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Volume 41 Number 4
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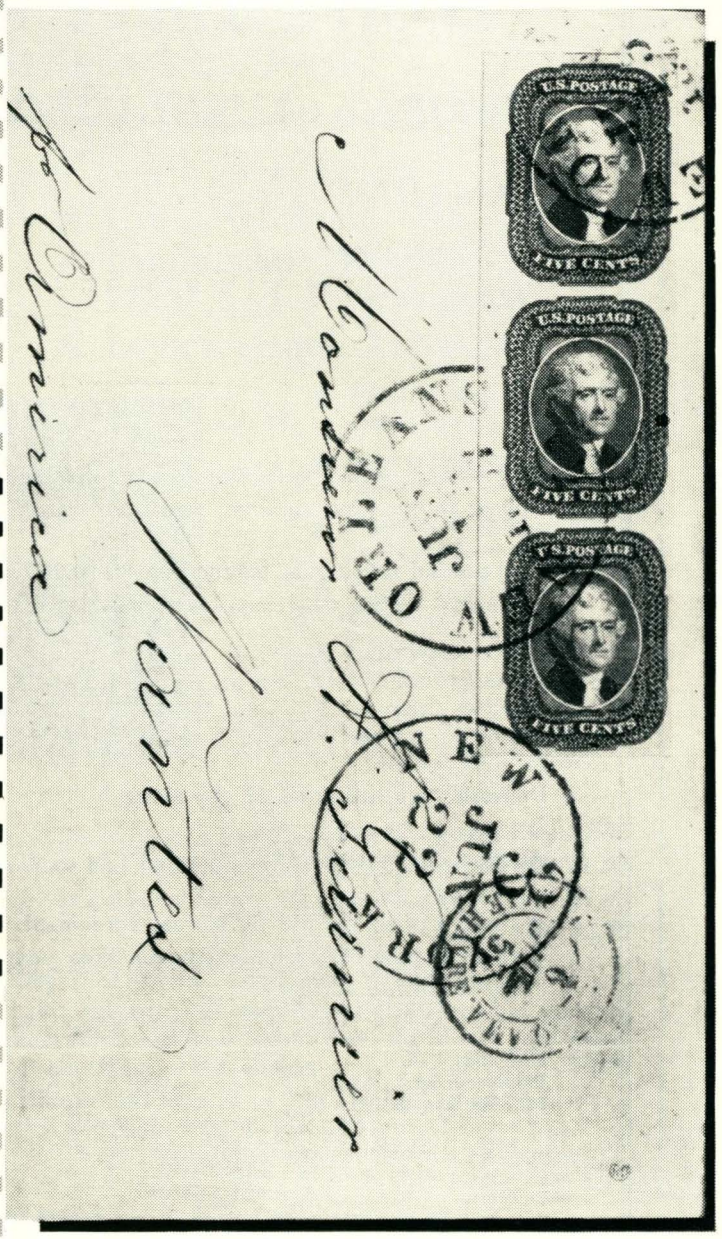
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The Collectors Club PHILATELIST

Volume 41 Number 4
July 1962

Editorials

Local And Regional American Stamp Shows

Assume that a small country was to have the next world's Olympic Games. The enormous feeling of national pride, the excitement over the prestige, the thrill of being honored with such an important international event almost defies description. Such a country, however, will only stage the World's Olympic Games if 25% of her natives can win an Olympic medal.

Of course, nothing as far-fetched as this has happened nor is likely to transpire in the future. Nevertheless, such an unusual situation is now taking place with local or regional stamp shows here in the United States.

A city — not New York or other larger ones — stages a stamp show. Of course, it wants to attract some outstanding collections for exhibition, and, thus, invites those who own them to exhibit. In many cases, the prize-winning collections are the possessions of philatelists, who live in or near the great American metropoles. But when the latter do participate in competition, the local boys and girls often must content themselves with second, third or no prizes at all, because of the invited non-local exhibits.

In order to avoid this, many regional stamp shows establish a special section exclusively for "the home talent" and often have this judged by a separate panel of judges. Generally prominent philatelists are invited to judge the show. However, the local section is assigned to some lesser known local people.

This is done with the intention to make everybody happy. But it does not work out that way. A third-prize-winner will always think he deserved a gold. Furthermore, the best in the local group usually is an exhibit so far inferior to the rest of the show that all prizes lose their significance.

Another unfortunate development in local stamp shows is the pressure put upon the judges to award the exhibitor, not the exhibit. A person can show a very ordinary collection, poorly mounted and apparently with little philatelic knowledge. But because the exhibitor happens to be a bigwig in the local philatelic club, he must be kept content by having his exhibit win a gold or silver medal. Otherwise, the judges are told this local stamp club officer will quit, and the loss of his services will be disastrous.

Two prominent New York City philatelists, after recently judging a regional stamp show, were told by a former high officer in a national philatelic society that they were not qualified to judge such an exhibit, because they knew too much about stamps and paid no attention to the status of the individual exhibitors. These two judges were informed that their verdicts caused much discontent among the exhibitors, and in the future different types of judges would be needed, if more exhibits would be held. Finally, it was said to these two judges that they have the necessary requisites to judge only large international stamp shows, but not the smaller ones where the exhibitor rather than the exhibit is the determining factor.

Of course, perhaps those "big city" exhibitors, who often prefer to collect medals in preference to stamps, are somewhat to blame. But if their exhibits are invited as an attraction, then they are entitled to a gold medal no matter if they previously have won twenty-five.

The local exhibition committee should request that some of the famous collections be shown non-competitively and, in appreciation, give the exhibitor a gift as appealing as a competitive prize. The trouble has been that up to now exhibits shown "not for competition" in local or regional stamp shows

often receive nothing and only occasionally a certificate of appreciation. The point is that better practices, better management and planning are needed for local and regional stamp shows. Their present ways obviously warrant criticism, and the results downgrade the purpose behind stamp exhibitions.

One cannot have a 15-horse race and expect every entry to win. Competition means the establishment of a first, second and third. A losing horse may be the kindest animal in the stable. But he still ran eight in the race. So it must be with stamp competitions, whether held in the biggest or a small city in the United States. Once favoritism replaces merit, philately invites trouble; stamp shows will do more harm than good. *(H. M. G.)*

An Enemy Of Our Hobby

Collectors of postage stamps have long been considered slightly crazy by people who have never been attracted by their fascination. One of the things which draws a collector to the stamp is the conscious or unconscious fulfillment of a desire to travel, to see far away places, to visit the Coral Atolls of the Pacific and the Pink Palaces of Jaipur. The collecting of stamps supplies a tie to these places. These pieces of paper act as a sublimation of the frustrated desire.

Gradually, as the hobby progressed, the unused stamp was also sought after. One could see all the details of the design without the heavy or difiguring cancellation. The stamp still had the same connotation, as it could only have been originally procured from the country that had issued and used it.

In the past few years the pressure of commerce has invaded our albums. Stamps are now a source of income for the poor or newly emerging nations of the world. In order to squeeze the last penny from stamp collectors, they have made arrangements for their stamps to be sold outside of their national borders by private philatelic agencies, which pay a fee for the privilege of aiding in this exploitation.

These non-official agencies operate in a number of ways. Some serve as a wholesale outlet, receiving their supplies directly from the national postal administration. Others have wider powers. They place the contracts for the stamps with printers outside of the country, select the designs, colors and even the denominations. This type of agency receives the stamps directly from the printer and then forwards a few of them to the country of ostensible origin to be cancelled philatelically in order to make the emission seem legitimate. These issues are manipulated by making unnecessary varieties, perforated and imperforated, souvenir sheets and high denominations not required by the prevailing postal rates. It even goes to the extent of preparing "errors" in order to increase the profits.

In this commercial furor what is happening to the collector? He is deluged with "stamps" in three, four or ten colors, portraying various fancy species of flora and fauna as well as other weird designs. If a collector tries to get a used copy by sending an envelope to a friend or acquaintance to be mailed back, he is told the stamps had been demonetized by decree the day before, or, he even gets a letter back asking for some more of the stamps because the ones he sent had never been seen at the local post office, and some natives also like to collect their own stamps.

The collector, beset by such actions, easily becomes disgusted with what had existed for years as a pleasant pastime. He will either abandon stamps entirely or will confine his collecting field to something that is still enjoyable, such as nineteenth century Classics, stamps of the "dead" countries or anything but the latest new issues.

In the final analysis, it can be easily seen that the private philatelic agency is an enemy of our hobby. It produces stamps which are merely "labels," with or without pretty designs, in the garish colors of "Chromos." To a philatelists's mind such adhesives are not postage stamps unless they are freely obtainable in the country of issue, and, preferably, used in that country for the purpose for which they were designated, namely, the payment of the postal fee in the normal course of private correspondance or business communications.

It is evident that, in time, as more and more collectors grow discouraged with the hobby, the law of diminishing returns will operate to reduce the profits of these entrepreneurs. This, however, would be more damaging than would a firm stand by philatelists. Let us make clear the line of demarcation between postage stamps and labels. Let us indicate by a letter to the publishers of the catalogues that such emissions are not stamps in the true sense of the word. From past actions it appears that the editors of the catalogues would be on the side of the collectors, as there are precedents for the refusal to list adhesives which the cataloguers believed to have been issued for the sole purpose of selling to the unwary collector rather than legitimate postal needs. *(H. D. S. H.)*

Letter To The Editor

Keep 'em Ignorant

Colonialism as practiced in Africa by England and France in contradistinction, let us say, to that by either Belgium or Portugal was distinguished in the case of the first two by their willingness to disseminate knowledge. It is a fact, on the other hand, that when the Congo was granted its independence by Belgium, so illy prepared were the Congolese, only a pitiful few had even so much as a high school education. Of doctors, lawyers, legislators, engineers — not one.

A strong and painful parallel — even to some alarming — may be found today in philately, which on being faced with — for want of a better term — the pressures of the unwashed masses, proposes to adopt this same attitude of deliberate segregation of the hordes and their planned ignorance.

Yet the masses in philately are numerically dominant. Also the chances are they represent the major share of the buying power in philately today. But these masses are naive tyros, beginning collectors who have swarmed to the hobby in the past 20 lush years and have succeeded in nothing more notable than to jog to irritability the placid, smugly content insiders.

The masses or novices are being mercilessly exploited — by an ever-growing number of unethical and corrupt, often fly-by-night dealers; by a small group of unscrupulous connivers who have wangled philatelic agencies from avaricious and unmoral postal administrations, and lastly, but far from least, by the studied indifference of most of the philatelic press of this country. The press thrives on a laissez faire attitude and a willingness to look the other way when the most fantastic philatelic deals are perpetrated to mulct the "great unwashed."

It is a sad commentary that the voice of only one paper can be heard in opposition. It was the late W. C. Fields who topped P. T. Barnum's observation that there is a "sucker born per minute" with "yes, and two to take him." Philately's share of sucker-takers is in far greater ratio than 2-to-1. But one seldom hears a word of demurrage, not from most periodicals and not from most high up in philatelic politics. For the periodicals, it is enough for them that their customers are usually the sucker-takers. So throughout philately, we have the all-pervading philosophy — "Every man for 'theirself' and let the buyer beware."

Let us also acknowledge that a large percentage of these uninformed collectors who form the major segment of collecting today call themselves "topical

collectors.'' The result is that the name has become synonymous with ''philatelic ignorance.'' It is the topical collectors, above all others, who are being kept segregated, kept in ignorance and therefore easily and shamelessly mulcted. The rest of informed philately stands uneasily by, too craven to raise a voice, too self-preoccupied to see where its duties obviously point.

This raucous baby when need be is advised that ''for you topicalists, there are no rules. Collect the way you want, it's all in fun.'' With this, they are encouraged to go their blissful way — fools whom philately joins in fooling.

All serious discussions by critics of this huge segment of buying power in philately recognize its existence — and depreciate it. These critics are destructive since they make no constructive, needed suggestions as to how the masses may improve themselves. Instead, suggestions flow forth as to how philately may best void itself of this ''stone in its throat.''

So distinguished a dealer, philatelist and commentator as Edwin Mueller in his ''Mercury Journal'' recently proposed in all seriousness that separate catalogues be printed for topical collectors. These proposed ''topical catalogues,'' in effect, would be devoid of any philatelic information whatever but would confine their contents to a rather prosaic pictorial representation of new issues as they appear. This is typical of the present thinking by those who regard with horror the creeping topical menace.

The panacea offered? Keep 'em ignorant, keep them separate. In fact, don't even ask them to read. Just show 'em pictures. In fact, give them their own catalogues and divorce them as completely as possible from those who dwell in ivory towers. Otherwise, the thinking goes, the masses will prove the vulnerable flank of philately, one that is exposed to the growing number of wolves and the growing daring of their lupine attacks. Just how philately proposes to survive, sans a flank, the higher ups do not say. They have suggested amputation but hardly survival.

The point of view taken by the writer is a straightforward one that can hardly be contested. It is simply this: a topical collector, upon acquiring a stamp, should know as much about it from a philatelic standpoint as might be expected of any other student of stamps. In addition, he must *also* have the extra knowledge we now refer to as topical. What can possibly be wrong with extra knowledge? Surely in the case of the air mail collector, it is not unreasonable to ask of him to know something of air mail rates, air routes, the methods of stamp production as well as the historical and social significance of the air post. But why beat a dead horse?

The topical collector must be able to add to his fund of knowledge both the salient philatelic features of his stamps as well as their topical story. The two cannot be divorced and such a split must not be encouraged by sophisticated nontopicalists. *This last is imperative.* The biggest pitfall lying ahead for topical philately is this insistence by those who ought to know better that topical and philatelic knowledge cannot, and need not, go hand in hand. This is typically divisive advice.

But even more abrasive is the presumptuous suggestion that every topicalist is not interested in philatelic knowledge and that no topicalist could possibly want a catalogue such as those now printed by Scott, Gibbons and the others. It is undermining to suggest that a topicalist would be best suited with a catalogue tailored to the ignorance thrust upon him by that far better informed but minority segment calling itself ''classical philatelists.''

Do not misunderstand. There is no disposition here to quarrel with classical philately or any other kind of scholasticism with less high-sounding adjectival qualifications. The informed philatelist is the backbone of our hobby, albeit at times giving rise to the impression the backbone is mainly guava jelly.

It is the informed and inner circle that runs philately. Give credit where due. The inner circle organizes the big shows, labors unstintingly and unreimbursed to found and operate an adjunct as invaluable as the Philatelic Foundation, puts together and makes tick such an illustrious institution as the Collectors Club, sponsors publications such as the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST and various handbooks financed by the Steinway Fund. Make no mistake — without the real students, the real laborers, there would be no philately as we know it.

But to keep all this a private preserve, to keep this closed to the unwashed who are being, we insist, callously left to their ignorance-inspired devices, is to shirk one's duty as an informed member of philately. We do not propose that all philatelists become Gallahads. But surely there is some point between extremes, a point where we ought all take upon ourselves the not-too-unreasonable assignment of lending a helping hand. It is a duty to spread a little of the beams of truth and knowledge. It is a duty to pass knowledge along and not shirk the responsibility of so doing. Surely this problem of the ignorant masses is never going to be solved by creating artifical appendages to the philatelic body proper which will shrivel to ugly, valueless excrescences by withholding life-giving knowledge from them. This, in effect, is nonetheless seriously proposed.

It boils down to this: advise and show the topicalist what is expected of him; what it is possible for him to learn, and to show, in a philatelic sense. Present him a challenge. Accept him in exhibitions only on the basis that he has mastered the intricacies of the hobby. Do not feed him the pap of ignorance and encourage his being kept separate. Do not make of him a laughing stock, openly patronized, privately despised and widely victimized. Exclusivity of membership in philately will tend towards a too-highly esoteric and self-perpetuating group of intellectual snobs.

Since it is necessary to walk before learning to run, all philately must help the beginning collector to walk. This means guidance for him, practice by him. Guidance, and ensuing practice, can be fostered only by those who have been through the mill. What is needed from those who have already learned is that measure of bigness that compels the knowledgable to give of themselves that very small part that is necessary to set the bewildered neophyte's foot down the path to knowledge.

Yet those we have charged with such a responsibility apparently have forgotten they, too, were once taken in hand and shown, somewhere in the misty past. Man isn't born with the knowledge that one never spits to windward but to leeward; he learns it by painful empiricism or, more often, and more easily, by the experience of others. Yet one who shall be nameless told us, "I'm darned if I will teach. I'm tired to death of teaching. Let 'em learn for themselves."

Well, the world is presently filled with a generation of brigands who learned for themselves — the wrong way. They learned in the gutters of the world, and having learned, they disseminate their philosophy — what you want, take! Heinous as this oversight in its duty was, society is ready to make the same mistake with the upcoming generation, repeating the same error gain. So a new and more potentially dangerous generation stands ready to move in also having learned for itself and, of course, learned the wrong thing. A third and then ensuing waves of generations will come along, each learning for itself. Their elders will be too tired to teach, too immersed in their own pursuits, too enamoured of their own ivory towers and too effete to stem the tide of monsters their permissive indifference spawned.

If all this is a trifle emotional, the criticism is accepted as valid. To be less than emotional is not to care. With many of us today, there is no longer a capacity for indignation, no longer a feeling one way or another about anything. So, we are emotional. And it is a lot better than complacency, smugness and the self assurance one is, at the very least, omniscient.

Ira Seebacher, Roslyn, N. Y.

Brunei

Its Postage Stamps And Cancellations

By Howard Lee

Introduction

Out-of-the-way and unpopular philatelic entities seem to be those that have always gained my interest. In 1954, a search for a new field, which could be both challenging and inexpensive yet not replete with an annual flood of new issues made especially for the collector, began. As that time, while browsing through Robson Lowe's "The Empire In Asia," my eyes lit upon the four-page section covering Brunei. The following statement attracted by attention, "There is considerable scope for philatelic research in the definitive types of Brunei." Being a young philatelist whose financial means were limited, Brunei seemed a specialty within my philatelic budget open to study.

At the outset, being inexperienced, it did not occur to me to contact British dealers, and for several years my material was obtained exclusively in the United States. On the other hand, the British collectors do not seem to think it worthwhile to investigate the stamp trade on this side of the Atlantic. As a result, within a three-year period, many items were obtained here and abroad so that I had formed what appeared to a budding philatelist like a very representative collection of Brunei.

The scarcity of Brunei material bears no relation to its market price. For example, 100 copies were printed of Brunei Scott No. 1a (the 1c with black overprint), which sells for a very small fraction of United States Scott No. C3a (the inverted center air mail) also where 100 copies were printed. Some of the Brunei stamps and town cancellations are exceedingly difficult to find. Were this British protectorate a more popular field, obviously prices would better reflect this relative scarcity. However, this makes for the joy of the hunt, since financial resources alone cannot secure all Brunei material desired.

Occasionally in this article there will be a notation that an item "is not common." Anything is considered "common" if it appears frequently at auction or can be found in many dealers' stocks. An uncommon stamp, variety or cancel is one rarely seen, of which only a few copies are known as present. Perhaps as a result of this article, more material may be uncovered, and some of the "uncommon" items may become "common."

The available information on Brunei is not centralized in one handbook. Therefore, this article will attempt to consolidate what has previously been published with the addition of the author's own observations from his studies.

All postal records in Brunei were destroyed during the Japanese occupation from 1941 to 1945. Prior to that time, very few philatelists seem to have been interested in Brunei. Now that some small interest has arisen, the questions which come up must be answered by observation of the material alone. Still to be determined are the dates of issue for each pre-war stamp and the opening date for each pre-war post office. Post-occupation records are complete as to the stamps, and reasonably so in regard to the postmarks and cancellations after 1945.

Geography And History[2]

Brunei is an independent Sultanate on the northwest coast of Borneo, forming two enclaves into Sarawak (see map). It covers approximately 2,200

square miles in area with a population of some 80,000, of which 16,000 live in Brunei town and 26,000 in the oilfields. About 80% of the population is indiginous to the area with the balance being mainly Chinese. The Brunei Shell Petroleum Co., Ltd. operates the oilfields in the Seria area. Petroleum revenue from this field accounts for the bulk of the state's income.

At one time Brunei was a powerful state. By the sixteenth century, her sovreignity extended over all of Borneo, the Sulu archipeligo, and various other islands, including some of the Philippines. The Portuguese visited Brunei in 1526, and subsequently other European nations began making contacts there. From that time on Brunei's power began to wane.

By the early 1800's her territory had dwindled to include only what is now Sarawak and a part of British North Borneo. In 1841 Sarawak proper was given to James Brooke in return for his services to the Sultan of Brunei. Labuan was ceded to Great Britain in 1846, and in 1877 North Borneo was transferred to the North Borneo Company. Further cessions were made at later dates to both Sarawak and North Borneo, reducing Brunei to her present size, much smaller than four hundred years ago.

In 1847 the Sultan entered into a commercial treaty with Great Britain; in 1888 the state was placed under British protection. A British Resident was appointed in 1906 and from that date, progress, both social and economic, becomes evident. Brunei, however, remained in the backwash of the commercial stream until oil was discovered in 1929. This brought prosperity.

On December 16, 1941, the Japanese invaded Brunei, landing at the Seria oilfields, and occupying Brunei town six days later. The Allies began the re-occupation on June 10, 1945, with a landing at Muara, completing their control in September of that year after the Japanese surrender. The area was under the control of the British Military Administration until July 6, 1946 when it was formally handed over to the Civil Authorities. In 1959 the post of British Resident was abolished, concurrent with the establishment of a new constitution.

At present, Brunei remains a British Protectorate, but is preparing for full independence. It is highly prosperous, due to oil revenues. Current living standards are at an all-time peak. Brunei now stands second only to Canada with respect to oil production in the British Commonwealth. As a matter of interest, these oil revenues recently enabled the Sultan to erect the most modern mosque in the world, complete with air conditioning and an elevator to the top of the minaret.

The Local Stamps

Nothing seems to be known of Brunei's postal service prior to 1895. It is assumed that the external mail was relayed via Labuan or by local shipmasters. A post office was located in Brooketon (Muara) which, although located on Brunei territory, was under the Sarawak postal administration. The office opened about 1895 and Sarawak stamps were used there.

In 1895 an issue of stamps was produced to cover both the internal and external postage to Labuan only. Since Brunei was not a member of the Universal Postal Union, additional Labuan postage was required to service the mail to points beyond.

For many years the local stamps were considered bogus. However, in 1935, Robson Lowe[3] obtained some documents including an agreement dated August 20, 1894, which clearly indicate the official status of this first issue. The stamps were valid for prepayment of postage within Brunei and to Labuan only, the mails to and from Labuan being carried on the Sultan's yacht. Although the postal rates are not definitely known, it seems evident that the issue probably

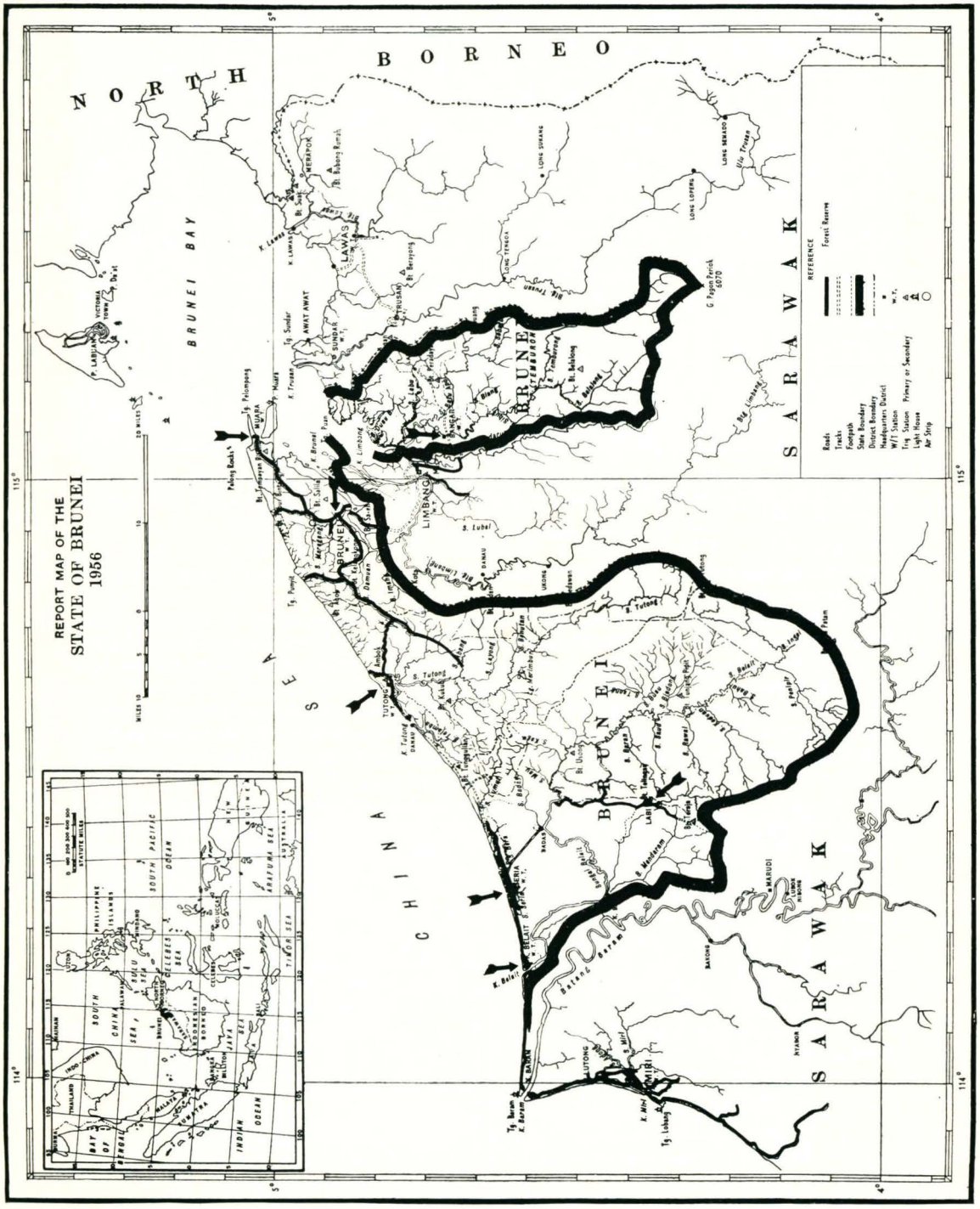


Fig. 1. Map of Brunei 1960.



Fig. 2. The locals used on cover to London from the Pead shipment. The Labuan adhesive paid the postage from Labuan to London. Cancelled Brunei, July 22, 1895; Labuan July 25, 1895; London August 26, 1895.

(*All photographs by Boutrelle*)

contains at least several needless values. It is believed that the rate to Sarawak was 8c during this period.

The stamps were produced by a friend of the Sultan, Mr. J. C. Robertson, who was manager of the coal mines at Sadong, Sarawak. Robertson sold unused sets of these stamps directly to the stamp trade in England. Melville[4] has written about this early "philatelic agency."

The only covers seen are either from the same shipment as the cover illustrated here (Fig. 2) cancelled July 22, 1895 (First Day ?) or addressed to Mr. Parker at Tottenham. All of those addressed to Mr. Pead are in the same handwriting and bear the same address; all were posted on the same date. This also applies to the Parker correspondence, only those bear a printed address. Melville[4] reports that the issue was chronicled in February 1895. The initiation of postal service took place in July 1895 and over 100 covers were reported posted on the first day, the exact date being unknown.[3] However, the Henry Gerrish collection includes a copy dated March 7, 1895. The latest date of usage on this local issue is October 9, 1899.[3] There appears to be a lapse of about seven years between this and October 1906 from which no dated town cancels or covers appear to have survived. A provisional 4c in manuscript on 10c used in 1904 has been reported.[3] The author has not seen this. It could be fiscal usage.

The local stamps were lithographed on unwatermarked paper, line perforated 13½ and printed in sheets of 50 (10x5). The denominations are:

½c brown	8c purple
1c magenta	10c vermilion
2c black	25c turquoise
3c blue	50c pale green
5c blue-green	$1 olive-green

There is only one cancellation known on this issue (Fig. 3). It is found with a black ink cancel.

Fig. 3. The cancellation used on the local issue.



The 1906 Overprints

In connection with the agreement of 1906, whereby a British Resident was appointed, plans were made for a complete postal service. In June 1906, Brunei was included in the Straits Settlements Local Postal Union. Pending receipt of the definitive stamps, a provisional issue was produced to be used at the inauguration of postal service on October 11, 1906.

The contemporary chronicles report that the 1c, 2c, 3c and 8c denominations were placed on sale October 11, 1906 (a Thursday) and the seven remaining ones on October 17th. "Gibbons Stamp Weekly"[5] reports the first four-mentioned values were issued on October 15th (a Monday). No copy showing 1906 usage has been seen. The earliest datestamp known to the author is January 2, 1907. One explanation for the dearth of 1906 dates may be that the Sarawak post office at Brooketon was used in preference to the Brunei post office until Brooketon was taken over by Brunei early in 1907.

There was considerable local speculation in the 1906 issue. This, plus the fact that one British stamp dealer received about 50% of the stock, resulted in a complete sellout of most denominations by March of 1907.[4] This amassing of mint stamps probably accounts for the relative scarcity of used copies. It is reported[4] that the 1c with black overprint was cornered by local postal officials before the public was aware of its existence.

The basic stamps utilized for overprinting were the last printing of the Labuan definitives on unwatermarked paper, perforated 13½ only. Sold at the post office in sheets of 100 (10x10), all are overprinted "Brunei" in red. Nine denominations have been made through the use of an additional surcharge in the



Fig. 4. (left) Position 80 showing re-entry under "OLO" of "COLONY" on vignette. Fig. 5. (right) Position 50 showing plate flaw above "B" of "LABUAN" on vignette.

same color. This overprinting was done by the Government Printer in Singapore. The plates for both "Brunei" and the new denominations were set up in frames of 50 (10x5), necessitating two runs to complete the sheet of 100. The same "Brunei" overprinting plate was used for all denominations. The work was done with great care so that varieties are few, and there are no constant plate errors. Slight variations can be noted in the length of the bar obliterating the old value, which is normally 21mm long. In addition, there are some constant varieties in the overprints on the new denominations, but all are very minor. These have been described in detail by Melville.[4]

The sheet of the 1c with black overprint instead of red is probably a trial color proof that went into the post office stock by oversight.

Dated cancellations prior to April 1907 are not common on this issue. The stamps were used on philatelic mail as late as 1908. The common cancellation found on this issue is the Brunei town marking. The only other obliteration known on this series during the proper period of currency (October 1906-April 1907) is Brooketon.

The basic Labuan stamps used for this issue show a re-entry on position 80 (Fig. 4) and a plate flaw on position 50 (Fig. 5) of the vignette plate.

	Color (per Scott Catalogue)		*Number*
Denomination	*Frame*	*Vignette*	*Overprinted*
1c	Violet	Black)	4,900
	Pale violet	Black)	
TWO CENTS on 3c	Brown	Black	15,000
TWO CENTS on 8c	Orange	Black	5,000
3c	Brown	Black	8,000
FOUR CENTS on 12c	Yellow	Black	20,000
FIVE CENTS on 16c	Orange brown	Green	5,000
8c	Orange	Black	8,000
TEN CENTS on 16c	Orange brown	Green	9,000
25 CENTS on 16c	Orange brown	Green	2,000
THIRTY CENTS on 16c	Orange brown	Green	2,000
FIFTY CENTS on 16c	Orange brown	Green	2,000
ONE DOLLAR on 8c	Orange	Black	2,000
	Black overprint		
1c	Violet	Black	100

Varieties:

TWO CENTS on 3c — Overprint "Brunei" double on fifth horizontal row.
Same sheet shows tenth row without overprint.

TWO CENTS on 8c — Surcharge "TWO CENTS" double on fifth horizontal row. Same sheet shows tenth row without surcharge.

Faint and partial double surcharges are occasionally seen. These are due to slight movement of the plate during overprinting. They are not complete double overprints, but are more in the class of "kisses."

There are no plate numbers on the Type 1 single plate sheets.

The Definitive Types

In the forty-five year period between 1907 and 1952, two designs sufficed for Brunei's stamp needs, and the same printing plates were used throughout

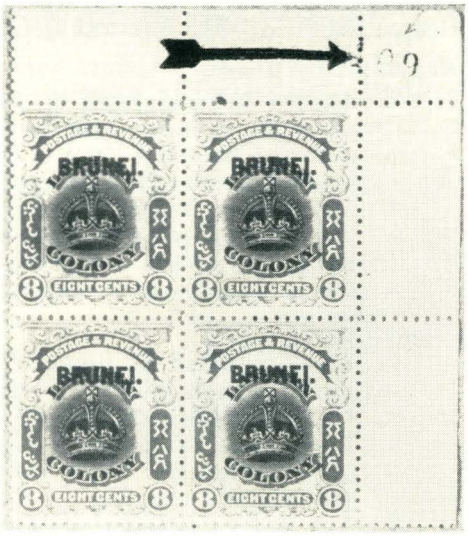


Fig. 6. Block of four of the overprints showing control No. 409 in the upper right margin.

this period. Type 1 (Fig. 7) was printed from single as well as key and duty plates; Type 2 (Fig. 8) was printed from single plates only. All were printed by De La Rue. The method of manufacture of these plates is described in the book, "De La Rue History."[6] In the case of the frame and the single plates, a master plate with blank value tablets in each corner and at the bottom of each subject was rolled down in the normal manner, and from this, lead impressions were taken under hydraulic pressure. On these lead impressions, a copper electrotype was grown, and then on each finished working plate, the values were engraved by pantograph in one operation. Both types were printed in sheets of 60 — Type 1 (12x5) but Type 2 (6x10).

Two re-entries have been found in the master frame plate of Type 1 by George South.[7] These re-entries appear in all frame plate printings of all values. However, by the time of the 1931 printings of the 30c and $1 denominations, the framelines had been recut so that one of these re-entries has disappeared.

Two vignette plates also were used. The first is numbered "1" in all four corners of the sheet, the second "2" in the right margin next to position No. 36. (Fig. 9). H. F. Johnson[8] describes and illustrates the plate varieties on vignette plate No. 1. George South did the same with vignette plate No. 2.[9]

Proofs

The following proofs of the basic plates are known. They are described by



Fig. 7. (left) Type 1



Fig. 8. (center) Type 2



Fig. 9. (right) Vignette plate No. 2

George South in "The Sarawak Journal."[10]

Key and Duty Plates:

1. Artist's working proof of frame and vignette mounted on card, with value 25c in each corner inserted by hand. Dated "June 7th 06" and endorsed in pencil "not to be followed for view" and, in ink, "To be printed in two colours as design in two colours."
2. Die proof of frame in red with all value tablets in blank, and center vignette in black (unfinished).
3. Die proof in black of vignette in unfinished state.
4. Die proof in black of vignette in finished state dated "16 Jul 1906."

Single Plates:

1. Undenominated die proof in black. It has been cut down and all that can be read of the date is "25 Sep 19 . . ."
2. Undenominated plate proof in violet on unwatermarked paper (Fig. 10).
3. Plate proof of the 3c in slate, imperforate, on thick unwatermarked paper (Fig. 11). This also comes overprinted "Specimen." These are printer's samples.
4. The Royal Collection in Buckingham Palace, London has an essay of the 6c, Type 2, dated November 8, 1923. Artist's drawing on glazed card, the corner squares and values painted in white on solid ground. "Postage" and "Revenue" was painted in white, the rest largely photographic and touched up. Its color is black.

The 1907 Definitives

This series was received in Brunei during January 1907 and "Specimen" copies were in circulation at that time. The stamps are generally assumed to have been released in February 1907, because an early article[11] reported the earliest date seen on any stamp as February 26, 1907. There is no mention in that article, however, of the denomination on which the February 26, 1907 date was seen. The various stamps were probably released as the supply of the provisionals, which they were to replace, became exhausted. The entire series was certainly in use by April 1907, since contemporary periodicals have listed the complete set by that time.[12,13]

Covers used within the proper period (before this series was replaced by the various color changes) are not common, nor are single copies with cancellations dated prior to May 1907.

Color proofs exist of the 1c in the issued colors of all denominations. These are printed on the regular paper watermarked Crown CA. The majority are gummed.[10] All are imperforate.



(left to right) Fig. 10. Undenominated plate proof. Fig. 11. Printer's sample. Fig. 12. "Specimen" overprint on 1907 issue. And Fig. 13. "Specimen" overprint measuring 13½x2½m.m.

Specimen copies are overprinted in black, the overprint measuring 13¾x 2½mm. (Fig. 12).

The 1c, 2c and 3c are also known on paper with reversed watermark.

The 1907 Issue. Line perforated 14, Watermarked Crown CA. Vignette Plate 1.

Denomination	*Color (Scott Catalogue) Frame*	*Vignette*	*Earliest Cancel Date Reported*
1c	yellow green	black	
2c	red	black	
3c	red brown	black	March 13, 1907
4c	lilac	black	March 13, 1907
5c	ultramarine	black	March 13, 1907
8c	light orange	black	April 20, 1907
10c	dark green	black	
25c	yellow brown	black	April 20, 1907
30c	black	purple	
50c	brown	green	
$1	slate	slate	

The 1908–1911 Color Changes

The colors of five denominations were changed in 1908 and 1911. The 1c and 3c, although altered to mono-color printings, continued to be printed from the same frame and vignette plates. Second printings were also made of the 4c and 5c. The perforations remain line 14 and paper watermarked Crown CA.

Although Brunei did not become a member of the Universal Postal Union until January 1, 1916, mail was carried internationally from at least 1910 bearing only Brunei adhesive stamps. Covers with the stamps listed in accompaning Table 1 are found paying such usage.

Table 1

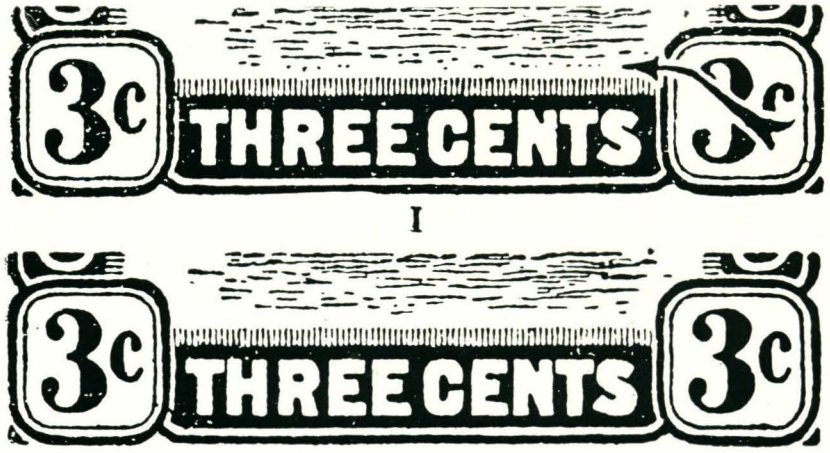
	SPECIMEN	COLOR FRAME	COLOR VIGNETTE		VIGNETTE PLATE NO.	ISSUED	EARLIEST DATE SEEN
*1¢	1	green	green		1	June 12,1908(4)	November 4,1908
2¢	2	brown	black		1,2	April 5,1911(4)	1911
		Although vignette plate No. 2 was used for the first printing, plate No. 1 was used for subsequent early printings, followed again by plate No. 2. This 2¢ stamp was current until 1924.					
3¢	1	red	red		1,2	June 12,1908(4)	November 4, 1908
4¢	3	red-violet	black		2		June 16, 1910
5¢	1	deep orange	black		2	June 12,1908(4)	June 12, 1908
		A pair with the frame partially doubled is listed in the Royal Collection.					
5¢	3	light orange	black		1		June 13, 1912
		The frame is the same color as that of the 8¢ 1907 issue.					
8¢	2	indigo	blue		2	Oct. (?), 1908	December 6, 1908

*Specimen overprints as Figure 12.
**Specimen overprints measuring 13½x2½mm (Figure 13).
***Specimen overprints do not exist, to the best of my knowledge.

The 1c green and 3c carmine were released later in single plate printings, replacing the two plate impressions of 1908. These single plate impressions can

be identified as shown in Fig. 14 which is taken from "The Stanley Gibbons Catalogue."

Denomination	*Earliest Cancel*	*Notes*
1c green	Aug. 6,1919	Melville[4] reports a pale green shade in 1920. A bright green shade is reported in March 1922[14]
3c carmine	Dec. 10, 1917	Melville[4] reports a deep red on toned paper released February 1916. Griebert[15] reports "distributed the 3c new color in July 1917 . . ."



I. *Double plate.* Lowest line of shading on water is dotted.

II. *Single plate.* Dotted line of shading removed.

Stamps printed in two colours are as I.

Fig. 14. Distinguishing marks of the single and double plates, as they appear in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue.

The High Denominations

The $5 and $25 were placed on sale about December 1910, according to Melville.[4] Later research and literature has not disproved this. With the dearth of early dated cancellations, it is doubtful if this conjectured date will ever be successfully contradicted. The last printings of these two stamps is reported to have been in 1924,[18] but they were in circulation until the Japanese occupation, the stock of the $25 being held in the Resident's safe. This $25 denomination was primarily intended for fiscal use on real estate transfers.[4] Both stamps were printed from vignette plate No. 1, line perforated 14, on paper watermarked Crown CA. Specimen copies are overprinted as illustrated (Fig. 13).

$25 black on salmon
$5 carmine on blue

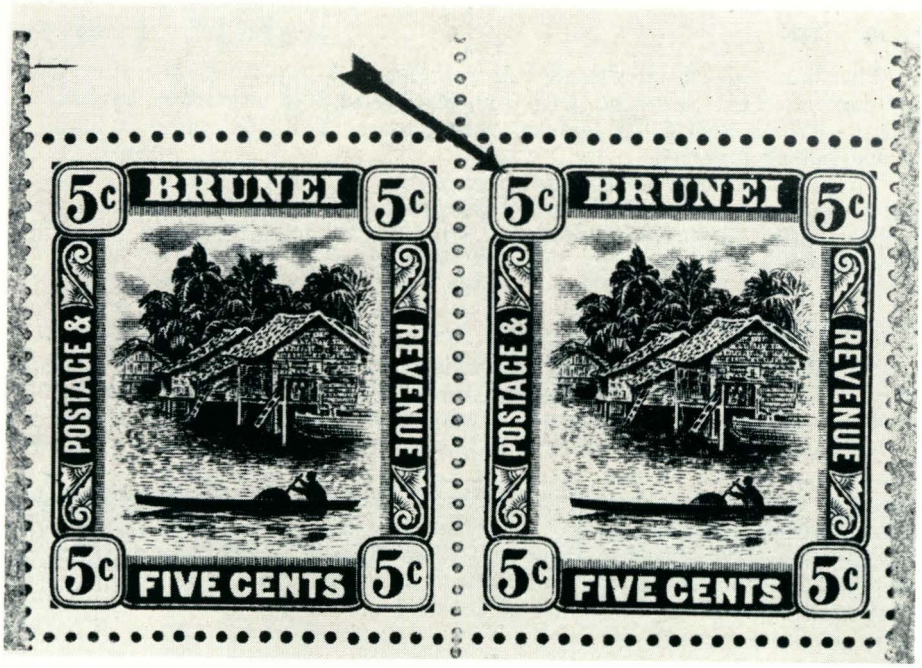


Fig. 15. The 5c inserted value.

The 1912–1920 Color Changes

Additional color changes were made as the following Table 2 shows. All except the 30c and $1 are from single plates. Again the stamps are line perforated 14 on paper watermarked Crown CA. Specimen copies are overprinted as shown in Fig. 13.

The 5c has a variety on position 8. Here, the upper left value tablet was either left blank or was mutilated and erased. A new value was engraved by hand, which can be easily seen. This hand entry appears on all printings of the 5c (Fig. 15) until the design and plate were replaced in 1952.

Table 2

DENOMINATION	ISSUED	EARLIEST DATE SEEN	REMARKS
4¢ claret	April 17,1912[4]	Dec. 24, 1912	A later printing in a brighter shade was dispatched June 30, 1920.
5¢ orange	?	March or April 1916	
8¢ ultramarine	1916[4]	Sept. 10,1918	A furthur shipment was made in 1920.
10¢ violet on yellow	November 1912[4]		Copies on white paper are due to climatic conditions affecting paper.
25¢ violet	May 30, 1912[4]	August 17,1912	A dull shade was shipped June 30,1920. Earliest date seen for latter shade November 6,1924.
30¢ orange & violet	March 18,1912[4]	May 27, 1912	Vignette plates 1 and 2 were used.
50¢ black on green	August 1912[16]	Oct. 9, 1912	
50¢ black on blue-green	Late 1920(?)	Nov. 12, 1921	
$1 red & black on blue	March 18, 1912[4]	April 18,1912	Vignette plate No. 1. Mann[17] reports vignette plate No. 2 also, but this latter has been seen only with the Malaya-Borneo Exhibition overprint.

The 10c – 1924

The final release on Crown CA watermarked paper was the 10c violet on buff paper. This coincided with the first release of other denominations on Multiple Crown Script CA watermarked paper. This 10c stamp is found with the watermark inverted.

The 10c's earliest usage known is March 21, 1924. The stamp was used, however, for the Borneo Exhibition overprints of 1922, so it must have been in the post office vaults for sometime. Specimen overprints are as shown in the illustration Fig. 20.

The 1922 Exhibition Overprints

The Malaya-Borneo Exhibition, which was held in Singapore, was opened by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales on March 31, 1922 (a Friday). Melville[4] reports that the "overprinted Brunei stamps were sold there a day or two later" and remained on sale until the exhibition closed on April 17, 1922. The stamps were also on sale in Brunei until that date, when all remaining stocks were returned to the Postal Administration for destruction. No definite first day of issue has been determined, and earliest cancel dates seen from the latter part of April are inconclusive. However, since April 1, 1922 was a Saturday, it seems possible that the first day of sale was either April 1st or April 3rd.

The overprinting was done on the full sheets of 60, the stereo being set up in horizontal rows of 6x10. There are two constant flaws, the broken "N" occuring in the 6th and 12th vertical rows (Fig. 16) and the short "I" from the 2nd and 8th vertical rows (Fig. 17).

Copies with dates cancelled during April 1922 are not common, while covers dated during that month are rarely seen. Specimen copies are not known to the writer.

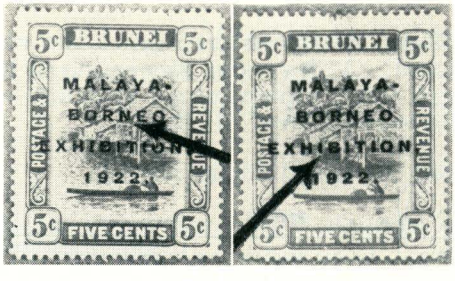


Fig. 16. (left) The broken "N" in "BORNEO."
Fig. 17. (right) First "I" short in "EXHIBITION."

Denomination	*Printed*	*Overprinted*	*Sold*
1c green	single plate	15,120	15,099
2c brown and black	vignette plate No. 2	10,800	10,721
3c carmine	single plate	10,500	10,399
4c claret	single plate	10,020	9,956
5c orange	single plate	10,080	9,969
10c purple on buff	single plate	9,720	9,618
25c purple	single plate	7,260	7,236
50c black on green	single plate	6,000	5,494
$1 red & black on blue	vignette plate No. 2	6,000	5,272

(To Be Continued)

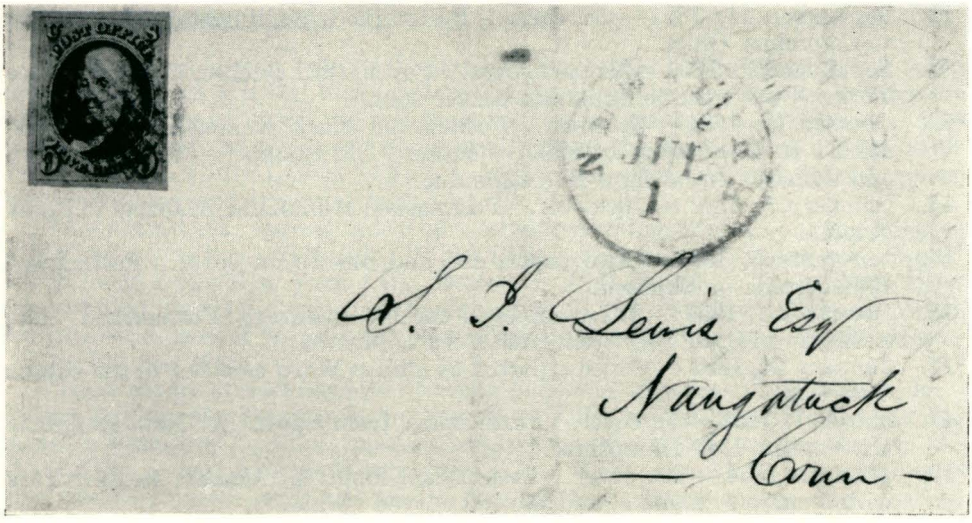
United States

A "First Day" 1847 Cover

By C. C. Hart*

Our 1847 issue of stamps is unique in that it is the only one of the United States that had two definite first days of use — an official first day of legal use and then later an official first day of illegal use. July 1, 1847, is the first day of issue and, of course, the first day of legal use. However, no covers are known of either the 5c or 10c used this early, or for several days thereafter.

Equally interesting are stamps used on and after July 1, 1851, because the 1847 issue had been officialy demonetized and were no longer valid for postage as of that date. The cover illustrated is a folded letter dated June 30, 1851, and postmarked "July 1." Therefore, here is a "first day 1847 cover" cancelled on the first day of illegal use (a new use of the popular term, "First Day!")



The 5c 1847 used on a cover postmarked July 1, 1851. Lited as Number 1. (Author's collection).

In 1948 a series of nine articles entitled "The U. S. Eighteen Forty-sevens — some Comments" by the late Stanley B. Ashbrook appeared in "Stamps." One of the subjects he commented upon extensively was this late or illegal use. Mr. Ashbrook described eighteen covers and these form the main body of the following list. To these original eighteen one can now add fifteen more for a total of thirty-three.

The following tabulation starts with July 1, 1851, and proceeds in chronological order to the latest use in 1863. An asterisk (*) indicates the eighteen illegal covers reported by Ashbrook in 1948.

Thirty-Three Covers Listed

1. July 1, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked New York to Naugatuck, Connecti-

*Creighton C. Hart of Kansas City, Mo. was awarded the COLLECTORS CLUB MEDAL for 1961 for having presented the best program and lecture during that year on the U. S. 1847 issue.

cut. (See illustration)

2. July 4, 1851 — part cover. 5c stamp tied with black concentric circles cancellation. Postmarked Kingston, Canada and used with 3 pence Canadian stamp.

*3. July 16, 1851 — cover. 5c stamp tied with small black Boston "Paid" grid. Addressed to New Bedford.

*4. July 28, 1851 — 10c cover. Postmarked Montreal, Canada to New York City. Curved "Canada" and curved "Paid."

5. August 1, 1851 — 10c cover. Postmarked "New York — U. S. Express Mail" on a letter addressed to Boston.

7. August 24, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked Ft. Union, New Mexico to Washington, D. C.

*8. September 4, 1851 — 10c cover. Postmarked Montreal, Canada to New York City with the curved "Canada" and the curved "Paid."

9. September 6, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked "Boston 3cts" and tied with a small black Boston PAID grid to Great Falls, N. H.

*10. September 6, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked with the New York postmark of four bars.

11. September 11, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked Wallingford, Connecticut to Columbus, Ohio.

12. September 23, 1851 — 5c part cover. Postmarked Quebec, Canada to New York. Used with 3c Canadian beaver stamp.

*13. October 12, 1851 — 5c cover. Postmarked black Kalamazoo to Detroit, Mich. In manuscript besides the stamp "Old Stamp" — Good for Nix" and a black "5" to show five cents due.

14. October (?), 1851 — 10c cover. Postmarked Huntsville, Alabama to Philadelphia.

15. November 5, 1851 — Two copies 10c and one 5c on cover. Postmarked Philadelphia to England.

16. December 4, 1851 — Three copies of the 10c on cover. Postmarked "Pan & San Fran S. S." on letter from Peru to Mexico.

*17. January 26, 1852 — Cover reported by Philip Ward as being in the Gibson collection.

*18. March 1, 1852 — 5c cover. Postmarked from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Mt. Vernon, New Hampshire.

*19. June 22, 1852 — 10c cover. Postmarked Montreal, Canada to New York with a curved "Canada and the red curved "Paid."

(End of first 12 months)

*20. July 27, 1852 — 5c cover. Postmarked Boston to Greenland, N. H. and tied by large Boston "Paid" grid in black.

*21. September 15, 1852 — 5c cover. Postmarked Cannonsbury, Pa. to Lexington, Kentucky. Also a 1c stamp of the 1851 issue (from Plate One Early) to pay the 6c rate. "NO GO" in manuscript and then crossed out.

*22. September 25, 1852 — 5c cover. Postmarked New York in black ink to Chillicothe, Ohio. Hotel Howard illustration on the back flap of the buff envelope.

*23. October 2, 1852 — 5c cover. From the same correspondence and similar to the preceeding cover (No. 22) dated September 25, 1852.

24. March 9, 1853 — 10c cover. Postmarked Jamestown, Tennessee in manuscript addressed to the Pension Office at Knoxvill. Cover in very poor condition and ex-Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt collection.

*25. August 23, 1853 — 10c cover. Postmarked Dallas, Oregon Ter. to Watertown, Massachusetts.

*26. May 6, 1854 — 5c cover. Postmarked Charleston, S. C.
27. July 14, 1854 — 5c cover. Postmarked Eagletown, Ark. in manuscript to Washington, D. C. The stamp is not tied and is cancelled with a small pen "x."
*28. January 1, 1856 — 5c cover. Postmarked Exeter, N. Y. to San Francisco, Calif. and is used with a 3c 1851 and two 1c 1851 type IV all tied by black pen cancel.
*29. May 17, 1856 — 5c pair on cover. Postmarked Tehama, Calif. to Washington, D. C.
*30. January 4, 1858 — 5c cover. Postmarked Philadelphia to New York used with a 1c and a 3c 1857 issue.
*31. July 6, 1858 — 10c cover. Postmarked Portland, Me. to Portland, Me. used with two 1c and one 3c 1857 stamps on a large legal size envelope.
32. January 8, 1862 — 5c cover. Postmarked Augusta, Georgia to Estonia, Georgia to pay the 5c Confederate rate for less than 500 miles.
33. November 20, 1863 — 10c cover. Postmarked with a black "Steamship 10" to Templeton, Mass.

Study The Dates And Cancels

If one takes special note of the dates of the covers in the above list, it is believed he will see a postal history story. Sixteen of the covers were during the first four months of illegal use and from then on usages were less frequent. Also one will see that twenty covers were used during the first twelve months after demonetization (July 1, 1851 to July 1, 1852), and after that such covers appear on a decreasing and irregular basis.

One should take special notice of the town markings and also of the cities to which the covers are addressed. Of the thirty-three covers, fifteen were mailed either to or from New York City, Boston or Philadelphia. These three cities were at that time the largest business centers in the country. Thirteen of the covers are addressed to or from New York City including one by the special "U. S. Express Mail."

These covers attract attention for two important reasons. In the first place, Robert Morris, the Postmaster in New York City, was generally consulted for postal information by other postmasters, who wrote Morris rather than to the Post Office Department in Washington, D. C. This is shown in his correspondence recently published.* Secondly, five of these eleven covers show foreign mail usage from Canada to New York City and were thus subject to more than the usual scrutiny. The 1847 stamps on five of these covers were placed on the letters in Canada before they were mailed to the United States to pay the U. S. portion of the postage from the Canadian border.

All of these three large post offices accepted as valid the payment of postage by these illegal stamps. One naturally asks, "Why?"

Mr. Ashbrook wondered if the order to demonetize were ever countermanded. It is doubtful, because the post office records have been intensely searched, and if such an order had been issued it would surely have been found. So the mystery remains why no effort was made to enforce the demonetization order.

Disregard Of Demonetization Order

If the Postmaster General had been "dead serious" about his order, he should have, and undoubtedly would have, seen to it that proper public notice in the newspaper was given to this. Publicity in many newspaper notices is generally known when the 1857 issue was demonetized.

*"Robert Morris, Postmaster of New York," by W. S. Boggs, Collectors Club, New York.

It is believed that the reason for the demonetization order was that the dies and plates of the 1847 issue remained in the hands of the printers after their contract expired and was not renewed. At any rate, all future government contracts provided that dies, plates and transfer rolllers were government property and were to be delivered to the Post Office Department at the end of the contract, thus correcting this essential ommission in the first government contract with Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Edson.

The local postmasters' utter indifference to and disregard of the Postmaster General's order indicates that somehow they knew that the order was a defensive measure only, and that the head of the U. S. Post Office Department never intended to enforce it except in the unlikely event of unauthorized stamps mysteriously appearing printed from the old plates. Thus, it seems logical to conclude that even though the Postmaster General gave an official order demonetizing the 1847 issue, it must have been only for the record. The official attitude regarding the postmasters was that the 1847 issue continued to be valid for postage.

It should be noticed that cover No. 13 is the only one where the 1847 stamp was not recognized as valid. This was at Kalamazoo, then a small western frontier town in 1851. The postmaster at Cannonsbury, Pa., (cover No. 21) wrote "NO GO" intending at first not to recognize the 5c 1847. Apparently after further thought, he reasoned it was rather callous on his part not to recognize a United States stamp for which the Post Office Department had received five cents in payment. He then crossed out the "NO GO" and the 5c stamp of 1847 was recognized as paying five cents of the six-cent postage rate.

This article brings to date Ashbrook's 1948 list and includes new ones of all the illegally used covers known to the writer. Any collector having an 1847 stamp on cover used after June 30, 1851, please report it so that it can be included in the tabulation now being made. It is planned to publish further information in this magazine. Please send your information to C. C. Hart, 911 Commerce Building, Kansas City 6, Missouri.

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Die Briefmarken von Oranjefreistaat by Hans von Rudolphi, Heft 4 der Schriftenreihe Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde. Arbeitsgemeinschaft Neues Handbuch der Briefmarkenkunde E. V., Frankfurt am Main. Courtesy of the publisher. (German)

Arizona Territory Post Offices and Postmasters by John and Lillian Thebald. The Arizona Historical Foundation, Phoenix, Arizona.

La Poste Maritime Francaise, Tome I, Les Entrees Maritimes et Les Bateaux a Vapeur, edited and published by Raymond Salles, Paris, France. (French)

Compex 1962 Catalogue. Courtesy of Dr. James J. Matejka, Jr.

Philatelic Journals. Gift of Mr. Sol Whitman.

The Interpostals of Egypt 1864-1892 by Ernest A. Kehr. Publication of Stamp World, Inc. Gift of the author.

Essays of the India Provisionals of 1925 by D. Hammond Giles. Published by The Philatelic Society of India, Bombay, India. Gift of Mr. Dhirubhai Mehta.

Classic United States Stamps 1845-1869 by Dr. Carroll Chase. Published by Herman Herst, Jr., Shrub Oak, N. Y. Courtesy of the publisher.

Catalogo Galvez Pruebas y Ensayos de Espana 1960, edited by Manuel Galvez Rodrigues. M. Galvez, Madrid, Spain. Courtesy of the publisher. (Spanish)

The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, 1788-1952, Volume IV, Australasia, edited by Robson Lowe. Publication of Robson Lowe, Ltd., London, England. Gift of the author.

Afghanistan

Its Twentieth Century Postal Issues — Part 5 —

By Frank E. Patterson III

(*Continued From Page 155*)

CHAPTER IIB

The Independence Commemorative Issues

The Jesh'n Istiqlal or Independence Celebration commemoratives form a special group of interesting stamps. The individual series may be variously inscribed but they bear, with few exceptions, the unifying word "Istiqlal." These stamps are all regular postal adhesives and are sold as such at face value in all post offices. During their authorized periods of validity, they are acceptable for franking all classes of mail. The writer is not familiar with the regulations covering the early issues but, during the past 25 years, the use of these commemoratives on mail posted during the celebration period has not been mandatory.

The background of these stamps dates to 1919, when Amir Amanullah proclaimed the complete freedom of Afghanistan on February 26th of that year. This declaration was followed some months later by the 3rd Anglo-Afghan war, sometimes known as the War of Independence. The conflict ended with a truce effective August 24th, 1919, after which the national independence of Afghanistan was tacitly recognized by the British Raj. The actual peace treaty was not signed until November 22nd, 1921.

The proclamation date of February 26th was also the day on which Amanullah was crowned King and, during the first several years thereafter, both events were jointly celebrated. To further mark the occasion, commemorative stamps were prepared for the 1923 affair and were regularly issues in February of each year thereafter until the 1929 revolution. The stamp designs featured the royal crest, in honor of the coronation anniversary, and were duly inscribed with the appropriate year of independence. The actual day of issue ranged from the 26th to 28th, due to calendar variations. It has been stated that some of the early stamps were on sale for one day only, but this is questioned. Their period of validity is not definitely known but was probably one week.

No record has been noted of any celebration during the short Saqao regime. With conditions under Nadir Shah permitting, the next Independence observance was held in 1930. However, the celebration was re-scheduled to August 24th, the date of the armistice ending the War of Independence, which had previously been recognized by a simple ceremony only. The new celebration took the form of a national fair and featured parades, exhibitions and games. Since this type of program would not be possible in February, when Kabul and much of the country is deep in snow, the reason for the change is apparent. Politically, also, the move was sound. At the time Ex-King Amanullah still had many followers who talked of restoring him to the throne. Since Independence Day itself was also the anniversary of his coronation, any popular celebration on that day would have given opportunities for organized and perhaps violent demonstrations.

The August Independence Celebrations have developed over the years into an important feature of the national life. The activities now last for a week in the large urban centers and for three days or more in the smaller communities. All government offices close for the duration, except the central post offices which remain open for a few hours each morning. Holiday crowds pour into the cities to enjoy the extensive programs of parades, sporting events, exhibitions, colorful decorations and fireworks displays. Public amusements, sidewalk vendors and strolling musicians add to the festive occasion. It is national playtime.

Philatelic recognition of the event was resumed in 1931 when a special stamp and postcard were issued. Since then, one or more commemoratives have been released each year on the first day of the celebration week. Normally this is August 24th but varies by a day due to calendar relationships. Initially the stamps were only sold during the jesh'n period, but for the past fifteen years or so their sale and use has been authorized for fourteen days. Remainders are then returned to the Treasury which furnishes them to the Philatelic Office in Kabul where they are sold at double face until the supply is exhausted.

It should be noted that only three of all the jesh'n commemorative stamps placed in use since the first appeared in 1923, are true anniversary issues. In accordance with local customs common to many Near and Middle Eastern peoples, the Afghans identify a recurring date by its consecutive numerical position from the original event, rather than by the Western practice of anniversary sequence. Thus the 1923 issue correctly honored the 5th Independence Day, although it was also the 4th anniversary thereof. The same practice was followed for the 6th and 7th Independence issues of 1924 and 1925. However, the westernizations imported by Amanullah affected even this reference system and the 7th "anniversary" of Independence was celebrated in 1926. Hence the anomally of having 7th Independence commemorative stamps of identical design issued in two consecutive years! The 8th and 9th "anniversary" stamps followed in 1927 and 1928. When the jesh'n issues were resumed in 1931, the commemorative stamp released on that occasion identified it as the 13th, reverting back to the established local custom. This system has been followed in all subsequent years to date, even though word "anniversary" sometimes erroneously appears in one or two stamp designs.

Except for four issues, all Independence commemoratives through 1958 have been designed and printed in Kabul. The local reproduction methods employed have been typography, halftone and lithography. The degree of skill exhibited in transferring the approved drawings to the print-plates varied considerably and the issued stamps are not always up to the standards of the original conceptions. The number of artists who prepared the designs of these special issues is small. Ghulam Moh'd Khan designed the 1924, 1925 and 1926 stamps, as well as those definitives used for overprinted 1923 series. The designer of the 1927 and 1928 issues is unknown to the writer. One of the outstanding Afghan artists, Abdul Gafour Khan Brishna, prepared the designs for the 1931 to 1947 commemorative issues inclusive. Those of the 1948, 1949 and 1950 series were drawn by Jalal Ludin Khan, an official in the Royal Ministry of Communications. He may have been responsible for some later designs. The bi-colored stamps issued with different overprints in 1951, 1952 and 1957, were engraved and printed by Waterlow & Sons, Ltd. of London. The names of their designer and engraver are not currently available. Detailed descriptions and data on each of the individual issues are presented below.

1923 5th Independence Day

The initial Independence commemorative series appeared on February 26th and consisted of the current definitive postage and parcel post stamps over-

printed with a broad oval design in dull black or dark blue. The overprint has the national seal in the top center, flanked by small arabesques, and curving beneath is the jesh'n legend "Senneh (5) daoriyat istaqlal" (5th yearly observance of Independence). The year date 1301 appears in the outer border at the bottom. The design is colorless against a solid background. The impressions are seldom very clear but *three* separate overprint types can be distinguished. In Type I, *the background appears plainer* and the two vertically-arranged lines on the right are parallel. In Type II, the corresponding lines are at an angle with each other *and the overall effect is coarser. Type III resembles Type II but has parallel lines and the date at the bottom is omitted.* Many other differences can be noted.

The overprint was handstamped, probably by the clerk at the post office window, and the impressions vary from the horizontal to the vertical. It is known inverted. The design was really too large for the regular stamps and the impressions often overlap. Even on the parcel post stamps, which were valid for first class mail, the overprint was carelessly applied. Existing covers indicate that the handstamp was not only placed on the stamps in sheets but also directly on stamps previously affixed to envelopes that were posted during the Independence celebration. (See Fig. 93). It should be noted that the postage due cancellations PDC-8A and 8B, commonly found on the basic stamps, superficially resemble this overprint and are often confused with it. However, such cancellations are long oval in shape, do not have the natioual seal as a part of their script design pattern, and rarely does more than half of the strike fall on the stamp.

The stamps were issued in sheets of 4 (2x2) for the 2 paisa, in sheets of 16 (4x4) and 20 (4x5) for the regular postage values and in sheets of 2 (2x1) for the parcel post stamps. The latter may also have been issued in block sheets of 4. The stamps were typographed, generally on thin hard local wove paper and perforated 11¾ or 11¾ x imperforate.

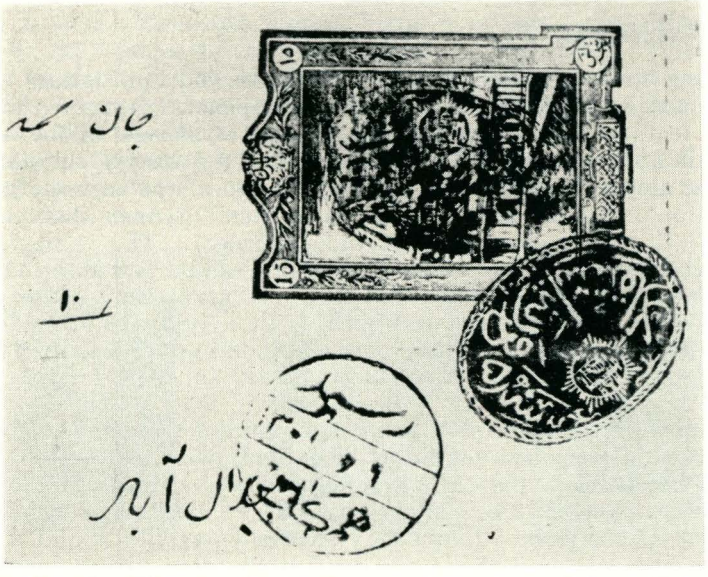
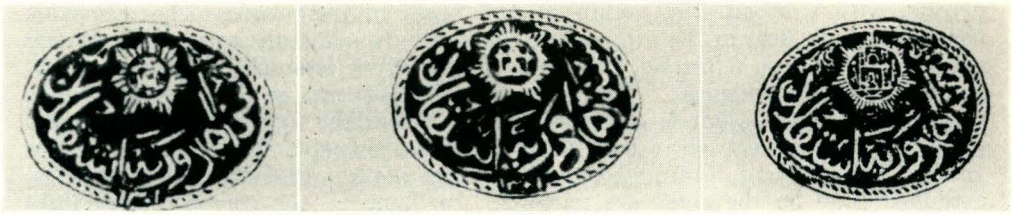


Fig. 93. A portion of a full cover showing the overprint and cancellation, which is dated February 28, 1923, Kabul.



Figs. 93a, 93b and 93c

With overprint in black (Fig. 93a, b, c).

237	Fig. 13	2 paisa		black (SGM 6/26 & 3/28)
			a	blue ovpt (P. O. collection)
238	Fig. 12	10 paisa		rose — Type I
			a	blue ovpt (LC)
238A	Fig. 13	10 paisa		rose — Type II (LC)
239	Fig. 13	20 paisa		lilac brown — Type I
			a	ovpt inverted
			b	blue ovpt
240	Fig. 13	30 paisa		blue green
			a	tete beche pair
			b	ovpt inverted
			c	blue ovpt (LC)
241	Fig. 14	10 paisa		dark brown — Type I
			a	Type II
242	Fig. 14	15 paisa		chestnut — Type I
			a	Type II
243	Fig. 14	30 paisa		red purple — Type I
			a	Type II

1924 6th Independence Day

Beginning with this celebration, a distinctive and appropriate commemorative was issued. The design consists of a wide paneled frame with shouldered corners and features, inside a victory wreath, the royal crest of the Amir. The overall size is approximately 24mmx32mm. The top inscription states "Tiket posteh daolat aleyat Afghanistan" (Postage stamp of the supreme government of Afghanistan). In the bottom panel is written "Senneh sheshum daoriyat istiqlal" (Sixth yearly observance of Independence). The value (ten paisa) appears in the upper left and right corners in Pashtou and Farsi respectively. There are two types of the design and these are most easily differentiated by the shading in the plume of the regal busby. In Type I, the left subject in the plate, the plume has only a few lines of shading and appears quite white on the printed stamp. The plume is completely shaded in Type II, the right-hand plate subject.

The stamps were typographed from a two subject plate and issued in sheets of 2 (2x1) and in two different sheets of 4 (2x2) with tete beche impressions. The several sheets were printed on thin hard white, medium off-white and thick toned wove papers. The pair sheet measures 85mmx50mm and has a 20mm selvage border on the right. It was only perforated vertically and stamps from this format sheet are imperforate at top and bottom. The commoner block sheet averages 70mmx100m, has the bottom pair of inverted and is perforated

between the stamps only, so these are imperforate on one end and side. The scarcer block sheet measures 85mmx105mm, has the top pair of impressions inverted and the stamps are perforated all-around. Exceptions may exist.

244	Fig. 94	10 paisa	light chocolate — Type I
		a	Type II
		b	dark brown
	Fig. 94a	c	T. B. pair, top stamp invtd
		d	T. B. pair, bottom invtd
		e	perf all around

1925 7th Independence Day

The previous design was redrawn in larger size for this emission and measures 29mmx37mm. Basic inscription "C" now appears at the top, but has been modified by changing the first word from "Posteh" to "Post." The bottom panel legend has been revised to read "Senneh daoriyat haftum istiqlal" (Seventh yearly observance of Independence). The stamps were issued in sheets of 8 (average size 75mmx200mm) consisting of two panes of 4 (2x2) arranged in vertical format with a horizontal gutter, usually measuring 22mm, in between. Both panes are usually normal but sheets are known (LC) with the lower pane inverted. The sheets were perforated 11¾ between the stamps and generally in the top and bottom margins, so all specimens have one and sometimes two straight edges. The stamps were typographed on medium white or thin hard toned wove papers.

248	Fig. 95	10 paisa	orange brown
		a	tete beche gutter pair

1926 7th Anniversary of Independence

The design of the previous issue, identical in inscription and legend, was used again in 1926. For some reason, however, a new four subject plate was prepared and the stamps measure approximately 26mmx33m. The individual positions differ slightly in the shading around the hat plume and can be plated. However, the impressions are generally poor and blurred, making recognition of these minor types difficult.

The stamps were issued both in sheets of 4 (2x2), measuring 105mmx115mm average, and in sheets of 8, size approximately 175mmx115mm, consisting of

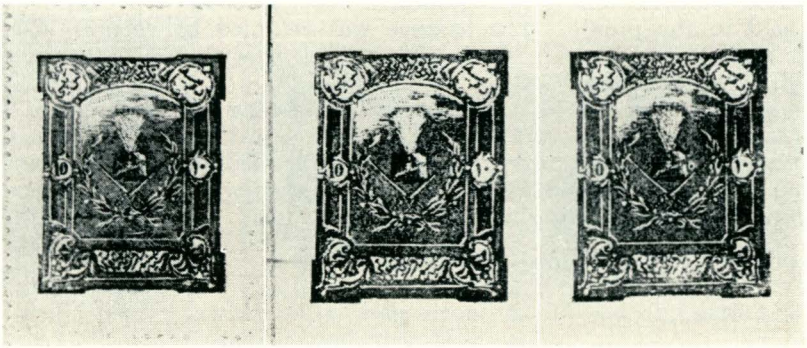


Fig. 94 Fig. 94a







Figs. 95, 96 and 97

two block panes of 4 in horizontal format with a broad vertical gutter between. The left hand pane is inverted. The stamps were typographed on thin hard white or yellowish local wove papers and perforated 11¾ all around. Other papers are known. It has been reported (SGMJ 9/27) that only the small block sheets were initially supplied to the post-offices and included therewith were imperforate sheets both with and without gum.

251 Fig. 95 10 paisa dark violet blue
- a deep blue
- b imperf pair
- c horiz pair imperf btwn
- d vert pair imperf btwn
- e tete beche gutter pair
- f laid paper

1927 8th Anniversary of Independence

A more sophisticated design was prepared for the two stamps of this emission. Inside a fancy arabesque frame appears the crest of the Amir supported on crossed standards with the royal toughra (sultanic monogram) above. Basic inscription "D" is at the top. A new jesh'n legend appears in the lower panel and reads "Sahl hashtum istiqlal" (Eighth year of Independence). Both line and haif-tone plates were used for printing and the resulting impressions have either a colorless or overall dotted halftone background.

There appears to have been some speculation in the colorless-background line-printed stamps. The printing totaled 5000 but only 700 copies were regularly sold to the public. The balance was retained by certain Post Office officials and sold later privately in either mint or with first day cancellations at a high price (SGMJ 9/27).

The stamps were issued in sheets of 8, consisting of two panes of 4 (2x2) in horizontal format separated by a 22mm vertical gutter. The right-hand pane was inverted. They were typographed on medium white or toned local wove paper and perforated 11¾ between the stamps normally, so most specimens have at least one straight edge.

252 Fig. 96 10 paisa magenta (line)
- a imperf pair
- b horiz pair imperf btwn
- c vert pair imperf btwn
- d tete beche gutter pair

253 Fig. 96 10 paisa magenta (halftone)
a imperf pair
b horiz pair imperf btwn
c vert pair imperf btwn
d tete beche gutter pair

1928 9th Anniversary of Independence

Horizontal in format, the design again features the laureated crest of the Amir with the royal toughra in an oval on the left. Basic inscription "C" appears above the crest. The legend in the upper left reads "Sahl 9 istiqlal" (9th year of Independence).

The stamps were issued in sheets of 8 (2x4) with the upper block of four being inverted. They were typographed on medium white pre-gummed wove paper and perforated 11 between the stamps only. All specimens have at least one straight edge. A printing of 5000 was reported (GSM 5/28). This was probably the initial order, for the stamps are fairly common and additional printings are indicated.

265 Fig. 97 15 poul rose pink
a tete beche pair
b imperf pair
c as b, tete beche
d vert pair imperf btwn
e as d, tete beche
f horiz pair imperf btwn
g tete beche block, imperf vert

1931 13th Independence Day

With this issue, the Independence Monument motif is introduced and it is shown in the center of the design, supported by a wreath of oversize wheat tops. In the top panel a new significant legend appears that will be used with appropriate modifications in subsequent issues. It reads "Beh yadgar sahl sezdahum jesh'n Istiqlal Afghanistan" (In souvenir of the thirteenth year celebration of the Independence of Afghanistan).

The stamps were issued in sheets of 28 (7x4), lithographed on a soft thickish light gray watermarked laid paper and perforated 11¾. The paper normally has a warm cream tone from ink picked up off the printing plate. The watermark







Figs. 98, 99 and 100

occurs at least once on each sheet and is large enough to cover from 10 to 12 stamps. It consists of a double-lined oval frame, measuring 75mmx105mm, surmounted by a crown and enclosing the seated figure of Britannia. The paper was remainder stock of that used for the 1920-21 printings of the 1 abasi lettersheets and was ungummed. The stamps were issued in the same condition.

297 Fig. 98 20 poul dull vermilion

1932 14th Independence Day

The design again concentrates on the Independence Monument, framed in a wide oval with an inscribed ribbon above. The legend is similar to that of the previous issue except for the year number. The stamps were issued in sheets of 50 (10x5), lithographed on soft off-white wove paper and perforated 11¾. The gum was hand-applied.

316 Fig. 99 1 afg deep rose

1933 15th Independence Day

The Arch of Victory, set against a background of the Paghman mountains, first appears in the design of this issue. The Independence legend is in the top panel. The stamps were issued in sheets of 25 (5x5), typographed on white wove paper and perforated 11¾.

1934 16th Independence Day

A view of the Independence Monument occupies the left third of this design and the national arms are in right center. The jesh'n legend appears in the bottom panel. The stamps were issued in sheets of 40 (4x10), lithographed on

318 Fig. 100 50 poul bright ultramarine

soft off-white wove paper and perforated 11¾. In the plate make-up the upper five rows of subjects were inverted and each sheet contained four tete-beche vertical pairs. This arrangement was probably used to facilitate later separation of the sheets into post office panes, for such pairs are not common. The writer has never seen this stamp in gummed condition.

333 Fig. 101 50 poul pale dull green
a tete beche pair

1935 17th Independence Day

This design is vertical and shows, inside a semi-classical border, the Inde-







Figs. 101, 102 and 103



Figs. 104, 105, 106 and 107

pendence Monument framed by arched tree branches. The standard jesh'n legend forms the frieze across the top. The stamps were lithographed on medium white laid batonne paper, in press sheets of 40 consisting of two panes of 20 (5x4) separated by a 20mm vertical gutter, and perforated 11¾. The paper contains a manufacturer's watermark composed of a large elephant's head with a curved upraised trunk. The watermark occurs at least once in each pane and covers an average of four stamps.

334 Fig. 102 50 poul dark blue
a cross-gutter pair

1936 18th Independence Day

A more imaginative design was developed for this issue. The central composition depicts a fireworks display over the exposition grounds on the Chaman at Kabul, a nightly feature during the Celebration period. The upper part of the Independence Monument appears at the far right. The standard jesh'n legend extends across the top. The stamps were lithographed on white wove paper in press sheets of 50, consisting of two panes of 25 (5x5) in vertical format with a 35mm horizontal gutter between, and perforated 11¾.

335 Fig. 103 50 poul dull red violet
a cross-gutter pair
b horiz pair imperf btwn

1937 19th Independence Day

Bi-colored stamps were introduced into Afghan philately with this issue. The design features two oval framing pictures of the Independence Monument of King Nadir Shah. A basic inscription appears again, for the first time since the 1928 commemorative issue. It occupies the upper center cartouche and is type "G." The standard jesh'n legend has been omitted. Instead, in the lower left center, are the words "sahl 19" (19th year). The script on the right states "pinjah poul" (fifty poul).

The stamps were lithographed in sheets of 25 (5x5) on white wove handgummed paper and issued both perforated 11¾ and imperforate. The medallions are in halftone. Colored crosses for register control are found in the centers of the top and right sheet margins.

336 Fig. 104 50 poul gray violet & bistre brown
a imperf pair

1938 20th Independence Day

The upright, bi-colored design features a large portrait of Nadir Shah in an oval. The standard jesh'n legend reappears in the block script below. The stamps were lithographed in sheets of 25 (5x5) on medium white ungummed wove paper and issued both with no compound perforation of 11¾x11 and imperforate. There are no color register markings. The writer has not seen these stamps gummed.

339 Fig. 105 50 poul bright blue & sepia
a imperf pair

1939 21st Independence Day

The design consists of the portrait of Nadir Shah in a wide double-lined oval frame. Basic inscription "E" occupies the upper half of the oval. The standard jesh'n legend is at the bottom. In the lower right and left corners are the words "pinjah-poul" (fifty poul). The stamps were issued in sheets of 30 (5x6), lithographed on white pregummed wove paper and perforated 11. Position #21 exhibits a constant plate flaw consisting of a diagonal colorless line across the lower left corner.

340 Fig. 106 50 poul red



Figs. 108, 109, 110 and 111

1940 22nd Independence Day

The head of King Nadir Shah forms the principal part of the design. Basic inscription "E" fills the top panel. The standard jesh'n legend curves below the portrait. The stamps were issued in sheets of 25 (5x5), typographed on white wove paper and perforated 11.

374 Fig. 107 50 poul gray green

1941 23rd Independence Day

Two denominations of different design were prepared for this issue. The 15 poul shows the Independence Monument, and the 50 poul features the Arch of Paghman in a circle. Basic inscription "G" appears at the bottom of the 15 poul and across the top of the higher value. The legend on both designs has been shortened to "jesh'n istiqlal sahl 23" (23rd year Independence celebration). The 15 poul was issued in sheets of 9 (3x3) and the 50 poul in sheets of 15 (5x3). Both were typographed on white wove paper and perforated 11¾.

(Continued on page 204)

The Clubhouse

Closed During August

As customary each year, the clubhouse at 22 East 35 Street, New York City will be closed to visitors during the month of August because of vacations by the club's staff.

Non-Resident members, in particular, who may be vacationing or visiting New York should note this, so that they will not try to visit the club during August and be disappointed in finding it not open.

Meeting of January 3, 1962

Haiti

On April 6, 1955, Messrs. Samuel Dalsimer and F. Burton Sellers presented a program on Haiti for the members of the Collectors Club. Now, almost seven years later, this same duo were back for a repeat performance on the postal history and postage stamps of this country. However, whereas in 1955 the display included selections from the collections of the late Dr. Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago, Illinois and Mr. John C. Symonds of Lansing, Michigan, on the night of January 3, 1962 the exhibitors' own collections were of sufficient scope and depth to require no help in filling the wall frames of the Club.

Mr. Dalsimer spoke first and brought us by easy stages from the postal history period through the three Liberty Head postage stamp issues of 1881, 1882 and 1886.

The earliest recorded letter from Haiti, then called Hispaniola, is dated January 12, 1512 and was written by Columbus' son Diego. From 1512 to 1760 there are no known letters. In the pre-revolutionary period — 1770 to August 14, 1791 — letters are mostly all of French origin. Haiti was France's richest colony, run by white French planters with hundreds of thousands of African slaves. Early commercial letters of this period are concerned mostly with shipments of indigo, coffee and sugar to France. By 1790, most of the towns and ports had their own handstamps which fall into three distinct types — small letters within a curve, small letters in a straight line and large letters in a straight line. Mr. Dalsimer's frames contained covers with the large straight line "Aquin," small curved line "Aquin," small straight line "Cap" for Cap Haitien, small curved "Cayes" and many others, some being quite scarce. He also showed covers with French entry marks alone — Le Havre, Bordeaux, Nantes, La Flotte and others.

The revolution against France started with a night voodoo meeting on August 14, 1791 and raged without interruption for thirteen years. During this period, letters were smuggled out to ships bound for foreign countries and frequently bear only postmarks of the country of destination. Several of these were shown, one to Grenoble mailed with a red *Colonies-Par Marseille*, another *Par Nantes* and two military letters, one of these requesting safe passage to Martinique for three civilians.

From 1804 on, Haiti's overseas mail was carried mainly by French, British and American ships. The French mail service during the period from 1804 to 1865 was irregular and sporadic, thus being unusually scarce in specimens. Mr. Dalsimer showed 4 letters. These were marked *Colonies par Bordeaux, Colonies*

Par le Havre (disinfected), *Pays d'Outremer par le Havre* and one with a red *Le Havre* cancel.

British mail service from Haiti began as far back as the 17th century when Britain was developing her West Indies trade. British ships picked up mail on a sporadic basis until about 1830, most such bearing only the port of entry marking. Letters bearing markings of Deal, Plymouth and FPO for Foreign Post Office were displayed. After 1830, when Britain recognized Haiti's sovereignty, she established a packet agency there. Later, starting in 1842 various British-made town cancels were sent to Haiti. Cap-Haitien received its cancellers in 1842 and Jacmel in 1843. Mr. Dalsimer showed covers with the Cap-Haitien cancel; the rare, crowned, circular Jacmel cancel; the Colonies Art. 13 cancel and others with GBIF 60c, GB2F and GB3F 60c, these referring to the rates established by the Franco-British Postal Convention of 1856. Apparently, the British also ran an inland postal service in Haiti from about 1844-1866. The letters shown were cancelled with the familiar British double half-circle; all are from outlying towns to Port-au-Prince.

Finally, in 1865, the British started selling British stamps in Jacmel and Port-au-Prince five years before the French did. Mr. Dalsimer showed British stamps on and off cover cancelled with the Jacmel C59 obliterator and with the E53 Type I and Type II cancellers of Port-au-Prince.

In 1856, the Americans started the U. S. Mail Packet Service to Haiti. Since the two countries did not enjoy a postal treaty until Haiti joined the U. P. U. in 1881, all mail was rated as *Ship* or loose letters. The U. S. Congress set special rates for such letters, charging double the domestic rate. Mr. Dalsimer's display contained several interesting covers, some stamped "*Ship.*" One had a circled "6" for 6c on arrival.

The first postage stamps of Haiti were issued in 1881. These were imperforate bearing a design of the goddess of Liberty with a Phrygian cap. However, enemies of Haitian President Salomon accused him of using his wife as a model for these stamps. The stamps were issued in denominations of 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 7c and 20c, quantities ranging from 300,000 for the 1c down to 25,000 for the 20c, the total issue being a little over a million. The stamps were engraved and printed in Paris by G. Richard. The design, by Haitian sculptor, Foresterie, was first engraved on wood and then two metal plates were made. One plate was used for the 1c and 20c denominations; the other was used for the 2c, 3c, 5c and 7c denominations. Value numerals were engraved on separate metal plugs which were inserted in the basic plates. Since they were either inserted poorly or worked their way up in the printing, faint outlines of these value plugs are frequently seen within the numeral tablet. The stamps were issued in sheets of 50 printed by lithography on paper tinted on one side. Mr. Dalsimer showed a 2c printed on the wrong or untinted side of the paper, three covers with various denominations necessary to make 10c the regular overseas rate at the time, and several examples of the 20c where the "2" in the "20" had dropped lower than the zero, which seems to indicate that the numeral "20" was made up of two separate type plugs.

In 1882, the same designs were used for the perforated issue, and separate value plugs were again used. However, three basic plates were made instead of two. Reprintings are known, two for each denomination except the 2c and 5c which were reprinted for a third time, the reprintings being easily distinguishable by the color variations. Thus the 5c comes in blue-green, yellow green and deep green. The blue-green is the first and is rather scarce.

The last of the Liberty Head stamps were issued in 1886. These consisted of only three denominations, 1c, 2c, and 5c. When the dies for the first perforate issue wore out, they were returned to Richard who re-engraved them

and printed them again on surface-tinted paper. This time, however, the values were engraved directly on to the plates, and the perforations measure both 13½ and 13x13½ on the 1886 re-issue.

At this point, Mr. Sellers took the baton. He discussed first the President Salomon issue of 1887 recess printed in London by Skipper and East. There are four denominations in this issue, the 1, 2, 3, and 5 centimes. Notwithstanding the furore engendered by the supposed use of his wife's portrait on the Liberty Head issues, and his protestations against the use of his own portrait on stamps, President Salomon "graciously" permitted his full-face portrait to be the subject matter of this 1887 issue. These stamps are fairly plentiful but on covers are uncommon. Mr. Sellers showed trial color proofs of this issue and imperforates which he stated may well be proofs. Two items of exceptional interest were a bisect of the 2c plus a normal 2c on piece to make the 3c local rate and a cover posted three weeks after Salomon's overthrow franked with the 7c of the 1882 Liberty Head issue and the 3c Salomon, the latter affixed upside down, making the 10c rate. Ex-President Salomon was then in disfavor with the citizenry and Mr. Sellers pointed out that the story of such upside-down use to indicate Salomon's low estate may very well be true.

Mr. Sellers next showed a very scarce handstamped overprint resulting from a civil war which erupted in late 1888 following Salomon's overthrow. A small quantity of the basic Salomon stamp was overprinted "RS" for Republique Septentrionale (Northern Republic), for use by one of the dissident groups. The copy shown by Mr. Sellers was claimed to be the only one ever seen by him or any of his co-collectors except for photographs.

Next we were treated to a display of covers bearing the *Haiti/Postes Cap Haitien* circular black provisional handstamp, also a result of the civil war which continued into 1889. Seven covers, the property of Messrs. Sellers, Dalsimer and Bass were shown. These supposedly represent about 60% of the known covers with these strikes. A shortage of stamps in the Northern Republic required their use. Mr. Bass' copy is the only one known with double strike of this provisional handstamp.

An interesting group of essays of this same period was then shown. Prepared by an unknown but enterprising speculator, they bear a coat of arms or portraits of either Legitime or Boisrond-Canal, leaders of the two civil war factions. That way, the printer could be sure of backing a winner! Crudely printed by lithography on tinted paper, the essays were rouletted in colored lines but were never adopted by either side.

A provisional stamp appeared in October 1890 because of a shortage of the 2 centime denomination used for local mailing. It was made by surcharging the 3 centime Salomon stamp with a 2 centime handstamp. A wide variety of errors, including broken letters, inverted and double surcharges was shown, as well as a scarce cover bearing ten copies to make the 20 centimes registered letter rate to Europe.

The Palm Tree issues were displayed next. First of these was the 1891 issue in five denominations showing the tree with palms upright. It is believed these stamps were engraved and printed by E. Cote in Paris. The stamps were printed in sheets of 50 from a "10 master" laid down five times. Covers using these stamps are uncommon, especially those with local rates. Mr. Sellers showed a group of perforation varieties to round out this first Palm Tree issue.

In November 1892, another shortage of 2c stamps existed. To meet the need, the 3c denomination of the 1891 Palm Tree issue was surcharged with the 1890 handstamp. Surcharge varieties shown were inverted, double, and one double, one inverted.

The six denomination Palm Tree issue was recess engraved by Skipper and East, London in 1893, this with the exception of the 20c which was done in 1895

and is lithographed. These were issued in sheets of 100, the plate having been made from a single die rolled in. Few perforation varieties exist of this issue, although several denominations are known imperforated vertically, horizontally and between. Here again, Mr. Sellers showed some fine covers. One is franked with the 1c and 2c denominations to pay the 3c open mail rate. This cover bears the following handstamp: "Per Royal Mail S S/Via Jacmel Southampton." Another fine cover was noted in Mr. Sellers' display. It is franked with a block of ten of the 20c denomination. Dated June 8, 1895, from Port-au-Prince to Paris, this is ten times the single letter registered rate.

The third Palm Tree stamps were engraved and printed in Paris by E. Cote in 1896. These were printed from plates of 100 made from a master die of five vertically, reproduced 20 times in two vertical rows of ten. The complete plate was reduplicated five times to produce the necessary six plates and the appropriate numerals of denomination were individually engraved. The usual perforation varieties were found on Mr. Sellers' pages. Covers of this third Palm Tree issue are not common, but Mr. Sellers managed to show many examples, including a very desirable cover franked with a block of four of the 5c imperforate vertically from Jacmel to New York and another bearing a block of six of the same denomination imperforate horizontally from Cap Haitien to Jacmel.

The Palm Tree group concluded with a showing of three pages of cancellations, including U. S. incoming foreign mail, Hamburg-American and Dutch paquet boat and miscellaneous foreign cancels.

Again, in March 1898, there was a shortage of 2c stamps. The old 1890 2c handstamp was dragged out once more and surcharged on the 20c brown of 1895 and the 20c orange of 1896 of the third Palm Tree issue. Mr. Sellers showed us an extremely scarce cover bearing this stamp. This is a multiweight cover franked with stamps totaling 48 centimes of the 1898 watermarked issue plus the 2c provisional surcharge of 1898, dated August 20, 1898 to Le Havre.

Haiti's only issue on watermarked paper appeared in March 1898 in six denominations, engraved and printed by Compagnie Francaise des Papiers Monnaies. Interesting for its wide variety of trial color proofs on card, watermarked as well as unwatermarked paper, as well as for stamps overprinted or punched "Specimen," only the 2c and 5c denominations were reported to be regularly used. However, Mr. Sellers showed commercial covers bearing all six denominations, some of them quite scarce.

Mr. Sellers closed his section of the display with the fifteen denomination American Bank Note issue of 1898 and the 1899 re-issue of the low values in the prescribed U. P. U. colors for post card, domestic letter and foreign letter rates. Included were complete sets of plate proofs in pairs on both bond paper and cardboard.

The writer finds a great hazard in reporting these meetings. Whenever a display has exceptional interest, he feels a strong motivation to run to his favorite dealer or to watch the next auction for material similar to that shown. Thus far, we have had to exercise the utmost retraint against starting at least half a dozen new collections. It is only fair, therefore, to warn Mr. Sellers and Mr. Dalsimer that they will have to look to their laurels in the future and be prepared to submit astronomical bids for desirable material. After viewing the results of their extremely interesting joint philatelic venture, we feel an almost uncontrollable desire to collect Haiti. It will not surprise us if the interest engendered by their display will be responsible for the making of many new collectors of this country and increasing the competition for its stamps especially the earlier ones. *(Philip Silver)*

Meeting of January 17, 1962

United States, Freaks, Errors, Oddities and Varieties

Philatelically, the members of the Collectors Club are an unusually blasé group. Small wonder! They have seen exhibited within its portals some of the world's outstanding collections. However, the meeting of January 17, 1962 conducted by *Mr. Clyde Jennings, Jr.* aroused much interest because of its unusual nature. Instead of showing the superb items, of which we are informed Mr. Jennings has a goodly number, he chose to show those items which had nothing to recommend except that there was something wrong with all of them. This was their common denominator.

Mr. Jennings divided his showing into four categories: *errors, varieties, freaks* and *oddities*. Examples of each were shown on color slides prepared for him by Col. James T. DeVoss. The members are already adequately aware of Col. DeVoss' unique contributions in this field. Mr. Jennings further described his four categories as follows:

errors — these involve the element where a human being has erred, usually a one-time happenstance;
varieties — these are constant defects which always show up in the same form, in the same position;
freaks — these are the irregular or abnormal product of some process and there are practically never two which are identical;
oddities — this is the catch-all category for items not otherwise susceptible of classification.

Before illustrating these four different categories with stamps from his collections, Mr. Jennings, leaving nothing to chance, briefly outlined the steps in the production of a stamp.

> "First the master die is engraved, then comes the transfer roll, next the printing plate is made. Finally, in this order, the printing, gumming, perforating and cutting of the sheets into panes of the size delivered to Post Offices."

Our speaker's thesis was that only a collector adequately informed of the stamp production processes could properly understand and deduce what went wrong and at which step in the production.

First, he touched on the invert errors. Among U. S. stamps, there are seven: the 15c - type II, the 24c and the 30c denominations of the 1869 issue; the 1c, 2c and 4c denominations of the Pan-American Exposition issue of 1901; and the 24c air mail of 1918. This type of error occurs on bi-colored stamps. The sheets are fed through the flat bed presses twice, once for each color. These errors are the fault of the printer, the sheet being fed into the presses in reversed position. For illustration, Mr. Jennings used a copy of the 1c Pan-American invert.

The second type of error is the result of the plate-maker's mistake, the most spectacular being the 5c error of color in the 2c plate: Scott No. 467, perforated 10; No. 485, imperforate; and No. 505, perforated 11. Three positions 7492 U. L. 74, 7492 U. L. 84 and 7492 L. R. 18 in the 400-subject plate had become defective. The plate maker first made erasures on these positions. Then to re-enter the three positions, he picked up what he thought was the 2c transfer roll, the machine tool used for transferring the master die impression to the plate. However, a figure "5" upside down resembles a figure "2." The result, as we noted in the slide showing the perf. 11 variety, was a 5c stamp in the center of a

sheet of twos. Incidentally, this is the only instance of this type of error among U. S. stamps.

Errors of color came next. As pointed out by the speaker, there are myriad shade variations in most stamps especially in the reds, blues and greens. However, an error of color must entail use of a wrong color ink. The most spectacular example is the 2c Navy Department official stamp of 1873, Scott No. O36b, printed in the green ink of the State Department issue rather than the blue of the Navy Department. Mr. Jennings' slide had both the 2c blue and 2c green side by side for comparison. The result was extremely dramatic.

Other well-known errors of color are the 4c Columbian in blue rather than ultramarine and the 6c air mail stamp of 1938 printed in ultramarine and carmine instead of the normal *dark blue* and carmine. It should be noted at this point that there are many, who do not accept C23c as a true color error.

Mr. Jennings next turned to the category of *varieties*. First of these was the double transfer. The speaker stated that this resulted when the transfer roll, used for making the impressions on the plate, made two separate impressions on the plate in supposedly the same position. The second and superfluous impression, when slightly out of line with the first, is known as a double impression. For illustration, a color slide with the 30c denomination of the 1923 issue, Scott No. 569, picturing a bison, was shown. The double impression or transfer appears in the right hand figure "30," the transfer roll having been placed slightly below the original impression of value.

A more spectacular example of this variety category is the double transfer on the 2c Washington, Scott No. 344, where the design of the 1c Franklin, Scott No. 343, is transferred to the 2c stamp. This shows up most clearly in the engraving lines for the hair, Washington's hair being engraved more or less horizontally whereas Franklin's is inclined to be vertical. Mr. Jennings is of the opinion this is an erroneous entry rather than a double transfer as designated in the Scott catalog. This exists in only one position on one plate, only twenty odd copies being known.

The speaker next introduced us to damaged and cracked plate varieties, some notable examples of the former being; the "bridge across Niagara;" the missing middle frameline on the Poe stamp of 1949 (this occurred during the making of the plate, the best information available is that this position is unknown with the line intact); 1c Louisiana with diagonal lines across the left "1," (this last probably the result of a deep gouge in the plate) and the broken "N" relief break in the 7c of the Washington Bi-centennial issue of 1932. Mr. Jennings paused here to state that, when philatelists discovered this variety on stamp position No. 38 of the upper left pane, they suddenly realized the Bureau of Engraving and Printing had changed the method of rocking-in the impressions on a plate. Previously, the positions were rocked in from bottom to top of the plate, but the relative positions of the complete and broken "N's" in this instance indicated that the rocking-in was being done from side to side, left to right. Of the cracked plates, Mr. Jennings showed gripper cracks — on the 1933 N. R. A. stamp — these incidentally never found on flat plate printings, and a rocking-in crack on the Lake Placid stamp of 1932.

Freaks were the next category discussed. Double prints and partial double prints were shown, the latter on the 3c green Washington being fairly uncommon. This was probably due to the sheet being only partially ejected from the press so that just a portion of the sheet received the second impression. In the full double print category, the entire sheet is not properly ejected from the press. Next, attention centered on double surcharges, the example on the slide being the $2.00 on $1.00 U. S. Postal Offices in China stamp.

Still in the freak category, Mr. Jennings discussed inking problems showing

us over all smears on the 6c air mail stamp of 1941 (C25) and partial smears on the 3c Stuart Washington of 1932.

Next, there was an interesting discussion on paper creases. These occur when the paper becomes creased or pinched in the press during or just prior to printing. The area of paper within or under the "pinch" receives no ink, so when the crease is opened up afterward, there is a blank area of paper devoid of ink. Many of the creases remain during the perforating process, a good example shown being on the 2c Jamestown. Double creases, as shown on the 1c Franklin (Scott type A155) are infrequent. One of Mr. Jennings favorites in the crease variety is one on the 6c bi-color air mail stamp of 1938 (Scott C23). Bi-color stamps before the Giori press required two printing plates and two separate operations, one for each color. The blue printing was done first. After this operation, but before the printing of the red vignette, a crease developed. The stamp on the slide was shown with the crease pressed out. The word "Mail" is intact but the red eagle has a white vertical crease. This type of printing problem, Mr. Jennings stated, is not a new one; it is found as far back as 1869 on the 15c denomination of that issue.

Paper folds differ from creases in that the paper is not pinched but actually folded or doubled over from one edge or a corner. In one example shown, the fold developed prior to printing so that the back of the sheet received part of the impression of the stamp. In another, the fold developed after the printing but prior to the perforating; here the perforations were all askew. Mr. Jenning's "showpiece" of the fold varieties is the 1c blue, Scott No. 63. The printing operation went off without a hitch, the stamp impression being intact, but after printing and before perforating the fold developed. Because of the sheet margin selvage at right and bottom, this stamp was easily identifiable as stamp position number 100, in the lower righthand corner of the sheet. Another copy of the same stamp was shown but of the grilled variety. The fold had likewise developed after printing but before perforating and remained right through the application of the impression of the grill. The result was that the grill itself is double its normal width but one half of it is with points *up,* the other half with points *down.*

Perforating varieties were next shown. There were stamps with vertical perforations off center, with horizontal perforations off center, with both vertical and horizontal perforations off center and stamps imperforate between, both horizontally and vertically.

Varieties caused by improper cutting were then shown, including a cross-gutter pair of the 2c Jefferson of the current regular postage issue with explanation of the reasons for such occurence.

Last of the categories chosen by Mr. Jennings is the one he called *oddities.* As previously noted, this is a catch-all including: miscues in inking by the Giori Press; printers waste — trial printing usually run off by the printer to test the plate, inking and so forth. These all are supposed to be destroyed, although some examples manage to find their way into philatelic hands; offset impressions on the back of sheets caused by stacking wet sheets one upon the other; double paper varieties; and foreign matter varieties caused when pieces of string or other waste material are lodged on the printing plate.

At this point, our speaker ran out of slides, material and words. It can be reported that Mr. Jennings did his homework well; he is an extremely articulate person with a fine background in stamp printing methods and processes. This became clearly evident during the "question and answer" period. Some of the leading authorities in the audience asked "tough" questions, which Mr. Jennings satisfactorily answered. The result was a most unusual and informative meeting. *(Philip Silver)*

Meeting of February 7, 1962

A Postal Historian Collects the U. S. Classics

Every so often a new star flashes across the philatelic horizon, lighting up the heavens with the sheer brilliance of its magnitude and amazing the collecting fraternity with its depth and scope. *John David Baker* of Indianapolis, Ind., the speaker on the night of February 7, 1962, is not a new star by any means; he has been slaying them in the hinterlands for some years now. Only that he has just been "discovered" in the metropolitan area makes the metaphor so apt.

One characteristic in most of our out-of-town exhibitors has been evident; they feel they must bring their own claque with them when they brave the wilds of New York and the equally perilous environs of the Collectors Club. Thus, in Mr. Baker's claque, there was his brother, Hugh, himself quite a well-known and knowledgeable collector. However, the speaker was in no dire need of built-in applause. It was generously given him by a large audience of members and guests for an extremely fine showing of classic U. S. covers ranging from the Postmasters' Provisionals up to and including the 1869 issue.

Mr. Baker first related how early in 1948, when collecting the Bureau issues, he found that he needed only a centerline block and the four arrow blocks of the blue Lincoln imperforate (Scott 315) plus a few of the blue papers to be complete. Having acquired these, he was faced with the age-old problem so often encountered by the "compleat" collector, "Where do I go from here?"

Well, Mr. Baker went into the difficult 19th century U. S. area, the first item acquired being the Millbury, Massachusetts Postmaster Provisional of 1846. To Mr. Baker's credit, he has acquitted himself admirably against major competition. The resident members, who were fortunate enough to be able to see the 1961 annual members' competition, were quite taken with his showing. The judges must have been favorably impressed, as well; Mr. Baker's exhibit won the Grand Award last year.

For this meeting, Mr. Baker had filled the wall frames with approximately 300 album pages from his collection. Here were displayed items to interest everyone. For each of the stamps shown, from the 1847's to the 1869's, the plating of the various issues, wherever available, was shown first.

Then there were the covers. For the first day cover collector, we noted one of the twenty known first day covers of the 3c 1851 issue. Mint stamps were barely in evidence except when needed to complete a plating study. Mr. Baker likes his stamps used; he wants them to have done postal duty. It is extremely difficult to pick out the better items on display. They were almost all "better."

Mr. Baker also displayed nearly 100 color slides of some of the outstanding covers in his collection. This has been done by previous speakers and the audience reception has always been good for this method of showing. In this part of the evening's exhibition, the speaker showed his covers by year of acquisition rather than in any logical chronological or subject sequence.

With this we believe him to have been mistaken. We found it disconcerting to see a pair of 3c 1851's followed by a 5c 1847 cover with a Swarts Express, the latter, in turn, followed by St. Louis Bears and these by a 3c 1851 "Free Trade No Monopoly" propaganda cover. This was the changing pattern of the slide display. Although each item shown was a gem in itself, there was no logical sequence to heighten the viewer's interest. Also the color slides made by our member, Col. James T. DeVoss were very finely done.

As noted previously, it is most difficult to pick out the outstanding items in Mr. Baker's collection. If anything, the exhibit suffered from a plethora of excellence. One impressing this reporter was a cover franked on October 16,

1845 with a strip of three of the New York Postmaster Provisional, positions 36, 37 and 38 which went from New York to Philadelphia. A bank passbook had been enclosed so that the total weight was over one ounce but under one and one half ounces. At 5c for each half ounce for a distance under 300 miles, the 15c rate was required.

A triple rate cover franked with an unsevered pair of the 20c and 10c St. Louis "Bears" comes to mind. This is the triple 10c rate for distances over 300 miles for a one and one half ounce letter. This letter also had Philadelphia as its destination.

There was also a vertical right side bisect of the 10c black (Scott 2) on cover dated May 13, 1848 sent from New York City to Lockport, New York. This, incidentally, is the earliest recorded use of all bisects. Also among his bisects, Mr. Baker showed two covers with 10c 1847 (Scott 2) matching diagonal bisects sent from Gardiner, Maine to Brattleborough, Vermont, one dated April 28, 1851, the other May 3, 1851. Switching to the Postmasters' Provisionals again, Mr. Baker showed a strip of four of the 5c New York, positions 31, 32, 33 and 34 on cover dated October 31, 1845 from New York to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Throughout, Mr. Baker took great pains to explain the use of the changing rate structure as shown on his covers. Thus, a 24c 1869 on registered cover from New York to Albany was explained as a triple rate for a weight of one ounce to one and one half ounces for nine cents plus the registration fee of fifteen cents to make the total 24c rate. Another cover was franked with a vertical strip of three of the 5c buff stamps of 1861, Scott 67. This was sent from New York to Le Havre, France. The cover first went to England via American packet, requiring 3c for the U. S. postage rate plus 6c for seapost, a total of 9c. Crossing the English Channel from England to France, there was a 3c charge. To this is added the French inland rate of 3c. Therefore, the total rate was 15c, paid with the strip of three 5c stamps.

One could go on ad infinitum mentioning the gems in Mr. Baker's collection and the postal history as shown in the changing rate structure as it developed through the years. But that would be like piling Pelion on Ossa! Enough! We have made our point. A majori ad minus — from the greater to the less. A minori ad majus — from the less to the greater. And who is to say which is the less and which the greater. In our humble opinion, the items shown were all "greats." Our philatelic hat is off to a truly fine exhibit and exhibitor.

(Philip Silver)

Meeting of February 21, 1962

Colombia and States

Lt. General Cornelius W. Wickersham is no stranger to the challenging and unexplored world of South American philately. It was regrettable that a sudden illness prevented him from personally talking about his excellent display of "*Colombia & States, the Classic Issues,*" at the February 21st showing of the regular Collectors Club meeting.

Because of this lack, an evening of unexpected merit ensued when Messrs. Harrison D. S. Haverbeck and John R. Boker, Jr., were impressed into emergency service to speak about the General's collection in his stead.

Mr. Haverbeck set the tone of the evening with his discerning observations and learned evaluations. He spoke of the many errors and varieties on display. Mr. Haverbeck's forte being in the hinterland of Asiatic philately, he gingerly pointed out the conspicuous pieces and observed that most of the stamps displayed were unused, or had pen cancellations which were typical of the outlying dis-

tricts. He stated that he shares with General Wickersham the "love of the primitives." He outlined how several postal systems in the various states and towns ran simultaneously, adding to the confusion of Colombian postal history. Attention was directed to the late use, in Ecuador, of Colombia mail and to pieces of stampless covers whose numeral rate markings were used later as cancellations on stamps.

Mr. Haverbeck made observations on the primitive printing methods used and on how, when the stamps were lithographed, they were separately laid down. This and the fact that the stamps were locally printed explains the many varieties of Colombian stamps. He fondly pointed out the colorful display of insured letter stamps, the Cubierta, 1865-1870 covers.

Mr. Boker's persuasive arguments were felt next in the delineation of the problems inherent in collecting early and classic issues. Disclaiming any intimate knowledge of Colombia, he launched into an appraisal of Colombian philately based upon his extensive knowledge of stamps in general and of the classic stamps in particular. He was critical of Colombia and the many unanswered questions which are due mainly to lack of interest. His applied philatelic erudition was keenly felt in his appraisal of the various pages on display. He pointed out that full sheets were not uncommon, so that plating has been done and can be done again to better advantage. He observed that plate positions were endless because of retouching. He also stated that covers were not common, most of them having gone abroad.

He regarded Colombia, as he put it, a "crummy country" and his viewpoint was frequently jaundiced, but he warmed to his subject, which he regarded as being only a little explored.

Mr. Boker stated that stamps of different shapes such as triangles and small squares were used for easy identification and that glazed papers were used to prevent cancellation erasures. He pointed out that the State of Bolivar display showed color and varieties not catalogued, and that there was an urgent need to investigate the "middle area" of Bolivar stamps. He also stated that the morass of miscalculations, printers' waste and mixed perforations easily misled philatelists. From the plethora of material available some new and more valid findings could be established.

On the stamps of the State of Tolima a lot of work is still to be done on plating, the paper and on the sequence of printings. Mr. Boker emphasized the fact that study on the United States Carriers could be used as an example to unravel the complexities of Tolima's plate positions and sequence of printings. He felt that the uneven influences of auction vagaries on cataloguing needed revision, and that premiums paid for condition resulted in inaccurate catalogue pricing and valuations.

General Wickersham informs us that his collection includes a portion of the Charles Jewell manuscript cancellations for the issues that were shown. This is probably the most complete collection of these items in existence. It is difficult to describe the excellence of this collection or to enumerate the many items of outstanding significance it includes. The research and work in progress was indicated throughout this collection by the General's notations.

(Albert Philip Cohen)

Meeting of March 7, 1962

Newfoundland

Mr. Daniel C. Meyerson, the speaker on the night of March 7, 1962, referred to himself as a reluctant exhibitor. This stemmed from an anxiety concerning

the value of his exhibit to the membership and the interest or lack of same it might engender. When first approached by our program chairman, he thought he would first like to see someone else exhibit B. N. A. material so that he might be better informed of the requirements for his venture into the realm of philatelic exhibition. As events proved, Mr. Meyerson's fears were decidedly without foundation. The members were treated to an extremly comprehensive display of this popular country.

Several points should first be noted about the postal history of Newfoundland. Its first postmaster, appointed in 1805, was William Solomon. In 1840, Newfoundland became part of the imperial post office system. Most mail to or from Newfoundland was carried by boat, a natural consequence of its being an island. According to Mr. Meyerson, very little is known about the stampless period. The Act of 1851 established the inland post.

If stampless covers are believed uncommon, the speaker's first four frames seemed to belie this notion. He showed an 1833 ship wreck cover from the packet "Dolphin" reputed, according to Major Adrian Hopkins, to be the second oldest wreck cover known to philately. With this desirable beginning, the speaker next showed several fine covers with strikes not previously recorded elsewhere, including the Robinson and Brookings forwarding mark, the red, circular "Newfoundland Paid" handstamp used from 1840-1846, the "Carbonear Paid," "Greenspond Paid," "Twillingate Paid," as well as several of the more common "Paid" handstamps such as "Brigus," "Fogo," "Harbor Grace," "St. John's" and "Trinity." This part of the exhibit contained the "Newfoundland Ship Letter" mark as well as many packet letters and rate covers.

The first adhesive postage stamps of Newfoundland were issued on January 1, 1857. These were the imperforate pence issues, recess-engraved by Perkins, Bacon and Company on thick unwatermarked paper. Mr. Meyerson's collection of the pence issues contained selected copies of all the scarlets, oranges and roses, with the exception of the 1sh. denomination in the scarlet and in the orange. Other items of note were a 4d. scarlet on cover and a bisect of the 8d. scarlet, also on full cover.

The gem of this section, certainly in rarity though not in value, was the only recorded copy of the 3d. with the handstamped "Cancelled." Only six had been printed back in 1861. One of the best copies of the 1d. reddish brown error of color was shown, as well as complete sheets of most of "the roses" with and without watermark. All of "the roses," with the exception of the 2d., were shown handstamped "Specimen." Noted, as well, was a block of eight of the 2d., probably the largest multiple piece known. This was acquired by the speaker from a dealer in this country in exchange for some U. S. stamps.

The cents issues were then shown replete with proofs, re-entries, cancels, specimens and covers. The rest of the cents issues, up to and including 1896, contained such outstanding pieces as the die proof of the 1c (Scott 32), the 3c (Scott 34) used on cover from St. Pierre, the 3c roulette (Scott 39) on full cover with the fancy "La Poile" strike, the 3c (Scott 60) on cover with the scarce "Labrador T. P. O." cancel, and a copy of the ½c (Scott 58) used to prepay the newspaper rate. This ½c on wrapper is a scarce example of proper usage of this stamp other than in the make-up of a rate. Though catalogued at about $1.00, Mr. Meyerson is of the opinion it is the rarest item in his entire collection. There were other outstanding pieces, such as part perforates, imperforates, imprints, part sheets, full sheets and cancels too numerous to mention. Lest we forget, the block of ten of the 5c blue roulette in Mr. Meyerson's collection, is the only known block of any denomination of the rouletted stamps. Other roulette multiples shown were a pair of the 1c, a pair of both the 3c and 5c.

Mr. Meyerson showed an unusual cover with the 10c (Scott 26) to New Zealand with a 30c rate. The validation of the rate was determined after considerable correspondence with the Collectors Club Librarian and with B.N.A.P.S. members. Documents examined in the Collectors Club library disclosed the existence of a 15c rate for a half ounce; thus, a double rate cover required 30 cents in 1885.

Continuing, Mr. Meyerson showed blocks of the last four denominations of the Cabot issue with the cancelled-to-order cancellation, a block of sixteen of Scott 75, 76 and 77 showing all three types, covers with examples of all the types, imperforate pairs of Scott 82 and 83 used on full cover, two blocks of the 1c Guy (Scott 87) in the 12x14½ and the 12x11 perforation, imperforate between vertically and showing the "NFW error." This section closed with a mint block of the 2c on 60c essay of 1918.

From 1920 on, most all of the stamps were shown complete with die proofs, plate proofs and imperforates, as well as line perforates where they existed.

The collection also had a representative showing of postal stationery, plate blocks and various sidelines.

Air mails were purposely excluded since Mr. Meyerson felt he did not want to duplicate some of the fine material exhibited more than a year ago in Dr. James J. Matejka's outstanding air mail collection of this country.

Concluding, Mr. Meyerson showed a cover bearing the provisional rubber handstamp marking "Postage Paid/GPO/St. Johns, N. F." This was applied on letters from outposts forwarded to St. Johns. Mr. Meyerson had questioned the existence of this marking and reiterarated his opinion to Mr. Harry Huber when he met the latter in Pittsburgh. Mr. Huber sent this cover on to our speaker for examination. Unfortunately, when it was returned by Mr. Meyerson's secretary she gave it some very non-philatelic handling. She folded it so it would fit the mailing envelope. One can imagine Mr. Huber's ire upon its return receipt and a scathing letter from him was a natural concomitant. Thereopon, Mr. Meyerson offered to purchase the cover even in folded condition. Perhaps, had his secretary taken beter care in her mailing, it would not have been available for our perusal on the night of Mr. Meyerson's showing.

It can be stated that our speaker received a well-merited round of applause for his extremely fine display of Newfoundland. If his showing did nothing else, it proved to him that he had nothing "to fear but fear itself" in coming before the membership with his exhibit. Perhaps, with his reluctance conquered, we may see Mr. Meyerson again in the future for another look at his very comprehensive collection. *(Philip Silver)*

Meeting of April 4, 1962

Early Pioneer Air Mail Flights

Wednesday, April 4th was Aero Philatelists night at the club. *Ira Seebacher* and *Albert Philip Cohen*, representing the group, undertook the coverage of early pioneer flights and their relationship to philately. They were introduced by Philip Silver, National President of the organization, who was presented with a bound copy of "The Aero Philatelist Annals" for the fine work and assistance he has given to Henry M. Goodkind, editor of the journal.

Mr. Seebacher gave a brief history of the origins of flight, starting with the legend of Icarus and ending with the pioneer flights of the early part of this century. Da Vinci, the Montgolfiers, Blanchard and many other theorists and experimenters were covered in his introduction.

Taking us on a tour of the frames which contained many pioneer flight souvenir post cards stamped with many of the semi-official labels used to raise

money for the numerous air meets held in those early years of the 20th century, Mr. Seebacher explained their use and historic significance in the history of aviation. Many of these interesting pieces came from the extensive collection of semi-officials amassed by Dr. R. H. Shrady. Especially interesting was one of the few known covers bearing the famous "Vin Fiz" label used on the C. P. Rodgers flight from Sheepshead Bay to Long Beach, California in 1911 and a copy of the excessively rare 1877 "Buffalo Balloon" stamp. In addition to these and the many semi-officials, a selection of early Zeppelin covers and aero-postal stationery was also shown.

Taking over the second half of the meeting, Albert Philip Cohen, President of the New York Chapter of the Aero Philatelists, presented a slide lecture on British Pioneer air mails. He showed an infinite number of flown covers from what is generally claimed to be the world's first official air post. Sanctioned by the British Colonial Government of India in 1911, this post was sponsored by Walter Windham, an early flying enthusiast. Mr. Cohen covered this flight with great thoroughness, showing covers in every concievable state, including a few that were forged and one bearing a counterfeit cachet.

Next, Mr. Cohen showed an overwhelming number of cards and covers flown on the Coronation Flights held in England in 1911 and also promoted by Walter Windham. These flights, from London to Windsor, were flown over a period of days, each flight bearing souvenir mail. The exhibition was arranged ostensibly to celebrate the coronation of King George V. A startling and interesting display of pyrotechnics took place during the latter half of Mr. Cohen's talk, when the club's slide projector went up in flames much as many an unfortunate early plane did.

After a brief interruption, Mr. Cohen's flight was resumed with a new machine. Fortunately neither pilot nor co-pilot were injured.

At the end of the talks, Ezra D. Cole, program chairman, presented Messers Seebacher and Cohen with certificates of appreciation. Lacking was a medal to Mr. Cohen for bravery under fire. *(Ira Zweifach)*

Annual Members Competition

April 18, 1962

An annual competition open to all members residing in the United States, Canada and Mexico was established in 1953. Each member is allowed to exhibit one frame. A panel of five judges selected by the chairman of the Program Committee is instructed to select one Grand Prize and six Awards of Honor. In addition, the judges may select, at their discretion, as many Certificate of Merit as the quality of the competition permits.

One week in the middle of April is set aside each year for this exhibit to be open for viewing by the members and their guests. A printed program is given to each visitor. Besides, some resident members volunteer to serve for one day as hosts and hostesses, answering any questions of the guests and being generally helpful to those visiting the club.

The tenth annual competition took place during the week of April 16-20 with Mrs. Ehrenberg and Taylor the hostesses, and Messrs. Altmann, Glaser, Rankin and Reggel as hosts.

Fifty members placed exhibits in competition. The frames were placed in the central meeting room on the first floor. Each day a number of members and invited guests viewed the exhibits.

Award Night

As usual, the winners of the competition were announced on the regular meeting night of April 18th. This year saw one innovation that was most favorably received. In past years, all the annual Collectors Club awards also were given on this night. Consequently, this made the program rather long, while those anxious to learn of the judges decisions were forced to sit for a long period of time during the presentations of the *Alfred F. Lichtenstein Memorial, the Collectors Club Philatelist* and the *Collectors Club* Awards.

It was decided to have the latter awards presented at an annual dinner during the second week of May. On the night of April 18th and in the future, only the competitive prizes will be presented with one exception. The custom of presenting specially leather bound volumes of the past volume of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to the editor and the members of the Editorial Board will take place on the April meeting rather than at the Awards Dinner in May.

On April 18th, a large group gathered in the second floor lounge. There were not as many present as in past years because of the conflict with Holy Week and Passover. President George E. Burghard opened the meeting at 8 P. M.

He called upon Ezra D. Cole, Chairman of the Program Committee to present Certificates of Appreciation to the following members, who had handled the exhibits, mounted and dismounted them. Mrs. Ehrenberg and Taylor, Miss Clemencon, Messrs. Bass, Boutrelle, Glaser, Hals, Higgins, Rankin, Reggel, Reussile and Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, the chairman of the Exhibition Committee.

Following this, Editor Henry M. Goodkind presented the special volumes of the 1961 COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST to H. D. S. Haverbeck, Edwin Mueller and Franc Ritter. President Burghard then presented a special 1961 volume to the editor for his services.

With the program moving more quickly than in the past, anxious exhibitors now were ready to hear the news. The Chairman of the Board of Judges, Edwin Mueller, made the announcements. The other judges serving with him were H. D. S. Haverbeck, Mortimer L. Neinken, Carl Pelander and Ira Seebacher.

Grand Award

The best exhibit, which received as the top prize, a silver postage stamp dispenser, went to an outstanding *United States 1869 Issue* exhibit shown by Captain Barrett G. Hindes of Ross, Calif.

Six Awards of Merit

Six handsome sterling silver dishes, all of equal standing, were awarded to the following exhibits:

Salvador, early issues on and off cover by Max H. Bass, Great Neck, N. Y.

New Zealand, Great Barrier Islands Pigeon Posts 1898-1900 by P. C. Crotide of New York, N. Y. (This exhibit is that of Editor, Henry M. Goodkind. In order to show this anonymously, the name "P. C. Crotide" was selected, being "Editor C. C. P." spelled backwards. The disguise was perfect, not one judge nor member suspected the identity of the actual exhibitor).

United States Transatlantic Mail 1851-61 by W. Newton Landis, Lansdowne, Penna.

Confederate States of America Postal History of Tennessee by Thomas L. Ray, M. D., Knoxville, Tenn.

Air Mail, Semi-Official Stamps by R. H. Shrady, M. D., Engelwood, N. J.

United States 1869 issue — Stamps, Proofs and Essays of Richard Ellis, New York, N. Y.



R. Hasbrouck Shrady, M.D. (right) receiving congratulations from George E. Burghard, President (left), who is about to present Dr. Shrady with one of the six sterling silver dishes for his air mail collection that gained a major award. Looking on in the center, partly obscured, is Edwin Mueller, Chairman of the Board of Judges. (Photo by Boutrelle).

A significant observation must be made before making further announcements. The seven major prizes went to three United States, one Confederate, one Central American and two air mail exhibits. Foreign showings such as European, Asiatic and African were not among the leading exhibits in the 1962 competition.

Certificates of Merit

Fourteen exhibits that received Certificates are as follows:

United States, Essay and Proofs Patent Papers — Solomon Altmann, New York, N. Y.
Reunion 19th and 20th Century covers — Louise Clemencon, New York, N.Y.
Israel, the Nahariya-By-the-Sea Local — Arthur Cohen, Rochester, N. Y.
India and States Postal Stationery — Frank W. Cowen, Plainfield, N. J.
Uruguay Diligencias and Stampless covers — D. E. Hart, M. D., Massillon, O.
Congo, The First Issue — Arthur I. Heim, New York, N. Y.
U. S. The Illinois Central R. R. circa 1861 — W. W. Hicks, Villanova, Penna.
Confederate States of America covers — Kenneth E. Keister, Elyria, Ohio.
U. S. Coil Waste Issues — Richard C. Mast, D. D. S., New York, N. Y.
U. S. Postal History, Forerunners of the Registry System — Barbara R. Mueller, Jefferson, Wisc.
Czechoslovakia, 19th century forerunners of the 11th Czech Regiment — Wm. Reiner-Deutsch, Bayside, N. Y.
United States. Locals and Expresses Across the Hudson River — Leon Reussile, Jr., Red Bank, N. J.
Colombia, Issues of Cundinamarco — John N. Myer, New York, N. Y.
United States Revenue Essays — Morton Dean Joyce, New York, N. Y.

Special Award

One entry called *Philatelic Fun and Freaks* exhibited by Robert S. Breakey, M. D. of Lansing, Mich. attracted so much attention because of its humor and its gentle spoofing of philately that the judges ordered a special miniature cup about 4 inches high to be awarded to this collection.

Other Exhibits

United States Air Mail covers — Herbert C. Anderson, Chicago, Ill.
Israel — Jan Bart, Belle Harbor, N. Y.
Mexico Stampless covers — John K. Bash, Staten Island, N. Y.
Israel, the First Issue — Leslie L. Blake, Williamson, N. Y.
Alsace-Lorraine — Adrien Boutrelle, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Hungary 19th Century — John L. Briggs, Jr., New York, N. Y.

U. S. 4c Lincoln Booklet Panes — William R. Bush, M. D., Canton, Ohio.
French Congo — W. J. Connelly, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Guatemala, August 1922 Issue — H. Summerfield Day, Champaign, N. Y.
German Hanseatic States — M. C. Dillingham, Menlo Park, Calif.
Republic of Venice 18th Century covers — Herbert Dube, Toronto, Canada.
British Inland Airmail — J. T. Edgar, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Evolution of the Envelope — Edith Faulstich, Yonkers, N. Y.
Cancellations — John F. Field, San Fernando, Calif.
Dutch Indies Stampless covers — Harry S. Heymans, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Germany the 1889 10pf. — Harry A. Holman, Astoria, N. Y.
Great Britain Mulready Envelopes — Wallace W. Knox, Oakland, Calif.
Cape of Good Hope Pre-stamp covers — Howard A. Lederer, N. Y., N. Y.
India Feudatory States — Alex H. Levine, Jersey City, N. J.
Turkey Ship Cancellations — P. P. Lindenberg, New York, N. Y.
Pakistan — Jeanne B. Pogue, Cincinnati, Ohio.
U. S. 19th Century New York Postmarks — H. Lawrence Pool, East Hampton, N. Y.
Israel, War of Liberation covers — Sol Rozman, New York, N. Y.
United States 10c Jefferson of 1882 — Allen H. Seed, Jr., New York, N. Y.
Hapag Co. Mail in Haiti — F. Burton Sellers, Tarrytown, N. Y.
Israel, The Interim Period Jerusalem Stamps and covers — Martin J. Taub, New York, N. Y.
Egypt — Ernest A. Kehr, New York, N. Y.
Manchoukou Booklet stamps — Mrs. Conway Zirkle, Secane, Penna.

A Festive Ending

After the conclusion of the announcements of the Competition Awards, the members and their guests were invited to gather in the Library where Mrs. Pritchett and Mrs. Eldridge had prepared some refreshments.

Once again this exhibition by members and the evening of April 18, 1962 proved so successful that it is now clear that for the foreseeable future this will be an annual fixture in the programs of the Collectors Club. One, reading the above roster of the 50 exhibits, sees that a diversified cross-section of philately and postal history was represented, while collections were shown by members from many states (California had the best in 1962) and Canada. *(H. M. G.)*

AFGHANISTAN (Continued from page 188)

375	Fig. 108	15 poul	dull gray green
376	Fig. 109	50 poul	red brown

1942 24th Independence Day

The design of the lower of the two values shows the Independence Monument inside a circle. That of the 125 poul, representing the new foreign mail rate, carries the wreathed portrait of Nadir Shah next to the Arch of Paghman. Basic inscription "G" appears at the top on each. The standard jesh'n legend is written under the central subjects. Both denominations were issued in sheets of 12 (4x3), typographed on medium white wove paper and perforated 11¾.

388	Fig. 110	35 poul	bright green
389	Fig. 111	125 poul	chalky blue

(To Be Continued)

Uncommon Use Of Common Stamps

What our readers wish to see is a properly used cover having a common stamp that catalogs for $10 or less. But on cover this item's value is many times the standard catalog price for the stamp off cover, either unused or used.

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

France

Used In Mexico 1862-67

Upon suspension of payment of foreign debts by the Mexican Government, France, Great Britain and Spain undertook a joint intervention to protect their interests and landed in Vera Cruz early in 1862. Spain and Great Britain withdrew their troops after signing a separate treaty with Juarez in April of the same year.

Napoleon III reinforced his army up to 50,000 men. He occupied Mexico City in May of 1863, and installed Maximilian, the brother of the Emperor of Austria, as Emperor of Mexico.



In February of 1867 the French Forces were ordered home because of the tense European political situation and the pressure from the United States after the close of the Civil War. Maximilian, abandoned by the French, had to surrender to Juarez and was executed at Queretaro in June 1867.

Twelve French Postal Bureaus were established in Mexico, the key capital letters in the killer lozenges being "CEM" (Corps Exped. Mexique). The dated cachets were double-ringed and showed the same inscription.

(Continued on page 207)

Book Reviews

Classic United States Stamps, 1845-1869 by Dr. Caroll Chase. 45 pages, cloth bound, illustrated. Published by Herman Herst, Jr., Shrub Oak, New York, Price $3.25.

In 1938, Dr. Caroll Chase wrote a series of articles on the early stamps of the United States. These articles, written in plain language, make most interesting reading. Each denomination of the 1847, 1851, 1861 and 1869 issues is analyzed simply and effectually. The reader, whether novice or experienced collector, can gain much from intensive study of this fine book, which is a compilation of the Chase articles. The volume concludes with a short description of the Postmaster Provisionals issued by various postmasters between 1845 and 1847.

Dr. Chase was without doubt one of the great students known to philately throughout the world. His most outstanding achievements were "The Three Cent Stamp of the United States 1851-1857 Issue," which first appeared in 1929, and his monumental work in almost completing the reconstructions of all of the plates of this denomination.

In the almost twenty-five years, since the original publication of the series of articles by Dr. Chase, thousands of words on early United States stamps have appeared in many publications. Much has been added because of the research and studies of many philatelists, but the Dr. Chase articles could have been written today, with practically no change.

The book is profusely illustrated with pages from the collection of Dr. Don H. Silsby of Springfield, Mo. Unfortunately the illustrations, because of the method of reproduction, do not give adequate recognition to Dr. Silsby's magnificent stamps. On the other hand, the type is large, clear and easily readable.

This book should be read by everyone interested in collecting the early stamps of the United States. *(Mortimer L. Neinken)*

The Turkish Post in the Holy Land, by F. W. Pollack. 60pp, illustr., Published by the Holy Land Philatelists, Ltd., Box 14002, Tel Aviv, Israel. $4.

All works which carried the F. W. Pollack byline within the last decade are scholarly, comprehensive and authoritative. The latest, devoted to the Turkish Post in the Holy Land — the first of six volumes to be published in the next three years covering "Holy Land Postal History" — continues the high standards which Dr. Pollack has set for himself.

The book is thin, but frugal use of type size has packed within its hard covers an encyclopedic wealth of information: just about every pertinent fact that is known about the subject. Dr. Pollack has drawn heavily upon the previous works of other students, postal records and non-philatelic reference works. But he has neither "lifted" data, nor been satisfied with statements before double checking accuracy of any of them. To these he has added his own knowledge of the field, and his own readable style of writing.

Since the creation of Israel, most collectors have called "Holy Land" only those pre-Israel places that now lie within Israel's geographical borders. Dr. Pollack does not commit that error. The "Holy Land" never was, nor today is a geographical area nor political entity. It embraces each and every place historically associated with the Old Testament and sanctified during the thirty-three years of Christ's life.

Accordingly, this book deals with the postal history and postmarks of places

which today are part of Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Cyprus and Egypt.

Dr. Pollack also has gone to great extremes to carefully and clearly illustrate the postmarks which he describes. More important, perhaps, is the evaluations he has placed on the various types. He has adopted the European method of appraising: using "units" of rarity, taking the numeral "1" as a base (estimating "1" to equal one dollar U. S.), so that the quotations will be comparable and standard a score of years from now as they are today. *(Ernest A. Kehr)*

The Interpostals Of Egypt, 1864-1892 by Ernest A. Kehr. 36 pp., Illustrated, Published by Stamp World Inc., Box 146, Bethpage, N. Y. Price $2.25.

Until World War I, some of the standard catalogues and many albums listed and had spaces for the unusual round adhesives of Egypt, known as the Interpostal Seals. Actually, not too much was known about them, except that they had been used to frank official mail. A few pioneer philatelists had tried to classify them and partial lists had been compiled by Koch, Moens and Luff. The first serious handbook-catalogue was compiled by the author of this work, Ernest A. Kehr, in 1943. Since that time so much more information has come to light that the present book was compiled.

About half of the new work is devoted to an intensive study of the background of the Interpostals. It is mentioned that they antedate the regular postal adhesives by about two years. The were first used by the Posta Eurpea when it was a private service. The method for accounting for official mail proved to be so successful that it was continued until 1892 under the Egyptian Government service.

The remainder is a specialized catalogue listing of all known varieties according to types and sub-types. The pricing is a useful guide to relative scarcity. Students will note that the names of some cities and towns are spelled in more than one way when Latin letters are used. This discrepancy is due to the differing forms of transliteration from the Arabic letters.

The book is well illustrated in order to clarify the differences by which the various types may be identified.

This is a very interesting work. It takes a little known aspect of Egyptian philately and makes it clear for the interested philatelist. It is by far the best listing of these stamps that has been attempted to date. The fact that it is published points up the increased interest in the out-of-the-way facets of philately. It is an important book for the specialist in Egyptian stamps.. *(H. D. S. H.)*

UNCOMMON USE (Continued from page 205)

In addition four rare cachets are known from special bureaus: Corresp. D'Armées: Estramadure-Louisiane-Floride and Vera-Cruz.

The following cachets, used on troop transports are known:

Corps Exp. Mexique V. Franc. (French Steamer)
Corps Exp. Mexique V. Angl. (British Steamer)
Corps Exped. Vera Cruz (Triple ring cachet).
(No special Navy cancellations are known).

The illustrated cover, franked with Scott France, Nos. 25 and 27 shows the killer, C E M B (Corps Exped. Mexique, Bureau B) and a similar cachet.

The final part of the cancellation used one capital letter from "A" to "M" (the letter "I" was omitted) to denote the source of the twelve army offices in Mexico.

(Dr. Fred C. Brock, Burbank, Calif.)

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in the Turkish Empire — 1919

(There was only one Romanian Post Office in Constantinople. It remained open a short time only.)

During a visit in Constantinople (today's ISTAMBUL) in March 1920, I secured the cancellation of a few scarce errors, in the Romanian P. O., and am offering same after 40 years, together with some mint errors never offered before:

	Mint	⊞'s of 4	Used
#7 5b green	2.00	10.00	3.00
8 10b rose	2.00	10.00	3.00
9 15b brown	2.00	10.00	3.00
11 40b gray br.	10.00	——	8.00
RA1 5b green	2.00	10.00	3.00
7(a) 5b green (few known)	5.00	——	7.00
8(a) 10b carmine (few known)	6.00	——	10.00

#7(a) and #8(a) are on the initial print of Romania #219 and 220. (The used stamps are on pieces.)

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Stamp Collecting, 16.3.62.

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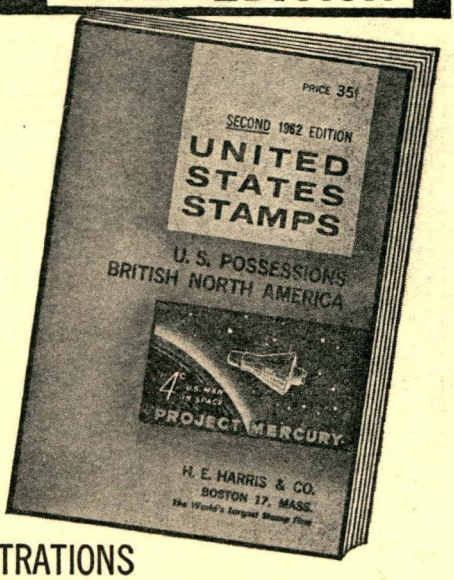
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