all these stamps including some on letters. All of which certainly gives credence to the suggestion that Bancroft was merely a tool of the so-called "Boston gang", who were notorious for their bad habit of trying to foist all sorts of bogus stamps on unsuspecting philatelists.

About this same time "Le Timbrophile" published an article in which the following appears:—

> "The decree of the Bolivian government for the emission of postage stamps, and of stamps for contracts or notarial acts, is dated the 12th March, 1867, but it was not put in force until the month of July. The engraver, who made the 'eagle' stamps, is of Spanish origin; he had great trouble to obtain passable plates—several, indeed, were rejected immediately after their preparation. All the stamps of the same sheet differ in the drawing of the eagle, like those of New Caledonia. The sheet of 5 centavos contains 72 impressions".

In spite of the fact that the size of the 5c sheet is incorrectly given for the first time and the engraver is noted to be of Spanish origin, too much faith cannot be given this article. The date of the so-called government decree is at variance with the few facts known; obviously all values were not issued at the same time; and all the bogus varieties mentioned by Bancroft are listed as legitimate varieties.

A few months later (December 1869) "Le Timbrophile" published the first constructive, if not entirely accurate, article on the first stamps of Bolivia. It not only gave a correct list of the stamps actually issued, but properly segregated them into the two issues marked by changes of color. The following extracts are of interest:—

> "In the first place, the engraver of the stamps is Senor Estruch, of Spanish origin, born in Catalonia, who with his brother was in business for some little time at La Paz. This city, and the American continent itself, he left about eighteen months since.
> "The first engraving executed by M. Estruch was that of the 5c., of which he made two steel plates. All the stamps differ not merely in the sketching of the eagle but also in the inscription. There were seventy-two stamps on a plate, arranged in six rows of twelve. The difference between the eagles of the two sheets of stamps are considerable; there are not two alike; the heads, the wings above all, and likewise the bodies, present such variations that many of these figures have no resemblance to eagles, but are more like pigeons or pheasants".

This 5c. Bolivia stamp seems to have had quite a fascination for many early collectors. The problem offered by the various differences of design gave rise to considerable speculation as to whether they were due to a number of plates being used or to the constant re-conditioning of a single plate. One of the first to notice these differences (early 1870) was Mr. Edward L. Pemberton — one of the philatelic "greats" of this period. He came to the conclusion that no less than four plates were used in the production of this stamp. Shortly afterwards "Dr. Magnus" (a nom-de-plume used by the famous French collector, Dr. Legrand) wrote a lengthy article on this 5c stamp for "Le Timbrophile". He observed that "a superficial study seems, in effect, to indicate that there were several plates" but after a close study he said "we take it to ourselves to assert that there has been but one single plate for the 5c." He then elaborated at considerable length and made an excellent case for his contention. The following brief extract will give a good idea of his line of reasoning viz:—

> "It will be admitted that the metallic plate is susceptible of depreciation, that the wearing down of the surface has the effect, as it were, of bringing up the lines to its level, and consequently of causing the disappearance of the corresponding parts of the design—at first, the portions

more superficially hollowed out, then those of medium depth, thus leaving visible only the deepest lines, without which there would be no trace of the design. It follows, then, that as the plate becomes more worn, the sheets successively printed show fewer and fewer of the details; but the last impressions must still offer a portion of those which are found on the first. If, up to the present time, the administrations have continued to use the engraved plates, until the designs have almost entirely disappeared, it does not follow that nothing else could be done. There exist certain processes, by the aid whereof, and either with the burin, or with acid, it is possible to re-sink, or hollow out afresh, the worn lines, or to trace new ones on the effaced part; and this we believe has been done with the plate of the Bolivian 5 centavos".

It is perhaps interesting to note that even until the early years of the present century the bird shown as a centerpiece on this 5c stamp is described as an "eagle" rather than a "condor." Indeed I do not think it was mentioned by its correct name until Mr. Moser called it a "condor" in his article written in 1905.

After the Dr. Magnus' article appeared, almost thirty years elapsed before anything else of importance was written about this 5c stamp. Then, in October, 1896, the "London Philatelist" published an extensive study of the stamp by Mr. H. R. Oldfield who, as a result of his investigations, came to the conclusion that there were "one or more plates in five different states". Mr. Oldfield made a gallant attempt to segregate these by certain characteristics—such as the shading on the globe and the lines on the breast of the condor. Apparently he was not quite satisfied with his own conclusions, because he continued his studies with renewed zest and in May, 1897, contributed another interesting article on the subject to the "London Philatelist". He now seems to have become convinced that there never was more than the one plate for the 5 centavos, and that this was re-touched or re-engraved no less than seven times. In the following year (1898) Mr. Oldfield again wrote about this stamp in the pages of the "Philatelic Record", stressing, in particular, descriptions of the characteristic varieties in each state of the plate.

In this same volume of the "Philatelic Record" (1898) is short article from the pen of "A Bolivian" containing many interesting statements and comments. I give a few extracts from this article. But as some of the statements are obviously incorrect, I do not know how much credence can be given to any of it:—

"The stamps known as the Eagle stamps were made for the Government in Cochabamba, under the direction of a Spanish captain named Sugart. They were legalised by a decree of the Government in La Paz, March 12th 1867.

"In the issues of 1866 and 1867 each stamp is so different one from the other, regarding design, colour, even to the paper used and their mode of cancellation, that hardly two specimens are exactly alike. It must be remembered that they were made by unskilled hands, in the crudest possible way, without the aid of machinery. The *facsimile* was cut in an alloy of copper and lead, the cut fastened in wooden frames in a crude way, and the process of making them was naturally very tedious and slow.

"The plates of the emission of 1866 were used in the emission of 1867. These plates were recut more than seventy times, therefore the lines so clearly defined in the first emission had almost, if not altogether, disappeared in the last. There were but two of these plates of each kind; the press was of the most ancient pattern, and the monthly production varied from 3000 to 5000 of all denominations. From the few remaining documents relating to their emission, from information received from Dr. W. Donato Munoz, Minister of State during their time of issue, and from conversations which I had with the wife and brother of the President under whose administration the stamps were made, as well as from other important persons, I learned that the actual emission was very small, probably not more than 40,000 in all.

"The original plates were destroyed in 1870 under the direction of a most reliable and respectable man, in the person of Ernesto Ruck, then Secretary of the National Archives."

In 1905 a noted American philatelist—Mr.

William Moser—decided to make a study of these 5c stamps. He correctly named the bird in the center of the design as a Condor. Mr. Moser published the result of his studies in the form of a long article which appeared in the "London Philatelist" in 1905. He stated there were four re-engravings and six re-touches making eleven different states of this 5c plate, and, so far as I can find, this statement has never been disputed. Mr. Moser explains:—

> "It seems to be now generally believed that the plate of the 5 centavos was retouched six times, making seven different printings. From a careful examination of my own collection, which is by no means complete, I find that the plate, or at least portions of it, was retouched no less than ten times. These retouches I have thought advisable to divide into *Re-engravings* and *Retouches*. The re-engravings being where the plate was entirely gone over, and sustained therefrom a change in its general appearance, and the retouches where the work was slight, such as the removal of letters, outline to, and the general character of the engraving was still retained.
> "In my opinion there were four Re-engravings and six Retouches.
> "It seems to me that it is less confusing to classify the stamps according to these different engravings than according to 'types', as that term has heretofore been understood, and that the illustration of a copy from the plate in its original condition and one of each of the four re-engravings would suffice, and enable anyone to determine where a copy belonged, without necessarily considering the retouches".

In the more than half a century, which has elapsed since the Moser article appeared, I know of nothing that has been published which would add to our knowledge of this 5c. stamp. About all that could be further accomplished would be to attempt to find identifying marks for all 72 varieties in all their eleven states. Such a task might not be impossible, but it would certainly be one of considerable magnitude. While there seems no disputing the fact that there was only one original plate for this stamp, and that its many re-engravings and retouches have been skillfully identified by such a careful craftsman as Mr. Moser, there are some matters concerning its production that seem to be completely mystifying. For want of a better term, I refer to this as the "mechanics" involved in engraving and renovating the plate. First of all, who engraved the plate and where were the stamps printed? Stanley Gibbons catalogue states that "the stamps of this issue were engraved by Senor Estruch, La Paz, and printed at Cochabamba". That the engraver was Senor Estruch seems to be borne out by an article which appeared in "Le Timbrophile" as long ago as 1869. This writer actually met Estruch in Paris. But the only reference I can find to the printing of the stamps in Cochabamba appeared in an article, written by "A Bolivian" which appeared in the "Philatelic Record" in 1898. This article contains so many misleading "facts" and fallacies that I am afraid little reliance can be placed on its statement that the stamps were printed in Cochabamba. This seems extremely unlikely to say the least. The town of Cochabamba is about 130 miles distant from La Paz and, it should be remembered, that at this period Bolivia was a very backward country with no railroads and no highways such as we know them today. It would, therefore, have been quite an undertaking to transport the plate back and forth between these two towns, either by stage or courier, every time it needed renovation. The trip would have taken several days each way, and it seems rather ridiculous to assume that printing facilities were not available in La Paz at least as good as those to be found in Cochabamba. That the plate did need frequent treatment is well proved by Mr. Moser's studies.

This 5c. plate must have been constructed of some very soft metal for it to have worn so badly. It was at first suggested that it was made of steel, but this idea was soon jettisoned. Mr. Oldfield suggested it was made of some soft material such as a mixture of copper and lead. Mr. Moser seems to have been of the same opinion. It might have been made of lead only for all we know to the contrary. Each renovation would take considerable time according to the little we know of work of this sort and, if the plate were transported back and forth between La Paz and Cochobamba, one wonders what time was left for the actual work of print-

ing! Did the engraver have some system of his own, such as the use of some sort of pantograph, or some method of quickly and accurately deepening the lines of the design with acid? It is a fascinating problem.

How many sheets were printed each time the plate was in the hands of the printer is not known. Possibly it was only a few hundred. Evidently the total supply of one printing was never exhausted before another lot would be received at the La Paz headquarters. Indeed, it seems reasonable to assume that at one time a hodge-podge of sheets from all, or nearly all, eleven "states" of the plate could be had together.

At the time I worked on the Taylor collection (1912), entire sheets of this 5c. stamp were easy to find. I wrote an old friend in England, Mr. C. Whitfield King, of Ipswich, —grandfather of the present head of this concern—and asked him to send me his wholesale stock of 5 centavos sheets on approval. He mailed a large parcel from which I was able to obtain many different shades and, if my memory is accurate, quite a number of the different re-engravings and retouches. Mr. King assured me that he had made but one importation of these stamps so that, as I suggested above, it would seem that the stock of sheets in the La Paz office was a mixture of various printings. There were none of the real yellow green stamps in the lot, and Mr. King told me he never had any of these. I doubt if an entire sheet in this scarce color exists. Most specialists agree that the real yellow green stamps were the very first printing. It has always been a scarce variety, so that the number printed must have been small. A possible reason for this may have been a defect in the plate itself—a defect—which was corrected before later printings in green were made. My reason for this suggestion is that when making up the Taylor plate—which was a reconstruction from blocks, strips, pairs and singles—I could never find the stamps belonging to the first five positions of the bottom rom—that is #61, 62, 63, 64, and 65. I did, on occasion, find copies of the five stamps immediately above (#49, 50, 51, 52 or 53) with large bottom margin on which a small portion of the top of the design of the stamps, that should be below, showed very clearly. I wonder if copies of these five stamps have since been identified, or if this small section of the plate was damaged and covered before printing to hide the defect.

The printer must have had some difficulty in keeping his ink properly mixed because this 5c stamp may be found in all sorts of greens —pale, deep, olive, grass, blue, etc. But none of the later shades ever approached the striking yellow-green color of the initial printing.

I now come to the question of the so-called six "types". Both the Scott and Gibbons catalogues record six distinct varieties of this 5c stamp, differing in the lines of shading upon that portion of the globe upon which the condor is perched. The general idea is a presumption that these are typical of certain states of the plate, which is quite correct. But to assume that they are of any practical value in helping to assign a stamp to a specific printing seems rather far-fetched. Furthermore, these details can be clearly seen only on very sharply printed copies, and such clearly printed stamps seem to be the exception rather than the rule. Mr. Oldfield was responsible for the original listing of the types in Gibbons catalogue. Later complaints regarding the usefulness of such segregation were plentiful. To try and clear up the situation Mr. Oldfield wrote an article for the "London Philatelist" in January, 1921, in which he stated:—

> "There has been a good deal of misunderstanding with regard to the six types as described in Stanley Gibbons Catalogue for which the writer was responsible.
> "I have recently seen both in print and in specialist collections notes to the effect that these types are not only no guide but are also misleading if used for the purpose of arranging the stamps of a collection in chronological order or to correspond with the various printings or states of the plate. But they were never so intended. They serve merely as a guide to lessen the labour of identification and to narrow the field of search".

But I believe his chronological order in disposing of the types simply added to the general confusion. For instance:—"if the stamp shows the characteristics of type 4 (diagonal and horizontal lines) it can only be from Plates 3, 4 or 5". Or again "if the stamp

shows the characteristics of type 5 (horizontal lines only) it may be from Plates 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7". This hardly seems particularly helpful, especially as only six types are described, from which the collector must fit his stamps from eleven states of the plate! There seems little reason for the continued listing of these types in the catalogues.

BERTRAM WILLIAM HENRY POOLE seems to deserve the title of *Dean* of the philatelic writers. If another can lay claim to this distinction, we think evidence should be produced to show that there is living today a writer, who began before 1899. It is believed that especially the older members of this Club will be ever so pleased to see the B. W. H. Poole byline again in this magazine after a lapse of many years. To the newer generation, Mr. Poole's writings are important, because he represents a school of stamp authors that seems to have vanished for some unaccountable reason. Philately in years past was blessed with a number of "popular" stamp writers, of which Mr. Poole seems to be about the only survivor. Intense research and deep scholarship was not the metier of these writers. Instead they would write upon a diversified list of philatelic subjects, always aiming to have the facts accurate. Present-day popular writers have strayed far afield. Their writings contain so many inaccuracies and are so superficial, which a comparison to the old school of popular writers makes so obvious.

Philately has a great need for a revival of good, accurate stamp writing. It stimulates the beginner to go deeper into stamp collecting and sustains the more medium type of collector's interest in philately. Today philatelic writing seems to be completely void of a middle ground. There are either the inaccurate, careless writers for the so-called beginners, or the profound, studious research of our great scholars.

B. W. H. Poole began in Great Britain coming to the United States early in this century. He has made his residence in Southern California. He began collecting stamps about 70 years ago and during his career has collected stamps from most every part of the world.

His great contributions to philately came mostly in the first three decades of this century. He has been a prolific writer for the well-known stamp journals here and in Great Britain. Some readers may recall our noting the 50th year of the British journal, "West End Philatelist" last year. Mr. Poole was this journal's first editor. He has authored many books on stamps, and stamp collecting. Years ago he decided to turn his hobby into his profession. Thus he must also qualify as one of our oldest living stamp dealers.

B. W. H. Poole was active in many past International Philatelic Exhibitions. He actively participated in the first one in this country in 1913. His collections gained many awards. Of great present-day interest is an award in the 1926 International Philatelic Exhibition. It went to his *topical* collection, a fact no doubt overlooked by many of the mass of enthusiasts of this current popular phase of stamp collecting.

Mr. Poole has been active in organized philately. He is an old-time member of this Club and the two American national societies, a Trustee of the Philadelphia Museum, and a founder member of the Los Angeles Philatelic Club. In Great Britain, he has been a life member of The Junior Philatelic Society. His greatest honor came when some years back he signed *The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.*

Stamp collecting has been Mr. Poole's prime interest. Years ago he had another avocation in breeding canaries, love-birds, and parakeets. This passed, while his philatelic work and services steadfastingly increased. None of his family have ever shared his great interest of philately.

At this stage of his life, Mr. Poole has far from retired from philately. He continues his work and writings, although his daily schedule has been modified slightly so that he believes he now takes things a bit easier.

Mr. Poole represents an essential symbol for philately. He has been a long-time collector and dealer. Over the years he has handled many stamps. With a retentive memory and a thirst for knowledge, he *knows* stamps. The above article on Bolivia significantly evidences this. Your attention is called to Mr. Poole's memory of a 19th century issue with which he was intimately associated almost from the time that philately first heard of the "Condor" stamps.

INDORE

The Provisionals of 1889

By LEONARD C. PARTON

Introduction

I wonder if a non-philatelic introduction to this article is permissible in order to supply some background for the reader about Indore.

My interest in Indore matters was brought about:

(1) by a one time residence in Gwalior round 1920,

(2) the hearing and reading of this curiously inspiring dynasty of the Holkars with its record of tremendous achievements (under British ægis), and (3) the recent acquisition of a previously unknown used imperforate pair of Gibbons No. 9ab, which the philatelists in U. S. A. praise but those in Great Britain condemn.

If, as I like to think sometimes, that the spirit of the Holkars has entered mine, it might be through the uncanny powers of their two most contrasting and outstanding women, Ahalya Bai and Tulsi Bai. The former, a daughter of a family from the territory of Sindia of Gwalior, married Khande Rao the grandson of the first ruler Malkar Rao who died in 1755. Khande Rao early developed symptoms of insanity and died a year after his succession. This wonderful woman, who lived until 1795 bearing titular honors, commanded her army in the field and reigned for thirty years, her name being still cherished with veneration throughout *India*.

Sir John Malcolm wrote a lyrical requiem: "It is an extraordinary picture, a female without vanity, a bigot without intolerance, a mind imbued with the deepest superstition, yet receiving no impression except what prompted the happiness of those under its influence; a being exercising in the most active and able manner despotic power not merely with sincere humility, but under the severest moral restraint that a strict conscience could impose on human action; and all this combined with the greatest indulgence for the weakness and faults of others".

The other woman, also coming to power through madness, this time through that of Yeshwant Rao, who died in 1803, is "worthy" to rank with all leading courtesans of the world throughout the ages. Through her associations with the Chief Minister, Bala Ram Seth, was repeated the old, old story of David and Uriah. Thus more and more power fell into her hands. She was a woman of great beauty, superior education, considerable talent and fascinating manners, but her disposition was cruel, violent, vindictive and her conduct, as to be expected, dissolute. Such was the woman who controlled the destinies of the House of Holkar for at least ten years, and died a violent death on the morning of the 20th December, 1817, being dragged to the banks of the Sipri, there beheaded and her body cast into the waters.

At the time of her death, the British Army, under Sir Thomas Hislop and Sir John Malcolm, was advancing on the camp where the murder took place and received an insulting message. "If you will advance recollect this is the army of Holkar."

Complete victory was achieved by the British, which culminated in the famous Treaty of Mandasor on January 6, 1818.

The lapse of the State of Indore from its finely engraved dies and excellently lithographed stamps into the use of a crude seal stamp done by hand-stamping in water-color during the year 1889 has long been somewhat of a puzzle. The purpose of this article is to set forth the record of these stamps and to show that there is considerably more to them than meets the casual eye.

The untimely death of Tukoji Rao II Holkar XI on June 17, 1886, only a few months after the first issue of adhesive

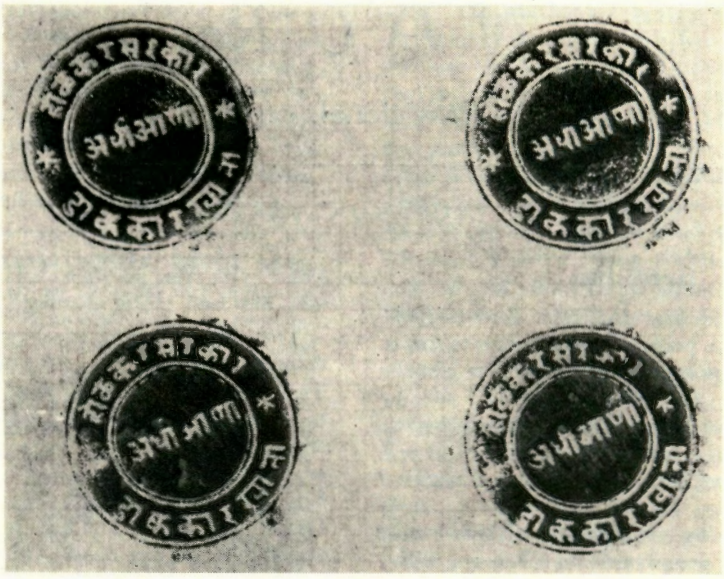


Fig. 1. Die I Mint Block of 4.

stamps of Indore, left comparatively heavy stocks on hand in India and also in Great Britain on order for shipment, resulting in his son, Shivaji Rao Holkar XII, agreeing to their continuance for a period which ended with the year 1888.

Immediately the puzzle begins. *The Kohl Handbuch* states "that the ½ anna stamp with the portrait of the new Ruler, Shivaji Rao, was printed by Perkins Bacon as well as by Waterlow and Sons." The former were approached and it was ascertained that they printed the ½ anna, 1 anna and 2 annas stamps. But Waterlow states they also printed them. Owing to the destruction of the records of both firms in the London Blitz, this cannot be confirmed.

The first shipment of the ½ anna stamps bearing the head of Shivaji was received from England and issued in January, 1889. This shipment was unexpectedly used up quickly. Therefore the provisionals were pressed into use. They appeared, at the latest, in August, 1889. It was intended that they be used pending the arrival of the second shipment which, at the time was anticipated to arrive about two months later. Actually it did not arrive until the middle of 1890.

The research of serious students have tended to show that there were two separate dies used for the production of these provisionals. The existence of the two dies was first noticed at "Iposta" in 1930 when a second die was discovered in the Buning collection. This is noted in the *Kohl Handbuch, 1936 edition.* The final discussion occurs in "The Philatelic Journal of India" for June 1947, where Mr. L. E. Dawson claims the discovery and sets forth some criteria for the distinguishing between the two dies.

I refrain from making further comments on the 1947 article except to make three points which are necessary to my present object: *First.* In the article the author states that in the top inscription of his Die I the first two letters (See illustrations) have the accent (sic) between (sic) the two letters, while that in Die II this accent is over the second letter. There is no between, only an overlap. This is the top portion (called a Matra) of the second character. When properly delineated, the curve of the accent thins off to a hair line just touching the stem (Kana). The curve of the upper portion of this character—thus completing the Marathi build-up of the character for the "O" of the Holkar—thins off.





Fig. 2. Die I Used on Cover.

I am indebted indeed to Mr. A. Master, C. I. E., Assistant Keeper of the India Office Library G. B., for his solving, correcting and occasionally approving of my interpretation of certain Marathi problems which I have ventured to place before him.

Owing to the grooves of these crude-cut dies becoming at times clogged with the coloring material, the absence, partial absence, or apparently changed position of the Matra will be found constant as a variable to many impressions of any die. And this clogging at times of the grooves of all parts of these dies accounts for their prevailing varying blurred appearance as does the converse, namely, absence of coloring material on parts of the surface between the grooves, thus exposing unintended patches of the coloring of the paper. It is necessary to have full and complete recognition of this when searching for fundamental differences denoting more than one die. These difficulties will be made apparent by a comparative examination of the impressions making up a sheet, or portion.

Second. The author's remark that neither the late Major Evans nor Dorning-Beckton was aware that "this Handstamp exists in two different dies" is to be deplored, seeing that at "Iposta" in 1930 a second die in the Buning collection was discovered and publicized. It is also strange to note that B. W. H. Poole in his valedictory number of "The West End Philatelist, March, 1911", illustrated this very die.

Third. The rest of the article on the differentials to be looked for is devoted to an attempt to measure certain features of these impressions to a half a millimeter, in spite of the general blurring. This, frankly, is impossible.

My diffident opinion, after much study, is that there is another die. This one which, owing to an incorrectly drawn Marathi character—the third of the important word "Holkar"—was scrapped after a short run. In this die, which I call Die I, the Marathi character L was incorrectly cut, whereas in the generally accepted die which we here call Die II, it is correctly shown.

In the end, after much study, I found three simple factors differentiating the two dies. Those with sufficient material can check this with the aid of the following comparison table. Would those who feel so disposed let me hear of their results, together with comments and criticisms.

I wonder greatly why there has been no mention of the similar 1 anna black on thin yellow paper (generally regarded as a fiscal), the general setup of which is exactly the



DIE I



DIE II

1. 3rd. Character "L" of top line		
2. 6-pointed left-hand star	Includes one line almost vertical	Includes one line almost horizontal
3. Characters generally	Smaller and closer spaced in top line than in bottom	Crowded, with the same style top and bottom



Fig. 5. Die II Used on Piece.

same. On the half anna on pink the translation reads: "(Top) Holkar Government, (Center) Half Anna, (Bottom) Postal Department". While on the one anna black on yellow it reads: "(Top) Indore Stamp Factory headquarters, (Center) Honourable Holkar Government, (Bottom) One Anna".

In commenting on the unknown black on yellow one anna, the expert (non-philatelic) on Marathi, who has so kindly helped me, writes asking, "if I am sure that the provisionals were not accepted for internal use after 1892, and that knowing India as he did in 1907 he would be surprised if they were not". He then goes on to say that "he would also be surprised at complaisance markings for such a comparatively unknown and, therefore, valueless stamp". This is in view of two used copies I submitted, one with I. P. O. postmark Indore City dated 20th May 1897, and one in the vernacular. Here, readers, is yet another puzzle. The Feudatories are full of them for the keen student.

It is only fair to mention the possibility that this provisional was made from dies that may have existed at an earlier date. The records of the Feudatory States are extremely sketchy, even those few that are available at all. The Indian officials for many years considered stamp collectors to be mad. It is rarely that the records, where they exist, are made available to collectors for study. Could it not then be possible that these dies existed prior to their recorded use for provisional postage stamps? Could they have represented the first effort of the Holkar Government to produce tickets for the prepayment of postage? There exists some evidence that this may be the case. But this is another story.

Whatever work on these stamps is done from now on it must be with a full sense of what the Marathi characters stand for. There are three names by which these characters are correctly called: Negari, Devanagari and Marathi Balbodh. The last name is most exact when dealing with Indore.



Fig. 6. Die II Used strip of 4.

FRANCE

The Peace And Commerce Issue Se-Tenant Pair, Types I & II

By NATHAN HALS



Photo by Boutrelle

August, 1875 wrote "Finis" to the classic stamp period of France. A reactionary government, considering itself an interim to a monarchy, decided to erase the republican and revolutionary sentiment inherent in the symbol of Ceres design on the previous issue. Making a clean sweep in the matter, the government refused a new contract to Mr. Hulot for the production of stamps and turned the task over to the Bank of France. Hulot had supervised the production of stamps since the first issue of 1849 because of his economy of production and mastery of galvanoplasty.

Holding a national competition, the award winning design was produced by J. A. Sage. The engraving was entrusted to Edward Mouchon. The exact date of issue required by the government is not known to the writer, but it must have been concurrent with the expiration of Hulot's contract. We do not have records of the first days of issue for many of this series.

In the ensuing rush and bustle to prepare the dies and plates, the working die was cracked through improper tempering. Mouchon then repaired it, making the change which created the two types—"N" of "INV" under the "B" of "REPUBLIQUE" (Type 1) and "N" under the "U" (Type 2). Sixteen (or twelve) gutta percha molds had been taken previous to the tempering, each for a different value. These were used to make stereos from lead, which were locked together and used to print the stamps. In this context, Yvert, 1928, says the original die was resurrected and used to prepare the issue. I do not quote directly for a reason that I shall give later.

As the individual lead cliches wore, they were replaced by new ones. Some of them

must have been made from the reengraved or, rather, repaired die. Thus, is explained the original of the pair illustrated here, 25c blue Types 1 and 2 se-tenant. This pair is sufficiently scarce so as to never have been pictured before. Although priced in most French catalogues, it has been ignored in their literature; while in this country the last reported pair was seen by Raoul Lesgor over thirty years ago in a Walter Scott auction sale, from which it was withdrawn.

Called "fabulous" by S. G. Rich, "exclusively rare" by Lesgor, I call this pair "the skeleton in the closet of French philately".

Witness the embarrassing vagueness of my previous paragraphs. Here is an issue that amounted to almost ten billions of all values. It had one of the longest lives of any country's issues; 24 years from 1876 to 1900, when an even uglier stamp took its place. Yet, it sidled onto the stage and sidled off. First days of issue are unknown for some values. Which type had priority is unknown, and the only *documentary* knowledge of the stamp is contained in a letter, whose credence is thoroughly doubted.

In 1895 Arthur Maury, the great French dealer and authority announced (twenty years after its first issue) the discovery of the two types, and published a letter from Mouchon in which he explained "as near as I can recall after twenty years" what had happened, and saying that Type 1 was indeed the first. In 1898, in the *Echo de la Timbrologie,* this was repeated. But in 1907, Maury put the matter in his book in reversed form. Mouchon's letter was shortened by a paragraph, while the Type 2 was given the priority by substituting "U" for "B". This then, represented the extent of the documentary research on the matter by Maury.

In 1950, Sir Henry Bessemer properly questioned the whole matter, and most especially was able to cast doubt on the Mouchon recollection because of the misstatements of metallurgical fact contained in it. On his empirical research he found "N" under "B" to be first.

Henry Jervis then took up the cudgels as a protagonist of Bessemer's view. Jervis got as far as the Postal Museum in Paris, where a selection of material was laid out, including the famous repaired die. He made careful measurements and took photographs which he used to back up his conclusions *But Jervis Only Saw What He Was Shown.* This is proven by the fact that others have come to directly opposite views from the same material, or material that was shown *Them.* Reading the various articles by Jervis and D'Arleux gives one the feeling that Jervis is in a morass. The argument is bitter and foolish *because not one person has gone to the sources, the documents.*

As far as existent proofs and color trials go, the literature is bare except for Jervis' statement (American Philatelist, Aug. 1956) that none of the proofs prove anything.

Empirical research on this issue has been fun for those trying to push back the frontier of earliest date of issue. But for the rest this issue represents a gap twenty-five years wide in French philately. Now that it is highlighted by this foolish quarrel over the two types, documentary research must be pushed. Gustave Bertrand started the task, but died too soon after its inception. So it appears that the rest of our French cousins are slow to back up their preconceived ideas with hard work.

The writer is ashamed. He shows you a rarity, but cannot tell you any more except that it is a pair of genuine stamps with both types (and even a pair of the same type is uncommon in used condition). But why, how, who—we don't know. We do know that a new approach to the solution of this problem is essential. An objective scholar, who will seek the documents and do a thorough unbiased research, can supply the answer. Unfortunately up to now we have been faced with the situation of "a little knowledge is worse than none".

For Philatelic Literature Offerings

See Advertisements Page II

CORRIENTES

The Issues from 1856-1880

(Continued From Page 36)

By LOUIS STICH

The 3 Centavos Fuerte 1860 Issue used in 1870

It will be recalled that the color of this issue was blue, and the printing was classified as the second and third settings in the second printing group. Their use was short-lived, because the stamps were required only until the new issue appeared in January 1871. The postal rate had been increased to 3 centavos fuerte per the unit weight. Inasmuch as cancelling devices had been in use prior to 1870, it is not surprising that the stamps from the 1860 issue used during the 1870 period are cancelled by postmarks. Nevertheless, they seem to be relatively scarce.



Fig. 50. A complete sheet of the 2 centavos, lemon yellow, ungummed. Printed from the third setting in the first printing group, showing the eight tête-bêche pairs.

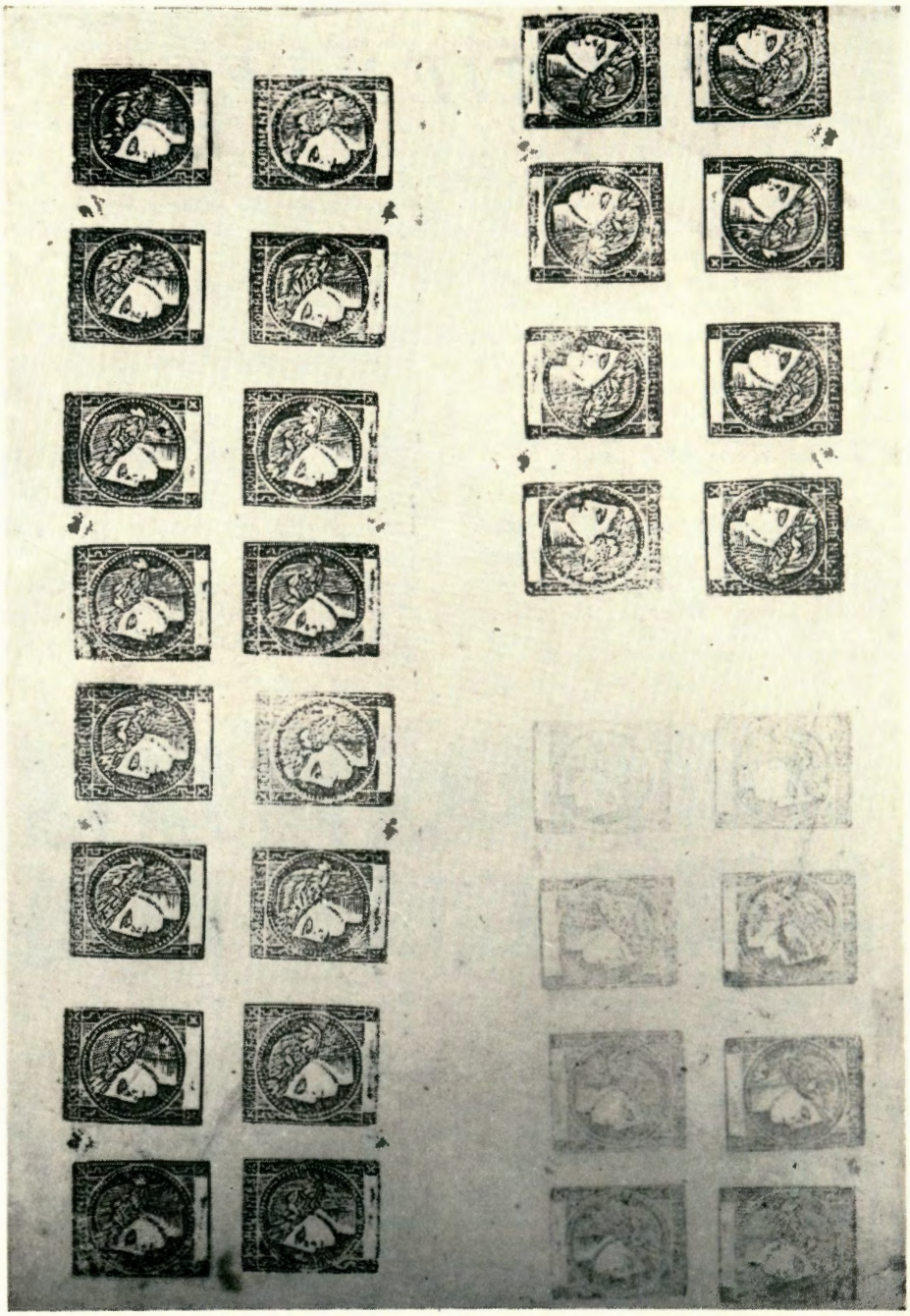


Fig. 51. A complete sheet of the 2 centavos lemon yellow, ungummed, of the 1867 issue. Printed from the third setting in the first printing group. Not the three panes printed on the front of the sheet. But the one pane in the lower right corner with light impressions was printed by mistake on the reverse side of the sheet. It is the only sheet known with this variety. (Ex-Earl of Crawford Collection.)

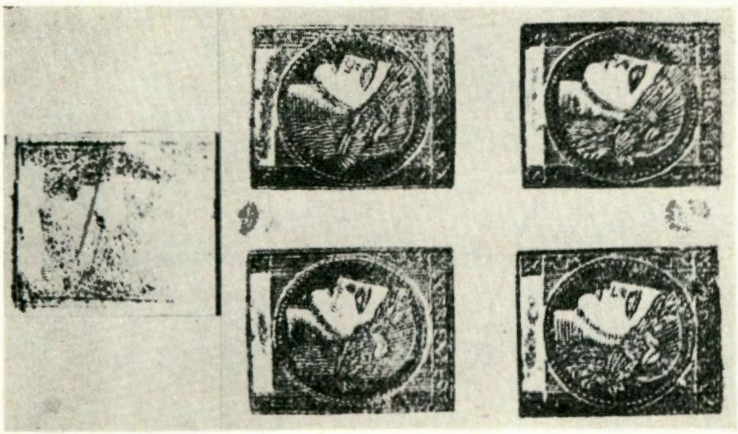


Fig. 52. (Left) A single copy of same 1867 issue with a double impression, and pen cancellation. (Right) A block of four with the double impressions of the 2 centavos, lemon yellow, ungummed, of the 1867 issue. Printed from the third setting. The condition of these stamps is exceptionally fine.

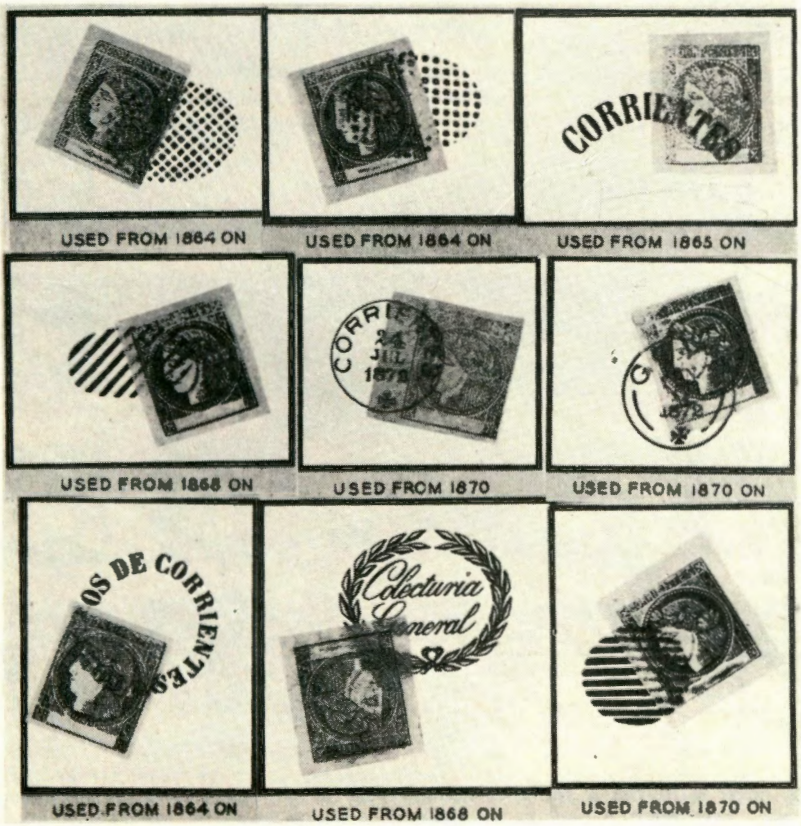


Fig. 53. Various cancellations used on the 2 centavos issue of 1867.

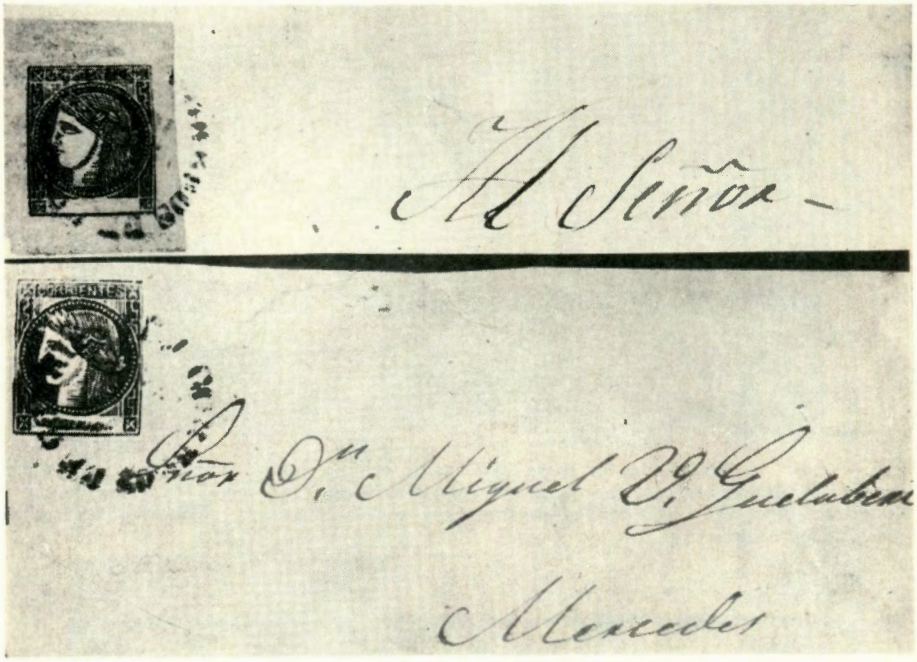


Fig. 54. Two single rate letters bearing the 2 centavos 1867 issue, showing the Corrientes control stamper used as a regular cancellation. Letters are addressed to Goya and Mercedes, respectively.



Fig. 57. A cover with the 3 centavos fuerte, blue, of the 1860 issue as used during the 1870 period. The stamp is tied on the back by a scarce seven bar oval cancellation. It is our belief that this cancellation should be assigned to San Roque, not Esquina, as previously believed.



Fig. 55. A complete sheet of the 2 centavos, straw yellow, gummed with coarse brownish gum. Printed from the third setting in the third printing group with the four tête-bêche pairs in sheet.

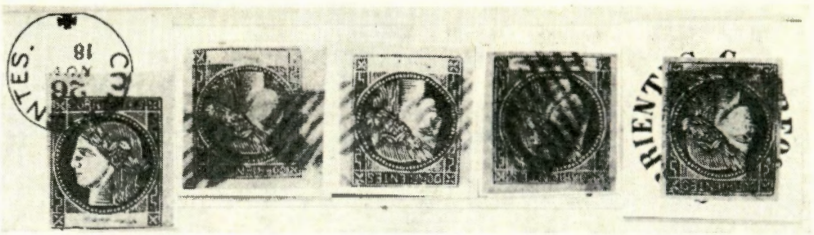


Fig. 56. Five examples of the type of cancellations applied to the 1860 issue as used during the 1870 period.

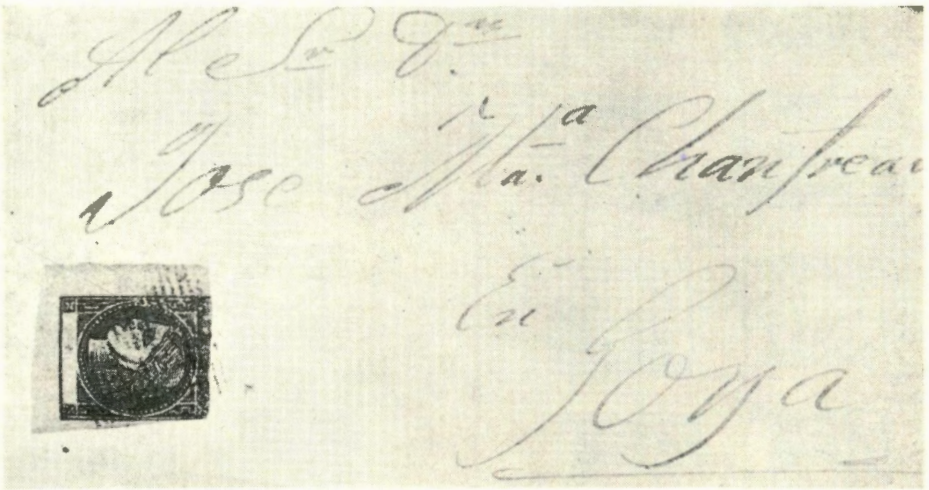


Fig. 58. A cover addressed to Goya bearing a copy of the 1860 issue as used during the 1870 period. The stamp is cancelled and tied by the 16 parallel-line cancellation of Corrientes.

The 3 Centavos Fuerte Issue of 1871

This stamp appeared in January. Its color was dark blue, being printed in black on dark blue paper. It was printed from the third setting in the third and fourth printing groups. Because two printing groups were used, relatively many tête-bêche pairs exist. The paper used for this issue was not uniform. Some sheets are found with smooth paper, which, of course, registered good impressions. Other sheets show a very rough surface, producing coarse impressions, so much so as to give the stamps a blurred appearance. Sometimes the impressions are so poor, that they are incomplete with portions of design missing. Perhaps the printer himself noticed this, and then ran such sheets through the press again. This may account for the double impressions found with this issue.

The 3 Centavos Fuerte Issues from 1874-1880

The stamps issued over this seven year span constitute a group by themselves, but unfortunately include a variety of issues which can prove confusing. All the colors can be grouped as generally lilac and rose. When we first started to classify this group according to the different color shades, we did not foresee the complications. Now that the job is done, we can look back with a sigh of relief upon the many years of searching and probing in the attempt to place these variations of lilac colored stamps into their proper place. The long hours, days and weeks with frustration just seemed to follow each other without end. Our greatest difficulty was securing dated items, the most helpful guide to distinguish one issue from the

(Continued on Page 82)

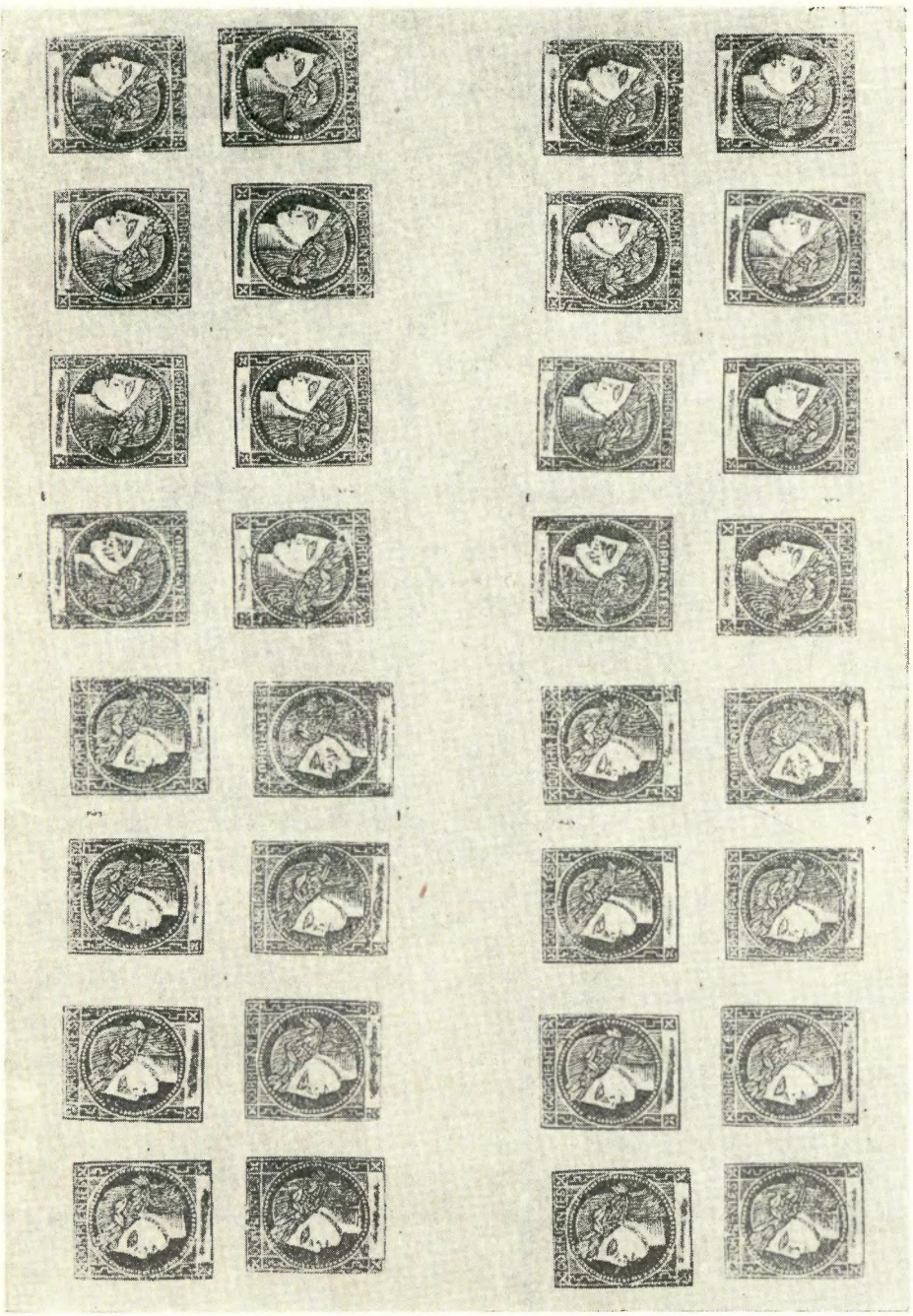


Fig. 59. A complete sheet of the 3 centavos fuerte dark blue of the 1871 issue, consisting of four panes of eight each, a total of 32 stamps. Printed from the third setting in the fourth printing group as determined by the positions of the four tête-bêche pairs.

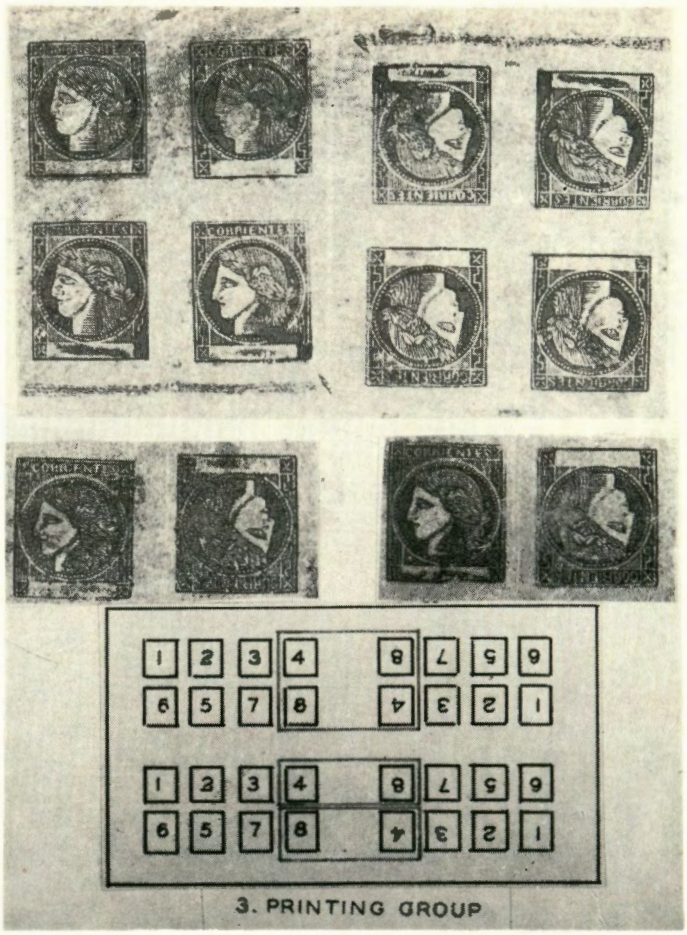


Fig. 60. Tête-bêche pairs of the 3 centavos fuente dark blue of the 1871 issue. Printed from the third setting in the third printing group. At the bottom is a diagram showing the location of the tête-bêche pairs in the complete sheet.



Fig. 62. The capital cancellation "Collecturia General". Because of the blue color of both the cancel and the stamp, the cancellation is difficult to see, so a sketch of the cancellation has been drawn and the matching part on the stamp is positioned.

(From Page 80)

other. Unused copies, either singles or multiple pieces, proved even more difficult to work with because many of the unused stamps had changed color since the day of their issuance due to the penetration of the heavy brown gum into the paper. Although many copies now are not in their originally issued color, their identification by color variation still seems possible.

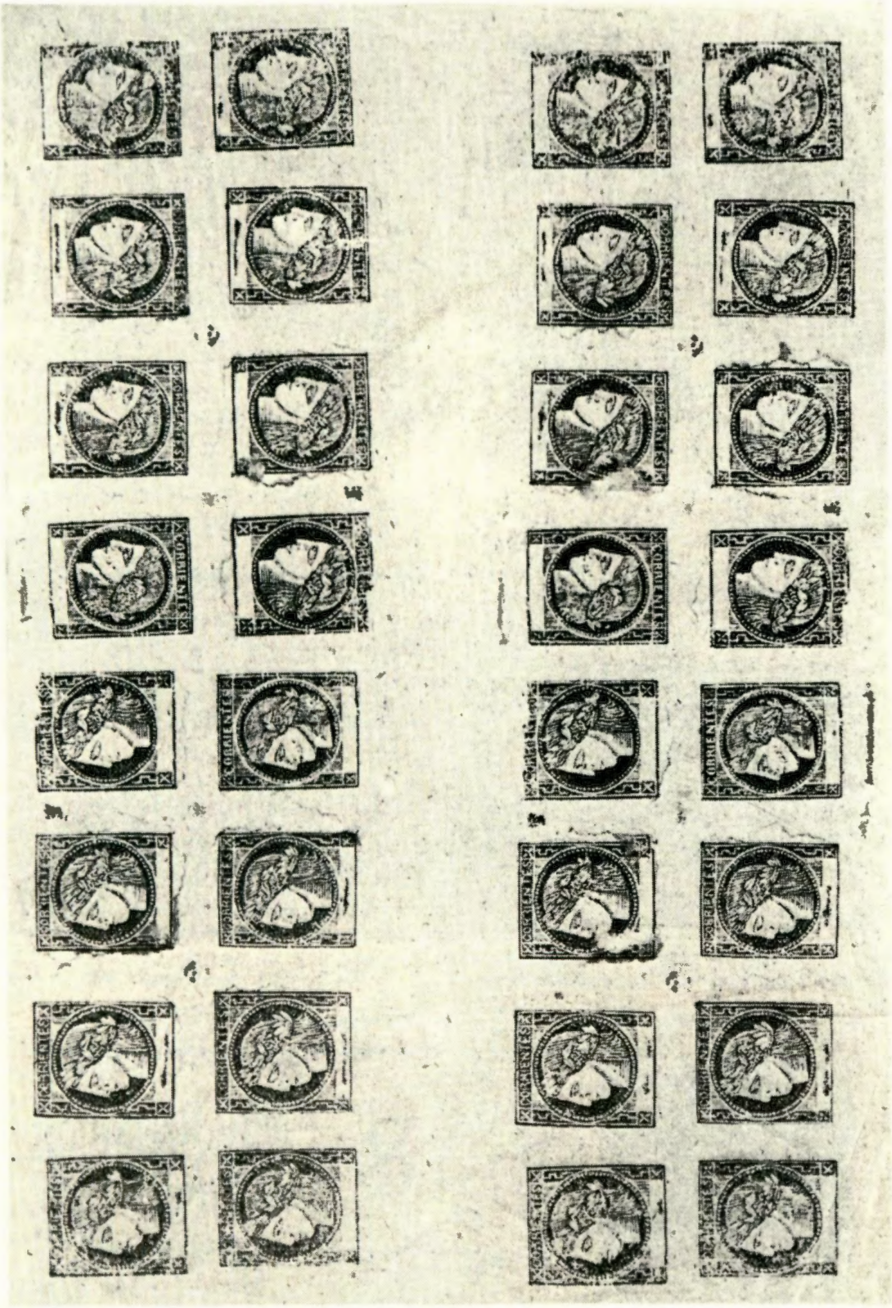


Fig. 61. A complete sheet of the 3 centavos fuerte, dark blue, of the 1871 issue. Printed from the third setting in the third printing group as determined by the position of the four tête-bêche pairs.

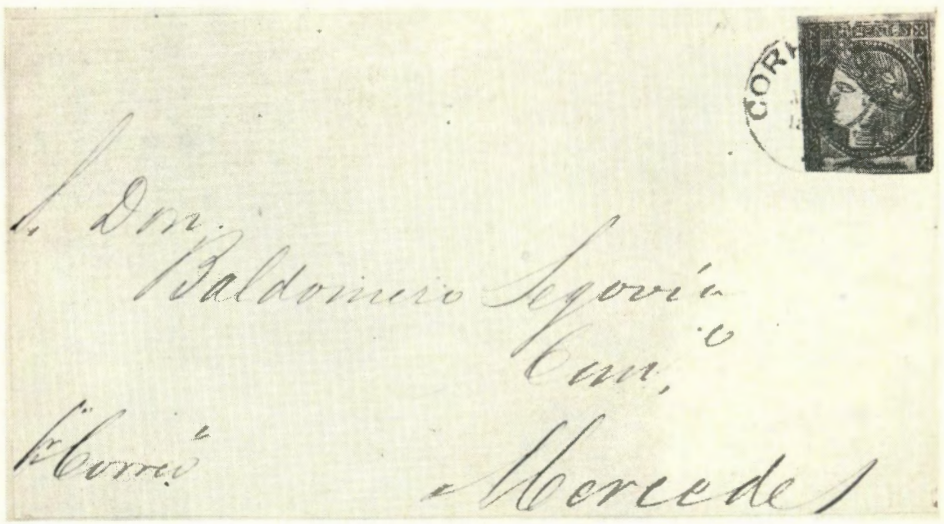


Fig. 63. A letter bearing the 3 centavos fuerte, dark blue of the 1871 issue, tied by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, dated May 7, 1873, and addressed to Mercedes. Covers showing use of this issue are extremely scarce.

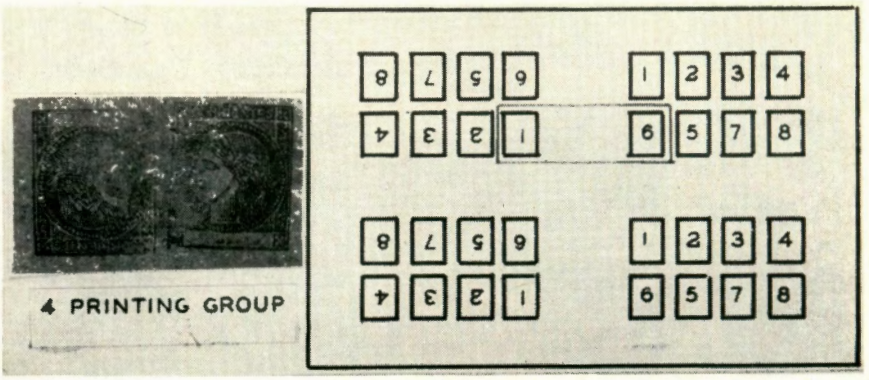


Fig. 64. A tête-bêche pair with double impression along with a diagram of the sheet showing the pair's position in the complete sheet.

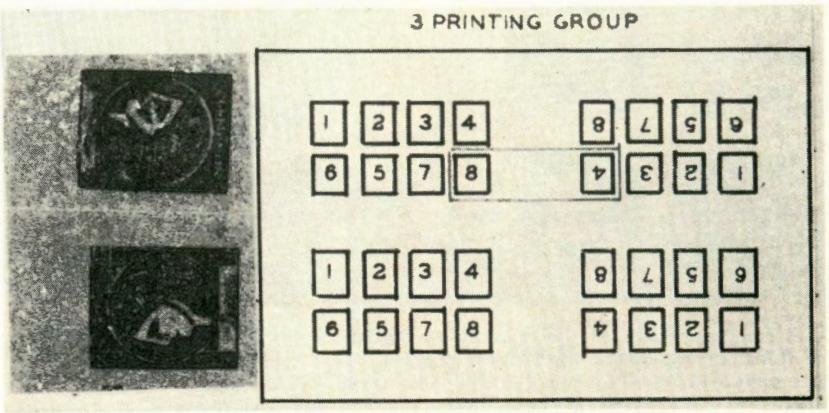


Fig. 65. A tête-bêche pair in the fourth printing group with diagrams showing its location.

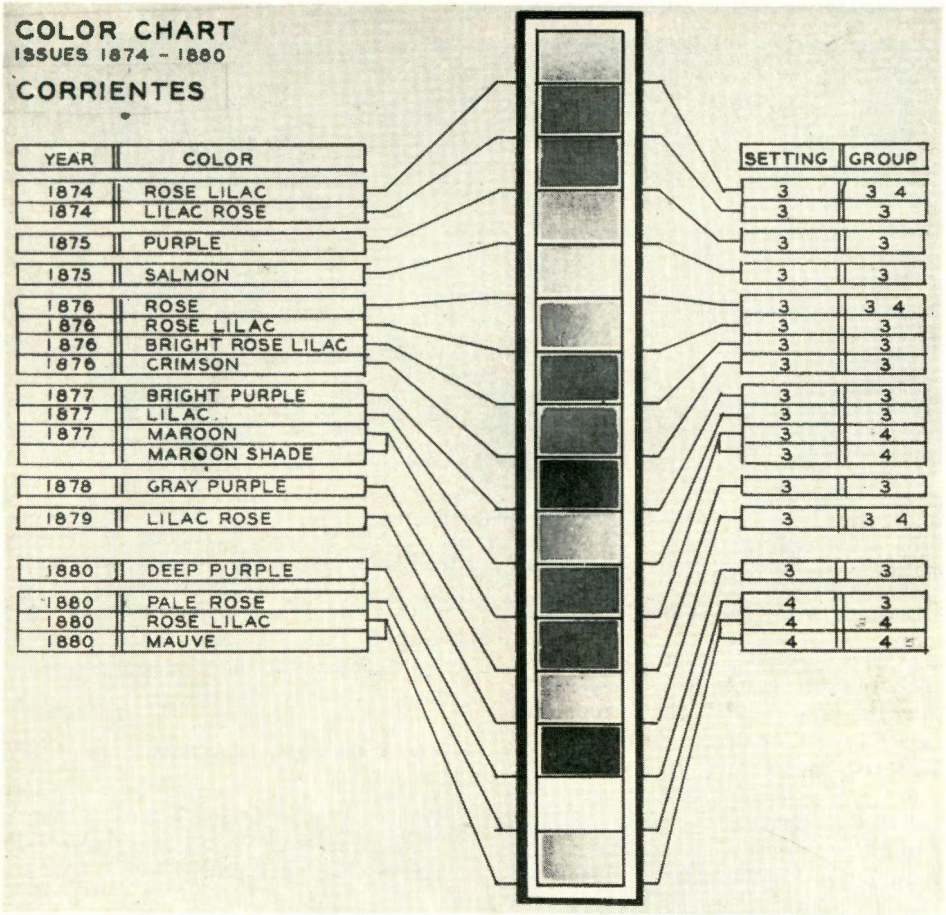


Fig. 66. Chart of the 1874-1880 issues, colors, settings and printing groups.

Color Chart of the Issues from 1874-1880

Year	*Color*	*Setting*	*Printing Group*
1874	rose lilac	3	3 4
1874	lilac rose	3	3
1875	purple	3	3
1875	salmon	3	3
1876	rose	3	3 4
1876	rose lilac	3	3
1876	bright rose lilac	3	3
1876	crimson	3	3
1877	bright purple	3	3
1877	lilac	3	3
1877	maroon	3	4
1878	gray purple	3	3
1879	lilac rose	3	3 4
1880	deep purple	3	3
1880	pale rose	4	4
1880	rose lilac	4	3 4
1880	mauve	4	5



Fig. 68. A single copy of the 3 centavos of the 1874 issue showing a variety inscription COR-RIENTES, which occurs in the top row of types 1, 2, 3 and 4.



Fig. 67. A single rate cover bearing the 3 centavos of the 1874 issue in rose lilac, tied by the small circular Corrientes cancellation, dated February 16, 1874 addressed to Mercedes. In the upper right corner is a loose vertical pair with a similar cancellation of Corrientes dated April 1, 1874. (These cancellations are the earliest known for this issue.)

The 3 Centavos, Rose Lilac of the 1874 Issue

The exact date of this issue is not known. It is only known that it was issued sometime in 1874. The stamps' color is rose lilac. They were printed from the third setting in the third and fourth printing groups. Because of the two printing groups used, two different combinations of tête-bêche pairs exist. A peculiar variety found with this issue is one impression on the face of the paper with a double impression on the reverse side. This is said to be in a block of four in a South American collection, but the owner has never identified himself.

The 3 Centavos, Lilac Rose Issue of 1874

Issued in 1874, the stamps were printed on lilac rose paper from the third setting in the third printing group. This issue followed the rose lilac printing.

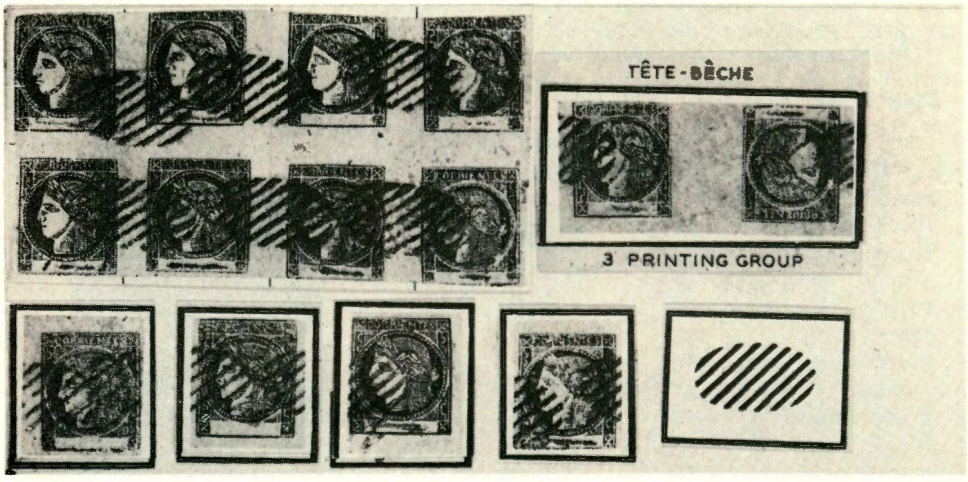


Fig. 69. A complete pane, singles and a tete-beche pair of the 3 centavos of the 1874 issue. Printed from the third setting and in the third printing group, all showing the nine bar oval cancellations.

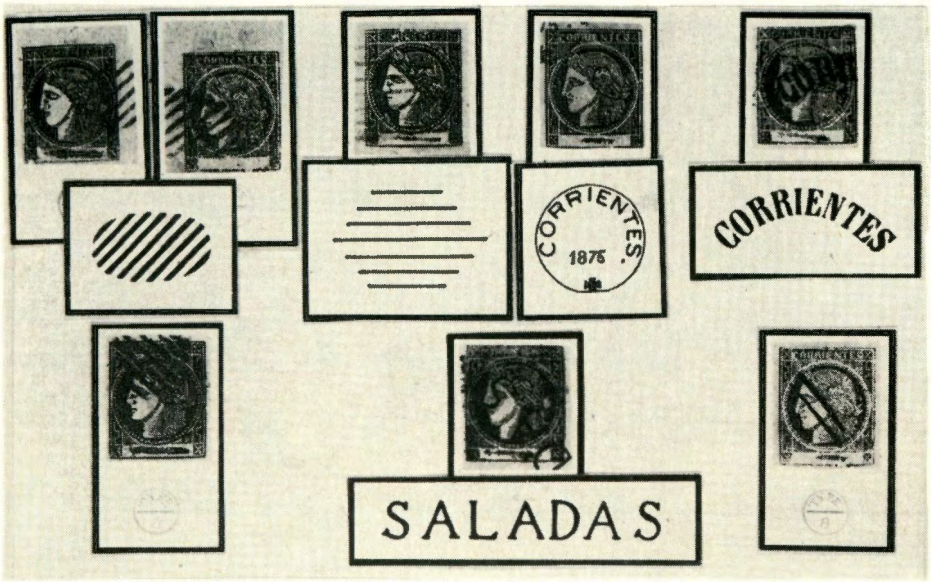


Fig. 70. Cancellations applied to the lilac rose 3 centavos issue of 1874. The straight-line cancellation of Saladas is so far the only one known. The irregular bar cancellation is ascribed to Esquina.



Fig. 71. Double rate letter addressed to Mercedes showing a horizontal pair (types 2 and 3) of the 3 centavos lilac rose of 1874, cancelled by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, February 17, 1875.



Fig. 72. Double rate cover addressed to Mercedes with a pair (types 7 and 8) of the 3 centavos lilac rose of the 1874 issue. Cancelled by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, August 17, 1875.



Fig. 73. A double rate cover with a horizontal pair of the 3 centavos of the 1874 issue addressed to Mercedes, tied by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, December 30, 1875.

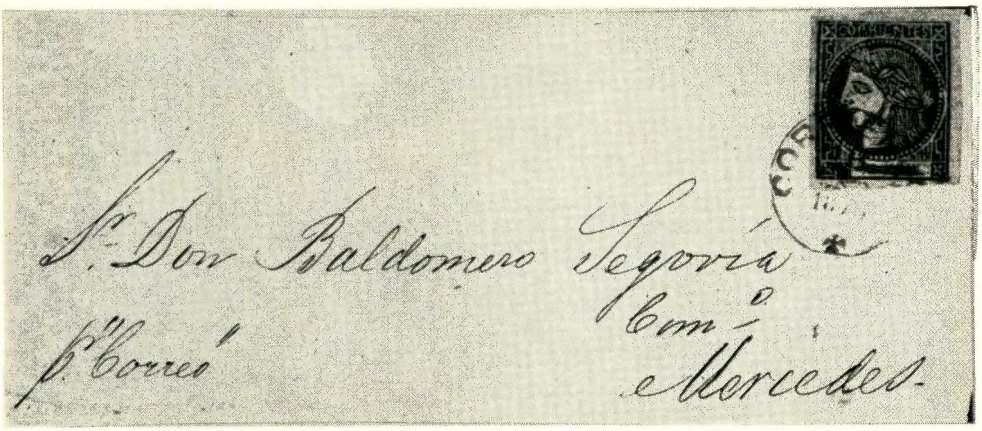


Fig. 74. A single rate letter with a copy of the 3 centavos lilac rose of the 1874 issue, tied by the Corrientes, January 13, 1875 cancellation, addressed to Mercedes.

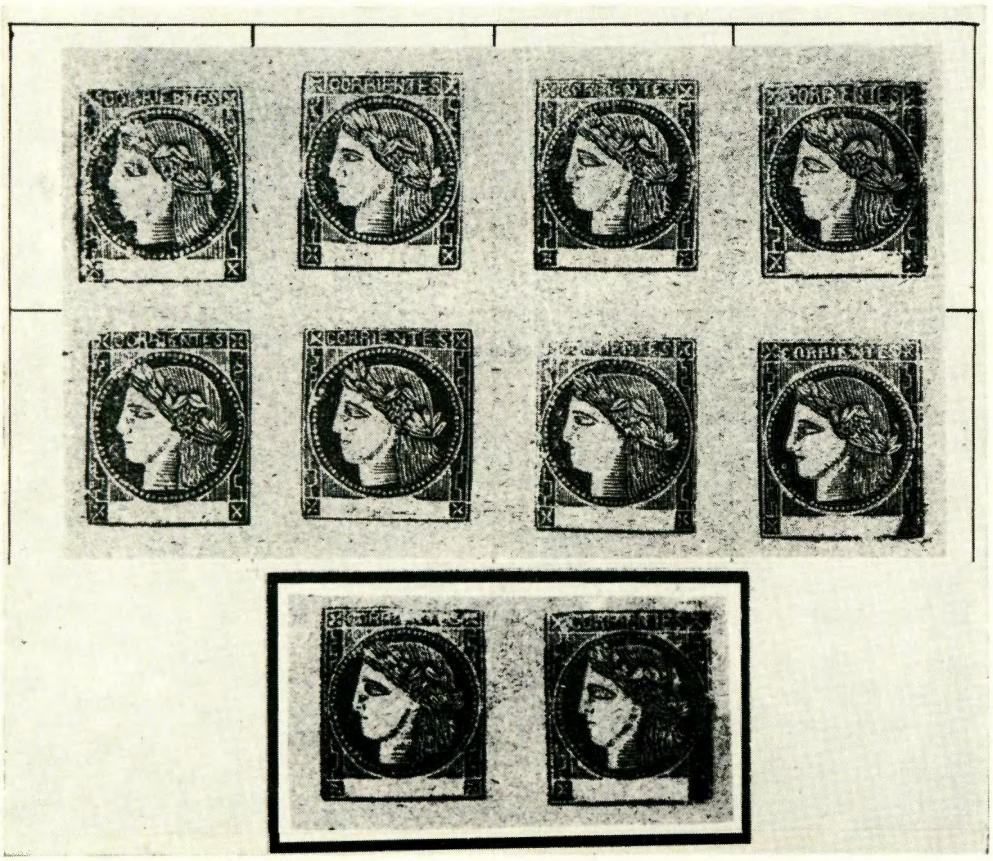


Fig. 75. Top: Complete pane of the 3 centavos purple of the 1875 issue unused. Printed from the third setting in the third printing group. Bottom: a pair consisting of types 3 and 4 from the same printing.



Fig. 76. A single rate cover with a copy of the 3 centavos, purple of the 1875 issue, tied by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, June 30, 1875, the other cancellation on cover is Corrientes, July 1, 1875.



Fig. 77. Unused stamps and cancellations of the 3 centavos, salmon colored issue of 1875. Also a single copy cancelled by the double circle San Roque without date cancellation. A single and a block of four cancelled by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, November 10, 1875.

The 3 Centavos Purple of the 1875 Issue

This stamp was printed on purple paper from the third setting in the third printing group. Tete-beche pairs exist in four combinations.

The 3 Centavos, Salmon, of the 1875 Issue

In 1875, a subsequent printing was made on salmon-colored paper from the third setting and the third printing group.

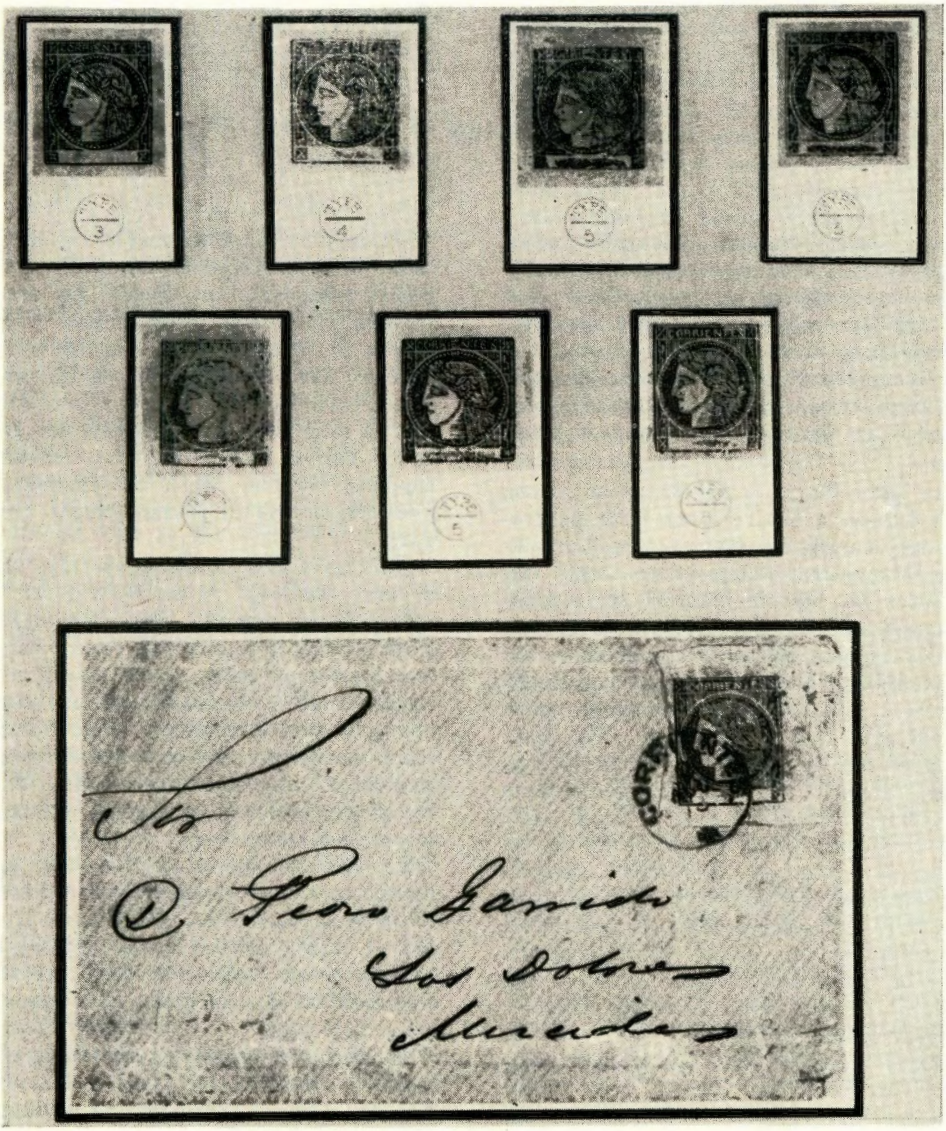


Fig. 78. Top: Seven unused copies of the 3 centavos, 1876 rose. Bottom: a cover bearing a single copy tied by the small circular cancellation of Corrientes, August 2, 1876.

(To Be Continued)

UNITED STATES

The Challenge of the 24-Cent Bank Note Stamps

By STEPHEN G. RICH

Two men who died in the first seven months of 1954 were then engaged in studies of the United States 24-cent stamps of 1870 and 1873. It seems probable that these two were the best-informed on this subject; it is quite sure that little or nothing of their knowledge beyond what had previously been published has been preserved even as rough notes.

Jere Hess Barr, in his last year among us, had done extensive work with government records, on the production and circulation of the 24-cent stamps in the 1870's. His conclusion was that the reputedly scarce Continental Bank Note Co. stamp of 1873 really is about as plentiful as that ascribed to the National Bank Note Co.'s production in the 1870 issue. In both cases it was the stamp without grill that he discussed. Mr. Barr concluded that a large portion of the stamps called "National" by collectors and dealers alike, were really Continental Bank Note Co.'s products. Mr. Barr's paper in the *Twentieth American Philatelic Congress* book published his information up to mid-1954. Mr. Barr therein refers to material on this value in the Bissell Correspondence, which he listed and analyzed in a previous article in the *Nineteenth American Philatelic Congress* book of 1953.

John A. Klemann, who died a few months after Mr. Barr, had studied these stamps around 1920. He had published the only article on them prior to Jere Hess Barr's recent work, worthy of consideration by students, about 1920 in the old-time *Philatelic Record*. A more recent article need not be cited, because in it Mr. Klemann merely stated that he subjectively could separate the two stamps by color, without giving any word about what specific hue, tint, shade or value was characteristic of either. He was restudying the problem when he died. The incentive for renewed work was the expressed need of Mr. Barr and others, to discover some reasonably sure objective test, whether that of color definitely described, fluorescence under various violet-ray wave lengths, or anything else, by which the National and Continental 24-cent stamps might be told apart.

This unfinished task now has thus become a major challenge to the students of U. S. 19th Century stamps. Here the suggestion is made that a number of covers with 24-cent stamps on them, whose *year dates* are shown in the postmarking, are the material primarily needed for study. This will necessarily mean covers which went abroad, since year dates are most infrequent in U. S. postmarks of this era but regular on those of many other countries.

Fortunately, most uses of the 24-cent stamps up to the lowered U. P. U. rates in 1875, were on letters going abroad. The Bissell correspondence, which Mr. Barr examined, would appear to have provided a fair number of such items, both before and after early 1873.

If, from the stamps on the dated covers, some characteristic, or several characteristics, can be found, which occur *only* on a portion of the stamps used after approximately mid-1873, we may at long last have found the crucial stigma. Any feature thus found, and not ever seen on covers of 1870, 1871 and 1872, will be a likely candidate for the needed

(Continued on Page 94)

BOOK REVIEWS

The Transatlantic Mail, by Frank Staff. Published by Adlard Coles Ltd., Southampton, England in association with George G. Harrap & Co. Ltd., Toronto, Wellington, Sydney, and John de Graff Inc., New York. 191 pp. Cloth Bound. Illustrated. Price $8.50.

Within the close to 200 pages of this delightful and informative book there is material to hold the interest of a student of postal history or even to a philatelist, whose primary concern is the adhesive postage stamps. Part I which takes in more than half of the book, is a fascinating narrative of the development of the transatlantic mail services from the early years of the seventeenth century up until the present time; from the days of the sailing ships, the first paddle wheel steamboats to swift modern ocean liners. The history of intense rivalry and competition for the supremacy of the Atlantic Ocean between American and British shipping lines in the nineteenth century is a warm story, well written and amply illustrated with pictures of ships, shipping magnates along with reproductions of covers, handbills, advertisements and postal markings.

Part II has appeal only to postal historians and collectors of transatlantic covers. There are a few pages of letters, proclamations and the like, then a summary of the various packet services and shipping lines, giving the names of the ships, tonnage, period of service and eventual fate of the ships. This is followed by an exhaustive study of postal regulations, handstamps, and rates of postage. This should be particularly helpful to collectors who have great difficulty in unraveling the perplexing problems of multitudinous changes of postal rates.

The book reflects profound and tedious research. But like most philatelic tomes it should not be regarded as infallible. It should be checked against other authoritative sources if a particular problem is sought to be resolved. Mr. Staff states that during the eighteenth century the system of rating letters by the sheet, as well as by distance, was the reason why envelopes were not generally used, because a sheet of paper enclosed within an envelope would automatically make it a double letter. Alvin E. Harlow in "Old Post Bags" states that envelopes were first introduced in the United States from France in 1842 as the latest European novelty. At page 87 Mr. Staff reproduces a handstamp associated with mail carried by Cunard packet, applied at Liverpool 1840 - 1841. This reviewer owns a cover of the ship Acadia (Cunard Line) with this Liverpool handstamp applied in 1844. There are some misprints, which could have been avoided by more exacting proof reading. Also we found some variations and omissions of data on specific ships when compared with other ship letter books. But these inconsequential details hardly detract from this wonderful compilation of philatelic and historical research. (*Edwin Mayer*)

A Study of the ½d. Kangaroo 1938-1956. By The Commonwealth Specialists' Research Group (N. S. W.). Published under the auspices of the Commonwealth Specialists' and Stationery Collectors' Club (Sydney, Australia) 39 pp. 10 Illustrations. Paper bound. Price not stated.

This pamphlet records the conclusions of a study of the ½d. Kangaroo issues from 1938 to 1956. The study involved the careful examination of some 35,000 copies. (This is Scott design A24).

The results are arranged in chronological order for the four issues starting in 1938 and continuing to 1956. Design data, size, color, paper, perforation, dates of issue are recorded and the plate arrangement indicated. Then such varieties as were discovered and considered worthy of mention are noted for each electro, pane, and position. A concise description of each variety is given, augmented in a few cases by sketches. Where there is information of interest, each selection concludes with remarks on coil plates and plate number status.

As stated above, the data presented sums up the detailed study of a very large number

of stamps which consumed the better part of two years of effort by members of the Commonwealth Specialists' Research Group (N. S. W.). The conclusions of the study are presented in an orderly manner, and well documents the history of this interesting stamp.

The booklet should be of great use to Australian specialists studying the ½d. Kangaroo. At the same time, the booklet is very readable to anyone with a reasonably general knowledge of philately, and might stimulate some collectors to build up a specialized collection of these stamps. (*Leonard W. Giles*)

"The Trident Issues of the Ukraine", by C. W. Roberts, Part V, Special Issues. Published by the Author, Shepton House, Shepton Beauchamp, Ilminster, Somerset, England. 27pp and 4 plates. Price 12/6d.

This is the final part of the "Trident Issues of The Ukraine," which was first started seven years ago in collaboration with Mr. Arthur Greaves. What began as merely an attempt to resuscitate interest in the philately of the Ukraine has, over the years, developed into the finest and most complete work on these stamps in the English language. Mr. Roberts and the British Society of Russian Philately are to be congratulated.

This final part covers the Special Issues from all of the districts, and, although most are far from common, their philatelic merits differ considerably. A number of the rarer stamps discussed have not been seen by collectors for many years, and their present existence is doubtful. The author has taken much trouble to make these lists as accurate as possible, even to making a distinction between the ones that were undoubtedly needed and those where the presumption is strong that the overprints were made for purely philatelic purposes. Of course, all such distinctions are purely arbitrary on the part of the author, based on his knowledge and research. It is in this type of work that there is much room for continued research. The users of this book should not make the mistake of taking it literally, but should rather be guided by their own knowledge. We consider this type of approach to be rather discouraging to the following students. It is better to say that there are differences of opinion as to the validity rather than to segregate a group under a heading "Philatelic Issues". Remember the fate of Aristotle's work on natural science!

However, the good points of this work and its preceding companion volumes far outweigh the small, perhaps sometime even carping, criticism of this reviewer. For the collector of Ukraine it is an essential book, as were the others of this series.

(*H. D. S. H.*)

UNITED STATES

(Continued From Page 92)

criterion to differentiate the two stamps.

We know that the same plate was used, without alteration, by both the contractors who produced these stamps. Thus no plate variety, no alteration in design, however small, (usually called a "secret mark") can be involved. A characteristic of paper, ink or printing need be sought. I hazard the guess that it will be a color variation which will show up conspicuously under some one wave-length of violet-ray light. Quite possibly it may be entirely invisible to the naked eye; or may show up with use of a color-screen—perhaps even a pair of pale greenish sun-glasses.

There is a pitfall here, in that stamps on cover at times fluoresce differently than when unused or when soaked off paper. Stains on covers accentuate this pitfall.

The student who solves this problem will thereby have become well equipped and educated to do a similar job for the 30-cent and 90-cent Bank Note Issues stamp. If he can solve these also, he will have completed the work of differentiation the 1870 and 1873 issues begun some 60 years ago by John N. Luff. Though at least two of Mr. Luff's differentiations turned out to be invalid, and were superseded, that of the 2-cent in 1930 and that of the 15-cent in 1948, the basal credit and work are still his. (The catalogs have not yet corrected their listings and pictures to the 1930 and 1948 discoveries).

THE CLUBHOUSE

Meeting of December 19, 1956

19th Century Colombia

Jacob S. Glaser, past president of this Club, filled all the frames in the Meeting Room with selected pages, almost exclusively 19th Century material, from his extensive collection of the South American Republic of Colombia.

Looking about the room just as "Jake" Glaser was being introduced by Mr. Haverbeck, this reporter noticed a "full house". More noticeable was the large proportion of veteran COLLECTORS CLUB members. That made one think that an accurate report of this meeting may be called "Old Timers' Night". The speaker of the evening has served this club for many years. So it was felt that even if Jacob S. Glaser had shown only one stamp, many members would turn out simply to pay tribute to "an old friend".

Before turning to the material in the frames, Mr. Glaser wisely offered his audience some pertinent data about Colombia's history and geography, because from 1859 on, when the first stamps were issued, the country's name had been successively Granadine Confederation (1858-61), United States of New Granada (1861), United States of Colombia (1861-85) and finally Republic of Colombia. Obviously the country's name on its stamps was changed accordingly.

The first frames had some very interesting stampless covers from the early 19th century. Many had fascinating postmarks, rate marks and forwarding notations from the 1814-21 period when Colombia was known as Republic of Colombia (as now) and Gran Colombia. One cover went to President James Buchanan of the United States, when he was our Secretary of State.

Starting with the first issues of 1859-60, Mr. Glaser explained how for years the catalogs had incorrectly reversed these. It was due to the research of John N. Myer and the late F. W. Larsen (COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. 30, page 285 et seq.), that these issues were finally correctly cataloged.

Mr. Glaser then covered the frames on the west wall pointing out the high spots. He remarked upon the various printings, contrasting the lack of appeal in the locally lithographed stamps to those issues printed in the United States or England. Outstanding were some of his covers and large multiple pieces. There were covers from inflation years where often full sheets of a high denomination like 10 pesos had to be affixed by the sender to satisfy the required postal rate. Also the permitted use of Revenue stamps for postage in 1860 interested the audience. A wide showing of errors also aroused interest.

Following this were frames with the various categories of special stamps like Registration, Acknowledgement of Receipt, Late Fee and Postage Due stamps. Again the covers were outstanding, some of them not only being scarce but highly interesting because of the combination of stamps and usage.

Then followed selected pages of the States of Colombia stamps from Antioquia through Tolima. The exhibit of *Cubiertas* of Colombia and States, formerly listed in the Scott catalogues, was very interesting because these issues are little known. Anyone consulting a leading stamp catalog at once is mystified by the many listings of these Department stamps. This, as our speaker remarked, seems to scare away collectors from Colombia. But a few ardent collectors have found Colombia a fascinating country to collect and have kept on for many years as did "Jake Glaser".

In connection with these "State" stamps, Mr. Glaser remarked that in all his years of collecting, he never had been able to acquire one cover with a stamp of Santander. Exactly one week before his exhibit, he spotted a lot offered at a New York auction with a few "Santander" covers and was the successful bidder. Thus one of these scarce covers was displayed.

There was one frame exclusively devoted to bisects used on covers, showing that this practice was not so scarce in Colombia. Another frame was with material from 1878 during the time Colombia also incorporated the name "Panama". The first issue of "Panama" on covers are quite difficult to find.

At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. Haverbeck called upon one of the two living Honorary Governors of THE COLLECTORS CLUB to express some words of appreciation on behalf of those present. Harry L. Lindquist responded in his usual style, speaking sincerely about his long-time friend, Jacob S. Glaser, and his years of philatelic dedication to the stamps of one of the least popular countries. Without urging, the entire audience rose to give "Jake" Glaser a hearty round of applause.

This reporter desires to include this addendum. Speaking with Mr. Glaser after the meeting, he mentioned that he could only exhibit portions of his 19th century material. However, the 20th century issues have an equal interest and sometime "Jake" Glaser would enjoy exhibiting them. Consequently, we hope for such an exhibit in the program of 1958-59 or 1959-60 with practically the same audience in attendance. (*H. M. G.*)

Meeting of January 2, 1957

Bremen

The George Siedenburg collection of Bremen, which has been owned by the COLLECTORS CLUB since 1952, and which was exhibited on January 7, 1953, was again the subject of the evening on the first meeting in the new year, 1957. Mr. *John R. Boker, Jr.*, himself collecting in this country's stamps, discussed the entire collection as it stood in the wall frames. His exposition emphasized the odd monetary combination of two different systems as shown on these stamps, and the specific services for which each stamp was made.

Particular interest attached to the 5 grote stamp in its imperforate form, of which one copy with a doubling of the right hand numeral and southeast corner of the stamp was among the fine items shown. A discussion of the nature, origin and significance of this variety was initiated by Mr. Boker through his remarks. Messrs. Herbert Bloch, Edwin Mueller, W. S. Boggs, Max Bass, Stephen G. Rich, Paul P. Lindenberg and Col. John Rider all took part in this.

Mr. Boker's points on the postmarks used with the various stamps led to a request that he show his own material, which he had brought for purposes of comparison. Accordingly, on the Beverly King Memorial showing stand, his entire collection was placed before the members page by page. The covers, and the entire sheets of certain denominations, admirably supplemented the Sidenburg material in producing a well-rounded complete coverage.

The more than two dozen members, who attended despite a windy and cold evening, were further regaled by the frames fileld on one side of the room by portions of the Club's collection of United States Locals and Carriers. No talk was made on them; but Mr. Boker, also adept in this field, recently a star exhibitor of his material in it before the West Essex Philatelic Society in Montclair, N. J., cared for all individual questions after the formal adjournment. (*S.G.R.*)

61st Annual Meeting

January 9, 1957

Having established the necessary quorum, Vice President Harrison D. S. Haverbeck in the absence of the president, General C. W. Wickersham, called the meeting to order at 8:00 P. M. Notice of the meeting was read by the Secretary.

On motion with second by unanimous vote the reading of the Minutes of the 1956 Annual Meeting was waived.

The names of those members, who had died during the year 1956, were read. Following this a minute of silence with all in attendance standing was observed in their memory.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that the actions of the Officers and the Board of Governors for the past year be approved.

Mr. Haverbeck then called for the reading of the Reports of the Committee Chairmen and the Officers.

Report of the Admissions and Membership Committee

Members in good standing January 1, 1956	1135
New members admitted during 1956	110
Members reinstated during 1956	14
	1259

Through death we lost the following members in 1956:

Richard S. Bohn
Clarence W. Brazer

Non-Resident

Senator J. A. Calder
Hugh M. Clark
Bernard M. Cone
Abbott B. Cragin
Rev. William J. Fogarty
H. Warren K. Hale
Dr. Clarence W. Hennan
L. A. Holley
Louis Klein
H. D. Mitchell
Langdon Pearse
Mrs. Langley Porter
Charles W. Remele
Ziegler Sargent
James E. Vining
Lorelle A. Wolf

Foreign

Arthur Victor Jacob
Federico G. Larsen 20

Resignations accepted or dropped from membership for non-payment of dues	77
	97
Total members in good standing December 31, 1956	1162

George Camnitzer, Chairman

Report of the Library Committee

During the year 1956 the Library of The Collectors Club continued to grow in volume, due to the acquisition of books, catalogues and periodicals and, of greater significance, in value. In value, not necessarily of the worth of its contents but in its use to the members, to the collecting fraternity in general and to the laity. The number of requests for use of material in the library and for loans of the books and bound periodicals exceeded any previous year. The following items were added to the library during the year.

Handbooks and catalogues	351
Periodicals (approx.)	1750

Sixty-one of the handbooks and catalogues added to the collection were received as review copies. The sum of $346.59 was spent for acquisitions. The balance of the items were donated from various sources.

The major achievement in the library's activities was the housing of its rarities in a beautiful walnut cabinet. The cabinet was the gift of Mrs. Ethel B. McCoy as a memorial to her husband, the late Walter R. McCoy who gave so much of his time and effort to the maintenance of our library. It was largely through his efforts that the library was transformed from a mere "pile of books" into an organized library during the early forty's. The cabinet has been suitably inscribed with a silver plate, the gift of Cartier's. The space formerly occupied by the Rarities has been made available for the relief of the overcrowded handbook section.

A new bookcase has been installed in the foreign periodical section of the library.

The re-arranging of our bound periodicals, which was started last year, has been continued through the efforts of Messrs. Gros and Turner. This has been necessitated by the need for expansion and to ease the working of the library. The United States publications are still to be re-arranged.

The library's acquisitions have been listed in the issues of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST during the year. We should like to call attention to the addition of four items to the collection.

Vol. II & III—The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, J. G. Collins and C. W. Watts.

Vol. I & II—Die Postwertzeichen der Russichenland, Schaftsaemeter

The last two volumes are beautifully bound in full leather.

Mr. A. A. Lane of the Committee completed an inventory of the United States

Postal Guides, Registers and Postal Laws and Regulations in the library. A program has been undertaken to complete the collection.

The Library Committee is especially grateful to the continuing donations of material from Messrs. Stephen G. Rich and Edwin Mueller. We are deeply indebted to Mr. Mueller for many favors not the least of which is the use of the library. "Books, like friends, must be used to be appreciated."

Special thanks are due to Mr. Julian F. Gros, our library's junior past Chairman, who has given unstintingly of his time and efforts to the library's demands; to Mr. George Turner, who has been of invaluable aid to the library for almost eighteen years; to the Library Committee members collectively; and to Mrs. Josephine L. Eldridge, our Librarian, who has served faithfully and efficiently at her tasks. The efforts to which she goes to fulfill requests often transcend the established limit of her duties.

Malcolm G. O'Reilly, Chairman

Report of the C. C. P. Awards Committee

The Awards Committee Chairman, to select the best articles appearing in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST during 1956, was appointed by President Wickersham but no additional members were added. However, the pros and cons of *the 19 articles* contributed by *14 members* were seriously discussed with many Club Members, and I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation to them for their interest and cooperation.

The year 1956 was our 60th Anniversary and the Special Number of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to commemorate this event, the 35th volume of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and the great FIPEX show was certainly exceptional both as to size and contents. The Editorial Board is to be congratulated for such a magnificent contribution to the Festive Occasion.

Throughout this 60th Anniversary year the 6 numbers of our magazine carried many articles of outstanding interest. In view of this fact *two* widely divergent ones but both classics in their own right, have been selected to each receive THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST MEDAL AWARD as follows:

VICTORIA

The Big Story of a Little Stamp
The History of the 5/- "Laureated"
from 1867 to 1912
by
James Richard William Purves

Appeared in Vol. 34, Nos. 5 and 6, Vol. 35, No. 3.

and

THE MALDIVE ISLANDS

Their Postage Stamps and Postal History
by
Eugene V. Connett III

Appeared in Vol. 35, No. 6.

As in the past, three other articles were also selected for CERTIFICATES OF HONORABLE MENTION and they are listed alphabetically by their subject title.

BOLIVIA

The 5c of the 1866 CONDOR Issue
by
Louis Stich
Appearing in Vol. 35, No. 3.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

The 10c Blue 1863 Die B
and
The Trans-Mississippi Express Mail
by
Lawrence L. Shenfield
Appearing in Vol. 35, Nos. 3 and 5.

MEXICO

The Pre-Stamp Postmarks
by
John K. Bash
Appearing in Vol. 35, Nos. 4 and 5.

Sidney F. Barrett, Chairman

Report of the Editor

The 1956 (Vol. 35) of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was notable in several

respects. First of all, the total of the six numbers, excluding advertisements, was 370 pages, one of the largest in its long history. Only Vol. 31 of 1951 was greater. This had 383 pages of which 58 were on *the Cumulative Index* of Vols. 1 thru 30. If this Index is excluded, the 1956 volume was the greatest in the magazine's history.

A second achievement was a modernization of our cover and layout. This seems to have met with general acceptance, so that it will be continued.

1956 also saw the correspondence with the editor increasing so greatly that a part-time secretary had to be engaged for this work.

And finally one should leave the quantity standards to examine quality. The contents for 1956 show a great diversification. Both serious philately and postal history articles were published. There were studious articles on 19th and 20th century United States, and the Confederate States. Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Corrientes, Mexico and Venezuela represented Latin America. There were studies on the following European countries —Austria, Belgium and France. Africa had French Levant, French Morocco and Union of South Africa. And the Orient was very strong with Australia (Victoria), India, The Maldive Islands and Tibet.

The world-wide acceptance of our editorials seems to be maintaining itself. Our Book Review section has improved because by hard work we were able to secure the competent services of many new members, who contributed valuable critiques. Here lies the value of this section. Our readers not only learn of a book's contents, but read an evaluation. Innumerable letters to the editor praise this service because one receives a guide as to whether a book should be read and acquired.

Keeping up the reports of the Meetings in "The Clubhouse" section has been a difficult chore. The editor has been far from satisfied with this in the past. We learn through correspondence that many out-of-town and foreign members anticipate detailed, accurate reports on meetings of interest to them. Our reports, unfortunately, at times have been either too superficial or brief. When a country's stamps are shown, many a reader wonders if this or that stamp, or a certain usage on cover was shown. The editor has had many sessions with the Chairman of the Program Committee with the hopes of obtaining better results. Although some improvement is evident, yet more assistance from the members attending these meetings and the exhibitors themselves is needed.

Advertising from the dealer members has increased, so that it is now approaching the limit apportioned for advertising space in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. Most all of the advertisers realize the institutional nature of this. However, it is most encouraging when one sees the small turnover among our advertisers. Most of our dealer members, who advertise, have been with us without interruption for many years. And it is not out-of-place to remark that THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST has no advertising manager nor does it use or pay anyone to solicit advertisements.

The editor was assisted again with great services from his Editorial Board. W. S. Boggs, H. D. S. Haverbeck, Edwin Mueller and S. G. Rich all contributed fine scholarly articles in 1956.

The editor worked long and hard in 1956, but it was most pleasant work. All authors were very cooperative. Many members helped; some more than others. The complete cooperation and confidence of your officers and governors was most helpful. The constant assistance of both Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Pritchett cannot be adequately written in words. Suffice it to say, both ladies are willing and able.

We liked 1956 and hope that all members shared this feeling.

Henry M. Goodkind

Report of the House Committee

The House Committee herewith reports its activities for year 1956.

Due to FIPEX, The Collectors Club provided a large sum of money to spruce up the exterior and practically all of the interior of our home at 22 East 35th Street.

This proved fortunate as we had many visitors from all parts of the world.

In addition to the housekeeping part of our work we made many improvements.

Mrs. Ethel McCoy presented our library with a fine cabinet-built bookcase for our rare books and other cabinets as a memorial to Walter McCoy.

With help of the Library Committee we rearranged the furniture and pictures in the library, which proved an improvement over the former arrangement.

Through the efforts of some of the members, the Collectors Club acquired 36 FIPEX frames and glass for its own use. These frames were used for our Annual Exhibit on November 7th. Both the frames and the way the material was exhibited won much acclaim.

We were fortunate to get a large section of bins used at FIPEX and erect them in basement of our premises. This permitted us to stack most of material usually stored on the floor in the bins, permitting the cleaning and painting of the concrete floor.

As is the custom at Christmas holidays our premises were decorated with Christmas trimmings and foliage.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Pritchett and Mrs. Eldridge for their fine cooperation with Committee Chairman in making all the above mentioned possible.

Jacob S. Glaser, Chairman

Report on Community Service

The Community Service Committee of the Collectors Club has had a very interesting and profitable year for 1956.

Through the generous efforts of our members, we have received a great number of stamps, catalogs, pamphlets on stamps, and matters of interest to stamp collectors.

This literature and these stamps have been sent out to Veterans Administrations, Hobbies for the War Wounded, penal institutions, the Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement, the Shrine Fund for Crippled Children —I think twenty-three in the United States, two in Canada, and one in Mexico. I have had fine cooperation from Messrs. John Britt, Jake Glaser, and Stephen G. Rich; and we have had quite a lot of stamps sent in to us from the Bellmont Iron Works, of Philadelphia, besides stamps from all parts of the country.

I would like to make a request since we are practically cleaned out of stamps that I would like to have some publicity in the various philatelic magazines that we are needing stamps and supplies again.

This community service has made an awful lot of people happy.

George B. Wray, Chairman

Report of the Insurance Committee

The committee had, as usual, an uneventful year. There was only one accident, fortunately not serious, and no fires, thefts or other occurrences.

A number of policies expired and were renewed. The Compensation and Public Liability policies were renewed with a mutual company at a savings in premium for the Club. The policy covering the Club's art collection, stamps, library, etc. was revised in schedule.

This year your Chairman enjoyed the close cooperation of Mr. Albert H. Higgins as a member of the committee.

S. Zipser, Chairman

Report of Program Committee

It is the earnest hope of the Chairman and the members of the Program Committee that the membership on the whole has enjoyed the programs presented. The beautiful exhibits shown by our guest speakers during the 1956 season were greatly appreciated.

The Annual Competition on November 7th was an outstanding occasion and the new Fipex frames added much to the display. We hope next year to be able to have the competition open to the public for one week. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members who participated as exhibitors, Judges and workers.

The program for 1957 is in your hands. We trust that it will meet with your approval.

H. D. S. Haverbeck, Chairman

Report of the Publicity Committee

Your Publicity Committee sent out eleven releases on various Club doings during the

year. This is higher than in the previous year, coming close to the one-a-month quantity which seems the largest frequency likely to remain continuously useful. The releases were not spaced evenly during the year, largely because Fipex distracted attention, making releases during its active period unwise.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST was the subject of five of the releases during the year.

Increasing use of our releases by the stamp papers, and in more conspicuous positions than hitherto, has been noticed by your Committee.

Your committee is convinced that extension of sending of releases to journals abroad such as L'Echo in France, Australia's Stamp Monthly, the South African Philatelist, and stamp journals in Latin America, might well have a prestige value well worth the expenditures for overseas postage. Probably ten to a dozen overseas journals would suffice.

Stephen G. Rich, Chairman
Ira Seebacher

Report of Study Groups

At the end of 1956 the Collectors Club had thirteen specialist organizations meeting as Study Groups under its patronage. During the year one group, the Topical Philatelists, ceased to function as a Study Group. The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society has been accepted as a Study Group, meeting on the third Friday of each meeting month. This group have already indicated their value to the Club by the addition of members of philatelic stature from their group to the rolls of the Collectors Club.

At the year's end action was pending on requests from two organizations for acceptance as Collectors Club Study Groups. The majority of the Study Groups continue to contribute financial support to the Club for the maintenance of the meeting rooms in appreciation for the privilege of meeting therein.

Although most of the Groups support a specialist publication of their own their organizational contributions to THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST were almost nonexistent. No significant increase in Collectors Club membership has been made from among the ranks of the Study Groups. This is due to a large extent to the fact that the Study Group members are Collectors Club members.

Your committee feels that since the physical facilities of the Club are limited and that as a source of new members the Study Groups are of little value, the acceptance of future Study Groups be dependent on their philatelic status. This is not to be exclusive of the present requirements for acceptance but an extension of them.

Malcolm G. O'Reilly, Chairman

Report of the Publications Committee

In the report of the Publications Committee for 1955 we alluded to the proposed "Festival Number" of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST then in preparation which was to honor the Sixtieth Year of the Collectors Club, the Thirty Fifth Volume of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, and the Fifth International Philatelic Exhibition.

As promised this enlarged number duly made its appearance and the members have reason to be proud of the high standard it set. Indeed we can say that THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST as a whole sets a standard in every issue that few can equal and certainly none can surpass. This is a judgment not our own but of philatelists the world over.

Members may recall that in "the Festival Number" a few letters from the Robert H. Morris letter book were given, and an announcement made that a handbook on these letters was in preparation. We confidently expect that the financial and production problems will be overcome so that publication will be possible in September or October this year.

The year did not go by without the publication of at least one handbook. This was "United States, The 24c Airmail, Inverted Center of 1918", by Henry M. Goodkind. This should be among the most popular of the Collectors Club Handbooks.

Aside from these publications the Committee also prepared a revised edition of the Collectors Club Brochure and had it ready in time for distribution at FIPEX.

Without infringing on the report of the editor we would like to remind the members that there is no Club activity which requires more continuous and unremitting labor than that of the Club's publications. Not only are brochures and handbooks the result of long and involved processes from inception to publication, but the production of a magazine of the kind that THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST is, on a regular schedule, requires constant attention both in season and out. Nevertheless the Club's publications are its most far reaching and influential ambassadors, and it is the purpose of the Publication Committee to see that they worthily represent the Collectors Club.

In conclusion we want to express our thanks not only to the members of the Committee who as usual gave unstintingly of their time and effort, but of others who when called upon co-operated so generously, and this in spite of the burdens imposed on them by FIPEX and all that went with it.

Although 1957 will have no Festival number, we are confident that the publications of this Club this year will be of the same caliber as those of previous years, and even better if that be possible.

We hope that all the members shared the pride in the work of the publications committee for 1956.

Winthrop S. Boggs, Chairman

Report of Legal Counsel

The most important items during the year concerned the steps taken on behalf of The Collectors Club in connection with the exemption from New York City real estate taxes on the grounds that the Club is engaged exclusively in exempt activities of an educational, literary and scientific nature, and for mental improvement.

The court litigation covered the three fiscal years ending June 30, 1952 through 1954 and resulted in the favorable decision by the Court of Appeals December 28, 1955.

A series of steps in the various city offices was required for the six years, 1952 through 1957, to obtain refund checks, and to establish the tax exemption of record for the future.

Checks covering tax refunds or court costs were received by the Club during the year totaling almost $6,400, and a final refund check for $2,025 was authorized December 4, 1956 by the City Comptroller to the City Treasurer. It should be received before long.

Thus we can report favorably for these six tax years:

1952–4 litigated by trial in Special Term and appealed in the Appellate Division and Court of Appeals;
1955— Refund authorized by the Comptroller after hearing;
1956— Remission granted by the Tax Commission;
1957— Exemption granted by the Tax Commission.

In addition, representations on behalf of the Club, concerning its exempt status, were made to New York City concerning Business (gross receipts) taxes, Sales taxes, and Occupancy taxes; and to New York State concerning Unemployment Insurance.

Other legal matters arising during the year included questions concerning sidewalk violation, bank resolutions, and by-law requirements.

Due to inquiries from the New York State Social Welfare Department, a registration statement and an annual report were filed.

The procedural steps in connection with the amendments of the By-Laws relating to membership and dues were also subject of study and advice.

Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft

Report of the Secretary

This second year of serving you as Club Secretary has been a rewarding term. The routine work of the Club has gone without any difficulties, thanks to our efficient Executive Secretary, Mrs. Pritchett.

Correspondence resulting from letters which members have written asking for information or help of various sorts has been more than in 1955, and has appeared to be a real opportunity for service. Likewise, the year has brought three chances to adjust complaints between or against members. These have been completed, save for one on which final information as to the facts in-

volved is not yet in hand from one person.

Your secretary also was approached by two philatelists overseas, in letters asking the Club's aid in marketing material. One of these, evidently a distress case, was handled by communicating to the members likely to be interested; but beyond this it was not proper to go. The files contain the Frenchman's thanks for the aid thus given.

Stephen G. Rich, Secretary

Report of The Trustees

Securities Held by The Trustees

House Replacement Fund

$3000 United States Treasury Bonds 3¼%
$2000 United States Treasury Bonds 3%
$6000 United States Treasury Bonds 2½%

J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund

$ 700 United States Treasury Bonds 2½%
$6000 United States Treasury Bonds 2½%

1 Share of International Business Machine Stock presented to the Collectors Club by our President, Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham.

Statement of the 1956 Transactions Accruing in The Trustee Account

Balance as of December 31, 1955		$484.71
Coupon Interest	$ 97.50	
Coupon Interest	60.00	
Coupon Interest	150.00	307.50
Interest on U. S. Steel Pf.		17.50
Sale of $4000 P. R. R. Bonds		4272.41
Sale of 10 Shares U. S. Steel Pf.		1663.96
*Sale of $6000 City of N. Y. Bonds		6263.29
		$13009.37
Purchase of $6000 United States Treasury Bonds	$5840.34	
*Purchase of $6000 United States Treasury Bonds	5840.33	11680.67
Balance in Chase National Bank December 31, 1956		$1328.70

All above items are for the House Replacement Funds with the exception of those two items marked *.

Life Membership Fund

(Bowery Savings Bank)

Balance as of January 1, 1956		$806.00
Interest to January 1, 1957		30.12
		$836.12
Expenditures		
1956 dues transferred to General Account	50.00	
Interest transferred to General Account	36.12	86.12
Balance Life Membership Fund deposit in the Bowery Savings Bank January 1, 1957		$750.00

At present time we have two members who are listed on the roll of Life membership. Each year amount of current dues are withdrawn from the Life Membership account at the Bowery Savings Bank and credited to the general dues account.

There are several names listed as Life Members who at present time do not pay dues for the reason they were elected Life Members, Honorary Members or members who have paid the Life Membership fee and this fee has been used up by withdrawals to pay yearly dues.

Edwin E. Elkins, Trustee

Report of the Treasurer

This complete report as read is being omitted because, following the custom of the past years, the Club's finances will be published in this magazine later on by the Auditor's Statements.

Report of the President

I am happy to make this report for 1956 and regret that I cannot be with you at our annual meeting. The outstanding event of 1956 was, of course, FIPEX. In preparation for FIPEX and its many activities, repairs and improvements were made in our clubhouse to freshen it up for expected visitors and for events connected with the great exhibition.

A special meeting was held on May 2nd when in the presence of a distinguished audience the *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Medal* was awarded to Sir John Wilson, Curator of the Royal Collection.

1956 was a notable year for philately and for our Club. In addition to FIPEX the exhibits of members at our meetings during the year were particularly impressive and reflected real credit on their collections and their interest in their stamps. An outstanding event was the special issue of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST which came out in time for FIPEX, the credit for which is due to the devoted efforts of our Editorial Board, who have also continued to give us the fine issues of that great publication, and to the contributors. This is a lasting benefit to philately.

During the year our library and other philatelic facilities have been improved, the reference collections expanded and real progress made so that the Club today is an even greater leader in the world of stamps than it has been for many years that have passed since its organization.

Your Committees have given an immense amount of time to the continued work of the Club. Among other activities our insurance policies were reviewed and brought up-to-date as a result of the work of our Insurance Committee, a new printed list of members and a new Club brochure were prepared and issued, bundles of stamps were sent to the hospitals through our Community Service Committee, appropriate publicity cared for by the Publicity Committee, arrangements for Study Groups were made by the Committee on that subject, and as I have already said, the house and library were improved and expanded under the ægis of the respective committees, and other activities were continued as in the past.

Much attention was given to the budget, particularly in view of the additional expenses for repairs and improvements to our building. These expenses naturally increased the deficit for the year, but the refunds as the result of our successful litigation with the City of New York resulting in the decision of the Court of Appeals to the effect that our property was exempt from city taxes was of help in the maintenance of funds to meet our expenses. However, in planning for the future and to prevent future deficits in view of rising costs it became essential to increase our dues and to make other changes in our by-laws. The Board of Governors gave most earnest attention to these problems and their recommendations were approved as you know at a special meeting of members held on November 21st and are now in effect. The Board felt that the Club's facilities were not capable of sustaining adequate services for too large a membership and recommended that we should plan for a limited membership and when the established quota is filled, create a waiting list. The adoption of these changes would, it was thought, assist the officers and the Board to maintain the rightful place of the Collectors Club on the American philatelic scene. It is hoped that they will result in increased use of the Club and in making it possible for the Club to live within its income.

In closing, I wish to thank the other officers and members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Governors for their constant support. Our best thanks also to all of our members for their support and to our faithful employees for their diligence and interest in the Club.

May I express the hope that the year 1957 will be most successful and that the Collectors Club will continue to lead in all matters pertaining to philately.

C. W. Wickersham

Report of Nominating Committee

The Committee met November 21, 1956 for the nomination of replacement of the Class of 1956 Board of Governors, the following slate is proposed for a term of three years:

John J. Britt
John F. Rider
Stephen G. Rich
Louis Stich
Lt. Gen. C. W. Wickersham

Regretfully taking cognizance of the death of Richard S. Bohn, *John R. Boker, Jr.* is nominated to take his place in the Class of 1958.

Stanley R. Rice, Chairman

Following this, the Chairman of the Meeting asked for further nominations from the floor. There were none. Therefore, it was moved, seconded and unanimously passed that the Secretary be empowered to cast one ballot for the names placed in nomination.

The Board of Governors then met and shortly thereafter announced to the membership present the election of the following slate of Officers for the year 1957:

President: Lt. General Cornelius W. Wickersham
Vice President: Harrison D. S. Haverbeck
Secretary: Malcolm G. O'Reilly
Treasurer: Albert H. Higgins

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Yugoslav Postage Stamps with Designs from the Fauna of the Adriatic Sea. Published by "Jugofilatelija", Beograd, Jugoslavia. Gift of Mr. Martin Sternfels.

A History of the Ship Letters of the British Isles, Part II, by Alan W. Robertson. Published by the author, Pinner, Middlesex, England.

The Transatlantic Mail by Frank Staff. Publisher, John de Graff, Inc., New York.

Stanley Gibbons' "Two Reigns" Postage Stamp Catalogue 1957. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, England.

Deutsche Lufthansa, Entwicklung und Neugrundung. Published by Kurt Dahmann, Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Germany. (German) Gift of The Aero Philatelists.

Mueller Briefmarken Katalog, 6 Auflage. Deutschland Spezial-Katalog. Published by Lindemann and Ludecke, Berlin-West, Germany. (German)

Latvija by Vincent Domanski, Jr. Reprint from the American Philatelic Congress Book 1956. Gift of the author.

The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume II, by R. J. G. Collins, F. R. P. S. N. Z. (Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and C. W. Watts, F. R. P. S. N. Z. and C. W. Watts, F. R. P. S. N. Z. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Inc., Wellington, N. Z. Philatelic Literature. Gift of Mr. Herman Schloss.

United States: The 24c Air Mail Inverted Center of 1918 by Henry M. Goodkind. Published by The Collectors Club, New York. Gift of the author.

The Gunesch-Coda Standard Catalog of United States Bureau Issue Precancels, Third Edition. Publisher, Richard S. Coda, Sr., Newark, N. J.

Notes on the Cancellations of Turkish Arabia by Major T. L. C. Tomkins. Published by John Huxley (Stamps) Ltd., London, England.

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue 1957, edited by J. C. W. Brown. The Hawthorne Press, Melbourne, Australia. Gift of Mr. Sol Whitman.

Chiu's Supplement, Vol. IV and Vol. V, #1-4, edited and published by C. W. Chiu, Hongkong. Gift of Mr. A. Appleton Lane.

Paraguay: The Chaco War with Bolivia by Charles Jewell. Published by the author, London, England.

The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume III, by R. J. G. Collins, F. R. P. S. N. Z. (Roll of Distinguished Philatelists) and C. W. Watts, F. R. P. S. N. Z. Publication of The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Inc., Wellington, N. Z.

A Postal History of the Samoan Islands, Chapters 3, 4 and 5, by Jack Hughes. Publisher, Philatelic Research Series, Oakland, California. Gift of the Author.

Republic of Italy, edited and published by Pierson Ostrow, Burlington, Vt.

Bermuda: The 1910-36 "Ship" Type Stamps by M. H. Ludington. Published by The Junior Philatelic Society, London, England. Gift of the author.

Bermuda: The Handstruck Stamps and Cancellations by M. H. Ludington. Publisher, Robson Lowe, Ltd., London, England. Gift of the author.

The Postage Stamp, Its History and Recognition by L. N. and M. Williams. Penguin Books, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland.

U. S. Precancels Guide and Pricelist. Publisher, Gunesch Precancel House, Inc., Chicago, Ill.

Philatelic Literature. Gift of Mr. George W. Linn.

De Afstempelingen. Emissie 1852 van Nederland by Dr. A. Vander Willigen. Uitgeverij Davo, Deventer, Netherlands. (Dutch)

Nederlandsche Vereeniging van Postzegelverzamelaars 1954 by the Society, Hilversum, Netherlands. (Dutch)

Israel Specialties, edited and published by Pierson Ostrow, Burlington, Vt.

Catalogus der Puntstempels van Nederland. Nederlandsche Vereeniging van Postzegelhandelaren, s'-Gravenhage, Netherlands. (Foreword in French, English and Dutch.)

Scott's Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps 1957. Scott Publications, Inc., New York. Gift of the Publisher.

Stamps, Volumes 93, 94, 95 and 96. H. L. Lindquist Publications, New York. Gift of Mr. Harry L. Lindquist.

Round the World with a Postage Stamp. Published by U. N. E. S. C. O., Paris, France. Gift of Mr. Henry M. Goodkind.

Scott's Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue 1957. Combined Edition. Scott Publications, Inc., New York. Gift of The Publisher.

At the Board of Governors meetings held in December, 1956 and January, 1957, the following new members were elected:

4445 Mrs. Marion McPartland, Eloise, Mich.

4446 George E. Sweigart, Camden, N. J. Collects United States and Canada.

4447 Robert H. Wessmann, Sands Point, N. Y.

4448 Milton L. Greenebaum, Saginaw, Mich. Collects Masonic Cancellations and Michigan Postal History.

4449 Harold R. Baxter, Oswego, N. Y. Collects United States.

4450 Mrs. Emma Reed Palmer, Annapolis, Md. Collects China, United Nations, Maps, and Philatelic Literature.

4451 Warro E. Tyler, Jr., Lincoln, Nebr. Collects Japan.

4452 John H. Ryder, Baker, Oregon. Collects 19th and 20th Century United States and Canada.

4453 Walter S. Kowalczyk, Jamaica, N. Y. Collects Vatican, United Nations, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Roman States, Western Ukrainia.

4454 Captain Joseph M. Sousa, San Francisco, Calif. Collects Nicaragua, Central America.

4455 Mrs. Charlotte Hassel, Basel, Switzerland. Collects World, rare stamps on covers.

COMING MEETING

Meetings Convene at 8 P. M.

April 3rd

The Philatelic Foundation. The Expert Committee's operations.

April 17th

Annual Competition.

May 1st

Topical Collecting—Ira Seebacher.

May 15th

United States 19th Century Stamps—Competition by members.

June 5th

Israel—Rudolf G. Sonneborn.

SUMMER RECESS

BACK NUMBERS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Due to a great demand for back numbers of this magazine, many old issues are no longer available. A list of those on hand appears on Page VI with the advertisements in this number.

Many back numbers on this list are in very short supply, only one or two copies still being in stock. Anyone planning to fill in his file should check this and order now.

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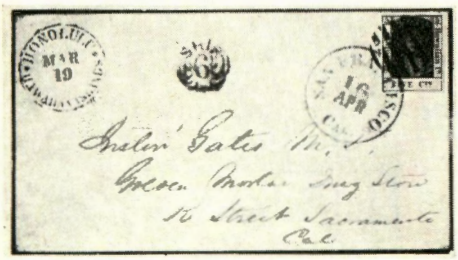
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This can be obtained, bound in cloth boards, in one volume containing also the Index to Volumes I to LIII (1892 to 1944) compiled by Mr. R. King-Farlow and published by the Society in 1946.

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(* Prices stated in CCP, Vol. 35, No. 4, Page VIII, incorrect.)

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Vol.	XII	(1933)	All issues
Vol.	XIII	(1934)	Apr., Jly., Oct.
Vol.	XIV	(1935)	All issues
Vol.	XV	(1936)	All issues
Vol.	XVI	(1937)	All issues
Vol.	XVII	(1938)	April, July, Oct.
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Vol.	XXV	(1946)	All issues
Vol.	XXVI	(1947)	All issues
Vol.	XXVII	(1948)	All issues
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- ☐ F.D.R.
- ☐ Inverted Centers
- ☐ Miniature Sheets
- ☐ Proofs
- ☐ Rotary
- ☐ Sports
- ☐ Topicals
- ☐ U.N.
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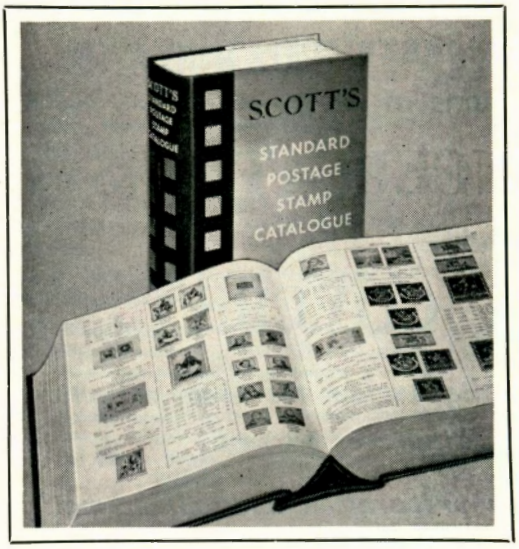
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RARE CHINA & HONG KONG COVERS

1	1840 (Opium War) an important letter from Ralph Smith headed Ting Hae City with full details of the operations of the CHUSAN FIELD FORCE and enclosing the official statement of casualties and strength of the force; a fascinating account of the Chinese scene at this period. Envelope endorsed "From Eastern Expedition" and sent to Calcutta via the steamer "Madagascar" through Macau	$85.00
2	1860. 3rd China War (RL records no campaign letters are known). A unique cover, with franking of 6 x 2d. Blue lightly but clearly cancelled A82 P. & O. Mail Boat making 1/- Officer's Rate, endorsed at the side Officer's letter CHINA EXPEDITION	$240.00
3	U. S. Post Office. Boxer Rising 1901. German Officer's letter to Hanover sent through United States Military Post Office TIENTSIN with straight line handstamp CHINA applied to each of the four U. S. adhesives, plus circular dated Violet cancel. of Mil. Post Sta. No. 1 China. A RARE COVER	$115.00
4	Combination cover China and Hong Kong with unique franking for a genuine non-philatelic letter of $1. China and $1. Hong Kong, registered to Metz, VERY RARE & PRETTY COVER	$85.00
5	1901 Letter to France from Swatow with 10cts Hong Kong cancelled with I. P. O. tie print of SWATOW in Red, believed to be unique	$85.00
6	French China and China combination wrapper to Switzerland from Chinkiang with franking of 2nd issue 1, 3, 5, candarins via French Office Shanghai where strip of 3 - 5c. affixed, A PRETTY PIECE	$85.00
7	Exceedingly rare combination cover of CHINA and FRENCH INDO CHINA. Letter from the French Consul at LUNGCHOW sent by the short route through French territory, 15ct. adhesive affixed at Langson, Tonkin to pay external postage, thence via Haiphong to France	$98.00
8	1898 a similar earlier cover from LUNGCHOW with dual issue Chinese franking of 25cts. plus Indo Chinese franking of 50cts at Langson, EXTREMELY RARE & FINE COVER	$132.00
9	British Naval letter from HMS "Albion" with Chinese pair 1c. Liu Kung Tau via Russian Post Office, SCARCE COMBINATION COVER	$52.00
10	1879. Letter Cina Customs/France combination Tientsin Customs P. O. to French P. O. Shanghai where 35c. adhesive affixed via Customs mail Shanghai to France	$26.00
11	1855 Letter French Bureau Shanghai with large red PAID (probably an early Customs mark before the circular dated marks were employed)	$50.00
12	French Officer's Letter 1874 Correspondence des Armees Shanghai with rare franking for 1fr. rate, A PRETTY COVER	$50.00
13	1897 Official Letter Chinese Imperial Post Office "Postage Paid Pekin" in blue with matching Inspector General of Customs cancel, A SCARCE LOCAL OFFICIAL LETTER	$32.00
14	1897 Scarce Customs Official letter with blue "Paid Pekin-Chingkiang"	$15.00
15	Hong Kong-China, Fine combination cover to Belgium with correct multiple franking of 24 cts. for registered rate plus 20c. Hong Kong. From Hangkow	$38.00
16	China-Hong Kong, Pekin-France letter showing tiny tie print IPO	$24.00
17	Boxer Risings 1901 German Field Post Card from Tientsin	$15.00
18	Hong Kong/China—Pretty Combination card from Pagoda Anchorage	$20.00
19	German East Asiatic Corps—Fine cover from the Commander of the Corps to Yokohama with 4 German China 5pf. and Field Post Cancels	$23.00
20	French Post Office Hangkow—very scarce indeed	$13.00
21	French Post Office Chefoo	$8.00
22	1904 Soldier's Letter to France genuine cover with multiplicity of franking and cancellations	$21.00
23	Boxer Risings Official printed envelope of the China Expedition. From a military hospital through F. P. O. No. 5, taxed on arrival in Belgium	$16.00
24	Boxer War exceptionally franked cover with 40c. adhesive for registered rate	$16.00
25	Printed envelope 1911 French forces in China, Pekin Detachment franked 10cts. French China and cancelled "Pekin Correspondence des Armees"	$13.00
26	Boxer—stampless cover from Regiment of Zouaves on the March from F. P. O. No. 5	$12.00
27	Similar Soldier's letter but from Corps de Occupation Petchili	$12.00
28	Ditto—Ditto Corps Exped. de Tonking Ligne Vapor No. 5	$12.00
29	Ditto—Ditto Naval Division of Far East	$11.00
30	Incoming Letter from France to an NCO at Pekin, not accepted for free postage and taxed with French China Postage Dues at French civil office at Pekin. RARE USAGE	$21.00
31	Petchili Expeditionary Corps FPO N. 5	$12.00
32	Wrapper to Chinese Maritime Customs at Wenchow "Newspapers under Special Contract Tientsin" 1919	$10.00
33	Fine Cover from Customs House Ningpo with green Ningpo dater on reverse: handed to GERMAN P. O. Shanghai for transmission by FRENCH mailboat to Paris	$21.00
34	Japanese Post Office Shanghai, Japanese franking on letter to Brazil via New York and showing Reg. label of the Jap. Office in Shanghai	$12.00
35	Cover with Japanese franking sent via United States Post Office Shanghai	$16.00
36	German Field Post in China, native cover from FPO 7. on un-overprinted German 5 pf. adhesive	$13.00
37	1878 VERY SCARCE franking Sage type 30c. and 5ct. cancelled "5104" on letter to Germany	$37.00
38	1879 RARE mixed franking for double letter rate of 70 cts. of Sage 30c. and Liberty 40c. used "5104"	$43.00
39	France Sage 75cts Rose Type B. used French office Shanghai (Type B. rarely seen used in China)	$20.00
40	French China overprinted 75cts and 50cts. SCARCE FRANKING	$11.00
41	5104—10c. 20c. 40c. on letter endorsed and probably originating from Kanagawa, Japan	$30.00
42	Russian China 1K. on card used from Chinese P. O. Tientsin	$7.50
43	French Post Office Fowchowfoo, RARE	$7.50
44	Gutter marginal pair 50pf. Germany on registered cover Shanghai	$15.00

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