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Volume 46 Number 1
January 1967

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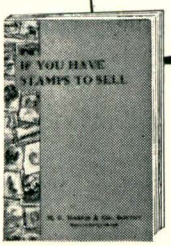
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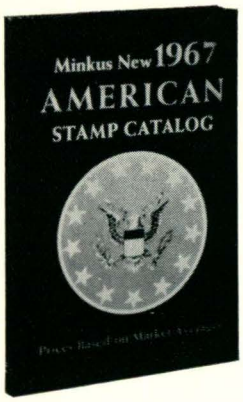
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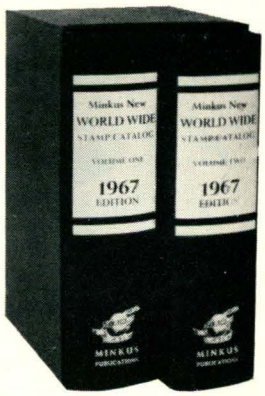
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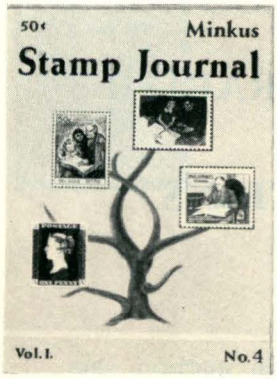
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The Collectors Club
PHILATELIST
Volume 46 Number 1
January 1967

Editorials

A Great Philatelic Library For You

The Collectors Club is one of the few philatelic organizations in the world that has both a magazine and an extensive library. This club in New York City and the Royal Philatelic Society, London, England own the two greatest philatelic libraries in the world.

Most of the general and specialized stamp organizations issue a regular publication to its members, but they do not even own a small library. This makes a vast difference.

The annual output of philatelic literature is great; it consists mostly of handbooks, catalogues and periodicals. Both the publisher and the author wisely wish to have as many philatelists' attention as possible called to a new publication. Therefore, complimentary copies are sent to stamp editors and journalists requesting a review. For instance, approximately 65 review copies of a new Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Fund handbook are mailed by the Collectors Club.

Since the philatelic organizations, stamp newspapers and columnists receiving review copies of books and catalogues do not have a public philatelic library, the editor or the reviewer is permitted to retain all the literature sent him. But this is not the Collectors Club's policy.

Every sending — periodical, book, or even press release — whether addressed to the library or the editor of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST — upon receipt is turned over to our professional librarian, who immediately records the acquisition and rubberstamps it as the property of the Collectors Club library. These acquisitions are regularly published in this magazine, following after the book reviews. Some, but not all, are reviewed.

Occasionally, a new book is purchased by instruction from the Library Committee. In all such instances, no review is published in this magazine; only review copies or gifts from members receive notice. This longtime policy has been an important factor in building the Collectors Club's vast collection of philatelic literature.

After a review copy has been registered as the property of the library, the editor of this magazine receives from the librarian a card with the name of the book, asking him to assign a reviewer. This selection is not easy; it requires considerable thought. A person is chosen who is known to be familiar with the subject. He (or she) is contacted, asking if he feels competent to review a specific book and also if he can spare the time.

For the purpose of book reviews in this magazine, a large card index is kept. But upon occasions, a book is received on a specialty that has no recorded reviewer. In such cases, the advice of members or one in the Study Groups meeting here is sought. Seldom, if ever, have we failed to locate a competent reviewer.

Occasionally, a book sent in with a request for review has to go into the library without one. Two such examples now exist. Knowing the publisher or the author, these two came to us with a personal request for a review in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST. Several prospective reviewers have been contacted. Each one has declined for personal reasons. They all hold an unfavorable opinion of the book; it contains numerous mistakes. But each rather not express his views in print, usually because of acquaintainship with the author. One, who recently was asked to contribute a review, declined, explaining that in his opinion, the book is not worthy of any notice.

In exceptional cases as these, either the editor or one on the C.C.P. Editorial Board will volunteer to write a review, although the book's subject-matter is not too familiar to them.

Furthermore, this matter of reviewing books can develop into a touchy one. We know three very fine philatelists who refuse to write a C. C.P. book review. In the past, each one honestly and sincerely expressed some critical views and pointed out mistakes. After the review was printed, the author wrote the reviewer an angry letter. Rather than have philately become a battlefield instead of a pleasant pursuit, these philatelists want to avoid further unpleasantness; they have decided to remain silent, just verbally expressing their opinions to a few close friends.

Not many other philatelic publications pursue such a book review policy. Usually, a new book or catalogue has enclosed a mimeographed release written by the publisher. In a few paragraphs, this sets forth the pertinent details of the book's subject-matter. Most philatelic periodicals and stamp columnists use this release for their reviews.

The Collectors Club policy, however, is different, because it is believed that using partial releases (a publisher obviously wants to sell many copies) and having them all handled by the same person is not performing a beneficial philatelic service. A book review is only worthwhile, if it has an unbiased critique written by one who knows the subject-matter.

After a review is written and sent to this magazine's editor, the book or catalogue is returned to the library. Neither the editor nor the reviewer retains the publication; it remains at all times the property of the library of the Collectors Club.

The acquisition is card-indexed, placed in its proper classification on the library shelves, and becomes available on loan to all members after 30 days.

It is believed, however, that too few of our non-New York members are fully conversant with our library and their privileges of membership in connection with the library. Most of the books may be borrowed. However, those in the Rarity section, all current catalogues, and unbound material may only be used on the premises. Our non-resident members are urged to acquaint themselves with the rules and regulations of the great Collectors Club library, and use it far more than they now are doing.

This library and book review policy has been in operation for many, many years. It has been one of the important functions that has made the Collectors Club library possibly the greatest philatelic collection of literature in the world.

What Is "a Mail Auction Sale"?

Comment was made last year in an editorial about the actual conditions connected with a public auction sale. Since many stamps at present are bought and sold at auction, collectors need to be thoroughly conversant with an auction sale, and not be misled or confused.

In New York City, *public auction sales* are conducted by licensed auctioneers. Interested people bid in person, by mail or through an agent.

Some stamp dealers also have *mail sales*, which are different. These need not be conducted by a licensed auctioneer; all bids are done by mail, not in person.

Recently, advertisements in the stamp newspapers ran copy of "mail auction sales." We challenge this as a misnomer. Look up the words "auction" and "auctioneer" in your dictionary; you will agree.

Incidentally, one or two of these "mail auction sales" are openly listing forgeries and counterfeits for sale. This is not legal in the United States. We

personally wish that philatelists could buy and sell counterfeits for their own protection. But whether the law is good or bad, all of us must be law-abiding; we have to live by the laws of our country. Openly advertising counterfeits for sale could get some dealers and stamp papers into trouble.

Letters To The Editor

Blacklisted New Issues

I read with keen interest the editorial in the November issue of the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, largely the thought of my friend, Ernie Kehr, of New York, regarding the flood of unwanted new issues intended solely to rob the collector and for solely philatelic sales. I certainly agree with a great deal of what Mr. Kehr says, but I think he has missed one facet and underestimated some others.

The big ommision is the simple word "Time." All of us are aware of the libel laws and that those who write or speak must know the truth. Unfortunately, the countries printing pretty labels for the gullible do not announce their intentions sufficiently far in advance to allow evaluation and publication.

Before a black blot can be assessed there must be an investigation and when some promoter advertises his labels a matter of two months elapses before we can get the information to the collector. I have made every effort to cut down this time, but so far I have not been able to do so.

I would like to also express my appreciation to the large philatelic publications for co-operation with our program. We have received excellent co-operation from Harry Lindquist of "Stamps" and Carl Reuth of "Linn's Weekly," as well as many others. They support our ideas, and I am firmly convinced that they are against those issues which are deleterious to the collection of postage stamps. Here again, time is a factor. You can write all you wish about classifications of what should or should not be regarded as real postage issues, but it must be a factual determination by someone or some group. We feel that the only group which is presently adequate is the APS program. We recognize the assistance of F.I.P., and I am personally aware that certain collections were not included at the Washington Show because they contained blacklisted stamps. I know that all of the officers of the APS will continue to try to get the information out as soon as it can be positively identified. Hasty action we have found causes more trouble than inaction. As for example, in connection with some souvenir sheets used by Governments.

Generally speaking, newspapers such as the papers covered by Mr. Kehr, the "New York Times" by Mr. Lidman and others by equally prominent philatelic writers, take the news as it is immediately received of new issues knowing that these issues will be present in stores on the following week and are unable to carefully evaluate the realistic character of the issue. This is a real problem for newspaper people, but so far as philatelic publications go, we have received all of the co-operation that could be expected.

We do feel that our black blot program has had its effect. Attention could be directed to the fact that a Postmaster General of a stamp issuing country called at our office to learn of our standards directly so that his nation would not be in violation. Again our publication has been threatened with suits for libel if certain issues were blacklisted giving evidence that the shoe pinched on the writer.

Again, let me call attention to the fact that we do not limit anyone from purchase nor do we comment on private contracts of Governments, but only on the practices of Governments when stamps are issued. If anyone has any better ideas, I would certainly be glad to hear from them.

Edward L. Willard, President
American Philatelic Society
State College, Pa.

(Editor's Comment). There is no argument; all the philatelic organizations conducting blackball campaigns against those new issues that do not deserve philatelic status are rendering what they believe is a service to stamp collecting. The basic question, however, is — *how effective is this blackballing?*

Judging by the current record of new issues that well deserve a black mark, the output increases each year rather than decreases. Consequently, if the present flood control methods are not effective, different means should be introduced to decrease the amount of flooding along with its damaging consequences.

This was the primary point in Mr. Kehr's editorial, "A Time For Appraisal." *(H. M. G.)*

Over 70 Years A Stamp Collector

The editorial, "A Time For Appraisal" in the November, 1966 number of our magazine by my fellow member, Ernest A. Kehr, was read with a great deal of interest. I started as a serious stamp collector over seventy years ago. At that time I acquired four stamps in prime condition. They were Nos. 1 and 2 of the United States and Great Britain. I still have these stamps, although I have formed several collections, which have been sold from time to time.

My present collection consists of the first issue stamps of all countries. It is very complete, so that some time ago I increased the scope of the collection to include those stamps of a country, which show for the first time . . . a flag . . . an event . . . an overprint . . . a change in manufacture.

Only postally used copies are collected. It is my opinion that unused stamps do not belong in a collection of postage stamps, as such. Strictly speaking, they do not become postage stamps until such time as they have done postal duty. Before that, they are just a revenue token, which promises that the government will do a service in the future, without further payment.

It seems to me that our troubles in philately stem from characteristics, like in everything else, which we all have to a more or less degree. They are, of course, gullibility and that touch of larceny, which makes us naive and sets us up to be rooked. We can help ourselves; we can watch our step. We can make it unprofitable for the chiselers to operate their cute little schemes.

Unfortunately, so many of our stamp dealers do not realize that satisfaction in philatelic dealings depends upon mutual confidence between the buyer and seller. While this is, of course, true, in all business, it is brought out more so in stamp dealings.

We could do away with all, at least with most all; we would certainly curb those off-color actions of both the dealer and the collector . . . counterfeiting, fraud, hiding repairs, misrepresenting, encouraging the issuance of stamps never intended for postal use. Yes, and initiating fads, such as paying $10 more for a "pot of glue" to get them "never hinged."

We should remember what Michelangelo said: "Perfection is made up of many small matters. But in itself, it is far from a small matter.

Edmund McD. Bendheim
Orlando, Florida

The Roll Of Distinguished Philatelists

In your interesting article in the November, 1966 COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST on page 337 under the subheading: "What Exactly does 'R.D.P.' Signify" I would like to quote from the "1966 Year Book of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain." Those who have signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists possess the following qualifications:

(i) He* must be a Philatelist; and
(ii) He* should be distinguished by having done service to Philately either by research work, made available to others, or by service to Philately in some public or other capacity.

The services to be considered shall be (inter alia):
(a) Research work published for the benefit of Philately.
(b) Formation of notable collections which have been exhibited or displayed for the benefit of Philately.
(c) Journalistic work or the reading of Papers.
(d) Organization or propaganda work in connection with Philatelic Exhibitions, Congresses or Societies."

Miss Ethel Harper
New York, N.Y.

On page 341 of the November number of your magazine, you describe me as "the Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain." I do not hold this office. I am the Hon. Secretary to the Board of Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and the Curator of the Roll. Mr. E. F. Hugen is the Secretary-General of the Philatelic Congress.

R. F. W. Sheraton
Hove, Sussex, England

---

* You, Mr. Editor, expect to go over to Cambridge, England, this year to sign the Roll. How about suggesting to Congress that this "he" business be dropped? Since ladies qualify (and two have so far signed the Roll), it would be more correct to state "He" or "She." But better still would be to alter it to read as follows: "The nominee must be a philatelist."

BACK NUMBERS OF THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST

Due to a constant demand for back numbers of this magazine, many old issues are no longer available. A list of those on hand appears on Page 58 in this number.

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

Colombia
The First Issue Of Tolima

By C. W. Wickersham

In 1870, when Tolima issued its first stamps, the States of Colombia were in effect separate political entities bound together by somewhat loose federal ties, and known as *the United States of Colombia.* Many attributes of sovereignty were retained by them, including the right to issue their own stamps, although the national government had been producing stamps for nationwide use for eleven years. In the 19th century the first issues of the states were lithographed (as were the national issues) except those of Cauca, which were handstamped, and of Tolima.

Tolima's stamps were typeset. Issued in 1870, the two denominations, 5c and 10c, both imperforate, were printed in black on white wove paper. The 5c was printed also on a variety of colored papers of various textures. The sheet consisted of 10 (5 x 2). These primitives were not long in use. They were followed within a year by the 1871 lithographed issue; accordingly, they are scarce.

Having critically examined full sheets, blocks, strips, individual stamps, and photographs, and having endeavored to plate them, the writer has been unable to reconcile the brief descriptions in the principal general catalogues

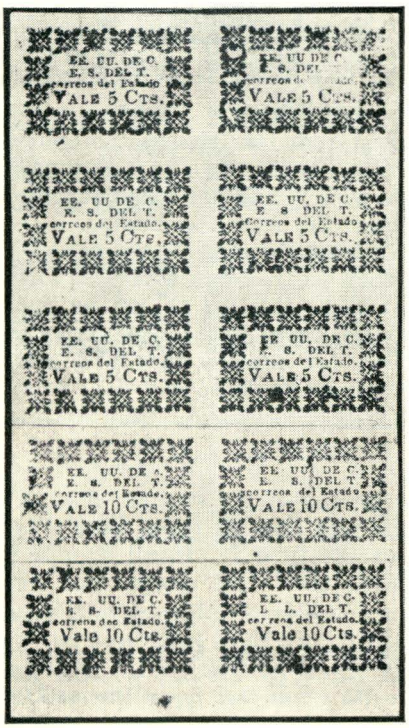


Fig. 1. The White Paper Setting. (All photos by Boutrelle.)

and the detailed account in Larson's well-known article[1] with each other, or with the results of extensive research and personal examination of material. Doubtless this is largely due to the method of printing. Typeset primitives are notorious for irregularity, broken letters and misplaced type.[2] While the 5c denomination appears on all papers, the 10c is found only on the two bottom horizontal rows of the printing on white wove.

Fig. 1 shows a reconstruction of the sheet. Types 1 to 6 (the three upper horizontal rows) are 5c, while the two lower rows, types 7-10, are 10c. It is necessary to pause for a moment to support its validity by showing a strip of three including two of the 5c and one of the 10c, which is not a reconstruction.

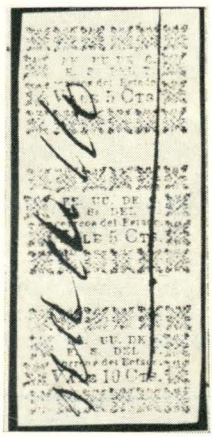


Fig. 2. Strip showing 5c and 10c denominations.

The strip in Fig. 2 is from the lefthand column of the sheet and is composed of types, 3, 5 and 7. The first two are 5c; type 7 is the 10c. In passing, it should be said that the writer does not know of any full sheet of the 5c alone on the white paper without the four 10c stamps.

After this introduction and because of the need of a fresh view, the writer will endeavor to show what he believes to be as correct a description of the "plates" and plating of these stamps, as can be made today. It seems well accepted that there were at least two plates. The writer has partly followed Larsen's numbering. But for reasons that will appear and because of the greater amount of material available he will deal first with Plate II.

Plate II[3]

This is the common setting of the stamps; it is at once distinguished from those from Plate I in the fact that all types have a capital "C" at the end of the top line of letters, except type 7. In all stamps from Plate I the "c" is small. As the illustrations show, the design was simple. The lettering was

1. Colombia. The First Issues of Tolima, by F. G. Larsen, THE COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST, Vol. XXXI, No. 4, pp. 211-215; hereafter referred to as Larsen.
2. Cf. Scott's footnote to the effect that typesetting with movable type is apt to show great lack of uniformity and much broken type. (Scott's Catalogue, 1965, Vol. I, p. viii).
3. No authority has been found to tell us which printing came first. But much more material is known to the writer from this "plate" than from Plate I.

enclosed in frames composed of similar ornaments, six each on top and bottom, with two added on left and right. The normal lettering was as follows for the 5c:

EE.UU. deC.
E.S. DEL T.
correos del ESTADO.
VALE 5 CTS.
(Variations will be described)

Freely translated into English the letters stood for "United States of Colombia / Sovereign State of Tolima / State mails / Worth (cost) 5 centavos.

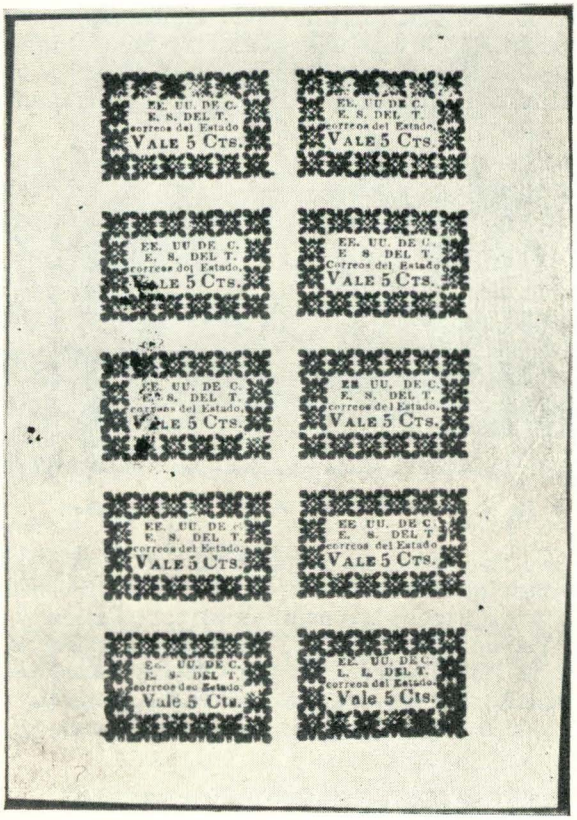


Fig. 3. Full Sheet from Plate II.

The full sheet (Fig. 3) from the writer's collection is on blue wove paper; it is typical of this setting. The types are as follows:[4]

1. Normal.
2. "Correos" in third line spelled "eorreos;" no period after "UU."
3. Inverted "l" of "del" in third line; "o" instead of "e" in that word, reading "dol;" no period after "UU" in first line.
4. Large "C" in "Correos."

4. Minor variations obviously due to the method of production are omitted.

5. Normal.

6. No period after "EE" in first line; the "l" of "del" in the third line is about ¾ mm. from the "e" of that word.

7. "e" in first line is small (not a capital letter); "Estado" is spelled "Eetado."

8. No period after "EE" in first line or after "T" in the second line.

9. Period after "S" in second line raised and of irregular shape; "del" in third line spelled "dec;" small "ale" in "Vale" in fourth line; small "ts" in "Cts" in this line.

10. "L.L." instead of "E.S." in second line; "correos" in third line spelled "correoa;" small "ale" in "Vale" and small "ts" of "Cts" in the fourth line.

The other full sheets, blocks, pairs and singles examined show the same varieties of types as in Fig. 3 with only such very minor differences as may be expected from typesets. The stamps are printed on a variety of colored papers, including blue vertically laid, blue quadrille, blue laid batonné and blue wove.

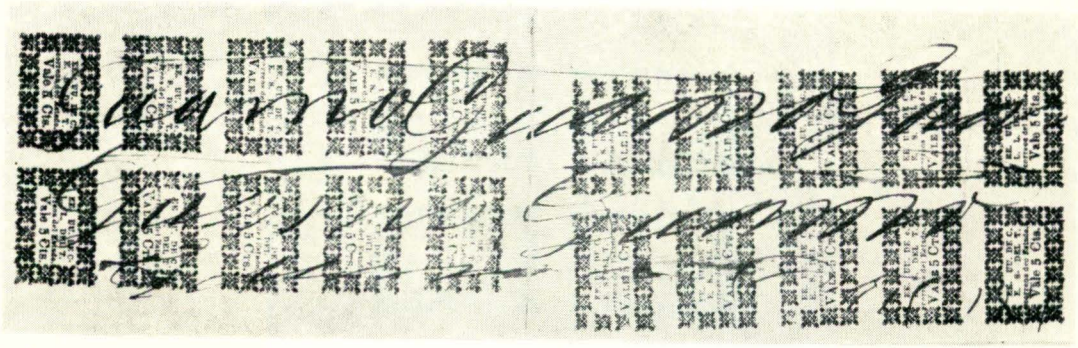


Fig. 4. Two full sheets, Plate II, used together.

Each of the two full sheets in the unusual and remarkable used piece in Fig. 4 is characteristic of Plate II; the types are as previously stated. Both sheets are on blue wove paper; the manuscript cancellation is that of *Guamo,* a town in central Tolima about 40 to 45 miles southeasterly of Ibague.[5]

The full sheet in Fig. 5 came from the Caspary collection, and is now in the writer's collection.[6] The types are as stated for Plate II. The manuscript cancellation is that of *Honda,* a town in northern Tolima.

Plate II. Reset On White Wove Paper

In this resetting of Plate II on white paper, the denominations of the two bottom horizontal rows were changed from 5c to 10c. There were also other alterations. The remaining six rows were unchanged. The types may be described as follows:

Types of Plate II. Reset on White.

1 to 6. Same as in Plate II.

5. Cf. Wickersham, "Colombia Manuscript Cancellations," *C. C. P.* Vol. 42, No. 2, March 1963, pp. 77, 84.

6. Other full sheets on blue or bluish paper from Plate II in the writer's collection are on vertical quadrille, vertical laid and blue wove paper.

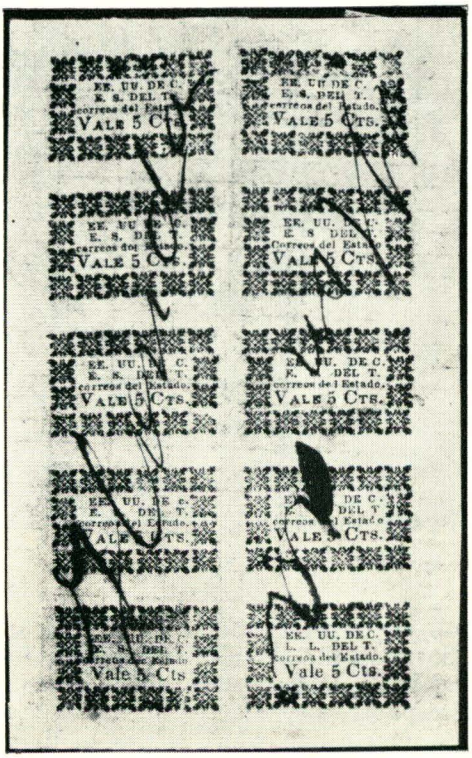


Fig. 5. Full sheet on blue horizontal quadrille. Plate II.

7. Denomination 10c: The "l" of "del" in the third line is inverted. Otherwise the same as type 7, Plate II.

8 and 9. Denomination 10c. Otherwise the same types 8 and 9, Plate II, respectively.

10. Denomination 10c.; no period in second line after first "L" of "LL.;" period after "C" in first line raised. Otherwise the same as type 10, Plate II.[7]

But it must not be supposed that all the printings on white paper conform. Figs. 6 and 7 both show substantial variations.

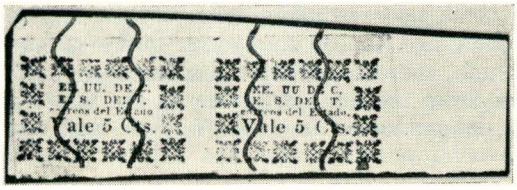


Fig. 6. Pair on white paper showing variations.

The stamps of the Fig. 6 pair on piece appear to be types 1 and 2, except that the "-ale" of "Vale" and the "ts" of "Cts" are in small letters. This exception appears also in Fig. 7.

7. See Figs. 1 and 2 above for the white paper resetting.

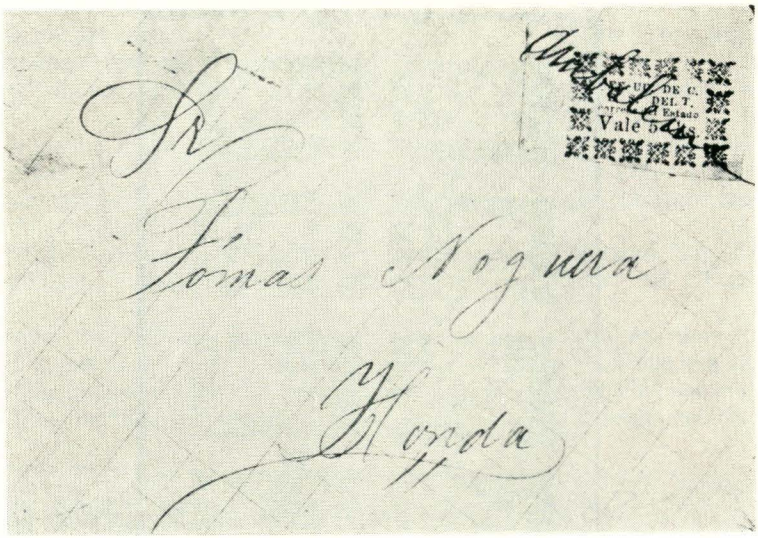


Fig. 7. 5c on white on cover.

The stamp on the Fig. 7 cover appears to be type 5, except for the small letters in the fourth line. In the absence of further information, and as they seem to be genuine, the writer is inclined to call these stamps "variety errors." In the setting in white paper, only the 10c denominations of types 9 and 10 have small letters in the fourth line, which is true of those types in all settings of Plate II.

Plate II. Reset On Buff Paper

While the writer's collection does not include a full sheet of the 5c on buff, it does include a reconstruction obtained from abroad (evidently the work of an expert). It is composed of a vertical strip of four (types 2, 4, 6 and 8), two pairs (types 1 and 3, and 5 and 7) and two singles (types 9 and 10). All are used, eight bearing a manuscript "Y" cancellation, probably Yaguara, and type 10 a manuscript "Ambal (Ambalema)." The writer also has a pair (types 7-8), and singles of several types. All have manuscript cancellations (except one unused type 7), and all are readily identified as to types.

The types of this setting are the same as those of the printing of white paper, except for some poor printing with broken letters and, of course, the denominations. There are no 10c stamps on buff — all types are 5c.

We may conclude, therefore, that the stamps on buff laid (or buff wove) paper were printed from the same resetting as the white papers except for the change to the 10c denomination in types 7-10 of that setting.

What may have happened is that the printer reset Plate II for the buff papers, and then used the plate for the white papers, changing only the denomination in the last two rows. If so, this would explain the reason for the wider spacing between the "e" of "Vale" and the "C" of "Cts" in the 10c stamps. It is about 1 mm. greater than in the 5c. The writer has never seen a full sheet on white paper with or without both denominations.

As examples of the inconsistency of the typeset method of printing, let us pause for a moment to study two stamps, on buff paper, both type 7, from the writer's collection.

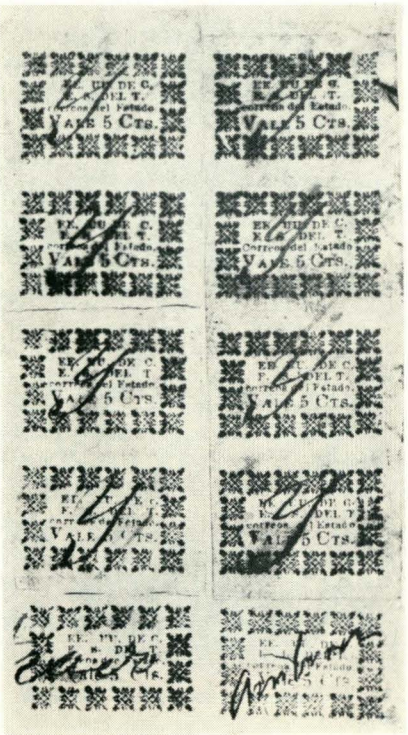


Fig. 8. Reconstructed sheet of the 5c on buff.

Type 7 is the only one in Plate II that has the small "c" in the first line. The printing is so poor that in one of the two stamps shown in Fig. 9 the first "r" of "correos" might be a "t," the "e" is badly broken, and the second "o" looks like an "e;" other broken letters appear. On the other stamp, the impression is poor; there are broken letters. In both stamps, the capital "E" of Estado resembles an "F," and as the "s" in this type is known to be an "e," the word easily could read "Fetado." In the absence of other knowledge, this could be considered constant. The conclusion would be confirmed in the absence of very close scrutiny, by examination of the type 7 stamp in the reconstruction shown in Fig. 8 and in the lefthand stamp of Fig. 10.

The pair in Fig. 10 is composed of types 7 and 8; in the former, only extremely close examination would show that the word was "Eetado," not "Fetado." It should, of course, read "Estado," except for the second "e," which is constant in this type in all settings of both plates.

We may now turn to Plate I, where the distinguishing mark in all types is the small "c" in the first line; all are 5c. There are no 10c denominations in Plate I.

Plate I

There seems to be a paucity of material printed from this plate. The writer has only a few of these stamps, but from what he has been able to examine, including the illustrations in Larsen's 1952 article and elsewhere, he has no doubt that Larsen was right in differentiating the two plates.[8] The

8. Larsen, pp. 211, 214.

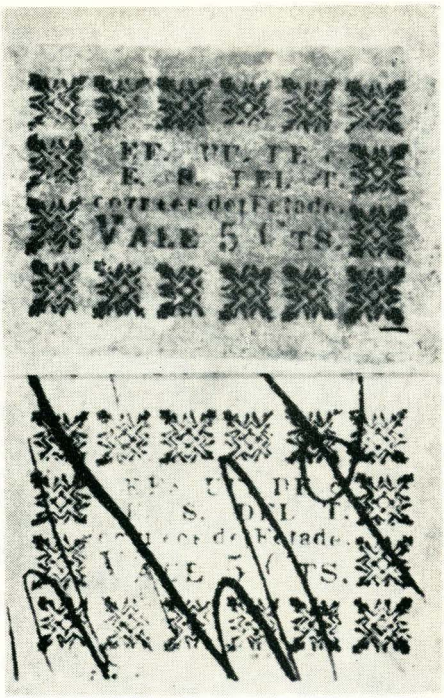


Fig. 9. Two examples of type 7 on buff. (Enlarged).

sheet has the same make-up as Plate II, i.e. five horizontal rows of two vertical (5 x 2).

Since all copies from Plate I can be identified by the small "c" in the first line, it seems unnecessary to describe the ten types. All differ from the Plate II types because of the large "C" in all types of the latter except type 7. This is usually indistinguishable from type 7 of Plate I, unless it is on white or buff paper, neither of which appears to have been used for any Plate I printing.

But emphasis on certain types of Plate I, and variations, is interesting and important. Among others, there are peculiarities of types 7 and 9, and a variety of type 2.

As can be seen from Fig. 11, the "c" is small in the top line of both stamps. There are other differences between the two plates. In the fourth line of types 9 and 10 of Plate I, the "Cts," as it appears in those types of Plate II, becomes "Ctvs." The vertical pair in Fig. 11, from the lefthand side of the sheet, shows the variety mentioned (type 9). In type 7, the word "Estado" is spelled "Eetado," and this is also true of type 7 in Plate II. The manuscript cancellation "G" has not been identified. There were six towns in Tolima, whose names began with the letter "G."

While the variations of many of the other types from this plate described

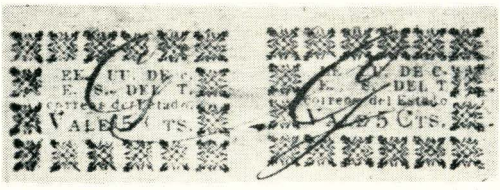


Fig. 10. Pair of the 5c on buff. (Enlarged).



Fig. 11. Used pair showing types 7 and 9, Plate I.

by Larsen from the corresponding types of Plate II can be attributed to the method of production, the writer agrees with him that this setting is different from that of Plate II. It may be given the status of a separate "Plate."

There is an interesting variety in the writer's collection showing again the vagaries of typesetting. It appears to be type 2, "correos" is spelled "ooreroa."



Fig. 12. Variety of Type 2, Plate I.

The average type 2 of this plate spells "correos" "oorreos." But in Fig. 12 not only is the "c" an "o," but the second "r" and the "e" are reversed; the "s" appears to be an "a."

Plate I. Abnormal Setting

Larsen shows a photograph of a full sheet from this plate with types 9 and 10 at the top of the sheet instead of the bottom. Except for this, all types are the same as those of his Plate I. The Abnormal Setting, he says, is printed on blue-gray (blue) horizontally laid paper.[9]

Larsen also shows a horizontal strip of three, whose types are 3 - 4 - 3, Plate I, with an unattached frame on the left. This measures nearly three times further from the nearest stamp than the normal interval between the two vertical rows of the sheet. The strip may be a trial proof, or possibly an attempt at a larger sheet or pane. The righthand stamp (type 3) is half again as far from the type 4 stamp as the normal width between the two vertical rows.[9]

Larsen's Plate IA

Here we are on controversial ground. Larsen showed a used full sheet of what he called Plate IA, and also "Second Plate." Apparently, this was printed on one of the blue or bluish papers. He wrote that he had seen printings on light gray-blue vertically laid, blue-gray wove, gray-bluish wove and blue-gray quadrille papers. He added that no setting varieties for this plate had been noted. He proceeded however, to describe seven types, noting that types 5, 6 and 7 were the same as in Plate I, and that type 3 was the same as before, except that the period after "c" in the first line was missing. All types

9. Cf. Larsen, p. 212.

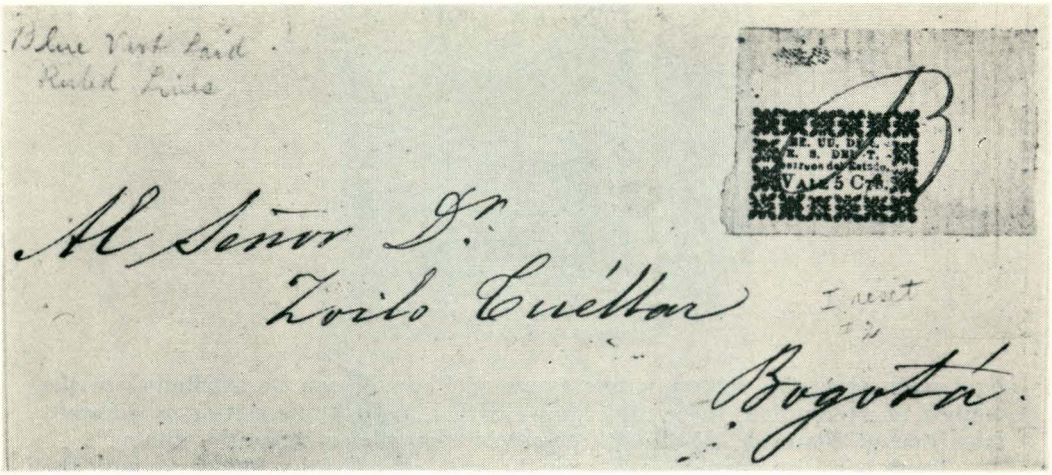


Fig. 13. Type 2 on cover. (Plate I or Reset).

have the small "e" in that line — the distinguishing mark of Plate I.

In types 1 and 2, the minor variations (second "U" slightly higher than first one in type 1; the slight failure of alignment of the "e" of "correos" in type 2) can easily be due to the method of printing. Larsen's type 8 (no period after "EE" in the first line), can also be explained as one of the vagaries of typesetting, and the smaller space (1½ mm.) between the "c" and the "DE" in the first line, which he also mentions, does not prove much by itself. The width of this spacing varies on several of the types. Of type 9, Larsen wrote that is is the same as in Plate I, but the period after "UU" in the first line is missing. In his illustration[10] the cancellation is so heavy over "UU" that this is impossible to check.

The stamp in Fig. 13 is clearly from the righthand top corner of the sheet; it conforms to Larsen's description of type 2, Plate IA. But "correos" is also spelled "ooreos" in this type of Plate I; the only remaining difference is in a very minute lowering of the "e," easily explained as a typeset vagary.

This leaves types 4 and 10 for consideration. In both cases, either (1) Larsen's claim for a separate setting is justified or (2) this is a horrible example of the vagaries of typesets. The facts are these:

Type 4. "Correos" in the third line appears as "Corres" (a large "C," which Larsen does not mention), and there is a circular blot shown in his Fig. 5 after the "e" in the first line which he thinks is the misplaced missing "o." The "T" on the second line appears in the third one, after "Estado." In his Fig. 5 illustration, the "E" of "DE" in the top line is raised. The large "C" of "Correos" is also typical of type 4 in Plate II.

As to type 10, Larsen writes that is is the same as type 10 in his first plate, but adds that the "S" in the second line is raised, and "correos" is spelled "orreol" (it is "correol" in Plate I).

The stamp shown in Fig. 14 is in the writer's collection. It is printed on grayish blue vertically laid paper and is pen-cancelled with a manuscript "NEIVA," a town on the Magdalena River, in southern Tolima (Huila). It shows the same varieties as Larsen described for this type. Also it has further distinctions which he does not mention, although they are obvious and appear

10. Cf. Larsen. Fig. 5, Page 212.



Fig. 14. Type 10, Larsen's Plate IA.

in type 10 of his Fig. 5. The "do" of "Estado" is greatly raised, the "v" of "Ctvs" is lowered, and the "s" raised to about the top of the "v." Under the "s" is a blot that appears in both. The general irregularity of the printing emphasizes the caution required in plating typeset, and the danger in assuming that small or even large variations necessarily require designation as a new plate.

Now, the discussion can be reviewed by saying that all variations of Larsen's Plate IA from Plate I are probably due to the method of printing, except perhaps types 4 and 10. As to the latter, they may be the result of shifting in the movable printer's types. The writer believes this to be the correct answer, and that Larsen's Plate IA is not entitled to the status of a separate one.

Conclusion

To sum up this study, it is submitted that the settings of the Tolima typeset stamps of 1870 were as follows:[11]

Plate I. Denomination 5c. Size and arrangement of sheet the same as Plate II. All types have small "c" in first line. Types 9 and 10 have "Ctvs" for "Cts" in fourth line and also small letters "-ale" in "Vale' 'in that line. Printed on blue horizontally laid, vertically laid, quadrille and wove papers.

Plate I. Abnormal Setting. Same as Plate I, except for shift of types 9 and 10 to top horizontal row. Printed on blue horizontally laid paper.

Plate II. Sheet of ten arranged 5 x 2. Varieties (types) as stated in this article. The "C" in the first line is large in all types, except type 7. Denomination 5c. Papers: various blue or bluish papers, including blue wove, blue vertically laid, blue quadrille and blue laid batonné paper.

Plate II. Reset on white paper. Same size, arrangement and denomination as Plate II, except that the two bottom rows (types 7-10) are 10c, instead of 5c, and types 7 and 10 show other variations.

Plate II. Reset on buff paper. Same size, arrangement and denomination as the resetting of Plate II on white, except that all types are 5c. Printed on buff laid (or wove) paper.

It is possible that Larsen's so-called Plate IA is the result of a new setting, but for the reasons given the writer does not think so.

The writer's conclusion is therefore that there were only two "plates" used for the Tolima First Issue stamps of 1870, most of which were printed on colored papers; but that there were two resettings of Plate II, one on buff (all 5c) and the other on white wove paper with four stamps of 10c denomination. There was also an abnormal setting of Plate I. Except for the four stamps printed on white wove, types 7-10, all stamps of all settings were 5c.

Finally, this study reflects and emphasizes the difficulty of plating typeset primitives.

11. The writer would prefer to drop the plate designation and describe all as settings. But Plates I and II have become so familiar to the philatelic world that he has decided against a change.

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, N. Y. 10016.

United States

Civil War Prisoner Cover

There are *two uncommon matters* in connection with this illustrated cover. Its 3-cent rate is prepaid by a common one and two-cent stamp. It is cancelled Alexandria, Va September 21, 1864. *But the one-cent is of the 1857 issue, used three years after it was demonetized.*

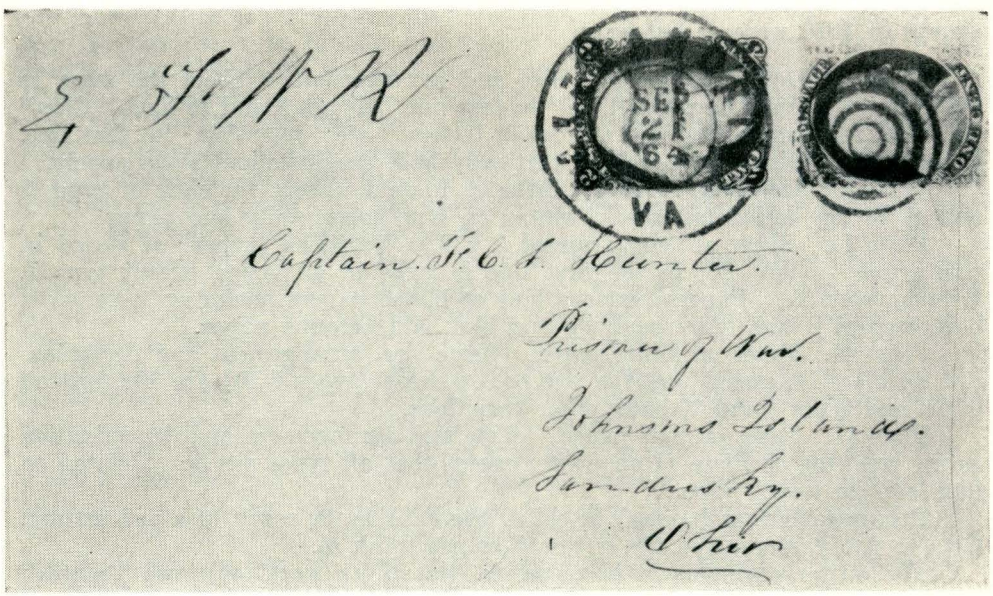


Photo by Boutrelle

The other unusual matter is that *it is a prisoner-of-war cover,* as shown by the address and apparently the letter was censored as indicated by the initials written in the upper lefthand corner of the cover. *(E. D. C.)*

In case of change of address, please notify Secretary, The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016.

Honduras

Postal History to 1877 and

Its First Postage Stamps Of 1866 (Part 10)

By Irving I. Green

(Continued from Volume 45, Page 365)

7. (Fig. 40G) This Maltese Cross cancellation in light blue is known on the rose stamp. If a circle were drawn around the marking, its diameter would measure 20 mm. I have seen this marking doubly impressed on the stamps.



Fig. 40G.

8. There is a black postal marking that was applied on mail during the crossing of the Panama Isthmus via the Panama Railroad. It is in two lines reading "PANAMA TRANSIT" in capital letters, measuring 25 mm. in length and 12 mm in height. Also known is a single word, "PANAMA," in black, oily ink.

9. Another postal marking applied on the Panama Railroad is this one with two lines:

"SERVICE TRANSATLANTIQUE/TRANSPORTE DE PANAMA."

This marking, usually in blue, indicates that the letter crossed the Panama Isthmus in care of a French forwarder or mail agent.

10. Mr. Crouch wrote that postmarks are known consisting of an ellipse containing a town name in a straight line. I have never seen such a marking, although many like this were regularly sued from 1878 on.

11. In the July 1966, Part 7 installment of this series, I refer you to Figs. 31 and 32 on pages 224 and 225. Both these covers show the French Ligne octagonal postmark that was applied in Colon, Panama by the French mail clerk. There is a possibility that it can be found hit upon the stamps, although, as a rule, it was applied away from them. Both covers, similarly addressed, evidently left Amapala for Panama City on the same boat. In those days it was customary for merchants to send a duplicate letter by a later mail. In this

instance the duplicate caught up with the original at Amapala, from whence there were only four sailings per month for Panama City. The Ligne postmark is black, measuring 21 mm. across, with each side 9 mm., and the diameter of the inner circle 12 mm. One cover has only two green stamps, a deficiency in Honduran postage, as the interior rate to Amapala on overseas mail was three reales, or three stamps.

12. Figs. 31-32 also have the triangular French postage due marking. Occasionally, it appears on the stamps, but only by chance.

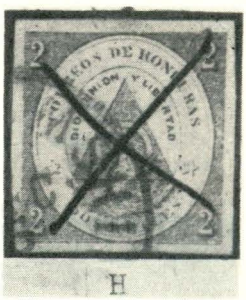


Fig. 40H.

13. (Fig. 40H) The "New York Steamship" postmark can be found on the early Honduran postage stamps, although customarily it was applied on the face of the cover away from the stamp (see Fig. 29 on page 221 and Fig. 30 on page 223). The dated Steamship marks, showing the amount due, indicate the letter entered the United States under the Act of March 3, 1851, which stated: "For every single letter up to ½ ounce in weight . . . conveyed in the mail . . . wholly or in part by sea, and to or from a foreign country, for any distance over 2500 miles, the rate will be 20 cents; and for any distance under 2500 miles, 10 cents . . ."

Mail to and from Honduras fell under this Act. These amounts were prepaid in the United States on letters sent, and collected in the United States on letters received. The 20-cent rate applied to letters for the Pacific coast that were sent around the "Horn." On incoming mail, a "New York/ Steamship/ 10 (or 20)" was applied.

Letters could be sent from the Pacific coast at a 20-cent (U. S. currency) rate as early as 1859; on May 1, 1865, this was reduced to 10 cents (that is the first date given in the "U. S. Postal Guide," although the Act of July 1, 1864 set a 10-cent rate and eliminated the distance differential). The Figs. 32 and 33 covers are in this category, having received a steamship mark. The postage stamps on these covers paid the letter rate to Panama (if after September 10, 1868 or to Amapala if before that), from whence they were conveyed at the expense of the United States. The postage due to the U.S.P.O. was collected from the addressee in the United States.

14. A black three-line transit marking in capital letters (circa 1873) "PANAMA/MY 14 1873/TRANSIT" is known. The width is 25 mm., the height 16 mm.

15. (Fig. 40I) This "GB/1f 90c" enclosed in a six-sided frame is an accounting mark used between Great Britain and France when the former's mail packets carried unpaid mail addressed to France and vice-versa. In such instances the unpaid maritime charges were to be collected from the addressee.



Fig. 40I.

It being inconvenient for Britain to collect charges from persons in France, and for France from those in Britain, a system was devised to assure payment to the transporting nation by offsetting credits and debits.

While an accounting system was begun by a treaty in 1843, it was not until the Treaty of September 1856, effective on April 1, 1857, that the use of currency marks, or partition trays, of which the "1f 90c" was an example (this was the rate on mail between Panama and Britain or France), came into use. By 1860, there were twenty-four trays, each of a different shape and with a different rate. During the 1860's, more were added. It should be noted that these currency trays were customarily impressed on the face of the cover, not on the stamps.

With the advent of the General Postal Union in July of 1875, which comprised twenty European nations, including Great Britain and France, Egypt and the United States, and with the subsequent organization, on June 1, 1879, of the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.), of which, incidentally, Honduras was a charter member, and which became effective on April 1, 1871, the use of these Anglo-Franco trays was discontinued. The provisions of the U.P.U. made them unnecessary.

Careful examination of Fig. 40H will disclose that the tray is superimposed on a pen-struck cross cancellation, which appears to be part of a larger one that covered a horizontal strip of three stamps. This indicates that the Honduran overseas rate was paid as far as Amapala, if the letter was sent there before September 10, 1868, or as far as Colon, provided the letter was mailed after September 10, 1868, the date when the agreement between Honduras and the Panama Railroad Steamship Company went into effect.

Counterfeit Postal Markings

The considerable disparity in catalogue prices between the much higher ones for genuinely used stamps and those mint or unused, provided, and still provides an incentive to fraudulently produce cancellations, usually by a pen-struck cross. It is well nigh impossible to separate the good from the bad in most instances, unless pen-struck stamps are in mint condition with gum, or found upon genuinely used covers or pieces. Sometimes a hook or slight curve at the beginning or end of a pen stroke signifies genuineness, although this test is not final, as proved by the pen cancellations on at least one of my covers. I have always opined that the curve or hook was due to the use of a quill pen sometimes employed when the first stamps were current.

As stated previously, pen-struck cross cancellations were authorized by the decree of October 18, 1865. They are predominant since there were but few of the rubberstamp markers, also authorized, then in use. Doubtless many of the first stamps cancelled by a pen-struck cross have been adjudged counterfeit when, in fact, they were genuinely used, and vice-versa.

Without question can be classified as counterfeit all the parallel-line cancels and those with the word "HONDURAS" in the center. I have seen these in various colors, some with heavy lines and some with thin ones, usually, but not always, seven in number; also the word "HONDURAS" is found in a variety of styles of type. These parallel-line cancels or killers were not used officially until at least a decade and a half later than 1876.

Other known fraudulent cancellations and killers are:

1) A wide variety of star killers, mostly five-pointed and in various colors.
2) A quatrefoil in black or magenta ink with double circles, the outside measuring 20 mm. in diameter, and the inside 18 mm. Its four lobes form a continuous line, with each 9 mm. long and 1½ mm. at its widest point; also sometimes obligingly checkmarked with indelible ink over the righthand star.
3) A target killer composed of three concentric circles in black or indelible magenta ink, with the outside 17 mm. in diameter.
4) A target killer, 19 mm. in diameter, of seven concentric circles, thin-lined and in black.
5) The straight-line "COMAYAGUA" marking is known counterfeited. One, expertized as genuine, has been seen on a green stamp. Being on this color of a first issue stamp is a clear indication of its being fraudulent. The marking itself shows many differences when compared with the genuine ones, illustrated in Figs. 10 and 40A.

Actually, there are as many counterfeit cancellations and postmarks as the ingenuity of the forgers made possible.

Counterfeited Basic Stamps

Some may wonder why so many different counterfeits of the first stamps have been produced, since the originals are now inexpensive and easily procured. The explanation is that during the time of valid use of the originals, from their issuance in 1866 until June 2, 1877, the last day of their validity, the genuine stamps were not readily available to collectors. Therefore, obliging (*sic*) persons, including Fournier of Geneva, Switzerland, produced counterfeits to fill the void.

None of the paper colors of the imitations matches the originals, being light lavender, bright yellowish-green, deep violet, flesh color, or even white. Also, most counterfeits are cancelled by a pen-struck cross, which, in some instances, appears to have been lithographed along with the design.

In the genuine, the following characteristics can be observed in each stamp:

1. Oval touches frameline at the top and bottom.
2. All four "2's" have vertical ends to the bottom strokes.
3. Apex of the pyramid points to the beginning of "E" and halfway between "N" and "Y."
4. Arch is composed of three lines.
5. Liberty Cap is clear, top to right.
6. Sides of mountain are uneven, the left side heavily shaded, the base touches both towers.
7. Windows are about one half the size of the doors.
8. Outline of arch does not touch that of the pyramid at the left.
9. No period after "REALES."
10. Stars have five equal points.
11. No period after "LIBERTAD."
12. Two crossed branches above "DOS REALES."

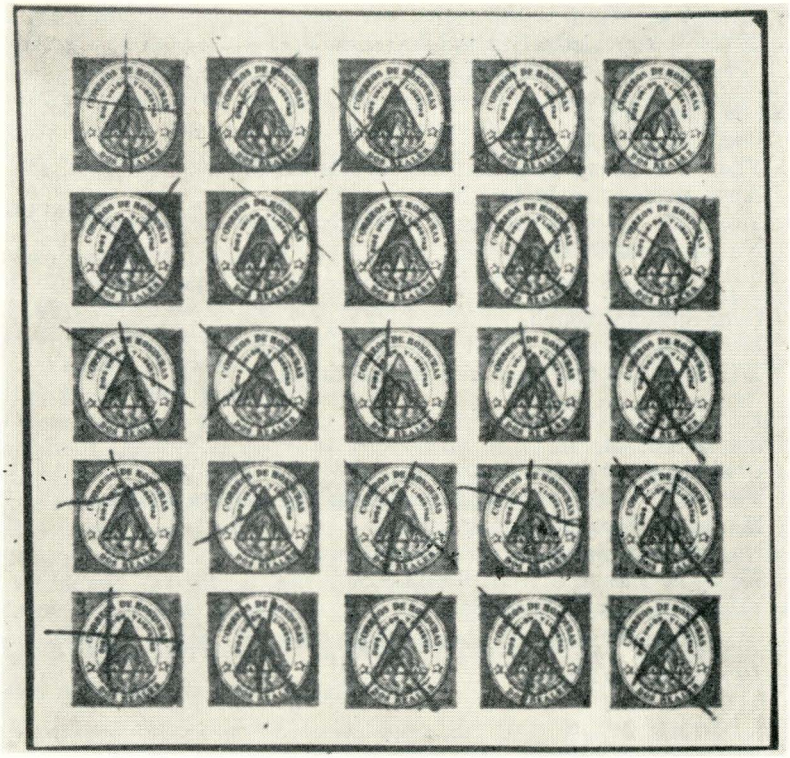


Fig. 41. Sheet of counterfeits (5x5) with pen-crossed cancellations.

13. The lower rays are parallel with the mountain slope.
14. The towers are lined horizontally and have battlements in the arch.

Principal differences in the counterfeits in accordance with aforementioned fourteen characteristics of the originals are:

A. First Counterfeit
1. Oval does not touch.
2. On three of the "2's," the end slants to the right.
3. Apex points nearer to "N."
4. Two lines in the arch.
6. Base of mountain does not touch the right tower.
7. Windows are about one quarter of the size of the doors.
10. The left star is irregular.

B. Second Counterfeit
2. All "2's" have ends slanting to the right.
3. Pyramid's apex points to center of "E" and nearer "Y."
5. Liberty Cap is triangular.
6. Windows are circular.
8. Arch touches pyramid at left.
9. There is a period after "REALES."
11. Period after "LIBERTAD."

C. Third Counterfeit
1. Ovals do not touch.

2. The "2's" slant to the right.
9. There is a period after "REALES."
11. Period after "LIBERTAD."

D. Fourth Counterfeit
1. Oval does not touch.
2. The "2's" have ends slanting to the right.
3. Apex points nearly to "N."
6. Mountain sides are straight and even; they do not touch the towers.
7. No windows or doors.

E. Fifth Counterfeit
1. Oval does not touch.
6. Mountain does not touch towers.
7. Windows are the same size as the doors.
10. There are no stars.

F. Sixth Counterfeit
1. Oval does not touch at the top.
2. The "2's" have no upright ends to the bottom strokes.
6. Mountain does not touch at left.
7. No windows or doors in the left tower.
9. There is a dash after "REALES."
10. The left star is irregular.

The imitations by Fournier of Geneva, Switzerland, have the following variances from the genuine:

A. First Counterfeit
1. Oval does not touch frameline.
4. Arch is plain.
12. Left branch nearly touches left star.
This is found with light lavender, deep violet, and green colors.

B. Second Counterfeit
5. Liberty Cap is triangular.
6. The mountain sides are straight.
This one's colors are light lavender and green.

C. Third Counterfeit
5. Liberty Cap is triangular.
6. The mountain sides are straight.
13. The lower rays are not parallel with the mountain slopes.
14. The towers are not lined and have no battlements in the arch.
This third one is found with light green, medium violet, and lavender colrs.

Other counterfeits come on red, green, and blue on white paper. Their most noticeable difference in design from the originals is the absence of stars. Other variations from the genuine are also apparent. These white-paper imitations usually are cancelled by a black, 22 mm. diameter circle, within which, at the top, is the word "CORREOS," and, at the bottom, a few blurred, indistinguishable letters.

Some of the colored paper counterfeits exist in sheets. One, in a deep pinkish lavender, is a sheet of 25 (5 x 5) with each subject cancelled by a pen-struck cross, evidently part of the lithograph (Fig. 41). Other sheets comprise 66 stamps (11 x 6) again with each cancelled by a similar pen-struck cross; these are in a gray-green color nearly matching the original green, and also in a light violet.

From the foregoing, it is evident that there is no dearth of counterfeits in many varieties. It is certain that stamp collectors in the late 1860's and the 1870's were victimized by buying them as originals.

Today, as I write, the counterfeits are worth considerably more than the genuine mint stamps, because most of the fraudulent imitations were probably discarded or destroyed when their true status was discovered.

Essays and Proofs

The two magazine articles of August 1865, in "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" of London and the "Magazin fur Briefmarken-Sammler" of Leipzig, mention stamp colors that do not appear in the regular issue. The former states that the stamps were printed first as essays, one only of each, in rose, green, and yellow; whereas the latter states the printing was done in three colors: blue, green, and pink.

Doubtless essays in rose, green, yellow, and blue were shown to the Honduran Consul in London in order to get his approval of two colors, so that the printer could go ahead with the printing. As is known, only the rose and green colors were printed for use as postage stamps.

Possibly some proof sheets were made for the Consul. But as all the sheets were imperforate and ungummed when shipped from the printer, it would have been difficult to distinguish the proofs from the postage stamps, unless the proofs were printed on paper that differed from those of the stamps, or were facemarked in some characteristic manner for identification as proofs.

Contemporary Comments in the Philatelic Press

Not until the late 1860's, or thereabouts, were the misgivings of many stamp collectors allayed concerning the genuineness of the Honduras first issue. Herewith are quoted some contemporary comments in the philatelic press.

October 1, 1865. "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" (London), *Correspondence.*

"Sir: Having read the description of the Honduras stamps contained in the August number of *The Stamp Collectors Magazine* and compared it with the stamps themselves, I do not feel quite satisfied, as the design does not appear to me to be so anomalous as it might be at first sight."

"I derive from examination of the stamps the idea that the legend DIOS UNION Y LIBERTAD explains the design; thus there is a triangle for DIOS; the two castles connected together by the arch signifying UNION; and LIBERTAD being designated by the Cap of Liberty surrounded by rays resting on a conical mountain; the sea in the foreground representing the Bay of Honduras . . ." *Westminster. W. E. H.*

November 1, 1865. "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" (London), *Answers to Correspondents.*

"DIOS on the Honduras stamps signifies God, and is therefore aptly represented by a triangle, the conventional emblem of the Holy Trinity. We take this opportunity of tendering our acknowledgements to our correspondent W. E. H. for his ingenious and satisfactory interpretation of the design on the stamps of Honduras."

July 1, 1866. "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" (London), *an article.*

"It is stated in *Le Timbre Poste,* #41, Brussels, Belgium, that the real value of the rose and green stamps of this country [Honduras] is 12½ centavos, or one real, and in support of this statement, the decree authorizing their emission and fixing the postal rates was given. It is remarkable in that case

that both these stamps should bear the inscription DOS REALES and the figure 2 in each corner and no explanation given on this point by our contemporary. The decree certainly directs that stamps of only one value, 12½ centavos, shall be sold, and at the same time it establishes the following rates:

For a single rate letter	¼ ounce	1 real
For a double rate letter	½ ounce	2 reales
For a triple rate letter	¾ ounce	3 reales
For a quadruple rate letter	1 ounce	4 reales

"It is, therefore, probable, if this tariff is adhered to, that an issue of other values will take place. The stamps already in circulation commenced duty on the first of January of the present year. M. Moens suggests that one colour may be intended for ordinary, and the other for registered letters: but if this be so, how is it that they are of the same value?"

July 1, 1867. "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" (London), "*Notes on Stamps of Central America,*" by Overy Taylor.

"HONDURAS: There seems to us to be considerable mystery about the stamps stated to have been issued for this country. They were known and sold here and on the continent in March 1865, but the decree authorizing the emission of the stamps was not signed until the 18th of October following, and the decree directs that the single rate of postage shall be 12½ centavos or one real, whilst the stamps known as Honduras stamps bear the facial value of 2 reales. Moreover we question very much if any used specimens of these stamps have ever been seen, and this rather strange, considering that they must have been current upwards of a year and a half. The decree itself is given in *Le Timbre Poste,* No. 41, and is worth studying. The preamble states that the President had recognized the necessity of modifying the postal tariff and adopting a new system. The first article then prohibits the reception of letters not bearing the necessary stamp; the 2nd provided for the establishment, subordinately to the Treasury, of a depot for the sale of stamps and for the vending of same at the rate of 12½ centavos each; the 3rd gives to all persons the right to buy and use the stamps, directs that the latter shall only be used once, and, to prevent their being employed a second time, provides for their obliteration in the post-office; the 4th gives the scale of weight, viz: ¼, ½, ¾, and 1 ounce; and the 5th declares the rates of postage, viz: 1, 2, 3, and 4 reales for home letters of the above weights respectively; heavy letters, it is directed are to be charged according to this scale, and the registration fee is fixed at 4 reales to the pound. No letters are to exceed 10 pounds in order that the march of the courier may not be impeded. Article 6 fixes the charge on letters for the other Central American republics at double that made for internal postage, and to all other countries at triple the charge. Printed matter is to be carried at the rate of one real per pound. The articles thence up to 14 are of no especial interest. No. 14 suppresses a convention made on the 22nd of the previous August, establishing couriers in the districts, and another convention, establishing a postal tariff; and No. 15 declares that a certain convention of the 1st August, 1856, shall remain in vigour, insofar as it does not clash with the present decree, which decree is stated to be given at Comayagua (the capital) at the government palace, the 18th October, 1865.

"This document accompanied a letter from a correspondent in Honduras to M. Moens, in which it is stated that the green and rose stamps are the only ones employed in that country, and are of the value of 12½ centavos each. Why their facial value should be double their actual value we cannot conjecture

(Continued on Page 51)

The Clubhouse

Meeting of September 21, 1966

Czechoslovakia

(The following report by Dr. William Reiner-Deutsch was received in December, 1966, unfortunately much too late to have it published in our November, 1966 report on page 367 of that number.)

During the first World War, the subjugated peoples of the Austro-Hungarian Empire saw their dreams of independence becoming a reality. To gain support for their cause, several nations fielded military units which were recognized by the Allies as co-belligerents. The Czechs and Slovaks had military units in France, Italy and Russia fighting against the Central Powers. With the signing of the Brest-Litovsk treaty, the Czechoslovak Legions had to leave Russia, which they proceeded to do, by crossing Siberia.

During this trek, the Czechoslovaks established a military postal system which eventually handled first, second, third class mail, registered mail and even offered banking facilities to the Czechoslovak and Allied forces. Consul J. J. Verner's collection of material connected with the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia, includes stamps and covers used by the Legionnaires for these various purposes. Ordinary letters between soldiers, soldiers and private citizens, international mail, stampless and with stamps, registered mail, money letters and newspaper wrappers are all included. Postmarks from the various post offices and their types were shown as well as unit markings that were used for postal purposes. This collection even includes official papers of various kinds that were identified as originating with the postal units by the use of postal hand cancellations on the papers as non-postal markings. In addition to the covers, the stamps of the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia were shown along with their essays, color trials, types and errors.

Dr. W. Reiner-Deutsch, who substituted for Patrick Flynn, Chairman of the New York Branch, in presenting the speakers, showed material from his newly formed collection of field post items from the period of the formation of the republic. The transition from Austria to Czechoslovakia was very simple in Bohemia and Moravia. However, a military campaign was required to establish the borders of the country in Slovakia, which had been part of Hungary. This action took close to two years; the various post cards and covers as well as money orders in the frames gave a vivid picture of the entire process.

In addition to the numbered regimental markings, there were military markings of the Regiments of Freedom, the various Sokol units and very interesting markings of the Czech Legions from France and from Italy; also bilingual markings of the French 21st, 22nd and 23rd regiments and those of the Italian 34th and 35th regiments, including the high commands of both. The field post numbers were given by the Czechoslovak postal service except for the Italian Legion, which had its own Italian field post designation for a few months. From November, 1918 until August, 1919 many unit designations, especially those of the Legionnaires, were equivalent to field post markings.

George Koplowitz presented frames containing essays, proofs color trials and plate varieties of the Hradčany issue of Czechoslovakia.

In Mr. L. M. Horechny's presentation, examples were shown of the first regular newspaper issues wherein Postmasters took to bisects to make up the postal fees required for prepayment of periodicals and newspapers. After a

short time, the shortage of postal paper prevented this from continuing. It was then decided that publishers would prepay postage on all mail and to so indicate, were permitted to apply a small adhesive showing that postage was paid. These were of the publishers own manufacture, either with a rubber-stamp, or label reading "Poštovne Zaplaceno Hotove."

Examples of these labels were shown on and off covers, and wrappers. The "Rovnost" issue was shown in the normal printing of black and red paper and also a very scarce piece, black on white paper. A scarce "Česky Merkur" on wrapper was also shown.

The regular issues had a showing of a se-tenant gutter pair and a used copy of the 20h printed in violet.

All the overprints of new face value on regular newspaper issues along with the overprints on the express delivery stamps were complete. The 1937 issues were shown as well as the Bratislava miniature sheet issue along with a counterfeit sheet of same.

Meeting of October 19, 1966

Cameroun

The exhibit and lecture for this date was given by *Mr. Kenneth Roberts* of New York City. When our Program Co-chairman, Philip Silver, introduced the speaker, it developed that the audience was about to hear from *a very well-known radio and television announcer.* Mr. Roberts began on radio back in the early 1930's, both as a newscaster and commentator. He also did commercials for programs sponsored by RCA, Campbell Soup and Dutch Masters cigars.

When television began becoming popular, Kenneth Roberts transferred to this field. He was the announcer for the Milton Berle, Sid Caesar, and Jan Murray shows. He also did newscasts. At present, he is announcer for the CBS programs, "Love of Life," and "Secret Storm." Also, he has a daily news program on Station WPAT, one of New York's most popular radio stations.

Although the printed program had announced "Cameroun — the British Period" as the subject of Mr. Roberts' exhibit, he showed a comprehensive postal history of Cameroun on the west coast of Africa for a period of eighty years.

The Portuguese were the first to set up a trading post in Cameroun, at the end of the 15th century. And it was they who named the country, for the delicious prawns found along its shores. The Portuguese word for prawns is "Cameroes."

In 1835, the British set up a trading post at Victoria. In 1884, when Great Britain finally sent emissaries to affect annexation of Cameroons, they found they were five days too late. Native chiefs had already agreed to terms with Germany (The German Colonial Society) for the "protection" of Kamerun. Later, it was to become Duala. The first stamps used in Kamerun were the German issues of 1887 and 1890. Mr. Roberts showed some of these forerunners on pieces and on covers, cancelled by the single-ring canceller of Kamerun (Fig. 1), as well as by cancellers of Viktoria and Kribi.

On other covers, the German administration was traced through the establishment of post offices at Buea, Duala, Edea, Rio Del Ray, Ebolowa and Jabassi. On these covers were the first stamps actually prepared for Kamerun — the Kamerun overprints of 1897, on German stamps of 1890 — and, finally the famous "Yacht" stamps, the issues of 1900 and 1906. Mr. Roberts showed



Fig. 1. (Photo by Boutrelle)

all the denominations, right through the 5 mark, cancelled from such towns as Jaunde, Bonaberi, Plantation, Campo, and Longji, including one 5 mark stamp on cover.

In 1914, with the start of World War I, Kamerun was invaded by French, Belgian and British forces. The Germans retreated toward Rio Muni to the south, taking supplies of postage stamps with them, but leaving behind German cancellers. Mr. Roberts showed many examples of these German cancellations on mail from the Allied Forces — on stampless covers — sent before stamps were available, and on the famous "C.E.F." stamps. A shipment of "Yacht" stamps had been captured by the British off the coast of Sierra Leone, and taken to the Government printing office in Freetown, Sierra Leone. There they were overprinted and surcharged in new values — for use on *civilian* mail from British occupied Kamerun.

Because of the primitive nature of the equipment in Freetown, along with the rush in the overprinting, many errors occurred. Mr. Roberts showed "C.E.F." overprints surcharged in black, that should have been in blue . . . a block of the 1d value with one of the stamps bearing a serif, or "thin" numeral "1," the 1d with a double overprint, shilling stamps with an inverted "s," and the 3 shilling with a double overprint, one of only 19 in the world. Mr. Herbert J. Bloch remarked that there are actually twenty examples of this overprint, except that the twentieth, in addition to being doubly overprinted, has an inverted "s" as well. According to Mr. Bloch, this twentieth copy may well be residing in the Royal Collection in London.

By 1916, France and England had divided Kamerun between them. The postal administration of British Cameroons was taken over by Nigeria. Mr. Roberts showed how Nigerian postmarks came to be used on "C.E.F." stamps. Then, after 1922, when Great Britain had received the League of Nations Mandate to administer Cameroons, how British Mandate cancellations were used on Nigerian stamps.

Along with stamps and covers of British Cameroons, Mr. Roberts showed



Fig. 2. (Photo by Boutrelle)

covers from the portion of Cameroun mandated to the French by the League of Nations. The French were quick to supply their military forces with stamps — those of Gabon of 1910, overprinted "Corps Expeditionnaire Franco-Anglais Cameroun." An early use was shown on a cover that bore the rarely seen "Tresor et Poste" cancellation from Cameroun (Fig. 2).

As the French position was solidified, more stamps of adjoining colonies were overprinted by the French for use in Cameroun. All these were shown on cover — some with captured German cancellations of Duala — some with the earliest *French* cancellers supplied for the area.

The postal history of British and French Cameroun was traced right through World War II, with censored covers from Duala, the French capital, and from Buea, the seat of British administration. The display continued with examples of mail sent during the United Nations Trusteeship, set up after World War II.

Since World War I, the posts in British Cameroons had been administered by Nigeria, a British colony. But in 1960 Nigeria achieved independence, and the administration of the posts in British Cameroons reverted to Great Britain. New stamps were provided, Nigerian stamps overprinted "UKTT," signifying "United Kingdom Trust Territory." These stamps were also shown on cover, from both Southern Cameroons and Northern Cameroons. When these two areas voted in an U.N. plebiscite as to their future status, Northern Cameroons chose incorporation into Nigeria, while Southern Cameroons opted for union with the Republique Du Cameroun, the former French area of the United Nations Trusteeship.

The name of the country now became "Republique *Federale* Du Cameroun," and what was Southern Cameroons became the province of "Cameroun Occidentale." Its population had become accustomed to British currency, so certain stamps of the Republique, in franc values, were overprinted in pence and shillings (Fig. 3). These overprinted stamps were to be valid until the



Fig. 3.

new province would become familiar with the franc system of the rest of the country.

An interesting set of stamps of this period were the "Reunification Commemoratives" (Scott numbers 352-357). They were issued on January 1, 1962, but were on sale for only five days, after which they were withdrawn; orders were given that all remaining stocks be destroyed. Mr. Roberts showed two covers (Fig. 4) bearing a set of the surcharged stamps — together with a summary of the efforts made to convince the editors of stamp catalogues that they should include these stamps in their listings.

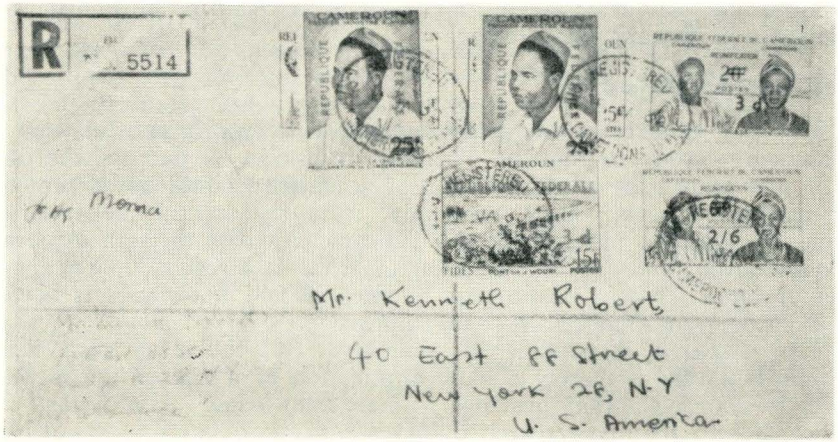


Fig. 4.

Research had uncovered the fact that these stamps were withdrawn so quickly, when an error was discovered in the nomenclature on the stamp. Mr. Foncha, pictured on the stamp, was identified as "Prime Minister," but his actual office is that of Vice-president. Although the stamps are still valid for postage, it is doubtful if any now will be found on mail. According to certain information, only 600 complete sets were sold at the post offices in Cameroun before withdrawal.

At the finish of his talk, Mr. Roberts answered questions from his audience and concluded with the hope that he had shown, in a small way, the history of an interesting corner of the world today . . . "the Republique Federale Du Cameroun."

What made the evening of October 19, 1966 so exceptionally interesting for those in attendance was not only listening to an enthusiastic philatelist, who had a good knowledge of his field, but from a "real professional speaker," whose diction was a pleasure to hear. It is known that not many philatelists are talented speakers or writers. Consequently to hear a "real pro talk philately" was most exceptional.

Meeting of November 2, 1966

Research Night

The evening of November 2nd saw the revival of a type of exhibit that had not graced the club frames for some twenty years. Dedicated to philatelic research, it drew a mixed bag of entries that ranged from one frame of South Bulgaria entered by President Herbert P. Woodward, to a 3-frame Peruvian air mail exhibit demonstrating the detective work used by editor Henry M. Goodkind with the help of Program Co-Chairman Herbert J. Bloch in clarifying the 1927 provisional air mail issue of that country.

The program was opened by President Woodward, who used his frame to illustrate some of the problems met in "philatelic research." Mr. Woodward's remarks, defining this area of investigation, were not only pertinent but most important to anyone wishing to work in this area of philately. They are repeated here in their entirety, in the hope that they will clear up the many misconceptions of those who confuse "original research" with "study."

These observations come from a leading educator in the United States, since the president of the Collectors Club first was a professor at Rutgers University and retired last year after serving many years as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in Newark, New Jersey.

Philatelic Research Defined

"The term *research* is commonly understood to signify careful, studious — even learned — study or inquiry. Usually, it has as its purpose the development of new knowledge or the revision of accepted conclusions on the basis of newly discovered facts. Most commonly, it is the critical, exhaustive, and studious investigation pursued by the dedicated scientist through experimentation, observation, and the coordination of what is already known about the subject or topic. Where its purpose to uncover new knowledge is successful, research leads — or should lead — to publication.

"True research is possible in philately. But much of what is called 'philatelic research' is merely a loose application of a few of the methods of research to a problem that provides no new knowledge. Also it may not go more deeply into genuine research than the reading of two or three previously printed articles.

"For example, it would be possible by searching the literature and by applying some of the methods of research to ascertain what the U. S. postal rates were in 1912 when the parcel post system was first introduced; but this certainly is not new knowledge and not genuine research. Nor would the problem be any more basic if it dealt with the postal rates in Venice in 1390, when the first written manuscript letter was entered in the post. On the other hand, to have run down the history of all the known copies in the original sheet of 100 of the inverted U. S. air mail stamp of 1918 was a problem closely approaching true research, because this information had never been assembled. In this (relatively small) matter, the study did indeed provide new information, as Mr. Goodkind has done.*

"Research can have any incentive — even a whimsical one. It may deal with any subject, whether large or tiny. It may lead to publication or may

**United States. 24c Air Mail Inverted Center of 1918* by Henry M. Goodkind. Published as Handbook #1 by the Theodore E. Steinway Memorial Publication Fund. The Collectors Club, 22 East 35 Street, New York, N. Y. 10016.

lie fallow with no published results. It may be done individually or by a team; but whenever it merits the research designation, it must adhere strictly to at least the following three requirements.

"1. *Informational integrity.* This means that, whatever information is used, must be acknowledged as to the author and source, if it is abstracted from an existing study; or it must be supported by observation, experimentation, and analysis, if original. Scientific priority is a valued possession. If 'Joe Doakes' said it first and you wish to say it again, he must be given prior credit for his observation. It is hardly necessary to emphasize this factor.

"2. *Procedural correctness.* This means that the accepted methods of research must be followed. These commonly run from observation to the development of a hypothesis. Then experimentation to verify the hypothesis under new and different circumstances must follow. Finally, it leads to the statement of a rule or law or an explanation, which is documented by suitable references to the literature, to a listing of the methods of study, and by the addition of a bibliography.

"3. *Repeatability.* The true research project or article should be capable of repetition, so that the reader or a second student can pursue the same topic or subject along the same lines as the original student, either as a check on the observed data or methods used, or to verify the conclusions made. This means, of course, that the ideal researcher will avoid dogmatic statements or hypothecated guesses that may not be subject to verification. In short, the careful student will commonly intersperse such phrases as 'I think' or 'It seems to me' where the less careful person will make categorical statements."

Seven More Showed Their Research

Next on the program was W. A. Finnegan, who demonstrated how he has taken a single stamp, the *United States 2 cent, 1890,* and attempted to wring total knowledge of its printings, varieties, and production from it. Mr. Finnegan's method of amassing this information is through graphs, charts and tabulations which he showed from the J. Brace Chittenden lectern to his audience. He also showed his worksheets and his system of checking the entry of any stamp on a plate. His tabulations take in all mathematical possibilities and even chart the continuity of relief breaks. They are especially interesting, because of the large quantity of these stamps available for study, which allows the amassing of much minute knowledge on every phase of production from original die through transfer roll, printing, reentries, plate wear, subsequent varieties and new printings.

Following Mr. Finnegan was Howard Lee who showed a frame of *Brunei.* His interest in these issues was to try to determine the earliest known dates of usage for the stamps of Brunei. Starting from scratch, Mr. Lee, using catalogued stamps, managed to track down, via postmarks and hard-to-come-by covers, the dates of issue of many of them. Especially rewarding, was his discovery of the true first day of the 10c Wmk. G.C.A. through this painstaking method.

Next came John N. Myer, who proved rather conclusively via color slides projected on the screen with copies of "El Correo Liberal' 'for July 25, 1922, a newspaper published in Medellin, Colombia, and other corroborating evidence, that covers said to have flown on the "Goliath," a plane which was to fly from Barranquilla via Medellin to Cali in March of 1922, could not have made the trip via air. Mr. Myer showed one of the covers which was cancelled April 16 and postmarked as received in Medellin. The "Goliath," which had left Barranquilla early in April, was at that date bogged down in the town of Monteria

across the Andes, being physically unable to proceed further. Due to the distance and the almost impassable mountain roads, such covers could not have been transported from the town of Monteria Medellin, even by horse, in time to receive such a April 16, 1922 cancellation. As shown by the newspapers of the time, the plane did not actually reach Medellin until July 24th of that year, after a journey filled with mishaps and endless delays.

It is Mr. Myer's contention that someone with philatelic inclinations fraudulently made up souvenir covers, addressed them all to Senor Guillermo Echavarria, who had been general manager of the "Compania Colombiana de Navegacion," the firm that originally owned the plane, placed a Scadta Company air mail stamp (Scott No. C11, or another stamp which had been prepared but never issued) on them along with a government postage stamp, added a cachet reading "Primer Correo Aereo Directo De Barranquilla a Medellin" (First Direct Air Mail from Barranquilla to Medellin), and had the stamps illegally cancelled at the post office. These covers obviously were not flown and are but souvenirs of an event that did not take place on April 16th. It is Mr. Myer's belief that they have no philatelic status except, perhaps, that of phantoms.

Number five on the program, was Paul Lindenberg, who showed a short study of one stamp, the *one penny blue of Ceylon issued in 1857*. Mr. Lindenberg refuted the catalogues, which mention the 1p blue as having been printed on both blue paper and on ordinary paper. He contends that the blue coloring is actually discoloration. He also showed shades of the stamp, plus twelve printings, many retouches, re-entries and plate shiftings. Mr. Lindenberg pointed out that plating this issue is impossible, because of the uniformity of design. Also shown were covers illustrating usage and maps showing the routes of the letters.

After Mr. Lindenberg, Horace Harrison of Owings Mills, Md., showed part of his collection of the *Large Queens of Canada*. Mr. Harrison, who became interested in this issue through the Winthrop S. Boggs book on the subject, began his research by looking for "what was reported not to have existed." This issue had some 65,000 impressions, giving Mr. Harrison ample opportunity to search, uncover and list many hitherto unknown constant varieties, re-entries, plate markings and transfer flaws that he believes has made many changes in existing ideas relating to these stamps. His was a detailed study representing much minute examination.

Next, Nathan Hals showed a frame of *New Hebrides*. Mr. Hals demonstrated that the De La Rue Company had used only one single plate in printing the 1910 issue even though it was believed otherwise. Using stamps that ranged from 1910 to 1924 when the plate was retired, Mr. Hals showed via scratches and deterioration of the progressive impressions that all printings emanated from the one plate. He also showed a copy of a French-issued stamp, the 30 centimes of the 1925, with a triple-reentry, contending that the printers were loathe to spend money on new plates when damage occurred. It is Mr. Hals' belief that examination of other colonial issues and the checking of progressive stamps during the life of that issue might turn up further information of this sort.

Theo Van Dam was next on the roster of exhibitors with a frame showing *covers used by the International Brigade during the Spanish Civil War*. A work in progress, it is an illustration of Mr. Van Dam's attempt to find out through such covers the order of battle for the International Brigade and to learn where each unit had been stationed. The Brigade, which came to Spain in October, 1936, remained until 1938. It had fifteen units stemming from

30 different countries. There were eight post offices in operation and to date those working on this subject have been able to pinpoint only the material from the Czech contingent and some from the French. Mr. Van Dam is also trying to classify the types of postmarks used by the various outfits connected with the Brigade's postal operations.



A pair of Peru's first air mail stamp (Scott C1) that was used on a commercial cover cancelled February 22, 1928. Notice in the bottom of the overprint that the position of the "litle sailor" is differently placed on each copy. Also the sailor's legs are shorter in the copy at the right. These differences enable the philatelic student to plate each one of the 100 overprints in the complete sheet. (Photo by Boutrelle.)

Last on the program was editor, Henry M. Goodkind, who displayed a frame of *the first air post stamp of Peru, the provisional issue of 1927.*

Peru, as true in most of the other South American republics, was very desirous in the 1920's of establishing a regular-scheduled air mail service. Because of the high Andes Mountains and long rivers, transportation and communication overland is so difficult; weeks often are required to deliver mail. There have been few railroads in much of South America.

Peru had ordered a definitive air mail stamp from the American Bank Note Company of New York for a domestic air post service it hoped to commence on January 1, 1928. But because of delay, a provisional stamp had to be rushed into service.

Peru's first air mail stamp, from its very beginning, has been both puzzling and controversial. 5,000 copies were overprinted in December, 1927 for provisional use until the definitive stamp arrived. It was reported that the first overprinting of 5,000 was not sufficient, so that a second one in the same quantity was officially ordered.

Some past writings and catalogues maintain that the second overprinting was unofficial; also counterfeits were described in Peruvian and Argentina stamp journals as early as 1929.

The postage stamps overprinted had a face value of 50 centavos. The air mail rate, however, was 1 Sol, requiring two copies of the air mail stamp. Consequently, surviving covers with Peru Scott C1 bear pairs of the stamp (see illustration). This is fortunate in assisting the student to identify different characteristics on each overprinted stamp in the complete sheet of 100.

Mr. Goodkind's research, with the help of Mr. Bloch and several philatelists in Peru, is now at the stage that he hopes to have it ready for publication

in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST in the future. This reporter will not now attempt to describe all the technical aspects of this research, but rather permit the exhibitor himself to record all of this at a later date.

This varied program brought out a large number of exhibitors. But more important, it had something of interest for everyone. Research Night deserves to be repeated next year. Word from Herbert J. Bloch, co-chairman of the Program Committee, assures us that it will be. *(Ira Zweifach)*

Meeting of November 16, 1966

Bolivia

This was an unusual meeting solely because of the exhibitor and speaker. *Mr. Alex Rendon* is just 26 years old, the youngest member to lecture to the Collectors Club during its 70-years.

Mr. Herbert J. Bloch, the Program Committee Co-Chairman, mentioned some interesting matters in connection with Mr. Rendon, when he was introducing him. Mr. Rendon was born in Italy. He was brought when very young by his parents to Colombia, South America, where he resided until a few years ago. He is a graduate mechanical engineer and presently is employed by a prominent firm of New York. He has been collecting Bolivia for three years.

Alex Rendon devoted most of his talk to the first postage stamps of Bolivia, the Condor issues. But he also had a few frames with the pre-stamp covers and four frames with the 20th century air mail stamps.

A detailed report of Mr. Rendon's remarks now follows:

Pre-Adhesive Stamp Covers

Although the feature of my talk tonight will be the Condor issues, I wish to start by making a few remarks on the stampless covers that preceded the first postage stamps.

All of these covers have markings used before 1870. After that, the number of post offices increased; and, therefore, the amount of "FRANCA" (postpaid) markings also grew in number.

Each stampless cover bears some numbers on the back. Here is the explanation for them. During the Spanish domination, a system to check the number of letters sent to and received by the different post offices was instituted. It was similar to today's registration system, but no extra fee had to be paid. The system was continued by the different South American republics after their independence from Spain; it worked in the following way.

The postmaster of the forwarding town made a list, in triplicate, noting in numerical order, each letter received for mailing, including the name of the addressee. The number under which the letter was entered on the list was also written upon the back of the cover. One copy of the list was kept by the postmaster; the other two were sent with the mail. The receiving postmaster checked the list, keeping one copy and returning the other one signed by him to the office where the letter had been posted.

This system was used until the mid 1890's.

1867 Condor Issue

It is very important to bear this in mind, when one is collecting covers with the Condor issue (Scott Nos. 1-8). Covers from the so-called *"Ramirez"*

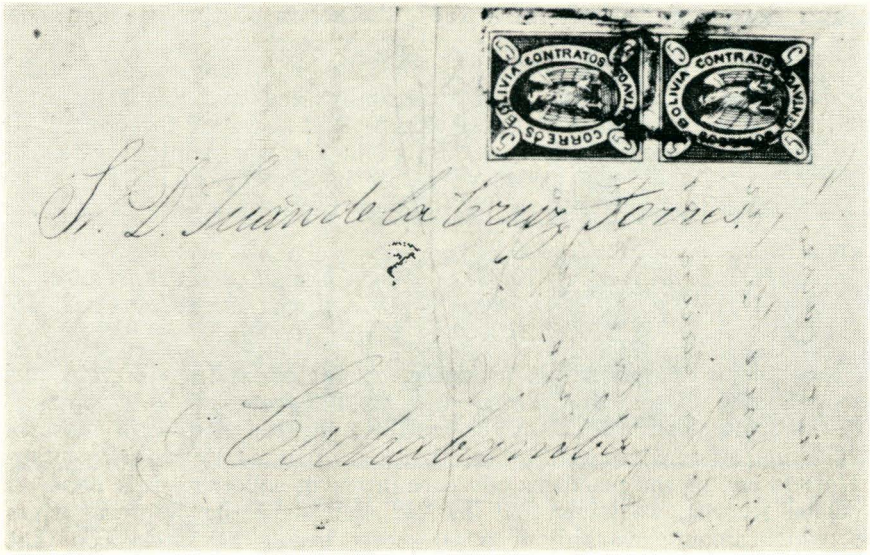


Fig. 1. A folded letter (cover) with a vertical pair of the 5c yellow green (Scott No. 1d) from Sucre to Cochabamba, dated July 8, 1867. As far as is known, this is the earliest use known.

correspondence (50c yellow with either the fancy ship cancellation, or the "Libertad Franca" cancellation) are good examples. *None of these covers have any postmaster's control numbers on the back.*

Also, until a few months ago, none of those *covers with the elaborate ship cancellation* included the bottom portion. The cancellation reads "La Paz." What was the city of La Paz, 11,000 ft. above the sea level, doing with a ship cancellation? As for the "Libertad Franca," the only town named Libertad was only created after 1869; *it was not a town but a district of the Department of La Paz.* All the *"Ramirez"* covers seen, with one exception, were cancelled La Paz and addressed to La Paz — local use. Why pay 50c postage when the rate inside the city or inside the same state was only 5c?

In short, *the "Ramirez" covers are not only bogus, but they also bear counterfeit cancellations.* This ship cancellation was applied to *genuine 5c and 50c stamps* and *counterfeit 10c stamps.* I have yet to see this cancel on a genuine 10c stamp.

The "Condor" issue of Bolivia was created by a decree dated *March 12, 1867*, and signed by the President of the Republic, General Mariano Melgarejo. The contract for the engraving of the plates and the printing of the stamp was awarded to Mr. Ramon Estruch of La Paz.

In doing recent research, I came across a postal directive from the Ministry of Posts to the Postmaster of La Paz, dated May 25, 1867, informing the latter that the contractor, Mr. Estruch, was working on the plates and that the first delivery of stamps could be expected soon. Based upon this, it must be assumed that the 5c stamp, the first one used, was delivered to the La Paz post office and other government agencies during the first days of June, 1867. Shown here tonight is a cover from Sucre to Cochabamba, dated July 8, 1867; this, to the best of my knowledge, is the earliest known use of this issue (Fig. 1).

The stamps' denominations and colors are as follows:

5c green	50c yellow
10c brown	100c blue

By a decree of November 29, 1867, the colors of the 5c, 50c, and 100c stamps were changed to violet, blue and green, respectively.

The stamps in the new colors plus the 10c brown remained in postal use until March 1868 when a new issue, printed by the American Bank Note Co., arrived and was delivered to the post offices. Fiscal use of the Condor stamps continued for a longer time, because the revenue stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co. did not arrive until late in September, 1867.

Total quantities delivered to the Bolivian Government are as follows:

5c. green	430,242	5c. violet	170,000
10c. brown	70,000	50c. blue	30,000
50c. yellow	325,000	100c. green	160,000
100c. blue	225,000		

This issue is exceptional in philately, insofar as finding different varieties printed on each plate. The plates were hand-engraved in soft copper; each one of the types (there are 72 of the 5c, 78 of the 10c, and 30 of both the 50c and 100c) is different from all others that were printed by the same plate.

Here is one of the problems one encounters in collecting this issue. From the official records, we know that 430,242 stamps of the 5c were printed in green, which amounts roughly to 5,900 sheets, giving the impression that this is a common stamp. But it is not.

As said before, the plate was engraved in soft copper, which wore rather quickly. This, coupled with mistakes and omissions made on the original engraving, was the cause for a number of partial retouches and re-engravings to be made on the plate. Only the 5c plate was reworked; no repairs were done on the 10c, 50c, and 100c plates.

The different stages of the plate used in the printing of the 5c stamp can be classified as follows:

a) Original engraving and subsequent retouches.
b) First re-engraving.
c) Second re-engraving.
d) Third re-engraving.
e) Retouch after the third re-engraving.
f) Fourth re-engraving.
g) First retouch after the fourth re-engraving.
h) Second retouch after the fourth re-engraving.

Stamps printed from groups "a" to "g" come only in green; those from group "h" have the violet color.

The classification of the different retouches and re-engravings can be divided into two groups: 1) those stamps printed before the first re-engraving, and 2) printings from the first through fourth re-engravings, including the retouches. As can be seen in the frames, the second group is self-explanatory, the existing written studies as done by those great philatelists of the past, Oldfield and Moser, can be accepted as correct.

The first group is the most difficult to explain. Very little research has been done to show what happened to the plate before the first re-engraving occurred.

The various stages of the plate prior to the first re-engraving can be simply classified as follows:

1) Original plate.
2) First retouch.
3) Second retouch.
4) Third retouch.
5) Fourth retouch.

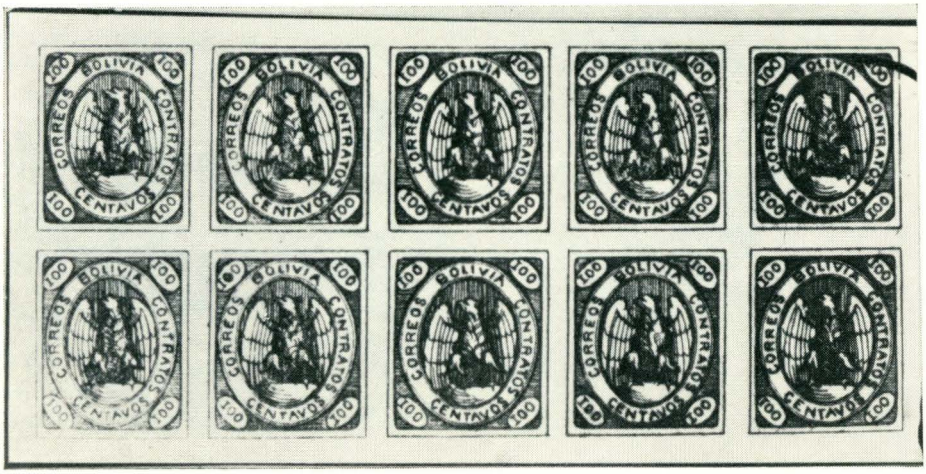


Fig. 2. An unusual piece. A mint block of ten of the 100c green (Scott No. 7) with positions 21 to 30. (Photos by Boutrelle.)

6) Worn plate.

In its original state, the plate only had 60 types. At first, the stamps' color was yellow green, printed on thick paper. Later, while still being printed on thick paper, the amount of yellow coloring used varied, so that instead of producing the previous rich yellow green, now we find a range of color shades from deep yellow green to olive and to light yellow green.

One of the best ways to classify the different stages of the plate is by the *missing crossbar* in the "A" of "CONTRATOS" and "CENTAVOS" on some positions. This occurs in "CONTRATOS" on Nos. 27 through 34, 41, 42, 53, 54 and 56, and in "CENTAVOS" on Nos. 23, 31, 32, 41, 50, and 52 through 59. The "A" of "BOLIVIA" is complete in all the other positions on the original plate of 60.

After the plate was finished, the engraver added, with a dry point, *feathers* to the wings and body of the Condor. I do not know if these feathers were added to all the 60 positions, but from my own observation I can state that Nos. 5, 14, 15, 20, 26, 30, 35, 38, 46, 47, 57 and 58 have them. Only copies from the first printings show these feathers in full. In some of the positions the engraving went quite deep, so that these feathers or traces of them can be observed on copies from the first retouch.

It is my opinion that the so-called "Dry Printings" of the 5c violet, 10c brown, 50c yellow and blue, and 100c blue and green are *reprints* made from the original plate at a later date. This is a very detailed study; at a later date the writer hopes to publish an article about this in the COLLECTORS CLUB PHILATELIST.

Air Mail's Start in Bolivia

The birth of the air mail service in Bolivia took place on August 5, 1925, when the airplane, "El Oriente," piloted by Willy Neuehoffen, flew from Cochabamba to Sucre carrying 39 pieces of mail.

In my opinion, no genuine pioneer flight covers before 1925 exist. Those that are in collections are bogus. Therefore, the air post display commences with the aforementioned 1925 cover.

To commemorate the planned first flight, it was suggested that postage

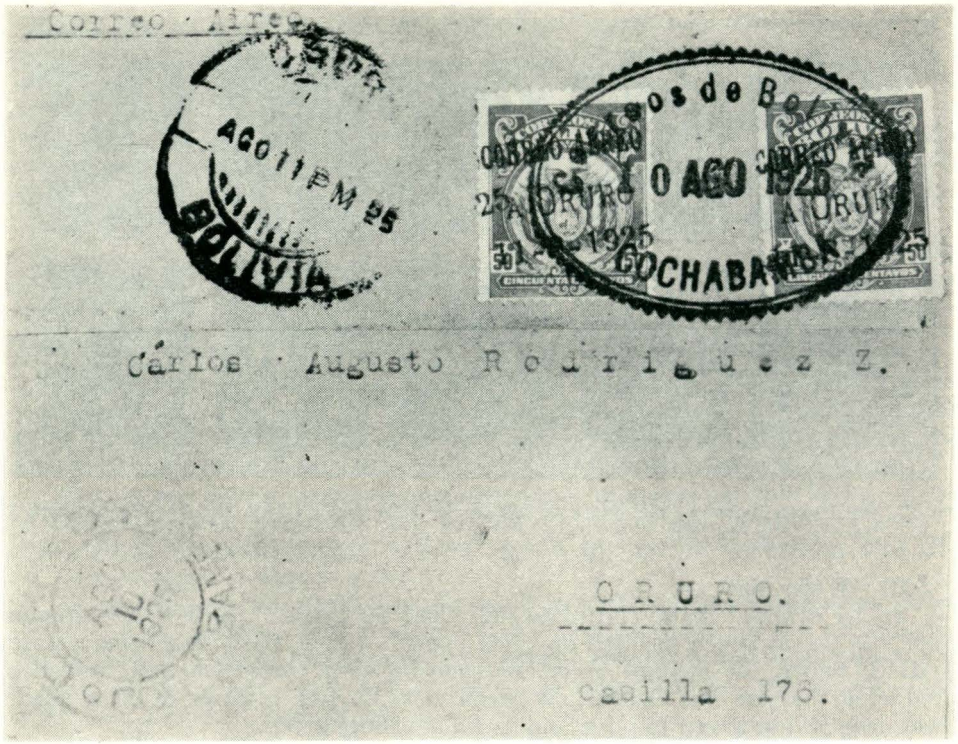


Fig. 3. The first air mail stamps of Bolivia, two copies of Sanabria No. 2 used on a first flight cover from Cochabamba to Oruro on August 11, 1925.

stamps be issued. It has been written that the Prefect of the State of Cochabamba, General Federico Roman, with the Postmaster of Cochabamba, Colonel Luis Frias, authorized the overprinting of the current 50 centavos postage stamp (Scott No. 125). The actual decree authorizing the overprinting, however, has never been published in any philatelic article, so that it is important for a Bolivian philatelist to search the archives of Cochabamba to produce the decree for the record.

All flights began at Cochabamba. The stamps used on the flights to Sucre and Oruro were overprinted with green ink. For the flight to La Paz, red ink was used (unlisted by Scott, Sanabria Nos. 1-3).

The first flight was to Sucre on August 5, 1925, with the plane returning to Cochabamba two days later, on August 7. The second flight, on August 11, was to Oruro; the plane returned the same day. The last of these flights was to La Paz on August 14, 1925.

After these initial flights, the plane was assigned to the Cochabamba-Santa Cruz line of the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano.

The second air mail issue of Bolivia was released for sale by a decree dated July 9, 1928. These stamps (Scott Nos. C8-10) paid the air mail fee only and had to be used with regular postage stamps.

The Lloyd Aero Boliviano Company continued growing. New air mail routes, besides the existing Cochabamba-Santa Cruz, were opened during October and November, 1929, between the cities of Cochabamba, Oruro and La Paz.

The Lloyd Aereo Boliviano made an agreement with the German Zeppelin Co. for the latter to carry mail on their 1930 Pan American flight to the United

States and Europe. The Ministry of Communications authorized the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano Co. to surcharge its 1928 issue with new values covering the rates on the Graf Zeppelin mail. These stamps (Scott Nos. C24-26) were only sold during May 14-18, 1930.

Next, we have the national postage stamps (Scott Nos. C11-25) used in connection with the Graf Zeppelin flight. Although they are overprinted "CORREO AEREO" (Air Mail), they are not air mail but commemorative postage stamps. These stamps should not be placed in the air mail section of catalogues but they should be listed together with the Lloyd Aereo's Zeppelin stamps as they were sold for this flight only.

The last air mail issue in the frames is that of the Lloyd Aereo Boliviano (Scott Nos. C27-34), placed on sale July 24, 1930, but used for the first time on the La Paz-Rio de Janeiro, Brazil flight of July 30, 1930.

At the conclusion of his Bolivia display, Mr. Rendon proceeded to show some gorgeous color slides depicting cities and places in Colombia, where he had resided and where Mrs. Rendon, who was in the audience, was born.

HONDURAS

(Continued from Page 36)

— unless the gentleman who designed the stamps was misinformed as to the price at which they were intended to be issued. We cannot help thinking, taking into account the non-arrival of obliterated specimens, that these stamps, if they were ever used, must have been withdrawn on account of the error in denomination, after a very short currency. The stamps hitherto sold to collectors have come from the firm which in the first instance gave notice of their existence, and was fortunate enough to obtain a supply before their emission. We should like to know from them if they have since received any direct from Honduras, or if they are in possession of any further information concerning them. We make these inquiries, not that we for a moment doubt the integrity of the firm in question, or the genuine character of the stamps. Their statement is sufficient to prove that the stamps were actually designed and engraved for the purpose of being used to prepay postage of letters in Honduras. The statement of M. Moens' correspondent is also evidence of their reception there, but we have very little to show they were actually used there, and nothing to prove that they are in use now. The firm to whom we refer may, from their connection with the Honduran officials in this country, be able to supply some interesting and trustworthy information concerning them."

November 1, 1867. "The Stamp Collectors Magazine" (London), *Correspondence.*

"In partial confirmation of the doubts which I expressed respecting these stamps on Page 98 of this year's volume of the magazine, permit me to call to your attention the subjoined paragraph from the *American Stamp Collectors Record:*

" 'We annex an engraving of a pretended stamp for Honduras which has been accepted as such for two years past, but which we learn from a most indisputable source is unknown in Honduras.'

"This paragraph is accompanied by an engraving similar to that at page 136, *The Stamp Collectors Magazine,* Vol. 111." by *Overy Taylor.*

(To Be Continued)

1967 PROGRAM OF MEETINGS

Meetings convene at 8 p. m.

January 4th	— *Early Turkish Cancellations*—Paul P. Lindenberg, New York City, N. Y.
January 11th	— *ANNUAL MEETING*
January 18th	— *United States, 19th and 20th Century—Clyde Jennings, Jr., Lynchburg, Virginia*
February 1st	— *Classic imperforated stamps of the world showing portraits*—Karl Jaeger, Columbus, Ohio
February 15th	— *First issue of Netherlands*—Dr. Fred L. Reed, New York City, N. Y.
March 1st	— *Registered letter stamps of Canada*—Dr. Robert A. Chaplin, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
March 15th	— *China — 1878-1949*—Dr. Warren G. Kauder, Newark, New Jersey
April 5th	— *Confederate States of America*—Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Kilbourne, Schenectady, New York
April 19th	— *ANNUAL COMPETITION*
May 3rd	— *Informal roundtable. United States, Asia, Latin America*
May 17th	— *Wreck Covers*—Edwin Mayer, New York City, N.Y.
June 7th	— *Professionals' night*

Summer Recess

September 20th	— *Great Britain — The beginning of adhesive labels, the Treasury competition, Rainbow trials, the first stamps, Archer perforations, unusual covers, rarities.* —Wallace W. Knox, Esq., Oakland, California
October 4th	— *Research night*
October 18th	— *Special delivery service of the United States*—Robert L. Markovits, Esq., New York City, N. Y.
November 1st	— *United States — 1851-1861, "Many questions, some answers"* — Mortimer L. Neinken, New York City, N. Y.
November 15th	— *Canada — Large Queens on cover*—Robert W. Lyman, Marblehead, Massachusetts
December 6th	— *United States air mails*—Philip Silver, New York City, N.Y.
December 20th	— *BOARD OF GOVERNORS OPEN HOUSE*

Book Reviews

Mexico—1868/1872 Issue, Thick Numbers by Roberto Garcia Larranaga. Loose leaf, approximately 50 pages, illustrated. Privately printed.

Senor Garcia Larranaga had at one time assembled one of the largest and most impressive collection of Mexican stamps known to date. The bulk of these have passed from his hands, but he has still retained certain portions of his once vast collection, among which are the issues of 1868-72. In any event, his background in the field of Mexican philately makes him exceptionally qualified to portray this one specialized aspect.

The 1868-72 issue was printed locally in Mexico by the lithographic process. The issue comprised five denominations; ten readily distinguished transfer types were used for each denomination. In this work, each of these transfer types is illustrated at one and one-half times normal size with an accompanying text in Spanish and English describing the flaws or differences to each.

In addition, due to the limited printing skills available in Mexico in that period, many of these lithographed stamps had additional flaws, some very minute. Successful plating, therefore, is theoretically possible, given enough material. Senor Garcia Larranaga has illustrated a large number of the major retouches, items with plate scratches, and other varieties, together with brief bilingual descriptions. No plating information is included.

Certain parts of this work are available from other sources described by the author. However, many of the illustrated varieties appear to have been first discovered by Senor Garcia Larranaga and are not known to be elsewhere described. To the Mexican specialist, this work, therefore, is a desirable and useful addition to his library, although of possibly limited interest to others. Nonetheless, it presents in convenient and understandable form what must have been the result of hundreds of hours of eyestrain to the author.

As indicated, this work was privately printed by the author and distributed as gifts to his many friends and to major libraries. It is not believed to be for public sale. *(John K. Bash)*

Vermont Post Offices, 1783-1966. Compiled by George C. Slawson, 33 pages. Published under the auspices of Vermont Philatelic Society. Price $1.00.

This is the checklist for which all Vermont collectors have been waiting these many long years. What a triumph it is, now that it has finally arrived. It has been well worth waiting for, because it is as nearly accurate as such a list can possibly be. Mr. Slawson has done a tremendous job as compiler. No problem of changing names and locations of post offices in many Vermont townships has been too intricate for him to decipher. He has solved all the perplexing problems and confusions with ease, even down to the changes in spelling from "borough" to "boro," from "centre" to "center," from "burgh" to "burg." They are all there with dates, too.

A glance at the first page gives an indication of what is to follow: "(1st) Albany, Disc. Mar. 24, 1865, (later re-est. as Albany Centre). (2nd) Albany, operating, formerly West Albany," it continues on all through the intricate maneuvers in the Benningtons, the Braintrees, the Craftsburys, the Hardwicks, Reading, and the other confusing changes in post office names. Mr. Slawson has eliminated the confusion by using a practical method of designating the principal post office in each town by numbers, i.e. "1st and 2nd Bennington, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Braintree, etc." It is all made as simple as can be.

Mr. Slawson started with a heritage from the pioneers in Vermont cover collecting. Men like the late Sprague W. Drennan, and others, started lists and developed them for years with information from the U. S. Post Office Department and the National Archives, but their lists were full of inaccuracies and incomplete. It remained for Mr. Slawson to take these lists as a basis and develop them to a high degree of accuracy and completion. He discovered that sometimes the Post Office Department clerks sent him information for Calais, Me. instead of Calais, Vt. or Huntington, W. Va. for Huntington, Vt. He spent days among the records of the National Archives in Washington, D.C. delving deeper than the postal clerks cared to. All this has resulted in a nearly perfect piece of research. It is probably the most complete list of post offices so far published for any state in the Union.

There are other useful features in the list to aid Vermont cover collectors. Mr. Slawson gives the name of the township in which every post office is located, i.e. Adamant in the township of Calais, which also has a post office of its own name. He also lists each town's county for the convenience of county collectors. He even lists the zip code numbers of current post offices to encourage the new fad of those interested in collecting numbers — a pastime similar to plate block collecting, only cheaper, and the material much easier to preserve.

The "errata" is trivial, merely the listing of five post offices slightly out of alphabetical order, which is hardly noticeable to the reader. There is, however, one error of major importance, although it may be merely typographical, because surely Mr. Slawson knows better. Windsor is listed as being established under United States auspices in the third quarter of 1793. If this were true, it would make an orphan of Vermont's premier cover, the famous straight-line Windsor of July 13th, 1792. The U. S. post office at Windsor was actually opened on July 9th, 1792.

It is regrettable that printing costs prevented the list from being set in a clear printer's face of type. It would have been easier to read than the script type of Mr. Slawson's typewriter. However, this little book is worth its weight in gold; it is a real bargain for a dollar bill. Mr. Slawson is to be highly congratulated for a splendid piece of work, which is a boon to Vermont collectors and should be a great stimulus to the postal history of the United States. *(Arthur W. Bingham)*

Postal History Of The United States Virgin Islands (Formerly the Danish West Indies) by J. Alfred Birch. Published by The American Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 800, State College, Pa. 16801. 40pp. soft bound. Price $1.50.

The title would seem to indicate that this publication would fill a long felt want. There has been considerable attention given to the postal issues of the Danish West Indies, both in English and Danish. However, little is available in this book concerning the operations of the Danish postal services, or the postal history, of these romantic islands.

Unfortunately, the author's studies ignore the Danish West Indies postal services, except for showing one plate of cancellations. As regards matters concerning the transfer from Danish to United States ownership, one single item is pictured; unfortunately the accompanying description is erroneous. Actually, the booklet represents a very useful description of various covers from the author's prize-winning collection representing the operation of the British Postal Agency at St. Thomas. Many of the items pictured also served to illustrate an article entitled "G.B. used in D.W.I. 1865-79" which was published in 1965 *Gibbons Stamp Monthly, London.*

A philatelist, specializing in any area, frequently desires to know the his-

torical background of the locale under study. The author attempts to give such data. It is noticed that certain dates are confused. For instance, it is stated that "St. John was acquired by the Danes in 1715." Actually, the royal governor of the Danish West Indies first claimed the island in 1682; plantations were definitely established in 1688.

Mention is made of the fact that the largest island, St. Croix, was purchased in 1733 from the Knights of Malta, who had received it as a gift from France. In St. Croix it is now understood that the Knights of Malta sold the island to the French West India Company in 1665. In 1674 it was taken over by the French Government, and sold to the Danish West India and Guinea Company in 1733, later being taken over by Denmark in 1755. In view of these discrepancies, it might be well to view all of the other quoted dates with caution.

Twenty-three covers and one postal card are pictured. Three of these show the classic 3c and 4c stamps of the Danish West Indies; in addition each cover bears foreign stamps — in one case, a British, while the other two French. The author missed a chance when illustrating these to explain a possibly little known fact relative to the use of the classic, first types of Danish West Indies stamps, which explains their scarcity on cover. It was not until January 7, 1871 that any of the Danish West Indies stamps were authorized for use on foreign mail; previous to that date they only franked mail between one island and another within the Danish West Indies Thus the majority of covers known also bear British — in rarer cases French — stamps paying the transocean fees.

The book contains considerable factual information relative to the long years during which the British packet postal agents controlled foreign mail services. Many of the postal markings used by these agents are clearly redrawn for easy reference.

In regard to handling of the postal card designated as Figure 1, which is dated March 31st (1917) but not postmarked until April 2nd, the author comments on the fact that postage was paid with a 2 cent U. S. stamp and a Danish West Indies 10 bit stamp, by saying that the U.S. stamp paid postage from St. Thomas to Martinique and that the 10 bit stamp "did duty in the islands." This is far from correct. Section 395, Postal Laws and Regulations were amended, to be effective March 31, 1917, to permit either United States stamps or Danish West Indies stamps to be used. Therefore, this mixed franking made up the 4c rate on a foreign addressed postal card in accordance with United States postal regulations.

All in all this booklet is a nicely printed publication, there is much interesting information given — if used with care. The collector of British Used Abroad will find it useful. Those interested in Danish West Indies, however, will be disappointed with this book. *(R. B. Preston)*

The Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia (Sixth Edition) by Alec. A. Rosenblum. 591 pages, 340 illustrations, clothbound. Published by the Acacia Press Pty. Ltd., 14-16 Blackburn Road, Blackburn, Melbourne, Australia. Price $9.75 plus 73c postage (Australian).

This is the sixth edition of Mr. Rosenblum's study of Australian issues. It has been rewritten to cover all of the Commonwealth of Australia stamps from Federation up to the current decimal currency issues.

Each stamp is treated in detail mentioning the method of printing, the plate layout, known varieties and other pertinent matters.

The book takes up the States issues from the time of the Federation in 1901 to 1913, which are, in fact, Commonwealth stamps.

Separate chapters cover Australia Used Abroad, the occupation of Japan after World War II as well as marginal imprints, booklets, freaks and other interesting oddities, essays, proofs, cancelled-to-order set, forgeries, and bogus stamps. This shows that the contents of this book are comprehensive and the Australian specialist will find it well worth his while to consult. *(E. W. Trench)*

Scott's United States Specialized Catalogue, 1967. Published by Scott Publications, 461 Eighth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10001. Price, $5.00.

This is the 45th edition of this specialized catalogue of United States philately. It has more price changes than ever before, a total of 18,500.

Besides these changes, most all increases so dear to the dealers' hearts, are the new listings. These occur mostly in the sections devoted to the U. S. Local stamps, 14 in all; Confederate States, 12 postmasters provisionals and 2 regular items; and the revenue stamps of Puerto Rico. *(H. D. S. H.)*

The Library Committee reports the acquisition of the following:

Stamps, Vols. 123-136. Bound Volumes. Gift of Mr. H. L. Lindquist.

Scott's Specialized Catalogue of United States Stamps 1967. Forty-fifth Edition. Scott Publications, New York, N. Y. 687 pages. Illustrated. Hard cover. Courtesy of the publisher.

The Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia by Alec A. Rosenblum, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.I. Inf. Sc. Acacia Press Pty. Ltd., Melbourne, Australia. 1966. 591 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Vermont Post Offices 1783-1966, compiled by George C. Slawson. Published under the auspices of the Vermont Philatelic Society. 33 pages. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Thirty-Second American Philatelic Congress Book 1966, edited by David C. Stump. Published by the American Philatelic Congress, Inc. 158 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Philatelic History of the War Between Peru and Chile 1879-1884 by W. G. Howland. Published by the American Philatelic Society, Inc. 1966. 28 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Doctors Philatelic, Supplement #4, by Oscar Gottfried. Published by the New York Physician, Inc., New York, N. Y. 1966. 45 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Gift of the author.

Los Sellos Oficiales de Marina de Chile (1906-07) by John F. Rider. Published by the Sociedad Filatelica de Chile, Santiago de Chile. 1966. 49 pages. Illustrated. Spanish text. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

Catalogo de los Sellos del Ecuador y Suplementos Nos 1 y 2. Edited and published by Asociacion Filatelica Ecuatoriana, Quito, Ecuador. 1937. 128 pages. Illustrated. Spanish text. Paperbound. Gift of Col. Leonard H. Smith, Jr.

Malta: The Story of Malta and Her Stamps by James A. Mackay. Philatelic Publishers Limited, London, England. 1966. 96 pages. Illustrated. Paperbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

The United States Postage Stamps of the 19th Century, Volume I, by Lester G. Brookman, R.D.P. H. L. Lindquist Publications, Inc., New York, N. Y. 1966. 274 pages. Illustrated. Clothbound. Courtesy of the publisher.

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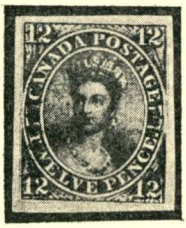
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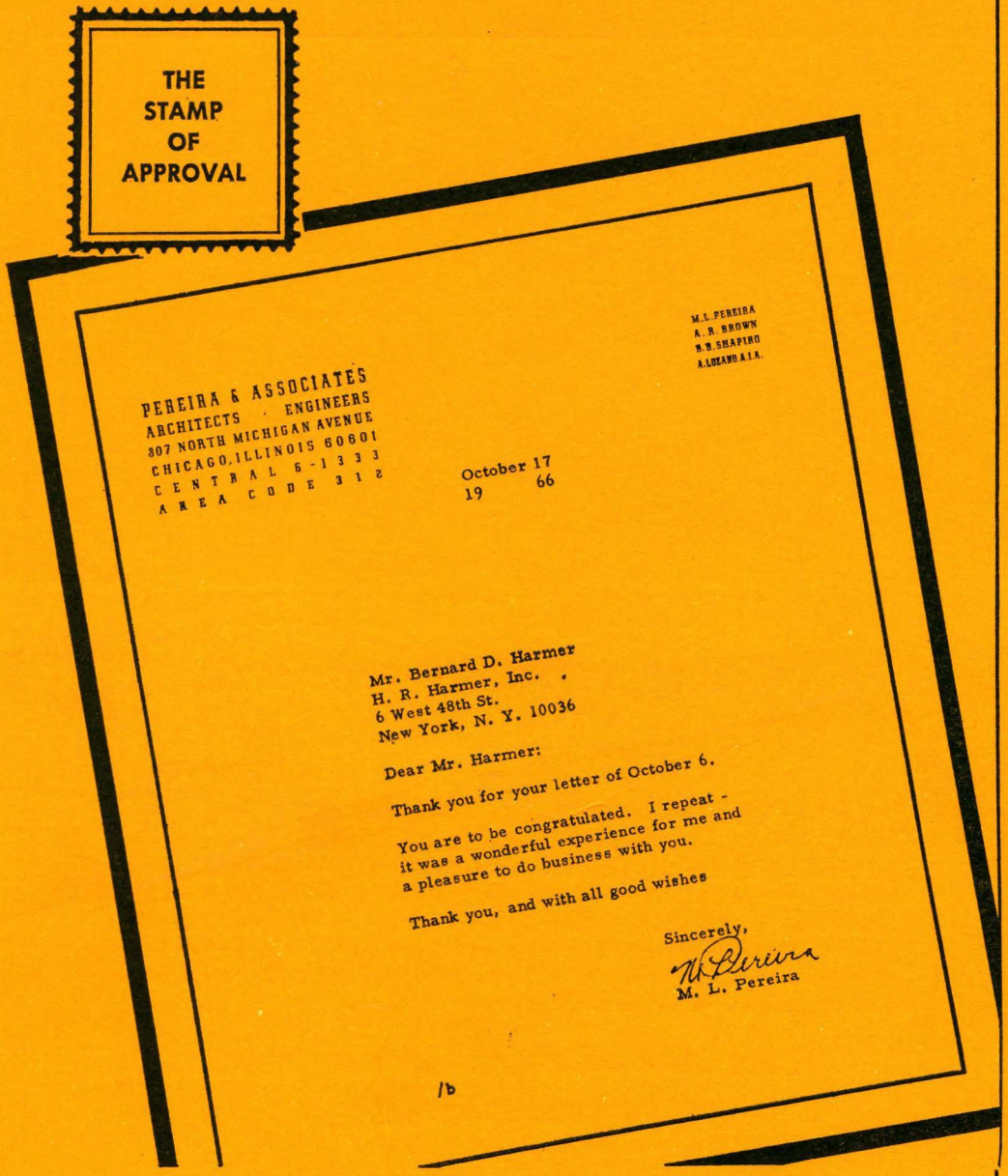
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