

COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

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No. 3.

Uruguay Block of Fifteen Green "Diligencias"

Through the courtesy of J. Santiago Rachitoff and the Soto Brothers, established as stamp dealers in Montevideo since 1913, we are able to give part of the history of this piece,

KNOWN AS THE FERRER BLOCK

In the 1890's Senor Pedro N. de Soto, father of the present Senores Soto Hermanos, was the owner of a famous general collection, specializing in the stamps of Spain and Uruguay.

Senor de Soto, a Spanish industrialist, had commenced collecting stamps in his boyhood days, and continued to give his time to his hobby. He was instrumental in interesting many of his business friends in the same pursuit. One of Senor de Soto's great friends and fellow collectors, was Senor Hilario Beramendi, whom he had originally interested in collecting stamps and with whom he often discussed their common hobby.

At that time the eminent botanist, Dr. Wonner, professor of botany at the University of Montevideo, died and in his stamp collection there was a complete sheet of thirty-five of the 80 centavos green "Diligencias." The family sold some of the pieces of this collection through a local stamp dealer (who was also a tobacconist), and Senor de Soto acquired this sheet from this local dealer. The afternoon of that day Senor de Soto visited his friend Senor Beramendi and showed him the sheet, and as they had agreed to divide anything either of them found, he took a pair of scissors and cut the sheet into two blocks—one of eighteen, the other of seventeen stamps.

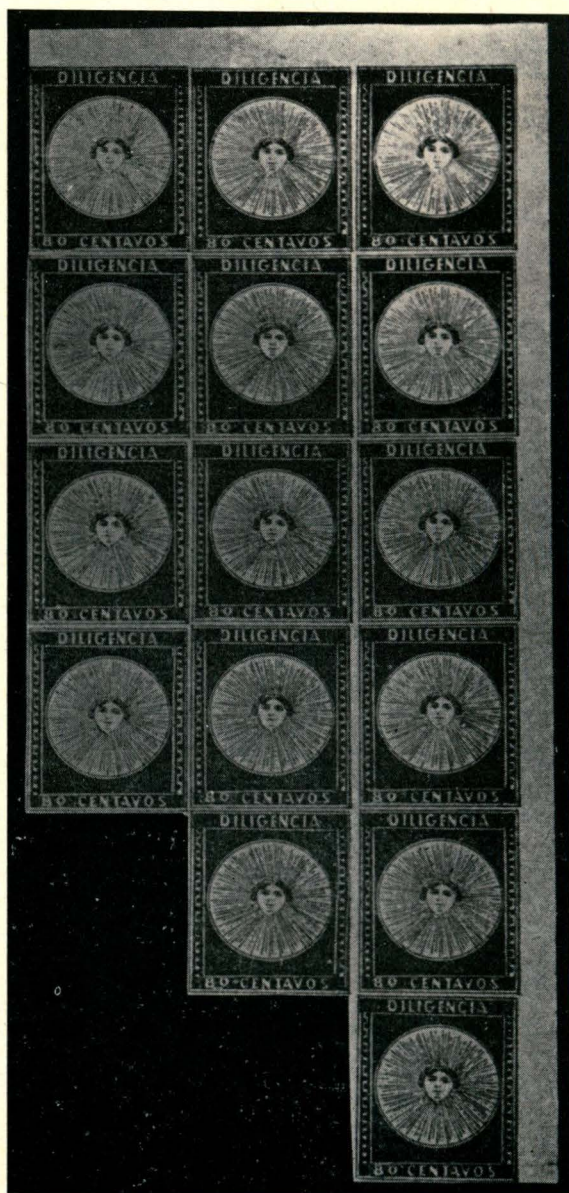
Senor de Soto cut up his block of seventeen stamps into two blocks of four, and the remaining stamps into singles which he exchanged with his philatelic friends. The one block of four he kept in his own collection, and this was the block of the left upper corner of the sheet (Nos. 1, 2, 6 and 7), which contained the stamp with the small figures "80." The other block went to Signor Remigio Sciarra, a famous specialist in the stamps of Uruguay.

Senor de Soto's collection was sold in London in 1900. When we first saw the block it was in the collection of the former President of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, Mr. Thomas Hall, from whom it was purchased by the great American collector of the stamps of Uruguay, Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack, for £500. This block of four is now in the collection of Mr. Roberto Hoffmann of Argentina, a specialist in the stamps of Uruguay.

Now, Senor Beramendi, being a more conservative gentleman, cut from his block only single copies—one at a time, when he wanted to trade them for something else. At the beginning of the century Senor Vicente Ferrer, a wealthy merchant of Buenos Aires, purchased the remainder of this block, now reduced to fifteen, from Senor

Beramendi for his collection. Several years later the firm of Stanley Gibbons opened a branch in Buenos Aires, after our old friend Charles Phillips had made several visits to that country. They bought the Ferrer collection, selling it to Mr. Charles Lathrop Pack in 1910. So, Mr. Pack with the assistance of Barrett reconstructed the sheet and proved the fact that all three values of the "Diligencias" had been printed from a single stone; first the 60 centavos, then the 80 centavos, and finally the 1 real, the old value being erased each time a new value was redrawn on the stones.

In 1925 Mr. E. J. Lee of London, England, purchased the Pack collection for \$50,000. After his death the collection was sold, the reconstructed sheet was broken up, the block of four sold for \$2000, and the block of fifteen retained by Mrs. Lee, after it had been bid up to \$7100, who since then disposed of it. It now reposes in the collection of a well known New York collector.



The Reprints of the New York Postmaster's Provisional Stamp

By CHARLES W. BROOKS

In studying any classic such as the New York Postmaster's stamp and its reprints, one comes across many items of interest.

The history of this stamp has been well covered by the late Mr. John N. Luff and the plating definitely proven by Mr. A. Hatfield, Jr., but the true story of the reprints, in the opinion of this writer, has yet to be told. Nor is this an attempt to tell it but, rather, an attempt to present the information at hand in a new light.

In his monumental work "The Postage Stamps of the United States" (1902 Edition), Page 34, Mr. Luff stated regarding this stamp:

"It is not known what became of the original plate. The records of Rawdon, Wright & Hatch and their successors, the American Bank Note Company, are silent on this point. The original die is understood to be in the possession of the latter company. About 1862, a new plate was made from this die for Mr. George A. Hussey of Hussey's Post. He was an obliging gentleman who supplied large quantities of locals and other stamps to the trade. When originals were not obtainable he made good the deficiency with reprints, or, rather than disappoint his customers, had new plates and stones made, that he might furnish the stamps required. The productions have been called by harsh names in later years, but perhaps the critics failed to appreciate the gentleman's intentions.

Sheets from the new plate have nine stamps arranged in three rows of three. * * * From this plate reprints were struck in black on deep blue and white papers. * * * The stamps on the original plate are $1\frac{1}{2}$ mm. apart, while those on the reprint plate are separated by $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm. Other impressions were struck in blue, green, red and brown on white paper. As there were no originals in these colors these impressions are, at best, only proofs."

These statements are repeated practically verbatim in the 1937 revised edition of the same work and appeared in the original articles by Mr. Luff in the American Journal of Philately for June, 1897, et seq.

The question has been raised as to what authority Mr. Luff had for these assertions insofar as they concerned Hussey's connection with the reprints.

In his "Introductory," Mr. Luff stated: (Paragraph 4)

"The difficulties attending the study of the stamps of the United States are great, especially in the case of the early issues. Of the Postmasters' and Carriers' stamps, there are practically no records, either public or private. The men who issued or handled the stamps have most of them passed away. Those who remain can recall but little, and human memory is proverbially fallible. To find the best and most reliable data we must turn to the earlier philatelic publications and from these sources I have drawn freely."

Mr. Luff also wrote a foreword, an historical note and a chapter on these reprints for a book entitled "Some Notes on the New York Postmaster's Provisional Five Cents, Black, 1845" by O. S. Hart (1911).

In the historical note, Mr. Luff wrote:

"The die was engraved by Messrs. Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, 48 Merchants Exchange, New York, who also made the steel plate and printed the stamps. * * * The original die is now in the possession of the American Bank Note Co., successors to Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, but the plate is not known to exist. It was probably destroyed after the stamps had been replaced by the Government issue of 1847. * * * * * Reprints from a new plate were made about 1862. They will be described elsewhere."

In the chapter on "Reprints," we find:

"The reprints were first made about 1862. Records have not been found to confirm this date but it is given on the authority of leading collectors of years ago who are known to have been careful students and investigators of such matters and whose statements have always proved reliable. The reprints were made for George A. Hussey of New York, proprietor of the well known Hussey's Post and also an extensive dealer in stamps, especially of the Local Posts. He supplied the trade and collectors with large quantities of originals, reprints and even imitations when more

desirable things were not available. We do not know what authority Mr. Hussey had for ordering these reprints, since the original owner of the stamps, Postmaster Robt. H. Morris, had died in 1855. Possibly it was not considered that any authority was needed, in view of the fact that the stamps had long been superseded by the regular Government issues and the reprints could not be used for any purpose except to amuse stamp collectors.

A new plate was made for the reprints. It has been said the work was done by the American Bank Note Co. but they have denied it. The new plate contained nine stamps, arranged in three rows of three. * * *

The reprints were usually printed in black on thin wove paper of a deep gray-blue color. They also exist printed in black on very thin, transparent, white paper and in four colors (green, brown, blue and vermilion) on stout white paper, usually called bond paper. In an article by Mr. F. W. Hunter in the "Metropolitan Philatelist" for March, 1894, it is stated:

'It will be remembered that George A. Hussey, of Hussey's Post, had the above stamps on sale at 64 Pine Street, for \$5.00 this set consisting of six stamps.' I think it probable that this may have been so at some time but not always. In my experience the reprint on gray-blue paper is much the commonest, while that on thin white paper is very scarce. I do not think the reprints in colors were printed until some time later than the other two. In the "Stamp Collector's Magazine" for November 1st, 1863, page 152, in "Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue of Postage Stamps" we find:

'New York Post Office, large rect.

This stamp, well known to collectors by the designation of 'big-head,' was formerly supposed to be a government issue, but is now ascertained to prove one of Mr. Hussey's legions of postal offsprings. Having been exceedingly rare for some time, it now makes appearance both on white and blue paper.'

This seems to point to the reprints on white and blue paper but says nothing of colored impressions. It also touches on Mr. Hussey's connection with the stamps and may be accepted as some confirmation of the date 1862 for the reprints. * * *

In the above mentioned article in the Metropolitan Philatelist for March, 1894, Mr. F. W. Hunter said (Page 221):

"Type No. I, or First Transfer

* * * The varieties of the above type are all due to engravers' mistakes in transferring from a matrix or mother die, which is now in possession of the American Bank Note Company of New York City. Strange to say this company fails to have in its archives any record of the original plate, or the second transfer of the stamps made in 1862. I was informed that the company was not positive that the stamps were engraved by Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, on hearing this statement I asked that the old records of Ball, Causlard & Company be searched, these records also failed to reveal any knowledge of the plate; at all events I have stated the correct engraver's name at the beginning of this reference list, Rawdon, Wright & Hatch, of No. 48 Merchants Exchange, New York City."

also (Page 224):

"Type II. Second Transfer 1862.

Made for George A. Hussey, of Hussey's Post, of 64 Pine Street, New York City.

Nine stamps to the plate, three rows of three. * * *

and (Page 226):

"It will be remembered that George A. Hussey, of Hussey's Post, had the above stamps on sale at 64 Pine Street for \$5 the set consisting of six stamps. The American Bank Note Company claim that they never reprinted the 5c black New York in 1862 or at any other date. Upon investigation I came across quite an amusing incident in relation to this reprint or transfer. In Volume I, page 152, of the "Stamp Collector's Magazine" the following statement appeared in Mount Brown's catalogue of the United States Stamps.

'A New York 5c, both on black and blue paper, formerly supposed to be a government issue, but is now ascertained to prove one of Hussey's legions of postal offsprings.'

In Volume II, page 31, of the same magazine the following letter appears: * * *

(Here Mr. Hunter presents in full what purports to be the exact text of Mr. Hussey's letter of denial, which will be introduced subsequently. His slightly garbled version makes Hussey appear almost poorly educated, which may have been the case, but the original text in the Stamp Collector's Magazine does not give the same impression.)

Mr. Hunter did not state how far back his memory went, nor when Hussey was supposed to have had these stamps on sale, but his memory may have been faulty. According to Scott's Catalogue, the stamps of Hussey's Posts bore the address 54 Pine St. (not 64 Pine St.) only after 1872. Before that they bore the addresses of 50 William St. and 82 Broadway. By 1877 they bore the name of Robt. Easson, Prop.

The writer has compared Mr. Luff's quotation from the "Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue of Postage Stamps" with the original as it appeared in the Stamp Collector's Magazine for November 1, 1863, page 152, and finds it to be a verbatim quotation so it is unnecessary to repeat it here. A comparison of Mr. Hunter's direct quotation of the same item will show some variation.

I submit that these are the not unimpeachable authorities on which Mr. Luff based his assertions that the reprints were made for Hussey.

If we are to determine the credibility of these witnesses by the inaccuracy of some of their other statements, we may be justified in discarding their unsupported testimony regarding Hussey's connection with and responsibility for the reprints.

Much misinformation and lack of information regarding the United States and its stamps appears to have been prevalent in England and on the Continent in 1863, if one is to judge from writings in the Stamp Collector's Magazine at that time, even by Mount Brown himself.

The above mentioned "Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue of Postage Stamps Comprising Notes, Additions, and Emendations, by C. W. Viner, A.M., PH.D." should be read in its entirety. A careful perusal will, in the opinion of this writer, show that the reference to the New York Post Office stamp, listed under "Labels of Private Offices," was to the original stamp and not to the reprints.

This opinion is borne out by the second chapter of the article commencing on the facing page (153) of the same issue of the Stamp Collector's Magazine by one James Lesley, Jun., Esq., United States' Vice-Consul at Nice, entitled "A Chapter on the United States Local Postage Stamps" from which Mr. Luff made a liberal quotation in the "Historical Notes" of his own book.

Mr. Luff did not, however, quote from the "Second Chapter on United States' Local Stamps" by the same author in the December, 1863, issue of the Stamp Collector's Magazine (Page 170) in which Mr. Lesley disputed the statement appearing in the "Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue" and stated, either as a result of diplomatic training or from lack of definite information (Pages 171-2):

"The following were, I believe, issued very soon after the passage of the Act of Congress of 1847, authorizing the Post-Office Department to make adhesive labels, and when the rates fixed by law were for a single letter 'five cents under 3000 miles,' and 'ten cents over' that distance:—

New York Post-Office. (Bust) Large rect. 5 cents, black on blue; 5 cents, black on white.

Prov. (idence) R. I. (sland) Post-Office. Black imp. Oblong. 5 cents.

St. Louis Post-Office. (Device supported by bears). Black imp. Rect. 10 cents.

Though unwilling to undervalue the authority of the magazine in regard to these "big-head" stamps of New York, I may state that there is a strong presumption that all of the above stamps were issued by the government postmasters of the respective cities in anticipation of those in preparation by the Post-Office Department. This much is, however, indisputable, that out of all the local stamps of which we have any account, these are the only ones in which occurs the name of a regular government post office with the name of the city attached; and it is equally clear that their values (5 and 10 cents) were too high for use upon drop-letters. They could have served, however, to prepay a letter in the States east of the Rocky-Mountains (the fixed rate for which was five cents), or from these States to California, or the Pacific coast (the rate for which was 10 cents). It seems scarcely probable that any private individual would venture on so bold a proceeding as to usurp directly the name of a government office. It is still more unlikely that private individuals could issue stamps which should pass unchallenged through the government mails, and be considered as the evidence of prepayment. Of the latter fact, so far as it applies to the New York stamps in question, I can vouch from my own knowledge. It will be observed, also, that in the case of these New-York stamps, the style of engraving differs from that in all other local stamps, being of a much higher order of art. It would seem to have been done by the same bank-note engravers who executed the plates for the government postage stamps. Whether the original plate for the "big-heads," after having served its temporary government purpose, subsequently fell into the hands of private parties, and was thus used again, I am unable to state."

Mr. Lesley apparently obtained the same impression as this writer did, namely that the reference was to the originals.

Suffice it to say that, although the New York Postmaster's stamp and other postmasters' provisionals appeared in Mount Brown's catalogue, 3d (1862) edition and 4th (1863) edition under the heading "Labels of Private Offices," after Mr. Lesley's article was published, the New York stamp appeared in the 5th (1864) edition among government issues of the United States.

In the Stamp Collector's Magazine of February 1, 1864, page 31, the following letter appears:

"To the Editor of the 'Stamp-Collector's Magazine':

Dear Sir—I have had my attention called to your publication, the Stamp-Collector's Magazine. At page 152, in your November number, you say:—

"New York Post-Office: large rect. This stamp, well known to collectors by the designation of "big-head," was formerly supposed to be a government issue, but is now ascertained to prove one of Mr. Hussey's legions of postal offspring," etc.

I would hereby advise you to be more careful of your wholesale assertion. To my best knowledge and belief, I never, either awake or asleep, thought of doing that wrong to the community of stamp collectors or dealers. Why you should have selected

me as the scapegoat I know not, but can assure you that no man living can be more averse to counterfeiting of the original. I had at one time twenty-five, which I sold at prices varying from fifty cents to one dollar: the last I parted with about the time of your November issue. Of the counterfeits I have seen one, and only one. It came, or was brought to my office to be compared with the originals that I was known to have. The said counterfeit came from Boston, Massachusetts. You would be but doing me justice by a counter statement, as I can fully satisfy any correspondent you may confide in this side the water of my innocence as I have never offered either to buy or sell a single one of those said counterfeits.

Your further remarks about my fertile imagination may, for aught I know of you, apply equally as well to yourself as me; and as I can see no harm to come of its fertility, or its cultivation, will beg you the favour of a copy of your magazine re-investing me as a gentleman beyond counterfeiting a stamp of his Uncle Samuel's. Very respectfully yours, George Hussey."

(Mr. Hussey totally misunderstood our remarks. We had not the slightest intention of stigmatising him as a forger of the stamp in question. We were informed, and merely repeated our information in the pages of the magazine, that the 'big-head' was one of Hussey's own stamps; and we meant no sneer in alluding to the fertility of his invention. We forbear repeating one or two well-known proverbs that strike us as applicable in the present case.—Ed.)

The editor's note seems to bear out the idea that the original reference was to the original stamps. (The further remarks of a personal nature to which Mr. Hussey alluded were in reference to the stamps of Hussey's Posts.)

To summarize the growth of the legend in chronological order, we find that one C. W. Viner, writing an Addenda to Mount Brown's Catalogue of Postage Stamps in the Stamp Collector's Magazine, in 1863, who, like his contemporaries and compatriots apparently was not too familiar with postage stamps of the United States, in listing locals, private posts and Postmasters' Provisionals under the heading of "Labels of Private Offices" included the original New York Postmaster's stamp and, possibly because he had heard that Hussey was selling some, stated, without offering any supporting evidence, that the original was a Hussey product.

In the succeeding issue of the same magazine we have Mr. Lesley's specific refutation of the charge.

In a subsequent issue of the same magazine, we have Hussey's letter of denial.

In 1894 Mr. Hunter resurrected the original charge, misinterpreted it to mean what he called "Second Transfer" or reprints, and repeated and elaborated on it and added his own vague statement that "it will be remembered," although he did include a slightly garbled version of the entire text of Hussey's letter of denial and stated that the American Bank Note Co. also denied it.

Mr. Luff quoted from some of these, thereby perpetuating the legend and giving it an aura of respectability.

The writer holds no brief for Hussey, nor does he hold any stock in the American Bank Note Co., but he knows of no other instance in which the American Bank Note Co. is accused of making such reprints for hire from dies in its custody.

Granted that various proofs of the 1847 and other dies which the American Bank Note Co. must have inherited from its predecessors were made at various times during the 19th Century and eventually reached the philatelic market. They, however, were apparently made for the legitimate commercial purpose of salesmen's samples or reference copies or, in some instances, as presentation sets (precedent for the latter having been set by our own government in the past as well as more recently). None of these, however, would appear to have been made for hire nor to be in violation of business ethics.

In the Essay-Proof Journal for January and April, 1945, appear articles by Winthrop S. Boggs and the editor describing and illustrating certain color sample sheets of Canadian and foreign stamps printed from miniature plates said to have been prepared by the American Bank Note Co. about 1868 for the company's salesmen.

It is the considered opinion of this writer that the preponderance of the evidence as herein adduced warrants the following conclusions:

1. That the reprints were not made for Hussey;
2. That a new plate of 9 subjects was made from the original die at sometime in the 19th Century, probably by the American Bank Note Co. for the purpose of salesmen's samples;
(Mr. Luff himself expressed doubts that all impressions were made at the same time and apparently felt a lack of confirmation of the date 1862).
3. That, if there be any foundation of fact supporting Mr. Hunter's statement, Hussey may have obtained a few and sold them at prices not consonant with the then prevailing price of the originals nor with what he could have sold them for had he had any sufficient quantity worth the expense of having a plate and reprints made, although his (Hussey's) letter seems to speak only of originals and one counterfeit.

Submitted as a basis for further discussion.

The Position of Private Locals

By E. F. HURT, B.P.A., A.P.S.

During the last thirty to forty years "Private Locals" have been not only neglected but to some extent actually frowned on.

If we consider this fact in detail it will be found to be illogical though natural, the former because it shows an ignorance of facts and the latter as a result of cause and effect.

Perhaps, before we consider this matter further, it would be as well to define what is meant by a Private Local.

A "Local" stamp, *per se*, is one that is only used within a restricted area of its own country or postal administration, or, rather, that only pays postage within that area. Thus, before the Postal Unions came into being, the stamps of all countries were, in the above sense, locals and, until the Universal Postal Union was achieved, the stamps of many countries still came in the same category. Even our own Penny Black was, of course, a "local." "Local" alone therefore embraces not only stamps issued by official Government Services but those that were issued by services run by private enterprise. The former category are included in all the "standard" postage stamp catalogues of the world, but only a very few of the latter are listed in these same catalogues to-day. Of these latter few the outstanding examples are—the "Lady McCleod," No. 1. of Trinidad; the stamps of the Suez Canal Company; the Stamps of Thurn & Taxis; those of Manizales; Tierra del Fuego and others, some of which appear in one or other of the catalogues of Stanley Gibbons, Yvert & Tellier, Michel or Scott, though not necessarily in all.

If the philatelist will take the trouble to pick up and read the new issue news of the philatelic journals of the late century, whether of Great Britain, America, France, Germany or almost any other country, he will find that the new issues of the Private Local Posts were given just as much prominence as those of the Government issues. In fact, in most cases, they were not even separately listed. Also these same journals had many articles on these same private ventures and it is thanks to this that most of our information exists.

As a natural sequence also these same stamps were listed fully in practically every catalogue of the century. This was only logical because these private posts were part and parcel of the postal system and the collector had no reason to divide them from the official issues.

Most of the early albums had spaces for the local and private stamps and Gibbons indeed went one step further when they brought out their still famous series of "Imperial" albums, in four volumes, (1) British and Colonial, (2) Foreign, (3) Locals and (4) Postal Stationery. As regards the latter it is as well to remember that the early collector rightly worked on postal stationery too as part and parcel of his collection, as being an inseparable part of the postal scheme.

Under the above circumstances you may well ask why are so few of the Private Locals listed in the catalogues to-day and why have they taken a back seat in the collections of all but the old school and the more advanced, thinking, specialist collector of to-day. Really the explanation is a good example of the sheep-like outlook of most collectors.

Up to 1899 Gibbons were issuing their catalogue in several parts, of which Part III was confined entirely to the local stamps—this was an advance on the system which had held until a few years earlier where the inclusion of the locals with the Government issues had begun to make what was then thought to be a rather bulky catalogue volume.

But, in 1899, doubtless due to the gradually increasing flood of issues from all over the World, Gibbons, possibly rightly from a business point of view, decided that it was impossible to continue to stock everything and it was Locals and Postal Stationery which they decided to dispense with. Such a decision naturally meant the cessation of the catalogues of Locals and Stationery, since, though many collectors refuse to realise the fact, the catalogues we use are only price lists of what certain dealers have to sell and are not intended to be, what the collector might desire, listing of all that exists.

At the end of the 19th and early 20th century the printed album was still in vogue and Gibbons' album contained a catalogue of the stamps on one side of the page for which spaces were provided on the other. This form of album was undoubtedly a business stunt as it was intended to induce the collector to fill as many spaces as possible—blank leaves look bad and single stamps on a page are rather like a fly on the ceiling—and to purchase his wants from the editors of the album.

No longer stocking Locals, Gibbons naturally discontinued the special album as its advertising value had passed. Other dealers and cataloguers followed suit.

So there grew up a generation, still using printed albums, but without anything to tell them about local stamps or any places to put them in and they became unwanted oddments which usually went into the junk box and very often were destroyed, from sheer ignorance, as bogus stamps.

Fortunately three things have happened in the past two decades which have tended to bring the Private Locals—at least some of them—back to their rightful place in the scheme of things. The first of these was the production of some fine catalogues of the Locals of China, Russia and Germany and, as far as the Continent or those philatelists who read other languages were concerned, some fine listings in certain journals of the Local stamps of the Scandinavian Countries. These facts undoubtedly increased the interest in these groups among at least those collectors who are willing to learn and spend a little money on literature rather than be confined to the narrow spaces of one catalogue—which at best is only an epistle and not a philatelic gospel.

The second tendency was for more interest in postal history, the facts about the postal services, their rates, routes and administrations, which developed in the more leisurely years after the Great War. With this tendency among collectors to specialise and to do something more than to essay to fill as many spaces as possible came more articles which dealt with the local postal services of the past.

The third factor which was of considerable value was the growing use of the blank page, loose leaf album, which allowed the collector to use his own initiative and follow his own path.

Further catalogues are sure to be forthcoming; and further information and the publication of a catalogue of the Local Posts of the whole World would undoubtedly revive the collection of these fascinating stamps.

Why should we collect Private Locals? The first answer to this query is the logical one that just as the 1d. black was the first adhesive stamp of Britain, so many of the Private posts issued the first adhesive stamps of other countries.

And there is an even better reason. It was a private venture, that of the family of Thurn and Taxis, which not only issued stamps in 1852, but which, over a matter of some six centuries had managed the organised posts of most of Europe and laid the system and drawn the design on which practically every national Postal service works to-day.

The Private Posts were often the pioneers. Often, without them, the Government services could not have existed or continued. In many cases they stepped into a gap which opened up new territory, new business and new communications or allowed these to be maintained when the Government service had failed. In fact they are, almost without exception, wrapped up in the progress of the postal services of almost every country as we know them to-day.

It would be impossible to imagine the development of the Danubian basin without the Post of the Danube Steam Navigation Company; of the Posts of Russia without the Zemstvos; of China without such private ventures as those of Ichang, Chungking, Hankow and Amoy; or the Carribean without the Royal Mail Steam and La Guaira Packets.

There are more stories behind the stamps of the Private Posts than could be contained in many volumes, stories of adventure, daring and pioneer work, often for no private gain. The story of the pony Express alone is sufficient to thrill any but the casual "mount liker."

For the aesthete there are plenty of pleasures in design and execution, endless variety. There is still an immense amount of philatelic research to be done on these issues.

Finally, with very few exceptions, the private posts are "clean" and free from speculation—far cleaner than many Government issues and the mass of "Commemorative" Wallpaper that is now turned out.

To give some idea of the extent of the field in the private posts it may be interesting to state that a recent computation showed that, excluding the Railway Letter and Parcel stamps, there have to date been no less than 670 Private Local administrations which have either issued adhesive stamps or have used some particular postal marking on correspondence. If one takes into account as separate services those which changed hands from time to time, the total number must run to nearly 750. Some of these posts issued one stamp only, while others, running over a number of years, provided many issues.

For the collector who sets store by rarity the Private Locals provide a fertile field for there are many of these stamps far rarer than the Post Office Mauritius and some of which only 2 to 4 examples are known. So, whether the search for rarity is the result of a desire for sole possession or a spirit of adventure, nothing lacks.

The Collectors Club, Inc.

OFFICERS 1945

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FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR., *Secretary* HANS G. ZERVAS, *Treasurer*

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Class of 1945. Class of 1948. Class of 1949.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1945	1946	1947
JACOB S. GLASER	FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR.	ARTHUR W. DEAS
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HANS G. ZERVAS	ALFRED F. LICHTENSTEIN	THEODORE E. STEINWAY

The Collectors Club Philatelist

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Minutes of Board of Governors

Meeting Held on May 23, 1945.

Present PRESIDENT Robert L. Graham, Jr.; Hugh M. Clark; Arthur W. Deas; Alfred F. Lichtenstein; Thomas F. Morris; Chester A. Smeltzer; H. G. Zervas.

The PRESIDENT called the meeting to order. He welcomed the new board-member Mr. Chester A. Smeltzer.

The minutes of the April 25th meeting were accepted as read.

OLD BUSINESS:

The TREASURER presented to the Board a statement of the financial condition of the Club which was accepted and ordered filed.

The PRESIDENT reported having received word from Mr. Malcolm Johnson of the China Unit that the Deed of Gift is still in the hands of that Unit pending the signatures of its Officers.

Mr. Lichtenstein, as a committee of one, reported the result of his conference with Mr. Stephen G. Rich pertaining to a JOSEPH S. RICH ROOM. Mr. Rich suggested the remodeling and furnishing of the third floor rear room as a catalog room, dedicated to the memory of JOSEPH S. RICH, his father. Mr. Lichtenstein and Mr. Rich agreed to ask Mr. Jacob S. Glaser, as Chairman of the House Committee, to work with them to draw up plans for the room itself, and for equipment. A letter to the Board from Mr. Rich was read in which he outlined his intentions. After due consideration the final plans and development thereof was left to the determination of Messrs. Lichtenstein, Glaser and Rich.

A motion was duly made by Mr. Hugh M. Clark, seconded by Mr. Thomas F. Morris, to accept the offer of Mr. Stephen G. Rich as given forth in his correspondence of May 15, 1945, and that a letter of appreciation for his offer be sent him. This motion was unanimously carried.

Membership Report.

The following applicants were elected to membership upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried.

RESIDENT—David Z. Andrews, New York City, by F. E. Maybury.

FOREIGN—Walter Hess, Nassau, Bahamas, by R. L. Graham, Jr.

NONRES.—J. H. W. Hinkson, Chester, Pa., by Geo. Cabot.

CLASS CHANGE—Harrie Mueller from Service Roll to Nonresident.

RESIGNATION N. R.—J. I. Wyer, Salt Lake City, Utah, was accepted with regret.

The PRESIDENT showed the Board some photographs taken by Mr. Bountrelle on the occasion of the meeting night of the Club dedicated to the memory of Mr. Gilbert, and an expression of thanks was voted to be sent to Mr. Boutrelle for his courtesy in the matter.

NEW BUSINESS

Exhibition Frames and Annual Club Exhibition

A possible Annual Exhibition by the Club was discussed for which purpose double sided frames are necessary. The SECRETARY was requested to contact Mr. Glaser for a report on the construction of such frames to be rendered at the June meeting. In the meantime Mr. Zervas volunteered to get in touch with Mr. Elkins for a possible loan of frames from the Chase Bank during the interim.

STUDY GROUP CHAIRMAN

Because of Mr. Elkins' illness in his family, the PRESIDENT appointed Mr. Hugh M. Clark as the temporary CHAIRMAN of the Study Group Committee. In this connection Mr. Clark was to secure data on the various activities of these groups for possible publicity in the Collectors Club Philatelist. Mr. Clark to report at the next meeting.

Membership list

The PRESIDENT brought up the question of a new membership list either to be published in the next issue of the C. C. P., or as a separate pamphlet. The possible cost of same was discussed and the SECRETARY was requested to ascertain the approximate expense thereof.

The question submitted by Mr. Lindquist whether or not the Club would endorse the project of christening a Merchant Marine boat "Philately" was rejected, all voting in the negative, save one.

FRANKLIN R. BRUNS, JR., Secretary.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD JUNE 27, 1945

Held June 27, 1945

Present: Robert L. Graham, Jr.; Hugh M. Clark; Arthur W. Deas; George R. M. Ewing; Chester Smeltzer; Thomas F. Morris; Theodore E. Steinway, and H. G. Zervas.

The PRESIDENT presided. The minutes of the May 23rd meeting were approved as read.

ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Re: Exhibition Frames

Mr. Zervas reported that the exhibition frames, which the Club considered renting for possible exhibitions, were the property of the Stock Exchange Club instead of the Chase Bank, and that they may be rented at \$1 each plus cartage. No definite action as to renting them has been taken.

Re: Study Groups Activities

Mr. Clark reported a meeting held on June 13th of representatives of all groups for the purpose of discussing in detail each group's activities and specialties with a view of incorporating such papers on their studies in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. An annual exhibition at the Club was also favored to be held for three days from Friday to Sunday inclusive, in which connection Mr. Clark reported that double sided frames as discussed at the May meeting, could not be constructed at this time because they come under the priority ruling according to Chairman of the House Committee, Mr. Glaser. Mr. Clark's report in detail, pertaining to the groups. Mr. Clark stated that another such meeting is scheduled for September 11th.

In connection with Group meetings held at the Club, Mr. Zervas reported having attended some of them and related how much he had been impressed by the type of study and stamps shown at these meetings and fervently urged that papers, setting forth the results of these studies, should be incorporated in the Club magazine at least once a year. The PRESIDENT asked Mr. Zervas to get in touch with Mr. Bruns, the Club Editor, with a view of finding out just what material would be suitable.

Re: Rich Room

The PRESIDENT reported the reading of Mr. Stephen G. Rich's letter, offering to establish a JOSEPH S. RICH ROOM, to the members at the regular meeting of the Club on June 6, together with the Club's reply accepting this offer.

Financial Statement

The TREASURER made a report on the financial condition of the Club which was accepted and ordered filed.

House Committee Report

Due to illness, the report of the CHAIRMAN of the House Committee was read by the PRESIDENT in which he reported the various repairs of the building and the installation of two fluorescent light units in the meeting room.

Re: Ricketts Library

The question regarding the material in the Ricketts Library (now in the hands of Paul Bluss for public auction sale) came up for discussion, and the CHAIRMAN of the Library Committee volunteered to contact Mr. Bluss in an effort to secure a list of material which will be sold at auction to determine just what the club library may need to complete its files and he will also check with Mr. Lichtenstein pertaining to this matter.

Membership Report

Old resignation accepted

For the sake of keeping our records straight, the resignation of Milton A. Adams, as presented to us during the first part of the year, was accepted with regret. (He comes up in the membership report as a "reinstatement" as of October 1.)

New Applications

The following candidates for membership, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, were elected members.

RESIDENT—Jack Levine, Brooklyn, N. Y., by D. C. Meyerson; W. S. Boggs. Reinstatement—Milton A. Adams, St. Alans, N. Y.

NONRESIDENT—Wallace C. Lun, San Francisco, Calif. Honki Wong; J. Silver. Harry Simon, Palisades Pk., N. J. J. P. Leeds; O. G. Reichelt. B. H. Handy, Syracuse, N. Y. Sy Colby; Herman Herst, Jr.

FOREIGN—B. C. Planas, Habana, Cuba. H. R. Harmer; P. H. Thorp. Jose P. Simon, Habana, Cuba. H. R. Harmer; P. H. Thorp.

DEATH—The death of Victor James, London, England was reported; also death of Victor Huberich of San Francisco, Calif.

CLASS TRSF—G. E. Duveen was transferred from Nonresident Foreign to Service Roll classification.

New Business

The PRESIDENT reported having appeared before the Internal Revenue Department to explain the reason why the Club should be considered a tax exempt organization, which question arose out of the gift to the Club of the BREMEN collection, originally belonging to Mr. George Siedenburgh, and being bequeathed to his widow who later married a Mr. Wilson. Upon her death it became the property of her brother Duncan S. Ellsworth who donated it to the Club in memory of George R. Siedenburgh, original compiler. All data and deed of gift may be found in Board minutes of November 1943.

Re: Philatelic Foundation, RENT

The TREASURER was requested to send bill for rental of The Philatelic Foundation room to the SECRETARY of that organization for O. K., to be passed on for payment by the TREASURER. The bill to be rendered for eight months, May 1 to December 31, 1945.

The CHAIRMAN of the Library Committee reported a discussion with Mrs. Deutsch who suggested the cooperation and help from the members of the Women's Philatelic Society in the capacity of an indexing committee for the Club's current periodicals in return for having that body meet at the Club quarters. The CHAIRMAN of the Study Group wished it distinctly understood that, if this arrangement is followed out, that Society will NOT meet at The Collectors Club as a STUDY GROUP, since it does not qualify as such as previously defined.

The Board agreed to enter into this arrangement on a trial basis, and the following motion was made:

It was duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried that the CHAIRMAN of the Library Committee be empowered to enter into an agreement with the Women's Philatelic Society whereby members of that body be organized into a committee to index current periodicals in the Collectors Club Library; that arrangement to exist or continue so long as the work is satisfactory to the Library CHAIRMAN and his committee. In exchange for such service the Women's Philatelic Society is to be allowed to meet at the Club quarters once or twice per month, and that the CHAIRMAN of the Library Committee make this offer on a trial basis for a period beginning in July and ending December 31st, at which time the Women's Philatelic Society and

the CHAIRMAN of the Library Committee will determine whether or not the work is mutually satisfactory and of sufficient interest to warrant continuation of this arrangement.

Donations

The PRESIDENT read a letter from Mr. Glaser in which he presented to the Club, if acceptable, a PRICE LIST OF STAMPS dated 1878, in the form of a cover affixed with an early stamp. The SECRETARY was instructed to write Mr. Glaser accepting this gift with thanks by the Board of Governors, who also expressed their regrets at his illness.

The PRESIDENT called the Board members' attention to the gift of twenty-seven medals belonging to the late J. M. Bartels, given to the Club by Mr. Hugh Barr through the courtesy of Mr. Winthrop Boggs. These were accepted with thanks and appreciation and the SECRETARY was instructed to send acknowledgement thereof to Mr. Barr.

The medals were then turned over to the committee on such items, Messrs. Morris and Deas, who immediately worked on the possible value of same and estimating them at from \$50 to \$75. The medals are either in silver or bronze. The committee is to render a list to the Club for insertion in the minutes, with a copy of this list to go to Mr. Clark.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that, when a complete list of all club medals has been made, this list is to be published in the C. C. P., with request to all members to look through their collection of medals with a view of giving to the Club those that we do not possess.

The PRESIDENT reported the mentioning of the Club's name in the estate of Victor Huberich, late member, from California and Mr. Graham stated that no reply has as yet come in answer to his inquiry as to the nature of the Club's legacy.

Meeting adjourned at 10.26 P. M.

"Habilitados" of the Juarez Issue of Mexico

By CALVERT STIER

The word "habilitado" means re-usable or re-habilitated, in other words, new life has been injected into an issue which otherwise would become demonetised. The postal issues of the Republic of Mexico from 1868 until 1883 had a date overprinted, together with a postal district number, on each stamp and that stamp was only available for use during that year. At the end of the year stamps unsold at the various post offices were to be returned to the head office at Mexico City and new batches with a new year date would be sent out.

It so happened that in the years 1882 and 1883 large supplies of stamps of the Juarez issue, which was for foreign postage, were on hand at the Mexico City office, these being supplies of stamps overprinted with a previous year date and from various postal districts. By issuing them again with a new year date and in most instances a new district number they were again available for postage and these stamps so overprinted with two numbers are termed "habilitados." This was done in 1882 and 1883.

In presenting this list of Habilitados the writer believes it is by far the most complete ever published although it is probable that additions can be made to it. I wish to thank Mr. L. M. Josling of W. Helston, Cornwall, England for his great assistance in making the list as complete as it is. Mr. Josling has for a number of years been keeping very comprehensive and accurate records about the stamps of Mexico from 1868 until 1883 and where the initials JOS, HB and AO appear after a stamp, Mr. Josling is responsible for those being added to my list which I had been compiling for several years past.

Where a stamp has no initials after it, it is from my list and that stamp is either in my collection or I had seen the stamp in the books of W. T. Wilson of Birmingham. The initials COS stand for Lic. Jose L. Cossio, Jr. of Mexico City and Senor Cossio either has or has seen a copy of the stamp with those numbers.

In general it was the practice to overprint the new number in red ink, the original always being in black, but in some few instances black ink was used both times in reissuing stamps to district offices and black ink was always used for the habilitados of the principal office at Mexico City. The list that follows is thus divided into two parts; first, with black and red number, and second, with two black numbers.

Table I.

District	Red Ovpt.	Black Ovpt.	Value
Vera Cruz	383	179	100c
Vera Cruz	383	2579	100c
Vera Cruz	383	3079	100c AO
Vera Cruz	383	3679	100c
Vera Cruz	383	3880	100c AO
Vera Cruz	383	3979	100c
Toluca	982	5482	2c
Toluca	982	1880	10c
Toluca	982	1991	10c
Toluca	982	3081	10c AO
Toluca	982	3980	10c
Toluca	982	3981	10c
Toluca	982	5482	10c
Toluca	983	379	100c COS
Toluca	983	3079	100c COS
Tepic	1283	379	2c
Tepic	1283	382	2c
Tepic	1283	1881	10c COS
Tepic	1283	2281	10c HB
Tepic	1283	2581	10c
Tepic	1283	5481	10c
Tepic	1283	5548*	10c LMJ
Tepic	1283	1183*	10c LMJ
Tepic	1183*	5548*	10c EDB
Tampico	1482	5482	1c
Tampico	1482	3080	1c LMJ
Tampico	1483	5482	1c COS
Tampico	1482	381	5c
Tampico	1482	1981	5c
Tampico	1482	2180	5c
Tampico	1482	2181	5c
Tampico	1482	2480	5c HB
Tampico	1482	3080	5c LMJ
Tampico	1482	3880	5c
Tampico	1482	3979	5c HB
Tampico	1482	3981	5c
Tampico	1482	5482	5c HB
Puebla	2082	5481	1c
Puebla	2082	4581*	1c EDB
Puebla	2082	1481	1c
Puebla	2082	1979	1c LMJ
Puebla	2082	1980	1c
Puebla	2082	5482	2c
Puebla	2082	2180	5c LMJ
Puebla	2082	2181	5c
Puebla	2082	3880	5c AO
Puebla	2082	3881	5c
Puebla	2082	3981	5c AO
Puebla	2082	3080	10c
Puebla	2082	3880	10c
Puebla	2082	3981	10c
Puebla	2082	5482	10c
Monterrey	2582	282	2c AO
Monterrey	2583	279	2c
Monterrey	2583	280	2c
Monterrey	2583	3879	2c
Monterrey	2583	3880	2c
Monterrey	2583	3881	2c HB
Monterrey	2583	3981	2c
Monterrey	2583	5081	2c
Monterrey	2583	5481	2c
Merida	2682	1979	1c COS
Merida	2682	1980	1c COS
Mazatlan	2782	381	1c
Mazatlan	2782	1881	1c AO
Mazatlan	2782	1979	1c AO
Mazatlan	2782	3079	1c
Mazatlan	2782	3080	1c
Mazatlan	2782	5480	1c AO
Mazatlan	2782	5482	1c
Mazatlan	2782	1980	2c
Mazatlan	2782	3080	2c
Mazatlan	2782	5481	2c
Mazatlan	2782	5482	2c
Mazatlan	2783	1980	2c
Mazatlan	2783	3879	2c AO
Mazatlan	2782	381	5c
Mazatlan	2782	680	5c
Mazatlan	2782	3881	5c
Mazatlan	2782	2880	5c HB
Mazatlan	2782	3981	5c
Mazatlan	2782	281	10c
Mazatlan	2782	380	10c
Mazatlan	2782	1880	10c
Mazatlan	2782	3581	10c
Mazatlan	2782	3980	10c

* Error.

District	Red Ovpt.	Black Ovpt.	Value
Mazatlan	2782	3981	10c
Chihuahua	3983	381	2c
Chihuahua	3983	379	2c LMJ
Chihuahua	3983	2581	2c
Chihuahua	3983	2181	2c LMJ
Chihuahua	3983	5481	2c AO
Chihuahua	3983	5482	2c LMJ
Chiapas	4083	5481	2c LMJ
Campeche	5083	2282	1c COS
Campeche	5083	2682	1c
Campeche	5083	2882	1c COS
Campeche	5083	3782	1c
Campeche	5083	3981	1c LMJ
Campeche	5083	3982	1c
Campeche	5083	5479	1c
Campeche	5083	1981	2c LMJ
Campeche	5083	5482	2c
Campeche	5083	881	5c
Campeche	5083	1981	5c
Campeche	5083	3581	5c LMJ
Campeche	5083	4680	5c
Campeche	5083	4982	5c
Campeche	5083	1880	10c
Campeche	5083	1881	10c
Campeche	5083	3581	10c
Campeche	5083	5482	10c

Table II.

Both Overprints in BLACK.

Toluca	982	282	10c
Tampico	1482	3080	1c
Puebla	2082	5481	1c
Queretaro	1982	2181	10c
Queretaro	1982	2481	10c LMJ
Queretaro	1982	3080	10c LMJ
Queretaro	1982	3981	10c

Both Over-
prints in Black

District	Value
Mexico	5482 279 1c LMJ
Mexico	5482 280 1c
Mexico	5482 381 1c
Mexico	5482 1881 1c
Mexico	5482 3981 1c LMJ
Mexico	5482 3982 1c LMJ
Mexico	5482 5081 1c HB
Mexico	5482 5082 1c AO
Mexico	5482 5481 1c
Mexico	5482 4581* 1c LMJ
Mexico	5482 5481* 1c LMJ
Mexico	5482 5112* 1c AO
Mexico	5483 981 1c AO
Mexico	5483 982 1c AO
Mexico	5483 1481 1c
Mexico	5483 1881 1c AO
Mexico	5483 2282 1c
Mexico	5483 2682 1c
Mexico	5483 3782 1c
Mexico	5483 3881 1c
Mexico	5483 982 2c
Mexico	5483 680 10c
Mexico	5483 1880 10c
Mexico	5483 2282 10c

INITIALS

LMJ, L. M. Josling, Cornwall, England
 HB, Hugh Birrell, Cornwall, England
 AO, Abr. Obfjell, Norway
 COS, Lic. Jose L. Cossio, Jr., Mexico City
 EDB, Edward Denny Bacon, London,
 England

For this Juarez issue there were 54 postal districts which were given numbers according to the reversed list of 1878, that is they were arranged in alphabetical order but Zamora was number 1 and on down to Acapulco for number 53, the principal office of Mexico being number 54. Colima had two numbers being changed from 49 to 55 in 1882. Some districts were changed during the course of the issue, viz. Ures, number 4 being changed to Hermosillo, number 4, in 1879. The complete list follows, those being starred being districts which used the *habilitado* stamps.

1. Zamora	20. Puebla *	38. Durango
2. Zacatecas	21. Pachuca	39. Chihuahua *
3. Vera Cruz *	22. Orizaba	40. Chiapas *
4. Ures (1879) Hermo- sillo (1880-83)	23. Oaxaca	41. Chalco
5. Tulancingo	24. Morelia	42. Cordoba
6. Tula de Tamaulipas	25. Monterrey *	43. C. Guzman
7. Tula	26. Merida *	44. Cocula (1879-81)
8. Tuxpam	27. Mazatlan *	Mascota (1882-83)
9. Toluca *	28. Matamoros	45. Cuernavaca
10. Tehuacan	29. Maravatio	46. Cuautitlan
11. Texcoco	30. La Paz	47. C. Victoria
12. Tepic *	31. Lagos	48. C. Bravos
13. Tlaxcala	32. Jilotepec (1879-82)	49. Colima
14. Tampico *	Soyaniquilpan (1882-83)	50. Campeche *
15. Tacubaya	33. Jalapa	51. Apam
16. Tabasco	34. Parral	52. Aguascalientes
17. San Luis Potosi	35. Huejutla	53. Acapulco
18. Saltillo	36. Guanajuato	54. Mexico *
19. Queretaro *	37. Guadalajara	55. Colima (1882-83)

In general the *habilitado* stamps are much scarcer used than unused which is true of all the Juarez issue. Very many false cancellations exist, usually of a double lined oval with fictitious town name so indistinctly applied as to be unreadable except for a few letters. The genuine postmarks are invariably of a grid of small to medium dots or of parallel bars in a circle, most districts in black but Mexico usually in blue.

As an example of the rarity of some of these *habilitados* I give the figures for the 100 centavos stamps reissued for use in the district of Vera Cruz. Numbered 1883, Vera Cruz on 179, Zamora, 100; on 2579, Monterrey, 198; on 3079, La Paz 495; on 3679, Guanajuato, 85; on 3880, Durango, 283; on 3979, Chihuahua, 400. Most of these were left unsold at the post office.

Roosevelt Collection to be Sold

The most famous stamp collection in the world, the personal collection of the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was delivered November 15th, to H. R. Harmer, Inc., stamp auctioneers, to be sold at public auction.

The collection, which consists of 150 albums collected by the late president during his lifetime, contains notes in the most famous philatelist's own handwriting.

Armored truck picked up the collection and brought it from Hyde Park to the New York offices of H. R. Harmer, Inc., 32 East 57th Street, where it will be catalogued and prepared for exhibition and public auction.

Henry T. Hackett, one of the executors and trustees of the estate, and Earl R. Koons, attorney for the estate handed over the valuable collection. William Plog, for 45 years caretaker, gardener, and a favorite of the late president, witnessed the transfer.

No plans have been made for public exhibitions and no date set for the auction, according to Bernard Harmer, who received the famous collection for his company.

The Pedigree of Rare Stamps

By the Late CHARLES J. PHILLIPS

By permission of the present owners, H. R. Harmer, Inc.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1854. 4d Blue, Error Frame Inverted

This is the first stamp of the eighth row in one pane of sixty stamps.

T. K. TAPLING Collection in the British Museum

A fine used copy. Its history and cost are unknown to me.

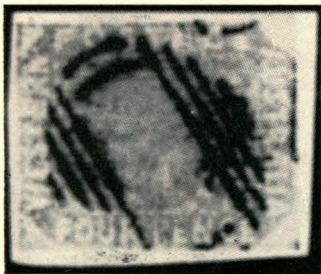
DUKE OF LEINSTER'S Collection in the Dublin Museum

This came from a small collection owned by a Mr. Morris of Dublin, Ireland.

Morris sold the error for £2.0.0. to a Mr. Vance who sold it for £3.0.0. to the Duke of Leinster. On the death of the Duke in 1894 it was found that he had left his collection to the City of Dublin and it is now in the National Museum of Dublin.

H. L. WHITE Collection in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, New South Wales

H. L. White was one of the greatest collectors of Australian stamps and after his death it was found he had left his stamps to the Mitchell Library. There is here a fine specimen of the inverted frame for which he paid £400.0.0.



KING GEORGE V. Collection

Senor Pio Fabri, an artist of Rome, Italy, showed a portion of his collection at the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1892. This included a specimen of the 4d. frame inverted. Fabri told me that this stamp had cost him £32.0.0. Some years after the Mabri collection was sold to W. H. Peckitt who then sold the 4d. error to H. J. Duveen. Before I left England in 1922 I sold a number of the rarities from the Duveen collection to H. M. King George V., among them this rare error. I am not at liberty to publish the price.



P. R. England had the copy illustrated (enlarged) above. This was sold to E. J. Lee and afterwards was acquired by Arthur Hind through Thomas Hall or L. E. Bradbury. This was sold at Hind's Fifth sale in July 1934 for £300.0.0.



A copy, damaged and repaired was sold by Plumridge & Co. in their 849th sale for £350.0.0. The purchaser was the late David Bernhard.

THE EARL OF CRAWFORD Collection

In February 1912 Lord Crawford sold his collection (except the British and United States) to Mr. W. H. Peckitt. This included a specimen of the 4d. frame inverted, but I have not been able to find out what became of it.

PRINCE DORIA PAMPHILI Collection

In this collection which was purchased by W. H. Peckitt there was a copy cut rather close on one side. I have not been able to find out who bought this.



MR. LESQUESQUE Collection

In this collection there was a copy with a rather heavy blob of a postmark on the swan's back, as illustrated above. I have not been able to find out what became of this.

THE REVD. H. A. JAMES, D.D.

Had two copies, one was quite a poor thing, the other was a nice looking copy though the corners were cut round.



The 4d. frame inverted, illustrated above, is believed to be the finest copy known.

The first record I find of this stamp is when it was in the collection of B. Plashett Rodd of Hamburg. He sold it to Sir William Avery for £400.0.0. in 1904.

W. H. Peckitt bought the Avery collection and sold this copy to the late Geo. W. Worthington for \$2500.00.

The Worthington collection was bought by A. F. Lichtenstein, who sold this copy to Richard Roberts, who in turn sold it to Louis Meinertzhagen.

Some years later on Roberts bought this back from Mr. Meinertzhagen and sold it to me for £825.0.0. I, in turn sold this fine copy to the late Col. E. H. R. Green for about \$5500.00.

**FERRARY Collection**

In the Sixth Sale in April 1923 the 4d. frame inverted sold for \$4947.00 with the surtax added.

The purchaser was Mr. Collins of London. After his death his collection was sold at auction by Plumridge & Company and the 4d. frame inverted realized £680.0.0.

The purchaser was Thomas Allen.



About 1906 another specimen of the 4d. frame inverted was found in Western Australia in a collection left to a young lady living in that State, and was sent to a relative in England. This specimen was said to be heavily postmarked and slightly damaged. It was offered in Glendining & Co's. auction of October or November, 1906, and was bought in at £180.0.0. I do not find any record of it after this sale.

J. A. NIX Collection

About 1925 J. A. Nix of Surrey, England found a 4d. frame inverted in a small album which he bought for about £50.0.0.

He sold the error to R. Roberts of London and in July 1924 I bought this from Reports for about £800.0.0. and sold to Col E. H. R. Green for about \$5000.00.



DR. Le QUESNE of Tring, England

In 1930 after the death of the Doctor his executors sent his collection to Plumridge & Company to sell at auction. They found the inverted frame in the space in the album for the normal, it had never been noticed by the owner. It was cut rather close on one side and was rather heavily postmarked. This was sold on May 30th, 1930, for £550.0.0.

C. F. HEYERMAN Collection

This collection, consisting only of stamps with inverted centers or frames, was purchased by the Economist Stamp Co. and sold to Col. E. H. R. Green. Edward Stern tells me it contained a specimen of this error.

Fred. W. Ayer of Bangor, Maine in 1898 placed his wonderful collection of rarities in my hands for sale on a commission bases. In this there was a fine copy of the Western Australia 4d. frame inverted. While I was engaged in legal matters, for some months, I turned over the Ayer collection to certain employees of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. and in my final accounting with Ayer the stamp was found to be missing and I have heard no trace of it from that day to this.

A. B. L'ARGENTIERE Collection

About 1920 Mr. A. F. Lichtenstein bought this famous French collection. In it was a copy of the 4d. frame inverted which he sold to Richard Roberts.

In September 1933 H. R. Harmer had a copy of this error in his auction sale in London. This was described as close at bottom, and repaired in the "E" in "PENCE." The cancellation was brown-red in color. This was sold for £115.0.0. I have not found the name of the purchaser.

4d Inverted Frame, Unused

In Gibbons' Stamp Monthly for June 1930 the following note appears:—written by Stanley Phillips.

"Apropos of statements that this error is not known in unused condition, Mr. Fred. Hagen, the well-known Australian dealer and expert, tells me that some years ago he was shown an undoubtedly genuine specimen of this error in unused condition. It was brought to Europe by the owner and presumably disposed of, but there appears to be no information available as to its present whereabouts."

Mr. Hagen also tells me that a collector in Australia informed him that he had also seen an unused specimen of the error, but concerning this item nothing appears to be known.

SPAIN**1851. 2 Reales, Blue, Error in the Color of the 6 Reales**

From the earliest days of Philately, controversy, has raged as to the question whether this variety—blue in lieu of red—of the 2 reales of 1851 was an essay or an error of color.

In 1899 Castle has a note in the London Philatelist as follows:—"It now appears that it has been found attached to the 6 reales, blue, the pair having been cut from a block of fourteen stamps. It is the property of a Barcelona dealer."

This unique pair, and also a single used copy was in the Ferrary collection and was sold in the Fifth Sale November, 1922 for 130,000 francs with surtax and at the exchange of that time \$10,369.00 was bought by Arthur Hind. The single copy was sold in the Eighth Sale in November 1923 and was also purchased by Arthur Hind \$6090.00.

I sold the Hind collection (except the U. S.) to H. R. Harmer and these two rare error were sold in the Ninth Hind sale in March, 1936.

The 2 reales + 6 reales sold for \$11,000.

The single used 2 reales sold for \$4750.

The buyer for the pair (2 reales + 6 reales) was Johan Remberg.

I only know of one other copy of this error. It is in the Tapling collection in the British Museum and is unused.

PARMA**1852. 80 Cent. Olive Yellow**

This is a fairly common stamp unused but is one of the great rarities of Europe in a genuine used condition.

The first record I have of an authentic used specimen is in the following letter from M. Robert Walser of Paris which he wrote to me in 1930.

"In 1850-60 there was in Paris a Company named Union des Gaz founded by the Banking firm of Goldsmith Breitmeyer & Company to build gas works in the chief Italian towns. The archives of this company were brought to daylight

about 1898 and contained amongst a great many beautiful and rare letters, a cover franked with 80c. and 20c. of the Provisional Government of Parma stamps issued in 1859.

"This letter was offered for sale for weeks in the open market of the Bourse des Timbres aux Champs-Elysees, Paris, for 300 francs and could not find a buyer as everyone thought it was a fake. Finally Jules Bernichon took it on approval and sent it to Dr. Diena, who confirmed its authenticity. I bought this from "Bernichon for 1200 francs (\$240.00). Two years later I desposed of it at a profit which enabled me to buy my first automobile."



After changing hands several times amongst well known Italian collectors, the cover was sold again for \$9000.00.

The letter is dated 17 Dic. 59."

Dr. Emilio Diena writes in the Monthly Journal, Sept. 30th, 1901, p. 59 "Last year (1900) I was fortunate enough to see in a very important foreign collection a damaged specimen of the stamp in the olive-yellow shade, bearing a light circular postmark, "Parma . . . Nov. 59" which I found to be perfectly genuine."

FERRARY Collection

In the Ninth Sale, April 1924 there was a used specimen with the obliteration guaranteed, the date seems to be "Parma 15 Dic . . . This was sold for about \$465.00 with the surtax."

ROUMANIA-MOLDAVIA

1857. 27 Paras, Black on Rose

About 1904 I bought, from a collector in Bucharest, Roumania two pares of the 27 paras, black on rose, one a vertical pair printed tête-bêche, illustrated above, and the other a horizontal normal pair, both used.

This tête-bêche pair is believed to be the only one known. It is postmarked GALATZ, MOLDOVA in double circle with date "2/9" in center, in blue.

I sold this to Ferrary. I have no record of the price, but I should think it would be about £400.

At the second Ferrary sale, held October, 1921 it was sold for 46,000 francs, plus 17½ per cent surtax. This at the exchange of the day was equal to \$3940.28. The purchaser was Eugene Klein, acting for Henry Gibson.

A few years later Mr. Gibson decided to part with this portion of his collection and placed it in the hands of Eugene Klein who sold this pair to Arthur Hind for \$3500.00.

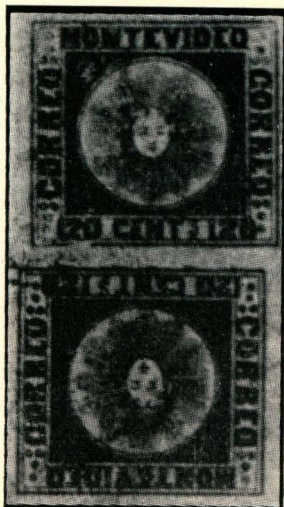


I disposed of the Hind collection (except the U. S.) to H. R. Harmer and in his auction in January, 1935, it was sold for \$5000.00, the buyer being Johan Remberg.

URUGUAY

March 1858. 120c, Blue and 180c Green, each in Tete-Beche Pairs

In the early 80's Señor José Marco del Pont resided for several years in Paris. When I was in Buenos Aires, in 1910, he told me that about 1885 being short of funds he disposed of a pair of each of these stamps to Ferrary.



At the second Ferrary sale held October, 1921, lot 172 containing these rare errors was sold to M. Theodore Champion (see under my notes or the 180c. red error).

Later on A. F. Lichtenstein bought this lot and these two rarities are now in his collection.

In the Tapling collection in the British Museum there is one each of these Tête-bêche pairs but I do not know their history.

The late T. W. Hall had a tête-bêche pair of the 120c. blue. I do not know what it cost or where he got it. This pair he sold to the late C. L. Pack some 20 years ago. I do not know of any pairs in South America.

Total known

120c. blue	Lichtenstein
120c. blue	British Museum
120c. blue	C. L. Pack collection
180c. Green	Lichtenstein
180c. Green	British Museum

URUGUAY

March, 1858. 180c Dull Red, Error in the Color of the 240c

Of this exceedingly rare error only one copy is known. The history of it is as follows:—

In the late '80's the well known Buenos Aires collector, Señor José Marco del Pont was residing in Paris and being short of funds sold a few of his rarities.

M. Georges Caillebotte bought this error.

About 1889 M. Caillebotte sold his collection to T. K. Tapling but before doing so told Tapling that he must reserve one stamp as he had promised it to Ferrary if he ever sold his collection, as he had arranged this exchange in place of some rare stamps Ferrary had given him.

In the first Ferrary sale in June, 1921, Lot 172 was an extra lot containing early Uruguay stamps with some rarities including this error.

This lot sold for \$110,000 francs plus 17½ per cent surtax—\$9500.00, the buyer being M. Theodore Champion. It was purchased by A. F. Lichtenstein from Champion and the unique used error is now in his collection.



After J. B. Moens sold out I secured the services of Lucian Hanciau, the brother-in-law of Moens and certainly the most famous philatelist of the early days as is shown by his editorship of *Timbre-Post* for some thirty years.

M. Hanciau wrote a number of fine articles for me which I published in *The Monthly Journal*.

In the *Monthly Journal* for May 31st, 1913, he writes on the Uruguay issue of March 1858 and in dealing with this rare error he says "We know of two copies, obliterated, one of which passed through our own hands, of the 180c.

joined to the 240c. It bore an oval obliteration inscribed "ADMON DE CORREOS -MONTEVIDEO" with the date "4 DIC" (no year) in the centre. The other copy we have not seen."

We have no idea where this wonderful pair now is. It was not in the collection of Ferrary or Rothschild, but the details given by such a fine philatelist as L. Hanciau must be accepted and put on record.

**HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
Public Relations Office**

To: COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST,
22 East 35th Street,
New York, N. Y.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

A NINTH AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND BASE, FRANCE: The men who fly depend upon those who don't for the supplies and maintenance of their aircraft. Technical Sergeant Elton L. Schnellbacher, 31, Jackson Heights, N. Y., is a "chairborne pilot." It also takes paper work to win a war.

Sergeant Major in a headquarters and headquarters detachment of the 4th Service Group, Ninth Air Force Service Command, his job consists of coordinating reports concerning the welfare of the A-26 Invader bombers flying the missions over Germany.

Sergeant Schnellbacher has served with his unit in the European Theater of Operations for more than a year. Before entering service at Camp Upton in March 1943, he was employed as a photographic illustrator by Grancel Fitz Inc., New York City.

Sergeant Schnellbacher is an ardent philatelist and is considered something of an authority on plate numbered coils and booklet panes of American stamps issued by the Bureau of Engraving.

His wife, Mrs. Elton Schnellbacher, lives in 35-55 73rd Street, Jackson Heights, N. Y.

Saul Newbury Honored

A collection of outstanding items, on and off cover, of 19th Century U. S. received the grand award—the Hennan Trophy—at the 59th Anniversary Stamp Show of the Chicago Philatelic Society, Nov. 2, 3 and 4, in the Grand Ballroom of the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago.

The display was from the collection of Charles F. Meroni of Chicago, who also received a gold medal for leading the U. S. 19th Century field.

Col. Don H. Silsby of Brookhaven, Ga., also exhibiting 19th Century U. S., was awarded the Barkhausen Cup and a silver medal in this field.

The research award of the Society of Philatelic Americans was presented to Lt. Col. Max G. Johl of Chicago, for an exhibit of machine cancellations on the Famous Americans series of 1940. Col. Johl is president of the U. S. XXth Century Postal Cancellations Society.

Vincent Domanski, Jr., of Philadelphia, president of the Society of Philatelic Americans, exhibiting 19th Century Russia, was awarded the Col. Hans Lagerloef trophy.

The Saul Newbury Trophy went to Matthew J. Huss of Evanston, Ill., who showed U. S. and foreign covers, including historical caricatures.

The "club" award—the Charles E. Severn Memorial Trophy—went to the Polonus Philatelic Society, which exhibited Poland Souvenir sheets, first day covers and the Krakow issues.

The Saul Newbury Medal, awarded for the first time this year to the stamp collector who contributed most to Chicago philately in the past year, was awarded to David Lidman, stamps editor of *The Chicago Sun*.

Mr. Newbury was the honored guest of the society at its annual dinner, and personally presented the Newbury Medal. Mr. Newbury, an honorary member of the C. P. S. was presented with a gold membership card by the Society. This presentation was made by Harry L. Lindquist, editor and publisher of "*Stamps*."

More than 200 persons attended the Newbury Dinner, the largest affair of this kind ever held in Chicago.

In addition to Mr. Newbury and Mr. Lindquist, others at the speakers' table were: Harold C. Brooks of Marshall, Mich., famed collector of Confederate States; Dr. Clarence W. Hennan, director of the American Philatelic Society and donor of the grand award; Lt. Col. Max G. Johl, author of the Crawford medal winning "*The U. S. Postage Stamps of the 20th Century*"; Stanley B. Ashbrook of Ft. Thomas, Ky., famed 19th Century U. S. authority; Barnard L. Voorhees of Laguna Beach, Calif., formerly one of the best known of Chicago dealers, and Anthony C. Russo, president of the C. P. S. Elmer Stuart, vice-president of C. P. S., was toastmaster.

Messages of congratulations to Mr. Newbury were read from members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, the Collectors Club of New York, the Brazilian Ambassador to the United States, and others.

William H. Schulze, immediate past president of C. P. S., was presented with a gavel, symbol of his office for two years, by Mr. Russo.

Mrs. Clarence Brazer

Mrs. Esther Stevens Brazer, forty-seven, interior decorator and author of the book "*Early American Decorations*," died recently at Flushing Hospital, Flushing, Queens.

She was the wife of Clarence W. Brazer, architect, stamp writer, student and dealer, and made her home at Innerwyck, the second oldest house in Flushing, at Union Street and Bayside Avenue, which was built in 1670. The Brazers bought the house in 1938, and since that time had refurbished it completely while retaining its original construction. It was one of several old homes in the district opened early this month to the public during Flushing Tercentenary Week.

Mrs. Brazer was born in Portland, Me. She attended an art school in Portland and took graduate work in interior decorating at Columbia University. She taught for a time at Cornell University, and also conducted classes at the Central Young Women's Christian Association in Manhattan, at Mineola, L. I.; Hartford and New Haven, Conn., and in Montclair, N. J.

Music Sheets for Stamp Collectors

By EDITH A. WRIGHT and JOSEPHINE McDEVITT

Reprinted by permission from "Antiques" Magazine.

Stamp-conscious Americans will find that the polkas, waltzes, and gallopadés of the past are of real interest in their portrayal of significant and romantic developments in the history of the United States Mail. In this field, American sheet music has contributed its share in commemorating pictorially as well as musically many of the leading events as they occurred.

In the days before the "common carriers" transported the mails, pigeon-post, the earliest air mail, was the medium employed when speed was required.



Figure 1
Fig. 1—Railroad Music Sheet (1828). Hand-colored wood engraving by J. Sands, showing The Ohio Velocipede departing for Wheeling and Cincinnati. One of the travelers is admonished "Don't forget to drop my letter in the Post Office at Wheeling so it may get to N. Orleans the next day," proving that, even in those early days, friends could not be trusted to post a letter. The earliest railroad "mail" music sheet discovered by the authors.

The message from New York to President Jefferson in Washington, announcing the arrival of the Louisiana Purchase deeds from France, was carried by a pigeon in about four hours, while the fastest land transportation required four days. In the first part of the nineteenth century, such carrier pigeons were a favorite subject for sheet music. Covers showing a dove flying over New York City carrying amorous messages to the lovelorn are not uncommon. *The Love Letter* is the title of a very unusual sheet published more than a century ago, picturing

a stampless letter sent from New York to Philadelphia *via* ship about 1820, handstamped *New York, May 9*, with a rate script marking.

Many of the packets, steamboats, and ocean liners that played an important role in the development and progress of mail transportation have been beautifully and accurately reproduced on music covers. Before the mail service across the oceans came under government control, private sailing vessels haphazardly carried mail addressed to the ports for which they were bound. In March 1845, however, the Postmaster General was authorized by Congress to enter into contracts with owners of American ships for the regular transportation of mail upon the seas. November 1, 1847, Edward Knight Collins and his associates made a contract to build, under naval supervision, five steamships to carry the United States Mails between New York and Liverpool, and a few weeks later,



Figure 2

Fig. 2—The Express on Sheet Music (1852). Lithograph of the office building of the Adams & Co.'s Express, a contemporary of the famous Wells, Fargo and Company. From the collection of I. F. Yonge.

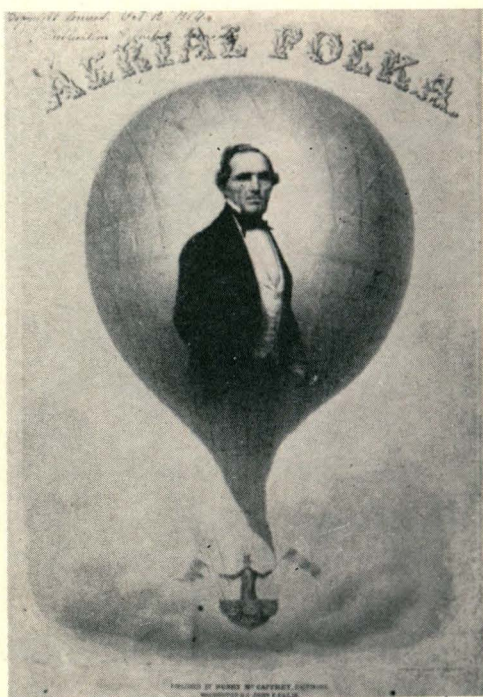


Figure 3

Fig. 3—Early Aeronaut on Sheet Music. Commemorating Professor Wise's ascension in 1859 in the balloon *Jupiter*. From the Library of Congress.

the United States Mail Steamship Company, the world-renowned Collins Line, was organized. The *Atlantic*, shown on *The Atlantic's Return Schottisch*, was the first of the Collins ships to sail to Liverpool, leaving New York April 27, 1850; the *Baltic*, her sister ship, sailing in November of the same year, is also found on a music sheet.

In addition to the ocean liners, mail-carrying river and lake steamers were often pictured on music. The packet *Martha Jewett* (1853), home port in St. Louis, and the *City of Alton* (Fig. 1), United States Mail Line steamer of the Memphis and St. Louis Packet Company, make attractive covers for the music

of this period; two Hudson River boats, the *Reindeer* (1850), and the *Knickerbocker* (1851), are delightful cover designs. Other carriers of the mails featured on sheet music are the *United States Steamer* (1848) of the Black Ball Line, the *Powhatan*, a United States Naval steamer, the *Illinois* (1855), *Crescent City* (1854), and the *Ericsson* (1853), named for John Ericsson, builder of the Civil War *Monitor*.

The railroads, from their inception, were naturally an important factor in the growth of mail transportation. Even before the first steam railroad in the United States was built, this mode of carrying the mails was suggested on a contemporary sheet of music. The Baltimore and Ohio started the construction of the first railroad for general transportation of passengers and freight July 4, 1828, and shortly thereafter (July 23, 1828), there appeared a piece of music entitled *The Rail Road* (Fig. 2).

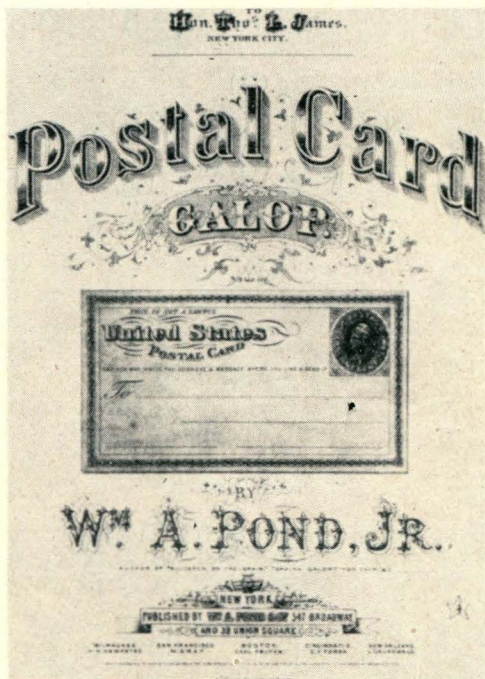


Figure 4

Fig. 4—Musical Postal Card (1875). To comply with the postal regulations, the card is printed: This is not a lawful United States Postal Card, and adds graciously, You may write the address & message where you like. The legend on the stamp reads: Not U S Postage Not One Cent.

In July 1838, Congress designated every railroad in the United States a post route. In February 1839, William F. Harnden started his express service which operated between Boston and New York, and in April of that year, this pioneer expressman was commissioned by the United States Post Office Department as a mail carrier, and given the contract to transport letters and papers from Boston to New York. Later his contract was extended to include service between other cities. Harnden's Line acted as an important auxiliary to the United States mail service. *Harnden's Express Line, Gallopade & Trio* is a charming memorial (Fig. 3).

Of especial interest to the philatelist are those pieces of music which were folded, hand-stamped, sealed, and actually sent through the mails, *sans* envelope. *General Harrison's Tippecanoe Grand March* was sent in this manner from Baltimore, Maryland, to Mrs. A. Vanwyck of Nashville, Tennessee, May 6, 1840, the same day when the first postage stamp was put into use in Great Britain.

When John Wise made his famous ascension in 1859 in the balloon *Jupiter* he carried with him the first air mail sent from any post office in the United States. A fine portrait of Professor Wise hovering genie-like in a Jupiter-type balloon decorates the cover of the *Aerial Polka* (Fig. 5).



Figure 5

Fig. 5—U. S. Stamps Set to Music (1864). Lithographed by Sarony, Major & Knapp, these stamps are so accurately reproduced that they can deceive even the expert. Rumor has it that at least one of these covers was cut up and the stamps sold separately as originals.

In 1864, six years previous to the Act of Congress forbidding the reproduction of postage stamps, William A. Pond and Company of New York City published *The American Stamp Polka*. Lithographed in colors by Sarony, Major & Knapp, it shows seventy canceled stamps of the 1861 and the 1863 issues

arranged in groups illustrating the one-cent Franklin, the two-cent Jackson, and the three-cent Washington stamps. In the copy shown in Figure 6 six *bona fide* United States stamps of the 1869 and 1870 series are pasted on the right- and left-hand margins. A similar sheet, the *Stamp Galop*, published by Oliver Ditson in the same year, shows both foreign and American stamps, forty-three of them, in colors. These two rare stamp covers are much-sought collectors' items.

Congress authorized one-cent postal cards in 1872, and the first of these was placed on sale in May of that year. Three years later William A. Pond and Company commemorated the event by bringing out the *Postal Card Galop* (Fig. 7), dedicating it to the Honorable Thomas L. James of New York City, Postmaster General in President Garfield's cabinet.

Trolley cars, to the uninitiated, are not ordinarily associated with the carrying of the mails, but the Post Office Department has always considered any rolling stock to be a Railway Post Office. That the Post Office in 1895 used this means of transporting the mails is evidenced by music published that year, called optimistically *The Trolley Mail Galop*, showing a trolley car actually used for that purpose.

The first letter-box for the collection of mail was erected August 2, 1858, but pillar and other receiving boxes were not authorized until March 3, 1863. These apparently offered no inspiration to composers until 1879 when *The U. S. Letter Carriers* was published. Its cover gives an idea of the type of lamp-post letter-box in vogue at the time, the style of uniform worn by the mailmen, and the kind of mail-bag carried. Rural free delivery was inaugurated in 1896 and the rural letter carrier was pictured on *The Village Postman*, published in 1905 by W. F. Shaw and Company of New York.

There are doubtless many other sheets depicting events in the history of the United States Mail; its record is filled with dramatic incidents, in its fulfillment of the slogan: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."

Brazil

THE BLUE "CAT'S-EYES" OF 1854

Their History and Philatelic Classification

BY ROBERTO THUT *

Dr. J. Fred Emerson has published in the *American Philatelist* (Vol. 55, no. 5, of February, 1942) the result of his studies regarding the Brazilian 20-reis stamp of 1850. This article was reproduced in Portuguese at my request in the *Boletim Filatélico Bandeirante* (Vol. 1, no. 4, of June, 1942).

As a result of this publication the subject was discussed at some length at two meetings of the Paulista Philatelic Society, vide *Boletim Filatélico Bandeirante*, Vol. 1, no. 4 (June, 1942), pages 231-2, 249-50, 252. At these discussions new material came to light which showed how much interest Dr. Emerson's article had aroused in regard to one of the values of the so-called "cat's-eyes" series which had hitherto received little attention here.

The following notes are about two other "cat's-eyes" stamps of the same period. Like the 1850 20-reis variety, these were originally prepared for a special purpose and their use afterwards extended to the prepayment of ordinary correspondence.

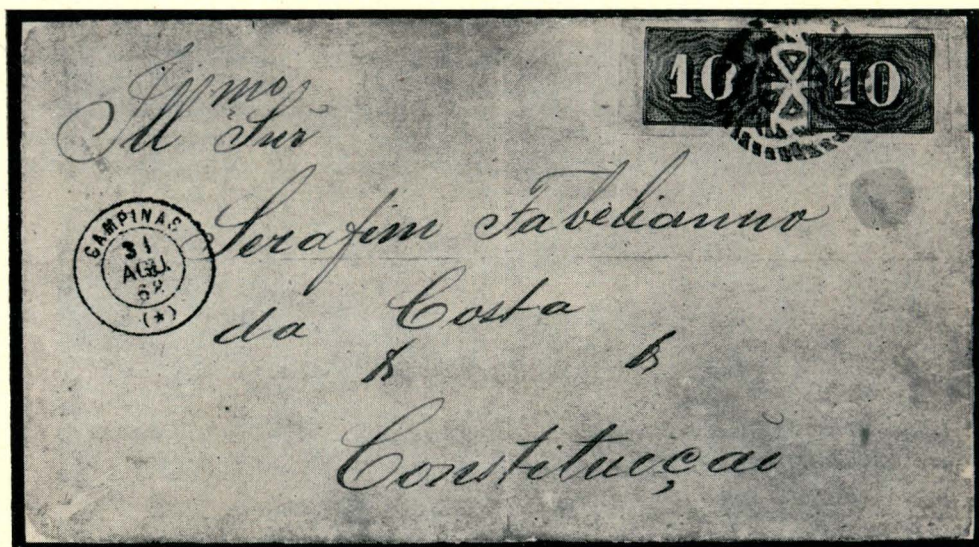


Fig. 1—Cover remitted from Campinas to Constituição, on August 31, 1868, franked with two blue "cat's-eyes" of 10 rs. (The addressee of the letter is the grand-father of Dr.

When the question of the style of Brazilian airmail stamps was discussed at a meeting of the Paulista Philatelic Society, the case of our 10 and 30 reis blue stamps of 1854 (Yvert Nos. 19 and 20), which were issued specially for payment of postage on newspapers, but are generally classified as ordinary stamps from the fact of their use having extended to all kinds of correspondence, was cited.

This matter of the blue 1854 stamps is worthy of study and discussion by Brazilian philatelists, because their history has not yet come fully to light;

* Member of the Paulista Philatelic Society and Historical Institute of São Paulo (Brazil).

though there is no doubt whatever that they were issued specially for payment of postage on newspapers, they were used on ordinary correspondence and accepted by the postal authorities for the latter purpose.

In my collection of Campinas postmarks I have a cover that was sent from Campinas to the then Village of Constituição (now the city of Piracicaba), dated August 31, 1868, and franked with a pair of blue 1854 10-reis stamps (Fig. 1).

This shows that blue "cat's-eyes" were actually used on ordinary correspondence; but we know of no proof that newspapers were ever franked with any other stamps while the 1854 blues were in circulation.

The regulations in force at the time were those of December 21, 1844, approved by Decree 399 of the same date, and they contain the following provisions:

"Art. 183—Os portes das cartas conduzidas por correios de terra e mar sao fixados pela maneira seguinte:

	Correio de terra	Correio de mar
Até 4 oitavos	60	120
Até 6 oitavos	90	180
Até 8 oitavos	120	240

A assim progressivamente, acrescentando-se em cada duas oitavas, aos portes de terra 30 reis, e aos portes de mar 60 rs".

"Art. 186—O mínimo peso para as cartas, livros, autos e mais papeis será de 4 oitavos, e o porte menor que se poderá receber nos correios será o de 30 reis."

"Art. 183—The rates for letters carried by land or sea mail are fixed as follows:

	Land Mail	Sea Mail
Up to 4 drachms	60	120
Up to 6 drachms	90	180
Up to 8 drachms	120	240

and so on, adding 30 reis for land mail and 60 reis for sea mail for each additional 2 drachms."

"Art. 186—The minimum weight for letters, books, documents and other papers is 4 drachms, and the lowest rate to be accepted by the Post Office is 30 reis."

The specification of the stamps to be used on correspondence is contained in

"Art. 190—Os portes serao pagos sempre adiantados, e só em selos fixados nas cartas de dentro e fóra do Império, de valor de 30, 60, 90 réis, e por diante na mesma progressao, se o governo julgar conveniente haver selos de maior valor."

"Art. 190—Postage is payable in advance and only in stamps affixed to letters from within or without the Empire, to the value of 30, 60 and 90 reis and so on at the same rate, if the Government decides to issue stamps of higher values."

We learn from these provisions that the minimum postage was 30 reis in stamps the minimum value of which was also 30 reis, and that the government could, if it wished, issue stamps of higher value than 90 reis, but not lower than 30 reis.

From this it follows that a newspaper or other printed matter, however light, was to pay 30 reis postage. As the average postage for letters (at least on the basis of old covers in my collection of Campinas postmarks) was 60 reis, a charge of 30 reis for the postage on a newspaper was pretty high, especially if we take into consideration that an annual subscription to the *Jornal do Commercio* of Rio de Janeiro in those days cost 25 mil reis, which is less than 100 reis a copy.

It was for this reason that the Imperial Government, desirous of facilitating and increasing the circulation of newspapers throughout the country, decided to establish the following by means of Budget Law 396 of September 2, 1846:

"Art. 19—As folhas periodicas, seja qual for o seu formato, com suplemento ou sem ele, avulsas ou emacadas, pagarao de porte as nacionais 10 reis somente cada uma, e as estrangeiras uma quantia igual á que pagarem as nacionais em cada um dos respectivos paises. Esta disposicao nao compreende os folhetos encadernados ou brochados, ficando assim declarado o artigo 186 do Regulamento de 21 de dezembro de 1844."

"Art. 19—Periodicals, whatever their shape and size, with or without supplement, separately or in packets, shall be liable to 10 reis postage only for each one in the case of Brazilian periodicals, while foreign periodicals shall be liable to postage to an amount equivalent to that payable by Brazilian periodicals in the respective foreign countries. This provision does not include bound or sewn booklets; and Article 186 of the Regulations of December 21, 1844, is thus made plain."

This provision thus repealed Article 186 of the Regulations then in force, transcribed above, in so far as newspapers were concerned, and introduced for the first time the 10-reis postage stamp, which is precisely the first value in the series of "Goat's eyes" (Yvert no. 4) which were ordered to be prepared by the memorandum of the President of the Treasury of September 29, 1846 to the Director of the Mint, directing the latter to

" . . . abrir com urgencia um selo de 10 rs. para servir nas administrações do correio para o porte dos periodicos conforme o artigo 19 da lei do orçamento de 2 de setembro."

" . . . issue as quickly as possible a 10-reis stamp for use in the postal department for periodicals in accordance with Article 19 of the Budgetary Law of September 2nd."

In this way we had a 10-reis postage stamp. Although the memorandum above quoted made it clear that the stamp was for *periodicals*, these instructions were internal, between the President of the Treasury and the Director of the Mint, without the slightest participation on the part of the Post Office or even of the Imperial Ministry, to which our postal service was subject at that time. When the 10-reis stamp was put into circulation no notice of any kind was given to the public making any explanations as to the circulation and object of the stamp. Presumably this was because the purpose in view was simply to create a rate that did not exist previously, in order to provide for the carriage of newspapers. It was therefore not a special stamp for newspapers; so much so that old covers are often found franked with the "goat's eyes" 10-reis stamp; and no government order is known giving this new stamp any special category; i.e., defining or restricting its use to newspaper postage.

At the same time as the 10-reis there appeared also the 180, 300 and 600 reis "goat's eyes," the issue of which was authorised by implication, by the provision in Article 190 of the Postal Regulations of December 21, 1844—"if the Government decides to issue stamps of higher values."

In 1850 the "goat's eyes" series was substituted by the "cat's-eyes," to which a stamp for 20 reis was added, under Article 99 of Decree 637 of September 27, 1849, as the rate for delivery to domicile for the post offices of the Court and the Province of Rio de Janeiro, which Dr. Fred Emerson dealt with in his last article.

The "cat's-eye" series, printed in black, was in circulation when a notice was issued under the date of June 22, 1854, by the Accountant of the Court Post Office, to the effect that

" . . . no dia 1º. de julho proximo vindouro em deante nao se dará andamento algum aos jornais ou folhas periodicas que nao forem seladas com os novos selos de cor azul dos valores de 10 e 30 reis e especialmente destinados para tais impressos. Estes selos acham-se á venda nao somente na casa da administração do correio como em outras de diversos particulares, que tem a seu cargo aquela tarefa. E assim como nao terao expedicao os jornais que nao estejam selados na forma expressada, tambem serao recusadas as cartas que tenham os referidos selos de cor azul, os quais só podem ser applicados nos jornais e folhas periodicas."

" . . . from the 1st of July next no newspapers or other periodicals will be accepted unless they are franked with the new blue 10- and 30-reis stamps, which are specially intended for such printed matter. These stamps are for sale at the House of Administration of the Post Office and also at the establishments of various private persons to whom this task has been entrusted. Newspapers not bearing these stamps will not be accepted, nor will letters bearing the said blue stamps, which must only be used on newspapers and other periodicals."

There was no legal enactment prior to the notice, authorising or determining the issue of these two new blue stamps. Incidentally I am of the opinion that there would be no need for a special law or decree for the purpose, for Article 190 of the Regulations of December 21, 1844, already reproduced above, says nothing about the color of the stamps, so that the government was free in the matter. The only special requirements for postage stamps are in Article 192 of the same Regulations:

"Art. 192—Os selos serao estampados em papel mui fino e fixados nas cartas e mais papeis com substancia tao glutinosa que se faça difficil sua separação sem que se lacere."

"Art. 192—The stamps shall be engraved on very thin paper and affixed on letters and other papers with a substance so adhesive that it shall be difficult to remove the stamps without tearing them."

Apart from this provision, we find the following in the same Regulations:

"Art. 195—Os selos serao mandados estampar pelo mesmo Governo e pelo modelo que julgar melhor, e só serao vendidos nas casas das administrações dos Correios e naquelas a que o Governo conceder essa authorização, dando todas as providencias para que o publico possa compra-los a qualquer hora."

"Art. 195—The government itself shall have the stamps engraved in whatever style it thinks best. The stamps shall only be sold by the Post Offices and by establishments authorised by the government for the purpose, all steps being taken so that the public may be able to purchase them at any hour of the day."

The only requirement, therefore, was in regard to the "very thin" paper and to the kind of gum—such as to hinder the removal of the stamps. All the rest was to be done in "whatever style it thinks best," without any limitation as to the color.

If, however, there was no previous law determining a special color for stamps for newspaper postage, it is only natural to enquire why the Post Office took this step.

There is no documentary evidence available, so we can only surmise. In my opinion the reason was as follows: All postage stamps, from "bull's-eyes" to "cat's eyes," were printed in black, including the low values ordinarily used for newspapers. Now as periodicals, even if folded, would usually be larger than letters and also printed in black, this might cause difficulty to the postal employee who had to postmark the stamps on newspapers, on account of the color being the same as that of the printing on the newspaper itself. This may

have given rise to the idea of having stamps of a different color which would be more easily seen on the newspapers, thus facilitating and speeding up the service.

We must remember that the Imperial Government always took the greatest care that the Post Office should be useful to the Press, so much so that they even laid down in Article 50 of the Regulations of April 12, 1865 that postmasters should serve as "agents for subscriptions to periodical publications."

The object of establishing a different color for stamps from that of the printing of the periodicals was therefore, in our opinion, to make the remittance of newspapers more rapid and efficient.

As pointed out, this is of course only a conjecture, another possibility being that the Imperial Government, with its continual interest in the circulation of newspapers, may have introduced stamps of a special color in order to enable it to maintain statistical control over such circulation by this means.

Leaving this question aside let us continue our investigation as to the category of the blue "cat's eyes."

We have already seen that the blue 10- and 30-reis stamps of 1854 were intended solely for franking newspapers and that they were valueless for franking any other kind of correspondence. According to what is alleged and also proved, however, the blue stamps were used on letters as well, in defiance of the legal provisions. This makes their philatelic classification difficult. What no one has yet attempted to find out is when they began to be used on ordinary correspondence, and also when newspapers and other periodicals began to be franked with other stamps than the blue 10- and 30-reis.

From the small amount of material I have been able to examine, and of which I unfortunately did not take note, I am under the impression that the blue "cat's eyes" began to be used for letters without any objection on the part of the postal authorities only after the issue of the new Postal Regulations of April 12, 1865, approved by Decree 3443 of the same date. By these Regulations the use of the blue stamps on ordinary correspondence became quite legal.

Although these 1865 Regulations did not expressly repeal the use of the blue 1854 stamps for newspapers, they contain a provision which indirectly abolished the purpose for which these stamps were first issued:

"Art. 16—Os jornais, publicações periodicas, brochuras, livros, encadernados, catalogos, prospectos, papel de musica, e quaisquer avisos impressos, gravados, litografados ou autografados pagarao a taxa de 20 reis por porte simples de 40 gramas ou fraçao de 40 gramas, qualquer que seja a distancia que tenham de percorrer dentro do Imperio. Esta taxa subirá na seguinte progressao:

Até	80 gramas	40 reis
De	80 a 160 gramas	80 reis
De	160 a 240 gramas	120 reis

e assim por diante, aumentando sempre dois portes por 80 gramas ou fraçao de 80 gramas que crescer.

Para que possam estes objectos gozar da modicidade de taxa de porte acima fixada, deverao: pagar previamente o devido porte; ser cintados de modo a conhecer-se facilmente o seu conteudo; e nao conter outra declaração manuscrita que nao seja o endereço do destinatario, e quando muito a assinatura do expedidor. A falta de cumprimento destas condições sujeita-os á de cartas ordinarias, para serem expedidas."

"Art. 16—Newspapers, periodical publications, paper-covered and bound books, catalogues, prospectuses, music paper and any notices, printed, engraved, lithographed or handwritten, shall pay 20 reis postage for each 40 grams or fraction thereof, whatever distance they have to be carried within the Empire. This rate shall rise in the following progression:

Up to	80 grams	40 reis
From 80 to	160 grams	80 reis
From 160 to	240 grams	120 reis

and so on, always adding two postal units for each 80 grams or fraction thereof.

For these items to enjoy the low rate fixed above, the postage must be prepaid, and the papers must be wrapped in such a way as to enable their contents to be known with ease and must not bear any handwriting other than the address of the addressee and at most the sender's signature. If these conditions are not fulfilled, the papers will have to be franked at letter rate."

In the case of loose (unwrapped) newspapers, there was the following provision:

"Art. 17—Os jornais, circulares e quaisquer impressos avulsos, uma vez que satisfaçam as condições estabelecidas no precedente artigo, pagarão somente a taxa de dez reis de cada exemplar."

"Art. 17—Loose newspapers, circulars and other printed matter, if they fulfill the conditions laid down in Article 16, need only be franked with 10 reis for each item."

As seen above, the 1865 Regulations make no reference to special stamps for the new postage rates they set up for newspapers, from which we deduce that the 10- and 30-reis stamps of 1854 ceased to have the purpose for which they had been created, especially as the last Article (55) of the Regulations revoked contrary enactments. Besides this, Article 29 of the same Regulations provided for the substitution of new stamps with the portrait of D. Pedro II—those of 1866—for the stamps previously in circulation. The following is the text of the article:

"Art. 29—Os atuais selos serao substituidos por outros dos seguintes valores: 10, 20, 50, 80, 100, 200 e 500 reis, todos com a effigie de Sua Magestade o Imperador. Cada serie de selos terá uma cor especial."

"Art. 29—The present stamps shall be replaced by others with the following values: 10, 20, 50, 80, 100, 200 and 500 reis, all bearing the portrait of the Emperor. Each series shall have its own color."

This conclusion is not merely my own personal interpretation of the provisions of the Regulations, for I have also the more authoritative "Instructions for the carrying out of the Regulations approved by Decree 3443 of April 12, 1865," issued by the then Director-General, Luiz Plinio de Oliveira, on December 1, 1866. Article 21 of these "Instructions" is clear and positive.

"Art. 21—Para o previo pagamento das taxas devidas pela correspondencia destinada ao interior ou exterior, servirao, em concorrencia com os selos das emissoes anteriores, enquanto estes nao se esgotarem, as atuais estampilhas de 10, 20, 50, 80, 100, 200 e 500 rs., todos com a effigie de Sua Magestade o Imperador."

"Art. 21—For the prepayment of postage on correspondence for inland or abroad, the present 10, 20, 50, 80, 100, 200 and 500 reis stamps bearing the portrait of the Emperor shall be used concurrently with the stamps of previous issues until the latter are exhausted."

So we see that *stamps of previous issues* could be used for "prepayment of postage on correspondence," together with the new stamps bearing the Emperor's portrait, until the latter were exhausted; i.e., for an indefinite period. From the time when the 1865 Postal Regulations came into force, or the corresponding instructions, the blue "cat's eyes" could therefore be used on any kind of correspondence, until they were exhausted, and that absolutely legally.

One question remains to be asked. Does the fact of the blue "Cat's-Eyes" having had their usage authorised for any kind of correspondence until they were exhausted deprive them of the *special* classification they had until then?

I think not, seeing that the authorisation in question only had in view the more rapid consumption of the stock of previous issues, so that the new stamps alone with the Emperor's portrait should be left.

If we philatelists want to deprive the blue "cat's-eyes" of their classification as special stamps because of the later authorisation for their use on any correspondence until the stock was exhausted, then in Brazilian collections there should be no special stamps in the classes of "airmail," "express letter" and "additional rate," seeing that the use of these stamps for ordinary correspondence was also authorised, in the last two cases also with the object of using up the stock.

In fact I am convinced that only a lack of knowledge of the facts narrated above can have led the old stamp catalogues not to include the 1850 blues in a special class, for I am certain that if the real object of those stamps had been known years ago, the Yverts and the Scotts would have classified them as "Timbres pour journaux" or "Newspaper Stamps."

I have not had the courage to break away from the old tradition, nor did I when I published my catalogue in 1934, as I was afraid it might shock the philatelic world. Only Clerot has been audacious enough to do so, giving the blue "cat's eyes" their true classification as "Selos para Jornais."



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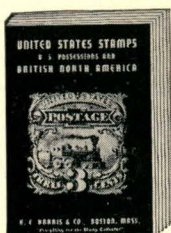
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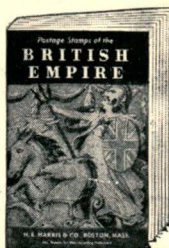
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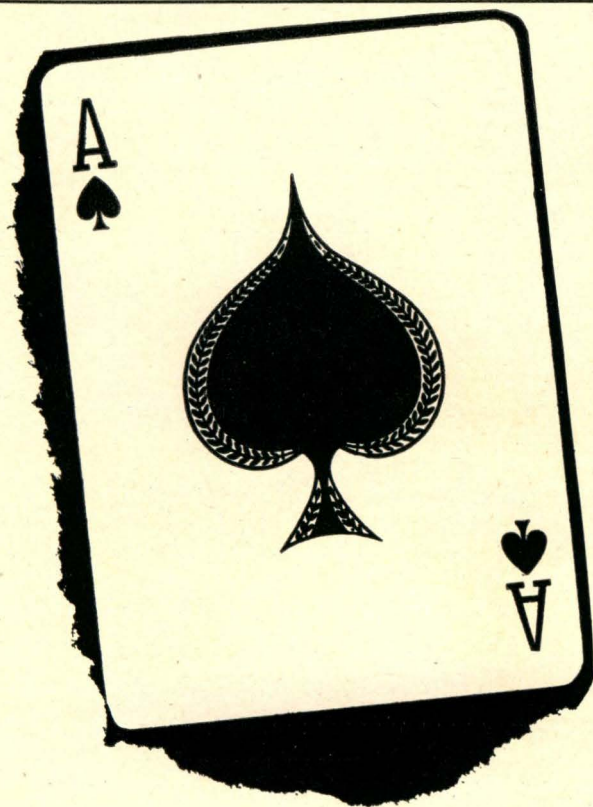
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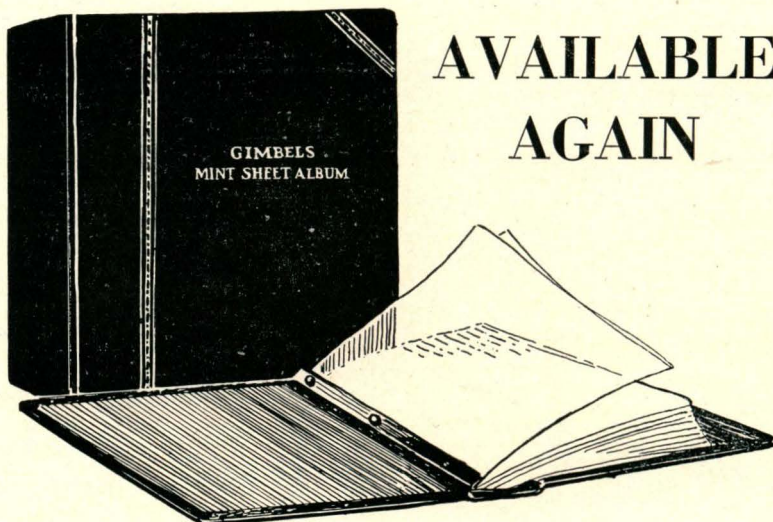
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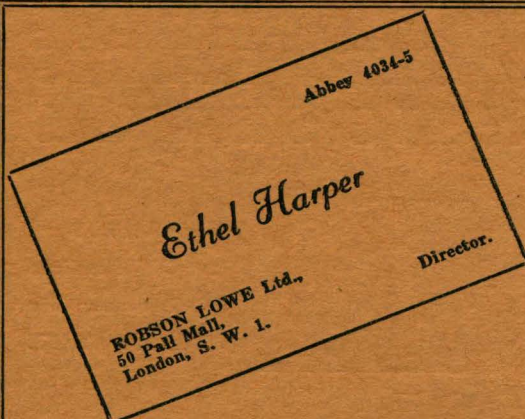
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