The Collectors Club

Philatelist

A Magazine devoted to Philatelic Study & Research

Volume XXXIII, No. 4 July, 1954

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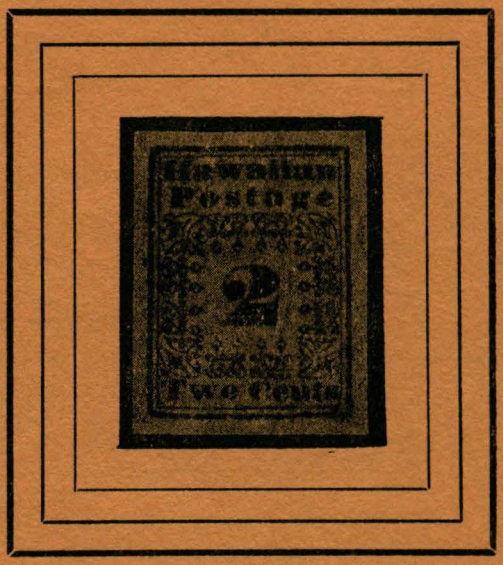
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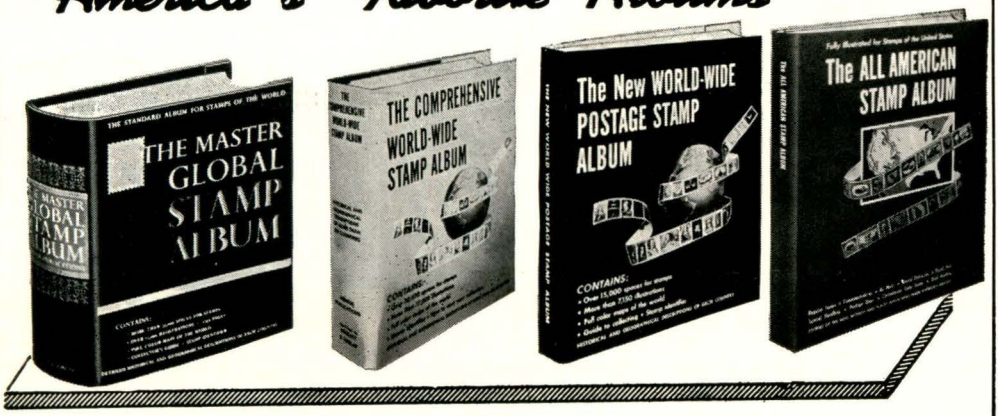


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87 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK 38, N. Y.
CORTLANDT 7-6070

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Selections were regularly sent according to your instructions and you purchased, at your leisure, just what you wanted.

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References please, if a new account.

Sidney F. Barrett

The Collectors Club Philatelist

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July 1954 **Vol. XXXIII, No. 4**

Editorials

What Is This Thing Called "Philately"?

Some reading this query may with justification say that this is a foolish question because we all know what philately is. But actually do we? Are we not arguing whether it is just plain, ordinary stamp collecting or something far more cultural? Are we agreed upon what items to collect or reject? Don't we among ourselves try to draw a boundary line, saying that this is the mark of philately but that is not? And finally, can these differences of opinion be satisfactorily resolved?

This is offered as no panacea. But certain ideas are set forth in the spirit of a possible solution by clarifying the broad picture of philately as pictured by one of its experienced devotees.

Philately is all things to all people. Yes, it may be said that tritely. It consists of millions of parts. If there are ten million philatelists in the world, then there are ten million ways of collecting stamps. To some it represents the strong urge of acquisition, the pride of ownership. Many make it the means of their exclusive or part-time livelihood. Thus a postage stamp to a dealer is simply merchandise like food, hardware or soap. Some collectors regard it as a possible source of investment or annuity, while others place a wager on postage stamps for future profit. Others use it as a means for personal power, seeking a position of elected honor in a stamp club or philatelic society, which often is their main goal. Some seek companionship through stamp collecting enjoying the social activities offered. Others sit locked in their ivory tower sealed in like a hermit. Some seek to do nothing more than fill spaces in a stamp album, while a few will argue for a seeming eternity about the type of plate that had printed a stamp. What is highly useful information to one appears useless to another.

The list is long. Each individual attracted to stamp collecting adds his own personal touch, so as stated previously no complete catalog of the millions of ways to indulge in philately can be itemized within these space limitations.

Now who is to declare that your way in philately is right, but that mine is wrong? But it is said continually, both consciously or unconsciously. Actually why should any collectible type of philatelic material be junk? Out of the hundreds of thousands of stamps listed in all the catalogs in the world, if the stamps of an obscure, far-off and dead country, or postmark, a philatelic first day cover attracts only one collector, then he sees some fascination in this, and no one ideally has the license to belittle his pleasure.

Our personal preferences attract us the most. Often the attraction is so strong that one becomes blinded to all the other parts making up the whole of philately. But at no time is the more popular way of collecting stamps the proper way. Philately, as our civilization, has its conformists and its non-conformists.

The whole of philately then is this. Collecting stamps is a way of life for millions in this world. It transports all of us from the

daily hustle and bustle of our life into a different atmosphere. Philately is our slave. It does not boss or nag us. We take our stamps and related philatelic material to create our very own possession in the manner that we want it. The greater the years of world tension and international crises, the more important is philately. One person may be very superficial in his manner of collecting stamps. Another spends years seeking out information about one issue of one country. What matter!! Both parties are transported out of one mode of living into another.

Philately is classless. It is for the rich and the middle-class, for world leaders or the clerk. Philately is ageless. It serves youth as well as supplying an interest for the aged. Philately knows no color line, no religious exclusions. It is world democracy. It must be repeated that stamp collecting is all things to all people.

Each year philatelists are growing in stature and respect in the eyes of the general public. Why? It is not due, in our opinion, to a planned, systematic publicity campaign or a well-devised advertising program of a trade element. *Philately is a proud possession because of better public relations thanks to every one interested in collecting stamps.* Philately has gathered a conglomerate segment of our population, who in their ordinary way are respected in their community. Throughout the world today those with an interest in philately hold the respect of their neighbors. So if you collect stamps, it is reasoned, there must be something to it. This respect stems not only from the fact that world leaders have collected stamps but from the total effect of every one who is doing it. Unbeknown to ourselves, each of us has broadcast a respect for our hobby. The public does not know or care if one collects philatelic unaddressed first day covers or the finest array of early classic issues. Mr. Philatelist is a member in good standing in his community so the fact that he enjoys stamp collecting removes the hobby from ridicule.

As a matter of fact, by example others may try to copy Mr. Philatelist. Some will succeed. Many will fail in philately while others will procrastinate about taking it on as a hobby until their dying day.

However, philately with all its attractions is never free from faults or evils. All interested must fight to improve or contend against encroaching evils. A small minority will show the most spirit and bear the greatest burden. These are *the* philatelists, who inform the rest, who spread the knowledge. The less informed we are as a unit, the more likely prey we shall be for the faker and a sharpy. Better education in philately promises an insurance of self-protection and self-preservation until the time some trigger-happy maniac may blow our planet into little pieces.

There is one potential defect in the acceptance of such a liberal view of philately. Some may regard as a license to broaden its base beyond its proper limits. *Thus the boundaries of philately must always center within the confines of stamp collecting.* Using an astronomical analogy, stamp collecting is the sun. Postal history, postmarks, cachets, and the like are the planets revolving around philately. Never must the planets leave their orbit.

For instance, history is fascinating, postal or otherwise. But always it must blend into the picture of philately. A well-written, well documented article upon this country's Civil War years only belongs in a philatelic publication if stamp collecting is the main theme. Otherwise it is a historical treatise for, of course, some journal of a historical society.

The topicalist is undergoing criticism because of his own doing. Too many in this group accentuate the topic allowing the stamp to assume a very insignificant role. Every known topic now related to some stamp carries with it a background of fascinating knowledge. That is not the argument. Controversy and criticism is provoked only when the topic dwarfs the stamp almost excluding them. The topicalist must say: "I am a topical *stamp* collector", with the accent on stamps.

Also outsiders can be recognized by stamp collectors for their courtesies, considerations and kind deeds. Any firm or institution, any post office employee who serves philately by spending time and effort to make information available to us well deserves our sincerest appreciation. But never should we go to the extremes of honoring a printing firm or a

government official as a great philatelist. Such a title must be reserved only for those who collect stamps.

This hobby of ours, yours or mine, will attract all sorts of people, each an individual entity unto himself. There is no average. It shall always consist of an evil element as well as some of the finest people on this earth. No one has as yet determined that the *average* philatelist is 5 feet, 8 inches tall, weighs 150 lbs., has black hair, white skin, an appendectomy scar and collects 20th Century United States commemoratives. So why are we beaming our information to the average collector, one completely unknown and undefined? Instead, all of us interested in philately should be thankful that we have found a source either of amusement or for deep study. It matters not what monetary profit you get out of it. The important thing is that you collect stamps, currently a hobby regarded with respect in most parts of the world and a source of envy to many a non-collector who knows that he too should have some second life interest to take him occasionally out of his daily routine of tensions. (*H. M. G.*)

"Life" was Beautiful

It was not our intention to comment in these columns upon the May 3rd, 1954 issue of "Life Magazine". But our views have been provoked because a number of philatelic scribes have volunteered some critical comments upon this outstanding production by a non-philatelic source. It is our opinion that many of those in our ranks who have expressed themselves failed to see the forest because of the trees.

The basic (and perhaps only) question to ask is whether "Life Magazine" reported and portrayed to its enormous circle of readers an accurate and proper picture of stamp collecting and stamp collectors? Our answer is an emphatic "yes". Anyone reading the feature on philately in "Life Magazine" gained a reasonably clear picture of a hobby about which many had been completely unenlightened.

Some may quibble, if it pleases them, about the accuracy of some statement or some person described, or, some errors and omissions. Some might question the estimated value of "the one million dollar stamp album". No doubt some of the price tags as given were exaggerations. Other items valued are so scarce that one cannot place a price upon them. They are not for sale. Although rare and expensive items were featured, the popular appeal with the thousands of cheap stamps readily available was not overlooked. When a magazine like "Life" wishes to educate us about art, obviously the old masterpieces of such men as Rembrandt will be featured. And, so it was with philately. Who among us would not long to own this $1,000,000 album? We all cherish the hope and desire to have a "Hawaii Missionary" or a "Post Office Mauritius".

The philatelic critics, to our way of thinking, exercised poor judgment and seemed to express themselves as quibblers. Every keen philatelic student is aware of the continual flow of careless editing and inaccuracies in our own popular stamp press. Why then—we wonder—should these very same people take time and make the effort to criticize what they regard as errors committed by non-philatelists? Many of us do not accept the critics' opinions. Those who plead for perfection and pinpoint accuracy should look to themselves before finding fault with others.

Different from a number of previous articles on stamp collecting in our popular magazines and newspapers, the "Life Magazine" story on philately was the best ever presented. We concede that it was far from perfect. But it was not slanted to favor any individual, group or manner of collecting. We view it as objective reporting. Those who remember the inaccurate sensational story that "The Saturday Evening Post" published some few years ago about faker Sperati would not attempt to cite that article as one reflecting philately correctly. Nor did "Colliers" with its stress upon gambling with stamps portray stamp collecting as it truly is. "Readers' Digest" and "Harper's", have treated stamp collecting but their articles were nothing to cheer about, far more inaccurate than "Life".

"Life Magazine" in the eyes of many ardent philatelists was the first to present a generally graphic picture of the lure of a

stamp collection. It was not a perfect presentation, but any non-collector who read the May 3rd, 1954 number of "Life Magazine" knows and understands lots more about philately after having read it. The entire production was in Hollywoodese—"stupendous", one that only an organization like the Time-Life Publications with their great resources could undertake. We felt pretty proud of being a philatelist after seeing "Life", didn't you? (*H. M. G.*)

The 1954 A. F. Lichtenstein Memorial Award to Dr. Carroll Chase

The Board of Governors of The Collectors Club chose *Carroll Chase, M.D.,* as the recipient of The 1954 Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Medal.



Carroll Chase, born Sept. 18, 1878 at Windham, N. Y., began collecting stamps when he was seven years old and then residing in New York City. His stamp interest continued through his days at Pratt Institute High School, and through his medical course at Long Island College Hospital, where he received the M.D. degree in 1899. After becoming an established medical practitioner in New York, stamps became a serious interest for Dr. Chase from 1908 onwards.

Dr. Chase began publishing philatelic works early, with a pamphlet on plating the U. S. 3c 1851, that appeared in 1908. His early collecting interests were the 1847, 1851 and 1857 issues of our own country.

During World War I, Dr. Chase, not waiting for us to become involved, joined the French regular army, serving as a surgeon. He received many decorations and was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. His interest in French stamps began in this period.

After the First War, Dr. Chase resumed practice in New York, and continued his philatelic activity. In this period he disposed of his 1847 collection, and later of all save the 3-cent material of his 1847-57 issues. A book on the 3c 1851-1857, which later appeared in a revised edition, and one in collaboration with R. McP. Cabeen on United States Territorial Postal Markings, date from this time.

In 1929 Dr. Chase removed to Paris, residing there until forced out by the Germans just before Pearl Harbor. From this dozen years date Dr. Chase's works on French philately, which won him his renown as one of the most accurate, thorough students in that field. His book on the Route Markings of the main office at Paris was the first conspicuous contribution. In this same period he wrote up the French railroad postal markings in a serial published in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

On returning to the United States, Dr. Chase settled at Milford, New Hampshire, where his presence made that lovely village a place of philatelic pilgrimage. His time has been given exclusively to stamps since his return from France. One achievement in these later days has been completion of plating of the 3c 1851, with all thirteen plates not merely reconstructed but "proved" to

the satisfaction of the most captious critics. A similar achievement has been completion of the three plates of Type 1 of the France 25c Ceres of 1871. This was first shown publicly at the French Pre-Centenary Stamp Celebration in New York at the end of 1948.

A recent publication, bringing order into a field long subject to conflicting views, is the Catalog of French Railroad Markings, published in France in collaboration with Mr. H. de Beaufond. A second volume of this work is now in press; and ready for the printer is a detailed history of the postal markings of the French Conquered Departments (annexed territories), 1792-1815.

Dr. Chase's philatelic magazine articles, in American, British, French and Italian journals, total well over 100 in all, excluding minor ones and more "notes" from this count. They are almost uniformly reports of valuable new information, either by itself or coordinated with the previous facts on the subject so as to secure greatest significance. Those written in French show a mastery of that language which wins our admiration.

Dr. Chase has received many honors, including the Lindenberg, Luff and Crawford medals, enrolment on the British Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and the similar record of the Collectors Club. He has long served as member of the Expert Committee of the Academie de Philatelie, in France. In fact, only lack of space prevents our giving a long, complete list of these honors.

Dr. Chase is at present working on plating the Type 2 3-cent United States stamp of 1857. Furthermore, he continues to expand his very fine collection of French postal markings, centering on the Revolutionary and Napoleonic periods. Some of the United States postal markings are also now engaging his attention, as they have since 1908.

From his 1909 pioneer article on cancellations on the U. S. 3c 1851 to his most recent work, Dr. Chase has held to a uniformly high standard in all his philatelic published work. An excellent speaker on matters about stamps, he is always welcomed when he can be prevailed upon to expound some subject to a stamp gathering.

We have purposely omitted mention of Dr. Chase's professional activities in medicine. Valuable as they have been, they form no portion of the philatelic biography, nor do they contribute to his choice for the present Lichtenstein award. This is strictly a recognition of his many, most useful, sound, accurate contributions to philately over a period of close to half a century, in a crescendo which has apparently not yet reached its climax. Long may he be with us to bask in the recognition of his work by his fellows in stamp collecting. (*S. G. R.*)

The New York Public Library

Survey of The Collectors Club Library

Contained in "The Report of the Annual Meeting" (COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST Vol. XXXIII page 106) were the remarks of the Chairman of the Library Committee, Mr. Julian Gros, about an intensive survey currently being undertaken by one of the world's greatest libraries, the New York Public Library, of the Club's library. This survey was completed and a report submitted on March 31, 1954. It covers 26 typewritten pages along with 4 pages of Exhibits and an Index. One cannot help but wonder at the thoroughness of this task, especially since all these services were a contribution on the part of the New York Public Library. Were an invoice to be rendered, we shudder to think about the costs for the many man-hours devoted to this job. Every member of this Club should in proper justice write a letter of appreciation to Mr. Ralph A. Beals, Director of the New York Public Library and the three men on his staff to

whom he delegated the work of carrying out this survey, Mr. Robert E. Kingery, Chairman, along with Mr. Joseph E. Hansbery and Mr. Paul B. Kebabian.

It is to be regretted that because of space limitations, the entire New York Public Library Survey could not be published in this magazine for the information of every member. Instead, as an unworthy substitute, this short summary is offered.

The Survey is divided into 13 divisions and sub-divisions as follows:

1. Introduction
2. Service to Users
3. Technical Processes
   a. Acquisitions
   b. Cataloguing
   c. Indexing
   d. Processing
4. Publications and Exchange Program
5. Financing
6. Budget
7. Staffing
8. Implementation
9. Summary
10. Exhibits

Few have realized the state of the Collectors Club Library over the past few decades. It is one thing for every philatelist to agree upon the need for an outstanding philatelic library. It is another thing to establish and maintain this. Truly our Library can be compared fairly to a very gifted child who never has received the proper care and guidance by its parents. The Collectors Club will reach its 60th anniversary in 1956. Over the years, its library has grown with only the interest of a very few of its loyal members who devoted their spare time, when available, to the maintenance of this vital part of this Club. It was not until a few years back that a paid (the amount is better left undisclosed) assistant was hired for our Library. Most all of the attention given has been on a voluntary basis. Those acting unselfishly received little encouragement. In fact these volunteers were subjected to more abuse than appreciation. Every present member of the Club owes a debt of gratitude to all who have labored for the Library in the past, and even such expression cannot do justice to the many sacrifices made.

What is the current shape of the Collectors Club Library? It is not good, to be most frank. The Summary of the New York Public Library stresses this, from which this part of the Survey is quoted:

"While the collection of the Collectors Club Library is outstanding, the technical organization of the collection is unsatisfactory. Such specialized collections receive intensive use and therefore require intensive organization for such use.

"The financial support of the collection, and therefore its personal resources and services offered, are not commensurate with the richness of the collection. The provisions for the present and future growth of the collection are inadequate, and the Library will rapidly retreat from its present outstanding position unless corrective steps are taken.

"While specific recommendations are made in various suggestions of this report, the crucial recommendations can be summarized as follows:

"1. Provide adequate financial support for the collection.

"2. Improve the technical organization of the collection."

The Survey on every page cites the hit-or-miss current operation of the Library. The richness of the contents of this Library are recognized by the Survey. There is no doubt that this Club owns a very valuable asset, which cannot be duplicated. The Survey states that the Library "contains 10,000 volumes of which approximately half are volumes of periodicals. The Library receives approximately 75 current periodicals."

But all throughout this survey one reads of the liabilities offsetting this valuable asset. Under "acquisition", it is noted that no plan ever has been devised for a systematic acquisition of *all* philatelic publications. Throughout this Survey one repeatedly reads of *"no proper staff", "lack of money to carry out even the essential work", "absence of a proper cataloguing and indexing system", "one person operation with sporadic outside help by volunteers", "lack of funds to acquire needed books", "overburdening the present professional with too many duties"* and *"no*

(Continued on Page 232.)

MEXICO

The First Issue 1856 - 1861

By CALVERT STIER

(Continued From Page 139)

Reprints

Under the 4 r. value references have made to reprints. These, especially of the high values of 1856 and 1861, have been particularly troublesome to Mexican collectors since the early 1890's. They have flooded the market to such an extent that today at least nine of every ten of the 4 r. and 8 r. offered are reprints, either with or without fraudulent cancellations. The original supply can be traced to at least two men; one an "overenthusiastic" Mexican collector in Guanajuato, the second a well known dealer and publisher of St. Louis, Mo. They were Joaquin Escalante, another S. Allan Taylor in disguise, and C. H. Mekeel. Although Mr. Mekeel denied the dealing in "spurious stamps", he knowingly or otherwise, imported thousands of these Mexican reprints and bogus provisionals.

Later on, one H. Flashkamm, who used various firm names such as the C. E. Hussman Stamp Co., opened wide the gates on reprints. Some of these were so deceiving that they found their way into some of the best collections, specially the 4 r. black on yellow of 1861. I have an interesting small-sized price list, dated about 1917, from the Metropolitan Stamp Co. with a pertinent note which I quote:

"To Whom It May Concern:

We have sold to the C. E. Hussman Stamp Co. of St. Louis, a lot of Mexican Reprints, which we believe are from the original plates. We have also supplied these to five New York collectors, who are specializing in these stamps.

METROPOLITAN STAMP CO.
per F. C."

MEXICO 1856-1867—REPRINTS

We have a small quantity of the 4 real and 8 real values, genuine REPRINTS, from the ORIGINAL PLATES, which we offer at a very nominal figure.

	Cat. Price of the Original	Our Price for the Reprints
1856, 4 r. red, no surcharge	$ 7.00	$ 0.40
1856, 4 r. red, cancelled with District	2.50	.50
1856, 8 r. lilac, no surcharge	12.00	.65
1861, 4 r. black on yellow, with name	6.00	.60
1861, 4 r. black on yellow, without name	3.00	.30
1861, 4 r. black on yellow, used (!)	2.50	.30
1861, 8 r. red brown	7.50	.90
1861, 4 r. rose on yellow, unused	12.00	1.10
1861, 4 r. rose on yellow, used	4.00	.60
1861, 8 r. green on brown, without surch.	12.50	1.10
1867, 4 r. "Mexico" in gothic type	20.00	2.50

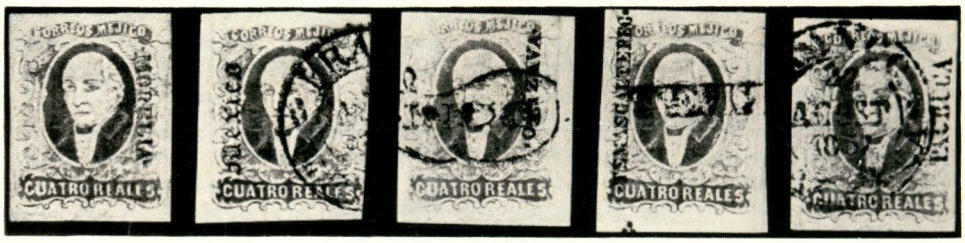


Fig. 8. Reprints of the 4r. bright vermilion.

The catalog prices have, of course, risen slightly since then but the reprints still sell for about the same. It is interesting to note that it cost twice as much for a 4 r. black on yellow with a spurious name as without surcharge. (Figs. 8, 9, reprints of 1856, 1861).

Members interested in studying the reprints can consult DeSmeth and Fayolle who devote several pages of their book to a listing of the reprints found for each district. Charles J. Phillips in his 1917 catalog also gave a good list with notes on how to identify the fake surcharges.

Generally only the 8 r. lilac of 1856 and the 4 r. black on yellow of 1861 give much trouble. I have not found any reprints of the 1856 issue, ½ r. or 1 r. (although I am informed that such exist) and but a few of the 2 r. all in a dull medium green shade, usually with a cancellation of one of the common districts. The 4 r. red is easy to detect if one has but a single copy known to be genuine with which to compare. The reprints of this value are invariably in a bright vermilion shade totally unlike the issued stamp. The 8 r. is more difficult to discern as the shades sometime approach closely the issued stamp and the paper is almost identical. The originals are, as a rule, clearly printed in a lilac or pale red lilac shade. The reprints usually are darker and more dull. The ones that I have examined are mostly with District name and cancelled. A knowledge of postmarks is helpful as usually an incorrect type of canceller is assigned to a District, although I possess some very deceiving examples from Mexico with the correct circular obliteration.

It is not proposed to study here the different District overprints nor their degree of rarity despite their fascination for fully 90% of the specialists, the author included. Their collection and study dates back to the very earliest days, indeed, an excellent accumulation of them was gotten together by the Caillebotte brothers of Paris in 1878-79. Messrs. DeSmeth and Fayolle in their very fine book not only tabulated the complete shipments to each district, illustrating the types of surcharge found, but also gave a "co-efficient of rarity" based on the commonest District, Mexico. Both Phillips and Aguirre, in their early catalogs, attempted the pricing of the commonest varieties, not always with too much success. Specialists have a better indication of value if they possess some of the auction catalogs of H. R. Harmer Inc and Robson Lowe of the last ten years during which such fine collections and stocks as W. T. Wilson, Lagerloef, Taylor, E. J. Lee, J. H. Barron, etc. were dispersed.

There is, however, a period of time in the use of this First Issue which should be brought to the attention of collectors, viz. 1858-59-60. It may not be generally known but our Sister Republic to the south of the Rio Grande engaged in a very sanguinary Civil War just a few years prior to our own conflict. Even the most casual student of Mexican affairs would come to the conclusion that there was almost perpetual warfare ever since the last of the Viceroys. There had been but one legally elected President who served out his four year term: the first, Guadalupe Victoria, 1825-1829. The Independence of Mexico dates from February, 1821. Since this period to the advent of the French Occupation, seventy-two individuals have figured as Chief Executives of the nation under imperial, regency, provisional and every variety of republican titles. Revolutions with all degrees of bloodshed



Fig. 9. Reprints of the 4r. black on yellow. All but the first are in the greasy black ink which is the tell-tale mark of these reprints.

were thus practically continuous, but a bitter Civil War commenced between the Liberal Party and the adherents of the Church upon the abdication of General Comonfort on January 14, 1858.

A new constitution had been drawn up in February, 1857 with General Comonfort as head of the Liberal Party to carry out its provisions. The property of the clergy had been sequestrated. Up to this time, one-third of all the real and personal property in Mexico had been owned by the Church. Many of the finest buildings, as well as large tracts of land in the heart of large cities, belonged to the clergy. The bishop's palaces at Puebla and at the Capital contained so many deeds, leases, etc. that they were more like a county clerk's office rather than the residence of an ecclesiastical dignitary. The Church was the power in Mexico.

The Church Party violently opposed the Liberal Party and its aims. Finally the pressure was too great, so General Comonfort was forced to flee. The government was taken over by General Zuloaga at Mexico City, January 21, 1858. The Presidency under the Constitution of 1857 was to be assumed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, there being no office of Vice-Presidency. Benito Juarez, the Chief Justice, demanded the office of the Presidency but was obliged to flee for his life. At first, he set up a provisional government at Guanajuato but shortly after moved on to Vera Cruz where he formally asked for the allegiance of the various States. This was generally granted him by all except the Capital and the State of Mexico, which included the cities in the vicinity of the Capital. The Civil War thus commenced. Subsequently, General Miramon headed the Church Party and deposed Zuloaga. He invested the Capital from January 31, 1859 until December 24, 1860, a period of almost two full years.

The question now arises, what about the postal service during this time? The Capital with the surrounding country was in control of one armed camp, all the remainder of the country in the other. With two separate and distinct governments, were there two separate postal systems such as was set up in this country between the Confederacy and the Union? Not at all—both sides used the same postage stamps and franked their letters with them, or without them as was frequently the case. It is this unique system that I wish to illustrate. Mr. Charles E. Walcott of New Orleans called my attention to this interesting period in the history of the Mexican Post Office. Some of the material herein described belongs to him.

For instance, he has found a letter dated April 27, 1858 from Guanajuato to Mexico City (both under the Clericals), which tells of inclosing a letter from Vera Cruz (under the Liberals) to the writer at Guanajuato. The contents of the Guanajuato letter concern a shipment from abroad being held at the port of Vera Cruz, and the writer is willing to await the settlement of political matters ("la conclusion de las cosas políticas) before accepting the goods to avoid paying double duty, "as I believe other houses have done who have merchandise there." Apparently to this business man, the war did not have the importance of a constitutional struggle as assigned to it by historians, but rather the unimportance of "cosas políticas." (Fig. 10).

Let us see how the shipments of stamps from Mexico City to the Districts continued during these troublous times.

In Mr. S. Chapman's work are statistics



Fig. 10. Stampless cover from Queretaro to Mexico City, blue cancel.

for each year of the stamps despatched to the Principal Districts throughout the Republic. Upon receipt of these stamps at each of the Principal Offices, the name of that office was handstamped on every one, thus serving as a control or check on any theft of a quantity of the unsurcharged stamps which according to decree were not to be recognized. For the First Issue, there were 49 Principal Districts which applied their names to the stamps as received from Mexico City. Four small Districts close to the Capital used adhesives without any surcharge. The system of surcharging District names was followed, as all systems generally are, with more or less carelessness so that even from the larger, more populous Districts, stamps can be found used without any name.

In August, 1856 at the time of the first shipments, the Liberal Government of General Comonfort held sway through out the Republic. There then was a brief period of quiet, orderly government with raids of brigands held to a minimum. Thus shipments were made regularly to all parts of the country, each of the Postal Districts receiving supplies as needed. In the case of Districts in the more remote parts, the remittances were of larger amounts and less frequently made than those around Mexico City. I have compiled a chart showing the shipments of stamps to each District for every month from August, 1856 to April, 1861, when the new series of stamps was introduced. (Fig. 11). A study of this is quite enlightening as to when certain of the Districts were entirely out of stamps and had to fall back on the "sello negro" of franked stampless covers.

In order to understand what happened to orderly postal routine, the dates of the following events are helpful:

1858, January 11. Uprising in Mexico City proclaiming General Zuloaga as President. Comonfort flees the country.

1858, January 18. Benito Juarez establishes the "Constitutional Government" at Guanajuato.

1858, May 4. Juarez arrives at Vera Cruz and sets up the headquarters of his government there. Most of the northern and extreme southern country adheres to his party. Orizava, Puebla, Mexico and a few other cities stand by Zuloaga.

1858, August to November. Civil War with several generals in the field. Postal business badly interrupted.

1859, January 6. General Miramon of the Church Party wins out and is nominated for President at Mexico City by a Junta. Zuloaga abdicates and in February Miramon assumes office.

1859, February. Martial Law. Due to much loss by British (and other) subjects, ships of war are sent to Mexico. (Note: this was a financial operation of combined French, Spanish and British bankers who bought up the government loans at a discount. All of the bankers pressed their governments for armed assistance to terminate the Civil War. The United States could not interfere due to its own internal difficulties.)

1859, July. Juarez confiscates the Church property in the provinces under his control.

1859, December. Miramon rallies his army and takes to the field. He defeats the Liberals in a battle of Colima.

1860, March 5. Miramon besieges Vera Cruz and bombards it.

1860, March 21. The siege is raised. Miramon retires back towards Puebla. (At this time his party now holds only the country between Puebla and the Capital together with Queretaro and Cuernavaca.)

1860, May 1. Zuloaga proclaims himself President. Miramon returns to the Capital and arrests Zuloaga on the 9th. He now rules with great harshness at Mexico City.

1860, August 10. Generals Ortega and Dagollado of the Liberal Party defeat the forces of Miramon at Silao.

1860, October. The foreign ministers quit the Capital.

SECTION I

Details of the Shipment of Stamps to the Various Postal Districts from Aug. 29, 1856 to March, 1861

Year →	1856				1857												1858											
Month →	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Acapulco	★							★																				
Apam	★																											
Campeche	★							★																				★
Chalco	★																											
Chiapas	★	★												★														
Chihuahua	★			★	★				★		★	★		★			★											
Colima																												
Cordova	★				★						★		★				★		★	★								
Cuernavaca	★			★	★							★	★			★			★		★		★	★		★		★
Durango	★	★		★		★	★			★		★	★				★			★		★		★				
Guadalajara	★		★		★		★		★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★			★		★		★	★			
Guanajuato	★		★	★	★	★	★		★		★	★	★	★	★	★				★	★	★	★	★	★		★	
Hermosillo	★			★												★								★				
Huejutla	★			★						★							★											
Jalapa	★		★		★				★	★	★		★		★	★	★	★		★		★		★		★		
Lagos						★				★				★	★					★			★	★	★			
Maravatio	★	★			★						★		★	★		★		★			★							
Mazatlan	★			★	★	★					★		★		★					★		★		★	★			
Merida	★	★							★									★						★			★	
Mexico (City)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Monterrey	★							★					★			★				★								
Morelia	★		★		★	★			★	★	★	★	★		★	★	★	★										
Oaxaca	★				★		★		★		★	★		★	★													
Orizava	★						★		★		★	★		★	★	★		★		★	★	★	★	★		★		
Pachuca	★							★				★			★					★			★	★	★			
Puebla	★		★	★		★	★		★	★	★	★	★		★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★		
Queretaro	★			★		★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★		★		★	★					★	★	★	★		
Saltillo	★			★					★						★	★												
S. L. Potosi	★			★		★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★		★	★		★		★			★	★		★	
Tabasco	★					★			★					★	★			★						★		★		
Tampico	★	★	★								★			★			★											
Temascaltepec	★					★		★	★		★											★	★	★				
Tixtla Guerro.							★							★														
Tlalpujahua	★					★			★	★							★											
Toluca	★							★						★													★	
Tula	★										★											★					★	
Tulancingo	★																											
Vera Cruz	★	★		★	★	★	★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★		★		★		★	★		★	★
Victoria	★			★						★	★																	
Zacatecas	★	★	★		★	★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★		★				★							★	

Fig. II.

1861, January 1. Miramon evacuates the Capital. The Constitutionalist Army (Liberal Party) enters. On the 11th Juarez arrives.

1861, June 3. The rebel General Ocampo is executed. Congress gives Juarez dictatorial powers.

1861, July 17. Congress suspends payments on the foreign debt for two years. England and France break off diplomatic relations with Mexico.

1861, October 31. The Spanish, French and English sign a convention to combine in hostile operations against the Juarez Government.

1861, December 17. Spanish forces occupy Vera Cruz.

1862, January 7. British naval and French military expeditions arrive at Vera Cruz.

From here on follows what is known as the French Occupation with the subsequent Empire of Maximilian.

SECTION II

Details of the Shipment of Stamps to the Various Postal Districts from Aug. 29, 1856 to March, 1861

Year → / Month →	1859												1860												1 2/3 1861
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Acapulco																									
Apam																									
Campeche																									
Chalco																									
Chiapas																									★
Chihuahua																									
Colima	★																								
Cordova																									★
Cuernavaca		★		★					★			★		★	★	★		★	★						★
Durango																									
Guadalajara			★										★						★						★
Guanajuato	★	★						★	★			★	★	★		★		★						★	★
Hermosillo																									
Huejutla																									
Jalapa					★	★	★				★				★				★				★	★	★
Lagos	★																	★							★
Maravatio	★																								★
Mazatlan																									
Merida																									
Mexico (City)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★ ★
Monterrey																									
Morelia	★	★									★	★							★					★	★
Oaxaca											★							★		★				★	★
Orizava	★	★					★			★				★			★							★	★
Pachuca	★	★	★	★		★	★	★	★	★	★		★	★		★	★	★		★			★	★	★
Puebla		★	★			★	★	★	★		★	★	★	★	★		★		★			★			★
Queretaro	★			★	★		★	★	★			★	★		★			★					★	★	★
Saltillo																									
S. L. Potosi		★										★		★										★	
Tabasco																									★
Tampico																									
Temascoltepec	★																								
Tixtla Guerro.																									★
Tlalpujahua			★																						★
Toluca			★							★		★	★		★		★	★				★			★
Tula					★					★															★
Tulancingo																									★
Vera Cruz	★	★							★															★	★
Victoria																									
Zacatecas												★		★											★

Fig. II.

Postage stamps are but the reflection of their country's history. Certainly nothing so reflects its nation's unsettled times as the shipments, or absence of them, of the stamps of Mexico during the years 1858 to 1860.

As the Principal Offices received their stamps from the Head Office they were supposed in turn to supply the smaller offices in their vicinity. This is the opposite of our system whereby all of the offices in the country receive their supplies directly from Washington, D. C. This system that the Mexicans adopted gave rise to many peculiarities which make the collection of the early stamps and covers such a fascinating pursuit.

For instance, after Zuloaga took over the Capital, Juarez was for a time in control of Puebla. Being forced from it in March, 1858, the postmaster, who was a Liberal Party man, carried off with him or concealed the handstamp used to overprint the district

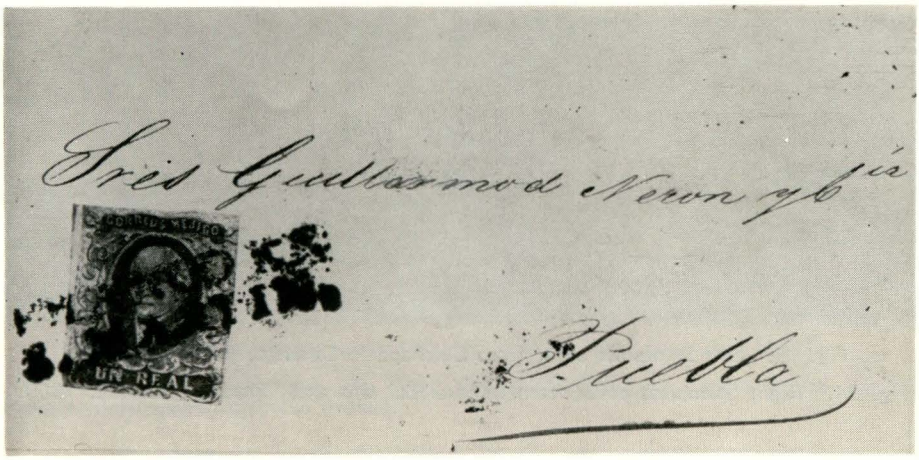


Fig. 12. The 1r. used without name from San Martin, April 5, 1858.

name. When new supplies of stamps were sent, but before a new handstamp was made, the office at Puebla sent some one real value to a town named San Martin which normally reported to it. These were without overprint. The postmaster at San Martin could not surcharge them so he sold the stamps without any district name. A cover with this use of the 1 real, dated April 5, 1858, is shown. (Fig. 12).

During the rise and fall of governments, the post office continued to function, though often only for local business. It is presumed that when the Clericals were in power they continued to pay the office help, and when the Liberals came in that they did likewise. Apparently the post office was like that merchant of Vera Cruz, awaiting the settlement of "cosas políticas." Of course, it could not be expected that the Church Party at Mexico City would send stamps to the Liberal Party at Vera Cruz or elsewhere, so that very shortly after an office came under the Juarez control it ceased to have postage stamps. This led to the long period of stampless letters with a black handstamp of the word "franco" or "franqueado" denoting postage had been paid. This is termed "sello negro" (literally, "black stamp") and the necessity of that use was recognized by postal decree.

It is interesting to trace when this stampless period began in the various districts. As an example: The large district of Durango in the North received the following stamps for the period in question.

	½r.	1r.	2r.	4r.	8r.
1858, Jan. 29		2000	2850	600	
May 18		1000	950	300	300
July 12	900		950	300	60
1859, for the year			—— none ——		
1860, for the year,			—— none ——		
1861, Jan. to April			—— none ——		
1861, April 19 (the new issue)	676	776	2020	1800	720

Thus from August, 1858 until April, 1861 when the new issue was sent out, Durango received no stamps at all. With but 1,000 of the un real and 1900 of the dos reales on hand after May 18, 1858, it could not be long before the post office would be entirely out of those values. The small offices served by Durango would not receive any more stamps since the Principal Office would keep for itself the few that it had on hand. The first instance that I have found was at Guichapa, a cover franked with town name and "Franco", dated June 11, 1858. (Fig. 13).

A cover from Mineral del Oro to Dur-

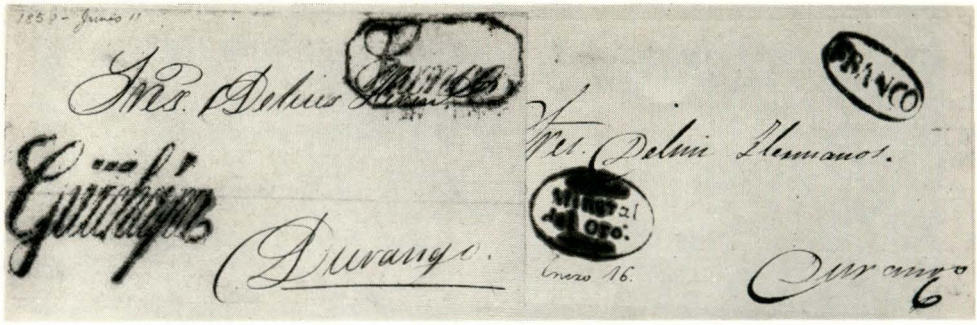


Fig. 13. Left Stampless cover from Guichapa to Durango, June 11, 1858.
Fig. 14. Right Stampless cover from Mineral del Oro and "Franco", January, 1858.

ango, dated January 16, 1858, is perhaps due to the fact that this small mining town may never have received stamps at all. (Fig. 14). The stampless covers from towns in the State of Durango are particularly figurative; in many cases they retained the same canceller used in pre-stampic days. Shown are those from Muleros, San Dimas and Ynde. (Figs. 15, 16, 17). Durango served 27 sub-offices when all of them ran out of stamps by the summer of 1858. As to Durango itself the last supply of 950 of the dos reales could not have lasted much longer than one month after receipt, viz, the end of August.

I have a series of letters from Durango to a firm in Mazatlan running from October, 1857 to August, 1858. All are in the same handwriting and all bear the 2 reales stamp in the same yellow green shade. This was an original find. Although I have no stampless to show the definite time when stamps were no longer available, it is very probable that August, 1858 was the latest month. The correspondence was undoubtedly kept up but the finder of the archives, not being interested in postal history but only in saleable articles, kept the covers with stamps and destroyed the stampless.

One of the Principal Offices in the far north was Chihuahua, Capital of the State of the same name. A look at the chart will show that Chihuahua received stamps quite regularly from August, 1856 until January, 1858 but none after that date. General Zuloaga of the Church Party took over the Capital at that time. I can find no covers used from Chihuahua with stamps after early 1857 whereas the stampless are comparatively common. The illustration is of the current type of cancellation which remained in use up until the 1868 issue. (Fig. 18). Except for a brief interlude in 1861-62 Chihuahua was without stamps until Septem-

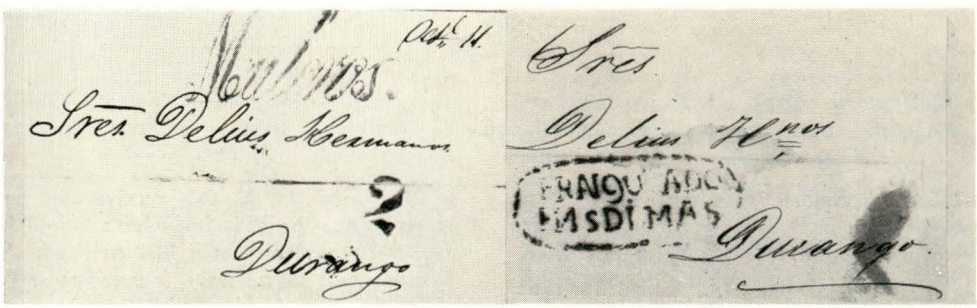


Fig. 15. Left Stampless cover from Muleros to Durango, red cancel.
Fig. 16. Right "Franqueado San Dimas" in red, 1860.



Fig. 17. Left Stampless cover showing Ynde in black, December 1852.

Fig. 18. Right Oval cancel from the Head Office of Chihuahua, addressed to Frederic Stallforth, pioneer merchant of the district.

ber, 1868 as the French control during the Occupation was but nominal. The one shipment of "Eagles" was hardly touched. All of the towns in this entire area seldom had stamps, the correspondence being carried on by means of the "sello negro." The postal service was entirely inadequate and the business houses maintained private couriers, generally Indian runners. The stagecoach was little used in this rough terrain.

These northern districts so remote from the Capital were served by wretched roads, hardly more than cow paths, beset by marauding bandits and self appointed generals, espousing first one cause then another. There were often months at a time without news from the outside world.

The central part of the country which includes the more populous districts surrounding the Capital, were served as a rule by stage coach known in Mexico by the term "Diligencias Generales." (Fig. 19). The head office was at Mexico City in the old Iturbide Palace, later a hotel, and now shops and offices in the heart of the city. The massive courtyard and gateway from which the great coaches rumbled may still be seen.

The Diligencias were modelled after our

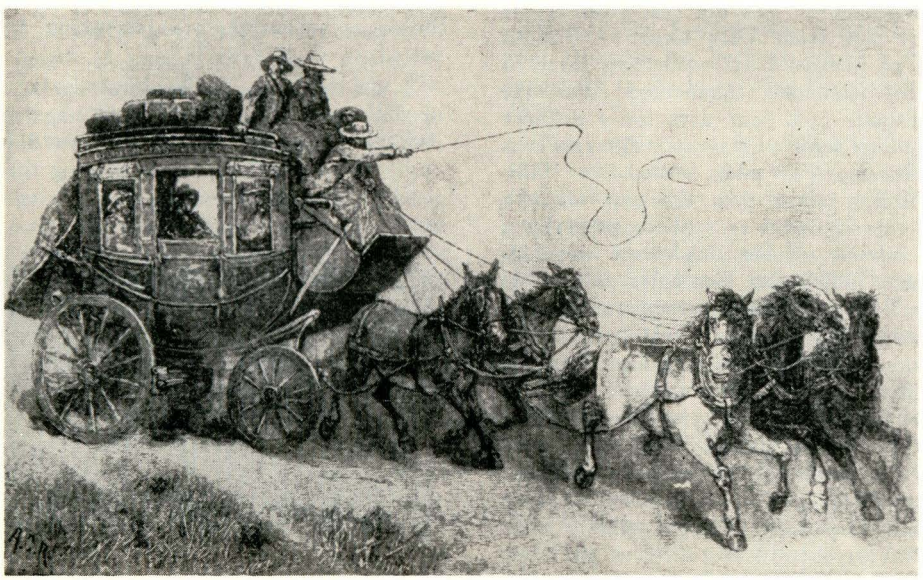


Fig. 19. The Diligencia, as shown in an old print.

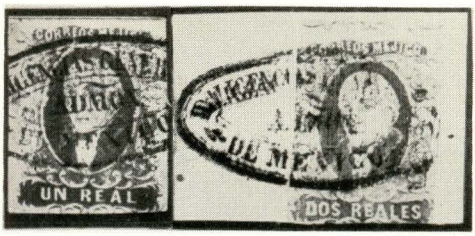


Fig. 20. Oval Diligencias "Generales" cancel.



Fig. 21. Diligencias "Eagles" cancel on the 25c. 1873.

Western stagecoach so well known from Mark Twain's vivid description in "Roughin' It". They generally ran with eight or nine mules attached, carrying passengers, baggage and sacks of mail. About eighty miles were travelled daily which required twelve to fifteen hours depending on the condition of the roads. Appleton's Guide to Mexico, 1883 edition, says:

"It should be remarked that not more than two or three diligence roads in the whole country are kept in repair and the jolting and shaking to which the tourist is subjected is exceedingly disagreeable. (The same, if not worse, conditions would be true twenty years previous.) Experienced Mexican travellers are able to sleep in the diligence in the early morning, but this is seldom the case with the stranger."

The Diligencias seldom maintained any regular schedule. On the best road in the country, that from Vera Cruz by way of Puebla to Mexico City, connecting three of the most important commercial cities, the mails usually took four days for a distance of 264 miles, some 90 leagues. The fare was about $50.00. For mails posted at a Diligence Office rather than the post office, a special cancellation was applied, generally a rather narrow double lined oval with inscription, "Diligencias Generales Admon de Mexico." (Fig. 20). Another type, used later as a rule, was a larger oval with similar inscription but with the Mexican Coat of Arms in the center. (Fig. 21).

These central districts served by the Diligencias Generales naturally received more regular shipments of stamps than the outlying provinces. A glance again at the chart will show that most of them received supplies quite frequently in 1857 and 1858 but after the occupation of Mexico City in 1859 the sendings to many ceased altogether. Then they had to resort to provisional use of the "franco" with the rate numeral. For provisional they are similar to handstamped "PAIDS" of the Confederacy listed in the Dietz handbook. In this connection I quote from an article in Gibbons' Monthly Journal, April, 1895, by E. Stanley Gibbons. That gentleman had then retired from the stamp business and was travelling about the world. Speaking of his trip to Mexico, he wrote, "—Mr. Chapman has a most interesting collection including many of the rarer varieties of Mexico. Some covers surcharged 'San Luis Potosi' dated 1859, were shown me. These were impressed with large numerals in black—of 3 and 4 reales—and in one case bore an imprint of 4 over 3 reales surcharge. Strictly, these ought to be classed with other provisionals as denoting postage paid; but like many similar issues, are ignored owing to their uninteresting appearance."

I am the happy possessor of one of these identical provisionals from the Chapman collection. (Fig. 22). Note the two different types of postmarks, the one bearing the date —Oct. 1859.



Fig. 22. Provisional from S. L. Potosi, 4 over 3.

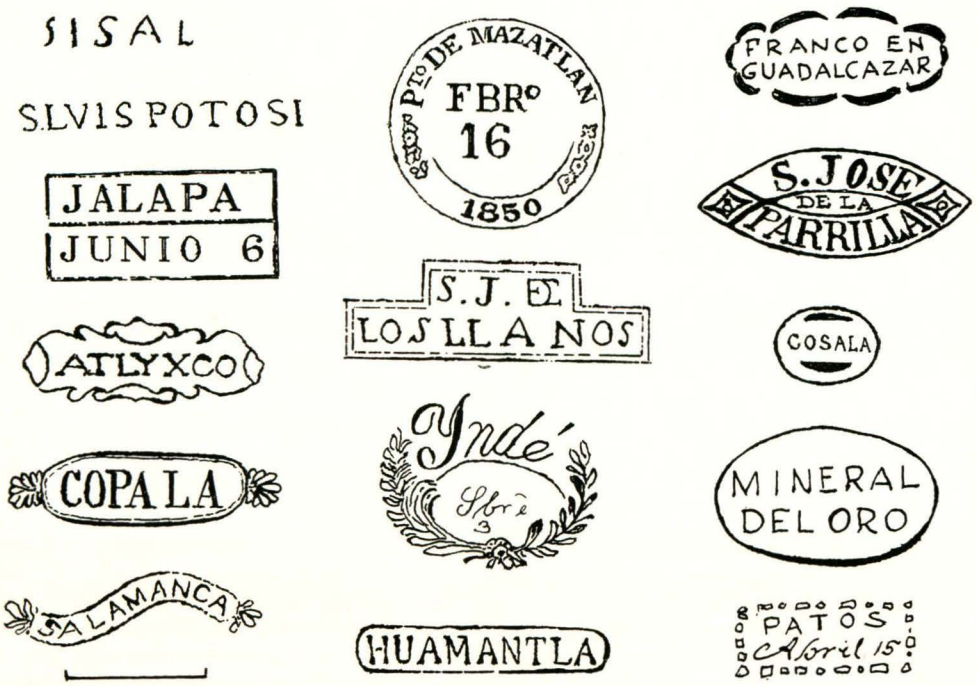


Fig. 23. Cancellations.

It would serve no great purpose to attempt a list of all the town names to be found on stampless covers of this period. Suffice to say they are sufficiently numerous in a length of time of over three years for many of the post offices. As the late Dr. Forrest Shreve pointed out in an article in "the American Philatelist" of November, 1944,

"There is no case in which a country has abandoned the use of stamps after they were once adopted. It is really remarkable that throughout the history of all stamp issuing countries there has been maintained an almost uninterrupted supply of adhesive vouchers for the prepayment of postage. In small countries and remote colonies it has often been necessary to resort to surcharges or split provisionals to meet temporary shortages of stamps. Only in rare cases have stamps been wholly lacking, —". Dr. Shreve then went on to describe a period of Mexican history of 17 months when there were no stamps at all available outside the Capital, viz. after the fall of the Maximilian Empire from April, 1867 to August, 1868. That period is well known to all Mexican collectors but I think this is the first time that attention has been drawn in a philatelic magazine to the interesting years of the Civil War.

The importance in understanding these years when there was a lack of stamps at the various offices lies in the easy detecting of "doctored" covers, many of which bear fractions of the 4 r. and 8 r. stamps for use when the common 1 and 2 real were gone. The faker has in this way created from common stampless covers imitations of interesting and valuable "bisects".

Many countries due to temporary shortages have allowed the use of bisected stamps, the early New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia being outstanding examples. Mexico has possibly been the most prolific. There were in many of the districts large supplies of the 4 and 8 reales on hand after the consumption of the needed 1 and 2 reales.

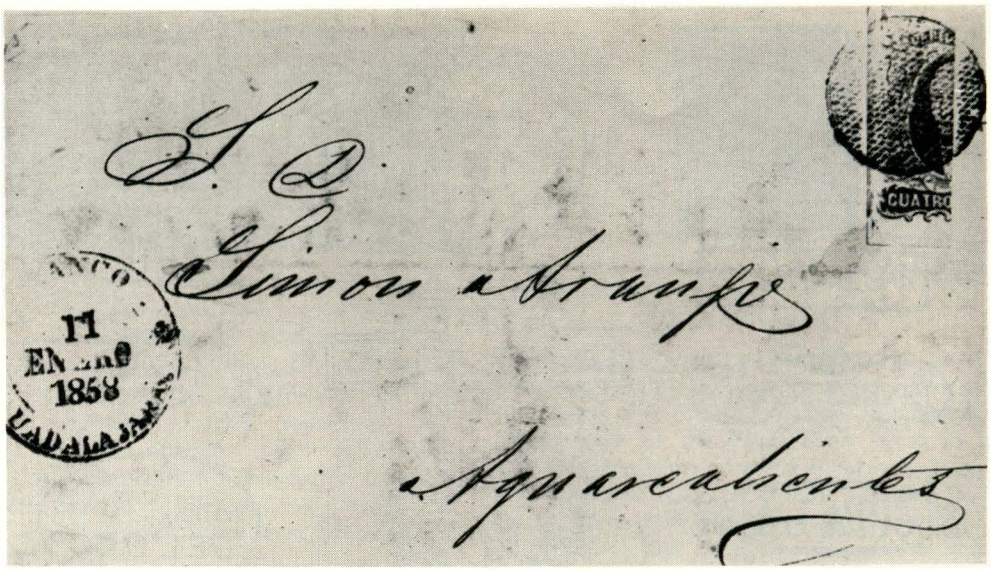


Fig. 24. Bisect of the 4r. from Guadalajara.

The offices cut these stamps into halves and quarters (even one-eighth of the 8 real is known used!) so that the supply of all values was completely exhausted before they had to resort to stampless covers. The Scott catalog lists and prices on cover the following:

2b	1r, half used as ½r	$ 55.00
3c	2r, half used as 1r	40.00
4a	4r, half used as 2r	20.00
4b	4r, quarter used as 1r	40.00
5c	8r, eighth used as 1r	100.00
5d	8r, quarter used as 2r	20.00
5e	8r, half used as 4r	40.00
5f	8r, three-quarters used as 6r	100.00

Of these numbers 4a and 5d are by far the commonest and the price quoted is a bit high. All of the others are quite rare and their valuation depends not only on the desirability of the cover but on the circumstances of the sale.

In an article in "the American Philatelist" August, 1930, by A. L. Terego, a list of the Districts using bisected stamps was given. Since then I have been able to make some additions together with some new discoveries in the use by various sub-offices so that I hope the tabulation given will prove to be quite complete. I would appreciate new discoveries being communicated to me.

Chihuahua. Half of the 4r. known. From the office of Parral a rare cover in the Taylor Sale contains a 2 r. plus the vertical half of another 2 r. to make a 3 reales rate.

Cordova. A similar cover to the Parral, being the vertical half of the 2 r. plus two copies of the 1 r. to make the 3 reales rate. Half of the 4 r. reported also.

Durango. Apparently the head office did not bisect stamps but in the Barron Sale there were covers from two of the sub offices. Cuencame, half of the 4 r. dated June, 1858. Gavilanes, half of the 4 r. and another, 2 r. plus half of the 2 r. for the 3 reales rate. Both covers are dated in 1858.

Guadalajara. Bisected stamps common for this district in 1858 and 1859. Many examples noted with half of the 4 r. (Fig. 24) or a quarter of the 8 r. For Colima, cover dated August, 1858, with half of the 8 r. used as the 4 r.—a scarce use. Bisects of the 4 r. are noted for C. Guzman and Tecolotlan; one-quarter of the 8 r. for Tamazula, C. Guzman and Tecolotlan (Fig. 25). A fine cover in the Chapman collection had three-quarters of the 8 r. used for the 6 reales rate, 1858, from Tecolotlan.

Guanajuato. A large variety found for this district, including the rare No. 2b, vertical half of the 1 r. used as a ½ real on cover with 2 r. (1858, Jan. 29, from Chap-

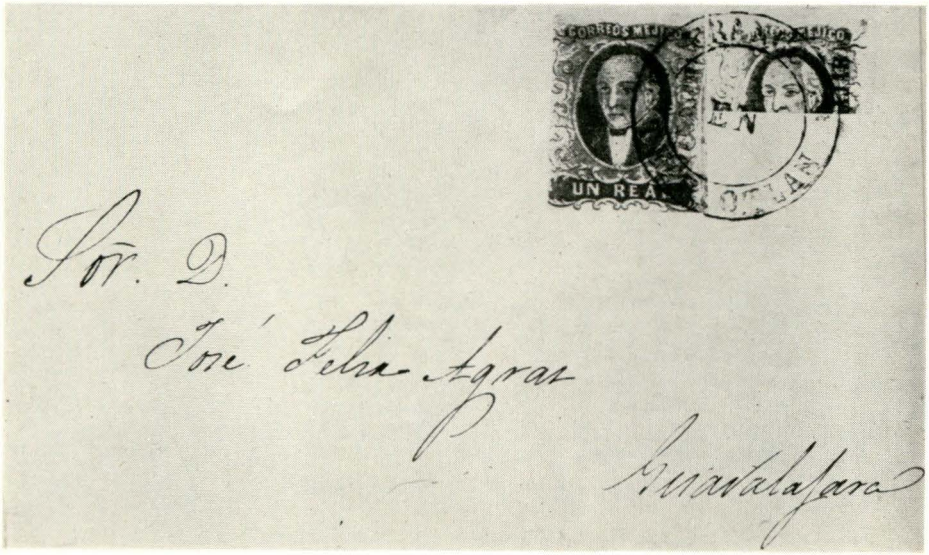


Fig. 25. Half of the 4r. used with 1r. from Tecolotlan.

man collection.) Half of the 2 r. known from Leon and Yrapuato. Half of the 4 r. from the Head Office and from Leon. Quarter of the 4 r., a rare use, reported by Terego but I have not yet seen it. Half of the 8 r. from Silao, 1858, June. Quarter of the 8 r. (quite common) from the Head Office.

Huejutla. Only one example noted and it must be quite rare. Overprint Huejutla, cancellation Tuspan, diagonal half of the 4 r.

Jalapa. This has not been previously reported. I have record of a vertical half of the 8 r. used as 4 reales on registered cover with the "Certificado" cancellation.

Lagos. Quite rare: I have a vertical half of the 4 r. and another cover with half of the 2 r. plus a 2 r. used for the 3 reales rate. The half of the 8 r. is recorded but I have not seen a cover.

Maravatio. Only one noted, a quarter of the 8 r. in the Chapman collection.

Mazatlan. Apparently this district was not too low on stamps despite receiving no supplies after September, 1858. I have seen but two bisects of the 4 r. and both were used in February of 1861, a very late date.

Merida. A rare district. Only item noted was in the Taylor collection; a s. e. quarter of the 4 r., no. 4b, used from the town of Tekax.

Morelia. One of the commoner districts found. Morelia cut the stamps horizontally whereas the common bisects are vertical cuts. I have a long list of quarters of the 8 r. and halves of the 4 r. All are dated in 1860 showing that this office maintained a supply of stamps almost to the end of the issue. Morelia was frequently held by the same party that held the Capital so that supplies could be sent. In the Chapman collection was an interesting cover with the horizontal half of the 2 r. plus another horizontal half of the 4 r. to make a 3 reales rate. From Tacambaro I note a half of the 4 r. dated August, 1859 and another dated July, 1860. Angamacutiro, a vertical half of the 4 r. dated August, 1858 is the earliest I have seen. Probably other towns exist.

Oaxaca. From a Robson Lowe sale is recorded a rare cover dated May, 1859, with a half of the 4 r. plus one-quarter of the 4 r. (No. 4 a and 4 b). Half of the 4 r. and quarter of the 8 r. have been found. Tehuantepec, vertical half of the 8 r. used April, 1858.

Puebla. This district is peculiar in that I have records of but four covers yet each one bears a different fractional stamp. Two in the Taylor collection, two in Chapman.

1. Used 1858, top half of the 2r. used alone and unusual since practically all of the

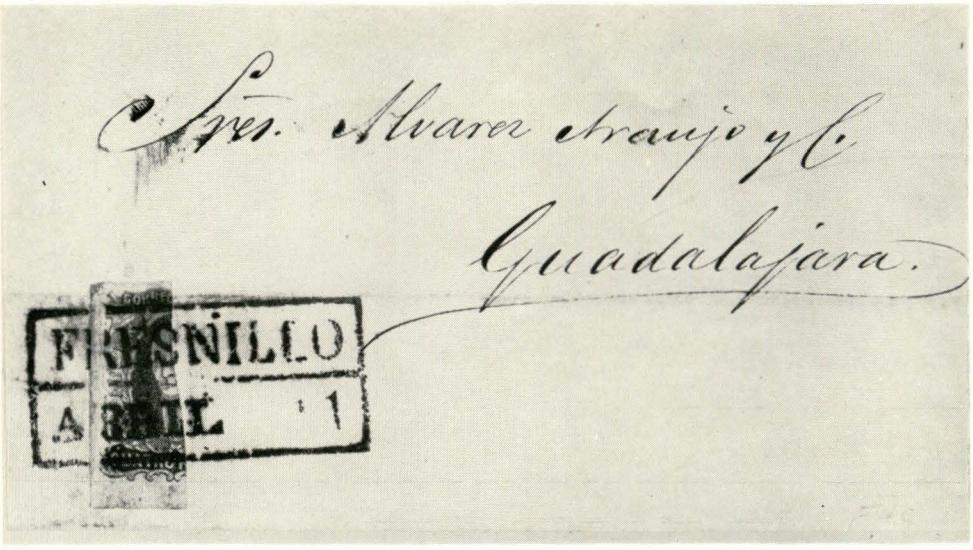


Fig. 26. Half of the 4r. used from Fresnillo.

bisected 2 reales stamps were used in conjunction with other values.

2. Used 1858, half of the 4 r.
3. Date unknown, vertical half of the 8 r.
4. Used April, 1861, a very late use, the quarter of the 8 r.

Queretaro. Apparently the Head Office did not use fractional stamps as all the covers known are from towns in the district. San Miguel Allende, half of the 4 r.; Salvatierra, the same; Celaya, the same, April, 1858 and another with horizontal half of the 2 r. dated March, 1859.

San Luis Potosi. A large user of fractional 2, 4 and 8 reales stamps from June, 1858 until 1861. The following have been recorded:

2 r. plus half of the 2 r. (3 reales)
4 r. plus diagonal half of the 2 r. (5 reales).
2 r. plus vertical half of the 2 r. plus horizontal half of the 8 r. (7 reales)
4 r vertical halves, several known. The earliest in June, 1858 and the latest June, 1861.
Half of the 4 r. plus two copies of the 1 r. used for 4 reales. In an old collection and possibly doubtful.
8 r., quarters, early and late use.
Horizontal half of the 8 r. plus a 2 r. used on full cover, 1858, in Lagerloef collection.

Tabasco. Two noted, both halves of the 4 r. and used in 1859.

Toluca. Recorded for the first time, the quarter of the 8 r. which is unusual for this district since Toluca should have had an ample supply of stamps. Two reales stamps were little used here as the correspondence was mostly with Mexico City and the 1 real rate applied.

Vera Cruz. Another case where the Head Office did not use fractional stamps but the towns did. I have Tlacotalpam and Alvarado both with diagonal halves of the 4 r.

Zacatecas. The commonest district for fractional stamps and the only one which has all of the eight varieties as listed in the catalog. Possible one-third of the covers known today emanate from the towns in this mountain State. According to De Smeth and Fayolle 7,628 of the 4 reales and 6,188 of the 8 reales were remitted. These must have been well spread out over the sub offices since no less than seven towns can be found.

No. 2b, Half of the 1 r. Fresnillo.
No. 3c, Half of the 2 r. Zacatecas, Fresnillo.
No. 4a, Half of the 4 r. Zacatecas, Fresnillo, Xeres, Sombrerete, Nieves, Sain Alto. (Figs. 26, 27)

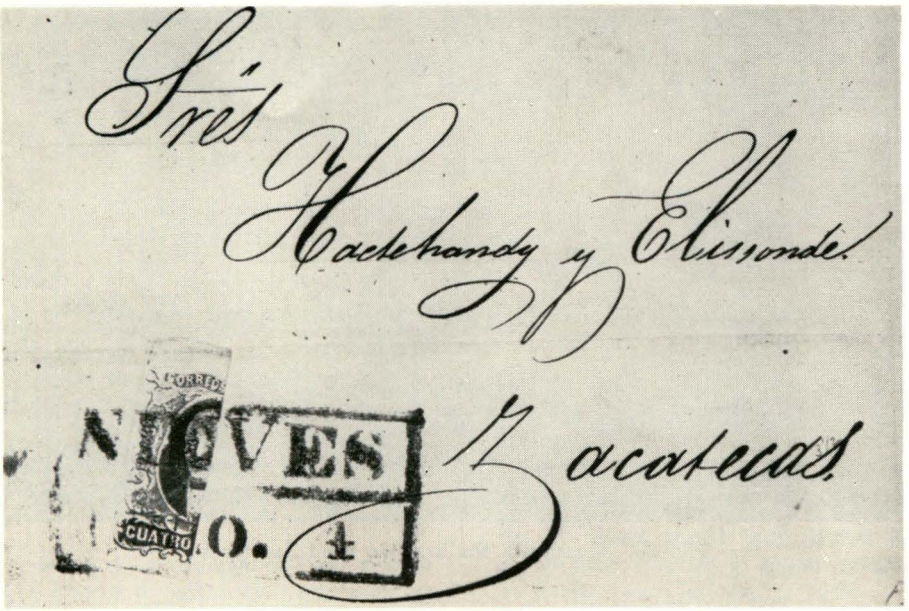


Fig. 27. Half of the 4r. used from Nieves.

No. 4b, Quarter of the 4 r. Fresnillo, Sain Alto, Xeres.
No. 5c, Eighth of the 8 r. Zacatecas.
No. 5d, Quarter of the 8 r. Zacatecas, Fresnillo, Rio Grande, Aguascalientes, Nieves. (Fig. 28)
No. 5e, Half of the 8 r. Zacatecas.
No. 5f, Three quarters of the 8 r. Zacatecas (July, 1859).

An imposing list; the majority of the towns are for 1858 while Zacatecas' use was usually 1859.

Conclusion

After a use of a little over four years the first issue was called in.

On April 18, 1861 the second issue made its appearance. It was from the same plates and of the same values as the first, the difference being in the use of colored papers. It may be more than a coincidence that the only two issues of Mexico on colored papers, those of 1861 and 1868, were both made under the Presidency of Benito Juarez.

From any angle the second issue was no improvement on the first. Why then was it made?

I believe it was for two reasons:

1. The desire to signalize the re-uniting of the country under one government.
2. Economy.

By March of 1861 the Head Office was in position to send out postage stamps to all Districts. Once again the Flag of Mexico waved over a unified country with one President, patient, tireless Benito Juarez. The Post Office signalized this by sending stamps to each of 51 Postal Districts. As to economy, the exchequer of Juarez was in sorry condition. The country had to suspend payment on its foreign debt. Taxes had not been collected. Government offices were hard pressed to meet expenses. The thin, poor quality colored papers used for the second emission must have cost considerably less than the fine quality white wove paper used for the first issue. The impressions at first were all in black; only later was a small printing made in color on the 4 and 8 reales. In the United States Joseph R. Carpenter, who held the contract for printing the revenues, was constantly complaining of the high cost of vermilion and lilac pigments. How much more true that must have been in a country like Mexico. Black ink was much cheaper. Perhaps that was one of the reasons for the change made in 1861.

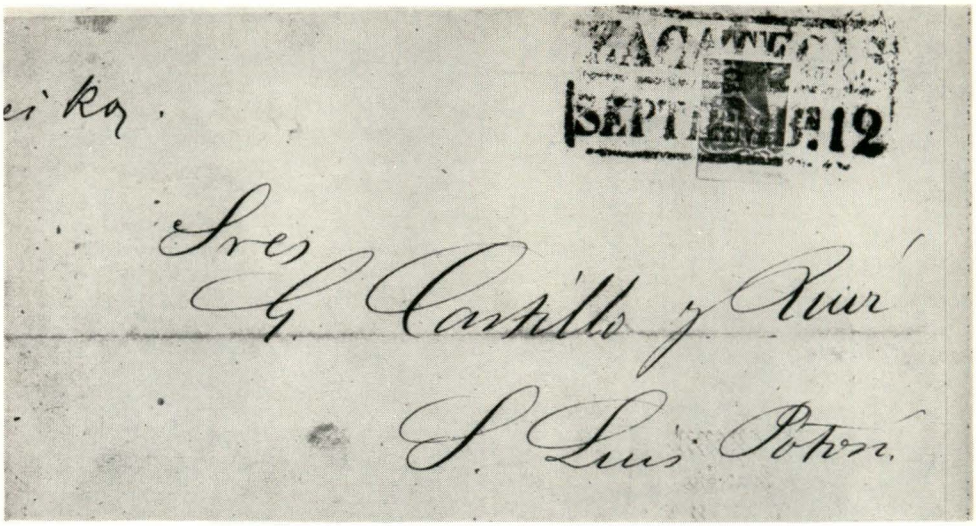


Fig. 28. Quarter of the 8r. used from Zacatecas.

To bring this story to a close it might be well to mention the philatelic literature about the first issue. The handbooks of Chapman and DeSmeth have previously been referred to many times. The specialized catalogs of Phillips and Aguirre have served a useful purpose. As no study has been made here of cancellations I have not had reason to bring up a truly remarkable and indispensable work of the late W. T. Wilson, "The Postmarks of Mexico, Period 1856 to 1872" published in Birmingham in 1927. This should be in the library of every Mexican specialist. Unfortunately it has long been out of print and a copy seldom comes on the market. The last sale price I believe was about $40.00.

The following articles in philatelic magazines should be helpful. All deal with the first issue or the postal history which is listed by author, journal and number.

S. Chapman, "London Philatelist," Nos. 238-39-40.

"Philatelic Journal of America," v. 23, No. 5.

"Philatelic Journal of Great Britain," No. 561.

J. H. Barron, "Stamp Lover", v. 3, No. 11.

"London Philatelist", No. 341. (Counterfeits) Nos. 381, 382.

A. Odfjell, (on District of Guadalajara) COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, v. 5 No. 1.

"London Philatelist", v. 60 No. 698.

F. Shreve, "American Philatelist," v. 58 No. 2.

"Philatelic Gossip", 1945, Nov. 17.

"Stamps", 1945, Feb. 3.

R. Frentzel, "Herts Monthly Circular", Nos. 13, 18, 21.

W. T. Wilson, "Philatelic Journal of India", v. 17 No. 5.

E. D. Bacon, "Gibbons Monthly Journal", v. 9 Nos. 98, 99.

G. Gilbert, COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, v. 20 No. 3.

L. L. R. Hausberg, "Gibbons Monthly Journal", v. 22 No. 258.

A. E. Lawrence, "American Journal of Philately", 1893, July. (Interesting for the large number of imaginary varieties listed.)

A. L. Terego, "American Philatelist", 1930, August.

The interest and assistance of Messrs. *John K. Bash* and *Abraham Odfjell* in the preparation of this manuscript is gratefully acknowledged.

I will close with a question. The *first* article on the Stamps of Mexico that I can find is in "the Philatelic Record" for 1879, Nos. 6 and 7, by W. Ash. Can anyone give an earlier one?

— Finis —

TRAVANCORE-COCHIN

Its Postage Stamps and Postal History

By FRANK M. COWEN AND J. DEVASYA

(Continued From Page 170)

4. The United States of Travancore and Cochin: Permanent Series (1949-1950)

The political amalgamation of Cochin and Travancore brought about the issuance of only two permanent items prior to the onset of the agency period. These were a 4 pies post card and a 1 anna envelope. It is believed that the printing was done at Trivandrum, from designs prepared by Mr. O. Krishnan Assari, Government artist and engraver.

4 pies rose-red post card. Palm Tree (Fig. 31).

A Government Notification dated December 29, 1949, stated that Anchal cards of 4 pies value, printed in a new design, would be issued from January 5, 1950.

(1) The cards will be of the same size and colour as the existing four pies cards and printed in fast geranium colour. (2) The stamp design will appear at the top right hand corner of the card and consist of a picture of a solitary cocoanut palm in a background of cocoanut palm groves ap-

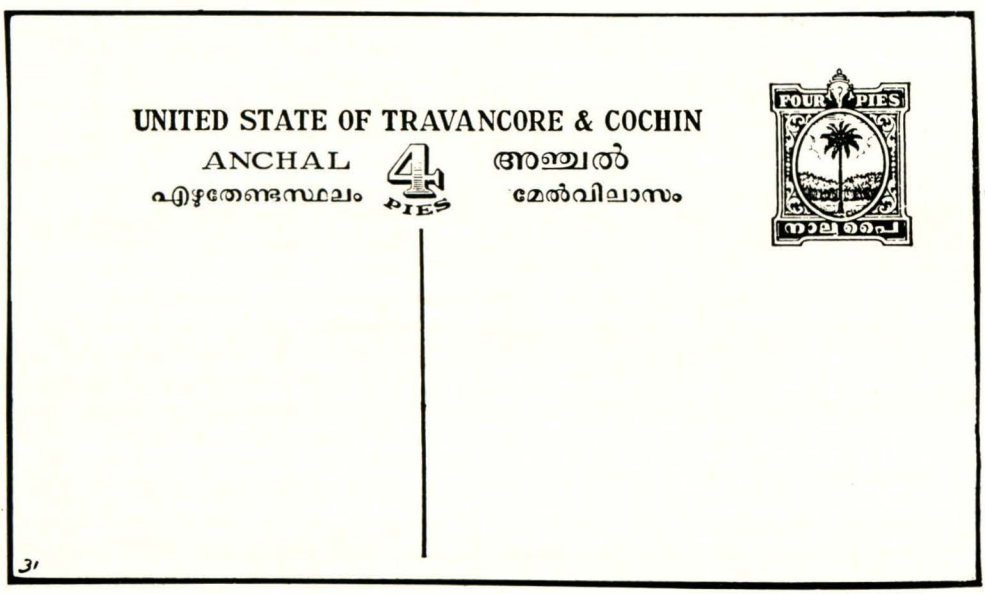


Figure 31. The United State of Travancore and Cochin Post Card, Permanent Series.

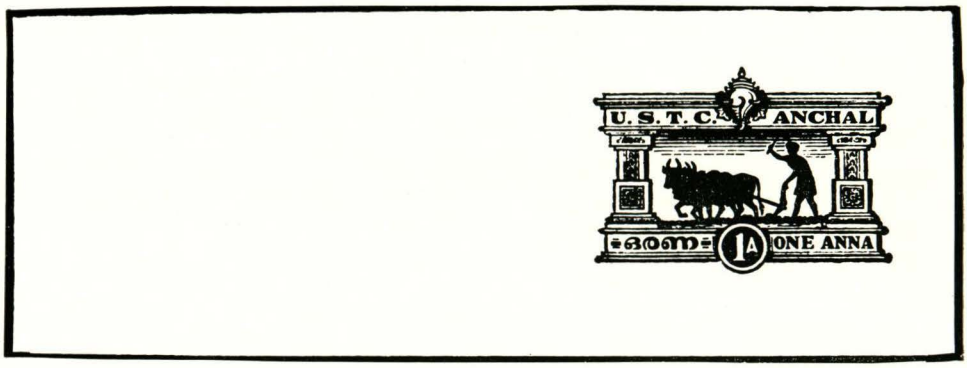


Figure 32. The United State of Travancore and Cochin Envelopes. Permanent Series.

pearing in an oval recess within a rectangular ornamental framework. . . .

In actual point of fact, the cards were first issued on January 6, 1950 (23rd Dhanu, 1125). The impressed stamp and lettering were in rose-red on a smooth cream-colored wove unwatermarked card of medium thickness and measuring 6 x 3 9/16 in. Later printings show varying shades and thicknesses of the card and shades of the stamp color. At least two of these variations were official as evidenced by the following notifications:

A.

Finance Department
No: Fin: 5806/50 10th April 1950

It is hereby notified for the information of the public that 4 pies Anchal Cards will be issued printed on 'white century' cardboard also.

By order.
C. I. Abraham, Finance Secretary to Govt.

B.

Finance Department
No: Fin: 5-1607/50 14th October 1950

In continuation of notification No: Fin 5: 24356/50 dated 6th Sept. 1950, it is notified for information of the public that 4 pies Anchal Cards of the existing design and size will, as a temporary measure, be printed on white cardboards and issued with immediate effect. The existing cards will also continue to be in circulation.

By order.
C. I. Abraham,
Finance Secretary
to Govt.

Cards, which are referred to above, have been seen on medium white and thick white board, the stamp and inscriptions on the latter being impressed in rose. The three line inscription to the left of the impressed stamp is very similar to that of the 8 cash card of Travancore which was converted to the 4 pies overprinted card described in Part 1 of this chapter. The following differences should be noted: (1) "UNITED STATE OF TRAVANCORE & COCHIN" replaces "TRAVANCORE" (1st line), (2) "ANCHAL" in English (left) and Malayalam (right) replaces "ANCHAL CARD" in these two languages (2nd line), and (3) the large figure of value in the center, "4", and "PIES", immediately beneath, replaces "8" and "CASH".

Slight differences in the length and position of the vertical line of color and other minor variations indicate that these cards were printed in sheets and then cut to standard size. The number of units in the sheet has not been determined.

1 anna bright purple envelope. Farmer Plowing with a Yoke of Oxen (Fig. 32).

According to Notification No: FIN (E) 3-7363/49, dated October 7, 1949, this new envelope was first issued on October 15, 1949. It provides one of the most interesting studies of the changes occurring in Travan-

core-Cochin of any of the Anchal postal emissions. The impressed stamp is found in shades of bright purple, the central design of which shows a farmer plowing a field with a yoke of oxen, facing west. As with the aforementioned cards, the conch shell surmounts the design. The early printings of this envelope were on the Travancore watermarked (arms) laid buff-brown paper previously used for Travancore envelopes. The embossing under the left side of the top flap reads "TRAVANCORE ANCHAL" in colorless block letters. The size is 4 13/16 x 3 13/16 inches when folded.

Later printings were made on light brown to buff-brown paper, in all other respects similar to the above except that the flap embossing reads "U. S. T. C. ANCHAL" in colorless block letters. A copy cancelled 1st Markaram, 1125 (January 14, 1950), has been seen.

The rapidly diminishing stocks of Travancore paper were reflected by further changes which were announced in the following notification:

Finance Department
No: Fin (E) 5-24840/50 2nd Sept. 1950

In continuation of notification No: Fin (E) 3-7363/49 dated 7th October 1949, it is hereby notified for the information of the public that as a temporary measure One Anna Anchal Covers of the same size and design as the existing one anna covers will be printed and issued from 7th September 1950 utilizing envelopes manufactured out of 37 lbs. and 66 lbs. paper, which was being used by the erstwhile Cochin Government for the manufacture of Anchal Covers. The covers of the quality now in use will also continue to be in circulation.

By order
G. F. Gopataswami
Additional Finance Secretary to Govt.

Stamps impressed in mauve or bright purple have been seen on pale manila, smooth to rough, unwatermarked wove paper (the 33 lbs. Cochin paper referred to above). The effect of the Indian Constitution (Chapter III) is reflected in a change in flap embossing, "T. C. ANCHAL" in colorless block letters replacing "U. S. T. C. ANCHAL".

The 66 lbs. Cochin paper is of white laid stock watermarked with the large arms device used for the Cochin Arms stamp paper (Fig. 16). The stamp is impressed bright purple and the flap embossing continues as "T. C. ANCHAL".

All of the above described types of this envelope were printed from single dies after the envelopes had been folded.

Check List

The United States of Travancore and Cochin: Permanent Series, 1949-1950

Post Cards

No.	
1	4 pies, cocoanut palm, rose-red on medium cream card, Jan. 6, 1950.
2	4 pies, cocoanut palm, rose, rose-red on medium to thick white card, April 10, and Oct. 14, 1950.

Envelopes

No.	
1	1 anna, farmer and oxen, bright purple on buff-brown watermarked (Travancore Arms) laid paper (flap embossed "TRAVANCORE ANCHAL"), Oct. 15, 1949. a. As above but flap embossed "U. S. T. C. ANCHAL".
2	1 anna, farmer and oxen, mauve, bright purple on pale manila unwatermarked wove paper (flap embossed "T. C. ANCHAL"), Sept. 7, 1950.
3	1 anna, farmer and oxen, bright purple on white watermarked (Cochin Arms) laid paper (flap embossed "T. C. ANCHAL"), Sept. 7, 1950.

5. The Nasik Issues: Agency Period

When the Anchal system was instituted as an agency of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, effective on April 1, 1950, the local postal rates throughout Travancore-Cochin were lowered to those existing in the Anchal Department. Many of these rates (see Table I) called for payment in postage stamps which were unavailable in Indian Post Offices, viz: the 2 pies rate on newspapers and the 4 pies rate on cards. In addition no stamped post cards of 4 pies value or envelopes of 1 anna value were on sale in Post Offices. Anchal cards, envelopes and adhesives of these values were utilized to fill the gap until special postal paper could be supplied. The Indian postal authorities authorized The Security Press, Nasik, printers of Indian postal and revenue paper, to produce 2 and 4 pies adhesives, 4 pies cards and 1 anna envelopes. These items are of unusual interest to philatelists in that they are, in effect, Indian Government postage stamps and stationery for use only from the area included in the State of Travancore-Cochin. They were regularly issued to both Post and Anchal Offices in this area primarily to pay the internal rates for which no Indian stamps and stationery were available. The Postal Notification of June 5, 1950, however, made them available for payment of postage from points within the State to points outside as were other Anchal items (Appendix D, 4).

On October 24, 1950, Travancore-Cochin residents were first able to purchase the new adhesives. The Security Press employed the offset lithographic process, normally used for Indian stamps, to produce this series. They were printed on official government multiple five-pointed star watermarked white wove paper, comb perforated 14 and gummed. The stamps were issued in sheets of 160 (20 x 8) impressions divided by margin "arrows" into eight sections of 20 (5 x 4) impressions each. The sheet size is approximately 19¾ x 13¾ inches. No varieties are known. The total number believed to have been issued are 3,752,640, (23,454 sheets) of the 2 pies and 1,600,000 (10,000 sheets) of the 4 pies. A description of the designs of these two stamps, prepared by Mr. O. Krishnan Assari, Travancore-Cochin Government artist and engraver who also designed the post card and envelope, follows.

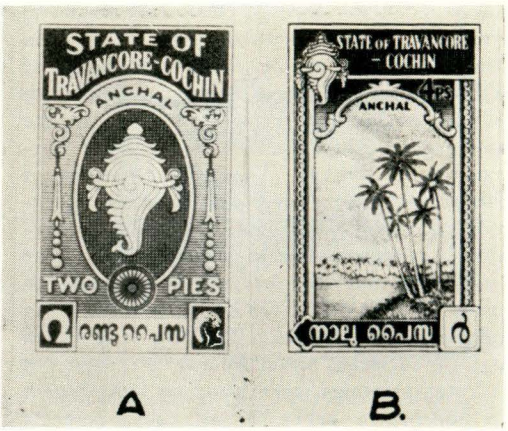


Figure 33. The Nasik Adhesive Stamps.

2 pies rose-carmine. Conch Shell and Wheel of Asoka (Fig. 33,A).

The central design of this value is the *shank* or conch shell, an article closely associated with the Malabar Coastal Region. It has formed the design of most past Travancore stamps and the watermarks of most Travancore stamp paper. It is also incorporated into the designs of almost all past Cochin Anchal stamps. The ex-Maharaja of Travancore, like his Cochin counterpart, is a devout Hindu, a vassal of the God Maha Vishnu or Sri Padmanabha whose temple (Fig. 4) appears on the 1 anna/2 chuckrams stamp described in Part 1 of this chapter. The family of the Travancore ruler has been dedicated for centuries to the care and protection of this tutelary Deity and the State has been ruled in Sri Padmanabha's name. This four-armed God holds a different instrument in each hand, viz: the conch shell and lotus flower, instruments of protection, and the chackram and batton, instruments of destruction. The conch shell is found in plenty on the beaches of Travancore-Cochin and, because of its close association with the Vishnu branch of the Hindu religion, has been adopted as the State emblem. The clockwise (left-handed) variety pictured on the stamps is quite common. The counter-

clockwise type is extremely scarce and only three are said to exist in South India. These are deposited at the Travancore Sri Padmanabha's Temple, a Cochin temple, and a sacred place in Mysore. Popular superstition attributes good luck to the possessor of this variety.

The priests of the Hindu temples employ the conch as a holder for water used in annointing the idols in the temple and as a horn for calling the attention of the God concerned to the prayers of the devotees.

The design of the 2 pies stamp is tied to the Republic of India by a representation of the Wheel of Asoka which appears under the conch. This emblem of the new republic is taken from the famous Lion Capitol of Asoka Edict Column, excavated at Sarnath, Benares, where Buddha's first sermon, "turning of the Wheel of the Law", took place. It consists of four addorsed lions supporting a Wheel (the *Dharmacakra,* Wheel of the Law and of Dominion). The abacus is decorated with four smaller wheels, a bull, lion, elephant and horse. The Column (pictured on the current Indian official postal adhesives) was erected by the great Buddhist Emperor Asoka who reigned over most of what is now modern India from 264 to 227 B. C.

4 pies ultramarine. Grove of Cocoanut Palms (Fig. 33,B).

The Malabar region is noted for its lovely cocoanut groves. The natives refer to the cocoanut as the Kalpa Tree of Malabar. In Hindu mythology, the Kalpa Tree with its golden fruits of a special flavor, along with the sacred cow, gave the Gods in the Abode of Bliss everything they desired in nourishment. The Malabar cocoanut tree figures high in the area's economy. It is found in abundance in Travancore-Cochin, every inch of the tree being utilized in some form or another. The trunk is hewn into planks for building material; the leaves are used for thatching; the sheaths and leaf stems are burned as firewood; the husks of the nuts are woven into mats and other fibrous materials; the shell of the nut is used as a container for collecting latex from rubber trees; the juice of the nut is a thirst quencher; and the fruit pulp is the source of valuable cocoanut oil, the precursor of fine soaps and oils. It is not surprising, therefore, that a typical coastal grove of these trees figures so prominently on the 4 pies stamp. The upper left corner of this same adhesive again pictures the conch shell.

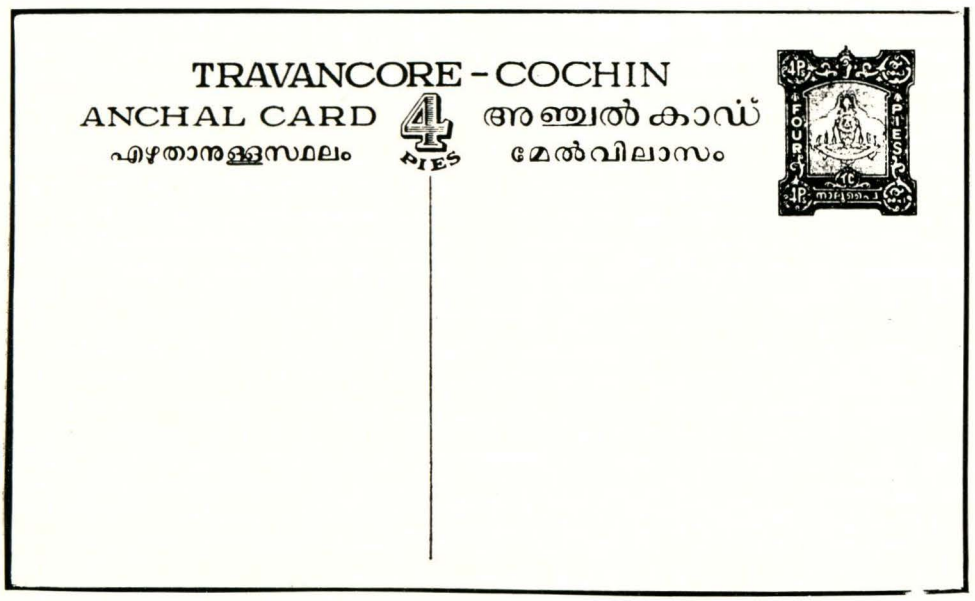


Figure 34. The Nasik Post Card.

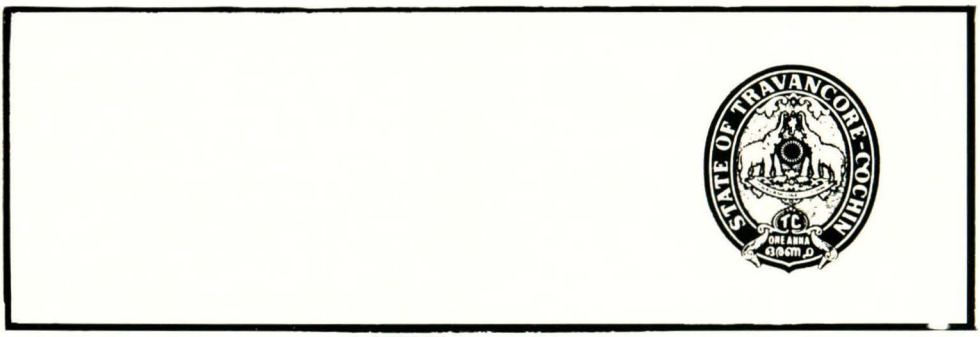


Figure 35. The Nasik Envelope.

4 pies blue post card. Coat of Arms of the State (Fig. 34).

On December 14, 1950, Nasik printed 4 pies cards first made their appearance. The card is of smooth to somewhat rough unwatermarked paper in varying shades of cream and very light brown, approximately 6 x 3 9/16″ in size. The color of the stamp and related printing varies from light indigo-blue to blue. The format is similar to the previous cards of Travancore and the United State of Travancore and Cochin. The central design of the impressed stamp is that of the Coat of Arms of Travancore-Cochin (Fig. 1) consisting of two facing elephants trunks. The Wheel of Asoka is centered supporting a conch shell with their tusks and between the two and below the shell. The conch also appears at the top of the design. As the cards were probably printed in sheets and then cut to proper size, minor varieties are possible. We have seen the "T" of "Travancore-Cochin" (across the top of the card) with the serif partially cut off at the bottom. We do not know if this is a constant variety. Cutting guide lines in the color of the stamp have been observed at the top, right and left corners, of one card in our possession.

1 anna blue envelope. Coat of Arms of the State (Fig. 35).

On November 10, 1950 (according to an official notification), a Nasik printed 1 anna envelope made its appearance. The envelope is of smooth to rough unwatermarked wove paper in shades of very light brown, approximately 4 13/16 x 3 13/16″ in size when folded. The top flap is gummed and somewhat rounded. The oval unembossed stamp is printed in strong blue on the upper right corner of the envelope face and contains the same arms design as the rectangular 4 pies card stamp. One interesting sub-type has been found evidently being constant. In this variety the word "COCHIN", in the oval label surrounding the design, shows a spot of *no* color extending from the top of the first "C" to the "O". On the left side of this same envelope a small blue gash, about ¼″ long and almost parallel to the top and bottom of the envelope, appears.

Check List

The Nasik Issues, 1950
Regular Adhesive Stamps (Oct. 24, 1950)

White wove paper

Perforated 14 (comb) Gummed Wmk. multiple 5-pointed stars

No.	
1	2 pies, conch shell and Wheel of Asoka, rose-carmine
2	4 pies, grove of cocoanut palms, ultramarine Post Card (Dec. 14, 1950)
1	4 pies, Coat of Arms, blue on cream, light brown Envelope (Nov. 10, 1950)
1	1 anna, Coat of Arms, blue on light brown unwatermarked wove paper

CHAPTER V

Postal Markings

The treatment of mails by the Anchals of Cochin and Travancore is a most interesting subject so the authors hope to cover it more thoroughly in a projected series on each of these two states. For the purposes of this article we shall confine ourselves to a brief outline of the situation in the State of Travancore-Cochin.

Markings of the Ex-Travancore Anchal Offices (Fig. 36)

When articles for dispatch by the regular mails were handled by the Travancore Anchal, the Anchal stamps were defaced in black with dated postal markings of the Types I - IV. Type I is the most commonly seen mark consisting of two concentric circles, the outer being about 31-33 mm. in diameter. At the top, within the two circles, is the name of the Anchal Office in English followed by the abbreviation "A. O." (=Anchal Office). At the bottom, within the circles, is the abbreviation "T. A. D." (=Travancore Anchal Department). Two 4-petal devices separate the top and bottom inscriptions. Two parallel horizontal lines, within the inner circle, enclose the abbreviated Malabar date which consists of the day, first three letters of the month and last three numerals of the year. Thus "18 MIT 124" is 18th Mithunam, 1124 (July 2, 1949). A discussion of the Malabar Calendar will be found in Appendix A.

Sometime in 1950, the Malabar dates were gradually displaced by Gregorian dates as in Type II. We have seen the former in use from some offices as late as 26th Karkadakam, 1125 (August 11, 1950); the latter appeared as early as March 14, 1950. Incidentally "ANCHAL" in Type II was the name of an Anchal Office (sub) in the Quilon Anchal Division.

Type III is a variation of Type II in which the abbreviation "A.O." has been dropped along with the horizontal lines. This type has not been seen with Malabar dates. Another Punalur datestamp of Type II was concurrently in use with the office spelled "PUNALOOR".

Type IV is similar to Type III but the outer circle is 27-28 mm. in diameter containing the horizontal date lines. It has also been seen with Malabar dates.

Articles received for delivery by one Anchal Office from another Anchal Office were commonly "backstamped" on the front or back with one of the above types. Mails from the ex-State of Cochin were often "backstamped" by both the exchange and delivery offices.

The Travancore Anchal Department maintained a Railway Mail Service on the railroad running from Trivandrum to Shengottah on the Madras State border. The stamps of Anchal articles posted on this service were cancelled in black with the marking shown as Type IX. The example illustrated contains the abbreviation "T.R. A.S." (=Travancore Railway Anchal Service), the word "IN" indicating it was applied to incoming mails, and the Malabar date. A similar type wherein "OUT" replaced "IN" was applied to outgoing mails. These postal markings were believed to have continued in use until the last days of the Anchal. Examples with Gregorian dates, assuming such exist, have not been seen. The Indian Department of Posts and Telegraphs maintained a Railway Mail Service on this same railroad. "R.M.S." markings are known. It is not known whether either the Cochin or Travancore Anchal Departments employed special markings on the Ernakulam-Shoranur Railroad which passes south-north through Cochin territory and a small portion of North Travancore.

Registered articles received a variety of markings. Generally the stamps were cancelled with the usual datestamps (Types I-IV) although special registry killers in black are known (Types V and VI). These are similar to Types III and IV but include the additional abbreviation "REG." or "REGD." in the upper part of the inner circle. All registered items invariably were stamped in black with either Types VII or VIII which corresponded to the gummed registry labels used by most postal systems including that of India. The clerk filled in the number and weight (in tolas) of each item in the proper box. After completing the proper forms, the clerk dropped the article in the special registered mail bag where it was forwarded to its destination. Occasionally the additional mark "REGISTERED" (Type XII) was

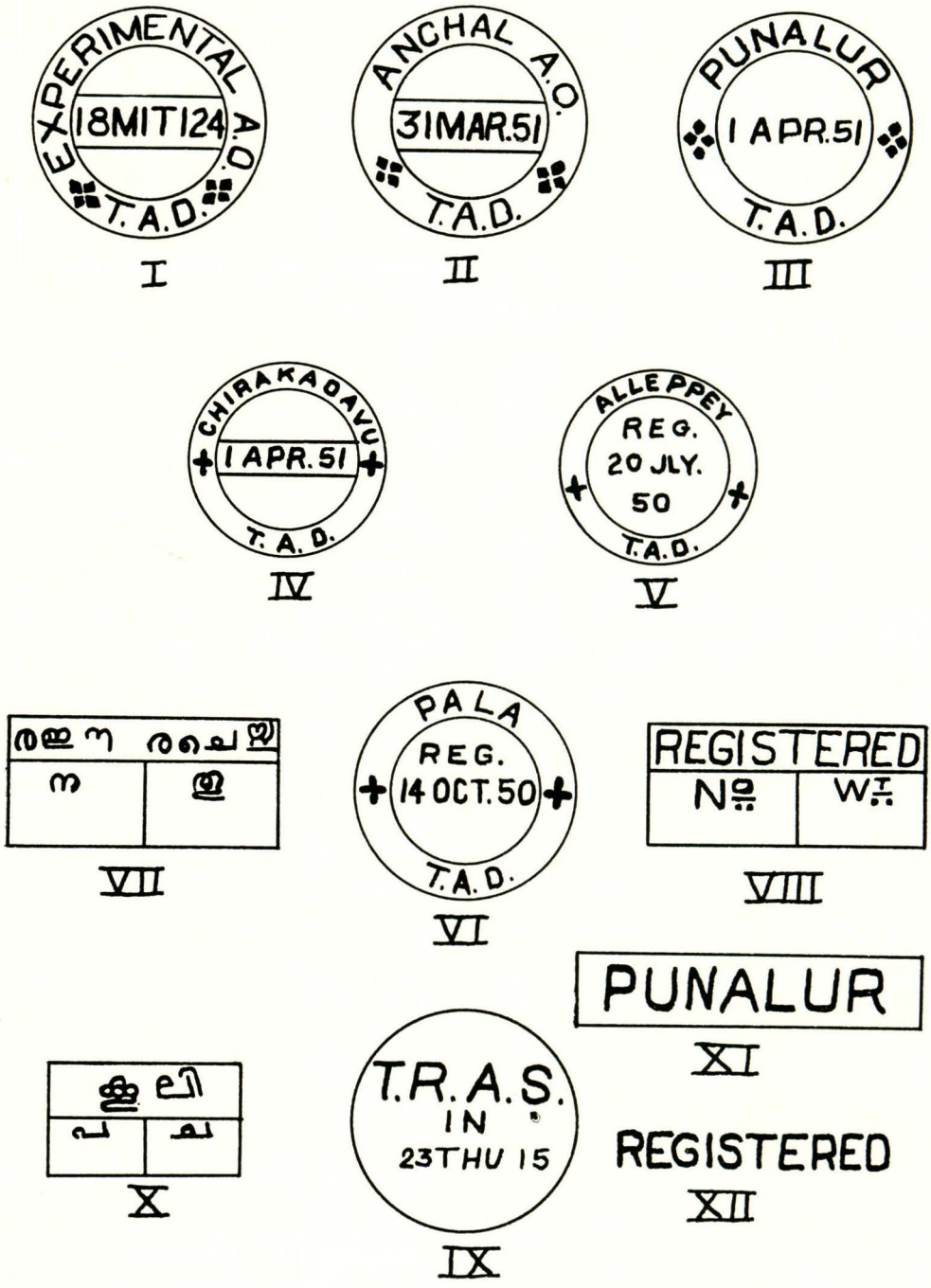


Figure 36. Postal Markings employed by ex-Travancore Anchal Offices (1949-1951).

applied in purple on the front of the item. It will be noted that Type VII is entirely in Malayalam characters, a situation also true of the postage due markings discussed below. This type continued in use in some offices until the Anchal was abolished. It is believed that all regular Travancore cancellations, in Malayalam characters, were replaced prior to July 1, 1949.

When an article was posted unpaid or insufficiently prepaid, the Anchal Office taxed the item at double the unpaid postage (except official mails which received a single tax). The taxing office applied the black mark (Type X) to the front of the letter or package. The one illustrated is in the vernacular; English types were not introduced before the Anchal was abolished. The line of Malayalam characters in the top box is read as *cooly,* meaning *tax* or *charge.* The character in the lower left box is translated as *pa,* the abbreviation of *panam* or *fanam.* The character in the lower right box stands for *cha,* the abbreviation of *chuckram.* Both of these are units of the Travancore monetary system (see Appendix B). This mark was not changed when Indian currency was introduced concurrently with the political amalgamation; the Anchal clerks simply wrote the postage due in the left box as annas and the right box as pies. A black seal was also applied to some, but not all, postage due articles along with a manuscript bearing number. This seal contained the name of the taxing office in the vernacular.

Type XI is a black office name seal that was employed by a receiving office to cancel Anchal stamps which inadvertently missed the killer at the sending office. This type, which varies in size, has also been seen on *hundi* (money order) forms.

Letters sent by Anchal Express (special delivery) were marked with an "EXPRESS" seal at the sending office and the proper fee (so much per mile) paid by additional Anchal stamps. At the delivery office the letter was entrusted to a special messenger who carried it on foot to the address. Other markings were employed for "Too Late" and "V.P." (C.O.D.) services. The former was a rectangular seal containing the words *too late* in the vernacular.

Markings of the Ex-Cochin Anchal Offices (Fig. 37)

In practice the Cochin Anchal differed little from its big brother. Anchal stamps on regular mails were defaced with dated obliterations of Types XIII, XIV, and XV in black. These markings were about 32 mm. in diameter containing the name of the Anchal Office and the abbreviation "A.O." (=Anchal Office). As was the case in Travancore, the dates were first expressed in the Malabar Era but later reverted to the Gregorian Calendar. It will be noted that only the last two numerals of the Malabar year were given in contrast to Travancore date-stamps where the last three numerals were employed. Type XVI, 24 mm. in diameter, has been seen obliterating Travancore-Cochin stamps. It is known to have originated and been widely used in Cochin but the circumstances of its use are unknown. Examples with numerals other than "24" have been seen, which leads us to believe they are office numbers of Cochin Anchal Offices.

Some Cochin offices employed delivery stamps of which Type XVII is an example. The space below the date within the horizontal bars probably included the hour of delivery but, in the one example in our possession, this was not clear. Other Cochin offices "backstamped" received articles with the regular cancellations (Types XIII-XV).

Registered mails were treated in a fashion similar to that of Travancore. The stamps were defaced in black with a dated postmark of the above types or with a special registry obliteration such as Type XVIII. A variation of this type shows the Gregorian date in one line. In addition, the black rectangular Types XIX or XX were stamped on each item, the clerk filling in the weight and number in the proper boxes. As was the case in Travancore, both English and Malayalam types were used concurrently. The center box of the Cochin vernacular mark (Type XIX) contains the name of the Anchal Office (in this case Cochin) in the native alphabet.

Other special seals for various services exist for Cochin Offices but we have not had the opportunity to examine them.

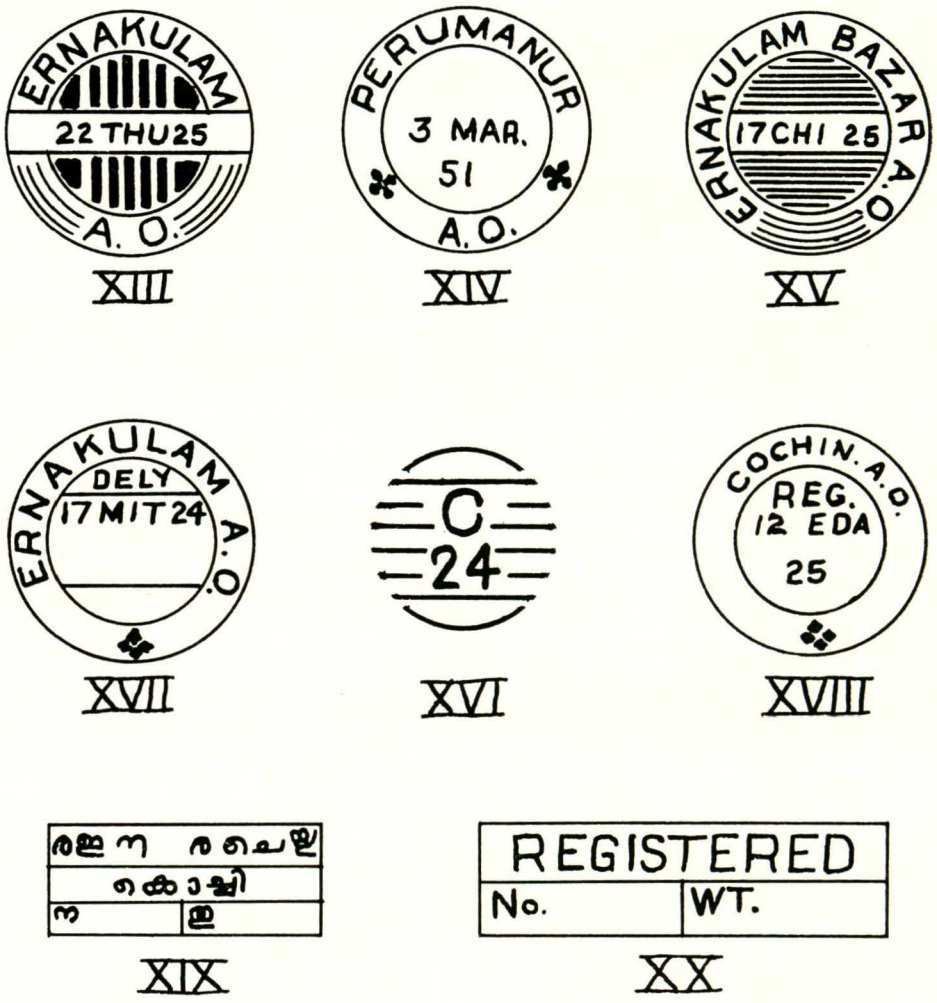


Figure 37. Postal Markings employed by ex-Cochin Anchal Offices (1949-1951).

Markings of the Indian Post Offices (Fig. 38)

It should be remembered that after June 4, 1950, Travancore-Cochin Anchal paper was accepted by Indian Post Offices in the State until demonetization on June 30, 1951. Therefore articles bearing these stamps exclusively or admixed with Indian stamps were accepted by the Post Offices for transmission. Thus Anchal stamps can be found cancelled with Types XXI, XXII, and others employed by these offices. Registered articles were stamped with either one of the above types or Type XXIII. In addition a gummed registry label, stamped with the name of the Post Office, was attached to each letter or package. Some items received the additional mark, Type XXIV, containing the letters of the transmitting office. Type XXV is a delivery backstamp employed by some offices. It is very similar to Cochin Type XVII.

The interesting octagonal postage due mark (Type XXVI) has been seen back-

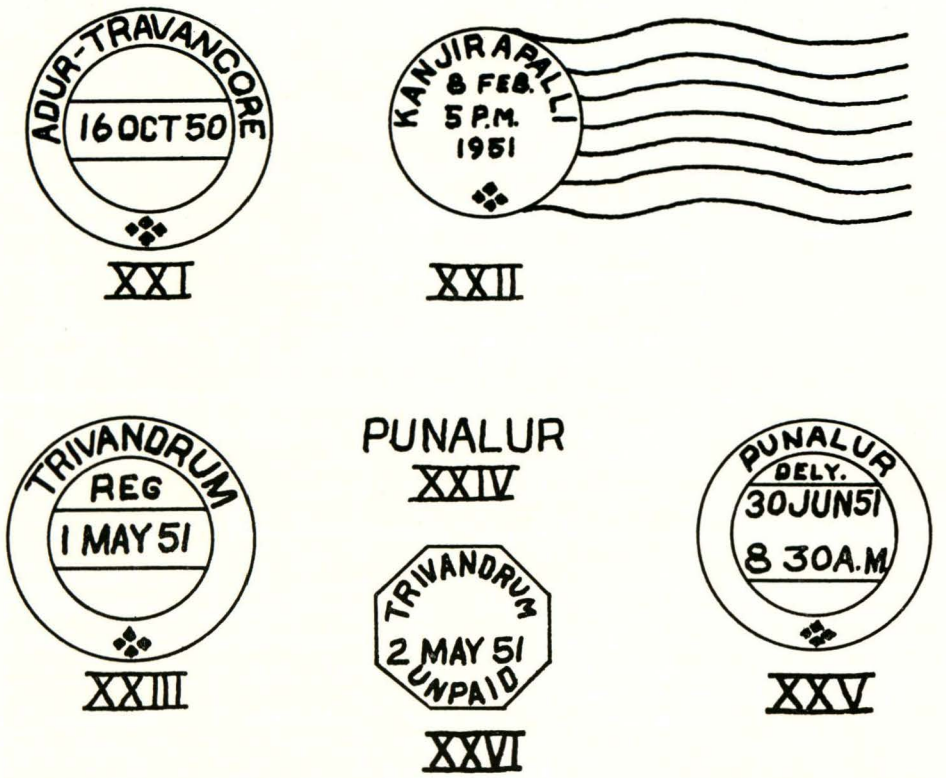


Figure 38. Postal Markings employed by Indian Post Offices in Travancore-Cochin (1951).

stamped in black on an insufficiently paid letter. This particular item was posted on May 1, 1951, one day after the *first* demonetization of Anchal postal paper. The Anchal stamp on the front was not recognized as paying the postage although a few days later, as explained in Chapter III, the franking power of these stamps was revived.

Except for Anchal official stamps, which were valid for postal purposes until September, 1951, no Anchal stamps were recognized after June 30th of the same year. The Anchal Office distinctive markers were returned to the State for disposal as they were closed or converted to Post Offices. The last traces of the centuries-old Anchal system disappeared from view. Those Travancore-Cochin service stamps with Indian Post Office obliterations represent the final phase. It was the finale of all the Indian Feudatory States postal systems. What could be more appropriate than to have the stamps "killed" by the Indian Post Office?

APPENDIX A

The Malabar Calendar

The Malabar Era (M.E.) is a method of time computation originated by one of the great Rajas who ruled in South India in the Ninth Century, A. D. The corresponding Malabar calendar is still widely used in the Southwest Coast Region. The year, generally consisting of 365 days, is divided into twelve months varying in length from 29 to 32 days. Since the length of these months varies from year to year, exact correspondence with the Western (Gregorian) calendar is difficult. Malabar residents generally use a calendar that incorporates both the Malabar and Gregorian years. For 1950 A. D. (1125-1126 M. E.), the comparison follows.

No. of Gregorian Month	Gregorian Month	Malabar Month *	No. of Malabor Month
1	January	17 Dhanu-18 Makaram	5-6
2	February	19 Makaram-17 Kumbham	6-7
3	March	18 Kumbham-18 Meenam	7-8
4	April	19 Meenam-17 Medam	8-9
5	May	18 Medam-17 Edavam	9-10
6	June	18 Edavam-16 Mithunam	10-11
7	July	17 Mithunam-15 Karkadakam	11-12
8	August	15 Karkadakam-15 Chingam	12-1
9	September	16 Chingam-14 Kanni	1-2
10	October	15 Kanni-15 Thulam	2-3
11	November	16 Thulam-15 Vrischikam	3-4
12	December	16 Vrischikam-16 Dhanu	4-5

* Note that the first month of the Malabar year is Chingam, the last month is Karkadakam.

Both the Cochin and Travancore Anchal Departments officially employed the native year until sometime in 1950. In order to work more efficiently with the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, the Anchal system gradually adopted the Gregorian calendar which is now used throughout India. This change, reflected in the postal markings, has already been discussed in Chapter V.

APPENDIX B

Travancore Currency



Figure 39. A set of recent Travancore Coins (Obverse), the Reverse of all four shows the Conch Shell. Left to right, Cash (copper), Chuckram (copper), Fanam (silver) and Half Rupee (silver).

Until June 30, 1949, the Travancore Government maintained its own currency system, legal tender throughout the State. On that day, by the Royal Proclamation of June 28, 1949, Indian currency was made legal tender and all Anchal paper was to be expressed in that system. The Travancore system of cash, chuckrams, fanams and rupees (Travancore) was as follows:

16 cash = 1 chuckram; 64 cash = 4 chuckrams = 1 fanam;

448 cash = 28 chuckrams = 7 fanams = 1 rupee (Trav.);

452 cash = 192 pies (India) = 16 annas (India) = 1 rupee (India). Coins in circulation in 1949, (all minted at the State Mint, Trivandrum) included:

1 cash (copper); ¼, ½ and 1 chuckram (copper); 1 fanam (silver); ¼ and ½ Trav. rupee (silver).

Some of these are illustrated in Fig. 39. Paper money of several denominations was also widely circulated.

All of the above were still accepted in Travancore for trade and exchange purposes in 1952 but were due for demonetization on April 1, 1953. According to numismatists the 1 cash and 1 chuckram are among the smallest copper and silver coins in the world.

APPENDIX C

The Malayalam Language

ALPHABET MALAYALAM.

GUTTURALES.	CÉRÉBRALES.	LABIALES.	SIBILANTES ET ASPIRÉES.	VOYELLES INITIALES.
ക ka	ട ṭa	പ pa	ശ ça	അ a
ഖ kha	ഠ ṭha	ഫ pha	ഷ sh'ha	ആ â
ഗ ga	ഡ ḍa	ബ ba	സ sa	ഇ i
ഘ gha	ഢ ḍha	ഭ bha	ഹ ha	ഓ î
ങ nga	ണ ṇa	മ ma	ള ḷ	ഉ u
PALATALES.	**DENTALES.**	**LIQUIDES OU DEMI-VOYELLES.**	**DIPHTONGUES.**	ഊ û
ച tcha	ത ta	യ ya	എ e	ഋ ra
ഛ tch'ha	ഥ tha	ര ra	ഏ ê	ൠ ra
ജ dja	ദ da	ല la	ഐ ai	ഌ la
ഝ djha	ധ dha	വ va	ഒ o	ൡ la
ഞ gna	ന na	ഴ rj	ഓ ô	
			ഔ au	

VOYELLES UNIES AUX CONSONNES :

ക ka, കാ kā, കി ki, കീ kī, കു ku, കൂ kū, കെ ke, കൈ kai, കൊ ko, കൌ kau.

CHIFFRES : ൧ 1, ൨ 2, ൩ 3, ൪ 4, ൫ 5, ൬ 6, ൭ 7, ൮ 8, ൯ 9, ൦ 0.

Figure 40. The Malayalam Alphabet and Numerals.

Malayalam, spoken by some 10,000,000 people residing in the Malabar Coastal area in much of what is now the State of Travancore-Cochin, is a sister of Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese, and Tulu of the Dravidian family of languages. It is nearest akin to Tamil, still spoken in the southernmost part of Travancore-Cochin, of which it was originally a dialect but now differs in pronunciation and idiom, in the retention of obsolete Tamil forms, and in having discarded all personal terminations in the verb, the person being always indicated by the pronoun.

The Dravidian languages form an isolated group and proof of connection to any other family is lacking. They are thought to be descendants of the original language of India but have gradually lost ground to the Aryan languages of North India although it is still possible to find traces of Dravidian in the latter. About 100,000,000 people, almost all of whom reside in South India, still speak one of a dozen or so variations.

The Malayalam Alphabet, like those of its sister written languages, is descended from the Nagari (ancient Devanagari) in which Sanskrit was written. It is of the phonetic type and words based upon it are read from left to right. We are reproducing below the alphabet as it appears in "Alphabets et Chiffres Orientaux," Dr. Legrand, J. B. Moens, Bruxelles (1893). It should be noted that vowel signs and numerals are included in this reproduction which should be of considerable help to students of Cochin and Travancore postal history, the stamps and postal markings quite often appearing almost exclusively in these characters.

APPENDIX D

Official Notices and Documents

1.

Selected articles from the Covenant drawn up by the rulers of Cochin and Travancore.

Article 1. As from the first day of July, 1949, the States of Travancore and Cochin shall be united in and shall form, one state with a common Executive, Legislature and Judiciary, by the name of The United State of Travancore and Cochin.

Article 3. As from the first day of July, 1949, all rights, authority and jurisdiction belonging to the Rulers of the Covenanting States which appertain or are incidental to the Government of that State shall rest in The United State. . . .

Article 4. (1) There shall be a Raj Pramukh for the United State.

(2) The present Ruler of Travancore shall be the first Raj Pramukh and shall be entitled to hold office during his lifetime.

Article 10. (1) There shall be a Legislature for the United State consisting of the Raj Pramukh and the Legislative Assembly.

Article 11. Until a Constitution framed or adopted by the Legislature comes into operation, the Raj Pramukh shall have power to promulgate Ordinances for the peace and good Government of the United State or any part thereof, and any Ordinance so made shall for the space of not more than six months from its promulgation, have the like force of Law as an act of Legislature, but any such ordinance may be controlled or superceded by any such act.

In confirmation of the above Covenant, we append our signatures on behalf of ourselves, our heirs and successors.

Sri Rama Varma
Maharaja of
Cochin

Sri Rama Varma
Maharaja of
Travancore

2.

Postal Notice No. 59
Integration of State Postal Systems with the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department

From the 1st April 1950 all State Post Offices except the "Anchal" Offices of the Travancore and Cochin State will form an integral part of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, and the postage rates and fees prescribed in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Guide and The Director General's Circulars and Orders of the Government of India, as also the rules relating to the various classes of postal articles prescribed therein, will apply to these ex-State post offices also. These rates and these conditions will also apply to articles posted at

"Anchal" Offices in Travancore and Cochin for delivery outside that State as also to articles posted outside that state for delivery from any "Anchal" Office.

2. The special postage rates and fees which will apply to the internal service of the State of Travancore and Cochin will be notified by the Postmaster General, Madras. These special postage rates will apply to articles posted at and deliverable by "Anchal" Offices as well as other post offices in the state.

3. Until further orders articles posted at a post office or "Anchal" Office in Travancore and Cochin State or delivery from a post office or "Anchal" Office also within the state will not be redirected to any Post Office outside the State.

4. Postage stamps current at the State Post Office immediately before they are taken over by the Government of India will continue to be accepted in prepayment of postage until the 30th April 1950, but the value of postage to be prepaid will be as prescribed above. In case of embossed post cards and envelopes the deficiency must be supplied by affixing postage stamps of the required value. Postage stamps now current at the State Post Offices, except "Anchal" postage stamps will not be accepted in prepayment of postage after the 30th April 1950. But such postage stamps as also such embossed post cards and envelopes may be exchanged for an equal value of postage stamps and embossed post cards and envelopes of the current issues of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department at any ex-State post office no later than the 31st July 1950. Where an ex-State post office has been closed down and there is another post office in the same town or village, which is not an ex-State post office, such exchange will be allowed at that Post Office also.

5. Until further orders "Anchal" postage stamps will be accepted in payment of postage for articles posted at "Anchal" offices deliverable within the State. "Anchal" post cards and embossed envelopes cannot be used for correspondence deliverable outside the State. Otherwise such articles will be treated as unpaid and disposed of in accordance with the rules laid down in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Guide. It may be mentioned that insufficiently paid post cards are sent to the Dead Letter Office for instructions in accordance with clause 54 of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Guide.

New Delhi
The 27th March 1950

3.

CM: 2.172/50/Pw **27th March 1950**

Anchal Notice

1. From the 1st April 1950 all India Postage Stamps will be valid for payment of postage rates and fees on articles posted at Anchal Offices whether for delivery from any other Anchal Office or for delivery from a Post Office other than an Anchal Office within the State or outside it. Anchal Postage Stamps will be valid only for delivery within the State. Anchal post cards and embossed envelopes cannot be used for correspondence deliverable outside the State for which India Postage Stamps should be used, failing which such articles will be treated as unpaid and disposed of in accordance with the rules laid down in the Indian Post and Telegraph Guide. It may be mentioned that insufficiently prepaid post cards are sent to the Dead Letter Office for destruction in accordance with clause 54 of the Indian Post and Telegraph Guide.

2. From the same date the postage rates and fees prescribed in the Indian Post and Telegraph Guide and the Circulars of the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs and orders of the Govt. of India, as also rules relating to the various classes of postal articles prescribed therein, will also apply to articles posted at Anchal Offices in Travancore and Cochin for delivery outside the State as also to articles posted outside the State for delivery from any Anchal Office.

3. Until further orders articles posted at a post office or Anchal Office in Travancore and Cochin State for delivery from a Post Office or Anchal Office as also within the State will not be redirected to any Post Office outside the State unless before such redirection full postage and postal fees due in accordance with para. 1 are fully prepaid with India Postage stamps.

4. Articles posted outside the State and deliverable by an Anchal Office should not be treated as unpaid if postage has been prepaid in accordance with the all India

rates in all India Postage stamps (including the value of embossed post cards and envelopes).

4.

Director General of Post Offices

Notice: 5th June 1950
Integration of State Postal Systems with The Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department

In partial modification of the orders contained in para. 5 of the Director General's Notice of the 27th March 1950 Postal Notice No. 59 it has been decided that the "Anchal" Postage stamps may be accepted in payment of postage both for articles posted at "Anchal" Offices and for articles posted at other Post Offices and irrespective of the question whether such articles are deliverable within the State or outside it. If the article is deliverable outside the State, the all India postage rates will of course apply. If "Anchal" post cards and embossed envelopes are used for correspondence deliverable outside the State, the deficiency in the amount of postage prepaid should be made up by affixing postage stamps, failing which such articles shall be treated as insufficiently paid and disposed of in accordance with the rules laid down in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Guide.

5.

30th Sept. 1950

Transmission of Anchal Service Articles within and outside the Travancore-Cochin Union

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that Anchal Service articles, that is, official Postal articles pertaining to the business of the "Anchal System" (i.e. ex-state Postal system) in the Travancore-Cochin State posted by Anchal (Postal) Officers and Postmasters, etc. should be given free transmission through the Post within and outside the Travancore-Cochin State in the same manner as Post and Telegraph articles bearing the inscription "Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department." Such articles should on no account be taxed, unless it is found that they do not relate to the official business of the Anchal system and are not posted by persons in this behalf.

6.

5th April 1951

List of Anchal Offices

With effect from 1st April 1951 the Anchal or local Postal system in the Travancore-Cochin State will be directly administered by the Central Government and the "Agency System" by which the State Government managed the system from the 1st April 1950 will cease.

A list of Anchal Offices that will be taken over under the direct control of the Director General is appended. All these offices will be considered as being in account with the Office of the Anchal Superintendent at Trivandrum. The latter office will therefore be considered as the Head Office for these offices. The Anchal Offices will gradually be either closed down or constituted into regular, sub and branch Post Offices and placed in account with regular Head Offices. The changes made in this respect will be published in circulars issued from time to time.

It should be noted that many of the Anchal Offices shown in the list appended bear the same names as the existing Post Offices, whose names appear in the Post and Telegraph Guide and classified list.

It should be clearly understood that the appended list contains names of offices forming part of the Anchal only and are distinct from Post Offices, even though the names of both are the same in many cases. This duplication will be gradually terminated either by closing down one of the offices concerned or by changing the name of one of them.

[A list of the 535 Anchal Offices operating in Travancore-Cochin State on March 31, 1951, follows in this notification but is omitted here.]

Addendum

Since the final revision of the above study on the Travancore-Cochin Anchal, the authors have uncovered additional information which we feel should be included at this time. Such is summarized below under the appropriate chapter heading.

Chapter II Through the kind services of Mr. Paul Varghese, B.A., B.L., we are able to report the derivation of the word *Anchal.*

Cochin and Travancore were small, relatively unimportant principalities until the 18th Century when the Mogul Empire was established in North India. As was already pointed out in Chapter I, they and other South Indian states were able to withstand actual invasion. However, the influence of the Moguls with their efficient methods of administration permeated into the region with the result that the South Indian states borrowed heavily from the Moguls in setting up new departments of government. The relevant terminology in Urdu, an Indo-Persian language and the official language of the Empire, was also adopted. Hence, when the Travancore postal system was reorganized in the 18th Century, as cited in Chapter II, the Urdu word *Ungel* meaning *message, story, narrative* was absorbed into Malayalam as the name of this department. It was later modified at random to Anchal and the other variations.

Chapter III On June 30, 1949, Mr. John Samuel was Superintendent of the Travancore-Cochin Anchal, established the next day, until replaced by Mr. T. R. Velunney, B.A., B.L., who had the distinction of being the last head of an Indian feudatory state postal system.

Chapter IV In several places in the first part of this chapter the names of Government Stamp Manufactory and Government Press are used interchangeably. It should be understood that all stamp printing and overprinting work carried out at Trivandrum was handled by the Stamp Manufactory, the Press assisting only in form preparation.

Chapter IV, 1 On page 16 of Vol. XXXIII the authors made the following statement: "At this writing the authors are unable to find whether corresponding official cards (impressed stamp similar to that of the 8 cash regular card but printed in green) were so treated.", that is, overprinted in Indian currency. In Figure 41 we are pleased to illustrate such a card which has just recently

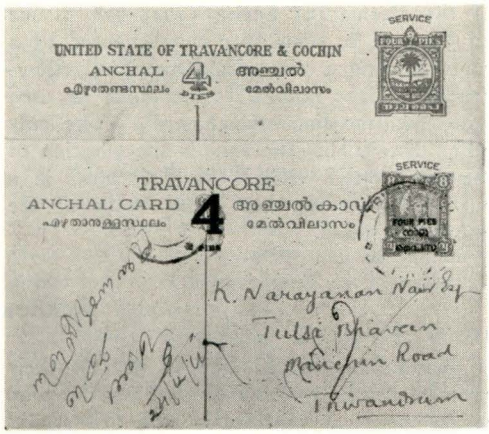


Figure 41. Official Post Cards of the Travancore-Cochin Anchal. Top. 4 pies on 8 cash Travancore Card. Bottom. 4 pies, Permanent Series.

come to light. It is the Travancore 8 cash official card overprinted 4 pies in black in English and Malayalam.

The type face corresponds exactly to that designated as Type I, setting [b], and therefore represents a Trivandrum printing. The only differences between the basic official 8 cash card and its regular counterpart (Figure 41) are the color of the printing, yellow-green, the addition of the work "SERVICE" (block letters) in a curved line above and in the color of the impressed stamp, and the card paper which is a cheap light manila wove stock. The example shown was used on December 23, 1949, by the Trivandrum Public Library. Because of a lack of material we do not know if overprints Type I, setting [a] and Type II (Ernakulam) were ever employed although we have no reason to suppose otherwise. It can be assumed that this type of card was available to government offices on or soon after July 1, 1949.

Check List (Addendum)

Travancore Overprints, 1949-1951

Official Post Card

3 4 pies on 8 cash, yellow-green on manila (Type I of overprint, English and Malayalam letters 1¾ mm. high).

Chapter IV, 4 Figure 41 illustrates another recent discovery. The 4 pies regular card

of the Permanent Series (1949-50), issued on January 6, 1950, was supplemented by a corresponding 4 pies official card in yellow-green on light manila (same stock as used with the preceding official card). The only other discernible difference is the addition of the word "SERVICE" (block letters) in a curved line above and in the color of the impressed stamp.

Check List (Addendum)

The United State of Travancore and Cochin:
Permanent Series, 1949-1950
Official Post Card

3 4 pies, coconut palm, yellow-green on manila, January (?), 1950.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to express their grateful thanks to the following persons who made important contributions to this study:

The Reverend and Mrs. Paul G. Eckert. former Christian missionaries in Travancore, who faithfully transcribed those sections of "The Travancore State Manual", in their possession, dealing with the early history of the Travancore Anchal and the British Post Offices in Travancore.

Mr. Harrison D. S. Haverbeck, for reading and criticizing the manuscript, for his innumerable helpful suggestions, for his encouragement, and for arranging the preparation of the photostat of the Malayalam Alphabet.

Messrs. Harry Burgess and Company, for materials and prompt answers to our questions.

Mr. R. F. Stoney, for revealing to us his most recent unpublished discoveries, for many items missing in our collections, and for answers to several vexing questions.

Mrs. Marian W. Burger and Miss Valencia Wilk, who typed the final draft of the manuscript.

Our wives, Mrs. Cecilia Devasya and Mrs. Suzanne Cowen, who helped two philatelists in the best possible ways that wives can, by permitting us to isolate ourselves from the world of reality until the job was completed.

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— The End —

BOOK REVIEWS

Nineteenth American Philatelic Congress Book 1953. 162 pp., edited and copyrighted by Lt. Col. James T. De Voss.

This annual book presents seventeen papers plus a cumulative index of the preceding annuals. For convenience, the reviewer has divided these articles into three general types: 1) those dealing with stamps mainly; 2) those concerning postal history, mainly; 3) general articles. These comments are not in the order of presentation in the book.

Articles dealing with stamps

There are nine papers, including United States 19th century, Confederate States of America, Canal Zone, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, and United Nations. Now discussing each individually:

1. United States—"The Bissell Correspondence of 1868-1875" by Jere. Hess Barr is an authoritative, well illustrated article about the find of over 100 covers from Boston to the Rev. Bissell, a missionary in India. The prevailing rates were high so that many of these covers carried double, triple and quadruple ones. The covers remain in excellent condition, and carried very few low-valued stamps. This should be of interest to all students of 19th Century United States.

2. "Confederate Flag Patriotic Covers" by Van Dyk MacBride, a paper of interest mainly to specialists, but well presented and nicely illustrated.

3. "A Unique Canal Zone Error", by Edward S. Conger, a short presentation of the "re-finding" of a stamp few authorities had ever seen. A picture of the stamp is included.

4. "Philatelic Coffee Advertising in Costa Rica—1921-23" by H. D. Mitchell, a study of the definitive issues, the "Coffee bag" overprints and their counterfeits, the circular coffee overprint of 1923 and the coffee propaganda post cards. This is a nice little presentation of research, and while the subject matter may not be of general interest, it would be worth while for any collector to spend the comparatively short time necessary to read it.

5. "Guatemala—the Large Type Numeral Surcharges of 1922" by Joseph Mandos. This is an excellent presentation of the types, the sheet position arrangements and the numbers issued of a country which is growing in philatelic popularity.

6. "Italy's Liberation Locals of World War II" by Pierson Ostrow. A study of the "behind-the-lines" of the C. L. N. (Comitato Liberazione Nazionale), a group of Anti-Nazi-Fascists, who issued various local stamps, many of which are illustrated.

7. Japan, "The Purple Pagoda of Horyuji" by R. P. Alexander, a detailed study of the ordinary 30-sen stamp of 1946-47, produced under the chaotic conditions following the bombing of Tokyo, giving a slight insight into the difficulties of living in the aftermath of modern warfare. There are no less than fourteen basic major varieties of this stamp, depending on paper, watermarks, and types of perforations. A fine example of philately applied to modern stamps.

8. "The Swiss Hotel Posts" by George W. Caldwell. This is a report of the stamps issued by various remote Swiss hotels to cover the cost of transporting mail to and from the nearest government postal routes, sometimes several miles away. Dates of issue were roughly 1864 to 1892. Although of limited interest, it is very well done.

9. "The United Nations Postal Administraiton—A Cooperative Arrangement" by John G. Tomlinson, a short comprehensive history of the idea of an international system, its final adoption, agreement with the United States Post Office, and revisions together with the sales of the stamps. The topic did not arouse our great interest, nor did it seem to offer much new information, just a compilation of recent postal records.

Articles concerning Postal History

There are six papers, including early United States, the Westtown United States locals, China, France during Revolutionary Times, British Post Office in St. Thomas and Malta.

1. "Lavender, Letters and Old Lace" by John D. Pope III. A history of methods of

transportation and delivery of mail in the United States in the first decade of 1940. This is good pleasant reading.

2. "Westtown Local" by Elizabeth R. Sharpless—a short but interesting presentation of the story of this local mail used by the Friends' Westtown Boarding School outside of Philadelphia, from 1852 until 1878.

3. "The Treaty Port Issues of China" by Malcolm Johnson. A fine presentation of a very complex subject, covering Postal History, Establishment of the Posts, a detailed study of the Stamps of Chungking, and the cancellations of these issues.

4. "The French Revolutionary or Republican Calendar, 1793-1805, and its Postal Markings" by Carroll Chase. A scholarly report, including a Concordance with the Gregorian Era, which any student of prestamp France will need to understand what some of the date markings mean.

5. "The British Post Office in St. Thomas" by Svend Yort. History of various arrangements made by the Danish government with British and other packet boats—a special study of British P. O. cancellations on stampless covers and on British adhesive stamps up to the time the Danish West Indies joined the Universal Postal Union.

6. "The Malta Post Office Before 1857" by G. P. Grabfield, covers postal history of this island from 1830 to the title date, including discussion of Packet Agents and Postal Markings, among which are special fumigation markings. This is good postal history.

General Articles

Two papers, concerning Bibliography and Catalogue Prices.

1. "Bibliography: The Basis of Philatelic Research" by John Boynton Kaiser.

A serious attempt to influence all philatelic writing, includes Definitions and Discussions, actual Bibliographies of Philately, Catalogues of Philatelic Libraries, the more Important Cumulative Indexes to Philatelic Periodicals, Directories, Indexes, Documentation, Techniques, Advice to Libraries, Summarized Suggestions and Recommendations, Conclusions and Acknowledgements. Important to all philatelic authors. There are references and quotations to THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

2. "The Pricing in Stamp Catalogs" by Stephen G. Rich, is an attempt to influence those who publish catalogs and price stamps to be as realistic as possible, in avoiding "price setting" and in meeting objections of the catalog makers who contend it is only possible to use the "outdated" system of high list prices with undetermined, variable discounts. This is certainly of interest to anyone who uses catalogs and could be of importance in strengthening our hobby.

In conclusion, the last eight pages of the book give a complete index by titles of all papers presented in the American Philatelic Congress Books, from the first to the present (the nineteenth) issue.

Sincere and hearty congratulations are due to Lt. Col. James T. DeVoss, the Editor, for a generally fine and outstanding labor of love in behalf of Philately. He has produced one of the best edited "Congress" Books. (*E. G. C.*)

The Half Lengths of Victoria by J. R. W. Purves, F.R.P.S.L., 11″ x 8½″ XVI + 216 pps. + half tone portrait of Thomas Ham, 5 plates in color, and in pocket at back 4 pages and 31 collotype plates spiral bound. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society, London 1953 £12-12-0. Edition limited to 120 numbered copies.

In 1923 THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST published the famous study of Victoria, "The Half Length Portraits and the Two-Pence Queen Enthroned" by Charles Lathrop Pack. Now, thirty years later, it has been completely superseded by Mr. Purves' splendid book on these fascinating stamps. It is fitting indeed that the finest work on the first Victorian stamps should be by an Australian, a Victorian, and one who is among the "first" if not "the first" of Australia's living philatelists.

The work by Mr. Purves is divided into two parts. The first being a study of the printings by Thomas Ham, while the second ably discusses the Campbell and Campbell & Ferguson printings.

In Pack's classification the Ham printings were divided into four groups, but Mr. Purves shows quite conclusively that Ham had made eight printings as follows:

Pack's 1st	is Purves'	1st
		2nd
Pack's 2nd	is Purves'	3rd
Pack's 3rd	is Purves'	4th
		5th
Pack's 4th	is Purves'	6th
		7th
		8th

In the Campbell and Campbell & Ferguson printings, Mr. Purves shows that there were two printings by Campbell & Fergusson formerly included in the Campbell printings. Heretofore it was believed that each firm made one printing, whereas we now know that Campbell & Ferguson made three printings. Thus it can be seen that Mr. Purves establishes six further printings for these stamps.

Arranged by denominations this table shows the present classification compared with the ones previously accepted.

	Pack				*Purves*			
	Ham	Camp.	C. & F.	Total	Ham	Camp.	C. & F.	Total
1d	3	1	1	5	5	1	3	9
2d	4	—	1	4	8	—	—	8
3d	3	1	—	5	5	1	3	9

The most striking discovery, among a number of new discoveries is that Ham's first printing of the 1d was from a small stone of 30 subjects (5 x 6) which was made up of single transfers direct from the die. Since only 9600 stamps (320 sheets) were printed from this small stone, examples from it are of necessity rare. The author has succeeded in examining 66 copies, and established 25 out of the 30 possible types. Considering the ratio of survival this must represent a high proportion of existing copies. Nevertheless, we can hope that further copies will be located, and the five remaining types finally identified. In the 2d, of which only 7,200 stamps (260 sheets) 25 out of the 30 types have been identified while of the 3d which was printed in the same quantity as the 1d, namely 9600 copies, all the types have been identified. Mr. Purves also shows that there were two printings of the 2d and 3d in sheets of 30.

The later printings of all values were from stones of 120, made up from intermediate transfers of 10, 12, 15, or 30. The various types of the intermediate transfers are all carefully identified, together with detailed notes on the secondary varieties peculiar to each printing.

In treating of the J. S. Campbell and the Campbell and Ferguson printings Mr. Purves shows that they always made up stones from an intermediate transfer of 24. These printing stones varied from 192 subjects in two panes of 96 (12 x 8), to 400 subjects in two panes of 200 (20 x 10). The primary types are all identified, as well as the secondary flaws occurring on the various stones produced from the primary transfers. The solution of the make up of the J. S. Campbell sheets is an outstanding example of philatelic research.

Let us say that this work is "pure" philately at its best. It is not something that can be "read". It must be studied and absorbed—a matter that will take the keenest student weeks if not months. For Mr. Purves brings to bear on the problems not only his knowledge of official records and the examination of thousands of stamps, but an intellect of no mean ability. Not only do we see the solution of many fascinating philatelic problems in this book, but we can observe a keen philatelist with a keen mind, in its operations, as the author not only explains the varieties and the conclusions he draws from them, but how he arrives at the conclusions and why he believes them to be correct.

The book is a beautiful production, a credit to the printers, The University Press, Aberdeen for the text, Robert MacLehose & Co. Ltd. for the color plates and binding, and the Chiswick Press for the Collotype plates.

Whether interested in the stamps of Victoria or not, all philatelists who esteem their avocation have another cause for pride in this book, which combines the best in philatelic ability, intellectual activity, and manufacturing skill. (*W. S. B.*)

"The Postage Stamps of Great Britain", Part III, The Embossed Issues, The Surface-Printed Issues of Queen Victoria and King Edward VII. By K. M. Beaumont and H. C. V. Adams. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1954, 180 pages with 19 plates. Price 20/.

This work is the latter half of Seymour's "The Stamps of Great Britain, Part II", completely rewritten by the two outstanding specialists in this field, K. M. Beaumont and H. C. V. Adams. In rewriting up the original work, much has been added and the coverage has been extended up to 1910. Thus the larger part of this book covers new ground and is the authoritative text-book on these issues.

The Publications Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society is to be complimented on their far-sightedness in carrying forward the work so ably begun by the late J. B. Seymour. For it is the written record that will live, so the author and revisers of this work will be long remembered.

On the whole the volume gives an excellent and accurate coverage of the information known on these issues. There is, unfortunately, a tendency to give a much more detailed description and study to the so-called classical stamps than to the later issues. Can this be a reflection of an ultra-conservative attitude that no stamps worthy of collecting have been issued since 1870? On the other hand, the later surface-printed stamps demonstrate such an advance in printing that obviously the philatelist has far less to study. Out of the 174 pages of text, over 100 of them are devoted to the issues made in the classical period, while 40 years of stamps are covered in a far less space. If, however, this reviewer is not in error in attributing the paucity of information on the later issues to a prejudice, then it is evident that much more study is needed on the later surface-printed issues.

These comments, while pertinent to the general approach to this book, should not be construed as in any way detracting from its usefulness or from its worth. As of now it is the finest thing of its sort that has yet been published.

We can unhesitatingly recommend this volume to the British specialist. In fact, it will provide the most useful text for the specialist collector of the stamps of Great Britain that has yet been published. The study and description of the embossed issues is very useful reading for all collectors because it provides a clear exposition of the printing paper known as "the Dickinson paper".

The Royal Philatelic Society can be proud that it has produced another fine study in its long history of outstanding philatelic studies. We sincerely hope that this program of top-notch publications will continue. It has surpassed the record of American Philately in the last decade or so pointing the way for us to start to catch up. (*H. D. S. H.*)

Billig's Philatelic Handbook Volume 20. Fritz Billig, 168-39 Highland Ave., Jamaica, N. Y. Publisher. 184 pp. plus 18 pp. Combined Index for Vols. 1 to 21. Illustrated. Cloth Bound. Price $5.00.

Before commenting specifically upon the contents of this most recent volume, some general remarks upon the philatelic value of "The Billig Handbooks" seem to be in order. Mr. Fritz Billig, a fulltime commercial stamp dealer, has diligently labored to serve philately through his publications. Monetary profits never could be his goal because the publication of such philatelic literature is not gainful.

Each Billig Handbook is a compilation of various treatises on a varied number of topics. Seldom is an original research article published. Instead previous works are reprinted. Often this is a real service because many past informative articles have become unavailable to the present philatelist. In this respect, Mr. Billig has performed a most laudable service for which all should be grateful.

The drawback in this work is the lack of new information. It is all very well to reprint a studious article on an issue of stamps written 30 years ago. But since then further data has become known and should be incorporated into the knowledge being made available in 1954. Unfortunately Billig seldom, if ever, has done this.

Therefore it is difficult for any reviewer to comment in his allowed space upon a philatelic handbook as Billig's Vol. 20 now before us. As a general rule (and there are exceptions), the contents fall into three different categories.

The first is the appearance of original studies. In this latest volume, an excellent instance is Irving I. Green's study of a little-known issue, the 1922-23 Provisionals of Honduras. Although this reviewer lacks knowledge about the stamps under discussion, this Honduras article seems to be most authoritative. It is well documented with records of the printings taken from official archives and the plating of the settings appear to be presented in a scholarly, accurate manner by one who is reputed to be one of our best Honduran specialists.

The second group refers to those articles no longer available, long out-of-print which are re-printed. Typical is the detailed study of Mexico's 1912-15 Sonora issues done by George W. Linn. This was published originally in 1916. It has held its reputation of being one of the best studies of its kind, a most comprehensive research into a single issue of stamps.

The third group concerns reprinting articles perhaps forgotten or buried unknown in other publications. For example, the Russian Wrangel Posts are an excellent feature in this Handbook. One part is a complete reprint of H. D. S. Haverbeck's authoritative article that appeared in this magazine in our July, 1948, number. Despite the very high quality of this article, one defect was noted at the time of original publication. The many significant illustrations lacked captions and were not tied into the text for the readers' guidance. This one fault was not rectified, as it should have been, in the Billig reprint. But adding to the great fund of Haverbeck knowledge about these Wrangel issues is another lengthy study by two members of the British Society of Russian Philately, W. E. C. Kothro and P. T. Ashford. Taking both articles as a combination, interested philatelists have an excellent and abundant source of information available to them upon a group of stamps that had been very obscure in the English-speaking countries.

On the other hand, there is a part of far less worth in this book. Reference is to the 7-page reprint under the misleading title "New Zealand Great Barrier Island Pigeongram Service". This obviously is a reprint from an older catalog listing and British articles. For some peculiar reason, one column was inserted on the New Zealand airmail stamps of 1931, 1934 and 1935. These are completely out of place with semi-official posts of a Pigeongram service from 1898-99. As for the Pigeongram data published, it contains some sound philatelic study, but is quite inadequate, still perpetuating old mistakes, in view of later discoveries and present-day information.

Past editorial columns in THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST have remarked in a spirit of constructive criticism about the almost total inadequacy of *indexing* in philatelic literature. These words must have had some desired effect because one is finding more and more philatelic publications being indexed. Mr. Billig deserves high praise because in the beginning of Volume 20, he has supplied the users of his handbooks with a "Combined Cross Index for Volumes 1 to 21". This represents an ambitious work of the most essential value.

So this latest production of Mr. Billig follows the pattern of his previous ones. It requires that the user exercise discrimination with his sense of philatelic knowledge because the whole cannot be judged by the parts, some of which hold a rank of philatelic information of the greatest value while others are none too reliable. Between these two extremes, one finds articles of varying worth. (*H. M. G.*)

Sanabria's Air Post Catalogue. Published by Nicolas Sanabria Co., Inc., New York, N. Y. 538 pp. plus 2-page Index. Illustrated. Cloth bound. Price $6.00.

This latest edition of the Sanabria Air Post Catalogue must have many, many thousands of listings and prices, without attempt-

ing to compile an exact count. Practically no items of interest to air mail collectors have been omitted. It is a very good book although a number of matters therein could undergo criticism. But even if 500 listings and/or prices were wrong, and space prevents their itemization, nevertheless such a large group of mistakes would come to less than 5%. Allowing even for a further percentage of errors, any catalogue that is about 90% correct ranks as a very fine one.

Aero-philately in consideration of its universal popularity needs an accurate and comprehensive guide book. The Sanabria Catalogue continues to meet this demand. (*H. M. G.*)

A Mystery Solved

FOR PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHERS

By VICTOR MARSH

The names of authors, publishers, and writers of philately's first generation—as I shall term those of the 'sixties—are generally known, although written under pseudonyms or initials.

For instance, Major Edward B. Evans (so long editor of "Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal" and a Director of the Company in 1890 when a company prospectus was issued) had written as "Cheth": the originator of the firm of Pemberton (Edward L.) traded as Grant and Co.: Dr. Jacques Amable Legrand of France wrote as Dr. Magnus: the handbooks of J. B. Moens and the editorship of "Le Timbre-poste" were by Louis Hanciau of Brussels.

But who was the author of the first Spanish catalogue published at Barcelona in 1864?

Through the decades it has remained a mystery. Its title was "Manuel del Coleccionista de Sellos de Correo" and its author "J. M. V. de C".

Apart from the copy in the Crawford bequest to the British Museum, I know only of one other which I bought very many years ago from a Spanish correspondent for £20 and sold to Frank Arthur Bellamy, M.A., F.R.A.S., F.R.P.S.L. It figured again in the Sale catalog which I prepared for Harris Publications, Ltd., and was sold by Jacombs at the Bonnington Hotel in 1946. In preparing this catalogue I could only mention the initials as given in the Crawford Library catalogue prepared by [Sir] Edward Denny Bacon [K.C.V.O.]. When Señor Don M. P. de Figueroa * wrote an article on Spanish publications for my "International Directory of Philatelic Literature Collectors" in 1904, I put the question to him but without success. The doctor had written various books dealing with postal matters and was greatly instrumental in getting the deplorable Spanish postal service put on a sounder basis. As a reward, all he desired was free postage in Spain and Colonies. That was agreed to and the doctor had a number of circular rubber stamps made with the pseudonym "Dr. Thebussem" which he used for franking purposes. He wrote to me with an envelope franked thus and about a dozen "cut-outs" on variously colored papers were included. These I placed in my collection of philatelic autographs which for some reason unknown remains *caché*.

Only recently has the mystery of the initials been solved. Way back in the late 'nineties' I subscribed to the "Madrid Filatelico" published by Miguel Gálvez who died about three years ago. After many years' lapse I renewed my subscription in 1952 and put the question to his son, Manuel, who gave me the information I wanted. The author was Don José Maria Vergés de Cardona.

A plate illustration of this catalogue was published in the "Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society" in 1912.

* Spain honored this gentleman in 1944 by a 5 Pts. air mail listed in Scott as C117, design AP31. *(Editor)*

THE CLUBHOUSE

Another Clubhouse

A statement was made in these columns on page 2 of Vol. XXXIII that *"in the United States there is only (Stamp) Collectors Club with its own building."* It may come as a surprise to other members, as it did to us, but there is *another Stamp Club in the United States with its own building in Los Angeles, California.* After one of our California members caught our error and wrote us, we requested further information. The letter of reply was so interesting that we quote portions of it for the information of our entire membership.

"The name is THE PHILATELIC CLUB, INC. In 1941 a 12-room residence at 417 So. Alvarado Street in the Westlake district of Los Angeles was purchased. It is wholly owned, as is 22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y., free and clear. The location is only ten minutes from downtown Los Angeles,—a central, convenient one. The present Meeting Room on the ground floor can accommodate 40-50, but plans are under way to enlarge it to seat 100 or more people.

"The balance of the building is devoted for the most part to a library which like yours is open to the public. The contents of the library are well kept, indexed; and, many periodicals are bound. As to its size, the Los Angeles Club believes it may presently hold second rank as an American Philatelic Library, only our own being superior.

"The membership of the PHILATELIC CLUB, Inc., comprises mostly residents of Southern California, although it is open to all philatelists. A few out-of-State Corresponding members are on the rolls, although no serious attempt has been made to build this up.

"From July 1941 through December 1942, a printed Club Bulletin was issued monthly. It ran notices of interest about the members, their activities and the regular meetings. It became a war casualty and hopes are brewing for a revival".

Word from the Director of the Los Angeles Club stresses the fact that any philatelist visiting Southern California is invited to come to 417 South Alvaredo Street and see the other Stamp Collectors Club in the United States.

In conclusion, it is desired to stress that when we boasted last January about owning our own clubhouse, it was with a spirit of pride. We are delighted to know about the good fortune of stamp collectors in Los Angeles, California. We hope that in other large cities of the United States, our ardent philatelic friends there can some time in the not-too-distant future fulfill their desire to have a clubhouse of their own. From New York to Southern California is a lot of mileage. A few more stamp collectors clubhouses is not a wild dream, when one realizes the growth and prosperity of philately in the United States in recent years. (*H. M. G.*)

Club Competition Night

April 21, 1954

The idea of an annual competition for this Club's members must be popular because of the very great response to this year's event. A total of 52 members entered pages from their albums for an individual one-frame showing. The success of the entire project from beginning to end is most heartening judging by the many favorable comments heard or received.

Under the guidance of the Chairman of the Program Committee, *H. D. S. Haverbeck,* an Exhibition Committee was formed early in 1954. There was much advance planning and work, which manifested itself later by the efficient ways in which the Annual Member Competition went off. Messrs. *Henry M. Goodkind* and *Louis Stich* were given the assignment of preparing the material entered. When the entries began pouring in, the Committee was advised that

the 20 permanent frames in the Club's Meeting Room would be totally insufficient for a showing of this size. The House Committee under *Jacob S. Glaser* with the able assistance of Mr. *Harry Holman* made arrangements for additional frames. So when the Exhibition was staged, every entry was displayed because 32 extra frames had been placed in the center of the Meeting Room. This meant clearing out all other furniture and transferring it to the second floor lounge for the announcements of the winners on April 21st before the assembled members and guests.

The Exhibition Committee foresaw one important matter in their preparatory work. A Board of Judges would be required who have a *good general philatelic knowledge* rather than a group of intense specialists. The entries showed that the 52 exhibits would represent the range of philately from early 19th century to date both U. S. and foreign. Under the able Chairmanship of *Winthrop S. Boggs,* the following prominent philatelists were selected as Judges: *Mrs. John D. Dale,* Messrs. *Herbert Bloch, John R. Boker, Jr.* and *General C. W. Wickersham.*

Another factor of encouragement to the Exhibition Committee was the large representation of exhibits from non-resident members. Three came from California, one from New Mexico, four from Florida, and eleven from the Mid-West.

It is reliably estimated that close to 150 members and guests viewed the exhibits. Originally *one Grand Award* and *six Awards of Honor* had been planned. Due to the large number of entries and the keen competition, the Judges added an additional *six Awards of Merit.* The winners were as announced in this order by Mr. Boggs:

Certificates of Felicitations

United States 1847 Issue by Edward H. Ring, Trenton, N. J.

Confederate States of America by Philip Silver, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Bosnia Postal History by John Connor, New York, N. Y.

Danube & Black Sea R. R. Locals by Denwood Kelly, Norfolk, Va.

German Semi-Official Airmails by Dr. R. Hasbrouck Shrady, New York, N. Y.

Newfoundland Airmails by Mrs. M. Hoffman, New York, N. Y.

Medals of Honor

U. S. Revenues by Morton D. Joyce, New York, N. Y.

Western Express Covers by H. H. Clifford, Los Angeles, Calif.

Canada Pence Issues by Leland Powers, Boston, Mass.

Chile Provisionals by John F. Rider, New York, N. Y.

Newfoundland Airmails by Dr. James J. Matejka, Chicago, Ill.

Norway No. 1 by W. F. Foulk, Manhasset, N. Y.

Grand Award

Confederate States of America Postmaster Provisionals on covers by Frank E. Hart, Lake Worth, Fla.

Several observations are in order. First of all, all exhibits were by number, not name, so that the Judges were guided primarily by the material shown and not through a personal knowledge of the exhibitor. Secondly out of the *13 winners* only six were exhibits of New York City residents. Also the parents of Mr. Frank E. Hart were in the audience to receive with surprised elation the announcement of their son's winning the Top Honor.

The rest of the exhibition consisted of the following:

Prussia by Dr. H. M. Barnhart
Early Covers by Max Bass
Vatican City by John P. Briggs
Curacao and Surinam Airmails by Charles Booy
France Airmail Blocks by Adrien Boutrelle
Mexico 1913-15 by Grant Bulkley
Great Britain Mulreadys by Paul Carlton
China 19th Century by E. Robert Clas
Ryukyu Islands by Emory E. Cochran
Czechoslovakia Essays by Herbert Dube
Gibraltar by R. R. Grabfield
Costa Rica "Ambulantes" by W. P. S. Hall
Canada 3c Beavers by Miss Ethel Harper
U. S. A. Covers by Fred Hayward
French Morocco Airmail Proofs by Wm. G. Higginbotham

U. S. A. the 2c of 1912-21 by Dr. C. S. Hitchins
U. S. Revenues by Sidney Kahn
Philippines Airmail by Henry Kraemer
U. S. Fumigated Mail by Mrs. Maryette B. Lane
U. S. Wine Stamps by R. W. Larsen
London, England Early Postal History by R. W. Leach
Straits Settlements by P. P. Lindenberg
U. S. Silver Purchase Revenues by B. H. Matthies
U. S. 19th Century Fancy Cancels by Edwin Milliken
U. S. Duck Stamps by Herman Munves
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan by Stanley E. Nolan
Austria Pre-Stamp Mail by E. P. Radford
N. Mex. Ghosttown Markings by Duane C. Rosselot
German Post Cards by H. C. Schulz
Haiti 1898 Issue by F. B. Sellers
Danzig 19th Century Cancels by James W. Shaver
Hawaii by Henry M. Spelman III
German States by A. Swoboda
Denmark 1913-34 Issues by A. James Wennermark
Global Covers by J. C. Wheat
France Pont-du-Gard Issues by Miss Elena L. Wheeler
Brazil by John S. Whittlesey
Bulgaria by Herbert P. Woodward

The Club is indebted not only to all who participated to make this 1954 event so outstanding but to the following members who labored long and hard to stage this event: *Stephen G. Rich, Maurice Tripet, Charles Booy, Sol Whitman,* and finally President *John J. Britt* who despite an illness drove himself to supervise the entire undertaking from cradle to grave that this Annual Competition would be conducted so as to reflect the traditional high prestige of THE COLLECTORS CLUB. (*H. M. G.*)

Meeting on May 19, 1954

Baden

Mr. Herbert Bloch, himself originally a Badensian, showed what he quite underratingly called "some pages from a specialized collection of Baden—his own." Far from being what the title might imply, the evening's exhibit was really a very systematic showing that did ample justice to this country's postal material. Begun as a cancellation collection, Mr. Bloch has, over the years, made it more and more extensive, including postal stationery, postal forms, and in fact everything postal from Baden.

The earliest Baden postal service was operated by the House of Thurn & Taxis, from 1718 onwards. We have pre-stamp covers from as early as 1745, some with manuscript postmarks, some with handstamps. A number of these, showing the typical styles and very early dates, formed the first frame of exhibited material. Following the ending of the Imperial Post, with which the Thurn & Taxis administration cooperated, we have the French domination. Thurn & Taxis kept its field of activity including Baden, introducing a system of zone or "Rayon" rates. The postmarking of the period indicates these in some cases, but not in all.

In 1811 Baden took over its own postal service. The old postmarks were kept in use in some cases until 1851, as shown. In others new styles, such as double lined marks and double circles (rare at first) were introduced. Octagons appear from 1830 on; and a remarkable posthorn type used at Karlsruhe. The last day of stampless domestic mailing, April 30, 1851, was represented by a cover.

The Revolution of 1848 and the two years of war after it produced some remarkable covers, such as those shown with Prussian post markings on covers within Baden.

Stamps were introduced May 1, 1851. A cover within the first week of use was included in the exhibit. Mr. Bloch differentiated with great clarity the first and second printings of the four values. He pointed out that the irregular locking-up of the electro clichés for stamp printing makes it hard to get fine copies, as even careful cutting apart of the imperforates was subject to the wandering of the narrow spaces between stamps. Rather interesting was the 6k second printing, with stitch watermark, shown here. This is evidence that at least a part of the second printing was on machine-made paper. Differentiation of the first and second printings of the 9k by color was shown with great clarity.

The 1853 color changes, to avoid confusion with Wurttemberg stamps, received considerable attention, with mention of the difficulty of finding certain values, the 6k specialty, in pairs. Likewise the 1858 color change, with alleged reason that "gum did not adhere to the stamp" came in for attention—including the discovery copies for the stitch watermark and the printed both sides 3k on blue.

The 1865 special printing, made for the Austrian postmaster general and valid for postage, came in for attention. Platings and one entire sheet of the 6k were shown; also the two positions that "won't plate" on the 1k.

The showing of the 1860 new design perforated issue, the 1861, the change of perforation in 1862, and the colorless-background issue of 1863 were explained in full detail, as was the revised wording of the 1868 issue caused by ending of the German-Austrian Postal Union. Covers to various countries, including the United States, with the higher values franking them, were a special feature in this period as shown.

After the intermission, Mr. Bloch explained the Rural Postage Dues stamps. This was a special service, established in 1858, with all mail carried collect. Rural delivery was charged for on mail from the State Post Offices. The stamps, of three values, were printed in sheets of 100. Of these, the 12k is very hard to find used on cover: three such were shown, two of them multiples. Likewise the bisect 12k and the quadrisect 12k (one of the two known covers) were in the frames. Two covers showing the rural dues and the regular stamps used together were the most striking features of this section.

Combination covers of Baden with stamps of other countries formed the next section. Some were actual mixed franking; others covers forwarded in country of first address.

The stamped envelopes, from 1858 on (stamp at left), the reissues, the 1862's with stamp at right, formed a well developed section by themselves.

The cancellation section was highly developed, showing the old postmark styles used with separate numeral killers, 1 to 163 in alphabetical order of post office names, as the starting point. Several cases of shifted killer as No. 10 from Beuggen to Rheinfelsen Railroad Station, appeared in full. Colored cancellations, which Mr. Bloch considers much overrated, also were shown. The numeral cancellations began to vanish in favor of town marks struck on the stamps in 1863, but no order for abandonment of these killers has been found.

Interesting items were Prussian and Wurtemburg railroad cancellations on Baden stamps, from lines of these countries which had short sections within Baden. Likewise, Baden postmarks continued on German Empire stamps after January 1, 1872 made a special group. Some continued in use to around 1890.

In 1925 all the Baden postmarking devices were taken up from offices having them. Late imprints were made, but most of the actual devices were destroyed by war damage in 1941. Imprints of 1935 with stamped and stampless use of the same device in old times were shown grouped.

At the end, a vote of thanks by applause was spontaneously given. In presenting the certificate of appreciations, Program Chairman Haverbeck said that Mr. Bloch had shown himself truly "a philatelist's philatelist" by the talk and showing of this evening. (This condensed report really fails to do justice to the excellence of the material and of the explanations). (*S. G. R.*)

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

"Niagara Frontier" Publication of the Buffalo, New York, Historical Society. The Spring 1954 number contains the *Pitt Petri* article *"Private Local Posts in Buffalo"* in condensed form. The original article ran in Vol. 32, pp. 77-92 of THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

Many original articles have been reprinted with permission from THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, but usually in other philatelic publications. This reprint with mention of our magazine marks one of the very first times when the journal of a historical society has borrowed from philately. We regard it as another piece of evidence of the increasing stature of and respect for philately in the United States.

"A Selective Bibliography of Literature on Revenue Stamps" by Joseph Schonfeld. Gift of Author.

"Billig's Specialized Catalogue Vol. VII—*—Canada"* by Hans Reiche. Gift of Author.

"Postal Stationery of the Commonwealth of Australia" by E. Norman Lurch. Gift of Author.

"Golden Age of the United States Postage Stamp Designs" by Dr. C. Brazer. Gift of Author. (Reprint from the National Philatelic Museum).

*"*Sanabria's *Air Post Catalogue*—1954-55 Edition" by Nicolas Sanabria & Co., Inc.

"Isabel the Catholic Issue of Spain 1937-40. Illustrations of the Transfer Types" by Ian Hamilton. Gift of Author.

"Catalogue des Marques Postales 1698-1876. Le Pas de Calais 1945" by L. Dubus. Gift of Author.

"Catalogue des Marques Postales et Obliterations de La Haute Garonne 1698-1876" by L. Dubus. Author's gift.

"Catalogue des Marques Postales 1698-1876 *de La Manche"* by L. Dubus. Gift of Author.

"Catalogue des Marques Postales & Obliterations du Nord 1698-1876 (1947)" by L. Dubus. Gift of Author.

"Catalogue des Marques Postales N *Obliterations du Var* 1698-1876 (1945)" by L. Dubus. Gift of Author.

"Pilots of the Air Mail. Four stories: three by Philip Lee Wright; one by John Prentice Langley. Gift of Albert H. Higgins.

"Catalogue of the Exhibition of B. P. A. Reference Collection comparing Jean Sperati stamps with genuine" by British Philatelic Association.

"Colombia and Her Posts 1859-1903" by Charles Jewell. (Reprint from London Philatelist Jan.-Feb. 1954).

"Your Introduction to a Fascinating Hobby —Stamp Collecting" by Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. Gift of Author.

"The Postage Stamps of Great Britain—Pt. III" by K. M. Beaumont & H. G. V. Adams. Gift of Royal Philatelic Soc.

"Evolution of World Posts" by Charles Meroni. Gift of Author.

"The Commonwealth Catalogue — Queen Elizabeth Stamps 1954 Edition" by Commonwealth Stamp Co.

"Eleventh American Philatelic Congress Book" 1945.

"Phantom Philately" F. J. Melville.

"Commonwealth of Australia" A bi-monthly periodical. Editor—Philip Burr.

At the Board of Governors meetings held on April 28th and May 26th, 1954, the following new members were elected:

No.

4217 Raffaele de Angelis, East Elmhurst, L. I. Collects Italian-Libia.

4218 Henry H. Melhoos, Winnetka, Ill. Collects U. S. and Norway.

4219 Idus L. Murphree, Athens, Ohio. Collects Philippines, "Tokyo Bay" Naval Cancellations.

4220 Manuel M. Risueno, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Collects British Colonies and Mexico.

4221 Mrs. Erminia L. Citti, New York, N. Y. Collects U. S. Stamps and Covers, Maximum Cards, Italy & Colonies.

4222 Hans Danziger, Chicago, Ill. Collects U. S. 20th Century Cancellations.

4223 Wm. W. Steele, San Antonio, Texas. Collects U. S. Sanitary Fairs and Locals.

4224 James S. Couch, Hot Spring, Alaska. Collects Alaska Postal History, Canada, Eire.

4225 Dr. Marion L. Riccitelli, New Haven, Conn. Collects Medical Revenues.

4226 George Behrens, Caracas, Venezuela. Collects Venezuela, Curacao, Trinidad, Barbados, Bahamas. Bermuda and Guatemala.

4227 W. F. Deakin, Sussex, England. Collects Great Britain and Colonies.

4228 J. Stuart Fleming, Niagara Falls, N. Y. Collects U. S., Canada.

4229 Joseph F. Negreen, Great Barrington, Mass. Collects British Empire.

4230 Edwin Mayer, New York, N. Y. Collects U. S. Stampless Covers.

4231 Manuel A. Garcia, Bronxville, N. Y. Collects Western Hemisphere.

4232 Frederick E. Hofmann, Hamden, Conn. Collects Civil War Patriotics.

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* Reviewed in this number.

4233 C. Turner Nearing, Decatur, Ill. Collects St. Louis Postmasters, South African Definitives, Music Stamps.

4234 Edgar H. B. Parkin, Charlotte, N. C. Collects General.

4235 Carl P. Rueth, Sidney, Ohio. Collects Finland, U. S. Plate Blocks, and Foreign.

4236 William A. Scheller, Evanston, Ill. Collects U. S.

4237 Ralzemond B. Parker, Wynnewood, Pa. Collects U. S., B. N. A., U. S. Covers, Postal History.

4238 H. Graham Bertram, Dundas, Ontario. Collects Canada—19th Century especially pence 1859 issues and Large Queens of 1868.

4239 George C. Sprang, Pasadena, Calif. Collects General.

AUDITORS' REPORT

The Collectors Club

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND SURPLUS

For the Year Ended December 31, 1953

INCOME:			
Dues		$ 12,140.02	
Contributions		355.00	
Rental:			
Association for Stamp Exhibitions		200.00	
Philatelic Foundation		800.00	
Sale of handbooks		163.71	
Miscellaneous		70.50	$ 13,729.23
OPERATING EXPENSES:			
Club		5,734.78	
House		5,177.70	10,912.48
Operating income			2,816.75
LOSS ON COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST PUBLICATION:			
Cost of publishing		4,836.54	
Deduct income from:			
Advertising	$ 1,949.50		
Subscriptions	565.42	2,514.92	2,321.62
Net income			495.13
SURPLUS, December 31, 1952		120,165.43	
Deduct transfer of fund balances included in surplus at December 31, 1952:			
To Alfred F. Lichtenstein Mem. Fund	2,545.78		
To Collectors Club Fund	312.47	2,858.25	
ADJUSTED SURPLUS, December 31, 1952		117,307.18	
Transfer of cash from Life Membership Fund (see page 9)	1,105.77		
Transfer of furniture and fixtures from Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Fund	856.72	1,962.49	119,269.67
SURPLUS, December 31, 1953			$119,764.80

BALANCE SHEET, December 31, 1953

ASSETS

Cash		$ 4,093.44
Deposit with Post Office		10.00
Donated stamps, block of four 5c Garfield special printing (Scott's catalogue No. 205c) at appraisal value		5,000.00
House Replacement Fund:		
Cash in Trustees' account	$ 1,056.92	
Marketable securities	8,375.98	$ 9,432.90
J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund:		
Cash	195.73	
Marketable securities	6,700.00	6,895.73
Life Membership Fund:		
Cash in savings bank		350.00
Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Fund:		
Cash		1,770.98
Collectors Club Fund:		
Cash		252.77
Fixed assets:		
Club real estate	65,058.07	
Furniture and equipment	14,744.48	
Library	30,293.35	110,095.90
Unexpired insurance premiums		1,192.83
		$139,094.55

LIABILITIES, FUND RESERVES AND SURPLUS

Liabilities:		
Federal income and payroll taxes withheld from employees	$ 76.87	
Federal insurance contributions payable	8.63	
Dues paid in advance	541.87	$ 627.37
Fund reserves:		
House Replacement Fund Reserve	9,432.90	
J. Brace Chittenden Memorial Fund	6,895.73	
Life Membership Fund Reserve	350.00	
Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial Fund Reserve	1,770.98	
Collectors Club Fund Reserve	252.77	18,702.38
Surplus		119,764.80
		$139,094.55

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President John J. Britt wishes to inform the members that for the first time in the Collectors Club's 58-year old history, our membership has passed the **1,200** mark on June 1, 1954.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

July - August

SUMMER RECESS

September 15th

"Philatelic Mystery"—a panel show.

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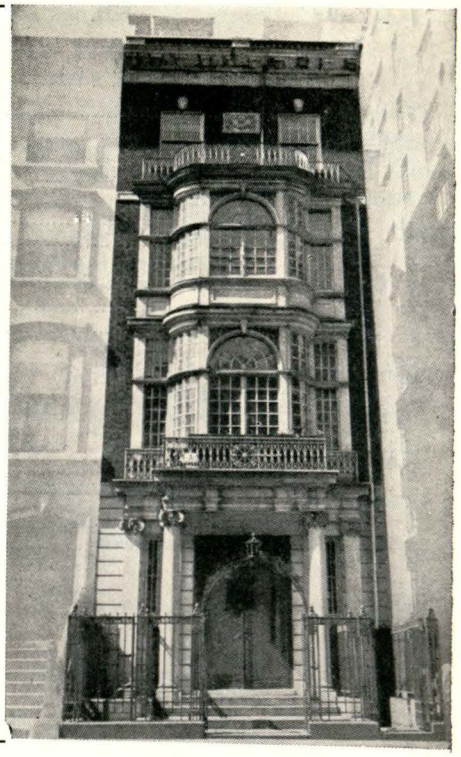
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LIBRARY SURVEY

(Continued from Page 184.)

plans for gifts of money and material for philatelists as memorials to individuals".

Those members who have read down to this point, may now ask themselves: "What can I do?" The Survey has these Recommendations on which you can make a good start:

"1. That users of the library be encouraged to recommend additions (either by purchase or gift) to the collection. These recommendations should be forwarded to the Librarian.

"2. That the librarian, at periodic intervals, forward recommendations from users and from the library staff, for additions (purchase or gift) to the collection."

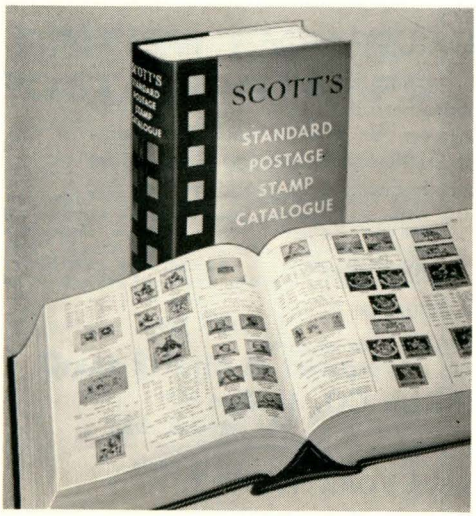
The other problems shown in this Survey must await a future action by the Officers and Governors of the Collectors Club. A plan must be devised to solicit funds for an adequate operation of the Library. Then all those who agree that philately will never have a front rank without a good, working library in America will have to take an active interest in the support of this idea. It cannot depend upon a few. Many more must participate. The New Yorker cannot be expected to provide a service for non-New York philatelists.

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