

Brawford 2109

THE
POSTAGE STAMP

EDITED BY
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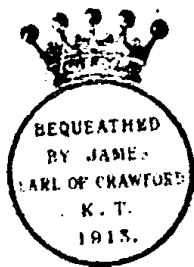
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&c., &c.

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Introductory

IN presenting the first number of THE POSTAGE STAMP it may be well to explain that the Journal is intended to meet the needs of Stamp Collectors and Stamp Dealers for an independent philatelic weekly periodical whose advertisement pages shall be freely open to all.

In this new journal we hope to combine the publication of the highest class of useful and scientific articles with bright, varied and newsy pages, and to make it a storehouse and reference library of all that is worth preserving in the philatelic literature of the day.

But the main policy and aim will be the popularization of all that is best in the fascinating pastime of Stamp Collecting and the promotion of the best and most permanent interests of Collector and Dealer alike.

Our Programme will include :—

Gossip of the Week, free and chatty notes on philatelic events and news of the day, by Cornelius Wrinkle.

Special Countries written up, to include the needs of all classes of collectors, with fluctuations of prices for the past ten years, and a bibliography of useful works and articles, by Edward J. Nankivell. More than anything else, the fluctuations in catalogue prices afford a clue to the relative rarity of the stamps in a series. Therefore special care will be devoted to these useful tables. The bibliography of works and articles affording further information on the country written up will be useful to those who wish to go more deeply into the subject for the purposes of advanced specialising. In this series minor varieties will be included in smaller type, so as to make the articles useful to all collectors.

Historical Rarities, their History and Price, with enlarged illustrations, by an Old Specialist.

Collectors in Council, a free discussion of current controversies by a meeting of imaginary characters, including serious and humorous expressions of opinion, by Sir Charge.

Notable Stamps, occasional articles from time to time on popular rarities, by well-known specialists.

My Favourite Country, giving the interesting why and wherefore of their choice, by eminent specialists.

How to Collect, a helpful series of articles for the young collector, taking him by easy stages from the most elementary to the most advanced forms of collecting, by Edward J. Nankivell.

The Stamp Market. Independent comments on the trend of catalogue, auction and market prices, by an independent writer.

Stamp Auctions. Records of the more notable prices realized in the auction rooms from week to week, by a Buyer.

Brer Fox and Brer Rabbit, an occasional friendly and humorous adaptation to philatelic topics, by Uncle Perf.

Notable New Issues written up to date and fully illustrated, by the Editor.

Our Open Page, set apart for the courteous ventilation of all shades and differences of opinion on questions of philatelic controversy, by our Readers.

Philatelic Societies, full reports of meetings by Honorary Secretaries.

Reviews of new philatelic publications.

Special Correspondence, from all philatelic centres, colonial and foreign, by leading collectors.

Editor and Reader. Conversational replies to inquirers on matters of interest or difficulty.

For the accomplishment of this comprehensive and somewhat ambitious programme we trust we may rely upon the kind co-operation of our fellow collectors in the wide world of philately.

EDWARD J. NANKIVELL,
EDITOR.

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

An Introductory Note



IN making my bow to the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and promising them a weekly infliction of my idiosyncrasies, I may be allowed to plead, by way of preliminary excuse for my splutterings, that we stamp collectors are very much akin, for we have much in common. We are all afflicted with the same desire to take the shine out of the other fellow, each in his

special country or group, and we have all an insatiable hankering after an exceptionally fine copy of an exceptionally scarce stamp at an exceptionally low price.

But, taken all in all, we are not a bad lot of fellows; we are often very kind in helping beginners, or a lame dog over a stile, and we are generally generous in our admiration of each other's gems. Of course, when it is a case of half-a-dozen of us after one fine copy, the old Adam crops up just a little, but when all is said there is a good balance in our favour on the right side of the account.

We are enthusiasts and, more frequently than not, our enthusiasms ride rough-shod over the more selfish elements of our nature.

Hence the secret of the genuine and enduring sociability of our hobby. Let us hope that time will never dull our enthusiasms nor efface the kindness that characterises so many of our philatelic relations.

Better Days in Store for us

Yes, I feel a strong conviction that there are better days in store for us stamp collectors.

Hitherto, if a collector wanted to sell his collection he has had to choose between the stamp dealer and the auctioneer; shall I say, between the devil and the deep sea?

A dealer, as a rule, is one too many for most collectors, and the auction has its undeniable risks.

But now, good old stamps are getting so scarce in really fine condition that there is a real hunger for fine old collections, and when one is likely to come on the market there is beginning to be a quiet, but nevertheless keen competition amongst dealers as to who shall secure the prize.

Recently, a leading dealer gave out that he was off for a week to enjoy himself at the seaside. 'Twas only a red herring that he drew across his track to throw his fellow dealers off the scent. When he returned it was found that he had been to the Russian capital and secured the record prize in stamp dealing in the shape of a magnificent well known general collection running into seventy volumes.

When the buyer runs after the seller I think we may safely say that better days are in store for the rooked and down-trodden race of stamp collectors.

Old King Bomba

Everyone who collects stamps knows the portrait of Ferdinand II, more generally known as "King Bomba," on the stamps of Sicily.

Mr. G. M. Trevelyan, in his recently published history of "Garibaldi's Defence of the Roman Republic," explains that the king of Naples and Sicily, "having by force and fraud recovered his absolute power on the mainland, was attempting to reduce the rebellious island (Sicily) by those methods of Turkish barbarism, which won him the cognomen of *Bomba*."

And then in a footnote he further explains:—

"*Bomba* means 'a shell.' The actual occasion when he won the name was at the destruction of Messina by bombardment, accompanied by a massacre of the inhabitants without respect to age or sex, September 1-7, 1848. This was why he was called *Bomba*, and not, as a clerical writer of to-day tells us, 'en raison de son embonpoint.'"

The Leicester Philatelic Exhibition

Next month we are to have a Philatelic Exhibition at Leicester, when our friends there are going to give us a lesson in the problem of how to popularise a stamp exhibition. I hope they won't adopt the London plan

of "keeping it dark," but will rationally advertise it, in order that even non-collectors may be attracted and converted into recruits.

November should be preferable to a summer month, for then the sun will not work such havoc on unprotected delicately printed unused stamps.

Lagos: "2½ Penny" Varieties

There are two quite distinct varieties of type in the setting of the value "2½ Penny" in the King's head series of Lagos. In one the line is set in a small type, and in the other in a distinctly larger type.

Both varieties occur only in the single C.A. issue, and so far as my experience goes, the smaller type is the scarcer, but, of course, others may have found it more plentiful. Anyway, we have no means at present of saying which was the greater number printed.

The varieties are worth looking for. They are not catalogued at present, but they are well known to specialists, and are much more pronounced than the varieties in the value line of the "One Penny" of Trinidad that has been catalogued from the first.

An Effective Cancellation

A letter which I have just received from a collector in Bolivia is franked with a horizontal pair of the 10c. stamps, and across the two stamps is the cancellation HUANUNI, at which place the letter was posted. This cancellation is in red ink in giant letters, the capital H measuring 22 mm. and the other letters 8 mm. in height.

Collecting Cancellations

Some day the collection and the history of the cancellations of the world will no doubt form a special and interesting branch of philately. To some extent cancellations have been collected, and written up in the case of some of the European countries, but the Cancellations of the World will be a big order, though in time it will be rendered possible by the piecemeal study of specialists who include used as well as unused.

Papuans, Large and Small

If British New Guinea continues as it has begun since it has been taken over by our Australian friends it may some day blossom into specialised rank. Within a few months we have two sizes of the overprint "Papua" but the inverted overprint has not yet been signalled. Of course it will arrive in good time, especially if any of the overprinting is done locally.

The next in order is to be a special set for Papua. Meanwhile if the old stock available for overprinting gets exhausted, what will happen? Australian stamps overprinted?

Some Dangers of Stamp Collecting

If you are a stamp collector take my tip and don't go touring in the neighbourhood of the great Australian Commonwealth, for if you should happen to have in your collection or among your duplicates an Australian stamp which has been cleaned of its cancellation, you may find yourself under arrest and liable to a fine of £50.

Mr. D. S. Abraham assures us in the *Australian Philatelist* that "the prosecution of a genuine collector having such a stamp would never be instituted." That may be, but it will be safer to sheer off to one of the Cannibal Islands.

Prizes Going Strong

Some years or so ago the Royal Philatelic Society in its pre-Royal days, intimated that medals would be given for the best papers read at the meetings or

something of that sort, but I have heard nothing further of it.

Meanwhile, the Sydney Philatelic Club offers its members a gold medal for the best original philatelic article, and Mr. Basset Hull offers an extra trophy for the best article on Australian stamps.

Philatelic Society Blue Ribbons

And why not have an annual Society Badge or Blue Ribbon of some sort for the best work in each session, something worth going for and something that would be a real test of philatelic knowledge.

On the spur of the moment, I cannot think of anything good enough, but I have no doubt some of my kind readers will be able to suggest some form of friendly competition. It must not be the best collection, for those greedy great moguls would sweep the decks, but it might be for the best arranged specialised collection, points to be given for artistic taste displayed, philatelic notes, fine condition, and completeness.

The winner of each year's blue ribbon might be inscribed in a roll of honour to be framed and hung in the Society's room.

The New Paragon Album

My friend Mr. Whitfield King has got his back up over his Paragon Album, which he introduced as a cheap movable leaf album. It took on like hot cakes. Then some wicked rival brought out an imitation with double the number of leaves for a few pence less by omitting the expensive linen hinges. This was countered by my Ipswich friend with a Paragon of better finish and 150 leaves for half-a-crown less than the rival.

And so the game goes on, always in the direction of the survival of the fittest.

The 150 leaf Paragon is before me, and I am bound to confess that it is a marvel of cheapness at 10s. My choice, however, would be the album with half the number of leaves linen-hinged to fall quite flat at the same price.

Meanwhile, we collectors reap the benefit of these philosophic endeavours to provide us with album comforts.

Protection against Friction

Another nail in the coffin of the Noah's ark style of protecting stamps against injury from rubbing by pasting a file-like Japanese paper on the opposite page, comes from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for the Paragon albums are now provided with protecting sheets of a highly finished, transparent paper, which is gummed on the hinge side of the page containing the stamps.

This paper, of which a sample has been sent me, is almost as clear as glass.

Other album manufacturers will some day recognise the truth of what I have been preaching for years that the protecting sheet must be attached to the page to be protected.

Of course I recognise the undeniable fact that it is more inconvenient than the sheet pasted on the back of the facing leaf, for when you want to examine your stamps closely to see the watermarks, etc., you must lift the transparent paper.

Ever since Mr. G. W. Lawn some years ago suggested to me the plan of pasting the transparent leaf on the page itself, I have been a convinced stickler for this form of protection, and as a consequence I have never since had any fears for even the most delicate of my unused gems.

The Stamps of Bermuda

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

ACCORDING to Mr. C. P. Lucas, the early history of the Bermudas is full of romance. By turns they have been "a point of call, a possession of a trading company, an emporium for passing traffic, a military and naval station, the home of a slave-holding community, a depôt for convicts, and a colony in the fullest sense with representative institutions from the very first."

Tom Moore, who for a few months in 1803 filled the post of Registrar of the Court of Admiralty in the Bermudas, described them as:—

"These leafy isles upon the ocean thrown,
Like studs of emerald o'er a silver zone;"

and compared them to the "pure isles"—

"Which bards of old with kindly fancy placed
For happy spirits in th' Atlantic waste."

The islands derive their name from Juan Bermudez, a Spaniard, who in 1522 was shipwrecked there on his way from Spain to Cuba. In 1609 Sir George Somers, en route for Virginia with the first colonists and the charter of "the" Virginia Company, was also shipwrecked on the islands. Sir G. Somers subsequently re-visited the islands in search of food for the distressed Virginian Colony, but reached them only to die. His body was embalmed and sent to England. His memory was perpetuated in the name of Somers Islands, given to the group. This second name, however, is now rarely used. In 1612 the islands having been colonised from Virginia settled down as a British possession.

Next to Gibraltar the Bermudas are the smallest dependency of Great Britain. The little group lies in mid-ocean, 600 miles from North Carolina, the nearest American coast. They are barely 20 square miles in extent, or 12,000 acres in all, *i.e.*, they are less than one-seventh the size of the Isle of Wight.

There are in all close on 400 coral islands, but only a few are inhabited. The largest are St. George's, St. David's, Bermuda proper, or the main island (which is larger than all the rest put together), Somerset and Ireland. The chief towns of the group are St. George's, the old capital on the island of that name, and Hamilton, the present seat of government on the main island. The capital has a population of 2,000. The total population of the group is 25,019, including military and naval forces.

It is a naval station, with a permanent Imperial garrison of 2,866 men, and an Admiralty establishment of 1947.

In 1902 an immense floating dock, the largest in the world, which was constructed at Sheerness, was towed out and fixed for the use of the naval station. Of this great dock the Bermudians are very proud and they have placed a view of it on their current postage stamps.

The climate is described as healthy though not bracing.

The importance of the little colony lies not in its extent, or its produce, but in the fact that it is one of the ocean strongholds of the British Empire.

Its Philatelic History

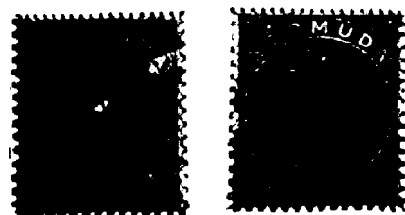
The first stamp issued is said to have been a Postmaster's stamp, which was prepared and issued in 1848 by Mr. W. B. Perot, Postmaster of Hamilton, but the first regular adhesive postage stamp was not issued until 1865, when 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. stamps, watermarked Crown CC., were placed on sale. In 1874-5 there was a small outcrop of provisionals to make up for a shortage of 1d. and 3d. stamps. In 1880, ½d. and 4d. values were added, still watermarked Crown CC. A series of six values was issued on Crown CA paper. The central design of all these stamps was the Queen's head, the framework being varied in all the values. In 1901 a new value of one farthing was added to the list, first in the shape of a provisional, the 1s. Crown CA being printed in grey and surcharged "one farthing." In 1902 the first of the Floating Dock series was issued, then followed a change from single to multiple watermark.

With the exception of the 1874-5 provisionals and one or two of the first issue, the stamps of Bermuda are well within the reach of the average collector, and as the Colony has never been guilty of the trickery of some of the Leeward Islands group, it should be a favourite for the moderate specialist.

1865. Five values. Design: Profile of Queen Victoria to left, in a framework varying for each value. The stamps were engraved and surface-printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. upon paper watermarked Crown C.C. and perforated 14.

None of this series is really scarce, but bright mint well centred copies are not plentiful, want much searching for, and when found are worth keeping.

The 1d. is catalogued as existing imperforate, and the 3d., 6d., and 1s. exist perf. 14 x 12½.



Wmk.	C.C.		Perf. 14.		Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d. rose	3	6	0	4	0	4
2d. blue	3	0	3	0	3	0
3d. yellow buff	15	0	10	0	10	0
6d. mauve	0	8	0	6	0	6
1s. green	7	6	2	6	2	6
<i>Imperf.</i>								
1d. rose red	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Perf. 14 x 12½.</i>								
3d. yellow buff	15	0	15	0	15	0
6d. mauve	1	0	2	0	2	0
1s. green	3	0	3	0	3	0

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

Perf. 14.	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose ..	0 6	0 9	0 9	1 0	1 6	2 0	2 6	2 6	3 6
2d. blue ..	1 0	1 0	1 3	1 3	2 6	2 6	3 6	3 0	3 0
3d. yellow buff	4 0	10 0	8 6	7 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
6d. violet ..	1 0	1 0	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 8
1s. green ..	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
<i>Perf. 14 x 12½.</i>									
3d. yellow buff	20 0	30 0	15 0	15 0	25 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
6d. violet ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 0	1 0	2 0
1s. green ..	2 6	2 6	2 0	2 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0

The stamps of this series show a steady rise from 1896, all but the 6d. violet, which is still current, being much higher to-day than in 1896, the so-called year of inflation. The 1d. has risen steadily almost every year in the last ten, and the 2d. has followed closely. The 3d. was raised in 1897 from 4s. to 10s., then dropped to 8s. 6d. in 1899 and to 7s. 6d. in 1900, but in 1902 it was doubled in price, and has remained at 15s. ever since. The 1s. started at 5s. in 1896, and was raised to 7s. 6d. in 1902, at which price it remains to-day.

1874-5. Provisionals. To provide for a shortage of 3d. and 1d. stamps. By way of explanation of these scarce provisionals I cannot do better than quote Major Evans' account of them as contributed to the West Indian volume published by the Royal Philatelic Society:—Major Evans had an opportunity of examining the official records while stationed at Bermuda:—

"In 1873 the *threepence* was issued for payment of the single rate of postage between Bermuda and British North America; a supply of 9,800 of this value reached the colony on the 10th of March of that year. This supply seems to have been exhausted by the following February, and a temporary substitute of some kind became necessary. I could find no official correspondence upon the subject, but, as all the Government offices are close together, it is quite possible that the Colonial Postmaster may have applied personally to the Council, who authorised the conversion of one shilling stamps into threepenny, as shown by the following extract from the Minutes of their proceedings:—

"1784. 21st February. The Council approve of the issue of a portion of the redundant *one shilling* postage stamps in store as *threepenny* stamps, with a distinct crossing of "three" or "3d." if possible, of a different coloured ink."

"The Receiver-General's books show 4,500 *one shilling* stamps converted to *threepence*, March 12, 1874; the same number on the 20th of the month; and the same again on the 9th May, 1874. These numbers seem to indicate that the one shilling stamps were sent out in quarter sheets of 60, not in entire sheets of 240. Of the stamps thus converted 4,000 are shown as issued to the Postmaster on the 12th March, 2,400 on the 31st March, and 2,400 on the 19th May, 1874.

"A second supply of threepenny stamps was received from England on the 2nd July in the same year, so that no further overprinting was necessary. I found no special record of the actual printing of the surcharge, and I could obtain no information from the Government printers, who probably did the work, though there was a tradition that some work of this kind was done by the Royal Engineers, who had a small press in their office; there was no means, however, of verifying this. There was, of course, no notice taken in the official books of the fact that there are two varieties of type of the surcharge, and there was no record whatever of any other values besides the one shilling having been converted to threepence, at this or any other period. We get no information, therefore, from official sources as to which variety of the surcharge was issued first, but I think the following extract from the *American Journal of Philately* for May 20, 1874, tends to prove that it was the one in fancy capitals, unless both came out together:—

"Bermuda.—The latest thing from this colony, the notice of which was inadvertently left out of our last number' (April 20, 1874), 'is the shilling green, with surcharge (in black) *Threepence* in line shaded italic capitals, running diagonally across the stamp.'

"Specimens of the *one penny* and of the *twopence* are known with the same surcharge in both the varieties of type, and of these some copies are apparently used, or at all events obliterated; it is, of course, very easy to imitate an overprint of this kind, but there is no doubt that specimens exist with a perfectly genuine surcharge; still in the absence of all official record of their issue, and in view of the statement which follows, I am inclined to consider them proofs, or essays only.

"A few years ago half of a quarter sheet of one penny stamps, bearing the surcharge in italic capitals, was found in the Receiver-General's office, and was given by him to a collector—in Bermuda. The Receiver-General was of opinion that these stamps had been purchased by his predecessor, during whose period of office the surcharges were printed, and left inadvertently in the drawer in which they were found; but it appears to me that the fact of these specimens being found where they were is rather a proof that they formed a portion of a trial sheet, struck to show the appearance of the surcharge; in like manner the other type of the surcharge may have been tried on the one penny, and both types on the twopence also. These varieties were first chronicled in 1875, or some twelve months after the threepence on one shilling was brought into use.

"The provisional 'one penny' stamps were made in this latter year, 1875, and it was noted at the time in Philatelic magazines as a curious circumstance that the *One Penny* on threepence, and the threepence on one penny should have appeared at the same time. The accounts show that 14,400 *one shilling* stamps were converted to *one penny* on the 11th March, 1875; 6,720 of the same value, and 4,800 *twopence* similarly treated on the 31st of the same month; and 2,380 *one shilling* on the 16th April, 1875; also that fifty sheets (12,000) *threepence* stamps were converted to one penny about the same time, though the exact date is not given."

The surcharge of *threepence* was done in two different types, one in shaded italic capitals and the other in Roman capitals. Both were printed in black diagonally across the stamps, from the lower left to the

top right-hand corner, and each type stretches almost from corner to corner. In the shaded italic type there is a variety with a plain unshaded italic *P* to pence instead of shaded.

The surcharge of "One Penny" in two lines, each word having an initial capital, was printed in black in the centre of the stamp.

The numbers printed of these Provisionals were:—

- "Threepence" on 1s., 13,500.
- "One Penny," on 2d., blue, 4,800.
- " " on 3d., yellow, 12,000.
- " " on 1s., green, 23,500.

Provisionals.

In shaded italic capitals.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d. on 1s., green..	40	0	30	0

In Roman capitals.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
3d. on 1s., green..	30	0	30	0

"One Penny" in capitals and small letters.

1d. on 2d., blue..	40	0	30	0
1d. on 3d., yellow..	15	0	15	0
1d. on 1s., green..	12	6	12	6

Surcharge inverted.

1d. on 1s., green ..	—	—	—	—
No stop after "Penny"	—	—	—	—
1d. on 3d., buff ..	—	—	—	—

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3d. (Italic) on 1s. green ..	16 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0
3d. (Roman) on 1s. green ..	16 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	—	50 0	50 0	30 0
1d. on 2d. blue	16 0	20 0	30 0	30 0	40 0	—	40 0	40 0	—
1d. on 3d. buff	10 0	10 0	10 0	12 6	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0
1d. on 1s., green	6 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	10 0	10 0	12 6	12 6	12 6

These provisionals appear to me to be even scarcer than the catalogue prices seem to indicate. Of poor copies there are probably many to be had, but satisfactory mint copies are few and far between. The price of all except the Threepence in Roman Capitals shows a steady rise. The threepence in shaded italic capitals was jumped up from 16s. to 40s. in 1897, and has remained at that figure ever since.

1880. Two values. Design: Half-penny; Dia-demed profile of Queen Victoria to left enclosed in an oval band. Fourpence: the same head of Her Majesty, but enclosed in a beaded circle. These two stamps were the last printed on the Crown CC paper, unless indeed we except the still current first issue 6d., of which presumably printings are still being made, unless a very "redundant" stock is being worked off.



Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., stone	0	4	0	4
½d., orange-red	0	8	0	6

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

As these stamps are still common and plentiful, there is no call to set them out in tabular form for a comparison of prices.

1884-93. Six values. Designs: as before. This is the last and still partially current Queen's Heads, all watermarked Crown CA. A new value of 2½d., to meet the requirements of the Postal Union, is added. The ½d. of the previous issue is changed in colour from stone to dull green; the 1d. appears first in dull rose (now getting scarce) and carmine; the 2d. was first printed in the old colour of blue, and was then changed to violet-brown to avoid clashing with the Postal Union 2½d., blue; the 3d. was changed from yellow to grey and the 1s. from green to yellow-brown. We illustrate the 2½d. as it is a new design.



Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., dull green	0	2	0	1
1d., rose-red	7	6	0	4
1d., carmine	0	3	0	1
2d., blue (1886)	1	6	1	6
2d., violet-brown (1893)	0	3	0	3
2½d., ultramarine	0	4	0	2
3d., grey (1886)	0	6	0	8
1s., yellow-brown (1893)	1	4	1	4

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green	01	01	01	01	01	01	01	01	02
1d., rose	02	06	—	30	10	10	7 6	7 6	7 6
1d., carmine	—	—	02	02	02	02	03	03	03
2d., blue	09	16	13	13	10	10	16	16	16
2d., violet-brown	04	04	03	03	03	03	03	03	03
2½d., ultramarine	05	05	04	04	04	04	04	04	04
3d., grey	06	06	05	05	05	05	05	06	06
1s., yellow	19	19	14	13	13	14	14	14	14

This comparatively recent series, some of which are still current, admit of little comment on the matter of fluctuation. The 2d. blue may some day be a good stamp, though its life from 1886 to 1893 precludes the idea of its being very scarce for many years to come. But the 1d. rose, the old shade of this value, is the most interesting stamp of the series. Our Gibbons was evidently suffering from considerable excitement, when in 1900 it raised the price from 6d. to 30s., from which it has since dropped to the more rational price of 7s. 6d. Nevertheless it is undeniably a good stamp, and should be secured while fine mint copies are to be had at the present catalogue price.

1901. Provisional. One value. Design: "One Farthing" in two lines in black on the 1s. stamp printed in grey for the purpose of surcharging. This farthing value was introduced as a charge for newspapers hitherto carried free. The following account of the issue of this provisional was supplied to the *Monthly Journal* at the time of its issue by a correspondent in the colony.

"It appears that an Act was passed last year under which an inland rate of ½d. per two ounces is to be levied on newspapers which have hitherto been conveyed free. As it was desired to bring this into force from 1 January, there was no time to get a new plate prepared, and a telegram was sent home requesting that a supply might be printed from the 1s. plate in grey,

and overprinted ONE FARTHING. Owing to delay of the steamer, the stamps did not arrive till 10 January; they were put on sale on the 11th, with the result that all were bought up by speculators within twenty-four hours, and, until a fresh lot can be obtained, the newspapers have to pass free as before! The Post Office loses nothing, of course, as many more stamps have been sold than were at all likely to be used upon newspapers, and we suspect that the subscribers to the papers will be the principal gainers. From 4d. to 6d. each, was being asked for the stamps on the spot, but as the supply was some £200 worth, or 192,000 stamps in all, the fortunate (?) purchasers will be glad to unload at very much less than that before long."

The *Monthly Circular* of a later date stated that there were £250 worth of the provisional put on sale, and that £235 worth were purchased by three speculators who endeavoured to gull stamp collectors into the belief that these stamps would be of great value. Some copies were actually sold for one shilling each, but they never have been since, and are not likely to be, for they are still current.

A minor variety is found in the "G" of "Farthing."



Provisional.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

Unused.		Used.	
s.	d.	s.	d.
0	1	0	1

"One farthing" on 1s. grey 0 1 0 1

1902-4. Three values. Design: A view of the celebrated floating dock, constructed at Sheerness and sent out to Bermuda for the use of the Naval station there. The stamps were printed in two colours, and on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single. They were designed, engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue and Co., London, and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A., "single." Perf. 14.

Unused.		Used.	
s.	d.	s.	d.
0	1	0	1
0	4	0	1
0	5	0	5

1d., black and green 0 1 0 1

1d., brown and carmine 0 4 0 1

3d., magenta and sage green 0 5 0 5

1904. One value. Design: the 4d. Queen's head, as before, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

Unused.		Used.	
s.	d.	s.	d.
0	6	0	6

4d., orange-red 0 6 0 6

1906. Five values. Design: the floating dock, but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. The 2d. and 4d. of this type I have not yet seen, but as they

are announced I include them. Presumably it is intended to bring out all the values in this dock design as further supplies of the other values are needed.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1/2d., black and green	0	1	0	1
1d., brown and carmine	0	2	—	—
2d., grey and orange	—	—	—	—
2 1/2d., brown and ultramarine ..	0	4	—	—
4d., blue and orange brown ..	—	—	—	—

Dies of the Queen's Head Series

Mr. Louis G. Barrett, in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, calls attention to differences in the dies of the Queen's Head series. He points out that there are varieties, the first type with unshaded forehead and base of bust, then with shaded forehead and bust. He lists them as follows:—

Unshaded type.

- 2d., blue.
- 2d., claret brown.
- 6d., lilac, violet, etc.
- 1s., green.
- 1s., bistre.
- 1/2d., grey.

Shaded type.

- 1/2d., brown.
- 1/2d., green.
- 2 1/2d., blue.
- 3d., buff.
- 3d., grey.
- 4d., orange.

I have examined several copies of these stamps in addition to those in my own collection, and am inclined to think the point opened up well worth pursuing. The 1/2d., 2 1/2d., and 4d. values may be eliminated from the inquiry, for they were subsequent designs and show no change, but the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1s. values afford scope for further research. The unshaded base to the bust has somewhat the appearance of a worn plate, but, as Mr. Barrett points out, that is the original type. Subsequently the shading in some cases is found carried down to the base, and leaving clearly less unshaded. Apparently this would suggest that a second plate must have been made, but blocks in my collection of the last printing of the 1d. and 2d. are plate 1.

Here I must leave the matter for the present. Later on, if I find sufficient material, I may, with the help of some specialists in Bermuda, be able to pursue the inquiry further. Anyway, it is an interesting point.

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Hints to Beginners

How to Collect

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

BEFORE going into the details of How to Collect, let us have a few preliminary words about the hobby itself.

In these days of the telephone and the motor car there is no need to labour the necessity of a hobby of some sort as a set-off to the thousand and one worries of the hurry-scurry of modern life, especially of modern life in our great cities and towns.

And we philatelists contend that of all the available indoor hobbies stamp collecting is the best of all.

What Sir Lauder Brunton Says

Sir Lauder Brunton, the eminent London physician, speaking at an annual meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society, said there were a great many people who died in this world from the very simple malady of having nothing whatever to do. They passed their lives in accumulating money, with no relaxation, and then when they retired from active work they died of *ennui*. They came to him and complained of so many things, and said they had nothing to do. He told them to collect stamps. It would add ten years to their lives. The wise men did so. The others did not. And the wise men lived on. That was the use of collecting stamps at the end of life. He began collecting many years ago, but was sorry that for a good many years he had not been able to keep it up.

Testimony of the Prince of Wales

The Prince of Wales is the acting President of the Royal Philatelic Society, and an enthusiastic and keen specialist in the stamps of Great Britain, India, and the British Colonies. Some years ago, when he was Duke of York, in a letter to a correspondent, referring to stamp collecting, he wrote: "It is one of the greatest pleasures of my life." Since those candid and generous words were written, as heir to the throne the demands upon his time have enormously increased, but his enthusiasm for the hobby has been kept alive in such a notable manner that many of the finest philatelic gems that have come upon the market in recent years have been secured by H.R.H. for his own collection. We all remember how he outdistanced all bidders in securing the celebrated unused copy of the 2d. blue "Post Office" Mauritius a few seasons since.

All Classes Collect Stamps

Of no other hobby can it be said that all classes collect. Of stamps it is a notable characteristic; from the boy who goes in for penny packets to the millionaire who, regardless of price, sweeps notable lots from the auctions and choice copies of the rarest varieties from the dealers' private hoards, all collect, each according to his means, and each taking his own fill of pleasure from the same fascinating pursuit.

Kings and queens, princes and statesmen, peers and commoners of all kinds, all collect stamps. In our enthusiasm for our pastime we are as Socialistic in our philatelic instincts as the most socialistic Socialist could wish. Prince and peasant, we are animated by

one common desire—the desire to possess the finest copies of the rarest stamps we can afford. And the glory of it all is that even the peasant, aided by some lucky chance, not unfrequently secures the prize.

Its Adaptability to all Pockets

Few can afford to collect precious gems, paintings, engravings, coins, old china, or antique furniture, but anyone may collect stamps according to his means, for there are penny packets as well as rarities that run into hundreds of pounds. And the lad with his shilling album enjoys his share in the hobby quite as much as his wealthier competitor whose gatherings fill fine albums by the score.

You Can Eat Your Cake and Have It

And you can eat your cake and have it, a feat you can accomplish in few other lines of human activity. That is to say, you can go on spending money in collecting stamps and should you be so exceptionally constituted as to tire of so delightful a hobby, you can sell your stamps, if judiciously collected, at a profit, and so have had all the pleasure of collecting and a profit thrown in, *i.e.*, you can eat your cake and have it all the time.

Its Sociability

We are the friendliest of all friendly portions of the community. We know nothing of political divisions, of national jealousies, or of distinctions of race or colour. We are a sociable and united international body, with a philatelic language of our own, and a freemasonry that ensures each one of us a cordial welcome wherever we go amongst the stamp-issuing countries of the civilized world.

The Bonhomie of Stamp Collectors

And we are a band of mutual helpers. We are everlastingly comparing notes and collections, and helping each other in our work of building up our special countries. It is true a surly few nod their wise heads and keep their discoveries up their sleeves for their own selfish ends. But what of that? They are only the regrettable few, and do not count in a comprehensive survey of our widespread philatelic world. We can afford to turn our backs upon the undesirable and selfish few to greet the greater body of hustling friendly enthusiasts with whom the free and open discussion of all points of interest is the breath of their philatelic life.

Our Side Shows

The philatelic life is a very active one, for we have no end of side shows. We have our stamp auctions, our society meetings, our exchange clubs, our libraries and our periodicals, and you may go in for all or none. You may play the part of a philatelic hermit, and collect "on the quiet," or you may take your fill of auctions and society meetings and exchange clubs galore.

My Favourite Country

The Stamps of Egypt

By J. CECIL RIX, B.A.

TO those collectors desirous of specialising in the stamps of any one country, I can heartily recommend Egypt, the land of my own choice. Historically and politically one of the most interesting of countries, from a philatelic point of view it is well worth more than a passing consideration.

In the first place all its stamps are as yet comparatively cheap, even the tête-bêche pairs, with one exception, being quite moderate in price, a point of importance to most collectors. Secondly, Egypt is entirely free from superfluous and unnecessary issues, and the total number of its stamps is small in comparison with those of other countries; yet at the same time there exist sufficient varieties to interest the serious and advanced collector. Again, and perhaps most important of all, Egypt is one of the few countries offering plenty of scope to any philatelist with a taste for research. What information is to be obtained from articles and books is vague and often contradictory, and particulars as to the place of origin, varieties of paper, number and order of printings of the second, and still more of the third issue, have yet to be brought to light.

The Khedive is forbidden by the Mohammedan religion to have his portrait depicted on the stamps, and after the first issue, which was of arabesque designs, we find represented the Pyramid and Sphinx. In 1867 the Sultan, by a firman, conferred the title of Khedive on the Viceroy, and this change is expressed in the inscription "Poste Khedevie Egiziane" (Post of the Egyptian Khedivate) on the stamps of the third issue. In the first three issues well centred mint copies are exceedingly scarce, and need much searching for; but surely one of the chief joys of collecting lies in the necessary expenditure of time and care, and the acquisition of a really first class copy of any stamp well repays all the trouble taken. For a long time I have been searching for a well centred mint copy of the 10 piastre stamp of 1866, and at length I have found it,—the only perfect specimen I have seen,—but alas! in the collection of a rival specialist.

The first issue consists of seven different values, with two distinct types of each—one error of overprint—but plentiful variety in the matter of perforation. Imperforate copies, too, are fairly common.

The second issue comprises only six different values, with four types of each. Imperforate copies are scarce, but can be found with some trouble.

The third issue is a delightful muddle, full of problems at present unsolved. To it belongs the "5 paras with inverted figures;" and blocks of most, if not of all, values can be found both with and without a decorative border in the margin of the sheet—the tête-bêche examples being apparently confined to the former. This issue is also interesting on account of two provisionals which belong to it. Stamps of the new value of 2½ piastres had appeared for the first time, but there

seems to have been little demand for them, and the Authorities decided to use them up by surcharging them with more convenient values; accordingly in December, 1878, when the supply of 5 and 10 paras stamps was getting low, 1700 sheets were so surcharged, 850 for each value. The stamps were for use in Cairo and Alexandria only, and were on sale at the post offices for about three months. The whole overprint is in bold black type. As each of the overprinted sheets contained one tête-bêche variety, it follows that one stamp on each sheet was printed with surcharge inverted. Whether whole sheets were so printed I am unable to say, but these stamps with inverted surcharge are certainly rare, and can, I think, all be accounted for in the manner described. If this be correct these stamps must well be worth catalogue price. Tête-bêche pairs of course exist with surcharge right and inverted. There are large remainders of the third issue in the hands of a dealer in Cairo, and these may at any moment come on the market.

The fourth and subsequent issues are the work of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. In February, 1884, owing to a shortage in stamps of the value of 20 paras, 4,000 sheets of the 5 piastre stamps were surcharged 20 paras, in large black type, to supply the deficiency. This work was carried out in the Government offices in Cairo, twelve sheets being by mistake printed with inverted surcharge.

The sixth issue, in 1888, was necessitated by a change in the Egyptian coinage.

At the end of last year a stamp of the new value of 4 millièmes was issued. In this the shading on the left of the pyramid has been entirely removed. The effect is decidedly pleasing, and may portend a similar change in the other values of the current series.

Until quite recently, Egypt has been a country much neglected by philatelists, and during the last five years its stamps have scarcely fluctuated at all in price, yet few, if any, dealers have a really good stock in hand, while the demand for them is increasing by leaps and bounds, as the rapidly emptied stock books show: probably others are beginning to feel as I do, that for philatelists Egypt is the country of the future, and that it can only be a matter of time before it is transferred to Part I of the catalogue.

England cannot surrender her position in Egypt, which has become of almost vital importance to her well being as a world-wide Empire. The highway to the East must remain in our hands, and no political changes can be allowed to endanger our supremacy. In the opinion of many who have studied the question closely, Egypt must one day inevitably become in name what it is already in fact, a British Protectorate. When that time comes we shall be congratulating ourselves on our foresight, and looking at our treasures with enhanced interest: meanwhile, the pleasure of acquiring and studying is sufficient reward.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Afghanistan. The *Philatelic Journal of India* publishes details of the promised new stamps for this country. They "are engraved in *taille douce*, and exist in as many varieties as there are stamps in the sheet. The stamps were engraved in Kabul, and are a great advance on any hitherto issued. So far only two values have appeared, one and two abasi.

One abasi, blue, and also in several shades of green (blue green, deep green and sage green being the most pronounced.)

Two abasi, deep blue.

The design of the one abasi stamp consists of a sort of mosque, encircled by a wreath, with a scroll below. In the four corners are circles showing the value, and in the upper and lower frame borders are tablets with further inscriptions.

The design of the two abasi stamps is different, but also shows a mosque, with a scroll below. Beneath this again is a central ring bearing an inscription. In the two upper corners are small circles showing the value, with a label across between with a further inscription.

The inscription in Arabic on the one abasi is as follows:—Upper tablet, *Dāk-khanā* (Post Office), lower tablet, *yēk miscal, yēk abāsi* (one miscal, one abasi, i.e., weight of one miscal for one abasi). Central scroll, *Daulāt Khodā-ddā Afghanistan* (God-given Kingdom of Afghanistan), corner circles, upper left, *yēk* (the word 'one'), upper right, the same word in Pushtu characters; lower left, the Roman figure '1,' lower right, the Arabi figure for '1.'

The inscription on the two abasi slightly varies:—Upper tablet, *Dāk-Khanā*, central scroll, *Daulāt Khodā-ddā Afghanistan*, centre circle, *dō miscal, dō abasi* (two miscal, two abasi), upper left circle, the Arabi figure for '2,' upper right circle, *dō* (the word 'two').

The stamps are separated by engraved lines, presumably to facilitate cutting apart. They are rather carelessly printed, the impressions being indistinct in some. We have also seen copies with double impressions."

Nepal. A new series of stamps for this kingdom has just been engraved and printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., Ltd., to the order of Messrs. Keymer, Son & Co., the agents of the Nepal Government, to whom we are indebted for the explanation of the design given below. The design has been adopted from a native sketch, the particulars of the god being corrected by reference to engravings in Coleman's "Mythology of the Hindus," an authoritative work published in 1832.

As will be seen from the illustration, the design is somewhat unique, even in the present age of postal curiosities, the lettering being entirely in native characters, and the equivalents of the words "postage" or "revenue" are missing. It is a great pity that no European inscription is given, for unless a collector has a knowledge of Devanagri, the different values can only be distinguished by the varying colours. The stamps have a double border, the inner one containing, in coloured letters, a motto, which is the same for all values, whilst the outer has in white letters, at the top,

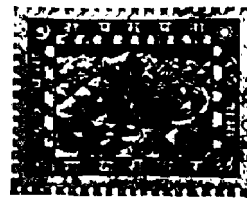
the name of the god portrayed in the centre; at the bottom *GOORKA SIRKAR*; and on either side the denomination, all in Devanagri characters.

In the centre of the stamp, amidst the eternal snows from whence flow the fertilizing streams to the green hills below, sits the god Siva Mahadeo, or Mahadiva (as it is sometimes spelt), the destroyer, "the Supreme God," with his three eyes to denote the three divisions of time—past, present, and future. In one hand he holds an antelope; in another the trident, to show the three great attributes of creating, preserving, and destroying, and that he is the Iswara or Supreme Lord. Another hand is held up in a forbidding attitude, and the fourth is stretched out in the act of solicitation. The necklace of skulls signifies the lapse and revolution of ages, and the extinction and succession of the generations of mankind.

In the upper corner the sun and the crescent moon are represented, whilst in the lower corners the year of issue of the stamps is denoted.

Only four denominations are to be printed at first, viz., 2, 4, 8, and 16 pice (64 pice equalling 1 rupee or 1s. 4d.).

The stamps are printed in sheets of 100, ten rows of ten, on white wove paper, and are perforated by a comb machine, gauging 13½.



Siva Mahades. type. Perf. 13½.
2 pice, brown.
4 " green.
8 " carmine.
16 " purple.

New South Wales. The *Australian Philatelist* lists the following values printed on paper borrowed from Victoria of the Crown A type peculiar to that colony, i.e., the A double-lined on the right instead of single-lined as in the ordinary N.S.W. paper.

Wmk. Crown A. Victorian type.
1d., carmine.
2d., light blue.
2½d., steel blue.
6d., orange.
1s., marone.

New Zealand. The *Australian Philatelist* announces the issue of the current 3d. in a reduced size. The 6d. reduced in size has been chronicled some time.

Reduced size.
Wmk. NZ and Star. Perf. 14.
3d. bistre brown.
6d. pink.

Brer Fox in the Strand

By UNCLE PERF.

Those Cape Triangulars

BIMEBY, one day, arter Brer Rabbit had bin en fetch a nice lot ov Cape Triangulars fum outen Cowden way, Brer Fox cum a lopin up de stran, looking des ez plump, en ez fat, en ez sassy ez a picher orkid.

"Hullo, dar, Brer Rabbit," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

"I ain't got no time, Brer Fox," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee, coverin' de triangulars wid his hine foot.

"W'at yo' got dar, Brer Rabbit?" sez Brer Fox, sezee, sidlin' up.

"Nuffin, nuffin tickler," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee.

"I'se told yo'd got suffin nice, Brer Rabbit, en ez yo' en me are ole frens I sorter loped roun', naberly like," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

"All right, Brer Fox, but yo' better call annuder day. I'm monstus busy sortin' common conternentals," says Brer Rabbit, sezee.

"Spose'n yo' drap roun' bimeby en take dinner wid me at der Savoy, Brer Rabbit," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

"I'm 'gree'ble, Brer Fox," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee.

"Den I'll pen on yo'," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

So dat arternoon Brer Fox an' Brer Rabbit had a smashin' dinner ov chicken. Den, bimeby, arter dey bof had licked der chops, Brer Fox, ee ups an' sez, sezee,

"Brer Rabbit, tez no sorter yuse yo' pretenen yo'

aint got suffin nice doun yo' patch," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

"On'y common conternentals, sho nuff, Brer Fox," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee.

"Skuse me, Brer Rabbit, but I seed a triangular a stickin' outen under yo' hine foot," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

"On'y wan dat got mixed up wid der conternentals, Brer Fox," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee.

Brer Fox, ee laft, an' laft, an' sorter winkt ez eye.

"Tez no yuse yo' lookin' so innercent, Brer Rabbit," sez Brer Fox, sezee.

Den Brer Rabbit sorter pull ez mustarsh, en say,

"I done quite no, Brer Fox, but dar might be annuder wan, or too, mo' triangulars 'mong dem conternentals. S'pose yo' run roun', bimeby, an' see," sez Brer Rabbit, sezee.

So Brer Fox, ee run roun' ter Brer Rabbit's patch, an' he found Brer Rabbit a countin' common conternentals, wid a mixer ov triangulars, en Brer Rabbit, wishin' to be naberly, let Brer Fox help hisselt, arter wich, Brer Fox sed ee was gwineter see sum frens ov his w'at sorter wanted triangulars, an' ee might run roun' fer mo'.

Arter Brer Rabbit seed Brer Fox outen de do, ee scratch his year wid his hine foot, an' ee reckon Brer Fox hadn't got much ter holler 'bout.

Our Library Table

Walker's Loose Leaf Albums

THE Loose Leaf Postage Stamp Albums, which have just been placed on the market by the well-known album manufacturers, Messrs. John Walker & Co., Ltd., London, marks a great advance in many directions.

A single leaf may be taken out with the greatest ease without disturbing any other leaves. This facilitates re-arrangement, and allows the collector to place any leaf flat on his table for affixing stamps and writing notes on the page. Then there is a protecting sheet gummed to the hinge side which protects the stamps from friction, a most important matter in these days of delicately printed fugitive colours. Those who attach no importance to this protection sheet may economise by omitting it, for the leaves are supplied with and without these sheets. The leaves swing on a simple ring arrangement, and fall flat at each opening. They are made of specially thick paper, almost of the substance of cardboard, and are ruled with quadrille lines for regulating the placing of the stamps. A neat enclosing border line finishes a most artistically simple but beautiful page. The albums are half-bound in best morocco, and are finished in a very superior style.

We have already thirty-six of these fine albums in use, and have made considerable progress with the transfer of our collection. We find the ease with which single leaves may be lifted out, re-arranged or shifted to another volume, a pleasant contrast to any other album we have tried.

There are three sizes, with prices as follows:—

No.	Size of leaf	Capacity	Price
			s. d.
15	7 x 5½	50 leaves	10 6
25	10 x 7½	50 "	17 6
35	12 x 9½	60 "	27 6

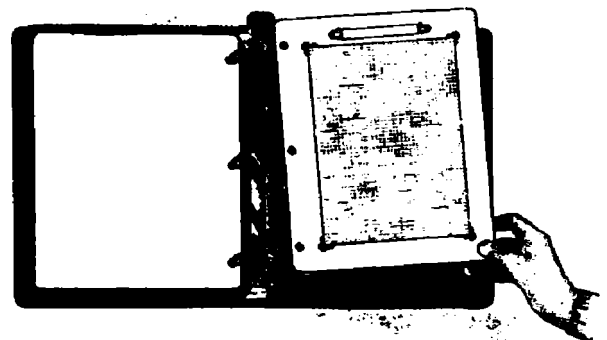
These are with protection sheets. Without protection sheets the albums may be had at half-a-crown each less. Extra leaves cost from 1d. to 2d. each, according to size.

The small size is a dainty little book and will probably be the favourite with moderate specialists. We use it for what we term our single stamp

Reference Collection. The medium size we use for our specialised countries, and the large size for large blocks, strips with Control figures and letters, etc.

The mounting of a collection in a fine album adds immensely to its attractive presentation. A fine album plays the same part in the housing of a collection of stamps, that a fine frame plays in the case of a costly painting or engraving. The jumble fashion in which some collectors keep their treasures gives them a poverty-stricken appearance. In this matter collectors are getting much more fastidious than they were, mainly as the result of visiting philatelic exhibitions.

These albums are now to be had from most of the leading stamp dealers. Our illustration shows an album open, with a leaf being lifted out. The rings are opened by raising the lever at the top.



From Other Magazines

The Literature of Philately

JUDGED by the vast bulk of its literature philately stands alone, for no form of connoisseurism has witnessed such an output of books and periodicals devoted to its dissemination. Scarcely twenty years had elapsed after the invention of postage stamps before a literature began to appear, and the authors of the modest little pamphlets had wondered indeed could they have seen the forest which has grown from their few seeds. The mere catalogue of the world's philatelic literature would make a large volume, and it is perhaps this knowledge of its extent which has deterred anyone from attempting systematic bibliography. The perfect bibliography of philately would not only comprise a list of all the separate books and pamphlets on stamp collecting, but would also give references to all periodical literature. Such a task would be enormous, and, until some system of co-operation is arrived at, cannot be expected. We are glad to note, however, that good work of minor extent is being done by that doyen of the philatelic world, Dr. Legrand, whose interest in the literature of a subject with which he has been so long connected is well known. Dr. Legrand has commenced the publication in *La Circulaire Philatèlique* of a "Catalogue of Philatelic Literature," and devotes the first page of his work to the various Catalogues of stamps which have been issued up to 1899. The number of these alone is astonishing, judged by this first instalment, which includes some of the earliest works issued on stamp collecting, most of which are very rare. What has become of all the Mount Brown's, the Booty's, the Gray's and others upon which the early collectors leaned for support? Compared with certain editions of these and other similar works the first issue of Mauritius sink to the rank of second class rarities, and there are other desirable items of early philatelic literature which are known only in one or two copies, the incunabula of their kind.—*Morley's Philatelic Journal*.

Protection Against Forgery

The spread of the study of philately is the best possible preventive of forgery, as it implies the existence of large numbers of people all over the country, every one of whom is accustomed to look pretty closely at every stamp that passes through his hands, and who would at once be struck by any little peculiarity in the design, shade, paper, perforation, etc., even of a common stamp that he saw upon a letter.—*The Monthly Journal*.

Protection Against Cleaning

The old plan for rendering the inks fugitive was the use of paper with a prepared surface, the same principle of course as that of the chalk-surfaced paper which has troubled collectors more recently. This was no doubt an expensive system, as it was abandoned, when our first "POSTAGE AND REVENUE" series was issued, in favour of the employment of colours that were fugitive in themselves, irrespective of the nature of the paper; unfortunately these colours turned out to be very limited in point of variety, and singularly ineffective in appearance, the stamps of 1884 being amongst the most unattractive that have ever been issued. It then occurred to the authorities that it might be sufficient to print a portion of the design of the stamp in one of these fugitive colours, and impart a little variety by printing the remainder of the design in some less dismal tint, and by this means and the employment of coloured papers it was rendered possible to distinguish different values at a glance. Later still the "chalk-surfaced" paper was introduced, and it was rumoured that by the use of this paper the expense of printing stamps in two colours might be avoided, but both the chalky paper and the bicolour printing have since been given up, and we believe that it has been found possible to make inks of various colours sufficiently fugitive to baffle the cleaner.—*The Monthly Journal*.

Stamps of Afghanistan

The first issue of postage stamps appeared in 1871-2 (1288 Mohammedan era), during the reign of Sher Ali, and was succeeded by several annual issues, till his deposition in 1878. These are all of a circular design, with a Lion (Sher) in the centre (in reference to the Amir's name).

In all the early issues the words "Kingdom of Kabul" are employed, showing the title used by the Amirs up to that period; but in the stamps of 1309 (1892) Abdur Rahman first used the term "Afghanistan," showing the change of title that had by then come about, from "Amirs of Kabul" to "Amirs of Afghanistan."

All the "Sher Ali" stamps were lithographed, each stamp being drawn separately, and differing in detail from every other on the plate. All these Sher Ali stamps were issued between 1288-1295. Mohammedan era, corresponding to 1870-1878. Christian era.

They exist in five values, some of the plates showing all denominations, and others one or more only. The inscriptions and values are in Persian characters, and the dates in Arabic figures.

In the stamps dated 1288 to 1292, the character of value is inside the inner circle. (1) above the lion (Sher) in the issues of 1288, 1290, 1291, and 1292, and (2) below the lion in the stamps of 1289. In the stamps of 1293 to 1295 the character of value is outside the inner circle, between the inner and outer annular rings, and usually immediately below the lion, forming part of the circular inscription in Persian characters.

Round the central lion, between the inner and outer circles, there is an inscription in Persian characters which reads from right to left, the lower limbs of these characters being towards the outer circle. The

dates are different in the various issues, and are in Arabic numerals, reading from left to right. This circular inscription varies in some of the issues.

There are five values in these Sher Ali stamps, viz., Shahi, Sanar, Abasi, 6 Shahi or $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee, and 1 rupee, some of these being expressed in more than one set of characters. These values are at par equal to, in Indian currency:—Shahi=1 anna (1d.); Sanar=2 annas (2d.); Abasi=4 annas (4d.); 6 Shahi or $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee=6 annas (6d.); and 1 rupee=12 annas (1s.).—*The Philatelic Journal of India*.

Dominican Republic

Our publishers have received a fresh supply of stamps from this republic, consisting of a mixed assortment of various issues of Type 32, and as we have entire sheets before us it seems worth while to describe them in detail. When we first chronicled the stamps of this type, in November, 1907, we suggested that they were printed by Messrs De La Rue & Co., and the correctness of that theory has not been questioned until recently; we are now told that all these stamps were made in Germany, and this statement is confirmed by the fact that the latest printing is upon the watermarked paper with "noughts and crosses," which is now used for the stamps of Württemberg, as shown in an illustration under that heading.

They have no doubt always been printed in sheets of a hundred (ten rows of ten), but we have no entire sheets of the issue of 1907, so cannot describe their margins. The stamps of 1905, with frames in black, have in the margins rows of short lines, vertical at top and bottom and horizontal at the sides; there are two complete rows of these lines, in black and in the colour of the centre of the stamp, the black being outside at top and bottom and inside at the sides; there is also a number in black in the centre of the margin at right, "4629" on the sheets shown us, 10 c. and 20 c.

The sheets of the issue of 1906, with centres in black, have similar lines, but one row only all round in the colour of the frame, and the number (also in colour) is in the lower margin. The number is the same, "1777," on all the sheets we have seen, but is under the third stamp from the right on the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and under the fourth stamp on the 2 c., 20 c., 50 c., and 1 peso.

Finally, we have the 1 c. and 5 c., still with centres in black, on the watermarked paper referred to above, with similar lines in the margin, in black and in colour as in the earlier issue but set so as to print one upon the top of the other, when the impressions are in perfect register. In the sheet of the 1 c. this is very nearly the case, and there is a gap about 12 mm. wide (evidently intentional) in this frame of lines, above the sixth stamp from the left in the top row, and below the corresponding stamp in the bottom row. In making up the plate for the frame of the 5 c. a curious mistake (?) has been made, the gaps in the rows of blue lines being above and below the fifth stamps, instead of the sixth; consequently we have a space showing black lines only above and below these fifth stamps, and a space showing blue lines only above and below the sixth stamps, which produces a curious effect. The 1 c. has a number, "385" in black only, in the right-hand margin, opposite the seventh horizontal row; the 5 c. has the same number, in black, in the same position, and also in blue opposite the sixth row.

All are perforated with a comb-machine, gauging 14.

1 c., black and rose; with wmk.
5 c. " blue

—*The Monthly Journal*.

Austria; 12 Heller Value

In our June number we said that Austria was going to have a 12 heller stamp in the new issue. This being a new value, we were curious to know the reason, and we learn the following:—Austria being divided into zones, the postage for ordinary parcels is 30, 42, and 54 heller; so that the postal officials, who in Austria frank parcels, had always to affix three stamps. This is now to be altered by the creation of a 12 heller stamp. In future only two stamps, one 30 heller and one 12 heller stamp, will be necessary, and the work of the officials will be reduced by one-third. But why not reduce it by two-thirds by creating a 42 heller stamp? We may add that our informant says this 12 heller stamp will not be sold at the post offices or licensed stamp retailers, but can be had at the parcel post counters.—*The Philatelic Record*.

Solomon Islands: First Issue

The sheets all contain 60 stamps in 10 rows of 6. Reading up on the left margin are the words "Sixty Stamps at One Halfpenny" (or value as may be) and on the margin at the top right-hand corner (to right of the last stamp in the top row) is a consecutive number in black.

We are informed by the Commissioner of the Solomon Islands that this issue of stamps was authorised by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in July last, and that although the Protectorate has not yet been admitted into the Postal Union, the stamps are in every way a Government issue.

Of course, as soon as the Solomon Islands are admitted to the Postal Union—and not improbably before—the colours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamps will have to become green and blue respectively, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. which is now green will also have to change, probably taking the yellow colour of the present $\frac{1}{4}$ d.—*Even's Weekly Stamp News*.

Mems, Notes and News

Honduras: Varieties Made to Order

AFTER posing as a shining example, philatelically speaking, for her sister Central American countries for several years past, Honduras, or at least some of her officials, appear to have again gone into the stamp business for revenue only.

The latest doings are in connection with the new issue. Last fall, several months before the new stamps were to be issued, we were asked to make an offer for an entire sheet of the 1 peso, imperforate, which we were assured could be arranged to go down with other values and fall into the right hands. Later the proposition was changed so as to include the entire set imperforate. Still later came an additional offer of an error of the 5c. to be printed in the wrong colour.

With all these tempting schemes we absolutely refused to have anything to do, and stated plumply that if any of these purposely-made errors came on the market we should print what we knew as to their standing.

Lately we have been informed that a market has been found for the imperforates, but that the 5c. in the wrong colour, while they were printed, have since been destroyed.

All of which we hope our readers will digest, but, in the course of three or four years, someone will probably write complaining that we do not list these things in our catalogue "although So-and-So does."—*The Stamp and Coin Co. Circular.*

Philatelic Society Work. A Suggestion

We would suggest, in addition to the staple commodities of papers on certain countries and displays, the attempt to get members to combine to seriously devote their energies to the collection and discussion at monthly meetings of the stamps of one particular country.

The object of this is to stir up a lasting and not merely ephemeral interest in the proceedings, a desideratum which cannot be attained unless the members are both keen on the collection of the country's stamps and join generally in discussing difficult points concerning them which call for elucidation.

The adoption of the system suggested we know from past experience creates a healthy spirit of rivalry amongst the participants, whereby their powers of perception and acquisitiveness are wonderfully sharpened.—*Philatelic Record.*

Proposed Philatelic Literature Society

On August 1st a number of philatelists, who are specially interested in the literature of their subject, met to consider a proposal for the formation of a society, the objects of which should be to encourage and develop the study and collecting of philatelic literature. The meeting was held at the residence of Mr. Fred J. Melville, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that it is desirable to form a Society to promote the collection and study of literature relating to Philately; to compile, print, and publish works of value to the librarian and book collector; to assist in the interchange of duplicates; and generally to place upon record everything that may appertain to the history and bibliography of stamps and stamp collecting."

A further motion was also adopted:—

"That steps be taken to form a Society in accordance with the previous resolution by circularising those likely to be interested in the subject."

It is hoped that the present endeavour may lead to the formation of a Society which will be able to accomplish good work in a much neglected branch of Philately, and which will have both the financial and operative support necessary to a prolonged existence. A general inaugural meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19th, and all those who are interested are requested to communicate with Mr. F. J. Peplow, 185 Barry Road, Dulwich, S.E., and they will receive due notice of place and time of meeting.

New South Wales: Varieties of Perforation

The Australian Philatelist for July, 1907, says:—"We have to chronicle another variety of perforation, viz., 11½ single line instead of 12. It would appear that in the month of March the perforating machine, which gauges 12, broke down and a new bed had to be made for it.

During the time it was disabled the 11 machine had to be used for all those stamps requisitioned, but not in stock, which require to be perforated on the single cutters. The 3d., 5d., 10d., 15c., and 20s., have been seen on former occasions perf. 11 all round, so they need not be chronicled as new.

But since the former 12 machine has been reinstated, we have found that it now gauges 11½, and we have also seen several values 11½ all round, as well as 11 with 11½ compound."

India: 2½ Provisional of 1891 still in use

Capt. R. Bromhead draws our attention to the 2½as. green stamp of 1891 which is still in use at Kamptee, C.P., and has outlived its successor of 1900 in blue, and which has not even yet been displaced by the King's head stamp of this value.

In many places in India the 1891 "2½" on 42s. 6 pies, green stamp, is also still in use.

The Indian postal department apparently never calls in old stocks, and does not issue new stamps until older ones are all used up.—*The Philatelic Journal of India.*

Russia: Errors without Centres

Russia has lately become a centre of philatelic activity, and that decidedly so, because so far very little is known about it. Errors especially are being found from time to time, and we have now to announce two new ones just discovered.

The first is the 15 kop. of 1905, brown-lilac and blue, without centre. The second is the 1 rouble of 1889 without centre. This error has the following history: On the 10th of March, 1907, a sheet of 40 stamps (8 rows of 5) of the 1 rouble was found at the head post office in Moscow having the centre so much misprinted from left-top to right-bottom, that the first stamp in the last horizontal row, and the last stamp in the first horizontal row, do not contain the centre design. The centre of the last stamp on the sheet was in fact printed on the margin. The sheet contains, therefore, 38 stamps with slipped centre, and two without centre. The sheet was sold for £25 by the official who found it.—*The Berliner Brief Zeitung.*

Cucuta: 1900. Provisionals

Mr. Andres B. Fernandez, writing from San José de Cucuta, on 10th July, 1907, informs Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., that "some time ago the printing works of Messrs. Miguel Lascano C. and Andrés Lascano Bertí had been busy in making a quantity of the postage stamps of those issued by the Provisional Government in 1900, without and with my name, and therefore these things are clandestine issues and a falsification that I have not authorized, and much less put them on sale making use of my name for this speculation, and as these Lascons sell them in this town and send them abroad in their own name or in fictitious names, it is my duty to sound a warning voice so that consequent loss may be avoided."

Mr. Fernandez adds: "As the number of sets of these stamps sold by me in 1900 was relatively small, and as I am the only holder of the stock which then remained in my possession, I have thought it right that this fraud shall not continue, and that I should guarantee the authenticity of my stamps to stamp dealers, as they, the stamps, will all bear my full autograph."

Iceland: New Series, Sheets and Perforation

The new stamps now in use in this country are printed in sheets of one hundred stamps each, which very much resemble the sheets of the current Danish issue. On each of the four margins of the sheet appears the watermark KÖL. POST—FRMK and also a large Crown in each of the four corners. The perforation gauges almost exactly 13 × 12½, but the pins have been set slightly irregularly in some parts of the sheet.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.*

British Colonials: Changes of Colour

The question having arisen as to whether it is necessary—in accordance with the last postal Convention held at Rome—to alter the bi-coloured stamps, as far as the values of ½d., 1d., and 2½d. (or their equivalents) are concerned, the Consul-General of Liberia addressed an official communication to the International Bureau of the Postal Union at Berne, and in reply has been informed that under Article 6 of the Regulations for the execution of the condition adopted at Rome, the colour of the ½d. should be green, 1d., red, and the 2½d., dark blue, but it is *not compulsory* for the central design to be in the same colour as the rest of the stamp.

"This obviates the necessity of withdrawing bi-coloured stamps of these values, as long as the frame of the stamp is printed in the Convention colour.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.*

Argentine: 1899-1900. Imperf. Varieties

Der Philatelist (13.8.07) chronicles several values of the 1899-1900 issue, imperforate vertically or horizontally. These are owing to a strike of compositors during the latter part of 1906. "La Compañía Sud-Americana de Billetes de Banco" at that time held the contract for the stamps, and owing to the difficulty of carrying on business during the strike, the checking of the completed sheets was not strictly performed. Some sheets got out imperforate vertically and some horizontally, hence the ½c., 2c., and 5c. exist imperf. horizontally and the 2c. 5c., and 6c. imperf. vertically.

Ocean Post Offices

The Third Assistant Postmaster-General, Mr. J. T. McCleary, of the United States, has recently concluded a round trip voyage on a White Star liner to investigate the conditions of the ocean post office which is established on board these boats and on some of the Continental lines. One of the German firms threatens to discontinue the service unless it is better paid, and Mr. McCleary in his report, recommends that this extra payment should be given.

He condemns Queenstown as a port of call for mails, and strongly advocates Holyhead, which he favours in preference to Plymouth, as being the better distribution point for all England.—*Daily Chronicle*, 11.9.07.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

SYLLABUS, 1907-8.

- 1907
 Oct. 1. Reunion. Exchange and Auction, 8 p.m. Lots on view at 7 p.m.
 Oct. 15. Cape Wood Blocks. Paper and Display by the Hon. President.
 Oct. 29. "Great Britain," with notes, by the President.
 Oct. 31. Visit to the Bradford Society.
 Nov. 5. Paper and Display, by F. A. Padgett.
 Nov. 14. Visit to the Huddersfield Society.
 Nov. 19. "Dominica, Gold Coast, Gambia." W. Martello Gray, F.R.P.S.L.
 Dec. 3. Display, by H. Wade.
 Dec. 17. Display at Leeds by the members of the Bradford Society.

- 1908
 Jan. 7. "Canada." By J. W. Duffield and Michael Stephens.
 Jan. 21. "Chile." By W. Harrison Hutton. Auction. Lots on view at 7 p.m.
 Feb. 4. "French Colonies," with notes, by H. Weydt.
 Feb. 13. Visit to the Bradford Society.
 Feb. 18. Display at Leeds by the members of the Huddersfield Society
 Mar. 3. "Uganda." By T. K. Skipwith.
 Mar. 17. "Holland." By W. K. Skipwith.
 Apl. 7. "Greece." By C. W. Harding.
 Apl. 21. Display by G. Davis. Auction. Lots on view at 7 p.m.
 May 5. "Malta and British South Africa." By W. G. Findlater.
 May 19. "Leeward Islands Group." By T. S. Fraser.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: J. H. M. Savage.
Hon. Secretary: A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool.
Meetings: Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool.

THE meetings during the 1906-7 session were so largely attended (the average being over thirty) that better accommodation was found necessary, and the Committee have therefore, at considerable cost secured for the Society's meetings the large coffee room on the first floor of the Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool. This spacious apartment, which will comfortably accommodate at least sixty persons, should add largely to the attractiveness of the meetings, as the exhibits shown at each meeting can now be arranged to great advantage, and the overcrowding, which so often occurred last year, be avoided.

The Society Prize Competitions.

The prize competitions, which were such a marked success last winter, will again be held. During the session 1907-8 the Committee will offer the following awards:—

General Prize, Class I (value £1).—For the best exhibits during the session of the countries on the programme. Open to Members whose collections number over 5,000 stamps, and to previous winners in Class II.
General Prize, Class II (value 10s.).—For the best exhibits during the session of the countries on the programme. Open only to Members whose collections number 5,000 stamps or under. Previous winners in Class II are debarred from again competing in this class.

Special Prize (value 10s.).—For the best exhibit of any one country on the programme. Open to all Members.

The prizes are to be taken in stamps from the Society's monthly packet, or in stamps or philatelic accessories from any stamp dealer who is a Member of the Society.

The programme for the ensuing session is an interesting one. The syllabus is as follows:—

- 1907
 Sept. 23. Paper on "Crete," by W. Macdonald Mackay. Display of Crete and Gibraltar.
 Oct. 7. Notes on "English used Abroad," by J. J. Bernstein. Display of English used Abroad and Norway.
 Oct. 21. Public Evening. Lecture by A. S. Allender on "Secret Marks of the Stamps of Europe." (Illustrated with lantern slides.) General Display.
 Nov. 4. Sale. Display of Victoria.
 Nov. 18. Paper on "Porto Rico," by J. Gordon. Display of Porto Rico and Niger Coast.
 Dec. 2. Paper on "British East Africa," by W. Woodthorpe, Display of British East Africa and Bolivia.
 Dec. 16. Notes on "College Stamps," by Dr. Ackerley. Display of St. Helena and Hungary.

1908.
 Jan. 6. Paper on "Sicily," by A. Phelps. Display of Sicily and Hong Kong.
 Jan. 20. Paper on "British Guiana," by W. Rockliff. Display of British Guiana and Baden.
 Feb. 3. Paper on "U.S.A. 1847-69," by W. E. Whitnall. Display of U.S.A. issues prior to 1870 and Natal.
 Feb. 17. Annual Dinner.
 Mar. 2. Paper on "Egypt," by H. Eaton. Display of Egypt and Transvaal.
 Mar. 16. Sale. Display of Italy.
 Mar. 30. Public Evening. Lecture by the President on "The Twelve Rarest Stamps," Display for Special Prize.
 Apl. 13. Annual Meeting.
 Apl. 27. Paper on "The Collecting of Cut Squares," by the Rev. Clark Hudson, M.A. Display of Gems of our Collections (20 stamps).

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards.
Hon. Sec.: J. L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

SEASON 1907-8.

- 1907
 Oct. 16. President's Opening Address. Display by Members: "Philatelic Novelties and Curiosities."
 Nov. 20. Paper: "Albums and Arrangements," by E. J. Nankivell. Competitive Display: "Australia and Tasmania" (limited to 25 stamps. Total catalogue value not to exceed 7s.).
 Dec. 18. Paper and Display: "Chili." J. Read Burton. Display with Notes: "Brit. Bechuanaland, Brit. Central, East and South Africa, Brit. Somaliland (Uganda), Mauritius (from 1854), Natal (from 1859), Zululand." E. J. Heginbottom B.A.

- 1908
 Jan. 15. Display with Notes: "Holland." D. H. Jackson. Competitive Display: Colonial stamps of one of the following countries, viz., France, Germany, Holland, Portugal, Spain.
 Feb. 19. Paper: "The Limitations of the Minor Varieties." W. B. Edwards, B.Sc. To be followed by a discussion. Display with Notes: "Cape of Good Hope, Grenada, Gold Coast, Lagos and Orange River Colony." E. J. Heginbottom, B.A.
 Mar. 19. Display with Notes. A. H. L. Giles, R.N. Display of the Society's Collection of Forgeries.
 Apl. 16. Ten-minute papers by Members. Competitive Display: 25 stamps each, bearing a portrait of a different person. Display with Notes: "North and South Nigeria, St. Helena, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, Transvaal (from 1878)." E. J. Heginbottom, B.A.
 May 21. Annual General Meeting.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Dr. F. E. Ackerley.
Hon. Sec.: G. H. M. Savage, 56 Brbington Road, Higher Tranmere.
Meetings: On Mondays at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

- 1907
 Sept. 16. Paper on Norway. By J. Bate. Display: Norway.
 Sept. 30. Paper on Nonsensical Part of Philately. By C. T. Marshall. Display: Switzerland.
 Oct. 14. Paper on Gambia. By W. Rockliff. Display: Gambia.
 Oct. 28. Paper on How Postage Stamps are Produced. By W. M. Mackay. Display: Belgium.
 Nov. 11. U.S.A., part iii, 1870-89. By A. W. Brown. Display: France.
 Nov. 25. Paper on Bogus Stamps. By J. H. M. Savage. Display: Straits Settlements.
 Dec. 9. Paper on India. By J. C. Cuthbertson. Display: India.
 Dec. 23. Paper on Northern Nigeria. By Miss Phelps. Display: Northern Nigeria.
- 1908
 Jan. 13. Paper on Mythology on Postage Stamp Designs. By Dr. F. E. Ackerley. Display: Greece and Crete.
 Jan. 27. Paper on Cayman Islands. By N. Clissold. Display: Cayman Island and Argentine.
 Feb. 10. Paper on What shall I Collect? By Rev. W. C. Hudson. M.A. Display: South Australia.
 Feb. 25. Paper on Denmark. By P. A. Fletcher. Display: Denmark.
 Mar. 9. Paper on The Lighter Side of Philately. By A. S. Allender. Display: Italy.
 Mar. 23. Paper on Sudan. By H. Eaton. Display: Sudan and Egypt.
 April 6. General Display.
 April 21. (Tuesday) Annual Meeting.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

Commencement of the Auction Season

THE auctions are now in full chorus, and there is every prospect of a fine season. Several catalogues are before me. The leading actors toe the line in the following order of dates:—

- Sept. 5. Martin Ray & Co., at 69 Fleet Street, E.C.
 " 23. W. Hadlow, Covent Garden Hotel, 5 p.m.
 " 24. Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, W.C., at 4.30.
 " 26. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at the Loudour Hotel, Surrey Street, W.C., 4.30 p.m.
 Oct. 1. Glendining & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, W., at 4.30 p.m.
 What with commencing on Sept. 5th, and carrying on till the end of June, it will soon be a case of having the hammer going the whole year round.

The First Auction Sale

The first priced list to reach me comes from Messrs. Martin, Ray and Co., who, by the way, have moved to 69 Fleet Street, E.C., where they intend to hold their sales in future. One notable stamp in that sale was a copy of the British Bechuanaland, 1888, 2d. lilac, with green surcharge, of which the only copy known for years was in the Tapling collection. Very few other copies have ever turned up, therefore, the party who secured the one in Martin, Ray & Co.'s sale at £2 2s. 6d. was more than fortunate.

Cape Woodblocks; Mr. Castle's Order of Rarity

As everyone knows, Mr. M. P. Castle is now specialising in Triangular Capes. In the *London Philatelist* he gives us "an approximate table of the relative rarity" of the woodblocks, according to his experience. He commences with the rarest:—

1. Error 1d. blue, unused. Unknown. I have heard rumours of a block of 4d. blue, including the error, unused, but until I see it I shall be very incredulous.
2. Error, 4d. red. As far as I know only one unused copy exists, which emanated from the Hughes-Hughes collection, sold some fifteen years since, and now in the collection of a well-known philatelist. I believe £500 was paid for this stamp, but it is assuredly many times rarer than the Post Office, Mauritius, and was cheap even at that figure, according to modern ideas.
3. The retouched corner of the 4d. blue, unused. I have never seen this.
4. The 4d. dark blue, unused. As far as I am aware there are two copies only in this country.
 4d. grey blue, bright blue.
 1d. brick red, carmine red, red.
 4d. blue (milky).

The used stamps may be ranked in much the same order, except that the 4d. red, in my opinion, is considerably rarer than the 1d. blue. Of course, if the dark blue error exists, an unused copy would head either list."

Notable Lots at Puttick's

There will be field days for Great Britain specialists at Puttick and Simpson's on October 8th and 9th, when an exceedingly fine collection of proofs, essays, etc., of Great Britain will be offered for sale. The most notable lots are imperfs. and die proofs. The set of imperfs. from the imprimatur sheets is complete, and includes: die 1, 1d. from No. 1 to 204; die 2, 1d. from 1 to 225, 2½d. plates 4 and 5, wmk. anchor; 3d. plate 2, with network, plate 3, with dots, and plate 5, wmk. emblems, and plate 21, wmk. spray; 4d. orange, plate 16, and 4d. sage, plate 17; 6d. plate 10, plate 12, in dark chestnut, plate 13, in buff, and plate 18, wmk. spray; 8d. plate 2; 9d. plates 3 and 5; 10d. plate 2; 1s. plate 5, wmk. emblems, plate 14 in green, and plates 13 and 14 in lilac; 2s. plate 3; 5s. plate 4, wmk. cross.

The proofs are a grand lot, and include die proofs of the 1d. and 2d. in a fine range of colours, and there are many interesting essays and designs for stamps.

There is also in the collection—but these are not for sale—the first perforating plates, both of the 14 and 16 gauge, and entire sheets of various water-marked papers, such as the large crown, the garter, the emblems, etc.

An Eighty Volume Collection

I hear that Messrs. Puttick and Simpson have secured an eighty-volume collection for sale from an eminent German Collector, that, in fact, it is already safely housed in their strong room. Next week I hope to be able to say something more about this remarkable accumulation. It ought to yield a fine harvest for some of our wealthy and hungry philatelists.

Dealers' Price Lists

Mr. Wm. Bradbury sends me his Wholesale Price List for October, 1907. It includes a tempting array of sets of most countries, used and unused. As this list of sets is to be distributed with this number of *The Postage Stamp*, it will speak for itself. Should any of our readers require the full list they can obtain it direct from Mr. Bradbury on application.

The wary collector gathers all such information for reference, comparison and use. Sometimes one dealer gets a supply that is scarce with others, and prices them accordingly.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1 AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, *Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.*

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at home or abroad at the following rates of prepayment; Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d. Outside the United Kingdom, Yearly 8s. 8d., or \$2.00.

Nota Bene

In sending out the first number of our new weekly I want to impress upon my readers the necessity of sending direct to the publishers for any copies they may require, when they have no convenient bookseller or newsagent, not to the Editor, for the Editor has nothing to do with the sending out of copies for sale.

On the other hand, anything relating to the literary contents of the paper should be addressed to the Editor, not to the publishers.

New Issues

We want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making *The Postage Stamp* known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 2. Vol. 1

12 OCTOBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

"Paid for London Philatelist £54"



THE editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, replying to some remarks I made in "another place," as they say in the House of Lords, contrasting the lavish display of matter in the official journal of the Philatelic Society of India and the poor show of matter on a few thin pages in the official journal of the Royal Philatelic Society, explains the difference by

referring me to the expenditure on Journal account in the balance sheets of both Societies, the charge for the *London Philatelist* being £54 and for the *Philatelic Journal of India* £150, and then he says: "The subscription to our *Journal* is 6s. annually, the same as for the *London Philatelist*, but apparently we supply a paper which costs about three times as much."

And there you are a bit out, my friend. The item "Paid for *London Philatelist*, £54" in the Royal's balance sheet is for copies bought of Mr. Castle for supplying free copies to members and fellows.

The Royal Society's organ is not produced for £4 10s. per month. Oh, dear, no!

Bound Volumes—Exorbitant Publishing Prices

But there is one thing the *Philatelic Journal of India* and the *London Philatelist* have in common: they each charge most exorbitant prices for their bound volumes. The *L.P.* charges 17s., and the *P.J.I.* 12s. each for what costs only 6s. for the twelve numbers making the volume.

Official Blocks of Four

From the *Philatelic Journal of India* I gather that the Indian Post Office authorities are issuing stamp booklets in blocks of four. Ah, humph!

When will Post Office authorities tumble to the idea

of small sheets or panes? My stars! what a sale there would be for sheets or panes like the early Gambia's!

If the Government of this country ever appoint yours truly, Cornelius Wrinkle, to a Colonial Governorship, you may expect, dear friends, beautiful little sheets, each with a control number, for your albums.

Openings for Postal Enterprise

When I think of the many ways in which Postal Authorities might legitimately increase their postal revenue without offending stamp collectors, or resorting to such obvious swindles as commemorative issues, I feel very much inclined to put up for the post of International Postmaster-General. But I am not going to give the show away without at least securing an old-age pension.

The "Royal" Waking up

I really believe the Philatelic Society of London since it has been made a "Royal" Society is waking up. Its latest act is to appoint Mr. L. Harald Kjellstedt, the International Secretary of the American Philatelic Society, its American representative. His duties will be "to give full information and details and supply forms of application for membership to any American philatelists who may wish to join the Society.

If an American representative, why not also, Indian, Australian, South African, and Canadian?

Anyway, it's a step in the right direction.

Leicester Philatelic Exhibition

The list of classes for the Leicester Philatelic Exhibition to be held on the 1st and 2nd November next, is before me. I notice that there has been quite a competition amongst my friends the dealers as to who shall be kindest to the exhibitors. They have gone in for it strong. It's a case of Codlin's the friend not Short. The result comes out as follows:—

Medals:

	Gold.	Silver.	Bronze.
Gibbons .. 1	1	1	1
Field	-	1	1

Albums:

Ewen, 2; Whitfield, King & Co., 2; and Bright & Co., 2.

A Cornelius Wrinkle Exhibition

When I get up a Philatelic Exhibition I shall run the dealers for all they are worth, but I shall keep them up to the mark by weekly announcements in interesting newspaper paragraphs in this style: "During the past week Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have offered another half-dozen gold medals, making their total twenty. Mr. Peckitt has added another dozen silver medals and a few unused Cape woodblocks, Mrs. Field a massive cake, etc., etc.," so that when the time for opening came I should be able to guarantee each exhibitor a gold, silver and bronze medal, and a cake each.

Nyassaland Protectorate

I am in a state of animated expectancy as to what is going to happen now that "British Central African Protectorate" has been converted into the "Nyassaland Protectorate."

Truly, if we have many more shufflings in African Protectorates we shall have to provide a mental asylum for our cataloguers. As it is they must be at their wits' ends what to do in the matter of classification.

There are a few posers waiting for our Gibbons. What will he do with Morocco Agencies now it is supplied from this country instead of Gibraltar. It always seemed to me to be badly hidden away under the head of Gibraltar.

Gibbons' New Catalogues

I hear the powers that be are busy over the new catalogues, but that it will be Christmas or after before we get the result. Meanwhile, I understand Part II "Foreign Countries" is out of print, so I suppose that part will be the first to come out, whereas what we want is Part I.

Our Old Friend Luff

John N. Luff, who is just as popular in this country as in America for his splendid philatelic work on the stamps of the Great Republic and for his personal charm, has, I am glad to say, been made President of the American Philatelic Association. The A.P.A. has conferred an honour on itself in electing such an excellent philatelist to its chief honour. May his philatelic star shine brightly through the centuries.

Another London Stamp Exhibition

Another big stamp exhibition is being arranged, this time by the go-ahead Junior Philatelic Society. It is to be styled an "Imperial Exhibition," that is to say, it will be confined to the stamps of Great Britain and her Colonies. The dates have been fixed—March 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1908. And the place, the Caxton Hall, Westminster. The Committee is already at work, with offices engaged at 44 Fleet Street, E.C., where all information may be had in the matter of details. There are to be dealers' stalls, and plenty of room to move about, and even to foregather for "swapping" purposes. At the last Junior's exhibition the demand for admission was considerably underestimated, and as a consequence the little hall in Exeter Hall was crowded almost to suffocation. The Juniors are not going to make the same mistake twice.

Object and Use of Exhibitions

The object of stamp exhibitions is to educate stamp collectors in the matters of arrangement, selection of countries, and of specimens. They show beginners how experienced collectors work, and how they arrange their treasures. It also gives them a clearer idea of the scope of stamp collecting than is to be got in any other way.

Dealers at Exhibitions

The stamp dealer is sometimes a bit sceptical as to the benefits of a stamp exhibition, from his point of view, for he is made to pay the piper, though he may not call the tune. Space is set apart for a certain number of dealers' stalls, and these are let at the highest prices obtainable. In order to get the highest price the stalls were, at the last great philatelic exhibition, put up to auction amongst selected dealers. The bidding went fast and furious, and the prices paid ranged from £20 to as much as £100 per stall, the fifteen stalls realising a grand total of £802 10s. The dealers relied on a big attendance, but as only a few pounds were spent in making the exhibition known to the public, the attendance was miserably small. I don't think the dealers will be caught napping again, but the Juniors may be relied on to properly advertise their show. Noah's ark ways are not theirs.

Australian Stamps

All sorts of changes are being made in Australian stamps. The great Commonwealth does not seem to be much of a success from the statesman's point of view, and there are some people who are beginning to doubt if the Commonwealth will hang together very much longer. Amongst other things which it was going to accomplish was the introduction of uniform postage stamps to be common to the various States. A certain time was to elapse for getting the book-keeping into order, and then we were to have this long-talked-of uniform series of postage stamps. That book-keeping period has long since expired without bringing us any nearer to the change from hand-to-mouth issues of postage stamps to a creditable and representative series for the Commonwealth. The time of the so-called statesmen seems to be spent in petty squabbles and in generating bad blood with the Mother Country by senseless barrier tariffs. Already a movement is on foot in Western Australia to withdraw from the Commonwealth, and the movement may spread to other States.

Meanwhile, old designs of the Queen's heads, crude and inartistic to a degree, are being used up in the hope that any day may end the muddle, and put a stop to the flow of unexpected changes of watermark, paper, and perforation.

Leicester Philatelic Exhibition

The Secretary of the Leicester Philatelic Exhibition writes offering to extend the date of entries for readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP to 15th October, 1907.



The Exhibition will open on 1st November, 1907, and will be a two days' show. I am told that some very interesting exhibits have been entered and that a good show is ensured, but as they have a goodly hall, there is still room for more.

Applications for space and further information should be addressed to Mr. J. W. H. Goddard, 14 Church Avenue, Leicester.

The Stamps of Lagos

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

THE Colony of Lagos consists of the island of Lagos, on the coast of the Bight of Benin, 150 miles east of the Gold Coast, together with a strip of land along the coast that reaches from Dahomey on the west to Southern Nigeria on the east. Its name was given it by the Portuguese because the island was situated in a lagoon, now converted into a fine harbour.

By the Lagos Protectorate Order in Council dated Dec. 27th, 1899, the whole of the Yoruba country to the frontier of the French possessions on the Middle Niger was given to Lagos and the Ilorin country to Nigeria. With this addition the area of Lagos was 26,700 square miles and the total population numbered 3,000,000.

Lagos is the youngest of the British Colonies on the west coast of Africa. It was not annexed until 1861. It takes its name from an island in the Bight of Benin. It was at one time a thriving centre of the slave trade. Kosoko, the native king, who had acquired a knowledge of the slave trade in Dahomey, devastated the mainland in his raids for victims. Eventually the British interfered, sent Mr. Kosoko about other business, re-instated a former king, Docemo, and pledged him to put down the slave trade. In 1861 King Docemo ceded the port and island and territories of Lagos to the British.

For a few years the new territory was governed as a separate Colony, then, in 1866, it was placed under the Governor-in-chief of Sierra Leone, in 1874 it was incorporated with the Gold Coast, in 1886 it was once more converted into a separate Colony, and, lastly, by an order in Council dated 16 February, 1906, the administration of the Southern Nigerian Protectorate is placed under that of the Colony of Lagos, and the name of the latter colony is to be changed to Southern Nigeria.

Summing up the position and prospects of the Colony, Mr. Syd. C. P. Lucas, writing in December, 1893, says: "On the whole Lagos is perhaps the most satisfactory of the British Settlements in West Africa. It is not hampered by evil traditions of past centuries, having only been for a few years the centre of an unauthorised slave trade, which was summarily extinguished. Nor is its development as a British Dependency endangered by the encroachments of other European nations; its frontiers are fixed; and there is no fear of French or Germans cutting off the trade of the interior. It is singularly concentrated, for every district is connected with one and the same port. Thus administration is facilitated, revenue is easily collected, and commerce thrives, because there is constant and steady circulation between the heart of the Colony and its extremities. Financially, Lagos is most successful at the present time; and there is every indication that prosperity will continue, inasmuch as the tribes of the interior are at once more inclined to agricultural industry, and more within reach than the

peoples who live at the back of the Gold Coast or of Sierra Leone. On the Gold Coast or at Sierra Leone there can be no assured progress without large outlay on roads, but roads are little wanted at Lagos, the water communication being admirable. In short, taking West Africa as it is, Lagos, but for its climate, and but for the fact that it depends upon a single industry, is a prosperous and promising nook of the British Empire.

The town of Lagos is the largest on the west coast of Africa and boasts of a population of 42,000. The leading product of the colony is palm oil.

Its Philatelic History

The philatelic life of the Colony commenced only in 1874 on its incorporation with the Gold Coast. Why it should under that incorporation have been provided with a separate issue of postage stamps we are not told. Even the recently completed issue of the stamps of the British Colonies in Africa, which includes Lagos, is silent on the point.

Yet despite its short philatelic life, extending from its incorporation with the Gold Coast in 1874 to its absorption into the Southern Nigerian Protectorate in 1906, a period of thirty-two years, Lagos is regarded as a somewhat expensive little country, several of the higher values being very high in price. Even in its disappearance from the stamp-issuing colonies of the British Empire it goes with a flourish of high prices for its almost final issue, the King's heads single C.A.'s of 1904.

But it is, nevertheless, an attractive country for many specialists who like a more or less straightforward country with a few rare stamps that want much searching for to get in fine mint condition.

It started with a Queen's head issue on C.C. paper, perf. 12½, which had a run of two years, when it was superseded by an issue of the same stamps perf. 14, which has since been the standard De la Rue perforation. Then in 1882 the watermark was changed to C.A. Two years later there were changes of colour, and in 1887 a bicoloured series, in 1893 a provisional ¼d., then in 1904 a King's head series with single C.A. watermark, changed to multiple watermark in the following year.

1874. Six values. Design: Diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, surface printed upon paper watermarked Crown C.C., and perforated 12½. At the base of the design is a straight white tablet, upon which was printed the value in *sans serif* capitals. The value in most if not in all the values was apparently separately printed as nearly in the same colour as the stamp as possible though in some cases there are slight indications showing the separate printing more clearly as if a stock of sheets had been printed with the tablet in blank and then some time afterwards the value was added in a slightly varying shade of ink. This is very noticeable in the case of the 3d, which Gibbons catalogues as red crown and then in red brown and chestnut, and the 6d. in blue green and blue green and yellow green.

This may be termed the sporting series of Lagos from the market value point of view, the three high values being the leading rarities of the Colony. The cause of their rarity is attributed to the fact that they had a short life and that in those days dealers did not import such numbers of stamps, especially of the high values, as they do to-day. These three high values were issued in October, 1886, and they were superseded in March, 1887, by a change of colours, thus it will be seen they had a life of less than six months, so that in all probability there was only one printing, and that, no doubt, a small one. So far as I know the numbers printed have never been disclosed, but it would be very interesting if we could have the figures. Many were used for fiscal purposes.

1887-94. Twelve values. Design as before, but all printed in two colours, except the 2½d., which was printed in one colour, blue. This series includes four new values, 2½d. the new Postal Union rate for foreign postage, 5d., 7½d., and 10d. The stamps were printed as before on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perforated 14. The 6d. exists with the value in mauve and in carmine, the carmine is the later printing, and is said to be scarce.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2d., lilac and blue ..	4		4	
2½d., ultramarine..	5		3	
3d., lilac and chestnut ..	6		6	
4d., " black ..	8		8	
5d., " green ..	1	0	1	0
6d., " mauve ..	1	0	1	0
7½d., " carmine ..	1	3	1	6
10d., " yellow ..	1	9	1	9
1s., green and black ..	2	0	2	0
2s. 6d., " carmine ..	6	0	7	6
5s., " blue ..	12	6	8	6
10s., " brown ..	20	0	24	0

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2d. ..	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
2½d. ..	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	3
3d. ..	6	6	5	4	5	5	5	5	6
4d. ..	8	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
5d. ..	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	9	10
6d. ..	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	10	10
7½d. ..	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	16
10d. ..	16	13	11	11	11	11	11	19	10
1s. ..	16	16	14	13	14	14	14	19	26
2s. 6d. ..	40	40	33	33	33	33	33	46	76
5s. ..	76	70	66	63	66	66	66	86	89
10s. ..	140	140	126	126	126	126	126	200	240

These stamps were so recently current and were so long in issue that there has not been much scope for fluctuations in price, but some of the values are undoubtedly getting scarce, especially the three higher values.

1893. Provisional. The stock of ½d. stamps having run short a supply was provided by surcharging a number of the then current 4d. with the words "Half-penny" in small Roman capitals in one line horizontally across the stamp. The original value is obliterated with two bars placed so close together that they seem

to print at times as one thick bar. There is a variety with a clear and separate double surcharge, but no inverted variety has ever been signalled.

Provisional.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. in black on 4d. lilac and black..	3	0	4	0

Double Surcharge.

	s. d.		s. d.	
½d. in black on 4d., lilac and black ..	12	0		—

1904. Ten values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left in a framework somewhat similar to the Queen's head type, but inscribed "Postage and Revenue" and with the name of the Colony removed from above the head to a small label below the bust. The stamps were printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single and perforated 14, but the 4d., 5d., 7½d. and 10d. values were omitted. In the 2½d. stamp the value is found printed in one in smaller type than the other. The smaller type was the first printing, the larger and bolder type was the later and was repeated in the subsequent series on multiple C.A. paper.

Wmk. Crown C.A. (single). Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., dull green and green..	6		—	
1d., purple and black on red	3		3	
2d., " blue ..	1	0	—	
2½d., " " on blue	9		—	
3d., " brown ..	1	0	—	
6d., " mauve ..	10	0	1	3
1s., green and black ..	—		4	0
2s. 6d., " carmine ..	57	0	—	
5s., " blue..	35	0	—	
10s., " brown ..	—		—	

Range of Catalogue Prices

The stamps of this series being printed on single C.A. paper which was changed in the following year to multiple C.A. paper rushed up to rarity prices almost before the series got into the catalogue, and there seems no prospect of prices coming down, on the contrary there are so few to be had that they are snapped up at once and at the auctions have run up at times above catalogue quotations.

1904-5. The same values and design but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A., that is to say, on paper with the design Crown C.A. reduced in size and so crowded together that the watermark is repeated several times on each stamp.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., dull green and green..	1		1	
1d., purple and black on red	2		1	
2d., " blue ..	3		—	
2½d., " blue on blue	4		—	
3d., " brown ..	5		—	
6d., " mauve ..	8		4	
1s., green and black ..	1	4	9	
2s. 6d., " carmine ..	3	3	—	
5s., " blue ..	6	6	—	
10s., " brown ..	12	6	—	

Philatelic Publishing

Expensive Works in Monthly Parts

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

THE *Philatelic Record* commenting on a proposal which I made elsewhere that very expensive philatelic works like the *Stamps of India*, published at 40s. would secure a larger sale if issued in shilling parts, says:—

A suggestion has been made by an esteemed contemporary that important books which are of necessity expensive, should be brought out in, say, shilling or half-crown parts. It is claimed that many collectors would thus be enabled to acquire them who do not feel disposed to pay two or three pounds down in their purchase. That objections to the publication of important works like that on the *Stamps of India* in monthly or quarterly instalments exist, we are fully aware, and assuming these objections could be got over, it is still problematical whether the increased circulation would compensate for the disadvantages. At the same time anything which tends in the direction of further popularising works of this kind, is, in our opinion, worthy of trial, and bearing in mind the further important work upon the stamps of Australia which is in sight, we would venture to suggest, as an alternative, that the publishers might open a subscription list at once on the monthly instalment principle. If the publishers cannot see their way to do this, surely the suggestion is worthy of the consideration of the provincial philatelic societies.

The Advantages of Parts

Now let us candidly examine the pros and cons and see what there is in my proposal.

The experience in the publishing trade is strongly in favour of splitting up expensive works into parts. For instance, how many would buy the *Encyclopædia Britannica* if they had to pay down the full price? and the same principle applies to less expensive books.

Now supposing the Royal Philatelic Society were to adopt the methods followed by experienced publishers what would happen.

When a great work was ready for the press subscription forms would be circulated through the stamp and bookselling trades. Those subscription forms would request the supplying stamp dealer or bookseller to supply the subscriber with the complete work in parts as published. Each stamp dealer and bookseller would send in his orders on a certain day and the number printed would be determined accordingly, with a margin for stock if thought desirable.

Each subscriber would pay his stamp dealer or bookseller for the parts as received. There would be no heavy payment down, no inducement to hesitate on the score of cost, for though in the end the cost might be the same, or even more, it is the experience of the publishing trade that one shilling a month has quite a different look to 20s. to 40s. down.

Then another very great advantage to the Royal Society would be that by judicious management the Society would quite easily, in the hands of a competent publishing committee, so arrange the publication of the works of the Society that the publication of parts would be continuous, and do much to strengthen the hold of the Society on the philatelic public. The receipt of the official journal, and a monthly part of some important work in progress, every month would do away with the grumbling at the long intervals that have been characteristic of the publication of the Society's monographs, and would be a continual advertisement of the Society's philatelic work.

Suppose Great Britain and Africa, Parts 1, 2 and 3, had, by the monthly subscription plan, been spread over the years, the interest of the members would have

been continuously kept up to a high point, and the works would have been far more closely studied in monthly sections. Instead of that we have had now and then an overwhelming dose, and then disappointing lapses of time with little or nothing to show that the Society was still at work.

The Disadvantages of Parts

There seems to be in the minds of some people an idea that there are many disadvantages to be reckoned with in the publication in parts system. Of course it is conceivable that by mismanagement or by amateur methods the business might be so bungled as to convert what should be a profit into a certain loss, but it is hard to see how, with the safeguard of the preliminary subscription forms any disadvantage would arise.

It has also been objected that regular publication in parts would tie a body of voluntary and unpaid workers down to the responsibilities, and inconveniences and drudgery of regular work. That need not be, for publication need not commence until the work has been completed.

Then it is objected that when the work is completed philatelists would want it as soon as possible. Just so, and it might be sold complete right away to those who can afford to pay down 40s. for a single vol. A couple of hundred copies would probably exhaust those customers. But a further sale of at least 500 copies should be possible, in subscription form, in monthly parts.

General Editor Wanted

In order to carry out successfully the plan of monthly publication in parts it would be absolutely necessary for the Royal Society to appoint a General Editor, and that General Editor should be paid. He should be consulted in the formation of the publication committee. For any systematic scheme of monthly parts I am inclined to suggest that the regular committee should be a very small one with power for the editor to add to the number by inviting the co-operation of Specialists in the countries to be included in the work in course of preparation.

The Royal Society is fortunate in having on its Council the very man cut out for the post by wide experience and unrivalled philatelic knowledge. I refer, of course, to Mr. E. D. Bacon.

The Committee should also specially include at least one member having some practical knowledge of publishing. As at present constituted I believe it is lacking in all such technical knowledge.

Amateurish Philatelic Publishing

The ways of philatelic publishing are amateurish, devious and curious to a degree. Some time ago two booksellers' collecting agents called for back numbers of a philatelic periodical. The price quoted was three times the published price. "Why? out of print?" asked the collectors. "No. Our practice," was the reply. Evidently publications were placed on the same footing as stamps, i.e. double price for the obsolete. But, alas, between publications and postage stamps there is a wide gulf in this matter, for whilst the obsolete stamp glides into higher prices, the obsolete publication drifts to the waste paper heap.

LAGOS

A Few Special Offers from my Stock

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
C. C. 12½. 1d. Lilac, unused ..	0	4	6	King's Head. Single. ½d. unused	0	0	9
C. C. 14, 6d. Green, unused ..	0	6	6	" " " 1d. unused	0	0	3
C. A. 14, 3d. Chestnut, unused ..	0	8	0	" " " 2d. unused	0	1	0
" " 2d. Grey, unused ..	0	7	0	" " " 3d. unused	0	1	2
" " 4d. Lilac, unused ..	0	13	6	" " " 3d. used..	0	0	6
" " 2s. 6d. Black unused ..	4	0	0	" " " 6d. unused	0	10	0
" " 5s. Blue, unused ..	6	6	0	" " " 6d. used..	0	0	10
" " 2s. 6d. Green and Red, unused ..	0	4	6	" " " 1s. unused	0	17	6
" " 5s. Green and Blue, unused	0	8	0	" " " 1s. used..	0	2	6
" " 10s. Green and Brown, unused ..	0	16	0	" " " 2s. 6d. unused	2	10	0
				" " " 5s. unused	1	10	0
				" " " 10s. unused	8	0	0

Quotations for any other Lagos stamps, not mentioned above, will be sent upon application.

W. H. PECKITT, 47 STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Telephone: 3204 Gerrard.

Telegram and Cables: "Peckitt, London."

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Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct description of the Stamps may be given.

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British Colonial Stamps

Methods of Production

From the "COLONIAL OFFICE JOURNAL"

PRACTICALLY all Crown Colony stamps are manufactured in England, and a colonial officer has frequently to settle points relating to them without having, in the Colony, the means of ascertaining the technical processes. Some particulars may therefore be used.

We propose to begin with a general survey of the subject, then to follow the different processes, from the making of the paper to the packing of the stamps, and finally to summarize any conclusions which we think may be deduced from the facts which have been set out. At the outset we will endeavour to place ourselves in the position of an officer called upon to arrange for a new issue of stamps.

There are three courses open, i.e., to adopt—

- (1) The head of His Majesty the King.
- (2) The arms of the Colony.
- (3) Designs illustrating the scenery, fauna, flora, or industries of the Colony.

Copper Plate v. Surface Printing

WHEN one of the above three courses has been decided upon, the next point which arises is whether the stamps shall be printed by the so-called copper plate or the surface-printing method.

The former is the older way, and that by which the most artistically successful results have been obtained, as any one who turns over the pages of a stamp album will at once perceive. The necessary plates are also cheaper, although the actual printing is a little more expensive, and, where large numbers of stamps of the same duty are required, much more expensive than the surface method.

The most important difference between the two kinds of plates is that, in case of the copper-plate the ink enters the sunk portions of the plate, and is completely cleaned away from the surface of the plate before printing takes place. In the case of the surface-printing plate, which is really a stereo, the ink lies on the raised, engraved portion of the plate, and never touches the flat surface.

From this it follows that a very different kind of ink must be used for the copper-plate. It must be of a thick, oily nature, and the paper on which the printing takes place must be wetted, so that it may sink well into and extract all the ink from the lines engraved on the plate. The ink used for surface-printing is, on the other hand, of a thinner kind, and the paper is used dry.

In ordinary copper-plate printing the plate, which is of steel, is itself engraved, every line being put in by hand, and a really artistic result is thus produced; but this method is not used in the manufacture of stamp plates, as not only would the expense be very great, but it would be impossible for any engraver to produce several absolutely identical engravings. Instead of directly engraving the plate a steel roll is pressed, when soft, upon the original engraving, which is of course of the size of a single stamp. When the roll has been hardened, it is in turn pressed 60 or 120 times on a sheet of soft steel, and this when hardened

becomes the working part, and according to the number of impressions which it will produce at one time, it is called 60 or 120 set.

The surface printing plate is made somewhat differently, but the details are a trade secret. The die is engraved in the same way as for copper-plate printing and the printing plate is prepared in much the same way.

Falkland Islands, Copper Plates

THERE is only one Colony, i.e., Falkland Islands, which has adopted a copper-plate design showing the head of H.M. the King. The more useful plan is to use the surface process and to print the body of the stamp from a keyplate bearing the King's Head and the words "Postage" or "Postage and Revenue," which is shared by all the Colonies and can be set up either 120 set or 240 set according to the set of the overprint plates which bear only the name of the Colony and the duty, and one of which is therefore required for each duty.

Colonies which issue large numbers of stamps of certain values often find it worth while to go to the expense of a special plate for each of such duties, which print the whole of the stamp at one operation and naturally therefore at a very much cheaper rate. Of course, the special plate costs a good deal more money than the overprint plate.

Pictorial Designs

WHEN pictorial designs are adopted each method of printing is freely employed. But there are two objections to printing stamps of high values by the copper-plate process, particularly if they are to be used for revenue as well as postal purposes:—

- (1) Such stamps are more easily forged than surface-printed stamps.
- (2) As the paper has to be wet when printed on it is necessary to use ink of very stable character, with the consequence that ordinary ink cancellations can be removed without damaging the stamp.

Good examples of the different effects of the two processes in the case of views are the Dominica (surface process) and the new Brunei stamps (copper-plate), and in the case of Colonial arms the Mauritius stamps (surface process) may be compared with those of Turks Islands (copper plate).

Fugitive Inks—Single and Double

IF it is decided to have stamps printed by the surface process it is necessary to decide whether such stamps shall be printed in singly or in doubly fugitive ink. This depends for the reasons stated below, on whether the stamps are intended for use for postage only, or also for revenue purposes, and so are likely to be cancelled by ordinary writing ink.

The term "singly fugitive" ink means that if any attempt is made to remove a cancellation which has been applied by means of ordinary cancelling ink the colour of the stamp will suffer. "Doubly fugitive" ink is so sensitive that even if the stamp is cancelled

with ordinary writing ink was thought, until recently to be impossible to remove the mark without injuring the appearance of the stamp. The duel between the fraudulent cleaner of stamps and the manufacturer is, however, similar to that between projectile and armour plate, and, as will be seen below, it is now necessary to make the surface of the stamp still more sensitive to manipulation.

This disadvantage of doubly fugitive ink is that it can only be obtained in three colours, i.e. green, purple, and black. The existing universal keyplate (one example of which is to be seen in the Sierra Leone stamps) is almost the size of the whole stamp, narrow strips at bottom being left for the duty and the name of the Colony. It is, of course, unnecessary to print these strips in the doubly fugitive ink, as they may easily escape cancellation altogether, but the body of the stamp must be printed in doubly fugitive ink. There are some objections to the use of black, so that only purple and green can in practice be used where the body of the stamp is of such extent as it is in the present universal keyplate.

If the bodies of all the stamps of a series are in either purple or green, it is extremely difficult to prevent confusion, even if a certain number of stamps are printed in doubly fugitive colours on red, blue green, or yellow paper. Printing on red and blue paper has moreover, a very bad effect upon the appearance of the stamp.

There is another disadvantage in having the bodies of many stamps in the same colour, i.e. the possibility of fraudulent manipulation by substituting slips of high values for the low values.

A New Key Plate being prepared

THE difficulty will be overcome in new issues of stamps bearing the King's Head, as the manufacturers are preparing a new keyplate showing only a central oval containing the King's Head, and this will be used with overprint plates bearing only the name of the Colony and the duty, but also the words "Postage and Revenue," the whole of which will therefore be in one colour.

In the case of existing sets of stamps, the possibility of manipulation of the value can only be prevented by either purchasing a fresh set of duty plates for use with the keyplate, mentioned in the last paragraph, or by extending the use of singly fugitive ink further than the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. values, to which it is fairly generally admitted, possibly as far as 5d. and in this way diminishing the number of stamps which have to be printed in purple and green. The probability that anyone would find it worth his while to remove the cancellation from large numbers of stamps of comparatively low value, is one which each Colonial Government can only estimate for itself. The regulations affecting the sale of stamps and the local labour conditions would probably be the main factors in the question, the danger being greater in countries inhabited by a clever population with a low standard of comfort.

Copper Plates unsuitable for bi-colours

The copper-plate process is not very suitable for printing stamps in two colours, owing to the necessity of wetting the paper for each printing. Each time the paper is wetted it alters in size sufficiently to make it very difficult to make the second impression exactly fit the first. The result of this is that the cost of printing in two colours is considerably higher than that of printing in one colour, and it will be generally found

to be more economical in the long run to order a separate plate for each value, but this necessitates each stamp being printed in a single colour.

There is one class of stamp for which the copper-plate process is specially adapted. This is a series of stamps such as that of the Tonga Islands, in which several designs are used.

It has recently been found that even the use of doubly fugitive ink by itself is an insufficient protection against cleaning, and all stamps which are printed in doubly fugitive ink are now further safeguarded by a special treatment of the paper before printing. The slightest tampering with stamps printed in doubly fugitive ink on paper so treated infallibly ruins the appearance of the stamp.

Watermarks

It is well known that all stamps of the Crown Colonies and Protectorates are printed on specially made paper, with a watermark showing a succession of devices, composed of a Crown and the letters C A standing for "Crown Agents." Each stamp shows portions of several of these designs. This paper was first introduced about four years ago, in substitution for a paper which was intended to show one device on each stamp, but which was found not to fit all stamps, so that in some two nearly entire watermarks were found, and in others hardly any at all. The watermark, is, of course, only a last resort in testing the genuineness of a stamp which has been affixed to a postal packet or document, as it is impossible to see it except by removing the stamp from the envelope, and looking at the back. A great advantage in using such paper is the check upon the production of stamps, as the paper given out for each order will only enable a fixed number of stamps to be printed.

Colours

BEFORE proceeding to the consecutive description of the processes of manufacture, the question of the colours of the stamps may be referred to. The Washington Convention recommended that every country in the Postal Union should adopt green, red, and blue colours for the respective values of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and their equivalents in other currencies, and the Rome Convention has now made these colours compulsory from the 1st October of this year. The colours of the other values have, until now, been chosen in the main arbitrarily, the intention in each case being to make a series of stamps as distinctive as possible *inter se*. There would, however, be some practical advantages in formulating a universal colour scheme for all the Crown Colonies and Protectorates. Further reference may be made to this subject in a future article.

The "Colonial Office Journal"

For the foregoing valuable article we are indebted to the pages of the *Colonial Office Journal*, an excellent new quarterly, edited by Mr. W. H. Mercer, C.M.G., one of the Crown Agents for the Colonies and Mr. R. V. Vernon, of the Colonial Office, and published by Waterlow & Sons, price 1s. 6d. We are informed that this new quarterly is an unofficial publication, but that it is issued with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The first number was published in June last, and No. 2 is announced for the beginning of October, when we hope to have another instalment of these interesting notes on the production of British Colonial Postage Stamps.—Ed. P.S.

The Imperial Exhibition

Caxton Hall, London, March 12, 13, 14, 1908

By A LITTLE MOGUL

I STROLLED in at 44 Fleet Street the other day. Fleet Street is scarcely where one might expect to find a busy hive of stamp collectors.

But at No. 44 are the "Offices of the Stamp Exhibition"—the offices taken by the enterprising committee of the Junior Philatelic Society, from whence they will conduct the vast business which the Exhibition will involve.

I hear that the first printing order for tickets was 25,000. But that is by the way.

At the office I found the President and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. Arthur Selinger) and also the General Secretary of the Stamp Exhibition, Mr. H. F. Johnson, who has only lately retired from the office of Hon. Secretary of the Society. There was also Mr. S. R. Turner, one of the keenest of the working members. He has designed the plan of the Exhibition and I was fortunate enough to get an advance peep at his fine drawing.

A. J. Sefi, who is neglecting his silky Cashmeres and has literally taken off his coat to slog at the advertising of the Exhibition—he was there.

And half-a-dozen other keen-eyed, keen-witted juniors were there working as though their bread and butter depended upon it.

There was printed matter to the right of them, printed matter to the left of them, behind them, before them, and I guess before long they will have to walk knee-deep in tickets and prospectuses which the advertising sub-committee is preparing to flood upon an unsuspecting public.

Exclusively Imperial

I understand the Exhibition will be exclusively an Imperial one. On seeing the plan and the accommodation, it seemed to me as though they would have space to tackle the world's postage stamps this time.

But the juniors know a thing or two. If they fill up the place with stamps, where, oh where, will the people

go? Wide gangways, open spaces, and "comfy" resting places, natty nooks for swappers, have been arranged for so that a very large crowd can see the Exhibition without discomfort.

And in this the promoters of the Exhibition are very wise. After all we can rarely give close study to an exhibition of the world's postage stamps even in a week or a fortnight. And, anyway, I think it a good thing to get a vast concourse of people provided there is decent comfort for them, because this enthusiasm which the Juniors possess in so extraordinary a degree is wonderfully contagious. And enthusiasm is a fine thing.

Dealers' Stalls

I forgot to mention that there were a couple of newspaper reporters there when I looked in. They were sent happy away with loads of "copy." And three dealers, including a very "cute 'un" from the other side of the Atlantic, wanted to know if they could have stalls.

But they were told that when the stalls were ready for disposal, the announcement would be sent to each dealer simultaneously, as there are only twelve, and in fairness to all concerned, this plan will be adopted. Once the circular to the trade is issued dealers can race for the stalls as much as they like by wire, cable, or fire-engine.

Donations to the expenses fund are being invited by the Committee and these and all other communications should be sent to the

Offices of the Stamp Exhibition,
44 Fleet Street,

London, E.C.

Cheques should be made payable to Mr. H. F. Johnson. Applications for tickets should be addressed to Mr. A. J. Sefi, and letters relating to exhibits to Mr. S. R. Turner, all at the offices of the Stamp Exhibition.

Our Library Table

A Stamp Story by S. R. Crockett

"ME AND MYN, LIMITED," is the title of an excellent stamp story written by Mr. S. R. Crockett, the well-known novelist, and published at 6s. by Mr. Unwin. Mr. Crockett is himself an experienced collector, and consequently writes of his hobby with inside knowledge. The story is woven round a stamp partnership between a boy and a girl who when at school started collecting and dealing. The partnership continued and ripened into later years, when there were somewhat surprising developments. The ending

partakes of a mixture of the humorous and the dramatic, and is by no means of the expected orthodox type.

The stamp flavour is perhaps a little too strained and a little too persistent. There is a little too much of it, as the cat said when she tumbled into the pail of milk. But for all that, the stamp collector will enjoy the ups and downs of the youthful pair in their endeavour to make a fortune out of stamp dealing. Of course they have a great haul, and they get done sadly now and again, but on the whole the partnership was pretty well able to take care of itself.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Afghanistan. We quote the following from the *Philatelic Journal of India* (9.07), which states that the stamps are on no account to be sold to the public.

"The stamps are engraved in blocks of six, and several impressions are made separately from the same block to fill 'sheets' (some of these impressions being *l'le-bêche* in regard to one another), the blocks being impressed more or less evenly about half-an-inch or more apart. Numerous minor differences of engraving render 'plating' comparatively easy. The paper employed is a thin tough bluish-white wove 'bank' paper of European manufacture. The plates are a purely native product of Kabul, and are engraved in *taille-douce*, probably on copper, by a Turk named Mahmud Masi.

"The one abasi stamp measures about 19 x 24 mm., and exists in six varieties. Colours: blue and green (shades).

"The two abasi stamp measures about 19 x 22½ mm., and also exists in six varieties. Colour: deep blue.

"The inscription in Arabic on the one abasi is as follows: Upper tablet, *Dāk-khānā* (Post Office), lower tablet, *yēk miscal, yēk abāsi* (one miscal, one abasi, i.e., weight of one miscal for one abasi), central scroll, *Daulāt Khoddād-ād Afghanistan* (God-given Kingdom of Afghanistan), corner circles, upper left, *yēk* (the word 'one'), upper right, the same word in Pushtu characters; lower left, the Roman figure '1,' lower right, the Arabic figure for '1' (1).

"The inscription on the two abasi slightly varies: Upper tablet, *Dāk-khānā*, central scroll, *Daulāt Khoddād-ād Afghanistan*, centre circle, *dō miscal, dō abāsi* (two miscal, two abasi), upper left circle, the Arabic figure for '2' (۲), upper right circle, *dō* (the word 'two').

"All the stamps that have come through Peshawar, and that are in use there at the Kabul postal branch, are imperforate. Copies from the Quetta side, from Kandahar, are reported to exist perforated, and also rouletted, but these varieties may be unofficial."

Printed on thin, wove paper. Imperf.

- 1 abasi, blue.
- 1 " green.
- 2 " deep blue.

Denmark. Messrs. Rudolf Kronman have shown Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., a set of Newspaper stamps, which were issued on 1st October. They are intended to prepay postage of newspapers sent through the post to non-subscribers. In Denmark it is the practice to subscribe to any newspaper by simply ordering it at any post office; the paper is then delivered by the postman, unstamped, and without any wrapper; so these new stamps will not be used for newspapers ordered regularly through the post office.

The stamps are printed in sheets of 100, composed of ten rows of 10. The perforation gauges from 12½ to 13, being the work of a comb machine starting at the top of the sheet, so that the bottom margin is perforated vertically.

The usual watermark Crown appears on each stamp, and the four margins are watermarked KGL. POST—FRMK; the two upper corners are watermarked with a Large Crown and the two lower with a Posthorn. The Newspaper stamps may on no account be used on letters.

Wmk. Crown. Perf. 12½, 13.

- 1 öre, olive.
- 5 " blue.
- 7 " carmine.
- 10 " lilac.
- 20 " green.
- 38 " orange.
- 68 " brown.
- 1 kr., claret and blue.
- 5 " yellow-green and rose.
- 10 " blue and stone.

Papua. According to *Ewens' Weekly Stamp News* three more values of the British New Guinea stamps have been overprinted with the name "Papua" in the second and smaller type. The ½d., 4d. and 2s. 6d. have already been chronicled, and there now remains only the 2d. and 2½d. to complete the series in the series in this second type, after which ———?

Stamps of British New Guinea.

Overprinted "Papua."

Second and smaller type.

- ½d., yellow-green and black.
- 1d., lake "
- 4d., sepia "
- 6d., myrtle green "
- 1s., orange "
- 2s. 6d., brown "

New South Wales. Last week we chronicled several values on the Victorian paper with the double lined A in the watermark. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* now adds the ½d. and 4d. making seven values to date.

Wmk. Crown A. Victorian type.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2d., light blue.
- 2½d., steel blue.
- 4d., brown.
- 6d., orange.
- 1s., marone.

St. Vincent. This colony has apparently started a series of new designs, as illustrated. The design, it will be noted, is taken from the large size 5s. of 1880, and represents Justice pouring out a libation to Peace. The stamps are printed on paper watermarked multiple CA. The paper is much thicker than the ordinary De la Rue paper, and there is no marginal coloured line around the stamps. The engraving, the printing, the thick paper, and the absence of the marginal coloured line, all suggest that the new stamps are the work of another firm, but the perforation is the De la Rue gauge of 14.

Of this new design we have received the ½d., 1d. and 3d. values



New design.
Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 3d., violet.

From Other Magazines

Bermuda: Queen's Head Types

IN glancing over a page of the early issues of Bermuda the most casual observer can hardly fail to notice the fact that certain of the stamps appear to stand out from the others in a manner which can scarcely be due to the difference in colour or the slight variations in the design of the frame work surrounding the bust of the queen.

A second and closer inspection will reveal that this distinction is due to changes made in the engraving of the die itself—indeed, there are *three* different dies to be noted.

If, for example, the one penny stamp (either in dull-rose or carmine, but the carmine will show up to better advantage) is compared with the later halfpenny stamp (either in brown or green) the difference will be apparent at once. Looking at the forehead and point of bust it will be seen that on the 1 penny stamp there is no shading at either place, while on the halfpenny both forehead and point of bust are shaded in the same manner as the other parts

of the face. At first one would be inclined to say, "Oh! only another case of worn plates!" and turn away as though that settled it once and for all.

But let us tarry a bit and look a little deeper. Naturally a good philatelist will turn at once to his favourite catalogue or hand-book to see wherein it may be of assistance in shedding some light on the subject; for everyone should realize nowadays how invaluable the descriptive catalogue has become. Immediately, however, he is confronted with the fact that there is *no* mention made whatever of any difference in the dies, but *does* grasp the rather disquieting fact that the one penny stamp with the *unshaded* parts was issued some fifteen years before the halfpenny value with its *shaded* forehead and neck, so that the "worn die" theory is shattered at one blow.

Now the question arises: How many and what values are found in the two types noted? A short survey of the varieties will suffice to separate them into the two groups, and it will be found that the one penny in all shades, (Nos. 1, 17 and 20 in Scott's); the two pence, both in blue (Nos. 2 and 18) and in claret-brown (No. 21); the sixpence in lilac, violet, etc. (Nos. 3, 3a and 29); the one shilling green (No. 4) and bistre (No. 24), and the one farthing gray (No. 25) are all found in the *unshaded* type or Type I; while the *shaded* Type II gathers to itself the halfpenny brown (No. 15) and green (No. 19); the twopence halfpenny blue (No. 22); the threepence buff (Nos. 5 and 6) and gray (No. 23) and the fourpence orange (No. 16).

Of the four different values found in Type I (for we will not consider the farthing as a separate one, as its monetary value is expressed by a surcharge over a shilling die) three of them, namely the 1d., 6d., and 1s., were issued on Sept. 13, 1865, and the 2d. followed soon after on Mar. 14, 1866. Later on from 1884 to 1903, all four of these values were printed in changed colours, but the dies were the same as used for the first printings, so that a beginner may be able to see the differences noted here, even if he has not the earlier and more expensive varieties in his collection.

It was not until March 10, 1873, that the first one, the 3d. buff appeared, showing the shaded forehead, and at intervals thereafter as new values were required and added to the series they were *all* of this second type. Following the 3d. came the halfpenny brown and the 4d. orange, issued together on Mar. 25, 1880, and on Nov. 10, 1884, the 2½d. blue appeared, thus completing the number of different values of the head design. It may be of interest to note as well that the 4d. and the 2½d. were the only values of either type to appear upon but one variety of paper—the former being found only on Crown CC paper and the latter only on Crown CA paper. Besides the shading already referred to as distinguishing Type II from Type I, it should be further noted that in Type II there is a line of colour at the front of the neck connecting the ends of the first six shade-lines below the chin, similar in all respects to the line found on Die A of the Cyprus and other colonial types.

In the opening paragraph I spoke of three different dies, and thus far only two have been considered. The third, which more properly perhaps should be called a sub-variety of Type II, is found in the 2½d. blue. While conforming to the general details of the type, here there is a marked difference in the engraving of the crown; the escalloped edge bearing the little balls at its points is double-lined where in all the other values it is single lined.

The discovery of these differences in such a well known and popular series has at once opened up the most interesting question as to whether any of the values are to be found in more than one type. Personally I never have had enough specimens at my command to find out whether this was so or not, but surely some of the collectors who specialize in this colony, ought to be able to decide it, and with the hope of finding a great rarity it ought to be some incentive to the necessary research.—*Louis G. Barrett* in "*Mehel's Weekly Stamp News*."

Danish West Indies: Reminders Destroyed

THE following figures show the number of stamps, with date of their issue, destroyed on November 15th, 1906, at the Royal Institute of Destruction, at Fredericksberg, near Copenhagen, Denmark. Each sheet contained 100 stamps.

574 sheets	..	1898	..	4 cents
1511 "	..	1898	..	5 "
692 "	..	1873	..	7 "
440 "	..	1903	..	8 "
338 "	..	1898	..	10 "
782 "	..	1873	..	12 "
486 "	..	1873	..	30 "
1839 "	..	1905	..	5 bit surcharges
138 "	..	1902	..	4 cents Unpaid
297 "	..	1902	..	6 "
172 "	..	1902	..	10 "

The figures given for the 5 bit surcharges of 1905 include all three varieties.

Siam: Provisionals on Fiscals

We have received the following interesting letter dated 29th April, 1907, from a correspondent at Bangkok:—

"On the 24th inst. provisional stamps of 10, 20 and 40 ticals have been issued and I enclose herewith a photo of them for reproduction in *E.W.S.N.* Revenue stamps of the ministry of justice having already a value of 10, 20 and 40 tics. respectively have been used for these provisionals but bearing only Siamese inscription they have been surcharged with 'Siam,' 'Postage' and with the value. All the three stamps have the same light green colour and their actual size is 21 by 50mm. Only 1,000 of each kind have been surcharged (in sheets of 25) and there are no errors or differences.

"The history of these provisionals of uncommonly high value is the following:

"In Siam, there are living several hundred thousands of Chinese, who entertain a brisk exchange of letters with their native country. Until quite recently, China had only very incomplete means of conveyance for private letters to smaller towns and villages in the interior of the country, and therefore the many Chinese Societies in Siam had established a sort of private post to China. The charges were very high and the conveyance of the letters to China was executed in that way that, when a sufficient number of letters has been handed in at the Societies' so-called letter agent's shop, a man was sent to China, who delivered the letters there and who on his way back brought with him the letters collected in his native place. Since some time China, which will surely enter the Postal Union as it was already represented at the Postal Congress at Rome, has established postal connections even with the smallest villages, and private persons are no longer allowed to deal with the conveyance of letters. The private letter posts between Siam and China being, however, an institution sanctified by high age, and as the conservative Chinaman gets only slowly accustomed to such vigorous innovations, the Chinese and Siamese postal administrations have granted some facilities for a transition period, the duration of which is not yet fixed, but which may last for one or two years. The Chinese letter agents in Siam are allowed to form 'clubbed packets' of their letters and to address them to their agent in China. These packets are to be posted at the Post Office in Bangkok, and the union rate of 12 atts must be paid for every letter contained. The whole amount of postage for the contents is fixed in stamps on the outside of the packet. Then the packets are sent as registered letters by the ordinary mails to the Chinese ports, where the Chinese post takes them over and delivers them unopened to the addressees. Letter packets from China to Siam are treated in the same way. Up to the present the highest value of postage stamps was 1 tical, but as the packets very often contained over 1,000 letters higher values were necessary and that is the reason of the issue of these provisionals. New stamps of higher value are already ordered from Europe and if the arrangement with China had not come into force before the time intended it would not have been necessary to make surcharges. The provisionals can, of course, be used for any kind of mail matter, but they shall not be sold to the public, as the stock of these revenue stamps is very limited and as the number of surcharges shall last until the new stamps arrive from Europe. I think that the new provisionals will become rarities and even used they will surely not go for under face value.

"The value of the tical is at present 1s. 5½d., but as the Government is on the point to introduce the gold standard it will go up to 1s. 5½d. in a very short time."—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

Before the Days of Perforation

Before the days of perforation, and when penny postage labels were of a bright brick-dust red, the "adhesive matter" was starch made from potatoes. It was laid pretty thickly, not merely on the stamps themselves, but on the enclosing margin. In those days, single stamps, or strips as required, had to be cut off the sheet with scissors, and you might hear a facetious "window-man" say to a fair purchaser, "Shall I trim 'em for you, miss, or would you like 'em with the fat on?"—that is, the margin.—*St. Martin's-Le-Grand*.

Mems, Notes and News

Post Office Report, 1906-7

THE 53rd annual report of the Postmaster-General on the business of the Post Office during the year ended March 31, 1907, was issued on Saturday as a Parliamentary Blue-Book.

It is estimated that the number of postal packets delivered in the United Kingdom during the year 1906-7 was as follows:—

	Number	Increase per cent. over 1905-6.	Average No. for each person.
Letters	2,804,400,000	3.5	64.1
Post cards	831,400,000	3.0	19.0
Halfpenny packets	933,200,000	4.7	21.3
Newspapers	189,100,000	2.0	4.3
* Parcels	104,820,000	3.1	2.4
Total	4,862,920,000	3.8	111.1

* This figure includes parcels sent from this country abroad. The growth of the number of letters has been maintained, the rate of increase having risen by 0.5 this year. The number of post cards, although increasing, is increasing more and more slowly, the rate of increase being 3.9 per cent. this year, as against 9 per cent. in the preceding year, and 10.7 per cent. in 1904-5. The growth in the popularity of pictorial post cards apparently reached its climax two years ago, and the rate of increase appears to have returned to the normal. In the case of the halfpenny packets and the parcels the accuracy of the comparison between the years 1905-6 and 1906-7 is vitiated by alterations which took place in these two posts in the latter year. The total number of express services was 1,673,258, as compared with 1,578,746 last year. The rate of increase, approximately 6 per cent., is less than that of previous years, the decline being most marked in London, where the number of services rose only from 1,010,815 to 1,048,440, or about 3.7 per cent. This result is attributed to the increased use of the telephone and to the steps recently taken by the police to restrict the activity of betting agents.

The number of undelivered packets treated during the year reached the large total of 29,766,394, an increase of 9.84 per cent. over the total for the preceding year. The undeliverable registered letters and letters containing property numbered 353,892, or 10.57 per cent. more than in 1905-6. These letters contained £16,694 16s. 1d. in cash and bank-notes, and £671,044 15s. 11d. in bills, cheques, money orders, postal orders and stamps. The packets posted without any address, and the articles found loose in the post during the year numbered 423,085, and included among them were cash and bank-notes to the value of £1,493 and cheques and other forms of remittance to the value of £25,129.

German Girls' Dot

A postage stamp in value about 2½d. is pasted each week in a little blank book which every servant-girl in Germany possesses. The stamp is the donation of her mistress, enforced by law. Should the girl get ill, the stamps are redeemed by the Government, or she may keep them until she is old, when the Government pays their face value.—*Manchester Evening News*.

Foreign and Colonial Post

We have received the following from the Secretary to the General Post Office:—

The Postal Union Convention concluded at Rome last year comes into effect on October 1 next, and on that date several important changes will be made in international postal arrangements.

Letter Postage.—Foreign.—The present letter rate of postage to foreign countries is as follows:—2½d. for the first half-ounce, and an additional 2½d. for each subsequent half-ounce. In future the postage on a letter from the United Kingdom for a foreign country will be 2½d. for the first ounce and 1½d. for each subsequent ounce.

Colonial, etc.—The postage to British possessions generally, to Egypt, and to British ships of war on foreign service, will be 1d. per ounce instead of half-an-ounce.

Reply Coupons.—Reply coupons will be issued enabling the sender of a letter to a place abroad to pay for a reply. They will be sold at money order offices here for 3d. each, and will be exchanged in the various countries which have agreed to accept them for local postage stamps of the value of 25 centimes (2½d.) each. Coupons issued abroad can be exchanged at money order offices in the United Kingdom for 2½d. stamps.

Commercial Papers.—Open letters and post cards of old date, as well as pupils' exercises, either in original or corrected, will be allowed to pass as commercial papers.

Post Cards.—Communications will be allowed on the left half of the front as well as the back. Pictorial cards bearing no written communication will be transmissible at the printed papers rate.

Sample Post.—Single keys and fresh-cut flowers may be sent by sample post, but not for commercial purposes.

The regulations for the packing of samples of glass and powders of various kinds have been made more stringent. Particulars of the new arrangements will appear in the Post Office Guide.

The Count Disgorges

One afternoon a certain Count X. came and asked to see the stamps of Sicily. This gentleman, a sort of unlicensed broker, was very intriguing, and carried favour everywhere whilst enjoying a relative consideration among certain people on whom he imposed by his foreign title. I had a very poor opinion of this man. His lowered eyes, which looked without seeming to see, his habit of speaking unctuously and humbly, bending forward with the pose of a verger, all betokened a man, as the people say, "too polite to be honest." My wife showed him the album containing the Sicily stamps; but, as the book was rather incomplete, she gave him trustfully the box with the reserve stamps. Then he began to take stamps from the envelopes in which they were arranged according to values, and he put them into an envelope, which he had taken from his pocket. As he did this he told my wife the supposed number which he was taking and the prices. When his little harvest was finished, the sum was added up. He paid it and went away. When I got home for lunch my wife said to me at once, "I have just sold some Sicily stamps to Count X." "For how much?" "For thirty-five shillings." Then she told me that as the album did not contain enough, he had had to take—take was a good word—stamps from the envelopes to the value of thirty-five shillings. That the Count had taken stamps from the envelopes sent the blood to my head with a disagreeable foreboding. I ran to the box of reserves, and I saw by the numbers left that more than thirty-five shillings' worth of stamps had been taken. M. le Comte had worked the trick thus; whenever he took three stamps he called out "one." Certain that I had been robbed, I blamed my wife for her great carelessness in having allowed the robber to have the reserve in his own hands. Then, as she was a very quick and energetic character, she was put out at my blaming her and furious at having been tricked. She said, "You cannot go, for you have to return to the office. Take your lunch. I will have mine when I get back. I am off to find this vagabond—To-day is Thursday, the day of the Stamp Bourse; I am sure to find him there, and I'll make him trot." So she went at a run to the Tuileries Gardens, where the Stamp Market then was held. On arriving, she saw our rascal from afar; and as she had her wits about her she went up to a policeman on duty and said, pointing out the man, "I have business with that man over there; and as our talk may be stormy, I beg you to be so good as not to go far off." Then she went straight up to the thief, who was busy selling stamps to a lady, and, taking him by his sleeve, said to him, "Come with me, sir; I wish to speak with you." The man, seeing how matters stood, turned all the colours of the rainbow, finished his business with his customer, quickly, and followed my wife, who took him to the policeman. Then she said, "Sir, you have robbed us. You took more stamps of Sicily than you led me to believe. My husband has sure proof of that. You will restore the stamps at once to me, or we will go through them, and see how much you owe us. If you don't do that, then I will have you arrested." That was clear, neat, precise, and to the point. Then, looking like a trapped fox, he said in a contrite tone, "I beg you, Mrs. Mabé, not to make a scandal. There has been a mistake; I regret that I have made a mistake; but you shall lose nothing." And as he had the stamps still on him, they were checked over again on the spot; and so far as I can remember, they came to nearly £8. Next day he came with a sheepish look to pay the debt forced upon him; and it was well he did so, for he knew he would be exposed if he failed.—*Mr. Pierre Mabé in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.

He Got his Stamps

A gentleman went to a post office in a certain town and called for 100 penny stamps, tendering in payment 100 pennies.

"Those are not legal tender in any such amounts," growled the clerk.

"I refuse to accept them."

"You do, eh?" answered the gentleman. "Well, then, give me one stamp," at the same time pushing forward a penny.

The stamp was forthcoming.

"Now give me a stamp."

He got it.

"Another stamp. Now another."

"Look here," said the clerk, "how many stamps do you want? You are keeping people waiting."

"Oh: I always keep within the law," responded the gentleman.

"Another stamp, please. Pennies are not legal tender in large amounts. Another stamp."

And he purchased stamps, one at a time, till he got his hundred.

But the clerk was cured. Pennies are legal tender at his counter now in cart-loads.—*Smith's Weekly*.

Before the Days of Perforation

Before the days of perforation, and when penny postage labels were of a bright brick-dust red, the "adhesive matter" was starch made from potatoes. It was laid pretty thickly, not merely on the stamps themselves, but on the enclosing margin. In those days, single stamps, or strips as required, had to be cut off the sheet with scissors, and you might hear a facetious "window-man" say to a fair purchaser, "Shall I trim 'em for you, miss, or would you like 'em with the fat on?"—that is the margin.—*St. Martin's-le-Grand*.

Our American Letter

By LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH

ONEIDA, N. Y., 26 August, 1907.

An American Welcome

NO news could be more gratifying to lovers of good philatelic reading on this side of the water than the announcement of a new journal, with Mr. Nandivell at the helm, and entirely unhampered by trade affiliations. Hardly any other English philatelist of the time is so well known among us, and the new weekly is sure of a warm welcome among our best collectors. It is a sorrowful fact, however, that only a comparatively trifling number of the philatelists on this side are ardently interested in philatelic literature . . . as is made painfully evident by the present dearth of good American stamp periodicals. We have two adequate weeklies, but otherwise the field is as desolate as *Balcottha*. Such being the case, it would seem that the English journals ought to gain a big trans-Atlantic circulation; but our stampmen seem, as a rule indifferent to them, and the formation of good philatelic libraries is very little attempted.

Stamp Collecting in America

All this is the more singular because stamp collecting on this side is decidedly on the boom. To judge from all surface indications, interest and enthusiasm in American stamp collecting circles has within the last year reached a higher mark than at any time since the "boom days" of 1894 and '95. In a great many of the smaller cities, stamp clubs that have been quiescent for some years have been recently re-organized and are going ahead in splendid style; while practically all the old societies are reporting large increases in membership.

The American Philatelic Association

Our national organization, the American Philatelic Association, has likewise broken all previous membership records, its rolls bearing at present nearly twelve hundred names, with every probability that the fifteen hundred mark will be reached this winter, as it is gaining from fifteen to thirty members per week. This year's convention, held in Denver, was one of the most successful in the history of the organization. John N. Luff, of New York, well known to philatelists on your side, is

the new President of the Association, elected over Eugene Doebelin of Pittsburg after a stubborn contest.

Sale of Mr. Alex Holland's Collection

Little philatelic news of real importance develops here during the summer months. The most notable trade transaction of the last few weeks is the sale of the Alex Holland Collection to P. M. Wolsieffer, of Chicago. Mr. Holland, who has long been one of the foremost of American collectors, specialised Hayti, Siam and Great Britain; and his Haytians, in particular, were a remarkably fine lot. It will be remembered that they took a medal at the last London Exhibition, and they have almost invariably secured the highest award wherever shown. Mr. Holland's fine philatelic library, one of the best in the land, has also passed into Mr. Wolsieffer's hands.

Envelope Collecting in the States

Envelopes, of the cut square class, are looking up a bit. The American Envelope Society, formed for the purpose of encouraging the study and collection of cut squares, has within a couple of months enrolled some sixty members and bids fair to give quite an impetus to envelope collecting. Its formation has provoked quite a little storm of discussion between the advocates of cut squares and those who consider the cutting of a stamped envelope an act of desecration; and the new society has gained much valuable advertising thereby. All attempts to popularise the collection of entires in this country have been a virtual failure and the envelope enthusiasts who have formed this new body doubtless know what they are about in pushing the cut envelope in preference to the complete one.

A Proof and Essay Society

A Proof and Essay Society is also on the tapis; and its formation seems assured, with a small but very select membership. The prime mover is Prof. L. Harald Kjellstedt, of Scranton, a Swedish-American philatelist who is doing much fine literary work for our journals and who has lately been appointed American representative of the Royal Philatelic Society. Mr. Luff, Mr. Toppan, and other stamp students of merit and renown, are to take an active part in this society, if formed.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Junior Philatelic Society.

President: Fred. J. Melville.
Hon. Sec.: Arthur Selinger, 5 Paper Street, Redcross Street, E.C.
Meetings: The Ben Greet Academy of Acting, 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.
Entrance Fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance Fee for ladies or for juniors under 21.

THE opening meeting of the Society for the season 1907-8 will be held to-day, Saturday, October 5th, at 6 o'clock, in the Society's new meeting place at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C. The programme for the evening will include a general sale and exchange, the ninth presidential address by Mr. Melville, to be followed by a display and paper on the stamps of Gambia by Mr. Douglas Ellis, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society.

A hearty invitation to the meetings of the Society which are held on the first and third Saturdays of the month is accorded to collectors.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Sept. 7th last, some important changes were made in the officers for the coming season. Owing to the sad loss sustained by the death of Mr. Lucien Savournin, another Secretary had to be elected to fill the position which Mr. Savournin had so ably conducted and the name of Mr. Arthur Selinger was put to the meeting and unanimously passed. Another important office in which some change has been necessary is that of Exchange Supt., one which was conducted in the past by Mr. James Feeney in a most painstaking way. It was with regret that we had to accept Mr. Feeney's resignation, but this action was unavoidable, as Mr. Feeney, whose wife has been for some months and is still lying dangerously ill, would not be able to devote the necessary time entailed in the work of Exchange Supt. After a vote of sympathy had been accorded to Mr. Feeney the election of Mr. D. S. Darkin, of 303 Green Lanes, N., to the vacant position was the next procedure. Mr. Darkin has had good experience in Exchange packet work and it is expected that he will propound some excellent schemes in the management and expedition of the packets. All communications respecting the Exchange packets should be addressed direct to Mr. Darkin. The packets in the hands of Mr. Feeney will be dealt with by him with all possible speed.

An important announcement was made at the Annual General Meeting by the President in which he expounded the scheme for an Exhibition of Colonial stamps to take place on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of March, next, at the Caxton Hall, Westminster.

The Exhibition is going to be a huge success, and, apart from an excellent show, we expect to have an attendance greatly in excess of that of our last Exhibition in Exeter Hall. Over 11,000 visitors attended our last venture and in this case we anticipate the number to be at least 20,000. A special Exhibition Committee has been formed with a total of 16 members and this number has been divided into sub-committees of four each of whom are keenly alive to the work allotted them. Mr. Melville, whose experience in Exhibition work is of a large and varied character, is Chairman to the Committee, while Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, who did such good work at the two previous Exhibitions given by the Society, is acting as Honorary Secretary. An office has been taken for the use of the Committee at 44 Fleet Street, E.C., and all business connected with the Exhibition should be addressed to The Office of the Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

Prahran Philatelic Society, Australia

President: C. E. Lovett.
Secretary: G. W. Minty, Corner Kooyong and Wattle-tree Roads, Armadale.
Meetings: Prahran Coffee Palace, Chapel Street

THE monthly meeting of the Prahran Philatelic Society was held at its rooms at the Coffee Palace, Prahran, on Friday, 19th July, 1907. The meeting was exceptionally well attended, and presided over by the newly elected President, Mr. C. E. Lovett.

Members present—Messrs. H. W. Johnston, C. E. Lovett, sen., C. Lovett, jun., H. Best, F. Ricardo, A. Flavell, H. G. McDonald, J. Lawson, E. Stevenson, J. J. Smith, A. Thewlis, and G. W. Minty.

The balance sheet for 1906-7, which shows a highly satisfactory result, was received on the motion of Messrs. Maynard and Ricardo, and Messrs. A. Thewlis and W. Maynard were appointed to audit same. The ballot for order of precedence in exchange book No. 25 was conducted by Messrs. A. Flavell, J. Smith, and H. G. McDonald.

A very enjoyable evening was spent in examining the elaborate collections of Messrs. Lovett and Best. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the exhibitors, who responded in suitable terms.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

Latest Price for Maldives

NOT so very many months ago Maldives were being distributed at new issue rates. Since then they have been retired from the scene of action by an indignant postmaster. As a consequence Maldives are scarce. Here is Gibbons's latest quotation for the set:—

			s. d.
2c., orange brown	..	..	2 6
3c., green	..	..	2 6
4c., orange and ultramarine	..	..	3 0
5c., lilac	..	..	2 0
15c., blue	..	..	20 0
25c., pale brown	..	..	20 0

45s. for a set that was selling under 2s. in January last is not a bad rise. They were issued just twelve months ago in Sept., 1906, and the numbers printed were as follows:—

	First Supply.	Second Supply.	Total.
	6,306.	15,1106.	
2c.	2,400	2,000	4,400
3c.	600	3,000	3,600
4c.	1,200	1,000	2,200
5c.	4,800	14,000	18,800
15c.	1,200	nil	1,200
25c.	1,200	nil	1,200

The prices quoted for the stamps do not seem to have risen in proportion to the numbers printed, either the 5c. is very dear or the 2c., 3c., and 4c. are very cheap.

\$5,000 Worth of Salvadors!

Mr. Eustace B. Power, of the American House of Gibbons, tells us that they have purchased Mr. Leavey's "magnificent collection of Salvador," that it prices up to considerably over £3,000, and that he has sold it to some one on this side of the ditch, meaning in Great Britain, for the said Power happens just now to be writing from this side, and then, open your eyes, ye unbelievers, he mentions that he has sold over \$5,000 worth of Salvador stamps.

If Power were an aged and decrepit antiquity one might merely say "Ah!" but as Power is "quite a stripling, you know," why, one is bound to arrive at the conclusion that he must be a Powerful man at selling Salvadors.

Personally, I should not have thought Salvadors would fetch \$3,000 per ship load here.

No wonder the house editor of G.S.W. adds a note expressing the fervent hope that "our able New York hustler will in future stick to mundane affairs."

Plumridge's Auction

The following are a few of the more notable lots at Plumridge's sale on the 19th Sept., 1907:—

	£	s. d.
Sarawak, 1875, 8c., blue variety on laid paper, unused, off centre, very rare	..	.. 10 0
Sarawak Sept., 1895, perf. 12½, error, 2c., green (colour of 8c.), a mint pair with top margin	..	1 2 0
Transvaal, Fiscal, 2s. 6d., inverted centre, mint	..	2 10 0
Dominican Republic, 1865, wove paper, 1 real, black on green, unused, with gum, a trifle thinned, very rare	..	.. 18 0
Northern Nigeria, 1900, 10s., mint	..	.. 1 19 0

Forthcoming Auctions

Glendining's are including in their sale on the 15th and 16th October three reconstructed plates of Sydney views, two of the 2d. and one of the 3d. These plates were originally made up by Mr. Castle, and were sold by Stanley Gibbons to the late Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia some fourteen years ago. These plates passed into the Breitfuss collection which was recently purchased by Stanley Gibbons.

The plates are to be broken up for sale, and C.J.P. anticipates that they will fetch very much more than he got for them from the Grand Duke Alexis. I should like to share in the anticipation if C.J.P. would tell us how much he got from the Duke. The figure to be obtained will surely be up in the clouds, for C.J.P.'s capacity for pricing with a Grand Duke in tow would be abnormal.

Afghans

The stamps of Afghanistan ought to come a little more into favour as the result of the new issue, but alas it is so essentially a specialist's country, and so markedly beyond the depth of the average collector, that it is never likely to be much in favour.

But it must be a grand country for the specialist, and especially for the bargain hunter. At auctions Afghans fetch more frequently than not merely nominal prices. I note that a lot of 39 in Plumridge's sale

of the 19th Sept. catalogued as "collection of circular varieties, including several rare, a fine lot," fetched only £3.

Their very quaintness arrests your attention.

I see Gibbons's are offering in their *Weekly* a bargain lot of four of the 1900-3 issue, unused for 10s., which should be worth having at the price. Anyway, I have secured a set for myself.

Brunei and Straits on Labuans

These speculative lots have ceased to excite us. Presumably we are all fully supplied. The local speculators are known to hold large stocks and some values in particular are kept back for high prices. I fancy in this instance they will find they have counted their chickens before they are hatched.

Stamp Auctions

Our stamp auctions are now in full swing. Possibly some far-away reader of THE POSTAGE STAMP may ejaculate "Stamp Auctions!" Yes, Stamp Auctions, every week, and almost every day of the week from now till the end of June. There are no less than half-a-dozen firms of well-known auctioneers who hold regular sales in London, most of them fortnightly sales of two or three days each. And all through the years of depression that we have had, stamp auctions have been kept going, and whilst house and land property have been a drug in the market, stamps have sold steadily and remarkably well.

How the Sales are Arranged

It may seem odd to some people that sufficient stamps can be found to keep so many sales going, but supplies are sent to the London sales from all over the world, and even the stamp dealers help out now and then, in some cases very frequently.

But what becomes of the dealer whilst the stamp auctioneer offers so much for sale? Well, at first it was thought that the dealer would suffer, but on the whole it is now agreed that the convenience of the auction somewhat outweighs the disadvantage. In fact, it has turned out that the dealer, and not the collector, is the largest buyer at the auctions, for he now largely relies on the auction to replenish much of his stock.

This Season's Promise

Last season was, as a whole, very disappointing in the auction line. No very fine collections were sold, if we except that of Dr. Hetley by Glendining, which was spread over so many sales that we thought we were in for permanent Hetley-Glendining sales. This season opens with more promise. Already we have one sale announced of exceptionally fine things in Great Britain, and I hear that Puttick and Simpson have secured an eighty volume collection from a German collector. Hence we may expect a lively auction season this winter.

Bargains at the Sales

Of course there are bargains every now and again for the wise and knowing to pick up, and there are many shrewd collectors who keep a watch for them. Occasionally a cataloguer will make a slip, and a rarity gets catalogued as an ordinary stamp. Then the eagles gather round, and if there are not too many to share the plunder someone gets a bargain. At a big sale of a highly specialised country some year or so ago, the auctioneer, who is a very practical man, started to the minute, and some of the few early comers picked up a few nice crumbs, one dealer got a £25 stamp for £5 that not a few of the late comers wanted badly. As I specialise in a country that is a bit too much for most people, I have had a good share of bargains.

The Genesis of Stamp Auctions

Stamp Auctions were started a great many years ago on the initiative of a prominent collector who thought the late Mr. Taping was having too much of his own way in the pick of the market in rarities. In those days any dealer who got anything fine offered it first to Mr. Taping, who was a wealthy and generous buyer. As a consequence other collectors had to play second fiddle, and take the leavings. Hence a scheme was set on foot to bring all the rarities into open competition by means of public auctions. The idea took on right away, and the sales have increased every year since, till now we are all crying out that there are about treble as many as are wanted.

How they Affect Prices

It is a strange thing, but I believe I speak well within the mark when I say that the auctions have not materially influenced the trend of prices. It was thought they would bring down the price of rarities with a run, but they scarcely seem to affect the price of rarities, for the very simple reason that fine copies of rare stamps are not so plentiful as to be available in such numbers as to be affected by low sales now and again at the auctions.

As a general rule the commoner stamps fetch up to about 25 per cent. of catalogue price; good stamps from that to half catalogue, and fine copies of rare stamps frequently run over catalogue price.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at home or abroad at the following rates of prepayment; Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d. Outside the United Kingdom, Yearly 8s. 8d., or \$2.00.

New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making the *Postage Stamp* known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Letters of Congratulation

I have to acknowledge many kind letters of congratulation, and lots of good wishes for the success of the *Postage Stamp*. A few I have been able to acknowledge by letter, but the rest I am sure will accept this expression of thanks from me. All recognise the indisputable fact that an absolutely independent journal like the *Postage Stamp* can do much for stamp collecting that cannot be attempted by any trade paper.

Dealer and Collector

Some friends seem to think we shall go on crusade against all and sundry who are milking stamp collectors a bit too vigorously: But we have no crusade intentions, for the simple reason that we are firmly convinced that the real interests of collector and dealer are in the long run mutually inseparable. Now and then they may seem antagonistic, but the interdependence of collector and dealer must prevail over "lettie idiosyncrasies." We have a fairly long acquaintance with plain English, and should occasion arise shall use it. But we infinitely prefer the smooth waters of friendly relations and mutual help all round.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips writes:

"The popular Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., writes: 'I wish the new venture all success. The more literature on our hobby that is published, the more popular the collecting of postage stamps will become, and on this ground alone I, as a stamp dealer, welcome all sound magazines.'"

Mutual Help our Key Note

I am anxious to make mutual help the key-note of the *Postage Stamp*. What we collectors and dealers can do to help each other is demonstrated most strongly at our Exhibitions. Then we throw open our albums with their methods of arrangement and their copious notes for the inspection and the use of all. In our philatelic meetings mutual help is predominant, in fact the most enduring of the many notable friendships in the philatelic world have been generated by mutual help. Jealousy of each other's collections is not a characteristic of stamp collecting, for our rivalries are good-natured rivalries.

Commemorative Rubbish

We hope to do something to render the game of Commemorative Rubbish unprofitable to all concerned in its production and in its sale, for we are convinced that such issues are most harmful and prejudicial to the real interests and stability of stamp collecting.

Mad Speculation

Now and then the stamp collector is tempted into what we can only call a "mad speculation." Some issue is to be scarce, very scarce, now is the time to buy, load up: load up: and he loads up. The money that should have been more legitimately expended in building up his genuine collection is risked in pure speculation on some emergency issue that, according to interested parties, is going to be a grand speculation for a certain rise in prices.

If we can do anything on such occasions to help our fellow collectors to keep cool and free from "mad speculation" we shall do good service to the pursuit itself.

Officials, Unpaid, etc.

We do not intend to spare any space for officials, unpaid, special delivery, etc., stamps, being convinced that the pronounced trend of the best collecting of the day is undoubtedly and wisely in favour of their exclusion. In the opinion of the best judges, these stamps must sooner or later be relegated to a separate catalogue. By far the greater portion of such issues are, we believe, made solely for sale to stamp collectors. This country conducts its vast postal business without such fripperies, but a little state with less than the population of an average English town must have its long series of officials and unpaid. The inference is obvious.

Mems, Notes, and News

I want to make the *Postage Stamp* a storehouse of everything worth preserving that relates to the manufacture, issue, sale and collection of postage stamps. I shall, therefore, be grateful to my readers for any interesting tit-bits they may come across in newspapers, etc.

J.M.H.S. (Liverpool)

Many thanks for your kind wishes. You will notice that the programmes of both the Liverpool Societies were published in our first number. We shall be glad to have prompt reports of your meetings.

Forthcoming Events

- Oct. 7. Liverpool Philatelic Society: Notes on "English Used Abroad," by J. J. Bernstein. Display of English used abroad and Norway.
- " 8. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, London, at 4 p.m.
- " 9. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, London, at 4 p.m.

- Oct. 10. Auction: Ventom Bull & Cooper, at the Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London, at 4.30 p.m.

- " 11.—Auction:—Ventom Bull & Cooper, at the Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, Strand, London, at 4.30 p.m. Manchester Philatelic Society, General Display. Great Britain Mulready envelopes, notes by J. R. M. Albrecht.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 3. Vol. 1

19 OCTOBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Natal: Current 1d. shades



MR. R. DAVIS,
of Southamp-
ton, very
kindly sends
me a very
dark shade of the current
1d. Natal. He writes:—

Have you (or your readers) noticed the shades in the Natal 1d. stamps lately? On a letter I received from Natal on the 11th May I noticed the 1d. stamp was a deep rich red (almost ruby red compared with the ordinary). When replying I asked my friend (who is in the P.O. at Newcastle, Natal) if there was any difference in the printing, etc., and I hear

from him this week "as the penny stamps, I think those you mention must be a lot sent out to the offices in 5s. sheets, and the offices kicked up such a fuss about these small sheets that they returned to the old 1s. sheets again, and there might have been the difference."

Since the letter of May the stamps have been of the usual brick-red kind, and the shade of the specimen is quite distinct from the rest.

Whilst on a recent visit to my old friend Mr. Whitfield King I took the opportunity to examine his stock, and we found the greater portion of a pane of this dark red variety. It should be worth securing.

Holland, 1852, 5c. steel blue

Another shade that should be secured at present catalogue price, according to Mr. C. J. Phillips, is 1852, 10 c. steel blue of Holland.

It seems that a collector has been egging C. J. P. on to increasing the catalogue price of this particular shade. He says he secured "some 6,000 stamps of the 5 c. of the first issue," and after searching them thoroughly, he found only ten copies of the real Simon Pure steel blue.

On hearing this C. J. P. pricks up his ears and proceeds to argue thusly: "According to this, it should be worth six hundred times fourpence, the price of the common 5c., or say £10, in place of the 10s. at which it is quoted in our catalogue."

Ah! it will take a lot of persuasion to convince me that C. J. P. has been selling a £10 stamp for 10s.

New Afghans, unused

According to the signs of the times, at present the new Afghan stamps are not to be sold to the public, and will not, therefore, be obtainable unused, and yet I have little doubt that they will arrive unused in due time.

It seems that they are engraved in blocks of six and because of numerous minor differences of engraving they should be collected in blocks of six.

I don't know if I stand sufficiently well in the books of the Amir to rely upon him for a block of six of each value; if not, I must try elsewhere, but I shall not be happy till I get those interesting blocks of six.

The Herts Monthly Report

The first number of the *Monthly Report of the Herts Philatelic Society* is before me. It is a business-like-public-company kind of report.

There is a balance in hand of £44, and all the departments of the Society's operations, Exchange Packets, Library, Society's Collection, etc., seem to be in the most satisfactory working order.

A new feature is the announcement that Mr. Reichenheim generously places bound volumes of English, French, and German journals in his own private library at the disposal of the members for borrowing purposes.

Salvador Galore

We are to have an attack of Salvador. Every dog, they say, has his day, and it is also an accepted truism that every country from the philatelic point of view gets its chance in the turn of Fortune's wheel. Just now it seems to be the turn of despised Salvador, and if the first instalment which appears in the September number of the *Monthly Journal*, with its fine full-page plates, is a foretaste of developments, I shall have to admit that the stamps of the sadly henpecked Salvador may really be worth more than \$3,000 per shipload after all.

Itinerant Philatelists

I am glad to note that one or two of our great moguls are becoming itinerant, i.e., they are visiting other societies than their own, and giving provincial collectors the opportunity of inspecting their magnificent albums.

It is a good idea, and might be extended. Each provincial society should endeavour to arrange one field night with a great mogul, and the London societies might return the compliment by inviting some of the provincial great moguls to visit them. Some already do so.

A Curious Suggestion

A writer in the *Bazaar* suggests that as the Postal Union determines colours it might also determine the number of issues. He says "It should not be a difficult matter for each Convention to approve a certain issue for each country, to last until the next Convention, and for no permission for a new issue to be granted except for good cause shown, such as, for example, a change of currency, of sovereign, or such like."

The Postal Union concerns itself only with the three values that represent certain postal rates agreed to by the members of the Union in Convention. These values are the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Other values are matters of purely domestic concern, and no country is likely to allow of the interference of the Postal Union, or any other union, in its domestic concerns.

The further suggestion that "a series of resolutions by philatelic societies forwarded to the British delegates might stir them to propose some resolution at the next congress," is intensely amusing.

Reverend Dealers

There must be some natural affinity between preaching and stamp dealing, though for the life of me I cannot conceive what it can be. I don't know a single stamp dealer I would care to recommend for pulpit work, but I do know that "Rev" dealers have always been in evidence as stamp dealers, and are just now notoriously on the increase.

Protection from Friction

Absolute protection from friction is, to my mind, as a condition crank, a most important matter. It is a consideration that has received precious little attention, but will most assuredly be required as a *sine qua non* in the near future.

Half the unused stamps that you find in dealers' stock-books with dulled faces and other unmistakable signs of hard usage have suffered mainly from the continual wear and tear of the album without protection sheets.

Australian Varieties

Still the announcement comes from the Commonwealth that "there are no developments in connection with 'uniform postage stamps.'"

The interregnum is lengthening out with its ever-increasing varieties of the hand to mouth order, and no one knows what the next mail may not provide to be added to the list.

The latest arises from the fact that New South Wales having run short of watermarked paper, borrowed a supply from Victoria, thus we shall have New South Wales stamps watermarked with its own single lined Cr. A paper and also with the Victoria paper with the double lined "A."

Australian Printing Arrangements

Australian stamp-printing arrangements are in a state of muddle, in fact the Commonwealth is taking a very long time to shake down into creditable working order. Instead of the Federal Printing Works at which all the stamps of the Commonwealth are to be printed, and for the establishment of which the money

seems to have been voted over and over again, supplies are printed as follows:—

New South Wales at Sydney.
Queensland at Brisbane.
Victoria at Melbourne.
West Australia at Melbourne.
Tasmania at Melbourne.
South Australia at Adelaide.

New Zealand changes

This colony is beginning to find its variety of size in its pictorial postage stamps very inconvenient, consequently it is reducing them to one uniform small size. So far the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 6d. have been reduced to the same small size, and it now becomes a question whether the 5d., 8d., 1s., 2s., and 5s. will be similarly altered. The change is due to the necessities of printing in sheets of 240 or panes that make up that number.

Bright's New Catalogue

I dropped in at 164 Strand, a few days since, and found Mr. Oliver very busy on his new edition of Bright's Catalogue, which is to be ready for sale next month.

Amongst the new features will be a considerable extension of the Great Britain list, which is to include English stamps used abroad. There will also be some 1,500 new blocks. The price, 1s. 6d., will remain as before.

Whitfield King & Co.'s New Catalogue

Mr. C. Whitfield King, who personally does his own catalogue revision, has almost completed the work for a new edition of his Standard Catalogue, which will be ready early in December next.

In the new edition Mr. King will classify single and multiple C.A.'s in the usual order instead of putting the single C.A.'s in a supplement at the end of the catalogue.

The most important improvement will be in the illustrations, nearly 1,000 new ones being added, making



nearly 4,000 in all. These have been specially engraved by hand, and being deeply cut will give much clearer impressions than could possibly be got from the old "process" blocks.



I have the pleasure of giving a sample or two of these exquisite little blocks.

Impending changes in Colonials

I gather that we shall have not a few important changes during the present season. The *Colonial Office Journal* has told us of a new key plate in course of preparation, and now we hear that all stamps must have figures of value in Arabic numerals. Those stamps which have their values expressed only in words, such as Ceylon, Bahamas, Bermuda, Barbados, Hong Kong, etc., will have to get new designs or considerably alter their present types.

The Stamps of Jamaica

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

THE history of the island of Jamaica is a chequered one from start to finish. It has had more ups and downs, buffets by nature, and buffets by man, than any other of the British possessions in the West Indies.

It was discovered by Columbus, and became the acknowledged birthright of his family for many generations. Indeed, it is a nice point with some writers whether in taking possession of the island we seized personal property, or captured the territory of a Power with which our relations were somewhat strained.

Columbus first sighted the island on his second voyage as he was coming from Cuba in May, 1494, and in his wholesale annexation manner forthwith declared it to be henceforward a portion of the Spanish dominions. He named it St. Jago, after the patron saint of Spain, but the native name, Aymaca (Jamaica) has outlived the Spanish.

In 1503 Columbus, on his fourth and last voyage, again visited the island, this time ill and in great distress. He had been caught in a storm and was forced to run his battered ships aground on the northern coast of the island. The spot on which he took refuge is to-day known as Don Christopher's Cove. Here, Lucas tells us, the great voyager remained in sickness and want, deserted by Ovanda, the Governor of Hispaniola, with his own company in mutiny against him, and befriended only by the natives of the island. At last relief arrived, and he left Jamaica for the last time in June, 1504.

The Spanish occupation of the island lasted for 150 years, during which time they exterminated the native Indians, and did little or nothing to develop the resources of the country.

At the close of the Civil War, Cromwell, wanting an outlet for the restless spirit of his time, especially for those of the Royalist persuasion, picked a quarrel with Spain, fitted out expeditions with Royalist soldiers, and took possession of Jamaica in 1655. Attempts were made to retake it, but ten years later the Treaty of Madrid recognised it as a British possession.

The early settlement of the island by the British was stormy and troublesome. The population consisted only of 1,500 white settlers and about the same number of slaves. Many of the slaves fled to the mountains and formed themselves into lawless bands. They were known as maroons or mountaineers, and harassed the British for many years.

The island also suffered from earthquakes and hurricanes. In 1692 an earthquake destroyed Port Royal, causing immense loss of life and resulted in the rise of Kingston on the other side of the harbour into the position of chief town. The recent destruction of Kingston will be fresh in the memories of all of us.

In 1838 the emancipation of the slaves in the teeth of bitter local opposition led to trouble and unrest. The colony received £6,161,927 as its share of the

compensation, but the difficulty of procuring labour after emancipation practically ruined the sugar-growing industry. The negroes grew idle and insolent. They endeavoured to suppress coolie immigration, and some even proposed the expulsion of the whole white population. The discontent culminated in 1865 in a revolt, which was so vigorously suppressed that the Governor had to be recalled, but the representative constitution which had been so rashly conceded to the negroes was withdrawn, and the island was for some time governed as a Crown Colony.

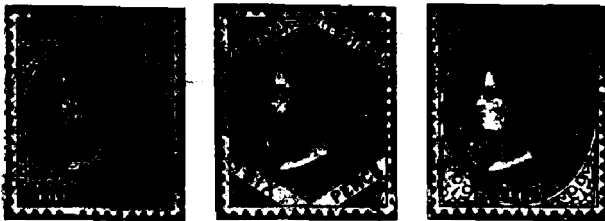
Henceforward matters took a turn for the better, the negroes are no longer idle, crime has diminished, new harbours are being constructed, Cuban refugees are rapidly developing the neglected sugar estates, and a fruit trade is being fostered with the Mother Country. The population is increasing rapidly, and in 1904 stood at 786,500. The revenue generally balances the expenditure, and though the island has not recovered its former measure of prosperity, its friends are hopeful of its future.

Jamaica is the largest of the British West India islands. It is 90 miles south of Cuba, has a length of 144 miles and an extreme width of forty-nine miles. Its area is 4,207 square miles. Kingston, the capital, has a population of 48,500.

Its Philatelic History

The first postage stamps of Jamaica were issued in 1860, and were watermarked with a pineapple design. The first series consisted of six values from 1d. to 1s. Ten years later, in 1871-2, the watermark was changed to Crown and C.C., and a ½d. stamp was added to the list. In 1875 two high values, a 2s. and 5s., were issued. After the lapse of another ten years there was another change of watermark, this time to Crown and C.A., the ½d. was changed to green, the 1d. to carmine, and the 2d. to grey. In 1889 there was another change of colours, the 1d. being changed in design to a small head in a circle with a large tablet of value underneath and printed in lilac and mauve. The 2d. of the same design was printed in green and were evidently regarded as very unsatisfactory, for only one other value, 2½d., has been issued in the same design. In 1890 to provide for the introduction of the Postal Union rate, a provisional 2½d. stamp was issued, the 4d., orange brown, being surcharged with the words "Two Pence Half-Penny." In 1890-7 a 2½d. stamp was issued of the same design as the 1d. and 2d. of 1889 with small head. It was printed in purple and blue. The 6d. was changed to yellow, the 2s. to Venetian red, and the 5s. to violet, and all were watermarked Crown C.A. A pictorial 1d. stamp with a view of Llandoverly Falls made its appearance in 1900, printed in red, which was changed in the following year to red, with the view of the Falls in black, and finally we have a new design with the arms of the colony as the central feature, first with the ordinary or single Crown C.A., and then on paper watermarked with the multiple Crown C.A.

1860. Six values. Design: A laureated head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, with a different framework for each value. Engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on paper watermarked with a pineapple design and perforated 14.



Wmk. Pineapple. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., blue	3	0	0	6
2d., rose	16	0	6	0
3d., green	12	0	3	6
4d., brown orange ..	15	0	5	0
6d., lilac	30	0	3	0
1s., brown	15	0	2	6

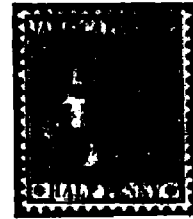
Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

There are few stamps that are so difficult to find in really fine, well-centred mint condition as those of this first issue of Jamaica. With the exception of the 1d. I have never met with a tempting copy of any one of the values. In the matter of values they have maintained the fairly well inflated prices of 1897. The 4d. has been the steadiest of the lot, for it has had no set back from its 1897 price, when it was doubled. Fine mint, well centred copies are worth more than catalogue.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d.	1 0	2 0	1 6	1 6	1 6	1 6	3 6	2 6	3 0
2d.	6 0	13 0	12 6	12 6	13 0	12 6	16 0	16 0	16 0
3d.	7 6	12 6	12 0	10 0	10 0	8 0	10 0	12 0	12 0
4d.	6 0	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	13 0
6d.	12 0	30 0	30 0	25 0	30 0	30 0	35 0	30 0	30 0
1s.	20 0	30 0	20 0	20 0	15 0	12 0	12 0	12 0	15 0

1871-2. Seven values. Designs unchanged, but printed on paper watermarked Crown CC. and with a ½d. stamp added, concerning the issue of which the *Jamaica Gazette* of 7th November, 1872, explained that "Postage labels of the value of one halfpenny each having been provided, the special rule, under which one half of a penny stamp has been permitted to be used in payment of the halfpenny rate of postage, is no longer necessary. The public are therefore hereby notified: That on and after the 1st day of December next, the half part of a Penny Postage Label will cease

to be recognised in the payment of postage, and any Paper, etc., posted with the part only of the Penny Stamp affixed thereon, will be treated as unpaid.



Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

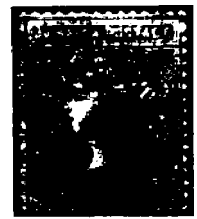
	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., marone	1	0	0	6
1d., blue	3	6	0	2
2d., rose	7	6	0	1
3d., green	8	6	2	0
4d., brown-red	16	0	0	4
6d., lilac	5	0	0	6
1s., dull brown	3	0	1	0

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

The stamps of this series have kept a pretty good price level. The 2d., 3d., and 4d. are below their best price, but the ½d. and 1d. have steadily improved. Strange to say the 1s. has not varied in price once from 1896; the reason may be due to the fact that the 1s. used to be regarded as the best value to store up for a rise with the consequence that supplies have been plentiful, besides which it had a long life till 1897, when it was superseded by the same design and colour on Crown C.A. paper. Still, it is a somewhat remarkable instance of a stamp keeping one price level for ten years.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 2	0 6	0 4	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 9	0 9	1 0
1d.	0 6	1 0	0 9	0 9	0 9	1 6	2 6	2 6	3 6
2d.	0 9	4 0	10 0	10 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
3d.	2 6	4 0	10 0	10 0	6 6	6 6	8 6	8 6	8 6
4d.	10 0	15 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	16 0	16 0	16 0
6d.	3 6	5 0	4 6	4 6	4 6	4 0	5 0	5 0	5 0
1s.	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0

1875. Two values. Designs: the same laureated head of Queen Victoria with profile to left but in separate framework, engraved and printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown C.C., but perf. 12½. With the exception of these two values all the stamps of Jamaica are uniformly perf. 14 from the first issue to the last.



Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2s., red-brown	4	0	4	0
5s., lilac	15	0	16	0

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

The 20 and 5s. Crown C.C. perf. 12½ were superseded in 1897 by the same designs printed in shades of much the same colours, consequently in 1899 the price of both was raised, that of the 5s. being nearly doubled. It was raised again in 1900, and again in 1902, till it reached 20s., from which quotation it has since been dropping to the present price of 15s. Copies in fine mint condition are fairly plentiful, but it should some day be a good stamp.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2s. ..	3 6	3 6	4 6	4 6	5 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0
5s. ..	7 6	8 6	15 0	17 6	20 0	17 6	17 6	15 0	15 0

1883-6. Five values. Designs unchanged, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. Perforated 14 as before, but three changes of colour; the ¼d. from marone to green, the 1d. first printed on the Crown C.A. paper in its old colour of blue in 1883, and then in 1885 changed to the Postal Union colour of red; the 2d. printed on Crown C.A. paper in its old colour of rose in 1884, was in 1885 changed to grey to avoid clashing with the 1d. red.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

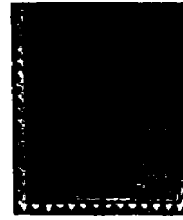
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
¼d., green ..	0 1	0 1
1d., blue ..	12 6	0 4
1d., carmine ..	0 6	0 6
2d., rose ..	20 0	0 1
2d., grey ..	4 0	0 3
3d., green ..	0 8	0 4
4d., orange brown ..	0 6	0 2

Range of Catalogue Prices, unused

This series is rendered interesting by reason of the changes which were made in colours consequent on compliance with the Postal Union requirements. The 1d. blue and the 2d. rose in their old colours with their comparatively brief life are the scarce stamps of the series. They do not stand at their best prices, but they are in fine mint condition most desirable stamps, and are far more likely to rise than fall in price. There are many scarce shades in this series, a brown red in contrast to the ordinary and later printing in orange red is catalogued at 30s. The 1d. rose is also an early print of that value, and is worth about three times that of the carmine. Shades of the 3d. are plentiful and common.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
¼d. ..	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
1d. (blue) ..	10 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	12 6	15 0	12 6	12 6
1d. (carmine) ..	0 4	0 6	0 4	0 4	0 6	0 3	0 4	0 6	0 6
2d. (rose) ..	15 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
2d. (grey) ..	0 6	1 0	3 0	3 0	2 6	2 6	4 0	4 0	4 0
3d. ..	1 0	0 6	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 5	0 8	0 8
4d. ..	1 0	1 0	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6

1889. Two values. Design: Small diademed head of Queen Victoria with profile to left enclosed in a circle occupying the upper portion of the stamp with a large tablet containing numeral of value below, engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A., and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., lilac and mauve..	0 2	0 1
2d., green ..	0 3	0 2

1890. Provisional. One value. Design: the 4d. orange brown of 1883-6 surcharged "Two pence—Half-penny" in two lines in their sans serif capitals in black.



Provisional.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½d. on 4d. orange-brown..	3 0	3 0

Varieties. There are varieties of this surcharge, including double surcharge, treble surcharge, broken letters and a distortion that has the appearance of a "K" instead of "Y" in "Penny."

Double Surcharge.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½d. on 4d. orange brown ..	40 0	40 0

1890-7. Five values. Designs: The 2½d. of the small head in circle design of 1889; the others unchanged in design but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½d., lilac and ultramarine..	0 6	0 1
6d., orange ..	0 8	0 4
1s., brown ..	1 4	—
2s., Venetian red ..	2 8	—
5s., violet ..	8 0	—

1900-1. One value. Design: a view of Llandovery Falls. This view has been recognised as a bit of Welsh scenery, and I have never seen any explanation as to its appearance on the Jamaica stamp. Possibly they have a Llandovery Falls of their own in the Colony. Engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by

them on paper watermarked Crown C.C. and perf. 14. The design was first issued in red, then it was changed to centre in black and framework in red.



Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., red.. ..	0 2	0 1
1d., red and black ..	0 2	0 1

1903-4. Four values. Design: The arms of the Colony, engraved by Messrs. De la Rue and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. (single) and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green, centre black ..	0 2	0 1
1d., carmine ..	0 4	0 1
2½d., ultramarine ..	0 4	—
5d., yellow ..	0 7	1 0

1905. Six values. Designs as before, the 3d., 6d., and 1s. old types and the ½d., 1d., and 5s. in the arms type, all printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. and perf. 14.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green and black ..	0 1	—
1d., carmine and black ..	0 2	—
3d., olive green ..	0 5	0 4
6d., orange ..	0 8	—
1s., brown ..	1 4	—
5s., violet and black ..	6 0	—

1906. Two values. Design: The arms, type redrawn and slightly modified, most noticeably in the name tablet at the top, and each printed in one colour instead of bicoloured as before.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d., green ..	0 1	0 1
1d., carmine ..	0 2	0 1

Varieties. A minor variety has been found in the arms type in the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. values of the single C.A. issue and it is said to exist in the 5d. value of the multiple C.A. series which I have not seen. The variety consists of a defect in the plate, the "vi" of "serviet" in the motto having been smashed.

British Colonial Stamps

Methods of Production

From the "COLONIAL OFFICE JOURNAL"

(Continued from p. 25.)

SOME particulars as to the manufacture of the paper on which stamps are printed may be of interest to our readers. It is machine-made, and watermarked by means of a private dandy-roll, the cost of which in the case of the Crown Colonies has been defrayed by them in proportion to the amount of paper used by each.

The dandyroll is of the shape of a drum, about six inches in diameter and equal in length to the width of the paper. It is made of brass gauze and the emblems (which in the case of the Crown Colonies are C.A. and the Crown) are punched with steel dies out of sheets of brass, sewn on at intervals with fine brass wire. The paper is made from cuttings of Irish longcloth which is

first reduced to its original condition before it was woven. The dandyroll passes over the pulp as soon as it has settled into the form of paper, and before the drying begins, and the local pressure of the above mentioned emblems marks the paper.

The dandyroll is kept locked up by an Inspector appointed by the Inland Revenue Department, except when it is actually in use. The paper made each day is counted and any made in excess of the order is retained in his custody until another order reaches the mills.

The paper is then sent to the Inspector at the Stamp Manufacturers' Works, and duly counted out to them as required in exchange for a receipt.

Chalky Paper

It is at this point that some of the paper is treated with the solution which produces the so-called chalky appearance. This is done to paper required for stamps printed in doubly fugitive ink, but not to that on which singly fugitive ink is used. The reason is that in the latter case this additional precaution is not required, as stamps printed in this ink are only intended to be proof against attempts to clean off cancellations applied by means of proper obliterating ink. It will thus be seen that stamps which are supposed by some people to differ only in respect of the presence or absence of a chalky surface differ also in the character of the ink employed for printing them. A chalky surface will never be found on a stamp which is not at least partly printed in green, lilac or black, these being the double fugitive colours, and not always in these cases, and a practised eye is required to detect which ink has been employed. An example of this is to be found in the recent change to singly fugitive ink of the stamps of the Federated Malay States. The 4 and 10 cents stamps are now printed in singly fugitive ink, and one printing of the 20 and 50 cents stamps was made in similar ink, which has however again been abandoned in favour of doubly fugitive ink, and consequently chalk-surfaced paper for these two values.

The Printing Plates

The printing plates are "proved" on ordinary coloured paper without watermark, for no white paper is allowed on the works. The making-ready occupies a considerable amount of time as the slightest inequality in the plate has to be compensated by "underlaying" and "overlaying." Underlaying is the insertion of paper between the printing plate and iron back and overlaying is the insertion of paper on the "drum" which carries the sheets of paper on to the printing plate.

Mixing the Colours and Perforating

The next difficulty to be overcome is the mixing of the colour or ink, so as to match the pattern stamp exactly. The trials have to be made on paper of the same kind as that which will be used for the stamps, as the slightest variation of the character of the paper affects the colour of the stamp. The printed sheets of stamps are eventually counted out to the firm for perforation. This is done by machines with a large number of accurately-placed needles, each of which fits exactly into a bed, and it may easily be imagined that breakage of the needles is far from a rare occurrence. Indeed, a staff of workmen is perpetually attending to this one branch of the business.

Flaws and Condemned Sheets

The last process is the examination for flaws and for final counting. The quickness of the trained eye in detecting the slightest defects is most astonishing. An untrained eye may search long for the defect for which a sheet has been condemned. Of course one defect in a sheet of 240 or 120 stamps does not condemn the whole sheet. If it is one of 240 stamps only the quarter in which the offending stamp occurs is sacrificed the remainder of the sheet being then divided into sheets of 60 stamps. Thus original sheets of stamps may be found to contain sometimes 240 and sometimes 60 stamps. The condemned sheets are destroyed by fire in the presence of the Inspector, who has to show that the sheets so destroyed, together with those passed by him, make up the total given out for the order.

Postal Union Colours

A question that is often asked by philatelists is why many of the Colonies use $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps printed in colours other than those prescribed by the Postal Union Convention of Washington. It has been raised as recently as April of this year in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. The answer may have been gathered from the last number of this Journal, but it may be worth while to give it more explicitly. Until recently it was thought wiser to print stamps of all values in doubly fugitive ink, and unless coloured paper is used (the artistic effect of which is not quite satisfactory, the resulting colour not being very clear), part of each stamp must then be printed either in purple, black or green. The last-named colour suited the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. duty, but the only way in which the red and blue colours could be introduced in the other two values was on the labels at the top and bottom of each stamp, the body of which was printed in doubly fugitive purple. This is still done in a few cases, but the Rome Postal Union Convention has made it obligatory for the prescribed colours to be followed as from 1st October, and the change will, we believe, be made as early as possible.

Impending Changes

Another point which is of considerable interest to stamp collectors will be found in the provision of the Rome Convention that stamps of all values which are valid for the prepayment of postage on correspondence sent from one country of the Postal Union to another must, as from 1st October, bear their values in Arabic numerals. This, if strictly carried out, will involve a new issue of stamps in all cases in which the values are expressed in words. The first Colony to take definite action in this matter is Ceylon, where, however, the change will not take effect until March of next year, when five and six cents stamps of the new pattern may be expected. The expense of complying strictly with this regulation will be considerable and will fall heavily upon the smaller Colonies, and the new plates will therefore only be made as opportunities occur.

An International Postage Stamp

The new international stamp agreed upon at the Rome Postal Congress of 1906, on the motion of Mr. Henniker Heaton, has now been prepared and will be issued for use next month. The stamp is really a coupon measuring approximately four inches by three. It has been designed by M. Eugene Grasset, and engraved by M. E. Florian, both of Paris, who have been responsible for some of the best French stamps of recent years. The coupon is headed "Coupon-Réponse International."

The vignette on the stamp represents the figure of a goddess as a messenger of peace from one hemisphere to the other. In the background are olive branches. The robes of the goddess are a blueish-grey fading in the background into a yellowish-green. The olive branches are also of that colour, making a soft, harmonious blend. The stamp has been made by Messrs. Benziger and Company, of Einsiedeln, Switzerland. Immediately above the figure are the words in each case in the language of the country which issues the stamp.

"This coupon can be exchanged for a stamp of the value of 25 centimes, or the equivalent of this amount, in the countries which have accepted the agreement."

The coupon is really a kind of little postal order to bearer, to be exchanged for stamps so that anyone writing, say, from Europe to America, and wishing to send a stamp for reply, can take advantage of it.

Five million stamps have been printed, and each country will order several hundred thousands.

The countries which have entered into the arrangement include Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, United States, Spain, British Colonies, French Colonies, Egypt, Mexico, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Sweden, Switzerland, Roumania, Japan, Siam, Korea, Greece, Italy, Chili, Costa-Rica, Crete, Denmark, Luxemburg, and Norway.—*Daily Chronicle*, 12.9.07.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

British Central Africa. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 1d. and 6d. values printed on Multiple C.A. paper. The types and colours are as before, and we have no news yet of the postal change to Nyassaland.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

1d., carmine, centre grey.

6d., buff, centre grey.

Cyprus. According to the *Colonial Office Journal*, this island is to be supplied with a 5 paras stamp. The *C.O.J.* adds this value "is, we think, the lowest value used by any of the colonies, as 40 paras make up 1 piastre, the international equivalent of 1d."

Federated Malay States. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that "owing to alterations in connection with the local currency of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States the 3 cents stamp will in both cases take the place of the 4 cents stamp as the international equivalent of 10 centimes. It will, therefore, be printed all in red, and the 4 cents Straits Settlements stamp will be in lilac, and that of the Federated Malay States will remain black and red as at present."

The same authority also informs us that the 8 cents stamps will in future be printed all in blue.

Grenada. The *Colonial Office Journal* states that "It has been decided that the Grenada postage and revenue stamps for 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 5s., and 10s., shall in future bear the colony's badge, instead of, as hitherto, the King's head, and they will be surface-printed with doubly fugitive inks, instead of copper plated."

By the "Colony's badge" we presume is meant the ship design of which, so far, we have had only the ½d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d. values, all of which were issued in 1905. The announcement of the *C.O.J.* evidently means that the King's head is to be discarded altogether and that we are to have a full series in the ship design.

Hong Kong. This colony has ordered a new value, *i.e.*, 6 cents, says the *Colonial Office Journal*, but we are not told what the colour will be. 6 cents is not quite a new value for there was a 6 cents, lilac, in the issue of 1863-71, but the value has not since been repeated.

Mauritius. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that several corrections have been made in the arms of this colony, necessitating a change in the existing issue of stamps in the early future.

Northern Nigeria. The *Colonial Office Journal* says that "the last supply of ½d. and 1d. Northern Nigeria stamps in two colours has just been despatched. In future these values and also the 2½d. value will be printed in the Postal Union colours," *i.e.*, the ½d.

purple and green will be changed to all green, the 1d. purple and red to all red, and the 2½d. purple and blue to all blue.

St. Lucia. According to the *Colonial Office Journal* this colony has ordered ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps in the Postal Union colours, which means that the present ½d., purple and green, will be changed to all green, the 1d. from purple and red to all red, and the 2½d. from purple and blue to all blue.

St. Vincent. (27.) Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 2½d. in the new Peace and Justice design.



New Design.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

½d., green.

1d., carmine.

2½d., ultramarine.

3d., violet.

Straits Settlements. The *Colonial Office Journal* announces that "owing to alterations in connection with the local currency of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States the 3 cents stamp will in both cases take the place of the 4 cents stamp as the international equivalent of 10 centimes. It will therefore be printed all in red, and the 4 cents Straits Settlements stamp will be in lilac, and that of the Federated Malay States will remain black and red as at present."

Sudan.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles a change of colour of the 4 mils. issued about December, 1906. The colour is now red and brown (the centre being in red), instead of pale blue and brown. This change was not unexpected, as 4 mils. is equivalent to 1d., so the former colours were not in accordance with the regulations of the Postal Union. The watermark and perforation remain unchanged.

Wmk. Multi. Star and Crescent. Perf. 14.

4 mils., red and brown.

Transvaal. The *Colonial Office Journal* states that 2½d. stamps printed in two colours are being supplied to this colony for the last time. In future they will be printed in all blue. "The number of 1d. stamps required annually by the Transvaal," says the same journal, "is so large that a fresh 240 set plate is being prepared for use with the existing plate, thus enabling the stamps to be supplied in sheets of 480.

Great American Collections

By J. GORDON BOEHM

Mr. Geo. H. Worthington: Hawaiians, etc.

THREE hundred thousand dollars is the estimate by experts of the value of the stamp collection owned by Geo. H. Worthington, of Cleveland, O., said to be the finest in the United States. It is indeed one of the finest in the world and is remarkable for rare stamps in blocks of four and unused specimens.

One of the greatest rarities of his holdings is a specimen of the rare Hawaiian two-cent missionary stamp on an original envelope. Only two specimens are known in this condition, although there are several copies of the stamp without the envelope. This one stamp is easily worth \$5,000.

Stamp after stamp in Mr. Worthington's albums is worth from \$1,000 to \$5,000. He has one of the famous ten-cent Baltimore postmaster stamps on the original envelope, said to be the best copy in existence. Only three other specimens are known, and it is easily worth \$5,000. Of the same Baltimore stamps he also has the only known pair of five-cent stamps, the value of which only an auction sale could determine.

Mr. H. J. Duveen: British Guiana, etc.

The next most valuable collection of stamps in this country is owned by Henry J. Duveen of New York. It includes a collection of the rare British Guiana stamps which is rated among the most complete in existence, and won for him a gold medal at the recent English exhibition.

Of the Guiana stamps Mr. Duveen possesses a pair of the type set stamps of the issue of 1850-51, on the original envelopes. They are said to be worth \$5,000 apiece. Another great Guiana rarity is the 1856 four-cent stamp on sugar paper, which is also easily worth \$5,000. This is likewise on the original envelope, which makes a great difference in the value. Mr. Duveen's collection is valued at \$250,000.

Mr. Chas. L. Pack: British North America

Easily worth a quarter-of-a-million dollars are the postage stamps of Chas. L. Pack, of Lakewood, N. J. They are said to include the most complete series of British North American stamps ever gathered together.

These Mr. Pack has both on and off the original envelopes, all kinds of shade so dear to the heart of the specialist, provisional issues, both used and unused, and even split stamps. The last are those which have been cut in half in order to get their proper value, and they are very rare.

Mr. Pack has a dozen copies of the scarce twelve-penny Canadian stamps, each of which is worth from \$350 to \$600, according to its condition. Some of these are in pairs and are worth very much more than single specimens.

He has all the rare unused scarlet and orange Newfoundland stamps of 1857, some of which are worth from \$100 to \$800 each when in fine condition. Also, he owns every one of the rare shilling stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Mr. Pack started to collect in 1870 and at the English exhibition he won first prize over the finest collections in Europe.

Mr. W. H. Sussdorf: U.S.A., Argentine, etc.

W. H. Sussdorf, of New York City, has a collection valued at \$100,000. He owns some of the greatest rarities of the United States series, among them being several of the very rare inverted stamps of the 1869 issue, some of which are valued at \$2,500 each. His series of Argentine stamps is complete and contains all the rarities ever issued by that country. Of the scarce early Ceylons his collection numbers nearly every variety.

Mr. Henry J. Crocker: Hawaiians

Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco, has another of the most valuable collections in this country. His collection of the high-priced Hawaiian stamps is the most complete in the world, and with it he won the championship at the world's stamp exhibition.

It is hard to estimate Mr. Crocker's stamp holdings, but it is safe to say that their value is not far short of \$150,000. In the big fire last year in San Francisco he lost \$60,000 worth of stamps which he had temporarily removed from the safe deposit vaults to his office, although the remainder of his collection escaped, including the rare Hawaiian stamps.

Mr. Crocker's stamps include many of the Hawaiian plain border numerals, this series being the most complete known. In these all the original plates have been reassembled, among them being the one and two cent, in pale blue and the two-cent on dull blue and robin's egg paper.

A block of six unusual two-cent pale blue island stamps on bluish white is said to be a stamp rarity that could not be duplicated, as there is not a used pair of this variety in existence. Of the regular Hawaiian issues Mr. Crocker's collection includes all the shades, blocks and sheets, and also the inverted and double surcharged specimens made by the provisional government in 1893.

Mr. Crocker's cousin, William H. Crocker, is also an enthusiastic collector, and the value of his belongings is put at \$75,000.

Messrs. John N. Luff, Paul, Bruner [Dents] etc.]

John N. Luff, of New York, one of the leading authorities on postage stamps in the world, owns a collection of general varieties valued at \$60,000. This is exclusive of his series of United States stamps, which he recently disposed of for \$20,000.

D. L. Pinckney, of Boston, owns a collection worth \$75,000. These stamps include the issues of all countries.

William Thorne, of New York, recently deceased, had a stamp collection which was sold for \$45,000 to a Boston firm.

H. W. Paul, of Philadelphia, has a collection valued at \$50,000. It embraces one of the finest series of the stamps of the United States ever brought together.

P. F. Bruner, of New York, has stamps estimated to be worth \$40,000. His series of Swiss stamps is notable, but his collection is especially remarkable for the superb condition of every single specimen.

H. E. Deats, of Flemington, N.J., owns a collection valued at \$85,000. It is famous for its series of Confederate stamps.

Mr. F. W. Ayer spent \$300,000 on Stamps

F. W. Ayer, of Bangor, had one of the greatest stamp collections ever owned in the United States. Although he did not begin to collect until 1892 he soon had a collection that ranked with the very best. He is said to have spent more than \$300,000 for his stamps, a great number of which greatly increased in value.

Mr. John F. Seybold: Collection on Envelopes

John F. Seybold, of Syracuse, N.Y., had a collection easily worth \$100,000. He began to collect it when he was fourteen and kept it up ever since. He has been a general collector, taking all the regular United States issues and the revenue stamps as well, but he is principally noted for owning the finest collection of stamps on original envelopes in the world.

Mr. Seybold wants not only the stamp, but also the envelope on which it was used. His stamps number not less than 70,000 varieties.

One of his rarities is the Brattleboro postmaster stamp. He has a strip of three of the rare three silbergroschen Oldenburg stamps on one envelope and a block of six on another. His collection of Spanish stamps is nearly complete, and embraces the scarce two-real orange stamps of 1851 on the envelope. His series of United States stamps is lacking in only one of two rarities, while his series of British North American is practically complete.

One of Mr. Seybold's valued specimens is a rare twenty-penny Canadian stamp on the original envelope. Only two copies of this stamp in the same condition are known. The one owned by Mr. Seybold was bought in England some years ago for \$600, but is now worth very much more.

—From *Office Appliances*, U.S.A.

Our Library Table

The Stamps of Sarawak

The Postage Stamps of Sarawak (with a History of the Post Office in Sarawak from 1869-1906). By Fred. J. Melville, President of the Junior Philatelic Society, London. With Collotype Plates and Illustrations., London, Charles Missen & Co., 7 Southampton Row, W.C.

THIS excellent little brochure is full of matter to guide the would-be student and specialist of the stamps of Sarawak. It deals with the various issues in their chronological order, and it is illustrated with very clear and, therefore, very useful, reproductions.

Who Printed the First Issue?

Mr. Melville has very wisely collated the evidence in proof of the error made in Gibbons' Catalogue in attributing the printing of the First Issue to Mr. Charles Whiting. We quote what he says in full:—

It has been difficult to obtain access to the earliest postal papers and documents of Sarawak. One solitary Government notification is all that can be found prior to 1871, and doubtless owing to the very slight use of the Sarawak Post during the next fifteen years, very few communications were issued to the public during that period.

A stamp representing one value, three cents, was made to the order of the Sarawak Government, by Messrs. Maclure, Macdonald and Macgregor, of London, in June, 1868, and an announcement in *The Philatelist* of 1st September, 1868, that the first supply was then on its way out, constitutes the first record of any suggestion or proposal to establish a postal service in Sarawak.

The paragraph in *The Philatelist*, which was illustrated by a picture of the stamp, is here quoted:

"The new emission is lithographed brown on yellow paper, and is the work of the well-known firm of Messrs. Maclure, Macdonald and Macgregor, the engravers of the current set of Montevideo, and other stamps."

More conclusive evidence is given by *The Philatelist* (May, 1874), in a paragraph "communicated by the Rajah of Sarawak," in which His Highness states in reference to both the first and second issues (i.e., the 3 cents of 1869 and 3 cents of 1871) that:

"Both series of stamps were produced by Messrs. Maclure and Macdonald, 37 Walbrook, E.C. The former issue was made in June, 1868, and put into circulation in the spring of 1869. On the arrival in Sarawak of the stamps (made in September, 1870) which are now current, the surplus stock of the former issue was burned, a few specimens only being retained."

Even these facts do not seem to have settled the disagreement on the subject, so in 1906 a philatelist wrote to Messrs. Maclure & Co., as the firm is now styled, and they replied that "About the year 1868 we (then Maclure & Macdonald) engraved and printed Sarawak stamps to the order of Rajah Brooke."

This, at least, must answer the claimants for Mr. Whiting, and finally give the credit for their manufacture to Messrs. Maclure & Macdonald.

As a matter of fact we pointed out the error in Gibbons' Catalogue so far back as 1904. Other writers have been too easily misled by Gibbons, taking it for granted that a work in which so many of our best specialists have collaborated must have good grounds for definite statements of this sort. But in this case our Gibbons, for once, was obstinately wrong.

Engraved Copies of the First Issue

Mr. Melville, speaking of the first issued stamp, says:

"Undoubted copies of this stamp have been found engraved instead of lithographed, as in the case of the previous issue. Only two copies have been discovered: one is in the British Museum (Tapping Collection), and is described as before, "colour of paper changed," but this is clearly not the case, as the paper is white paper, with the deep yellow applied afterwards to the surface. The second copy is in the writer's collection. Both the copies known are obliterated with a postmark, and appear to have been used."

These engraved copies must be proofs for we know the stamps were lithographed to save the expense of engraving a plate, and if no plate was engraved, any engraved prints must have been proofs from the original die. One or two used copies prove nothing in this case.

Second Issue the Most Interesting

Interest in the stamps of Sarawak largely centres in the second issue, because of its interesting minor varieties. The origin of these varieties Mr. Melville explains: "It is clear that the stamps were made from the same die, but that the old value was erased and the new ones substituted. The inscription of the new value was in each case transferred to the stone in strips of five, and as the five inscriptions on the transfer varied slightly from each other, they make five distinct types of each value." Then follow full details of the types with plates to make the work of identification easy.

"Two Cents" or 3 cents, a Black Sheep

There is a black sheep in the flock, and this black sheep is a "TWO CENTS" on 3 cents. Mr. Melville gives the evidence for and against this claimant to catalogue rank, and comes to the conclusion that "there can be little doubt that the stamp is a fictitious issue," and so say all of us.

Dominican Republic

First Issue: Proposed fraudulent Reprint

WE publish the following interesting correspondence to put stamp collectors on their guard, for although our old friends Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., have sent a reply which they amusingly describe as fitting the occasion, some black sheep will probably be found to do the needful. The *cliché* referred to is no doubt that of the first issue.

The Editor, THE POSTAGE STAMP.

DEAR SIR,—

We enclose copy of a letter which we have received from Santo Domingo, to which we have sent a reply to fit the occasion. Attached to the letter in question is a slip of yellow paper on which is a hand-struck impression of the "Un Real" Dominican Republic stamp of the type of 1865. As the impression appears to have been taken from the original die

we shall be much obliged if you will insert a note in your next issue, warning collectors against reprints of this stamp.

Yours faithfully,

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

SANTO DOMINGO,
5th September, 1907.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,
Ipswich, England.

DEAR SIRS,—

I attach hereto a rough print of the 1862 Santo Domingo "Un Real" stamp, of which I am in possession of the original *cliché*. I will be glad to know if you could have a quantity of these printed for me, and if you can arrange to get this done on papers of the proper colour, having the appearance of age, and using old ink.

I should want probably a couple of dozen prints of each issue. What would your terms be?

Very faithfully yours,

From Other Magazines

Afghanistan: 1893, &c., make-up of Sheets

WE have had an opportunity of examining some complete sheets and large blocks of the stamps of 1893, etc. (Type 45), and 1900, etc. (Type 48), and it seems advisable to give a description of them before they are broken up. Each sheet contains sixty-three stamps, in seven horizontal rows of nine; they appear to be lithographed, and there are no varieties of type, except those arising from defective transfers, blotches, and bad printing, but we find evidence of more than one stone having been made up for the earlier issue. In each case the pane of stamps is surrounded by a single-lined frame, and there are cross lines, vertical and horizontal, dividing the pane into oblong spaces, each of which contains a stamp; it is by means of breaks and irregularities in these lines that impressions from the various stones can be most easily identified, but they are of no great interest except to the specialist, as there are no real variations in the stamps themselves.

Of Type 45 we have the 1 a. on *yellow-green*, No. 217, in one setting; the 1 a. on *green*, No. 218, in a second setting; and the 1 a. on *yellow-green* (a different shade), the 1 a. on *orange*, No. 222, the 1 a. on *lavender-rose*, No. 224, and the 1 a. on *deep rose*, No. 226, in a third setting, distinguished principally by the bottom frame line of the pane being double in several places.

Of Type 48 we have the 2 a. on *peacock-blue*, No. 239, the 2 a. on *yellow*, No. 242, the 2 a. on *dale yellow* (a variety of shade), and the 2 a. on *purple*, No. 244, all in the same setting.

Rothschild's Collection: Where is it?

It was during his stay in Brussels that he set about arranging his collection. People were engaged by M. Moëns to mount and arrange the stamps in albums with movable leaves, of which there were fifty volumes. A skilled writer was employed to write the titles, and all under the supervision of M. Moëns—a singular way of collecting.

When the collection returned to Paris, a person was sent to finish the arranging of the stamps that had been added since the first arrangement was made; when his work was finished he returned to Brussels.

The collection of M. A. de Rothschild was sold in London, according to its owner. It seems certain that nobody bought it; certain stamps would have identified it immediately. Such are Belgium, Telegraph, 50 c. and 1 fr. of 1860, imperforate; the 10 c. and 20 c. "Taxe" of 1870, and the 40 c. postage stamp of 1869, also imperforate, which nobody possesses and which were obtained from the printing works at Malines, by order of the Director of the Posts, M. Fassioux, with the permission of the Postmaster-General. There are even some 10 c. and 30 c., of 1869, imperforate, which caused M. Moëns the unpleasantness of being suspected of having abstracted them, or of having imitated them, until he made known the source whence he obtained them and the way in which M. A. de Rothschild had got them. In that collection there are also specimens of the two "Post Office" Mauritius, which have never reappeared.

M. A. de Rothschild was never a very fervent collector, nor was his passion for it very keen; thus he was never led to give high prices for stamps; the maximum has been about £20. In a moment of rare expansion, or rather in one of his many moments of *ennui*, he used to say that he would burn the collection or wall it up. Why? I should think a banker would be incapable of doing such a thing. It is my belief that the fifty volumes containing the collection are still on the

shelves of his library, whence they will come forth some day perhaps.—L. HANCIAU in the *Monthly Journal*.

First English Philatelic Periodical

Mr. Thomas William Kitt, in the *Philatelist* of January, 1867, thus told the story of the first English philatelic periodical:—

"Towards the middle of the year 1862, when Philately was becoming very popular, appearances led me to conclude that a periodical entirely devoted to that subject would prove a great boon to collectors, and also a lucrative investment to its proprietors. Accordingly, in the summer of the year named, I inserted an advertisement in the *Boy's Own Magazine*, requesting any gentlemen who were of a similar opinion to join me in the undertaking. This advertisement was productive of innumerable replies, requesting further information, but so many as half-a-dozen of them spoke favourably of my scheme. In order to 'leave not a stone unturned' for the attainment of the end in view, I had personal interviews with many of the leading English collectors residing in or near London, and in consequence of its being 'Exhibition year,' I was enabled to meet several from the country; but 'public opinion' seemed so much against me that I reluctantly abandoned the enterprise, thinking it folly to undertake what my superiors in the knowledge of Philately thought so unpromising. My voluminous correspondence on the subject and earnest endeavours to bring about the consummation of my wishes were, however, rewarded with success. For Mr. A. Perris, of Liverpool (one of the few gentlemen who thought favourably of my plans), entered warmly into the matter; but from reasons above stated I declined rendering him any pecuniary assistance, although I placed my pen at his service, of which he availed himself. However—*his coronat opus*—on 15th December, 1862, the harbinger of a new style of literature made its appearance in the shape of the *Monthly Advertiser*, afterwards known as the *Stamp Collector's Review*. This publication, after having proved of great service to philatelists, and as an investment tolerably successful, died out in 1864, the last number having been issued on 15th June of that year. Such is the history of the first philatelic periodical published in England, and of which I must, with pride, claim to be the primary originator."

India: Stamp Booklets

The existing stamp-booklets of the Indian Post Office containing half-anna and one anna stamps interleaved with oiled paper, which are sold at an additional charge of three pies (one pice) over the face value of the stamps contained in them to cover the cost of manufacture, having been found defective in some respects, a new and better description of stamp booklets have now been provided. The new booklets consist of three kinds:—

- (1) Half-anna stamp booklets each containing eight pages of four stamps each or thirty-two stamps in all;
- (2) Half-anna and one anna combined stamp booklets each containing four pages of half-anna stamps and two pages of one anna stamps, each page containing four stamps, or twenty-four stamps in all;
- (3) One anna stamp booklets, each containing four pages of four stamps each, or sixteen stamps in all.

The booklets will be sold for the value of the stamps contained in them without any additional charge on account of the cost of manufacture. The sale price of the booklets is, thus: Re 21 each.—*The Philatelic Journal of India*.

Mems, Notes and News

Postal Shortcomings

MR. HENNIKER HEATON, who has carried such important reforms in the Post Office as the Imperial Penny Postage scheme, besides being the introducer of telegraph money orders in this country, gives us in the *Nineteenth Century* an imaginary sketch of the Postmaster-General and his secretary at what may be considered as a normal morning's work.

Express Letters.

Sec.: Here is a letter from a Glasgow man saying his letters are not delivered until eight o'clock, whereas twenty years ago he got them at 7.30 a.m., before he went to business, and now he sometimes does not get his letters until night time. He has been told that the postal business generally has increased so much that individuals must put up with inconvenience. He does not think this reply satisfactory.

P.M.-Gen.: Just acknowledge his letter. You cannot satisfy that type of mind. At least he gets more time for digesting breakfast, besides half-an-hour's respite from bad news.

Postmarking.

Sec.: A philatelic collector states that the present illegible, indistinct, and smudgy postmarks on letters cause general dissatisfaction. The clean and distinct American postmarking machine should, therefore, be introduced in the British postal service.

P.M.-Gen.: These marks give us satisfaction, for they render it more difficult to prove delay in transmission. But say that the American machines are being slowly introduced, and will in the course of a generation—no, of a few years—be universal.

Newspaper and Periodical Postage.

Sec.: A publisher asks that the rules requiring a periodical, in order to pass as a "registered newspaper," to be published at intervals not exceeding seven days, and to contain a certain proportion of news and articles of a given character, should be abolished, so that magazines should no longer be excluded from the advantages of the newspaper postage. He says that a paper weighing 2½ pounds goes through the post for a halfpenny, and a magazine the same weight is charged 8½d.

P.M.-Gen.: My hands are tied by Act of Parliament. But personally I regard this excess charge on reviews and magazines as a tax on luxuries, and therefore justifiable.

The Reduction of Inland Postal Rates

For inland post cards and light letters India has long had the cheapest postal service in the world, but, in accordance with the promise made by the Commercial Member of the Governor-General's Council last March, further reductions are to take effect from to-day. The quarter-anna (farthing) rate for post cards cannot, of course, be lowered; but the weight of letters to be carried for half an anna (halfpenny) is raised from three-quarters of a tola to one tola, thus permitting of the use of more substantial paper and envelopes than hitherto. The United Kingdom has hitherto had the cheapest penny rate—i.e., 4 oz.—but India will now have this distinction, the 10 tolas to be carried for an anna—as against 1½ tolas in the past—being slightly in excess of the English 4 oz. limit. Having regard to the distances inland letters are conveyable in India, the cheapness of the service is still more remarkable. The Indian Post Office extends its operations from Cape Comorin to the Hindu Kush, from the Makran Coast on the confines of Persia to the borders of Siam, and the rates are also applicable to Aden and Ceylon. Believing that the comparatively slow development of the parcel traffic is connected with the high initial rates for parcels, the Government of India have decided to raise the weight of parcels carried for the initial fee of two annas from 20 to 40 tolas, the equivalent of 1 lb. This will be the uniform scale for parcels up to a weight of 440 tolas, or 11 lb. The English rate for 11 lb. is 11d., while under the new scale the Indian rate will be Re. 2 Gas. (1s. 10d.), but in making the comparison regard should be had to the enormous distances to be traversed and the difficulty of communication in many parts of India. From to-day, also, the weight of letters carried between countries participating in the scheme of Imperial penny postage is raised from ½ oz. to 1 oz., the same increase being allowed in respect of the 2½d. foreign postage. The unit of weight laid down by the Postal Congress at Rome was 20 grammes, but the United Kingdom and India have been permitted to fix their equivalent for this unit at 1 oz., which is a little over 28½ grammes.—*The Times*, 1.10.07.

In a Country Post Office

Mrs. Hayfork (in a country post office): "Anything for me?"
Rural Postmaster: "I don't see nothin'."
Mrs. Hayfork: "I was expectin' a letter or post card from Aunt Sprigs, tellin' what day she was comin'."
Rural Postmaster (calling to his wife): "Did you see a post card from Mrs. Hayfork's Aunt Sally?"
His Wife: "Yes. She's comin' on Thursday."
—*Petoskey (Mich.) Lyre*.

The Cheapest Post Office in the World

A correspondent, H. H., sends us extracts from the report of the Hon' Noel Trotter, the Postmaster-General at Singapore, to show that the Straits Settlements has the cheapest Post Office in the world:—"Post cards available in the colony and to the Federated Malay States are sold at one-fifth of a penny each, the letter rate of postage throughout the same area is lightly over a halfpenny; the postage on letters to any places (with very few exceptions) in the British Empire is four-fifths of a penny per ½ oz.; up to 2 oz. of printed matter can be sent to any part of the civilised world for one-fifth of a penny, and 10 oz. for a penny, which is absolutely the cheapest international postage I have ever heard of. Thus a letter and a newspaper can be mailed hence to almost any part of the Empire at a total cost of a penny. Our registration fee of one penny is without parallel for cheapness; most other countries charge 2d. or 2½d.; we carry and register up to \$20 a parcel up to 11 lb. in weight to any part of the colony or the Federated Malay States for 13d., and convey parcels to the same limit of weight to the United Kingdom for 2s. 4d. each, the charge from there being 3s.; and we carry Chinese coolies' letters in clubbed packets to China at the rate of a little over two a penny. . . . It will be seen from an accompanying return that during the year under review 10,990,465 articles were received and despatched, as compared with 8,068,788 articles in 1899, the increase being about 36 per cent."—*The Times*.

The Servian Death-mask Stamps

The following is the reply of M. Mouchon, the engraver of the so-called Death-mask stamps of Servia, to the silly suggestion that he must have been a party to the manipulation of the design:—

"Monsieur le Ministre,—Your Excellency ought to know of the reports circulating in the Press with regard to the commemorative stamps of the kingdom of Servia, the Queen Nathalie and I being represented as having acted in concert for the purpose of producing a sad face upon those stamps.

"I have never been in relations either direct or indirect with Her Majesty. I know her only by the name that she has won for herself in literature, and by the triple misfortune which has wounded her heart as queen, wife, and mother. Nothing justifies me in refusing to her the deep respect that everybody owes to her, or in believing her to be capable of the deed with which she is reproached.

"My beard is white, and I have seen sixty-two years of honour and uprightness; nobody among those who know me would like to think that I was capable of such baseness.

"What would be thought of a man who would take the money, the honour, and the congratulations of a Government of which he had made fun so impudently?

"I am sure that such a suspicion has never crossed your mind, and I should have gone to your office this morning to assure you of my loyalty did not an infectious influenza, which has held me for several days between life and death, keep me closely to my room for three weeks past.

"I think that a man who would act thus would not be worthy of the great honour which the Servian Government has just paid me in conferring upon me the insignia of a Commander of Sava, and that I should not be worthy of wearing the Cross of Honour any longer on my breast.

"Therefore, Monsieur le Ministre, I beg Your Excellency to open an inquiry as to my honorability before sending me the insignia in question.

"I have the honour, etc.,

"MOUCHON."

Surprise Fortunes in Stamps

"The reason why stamp collecting has such a fascination for the genuine collector," said a well-known stamp dealer to Mr. Answers, "is because he knows that at any moment he may tumble quite unexpectedly into a fortune.

"Instances? Why, yes; heaps of them: There was a man called Hook, for example, in '97. He was travelling in Baltimore, and, happening to pass an auction-room, stepped in and bought for a trifle several huge boxes of old papers and documents on the chance that there might be some rare stamps among them. There were. There were several \$100 revenue stamps of America for 1868; they were worth 60 apiece. Altogether Hook cleared between £5,000 and £6,000 by his chance speculation.

"I know another funny case in which a young man, who knew absolutely nothing about the value of stamps, found a cigar-box containing twenty-two old stamps in a lumber-room of his house. He took them to a dealer and offered to sell them. The dealer just glanced inside, and saw that they were of the very rarest order, and, prompted by cupidity, offered the young man only a sovereign for the lot. For some reason the latter hesitated, whereupon the dealer, afraid of losing such a chance, promptly added, 'A sovereign each, I mean.' 'Why,' said the young man in amazement, 'if they're worth as much as that, they're probably worth more. I think I'll inquire a bit before selling them.' He did, and got £50 apiece for them."—*Answers*.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

Do you ever Take Stock?

Do you ever "take stock" of your philatelic gatherings? Some collectors do, and it must be an interesting proceeding for those who are capable of the performance.

It seems that Mr. Breitfuss, the eminent Russian collector, was in the habit of taking stock about every two years. Here are some of the figures from one of his books of West Indian stamps, extracted and published by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.:-

In August, 1891, value was	1,330 roubles.
" November, 1893, "	4,000 "
" October, 1895, "	11,184 "
" September, 1903, "	24,081 "
" January, 1907, "	26,734 "

(The rouble is about 2s. 1½d.)

Cayman Islands

The single C.A., king's head set of Cayman Islands, seems to be running up in price. The stamps were advanced in the current Gibbons and now we have a further revision again in the upward direction. I quote the last three catalogues and the latest "revised price."

	1904	1905	1907	Revised.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., green	0 1	0 1	0 2	—
1d., carmine	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 6
2½d., ultramarine .. .	0 4	0 4	0 9	1 3
6d., brown	0 8	1 6	2 6	3 9
1s., orange	1 4	2 6	7 6	10 0

I am told that even these latest revised prices are not likely to last, as the stamps are really very scarce.

Sudan, 1897, 5 mills, inverted

A new issue is said to be in course of preparation for the Sudan. It is to be a series of differing designs, if report speaks truly. When that new issue becomes an actual fact it will arouse interest and result in a general overhauling of collections. In that day I fancy many collectors will arrive at the conclusion that they have missed a few opportunities, for there is much in the country that calls for specialist attention.

But the missed opportunities will probably be most acutely felt when search is made for copies of the inverted varieties of the first issue, overprinted on the contemporary stamps of Egypt.

Gibbons prices the 1 mill, brown, inverted, at 15s., unused, and of this value they have had, I believe, the lion's share of the one sheet that is said to have been inverted. But the 5 mills, carmine, is much the rarer of the two values known with inverted overprint. I paid Gibbons 25s. for my first copy and 50s. for my second, but I hear that a North country dealer who was offering one at 63s. a few weeks since has now raised the price to £3.

As there are five types, and I have only two of them, I record the rise with much regret, but I am bound to confess that it is a very rare variety. In all the years that I have been specialising in Sudans I have not seen half-a-dozen copies.

Transvaal: King's Head inverted

Some months since it was stated that a big haul of Transvaals had been made at an outlying post office in the Transvaal. It consisted of a sheet of the current 2s. 6d. Transvaals with heads inverted.

I am still waiting for news of copies of that inverted head and wondering at what figure it will be quoted when it reaches London.

Prices Paid for Great Collections

The £50,000 recently paid by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the celebrated Breitfuss collection is, up to date, the highest price ever paid for a collection of postage stamps, so far as I am aware. Here are the prices paid for a few collections in recent years:-

Breitfuss' general collection, in 1907	£50,000
Mann's Europeans, in 1906	30,000
Ayers' general collection in 1897	21,000
Castle's Australians, in 1894	10,000
Harrison's specialised collections, in 1895	6,000
Ehrenbach's Germans, in 1896	6,000
Castle's Australians, second collection	1,750
Hayman's general collection, in 1898	4,000
Panwell's general collection, in 1899	4,000
Hughes Hughes' general collection, in 1896	3,000
Nankivell's Transvaals, in 1903	3,000
Winner's general collection	3,000
Judge Philbrick's unused English	2,000
Willett's Nevis	2,000
Earl of Kingston's unused English	1,800

Our Gibbons

Gibbons' catalogue, Part II, Foreign Countries, is out of print, and the new edition is not likely to be ready before Christmas, if then. I don't think any very startling changes need be expected. In the last edition Europeans were sent up with a run, prices being doubled in many cases, and trebled in others.

When may Part I, British Colonials, be expected? That is the question we feel most interested in having answered. I gather the reply would be "some time next year," and probably the later on in "next year" you extend your anticipation the better.

Meanwhile we shall have to consult other catalogues for prices of stamps well known to have changed their quotations materially, such as the Single C.A. class.

Of course, the publishers of other catalogues will make the most of such a splendid opportunity. Who would not?

Grenada: Single C.A.'s on the Rise

The single C. A. stamps of Grenada seem to be on the rise. In January last Gibbons raised prices considerably, and now in the September number of the *Monthly Journal* a further advance is notified. Here are the catalogue prices for 1905 and 1906, Jan., 1907, and latest prices for the high values which are so scarce:-

1905,	1906,	Jan., 1907,	Latest.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 0	2 8	5 0	7 6 10 0
5 0	6 6	12 6	15 0 20 0
10 0	12 6	15 0	30 0 35 0

I congratulate myself on having got all the set at New Issue rates, and all but the 10s. in blocks of four.

Transvaal: Single C.A.'s

It will probably take some time for the Transvaal single C.A.'s to show much advance in price, but the 2s. has made a start, being put up to 7s. 6d. in the September number of Gibbons *Monthly Journal*.

Papuans, Large and Small Types

Papuans promise to become the popular favourites of the hour. No sooner have we possessed ourselves of a complete set of the British New Guinea stamps over-printed "Ppaua" than a second and later type of overprint is announced. One on the New Issue dealers forthwith put up the price of complete sheets of the ½d. value, from 3s. 3d. to 30s., and complete sets (½d. to 2s. 6d.), from 10s. to 20s. Of the later overprint in smaller type very few have yet been put on the market, but supplies are said to be on the way.

The Philatelic Ladder

A writer on "Stamp Collecting" in the *Crown*, takes from a dealer's catalogue the following table of prices for collections, and says it is of interest for two reasons. "First of all, it gives a rough-and-ready means of calculating the buying values of collections of ordinary grade stamps, and, secondly, it shows at a glance the ratio in which the value of a collection increases as it is added to."

	£	s.	d.
3,000 different stamps cost	7	10	0
4,000 " " " "	15	0	0
5,000 " " " "	25	0	0
6,000 " " " "	35	0	0
7,000 " " " "	50	0	0
8,000 " " " "	75	0	0
9,000 " " " "	130	0	0

"It will be noticed," adds the writer in question, "that while the first additional 1,000 stamps cost only £7 10s., the value of the last additional 1,000 works out at no less than £55."

A King's Head Exchange Club

Mrs. Pearson, Lynton, Loosdale road, Barnes, sends me particulars of a King's Head Exchange Club she has started, the object of which is to enable the members to dispose of their King's Head duplicates quickly and to the best advantage, with the option of acquiring other stamps, not in their collection, at reasonable prices. I note that the Secretary is a non-buyer. Ha! If some other exchange club secretaries were non-buyers what a different philatelic world this would be!

Philatelic Society Meetings

The Royal Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, London.

Meetings: Alternate Thursdays at 4 Southampton Row, W.C.

Subscription: Town members, £2 2s. od.; Country, £1 1s. od.

1907.

- Oct. 17. The Earl of Crawford, K.T. (*Vice-President*.) Notes on the "Rainbow Series" (1839-40) of Great Britain, or Early Experiments of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Petch, with Display.
- Nov. 7. Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg. Paper on the Stamps of British India, with Display.
- Nov. 21. Rev. H. A. James, D.D. Display of portion of Collection.
- Dec. 5. Mr. F. Reichenheim. Paper on the Stamps of France-1900-7, with Display.
- Dec. 19. Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*.) Paper on the Engraved Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, with Display.

1908.

- Jan. 2. Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg. Paper on the First Issues ("Half-Length" series) of Victoria, with Display and Lantern Enlargements.
- Jan. 16. Mr. A. J. Warren. Paper on the Stamps of Holland and Colonies, with Display.
- Feb. 6. Mr. E. W. Wetherell. Paper on the Stamps of Spain, with Display.
- Feb. 20. Mr. W. M. Gray. Display of the Stamps of Great Britain with Notes.
- Mar. 5. H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G. (*President*.) Display of the Stamps of Barbados and Grenada, with Notes.
- Mar. 19. Mr. C. J. Daun. Display of the Stamps of the Orange River Colony, with Notes.
- April 2. Mr. H. J. Duveen. Display of the Stamps of Oldenburg and Wurtemberg, with Notes.
- April 23. Mr. H. R. Oldfield (*Hon. Secretary "Collection" Committee*.) Display of portions of the Society's Collection. (Members are invited to bring donations.)
- May 7. Mr. T. W. Hall. Paper on the 1882-3 issues of the Argentine Republic, with Display.
- May 21. Mr. R. B. Yardley. Paper entitled "Suggestion for a new classification of the stamps of South Australia," with Display.
- June 4. Annual General Meeting.

Junior Philatelic Society: Brighton

President: F. J. Melville.

Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

1907.

- Oct. 24. Display; Sarawak, Fred. J. Melville.
- Nov. 14. Display; Cape of Good Hope, M. P. Castle, F.R.P.S.L.
- " 28. Display; Colombia and Brazil, A. H. L. Giles, R.N.
- Dec. 12. Paper and Display; Cashmere, A. J. Sefi.

1908.

- Jan. 9. Display; Mrs. Field.
- " 9. Paper; "Queens and their Stamps," Herbert Clark.
- Jan. 23. Paper and Display; J. Ireland.
- Feb. 13. Display; Mexico and Uruguay, A. H. L. Giles, R.N.
- " 27. Display; W. Mead.
- Mar. 12. Great Britain, Line-Engraved, S. R. Turner.
- " 12. Display; J. P. S. Forgery Collection, H. Lee.
- Mar. 26.
- Apr. 9. Paper; "World-Wide Philately," Herbert Clark.
- Apr. 23.
- May 14.
- May 26. Annual General Meeting.

NOTE.—The above is subject to revision. Extra meetings may be held.

Bradford Philatelic Society

President: F. Gerharts.

Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Foulger, 9 Beechwood Grove, Moorhead Lane-Shipley.

Meetings: Third Thursdays, District Bank Chambers, Market Street-Bradford.

1907.

- Sept. 19. Display by Bradford Members of British Colonials.
- Oct. 10. Display of West Indians including Cayman, Jamaica, Leeward, Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Kitt's, with notes by E. Heginbottom, Esq.
- Oct. 31. Visit by Leeds Society—Display by Messrs. Harding & Thackrah, of Leeds.
- Nov. 19. Visit by Bradford Society to Leeds—Display by W. M. Gray, Esq., Dominica Gold Coast and Gambia.
- Nov. 21. Display by I. Townend, Esq., of the Strait Settlements and States.
- Dec. 12. Display by W. M. Gray, Esq., of the Surface Printed Stamps of Great Britain.
- Dec. 17. Visit by Bradford Society to Leeds—General Display by Bradford Members.
- 1908.
- Jan. 2. Paper by I. J. Bernstein, Esq., of Manchester—"British Stamps used Abroad."
- Jan. 23. Display by F. Gerharts, Esq., of Victoria and New South Wales.
- Feb. 13. Visit by Leeds Society—Display by W. K. Skipwith, Esq.—Stamps of Holland.
- Mar. 5. Display with notes by E. Heginbottom, Esq., of Virgin Island, Turks Island, Trinidad, Lagos and St. Vincent.
- Mar. 26. Display by A. H. Stamford, Esq., Pictorial issues of New Zealand.
- Apr. 16. Display by Bradford Members of British Colonials.
- May 7. Annual Meeting.

Junior Philatelic Society

President: Fred. J. Melville.

Hon. Treas.: H. F. Johnson.

Hon. Sec.: Arthur Selinger, 5 Paper Street, Redcross Street, E.C.
Meetings: The Ben Great Academy of Acting, 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d.

Entrance Fee: 2s. 6d. No Entrance Fee for ladies or for juniors under 21.

1907.

- Oct. 5. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Presidential Address.
8.30. Paper and Display. Gambia. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President.
- Oct. 19. 6.0. Bourse.
8.0. Paper and Display. Cashmere. Alexander J. Sefi.
9.0. Paper. "Something or Other." C. Raymond Megson.
- Nov. 2. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Paper and Display. "Imperf. Europeans." S. R. Turner.
9.0. Paper. "Rails and Mails." R. Halliday.
- Nov. 16. 6.0. Bourse.
8.0. Paper and Display. "Minor Varieties of Engraving on Postage Stamps." William E. Lincoln.
9.0. Paper. "World-wide Philately." H. Clark.
- Dec. 7. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Paper. "The Mulready and other early Envelopes." Major E. B. Evans, R.A.
9.0. Paper and Display. Russian Locals. W. Schwabacher.
- Dec. 21. CHRISTMAS SOCIAL GATHERING—including Humorous Recital at the Piano by Mr. Astley Weaver, the famous Entertainer from Hicks', Duke of York's, and other theatres.

1908.

- Jan. 4. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Display. New South Wales and Victoria, with Notes by A. H. L. Giles.
9.0. Paper. W. E. Imeson.

- Jan. 18. 6.0. Bourse.
8.0. Paper and Display. "Philatelic Errors." S. R. Turner.
9.0. Paper. "The Perfect Philatelist." C. B. Purdom.
- Feb. 2. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Display. Paraguay. H. Lee.
9.0. Paper. "Men who have Claimed to have Invented the Postage Stamp." R. Halliday.
- Feb. 15. 6.0. Bourse. Ladies' Night. Members are specially requested to bring lady friends.
- Feb. 23. 8.0. Display. Mrs. D. Field.
9.0. Paper. "Valentines and the Post." Fred. J. Melville.
- Mar. 7. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Paper and Display. Seychelles. Douglas Ellis.
9.0. Paper. "Imperial Philately." Alexander J. Seft.
- Thursday, March 12 } Exhibition of Stamps of the British Colonies.
Friday, " 13 } Carlton Hall, Westminster.
Saturday, " 14 }
- (See separate Circulars and Notices. Offices of the Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.)
- Mar. 21. 6.0. Bourse.
8.0. Paper and Display. "Heligoland." F. H. Oliver.
9.0. Debate. "Philately as a Hobby v. Philately as a Science." For—E. M. Gilbert Lodge. Against—C. B. Purdom.
- Apr. 4. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Display. Switzerland. Victor Beaujeux.
9.0. Ten Minute Papers.
- Apr. 18. Easter Saturday. No Meeting.
- May 2. 6.0. Auction.
8.0. Paper and Display. "China." C. L. Hart-Lovelace.
9.0. Paper. "San Marino." Fred. J. Melville.
- May 16. 6.0. Bourse.
8.0. Paper and Display. "Chili." C. M. C. Symes.
9.0. Paper and Display. "Old Issues v. New." Alexander J. Seft.
- June 6. Annual Excursion. Particulars to be announced later.
- June 20. Mrs. Field's Invitation Tea Party at Hampstead.
- Sept. 5. Annual General Meeting.

Extra Meetings may be arranged from time to time as occasion arises, and due notice will be given through the Philatelic Press. Suggestions for, and offers of, interesting items should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary.

Dundee and District Philatelic Society

President: Geo. Martin.

Hon. Sec.: G. H. Whitaker, 40 Albert Street, Dundee.

Meetings: Y.M.C.A. rooms, alternate Fridays.

Annual subscription: 2s. 6d.; Juniors, 1s. 6d.

1907.

- Oct. 4. "New Issues," the Members.
- Oct. 18. "Stamps: A Retrospect." P. M'Intosh.
- Nov. 1. Discussion: "Used and Unused." Messrs. David and Marshall.
- Nov. 15. Display: "New Zealand." N. S. Sandeman.
- Nov. 29. Display: "St. Vincent." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
- Dec. 13. Display: "Gold Coast." G. H. Whitaker.
- Dec. 27. Sale and Exchange.

1908.

- Jan. 10. Display: "St. Kitts, St. Lucia." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
- Jan. 24. Display: "Great Britain." The Members.
- Feb. 7. "Australian Officials." J. R. Richmond.
- Feb. 21. Display: "Tobago, Trinidad." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
- Mar. 6. Display: "Japan." Geo. Martin.
- Mar. 20. "My Favourite Group." Geo. M'Dowell.
- Apr. 3. Display: "Turks' Islands and Virgin Islands." J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.

Birmingham Philatelic Society

President: R. Hollick.

Hon. Sec.: G. Johnson, B.A., 308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

1907.

Oct. 3.—ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING. The officers and committee were all re-elected and Messrs. H. Barnwell and A. P. Walker were added to the Committee.

The following programme was approved:—

1907.

- Oct. 17. Display: "Victoria," by Messrs. R. Hollick and C. A. Stephenson.
- Oct. 31. Display: "India, Indian Native States, Straits Settlements," by Mr. B. B. Tilley.
- Nov. 28. Inspection of Auction Lots.
- Dec. 5. Auction at Acorn Hotel.
- Dec. 12. Paper: "Paper and Printing," by Mr. T. B. Widdowson.

1908.

- Jan. 2. Lantern Display by Mr. J. A. Margoschés.
- Jan. 23. Paper: "Argentine," by Mr. F. T. Collier.
- Feb. 6. Display: "Tasmania," by Mr. W. Pimm.
- Feb. 27. Inspection of Auction Lots.
- Mch. 5. Auction at Acorn Hotel.
- Mch. 19. Paper: "Turkey," by Mr. P. T. Deakin.
- April 2. Display: "Victoria," by Messrs. R. Hollick and E. A. Stephenson.
- April 30. Annual Dinner.

The balance sheet showing a cash balance in hand of £88 8s. 3d. was approved as was the Report showing that 2,802 varieties had been added to the Permanent Collection, making a total of 21,568.

Stamps to the value of £30,847 13s. 3d. were circulated and £3,013 14s. 7d. sold during the past session.

£5 was voted as a first grant to the Permanent Collection.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. F. C. Henderson, F. W. Meredith, W. A. Weymouth, Dr. J. N. Keynes, and Mrs. Lake for donations to the Permanent Collection, to Mr. C. T. Reed, for periodicals, and to all publishers and auctioneers, who had sent during the past year, a full list of whom was ordered to be printed in the Annual Report.

Messrs. C. Hartree, R. T. Bush, L. Dickinson, and C. L. Bagnall were elected members.

Of the 278 members, 207 are resident in the British Isles and seventy-one in the Colonies and abroad. Colonial and foreign collectors and dealers who are able to send regular supplies would find a ready market.

Huddersfield and District

President: Rev. G. C. B. Madden.

Hon. Sec.: C. H. Greenwood, 49 Perseverance Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield.

Meetings: Y.M.C.A. Rooms, alternate Thursdays.

1907.

- Oct. 3. GENERAL MEETING AND LANTERN LECTURE, "The Postage Stamps of Great Britain."
- Oct. 17. Paper and Display: "Some Aspects of Present-day Collecting," by E. Hardcastle, Halifax.
- Oct. 31. Paper and Display: "Transvaal and the Orange Free State," by Rev. G. C. B. Madden.
- Nov. 14. VISIT AND DISPLAY BY THE MEMBERS OF THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- Nov. 28. Paper and Display: "Siam," by W. D. Haigh.
- Dec. 12. Display: "British West Indies" (Part II), by E. Heginbottom, B.A.

1908.

- Jan. 9. General Sale and Exchange Night.
- Jan. 23. Display: "British West Indies" (Part III), by E. Heginbottom, B.A.
- Feb. 6. Paper and Display: "Norway," by Dr. Adair.
- Feb. 18. (TUESDAY.) VISIT TO THE LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- Mar. 5. Discussion: "Used v. Unused."
- Mar. 19. Display: "British West Indies" (Part IV), by E. Heginbottom, B.A.
- April 2. Paper: "Dominica," by J. E. Cuthbertson, and Members' Evening.
- Apr. 16. Paper and Display: "Jamaica," by C. H. Greenwood.
- April 30. Paper: "Luck in Philately," by E. Reynolds.
- May 14. General Sale and Exchange Night.
- May 28. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1 AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at home or abroad at the following rates of prepayment; Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d. Outside the United Kingdom, Yearly 8s. 8d., or \$2.00.

New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making the *Postage Stamp* known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

W. J. E. H. (Bradford).—Many thanks for your good wishes. Shall be glad of regular reports of your society. Hope you will write the publishers for a parcel of copies for free distribution to your members. We are anxious to make THE POSTAGE STAMP as widely known as possible.

Mrs. J. (Broadstairs).—Thanks for your letter. The Post Office authorities stop "Advertisement Stamps" as far as they can as they are a nuisance to the cancellation workers when affixed as stamps outside an envelope. I have sent you a copy of our No. 1, and hope it will be more acceptable than the "Isle of Thanet Rarity."

L. D. L. (Muswell Hill).—Yes, I have no doubt I shall have an article on Chili in good time, indeed, I may confess to being an old specialist in that country attracted in the first place by the Perkins' Bacon early stamps. Every week we shall have one country written up in the style of Bermuda. Maps take up a lot of space, and I hesitate about including them, but will think it over. Yes, we shall include minor varieties, in fact everything worth noting, in New Issues, with full illustrations, but this section will grow as we get the help of our friends across the seas. I have noted all your kind suggestions, most of which you will see we propose to cover. One we have not in our list shall certainly be included.

D. J. S. (Huddersfield).—Sorry I cannot work up any enthusiasm over freaks in the shape of misplaced perforations, and I do not think such an article as you propose would be of interest to serious collectors. But I thank you all the same for your kind offer.

J. H. T. (Chiswick).—Thanks for pointing out slip in date. As you say, "1784" at commencement of second paragraph from the bottom in the first column on page 6 should be "1874." You will have received three-dozen copies of No. 1 of THE POSTAGE STAMP for distribution to the members of your excellent Exchange Club, of which I have heard many times. Yours must be one of the oldest of our Exchange Clubs. I often envy my fellow-collectors who can find time to avail themselves of the ever-welcome visits of the tempting packets of their Exchange Clubs. They are one of the great pleasures of stamp collecting, and one of the most useful.

M. W. H. (South Kensington).—Transvaal for specialising? Well, yes, as a Transvaal specialist I naturally recommend it, but it is a very costly one to begin now. On the other hand, as you are resident in London you can probably attend the stamp auctions and buy to advantage for, with possibly the exception of Afghans, no good stamps fetch so small a proportion of the catalogue quotation as ordinary Transvaals. But you must get a few together, and study the country thoroughly before you launch out into specialising. When you have got the grip of the country, then open out. A good plan to start would be to get the stock book of Gibbons or Peckitt, and select a small representative lot mounting them up with notes from the stock book as your guide.

W. H. P. (Brockley).—The Birmingham Society Exchange Packets are very good, but the Herts Society would be convenient for you, and it circulates some excellent exchange packets. Other clubs will probably be found in our advertisement pages. Thanks for your good opinion of our No. 1.

J. B. (Carlisle).—Are all King's single C.A.'s a good investment? Certainly not. Lots of single C.A.'s will always be more or less common, simply because there was, in many cases, ample time for dealers and speculators to load up. A very great number of single C.A.'s are running up into high prices, but it would be a very risky game to make an investment of them. Far better collect straightforwardly or turn dealer right away. As a matter of fact, it will, in the opinion of most people be some years before prices will have settled down in the matter of single C.A.'s.

TO MANY CORRESPONDENTS.—"Can you keep it up?" is the burden of most of the kind and flattering letters we have received concerning our first number. Well, to tell you the truth, I am a bit ashamed of the signs of rush that are evident to me in our first and second numbers, and in looking through my notes of developments and improvements I don't think I need hesitate to say that we shall not only keep up the high standard we have set, but materially develop and improve THE POSTAGE STAMP as we go on. I have many developments in store when we have, through the kindness of our friends, firmly established THE POSTAGE STAMP as a paying property. Then we shall be able to spend more money in its further improvement. I have had to hold over not a few pet schemes for my ideal philatelic weekly till we are assured of a large circulation and a fine display of advertisements. We hope some day to hear our friends say that our display of advertisements is almost as interesting reading as the contents of the paper itself. Every thorough philatelist sets great store by philatelic advertisements and carefully binds them in with his journal. Many and many a time the first intimation of a valuable uncatalogued variety has been first notified in a dealer's advertisement.

Forthcoming Events

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| <p>Oct. 21. Liverpool Philatelic Society. Public evening: Lecture by A. S. Allender on "Secret Marks on the Stamps of Europe," illustrated with lantern slides. General display.</p> <p>Oct. 22. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, London, at 4.30 p.m. Fine specialised collection of West Indies formed by a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society.</p> <p>Oct. 23. Auction: Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, London, at 4.30 p.m. Fine specialised collection of West Indies formed by a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society.</p> | <p>Oct. 24. Auction: Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, London, W.C., at 4.30 p.m.</p> <p>Oct. 24. Brighton Junior Philatelic Society: Display: Sarawak, by Fred. J. Melville.</p> <p>Oct. 25. Auction: Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at Loudoun Hotel, Surrey Street, London, W.C., at 4.30 p.m.</p> |
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The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 4. Vol. 1

26 OCTOBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Questions and Answers



INOTE in the Leicester Philatelic Society's Programme for the ensuing season an item entitled "Questions and Answers."

There is no explanation as to what this means, but the idea occurs to me that an interesting and useful variation might be made in the ordinary routine of a Society's meetings by an evening devoted to "Questions and answers."

Members might come prepared with some questions on which they needed information, not questions designed to trip up any one, but questions representing a genuine desire for information that the questioner had failed to find for himself.

These questions might be handed to the Chairman of the evening, who without disclosing the name of the questioner, should distribute them to those most likely to be able to answer them. Each specialist would be handed over any questions relating to his country, and so on.

Then the Chairman, having previously numbered each question, would call on the holder of No. 1 for the answer to his question. A short discussion might be allowed at the discretion of the Chairman after each answer.

In this way it seems to me that the more experienced members of a Society might do much to help the less experienced, and the average member would be able to glean a great deal of information that would be most useful to him.

The average collector is very often not so well informed on many elementary matters connected with his hobby as he should be, and, knowing that his ignorance should not be, he is a bit shy at confessing to his ignorance by asking openly for information.

Others may have reached some knotty point that

wants clearing up. In fact, there are many points that would naturally crop up and lend themselves to a full and instructive interchange of information and opinion.

The Chairman should rigidly ignore and discourage any attempts to shuffle off conundrums, puzzles, or catches, and confine the questions to those indicating a genuine desire for information or for an interchange of opinions and experiences.

Displays for Ever

Even the most enthusiastic get a bit sick of displays galore. Just as the most serious student loves to dip, now and then, into a thrilling story. At the Royal Philatelic Society the wholesale displays by the Great Moguls are overpowering; not that I would dare to suggest that the Royals should engage in any frivolous Questions and Answers, but I do suggest that when the Great Mogul mounts on his full length stilts one is apt to get a rather heavy dose now and again.

Study of Single Issues

An evening concentrated on some interesting single issue is far more likely to be beneficial to the members than so many gigantic displays. Even the specialist in other countries can be interested when attention is concentrated on a single issue, but when he is invited to rush in an hour through a highly specialised country that has taken years to get together, study, and arrange, it is no wonder he feels compelled to make the inevitable confession that it is beyond him.

Our Philatelic Diet: Change wanted

Somehow we have, since the incursion of specialism, lost the art of drawing members to our philatelic gatherings. There is something wanting, and that something, I believe, to be more change in our philatelic diet. We shall never attract the average member by always rushing through our special gems.

Great Moguls' Displays

But don't mistake me. I am a strong believer in the frequent displays of the Great Moguls. They set the pace and furnish the ideals to be aimed at. They represent the high watermark of philatelic study, accumulation and display.

But we do want to paddle a bit now and then amongst the shoals of commoner things and common ideas.

Philatelic Society's Public Evening

I notice what strikes me as being a capital idea in the programme of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, to wit, a public evening with a lecture illustrated with lantern views.

It would be an excellent plan for each Society to have during each session a popular evening with an interesting lecture, with lantern views when possible, on some phase of stamp collecting, and throw it open to the public, which would mostly mean non-collecting friends of members.

In this way splendid missionary work might be done in further popularising the hobby.

Wake up, Huddersfield!

I hear that Huddersfield District Philatelic Society, now entering its first real season, looks very promising, but the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. H. Greenwood, 49 Perseverance Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield, wants more members and a bigger attendance at the meetings.

I hope this hint will be enough, or I shall have to run down to find out why wide-awake Huddersfield belies its reputation. Some of the most energetic souls I know hail from that part of breezy Yorkshire.

South African Federation

The federation of the South African Colonies has been brought within the region of practical politics by a recent resolution of the Cape Colony House of Assembly to the effect that the Government of Cape Colony should approach the other South African Governments with a view to federation.

It is estimated that the stages it would be necessary to go through before federation could be accomplished—educating public opinion, holding a national convention, drafting a constitution, and, finally, taking a referendum—would occupy five years.

Colonies Affected

Presumably all the British Colonies of South Africa would be embraced in any scheme of federation. Consequently the Colonies whose separate philatelic accounts would be closed would be the following:—

Cape Colony.
Natal.
Transvaal.
Bechuanaland.
Orange River Colony.

How about Rhodesia?

Will Rhodesia be included in any scheme of federation? As it is run by a chartered company I very much doubt if it will be. Strong efforts will no doubt be made to include it, but there are many obstacles in the way that will not apply to other states. But the feeling seems to be growing that the time is rapidly approaching when Rhodesia must be taken over and converted into a full blown Colony. Then the way would be clear for the inclusion of Rhodesia in a Federation.

Completed Countries

It is an open question whether the closing of a country's philatelic account by its absorption by federation or otherwise, increases or decreases its popularity in the eyes of stamp collectors. Some of our largest dealers find that sales are greater and prices increase under such changes, whilst others believe that new issues by continually advertising the existence of a country keep it well to the front.

Personally, I sit on the fence, though I must say I would rather see a country's account closed than have its list burdened with new issues of Commemorative and other speculative rubbish.

Maldives "entirely unavailable at all"

Mr. Chas. R. Robinson very kindly sends me word that on the 14th of this month he received a letter from the Postmaster of the Maldives, who informed him "that the Ceylon stamps overprinted Maldives are entirely unavailable at all, as they are to be entirely out of use SHORTLY."

There ought to be no mistaking the definiteness of this information. The phraseology is fetching. It has a genuine Maldivian ring about it.

Philatelic Periodical Publication

In the publishing trade the ordinary monthly periodical is placed on sale a week or more before the month of publication in order that the trade throughout the country may get it on the first of the month. But the philatelic publisher likes the month to get well aired before he places his progeny on sale, so that after the general publishing trade has completed the sale of the October monthlies the philatelic publisher sends out his September numbers. The only possible explanation is that the philatelic publisher was somewhat late in getting out of the Ark.

The Royal Society's Programme

The Programme of the Royal Philatelic Society for 1907-8 is a notable one.

It opens with a gathering of the fellows at the town residence of the Earl of Crawford, when the Earl will read some notes on the "Rainbow Series (1839-1840) of Great Britain, or Early Experiments of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Petch," with display.

Then in November the Rev. H. A. James, D.D., displays a portion of his collection. When the Headmaster of Rugby publicly steps into the philatelic arena, ye gods and little fishes, need we trouble ourselves about the smaller fry?

And in March the Prince of Wales, as President, will give a display of the stamps of Barbados and Grenada.

With such tempting events who would not be a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society!

Exchange Club Members for Sale

Mr Leicester Paine, Secretary of the "Travellers' Exchange Club," sends the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* the following extraordinary letter which he has received from a fellow-Secretary:—

Two of my best members have asked me to advise them as to another club. They are both men who are well off; one is a buyer, and one a seller and buyer. The first one has seen three of my packets, and has purchased £12 7s. rd. gross, and as my packets only run about £300 he would probably buy more from a larger packet.

I have several clubs I can introduce them to, but knowing from personal experience that yours is a good one, I would recommend both of them to you on condition you paid me 10s. for their introduction, as I can get this from other clubs.

You can take my word as an honourable man that it will be a good investment for you. If willing, let me know per return—otherwise do not trouble.

Good buying members at 5s. each! Why not put such articles up to auction?

After all, the proposed transaction does not seem far removed from the sale of lists of addresses of collectors which dealers across the pond traffic in, and for which I am told high prices are sometimes paid.

Papuans not Sold in Melbourne

Some wicked body having spread a report that British Guinea stamps overprinted "Papua" could be purchased at the Melbourne Post Office, the Editor of the *Australian Philatelist* wrote to the Postmaster-General, who replied that the stamps were not available at the Melbourne Post Office and informing him that applications for the stamps should be addressed to the Chief Postmaster, Port Moresby, New Guinea.

The Stamps of the Gold Coast

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

MR. C. P. LUCAS tells us that "the Dutch and English merchants of the seventeenth century named each section of the Guinea Coast after its principal product. But, though the Grain or Pepper Coast, the Ivory Coast, the Gold Coast, and the Slave Coast, may still be found marked on modern maps, these names with one exception are no longer in common use. The Grain Coast is comprised within the Republic of Liberia; the elephants have long since disappeared from the Ivory Coast; slaves are no longer exported either from the district to the east of the Gold Coast, which was once known pre-eminently as the Slave Coast, or from any other part of the west coast of Africa; and the one exception is the Gold Coast itself, from which gold is still shipped in considerable quantities to Europe, and which therefore still retains and deserves to retain its golden name."

The Gold Coast is a Crown Colony bounded on the east by Togoland (German) and on the west by the Ivory Coast. It has a coast line of 350 miles. With an area of about 120,000 square miles it includes Adansi, Ashanti, and the northern territories.

Mr. Lucas tells us that down to the present century

European nations, with the exception of perhaps the Portuguese, did not, as a general rule, exercise sovereignty or enjoy territorial ownership on the West African coast. They had forts and trading establishments, for which they paid ground rents to the natives, but their authority as rulers did not in most cases extend beyond the lines of the forts and the walls of the factories. On the Gold Coast this system—a system which implied trade and nothing more—was most fully developed. To judge from the old maps, a row of isolated forts and factories lined the water's edge, but they had no territorial rights attached to them. These forts, which originally were built by and belonged to different European peoples, having all been formally ceded to Great Britain, and the ground rents having been forfeited or having lapsed in course of time, the soil on which they stand is British territory.

The Gold Coast is difficult of access; it has no harbours; bars of sand block the mouths of the rivers; there is no point at which vessels of any size can come close to the shore, and boats land with difficulty their passengers and cargoes amid surf and breakers.

Accra, with a population of 20,000 is the capital. The total population of the Colony was put at 1,486,433 in 1901, of these only 200 are said to be Europeans owing to the unhealthiness of the climate.

Its Philatelic History

The first stamps were issued in 1875 and consisted of three values, 1d., 4d., and 6d., watermarked Crown C.C. and perf. 12½. In 1876-9 ½d. and 2d. values were added and the series was perf. 14, still watermarked Crown C.C. A much debated provisional 1d. on 4d. mauve is said to have been issued in 1883, the watermark was changed in 1883 from Crown C.C. to Crown C.A. and the ½d. and 1d. values were printed in their old colours on the new paper. In 1884-9 three more values were added, 3d., 1d. and 2d., and the colour of the ½d. was changed from olive yellow to dull green, and the 1d. from blue to carmine. The full series of eight values was printed on the Crown C.A. paper. In 1889 a provisional 1d. on 6d. orange was issued. In

1891 followed the 2½d. stamp for the new Postal Union rate. Three high values were issued in 1891-4, 5s., 10s., and 20s.; the 20s. was subsequently changed in colour from green and red to lilac and black on red. In 1898-1900 an experiment was made with a bicoloured series, followed by another provisional 1d. stamp made by surcharging 2½d. and 6d. stamps with the words "One Penny." Then in 1902 came the King's head first on single C.A. paper and later some of the values on multiple C.A. paper. Finally we have the ½d. and 1d. each printed in one colour.

1875. Three values. Design: Diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.C., perf. 12½. The words of value in the bottom tablet were printed separately, one die being used for all values. Although intended to match the colour of the stamp the value line shows occasional variation of shade. The 4d. is named mauve in Gibbons, but, more correctly, magenta, in the Royal Society's West Indian volume.



Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., blue ..	45	0	30	0
4d., magenta ..	30	0	35	0
6d., orange ..	40	0	20	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The stamps of this first issue have kept their price level since 1897. The 1d. is not quite up to the 1897 quotation, but the 4d. and 6d. have steadily improved and for a first issue of Crown C.C. with the scarce 12½ perf. cannot be considered high priced as at present catalogued.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. ..	40 0	60 0	30 0	30 0	60 0	55 0	45 0	45 0	45 0
4d. ..	10 0	20 0	15 0	17 6	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0
6d. ..	20 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	—	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0

1876. Five values. Design as in last issue, with ½d. and 2d. values added to the series, and printed as before on Crown C.C. paper, but perf. 14 instead of 12½.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., olive yellow..	4	6	3	6
1d., blue ..	3	6	2	6
2d., green..	12	0	2	0
4d., magenta ..	40	0	1	9
6d., orange ..	18	0	3	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

This series has been up and down a great deal. The ½d. has been altered in nearly every edition of the catalogue, but is almost at its best, the 1d. is an improving stamp, but the 2d. and 6d. show the steadiest rise and most promise. The 4d. is the rarity of the series. In 1899 it had a startling rise from 1s. 6d. in 1896 to 42s. 6d., but it has not justified the high prices to which it was raised in 1902 and 1903. Still, it is undoubtedly a scarce stamp.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	.. 4 0	.. 5 0	.. 4 0	.. 4 6	.. 5 0	.. 3 6	.. 3 6	.. 4 6	.. 4 6
1d. ..	.. 0 9	.. 2 0	.. 1 9	.. 1 9	.. 2 0	.. 2 0	.. 2 6	.. 3 6	.. 3 6
2d. ..	.. 0 9	.. 5 0	.. 6 6	.. 6 6	.. 12 6	.. 10 0	.. 12 0	.. 12 0	.. 12 0
4d. ..	.. 1 6	.. —	.. 42 6	.. 45 0	.. 55 0	.. 50 0	.. 40 0	.. 40 0	.. 40 0
6d. ..	.. 2 6	.. 6 0	.. 6 6	.. 7 6	.. 12 6	.. 15 0	.. 18 0	.. 18 0	.. 18 0

1883. Provisional. One value. Design: The 4d. magenta of the last issue surcharged in the Colony "1d." in black, in small type. Some doubt has been expressed as to the genuineness of this provisional, but the following note in the Royal Philatelic Society's West Indian volume puts it beyond doubt:

The authenticity of this provisional stamp is beyond question, as it is confirmed by a statement in the *Philatelic Record* of October, 1883, page 159. It is of the greatest rarity, and only two specimens are known to the Society, one being in the Tapping Collection, the other in a famous collection in Paris. An illustration of the stamp is purposely omitted, as it would probably lead to fraudulent imitation.

To complete the evidence I quote the statement in the *Philatelic Record* of October, 1883, referred to:—

In June last we spoke disrespectfully of the Fourpence surcharged 1d. in black, the authenticity of which seemed to us very doubtful. Respecting this stamp Mr. W. Clifford writes to us as follows: "I have just received a reply to the enquiries I addressed to one of the officials, who says, 'Fourpenny stamps surcharged 1d., in printing, were issued here by authority for a very short time; but now they do not exist; their issue has been abolished.' You may depend on the correctness of this information."

Provisional.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. in black on 4d. magenta—	..	—

1883. Two values. Design unchanged, but printed in the old colours on paper watermarked Crown C.A. instead of Crown C.C. and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., olive yellow..	30 0	17 6
1d., blue ..	.. 140 0	.. 20 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

These two stamps had a short life, and are decidedly scarce, but they are probably fully priced at the present quotation.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	.. —	.. 50 0	.. 40 0	.. 40 0	.. 40 0	.. 30 0	.. 30 0	.. 30 0	.. 30 0
1d. ..	.. —	.. —	.. 150 0	.. 150 0	.. —	.. —	.. 140 0	.. 140 0	.. 140 0

1884-9. Eight values. Design: unchanged but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. perf. 14. There are shades of all values, the ½d. is found in pale and dark green, the 3d., called in Gibbons' pale greenish-yellow and deep greenish-yellow, is a distinct olive with pale and dark shades; the 2s. yields two very distinct shades, one described as yellow-brown and the other

as deep brown, but the Royal Society's West Indian volume classes them as brown and chocolate. Those who extend their collecting into the inclusion of plate numbers will find that most of the variations in shade represent new plates.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green ..	0 2	0 2
1d., carmine ..	0 4	0 2
2d., grey ..	0 6	0 6
3d., olive ..	1 0	1 6
4d., magenta ..	0 9	0 6
6d., orange ..	3 0	0 4
1s., violet ..	1 9	0 6
2s., yellow brown ..	15 0	7 6
2s., deep brown ..	6 0	2 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The quotations in this series call for little comment. The shades of the 2s. are the sporting items in the list, but the 6d. is probably the most promising stamp of the lot. It is by no means so plentiful as the price would seem to indicate. Wholesalers, to my knowledge, hold very small supplies and find it a comparatively scarce stamp.

	1890	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	.. 0 1	.. 0 2	.. 0 2	.. 0 2	.. 0 2	.. 0 2	.. 0 2
1d. ..	.. 0 2	.. 0 3	.. 0 3	.. 0 3	.. 0 4	.. 0 4	.. 0 4
2d. ..	.. 0 6	.. 0 6	.. 0 6	.. 0 6	.. 0 6	.. 0 6	.. 0 6
3d. ..	.. 0 9	.. 1 0	.. 0 9	.. 0 9	.. 1 0	.. 1 0	.. 1 0
4d. ..	.. 0 6	.. 0 8	.. 0 9	.. 0 9	.. 0 9	.. 0 9	.. 0 9
6d. ..	.. 1 0	.. 2 6	.. 3 6	.. 2 6	.. 3 0	.. 3 0	.. 3 0
1s. ..	.. 2 0	.. 1 9	.. 1 9	.. 1 9	.. 1 9	.. 1 9	.. 1 9
2s. (yellow brown) ..	.. 8 6	.. 8 6	.. 12 6	.. 12 6	.. 15 0	.. 15 0	.. 15 0
2s. (deep brown) ..	.. 4 0	.. 8 6	.. 8 6	.. 8 6	.. 6 0	.. 6 0	.. 6 0

1889. Provisional. One value. Design: The 6d. of the last issue surcharged "One Penny" in small Roman capitals, in black, in two lines, horizontally.

In reply to an inquiry concerning the use of this provisional the Postmaster at Accra wrote as follows:—

These stamps were first issued in March, 1889, and their use confined to the town of Accra only. In July of the same year their use was extended to a few of the out-districts of the Colony, with instructions to use them only upon correspondence posted in the Colony.

As to their use in the first place when issued the *American Journal of Philately* published the following extract from a letter from the Postmaster at Cape Coast:—

We are out of 1d. postage stamps. Consequently the local printer here was ordered to print the surcharged stamps. It is only allowed by the authorities to sell them at Accra Post Office, and only to applicants posting one penny correspondence, and the stamps are to be fixed on the article or correspondence by the stamp seller. I am not supplied with them. As soon as supplies of 1d. stamps are received from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, London, no more of the stamps will be issued. You will observe that only correspondence from Accra bears the surcharged stamp.

Provisional.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. on 6d., orange ..	.. 30 0	.. 7 6

1891. One value. Design: unchanged. The value, 2½d., was introduced to provide for the new Postal Union rate of postage. It was printed in two colours, the value at the bottom being printed in orange and the rest of the design in ultramarine.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2½d., ultramarine and orange ..	0 5	0 2

1891-4. Three high values. Design: A smaller diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left enclosed in an octagonal frame of curved lines, with a large tablet for the figures of value below, inscribed, on one side "Postage" and on the other "and Revenue," watermarked Crown C.A. and perf. 14. These high values were printed in two colours, the 20s. at first in green and red which was subsequently changed to lilac and black on red paper.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5s., lilac and blue	10	0	5	0
10s., lilac and red	35	0	4	6
20s., green and red	—	—	—	—
20s., lilac and black on red ..	30	0	4	0

1898-1900. Ten values. Design: Same as the last issue of high values. In the 2d., 3d. and 6d. the numerals of value are in an unshaded tablet, in the other values the tablet is shaded. This series was bicoloured, the name and value being printed in one colour and the rest of the design in another colour.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., lilac and green	0	2	0	1
1d., " " red	0	4	0	1
2d., " " orange	3	6	—	—
2½d., " " ultramarine	0	9	1	0
3d., " " orange	0	6	0	3
6d., " " mauve	1	0	0	3
1s., green and black	2	6	0	9
2s., " " carmine	4	0	1	6
5s., " " lilac	15	0	5	0
10s., " " brown	25	0	6	0

1901. Provisional. One value. Design: The 2½d. and 6d. of the last issue surcharged "One Penny" in two lines in small Roman capitals, in black, with a heavy bar cancelling the original value.

Provisional.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d. on 2½d., lilac and ultramarine	1	6	1	6
1d. on 6d., " " mauve	1	6	1	6

1902. Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left, but otherwise the design of the last issue unchanged except for a miniature crown over the head but not on it. The colours of the previous issue were repeated. The watermark was Crown C.A. designated single to distinguish it from the

repeated or multiple watermark by which it was superseded. Perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. (single). Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., lilac and green	0	1	0	1
1d., " " carmine	0	3	0	1
2d., " " orange red	0	9	—	—
2½d., " " ultramarine	0	4	—	—
3d., " " orange	0	9	0	9
6d., " " mauve	0	8	0	8
1s., green and black	1	4	1	6
2s., " " carmine	2	8	—	—
5s., " " mauve	6	6	—	—
10s., " " brown	12	6	—	—
20s., purple and black on red ..	25	0	—	—

1904-6. Seven values. Design: As in last issue but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., lilac and green	0	1	—	—
1d., " " carmine	0	2	—	—
2d., " " orange red	0	3	—	—
2½d., " " ultramarine	0	4	—	—
3d., " " orange	0	5	—	—
6d., " " mauve	0	8	0	8
2s. 6d., green and yellow	3	3	—	—

1907. Two values. Designs unchanged, but printed each in one colour instead of bicoloured.

Single Colours.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., green	—	—	—	—
1d., carmine	—	—	—	—

Bibliography

"Africa," Part II, published by the Royal Philatelic Society, pp. 73-82.

A list of the stamps of the Gold Coast in the Tapling Collection compiled by Mr. Gordon Smith.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, vol. 6, p. 144.

Notes on the stamps of the Gold Coast, more particularly as to the plate numbers of the various issues and values. By E. D. Bacon in *The Philatelic Record*, vol. 25, p. 3.

The Penny Provisional of 1889, as to places in which it was used, by Gilbert Lockyer, in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, vol. 2, pp. 196, 255, 398.

1d. C.A. Note as to date of issue, *London Philatelist*, vol. 6, p. 345.

Our Open Page

Bermuda: Queen's Head Dies

By B. W. H. POOLE



IN the excellent article dealing with the stamps of Bermuda which appeared in the first number of THE POSTAGE STAMP reference is made to certain differences in the dies of the Queen's head types which were noted by Mr. Louis G. Barrett in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. Two types are mentioned

in one of which the forehead and point of the bust are unshaded, while in the other these portions of the design are shaded in the same manner as the face and neck. These varieties are interesting and well worth noting, but, at the same time, they are not of any striking philatelic importance, for the simple reason that the different types do not exist on stamps of the same face value.

Similar differences may be found in the designs of many other Colonial stamps and to some of these I hope to refer at a later date. For the present, however, I must confine my remarks to the varieties noted on the Bermudan stamps.

True, the eight values may be roughly separated into the two divisions of "unshaded" and "shaded," but a little close observation will suffice to show that each value differs in some manner from all the others.

Let us take the stamps singly in the chronological order in which they appeared.

The 1d. value.

The 1d. stamp was first issued on the 13th September, 1865, and from that date until its withdrawal it appeared in several distinct shades and on papers watermarked Crown C.C. and Crown C.A. respectively. The forehead is nearly unshaded for only traces of a few short lines are shown. Curiously enough these are often more distinct on specimens from the later printings than they are on those from the earlier supplies. The point of the bust is usually quite unshaded, though occasionally the lowest line of colour on the neck extends right to the point. Traces of a short coloured line can always be seen on the white circle enclosing the centrepiece below the last leg of the "R," and under the first limb of the "M" of "BERMUDA."

The 6d. value.

This stamp was issued on the same date as the 1d., and it is still in use. It exists in a number of shades, with two perforations (14 and 14 x 12½), and on both C.C. and C.A. paper. The forehead and point of the bust are quite unshaded, and the tiny line on the circle can only be distinguished under the "M" of "BERMUDA."

The 1s. value.

This value also appeared on the 13th September, 1865. It may be found in several shades of green and

in two perforations on the C.C. paper. In 1893 its colour was changed to yellow-brown and it was printed on C.A. paper, and it still remains current. In 1901 a quantity of sheets were printed in grey and these were surcharged "ONE FARTHING." The forehead is quite unshaded with the exception of a more or less distinct line of colour just above the shading of the eye. The point of the bust is usually unshaded, but on some specimens the lower lines of colour on the neck extend almost to the point. I have failed to find any trace of the tiny line of colour on the circle as shown on the 1d. and 6d. stamps, but on every specimen there are distinct traces of a thin line extending under the "ER" of "BERMUDA." Generally, too, there is a white space in the coil of the hair above the curl as in Die I of the stamps of the Cyprus type.

The 2d. value.

The 2d. stamp in blue was first issued on March 14th, 1866, and in this colour it may be found on both the C.C. and C.A. papers. In 1893 its colour was changed to violet-brown, and it still remains in use. The forehead and point of the bust are quite unshaded, and there is a tiny extra line of shading at the top of the circle.

The 3d. value.

This stamp was issued on March, 10th 1873, in yellow-buff, and in this colour it exists in the two perforations on the C.C. paper. In 1886 it was printed on C.A. paper and its colour was changed to grey. The forehead and bust are completely shaded and the space in the coil of the hair above the curl is—to use an Irishism—filled with shading.

The ½d. value.

On March 25th, 1880, the ½d. value was first issued. It was printed in brown on C.C. paper, and in 1892, when C.A. paper was used, its colour was changed to green. Both forehead and bust are shaded and in the space in the coil of the hair there is a single line of colour. It will be noted that from the point of the bust to the base of the neck the ends of the lines of shading make a perfectly straight line instead of being slightly curved as in all the other values.

The 4d. value.

This value was also issued on March 25th, 1880, in orange-red on C.C. paper. In 1904 it appeared on C.A. paper in the same colour, and is still current. The forehead and bust are completely shaded, but the space in the coil of the hair is quite blank.

The 2½d. value.

The 2½d. stamp was not added to the set until 10th November, 1884. It was printed in ultramarine on C.A. paper, and has only quite recently been displaced by a stamp of the same value in the "floating dock"

type. The forehead and bust are both shaded, and there are two lines of shading in the space in the coil of the hair. From the point of the bust to the base of the neck the angle is much more sharply defined than in any of the other values. Another point peculiar to this value may be noted in the diadem in which the curved portions between the pillars supporting the small circles are outlined in colour.

And now, having shown that these differences exist, it behoves me to try and offer some feasible theory accounting for this fact.

Only one plate was made for each value, and each plate was made from a separate die.

It will be noted that though the Queen's head is nearly the same on each denomination the surrounding portions of the designs are different in all. Thus it is obvious that there were separate plates for each of the eight values.

Many other British Colonial stamps show a similar type of portrait with diadem as shown on the Bermudan stamps, and it seems to me more than probable that all these were copied from a common pattern.

It is possible that Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. kept one or more "stock" dies of this Queen's head pattern on hand. Then when a die was wanted for making a plate for the production of a supply of stamps for any particular Colony an impression would be taken from one of the "stock" dies and a suitable border engraved around.

This is no doubt what happened in the case of the Bermuda stamps, and, where the centrepieces are so nearly alike as with the 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s. values, one impression from the "stock" die was duplicated four times. This would account for the slight variations and a general "touching up" before or after the border was added might also cause slight differences.

Speaking of Colonial stamps generally that are found in this type, the varieties with unshaded forehead and bust are always of so much earlier date than those that have these items shaded that it appears probable that, either the original "stock" die was re-touched, or a new one was prepared.

Minor variations are often found on the same stamps and these owe their origin to a variety of causes. Take almost any sheet of stamps, and a close study will reveal minute differences between some of the specimens. Some of these are caused by excessive, insufficient, or uneven inking; others are due to wear of the plates, and yet others may originate at the very time that the plates were made.

In the process of duplication necessary in making a plate, some of the finer lines of shading do not "take" so clearly in some cases as they do in others—hence minute variations occur which can be detected with a magnifying glass.

It is to such causes as these that the variations in the 1d. and other Bermudan stamps are due.

American Philatelic Association

THE twenty-second annual convention of the American Philatelic Association, held at Denver, July 30th to August 1st, inclusive, reached the zenith of success, measured by all those standards that enter into the philatelist's consideration. The attendance was large and representative, and the interest manifested in the transactions of the convention and the concerns of the association was intense and intelligent. Effective work was accomplished, and the legislative measures adopted were sensibly corrective and reflected the best thought of the members, who deliberated well before enforcing changes. In actual movement tending to improve the workings of the association, it is doubtful whether any recent convention can record so much progress.

No legislation was offered on subjects that applied to Philately in its broadest sense, or entirely separated from association affairs, unless we deem a passing reference to the question of official philatelic badge or button an exception; nevertheless, the stamp theme was prominent. Stamps were shown informally in the way of collections and selected specimens; and the advertised occasion on the night of Monday, 29th July, when the collections of C. A. Howes, Chinese Treaty Ports; Ed. H. Hall, United States; D. T. Eaton, United States Entires; and Walter Clarke Bellows, Mexico, were exhibited in the course of the reception to the visiting delegates of the Denver Stamp Club, at the Albany Hotel parlours, was a veritable crush. The spacious parlours were thronged by collectors, their friends, and the public generally, and the spirit of

philatelic enthusiasm ran high. After the exhibition, the complimentary ball was given by the hotel management.

The seat of the convention next year is Columbus, the capital of Ohio, which has attained importance philatelically through the flourishing and energetic branch in that city.—*Meekel's Weekly Stamp News.*

The Busy Postman of 1839

In that interesting old magazine, the *Mirror*, there appears under date of 16th February, 1839, the following curious advertisement extracted from a contemporary issue of the *Pottery Gazette* :—

"James Scott, whitesmith, gardener, fishmonger, schoolmaster and watchman; teeth drawn occasionally; shoemaker, chapel clerk, crier of the town, running footman, groom and organ-blower, keeper of the town hall, letter carrier, brewer, winder of the clock, toller of the 8 o'clock bell, waiter and bill-poster, fire-bucket maker to the Protector Fire Office, street springer, assistant to a Staffordshire potter, fire-lighter to the dancing-master, sheriff's officer's deputy, ringer of the market bell, toll-taker to the bailiff of the hundred and keeper and deliverer of the fair standings, returns his most grateful acknowledgments to the inhabitants of Stoke and its vicinity for the many favours already received, and begs to assure them that it shall be his constant study to merit their patronage."—*C. Stuart Dudley.*

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Cayman Islands. Now that the new values have been received it may be well to recapitulate and set out the King's head issues up to date.



1901-2.

Wmk. Crown C.A. (single). Perf. 14.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 6d., brown.
- 1s., orange.

1905-6.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

- ½d., green.
- 1d., carmine.
- 2½d., ultramarine.
- 6d., brown.
- 1s., orange.

1907.

Colours changed and new values.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

- 4d., brown and blue.
- 6d., olive and rose.
- 1s., violet and green.
- 5s., vermilion and green.

Jaipur. We quote the following interesting note on the sheets of the first issue of this Indian native state from *The Monthly Journal*:

In the heading to the first issue of this State our publishers' Catalogue says that there are "Probably 24 varieties (2 plates) of the ½ a." This statement is founded upon the fact that we had found used copies of the ½ a., Type 1, which did not correspond with any of the 12 varieties on the first sheets that we received, and we had assumed that there was a second plate also of 12 varieties. Messrs. Ram Gopal & Co. have now sent us an imperforate sheet of this second plate, but it contains 24 varieties, like the plate of Type 2, and there are therefore 36 varieties of the ½ a., Type 1, instead of 24 only. It is possible that this was the first plate of all, as we have only seen used copies hitherto, or it may have been the last of all, and a few imperforate sheets have been left on hand (we do not suppose that any of the stamps were issued imperforate); the inscriptions are more neatly drawn than those upon either of the other plates of the ½ a., the stamps are wider apart both vertically and horizontally, all the lines framing the sheet are further away from the stamps, and they do not cross at the corners, also there is no number at the top of the sheet. Messrs. Ram Gopal also send us a ½ a. stamp of similar type in black, and rouletted; instead of perforated, but we think this must be a fancy article of some sort; it does not correspond with any of the known varieties of the *Nue* stamps.

Luxemburg. Mr. W. G. Wilson, Birmingham, sends us five low values in a new design, the arms of the Duchy on a shield surmounted by a crown, partially surrounded by a circular band inscribed "Grand Duché de Luxembourg," and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. add

three new values—15c., 37½c., and 50c.—to the portrait series. The stamps of the arms type are perf. 12½, whilst those of the portrait series are perf. 11 × 11½. The complete list of the current stamps up to date now stands as follows:—



Arms type. Perf. 12½.

- 1 cent. grey.
- 2 cents, brown.
- 4 cents, olive.
- 5 cents, green.
- 6 cents, mauve.

Portrait type. Perf. 11 × 11½.

- 10 cents, carmine.
- 12½ cents, slate green.
- 15 cents, brown.
- 20 cents, orange.
- 25 cents, blue.
- 37½ cents, green.
- 50 cents, brown.

Portugal. We quote the following from *The Monthly Journal*:—"Our publishers have received a sheet of stamps of the current type, in the colour of the 2½ reis, but without either the figures denoting the value or the usual perforation. It is stated to have been found amongst the stock of ordinary stamps—somebody must have been careless. Other curiosities of a similar nature have been shown us, or are noted in the *Stamp Weekly*:—

Figures of value omitted.

- reis, pale grey.
- " orange.
- " green.
- " lilac.
- " carmine.
- " pale ultramarine.

Figures of value greatly displaced, outside the tablet but right way up.

- 2½ r., pale grey.
- 5 r., orange.

The 5 r. with figure displaced and with figure omitted are known in an unsevered pair.

Figures inverted at the top of the stamp.

- 25 r., carmine.

Figures inverted in the tablet.

- 25 r., carmine.
- Error of colour.
- 25 r., orange.

"All appear to be perf. 11½."

Sir Rowland Hill

The Story of a Great Reform

Told by HIS DAUGHTER



ROWLAND HILL

THE story of the introduction of Penny Postage has been told over and over again, but it loses nothing in the re-telling by Mrs. Eleanor C. Smyth, the gifted daughter of the great reformer, who dedicates her book to her father and mother, Rowland Hill and Caroline Pearson, and describes herself as "their last remaining immediate descendant."

"Sir Rowland Hill, the Story of a Great Reform," told by his daughter, and published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, is a simple and straightforward story of the battle which Sir Rowland Hill waged for Postal Reform, his early struggles, his many disappointments, and his final success.

Incredibly High Postal Rates

After discoursing on the family tree, we have a picture of the old Postal System of high rates.

A packet weighing 32 oz. was sent from Deal to London. The postage was over £6, being, as Sir Rowland Hill's informant remarked, four times as much as the charge for an inside place by the coach. Again a parcel of official papers, small enough to slip inside an ordinary pocket, was sent from Dublin to another Irish town addressed to Sir John Burgoyne. By mistake it was charged as a letter instead of as a parcel, and cost £11! For that amount the whole mail-coach plying between the two towns, with places for seven passengers and their luggage might have been hired. Extreme cases these perhaps, but that they could and did happen argued something rotten in the state of—the old system.

The Old Franking System

One of the greatest abuses of the old postal system was that of the privilege which Members of Parliament enjoyed of franking their own letters and those of their friends, an abuse which some latter-day M.P.'s wish to re-introduce.

The number of franks which privileged people could write was limited by law (fourteen franks a day was the number each M.P. could issue), but was frequently exceeded if a donor hated to say "No," or found that compliance with requests enhanced his popularity, or was to his advantage. Members of Parliament sometimes signed franks by the packet, and gave them to constituents and friends. It was an easy, inexpensive way of making a present, or of practising a little bribery and corruption. The chief offenders were said to be the banker members, who, in one day (of 1794), sent 103,000 franked letters through the London Post Office alone. Franks were sometimes given to servants instead of, or to eke out, their wages; and the servants, being then as a rule illiterate, sold the franks again.

Curious Old Postal Rates

Single letter postage between London and Edinburgh or Glasgow cost 1s. 3½d., between London and Aberdeen 1s. 4½d., and between London and Thurso, 1s. 5½d., "the odd halfpenny being the duty exacted in protectionist days to enable the epistle to cross the Scottish border." A letter to Ireland *via* Holyhead paid, in addition to ordinary postage, steamer rates and toll for using the Menai and Conway bridges.

Foreign Postage

But the most extraordinary rates were those levied on foreign and colonial letters.

The lowest single postage to Gibraltar was 2s. 10d.; and to Egypt 3s. 2d. When a letter crossed the Atlantic to Canada or the United States an inland rate at each end of the transit was charged in addition to the heavy ocean postage. A packet of manuscript to either of those countries cost £3 under the old system. But at this "reduced" (!) rate only a 3 lb. packet could be sent. Did one weigh the merest fraction of a pound over the permitted three, it could not go except as a letter, the postage upon which would have been £21 os. 8d.

Smuggled Letters

High postal rates led to systematic smuggling, indeed, so prevalent was the smuggling of letters that the smugglers did most of the letter carrying. Fines of "£5 for every letter and £100 for every week this practice is continued" failed to stop the illegal traffic.

The Genesis of the Postage Stamp

Coming down to Rowland Hill's proposals for reform we get the genesis of the postage stamp.

How best to collect the prepaid postage had next to be decided; and among other things, Rowland Hill bethought him of the stamped cover for newspapers proposed by his friend Charles Knight three years before, but never adopted; and, finally, of the loose adhesive stamp which was his own device. The description he gave of this now familiar object reads quaintly at the present day. "Perhaps this difficulty"—of making coin payments at a Post Office—"might be obviated by using a bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered at the back with a glutinous wash which, by applying a little moisture, might be attached to the letter."

Rowland Hill's Proposals

Rowland Hill believed that uniform rate of a penny the half-ounce ought to defray the cost of letter-carriage, and produce some 200 per cent. profit. He originally proposed a penny the ounce. His proposals were set forth in a pamphlet entitled, "Post Office Reform: Its Importance and Practicability." Use of

the words "Penny Postage" we are told was carefully avoided, "because a reformer, when seeking to convert to his own way of thinking a too-often slow-witted public, is forced to employ the wisdom of the serpent." He sought to lead his readers on, step by step, "till the seeming midsummer madness of a uniform postal rate irrespective of distance should cease to startle, and instead be accepted as absolutely sane."

Reception of the Proposals

"Post Office Reform" naturally created a sensation and evoked considerable opposition. The *Quarterly Review* assailed it in true *Quarterly* style, and declared that "prepayment by means of a stamp or stamped cover is universally admitted to be quite the reverse of convenient, foreign to the habits of the people," and "only a means of making sedition easy."

Official Opposition

The Post Office authorities fought against the proposal tooth and nail. The Postmaster-General of the day declared that "of all the wild and visionary schemes which he had ever heard or read of it was the most extraordinary." He dreaded that the walls of the Post Office would burst with the increase of correspondence. The Secretary to the Post Office held that people would not write more frequently even if letters were carried free.

Sydney Smith Recants

"Outside the official circle," writes Mrs. Smyth, "opinion, though mainly favourable, was still a good deal divided; and the dismal prophecies which always precede the passing into law of any great reform had by no means ceased to be heard. It is, therefore, not altogether surprising that even so clear-sighted a man as Sydney Smith should have laughed at this 'nonsense of a penny post.' But when the 'nonsense' had had three years of trial he wrote to its author, uninvited, a letter of generous appreciation."

The Passing of the Penny Postage Bill

After three years of strenuous agitation Penny Postage was embodied in a Bill before Parliament, but owed its passing and was largely due to the fortunes of political warfare on other matters.

Strange to say, the passing of the Penny Postage Bill had, to some extent, depended upon the successful making of a bargain. In April, 1839, Lord Melbourne's Government brought in what was known as the Jamaica Bill, which proposed to suspend for five years that Colony's constitution. The measure was strenuously opposed by the Conservatives, led by Peel and by some of the Liberals. On the second reading of the Bill, the Government escaped defeat by the narrow majority of five, and at once resigned. Peel was sent for by the Queen, but, owing to the famous "Bedchamber Difficulty," failed to form a Ministry. Lord Melbourne returned to office, and the Radical members agreed to give his administration their support on condition that penny postage should be granted.

And in the autumn of 1839 the reformer was appointed for a term of two years—afterwards extended to three—to the Treasury, to superintend the working of his plan.

Fanatical Opposition of the Post Office

Concerning the opposition of the Post Office to Rowland Hill's scheme his daughter writes with generous candour. She says:—

Of what can only be correctly described as the fanatical opposition of the Post Office authorities to the reform, it is easy, and customary, to point the finger of scorn or of derision. This is unjust. Honourable men occupying responsible positions as heads of an important branch of the Civil Service, and bound, therefore, to safeguard what they believe to be its true interests, have a difficult task to carry out when they are confronted with the possible acceptance of an untried scheme in whose soundness they have little or no faith. That the policy of the postal officials pursued was a mistaken one time has abundantly proved; but if their opposition argued lack of understanding, they merely acted

as the generality of men similarly situated would have done. Even Rowland Hill, who, as an outsider, battered so long at the official gates, was wont to confess, when later, he found shelter within the citadel they defended that he was not a little apt to feel towards other outsiders a hostility similar to that which his old enemies had felt towards him. The sentiment is not inspired by the oft-alleged tendency to somnolence that comes of the well-upholstered official armchair and assured salary, but from the heart-weariness born of the daily impertunity of persons who deluge a long suffering department with crude and impracticable suggestions, or with complaints that have little or no foundation.

Shabby Official Treatment

After the passing of Penny Postage, Rowland Hill was offered a temporary (two years) engagement at the salary of a head clerk. He was told that he would "not exercise any direct authority, or give any immediate orders to the officers of the Post Office." Nevertheless, he decided to make the best of a bad bargain, hoping for the permanent headship of the Post Office then filled by Colonel Maberly, "the only position in which the reformer could really acquire that authority which was essential to the development of his plan." But Colonel Maberly held the post for fifteen years longer, and when it fell out at last into Rowland Hill's hands, he was long past middle life; and his years of almost unrestricted influence were destined to be but few.

Rowland Hill Dismissed

At the end of his three years' engagement, three years of continual thwarting on the part of Post Office officials, he was dismissed; even his offer to work at his cherished reform without salary was refused. The secret hostility of backstair influence was his undoing. But Mrs. Smyth, though seemingly at one time bent on telling the "ugly story," deems it wiser to draw the veil.

A Director of the Brighton Railway

In the hour of his trouble he received a letter inviting him to join the London and Brighton Railway Board of Directors. That railway was then in a bad way, and he formed one of an entirely new directorate, who rapidly restored the prosperity of the railway.

The Stamps

The chapter headed "The Stamps" is largely devoted to a scathing and well-deserved exposure of the shameless inaccuracy of the article on the Post Office in the "Encyclopædia Britannica," which gave further circulation to the often-exposed fable crediting Mr. James Chalmers, of Dundee, with the invention of the postage stamp.

It having been decided to adopt penny postage and stamps for the prepayment of postage the public was invited to furnish designs. 2,600 letters containing suggestions and many sets of drawings were sent in. The reward offered was divided amongst four in equal shares, each receiving £100. The recipients were, Sir Henry Cole, Mr. Cheverton, Mr. C. Whiting, and Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. Subsequently it was decided to reproduce on the postage stamp the youthful Queen's head in profile designed by Wyon for the money of the then new reign. It was agreed that a portrait would offer greater difficulties to the forger than a coat of arms or other fanciful ornament.

So profoundly did Rowland Hill feel the importance of this fact that he invariably scouted a suggestion occasionally made in the early days of the postal reform that his own head should appear on at least one of the stamps.

A Fire at Perkins Bacon's

The engraving and printing of the stamps was entrusted to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., who, "during the first forty years of the reformed postal system, printed 95-100ths of our postage stamps, and in

that space of time issued twenty-one thousand millions of penny adhesives alone.

About midway in the fifties a serious fire broke out on Messrs. Perkins and Co.'s premises, and much valuable material was destroyed. Investigation of the salvage showed that barely two days' supply of stamps remained in stock; and some anxiety was felt lest these should become exhausted before fresh ones could be produced, as even a temporary return to prepayment by coin of the realm would by this time have been found irksome. But with characteristic zeal, the firm at once recommenced work, and only a few people were ever aware how perilously near to deadlock the modern postal machine had come. It was after this fire that the crimson hue of the penny adhesive was altered to a sort of brick-red. The change of colour—one of several such changes exhibited by the red stamp—is duly recorded in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co.'s catalogue, though the probably long-forgotten accident with which it would seem to be connected is not mentioned.

Delay in Issuing the Stamps

For four months the issue of the stamps was delayed. They ought to have been issued in time to be used on the 10th January, 1840, when the new system came into force. But all sorts of hindrances were furnished up by officials. "The stamp office persisted in issuing the stamped covers in entire sheets as they were printed, and the Post Office refused to supply them uncut to the receivers. Three days alone were wasted over this wrangle, and so on. When at last the stamps—called by would-be wits 'Government sticking

plasters'—appeared the difficulty was not to persuade people to make use of them, but to get them supplied fast enough to meet the popular demand."

Rowland Hill Restored to Office

When the Peel administration fell in 1846 and Lord John Russell became Prime Minister, Rowland Hill was restored to office as Secretary to the Postmaster General, a title especially created for him, and he eventually filled Colonel Maberly's vacated chair as Secretary to the Post Office.

He Resigns at 68

Saddled once more with an unsympathetic chief, and "wearyed out with long years of almost incessant toil and frequently recurring obstruction, too hopelessly out of health to cope with the new difficulties, the harassed postal reformer struggled on awhile, and in 1864 resigned," at the age of 68. He survived his retirement from the Post Office fifteen years. He died in 1879 and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Such is a brief glance at an exceedingly interesting history of the life and work of a great reformer and public benefactor.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

I. Introduction

ONE of the more modern "side-issues" of philatelic study that has much to commend it is the collection of stamps with marginal inscriptions, plate and control numbers, etc. It is a phase of stamp collecting that has an ever-increasing number of devotees and, when the value, interest, and attractiveness that the inclusion of marginal varieties adds to a collection is considered, one cannot help wondering why the subject was so neglected until comparatively recent years.

Specialists in particular do, and should, pay considerable attention to these details for they are, in my opinion, of much more importance than many varieties of a minor nature which are deemed worthy of catalogue rank.

The collection and study of the inscriptions and other details printed on the margins of sheets of stamps is, as I stated above, essentially a modern phase of philately. But, then, taking it all round, present-day philately is a much more extensive and scientific pursuit than it was even twenty years ago. There was a time (and it can hardly be stated to be in the very "dim and distant" past, either), when the collector was quite content to know that certain varieties existed. Now he wants to know much more. He takes an interest in the various methods of stamp production and, so far as is possible, traces the history of every specimen from the time its issue was mooted and the first rough sketch drawn until its appearance as a finished stamp placed on sale to the public.

The names of the designers, engravers, and manufacturers of the plates and of the printers of the stamps are all important facts which the modern specialist

tries his best to bring to light. Furthermore, he likes to know how many stamps there are in a sheet and how they are arranged. When a *lille-bêche* or other error occurs he wants to know its exact position in the sheet and, with regard to surcharges, it is considered more or less imperative to know how the stamps were over-printed, how many were surcharged together, and the positions of any errors or minor varieties that may occur.

Indeed, nothing is, seemingly, too trivial to escape the attention of the enthusiastic specialist and, though there are sneerers at what is termed "microscopical philately," there is no doubt that this careful study of minute details adds enormously to the interest of philately as an intellectual pursuit to many of its adherents, and, moreover, it is often of the greatest practical value in settling debatable points as to the number of issues or printings of certain stamps, in the identification of reprints, and in the detection of forgeries.

When due appreciation is given to the closeness with which all these details are studied there can be little surprise in the growing interest that is taken in marginal varieties. Surely their collection is at least on a level with the accumulation of British stamps showing different plate numbers.

Take one branch of the subject—marginal plate numbers. These show whether certain stamps have been printed from one or more plates and, in the latter event, are of the greatest assistance in the detection of "die" varieties, such as those found in the Queen's head type for Cyprus, etc., in which the stamps printed from plates 1 and 2 differ in many small details of the design from those printed from the plates numbered 3 and 4. It is very certain that, had more attention

been given to marginal plate numbers, the two dies found in the first issue of the stamps of Seychelles and in those of the 1896-7 series for the British South Africa Company, would have been discovered long before they were. Now that increased interest is being taken in the subject it is not improbable that more varieties of a similar nature may be discovered.

For instance, when so many as, say, six plates have been used in the production of a certain stamp it is not at all unlikely that the die was retouched at some time or other (as in the case of the 5 cents, Ceylon, of 1886), and the task of running such varieties to earth is appreciably simplified if one can refer to a quantity of the stamps with the marginal plate numbers attached.

It is unfortunate that so little attention was paid to plate number varieties by the older generation of collectors, for, owing to the fact that the majority were in the habit of scrupulously tearing off the margins from any unused strips or blocks of stamps they possessed as being so much superfluous matter, it is now almost impossible to obtain some of the earlier stamps showing the marginal plate numbers, etc. It is, certainly, not always easy to get these varieties of stamps current or recently current, but the diligent collector, who starts with the idea of getting as extensive a collection as possible, will, even if he falls far short of completeness, succeed in amassing a collection that in point of value and interest would be difficult to surpass.

In this series of articles dealing with marginal varieties it will be my endeavour to give all the information possible regarding the different types of plate numbers, etc., known. For the present, however, I must confine my remarks to the stamps of the British Empire owing, firstly, to the vastness of the subject, and, secondly, to the fact that my notes regarding the issues of foreign countries are too meagre to place before my readers at this juncture.

For the purpose of simplifying matters as much as possible the subject may with advantage be divided into five parts as follows:—

- (a) Plate numbers.
- (b) Current or reference numbers.
- (c) Contract numbers.
- (d) Sheet or control numbers.
- (e) Inscriptions.

I have given plate numbers premier place because they are the most generally collected of all marginal varieties and are also the most easily understood.

II. Marginal Plate Numbers

Although the sheets of all British stamps issued between 1840 and 1880 show the plate numbers on the margin, the practice of adding these details to the plates used in the production of Colonial stamps did not become general until the contract was secured by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. As this firm and Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. have between them manufactured the vast majority of the stamps used in the British Empire, it will, I think, be as well, for the purposes of this article, to deal with their productions separately.

The Perkins Bacon Numbers

The philatelic history of Great Britain and her Colonies naturally resolves itself into two main divisions—the line-engraved and the surface-printed. The first of these, which embraces the first ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. stamps of Great Britain and the handsome early issues of most of our Colonies, is the work of Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and the other division covers the work of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. Several other firms have, of course, produced stamps at various times, but the sum total of the plates made by them compared with those manufactured by the two firms named above does not materially affect this statement.

All the plates made for the manufacture of the stamps of our own country by the line-engraved process were numbered in the margin at each corner. Owing to certain defects several of the plates were never used or even completed, but they still had a consecutive number and a record of them was entered in the Archives at Somerset House.

The 1d., 1½d., and 2d. values were printed in sheets of 240, arranged in twenty horizontal rows of twelve stamps each, and the sheets of the ½d. value consisted of 480 specimens in twenty rows of twenty-four each. There was a separate series of numbers for each of the four values and, furthermore, the plates made from the retouched die of the 1d. (usually known as die II) provided a distinct series from the plates made from the die in its original state. Sometimes also reserve plates were used, and these were numbered "R 1" etc.

At first these marginal plate numbers consisted of small numerals and later larger figures enclosed in a circle were used. In the case of the ½d. value the plate numbers were also shown on the stamps and the 1d. stamps printed from plates 71 onwards, the 1½d. printed from plate 3, and the 2d. ones from plates 7 to 15 were similarly marked. Prior to the insertion of the numbers in the design of the stamps themselves it is impossible, with one or two exceptions, to identify the stamps from different plates unless one has specimens from the corners of the sheets with the margin attached.

(To be continued.)

U.S. Stamps as an Investment

As an investment the stamps of the U.S. are the best proposition, and we advise our readers to be prepared for a big advance in prices. This does not refer only to the high-priced stamps, but a large number which are catalogued as if common. We could name at least ten low-priced stamps of which one hundred specimens could not be bought in the entire U.S. at full catalogue figures. Some are used, others unused. Years ago it was the practice of collectors to buy from one hundred to a thousand of the low values of each issue and set them outside to grow. Unfortunately the only thing that increased was the interest charges. So many lost on Columbians that this sort of speculation fell into disfavour, with the result that there is a dearth of many late issues in unused condition.—*Metropolitan Philatelist*, 31.8.07.

From Other Magazines

Interesting Experiment in Fades

DURING the early winter months of 1904, I tried an experiment with some forty stamps, the results obtained being, I think, sufficiently important to interest many collectors.

In November, 1904, I selected forty British Colonial stamps, thirty printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., or printed from their plates, and ten printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. The stamps chosen for my experiment were all full coloured stamps, and were hinged and mounted on white cardboard. This card I had framed with a glass front touching the stamps and exposed to the light.

For nearly two-and-a-half years these stamps were hanging in the full glare of natural and artificial light, and although not exposed to much direct sunlight, they have on sunny days been subject to the sun's rays for a short while.

Perhaps if I give a full list of the forty stamps chosen it will make matters clearer for those interested.

I list the Perkins Bacon stamps first:—

1	Great Britain 1d. black, 1840.	..	Appears cleaner looking paper, slightly bleached
2	" 2d. blue, 1857	.. ..	ditto ditto gone.
3	" ½d. rose red "	.. ..	Colour almost completely gone.
4	" " " "	.. ..	Colour almost completely gone.
5	Barbados, CC 14, 1d. ultramarine.	..	Unchanged
6	" " 4d. carmine	..	Unchanged
7	" " 6d. chrome yel.	..	Slightly discoloured browner shade.
8	Ceylon, CC 12½, 1d. deep blue..	..	Unchanged
9	Cape, 1855, 1d. rose red	.. ..	Colour almost gone
10	" " 1s. yellow green	.. ..	Unchanged
11	Grenada, 1881, 1d. green	.. ..	" "
12	Natal, 1862, 3d. blue	.. ..	" "
13	" " 6d. pale lilac	.. ..	Colour quite faded.
14	Newfoundland, 1d. reddish purple	..	" "
15	New South Wales, 1850, 1s. rose	.. ..	" "
16	" " 1s. carmine	.. ..	" "
17	New Zealand, 1863, 1d. carmine ver..	..	Unchanged
18	" " 2d. pale blue	..	Brighter and newer looking
19	" " 2d. deep blue	..	Brighter and newer looking
20	" " 6d. red brown	..	Unchanged
21	" " 2d. vermilion	..	" "
22	Nova Scotia, 3d. deep blue	..	" "
23	Queensland, no wrmk. 1d. deep or. ver.	..	" "
24	" " 1868, 2d. blue..	..	" "
25	" " 6d. green	..	" "
26	South Australia, 1856, 2d. pale red	..	" "
27	" " 1880, 4d. purple mauve	..	Colour quite faded.
28	Tasmania, 1857, 4d. pale blue..	..	Unchanged
29	" " 1871, 6d. dull mauve..	..	Colour gone
30	W. Australia, 1889, 1d. pale carmine..	..	" "

I have given some of the watermarks and perfs., not of course that they influenced the experiment in the slightest, but they help to identify the specimens chosen.

The ten De la Rue stamps are as follows:—

1	British Honduras, 1891, 6c. on 3d. blue	Hopelessly faded.
2	Cape of G.H. 1880, 3d. rose on 3d. lil.-rose	"
3	Gambia, 1886, 1s. violet, CA.	"
4	Gibraltar, 1886, 2½d. ultramarine	"
5	India, 1882, 2s. blue	"
6	Orange River Colony, 6d. blue V.R.I.	"
7	" " 1868, 6d. rose..	"
8	Sierra Leone, 1876, 1½d., lilac CC.	"
9	Tobago, 1885-94, 1d. carmine	"
10	" " 2½d. blue	"

My experiment has proved that out of the thirty line-engraved stamps sixteen have been affected, either

adversely or beneficially, while the remaining fourteen have not been affected at all.—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

Ceylon: Imperforate Issue

There are two distinct shades of the 2d. and 1s. 9d. viz., dark green and yellow-green; of the latter the dark green was certainly issued first, but as regards the 2d. the point is still undecided. The 1s. 9d. plate was completed on January 28th, 1859; the first and only supply was dispatched on February 7th following. All the 1s. 9d. must therefore have been printed during the intervening ten days, but this value exists in both dark green and yellow-green. These facts tend to show that the change of colour took place at the commencement of 1859. I have not seen the 2d. yellow-green dated before 1860, but have found the dark green postmarked "Galle, June 4th, 1858," and consequently believe that the 2d. dark green was issued before the yellow-green. It is by no means improbable that the 2d. dark green bore too great a resemblance to the 1d., especially at night, so the 2d. was changed to a lighter shade. The current ½d. of Great Britain affords a similar instance.

In addition to the 6d. on blued paper this value is found in the following shades, viz., violet-brown, dark violet-brown, deep purple-brown, and bistre. The two last vary considerably, and the paper of the violet-brown is more yellowish than that of the other shades. The 9d. is in the dark violet-brown shade.

I have seen the following dated postmarks:—

6d., violet-brown	..	Colombo, 14th March, 1859.
6d., dark violet-brown	..	London, 27th March, 1860.
6d., deep purple-brown	..	Colombo, 11th June, 1860.
6d., bistre	..	London, Nov. 27th, 1860.
9d., dark violet-brown	..	Colombo, 29th Oct., 1859.

It is barely possible that the violet-brown could have been included in the consignment of February 7th, 1859, so that this shade appears to have been issued before the 9d. was printed, as the plate for this value was only completed on January 26th, 1859. The violet-brown was therefore probably the first shade to be issued on white paper. The dark violet-brown is in the same shade as the 9d., and appears to be the second.

The 6d. is the only value of which no shade existing imperforate also exists perforated. This increases the difficulty of forming any conclusion with regard to the two remaining shades, but the fact of the deep purple-brown resembling the previous shades suggests that it preceded the bistre, which is more closely allied to the shade first perforated, viz., the dull deep brown.

The plate of the 1d. value appears to have had a defective design, which it seems was rectified, because the imperforate 1d. alone is found with the following defects, all of which are in colour:—

1. A large dot on the nose and another over the mouth and dots in the label containing the word "Postage."
2. Lines in the letters of the words "Ceylon" and "One."
3. In the left top corner the lower ornament has a line along its lowest section.—*Baron Percy De Worms in the London Philatelist.*

Mems, Notes and News

The Founder of Perkins Bacon & Co.

THE *Daily Telegraph* has recently given its readers the history of the well-known firm of Perkins Bacon & Co., the engravers and printers of our first English postage stamps. We must find room this week for a few interesting extracts:—

"Jacob Perkins, of Boston, U.S.A., came over to London in 1819 to compete for the bank-note contract of the Bank of England. He did not get it, but he founded a firm which has been famous in Fleet Street for eighty-five years. 'Perkins, Fairman, and Heath' was the style and title in 1819. Since 1852 it has been 'Perkins Bacon and Co.' The daughter of the original Mr. Perkins married Mr. Joshua Bacon, and their son was christened Perkins Bacon. The managing director, Mr. J. D. Heath, is the grandson of Mr. Serjeant Heath, one of the original partners."

The First British Postage Stamps

"The story of the first British postage stamps constitutes a notable chapter in Fleet Street history. It was in 1840 that the Post Office invited the then firm of Perkins Bacon and Petch to furnish designs for adhesive stamps in connection with Rowland Hill's new postal regulations. The first penny stamps were issued to the public on May 6th of that year. They were dependent on that artistic method of line engraving which for forty years distinguished these productions. They were printed in black ink, and they were not perforated. This method of easy separation was invented some years later, but, like most other happy ideas, it was temporarily shelved, and did not become a reality until the year 1854."

Cost of Manufacture

"It is interesting to note the terms of the contract under which Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co. undertook the delivery, in the year 1840, of stamps which were printed, gummed, and ready for use. Sevenpence halfpenny per 1,000 and the paper supplied by the Government—that was the basis of the business. Afterwards the price was reduced to 6½d., then to 6d. and to 5d., and finally, in 1856, to 4½d. per 1,000. This last-mentioned figure stood till the contract expired in 1880."

A Change to Cheap and Nasty

"In the year 1880 Fleet Street ceased to produce the nation's postage stamps. The Government apparently wanted to economise in this direction, and so it asked for tenders for an article which relied, not upon line engraving, but upon what is commonly known as surface-printing or typography. It is not necessary to say more upon this point than that those who compare the modern penny postage stamp with its predecessor, or with the line-engraved postage stamps of the United States, will have no difficulty in deciding which is the more artistic."

The Old Firm Still in the Running

"But if Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. were no longer responsible for the British stamp, they found in foreign countries a consolation for their loss. To-day they regularly supply postage stamps to a great many foreign Governments. Among some of their prettiest productions are those designed for the Republic of Liberia and for certain of the Native Indian States. They have also furnished an issue for the British South Africa Company."

The Best Portrait of King Edward VII

When the Prince of Wales was in Canada he met the Postmaster-General of the Dominion, and His Royal Highness suggested that the head of the Sovereign could perhaps be more fittingly reproduced on Canadian postage stamps than was then the case. In the result the then Fleet Street firm was approached, and evolved the royal head which is to-day to be seen on Dominion stamps. What it did was to make the die and send it over to Canada, for the reason that the Canadian contractors had the sole right of actually printing the stamps.

Poland's First Stamp

The first postal issue in Poland was that of a 1½ kopeck envelope which served for the *petite poste* of Warsaw. What this "little post" was I do not know—the expression is that of a correspondent of the *Timbre Poste* in 1863, when this issue was discovered—but it seems to have been a separate thing from the general post, for we read that these envelopes were issued on January 21st, 1858, the day when the *petite poste* was instituted, and that when its service was superseded, on September 16th, 1861, the use of the envelopes ceased.

They were of small size, measuring only 100 x 58 mm. and were used for sending visiting cards, being sent unfastened through the post. The stamp was hand-struck in red at the right-hand of the envelope, and on the flap, inside, are two signatures together. They are those of two postal clerks who were charged with checking the issue of the envelopes, the stamp and the paper not being considered sufficient guarantees of genuineness.—*The Monthly Circular*.

The Nyasaland Protectorate.

The *London Gazette* of 3rd September, 1907, contained the Order in Council, dated July 6, changing the designation of the British Central Africa Protectorate to the Nyasaland Protectorate, providing that in place of the Commissioner a Governor and Commander-in-Chief be appointed, and constituting an Executive Council and also a Legislative Council (both nominated).

Stick to it!

OH! prim little postage stamp, "holding your own"
In a manner so winning and gentle,
That you're "stuck on" your task—(is that slang?) you will own,
And yet you're not two-cent-imental.

I have noted with pride that through thick and through thin
You cling to a thing till you do it,
And, whatever your aim, you are certain to win,
Because you seem bound to stick to it.

Sometimes when I feel just like shirking a task
Or "chucking" the work I'm pursuing,
I recall your stick-to-it-ive-ness and I ask,
"Would a postage stamp do as I'm doing?"

Then I turn to whatever my hands are about
And with fortified purpose renew it,
And the end soon encompass, for which I set out,
If only, like you, I stick to it.

The sages declare that true genius, so-called,
Is simply the will to "keep at it."
A "won't give-up" purpose is never forestalled,
No matter what foes may combat it.

And most of mankind's vaunted progress is made,
Oh stamp! if the world only knew it,
By noting the wisdom you have which displayed
In sticking adhesively to it.

—Nixon Waterman in the *Prudential Weekly*

Philatelic Society Meetings

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

The opening meeting of the eighteenth session, 1907-8, was held in the Society's room B3, at the Leeds Institute, on Tuesday, the 1st October, the President, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L., being in the chair. The meeting was well attended, and appropriately took the form of a "Reunion" and Stamp Auction, at which there was some spirited bidding. The lots sold included collections in albums, medium and rare Colonial and foreign stamps, and philatelic literature. The next auction will take place on the 21st January next.

The Presidential Address was delivered in a happy strain, and proved full of interest to members, reference being also made to the recent postal issues in various quarters of the globe.

The session opened auspiciously, inasmuch as on that day, the 1st October, the "International Reply Coupon" was issued at the Leeds Post Office, and Mr. Morten was able to show one of these with the Leeds P.O. cancellation. This coupon is the outcome of the suggestion made by Great Britain and adopted by the Postal Congress of Rome in 1906. By its means a correspondent in one country enables a correspondent residing in another country to obtain postage stamps for a reply, or either can make small stamp remittances. Printed on extremely thin watermarked paper, the design is symbolical of the Postal Union in the garb of a goddess delivering a coupon from one hemisphere to another. The inscription is in French, whilst on the back it also appears in German, English, Spanish, and Italian, and translated it reads: "This coupon may be exchanged for a postage stamp of the value of 25 centimes or its equivalent of this amount in any of the countries that have adopted the arrangement."

Several novelties were shown by members, including a selection of the latest issues of Morocco, Iceland, Papua, overprinted on stamps on British New Guinea, Crete and St. Vincent.

The display of Cape wood blocks by the Hon. President (Mr. M. P. Castle, I.P.), originally arranged for the 15th, will be given on the 29th October instead.

Scottish Philatelic Society: Junior Branch

President: Norman M. Barrie.
Hon. Sec.: Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.
Meetings, First Saturdays, 38 George Street, Edinburgh
Annual Subscription: 1s. under 16; 2s. over 16.

The opening meeting of the session was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on Saturday, 5th October, at 7 p.m., when the President Mr. John Walker, presided over a good attendance.

Four new ordinary and two new honorary members were admitted—the honorary being Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S., Lond., and Mr. Percy C. Bishop, Editor of *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*.

The Secretary submitted his report for Session 1906-7, which showed that after paying all expenses, there was a substantial balance at the credit of the Society. He stated that the Exchange Branch had proved a great success, the Sales exceeding the most sanguine expectations of the Committee, and proving in the shape of commission a substantial and increasing source of revenue to the Society. Packets are regularly sent out every month and circulated among between 60 and 70 members.

The following office bearers for Session, 1907-8, were appointed, viz.: President: Mr. Norman M. Barrie; Vice-President: Mr. Percy Mercer; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Frank Chalmers, 24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh; Hon. Assistant Secretary: Mr. Wm. D. D. Small; Hon. Librarian and Curator of Stamp and Forgery Collections: Mr. J. Arnott Hamilton; Members of Committee: Mr. John Walker, Mr. J. Arnott Hamilton, Mr. K. M. Stewart, Mr. Wm. D. D. Small.

The programme of meetings for Season 1907-8 was submitted and finally approved of, and is as follows:—

1907.
 Oct. 5. Annual General Meeting.
 Nov. 2. Display (with Notes)—Iceland. President.
 Dec. 7. Members' Night.
1908.
 Jan. 4. Paper Display and Discussion—"The New Specialism."
 Mr. J. Mullo Weir.
 Display—West Indies, No. 1. Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
 Feb. 1. Paper and Display—India. Mr. John Walker, President
 S.P.S.
 Display—Great Britain. Mr. J. J. Knowles.
 Mar. 7. Lecture and Lantern Display. Mr. F. J. Melville, President
 Junior P.S., London.
 Display—Ceylon. Baron de Worms.
 Display. Mr. Leicester Paine.

- April 4. Display—Sarawak. Mr. F. J. Melville.
 Display—West Indies, No. 2. Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
 Display. Mr. J. L. Sievwright.

- May 2. Members' Night—
 Uruguay. Vice-President.
 Display. Mr. G. L. Beattie.
 Display. Assistant Secretary.
 Empire of Brazil. Librarian.
 Modern Egypt. Mr. R. M. Stewart.

A very cordial vote of thanks was awarded to the retiring office-bearers and especially to Mr. John Walker, to whose experience, encouragement and assistance no small part of the success of the Society is due.

This young and energetic Society is looking forward to an attractive series of meetings during the winter, and is going ahead. We commend its Exchange Branch to the attention of all Junior and Medium Collectors.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: J. H. M. Savage.
Hon. Sec.: A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool.
Meetings: Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool.

The second meeting of the Session was held at the Hotel St. George, Lime Street, the President in the chair. There were twenty-two members present, and two candidates, Messrs. Percy W. Martin and J. L. Carmichael were duly elected. Exhibits of British stamps used abroad were made by Messrs. Bate, Calloway, Evanson, Fletcher, James, Lawson, and Mackay; and of the stamps of Norway by Messrs. Bate, Clissold, Fletcher, Gordon, James, Mackay, and Ross.

Mr. J. J. Bernstein, of Manchester, displayed his fine collection of "British used abroad," utilising it in illustration of the account of these which he subsequently delivered. Mr. Bernstein sketched in rapid, though orderly and lucid manner, the origin, continuance and end of these stamps. Due originally to the needs of the British Army at the time of the Crimean War, the principle was extended to many Colonies and foreign countries, Great Britain acting as postal godmother to countries philatelicly backward. Gradually the Colonies had their own postal services, and the foreign countries one by one joined the Postal Union, until at present the only one left is the original of all that of Constantinople. Mr. Bernstein's known mastery of his subject was strongly evidenced by his quotation offhand of any or all of the postmarks by which these stamps might be identified. A hearty vote of thanks terminated the proceedings.

Manchester Philatelic Society

1907.

- Oct. 4. Display with Notes, "Egypt." W. D. Beckton.
 Oct. 11. General Display, "Great Britain Mulready Envelopes."
 Notes by J. R. M. Albrecht.
 Oct. 18. Lantern Exhibition, 8 p.m.
 Oct. 25. General Display, "Great Britain Envelopes." Notes by
 I. J. Bernstein.
 Nov. 1. Display with Notes, "U.S. Officials." W. W. Munn.
 Nov. 8. General Display, "Great Britain Registration Envelopes."
 Notes by J. S. Higgins, Jun.
 Nov. 15. Display with Notes, "Sicily." J. H. Taylor.
 Nov. 22. General Display, "Great Britain Post Cards." Notes by
 G. F. H. Gibson.
 Nov. 29. Paper, "The Burcharged Railway Stamps of Guatemala,
 1886." J. R. M. Albrecht.
 Dec. 6. General Display, "Great Britain Wrappers, Letter Cards,
 etc." Notes by J. S. Gee.
 Dec. 13. Paper, "Morocco Locals." G. B. Duerst.

1908.

- Jan. 10. Display with Notes, "Trinidad." R. B. Yardley.
 Jan. 17. Elementary Discussion.
 Jan. 24. Display with Notes, "Cape of Good Hope." W. M. Gray
 (Vice-President, Bradford Philatelic Society).
 Jan. 31. Elementary Discussion.
 Feb. 7. Display with Notes, "Minor Varieties of Great Britain."
 J. S. Higgins, Jun.
 Feb. 14. Elementary Discussion.
 Feb. 21. Paper, "Sweden." W. D. Beckton.
 Feb. 28. Elementary Discussion.
 Mar. 6. Paper, "The Universal Postal Union." I. J. Bernstein.
 Mar. 13. Elementary Discussion.
 Mar. 20. Paper, "Soudan." J. H. Abbott.
 Mar. 27. Elementary Discussion.

Subject to be chosen at the Opening Meeting.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at home or abroad at the following rates of prepayment; Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d. Outside the United Kingdom, Yearly 8s. 8d., or \$2.00.

A Satisfactory Stamp Tongs

MESSRS. Lewis May & Co., 15 King William Street, Strand, London, W.C., send us a very satisfactory stamp Tongs. Most of the Tongs in the market are so thick at the points that it is impossible to pick up a stamp that happens to be quite flat. Then again some are milled deeply where the stamp is gripped, as though the use of the tongs was to impress a coarse grill on the stamp. The Tongs before us is neat, thin pointed, not milled, and priced 1s., with leather case 1s. 3d.

W. B. E. (Blackheath).—Thank you very much for your kind note and suggestion that our small print is far too small for comfortable general reading. As the same criticism has reached us from several quarters we shall in future use the general type throughout, except for reports of Philatelic Society meetings, for which we must use the smaller type in our endeavour to report as many societies as possible in the small space we can spare for the purpose.

S. T. K. (Newent).—See reply to W. B. E., but the magnifying glass suggestion of yours is too—too——. It's not quite so bad as that. However, we have, as you will see, decided to use a larger size type.

W. P. S. (Muswell Hill, N.).—We shall have a series of articles on Exchange Clubs, their work, and how to run them later on.

Winifrede, M. F. (Bexley Heath).—The post horn on the back of the Swedish stamp is intended to serve the same purpose as a watermark, *i.e.*, as a protection against forgery, but it is not the 1892-1900 series, but 1886-7 set that is so distinguished. The 1892-1900 series is watermarked properly with a large Crown. I am rather surprised to hear that all the dealers are sold out of Djiboutis. Have you tried Whitfield King, Ipswich? Your Cape Triangular 4d. of the cheapest variety is catalogued at 2s. used, but it all depends on the particular printing to which it belongs. If it is a

very deep blue or a very pale blue and clearly printed it may be worth double.

W. H. J. (Croydon).—I note what you write about not mixing up advertisements and matter, but it is very difficult to avoid it in a weekly journal, and you must remember that without the advertisements it would be impossible to provide such a journal as THE POSTAGE STAMP at one penny. It is the advertiser who keeps the mill going. Besides in binding you surely do not throw away the advertisements. If you go to the British Museum Reading Room you will find that in all technical periodicals the advertisements are bound in with the matter. All leading philatelists who set any store by these philatelic periodicals, make a point of binding the advertisements. Indeed, you will frequently get in the dealers' advertisements quotations for stamps left unpriced in the catalogues, and as frequently the first intimations of the discovery of uncatalogued varieties. The experienced collector sets no small value on a liberal display of dealers' advertisements. There are few journals that tempt the stamp dealer to open out in a detailed advertisement of his good things, but we hope, in time, that THE POSTAGE STAMP will be the recognised medium for all the good things the best dealers have to sell.

S. V. H. (Putney).—The measurement of perforations will be fully explained in the series of articles for Beginners, "How to Collect," which we shall push on with as we can afford the space. Meanwhile, I may explain that we count the teeth or perforation holes within the space of 10 millimetres, if 10 along the top and bottom of a stamp and 12½ at the sides, then that stamp is perf. 10 × 12½.

S. W. L. (Forest Gate).—The New Zealand 2½d. with the error "WAKITIPU" instead of "WAKATIPU" is quite common, commoner in fact than the correct spelling. The error is catalogued at 6d. unused, and the corrected stamp at 8d. The error occurred in the first supply printed by Waterlow.

Forthcoming Events

1907.

- Oct. 28. Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society: Paper, "How Postage Stamps are Produced," by Wm. Mackay. Display, "Belgium."
- Oct. 29. Leeds Philatelic Society "Great Britain," with Notes by the President.
Auction: Gleadning & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, London, W., at 4.30 p.m.
- Oct. 30. Auction: Gleadning & Co., at 7 Argyll Street, London, W., at 4.30 p.m.

- Oct. 31. Bradford Philatelic Society: Visit by the Leeds Society. Display by Messrs Harding and Thackrah, of Leeds.
- Oct. 31. Birmingham Philatelic Society: Display, "India, Indian Native States, Straits Settlements," by B. B. Tilley.
- Oct. 31. Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society: Paper and Display: "Transvaal and Orange Free State," by Rev. G. C. B. Madden.
- Oct. 31. Auction: Plumridge & Co., at 63 Chancery Lane, London, at 4.45 p.m.
- Nov. 1. Auction: Plumridge & Co., at 63 Chancery Lane, London, at 4.45 p.m.

The Postage Stamp

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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2 NOVEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Royals' Opening Meeting



THE "Royals" had a real field night at their opening meeting on the 17th October, 1907, which was held at the town residence of the Vice-President, the Earl of Crawford.

Rumours had got abroad that we were to have a surprise, but in my wildest dreams I never conjured up such a treat. Lord Crawford passed round sheet after

sheet in a long procession, of colour trial proofs of the first penny in its first stages; trials for colour, trials for forgery, trials for obliteration, sheet after sheet, not full sheets of the eventual plate, but of blocks of about a dozen stamps.

His lordship's notes will, of course, be published in the *London Philatelist*, and I must not anticipate their publication, but I may say that in those notes his lordship regards the 1d. black as a provisional issue, and gives his reasons for this new theory.

The S.C.F.'s Friendly Greeting

I must find space to quote the following from the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* :—

Mr. Nankivell's new journal, THE POSTAGE STAMP, has met with a very cordial reception. It embodies several of the features which were introduced by him into *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*. With Mr. Nankivell, from the Strand to Amen Corner, journeyed Cornelius Wrinkle. I have even heard it said that one 'bus ticket sufficed for the two of them!

Now that is very nice, except the last sentence, from which it may be inferred that I have been seen in bad company, which is unkind or, that we cheated the 'bus company, on which point I shall have to consult my solicitor. I pose as a respectable member of society, and some day I may be a J.P., like other Great Moguls, then this insinuation may turn up as ancient history to my eternal undoing.

Titles for Philatelists

What a race we are having for titles, we Great Moguls. I can already boast of a goodly list, but nothing takes

my fancy so much as J.P. I understand that I already possess the chief qualifications, a spotless reputation and early hours. I am never out after closing hours. The worst of it is that you've got to live up to this, and if any scullion dares to suggest that you are ever out after dark, you've got to put a solicitor on his track instanter.

Monetary Value of "F.R.P.S.L."

You may smile in your irreverent way, if you like, at the suggestion that the letters "F.R.P.S.L." have a monetary value. The letters were only conferred last year, and this year, be it noted, the auctioneers are running them for all they are worth, in fact, the collection to sell nowadays should be "formed by a well-known Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society." I must go through my philatelic annexe and see what I can rush through while the fashion is on.

F.R.P.S.L.'s off their Beat

A couple of F.R.P.S.L.'s made up their minds that they would, by hook or by crook, put in an evening at the first meeting of the Royal Society at the town residence of the Earl of Crawford, for rumours were abroad that the Earl had a surprise packet for the Royals.

One was a medical man and the other was not a medical man, and they lived a long journey away from the great village, but they decided to have "a good time in town."

They began by making for a train that had been taken off, and consequently had to wait an hour and twenty minutes. When that time was up they were on the platform. A train drew up and they popped in, but that particular train was bound for "another place."

However, they did arrive in London that day, in fact, by the aid of a motor cab they reached the Earl's residence in fairly good time, but the preliminary "good time in town" had to go by the board.

Perplexing Philatelic Varieties

What a lot of perplexing philatelic varieties there are. They are continually turning up. Some years ago Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Mustachio fame, had a duplicate in another W. T. Wilson, a dealer in another town, and now I see it stated that Mr. C. J. Phillips has undertaken the duties of Secretary of the "General Stamp Collectors' Exchange."

There ought to be some method of making a simplified catalogue of these perplexing varieties.

Of course, in each case, we know which is the minor variety, but what about the original type?

Uganda's Philatelic Future

We are told that "the King has been pleased to approve that the Officer Administering the Government of the Uganda Protectorate should henceforth be styled 'Governor' instead of 'Commissioner.'"

Now what does this portend philatelically? Is it the forerunner of separation from British East Africa, with once more separate stamps for each?

Colour for Gibbons' Obsequies

Some correspondent has begged our Gibbons to "keep smiling and die a good colour," and ye House Editor asks, "What colour do you suggest that we adopt when we attend our own obsequies?"

I would venture to suggest that there is only one colour that would be suitable for such a sad event (the very thought of it fills my eyes with tears) and that is the true Gibbons colour of "red lilac."

But let us all fervently pray that those obsequies may be postponed till far beyond the allotted span that they may all have time to retire and meditate on the rookings of their past.

Society Medal Decorations

The Chicago Society has been setting the pace for philatelic medal decorations. On the occasion of the holding of its five hundredth meeting on 17th October, we are told it intended to distribute medals of appropriate design to celebrate the occasion. Of course the recipients will be members only.

I wonder how many meetings the Royal Philatelic Society has held since its establishment in 1869? Thirty-eight years, with say, an average of twenty meetings a year, would bring us up to 760.

It certainly might have celebrated its conversion into a "Royal" Society, but we are not of a celebrating order in the Royal.

Spanish Commemorative Rubbish

A very gorgeous stamp was recently issued for the Industrial Exhibition at Madrid. This show label rubbish copied from the land of Show Labels it now seems does not pay postage.

Probably many dealers have bought and sold this rubbish under the impression that it was permitted to pay postage.

The lesson is not an agreeable one, and if the consequent trouble that this affair entails on them disgusts them to the extent of deciding to have no further dealings in commemorative rubbish stamp-collecting and stamp-dealing too will be immense gainers.

Of course this rubbish has been ignored in the pages of THE POSTAGE STAMP.

Pity the Poor Specialist in Spain

Pity the poor specialist in the postal issues of Spain, for from all appearances he will need our sympathy.

Of course he has been industriously collecting all the control letters and numbers of the current issue that are printed on the backs of the stamps in blue.

It seems that these are now divisible into (a) with thick lined control figures, square cornered curves, and (b) with tall, thin figures, clear and round, and that they commence at 000,001 (or 000,000) in the case of each value and when the numbers reached 1,000,000 they commenced again at 000,001. Now the figures are preceded by a letter, and the numbering goes gaily on from A000 001.

It needs a gay and festive Wetherall, with holidays galore, to keep pace with this sort of thing.

What with fugitive inks and fugitive figures we shall soon fall an easy prey to the terrible fear that specialism may yet become a horrible nightmare.

Important Changes

Very little notice seems to have been taken of the attention which the *Colonial Office Journal* has drawn to the Rome Convention under which the stamps of all values which are valid for the prepayment of postage on correspondence sent from one country of the Postal Union to another must, as from the 1st October, 1907, bear their values in Arabic numerals.

This, if strictly carried out, will involve changes in all stamps in which the values are expressed in words only.

I fancy we have not quite realised what this means, and that it will affect two of our own values, viz., the ½d. and 1s. which alone of our Great Britain series have their values expressed in words only.

Great Britain, ½d., New Design

If the change must be made, and presumably it is binding, and we must have a new halfpenny stamp, it is to be hoped that we may have a new and creditable design. The Canadian portrait might be used with effect.

Roumanian Petrol Stamps

For Charity Stamps and Commemoratives galore Roumania holds the record in Europe, as the U.S.A. hold it for their Show Labels in America.

But the latest is quite a novelty. It is a stamp surcharged "Bucuresta Congresne Internationale de Petrol."

The next may be expected to be an issue surcharged "Bucuresta Tooristibus" for the use of Tourists, and then perhaps another for correspondence and negotiations with distributing agents, which might be surcharged "Bucuresta doem brown allround."

Great Britain, 1½d. Envelope Stamp

It is announced by the Postmaster-General that a change in the colour of the three-halfpenny embossed postage stamp is to be made because the old colour (yellow) is not readily distinguishable by artificial light, especially when impressed on covers of the same or a similar hue. The difficulty is to be overcome by the adoption of a purple shade, rather deeper in tone than the sixpenny adhesive stamp.

When you Die

Philatelic Societies are realising the desirability of providing for the realisation of the collections of deceased members. The one thing that collectors fear in investing large sums in stamps is that their wives or children may be mercilessly rooked of all benefit. They know the danger is a very real one. Even the auction is not an absolute safeguard.

The latest venture in this direction is Rule 16 of the promising City of London Philatelic Society which provides "that in the event of the demise of any member, this Society may, if requested by his executors or administrators, realise all or any portion of his philatelic property free of any charge for commission."

Another excellent feature of the work of the City of London Philatelic Society is its manuscript magazine for the mutual help amongst the members.

I have great faith in the development of this excellent young Society. It is in good hands.

The Stamps of Sierra Leone

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

SIERRA LEONE, said to have been so named from the lion-like thunder on its mountains, was discovered by the Portuguese navigator, Pedro de Cintra, in 1492.

In 1788 a grant of land was obtained from a native king by English philanthropists for forming a colony of freed slaves, but the attempt ended in failure as did also a similar movement in 1790 under the title of the Sierra Leone Company, which was incorporated by Act of Parliament. Zachary Macaulay, father of the great historian, was the company's Governor, but the slave-dealing interest and the idleness and insubordination of the negroes nearly wrecked the little colony. Then the company were given further powers of expansion and eventually the territory acquired was constituted "one independent and separate colony by the name of the Colony of Sierra Leone," a Governor was appointed and provision made for the administration of justice. After passing through many internal troubles the young colony was taken over as a Crown Colony in 1807, the year of the abolition of the slave trade, and thenceforward became the headquarters of British power on the West Coast of Africa. The company was dissolved in 1821 when all the forts and dependencies in West Africa were combined into a single colony under the name of the West Africa Settlements, with the seat of Government at Sierra Leone. Additions of territory were made from time to time till the Colony now stretches from Liberia on the south to Grand Scarcies river on the north with a coast line of some 180 miles, and Freetown, the finest harbour on the West Coast of Africa. Sierra Leone proper is a mountainous peninsula about twice the size of the Isle of Wight.

Freetown, the capital, faces the harbour and has a population of over 34,000.

Mr. C. P. Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies," writes:—

There are four stages in the history of Sierra Leone. At first it appears to have been the scene of more or less honest trade. Next it was given over, like all other parts of the West African coast, to slave trading, with a special local accompaniment of piracy. Then it became the headquarters in Africa of the Abolition movement, and its name will ever be hallowed by association with the memory of the men who set the negroes free. Lastly, when their work was done, it entered upon the fourth, the present stage, in which it takes rank as a commercial emporium and as a coaling station of the empire. It has, in fact, come back to some extent to its original position. In old days sailors and traders went there to rest and water their ships, or to traffic with the natives of the interior. They come there still for much the same reason; but the ships are steamers, requiring coal; and instead of ivory and gold, the exports are palm oil and palm kernels. As a fine harbour on the way to the south, unrivalled for very many miles of coast, Sierra Leone must always be of value to any trading European power, most of all to the power which owns the Cape, India, and Australia. As a place at which to focus the commerce of a large province of West Africa, it is or ought to be great, in that the coast line is honeycombed with water-ways, while inland the trade-routes from the head waters of the Niger lead naturally to Freetown.

Its Philatelic History

The first stamp issued for the Colony was a sixpenny value on unwatermarked paper, and this one value served its postal needs for twelve years—from 1860 to 1872. It was one of the earliest colonial stamps printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. In 1872-3 a series of five values was printed on Crown C.C. paper perf. 12½, four years later the same series, with ½d. and 1½d. values

added, was perf. 14. The watermark was changed to Crown C.A. in 1883. In 1884-93 most of the values underwent a change of colour and a 2½d. value was added. In 1885 the 6d. stamp was re-issued on Crown C.C. paper, perf. 14. A provisional "Half Penny" on 1½d. lilac was issued in 1893, some on the 1½d. Crown C.C., which is rare, and some on the 1½d. Crown C.A. Then in 1896-7 came the smaller head of Queen Victoria with large value tablet at the bottom of the design, printed in two colours. In 1897 there was a great outcrop of extraordinary provisionals, the 1d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. and 2s. stamp duty stamps being local surcharged for postal use as 1d. and 2½d. stamps. After which came the King's head stamps, first in full set in two colours on single C.A. paper and then repeated on multiple C.A. paper, since which we have had the ½d. printed all in green.

1860. One value. Design: Diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, enclosed in an octagonal frame with an outer framework of straight tablets, top and bottom and each side. This stamp was engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and was printed by them on unwatermarked paper, some bluish and some white, perf. 14. I quote the following interesting note by Mr. E. D. Bacon from the Royal Society's work on Africa, Part III, concerning the arrangement of the sheets of this first stamp.

This Six Pence was one of the earliest Colonial stamps printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and the formation of the sheet is different from any other of our Colonial stamps I know. The pattern used for the make-up of the sheet was that of the Six Pence Great Britain stamp printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. in 1856, as the following particulars show. The sheet contains 240 stamps in twelve panes, arranged in four horizontal rows of three, and each pane contains twenty stamps in five horizontal rows of four. Above each of the three top panes, and also above each of the panes in the third row is "SIERRA LEONE—POSTAGE SIX PENCE" in two lines of Roman capitals, and the same inscription is found inverted at the bottom of each of the panes in the second, and of the three in the lowest row of the sheet, above each of the panes in the second, and also of those in the lowest row is the inscription.

Price, 6 Pence	2 shillings	1 Pound
per Label	per row of 4.	per sheet of 40.

At the left corner of the sheet is the plate number *t* in white, in a circle of solid colour surrounded by a coloured line, and in the right lower corner is the "current number," "140," in colour, enclosed within a rectangular frame with concave corners.

This unusual arrangement of the stamps on the sheet is the reason why this Six Pence continued to be printed on unwatermarked paper long after all the other values appeared on paper watermarked Crown C.C.

In 1872 the same value and design still unwatermarked was issued perf. 12½d.



No. Wmk. on bluish paper, perf. 14.		
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6d., purple	.. 17 6	20 0

No. Wmk. on White paper, perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
6d., lilac	40	0	7	6

No. Wmk. on bluish paper, perf. 12½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
6d., violet	40	0	8	0

No. Wmk. on White paper, perf. 12½.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
6d., violet	160	0	45	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The price of the 6d. perf. 14 on bluish paper has fluctuated a great deal from 10s. in 1896 to 17s. 6d. in 1906, but the others have kept a steady upward trend. The 6d. white paper perf. 12½ is the rarity and was always left unpriced till 1905 when it was catalogued at £8. Like all old purple or lilac stamps unused copies with what may be termed the mint bloom on them are rarely ever met with outside the great collections.

No Wmk. on bluish paper. Perf. 14.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6d. ..	10 0	12 6	15 0	15 0	20 0	17 6	17 6	17 6	17 6

No Wmk. on white paper. Perf. 14.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6d. ..	7 6	15 0	30 0	35 0	—	—	40 0	—	40 0

No Wmk. on bluish paper. Perf. 12½.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
6d. ..	15 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	45 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0

No wmk. on white paper. Perf. 12½.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	160 0	160 0

1872-3. Five values. Design: A larger and better executed, diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left enclosed in a framework of straight labels engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.C. The first values supplied, 1d., 3d., 4d., and 1s., were printed on paper watermarked sideways and subsequently all the values were printed on paper with the watermark upright. Gibbons mentions these varieties, but does not price them separately, except the 3d., which is also distinguished by shade. We set them out, however, for collecting purposes. All the values are printed from one plate, the value being afterwards separately printed as near as possible in the same shade, but sometimes showing a variation.

*Watermark Sideways.**Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., rose red ..	3	6	5	0
3d., buff	12	6	6	0
4d., blue	12	6	6	0
1s., green	35	0	10	0

*Watermark Upright.**Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d., rose red ..	3	6	5	0
2d., mauve	40	0	20	0
3d., saffron yellow	80	0	10	0
4d., blue	12	6	6	0
1s., green	35	0	10	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

This series has seemingly settled down to a fixed price, commencing with 1903, and with the exception of the 1d. and 4d. are all to-day at their best. The best of the branch is the 3d. of the saffron yellow shade; that is the one with the watermark upright, and 80s. seems to be its fixed market value. As Gibbons has kept it priced, except in 1900 and 1902, copies have apparently been in stock pretty regularly, but in such small numbers as to justify the high catalogue quotation.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1d. ..	4 0	5 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	3 6	3 6	3 6	3 6
2d. ..	12 6	22 6	20 0	25 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	40 0
3d., yellow	5 0	60 0	60 0	—	—	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
3d., buff	—	8 6	6 0	6 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6
4d. ..	10 0	15 0	12 6	12 6	16 0	12 6	12 6	12 6	12 6
1s. ..	20 0	30 0	22 6	22 6	30 0	30 0	35 0	35 0	35 0

1876-7. Seven values. Design: Same as in the last issue, with two new values added, ½d. and 1½d. The colours of the other values remain unchanged, but the perforation was changed from 12½ to 14.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., brown	1	6	2	0
1d., rose	7	6	5	0
1½d., lilac	3	0	3	0
2d., mauve	10	0	2	0
3d., buff	2	6	0	9
4d., blue	30	0	2	0
1s., green	6	6	5	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The one rarity in this series has lost caste considerably. The 4d. was jumped from 25s. in 1896 to 60s. in 1897, but the jump was much too high, so it was dropped to 40s. in the next catalogue, and is now down to 30s. The 1d. and 2d. are considered promising stamps.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	0 6	1 0	1 9	1 9	2 0	1 6	1 6	1 6	1 6
1d. ..	0 4	4 6	4 0	3 6	3 6	3 6	7 6	7 6	7 6
1½. ..	1 0	1 3	1 9	1 0	2 6	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0
2d. ..	1 6	3 0	5 0	10 0	12 6	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 0
3d. ..	1 6	2 0	2 6	2 0	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 6	2 0
4d. ..	25 0	60 0	40 0	40 0	50 0	35 0	30 0	30 0	30 6
1s. ..	3 0	6 6	5 6	4 6	5 0	5 0	6 6	6 6	6 6

1883. Three values. Design: unchanged, but printed on paper watermarked Crown C.A. Perforated 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., brown ..	6	0	15	0
2d., mauve ..	17	6	1	6
4d., blue ..	200	0	15	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

These stamps are unquestionably scarce, especially the 4d., the explanation being that they had a short life. They were issued in June, 1883, and were superseded in July, 1884, by a change of colour. The 2d. has been a steadily rising stamp from 1896 without a single set back. The 4d. unused is one of the rarities of the Colony, and for the last ten years has only twice been priced in the Gibbons' catalogue. Fortunately used copies are fairly plentiful and cheap, and when an unused copy is beyond reach many a collector fills the space with a fine lightly cancelled copy.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	0 6	5 0	7 6	5 0	5 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	6 0
2d. ..	2 6	7 6	10 0	10 0	15 0	17 6	17 6	17 6	17 6
4d. ..	—	—	—	—	—	240 0	—	200 0	—

1884-93. Eight values. Design: unchanged, but changes of colour in nearly all values, printed on Crown C.A. paper. The series includes a new value of 2½d. for the Postal Union rate.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., dull green ..	0	2	0	2
1d., carmine ..	0	5	0	1
1½d., lilac ..	0	6	1	0
2d., grey ..	1	0	1	0
2½d., ultramarine ..	1	0	0	3
3d., yellow ..	0	9	1	0
4d., brown ..	1	0	0	6
1s., red brown ..	6	0	3	0

1885-96. One value. Design: the 6d. of the first issue. This old sixpenny stamp printed as before on Crown C.C. paper is now kept separate in the catalogue on account of its old watermark. It was printed on Crown C.C. paper because of the greater suitability of that paper to the make-up of the sixpenny plate. There are three marked shades which Gibbons and the Royal Society's work on Africa agree in naming bright violet issued in 1885, brown purple in 1890, and brown lake in 1896. The brown purple is found on paper slightly blued.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
6d., bright violet (1885)	15	0	2	0
6d., brown purple (1890)	4	0	4	0
6d., brown lake (1896)	2	0	1	9

1893. Provisional. One value. Design: The 1½d. lilac surcharged "Half-Penny" in two lines in small Roman capitals in black, with a double-lined bar obliterating the original value. Some of the surcharging was done on the 1½d. on watermarked Crown C.C., and some on the 1½d. watermarked Crown C.A. As the C.C. variety is extremely scarce, probably only a small number was surcharged.

Provisional.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 1½d., lilac ..	120	0	—	—

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 1½d., lilac ..	2	6	3	6

Varieties. This surcharge exists inverted and also with an F instead of an E in the word PENNY. The error in the letter occurs in printings on both papers, but I have not heard of an inverted surcharge on the C.C. paper.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 1½d. lilac "PENNY" ..	—	—	—	—

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 1½d. lilac "PENNY" ..	—	—	—	—

Surcharge inverted.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. on 1½d. lilac ..	12	6	—	—

1896-7. Thirteen values. Design: A smaller diademed head of Queen Victoria with profile to left, with name of the Colony in a straight level across the top of the stamp and under the head a large tablet with numeral of value. The stamps were printed in two colours. The pence values were printed in purple with name and value in a different colour for each value, and the shilling values in green with name and value of a differing colour for each value, whilst the £1 was printed in purple on red paper. In the ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. the value is in white numerals in a shaded tablet, but in all the other stamps the figure of value is in colour on a plain tablet. *Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.*



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d., purple, name and value green ..	0	1	0	2
1d., carmine ..	0	3	0	1
1½d., black ..	0	4	0	6
2d., orange ..	0	6	0	6
2½d., ultramarine ..	0	6	0	4
3d., slate ..	0	8	0	8
4d., carmine ..	0	9	—	—
5d., black ..	1	0	1	3
6d., deep purple ..	1	3	1	3
1s., green black ..	2	0	2	0
2s., ultramarine ..	6	6	6	6
5s., carmine ..	12	6	—	—
£1, purple on red	30	0	—	—

1897. Provisionals. Two values. Design: Long rectangular fiscal stamps surcharged for postal use. I quote the description of these remarkable provisionals from the Royal Society's work on Africa. Part III.

The One Penny, Three Pence, Six Pence, One Shilling and Two Shillings "Stamp Duty" stamps surcharged locally for provisional postal use as One Penny and Two Pence Halfpenny stamps. On the One Penny the surcharge consists of the words, "POSTAGE—AND—REVENUE," across the centre, in three lines of small Roman capitals. The three words measure 11, 5, and 12 mm. in length respectively, and the letters are 1½ mm. in height. The Three Pence and Six Pence were surcharged in the same way as the One Penny, but these two values were further surcharged "2d." below the word "REVENUE," and the original values of the stamps were obliterated by six thin parallel lines, arranged in two sets of three each. The sheets of these fiscal stamps contain sixty stamps in six horizontal rows, and the surcharges were set up in three rows of ten, so that the sheet was surcharged in two operations. There are four varieties of type, as illustrated, of the numerals, and these occupy the following positions on the sheet:—

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	2	3	4	2	2	3	4	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	4	1

Besides the varieties of numerals there are other little differences. Nos. 9 and 39 have a defective square period after the letter "d." Nos. 13 and 43, 17 and 47, 18 and 48, 24 and 54, 28 and 58 have a square period after the "d," and Nos. 15 and 45 have the large numeral "2" defective.

In addition to the varieties of numerals, Nos. 12 and 42 have a wider letter "d" than the other stamps, with a square period after it. Nos. 14 and 44 also have a square period after the "d," and Nos. 24 and 54 have an italic letter "N" in "REVENUE."

Only four sheets of 30 stamps making 240 stamps in all of the Two Shillings are said to have been surcharged.

These stamps are watermarked C.A. and Crown and perforated 14.

We illustrate a strip showing the four varieties of numerals. Type 5 is a much narrower large figure "2."

Wmk. C.A. and Crown. Perf. 14.

		Unused.	Used.
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
2d. on 3d., lilac and green type 1	..	1 6	2 0
2d. " " " " " 2	..	3 0	—
2d. " " " " " 3	..	10 0	10 0
2d. " " " " " 4	..	—	—
2d. on 6d., " " " " " 1	..	1 0	1 3
2d. " " " " " 2	..	2 6	3 6
2d. " " " " " 3	..	6 0	7 6
2d. " " " " " 4	..	25 0	—
2d. on 1s., dull lilac " " " 1	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 2	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 3	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 4	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 5	..	—	—
2d. on 2s., " " " " " 1	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 2	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 3	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 4	..	—	—
2d. " " " " " 5	..	—	—



TYPE 2

TYPE 3

TYPE 4

TYPE 1

A new setting of the surcharge was made for overprinting the One Shilling and Two Shilling stamps. The words "POSTAGE—AND—REVENUE" were spaced to form two lines, the "2d." was placed above them, and the original value of the stamp was obliterated by six parallel lines. The sheet was surcharged in two operations as before, and there are four varieties of the numerals, one of which is, however, different from any of those found in the Three Pence or Six Pence.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	5	1
1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	5	1
1	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1

1903. Thirteen values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left enclosed in the same design as the Queen's head issue of 1896-7 slightly modified. Engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. now called single C.A. to distinguish it from the subsequent issue in which instead of a single Crown and C.A. falling on each stamp, the design of the watermark is condensed so that portions of two or more Crown C.A.'s fall on each stamp. The stamps were printed in the same combinations of two colours on each stamp as in the Queen's head issue of 1896-7.



	Wmk. Crown C.A. single.		Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	s. d.	Used.	s. d.
1d., purple and green ..	0	4	—	—
1d., " " red ..	0	6	—	—
1½d., " " black ..	1	6	—	—
2d., " " orange ..	1	6	—	—
2½d., " " ultramarine ..	1	6	—	—
3d., " " grey ..	1	6	—	—
4d., " " red ..	1	6	—	—
5d., " " black ..	2	0	—	—
6d., " " deep purple ..	2	6	—	—
1s., green and black ..	8	0	—	—
2s., " " ultramarine ..	12	0	—	—
5s., " " carmine ..	20	0	—	—
£1, purple on red ..	40	0	—	—

1904-5. Thirteen values. Design: As in last issue, but watermark changed to multiple C.A., i.e., the design of the watermark condensed in size and crowded together so that two or more Crowns and C.A.'s show on each stamp. Perf. 14.

	Wmk. Multiple C.A.		Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	s. d.	Used.	s. d.
1d., purple and green ..	0	1	—	—
1d., " " red ..	0	2	—	—
1½d., " " black ..	0	3	—	—
2d., " " orange ..	0	3	—	—
2½d., " " ultramarine ..	0	4	—	—
3d., " " grey ..	0	5	—	—
4d., " " red ..	0	6	—	—
5d., " " black ..	0	7	—	—
6d., " " deep purple ..	0	8	—	—

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1s., green and black ..	1	4
2s., " " ultramarine ..	2	8
5s., " " carmine ..	6	6
£1, purple on red ..	25	0

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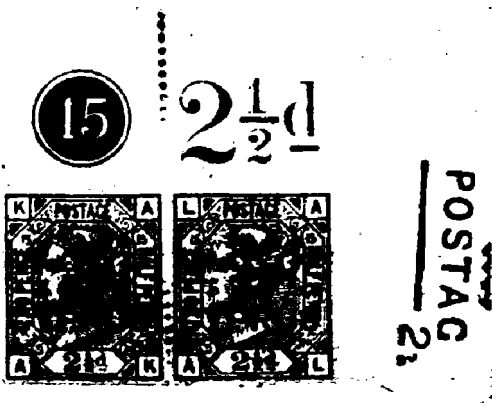
5s. on 1s. green of 1884. A warm discussion as to postal status of this provisional, which provisional the Royal Society's "Africa," Part III, p. 356, dismisses as "never authorised for postal use. *London Philatelist*, vol. 6, pp. 221, 237, 259, and 321; vol. 7, pp. 28, 63 and 120.

For special offers of the stamps of this Colony see Mr. Peckitt's advertisement in this number.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from p. 60.)



THE following is a list of the plate-numbers that were actually issued:—

The 1/2d. value.

Plates 1, 3 to 6, 8 to 15, 19 and 20.

The 1d. value.

1d., black. Plates 1 to 11.
1d., red; imperf., wmk. Small Crown. Plates 1, 2, 4 to 176 (?).

- 1d., red; perf. 16, wmk. Small Crown. Plates 152, 155, 157, 160 to 204, R 1 to R 6.
- 1d., red; perf. 14, wmk. Small Crown. Plates 157, 163, 166, 173, 176 to 179, 182, 184 to 204, R 1 to R 6.
- 1d., red (Die II); perf. 14 or 16, wmk. Small Crown. Plates 1 to 22, 23 to 26, and R15, R17.
- 1d., red (Die II); perf. 14, wmk. Large Crown, bluish paper. Plates 1 to 52, 55 to 60, and R15, R17.
- 1d., red (Die II); perf. 14 or 16, wmk. Large Crown, white paper. Plates 33, 36 to 39, and 41 to 68.
- 1d., red (Die II); letters in all four corners. Plates 71 to 74, 76 to 125, 127, and 129 to 225.

The 1½d. value.

Plates 1 and 3.

The 2d. value.

No white lines. Plates 1 and 2.
With white lines. Imperf. Plates 3 and 4.
Wmk. Small Crown, perf 16. Plates 4 and 5.
" " " " 14. Plates 4 and 5.
Wmk. Large Crown, perf. 16 or 14. Plates 4, 5 and 6.
With letters in all four corners. Plates 7 to 9 and 12 to 15.

In the ½d. value all the plate numbers are of the type with circle around; in the 1d. the plates from 71 onwards are with the marginal number in a circle; in the 1½d., plate 3 has the number in a circle; and in the 2d. the practice of enclosing the figures in a circle commenced with plate number 7. I am indebted for most of the above interesting particulars to Messrs. Wright & Creeke's valuable "History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles."

The Perkins Bacon Colonial Numbers

The early stamps of Ceylon, Antigua, Bahamas, Cape Colony, Queensland, etc., etc., produced by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., by the line-engraved process, are all quite innocent of marginal plate numbers of any sort, but when, in 1896-7, this firm manufactured a handsome set of stamps for the British South Africa Company the practice of numbering the plates was reverted to. Four plates were used; the stamps produced from plates 3 and 4 differing in several small details from those printed from plates



1 and 2, thus proving that the die must have been retouched. The most striking point of difference is that in the stamps from plates 1 and 2 there is a small dot behind the tail of the animal supporting the arms on the right-hand side, and in the other two plates this dot is conspicuous by its absence.

The stamps were printed in sheets of sixty (six horizontal rows of ten), and the plate number—a small figure in a tiny circle—appears in the left-hand margin, opposite the first stamp in the top row, as shown in the accompanying illustration. The following is a list of the known varieties:—

Plate 1.	1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1s., 3s., 4s.
Plate 2.	1d., 2d., 8d.
Plate 3.	½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s.
Plate 4.	1d., 2s.

The De La Rue Numbers

The firm of Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., has, under the instructions and supervision of the Inland Revenue Department, designed, engraved, and printed all the stamps of Great Britain produced by the process known as surface-printing.

This firm has also manufactured the majority of British Colonial stamps made by this method. Indeed, after the line-engraved process was discarded as being

too expensive, and the Perkins Bacon contracts expired, Messrs. De La Rue & Co. secured most of the contracts for supplying stamps so far as the British Empire is concerned.

In some instances—as with the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope—the Perkins Bacon plates were made use of by De La Rue & Co., but as no alteration was made on these in the way of adding marginal details they do not come within the scope of this article.

First of all I will deal with the De La Rue marginal plate numbers found on the sheets of the stamps of our own country.

British Numbers

On the 31st July, 1855, a 4d. stamp was issued, printed from a plate made by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and from that date until 1880 every plate manufactured by this firm bore a plate number, a separate series being used for each value.

Two types of plate number were adopted, *i.e.*:—

Type 1. An uncoloured numeral on a solid oval enclosed in an oval frame.

Type 2. An uncoloured numeral on a solid circle enclosed in a circular frame.

Two or four plate numbers appear in the margin of each sheet and as the positions of these vary it will be as well to deal with each value individually without regard to the chronological order in which the various stamps appeared.

The 2½d. value.

Printed in sheets of 192, arranged in two vertical panes of ninety-six each. There were eight rows of twelve stamps in each pane, and all the plate numbers are type 2. There were two numbers on each sheet, one above the 11th stamp in the top row, and the other below the 2nd stamp in the bottom row. Plates 21 to 23 were in sheets of 240, but no marginal numbers appeared on these.

2½d., lilac rose, wmk. Anchor,	Plates 1, 2, 3.
" " " Orb,	Plates 3 to 17.
" blue " "	Plates 17 to 20.

The 3d. value.

Printed in sheets of 240, divided into twelve panes which were arranged in four horizontal rows of three. Each pane consisted of twenty stamps placed in five rows of four. The plate numbers are all type 2, and appear above and below the corresponding stamps as in the 2½d. Plate 20, printed on the "Crown" paper, was cut up and re-arranged in two panes of 120 stamps each. It was re-registered in this state, and the plate numbers were omitted from the margins. Plate 21 likewise shows no marginal numbers.

3d., rose, wmk. "Emblems"; small white letters in corners. Plate 2.

3d., rose, wmk. "Emblems"; large white letters in corners. Plate 4.

3d., rose, wmk. "Spray"; do.; Plates 4 to 10.

3d., " " " large coloured letters in corners. Plates 11, 12, 14 to 20.

(To be continued.)

United States

Hard Problems Made Easy for All

By EUSTACE B. POWER

ANY amateurs, and for that matter some of our best English dealers, find the 1870 to 1888 issues of the United States very perplexing; but if the collector will follow a fixed arrangement in sorting the various issues, he will, I think, come out of his difficulty without much trouble. The two great classes for the first division are those on soft and those on hard paper. The distinction is marked, and the best rule to follow is to take, for instance, the 5 c. Garfield in brown or in blue. This stamp is always found on soft paper, and soft paper only, since the American Bank Note Co. were its only printers. Then take any value of the 1870 set that has a grille on it and we have an undoubted "hard" paper. I especially recommend the grilled specimen, since the 7 c. and 24 c., though never printed for general use by the American Bank Note Co., were specially printed by them in 1880 on their soft paper. The two values are so rare that they are seldom met with; nevertheless they do exist, and therefore the grilled copy is the best test. Now we have a grilled specimen for the hard paper and a Garfield for the soft paper, and we can divide our issues. The hard paper has no *mesh* in it; the soft paper has it, hence a further guide for sorting. We lay our soft-paper pile away for the present and take up the subdivision of the hard papers into those printed by the National and those by the Continental Bank Note Companies. So we divide along as follows:—

National. No mark.

- 1 c., blue; embossed with the grille.
- 1 c., blue, shades; no grille.
- 2 c., brown; grilled and always a chestnut-brown.
- 2 c., brown; no grille; never very dark brown.
- 3 c., green; grilled in varying sizes.
- 3 c., green; no grille; in shades.
- 6 c., carmine; grilled; always a good strong colour.
- 6 c., carmine to pale carmine-red; no grille.
- 7 c., vermilion; grilled; slight shades only.
- 7 c., vermilion; no grille; slight shades only.
- 10 c., brown; grilled.
- 10 c., brown; no grille; slight shades. This stamp must be carefully examined to see that it is on hard paper, because the American Bank Note Co. (or soft-paper series) printed this stamp on their paper both with and without the little curve, and it still further comes *re-engraved*, which variety also lacks the curve.
- 12 c., purple; with grille; very rare genuine.
- 12 c., purple; without grille; rather a weak colour.
- 15 c., yellow-orange; with grille; very slight shades.
- 15 c., yellow-orange; no grille; very slight shades.
- 24 c., purple, on more correctly violet; grilled; very rare.
- 24 c., purple, or more correctly violet; no grille; the commonest variety, that on the Continental paper, being much *bluer* in shade, and a stamp vastly underpriced and under-estimated. I have not seen a dozen genuine Continental colours in as many years.

- 30 c., black; with grille.
- 30 c., black; no grille; always a dead *black*.
- 90 c., carmine; with grille.
- 90 c., carmine; no grille. Rather a hard stamp to tell without others to compare with; it is a true carmine, whilst the Continental has a yellowish cast in the colour.

Having drawn away our Nationals, the remainder of the hard-paper pile should of course be the Continental Bank Note Co.'s, and we shall proceed to test our division by confirming the following descriptions: The whole Continental set is known with the grille; but their status or existence need not worry the general collector, as they are practically "unfindable," except the 3 c., green, 2 c., vermilion, 5 c., blue, and 6 c., dull red, and I have my own private opinion about the circumstances surrounding these varticular values. So we go along as follows—for the Continentals:—

- 1 c., blue to pale ultramarine. Sometimes the plate is found much worn. The little curve in the ball is often very faint.
- 2 c., brown; always a heavy dark brown. The cross line or secret mark hard to see in many cases.
- 2 c., vermilion. The hard paper is the only test to sort by.
- 3 c., green. The 1d. postage of those days. The green runs in many shades, but always with a yellowish cast in it. The plate often shows wear.
- 5 c., blue. Taylor. Two shades, one much heavier and darker than the other.
- 6 c., dull red. Quite different from the rich carmine of the National.
- 7 c., vermilion. Few shades. Always shows the curve very plainly.
- 10 c., brown. Many shades. Here again we must be careful, as the soft-paper 10 c. has the secret mark.
- 12 c., deep purple. I might almost say blackish purple, as the shade is always very rich and deep.
- 15 c., yellow-orange. Almost exactly the shade of the National, but the up-stroke in the triangle settles the issue.
- 24 c., bluish violet. This is, as I have already said, a very hard stamp to find; its colour matches the 3 c., bluish purple, of the Justice set, which is a good test.
- 30 c., greyish black to greenish black. No secret mark has been discovered on the stamp, although I believe the proofs have it. If it is not dead black one can safely call it Continental.
- 90 c., carmine. Always a yellowish carmine, a hard, metallic look in it, and not nearly so deep and soft a colour as the National.

We now come to American or soft-paper series, which merely require sorting into the original and re-engraved series. Of the re-engraved we only have the 1, 3, 6, and 10 c., values, therefore the 2, 5, 15, 30, and 90 c., if on soft paper, are all the 1879 issue without further examination.

Picking out the 1, 3, 6, and 10 c. stamps, we proceed to sort them into the original and re-engraved issues

The 1 c. re-engraved is firstly of a greyish shade of blue; it has a blurred appearance; and the sure test rests with the scrolls in the upper corners, which in the re-engraved are heavily shaded and the curls considerably lined. The whole top of Franklin's head is a blotch of white, whereas in the original it has many graceful lines of shading, especially at the back of the head.

The 3 c. re-engraved runs to various shades of a blue-green, as also does the original, so the best division is the shading lines under the medallion, which in the re-engraved are narrow. Look where the shading joins the "3." In the re-engraved it only just comes to the last point of the top of the last "E," whereas in the original it is considerably wider than the whole of the top of "E." Again another and still better test. The ends of the ribbon under "N" and "T." of CENTS in the re-engraved are touched up with two heavy lines under them, and these lines do not show in the original.

The 6 c. re-engraved is an easy stamp to tell. In the first place, the lines have all been heavily recut in the frame, and the shading of the bent ends of the ribbons is very heavy, whereas they only show faintly in the original.

The 10 c. is another easy problem. In the first place, it has no curve in the ball, which helps us quite a little, as the American, though existing without curve on the soft paper, is uncommon, and then we have the following tests: heavily lined background, especially behind the shield, the little ball that has the secret mark in the earlier stages reduced in size, and the angles of the whole stamp very sharp and square. The shades of the re-engraved run from a warm yellowish brown down to a very dark sepia, which shade is very hard to find unused.

This little ramble into the various papers and prints has enabled us to separate our sets. There are, of course, two sets of this design so seldom seen that we need hardly worry over them. I refer firstly to the special printing made by the Continental Bank Note Co. in 1875. These stamps are on the hard paper, and were specially made for the Centennial Exhibition. They were printed on a very white paper, and were put up in sets in little envelopes, with the intention of selling them to such collectors visiting the Exhibition as should desire a complete set of United States postage stamps. They are found without gum, and have been generally cut apart by the scissors, which results in their being of very irregular appearance on the edges. The colours also are rather deeper than the issued stamps, and they are exceedingly rare. The regular postage stamps of the same design were obtainable at the post office, and people therefore

did not go to the trouble of getting these stamps, which, in those days, were not considered to be any different from the regular issue. The other set, printed in 1880, are another special printing, and are of course on the soft paper. These are also found without gum, and only a specialist in the country can tell some of the values from the stamps then in issue. In this set there are three values which are very much commoner than the remaining stamps of the set, viz., the 7 c., 12 c., and 24 c., and the reason is not far to find. By the time the American Bank Note Co. came into the contract for printing the Government stamps these three values had become obsolete, and were no longer required. Collectors who had not been sufficiently wide-awake to secure the full set as issued by the Continental Bank Note Co. found that they missed these three values, and so when the special printing was made they hastened to secure them. Very likely they bought a complete set and discarded the other values as being duplicates, as they supposed, of the regular 1879 issue, but kept these three values, as they did not have them. They can of course be very easily told from the fact that they are on the soft paper, in addition to which the 12 c. is very much deeper than the Continental stamp, and the 24 c. value is a very deep dull purple, and different from either the National or the Continental colour. To those who are sufficiently interested to sort their stamps, if they will look at page 528 of Part II of our catalogue, the cuts numbered from A to H are very good illustrations of the National plates, and from K to R of the Continental plates. The entire design was printed at different times upon experimental papers, such as violet laid paper and the Francis chemical paper. Another variety is that with a cog-wheel grille on it, but these are all experimental, and were never issued. Some copies, of course, have passed the post, probably by reason of the inventor or some Government official testing their efficiency. I believe that the Continental Bank Note Co. really did issue some values of their set upon an enamelled paper, made with the idea of preventing people washing the stamps and using them over again, and a few of these occasionally turn up, and can be told by their shiny appearance upon the face of the stamp. The design ran a long time, commencing in 1870 and running right down to the end of 1882. The stamps are generally rather shied at, on account of the difficulty in sorting them, but I trust that this little article will make the subject clearer, and that collectors will study the issues, which are not rare, and nearly all of them quite obtainable in a used condition.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 19.10.07.

Impending Changes

THE *Colonial Office Journal* recently drew attention to the provision in the Rome Convention "that stamps of all values which are valid for the prepayment of postage on correspondence sent from one country of the Postal Union to another must, as from the 1st October, 1907, bear their values in Arabic numerals."

This, if strictly carried out, will involve a new issue of stamps in all cases in which the values are expressed in words.

The following is a list of the stamps threatened with alteration, Great Britain $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1s. heading the list:—

Great Britain: $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1s.
Bahamas: All values.

Barbados: All values.
Bermuda: All values but dock design.
Cyprus: All values.
Gibraltar: All values.
Hong Kong: All values.
India: All the anna values.
Jamaica: All but arms design.
Malta: All values.
Mauritius: One rupee.
New South Wales: 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1s., 5s., 20s.
New Zealand: 1d., 5d., 6d., 5s.
South Australia: All values but the $\frac{1}{2}$ d.
Trinidad: All values.
Victoria: 2d., 4d., 5d., 9d., 1s., 5s.
Western Australia: All values but the 2s.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

British Honduras. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us several new values of the current King's head series for this colony.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

10c.	lilac and green.
25c.	" " orange-red.
50c.	green and carmine.
\$1	" " "
\$2	" " blue.
\$5	" " black.

Cayman Islands. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* understands that a Provisional Halfpenny stamp has been printed in Jamaica, and adds, "only a small quantity has been done, if reports are true, and they are not to be sold to dealers."



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

½d. on 1d. carmine.

Mauritius. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 1c. and 15c. on multiple C.A. paper. The 2c., 4c. and 6c. have already been listed on the new paper.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

1c.	grey and black.
2c.	purple and violet.
4c.	black and carmine on blue paper.
6c.	purple and carmine on red paper.
15c.	black and blue on blue paper.

New South Wales. We quote the following from the *Australian Philatelist* :—

In consequence of the prosperity of New South Wales, the demand for the stamps of this State has increased so rapidly that the contract supply of paper was exhausted sooner than it would have been under ordinary circumstances, with the result that the Government Printer had to procure some forty-five or fifty thousand sheets from Victoria. These sheets admit of four of our (120) sheets being printed on each one, consequently the issue of New South Wales stamps on paper watermarked Cr. and A (Victorian type) will not be a small one. Latest information to hand is that a supply of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 10d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. values have been printed and sent to the post office, and that a fresh stock of New South Wales paper has arrived. As the Victorian paper doesn't "fit" our stamps the watermarks are scattered all over, and it is the exception rather than the rule to find the complete watermark on any one stamp. In addition, the words "Commonwealth of Australia," which are to be seen on the margins of the Victorian sheets, appear on the New South Wales stamps—two rows being seen on some sheets and none on others.

While the addition of another variety to our already overburdened series is to be deplored, we are satisfied that the difficulty could not have been overcome otherwise. Up to the time of going to press the following values had been seen, viz., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d. and 1s.

Orange River Colony. *The Monthly Journal* chronicles the receipt of the ½d. printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

½d.	yellow green.
1d.	carmine.

Spain. We quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* :—

A fine collection of control letters and numbers of the current issue is shown us by Mr. J. H. Chapman. The following is a list of the varieties :—

- (a) With thick-lined control-figures, square-cornered curves.
(b) With tall thin figures, clear and round.

	Highest No. (a)	Lowest No. (b)	Highest No. (b)	Letters of Later Series.
2c. brown	063,184	133,416	—	A.
5c. green	088,621	148,593	198,606	A.
10c. rose	077,454	083,114	193,709	A.
15c. blue	597,715	—	—	—
15c. lilac	—	110,046†	955,778†	A.
15c. mauve	—	—	—	A, B, C.
20c. grey	007,250	—	—	A.
25c. blue	142,871	—	164,326	A.
30c. green	109,340	020,320	—	A.
40c. yellow	000,791	—	—	A.
40c. rose	—	—	—	A.
50c. green	011,452	025,370	—	A.
1p. rose	032,772	—	—	A.
4p. brown	001,745	—	—	—
10p. yellow	000,660	—	—	—

ERRORS.

- 15c. violet, No. 8185,740.
25c. blue, No. 072,200 printed twice.

† If 110,046 stands for 1,110,046 as we believe it does, these numbers should change places.

We have supplemented the above table from the Colonial Stamp Market's stock. The numbers originally commenced at 000,001 (or 000,000) in the case of each value and the sheets were issued consecutively from the lowest to the highest. When the numbers reached 1,000,000 they commenced again at 000,001, but this probably only happened in the case of the 15c. value. Early in 1904 the numbering of each value broke off where it stood and in the case of each value the numbering recommenced at A000,001. The fact that the 4 and 10 pesetas have not yet been seen with letter A is probably due to no printing having taken place since the letter system was introduced. The current issue of Spain is perhaps the most interesting of all European sets to specialists, as, so far as we are aware, it is the only country which prints the plate-number on the margin of the sheets.

Straits Settlements. We have received the 4c printed all in carmine on multiple C.A. paper

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

4c., carmine.

United States. *Meheel's Weekly* describes a vertical pair of the current 2 c., perforated all round but rouletted between the two stamps; a horizontal line of perforation appears to have been omitted between the first and second rows of stamps on the sheet, and replaced by rouletting.

From Other Magazines

Argentine Republic, 1882

AFTER the battle of Pavon in 1861 the victorious army of Buenos Ayres occupied Rosario, the capital of the Argentine Confederation. The conquerors proceeded to reconstruct the broken administration, and one of the measures they took was to substitute for the old "Argentine Confederation" stamps a new series inscribed with the new name of "Argentine Republic" that had been adopted in the previous year. This new series was produced by Roberto Lange, a German lithographer in Buenos Ayres, and printed by him at the Buenos Ayres Mint.

The issue consisted of three values, and the total quantities printed during the whole period of their existence (1862-4) were as follows:—

5 centavos, rose	765,300
10 .. green	98,110
15 .. blue	27,037

The matrix-die of each value was separately drawn, and so each value is of a slightly different type. For instance, in the 5 c. the pearls in the circle number seventy-four, in the 10 c. seventy-eight, and in the 15 c. seventy-one. The small cross below the coat of arms, dividing the inscription, also varies in position: in the 5 c. it is placed vertically; in the 10 c. and 15 c. it inclines slightly towards the left and towards the right respectively. It is useful to note these variations, as they serve to distinguish originals from reprints; in the worthless sets of the latter each value is of exactly the same type.

The accent over the "u" of REPUBLICA was not on the matrix-die; it was added or not, according to the lithographer's caprice, on the lithographic stones themselves.

In the first printing of the 5 c. (80,000 stamps) the accent was added; in the second (201,040 stamps) it was omitted. If, as seems probable, subsequent printings to the number of about 300,000 stamps were also without accent, specimens of the "accented" stamps should be very much rarer than the "unaccented."

There is another type of the 5 c. stamp "unaccented," in which the "c" of CENTAVOS is closed and narrow, instead of open and round. The last printings were of this type, of which the total number was probably 144,060 stamps.

Early printings of the 10 c. were "accented," and the later printings "unaccented"; but philatelists differ as to the proportion in which they were printed. If "unaccented" specimens with postmarks undoubtedly dated before 1864 could be produced, the relative rarity of the two values would be at once settled.

All printings of the 15 c. were "accented," but on each sheet the second stamp of the eighth row had the accent omitted by an oversight. The first stamp on the second row of every sheet was *lête-bêche*.—*The Bazaar*, 13.9.07.

Curious Postal Arrangements in Venezuela

I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Ashby for the following information:—

"DEAR SIR,—I send you the following extract from the letter of one of my correspondents. He writes from Tovar, Venezuela, and the extract refers to a remark of mine *re* a "postage due" fee.

"Very sorry to have caused you extra expense, but really it wasn't my fault. In these blessed regions, untouched still of your higher civilization, there are no balances to weigh letters, except in the post office. One sends, therefore, one's correspondence without stamps to the 'Administrator,' who weighs it and puts on stamps, and at the beginning of each month he goes round and collects from the merchants the amount due to him. In this case he swears to have weighed fair."

I may say that there were over a dozen stamps on the cover, so that perhaps Mr. Administrator thought quantity might pass for quality for once.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 19.10.07.

Stamps on Envelopes

Perhaps the collection of stamps on the entire envelopes or original covers is more likely to appeal to the specialist than to the general collector, but, granted that it is so, why should such an anomaly be? The general collector of to-day is the specialist of to-morrow. It is from the study of postmarks that specialists have, to a great extent, been able to elucidate many intricate and knotty problems relating to our hobby.

The specialist has always had to turn to used stamps as a final court of appeal when dates of issue have been in question, and used stamps are undoubtedly at their best when on the cover they are originally franked. Unfortunately many collectors regard these originals only as a means to an end, but surely that is a great pity. Just recently we have inspected a specialised collection of the stamps of Queensland and South Australia, mounted in blank albums, both countries being exceptionally strong in stamps on the originals and the sight moved us to great admiration. Not only did the entires add greatly to the appearance of the collection but they had enabled their owner to open up a much wider field of research.

Of the two countries, South Australians are much the commoner on the original.

Queensland stamps are exceptionally scarce to find in this condition, a fact that is easily ascertained by anyone energetic enough to hunt through the London dealers' stock books.

The old days when collectors refused original entires admittance into their albums have fortunately passed, their excuse, in these days of blank albums, that there is not "space" (detestable word) provided, is now happily antiquated.

Nearly every serious collector hopes to become a specialist, while it is a well-known fact that specialists who have made a reputation by the study of unused stamps can be counted on the fingers of one hand. This being the case we think our plea for more attention being paid to original covers is justified.—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

India C. E. F.

A correspondent writes us that after being out of issue since about 2.07, a fresh supply of the 1 anna C.E.F., consisting of 16,000 stamps, was received about 8.07. From the half-sheet sent us there appears to be no difference, the stamp over-printed being still the King's Head 1a. "India Postage."—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

Mems, Notes and News

Remainders and Originals

THERE is no occasion to discuss the position of *remainders* as compared with *originals*, because they are one and the same thing; if they were not originals they could not be remainders.

Part of the same stock, part of the same sheet perhaps, of a certain stamp is sold to the public while that stamp is in circulation; those specimens are *originals*; the other part remains at the post office, the stamp becomes obsolete, the stock is eventually sold to collectors or dealers; those specimens are *remainders*. But what possible difference can there be between them? The fact that in certain instances large stocks of obsolete stamps have come upon the market, and have, for a time, upset prices, has nothing whatever to do with the case. We may say that it would have been better if those stamps had been all used up, but circumstances may have prevented that being done. It might have been better, in some cases, if the stocks had been destroyed, but as a matter of fact that did not take place. Such stamps are originals in every sense of the term. Every unused original copy of an obsolete stamp is a "remainder," and so, for the matter of that, are the used ones.—MAJOR EVANS in the *Monthly Journal*.

A Glasgow Yarn

Here is a nice little story which was told to an audience by a Glasgow dignitary of the Episcopal Church. In England the Bishop's residence is called "The Palace," as most people are aware. A letter recently addressed to "The Bishop, Palace, Glasgow," from an English town was returned by the Post Office officials bearing the superscription—"Neither at The Palace nor The Empire, Glasgow."—*St. Martin's-le-Grand*.

Penrhyn Island

Penrhyn is an island that is famous all over the South Sea world, and not unknown even in Europe. Its pearl-shell and pearls, its strange, wild, semi-amphibious natives, and its melancholy leper station, make it a marked spot upon the Pacific map; and a certain rather fictitious value attaching to its stamps has made the name of the island familiar to all stamp collectors at home. The general impression conveyed to the voyager from kinder and fairer islands is that Penrhyn is a place "at the back of God Speed," a lonely, sultry, windy, eerie spot, desolate and remote beyond description. It is an atoll island, consisting merely of a strip of land some couple of hundred yards in width, enclosing a splendid lagoon nine miles long.—MISS GRIMSHAW in the *Daily Graphic*.

The Inhabitants

The old warlike, quarrelsome character of the islanders—no doubt originally due to scarcity of food—still lurks concealed under an outward show of civility. Penrhyn was the only island I have visited where I did not care to walk alone in the bush without my little American revolver. The four or five white traders all keep firearms ready to hand in their stores. There has been no actual trouble of recent years, but there are narrow escapes from a free fight every now and then, and every man must hold himself ready for emergencies. It is only seven years since there was

such an outbreak of hostilities in Penrhyn that a man-of-war had to be sent up to protect the traders.—MISS GRIMSHAW in the *Daily Graphic*.

The Multiple C.A. Watermark

The new De La Rue watermark, which some people insist upon calling "the new multiple watermark," may be a great convenience to the printers, but it is an unmitigated nuisance to collectors. One dreads to think what other changes are in store for us after the dissolution.

"When the watermark Crown, with the letters C.C.,
Was changed to one lettered C.A.,
We hoped to the last that our troubles had past,
And the latter was coming so stay.
But, alas! and alack! as somebody says,
Things are ordered by other decrees,
So they altered to Crowns with multiple A.'s,
And, of course, with the multiple C.'s.
Such things if they do (as they do in this case)
When the Unionist Governments please,
When the others get in you will certainly win
If you bet that they change to C.B.'s."

—E. W. W. in the *Philatelic Journal of India*.

Thrasing a Postmaster

A good story comes to us from Kashmir, and, we are sorry to say, a true one. One day no letters were distributed at Srinugger, and anxious inquirers at the post office could obtain no information or redress. At length an official circular came round to all the residents, stating that as an English officer had severely thrashed the postmaster that morning, this functionary was disabled by his wounds, from discharging his duties, and no letters would be issued until his recovery.—*Calcutta Englishman*, 1872.

Curious Addresses

Messrs. MacArthur, MacVicar, and MacCorquodale, stationers in Liverpool many years ago, duly replied to a letter addressed to MacAdder, MacViper, and MacCrocodile.

The following was received by a relative of a correspondent:—

"Dear, honest Postman, be so kind
To take this to a friend of mine;
She is a Fox, Lucy's her name,
In Swallow Street you'll find the same;
She is a cruel little toad,
And lives not far from Oxford Road."

An Old Cutting.

Victoria: Crown A. Dates of Issue

List of *Official* dates of issue of Victorian postage stamps printed on A and Crown paper, taken from Government records.

½d.	..	21.10.1905.	6d.	..	25.10.1905.
1d.	..	16. 7.1905.	9d.	..	11.12.1905.
2d.	..	13. 9.1905.	1s.	..	13. 2.1906.
3d.	..	11.11.1905.	£1	..	12. 2.1907.
4d.	..	15. 1.1906.	£2	..	18. 7.1906.
5d.	..	14. 8.1906.			

The 1½d., 2½d., 2s. and 5s. are still on the old V and Crown paper.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

British Nyassaland Protectorate

THE activity of our rulers in chopping and changing territories and names on the African continent makes it difficult for us stamp collectors to keep pace with them. They have been playing all manner of pranks with British East Africa, Uganda, and British Central Africa, but the latest is to change the name of "British Central African Protectorate" to "Nyassaland Protectorate."

The same game is being played with the West African territories. Lagos is now included in Southern Nigeria, and other changes are said to be in contemplation.

All this sort of thing keeps alive the spirit of speculation, and creates a demand for stamps about to be retired from use.

Hence it happens that matters are pretty lively just now in the stamp trade.

A Philatelic Jeremiad

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News recently published the following announcement and pronouncement:—

Mr. Ewen has just returned from a tour through Belgium, Germany, and Russia, and, from what he has seen there, is more than ever convinced that the backbone of Philately is general collecting on simplified lines. Specialism is a disease which kills off all but the most enthusiastic. Where specialism is prevalent the social side of philately ceases to be in evidence; clubs are failures, because no member is interested in his fellow-members' collections. Exchanges are impossible, because a specialist in West Indies or West Africa has no use for other members' South American or Asiatic duplicates. Dealers suffer, because "unpopular" countries mean stock locked up. Specialism more than anything leads to "floating" and speculation.

Our Philatelic Salvation Secured

I made a note of this Jeremiad and ask, "What are we to be recommended to buy now?" and I learn that our only philatelic salvation lies in adopting one of three courses:—

I. "A general collection on simplified lines." (This means one specimen only of each type, ignoring all watermarks, perforations, surcharges, or other varieties.)

II. "New issues specialized."

III. "Specialist collections of particular countries, issues or even single stamps, interspersed in the general collection, according to the fancy of the individual collector."

Codlin's the friend, not Short

Mr. Castle, commenting on this curious announcement and pronouncement, writes as follows in the *London Philatelist*:—

The advantage, however, claimed for them (New Issues) that they are a desirable investment, and are likely to repay the purchaser far better than that in old issues, is undoubtedly the one most used to induce collectors to take up this form of specializing. It is on this point that we wish to utter a note of warning. New Issues can be purchased at a slight increase over face value, hence—unless demonetized, which rarely happens—they are practically safe not to lose their value. As in financial affairs, safe investments are not expected to yield high interest, and in this case it is patent that this sound old rule applies. The modern issues, are nowadays imported in thousands of specimens as against scores twenty years since, and even units or more in the earliest days of Philately. The knowledge of the commercial value of stamps is common all over the world, both inside and outside post offices, and anything that is "good" has the first call on the part of those who "know." As on the Stock Exchange, the public is generally called upon to absorb what the inner ring elects.

And after the Uproar

All this is more amusing than instructive.

Mr. Ewen is a dealer. He is in stamps for the profit he can make out of them, and if he can get collectors to collect along his lines of recommendation, of course, it will be all the plainer sailing for him.

Mr. Castle is a specialist in Old Issues, with a bee in his bonnet about New Issues, and there you are.

Great Rarities ever in Demand

Some people imagine that the ever-increasing price of the great rarities must some day reach a limit that must check the demand, but it does not seem to do so. Only a few days ago a rarity dealer said to me with a beaming countenance, "Good stamps *do* sell." This as a sequel to the news that an ordinary "approval sheet" customer of his had developed into a purchaser of single stamps from him priced at from £100 to £200 each, and yet some thirty years ago a well-known philatelist ridiculed the idea of paying such monstrous sums as £3 for single stamps.

Millionaire Collectors

The explanation lies in the fact that stamp collecting is very popular in moneyed circles. At an auction a year or so since, at which many stamps ran into £100 to £150 each, one dealer held bids enough from American millionaires to buy up all the lots many times over. And to-day when a rare stamp turns up there is no need to put it on the market, for the dealer knows who wants it, and what his customer will pay for it. The difficulty is not to find a buyer for the high-priced rarities, but to get the rarities to sell.

The Spice of Speculation

Gambling is condemned right and left as a very wicked thing, and we are all agreed that it is so; but the Stock Exchange speculator will retort that even our simplest business transactions are gambles in some form or other; even the very commendable act of making provision in case of death is but a gambling transaction, you backing your life against the insurance company.

So in speculative stamp business, the speculator-collector justifies himself by pleading that he must regard his large outlay on stamps as an investment, and if an opportunity comes along for securing copies of a provisional issue for a rise he takes it and his profit in due course.

And this sort of thing is bound to be generated by a fluctuating market for desirable stamps, of which there may not be enough to go round.

Orange River Colony

At Ventom. Bull & Cooper's sale on the 11th Oct., 1907, I note that a "1d. brown" overprinted "V.R.I." described an error, sold for £3. Now as a matter of fact the stamp is not an error, nor is it even entitled to be catalogued. It is one of a lot of old stock that a local bank managed to get overprinted while the overprinting was being done. I see it is catalogued by Gibbons at £10.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Junior Philatelic Society

The first ordinary meeting of the new season was held on Saturday, 5th Oct., 1907, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand.

The President took the chair at eight p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Mr. A. L. Hunter, Merthyr Tydfil; Mr. E. W. B. Maggs, Wimpole Street, W.; Mr. W. Nichols, Northampton; Dr. A. Wolf, Harrow; and Mr. S. Young, Upper Holloway. Resignations were received with regret from Messrs. G. C. Sayce, G. A. Brockman, and W. W. Hughes. A donation to the library was acknowledged from Miss Green.

The President then gave his ninth Annual Presidential Address. He was pleased, he said, to welcome back members of the Society and hoped that the new session now opening would prove more enjoyable and instructive than any before. Our new hall, 3 Bedford Street, Strand, is more comfortable than our old meeting place, it is very central, within easy reach of conveyances to all parts, and the committee hope that all members living in and around London will endeavour to be present at all the meetings.

The President next gave some information concerning the Exhibition the committee had decided to hold during the season. The last exhibition held by the Society at Exeter Hall, Strand, in February, 1905, had proved such a success (no less than 11,000 people passing through the Hall in two days) that the committee has considered it advisable to engage a larger hall and for a longer period. They have, therefore, taken Caxton Hall, Westminster, for March 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1908.

The Exhibition is to be of the stamps of the British Colonies, and the committee hopes that the members will support them as far as lies in their power in making it known to all their stamp-collecting friends. A special committee has been formed with Mr. H. F. Johnson as Secretary to cope with the work connected with the Exhibition, and an office taken for their use at 44 Fleet Street, E.C. Admission to the Exhibition will be free, by ticket, and the President stated that 25,000 tickets had just been ordered as a preliminary supply. A subscription list has been opened to provide funds with which to carry on the work, and the following amounts have to be acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
H. C. Clark, Esq.	3	3	0	Brought forward	7	7	0
Douglas Ellis, Esq.	1	1	0	H. Lee, Esq.	0	10	6
E. M. Gilbert Lodge, Esq.	1	1	0	E. A. Leigh, Esq.	0	5	0
F. J. Melville, Esq.	1	1	0	L. W. Crouch, Esq.	0	5	0
Douglas Ragg, Esq.	1	1	0	S. R. Turner, Esq.	0	5	0
				E. A. Smart, Esq.	0	2	6
	£7	7	0	Total	£8	15	0

Donations towards the expenses are asked for and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged. All donations, applications for tickets and other matter connected with the Exhibition should be addressed to: Mr. H. F. Johnson, Stamp Exhibition Office, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

At 8.30 p.m. Mr. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President of the Society, gave a very fine paper and display of the Stamps of Gambia, containing a large number of sheets of stamps and a very fine range of shades. Among the more interesting things that called for special mention from Mr. Ellis was the 6d. grey-green, 1866 issue, showing the top label containing the name of the colony, sloping from left to right. Mr. Ellis also gave some very useful information concerning the postmarks to be found on the stamps. The collection was greatly admired by all present, and a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. F. J. Melville was seconded by Mr. E. A. Leigh, and carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. S. R. Turner gave some further information concerning the exhibits at the forthcoming Exhibition, and the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Y.M.C.A. at 7.30 p.m. on First Thursdays.

- 1907.
- Oct. 3. E. Heginbottom, B.A. "Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman, and Dominica" (with notes).
- Nov. 7. E. Heginbottom, B.A. "Early English and Officials" (with notes).
- Dec. 5. G. B. Bainbridge, J.P. "U.S.A."
- 1908.
- Jan. 9. E. Heginbottom, B.A. "Barbadoes, Jamaica" (with notes).
- Feb. 6. S. C. Graham. "American and Asian Colonies."
- Mar. 5. R. W. Wilkinson. "France and Greece" (with notes and drawings).
- April 2. M. H. Horsley, J.P. "New South Wales."

The first meeting of the new session, 1907-8, was held at Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, Oct. 3rd, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President,

Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. After formal business had been concluded, Mr. Harold Dawson was elected to the membership.

Mr. Heginbottom's fine collection of Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman, and Dominica, was then passed round, and greatly enjoyed, some of the rare Bermuda surcharges being especially admired. The display was accompanied by copious notes, which added much to the interest.

At the conclusion of the meeting the Vice-President moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness. This was seconded by Mr. Sanderson, and unanimously endorsed by the meeting.

Croydon Philatelic Society

President: F. G. Bing.

Hon. Sec.: W. F. Godwin, 2 Gladstone Road, Croydon.

This Society, which has been formed to promote the interests, and to bring together stamp collectors of all grades, for mutual assistance, and the promotion of the study of Philately, held its first General Meeting on Wednesday evening, Oct. 16th, at 18A Katharine Street. A report on the steps taken to bring this Society into being, was presented by the Hon. Sec. to the provisional committee, and the draft rules were discussed and with some slight amendments approved. A committee of four members was elected, together with the following officers: President, Mr. F. G. Bing, vice-President, Mr. A. Ashby, Hon. Sec., and Treas. Mr. W. F. Godwin, 2 Gladstone road, from whom all particulars may be obtained.

Leicester Philatelic Society

- 1907.
- Oct. 2. General Meeting. Display. "Tasmania and W. Australia." By J. E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
- Nov. 6. Display, "Italian States." By Mr. A. P. Walker, Birmingham. Paper, "Library and How to Use it." By Mr. Thos. Edwards.
- Dec. 10. Display, "Victoria with Notes." By Messrs. C. A. Stephenson and T. W. Peck, Birmingham.

- 1908.
- Jan. 10. Paper, "Minor Varieties of Engraving on Postage Stamps." By W. S. Lincoln, Esq., London.
- Feb. 5. "Auction Sale" (lots on view Feb. 4th).
- Feb. 19. Display, "Ceylon." By J. E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
- Mar. 4. "Answers and Questions." Display, "India and Hong Kong." By J. E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.
- April 1. Display, "Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies." By Dr. R. M. West. Lecture, "On Paper." By Mr. T. B. Widdowson.
- May 10. Display, "Straits and Settlements." By J. E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A. Paper, "Modern Philately." Mr. J. W. H. Goddard.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society

President: Dr. F. E. Ackerley.

Hon. Sec.: G. H. M. Savage, 56 Bebington Road, Higher Tranmere.

Meetings: On Mondays at 6 Colquitt Street, Liverpool.

The third meeting of the Session took place on Monday, 14th Oct., at 6 Colquitt Street, the President, Dr. Ackerley, in the chair. There were twenty-five members present. One new member was unanimously elected, and three more are to be put up for election at the next meeting. A paper on the "Stamps of Gambia," written by Mr. W. Rockliff, but owing to unavoidable absence, was read by Mr. Savage proved very interesting, and some very fine exhibits were shown by Messrs. Rockliff, Allender and Ross. Also displays for competition by Messrs. Archer and Williams.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Rockliff and his deputy. Afterwards a general exchange amongst the members took place.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

President: R. MacLachlan, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

The third Annual General Meeting was held at Headquarters, 8 Promenade Central, on Wednesday, 16th inst., at 8.15 p.m. Major P. F. Brine in the chair. The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were read and passed.

The following officers were elected: President, R. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P.; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. H. J. Bignold, G. Dukes, G. Oyston; Hon. Counterfeit Detectors: H. J. Bignold (British and Colonial, C. Krauter (foreign); Hon. Treasurer and Comptroller Exchange Section: G. Dukes; Hon. Secretary and Librarian, T. F. Newton; Committee: Major P. F. Brine, Messrs. C. S. Greenhead, R.A.M., T. S. Harvey, T. Ridout.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

How to Arrange a Collection

F. M. R. (Dover) sends me a few queries. As they are typical of problems that vex the would-be specialist, I set them out in full with my reply to each.

I should be glad to have your advice on the following difficulties:—I am trying to specialise in Lagos, but I have to go slow on account of pecuniary reasons. I have most of the medium stamps and a few shades of the commoner ones; I should like to know when mounting the collection:

"(1) Should there be a book for blocks and one in which to mount single stamps?"

"(2) Should unused specimens be kept separate from the used?"

These two questions may be taken together. My plan in specialising is to place first a full set of single stamps unused on a separate page, on the next leaf varieties, on the next, pairs and blocks; then the same order for used copies. I never mix unused and used, except in the case of some stamp that is practically unobtainable unused; then I place a used copy where the unused would have been.

"(3) I have the reference list of the Royal Philatelic Society; are there any other publications likely to help the Lagos specialist?"

By an oversight the Bibliography was omitted from my article on Lagos in No. 2 of THE POSTAGE STAMP. But the omission is not serious, for Lagos is such a simple and straightforward little country that there is no call for anything more detailed than what we have already published in our pages. *Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, Vol. 6, p. 60, contained a list of the Lagos stamps in the Taping Collection; Mr. B. W. H. Poole contributed some notes on Lagos to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, Vol. 9, p. 136; in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, Vol. 7, p. 216, there was a short article on the Lagos stamps of 1891, the bicoloured series; and Mr. C. A. Stephenson contributed a general article on the issues to the *Stamp Collector*, Vol. 8, pp. 2, 32, 64.

"(4) How would you ensure always to have room for any fresh stamps which might be obtained? At

present I have my collection rather jumbled up in an Oriol album."

The Oriol is an excellent album and as it is a movable leaf album re-arrangement is rendered easy. The secret of effective arrangement is to have a settled and orderly plan and stick to it, never to jumble up stamps. The Oriol page is rather large for a moderate specialist who would follow the plan of arrangement I have outlined. A more suitable size would be Walker's Loose Leaf Album, 10x7½, with protection sheets, price 17s. 6d., which is the one I use for specialising; or for limited specialism Walker's Loose Leaf Album, 7x5½, with Protection sheets, is a little gem, and would admirably suit such a country as Lagos.

Room for fresh stamps can always be arranged in any movable leaf album. I always leave a blank for known varieties. But with peelable hinges that admit of the removal and re-arrangement of stamps without injury to the page there should be no difficulty in re-arranging a page for a fresh stamp, and at the worst if you mess up a page, a few pence will secure a new leaf.

No Direct Correspondence

I regret to say that I cannot undertake to reply to queries by post. If I once indulged in this sort of pleasure I should have no time for even a square meal. Under these circumstances, I am sure my friends will be merciful. I will do my best to reply to as many as possible on this page week by week.

Correction in Jamaica Article.

G. F. (Manchester.) Glad to hear that you have been so fortunate as to get "four specimens of the first issue of Jamaica, 1d., 2d., 4d., and 1s., three of them in good condition and the other fairly good; and the first three in a penny packet! and the shilling for next to nothing." Of the lot I have only one, though I specialise in the country, but you see I am looking for immaculate unused copies. I presume yours are used. Of used copies there is a fairly good choice, but not often in a penny packet!

The stamps you inquire about are fixed as follows:—

Gibraltar. King, 1903. 2s. 6d., no such value; the 2s. is priced at 7s. 6d.

British Levant. 1885. 12p. on 2s. 6d. is catalogued at 8s. 6d. unused and 10s. used.

1887-96. 80 paras on 5d., 9d. and 3d.

1902. King. 24 piastres, 6s. 6d. unused.

Grenada. Ship, 1d., used, 1d.

Great Britain. Admiralty official. King 1d., used 1d.

I am glad you like THE POSTAGE STAMP. A post card to the publishers (Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons), will bring it you.

C. R. R. (Darlington). Many thanks for your post card and the information, also for your kind wishes.

J. R. (Whitley Bay). The Grenada, 1861, 1d. green, no watermark, is catalogued at 12s. for an unused copy, and 4s. for used. You say the date of your copy is 1860; but that cannot be, for the first Grenada stamps were not despatched from this country by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., the printers, until 27th April, 1861.

J. C. (Blackburn). The Japanese you inquire about are priced as follows: You do not say whether your stamps are unused or used, so I append both prices:—

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1871.	48 mons ..	0	6	4	0
	100 mons ..	1	0	5	0
	200 mons ..	6	0	2	6
	500 mons ..	6	0	7	6
1874.	6 sen ..	30	0	8	0
1875.	30 sen ..	12	6	10	0

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 6. Vol. 1

9 NOVEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

A New Daniel!



A MR. HAND has been reading a paper, we are told, before the Transvaal Philatelic Society entitled "Europeans for Collectors," which is described as a plea for European Philately. The report says:—

He deprecated the excessive and almost exclusive attention given by British (and especially South African) collectors to British or South African (British) colonials. He pointed out how hopelessly beyond the reach of the collector of moderate means were the early issues of most of them, especially copies in fine condition, and asserted that all but wealthy collectors were being driven from active Philately, while the beginner found his enthusiasm damped at the very outset.

In pleading for the collection of European, he showed by figures the enormous field for research afforded by such countries as France, Spain, Portugal, and their respective groups of colonies: the comparative cheapness of Scandinavia, the Balkan States, Belgium, Austria, etc., and the extreme probability of an early boom in countries at present little regarded. Incidentally he supported the claims of several South American States.

A Muddling Statement
Now let us take this extraordinary report point by point and see what there is in it.
Mr. Hand says early issues of most of our British Colonials are hopelessly out of reach of the Collector of moderate means, especially in fine condition, and yet according to his own admission British collectors devote an excessive and almost exclusive attention to British Colonials. Ergo, as British Colonials are beyond the reach of the collector of moderate means, British collectors must all be men of immoderate moderate means, *i.e.*, all wealthy men. Alas, alas! that won't do.

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Some Hand-some Logic

Then he assures us that "all but wealthy collectors are being driven from active philately." And yet again we have his own statement that an excessive and almost exclusive attention is paid by British collectors to the very stamps that are driving collectors from active philately. I confess I cannot follow this Hand-some logic.

Let us Turn to Facts

If we turn to facts we find that instead of being driven out of active philately the number of collectors is increasing every day, and what is fatal to Mr. Hand's view is the further fact that with the great bulk of collectors, British Colonials are firm favourites, and this applies to collectors all over the world, not merely to British.

Are British Colonials out of Reach?

But, are British Colonials out of reach? Does any one but Mr. Hand say so? If they are out of reach, especially in fine condition, how shall we account for the fact that no other countries sell so well. Why is it that, especially in fine condition, the supply is nowhere equal to the demand? Rarities of all countries are always more or less out of reach of the man of moderate means, but we do not abstain from collecting a country because it has a few or even many, rarities out of reach.

The Alternative to British Colonials

Instead of going in so exclusively for British Colonials Mr. Hand would shunt us on to Portugal and Colonies! and other European groups.

Really Mr. Hand must come over and help us in the rôle of a Philatelic Dan Leno. He would be irresistible. The Herts Society would, I feel sure, right away sack Mr. Harrison Hill, as Entertainer in Chief, in his favour.

The Old Swans and Geese Story

In plain English, it is the old story of the swans and the geese. To some collectors of Europeans, their favourites are all swans, all else are geese, and *vice versa* with some collectors of British Colonials.

The man who decrys one class of country in order that he may boost another does much to unsettle the minds of beginners, and even of weak-minded, timorous old collectors.

One can understand a dealer who has bought up a big collection of any one group of countries beating the drum in the desired direction. We are accustomed to the sound of that dear old drum, and we rise to the occasion as it suits us.

But of a collector we expect better things.

Royal Philatelic Society's "Transactions"

At the present time, and for some years past, the important papers read at the meetings of the Royal Philatelic Society have to be looked up in the *London Philatelist*, the *Philatelic Record*, the *Monthly Journal*,

etc., whereas I think it would be much better, and more dignified, if all the 'Transactions' were gathered together in an official publication."

So says the official publisher of the Royal Philatelic Society, commonly known as C. J. Phillips, *alias* Stanley Gibbons.

But on referring to the *London Philatelist* I find it is described as "the monthly Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society."

Now what does this suggestion of "Transactions" mean? Is the official publisher casting sheep's eyes at the official journal—and its profits? If he would make a bid to print on better paper, and spend a few odd coppers on the illustration of New Issues, it might be a great temptation to ask him to lunch at the Savoy.

"More Dignified," eh?

And what does this mean? Is there here an insinuation that the official journal is not sufficiently dignified? It is edited by the Hon. Vice-President, who is also a Justice of the Peace. What more would the man have? And it is printed on that rare variety known to specialists as pelure paper, or something like it. Bless my soul! some people never seem to be satisfied in this world!

The Important Subject of New Issues

Then the official publisher of the Royal Philatelic Society falls foul of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and says, "the important subject of 'New Issues' is treated very baldly."

Now, that is just what I thought when I saw the first number. Ain't it wonderful how the minds of great men run in the same groove!

But stay, what does the man mean? Does he mean that "New Issues" should have been treated to an application of "Tatcho" or "Harlene"? "Baldly"? Next time I meet that man I'll have a look at his cranium to see if he is all right—baldly.

Forthcoming Australlians

If I read aright the instructions to the Committee appointed by the Federal Government to consider the question of issuing uniform stamps for Australia, we are likely to have several very interesting preliminary issues by way of introduction to the final and uniform series. The *Melbourne Herald* of the 31st July, 1907, says:—

The business of the committee, as stated in the departmental minute, is to "consider and report upon the best methods to be adopted to ensure a suitable issue of stamps that will be available for immediate use during the book-keeping period, and thereafter for use as an issue for the Commonwealth without distinction as to States." In other words, the stamps issued for use during the book-keeping period will require to bear some indication of the State in which they were issued. At the expiration of the term, the reference to the State will be removed, and probably the words "Commonwealth of Australia" substituted.

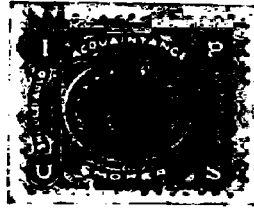
Some good folks say they are very sick of the Australian jumble, and cannot be bothered to keep in touch with the never-ending variety-surprises that are continually cropping up.

But I fancy patience will be the best policy in the end. The Commonwealth will pull through some day and the rarities of this interregnum period, at new issue rates, will be the reward of the patient collector.

Meanwhile we may take it as a definite attempt at some settlement, that the Committee commenced its deliberations on 7th Oct., 1907, in Melbourne.

Let us hope that it won't take so long to present its Report as some of our Parliamentary Committees do.

A Philatelic Smoker



I am permitted to reproduce the adapted design.

The members of the International Philatelic Union have been enjoying themselves at a smoking concert, and for the front page of this smoker they very ingeniously adapted the design of the first issue of Salvador with the smoking volcano. By the kindness of the genial Hon. Sec., Mr. T. H. Hinton,

The International Philatelic Union

The International Philatelic Union was the first Stamp Exchange Club ever started, and inaugurated the system of exchanging, now followed by numberless Societies and Clubs throughout the world.

The exchange packets are made up monthly, and the class of stamps, and amount of sales, compare very favourably with any others.

Meetings are held monthly at Essex Hall, Strand, from October to May, when papers are read and stamps displayed.

The New Afghans

I have not seen any of the new Afghanistan issue on sale in London yet, nor have I heard of any on the road. I am told that our friends in India who have managed to get hold of supplies are asking most absurd prices for the stamps. As Afghanistan is taboo to the general collector, and must as a consequence therefore be of very limited sale, high premiums are out of the question.

Mr. Hausburg's Australians: A Disclaimer

The *Philatelic Journal of India* recently stated that Mr. Hausburg has a standing offer of £25,000 cash whenever he likes to sell his fine collection of Australians from a certain well known dealer in the Strand, London. In reply to this Mr. Hausburg publishes the following disclaimer:

DEAR SIR,—There is a statement in the number of the *Philatelic Journal of India* to the effect that a standing offer of £25,000 has been made for my collection by a London dealer.

As this statement is entirely unauthorised, I should be extremely obliged if you would allow me to contradict it in your valuable paper. I should also add that there are several inaccuracies in the forementioned journal relating to my entries in the London Exhibition of last year.

A Fine Luxemburg Collection

My old friend, Mr. W. J. Wilson of Birmingham, has secured a fine highly specialised collection of the little Duchy of Luxemburg, which he tells me, includes a splendid series of proofs, paper, colour, and roulette trials; a set of original artist's proofs; and the original Drawings for the Telegraph stamp, in black and in colours, with die for the telegraph stamps, in black and in colours, with Die Proofs of same.

Truly the latter-day specialist is an omniverous being. Everything connected with an issue is nowadays annexed in the shape of Proofs and Trials.

For this grand unused accumulation my friend is asking £460.

He is offering the used collection separately for £100.

The Stamps of Zululand

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Territory

ZULULAND, "the land of misfortune," as Lady Florence Dixie calls it, has indeed a terrible history of bloodshed. From almost our earliest records of the country it has been the scene of organised strife and perpetual war.

In the first years of the nineteenth century Gondongwana, a chief, began a military organisation by forming a celibate army. He was succeeded by the merciless Chaka, by Dingaan, and Cetywayo, all of whom kept alive and fostered the ferocity of the Zulu race. From 1879 till 1881 British troops were engaged in continual conflict with the Zulus, and within the last twelve months we have had unpleasant reminders that the traditional madness for warfare still smoulders.

In the time of Chaka the Zulus were supreme from Cape Colony to the Zambesi, and because the Zulu power was considered a menace to the Colony of Natal Sir Bartle Frere, then High Commissioner for South Africa, embarked on a war against Cetywayo. After many blunders and many never-to-be-forgotten examples of British bravery, the Zulus were subdued and begged to be taken under British protection. Instead they were divided up under thirteen chiefs which soon led to a "Kilkenny cat" struggle. Again England was asked to intervene, but the Boers stepped in, took sides and sliced off a large portion of Zululand to add to their own republic. The remnant was on 19th May, 1887, annexed to England as British Zululand, but in 1898 it was handed over to Natal and now forms a part of that Colony.

Zululand has an area of 10,500 square miles and a population of 180,000. It lies to the north of Natal, and has a coast line of 210 miles. There are said to be gold and other minerals waiting to be worked and endeavours are being made to find a safe harbour.

The Proclamation of annexation, dated 17th May, 1887, signed "A. E. Havelock," then Governor of Natal, ran as follows:—

Now, therefore, I do hereby proclaim, and make known, that from and after the nineteenth day of May next the whole of Zululand, including the territory known as the Zulu Reserve Territory, but excluding the territory known as the New Republic, and bounded as follows: On the south and south-west by the Colony of Natal; on the west and north-west by the New Republic; on the north by Amatongaland; and on the east by the Indian Ocean, shall be and shall be taken to be a British possession under the name of Zululand.

Its Philatelic History

The philatelic history of Zululand extends from 1886 to 1898, *i.e.*, from the year following the British annexation to the date of the incorporation of the territory in the colony of Natal. During this period of twelve years of separate postal existence, we have, first a series of the stamps of Great Britain overprinted with the name "Zululand," then a few provisionals of the stamps of Natal, and finally, in 1894-6, a series of the De la Rue Colonial type for Zululand.

1888-92. Eleven values. Design: The then current Queen's head stamps of Great Britain overprinted with the word "Zululand" in *sans serif* capitals horizontally across each stamp. Watermark, Imperial Crown. Perforate 14. The 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., and 6d. were

issued on 1st May, 1888; the 4d. in November, 1888, and the 2½d. in September, 1891, the 5d. in March, 1893, and the 9d., 1s., and 5s. in April, 1892.

The numbers printed of these stamps was obtained by Mr. L. H. J. Walker, of Pietermaritzburg, from the late Commissioner of stamps in Zululand and contributed by him to *Morley's Philatelic Journal* for March, 1900. The numbers are as follows:—

1d., vermilion	..	..	..	268,224
1d., purple	..	..	..	459,776
2d., green and carmine	..	..	..	31,987
2½d., purple on blue	..	..	..	28,544
3d., purple on yellow	..	..	..	11,949
4d., green and brown	..	..	..	20,250
5d., purple and blue	..	..	..	6,428
6d., purple on red	..	..	..	11,405
9d., purple and blue	..	..	..	3,701
1s., green	..	..	..	4,564
5s., carmine	..	..	..	998



Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.
	s.	d.	
½d., vermilion	0	4	0 6
1d., purple	1	0	1 0
2d., green and carmine	1	0	1 6
2½d., purple and blue	4	0	4 0
3d., purple on yellow	5	0	5 0
4d., green and brown	3	0	3 0
5d., purple and blue	15	0	15 0
6d., purple on red	12	6	10 0
9d., purple and blue	20	0	17 6
1s., green	15	0	12 6
5s., carmine	75	0	75 0

Variety. A specimen of the 2d. with inverted overprint was chronicled in the *Monthly Journal* of June, 1903, as having been seen on an entire envelope with a 4d. value with normal surcharge, both stamps being postmarked "Rorke's Drift—Natal—6.11.88."

Inverted Overprint.
2d., green and carmine.

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

What may be termed the middle values, *i.e.*, the 5d., 6d., 9d., and 1s., exhibit most promise in this series. They show an almost steady advance in price since 1896. The lower values, owing to a fairly good supply, continue low, and the 5s. which was always a scarce stamp, was listed at 60s. in 1896, then to 75s. in 1897, at which price with the exception of a drop in 1899, it has remained ever since. At the auctions it has generally ranged near catalogue price and once or twice

used copies have brought more than catalogue. Taken altogether the series may be considered a promising investment.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d., vermilion ..	04	06	04	04	04	04	04	04	04
1d., lilac ..	06	06	06	06	06	06	10	10	10
2d., green and carmine ..	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2½d., purple on blue ..	10	10	13	—	20	30	30	30	40
3d., purple on yellow ..	16	20	20	20	30	40	40	40	50
4d., green and brown ..	20	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	30
5d., lilac and ultramarine ..	76	76	60	60	100	126	126	126	150
6d., purple on red ..	30	40	36	36	60	100	100	126	126
9d., purple and blue ..	100	120	80	80	176	176	150	150	200
1s., green ..	50	176	100	100	160	176	176	126	150
5s., carmine ..	600	750	500	500	700	750	750	750	750

1888. One value. Design: the ½d., green, then current, Queen's head stamp of Natal, overprinted in black in Natal with the name "Zululand" in tall narrow capitals, horizontally across the top of the stamp. Watermarked Crown C.A. and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green ..	6 0	—

Varieties. This overprint on the ½d. stamp of Natal exists with a period after the overprint "Zululand," and is also known with a double overprint.

Period after "Zululand."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., dull green ..	5 0	5 0

Double Overprint.

½d., dull green ..	—	—
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1894. One value. Design: the then current 6d. Queen's head stamp of Natal overprinted "Zululand" by Messrs. De La Rue in black in the same type as the first issue. Watermark Crown C.A. and Perf. 14.

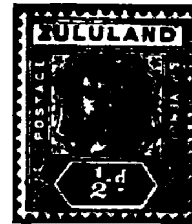


Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6d., purple ..	12 6	12 6

1894-6. Ten values. Design: Diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by

them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perforated 14. The lower part of the stamp has a large tablet of value. The four lowest values the figures are in white on a shaded ground and the other stamps have the numeral of value in colour on a plain tablet. The stamps are all printed in two colours, the name and value in one colour and the rest of the design in another colour. The pence values the general design is in lilac, and in the 1s. and 4s. in green, the £ values are printed on red paper.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d., purple and green ..	0 9	1 0
1d., ,, carmine ..	0 3	0 3
2½d., ,, ultramarine ..	1 6	1 6
3d., ,, olive and brown ..	1 0	1 0
6d., ,, black ..	2 0	2 6
1s., green and dark green ..	3 0	3
2s. 6d., ,, black ..	6 0	7 6
4s., ,, carmine ..	12 0	12 0
£1, purple on red ..	60 0	60 0
£5, ,, value in black	240 0	160 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The stamps of this bi-coloured series, which closes the philatelic history of Zululand, are all rising in value as the supplies are being diminished, and some will probably run high for it is a compact little country for the collector who has a partiality for those whose accounts are closed.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	01	01	01	01	02	02	09	09	09
1d. ..	02	02	02	03	03	03	03	03	03
2½d. ..	05	04	05	09	09	09	16	16	16
3d. ..	06	06	16	10	10	09	09	10	10
6d. ..	10	10	10	10	16	16	20	20	20
1s. ..	19	20	20	20	26	26	30	30	30
2s. 6d. ..	—	—	40	40	50	50	40	60	60
4s. ..	70	—	66	66	100	100	120	120	120
£1 ..	276	—	300	—	600	600	600	600	600
£5 ..	1300	—	1500	—	2000	—	2400	2400	2400

Incorporation in Natal

In 1898 Zululand was incorporated in the Colony of Natal, and from that date the separate stamps of Zululand were superseded by the stamps of Natal.

Bibliography

Of books or important articles on the stamps of Zululand there are practically none. The only important work of reference to which the collector can turn is the Royal Philatelic Society's Africa, Part III.

For special offers of the stamps of this Colony see Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s advertisement in this number.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from p. 72.)

The 4d. value.

PRINTED in sheets of 240, divided into four panes arranged in two rows. There were sixty stamps in each pane—ten horizontal rows of six. In plates 1 and 2 the marginal numbers were of type 2 and were placed in each of the four corners of the sheet. In plates 3 to 13 the marginal numbers were of type 1 and occurred twice on each sheet—above the eleventh stamp in the top row and below the second stamp in the bottom row. In plates 14 to 17 type 2 of the marginal numbers was reverted to, these being arranged above and below the corresponding stamps as shown on plates 3 to 13. When the "Crown" paper was used plate 20 had to be cut up and re-arranged in two panes of 120 each to fit the paper, and in this state, together with the following plate, no numbers appear on the margins.

- 4d., carmine, wmk. "Small garter." Plate 1 (type 2).
- 4d., carmine, wmk. "Medium garter." Plate 1 (type 2).
- 4d., carmine, wmk. "Large garter." Plates 1, 2 (type 2).
- 4d., red, small white letters in corners. Plates 3, 4 (type 1).
- 4d., vermilion, large white letters in corners. Plates 7 to 13 (type 1).
Plate 14 (type 2).
- 4d., vermilion, large coloured letters in corners. Plate 15 (type 2).
- 4d., sage-green, do., Plates 15, 16 (type 2).
- 4d., grey-brown, do. Plate 17 (type 2).

The 6d. value.

Printed in sheets of 240, arranged exactly like the 3d. In plates 1 and 2 the marginal numbers are type 2 and are shown in each of the four corners of the sheet. In plates 3 to 8 the numbers are type 1, in plates 9 to 17 they are of type 2, the positions of these corresponding to the description of plates 3 to 17 of the 4d. Plate 17 was cut up and re-arranged in two panes of 120 each for printing on the "Crown" paper. Plate 18 was similar, and in this state, these plates had no marginal numbers.

- 6d., lilac, wmk. "Emblems"; no corner letters. Plate 1 (type 2).
- 6d., lilac, wmk. "Emblems"; small white letters in corners. Plates 3, 4 (type 1).
- 6d., lilac, wmk. "Emblems"; large white letters in corners. Plate 5, 6 (type 1).
- 6d., lilac, wmk. "Spray"; do. Plate 6 (type 1).
- 6d., violet, wmk. "Spray"; do.; no hyphen. Plate 8 (type 1).
Plate 9 (type 2).
- 6d., chestnut, wmk. "Spray"; Plate 11 (type 2).
- 6d., pale buff, wmk. "Spray"; Plates 11, 12 (type 2).
- 6d., grey, large white letters in corners. Plate 12 (type 2).
- 6d., grey; large coloured letters in corners. Plates 13 to 17 (type 2).

The 8d. value.

Printed in sheets of 240 arranged like the 4d. previously described. There was only one plate and on this the marginal numbers were of type 2 and appear twice on the sheet—above the twelfth stamp in the top row and below the first one in the bottom row.

8d., orange. Plate 1 (type 2).

The 9d. value.

Printed in sheets of 240 arranged exactly the same as the 3d. denomination. The marginal plate numbers are all of type 1 and occur in corresponding positions to those on the 2½d. plates.

9d., bistre, small letters in corners. Plates 2, 3 (type 1).

9d., bistre, wmk. "Emblems"; large white letters in corners. Plate 4 (type 1).

9d., bistre, wmk. "Spray"; do. Plate 4 (type 1).

The 10d. value.

Printed in sheets of 240 arranged like the 3d. There was only one plate and on this the marginal plate numbers, which were of type 1, were arranged as on the plates for the 2½d. value.

10d., red-brown. Plate 1 (type 1).

The 1s. value.

Printed in sheets of 240 arranged exactly as in the case of the 3d. value. In plate 1 the marginal numbers were of type 2 and were placed in each of the four corners of the sheet. In plates 2, 4 and 5 the marginal numbers were of type 1; in plates 6 to 9 they were again of type 2, and on all these plates they were arranged as on the plate for the 10d. stamp. In plates 10 to 13 the marginal numbers were also of type 2, but were arranged in the top right and lower left corners of the sheets respectively. The "Crown" paper was introduced while plate 13 was at press, and, to fit the new paper correctly, this plate was cut up and re-arranged in two panes of 120. In this state, and also in plate 14, there were no numbers in the margins as was previously the case.

1s., green, no letters in corners. Plate 1 (type 2).

1s., green, small white letters in corners. Plate 2 (type 1).

1s., green; wmk. "Emblems"; large white letters in corners. Plate 4 (type 1).

1s., green, wmk. "Spray"; do.

Plates 4, 5 (type 1).

Plates 6, 7 (type 2).

1s., green, large coloured letters in corners. Plates 8 to 13 (type 2).

1s., orange-brown. Plate 13 (type 2).

In plates 4 and 5 the ovals containing the numbers are slightly smaller than in the other plates.

The 2s. value.

Printed in sheets of 240 arranged like the 3d. There was only one plate, and on this the numbers, which were of type 1, occupied the corresponding positions to the numbers appearing on the 10d. plate.

2s., blue. Plate 1 (type 1).

2s., brown. Plate 1 (type 1).

The 5s. value.

Printed in sheets of eighty arranged in four panes of twenty each (four horizontal rows of five), which were placed in two rows. The plate numbers, which are of type 1, appear in the upper right and lower left corners of the sheets respectively.

5s., rose, wmk. "Maltese Cross." Plates 1, 2 (type 1).

The 10s. value.

Printed in sheets of eighty arranged as in the 5s. Only one plate was used and on this the marginal numbers are of type 2 and are placed in corresponding positions to the numbers on the 5s. plates.

10s., grey-green, wmk. "Maltese Cross." Plate 1 (type 2).

The £1 value.

Printed in sheets of eighty arranged like the 10s. value. Only one plate was used with marginal numbers of type 2, placed in the corners of the sheets as in the case of the 10s.

£1, brown lilac, wmk. "Maltese Cross." Plate 1 (type 2).

I am indebted to Messrs. Wright & Creeke's invaluable handbook on the stamps of Great Britain for most of the above particulars.

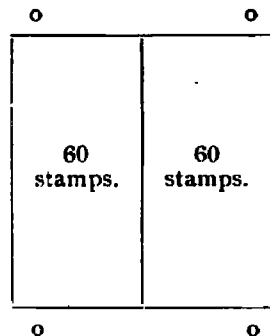
The De La Rue Colonial Numbers

All the plates for British Colonial stamps made by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., have plate numbers in the margins, but before proceeding to discuss these it will be as well to describe the sizes and arrangement of the stamps on the plates most generally used. For the stamps of ordinary dimensions there are three stock sizes composed of 60, 120, and 240 specimens respectively.

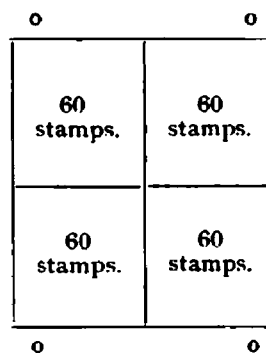
The smallest size—used, for instance, in producing the current stamps of Bahamas—has the sixty stamps arranged in ten horizontal rows of six each. There are four plate numbers in the margins appearing above the second and fifth stamps in the top row and below the corresponding stamps in the bottom row, viz. :—

(1)		(1)			
1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60
(1)		(1)			

The second size—the sheets of Seychelles stamps will serve as an example—consists of two panes of sixty stamps each, arranged side by side, with a strip of plain margin separating them. There are four marginal plate numbers which are placed above and below the second stamps from each end of the top and bottom rows of the sheet respectively. The appearance of the sheets is thus as follows :—



The largest size—the current ½d. stamp of the Transvaal may be cited as a case in point—consists of four panes, each composed of sixty stamps, which are arranged in two rows. There are four plate numbers which, as in the case of the other sheets, are above and below the second stamps from each end of the top and bottom rows of the sheet respectively. The appearance of the sheet is thus as follows :—



It will, therefore, be noted that in some cases there are four marginal plate numbers to each sixty stamps, in others there are two, and in others, again, only one. The above remarks apply, of course, only to plates in one of these three "general" sizes, and even with regard to them there are exceptions. For instance, in the current anna stamps for the Somaliland Protectorate—printed in sheets of 120 in two panes of sixty each—there are *eight* marginal plate numbers. These are placed above the second, fifth, eighth, and eleventh stamps in the top row and below the corresponding stamps in the bottom row.

In sheets of odd sizes the arrangement of the plate numbers is often different. The stamps of St. Christopher will do as a case in point. These are in sheets of twenty (four rows of five), and the plate numbers are above the fifth stamp in the top row and below the first in the bottom row.

(To be continued.)

Hints to Beginners

How to Collect

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

*(Continued from page 9.)***The Introduction of Postage Stamps**

I NEED not go over the ground of Rowland Hill's long fight for Postal Reform, his proposals, his struggle for a hearing, and his final success. Suffice it to say here that we owe the introduction of Postage Stamps to Rowland Hill.

We are told that he first bethought him of the stamped cover for newspapers proposed by his friend Charles Knight, but never adopted, and, finally, of the loose adhesive stamp which was his own device. The description that he gave of this now familiar object of our devotion reads quaintly at the present day. "Perhaps this difficulty"—of making coin payments at a Post Office—"might be obviated by using a bit of paper, just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered at the back with a glutinous wash which, by applying a little moisture, might be attached to the letter."

The First Postage Stamp

The first postage stamp for the prepayment of postage was issued in England on the 1st of May, 1840. It was a penny stamp, printed in black, gummed at the back, but unperforated. It was the forerunner of the introduction of postage stamps throughout the civilised world. From the very first day of its issue the success of the Rowland Hill "bit of paper" for the prepayment of postage was assured, once and for ever.

Chronological Order of First Issues

The success of the Rowland Hill experiment quickly spread to other countries. One after another, they adopted the plan of issuing postage stamps for the prepayment of postage on letters, till now every country has its series of postage stamps, which we philatelists collect and arrange in historical sequence in our albums.

The following chronological list, showing the order in which the various countries adopted the use of postage stamps, and the dates of their first issues, for the first fifty years, will be useful for reference:—

- 1840. Great Britain.
- 1843. Brazil.
- 1846. United States, Switzerland.
- 1847. Mauritius.
- 1849. Bavaria, Belgium, France.
- 1850. Austria, British Guiana, Hanover, New South Wales, Prussia, Saxony, Victoria.
- 1851. Baden, Brunswick, Canada, Denmark, Italy, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Scinde (India), Trinidad, Tuscany, Wurtemberg.
- 1852. Barbados, Germany, Holland, Luxemburg, Modena, Sandwich Islands, Tasmania.
- 1853. Cape of Good Hope, Chili, Oldenburg, Portugal, Roman States, Spain.
- 1854. Norway, Phillippine Islands, Roumania.
- 1855. Cuba and Porto Rico, Ionian Islands, New Zealand, South Australia, Sweden, Western Australia.

- 1856. Corrientes, Finland, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mexico, St. Helena, St. Thomas, Uruguay.
- 1857. Ceylon, Natal, Newfoundland, Russia, Two Sicilies.
- 1858. Argentine Confederation, Buenos Ayres, Peru, Sicily.
- 1859. Bahamas, Colombia, Hamburg, Lubeck, Poland, Romagna, St. Lucia, Venezuela.
- 1860. Cordova, French Colonies, Greece, Grenada, Jamaica, Liberia, Livonia, Malta, New Caledonia, Prince Edward Island, Queensland.
- 1861. Bergedorf, British Columbia, Confederate States, Nevis, St. Vincent, Sierra Leone.
- 1862. Antigua, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Hong Kong, Nicaragua.
- 1863. Bolivar, Turkey.
- 1864. Dutch Indies, Levant, Mecklenburg-Strelitz.
- 1865. Bermuda, British Honduras, Ecuador, Honduras, Shanghai.
- 1866. Cashmere, Egypt, Gambia, Servia.
- 1867. Bolivia, Heligoland, Salvador, Straits Settlements, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands.
- 1868. Afghanistan, Antioquia, Azores, Deccan, North German Confederation, Madeira, Orange Free State, Persia, Tolima.
- 1869. Fernando Po, Sarawak.
- 1870. Alsace and Lorraine, Angola, Cundinamaraca, Fiji Islands, Hungary, Paraguay, St. Christopher, Transvaal.
- 1871. Falkland Islands, German Empire, Guatemala, Japan, Portuguese Indies, St. Thomas.
- 1872. Curaçao, Surinam.
- 1873. Iceland, Porto Rico.
- 1874. Dominica, Griqualand, Lagos, Montenegro.
- 1875. Gold Coast.
- 1876. Montserrat.
- 1877. Alwur, Bhopal, Cape Verde Islands, Faridkot, Mozambique, Nowanugger, Samoa, San Marino.
- 1878. China, Magdalene, Panama.
- 1879. Bhor, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Guinea, Lebuan, Sirmoor, Tobago.
- 1880. Cyprus, Rajppeepla, Roumelia.
- 1881. Nepaul.
- 1882. Bikanir, Tahiti.
- 1883. North Borneo, Siam.
- 1884. Guadeloupe, Macao, Poonah, Puttialla, Santander, Stellaland.
- 1885. Congo State, Corea, Gwalior, Madagascar, Monaco, Nabha, St. Pierre, Timor.
- 1886. Boer Republic, Chamba, French Guinea, Gaboon, Gibraltar, Holkar, Martinique.
- 1887. Bokhara, British Bechuanaland, Jhalawar, Senegal, Tonga.
- 1888. Annam and Tonquin, Jeypore, Indo China, Tunis, Wadhwan, Zululand.
- 1889. Nossi Bé, Swazieland.
- 1890. Bamna, British East Africa, Diego Saurez, Leeward Islands, Nandgaon, Seychelles.

(To be continued.)

My Favourite Country

The Stamps of Grenada

By R. E. R. DALWIGK

GRENADA is a country which—except for the first issue unused—is well within the reach of even the most slender purse. Moreover, it embodies stamps of practically every description, which adds to its interest from a philatelist's point of view. What I mean is this: It possesses ordinary-issued stamps; some exceedingly interesting provisionals, under which heading are some quaint and very curious bisected stamps; also it boasts a few errors of importance and several of minor importance; whilst—last but not least—there are nice sets of the much-sought-after King's Head stamps, on Single and Multiple C.A. watermark paper.

A country that combines so many novelties and curiosities is not unworthy of philatelic attention.

This Colony also possesses a decided advantage for the average collector over other West Indian Colonies, its issues not being so numerous and complicated, whilst from a pecuniary point of view the stamps of Grenada are at present—like all other West Indian colonies—low in price; which is still the effect of the great West Indian "slump"; which, as most philatelists will recollect, occurred some years ago. At present, however, there is little doubt that all the stamps of this archipelago are steadily increasing in value and rarity.

The First Issue

The first consignment of stamps was issued in 1861 and consisted of two values; the 1d. green, and 6d. red. These two stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and with very rough perforation, owing to the cheap quality of the machine at first used. As far as design was concerned, they lasted about twenty years, although they were later printed on a paper watermarked with a "small-star." But it so happened that the "small-star" paper was not destined to outlive the issue, as a few years later the two stamps were printed on sheets watermarked with a "large star." Both values printed on "large-star" paper are much rarer than on the paper watermarked with the "small-star." The 1d. green has a few shades, whilst the 6d. stamp varies from vermilion to orange!

It may strike some philatelists as being strange that these two values, the 1d. green and 6d. red—without any intermediate values—sufficed for so many years. The cause was that the postal rates of half-a-century ago differed largely from our present-day rate for transmitting letters. The 1d. value was used for local and sometimes interinsular postage, but nothing more. The 6d. stamp on the other hand was for letters going anywhere out of the West Indies, there being no distinction as to foreign and colonial letters at that time.

It is not, however, strictly true to say that no other value existed. In the later years of this issue we have a third value in the shape of a bisected stamp. The 1d. green was bisected diagonally and each half used as ½d. stamp. This stamp in order to be of any value in a collection must be on its original envelope showing the postmark. The bisected stamp is not quoted in our catalogues, probably owing to the fact that its origin is very doubtful. During their long life the 1d. and 6d. were being continually sent out from this

country in quantities of about 40,000 as required. The approximate number printed of these two values was: 500,000 of the 1d. green and 275,000 of the 6d. red. These figures include all varieties of watermark, colour and perforation.

Later Issues

In 1875 these stamps were superseded by a new issue of four values on "large-star" paper.

½d., violet; 2½d., lake; 4d., blue; and 1s., mauve. These stamps were overprinted "Postage" with the value inscribed beneath Queen Victoria's head. This printing was done in a very careless manner and several odd varieties are to be met with, such as:—"alf-penny"; "one shillins," etc., but there exist only two real errors: "Ostage" on the overprint of the ½d. violet, and "ONE SHLLING," the latter being extremely rare. The 2½d. and 4d. each exist on a curious paper with a larger "broad-pointed star" watermark. This paper is curious because of the fact that only these two stamps and a few South Australians were ever printed on it. The next issue came in 1883, but the stamps are not of particular interest to the philatelist, excepting that they are all printed in *the béche* rows on Crown C.A. paper. It was at about this period that most of the provisionals were used. At first sight they appear complicated, but in reality there are not more than a dozen distinct varieties, although there are many errors, such as "inverted," "double," or even "triple surcharges." The most noteworthy provisional is the 1d. surcharged "Postage" twice, which was then bisected diagonally and each half used as a halfpenny stamp. There are two varieties of surcharge: (1) A large type which is very rare; (2) Small type which is much commoner. Other curiosities are the 4d. on 2s., with upright "d," and the 1d. with "Postage" surcharged across it upside down—both are rare. The next regular issue was in 1895, it is merely the ordinary Queen's head Colonial type portraying little or nothing that appeals to the collector. In 1898 a commemorative stamp was issued as a reminder of the discovery of Grenada by Columbus 400 years before.

It is now stated that we are to have all the King's Head stamps displaced by a series of stamps in corresponding values, but bearing the colony's badge; they will correspond in design to the four lower values already in use, thus making up a uniform set.

The King's Head Issues

Finally there are the King's Head issue, ranging from ½d. to 10s. in face value. The 1s., 2s., 5s. and 10s. stamps on Single C.A. paper are already fetching double face value and should be very good in a few years. This issue—as with all Colonials—has also been printed on the paper with Multiple C.A. watermark but in this latter state the ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d. King's Head have been displaced by four corresponding values of the ship type, somewhat similar in design to the Columbus commemorative stamp. Here the issues end with the exception of a few unpaid letter stamps, which, however, are of little consequence. Yet a last consideration for the unskilled philatelist, there are no really dangerous forgeries of this country, those that do exist are roughly lithographed and easily distinguishable.

Our Open Page

This page is set apart for the free Discussion of matters of Philatelic interest.

Proposed Philatelic Congress

MANY suggestions have been made from time to time for the initiation of annual philatelic congresses in this country.

It has been pointed out that the German gatherings are most successful, but the sedate English philatelist shakes his head, and assures us that the German is a convivial being and meets to consume laager beer. We don't believe that his main attraction is laager beer, or even that laager beer and philately are inseparable in German stamp circles.

In America the Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association is a real social and philatelic success. It is an event that causes considerable talk months before the meeting and the official posts are coveted by prominent American philatelists.

In our own country, though we may not be such adepts in combining the social and the philatelic, we do manage to go through many an important business congress. The great medical, scientific, journalistic, and other societies hold most successful annual gatherings, and why not the philatelic?

What are the Pros and Cons?

Now what are the pros and cons? Will the enthusiasts and the dear old croakers avail themselves of our pages to thrash the matter out. If the proposal is worth nothing let us knock the bottom out of it right away. If it promises to advance the cause of our delightful hobby let us drown the croakers in the deep blue sea of forgetfulness and go ahead.

Who says "No," and who says "Yes"?

I suggest for consideration the holding of a movable annual gathering of philatelists, the place of each meeting to be determined by the vote of each conference. I further suggest that such annual gatherings should be a judicious mixture of business and pleasure, the reading of papers, the open discussion of questions affecting the well being of the hobby, the sale and exchange of stamps and outings and socials; that these annual gatherings should be the work of a joint body of collectors and dealers, and be managed by a joint committee of collectors and dealers, with a paid secretary.

We shall be glad to have the opinions of Presidents and Hon. Secs. of our Provincial Societies on this important question.

An experiment might be made on the occasion of the holding of the Imperial Stamp Exhibition in London in March next. We might have a couple of afternoons or evening meetings with papers and discussion.

This by way of a send-off for the free ventilation of the to-be or not-to-be of the Proposed Annual Philatelic Congress.

THE EDITOR.

From time to time, various questions are discussed in the pages of one or other of the philatelic publications with reference to our hobby, and the furtherance of its cause. These questions seem to arouse some interest for the time being, but are eventually dropped, only to be raised at some future date—with the same result. It cannot be said that the ventilation of ideas does any harm, but on the other hand it does no actual good unless the ideas are acted upon, and it generally falls to the lot of one man to take the initiative, and bring about the desired change or innovation, as the case may be.

The idea of an Annual Convention for philatelists is by no means new, but seems no nearer solution than it was five years ago. For the last couple of years or so, I have had it in my mind to invite the Society of which I have the honour to be President—The City of London Philatelic Society—to take the initiative in this matter, and to circularize all the other Societies with a view to getting a consensus of opinion as to the best method to adopt to induce collectors to meet together once a year. I have hitherto been deterred from active action by the knowledge, or, shall I say, the assumption, that mutual jealousy amongst the Societies would prevent any real good being done, or workable ideas evolved. This could hardly apply, however, to the premier society, the Royal Philatelic, and it seems to me that if this Society were to take the lead, the rest of us would join in willingly enough. Failing such a "Royal" lead, the next best proposal I can make is that all the Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries of the London Societies should meet, and confer together until something definite is arrived at, even if it means an all-night sitting.

My personal opinion is that on a certain day in each year (say the third Wednesday in June), some central hall should be open for the reception of philatelists of all grades, without payment of any kind; though it might be advisable to issue tickets of admission to prevent undesirable visitors. There should be an exhibition of all the stamps issued during the past year (best undertaken by dealers, who would indicate their exhibits by way of advertisement); one or two lectures on subjects of general philatelic interest, and in the evening a short concert—smoking or otherwise—as a wind up. I do not think any business, other than private exchange, should be permitted, though the exhibits might be priced for sale at the respective offices or shops of the exhibitors.

The question of expense now comes in, admission being free. I think it could easily be met from the funds of the various Societies in accordance with their membership, having in view the general good that philately should receive from such a Convention. As an alternative, or second source of income, the dealers' exhibits could be taxed, seeing that they could hardly expect to get an advertisement gratis; but the main point is that everything should be of a free and easy nature, such as naturally pertains to our hobby.

W. B. EDWARDS.

President of the City of London Philatelic Society.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

ONE of the greatest drawbacks with which the beginner in Philately has to contend is the difficulty of obtaining easily accessible information regarding the thousand and one points concerning stamps and stamp-collecting on which he requires enlightenment. Excellent catalogues are provided for his benefit, and while these are invaluable to him in the identification of specimens and in instructing him as to the relative rarity of different varieties, they cannot be expected to provide the general knowledge on stamp matters that the enthusiastic collector requires.

In the following pages I have endeavoured to provide explanations of all the philatelic terms and expressions that the collector is likely to meet with, notes showing how to identify those stamps on which there is no name or on which the name differs very materially from its English designation, explanations of the mottoes and inscriptions that appear on various stamps, geographical and general information regarding the stamp-issuing countries of the world, notes dealing with the currency peculiar to different states, etc., etc. In fact everything in connection with our hobby that lends itself to dictionary treatment has been included, and the notes have been made as complete as possible so that as a whole they may form a work of reference useful to all classes of collectors.

I am indebted for much of the information to Major E. B. Evans's valuable handbook, "Stamps and Stamp-collecting," and to various philatelic and other works.

A.—I. A surcharge found on various stamps of South Australia signifying "Architect." These stamps were used on the official correspondence emanating from the office of the State Architect. Since 1874 these and all other South Australian departmental stamps have been superseded by the general issues surcharged or punctured "O.S."

II.—A large capital letter "A" forms the centre-piece of some of the registration stamps of the republic of Colombia. It signifies "Anotacion," the Spanish word for registered.

A. & T.—These letters are found surcharged upon certain French stamps of the "Commerce" type for use in the settlements of Annam and Tonquin.

Abancay.—The capital of the Peruvian department of Apurimac at which a special stamp was issued in 1885. (See also APURIMAC.)

Abasi.—One of the values found upon the stamps of Afghanistan. An abasi is the third part of a rupee—roughly speaking about 5½d.

Abbreviations.—Several well-known philatelic terms are more often than not written or printed in an abbreviated form that is apt to be unintelligible to the uninitiated. The following are the ones usually met with:—

Imp. or Imperf.	means	imperfectate
Mm.	..	millimètres
Perf. or Pf.	..	perforated
Roul.	..	rouletted
Wmk.	..	watermark

Abyssinia.—A large empire in north-east Africa, at one time more generally known as Ethiopia. Its total area is about 350,000 square miles and its population is estimated at three or four millions. Its boundaries are somewhat indefinite except on the east, where they touch the Italian colony of Eritrea, French Somali Coast and British Somaliland. The country is ruled by Menelik II (known as the Negus Negusti or King of Kings), whose portrait appears on the postage stamps of 1894—the first set issued. The official language is Amharic, and it is in these characters that the inscriptions on the stamps are given.

Account Letters.—On all the sheets of ½d. and 1d. British stamps printed since 1884 a letter (or letter followed by a figure) will be found printed in the lower margin in the same colour as the stamps. These letters are engraved on the plates to assist the printers in keeping an account of the production of the stamps and for purposes of book-keeping—as the plates of the ½d. and 1d. values are always at press—hence they are known to collectors as account or contract letters. They are changed by the printers when each new contract is begun and since 1904 a figure to denote the year of the contract has been added to each letter. Thus the combination "G7" found on the ½d. and 1d. King's head stamps denotes that they are from a consignment forming part of the seventh contract printed in 1907.

Acores.—The Portuguese form of Azores.

A. D.—These letters in microscopic type are shown at the bottom of the design of most of the Belgium stamps issued from 1869 to 1891. They appear on the right hand side and are the initials of the engraver, M. A. Doms.

Adhesive.—A term applied to postage stamps of ordinary form that are intended to be stuck on postal packets or documents in contradistinction to stamps that are printed on envelopes, post cards, wrappers, etc.

Admiralty Official.—A surcharge found on certain British stamps of the current type to indicate their special use on official correspondence from the Admiralty Department. They were first issued on the 12th March, 1903, and were withdrawn from use on the 12th May, 1904.

Admon Cral de Correos en Campeche.—An inscription appearing on the provisional stamps issued in the Mexican State of Campeche during the revolutionary period of 1867-8. Literally this means "for the payment of postage in Campeche." (See also CAMPECHE.)

Admon Pral de Correos del Depto. de Apurimac.—A surcharge found upon a special stamp issued in Apurimac, Peru, in 1885, meaning literally "for the payment of postage in the Department of Apurimac." (See also APURIMAC.)

Advance Australia.—A motto appearing on the 2½d. stamp of New South Wales of the 1891-4 issue. These words will be found on the pennant attached to the staff held by the allegorical figure of Australia.

(To be continued.)

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Inverbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Barbados. Ewen's Colonial Stamp Market sends us the $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 2d., and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. of the Nelson series printed on multiple paper.

Nelson's Series.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., grey and black.
2d., yellow and black.
2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., ultramarine and black.

Gibraltar. The three low values have undergone a change of colours. The $\frac{1}{4}$ d. has been changed from dull green and bright green to all green; the 1d. from purple on red to all red on white paper, and the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. from lilac and black on blue paper to all ultramarine on white paper. They are all printed on multiple C.A. paper. I do not remember seeing the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the old colours on multiple paper. It is the only low value which has not been hitherto issued on multiple paper.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., green.
1d., carmine.
2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., ultramarine.

Gold Coast. The colour changes in the $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., and 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. have been effected in the stamps of this colony. The $\frac{1}{4}$ d. has been changed from purple and green to all green, the 1d. from purple and carmine to all carmine, and the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. from purple and ultramarine to all ultramarine. All on multiple C.A. paper and perf. 14.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., green.
1d., carmine.
2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., ultramarine.

Marianna Islands. J. M. Bartels writes: "A very interesting issue of these islands has, by some strange oversight, entirely escaped the chroniclers of the philatelic press. Several denominations of the 1898 Philippines issue during 1899 were surcharged with rubber stamp 'MARIANAS ESPAÑOLAS' in violet ink,

the surcharge being placed vertically in an octagonal single-lined frame. The letters are small capitals, block type, and the surcharge is in two lines. The necessity of this surcharge is plainly evident. When the Philippines were acquired by the United States, all Spanish issues became obsolete. At that time the only stamps in use in the Marianna Islands were the regular Philippine stamps. For almost a year the islands remained in the possession of Spain before they became a German colony. As the stamps of the Philippines were obsolete and demonetized the Marianna Islands were left in a peculiar position.

"Communication with the home country was very infrequent, and it naturally took many months to secure new supplies. We therefore find that this surcharged issue was in use possibly about a year until the surcharged German stamps were employed. I have seen copies of the 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8 c. stamps of the Philippines 1898 issue which were thus surcharged used on mail to Manila. I have also seen the cover with the full cancellation. This is a large oval with the coat of arms in the centre, at bottom 'ISLAS MARIANAS,' and at top 'GOBIERNO P. M.' The date on back of the letter was the ordinary cancellation of the Manila military station, and dated December 11, '99. There is a prospect of getting the official decree concerning this issue. I understand that one is to be had in Manila."—*Mekeel's Weekly.*

New Zealand. It has been announced that the reduction and re-engraving of the current 6d. was done by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. I have pleasure in announcing that the reduction and re-engraving of the 3d. recently chronicled has also been done by the same firm.

Sierra Leone. The $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamp has been changed in colour from purple and green to all green, and the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. from purple and ultramarine to all ultramarine.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 11.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., green.
3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., ultramarine.

Victoria. Ewen's *Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the receipt of the current 3d. stamp on Crown A. paper, perf. 11, and states that the regular issue of this stamp has not been made, only stray sheets turning up now and then, amongst the bulk perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., green.
1d., rose.
2d., yellow-brown.
£1, carmine.

From Other Magazines

Are High Values Doomed?

ON October 1st postal rates between Postal Union countries are to be so materially reduced that the use of high value stamps must be seriously curtailed, and may in some cases be so much diminished that it will not be worth while printing further supplies. Compare the following rates:—

POSTAL RATES TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

½ oz.	formerly 2½d.,	now 2½d.
1 oz.	" 5d.	" 2½d.
2 oz.	" 10d.	" 4d.
3 oz.	" 1s. 3d.	" 5½d.
4 oz.	" 1s. 8d.	" 7d.
6 oz.	" 2s. 6d.	" 10d.
8 oz.	" 3s. 4d.	" 1s. 1d.
12 oz.	" 5s. 0d.	" 1s. 7d.
1 lb.	" 6s. 8d.	" 2s. 1d.
1½ lbs.	" 10s. 0d.	" 3s. 1d.
2 lbs.	" 13s. 4d.	" 4s. 1d.
2½ lbs.	" 16s. 8d.	" 5s. 1d.
3 lbs.	" 20s. 0d.	" 6s. 1d.
5 lbs.	" 33s. 4d.	" 10s. 1d.

This means that a used £1 British postage stamp will now become practically as rare as a strip of three has been hitherto, whilst the 10s. stamp will be less used than the £1 was up to the present day. In the case of British Colonies the new rates are still lower.

POSTAL RATES TO BRITISH COLONIES.

½ oz.	formerly 1d.,	now 1d.
1 oz.	" 2d.	" 1d.
2 oz.	" 4d.	" 2d.
3 oz.	" 6d.	" 3d.
4 oz.	" 8d.	" 4d.
6 oz.	" 1s. 0d.	" 6d.
8 oz.	" 1s. 4d.	" 8d.
12 oz.	" 2s. 0d.	" 1s. 0d.
1 lb.	" 2s. 8d.	" 1s. 4d.
1½ lbs.	" 4s. 0d.	" 2s. 0d.
2 lbs.	" 5s. 4d.	" 2s. 8d.
2½ lbs.	" 6s. 8d.	" 3s. 4d.
3 lbs.	" 8s. 0d.	" 4s. 0d.
5 lbs.	" 13s. 4d.	" 6s. 8d.

To require a £1 stamp a letter must in future weigh 10 lbs. or 15 lbs., according as it is sent to a foreign country or British colony, and it is safe to say that very few letters of that weight are carried.

The 5s. stamp also will now be less used than the £1 was formerly, and as a used £1 stamp is catalogued 10s., the 5s. stamp will probably be obtainable used for less than face value. Tenpenny stamps will be as rare as 2s. 6d. ones. Another result may be the issue of 1s. 6d. and 2s. stamps.

In the case of our Colonies, the use of high value stamps for postage purposes will become almost nil. Such stamps as the recently issued surcharged 5s. and 10s. Morocco Agencies and 5s. Levant will now rarely be used, and having been so short a time in use, should become very rare, especially if withdrawn from use. It is obvious that quite a revolution is to take place.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 28.9.07.

French Surcharges Doomed

The end was bound to come sooner or later. The unblushing scandals in connection with the stamps of

French Indo-China and of other French colonial possessions, moved the Ministry of the Colonies to take action in the matter, and M. Dorsan Astruc, the well-known Paris dealer, sounded the death-knell of the rubbish by sending a letter to the Minister of the Colonies to expose the scandal. The steps now taken to prevent the issuing of stamps that have been surcharged hurriedly and anyhow, consist in the colonial post offices being compelled henceforth to keep in reserve a fixed quantity of stamps sufficient to meet the wants of the public for a long time, and capable of meeting every occasion, and the offices will have to send in a quarterly statement of the stamps sold, value by value. Thus the head office in Paris will know exactly the needs of every colony, so far as stamps are concerned, and it will be able to see that every colony has its due stock of stamps. Thus should come an end surcharges. Moreover, the making of "errors" on the spot, or really "while you wait," as in the case of the Indo-Chinese offices, will cease, for henceforth all surcharges are to be made in the State Printing Works, Boulevard Brune, Paris. As a start, the new set of Indo-China of which some values have just appeared will be surcharged there for use in the French post offices of China, Packoi, Tchong-king, Hoï-Haô, etc.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*.

The "C.E.F." Stamps

We have been able to ascertain the exact number of stamps surcharged "C.E.F." so far sent out to China from the beginning, i.e., from July, 1900, till the end of October, 1904. Of course, these figures do not represent the actual number used, and we happen to know that there are considerable stocks in hand of some of the values in China. Possibly we may be enabled to get this supplementary information later on. We know one of our members who can supply it. We have also to learn what proportion of the 1 anna stamp is in the old plum shade and what in the new carmine shade. All bear the head of Queen Victoria. The figures are:—

½ anna, carmine	..	331,520
½ anna, green (old shade)	..	420,480
1 anna, plum, carmine	..	251,360
2 annas, blue	..	39,680
2½ annas, green	..	27,040
3 annas, orange	..	22,800
4 annas, grey-green	..	24,800
8 annas, mauve	..	19,720
12 annas, purple on red	..	14,666
1 rupee, green and carmine	..	17,640

During the same period 634,880 ½ anna envelopes and 342,288 post cards have been supplied.—*Philatelic Journal of India*.

New Zealand Sheets. 3d. small size

With regard to the 3d. small-sized stamp, chronicled in our issue of 28th September, our readers may be interested to know that the sheet is composed of 240 stamps arranged in ten horizontal rows of twenty-four stamps each. The horizontal margins show the watermark NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE, it being inverted and without hyphen in the bottom margin. In the side margins the watermark is NEW ZEALAND, reading up the sheet. This watermark is in double-lined capitals, 13 mm. high. Our sheet is numbered 2,163,160.—*Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, 26.10.07.

Mems, Notes and News

A Conundrum Address

A BIRMINGHAM gentleman has shown me a letter he has just received, upon the envelope of which is an address probably unique in the history of correspondence. The packet was posted on the high seas in an ordinary elongated foolscap envelope. Running along the top was a row of flags carefully painted in colours by hand. They were taken from the international code of signals, and represented the name of the gentleman for whom the letter was intended. Below the flags was a row of strokes and dots indicating a part of the address in the language of Morse signalling, such as is used by telegraphists and also between vessels signalling at night. The word "Road" for instance, was written — — — — — — — — — — with the long strokes, however, placed upright for the economy of space. Then there were three small flag signals which are always used preparatory to semaphore signalling, and signify the sentence: "I am going to semaphore to you." Then followed the word "Bristol"—part of the address—in the queer characters used in semaphore signalling. Following this were two further flags meaning—"I am going to use the alphabetic signals." The latter were then used. The word "Birmingham" was further indicated in flag signals, and at the left-hand corner of the envelope a large coloured Union Jack was designed representing the country—England. This novel, ingenious, and complex mixture of signals without a longhand word, was despatched through the post and duly deciphered by the postal authorities, for the missive reached its Bristol Road destination safe and sound, and, what is more remarkable, considering the labour of interpreting, there was practically no delay in the delivery.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, 26.10.07.

Foreign and Colonial Post

The Postal Union Convention concluded at Rome last year came into effect on 1st October, when several important changes were made in international postal arrangements. The postage on a letter from the United Kingdom for a foreign country is now 2½d. for the first ounce, and 1½d. for each subsequent ounce, instead of 2½d. for the first half-ounce and an additional 2½d. for each subsequent half-ounce as before. The postage to British possessions generally, to Egypt, and to British ships of war on foreign service is now 1d. per ounce instead of half-ounce. Reply coupons are issued enabling the sender of a letter to a place abroad to pay for the reply.

Edmund Yates at the Post Office

An amusing story, says Mr. Arthur W. & Beckett in *London Opinion*, is told of Edmund Yates, who, when writing in the weekly "conducted by Charles Dickens," was head of the department having to do with undelivered letters. He was visited at St. Martin's-le-Grand by a well-known publisher with a grievance; but it existed, and the publisher—who was a good fellow at heart—had a very short temper. The cabby who described Forster as "an arbitrary cove" would no doubt have coupled the short-tempered publisher with *Boz's* biographer. Yates, after listening for some time to his visitor's complaints, told him politely that as his time from ten a.m. to four p.m. belonged to the State, he would be glad if he would go. It was then

twelve (noon). "I won't go!" cried the publisher. "Then stay," said E. Y.; "but do keep quiet." "I won't stay," shouted the irate visitor. "Very well, then you shall stay," returned Yates calmly. The publisher's answer to this was to take up his hat and leave the room. In a moment Yates had communicated with a subordinate at the door of the office, requesting him to detain the publisher until further notice. The hard-working "head" then gave up his usual time to his official duties. He thought no more of the publisher until four o'clock, when his attention was directed to him by an inquiry, "What was to be done with the gentleman who had been arrested at twelve o'clock?" The publisher did not bring an action for false imprisonment. It is said that afterwards he described Edmund Yates as "a gentleman of the utmost importance at the G.P.O."—*St. Martin's-le-Grand*.

British Post Office at Tientsin

Information has reached the Postmaster-General that arrangements have now been made to keep the British Post Office Agency at Tientsin open for the present, and the notice of the closing of the Agency, which appeared in the Post Office Circular of the 17th of last month, should accordingly be regarded as cancelled. As the notification of the closing of the Agency was received too late for any alteration to be made in the October edition of the Post Office Guide, the particulars regarding Tientsin printed at pages 735 and 781 of that publication are correct. It should be noted that the rate of postage on letters for Tientsin is the Imperial rate of 1d. the ounce.—*Post Office Circular*. 22.10.07.

Great Britain, 1½d. embossed. Change of Colour

The colour of the 1½d. embossed postage stamp has been changed from yellow to dark purple. No alteration has been made in the design of the stamp. The yellow stamps will still be available in payment of postage, although no more 1½d. embossed stamps of that colour will be printed.

The stamps in question are impressed on private envelopes and wrappers at Somerset House under the arrangement described on page 139 of the Post Office Guide. No stationery bearing 1½d. stamps is sold at Post Offices.—*Post Office Circular*. 15.10.07.

Canadian Postal Revenue

The revenue of the Post Office (Canadian) for the fiscal year ended March 31st, but covering only nine months, was \$6,535,093 (£1,307,018), with a surplus of \$1,082,301 (£216,460) as compared with a surplus of \$1,011,765 (£202,353) in the preceding twelve months. There are 11,377 post offices in Canada.—*The Times*, 25.10.07.

Australia and Penny Postage

A banquet was given at the Town Hall here (Sydney) last night in honour of Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P. The Lord Mayor of Sydney presided, and the banquet was attended by the Archbishop of Sydney, the President of the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and a representative gathering.

Replying to the toast of his health Mr. Henniker Heaton announced that the Commonwealth Postmaster-General would endeavour to bring penny postage into effect this season.—*The Times*, 23.10.07.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

Great Britain: Sale of Proofs and Essays

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON concluded on 9th Oct., 1907, at their Galleries in Leicester Square the sale of a fine and interesting collection of British proofs, essays, and colour trials for the various postal issues. The sale was most successful, and the prices for the various lots ruled high. Competition was particularly keen for the die proofs in various colours for the early ½d., 1d., 1½d., and 2d. issues.

The following were among the better prices:

1840 1d. die 1, proofs in seven various colours, £23 12s. 6d.

1854-7 1d. die 2, proofs in eight colours, £25 18s. 6d.

Reprint of 1d. plate 66, a block of nine, £19.

1841 1d. red brown, two specially made plates of 6, used for officials' experiments on the colours, £14.

2d. die 2, proofs in eleven various colours, £41 10s.

Various stamps used for official trials in removing obliterations, £10 10s.

A proof of 2d. on card, printed for the Paris Exhibition, 1867, a block of nine, £5.

1862 3d. rose, with secret dots, £24.

4d. orange, an imperf. block of nine, £8.

1870 ½d. die, proofs in five colours, £17 2s. 6d.

1½d., the error "O.P.P.C.," unused, but poor, £8.

1½d. die, proofs in nine colours, £38 15s.

Three proof-sheets of an easy for the 1d. of 1880, £18 15s.

Number of forgeries and reproductions, £6 15s.

Number of various die and plate proofs in black realised good sums, as much as £13 10s. being paid for a set of the 1887 issues ½d. to 1s.

I.R. Officials' stamps of the value of 5s., 10s., and £1 Queen realised £25 15s. and the 5s. King, used, £11.

The collection from the official *imprimatur* sheets was complete and the following rarities sold well.

1858-79 1d. rose-red, plates 71 to 225, complete, £66.

9d. bistre, hair lines, £9 10s.

1865 3d. rose, plate 5, wmk. emblems, £6 10s.

9d. bistre, plate 5, £5 10s.

1867 6d. violet, plate 10, £12.

10d. brown, plate 2, £5 15s.

2s. blue, plate 3, £11 15s.

5s. rose, plate 4, wmk. cross, £8 10s.

£1 brown-lilac, £5 10s.

1873-80, 2½d. lilac-rose, plates 4 and 5, wmk. anchor, £9.

4d. vermilion, plate 16, £8 10s.

4d. green, plate 17, £8; a 6d. buff, plate 13, £5 10s.

8d. orange, plate 2, £5 5s.

1s. lilac, plates 13 and 14, £5 5s.

1882-3 £5 orange on *bleuté*, £13.

1883-4 10s. blue on *bleuté*, plates 2 and 3, £14.

1884 £1 brown-lilac, plates 2 and 3, £7.

A complete set of the various plates of the Telegraph stamps from ½d. to £5 realised £37 16s.

All of the foregoing were, of course, unused and imperforate.

The total of the two days' sale was about £1,200.

Grenada King's should be good

Grenada King's heads should be a good investment. The King's heads will have had a short life both single and multiple, and must get scarce before long. The King's heads are evidently to be all superseded by the ship design.

St. Vincent: New Design

I don't quite know what to make of the new design, and have a presentiment that it will not make old bones. It has an undefinable appearance of an experimental issue about it. It may be all right, but I fancy it's more of a trial than a permanent issue, and the same feeling seems to be abroad. I have hunted high and low for a sheet of the low value but could not get it. There are few if any of the values about. Why?

Cayman Islands Provisional

News has been received of the issue of a provisional Half Penny on Cayman Islands, and with the announcement comes the intimation that none will be sold to dealers. All the same I will back our dealers to get supplies for their customers. But we are all on the tip-toe of expectation as to what the price is to be.

East Africa Cents Issue

At last we hear that the long announced "Cents" issue for East Africa has been put on sale. I have not seen any yet but they are expected to be on sale in a few days in the London market. Then I suppose we may expect a rise in the superseded issue, but I don't think the issue can appreciate much for some time, though possibly some of the values may run short.

New South Wales, on Victorian Paper

And what about New South Wales on the double lined A paper borrowed for printing the stamps of New South Wales! It seems precious hard to get any copies. The 2d. seems to be the only value that has got on general sale in our London Market. These stamps should be worth picking up, "and salting down" as the knowing ones put it.

West Indians for a Rise

I am strongly inclined to fancy the better class of West Indians as a promising investment. There is no doubt about their growing in favour. Such old favourites as St. Vincent, Grenada, Bahamas, Bermuda, Jamaica, and Trinidad are as good as Consols. They are unquestionably recovering from the reaction from overpricing of a few years ago.

Great Britain the Fashion

If there is a fashion in stamps just now it is in the stamps of Great Britain. All issues are selling like hot cakes, unused and used. Dealers stock books are stripped as soon as they are made up and have to be re-made more often than any other country.

With so many varieties and so many continual fresh discoveries the excitement is kept at fever heat, and specialists in Great Britain are getting to be quite an important section of the stamp-collecting fraternity.

Of course with such enthusiastic and able missionaries as my friend the genial President of the Leeds Philatelic Society to lead the way and guide the faltering footsteps of the would-be specialist, it is no wonder that the stamps of Great Britain are going up, up, up.

Greece: Paris Prints

Six Paris prints all unused and mint for 16s. ought to be cheap, but that is all the following lot brought at Glendinings on the 15th Oct., 1907:—11., two shades; 21., pair and single and 201 dull blue. And Greece is a charming country to specialise.

Philatelic Society Meetings

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, B.Sc.
Hon. Sec.: J. L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

A VERY successful opening meeting of this Society (the first of the new season) was held on Wednesday, 16th October, 1907, at the Headquarters, Mills' Restaurant, 14 Broad Street Place, E.C., and was very well attended.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the Balance Sheet for the year ending 30th September, 1907, which showed a balance of £9 ts. 9d. capital in hand. The account was approved and passed by the meeting.

The Hon. Secretary announced the following resignations:—Messrs. J. R. W. Clarke, Arbroath; A. Conquest, Hastings; O. Marsh, Norwood; E. A. Smart, Peckham; and the Rev. R. W. Menzies, Barbados.

Nine new members were elected: Mrs. Barlow Webb, of Holmdale, Dorking; Dr. W. H. Payne, of Brockley; J. A. Leon, Esq., B.A., of Bayswater; Messrs. E. Gower, of Cricklewood; F. E. Pierpoint, of Tufnell Park; L. W. Couch, of Aylesbury; A. V. Edwards, of West Ealing; H. M. Williams, of Hendon; Norman Turner, of Southport.

The following donations to the Society's Library were announced:—The Herts Philatelic Society's "Monthly Report" from Franz Reichenheim, Esq.

"Stamp Collectors' Annual," from Messrs. Chas. Nissen & Co.
"Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue," 1907 (Part II), 1903 (Part I), 1904 (Part I); various odd numbers of the *Monthly Philatelic Adviser*, *West End Philatelist*, *Morley's Philatelic Journal*, and Mr. Fred J. Melville's "Stamps of Hayti," from Mr. Edwards, and 114 numbers of *Monthly Journal*, including five complete volumes from Mr. T. G. Arnold.

In his presidential address, Mr. Edwards first dealt with Philately generally. He pointed out that last season had been a rather slack one from a philatelic standpoint. This he opined was largely due to the fact that there were no philatelic exhibitions, and no new catalogues published. A general laxity seemed to permeate the stamp world.

The second part of the address had reference to various matters connected with the Society in particular. As to the membership of the Society he mentioned the aim of the Committee and himself to have to record at the end of the present season that the roll had reached the "century." He was still of opinion that members did not take sufficient advantage of the Exchange Section and urged contributors to send in sheets of good class stamps more regularly. The Library, so ably conducted by Mr. A. H. Harris, could be patronised more, especially by those members who specialise in certain countries.

The President hoped to see the monthly and intermediate meetings more numerous attended in the coming season, especially as the Society was now quite "at home" in its spacious headquarters. For the benefit of those London members who have not as yet visited the Society's meeting place Mr. Edwards drew attention to the fact that at this Restaurant members were able to partake of very excellent fare at very reasonable and popular prices. Stress was laid on this as he thought many members might have refrained from attending the meetings in case of a large outlay being required from them for refreshments.

The Chairman concluded with a few remarks in reference to the very varied and excellent programme arranged by the Committee, including papers or displays by such well-known philatelists as Mr. E. J. Nankivell, F.R.P.S.L., Mr. R. Frenzel, F.R.N.S., F.R.P.S.L., and Mr. P. L. Pemberton; Mr. Heginbottom's greatly appreciated displays and the now usual competitions which are some of the special features of the agenda for 1907-8.

The final item of the programme was a General Display of "Philatelic Novelties and Curiosities," and this proved to be a very entertaining subject.

Among the many very curious stamps were a pair of Swiss 25c. blue of the 1900 issue (shown by Mr. Jackson), the right hand stamp having the tablet containing the figures of value broken and very uneven at the top.

Mr. Edwards exhibited an interesting pair of New Zealand stamps of the 1901 type (1d. carmine) imperforated between. Mr. Harris also showed a freak perforated block of the French 25c. blue of 1902.

There were many other very interesting and curious philatelic novelties, but space will not permit of a lengthy detailed list.

Prospective members will receive every attention on applying to the Hon. Sec. as above.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Sec.: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays: Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

The second fortnightly meeting of the new Session was held in the Leeds Institute on the 15th inst., when the President of the Society (Mr. W. V. Morten) F.R.P.S.L., gave a particularly interesting display of the postage stamps of Great Britain, the interest being greatly

accentuated by the exhibition of official letters (originals) from Mr. Rowland Hill, Mr. Sievier, and others to the Postmaster General, various essays (including Sievier's) for the first postage stamp, the rare Prince Consort and later essays, proofs, printed Notices and Circulars to Postmasters prior to and after the issue of the first adhesive postage stamp in 1840, letter with 1d. black stamp cancelled 10th January, 1840—the earliest cancellation date known. There was a perfect galaxy of "good things" in stamps, letters and all kinds of miscellanea of rarest value relating to the Postal service from the period immediately preceding the introduction of the penny postage down to the present date.

It is only the specialist of untiring energy that can possibly amass such a superb collection, all in chronological order and embracing everything, as that possessed by Mr. Morten, whose motto is obviously "the stamps of my own country shall receive first consideration." Mr. Morten has contributed largely to philatelic literature, and put on record much that was hitherto unknown regarding the postal history of Great Britain.

It would take up too much space to enumerate more than a portion of the rarities contained in this collection, but the following (unused) may be quoted: Mulready envelopes 1d. and 2d., including a complete sheet of six of the twopenny; a block of ten 1d. black of 1840, and the rare 1d. black with V.R., 2d. blue 1840 without line and with line in unused strips and blocks; stamps showing colour trials for the change to 1d. red; sheets of Dickinson thread paper; a fine used specimen of the 1d. red with Archer trial roulette, extremely rare; various strips of the early perforated issues, with large and small Crown watermarks; rare plate numbers including 4d. pl. 9 and 1d. pl. 225, Wyon's die proof of head for the 1s and 10d. embossed stamps; 4d. with medium garter; 6d. imperforate pair showing hair lines, 3d. and 4d. stamps with secret dots (rare); stamps on chemical paper, sets and blocks of all issues, with shades, including the 4s orange unused on both white and bluish papers, set of Bradley Wilkinson essays, pair of 1s. and the 3d., 6d., 9d. with watermark emblems, and rare plate Nos. three sheets of Perkins Bacon & Co.'s essays, 10s. cobalt, 20s. watermarks Orbs and Crowns, Colledge stamps, and all Fiscal stamps authorised formerly for postal use.

Mr. Morten explained the various items, where necessary, his remarks being listened to and much appreciated by the large audience present.

On the motion of Mr. Harrison Hutton, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Morten for his display and lecture, which had afforded the utmost delight, and much that was instructive. Mr. J. H. Thackrah seconded.

A number of novelties were shown by members, amongst which were a strip of four imperforate stamps, one being 1d. Inland Revenue, foul anchor Watermark, ordinary stamp, and three in same strip; Government proofs of special design for Messrs. Alsop & Sons' use issued in 1853; also a Swart's local post office stamp on entire.

Transvaal Philatelic Society

An interesting meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 27th August, at the Society's room in Trust Buildings. After formal business and the drawing up of a syllabus for the new quarter, Mr. J. C. Hand read an able and interesting paper entitled, "Europe for Collectors," a plea for European Philately. He deprecated the excessive and almost exclusive attention given by British (and especially South African) collectors to British (or South African British) colonials. He pointed out how hopelessly beyond the reach of the collector of moderate means were the early issues of most of them, especially copies in fine condition, and asserted that all but wealthy collectors were being driven from active Philately, while the beginner found his enthusiasm damped at the very outset.

In pleading for the collection of European, he showed by figures the enormous field for research afforded by such countries as France, Spain, Portugal, and their respective groups of colonies: the comparative cheapness of Scandinavia, the Balkan States, Belgium, Austria, etc., and the extreme probability of an early boom in countries at present little regarded. Incidentally he supported the claims of several South American States.

After the President and Miss Finlay had spoken briefly in support of the paper, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hand.

Next followed an exhibition of Natal, of which some excellent displays were given, notably by Mr. Leo Mayer. The display of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland was disappointing, and supplied a striking confirmation of Mr. Hand's paper.

The Transvaal Philatelic Society held its fortnightly meeting on Tuesday evening, 10th September, in the Board room, Trust Buildings, Mr. T. Henderson, President, in the chair. The exhibit was the stamps of Gibraltar, Malta, Ionian Islands, and Heligoland. A very fine show of all four, practically complete, and the fine Heligolands, all "guaranteed," was given by Mr. A. J. Cohen. Mr. Leo Mayer's Gibraltar and Malta were as perfect as Mr. Cohen's, and even more complete, all the "errors" being represented. The President showed a nice lot of Gibraltar, and Mr. Ornstein had a representative lot of all four colonies.

The Editor's Letter Box

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New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

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In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Collectors' Wants

W. R. B. (Cardiff) suggests that we should include in THE POSTAGE STAMP "a column of names and addresses of collectors who would like to exchange stamps with other collectors abroad." These would be advertisements, but can be inserted at the low prepaid rate of 12 words for 1s., with a 1d. for each additional word. With our large and wide circulation we venture to suggest that collectors' advertisement of their wants should be well worth trying.

Specialist Meetings

C. L. H. L. (Blackheath) suggests that we should have "a column in which the names of specialists could be inserted who wish to meet others interested

in the same country, for purposes of exchange and comparison"; and he adds, "I am sure I should be glad to meet someone interested in Chinese stamps."

No Direct Correspondence

I regret to say that I cannot undertake to reply to queries by post. If I once indulged in this sort of pleasure I should have no time for even a square meal. Under these circumstances, I am sure my friends will be merciful. I will do my best to reply to as many as possible on this page week by week.

A. E. C. (Manchester).—Many thanks for newspaper cutting. The information is probably correct.

H. W. F. (Paignton).—Gibbons' Catalogue. The continuation of the series of articles for beginners has been crowded out, but will be proceeded with as soon as possible. You will note that we are also starting a Dictionary in this number, which no doubt will be a further help to you.

E. C. P.—The market value of a fine used copy of Great Britain. rd., black on piece showing date is as much as you can get above catalogue. I will send your note on to a likely buyer and you may hear from him. No, we shall not have maps. After all, they are only needed for locating out-of-the-way places that one may be puzzled about. Most people, especially readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP, will have a pretty fair idea where such places are as France, Russia, Australia, etc.

T. J. W. S. (Birmingham).—You will note that we have used the interesting cutting you send, though it is difficult to have much sympathy for those tests of postal competence.

E. N. (Tulse Hill).—The Junior Philatelic Society, which meets at 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C., holds a general sale and exchange before each meeting from 6 o'clock to 8 o'clock p.m. You will find a full programme of the meetings in No. 3 of THE POSTAGE STAMP, with the address of the Hon. Sec. The City of London Philatelic Society also affords opportunities for exchange purposes. You will find programme of meetings and address of Hon. Sec. in No. 1 of THE POSTAGE STAMP.

C. M. C. S. (Hornsey).—Many thanks for your article. I will write you further as soon as I have had time to read it. The subject is a good one.

H. P. (Cardiff).—Glad to hear that you are waking up in Wales, and wish your new Society every success.

C. L. F. (Blackburn).—Many thanks for yours. Shall always be glad of kind help with unchronicled varieties. King Haakon's stamps have been on sale in this country for many weeks. Special Delivery stamps we do not include in our programme, nor inverted watermarks. The German stamps, home and colonial, are all being printed on water-marked paper.

W. H. M. (Beckenham).—Only the ½ anna, and 1 anna stamps of India have been changed from "Postage" to "Postage and Revenue."

E. H. (Rochdale).—We do not intend to waste space in cataloguing officials, unpaids, Postage Dues, etc. We confine ourselves to Postage Stamps sold to the public for public use. Nor do we intend to bother about chalky varieties.

Uruguay Specialist (Hull).—*O Coleccionador de Sellos* gave a list of the numbers of the 1898 Provisional ½ centesimo postage stamps of Uruguay issued. Here they are:—

½ centesimo on 1c. blue (coat of arms)	490,000
½ centesimo on 1c. bistre (native)	515,000
½ centesimo on 1c. lilac and black (Suarez)	150,000
½ centesimo on 2c. blue (theatre building)	100,000
½ centesimo on 3c. blue and black (Suarez)	50,000
½ centesimo on 7c. green (bullshead)	50,000

Total 1,355,000

The Postage Stamp

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Trial of Harold Treherne



THE trial of a youth of the name of Harold Treherne has been proceeding at Brighton for some weeks past and was concluded before the Deputy Recorder at Brighton on the 22nd October, 1907.

Treherne was formally charged with attempting to obtain money by false pretences.

The police, on going to his house to effect his arrest, discovered what is alleged by the prosecution to be a complete factory and plant for the making of faked stamps and surcharges, etc. The things found included a printing press, type, dies, coloured printing inks, paper, postmarks, and quantities of faked stamps and forged surcharges. There were also special pigments suitable for stamp printing, and a number of Trinidad stamps which had apparently been chemically blanched.

And the evidence pointed to the practice of overprinting stamps with forged surcharges.

Will Treherne Confess?

I quote the closing part of the case from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* :—

Immediately on the reassembling of the Court, Mr. Rose Innes for the defendant, said that during the adjournment he had had an opportunity of consulting with his client, and after hearing the evidence of Mr. Kirkpatrick, he felt it would be somewhat difficult to ask the jury to say that all the stamps in the album were in the same condition as when Mr. Kirkpatrick sent them out, and under the circumstances he had advised his client—and he had taken that advice—to plead guilty to the indictment. That only referred to the first indictment—with regard to the remaining two, he did not think they need trouble about them. In taking that course, he (learned counsel) would like to say one or two words which might influence the Bench in their decision. The first fact was that the defendant was not yet of age—he was under twenty. The second fact was that there was absolutely nothing against him except the present charge. The third fact—and he believed that his learned friend for the prosecution had some cognisance of it—was that acting behind the prisoner (as was very often the case where young people were concerned) were some more active and some better remunerated persons.

The Deputy-Recorder: I think we may infer that.

Mr. Rose Innes said that the Society which was prosecuting, naturally desired to protect the interests of the stamp trade and those persons who dealt in stamps, and it was equally anxious to get at those who had originated these frauds. They had intimated that, if information be given them which would assist them in getting at the persons who were really at fault, they would not press the present charge unduly against the prisoner. He was, therefore, content to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Court.

Mr. Humphreys said he quite appreciated the view which his learned friend had taken of the case. He did feel that there was someone behind this young man, and if they were right in what they thought, they were the persons who really ought to be before the Court. He quite appreciated what his learned friend had said and he might say on behalf of the prosecution that they had no wish to unduly press the charge and he would be prepared to agree to whatever course the Court thought best to take.

The jury, at the direction of the Deputy Recorder, returned a formal verdict of guilty.

Addressing the defendant, the Deputy Recorder said: I am not going to pass judgment against you. Your case will go over until the next Sessions, when the Recorder will no doubt be sitting. The other two indictments can lay in the office. You will enter into your own recognisances and those of another person to come up for judgment at next Quarter Sessions, to be held at this town. Then your case will be dealt with and consideration given to all the circumstances connected with it.

It is a pity that a misguided youth should suffer, and that the real culprits should escape. I hope therefore that young Treherne will make a clean breast of it and that we shall have his principals in the dock.

Group Exhibitions

The *London Philatelist* has a strong and good word to say in favour of frequent group Exhibitions, that is to say Exhibitions confined to a single group, and no one will deny that such Exhibitions are far more likely to be successful from the educational point of view than the unmanageable and wholesale Exhibition of the stamps of the world.

The specialist concentrates his attention on one or two countries or groups and the countries he studies benefit accordingly.

From the educational point of view I firmly believe that the concentrated Exhibition is much to be preferred to the overwhelming international display.

A Question of Promoters

But who is to promote such Exhibitions? Who but the Royal Society? But unfortunately the Royal Society has no abiding home of its own. It is out in temporary lodgings. But now that it has blossomed

out into a Royal Society some serious attempt should be made to get it a home. Surely one of the other great societies could give it shelter.

Major Evans on Philatelic Societies

Major Evans has been talking to the members of the Herts Philatelic Society on the work and duties of philatelic societies. He said:—

Whilst the principal aim of a Society must be to bring its members together and give them opportunities for social intercourse and discussion of philatelic subjects, it should not be forgotten that in any society of considerable dimensions there will always be a certain number of members who cannot attend the meetings, or who cannot attend them regularly; and I think that some effort should be made to reach those less fortunate members and enable them to take some part, however little, in the work and proceedings of the Society to which they belong. I am therefore extremely glad to see that this Society has commenced the publication of a *Monthly Report*, which I am sure will prove of immense service in the direction to which I have just alluded. It will contain, no doubt, far fuller reports of all that takes place at the meetings than could well be published in any other way; there will of course be detailed descriptions of all displays and exhibitions, and papers read before the meetings will be printed in full, and I hope that when discussions take place, on subjects either of general interest, or of interest to the members of the Society, those discussions will be reported as fully as possible, so that absent members—perhaps I take a selfish interest in their welfare—may be in a position to know what is happening, and to feel that they also can form an opinion upon the subjects that are brought before the meetings. I believe that by this means not only will a much larger number of the members be led to take an interest in the work of the Society, but that the attendance at meetings may also be improved. It is a great advantage certainly to be present at meetings, to see the stamps shown, and to hear what is said about them; but there is a further advantage, which those who were present can also enjoy and which those who were absent will be able to share with them, in being able to read at one's leisure the reports of the proceedings and to weigh and consider the points that have been discussed. I hope that many members will be tempted to send contributions, criticisms of papers, letters upon points that seem to require discussion, and so forth. I think that members of a society will be much more willing to join in discussions in a paper of their own, than they would be to do so in one of the public philatelic periodicals, where discussion might be burked by an unsympathetic Editor.

The Publication of Transactions

Evidently what Major Evans would like to see would be a journal of Transactions which should publish the papers read and the discussions following their reading. That is regularly done in other societies, but it would be no easy matter to do it in the case of a philatelic society. The publication of the papers would be simple enough, but to report the discussions satisfactorily would need a very able philatelist indeed. A specialist in U.S. would probably make a hash of a discussion on Transvaals or Afghans. Still, I should like to see something of the kind attempted, for not unfrequently the discussion at the Royal Society has been most valuable.

The Woes of the New Issue Importer

Mr. C. J. Phillips, as Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., has been unburdening himself concerning the troubles of a New Issue Importer. Says he:—

King's Head stamps were announced for British Honduras; we immediately sent out £150 for a first supply, and the stamps arrived a short time back, *every one a Queen's Head*: and of these obsolete stamps we now have a superabundance. A week later two of our friends in London received their supplies, all King's Heads, and we have to wait six or eight weeks for our supplies, in addition to tying up a lump of capital in stamps we had in sufficient quantities.

'Tother Side of the Question

Now I should like to hear the various Postmasters pour out *their* woes and worries. I am sure it would be most entertaining. How they are flooded with orders and money with requests to send all sorts of varieties of which they have not a ghost of knowledge.

I fancy some of them would use strong language.

But, after all, it is one of their duties to sell stamps, and surely it does not matter a button whether the request and payment for stamps comes from an aborigine or from a dealer "on the make."

Possibly one would be very near the mark if one guessed that, now and then, some common stamps are sent instead of some much coveted provisional out of sheer cussedness in return for petty worries.

The Gathering of the Eagles

The Philatelic Eagles are gathering in great force in the line of route from Charing Cross to Ludgate Circus. The Strand has been the favourite street for philatelic wares, but Fleet street is now being opened up to philatelic trade. Messrs. Bridger and Kay, an enterprising young firm, has moved from Bishopsgate Street to Fleet Street, and Mr. H. Griebert has forsaken the wealthy West-end for the Strand.

And Mr. C. J. Phillips says he is glad to see them all clustering around him so lovingly.

And What about the Societies?

On the other hand the Philatelic Societies have forsaken those thoroughfares. The Royal has moved from the purlieus of the Strand to Southampton Row, and the Herts has followed suit from Fleet Street, but we all wish they would come back to the old neighbourhood of the eagles, for it was pleasant to drop in and look over a stock book or two in the waiting time before a meeting.

Brazil Commemoratives

A commemorative stamp of 100 reis, it is said, is being prepared to celebrate the opening of the Brazilian ports to International Commerce, and it is to be issued at the opening of some local Exhibition.

Then there is to be another commemorative 100 reis stamp to be issued next year in honour of the visit of the King of Portugal to Brazil.

Of course so long as stamp collectors are foolish enough to be gulled into buying such rubbish they will be systematically fleeced in this way.

Naples: Issue of 1858

The issue of 1858 consists of only seven stamps, but the student can amplify this issue into quite a volume. First of all, the design is quaint and pleasing; it is divided into three parts, viz., the horse for Naples, the three legs with head of Medusa in centre, which is the symbol for Sicily, the legs representing the three chief capes—Faro, Pessaro, and Buco—the three-fleurs-de-lis are for Bourbon.

Many collectors have noticed a small letter in the outer border of each stamp, but perhaps few know what these letters stand for. The original dies were engraved by Signor G. Masini, of Naples, and on each die he engraved one letter of his own name. Thus we find on the

1	grano, the letter ..	..	G
1	" ..	..	M
2	grana ..	..	A
5	" ..	..	S
10	" ..	..	I
20	" ..	..	N
50	" ..	..	I

—C. J. PHILLIPS in the *Monthly Journal*

The Stamps of Seychelles

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

THE Seychelles are described as a cluster of islands of singular beauty lying in the Indian Ocean over 900 miles due north of Mauritius. They were discovered by the Portuguese, but they were first explored under the direction of Admiral Labourdonnais, then Governor of Mauritius, and the group were named after him, Iles de Labourdonnais. About the year 1768 the French formed a colony on the island of Mahé, and re-named the group "Seychelles" in honour of Count Hérault de Seychelles. The islands passed into the possession of Great Britain with the peace of 1814. At first the Seychelles were administered as a dependency of Mauritius, but on 9th Nov., 1903, they were converted into a separate Crown Colony.

The islands are about thirty in number and have an area of about 148 square miles and a population of 20,275. The largest and most populous of the islands is Mahé, about fifteen miles long and three miles broad, on which is situated Victoria, the capital, with a fine harbour, the headquarters of H.M. East Africa Squadron.

Lucas writes: "The inhabitants are mainly of African origin, the descendants of the old slave population of the islands, recruited by Africans who have been landed from captured slave vessels from time to time. There is also a small number of white residents, mainly of French extraction. Both the Roman Catholic and the Protestant faiths are supported by the State, the former having far the larger number of adherents, and the mission schools receive grants-in-aid from Government. The revenue, mainly derived from Customs, licenses, and rates, has been steadily though slowly increasing, and if the islands have no great resources their natural fertility, combined with the advantage of possessing a good harbour on an established trade route, seems to promise them a fair degree of prosperity in the future."

Its Philatelic History

Seychelles is a comparatively young philatelic country, its first stamp having been issued in 1890. That first stamp was of the then current De La Rue type with small head of Queen Victoria and large tablet of value in the lower part of the stamp. But in the case of Seychelles it yielded plate varieties, plate I being distinguished from plate II by lines of shading in the space containing the diamond-shaped jewel. 1893, 1896, 1901, 1902, and 1903 were marked by provisional issues, all of which were the objects of considerable speculation. There were fresh series of the Queen's head type in 1893, 1897, and 1900, and these were superseded by the King's head type in 1903. In the King's heads we have had single and multiple series.

The stamps of Seychelles are favourites with the moderate specialist, as they afford sufficient varieties of plates and provisionals to make them interesting, whilst prices are in no case prohibitive.

1890. Eight values. Design: Diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perforated 14.

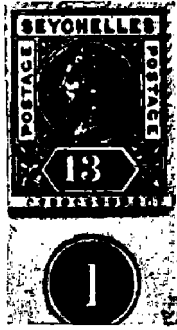
The stamps were all of the one design, and each value was printed in two colours, the name and value tablet in one colour, and the remainder of the stamp in another. They were printed in sheets of 120, in two panes of sixty placed side by side. The first supply of all values was printed from plate I in which lines of shading may be noted in the band at the base of the crown in the space which contains the diamond-shaped jewel. In plate II these lines of shading have been cleared away. The enlarged illustrations appended will more clearly illustrate these differences. Of plate II only six values were issued, the two high values 45c. and 96c., being absent.



Plate I.



Plate II.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

Plate I.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
2c., green,	name and value, carmine..	0	6	2	0
4c., carmine,	" green ..	1	6	—	—
8c., brown purple,	" blue ..	0	8	0	8
10c., ultramarine,	" bistre ..	1	6	1	6
13c., grey	" black ..	1	3	2	0
16c., chestnut,	" blue ..	3	0	3	0
48c., ochre,	" green ..	5	0	5	0
96c., mauve	" carmine..	14	0	17	6

Plate II.

2c., green,	name and value, rosine ..	0	4	0	6
4c., carmine,	" green ..	0	2	0	4
8c., purple,	" ultramarine 0	9	0	6	6
10c., ultramarine,	" bistre ..	1	6	1	3
13c., grey	" black ..	1	6	1	6
16c., chestnut,	" ultramarine 2	0	2	0	2

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The discovery of the two plates of this first issue was not made until 1900, ten years after their issue, when Mr. Oliver Firth started an inquiry into the differences, and Mr. Robert Ehrenbach in 1903 further investigated the matter and separated the plates. Therefore it was not until 1904 that Gibbons catalogued the two plates. As a result prices are somewhat uncertain for they have not had time to settle down as to the relative scarcity of the values and the plates. It will be noted from the table which follows that the 16c. of plate shows most promise of being the best of the values found on both plates.

Plate I.	1904.	1905.	1906.
2 cents ..	0 3	0 6	0 6
4 cents ..	2 6	1 6	1 6
8 cents ..	0 6	0 8	0 8
10 cents ..	1 0	1 0	1 0
13 cents ..	1 0	1 3	1 3
16 cents ..	2 0	2 0	3 0
48 cents ..	4 6	4 6	5 0
96 cents ..	17 6	14 0	14 0

Plate II.	1904.	1905.	1906.
2 cents ..	0 1	0 2	0 4
4 cents ..	0 2	0 2	0 2
8 cents ..	0 9	0 9	0 9
10 cents ..	1 0	1 6	1 6
13 cents ..	1 6	0 9	1 6
16 cents ..	0 9	1 6	2 0

1893. Provisionals. Five values. Design: the stamps of the first issue surcharged in black with other values, owing to a change made in the postal rates a new set of values had to be provided, and this was done by overprinting the current stamps of the previous issue with the new values. The 4c. was converted into 3c., some of the 16c. into 12c., and some into 15c., the 48c. was changed into 45c., and the 96c. into 90c. This surcharging was done locally and consisted of the new value in numerals above the word "cents." The surcharges were set up in five rows of six, thus printing half-a-panes of sixty at a time. The 3c. surcharge was done on stamps of plate II only, the 12c. on both plates of the 16c. and the 15c. also on both plates of the 16c. Of these provisionals the numbers printed were as follows:—

3c. on 4c.	..	..	90,480
12c. on 16c.	..	..	29,640
15c. on 16c.	..	..	29,160
45c. on 48c.	..	..	13,200
90c. on 96c.	..	..	8,160



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
3c. on 4c., carmine and green, plate II	..	0	6	0	8
12c. on 16c., chestnut and blue, ..	I	2	3	2	6
12c. on 16c., ..	II	3	0	3	0
15c. on 16c., ..	I	2	0	2	0
15c. on 16c., ..	II	2	0	2	0
45c. on 48c., ochre and green, ..	I	7	6	6	0
90c. on 96c., mauve and carmine, ..	I	12	6	15	0

Varieties.

Surcharge inverted.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
3c. on 4c., plate II ..	..	50	0	50	0
12c. on 16c., ..	I ..	85	0	—	—
15c. on 16c., ..	.. ..	60	0	50	0

Surcharge double.

3c. on 4c., plate II ..	..	—	—
12c. on 16c., ..	I ..	—	—
15c. on 16c., ..	.. ..	—	—

1893. Four values. Design: as before. The new issues printed from plate II, on paper watermarked Crown C.A., perforated 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
3c., purple, name and value orange ..	..	0	2	0	2
12c., sepia, ..	green ..	0	5	1	0
15c., sage green, ..	mauve ..	0	6	0	9
45c., brown, ..	carmine ..	7	6	7	6

1896. Provisionals. Two values. Design: The 45c. of the last issue surcharged in black 18c. and a further supply surcharged 36c. Other changes in the postal rates rendered 18c. and 36c. values necessary, and these were provided by surcharging some of the stock of the 45c. for which there had been little demand. The type used for the surcharge was a tall sans-serif capital, the numerals of value and the word "cents" being arranged in one line.

In the Royal Philatelic Society's work on Africa, Part III, it is stated that—

At the same time as this issue was made, the values thirteen, fifteen, forty-five, forty-eight, and ninety-six cents were withdrawn from use. Of these it is said that there were then on hand:—

13 cents ..	..	10,800
15 cents ..	..	60,000
45 cents ..	..	37,200
48 cents ..	..	3,000

It is further stated that of the 37,200 forty-five cents, 12,600 were converted locally into eighteen cents and 6,000 into thirty-six cents.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
18 cents on 45c. brown and carmine ..	1 3	1 6
36 cents on 45c. ..	6 0	—

Variety: Surchage Double.

18 cents on 45c. brown and carmine	—	—
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Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

In 1900 Gibbons added the following note to their catalogue of these provisionals:—

We advise collectors not to buy No. 22 (36c. on 45c.) at a high price, as 12,000 were issued, and 11,400 are held by one speculator, who will no doubt shortly unload his stock.

Subsequent information placed the number issued at 6,000, but the fact that a speculator had secured most of the issue was true. Eventually he unloaded, and the supply came into the English market. The price was fixed at 6s. in the 1902 catalogue, and at that price it has remained ever since.

1897-1900. Nine values. Design, as before. Values ranging from 2c. to 2r. 25c., all but the 2c. new values, and all but the 6c. and 18c. printed in two colours. In the three highest values the numerals are printed in colour on an unshaded tablet, and in all the other values the numerals are in white on a shaded tablet. Watermarked Crown C.A. Perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2c. orange brown, name and value green ..	0 1	0 2
6c. carmine ..	0 2	0 3
15c. pale blue, name and value dark blue ..	0 6	—
18c. ultramarine ..	0 8	0 9
36c. brown, name and value carmine ..	7 6	10 0
75c. yellow, ..	6 0	—
1r. mauve, ..	5 0	4 0
1r. 50c. grey ..	6 6	—
2r. 25c. mauve ..	10 0	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The fluctuations in the catalogue prices of this series have been considerable. The 36c. was doubled in 1903, and in 1904 was jumped from 2s. to 10s., which was found to be too high, so in the following year it was dropped to 7s. 6d., at which price it remains. The 1 rupee and 2r. 25c. are probably the most promising stamps of the series, both have risen steadily. The whole set should be a good investment at present prices.

	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
2 cents ..	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 1
6 cents ..	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 2
15 cents ..	0 4	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6
18 cents ..	0 6	0 5	0 8	0 8	0 8
36 cents ..	1 0	2 0	10 0	7 6	7 6
75 cents ..	1 4	1 4	2 6	3 0	6 0
1 rupee ..	1 9	1 9	4 6	6 0	5 0
1r. 50c. ..	2 9	2 9	3 6	6 6	6 6
2r. 25c. ..	4 0	4 0	5 0	10 0	10 0

1901. Provisionals. Two values. Design: 3 cents on the 10c. plate II of the first issue, 3 cents on the 16c. plate II of the first issue, 3 cents on the 36c. of the last issue, and 6c. on the 8c. plate II of the first issue. All locally surcharged in black with numeral and the word "cents" in one line, with two bars cancelling the original value, except in the case of the 6 cents which is printed over the tablet of value and has no bars.

In explanation of this epidemic of provisionals it is stated that a gang of speculators bought up the stock of each value as it was issued, thus necessitating another issue.

The numbers issued of these provisionals are given as follows:—

3 cents on 10c. ..	..	42,000
3 cents on 16c. ..	..	31,200
3 cents on 36c. ..	..	80,000
6 cents on 8c. ..	..	40,000



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3c. on 10c. of 1890	0 6	1 0
3c. on 16c. of 1890	1 0	2 0
3c. on 36c. of 1897	0 9	—
6c. on 8c. of 1890	0 6	—

Varieties:

Surcharge Inverted.

3c. on 16c. of 1890	—	—
6c. on 8c. of 1890	—	—

Surcharge Double.

3c. on 16c. of 1890	—	—
3c. on 36c. of 1897	—	—

1902. Provisionals. Three values. Design: 2 cents on the 4c. of plate II of 1890; 30 cents on the 75c. of 1900; 30 cents on the 1r. of 1900; 45 cents on the 1r. of 1900, and 45 cents on the 2r. 25c. of 1900; all locally surcharged in black and in similar type to the preceding 3 cents.

The numbers issued are stated as follows:—

2 cents on 4c.	18,000
30 cents on 75c.	9,000
30 cents on 1 rupee	9,000
45 cents on 1 rupee	6,000
45 cents on 2r. 25c.	6,000



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 cents on 4c. of 1890	2 0	2 0
30 cents on 75c. of 1900	1 0	—
30 cents on 1r. of 1900	1 0	—
45 cents on 1r. of 1900	1 6	—
45 cents on 1r. 25c. of 1900	3 0	—

1903. Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII, superseding that of the late Queen Victoria, but otherwise preserving the design unaltered. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A.

and perf. 14. The 3c., 6c., and 15c. were printed in single colours. All the others were printed in two colours, the name and value in one colour and the general design in another.



Wmk. Crown C.A. (single). Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2c. chestnut, name and value in green ..	0 1	—
3c. dull green	0 1	—
6c. carmine	0 3	—
12c. brown, name and value green ..	0 4	—
15c. ultramarine	0 6	—
18c. sage-green, name and value carmine	0 8	—
30c. violet .. green ..	0 9	—
45c. brown .. carmine ..	1 3	—
75c. yellow .. violet ..	2 0	—
1r. 50c. grey-black .. carmine ..	5 0	—
2r. 25c. mauve .. green ..	10 0	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

This single C.A. issue of Seychelles does not share in the high prices which have marked so many King's head single C.A. issues for the simple reason that they were not so suddenly superseded by the multiple series as others, and for that reason the price of this issue is likely to range low.

1903. Provisional. One value. Design: 3 cents on the King's head 15c., 3 cents on the 18c. King's head, and 3 cents on the 45 cents King's head. All locally surcharged in black in similar type to previous provisional "3 cents."

As in other provisionals these were attacked by a gang of speculators. In order to outwit these harpies notice was given by the post office that no one person would be permitted to purchase more than one sheet of 60 stamps. Those desirous of getting supplies were on the scene at an early hour, and gave money to different people to buy sheets for them, but many could not even get near the door of the post office, and it is said that, despite the restrictions of the postal officials, nearly all these provisionals got into the hands of one man who had a crowd of fifty negroes on the spot. As there were only 33,000 stamps surcharged, the fifty negroes taking one sheet of 60 each, would monopolise 30,000 stamps, leaving only 3,000 for the other speculators and dealers' agents, to say nothing of the general public for whose use the stamps were provided. So that before the day was done, the post office was once more out of stock of 3 cents stamps. Then another provisional was issued and the same game went on again.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 cents on 15c. King's head ..	.. 1 0	—
3 cents on 18c. " ..	.. 1 6	—
3 cents on 45c. " ..	.. 0 6	—

1906. Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII as in the single C.A. issue of 1903, but printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. Colours as in the 1903 series and Perf. 14.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2c. chestnut, name and value in green ..	.. 0 1	—
3c. dull green ..	.. 0 1	—
6c. carmine ..	.. 0 2	—
12c. brown, name and value green ..	.. 0 3	—
15c. ultramarine ..	.. 0 4	—
18c. sage green, name and value carmine ..	.. 0 5	—

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
30c. violet name and value green ..	.. 0 7	—
45c. brown, " carmine ..	.. 0 10	—
75c. yellow, " violet ..	.. 1 5	—
1r. 50c. grey-black " carmine ..	.. 2 8	—
2r. 25c. mauve " green ..	.. 4 0	—

Shades and Minor Varieties

The stamps of Seychelles form a happy hunting ground for the searcher after minor varieties. Of shades there are many, but the varieties of broken letters, raised letters, narrow figures, &c., gladden the soul of the microscopic variety hunter who will find them all set out in full array in Mr. Poole's little handbook.

Bibliography

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"The Postage Stamps of Seychelles," by B. W. H. Poole, published by Oswald Marsh, price 1s.

Reference List to the two dies of the first issue, *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, vol. 14, p. 58.

The Seychelles Scandal, by Ernest J. Nankivell, *The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, vol. 9, p. 137.

For special offers of the stamps of this colony see Mr. W. H. Pechill's advertisement in this number.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 86.)

IN the case of the larger stamps, such as the current set for Antigua, the rupee values of East Africa and Uganda, etc., the sheets are usually composed of sixty stamps arranged in six horizontal rows of ten. Generally the plate numbers are placed in the side margins opposite the first and last stamps in the top and bottom rows of the sheets.

There are four main types of these marginal numbers as shown in the accompanying illustrations.



TYPE 1.



TYPE 2.



TYPE 3.



TYPE 4.

Type 1. An uncoloured numeral on a solid oval enclosed in an oval frame.

Type 2. An uncoloured numeral on a solid circle enclosed in a circular frame.

Type 3. An uncoloured numeral on a solid circle of colour.

Type 4. A plain coloured numeral.

There is also a variety of type 2 in which the circle is much smaller than usual. I have only noted this on the sheets of the ½d. Queen's head stamps of Malta.

The marginal plate numbers are used in consecutive order from "1" upwards, there being a separate series for each distinct design. The plate number "1" is most often met with, and this is accounted for by the fact that a plate lasts a long time and, unless a Colony uses a tremendous number of stamps, or its issues are printed from a "stock" type, it is not often that more than one plate is required. For instance, in producing the Lagos stamps of the Queen's head type one plate served for nearly thirty years, and a second one was only brought into use a few months before the King's head type made its appearance.

In the case of bi-coloured stamps, *i.e.*, those printed in two colours from two distinct plates, the numbers are engraved on the margins of the "head-plate," and the "duty-plates," of which there are as many as there are values in a set, are unnumbered.

The only instance I can call to mind in which the "duty-plate" is also numbered is the Bahamas, pictorial issue, showing a view of the Queen's Staircase near Nassau.

Types 1, 2, and 3 of the marginal numbers occur in the positions as described above, but type 4 is generally placed in the margin at the left lower corner of the sheet. In some cases, British New Guinea to wit, the margins of the sheets are trimmed so closely before being despatched from the printer's premises that the numbers are cut off.

It is not my intention in the course of this article to give a list of the plate numbers found on all the stamps of the various British Colonies but, perhaps, at a later date, as the interest in these marginal numbers is fairly general, our worthy Editor may be prevailed upon to allow space for such a reference list of these varieties.

The De La Rue "General" Plates

Since 1881 Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have made a practice of keeping "general" head-plates on hand from which stamps of any value for any Colony might be printed if required. These plates have vacant tablets for the insertion of the necessary names and values which are, of course, printed in from separate duty plates.

The first of these, generally known as the "large head" type, is guiltless of any inscription (see illustration). It was first used for printing the stamps of



Cyprus in 1881 and all the Queen's head issues for that Colony were produced from the general plates of this type. The issues of St. Lucia, from 1883 until the introduction of the King's head stamp, the 2d. Natal of 1887-9, the ½d., 1d., 2½d., and 4d. values of Turks Island, the ½d., 2½d., and 4d. of Antigua, the ½d., 2½d., and 4d. of Montserrat, the 1879-90 issues of Nevis, and the 1880 to 1884 issues of Virgin Islands, as well as several revenue stamps, were also printed from this general type. There were four plates in all Nos. 1 and 2 being of the variety known as Die I and Nos. 3 and 4 of Die II.

Next we have the "POSTAGE & REVENUE" general type. There were three plates for this series and they were used in the production of British Honduras,



50c. to \$5 of 1891-99, 5c. and 10c. of 1900; Gold Coast, 1891 to 1900 issues; Grenada, 1895-99 issue; Leeward Islands, 1890 issue; Northern Nigeria, 1900 issue; St. Vincent, 1899 issue; Sierra Leone, 1896-7 issue; and Zululand, 1894-96 issue.

(To be continued.)

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 90.)

Affranchisement—exceptionnel—(faute de Timbres)—(Postage paid—exceptional—shortage of stamps).—In consequence of an alleged shortage of stamps at Antalaha, Diego Suarez, Vohémar and other places in this region from February to August, 1904, various stamps of the 1896-99 issue for Madagascar and Dependencies and of the 1894 issue for Diego Suarez were divided vertically, and each half was surcharged with words signifying such shortage by means of a hand stamp, when affixed to a letter. The above is one of the inscriptions so hand stamped and others occasionally met with are "Affranchi ainsi—Faute figurine," (Postage paid thus—low values scarce), "Affranchissement—Special—faute de figurines" (Postage paid—special—low values scarce). These so-called provisionals are believed to be entirely speculative and thus of no legitimate interest to philatelists.

Afghanistan.—A large country lying on the north-west frontier of India, which has an area of about 215,000 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Asiatic Russia, on the south by Baluchistan, on the east by the Punjab and north-west Frontier Province, and on the west by Persia. It is generally known as the "buffer State," and at one point India and Russia are less than ten miles apart. The country is called Khorassan by the natives, and has a mixed population of Afghans, Pathans, Ghilzais, Tajiks (the aboriginals), etc. The language is Pushtu, and the present ruler is His Highness Siraj-ul-millat-wad-din Amir Habib Ulla Khan, G.C.M.G. By agreement with the Amir Afghanistan has no foreign relations with any Power except the Government of India. In all other respects it is independent, and the rule of the Amir is despotic. Under the present treaty existing between Britain and Afghanistan the British Government agrees to refrain from interference in internal affairs, and engages to preserve the safety and integrity of Afghanistan against any unprovoked attack provided the Amir acts as a friend and ally and follows unreservedly the British Government's advice in all its external relations. Postage stamps were first issued in 1868.

Africa Correos (Africa Postage).—An inscription appearing on the Vasco da Gama commemorative stamps issued for use in the Portuguese Colonies of Angola, Cape Verd, Guinea, Lorenzo Marques, Mozambique, Portuguese Congo, St. Thomas and Prince, and Zambesia.

Afrique Occidentale Française.—This inscription appears on the stamps of the "general" designs now used for the French Colonies of Senegal, Ivory Coast, etc. It means "French West Africa," and, of course, refers to the region of the Dark Continent in which the Colonies are situated.

A. G.—A surcharge found on certain stamps of South Australia signifying that they were used on the official correspondence of the Department of the Attorney-General. They were in use between 1868 and 1874.

Agriculture.—An inscription found upon the special stamps provided for franking the correspondence of the Department of Agriculture, U.S.A. They were

issued in 1873 but were gradually superseded about 1884 by special official envelopes, the illegal use of which is punished by severe penalties.

Aitutaki.—The northernmost island in the Hervey or Cook Archipelago. It was annexed to the British Empire in October, 1900, and in June, 1901, it was included in the boundaries of the Dominion of New Zealand. It is of volcanic formation, is surrounded by dangerous reefs, and has no harbour of any importance. Its government is administered locally, under the direction of New Zealand, by the Federal Council of the Cook Islands. Postage stamps were first issued in 1903.

Alava.—A province in northern Spain, which is one of the three formerly autonomous Basque Provinces. After the first Carlist war many risings took place, the most formidable occurring in 1873 when the abdication of King Amadeo and the proclamation of a republic afforded an opportunity. The Carlists issued their own special stamps, bearing the portrait of Don Carlos, for use in this province but the stamps were suppressed in 1876 when the Carlists were finally routed. For its part in the rising the province of Alava was deprived of the last of its autonomous privileges.

Albania.—The western division of European Turkey, bounded by the Adriatic on the west and extending from Montenegro on the north to the boundaries of Greece on the south. It is an ethnological rather than a geographical division; its inhabitants being given to intertribal feuds and brigandage. The Italian Government maintains post offices at some of the chief towns and, since 1902, ordinary Italian stamps surcharged "ALBANIA" and value in paras thus, "35 PARA 35" have been used at these offices. The stamps issued for the use of the office at Janina are over-printed with the value only.

Albino.—An error sometimes found in connection with embossed envelope stamps, the impressions being without colour.

Album.—So far as stamp collectors are concerned an album is a book issued for the express purpose of housing stamps. These volumes may be divided into three main classes: (a) Printed albums in which the collector is left to arrange his stamps as best he can; (b) printed albums with the spaces numbered and arranged so that the stamps can be placed in their correct order; and (c) blank albums.

In the first division the albums—which are those usually favoured by beginners—consist of pages ruled into rectangles with the name of the country and perhaps an illustration or two at the top of each page. In the second division are those albums most suited for general collectors. The underlying principle is the same in all of them, *i.e.*, spaces are provided for all the most important varieties listed in the stamp catalogues, and these are so arranged that the stamps can be placed in their correct chronological and philatelic order with a minimum of trouble. Blank albums are those generally used by specialists. These are books in which the leaves are kept in place by some mechanical contrivance so that they may be taken out, rearranged, or added to as desired.

Alerta.—A town in Peru which issued a special stamp in 1884. This was the 5 centavos value of the ordinary issue of 1877 across which the name "Alerta" was written in pen and ink.

Alexandria.—I. A large town in the State of Virginia, U.S.A., at which a 5c. stamp was issued by the Postmaster in 1846 to facilitate the prepayment of postage, prior to the appearance of the ordinary Government postal labels.

II.—The second largest town and most important port in modern Egypt—known to most of the native inhabitants by the Turkish name of Iskanderieh—at which the French Government maintains a Consular office. Postal business is transacted at this office and special stamps are used. These were first issued in 1899; the then current stamps of France being overprinted "ALEXANDRIE." The current set are the same in design as the "Blanc," "Mouchon" and "Olivier Merson" types for France with the name of the town in place of "POSTES." Alexandria is one of the most famous cities of antiquity having been founded so long ago as B.C. 332 by command of Alexander the Great.

Alexandrie.—The French form of Alexandria.

Alsace and Lorraine.—An important territory of the German empire, forming its south-west border next to France. The German name for the provinces is *Elsass-Lothringen*, and they have had a somewhat chequered history. Originally part of the old German empire it was partly transferred to and partly seized by France between 1648 and 1697. In the Franco-German war of 1870-1 it was reclaimed by Germany. During this war special stamps were used by the German army in those parts of France temporarily occupied and they were afterwards used provisionally in the annexed provinces of Alsace and Lorraine until superseded by the ordinary stamps of the German Empire. The stamps bear no name but consist of the word "POSTES" and value in centimes on a network background.

Alwar.—One of the native feudatory States of India, situated in the Rajputana district. It is sometimes known as Alwur, and has an area of over 3,000 square miles. Stamps were first issued in 1877, and they were withdrawn from use about the end of 1902.

America Central.—An inscription shown upon some of the stamps of Salvador, referring to the geographical position of this Republic.

American Bank Note Co.—A well-known firm of printers and engravers in New York, U.S.A., which has produced many of the stamps of the United States, Newfoundland, Canada, etc.

Amharic.—The official language of Abyssinia, in which the inscriptions on the stamps of this country are engraved. It has been in general use since the thirteenth century, and is Semetic in origin. It is written from right to left.

Amtlicher Verkehr.—An inscription appearing on the official stamps of Würtemberg, signifying "official communication."

Anatoikh Pomyia.—(Anotlike Roumelia.) An inscription appearing on some of the stamps of Eastern Roumelia—the Greek rendering of the name of the State.

Ancachs.—One of the departments of the Republic of Peru on the Pacific slope in which stamps of a special design or with special overprints were used by a revolutionary party in 1883.

Anchor.—A watermarked device found in some of the stamps of Great Britain and Cape Colony. There are three main varieties known as "unfouled," "fouled" and "cabled." In the first of these the anchor is quite plain while in the others it is shown entwined with a length of cable.

Angola.—The general name applied to the whole of the vast Portuguese territory between the Congo State on the north-east, the Barotse kingdom of B.C.A. on the east, and German South-West Africa on the south. It has an area of 484,000 square miles and a coast-line of not less than 1,000 miles. Angola sends two deputies to the Portuguese parliament, the colonies being considered an integral part of the motherland. Postage stamps were first issued in 1870.

Angra.—A fortified port and capital of the Teceira Islands in the Azores, known locally as Angra do Heroismo. It has had its own special stamps since 1892, these being used concurrently with the general issues for the Azores.

Aniline.—A term occasionally met with in descriptions of stamp colours, more especially in connection with mauve and carmine shades. These colours are very apt to "run" if the stamps are wetted in any way, and they are thus an excellent safeguard against cleaning. It is probable that the majority of these aniline shades are not derived direct from true aniline. More probably they belong to the same class as aniline dyes—compounds obtained by the oxidation of certain other compounds. True aniline is an aromatic base occurring in coal-tar and similar products of the distillation of nitrogenous bodies. It was first obtained in this manner from indigo, but is now produced almost exclusively from the benzene of coal-tar. Aniline is an oily liquid that is colourless when pure, but which turns brown if kept for any length of time. It is poisonous; is slightly soluble in water, but more so in benzene or alcohol.

Anjouan (Sultanat D').—One of the islands of the Comoro group belonging to France, and situated halfway between Madagascar and the east coast of Africa. It has had its own special stamps since 1892.

Anna.—A coin in general use throughout the Indian Empire, British East Africa, Uganda, Zanzibar, Somaliland, etc. It is the sixteenth part of a rupee and is the equivalent of 1d. in English money.

Annam and Tonquin.—Two divisions of French Indo China lying between China and Siam which used specially surcharged stamps in 1888 before the general issues for Indo China made their appearance.

Annapolis.—The capital of the State of Maryland, U.S.A., situated on Chesapeake Bay. In 1846, prior to the introduction of the general issues for the United States, the Postmaster issued a special 5c. stamped envelope to facilitate the prepayment of postage. It is of the greatest rarity.

Anotacion (Registered).—An inscription found on some of the stamps of the Republic of Colombia signifying that they are intended for use in the prepayment of the special fee for registration. A large capital "A" also occurs on the same stamp.

Anotado.—An overprint found upon some of the stamps of the 1868 issue of Mexico. The word means "noted" or "registered," and the stamps so surcharged were issued provisionally in 1872. The overprint does not mean that the stamps were intended for use on registered letters but that they were an obsolete issue temporarily brought into use again.

(To be continued.)

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Assobla. *Ewen's Weekly*, quoting *Le Timbre Poste*, says this is the title of a new Spanish Colony for which a set of stamps have been provided by overprinting the current Spanish Guinea stamps with the words "Guinea Continental 4 Correos Assobla," in violet.

Stamps of Spanish Guinea
overprinted "Guinea Continental Correos Assobla."

Perf. 14.
1c., rose.
2c., dark violet.
3c., black.
4c., red.
5c., dark green.
10c., green.
15c., violet.
25c., carmine.
50c., orange.
75c., blue.
1p., brown.
2p., "
3p., vermilion.
4p., brown.
5p., dark olive.
10p., brown-red.

Falkland Islands.—The 1d. red, on multiple C.A. paper, wmk. *sideways*, is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly*.

Wmk. *sideways*.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

1d., red.

Federated Malay States. We have received the 5c. on Multiple C.A. paper. It has been included in *Gibbons' Catalogue* for some time, but left unpriced, and has apparently only just been issued. The list of values on Multiple C.A. paper now stands as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

1c., green, centre black.
3c., brown, " "
4c., carmine, " "
5c., carmine and green on yellow paper.
8c., blue, centre black.
10c., claret, " "
20c., black, " mauve.
50c., orange, " black.

All one colour.

1c., green.
3c., brown.

Variety: Wmk. upright.

8c., blue, centre black.

German Colonies. The 2c. Kiautschou and the 2½p. Morocco are reported on watermarked paper. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* gives the up-to-date list of values known on watermarked paper as follows:—

On Watermarked Paper.

East Africa, 2½, 4, 7½, 15, 45, 60 heller.
S.W. Africa, 3, 5, 10pf., 5mk.
China, 1c., \$½, \$1, \$2½.
Kamerun, 5, 10pf.
Kiautschou, 1c., 2c., 40c., \$½, \$1, \$1½, \$2½.
Levant, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 4, 5, 10, 25 piastre (complete except 15pi. on 3mk.)
Morocco, 3, 5, 10, 15c., 2½p., 6½p.
New Guinea, Karolinen, Marianen, Marshall Is., Samoa,
Togo—none yet.

Paraguay. We have received the 60 centavos, brown, dated 1904, from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Dated 1904. Perf. 11½.
60c., brown.

Salvador. The following is taken from the *Metropolitan Philatelist*:—

The plates for a new series of postage stamps are being prepared in London, but it will be some time before they will be issued, presumably about the 1st of the year. Meanwhile the current set are being surcharged in black as follows, numeral and large dots obliterating the old values:—

1 centavo on 5 c., blue and black.
2 centavos on 6 c., rose "

The 1 and 2c. stamps which have not been surcharged with new value are overprinted with the Anchor and Shield in rays device used in 1900. Surcharged black.

1 centavo, green and black.
2 centavos, rose "
3 " yellow "

Gibbons' Weekly adds a 10c. on 6c., rose and black, and *Mekeel's Weekly* a 1c. on 6c., rose and black.

The *Monthly Journal* reports having received what we presume is the new series referred to above. It describes the stamps as being "of rather pleasing design, bearing a picture of the 'Palacio Nacional' in the centre, in black, with value on an engine-turned device (also in black) below, surrounded by a fancy frame, in colour." And adds, "The stamps are printed from plates engraved in *taille-douce*, on paper with a mottled surface in very pale buff, and apparently *chalky*. They are perf. 11½. Each is overprinted at the top with Type 81, in black."

1 c., black and green.
2 c., " rose-red.
3 c., " pale yellow.
5 c., " deep blue.
6 c., " vermilion.
10 c., " mauve.
12 c., " "
13 c., " dark brown.
24 c., " rose.
26 c., " light brown.
50 c., " orange-yellow.
100 c., " light blue.

Surmain Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 15c., 20c., 30c., and 50c. of the new type with head of Queen Wilhelmina in profile to left.

Head of Queen Wilhelmina.

Perf. 12½.
15c., brown.
20c., olive.
30c., chestnut.
50c., lake brown.

Gibbons' Weekly is informed that four more values of the figure type are to be issued in December or January next.

Figure Type. Perf. 11.

1c., olive-green.
2c., red-brown.
2½c., deep green.
3c., orange-yellow.

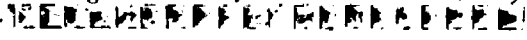
From Other Magazines

A Plea for Group Exhibitions

OF the educational and popularising tendency of stamp exhibitions there can be no manner of doubt, or likewise of the enormous amount of labour and expense involved in promoting them. The great London Exhibition of last year has left behind it a keen appreciation of its success and the attendant work in achieving this success, hence it is hardly likely that we shall see another international exhibition for a year or two. There is, however, no valid reason why smaller exhibitions should not be held at less distant dates. The relatively small exhibitions promoted by the London Society a few years since were highly appreciated, and we should be glad to see a recurrence of them. Only one group should be shown, as, for instance, West Indies, British North America, British Africa, United States, Italian States, Australia (in two or three divisions), France, etc., etc. The principal difficulty is that of a room suitable for exhibiting purposes that would be available at little expense. It is much to be regretted that there is not a "philatelic building" in London that could be adapted alike for the purposes of the meetings of societies, the holding of exhibitions and of stamp auctions. Despite this difficulty we still hope that it may be overcome, and that ere long we shall be having a repetition of the charming little specialised exhibitions of a few years ago. The greatest advantage of these minor displays is that an excellent opportunity is afforded of studying the stamps of a particular group; the visitor is not overwhelmed by the amount of exhibits, hence is better able to "inwardly digest" it and is the more likely to be a better Philatelist for his visit. We commend the idea to all and several of our philatelic societies, and to the members of the stamp trade, all of whom would indubitably benefit thereby.—*The London Philatelist*, 10.07.

Bisected Stamps

As a matter of principle, we should be inclined to exclude from the Catalogue all varieties of stamps for prepaying postage that cannot be collected unused, as well as used, or that were not regularly issued to the public. No one would collect these half-stamps *unused*, except in unsevered pairs (as an Irish friend puts it), and it does not appear that they were ever, anywhere, issued to the public; even in Jamaica, where the use of halves of the penny stamp was authorized, we do not know that the half of a stamp could have been bought at the Post Office for a halfpenny. In all other cases, except perhaps that of the 2 piastres, 1867, of Egypt, the stamps were divided by the postmasters and affixed by them to the letters, during a temporary deficiency of low values. Under these circumstances, the postage is really paid in cash, as if there were no such things as stamps in existence, but the Postmaster uses a fragment of a stamp (instead of marking the letter "paid") so as to save himself the trouble of keeping an account of the cash received. We should like to strike out of the Catalogue all stamps thus employed; they are not issued stamps, but merely indications of postage paid in cash; at the same time specialists will of course place specimens of these divided stamps in their collections, as postal curiosities—they must be

on the entire cover to be of any value at all—in the same way as specimens of ordinary stamps are preserved on entire envelopes, to show dates of use and to prove special points in their history; but we should certainly not recommend the listing of bisected stamps in the catalogue, though the fact of their existence should be noted in the magazines.—MAJOR EVANS in the *Monthly Journal*. 

Sudan: 1907. 4m. carmine and brown: Sheets

The Colonial Stamp Market has shown us sheets of the new 4 millièmes stamps, and we note that they are from plate 2, with plate number in red on the margin at each corner of the sheet of 120. This is, we believe, the first occasion on which the Sudan sheets have had a plate number.

The sheet is divided into panes of sixty before issue, and the arrangement of the lines round the panes does not correspond with that of plate 2, described in *E.W.S.N.* No. 387. In fact, the marginal lines appear to be altered with every printing.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 26.10.07.

Sudan: 1907. 4m. brown and blue: Varieties

We do not appear to have noted the fact that the 4 millièmes brown and blue was printed from both plates 1 and 2. Although copies with plate-number 2 are not known, Mr. S. M. Low writes that he has specimens showing the following differences:—

4 mill. brown and blue, Sudan. Chief differences.

No. 1. (Worn plate) ?

- (1) The parallel lines of shading in the background under Postage have small lines across them.
- (2) The lines of shading beneath the camel's body are very thick.
- (3) The guiding rein of the camel is thick and straight.

No. 2. (Plate II.)

- (1) The parallel lines of shading have no lines across them.
- (2) The lines of shading beneath the camel's body are very fine.
- (3) The guiding rein of the camel is thin and curved.

The Sudan Stamp Co. sent us the new 4 millièmes yellow-brown and red under date of 4.10.07, which is the earliest date of issue so far reported to us.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 26.10.07.

[The term "worn plate" is of more than doubtful application. I question if De La Rue & Co. ever make a printing from what we philatelists term "a worn plate." They are far too jealous of their reputation to do that.—*Editor P.S.*]

A Comprehensive Envelope

The *Berlin Brief Zeitung* mentions an envelope bearing the following stamps: On the address side one hundred and twenty 10 rouble stamps of Russia, on the other side thirty 10 rouble stamps and one stamp each of 7 rouble, 50 and 2 kopecs, in all 1,517 rouble 52 kopecs. A novel piece for collectors "on the entire."

Mems, Notes and News

The Gum of U.S.A. Stamps

FOR gumming the backs of postage stamps female labour is employed at the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The United States Government expends nearly £10 a day for the gum, which is prepared in 100-gallon kettles in the basement of the building. In order to meet the varying climatic conditions of the different seasons of the year, the character of the sticky substance is changed four times each twelve months, the hardest gum being used in summer and the softest in winter. The sheets of newly printed stamps—400 stamps in each—are given a coating of gum by passing under a roller, from which oozes just the right proportion of mucilage, and then they are carried by means of an endless chain through a wooden tunnel fifty feet long, from which they emerge perfectly dry.—*Glasgow Weekly Mail*.

The Nyasaland Protectorate

A telegram has been received at the Colonial Office from the officer administering the Government of the Nyasaland Protectorate, reporting that the Nyasaland Order in Council of 6th July, 1907, published in the *London Gazette* of 3rd September, by which the designation of the territory previously known as the British Central Africa Protectorate was changed to that of the Nyasaland Protectorate and a new Constitution was established, came into force on the 21st inst.—*The Times*, 29.10.07.

Travancore and Cochin Currencies

The rupee of Travancore is equal to 28 chuckrams, each of which is divided into 16 cash. The Cochin currency is far more complicated:—1 rupee = 19½ puttan = 211½ pies, thus 1 puttan = 11 pies, and the 3 pies stamp is rather more than ½ puttan; so we find that the Travancore rupee (and presumably the Cochin rupee also) equals only 15 annas of British India, the translation from one currency into the other must be somewhat difficult; a *puttan* appears to be between ⅔ and ¾ of an *anna*.

Philately and a Fortune

The Members of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society, at their second general meeting, were treated to an interesting bit of autobiography by Alderman W. Trounce, J.P., given in the course of a most entertaining speech on stamp-collecting generally. Mr. Trounce, it appears, started collecting stamps many years ago, when he was an English clerk for a French firm. He remained in their employment for five years, and during that time he had accumulated a fairly large collection. On leaving France and reaching London he found himself for some time out of a berth, and as a means of "raising the wind" he went to a stamp collector with his album, and arranged with him to sell the stamps and to keep 25 per cent. of the proceeds as commission. Mr. Trounce then came to Cardiff, and for about twelve or fifteen weeks he received regularly from the stamp dealer between £5 and £6 per week on the sale. With that money he chartered his first ship, and laid the foundation of his fortune!—*Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*.

Lucky Cornish Girls

A man of means who has been staying at Truro made frequent use of the post office there, and in recognition of the attention shown to him by the two lady assistants has sent them each fifteen shares in the New Vaal River Diamond Mine Company. The shares are quoted at £8 10s., so each assistant has received nearly £130.—*Glasgow Evening Times*.

Proofs of Stamps

Within the past few months a small quantity of India paper proofs have been put on the market at very low prices. Many collectors have availed themselves of the opportunity to lay the foundation of what is destined to become the highest branch of Philately. Proofs may be roughly estimated as representing one to a million of regularly issued postage stamps, and yet they have been selling at half or even less of the price of the common article.

Independent of the fact of their comparatively enormous rarity, which must in time make them very valuable, they alone show the ability of the engraver unspoilt by rapid or careless printing. Take the secret marks on the 1873 issue of U.S. stamps; some of these would never have been discovered on the regularly printed stamps, but reference to the proofs at once revealed the secret.

Returning to the rarity proposition, we should say that one thousand copies is the greatest number that has ever been printed from one plate, two hundred is the largest number we ever heard of; in a great many instances the proof impressions are confined to a single specimen. The quantity printed is the sole criterion of value; the proof of a one-cent stamp is as valuable as the proof of a five-dollar one; but the low price at which these stamps have been sold has caused their purchase by young collectors, who have used the high values to fill in gaps in their regular collections.

Proofs will not stand rough usage, and all so placed may be considered lost for ever, much to the regret of all true philatelists. Take care of any proofs you may have, and add to the lot whenever you get the chance.—*Metropolitan Philatelist (New York)*.

"Addressee Hanged for Murder"

The Kedah Post Office authorities have a somewhat blunt way of putting things. Copies of a Penang paper posted to a subscriber were the other day returned, marked "Addressee hanged for murder."—*Bangkok Times*.

Stamp Collecting to be Stopped by Law

Many postal officials in the early days found difficulty in understanding the motives of stamp collectors, thinking that the used stamps were being preserved for some improper purpose. In 1864, the postmaster at Hobart Town, Tasmania, recommended that collecting should be stopped by law. A year later, however, the same postmaster asked his Government to furnish him with an album in which to place the stamps of foreign countries: so his views on stamp collecting had evidently undergone a change.—*The American Journal of Philately*.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

Wake up, Europeans! Wake up!!

EUROPEANS seem to need a lot of industrious booming to galvanise them into the desired popularity. The coming European boom has been foretold by the "profits" for many a weary year. But they do say that things really are, at last, on the move. Says the voice of Stanley Gibbons:

To collectors who are looking for an interesting country to take up one that will not require a large capital, and which will combine a good investment with plenty of study and research, there are several European countries that I can strongly recommend. Among the best of these I mention Greece, Finland, Italy and States, Luxemburg, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Austria, Portugal, Turkey, Montenegro, Servia. There are still many things to study in all these stamps, and with the exception of a few rarities, most varieties can be had used for but a small outlay.

How the Wind is going to Blow

Of course we all want to know how prices are going to shape themselves in the next Gibbons. Hence, be thankful for these preliminary hints:—

I may say that in our next Catalogues there will be far more advances in Part II than in Part I. Colonials have been going up too fast, and I think they are quite high enough at present. Of course, there are many exceptions, but the exceptions do not prove the rule.

Ah, well! If Colonials have been going up too fast they will be all the better for a rest.

Europeans v. Colonials

But this charming bluff will not deceive the sane collector of British Colonials. Not a bit of it. Europeans are all very well in their way, granted that they are all they are painted, the serious collector of Colonials is not likely to be frightened into Europeans because Colonials are "quite high enough—at present."

He knows that European prices depend almost solely upon the support of Continental collectors, and that a commercial or political crisis may shatter those prices any day. Only a few years ago there was a commercial crisis in Germany, the English market was flooded with German collections, and prices came down with a run. A bombastic and unrestful German Kaiser and an ailing Austrian Emperor are not comforting elements in the calculation.

British Colonials Safe Favourites

On the other hand this country of ours has been passing through one of the longest and most severe periods of commercial depression that has been experienced for many a decade, but how many English collections have been rushed over to the continent for sale? Have our auctions been flooded with English collections?

On the contrary the scarcity of good stuff at the sales has been most remarkable. And why? Simply because British Colonials are safe Favourites, and we all know it. Gibbons may keep the prices of Colonials low, but they cannot increase the supply.

Moen's Publications

Mr. Victor Marsh, 389 Brixton Road, London, S.W., informs me that he has purchased the unsold stock of Moen's publications, and is offering them at tempting prices to English collectors. I should add that he conducts his business through the post.

I am glad to learn that this splendid stock has been

secured for sale in the English market, and I have availed myself of the opportunity of securing nearly a score lacking in my own library.

No philatelic publications are more trustworthy and accurate than those of the great Belgian dealer.

Whitfield King's Novelties

My friend Whitfield King makes up a List of Special Offers and novelties which he sends out to any address on receipt of postage, *i.e.*, 6d. for twelve numbers.

He has just sent me his Oct.-Nov. list which opens with offers of King's head single C.A.'s. Many varieties are included, but many are ominously conspicuous by their absence. Cayman Islands, 6d., and 1s., are sold out, so also are the rarities of Lagos, Sierra Leone, St. Vincent, etc. Grenada, 10s., may be had for 30s.; Gibbons has advanced his price to 35s. Southern Nigeria, 10s., is offered at £6.

Solomon Islands

Mr. Whitfield King keeps a stiff upper lip concerning the sale of Solomon Islands. He is not yet convinced that it is a genuine postal issue and until he is convinced he will have nothing to do with them. He says:—

In reply to numerous enquiries we beg to state that we have no present intention of importing these stamps, as from enquiries made we are satisfied that they are nothing but a local and speculative issue. When they are proved to be valid for postage to places outside the Solomon Islands we shall stock them, and not before.

Gwalior Varieties

I had recently the pleasure of looking through Messrs. Whitfield King's stock of Gwalior and was very much tempted to go for that Indian State. There were varieties galore, and the prices were from 25 to almost 50 per cent. in some cases below Gibbons'. So if you want Gwaliors you will know where to go—while they last.

Here are his prices for mint blocks of four from the corner of the sheet, with margins, three stamps being normal and one error.

	s.	d.
½ anna, green	5	0 per block of 4.
1 " plum	10	0 " " 4.
2 " blue	20	0 " " 4.

Straits Settlements, 4c. carmine

According to the *Colonial Office Journal* as quoted on p. 40 of THE POSTAGE STAMP, the 4c. carmine which has only just been received is already doomed for "owing to alterations in the local currency" the 4 cents is to be printed in lilac. That being so this 4 cents stamp we have only just received will probably tempt the speculators to burn their fingers a bit.

Liberia: 1902. £5 centre inverted

For the first time in my recollection a copy of the well known £5 black and carmine, with centre inverted, was offered at auction by Glendining on the 10th Oct., 1907, and, though thinned, fetched £2 17s. 6d. It is catalogued at £8. It is one of the very few errors overlooked by the fastidiously careful house of Waterlow. Another was the Congo 10c. of 1895 with centre inverted. These stamps printed in two colours, necessitating two printings, are, of course, very liable to this sort of error, but there are surprisingly few all the same, for the very good reason that only the most careful men are trusted with these double printings.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Manchester Philatelic Society

The opening meeting of the seventeenth session was held at the rooms of the Geographical Society on Friday evening, October 4th, the President, Mr. W. D. Beckton, in the chair.

Mr. B. Krikorissian was elected a member, and the resignations of Messrs. H. R. Oldfield and G. L. Kennedy and Miss Garrick were accepted with regret.

Russia was the country selected for study at the List Meetings after Christmas, the choice having this session been left to the members.

Mr. Beckton gave a display with notes of the stamps of Egypt, explaining the two types of each value in the first issue, the four types in the second issue, and made a passing reference to the varieties of perforation in the third issue. In addition to the stamps, including the tête-beche varieties, Mr. Beckton showed a number of interesting proofs and essays.

At the 11st meeting on the following Friday, Mr. Albrecht opened the first of the discussions on British Entires, his subject being the Mulready envelopes, of which he has one of the finest collections in the country.

A large number of friends, including many ladies and several members of the Liverpool Society, accepted the invitation of the Committee to be present at the second meeting on October 18th. It was held in the Geographical Hall, and consisted of a series of short addresses with lantern illustrations. Mr. Beckton explained "The Construction of a Stamp," Mr. Bernstein "Our Penny Postage Stamps," Mr. Gibson "Types," Mr. Abbott "Forgeries," and Mr. Gee "The Mulready Envelope and some of its Caricatures."

Some of the slides were produced by the Sanger Sheppard process of three-colour photography, the stamps appearing on the sheet in their true colours. The Manchester Society, a good many years ago, first introduced lantern exhibitions of stamps, and it is believed they are the first to apply colour photography for the purpose of the displays.

South Wales & Monmouthshire Philatelic Society

President: Alderman W. J. Trounce.

Hon. Sec.: Henry Perkins.

Meetings: Monthly at Y.M.C.A.

Subscription: 10s. 6d.; Juniors, 5s.

The 13th General Meeting and 1st meeting for 1907-8 season was held at the Y.M.C.A. building, Cardiff, on Wednesday, October 16th, at 7.30 p.m. Members and Associates were present from Cardiff, Newport, and Penarth.

The Chairman, Mr. E. P. Crowther, was elected for the fresh season, and after the election of several new members, and the reading of a summary of last season's work, new officers for the season were elected:

President, Alderman W. J. Trounce; *Vice-President,* Dr. De Vere Hunt; *Vice-President,* Mr. G. E. Petty; *Hon. Treasurer,* C. M. Berkeley; *Hon. Secretary,* Henry Perkins; *Hon. Assist. Secretary,* W. H. Aylesbury; *Hon. Citrator,* C. Edwards.

Mr. C. E. Page, of Newport, gave a fine exhibition of British stamps which was rich in strips and large blocks of earlier varieties as well as the higher values.

The display aroused enthusiastic admiration and the owner was accorded a unanimous vote of thanks.

Dates for the future season's meetings are:—

Monday, October 18th.	Wednesday, November 13th.
" November 25th.	" December 11th.
" December 23rd.	" January 8th.
" January 27th.	" February 12th.
" February 24th.	" March 11th.
" March 23rd.	" April 8th.
" April 20th.	" May 13th.

Hull and East Riding Philatelic Association

President: R. W. Dawing.

Hon. Sec.: A. N. Hebblethwaite, 92 Park Grove, Hull.

A large number of members assembled at Powolny's Restaurant on Friday, November 1st, 1907, to hear Mr. G. C. Storry's paper on British South Africa. Mr. Storry's remarks were of a most instructive character and the interest was greatly enhanced by the very fine display of the stamps in question which were handed round by the lecturer. Mr. Storry also brought his general collection which was very much admired. The collection is formed on simplified lines, but contains many great rarities, several European countries being practically complete, notably France, Baden, and Holland. Outside Europe the following countries were particularly noticed—U.S.A., Japan, Persia, Peru, and many others. A special feature of the collection is the very fine condition of the used specimens.

The President in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer said he hoped that business claims would allow Mr. Storry to attend the meetings more regularly than he has been able to do in the past. The vote was seconded by the Hon. Sec. and carried unanimously. Mr. Storry suitably replied and the meeting adjourned at 10.15.

Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society

President: Edward J. Nankivell.

Hon. Sec.: Miss M. R. Rix, 1 Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Meetings: Monthly at members' residences.

Annual Subscription, 5s.

The first meeting of the season was held on 7th October, 1907, at Camanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells, the President in the chair.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., by special invitation gave a display of several volumes of the celebrated Breitfuss Collection, recently purchased by his firm. The volumes shown included the stamps of Ceylon, Hongkong, Borneo, Sarawak, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Switzerland, and Denmark. Mr. Phillips also exhibited some volumes of his grand collection of forgeries and reprints of Austria, Germany, and the Italian States, and contributed some most interesting information concerning the manufacture and collection of forgeries, very strongly emphasising the necessity of studying them closely.

A most enjoyable meeting was brought to an end by a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Phillips for his kindness in coming.

It was resolved to send a letter to the relatives of the late Earl Sondes—one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society—expressing sympathy and sincere regret at his death.

The second meeting of the season was held on 4th November, 1907, at Holy Trinity Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells, the President in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. J. Dinsdale proposed by Mr. Nankivell and seconded by Rev. D. J. Stather Hunt, was duly elected a member.

Mr. Hunt gave a display of the stamps of the Niger Coast, Northern and Southern Nigeria, and also showed the New "Cents" issue of E. Africa and Uganda.

Mr. Nankivell showed some of his Niger Coast stamps.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hunt for his most interesting display.

The next meeting was arranged on the invitation of Mrs. Collins, to be held on Dec. 9th, 1907, at Dunorlan, Tunbridge Wells.

Brighton Junior Philatelic Society

President: F. J. Melville.

Hon. Sec.: J. Corner-Spokes, 22 Denmark Terrace, Brighton.

The opening meeting of the new season was held on 24th October, when, owing to the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. Fred. J. Melville, a display was given by Mr. Ireland, the remainder of the evening being occupied in the discussion of matters connected with the coming season.

After the reading of the minutes, Rev. H. C. Bond, Mr. W. Cyril Owen, Mr. C. Cranbrook-Smith, and Mrs. Drysdale were elected members.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Clark for his further generous donations to the library, which, Mr. Markwick seconding, was carried unanimously.

The Chairman also read a letter he had received from Mr. Melville regarding the Exhibition of Imperial stamps which the parent society are holding next March, expressing the hope that all the Brighton members would be present on that occasion.

The attention of members and visitors is specially drawn to the meeting on 14th November, when the branch is to be honoured by a display of Cape of Good Hope by Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Society. It is hoped that a good attendance will welcome this gentleman's kindness to the Juniors.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: J. H. M. Savage.

Hon. Sec.: A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool.

The third meeting of the Society, on 21st October, had been arranged by the Committee as an open meeting, having as attractions a lecture by the Hon. Sec. on "Secret Marks of the Stamps of Europe," and displays of special collections of stamps.

Between 60 and 70 members and friends were received by the President. Mr. Allender in his lecture restricted himself to a few countries and cities of Europe, choosing Switzerland, Bremen, Oldenburg, Hamburg and Denmark. He pointed out clearly and precisely the distinguishing marks of the various issues, illustrating his remarks by reference to the excellent depictions of stamps shown by the lantern. The thoroughly interesting exposition was much enjoyed by the numerous assembly, and their appreciation was voiced in a hearty vote of thanks, supported by several members.

The special collections exhibited were Brazil, Gambia, Gibraltar, Hawaii, Hayti, Lagos and Spain, and all of these high-class exhibits were presented.

A dealer member had a special and interesting exhibit, showing specimens of beautiful types of production of British Colonial stamps, in blocks and pairs.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

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In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends: the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

G. W. M. (Liverpool.) The "C.S.A.R." surcharge is not a postal overprint, and has no place in a collection of postage stamps. Major Evans explained at the time in the *Monthly Journal* that "the statement that 'The colonies recently issued series of stamps surcharged C.S.A.R. for the use of their Government Railways,' is not in accordance with the facts," and he explained that "the stamps were issued to the Railways in exactly the same condition as that in which they were issued to the general public; there was what is euphoniously termed "considerable leakage," and in consequence permission was given to mark the stamps in some way with a view to the prevention of pilfering. The very same thing is done by the British Government, which allows business firms, railways, etc., to perforate initials in stamps, with exactly the same object, and all these other perforated stamps are every bit as collectable as those perforated or overprinted with the initials 'C.S.A.R.', which have nothing SACRed about them."

C. C. (Bolton.) The reason given at the time for the suppression of stamps in Afghanistan was that constant complaints reached the Amir that stamps were removed from letters addressed to India, and presumably, re-sold to other customers of the Post Office.

J. B. (Dovercourt.) The Patiala Service ½d. of 1893 is catalogued at 2d. unused and 1d. used.

W. H. B. (Acton.) Yes, the 1902-4 issue of Sudan is catalogued with overprint Army Service, the 1m., 2m., 3m., 5m and 1 piastre wmk. multiple star and crescent and the 2p., 5p., and 10p. wmk. quatrefoil.

C. A. P. The United States is certainly a fine country to specialise but most expensive. Read the special articles in THE POSTAGE STAMP and make your own choice. The stamps of Seychelles, of which you get the history in this number, is a very manageable country for the moderate specialist. The Geneva 5c. yellow-green on white paper is catalogued at ½8 used; it is not priced unused.

G. Y. C. (Heswall.) Your New South Wales is fiscally used. The St. Helenas with the triangle cancellation are remainders cancelled. I am sorry I cannot give you the address of a collector in Barbados for exchange purposes. The only way of getting such a correspondent that I know is by advertising for one, but I do not see what objection you can have to buying from firms. Thank you very much for getting subscribers for THE POSTAGE STAMP.

E. A. (London.) The 1884 Victoria 2d. differs from the 1886 in design, and the 1886 differs from the 1887 in the background of the head; in the 1886 it is formed of solid colour; in the 1887 it is formed of horizontal lines. There are many shades of each.

L. J. W. (Winchester.) Bright catalogues the Queen's head 1d. rose (not lilac) envelope of Great Britain with silk thread at 1s. used. Yes, I always recommend the binding of the advertisements with the rest of the matter, for the advertisements are full of interest. No, I do not intend to bother about chalky varieties. They cannot be distinguished in the used form, and only in the unused by marking the stamp. I cannot say what stamps may yet appear on chalky papers, but it is said chalky papers are not giving satisfaction and may be abandoned. Yes, all stamps on C.C. must soon appear on C.A. multiple as the supply of C.C. paper is exhausted. The "Paragon" at 10s. is a decidedly cheap album and would do for a collection of King's heads. I don't think the Tonga envelope of much value.

B. B. (Bury.) As there is no catalogue price for forgeries I am afraid I cannot put a price to those you name. The Canadian overprint is for newspapers and printed matter.

J. A. D. (Wigan.) Inverted watermarks are of no special value. Very few collectors pay any attention to them.

H. A. P. (East Dulwich.) Try benzine for cleaning.

B. A. (Bedford.) Your ½50 and ½100 fiscally used are of course fiscals and of value to a collector of fiscals. Many collectors are satisfied with fiscally-cancelled copies of such high values rather than pay the price for unused, and postal cancellations of such stamps are almost unknown.

W. P. (Woodbridge.) The ½4d. of Great Britain is catalogued at 8d. It is not regarded as a stamp likely to rise in value for many years as large numbers were bought up by speculators who have since been glad to get face value for them.

C. E. L. (Clifton.) I am afraid it would take up far too much space to give the fluctuations of used as well as unused and would not be of any great value in the general range of stamps. Of course there are many stamps that are much more valuable used than unused, but generally speaking a table of unused is a pretty clear general guide to the rise and fall of most issues.

P. J. C. (Dalston.) A much better, because simpler, plan is to put all countries in their strict alphabetical order. It is the plan I follow. The grouping plan is full of pitfalls. Morocco agencies under Gibraltar, Malay States under Straits Settlements, etc., are only unnecessary complexities. Besides the catalogue is not even consistent in this grouping direction, Cayman Islands administered by Jamaica should under such a plan be put under Jamaica, but the little colony is accorded a place in its alphabetical order and so on. Finland has, I believe, still its separate issue of postage stamps. Tobagos are obsolete, and I believe the U.S. stamps supply the needs of Hawaii.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 8. Vol. 1

23 NOVEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

That Cayman Islands Provisional



hard up as not to be able to afford that block of four.

Major Evans tickles the Herts

Major Evans must have enjoyed reading that paper at the first meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society which he maliciously entitled "An Apology and a Few Suggestions." Here are his "suggestions":—

Finally, I would remind you that there is an enormous amount of philatelic work that wants doing, and one would like to see all Societies and all individual Philatelists taking their share in it. It is unnecessary for me to suggest subjects. Probably every member here to-night could suggest some subject upon which he would like to see an exhaustive paper or a handbook published. Well, I will tell him what to do—get to work, search for information, study the subject, make note of everything that you can find, and you will discover before long that you can write that paper or compile that handbook yourself, without waiting for some other fellow to do it—as your natural modesty might incline you to do. I am not preaching what I do not practice, and I only mention that fact in order to add that what I have done anybody else can do.

No one knows better than the talented editor of *The Monthly Journal* how few stamp collectors ever

dream of attempting to carry their study of stamps to the length of writing a handbook or even an article.

I will, however, go so far as to say that I believe the number of real students of stamps is increasing.

But if you want to fathom the depth of your ignorance of stamps start an exhaustive article on a specialised country. I have done it, and I know.

Forgeries and their Collection

I see my friend (shall I call him my tennis and billiard coach?) Mr. C. J. Phillips is going to read a paper on the collection of Forgeries.

Now I hope that past-master in the art of "booming" is not going to "boom" Forgeries, for if he does, steps will have to be taken to increase the supply.

Philately Booming in America]

According to *Redfield's Stamp Weekly* philately is booming in America. It assures us that "several of the shrewdest observers in the trade, men at the head of large houses, men who have been in stamps for two to four decades and been through all the ups and downs that American stamp collecting has experienced in that time, report without exception that this summer's trade is the best in years, that they are hearing from many old collectors who have been out of the game for years and are just starting in again; and that in many other ways they are sensible of a greatly growing interest, or revival of interest in stamp-collecting, which shows every sign of bringing Philately again to the place it enjoyed in the halcyon days between 1890 and 1895."

Well that is good news any way. We shall have to get our American friends to come over and wake up John Bull a bit.

The Cause of the Philatelic Revival

Mr. Quackenbush, the Editor, says, "The ebb and flow of philatelic interest is ever a matter of a mystery," and he is inclined to think that the new impetus to collecting is due, not so much to new collectors (that is, those who have never collected at all before) as to the return to the ranks of great numbers of backsliders who were once ardent collectors but for years past have been engrossed in other interests."

American 'Feverishness'

But I cannot help quoting what he says about the American temperament of feverish haste, for Mr. Quackenbush is a keen observer and gifted writer. He says:—

For a decade past we have been a strenuous nation; strenuous in business, strenuous in pleasure, and mild intellectual pursuits have not thriven as they used to. Philately has suffered no more in this respect than have many other pleasures of too unexciting a nature to keep pace with the fashion. But now there are some signs that this nation is tiring of strenuosity—some signs of a revulsion of feeling against many a feverish fetish of the hour. We have gone the pace for a few years, and it begins to pall on many of us. How easy the return, under such conditions, to the long-neglected stamp album; and how many the cases, without doubt, in which just this tiring of the wear and worry of the time has of late brought men back to the quiet haven of Philately.

Solomon Islands Hall Marked

The dubious issue of the Solomon Islands has been hall marked. According to the *Australian Philatelist*, "the Solomon Islands stamps were on the 3rd September (1907) gazetted as usable for international postage."

So now you may buy, buy, buy.

New Zealand as a Dominion

Our Australian friends appear to think that the New Zealand Postal authorities may regard the grant of Dominion rank as "some justification for the issue of a new series."

Here we hope it will not be so regarded. We do not want to see New Zealand stamps reduced to the level of the plundering states of Seebeck fame.

The New Afghans

I have just received a nice selection of shades of the new Afghans, all used, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and collectors will be glad to note that the old barbarous methods of cancelling a stamp by tearing off a corner is no longer adopted. The new stamps are cancelled in red in native characters. Sir D. P. Masson will no doubt tell us what these cancellations signify. I presume they are dated.

When these new stamps are placed on sale at rational prices they will probably do much to awaken interest in this preserve of the specialist. At present the prices asked by Indian dealers result in the prompt return of supplies by English dealers.

Gibbons' Catalogue: New Edition

Mr. C. J. Phillips announces that Part II of the new catalogue for next year will be ready the first week in December, and Part I. British Colonies, early in January. He says:—

An important feature in this new Catalogue is that of the prices, and here we shall be stronger and more complete than ever before, owing to the fact that in the Breitfuss Collection we secured hundreds of stamps of which we never had sufficient in hand to price, and we still adhere to the rule of pricing only stamps in stock and on sale at the moment of going to press.

New Features of Part II.

Mr. Phillips says that among the many improvements in Part II will be the following:—

Finland.—New list simplified, and based upon the articles of M. Hanciau, published in the *M.J.*

Montenegro.—Entirely new list and revised prices, based upon my article in the *M.J.*, and some later information.

Nicaragua.—Later half of list re-written and made very complete from special information at our disposal.

Salvador.—Entirely new list, based upon the article by Mr. J. B. Leavy, now appearing in the *M.J.* In this article the discovery is for the first time made public of the numerous reprints in the "Seebeck" stamps of Salvador. Our own stock has been carefully examined, and every stamp we sell is guaranteed to be an original.

Switzerland.—The "silk thread" stamps have been correctly classified, and the later issues divided into correct lists of perforations and shades.

Siam.—Entirely new list, based on the articles of Mr. Poole.

Venezuela.—New and correct lists have been written of the provisionals of 1903, showing the various printings and errors.

Wenden.—Entirely new list, based on the pamphlet of Mr. Svendsen, of which a translation is appearing in the *M.J.*

Philippines: Numbers printed

We are indebted to Mr. J. N. Luff for the following lists of the numbers sold to the public of the overprinted stamps of 1899 and 1902-3; the figures were obtained by Mr. G. L. Toppan from official sources.

1899 Issue.		1902 Issue.	
1c.	5,500,000	1c.	9,631,172
2c.	6,970,000	2c. (I) ..	850,000
3c.	673,814	2c. (II) ..	862,245
4c.	404,907	3c.	14,500
5c.	1,700,000	4c.	12,500
6c.	223,465	5c.	1,211,844
8c.	248,000	6c.	11,500
10c.	750,000	8c.	49,033
15c.	200,000	10c.	300,179
50c.	50,000	13c.	91,341
\$1.00	3,000	15c.	183,965
\$2.00	1,800	50c.	75,641
\$5.00	782	\$1.00	5,617
10c., S.D. ..	150,000	\$2.00	695
		\$5.00	746

—*The Monthly Journal*.

Postal Difficulties in Turkey

A Glasgow firm received the following communication from a Turkey correspondent:—"Bagdad, 6 August.—The European mail, due here on July 26, has not reached Bagdad, as the post-carrier's camel is said to have escaped whilst he was sleeping, and it is supposed he perished in the desert, consequently the mail is lost. We beg you to send us copies of all correspondence which you may have directed to us during the latter days of June and the first days of July."—*Glasgow Evening Times*.

New Zealand, 1906, 1d. plates

In 1906 fresh printings were made from four new plates (*without* the minute dot), two of which, marked in the margin w 1 and w 2, were supplied by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, and the other two, marked in the margin r 1 and r 2, by Mr. Royle. The intention is to note which pair of plates wears the best and produces the best results. The stamps are printed in *rose-carmine* on paper with wmk. Type 41 (N.Z. and Star), and are *perf.* 14.—*Gibbons' Catalogue*.

The Stamps of Alsace and Lorraine

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

SOME of the most interesting stamps of the world are those that mark the great struggles that have taken place between nations and peoples, and amongst these the quaint stamps of Alsace and Lorraine, issued by the German Army of Occupation during the great Franco-German War of 1870, are by no means the least interesting.

These little souvenirs of a great struggle for life between two of the greatest European Powers are sometimes classed as stamps issued for the use of the German Army, just as our Indian stamps, overprinted C.E.F., were intended for the use of our army in China, sent to relieve the legations.

But that is a mistake.

They were designed for an altogether different purpose. As the Germans invaded France, they took sole possession of the administration of the post and telegraph services, and for the convenience of their administration they designed and issued the so-called Alsace and Lorraine postage stamps. As will be seen from our illustration, those stamps in no way indicated the march of a triumphant army. They bore no sign of their German origin. The only words printed on them were in French. And besides those two words, POSTES and CENTIMES, there was only the numeral of value. Nothing could be more simple. They quietly and effectually took the place of the previously current French stamps. They were issued solely to take the place of those stamps, and were not used for the military correspondence, which was all forwarded by the military authorities.

They were, of course, first used in Alsace and Lorraine which were the first portions of French territory to come under the administration of the invading German army, but Mr. Westoby tells us that they were subsequently employed as far as Le Mans on the west, and Amiens on the north. They were, in fact, used in those parts of France occupied by the German Army in the war of 1870-1, and afterwards provisionally in the annexed provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, until superseded by the issues for the German Empire in 1872.

Still, they will always be known as the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine, for they originated in those provinces, and were mostly used there, though to be strictly correct they should be termed the stamps of the German Army of Occupation. Many years ago they were given a separate heading in our catalogues; now they are always included under the general heading of Germany.

Mr. Westoby tells us that they were manufactured at Berlin, and as there was urgent need of them, "it was necessary to resort to some simple design, which, at the same time, should not be capable of being imitated. The stamps of the North German Confederation, then in use in Prussia, were underprinted with a network of fine-lined curves, which, being printed with a preparation of lead, was not visible except when exposed to fumes which produced oxidation. It was

resolved to print the same network in colour upon the sheets for the new stamps, and to overprint a design in type in similar colour."

The design, as will be seen, was confined to the numerals of values, and the word POSTES above and CENTIMES below.

The network in the ordinary issue points upwards but it is found printed with the points downwards, owing to the sheets having been put through the machine the wrong way up. Hence, there are what is termed two sets, one with the normal printing, and the other with the network inverted. As will be seen from the appended list, the inverted network is much the scarcer of the two.

Specialists in Alsace and Lorraine issues find a most interesting field of research open to them in getting specimens postmarked with the names and dates of all the post offices in which the stamps were used. Such copies are of a more than philatelic interest for they afford evidence of the postal occupation of the country by the invading and victorious army. They are in fact historic evidence of the progress of the great life and death struggle.

1870. Seven Values. Design: Central and large figures of value with the word "Postes" above and "Centimes" below, with a background of network. These stamps were issued in September, 1870.

Perf. 13½ x 14½.

With points of the net upwards.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
1 c. olive green	1	3	6	6
1 c. sage-green	1	3	7	6
2 c. chestnut-brown	5	0	8	0
2 c. dark brown.. .. .	7	0	8	0
4 c. grey	3	0	3	0
5 c. pale yellow-green ..	4	0	0	9
5 c. dark	1	0	0	6
10 c. light brown.. .. .	4	0	0	6
10 c. bistre	0	9	0	9
10 c. bistre-brown	2	0	0	2
20 c. pale ultramarine ..	2	6	1	0
20 c. dark	2	6	1	0
25 c. dark brown.. .. .	2	6	2	6

With points of the net downwards.

1 c. olive-green	50	0	60	0
1 c. sage-green	50	0	60	0
2 c. chestnut-brown	10	0	30	0
4 c. grey	12	0	8	0
5 c. pale yellow-green ..	—		35	0
10 c. light brown.. .. .	10	0	1	0
10 c. bistre-brown	8	0	1	0
20 c. ultramarine	45	0	15	0
25 c. brown	60	0	25	0

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 104.)

LAST of all we have the general plates of the "POSTAGE-POSTAGE" type. There were three plates for this series; plate 1, which was only used for the first issue of Seychelles and the 1½d. St. Helena, being die I and plates 2 and 3 being die II. The plates of this type were used in producing the following stamps:



Honduras, 1c. to 25c. of 1891; Cayman Islands; Gambia, 1898 issue; St. Helena, 1890-97 issue; Seychelles, all Queen's head stamps; Straits Settlements, 1892-99 set; and Turks Island, 5d. of 1894.

The sheets of all the three above mentioned "general" types are of the same size, *i.e.*, composed of 120 stamps in two panes of sixty placed side by side.

The King's Head "General" Plates

When the portrait of His Majesty King Edward VII was introduced on the stamps of the British Empire Messrs. De La Rue & Co. manufactured new "general" "head-plates" of the "POSTAGE & REVENUE" and "POSTAGE-POSTAGE" types.

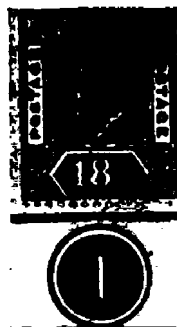
Two plates of the "POSTAGE & REVENUE" type are in use. The one numbered "1" consists of 120



stamps in two panes of sixty each, and the other, numbered "2," is composed of 240 stamps arranged in four panes of sixty. The latter plate is apparently

used in the production of those stamps of which large quantities are required. These two plates are used in producing the current stamps for the following Colonies: British Honduras, Fiji, Gold Coast, Grenada, Northern Nigeria, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, and Virgin Islands.

For the "Postage-Postage" type only one plate has so far been brought into use, and this consists of

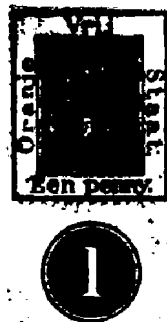


120 stamps arranged in two panes of sixty. Stamps for the following Colonies have been printed from this plate: Cayman Islands, Gambia, St. Helena, and Seychelles.

Other De La Rue Plates

In addition to stamps for the British Empire Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have made plates and printed stamps for several other countries, and two of these cases merit our attention.

The stamps for the now defunct Orange Free State



were manufactured by this firm, and, as many of these were surcharged "V.R.I." when the country became one of our Colonies, they are now generally treated as British Colonials. Two plates were made, numbered "1" and "2" respectively in type 2 of the marginal plate numbers previously described.

The other instance is found in some of the more recent stamps of Egypt, several of which were suitably over-printed to form the first issue for the Sudan. I believe only one plate for each denomination has, so far, been brought into use.

Other Printers

In addition to Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. and Messrs. De La Rue & Co. many other firms have, at various times, engraved dies, manufactured the plates, and printed the stamps for certain British Colonies. The most noteworthy of these are Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., and the American Bank Note Co. Speaking generally, these firms have not adopted the principle of engraving the numbers of the plates on the margins, though there are one or two exceptions worth mention.

Two of the plates now used in the production of the current 1d. New Zealand stamps, were supplied by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, and these are marked on the margin with "W 1" and "W 2" respectively, to distinguish them from two plates marked "R 1" and "R 2" (made by Mr. Royle and also now at press)—the idea being to see which pair of plates wears the better and gives the most satisfactory results. These numbers appear in the centre of the bottom margin of the sheets.

In the current King's head stamps of Canada, manufactured by the American Bank Note Co., the number of the plate appears in the top margin. This takes the form of "No. 2," etc., and appears above the two middle stamps in the top row.

III.—Marginal Reference or Current Numbers

In addition to the plate numbers described in the last chapter, on many sheets of stamps other numbers—variously styled "official," "reference" or "current" numbers—are shown on the margins. So far as the stamps of our own country issued prior to 1880 are concerned these additional numerals are indeed current or consecutive numbers belonging to two separate series.

Before going further it will, perhaps, simplify matters to some extent if I divide these notes into the two main divisions adopted in dealing with the marginal plate numbers, *i.e.*, plates made by Perkins Bacon and plates manufactured by De La Rue—these being the only firms who have made use of current or reference numbers.

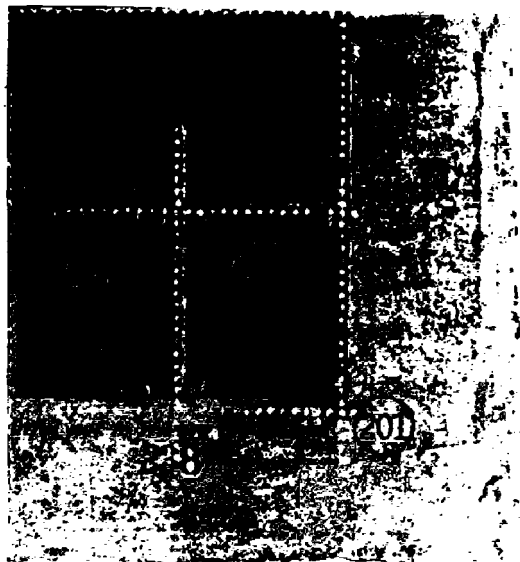
The Perkins Bacon Numbers

It will be remembered that on the first line-engraved plates made by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. for printing the stamps of Great Britain the plate numbers were placed on the margin at each corner. At first small figures were used, and, later, larger numerals enclosed in a circle were adopted. With the introduction of the marginal plate numbers in this second type the current numbers were also engraved on the plates.

These numbers serve to indicate the exact order in which the plates were manufactured, irrespective of the facial value of the stamps, and whether the plates were actually put to press or not. Thus we find the current numbers 224, 225, 226, 227 were respectively allotted to plate 14 of the ½d., plates 189 and 190 of the 1d., and plate 15 of the 2d.

The first current number of the line-engraved series actually engraved on the plate was "106," which appeared on the margins of plate 98 of the 1d. red.

Prior to this the current numbers were inscribed in manuscript only on the imprimatur sheets officially filed by the Inland Revenue authorities at Somerset House.



In the ½d. value the current numbers are shown above the seventh stamp in the top row, and below the eighteenth one in the bottom row of each sheet.

On the plates of the 1d. red stamps the current numbers appear in the top margin above the space between the first and second stamps, and in the bottom margin below the space between the eleventh and twelfth stamps. No useful purpose would be filled by giving the complete list of these numbers and it will, therefore, suffice to say that the earliest number is 106 (plate 98), and the latest is 268 (plate 225).

Plate 1 of the 1½d. value bears no current number, but on plate 3 the number 193 is shown. This appears in the upper and lower margins in positions corresponding to those on the 1d. plates.

In the 2d. value current numbers appear on plates 10 to 15 inclusive and are, respectively, 121, 122, 123, 152, 170, and 227. Their positions on the sheets are exactly the same as in the case of the 1d. and 1½d. values.

There are no current numbers on any of the line-engraved plates manufactured by this firm for the production of Colonial stamps.

The De La Rue Numbers

In the previous chapters dealing with marginal plate numbers I pointed out that in all the plates for the production of the surface-printed stamps of Great Britain manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. before 1880, the plate numbers were engraved on the margins.

On the majority of these plates current numbers were also engraved, these belonging to a series quite distinct from that employed in numbering the Perkins Bacon plates. These current numbers were used in strict consecutive order, irrespective of the facial value of the stamps, or whether the plates were actually completed and put to press or not.

(To be continued.)

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 105.)

Antananarivo.—The capital of the island of Zanzibar, at which a local post, established by the British Vice-Consul and known as the "British Consular Mail," existed from March, 1884, until 1887.

Antigua.—A British colony in the West Indies forming one of the Leeward Islands. It is the seat of government for this group, and the Governor-in-Chief resides there at the capital—St. John's. It has an area of 108 square miles, and was at one time a naval and military station of importance. It was first settled by the English in 1632 and was granted to Lord Willoughby by Charles II. Antigua has, perhaps, always been more distinctively English than any of our other West Indian possessions. Stamps were first issued in August, 1862, and in October, 1890, they were superseded by the general issue for the Leeward Islands. In 1903, however, a special set was again issued, these being in concurrent use with the King's head Leeward Islands stamps.

Antillas Pacifico.—Two words found upon the map stamps of Panama indicating the Antilles archipelago and Pacific Ocean. The former is above the northern and the latter washes the southern shores of the Isthmus respectively.

Antioquia.—One of the departments of the Republic of Colombia. It is a mountainous region and mining is thus the staple industry of the major portion of the population. It has an area of 22,316 square miles. Postage stamps were first issued in 1868.

Antique type.—A variety of printer's type sometimes used in over-printing postage stamps when provisionals are required. Several examples may be noted upon the stamps of Siam from the 1895 issue onwards. The letters in this type are, generally speaking, broad, with short serifs of the same thickness as the body of the letters. The following is an example of this type: "Antique."

A.O.—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps signifying "Audit Office." It was in use from 1868-74, and was then superseded by the general over-print "O.S.," which was used on the stamps supplied to all the different departments.

Aohhal.—An inscription appearing on the Olympic Games stamps of Greece, meaning "Athens." This is, of course, the capital of the country and the city chosen as the scene of the Olympic contests.

A Payer—Te Betalen.—The only inscriptions found upon the current Postage Due stamps of Belgium. They both mean "to pay," referring to the amount of the postage unpaid, the former being the French and the latter the Flemish form.

Apercevoir.—An inscription found upon the Unpaid letter stamps of France and colonies and some of those of Belgium. Translated literally it means "to be paid" or "to be collected," referring, of course, to the amount of postage due on insufficiently stamped letters, which is collected on delivery.

Apoteosis de Miranda.—An inscription found upon a set of Venezuelan stamps issued in 1896 to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the death of General Miranda—a Spanish-American revolutionist who succeeded in getting Venezuela proclaimed a Republic.

Apurimac.—A department of the Republic of Peru having an area of 8,817 square miles. During a revolutionary movement in 1885 a special stamp was used in its capital, Abancay—formed by over-printing "Admon pral de-Correos del Depto. de—Apurimac—Abancay" upon a specially designed 10c. stamp.

A. R.—I.—(Aviso de Recibo.) These letters are found upon several of the stamps of Colombia and other South American states, and signify, literally, "Advice of Receipt." These stamps are used in prepayment of a special fee of 5 centavos in return for which the sender of the postal packet receives an official advice intimating that the said packet has been safely delivered and an acknowledgment of it obtained from the addressee.

II.—The letters "A. R."—Accuser Réception, meaning Advice of Receipt—are shown on the Acknowledgment of Receipt stamps of Montenegro.

A. R. Colon, Colombia.—A surcharge found upon the 5c. and 10c. stamps of the 1892-6 issue of Panama converting them into acknowledgment of receipt stamps. The overprint was handstamped and was applied to the stamps used at Colon—the town situated on the coast at the north end of the proposed Panama Canal.

A Receber.—An inscription found upon the Postage due stamps of Portugal and many of the Portuguese colonies. It may be translated literally as "to be received" referring, of course, to the amount to be collected in payment of the deficient postage.

Archer, Henry.—An Irishman who invented the perforation machine. In 1847 he brought to the notice of the then Postmaster-General a machine "whereby the stamps might be separated without the necessity of using knives or scissors." This was a rouletting machine designed to pierce a series of cuts through the paper between the labels. The machine proved impracticable, and Archer modified it somewhat. Trials were made with various sheets of stamps from this machine (as well as from the former one), but the machine was still unsatisfactory. Some of the sheets used in the experiments were sent for sale to country postmasters and the stamps from these are known to philatelists as having *Archer roulettes*. The stamps rouletted by the first machine show jagged, irregular cuts of various lengths, while those used in the trials with the second machine show straight, clean cuts placed at regular intervals.

Nothing daunted by these failures Archer persevered with his idea and in 1849 produced another machine, which was constructed on the principle of perforating the portions of paper between the stamps with a series

of holes, which were punched clean out by hollow steel needles. After repeated experiments and alterations Archer triumphed over his many difficulties and invented a machine which was adopted by the Government. Stamps perforated by this machine in its experimental stage are known as having *Archer perforations*, and to be absolutely identified as such they must be dated before 28th Jan., 1854, for on this date the machine was used by the Inland Revenue authorities in the perforation of the regular supplies of stamps.

Arequipa.—The second largest town in the Republic of Peru. It was founded in 1540 by Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish conqueror of Peru, and has on several

occasions since then suffered severely from earthquakes. From 1881 to 1885 it was responsible for the issue of several special stamps and special overprints,

Argentine Republic.—A large republic on the east coast of South America having a total area of 1,212,000 square miles and a seaboard of considerably more than 2,000 miles. The country was discovered in 1517 and settled by the Spaniards in 1535. It remained a dependency of the Spanish Crown until the declaration of independence in 1816. The government is a federal republic, with Buenos Ayres as its capital, ruled by a president who is elected for a term of six years. Stamps were first issued on the 1st May, 1858.

(To be continued)

My Favourite Country The Stamps of Chili

By CHAS. M. C. SYMES

I.

STAMP Collectors contemplating specialism should seriously study Chili and enumerate the many exceptional advantages it offers. Geographically Chili is rather interesting, as it is remarkable for its diversity of climate and for the variety of Geological and topographical conditions. Chili derives its name from the Peruvian language and signifies "cold;" but as the climate is on the whole temperate and very healthy the name can only represent the eternal snows on the mountain tops. Its Historical and Political spheres are also worthy of a slight perusal. It is to be remembered that Chili has been conquered no less than four times by the Spaniards, who were responsible for the loss of many hundreds of thousands of Chilian lives. This Country has also been engaged in four other battles, one being a civil war. However, since 1891 Chili, under the guidance of the Congressional Party, has been restored to peace and prosperity. The Educational system is very good, in fact everything is in a flourishing condition, as the country has no national debt. To turn now to the Philatelic section of this sketch it is hardly necessary to say that from the very start of its issuing stamps it has kept entirely free from speculative issues and other rubbish which characterise so many countries. Another factor in its favour is that there have been few issues, and with the exception of one or two stamps they may be said to be very cheap. Perforation and paper play a very small part in the study. The first issue of stamps was on July 1st, 1853, and consisted of two values, printed by Messrs Perkins Bacon, of London. It is interesting here to note the slight blueing of the paper which is so apparent in the early British stamps. This is probably due to there being a blue ingredient in the ink, soluble in water and productive of a blue margin around the stamp. The stamps of this and of all subsequent issues bear the effigy of Columbus. The second issue appeared in 1854, and consisted of two values as before but were printed in Chili from the plates sent out by Messrs Perkins Bacon. It appears that these stamps printed in Chili were rather unsatisfactory, and so we see another supply of the two values sent from England. In 1857 a local production of the 5 c. red

appeared. In 1861 two new values, viz., 1 c. and 20 c. were ordered from Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

All the stamps which had been issued were of eloquent design. The Portrait of Columbus is encircled by beautiful scrollwork, and being printed in appropriate colours makes them very effective. Each stamp is watermarked with numerals corresponding with its value, this is, however, with one exception, viz., 10 c. wmk "20." This is a very scarce stamp and is rarely met with. Each preceding issue affords the specialist a very fair field for research with regard to watermarks, and they may be found in the normal condition, backwards, inverted and in various sizes. As previously stated "Paper" does not offer much scope. Here it may be said that a few years ago Mr. Luff discovered a lithographed copy of the 5 c., hitherto unknown. Further issues appeared in 1865, 1867, 1877, 1881, and 1892. In 1900 a rather pleasing design came out with the full bust of Columbus consisting of seven values and printed in sheets of 100. The first four values appeared with and without shading in the background whilst the remaining three have the shading only. In 1900 the 30 c. of the 1892 issue was surcharged 5 which practically covered the whole stamp, it may be found in very many positions. In 1902 a very pleasing issue was produced. In 1903 the 30 c. was surcharged "Diez Centavos," this is found in normal and inverted positions. In the same year Telegraph stamps were surcharged "Correos" for Postal use. This issue is considerably interesting as the animal which supports the dexter side of the Chilian arms is found with and without tail and mane. The tailless one is the more common variety. There are also a few minor varieties of the overprint. The last issue appeared in 1905, and consisted of eleven varieties, each with a handsome design, this set brings to a close the interesting Philatelic History of a fascinating country. Lately the stamps of Chili have come into great favour with Stamp Collectors, and many dealers have laid up stocks of the early issues. Fine, well centred mint copies of the first stamps are very difficult to obtain and open out a good field for the observant and patient Philatelist. The stamps of the later issues may be procured fairly easily and good copies abound. Looked at from all sides Chili will take a lot of heating.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

China. A new value has been added to the current set, a 16c. in the design of the 20c.

New value.
16c. olive green.

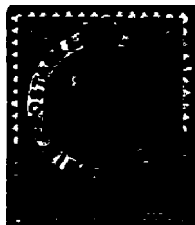
East Africa and Uganda. We have received the new series in "cents" instead of "annas" complete with the exception of the 1c. and 75c., which are not to be issued for two or three months.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News says the sheets contain 120 stamps in two panes, with plate number 1.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
3 cents, grey green.
6 cents, carmine.
10 cents, pale olive and chocolate.
12 cents, magenta and chocolate.
15 cents, ultramarine.
25 cents, black and green.
50 cents, orange brown and green.

Gibraltar. (91). Referring to our statement that we could not remember seeing the 2½d. in the old colours on multiple paper, Mr. J. H. Roskilly writes:—

"The 2½d. lilac and black on blue paper (chalky surface) was issued in May last, and had a very short life, being superseded in July by the current blue on white paper (ordinary) both issues of course being watermarked Multiple C.A." And Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send me a specimen of the stamp in question, which was, by some accident, missing from my Reference Collection. So we can now revise our former list and complete it to date so far as the multiple C.A. small size series is concerned.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
¾d. green, value in dark green.
1d. purple on red paper.
2d. green, value in carmine.
2½d. purple, value in black, on blue paper.
6d. purple, value in violet.
1s. black .. carmine.

All in one colour.
¾d. green.
1d. carmine.
2½d. ultramarine.

Honduras. Mr. B. W. H. Poole sends us a new portrait design which we presume is the forerunner of a new series. The new portrait is that of the late President Manuel Bonilla.

Gibbons' Stamp Weekly says these new stamps are printed in sheets of 100, in 10 rows of 10 stamps.

Perf. 14.
20c. blue, *Manuel Bonilla.*

Sierra Leone. (91.) The 1d. has been issued all in carmine, changed from purple and red. It is printed on Multiple C.A. paper and completes the issue of the three Postal Union values in single colours.



Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
¾d. green.
1d. carmine.
2½d. ultramarine.

Switzerland. A Swiss correspondent kindly sends us the following particulars of the forthcoming new stamps:—

"The new Swiss post cards will be issued this month. The card of the value of 5 centimes is printed in green; on the right is the design of the new postage stamp of the value of 5 centimes, drawn by the artist Welti: the Cross-bow and child of William Tell holding an apple pierced by an arrow. The post card of the value of 10 centimes, printed in pink, has in the right hand corner the design of the new stamp drawn by the artist Charles l'Eplattenier, and engraved by Professor W. Geel: Helvetia, proudly posed, the right hand on the hilt of her sword, in the left hand an olive branch, a federal cross on her breast, in the background the Alps.

"The printing of the two cards has been done very carefully, and may be considered as a success.

"The drawing by Welti is to be used for the stamps of value 2, 3 and 5 centimes; that of l'Eplattenier for the stamps of the values of 10, 12, and 15 centimes.

"The design of the stamps of the values of 20, 25, 30, 40, and 50 centimes, and 1 and 3 francs, is not yet completed, and will not appear until 1908; the stamps of the values of 30, 40, 50, and 1 and 3 francs are to be printed in two colours."

Uruguay. Another value, 7c., of the new design has been issued.

Perf. 11½.
5 centesimos, blue.
7 centesimos, brown.

From Other Magazines

Canada, 1851 6d. sterling, 7½ cy.

THE 6d. sterling, 7½ cy. (currency), and 10d. sterling, 8d. cy., were always a matter of difficulty to me, but I find there is a very simple explanation.

A well-known collector writes to me from Montreal as follows:—

"The entires with 12d. on which I had, if I remember right, were generally stamped 20c. in red on the wrapper and the reply from New York generally had two 10 cents or four 5 cents, proving that 20 cents was the rate the 12d. was reckoned at. There were therefore five Canadian shillings of 20 cents each to the dollar, or a ratio on the old Canadian currency of five to four."

A very simple arithmetical process is all that is necessary. To turn sterling into currency you multiply by five and divide by four, and for currency into sterling you adopt the reverse—multiply the currency value by four and divide by five.—M. H. HORSELEY in the *London Philatelist*.

Australian Commonwealth Changes

It is worthy of note that since the introduction of Federation on January 1st, 1901, few changes have taken place in the designs of Australian stamps.

The following is a rough summary:—

N. S. W., New 9d. Commonwealth, and 2s. 6d. Lyre bird.

Queensland. New 9d. Commonwealth.

South Australia. New 3d., 4d., 8d., 9d., 10d., and 1s., with thin and thick "Postage," but these are really an old design and are printed from a key die.

Tasmania. None.

Victoria. Re-issue of old designs with "Postage" added, and the £1 and £2 King's head.

West Australia. Re-issue of old designs of Victorian stamps adapted for West Australia, viz., 8d., 9d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and 20s., also 2½d., 6d., 10d., and 1s., same design, first issued 1901.

The following regulations have come into vogue since Federation, viz.:—All stamps to bear the word "Postage;" all stamps to be printed in Australia, and all stamps to be printed on paper watermarked Crown over A.

The following stamps do not, so far, bear the word "Postage:—

All Queensland, except 9d.

South Australia, 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d.

All Tasmania.

West Australia, 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1s.

All the stamps are now printed in this country, except:—

Tasmania, 10d., 2s. 6d., and 5s.

West Australia, 2½d., 6d., and 1s., of which there were large stocks.

New South Wales, all are now printed on Cr. and A. paper, except the 3d., 5d., 5s., and 10s.

Queensland, only stamp on Cr. and A. paper is the 9d., printed in Melbourne. Queensland must have had a huge stock of paper or a lengthy contract.

The following have not yet appeared on Crown and A. paper:—

South Australia, 2½d., 5d., 8d., 10d., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and 20s.

Tasmania, ½d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., 9d., 10d., 2s. 6d., and 5s.

Victoria, 1½d., 2½d., 2s., and 5s.

West Australia, 2½d., 6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 10s., and 20s.

The following is the official list of the dates of issue of Victoria Stamps printed on Crown and A. paper:—

½d.,	21.10.05.	6d.,	25.10.05.
1d.,	16.7.05.	9d.,	11.12.05.
2d.,	13.9.05.	1s.,	13.2.06.
3d.,	11.11.05.	£1.,	12.2.07.
4d.,	15.1.06.	£2.,	18.7.06.
5d.,	14.8.06.		

Cape "Woodblocks"

The old name "Woodblock" is still that by which these stamps are most familiarly known to collectors, although we are all aware that neither were the dies engraved upon wood, nor the stamps printed from wooden blocks; the latter would plainly have been impossible, as, whatever the original dies were made of, they must have been reproduced by stereotyping or electrotyping for the purpose of printing the stamps in sheets. As a matter of fact the dies were of steel, and the plates were made up of stereotypes, but the stamps were what used to be termed (in book illustrations) "woodcuts," as distinguished from "steel engravings," and probably got the name "woodblocks" from that fact.—*Major Evans in the "Monthly Journal."*

The Local Post of Paris, 1653

Major Evans, in the *Monthly Journal* turns into English verse some lines in French, published in 1653 to celebrate the introduction of a Local Post for Paris.

An inventor has promised the City of Paris
A convenience greater than any that there is
At present for carrying packets and letters,
Billets-doux to the ladies, or bills to the debtors.
There will be letter-boxes in every street
And at every corner where many ways meet,
Into which we can drop, both by day and by night,
All the diverse epistles we have to indite.
We can take them ourselves, or can send them by John,
So long as they're put in the box it's all one.
Then a swift-running messenger takes them all out,
And he sorts and delivers them all round about,
To fathers and sons, and to mothers and daughters,
And nephews and nieces, all in their own quarters,
To godmothers, grandmothers, mothers-in-law,
And relations whom no one had heard of before;
To Louisa or Jane, or to William or Thomas,
On matters of love or on matters of commerce,
To clerks and to lawyers, to merchants and tailors,
To doctors and chemists, and soldiers and sailors;
It's a scheme for our letters of every sort, to be
Sent and delivered wherever they ought to be:
To those who possess neither servant nor messenger,
This new method will prove a great blessing.
For thus they may send to their friends at a distance,
To give them their news or to ask for assistance,
And more than all this, in the very same way,
You can get a reply in the course of the day.
And what do we pay for this care and dispatch?
Its cheapness and promptitude very well match,
For be it a bill, or a neat billet-doux,
The cost of its carriage is only one sou.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

The Brunei-Labuan Speculation

THE following article from *The Straits Times* in May last may serve to show the mad speculation that took place locally when the Brunei stamps were surcharged "Labuan":—

Labuan may be monotonous and certainly Pedlingtonian, yet its denizens cannot complain of any lack of excitement during the last three months, as a tide of "philatomania" set in and still continues with unabating force day by day.

Old and young, rich and poor, official and civilian, poet and peasant, mariner and mechanic, wholesaler and retailer, houseboy and schoolboy, are all carried with the current rushing hither and thither to secure the gilt-edged prizes in the shape of Labuan surcharged stamps of one and two cents; Labuan surcharged Brunei stamps, and the now famous one cent black surcharged Brunei, of which, it is said, only one hundred originally existed. Of these only as many as can be counted on one's finger tips found their way into civilian hands. "Bull" and "Bear" operators have turned our main street, wharves, shops, places of public resort and steamers' docks into a veritable Cophall Court.

From matins to vespers the cry is stamps and again stamps; should a steamer arrive from North or South, orders pour in by the picul, none of which can be executed in their entirety, very few even partially. The Post Office has long since sold out all the lower denominations; only the 25 cents, 50 cents, and \$1 remain in small quantities. The stamps now in private hands are held firmly; their owners, having already made a small fortune, can afford to hold and wait. The persons envied are the fortunate possessors of the one cent and two cent stamps, of which only 6,000 and 4,000 were respectively surcharged. Few of these, however, exist in Labuan; they were snapped up by outsiders before Labuanites became aware of their value as an investment. These stamps are now selling locally at \$2 each; before many years have elapsed they will be at \$10, or more. A full set of Labuan stamps surcharged "Brunei" have now reached \$25 (face value \$2.40). The above-mentioned one cent black surcharged stamp is not obtainable at any price, except a few sent out to dealers, as feelers, and possibly three or four in private hands. The rest were all acquired by officials before the public were aware of their existence.

It is reported that three of these stamps go home by the present mail for sale by auction, the upset price being £70 sterling each.

The greatest number of these stamps in any one individual's hand is held by a high percentage at Singapore, who stands to clear, at present considerably over £1,000.

Probably in the annals of Philately there has never been such a unique opportunity of making small fortunes as the present, yet nobody in Labuan, at least, among the European element, had the foresight to profit by it. For instance, had one bought up the whole of one cent and two cent stamps, value \$1.40, they might eventually have been sold for \$80,000 to \$100,000.

Papuans, large overprint, advance

A short time since (p.45) I noted an advance in price of complete sets (½d. to 2s. 6d.) of Papuans from 10s. to 20s. The price is still going up evidently on evidence that the supply is very limited. Here are Stanley Gibbons' latest quotations:—

	s.	d.
½d. green and black	0	6
1d. lake	0	9
2d. violet	1	3
2½d. ultramarine	1	6
6d. myrtle-green	3	6
1s. orange	7	6
2s. 6d. brown	15	0

That is to say, the price of a complete set has now been further advanced from 20s. to 30s. The 4d. large overprint seems to be very scarce. Nobody seems to have any.

Although the large overprint has been superseded by the smaller I find precious few of the latter on the

London market. Although I subscribe to Two New Issue Services I have only been able to obtain the ½d. and 4d. values with the small overprint.

Sale of Sydney Views

At Glendening's sale, on 15th and 16th Oct., 1907, some of the Sydney Views which Stanley Gibbons sold to the late Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia realised more than double what they sold them for some twenty years ago. Here are a few of the prices:—

New South Wales, Sydneys.

2d. blue, plate 2, block of four, Nos. 9, 10, 21, 22	£	s.	d.
2d. blue, plate 2, No. 13, "no crevit"	14	10	0
2d. blue, plate 3, 1st retouch, block of four, Nos. 3, 4, 15, 16.. .. .	10	10	0
2d. blue, plate 3, 1st retouch, pair Nos. 13 and 14	5	15	0
2d. blue, plate 3, 2nd retouch, strip of four on laid paper, Nos. 19, 20, 21, and 22. One being variety "6 segments," a bargain at	30	0	0
Registered, perf. 12½, unused, block of six	9	0	0

German and English Stamp Business

Mr. Ewen, in his *Weekly Stamp News*, comparing the English and German business in stamps, says:—

Whilst English dealers at the present moment seem bent on philanthropically starving themselves in order that they may offer stamps nearer to cost price than anybody else, German dealers have decided they are there to get rich. And there can only be one answer to the question as to which does the most business. It is a case of Germany first and England nowhere. Even Mr. Phillips admits this; in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* of 2.11.07 he writes: "Only in one place do I find any stagnation, and that is in the city of London." Yet London is probably the cheapest city in Europe in which to buy stamps. On the other hand Germany is probably the dearest, yet stamps are in demand everywhere. When in Leipzig last August, Mr. Ewen had the pleasure of going over Messrs. Senf Brothers' establishment and was informed that this firm had 80,000 addresses of collectors on their books, 17,000 subscribers to their fortnightly journal, and ninety-five employees on their staff: Moreover, one of their employees, who had only left them two or three years, already had a staff of ten in his office:

The Cayman Islands Provisional ½d.

My old friend Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, is the first in the field with a supply of the Cayman Islands "One halfpenny" on 1d. King's head, and he is making hay while the sun shines on him alone at 5s. a time. "And cheap too," says another dealer who has not yet got any. I subscribe to two of the leading New Issue Services, but I am still out in the cold, patiently waiting for that Cayman Islands Provisional.

Northern Nigerias

The Queen's head issue of Northern Nigeria seems to be drooping a bit. A 10s. unused and mint at a recent auction fetched only £2 2s. 0d., but for all that it is good stock. It is true it used to fetch over £3 regularly, but it has been somewhat overshadowed by the run on King's heads.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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New Issues

WE want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, impending changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Congratulations

Mr. J. N. Luff, America's most accomplished philatelist, author of the *magnum opus* on the *Stamps of the United States*, and for some years Editor the *American Journal of Philately*, writes to me as follows:—

Congratulations on your new venture, THE POSTAGE STAMP. It is bright, interesting, and "full of meat." If you can keep up the pace as in the first three numbers you will be a wonder, and the paper a continued delight.

Major Evans's Welcome

I have to thank my old friend Major Evans for the following kind words of welcome to THE POSTAGE STAMP:—

We have also to welcome a new weekly, entitled THE POSTAGE STAMP, published by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., and edited by our friend Mr. E. J. Nankivell. In addition to the Editor, who is indeed a host in himself, we note that the staff includes such well-known philatelists as Cornelius Wrinkle, Sir Charge, and Uncle Perf., who may be trusted to keep the new periodical well up to date in all points. It should be a good sign, that a non-philatelic publisher thinks it worth while to issue a journal for Stamp Collectors, and we are glad to see it. We hope that THE POSTAGE STAMP will carry philatelic news into many a corner where it has not hitherto penetrated.

F. B. (Newcastle-on-Tyne). Inverted watermarks are due to the accident of putting the paper into the machine the wrong way and are of no consequence. The inverted watermark certainly does not denote a Government reprint.

M. C. (Kingston Hill). Yes, any collector may join an Exchange Club after establishing his *bona fides*. There is generally a small subscription. You will find some advertised in our pages. Write for rules and particulars, or, better still, get to know of one from some fellow collector. The Junior Society of London, Hon. Sec. Arthur Selinger, 5 Paper street, Redcross Street, S.E., runs an exchange for its members which should suit you. Subscription 2s. 6d. yearly.

W. H. A. (Birmingham). The British Guiana 2c. all carmine was chronicle some months since.

W. M. F. (Bexley Heath). The stamps you inquire about are priced as follows:—

					s. d.
New Zealand.	1856.	No wmk.	Imperf.	2d. blue,	used 14 0
"	1863-6.	Star.	Perf. 12½.	2d. blue,	" 2 0
"	1871.	"	"	2d. deep blue,	" 2 6
"	1863-6.	"	"	1d. brown,	" 2 0
"	"	"	"	3d. brown lilac,	" 7 ½
"	"	"	"	1d. orange	" 2 6
"	"	"	"	4d. yellow	" 5 0
"	"	"	"	6d. brown	" 2 0
"	"	"	"	1s. pale green	" 3 0
"	1871.	"	"	2d. orange.	" 2 6
"	1872.	No wmk.	"	2d. vermilion,	" 6 0
Queensland.	1882-6,	thin paper,	wmk.	Crown Q., perf. 12.	"
"	2s. blue,	no wmk.	Don't know it.	2s. blue,	" 20 0

The prices of the others you ask about depend so much on shades, etc., that I cannot quote prices on your particulars.

W. H. A. Yes, our list of stamps affected by impending changes *i.e.*, requiring to have values stated in Arabic numerals was defective. The 1d. and 6d. of Great Britain should be added, thus giving the ½d., 1d., 6d. and 1s. of Great Britain as requiring to be changed. Several of the 2½d. values of the colonies have their values already expressed in Arabic numerals and these should be exceptions in our enumeration of colonials requiring to be changed. Apparently the Arabic numerals in the Colonial 2½d. values is in deference to this rule.

A. T. D. (East Twerton). The British South Africa Co. high values of the first issue (1890) *postally used* are as follows:—

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
£1 deep blue	.. .. 50 0	50 0
£2 rose red	.. .. 52 6	—
£5 sage green	.. .. 130 0	90 0
£10 brown	.. .. 250 0	120 0

The 1s. of the same series is catalogued at 10s. unused and 2s. 6d. used. With fiscal cancellations the stamps are not worth more than a fifth, or even less, of the prices quoted.

E. W. O. (Bristol). Of Orange Free State, 2½d. on 3d. Gibbons No. 67, you say you have three or four different types. I am bound to confess that I do not know of them, though I have specialised in O.F.S. I am afraid you are mistaken. Obviously, if your varieties are real varieties, and are not included in a catalogue compiled by specialists they must be awfully rare. Your pink reds of the 1d. purple are probably copies faded by exposure to sunlight. I cannot locate the "Dos Reales" stamp from your drawing. The marginal watermark on the N.S.W. does not increase its value. I cannot say if the barred lines cancellation is still in use, but I think it is.

T. C. D. (Brierfield). The Jamaica you refer to is an official, and I do not include officials in THE POSTAGE STAMP. The Cape stamps are fiscals. We shall be glad of the "enormous" circulation you wish us, but you must help us by making it known amongst your friends.

T. L. A. (Gosforth). Thanks for the on "Future 'Mauritiuses'" from *Answers*. It was evidently written to tickle the non-philatelic reader. To the philatelic reader it is nothing new. Every little school-boy knows that there are hundreds of scarcer stamps than the "Post Office" Mauritius, and most of them are never likely to be worth mention, to say nothing of such drivel as styling them "Future Mauritiuses." I certainly should not reproduce such twaddle in THE POSTAGE STAMP.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 9. Vol. 1

30 NOVEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Immortalising Collectors



I HAVE just received from Mr. Warren H. Colson, of Brighton, Mass., U. S. A., a very dainty circular about a new book which he is bringing out in a few days. It is to be entitled "Postage Stamps and their Collection," but I am not sure that the title would not be more correct if altered to "The Immortalisation of Great Collectors," for he says the book "will be

number one of a series devoted to the large collections of the world, and he goes on to explain:—

The writer has long felt that our large collectors and their collections should have memorials that cannot perish—that the fruit of their labour should be put in permanent form to stimulate and encourage the collector who is yet to be. In fact, a catalogue of all large collections should be made, but the necessity is less apparent in the one instance where this has been done—the Tapling collection. In this case, the collection itself, preserved in the British Museum, stands as a permanent tribute to the memory of one of the most thorough and indefatigable collectors who ever lived.

The Bowers Collection

The first collection to be thus immortalised is to be the Bowers Collection which in the London Exhibition of 1897 won two medals. Mr. Colson tells us that "Dr. William C. Bowers of Bridgeport, Connecticut, was well known to collectors ten years ago. At that time he was one of the most prominent philatelists in America, and even to-day his collection ranks among the best in the country.

Other Features of the Book

Other features of the book will deal with "the pleasures and mental profit to be derived from collecting; the two methods in vogue among collectors; and a visit with some of America's foremost Philatelists."

Well, I shall be deeply interested in this new departure, and I am not sure that it may not arouse in me the desire to be similarly immortalised.

Philatelic Birds of Passage

But what about our Philatelic Birds of Passage who flit from country to country, and have no abiding philatelic home? They will have to be caught on the wing between their albums and the dealer's cash box. They will need volume after volume to do justice to their philatelic industry. A wicked imp at my elbow says they will come under the head of "Wholesale Dealers." Ah! Just so!

The Size of Stamps

The countries which make stamps for sale to collectors seem to me to be very ill-advised on some points, more especially in not a few cases as to the size of stamps. A series of ill-assorted sizes are an abomination in our album. Here, for instance, is a new set of Peruvian stamps. In a set of only seven stamps there are no less than four different sizes or shapes.

For high values a small uniform size, and for higher values if necessary a larger size should be the rule. Countries who make a business of fleecing stamp collectors would do well to make a note of this hint. Not that I wish them any success in their pernicious traffic, but that the nuisance may be presented in the least objectionable shapes.

South African Federation

The idea of South African Federation seems to be gaining ground rapidly. Here in to-day's paper I find reports of speeches by two governors, Mr. Lionel Phillips, Mr. Smuts, and Sir Percy FitzPatrick, all advocating the union of the colonies.

Such a federation would make a clean sweep of a fine lot of old philatelic countries.

Labuan on Straits

A correspondent kindly sends me the following advertisement from a Singapore paper. I quote the full advertisement, omitting only the name and address of the advertiser:—

FOR SALE.

LABUAN STAMPS,—sur-charged Straits Settlements.

6,700—4 cts. on 18 cts.

1,800—8 cts.

6,700—10 cts.

Wanted offers, en-bloc.

ALSO, a few 25 cts.—Separate offers invited.

Oct. 3rd.

6,700 of the 4 cents on 18 cents is not a bad haul for one speculator. I hope he will burn his fingers. Such pests are a nuisance to both collectors and dealers, for they bleed both by collaring the supplies.

Exhibitions: New Features

I note what seems a possible new feature for the philatelic exhibition of the future in the catalogue of the recent Leicester Exhibition, to wit, an exhibit by the Leeds Society. This suggests that we may at some future Exhibition have a section for Societies' exhibits with a special medal and as a consequence a grand whip up for the Society's collection.

Collections for Sale

Another matter of which little has been made in past exhibitions is that of collections for sale.

At the Royal Academy you can inspect a book of sale prices for the pictures. Why not a similar book at stamp exhibitions.

At other exhibitions it is understood that every exhibit, unless specially entered and marked "not for sale," is for sale at a fixed price.

And why not at stamp exhibitions?

Solomon Islands

Mr. F. L. Smith writes from Kettering, "My brother received a letter posted at Gavutu, Solomon Islands, on September 1st, Sydney postmark Sept. 5th, with only a 2d. Solomon Islands stamp on the envelope to pay postage."

Yes, we have accepted those same Solomon Islands and their stamps. They are admitted to the company of the elect.

A Labuan on Straits Error

There is rejoicing in the House of Ewen! "An error in the issue surcharged Straits Settlements" has at last been discovered! It is surmised that the

reason why it has not been discovered before is because "it may have occurred on a few sheets and then have been corrected."

And the Error? It is the 4c. on 18c. with no trace of a stop after "cents."

And the price? Ah, you see "it may have occurred on a few sheets and then been corrected."

Anyway, ye possessors of that same 4c. on 18c. had better overhaul your possessions and examine your copies.

The Future of the Sudan

I have more than once suggested that the first issue of Sudan is worth special attention, and with the prospect that is opening up in that wonderful country, I fancy the man who specialises in its stamps now while they are fairly plentiful will have the best reason to be satisfied with his choice.

The military occupation with its hidebound administration is rapidly coming to an end.

With the development of the country consequent on a civil administration, will come the increase of postal facilities and new postal issues.

What the probabilities of development in the near future are may be gathered from a *Times* telegram from Rome. The *Times* correspondent, writing under date of 18th November, 1907, says:—

A representative of the *Tribuna* has had an interview with Signor Ostini, an ex-deputy now living in Egypt, who is interested in tropical agriculture. Signor Ostini drew a graphic picture of the progress already made and the wonderful future before Egypt. In a few years, he said, the Sudan would give work to millions of men and would inundate Europe with her produce, especially cotton. He urged that Italy should carry out the project of utilising the river Gase to irrigate Eritrea with a view to the cultivation of cotton, and that she should direct emigration to the British Sudan instead of to America.

A Victorian Perf. Curiosity

My friend Mr. Whitfield King sends me a curiosity in the shape of a mixed perf. on the current 1d. Victoria Wmk. Crown A. that I cannot pretend to explain. Perhaps my good friend the Editor of the *Australian Philatelist* can get at the root of the matter. I can only state the facts and describe the block that lies before me. It is a bottom right hand corner block of four, with full margins, including the thick red marginal line that now surrounds the sheet. It is perf. 12½ all around and between the stamps, and then there is an extra vertical line of perforation between the stamps which gauges 11. The ordinary perf. 12½ is fairly well centred, so that there does not seem to be any explanation on the N.Z. score for re-perforation.

Trinidad: Plates 1 and 2 of the current 1d.

I am indebted to my Ipswich friend for another block that also wants explanation. I have the 1d. black on red of the current type in blocks with plate Nos. The type with strong even lines in the background is plate 1, and the cleared background is plate 2. Both are single C.A.'s. That seems natural enough. Plate 2 is presumably plate 1 retouched, i.e., with the strong lines thinned down to throw up the figure of Britannia, but Mr. Whitfield King now sends me a top left-hand corner block with full margins with plate No. 1 of the cleared background variety, multiple C.A. Will someone oblige with an explanation?

The Stamps of Cayman Islands

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

King's Head Single C.A.

KING'S head single C.A. stamps have probably upset the calculations of stamp collectors more than any other issues of recent years. When the King's head began to appear on our Colonial issues collectors set it down as a permanent issue that was not at all likely to give rise to any changes and that therefore there would, when all the colonies were supplied, be a period of rest if not even of stagnation in Colonial issues. But even before all the colonies were supplied the first King's heads were being rapidly superseded from the philatelic point of view by a change of watermark from Single C.A. to multiple C.A. As a consequence in numbers of cases there was no time for dealers to lay in stocks, and many single C.A.'s developed into rarities. Even little insignificant Cayman Islands, which had not long started in the stamp issuing line, can now boast of stamps that are getting extremely scarce. In fact it is the scarcity of one or two of its King's heads which has brought Cayman Islands into latter-day prominence.

History of the Islands

The Caymans are three fertile islands in the Carribean Sea. They are a dependancy of the colony of Jamaica and are about 165 miles north-west of it. They are known as the Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, and Cayman Brac. Lucas in his "Historical Geography" gives the following description of the group:—

They are said to have been discovered by Columbus and named by him Las Tortugas, after the turtle which frequented their shores. Unoccupied by the Spaniard, they appear to have been colonized by buccaners of English descent, and to have followed the fortunes of Jamaica when that island became a British possession. They are, by an Imperial Act of 1863, directly subject to the government of Jamaica, the Jamaica legislature being empowered to enact laws for the Caymans, and to give the local authorities of Grand Cayman power to make bye-laws and regulations for the islands; such regulations, however, do not take effect until signed by the governor of Jamaica, who is by the Act in question declared to be governor of the Caymans. The local affairs of the islands are, under the governor, managed by a body consisting of nominated justices and elected vestrymen; and the small expenditure is defrayed by poll and cattle taxes, licenses, and customs dues.

The islands are of coral formation, and are surrounded by reefs. The westernmost and largest of them is Grand Cayman, which lies about 178 miles north-west of Jamaica and about the same distance south of Cuba. Little Cayman is seventy miles north-east of Grand Cayman, and the third island, Cayman Brac, is only about four miles east of Little Cayman. Grand Cayman is about seventeen miles long from east to west, about four miles broad at the eastern end, about seven miles at the western. Little Cayman and Cayman Brac are about nine and ten miles long respectively by one in breadth. Grand Cayman is low-lying and thickly wooded, skirted by a reef except on the west, on which side is the anchorage for larger vessels; there are breaks in the reef on the southern coast, enough to admit vessels of very small size, and on the north an opening leads into a large shallow bay some six miles across, known as the North Sound. There are some interesting caves in the island. The chief settlements are George Town, the little capital, on the south-west coast, and Bodden Town, about the middle of the south coast. Large numbers of coconuts are exported, but the palms are said to have suffered from blight. There is some good grazing ground on which live stock is reared, various fruits and vegetables are grown, and the timber includes mahogany, cedar, and dye wood. The building of small schooners from the island woods has long been an established industry here, as it was in the Bermudas, and in their home-built ships the islanders carry on their turtle fishing, going as far afield as the coast of America.

The islands have an area of 225 square miles, and a population of 4,322.

Their Philatelic History

The Cayman Islands make an ideal little country for a beginner who is looking for a promising but small colony that he can start with the first issue. The first issue was made some six years ago, and was at first confined to two low values of Queen's Heads. Then in the following year a series of five values was made of the King's Head type and single C.A. watermark; in 1905-6 all were issued on paper with the multiple C.A. watermark. The single C.A. stamps have turned out to be a good investment; the 6d. is now priced at 2s. 6d., and the 1s. at 7s. 6d., and all the values are likely to be scarce.

1900. Two values. Design: Head of Queen Victoria with profile to left, designed and engraved by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perforated 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green ..	0 2	0 3
1d. carmine..	0 3	0 4

1901-2. Five values. Design: Head of King Edward VII, with profile to left, designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. Watermarked Crown C.A. single. Perforated.



Wmk. Crown C.A. single. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green ..	0 4	—
1d. carmine ..	0 4	—
2½d. ultramarine ..	1 0	—
6d. brown ..	3 6	—
1s. orange ..	10 0	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

This is the only issue in this young stamp-issuing colony that calls for notice in the matter of range of prices, but it is a remarkable little series for it has been steadily rising in value from the first, and as a matter of fact our latest quotations from an extra Gibbons' list is said to be already out of date.

	1904	1905	1906	1907
½d. ..	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 4
1d. ..	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 4
2½d. ..	0 4	0 4	0 9	1 0
6d. ..	0 8	1 6	2 6	3 6
1s. ..	1 4	2 6	7 6	10 0

1905-6. Five values. Design as in last issue, but printed on paper watermarked multiple Crown C.A. Perforated.

	Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green ..	0 1	—
1d. carmine..	0 2	—
2½d., ultramarine ..	0 4	—
6d. brown ..	0 8	—
1s. orange ..	1 4	—

1906. Four values. Design as in the last issue. Two new values, 4d. and 5s., and the 6d. changed in colour from brown to olive and rose, and the 1s. from orange to violet and green.

	Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.	
	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4d. brown and blue..	0 6	—
6d. olive and rose ..	0 8	—
1s. violet and green..	1 4	—
5s. vermilion and green	6 6	—

1907. Provisional. One value. Design: The 1d. of the current King's Head surcharged in Jamaica with the words "One—Halfpenny" in two lines in black horizontally across the centre of the stamp with no obliterating bar over the original value.

Provisional.	
Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.	
½d. on 1d. carmine.	—

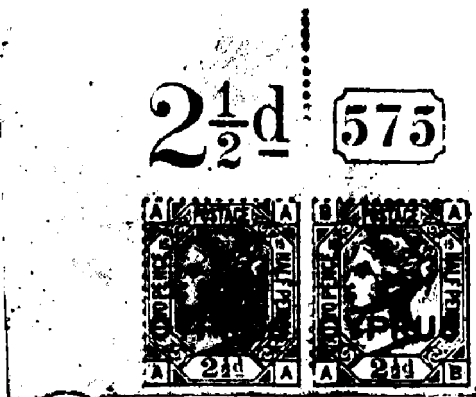
Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 118.)

ALL the De La Rue current numbers are of a uniform pattern, and consist of numerals enclosed in a rectangle with indented corners.

I do not propose to give a list of all the current numbers allotted to the various values of the De La Rue series as these particulars would hardly be of service to the majority of my readers. It is, however, of interest to note the positions of the current numbers on the margins of the plates.



On all values from 2½d. to 2s. inclusive (with the exception of the 8d. and four plates of the 1s.) the current numbers are placed above the second stamp in the top row and below the eleventh stamp in the bottom row of each plate. In the 8d. the positions are, above the first stamp in the top row and below the twelfth in the bottom row, while, in plates 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the 1s. the current numbers appear in the top left and lower right corners of the sheets.

On the plates for the 5s., 10s., and £1 stamps the current numbers are also placed in the top left and lower right-hand corners respectively.

The only plates on which marginal current numbers are not shown are: plates 1 and 2 of the 4d., plates 1 and 2 of the 6d., and plate 1 of the 1s. It will be remembered that in all these instances the marginal plate numbers were placed in each corner of the plate—an arrangement that applies to none of the other plates manufactured by De La Rue.

The De La Rue Colonial Numbers

Current or reference numbers are shown on many of the plates for British Colonial stamps manufactured by Messrs. De La Rue & Co. These numbers are all of



one type—similar to those found on the sheets of British stamps—i.e., figures enclosed in a rectangle with indented corners. They always occupy the same positions

on the plates of the three "general" sizes on which they are engraved being placed above the second stamp in the top row and below the second stamp from the right-hand end of the bottom row. In the case of the small plates for the stamps of St. Christopher they appear in the top margin above the first stamp, and below the fifth stamp in the bottom row.

These Colonial reference numbers form one of the most interesting and, at the same time, perplexing series with which the collector of marginal varieties has to deal. They are not "current" numbers in the generally accepted meaning of the term, for they do not seem to have been used in consecutive order and the same number is occasionally met with on widely differing stamps. For instance, the Queen's head stamps of Lagos, Dominica, and the first type for Gold Coast all have the "current" number "1" on the margins of the sheets. It is thus obvious that the numbers cannot refer to the consecutive order in which the plates were made and put to press.

Neither can they have any reference to the year in which any particular plate was manufactured, for the 2c. Ceylon of 1872, the 24c. Straits Settlements of 1868, and the 5s. Jamaica of 1875—a period covering seven years—all bear the reference number "3."

At present these numbers are most mystifying, and I can offer no satisfactory explanation as to their use or meaning.

The following is a list of the current numbers I have seen or have notes of from reliable sources:—

- No. 1. Dominica, 1874.
Gold Coast, 1875.
Lagos, 1874.
No. 2. Jamaica, 2s., 1875.

- No. 3. Ceylon 2c., 1872.
Jamaica, 5s., 1875.
Straits Settlements, 24c., 1868.
No. 4. Natal, 6d., 1874.
Straits Settlements, 32c., 1868.
No. 5. New South Wales, 10d., 1863-68.
Straits Settlements, 2c., 1868.
No. 6. Straits Settlements, 6c., 1868.
No. 7. Ceylon, 8c., 1872.
New South Wales, 1s., 1871-81.
No. 8. Straits Settlements, 4c., 1868.
No. 11. Jamaica, 3d., 1863.
Tasmania, 8d., 1878.
No. 12. Hong Kong, 12c., 1862.
No. 23. Bahamas, 1s., 1863.
No. 30. Bermuda, 6d., 1865.
Ceylon, 2r. 50c., 1872-80.
No. 31. Bermuda, 1s., 1865.
No. 38. Antigua, 2d. and 2s., revenue stamps.
No. 40. St. Christopher, 1870.
No. 43. Cape of Good Hope, ½d., 1871-4.
Tasmania, 4d., 1870-1.
No. 53. Sierra Leone, 1872-3 (all except 6d.).
No. 54. Jamaica, ½d., 1872.
No. 55. British Honduras, 3d., 1872-79.
No. 140. Sierra Leone, 6d., 1860.
No. 173. Jamaica, 1s., 1860.
No. 214. Mauritius, 25c., 1879-80.

In the above list I have only given the date when each number was first brought into use. The fact that many of the stamps are found with various watermarks and different perforations is of no importance for, so long as the same plate was used, the reference number would naturally be the same.

If any reader can add to the above list I shall be glad to hear from him.

(To be continued.)

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

¹¹ (Continued from page 120.)

Army Officials.—A surcharge found on certain British stamps which were used on all official correspondence emanating from the various departments employed in the administration and control of the British Army. They were first issued on the 1st Sept., 1896, and, with all other British official stamps were withdrawn from use on May 12th, 1904.

Army Telegraphs.—A series of stamps used by the Telegraph department of the British Army when on active service or during manœuvres. They are formed by surcharging "ARMY TELEGRAPHS" on the different values of the stamps known as the "unappropriated dies." The ½d. postage stamp, in both colours, of the last Queen's head issue is found similarly surcharged.

Asegura entrega inmediata al-lleger à la administracion de destino.—The inscription appearing on the Special Delivery stamps of Cuba now current. Translated literally it means: "Ensures immediate delivery on arrival at the office of destination."

Asuncion.—Several of the values of the 1886 set of

official stamps for the republic of Paraguay are overprinted on the back with the word "Asuncion," evidently in honour of the town of that name. Asuncion is the capital of Paraguay, and was founded on the 15th August, 1536, on the day of the Assumption of the Virgin. It has a population of nearly 52,000.

A. T.—An abbreviation of "Army Telegraphs" found surcharged upon various values of the now defunct Orange Free State stamps together with the letters "V.R.I." These stamps were used by the British Army in the Orange River Colony during the last Boer war.

At betale (To pay).—The inscription appearing under the numerals of value on the Postage due stamps of Norway.

Athens.—A city in the State of Georgia, U.S.A., at which special 5c. stamps were issued by the Postmaster in 1861 to facilitate the prepayment of postage, prior to the introduction of the general issues for the Confederate States.

Athens print.—The name applied by philatelists to the 1861-99 issues of Greece printed in Athens to distinguish them from the stamps printed in Paris by the manufacturers of the plates. The shading on the neck and face is heavier and thicker in the Athens prints than on the stamps produced in Paris.

Att.—A coin in general use in Siam and in which the values on most of the stamps are expressed. An att is the sixty-fourth part of a tical and is, at the present time, equivalent to the sixth part of a penny.

Aur.—The value in which most of the stamps of Iceland are expressed. A hundred aur are equal to 1 krona which is now worth about 1s. 2d. in English money.

Australian Commonwealth.—The title given to the federation of the Australian colonies—New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, Western

Australia, and Tasmania—an event which took place on Jan. 1st, 1901. The legislature consists of the Crown (represented by the Governor-General); a Senate of thirty-six members, six being elected by each of the States; and a House of Representatives consisting of seventy-five members, the number of these sent by each State being proportional to the population with a minimum of five. The Federal Parliament, among other things, controls the postal system and ultimately there will probably be a general issue of stamps for the whole of the Commonwealth. At present the only stamps that are common to all the States are the postage due labels, issued in 1902. A 9d. stamp of a general type has also been adopted by New South Wales and Queensland, and most of the current stamps of all the States are printed on paper watermarked with a crown over "A."

(To be continued.)

Leicester Exhibition

Exhibition of Postage Stamps at Leicester

(Under the auspices of the Leicester Philatelic Society).

UNDER the auspices of the Leicester Philatelic Society, an exhibition of postage stamps was held on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1st and 2nd, 1907, at The Victoria Hall, Granby Street. The opening ceremony was performed by Mr. T. W. Peck, Vice-president of the Birmingham Society. The chair was taken by the President, Dr. Milbourne West, before a large gathering of members and friends, including:—Dr. and Mrs. R. M. West, Dr. and Mrs. W. Mussen, Dr. and Mrs. Paine, Dr. and Mrs. Lewitt, Mr. W. Walters (Croft), Mr. D. Field (London), Mr. W. T. Wilson (Birmingham), Mr. J. Read (London), Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine (Stoke-on-Trent), Mr. W. T. Tarrant (Whitney, Oxon.), Mr. T. W. Peck (Birmingham), Mr. J. Read Burton, (Vice-president City of London Philatelic Society), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. H. Goddard (Exhibition Secretary), Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Widdowson (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Boulton, Mrs. W. H. Scott, Miss Young, Miss Ellis, Mrs. H. Lawrence, Mr. P. V. Sansome (Hon. Sec.), etc., etc.

In opening Mr. Peck said he was delighted to be present with the Leicester Society on the opening of the second exhibition of Postage Stamps, and to see Leicester Philatelists keenly alive to the importance of a display such as he saw before him, and it was a credit to such a young society to have brought such a collection together.

On the motion of Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine, of Longsdon, Stoke-on-Trent, a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, of Manchester, for kindly and so ably judging the exhibits, and to Mr. Peck for declaring the exhibition open. This was seconded by Mr. J. Read Burton, of London.

The exhibition being declared open, a walk round showed exhibits which included some of the finest collections of the British Colonies which exist, including the following which were exhibited in the open classes:—

BENNETT, HUMPHREY, Northampton.

SARAWAK.—A collection of Sarawak, showing the issues in singles and Blocks of four, with shades in pairs as much as possible. Sheets are included to show the various printings of the stamps—varieties

in blocks of four or more—also a few colour originals and essays for a pence issue—all stamps are unused.

BAZETT, Mrs. E. C., Reading.

EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA PROTECTORATE.—Practically complete in the early issues. The type-written issues being collected on the spot from the missionary who made them, their genuineness is without doubt.

BERNSTEIN, I. J., Manchester.

MALTA.—A collection of Malta, beginning with the British Stamps issued and used there, containing the 2½d. pl. 2^{1/2} error, the 1s. (K) D variety, 2s. brown, 10s. grey, etc., and with later issues up to date.

HEGINBOTTOM, J. E., Rochdale.

VICTORIA.—Includes 1st 3d. rouletted; 2d. lilac, fine background, 1s. blue 1857 rouletted; 6d. orange, serrated 19; 1d. yel.-grn., wmk. Star, rouletted 7 of 1857 Feb.; 2d. lilac, no wmk., rouletted 7 of 1858; 6d. orange, beaded oval; 5s. blue and yellow; 4d. rose rouletted 1863; 4d. imp. 1862; 1d. grn. wmk. dbl. lined 4, of 1861; 1d. grn. wmk. "Sixpence"; 6d. grey lilac, wmk. dbl. lined 1; King £1 and £2 postally; Registration 1s. rouletted, etc. Fiscals postally used, etc.

HAUSBURG, L. L. R., London.

NEW ZEALAND.—All unused, unless otherwise stated. The stamps of the first type are shown also. Practically complete unused.

London print: 1d., one copy with large margins. 2d. (three), 2d. *bleuté*, and 1s. *bleuté*, mint. Half 1s. used as 6d. on original.

1856.—Colonel print on blue paper: 1s. mint, perhaps the rarest New Zealand stamp unused. 1s. cut in half and used as 6d. on original.

1858, no wmk, including 1s. blue-grn., 1s. yellow-grn. No wmk, serrated: 1d., 6d., 1s., all used. Rouletted 2d. unused, 1d., 6d., 1s. used. Pin-perf.: 1d. 6d. used, Perf. 13: 2d. (two) unused.

Various specimens pelure paper.

1862.—Wmk star, including 2d. first colonial print, 3d. brown-lilac, 3d. lilac, 3d. mauve, 1d. double print, etc. The perforated stamps are divided up according to the perf. Those that were done at Dunedin gauging 13, and which are the earlier, and those done at Auckland, which gauge 12½-12¾. The holes of the former, which was a single line machine, are smaller and more

cleanly cut than those of the 12½, which was a comb machine. In most cases the colours of the stamps perforated by the Dunedin machine are the early ones, while hardly any of these early shades were perforated by the Auckland Machine.

Perf. 13 : 1d. orange, vermilion ; 2d. deep blue, 3d. brown-lilac ; 6d. black ; 1s. dark green. Perf. 12½ : 1d. orange vermilion ; 2d. pale blue, 3d. brown-lilac (very rare perf. 12½) ; 6d. red-brown, 1s. green, yellow green. 4d. deep orange.

Perf. 10 by 12½ : 2d. *blue* (uncatalogued).

1871.—1d. perf. 10, mint pair.

10 by 12½, and 12½ : 6d. mint, 2d. Plate 2 retouched.

No wmk : 1d., 2d. retouched singles. Wmk N.Z. : 1d. brown, 2d. Lozenge wmk, sheets of paper showing complete wmk.

2d. with portrait of script wmk.

1882.—Perf. 12½ : 1d., 2d., 2½d. 12 by 10 : 1d., 2d., 3d., 1s. Perf. 12 by 11 (uncatalogued) : 4d. pair mint. Perf. comb. 12 by 11½ on three sides and 10 on other : 4d. unused (uncatalogued).

PIMM, W. Birmingham.

ST. LUCIA.—A Specialised Collection.—1860.—Issue. All varieties including used copy, 6d. green.

1863.—Issue. All varieties including used copy, 4d. green.

1864.—CC. Perf. 12½ all varieties shewn.

Perf. 14, same issue, used and unused complete.

1881.—CC. Provisionals, 2 copies green and 5 red.

1882-84.—CA. Perf. 14. copies unused, and all shades of 4d. Unused and used copies of 1s. orange.

Perf. 12. Copies of 4d. yellow shown.

BURTON, J. READ, F.R.P.S.I.

CHILI.—A fully specialised collection containing practically all the known varieties both used and unused with the exception of undoubted Lithographs and the 10 c. water-marked 20, but including a fine lot of the imperforate stamps used on entire originals, and dated and other post marks altering hitherto accepted dates of issue in numerous cases. A special study has been made of the Peruvian War Stamps. Full annotations point out several minor discoveries.

U. S. A.—A fully specialised collection of used and unused containing many great rarities, and showing all the major varieties in many shades. A large number of essays and proofs are also included.

During Friday evening lectures were given by Messrs. J. G. Boulton and T. B. Widdowson, members of the Society, on "Advantages of being a Philatelist" and "A Chat on Forgeries" illustrated by lantern slides respectively. These proved to be very interesting and instructive, and were applauded as the various stamps were depicted on the screen.

On Saturday a good number of people gathered to hear the lecture "Philatelic Monuments to War," by Mr. W. F. Lincoln, of London. This was unusually interesting, the stamps showed on the screen dating back many years, many slides being shown depicting stamps issued for service on the field of battle.

Mr. Lincoln described many envelopes used by American Armies during the Civil War, bearing curious and rare post marks.

The audience were much interested in the little used "Stamp Money" used in the United States during the shortage of the usual money.

This consisted of a 10 cent United States stamp of the 1861 issue, enclosed in a small metal or mica disc front, and did duty as a coin.

The first Charity Stamps ever issued saw the light in Philadelphia in 1867, and were sold to raise funds for the sufferers in the Civil War.

The Crimean War and the Abyssinian War were reviewed Philatelically.

The Bordeaux and Paris seige issues were also shown.

Mr. Lincoln showed he had complete mastery of the history of war stamps, and at the end, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for coming down to Leicester to deliver the lecture.

AWARDS.

CLASS I.

For the best collection of Great Britain or any one British Colony exceeding 150 stamps.

Gold Medal.—HAUSBURG, L. L. R., London.

Silver Medal.—BENNETT, HUMPHREY, Northampton. Diploma. I—PAINE, LEICESTER A. B., Longsdon, Stoke on-Trent.

Special Diploma.—STEPHENSON, C. A., Birmingham.

CLASS II.

For the best collection of any one British Colony exceeding 100 stamps, restricted to members of the Leicester Philatelic Society.

Silver Medal.—WIDDOWSON, T. B., Leicester.

Bronze Medal.—WEST, Dr. R. MILBOURNE, Leicester. Diploma.—MUSSEN, Dr. W., Leicester.

CLASS III.

For the best General Collection of not less than 25 countries, open to all.

Silver Medal.—BURTON J. READ, London.

Bronze Medal.—HEGINBOTTOM, J. E., Rochdale.

CLASS IV.

For the best collection in any Gibbons album, restricted to collectors of Leicestershire.

Silver Medal.—FAULKES, A. H.

Album.—WIDDOWSON, T. B.

CLASS V.

For best collection of objects of Philatelic interest,—Forgeries, etc.

Bronze Medal.—BOULTON, J. G.

Album.—GODDARD, J. W. H.

CLASS VI.

For the best Collection of any European country (Great Britain excluded).

Bronze Medal.—WIDDOWSON, T. B.

Album with Diploma.—GADSBY, W.

CLASS VII.

For the best collection of Great Britain.

Album with Diploma.—EDWARDS, T.

Diploma.—P. V. SANSOME.

Album.—BIDDLE, W. H.

CLASS VIII.

For the best Junior's Collection under 2,000, restricted to collectors of Leicestershire under 16 years of age.

Album with Diploma.—MUSSEN, Miss,

Our Open Page

This page is set apart for the free discussion of matters of Philatelic interest.

Proposed Philatelic Congress

IN our issue of the 9th November, 1907 (p. 89) we offered our pages for the free discussion of the question of a Proposed Philatelic Congress.

There has been ample time for a response, but we have not had a solitary line from any one of the numerous readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP all over the country.

Ergo, we are forced to one of two conclusions: Either stamp collectors do not care a button for any Proposed Philatelic Congress, or they want to have something more definite to discuss than anything that has yet been laid before them.

THE EDITOR.

Curious Old Postal Rates

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—

Your able criticism of Mrs. Smyth's book, "Sir Rowland Hill," in "Curious Old Postal Rates," your readers may be interested to know that the probable reason for the odd $\frac{1}{4}$ d. on the postage rate was in consequence of the Act of 1813 repealing, so far as Scotland was concerned, exemption from the toll on mail carriages with more than two wheels.

The Postmarks used are therefore historical, and took the form of and colours, of in various types which I have some and colours.

Add!

$\frac{1}{2}$

Yours truly,
W. V. MORTEN.

Leeds.

Leavy's Collection of Salvadors

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—

In your second number I am quoted as saying that Mr. Leavy's collection of Salvador priced up to £3,000. This is quite a mistake—it priced to over 3,000 dollars, and was sold by me to an American collector. It is quite true that we have sold over 5,000 dollar's worth of Salvador stamps, but as some of the specimens until recently quoted at 4d. (for reprints) are or will be more correctly quoted at from two to twenty shillings (for originals) in the new catalogue you will readily understand how the figures run up. Original Salvadors in some cases are practically non-existing, whilst reprints flood the market and are in almost every dealer's stock, except our own. We've shunted them.

Very faithfully yours,

EUSTACE B. POWER.

Methods of Collecting

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—

I think in your remarks on page 78 of THE POSTAGE STAMP—a very excellent little paper—you are scarcely fair to Mr. Ewen. There is, at any rate, method in what he advises.

First: "A general collection on simplified lines" in order to give a beginner a general knowledge of stamp-collecting.

Secondly: "New Issues Specialised" educates the collector in the varieties of watermark and paper that exist.

Thirdly: "Specialism." After a collector has mastered the first two stages he is in a position to develop the third and last.

There are too many collectors who attempt the last two stages without having been through the first.

Might I suggest a summary at the end of the "New Issue" page of the week's new issues arranged in a form for the general collector? Page 75 would finish like this:—

REFERENCE LIST FOR THE GENERAL COLLECTOR.

B. Honduras. King, 10, 25, 50. \$1, \$2, \$5.
Cayman Islands. King, $\frac{1}{2}$ on 1.
Straits Settlements. King, 4 c. carmine.

Yours truly,

J. IRELAND.

Great American Collections

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,—

I am surprised to read in THE POSTAGE STAMP for 19th October an article headed "Great American Collectors," in which an *absurd* reference is made to the value of my collection. I have been a modest collector from boyhood, but my collection of stamps is not worth more than a fraction of the great sum named. I am not a general collector. Beside my British North America collection, the Canadas of which were awarded a gold medal at the last London exhibition, I have collections that are in the making of New South Wales, New Zealand, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, and Spain. I have never been offered a great sum for all of these. There are three pairs (one unused) and two single copies of the 12 pence Canada in my collection of that country and not "a dozen copies" as stated. You will oblige me by making my statement known, as I do not wish to have my hobby exaggerated.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES LATHROP PACK.

[The paragraph referred to was a quotation from an American paper, and we gladly insert Mr. Pack's comment, but, all the same, we think he is far too depreciatory of his philatelic gatherings. On this side we preserve a lively recollection and admiration of his splendid exhibit of Canadians at the International Exhibition held in London in May, 1906.—Ed. P.S.]

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

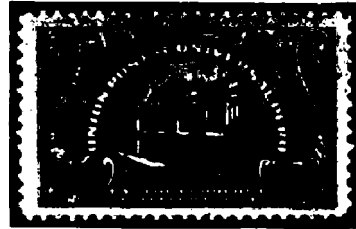
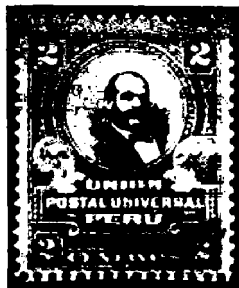
East Africa and Uganda. We illustrate the new cents issue fully listed in our last number (p. 14).



Honduras. We illustrate the new design chronicled in our last number (p. 121).



Peru. Messrs. Whitfield King send us the full series of the much-talked-of pictorial issue for this country. In seven stamps there are no less than four varying in size and shape. Our illustrations render description and comment unnecessary.



Perf. 12.

- 1c. green, centre black.
- 2c. vermilion, centre violet.
- 4c. olive.
- 5c. blue, centre black.
- 10c. brown " "
- 20c. green " "
- 50c. black.

Switzerland. We are indebted to Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co. for early copies of two of the new stamps referred to in our last number (p. 121), which we illustrate. The 5c. represents the cross-bow and the child of William Tell holding an apple pierced by an arrow. The 10c. represents Helvetia with her right hand on the hilt of her sword, in her left an olive branch, and a federal cross on her breast and the Alps in the background.



Perf. 11½.

- 5c. emerald.
- 10c. pink.

From Other Magazines

The Value of a Peso

MOST of the countries of South and Central America adopt the peso—usually consisting of 100 centavos—as the unit of value. Generally speaking, the currency of these States is based on a silver standard, which is liable to fluctuations as the value of silver advances or depreciates. This fact, however, does not account for the amazing differences in the value of the peso between the various countries, and in the following notes we have endeavoured to give our readers the nominal, or rather average, value of this coin obtaining in the several states. For convenience of reference, these particulars are arranged in alphabetical order, and, unless otherwise stated, it should be understood that the peso is composed of 100 centavos.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Prior to 1860, the value of the peso was about 1s. 8d., and after that date the coinage was revised, the peso being worth a trifle over 4s. At the chief town, Buenos Ayres, the peso consisted of 8 reales, or 2d. in English money, until 1862 when it adopted the currency obtaining in the other portions of the republic. At Corrientes, before 1860, the peso was worth 2s. 4d., and was divided into 8 reales.

CHILI.—The peso here has always had an average value of 1s. 8d.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—Probably in no country has the value of the peso fluctuated to such an extent as in Colombia. Its average value was 1s. 8d., but in 1903 the value of the paper peso fell so low as $\frac{1}{4}$ d. In 1904 a gold standard was adopted, uniform with that of the United States, so that a peso is now worth 4s. 2d.

COSTA RICA.—Until 1881, the peso consisted of 8 reales, worth about 2s. 4d. The currency was then changed to a peso of 100 centavos, valued at 1s. 8d., and recently it has appreciated, and now stands at about 2s. 1d.

CUBA.—Originally the unit of value was a peso of 8 reales plata, worth 4s. 4d., but in 1873 it was reconstructed into a peso of 100 centavos, worth only 10d. Since 1899 the peso has been equal to the United States dollar, viz., 4s. 2d.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—Prior to 1880, the peso, of 8 reales, was worth about 2s. 4d., and in that year it was converted into a peso of 100 centavos with a nominal value of 4s.

ECUADOR.—Until 1881, the peso, divided into 8 reales, was nominally worth 2s. 4d. In 1881 it was divided into 100 centavos, worth 1s. 8d.

GUATEMALA.—The peso, at first equal to 100 centavos, then 8 reales, and finally 100 centavos again, has always had an average value of 1s. 8d.

HONDURAS.—Until the end of 1889, the peso of 8 reales was worth about 2s. 4d. In 1890 it was changed to a peso of 100 centavos, with a nominal value of 1s. 8d.

MEXICO.—The peso of Mexico consisted of 8 reales, until 1886, and was worth about 2s. 4d. It was converted into a peso of 100 centavos in 1866, its value remaining practically the same.

NICARAGUA.—The peso of Nicaragua has always had a nominal value of 1s. 8d.

PARAGUAY.—Before 1879 the peso consisted of 8 reales, and was worth about 2s. 4d. Since that date, however, it has consisted of 100 centavos, with an average value of 8d.

PERU.—About 1866 the currency of Peru was changed from dineros and pesetas to centavos and pesos, the latter being worth about 2s. 1d. In 1874 the peso was replaced by a coin named a "sol."

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Prior to 1864 the currency consisted of cuartos and reales; then the metric system was introduced, based on a peseta of 100 centimos, and in 1875 the peseta gave place to the peso of 100 centimos, with a value of about 2s. 6d. Since 1899 the peso has become equal in value to the United States dollar, viz., 4s. 2d.

SALVADOR.—Until 1879 the peso (equal to 8 reales) was worth 2s. 4d. It was then divided into 100 centavos, and has since had an average value of 1s. 8d.

URUGUAY.—Originally the currency consisted of centesimos and reales, and in 1877 it was converted into a peso of 100 centesimos, with an average value of 4s. 6d.

East Africa and Uganda: Sheet Numbers

The Colonial Stamp Market received a further consignment of the anna values a day or so before the cental issue made its appearance, and as some of the sheets bear higher numbers than those last reported we give the list as it now stands.

Wmk. Crown C.A. mult., chalk paper.

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna	Highest sheet-number seen,	0487.
1	"	2916.
2	"	343.
2p. (ord. paper)	"	054.
3 anna	"	166.
4	"	029.
5	"	186.
8	"	154.
1 rupee	"	425.

On this basis there were about 19,000 8 annas and 23,000 5 annas issued on chalk-surface paper, but the sheet numbers are not a very reliable basis on which to make calculations, as the sheets are not always issued in order.

The cental issue (of which the Colonial Stamp Market's consignment was despatched from Mombasa on 14.10.07) is throughout in sheets of 120, each containing two panes of 60. The sheets each have four marginal plate-numbers "1." The highest sheet-numbers we have are as follows:—

Cental Issue.

3c. ord paper.	Highest sheet-numbers seen,	0374.
6c.	"	0875.
10c. chalky	"	129.
12c.	"	134.
15c. ord. paper	"	097.
25c. chalky	"	110.
50c.	"	106.

If the sheet-numbers are any guide, the first issue to the various Post Offices throughout the Protectorate took about 12,000 sets.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 16.11.07.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

The Bargain Hunter

IT has been said by some wag that if people only knew how to go to work they could live most sumptuously on the "Free Samples" that are offered from day to day for advertisement purposes.

And the question arises in this connection, whether a patient collector could not build up a very decent collection on "Bargains" offered by certain dealers. One day one dealer shouts out at the top of his voice "Here you are! A free set of the rare set of Timbuctoo! All for the pleasure of making your acquaintance!" Another offers some other tempting bait. Then another says "I have just bought a big lot of something else and can offer them at half Gibbons."

And so the game goes on. Now by carefully watching for these tips one might in a few generations get together a really fine collection.

Sale of Philatelic Works

Philatelic works are cropping up in our auctions this season more frequently than I can remember for many years, and I am glad of it, for it will help the revival of interest which is being displayed in the formation of Philatelic Libraries.

Every settled Philatelic Society should aim at getting together a good library for its members and for this purpose a fund should be set apart for the purchase of standard works as they come upon the market.

The most important recent sale of Philatelic works was by Messrs. Ventom Bull & Cooper on the 7th Nov., 1907. Here is the full list of the prices realised:—

	£ s. d.
"The Postage Stamps, etc., of the British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates of Africa," Part 1	15 0
Ditto Part 2	15 0
Ditto Part 3	1 7 0
"The Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles"	13 0
"The Stamps of Tasmania"	18 0
"The Postage Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies"	1 18 0
"The Postage Stamps, etc., of Australia and the British Colonies of Oceania"	1 16 0
"The Postage Stamps, etc., of the North American Colonies and Great Britain"	1 16 0
"The Postage Stamps, etc., of British India and Ceylon"	17 0
"The Neabit stamped envelopes and wrappers of the United States of America"	1 0
"The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain," by Messrs. Philbrick & Westoby	0 12 0
"The British, Colonial and Foreign Postage Stamps," by Mount Brown, 2nd Edition	1 0 0
Ditto, 5th Edition	0 12 0
"Oppen's Postage Stamp Catalogue, etc.," by Henry Whymper	0 12 0
"Hand Catalogue of Postage Stamps," by Dr. Gray, published by Robert Hardwicke, 1862 (2 copies), and 3rd Edition, published by Marlborough & Co. in 1865	1 10 0
"Illustrated Catalogue of Postage Stamps," by Dr. Gray, 6th Edition	0 5 0
Another copy	0 5 0

	£ s. d.
"Standard Catalogue of Postage Stamp Collecting," by Bellars and Davie, published by John Camden Hotten in 1864 (2 Editions)	0 16 0
Ditto, 1865 Edition	0 8 0
"Catalogue prix-courant de Timbres Postes," by J. B. Moens, 1892	—
"A Catalogue for Collectors," by Captain E. B. Evans, R.A., 1882	0 15 0
"The Jubilee of Penny Postage"	0 12 0
<i>The London Philatelist</i> , Vols. 1, 2 and 3, bound	0 12 0
<i>The Philatelic Record</i> , 1880-1898 bound, in 19 Volumes	1 16 0
<i>The Stamp Collectors' Magazine</i> , Vols. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	1 2 0
Ditto, Vols. 1, 11 and 12	0 9 0
Ditto, Nos. 1-22, No. 17 omitted, unbound	0 10 0
<i>The Stamp News</i> , 1892-93-94-95 bound, and the Annuals for 1892, 1894 and 1896	0 4 0
<i>Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal</i> , Vol. 1	0 8 0
Ditto, Vols. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8	0 4 0
<i>The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly</i> , Vols. 1, 2, 3 and 4	0 4 0
<i>The Stamp Collectors' Journal</i> , 1893-4, "Stamp Auctions Reports, 1898," "Hilcke's Auction Summary, season 1894-95," "Price List of the rare stamps in the Winzer collection," and "Alfred Smith & Co.'s Catalogue," 2nd Edition	0 6 0
"Papers for Philatelists," comprising 20 numbers of <i>The Philatelist</i> , December 1st, 1856, and <i>The American Journal of Philately</i> , 1892	0 5 0
"The Philatelic Hand-Book, by Edward B. Evans, 1885," and "Colonial Stamps, by Gilbert E. Lockyer"	0 3 0
<i>The London Philatelist</i> , Vols. 2-12, unbound	0 16 0
<i>The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain</i> , Vols. 1-11, unbound	0 10 0
<i>Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal</i> , Vols. 1-5, unbound	0 15 0
<i>The Stamp News</i> , Vols. 8 and 9, and <i>The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly</i> , Vols. 1-5, unbound	0 3 0
A large quantity of priced catalogues of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sales, and others	0 5 0

The Bargains

In this lot there were some fine bargains. The purchaser of the nine out of the twelve volumes forming the complete set of the grand old *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for £1 2s. is to be congratulated on having carried off the prize. The complete set is worth anything from £5 upwards. Sometimes it is to be had cheaper.

The Royal Philatelic Society's works went decidedly cheap. The West Indian volume used to be considered cheap at anything under £4, but it did not fetch half that sum in this sale.

Cayman Provisional: Mr. Peckitt Scores

Mr. Peckitt has scored well over the Cayman Islands Provisional. When I dropped in at his establishment a few days since I found he was selling the Provisional at 2s. 6d., and that he had already supplied all his new Issue Service customers with copies without extra charge, i.e., they get this provisional, which has been selling at 5s., for one halfpenny plus 10 per cent.

And here I may note the fact that when Gibbons dropped their New Issue service to 10 per cent. over face Mr. Peckitt followed suit, but when Gibbons raised their price to 15 per cent. because the lower rate did not pay, Mr. Peckitt declined to worry his customers by racing up and down the scale, and has kept his price at 10 per cent.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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More American Congratulations

MR. WALTER H. COLSON, author of "Postage Stamps and their Collection," writes from Brighton, Mass., U.S.A. "That there was a void in the Philatelic ranks of English literature I had not appreciated until I received THE POSTAGE STAMP, and I wish to add my heartiest congratulations on your new paper, not only for its many interesting contents, but as well for its strength in a typographical direction."

The Archer Trial Roulette

C. H. S. (Frome). The following extracts from the Royal Philatelic Society's work on the Stamps of Great Britain will probably give you the information you require in the way of history and description of the Archer Trial Roulettes:—

In the year 1847, Mr. Henry Archer, an Irishman, brought forward a machine, ostensibly invented by himself, though in reality the joint work of several mechanics who had aided him, "whereby the stamps might be separated without the necessity of using knives or scissors." The matter was referred to certain officials at the Post Office, who in their report to the Commissioners of Stamps and Taxes, made the 14th October, 1847, stated that the machine appeared to be a clever and useful invention, and one which, in their opinion, it was desirable should be adopted.

On the 13th October, 1847, Archer wrote to Mr. Rowland Hill, enclosing him a portion of a sheet of penny stamps, rouletted by his machine, and requesting his approval of the system. These specimens, some of which are still in existence, show twelve to fourteen cuts in the vertical sides of the stamps, by eleven to twelve cuts in the horizontal, or 23 cuts in the space of 40 mm. (1½ inches). On the 7th January, 1848, the report of the Commissioners was approved by the Lords of the Treasury, and stamps rouletted by Archer's machine were authorised to be circulated.

The first trial of Archer's machine, however, was not satisfactory; it was found "that the piercing rollers by which the cuts were made, speedily wore out the table on which their edges descended, and but few sheets were perforated, as this defect soon put a stop to further experiments. Archer then, with the help of a practical machinist, modified the machine by introducing a series of lancet-shaped blades, but on trial this also failed, partly from the same cause as before, and partly from the blades becoming blunted against the table.

"Examples of the stamps, which are the result of both of these experiments, are preserved at the Post Office, and some few sheets found their way into the hands of the public, though the number must have been very limited, as specimens are exceedingly rare, but when found they may readily be distinguished from each other. In the first the cuts vary in length, and the distances separating them from each other are unequal, while the cut itself is irregular and jagged, and the stamp is seldom left square at the angles. In the second, the cuts are straight and clean, widening at the extremities, and they are much closer together and at more regular intervals."

Many thanks for your very kind congratulations.

Orange River Colony. 1900. Errors

E. S. & P. (High Wycombe). The Orange River Colony 1d. brown and 1s. orange yellow, overprinted VRI are in no sense of the term "Errors." They are stamps which were part of the stock of a local bank and were too hastily overprinted "to oblige." I hold that they are not entitled to catalogue rank. What if the Bank had sent some Cape stamps and they had been similarly overprinted "to oblige"? It is most unfortunate that in a matter of this sort a trader's catalogue should be the deciding authority. I cannot say anything about the post card.

Books, etc., on Great Britain

C. H. S. (Frome). The following are the best books etc., on the stamps of Great Britain:—

"A History of the Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles." By Hastings E. Wright and A. B. Creeke, junr. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, at 24s.

"The Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom." By W. A. S. Westoby. Published by Sampson, Low & Co., London, at 5s.

"The Postage Stamps of Great Britain." By Fred J. Melville. Published by the Junior Philatelic Society, London. Price 1s.

"The Stamps of Great Britain." By Gordon Smith, M.A. A series of excellent articles, written specially for the beginner, which ran through nearly the whole of the first volume of *Gibbons, Stamp Weekly*. Price of the vol. (now scarce) about 10s. 6d.

Programme of Countries

W. E. G (Withernsea) suggests an article on the stamps of Austria and reminds me that all my readers are not collectors of British Colonials. Well, I have not the slightest intention of confining the articles in THE POSTAGE STAMP to British Colonials, indeed I have in the very last issue forestalled my Yorkshire friend by giving him an article on the very interesting stamps of German occupation of France, popularly known as the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine, and I intend to intersperse foreign countries and British Colonials in the programme of THE POSTAGE STAMP. In fact, I have several articles on foreign countries on the stocks, including one on the stamps of Norway, which will appear shortly.

I may add that helpful criticisms and suggestions from any of my readers will always be most welcome.

Covers for Binding

Isis (Oxford).—Cover for binding THE POSTAGE STAMP? And we are only nine weeks old. However, we shall have to decide that matter soon. All I can say at present is that we propose to have half-yearly volumes, and I have no doubt we shall get something neat in the way of a cover for binding.

R. B. B. (Weston-super-Mare). The best album to meet your requirements will be the "Standard" album published by Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. This, with their catalogue, will help you over all your difficulties as to the proper placing of stamps. The price of the album is from 10s. 6d. upwards, according to binding. The catalogue is sent post free for 1s. 6d. You had better write them for their Price List. The address is Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. The album is in two vols.: British Colonies and Foreign Countries. You will probably find British Colonies quite enough as a start. You will note that we are running a Philatelic Dictionary through the pages of THE POSTAGE STAMP. Glad to hear you like THE POSTAGE STAMP so much, and no doubt you will do all you can to make it known to your friends.

Dundee Collector (Dundee). I agree with Major Evans, and other competent authorities, in regarding punctured officials as of no more value, from the stamp collector's point of view, than stamps punctured with the initials of any commercial firm.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 10. Vol. 1

7 DECEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

British, be hanged!



OUR friend, the *Australian Philatelist*, does not seem to be able to quite get over Major Evans's little dig about "Gum-Papua." In the last number to hand of our excellent Australian contemporary the title "British New Guinea" is rejected in favour of Papua with a lofty scorn and a British "be hanged" air, and then, pettishly, there is the refrain:—

"British here, British there, and British everywhere,
British in the 'stokehole,' and British in the 'air.'"

And then comes the suggestion that it was the desire to get away from the word "British" that was partly the cause of the alteration, and next, forsooth, we are told that "Papua is not now a British dependency." If a French or German fleet came along to gobble it up I wonder what dependency it would be considered then. Truly, our Australian friends are getting quite amusing, as amusing as Artemus Ward's kangaroo.

Papuan Issues

These same Papuan issues seem likely to lead us a bit of a dance. The latest news comes to me from Mr. Whitfield King, who tells me that the British New Guinea stamps overprinted "Papua" are already obsolete and that they had just received a cablegram informing them that the new issue is on sale, but they have not the least idea whether they are another provisional, say surcharged on Queensland, or whether they are a permanent design.

General Collecting Becoming Popular

General collecting is becoming decidedly more popular, and I am glad to record the fact. The latest declaration in this direction comes from Mr. W. W. Munn, one of the Manchester Philatelic Society's most hard-worked members. I quote what he says to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*:—

I collect principally British Colonials with a partiality for Australians. I have never been able to make up my mind to confine myself to this branch, so I collect in a general way other countries, with a weakness for United States and a few European countries. I think there is more pleasure and information to be got in collecting generally than in specialising one or two countries to the exclusion of all the rest.

General Collecting Combined with Specialism

To my mind the ideal form of collecting is general collecting as a basis with subsidiary specialising. That is to say I would run a general collection as a general basis of collecting, and open out a particular country on specialist lines as opportunity and means admitted.

Of course if you go in for the bloating form of specialism you will need a long purse and abundant time to run your general collection and specialised countries then. In such a case general collecting invariably takes a back seat.

But general collecting, if limited to good philatelically honest countries only, then mild specialism is quite possible to the average philatelist.

Personally I strongly advocate a mild form of general collecting, by choosing one or two representative countries in each of the great groups so as to have at least some interest in each philatelic division, and then open out one or two countries in a specialised form.

There are so many countries now that are running riot with issues for swindling collectors that it becomes an easy matter by throwing out the weeds to reduce the choice to a manageable few.

Proposed Philatelic Congress

I note that the Editor has thrown up the sponge over the "Proposed Philatelic Congress." He has had no response to his invitation to discuss the matter, and he naturally arrives at the conclusion that collectors do not "care a button" for the idea. After all, it may be only a question of education and for the present I do not think I can do better than reprint from the *Stamp Collector* a simple account of the 19th Annual Philatelic Conference at Hamburg:—

The 19th Annual German "Philatelisten Tag," combined with the 11th Union-Meeting of the German-Austrian Philatelic Clubs, held at Hamburg, 24th to 26th August, 1907, was a complete success. The business meetings of the gathering were held on the 25th August, beginning at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. The scientific part with which alone we are concerned, comprised three lectures, appearing now verbatim in most of the German journals.

The first was:—Are official reprints and proofs of the lithographed stamp series of Hamburg in existence? by Mr. Ernst Vicenz, first president of the Hamburg "Verein für Briefmarkenkunde." This paper was more of value to specialists. The lithographed stamps were made by C. Adler, Hamburg, and with the imposing material on hand the lecturer declared that *officially* the lithographed stamps have never been reprinted. If proofs have been done could not be determined.

The second lecture appealed more to the general interest, and was delivered by Mr. W. Sellschopp, formerly of San Francisco, now in Hamburg:—Western Franks and paid envelopes of the American Express Companies. Many private delivery companies had started in California, the first large one being Adam & Co., San Francisco, founded 1849, closed through a financial crisis in 1855. The "Wells Fargo Co.," absorbing a lot of smaller ones, carried on an extensive and ever-widening business, their envelopes being known best. "A bar, a smithy, and a Wells Fargo Office, were the nucleus of many a now flourishing Western town." The most enterprising concern was the "Central Overland Pony Express Co.," of 1860. 1900 miles were covered, 80 express riders were continuously in the saddle, 40 galloping east, and 40 westwards, every rider taking 30 to 75 miles at a stretch, over 400 horses were required; mountains, swollen rivers, hostile Indians, all had to be overcome. And the result? A financial loss, but the more powerful Wells Fargo Co. installed the "Overland Mail Co.," in 1861, over practically the same route. Mr. Sellschopp described also the various franks and their reprints, the well-known Wells Fargo envelopes, the various fights and ultimate agreements with Uncle Sam's Post Office, etc. The whole paper makes highly interesting reading, full of valuable information by one who took active part in this primitive style of postal activity. His unique collection of franks and envelopes illustrated the lecture which earned a well-deserved applause.

The third paper by an eminent lawyer, Counsellor Pauli, Berlin, is of greatest importance to dealers and collectors alike:—Report of the commission for deciding how to mark forged stamps. The conclusion come to is summed up in the (here shortened) resolution:—The 19th German Congress recommends (1) the philatelic societies to secure (by a declaration signed by the sender of stamps for exchange sheets, or for expertising) the right to mark forged stamps either by stamping, punching or otherwise; (2) to be responsible for the value of genuine stamps wrongly marked as forged (the value at the time of marking being indicated with other particulars on the back of the stamp).

There were delegates present from 52 philatelic societies representing 6,462 members.

The great "bourse" was well patronised and resulted on one day alone in sales amounting to £7,500.

A special Post Office established in the building was employed to its full capacity; the 12,000 official picture post cards of strictly philatelic design were soon sold out, the demand not being satisfied.

The social part of the gathering included a stamp exhibition visited by over 2000 persons. The chief exhibit was the special collections of Hamburg stamps owned by Mr. Ernst Vicenz—8,500 specimens in nine divisions—which has already gained three first prizes at International Exhibitions (Berlin 1904, Milan and London 1906). On this collection is based the great standard monograph on the Hamburg stamps now in course of preparation, and to be published in 1910.

On the 24th August a grand Re-union took place, and on the following day the official banquet, at which 300 ladies and gentlemen were present, concluded by a dance.

Various excursions, photographing the party on board of an ocean liner, etc., followed next day, while a trip to Heligoland undertaken on the 27th by 170 stampists, who were not yet tired out, brought the proceedings to a close.

Next year the Congress will be held at Gössnitz, Saxe-Altenburg.

Papuans will be Scarce

I fear some of my fellow collectors will find it difficult to complete their Papuan issues. Though on the spot, I have had great difficulty in getting together a complete set of the large surcharge, and some four values of the small surcharge, and now I hear that the second

or small surcharge is already obsolete, and that a new issue of some sort has taken its place.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., answering my query why it should take so long for these stamps to get into circulation here, write:—"You ask why Papua stamps take so long to get on to the English market. It is evident you do not know how long it takes to get a reply from that out of the way place. The mail goes as far as Cooktown in Queensland, and from that place the communication to Port Moresby, in Papua, is at irregular and uncertain intervals. It generally takes about five months to get a reply, and in one case it was just six months after sending out a remittance that I received the stamps."

So that those who collect Papuans will have to possess their souls in patience. Those who have subscribed for a New Issue Service have come off best, indeed I believe it to be a fact that very few have come on to general sale.

Alsace and Lorraine Cancellations

Lt.-Col. H. P. Lee writes concerning the very interesting matter of the cancellations on the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine as follows:—"It would complete your notice of Alsace and Lorraine stamps to add that the marginal outline of the P.O. cancellation stamp was circular for Civil use and narrow oblong for Military. I have examples of both."

Papuan Numbers Overprinted

I am indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for the following list of British New Guinea Postage Stamps surcharged "Papua," which they inform me is official:

Stamp.	Large Print.	Small Print.	Total.
½d.	11,040	18,150	29,190
1d.	12,960	35,100	48,060
2d.	29,610	40,560	70,170
2½d.	12,000	13,230	25,230
4d.	2,970	5,135	8,105
6d.	6,300	5,255	11,555
1s.	5,970	7,625	13,595
2s. 6d.	2,730	10,696	13,426

New Zealand: Current Stamps

Why is there such a lack of the current stamps of New Zealand in London dealers' shops? I have tried one after another for the reduced size 3d., but have not been able to get a copy, and, so far as I know, it has not yet been sent out by any of the New Issue Services.

Why is it?

They say it is because of the numberless and perplexing varieties to which New Zealand was treating us four or five years ago. They got sick of unrecognisable varieties of Waterlow paper, Basted paper, and Crown paper.

Ah! Is that so?

Well, I guess that those collectors who have troubled themselves to seek out other sources of supply, and have kept up-to-date in the matter of N.Z. varieties, will score heavily in the sweet by and bye, for the Catalogue must take note of what has been issued, and then the collector, in his turn, will have to follow the lead of the catalogue. But where will he go then for his supplies?

And Australians

And current Australians are in precisely the same box. Varieties are notified by every mail, but you may search the purlieus of the Strand in vain for those varieties.

On the other hand, if you want central American rubbish or King's heads, you may fill your sack to the brim.

The Stamps of Southern Nigeria

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

THE British Protectorate of Southern Nigeria dates only from January, 1900, when it was constituted a separate colony. It is administered by a High Commissioner. It comprises a vast tract of territory on the West Coast of Africa. On the south it stretches from Ogobo to the mouth of the Cross River. The Cameroons form its eastern boundary, Lagos the western, and northern Nigeria the northern boundary. It has an area of about 48,000 square miles to which has now to be added the Colony of Lagos recently included under the administration of Southern Nigeria. The chief towns are Old Calabar with a population of 15,000, which is the seat of Government, Asaba and Idda, and on the coast, Bonny, Opobo, Brass, and Akasso. Benin, sixty miles up the Benin river, has a population of 50,000.

Its Philatelic History

From the philatelic point of view Southern Nigeria is a coming country of great promise. Its stamps are of separate and distinct design, they are of solid and increasing value, and there are no provisionals. They are, moreover, the issues of a highly prosperous protectorate.

The first series was issued in Jan., 1901, when the territory was constituted a separate administration, and bore a portrait of Queen Victoria. It comprised nine values, and had a life of only eighteen months when it was superseded by an issue bearing the head of King Edward VII in place of that of the late Queen, and watermarked Crown C.A. single, and these were in turn superseded by a change to paper watermarked multiple C.A. So rapidly have these changes followed each other that many of the values have become very scarce.

1901. Nine values. Design: Head of Queen Victoria with face to right in an oval. Each stamp is printed in two colours, the oval containing the portrait being in one colour and the rest of the design in another. The oval is printed in black in all values, except the 1s., which is in green and the 100 is printed on yellow



paper. By common consent the stamps are pretty and effective. They were designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., London, and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. green and black ..	0	3	—	—
1d. carmine and black ..	0	4	0	3
2d. red brown and black ..	0	6	0	4
4d. sage green and black ..	1	6	—	—
6d. purple and black ..	2	6	—	—
1s. black and green ..	4	0	—	—
2s. 6d. brown and black ..	7	6	4	0
5s. yellow and black ..	20	0	—	—
10s. purple and black on yellow	30	0	—	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

All the values show a steady rise. There is not a single set back in all the series. The latest available quotations are from a catalogue twelve months old. Gibbons are advertising for copies of the 2d., 4d., 2s. 6d. and 10s., and all values will probably show a further rise in the new catalogue.

	1902		1903		1904		1905		1906	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. ..	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	3
1d. ..	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	3	0	4
2d. ..	0	4	0	4	0	4	0	6	0	6
4d. ..	0	6	0	6	0	8	1	6	1	6
6d. ..	0	8	0	8	1	6	2	6	2	6
1s. ..	1	4	1	4	4	0	4	0	4	0
2s. 6d. ..	3	3	3	3	5	0	7	6	7	6
5s. ..	6	6	6	6	10	0	15	0	20	0
10s. ..	12	6	12	6	20	0	30	0	30	0

1902. Eleven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left in an oval which is surmounted with a crown. Otherwise the design of the previous issue remains unaltered. The values are all repeated and in the same combinations of colour; with the addition of two new values, a 2½d. and a ½l. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. single and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. Single. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½d. green and black ..	0	6	0	3
1d. carmine and black ..	0	6	0	4
2d. orange brown and black ..	4	0	1	0
2½d. ultramarine and black ..	5	0	2	0
4d. olive green and black ..	1	6	1	0
6d. mauve and black ..	3	6	2	0
1s. black and green ..	6	0	4	0
2s. 6d. brown and black ..	15	0	10	0
5s. yellow and black ..	20	0	20	0
10s. purple and black on yellow	15	0	20	0
½l violet and green ..	120	0	—	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

Here we have again a steady rise in all cases, but one, the 2½d., being dropped from 6d. in 1904 to 4d. in 1905 to be jumped in 1906 to 3s. and in this year to 5s. The 1907 prices quoted are taken from a Stanley Gibbons' list published in January of this year. The firm are now advertising for copies of the ½d., 2½d., 2s. 6d. and 5s. values and the general impression is that we have not seen the limit in the rise of these single C.A. King's head stamps.

	1904	1905	1906	1907
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d. ..	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 6
1d. ..	0 2	0 3	0 6	0 6
2d. ..	0 3	0 5	—	4 0
2½d. ..	0 6	0 4	3 0	5 0
4d. ..	0 8	0 6	1 0	1 6
6d. ..	0 8	1 0	2 6	3 6
1s. ..	1 4	—	6 0	6 0
2s. 6d. ..	3 3	3 3	12 6	15 0
5s. ..	6 6	6 6	—	15 0
10s. ..	12 6	12 6	15 0	15 0
£1 ..	—	—	—	120 0

1904-5. Ten values. Design, as in the last issue, but printed on paper watermarked Multiple C.A. All colours and values repeated, except the 10s., which has not yet been issued on Multiple C.A. paper.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green and black ..	0 1	0 2
1d. carmine and black ..	0 2	0 2
2d. orange, brown and black ..	0 3	0 3
2½d. ultramarine and black ..	0 4	0 4
4d. olive green and black ..	0 6	0 6
6d. mauve and black ..	0 8	0 9
1s. black and green ..	1 4	1 4
2s. 6d. brown and black ..	3 3	—
5s. yellow and black ..	6 6	—
£1 violet and green ..	25 0	—

1907. Four values. Design, King's head, unchanged. ½d., 1d. and 2½d. in single colours to conform more strictly with Postal Union requirements and a new value, 3d.

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. green ..	0 1	0 1
1d. rose ..	0 2	0 2
2½d. ultramarine ..	0 4	0 4
3d. mauve and red brown ..	0 5	0 6

The Real Market Value of a Stamp

ATTEMPTS have been made from time to time to settle this very knotty subject, and it has been argued from various standpoints, viz., the basis of auction prices, dealers' catalogues, competition, scarcity, and the law of supply and demand. We are afraid, however, that no satisfactory solution of the difficulty will ever be arrived at. Auction prices vary, dealers' catalogues vary, competition varies, scarcity varies, supply and demand varies, "condition" varies, and circumstances vary. In fact there is such a multitude of "variations" to be considered in the effort to fix a real market value that the thing is well-nigh impossible.

We have the courage to assert that auction prices

are very little guide. The circumstances surrounding an auction sale must be taken into consideration. It must be remembered that usually the majority of bidders who attend the London sales are dealers who are either buying on commission for collectors, or with a view to a profit on a resale in the ordinary way of business. Is it fair to argue that, because a stamp fetched a certain sum in a London sale-room, a collector should only pay the same money to a dealer in Australia? The dealer might say, If you want to buy the stamp at such a price go to the auction-room and buy it. Again, a collector might say he would be safe in paying, say, 25 per cent. over auction prices. Even then he might be away from the real market value, for the simple reason that two somewhat similar stamps when placed side by side may differ as much as chalk and cheese. We have known two exactly similar articles fetch at auction, on different occasions, prices which varied 50 per cent., and in some cases when several articles of the same kind have been put up at the same sale, they fetched various prices owing to bidders dropping out. This may apply to stamps as well as other commodities. The law of average won't meet the case, and a "standard" cannot be maintained. One dealer may be in the happy position of having "a good connection," i.e., collectors who have the means to pay a good price for stamps they require. Another dealer may value his stamps at lower prices and be satisfied with a smaller profit, have fewer expenses, or he may have secured a supply of stock on more advantageous terms. One dealer may sell a stamp at 10s., and have more profit off it than he who sells a similar stamp at 20s. One man may offer his stamps (and have plenty of them to sell too) at 10s., and doesn't find buyers, whereas another may not be able to get sufficient to supply the demands of his customers at 15s. each. Which is the real market value? . . .

Competition, circumstances, and condition all combine the fixing of a real market value, and it is a hopeless task to try and arrive at a solution of the difficulty. Collectors and dealers must therefore use their own judgment and discretion in buying and selling.—*Australian Journal of Philately*, March, 1905.

The Genesis of Speculation in Stamps

THE Jeremiahs who water this planet with their crocodile tears over the degeneration of stamp collectors in the matter of speculation will be amused to learn that I have been able to trace the genesis of speculation in postage stamps. I found it in an old philatelic magazine away back in the eighties, in a little philatelic venture called *The Philatelic Gazette*. Here it is: "Apropos of the introduction of the penny post, a story is told by a commercial traveller, who was at that time doing business in the Channel Islands. An English shilling bought thirteen Jersey pennies in exchange, so when the penny stamps came into the island they were sold for a Jersey penny. Thirteen were sold for an English shilling, and our friend was not long in finding this out. So he bought up all the stock of stamps—some four hundred pounds' worth—and resold them when he crossed the water, realising about eight per cent. on his bargain. Other commercials followed suit, and the officials at the General Post Office were astonished at the number of stamps required for insignificant little Jersey. Settling day came, and with it the explanation. The enterprise was speedily stopped."—*Cornelius Wrinkle*.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 129.)

Other De'La Rue Plates

IN the chapter devoted to marginal plate numbers I referred to the stamps of the Orange Free State and Egypt as being worthy of mention in this article. I find that on these plates current numbers occur, viz.:

Orange Free State, Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

Egypt, 1 mill, 1888. No. 1.

" 10 paras, 1879. No. 2.

IV.—Marginal Contract Numbers

Marginal "contract" or "account" letters and numbers are only found on the sheets of the current ½d. and 1d. stamps and the last issue Queen's head, 1d. lilac, ½d. vermilion, and ½d. green, stamps of Great Britain. It was at one time presumed that these varieties were practically the same as plate numbers. According to Messrs. Wright & Creeks's work on British stamps, however, these letters are engraved on the plates to assist the contractors (Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd.) in keeping an account of the production of the stamps (as the plates of the ½d. and 1d. values are always at press) and for the purposes of book-keeping. They are, therefore, inferior in philatelic interest to marginal plate and reference numbers, for they are inserted only for the printers' convenience and changed whenever they think fit.

In the Queen's head ½d. and 1d. values the account letters are always placed below the eleventh stamp in the bottom row of the plate. They were first made use of in 1884 and that they are not the distinguishing marks of the various plates is obvious from the fact that between 1884 and 1898 something like seventy-five plates were put to press for the 1d. value, while the account letters only run from A to W.

A so-called error of lettering occurs on some of the sheets of the 1d. lilac stamp, the original letter "N" being cancelled by two bars and "O" inserted by its side. This can be explained as follows: When all the sheets completing the contract designated "N" by the printers had been printed it was found that one or more plates were hardly worn sufficiently to be discarded, and they were, therefore, requisitioned for printing some of the sheets required for the following contract "O"—hence the alteration of the letter on the plate.

The varieties to be found on the Queen's head stamps are:—

½d. vermilion, A to Q.

½d. green, R.

1d. lilac, A to X.

All the above are sans-serif capital letters.

The King's Head Issue

When the ½d. and 1d. stamps of the King's head type replaced those bearing the portrait of Queen Victoria the plates were lettered in a similar manner, with sans-serif capitals, new series being commenced for each value beginning with the account letter "A" in each case.

In 1904 a new system was inaugurated, a figure to denote the year in which the plates for a particular contract were first put to press being placed after the account letter. Thus the combination "D 5" on the margin of a sheet denotes that the plates used for printing the supply of stamps entered in the contractors' account, as "D" were first put to press in 1905. When fresh plates to complete the contract had to be made in the following year the same letter was used in combination with a new number.

(To be continued.)



E5

Great Britain: Plate Numbers

Dear Sir,—In No. 5 of your publication, Mr. B. W. H. Poole gives a list of the plate-numbers which he says were actually issued.

Most of his data appear to have been copied from the "Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles," but the list of plates given in this valuable work is to a large extent conjectural and in some instances absolutely wrong.

Mr. Poole, in speaking of the 1d. red imperf. states that plates 1, 2, 4 to 176 (?) were used, and in this he follows the standard work on Great Britain.

In view of the fact, however, that two or three of these plates were destroyed in the first month of the year 1841 (I am writing from memory, but I think this is correct) it would be extremely improbable that all of these early plates were printed from in red ink.

The various plates which were at press during the manifold changes of watermark and perforation is, I believe, purely a matter of guesswork at present, but if the imprimatur sheets could be open to inspection of the public, a great deal of this difficult matter would be cleared up.

At any rate reserve plates 15 and 16 were used to a slight extent for the 1d. red, Die II, Wmk. Large Crown, perf. 14, a fact which Mr. Poole omits to mention.

I also regret to see that the error which occurs more than once in the "Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles," namely that *plate 4* of the twopenny stamp was used for the printing on the Large Crown Watermarked paper, has been perpetuated in the above-mentioned article; of course this is quite contrary to fact.

Yours truly,

S. HODSON.

Merton College, Oxford, 25.11.07.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 130.)

Austria.—One of the two empires forming the Austro-Hungarian monarchy ruled over by the Emperor Francis Joseph I. It has a total area of 115,903 square miles, and extends from Prussia and Saxony in the north to Italy on the south, and from Switzerland on the west to Hungary on the east. Probably in few other countries is such a complexity of races, tongues, and creeds presented as in Austria. The population comprises Germans, Czechs, Slovaks, Poles, Ruthenians, Slovenes, Serbs, Croats, Roumanians, Jews, Magyars, Italians, Albanians, Armenians and Gypsies. Stamps were first issued on June 1st, 1850.

Austrian Crete.—The Government of the Austrian empire maintains post offices in the island of Crete and, since 1903, the Austrian stamps used in those offices have been surcharged "CENTIMES" on the heller values and "FRANC" on the kroner denominations. There are also bars at the top and bottom of each stamp obliterating the original values.

Austrian Italy.—When postage stamps were first introduced into Austria in 1850 a separate series was issued for the Lombardo-Venetian States—known as Austrian Italy—which have since been detached from the Austrian Empire and form part of the Kingdom of Italy. The designs were the same for both Austria and Austrian Italy but while the values on the stamps of the former were denoted in kreutzer those of the latter were expressed in centesimi, contracted to "centis." In 1850 the currency was altered to soldi, and in 1867 the ordinary Italian stamps were used in these States.

Austrian Levant.—Since the 1st June, 1867, Austria has maintained post offices in the chief towns in the Turkish Empire. Until 1886 stamps of the same design as those in use in Austria were used but with values in soldi instead of kreutzer. Since 1886, however, contemporary Austrian stamps surcharged with value in paras and piastres have been used in these offices.

Aviso de Recepcion.—An inscription appearing upon the Acknowledgment of Receipt stamp of Salvador, meaning literally "advice of receipt."

Avisporto-maerke.—The only inscription appearing upon a series of Danish stamps which are intended to prepay the postage of newspapers sent through the post to non-subscribers. In Denmark newspapers can be ordered through and paid for at any post office, and they are then delivered by a postman unstamped. These stamps, therefore, are only used on papers sent in bulk to newsagents or on those that are not subscribed for through the Post Office.

Avo.—The value in which most of the stamps for the Portuguese colonies of Macao and Timor have been denoted since 1895. Until 1903 78 avos were equal to 1 rupee (worth 1s. 9d.) so that 4 avos were the equivalent of an English penny. In 1904 the currency was slightly altered and at the present time 100 avos are equal to a pataca (worth 1s. 9d.) so that a penny is now equal to 5 avos.

Ayacucho.—The capital of the department of the same name in the republic of Peru at which a special stamp was issued in 1881 during a revolution. The town is of some antiquity for it was founded so long ago as 1539, by Pizarro, under the name of San Juan de la Victoria. When the independence of Peru was secured in 1824 the name of this town was changed to Ayacucho.

Azores.—The Azores or Hawk Islands is a group of islands in the Atlantic about 930 miles west of the coast of Portugal. Though listed as "colonies" in the stamp catalogues they are really a constituent part of the kingdom of Portugal. They are of volcanic origin, have steep rocky coasts, and are very mountainous. The total area of the whole archipelago is 922 square miles. The Azores were discovered by the Portuguese navigator Cabral in 1431. In 1466 Isabella of Burgundy introduced a number of Flemish settlers into the islands, and owing to this fact the group was for a time known as the Ilhas Flamengas, or Flemish Islands. The present inhabitants are of Portuguese descent, but have a blend of Moorish and Flemish blood. Postage stamps were first issued in 1868.

Azuay.—One of the provinces in the republic of Ecuador in which the stamps sold during the latter part of 1902 were first of all marked with a control surcharge of a peculiar pattern, which was applied with a handstamp. This was done in consequence of a fire in the town of Guayaquil in July, 1902, during which a large quantity of stamps were stolen from the Government stores. The officials were afraid the stolen stamps might be brought into use and to prevent this they authorized the Governors of the various provinces to handstamp control marks on all their stocks of stamps before selling them.

(To be continued)

CORRECTION.

ANTANANARIVO.—By a curious slip, Antananarivo was stated, on page 119, to be the capital of Zanzibar. Of course it should have been given as the capital of Madagascar.

Our American Letter

By LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH

ONEIDA, N.Y., 13th Nov., 1907.

American Collectors Optimistic

AMERICAN stamp folk are, just now, in a decidedly cheery and optimistic frame of mind as regards the winter season of 1907-8. There is a contented, complacent look on the face of dealer and collector alike which indicates more than ordinary confidence that stamps will go well this winter. Not in many year has there been so much activity so early in the season. In fact, it has been many years since there was as much activity in even the very height of the season; and almost everyone whose opinion counts for anything is sanguine that American Philately is entering into the best days she has known since the early nineties.

The Financial Panic and Stamps

The financial situation is causing the stamp trade no loss of sleep. I would not be understood as saying that they regard the recent bank flurries and the accompanying severe shrinkage of stock values as ordained by Providence for the direct benefit of Philately; yet I think there is a feeling that these things have been, in a way, far from detrimental to philatelic interests. The truth is that American stamp collecting has been harmed rather than helped by our abounding industrial prosperity. The philatelist who has rolled up a big bank account through stock or manufacturing operations has been taking to more glittering and showy pleasures—to motoring, yachting and the like. Now that there has been a good wholesome shaking up of the stock-market, to the confusion of watered stocks and paper profits, a whole lot of motor cars are for sale at a bargain and a whole lot of men are taking up stamps again.

Increasing Membership of the A.P.A.

A good indication of the way things are going here is found in the big jumps in membership which the American Philatelic Association is each week achieving. The present rate of growth is about thirty members per week and the present membership of thirteen-hundred odd (the highest mark the Association has reached in twenty years) seems likely to be doubled in a year. Local societies are likewise increasing their membership in a most gratifying way; the number of new

recruits which some of them announce being positively astonishing.

The Auction Season

The auction season is already under full head of steam. New York, Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia are all taking an active hand in the game, and no auction-lover residing in anyone of these cities need be at a loss where to spend his evenings. The most important sale of the season thus far was that of Part Third of the Thorne Collection, held in New York in October, and extending over no less than five nights. The late Mr. Thorne, whose great general collection was sold in 1896, if I remember rightly, began again a few years ago, confining himself this time to the stamps of the twentieth century; and, wherever possible, in unused blocks of four—including everything down to the most microscopic varieties. Mr. Thorne fairly revelled in errors of overprints, misplaced dots, letters omitted and all other like abnormalities, and his collection was undoubtedly the most magnificently complete in its line in this country. Nearly everything in the collection sold well—surprisingly so in view of the fact that the great majority of our collectors are not supposed to be particularly in love with twentieth century issues. There is a minority, however, composed for the most part of very able collectors indeed, who are going in strong on recent issues; and I understand that their number is constantly receiving fresh accessions.

New Philatelic Books Promised

Not many philatelic books of really serious value have been produced in America of late; hence the announcement of a series of philatelic works by Mr. Warren H. Colson of Boston may be hailed as another good omen. The series is to be devoted to the great collections of America—somewhat after the plan of Mr. Melville's book on the Tapling Collection, but with greater wealth of illustration and explanatory detail—and each one of America's six or seven greatest collections is to form the subject of a separate volume. The first volume of the series is devoted to the collection of Dr. Wm. C. Bowers of Hartford, Connecticut. I have seen an advance copy and it impresses me as a really entertaining and valuable book. I believe the Worthington, Deats, Crocker and Seybold collections are among those intended for treatment in others of the series.

Our Library Table

Whitfield King's Catalogue

The Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World. Whitfield King & Co. Ipswich. Eighth Edition, 1908. Price 1s. 6d.

WE have received the new edition of this excellent catalogue for 1908, which makes the eighth edition, and we have no hesitation in saying that in several respects it is a decided improvement upon the previous issue. The curious arrangement of putting the single C.A. King's heads at the end as a supplement has given place to the rational inclusion of single C.A. and multiple C.A.'s in their proper place in the catalogue as varieties recognisable even by the beginner. Neat little illustrations, one fourth size, engraved by hand,

take the place of the rougher natural size blocks of the last edition. The printing is clear and well done.

The catalogue includes all issues chronicled up to the end of 1907.

The following statistics, compiled from the catalogue may not be uninteresting. The figures comprise only standard varieties of postage stamps and do not include post cards, letter cards, stamped envelopes or wrappers.

The total number of all known varieties of postage stamps issued by all the Governments of the world up to the present time is 21,590, of which 6,661 are apportioned to the British Empire, and 14,929 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 4,536, Asia, 4,091; Africa, 4,829; America, 4,838; the West Indies, 1,748; and Oceania, 1,548.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Austria. The 72 heller of the current set without bars of shiny varnish has been received. Up to date the following values of this series without shiny bars have been issued:—

Without shiny bars.

Perf. 12½, 13.

1 heller, purple.
2 „ violet black.
3 „ pale brown.
5 „ deep green.
6 „ orange.
10 heller, rose.
20 „ brown.
25 „ ultramarine.
30 „ mauve.
35 „ bright green.
60 „ yellow brown.
72 „ rose.

Perf. 9, 9½.

2 heller, grey black.
3 „ brown.
5 „ green.
6 „ orange.

Austria. Foreign Offices. We have received the 30 para to add to the series with all the corner figures removed and new value overprinted in each corner with the word "Para" between, top and bottom, without shiny bars. This series was started last year.

Perf. 12½, 13.

10 para, green.
20 „ rose.
30 „ mauve.
1 piastre, ultramarine.
2 „ pale blue.

Austria. Crete. We have received the 15 heller of the current Austrian series, without shiny bars with the word "heller" obliterated with a bar and the word "centimes" printed across the lower part of the stamp all in black, for use in the Austrian post offices in Crete.

Without shiny bars.

Perf. 12½, 13.

5 centimes, green.
10 „ rose.
15 „ mauve.

Costa Rica. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* gives the following list of a series of new designs for this central American Republic.

1c. blue and slate	Statue of Juan Santa-Maria.
2c. green and black	Juan Mora F.
4c. carmine and blue	Jose M. Canas.
5c. orange and blue	Mauro Fernandez.
10c. blue and black	Braulio Carrillo.
20c. slate and olive	Julian Volio.
25c. green and violet	Eusebio Figueroa.
50c. blue and lilac	Jose M. Castro.
1 colon black and brown	Jesus Jimenez.
2 colones green and lilac	Juan Rafael Mora.

Johore. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports a new printing of the 10c., probably from a new plate, with very light background.

Morocco Agencies. One more value has to be added to the series of stamps of Great Britain surcharged with the new value "40 centimes" at the bottom of the stamp in addition to the words "Morocco—Agencies" in two lines at the top. The complete list now stands as follows:—

Surcharged on current stamps of Great Britain.

Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf. 14.

5c. on ½d. green.
10c. on 1d. carmine.
15c. on 1½d. purple and green.
20c. on 2d. green and scarlet.
25c. on 2½d. ultramarine.
40c. on 4d. green and brown.
50c. on 5d. purple and ultramarine.
1p. on 10d. purple and scarlet.
3p. on 2s. 6d. lilac.
6p. on 5s. carmine.
12p. on 10s. ultramarine.

Moyen Congo. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us a gaudy lot of ugly labels for this philatelically new French Colony. Commenting on the title *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, says:—

What is the English equivalent of the new title of this French colony—*Moyen Congo*? "Intermediate Congo" sounds too long, whilst "Inter-Congo" is hardly intelligible, and "Middle Congo" is not exactly all that could be desired. The Colonial Stamp Market has shown us the following new set.

The designs are for the low values 1c. to 20c. a tiger shape oblong; 25c. to 75c., an upstanding figure of a native holding a spear, shape, long rectangular; and for the franc values a fern forest, shape, long rectangular.

Design, oblong. Tiger.

12. grey-brown.	Background, brown.
2c. violet.	" "
4c. blue.	" "
5c. green.	" blue.
10c. rose-red.	" "
20c. light brown.	" "

Design, upright. Figure of native.

25c. blue.	Background, grey-green.
30c. red.	" "
35c. chocolate.	" blue."
40c. dull green.	" light brown.
45c. violet.	" light red.
50c. green.	" "
75c. brown.	" blue."

Design, upright. Fern forest.

1f. dark green.	Background, light lilac.
2f. violet.	" pale green.
5f. blue.	" rose.

Servia. We have the current 1 par. grey and black on thin, almost transparent paper from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Thin paper.

Perf. 11½.

1 par. grey and black.

South Australia. The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the issue of the 10d. and 10s. on thick "Postage," on Crown A. paper. Some of our contemporaries have chronicled the 2s. 6d. on Crown A. paper, but this has been questioned by others. Messrs. Whitfield King write to us as follows :—

We have had both this value and the 1s. on the new paper, but only in one consignment received some time ago, all subsequent consignments of both values have been on the old paper. We wrote to the Deputy Postmaster-General of South Australia on this subject and have just received his reply, which is as follows :—

"I have received your letter of the 9th ultimo, and in reply beg to inform you that a few of the 1s. and 2s. 6d. stamps may have been printed on paper watermarked 'Crown A,' but the only ones we have in stock have the 'S.A.' watermark."

All the long rectangulars on Crown A. paper are of the thick "Postage" type, and the list up-to-date stands as follows :—

Long Rectangular Stamps.
Perf. 12.

3d. olive.	10d. buff.
4d. orange red.	1s. brown.
6d. deep blue green.	2s. 6d. mauve.
9d. brown.	10s. green.

Victoria. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 5s. carmine and blue on Crown A. paper, perf. 11.

The list of perf. 11 on Crown A. paper now stands as follows :—

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.

½d. green.	5s. carmine and blue.
1d. rose red.	£1 carmine.

Western Australia. The *Australian Philatelist* announces the issue of the current 5s. type on Crown A. paper, perf. 11.

The list on Crown A. paper so far as we have seen stands as follows :—

Wmk. Crown A.

Perf. 12½.

2d. yellow.	5d. bistre.
3d. brown.	9d. orange.
4d. red brown.	5s. green.

Perf. 12½ x 12.

1d. carmine rose.
2d. yellow.
9d. orange.

Perf. 11.

1d. carmine rose.
5d. olive.
9d. orange.

Wmk. Crown A. upright.

Perf. 12.

1d. carmine rose.

From Other Magazines

Australian Commonwealth Stamps

AN important change of policy has been decided on by the Commonwealth Treasurer (Sir William Lyne). Hitherto it has been the custom for the Commonwealth to pay the State printing offices to print postage stamps. The intention now is that all the stamps shall be printed at one central office in Melbourne, under the control of the Commonwealth Treasury.

Number of Stamps Used.

In connection with this determination, a report was called for by the Treasury some weeks ago, showing the number of stamps actually used by the public during last year. This has been prepared and reveals the astonishing fact that postage stamps to the number of 334,000,000 were used during the twelve months. Of these 288,000,000 were of the value of 1d. and 2d., showing how enormous must be the ordinary letter correspondence in the Commonwealth. The number of stamps used during the year in the various states is shown in the following table :—

New South Wales	..	125,000,000
Victoria	.. ..	102,000,000
Queensland	.. ..	42,000,000
South Australia	.. ..	28,000,000
Western Australia	.. ..	23,000,000
Tasmania	.. ..	14,000,000
Total	.. ..	334,000,000

Where printed and Cost.

At present the printing of these stamps costs the Commonwealth 3½d. per thousand—no inconsiderable item when the number used is taken into account together with the fact that there is absolutely no return for that money. They are printed in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide. The Adelaide printing is done by Mr. J. B. Cook who, by the use of improved and more economical methods, has succeeded in cutting down the cost per thousand to 3d. It is claimed on Mr. Cook's behalf that he could, if installed

in a central office with a total output to work on, produce stamps at 2½d. per thousand. This would mean a considerable saving to the country, and many advantages due to the centralisation of the work.

Proposed Future Arrangements

One necessary factor in effective economy in this direction is the production of a uniform design of stamp. It is clear that the cost of printing could not be reduced by centralisation if six different designs of stamps had to be turned out. It is with the object of settling this question that the stamp committee is now sitting in Melbourne. When it has completed its labours and fixed on a uniform design the intention of the Treasurer will be put into immediate operation. Mr. J. B. Cook is to be brought over from Adelaide and installed at the Melbourne printing office, with Commonwealth plates and printing machinery. He will print stamps for Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania. A previous proposal to print stamps for New South Wales and Queensland raised such a storm that for some time at least after the new arrangement has been got into operation they will be allowed to continue to print their own stamps as at present.

Meetings of the Stamp Committee

During the last two days the committee of experts appointed to advise the Government on the question of a uniform Commonwealth stamp has been sitting at the G.P.O., Melbourne. The chief clerk to the Central Postal Administration (Mr. Templeton) has acted as chairman. The committee is discussing the whole question of stamp manufacture, precautions against forgery, economy of production, and the best means of securing a uniform design and at the same time not hampering the book-keeping operations between Commonwealth and states. Yesterday the committee visited the Victorian Government Printing Office so that the unskilled members might obtain a clear understanding of the methods employed in lithographing and printing.—*The Melbourne Argus*, 12.10.07.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Croydon Philatelic Society

President: F. G. Bing.

Hon. Sec.: W. T. Godwin, 2 Gladstone Road, Croydon.

THE first ordinary meeting was held on Wednesday, Nov. 6th, at 18a Katherine Street, Croydon. The President gave a splendid address on "Some Postal Curios," which greatly interested, and some parts of which very much amused the members present. An exhibition of the "Curios" which consisted of telegraph forms, stamps on envelopes, rare postmarks, etc., used during the Spanish-American struggle in Cuba, and also during the last Boer war, made up a very entertaining evening. Among other exhibits were some old Argentine and Soudanese stamps. A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. F. G. Bing.

PROGRAMME.

Nov. 6th.—"Some Postal Curios." The President.

Dec. 4th.—"On collecting British Colonials." Mr. H. H. Harland.

Jan. 1st.—Five minutes papers on "The Progress of my Collection during 1907."

Feb. 5th.—"Some of my Gems." Mr. H. Simmons.

Mar. 4th.—"British New Guinea and Papua." Display and paper. The Vice-President.

April 1st.—"India and Native States," with display. The Secretary.

Edinburgh Philatelic Society

The monthly meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on Saturday evening, 2nd Nov., when Mr. Percy Mercer, the Vice-President, presided over an attendance of 21 members.

The minutes of last meeting were read, approved and signed.

On the motion of the Hon. Sec., seconded by the President, four new ordinary members were admitted and one Hon. Member, Mr. E. J. Nankivell, F.R.P.S., Lond., Editor of THE POSTAGE STAMP.

The Secretary reported the sales from the packets in circulation and that the November packet went out on 1st inst., 43 sheets value £143 1s. 11d. net, which was considered eminently satisfactory for a young Society in its second session.

The Librarian reported donations to the Library and Stamp and Forgery Collections of the Society from Mr. R. M. Stewart, the Hon. Sec. and the Vice-President. It was mentioned that the committee had decided to add *The Colonial Office Journal* and *THE POSTAGE STAMP* to the library.

Five visiting members were appointed to the next meeting of the Senior Society on Monday, 11th inst.

The Chairman then called on the President, Mr. Norman M. Berrie, to give an address on the stamps of Iceland. The President gave a full and very interesting account of the postal arrangements in Iceland both before and after 26th February, 1872, when the island was first allowed by the Danish Government to issue stamps of its own. He also explained at length the various issues and the necessity for them, and especially the temporary "fir" and "i gildi" surcharges. The paper was accompanied by a display of Mr. Berrie's magnificent collection of Icelandic stamps which was examined with much interest and evoked general admiration and envy both on account of the extent and superb condition of its contents.

The mint blocks of the early "Skillings" issue, now very difficult to get, were a noticeable feature as also was the wide range of the scarce varieties of the 1897 and 1902-03 issues—the inverted and double surcharges, and errors being very fully represented. The superb condition of the used specimens was matter of general comment. The Error in the King Christian issue was a point of interest as also was the new issue with the head of the present King super imposed on King Christian's.

In thanking the President for the treat he had given, the Chairman remarked that it was a great privilege to have an opportunity of studying such an extreme collection of these interesting and comparatively little known stamps, and the meeting awarded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Berrie which he suitably acknowledged. On the suggestion of Mr. R. M. Stewart Mr. Berrie allowed his notes to be added to the Library for future reference.

It was intimated that the December meeting was to be of a more or less social character, and that when complete the arrangements would be duly announced.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

The fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held on Wednesday, 30th Oct., at 8 Promenade Central, there being a good attendance of members. The President took the chair and after the minutes of the annual meeting had been read by the Secretary, the President vacated the chair in favour of Vice-President G. Dukes, who called upon Mr. Christian Kräuter to give his paper on "British Stamps used Abroad." This was listened to with great interest, as some of our members have recently taken up this fascinating side-study of philately. Mr. Kräuter illustrated his remarks with some fine specimens of the various postmarks he described. At the conclusion of the paper a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him by those present.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.

Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.

Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.

Annual Subscription: 5s.

A meeting of this society was held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, the 29th October, 1907, the president, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L., being in the chair. The occasion was a special one, as the hon. president, Mr. M. P. Castle (vice-president of the Royal Philatelic Society) had sent for display his well-known collection of Cape of Good Hope stamps—far and away the most complete in the country—so that there was a large attendance. It had been the intention of Mr. Castle to be present, but a business engagement unfortunately detained him in London, and the paper on the stamps was read by Mr. E. Elgy.

Mr. Castle's Triangular Capes

Much that is interesting could be written about the triangular stamps inscribed "Cape of Good Hope," with the emblematical figure of Hope issued first in September, 1853, but it will serve our purpose best to describe a few of the beautiful gems contained in this unique collection.

Of the issue of 1853, unused shades of the 1d. brick red, and a used block of four, and the 4d. blue unused, on blued paper, singles, pairs and several blocks of the 1d., 4d., and 6d. on white paper, used and unused, several fine copies of the 6d. blue and 1s. green in shades, used and unused. The "wood-blocks" form the more important portion of Mr. Castle's collection, as they are of great value and extreme rarity. This was a provisional issue made in 1861, the stamps being electrotyped and printed in the colony, and containing two rare errors of colour; the wood-blocks are very crude, easily distinguishable from the engraved productions of Perkins Bacon & Co., or those of De La Rue & Co. Mr. Castle possesses quite a number of the rare "wood-block" issue, all in finest condition, amongst which are the following: Mint pair of the 1d., red to vermilion, block of four 1d. red used, three errors of colour 4d. red, the error 1d. blue, five of the 4d. blue unused, pair of 4d. blue used, and the rarest of all the 4d. dark blue in mint state. There is only another unused copy of this latter known in this country, and it is in the possession of Mr. W. Martello Gray, F.R.P.S.L., a member of the Leeds Society, who also brought his collection to the meeting. Of the De La Rue triangular stamps of 1863-4 there were shown many fine things in unused blocks of four, six, and eight of all values, and one block of twelve of the 1d. carmine red, unused. Of the emerald green 1s. there was a superb unused pair. The range of shades was as complete as possible, and every stamp was faultless as regards condition and margins, whether used or unused. The remainder of the issues for this colony down to date was also shown, but naturally did not excite the attention they deserved, as by the time the triangular had been seen every one was probably tired.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle for having so generously sent his fine collection to Leeds was carried unanimously.

Transvaal Philatelic Society

President: T. Henderson, M.A.

Hon. Sec.: H. V. Fowler, P.O. Box 2404, Johannesburg.

Meetings: Second and fourth Tuesdays.

Display of Rare Transvaal Stamps

The promise of a fine exhibition drew many visitors to the last fortnightly meeting of this society. The display of the rare early Transvaals of the First Republic, the First British Occupation, and the Second Republic (up to and including 1883) included two of the finest private collections in Johannesburg or South Africa. Mr. Leo Mayer showed a remarkable array of all these issues, including imperforate, fine roulette, wide roulette, pelure and semi-pelure. Among his inverted overprints were such gems as 171, 178, 179 of Gibbons. The Queen's Head issue of 1878 were shown complete; while the penny provisionals of 1879 and 1882-3 issue were complete except 389, 291.

Mr. A. J. Cohen's early Transvaals were a very fine lot, though not so highly specialised as Mr. Mayer's. They included a 6d. imperf. and 1s. fine roulette (mint) of 1870; 1d. red and 1d. black, locally printed, 1870-3; 6d. blue, Maritzburg print, perf. 12½, 1874; 1d. and 6d. on pelure paper 1875. Of the early stamps of the First Occupation there were examples of imperforate, and inverted-rouletted; a number of the wide and small and italic V.R. overprint; the Queen's Heads of 1878 complete; representatives of the penny overprints of 1879.

The President's display of the Transvaal was not large but contained several fine stamps.

Holland formed the other exhibit. Mr. Cohen showed linearly the whole issue in various shades and perf., and many of the "unpaid" series. Mr. Henderson's Dutch collection was very complete, and included a long array of the "unpaid" series, most of the blanks being variety IV.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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How Readers can Help us

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us. Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages. It is the revenue which we derive from our advertisers that enables us to provide a high-class and expensive weekly. If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements. If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us. Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

New Issues

We want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

H. P. L. (Camberley).—The following is the explanation of the badly-centred C.C. Wmk. on the 6d. Sierra Leone. The sheet of the 6d., first type, contained 240 stamps in twelve panes, arranged in four horizontal rows of three panes and each pane contained 20 stamps in five horizontal rows of four. When the 6d. was printed on C.C. paper in 1885, the variety of Crown C.C. paper then used by Messrs. De la Rue and Co. was that which had been made for printing large stamps of the size of the Five Shillings Trinidad of 1860, the plates of which were not broken up into small panes like the 6d. Sierra Leone. In this paper the watermarks are arranged in horizontal rows of twelve, each watermark being spaced for the large sized stamps for which the paper was intended. Hence when this unsuitable paper was used for the 6d. Sierra Leone it resulted in the irregularities in the position of the watermarks which puzzle you.

I will reply to your other queries next week. I have drawn our publishers' attention to your complaint as to the difficulty you experience in getting the POSTAGE STAMP at W. H. Smith & Son's bookstall at your station, and they will inquire into the matter. There should not be the slightest difficulty.

W. J. C. (Oxford). Thanks for your note, which I have sent on to our Advertisement Manager. It is an old dodge to advertise good stamps at ludicrously low prices, and then bamboozle applicants with the excuse that they are all sold out. So far as we are able we will ruthlessly exclude such harpies from our advertisement pages if readers will help us to spot them. No more advertisements will be accepted from the party of whom you complain.

W. J. (Stockport).—Imperforate blocks of the current 1c. and 2c. are now common, and are worth little more than the ordinary perf. supplies.

A. K. (Gateshead).—Your stamp with the figure "3" is an old Bavarian, but is only worth 1d. or 2d. The New South Wales is worth about 6d. Your best plan will be to get a catalogue and sort out your stamps by it. The cheapest is "The Standard Catalogue," published by Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. You can get it post free for 1s. 6d.

P. J. C. (Dalston).—You write: "Thanking you for your kind attention to my letter of the 2nd inst., I beg to point out that you appear, however, to be under a slight misapprehension as to my method of arrangement. I take every country issuing stamps at the present time as a title, and include as sub-titles all obsolete issues under the name of the country which supplies the stamps for current use in that locality. Such an arrangement is not open to the disadvantages you name, for Morocco Agencies, Malay States, Gibraltar, Straits Settlements, etc., would all be separate, whereas Perok, Selangor, etc., come under the heading 'Malay Federated States.'"—Your method, in my opinion, will lead you into complexities. For instance, under your plan you must put some of the issues of Morocco Agencies under Gibraltar, and some under an independent heading of Morocco Agencies. You had far better adopt the simple rigid alphabetical order I recommended in my reply on p. 112.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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14 DECEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Post Office of India



I HAVE been reading a very interesting article in this month's *Blackwood* on "The Post Office of India: its Work and its Romance," by Sir Arthur Fanshawe.

"Rather more than fifty years ago," writes Sir Arthur, "the Post Office of India was constituted an Imperial department, under the control of one central authority, who is called

the Director-General of the Post Office. Before that time, the posts, which were limited to a few main lines, were separately managed in the different provinces under the orders of the several local governments; and postage, whether in the case of letters or of parcels, was charged according to the distance over which they were carried. These charges differed from province to province, postage stamps were unknown, and there was no proper consideration of the provincial posts. As soon, therefore, as the Post Office became a single Department, a uniform rate of letter postage for the whole country was introduced, and postage stamps were brought into use. Progress was retarded for a time by the occurrence of the Mutiny, and 1860 may be taken as the date from which the regular development of the postal system began."

Quaint Addresses on Letters

For many years lengthy and ceremonious forms of address were the custom of the country, including "pious hopes for the welfare and long life of the person addressed." Eventually the Post Office interfered and enforced a rule that nothing but the actual address could be allowed on the face of a post card, and long addresses gradually went out of fashion, leaving, however, a few recognised phrases. "In the Bombay Presidency," Sir Arthur tells us, "it was usual at one time to mark letters or post cards conveying the news of a death with the words, 'Read this with your clothes off.'"

"Father of Postal Millions"

Such was the title bestowed upon the head of the Post Office in a petition from the inhabitants of a small village in Bengal, who claimed the privilege of being given a post office of their own, and Sir Arthur thinks the phrase "a supremely happy effort in the art of complimentary phrase-making."

The India Half-Anna Envelope

Here is the history of the half-anna embossed envelope:—

The old-fashioned letter, which has not yet entirely disappeared, consisted of a piece of paper tightly folded up into a roll or wedge about the size of two fingers, and fastened with some cohesive substance, so that the outside of the paper served for the address. No postage stamp was affixed, and the roughly written address sprawled over its back and front indiscriminately, leaving no room for postmarks. It was mainly with a view to get rid of these troublesome letters, that the small half-anna embossed envelope has always been sold to the public, free of any stationery charge, for half an anna; and this envelope has come to be used, together with the still cheaper post card, almost universally by the poorer classes.

Postmaster Planned Crimes

From the many illustrations of the romantic side of Post Office work in India I must find space for the following:—

In a case that occurred in Southern India, in which the mail-runner was attacked by men armed with bludgeons and left senseless on the roadside, it was discovered that the robbery had been deliberately planned by a native police official, solely and simply for the purpose of taking out of the mails an unfavourable report upon himself which had been posted by his superior officer. In another case the mail-runner was murdered by Burman braves within a mile of the post office from which he had started, and the inquiry proved beyond doubt that the braves had been lured by the postmaster himself, who had made up his mind that the occurrence of a mail robbery was necessary, as the best way of accounting for the disappearance of a sum of money which he himself had embezzled.

The Herts "Monthly Report"

As every reader of THE POSTAGE STAMP knows, the Herts Philatelic Society publishes its own "Monthly Report." I recently quoted from this "Monthly Report," but gave credit to the Herts Society. I should also have mentioned the said "Monthly Report." The editor, taking the cue from the authorities that he warns me that in future I must mention the "Monthly Report," or I may find myself summarily dismissed and handed over to durance vile.

Truly, even the humblest scribbler is ever unwittingly skating about on thin ice. At any moment he may be immersed up to the neck in original gum or something worse.

Prepayment in India not Compulsory

We also learn that in India the prepayment of postage on letters is not compulsory, and many millions of unpaid letters, as they are termed, are still posted, chiefly for delivery in rural tracts.

This is particularly true of letters for delivery in the districts of Behar and Uudh, from which, owing to the pressure of population on the soil, thousands of men are pouring out every year to seek employment or service in other parts of the country. These men almost invariably in the past posted their letters without stamps, and not uncommonly do the same thing still in the belief that the letters are more certain to arrive at their villages if the village postman is under the necessity of going there to recover the postage. It need not be desired that originally there may have been some colour for this belief, but for many years now it has been an injustice to a hard worked servant of the Post Office, and signs are not wanting that the belief itself has of late been dying away.

India has no "Postage Dues"

And yet despite all this excuse for the issue of a "Postage Due" series India has never issued an "Unpaid Letter" Stamp. Some day stamp collectors will open their eyes to the fact that with very few exceptions "Postage Dues" are issued mostly for the purpose of fleecing collectors.

French Colonial Rubbish

There have been some strong comments on certain issues of French Colonials of late, and very little doubt has been entertained that many issues were little better than semi-official swindles. Here then is a complete confirmation of the suspicions which have been generated. It is a brutally candid reply from a French Colonial official to some strong language on the subject used in M. Montader's journal, *Le Postillon* :—

After all, what have I come to Nouméa for, unless to make a fortune? And this gentleman supposes that I have travelled fifteen thousand leagues to content myself with a salary of 3200 francs (£128). Let him come himself and do the job at the same rate! I have every intention, in spite of all possible circulars, of taking advantage of the mania of a heap of idiots who cannot see a square of paper with hieroglyphics on it without opening their purses. Do I oblige them, revolver in hand, to purchase my productions?"

Seebeck Rubbish

For years I have done my best to warn unwary collectors against wasting their money and philatelic energies on the "Seebeck" rubbish of the Central American Republics. But recent information puts matters in a worse light than ever. I quote from *Morley's Philatelic Journal* :—

There is a rumour afloat that all the numerous sets of postage stamps generally known as "Seebecks" which have appeared since 1890 for various Central American countries are really *reprints* and may be readily distinguished from the originals. If this is true, it would appear that a colossal fraud has been perpetrated on the stamp-collecting world, as these stamps have been guaranteed as genuine remainders. The Seebeck issues, viewed as genuine remainders, have marred the philatelic interest which the stamps of Central American countries used to possess in a high degree, and if they turn out to be mainly reprints it is not obvious whether it makes matters worse or better.

Imperial Exhibition, 1908: Dealers' Stalls

There has been such a demand for dealers' stalls at the forthcoming Juniors' Imperial Exhibition that the Committee have arranged for an extension of both exhibits and stalls in an additional room upstairs.

This I am told has led to an outcry from those dealers who had secured the first lot of stalls, presumably on the ground that they had bought up the available space, and paid for it accordingly.

It is a pity that a dispute should have arisen, for the dealers' stalls were most certainly sold off at very cheap rates. If the juniors had put them up to auction, as the Committee of the International Exhibition, 1906, did, they would easily have made double the prices charged.

The Philatelic Literature Society

This Society is said to be making good progress. According to *Morley's Philatelic Journal* Mr. E. D. Bacon has been elected President. "The lines on which the Society is to run have not yet, we are told, been permanently fixed, but it seems that the chief item in the programme is "to publish a quarterly bulletin of bibliographical notes, bibliographies of the stamps of different countries and reviews of newly-published works, and in fact any features in regard to philatelic literature likely to be of value to the philatelic student."

The subscription is to be one guinea a year, which I fear will limit the membership to a very small number, and in these days when there are so many things to subscribe to, a guinea subscription will want a lot of justifying.

Australian Commonwealth Stamps

Here is the latest tit-bit of news concerning the forthcoming Australian Commonwealth issue. It is a cutting from the *Daily Chronicle* of 2nd Dec., 1907, for which I am indebted to Mr. H. A. Withers. I am ashamed to confess that although I read the *Chronicle* of that date I overlooked this precious paragraph :—

Australia is going to astonish the world with its new issue of stamps. They are to be of such a superlatively artistic character that, according to the departmental board that has been considering the subject, "£40,000 worth will be sold to philatelists alone during the first year, and after that the sale to the enthusiasts will average £20,000 per annum." The stamps, which are to be "a world-wide advertisement for the Commonwealth," are to be printed from steel plates, and their designs will "illustrate the characteristic features of Australia."

I hazard the guess that this means something after the style of the Waterlow New Zealand pictorial series and probably from the same unrivalled designers.

But the calculation on the revenue to be got out of collectors' pockets is a bit of Australian cheek.

Quoting Matter from other Journals

Here is a pretty pother about one stamp journal quoting from another. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* is very indignant with other journals for hiding acknowledgment under the mere initials of the paper quoted from.

And I am bound to confess that my sympathies are entirely with Mr. Ewen. Mere initials are at best a shameless form of acknowledgment. But, what is more important, they lay the journal using mere initials distinctly open to an action at law, for the *Times* action against publishers using their reports of Lord Rosebery's speeches established an undeniable copyright in literary matter, even in so-called verbatim speeches.

I have more than once, in years gone by, protested against the scandalous unfairness of acknowledgment by mere initials.

No journal objects to fair quotation. The acknowledgment of the source is accepted as a compensating advertisement, and any journal deliberately using initials only as an acknowledgment can be proceeded against for infringement of copyright in literary matter.

Unlawful Sale of Natal "Officials"

Messrs. G. Street & Co. send us on behalf of the Agent-General for Natal the following notice :—

We are informed by the Agent-General for Natal that certain unused Natal postage stamps, overprinted "Official," have been offered for sale, and notice is given that such stamps have been stolen, and dealers and others are warned against dealing in stamps of this description.

Consequent on this Gibbons intimate that they will not price these stamps unused in their next catalogue.

The Stamps of Bahamas

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

History of the Colony

ONE of the Bahama Islands is said to have been the first land of the New World touched by Columbus. After much controversy the most recent investigations have decided that this special honour belongs to Watlings Island. Columbus landed on the island on the 12th October, 1492, and gave it the name of San Salvador. The native name was Guanahani. The name given to the island by Columbus was in gratitude for his deliverance from the sea. Since then it has been re-named Watling's Island.

In all the Bahamas group comprises twenty larger islands, 653 islets or cays, and 2,387 reefs. These stretch from the east coast of Florida to the north coast of Hayti, a distance of 600 miles. The Gulf Stream flowing through the Florida Strait forms the northern boundary, and the old Bahama channel separates the group from Cuba. The chain is completed by the Caicos and Turks Islands, which at one time were under the jurisdiction of the Bahamas, but in 1848 were annexed to Jamaica.

The early inhabitants were shipped off wholesale by the Spaniards to work the mines of Hispaniola and the pearl fisheries off the Spanish main.

The first English settlement of the islands was made in 1629. Mr. E. V. Lucas, in his *Historical Geography of the British Colonies*, gives the following interesting account of the early settlement of the islands:—

In 1667, on his way to Carolina, Sayle [Captain William Sayle from the Bermudas] is said to have been driven by stress of weather to land on the island of New Providence, calling it by that name to distinguish it from the then better-known island of Providence off the Mosquito Coast.

So favourable was his report that six of the Carolina proprietors, among whom were the Duke of Albemarle and Lord Ashley, afterwards Earl of Shaftesbury, turned their attention to colonizing it. Their grant from Charles the Second, dated first of November, 1670, included "all those islands called Bahama, Eleutheria, Ucanis (?), Providence, Inagua, and all other those islands lying in the degrees of 22 to 27 north latitude, commonly known by the name of the Bahama Islands, or the Islands of Lucayos." And their attempt at colonization is styled the first legal settlement of the Bahamas, which had long been "a shelter for pirates and a disorderly set of people." In 1671 a governor's commission was sent out, and the Governor and Council were directed to take steps for forming a Parliament, twenty members of which were to be elected.

It would seem, however, that these instructions never reached the colony, for in 1672 the settlers complained to the Governor of Jamaica that they had waited in vain for two years for instructions from the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. In any case, the Bahamas appear to have been left very much to themselves; there was practically little or no government and little systematic settlement. The residents of New Providence continued to deserve the title of disorderly people; if they did not like their governors they shipped them off, and if a pirate like Avery visited their island he had to be dealt with as a friend. In 1680, or 1682, the Spaniards attacked and laid waste the settlement; and in 1703 French and Spaniards combined drove out the English inhabitants, destroyed the fort, and annihilated the colony.

New Providence was now for a few years simply a headquarters for pirates, the most notable of whom was one Edward Teach, a "Bristol man born," a ruffian who, under the name of "Black Beard," became a kind of West Indian ogre. The Bahamas, however, were too well placed for such a state of things to last long. Representations on the subject were made to the British authorities at home, and on the fifth of September, 1717, a royal proclamation was issued and published in the *London Gazette* to the effect that "the usual retreat and general receptacle for pirates is at Providence, the principal of those islands [the Bahamas]," and that "His Majesty has been further graciously pleased to give directions for dislodging those pirates who have taken shelter in the said

islands, as well as for securing those islands and making settlements and a fortification there for the safety and benefit of trade and navigation in those seas for the future." Accordingly, in 1718, Captain Woodes Rogers, whose name is famous in the records of English seamen, was sent out to re-establish a regular government and to put down piracy. Himself a buccaneer, though a high-class one, and accustomed to deal with lawless men, Rogers was well fitted for the post for which he had been selected. Law and order were restored, some of the pirates were killed or driven out, others settled down into orderly citizens, a small council was instituted, and colonists were introduced, including a certain number of German families from the Palatinate, who made up the population to a total not exceeding 1,000 in all. From this time onward the Bahamas were in all senses a British dependency.

In 1776 New Providence was taken and plundered by an American squadron during the War of Independence. In 1781 it fell into the hands of the Spaniards, but in 1783 it was retaken by a few British subjects, headed by Colonel Deveaux, who fitted out an expedition at his own expense from St. Augustine, in Florida. The group was finally secured to Great Britain by the Peace of Versailles.

The capital is Nassau, on New Providence, with a population of 12,000. The population of the group was, in 1881, 43,521; in 1891, 47,565; and in 1900, 53,735, mostly of the negro race.

Its Philatelic History

The philatelic history of the colony commences with the year 1859, when Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. engraved the plates of the first penny value and printed and sent out the first supply of penny stamps.

According to the London Philatelic Society's work on the Stamps of the West Indies, plates of 1d., 4d., and 6d. values were engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and each plate was made up of sixty stamps in six horizontal rows of ten stamps.

The first stamp issued was printed on unwatermarked paper and issued imperforate.

In 1861 all three values, *i.e.*, 1d., 4d., and 6d., were issued; the 4d. and 6d. were of the same design and differed from the 1d. value. This series was also printed on unwatermarked paper, but the stamps were perforated.

In 1863 the same values and designs were printed on paper watermarked Crown C.C., with a 1s. value added of separate design.

In 1882 the 1d., 4d., and 1s. were issued on Crown C.A. paper.

A provisional 4d. was provided in 1883 by surcharging the 6d. with the word **FOURPENCE** in black.

In 1884-90 a full series of new and uniform design was issued.

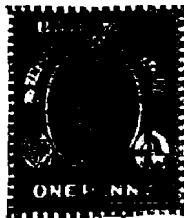
In 1901 a bicoloured 1d. pictorial stamp was issued, showing a view of the "Queen's Staircase."

In 1903 5d., 2s., and 3s. stamps were issued in the same pictorial design.

The King's Head series was issued in 1902, watermarked Crown C.A. and is still current, but any day may bring us the change to the multiple watermark.

In the opinion of many philatelists the first penny of Bahamas is one of the prettiest stamps in the whole range of British Colonial issues.

1859. One value. Design: Diademed full face portrait of Queen Victoria, looking to left enclosed in a double lined oval. Designed and engraved on steel by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and printed by them on a thinnish paper of a greyish or slightly blue tint, in lake and lake red; afterwards, on a stouter and rather toned paper, in paler lake and lake red. Sheets: 6s. stamps in six horizontal rows of ten. Issued imperforate and unwatermarked.



No Wmk, Imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake ..	10 0	60 0

Variety. In 1860 a supply was issued with clean cut perf. 14 to 16.

Clean cut perf. 14 to 16.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake ..	—	60 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

This first stamp of the much prized issues of the Colony of Bahamas started at 40s. in 1896, but a considerable supply came mysteriously on the market, and the price accordingly dropped in 1897 to 17s. 6d. and in 1899 to 10s. at which last figure it has remained ever since. The first of these remainders came out about 1887 and many were secured by Mr. C. J. Phillips, then dealing from Birmingham. Copies were sold by him at about 5s. each, but he found it to be much more profitable to send them up to the London auctions where they were readily snapped up by Mr. A. H. Wilson at £3 each. Collectors will find a most exhaustive history of this extraordinary leakage of Reminders of Unused British Colonials in the *Monthly Journal*, vol. 10, page 156, written by Mr. C. J. Phillips, from which I quote the following explanation:—

• Early in 1887 the late Mr. Bacon, the senior partner in the firm of Perkins Bacon & Co., Ltd., in clearing some stock-rooms came across certain bundles of what the firm termed "waste or allowance" sheets of stamps, that is, some extra sheets that had been printed over and above the number contracted for. These sheets of stamps Mr. Bacon appears to have been ordered to be burnt, but this job was not properly carried out, and a very considerable leakage took place, through a certain Mr. X—, who afterwards distributed the stamps about the world in a reckless and absurd manner. Not more than 2,000 of any one stamp remained on hand at Perkins Bacon & Co.'s offices, and in but very few cases were there more than 2,000 of one variety.

Varieties, 1862. Printings by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. from the same plates.

The Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf., he lists in a group of which there were over 1000.

1861. Three values. Designs: The 1d. as before, with the addition of 4d. and 6d. values in a new design, with the same diademed full face portrait of Queen Victoria but with more bust and a necklace, in a larger oval. These stamps were also designed and engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., and printed by them on unwatermarked paper, roughly perforated 14 to 16.

On January 28th, 1862, the plates were handed over to the Crown Agents, after which date Messrs. De la

Rue printed the stamps. These De la Rue printings are distinguished from those of Perkins Bacon & Co. by the perforations, the Perkins Bacon & Co. supplies gauging 14 to 16 and the De la Rue (a) 11½, 12, and (b) 13. All these printings were made on unwatermarked paper.



No Wmk. Rough perf. 14 to 15.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake ..	40 0	15 0
4d. dull rose ..	90 0	30 0
6d. grey lilac ..	90 0	30 0

No Wmk. Perf. 11½, 12.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. carmine lake	80 0	25 0
1d. brown lake ..	—	30 0
4d. dull rose ..	160 0	35 0
6d. lilac ..	—	40 0

No Wmk. Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. brown lake ..	60 0	20 0
1d. carmine lake ..	—	25 0
4d. rose ..	—	35 0
6d. lilac ..	—	30 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

These stamps are so scarce as to be only occasionally priced, and it would therefore be useless to attempt a comparison of fluctuations, but it may be said that in common with other West Indians they have suffered from the slump that set in after 1897, and are not yet back to their old high prices. Nevertheless they may be regarded as amongst the safest stamps to buy, whether they are regarded for their philatelic interest or their investment value.

1863. Four values. Designs: The 1d., 4d. and 6d. as before, but with a 1s. value added of a new design with diademed head of Queen Victoria in profile to left, designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. This series was printed from the Perkins Bacon plates of of the 1d., 4d., and 6d., and their own design of the 1s. by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on paper watermarked Crown C.C. and were perforated 12½. The 1d. stamp yields a grand range of distinct shades of brown-lake, carmine-lake, rose-red, red and vermilion.

Wmk. Crown C.C. Perf. 12½.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. brown lake ..	15 0	10 0
1d. carmine lake	12 0	7 6
1d. rose red ..	6 0	6 0
1d. red ..	5 0	5 0
1d. vermilion ..	6 0	5 0
4d. rose ..	12 6	7 6
4d. rose lake ..	50 0	7 6
6d. lilac ..	25 0	10 0
6d. violet ..	4 6	1 6
1s. green ..	200 0	20 0

1902. Seven values. Design: Head of King Edward VII in profile to left, in a new design, uniform for all values. In the three higher values the value at the foot of the stamp is printed in a separate colour. Designed and engraved by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and printed by them on paper watermarked Crown C.A. (single) and perf. 14.



Wmk. Crown C.A. (Single). Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. carmine.. ..	0 4	0 4
2½d. ultramarine	0 4	—

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4d. orange	0 6	—
6d. brown	0 8	—
1s. grey black and carmine	1 4	—
5s. lilac and blue	6 6	—
£1 green and black	24 0	—

Wmk. Multiple Crown C.A. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
¼d. yellow green	0 1	—
1d. carmine.. ..	0 2	—
2½d. ultramarine	0 4	—

1906. Three values. Design: Head of King Edward VII as in the last issue. The ¼d. is a new value. All are printed on paper watermarked multiple Crown C.A.

For special offers of the stamps of this Colony see Mr. Peckitt's advertisement in this number.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 141.)

AT the same time Roman capitals were used for lettering the ¼d. plates and the account letter and date figure were placed under the second stamp in the bottom row of each sheet.

The position of these particulars in the 1d. plates remained as before—under the eleventh stamp in the lower row—and sans-serif capitals were retained for this value.

The following is a list of the letters I have seen:—

¼d., deep green, A, B, C, C 4, D 4.

¼d., pale yellow-green, D 4, D 5, E 5, E 6, F 6, F 7, G 7.

1d., scarlet, A, B, C, C 4, D 4, D 5, E 5, E 6, F 6, F 7, G 7.

V.—Marginal Sheet or Control Numbers

In the three previous chapters I have dealt with marginal plate, reference, and contract numbers, and I now have to direct my readers' attention to another interesting class of numbers found on the margins of the sheets of stamps for some of our Colonies. These are known as sheet or control numbers and in describing them we may fittingly consider consignment letters which are occasionally found in combination with these figures.

First of all it should be clearly understood that these details are not engraved on the plates, like other marginal varieties, and they are therefore not printed at the same time as the stamps but are applied to the sheets before or, more generally, after the process of printing. Thus, they have nothing to do with the plates but are essentially sheet varieties. They refer to the number of sheets printed and included in a specific supply and thus act as a control or check upon the number of stamps despatched from the printing establishment.

In dealing with these numbers it will, perhaps, be as well to adopt the arrangement followed in the previous chapter, and divide the subject into sections according to the firms producing the stamps.

The De La Rue Numbers

Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., have, so far as I have been able to trace, only adopted the system of numbering the sheets in the case of the stamps produced for Hong Kong, British Central Africa, the multiple watermark stamps of Bahamas, and Southern Nigeria. In all these cases the sheets show the usual marginal plate numbers that are a distinguishing feature of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s work, and the sheet numbers are all preceded by a consignment letter.



A different consignment letter is allotted to each supply of stamps despatched and the sheets in each supply are numbered consecutively—usually from the highest value down to the lowest. The same series of numbers runs right throughout the sheets comprised in any particular supply and there is not a separate series for each value.

(To be continued)

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 142.)

B.—I.—This letter is found surcharged upon various stamps of the Straits Settlements, and denotes that they were used at the British Post Office maintained in Bangkok, the capital of Siam, from 1882 to 1886. Bangkok is situated on the banks of the River Menam and consists really of a succession of towns. The first is the commercial town with shipping, saw mills for teak, and rice mills; next the town of the Asiatics, mostly built on bamboo rafts on the river; then the Consular district, with verandahed houses and flowering trees; and lastly, the "malodorous and ill-mannered" Chinese Bangkok and the native Siamese town, dominated by the royal palace. Tramways now traverse the chief streets, some of which are lighted by electricity.

II.—A large capital "B," in conjunction with "Dpto. Zelava," is found surcharged upon certain stamps of Nicaragua used in the Bluefields district since 1904. The reason given for this overprinting is that the currency in Bluefields is silver worth about 42c. to the peso, instead of paper, current in most other parts of Nicaragua, worth only about 25c. to the peso. Bluefields has a population of about 5,000 and has one of the finest harbours in Central America.

III.—The letter "B" is shown under the bust on the French stamps of 1852, this being the initial of M. Barré, the engraver of the stamps. (See also *BARRÉ*.)

Baden.—A grand-duchy of the German Empire, having an area of 5,821 square miles. It is bordered by the Rhine on the south and west, Württemberg on the east, and Bavaria and Hesse-Darmstadt on the north. It has three votes in the Federal Council, and elects fourteen deputies to the Imperial Diet. The existing grand-duchy of Baden is a continuation and development of the ancient duchy of Swabia or Alemannia, principally through the two dynasties of the margraves of Baden-Baden and Baden-Durlach. In 1803 the ruling margrave of the united dynasties was made an elector of the empire, and in 1806 he proclaimed himself a sovereign grand-duke. Postage stamps were first issued on the 1st May, 1851, and in 1871 they were superseded by the general issues for the German Empire.

Baden-Powell.—Major-General Baden-Powell, the redoubtable defender of Mafeking, is, with the single exception of Postmaster O'Connell of New Brunswick, the only individual outside the Royal Family whose portrait appears on any postage stamp issued within the limits of the British Empire. The stamp in question, known as the "Baden-Powell stamp," was issued in Mafeking during the historic siege of 1899-1900. It was produced by a photographic process, bears the facial value of 3d., and was, apparently, only available for postage within the limits of the town of Mafeking. The stamp was designed by Captain Greener, who acted as Chief Paymaster during the siege.

Bahamas.—The Bahamas, or Lucayos, is the most northerly group of islands in the West Indies. They include about 670 islands and islets, called cays or keys, and embrace an area of about 5,794 square miles. Only about twenty of the islands are inhabited, the population, consisting for the most part of the descendants of liberated Africans, being estimated at 58,000. The principal islands are New Providence, San Salvador Abaco, Grand Bahama, Long Island, Eleuthera, Exuma, Mayaguana, Great Inagua, Andros Is., Watling Is., Rum Cay, Long Cay, Ragged Is., Cat Is., Berry Is., and Bimini. They are historically interesting as being the first land sighted by Columbus. The islands were permanently occupied by British troops in 1718, and since then they have been under the flag of Great Britain. The chief town, Nassau, is on the island of New Providence. It was notable during the American civil war as the headquarters of the blockade runners, and it is now frequented by Americans as a winter resort. The Government is vested in a Governor, aided by an Executive Council of nine members, a Legislative Council of nine members, and a Representative Assembly of 29 members. Postage stamps were first issued on the 10th June, 1859.

Bajoccho.—(Plural, "bajocchi"). The value in which most of the stamps of Romagna and the Roman States are expressed. A hundred bajocchi are equal to a scudo, which, in turn, is equivalent to about 4s. 2d. in English money. Thus a bajoccho is equal to one halfpenny.

Baldwin & Co.—A firm of printers in Georgetown, British Guiana, who set up and printed the provisional 1c. and 2c. stamps issued in 1882. These stamps were perforated with the word "SPECIMEN" before being sold to the public, as an extra safeguard against fraudulent imitation.

Baltimore.—The largest city in the State of Maryland, U.S.A., and the sixth in population in the whole of the United States. It is situated on an arm of Chesapeake Bay, and was founded in 1729. Its handsome monuments to Washington and George Peabody and the Battle Monument commemorating the citizens who fell defending the city against the British in 1814 have procured for it the name of "Monumental City." In 1845-6 special stamps and envelopes were issued by the Postmaster of Baltimore, Mr. James M. Buchanan, to facilitate the prepayment of postage. These were superseded by the general issue for the United States in 1847. In 1851 a semi-official postal service was established for the delivery of letters from the post office to the addressee, and in connection with this special 1c. stamps were issued.

Bamra.—A native State in the Sambalpur district, Central Provinces, India, having an area of 1988 square miles. Postage stamps first appeared in 1889 and the State ceased to issue them in 1894.

(To be continued.)

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Canada. According to a correspondent of *Der Philatelist* a 13 cents stamp is to be issued here on account of the revised postal tariff.

Hayti. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the receipt of two new provisionals, consisting of the 20c. and 50c. of the 1904 regular issue, overprinted in red 1c. and 2c. respectively. It adds: "The same handstamps were used to make similar provisionals at the beginning of last year, but the overprint was then in black. Our correspondent in Port-au-Prince informs us that he has seen the 1c. on 20c. with double overprint, but as each stamp is overprinted by hand, we may expect to see the overprint in all sorts of positions."

1904. Regular issue, overprinted in red.

- 1 c. on 20 c., orange.
- 2 c. on 50 c., brown-lake.

Overprint double.

- 1 c. on 20 c. orange.

Jamaica. We have received the 2½d. value printed on paper watermarked multiple C.A. The Multiple C.A. list now stands as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.



- 3d. olive green.
- 6d. orange.
- 1s. purple brown.



- ½d. green and black.
- 1d. carmine and black.
- 2½d. ultramarine and black.
- 5s. violet and black.

Unicoloured.

- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine.

Mafeking. Mr. D. Field has shown the *Monthly Journal* a specimen of the 6d. on 3d. Bechuanaland Protectorate, with inverted surcharge. This variety

is included in Mr. Poole's "South African War Provisional Stamps," p. 38, but has not yet been catalogued, though its companion 1d. on ½d. vermilion has been accorded a place in the list.

Bechuanaland Protectorate Stamps surcharged "Mafeking Besieged" and new value in figures.

Surcharge inverted.

- 1d. on ½d. vermilion.
- 6d. on 3d. purple on yellow.

Paraguay. It is reported that the 20c. dated 1904 has again changed its colour, and that 2, 5, 10, and 20 peso stamps in the design of the 1 peso have appeared.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* tells of a 5 centavos on 2c., slate-blue.

Provisional.

- 5 c. on 2 centavos, slate-blue.

Perf.

- 20 c. pale green; dated 1904.
- 2 p. blue and black; type of 1 peso.
- 5 p., red and black " "
- 10 p. orange-brown and black; type of 1 peso.
- 20 p. olive-green and black " "

Queensland. We quote the following from the *Monthly Journal*: "We have received the lithographed 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and £1 stamps of Type 9, and find that although the 5s. and £1 still have the Crown and 'Q' watermark, Type 6, sideways, the other two values have the Crown and single-line 'A' like that of New South Wales, also sideways, parts of two watermarks in each stamp. Of the copies before us, the 2s. 6d. is perf. 12½ all round; the 10s. is perf. 12½ at top, bottom, and right, and 13 at left; the 5s. and £1 are perf. 12.

- 2s. 6d. vermilion; wmk. Crown 'A.'
- 10s. deep brown " "

Do these values also exist with Crown and 'Q' watermark?"

Roumania. The *Monthly Journal* reports that, "According to *L'Echo de la T.*, another new issue is about to make its appearance, if it has not already done so. We gather that it is neither for commemorative nor for charitable purposes; still collectors could well do without it, and so we should think could the people of Roumania, who must be somewhat confused by the multitude of novelties provided for their use during the last year or two. The design shows a new portrait of King Charles."

- 1 b. brown.
- 3 b. chestnut.
- 5 b. green.
- 10 b. rose.
- 15 b. violet.
- 25 b. blue.
- 40 b. green.
- 50 b. orange.
- 1 l. black and brown.
- 2 l. " green.

From Other Magazines

Manchuria Postal System

ONE of the results of the titanic struggle between Russia and Japan has been the opening up and development of that scene of so many fierce battles—Manchuria. This vast region, whose very name has hitherto seemed outside the pale of civilization, is now under the control of the Chinese Imperial Government (spurred on probably by the astute Japanese), is being rapidly developed, and bids fair to become an important feature of the Chinese Empire. Among the important innovations that are being introduced will be that of the establishment of the Imperial Chinese Post, a special department of which has been created for Manchuria. We read in the daily press that "from Mukden the chief postal commissioner will direct a foreign staff and supervise the work of the offices, whose number it is expected will ultimately be increased to about 150, located throughout the three eastern provinces. Japanese post offices are established in the southern Manchurian cities along their railway lines, and Russian post offices from Kwanchengtze northward at the principal cities." The Chinese stamps, of which there are already a large number of varieties, may therefore receive an important addition to delight the heart of collectors.—*The London Philatelist*, Nov. '07.

Philately: Derivation of the Term

In the issue of the *Weekly* of August 31st, 1907, I note an article treating of the origin of the word "Philately," in which the writer reaches the conclusion that all writers have, that have come under my observation, that it is derived from two Greek words meaning "loving or fond of" and "tax." I have reached other conclusions as to the origin of this term, and for the benefit of the class who term themselves philatelists, will give a brief account, which will, I hope, serve to shed some additional light upon the mooted question.

There was founded in the year 1773, at Paris, a society the members of which termed themselves "Philaethes or Seekers of Truth." This Society was founded by Savalette de Langes, keeper of the Royal Treasury, within the Masonic Lodge of Amis Reunis as a side degree in Masonry. The word literally means "Friends of Truth" but in their work the highest degree wastermed "Philaethes or Searchers after Truth" and from the designation of this degree they became known as "Philaethes or Seekers of Truth."

This Society had an eventful existence, and from the high rank and celebrity of many of its members became well known to the rank and file of intellectual life in Paris a century ago and less.

When the business of searching for postal tax stamps began and the need of a new word to designate those who indulged in the pastime was felt, what more natural to the citizen of Paris who first used the word "Philatelist" to call on his memory for the elements with which to compose it?

Remembering the famous society of "Philaethes" as searchers after Truth, by a slight variation he had it exact—"Philatelist," a Searcher after that which taxes, in other words a Stamp Collector. I do not think there is any reasonable doubt but the word is thus derived.—*H. B. Phillips in Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, 5.9.07.

Ceylon: ½d. perf. 12½, surface printed

The surface-printed ½d. perforated 12½ is described on pages 64 and 69 of *British India and Ceylon* as being printed on the "no watermark" paper. In my previous notes I wrote: "This stamp is printed on the same variety of paper as the imperforate ½d. of 1858." In their references thereto in the *Monthly Journal* of September and November, 1903, the authors clearly prove the correctness of this statement. The following quotation from page 55 definitely settles the point: "The thick unwatermarked paper of 1862 was used exclusively for the line-engraved stamps from the Perkins Bacon plates; in no instance did Messrs. De La Rue and Co. use it for their own surface-printed stamps." The only known instance of a stamp on the "no watermark" paper being perforated 12½ is the Trinidad 1d. The "end of 1862" is given on page 69 of the Society's work as the date of issue of the surface-printed ½d. perforated 12½, and "1863" on page 70 as that of the ½d. watermarked "Crown and C.C." The authors have proved that the former was not issued before 1864, and as the ½d. "Crown and C.C." certainly appeared after, it was probably one of the later values to be issued on this paper. There are no means available of determining the precise date, but that given on page 70 is necessarily too early.—*Baron Percy de Worms in the London Philatelist*, Nov. '07.

Death of Judge Fraenkel

It is with very great regret that we record the death of Judge Heinrich Fraenkel, which took place on September 20th, at the comparatively early age of fifty-four. Judge Fraenkel was not only one of the most eminent of German philatelists, but also one of the most amiable and genial of men, beloved by all with whom he was brought into close contact, and his loss is mourned by a vast circle of friends. He was an omnivorous collector, having maintained, we believe, a general collection of adhesives, as well as great collections of stamped stationery and of Philatelic Literature. His Philatelic Library is said to be one of the best in existence, and we trust that it may be secured for some public institution in Germany, and so become permanently available for philatelic students in his own country.

According to an obituary notice in *The Philatelic Record*, Herr Fraenkel was a "most energetic opponent of philatelic exhibitions," but we are sure that no one who was associated with him on the Jury of the Exhibition in 1897 would have guessed that such was the case; we believe that on that occasion, at all events, he enjoyed both the exhibition and his visit to this country, and certainly no better judge or pleasanter fellow-juryman could have been found. We tender our deepest sympathy to all his relations and friends in their great loss.—*The Monthly Journal*, Nov. '07.

The Value of a Peso

[Under this heading in the section "From Other Magazines," on page 134, the name and date of the journal quoted from was somehow inadvertently omitted. The words "*West End Philatelist*, Nov., 1907," should have been added at the end of the quotation for the information of the reader and in accordance with our practice.—ED. P.S.]

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

The Appreciation of Sydney Views

THE popularity of the Sydney Views has been a remarkable episode in stamp collecting. From the earliest days their quaint design and their then apparently innumerable varieties engaged the affection of collectors, and since then the discovery of all their history and mystery, and the finding of thousands of specimens, have neither affected their popularity nor their value. During the last two or three years, stimulated by the demand for them in Australia, these stamps have much risen in value—or rather the fine copies have—and as evidence of this a correspondent sends us a letter that he has quite recently received from a friend in Sydney to whom he had applied for assistance in collecting these early issues of New South Wales.

"I regret," writes the Australian correspondent, "having been unable to send you any Sydney Views, as you wished. The price of really good copies has risen so much here that it would be useless to forward any. I parted with about thirty fair copies last Christmas, and they are now worth twenty-five per cent. more.

Mr. C. J. Phillips states, in a recent issue of the *Stamp Weekly*, that he has been looking into the relative rarity of "Sydneys," and that some time ago he prepared a list of used Sydney Views in his own stock and in the collections of four of his friends, examining in all 1145 of these stamps, with the result following:—

1d. Sydney, Plate I, yellowish paper	..	121
1d. " " I, bluish	"	53
1d. " Plate II, yellowish	"	67
1d. " " II, bluish	"	90
1d. " " II, laid	"	47
2d. " Plate I	.. ..	109
2d. " " I, re-engraved	..	44
2d. " " II	.. ..	144
2d. " " III	.. ..	94
2d. " " III, 1st retouch	..	62
2d. " Plate III, 1st retouch on laid	..	52
2d. " " III, 2nd "	..	86
2d. " " III, 2nd " on laid	..	21
3d. " on yellowish paper	.. ..	68
3d. " on bluish	" ..	68
3d. " on laid	" ..	19
Total		1145

"From this we can see at once that two varieties are far rarer than any of the other, viz. the 3d. on laid paper, and 2d., Plate III, second retouch (pearl in fan) also on laid paper. The next rarest are the 2d., Plate I, re-engraved, and 1d., Plate II, on laid. The 2d., Plate III, first retouch seems to be a far rarer stamp than is generally supposed."

We agree with Mr. Phillips that the three varieties occurring fewest times in the list are rarer than most of

the Sydneys, but no reliable "relative list of rarity" is practicable that does not also take into consideration the impressions as to colour, state of die, and all varieties of the paper. These considerations apply with much force to the 1d., Plate II, and 2d., Plates I and II. Mr. Phillips's figures include the stamps in his own stock (from which the rarer varieties always go first), and in two of the collections examined plates were made which entirely alters the relative numbers kept. In Plates I and II of the 2d. there are great variations of the die with fine early-printed copies, which collectors gladly retain for their beauty, while in the three subsequent plates the shades are comparatively few and the wear of the die is unimportant. The 297 copies shown in Mr. Phillips's list of Plates I and II should be subdivided. Nor can these figures as against 225 copies for the other three plates of this value be accepted as a true relative list of rarity. Plate III, first retouch, in some colours is, however, undoubtedly one of the rarest of the Sydneys.

The whole subject is very interesting, and one that we had already taken in hand, having regard to the forthcoming work on Oceania.

—The London Philatelist.

Sale of Dr. Legrand's French Collection

The veteran and respected doyen of the French school of Philately has apparently severed practically his last link with stamp collecting by the sale of his collection of the stamps of France and Colonies. It will be recollected that Dr. Legrand parted with his magnificent general collection a few years since, patriotically sacrificing his financial interests by refusing to sell his stamps out of his own country. The French collection, which has been acquired by M. Jules Bernichon, was remarkably fine, as was to be expected, containing many of the rarest specimens of the beautiful and interesting issues of France. We learn that the 1849 issue includes the 1 franc, vermilion, unused and used, the non-issued 25 c. on 30, presumably one of the very few "originals," the 1 franc *tête-bêche* unused—an exceedingly scarce variety this—and a very fine lot of all the other *têtes-bêches* of this and the succeeding issues. The Bordeaux issue is stated to be remarkably strong, including a pair of the rare 20c. unused, and the Colonial issues include the Réunions and sheet of the original New Caledonian and all the numerous rare surcharges. Alsace is also included, inclusive of a specimen of the 5 c., unused, with *burillage* reversed, and the whole collection possesses that great interest and attraction that accrues by long formation.

—The London Philatelist.

The New Gibbons

The new Gibbons is promised, Part II, for December and Part I for January, and none too soon for it is hopelessly out of date in numberless items.

There is no getting over the fact that Gibbons' catalogue rules the market, and I question whether its being so much out of date does not act somewhat in restraint of trade.

Philatelic Society Meetings

North of England Philatelic Society

President: G. B. Bainbridge, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Mark Easton, 43 Sidney Grove, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Meetings: Y.M.C.A. at 7.30 p.m. on First Thursdays.

The usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday evening, 7th November, 1907, at 7.30.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

After minutes of October meeting had been confirmed, Messrs. G. C. Nixon and Dr. W. H. Maling were elected members.

The display for the evening consisted of Mr. Heginbottom's fine collection of "Early English and Officials," and proved highly interesting and instructing, containing as it did, 1d. blacks, 1d. reds, imperf. and perf., in all states of plate and with a large variety of postmarks.

Among various good things shown were V.R. 1d. black, postally used, 1d. black on original postmarked day of issue, and a fine strip of eleven 2d. blue imperf.

The collection of high values and officials was mostly in fine lightly cancelled condition and the whole display gave ample evidence of the great research expended by Mr. Heginbottom.

At the conclusion of the meeting a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Heginbottom on the motion of Mr. Wilkinson, seconded by Mr. Hume, the members agreeing that such a display gave a great stimulus to the hobby.

Junior Philatelic Society, Brighton

The meeting on November 14th proved an immense success, for the name of Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., the popular Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Society, appearing as the event of the season with a display of his magnificent collection of Cape Stamps, was, as anticipated, a great attraction to seniors and juniors alike. The business part was therefore cut short as much as possible, though two very generous gifts could not go without acknowledgment; the first was of literature from our kind friend, Mr. Herbert Clark, while the second was from Rev. H. C. Bond, who, taking compassion on a young society, has presented the whole of his forgery collection to the branch.

Then came the display: Mr. Castle opened with an interesting address on the history of the stamps shown, mentioning a few of the rarest which he had got, and also what he had *not* got, though, needless to say, the latter did not take very long!! Then the albums, crowded with stamps in the pink of condition, were examined with the greatest interest (and envy); the following were a few of the best pieces:—"Woodblocks," three or four shades of each of the well-known errors, a copy of the extremely rare 4d. very dark blue in immaculate unused condition, and a fine range of shades of both values in fine condition, both used and unused; line-engraved, fine mint blocks of all the values; surface-printed, many fine blocks, and errors of the surcharges, including a double surcharge of the 1d. on 2d. bistre, to mention just a few of the gems of this magnificent display.

The Chairman proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle for the great pleasure he had given the company present, and after being seconded by the Hon. Secretary, this was carried amid much enthusiasm.

A slight revision of the programme for the early part of next year has been decided upon, of which further particulars will appear later.

The Bristol and Clifton Philatelic Society

President: Ald. Gardner, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: Henry Alsop, Filton Lodge, Filton, nr. Bristol.

Meetings: Monthly at members' residences.

Subscription: 2s. 6d.

The monthly meeting was held at Filton Lodge. The President Ald. Gardner, taking the chair. After the minutes of previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the following new member was elected: Mrs. Holloway. In consequence of Thursday being somewhat inconvenient to the members, it was resolved, after some discussion, to have the meetings on a Wednesday. This was carried unanimously.

The following programme was drawn up and approved:—

- Wednesday, Dec. 11. Display, Cypress, Gibraltar, and Malta.
- " Jan. 18, 1908. Egypt and Sudan. General Meeting.
- " Feb. 12. Display, Ceylon and Hong Kong.
- " Mar. 11. India.
- " April 8. Straits Settlements.
- " May 14. Orange Free States and Orange River Colony.

The next meeting to be held at 51a Lower Redland Road.

Glasgow & West of Scotland Philatelic Society

The opening meeting of the Society was held within the Rooms of the Society on Tuesday, 22nd October, 1907. There was a large attendance. The usual business having been transacted, a display was given by the members, of the stamps of Canada, Messrs. Long, King, Durand and Graham were the chief exhibitors. Several noted rarities were on view, including the roets. Black Brown of 1869, and a 6d. purple on very thick paper, on original. The latter was shown by Mr. A. W. Scott. The majority of the stamps were in first-class condition. After the usual votes of thanks had been passed, an opportunity for exchange was given, and the meeting concluded thereafter.

The second meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, 12th Nov. The usual business having been transacted, the President called upon Mr. P. Durand to read his paper on "Historical Events as illustrated on stamps of the British Empire." This proved a most interesting paper. Mr. Durand illustrated his paper with practically all the stamps mentioned. A fine collection of Making stamps were on view belonging to the President. The stamps of the Transvaal gave expression of perhaps the greatest amount of History. The paper indicated much work on the part of the essayist, and he received a very hearty vote of thanks. After the paper a discussion followed. The President mentioned that certain papers which had been prepared by order of the late President Kruger for stamps for a Federated South African Republic before the war was now being used to print stamp catalogues by a certain London firm. Exchange of duplicates was indulged in and the meeting then concluded.

1907.

Oct. 22. General Display—"Canada," by Members.

Nov. 12. Paper, "Historical Events as Illustrated on Stamps of the British Empire," by Philippe Durand.

Dec. 10. "Auction Night," Members.

1908.

Jan. 14. General Display—"United States"—by Members.

Feb. 11. Debate, "New Issues. For and Against."

For: Philippe Durand.

Against: Jas. K. Riddoch, A.G.T.C.

Mar. 10.—General Display—"Great Britain"—by members.

April 7. "Paper," by W. A. R. Jex Long.

April 14. Annual Business Meeting—General Display, "West Indies," by members.

Leeds Philatelic Society

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on 5th November, 1907, Mr. Fred A. Padgett (Hon. Librarian) gave a display that appealed with force not only to the juniors, but also in a lesser degree to the veteran. A few years ago, Mr. Padgett, with his usual foresight, saw the utility of a "Forgery Collection," and has since endeavoured to secure a copy of every known forged or "bogus" postage stamp; and it was a collection such as this—running into thousands—that now formed the subject of his display. The President, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L., was in the chair.

Display of Forgeries

As distinguished from forgeries, the "bogus" stamp is one that really had never any existence for postal service, such, for instance, as the black mourning stamp of Finland, and the notorious Sedang series, printed and sold in Paris some few years ago by the self-styled Emperor of that unknown region, who it is said was an Irish ex-officer that had served in a foreign army. By his daring fraud, this clever but unscrupulous individual netted quite a respectable fortune out of stamp dealers alone in the principal capitals of Europe. Although the collection of forgeries is outside the "cult," it goes without saying that the possession of a collection of forgeries is a desirable item in the Library of Philatelic Societies, not because a genuine stamp can be forged successfully, but simply as a useful reference for young collectors. There are probably few stamps on which the forger has not tried his hand, and amongst Mr. Padgett's lot there are often two, three and four distinct productions, more or less worthy of praise (?) It has been said that *objets d'art*, pottery, pictures, bank notes, coins (those in any state of wear) and numerous other articles have lent themselves successfully to the forger's imitative genius, but the postage stamp has never yet been so successfully forged as to deceive the expert, or advanced collector, although the postal authorities have been deceived by these forgeries, notably the old Italian states, and the forgery of the English 1s. green, generally found with the Stock Exchange postmark, is one that deceived the authorities. In the latter case the sheets of forged stamps, having been substituted for sheets of genuine ones, were actually sold over the counter, so it is believed.

Mr. E. Egly, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Padgett for his instructive display, said he had come across many forgeries in his philatelic career, but until now had not imagined that so many counterfeits and "fac-similes" existed, and credit was due to Mr. Padgett for what he had done in the interests of the hobby. Mr. C. W. Harding seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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How Readers can Help us

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us. Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages. It is the revenue which we derive from our advertisers that enables us to provide a high-class and expensive weekly. If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements. If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us. Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

New Issues

We want all the help we can get from our readers, especially from friends in the British Colonies, in keeping our readers well informed concerning New Issues. We are particularly anxious to get the earliest possible news of impending changes, and of provisional issues, and shall be glad to have early copies for illustration (priced, if for sale), which shall be promptly sent back if required to be returned.

No Direct Correspondence

I regret to say that I cannot undertake to reply to queries by post. If I once indulged in this sort of pleasure I should have no time for even a square meal. Under these circumstances, I am sure my friends will be merciful. I will do my best to reply to as many as possible on this page week by week.

J. L. (Belfast.) You can generally "tell the difference between a stamp issued imperforate and a stamp of the same design, etc., issued perforated, but from which the perforations have been clipped" by the narrowings of the margin. It is possible in but few stamps to clip the perforations and yet leave sufficient margin to enable it to pass muster as an imperforate stamp, but there are cases in which the only really satisfactory evidence of an imperforate variety is to be obtained in a pair. The watermark you refer to must be from the marginal letters of the sheet which sometimes show on the stamp.

Miss H. P. (Southport.) The post mark "Paid" is of no particular philatelic value, but is of interest as a curiosity. Ordinary used ½d. and 1d. stamps of 1873-1895 are of no value whatever.

G. J. R. (Moss Side.) If you sent a remittance to the Postmaster at Stanley, Falkland Islands, as you suggest, you would, of course get only current stamps, but those would no doubt be sent you, and a money order would be the best form of remitting.

J. E. O. (Streatham.) Oh, yes, the Pacific Steam Navigation Stamps are catalogued by Gibbons. You will find them under "Peru" on p. 360, with a note saying "these stamps were handed over to the Peruvian Government by the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. for provisional use prior to the preparation of regular issues," but only the 1 r. blue and 2 r. brown red are so included. In the old editions of Gibbons they were catalogued under the heading, "Pacific Steam Navigation Company"; then they were placed under the heading of "Mail Packets" in Part II, but after 1899 they were omitted presumably on the ground that they were not postage stamps proper. Your best way of disposing of the volumes of the *Stamp Weekly* would probably be by a small advertisement in the *Bazaar* stamp column.

H. R. F. K. (Glion.) I have never heard of an inverted copy of any Admiralty official stamp and Gibbons does not chronicle one, therefore, I should very much doubt the genuineness of your inverted copy of ½d. green King's Head. Yes, Antigua and Sarawak are good countries to specialise, but I should not include Samoa. A proof is generally distinguished by being imperforate or on different paper. Stamps surcharged "Specimen" are not proofs, but simply the issued stamp, so overprinted for distribution to officials, etc., as specimens. I do not know the variety of the current Swiss to which you refer. If it differs from the ordinary stamp it must be a variety and, if genuine, worth having.

F. B. C. (Norwich.) I am afraid I really cannot say whether Great Britain 1d. black are likely to increase in value in the next ten or fifteen years. Very fine copies are of course always good and worth keeping.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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21 DECEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Death of the King of Sweden



THE recent death of Oscar II, King of Sweden, after a long reign, and at a ripe old age, is an event of deep philatelic interest.

The stamps of Sweden, untainted by rubbish made for sale to collectors, are great favourites in the stamp-collecting world. They are full of interesting issues, and are amongst the few fine countries that may be considered to be, in the within the reach of the

used form at all events, well specialist of moderate means.

With the passing of Sweden's most peaceful and most beloved king we shall have in due time the passing of the current series of postage stamps with his finely engraved portrait, and the presentation of the portrait of the new ruler, his popular son, Gustavus V.

The Southern Nigeria and Lagos Tangle

There seems to be quite a postal tangle in Southern Nigeria and Lagos. Even residents in the Colonies do not seem to know what to make of it. Here, for instance, is news only about a month old from a private letter from Southern Nigeria which a collecting friend kindly permits me to quote:—

You ask for Southern Nigeria stamps. I have seen none of these for many months. We have been using Lagos stamps for a very long time. Several months ago the Post Office at Brass was quite out of stamps; then a few Southern Nigeria arrived, and the higher values of these were bought up immediately by a few of the traders; since that time (I should say two years) we have used Lagos stamps only. Lagos and South Nigeria are now one Colony under the former name.

This is somewhat puzzling, especially in the light of the recent issue of the 1d. in carmine and the new value 3d. for Southern Nigeria. The writer is of course wrong about the name of the Colony as the official notice in the *London Gazette* announced that the whole territory would in future be included under the name of Southern Nigeria.

Perhaps some reader of THE POSTAGE STAMP in official circles at Old Calabar will enlighten us, and tell us exactly how matters stand.

Guarantees and Faked Stamps

I quote the following interesting item from the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*.

The legal position of the purchaser of a stamp which turns out to be forged or faked, was the subject of a County Court action at Newton Abbot on November 8th, when the Rev. Arthur J. S. Ogle, of Bishops-teignton, sued a Croydon stamp dealer for a balance of £12.

It appears that the plaintiff purchased what purported to be a specimen of the od. hair line English for £20. Recently he found that it was not genuine, so returned it and requested the return of his £20. The dealer took the stamp back, paid £8 on account of the amount claimed, and has now been ordered to pay the remainder—with costs.

Collectors will thank Mr. Ogle, who is a well-known collector, for thus publicly establishing the right of a collector to the return of his money when a stamp is found to be not genuine. The right is well known to most experienced collectors, but the average collector is not so well versed in such matters.

It would be interesting to know why the dealer in this case paid in £8 on account of the amount claimed.

Croatia Demands its own Stamps

According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* there "is a movement on foot in Croatia in favour of a national postage stamp quite distinct from that used in Hungary. The Assistant Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Trade at Zagreb, otherwise known as Agram, the capital of Croatia, has published a pamphlet to show that Croatia has the right of issuing its own postage stamps. Of course, the leading Croats are supporting this claim."

Ewens' Weekly Stamp News adds the interesting information that "there is a very influential philatelic society at Agram and that a very successful philatelic exhibition has just been held there," and then suggests that "it is not difficult to see where the demand originated," all of which is very unkind coming from a New Issue Worshipper.

Death of M. Maury of Paris

As I conclude my notes for this week Mr. C. J. Phillips rings me up and tells me that he has just heard from Paris of the death of M. Maury, the well-known dealer.

We have both looked through the philatelic journals for obituary matter but cannot find a line. His name does not occur in Mr. J. Long's Index, nor in Alfred Smith & Co.'s Index to Philatelic Biography. Strange, for Maury has been for many years one of the leading dealers of Paris and his name is world wide.

The Stamps of Sweden

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

The death of Oscar II, King of Sweden, on the 8th December 1907, at the Palace at Stockholm, at the age of 79 after a reign of over 35 years, naturally diverts the attention of the Philatelist to the stamps of Sweden.

History of Sweden

SWEDEN was the would-be predominant partner in the union which for ninety years existed between Sweden and Norway, and which was peacefully dissolved in 1905.

These Scandinavian countries have for so long been the home of peace, and so long outside the circle of European complications, that it is difficult to realise the fact that Sweden once played a very prominent part in European wars, and that she was at the beginning of the nineteenth century ranked as one of the great powers. Indeed, at the time when Gustavus Adolphus, her ablest King, ascended the throne, she found herself at war with no less than three other European powers—Denmark, Russia, and Poland. She concluded a favourable peace with Denmark and Poland, and she forced Russia to yield territory to her. Her victorious troops even invaded Germany and took a leading part in the Thirty Years' war.

Unlike democratic Norway, Sweden is monarchical to the finger tips. Her society is hierarchical, her suffrage is restricted to the privileged few, and her legislators form a purely class parliament. She treasures up the traditions of the great part she played in the terrible struggles of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and she faces the present crisis with the knowledge that her destinies have been wisely directed by rulers descended from a race of gallant and honourable soldiers.

Its Philatelic History

The stamps of Norway bear little evidence of the ninety years' union with Sweden; the stamps of Sweden show no sign whatever of that old, but fretful, relationship.

Her first postage stamps were issued in 1855, when Oscar I. was King. The currency then was the riksdaler, equal to about 1s. 9d. of our money, and divided into 48 skilling banco. Hence, the first stamps were in skilling banco, abbreviated in the catalogues to "sk. bco."

In 1858 the riksdaler was divided into 100 öre, 12½ öre being reckoned as equal to 4 skilling banco. So the second issue of 1858, whilst retaining the old type of design, changed the inscriptions of value to öre.

Finally, in 1878, the riksdaler was changed to the krona, equivalent to about 1s. 1½d. of English money, divided into 100 öre. So that from 1878 to the present time the low values are expressed in öre, and the higher values in krona.

The designs of the stamps have undergone changes from time to time, but each type has run through a series with the one exception of the issue of 1872-6, in

which the highest value, 1 riksdaler, is slightly varied from the lower values.

The first design was that of the arms of Sweden, which did duty for the issues of 1855 and 1858. A more fanciful, but very unsatisfactory, design did duty for the issues of 1862 and 1866, during the reign of Charles XV. A bold, clear figure within a circle in the centre of the stamp had a long life—from 1872 to 1885, when it was superseded by a portrait of King Oscar II. In 1892 a new figure design was introduced for the lowest values.

Watermarks, or rather the equivalent, were first used in the series of 1886. Then, instead of watermarked paper being used as a protection against forgery, a small posthorn in outline was printed in blue on the back of each stamp. But in 1891 the paper on which the stamps were printed was watermarked with an outline representation of the crown of Sweden.

From the collector's point of view, Sweden is an attractive country. It affords the specialist a happy hunting-ground for scarce unused copies of the first issue, and a never ending search for shades. For the beginner or the young collector, who wants as many stamps as he can get at a penny apiece, it is one of the best of all foreign countries to collect in the used condition. With the exception of the first two issues, there are very few stamps of which nice clean used copies may not be had at one penny each. But the collector will need to make a patient search for well-centred copies, for in many issues the centring is very bad.

As the values are expressed in words in the early issues it may be interesting to give the numerals and then Swedish form: 1, En, or Ett; 2, Toa; 3, Tra; 4, Tyra; 5, Fem; 6, Sex; 8, Atta; 9, Nio; 10, Tio; 12, Tolf; 20, Tjugo; 24, Tjugufyra; 30, Tratio; 50, Femtio.

1855. Five values. Design: Three crowns on a shield surmounted by a crown. The framework inscribed "Severige" (Sweden) and "Frimarke" (postage). The values are expressed in "skilling banco." Specialists divide the papers into thin and thick. Unused copies are very scarce, of both papers, especially mint and well centred. The corner figures and the value at the bottom of each stamp were printed separately, but in the same colour as the rest of the design. The sheets were made up of 100 stamps in ten rows of ten. They were printed on hand-made paper, unwatermarked, on ordinary printing presses in the State Printing Works at Stockholm. The gum was brownish and the sheets were perforated 14 horizontally and 13½ vertically.

A note in Gibbons' Catalogue tells us that these stamps have been reprinted three times: in 1868 and 1872 with the same perforation as the originals, and in 1885 perforated 13. We are further informed by the same authority that in the first two sets of reprints the 4, 8 and 24 sk. bco. are in colours almost

identical with those of the originals, and these can only be distinguished by an expert. The 3sk. bco. is, in yellow green, and the 6sk. bco. in brown lilac to lilac.



Thin Paper.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3sk. bco. green ..	200	0	45	0
4sk. bco. blue ..	40	0	0	4
6sk. bco. grey ..	100	0	12	0
8sk. bco. orange ..	60	0	7	6
24 sk. bco. vermilion	200	0	35	0

Thick Paper.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3sk. bco. green ..	300	0	—	—
4sk. bco. blue ..	100	0	1	6
6sk. bco. brown ..	240	0	15	0
8sk. bco. yellow ..	100	0	7	6
24sk. bco. vermilion ..	400	0	40	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

These stamps in the unused condition are so scarce that it is difficult to make any comparison of prices, so much depends upon condition of the specimens and the shade, but it will be noted that the thick paper variety is rarely priced.

Thin paper.	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3sk. bco. ..	150 0	150 0	—	140 0	140 0	140 0	140 0	200 0	200 0
4sk. bco. ..	50 0	30 0	40 0	40 0	40 0	25 0	25 0	40 0	40 0
6sk. bco. ..	90 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	100 0	100 0
8sk. bco. ..	60 0	30 0	50 0	50 0	50 0	50 0	50 0	60 0	60 0
24sk. bco. ..	100 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	200 0	200 0

Thick paper.

3sk. bco. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300 0	300 0
4sk. bco. ..	70 0	—	—	60 0	—	—	—	100 0	100 0
6sk. bro. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	240 0	240 0
8sk. bco. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100 0	100 0
24 sk. bco. ..	—	—	70 0	—	—	—	—	400 0	400 0

1858. Six values. Design: as before, but with the values expressed in "öre" instead of "skilling" banco." The design was slightly modified, the lettering at the sides was reduced and that of the value in the bottom label increased. As these stamps remained in use from 1858 till 1872 there were necessarily many printings and many consequent shades. They were printed on unwatermarked paper as before and were perforated 14.

No Wmk. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
5 öre green ..	2	6	0	3
9 öre violet ..	10	0	3	6
12 öre blue ..	4	0	0	1
24 öre yellow ..	10	0	0	2
30 öre brown ..	8	0	0	2
50 öre rose ..	15	0	0	9

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

Most of the values of this series show a fairly steady improvement in price since 1896. They have all had their ups and downs but with the exception of the 5 öre and one quotation of the 9 öre, they are all at their best to-day, though they have shared but little in the increases made in other Europeans in the new Gibbons for 1908.

	1896	1897	1899	1900	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
5 öre ..	09	16	16	36	36	36	26	26	26	26
9 öre ..	26	80	76	100	100	126	100	100	100	100
12 öre ..	10	20	19	26	26	26	26	26	30	40
24 öre ..	16	30	46	80	100	100	76	76	100	100
30 öre ..	20	60	46	66	80	80	50	50	80	80
50 öre ..	30	50	76	100	120	120	120	120	150	150

1862. One value. Design: The arms on an oval shield as a background to a lion couchant, "Severige" in a curved label above and "3 öre" boldly across the lower half of the stamp with the word frimärke below in a small label. This stamp, according to Westoby, was issued to supersede a stamp that had been in use since 1856 as a local stamp for Stockholm and had no value expressed on it, though it represented 1 skilling banco up to the change of currency in 1858, and after that 5 öre.



No Wmk. Perf. 14 x 13½ or 11.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
3 öre brown ..	1	6	0	2

1866. Two values. Design: Similar to last issue, but with large figures of value in a label in the lower half of the stamp. The issue of these two new values is attributed to an alteration in some of the rates of postage, more particularly to Norway.

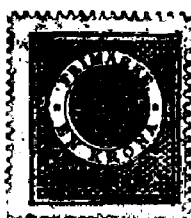


No Wmk. Perf. 14.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
17 öre grey ..	12	0	2	0
20 öre rose red ..	7	6	0	2

1872-6. Ten values. Design: Large central numerals of value enclosed in a circular band inscribed "Frimärke" above and the value in words below, with the word "Severige" in small letters below the circular band. The highest value, 1 riksdaler has three

crowns in the centre instead of numeral of value, and is printed in two colours. This issue yields a great variety of shades and is perforated 14 and subsequently perf. 13.



No Wmk. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 öre brown	0 9	0 1
4 öre grey	7 6	0 9
5 öre green	2 0	0 1
6 öre violet	5 0	0 9
12 öre blue	4 0	0 1
20 öre vermilion ..	20 0	0 2
24 öre yellow	14 0	0 2
30 öre brown	10 0	0 1
50 öre rose	8 0	0 3
1 riksk. blue and brown	15 0	0 5

Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
3 öre brown	1 0	0 1
4 öre grey	1 0	0 1
5 öre green	3 0	0 1
6 öre lilac	2 6	0 1
12 öre blue	1 0	0 1
20 öre vermilion ..	5 0	0 1
24 öre orange	2 0	0 1
30 öre brown	7 6	0 1
50 öre rose	10 0	0 1
1 riksk. blue and brown	100 0	3 6

Variety: Error, "Tretio" to "tjugo" and figures "20."

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
20 (30) vermilion ..	440 0	360 0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused

The general level of prices has been fairly well maintained in these series. There was a bed-rock drop in 1904 followed by a recovery to old prices in 1906. Europeans were not selling well, so a general reduction of prices was made and this so stimulated sales that stocks were considerably reduced. The rarity of the series, the 20 öre perf. 14, remains steadily at the 1897 quotation. The 24 öre perf. 14 shows the steadiest rise of the series.

	1897	1899	1900	1901	1903	1904	1905	1906	1908
Perf. 14	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
3 öre ..	06	16	10	08	06	06	06	09	09
4 öre ..	80	60	60	60	60	50	50	76	76
5 öre ..	06	16	19	16	13	13	13	20	20
6 öre ..	26	40	66	60	50	30	30	50	50
12 öre..	26	30	40	40	50	26	26	40	40
20 öre..	200	126	176	176	200	200	200	200	200
24 öre..	76	86	100	100	126	126	100	140	140
30 öre..	50	76	106	100	150	76	76	100	100
50 öre..	60	76	76	76	76	60	60	80	80
1 riksk..	150	126	150	150	150	120	120	150	150

Perf. 13.

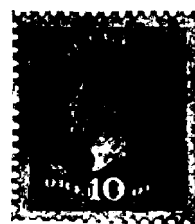
3 öre ..	04	10	10	10	10	09	09	10	10
4 öre ..	10	10	16	16	10	09	09	10	10
5 öre ..	26	20	30	30	30	20	20	30	30
6 öre ..	04	16	20	26	26	16	16	26	26
12 öre..	04	10	13	13	13	09	09	10	10
20 öre..	16	36	46	50	50	40	40	50	50
24 öre..	10	10	19	19	19	16	16	20	20
30 öre..	40	40	50	76	76	50	50	76	76
50 öre..	76	76	106	100	150	76	76	100	100
1 riksk..	—	—	—	1000	1000	800	800	1000	1000

1878. One value. Design: as in last issue, but currency changed from "riksdaler" to "krona." Perf. 13.

No wmk. Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 krona, blue and yellow-brown ..	10 0	0 2

1885. One value. Design: head of King Oscar II in profile to left enclosed in an oval, with "Severige" in a curved label above and the value underneath. The first supply was printed in a dull rose, but subsequently aniline ink was used which gave brighter colouring. Those who specialise will find an interesting retouch in this stamp, a faint white line being introduced at the back of the head. This line shows most clearly at the back of the neck. In early copies there is no sign of this line.



No Wmk. Perf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 öre, rose	3 0	0 1

1886-91. Nine values. Design: the 10 öre of the portrait type of 1885, the 1 krona of the three-crowns type of 1885, and all the others of the central figure of value type. On the back of each stamp was printed in blue a small posthorn in outline, evidently intended to serve the purpose of a watermark as a protective against forgery. The stamps were perforated 13.

On back posthorn. Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 öre, orange (1891) ..	0 2	0 2
3 öre, brown	0 3	0 1
4 öre, grey	0 4	0 1
5 öre, green	0 6	0 1
6 öre, lilac	0 6	0 3
10 öre, rose	0 3	0 1
20 öre, vermilion ..	2 0	0 1
30 öre, brown	1 6	0 1
50 öre, carmine	3 0	0 1
1 krona, blue and brown	1 9	0 1

1889. Provisionals. Two values. Design: the 12 öre and 24 öre of 1872-6 surcharged 10 öre. When the inland postal rate was reduced from 12 öre to 10 öre, 10 öre and 24 öre stamps took the place of 12 öre and 24 öre. The old stock of these values was consequently used up by surcharging both values "10 öre" with a special surcharge, consisting of three crowns within a circle, "10" in each upper angle, and "Tio öre" at the foot. This surcharge was printed in blue, and

completely obliterated the original design. It is stated that about 20,000 sheets of the 12 öre and 2,000 sheets of the 24 öre were thus used up.

*Provisionals.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
10 öre in blue on 12 öre blue ..	0 3	0 2
10 öre in blue on 24 öre yellow..	0 4	0 6

Surcharge Inverted.

10 öre on 12 öre, blue	—	—
--------------------------------	---	---

1891-1904. Seven values. Design: Head of King Oscar II in profile to left, as in the issue of 1885, but very finely engraved in line in recess. The plates from which the stamps were printed contained 100 stamps in ten rows of ten. They were printed on paper watermarked with a large imperial crown, and perf. 13.

*Wmk. Imperial crown. Perf. 13.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 öre, green	0 1	0 1
10 öre, carmine	0 2	0 1
15 öre, chestnut	0 3	0 1
20 öre, blue	0 4	0 1
25 öre, orange	0 5	0 1
30 öre, brown	0 6	0 1
50 öre, slate	0 9	0 1

1892. Four values. Design: a large central numeral of value enclosed in a wide oval band inscribed



above "Sverige" and below "Frimarke," and printed in two colours, on paper watermarked with an imperial crown as in the last issue, and perforated 13.

Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 öre, brown and ultramarine ..	0 1	0 1
2 öre, blue and yellow	0 2	0 1
3 öre, brown and orange	0 2	0 1
4 öre, carmine and ultramarine	0 1	0 1

1900. One value. Design: head of King Oscar II, as in the issue of 1891-1904 but in a different framework, and printed in two colours on paper watermarked imperial crown and perforated 13.

*Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf. 13.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1 krona, grey and carmine	1 6	0 1

1903. One value. Design: head of King Oscar II, as in the issue of 1891-1904. A new value, printed on paper watermarked imperial crown, and perforated 13.

Wmk. Imperial Crown. Perf. 13.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
8 öre, purple	0 2	0 1

1903. One value. Design: a view of the new Post Office building at Stockholm, large, long, rectangular in shape, and of the highest value yet issued by Sweden—5 kr. This stamp at the time of issue was chronicled as a commemorative stamp issued to celebrate the opening of the new Post Office building, but it was intended and has remained a permanent issue for the high value which it represents. It is printed on paper watermarked with an imperial crown, evidently on the paper prepared for the smaller size stamps as the watermark appears sideways twice on each stamp.

*Wmk. Imperial Crown, sideways. Perf. 13.*

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 kr.	7 0	2 6

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 154.)

THESE consignment letters are of particularly important philatelic significance for they form conclusive proof of distinct printings having taken place. Thus I have marginal pairs of the 4d. carmine and black stamps of the 1897 issue of British Central Africa bearing the consignment letter and sheet numbers "C065" and "C385" respectively. This shows that they formed part of the third consignment of this type and that the supply included at least 320 sheets of the 4d. value. It does not necessarily prove that there had been two previous printings of the 4d. stamp for it is possible that none of this value were included in the supplies consigned under the letters "A" and "B."

Perhaps I can make my meaning clearer by reprinting the following table from *Ewen's Weekly* regarding the various supplies of Hong Kong King's head stamps despatched to that Colony between 1902 and 1906:—

Consignment Letters of King Edward Issue.
Printings A to E with single watermark only.

	A	B*	C	D	E
	End 1902 ? Highest No. seen.	Date ? Highest No. seen.	2.03 ? Highest No. seen.	8.03 ? Highest No. seen.	2.04 ? Highest No. seen.
1c.	A9626	—	C010876†	—	—
2c.	A5017	—	C04876†	—	—
4c.	A5174	—	C03763	—	E2652
5c.	A0746	B0073	C0309	—	E1958
8c.	A0675	—	C00521	—	—
10c.	A1618	—	C0918	—	E2007
12c.	A0209	—	C00238	—	—
20c.	A0094	—	C00143	D391	E287
30c.	A0127	—	—	D178	E159
50c.	A0076	—	C00107	D00125	E127
\$1	A0072	—	C00067	C181	E053
\$2	A0028	—	—	—	E023
\$3	A0146	—	—	—	—
\$5	A0042	—	—	—	—
\$10	A0027	—	—	—	—

* This consignment consisted almost exclusively of revenue stamps. The only postage stamp was the 5c., which is used largely for revenue purposes.

† Co282 (four figures only) also seen.

‡ Co654 (four figures only) also seen.

Printings F to K have multiple watermark, with exceptions noted; H to K are on chalk-surfaced paper.

	F	G	H	J	K
	8.04 ? Highest No. seen.	2.05 ? Highest No. seen.	8.05 ? Highest No. seen.	2.06 ? Highest No. seen.	8.06 ? Highest No. seen.
1c.	—	—	—	—	—
2c.	F4827	G0501	—	—	K1701
4c.	F5486	G5458	—	J2479	K3544
5c.	F1968	G1161	—	—	K0970*
8c.	—	—	—	—	K 005
10c.	F2764‡	G2587	—	—	K2930†
12c.	F 003‡	G 001‡	—	—	K 67
20c.	F 163	G 340	—	—	K 036
30c.	F 242	G 181	—	—	—
50c.	F 036	G 118	—	—	—
\$1	F 058	G 089	—	—	—
\$2	F 017	G 12	H0043	—	—
\$3	—	—	H0025	—	—
\$5	—	—	H 004	—	—
\$10	F 006	G 11	—	—	—

* K007 (three figures only) also seen.

† Multiple wmk., ordinary paper.

‡ Single wmk.; all other F and G have multiple wmk.

From the above it will be noted that, naturally, all values were included in the first supply or "A" consignment, and that the series of numbers commenced with the \$10 and ended with the 1 cent. Again, it will be noted that so large a supply of 1 cent stamps were included in the "C." consignment that further printings of that value have not yet taken place.

I may add that all the De La Rue sheet numbers are in black, and that they are invariably stamped in the right upper corner of each sheet.

The Waterlow Numbers

Messrs. Waterlow & Sons have never made use of marginal plate numbers but I believe all stamps produced by them show sheet numbers. I have found these numbers on the 1898 issue of New Zealand, the 1898 issue for British South Africa, the issues of North Borneo, and the handsome stamps of the Niger Coast.

0016



Whether there is a separate series for each supply or for each value in these Waterlow numbers I am unable to say.

Usually very small figures in black are used but, in the case of the Niger Coast stamps, the sheet numbers consist of fairly large numerals printed in red.

The position of these numbers is not always uniform for, while the majority are stamped in the upper right corner of each sheet, I have seen many Borneo stamps in which they are placed in the bottom right-hand corner of the sheet. Again, I have stamps of British South Africa taken from the lower right-hand corners of the sheets in which the numbers are shown sideways.

In the "other" numbers I can only make a few general remarks for I have not seen sufficient sheets to attempt to cover the whole of the subject.

In the low value stamps of the current issue for New South Wales the sheet numbers are printed in the same colours as the stamps themselves and are placed in the bottom margin under the two central stamps.

The sheets of Queensland stamps usually have large central numbers in black impressed in the top right-hand corners. In some cases, however, the figures are placed sideways in the lower right-hand corners.

(To be continued)

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 155.)

Ban.—(Plural, "bani" or "banu"). The value in which most of the stamps of Roumania are expressed. A hundred bani equal one leu, which is worth about 10d. in English money.

Bangkok.—The capital of Siam at which a British Post Office was maintained from 1882 to 1886. Special stamps, consisting of various Straits Settlements labels surcharged with a large "B," were used at this office. (See also "B.")

Barbacoas.—A town in the department of Cauca, Colombia, at which special type-set, provisional stamps were issued in 1903.

Barbados.—An island in the West Indies situated about 125 miles east of the chain of the Lesser Antilles. It is nearly 21 miles long, 14 broad in its widest part, and has a total area of 166 square miles. The people are mostly of the negro or coloured race, their chief occupation being the cultivation of sugar. The capital, Bridgetown, is a port of call, where passengers and goods from Europe are transhipped to the steamers which run northwards to the Virgin Islands and southwards to Trinidad. The island was given the name Barbados by the Portuguese, on account of the bearded fig trees found there. It has been a British Colony since 1605, though it was not settled to any great extent until 1625. In 1885 it was constituted a distinct government with a Governor, aided by an Executive Council and an Executive Committee, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the sovereign, and a House of Assembly of 24 members elected yearly on the basis of a moderate franchise. Postage stamps were first issued on the 17th April, 1852.

Barnard, J.—A watchmaker and jeweller of Port Louis, Mauritius, who engraved the now famous "Post Office" stamps of that Colony. (See also POST OFFICE MAURITIUS.)

Barranquilla.—One of the largest towns in the department of Bolivar, Colombia, having a population of about 40,000. In the years 1903-4 many of the stamps in general use throughout the Republic of Colombia were printed in this town.

Barré, M.—I.—The engraver of the first French stamps and all others issued prior to 1853. His initial, "B," appears below the neck of the portrait shown on the stamps of 1852.

II.—M. Albert Barré, who succeeded his father as principal engraver to the Paris Mint, engraved the French stamps of 1853 and also engraved the dies for the production of the first type of Greek stamps.

Barrios.—This name appears on a circle in the right hand upper corner of some of the stamps of Salvador issued in 1887-89. It is the name of one of the former presidents of the Republic.

Barth, M.—A Luxemburg engraver, who journeyed to Brussels in 1872 to examine the method by which the Belgian stamps were manufactured and, on his return, engraved the dies and made the plates for the first issue of Luxemburg stamps.

Basle.—The common, though incorrect, English form of the name Bâle (French), or Basel (German), a Canton in north-west Switzerland. It has an area of 177 square miles with a population of over 180,000. A special postage stamp, having the facial value of 2½ rappen, was issued on July 1st, 1845, and remained in use until superseded by the general issues for the Federal Administration.

Bass, W. E.—The postmaster of Petersburg, Virginia, U.S.A., whose name appears on the special 5c. stamp issued in 1861 previous to the introduction of the general issues for the Confederate States.

Bastead, Mills.—Some of the ½d. and 1d. stamps of the current types for New Zealand produced in December, 1901, were printed on paper manufactured at the Bastead Mills, Kent. It is a thin hard paper, watermarked with a double-lined "N. Z." and star.

Bâtonné paper.—One of the many kinds of paper on which stamps are sometimes printed. *Bâtonné* means ruled, and this paper is watermarked with straight lines placed some distance apart. There are two sorts of *bâtonné* paper—wove and laid.

In *wove bâtonné* the spaces between the watermarked lines are plain. This paper has rarely been used in the production of postage stamps the only instance I can mention being furnished by the labels for the Indian native state of Poonch.

In *laid bâtonné* the spaces between the watermarked lines are also watermarked with faint lines running in the same direction. It is not often met with, but some of the stamps issued in the Guadalupe Province of Mexico are printed on it. It is worth noting that the ordinary writing paper known as "foreign note" forms an excellent example of laid *bâtonné* paper. (See also PAPER.)

Baton Rouge.—The capital of the State of Louisiana, U.S.A., situated on the Mississippi River, and having a population of over 12,000. In 1779 it was taken from the British by the Spaniards, and in 1862 it was the scene of a victory by the Federals over the Confederates. In 1861 the postmaster, Mr. J. McCormick, issued three special stamps to facilitate postal matters and these were replaced by the general issue for the Confederate States in the following year.

(To be continued.)

CORRECTIONS.

Admon Cral de Correos en Campeche. Mr. H. L. Ewen kindly informs me that this inscription, which appeared on page 90 is a contraction of "Administracion Central de Correos en Campeche" and means "Central Administration of Posts in Campeche."

Admon Pral de Correos del Depto de Apurimac.—Mr. Ewen also tells me that this inscription (see page 90) is an abbreviation of "Administracion Principal de Correos del Departamento de Apurimac," which means "General Post Office of the Department of Apurimac."

Great Britain

Provisional Note on the History of the 1d. Stamp, Great Britain, May, 1840

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY THE VICE-PRESIDENT, THE EARL OF CRAWFORD,
ON OCTOBER 17TH, 1907.

ABOUT eighteen months ago a remarkable "find" was made, drifted my way, and now is laid before the Society. A "find" of material of great interest, and which, I think, gives an insight to the train of thought and consequent line of action which culminated in the issue of the 1d. black stamp early in May, 1840.

Rowland Hill's proposal for penny postage had been for some time before Parliament and the public, and when the Government came to the decision that the principle should be adopted, it caused much excitement—the public being desirous of instant action, and intolerant of delay.

Time, therefore, became an element to be considered.

Although it would appear to us now to be a simple thing to order and obtain a stamp, an analysis of what was required in the way of detail leads to admiration of what was done in the short interval of time which elapsed before the public could have its new bantling. Practically speaking, the whole devolved upon Rowland Hill, and he was fortunate in gaining the cordial and intelligent assistance of the firm to whom the contract for supply was given.

In *Penny Postage* Mr. Hill originated a principle of political economy which, having been debated upon, became the subject of parliamentary inquiry full and searching. His views prevailed. It was adopted, and at once was to be translated into practice. Glance for a moment at what was wanted to make it feasible.

(1) *A Design*. Involving *shape* and *size*. In this he was helped by the action of the Treasury, who had offered a reward for the best design; but the study of some 3500 proposals sent in only taught him what to avoid.

The actual first idea of the stamp is a rough pen and watercolour sketch made by himself in 1839.

(2) *Material*. Involving examination, testing, and trials of many kinds of paper, the incorporation of chemicals in its substance, whether hand-made or machine, matters of safety in the form of water-mark, etc.

(3) *Reproduction*. The vast numbers which would be required must be practically identical. If not a fraud would arise at once. But any departure from identity must be evidence of forgery. To consider letterpress, lithography, engraving.

(4) *Inks*. Involving the wide field of chemical nature—colour—permanency, cancellation, resistance to the cleaning-off of cancels (whether water-colours or oil), fugitive, etc.

(5) *Attachment*. Involving searches on adhesive matters—gums and cements, as it was then called.

(6) *Economy of Production*. Always dominant, with the Treasury as watch-dog for the country.

All these points had to be considered, and the means for effecting them found and matured within the space of a few months.

The "find" contains short lengths of a chain bearing on these different heads, which I have endeavoured to link together.

It has hitherto been assumed that the change from black to red in the colour of the 1d. stamp came about as the result of a failure of security against fraud, and that the trials of colour were instituted about August, 1840, and is illustrated in collections by the sets of penny stamps in varying colours which are commonly known as the Rainbow series.■

I can no longer agree with this supposition. In fact, I believe that the issue of May, 1840, in black ink, was what we now call *provisional*, in so far as the colour was concerned.

The first experiments made were entirely in colour, of many shades and of varying ingredients, and that at a date far earlier than May—earlier than Plate 1 of the stamps was in existence. This I have to demonstrate to you this evening.

It will be borne in mind that the Rainbow series can be easily known by what has been called a waxed corner in the top right hand of the stamp, and that the lower corners are blanks. And I may here correct an error—the failure to print in the upper right corner is *not due* to wax or varnish, but to a deliberate clearing away of that portion of the design by the engraver.

That colour was used very early we already know. There are in existence what are known as engraver's trials of the first die; i.e. when the background had been laid down on the steel block, sufficient of it was removed from the centre of the stamp for the head to be worked upon by Mr. Charles Heath. In this state a roller was made and a small plate made, which was printed in several colours. I have two of these trials; but at Berlin they have many in the Postal Museum. Mr. Heath proceeded with his work, which was finally approved by the authorities.

Of course, the die was sacred and unsuitable for experiment, so to try it fairly a small plate of three stamps was made, ranged somewhat widely apart. I don't know the date of the approval of Die I, but this plate was probably made directly after that was obtained, and I am inclined to put the date as early as the beginning of January, 1840, possibly even earlier. As will be shown, colour was in the forefront of the experiments.

In the early part of *February* another plate was made, consisting of twelve stamps, similar to the pretty little plate we are familiar with which was made much later for the 2d. value. A great deal of colour work was done with it, but it would seem not to the satisfaction of Mr. Hill.

Meantime, Plates 1 and 2 were made for the issue. The paper had been chosen, the watermark designed, experiments had been made in various gums—all done

except the finding of a suitable red ink; and the Government and the people were waiting. The privilege of franking had been withdrawn, and impatience ensued.

I firmly believe that the issue on the 1st May in black ink was provisional, and only because satisfactory red ink had not been found.

On the 1st of June colour trials began again, until on the 17th of September Rowland Hill reported to the Treasury that he had finished his experiments and was able to recommend the printing to be in a red oily ink of a fugitive nature. But even then the final selection of the particular tint or shade of red was not made until November—the outcome of months of experiment.

I place this note before the Society with diffidence, as I cannot hope to convince every one, and also because my belief is based on inference, and not on direct evidence.

I would therefore dwell on the title of my paper: "A Provisional Note on the History . . ."—until such time as an authoritative statement may be made, and this, I have reason to hope, may not be greatly deferred.

P.S.—Since writing these notes I have learnt that I am probably wrong in thinking that black was a provisional colour. Nevertheless, I leave the note as I wrote it, and hope that I may be confuted soon.

From the "London Philatelist," Nov. 1907.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Lunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Austria. The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, telegraphing under date of 5th Dec., 1907, writes of the forthcoming new issue as follows:—

"Not the least interesting event in connection with the Emperor Francis Joseph's jubilee is the issue of a series of new stamps. These will not only be a valuable addition to the collection of every philatelist, but will serve to remind the world of the long reign of the Emperor, for every letter sent from this country in future will bear either the portrait of the Emperor or that of one of his ancestors.

"Great care has been taken in the production of these stamps, the assistance of eminent engravers, artists, and chemists, as well as the postal authorities, having been requisitioned. A glance at the eighteen new stamps which are on exhibition shows a great advance on those to which the Austrian public has been accustomed. They are, indeed, masterpieces of the engraver's art. So elaborate is the detail that a microscope is necessary to view it properly.

The stamps represent events in the later epoch of Austrian history. Those from 1 to 20 hellers show the immediate predecessor of the present monarch. The next series is impressed with the portrait partly in profile of the Emperor himself as he looked in 1848, when he ascended the throne. Other series represent the Emperor at full length, some in a general's uniform, others with the insignia of the order of the Golden Fleece.

Two sets of stamps give views of the entrance to the Schenbrunn palace. The actual jubilee stamp, which is of the value of 8s. 4d., bears the dates 1848-1908. On this his Majesty is represented full face and at his present age. This portrait is remarkably true to life. It may be mentioned that the Emperor never allows himself to be photographed or painted full face. The portraits of his Majesty's predecessors are taken from the family portrait gallery."

Falkland Islands. We have received the 1d. of the current series printed on multiple C.A. paper with the watermark sideways.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. sideways. Perf. 14;
1d. red.

Switzerland (p. 133) We are indebted to Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co. for a copy of the 3c. of the new series in the boy and cross-bow type. It was stated that these stamps were to be printed on paper with silk threads, but our copies are on ordinary wov paper, perf. 11½.

No Wmk. Perf. 11½.



3c. pale brown.
5c. green.



10c. rose.

Tasmania. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the 8d. and 1s. values, Queen's heads watermarked Crown, double-lined A. The 8d. is perf. 11, and the 1s. is perf. 12½.

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.
8d. purple-brown.

Perf. 12½.
1s. rose and green.

From Other Magazines

Australian Commonwealth Stamps

Report of the Committee

THE report of the committee which during last week was considering the whole question of postage stamps for the commonwealth has been presented to the Postmaster-General. The committee, which was presided over by the Chief Clerk to the Central Postal Administration (Mr. Templeton), contained a printing expert, a philatelist, and an artist. They went thoroughly into the question of design and methods of printing, and the carrying out of their recommendations will mean drastic changes in the stamp issues at present in vogue in the States.

Designs to bear King's head.

The first important recommendation is one fully concurred in by the Postmaster-General. It is that the new stamp must bear the King's head on it. In Victoria this has always been the case, but in the other States stamps showing scenery have been in use for years past. They would, of course, have been displaced any way by the federal stamp, but the principle underlying their use is now also condemned.

Each State to have its own Series.

As has been already announced in *The Argus*, the committee advises the department to call for competitive designs for the new stamps. There will be only two provisions of any importance—that the stamp shall bear the King's head, and that it shall also have affixed to it some accessory mark to distinguish the State in which it was purchased. This latter proviso is of course, to safeguard the interests of the States during the continuance of the book-keeping period.

Steel plates to be used.

It is advised by the committee that the new designs should be etched direct on to steel plates. This is an expensive method, but is regarded as being the most satisfactory in the end, while it is anticipated that the cost will be more than defrayed by the purchases of the first issue which will be made by philatelists. It is, of course, most unlikely that plates will be made in triplicate, and it will, therefore, be necessary that the whole of the stamp-printing should be done at some central office.

Where to be Printed.

Mr. Cook, the South Australian stamp-printer, has already offered to print the stamps at 24d. per thousand, or 1d. less than the price at present being paid in the other States; and for some time past the Commonwealth Treasurer (Sir William Lyne) has been maturing plans for establishing a Commonwealth stamp-printing office, with Mr. Cook in charge. The report of the committee was all that was wanted to hurry on these plans, and there is no doubt that steps will now be taken to put them into operation. Competitive designs for the new stamp will be called for without any loss of time.—*Melbourne Argus*, 22.10.07.

Parliamentary Criticism.

Mr. Frazer (W.A.) yesterday asked the Postmaster-General (Mr. Mauger), when the House of Representatives met, whether it was correct, as stated in *The*

Argus, that he concurred with the recommendation of the committee which has been considering the question of the printing of Commonwealth postage stamps, that the new stamps should bear a picture of the King's head upon them?

Mr. Crouch (V.)—Yes; and nothing Australian.

Mr. Willis (N.S.W.)—Do you want a view of a racecourse on them? (Laughter).

Mr. Frazer said he wished to know whether the Government intended to give Parliament an opportunity of deciding whether the new stamps should bear a picture of the King's head, or something emblematic of Australia?

Mr. Mauger said he saw no reason why the stamps should not contain a picture of the King's head—of which he had expressed his approval—and also something emblematic of Australia.

Dr. Liddell (N.S.W.)—Why no tuse the union label? (Laughter).—*Melbourne Argus*. 23.10.07.

British New Guinea and Papuans

ONE of the most desirable Australian stamps is the British New Guinea 2s. 6d., although so recently in issue. The reasons for this are somewhat peculiar (writes a correspondent).

From official sources it appears that the first 2s. 6d. stamp was issued on 18th January, 1905, the total number printed for the territory being 15,660. The exact number issued "unsurcharged" was 2250, including those used for revenue purposes, the number of which is not mentioned. The remaining 13,410 were all surcharged "Papua," about January, 1907, this being the name by which the territory is officially known. The chief post office is at Port Moresby; but as the principal mining and banking business comes through Samarai, at the extreme east, and as the total number of the old issue sold there was only 354, it is fair to assume that not more than 1000 have actually been used postally in the whole territory.

The reasons for the rarity of this stamp, especially in unused condition, are that very little attention was given to it at the time of issue, and there being no money-order system then in operation it was a difficult matter to remit small amounts to any British New Guinea post office. It had to be done by favour of some mercantile firm. Hence the dealers did not trouble about stocking this particular stamp when issued, and used copies were generally distributed by the recipients among private collectors.

The whole British New Guinea issue was suddenly surcharged, and it is not unreasonable to reckon that not more than about 100 copies exist in "mint" condition. Hence the fortunate possessors of this stamp, whether used or unused, have quite unwittingly secured a very good thing; for, no doubt, when once the facts are realized, the British New Guinea 2s. 6d. "without surcharge" will rise to a high figure in the stamp market.—*London Philatelist*, Nov. 1907.

Obliterating Portraits

WE learn from *Mekeel's Weekly* that President Escalon went out of office in March last, hence the obliteration of portrait on the stamps with Type 81. Thus history repeats itself; a similar thing occurred in 1895. It seems to be unlucky for the President of Salvador to put his portrait upon the stamps.—*The Monthly Journal*.

Philatelic Society Meetings

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, Esq., B.Sc.
Hon. Sec.: J. L. Eastwood, 169 Ferme Park Road, Crouch End,
London, N.
Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d. (no Entrance Fee).

THE most successful meeting in the history of this Society took place on Wednesday, 20th November, the attendance being a record one and taxing even the accommodation provided at the spacious headquarters.

Punctually at 7 p.m., the President (Mr. W. B. Edwards) took the chair and called for the minutes of the previous meeting which were duly read and confirmed.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:— E. J. Nankivell, Esq., F.R.P.S., of Tunbridge Wells, Capt. Sterling, R.N., South Kensington; G. H. Dannatt, Blackheath; Mr. J. Hoffmann, Bedford Park, W.; Mr. M. J. Elsbury, Walthamstow; Mr. H. A. Stephenson, London, E.C.; Mr. H. zur Nedden, Highbury; Mr. R. Patrick Thornton, Westbourne Park; Mr. R. Grace, junr., Finchley; Mr. B. Samson, Edgbaston; and Mr. D. S. Dorkin, Finsbury Park, N.

Mr. Meggy was voted the thanks of the Society for a donation to the Library.

A very fine selection of recent issues of stamps were passed round for inspection including a set of Transvaal "Postage Paid" (unused), and one of the new Cayman Islands Provisional issue.

The first item on the evening's programme was one by Mr. E. J. Nankivell, F.R.P.S.L., the well-known writer on Philately.

His subject was, "Stamp Albums and their Arrangement." The address, or lecture, as it really proved to be, was bright, interesting, and with instructive in the highest degree.

Many of those present, especially the younger members, must have gathered numerous points which they will be able to utilize to their advantage.

Mr. Nankivell divided his address under two headings. Dealing first with albums. The kind of album was a question, he said, always raised by "beginners."

To give an effective reply to that query it was always necessary to ask, "What are you going to collect?"

In these days specialism was answerable for much. If the young beginner means to specialize in one, two or three countries, and generalise in the rest of the world's stamps, the lecturer stated he always advised young people to take up a "Standard Album."

The tendency at the present day was for partial specialism and general collection at the same time.

With regard to "Blank Albums," Mr. Nankivell pointed out that the avoidance of friction was a very important matter. Chalky paper stamps were liable to be very quickly damaged and being printed with colours invariably prepared from "tar substances," the colouring matter very soon rubbed off.

Under these circumstances he had found an interleaving transparent paper an absolute necessity. The Japanese paper used for this purpose by some publishers had not proved a success.

He recommended that the interleaved sheet should be affixed on the left hand side of the page to be protected.

"Arrangement of Stamps," was Mr. Nankivell's second heading.

He strongly deprecated the arrangement of used and unused stamps on one page. The mixing of stamps in that way completely spoiled the appearance of an album.

His advice to collectors who were specializing in any particular country was on one page to arrange the unused specimens of a complete issue, on the next page any varieties, and on the following pages to have blocks and pairs of unused specimens of the same issue, to be followed by a similar arrangement of used specimens.

He, Mr. Nankivell, had not forgotten the great opposition he had met with in his views as to the collecting of used and unused stamps, but he still thought that an album on the lines he suggested was much more interesting to the average collector than was a collection of used stamps only.

In passing he referred to the great use of dated stamps as a means of ascertaining the order in which various shades of the same stamp were issued.

The fixing of the mounting hinges he always advised should be on the left hand side of the stamp instead of on the top as was the almost universal custom. There was less likelihood of damage to a stamp fixed in the way he suggested, as it closed down in the same way as the leaf itself.

He did not agree with many collectors who, pending the acquiring of stamps in good condition, were content to fill up blank spaces with copies not even passably fair. He objected altogether to have badly centred stamps, or even faded specimens. Personally he would wait two or three years rather than fill up a space with a bad copy.

Mr. Nankivell concluded his excellent address by referring to the question of the pricing of stamps. He thought the numerous auctions now held all over the country had gone a long way towards establishing an open market price for stamps. But there were risks even in purchasing or selling at auctions.

How far collectors can band together to counter the rings of dealers at auctions was perhaps a matter for the future.

A short discussion followed the debate and Mr. Nankivell kindly answered some queries raised by some of the members.

The president in a few short sentences proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Nankivell for his very interesting address and for his trouble in coming to London for the purpose.

This was seconded by Mr. J. Read Burton, F.R.P.S.L. (Vic -President) and was carried with acclamation.

In reply Mr. Nankivell was good enough to express his very agreeable surprise at the large number of members present and to observe the apparent happy family tone which seemed to pervade the meeting.

The last item on the programme was a competitive Display of Australia and Tasmania (Limited to 25 stamps total catalogue value not exceeding £7).

The display was a very fine one and the judging a matter of great difficulty. The voting resulted as follows:—

- 1st: Mr. A. H. L. Giles, 471 marks.
- 2nd: Mr. H. W. Westcott, 341 "

The Hon. Sec. will be pleased to afford all information to prospective members on receipt of a post card.

Leeds Philatelic Society

President: W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L.
Hon. Secretary: C. W. Harding, 1 Marlborough Grove, Leeds.
Meetings: Tuesdays, Leeds Institute, Cookridge Street.
Annual Subscription: 5s.

At the meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on the 19th inst., Mr. W. Martello Gray, F.R.P.S.L., gave a display of his fine collections of the postal issues of Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, and British East Africa. Needless to say, these favourite countries proved an attraction. The President, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S., occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The embossed Queen's head stamps of Gambia were first issued imperforate without watermark in 1869, then with the watermark Crown C.C. in 1874, the 4d. brown and 6d. blue being the only values required until 1880 when a set consisting of 1d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. was issued on paper watermarked as before, perforated 14. In 1886 the watermark was Crown C.A. with a new issue, which included an additional value, 2½d. In 1898 the well-known De La Rue design took the place of the handsome stamp with white embossed head, and the same design was used also for the King's head issue of 1902, with additional values 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., and 3s. The stamps of this country are in brilliant colours, and the imperforate issues, as well as the perforated issues of 1874, are very rare. Mr. Gray showed some magnificent copies of the early issues with good margins, both used and unused, and the more recent omissions were shown in large blocks for many of the values. The Lagos and Gold Coast stamps were grandly represented: there were to be seen such rarities as an unused pair of the 5s. and a 10s. Lagos, also unused of the 1884 issue—extremely rare; King's head set up to 10s. single C.A. watermark, mint, and many others. In Gold Coast, all the issues from 1875 were fully represented by mostly mint stamps, a notable rarity being the 1d. blue perf. 14, issued in 1883 on "Crown C.A." paper.

The *bonne bouche*, however, was reserved to the last, when Mr. Gray's unique collection of British East Africa stamps was placed on the table. Some years ago, he was fortunate enough to interest himself in these stamps, which have since gone up tremendously in value, many varieties in Mr. Gray's possession being practically unobtainable at the present time. The following are among the greater rarities shown: the ½s., 1s., and 4 annas, surcharged on stamps of Great Britain in 1890, used and unused; the "Light and Liberty" issue of 1890-1891; several varieties of the perforated issue imperforate between the stamps some horizontally and some vertically; the 4 annas grey imperforate; most of the rare provisionals, hand stamped in violet and initialed in black, issued in 1891, including the 1 on 4 annas, and others, some on original letters.

There were also to be seen almost all of the rare issue of 1895 under the Imperial Administration, which consisted of the preceding stamps being overprinted "British East Africa" in three lines; the 2½s. on 4 annas purple of 1895; the complete set of 1895, 5s. to 5 rupees, surcharged "British East Africa," in the contemporary stamps of India, with varieties of printers' type, and those issues of 1897 surcharged on Zanzibar stamps, including the 2½ on 1, and 2½ on 3 annas, rare types; the regular issue of 1896 from ½s. to 5 rupees, new design, and the larger design of 1897 for the higher values, 1 rupee up to 50 rupees, all in mint state, or in fine used condition.

Mr. Gray was heartily thanked for his extensive display of stamps of such rarity and distinction, and also for his interesting remarks relating to the issues.

Some of the members brought collections, and several novelties were shown including East Africa and Uganda, cents issue, 3c. to 50c., St. Vincent, ½d. and 1d., new design.

Mr. Percy F. Wilcock, of Leeds, was elected a new member.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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How Readers can Help us

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us. Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages. It is the revenue which we derive from our advertisers that enables us to provide a high-class and expensive weekly. If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements. If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us. Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a post card for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Black Cat Cigarettes, Swiss Variety

It is very evident that a great many readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP smoke "Black Cat Cigarettes," and that the makers of those cigarettes have been enclosing in their boxes a philatelic poser. Here is a sample of the consequent letters I have been receiving:—

"I recently found attached to a coupon in a packet of "Black Cat" Cigarettes, a Swiss stamp of the value of 5c. I have been often in Switzerland for a good many years, but do not remember such a stamp. It is, I think, exactly the same in design as the present 5c. stamp, but is of a deep pink colour all over. What can you tell me about this stamp? Is it genuine?"

I really cannot say what this puzzle is. The 5c. stamp is green, not pink. A friend suggests that it may have been affected by the cigarettes and got to blushing pink at finding itself in such an unphilatelic atmosphere.

H. C. F. (Forest Hill, S.E.). The Shakespeare Commemorative stamps sold at the Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon, can have no philatelic value as they have no postal franking power. They are simply advertisement labels in the shape of a postage stamp. The initials "D.P." overprinted on the stamp of Hong Kong are the initials of the principal local newspaper, the *Daily Press*. There is an excellent book in Swedish on the stamps of Sweden but I know of none in any other language. A translation of the Swedish work was started in the *American Journal of Philately*, but that journal ceased publication after two or three chapters only had been published.

H. A. (Filton). Your report could not possibly have got into the number you expected, and in any case it must take its turn with other reports in times of pressure on our space as we cannot set apart more than one page of small type for the reports of philatelic societies.

L. L. (Devizes). I don't know that Sicilian stamp of yours. It cannot be a postage stamp anyway. Fiscals are of course of value to collectors of fiscals, but not to postage stamp collectors. Stamps overprinted "Specimen" are not worth more than about one eighth to one quarter the price of the average unused stamp. The Transvaal V.R.I. stamp is one of the war provisionals, and is of course a recognised series which preceded the regular issue of King's head stamps. The 1½d. Jamaica stamp of the arms type is a fiscal. It has been used for postal purposes, and figures in the catalogues as a postal fiscal. The leading New Issue services are Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, R. W. H. Peckitt, 47 Strand, W.C., Ewen, 32 Palace Square, Norwood, S.E., and Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., are the leading New Issue service dealers. Peckitt's terms are the lowest, i.e. 10% over face. You will note that Mr. Poole's slip has been corrected.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 13. Vol. 1

28 DECEMBER, 1907

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Australian Commonwealths at Last!



THE practical Committee appointed by the Federal authorities to solve the question of the new postage stamps has quickly come to conclusions.

There is to be a gorgeous series right away. It is to be a series uniform for all the States, but each State is to have its own name on its own series, so that although there will be uniformity

of design, there will continue to be separate stamps for each State for some time to come.

The stamps are to bear the portrait of King Edward VII, and are to be of the very best workmanship, something in steel to rival the beautiful series engraved by Waterlow for New Zealand.

And, again, the stamp collector is to pay the piper. It is coolly reckoned that he will buy enough of the first issue to pay the cost of the most expensive plates. And he will.

Trinidad: Postage Due Rubbish

"The Postmaster of Trinidad writes us officially under date of 1st Nov. (1907) that 'Postage Due Stamps will now be supplied to the public cancelled.'"

Such is the degrading announcement made in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* of 7th Dec., 1907.

If we had a real live and influential Philatelic Society, backed up by Dealers, it would soon put an end to this sort of scandal.

Wanted, a Society of Collectors and Dealers

Indeed, I am inclined to think that what we want is a strong and International Philatelic Society of Collectors and Dealers for mutual protection. The ordinary philatelic Society is not worth a tinker's curse as a protective society. I don't know one that possesses either the ability or the energy to raise even the feeblest protest against this deliberate milking of stamp collectors. For mutual admiration and the

cultivation of amusing fossils they are all that can be desired, but for aggressive work they are practically useless. They sadly need hybridising.

A Sign of the Times

A very hopeful sign of the times is the recognition that stamp collecting is winning for itself in the newspaper press of this country. The self-respecting editor of a respectable journal no longer cares to expose himself to ridicule by entrusting the leading clown on his staff with the work of sneering at stamp collecting. The public is now so well informed and so largely sympathetic with stamp collecting that the newspaper jackass is no longer set to bray at stamp collecting as harmless lunatics afflicted with a craze.

Intelligent Newspaper Sympathy

Here is the latest sample of the development of intelligent newspaper sympathy with stamp collecting. I cull it from a leader in the *Daily Express* of 11th Sept., 1907:—

"It is now generally recognised that stamp collecting is not a fad, but a hobby. Firstly, they are works of art—engravings in miniature. Next, they are a kind of national coinage. Next they have an historical value of their own. The rise and fall of contemporary nations are clearly delineated in their stamps. Yet again, they are object-lessons in geography. And lastly, they have the charm of comparative rarity. The boy who collects stamps has necessarily a far better knowledge of the world, its towns, its coinage, and its rulers, than the boy who does not. He is also more likely to be happy and contented, for within the two covers of his album he has a never-failing source of enjoyment. Parents should encourage and assist their sons in their pursuit of this hobby as their means will allow. Apart from the artistic and educational side of Philately, it should not be forgotten that there is a profitable side. The collection which costs him ten pounds in boyhood may easily be worth thirty pounds when the boy becomes a man."

The New Gibbons: Rare Edition.

By some strange oversight in the Gibbons Establishment the back of the cover of Part II of the new edition of *Gibbons' Catalogue* contained an advertisement of *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* with Mr. E. J. Nankivell's name still figuring as its editor. Some 5000 copies were printed off before the error was discovered, then it was corrected. What price for the first edition with the error?

Treherne Forgeries: Sentence

Young Treherne has been fined £15 and costs on the prosecution of the Inland Revenue for having in his possession dies for making fictitious stamps. I quote the report of the case from the *Daily Telegraph*:—

"From statements made at Brighton Police-court yesterday, Mr. Cecil Simpson, solicitor to the Inland Revenue Office, the recent prosecution against a young man named Harold Treherne for obtaining money by means of representations as to the genuineness of certain stamps (to which he pleaded guilty, and now awaits sentence at the Quarter Sessions) has assumed great importance.

"Treherne was summoned by the Revenue authorities in thirteen separate instances for contravening the Post Office Protection Act, 1884, by having in his possession on August 1 last dies for making fictitious stamps. The specific stamps were 6d. Western Australian, 2d. Western Australian and South Australian, half-anna India, four-anna India, one-anna India, 6d. Victoria, 3d. Victoria, 1d. Victoria, Duttia, St. Christopher, Charkari, and Transvaal.

"In the course of his statement to the Bench, Mr. Simpson stated that these proceedings were reciprocal to proceedings which were being taken on Great Britain's behalf and on behalf of our Government by other nations on the Continent and in Germany. A number of dies were seized, and persons were prosecuted there for a similar offence. In Turin an attempt was made to prosecute for another offence, but the suspect escaped. The case was, therefore, of international importance. Nearly all the dies were out of date so far as the issue of stamps was concerned, but there were many of them in the hands of certain members of the public, and there were a great many being used for stamp-collecting purposes as valuable. Two years ago defendant was employed as a clerk at an office in Ship Street, Brighton. Afterwards he took to having dies printed. There were 447 dies altogether. He traded under a great number of names and addresses. When Detective-Superintendent Wood took him into custody defendant said, 'You will find all you want in my room.'

"The Inland Revenue authorities regarded the seizure as a haul of the largest stamp factory in this country. At the former trial it was hinted that there might be someone else behind defendant. Mr. Simpson had read a certain number of letters and a great number of bills, from which it appeared that the defendant was the man who had been ordering these dies from certain zincographers in London, and that the authorities had letters to him, and bills, which had been seized. The dies found in his possession were first of all obtained by him, and he not only had them made by zincographers in London, but he had been warned he was doing wrong.

"Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined £15 and costs, or a month, on the first summons, and the costs in the other cases."

A Significant Point

The significant point in the case is the welcome announcement that the action taken by the Inland Revenue is "reciprocal to proceedings which were being taken on Great Britain's behalf and on behalf of our Government by other nations on the Continent and in Germany," to put a stop to the forgeries of postage stamps.

For a great many years Stamp Collectors and Dealers have borne the brunt of protecting the Postal Revenues of the world from forged stamps.

Now, apparently they will have the assistance of the authorities concerned, and rightly so, for the scoundrel who defrauds the Collector and Stamp Dealer finds the Postal Official even easier prey. The discovery by Mr. Nissen a few years ago of large numbers of forgeries of the shilling stamp of Great Britain is a case in point. These forgeries escaped detection so long as they were confined to payments for telegraphic purposes, and they probably passed muster by the thousand.

Collectors, Dealers and Post Office, we are all in the same boat, and must act together, and be ever on the watch, if we are to efficiently protect ourselves from the astute forger.

Collector and Dealer Detectives

But there should be some more efficient help and protection than there is on the part of the Inland Revenue and Post Office. The sole and only efficient Detective of forgeries of Postage Stamps is the Specialist Collector and Expert Dealer, and there should be a more generous official recognition of services rendered. It is probably true that many forgeries are made solely for sale to Collectors and Dealers, but it is also true that the Postal Official is much more easily duped than the ever wary philatelist, and would, in all probability, be victimised to an unlimited extent but for the unremitting watchfulness of the Stamp Collector.

A Find of Modena and Tuscany Stamps

In the fore part of March, 1903, there was in Philadelphia a notable find of the stamps of Modena and Tuscany, amongst the old correspondence of the firm of Vito Viti & Son, importers. The full authentic account of this important find is herewith given.

Of the first issue of Modena there were nine of the 5c., seventy-seven of the 10c., twenty-seven of the 15c., fifty-two of the 25c., one hundred and eighty-seven of the 40c., and one hundred of the scarce 1 lira.

Of the first issue of Tuscany there was one of the 1s., forty-five of the 1c., twelve of the 2c., nine of the 4c., twenty-one of the 6c., one hundred and eighty of the 9c., and eight of the 60c. Of the Provisional Government issue there were two of the 20c., sixteen of the 40c., and two of the 80c.

All of the above stamps, both of Modena and Tuscany, were in various combinations used on the original covers with letters attached, and consisted of 254 covers in all. There were some of the scarce errors of spelling in the first issue of Modena, and two horizontal strips of three of the 1 lira, and amongst the Tuscan stamps there were two unsevered pairs of the 60c. There was also a good selection of early Italian stamps, and taking it all in all, it was the most important find of these scarce and interesting stamps that has occurred in recent years. The correspondence had fallen into the hands of a dealer in old paper, and was rescued by the finder just in the nick of time to prevent it from going to the pulp mill. Every letter with the accompanying stamp was in a fine state of preservation, having been folded and endorsed at the time of receipt, and having rested all these years in the original packages until they fell into the hands of the finder.

—*Meek's Weekly.*

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 166.)



No. 89902

I HAVE a block of the ½d. New Zealand, current type, printed on Cowan paper, taken from the upper right-hand corner of a sheet, which is numbered "130808." From this I infer that either all the sheets of the current low values are numbered or that all the sheets of paper supplied by Messrs. A. Cowan & Co. were numbered before being despatched to the Colony.

South Australia furnishes us with examples of sheets numbered before the stamps are printed. These are numbered in red in the top right-hand corner in the following style, "3d. 580613," the value of the stamps to be printed on any particular supply of paper being placed before the sheet number.

1d 646581



It is an excellent idea in theory and properly carried out would act as an efficient check on every sheet of watermarked paper sent to the printing establishment. In actual practice, however, the authorities are not so careful for stamps of one value printed on paper of another denomination—our illustration showing an 8d. stamp printed on a sheet of "penny" paper, numbered "646581," is an illuminating example—are fairly often met with.

(To be continued)

The Meaning of Marginal Numbers

Dear Sir,

In your issue of 7.12.07 (page 141) I read as follows:—

Marginal contract or account letters and numbers are only found on the sheets of the current ½d. and 1d. stamps, and the last issue Queen's head 1d. lilac, ½d. vermilion, and ½d. green stamps of Great Britain. It was at one time presumed that these varieties were practically the same as plate numbers. According to Messrs. Wright & Creeke's work on British stamps, however, these letters are engraved on the plates to assist the contractors in keeping an account of the production of the stamps. . . .

May I point out that the real character of these letters was explained long before Messrs. Wright & Creeke's work was published? In my first catalogue of British stamps which I published in July 1893 (whilst still at school) there is a note on page 16 as follows:—

Control Letters. These do not refer to the plates from which the stamps are printed, but to the "number of stamps printed."

I do not know who first called them "Control" letters; the term probably dates back several years before I commenced to deal in stamps.

I believe that Messrs. Wright & Creeke's statement that the control or contract letter is engraved on the plates is inaccurate. The following is my theory of the use of the letters (originally published in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*—31.12.04).

Control Letters and Marks.—Whilst looking over the editorial collection of control letters and marks, a new explanation of the meaning of the letters occurred to us. We were examining strips all showing exactly the same secret marks, when we happened to notice that the relative position of the "D₄" differed slightly on the sheets. It is obvious therefore that the letter and figure could not be part of the plate nor even fixed in or near it, as we believe has been generally supposed. A further examination of different strips showed that exactly the same minute defects in the letters occur on stamps obviously printed from different plates. There is therefore no alternative but to suppose that the letter is printed on the sheets at a second operation, after the large printed sheets have been cut into post office sheets of 240. A further examination shows that the D₄ is frequently slightly embossed, which although it proves nothing by itself, helps to indicate that it is struck separately. Why should the printers go to the trouble of printing this letter on every sheet? Even if the printing machine prints, cuts and letters the sheets at one operation, it means a more complex machine and consequently more expense.

The only reply which readily suggests itself is that a small "tell-tale" numbering machine is affixed to the printing press and every sheet which passes under it is numbered and receives the imprint D₄ as a sign that it has been numbered. No doubt the mechanism of the tell-tale is such that the D₄ cannot be struck without adding "1" to the number on the dial; consequently the presence of the D₄ is evidence that the sheet has been counted, whilst its absence shows at least that there has been some irregularity which requires investigation. As soon as a fixed number of sheets are printed (perhaps 5,000,000—it is difficult to judge) the letter is changed. On one occasion, no one seems to have been watching the dial on the numbering machine as too many 1d. Queen's Head stamps were printed with the letter N and had afterwards to be re-lettered O (a well-known error and an exceedingly rare one). Why do the ½d. stamps have control letters with serifs and the 1d. stamps control letters without? It is obvious that this distinction is not made without reason, and the reason at once suggests itself. When the 1d. plates were taken from press and ½d. ones substituted, the numbering machine would require readjustment. But if this was forgotten, the control letters would not draw attention to the fact unless they were different. Lastly, why print the ½d. control letters at the left of the sheets and the 1d. ones at the right hand side? For what other reason than to avoid the trouble of frequently adjusting the numbering machine? It is probable there are now two machines, one of which is always disconnected. If they are both immovable, no mistake can be made without detection. The sheets must emerge either without a control letter, with the wrong letter, with both right and wrong or—with the right. There is thus an effective check against any mistake in counting, and if the printing press is so constructed that it cannot print unless one of the numbering machines is working, it is obvious no sheets can be printed without a record being kept of the fact.

Yours faithfully,

H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN.

Australians

An Account of the proceedings of the Board appointed to consider and report on the best methods to be adopted to secure a suitable issue for the Australian Commonwealth

THE members of the Commission began their deliberations in Melbourne on the 10th ult. It is a matter for regret that circumstances in the Civil Service, to which Mr. Basset Hull belongs, prevented that gentleman being present. Mr. W. A. Hull, as Secretary of the Sydney Philatelic Club, was asked at the last moment to take his brother's place, and perhaps a more suitable choice could not have been made, for, although Mr. Walter Hull lacks the mature experience of his elder brother, he had the unique advantage of access to his papers and the benefit of chats and conversations which no doubt helped him considerably in putting the views of philatelists before the Committee.

Just on the eve of going to press we have been favoured by Mr. Hull with an advance copy of the report and do not propose on the present occasion to criticise the recommendations nor to review the proceedings of the Board, but content ourselves by giving our readers at the earliest opportunity a synopsis of the report.

1. UNIFORMITY OF ISSUE

The Board advocates the desirability of securing at the earliest possible moment the issue of a Commonwealth series, and comments on the fact that the existing state of affairs is not only inconvenient and a source of irritation to the public, but also retards the realization of the true ideal of Federation. It refers to the difficulties of the book-keeping system and makes a suggestion whereby they may be overcome, and follows by recommending "That the issue be uniform throughout the Commonwealth without distinction as to States." In support of which it says that otherwise "a distinctive mark will have to be placed on the stamps of each State entailing the extra cost of printing 114 (instead of 19) different kinds of stamps." "As the new series would most likely not be ready for two years and the book-keeping period may expire about the same time," the difficulty in this connection would disappear.

2. CHARACTER OF ISSUE

The Board considers that for the credit of a country of such high standing as that of the Commonwealth of Australia it is essential to secure the best possible issue of stamps and therefore recommends (a) "That the character of the issue be the best of its kind that art, skill, machinery and the latest appliances can produce" (b) "That all the stamps be printed from steel plates." It refers to the greater cost of printing from steel plates as compared with electros and points to the likelihood that the increased sale (of the better article) would pay for the difference. This conclusion was arrived at as the result of figures supplied by Mr. Hull, who estimated that the monetary returns from sales to philatelists would amount to at least five times the difference between the cost of the steel plate and

that of the electro-plate. Mr. Hull in his supplementary report says:—

"The purchase of postage issues from all sources by four leading London dealers is probably over £300,000 per year. It is estimated that there are 5,000 collectors in Australia and over a million in the world. There are over 80 monthly philatelic journals, two fortnightly and one weekly published, and the new issue would be illustrated and advertised in these, and the demands for the new issue would come from collectors in all parts of the civilized world."

The Board gives other reasons in support of these recommendations, first, "That other methods are unsatisfactory; second, that the only practical security against forgery is the fineness and excellence of the engraving and the finest printing, which can only be obtained by the use of steel plates; third, that a highly artistic issue will furnish an excellent, if not indeed the best advertisement obtainable by the Commonwealth."

A very important paragraph reads as follows:— "While expressing neither approval nor disapproval of the philatelic art, and while assuming that it is undesirable to seek revenue from stamp dealers and collectors, it must be admitted that Philately is a fact, and that the resultant advertisement and profits, though unsought, are none the less real, thus apart from the advertisement which has an actual though not determinable money value, the returns from sales to philatelists, provided the issue be of the finest character, will, according to Mr. Hull's estimate, amount to probably £40,000 during the first year of issue, and £20,000 annually thereafter. These figures, however, would be reduced by probably more than half the amount if the issue be of an inferior character, and the Board expresses the opinion that the use of the electro-plate process would be false economy."

3. DENOMINATIONS OF STAMPS

The Board recommends that all the values now in use be issued in all the States and that they shall be as follows:—½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 10d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., 20s., and 40s.

4. DESIGN, COLOUR AND SIZE

In order to secure variety, with the view of making the several denominations easily distinguishable from each other, the Board recommends

(a) That the postage stamps be divided into three groups as follows:—

- Group 1. ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d.
 2. 10d., 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d.
 3. 5s., 10s., 20s., and 40s.

(b) That the colours and sizes be arranged and distributed as follows:—

Group 1. Size 18½ × 22 millimetres (upright).

Design A. ½d. dark green (blue green).
5d. purple brown.

" B. 1d. crimson red,
3d. dark olive green.
9d. warm (red) sepia.

" C. 1½d. burnt sienna.
2½d. dark blue (Prussian).
6d. orange vermillion.

" D. 2d. rich mauve.
4d. ultramarine blue.
8d. pink.

Group 2. Size 22 × 27 millimetres (upright).

Design E. 10d. rich mauve.
1s. rich green.
2s. dark blue (Prussian).
2s. 6d. carmine.

Group 3. Size 22 × 34 millimetres (oblong).

Design F. 5s. rich mauve.
10s. rich brown.
20s. rich green.
40s. dark blue.

5. COMPETITIVE AND OTHER DESIGNS

The Board recommends (a) That competitive designs be invited throughout the world (b, c, and d are unimportant in the present instance; they refer mostly to non-competitive designs.—Ed.);

(e) That the several designs should contain:—

1. A representation of the King's head or figure.
2. A representation of the Queen's head or figure.
3. (In lieu of 2) a representation of both the King's and the Queen's head on one of the larger designs.
4. Characteristic features of Australia.
5. An emblematical head or figure, for which the second size is especially adapted.

In the designs submitted the words "Australia" and "Postage" as also the face value of the stamp (numbers to be shown in Arabic figures, or in both figures and letters) must appear.

(f). unimportant.—Ed.).

6. PRIZES AND PAYMENTS

The Board recommends that designs be returnable within six months, and that a sum of £600 be paid in prizes on a scale set forth, whether the designs be used or not.

8. ADJUDICATION OF DESIGNS

The Board recommends that the Board chosen to adjudicate on the design should consist of:—

- (a) A representative of Art.
- (b) A representative of Philately.
- (c) A representative of Printing.
- (d) A representative of Engraving.
- (e) An officer of the Postmaster-General's Department.

9. WATERMARKING

The Board recommends that postage-stamp paper be procured, lightly watermarked "Commonwealth of Australia Postage Stamps," repeated on the sheet in large letters in such a manner that a portion of a letter may fall on each stamp.

10. PERFORATIONS

The Board recommends "That the perforations should be done by machines of uniform gauges, say 12½ holes in the length of two centimetres." It is considered to be the best. It also secures uniform perforation with which officials may become familiarised and thus assist in the detection of fraud.

11. FORGERY, CANCELLING, FUGITIVE INKS, ETC.

(This is dealt with in a confidential report.—Ed.).

12. PRINTING

The advantages of having all of the stamps for the proposed new issue printed in one office under the supervision of an expert stamp printer are too obvious to need more than mention, greater efficiency, reduced cost of production, better and more uniform results, safety to the Department in supervision, etc.

The Board therefore recommends: "That with a view to secure the best class of work and to provide against variations in printing, and also to permit of better supervision, the postage-stamp printing be done in one office under the supervision of an expert stamp printer."

13. REMAINING STOCKS, MASTER DIES AND PLATES

Since it has already been determined by the Department that the stamps issued to the public shall under no circumstances be demonitized, and therefore that remaining stocks cannot be sold to philatelists at less than their face value, as has been elsewhere, and as it would lead to confusion if there were concurrent issues of State and Commonwealth stamps, the Board recommends "That when the Commonwealth issues of postage stamps are available at all post offices, the remaining stocks of States issues be withdrawn from issue and be destroyed under the most careful supervision. All plates to be destroyed, and master dies to be effectively defaced or destroyed under similar supervision."

14. POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

For the purpose of securing uniformity, the Board recommends "That one issue of postage stamps be used for the whole commonwealth, of design similar to the stamp used in Victoria, but each stamp to bear the name "Australia" instead of that of any particular State.

In conclusion, the Board is confident that if the foregoing recommendations are given effect to, the proposed new issue will not only facilitate the working of the Postal Department and prove a convenience to the public, but will be, in every sense, worthy of the Commonwealth.—From the *Australian Philatelist*, Nov., 1907.

The Rise of Stamp-Issuing Countries

BASED ON STANLEY GIBBONS' LATEST CATALOGUE.

A Paper read before the Transvaal Philatelic Society, 13th August, 1907. By John A. Ornstien.

SO much has been written and said of late of the difficulty, nay, almost impossibility, of making a good collection of the whole world unless one is a "Great Mogul," on account of the large number of countries collectable and the diversity of their issues, that I think that a few remarks on the rise of stamp-issuing countries may be of interest to you.

At the outset I had to face the difficulty of what to exclude and what to include, and finally decided that each State and Colony should be counted as one.

Where a State has been split up or incorporated in another, I have counted each separately. For example, British Columbia and Vancouver are counted as one until 1865 when they were divided, and after that they are counted as two. It is on this basis that my figures are arranged.

I have omitted the three Mexican and sixteen Peru States which issued stamps for a very brief period only.

It is unnecessary for me to tell you all the details of the introduction of stamps, by Sir Rowland Hill, as Mr. Hawley, in his very excellent paper on the stamps of Great Britain, went into the matter fully.

The first stamps to be issued were by Great Britain in 1840, followed in March, 1843, by Switzerland, and later in the same year by Brazil. United States started in 1846 and Mauritius in the following year. After these the countries follow fast and furious, until, with the latest one—British Solomon Islands, first issued this year—they now aggregate 310 for the whole world, past and present; 130 of which belong to Great Britain and Colonies, and the balance, 180, to the rest of the world.

At the present time there are 243 stamp-issuing countries, 93 of which belong to Britain and Colonies, and the balance, 150, are foreign.

Coming now to our own part of the world, the Cape of Good Hope first issued stamps in 1853, St. Helena in 1856, Natal in 1857, O.R.C. in 1868, Transvaal in 1869, Bechuanaland in 1886, Zululand in 1888, B.S.A. and B.E.A. in 1890, B.C.A. in 1891 and Lorenzo Marques in 1894.

In the decade	1840-9	3 British and	6 Foreign Countries start.
"	1850-9	20	" 44
"	1860-9	26	" 29
"	1870-9	22	" 25
"	1880-9	23	" 23
"	1890-9	21	" 38
"	1890-7	16	" 15

Thus it will be seen that the greatest number of the whole world started in one decade is 64 in 1850-9.

The greatest number of British started in one year is six, in 1861 and also in 1886, and the greatest number of foreign in one year is twelve, in 1892.

The greatest number of the whole world started in one year is 15, in 1892.

Only in one year since 1846 has there been no new stamp-issuing country started, viz:—in 1892.

Great Britain and Colonies own 41.9% of the stamp-issuing States of the world, past and present, and 38.2% of the present stamp-issuing States. France comes next with 11.9% of the past and present and 15.3%

of the present stamp-issuing States. Germany owns 8.7% of the past and present and 4.9% of the present stamp-issuing States. This falling off is due to so many of its States now using the general issues of the German Empire.

Portugal owns 6.4% of the past and present and 7.8% of the present stamp-issuing States.

Europe has 6 British and 55 Foreign stamp-issuing States.

Asia	"	48	"	16	"	"	"
Africa	"	30	"	52	"	"	"
America	"	30	"	51	"	"	"
Oceania	"	16	"	6	"	"	"

Before bringing this paper to a close, I wish to give you some figures which I have taken from the latest *Philatelic Record*. They represent the number of stamps issued in the world up to the end of 1906, without taking into account paper, perforation, shades, watermarks, etc.

1840-4	..	21	stamps.
1845-9	..	45	"
1850-4	..	277	"
1855-9	..	461	"
1860-4	..	823	"
1865-9	..	906	"
1870-4	..	1042	"
1875-9	..	1164	"
1880-4	..	1382	"
1885-9	..	1416	"
1890-4	..	2766	"
1895-9	..	3004	"
1900-4	..	4595	"
1905	..	697	"
1906	..	782	"

19,181 stamps.

Number of Stamps Issued

An interesting table is published by *Le Journal des Philatelistes*, showing the number of stamps issued through a number of periods from 1840 to 1906. These figures take an account of differences in paper, watermarks, shades, or sizes of perforations:—

1840 to 1844	..	..	21
1845 to 1849	..	..	45
1850 to 1854	..	..	277
1855 to 1859	..	..	461
1860 to 1864	..	..	823
1865 to 1869	..	..	906
1870 to 1874	..	..	1042
1875 to 1879	..	..	1164
1880 to 1884	..	..	1382
1885 to 1889	..	..	1416
1890 to 1894	..	..	2766
1895 to 1899	..	..	3004
1900 to 1904	..	..	4595
1905	..	..	697
1906	..	..	582

Total 19181

—Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, 7.12.07.

The Arms of Denmark

A DANISH work, "*Salmonsens Konversations-Leksikon*," gives the following interesting information about the Arms of Denmark:—

Up to the commencement of the fourteenth century, the Royal Arms and those of the kingdom of Denmark consisted only of three Lions, passant, guardant, sometimes crowned and sometimes not, placed one above the other, in a shield which was often strewn with Dandelion leaves, or with hearts, as they might be called, one below the other on a red ground. The union with the northern kingdoms and the passing of the throne to Princes of a foreign line caused, in the periods that followed, the introduction of a larger number of changes into the shield, and there was great diversity in their use and in their arrangement.

As a general rule the same arrangement was adhered to as had been adopted for the titles of the king. Thus King Christian III had a shield divided into four quarters, with a *champagne* [or point, *i.e.* a division made by cutting off a portion at the bottom of the shield] containing:—1. The three Lions; 2. The Lion of the North, with the halberd; 3. The three Crowns (Arms of the Union); 4. The Gothic Lion over nine hearts; and in the *champagne* the dragon of the Wends. There was also an "over-all" [or escutcheon of pretence] likewise divided into quarters and bearing:—The two Lions of Schleswig; the Holly leaf of Holstein; the Swan of Stormarn; and the two Fasces of Oldenburg.

After the conquest of Dithmarse, King Frederick II altered the Arms thus:—The principal shield was not changed, but a central shield was placed upon it bearing, quarterly, the Arms of Schleswig, Holstein, Stormarn, and Dithmarse (a Horseman), whilst those of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst (a cross wavy) were introduced on an "overall."

A further change, less satisfactory from an heraldic point of view, was made by King Frederick IV, after the annexation of Southern Jutland. He removed the two Lions of Schleswig from the central shield, which was left divided into three portions only, and transferred them to the principal shield, which was then divided into four equal portions, the two lower of which were subdivided each into two smaller parts, bearing the Arms of the Union, Schleswig, the Goths, and the Wends, the two latter of which (though Royal Arms) were thus placed after Ducal Arms of Schleswig.

Finally, a fresh rearrangement took place when King Frederick VI, on the conclusion of the peace of 1814, thought himself obliged to give up the Lion of the North, and in the year 1819 gave to the arms of his country the form which they still retain:—Upon a principal shield is placed a central shield, and upon this again is placed an "over-all." The principal shield is divided by the white Cross with a red border of the Danebrog into four main divisions, which bear:—1. The three crowned Lions, in *blue*, surrounded by nine *red* Hearts on a *gold* ground; 2. Two *blue* Lions on a *gold* ground (for Southern Jutland); 3. Divided in half horizontally, in the upper part the three *golden* Crowns, two over one, on a *blue* ground; in

the lower part, divided vertically, at left a stock fish in *silver* on a *red* ground (for Iceland); at right, again divided horizontally, a *white* Ram above (for the Faroe islands), a *white* Bear below (for Greenland), both on a *blue* ground; 4. Also divided in half horizontally, in the upper half a *blue* Lion over nine *red* Hearts, four, three, and two, on a *gold* ground (for the Goths), and in the lower half a crowned Dragon in *gold* on a *red* ground (for the Wends). The whole ground of the central shield is red, and it is divided into four quarters:—1. The *silver* Holly leaf of Holstein, in the centre of which is a small triangular shield divided horizontally, the upper half *silver*, the lower *red*, with a *silver* nail pointing to each corner of the shield; 2. A *silver* Swan, with a *gold* crown round its neck (for Stormarn); 3. A Knight in *gold* armour, mounted on a *white* Horse, carrying a *blue* shield on which is a wavy Cross in *gold*, and brandishing his sword (for Dithmarse); and 4. A Horse's head in *gold* (for Lauenburg). Finally, the "over-all" is divided in half vertically, and bears:—1. Two *red* beams on a *gold* ground (for Oldenburg); 2. A *gold*, wavy Cross on a *blue* ground (for Delmenhorst). [The Arms thus described are shown in their proper colours in the book by O. Koefoed on the stamps of Denmark.—Ed. M. J.] The "over-all" is supported by two Savages with clubs, and around it hang the chains of the order of the Danebrog and the order of the Elephant with the insignia of those orders.

The whole Coat-of-arms is placed upon a Royal Mantle, of *purple* lined with ermine, with *golden* streamers, the upper part forming a tent over the Arms and bearing a Royal Crown on the top.—*The Monthly Journal*, Nov., 1907.

Indian Stamps overprinted "C.E.F."

It may not be generally known that it was to checkmate the heathen Chinese, and protect the Indian Post Office from a similar little speculation, that the Indian stamps supplied for the use of our troops in the Pekin Legation troubles were overprinted with the initials "C.E.F.," *i.e.*, China Expeditionary Force. If they had not been so overprinted the cute heathen Chinese would have started a roaring trade in the profit to be made on the margin of exchange values between China and India.

This "C. E. F." series, by the way, is a very interesting one from the historical point of view. It marks the date of the Boxer outbreak of 1900, with its murderous attack on the foreign Legations, and the entry into Pekin of a relieving force of European troops. As in the final settlement with China every single foreign power was granted the right of maintaining a permanent Legation guard, these "C. E. F." stamps may be accepted as the first issue of a permanent series of stamps.

So far they are free from varieties, for the specialist has not as yet found a single genuine variety. At present the series consists solely of Queen's Heads. Later on these will, of course, be superseded by King's Heads.—*Cornelius Wrinkle*.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 167.)

Baum and Dallas.—A firm of printers who produced the *Official Gazette* at Georgetown, British Guiana. In February, 1856, they set up and printed some 1c. and 4c. provisional stamps from the ordinary type they had on the premises. This 1c. is the rarest known stamp, only one copy being in existence.

Bavaria.—The second kingdom in size and population in the German Empire. It is divided into two unequal parts, the larger portion, comprising eleven-twelfths of the whole, being situated east of the Rhine between Bohemia, Austria, Switzerland, Würtemberg, Baden, Hesse-Darmstadt, Hesse-Nassau, and various Thuringian states. The smaller portion is on the west bank of the Rhine, between Alsace-Lorraine, Rhineland, and Hesse-Darmstadt. It has a total area of 28,885 square miles and a population exceeding six and a half millions. Its capital, Munich, has a population of more than half-a-million. Bavaria forms a hereditary constitutional monarchy, the legislative power being invested in the king and two legislative chambers. It contributes three *corps d'armée* to the forces of the German Empire, these having a peace footing of nearly 70,000 men. Though forming part of the Imperial army the Bavarian corps are numbered separately and administered independently. The postal administration of Bavaria is quite independent of that of the German Empire. Postage stamps were first issued on Nov. 1st, 1849.

Bayern.—The name by which the kingdom of Bavaria is known to its inhabitants and which, of course, appears on its postage stamps.

Bayer. Posttaxe.—An inscription, in old English type, appearing on the first unpaid letter stamp of Bavaria meaning "Bavaria. Postage due."

Bayr.—A contraction of the word "Bayern" appearing on the 1870 issue of the Postage due stamps of Bavaria.

B. C. A.—The first stamps used in British Central Africa—from 1891 to 1895—consist of the stamps of the British South Africa Company surcharged "B.C.A." These stamps were used in Northern Rhodesia and Nyassaland, but when special stamps were issued, their use was confined to the latter territory renamed the British Central Africa Protectorate.

B. C. M.—These initials, signifying "British Consular Mail," appear upon the stamps issued at Antananarivo, Madagascar, by the British Vice-Consul in March, 1884.

B. D.—An official surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874 and signifying "Barracks Department." These stamps were superseded in 1874 by the general official issues overprinted "O. S."

Beaufort House Essays.—The name given to certain essays or proposals of adhesive labels produced and suggested by Mr. Chas. Whiting prior to the introduction of postage stamps in 1840. The late Mr. Charles Whiting was a well-known printer with an establishment in Savoy, W.C., known as Beaufort House. In the specimens of bi-coloured labels, printed by the Congreve method, the name "Beaufort House" is introduced and the term "Beaufort House Essays" may be used in reference to these in particular or to Mr. Whiting's productions in general.

Beaumont.—One of the chief cities in the State of Texas, U.S.A., having a population of over 20,000. Special 10c. stamps were issued by the postmaster in 1861 to facilitate the prepayment of postage prior to the introduction of the general issues for the Confederate States.

Bechuanaland Protectorate.—A vast stretch of territory north of British Bechuanaland, South Africa, having an area of about 275,000 square miles. It is bounded on the east by the Transvaal, on the north by Rhodesia and the Zambesi, and on the west by German South West Africa. The population of about 200,000 is almost entirely a native one, the chief tribes being the Bakathla, under chief Lenchwe, the Bakweni, under chief Sepele, the Bangwaketsi, under chief Bathoen, the Bamalete, under chief Mokgosi, the Sekoma, under chief Batawana, and the Bamangwato, under the Christian and enlightened chief Khama. The High Commissioner for South Africa has the power of making laws by proclamation for the Protectorate, and he is represented by a Resident Commissioner. The headquarters of the Protectorate Administration are at Mafeking, Cape Colony. The Resident Commissioner superintends the native chiefs who rule under the tribal system. A hut-tax is collected and no licences for the sale of spirits are allowed. The principal European centres are Gaborone, Francistown, and Serowe, the capital, whither chief Khama and all his people recently moved from Palapye. Postage stamps were first issued in August, 1888.

Beckman's Post.—One of the semi-official postal businesses established in Charleston, U.S.A., in 1860. Special 2c. stamps were issued for the prepayment of postage on letters delivered within the district served by this post.

Belgie Posterijen.—An inscription appearing on the Belgium stamps of 1891-98 being the Flemish equivalent of "Postes Belgiques," which appears on the same labels. These words of course mean "Belgium Post."

Belgique.—The French designation of Belgium which appears on all the stamps of the country issued since 1869.

(To be continued)

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly used, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Lunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Austria. The much talked of issue of special designs of an historical cast type to celebrate the sixty years' reign of the present Emperor were issued on January 1st. They comprise seventeen values, ranging from 1 heller to 10 kronen, each stamp being of a separate design. Taking them in detail the list is made up as follows:—



1h. black, *Charles VI.*



2h. dark lilac, *Maria Theresa.*



3h. red brown, *Joseph II.*



5h. green, *Francis Joseph I.*



6h. yellow brown, *Leopold II.*



10h. light carmine, *Francis Joseph I.*



12h. vermilion, *Francis I.*



20h. dark brown, *Ferdinand I.*



25h. dark blue, *Francis Joseph I.*



30h. dark olive, *Francis Joseph I on his accession in 1848.*



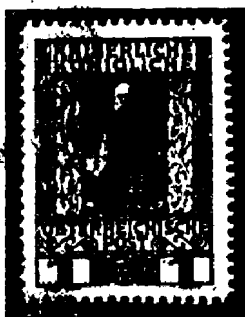
35h. dark slate blue, *Francis Joseph I in 1878.*



50h. dark green, *Francis Joseph I in marshall's uniform.*



60h. lake, *Francis Joseph on horseback.*



1kr. black violet, *Francis Joseph I in the uniform of the Order of the Golden Fleece.*



2kr. dark olive, portrait dark carmine.



5kr. dark violet, portrait dark olive yellow, *Imperial Palace (K. K. Hofburg).*



10kr. light brown, ornamentation in dark blue, and background in bright golden yellow, *Bust of Francis Joseph I.*

New South Wales (p. 27). In addition to the values already chronicled by us as having been issued on Victoria paper watermark with large crown and double-lined A, we have now received the 8d. and 10d. The 8d. is perf. 11 and the 10d. perf. 12.

Wmk. Crown and double-lined A. Victorian Paper.

- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 2d. light blue.
- 2½d. steel blue.
- 4d. brown.
- 6d. orange.
- 8d. magenta. *Perf. 12.*
- 9d. brown and blue.
- 10d. violet. *Perf. 11.*
- 1s. marone.

Orange River Colony. We have received the ½d. of the current King's head series printed on multiple C.A. paper, and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 4d. on the same paper.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

- ½d. green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 4d. olive green and carmine.

Salvador. A new set is thus described in the *Monthly Journal* :—

"A rather pleasing design, bearing a picture of the 'Palacio Nacional' in the centre, in *black*, with value on an engine-turned device (also in *black*) below, surrounded by a fancy frame in colour. The stamps are printed from plates engraved in *taille-douce*, on paper with a mottled surface on very *pale buff*, and apparently *chalky*. They are perf. 11½, and each is overprinted at the top with Type 81 in *black*."

No wmk. Perf.

- 1 c. green and black.
- 2 c. rose-red "
- 3 c. pale yellow and black.
- 5 c. deep blue "
- 6 c. vermilion "
- 10 c. mauve "
- 12 c. " "
- 13 c. dark brown "
- 24 c. rose "
- 26 c. light brown "
- 50 c. orange-yellow "
- 100 c. light blue "

Variety: Shield omitted.

2c. rose red and black.

Philatelic Society Meetings

The Junior Philatelic Society

President: *Fred. J. Melville.*

Hon. Sec.: *Arikur Selinger, 5, Paper Street, Redcross Street, E.C.*

Meetings: *The Ben Great Academy of Acting, 3 Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.*

Annual Subscription: *2s. 6d.*

Entrance Fee: *2s. 6d. No Entrance Fee for ladies or for juniors under 21.*

The second ordinary meeting of the Society was held on 19th Oct. at 3 Bedford Street, Strand.

The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society: Messrs. B. A. Clementson, Owen Fearnley, T. E. O. Kinealy, A. Myerscough, A. V. Payne, E. H. F. Salt, R. J. A. White. The resignation of Mr. C. M. Tomkinson was received with regret. Donations to the Forgery Collection were acknowledged from Messrs. Start Lovelace, and A. J. Sefi, and a donation to the Library from Mr. A. Selinger.

Mr. A. J. Sefi then gave his paper and display of the "Stamps of Cashmere," his collection of these quaint stamps was a very large one, showing some fine ranges of shades and a good number of uncatalogued varieties. Among the more interesting things, one noticed about fifty used copies of the 4 and 8 annas 1883 issue in reconstructed sheets, a splendid used pair of the ½ anna ultramarine 1878-79 printed in water colour on batonne paper, another stamp that caused a good deal of interest was the error ½ anna, 1883-94, printed in bronze-green instead of brown. The collection contained reconstructed sheets of nearly all values and issues, which were greatly admired and which called for a good deal of comment. As they were being viewed Mr. Sefi, in his paper, gave some interesting information concerning the nature and characteristics of Cashmere and its people, besides describing minutely the varieties of the stamps he was showing and illustrated his remarks with a number of enlargements of the various types of borders of the sheets of the stamps. Mr. Gibson, in proposing a vote of thanks, said that the stamps of Cashmere were most difficult to understand, and he considered it highly commendable in Mr. Sefi that he should have so successfully overcome the difficulties and formed such a magnificent collection. Mr. Lee seconded the vote of thanks and it was passed with enthusiasm.

Mr. C. Raymond Megson followed with a humorous paper entitled "Something or Other." His opening remarks, "Having lent half-a-crown to a stamp-collecting friend a week or so ago to enable him, as he said, to pay his subscription to the Junior Philatelic Society, and being nervous as to the worth of this paper, I felt it would only be an equitable arrangement for him to listen to this discourse in its then present stage and suggested this to him. He assented. I cleared my throat and commenced. He listened to two pages, and then said I could have my half-a-crown back again and he would owe his subscription," these remarks preparing us for a very enjoyable time. Waxing poetic, Mr. Megson said:

"Philately, you rule my life and roulette perfectly.
Since I wooed you to drive away dull care it is C.C.;
In you for every ill I. C.A. pana C.A. true,
Philately, were you to die I think I should die 2.

At the close, on the proposition of Mr. F. J. Melville, seconded by Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Megson for his very entertaining paper.

The third ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, 2nd Nov., at 3 Bedford Street, Strand.

After a successful auction, the President took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, Mr. C. G. Early and Mr. W. G. Campbell were unanimously elected members of the Society. A donation to the Forgery Collection was acknowledged from Mr. Gilbert Lodge.

Mr. Melville then read a telegram to be dispatched on behalf of the Society to the Leicester Philatelic Society on the occasion of their second exhibition, couched in the following terms: "The Juniors meeting to-night send cordial greeting and hope your exhibition has been a complete success."

Mr. S. R. Turner then gave a paper entitled "Some Imperforate Europeans," in which he advocated the collection of these, in preference to British Colonials, as in the majority of cases, they were not very expensive in used condition, and they offer some fine ranges of shades and possess some most interesting varieties to cheer the heart of the specialist. Mr. Turner illustrated his paper with the display of the imperforate stamps of Great Britain, Holland, France, Greece and Bavaria. His collection was rich in blocks and strips, and contained some nice shades of these stamps which were greatly admired by all present. At the close Mr. Gibson proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Turner, which was seconded by Mr. Halliday and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Melville then made an important announcement in connection with the forthcoming Exhibition in Caxton Hall, on 12th, 13th and 14th March next. He said that the Committee had to report that within a few hours of the publication of the trade circular all the stalls were let.

This so encouraged the Committee that they had seen their way to enlarge the Exhibition to nearly three times the size originally intended. They had booked, besides the Large Hall and suite of rooms, two other halls and another entire suite of rooms. The Exhibition will now cover an area of over 9,000 sq. ft. instead of 4,000, as originally planned. This announcement met with the applause of the entire meeting.

Mr. R. Halliday followed with a highly interesting paper entitled "Rails and Mails," in which he stated that as early as 1820 a Mr. Thomas Grey called the attention of the Government to the importance of establishing State Railways, one of his arguments in favour of that step being that the Post Office would then possess more efficient means of forwarding letters to all parts of the United Kingdom at a very trifling charge compared with the expense of mail coaches. Mr. Halliday explained fully the first introduction of the mail trains and the conveyance of mails by motor. At the close of this highly instructive and interesting paper Mr. Sefi proposed and Mr. Gibson seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Halliday, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Before the meeting closed a reply was received from the Leicester Philatelic Society, thanking us for our good wishes and announcing the great success of their Exhibition.

The Committee have pleasure in acknowledging the following donations to the Exhibition Expenses Fund:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	8	15	0
Humphrey Bennett, Esq. .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
Dr. Abbott .. .. .	..	..	0 10 6
Leon de Raay .. .. .	..	..	0 5 0
H. Heywood .. .. .	..	..	0 2 6
C. T. Francis .. .. .	..	..	0 2 0
Anon .. .. .	..	..	0 1 0
	£	10	17 0

Donations are urgently needed and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by Mr. H. F. Johnson, Exhibition Office, 44 Fleet Street, E.C.

The fourth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, Nov. 16th, at 3 Bedford Street, Strand. The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. G. E. Wells was unanimously elected a member of the Society. Donations to the Forgery Collection were acknowledged from Mr. Mullen and Mr. H. F. Johnson, and to the Library from Mr. Douglas Ellis.

The President mentioned that the omission had been made at the last meeting of a vote of thanks to Mr. Douglas Ellis for his kindness in providing a table for the displays. Mr. Melville now proposed this vote of thanks, which Mr. Johnson seconded, and which was unanimously carried.

Mr. W. E. Lincoln then gave us a paper and display on "Minor Varieties of Engraving on Postage Stamps." He explained that he did not intend to describe errors of engraving, confining himself to differences in engraved stamps and re-engravings of the same design. Mr. Lincoln gave us a splendid display of these varieties and fully explained the minor differences by which they could be detected, each country was taken in alphabetical order and where re-engravings exist each variety was shown. A great deal of interest was taken in Mr. Lincoln's remarks, which cleared away a number of the difficulties which present themselves to young collectors. A vote of thanks to Mr. Lincoln for his highly instructive and interesting paper was proposed by Mr. Gilbert Lodge, seconded by Mr. Pitman, and carried with acclamation.

Mr. H. Clark next gave us a paper entitled "World Wide Philately," in which he spoke of the universal nature of Philately, and the spirit of friendship and brotherly love which exists among its devotees. He spoke of the many pleasant and valuable friendships it leads one into, and the upright and honourable characters of Philatelists generally. To illustrate the strength and the world-wide nature of Stamp Collecting, Mr. Clark sent for our inspection philatelic periodicals from Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australia, a marvellous selection, including as it did, some from places where one would least expect them, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey, Bulgaria, San Domingo, Cuba, Porto Rico, Honolulu, and quite a large selection from South and Central America. The display and paper proved of the greatest interest to the members, the majority of whom could hardly credit the enormous extent of our hobby. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Clark for his paper and display was proposed by Mr. Melville, seconded by Mr. Westcott, and after an interesting discussion on the periodicals shown, carried with enthusiasm.

EXCHANGE BRANCH.

The December Packet was started on its rounds on 2nd inst. It consisted of thirty-six sheets, value £113 9s. 6d. net, and contained many good stamps priced very reasonably.

Will members kindly note that sheets should be sent in by 25th of each month to the Superintendent, D. S. Darkin, 303 Green Lanes, Finsbury Park, N.

South Wales & Monmouthshire Philatelic Society

President: Alderman W. J. Trownce.

Chairman: Mr. E. P. Crowther.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. Perkins.

Meetings: Y.M.C.A., Cardiff, 8 p.m.

Bi-monthly Subscriptions: Members, 10s. 6d.; Associates, 5s.

The fifteenth general meeting and third meeting for 1907-8 was held at Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Cardiff, 25th Nov., at 8 p.m. Members and Associates were present in good numbers from Cardiff, Newport, and Penarth.

The President, Alderman W. J. Trownce, took the chair, and after election of two new members it was unanimously resolved to issue invitations, through headmasters, to promising students in the principal local schools to attend meetings of the Society that were of special interest.

The Hon. Curator reported the advance in the Society's stamp collection and library and asked members to favour with further donations.

The Hon. Treasurer reported the accounts for last season and announced a credit balance to start the 1907-8 season with.

The Secretary announced Syllabus for season as arranged at present. Three dates are left open, but a leading member had not yet been heard from, and he hoped to fill these vacant dates very satisfactorily.

- Dec. 11.—Stamp sales and exchanges.
 " 23.—Paper and Display, "Early Stamps of Great Britain" in blocks and strips, Mr. C. E. Page.
 Jan. 8.—Open date.
 " 27.—Paper and Display "Stamps of Brazil," Vice-President Mr. G. E. Petty.
 Feb. 12.—Paper and Display, "Stamps of France," President Alderman W. J. Trownce.
 " 24.—Stamp sales and exchanges.
 Mar. 11.—Paper and Display, "Stamps of Newfoundland," Mr. G. R. Lougher.
 " 23.—Paper and Display, "Stamps of Finland," the Chairman, Mr. E. P. Crowther.
 April 18.—Open date.
 " 20.—Open date.
 May 13.—Paper and Display, "Stamps of Uruguay," Vice-President, Mr. G. E. Petty.

The President then called upon Mr. E. P. Crowther for a report as to progress with exhibition arrangements.

Mr. E. P. Crowther, the Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, then announced that satisfactory arrangements had been made with the Cardiff Corporation Museums Committee for holding an annual exhibition in their Museum. As far as he knew this was the first occasion on which Municipal support had been given to philately and he was pleased to be able to announce such progress—the Society's exhibition would not be large this season, but it would be purely voluntary, self-supporting, and local; none but members would exhibit, no charges would be made, no stalls let, and no invidious distinctions made; all would have equal opportunity and be equally treated, the exhibit of the youngest associate would receive as much attention as that of the rich advanced collector.

It was unanimously resolved to hold the exhibition on 25th January, 1908, and a Sub-Committee were unanimously elected to deal with all matters relating to the exhibition, composed of,

The President: Alderman W. J. Trownce;

The Chairman: Mr. E. P. Crowther;

The Hon. Sec.: Mr. T. Edwards.

An enthusiastic meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks to President, Chairman, Hon. Curator, and Hon. Treasurer.

Huddersfield and District Philatelic Society

President: Rev. G. C. B. Madden.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: C. H. Greenwood, 49 Perseverance Street, Primrose Hill, Huddersfield.

Annual Subscription: 5s., Juniors, 2s. 6d.

Meetings: Alternate Thursdays in Y.M.C.A. Rooms.

The fourth meeting of the present Session was held in the Y.M.C.A. Rooms, on Thursday evening, 14th Nov., 1907.

Twenty-four were present in all, including Rev. G. C. B. Madden, Dr. Adair, Miss Wrigley and Messrs. Thorpe, Wigglesworth, Haigh, Reynolds, Strang, Newsome, Greenwood, and a visitor belonging to the Huddersfield Society, and twelve members of the Leeds Philatelic Society.

The Leeds members gave a really fine display of stamps, especially noticeable being Mr. Thackrah's British Guiana and West Indies; Mr. Harding's Seychelles, Mr. Wades' New South Wales and Western Australia, Mr. North's Russia, and Mr. Morten's Great Britain.

These displays provided the Huddersfield Society with a real treat, and a really enjoyable evening terminated with a most hearty vote of thanks to the Leeds Society for their kindness in so helping on the work of a young and inexperienced Society.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

A fortnightly meeting was held in Newton's Saloon, 8 Promenade Central, on Wednesday, 14th Nov., 1907, at 8.15 p.m.

The President (R. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P.), in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

A paper was then read by Mr. G. Dukes on "The Stamps of France," with Display, and Mr. Dukes in the course of his remarks proved France to be an ideal country with which to interest non-collectors, illustrating as it does a very critical period in the history of that nation. The display, which was mounted with very great neatness on specially toned paper, and the various sets well arranged were greatly admired. The collection, although not showing any great rarities, was fairly complete in the general issues, and composed of remarkably fine and brilliant copies mostly used. Specimens of the Suisse pers. were shown and also a very interesting letter sent from Paris by Balloon Post. There was also a wide range of shades and some very interesting minor varieties, a small collection of proofs and cancellations forming a fitting tail-piece to what cannot be described as any other than a very interesting collection. In concluding his remarks Mr. Dukes humorously suggested that there was evidently a Philatelist amongst those who ruled over the dealings of French stamps, as the multiplicity of issues during recent years would seem to show.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed and carried unanimously and terminated a very pleasant evening.

Imperial Philatelic Society (N. London)

President: C. M. C. Symes.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: C. S. Muratori, 29 Fletching Road, L. Clapton, N.E.

This Society has been formed for Stamp Collectors in North London, its objects being for the advancement and study of Philately, to promote the interest of the young and inexperienced philatelist, to form a library of philatelic works, and to assist in the sale and exchange of duplicates. A programme has been arranged as follows:—

1908.

- Jan. 2. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Opening Meeting.
 8.30 p.m.—Auction and Conversazione.
 Jan. 16. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Paper and Display, Mr. E. Heginbottom, B.A.
 9 p.m.—Five Minutes' Papers by Members.
 Feb. 6. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Debate: Specialism by Mr. S. M. Morton, and General Collecting by C. S. Muratori.
 Feb. 20. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Paper and Display, "Chili," Mr. C. H. C. Symes.
 9 p.m.—Paper: Mr. A. R. Maisey.
 Mar. 5. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Competitive Display, limited to one country; award diploma.
 Mar. 19. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Paper and Display, "Egypt and Soudan," J. C. Rix, B.A.
 9 p.m.—Paper: Mr. C. J. Phillips.
 April 2. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Auction.
 April 16. 7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Paper and Display: Mr. A. C. Merrington.
 9 p.m.—Paper: Mr. M. R. Clarke.
 May 7.—7 p.m.—Bourse.
 8 p.m.—Paper: Mr. H. Clarke.
 8.30 p.m.—Competitive Display, limited to five countries; award, diploma.
 May 23.—3 p.m.—Annual excursion, visit to Tapping Collection, dinner, and theatre.
 May 28.—Annual General Meeting.

North of England Philatelic Society

The usual monthly meeting of this Society was held in the drawing-room of the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, Dec. 5th, at 6.30 p.m.

The President, Mr. G. B. Bainbridge, was in the chair, and eighteen members and three visitors were present.

The Display for the evening was U.S.A. by the President, and Mr. Bainbridge's Collection proved highly interesting and instructive, containing as it does almost every issue since 1847 complete in both used and unused. The 1869 issue being exceptionally strong, and the Departmental issues are practically complete in used and unused, a further feature of the display being a complete set of first issues proofs on art card.

Mr. Bainbridge had also prepared copious notes on his stamps and passed round the four plates issued with J. N. Luff's book on "United States," which added considerably to the interest.

At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President on the motion of Mr. Cochrane, who gave it as his opinion that Mr. Bainbridge's display was the finest of any non-British country since the Society was formed.

Mr. Bainbridge in returning thanks to the members for their appreciation gave two copies of his "notes" for inclusion in the Library, and promised another display in the near future.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 14. Vol. 1

4 JANUARY, 1908

One Penny

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Juniors' Exhibition



I AM glad to learn that the Juniors have settled the little difference that arose over the provision of extra stalls for dealers after the first lot of stalls had been disposed of.

Mr. F. J. Melville, the Juniors' President, writes to me as follows: "Referring to your paragraph, p. 150 (14. 12.07) re the dealers' stalls at the forthcoming Imperial Stamp Exhibi-

tion, I am glad to be able to state that at an invitation meeting between the stallholders and my Committee, the matter of the increased stall space was carefully discussed, with the result that the dealers present, representing the majority of the original stallholders completely withdrew their opposition to the extension of the Exhibition.

"The new stalls will be in the Grand Council Hall, not in one of the rooms as your paragraph might suggest. Altogether the space covered by the exhibition will be 9,000 sq. ft. as against 4,200 sq. ft. originally planned, and the extension will have the effect of giving additional comfort to the crowds which will flock to Caxton Hall on March 12th, 13th, and 14th next.

"Tickets for the Exhibition, prospectuses and other printed matter can be had free on application to the Hon. Secretary, Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet Street, London, E.C."

Turkish Reminders

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* our Turkish friends have succeeded in inducing "a London firm" to go in for some of their "remainders," which has been converted into rubbish of the "cancelled order" grade.

Why some stamp collectors will buy such stuff is a mystery that I cannot fathom.

Cayman Islands: Another Provisional

Here's another $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisional from this little colony. This time the surcharge is in figures. The sample before me is in large figures, and the "2" has a curly foot. No doubt some of the figures will be provided with straight feet. These same Cayman Islands, of which few of us had ever heard before postage stamps were found to be necessary for the happiness of the group, have apparently started on to rival Turk's Islands in the matter of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisionals.

Business in the States

Eustace has returned to America. During his enforced absence his countrymen get into a precious financial muddle, but now that Eustace B. Power is back in his office in the Gibbons' establishment things are on the improve. He writes in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, thusly:—"I was told that there would be no stamp business to amount to anything all the winter, and that the poor men had no money to spend on stamps, and that the rich ones were going to hang on to what they had. All this came at ten o'clock on the morning I got off the *Lucania*. At twelve o'clock I sold a set of 1869 inverted centres; at three o'clock I had orders to go and see an important client; and at the end of my first day home I had a record of nearly a thousand dollars' worth of business actually consummated. So there you are. But, for all that, I am inclined to think that business here in the States will not be a banner year, though at the same time I am quite sure that the financial cancers lately cut out of the general business situation cannot but result ultimately in bigger and better stamp times than ever before known.

A South Pole Stamp

According to a paragraph which is going the rounds of the press we may some day expect to receive a South Pole stamp. The news runs that Lieutenant Shackleton, who starts on an expedition of discovery on New Year's Day from New Zealand, is so sanguine that he has induced the New Zealand Government to open a post office in King Edward Seventh Land. I strongly suspect that if Lieutenant Shackleton is not himself a stamp collector he has got one on board his ship, and that there will be a fine old gamble.

Lavish Stamp Collecting

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

THE average stamp collector has only a very hazy idea of the money that is every year lavished upon the collection of postage stamps by wealthy collectors. Now and again his eyes are partially opened by the report that some rarity has run into three figures at public auction. But he is inclined to be more or less sceptical when he is told that some collectors spend thousands of pounds yearly in the enrichment of their collections.

A few years ago the sale of an unused copy of the 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius for £1,450 created quite a sensation. It was the highest price ever known to have been paid for a single stamp, and those people who generally draw upon their imaginations for their facts, said it was quite a fancy price, as it was known that it was being bought for the Prince of Wales. As a matter of fact, when the secret leaked out that an agent was acting for the Prince, one of the strongest competitors, a well-known City dealer, immediately abstained from bidding against His Royal Highness, although he held a *carte blanche* order to buy the stamp at any price and would, against any other bidder, have run up to £2,000, or even more, if necessary.

Wealthy men have always been prominent in the pursuit of stamp collecting, and since the Prince of Wales has so openly associated himself with the collection and study of the postal issues of the world the number of wealthy collectors has considerably increased, especially amongst our titled aristocracy.

The Most Lavish Collector

The wealthiest and most lavish collector of all is M. Philipp la Renotière, of Paris, known to most collectors as Herr von Ferrary. When his philatelic life comes to be written it will be found to be a most remarkable one, full of eccentricity and romance. For many years he has occupied the leading position in stamp circles. To many dealers he has been a veritable gold mine. Some years ago a report of his death got into circulation, and when a certain London dealer heard of it he dropped down in a dead faint, and had to be taken home in a cab. To him it meant the loss of a serious portion of his livelihood. If a great rarity turns up it is forthwith offered, by the earliest post, to the great Parisian at a good round figure. If he returns it, then it comes down considerably in quotable value, and is sent out in turn to less wealthy specialists, decreasing in price till it finds a buyer. Medical men charge their patients according to their means, as evidenced by the class of house in which they reside. The stamp dealer prices his great rarity according to the reputed length of the collector's purse. M. la Renotière is the possessor of great wealth, inherited from his mother. But his father's still greater wealth he absolutely refused to touch, because, in his opinion, it had not been acquired by strictly just means. Neither would he wear the honours of the dukedom to which he fell heir. He indignantly renounced his father's millions and his father's title. For years he earned his living as a tutor, and to this day he insists upon being addressed as plain M. la Renotière. He has devoted his life to the collection of postage stamps, and regularly visits London and the capitals of Europe inspecting stamp dealers' stocks in his never-ceasing search for gems to add to his

great collection. Two secretaries are continually at work arranging and rearranging it, and keeping it up to date, and a large room is specially set apart for its care and preservation. It is estimated that during the past 35 years he has spent close upon a quarter of a million sterling on his philatelic treasures. For many years his annual expenditure with one London firm of stamp dealers has averaged over £4,000. This greatest of all great stamp collections is destined by its owner, at his death, to be handed over to an Austrian museum.

A well-known English collector is said to have spent for years with a London firm over £4,000 a year. One day there was a little tiff over some misunderstanding, and the £4,000 a year went elsewhere.

Classifications of Wealthy Specialists

Some months ago a London dealer, in a large way of business, drawing upon his own long and exceptional experience, classified specialist collectors, or the Great Moguls, as they are called, under three heads. First, the collector who can spend from £50 to £200 per annum on his collection; secondly, the collector who can spend £200 to £500 per annum; and, thirdly, the collector who can spend from £600 to £x per annum. The number of the third class is much greater than most people imagine. A rarity running into three figures will, if in fine condition, always secure keen competition for its possession at an auction. The known copies of that popular rarity, the "Post Office" Mauritius, have increased considerably during the last ten or twelve years, but the market price has nevertheless advanced by leaps and bounds with every fresh copy put up for sale, which means that the number of those who spend lavishly on stamp collections goes on steadily increasing.

The well-known great collections range from £10,000 up to the untold value of the Parisian accumulation. A few years since, Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P. sold his specialised collection of unused Europeans to Mr. Mann for £30,000. The Duveen collection is said to be worth close on £80,000, and the Avery collection not far short of £50,000. The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres is a collector of recent date, but already he can show an array of philatelic volumes that promise some day to rival even those of the great Parisian, for he collects on more scientific lines. His United States issues, when all mounted up, will run into over 40 large volumes.

These figures are apt to appal the young collector, and he may feel inclined to ask, "What is the use of my few shillings doled out on a hobby which so readily absorbs vast fortunes?" But he may solace himself with the knowledge that the great rarities of to-day were, in the years of their issue, to be had at face value. The celebrated Mauritius, which has so recently realised £1,450, cost its late owner only a few shillings as an addition to his schoolboy collection. And so certain common stamps of the boyhood of to-day may, in the same way, become great rarities of their manhood.

Extravagance of Present Day Collecting

The extravagance of present day collecting is answerable for the lavish expenditure that marks the specialist. Every stamp must be in mint condition,

i.e. it must be as unsoiled as when it was first issued. There must be neither spot nor wrinkle. It must be complete in every perforation, and the design must be evenly centred. The scarcer the stamp in such a condition the higher the price of a desirable copy when it does turn up. In the old days collectors were content not only with a single specimen, but they preferred it used. Now, it must be unused, and a copy of every shade must be included. Pairs, and blocks of four, complete panes or sheets or strips with sheet numbers all run up the cost of a specialised collection. I have seen a collection of a country in sheets, each sheet consisting of 240 stamps. The enthusiast often takes singles, pairs, blocks and panes, unused. Then singles, pairs and blocks used, and I have even seen a whole pane of 60 stamps used. The best collection

of the V.R.I. issues of the Orange River Colony is in complete panes of 60 stamps in a pane, of each value and of each printing. If there happens to be a variety in a sheet, the specialist wants that sheet complete, and he won't be really happy till he gets it. Hence, the pace at which we collect to-day makes very heavy calls on even a well furnished banking account.

Nevertheless, whilst the specialist scatters his cheques right and left, the young collector may as satisfactorily, and with prudent economy of even his pence, gather together the framework of an admirable collection. There are few of us who are specialising to-day who do not regret having parted with even the most modest collections of our boyhood. Ergo, start while you are young, take only fine copies, and stick to your collection.

Great Rarities

Their History and Market Price

By AN OLD SPECIALIST

British Guiana, 1856 1c. black on magenta

AMONG the *rara avis* of Philately the 1 cent stamp of the provisional issue made in the small Colony of British Guiana in 1856 easily holds the place of honour. Only one specimen of this stamp is in existence and that reposes in the famous collection of Herr Phillip von Ferrary, of Paris. Without any exaggeration this stamp may be considered the most valuable piece of paper for its size in the world.

This 1c. stamp appeared early in 1856 together with a 4c. label of the same design, both being printed in black on magenta coloured paper. The design is a most unpretentious one as will be noted from our illustration. It consists of a double rectangle between the lines of which is "BRITISH" at the top, "GUIANA" at the base, "POSTAGE" on the left, and the value on the right. In the centre is a small ship and above and below this the motto of the Colony, "Damus Petimus que Vicissim" (We give and we seek in turn), is arranged.

The stamp was set up and printed from ordinary type by Messrs. Joseph Baum and William Dallas at the office of the *Royal Gazette*, Georgetown. The small ship in the centre is the same as that usually employed for heading the shipping advertisements in the general press, and there is no doubt several of these were included in the stock-in trade of the printers referred to. In Gibbons' catalogue the name of the newspaper office at which the stamps were produced is given as the *Official Gazette*, but the early authorities are all unanimous in the statement that it was the office of the *Royal Gazette*. I am inclined to believe the latter is correct as relating to the time at which the stamps were printed, though at a later period, the title may have been changed from "Royal" to "Official."

This solitary 1c. stamp was included in the celebrated "find" made by a Mr. Wyatt, in British Guiana in 1878 and together with early "circulars" and other rarities it, I believe, was acquired by the late Mr. T. Redpath,

of Liverpool, at a price which would be deemed absurdly low compared with what it would fetch nowadays. According to His Honour Judge Philbrick this stamp was originally offered to the late Mr. Edward L. Pemberton by Mr. Wyatt, but he accidentally omitted to close with the offer until too late. For this specimen and four of the circular stamps of 1850 he was to have paid £110! Mr. Redpath, however, became its fortunate possessor and it was not long before it found a resting place in the celebrated Ferrary Collection at a price which, I have no doubt, was equally satisfactory to both buyer and seller. I cannot trace any record of the price paid having been made public, but undoubtedly, as prices did not rule high in those days, the figure was low considering the rarity of the specimen. Being unique one can only conjecture its present value, but it is fairly safe to assume that if it were sold at auction it would fetch a record figure—certainly not less than £1,500.

As the stamp was not discovered until more than twenty years after it was issued, and no official documents relating to it have ever been traced, details as to its history are necessarily meagre.

The generally accepted theory is that it was issued provisionally pending the arrival of a fresh supply of 1c. stamps from England. But if this is correct the number issued must have been exceedingly small, and it could only have been in use a very short time for only one solitary specimen to have survived until to-day.

Another theory, and one that certainly appears more feasible in the light of the scanty information available, is that the stamp is an error. It is in the colour of the 4c. stamp, which had a life of several months, and it thus appears not unlikely that in a few of the first sheets of the 4 cents printed one stamp was in error set up as "ONE CENT." Presuming this was so and that the error was detected and corrected almost at once, the extreme scarcity of the variety is in a great measure accounted for. It is a philatelic mystery that will probably never be satisfactorily solved.

Marginal Varieties

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 175.)

VI.—Marginal Inscriptions

THE marginal plate, reference, etc., numbers, I have alluded to in the foregoing chapters, may all be collected by means of strips of three stamps, and often single specimens will suffice quite well, but the varieties I propose to discuss now—marginal inscriptions—often necessitate the collection of the entire strip of stamps from the top, bottom, or one of the sides of a sheet. Indeed, these marginal inscriptions exist in remarkable variety, both as regards the size of the lettering employed and the information conveyed.

It is not my purpose to attempt to enumerate all the stamps of the British Empire on the sheets of which marginal inscriptions occur. It will suffice, I think, to indicate the chief varieties.

Usually the wording is confined to the name and address of the printers of the stamps or to a statement as to their price singly, per row or by the entire sheet. The "instructions" given on each margin of the old line-engraved stamps of Great Britain, probably constitute a record both as to the length of the inscription and the amount of information conveyed in it. The wording of the 1d. was as follows: "PRICE 1d. per label; 1s. per row of 12; £1 per sheet. Place the label ABOVE the address and towards the RIGHT-HAND SIDE of the letter. In wetting the back be careful not to remove the cement." As postage stamps were a novelty when these labels first appeared there is no doubt that this information was highly necessary and greatly appreciated by those fortunate individuals who were able to purchase sufficient stamps to obtain the whole of the inscription. How those unlucky wights who could only afford to buy a few stamps at a time fared history does not relate. Probably in their ignorance they licked off all the "cement" and placed the "label" in any but the correct position.

On all the surface-printed British stamps produced by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., Ltd., prior to 1880, marginal inscriptions are shown on the sheets. On the 2½d. the word "POSTAGE" appears twice in the top and bottom margins, and in the space between the two panes "POSTAGE TWO PENCE HALFPENNY" occurs twice.

In the case of the 3d. value the following is placed between each pair of panes:—

"PRICE 3 Pence 1 Shilling 10 Shillings
per Label. per Row of 4. per sheet of 40."

and in the central margin "POSTAGE THREE PENCE" is shown above or below each pane.

Somewhat similar inscriptions occur in the sheets of all the other values.

The only other De La Rue stamps I can call to mind having marginal inscriptions on the sheets are the ½d. Queen's head issues for Malta. These bear the legend "MALTA—POSTAGE ONE HALFPENNY" above each pane.

Below the two central stamps in the bottom row of each sheet of the Labuan issue of the "Crown"

type "Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London Wall" appears in tiny type. Possibly similar inscriptions occur on the sheets of other stamps produced by this firm.

Newfoundland furnishes several examples of marginal inscriptions consisting of the name and address of the



printers of the stamps. On the 12 cents value of 1866 on the margin above the central stamp in the upper and lower rows and at each side of the sheets is "American Bank Note Co., New York," in small type. Some of the other values of the same set show a similar inscription in small capitals. In 1880 the contract for manufacturing the stamps was secured by the "British American Bank Note Co., Montreal," and on each sheet printed by this firm the name and address, in uncoloured letters on an ornamental label, is shown on all four margins. In 1897 the contract reverted to the American Bank Note Co., the printers of the issue now current, and not only does the name and address appear in each margin of every sheet but it is also engraved under each stamp, viz.: "AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO., LTD., N.Y."

The subject of marginal varieties is one that offers a fertile field for research and though, in these notes, it has not been possible to more than deal generally with the different types, I trust I have succeeded in showing that marginal numbers and inscriptions are of the greatest interest and well worthy of the attention of all classes of philatelists.

The Collection of Marginal Varieties

[I have often been asked if marginal varieties are worth including in a collection, and I think all collectors will agree with me that they are of the greatest interest to a specialist who wishes to study his stamps. They help to solve many questions as to the order of plates, minor differences, retouches, and shades. But the general collector can have little use for them. Some dealers now save up all marginal varieties for specialist clients and make a slight charge for them.—ED., P.S.]

THE END.

Juniors' Exhibition

London, 1908

THE Exhibition, which will cover a total area of over 9,000 square feet, will be divided into sections. In the large hall there will be a display of the stamps of the British Colonies in centre, dealers' stalls 1 to 12. Promenade and tea gallery on balcony, 180 ft. In the second large hall (Council Hall), there will be a display of the Stamps of the British Colonies continued and dealers' stalls 13 to 22, and further exhibits in the first small hall. The second small hall will be used for instructional and popular lectures. Ante-rooms off Main Hall. 1. Committee. 2. Exhibition Secretary. Rooms 6, 8 and 9, buffet; 7, press; 13, exhibits; 14, Competitive Section (Juniors); 15, 16 and 17, Exhibits. There will be an orchestra daily in both the large halls both afternoon and evening. Mr. Leonard Wright's orchestral band, which was so much admired at the 1905 Exhibition, will again perform.

Dealers' stalls which were a delightful and popular feature of the last Exhibition—the space devoted to the use of the stamp trade—has been extended, and visitors will find all the leading dealers represented. A complete list of stallholders will be given in the next edition of the prospectus.

Lantern lecturettes will be delivered by well-qualified lecturers on subjects relating to stamps and stamp collecting.

Refreshments at popular prices will be served in Rooms 6, 8 and 9, and also on the promenade overlooking the main hall of the Exhibition.

Competitive Section

OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

Gold Medal.—It has been decided to present a Gold Medal to the boy or girl (whose age must not exceed 19), who submits to the Committee the best arranged collection of postage stamps in accordance with the conditions printed below.

A number of other prizes offered by stall holders will be awarded to the competitors next in order of merit. A full list of prizes will be published later.

There is no charge for entry, and the contest will be open to every boy or girl collector whose age does not exceed nineteen, whether a member of the Junior Philatelic Society or not.

Albums intended for this contest should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, H. F. Johnson, Offices of the Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet street, London, E.C., on or before Saturday, February 29th, 1908. An addressed cover with stamps for return postage and registration must be enclosed for the safe return of the album when examined.

The Medal and prizes will be awarded for the collections which display the best skill and knowledge in the arrangements of the stamps. The rarity and value of the stamps, or whether used or unused, or the costliness of album and mountings will not be taken into consideration. A small collection neatly and carefully arranged may as readily head the list as a big collection of enormous value.

Only boys and girls under nineteen will be allowed to compete, and competitors must enclose a letter

signed by a parent or a schoolmaster, clergyman, guardian, or other responsible person, stating that the collection is the entire property of the competitor, and that the competitor's age does not exceed nineteen years.

There are no other conditions, and it need not cost you anything to compete, except the small cost of postage both ways. The successful albums will be displayed in a special room at the Exhibition, where will be made the first announcements of the result of the contest.

The collections may be general or specialised. They may comprise used stamps only or unused only, or both together. Any postage stamps, postal cards, envelopes or wrappers may be included, but fiscal stamps will not be considered.

Neither the Exhibition Committee nor the Junior Philatelic Society can accept any responsibility for albums or collections, but every care will be taken of same while in the hands of the Committee.

All communications respecting this contest must be made to the Hon. Sec., H. F. Johnson, offices of the Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

Essay Competition

RULES FOR COMPETITORS.

(1) The subject to be "Stamp Collecting as a Hobby."

(2) The competition to be open to all scholars of public and second grade schools.

(3) The age of competitors to be sixteen years and under.

(4) The Essay to be limited to 500 words.

(5) The Essay to be the *entire work* of the Competitor, unaided by suggestions, or by checking for grammatical errors when written.

(6) There shall be no entrance fee to the competition.

(7) The Essays to be distinctly marked at the top left hand corner of first page with the name, address and age of competitor, duly certified by a schoolmaster or clergyman.

(8) Essays must be forwarded to reach Mr. H. F. Johnson, offices of Stamp Exhibition, 44 Fleet street, London, E.C., not later than Saturday, February 29th, 1908.

(9) All Essays submitted shall be in every case the property of the Exhibition Committee, and may be published or not at its discretion.

(10) Twenty Essays to be selected, to be read (wherever possible) by their respective authors at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, March 14th, 1908, at 3 o'clock.

(11) The first prize to be a gold medal, second, third and fourth the Diploma of the Junior Philatelic Society (which will be accompanied in each case by prizes), and a number of other prizes at the discretion of the Examining Committee.

(12) A nominal charge of 6d. will be made for admission to the public reading, except to the readers of the Essays. The Committee of Selection to be the President, Mr. Fred J. Melville, the Hon. Secretary of the Society, Mr. A. Selinger, and Mr. E. M. Gilbert Lodge, F.A.I.

A Message from Philatelia.

(Per W. E. IMESON.)

I.

Once more the Goddess of the Gauge
A message sends by me—
Her special, trusted messenge'r
(Without a "special fee"):
High hopes and expectations of
The Juniors long I've nursed,
Their Second Exhibition will—
Nay, *must* outshine the First!

II.

Whilst other Bodies, older far,
Appear to let things slide,
I side must with the Juniors who
Don't put on too much "side."
The order old of things must change
Despite the backward few,
"Old issues" of Collectors—move!
Or—make room for the new!

III.

My promised *Standard Catalogue*
An *Echo* proves—no more,
The *Tribune* of the Juniors, tho',
Finds workers to the fore.
By *Morning Post* and *Daily Mail*
I've letters from all climes
To *Chronicle* the fact that we
Must all move with the *Times*.

IV.

The rank and file I'd ever make
My first and tend'rest care
(I rank the file of Juniors' names
Amongst my treasures rare.),
Whilst Mogul great and Specialist
Deserve, maybe, my thanks,
They cannot fill the blank—with all
Their rows of well-filled "blanks."

V.

I've been asked by my messenger
(Who'd ne'er at trifles stick)
If on *some* Exhibitions he
Might write—a "Limerick":
The first line's on promoters who
Their plans a secret keep,
The final word explains *why*—
And also rhymes with—peep.

VI.

Please don't forget my messenger,
I'll now the message close,
Tho' I in prose dictated it
As "poet" he must pose;
A true and tried disciple he,
E'en if not made to shine,
Be kind to him—tho' pray don't make
Too much of me and mine.

—From *Exhibition Notes and News*.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 180.)

Belgium.—A small country in Central Europe lying between France, Prussia and Holland. It has an area of 11,373 square miles, a population of over seven millions and is ruled by King Leopold II. Flemish and French are the languages spoken, both being now on an official equality, and for this reason the name of the country is expressed on the stamp in French (*Belgique*) and Flemish (*Belgie*). The kingdom was anciently inhabited by the Belgæ—a Celtic-speaking German tribe—and formed part of the *Gallia Belgica* of the Romans. In 1815 the country was joined to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, an arrangement which was upset by the revolution of 1830. On October 4th, 1830, a National Congress proclaimed its independence, and on June 4th, 1831, Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg was chosen hereditary king. Postage stamps were first issued on July 1st, 1849.

Benadir.—The southern portion of the protectorate Italy has established over the portion of Somaliland known as Eritrea is named Benadir. This part of the protectorate is administered by the Benadir Company which pays an annual rent to the Sultan of Zanzibar

for the Benadir ports leased by him to Italy. Postage stamps for use in this district were issued in 1903.

Bengasi.—A seaport in Tripoli, N. Africa, usually known as Benghazi. It has a population of about 21,000 and here the Italian Government has established a Consular office at which postal business is transacted. In 1901 a special 1 piastre stamp was issued, this being formed by surcharging the contemporary 25c. stamp of Italy with "BENGASI—1 PIASTRA 1" in two lines. The town is of ancient origin, and was named Berenice, when founded, after the wife of Ptolemy III.

Benin.—A French Colony on the coast of the Gulf of Benin, West Africa, which is now included in the Colony of Dahomey. Postage stamps were first issued in 1892, French stamps of the "Commerce" type being surcharged "BENIN" for this purpose. In 1893 a special set inscribed "Golfe de Benin" was issued, followed in 1894 by a series inscribed "Benin." These were superseded in 1899 by the general issue for Dahomey and Dependencies.

Berber.—A town in Sudan, nearly 200 miles north of Khartoum, having a population of over 10,000.

The name of this town appears in microscopic letters on the bale of merchandise on the Sudan stamps of the "Camel" type.

Bergedorf.—A town in the German free state of Hamburg having a population of over 10,000. Many centuries ago Bergedorf acquired considerable notoriety as the headquarters of a nest of pirates, and after these were dispersed by their more powerful neighbours, the burghers of Hamburg and Lubeck, it sank into such insignificance that it would probably not have been heard of again, but for the fact that it issued postage stamps in 1861. These were introduced by the postmaster, who was evidently a man of ideas. Five values were issued, but they had not a very long life, for in 1867 Hamburg obtained complete jurisdiction over the town and district of Bergedorf and its stamps were suppressed.

Bermuda.—This is the chief island of the Bermudas, or Somers Islands, a group situated in the west of the Atlantic Ocean and belonging to Great Britain. There are about 100 islands altogether, though only 15 or 16 are inhabited, the rest being mere rocks. They derive their name Bermudas from the Spanish discoverer, Bermudez, who sighted them in 1527. They were first colonised by Admiral Sir George Somers, who was shipwrecked here in 1609, while on his way to Virginia. The total area of the group is under 20 square miles, and the population is estimated at nearly 18,000. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras, in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. In 1902 a floating dock, the largest in the world was fixed here from Sheerness. This is pictured on the current postage stamps. Hamilton is the chief town and the seat of government. The Government is administered by a Governor, who is also commander-in-chief of the military forces. He is advised by an Executive Council of six members appointed by the Crown. There is also a Legislative Council, composed of nine members appointed by the Crown; and a representative House of Assembly consisting of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of nine parishes. Postage stamps were first issued on September 13th, 1865, though prior to this a stamp issued by the Postmaster, Mr. W. B. Perot, to facilitate the prepayment of postage was issued so early as 1848.

Berthold, H.—An engraver, of Berlin, who manufactured the plates from which the 1902 stamps of Finland were printed.

Besa.—The value in which two of the stamps of the Italian Colony of Benadir are expressed. A besa is the fourth part of an anna and is equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in English money.

Bestellgeld-frei.—An inscription appearing on the local envelopes issued for the Prussian state of Hanover, signifying "Delivery Free" or "Post Free."

Best, H. and C.—The proprietors of the *Courier* newspaper, Tasmania, who printed the first stamps for this Colony from plates engraved locally, and also the later issues from the plates engraved by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.

Beyrout (or Beirut).—A seaport on the Mediterranean, in Syria, Turkey-in-Asia. In ancient times it was known as Berytus and was a port of the Phœnicians. It came later under the power of Egypt, from whom it was taken by Antiochus the Great, and so became part of Syria. It was conquered for the Romans by Agrippa, and was made a military colony by Augustus, under the name of Colonia Julia Augusta

Felix Berytus. During the Crusades it belonged alternately to the Saracens and to the Christians. In 1763 it fell into the power of the Turks; was conquered by Ibrahim Pasha, son of Mehemet Ali, of Egypt, in 1831; and played an important part in the Oriental question in 1840, when it was bombarded on September 10th by the allied English, Austrian and Turkish fleets, until evacuated by the Egyptians. Its modern growth dates from 1843. Several of the European powers have established Consular offices at this port at which postal business is transacted. In 1905 a provisional 1 piastre stamp was issued by the French office owing to a temporary shortage of labels of this value. This was formed by surcharging the 15c. stamp of French Levant with "1 Piastre—Beyrout" in two lines.

Beyrout.—The French form of "Beirut."

B. G.—These initials are found upon certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874, and signify "Botanical Garden." They were used on the correspondence of the officials connected with this public institution.

Bhopal.—One of the feudatory states in Central India with a population of about a million and an area of 6874 square miles. The Bhopal dynasty was founded at the beginning of the 18th century by Dost Mohammed, an Afghan in the service of Aurungzebe. It is one of the principal Mohammedan States in India and is now, for the fourth generation, under female rule. Postage stamps were first issued in 1877.

Bhor.—A feudatory state in the Bombay Presidency of India. It has a total area of 1491 square miles and a population of about 140,000. Postage stamps were issued in 1879, but they have been obsolete for some years past.

Bi-coloured.—Bi-coloured stamps are those printed in two different colours. In the case of pictorial bi-coloured stamps the centre is in one colour and the frame in another. In most portrait bi-coloured stamps, on the other hand, the main portion of the design is in one colour, and the name of the country and the face value of the specimen are in another. The stamps of the Leeward Islands may be cited as an example. Two plates are, of course, necessary for printing stamps in two colours. The plate from which that part of the design showing the name of the country and the value is printed is known as the "duty plate," while the one from which the other portion of the stamps is printed is technically called the "head plate."

Biscaya.—One of the Basque provinces of Spain more usually known locally as Vizcaya. It is a mountainous region on the Bay of Biscay with an area of 836 square miles and a population estimated at 312,000. It was one of the provinces in which the Carlists were numerically strong and during the rising of 1873 it used special stamps bearing the portrait of Don Carlos. The stamps were suppressed in 1876, when the Carlists were decisively crushed.

Bi-sected.—A philatelic term applied to a certain class of provisional or "emergency" stamps. These are stamps cut into halves, or smaller pieces, each portion of which has then franking power as a separate stamp. They may be separated diagonally, vertically, or horizontally, and, more often than not, the bisected portions are overprinted with the value for which they are intended to pay postage. As an instance of a bisected provisional without surcharge, we may mention that for a period of about 25 years halves of the Belgium 10c. Postage due stamps were used as 5c. labels. Various

British Colonies—Barbados, Falkland Islands, Niger Coast, and Grenada, to mention a few—have issued bisected stamps with the portions surcharged with the value for which they were intended to be used.

Bit.—One of the coins in the new currency introduced into the Danish West Indies in 1905. A hundred bits are equal to a franc and 10 bits are the equivalent of 1d. in English money.

Blades, East & Blades.—A well-known London firm of printers and engravers who manufactured the early stamps used in the territory of the British North Borneo Company.

B. L. C. I.—These letters are found on many of the stamps of Bhopal, one being placed in each corner of the design. They are a contraction of "Bhopal, Central India."

Blued paper.—This, from a philatelic point of view, is paper which has not been intentionally coloured but which has turned more or less blue owing to one of the ingredients of the printing ink running into the paper. Examples of this kind of paper can be found in most of the early stamps of Great Britain and Colonies printed by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co., from line-engraved plates.

Bluefields.—A town in the republic of Nicaragua, Central America, at which all the stamps used since 1904 have been surcharged in some distinctive manner before being issued to the public. The currency here is based on silver worth about 42c. to the peso instead of on paper, worth only about 25c., as in the other parts of the Republic. (See also B).

Blue Safety paper.—A special paper, used originally for various British revenue stamps, which were to be cancelled with ordinary writing ink. The nature of the paper was such that any attempt to clean off the obliteration would result in the removal of the design also, or would change the colour of the paper. This paper was also used in the production of the first 4d. stamps of Great Britain issued in 1855. It has a blue tint, varying in depth, which is caused by prussiate of potash having been added to the pulp while the paper was being manufactured. Usually it has a highly-glazed surface.

B. M.—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps signifying "Board of Magistrates." These departmental stamps were used between 1868 and 1874, and in the latter year they were replaced by the general official series surcharged "O S."

Board of Education.—A surcharge applied to the 5d. and 1s. British stamps of the last Queen's head type and upon the ½d., 1d., 2½d., 5d. and 1s. values of the current issue for use on departmental correspondence emanating from the Board of Education. These stamps were first issued on Feb. 19th, 1902, and they were finally withdrawn from use on 12th May, 1904.

Bogota.—The capital of the republic of Colombia, in the state of Cundinamarca. It has a population of about 130,000 and contains the palace of San Carlos, at which the President of the republic resides. The town was founded in 1538 by Quesada under the name of Santa Fé—after the camp of Ferdinand and Isabella before Granada. Then the name was changed to Santa Fé de Bogotá, and since 1819 it has been known as simply Bogotá. In 1889 special local stamps were issued for use within the precincts of the City, these being inscribed "Correo Urbano de Bogotá."

Bogus.—A term applied to a class of philatelic frauds which may be said to include: (a) Those

"stamps," issued by private individuals with the object of gulling stamp collectors, which purport to be legitimate issues from some country that probably only has its existence in the fertile imagination of the person responsible for them; and, (b) Imitations of some genuine stamp or other printed in a colour, or with a value and inscription, that never had any existence in reality.

These bogus stamps do not trouble the philatelist of the present day like they did the pioneers of our hobby. In the early days of stamp-collecting the number of genuine varieties was small and various smart individuals tried to "help" the collector by printing counterfeits of existing stamps in colours of their own choice; by adding new values to the sets, of which the postal officials were ignorant, usually in a fancy currency of their own invention; or by printing "stamps" for countries which had not then found any necessity for postal adhesives. These bogus varieties are often met with in old collections, but they are hardly likely to deceive modern philatelists, however new to the pastime, owing to the many excellent catalogues and handbooks that exist. (See also PRINCIPALITÉ DE TRINIDAD, SEDANG, CLIPPERTON ISLANDS, BRUNET, COUNANI, etc.)

Bolivar.—I.—A department of the republic of Colombia, bordering upon the Caribbean Sea. It has an area of 21,340 square miles and its population is estimated at 325,000. Cartagena is the capital of this department. It uses its own special postage stamps, the first of these having been issued in 1863.

II.—A province of the republic of Ecuador, S. America, having a population of over 43,000. All the stamps used in this province in 1902 were surcharged with the word "Resellada" before being sold to the public. This overprint was applied as a check upon the stamps as, owing to a disastrous fire in Guayaquil in July, 1902, in which the Government stores were destroyed, the officials were uncertain as to the fate of a very large quantity of stamps which were kept in these stores. They may have been destroyed in the fire or they may have been stolen, and, in case the latter may have happened, the authorities took the precaution of having all similar stamps in other post offices surcharged in some distinctive way before being sold for use.

III.—One of the values in which some of the stamps of Venezuela are expressed. A bolivar is equal to 100 centimos and is nominally worth 5d. in English currency.

Bolivia.—A republic in South America having an area of about 570,000 square miles and a population of nearly two millions. In 1879 Chili took possession of the Bolivian coastlands and the country now has no ports of its own. Its exports thus have to be carried to Mollendo (Peru), Arica, and Antofagasta at which places Bolivian customs agents reside. The country was formerly comprised in the Spanish Vice-royalty of Colombia under the name of "Alto Peru" and it derives its present name from its great liberator, Simon Bolivar. It gained its independence in 1824, after the battle of Ayacucho. The Colombian general, Bolivar, made his entrance into La Paz in 1825, and under his auspices the first constitution was drawn up in 1826. The government consists of a president and two vice-presidents, a senate of sixteen members, and sixty-nine deputies. Postage stamps were first issued in 1866.

Boliviano.—The term in which the highest value stamps of the republic of Bolivia are expressed. Its name is derived from that of the country and Bolivar, its great liberator. A bolivar consists of 100 centavos, and is nominally worth 2s. in English money.

Bollo della posta di Sicilia.—The inscription appearing on the stamps of Sicily and signifying "Stamp of the post of Sicily."

Bollo della posta Napoletana.—An inscription that appears upon all the stamps of Naples and which means, "Postage stamp of Naples."

Bollo Postale.—An inscription shown on the stamps of the republic of San Marino, which signifies "Postage Stamp."

Bordeaux prints.—The name applied to the French stamps which were lithographed at Bordeaux on the 13th November, 1870.

Borneo.—(See NORTH BORNEO.)

Borrius, J. P.—A printer at Potchefstroom, Transvaal, who printed supplies of the 1d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. South African Republic stamps in September, 1870, and December, 1872.

Boscawen.—A town in the State of New Hampshire U.S.A., at which a special 5c. stamp was issued by the Postmaster in 1846 to facilitate postal business, prior to the introduction of the regular issue for the whole of the United States.

(To be continued)

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Lunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Argentine. Mr. A. H. Davis writes to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* as follows from Montevideo:—"The new issue is a long time making its appearance. It has been in stock for some months, and will only be issued as the current stamps get used up. So far, we have only had the newspaper wrappers of ½c., 1c., and 4c. with the head of San Martin in a double circle. It is rumoured that the new stamps bear the portraits of eminent Argentine statesmen, and that the colours are more attractive than those at present in use."

Cayman Islands. (75) Here is yet another provisional ½d. stamp from this little colony, and, as with the former issue, my old friend, Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, is the first to send me a copy. This new provisional is of quite a different type to the "one halfpenny" on 1d., for the new value, instead of being expressed in words, is set up in figures, large bold figures, in a fraction, with a large capital "D," and this surcharge is overprinted on a supply of the current 5s. red and green on Multiple C.A. paper.



Provisional.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

½d. on 5s. red and green.

China. (121) *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* explains that the recently issued 16c. is for the purpose of preparing foreign letters weighing between 20 and 40 grammes; the postage under the last convention being 10c. for the first 20 grammes, and 6c. for each further 20 grammes or under.

The *Monthly Journal* adds the information that a new set is promised for this year.

Denmark. I quote the following from the *Monthly Journal*:—"Le T.-P. tells us that the 1 and 15 øre of 1902 exist imperforate, a single sheet of each in that condition having been found amongst supplies sent to a small town, where the postmaster conscientiously cut them up with the office scissors and issued them for use. When a collector discovered the fact, there was not a single copy left of either."

A correspondent shows us a specimen of the 20 øre of 1896, in which the tail of the figure "2" in the left lower corner is broken off short."

Paraguay. Mr. A. H. Davis writes the *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* as follows:—"I have received, through the kindness of a correspondent in Paraguay, the following details of the 1904 issue (that in current use) up to date:—

- 1c. orange.
- 1c. vermilion.
- 2c. "
- 5c. light blue.
- 5c. dark "
- 5c. yellow.
- 10c. green.
- 20c. violet.
- 20c. brown.
- 30c. blue-green.
- 30c., grey.
- 60c. chocolate.
- 1 peso, rose-red and black.
- 1 peso, orange and black.

Provisionals.

- 5c. on 2c. red.
- 5c. on 2. green.

All of the above bear the date 1904. I am informed that the last named (5c. on 2c. green) does not exist in the unsurcharged condition. The 5c. on 2c. red, was only in use a few days.

In the Stamp Market

By O. G.

The New Catalogues

I HAVE not yet had time to digest the new Catalogues, but I hope to have something to say about them next week. They are a much more interesting batch this year than ever before from the point of prices, for they have all come out practically together, at all events so closely one after the other that there has been no time for studying and circumventing each other in the matter of prices. Hence there has been a good deal of independent pricing. Of course there are ways of dealers getting at each other's prices for most things.

Catalogues Galore

There are to be catalogues galore. There are the old friends, Gibbons', Bright's, and Whitfield King's, but, in addition to these, we are to have a simplified catalogue from Mr. Field of British Colonial stamps, and I have seen the MS. of yet another catalogue.

Catalogue Conundrums

There are a few conundrums in the new catalogues. How do they place British New Guinea and Papua? Whitfield King places the "Papua" surcharges under the old heading of "British New Guinea," and so does Bright; but what will Gibbons do? If it follows the precedent of "Oil Rivers" it will pop them all under "Papua." There is a nice crop of anomalies growing up in our catalogues which a rigid alphabetical arrangement would do much to lessen. I do not envy the cataloguer of to-day. The problems that face him are full of perplexity. There should be many more cross references than there are.

German, 1900 "Reichspost," thick lettering

Amongst the new things included for the first time in the new Gibbons is the thick lettering variety of "Reichspost" in the 25 pf., 30 pf., 40 pf., 50 pf., and 80 pf. of the current series.

The history of this thick lettering variety, as told in a paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society by Mr. Reichenheim, is as follows: "Of the 25, 30, 40, 50 and 80 pf. a few sheets were first printed showing the word "Reichspost" in the same size and thickness of the letters as in the one-coloured values (3, 5, 10 and 20 pf.), but this size of print turned out to be too large for the tablet accorded to it, and was therefore reduced. As far as I know, some of the sheets in the first print were handed over to the Imperial Postal Museum and its authorities used them for payment to dealers. Some of the latter, not noticing the difference, used them for franking purposes."

Some of the German dealers sent a few presentation sets to the Editors of philatelic periodicals, and as early supplies to a few customers. When the secret leaked out the dealers who had been circulating a few of the sets sent an innocently worded but too generous offer to send the since completed series on receiving back the 25 to 80 pf. values already sent.

I do not know how many innocents returned the five odd values to be exchanged for the full series, but

I stuck to my presentation set, and am now rather amused to find the stamps priced as follows in the new Gibbons:—

	Unused.		Used.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
25 pf. black and orange on yellow	6	0 0	—	—
30 pf. " " buff	6	0 0	—	—
40 pf. " " carmine	10	0 0	—	—
50 pf. " " lilac on buff	8	0 0	3	15 0
80 pf. " " carmine on rose	6	0 0	—	—

Cayman Islands Provisionals

Here is another Cayman Islands Provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp. By way of variety this further provisional is not a cheap reprinting from the "One Half Penny" on 1d., but a fresh setting, the surcharge being the fraction " $\frac{1}{2}$ " in large, bold figures, with a large capital "D," surcharged on the current 5s. red and green, on multiple C.A. paper.

I am wondering how the new issue dealers are going to dole out this latest provisional. As with the first, Mr. W. F. Wilson is first in the market with a supply.

It is curious to note the rates at which the first provisional was distributed. Here is the record so far as I know it:—

W. F. Wilson, Birmingham, first with supply; sold out at 5s. each.

W. H. Peckitt, London, New Issue clients supplied without extra charge, non-subscribers charged 2s. 6d. each.

Ewen's New Issue subscribers charged 1s. each.

Whitfield King & Co.'s New Issue subscribers supplied without extra charge.

Gibbons: waiting till the clouds roll by.

Trade Lists

Mr. D. Field sends me a neatly got-up "Price List of Sets, Packets, etc. for 1908." I note that it includes some bargains in single C.A. issues. For instance, he offers the high-value Grenadas at a considerable reduction on Gibbons, and other quotations. He offers the 5s. for 10s. 6d., and 10s. for 22s. 6d. The "List" also includes a fine range of stock books, the most valuable being Great Britain, £1,852, and Transvaal (4 vols.), £1,000.

"Nunn's Directory" of the stamp dealers of Great Britain, 19th edition, for 1907-8, is an old-established. Price 6d. Published now by Messrs. Chas. J. Endle & Co., Boscombe, Bournemouth.

Papuan: Large Overprint

Some weeks since I gave a list of quotations for most of the values with the large overprint. Here is a complete list of Gibbons' prices up to date:—

	Unused.	
	£	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ d. green	0	0 6
1d. red	0	0 9
2d. purple	0	1 3
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. blue	0	1 6
4d. dark brown	1	0 0
6d. dark green	0	3 6
1s. orange	0	7 6
2s. 6d. chocolate	0	15 0

Some dealers never got a single copy of the 4d., but though the 4d. tops the prices at present the general opinion is that the 2s. 6d. will beat it in the final race for rarity, and as a matter of fact there were fewer printed of the 2s. 6d. than of the 4d., the numbers being

4d., number printed, large overprint, 2,970.
2s. 6d., " " " " 2,730.

Ewen must have had a nice haul, for he is still offering the set complete, ½d. to 2s. 6d., mint for 2s.

Glendining's Auctions

Here are a few long prices for notable stamps at Glendining's sale at the end of November:—

	£	s.	d.
Denmark. April, 1851, 2 r.b.s., blue, mint..	3	5	0

		£	s.	d.
Great Britain.	1841, 1d., red, imperf., block of 30	10	0	0
"	1858, Large Cr., perf. 16, 1d., rose-red, mint, block of 4	7	0	0
"	1867, 6d., violet, pl. 9, pane 20, mint	11	0	0
"	1871, 1s., green, pl. 5, pane 20, mint	12	0	0
Ceylon . .	1861, 8d., brown, used ..	4	12	6
Transvaal .	1877, 6d., blue on blue, surcharge inverted, Gibbons' No. 209, used ..	42	10	0
Tobago . .	1882, 6d., stone, C.A. ..	4	4	0
	Etc., etc., etc.			

Philatelic Society Meetings

The Scottish Philatelic Society, Junior Branch

This Society gave an "At Home" in the Edinburgh Café, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 7th December.

On arrival the guests were received by Mr. Norman M. Berrie, the President. While they were assembling those present had an opportunity of inspecting a choice selection from the valuable and extensive collection of Mr. John Walker, President of the Senior Branch.

After the guests had assembled the President addressed to them a few suitable words of welcome at the same time commenting on the progress of the Society and its claims on the attention of junior collectors in and outside of Edinburgh.

Tea and coffee were served and opportunity was given to the Members to become better acquainted with one another. Thereafter a most enjoyable musical programme provided by the members was proceeded with.

Miss Mackenzie and Mr. James very kindly contributed violin solos, which were cordially received. Amusing recitations were given by Mr. John Walker, Mr. Arnott Hamilton, and Mr. McGill. The President and the Honorary Secretary gave vocal selections and an original topical song by the President met with a very enthusiastic reception. The Assistant Secretary officiated at the piano throughout the evening and tastefully played the accompaniments as well as several piano solos which were much enjoyed.

During an interval light refreshments were served in the café's most approved style, and in the course of the evening nine new ordinary members were unanimously admitted on the motion of the Honorary Secretary, seconded by the President.

Mr. Bonnar proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to all those who had so successfully carried through the arrangements and to the performers whose efforts had so largely contributed to the success of the evening. The vote was passed with acclamation. The Honorary Secretary suitably replied and expressed the hope that the "At Home" would become an annual if not a biennial event in the history of the Society. He also mentioned that it had been more than once suggested that the Society should have an auction sale during the session, and it was remitted to Mr. Small, the Assistant Secretary, and Mr. R. M. Stewart to consider the necessary arrangements and report to the Committee on an early date.

The meeting terminated shortly before 11 p.m., and the generally expressed opinion was that it had been a great success which should soon be repeated.

FRANK CHALMERS, *Hon. Secretary,*
24 Bruntsfield Gardens, Edinburgh.

Herne Bay Philatelic Society

President: R. MacLachlan, J.P.

Hon. Sec.: T. F. Newton, 8 Promenade Central, Herne Bay.

The fortnightly meeting was held on Wednesday, 27th November, at 8 Promenade Central.

The President, R. J. MacLachlan, Esq., J.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

The chief item for the evening's programme was a paper on Austria by Major P. F. Brine, a gentleman who has taken up philately as a hobby only within the last twelve months, but becoming interested in the subject he confined his researches more particularly to Austria. Having procured a blank album, he, with a vast amount of patience, ruled it to correspond with the issues of that country as catalogued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons: a splendid means of getting the sets and dates of issue fixed in the mind. Armed with a perforation gauge, the gallant Major has since then tackled and successfully overcome the complicated and somewhat perplexing perforations, types, etc., of this particular country, and these formed the subject of a very instructive and interesting paper.

A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Kräuter, and seconded by Mr. Bignold, was carried unanimously.

Liverpool Philatelic Society

President: J. H. M. Savage.

Hon. Sec.: A. S. Allender, 71 Canning Street, Liverpool.

Meetings: Hotel St. George, Lime Street, Liverpool.

The fifth meeting of the season was held on Monday, 18th November, the President in the chair.

The business comprised the exhibition of the stamps of Niger Coast and Porto Rico, with a paper on the latter country.

Messrs. Bate, Edmondson, Fletcher, Hughes, James, Lawson, Mackay, Ross, Twiddle and Webster exhibited Niger Coast, whilst Messrs. Bate, Fletcher, Ross, Whitworth and the President displayed Porto Rico. Mr. Gordon had engaged to prepare the paper on Porto Rico but was unable to do so, and at very short notice Mr. Fletcher took his place. Considering the brief time allowed for preparation, Mr. Fletcher's paper was an able one, showing the whys and wherefores of the various issues and surcharges; and the Society was unanimous in thanking him for manfully stepping into the breach. There was the usual good attendance.

The Brighton Junior Philatelic Society

Another very successful meeting was held on November 28th, when owing to altered arrangements, Mr. Alexander J. Sefi very kindly came down from London to give his long-promised paper and display of Cashmere. After reading some very interesting notes, Mr. Sefi's fine collection of the later issues was handed round, and the members had a real lesson in how to specialise a difficult country like Cashmere. Everything was in fine condition—whole sheets, reconstructed sheets, forgeries used on originals which had passed the post, errors and shades, varieties of postmark, and finally a very interesting and amusing discourse on the treatment which the plates underwent at the hands of inexperienced workmen, who battered them about unmercifully.

The Secretary proposed and Mr. Ireland seconded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sefi, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. E. M. Marx, a former Mayor of Brighton, was elected a member.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C.

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How Readers can Help us

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us. Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages. It is the revenue which we derive from our advertisers that enables us to provide a high-class and expensive weekly. If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements. If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us. Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice.

S. Y. (Cricklewood). I can scarcely credit any Smith's bookstall clerk sending you to the Post Office for a copy of THE POSTAGE STAMP; that must be your little joke. Anyway, Smith's are not the only newsagents in your neighbourhood. Marginal numbers on stamps are of interest only to specialists. Ewen charges 5 per cent. extra for them. Your best way of selling old issues of Gibbons' Catalogues will be to advertise them, but they will scarcely pay for advertising, and after all why not keep them. It is often interesting to look back and see how a particular stamp has fared at the hands of the cataloguer in the matter of pricing.

C. S. B. (Nottingham). For specialising I should certainly advise you to get either Gibbons' or Bright's Catalogue, but if you are not going in for minor varieties Whitfield King's Catalogue should be ample for your purpose.

H. P. L. (Camberley). All the Australian colonies are still issuing Queen's heads, but they are not the only colonies still issuing Queen's heads, for Jamaica has three values with Queen's heads on multiple paper. Presumably it is a question of cost for new plates in this latter case, and the Australians are using up anything in hand-to-mouth fashion waiting for the Commonwealth issue.

W. B. G. (Preston). I don't think you are likely to pick up Cayman Islands of the single C.A. variety in bargain lists, for the simple reason that dealers cannot get them in sufficient numbers to supply ordinary customers. Nor do I think the price of the series will drop. As you say single C.A.'s have been very popular, but there is nothing to show that you are right in regarding the scramble after single C.A.'s as a passing craze. If you wait for the passing of the craze you are likely to pay through the nose for what you need to fill blanks. As you say speculators may unload, but

the cases are very few of single C.A.'s having been gobbled up by speculators. In most cases the stocks have been quietly exhausted without warning. In my opinion single C.A.'s are as cheap to-day as they are at all likely to be. The Cayman Islands, 1s. was put at 10s. by Gibbons in their specially advertised list of offers in January of last year, and other dealers have simply followed suit, but that price is not likely to last, and if you want a block of four you had better get them at that price while you may. 2s. 6d. is the selling price of the "halfpenny" on 1d. provisional Cayman Islands, but as there is already a fresh provisional ½d. of a different type, the first provisional will probably be hard to get at 2s. 6d. The sooner you secure it the better.

G. W. (Hull). The best work in English of the stamps of Europe is "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe," by W. A. S. Westoby, published by L. Upcott Gill, 170 Strand, London, in 1898. It is in two volumes, and the price is 15s. The only handbook to stamps of Europe published by Gibbons is an expensive one for specialists on the stamps of Sicily. They have published excellent handbooks on Portuguese Indies, Shanghai, St. Vincent, South Australia, Barbados, and Grenada.

A. M. C. (Newcastle-on-Tyne). The address of W. F. Wilson is 292 Birchfield Road, Birmingham. The Wilson in the old firm of Pemberton & Wilson was his brother, A. H. Wilson, who sold the business to Theodore Burke & Co., and retired altogether from stamps, and now enjoys himself fishing, etc., in the wilds of Ireland.

Miss K. B. (Liverpool). Later on I may be able to arrange to examine stamps, but I am putting off that day as long as possible. Still, I recognize the fact that readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP will probably demand some help of this sort in the near future. It is a work that is generally regarded as a more or less thankless task. Personally, I advise young collectors to study their stamps, read all the best books and journals, and join a good philatelic society.

A. M. (Acton). There are many good societies in London now which you could join and attend their meetings. You would soon get to know excellent collectors then, and get practical help and advice, for stamp collectors are always ready to help each other. Turn over your back numbers of THE POSTAGE STAMP. As you have it from the beginning you will find several reports of the doings of the various London societies. Read them and judge for yourself which you prefer. If you joined them all (except the Royal) the total subscription would not be ruinous.

Fred (North London). The best London dealer? Ah, now, Freddy, my boy, do you want to get me into hot water? I would scarcely dare to answer such a question in the privacy of my innermost sanctum, much less, openly, in a public journal. Your best plan will be to sample them, one by one, and then make your own choice.

T. J. W. S. (Birmingham). Many thanks for newspaper cutting.

The Postage Stamp

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all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Mr. Labouchere's Warning to Philatelists.



MR. LABOUCHERE, in *Truth*, has taken up the cudgels on behalf of stamp collectors as the victims of designing governments, which make and issue stamps for the purpose of fleecing them. He writes:—

“The stamp collector is imposed upon by other methods besides downright forgery. It is no unknown thing for an

impecunious Government to make an issue of postage stamps for no purpose but that of ‘raising the wind’ by disposing of them to dealers. Not long ago it was stated in the press that the Turkish Government was about to dispose by tender of stamps to the number of seventeen millions, with a view to obtaining the nucleus of a fund for a new railway in its Asiatic dominions. Presumably a good many of the seventeen million stamps would be issued simply and solely to be disposed of in this way. Governments whose credit is sound naturally abstain from tapping such a source of revenue; but mysterious hanky-panky in connection with the issue of stamps may be practised by individual officials as well as by the Post Office itself. A year or two ago, on the ground that the British Post Office at Beirut had run out of one-piastre stamps—a British 2d. stamp overprinted, or ‘surcharged’ (which, I believe, is the technical expression among collectors) with the local denomination—the deficiency was made up by over-printing two sheets of 2d. British stamps (480) with the inscription ‘Levant, one piastre.’ It was publicly stated that the type was distributed after this opera-

tion was performed—in other words, that this particular issue would be strictly limited to 480 stamps. For what reason should this announcement be made if not to raise the market value of the stamps? That this was the effect, at any rate, is pretty clear, for an expert told me recently that specimens of these particular stamps had been sold in London at something like £5, and that as much as £7 had been asked for an unused specimen. In a case like this there is apparently nothing to prevent those ‘in the know’ buying up a stock of the stamps themselves for resale at a profit of, possibly, several pounds per stamp.”

Labuan, Brunei and Gambia Speculations.

Then recent issues of Labuan and Brunei and the Gambia halfpenny surcharge scandal are cited as further cases in point. Of this latter shameless official speculation Mr. Labouchere writes:—

“Another case is that of Gambia. The postal business of this colony is so insignificant that the postmastership is an unpaid post, and the whole staff under the postmaster amounts to an assistant, two clerks, and one sorter. The business of this office is supposed to require an elaborate issue of stamps up to 3s. in face value. By a change of watermark, and the useful operation of over-printing or ‘surcharging,’ some of these stamps have been rigged up in the market to the price of 14s. On one occasion a few of the stamps were ‘surcharged’ by an odd halfpenny, the post office having already a halfpenny stamp on sale. It may or may not have been an accident; anyhow, the effect of it was to raise the market price to collectors up to half-a-sovereign or so.”

Mr. Labouchere's Remedy.

Mr. Labouchere suggests that these are matters which Mr. Winston Churchill, as Secretary for the

Colonies, should enquire into, and it is to be hoped that his suggestion will bear fruit. Many years ago the Marquis of Ripon gave one or two Colonial Postmasters such a rap over the knuckles that they have not since tried their little game on collectors.

Mr. Labouchere on Philatelic Journals.

But Mr. Labouchere winds up his trenchant criticism with a nasty dig at Philatelic Journals. He says :—

“But the persons whom it most concerns are philatelists. If they do not desire to be fooled, collectors should inform themselves a little more closely about the history of rare stamps from remote and barbarous countries before paying fancy prices for them; and above all they should beware of believing all they read in organs devoted to philately, which are mostly, if not always, mere trade journals, owned by dealers, and naturally devoted to their interests.”

Now this is a little too sweeping, for as a matter of fact the character of all the stamps condemned by Mr. Labouchere were ruthlessly exposed by Major Evans in the *Monthly Journal*. It is true they were boomed by some trade journals, but not by all. Nor are philatelic journals mostly trade journals. The *London Philatelist* is the official organ of the Royal Philatelic Society, the good old *Philatelic Record* is wholly owned by collectors, and *The Postage Stamp* is owned by the Editor and Printers and is published by the eminent firm of Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons Ltd. Moreover, Major Evans, as Editor of the *Monthly Journal*, exercises a perfectly free hand in denouncing even stamps offered for sale by his publishers.

Nevertheless, numbers of collectors tumble over each other in their mad haste to secure a share in philatelic garbage despite the warnings of the more serious philatelic journals. They argue that it is often a case of sour grapes, and unfortunately the facts often come out too late to warn collectors before they have been victimised.

Mr. Castle on the S.S.S.S.

Mr. Castle also has a word in season, which he calls “Philately (?) in Brunei.” He opines that the recent issues of Brunei “would probably have come under the ban of the S.S.S.S. had that really valuable society not been stifled by the rival jealousies of the Stamp Trade”!

Why not revive the S.S.S.S. ?

Now, why not revive the “Society for the Suppression of Speculative Issues ?” The name was enough to kill any society to begin with. If the Royal Society took up the matter and managed the matter diplomatically, I feel sure we could sit most effectually on any British Colony that attempted to foist off Speculative Issues. I cannot but believe that most, if not all, the leading dealers would agree to any rationally managed effort to suppress official swindling, for, in the end, they suffer as much as the collector, and in the case of any recalcitrant dealer we could apply an effectual collectors' boycott. Why not ?

Why not a Collectors' Boycott ?

Suppose the Royal Society leads the way and approaches the other societies to join in, and then appoints a joint Committee to confer with a Committee of Dealers, and then, rather than allow the scheme to be smashed by one or two recalcitrant Dealers, and only as a last resort, let us offer them the ultimatum of a boycott.

It is absurd to let things go on as they are much longer, when we hold the power, by combination, to smash the whole crew of swindlers and ruin their speculations. The S.S.S.S. in their brief day ruined more than one official speculation and brought a few others to their knees.

Dealers Practically Agreed.

Dealers are practically agreed as to the desirability of putting some check on the flood of new issue rubbish clearly made for sale to Collectors, but the difficulty is to get all to agree not to touch it. The chance of an effectual ban breaks down if only one Dealer holds out, for then that one secures a practical monopoly in the rubbish. So that in the final resort a systematic boycott will probably have to be faced. Bosnian perforation varieties, Roumanian so-called charity labels, numbers of unauthorised French Colonials, and U.S.A. show rubbish would soon be made an end of if dealers and collectors could be brought together by a joint Committee under the auspices of the Royal Society, and an energetic and diplomatic Secretary, such for instance as Mr. C. J. Phillips.

The Question of Cataloguing.

The question of Cataloguing is a most important one. The Cataloguers will have to agree to boycott the rubbish that is banned. It is the inclusion of the rubbish in the Catalogues that gives life to the most undesirable postal swindles.

The Burden of the Catalogue.

Now when the burden of everlastingly increasing new issues is doing so much to paralyse general collecting is the time to agitate this question. If the Catalogues could be stripped of all but stamps issued to meet genuine postal needs during the last ten years, stamp collecting would still be largely in the hands of the general Collector. But the philatelic status of one county after another is being lowered, if not ruined, by speculative rubbish made for sale to Collectors, and specialism is being rapidly narrowed, year after year, to a few choice countries. This sort of thing cannot go on without seriously imperilling the best interests of Collector and Dealer alike. The recent Barbados and Nelson Monument series, and the Kingston Relief stuff, have convinced every sane Collector that the less they invest in the stamps of that Colony the better, and several other Colonies are similarly jeopardising their place in the affections of the stamp collecting fraternity. Confidence and trust in the honest postal administration of any country, once lost, will be difficult, if not impossible to regain. Collectors have a wide range of choice, and very few, if any, ever return to a country they have given up in disgust.

The Stamps of British East Africa

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

NOT a little romance surrounds the beginnings of what promises to be a most important British colony in East Africa. British intervention in that part of the world began as early as 1824, when Mombasa was temporarily annexed. That annexation was repudiated by the Home Government of the day, which apparently regarded the act of annexation as a useless and profitless business. Many years afterwards, in 1879, the Sultan of Zanzibar offered Great Britain a Protectorate over his dominions; but we did not want to be bothered with the Sultan of Zanzibar or his dominions, so his kind offer of himself and all his belongings was politely declined with thanks. But circumstances were too strong for us. Germany in 1884 got hold of a slice of the coast opposite Zanzibar, and established a Protectorate over Witu, in and near the Tana Delta, in the following year. So we returned to the despised Mombasa and once more annexed it, this time in real earnest, and we also accepted administrative rights over the Sultan of Zanzibar's territory on the mainland, and a chartered company under the name of the Imperial British East Africa Company was entrusted in 1888 with the administration and development of our new possession. The charter of incorporation authorized the company to hold and retain their various grants and concessions, and to exercise the powers necessary for government, for preserving public order, and protecting their territories. The company was further empowered to make fresh treaties and acquisitions subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

After much trouble and tribulation in the work of extending and developing British interests, the company, exhausted and tired of its uphill task, handed over the administration of the country to the Crown in 1895.

Lord Hindlip, who has acquired a large tract of country in this new colony, has published a very outspoken criticism of British shortcomings in the matter of administration and development, under the title of *British East Africa, Past, Present, and Future*. His description of the land and the prospects of settlers is well worth quoting. He writes:—

“The Protectorate is bounded on the east by the Indian Ocean, on the north by the Italian Benadir coast and the Juba river as far as the undefined Abyssinian boundary, on the west by Uganda and the Victoria Nyanza, and by German East Africa on the south. The country can be divided for present purposes into three zones, of which the coast or first zone should, to be accurate, be subdivided into three; Mombasa, the chief port and terminus of the railway, is naturally in the first or actual coast zone, which

stretches for some ten to twenty miles or more inland from the sea. In the town the official tables show that in the cool season, July to October, the thermometer falls in the evening to 70 degrees Fahr. (I should have thought lower), and in the hot season, January to April, the nights are cool, and the temperature does not rise in the daytime above 90 degrees; these figures, I suppose, apply to the whole coast belt. This strip is tropical and not too healthy; but it is rich, and offers a greater field for immediate returns on speculation than the healthier or higher plateaux. The vegetation consists of mangrove forests, coconut palms, mangoes, fibrous plants, such as sisal and sansvéri; while bananas, pineapples, oranges, limes can be obtained at the proper time of year. There are also forests of valuable timber and of rubber, while the mangrove forests have been already successfully exploited. Labour is fairly easily obtained; and if the natives had, like the tramps at home, to show ‘visible means of sustenance,’ it would be very much more plentiful. Within ten miles of the island European vegetables are grown to a certain extent, such as potatoes, cabbage, carrots, beetroot, and turnips, while maize, native cassava, and sweet potato, are also cultivated; and these foregoing remarks can, I believe, be applied to Lamu and the Tana river districts, where it is expected that cotton will be grown to a considerable extent, but where the question of labour is a serious one, and where the river is not under control. Beyond the twenty miles or so of coast strip the bush becomes thicker and wider, interspersed with fibrous plants; at Tamburu, forty-three miles from Mombasa, and 910 feet above sea-level, low scrub and euphorbias predominate, and, while maize is grown, water is very, very scarce. There is nothing further of any great interest till Makindu, miles 209; and from there to Kiu, some fifty-eight miles, might be termed the third subdivision of the coast zone. In this part there is some fair grazing land, but nearly up to Kiu water is scarce, and the soil is thought to be too porous for the construction of dams. This is the opinion of the three South African colonists, who also state that they found excellent grazing for cattle, goats and indigenous sheep, which they think should thrive. They express doubts as to the rainfall being sufficient for agricultural purposes, and fear that owing to the scarcity of water irrigation would be hardly possible. Personally, although in this respect I do not care to put my opinion forward against theirs, I think and sincerely hope that they have exaggerated the drawbacks of this district. I believe that in time some of the subterranean rivers which are universally believed to flow somewhere under this part of the country will be tapped, and the country supplied with water by

means of artesian wells. At mile 61, the Government were boring for water in October last, and their experiments will be followed with great interest. I now come to the second zone, or the real white man's country. The Kapiti and Athi plains extend from mile 280 to Nairobi 328, and are noted chiefly for the herds of game, gangs of gunners, and the quantity and ferociousness of the ticks; near the Athi river, mile 311, these pests are particularly bad. These plains will do for stock, if the ticks are not too deadly. At present I am afraid they would be. South of the railway and these plains is the Masai Land game reserve in which the East African Syndicate's soda-lake lies, and to which they will build a railway probably from Kiu. At mile 328 is Nairobi, the future capital of the Protectorate, at an altitude of 5,450 feet. The days are not very hot, and the nights are cool, if not actually cold. The head-quarters of the railway and troops are here, while the other Government departments will probably very soon be established here also, with the exception of one or two, such as the Customs, which are inseparable from the coast. A building-stone of good quality is plentiful in the vicinity, and is being freely used. Three hotels—one recently failed, I believe—were running last year, but another well-built one, with first-class accommodation, situated on the hill should pay. A town hall, market-place, Indian and native bazaars, all find their places; while to provide amusement are a race-course, where races are held twice a year, cricket ground, and agricultural show, and the Colonists' Association rooms. Quite a number of blue gums have been planted, which serve three extremely useful purposes: they provide shade, they look very well, and they diminish the unhealthiness of a malarious situation. Although living is cheap in Nairobi, as the Government is so backward in the matter of a survey of the country, they might well assist intending settlers, and might provide accommodation for *bona fide* men at a minimum rate. Nairobi is, not unnaturally, at present the chief centre of settlement, and land has been taken up towards Fort Hall and the north for a distance of some thirty miles; this, the Kikuyu country, on the whole, is essentially an agricultural district as opposed to a grazing and stock-raising one, though for the combination of the two I prefer the land further west, where the stock-raising prospects are infinitely superior and the agricultural possibilities, in my mind, hardly inferior. Passing from Nairobi along the line there is evidence on all sides of the strides made during the last two years, and no doubt on my return I shall, I hope, see more signs of increasing development and prosperity. After cresting the Kikuyu escarpment the railway brings one down to the fine grazing lands round Naivasha Gilgil and Elmentcita, to the north of which lie the valuable sheep runs of the East African Syndicate, which, owing to the Masai flocks, are perhaps better prepared to be immediately stocked with wool-bearing sheep than any other land in the country. Near Naivasha are also the Government stock farm and zebra ranch. Beyond Elmentcita, Nakuru is reached, and northward from here towards Lake Baringo some twenty-three farms have, I believe, been taken up for South African farmers. These nestle under the foot of the hills of Laikipia, on the high plateaux of which range is the land

reserved for the Masai. Almost adjoining the farms on the north of the line is Lord Delamere's station, a leasehold property of 100,000 acres, a great deal of which, although not the finest land, is a tract of country well fitted for carrying a large stock of sheep, and apparently sufficiently watered to guard against even a most serious drought. On the south side of the railway between Nakuru and Njoro stations lies my own station, which, although in an embryo state, may show not uninteresting trials and experiments, and where the *bona fide* settler of whatever means will always be cordially welcomed. Southward is the Lumbwa country, and south again the Sotik, which country is at present disturbed and unfit for colonization, but both of which will no doubt shortly provide a considerable tract for settlement. West of Londiani and north of the railway beyond the foothills lies the Nandi plateau, said to be one of the most promising districts in the whole country, but which, owing to the turbulence of the natives, is practically a closed district. North of the Nandi plateau is the Uasingishu plateau, which was offered to the Zionists, and which will, I am sure, prove to be both a stock-raising and agricultural district which will be very hard to beat. This plateau extends for a considerable distance northwards. Returning to the line after dropping down from the main plateaux Fort Ternan (mile 536) is reached, and here, with the exception of the high ground to the north, the edge of the white man's country proper is reached. Beyond Fort Ternan another drop of some 800 feet runs before at Mohoroni, the third zone begins stretching to the lake at mile 584. The country lying to the north of Kenia and across the Guaso Nyiro is practically an unknown quantity, and by many is supposed to be useless; personally I am very sceptical of this."

According to *Hazell's Annual* the Protectorate, which is administered by a Commissioner and Consul-General, who is also British Agent and Consul-General at Zanzibar, is divided into the following districts, each under a sub-commissioner:—

The Coast Province, capital Mombasa.	
Ukamba	Nairobi.
Tanaland with Witu	Lamu.
Jubaland	Kismayu.
Kenya	Fort Hall.
Naivasha and Kisumu.	

The chief ports are Mombasa, population 27,000, Lamu, Vanga, and Kismayu. A railway 582 miles long connects Mombasa with Lake Victoria Nyanza. The estimated area of the Protectorate is 200,000 square miles, and the population 4,000,000. The revenue for 1903-4 is given as £108,857, and the expenditure as £350,958. The imports in 1903-4 amounted to 604,500, and the exports to £160,000.

From all of which it will be gathered that this interesting philatelic favourite of ours is, as yet, but a colony in the making.

Its Philatelic History

Its philatelic history commences with the year 1890, when three of the current stamps of Great Britain were overprinted with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA

COMPANY and the values in Indian currency. As to this curious adoption of the Indian currency for use in an African Colony, Lord Hindlip says :—

The Indian currency was another incident of the Indian invasion, and apparently, as a parting shot in a death struggle, the Foreign Office proposed and has forced upon the unfortunate country that bastard coinage, the rupees and cents of Ceylon. The one saving clause is that paper notes will be issued, which will save great trouble and expense ; but why, in the name of all that is wonderful, a coinage only current in a small Eastern island should be foisted upon a young, rising white colony, whose trade will in future be with white countries where the English coinage runs, passes all comprehension.

In 1890-1 a full series from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 5 rupees was issued. This series was inscribed IMPERIAL BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY, the full official title of the Chartered Company. Various provisionals, some with the postmaster's initials, followed in 1891-5.

In 1895, when the Foreign Office took over the administration, the full series of the Company's stamps in stock at Mombasa was overprinted with a handstamp with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA. When these were exhausted, a supply of the current stamps of India, all values from $\frac{1}{2}$ anna to 5 rupees, was overprinted with ordinary type with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

In 1896 the colony was supplied with a series of special and uniform design bearing the head of Queen Victoria.

In 1897 a shortage of low values was provided for by overprinting six of the then current stamps of Zanzibar with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

At the end of 1897 a series of eight rupee values, from 1 rupee to 50 rupees, was issued. These rupee stamps were in the matter of design an enlargement of the special design of 1896.

This enlarged series closes Chapter 1 of the philatelic history of "British East Africa." The further philatelic history of the colony is transferred in our Catalogues to the new name given to the combined administration of British East Africa and Uganda, namely, "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates." This first chapter very appropriately closes with the last issue of Queen's Heads, and the new chapter as appropriately opens with the issue of King's Heads. In this first chapter are included many expensive stamps, all of which are probably destined to go higher and higher, so that the administrative change of name that has taken place allows of what to many collectors will be a very acceptable division between stamps running beyond the reach of the ordinary collector and issues that are still moderately priced. Moreover, the older issues are the happy hunting ground of the specialist. For the specialist these first issues of British East Africa will always have a great attraction. Their historical interest is undoubted. We may trace the establishment and development of the Chartered Company in the first two issues, the process of change to Imperial administration in the overprinting of the Company's stamps with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA, omitting the word COMPANY, and the final establishment of Imperial rule in the issue of the Queen's Heads.

Some say that when the struggling, subsidized young colony has blossomed out into great commercial prosperity, with a teeming population of busy workers, and a revenue mounting upwards from its present stunted £108,857 into millions, we shall be proud of the history revealed in those early stamps of its infancy.

1890 (May). Three values. Design, the contemporary. Queen's Head, stamps of Great Britain, overprinted in black, with the words BRITISH EAST AFRICA in three lines at the top, and the value in one line below, in Indian currency. This overprinting was done by Messrs. De La Rue and Co. The numbers overprinted were as follows :—

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, 1440
1 " 1440
4 annas, 780

We illustrate the overprints of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and the 1 a. ; the 4 a. was of the type of the 1 a.



Wmk. Crown. Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna on 1d., lilac	30	0	25	0
1 " 2d., green and carmine	75	0	50	0
4 annas on 5d., lilac and blue	75	0	50	0

Range of Catalogue Prices: Unused.

These stamps show a considerable rise since 1896. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. and 4 a. have maintained their increase without a set back, but the 1 a. which has always been high priced was certainly overpriced at 80s. in 1899 and at 100s. in 1902, since which it has dropped to 75s. The number printed is not always a safe criterion of value, but seeing that nearly double as many of the 1 a. were issued as of the 4 a., I should be inclined to think that eventually the higher value will naturally and before long top the list in price.

It will be noted that I am taking the prices in cycles of three years, which I find quite sufficient for noting the fluctuations.

	1896		1899		1902		1905		1908	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 1d.	10	0	12	6	25	0	30	0	30	0
1 a. on 2d.	40	0	80	0	100	0	75	0	75	0
4 a. on 5d.	30	0	30	0	50	0	75	0	75	0

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of British East Africa is probably the finest in the world.

Exchange Clubs

Their Work and How to Run Them

BY AN OLD MEMBER

O PINIONS regarding the utility of Exchange Clubs are many and various, but an impartial observer, weighing the pros and cons submitted by all parties, cannot help thinking that the arguments adduced by the opponents of the system are somewhat biased. Treating the whole subject quite fairly the conclusion is inevitably reached that Exchange Clubs, run in a business-like manner, are of undoubted benefit to a large circle of collectors, and occupy a place in Philately only second to that of properly organised Philatelic Societies. In fact many of the best of modern Exchange Clubs are run in connection with some Society or other of good standing.

The primary object of an Exchange Club, as its name implies, is for the exchange of duplicates between the members of that club. Every collector is bound to accumulate duplicates of more or less value, and, unless he is fortunate in having a wide circle of philatelic friends with whom he can "swop," the difficulties of disposing of his duplicates to the best advantage is obvious. Here the Exchange Club is a distinct factor for good, for by becoming a member, the collector has the opportunity of offering his duplicates to other philatelists and from their stamps he can choose varieties he desires for his own collection.

Originally Exchange Clubs were run on the basis of exchange pure and simple. That is each member was expected to take stamps from the other member's duplicates to the full value of those removed from his own exchange sheets. In theory this is an excellent idea, but in practise it was soon found unworkable for many reasons, and nowadays most Clubs are run on a cash basis, each member being debited with the amount of his purchases and credited with the value of the stamps sold from his own sheets, settlements in cash being made at fixed intervals.

How an Exchange Club is Conducted.

To be successful an Exchange Club must have an energetic and businesslike Secretary whose duty it is to make up and despatch the packets on their rounds, check the sales, manage the accounts and generally overlook matters. We will suppose the Club is a small one consisting of, say, twenty members. By a stated date in each month every member is expected to post to the Secretary one or more sheets on which he has mounted some of his duplicate stamps, priced at the figures he is prepared to accept for them. Generally some catalogue is taken as a guide and as a rule stamps which are fairly common are priced at about 50% below the catalogue quotations. The

Secretary numbers the sheets places them in a box together with the postal list and they are posted from member to member until the circuit is complete. Then the sales and purchases of each member are noted and accounts are sent out. And so it goes on month in and month out.

Their Disadvantages.

Judging from the preceding paragraph all appears to be plain sailing; but there is another side to the picture. Many collectors join an Exchange Club with the idea then they are going to buy stamps at much lower prices than they could obtain them for from stamp dealers. This is quite a mistaken idea for the majority of common and medium stamps can be obtained quite as cheaply from dealers. As regards the rarer stamps though they may be priced at tempting figures it must be remembered that the collector buys at his own risk. There is no "guarantee of genuineness" in Exchange Clubs, whereas every dealer of repute guarantees every stamp he sells for an unlimited period. Many clubs make a point of the fact that "no dealers are admitted." True, no bona-fide members of the trade, *i.e.*, those who pose openly as stamp dealers, are in the postal lists but it will usually be found that collector-dealers of all sorts are among the members.

Mr. B. T. K. Smith in his recently published book, "How to Collect Postage Stamps" makes a number of pertinent remarks regarding Exchange Clubs, *viz.* :—"It is not my intention to decry them, but as the advantages of sheets circulating among members are much more apparent than the disadvantages, it may be well to point out that in the case of small buyers the expenses of postage, subscriptions, and commissions, are not unimportant items, and that the absence of satisfactory guarantees of the genuineness and correct descriptions of the stamps sent round, the long delays, the danger of substitution, and the great disparity usually existing between the reserve funds of the clubs and the value of the stamps in circulation, are not wholly to be overlooked." These are points worthy of serious consideration of the collector, who is necessarily not an expert, should certainly refrain from buying rare stamps through the medium of an Exchange Club. If a faked or forged stamp is purchased the member has no redress, whereas in buying from a dealer the collector has the satisfaction of knowing that the dealer's knowledge is backed by a substantial guarantee.

Their Advantages.

The great feature on the "advantage" side is that Exchange Clubs give the collector an opportunity of disposing of his duplicates at a fair price. Dealers,

as a rule, do not wish to purchase the more common varieties, and, as the ordinary collector's duplicates are not of sufficient value to be saleable to the trade or at auction, Exchange Clubs offer the only chance of disposing of them. Where the dealing element is eliminated so far as is possible and real "exchange" is the dominant feature of the club, collectors meet on level terms to their mutual advantage. If, therefore, a collector has many duplicates and can also afford to spend at least 10/- per month he will probably find it well worth his while to join an Exchange Club. Care should be taken to join one with a good reputation, *i.e.*, in which no member is admitted who cannot furnish the best of references. There are unfortunately many clubs the secretaries of which are very lax in returning members' sheets and paying any credit balances, though these gentlemen are usually particularly prompt in demanding the payment of adverse balances.

If the collector resides in a suitable district the best plan is to persuade other kindred spirits to join in forming a private club. Each member should furnish satisfactory references and, when a Secretary is chosen, a set of rules for the proper management of the club should be formulated. The items given in the following paragraph might with advantage form the basis of these regulations.

A Model Set of Rules.

1. This Society shall be known as "The Blankshire Exchange Club."

2. Sheets for inclusion in the ensuing month's packet must be forwarded to the Secretary not later than the 25th of each month and a stamped addressed envelope of convenient size should be enclosed for the return of the sheets.

3. All stamps should be securely mounted by means of hinges with the *net price* marked in ink above each. The sheets should all be of octavo size and stamps should be mounted on one side of each page only. The member's name and address together with the value and number of pages of stamps should be clearly stated on the front of each sheet. Sufficient space should be provided for the signatures of members removing stamps and for particulars of their takings.

4. The Secretary will send out the packet on the first day of each month. Each member must forward the packet to the member whose name is next on the postal list the last to see the packet returning it to the Secretary. Each packet must be forwarded by *Registered Post* and every member will be considered responsible for the safety of the packet from the time of its arrival until it is delivered to the Post Office for registration.

5. Directly a packet is received members should carefully examine the sheets to see that none are missing and that all vacant spaces have been signed. Should there be any omissions the Secretary and member from whom the packet was received must be at once informed, the latter being debited with the value of the missing stamps and the cost of postage incurred in making the enquiry.

6. The spaces from which stamps are removed must be signed in ink, or by means of a rubber stamp, and details of the purchases entered in the space provided on the front of each sheet.

7. The packet must not be kept longer than one clear day (Sundays excepted).

8. Members must advise the Secretary of absence from home or change of address at the earliest possible moment.

9. Every care is taken to ensure the safety of the packets but neither the Secretary nor any individual member can hold themselves responsible for any member's debts or for any loss or damage to the stamps during their transit in the post.

10. Any member wishing his name removed from the postal list must give the Secretary one month's notice.

11. No member may make comments on another member's sheets. Any stamps that are forgeries or wrongly described may be marked provided the member also signs his name and undertakes to purchase the stamps at the prices marked if, in the opinion of some competent authority, his assertions are proved to be incorrect.

12. When each member has seen the packet the Secretary will return the sheets to their respective owners together with a statement of account. All adverse balances must be paid within seven days.

Australians

Proposed Commonwealth Issue

Electro Process.

PRACTICAL men in Sydney do not share the views of the board as to the relative cost of the two printing processes. A gentleman well qualified to express an authoritative opinion, said, when questioned by a representative of *The Daily Telegraph* on the subject: "To print 19 denominations, using electros, 19 plates would be used, each plate costing £20—a total of £380. With these 360,000 stamps could be printed in an hour, at a cost of 2s. 6d., exclusive of ink. The cost of the ink required to print 100 sheets with 360 on a plate would be 8d., or 6s. 8d. per 1000 sheets. The plates would be good for anything up to 1,000,000

impressions. Before I tell you about the steel plates, I would like to mention that the plant at Washington Bureau is worth at least a million sterling. Before the Commonwealth commits itself to a scheme, which from existing data gives abundant evidence of running into such huge expenditure, cooler judgment should be exercised.

Steel Plate Process.

Now, a word or two as to the other process. To print 19 denominations off steel plates would require four plates for each denomination, or 76 plates in all, and as each plate costs £100, the total cost of the plates alone would be £7600. With these plates

144,000 stamps could be printed in an hour, at a cost of 3s. 6d., exclusive of ink and paper. To print 100 sheets with 360 stamps on a plate would cost 7s., or in other words, 1,000 sheets would cost £3 10s. Then, the plates would be good for only 50,000 impressions before introducing 'philatelic horrors.' It is well known by those competent to judge, that to effect the change from electro to steel plates would cost something like £30,000. In conclusion, I would just like to mention that the Canadian Government, some 10 years ago, installed plant at a cost of £80,000. As the population of that country is only one million and a quarter more than ours, it will be seen that my estimate of £30,000 is not by any means inflated."

Sales to Collectors.

Prominent philatelists are not inclined to agree with the figures quoted by Mr. Hull. It is pointed out that from £15,000 to £20,000 would have been nearer the amount for collections during the first year, and that the annual amounts decrease each year according to the length of time a series remains current. It would be safer, therefore, to place the sales for the second year at £5000, and to allow for a decrease of £500 per year thereafter. According to a gentleman closely associated with stamp collecting, there are not more than 2500 collectors in Australia, and half of them are of the boy and girl class, while half the remainder buy very little. In his opinion the serious collectors would not exceed 500.

Stamp Output of each State.

It is interesting in this connection to give the stamp output of each State. New South Wales tops the list with 125,000,000 per annum, next comes Victoria 102,000,000, Queensland 42,000,000, South

Australia 28,000,000, West Australia 23,000,000, and Tasmania 14,000,000. One of the reasons urged for the proposed change in the present system was that of economy, but from the recommendations of the board very little prominence appears to have been given to this important point.

Initial Cost and Philatelic Returns.

The board endeavours to show that the initial cost will be to a large extent met by philatelic returns, but, as shown above, these are not likely to prove as large as was estimated by the member of the board representing that interest. It might come as a surprise to the members of the board to learn that by the expenditure of only £2000 the plant in the Government Printing Office of this State could be made capable of producing all the stamps required for the Commonwealth. The machines would not have to work full time either.

Adelaide Stamp Printing Office.

Mr. J. B. Cooke, of Adelaide, where the annual output of stamps is only 28,000,000, as against 125,000,000 in the Mother State, is, it is said, to be the Federal Government stamp printer. New South Wales is the only State in which steel plates have been used in connection with stamp printing; and in view of this it is all the more remarkable that the Government Printing Office of this State was not represented on the board. When the proposal for centralisation was submitted before, the attitude adopted by this State was that such a departure was unnecessary until the Federal capital was an accomplished fact, and the Federal Printing Office established. This contention is again advanced at the present time.

—*Sydney Daily Telegraph*, 9.11.07.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 193)

Bosnia and Herzegovina.—Two provinces in the north-western portion of the Balkan Peninsula which, though nominally provinces of the Turkish Empire, are virtually provinces of Austria. They have an area of about 17,000 square miles, and a population of over a million and a half—all of Servian blood. Successively forming part of Illyria, Pannonia, and Dalmatia, the country was peopled by Slavs in the 6th and 7th centuries. Then for eight hundred years, it was subject successively to Servia Croatia, and a line of native kings until, in 1463, it was subjugated by the Turkish Sultan Mohammed II. It afterwards played an important part in supplying the famous Janissary corps of the Turkish armies. In 1849-50 and in 1875 the peasantry (who mostly clung to the Roman Catholic faith) rose in revolt against their masters (their own countrymen who had accepted Mohammedanism in order to retain their estates) and against their Turkish

rulers. Under the treaty of Berlin of July 13th, 1878, the joint monarchy of Austria-Hungary was given a mandate to occupy and administer Bosnia and Herzegovina, together with the sarjak of Novi-Bayar, under the nominal suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey. Sajajevo is the capital, seat of administration, and headquarters of the army of occupation. Postage stamps were first issued in April, 1879.

Boston.—The capital and largest city in the state of Massachusetts, U.S.A., having a population of over 600,000. It is situated at the head of Massachusetts Bay, the first settlement having been made in 1630 by settlers from the Winthrop fleet. The town took a leading part in the revolution and was the scene of the Boston "tea party." In 1872 much of the business portion of the city was destroyed by fire. The intellectual "culture" of Boston is proverbial.

In 1849 and 1850 a semi-official postal service was established for the delivery of letters within the precincts of the city and in connection with this special 1c. and 2c. stamps were issued.

Boyaca.—One of the departments of the republic of Colombia having an area of 33,350 square miles and a population of over 730,000. Since 1899 it has issued its own special postage stamps.

Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co.—A well known London firm of printers and engravers who manufactured the plates and printed the stamps for the British South Africa Company from 1890 to 1895.

Brattleboro'.—A town in the state of Vermont, U.S.A., having a population of about 6,000. In 1846 the postmaster issued a special 5c. stamp to facilitate the prepayment of postage. It was suppressed on the appearance of the general issue for the United States in 1847.

Braunschweig.—The German form of Brunswick.

Brazil.—The largest state in South America officially styled "Republic dos Estados Unidos de Brazil"—Republic of the United States of Brazil. It has an area of 3,218,166 square miles and a population of over 15 millions. The people are of various races and include over a million "wild" Indians and other uncivilised tribes. The country was discovered in 1500 by the Portuguese navigator, Pedro Alvarez Cabral, who named it *Tierra da Vera Cruz*, and claimed it for the Portuguese. From that time until 1889 (except from 1580 to 1661) Brazil was governed by the Portuguese royal house. In 1808 the prince regent of Portugal, Jozó VI., transferred his court to Rio de Janeiro, and Brazil became an independent empire. On Nov. 15th, 1889, a republic was proclaimed during a bloodless revolution which drove the reigning monarch, Dom Pedro II., from the throne, and with him the house of Braganza was banished. On Feb. 24th, 1891, a new Constitution was voted by the Constituent Assembly by which the President's term of office was fixed at four years; Church and State were separated, civil marriages only made valid, and education secularised. The legislative power is in the hands of two chambers—the Senate of 63 members and a Chamber of Deputies 212 in number. Postage stamps were first issued in 1843 and most of those issued between 1866 and 1889 show the portrait of Dom Pedro II.

Bremen.—One of the free states of the German Empire, lying between Oldenburg and Hanover, having an area of 99 square miles and population of over 263,000. It sends one representative to the Imperial Diet and has one vote in the Imperial Council. The state and town of Bremen form a democratic republic governed by a senate of 16 elected members (the executive), presided over by a Burgomaster, and an assembly of 150 citizens (the legislative authority). In 1648 the Duchy of Bremen was assigned to Sweden, whence it was sold in 1715 to Hanover, with which it is now incorporated. Postage stamps were first issued in 1855 and the state ceased to issue stamps on joining the North German Confederation in Jan., 1868.

Bridgeville.—A city in the state of Alabama, U.S.A., at which a special 5c. stamp was issued by the postmaster in 1861, prior to the introduction of the general issue for the Confederate States.

British American Bank Note Company.—A well-known firm of Canadian printers and engravers having establishments at Montreal and Canada. This firm engraved and printed the 1868-95 issues of Canada, the 1880-97 stamps of Newfoundland, and 4½d. stamp of Prince Edward Island.

British Bechuanaland.—The southern portion of Bechuanaland now included in the colony of the Cape of Good Hope. It has an area of 51,500 square miles and a population of over 85,000 of which about one-eighth are whites. It was annexed by Great Britain in 1885, and ten years later was transferred to Cape Colony. Its chief town is Mafeking, noted for its siege during the Boer war. Postage stamps were first issued in February, 1886.

British Central Africa.—A vast territory under British protection in S. Central Africa, most of which is under the administration of the British South Africa Company, this portion being officially known as N.E. and N.W. Rhodesia. The remainder, which is under direct imperial control, comprises the eastern part, and is known as the British Central Africa Protectorate. It was originally known as Nyassaland, and the title of the protectorate is shortly to revert to its old name and will be officially designated the Nyassaland Protectorate. The control of this portion of the territory, with which we are now concerned, was transferred from the Foreign Office to the Colonial Office on April 1st, 1904. The population consists of about 950,000 natives and 600 Europeans, and the area of the colony is 42,217 square miles. The chief town is Blantyre. At Chinde, at the mouth of the Zambesi River, a piece of Portuguese territory is leased so that goods intended for the Protectorate may be transhipped free of duty. Postage stamps were first issued in April, 1891.

British Columbia.—A province of the Dominion of Canada, bounded on the east by the Rocky mountains, on the south by the United States, on the west by the Pacific Ocean and Alaska, and on the north by the 60th parallel of N. latitude. Its area of 312,030 square miles includes the former crown colony of Vancouver Island (area, 14,000 square miles). In 1866 the two Colonies were united, and in 1871 they were admitted as the Province of British Columbia, into the Dominion. A special stamp for both colonies was issued in 1861, and from Nov. 1st, 1865, until it entered the Dominion of Canada, British Columbia had its own stamps.

British Consular Mail.—A post inaugurated in the island of Madagascar by the British Vice-Consul at Antananarivo in March, 1884. Special stamps were printed for use in connection with this post these having the distinction of being the largest postage stamps known. These stamps prepaid mail matter only to Port Louis (Mauritius) or Reunion. The post was suppressed in 1887.

To be continued.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Bermuda. Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co., send us the 2d. value in the current Dock design. Evidently we shall have all the values in this type as new supplies are required. The issues of this type up to date are as follows:—

Dock Design. Wmk. C.A. Perf. 14.

- ½d. green, centre black.
- 1d. carmine, centre brown.
- 3d. sage green, centre magenta.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

- ½d. green, centre black.
- 1d. carmine, centre brown.
- 2d. orange, centre grey.
- 2½d. blue, centre brown.

Cayman Islands. (193.) *Even's Weekly Stamp News* says: "the ½d. on 5s. chronicled by us last week is hand-stamped and that only 1,440 were issued, of which one half were promptly sold to some favoured local individual." *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* hears that a supply of 5s. stamps was also surcharged "1d." with a heavy black figure like the "½d." provisional.

Provisionals.

- "One Halfpenny" on 1d. carmine.
- "½d." on 5s. vermilion and green.
- "1d." " " "

France. We have received the 20c. in the Sower type on solid background. It is printed in a dull chocolate colour.

Sower Type. Perf. 14 × 13½.

- 5 c. green.
- 10 c. vermilion.
- 20 c. chocolate.
- 25 c. blue.
- 30 c. orange.
- 35 c. violet.

Hong Kong. The much heralded 6 cents, multiple C.A., has at last been actually issued. Mr. A. H. Stamford kindly sends us a pair with control No. 1, and sheet No. M0002. The sheet No. shows a curious double impression. Mr. Stamford says the stamp was probably first sold to the public on the 4th December, 1907. The medalion is printed in a rich vermilion and the rest of the design in a dark violet. This makes the list of King's heads on multiple paper to date as follows:—

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

- 1 c. brown and lilac.
- 2 c. green.
- 4 c. purple on red.
- 4 c. red.
- 5 c. orange and green.
- 6 c. dark violet and vermilion.
- 8 c. violet and black.
- 10 c. blue and lilac on blue.
- 10 c. blue.
- 12 c. brown and green on yellow.
- 20 c. brown and black.
- 30 c. black and green.
- 50 c. purple and green.
- £1 sage green and lilac.
- £2 red and black.
- £3 blue and black.
- £5 green and lilac.
- £10 brown and black on blue.

Nicaragua. We quote the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*: "Our New York house forwards us a nearly complete set of the Waterlow stamps, overprinted "COSTA--ATLANTICA"—C, in black on all values, except on the 1 peso, on which the overprint is in violet. The stamps overprinted in this way are sold at a greatly increased price in Nicaragua, as they are intended for use in certain territories where the coinage varies considerably in value."

Waterlow print, overprinted "COSTA--ATLANTICA"—C in black (on 1 p. in violet).

- 1 c. green.
- 2 c. red.
- 3 c. purple.
- 4 c. brownish orange.
- 5 c. blue.
- 10 c. bistre-brown.
- 15 c. olive.
- 20 c. claret.
- 50 c. orange.
- 1 p. black.
- 2 p. green.
- 5 p. violet.

Papua. (27.) We have received the new and permanent issue. It is simply an adaptation of the British New Guinea design, the word "Papua" being substituted for the old name of "British New Guinea" in the scroll along the upper part of the design. It is evidently printed in Melbourne on the current Victoria Crown and double lined A paper, though we cannot make out the watermark clearly on our copy. The perforation is 11.

Permanent Issue.

Wmk. Crown and double lined A. Perf. 11.

½d. green, centre black.

Persia. According to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*: "*Le Journal des Philatélistes* (30.11.07) says that a new set of sixteen values is to be issued on 1st Jan., 1908. They will be from 1 chahi to 30 krans, and the 13 chahi and higher values will bear a portrait of the new Shah. We suppose that these things are being made in Paris, and will, as usual, be on sale there long before they ever reach Teheran."

Switzerland. (169.) Baron A. de Reuterskiöld says the 20 c., 25 c., 30 c., 40 c., 50 c. and 1 fr. of the current Helvetia standing figure type, have been issued on granite paper.

Granite Paper.

- 20 c. orange.
- 25 c. blue.
- 30 c. deep brown.
- 40 c. grey.
- 50 c. green.
- 1 f. carmine.

In chronicling the stamps of the new design we listed them as "no wmk.," but we now learn from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* on the authority of Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, that they have the old "cross" watermark, but so faint as not to be seen without immersion in benzine.

From Other Magazines

Philatelists and Collectors.

IF the collector, an uncatalogued variety of a stamp is a thing to be promptly exchanged for number 60 or number 600 in So and So's catalogue; he has no use for it; but for the philatelist, life can hold few greater joys than the discovery of an uncatalogued variety, and herein lies the difference between philatelist and collector. The man who only collects varieties of stamps because they are catalogued by Smith, or by Jones, has not yet lifted the curtain that veils Philately's shrine; not until he has made discoveries—unaided by Brown or Robinson is he worthy—or indeed likely to join the brotherhood of Philatelists.

Many wealthy collectors, owners of fine collections—and possibly members of well known Societies have yet to experience the keen delights that are often felt by their less fortunate brethren—less fortunate as regards the wherewithal to purchase their treasures. As the world wags and we rub shoulders with all sorts and conditions of philatelists, collectors, dealers, speculators, fakers, and speculative-collector-dealers, we grow more and more convinced that the true philatelist cannot be envolved out of a collector.

The collecting instinct, so strong in all mankind—is not sufficient, even when directed to stamps to alone make the philatelist; there still remains a subtle difference that, although so easily felt, is to us, quite undefinable—perhaps it is that the philatelist is born, whereas the collector merely collects stamps because they appeal to his collecting instincts to a greater degree than do coins, medals, or the hundred and one other things that are beloved by collectors.

Fortunate indeed is the philatelist with a big banking account, but his poorer brother philatelist does not envy him to the same extent as does the non wealthy collector envy the rich collector. When Jones, the collector, has completed his collection of Australian stamps, catalogue varieties, he loses most of his interest in them, whereas Brown, the philatelist, with half the rare stamps still wanting, is happy in searching for shades, printings, proofs, essays and postmarks, many of which when found are purchased for a few pence.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, Nov. 1907.*

Death of M. Maury.

The following biographical note of M. Maury, the well known stamp dealer of Paris, whose death was announced in *The Postage Stamp* of the 21st Dec., 1907 (p. 161), has been supplied to the *Monthly Journal* by Monsieur Verrier, brother-in-law of M. Maury:—

“Arthur Maury was born in Paris on July 31st, 1844, and commenced collecting stamps at a very early age. When but sixteen years old he exhibited stamps in the window of his father's glove-shop, at Boulogne-sur-Mer, for sale or exchange with passing collectors. Business gradually increased, and in

order to supply his clients he had to obtain stamps from various sources, principally from Paris, where he made the acquaintance of the collectors and dealers of that date; and thus was established the Maury stamp business. Soon afterwards he moved to the capital, 5, Rue de Richelieu, opposite the Théâtre Français, and it was there that, in 1864, the first number of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* made its appearance. Arthur Maury was then twenty, and encouraged by the success of his journal, he next brought out his first Catalogue.

“In 1865, having to leave his first address, the business was transferred to 23 Rue Le Peletier, and afterwards, more accommodation being required, to 92 Rue St. Lazare, a fine suite of several rooms, suitable for conversion into offices. It was there that M. Maury lived through the siege of Paris and the troubles of the Commune, and spent the spare time, which the enforced interruption of his business left on his hands, in serving his country as a volunteer in the Ambulance corps. He received on this occasion the bronze cross of the French Society for Aid to the Wounded. During this time, and during the period of the Commune, he founded, and carried on with the assistance of his brother-in-law, M. Lorin, who was authorized to pass in and out of Paris, a private office for the exchange of correspondence with the provinces.

“Later on, the growth of his business necessitated larger premises, and, whilst retaining his shop in the Rue St. Lazare, he took a whole house in the Cité Malesherbes.

“In September, 1891, offices and shop were again transferred, this time into the middle of Paris, 6 Boulevard Montmartre, where they still exist.

“M. Maury by means of his numerous works (175 editions in all) contributed largely to the development of Philately on scientific lines. It was in his journal for November 15th, 1864, that he advocated the use of the word ‘Philately,’ which has since been universally adopted.

“In 1893 he was appointed, by the Minister of Commerce, a member of the Commission for studying the question of proposed changes in the French stamps.

“He was also the author of a highly appreciated catalogue of the French Postmarks, in two volumes, and he brought out quite recently his *History of the French Postage Stamps*, a most important work of 400 pages. It was only just before his death that he wrote the last words of the supplement to this book. He had in addition completed the manuscript of another volume, *The History of the Post Office in France before the Issue of Postage Stamps*, and was engaged upon the final portion of a work, partially in print, on *The Arms of States, and the Emblems to be found upon Stamps*.

He had received various foreign decorations and his name had quite recently been proposed for the Cross of the Legion of Honour. It would have been a fitting crown to a career well finished.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Royal Philatelic Society

President: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President: The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Sec.: J. A. Tilleard, 10, Gracechurch Street, E.C.
Meetings: 4, Southampton Row, W.C., Alternate Thursdays at 6 p.m.
Annual Subscription: Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.

The first meeting of the season 1907-8 was held at 2, Cavendish Square, by invitation of the Vice-President, on Thursday, 17th October, 1907, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, E. D. Bacon, L. L. R. Hausburg, Major E. B. Evans, T. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, H. G. Palliser, Franz Reichenheim, J. G. Tolhurst, John Walker, jun., W. Schwabacher, D. C. Gray, R. Meyer, C. F. Dendy Marshall, Harvey R. G. Clarke, E. Wetherell, J. C. Rix, E. J. Nankivell, J. R. Burton, Baron P. de Worms, Baron A. de Worms, R. Frentzel, Colonel J. Bonhote, C. Stuart Dudley, W. T. Wilson, A. W. Chambers, C. N. Biggs, C. E. McNaughtan, M. P. Castle, and J. A. Tilleard. L. E. Hall (associate).

The Vice-President having taken the chair, the minutes of the last meeting of the past season, as published in the *London Philatelist*, were taken as read.

Amongst the correspondence read by the Honorary Secretary was a letter from Mr. Kjellstedt, an International Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, calling attention to the work and privileges of membership of that body, and one from Mr. Lane Joynt as to the possibility of the Society obtaining and publishing photographic reproductions of the imprimatur sheets of the 1d. black English stamp, a suggestion which was referred to the Council for consideration.

A letter from Mr. W. V. Morten, sending correspondence with Dr. Perkins and Dr. Hugo Müller in reference to the so-called Perkins paper used for experiments with the early English stamps, and asking for further information from members interested, was also read.

Mr. M. P. Castle mentioned a communication he had received from Captain Paul Ohrt as to the publication by the Society of an English edition of the writer's work on Reprints, and this letter was also referred to the Council for consideration.

The Honorary Secretary reported the receipt of an intimation from Dr. Kalckhoff, of the death of Mr. H. Fraenkel on the 20th September. The announcement was received with great regret, and the Honorary Secretary was directed to convey to Mr. Fraenkel's family, through Dr. Kalckhoff, the expression of the high esteem in which the late member was held by his fellow-members in the Society, and of their sincere sympathy with the members of his family in their bereavement.

The receipt from Mr. Harvey Clarke of a fine series of the early "Sydney View" stamps, and from His Royal Highness the President, of a valuable selection of the first issues of the stamps of Afghanistan, was reported by the Honorary Secretary, and Mr. Castle mentioned that several other contributions for the Society's collection had been received from other members, all of which would be suitably acknowledged in the *London Philatelist* in due course.

On the suggestion of Mr. Palliser, it was decided that a card containing the names of the Officers and Council of the Society, with the programme for the meetings of the current season, should be prepared and sent to the members at an early date.

A ballot was then taken for the following candidates, who were declared duly elected Members and Fellows of the Society:—

Mr. Frederick S. Cook, proposed by Mr. C. A. Howes, seconded by Mr. M. H. Lombard.

Mr. Alexander Julius Cohen, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Walter Philip Cohen, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Holland A. Davis, proposed by Mr. C. A. Howes, seconded by Mr. Julian Park.

Mr. William John Tatler, proposed by the Hon. Sec. seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Edwin Cheetham Wigglesworth, proposed by the Hon. Sec. seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Arthur Chilver, proposed by Mr. E. J. Nankivell, seconded by Mr. John Walker, jun.

Mr. Sydney Ughtred Sharpe, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Lawrence Lestock Mercer, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Archibald McKechnie, proposed by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt, seconded by Mr. George L. Toppan.

Mrs. A. H. Bridson, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. Thomas Catterall, jun., proposed by the Hon. Sec. seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

Mr. John Dimdale, proposed by Mr. E. J. Nankivell, seconded by the Hon. Sec.

Mr. James Thomas Chamberlain, proposed by Mr. E. W. Wetherell, seconded by the Hon. Sec.

Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, proposed by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt, seconded by Mr. George L. Toppan.

Mr. Lionel C. Ernst, proposed by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt, seconded by Mr. George L. Toppan.

Lieut. Reginald Charles Frances Schomberg, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Asst. Hon. Sec.

The Vice-President then read a paper entitled "A Provisional Note on the History of the 1d. Stamp of Great Britain, May, 1840." The paper is the result of an examination of a remarkable find of essays and other objects comprising a very complete collection, which Lord Crawford was fortunate enough to secure, illustrating the numerous experiments made in deciding on the questions of design, paper, method of reproduction, inks, gums, modes of obliteration, and other matters requiring consideration in the production of the first stamps to be employed for postal purposes.

As explained by the Vice-President, the first experiments were made in colour of many shades and varying ingredients, and one of the objects of the paper is to ventilate a suggestion as to the possibility of the issue in black having been "provisional" so far as concerns the colour, in the hope that some authoritative statement on the subject may, as there is reason to believe, be forthcoming at an early date.

The paper, which is full of valuable information that will be read with great interest when published in the *London Philatelist*, was illustrated by a display of the wonderful collection already referred to, together with other portions of Lord Crawford's well-known collection of proofs and essays of the stamps of Great Britain.

On the motion of Mr. M. P. Castle, seconded by Major Evans, the very cordial thanks of the Society were voted to the Vice-President for his valuable paper, and for the very interesting display of the collections which members attending the meeting had been privileged to inspect.

(From the *London Philatelist*, the official organ of the Royal Philatelic Society).

City of London Philatelic Society

President: W. B. Edwards, Esq., B.Sc.
Hon. Sec.: J. L. Eastwood, 169, Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

Annual Subscription: 2s. 6d. (no entrance fee).
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at Mills' Restaurant, 14, Broad Street, E.C.

The 43rd ordinary monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 20th December, at Mills' Restaurant, 14, Broad Street Place, London, E.C.

The President called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., and the minutes of the 42nd meeting were read and duly confirmed.

Votes of thanks were accorded Mr. J. Hoffman for a donation to the forgery collection, and to Mr. E. J. Homewood for a donations to the library.

Several new issues of stamps were exhibited by members and also half a pane of Sarawak 3c. brown on yellow of the 1871 issue, and a specimen of the same stamp with the dot after "three."

The following items on the evening's Programme were then submitted to the gathering:—

1.—Paper and Display, "Chili," J. Read Burton, F.R.P.S.L.

This was a very fine collection, containing practically all the known varieties, used and unused, and included a lot of the imperforate stamps used on entire originals, and dated and other postmarks altering hitherto accepted dates of issues in numerous cases. The display also included a collection of War Stamps used during the Chilian War with Peru.

At the conclusion of Mr. Burton's highly interesting paper the President proposed a very hearty vote of thanks which was seconded by Mr. Harris and was unanimously agreed to.

2.—An Exhibition (with Notes) of Mr. Heginbottom's collection of stamps of "British Buchananland, British Central, East and South Africa, British Somaliland (Uganda), Mauritius (from 1854), Natal from 1859 (Zululand)."

At the conclusion of this very instructive display, Mr. D. H. Jackson proposed, and Mr. H. W. Westcott seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Heginbottom which was carried with acclamation.

The next monthly meeting of the Society will be held at the Headquarters on January 15th next, and the Committee will be glad if all Metropolitan Members will bear the monthly meetings in mind.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 16. Vol. 1.

18 JANUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Treherne's Trial: Sentence.



THE prosecution of the young man, Harold Treherne, who was now said to be aged 24, and not 19, as previously stated, for obtaining money by false pretences from various dealers by means of forged foreign stamps, was concluded at the Brighton Quarter Sessions, on Friday, 3rd January, 1908, when the Recorder passed sen-

tence of four months' hard labour.

The sentence cannot be called heavy. If it had been coining instead of forging stamps he would certainly have had a year or so, but it will strike most collectors that there is not so much difference in the crimes.

Treherne's Associates.

The accused had pleaded guilty at the previous sessions, and sentence had been deferred in the expectation that some information would be forthcoming with reference to the parties, who were supposed to be associated with accused in the frauds.

But there is no news of any revelations. Possibly Treherne has given information which is to be kept for use. Let us hope so at all events, for there is a strong impression in stamp trade circles that he has been working with a gang.

Treherne the Leading Conspirator.

A statement was put in on behalf of the prisoner. After perusing it, the Recorder said he was driven to the conclusion that whoever might have been behind the accused, he was the leading conspirator, and, in fact, a very ingenious and accomplished accomplice.

As the fine already imposed had not been paid, the present sentence is additional to the month in default.

The Inland Revenue Prosecution.

The Inland Revenue authorities had taken proceedings against Treherne for penalties under the Post Office Acts, and it was then stated that the discovery of the prisoner's transactions had resulted in the seizure of a large forged stamp factory. For that offence he was fined £15 and costs; in default, one month's imprisonment.

As the existence of a gang is pretty certain the Inland Revenue Authorities will, no doubt, with the help of the Stamp Trade, follow up any clue they may be able to get.

Mr. Walter Hull's £40,000.

Mr. Walter Hull, well known as a prominent Australian Collector, has told the Australian Commonwealth Stamp Commission that they may fairly rely on selling £40,000 worth of the proposed new Commonwealth issue to Stamp Collectors.

Other authorities in New South Wales believe £15,000 or £20,000 would be nearer the mark.

And now Mr. C. J. Phillips (Stanley Gibbons) condemns Mr. Hull's £40,000 sales as a great exaggeration, being convinced that a tenth (£10,000) would be much nearer the truth.

Could some one tell us how much the sales to collectors of the first printings of the New Zealand Pictorial issue amounted to? That would be the best guide. I should say the Australians will be as near as possible about the same.

No Chalkie's in Gibbons. Hurrah!

I quote, with great pleasure, the following announcement by Mr. Charles J. Phillips, of his wise decision not to burden the already overburdened Gibbons' Catalogue by the inclusion of such a fanciful and elusive minor variety as chalky paper:—

"The general wish of the bulk of our clients seems to us to be against increasing too greatly the number

of minor varieties; we have therefore decided *not to list* the varieties on the new paper, separately, in the Catalogue, but we have indicated the existence of the papers by the letters "O" (*ordinary*) and "C" (*chalky*) after the description of all stamps where it is possible for the chalky paper to occur. The two letters together of course signify that the stamp exists on both papers. The price quoted is that of the cheaper variety, it in most cases being that on the *chalky* paper.

"In some cases also stamps printed on paper watermarked Crown CC, Type w. 5, have "chalk-surface." In such cases we have added "O" and "C" as above, but where no value of the set has appeared on this paper no indication is made."

The compromise of the letters "O" and "C" is both excellent and useful, in fact, a stroke of genius. It will serve to conciliate and satisfy the extreme specialist who wants a record of his darling chalkies.

Improving Gibbons.

Another improvement in the new Gibbons is thus described:—

"In this new edition we have made a few alterations that will, we think, be much appreciated by those constantly using the Catalogue.

"One little alteration is to do away with the former description of perforations in such countries as New South Wales. This used to read:—

- a. Perf. 12½-13
- b. " 10
- c. " 11
- d. " a x c
- e. " b x a

and so on. This necessitated constant reference to see what a, b, or c stood for, but now we always quote the actual perforation to each set of stamps."

This also is excellent. To my mind nothing is more tantalising and annoying than to read "wmk. and perf. same as last," and then when you turn back to the last you find the same remark leading you a further will-'o-th'-wisp dance backwards, often into a maze of perplexity. And all the time it would have taken no more space to repeat the actual thing.

Simplification the Order of the Day.

Simplification is the order of the day in stamp catalogues and collecting. The other extreme has been the ruin of more than one country. Mexico has never recovered the suffocation of District overprints; South Australia has been swamped by the complexities of compound perforation; Zanzibar and British Somaliland are a bye-word of typographical cripples, and the grand issues of the Transvaal have been shamelessly weighted with the bogus and swindling issues of Pietersburg which, few, if any, sane collectors now ever dream of regarding as serious issues.

It is neither in the interest of the Stamp Dealer nor the Stamp Collector to put one country after another out of reach of the general collector by the overburden of petty-fogging minor varieties. Let the specialist wallow in them to his heart's content, but, for heaven's sake, don't let us jeopardise the best, and truest, and most wholesome interests of stamp collecting by increasing the complexities that terrify the general collector.

The General Collector, the Backbone.

We specialists are all very well in our way, but we are rapidly carrying things too far in our own direction. We dominate the best catalogues, and swamp their pages with confusing varieties, and every year we are beguiling the general collector more and more out of his depth.

The catalogue publisher imagines that he increases his sales when he increases the list of minor varieties. To a certain extent that is true, for by so doing he often sells half-a-dozen copies of a stamp of which otherwise he would only sell the normal stamp. But against that he has to place the fact that the ever increasing list of varieties is placing one country after another out of reach of the great bulk of stamp collectors.

Gibbons—Part I.

The new Gibbons Part I. may be expected, we are told, about the 28th of this month.

Amongst the alterations heralded, the publishers make the following announcements:—

Great Britain.

We have made a somewhat considerable alteration here, by removing the list of "plate numbers" from their position after the general issues and including them in the general list under their proper issues. It seems to us that this is a simpler arrangement, and that it will facilitate prompt reference.

India.

This country has been practically rewritten and arranged by means of the mass of new information given in the Handbook on India, which we recently published for the Philatelic Society of India. The list of the 1854 issue has been considerably extended, and the varieties of dies, retouches, etc., are now correctly listed, and throughout the later issues many new varieties have been catalogued for the first time.

Queensland.

The list of this country has been extended by including the two forms of watermark in the issues of 1868-79 and 1879-81, and also in the large stamps of 1882-86.

Victoria.

The 1850 issues have been somewhat re-arranged and corrected and brought up to latter-day knowledge.

Cayman Islands.

We have not yet heard of any further provisionals. The list at present only includes two varieties of ½d. and one 1d. There is room for a 2½d. and a few others. Nothing like making hay while the sun shines. I have been trying to ring up that Cayman Islands Postmaster several times lately, but apparently the National Telephone Co. have not yet booked him as a Subscriber.

The London Philatelist.

N B.—The *London Philatelist* is now printed on thicker paper, but still imperforate, i.e. pages uncut. It explains that the thinner paper was adopted because of the "onerous postal rates," and hopes for cheaper postage. Well, in view of the provision that is contemplated for Old Issues in the shape of Old Age Pensions, I fear we shall not have much in the way of concessions of cheaper postage.

The Stamps of British East Africa

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 201).

1890—1. Thirteen values. Design, the Arms of the Company, i.e., the Sun surmounted by the Imperial Crown, enclosed in a horseshoe frame with inscriptions. The rupee values are of similar design in larger size, embellished with additional scrollwork.

These stamps were designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., London, and were first printed on paper watermarked with the paper-maker's monogram "W.C.S. & Co.", William Collins, Sons & Co., with the words "Pure Linen" above and "Wove Bank" below. This watermark extended over nearly each entire sheet of sixty stamps. Subsequent printings were made on unwatermarked paper. Any stamp showing signs of a watermark may, therefore, be recognized as of the first printing, but as the watermark did not cover all the stamps, the absence of watermark does not necessarily pronounce the stamp to be of the second printing.

According to Messrs. Hayman & Phillips.—“Between October, 1890, and December, there were three printings of the $\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas, and one printing only of all the other values.

“The first printing comprising the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas, and 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees, was on thin wove paper.

“The stamps of the second and third printings are on perfectly plain paper.”

In the first printing the outer edges of the sheets were left without perforation, so again any stamp with a plain margin on one edge may be identified as of the first printing.

It will also be noted that the 8 annas is listed in grey as well as blue, and the 1 rupee in grey as well as in carmine. The following extract from a letter from the Imperial British East Africa Company, recently published in the *Monthly Journal*, explains the variation in colour:—

“As regards the grey stamps, it was at first intended to use these more especially for Inland Revenue purposes, but as it was not found convenient to have two stamps of the same value in different colours, it was decided to use up those already printed for postal purposes. Fortunately, only a few of the 8 anna and 1 rupee had been printed. The 4 anna, grey, had not got beyond the imperforate stage, and those we had in that form were sold and used along with the 8 anna and 1 rupee in the usual course.”

I quote the following interesting record of numbers printed from the *Monthly Journal* of July, 1903:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, dull brown - - - -	54,000
$\frac{1}{2}$ " dark brown (2nd printing) -	30,000
$\frac{1}{2}$ " pale brown (3rd printing) -	60,000
1 " green - - - -	54,000
1 " dark green (2nd printing) -	60,000
2 annas, vermilion - - - -	54,000
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " black on buff - - - -	15,000
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " " (2nd printing) -	15,000
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " " yellow (3rd printing) -	30,000
3 " " dull red - - - -	21,000
3 " " brighter red (2nd printing) -	30,000
4 annas, brown - - - -	54,000
$4\frac{1}{2}$ " purple - - - -	21,000
$4\frac{1}{2}$ " red-lilac (2nd printing) -	30,000
8 " bright blue - - - -	54,000
8 " grey - - - -	1,500
1 rupee, carmine - - - -	54,000
1 " grey - - - -	2,100
2 rupees, brick-red - - - -	15,000
3 " dull purple - - - -	15,000
4 " ultramarine - - - -	15,000
5 " olive-green - - - -	15,000

	Perf. 14.		Used.
	Unused.	s. d.	
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, brown - - - -	0	3	—
1 " green - - - -	0	5	0 6
2 annas, vermilion - - - -	0	9	2 6
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " black on yellow - - - -	1	0	0 9
3 " " red - - - -	1	0	2 0
4 " brown - - - -	0	5	1 0
$4\frac{1}{2}$ " purple - - - -	3	6	2 6
8 " bright blue - - - -	0	8	3 0
8 " grey - - - -	40	0	40 0
1 rupee, carmine - - - -	1	0	5 0
1 " grey - - - -	30	0	30 0
2 rupees, brick-red - - - -	2	6	5 0
3 " dull purple - - - -	3	9	7 6
4 " ultramarine - - - -	5	0	8 6
5 " olive-green - - - -	6	0	12 6

Many of the stamps of this series are known in an imperforate condition. At first these were regarded with some suspicion, but an enquiry as to their status elicited the following reply from Mr. E. Bradbridge, then Secretary of the Imperial British East Africa Company, dated 8th December, 1893:—

“The imperforated stamps which you bought at a premium three years ago are perfectly genuine. They were the proof sheets of the present issue of this Company's stamps, and not only have they been used for franking letters from East Africa, but they can even now be used for that purpose. At the time you purchased these stamps they were on sale to anyone who cared to buy them, and indeed have long since all been disposed of.”

The *Monthly Journal* of July, 1903, gives the following list of printings and issues of these imperforate sheets:—

Printing

of	Denomination.	Number issued.	
1890	$\frac{1}{2}$ anna	2 sheets of 120	= 240
1893	"	3	180 = 360
1890	"	2	120 = 240
1894	"	3	180 = 360
1890	2 annas	2	120 = 240
1893	$2\frac{1}{2}$ "	3	180 = 360
1893	3	3	180 = 360
1890	4 " brown	2	120 = 240
1890	4 " grey	2	120 = 240

Imperforate.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna, dull brown	10 0	10 0
1 " deep green	20 0	15 0
2 annas, vermilion	20 0	20 0
$2\frac{1}{2}$ " black on yellow	15 0	15 0
3 " brown on dull red	15 0	15 0
4 " brown	25 0	25 0
4 " grey	75 0	—
$4\frac{1}{2}$ " mauve	45 0	45 0
8 " bright blue	45 0	45 0
1 rupee, carmine	75 0	75 0

Several of the values are found imperforate horizontally or vertically.

Range of Catalogue Values: Unused.

Very little need be said concerning the fluctuations of catalogue prices of this issue of the Imperial British East Africa Company's stamps, for those prices are dominated by the fact that when the Company came to an end large numbers of remainders were sold to dealers and still suffice to keep prices low.

	1896	1899	1902	1905	1907
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ anna	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
1 "	0 3	0 4	0 5	0 5	0 5
2 annas	0 5	0 9	1 0	0 9	0 9
$2\frac{1}{2}$ "	0 6	1 6	1 0	1 0	1 0
3 "	0 6	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 4
4 "	0 8	0 6	0 6	0 5	0 5
$4\frac{1}{2}$ "	0 9	0 6	0 6	0 6	0 6
8 " blue	1 6	0 9	0 8	0 8	0 8
8 " grey	8 0	17 6	25 0	40 0	40 0
1 rupee, carmine	2 6	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0
1 " grey	12 6	17 6	25 0	30 0	30 0
2 rupees	4 6	2 3	3 0	2 6	2 6
3 "	6 9	3 6	4 6	3 9	3 9
4 "	9 0	5 0	6 0	5 0	5 0
5 "	11 6	6 0	7 0	6 0	6 0

1891. Manuscript Provisionals. Two values. In dealing with these provisionals I cannot do better than quote in extenso the carefully compiled history of their production and issue, contributed to the *Monthly Journal* of July, 1903, by Messrs. H. L. Hayman and Charles J. Phillips. These writers divide the stamps in question into "Handstamped and Manuscript." In the Handstamped the value is handstamped in type and then initialled in pen and ink, in the Manuscript the new value and the initials are all in pen and ink.

Handstamped Provisionals. These, with the pen written provisionals, are probably the most interesting as well as the rarest of all the stamps

used in British East Africa. The overprinting was done locally without authority from London, and the head office never had much knowledge of these stamps, as they were made owing to a sudden shortage of stamps of $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna, and none were sent to Berne, and but few to the London Office.

In 1894, the late Mr. W. A. S. Westoby (who was then editing the *Monthly Circular* for Messrs. A. Smith & Sons, of Bath), had some correspondence with the Company in regard to these stamps. In a reply before us the Secretary of the Company writes:—"Your assumption, that no printed envelopes surcharge of 1 anna on 4 annas was made, is correct.

We have ascertained that it is a fact that the Company never received any official information as to the issue of a handstamped 1 anna on 4 annas, but nevertheless, we are convinced that this surcharge was made and used in February, 1891, as we have seen copies on letters addressed to the office of the Company in London at this date.

The surcharge was executed in Mombasa by a little handstamping machine belonging to the Church Missionary Society.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ anna was apparently printed as "1 2 Anna," and the fraction bar added by hand afterwards.

The initials "A.D." stand for Mr. Andrew Dick, who was Chief Accountant to the Company in Mombasa, being appointed on October 10th, 1889.

Mr. Dick informed the Company that he added his initials to each stamp, thinking they would not be recognised without his doing so.

Of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna on 2 annas, the Company state that 1,075 were made, and that none were sent to Berne

The 1 anna on 4 annas is a scarce stamp, and but very few can have been made.

The 1 anna on 4 annas is initialled "A.B.," standing for Mr. Archibald Brown, who was the Cashier of the Company at Mombasa. Mr. Brown was appointed on May 14th, 1890.

The Company state that they cannot say why Mr. Brown signed these stamps in place of Mr. Dick.

Manuscript Provisionals.

Handstamped in dull violet, and initialled in black.

	Unused.	Used.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 2 a., vermilion ("A.D.") (Jan.)	—	—
1 a. on 4 a., brown ("A.B.") (Feb.)	—	—

To be continued.

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of British East Africa is probably the finest in the world.

New Zealand

Notes on Early Papers and Perforations

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG

A Paper read before The Herts Philatelic Society on Nov. 19th, 1907.

SO much has been written on the subject of the stamps of New Zealand during the last fifteen years that it will seem presumptuous on my part to endeavour to do more than remind you of some of the more recent discoveries. In the London Philatelist, Vol. 1, Mr. E. D. Bacon announced the most important discovery that the first issue of New Zealand Stamps are not the series on the blue unwatermarked paper which were printed in the Colony, as had hitherto been supposed, but the 1d., 2d. and 1s. on Star paper, printed in London by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. These were followed by the stamps on the blue unwatermarked paper, the white unwatermarked paper, the Star paper, and the pelure paper, in the order named. The earliest dates for the various papers at present known are:—

London Print, Star paper	- - - -	Aug. 1, 1855.
Colonial Print, blue unwatermarked paper	- - - -	April 30, 1856.
" " white, " " "	- - - -	Feb. 2, 1858.
" " Star, " " "	- - - -	May 9, 1862.
" " pelure " " "	- - - -	Oct. 3, 1862.

Supplies of star watermarked paper were sent out to the Colony by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. in 1859, but at present the earliest date known for this is May 9, 1862.

We now come to a most important period, namely, the introduction of perforation. Various experiments were tried at first, and though they were not officially sanctioned, several different methods for facilitating the separation of stamps were employed at various Post Offices by the Officials. This is the origin of the roulettes, pin, and serrated perforations. The earliest dates for these are:—

Serrated perforations	- - - -	Aug. 11, 1862.
Roulettes	- - - -	Dec. 10, 1862.

These were soon followed by the appearance of stamps perforated 13, with round holes, but—and this is a most important point, and one that I believe has not been published before—this perforation was also not official, and though authorised by the Postmaster at one of the head offices, namely, Dunedin, the perforating was not done at the Post Office nor by Government Officials. The earliest date at present known on a stamp with this perforation is Jan. 16, 1863.

You will see in Catalogues two perforations assigned to New Zealand Stamps of the first type—12½ and 13. The 2d. without watermark on the thick white paper is usually said to be perforated 13, while the stamps on the pelure, star, and N.Z. papers are sometimes said to be perforated, either 12½ or 13, or both. As a matter of fact this 2d. without watermark, all the pelure paper series, all the stamps in

the early shades on the Star paper, and some of the stamps on the N.Z. paper, are perforated 13; and this perforation was done at Dunedin, some two years before the introduction of a machine at the Government printing office, which at that time was at Auckland.

Fortunately I had been working at these perforations for some years before going to New Zealand early in 1905, and consequently on arriving at Dunedin I started on a voyage of discovery among the various printers and stationers. I soon noticed a name that seemed familiar, namely, "Fergusson" of the firm of "Fergusson and Mitchell," and found that I was on the right track, being fortunate enough to meet there an old employé of the firm, Alexander Stewart, who had actually assisted at perforating the stamps himself. He had been in Melbourne up till the year 1862 with Messrs. Campbell and Fergusson, and had helped to print some of the early Victoria stamps.

The Dunedin perforating machine was a single-line one worked by hand, and Stewart and another workman used to take it in turn to move forward the sheets of stamps, as each line was perforated, and to work the lever. The amount paid for perforating the stamps was 2d. per sheet, of which the two workmen received 1d. between them. The sheets were brought by Stewart from the Post Office, as required, and at night time placed under his pillow for safety. He soon found out that it was just as easy to perforate four or five sheets at a time as one, but this was never done as long as any of the heads of the firm were present, as it was feared that the rate of pay would be reduced if this artifice were discovered, and Stewart told me that his employers could never understand how it was possible to get the sheets perforated so quickly.

The gauge of this machine was about 13, and the important point to bear in mind when gauging a stamp is that it is always 13 or over; that is to say, between 13 and 13½. If a stamp gauges between 12½ and 13 it belongs to the 12½ series. This 13 machine was used for about two years, and its use was discontinued no doubt as soon as the 12½ machine was introduced at Auckland, and also partly because for some considerable time a large quantity of sheets of stamps were lost at Dunedin, and were only found quite by chance behind a drawer in Messrs. Fergusson and Mitchell's office. I give you this information just as I got it, but of course cannot guarantee the accuracy of all the details. There is not, at any rate as far as I know, anything to be discovered from the study of the stamps themselves that disproves any of these statements.

The earliest dates at present known for the stamps on the various papers, perforated 13, are :—

Star watermark	- - - -	Jan. 16, 1863.
Pelure paper, no watermark	- - - -	Feb. 27, 1863.
Thick paper	- - - -	July 18, 1863.
N.Z. paper	- - - -	Aug. 1, 1864.

The earliest known copy of the pelure paper imperforate is dated Oct. 3, 1862, while the earliest Colonial print on Star watermark paper is dated May 9, 1862, which goes to prove that the pelure paper was used during a temporary shortage in the supply of Star paper.

A similar remark applies to the 2d. on thick paper, perforated 13. This was doubtless printed at a much later date than the regular issue on the thick unwatermarked paper. The plate is in a worn state, considerably later than when the early Colonial printings on the Star paper were made.

The 2d. on thick paper in the worn state is also to be found imperforate as well as perforated 13, showing that only a portion of the printing was sent to Dunedin and perforated there. It is a very scarce stamp unused, either imperforate or perforated.

The N.Z. paper was also used during a temporary shortage of the Star paper, and some of the 2d. and most of the 1s. that are found perforated gauge 13. Most of the 2d. and all the 6d. that were perforated were done by the Auckland machine.

The latter was a "comb-machine" or triple cutter and, as before stated, gauges about 12 $\frac{3}{4}$. It does not appear to have been very satisfactory, or was perhaps carelessly handled. The pins seem to have soon become broken and bent, and it was either superseded by a single-line machine with approximately the same gauge, or more probably the old machine was fitted with a single line of pins. Unfortunately it has disappeared from the Government stores.

I now give a list of the various stamps I have found perforated by the two machines.

PERF. 13.

Thick paper, no watermark.
2d. blue.

Pelure paper.
1d. vermilion.
2d. ultramarine.
6d. black-brown.
1s. deep green.

Watermark large Star—
1d. vermilion, carmine.
2d. (Plate I., worn state) blue, ultramarine, pale blue.
3d. brown-lilac.
6d. black-brown, brown, red-brown.
1s. deep green, blue-green.

Watermark N.Z.—
2d. (Plate I.), pale blue.
1s. deep green, yellow-green.

PERF. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Watermark large Star—
1d. carmine, carmine-vermilion, orange.
2d. (Plate I., worn state) pale blue.
2d. (Plate II.), deep blue, blue, pale blue.
3d. brown-lilac, lilac, mauve.
4d. rose-carmine.
4d. orange, yellow.
6d. brown, red-brown.
1s. green, pale green.

Watermark N.Z.—

2d. (Plate I., worn state) pale blue.
6d. red-brown.
1s. yellow-green.

All the later Stamps are perforated 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

You will notice the type of the letters of the word "INVICTA" of the "lozenge" watermark paper, the letters are double-lined and with serifs. Specimens of the 1d. brown, 2d. vermilion, and 4d. orange are known watermarked with double-lined letters, without serifs. These are from sheets otherwise without watermark, but with the maker's name "T H SAUNDERS" across the sheet, sometimes once and sometimes twice.

There is a slight correction I should like to make with regard to the small 1d. "Newspaper postage" stamp. According to some catalogues the "N.Z." and the large Star papers used for this were both fiscal papers. The former undoubtedly was, but the latter, as you will see by the specimen sheet, is watermarked "NEWSPAPER POSTAGE," and was no doubt made for the purpose.

I do not propose to inflict you with any notes about the second plate of the 2d. of the Perkins Bacon type; your patience has been sufficiently tried. You will find all that I can tell you about the retouches in the "London Philatelist" for April, 1906. I shall only say that if any of you have specimens I should much like to see them, especially dated copies.

In conclusion, it might be of interest to notice that the background round the head, and the work in the corners of the Perkins Bacon type of the New Zealand stamps are identical with the work in the same parts in the first issue of Chili.—From "The Monthly Report" of the Herts Philatelic Society.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, who has supplied the most vivid and graphic description of personal experience during the Jamaica earthquake, is an old Australian journalist whose right hand has evidently not yet lost its cunning. Soon after his arrival in Sydney as a young man from the old country he became the editor of a weekly paper in a rising township in the far west of New South Wales. But he gained most of his journalistic experience as the travelling representative of the Sydney *Town and Country Journal*. In the interests of that paper he visited almost every town of importance in the Commonwealth. He eventually married the only daughter of the proprietor of the paper, the late Samuel Bennett. Under the provisions of her father's will, Mrs. Henniker Heaton is a large shareholder in both the Sydney *Evening News* and *Town and Country Journal*. Mr. Henniker Heaton, a quarter of a century ago, published an *Australian Dictionary of Dates and Men of the Time*, a useful work of reference for the period of which it treats, but now, of course, leaving something to be desired. He has often thought of bringing it up to date, but some new delinquency on the part of St. Martin's-le-Grand was always diverting his thoughts and energies in a different direction. *The Daily Chronicle*.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 205)

British East Africa.—An enormous tract of territory on the East Coast of Africa under British protection. The Imperial British East Africa Company was incorporated by Royal Charter, dated 3rd Sept., 1888, and, under the control of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, this Company exercised sovereign jurisdiction over the territories leased to it by the Sultan of Zanzibar, or acquired by treaties entered into with native chiefs. A British Protectorate was announced over these territories on 18th June, 1895, and the Company handed over the administration on the first day of the following month. These territories are now comprised under the name of the East Africa Protectorate, the administration being carried on by the Colonial Office. Mombasa is the capital of the protectorate and possesses the finest harbour on the East Coast of Africa. The total population is about four millions. Postage stamps were first issued in May, 1890, and in 1903 British East Africa stamps were superseded by a general issue for the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates which are now amalgamated for postal purposes.

British Guiana.—A British Colony on the north coast of South America having an area of about 120,000 square miles. The disputed boundary towards Brazil was settled by arbitration of the King of Italy in 1904, the greater part of the disputed territory between awarded to Great Britain. The inhabitants are chiefly Portuguese from Madeira, negroes, Hindu coolies, and Chinese. Besides these there are about 8,000 Caribs, Arawaks, and other aboriginals, the total population being about 290,000. British Guiana is a Crown Colony of which the old settlements of Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice are counties. The Dutch first settled on the Pomeroon river early in the 17th century. The British were in possession of this colony from 1781 to 1783, and again from 1796 to 1802, and lastly from 1803 to 1814, when the present colony was formed, except that Berbice was administered separately until 1831. Postage stamps were first issued on July 1st, 1850.

British Honduras.—A British Colony on the east coast of Central America, between the Mexican state of Yucatan and Guatemala. It has an area of about 7,562 square miles and a population of over 40,000. The country consists chiefly of primeval forests, with savannahs and so-called "pine-ridges," which are open sandy plains covered with a wiry grass and dotted with pine trees. It is governed as a Crown Colony. Postage stamps were first issued in January, 1866.

British Inland Mail.—A local post established in Madagascar in January, 1895, for the conveyance of

letters between the capital, Antananarivo, and the port of Vatomandry. Opinion is divided as to whether this port was of a semi-official character or purely a private speculation on the part of a syndicate of gentlemen residing at Antananarivo. Two sets of stamps were printed for this post, one in January and one in March, 1895, and the post was suppressed in the following September when the French entered Antananarivo.

British Levant.—The name applied by philatelists to the various British Post Offices maintained in the Turkish Empire. At first, ordinary unsurcharged British stamps were used in these offices, but on the 1st April, 1885, the values most generally used were surcharged in Turkish currency before being issued. In 1905 most of the current British stamps from $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s were overprinted "LEVANT" for use in these offices.

British New Guinea.—A British colony comprising the south-eastern portion of the island of New Guinea, which is situated at the extreme north-east of Australia. It has an area of about 90,000 square miles and a population of over 350,000. It was proclaimed a British colony in 1888. At first the stamps of Queensland were used, but in 1901 a special set inscribed with the name of the Colony made its appearance. (See also PAPUA.)

British North Borneo.—(See NORTH BORNEO.)

British Somaliland.—(See SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.)

British South Africa Company.—The inscription that appears upon the stamps of Rhodesia. This company was chartered on October 29th, 1889, through the efforts of Cecil Rhodes, who was its animating spirit until his death. The company has great administrative powers in the extensive territory of Rhodesia, being authorized to promote trade and commerce, and to work and develop mineral and other concessions over an area of 750,000 square miles. (See also RHODESIA.)

British Vice-Consulate.—An inscription overprinted upon the first stamps issued in connection with the British Consular Mail of Madagascar.

Broad Star.—A variety of the "star" watermarks found in the stamps of various British Colonies manufactured by Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co. It has broader points than the more frequently met with "large star" watermark.

Brown and McGill's Post.—A semi-official post established in Louisville, U.S.A., in 1858 for the

delivery of letters to addresses within the district served by the Post Office. Special 1c. stamps were issued in connection with this post.

Brunei.—1—A British protectorate in north-west Borneo between the territories of British North Borneo and Sarawak. It has an area of 4,000 square miles and a population of over 10,000. Until 1888 it was an independent Mohammedan territory and its Sultan was at one time overlord of the whole of the island of Borneo. Its capital, Brunei, is chiefly built on piles. Postage stamps were first issued in 1907.

II.—The inscription upon a set of bogus stamps that appeared some years ago purporting to be a genuine issue for the state of Brunei. The central portion of the design consists of a small vessel on an expanse of water with a mountain in the background. On each side are palm trees and at the top a five-rayed

star is shown. These labels imposed upon a good many philatelists at the time of their appearance.

Brunswick.—A sovereign duchy situated in the northern portion of the German Empire, having an area of 1,418 square miles, and a population of nearly half-a-million. It is surrounded by the provinces of Hanover, Saxony, and Westphalia. Originally Brunswick formed part of the duchy of Saxony, but in 1235 the independent duchy of Brunswick was created. Subsequently, along with Hanover, Lüneberg, Celle, and other territories, it was transferred and reconveyed several times, as the various Brunswick dynasties were founded and died out. The direct Welf (Guelph) line became extinct in 1884 and since 1885 the duchy has been governed by a regent. Postage stamps were first issued in 1852 and the duchy ceased to issue stamps of its own on joining the North German Confederation on 1st. January, 1868.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NABEVILL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Italy. Dr. Emilio Diena writes as follows in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*: "Very soon we are going to have a new issue of some of the Italian stamps, and I think some of my readers may be interested to hear about them. The current Italian stamps of 40 c. and 50 c., 1901 issue, will shortly be issued for use in the Italian post offices in Albania; they will be overprinted with their value in Turkish currency, above which will appear the word 'Albania.' Stamps on which this word does not appear are used by the Italian Post Office in Janina. This should be made a note of, as it is not generally known.

"Another order has been given to the 'Officina Poligrafica Italiana' for two hundred millions of the 15 c., grey-black, the so-called 'Michett' type. This printing will differ from the preceding one in two particulars—the paper will be thinner, and the gum (about which so many complaints were received) will be improved. As yet I have not heard if there will be any other points of difference, but in any case it will be a variety which should find a place in non-specialized collections—a variety 'worthy of catalogue rank,' as the saying goes in your country."

Levant. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (4.1.08) says:—"All the stamps surcharged with value in piastres have been withdrawn from issue, except the 1 piastre on 2½d. blue. No one seems to have foreseen this, although now we come to think of it, it was obviously necessitated by the reduction in the postal rates to 1½d. per ounce for all ounces after the first.

"A letter from England to Constantinople costs 2½d. for the first ounce and 1½d. each succeeding ounce, but the reply has hitherto cost 1 piastre or 40 paras (equal to 2d.) or a multiple of 1 piastre. Instead of stamps of 1, 2, 4, 12 and 24 piastres, there are now required therefore others of 1, 1½, 3½, 9½, 18½ or say

in even figures 1, 1½, 3, 9, 18. It is not unlikely changes may be made also in the stamps of the French, German, Italian and Russian Levant Post Offices. The Austrian Post Office has already issued a 30 paras (or ¾ piastre) stamp."

St. Lucia. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the current ½d. and 1d. values in single colours on the authority of Mr. James Rhodes.

*Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
½d. green.
1d. red.*

Turkey. The *Monthly Journal* says:—"A correspondent, who has a good deal of business correspondence with Turkey, tells us that until recently the overprinted stamps sold at reduced prices appear to have been used at Constantinople only, but he now shows us an envelope posted at Salonica on "28.11.07" bearing two of the 20 paras stamps thus treated. Presumably these stamps will be issued in all places where there is a chance of underselling the foreign post offices."

Uruguay. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* says:—"Mr. A. H. Davis, writing under the date of 27th November, 1907, informs us that the 2 c., vermilion, and 5 c., blue, of the 1900—1 issue, numbers 273 and 274 in the catalogue, have been reissued in exactly the same colours as before, and that they are being printed from the same plates. He also states that the 2 c., orange-red, and 5 c., blue of both the 1904—5 and 1906—7 issues, catalogue numbers 282, 283, 291, and 292 (also 290), are to be withdrawn from circulation on the 27th February next. Possibly the reason that this date is given is that the issue ordered from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons may be expected then. See further remarks about the latter-mentioned issue in our issue of 2nd November, 1907."

From Other Magazines

France. Sower Types.

MR. FRANZ REICHENHEIM, the well-known specialist in the stamps of France, in December last read on exhaustive paper before the Royal Philatelic Society on "The Stamps of France in the 'Sower' types and their different retouches," which is published in the December number of the *London Philatelist*. From this excellent paper we quote Mr. Reichenheim's Reference List:—

Design No. I.

"Sower" with lined background, with line marking horizon and with rising sun.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 April, 1903 | 15 c., slate-green (shades). |
| | Varieties: a. On thin paper. |
| | b. On thick paper. |
| | c. Imperforate. |
| 28 April, 1903 | 25 c., blue (many shades). |
| 6 May, 1903 | 10 c., rose-carmine (shades). |
| | Variety: Imperforate. |
| 29 June, 1903 | 20 c., purple (many shades). |
| | 30 c., lilac (several shades). |
| | Variety: Imperforate. |

(Suppressed by Decree, dated 4 April, 1906.)

Design No. II.

"Sower" walking on an incline. Background quite plain.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 13 April, 1906 | Type 1. (Shaded face and shaded arms, etc. Stamps printed in blocks of 50 without millésime.) |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |
| 17 May, 1906 | Type 2. (Shading on the face, arms, etc., taken off. Stamps printed in the usual sheets with millésimes.) |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |

Design No. III.

"Sower" walking on flat ground.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 28 July, 1906 | Type 1. (Thin figure of "Sower.") |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |
| 15 Oct., 1906 | Type 2. (Figure improved by a thin white line, added by Monsieur Mouchon.) |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |
| | Varieties: a. Imperforate (?). |
| | b. 10 c., brick-red. |
| 15 Oct., 1906 | Type 3. (White line made thicker at the Government Printing Office.) |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |
| | Varieties: a. Imperforate (?). |
| | b. 10 c., brick-red. |
| Date ? | Type 4. (As Types 2 and 3, but shading of garments in loops.) |
| | 10 c., vermilion. |

Design No. III.

Types 2 and 3.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 9 Nov., 1906 | 35c. (thin figures of value), lilac (shades). |
|--------------|---|

Variety: Imperforate.

Design No. IV.

Similar to Design III, Type 3, but some shading round the lower part of the right arm and some shading between the original contour of the figure and the added white line taken off.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5 March, 1907, | } 5 c., dark green (four shades). |
| in booklets | |
| 19 March, 1907, | } 5 c., dark green (four shades). |
| in sheets | |

Variety: Imperforate (?).

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 25 May, 1907 | 30 c., orange (three shades). |
|--------------|-------------------------------|

Variety: Imperforate (?).

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| 19 June, 1907 | 25 c., blue (five shades). |
|---------------|----------------------------|

Variety: Imperforate.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| End of Nov., 1907 | 35 c. (thick figures of value), reddish lilac. |
|-------------------|--|

Modena: Reprints.

Captain A. E. Fiecchi, the well-known Italian philatelist, who was Secretary to the Milan Exhibition Committee last year, showed at that Exhibition the original steel die that was engraved for the Provisional Government stamps of 1859. He has since had some reprints made by means of this die, and although they differ from the originals in some important particulars, it is well to draw attention to the fact of their existence, as the main portion of the design is of course identical with that of the original stamps. The lower label was left blank in the die, for the insertion of the various values, and the values in the reprints are intentionally set in quite different type from that used in 1859, and there is, moreover, no stop after the numerals. The paper used is also of a different quality, and there should therefore be no difficulty in distinguishing the new edition from original specimens. We doubt whether it is altogether desirable that reimpresions of this nature should be made, but it is a satisfaction to know that in this case the die is in the hands of a gentleman who will not allow any fraudulent use to be made of it.—*Monthly Journal*.

Queensland: 9d. two types of "Queensland."

In our February number we drew attention to two types of the word "Queensland" on the 9d. (Commonwealth) stamp, and have since elicited the following interesting information. The first type is smaller than the second which is now current; but there is an intermediate stage or electro which was made up of both types. Or, in other words, a few sheets have been seen in which there are three stamps in a vertical row in having the word "Queensland" in distinctly smaller letters than all the others, which are the second type, the type of the three stamps being similar to type 1.—*The Australian Philatelist*.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM.

Egypt and Soudan on the boom.

AT last collectors are beginning to realise the fact that some day they are likely to regret having let early Egyptians slip at the prices of the day. A couple of years ago there were few poorer specs in a dealer's stock than Egyptians. But now? Just listen to what C.J.P. says in his *Weekly*:—"The demand for these stamps seems on the increase. The book was remade six months ago, but was so stripped that it had to be remade again."

And then he mentions a few tit-bits he's got which I am not going to advertise for I should have the Advertising Manager down on me like a hundred of bricks.

Nevertheless, despite all this stripping, I find that the old prices are practically retained in Part II. of the new catalogue. So much the better for the buyer. If you want a good tip, buy Egyptian first issue, mint, perfectly centred, at catalogue prices—if you can get them.

And Soudan too.

Yes, and Soudan too. But be careful what you buy of the first issue and from whom, for there are lots of shady fakes about, and I am sorry to say many have got into places where you don't expect to find shady copies. As a matter of fact I don't believe that dealers have yet come to realise the fact that Soudan is being taken up seriously by the specialist. But the faker is not so slow to discover the way the wind is beginning to blow. The moral of it all will be that some doubtful copies of those first issues, especially of inverted varieties, will be coming home to roost by and bye. After a recent decision no dealer can afford to be careless about suspected copies. They are sure to be weeded out sooner or later by the keen eyes of the specialist. This is intended to be a kindly word in season to my dealer friends, and I am not speaking without inside knowledge. Stocks should be looked through without delay to save unpleasant transactions.

Egypt: 1872-5.

Gibbons asks whether the 5 piastres green of this third issue really exists *tête bêche*, and he doubts if it does. So do I. As a specialist in Egyptians I have never seen it nor do I know of any satisfactory evidence of its existence. Duerst simply sums up the whole series by saying "all the stamps of this issue exist *tête bêche*." I don't mind springing to a quid for a *tête bêche* pair!

I note that Gibbons wants to buy copies of all the values of the second issue, and I guess he will pay his full catalogue price for mint copies. Really, mint copies with full gum are worth double catalogue, except the 5 piastres, which at 15s. is fairly high.

Some of the De la Rue issues are also decidedly scarce, and as for blocks of four, they only turn up once in a blue moon.

Cayman Islands.

Gibbons was quite out in the cold in supplies of the Cayman Islands provisionals, so he tenders the following facetious explanation:—

A PROVISIONAL Cayman we note,
But as yet are unable to quote.
The officials out there
Are guarding with care
The stock, so that dealers shan't bloat.

Cayman Provisionals at New Issue Rates.

Some Dealers, who, in a generous fit, sent out the ½d. provisional at or near new issue rates, have had terrible qualms of conscience—what you might term philatelic colic. Finding their generosity appreciated to the extent of expecting to get the subsequently issued provisionals on the same terms, they say "not for Joe!" or "catch me at it!"

Says Ewen:—"Every copy we have so far obtained unused has been distributed to New Issue clients at 1s. each, although we could easily get 3s. or 4s. each from other clients. In the case of some of these provisional issues, a New Issue Service becomes a source of serious loss! In this case we lose the best part of £50, and then get abused by clients we cannot avoid disappointing."

The quotations for the "½d." on 5s. vary from 5s. to 8s. 6d. It is said that only 1,440 were printed.

Gibbons. Part I.

The new Gibbons Catalogue, Part I., will probably be ready in the last week of this month.

Meanwhile, the publishers make the following announcement:—

"As regards the *prices* quoted, we have not felt it necessary to increase many of the older issues. Colonials have gone up for some time, and we consider that, *for the present*, the prices are, in general, quite high enough; there are, of course, many exceptions to this rule.

"In regard to more modern stamps, we have run short of many of the *later issues* of the late Queen and of the *earlier issues* of His Majesty King Edward VII, and as we have had to pay higher for many of these stamps, the selling prices are also raised."

No Chalkies in the New Gibbons.

Chalky varieties are not to be listed in the New Gibbons. The tin-pot-and-kettle noise that a few have made over these varieties is subsiding and it is no secret that the demand has ominously fallen off.

In fact dealers are likely to wish chalkies to the——. One dealer told me that he has frequently had his stock book back with unused stamps practically spoiled with markings with silver coins as tests for chalky surface.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

How Readers can Help us

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with

THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us.

Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages.

It is the revenue which we derive from our advertisers that enables us to provide a high-class and expensive weekly.

If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements.

If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us.

Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

Philatelic Societies' Reports

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Free Copies for Distribution

In making THE POSTAGE STAMP known all over the world we venture to solicit the kindly co-operation of every reader. Our Publishers will gladly forward any number of specimen copies, free of cost, to any reader for free distribution amongst friends and possible subscribers, on receipt of a post card stating how many copies can be made use of. We trust our readers will not hesitate to send a postcard for any number of copies that they can distribute to stamp-collecting friends; the more they ask for the better we shall be pleased.

Swedish Numbers: a Correction

Mr. J. F. Witty sends me the following versified correction of some slips I seem to have made in my article on the "Stamps of Sweden" in *The Postage Stamp* of the 21st December, 1907, (p. 162). All are this time really printers' errors. Our printers at Bath had probably been having a champagne bath. I repeat the list as it should have stood.

As the values are expressed in words in the early issues it may be interesting to give the numerals and then Swedish form: 1, En, or Ett; 2, Två; 3, Tre; 4, Fyra; 5, Fem; 6, Sex; 8, Atta; 9, Nio; 10, Tio; 12, Tolf; 20, Tjugo; 24, Tjugufyra; 30, Tretio; 50, Femtio.

Dear Mr. Editor, pray pardon me,

In your excellent paper near page one sixty three,

The names that you give to the poor Swedish Numbers would rouse the old Vikings in wrath from their slumbers;

They never would think that T.O.A. mean "två,"

And "tre" should be spelt with an E, don't you know.

Now Tyra for "Frya" is almost as bad,

'T would shame the school-learning of each Gothic lad.

But as eight in the musical tongue of the Swede

Begins with a letter which we never need;

I'll pardon you, that if you pledge your good name

To remember that å and ö are the same.

Write tretio for thirty, and whatever you do,

Ne'er put three E's in Sverige, but only put two.

There are spots on the sun, and these errors in papers

Which gives us poor poets an excuse for our capers.

Long, long, may you flourish and more widely be known,

And may every collector your worthiness own.

The Swedish å is pronounced like o in English.

W. E. G. (Withernsea). Some watermarks can be seen at once clearly outlined on the gummed side of the stamp, but some are extremely difficult. When a watermark is very indistinct it is looked for in all manner of ways. A good plan is to lay it face downwards on the sleeve of your coat and look at it from all points of view and in all points of light till you fix it. Sometimes a watermark shows up best when the stamp is held up to the light and looked through. In the case of used stamps when a watermark is indistinct immerse the stamp in water, if the watermark does not show up at once, give the stamp a benzine bath in Stanley Gibbons' "Watermark Detector," (price 1/2 post free). The benzine will not injure the stamp, in fact, it will clean it.

J. H. R. (St Albans). We do not chronicle chalky surface varieties in *The Postage Stamp*. We chronicled the Morocco Agencies 40c. on Great Britain 4d., green and brown, on p. 144 (7th Dec. 1907). Bright's Catalogue for 1908 lists a double surcharge Gambia "One Penny" on 3c., but I have not seen one, nor any satisfactory authentication. Many thanks for list of collecting friends to whom we will gladly forward specimen copies of *The Postage Stamp*.

W. H. E. (Newcastle). Thanks for note of French 20c., lower type. It seems a few decades since we met at Herne Hill and did some exchanging.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Leeds Philatelic Society.

At a meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on the 17th December, 1907, there was a display of British Colonial stamps by the members of the Bradford Philatelic Society. Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L. (President), was in the chair, and there was a good attendance. Mr. Foulger showed a fine lot of mint stamps of British Africa, a few rarities being Zululand 5/-, Northern and Southern Nigeria 10/- Queen, and £1 King single C.A. watermark, Niger Coast ½d. on half of Id. used; Seychelles and Falkland Islands complete; Malta, Hong Kong, and the Transvaal were also finely represented. In addition, Mr. Foulger showed his fine collection of Hayti with a good copy of the rare 20c. imperforated stamp. Mr. White showed the later postal issues of New Zealand, rich in shades and varieties of perforation; there were also several fine mint pairs and blocks of these interesting stamps. The 2/- red and 5/- gray of 1878, and the 3d. brown of 1874 compound perf. 10 × 12, were good stamps of comparative rarity. A vote of thanks was cordially given to the Bradford members for their exhibition, which had been much enjoyed.

Novelties shown were as follows:—

By Mr. P. M. Knight—Two new booklets of 24 Swiss stamps, being the 5 and 10 centimes just issued. Unlike the English booklets of 1d. stamps, no extra charge is made in Switzerland for these stamps so made up.

By Mr. Harding—Caricature of the Id. Mulready envelope, with the Truro postmark, 19th November, 1840.

By Mr. H. M. Hepworth—Fourteen envelopes used by the Expeditionary Force in China—some very interesting.

Royal Philatelic Society

President: *H. R. H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.*

Vice-President: *The Earl of Crawford, K.T.*

Hon. Sec.: *J. A. Tilleard, 10, Gracechurch Street, E.C.*

Meetings: *4, Southampton Row, W.C., Alternate Thursdays at 6 p.m.*

Annual Subscription: *Town, £2 2s.; Country, £1 1s.*

The second meeting of the season 1907-8 was held at 4, Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, 7th November, 1907, at 6 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, Franz Reichenheim, R. B. Yardley, E. D. Bacon, C. Stuart Dudley, W. Schwabacher, A. Chilver, A. J. Warren, L. W. Fulcher, J. Bonhote, B. D. Knox, E. Ransom, L. L. R. Hausburg, Herbert R. Oldfield, E. A. Elliot, T. W. Hall, A. R. Barrett, D. C. Gray, Douglas Ellis, C. Neville Biggs, C. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, and E. W. Wetherell. Lance E. Hall (associate).

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from Mr. Clutz, of New York, resigning his membership on account of failing eyesight, and wishing the Society every success in the future, and such resignation was accepted with much regret.

A letter was read from the Vice-President of the Society, accompanied by the four plates used for the first comb perforating machines, marked "A," "A A," "B B," perf. 16, and "B B B," perf. 14 (Plate "A" being broken and patched), and also by a number of "bits," which were sewn on to wire gauze trays for placing watermarks on the paper, which plates and bits were presented to the Society by the Vice-President.

A very sincere vote of thanks was passed to the Earl of Crawford for his generous gift.

The members then proceeded to consider the election of the following candidates, who after ballot were duly declared Members and Fellows of the Society:—

Mr. Willy Ehrmann, proposed by Mr. W. Schwabacher, seconded by the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Heatley Dickson, proposed by Mr. R. J. Torrie, seconded by Mr. G. B. Bainbridge.

A paper on the "Stamps of British India," accompanied by a display, was then read by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, and the under-mentioned original drawings, stamps, and essays, which had been sent by the President, were submitted for inspection, and were much appreciated by the members present:—

Original drawing in silver point of the "Lion and Palm," and of the essay for the 1 anna stamp (Queen's Head). A small collection of Scinde Dak stamps, including a pair of the white stamp, and specimens of some of the forgeries of these stamps. A series of essays in colour of the ½ anna stamp of the 1882 to 1888 series, printed on various white and coloured papers, some unwatermarked and some with the Star (India) watermark, and the English crown watermark. A similar series of the 12 annas (1888). And a number of essays of colour for the large 2 rupees stamp.

At the conclusion of the paper a vote of thanks to Mr. Hausburg was proposed by Mr. Wetherell, seconded by Mr. Bacon, and carried unanimously.

The following are particulars of Mr. Hausburg's paper and display:

Mr. Hausburg pointed out that the first stamps used in India, and indeed in Asia, were the so-called "Scinde Dak," introduced by Sir Bartle Frere in 1852, which were superseded by the general issue of stamps for India in 1854.

The latter were made in Calcutta, but owing to the bad ink employed the stones for the first ½ anna, known as that with the "9½ arches," were destroyed, and this stamp was never issued.

There were four transfers of the ½ anna in blue, which was the issued variety in May, July, and August, 1854, and in August, 1855, and the die was recut as far as the back hair, or "chignon," is concerned for the last of these.

By this means single stamps of this transfer can be distinguished from the others. The stamps issued in August, 1854, can be distinguished from those of the May and July transfers by the want of detail, owing to the die being worn in the case of the former.

The die of the 1 anna was also recut before the date of the variety known as the "pointed bust," and the "chignon" was redrawn for the second transfer, which was dated September, 1854.

The first transfer was in August, 1854, and that of the "pointed bust" probably in August, 1855.

There was also a recut of the die of the 4 annas, noticeable in the "chignon," by which single stamps of the first state (which always belong to the wide setting with the dividing lines) can be distinguished from those of the second state.

There were also retouches to the single stamps in the case of all these values. Sheets of all these stamps and of the 2 annas were shown, including the only one known of the 4 annas with the dividing lines, also the 4 annas with the inverted head, the 6 annas, "tall postage," with inverted surcharge, the 20 types of the same stamp, and panes of the two settings of the small "service," as well as essays, proofs, reprints, and forgeries.

The third meeting of the season 1907-8 was held at 4, Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, 21st November, 1907, at 6 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, L. L. R. Hausburg, R. B. Yardley, John Walker, jun., B. D. Knox, D. C. Gray, W. Schwabacher, E. W. Wetherell, Franz Reichenheim, F. Ransom, J. A. Tilleard, A. J. Warren, Rev. Dr. H. A. James, Herbert R. Oldfield, T. W. Hall, E. D. Bacon, H. F. W. Deane, Douglas Ellis, L. W. Fulcher, C. McNaughtan, C. Neville Biggs, T. Maycock, A. Chilver, H. M. Hansen, and J. R. P. Clarke. Lance E. Hall (associate). Two visitors.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

The members then proceeded to consider the election of the following candidate, who after ballot was declared to be a duly elected Member and Fellow of the Society:—

Mr. William Angus Hamilton, proposed by the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Assistant Hon. Sec.

A display of the stamps comprised in a portion of his collection was then made by the Rev. H. A. James, D.D., comprising the British Colonies in Africa.

The collection was very strong in all countries, and especially in Mauritius, Natal, Transvaal and Zanzibar. It contains nearly all the great rarities, and was noticeable for the fine condition of the stamps generally. It was inspected with considerable interest by the members present.

Mr. Yardley proposed, and Mr. Castle seconded, a very hearty vote of thanks to Dr. James for his display, and the resolution being unanimously carried, Dr. James responded, and the proceedings shortly after terminated.—From *The London Philatelist*.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society.

At the meeting held on December 23rd, 1907, at 6, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, 24 members were present. Messrs. James and Hill were duly elected Members, and Mr. Paterson was put up for nomination. The membership now stands at 81, which includes 6 ladies; 30 new members have already been elected this season. There was an exhibition of stamps of Northern Nigeria, and Miss Phelps showed a very fine and almost complete collection.

Miss Phelps read a most interesting and well got together paper on the Stamps of Northern Nigeria, and expressed her doubts about the necessity of such a high value stamp as £25, and was suitably thanked by the President, Dr. Ackerley, and the Hon. Secretary.

It is believed that this is the only Philatelic Society, anyhow in the district, at which a lady has given a paper, and it is to be hoped that her good example will be followed by other ladies.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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25 JANUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Imperial Exhibition, 1908.



THE time is getting short now to the opening of the Juniors' Imperial Exhibition, which as all readers of *The Postage Stamp* already know is to be an Exhibition restricted to the stamps of Great Britain and Colonies. We are all anticipating an interesting show, but Mr. Mel-

ville writes me that there are not nearly enough promises in yet for the stamps to be displayed, and he wishes me to wake up intending exhibitors. Now, I am sure those intending exhibitors would not leave it to the last moment, as they almost invariably do, if they only knew how much anxiety and trouble they would save a hard working Committee by being extra early.

The Venturesome Juniors.

I cannot help admiring the pluck of the Juniors in throwing their forthcoming Exhibition open free by ticket. The expenses cannot fail to be heavy, and the dealers' stalls have been let for a nominal fee: hence, they are trusting, with the confidence of youth, to generous donations from collectors to protect them from a serious deficit.

Tricks played on Philatelists.

To be a philatelist you need to be always on the watch. A collector in the pages of the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* tells us that he had spent several pounds in purchasing the so-called bisected British Guiana stamps of 1860 on original envelopes whereon these stamps were affixed, and whereas the envelopes were original, the stamps genuine and the cancelling

mark genuine also, yet these envelopes could never have passed through the post office. Someone got hold of a lot of old wrappers and bisected some stamps of 1860 and managed to secure an old cancelling stamp and thus tricked many people in Georgetown.

One would like to bisect that wily bisector.

Lucky Finds overlooked.

The same writer, Mr. F. P. L. Josa, tells of a lucky find he had but which, through ignorance, he let slip through his fingers. He says, "On one occasion I got for a few pence several dozens of the St Christopher one penny, lilac rose, C.A. of 1882, catalogued in those days at £1 apiece, believing that they were the one penny carmine rose catalogued at 1d. apiece. I used to send my duplicate album about to my friends, and I did not discover until all the lilac rose had disappeared that they were so valuable."

Moral: study your stamps.

New South Wales: current shades.

The current stamps of New South Wales are running into an interesting variety of shades which should be picked up while they are to be had cheaply. The most notable are to be found in the 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. The two shades of the 6d. are perhaps the most strongly marked, one being an orange and the other a very bright salmon tint.

Then there are the printings of the colony's stamps on a supply of Crown and double lined A paper borrowed from Victoria. These should be gathered in while they are to be had. They may be common enough, but they may, on the other hand, run scarce. In all doubtful cases it is better to be on the safe side. I have so often got left by treating current stuff with too much contempt, that I now subscribe to two New Issue Services to make sure.

New Zealand Pictorials.

The little circle of well known collectors who are quietly specializing in these issues is a steadily widening one. This week I had a note from the

President of one of the great northern Philatelic Societies who confesses to having succumbed to the temptation, and he is one of the keenest collectors of my acquaintance. The other day I heard of a magnificently gorgeous collection held by a collector whose name is not common philatelic property. It was quite new to me. I understand that in the new Gibbons Part I. these same New Zealand Pictorials will be more intelligently revised. In the last Gibbons they were terribly mauled in the matter of shades.

New Zealand. 1d. single lined N.Z. perf. 11.

Can any of my readers who take an interest in these same New Zealand Pictorials, tell me anything concerning an uncatalogued variety that has recently come to light, *i.e.*, the 1d. wmk. single lined N.Z., perf. 11. I have secured a pair and a single. The catalogue gives perf. 14, and perf. 14 x 11, but not perf. 11 all round. Is it a recent issue, or is it a Cowan to be catalogued as 255 b. in Gibbons?

Papuan Varieties of Perforation.

Our Papuan friends are still piling up varieties. It is true they have adopted a permanent issue by changing the name in the scroll of the British New Guinea design to Papua, but as the stamps are being printed in Melbourne on Victoria paper they are subject to Victorian changes of perforation, and just now Victoria is ringing the changes from perf. 11 to perf. 12, 12½. Hence the first value of the new Papuans, the ½d. came over perf. 11 and the next, the 4d. perf. 12, 12½. So collectors will do well to look out for both perms.

Queenslands. Types.

The *Monthly Journal* has for some months been publishing a splendid series of exhaustive articles on the various types that are to be found in the making up of the plates of the recent Queensland stamps. The articles are finely illustrated with enlarged reproductions.

Queensland is the least popular of the Australian States from the philatelic point of view, but in the light of these grand articles I fancy there will be a good deal of awakening of specialist attention.

Beginners' countries.

If a beginner, who is a beginner in age as well as in philately, wants a country to specialise he cannot do better than take a new country and grow up with it. This advice I gave some years ago when Cayman Islands started stamps and advised my young friends to take that country as one. Many acted on my advice, and I have since had congratulatory letters on my foresight. There was no foresight about it. My advice was based on the fact that most British Colonies develop in the philatelic direction. If a country can be caught young, and you are young enough to patiently let it grow, the chances are that you will not regret your choice.

Southern Nigeria for the Specialist.

Now if I wanted a country for an average specialist who can afford a few pounds as a start, I should select Southern Nigeria, and I will tell you why. It is the coming colony on the West Coast of Africa, it is the most prosperous, and already it has gobbled

up Lagos under its administration. Its issues are few, interesting, and are all rising in value. There are no surcharges, and no humbugs of any sort, in fact it is the cleanest of all the colonies. Its design is separate and distinct from all other De la Rue designs. There are just a few scarce, high priced stamps, but they are likely to be a good investment. It is a favourite with many shrewd African collectors, and is likely to grow in popularity, especially if the administrative officials' view of its probable future is realised.

Philatelic Nuggets.

As I look through the new catalogues I cannot help musing on the number of nice little philatelic nuggets we have had in the Single C. A. mine. They have been sprinkled about in most of the colonies, so that most collectors have benefitted from their production. The dear old souls who have been qualifying as antiques by stopping at 1890 have missed those little dividends. After all, it does not do to fix your own future too rigidly; it is better to let yourself go gently with the stream.

From Dealer to Philanthropist.

Mr. Ewen, the well known New Issue dealer, is nursing the idea that he is just now qualifying as a philanthropist!!! It will take no end of salt to swallow that bit of news. However, as he has been selling £1 Victorias, perf. 11, at 23s. 4d. each, when he ought to have charged much more, he thinks he is making good his claim. He says the profit he has made out of those stamps about covers the cost of two cablegrams he sent to secure them.

Mr. Ewen in tears.

Continuing, Mr. Ewen says, that he has received two sheets of the 5s. Victoria, perf. 11, and adds:—"We are told that only twelve sheets were printed and if this is correct we are lucky to have secured two of them. We might do very nicely by putting them in our safe and forgetting them for a year or two till the general Commonwealth series is here, but this terrible New Issue Service of ours again stands between us and a fortune. Hard lines to have to give them all away for £10 nominal profit, some of which we shall have to wait months for (we wish a few of our New Issue clients would not be so slow in replenishing their deposits—Americans we excuse but others sometimes delay when they need not. Remember, we have *always* to pay in advance, and *always promptly* if we want to secure the highest efficiency)."

I was so touched by this pathetic appeal that, although my New Issue a/c was in credit, I forthwith sent off a further cheque. I can't bear to hear of a poor stamp dealer being *in extremis*!

Silk Threads in Stamps.

My friend Mr. W. V. Morten is getting facetious. He suggests to me that Pope's simile might be applied to the appearance of silk threads in postage stamps:

"Pretty in amber to observe the forms
Of hairs or straws or dirt in grubs or worms;
The things we know are neither rich nor rare,
But wonder how the devil they got there."

The Stamps of British East Africa

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 212).

The Manuscript Provisionals. In reference to these the Company state :—

"The Manuscript Provisionals were executed at Mombasa owing to the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna stamps having run short, and only sufficient were issued for postal purposes until a fresh supply of the permanent ones had arrived from London."

The Company have no record as to how many of these stamps were issued, or as to the exact date at which any particular stamp was issued.

There were four varieties of these provisionals used in 1891. Three of them, the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 2 a., $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 3 a., and 1 a. on 4 a., were initialled 'A.B.' by Mr. A. Brown, who signed some of the handstamped provisionals.

The 1 a. on 3 a. was initialled 'V.H.M.' by Mr. Victor H. Mackenzie, who was sent out from London by the Company to take charge of the Bank started at Mombasa. Mr. Mackenzie was appointed on December 1st, 1890, and died on September 30th, 1892.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 2 a. is noted in the *Monthly Journal*, March, 1891, as having been seen used on letter dated 'Feb. 2, 91.' The $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 3 a. and 1 a. on 4 a. is noted in *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, September, 1891, as having been used in April and May, 1891.

We are informed that many of these stamps, especially the 1 a. on 4 a., were used for fiscal purposes. During the last year or two many copies of these have been sold at auction and otherwise in London, which had been used fiscally, and then had a false Mombasa postmark applied, often dated 'Feb., 91,' two months before the 1 a. on 4 a. was issued !"

Value and initials in M.S., in black.

$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 2 a., vermilion ("A.B.") (Jan.) . . .	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 4 a., brown ("A.B.") (April) . . .	—
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 3 a., black on dull red ("A.B.") (May)	—
1 a. on 3 a., black on dull red ("V.H.M.") (June)	—

1894. Nov. Provisionals. New values of 5 a. on 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. being needed to provide for a reduction in the rate of postage, 1,800 of the 8 a., bright blue, of the 1890 series were surcharged in black "5 annas," and a similar number of the 1 r., carmine, of the same series were surcharged "7 $\frac{1}{2}$ annas," by Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., and sent out to Mombasa.

Provisionals.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
5 a. on 8 a., bright blue	20 0	25 0
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 1 r., carmine	20 0	25 0

1894. Dec. As soon as possible a supply of the new values uniform with the current design of the anna values was prepared by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., and forwarded to the colony. The 5 a. was printed in black on grey-blue paper, and the 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. in black on white paper. Sixty thousand of each value were printed.

	Perf.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
5 annas, black on grey-blue	0 6	3 0
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " " white	0 9	4 0

1895. Second issue of manuscript provisionals. Owing to an unusual run on the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna stamps, and a fresh supply not having arrived from London, a number of the current 3 a. value were surcharged at Mombasa " $\frac{1}{2}$ anna" in pen and ink and initialled "T. E. C. R." by Mr. T. E. C. Remington, the Postmaster at Mombasa. A shortage of the 1 a. value was similarly provided for by surcharging a number of the same 3 a. value "1 anna" and initialling them in a similar manner. These provisionals were the last stamps issued under the authority of the Imperial British East Africa Company.

Manuscript Provisionals.

Second Issue.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a. on 3 a., black on dull red	35 0	30 0
1 " " " " " "	—	—

1895. July. When the Imperial Government took over the administration of the colony the stock of the Company's stamps unsold in British East Africa were overprinted with a handstamp at Mombasa with the words "British East Africa." Concerning this interesting overprint, Mr. Thos. E. C. Remington, Postmaster-General, wrote me under date of 12th March, 1896, from the Zanzibar Post Office, as follows :—

"The surcharging of the late I. B. E. A. Company's stamps was done at Mombasa by a handstamp, under my supervision. This handstamp was made by fixing printer's type into a wooden handle with a hollow at one end, and the type secured by pouring in melted lead. This was the only way to overcome the difficulty that presented itself when the Government took over the territory of the late I. B. E. A. Company, as I was unable to get them overprinted at a printer's in Mombasa, and there was no time to send them to Zanzibar."

This issue is one of the most interesting of all the issues of the Protectorate because of its make-shift character and its crude handstamped overprint.

The record of the numbers thus overprinted of each value is officially given as follows:—

½ a., brown	4980
1 a., green	1040
2 a., vermilion	180
2½ a., black on yellow	4020
3 a., brown on dull red	2230
4 a., brown	3240
4½ a., purple	3780
5 a., black on grey-blue	780
7½ a., black	1140
8 a., bright blue	1900
1 r., carmine	2349
2 r., brick-red	520
3 r., dull purple	719
4 r., ultramarine	868
5 r., olive-green	568

Considerable doubt has been expressed as to the correctness of the number 180 given as those printed of the 2 a. vermilion, and it is generally agreed that the number which has come into the market points to the probability that 180 was a clerical error for 1800. Mr. Remington, in the letter which I received from him in 1896, and from which I have already quoted, says that, roughly speaking, of the anna values and the 1 rupee, about 3000 of each were printed, and of the other rupee values about 1000, "excepting the 2 annas stamp, and there were very few of these in stock." If the number printed was not smaller than those printed of any other value, it would not have been referred to as *exceptionally* small, therefore smaller than the number printed of the 5 annas, which was only 780.



Handstamp overprint on Company's stamps.

	Perf. 14.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ a., brown	10	0	10	0
1 a., green	65	0	40	0
2 a., vermilion	60	0	40	0
2½ a., black on yellow	30	0	20	0
3 a., brown on dull red	10	0	10	0
4 a., brown	7	6	5	0
4½ a., purple	40	0	30	0
5 a., black on grey-blue	90	0	80	0
7½ a., black	25	0	25	0
8 a., bright blue	15	0	12	0
1 r., carmine	12	6	10	0
2 r., brick-red	£5		80	0
3 r., deep purple	50	0	40	0
4 r., ultramarine	35	0	32	6
5 r., olive-green	£5		65	0

Range of Catalogue Prices. Unused.

The prices of this rare set have, all things considered, maintained a fairly good high level. They were started high, for they were soon heralded as rarities of great promise, but any chance of increasing value was quite discounted by the high prices that were put on them from the very first. For a few days after their arrival a Jersey firm of dealers, now out of business, sold the complete sets, including the

2½ on 4½a., for £2 14s. Od. per set. Then the prices leaped up until the publication of the Gibbons' Catalogue, when they were fixed at what might be called a settled price. Since the fully priced catalogue of 1899 there has practically been no rise, for the simple reason that the high prices already listed were found to be the highest attainable. The 2 and 3 rupees are the only stamps that show any considerable rise.

Whether these stamps will improve in value remains to be seen. I am rather inclined to think they are quite high enough for some years to come. Little hoards have been coming on the market from time to time, tending to keep prices down. Of late a good few have been auctioned in London which, it is understood, came from the estate of a former postal official of British East Africa. Then again the territory has been re-named and bracketted with Uganda under the title of East Africa and Uganda. This change, in the opinion of some folks, may affect the prices of this set for the worse. Its philatelic account is practically closed. Some prefer it so, others again prefer a country whose life is continuous. But I hold there is no reason why the specialist in British East Africa should regard the account as closed, for the addition of Uganda is not a closing of the account, nor the slight change of name from British East Africa to East Africa and Uganda Protectorate. The catalogues make a break, but in all probability, they will again be separated as they are developed.

	1897	1899	1902	1905	1907	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
½ anna	30	0	20	0	15	0
1 "	80	0	80	0	65	0
2 "	60	0	60	0	60	0
2½ "	45	0	30	0	30	0
3 "	6	0	7	6	10	0
4 "	5	0	4	6	7	6
4½ "	50	0	45	0	40	0
5 "	—	—	90	0	120	0
7½ "	25	0	25	0	25	0
8 "	8	0	16	0	15	0
1 rupee	10	0	10	0	12	6
2 "	50	0	80	0	100	0
3 "	35	0	30	0	50	0
4 "	40	0	35	0	27	6
5 "	90	0	90	0	100	0

1895. Provisional. In his letter to me Mr. Remington says of this provisional 2½ a.: "It was owing to the fact that the stock of stamps was so small at this time at Mombasa that I was compelled to issue the Provisional 2½ a., surcharged on 4½ a. I.B.E.A. Company's stamp overprinted 'British East Africa.'"

	Perf.		Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
2½ on 4½, purple	40	0	40	0	30	0

To be continued.

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in this week's number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of British East Africa is probably the finest in the world.

New Catalogues for 1908

BY THE EDITOR

Introductory.

FOR the first time in our recollection all the great Stamp Catalogues for the new year have been published within a few weeks of each other. This means, for one thing, less copying of prices, and therefore, more independence in pricing. Of course in "most lines," as the Draperified stamp advertiser says, prices get known apart from the catalogue, but many interesting stamps are left of which the pricing must be more or less independent. Besides, Gibbons, being last in the field there has been no opportunity of knowing how that particular, dominating cat is going to jump, and, as the Gibbons cat is a very erratic one, that makes all the difference. To price a scarce new comer at scarcity price, and then find that Gibbons pops it down to that of a common bantling, is apt to set a rival's teeth on edge. And as a lot of human nature goes into the making, and especially into the pricing, of a stamp catalogue, we shall probably find, when we come to examine them in detail, that it is a case of six to one and half-a-dozen to the other.

Gibbons—Part II.

The new Gibbons is a very bulky production. It is 60 pages more than the last edition and it is also printed on somewhat thicker paper. 60 pages is an abnormal increase, but it seems to be due more to the opening out of certain countries rather than to additions of new issues. Thus, we find Salvador fills 20 pages in 1908 against 15 pages in 1907. If it had been reduced to one tenth of its space very few save collectors would have complained. The space occupied by Montenegro has been doubled, from 5 columns to 10 columns. Bosnia has been revised and all varieties of its precious perforations have been separated and priced. If some recent perforations had been banned as bogus very little harm would have been done. The plaster series of 1901-6 make a long list of ——— rubbish, but it is priced up into the skies all the same. Finland is a new and valuable list based upon M. Hanciau's article in the *Monthly Journal*. Perplexing Siam has been revised on Mr. Poole's lines.

The printing of this fine catalogue is of the best, but many of the blocks are of a distinctly poor grade.

No edition in recent years has been so fully priced as this one in the matter of rarities often left unpriced. This is due to the publishers' purchase of the grand and comprehensive Breitfusa collection last year. Not a few great rarities, hitherto unknown except to a few have been added from the same source, notably in the Russian list.

There are a few unsettled problems which our new Gibbons has not tackled. Cuba, though now an independent republic, still figures in leading strings under United States. Panama although also an

independent republic is still included as a portion of the United States of Colombia from which it has long since finally and completely separated, and the U.S.A. issues for its Canal Zone territory are hidden away under Panama. Grouping has, no doubt great advantages, but we question whether after all is said and done a rigidly alphabetical arrangement is not to be preferred from the collectors' point of view.

However, after we have done our best to pick holes here and there, we are compelled to acknowledge the very great indebtedness of the stamp collecting fraternity to the compilers and publishers of the Gibbons Catalogue.

Brights' "A.B.C."

Bright & Sons' "A.B.C." Stamp Catalogue has now in its 1908 issue got into its seventh edition. It is now wisely divided into two volumes, one for adhesives and one for envelopes, postcards, etc. Part I., now before us, is enriched with no less than 1,500 new illustrations, it is now bound in cloth instead of paper boards and it is clearly printed on good paper. Several countries have been re-written by specialists, notably Great Britain, Cape of Good Hope and Austria. The publishers state that in the matter of pricing they "have endeavoured to make the prices reflect as nearly as possible the average rates quoted in open market." They also express a pious opinion that "during the next few years the value of old stamps in good condition, both Foreign and Colonial will increase and that the next edition of this Catalogue will show considerably higher quotations."

But we cannot help thinking an unwise move has been made in burdening the catalogue with such a dubious minor variety as chalky papers. The publishers say they could not see their way to exclude these and at the same time retain similar varieties in Portugal and Colonies, &c., which have appeared in the catalogue for many years. The Portugal and Colonies Chalkies and a few others included were not worth worrying over, but when these undesirable and frequently unrecognisable varieties are added in unrestricted flood throughout the lists of the British Colonies it becomes a very serious matter. In our opinion Brights have made a mistake. They have added philatelic conundrums of the most annoying and perplexing character to the fascinating pursuit of Stamp Collecting, and we note that they price these chalkies used as well as unused. The Stamps of Great Britain used abroad is a very useful list for this class of collectors, but the heading "British Stamps used Abroad" is somewhat of a misnomer. The stamps of every British Colony are "British Stamps."

As a compilation, in one compact volume, of the adhesive Stamps of the World, Brights' "A.B.C." Catalogue is an excellent publication, and at 1s. 6d. is a marvel of cheapness.

Scott's.

Scott's Catalogue is the accepted authority in America, and there is no doubt that it has deservedly won its place in the esteem of our American friends. It is built upon a plan of its own in many respects. It is almost rigidly alphabetical in its arrangement, Cuba thus embraces all Cuban issues from the first under Spain to the last issues of the self-governed Republic. The illustrations are all from blocks engraved by hand, and though, perhaps not so true as the best photo engraved blocks used in this country, are infinitely clearer and more uniformly satisfactory than cheap photo process blocks. In pricing it is generally understood that Scott is based on Gibbons, but in all other countries Scott's Catalogue is a law unto itself and unto a large body of collectors even in this country. It lists the much abused "chalkies" as "chalky paper," and curiously enough, ordinary paper is given in small type as a minor variety. Truly, these Cataloguers of Chalkies are floundering about in a veritable quagmire of philatelic puzzles. Those collectors who have kept their heads, and have not been bounced into these petty minor varieties, can afford to smile at the perplexities that are thus being stored up.

Mr. W. T. Wilson, 292, Birchfield Road, Birmingham, is the Agent in this country for the sale of Scott's Catalogue.

Field's "Simplified."

Mr. Field, greatly daring, has made a plunge into catalogue production with a very neatly got up "Simplified Catalogue of the stamps of the British Empire." As a first venture it is a highly commendable production. The size 6½ x 4in. is a most useful pocket size, the print is clear and the black faced type used for the titles of the countries is chosen with good taste, in fact the typographical get up is far in advance of all the other catalogues. The compiler is Mr. B. W. H. Poole. In the process of simplification, officials, postage dues, &c. are thrown overboard and only adhesive stamps sold to the public for ordinary postal use are included, varieties of perforations are excluded and the multiple C.A. is treated as a minor variety of the ordinary crown C.A. and excluded; varieties of paper are also excluded. The illustrations are far above the average in quality and clearness. Postal fiscals might well have been included in the exclusions. The price is 1s., post free 1s. 3d., and the publisher is Mr. D. Field, Stamp Dealer, The Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, London, W., and we strongly recommend it to the beginner as coming nearer our ideal of a catalogue for beginners than any other in the market.

Imperial Stamp Exhibition, 1908

IN reference to the forthcoming Exhibition of Colonial Stamps to be held under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on March 12th, 13th and 14th of this year, it does not appear to be generally known that the Exhibition Committee is relying largely upon the voluntary donations of all stamp collectors interested in order to cover the very heavy expenses involved in such an undertaking.

As the admission is entirely free to all visitors, there are only two sources of income open the Committee and little more than one half of the total expense will be covered from the hire of the trade stalls.

Up to the present the voluntary donations only amount to £25, and this sum will have to be very considerably increased if the Exhibition is to be carried through without a heavy deficit.

The Exhibition will doubtless be one of the greatest value in the making of new collectors and in stimulating the interest of young collectors and beginners. At the same time it will not be without its value to and effect upon the senior collectors.

We may point out that the Exhibition was embarked upon by the general desire of stamp collectors in London and the Provinces, owing to the huge success of the previous Exhibition held by the Junior Philatelic Society in Exeter Hall three years ago.

It behoves collectors therefore who have the interests of Philately at heart, to show some sub-

stantial interest in the work of the Exhibition Committee in the form of a donation towards the expenses of an Exhibition which is being conducted on a plan well calculated to be of high importance in the development and progress of our mutual hobby.

We append an official list of the first donations received, and hope that many of our readers will do their best to swell this list to proportions worthy of the great body of stamp collectors.

Donations should be sent direct to the Honorary Secretary of the Exhibition, Mr. Herbert F. Johnson, 44, Fleet Street, E.C.

Donations small or large will be gladly welcomed and duly acknowledged.

	£	s.	d.
Stanley Gibbons (per E. J. Phillips)	5	0	0
H. Clark - - - - -	3	3	0
Humphrey Bennett - - - - -	1	1	0
W. Darwen - - - - -	1	1	0
Douglas Ellis - - - - -	1	1	0
L. L. R. Hausburg - - - - -	1	1	0
H. L. Hayman - - - - -	1	1	0
H. J. Lee - - - - -	1	1	0
Fred. J. Melville - - - - -	1	1	0
E. M. Gilbert Lodge - - - - -	1	1	0
J. D. Ragg - - - - -	1	1	0
F. Reichenheim - - - - -	1	1	0
Dr. Fred. W. Abbott - - - - -	0	10	6
G. B. Browne - - - - -	0	10	6
S. Chapman - - - - -	0	10	6

	£	s.	d.
W. Allan Harmer	0	10	6
H. Lee	0	10	6
R. Shepherd	0	10	6
J. W. Heath	0	10	0
W. H. Tarrant	0	10	0
L. W. Crouch	0	5	0
E. A. Leigh	0	5	0
Vivian Miles	0	5	0
Leon de Raay	0	5	0
A. J. Sefi	0	5	0
W. Tunstall	0	5	0
S. R. Turner	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
A. H. L. Giles, R.N.	0	3	0
Miss A. Cassels	0	2	6
Horace Heywood	0	2	6
Miss E. Newman	0	2	6
E. A. Smart	0	2	6
Mrs. E. Thatcher	0	2	6
Geo. E. Wells	0	2	6
C. T. Frances	0	2	0
E. H. F. Salt	0	2	0
R. White	0	1	0
	<u>£25</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 216)

Bs. As.—A contraction for "Buenos Ayres" found upon the so-called "Gaicho" stamps, which are really only essays, as they were never brought into use.

B. T.—These letters surmounted by a crown are found punctured through several of the stamps of Great Britain used on the official correspondence of the Board of Trade department.

Buchanan.—I.—One of the towns in the Republic of Liberia at which special 10c. registration stamps inscribed with the name of the town are used. The first issue was made in 1893.

II.—Mr. James M. Buchanan, was postmaster of Baltimore, U.S.A., in 1845-6, and issued some special stamps and envelopes to facilitate the prepayment of postage, prior to the issue of the general stamps for the whole of the United States.

Buenos Ayres.—The largest and most important province of the Argentine Republic. The name means literally "good aid." It has an area of 117,777 square miles and a population of about two millions. Special stamps were issued in April, 1858, but since about 1864 Buenos Ayres has ceased to use stamps of its own.

Buffalo Exhibition Stamps.—A special set of stamps issued at Buffalo, U.S.A., in 1901, to commemorate the Pan-American Exposition held in that year. It will be remembered that President McKinley was assassinated at Buffalo on Sept. 14th, 1901.

Buleaga o toga.—An inscription appearing on several of the stamps of Tonga which means "Government of Tonga."

Bulgaria.—A tributary principality of European Turkey, but virtually independent. It is bounded on the north by Roumania, on the south by Turkey, on the west by Servia, and on the east by the Black Sea. It has an area of 37,323 square miles and a population of nearly four millions. The principality was created

by the treaty of Berlin, of 13th July, 1878, and it is governed by a Prince elected by the National Assembly or Sobranjé, with a popular legislature and constitutional government. Its present ruler is H.R.H. Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg. Eastern Roumelia, which now forms part of Bulgaria, is likewise a creation of the Berlin Treaty, and was intended to form an autonomous province. Since the successful revolution of Philippopolis, however, it has been incorporated with the principality of Bulgaria. Postage stamps were first issued on 1st May, 1879.

Buluwayo Provisionals.—The name given to the provisional stamp used in Buluwayo, Rhodesia, during the Matabele rebellion of 1896. The name of the town means "the place of killing," and it was formerly the kraal of the Matabele King, Lobengula.

Bundi.—One of the feudatory states in the Rajputana district of India. It has an area of 2,220 square miles and a population of about 180,000. Postage stamps were first issued in May, 1894, but since the latter end of 1902 all Bundi stamps have been obsolete.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing.—The United States Government printing establishment at which all U.S.A. stamps issued since 1894 have been manufactured.

Burele.—A term applied to a fine network pattern of coloured dots or lines found on the stamps of some countries. It may form part of the ground of the design or the face of the stamps may be covered with it as in the case of some of the stamps of Hanover. Again it may cover the whole of the back of the stamps, as with the 1872 issue of Mexico, or it may consist of a network band as in the case of some of the stamps of Queensland.

Bussahir.—One of the feudatory states of India at which special stamps were issued in 1896. Since 31st March, 1901, the state has ceased to use stamps of its own.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

British Guiana. The *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* says, "with reference to the 72 c. multiple ordinary paper, we believe we are safe in saying that there are none to be issued. During the multiple ordinary paper epoch, 1904-5, no stamps of the value of 72 c. were imported, also none of the 96 c. value."

Cyprus. A new value is to hand from this colony in the shape of a 5 paras, printed in bistre with the name of the colony and the value in black.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
5 paras, bistre and black.

Papua. The 4d. value has been issued in the new permanent series inscribed Papua. They are printed in Melbourne on Crown and double lined A, the ½d. is perf. 11., and the 4d. is perf. 12 × 12½.

Wmk. Crown and double lined A.
Perf. 11.
½d. green.
Perf. 12 × 12½
4d. sepia.

S. Lucia. The ½d., 1d. and 2½d. have all three now been issued in single colours, the ½d. all green, the 1d. all carmine, and the 2½d. all blue. The list of King's heads of this colony now stands as follows:—

King's Head.
Bi-coloured.
Wmk. Single C.A. Perf. 14.
½d. lilac and green.
1d. „ carmine.
2½d. „ blue.
3d. „ yellow.
1s. green and black.
Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
½d. lilac and green.
1d. „ carmine.
2½d. „ blue.
3d. „ yellow.
6d. „ violet.
1s. green and black.
5s. „ red.

Unicoloured.
Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.
½d. green.
1d. carmine.
2½d. blue.

Victoria. We have received the 5s. on Crown A. paper, perf. 11.

The list on Crown A paper now stands as follows:—

Wmk. Crown A:
Perf. 12, 12½.
½d. green.
1d. rose red.
2d. violet.
3d. orange brown.
4d. olive.
5d. chocolate.
6d. green.
9d. rose.
1s. orange.
£1 carmine.
£2 blue.
Perf. 11.
½d. green.
1d. rose red.
2d. mauve.
5s. carmine and blue.
£1 carmine.

Western Australia. We have received the 5s. on Crown A paper, perf. 12½.

The list on Crown A. paper so far as we have seen stands as follows:—

Wmk. Crown A.
Perf. 12½.
2d. yellow.
3d. brown.
4d. red brown.
5d. bistre.
9d. orange.
5s. green.
Perf. 12½ × 12.
1d. carmine rose.
2d. yellow.
9d. orange.
Perf. 11.
1d. carmine rose.
2d. yellow.
3d. brown.
6d. olive.
9d. orange.
5s. green.
Wmk. Crown A. upright.
Perf. 12.
1d. carmine rose.

From Other Magazines

Letters only Twice a Year.

The Right Rev. I. O. Stringer, the Bishop of Selkirk, has charge of a diocese comprising 200,000 square miles—a vast tract of land usually known as the Yukon Territory of North-west America. Mrs. Stringer, who is a true helpmeet to her husband, finds the postal arrangements of Yukon somewhat trying at times. Letters do not reach her remote dwelling more often than twice a year; and if, after waiting patiently for six months, the mails fail to arrive, the disappointment is keen: indeed. One occasion when this calamity took place is still fresh in Mrs. Stringer's memory. The mails are conveyed on sleighs by Esquimaux dogs, accompanied by two natives; but over the very rough ground, where it is impossible to make progress with the sleighs, the bags have to be carried by the men. In this particular instance the Esquimaux to whom the duty fell found the bags so heavy that he hung the lightest of them in a tree, intending to fetch it when he passed that way again—in six months' time. When the post was delivered at Mrs. Stringer's house, it was found to consist of newspapers and advertisements, and the much-longed for letters from friends at home were still hanging in the branches of the tree, many miles distant. After some delay, they were recovered and forwarded, but their failure to turn up at the proper time was a great disappointment.—*Collectors' Journal*.

Old Age and Stamp Collecting.

Once we received a letter of apology from a customer for some slight oversight, giving as an excuse that she was turned ninety and that her eyes were not as good as they used to be. We have five patrons now on our list who have passed the eightieth milestone of life's journey. The widow of a lately deceased collector stated her belief that the interest taken in stamps by her late husband had prolonged his life at least four years. For health, happiness, and long life there is no pleasure like collecting, be it books, pictures, stamps, coins or any of the hundreds of things that have enjoyed the attention of mankind from the dawn of civilization to the present day.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist (U.S.A.)*, 4.1.08.

Barbadoes, 1892, 4d. on 4d.

This exists with a "full-stop" in place of "no-hyphen." There are a considerable number of specimens on each sheet with short hyphens looking like very small full stops, but the "full-stop" variety can be distinguished from these by the stop being full and round, and having a diameter considerably greater than the thickness of the hyphen line.

As far as I can make out at present there is only one in each sheet, and is therefore very much rarer than the "no-hyphen" variety, of which there are several on each sheet.—*C. P. Rogers in The Herts Monthly Report, Jan. 1908*.

Austrian "Soldi" Stamps.

All catalogues give the stamps of 1867 (similar to those of the same year of Austria) with the values

expressed in soldi instead of kreuzers, as being the first issue of Austria Levant. I have great doubt as to the correctness of this. From 1858 until the last war in 1866, when the province of Venice was ceded back to Italy, Austrian stamps with the value given in soldi were used in the Italian states of Lombardy and Venice, then under Austrian (martial) Government.

Unfortunately, I do not know the English equivalent of "Soldi," but I have every reason to believe it does not denote any individual or existing currency known by that name. It is intended, I think, as a guide when the stamps are sold, so that the exchange may not consist of the coinage of the country that sells the stamps. Otherwise why should a similar value be used for two countries whose coinage and exchange are totally different—as Turkey and Italy. The stamps of Austrian-Italy, from 1850 until 1858, were valued in the currency of the Italian States ("Centes" as given on the stamps) as mentioned above. This was altered to "Soldi" in '58. With little question, this was in order to facilitate the selling of the stamps, in return for Italian or Austrian coins, both no doubt running in concurrency.—*W. Ward in the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, 11.1.08.

The Profits of Collecting.

Now as to the profits of collecting, and they are very considerable when properly looked after. The earliest case we have in mind is that of a boy back in the early seventies who swapped and sold stamps to his schoolmates until he had accumulated enough cash to pay his way through college. He now occupies a very prominent position in Montreal. At least one New York self-made millionaire commenced his business career by buying and selling stamps amongst his friends. There are probably others who we fail to identify at this late day. Cases of amateurs selling their collections to start in business are numerous, while collectors who add to their incomes and increase their collections by trading in stamps are too numerous to mention. Stamps have greatly advanced in price since the early days of collecting, but there are just as big chances in the future for those who buy now.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist (U.S.A.)*, 4.1.08.

What to Buy.

Advice as to purchases in particular is impossible, but there is one general rule which applies to everything in life—buy the best. When ten dollars was an enormous price for a stamp the buyers at that price have generally had the opportunity to get five hundred dollars for their purchase. In early days we sold Nova Scotia and New Brunswick shillings at five dollars each, five cent Hawaii Missionaries and Brattleboros at five dollars each, even the despised "pill box stamps" 6c. orange at two dollars. There are just as good things now in the market, but more capital is required.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist (U.S.A.)*, 4.1.08.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Roumanian Remainder Rubbish.

L'Echo de la Timbrologie (15.12.07) says that the following remainders have been recently offered by auction at the instance of the Roumanian Post Office. There was a reserve on the second lot of £8,000, but the highest bid was £2,000.

First Lot. 40,000 sets of the Charity Stamps of 1905-06, S.G. Cat. Nos. 551 to 566.

Second Lot. 1906 Portrait series, S.G. Cat. Nos. 461 to 470.

1 ban	-	-	-	1,121,849
3 bani	-	-	-	98,816
5 "	-	-	-	725,215
10 "	-	-	-	598,877
15 "	-	-	-	180,011
25 "	-	-	-	23,759
40 "	-	-	-	170,109
50 "	-	-	-	153,870
1 leu	-	-	-	185,510
2 lei	-	-	-	232,262

Various designs, S.G. Cat. 472 to 481.

1 ban	-	-	-	1,302,334
3 bani	-	-	-	689,625
5 "	-	-	-	493,642
10 "	-	-	-	1,046,413
15 "	-	-	-	287,571
25 "	-	-	-	458,796
25 "	(error)	-	-	250,000
40 "	-	-	-	479,267
50 "	-	-	-	425,685
1 leu	-	-	-	450,085
2 lei	-	-	-	478,046

The total face value of lot two is 3,122,294 lei 86 bani or about £120,000. Even at £8,000 they would be reduced to one-fifteenth face value. They were not however sold, but may of course be offered again.

In November last, 400,000 sets of the four Charity stamps issued in 1907 (*Catologue Officiel* Nos. 180 to 183) were offered at auction and were sold for 20,000 francs (£800). They are now said to be selling at 8 centimes (about 7d.) per set amongst the Bucharest dealers, although catalogued 11d.

The postal authorities are also now selling the used stamps from money order forms, etc.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 11.1.08.

Europeans.

Alluding to the "extraordinary rise in the Continental estimation of European Stamps and the tenacity of the British race in preferring the stamps of their Empire." Mr. Castle publishes in the *London Philatelist* the following extract from a private letter from one of the foremost foreign dealers to a collector in this country:—

"I have no Colonials of the kind you desire. Old British Colonials have completely disappeared on German stamp markets, they must all have taken their way to England years ago. I do buy them still

whenever I chance to meet them very fine, but my principal business depends on old European stamps, which are getting scarce. They used to be found in England, but seem to have vanished there likewise. No more Europeans in England; no more British Colonials in Germany. So German dealers remain at home, and the English 'big pots' no longer hunt for bargains in Germany! *Tempora mutantur!*"

British Guiana: Rarest Recent Stamps.

I quote the following interesting tit-bit from the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* for December, 1907, just received by me:—

"The rarest stamp of the recent issues of British Guiana is, without doubt, the 60c. single C.A. of 1903. We see they are quoted at 10s. each, but we know from personal experience that they cannot be bought at that price in London or in the Colony. A stamp which should be equally rare is the 60c. on multiple ordinary paper, which we see quoted at 3s. We would advise or readers to buy all they can get at that price if they want a speculation.

"The numbers imported in the Colony are:—

Single C.A.	-	-	10,080
Multiple C.A.	-	-	10,320

"The scarcity of the former is no doubt due to the fact that the majority of this lot was used up for fiscal purposes. They were all exhausted, and then came the multiple ordinary issue.

"Another good stamp is the 48c. single C.A. There are two distinct shades, viz:—a grey-black and brown lilac, also a grey and brown lilac, evidently due to two printings. No mention of these shades has been made in the philatelic papers."

New Issue Services.

Mr. Ewen has been grumbling considerably of late and telling us that it is not all beer and skittles running a New Issue Service. His principal complaint is that he has supplied Cayman Islands provisionals for 1s. each when he might have made 2s. 6d. each of them.

But is it wise to get the uttermost from New Issue subscribers and give them no plums in return? It must be remembered that under the usual terms they have to accept and pay for a lot of rubbish which they would gladly exclude, and when they get a provisional for a little over face, that outsiders have to pay 2s. 6d. for, they count that to the credit of their New Issue Service and it binds them afresh to a continuance of their subscription.

Cayman Islands Provisionals.

Mr. Whitfield King informs me that there were issued 19 sheets of the 7d. on 5s., and 15 sheets of the 1d. on 5s., each sheet consisting of 120 stamps. The whole of these stamps were sold locally, and not a single dealer has received, or will receive, a supply from the post office.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

Our New Printers.

For the convenience of having everything more thoroughly under editorial supervision and control, *The Postage Stamp* will in future be printed by Mr. Charles Baldwin, at the Grosvenor Printing Works, Newton Road, Tunbridge Wells. In fact the change was made with the beginning of this year, Mr. Baldwin having commenced his printing with the number for January 4th, 1908. His superb work speaks for itself.

Now that I have fuller control I hope to improve *The Postage Stamp* in many respects in the get up, though it will be difficult to excel the splendid work done by Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, but there are many little questions in the manipulation of the contents in making up into pages, &c., that arise at the last moment and can only be satisfactorily arranged when Editor and Printer are in hourly touch with each other.

Our Illustrations.

The change of printers must delay for a week or two our use of illustrations. In loyalty to our license for illustrating *The Postage Stamp* we have to arrange with the Inland Revenue Authorities for the change of printers and the new custody of the blocks, but we shall recommence the use of stamp illustrations at the earliest moment.

A. J. W. (New Malden). Varieties of paper, &c., will be duly explained in our Series of Articles entitled "Hints to Beginners, How to Collect," when we can find space for them, which we hope will be in a week or two. Meanwhile I may briefly answer your queries by saying that *wove paper* when held up to the light shows no pattern in it, no lines; *laid paper* when held up to the light and looked through shows lines, sometimes they run from top to bottom, then that paper is described as *vertically laid*, sometimes the lines run across the sheet, then that paper is called *horizontally laid*. *Surface coated paper* is ordinary paper with a film of a prepared chalky fluid brushed over it and rolled into the paper, thus making a more suitable surface for printing very finely engraved blocks. *Granite paper* is so called because it is flecked in the manufacture with tiny coloured bits that give to it the grain of some granite. Many thanks for your good wishes. Do your best to make *The Postage Stamp* known amongst your stamp collecting friends.

Philatelist. (Worcester). The manufacturers of the "Cistafle" are Messrs. Lawn & Barlow, 99, Regent Street, London.

F. B. (Westcliff-on-Sea). The reason why Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., in their catalogue price the current 6d. Great Britain at 7d., is because the members of that firm require feeding, more or less regularly,

some three or four times a day, and the extra penny helps to pay the baker and butcher. Another reason is that whilst you can drop in at your own post office and get the stamp at face value, a collector abroad gets it generally from the dealer, and the dealer puts on the extra 1d. to cover the cost of buying and selling. If you hired a Cunarder and took her for a round trip you could buy most of our current British Colonials at face value, but as the hiring of a Cunarder might be an inconvenient expense, you gladly pay Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. to do the collecting for you for the odd copper they add to the face value. The collector resident abroad is in the same position in regard to supplies of current stamps of Great Britain as you are in regard to British Colonies. Hence the reason why current English stamps are priced above face in all our English stamp catalogues. Very many thanks for your good wishes for 1908. Get your friends to go in for *The Postage Stamp* and so help to work up a big circulation.

R. S. (Falmouth). The variety with dropped E in the overprint of "Orange River Colony" on Cape of Good Hope stamps is mentioned by Gibbons, but not listed and I do not know that it is priced anywhere. The value of the ½d. would probably be anything from 2s. 6d. upwards, in a pair about double. Thanks for your information that you have a genuine postally used specimen of the Orange River Colony overprinted "T.F." without "V.R.I." In that case it would belong to the pre-British period and therefore be a postally used specimen of a telegraph stamp of the Orange Free State. But most collectors who include postally used fiscals draw the line at fiscals that have not been duly authorised for postal use, and I think it is a wise limitation, for anyone might put a fiscal distinguished from an ordinary postage stamp by lightly overprinted initials and pass it through the post. Please do your best for us in making *The Postage Stamp* known in the old county. Many a time I have rowed down the Fal from Truro to Falmouth.

L. W. (Islington). They must be rather poor specimens of the genus newsagent in your neighbourhood to get the reply you did. Perhaps it was a half-baked assistant! Fancy changing the splendidly chosen and expressive name of *The Postage Stamp* because one or two Islington curiosities had not yet got to know that there is a paper of that name. That same imbecile would presumably be sending you around to some garage for the *Motor Car*. A different experience from yours is that of a dealer's assistant who told us that at a bookstall near your Bond Street address the clerk on being asked if he had a copy replied "Rather: it is the best selling weekly on the stall."

Philatelic Society Meetings

Imperial Philatelic Society (N. London).

President : Chas. M. C. Symes.

Hon. Sec. : C. S. Muratori, 29, Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.

Meeting : Central Y.M.C.A., 7, Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.

Subscription : 2/6 per annum.

The first meeting of this newly formed Society was held at its Headquarters on Thursday, January 2nd, at 8 p.m. The evening was a social one, and lent itself entirely to social intercourse, thus serving a very useful purpose as it gave each visitor every opportunity of knowing his fellow Member and making philatelic friendships. The meeting room is large and luxuriantly furnished, and great satisfaction was expressed. Several gentlemen brought portions of their collections up for view, an opportunity that was taken advantage of and also a very fair number of stamps changed hands. Mr. Symes announced that there would be no auction as indicated in the programme, but the Society had been very fortunate in having Mr. Chas. Nissen with them, who had arranged to give a display of philatelic curiosities. Mr. Nissen then displayed his stamps, amongst them being a fine copy of the 1/- Queen bicoloured Govt. Parcels, with the surcharge inverted, another being a forgery of the 1d. black V.R., apparently very well executed. Mr. Nissen supplemented his display with some very useful information which was greatly appreciated by those present, and he also presented the library with a complete set of the Stamp Collectors' Annual, at the conclusion of which Mr. C. J. Phillips proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Nissen for so generously entertaining the meeting, this was seconded by Mr. Rock and unanimously carried.

Prahran (Victoria) Philatelic Society.

President : C. E. Lovett, Esq.

Exchange Subl. : H. W. Johnston, Esq., Chapel Street, Prahran, Vic.

Secretary : G. W. Minty, Esq., Clr Kooyong and Wattle Tree Roads, Armadale, Vic.

The monthly meeting of the Prahran Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on Friday, 15th November, 1907.

The President, Mr. C. E. Lovett, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as read, and the ballot for November Exchange Book was conducted by Messrs. Boshier and Best.

Mr. Austin Wainwright was elected a Member of the Society, and the standing orders were then suspended so that a musical programme arranged for the evening might be proceeded with.

The Vice-President, Mr. Stevenson, gave a selected overture and also Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana, both of which were well rendered. Vocal items were given by Messrs. Medcalf, Thewlis, Minty and Best. As a comic artist Mr. Medcalf excels, and he was very much in request. Mr. A. Thewlis sang the celebrated old German "Trink Lied" (Drinking song) in a manner that called for untimed applause, and as an encore that gentleman gave a tasteful rendering of "Abts Still is the night." A very stirring recitation entitled "Coming Home" was given in a highly commendable manner by Mr. Flavell. "The Holy City" and Gounod's Meditation for the Mandoline were tastefully rendered by Mr. C. Lovett.

An excellent collection of Victorian stamps was exhibited by Mr. Woodward, the selection containing among others the following rarities, all in splendid condition : Sixpenny orange, figures at sides ; Twopenny unused, fine background ; Five shilling blue on yellow ; 1851 red brown No. 1 S. G. ; One Penny orange vermilion ; and also the rare Penny green emblem wmk. star, rouletted.

The programme was thoroughly appreciated and was concluded by a delightful rendition of Greene's "Sing me to Sleep" by Mr. H. Best. Mr. Hammond acted as accompanist and carried out his duties very creditably.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the gentlemen for their assistance, and the evening was then brought to a close with the National Anthem.

Scottish Philatelic Society.

Hon. Sec. : R. W. Findlater, 30, Buckingham Terrace, Edinburgh.

The usual monthly meeting of the above Society was held at 26, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, on 9th December, 1907, at 8 p.m., with an average attendance of Members. The following were duly elected Members of the Society, i.e., Mr. A. Melvin and A. R. Lindsay, both of Edinburgh. The Hon. Sec. gave a short report *re* movements of the various packets in circulation, sales to date comparing well with those of same periods of last year.

The Displays of the Meeting were undertaken by the President and Colonel Corker. The fine Indian collection (with notes), belonging to the President, was greatly admired, while the greatest interest was evinced in the superb collection of Kashmir stamps formed by Colonel

Corker. The following notes kindly supplied by Colonel Corker regarding these difficult stamps may prove of interest to collectors of this not so well understood country.

The Kashmir stamps exhibited had been collected during the last 10 years in Kashmir, in India and at Home, and embraced most of the known specimens. Amongst the circular issues were several specimens on native envelopes and very clearly postmarked of certain black $\frac{1}{2}$ anna sometimes regarded as forgeries. There were blocks of the stamps occasionally classed as remainders, but they were mostly on old native paper and some bore the impress of an old Kashmir office mark dated 1866, that is in the Hindu System 1923. In this group was included some fifty specimens of used stamps, several upon envelopes. The 4 stamp plate and issues of 1866 included what is regarded as an absolutely unique block of S.G.'s, No. 52 and 53. The three stamps on the block were the two upper $\frac{1}{2}$ anna and the left lower the one anna. This colour was used for only three months. There were also two specimens of the bright blue special printing of '74 (No. 66) a very rare stamp, also three copies of the emerald green. There were also some 20 shades of the uncommon blue (Nos. 54-59) and some of the rare orange shades and the brown oil.

Of the next group beginning with No. 66 there was a very fine post-marked copy of this very rare stamp, with many shades and varieties (a number on envelopes) of these stamps up to No. 101. Of the 4 anna green No. 100 and the 8 anna red several examples of the forgeries, (with plain corners instead of dotted) were shewn. In the circular issue the differences in the forgeries had also been explained. In the issues of '78 No. 102 to 136 there was an example of the quite unique 102, a $\frac{1}{2}$ anna violet, with the attempt at perforation more commonly found in the red color No. 103.

Many beautiful variations of colour, paper, and postmark were shewn in this series ; as well as the large obliteration used at Leh in Ladak which in rare instances did duty as a stamp. Full plates of the '83 issues complete with the curious cross in the margin of the $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, and differences of the marks of screws and nails, owing to the copper plates being placed on fresh wooden bases. There were full plates also of the widely used forgery of the 8 anna in both vermilion and violet and some copies used in parcel post. Another interesting stamp was the uncatalogued $\frac{1}{2}$ anna orange (copy of No. 127) in two varieties. This stamp although a forgery passed through the post office for a year. It is a bright orange (water colour) imitating No. 147, and as Colonel Corker pointed out, if the possessor was in any doubt as to whether his copy was the rare stamp or not, he had merely to put it into water, when, if the colour completely disappeared he would know that he once possessed this little prize ; other stamps of this group were copies of the rare issues on laid paper, probably of quite accidental origin. The last group included the official black, some stamps and sheets upon a soft fluffy old paper. There were examples also of the public, and the official telegraph stamps, very interesting now, as so few examples have survived. The exhibitor presented the President and Hon. Sec. with a copy each of one of these stamps as a little acknowledgment of their courtesy and of his connection with the Society.

This collection as a whole may be taken to represent approximately the proportion in which most of the stamps were issued.

On the Motion of Mr. William Bonner the meeting passed a very hearty vote of thanks to the President and Colonel Corker for their interesting displays, more especially to Colonel Corker, the Society never before having had the pleasure of examining such a complete collection of the stamps of Kashmir.

Croydon Philatelic Society.

President : Mr. F. G. Bing.

Hon. Sec. & Treas. : Mr. W. F. Godwin, 2, Gladstone Rd., Croydon.

Entrance Fee, is. Annual Subscription, 1s.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this Society took place at 18a, Katharine Street, on Wednesday, the 1st January, 1908.

The President on taking the chair wished the members a happy and prosperous new year, and among other announcements mentioned that a list of all the books, and articles in magazines, and encyclopedias, dealing with stamp collecting, and allied subjects, contained in the Croydon Public Libraries, had been compiled by the officials of the Central Library for the benefit of the members of the Philatelic Society. This announcement was warmly received, and a hearty vote of thanks to the library officials proposed and passed unanimously.

Six new members were elected, and two more nominated for membership.

The programme of the evening was the reading by members of five minutes' papers on "The progress of my collection during 1907." Messrs. Godwin, Knight, Shaw, and Master Harold Bing took part in this, and each displayed portions of their collections to illustrate their papers, a large number of good and interesting stamps being shewn. Among other exhibits were included used blocks of current Egyptian stamps with the new over-print, "O. H. H. S." Votes of thanks to those who had contributed to the making of a very enjoyable evening brought the meeting to a close.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

New Zealand. 1d. single lined N.Z. perf. 11.



THE reply to my query in last week's Gossip has come very quickly. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* chronicles the New Zealand 1d. single lined N.Z. perf. 11. on information received from Mr. Norman Percival, and agrees with me that its place in the Catalogue will be 255b. I find on inquiry that Gibbons had a small supply which was put

into the ordinary stock book and sold off at 8s. per copy.

Papuan Varieties of Perforation.

Still they come. Last week I intimated that we might probably look out for varieties of perforation in the new issue for Papua. We had then received the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. perf. 11, and the 4d. perf. 12-12 $\frac{1}{2}$. Since then the 4d. has come over perf. 11. So that we may expect sets in both perfs., and possibly some may run scarce. One never knows. Truly our young countries are tumbling out varieties galore. Its a race between Papua and Cayman Islands.

Cayman Islands: More Changes.

This little colony has become very active. Having given us a little excitement over some provisionals, it is now issuing a new series inscribed "Postage" on one side of the King's head and "Revenue" on the other, instead of "Postage" on both sides. Not only so, but the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values of this new series before me are of the same type of design as the current Sierra Leone, British Honduras, Fiji, Gold Coast, &c., in fact in the more common De la Rue

colonial design with the king's head in an octagonal frame instead of within a circle. Presumably this change will run through all the values.

The king's head within a circle of this De la Rue type has I think been used only for Gambia, Cayman Islands and St. Helena.

Some of these Caymans are having a short and merry life, and I suspect that in at least a few cases the catalogue prices also will some day be merry.

Exhibition: Opening Ceremony.

I have to congratulate the Juniors in having secured the Postmaster-General's consent to open the Imperial Philatelic Exhibition for them in March. That is a good start any way. And I hear that a neat Catalogue of handy size is under way for the use of those visiting the Exhibition, the price of which may be as low as 2d.

The Republic of Cuba.

The *Times* New York correspondent telegraphs (17/1/08) that "a despatch from Havana to the *Sun*, apparently based on the authority of Mr. Magoon, says that though the Republic may be established on Feb. 1, 1909, American troops will probably remain until the following autumn."

The Mr. Magoon here referred to is the Provisional Governor appointed by the United States when it was compelled to interfere to put down an insurrection in 1906.

The Ugly Swiss Stamps.

It was hardly to be expected that such very ugly stamps as the new Swiss would be tolerated for very long, and already we hear that they are to be redrawn.

A correspondent kindly sends me from St. Moritz a Postcard decorated with what I take to be the best of the competing designs, fourteen in all, and not a decent, passable design in the whole lot.

The Best Stamp Designers.

Amateurs, and even professional artists of repute make a sad hash of stamp designing. They rarely make a happy hit. The best stamp designs have emanated almost without exception from the establishments of the great stamp engravers and printers, Waterlow being easily head and shoulders above their competitors in the variety and finish of designs.

British Central Africa.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News tells us that no change has yet been made in the stamps of this Protectorate (the title of which is now changed to Nyassaland), and says the postal authorities decline to give any information as to whether a change is in contemplation.

Just so. They are not going to let a smart dealer into the game of provisionals that yet may be played for the profit of local officials. They know how to manage these things well on the East Coast of Africa.

Stamp Trade Protection Association Work.

Mr. Telfer calls my attention to the fact that the prosecution and punishment of Treherne was entirely due to the Stamp Trade Protection Association. In the chorus of congratulation over the result, the good work done by the Association is likely to be lost sight of, so I willingly mention it here, more especially as I made no reference to it in my recent comments on the case. It would be difficult for dealers to value too highly the work of the Protection Association, for in protecting themselves from the forger they are doing a great deal to engender confidence all round in the stamps they sell.

A Census of Collectors.

My old friend who hides his genial personality under the initials "B. W. W." in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, has been estimating the number of active stamp collectors, and he puts it at 100,000 fairly active collectors in England, and proceeds to round on them for not displaying more interest in the excellent philatelic journals provided for their instruction. He does not believe that more than ten per cent. of them are actual subscribers to stamp journals. The actual number of subscribers he puts down as probably only 5,000.

For his edification and encouragement I may say that the actual *bonâ-fide* sales of the first number of *The Postage Stamp* totalled up to ten thousand copies.

Still I quite agree with my friend that the number of stamp collectors who subscribe to stamp journals is ridiculously out of proportion to what must be the large total of collectors in the country.

Doctors in Philately.

Away back in 1904, a resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of London, now the Royal Philatelic Society, to the effect that that Society "should have the power to award (either annually or a larger interval) medals to philatelists who have distinguished themselves by work of exceptional merit or by reading papers at the Society's meetings."

I believe I am correct in saying that no medal has yet been awarded. Anyway, I have not received one.

Now, does this mean that in the time which has elapsed, nearly four years, no member of the great Society has distinguished himself by work of exceptional merit or by reading papers at the Society's meetings?

An Excellent Idea.

Such a cautious and learned philatelist as my friend, Major Evans, at the time pronounced the idea an excellent one "for the further encouragement of good philatelic work."

Indeed, it is far too good an idea to be lost, so I have unearthed it with the view of suggesting to more energetic Societies that they should adopt it and decorate with the blue ribbon of their appreciation the reader of the best paper of each session, and I would further suggest that the blue ribbon, medal, or other distinction, should be formally presented at the last meeting of each session, and should be made an event in the annals of the Society.

The Imperial Exhibition, 1908.

I want my readers to make a special note of the Imperial Exhibition which the Juniors have arranged to hold in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on 12th, 13th and 14th March next. Admission free, by ticket. Arrangements have already been made to issue about half a million tickets.

The Exhibition, which will cover a total area of over 9,000 square feet, will be divided into sections.

Large Hall.—Display of the stamps of the British Colonies in centre, dealers' stalls 1 to 12. *The Postage Stamp* has taken Stall No. 12. Promenade and tea gallery on balcony, 180 feet.

Second Large Hall (Council Hall).—Display of the stamps of the British Colonies continued and dealers' stalls 13 to 22.

First Small Hall.—Exhibits continued.

Second Small Hall.—Will be used for instructional and popular lectures.

Ante-rooms off Main Hall.—(1) Committee. (2) Exhibition Secretary.

Rooms 6, 8 and 9.—Buffet.

Room 7.—Press.

Room 13.—Exhibits.

Room 14.—Competitive section (juniors).

Rooms 15, 16 and 17.—Exhibits.

Orchestra daily in both the large halls. Afternoon and evening, Mr. Leonard Wright's orchestral band, which was so much admired at the 1905 Exhibition, will again perform.

Dealers' Stalls.—A delightful and popular feature of the last Exhibition—the space devoted to the use of the stamp trade—has been extended, and visitors will find all the leading dealers represented.

Lantern lectures will be delivered by well-qualified lecturers on subjects relating to stamps and stamp collecting.

Refreshments at popular prices will be served in Rooms 6, 8 and 9, and also on the promenade overlooking the main hall of the Exhibition.

The Stamps of British East Africa

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 224).

1895. Nov. Fourteen values. All the provisionals on the Company's stamps having been used up, and the permanent series ordered from London not having arrived, a fresh supply was provided by overprinting current Indian stamps which were available, as the Zanzibar Post Office then formed part of the Indian Post Office. This overprinting was done at the *Zanzibar Gazette* office. The numbers printed are given as follows:—

	From Zanzibar Stock.	Supply from India.	Total.
½ a.	7440	3600	11,040
1 a.	7680	3600	11,280
1½ a.	9800	2400	12,200
2 a.	6800	2400	9200
2½ a.	9600	3600	13,200
3 a.	1000	1560	2560
4 a.	1000	2400	3400
6 a.	1000	960	1960
8 a.	1000	960	1960
12 a.	1000	—	1000
1 r.	2000	1200	3200
2 r.	200	192	392
3 r.	200	192	392
5 r.	200	192	392

This surcharge, which we illustrate, was much more clearly done than in the case of the handstamp overprint.



Indian stamps overprinted.

Wmk. Star. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ a., green	1 0	1 0
1 a., plum	1 6	1 0
1½ a., sepia	2 0	2 0
2 a., ultramarine	1 6	1 6
2½ a., green	2 6	1 6
3 a., dull orange	5 0	5 0
4 a., olive-green	6 0	4 0
6 a., bistre	4 0	—
8 a., mauve	7 6	10 0
12 a., brown on red	7 6	7 6
1 r., slate	20 0	15 0
1 r., carmine and green	10 0	—
2 r., yellow-brown and carmine	30 0	30 0
3 r., green and brown	35 0	—
5 r., violet and ultramarine	40 0	—

Range of Catalogue Prices. Unused.

There have been a great many changes in the catalogue prices of this series, but they have been mostly in the upward direction. In 1899 there was a marked set back in several of the values. The ½ a., 1 a., 1½ a., 2 a. and 2½ a. were all severely dropped in price, but the rupee values were considerably raised in price. By 1902 prices recovered and have not since had a single drop, most of the values showing on the contrary a substantial rise. The rupee values show a decided tendency and will probably be a good investment even at present prices, the 2 rupees seems to be going strong, rising from 8s. 6d. in 1897 to 30s. in 1905. The 1 rupee slate is also regarded as a coming stamp: it stands at just double the price it did in 1899.

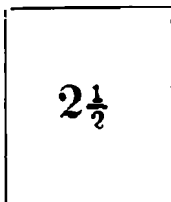
In comparing the prices of this series with those of the handstamped series of July, 1895, one cannot fail to be struck with the disparity that is apparent in the pricing. If the total numbers printed are correctly recorded either the July 1895 series must be considerably over-rated, or this series on Indian much under-rated. Here are the figures for comparison of the rupee values.

July, 1895.	No. Printed.	On Indian.	No. Printed.
s. d.		s. d.	
2 rupees ...	100 0	520	30 0 392
3 rupees ...	50 0	719	35 0 392
5 rupees ...	100 0	568	40 0 392

It is true the handstamped series was at once pounced on by speculators, official and otherwise, and held back at exorbitant prices, whereas the overprinted series on Indian was supplied without interference to Dealers in consequence of the scandal which had been created by official speculation in the former series.

	1897	1899	1902	1905	1907
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½ a.	0 8	0 6	0 6	1 0	1 0
1 a.	0 9	0 8	1 0	1 6	1 6
1½ a.	1 3	0 9	1 0	2 0	2 0
2 a.	1 6	0 9	1 0	1 6	1 6
2½ a.	1 9	1 0	1 6	2 6	2 6
3 a.	2 6	5 0	4 0	5 0	5 0
4 a.	2 0	1 9	1 9	6 0	6 0
6 a.	3 0	2 0	2 0	4 0	4 0
8 a.	3 6	5 0	7 6	7 6	7 6
12 a.	4 0	4 6	2 6	7 6	7 6
1 r., slate	12 6	10 0	15 0	20 0	20 0
1 r., green and carmine	6 6	10 0	6 0	10 0	10 0
2 r.	8 6	15 0	20 0	30 0	30 0
3 r.	12 0	17 6	25 0	35 0	35 0
5 r.	20 0	25 0	30 0	40 0	40 0

1895. Provisional. Indian current $1\frac{1}{2}$ a. surcharged "2 $\frac{1}{2}$," an unusual surcharge, as it raises the value of the surcharged stamp, the practice being to overprint a high value with a lower as a safeguard against fraud.



Provisional.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ on 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., sepia	15 0	15 0

1896. May. Fifteen values. Design, Head of Queen Victoria in profile to left in a small oval, inscribed on top "British East Africa" and at foot "Protectorate," and the value in a curved tablet under the oval. At last the permanent series designed, engraved, and printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. was received from London and issued on 19th May, 1896. The stamps were printed on paper watermarked Crown A, and perf. 14.

Wmk. Crown C.A.	Perf. 14.	Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., yellow-green	-	0 1	0 1
1 a., carmine	-	0 2	0 1
1 a., scarlet	-	0 2	0 1
2 a., chocolate	-	0 4	0 3
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., deep blue	-	0 6	0 2
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., violet-blue	-	0 6	0 2
3 a., grey	-	0 8	-
4 a., deep green	-	0 9	0 9
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., orange-yellow	-	1 0	1 3
5 a., bistre	-	1 0	1 3
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., mauve	-	1 6	2 0
8 a., stone-grey	-	1 6	1 0
1 r., dull blue	-	7 6	7 6
1 r., ultramarine	-	7 6	7 6
2 r., vermilion	-	7 6	7 6
3 r., violet	-	12 6	12 6
4 r., carmine-lake	-	8 6	10 0
5 r., deep brown	-	10 0	10 0

1897. Provisionals. Owing probably to some misunderstanding, only 5040 each of $\frac{1}{2}$ a., 1 a., and 2 a., and 5280 of the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. being sent with the first supply of the permanent series, further overprinting was resorted to. Consequently a supply of the current stamps of Zanzibar was overprinted with the words "British East Africa."

Contemporary Stamps of Zanzibar overprinted.
Wmk. Quatrefohis. Perf. 14.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
$\frac{1}{2}$ a., green and red	17 6	-
1 a., blue	20 0	20 0
2 a., red-brown	12 6	7 6
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., orange	12 6	7 6
5 a., bistre	12 6	10 0
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., purple	12 6	10 0

A further provisional was provided by surcharging the 1 a. and 3 a. of Zanzibar with the figures "2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in addition to the words "British East Africa." There are three varieties of this surcharge for the specialist, 1, large numeral with straight foot; 2, large numeral

with curly foot, and 3, large numeral with curly foot, but with straight foot to the "2" of the fraction, the last named variety being the scarcest.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ on 1 a., blue and red	17 6	20 0
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ on 3 a., grey	15 0	15 0

1897. Nov. As a further distinction between the higher and lower values a new series of the rupee values was issued in the shape of an enlargement of the smaller design. They were printed on paper watermarked Crown C.C.

Wmk. Crown CC.	Perf. 14.	Unused.
		s. d.
1 r., dull blue	-	7 6
1 r., ultramarine	-	4 0
2 r., orange	-	6 0
3 r., dark violet	-	9 0
4 r., carmine	-	12 0
5 r., black-brown	-	15 0
10 r., bistre	-	30 0
20 r., yellow-green	-	40 0
50 r., lilac	-	100 0

In 1903 the stamps of British East Africa were superseded by stamps inscribed "East Africa and Uganda Protectorates."

Bibliography.

There is a mass of information available in the various periodicals concerning the issues of this Protectorate, but the most valuable of all are the highly specialised and thoroughly authentic history and catalogue of the stamps contributed to the *Monthly Journal*, vol. 14, by Messrs. H. L. Hayman and Charles J. Phillips.

For those who like to sample for themselves the various articles that have appeared I append the following detailed bibliography:—

Monthly Journal, vol. 7, p. 157. Editorial attack on 1895 Provisionals.

Vol. 8. Reply by Mr. T. C. Remington, Postmaster-General of British East Africa.

Vol. 14, pp. 11, 33, 44, 51, a series of highly specialised articles by Messrs. H. L. Hayman and Charles J. Phillips.

Philatelic Record, vol. 18, p. 153. Letter from T. E. C. Remington, Postmaster-General of the Protectorate, to E. J. Nankivell, explanatory of the Provisional issues made up March, 1896.

London Philatelist, vol. 6, p. 256. A defence and explanation of the 1895 Provisionals, with details of stamps in stock and overprinted, by C. H. Bowden.

Concluded.

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of British East Africa is probably the finest in the world.

The Glorification of Great Collections

The Bowers Collection, by Warren H. Colson

A REVIEW BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Postage Stamps and their Collection, by Warren H. Colson. A Series of Handbooks Describing the Great Collectors and Collections of the World. Number one, the Bowers Collection. Boston, Massachusetts. Published by the Author. 1907.

As stated in the foregoing transcript of the title page, this beautiful book is No. 1 of a Series of Handbooks describing the Great Stamp Collections of the World, which Mr. Warren H. Colson, of Boston, U.S.A. proposes to publish, and if it may be taken as a foretaste of what is to follow, our philatelic libraries will be enriched indeed with choice memorials of the gatherings of the Great Moguls of Philately.

It has always seemed to me a most regrettable thing that a highly specialised collection of any desirable country should be sold and scattered to the four winds, and no record whatever kept of the gems which it contained. Many and many a great collection has been so broken up and distributed here, there, and everywhere, that contained stamps, blocks, and sheets, that should have been noted and photographed for preservation in our philatelic archives, and we are to-day immeasurably the poorer because no Warren H. Colson has, till now, thought it worth his while to step in and make a passing note.

The title, "Postage Stamps and their Collection," does not seem a happy one. It hardly expresses the purpose of the work and the series. Why not "Great Collections: No. 1. The Bowers Collection"?

In the matter of technical presentation the book is the obvious product of a man of taste, with its old style paper, its deckled edges, and its paper boards.

The contents comprise a pithy introduction by Mr. C. F. Apthorp Foster. Chapters on "To be or not to be—a Collector"; "The Old and the New"; "Among American Collectors"; and then we come to a detailed description of the scope of the Bowers Collection. But alas and alack, there is no sight nor sign of a list of Contents or an Index. This very serious defect should be remedied in the next volume.

General Collecting and Specialising.

In his introductory note Mr. Foster has the following very true note:—"Of the special school to be followed in collecting stamps, each collector must take his own choice, being governed by his means and desires. However, it is safe to say that he is a courageous man who, to-day, starts out to make a

general collection of stamps from the first, even along narrow lines. Specialising is becoming, if it has not already become, the order of the day, and in stamp collecting this is almost inevitable to a greater or lesser degree. From the mere law of supply and demand, this specialising is obviously bound to increase as time goes on."

The New Method Scientific.

Mr. Colson is a devotee of the hobby in the truest sense. He says:—"In this fascinating study we may follow the birth and development of the stamp from the first rough sketch in pencil to the finished example of all that is finest and best in the philatelic art. And this is what the new school seeks to do. The new method is distinctly scientific, and thus in accord with the spirit of the age. Facts are sought, not only for themselves, but that they may show the relation of the stamp under study to the history and geography of the country to which it belongs. Stamp collecting, considered thus broadly, might even lead to the acquisition of foreign languages, to a knowledge of customs and laws, as well as relations national and international, turning what began merely as a hobby into the apparatus and method for the acquirement of a liberal education. Nothing is more promising to the student of this fascinating hobby than this trend to the broader, rather than the narrower view. Such a development should serve to arrest a certain tendency, noticeable in philately, to drift in the direction of the merely mercenary of which we hear so much, and bring this noble art back to a more sane and æsthetic appraisal of values. It is always possible to hear much concerning the collector and the gains that are supposed, rightly or wrongly, to spur him on. More should be heard about the Collector who is interested in philately, not so much for the opportunity for gain, even though it may be present, as for the charm and fascination of this pursuit."

Dr. W. C. Bowers.

The owner of the fine collection which is made the subject of the book, started collecting as a boy of eleven years "way back in '62," with a few stamps given him by his father, the President of the Hartford Insurance Co., and he has continued collecting through his school life on to settled life as a leading physician in the City of Bridgeport, where he is still resident.

Some of His Early Purchases.

Of course such an old and experienced collector has many stories to tell of rare stamps purchased in his early days for a mere song. His five shilling St. Vincent, watermarked Star, cost him \$1.85, and the four pence on one shilling \$6.50, and an unsevered pair of the one penny on sixpence St. Vincent unused \$9.50, the high values of the Lagos 1885 series paying \$1.65 for the 2s. 6d. now catalogued at £5; \$2.55 for the 5s. now catalogued at £7 10s., and \$4.20 for the 10s. now catalogued at £16.

As an Exhibitor.

"The Doctor," we are told, "has always collected largely by himself, and did not become as well-known as many others of the prominent collectors of the day. However, in the London Exhibition of 1897, he exhibited his New South Wales, winning a bronze medal in his class, and also a special medal was

awarded him for having the best collection of Sydney Views. Since then, however, he has collected very quietly."

His Collection.

Commencing with the Postmaster Provisionals of the United States, Mr. Colson takes us, pleasantly, appreciatively, and alphabetically through page after page of what must be a truly grand collection, and as we turn over the pages we are presented with very clear photographs of the gems.

From the first page to the last it is evident that the compiling and the production of this volume of philatelic lore has been a labour of love to its author, and we are therefore glad to learn that the edition of 500 is so nearly exhausted that after February 15th, the price will be raised. Our readers will find in an advertisement in this number the terms on which a copy may still be secured.

Great Britain

Control Number Collecting for Beginners

BY THE EDITOR

The collection of control numbers has long been an extravagance of the specialist who goes in for a corner block of four. But there is a form of control number collection in which my younger friends may indulge very inexpensively, and that is the control numbers on our own ½d. and 1d. stamps. These can be had at most post offices if politely asked for. Of course only the current numbers will be on sale.

The best plan is to make friends with some small Post Office, always buying your stamps for ordinary postal use at the same place, until you get on sufficiently good terms to have the control numbers put aside for you. In a busy city this is next to impossible, but in provincial towns and suburbs it can be done.

Some of the obsolete control numbers are getting scarce, so for the guidance of my young friends and just to show them that this sort of thing is worth pursuing, I append Gibbons latest prices:—

Queen Victoria.

		s.	d.
½d. vermilion lettered	E	-	1 6
"	F	-	0 4
"	G	-	0 6
"	H	-	0 4
"	I	-	0 3
"	J	-	0 6
"	K	-	0 9
"	L	-	1 0
"	M	-	1 6
"	N	-	0 6
"	O	-	0 4
"	P	-	0 4
"	Q	-	0 3
½d. blue-green	R	-	0 6
1d. purple	S	-	1 6
"	T	-	1 3
"	U	-	0 6
"	V	-	0 6
"	W	-	0 4
"	X	-	0 5

King Edward VII.

½d. blue-green, lettered	A	-	0 9
"	B	-	0 9
"	C	-	1 6
"	C4	-	0 8
"	D4	-	0 4
½d. yellow-green	D4	-	0 3
"	D5	-	0 4
"	E5	-	0 3
"	E6	-	0 3
"	F6	-	0 3
"	G7	-	0 3
1d. scarlet	A	-	0 8
"	B	-	0 9
"	C	-	1 0
"	C4	-	0 8
"	D4	-	0 6
"	D5	-	0 6
"	E5	-	0 4
"	E6	-	0 3
"	F6	-	0 3
"	G7	-	0 3

These prices are for single stamps with letter attached.

Very few Dealers have made a point of stocking these varieties, and probably, as this form of specialising spreads, the prices of these now obtainable will be shillings where they are now pence. So inexpensive a form of specialising in a limited direction is open to all, and moreover, is free from those perplexities that demand exceptional philatelic knowledge and experience.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 227)

C.—I.—A surcharge found on certain South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874. These franked the official correspondence from the Customs department and they were superseded in 1874 by the general departmental stamps surcharged "O.S."

II.—An overprint found on the 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50c., and the 1 sucre stamps of the 1899 1901 issue of Ecuador. This surcharge was applied to all the stamps issued in one of the provinces (which one has not yet been ascertained) in the latter part of 1902. The reason for this overprint was to prevent the use of a large quantity of the stamps which the authorities assumed had been stolen from the Government stores during the disastrous fire which nearly destroyed the town of Guayaquil in July, 1902.

C.A.—I.—An overprint found on the current penny stamps of Great Britain which are used in the offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies for fiscal purposes. These letters have no philatelic significance whatever though at one time they were supposed to indicate that the stamps were official postage labels in the same way as those surcharged "I.R. Official," etc.

II.—The letters "C.A." are shown on several of the stamps of Nicaragua and signify "Central America," referring, of course, to the geographical position of the Republic.

III.—The letters "C.A." surmounted by a Crown form a watermark which occurs in some hundreds of British Colonial stamps (see "CROWN C.A.")

Cabanas.—The name of one of the former Presidents of Salvador which is shown across a circle in the lower left-hand corner of the stamps of 1887-9.

Cabled anchor.—A watermark found in all the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope issued since 1884, and on most of the fiscal stamps of Great Britain which were at one time available for postal use.

Cabo.—A surcharge found on some of the stamps of Nicaragua used since 1904. These stamps are used at Cabo, in the province of Zelaya, and the reason given for the surcharging is that the currency in this district is on a silver basis worth 42c to the peso, while elsewhere in Nicaragua paper money worth only 25c. to the peso is more generally used.

Cabot Issue.—A special set of stamps issued in Newfoundland in 1897, with the dual object of commemorating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the island by Cabot, and the 60th year of Queen Victoria's reign. Giovanni Cabot, better known in England as John Cabot, was born at Genoa

in 1425. His dominant idea was to discover new lands across the sea, and having failed to receive support from the Courts of Spain and Portugal he came to England in 1491. Here he was more successful and on March 5th, 1496, he was granted letters patent by Henry VII. to take possession, on behalf of England, of any new lands he might discover. With his three sons Cabot sailed from Bristol in 1497 in a small vessel, the *Matthew*, and on June 24th the coast of Newfoundland was sighted. Cabot returned to England with the news, and in the following year the intrepid explorer again set sail from Bristol with a small fleet of five ships, but of the fate of the expedition nothing was ever heard. Most of the stamps of this commemorative issue are still in use.

Cabo Verde.—The Portuguese name for the Cape Verd Islands which appears on the stamps used there.

Cadiz.—A province in Spain having an area of 2,834 square miles and a population of about half-a-million. After the revolution in Madrid in September, 1868, and the flight of the Queen, a Provisional Government was formed and an order was issued that all postage stamps were to be surcharged "Habilitado por la Nacion" before being sold to the public. The province of Cadiz used a special hand stamp bearing this inscription which differs from that in general use throughout Spain only in the size of the letters.

Call.—A town in the province of Cauca, Colombia, having a population of over 16,000, at which provisional stamps, set up from ordinary printer's type, were issued in 1879.

Callao.—The chief port of Peru, situated 7 miles south-west of the capital and having a population of about 50,000. The name of this town appears on the 5c. stamps issued in April, 1871.

Calvert, S.—A printer of Melbourne, Australia, who engraved and printed the 6d. and 2s. stamps for Victoria, issued between 1854 and 1864.

Camb. Aust. Sigillum Nov.—See "SIGILLUM NOV. CAMB. AUST."

Cameroons.—A German Colony in West Africa having an area of 191,074 square miles and a population of over 3,500,000. It extends some 200 miles along the Bight of Biafra, its boundaries touching the Benue, Lake Chad, and the Shari valley. The natives are Bantus on the coast lands, and Sudanese in the interior. It was made a German protectorate in 1884. Since 1901 the seat of government has been at Biuea, though the chief town is Duala. Postage stamps were first issued in 1897.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

British Central Africa. *Erwen's Weekly Stamp News* (18.1.08) states that no change has yet been made in the stamps of this Protectorate (the title of which is now changed to "Nyassaland"), and the Postal authorities decline to give any information as to whether a change is in contemplation.

Cayman Islands (206). I am indebted to Mr. W. H. Allkin for specimens of a new issue of this little colony. The type with head in a circle and inscribed Postage on both sides is to give place to the "Postage and Revenue" type with head in an octagonal frame, now common to most De la Rue Colonial stamps. Mr. Allkin send us the ½d. and 1d. of this new type. There is no change of colour, but according to the *Colonial Office Journal* there are to be two new values, i.e., 3d. and 10s., and a change of colours of other values is consequently under consideration.

Inscribed Postage and Revenue.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

½d. green.
1d. carmine.

Cuba. We quote the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*:—"Our New York house sends us another value, the 5 c. on the no watermark paper; like the other three values, it is from a retouched die. The more noticeable points of difference are as follows:—

Original.

In the top, left-hand corner, the inner line of the frame is curved on the left-hand side.

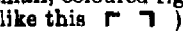
In the top, right-hand corner, the prongs of the trident have horizontal lines of shading between them.

Both upper corners of the white tablet containing the word CUBA are free from shading.

Retouch.

The inner line is quite straight.

There is no shading between the prongs of the trident.

In both corners is a small, coloured right angle (like this )

We have also received a supply of the retouched 10 c., brown (Catalogue No. 118), which is exactly as described in the Catalogue."

Italy. Stanley Gibbons announce that they have just received a new 25 c., issued on 1st January; it somewhat resembles the 15 c., slate, of the 1906 issue, but the design consists of a profile head of King Victor Emmanuel II., turned to the *left* instead of to the *right*. This stamp appears to be surface-printed, on paper similar to that used for the latest 5 c. and 10 c. As usual the watermark is a Crown and the perforation is 14.

Mauritius. Mr. Richard Lomax, Darwen, informs me that he learns from a correspondent in the Colony that the first stamps with the long talked of modification of the design of the arius will shortly be issued. The Home Government some months ago voted the sum necessary for this purpose and the 3 c. and 50 c. will probably be the first values of the new issue.

The *Colonial Office Journal* (Jan., 08) says:—"The Government of Mauritius keeps a supply of stamps with blank duty tablets, the value being inserted locally. The colours of these stamps are doubly fugitive black, green on blue paper, or purple on red paper."

Natal. We quote the following announcement from the *Colonial Office Journal* (Jan. 08):—"The Government of Natal has decided to adopt doubly fugitive ink for all its larger-sized stamps, i.e., from 5s. upwards, as soon as a further supply is required. The colours will in future be as follows:—

Value.	Border.	Centre.
5s.	purple	carmine.
10s.	"	chocolate.
£1	"	blue.
£1 10s. Od.	"	brown.
£5	green	black.
£10	"	brown.
£20	"	violet.

It follows that all the above stamps will be printed on the specially surfaced paper."

It will be noted that all these are changes of colour from the current series.

Orange River Colony. We have received the ½d. value on multiple C.A. paper. The 1d. is the only other value which has also been issued on multiple C.A. paper.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

½d. green.
1d. carmine.

Tasmania. We quote the following from *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*:—"In our stock we have found a few copies of the 2d., purple, watermark Crown and double-lined A, perforated 12½ and 11 compound. This combination was only to be expected, as it is well known that perforating machines gauging both 12½ and 11 are in use simultaneously.

We have also found a copy of the 2d., violet, perforated 12½, with the watermark V over Crown, *upright* instead of *sideways*. This is an interesting variety, but we make a practice of not listing this class of variety of watermark."

From Other Magazines

The Austrian Jubilee Stamps.

The new stamps were duly issued on 1.1.08 and are a little better than photographs of them led us to expect, but we fancy the business population will not like their size.

Mr. A. D. Jenny writes:—"The Ministry of Commerce has ordered that the Jubilee stamps shall be issued on the 1st January, 1908, and that the old stamps shall keep their currency until the 31st May, 1908, becoming obsolete as from 1st June. The old stamps will be exchanged for new up to the 1st July, without charge. In the course of 1908, new envelopes, postcards, etc., will also be issued.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 11.1.08.

British Guiana, 1890, 8 cents.

We have seen somewhere a reference to the probability of the 8c. stamp being issued on chalk paper. It is well to remind our readers that the remainders of the 8c. issue of 1890, lilac and green-black, single C.A., were destroyed in London with the die early this year (1907) for the reason that there was no demand for an 8c. stamp, either for postal or fiscal purposes. There has been no importation of 8c. stamps since December, 1890. It is hardly likely that an 8c. stamp will again be used.—*The British Guiana Philatelic Journal*, Dec. 1907.

Southern Nigeria and Lagos Stamps.

Here is the explanation of the Lagos-Southern Nigeria mystery that has been puzzling some of our contemporaries for two years past! When the two colonies were amalgamated, there was of course a stock of Southern Nigerian stamps in Southern Nigeria and of Lagos stamps in Lagos. As both colonies were in future to be known as Southern Nigeria, the separate issues inscribed "Lagos" became no longer necessary, but at the same time it was considered inadvisable to waste the stock on hand, which in the ordinary course of issue at Lagos was sufficient to last two years or so. In order to make a quicker end of it, the following procedure was adopted. The post offices in the colony are supplied from three centres—Lagos in Lagos, Calabar and Warree in Southern Nigeria—and these three centres keep the bulk of the stock. The stock at Lagos was divided into three equal portions, one being kept at Lagos, a second going to Calabar and the third to Warree. On the other hand, Calabar and Warree returned their stocks (which were of course Southern Nigerian stamps) to Lagos, where they have been held pending the exhaustion of the supplies of Lagos stamps. It was also arranged that dealers should only be supplied with stamps from Lagos. The peculiarity of this arrangement was that, whereas Lagos, in supplying dealers, had by far the largest demand and Warree the smallest, being a less important centre than Calabar, each centre received a third of the stock. The stock was, moreover, divided regardless of watermark or paper, and it is

not unlikely that the third portion of the 5/- stamps retained at Lagos contained none on chalk-surface paper, as it has proved to be a very scarce stamp. As soon as Lagos had used up its third portion (some of the 10/- remained as late as December, 1907), the Southern Nigerian stamps were issued, and as Calabar and Warree were not so quick in using up their stock, the apparent anomaly occurred for a short time of Lagos stamps being used only in Southern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria stamps only in Lagos. However, time has now righted matters and the Lagos stamps are practically finished at all three centres.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* 18.1.08.

Test for Cleaned Stamps.

To tell whether a stamp has been cleaned, washed or discoloured, drop a very small drop of water on the face of the stamp; if, on turning over the stamp, one sees that the paper drinks in the water, like a piece of blotting paper, one can be sure that the stamp has been treated by some chemical, either for removing the obliteration or for changing the colour.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

The First Issue of Peru.

The first stamps issued by the government of the Republic of Peru are unique, owing to the fact that they were not printed specially, but were borrowed from the Pacific Steam Navigation Company.

This English shipping company, having a trading connection between Liverpool and the chief ports on the west coast of South America, issued two stamps bearing the facial values of 1 and 2 reales for use on letters carried by its vessels between the various ports at which they called. The design consisted of a two-masted schooner in a central oval surmounted by an engine turned oval, on which the value ("1 Rl." or "2 Rl.") and the weight ("½ oz." or "1 oz.") were indicated. In the corners the letters "P.S.N.C.," standing, of course, for Pacific Steam Navigation Company, were shown.

In 1857, the Peruvian Government decided to follow the lead of other countries, and give postage stamps a trial. The authorities were, however, anything but sanguine as to the success of the venture, and, not wishing to incur a greater expense than was actually necessary, they borrowed a supply of stamps from the Pacific Steam Navigation Company. The two stamps were placed on sale on December 1, 1857, in the towns of Lima, Chorrillos, and Callao only. The government were soon convinced of the success of the experiment, and on March 1, 1858, a special issue, showing the arms of the Republic, was placed on sale, and the "borrowed issue" ceased to have currency.

The company's stamps used in Peru can only be distinguished by the postmarks, and any cancelled with the obliteration of any one of the three towns named above can, undoubtedly, be classified as the first issue for this Republic.—*B. W. H. Poole in the West End Philatelist*, Jan. 08.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Field's Simplified Catalogue.

THE sudden and unexpected arrival of yet another Stamp Catalogue on the scene of philatelic action has created quite a little flutter of sensation, and has caused some dear souls to cry out in alarm "at this pace we shall all be compelled to issue a catalogue of our own."

But it is not quite so bad as that.

It is not all beer and skittles compiling and paying the piper for a new catalogue. It means sinking a lot of solid capital, much more in fact than most people are aware.

And I know, from sad experience, that catalogue compiling and revising is a very dangerous pastime. I once ventured into the Gibbons' establishment when they were three deep in a new edition and I came out faster than I went in. The language was awful to contemplate.

Field's Catalogue Improvements.

Every new catalogue worth talking about, of course, stages some advance upon its predecessors. We all learn by experience, and some rude fellow has said that fools will learn in no other School. Anyway, Field's Catalogue quite takes my fancy for neatness: of get up. Its clear outstanding black faced type used for each country's name is just what it should be, and the clear bold type of the lists is in keeping with the excellent taste that chose the country headings.

But I must have my growl, and say that I strongly dislike the dash instead of the nought in the prices. Typographically it may be more correct to put the dash, but I infinitely prefer the neatness of the nought even to fill the shilling line when the price is only pence.

Cook Islands. 1d. Overprinted Crown.

Mr. Field in his *West End Philatelist* chronicles and offers for sale an uncatalogued variety of the 1d. Cook Islands overprinted with a Crown. Mr. Field's copy is doubly overprinted, and he prices it at £6.

So that we have now the following varieties of this Crown type:—

1. Crown inverted.
2. Crown printed sideways.
3. Crown doubly overprinted.

The usual Crown overprint is catalogued at 15s., and is a scarce stamp.

The Papua Surcharges.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, after courteously correcting an obvious slip in *The Postage Stamp*, in which our printers made us announce that Mr. Ewen was offering the Papua, large surcharge set

for 2s., when it should have been 20s., says:—

"We had just over 1,000 of the 4d., but only between 500 and 600 of the 2/6 and most of them were sold at 5d. and 2/11 respectively! The 2/6 sold very slowly at the Post Office, and we believe were not all gone even only a few weeks ago, so that we should doubt if they will be as valuable as the 4d. Everyone who has the 2/6 will want a 4d. to fill the gap in the set, but there are many collectors who bought the set, ½d. to 1/-, who will not add the 2/6, so that decreased demand will more than counter-balance the 7% shortage of stock. Altogether our New Issue clients have done well out of Papua. We have not only sold them both sets complete at a total cost for the two of about 13s. but we delivered them as early as anyone. From 40s. to 60s. is a rough estimate of their real market value."

Mauritius Reminders put on Sale.

Mr. Richard Lomax, Darwen, tells me that he learns from a correspondent in Mauritius that the General Post Office there on the 18th November, 1907, put on sale about 5,000 of the 1882-3, Queen's head, C.A., 4c., orange. These are stamps which have been in the vault of the Treasury.

This will be a little disconcerting to the cataloguers, for the stamp is catalogued at 2s. unused, and has been somewhat scarce.

The Boom in Cayman Islands.

What with the recently issued provisionals and the previous changes of colour in some of the values, and the latest announcement that all values in future are to be changed from "Postage" to the "Postage and Revenue" type, it is no wonder that there is a boom in Cayman Island stamps. The wise will fill up any blanks they may have at current prices as soon as possible.

Control No. Prices.

Gibbons has at last started pricing marginal control numbers. For some years they have supplied them to special clients, and occasionally have put some into their ordinary stock books at erratic prices.

But this past week they have for the first time published a complete list of recent English Control Nos. The prices quoted are reasonably low.

Australian Commonwealth.

The only stamps catalogued under the head of the Australian Commonwealth are "Unpaid," and, in the absence of any regular issue, the changes are being rung on these things in a gay old fashion. They are trotted out in varieties of perforation and watermark, and first type with blank space at foot, and then with space filled in.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. *Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.*

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and *Advertisements* to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C. THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

Foreign and Colonial Colonial Correspondents.

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

J. F. (Perthshire). Your query "what is the value of an early 1840-3 British stamp" is too vague. There are 1d. and 2d. stamps of that date and we stamp collectors sub-divide them into many little varieties. There are penny stamps printed in black, others in red, and so on. Have you no collector in your neighbourhood to whom you can show the stamp? It is probably a 1d. red, which may be worth anything from a 1d. to some shillings.

C. E. H. (Dublin). You can get almost any crease, that does not amount to an actual break, out of a stamp by laying it between a couple smooth cards and putting it into an ordinary letter copying press and leaving it under strong pressure for a night; if very bad leave it under pressure for a day or two. Glad to hear of your piece of luck in getting a corner block of six, with marginal number, of the provisional Cayman Islands. Hope you will be equally fortunate with the others. There are a few collectors in Dublin, and some years ago they tried to run a society, but they have not been active for many years. You should get to work and try to resuscitate the idea of a Dublin Philatelic Society. We have an excellent society here in Tunbridge Wells, which was got up by a youth who had just begun collecting. He fished around persistently, knowing hardly a collector at first, till he got the society started. You have an excellent and experienced collector in Dublin in Mr. Joynt, who I am sure would make you a capital President.

J. V. J. (Royston). Gibbons' Catalogue is published in two parts: Part I., British Empire, 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 10d.; and Part II., Foreign Countries, 2s. 6d., post free 2s. 9d. They are obtainable from Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, London, W.C. Part II. of the 1908 edition is ready; Part I. for 1908 will not be ready till the end of this month. Part II. was advertised in *The Postage Stamp* of the 7th December, 1907. You will find many advertisements of Exchange Clubs amongst our small advertisements. I could not possibly spare the time to start an Exchange Club for readers of *The Postage Stamp*. I must leave that to some enthusiast with more leisure.

R. H. H. (Cruiser Squadron) The best work on the Stamps of Greece is by Mr. W. Dornig Beckton, a specialist in those stamps, written in collaboration

with Mr. G. B. Duerst. It consists of a series of exhaustive articles first contributed to the *Philatelic Record*, Vol. 19, and subsequently reprinted for private circulation only by Mr. Beckton. I cannot say if a copy may be picked up anywhere. You might write to Mr. Beckton, who is one of the Editors of the *Philatelic Record*. You will also find an excellent chapter on the stamps of Greece in Westoby's *Adhesive Stamps of Europe* published by L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, London, W.C., in 2 vols. This chapter extends to 21 pages and is written by one of the most learned of all philatelic writers, and will probably be sufficiently comprehensive. Mr. P. L. Pemberton, who is an authority on the stamps of Greece, has recently published some excellent articles in his *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. His address is 84, High Holborn, London, W.C. As a dealer he specialises in Greece.

H. G. A. (Leicester). Certainly the stamps of Great Britain used by our soldiers in South Africa are "English used abroad," but I cannot say whether the devotees of that particular cult will include them in their list. Bright's Catalogue gives the only list I know of and that does include them, though they certainly come within the definition which heads the list, as follows:—"These stamps were issued by Branches of the British Post Office established in various Colonies and Foreign Ports and can be distinguished, either by the name of the Colony or Port, or its initial, or by the Office number of the cancellation."

J. M. (Paisley). I have never heard of a variety of the 1881-1900 issue of Chili, 20c. grey-black, on buff paper, and think it a most unlikely variety.

T. H. H. (Chelsea). Chromographed copy of report too indistinct for use.

W. H. M. (Preston). You raise a very curious point. Does the China, 1897, $\frac{1}{2}$ c. on 3c. orange, with fraction bar and the "2" of the fraction omitted, become an error of value, viz., 1c. on 3c. orange? and I note, as you point out, that Gibbons catalogues it as "1c. on 3c. orange." Nevertheless, I certainly should not class it as an error of value because the position of the figure "1" indicates the accidental omission of the remainder of the fraction, and because the figure "1" is clearly of the diminutive size of a fractional figure and not of the normal size of the numeral on the ordinary 1c. on 1c. value of the same series. Gibbons' catalogue must therefore be regarded as rather misleading, but for the preceding line of explanation.

George. (Hull). There is no indication at present that we may expect a full series of values of the stamps of Norway with portrait of the King.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society.

President: Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

Hon. Secretary: Miss M. R. Rix, 1, Mount Ephraim Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Meetings: Monthly, at members' residences.

The monthly meeting was held on December 9th, 1907, at Dunorlan, Tunbridge Wells, by kind invitation of Mrs. Collins.

There were present: Mr. Nankivell, in the chair, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Masters, Miss M. Rix, Miss M. R. Rix, the Rev. D. J. Stather Hunt, Dr. Allan Harmer, Messrs. Warner, Stone-Wigg, Scott, and Rix.

Mrs. Collins gave a fine display of the adhesive stamps of Great Britain, including the V.R.-Prince Consort essay, and many rare and valuable proofs, also a splendid collection of unused entire envelopes.

The annual meeting was held on January 6th, 1908, at 33, Ferndale, Tunbridge Wells, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Nix.

At the request of the President, Mr. J. A. Nix took the chair.

There were also present: Miss S. Nix, Miss A. L. Nix, Miss M. R. Rix, Dr. Allan Harmer, Messrs. Nankivell, Stone-Wigg, Scott, and Rix.

The reports and balance sheet for 1907 were read and adopted, and showed that the Society was in a flourishing financial position.

Mr. E. J. Nankivell was re-elected President,

Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., the Right Hon. Sir F. Milner, Bart, M.P., Mr. A. Paget Hedges, M.P., Major A. Griffith Boscawen, the Rev. Dr. Tancock, and Mr. E. Eaton were re-elected Hon. Vice-Presidents.

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. Collins, Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Major Evans, the Rev. Dr. Highwood, and Mr. J. A. Nix. Treasurer: Mr. J. C. Rix. Committee: Miss A. L. Nix, Miss J. Nix, the Rev. D. J. Stather Hunt, and Mr. C. Scott. Hon. Sec.: Miss M. R. Rix.

Dr. Harmer gave a most interesting display of his stamps of India. Among other good things shown were—1854, blocks of reprints of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 4 annas, colour proofs of the same, and essays of the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 annas. 1862, colour proofs on watermarked paper of the 4 annas 6 pies, and the 12 annas.

Mr. Stone-Wigg also showed—1854, $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, blue, block of 24; 1 anna, red, two blocks of 12 each. 1874, complete sheet, mint, with margins of the 9 pies, lilac. 1896, pair of $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green, double printing.

The President showed a mint copy of the 1891 Provisional 2½AS with the letters "AS," raised, a well-known but rare variety, though not catalogued by Gibbons.

Mr. J. C. Rix showed some very fine blocks of the scarcer modern issues, including a superb mint block of four of the 1886-7, 6 annas 8 pies, slate.

Junior Philatelic Society.

On Saturday, December 21st, 1907, the above Society held a very successful *Conversazione* at 3, Bedford Street, Strand. The Hall, which had been tastefully decorated during the afternoon by members of the committee, was filled to its utmost capacity by members and their friends. The entertainment provided was an excellent one. Mr. Astley Weaver, the famous Society Entertainer, gave a most amusing Musical Monologue; Miss P. Davis sang "In Sympathy" and "If I built a world," which were greatly applauded; Miss M. Engleman favoured us with two violin solos; Mr. H. C. Mills sang in inimitable style "I'm going to sing a song" and "Dearly Beloved Brethren"; and amongst our own members to oblige mention should be made of Miss Giles, who gave us a pianoforte solo, Mr. D. S. Darkin, Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace, and Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. During the interval refreshments were handed round by members of the committee. Altogether the evening proved a most enjoyable one in every respect; and a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Melville, was unanimously accorded to those ladies and gentlemen who had so kindly provided us with such a splendid evening's entertainment.

The Brighton Junior Philatelic Society.

A special meeting was held on January 2nd, 1908, when, to the great regret of the members, Baron Anthony de Worms was prevented from giving his promised display of Ceylon. His place was, however, most ably taken by Mr. J. W. Gillespie, F.R.P.S.L., who very kindly consented at the last moment to show his collection of Norway, Belgium, and Straits Settlements. These made a most interesting show, the condition being very fine, and the notes on Norway, which Mr. Gillespie read for the edification of members, were very interesting. Mr. Mead proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer for his interesting display and notes; this was seconded by Mr. Streete and carried unanimously.

Lieut.-Col. Pearson was elected a member, and a generous donation of Japanese for the forged collection was acknowledged from Mr. Victor James, of Birmingham.

The sixth meeting of the season was held on Jan. 8th, 1908, presided over by the chairman. A donation to the library was acknowledged from Mr. Field.

The first item was a display by Mrs. Field; but as that lady was unfortunately unable to come from London she very kindly sent her collection of Sarawak, which was most ably explained by the chairman while the sheets were being handed round.

The first issue of stamps took place in 1869, consisting of one value, 3 c., lithographed in London, and much controversy has arisen as to whom the credit (!) is due for their production. As is usual with lithographs of so early a date, there are innumerable flaws, mostly consisting of either white or coloured dots and scratches appearing on the letters of the inscriptions. These were withdrawn on the death of Rajah Brooke, whose portrait they bear; the next issue, that of 1870, showing his nephew, by whom he was succeeded. These again show numerous flaws, for, like the previous issue, they were lithographed. These, after several surcharges, were superseded in 1889 by a surface-printed series made by Messrs. de la Rue, who have printed all the stamps of Sarawak up to the present day, with the exception of an issue made in 1895, when an order was sent to Messrs. Perkins Bacon by mistake. There is an interesting error of colour in this issue, the 2 c. in green instead of red-brown. A few more provisionals, and a set issued in 1899 in the type of 1889 with altered inscriptions ("POSTAGE-POSTAGE" instead of "POSTAGE & REVENUE") and one value of that set printed in error on paper wmk. quatre-foils, completes the list of Sarawak. A curious and extremely rare variety is found in the 5 c. on the 12 c. of 1889, with a very broad figure. All were shown in fine condition in this splendid display. The chairman proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Field for her kindness in sending down her collection, which, after being seconded by Mr. Clark, was carried unanimously.

Mr. Clark then read a very interesting paper on "Queens and their Stamps," accompanied by a display. Commencing with our own late lamented Queen Victoria, many stamps were shown bearing her portrait, some being works of art, others more or less caricatures. Mr. Clark then spoke of the numerous Hawaiian ladies depicted upon the stamps of that country, who, though not queens, had the privilege of appearing—one of them being Prime Minister. The only other queens whose portraits have appeared on the postal issues of their countries are Queen Isabella II. of Spain, Queen Maria III. of Portugal, and Queen Wilhelmina of Holland. These are not, however, the only stamps which strictly speaking are entitled to come under the heading of "Queens and their Stamps," for that would properly include all issued under the jurisdiction of queens, whether bearing their portraits or not.

Mr. Mead proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Clark for his interesting and instructive paper and display, and mentioned at the same time that the success of the branch had been the outcome, in the main part, of Mr. Clark's enthusiasm, generosity, and support. This resolution was seconded by Mr. Ireland and carried unanimously.

The Imperial Philatelic Society (N. London).

President: Mr. C. M. C. Symes.

Hon. Sec.: Mr. C. S. Muratori, 29, Fletching Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.

Meetings: 1st & 3rd Thursdays, Central Y.M.C.A., 7, Highbury Place, Highbury Station, N.

Subscription: 2s. 6d. per annum.

A meeting of the above Society took place on Thursday, Jan. 16th, 1908, at the meeting house, when Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., gave a very interesting paper and display of the stamps of Mexico. This collection was very complete, especially in the early issues of 1856, containing portrait of Hidalgo, and surcharged with the names of the issuing postal districts; and also in the 1866 issue, containing portrait of the Emperor Maximilian; and the 1868 and 1872 issues. After Mr. Giles had read his paper he laid out his stamps, and gave the members the opportunity of examining and being explained the various issues, which he did fully. Mr. Giles also showed some very interesting forgeries of the 1852 issue of British Guiana, 4 c. black on deep blue, and also the type-set issue of 1862, 1 c. black on rose. Mr. C. S. Muratori then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Giles for his great kindness in coming at such short notice, which was most heartily accorded to him. Mr. C. J. Phillips then gave a display of new issues of British Colonials, and also of New South Wales, Officials, which was very much appreciated.

Mr. C. S. Muratori then made a report that additions to the library had been received from Mr. C. M. C. Symes, and from Mr. Charles Nissen, for which he thanked them on behalf of the Committee.

Four gentlemen were duly elected members.

The next meetings will be held on Thursday, February 6th, and Thursday, February 20th, commencing at 7.30 p.m., when all interested are cordially invited.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

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8 FEBRUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

How are the mighty fallen!



IN May, 1906, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., startled the philatelic world with an announcement that they were about to start a New Issue Service that would knock spots out of all other New Issue Services.

And the terms? Ah, the terms! Only 10 per cent. over face. Think of it. Just 10 per cent. over face.

Of course we flocked to the Gibbons Mart in a gay and giddy throng.

Then one fine morning there came a bolt from the blue. The New Issue Service could not be worked at 10 per cent. over face. Of course it could not. So we had to stump up 15 per cent.

And now, alas, there is yet another bolt from the blue. We are chucked out neck and crop, bag and baggage. We are informed that "the New Issue Service has resulted in practically no profit," that it "has not been so efficient as it might be, and rather than disappoint clients time after time," it has been "decided to discontinue the Service."

Well, I am not surprised. An efficient New Issue Service takes a lot of capital and a lot of bothersome work, and Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., can make better use of their capital.

Remaining New Issue Services.

The others still jog along. The pioneer, Whitfield King, at competitive rates, Ewen as enterprising as ever, and conservative Peckitt of the Strand, who is not to be disturbed by the earthquakes further up the street, makes no change. He dropped his rates to 10 per cent. to encourage Gibbons in their generosity, and he keeps cool at that.

Importance of New Issue Services.

The importance of New Issue Services is not to be gainsaid by any philatelist who cares for completeness, and their convenience lies in the fact that they are an insurance, that you have someone to get all that is to be got for you, and who saves you the worry of hunting for this and that variety up and down the Strand and elsewhere.

The Chalky Muddle.

The boomers of chalky paper varieties do not seem to be able to distinguish even unused chalky varieties with certainty.

Consequently they get hauled over the coals by the *Colonial Office Journal*, which says:—"In spite of all we have said we notice that the philatelic press is continually reporting wrongly the paper on which stamps are printed, e.g., a new printing of British Honduras Stamps on ordinary paper has been reported, whereas since all the stamps have been printed hitherto in doubly fugitive ink the paper had of course been surfaced."

Just the muddle one might expect.

Philatelists as Detectives.

The *Colonial Office Journal* pays a well-merited compliment to philatelists as detectors of fraudulent postage stamps. It acknowledges that "it is a considerable safeguard to the colonial revenues that so close a scrutiny is being constantly applied by philatelists to stamps, and it may be confidently asserted that without their aid it would be possible for frauds to escape detection for a considerable time."

I wonder if there is any known case of a forgery being spotted by an official. I doubt it.

Retirement of Sir Robert Hart.

An imperial edict was gazetted in Peking yesterday granting Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, leave of absence on the ground of ill-health. The edict is couched in very flattering terms, and, as a special mark of imperial favour, the rank of President of the Board is conferred upon him.

Sir Robert Bredon takes over Sir Robert Hart's duties as Acting Inspector-General, and has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Governor and Provincial Treasurer.

It is unlikely that Sir Robert Hart, who is now seventy-three, will ever return to China. He made his first journey there in 1854, and in all the years since then has only twice revisited his home—in 1866 and in 1879. Lady Hart and his children have been awaiting his return for twenty years.

Director of the Chinese Postal System.

As Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs Sir Robert Hart has had the control and management of the Chinese Postal System. He is said to have kept a diary since his arrival in the East, nearly 54 years ago, and it is to be hoped that some day it will be published. It should be rich in information for those of us who take a special interest in the splendid range of the postal issues of China.

New Zealand, 1d. single lined N.Z. perf. 11.

A specialist who is credited with having by far the finest specialised collection of the New Zealand Pictorials writes to me as follows concerning the 1d. single lined N.Z. perf. 11, recently noted by me:—"With reference to the inquiry in your issue of this week, No. 258b. (1d. single lined N.Z. and star, perf. 11) is not very recent. I obtained a block of four on December 4th, 1906."

New Zealand Pictorials.

This New Zealand specialist continues:—"I have read with pleasure the occasional notes on these Pictorials in your paper (which by the way is a charming publication) and do not wonder at the rising interest taken in these stamps, but I fancy that the 'New Collector' will want some patience and cash before he obtains many of the rarities. Up to two years (or even less) ago London dealers, with one exception, seemed to glory in their ignorance of the stamps, opened their stock books, and appeared to be grateful for any offer. I could give you several amusing instances, and also of the change of tone and prices lately. I have had great fun in collecting these Pictorials and much luck. The varieties are interesting, and really easy to understand, and the shades are fine. I hear that one London manufacturer, who supplied the N.Z. Government with some of the colours, so far forgot himself when he was shown a range of the 6d. values, as to audibly wonder 'what the —— they had been putting in his paints!'"

N.Z. Cause of Shades.

"I believe," continues my correspondent, "that an explanation of the shades is that printings of certain values were made for certain towns and districts when needed. I know that Dunedin had a shade of the 6d. all to itself."

This then is the explanation of the variety of shades I have noticed in remittances I myself have received from various towns in New Zealand.

Later on I shall have something further to say about these most interesting issues, meanwhile, I can recommend those who want a fine country to specialise to take up New Zealand, securing what is to be had in these New Zealand Pictorials at present

prices and then work backwards into the equally interesting older issues. Much money will be required, but it will be well invested, and for a rich philatelic harvest I know of few better openings.

New versus Old Issues.

Some people never seem to tire of harping upon "New versus Old Issues," as if there were some natural antagonism between those issues. They are sickening serious collectors with their pettifogging sneers at each other.

Can we not each of us give the rein to our individual fancies in stamp collecting without this petty, childish prodding of each other. It is bad enough to have the "Buy! Buy! Buy!" class of dealer shouting that "Codlin's the friend, not Short," but when the hue and cry is taken up by others it becomes wearisome to self respecting collectors and lowering to the hobby itself.

Treherne's accomplices.

Mr. Castle in the *London Philatelist* says of Treherne's forgeries:—

"The manufacture of these spurious surcharges has been going on in Brighton for the last six or seven years, and so well managed has been the nefarious business that until now it has been impossible to lay hands upon the culprit. Nor was Treherne, although the principal offender, the only one. There are others whose names are well-known to the Bench, who may think themselves fortunate that they did not stand beside Treherne; and they will do well in the future to take especial care that their wares are beyond suspicion."

But what about those others? Can they not be placed in the dock? Any way, they are known and will of course be watched, but what a pity that their names did not come out openly for publication.

The New Zealand List.

The New Zealand Pictorial List in Gibbons was to be a great improvement, but the anticipated improvement is most conspicuous by its absence.

Notably the 1s. blood red perf. 11 of the first colonial printing, the most marked and best known, but scarcest, shade, is still omitted despite the attention that has been called to the omission. After such a mauling as this list had in the 1907 Gibbons it is a pity it has not been completely revised, for these stamps are now coming very much to the front.

Recent Dies of Trinidad.

No note is taken in the new Gibbons of the two dies of the current type of Britannia in the stamps of Trinidad, though the difference is very much more strongly marked than in Die I. and Die II. of the early Queen's heads.

Mr. Wetherell's Indian 6a. 8p.

The 6a. 8p. stamp of India, of Mr. Wetherell's fancy, so underpriced from his point of view at the old quotation of 15s., has come down a peg, being now quoted at 10s. Mr. W. however was quite right in his day, for then a decent copy was not to be had at 15s., but since then Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. had a big haul of Indian stamps which included a fine lot of this scarce stamp, and they offered them at 8s. 6d.—hence the drop.

The Stamps of China

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

THE Chinese Empire comprises what is termed China Proper, and the Dependencies of Manchuria, Mongolia, Eastern Turkestan, and Tibet.

China Proper has an area of 1,532,420 square miles, and a population of 407,253,029. The Dependencies have an area of 2,744,750 square miles, and a population of 18,710,000.

The Government is highly centralised, but there is a long-established popular government in local affairs. The central government is imperial, and the title of Emperor is hereditary in the reigning family, but there is no settled rule of descent. The Emperor has the right to nominate his successor. The present dynasty is a Manchu one and dates from 1644. The Manchus originated the now universal "pig-tail" fashion of wearing the hair. The Emperor is supreme in the government, and he has a cabinet to assist him, known as the Nei-ko. This cabinet is composed of two Manchu members, two Chinese, and two assistants from the Great College. The country is divided into eighteen provinces, administered by viceroys. The capital is Peking, with an estimated population of 1,000,000.

The present Emperor is Tsai-Tien Kwang-Hsu, a son of Prince Chun. His mother, who died in 1896, was a sister of the present Empress-Dowager. He was born in 1872 at Peking, and ascended the throne on 22nd January, 1875. He married in 1889 his cousin, a daughter of Duke Kwei, who is a brother of the Empress-Dowager. During the early part of his reign the Empress-Dowager Tsu-Hsi, who was born in 1834, was supreme. Nominally the Emperor assumed full control of the government in 1889; but if reports are true, the Empress-Dowager is still the power behind the throne, for when he showed himself in favour of progress and reforms this imperious lady resumed the regency and relegated the Emperor to a back seat.

Of late China has been developing her internal resources in her own way, and without the help of foreigners; everything, in fact, is being done to hold China for the Chinese. Even Sir Robert Hart, the Inspector-General of Customs, would have been removed or superseded but for British interference. He has organized the Customs with marked success, and notably the postal service.

Its Philatelic History.

For many years China was known to stamp collectors for the fewness of its stamps. It issued its first postage stamps in 1878, and that issue served all purposes till 1885, when there was another issue, which lasted till 1894, when there was a special issue to celebrate the Empress-Dowager's sixtieth birthday. Then in 1897 there was a new series to inaugurate the Imperial Chinese Post, under the direction of Sir

Robert Hart. This series, with slight modifications of the designs, is still in use.

The stamps of China do not attract the attention of many specialists in this country. In the United States, I am told, they are much more sought after, but with us they are regarded as being too simple and straightforward, and quite free from those perplexing problems that delight the specialist in other countries.

Nevertheless, the postal issues of China are by no means so simple and easy as they are believed to be. I have specialized in these stamps for many years, and have hunted high and low for sheets of the first issue, in the belief that when I got a complete sheet of each of the three values I should be able to solve all questions. After many years' searching, after ransacking stocks in all directions, I have managed to secure three or four sheets of each value, together with portions of other sheets.

Instead of enabling me to solve all difficulties, they have opened up unsuspected questions of the most interesting character.

It has always been thought that the sheets of the first issue were small and uniform in size.

Mr. J. Mencarini, a high official of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, has just published an excellent brochure on the *Postage Stamps of China, 1878-1905*. It is full of the most valuable information collated from official sources. Mr. Mencarini tells us that "the first set of three stamps, 1, 3, and 5 candarins, were engraved on copper by a native artisan and printed at the Customs Statistical Department at Shanghai," that they "were typographed at Shanghai on white wove paper, in blocks of twenty stamps." He also speaks of printings that could only be made up of sheets of 25.

The sheets and portions of sheets in my collection enable me to produce evidence of the fact that the printings were not confined to sheets of 20 stamps, that there were also of each value sheets of 25 stamps, and further, that of those sheets of 25 stamps there were two plates of the 1 candarin and 3 candarins, and probably of the 5 candarins also, making in all three separate and distinct plates of each value.

In fact, we have sheets of 20 of each value and sheets of 25 of each value, and further sheets of 25 of a separate and distinct setting.

Let us examine the evidence in detail. As Mr. Mencarini's information is drawn from official sources, we may accept his statement that all three values were printed in sheets of 20 stamps.

Sheets of 1 Candarin.

I have this value in a sheet of 20—five rows of four stamps; also in a sheet of 25—five rows of five stamps, in which the stamps are very much more widely spaced.

In what we may term the narrow spacing the stamps are separated by a space of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm. ; in the wider spacing they are separated by a space of $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 mm. The sheet of 20 stamps is of the narrow spacing. So that we get of this value :—

Sheets of 20 stamps, spaced $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 " 25 " " $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 "

Sheets of 3 Candarins.

Of this value I have two rows of four stamps with top and side margins complete, and another block of two rows of four stamps with bottom and side margins complete, which evidently formed portions of sheets of 20 sheets. Of the narrow spacing I have also full sheets of 25 stamps, and a horizontal pair showing the wide spacing, so that we may conclude that this value was printed in—

Sheets of 20 stamps, spaced $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 " 25 " " $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
 " 25 " " $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 "

Sheets of 5 Candarins.

I have no sheet, or portion of a sheet, of 20 stamps of this value, but we may accept Mr. Mencarini's statement that there were printings of sheets of 20 stamps. I have sheets of 25 in the narrow spacing, and I have been shown an undoubted used copy of the wide spacing. Therefore, we can safely list the following of this 5 candarins value :—

Sheets of 20 stamps, spaced $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 " 25 " " $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
 " 25 " " $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 "

Summarizing this evidence, we therefore get the following list :—

Sheets of 20 stamps.

Narrow spacing, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 1 candarin, green.
 3 candarins, red.
 5 " yellow.

Sheets of 25 stamps.

Narrow spacing, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.
 3 candarins, red.
 5 " yellow.

Sheets of 25 stamps.

Wide spacing, $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 mm.
 1 candarin, green.
 3 candarins, red.
 5 " yellow.

So great is the difference between the narrow spacing and the wide spacing that it is quite easy to separate even single stamps by their very wide margins into narrow and wide spacing ; the measurement horizontally across the stamp, from perforation to perforation, is $24\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in the narrow spacing, and $26\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in the wide spacing. This difference is more than ample to allow for such irregularities as occur.

The Printing.

In one place Mr. Mencarini tells us the stamps

were engraved in copper, and in another place that they were typographed. The word "typographed" here is evidently used in place of the word "printed," and not as indicating the particular process of printing adopted.

Accepting Mr. Mencarini's statement that the designs were engraved on copper, I imagine that transfers were taken from the copper-plate die, and that the sheets were made up on the lithographic stones and reproduced by lithography.

It is very likely that the first sheets were composed of 20 stamps, and that, for the purpose of more rapid production to meet the increasing demand, or for purposes of account, the size of the sheet was enlarged to 25 stamps.

The wide spacing was probably the first form of the sheets of 25 stamps, for it is very scarce.

Then, seeing that the space between the stamps was unnecessarily wide for perforation purposes, and that the narrow spacing of the first sheets of 20 stamps was ample, they probably decided to lay down the narrow spacing as before. In support of this theory it may be noted that copies of the narrow-spacing variety are comparatively common.

Thick and Thin Papers.

I do not attach much importance to the catalogue division into thick and thin papers, for my gatherings lead me to the conclusion that the stamps of the same printings were printed indiscriminately on paper of varying substance.

Mr. Mencarini divides the issue into "thin" and "thicker" papers, and even gives the number printed of each, but the difference is not sufficient to entitle it to catalogue rank, and it certainly does not mark different printings.

From the sheets and stamps I have examined I conclude that in all the printings but the last, thin and thicker papers were used. The sheets of 25 stamps with narrow spacing were probably the last printing of this first issue, and all the specimens that I have seen of this variety so far have been on uniformly thin paper.

Other Questions.

There are other questions concerning the make-up of the sheets affecting individual stamps, and the opening for plating, etc., which I must leave for the present.

Questions may arise, as the result of closer study, whether the stamps were all reproduced from the same copper-plate die. Some present such differences that one would not be surprised to learn that the stamps were drawn by a lithographic artist on the stone from the original design.

Shades.

There are many distinct and interesting shades in the first issue, indeed in all the issues there are very marked gradations of shades.

Postmarked Copies.

With the help of postmarked copies much may be accomplished in the direction of solving some of the problems referred to. We may for instance decide the question of the wide and narrow spacing—which came first.

The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal

What "Truth" says

MR. LABOUCHERE who in *Truth* has exposed many a scandal and many a fraud, regardless of costs and damages, has now commenced a crusade against bogus issues of Colonial postage stamps, and we heartily welcome his immense influence in the exposure of the shameless manipulation of many of our Colonial postal issues, and trust that the matter will now not be allowed to rest until a few of our Colonial postal authorities have been required to explain many shady transactions, and have been informed that in future explanations will be officially required as to questionable issues.

In its issue of the 29th January, 1908, *Truth*, continuing its exposure, unfortunately selects the case of the Cayman Islands provisionals which have just been issued. We say unfortunately, because we are not so sure as *Truth* seems to be that these provisionals are a good case for inquiry. On the contrary the evidence points the other way, for to our knowledge supplies have been refused to dealers. However, all serious collectors will be thankful to *Truth* for going into the matter. Other and far more cases in support of its contention that an inquiry is badly needed can be multiplied over and over again.

After stating the facts, so far as they are known, about these Cayman Island provisionals and drawing the inference that they "can have had no purpose except to supply the demands of the London stamp market, at suitable profit to all concerned in the trade," *Truth* says:—

What "Truth" says.

"If this were done for the benefit of the public revenue—as it has been often done by various impecunious foreign Governments, and sometimes by Governments which ought to know better—it would be a disreputable way of 'raising the wind.' But it is highly doubtful whether the revenue of the Colonies where these tricks are played benefits to any extent by the operation. The face value of the two last Cayman provisional issues, if the figures quoted above are correct, would only be £12 5s., and there is no reason to suppose that the local post office has got more for them. The London dealer who advertises that he has 1,500 of them for sale has been asking 5s. each for them. At this rate the whole issue would be sold to collectors for £1,020. This leaves a clear middleman's profit of £1,000 to be divided up somehow between the sale of the stamps by the post office and their ultimate delivery to collectors. How this profit is divided I do not pretend to know, but the fact that such profits should be made at all is a scandal of the first magnitude,

and the Colonial Office ought to put a stop to it at once. Lord Elgin or Mr. Winston Churchill—I do not know which of them is the real energising factor at the Colonial Office, but stamp collectors generally seem to have more faith in Mr. Churchill—ought to look into all the cases that have been described in *Truth*, the cases of the Labuan, Brunei, and Gambia stamps, dealt with in my article of December 25th, and the above case of the Cayman Islands. They can easily ascertain by inquiries of London dealers and collectors what a huge profit has been made on the sale of these bogus issues, they can easily ascertain how much of this profit has accrued to the Crown through the local post office, and they can easily form their own conclusions as to the whole nature of the transaction, and take measures accordingly. I hope they will do it without delay.

The Surcharging.

"A minor matter in connection with the last Cayman Islands 'provisional' issue is worthy of note from the philatelic point of view. This is the rough style in which the process of 'surcharging' is executed. One of the trade circulars gives facsimiles of the 5s. stamp surcharged '½d.' remarking that 'the overprint is very crudely handstamped, and we have not seen a specimen in which the '1' comes out clearly.' The printing in fact could hardly be cruder. The '½d.' is blobbed over the stamp, apparently with a rubber stamp so defective or badly inked that in some cases the mark is hardly legible, and in others looks as much like '2d.' as '½d.' The third 'provisional' (1d. surcharged on 5s.) is open to much the same criticism. The obvious effect is to make forgery a perfectly simple operation. Anyone could treat one of the surcharged stamps in the same way, and thus, in the case at least of the lower denominations, multiply its market value a hundredfold or more. I very greatly doubt whether the process of surcharging can ever be really necessary in the ordinary course of post-office business, but if an emergency ever really requires that the denomination of certain stamps in stock should be altered to meet some unexpected rush of business, at least care ought to be taken that it is done in a way that cannot be readily imitated. It is scarcely necessary to point out that this is as essential for the protection of the Post Office as the collector. The reality of the danger from forgery in cases of overprinting is shown by the fact that an intelligent Syrian was lately prosecuted at Beyrout for forging the 2d. Levant stamp surcharged '1 piastre.' This provisional issue was dealt with in my article of December 25th, and is one of the most flagrant examples of the trick now under

notice. In this case I presume that the officials concerned are under the jurisdiction of the Foreign Office, and Sir Edward Grey would do well to give his attention to the subject simultaneously with his colleagues at the Colonial Office.

Letters from Collectors.

"I have received numerous letters from collectors, which show how much interest this subject has attracted in philatelic circles. One of them writes:—

'Your exposure of the surcharge fraud is bearing some fruit. One paper at least has noticed your strictures. This is one of the few philatelic organs untrammelled by dealers—*The Postage Stamp*—but it is significant that one line only is given to the Labuan-Brunei imposture, but several to show that certain editors have powers—practically dormant—to condemn the foisting of rubbish on the gullible collector. With those gentlemen rubbish generally means any issue which is not limited and does not allow exorbitant profits to the dealer. Although *The Postage Stamp* can spare but one line of comment on Brunei, the editor is eloquently indignant about the Barbados Nelson Centenary issue and the overpriced stamps of the same colony to help the victims of the Jamaica earthquake—two instances in which the issue was legitimate and justifiable.'

"I am not quite sure about the last observation, if a postage stamp is really to be what it purports to be."

Every well informed collector knows quite well that the "Nelson" and "Kingston Relief" issues of Barbados were purely bogus issues, and as to our needed condemnation of Labuan and Brunei, we all know that the issues of North Borneo and Labuan are a byword in stamp collecting circles.

Truth quotes other letters from which we select the following:—

"If every collector could learn the true history of many of these overprinted stamps and so-called provisional issues, he would give up collecting in disgust. What is needed is a proper inquiry to be held into these various unnecessary stamps, and an end put to such jobbery; and, further, that all the principal stamp dealers who issue priced catalogues and lists of stamps, should also hold a meeting and decide what should be eliminated. I am afraid that this will never come to pass, as they hold large stocks of this over-printed and commemorative rubbish, and naturally wish to get rid of it; but I think more than one have actually burned their fingers over it, and are anxious to see a stop put to it. Again, if the Royal Philatelic Society took the lead by boycotting unnecessary issues, other societies would follow suit and the battle would be won."

Appeal to Royal Philatelic Society.

Commenting on this letter, *Truth* says:—

"The reference to the Royal Philatelic Society seems to be very much to the point. Surely, if such a society has any *raison d'être*, it must be its business to combat abuses like those dealt with above. Its members, whoever they may be, should call the attention of the Government departments concerned

to the various practices that have been referred to in this and previous articles. One simple way of doing this is by means of a question to Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons. I suppose that stamp collectors are to be found in that assembly, and I would suggest that one or other of them should set the ball rolling."

If the Royal Philatelic Society would bestir itself it could do much. Some years ago a few of us got the dealers together in conference and formed a combined society for the purpose of boycotting bogus issues, but jealousies amongst the dealers wrecked that well-conceived attempt.

The efforts of *Truth* and the public press, and action, as suggested, in Parliament, will help us far more than attempts to reconcile the irreconcilable interests of collectors and dealers in the production and sale of bogus stamps.

Boycott by Philatelic Societies.

A boycott by philatelic societies would probably be a harmless proceeding, for it is not the well informed collectors who flock into these societies who need protecting. The experienced collector can protect himself; and bogus stamps are not made to catch the wary, but the unwary schoolboy. If *Truth* wants a few facts concerning the regular colonial trade in bogus issues it need not go farther afield than the West Indian islands. Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis, though they have a regular issue for postal purposes common to all the British Leeward Islands, each openly issues a separate bogus series solely for the purpose of swindling stamp collectors for revenue.

Searching Inquiry needed.

Indeed, the whole matter wants a searching inquiry on the part of the Colonial Office. When unpaid postal officials like the postmaster of Gambia may, on his own personal account, issue as a postage stamp of the British Empire a provisional for private speculation, it is high time that the whole question of the system of issuing colonial postage stamps was most searchingly examined, revised and placed under more responsible official control. The Governors of the Colonies might be made responsible, and their written consent required, for all local issues such as local surcharges. In the opinion of philatelicists Colonial Postmasters have far too much freedom in dealing with postage stamps.

Many years ago the Marquis of Ripon, when Colonial Secretary, interfered and put a stop to the unnecessary multiplication of provisional stamps in the Straits Settlements. But it is not the occasional issue of provisionals that wants looking into, but the issue of speculative, commemorative and other stamps uncalled for by postal needs.

The Postage Stamp

Specimen copies may be had free from, and subscriptions sent to

BALDWINS,
PRINTERS OF THE POSTAGE STAMP,
TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 239)

Campbell and Fergusson.—A firm of printers in Melbourne, Australia, who printed some of the supplies of the first 1d. and 3d. stamps of Victoria, produced the lithographed 2d. stamp of 1854 and engraved and lithographed the 1s. stamp of 1854.

Campeche.—The Spanish name for the State of Campeche in Mexico. It has an area of 18,087 square miles and a population of about 85,000. During the revolutionary period of 1867-8 special 5, 25 and 50c. stamps were issued inscribed "Admon. Cral de Correos en Campeche," i.e., "Central Administration of Posts in Campeche."

Campos, Sr.—An engraver of Lisbon who engraved the die for the 1870-80 stamps of Portugal.

Canada.—The Dominion of Canada comprises the whole of British North America except Newfoundland and Labrador. This territory, nearly as large as Europe, stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and is estimated to contain an area of 3,745,574 square miles and a population not far short of six millions. Canada was originally discovered by Cabot, who sighted part of the coast when he made his voyage to Newfoundland in 1497, but its history only dates from 1534 when Jacques Cartier landed on the Gaspé coast of Quebec and took possession of the country in the name of Francis I., King of France. Nothing was done towards permanent occupation and settlement till 1608, when Samuel de Champlain, who had visited the country in 1603 and 1604, founded the city of Quebec. Meantime French settlements were made in what is now the maritime provinces, but known to the French as Acadia. As a result of this settlement an enormous tract of territory was claimed by France; but the claim was contested by England on the grounds of prior discovery. A long struggle was carried on between England and France and Acadia was ceded to Britain by the treaty of Utrecht in 1713. In 1759 the British forces, led by General Wolfe, captured Quebec, and in 1763 the whole of Canada was ceded to Britain by the treaty of Paris. Of all the Canadian dependency France retained only the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, off the coast of Newfoundland. The political capital and seat of Government is Ottawa. Postage stamps were first issued in 1851.

Canal Zone.—A strip of territory, ten miles wide, running across the Isthmus of Panama, which, by virtue of a treaty drawn up between the governments of the United States and the republic of Panama in December, 1903, is granted to the United States in perpetuity for the construction, maintenance, operation, sanitation, and direction of a canal which, when completed, will enormously shorten the sea

voyage between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. For this concession the United States has to pay to the republic of Panama the sum of \$10,000,000 in gold and an annual payment of \$250,000 during the life of the convention, beginning in 1912. Since the 24th June, 1904, the Panama stamps used in this territory have been surcharged "Canal Zone."

Canarias.—The Spanish name for the Canary Islands—a volcanic group in the Atlantic ocean, off the north-west coast of Africa, which form a province of Spain. The group has a total area of 2,808 square miles and a population (mostly Spanish) of nearly 400,000. The Islands were discovered in 1334 by a French vessel, and in 1402 they were taken possession of by Jean de Bethencourt, a Norman, who afterwards surrendered his right to the King of Spain. After a struggle which extended over the greater part of the 15th century, the Spaniards made themselves masters of the whole of the archipelago in 1495. In 1868, after the revolution in Madrid and the proclamation of a Provisional Government, all the 50 mils. stamps used in the Canaries were surcharged "HPN" (Habilitado por la Nacion) by order of the local junta or revolutionary council.

Cancellation.—A mark applied to a stamp that has performed its duty either postally or fiscally, to prevent its re-use. Postal cancellations are marks applied—usually by means of metal stamps—to stamps that have franked postal packages, while fiscal cancellations are marks applied to stamps used on documents of any sort. The latter are usually cancelled with pen and ink, but all pen marked stamps are not of necessity fiscally used. In many places when stamps were first issued no regular postal obliterators were available and so the stamps had to be cancelled with pen and ink.

Cancelled-to-order.—A term applied to stamps which are sold in a cancelled condition and which have never performed any postal duty. Whole sheets of stamps, usually with the original gum still adhering, are post-marked thus either "by favour," for the benefit of collectors who insist on having used stamps, or so that the labels can be sold at a good discount below their face value. The issues of the North Borneo Company from 1887 are notorious examples of the latter class of cancelled-to-order stamps. Fortunately, as a rule, the obliteration so employed is quite distinct from that found upon the stamps that have been legitimately used.

Cancelled—VRI.—A surcharge found upon certain Travasaal stamps which were issued at the town of Wolmaranstad, Travasaal, upon its occupation by the British troops in June, 1900.

Imperial Exhibition, 1908

At Caxton Hall, Westminster, London,

12, 13, & 14 March, 1908

Making Progress.

The Juniors are making rapid progress with their preparations for their great Exhibition, and they are securing generous help in all directions.

Mr. J. A. Tilleard writes to say that the Council of the Royal Philatelic Society has been pleased to grant the Exhibition Committee's request for the loan of the frames in the possession of the senior society, for use at Caxton Hall.

Mr. David Field has also kindly promised the Committee the loan of a number of frames for use at the Exhibition.

Hotels for Visitors.

They are even going to help their visitors from the provinces to make themselves comfortable. They announce that, in view of the large number of members and visitors from the provinces, the Exhibition Committee is arranging to secure special terms for accommodation at hotels in the vicinity of the Caxton Hall. One hotel will be selected as the headquarters, and stamp collectors coming from a distance are invited to write to the Hon. Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, before deciding upon hotel accommodation. It is hoped to publish a complete list of hotels offering special facilities in the next issue of "Notes and News."

Auctions at the Exhibition.

An Auction will be held at the Exhibition, in the Entertainment Hall, at 3.30 on the second day. Stallholders and members of the Junior Philatelic Society are invited to send ten lots each, and a commission of 10% will be charged on lots sold. This auction it is considered will be an additional attraction to the Exhibition. Lots may be sent by February 14th to the Society's Hon. Auctioneer, Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, F.A.I., Binduli, 23, Spencer Road, Grove Park, W.

Offers of Prizes Wanted.

Stallholders only are invited to offer prizes in the Competition Section for Junior Collectors. These will be listed as received, and the successful Competitors in order of merit will be at liberty to choose their prizes from the published list. It will assist the Committee, however, if prizes offered be equally distributed between the Competition for Collections and the Competition for Essays. Donors of prizes will be duly acknowledged in printed lists.

Donations of Duplicates.

The expenses will be very heavy and we are sorry to hear that donations are not coming in as fast as they are needed. Up to the present only £29 has been received in voluntary donations.

There is one form of donation that is to be encouraged which will be immensely successful and popular and that is the offer of by Collectors of Duplicates.

On March 7th, at 3, Bedford Street, Strand, before the ordinary meeting of the Society, an auction will be held of lots presented to the Exhibition Committee to be sold in aid of the Funds of the Exhibition. Any Stallholder who cares to send some lots of stamps, etc., as a free gift to the Exhibition Committee will receive their best thanks.

Exhibits for Sale.

The Exhibition Committee announces that arrangements have now been made, whereby any exhibitor desiring to dispose of a collection on view at the Caxton Hall on March 12th, 13th, and 14th, may have their exhibits marked with a red seal, to indicate that they are for sale. No price or other notification of sale may be affixed to the exhibit, but the price should be communicated in advance to the Hon. Secretary of the Exhibition, and a register will be opened for the purpose of negotiating such sales during the Exhibition. In the event of sale, the price will be payable to the Committee, who will account to the owner for the purchase-money, after deducting 10% to be applied to the general expenses of the Exhibition.

Exhibits Wanted.

The Exhibits Sub-Committee report that they have up to the present not received promises of exhibits of the following colonies. Owners of collections of these colonial possessions are requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary, 44, Fleet Street, E.C., at once.

North American Colonies (except Canada), Grenada, Nevis, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, British Guiana, South Australia, British North Borneo and Labuan, Fiji, Uganda, Natal, Swaziland, Stellaland and New Republic.

Insurance of Exhibits.

Arrangements have been made whereby intending exhibitors may insure their collections at a charge of 2s. 6d. per cent. Application for insurance, which should be accompanied by remittance at the rate of 2s. 6d. per cent., should be sent to Mr. H. F. Johnson, 44, Fleet Street, E.C.

Posters for Advertising.

Posters advertising the Exhibition are now ready, and anyone who can make use of same is requested to state number required, and the Hon. Secretary will be happy to forward them. Many of our readers will no doubt be able to make use of these posters and display them to good advantage.

From Other Magazines

Abyssinia.

SINCE the founding of Djibouti the French influence has much increased in Abyssinia. The numerous caravans from the interior of this country take their way to the new French port, instead of to Zeila as before. Emperor Menelik II. had rich presents from the European Legations; once the French Governor Lagarde brought 100,000 fire-arms of latest designs to the capital.

In 1896 the construction of the railway from Djibouti to Diré-Daouah was begun by a French society. Much British capital was engaged therein. Though France pays a subvention of 500,000 francs annually for this railway, it has always to face financial difficulties. The line could not be continued up to Addis-Abeba, and the French society several times sold obligations to the Ethiopian Railway Trust (London), and was on the point of becoming Anglicized. To prevent this the Ethiopian Convention was signed the 3rd December, 1905, by France, England, and Italy. France will now build the railway up to the capital (500 km.); from thence it will be continued to the valley of the Nile by England. In the last few years the French influence has much diminished in favour of Great Britain. A proof of this is the opening of the Bank of Abyssinia, more or less ruled by the National Bank of Egypt. Just now there are grave difficulties between Menelik and the French Government.

At all events, Abyssinia has a great postal future. First there were French and Italian offices maintained by the respective Legations. French offices exist still in Addis-Abeba, Harar, and Diré-Daouah. A regular postal and telegraph service was introduced by Minister Ilg at his private cost and risk. He engaged the officials—Swiss, French, and Greek. Till a year ago the postal administration was his private property, then it was taken over by the State. Twice a week there is communication between the French Somali coast and Diré Daouah by rail, the train leaving Djibouti at six o'clock in the morning, and arriving at six in the evening. The next important office is that of Harar, where the famous Ras Maconen lived. Following a very bad route of 500 km. over mountains, through deep valleys, and over rivers, couriers bring the postal bags and parcels to the capital. At the stations men and mules are changed in order to proceed during the night, the whole journey occupying a week. Natives make little use of the postal arrangements; these are specially for the Legations, the European and Indian merchants, and for tourists, who in ever-increasing numbers pay a visit to the "African Switzerland." To-day the Postmaster-General is a Swiss; the letter and parcel post is organized. Postage for letters can only be paid to Djibouti, the addressee having to pay an additional tax. A postal order service has not yet been established. Abyssinia is not in the Universal Postal Union; however, it will enter as soon as it can give full guarantee for objects confided to

it for transmission. For this purpose the final protocol of the Rome Convention of 1906 has been left open.—*F. C. Luthy in Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 25.1.08.*

How many Stamp Collectors are there?

This, as a matter of positive certainty, is next to impossible to ascertain, but by calculating approximately from one or two standpoints, say, the number of stamp albums sold in three years by the makers and dealers in these articles, varying in price from the nimble sixpence to one pound sterling, we may take the total for Great Britain as about a quarter of a million. These may be divided roughly into three classes as being: (a) two thousand advanced or specialist collectors, who are able to spend from £100 to £300 any year for their special lines of study; (b) the medium general collectors as ten times that number, who can without difficulty spare £50 to £100 if needed in a year on their hobby; and (c) further group of over two hundred thousand spasmodic or occasional collectors, who do not or cannot spend more than one shilling to one pound in any week, or a general average of, say £15 yearly.—*B. W. W. in Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 11. 1. 08.*

Herr Amstrichter Fraenkel's Library.

The *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* refers to the marvellous library of philatelic work which the late Amstrichter Heinrich Fraenkel got together at a great outlay of time and of money during many years, and it claims that the library in question is certainly the most important of its kind on the Continent. The library contains rarities of the very first rank and many uncut works of great value. It is not surprising that the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* should express an earnest hope that Herr Fraenkel's splendid philatelic library may be secured for Germany, both as a memorial of its maker and as a source of reference for German stamp collectors. In the interests of Philately, it is to be hoped that such a splendid library will not be broken up, for it would be impossible to collect such a wealth of philatelic literature again.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 18.1.08.*

Spectacles on Stamps.

Once more it appears that "there is nothing new under the sun." The *Listin Diario*, of Santo Domingo, referred recently to the new stamps of Luxemburg, and said that, as a philatelic curiosity, the issue in question was the first on which a portrait is adorned with spectacles. *El Eco Postal*, of Valencia, points out that the *Listin Diario* is in error, for spectacles have already appeared on the portrait on the 10 pesos of Colombia, Department of Boyaca, of 1903, and also on the 5 pesos and 10 pesos of 1904 of the same Republic, and more recently on the small values of the French Colonies in West Africa, and on the "Officials" of Brazil.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly, 18.1.08.*

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Philatelic Prophets on Profits.

The Philatelic Prophets are out for an airing.

Says Bright: "We must express our opinion that during the next few years the value of old stamps in good condition, both Foreign and Colonial, will increase, and that the next edition of this catalogue will show considerably higher quotations."

Quoth the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.: "The steady reaction from the new issue craze, which has been noted during the past year, and the tendency of all classes of collectors to turn, either as general collectors or as specialists to the interesting old issues of all countries, seems to be spreading fast."

Says Gibbons: "We have not felt it necessary to increase many of the older issues. Colonials have gone up for some time, and we consider that, for the present, the prices are, in general, quite high enough."

And Castle: Buy old issues for a rise.

But Ewen: New issues are the best investment.

The Philatelic Raven.

Sorely puzzled by these conflicting emotions I sat one dreary night musing over the pages of my albums—pages old and new; and I bethought me of Edgar Allan Poe's invocation to the Raven, sitting on the pallid bust of Pallas, just above his chamber door, and I followed suit.

"Prophet!" said I, "thing of evil!—Prophet still, if bird or devil!

By that list that dominates us—by that life we both adorn,

Tell this soul with greed engraven, if within some future haven

It shall find the prices higher, for the issues old and torn—

Find a soft and ready buyer, for the stamps of newness shorn!"

Quoth the Raven: "Blowed if I know."

The New Gibbons.

Meanwhile, coming back to earth, I find the new Gibbons Part I, an interesting study. The feature of this edition of the Stamps of the British Empire is that it gives the older issues a rest in the matter of prices; a sort of recognition that prices have settled down for the present. But there is a considerable rise all along the line amongst the despised new issues, that rise is mostly in King's heads, with single C.A. The high values of Ceylon and Grenada, the 1s. and 2s. of Gambia, and a host of others are up, up.

Sudan:—First Issue rising.

The first issue of Sudan after many years at the same price are given a slight rise. Last year the piastre values were all left unpriced—unused. Compared with the catalogue of 1905, the 2 pias. is raised from 1s. 6d. to 3s., the 5 pias. from 3s. to 5s., and the 10 pias. from 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. Gentle reader, while you can buy these stamps at these prices go for them.

I note the 5 mils of the same issue with the overprint inverted is priced 30s. In 1907, I myself paid Gibbons 50s. for a copy of this variety, and I have very strong doubts whether the genuine article is to be had for 30s. There are plenty of forgeries of these inverteds about, and collectors had better be very wary. I have seen the most obvious forgeries offered as "guaranteed genuine."

British Bechuanaland.

But there are increases in some of the older issues. The 1896 cable and anchor series of British Bechuanaland is a steadily rising investment. Here are the figures for comparison:—

	1899	1902.	1905.	1908.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 6	0 6	1 0	2 0
1d.	1 9	1 9	4 0	3 0
2d.	1 6	1 6	2 6	4 0
6d.	5 0	5 0	10 0	15 0
1s.	12 6	30 0	35 0	40 0

British Guiana:—Rarest Recent Stamps.

It will be remembered that the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* told us in its last issue that the 60c. single C.A. of that Colony could not be had for the then quoted price of 10s.

So I turn to the new Gibbons and find it is still quoted at 10s.

Then the 48c. single C.A. is held in high esteem by our British Guiana friends. It was priced at 4s. in the last Gibbons: it is now raised to 6s.

Papuans.

The overprinted Papuans are a disappointment: they are left unpriced, with the exception of the low values of the large type, both large and small types. But the prices of the original issues of British New Guinea are all raised, as was to be expected, and I question whether stocks will last very long at the new quotations, which are as follows:—

	1907.	1908.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d.	0 1	0 3
1d.	0 2	0 3
2d.	0 3	0 6
2½d.	0 4	0 8
4d.	0 6	1 0
6d.	0 9	1 6
1s.	1 6	3 0
2s. 6d.	3 3	—

The 2s. 6d. is left unpriced, and it will no doubt be a scarce stamp.

The Chalky Compromise.

The use of the letters "O" and "U" to indicate ordinary and chalky papers in the new Gibbons is a capital idea. Those who go in for chalkies will find their varieties clearly indicated by the initial "C." When a stamp has been issued in both papers the value is followed by the letters "O" and "U."

After picking all the holes that are possible in the new Gibbons, one is compelled to confess to unabated admiration for the unequalled excellence of the production.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C. THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

How Readers can Help us.

WE have to thank a great number of our readers for their very kind help in distributing free copies of THE POSTAGE STAMP, and recommending it to their friends. Several are so well pleased with

THE POSTAGE STAMP that they ask if there is any other way in which they can further help us.

Well, yes, there is the most effectual way of all, and that is in favouring with their purchases those dealers who back up THE POSTAGE STAMP by advertising in its pages.

If advertisers find purchasers through our pages they will respond with further advertisements.

If the readers of THE POSTAGE STAMP make no response, and never buy from our advertisers, obviously dealers cannot afford to advertise with us.

Therefore, if our friends will buy, so far as they can, only from those dealers who advertise in THE POSTAGE STAMP, and always mention THE POSTAGE STAMP when replying to an advertiser, they will help us most materially in our endeavours to provide a friendly, chatty, and instructive paper, full of hints and disinterested advice.

Philatelic Societies' Reports.

We shall be glad to receive prompt reports of meetings from the Secretaries of Philatelic Societies. It will be noted that when supplied we like to head each Report with the name of the President, the name and address of the Hon. Sec., the regular place of meeting, and the annual subscription. These particulars form a standing advertisement for each society and convey valuable information to intending members.

Foreign and Colonial Correspondents.

The Editor will be glad to hear from Foreign and Colonial collectors who will undertake to send him chatty letters on philatelic matters in their parts. New Issues, Impending Changes, Reports of Philatelic Societies, How the Stamp World Progresses, What is being Collected, Notable Collections, in fact, all the gossip of the stamp world.

H. S. F. (Forest Hill). An article on Sarawak? Yes, some day. Jamaica is certainly a nice inexpensive country to specialise. The first issue is the only trouble—all the values are difficult to get in fine unused condition. But in used your task is much simplified. It is my favourite country in the West Indian group after Bahamas, but I should not recommend Bahamas as it is expensive.

F. A. D. (West Hampstead). The mounting of new issues, when the values of a series come out at odd times, it is a bit of a difficulty. I mount mine temporarily in one of Walker's Loose Leaf books,

No. 99, 9 × 7½ in., indexed. This becomes a supplementary collecting book for my collection. When a new series is complete I shift it into my Walker's Album. I put the date received, from whom, and price on the hinge. Most of the stamps you mention have been duly chronicled in *The Postage Stamp*, the New Zealand 3d. so long ago as the very first number: South Australian 10d. page 145; Sudan 4 mils, red and brown, page 46, and so on. Many thanks for your correction to par. headed "Buenos Ayres" in our Philatelic Dictionary that Buenos Ayres means "good air," not "good aid" as printed, which must be a printer's error.

H. P. (Bury). The difference between an ordinary 1d. red of Great Britain and an ivory head is that in the one case the head shows at the back of the stamp like an ivory head and in the other case there is no head showing at the back. That boy joke is rather thin.

P. F. (Michigan). I have forwarded your complaint of non-receipt of No. 11 of *The Postage Stamp* to the publishers who will attend to it. Thanks for your good opinion that our Weekly is "O.K." Please do all you can for us in your part of the world. We are anxious to get a good circulation in the States.

E. H. (Rochdale). A contents list is scarcely needed. When we have grown as we hope to some day to double our present size then it may be useful.

W. J. H. (Cardiff). You are venturesome as a young collector to want another country in addition to Southern Nigeria to specialise. I don't think our friend Cornelius Wrinkle intended to recommend Southern Nigeria to young collectors, for as a rule young collectors have not much surplus money, and Southern Nigeria is not now an inexpensive country, either used or unused. Still, if you care to afford it, you could not take a more promising country. You suggest taking also Lagos, Niger Coast Protectorate, Oil Rivers, and Northern Nigeria. All good, if you can spare the money, for they are all rather expensive. For your other questions: I should certainly not bother about chalky varieties; though a specialist, I do not touch them. Include marginal varieties whenever you can get and afford them. Walker's albums are in my opinion the best. Arrangement! My plan is to arrange a full series on the first page, then varieties, if any, then blocks—all kept on separate pages. I use Whitfield King's mounts: they peel splendidly. The only book published on the countries you have chosen is Africa, Parts I, II, and III, published by the Royal Philatelic Society, all very expensive. No, I should not include post-cards, wrappers, envelopes, officials, nor even fiscals used postally.

Philatelic Society Meetings

The Junior Scottish Philatelic Society.

The monthly meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 4th January, 1908. Mr. Norman M. Berrie, President, in the chair. 23 members were present.

The minutes of the monthly meetings held on 2nd November and 6th December were read, approved, and signed. The President made a few remarks on the success that attended the "At Home," on 6th December, and a vote of thanks was awarded to the Hon. Sec. for the manner in which the arrangements had been carried through. Four new members were admitted.

The Hon. Sec. reported the sales from the exchange packets in circulation. The sales were considered very satisfactory.

Mr. Small and Mr. Stewart were appointed Visiting Members to the next meeting of the Senior Branch on 13th January.

The Chairman announced that the Committee had decided to have a Stamp Auction on the second Saturday in April, that the necessary arrangements were in progress, and that the Assistant Secretary—Mr. W. D. D. Small, 10, Glenorchy Terrace, Edinburgh—would receive and arrange the lots sent in for disposal. He also intimated that a Prize Fund was being got up and that prizes would be awarded, as was done last year, for the best Displays by Junior Members and the best sheets sent in to the Exchange Packets during the session.

The members then had an opportunity of examining a choice selection from the West Indian Collection of Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B.A., F.R.P.S., Lond., Rochdale, consisting of the stamps of Dominica, Antigua, Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Bermuda, etc. The Display contained many rarities, including used specimens of the 1d. on 6d. error of the 1886 issue of Dominica, and the Three-pence (in fancy capitals) on one penny rose Bermuda 1874 issue, and was much admired. A hearty vote of thanks was, on the motion of the Chairman, awarded to Mr. Heginbottom, and the Hon. Sec. was instructed to convey to him the thanks of the Society along with an expression of their appreciation of his kindness in sending the Display.

Mr. J. M. Weir delivered some notes on "The New Specialism," giving his views as to how stamp collecting might be limited in various ways, and expressing the view that Junior Collectors might take the dies as the groundwork on which to build up their collections. He read quotations from the recent articles in the P.J. of G.B., and displayed sheets showing how, by limiting a Collection to the dies used the number was materially reduced, and in some expensive countries restricted to only a few stamps; and pointed out that there was really no need for the beginner to regard varieties of colour, value, perforation or watermark, one specimen of each die being all that was necessary as a beginning. An interesting discussion followed, in which the Chairman, Vice-President, Hon. Sec., Asst. Secretary, Mr. Walker, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Mackenzie and others took part. The generally expressed opinion was that the New Specialism had not come to stay, and that the best interests of Philately would undoubtedly suffer from any such attempted restriction. It was felt that the wider the basis of collecting the better, as the interest was more actively maintained and more easily stimulated, and that the best system of collecting was to follow one's own inclination and in whatever direction it pointed, whether attracted by form, colour, or process of manufacture. The hope was expressed that the so-called New Specialism would soon die a natural death. At the same

time the general opinion seemed to be that the absence of an independent official catalogue created a felt want which the interested productions of dealers could never meet, and that in any event the available standard catalogues might with little effort be materially improved as well as simplified. A vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Weir for his remarks.

Leeds Philatelic Society

The tenth meeting of the season was held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, 7th Jan., 1908, when Mr. J. W. Duffield (Junior Vice-President) gave a display of the postage stamps of Canada. The President, Mr. W. V. Morten, F.R.P.S.L., was in the chair.

The Stamps of Canada.

The first issue of 1851 consisted of six denominations, viz.: 1d. rose, 3d. vermilion, 6d. purple, 7d. green, 10d. blue, and 12d. black, the latter a great rarity, and were of varied designs, including the beaver of Canada, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria, and Jacques Cartier, the French navigator who in 1534 explored the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and in 1542 made the first attempt at colonising Canada. The dominion was established in 1867, and the portrait of Queen Victoria only figured on subsequent issues, until in 1903 that of King Edward VII. appeared on the stamps. This first issue was engraved and printed by Messrs. Rawson, Wright and Hatch in New York, and the postage stamps of the Dominion are still engraved and printed by an American Company. In issuing the 1-stamp, a difficulty presented itself to the postal authorities, there being at the time a number of shillings of different values in circulation in the Colony, ranging in currency valuation from 6d. to 12d. according to locality, so that to ensure the proper amount being tendered the value was expressed as "twelve pence." In 1859, the monetary system of Canada was changed from pence to cents, and a new set of stamps became necessary; the designs were similar to last and the values were 1c., 5c., 10c., 12c., and 17c.; the two latter being inscribed in addition "Six pence sterling" and "8d. sterling" respectively. Issues were made in 1868-1876, 1882, 1888, 1893-7. Design: head of Queen Victoria in a large circle, and were all inscribed "Canada Postage," the additional values being 1c., 3c., 6c., 8c., 15c., 20c., and 50c. In 1897 there was a Queen Victoria Jubilee issue of 16 values, which included 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 dollar values. This was a twin stamp, oblong in shape, having on the left the diademed head of Queen Victoria as she appeared in 1837, and on the right an 1897 portrait. Then, in 1897-9 appeared a stamp with an up-to-date portrait of Queen Victoria, head turned to left, an effective design with maple leaves in the corners, values being 1c. to 10c. only. A map in miniature of the world printed in black with the British possessions shown in red, and the oceans in lavender, green, or blue, value 2c. was issued in 1899. The legend is "Xmas 1898." "We hold a vaster empire than has been"—a quotation from a verse of a poem by Lewis Morris:—

"We love not war, but only peace,
Yet never shall our England's power decrease,

Whoever guides our helm of state,
Let all men know it, England shall be great,
We hold a vaster Empire than has been."

With the exception of the provisional 2 cents, surcharged on the 3c. in 1899, and the two new values 7c. and 20c. of 1900-2, the next new stamps to be issued in 1903 and now in current use, show a fine portrait of King Edward VII., designed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. of London, but engraved and

printed by the American Bank Note Co. in Canada.

Some fine used copies of the early issues with a wide and interesting range of shades, were noticeable in Mr. Duffield's collection, which also included a nice lot of unused, and two sheets of the 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 8 cents. of the 1868-1876 issues, imperforate, all being postally used and extremely rare. Varieties of paper, laid, ribbed, and wove, on which some part of the earlier stamps were printed, were shown by Mr. Duffield, who read a few instructive notes on the stamps, and was the recipient of hearty thanks for these and for his successful display.

Novelties shown were:—By Mr. P. M. Knight, Soudan 1 millième, in new colour, Papua 1d. green and black, Austria, new issue, 1 to 6 heller, Montenegro 1 nov. yellow and 2 nov. black; by Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.R.S.P.L., Morocco Agencies 40 centimes overprinted on 4d. English, used on envelope, 1d. Mid. Rly Parcel Stamp, 1907; by the President, a reprint, in red, of the Mulready 2d. letter sheet of 1840, as posted by him with Xmas greetings to members and others.

North of England Philatelic Society.

The usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday evening, 9th January, at 7.30.

The Vice-President, Mr. T. D. Hume, was in the chair and there was a good attendance of members.

Formal business being disposed of, Miss Owen, the first lady member, and Mr. H. R. Viall were elected to the membership.

The Auction Sale on Feb. 20th was discussed, and final arrangements left to the Vice-President and Secretary.

Mr. Heginbottom's fine collection of used Barbadoes and Jamaica was then passed round and evoked much interest. Barbadoes includes many fine pairs of the imperf. issue, many ranges of shades in all issues, and the different varieties of 1d. on half of 5s. Jamaica includes the 2d. on 4d. double surcharge, with the different spellings of surcharge.

At the close of meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Heginbottom for his kindness in sending such an instructive display.

EXCHANGE CLUBS.

KIDBROOKE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.
—Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, F. C. Henderson, Eton Grove, Lewisham, S.E.

THE KILDARE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB

Founded January, 1906. The Kildare is an Amateur Exchange. No dealers see the packets. Two packets circulated monthly. Monthly sales average £100 to £120 gross. Advanced and serious collectors wishing to dispose or acquire good class Stamps, are invited to join. Foreign and Colonial contributing members wanted from all countries.

Rules on application from Secretary—
Capt. F. F. FRETMAN, Calverstown House, Kilkallen, Co. Kildare, Ireland, Member of The Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

VICTORIA Stamp Club. Section 1, exchange only; section 2, cash basis.—
Jack Moss, 60, Leicester Road, Loughborough.

WOODFORD EXCHANGE CLUB. Secretary—Sexton, Fairfield West, Kingston-on-Thames. Good sales, prompt settlements. Vacancies for reliable collectors.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 20. Vol. 1.

15 FEBRUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Premier Stamp Company of Brighton.



I HEAR that Treherne's Forgeries, and his public exposure by the Stamp Trade Association, have told heavily on the stamp trade of Brighton. But it is hard lines that the innocent should suffer with the guilty of London-by-the-Sea. I am, therefore, glad to give publicity to the fact that the Premier Stamp Co.,

of 17, Prince Albert Street, Brighton, have had nothing whatever to do with the operations of the guilty gang of that place.

The Burden of the Catalogue.

Some weeks ago I ventured the opinion that "the philatelic status of one country after another is being lowered, if not ruined, by speculative rubbish made for sale to collectors, and specialism is being rapidly narrowed, year after year, to a few choice countries."

Mr. C. J. Phillips, in *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, assures me that this is not so, and I have ordered the necessary amount of salt to digest his assurance.

Blow your own Horn.

We are officially informed, through the irrepressible Power of the New York branch, that one of Gibbons' resolutions for 1908, is to blow the horn; and I hear that C. J. P. has taken to practising on the Kentish hills so as not to frighten Peckitt.

Gibbons' Stock: One Million Sterling!

First blast. Seventy of the unemployed have been busy taking stock at the Gibbons Emporium, and the result, we are told, will probably total up to £125,000 of stock taken at cost.

On this basis, I have been doing a little sum on my own account, and, reckoning at the rate at which that celebrated sinner, ye Managing Director, rooks poor innocent collectors, and the prices subsequently asked, I estimate that the Gibbons stock must amount to about One Million Sterling. Just think of that!

Well, our Gibbons is cheap, even at the price, as a pillar to stamp collecting.

Exhibitions and Free Admission.

In the opinion of some people, the Juniors are running a big risk in attempting such an ambitious Exhibition for 1908, and foregoing the help of admission fees. But my timid friends will be surprised to learn that the admission fees in the case of the great International Exhibition of 1906 only amounted to the paltry sum of £60 out of a grand total of £2,184.

The Juniors are going for popularity, and they are on the right track.

Advertising the Show.

The accounts of the same International Exhibition disclose the ominous fact that only £161 was expended in "printing, stationery and advertising," hence the splendid failure of that gigantic show. The Juniors are not making that mistake any way.

A Novelist's Mulready.

A friend of mine has shown me this week a Mulready envelope evidently addressed by Harrison Ainsworth, the author of "Jack Shephard" and a host of other novels that had a great vogue years ago. The novelist added his autograph in the left hand lower corner. The envelope belongs to a poor woman sadly in need, and I have advised my friend to offer it for sale in the pages of *The Postage Stamp*.

New Issues quiet.

We are having quite a rest from the flood of new issues. Since the Austrian batch we have had only little dribbles. In fact, unless things wake up, some of the new issue collectors will have to turn to the old issues for a little excitement.

The Stamps of China

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 248).

WITH the view of including everything that will complete the history of the postal system and the postal issues of this most interesting country, I quote in *extenso* the following translation from *der Ostarientische Lloyd* in the *American Journal of Philately* :—

"In view of the approaching establishment of an Imperial postal service in China on the European pattern, a birds-eye view of the existing postal service, as well as its past history, ought be of general interest. The service itself was always in the care of the Ministry of War. It was during the supremacy of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) that the transmission of passengers and mails acquired considerable importance, and began to be well handled. However, in the 17th century, this system fell from its high plane, because the Government officials began to exploit it for personal advantage. It was only on the accession of the second Mantschu Emperor that the service again achieved its previous success, and in fact became greatly extended. The conquest of new territories made good and regular connection more necessary than ever. For the management and general control of this service a special class of officials were appointed, who were under the supervision of the Minister of War. At the stations, the majority of which were located on the principal roads, all the necessaries for expedition, such as horses, camels, wagons, boats, &c., were held in readiness.

"The service was divided into two classes. By the means of the first Imperial despatches and by the second passengers and baggage, as well as war material, were forwarded. This Imperial Post is at present administered by the Postmaster-General, whose office is in Peking. The branches are restricted to the provincial capitals, and Vice-Postmasters are in charge. These officials are selected exclusively out of the upper military class. The Imperial post was to forward only imperial edicts, regulations, and similar official writings, however, in reality, the messengers also carry the private correspondence of the upper classes. The carriers are especially selected and enjoy a number of privileges, as, for instance, the right to live at hotels and obtain food for their horses free of charge.

"The second division is known as 'General Postal Service (Yuting)'; it extends over all of China. The main office is in Peking, and in every Chinese city that is walled in there is a branch. The Taotais, or District Governors, are generally the Postmasters of their respective districts. They name their subordinates who act as local postmasters. The latter again control and are responsible for the carriers and messengers. Each one of these must forward the

mail from his station to those points which are nearest to his centre. The average distance between these does not exceed 100 li. (about 40 English miles). At every station there is a man who keeps accounts of all letters received and forwarded. All post office buildings are the property of the government.

"Almost all official documents, which are to be forwarded, bear a superscription which states how quickly they are to be carried. Ordinary documents are marked 200 li. (about 80 miles) per day; those which are to be especially expedited are expected to travel 400 li., and those which are in great haste, as much as 800 li per day. The messenger must traverse this distance, no matter what the state of the weather may be, otherwise he is subject to punishment. The best time which has ever been made in China is 280 German miles (nearly 1,400 miles) in four days, or almost 14 miles per hour. This occurred in the year 1851 in the Taiping Rebellion. The expense of this postal service is borne by the provincial authorities.

"As perfect as the Imperial postal system of China may have been, even in former centuries, it was never used to any extent by the commercial or private interests. Even had they been permitted to send letters or packets by the means of this service, it is still doubtful if they would have availed themselves of the privilege, as the officials would have been suspected of tampering with private letters. In consequence, independent postal agencies were established in the cities and market towns for the convenience of bankers, merchants, and private individuals, which undertook the forwarding of letters and packets. In the large cities there are generally several of these private enterprises, and these produce considerable competition. As a result, it occurs more frequently than anywhere in the world, that postal officials collect mail matter from the houses of customers instead of the latter sending letters and packets to the office itself.

"These private postal enterprises entrust the mail matter either to native boats which travel regularly between the different cities, or to letter carriers, the majority of whom travel on foot, although occasionally they go on horseback. Every one of the postal boats referred to has a special man on board, who is entrusted with the reception and delivery, as well as the care, of the letters in the mail. All letters are registered at the office of receipt, the contents are insured up to their full value, and great liberality is shown in the matter of weight. The postage need not necessarily be paid in advance, but as a rule the writer pays about 30 per cent. of it, the remainder being paid by the recipient. These postal agencies frequently carry running accounts with their customers, which are settled monthly. If the writer is

particular to have a letter delivered rapidly and safely, he writes on the envelope a promise of payment of a liberal sum in copper coin on the delivery of the letter.

"The transmission of mail matter through letter carriers is also rapid and safe. On the average, these men traverse a geographical mile (four and three fifths English miles) per hour. As soon as they reach their destination, that is the next station to which their letters are addressed, they immediately hand the mail to another man, who, without regard to the condition of the weather, must immediately start on his way, and having arrived at the next station, hand it over to a third messenger, which process is repeated until the final destination is reached. As the country, through which the carriers walk, is frequently a mere waste and but thinly inhabited, they are exposed to the attacks of robbers. For protection against these attacks they are always armed.

"In regard to the rates, they are not fixed, although, in general, fixed rates are made to regular customers, while occasional correspondents must pay considerably more. For short distances, the rates are lower than in Germany; for longer distance, say beyond a radius of 50 miles, they are naturally high, as the dispatches must be transferred so many times.

"This private postal system answers the requirements pretty well. Letters and packets are delivered just as safely, even if a little less rapidly, than they are with us. Large sums of money are also sent by this means. The money, in case it is sent by boat, is weighed by the captain of the vessel, who makes out a receipt and, for a small percentage, he guarantees to pay the money to the party addressed. Thefts are of rare occurrence.

"In the Spring of 1893, Sir Robert Hart, the chief inspector of Chinese maritime customs, addressed a letter to the Foreign Office in Peking in regard to the institution of a postal system in China after the pattern of similar institutions existing in Europe. This memorial was also sanctioned by the throne. In accordance with the proposed scheme, every capital or province was to be endowed with a non-resident Director of Posts, and every capital of a province with a non-resident subaltern postal official. Their assistants were to be chosen from the Chinese population, but it was to be required that they be familiar with the English language. In the country towns, as well as in the cities of the second and third rank, the post office was to be administered by Chinese. This scheme referred only to the non-treaty ports and the interior of the country. In the treaty ports the postal administration was to be administered in connection with the custom house. It was intended to retain the existing carrier service, but the private postal agencies were to be abolished, while retaining, so far as possible, in the new administration, the people employed in these private agencies.

"After three years, this project has finally ripened. Sir Robert Hart has been appointed General Postal Director, and, according to all appearances, the new service should be in operation in a few weeks. The Chinese newspaper *Schenpao* publishes the rules and regulations promulgated by Sir Robert Hart for the new Imperial post. It is stated therein that these

regulations are intended only to cover the general outlines of the postal service, and that more minute regulations will follow later on.

Organization.

"The customs post offices in the different treaty ports shall in future be designated as Imperial Post Offices. The places at which such post offices exist shall be considered as belonging to the Universal Postal Union. The remainder are not as yet included therein.

"The management of the Imperial Post Offices in the sea-ports shall be under the charge of the customs commissioners, who shall co-operate with the Chinese customs superintendents.

"The existing postal service in Peking, which is under the General Customs Inspection, shall be raised to the dignity of the Chief Imperial Post Office. It shall have control over the different Imperial Post Offices in the sea-ports, and receives its authority from the "Tsunli Yamen" (Council of State).

"As the post office in Shanghai will be the most important office of transit, special officials shall be appointed for it, but they shall also be subject to the authority of the customs commissary and customs superintendent.

"The director of the Bureau of Statistics in Shanghai shall have general supervision over the postal service. All reports of postmasters, to the general inspector of customs, shall pass through his hands.

"Later on, branch postal establishments, with special employees, shall be established in places adjacent to the treaty ports, like Taku, and Tongku near Tientsin, also at railroad and telegraph stations, in Wysung near Shanghai, Tschenhai near Ningpo, Pagoda Anchorage near Futschau, Whangpo near Canton, Wuhsueh near Kiukiang, Aking and Tatung near Wuhu, Nanking near Tschingkiang, &c.

Method of Transmission.

"The post office transmits letters, postal cards, samples and printed matter. The transmission of single articles will be either in large mail bags or separately. In shipments in transit, the mail bags will not be opened, and mail matter for the immediate neighbourhood will be unpacked and distributed either piece by piece or placed into a new bag for further transmission.

"Each mail sack will be accompanied by an exact description of its contents. The receiving post office, in the first instance, shall make out a receipt for the matter to be forwarded, after it has convinced itself that the mail matter on the waybill has actually been delivered to it.

"From one seaport to another transmission of the mail will be by steamer, and in the inland by the means of Chinese private offices, with which special arrangements will have to be made, and notice of which is to be given to the public.

Postage.

"The rate of postage is different, according to whether letters go from seaport to seaport, into the inland, or to foreign countries. For foreign letters it shall be regulated by Art. 5 and 6 of the Universal Postal Union agreement. If a foreign letter is to be

sent through an Imperial post office into the inland, to a place which is not included in the Universal Postal Union, the receiver has to pay the inland postage in addition. Likewise, for letters from an inland station to foreign countries, the sender has to prepay inland postage. The amount of this inland postage is to be determined and collected by the private post office establishments.

“For transmission from one treaty port to another the following scale shall apply :—

Post cards	- - - -	1 c.
Letters up to ½ Chinese oz. (Tael)	- - - -	2 c.
” ” ½ oz.	- - - -	4 c.
” ” 1 oz.	- - - -	8 c.
and upwards on the same scale.		
Newspapers, Chinese	- - - -	1 c.
” European	- - - -	2 c.
Samples and Printed Matter, per 2 oz.	- - - -	2 c.

“For registered letters an additional impost is collected. A receipt is to be given therefor. For foreign letters, the regulations contained in Art. 5-7 of the Universal Postal Union agreement are to govern. For a return receipt in addition to the cost of registration, double the impost is to be paid.

“All private postal establishments are compelled to inform the nearest post office of their rates, in order that they may be made public.

“For the prepayment of foreign letters, and letters addressed to treaty ports, special stamps shall be printed, which are to be pasted on the letters. These stamps shall be sold at the post offices, and at such stores as may be designated by them. Counterfeiting of these stamps will be punished in the same way as the counterfeiting of bank notes.

Shipments of Money,

“The post office undertakes also the transmission of money from one Postal Union office to another, but only in sums not exceeding 100 Taels. The sender receives a receipt for his shipment.

Transmission of Packets.

“Later on, as soon as the postal service has been further developed, it will also, as in Europe, transmit packets. The regulations governing the weight of the packets, their bulk, and the charges will be determined later on.

Post Offices and Private Postal Establishments.

“If a private postal establishment desires to forward letters by steamer, *via* an open port, it must send them in a closed bag to the Imperial Post Office in that port, which shall attend to the transmission, but in no case shall they be sent direct to the steamer. For this service it has to pay the regular rates of postage for intermediate ports. The Imperial Post Office is to receive a receipt from the private postal establishment to which the mail bag is addressed.

“If private postal establishments desire to be admitted into the Universal Postal Union, they will have to be registered in an Imperial Post Office, and will have to obtain a certificate, which, however, will be issued free of charge. If, later on, they desire to sever their connection with the Union, the certificate must be returned for cancellation.

Penalties.

“Post Office officials, who open letters or packets

and violate the secrecy of the mails, shall not only be disciplined, but shall be punished according to the laws of their respective states.

“Only registration offices are permitted to forward letters within the circuit of the Imperial Post Office. Whoever forwards letters unauthorized shall be subjected to a punishment of 50 Taels for every piece of mail matter so forwarded.

“Steamship companies, captains, sailors, and passengers on steamers plying between the treaty ports shall be prohibited from carrying letters which should properly be carried by the post. Every infringement of this law shall be punished by a fine of 500 Taels. Open private papers, letters of recommendation, business and ships letters are not included under this head.

Accounting.

“All post offices are to furnish a monthly account of receipts and disbursements to the director of the Bureau of Statistics in Shanghai, who, in turn, shall periodically send tabulated accounts to the General Inspector of Customs, who shall present them to the Tsungli Yamen.

Records.

“All in and outgoing mail matter is to be entered in the register. The blanks therefore are to be patterned according to Art. 4 and 17, and to Paragraphs 23 and 24 of the special regulations.

Overland Post in Winter.

“On account of the freezing over of the Rivers in Northern China, the mail shall, in Winter, be forwarded overland from Tschingkiang to Tschifu, Tientsin, Peking and Niutschuang. The post offices concerned in this service shall publish all further regulations in regard to it.

Letters from and to Foreign Countries.

“The transmission of letters to a country belonging to the Universal Postal Union, after China shall have entered the Union, shall be in accordance with its rules.

“Letters from foreign countries must be delivered direct to the addressee by an Imperial Post Office; they shall not be permitted to use any intermediate service. Only, in case such letters are sent *via* Shanghai, to a place not included in the Postal Union, they will have to be sent by the Shanghai Post Office to a registered private postal establishment for further transmission. The latter shall collect the inland postage from the recipient in accordance with its own schedule rates.

“If an Imperial Post Office has no direct steam connection, it shall send the letters for further transmission to a post office with such connection. The charges for such service shall be in accordance with the rates of the Postal Union.”

To be continued.

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of China is probably the finest in the world.

Great Britain

Notes on Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I.

By H. S. HODSON.

PART I. of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue made its appearance on January 28th as had previously been promised, and doubtless many stamp dealers will by this time have re-arranged their stock-books and priced their stamps according to the new Catalogue.

It is extraordinary what an immense influence this one firm of stamp dealers exercises over the Market. From the first their Catalogue has been almost universally accepted as the standard Catalogue, and although there are now other Catalogues of perhaps equal merit as regards arrangement and classification, which are equally well got up, and are obtainable at a price at which no one can cavil, yet where prices are concerned Gibbons' *Rise and Fall* rules the market.

Owing to business reasons Part II. was the first to be published, and some considerable time elapsed before Part I. made its appearance, which delay has been responsible for a certain amount of stagnation in stamp circles.

As an illustration of this I may say that about a fortnight before the publication of Part I.—in response to my enquiries for English stamps—a prominent London dealer replied that he could not sell me anything until Gibbons' Part I. was out!

With regard to the stamps of Great Britain the new Catalogue contains practically nothing that comes as a surprise to those who keep themselves acquainted with the state of the market.

The increasing scarcity of used British stamps in really fine condition has resulted in an almost universal upward tendency in this year's prices, but this upward tendency is perhaps more apparent than real, for a note in the Introduction states that "Catalogue prices are for stamps in *fine* condition," whereas formerly, I believe, Catalogue prices were supposed to represent copies in *average* condition.

If Gibbons can supply really fine copies at the prices quoted, their charges are, on the whole, most reasonable, and form a startling contrast to the extravagant prices charged by them for fine copies in their stock-books which they re-made early last year, when—to take one or two typical examples—fine copies of the 4d. Small Garter were priced at 15s.; 4d. Medium Garter on blue, 17s. 6d.; 4d. Large Garter (1857), 1s. 6d., etc., etc. On the whole it seems a pity that the publishers of this Catalogue do not adopt the 3-column system for British stamps, which Messrs. Bright and Son have adhered to for many years past.

Unused stamps on the other hand (with the exception of the line-engraved issues), show on the whole a downward tendency.

To turn now to individual instances which call for

comment, a substantial fall in the price of the 1d. intense black, mint (early impression), from 40s. to 25s., will not come as a surprise to those who have followed the auctions during the past season, but as the price of ordinary impressions is also 25s. it might be inferred that these two varieties are of equal scarcity.

This, however, is clearly not the case. Many of the so-called "early impressions" are nothing of the kind; a stamp may be "intense black" and yet be a worn plate, and conversely a "grey-black" stamp may be an "early impression," for the ink used varied in consistency from very thick to very thin, and this is one of the main factors in determining the colour of the impression. The safest test in distinguishing an early impression is to note the shading of the face, and in particular of the eye-ball, for this was the first to give indications of wear.

Used early impressions of the 1d. black have risen from 8d. to 1s., and ordinary impressions from 6d. to 8d., an advance which has doubtless been necessitated owing to the enormous demand for this stamp by wealthy collectors in all parts of the world who are engaged in plating this variety.

Unused copies of the 1d. red imperf. have hitherto been priced very cheaply, and very few dealers could have been found who would have cared to part with them at Gibbons' prices.

In the present Catalogue the commonest variety is valued at 2s. 6d., and worn plates have advanced from 12s. 6d. to 15s. unused.

The 2d. pale-blue of the same issue has been advanced 3d. used, and there is no doubt that this shade is the scarcest of the three listed.

A note appears under the 1841 issue that "varieties are known with inverted letters in the left-lower corners"; the letter "s" may be found inverted in *both* of the lower corners on certain stamps from plates 78 and 105; also this same letter may be found inverted on two plates of the 1d. stamp 1864 issue, on at least one plate of the ½d. red, and in the 1s. green (small letters), facts which Gibbons omit to mention.

We note that the publishers still adhere to their omission of the 1d. red imperf., lettered B only in error for B.A. (plate 77). Surely if the well-known errors of lettering in the 1½d. (plate 1) and 2½d. (plate 2) are worthy of inclusion, a place should also have been found for this variety.

The old note to the effect that stamps perforated by Archer can only be identified if dated prior to January 28th, 1854, has been slightly modified; but a reference to the *Philatelic Record* for November 1906, should make it clear that any such note is quite unnecessary.

Turning to the 1854 issue, we note that the 2d. deep-blue is now quoted at 2s., whilst the pale-blue shade still remains at 1s. 6d.; however, anyone who has examined large quantities of these stamps can hardly have failed to come to the conclusion that it is the *pale* shade which is the rarer.

1d. red-brown L.C. 16 on blue has been advanced from 5s. to 6s. 6d. used, whilst the same variety on white paper has dropped from 80s. to 60s. unused, and from 1s. 6d. to 1s. used--a decrease which is very justifiable--but it is unlikely that this variety will ever reach a much lower level.

The 2d. blue L.C. 16 (plates 5 and 6) used are still priced at 17s. 6d. and 12s. respectively, but I am inclined to think that Bright is nearer the mark in pricing plate 5 at 12s. and plate 6 at 15s.

Both plates 5 and 6 of the same stamp perforated 14 are priced at 40s. unused and 4d. used, but here again plate 6 is the rarer, and 4d. is cheap for a fine copy of plate 6 used.

An important innovation in the new Catalogue lies in the removal of the plate numbers from their position after the general issues and including them under their particular issues (an arrangement which has been copied from Bright's Catalogue). To one who has been accustomed to the old plan this arrangement is somewhat confusing, and one which I hope will be discontinued in future editions.

The 1d. plate numbers, both unused and used, probably touched bottom prices in the last edition of the Catalogue, and many of them now show a slight rise; but while it is unlikely that any except plate 225 (now catalogued 15s. in place of 12s. 6d.) will ever become rare in used condition, there is a fair prospect of considerable increase in the value of unused before so very long; and the same remark applies to the 2d. plate numbers.

Of these latter plate 8 is a cheap stamp at 1d. used.

Plate 9 of the ½d. red has dropped to 4s. 6d. used, and I should not be surprised to see it at even a lower figure in future editions.

The Octagonal issues show a marked increase used, and are worth every penny of their Catalogue price in fine condition.

The 10d. Octagonal die I, without number, is a great bargain at 20s. used.

Why do not Gibbons list the 1s. Octagonal, very pale-green on very thin paper, a scarce and well-defined variety?

The early 4d. stamps show an upward tendency in the used state and a downward tendency unused. The 4d. deep-carmine and pale-carmine Small Garter are both priced at 7s. 6d. used, but the former is twice as rare as the latter.

At least three genuine copies of the 4d. Large Garter on *blued* paper are known (one in the Breitfuss Collection). Why is it then that this variety, as well as that of the 6d. lilac of 1856 on blued paper, is not listed?

The 9d. small letters (1862) is now priced at 10s. used in place of 8s. 6d., and is likely (in common with all the 9d. values) to become a rare stamp in the future.

The 9d. plate 4, wmk. emblems, fully deserves the

advance from 20s. to 25s. to which it has been subjected. Really fine copies of this stamp are incredibly scarce, and I can safely predict a further advance in its price within the next few years.

The 3d. plate 4, wmk. spray (1867), is difficult to obtain in fine condition, and 1s. 6d. seems very little for this stamp.

The 6d. plate 12, pale-buff (unpriced last year), is likewise exceedingly hard to get in fine condition, and should be worth the figure at which it now stands, viz., 7s. 6d.

The Catalogue price of nearly all the obsolete stamps of high-face value has risen sharply, and it looks as if many of these will stand at a very much higher figure in a few years time.

The date of 4d. brown, plate 17, wmk. crown, is still given as January 1st, 1881, notwithstanding the fact that copies are known dated as early as December 22nd, 1880.

The 10s. cobalt-blue is priced in used condition for the first time in many years, and 10s. seems very little for this shade.

With the exception of the £1 stamp (which still stands at 10s.) all the high-values of the 1902-4 issue are cheaper than last year, and it is unlikely that they will ever be quoted at a very much lower figure than they are at present, as owing to the reduction in the postal rates to countries within the Postal Union, there should not be nearly so great a demand for stamps of high-face value in the future.

As regards the Officials, the 2½d. lilac I.R. has fallen from 35s. to 15s., but on the whole, although prices are mainly on the downward grade, there is nothing very startling to record.

Officials are in rather a bad way just now, as owing to the skilful manner in which the various overprints have been counterfeited, dealers and others are rather fighting shy of them, and I should have expected that the effect of this would have been reflected upon the current prices more than appears to have been the case.

On the whole the pricing is very satisfactory, and we can well believe that it has been a matter of careful consideration.

The Postage Stamp

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 251)

Candareen.—The value shown upon most of the early stamps of Shanghai. It is a form of the word "Candarin" and has the same monetary value.

Candarin.—The value in which the stamps of China, issued prior to 1897, are expressed. A candarin is the hundredth part of a tael and is worth about $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in English money.

Canea.—(See "LA CANEA.")

Canton.—The capital of the province of Kwangtung, in the south-east of China. It is known to the natives as Kwang-chan-fu or Sheng-cheng. It was the first Chinese port opened to European trade and is now a flourishing town with nearly two million inhabitants. It is a town of great antiquity, for it dates back to the 8th century B.C., when it was known as Yang-cheng (city of rama). The East India Company following in the wake of Portuguese, Spanish and Dutch traders visited it in 1684, and soon afterwards established a factory which lasted until 1804. In 1842, by the treaty of Nanking, Canton was formally declared to be one of the five ports open to foreign trade. Canton was attacked by the British in 1841 and in 1856. On the first occasion it was ransomed, and on the second the forts were taken and the walls breached. In consequence of non-compliance with the terms of treaty the city was attacked by Franco-English forces in 1857 and occupied until 1861. The French Government has long maintained a consular office at this port, and in 1901 the French stamps surcharged "Chine," which had hitherto been used there, were replaced by Indo-China stamps overprinted with "CANTON" and two Chinese characters representing the name of the port.

Cantonal Stamps.—Prior to the introduction of postage stamps for general use throughout Switzerland the cantons of Zurich and Geneva and the town of Bâle (Basle) issued stamps for local, or cantonal, purposes under the authority of their respective councils. These are usually known as "cantonal stamps" to philatelists to distinguish them from the Federal issues which appeared in 1850.

Cantonal Tax.—An inscription appearing upon the 6 rappen stamp of Zurich, Switzerland, issued under the authority of the cantonal government. The word "taxe," of course, means "tax," but in this case it may be rendered as "postage to be paid."

Cape of Good Hope.—An extensive British colony comprising the southern portion of the continent of Africa. It has an area of 276,995 square miles and a

total population of about 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ millions, of whom only 600,000 are whites. The native population may be divided into Bushmen (the earliest aboriginal race, now nearly extinct); the Hottentots, which inhabit the western provinces; and the great Bantu race, usually known as Kaffirs. The colony was first discovered in 1486 by Bartholomew Diaz, the commander of one of the many expeditions sent out by successive Kings of Portugal to discover an ocean route to India. Diaz merely doubled the Cape and returned home. In 1497 another navigator, Vasco da Gama, not only doubled the Cape, but landed in what is now known as Natal and successfully accomplished the journey to India. The Portuguese, however, did not make any permanent settlement at the Cape, although it was used by their vessels, and subsequently by those of England and Holland, as a place of call on the voyage to and from the East Indies. In 1652 the Dutch East India Company took possession of the shores of Table Bay and the adjacent lands in order to be always ready with supplies for their passing ships. Until 1796 the Dutch were predominant, but in that year the Cape was captured by a British force. In 1803 it was restored to the Batavian government only to be again occupied by a British force three years later. Finally, at the general peace of 1814, it was ceded in perpetuity to the British Crown, as an equivalent for the £8,000,000 advanced by the British government for the defence of the Low Countries in the Napoleonic wars. Cape Colony is under "responsible" government of the kind which prevails in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Postage stamps were first issued on September 1st, 1853.

Cape Verd Islands.—A group of small islands belonging to Portugal lying about 320 miles west of Cape Verd on the west coast of Africa. The group consists of St. Antonio, St. Nicolas, Fogo, Santiago, Boavista, Sal and several small islands, having a total population of about 150,000 and an area of 1,490 square miles. The islands are of volcanic formation and they are separated from one another by deep passages. They were discovered by Cadamosto in 1456, and colonised by Prince Ferdinand, to whom they were granted in 1582. The capital is St. Vincent. Postage stamps were first issued in 1877.

Cardiff penny.—The name given to imperforate copies of the old 1d. red stamps of Great Britain, with letters in all four corners, printed from plate 116, which were issued in this condition in error in Cardiff on 22nd January, 1870.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning the New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Siam. We quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (1.2.08):—

"A correspondent writes us as follows from Bangkok, under date of 6.12.07:—'The 10 ticals stamps are entirely sold out at the Post Office. There will be another 1000 revenue stamps of the same kind surcharged in a few days and if possible the surcharge will be the same as on the first lot, but as the original plate has been destroyed, this may be difficult. There are still several hundreds of the 20 and 40 ticals in stock.'

With regard to the 1 att provisional chronicled last week, our correspondent says:—'Before the provisional 1 on 24 atts were printed the postmaster here was compelled to deliver local printed matter without stamps for several days.' He wrote the remark '1 att stamps run short, postage paid' on the envelopes. On 14 and 15.12.07 he also used a stamp made of printer's type, with the same text, for this purpose. Do you think there will be any interest taken in these by collectors? A certain gentleman posted 1200 envelopes addressed to himself and sent them to England, as I am told. He hopes to make a fortune out of them.

'New stamps of 9 and 18 atts will arrive shortly.'

The two new values, just mentioned, are the outcome of the reduction of the Postal Union rate for letters (now 2½d. the first ounce and 1½d. per additional ounce instead of 2½d. per half-ounce). Nine atts is the equivalent of 1½d., while 14 atts represent 2½d. In future, the rate, instead of being 14 atts+14, 28, 42, etc., will be 14 atts+9, 18, 27, etc. The new 18 atts (3d.) stamp will also be useful as a multiple of 1d., the rate to England.'

And Mr. Norman Prentice writes to *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly*, under date of 20 December, 1907, as follows:—

"Doubtless you have correspondents in Bangkok who have informed you ere this of the recent 'famine' in 1 att stamps.

"For four or five days none were obtainable, and the Post Office, to meet the demand, appointed two officials to stamp any covers brought in for postage and to sign the same. The officials appointed were Nai Fack, the superintendent of Post Office No. 2, and the superintendent of No. 1 Office, whose name I will inform you of later.

"Nai Fack signed 'Fack,' and the other official merely the letter 'R.'

"I have not yet been able to discover how many covers were so stamped and signed, but I am of the opinion that there were not more than, say, 2000, and most of these, I fancy, were thrown aside into the waste-paper basket.

"I may tell you that it is quite impossible to have envelopes stamped to order in such a case as this recently. Every one of mine went through the post in the usual way, and contained a circular.

"The surcharged stamp to meet the demand for

the shortage in 1 att stamps is now out (1 att on 24 atts), but it cannot be bought in any quantity even at the Post Office.

"Yesterday I heard that only thirty ticals' worth were left, and I sent up to buy the lot. My money was returned. The Post Office will stamp the cover for you if it is a *bona-fide* case, but they refuse to allow the vagaries of collectors to further inconvenience them.

"The Postal authorities have never been responsible for the surcharges of Siam. The ordering of stamps is in the hands of the Treasury, and they have time and again proved themselves careless and inefficient."

Gibbons adds:—

"The covers referred to by our correspondent are certain envelopes showing three varieties of the indication that postage has been paid. In the top right-hand corner of the envelope the following words are to be found: 'ONE ATT STAMPS RUN SHORT. POSTAGE PAID.' This inscription is found (i.) printed in black ink, done with a handstamp; (ii.) written by hand in black or red ink. It is accompanied by the signature 'Fack' or 'R' in black or red ink. We have not yet seen 'R' in conjunction with a printed inscription.

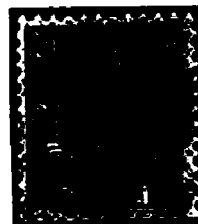
"These things are extremely interesting, but we cannot catalogue them as they are certainly not postage stamps."

Switzerland (169). Since our last chronicle of the new series other values have been issued, viz. :— 2c. of the cross bar type and 12c. and 15c. of the Helvetia type.

No unmk. Perf. 11½.



2 c. yellow.
3 c. brown.
5 c. green.



10 c. rose.
12 c. blue.
15 c. mauve.

From Other Magazines

Depreciated Roumanian Rubbish.

WE are not sorry to learn from *L'Echo de la T.* that the issue of the new set of stamps, which we listed in November last, has been postponed, and is not likely to take place just at present. We gather from other sources that the Roumanian authorities are fully occupied in selling off superfluous stocks of their Charitable, Commemorative, and Jubilee rubbish, vast remainders of which have been left on hand and have been offered for sale to any one who would give anything like a reasonable price for them. According to *The Ph. J. of G. B.* 400,000 sets of the Charity labels of 1907, Nos. 567 to 570 in our publishers' Catalogue, were sold for a comparatively small sum, but probably more than they are worth, while bids that were considered even more inadequate were made for some of the other stuff. Let us hope that the result may be a useful lesson to Roumania and other countries which endeavour to exploit collectors of stamps, and that collectors themselves may be led to understand that they are picking their own pockets by encouraging the issue of these worthless bits of paper.—*The Monthly Journal*, Jan. '08.

Roumanian Watermarks.

A correspondent tells us that he has found a third variety of the "P R" watermark intermediate in size between those illustrated in the Catalogue, but he has only been able to show us a used specimen of a stamp in which it exists, and we cannot see it sufficiently clearly for identification. He describes the three varieties as follows:—

1. Type 15, broad *sans-serif* letters, 11½ mm. high.
2. New type, letters 13 mm. high, almost as broad as the first, but with *serifs*.
3. Type 22, narrower letters, 15 mm. high, and with *serifs*.

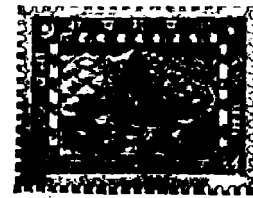
The question is, whether it is possible that 2 and 3 can be extreme variations of the same form. We have before us two small blocks of unused stamps, one with the earlier watermark and the other with the later; the letters seem to be uniform in size throughout each block, and according to our measurement the shorter pair are only just 11 mm. high, and the taller are none of them more than 14 mm. (between types 2 and 3 as described above). A more curious thing is that the short letters, when closely examined, turn out to be not entirely *sans-serif*, but have short *serifs* not always very distinct. We still want further evidence as to a third variety, that can be clearly distinguished from both of the others.—*The Monthly Journal*, Jan. '08

Current Southern Nigeria.

The temporary withdrawal from sale of the stamps of this colony, to allow of the exhaustion of the stamps of Lagos, has caused a certain amount of confusion in the chronicles, which it might be well

to clear up. The ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and £1, with multiple watermark, were listed between August, 1904, and May, 1905; we believe they were all on unsurfaced paper, and had all reached the colony at that time. It would be of interest to ascertain what further supplies on unsurfaced paper have since been sent out, as the climate is said to have a very deleterious effect upon some of the colours employed, and varieties of shade may be due to that fact. The 1d. on chalk-surfaced paper was announced in November, 1905, the ½d., 4d., and 6d., in January, 1906. We saw the 2s. 6d. in the following May, and a foreign contemporary listed at the same date the 2d., 2½d., 1s., 2s., 5s., 10s., and £1, on the same paper, and it is probable that "specimen" copies of these had been seen in Europe. Whether supplies of all were in stock in the colony, or not, we cannot tell, but a correspondent at Calabar assured us a few months later (see *M.J.*, September, 1906) that, of the values listed on the Continent, the £1 alone on chalky paper had been on sale out there. We have since seen none but the 1s. to be added to the earlier lists, while the 2s. and 10s. have not turned up upon either variety of paper with multiple watermark—in fact, we doubt the 2s. altogether: it was probably chronicled in mistake for 2s. 6d.—*The Monthly Journal*, Jan. '08

Nepal: Translation of Inscriptions.



We learn from *The Ph. J. of I.* that the translation of the inscriptions upon the new stamps, furnished to us by the printers and published in our September number, is not quite correct. The outer inscription was more correctly interpreted in August;

at the top is *Shri Pashpati*, the first word meaning *holy* or *god*, while the second is one of the names of the god Mahadeo; at the bottom is *Gurkha Sirkar* = *Gurkha Government*. The inner inscription means *Mother and Mother-country weigh more than Heaven*. These are the translations given by the British Resident in Nepal.—*The Monthly Journal*, Jan. '08.

Salvador and Seebeck.

Salvador, between 1867 and 1887, had two issues, the first one overprinted, and the second one (1879) showing varieties of the types; but there were only nineteen main varieties in all, averaging thus about one stamp per year. Since 1879 there have been over a thousand varieties listed, averaging nearly forty per annum, and consequently a nearly *fortyfold* increase over the issues of the first twenty years! No one outside a lunatic asylum could believe that there was any real necessity for these alarming quantities of stamps, and the Seebeck Company has been responsible for the larger part thereof.—*The London Philatelist*, Jan. '08.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

SOME British East Africans are going cheaply at Auction just now. The 1a. grey is catalogued at 30s., and pairs are fetching 12s. at Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Auctions. The ½a. on 3a. initialled "T.E.C.R." is catalogued at 17s. 6d. used, and pairs are being sold at the same Auctions at 9s.

There are also bargains in the 1895 issue on Company's stamps. The 2 annas, of which it was said at the time only 180 were printed, but which it is now believed should have been given as 1,800, is selling in pairs, used, at 20s. The single stamp is catalogued at 40s. The "2½" on 4½ a. of October, 1895, catalogued unused at 40s. is selling in mint horizontal pairs at 18s. the pair.

The explanation is that these stamps were the property of the late Postmaster of British East Africa, Mr. T. E. C. Remington. They have been a feature of several sales, and there is an uncertain feeling as to when this stock will be exhausted, for the cry is "still they come."

The prices of these rarities will be affected for some time, but I doubt if the effect will be very permanent.

Capital in Stamps.

Very few people can have any conception of the amount of capital which dealers have locked up in stamps in this country. In *The Monthly Journal* for January, 1908, Mr. C. J. Phillips gives a list of stock books of Stanley Gibbons which have been rearranged since the last list published in November, 1907.

This new list includes some 27 volumes of stock books, and totals up to close on £20,000. Six countries run into over £1,000 each. Transvaal tops the list with three volumes totalling up to £3,828, and New South Wales comes next with three volumes totalling up to £3,318.

And these are only a few items in the stock of one insignificant firm in the Strand, W.C.

Sale of Philatelic Books:

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold several philatelic books at their auction on the 15th January, 1908. The prices realised were as follows:—

Royal Society's India and Ceylon, Tasmania & North America	2	2	0
Do. India and Ceylon, Tasmania and Africa	2	17	6
Do. Oceania	0	16	0
Do. West Indies	0	18	0
Gibbons Handbook to Grenada, St. Vincent, Barbados and South Australia	0	13	0

Decidedly cheap lots. Evidently philatelic literature still goes very cheaply.

Great Britain 1840 1d. black V.R.

The 1d. black V.R., once regarded as a most desirable rarity, has topped badly since it was arbitrarily pitched out of the Gibbons Catalogue.

At the auctions in 1895 unused copies fetched as much as £14 14s. 0d., and even at that price were without gum.

But at Glendinning's auction on the 5th February, 1908, an unused copy brought only £6.

Specialised Portuguese India Sale.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper sold a very fine specialised collection of the stamps of Portuguese India on the 17th of January, 1908. It comprised over 200 lots. The chief items were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1871. 900 r. deep red violet - - -	8	0	0
1872. 40 r. blue, horizontal strip of 3, mint, including tête bêche variety - -	24	0	0
1873. 20 r. vermilion, mint- - -	4	12	6
1881. Provisional, 1½ on 20 r. vermilion of 1872, Gibbons' No. 109, with expert committee's report - - -	10	0	0
Do. do. Gibbons' No. 112, with surcharge inverted - - -	5	15	0
1883. Provisional, 4½ on 40 r. blue, Gibbons' No. 236 - - -	4	5	0
Do. 4½ on 100 r. yellow green, Gibbons' No. 237, defective - - -	5	0	0
Do., 6 on 100 r. green, Gibbons' No. 244, unused - - -	4	0	0

High Values unused at half face.

Strange as it may appear it is an actual fact that at the auctions just now unused £5 stamps of the issue of 1887-90 of the Transvaal are selling for less than half face value. In fact one copy fetched only £2 7s. 6d., and another £2 9s. 0d. at Puttick's sale on the 14th January, 1908. The same stamp over-printed V.R.I. brought only £4.

At the same sale the 2s. 6d. revenue stamp of the Transvaal, unused, with inverted centre, was sold for the small sum of 10s.

Bechuanaland curly footed "2."

There is a little variety in the British Bechuanaland issue of 1888, in 2d. lilac, with figure in red, in the shape of a curly footed "2," instead of a straight foot. This variety is well known to the specialist, and is much sought after. It is not catalogued. A couple copies turned up in Puttick's sale on the 14th January, 1908. A single used copy brought £2, but an unused pair with the normal type *se tenant* fell to a lucky purchaser for £1 10s. 0d.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C. THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

Our Subscription List.

We are anxious to work up a large subscription list at home and in the Colonies and Foreign countries.

To this end our Publishers receive subscriptions and post copies promptly and direct to each subscriber weekly.

I have also arranged with our excellent Printers to receive subscriptions direct and despatch copies immediately on publication. Therefore subscriptions may be addressed to Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

The rates of subscription are:—Yearly 6s. 6d., Half-yearly 3s. 3d., Quarterly 1s. 8d., all post free.

We shall greatly appreciate the kind help of our readers in getting us new subscribers, and hope the Tunbridge Wells list will be a large one as our Printers are taking the deepest interest in *The Postage Stamp*.

Cost of New Issue Service.

E. D. G. (Plumstead.) In reply to your question as to your limiting the cost of a new issue service subscription to the £10 a year you feel inclined to spend on it, I have got the following table from Mr. Peckitt as to how the actual cost works out; you can limit your subscription to stamps up to any value from 1s. upwards:—

Colonial stamps supplied in 1907, through Peckitt's New Issue Service, all varieties of watermark and perforation included, but not the variety of surfaced or unsurfaced paper:—

To	From	Period	£	s.	d.
To 1/-	From January to December inclusive	-	2	11	1
To 2/6	" " " "	"	3	15	8
To 5/-	" " " "	"	5	17	9
To 10/-	" " " "	"	9	0	2
To £1	" " " "	"	12	12	8

That is to say, if you limit your new issue service subscription, as you are at liberty to do, to all values up to and including the shilling, the average cost per year for Colonials works out at £2 11s. 1d., for 1907 may be taken as a fairly representative year. Limited to 2s. 6d. it runs into an annual expenditure of £3 15s. 8d., and so on at higher rates for extensions to include the highest values. So that you will see a £10 limit will give you a new issue service limited to all values up to 10s.

H. P. L. (Camberley.) The Transvaal 6d. of the first Republic type with defective "6" in the right hand top corner is a very scarce minor variety, well known to Transvaal specialists as the "barred out 6." So far it is only known on the stamps of the British occupation surcharged all capitals, and I am inclined

to think that it must be due to damage which the plate received during the last few of those printings, for it is exceedingly scarce. You will have had my opinion as to the *Truth* assertion about the Cayman Islands provisionals in the last number of *The Postage Stamp*. *Truth* may be right, but I have seen no evidence in support of what I regard as a premature condemnation. The main consideration, however, is the fact that public attention is being called to the scandalous and wholesale manufacture of bogus issues. Whether the Cayman Islands Provisionals are a case in point is a small matter.

J. C. S. (Brighton). The two types of "G" in the "one farthing" surcharge on the 1s. stamp of Bermuda are very distinct but not easy to describe without an illustration. In the ordinary type that part of the "G" which distinguishes it from a "C" forms a sharp clear angle with a strong vertical stem. In the variety the "G" is distinguished from a "C" by a rounded finish instead of being square angled. Gibbons sells the two *se tennant* for a few pence.

F. R. W. (West Bromwich). I could not possibly spare the time to take any part whatever in the formation of an Exchange Club for readers of *The Postage Stamp*, and as there are so many excellent clubs already in existence, several of which offer in our advertising pages to find room for our readers, there is fortunately no urgent necessity for the formation of a new club, though I have no desire to discourage any good intentions in that direction.

H. H. P. (Redditch). Your Morocco Agencies varieties seem to me merely defective impressions or slightly broken letters, certainly not of catalogue rank, or entitling them to any extra value as minor varieties. As the Morocco Agencies are printed and perforated by De la Rue & Co. whose perforation for all their stamps is uniformly 14, you must be mistaken in saying yours measures 14 x 13. In cases of doubt or variation from known perfs. the only safe measurement is to count the perfs.

B. J. M. (Poulton-le-Fylde.) I do not know of any issued Guatemala postage stamp answering your description. Scott's American catalogue does not give any such stamps as you mention for Wells, Fargo & Co. The value of the British Guianas of 1860 depend on the perf. and paper, which you do not give. "Petimusque" with an initial R instead of P is a well-known minor variety; it is not regarded as a distinct error but as a defective letter. Thanks for your suggestion about stamp auction prices.

M. R. (Bristol). For preference take a neglected country, such for instance as Sudan.

Philatelic Society Meetings

The Irish Philatelic Club.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Your advice to "C.E.H. (Dublin)" on page 243 of current number of *The Postage Stamp*.

This Club, particulars of which are enclosed, has been for years and is at present in a sound condition both as regards membership and finances—it meets fortnightly from October to May and issues Monthly Exchange Packets to about 30 of its members during the session. I would mention the difficulty in this section is getting contributions of British and Colonial stamps at moderate prices in FINE condition—the varieties of watermark and perforations of the passing Australian issues are procured specially through a dealer in New Zealand.

The *Irish Philatelic* works along quietly, but its members are familiar with the advantages of London Auctions—have a Library for reference—and are even so up-to-date as to read *The Postage Stamp*.

Yours truly,

THOS. H. LEVINGSTON, *Hon. Sec.*

1st Feb., 1908.

Junior Philatelic Society.

The sixth ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, Jan. 4th, at 3, Bedford Street, Strand. Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge conducted a very successful auction in the earlier part of the evening. Mr. Melville, who had to leave the meeting early, spoke of the work yet to be done in connection with the forthcoming Exhibition; he said that the Committee were working hard in arranging it, and asked the members to assist them as far as laid in their power in making the Exhibition known to all their friends; he also asked for volunteers for the office of stewards during the Exhibition.

In the absence of the President, Mr. Douglas Ellis, Vice-President of the Society, occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. A. Rosenthal, Trice, T. L. Grimes and W. H. Tarrant were unanimously elected members of the Society. A donation to the Library was acknowledged from Mr. Giles, and to the Forgery Collection from Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge.

Mr. H. L. Giles next gave us two papers and displays of the stamps of New South Wales and Victoria. Both the displays were exceptionally fine, that of New South Wales containing a large number of the very interesting Sydney views. Mr. Giles in his papers explained fully the various issues besides giving particulars of the errors and minor varieties that exist in the stamps of these countries. At the close a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Giles for his very interesting papers and displays, was proposed by Mr. Douglas Ellis, seconded by Mr. Gibson, and carried with acclamation.

Next on the programme came a paper from Mr. W. E. Imeson, which, in the absence of the writer, was read by Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge. It was entitled "A Stamp Paper in Verse," otherwise "Stamp Verse on Paper," and caused good deal of laughter by its humorous remarks on the Exhibition and other topical philatelic subjects. At its close a vote of thanks to Mr. Imeson for his very amusing paper, and to Mr. Gilbert-Lodge for his kindness in reading it, was proposed by Mr. H. F. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Gibson and carried with acclamation.

The seventh ordinary meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, Jan. 18, 1908, at 3, Bedford Street, Strand. The President

took the chair at 8 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected Members of the Society: Messrs. S. Chas. Graham, Thomas St. Lawrence Stephenson, Theo. Voigt, John Murray, William Everard, Edgar Nelson, and Dr. F. R. Greenish, J.P.

Mr. F. J. Melville said that the Exhibition Committee finding a little relaxation from their arduous duties necessary, had formed themselves into a team and now challenged the Members of the Society to a Football Match on Saturday, February 15th; any Member desiring to play should communicate with Mr. Gilbert-Lodge or any Member of the Exhibition Committee. Mr. Melville again drew the attention of the Members to the subject of Exhibits at the forthcoming Exhibition, there is still a large number of Colonies which have not yet been promised, and Members are urged to send in their promises at once.

Mr. C. B. Purdon next gave us a paper entitled "The Perfect Philatelist," the original and humorous nature of which caused a good deal of interest and amusement. Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Purdon, Mr. Patman seconded and it was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. T. W. Hall next gave us a display of the Stamps of Uruguay, which were greatly admired by all present. The collection contained a very large number of the extremely interesting Delegencia issue and the early square types, besides these the later issues printed by Messrs. Waterlow created a good deal of interest by their brilliant colours and beautiful designs. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall for his kindness in coming and giving us such a splendid display. Mr. A. J. Seft seconded this vote of thanks and it was carried with acclamation.

The following donations have been received towards the Exhibition Expenses Fund:

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	...	24	6
E. A. Beaumont, Esq. ...	...	0	10
— Bench ...	...	0	10
G. L. Harte Lovelace ...	...	0	5
		£25	11
		6	

Further donations to this fund are solicited and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by Mr. H. F. Johnson, Stamp Exhibition Offices, 44, Fleet Street, E.C.

South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society.

The 19th meeting of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society was held at the Y.M.C.A. on the 29th January, having been postponed from the 27th inst.

There was a large number of Members and friends present including the Brazilian Consul for Cardiff, and for the first time some ladies graced the meeting with their presence.

Mr. G. E. Petty read a splendid paper on the Stamps of the United States of Brazil, and displayed his fine collection of all issues from the first to the last. Among the first issues were magnificent copies of the various blacks with numerous shades, and in his address he stated that the 30, 60, and 90 Reis were the finest engraved stamps in the world.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. G. E. Petty for his paper and display of stamps by the President, Alderman W. J. Trounce, and seconded by Mr. Victor Brukevitch and carried with cheers.

Two new Members were elected, and Mr.

E. Page, of Newport, Mon., gave a further donation of British Stamps including a complete set of the Penny Red Plate numbers with the exception of 3 Nos. 219, 221, and 224 for the Society's Collection.

The Society's Exhibition will be held in the Cardiff Museum from the 17th to the 22nd February inclusive.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The fourth meeting of the session was held at 4, Southampton Row, W.C., on Tuesday, January 21st, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. A. Boyes, R. Frenzel, A. H. L. Giles, L. E. Bradbury, W. T. Standen, W. Simpson, F. J. Peplow, F. J. Melville, S. Chapman, H. Wills, J. E. Lincoln, P. Ahley, C. H. Garnett, D. Thomson, A. B. Kay, W. Hadlow, J. E. Booth, W. A. Gunner, Erland A. Clark, P. L. Pemberton, Frank Phillips E. Bounds, C. Nissen, W. Jacoby, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and four visitors.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Dec. 17th, 1907, were read and signed as correct.

The election of Mr. W. A. Gunner as a Life Member, and of Mr. G. Hardy as an Ordinary Member was duly confirmed.

The receipt of New Year's wishes from the Swedish Philatelic Society was notified with pleasure and cordially reciprocated, and duly entered on the Minutes.

It was proposed and carried:—

That the Society do form a Collection of Entires and Adhesives on originals, and Mr. R. Frenzel be appointed Curator of the said Collection, and Dr. E. Webster's offer of his collection of Entires be accepted by the Society, with a due acknowledgment of thanks.

Donations to the Ordinary and Forgery Collections were received from the Vice-President and Mr. Frank Neck, and acknowledged with thanks.

The Hon. Librarian gave notice of several donations to the Library, among which may be mentioned "Les Timbres de Brême," by Georges Brunel, and "The Forgeries of the Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland, by A. de Reuterskiöld, and "South African Provisional War Stamps," by B. W. H. Poole, presented by the President, and "Postage Stamps and their Collection," by Warren H. Colson, Vol. I., presented by the Author.

At the conclusion of business the Chairman stated that he had to inform the meeting, with much regret, that Mr. Chas. J. Phillips had that day been prostrated with influenza and confined to his bed. Consequently he could not attend the meeting, but had deputed his son, Mr. Frank Phillips, to exhibit his collection of Forgeries, Reprints, &c., and to read the paper which he had compiled on the subject. He was sure the Members would join with him in expressing their condolence to Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, with wishes for his speedy recovery.

The Vice-President proposed, and Mr. W. G. Cool seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Chas. J. Phillips for the instructive paper he had compiled for the benefit of the Society and for the interesting display of his collection, and to his son Mr. Frank Phillips for the kindness in taking his father's place. The vote of thanks was passed with acclamation and suitably responded to by Mr. Frank Phillips in the name of his father.

After a few further remarks by the Chairman, a very successful meeting was brought to a close at 8.20 p.m.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 21. Vol. 1.

22 FEBRUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Ewen on Gibbons.



MR. EWEN in his Weekly Stamp News (8.2.08) gives us four full columns of the most interesting criticism and comment with the new Gibbons Catalogue, Part I, as a text that I have read for many a day.

Starting with the early days of our hobby when Moens, in one of his earliest

stamp albums, published probably about 1860, recommended collectors to "cut the perforations off and gum the stamps down," he traces the development of the Gibbons Catalogue in the listing of varieties, and asks whither we are drifting.

The Simple Philatelic Life.

In the future shall we have a continued development in a specialist direction "or," asks Mr. Ewen, "are we on the eve of a reaction that will carry us back to the 'Simple Life,' sweeping away perforations, watermarks, surcharges and multitude of other distinctions with which the modern catalogue is encumbered?"

Well I vote for both the Specialist Life and the Simple Life, for, happily, we are not all of the same philatelic temperament. Some prefer the profound study of specialist varieties, others prefer to confine themselves to the A.B.C. of collecting, and to my mind it is futile hazarding speculations as to limitations in either direction. We shall all do as we please, and the dealer will have to arrange his stock and his catalogue accordingly.

Specialist Exhaustion.

But says Mr. Ewen "Is it not a rather startling and disheartening fact that as soon as a catalogue of a country attains to a high state of excellence, the

demand for that country's stamps begins to fall off?"

Just so. Of course you can have too much of a good thing, as the cat said when she tumbled into a pail of milk. But there is no reason why we should not be moderate in our specialism.

When collectors and dealers realise the fact noted by Mr. Ewen that specialism gone mad on broken letters and other cripples de-popularises the stamps of a country they will drop the game.

Difficult Countries.

Give a dog a bad name and the end is assured. So it is with even the most popular country overloaded with petty minor varieties. Some day this fact, which is passing into a philatelic truism, will be recognised, even in our Gibbons. Minor varieties are all very well for the extreme specialist and there is no reason why he should not go the whole hog, but it is quite another matter to overload a catalogue which appeals, or rather should appeal to the many and not to the few extremists. The explanation of the whole matter lies in two facts, (1) the extreme specialist is the authority on the country of his choice to whom the catalogue publisher defers, and (2) the catalogue publisher being also a dealer welcomes the addition of varieties which may be sold at special and mostly arbitrary prices.

The Quest for Minor Varieties.

I see no reason why the specialist should not pursue his Quest for Minor Varieties to the world's end. In that quest he has generally some definite object in view, some test for the make up of a sheet, or the detection of forgery, but he should not be a party to the practice of overloading the catalogue for the ordinary man.

Speculation in Stamps.

Commenting on what has been termed the wild speculation in New Issues, Mr. Ewen says: "If one wants to trace 'speculation' in stamps, go to the exhibitions and look at the hundreds of such stamps as Cape Triangulars, Pence Ceylon, Sydney Views, often gathered together in a single collection. They are much commoner than many 'King Singles.'"

That is carrying the war into the territory of the

Great Moguls, and only shows that "we are none of us without sin." In fact Codlin's opinion of Short is a very poor one, and *vice versa*.

New Zealand: Recent Perforations.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write to me as follows:—

"A correspondent in New Zealand has sent us a few ½d. stamps with the following remarks:—"I enclose some new ½d. stamps, perf. 13½ vertically and 14 horizontally, just issued this month. These are perforated with a new comb machine. Last October (1906) the 1d. universal and ½d. green were issued for a month perf. 14½ vertical and 14 horizontal with another comb machine, which was discarded for a while, and I think it will be brought into use again. I do not think the present ½d., the ones I am sending you are perf. by the same machine."

This is very interesting, but not very conclusive: a machine which perfs. 13½ × 14 could hardly also perf. 14½ × by 14.

C. C. Paper, Large Watermarks.—An Enigma.

Here is an Enigma propounded for solution by Mr. C. R. Rogers in "The Monthly Report" of the Herts Society:—

"I daresay many members will have noticed that a new mult. C.A. paper has appeared. It is much thicker than the ordinary paper, and is, no doubt, intended for the larger-sized stamps. I believe its first appearance was under the Barbados Tercentenary issue, and now appears under the Barbados Nelson Stamps.

"The watermark seems to be more deeply impressed into the paper and can be seen as an indentation without holding the stamp to the light. It would be interesting to know whether this has been made with a special dandy roll with thicker wires, or whether the peculiarity is due to the greater quantity of pulp used.

"But here comes the enigma: certain stamps as used on the last of the stock of C.C. paper are also on a thicker variety; as this stock is said to be very many years old—was it so long ago decided to print the larger-sized stamps on stouter material? And if so, why has not the C.A. paper for the long stamps such as the 5s. Trinidad been made of the stouter variety? Perhaps the latter also has been long in stock.

"It is interesting to note that while the thinner varieties of C.C. paper are liable to blueing, the thicker do not appear to be so liable. For instance, the 2d. Nelson, as stated in the January issue, appear on both the thick and thin varieties. I have found several of the latter on blued but none of the former. All the 6d. values I have seen are on thick paper, all the ½d. and ¼d. on thin paper; the other values have, I believe, appeared on both.

"The thick C.C. paper does not appear to be so stout as the mult. variety.

"This innovation will certainly save damage to mint copies of these large stamps which are particularly subject to creasing at the corners through curling in a dry atmosphere, especially on club sheets."

Suicide of a Stamp Collector.

According to the *Daily Express* (18.1.08), a stamp collector, aged fifty-six, at St. Josse, Belgium, was so

overcome with grief because his album had accidentally been burnt that he committed suicide by suffocating himself with the half-charred pages of the book.

A New Philatelic Monthly.

No. 1 of a new philatelic monthly reaches me from Messrs. Bright and Son, by name *The Philatelic Advertiser and Stamp Market Journal*. If its length of life is indicated by the length of its title it should be considerable. It is edited by our breezy friend Mr. E. W. Wetherell, home from the wilds of Bangalore for a long holiday. Mr. Wetherell is a confirmed practical joker. He lauded the philatelic writers of this benighted land with a huge joke in the shape of a screamingly funny native Indian philatelic journal. So on the principle of once bitten twice shy I feel sort of nervous in handling this latest production of his. But it looks all right. So did the Indian production.

However, I take it this *Philatelic Advertiser* is Messrs. Bright's venture of a journal of their own *a la Gibbons*. It is got up in something of the style and size of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* and contains an article on the 1870 issue of Spain, and a summary of the issues of Gambia, both by Mr. Wetherell. The subscription to this new journal is 2s. per annum, *a la Gibbons*.

The Philatelic Literature Society's Journal.

And yet another: this time in the aristocratic deckle-edged and hand made paper style. This swell new comer is *The Journal of the Philatelic Literature Society*. Long-winded titles seem to be the order of the day.

This new journal of the newly formed Philatelic Literature Society hopes "that the circulation and sphere of usefulness of the Journal will not merely be confined to collectors of philatelic literature, but that it may be found of service, if not indispensable, to many philatelic students. With this idea in view it is intended to include in the Journal articles which will have a permanent interest, such as bibliographies of countries and reviews of the more important works done by specialists."

This journal is supplied only to members of the Society, and the subscription to the Society is one guinea per annum.

Mr. E. D. Bacon is the editor of the journal, which is to be published quarterly. Its page is overpowering; 9 inches by 12 inches. Nevertheless it is a handsome production, and almost convinces me that I shall have to send the hat round amongst my friends in order to make up that guinea subscription.

A Philatelic Affliction.

Gibbons now keep a tame limerickist on the premises. Here is his latest effusion, which by the way, is much better than half the doggerel that wins the prizes in these limericking days:—

Many watermarks hard to be seen
May be found with the aid of benzene.
Our shilling "Detectors"
Are a boon to collectors,
Especially those who are keen.

The Stamps of China

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 260).

1878. Three values. Design: A hideous representation of a dragon, the fabled enemy of mankind. If the original, which is said to have watched the Garden of the Hesperides, bore any personal resemblance to the creature on the first stamps of China, it is no wonder that it taxed the strength of Hercules in its destruction. The translation of the Chinese characters on the stamps is as follows: At the top, "Ta Ching" (China); to the right, "Yu Chêng Chu" (Post Office), and value to the left. These stamps were printed at Shanghai on unwatermarked paper and perforated. The values were expressed in candarins. 100 candarins = 1 tael = 6s. 2d. in our money. The word "China" at the top and "5 candarins" at the foot, in ordinary print, are added for the information of the "foreign devil."

As already intimated I do not agree in dividing the papers into thick and thin as if they were different printings. It is true they are so divided in Gibbons Catalogue, the thin being placed first and the thick last, whereas the evidence available goes to show that the later printings were all on thin paper, whilst in the earlier printings they were most probably mixed.

Mr. Menzarini gives the numbers printed of this first series as follows:—

1 cand., green	-	-	-	206,486
3 ,, red	-	-	-	558,768
5 ,, orange	-	◆	-	239,610



	No wmk.	Perf.	Unused.	
			s. d.	s. d.
1 cand., green	-	-	5 0	5 0
3 ,, red	-	-	2 0	2 0
5 ,, orange	-	-	8 6	1 6

Range of Catalogue Prices: unused.

The prices of this series were doubled between 1897 and 1900, but since then there has been very little improvement in prices of the 3 c. and 5 c., but the 1 c., however, shows a considerable rise, in fact this value has risen steadily from 8d. in 1897 to 5s.

in 1908. The supplies are not large and are steadily being absorbed so that any material increase in the demand must inevitably result in a stiffening of prices. As a first issue the stamps are decidedly low priced, but it must be remembered that they had a fairly long life from 1878 to 1885, and that, as they are all low priced stamps, they were probably stocked in large numbers by dealers. A very scarce shade of the 3 c. is a bright vermilion, the common shade being a dull brown red.

	1896	1899	1902	1905	1908
1 c.	0 8	0 8	2 6	3 0	5 0
3 c.	0 9	0 9	2 6	2 0	2 0
5 c.	1 0	1 0	3 6	3 0	3 0

1885. Three values. Design: Similar to the preceding, but in a reduced size. Printed at Shanghai on paper watermarked with a sign in Chinese geomancy called *yin-yang*, representing the male and female principles in nature. The stamps of this issue yield many pronounced shades for the specialist. They were printed in sheets of 40 stamps, in two panes of 20 (five rows of four) side by side.

The numbers printed were as follows:—

1 cand., green	-	-	-	508,667
3 ,, mauve	-	-	-	850,711
5 ,, bistre	-	-	-	343,161



	Wmk. Yin-yang.	Perf.	Unused.		Used.	
			s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1 cand., green	-	-	0 2	0 8		
3 ,, mauve	-	-	0 6	0 8		
5 ,, bistre	-	-	0 6	0 9		

Range of Catalogue Prices: unused.

Large stocks of this issue are still available and are likely to remain so for many years to come. There is, therefore, no need to set out any range of prices.

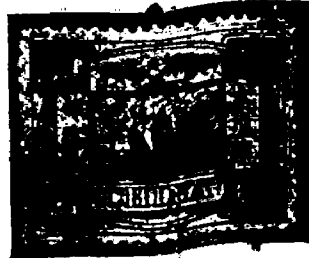
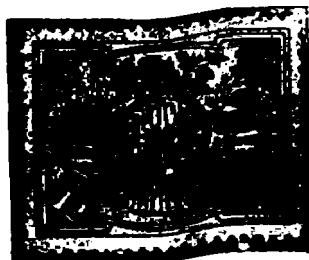
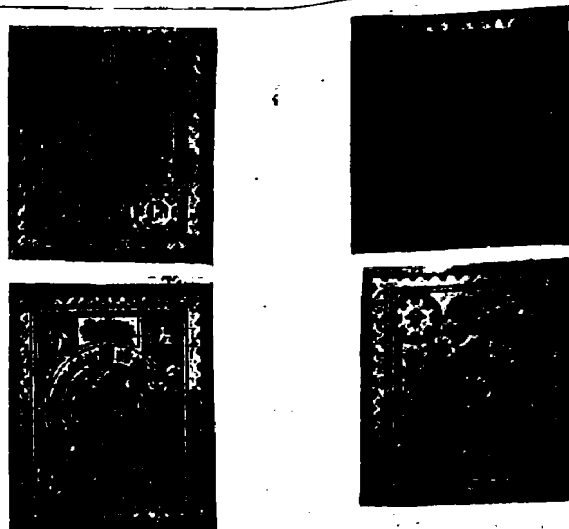
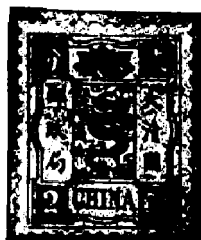
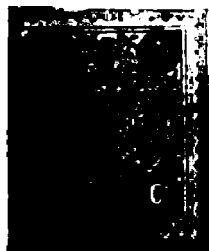
1894. Nine values. Designs: All different. The inscriptions remained the same, except that the word "Kingdom" was added to the inscription in the right-hand border, thus making the words

"Great Pure Kingdom." Mr. Menzarini tell us that these stamps were issued in honour of the Empress-Dowager's sixtieth birthday. The first supplies, he says, were printed in Japan, and later supplies at Shanghai, but he can find no record which will enable us to distinguish the Japanese from the Chinese printings. Each value yields very distinct shades, which probably may some day afford the specialist a clue to the separation of the Japanese from the Chinese printings. The stamps were water-marked as before and perforated.

A curious story is connected with the history of the designing of this series. It seems that Mr. R. A. de Villard, an artist resident in China at the time, was commissioned to prepare a series of designs for the new Imperial Post. He was a high official in the Chinese Imperial Customs. His drawings were prepared, but were fated to be rejected, for, in common parlance, Mr. de Villard, despite his acquaintance with Chinese ways, had innocently put his foot into it. In several of the designs he had abbreviated the inscription to "Imp. Chin. Post." which was not allowed. Consequently, a fresh series of drawings had to be made. In submitting his new drawings, Mr. de Villard still more seriously put his foot into it by colouring the 20 c. in Imperial purple, innocently thinking that would, of course, be a popular and most acceptable colour. Evidently he was ignorant of the fact that the use of this colour is absolutely forbidden in China, except by members of the Imperial family. There was a big row, and no doubt for a time it was probably a question whether the poor artist would be decapitated or otherwise disposed of. However, he made yet another series of designs, and steered clear of the Imperial purple, but whether it be a coincidence or otherwise, it is a fact that Mr. de Villard was shortly afterwards ordered off on a surveying expedition through Tibet, with orders to make his way thence to India, returning to China by sea from Calcutta. Such a journey was practically a sentence of death, and as such Mr. de Villard seems to have regarded it, for he wrote his friend Mr. Whitfield King, of Ipswich, from Chunking, on his way to Tibet, stating that in all probability that would be the last letter he would have from him, and he has not since been heard of.

The numbers printed were as follows :—

1	cand., red	-	-	-	100,077
2	" green	-	-	-	78,404
3	" yellow	-	-	-	188,494
4	" rose	-	-	-	44,689
5	" yellow	-	-	-	32,779
6	" brown	-	-	-	54,247
9	" green	-	-	-	56,182
12	" orange	-	-	-	33,509
24	" red	-	-	-	34,035



		Wmk. Yin-yang.	Perf.	Unused.	Used.
				s. d.	s. d.
1	cand., vermilion	-	-	0 3	—
2	" green	-	-	0 9	—
3	" yellow	-	-	0 4	0 6
4	" rose	-	-	1 0	1 0
5	" orange	-	-	0 9	1 0
6	" brown	-	-	1 0	1 0
9	" green	-	-	1 0	1 0
12	" orange	-	-	2 6	3 0
24	" carmine	-	-	7 6	6 0
Variety : tête bêche.					
9	" green	-	-	10 0	—

To be continued.

Native Stamp Dealers

By GEORGE CECIL

At Gibraltar.

THOUGH the rarest specimens which gladden the philatelist's heart are not often to be met with in Eastern ports, one frequently picks up stamps of a certain value between Gibraltar and the Further East. No sooner has the new-comer landed at "the Rock" than the Spaniard, who has stamps to sell, quickly makes known to the travelling Englishman that the choicest examples are to be found in his shop. If the Señor wants the rarest Spanish stamp, the obliging Jack Spaniard has them for sale. The distinguished Señor only has to step into Don Quixote's shop, and the plausible dealer will spread out his wares. Should the unwary stranger accept the tempting invitation, he is likely to be disappointed, for the Spanish dealer who happens on a find has little difficulty in disposing of it to some world-renowned collector with whose agent he is in touch. He keeps his second-best goods for the delectation of the chance visitor; and if he succeeds in palming off a forgery which has been some time on his hands, he promises candles galore to his patron saint, and treats himself to a large bottle of the cheap country wine for which the south of Spain is famous. Amongst his regular customers are those officers and men who represent the philatelic element in the garrison. Occasionally he hangs about the officers' quarters and the men's barrack-room, hoping to effect a sale. In this connection he seldom makes more than the barest profit.

The Maltese dealers pursue much the same methods as do the Gibraltar variety. Their stock, however, is a more varied one, for being in closer touch with Italy, Sicily, and the coast of Egypt, they frequently are in a position to offer one something which is worth purchasing. Like the Spaniard, they are always ready to accept less than half the price they have originally asked. . . . "You give-a me Engleese shilling and I give-a you this very rare Italian stamp. Him got real King's head and good colour. I asking other gentleman more. Only I asking you little—'cause you such nice gentleman." Sometimes the new-comer swallows this blarney, and pays what is asked. The experienced traveller, on the other hand, at first takes no notice of the dealer's importunities, allowing him to pay several visits without holding out any hope of purchasing. When, finally, the persevering dealer has knocked about 70 per cent. off the original price, the astute collector begins to bargain, with the result that he eventually buys for the equivalent of sixpence a fairly valuable stamp which originally was priced at two or three shillings. It may be added that the Maltese huckster is a picturesque-looking individual. He wears a soft felt hat, which sets off his long, curling tresses; rings decorate his ears; and the gaily coloured handkerchief which is knotted round his neck harmonizes well with his swarthy complexion and dog-like brown eyes.

The Port Said Variety.

The cheap Port Said shop is a sort of local Whiteley's establishment, stamps being amongst the lines stocked. Even the firms which undertake other business profess to sell, or to be in a position to obtain any mortal stamp that the heart of the philatelist can desire. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the enterprising collector often comes across valuable stamps, either in the shops which are set apart for the stamp business, or in the larger establishments in which one can buy almost anything from a toque of fifteen years ago to a back number of the *Daily Mail*. Port Said being conveniently situated, stamps from Egypt, Africa, Persia, Turkey, Italy, Greece, and Russia find their way to the Port Said counters. Many of these, of course, are of little value, including only those specimens which are too modern to be worth attention. But the lynx-eyed philatelist should be able to sift from the mass the few which are likely to enrich his collection. In former years, when the captains of passenger steamers were more easy-going than they now are, the ragamuffin Arab dealers were allowed to bring their wares on board for the delectation of those passengers who did not care to face the dirt, dust, and discomfort of Port Said as it was known to an earlier generation of travellers. To-day, however, short shrift often awaits the son of the desert who clammers up the ladder, intent on selling an Egyptian inland postcard as a priceless treasure. The quarter-master seizes the intruder by the slack of his pantaloons, and sends him flying through the blue ether into the equally blue water. On coming to the surface the native splutters out frightful oaths and imprecations, consigning the jovial Jack Tar to the nethermost regions, and informing him that he will be met there by all his relations. On some steamers, however, no such restrictions are known, and the brown-faced dealer is at liberty to sell his goods at 100 per cent. gain, or at a greatly reduced profit, according to circumstances. Sometimes a dispute arises between the dealer and his customer—a dispute which invariably is ended by the passenger desiring the quarter-master to assist the Arab down the ship's side. Should the steamer be on the point of making its way down the canal, the vituperative fellow takes the greatest delight in running along the bank and shouting the choicest Eastern abuse at the passengers. When he has exhausted his strength and his vocabulary, he lies on the sand, and, covering himself with his rug, sleeps the peaceful slumber which a merciful Providence permits both honest men and rogues to indulge in.

The Aden Dealer.

The Aden stamp dealers, though few in number, provide quite as much entertainment as do those who carry on business at places further west. Both Arabs and Parsees are to be found in Aden, and

either are ready to—well, to make the most of the opportunity! If the wily native perceives that the new-comer is inexperienced in the art of collecting, he will not scruple to sell him whatever rubbish he may have at his disposal. In this way the greenhorn often returns to the ship a poorer if not a wiser man. Indeed, there are instances of astute Arabs having invested in a parcel of "fakes," the contents of which have been sold at a considerable profit to philatelists whose keenness was not equalled by their knowledge.

At Colombo.

Colombo, too, has its contingent of rascals, though it must be confessed that a number of Cingalee dealers conduct their business in a manner which is free from all objectionable practices. Some of them board the steamer with their wares, and others content themselves by entrusting jewellers and fruit-sellers with whatever rarities they have for sale. It is a common thing to find the dealer in moonstones and tortoiseshell combs also offering stamps which were issued many years ago. In this connection the adventurous brown man entrusts his life and his valuables to a catamaran, a raft-like vessel, which at first sight closely resembles the branch of a tree. Indeed, it is a mystery how such a flimsy craft can even weather the swell caused by a passing ship. Fortunately for the philatelist the native dealer invariably voyages in safety.

Calcutta Enterprise.

From Colombo to Calcutta the collector is afforded many opportunities of adding to his collection. Madras (the next stopping place) swarms with native dealers, some of whom can be depended upon to produce genuinely rare examples of Native States issues; and these enterprising people usually visit all steamers which touch at the intermediate ports. But Calcutta is the Mecca of the ardent collector. The European, half-caste, and native philatelists have their agents all over the country, and many a valuable example finds its way to their establishments. Stamps from the countries bordering upon India are to be found there; Burmah and the Straits Settlements provide a certain number; and many are sent from China, Japan, and other parts of the Further East. Under these circumstances, it will not surprise the reader to learn that the Anglo-Indian philatelist frequently makes his way to Calcutta, intent on augmenting his collection. In addition to the leading dealers, a number of the smaller fry are located in the bazaars. From time to time they call at the different houses and bungalows, hoping to effect a sale. As a rule, they are not encouraged: the "sahib" sets his dog at them, or the "chowkadar" (native watchman) trounces them with a formidable bludgeon known as a "lathi." They are, however, more fortunate when they visit hotels during the tourist season. The visitor is amused by their broken English and by their antics, and, having plenty of money to spend, he is ready to part more or less freely. Indeed, the globe-trotter is an excellent customer to the patient black.

The Itinerant Dealer.

Mention also may be made of the itinerant dealer, who spends the greater part of the year tramping all over India. January sees him in the verandah of

Potson's Hotel, Bombay, and a month later he turns up at Nagpore in the Central Provinces. At the beginning of the hot weather his tour includes Alihabad, Cawnpore, Lucknow, Meerut, and Benares; and during the rainy season his itinerary includes Northern India. Wending his way southward, he passes through Hyderabad, Bellary, Salem, and other places where philatelists are to be found. His luggage consists of a small bundle, containing his stock-in-trade, an umbrella, a couple of blankets, and the white cotton clothes in which he stands. He breakfasts off a handful of rice; his dinner consists of a bowl of vegetable curry, and a few bananas and another handful of rice serve him for his supper. His only relaxation is his "hubble-bubble" (native pipe) and conversation with the natives he meets on the road. On arriving at the bungalow his first act is to bribe the head servant, after which he considers that he is entitled to ask a few questions. He ascertains whether the "sahib" is a collector, and if he is of a parsimonious disposition. Provided with the necessary information, he is in a position to determine upon his plan of action. Sometimes he drives a good bargain, but as a rule he makes but a small profit on his original outlay. Occasionally the master of the house buys from him out of compassion, passing on his purchases to a philatelist friend should he himself not be a collector. But the unhappy trader is far more likely to be sworn at by the exile whose rest he has disturbed, especially if he is an official. For the Anglo-Indian "civil surgeon," "joint magistrate," or "district superintendent of police" frequently is a mere Jack in office; and if, like so many of his brethren, he is a person of common origin, he will try to increase his importance by behaving like a hooligan. Fortunately for the coloured dealer's peace of mind he does not much care whether the white man is polite or rude to him. He looks upon the most distinguished English collectors as "magalwallabs" (madmen), and he does not consider them worth his anger. If the philatelist buys from him, he is pleased. Should he fail to effect a sale, he merely wurmurs "Kismet!" and tramps off to the next bungalow.

— *From Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 25.1.08.

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The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal

The "Truth" Crusade

The Demand for an Inquiry.

Strong hopes are being held that the *Truth* crusade against the scandalous manipulation of British Colonial postal issues will yet result in an official inquiry of some sort, with the view of checking the abuses that are becoming so prevalent. There are not wanting signs that it is fair game to prostitute the use of British postal issues to the deliberate fleecing of stamp collectors, and an official inquiry into questionable issues and varieties will probably open the eyes of the authorities to an organised system of postal frauds.

The Royal Philatelic Society's Position.

We quote the following item from the last number of *Truth* (12.2.08):—

"In the last *Truth* article on 'The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal' it was suggested that the Royal Philatelic Society is the proper authority to move in this matter. A collector writes in reference to this that the society is itself closely connected with one of the leading firms of stamp dealers, from which it seems to be inferred that little activity is to be expected from it in regard to this or any other similar scandal. Not being a stamp collector myself, I cannot say what justice there may be in this suggestion. But it is not open to question that an association of this character ought to be essentially an association of amateurs, and it is not likely to fulfil its functions properly if trade interests have any influence in it."

This is scarcely fair. As every collector knows, the connection referred to is the arrangement by which Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., in their capacity as philatelic publishers, act as publishers of the Royal Philatelic Society's philatelic works. It is purely a publishing business arrangement, such as might be made with any firm of publishers. In addition to this, the Expert Committee of the Society have the free use of the unequalled collection of forgeries and reprints formed by Mr. C. J. Phillips, the managing director of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. Dealers are debarred by the rules of the Society from becoming members. One or two dealers are members because they were members before the Society decided to exclude dealers.

Cayman Islands Provisionals.

The following letter voices the collector's view of the provisionals recently issued by Cayman Islands:—

"DEAR SIR,

Referring to the article in last Saturday's *The Postage Stamp*, on "The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal," I notice you say:—"In its issue of 29th January, 1908, *Truth*, continuing its exposure, unfortunately selects the case of the Cayman Islands provisionals which have just been issued. We say

unfortunately, because we are not so sure as *Truth* seems to be, that these provisionals are a good cause for inquiry. On the contrary the evidence points the other way, for to our knowledge supplies have been refused to dealers."

I am afraid I, for one, cannot agree with this opinion, as I consider these provisionals were quite unnecessary.

There are one or two points which I should like cleared up before I can think otherwise.

In the first place, it may be a fact that supplies have been refused to dealers, and yet a "favoured individual" was supplied with half the quantity of the ½d. on 5s. (and probably of the 1d. on 5s. too). (See page 206, January 11 issue of *The Postage Stamp*.) Now which is worse, to supply to dealers or to this favoured individual?

Out of whom would the official or officials get the most profit.

Of course we know well enough that this "favoured individual" would be quite unknown to the officials, and of course they would get nothing out of the transaction—directly, but no doubt indirectly they would get a good picking.

Again, if these issues were necessary for the immediate use of the Colony, how was it that half the stamps were promptly sold to this favoured individual?

Again, how is it that, if these stamps were wanted for immediate use, the majority eventually find their way, either in a mint or "used for collectors" state, into the hands of dealers and collectors, instead of being used on legitimate correspondence?

If it were possible to find out how many ½d. and 1d. stamps would have been sold during the period these provisionals were on sale, had there been no provisional issue, I am of opinion that it would prove conclusively that the issue was absolutely unnecessary.

It is high time the Philatelic Societies took up these matters with the authorities. Probably if they wrote to the Colonial Secretary asking that full inquiry be made regarding this particular issue, also suggesting that, in future, any Postmaster issuing provisionals should at once notify the Colonial Office, at the same time giving the reasons for the said issue, we should have less of these scandals, and Philately in general would benefit materially by their action.

Another matter they might with advantage take up is, Was this issue of a separate set of stamps for the Cayman Islands necessary? Also, Why should Antigua and the other islands be allowed to have a separate issue again, after they have once been suspended, as there is a general issue for the Leeward Islands? Why should not all the separate issues be suspended, and one general issue only be allowed?

Yours faithfully,

Ipswich, 10.2.08.

PERCY BRIDGE."

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 263)

Carlist Stamps.—Stamps issued in Spain in 1873-4 by the orders of the leaders of the Carlist Insurrection. In 1872 Don Carlos caused himself to be proclaimed King of Spain in the northern provinces of the kingdom, and he assumed the title of Carlos VII. In 1873 he entered Spain and active operations to capture the whole of the country were commenced. From a circular dated December 15th, 1873, which was issued by the Royal Council of Regency of the Government of Navarre, it appears that a postal service was established for the conveyance of letters to Bayonne by certain lines through the Biscayan-Navarre country. However, it has been authoritatively proved that Carlist stamps had made their appearance some time before any definitely organised post was formed. The stamps were first issued on July 1st, 1873, and they were suppressed in 1876, when the Carlists were finally routed.

Carmichael, John.—An engraver, of Sydney, New South Wales, who engraved the original plate for the 2d. "Sydney view" stamps; the plates for the 1d. and 2d. values of the "laureated" type; and the special "Registered" stamp.

Caroline Islands.—An archipelago of 680 islands and islets in the Pacific Ocean between 1° and 10° north latitude and 131° and 163° east longitude. It is divided into two groups, the Eastern and the Western, and the total area is 500 square miles. Most of the islands are only small atolls, but there are about fifty of other formation and size which are inhabited. The chief of these are Babelthoap, Ponape, Yap, Ruk, and Kusaie. The total population is about 50,000. The islands were discovered by the Portuguese Diego da Rocha in 1527, and they were given their present name in 1688 in honour of Charles II. of Spain. In 1710 and 1713 the Jesuits from Manila made unsuccessful attempts to Christianise the inhabitants. In 1899, by an agreement with Spain, they became a German possession and are known to our Teutonic friends as Karolinen. Special stamps were issued in the year they were attached to the German Empire.

Carol I. Rege al Romaniei.—An inscription appearing on the small medallion containing the King's portrait on the 1903 stamps of Roumania, which means "Charles I., King of Roumania."

Carriers' Stamps.—The name given to certain United States stamps, which, during a period extending from 1861 to about 1861, were used to defray the postage from a post office to the addressee residing in the

district served by that post office. At this period the ordinary postage, only defrayed carriage of mail matter from post office to post office—a system which still prevails in some sparsely populated districts of the United States. In many towns private posts of a semi-official character undertook the delivery of the letters and issued their own stamps for the payment of the postal fees. In other towns the government undertook the service, and in connection with this two stamps were issued in 1851.

Cartagena.—The chief town in the province of Bolivar, Colombia, which has a population of over 20,000. During the civil war of 1899-1900 a large number of provisional stamps were issued at this town.

Cartilla postal de Espana.—The inscription appearing upon a private postage stamp issued in Spain in 1870 for the special use of Señor Diego Castell for franking a work entitled "Cartilla postal de España"—literally "Postal primer for Spain." This was a small pamphlet of eighteen pages containing instructions for addressing letters in the manner desired by the post office, and it was considered so useful that, in 1868, it was sent to 25,000 primary schools in Spain. In consideration of its general utility the author was given the privilege of sending it free by post for a period of six months from January 1st to June 30th, 1870. Señor Castell prepared a special stamp, inscribed as stated, which franked all the copies of the work posted within the prescribed period.

Carupano.—The chief commercial district in the east of Venezuela between the Araya and Paria peninsulas. It has a population of over 12,000. During the revolution of 1902 a number of provisional stamps were issued, all being set up from ordinary printer's type.

Cash.—The value in which many of the stamps of Shanghai are expressed. Sixteen cash are equal to a candarin which, as stated previously, is only worth about ½d. in English money.

Cashmere.—(See "KASHMIR.")

Castell, Senor.—The author of a pamphlet which was considered of such general utility by the Spanish authorities that he was allowed the privilege of sending it free by post for a period of six months, and during this time it was franked by means of a special stamp. (See "CARTILLA POSTAL DE ESPAÑA.")

Catalonia.—An old principality and province in the extreme north-east of Spain. The district has since 1833 consisted of the provinces of Gerona, Barcelona, Levida, and Tarragona, the capital, Barcelona, being the second town in Spain. The total area of the district is 12,483 square miles, and it has a population of about two millions. Catalonia was the Hispania Tarraconensis of the Roman conquerors. In the 5th century it was overrun by the Goths and Alani, and in the 8th century it was under Mussulman rule. In 1137 it was joined to Aragar, and in 1479 the two were united to Castile. The Catalans, however, did not readily submit to their loss of independence and they repeatedly revolted. After its conquest by Philip V. in 1874 Catalonia lost its separate constitution. The Catalan dialect, more akin to the Provençal of France than to the Castilian of Spain, is still spoken and written. During the Carlist insurrection of 1873-6 the Catalans

threw in their lot with Don Carlos, and with the advance of his troops into this territory a special stamp was issued (April 15th, 1874) by the orders of the Commissary-General.

Cataluna.—The Spanish form of Catalonia as shown on the special stamp referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Catalogue.—To philatelists a catalogue is a volume in which all the main varieties of the world's postage stamps are illustrated, listed, and properly classified.

Catharine wheel.—A surcharge found upon many of the stamps of Salvador used in 1899 and 1900. The object of the surcharge is said to have been "to distinguish the stamps actually used from the unissued remainders in the hands of the contractors."

Canca.—(See "LA CANEA.")

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Luxemburg (56). Continental philatelic journals announce the issue of five more values of the portrait type, viz.: 30c., 87½c., 1fr., 2½fr., and 5fr. The list now stands as follows:

<i>Arms type.</i>	<i>Perf. 12½</i>
1 cent, grey.	
2 cents, brown.	
4 " olive.	
5 " green.	
6 " mauve.	
<i>Portrait type.</i>	<i>Perf. 11 x 11½</i>
10 cents, carmine.	
12½ " slate green.	
15 " brown.	
20 " orange.	
25 " blue.	
30 " olive green.	
37½ " green.	
50 " brown.	
87½ " slate-blue.	
1 franc, violet.	
2½ francs, black.	
5 " mauve.	

Morocco Agencies (144). In the *Bulletin Champion* (25.12.07) the 30c. on 3d. is listed. This stamp was chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* (7.12.07), but contradicted in a later number (28.12.07) of the same journal. However, Messrs. Champion say they can supply the stamp, and yet the British Postmaster at Tangier, under date 29.1.08, writes to a correspondent of ours: "No stamps at 30 centimes have been issued for Morocco." Perhaps Messrs. Champion can explain what supplies they are drawing upon in this matter.

Queensland. The stamps of this colony have at last commenced to appear on the Commonwealth paper watermarked Crown A. The 9d. stamp, having

been printed in Melbourne, has of course long been issued on Crown A paper, but none of the ordinary Queen's head issue of the Colony have been on the new paper till now, and the 2d. is the first value. This is chronicled by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. The perforation is not given. The 2d. has not long been issued in a redrawn type on Crown Q paper. Seemingly it has had a short life if it is already superseded by this new issue on Crown A paper.

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. ?
2d. blue.

Sweden. According to the *Monthly Journal* an error of colour of the 5 öre of the issue of 1894, &c., is stated to exist, printed in brown instead of in green. A specimen is reported to have been sold for a large sum by a dealer in Stockholm. It would be interesting to know something more about the history of this said error before accepting it. So many chemical changes are possible that one needs to be wary.

New Zealand. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent me a part sheet of the current ½d. value perf. 14 x 13½. The sheet is numbered 2,328,980. The correspondent who forwarded this sheet to W. K. & Co. says this is the latest perforation, and is done by a new comb machine.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News chronicles the 1s. vermilion, perf. 14 x 13.13½ (comb machine), presumably done by the same machine.

It is to be hoped that the change from a single line perforator to a comb machine will obviate all excuse for such fishy varieties as the mixed perfs.

Wmk. N.Z. and star. Perf. 14 x 13½.
½d. green.
1s. vermilion.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Exchange Clubs.

The collector who can find time to work off his duplicates through Exchange Clubs is to be envied. The delight of looking through a fine lot of other collectors' duplicates and selecting desirable stamps to even up an exchange must be great; but it wants time to fix up sheets and price them in due form for inclusion. Of course it is not necessary that you should send in sheets. You may be a mere buyer. That, however, is not the purpose of an Exchange Club.

The Otterdale Exchange Club.

There are several old Exchange Clubs that have been running for many years, and amongst them one of the best known is the Otterdale, conducted by Mr. Dannatt, of Blackheath, a very experienced collector. He has just sent me his "Report for 1907," from which I learn that the gross sales for that year reached the splendid total of £2,315, which is £265 more than the previous year, despite the fact that the membership is practically the same as for some years past.

Pricing up the Sheets.

The competition for place for first pick evidently leads to some amusing experiences. Of course the members who contribute most largely to the making up of the sheets are entitled to first pick. But Mr. Dannatt says:—"It has for years been my secretarial policy to exclude all sheets which, while increasing very substantially the *apparent* value, add nothing to the attractiveness or *real* worth of the packets in which they are included. I have frequently known sheets priced up to £200 and even £300 returned to their owners with stamps only to the value of a few pence having been removed—a certain number of stamp 'jobbers' are apparently under the impression that a valuable sheet, no matter how absurdly the stamps are overpriced, somehow entitles them to special consideration. I can only say that they don't get it in the 'Otterdale,' and I maintain that it is better to send to any club a small sheet of *bond-fide* duplicates fairly priced than a £300 sheet which nobody desires to examine."

Early Views for Specialists.

Mr. Dannatt has a plan of his own for catering for Specialists. He makes a special feature of seeing that so far as is practical every member has an early view of all sheets which are likely to prove of *special* interest to him. This of course can only be done in the case of sheets sent in very early.

Exchange Clubs for Specialists.

I presume there are Exchange Clubs for Specialists, for the number of duplicates that an industrious specialist accumulates in the formation of a collection could only be worked off in a club formed of

members interested in the same group or country. I feel quite interested to know if there are such clubs and how they answer. I have a pet country or two, and I can quite imagine that if I were a member of an ordinary Exchange Club and commenced to work off my duplicates in it I should soon be voted a bit of a nuisance. The members would be complaining that this fellow has nothing but Timbuctoo.

The General Collector to the Fore.

Mr. Dannatt tells us that his experience proves that most of his members are "general collectors," at all events so far as the British Empire is concerned, and I am glad to hear it, for after all is said the general collector is the real backbone of stamp collecting.

How to Arrange Sheets.

The presentation of the stamps on a sheet must make all the difference, just as much difference as in the case of a collection in an album. Mr. Dannatt suggests to his members that they might make their sheets more attractive by mounting stamps in chronological order with the catalogue value and number against each specimen.

Ewen's turn.

Mr. Ewen, commenting on the prices in Part I. of Gibbons' Catalogue, draws special attention to a few considerable advances in recent issues. He says:—"Lagos, 6d. and 1s. KS are advanced to 17s. 6d. and 30s. respectively, or a profit on face value of 1500%; Straits on Labuan, 3c. advanced to 7s. 6d. (200% on recent selling price); Papua, 4d. type i, advanced to 17s. 6d. (our new issue clients all got it at 5d. and now make 4100% profit!); prices of B.N.G. are, by the way, in the Corrigenda on page 316? Gambia provisionals quoted 15s. and 10s. (supplied to our new customers at about 6s. or 7s. the two—300% profit to them); Grenada, 1s. King single, quoted 7s. 6d., 650% profit on face value, and so on, *ad lib.*"

To Bargain Hunters.

My bargain hunting friends should keep their eyes on Mr. Field's "Special Bargains" now appearing in alternate numbers of *The Postage Stamp*. Those who availed themselves of his offer of the Cayman Islands 6d. brown multiple C.A. at 2s. in the issue of the 25th January, 1908, will be interested to learn that dealers are now paying 3s. each for that same stamp.

Special Offer of Sudan.

Mr. Appleton offers in the advertisement pages of this number strips of Sudan at prices which must make them an excellent investment. The complete panes also offered by him are very low priced. The 5 m. on 5 p. with inverted surcharge is getting scarce and is therefore cheap at his offer of 20s.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

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"The Postage Stamp":

What a Correspondent says.

I have refrained from quoting any of the kind and congratulatory letters that we are receiving almost daily as to the production of *The Postage Stamp*, but I cannot forbear making an extract from a letter just received from a Correspondent, who says he has been a collector from his youth upwards. He writes:—"I should like to add a word of praise for your splendid paper. It is a philatelic paper which has long been needed, fulfils the need of thousands of collectors who were before uncatered for, and will undoubtedly bring back into the ranks of permanent collectors many of those who had abandoned collecting because they had no such medium as *The Postage Stamp* to maintain their steady interest by a weekly reiteration of the advantages and fascination of the hobby. The deep thanks of the stamp collecting community are due to you for your successful introduction of a journal which has an equal interest for all classes and sections of collectors."

R. C. T. (Windsor). *The most suitable album?* Well, in your case, living as you do not far from London, I should some day run up and call at the principal Dealers in the Strand, and see all they can show, and then decide according to your own likes and dislikes. Personally, I prefer Walker's Loose Leaf Albums, and mostly use their medium size, the price of which is 17s. 6d. The best cheap movable leaf album is the Paragon published by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich, price from 10s. upwards, according to binding and quality of the leaves. A more expensive, but very fine, album is Gibbons "Facile" Oriel, price 25s. and upwards. *Countries to specialise for a collector of patience but limited cash?* Jamaica, Bermuda, Gibraltar, Morocco Agencies, Malta, Southern Nigeria, Egypt, Soudan, Chili, Norway, Denmark, Sweden. *A suitable Catalogue apart from Stanley Gibbons to work from?* Why apart from Gibbons? If you are going to specialise it will be indispensable. If you want a simpler catalogue take Whitfield King's (Ipswich), price 1s. 6d.

W. E. C. (Scarborough). With the 2s. 6d. a week you are prepared to spend on stamp collecting you can do a great deal. For instance, if you refer to reply about cost of New Issue Service to "E. D. G." in last week's *Postage Stamp* you will find that Mr. Peckitt's New Issue Service of British Colonials, up to and including 2s. 6d. values, would absorb about £3 15s. 8d., that would still leave you about £2 14s. 4d. for general expenditure. Confine yourself to adhesive

postage stamps sold to the public, rejecting officials, unpaids, &c. Boer war provisionals are not to be recommended for investment. The flutter in them is over. Mr. Poole's book is entitled "The South African Provisional War Stamps," the price is 1s., and I believe it may still be had from Mr. Poole, Burwood, Alexander Road, Croydon. You may rely on our providing a neat and attractive cover for binding *The Postage Stamp* annual volume.

W. H. E. (Newcastle). I cannot prevent anyone starting an Exchange Club and calling it "The Postage Stamp Exchange Club," but I should prefer your adopting some other title, for the one suggested would lead to the natural inference that it was being run in connection with *The Postage Stamp*, and that I want to avoid, for the simple reason that I unfortunately have no time to spare to take part in it. Your own experience and connections will serve your purpose without *The Postage Stamp* title.

F. W. C. (Plymouth). The note in the Gibbons Catalogue, Part II., at the end of Lubeck, stating that "Lubeck ceased to have a separate issue on joining the North German Confederation, 1st Jan., 1868," is not quite correct. Lubeck joined the North German Confederation on 18th August, 1866, but its postal administration was not absorbed until 1st Jan., 1868. The note should read "Lubeck ceased to have a separate issue on the absorption of its postal system by the North German Confederation, 1st Jan., 1868."

T. J. W. S. (Birmingham). Many thanks for newspaper cutting. A whole column in an important daily paper is encouraging, but of course some ignoramus of a sub-editor must demonstrate his incapacity by dubbing stamp collecting "a craze." I quite agree with you on the other matter.

F. H. (Rochdale.) Your letter is a veritable conundrum. You seem to infer from my reply that a contents list was not necessary each week that, therefore, we shall not publish an index to the volume! What an extraordinary deduction! Of course we shall have a full index to the volume.

F. J. H. (Dublin.) You will have seen from a letter among the reports of "Philatelic Societies" in our last issue that there is, after all, a Philatelic Society in existence in Dublin.

J. S. (Manchester.) The 4d. King's head overprinted "L.R. official" is priced 6s. unused and 3d. used, and the 1d. is 3s. unused and 2d. used.

Philatelic Society Meetings

North London.

The usual fortnightly meeting was held on Thursday, Feb. 6th, at headquarters.

Mr. C. M. C. Symes occupied the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

The subjects for the evening included a debate on the old controversy: Specialism *versus* General Collecting. Mr. J. M. Morton opened the debate on Specialism, stating what advantages the specialist had over a general collector, what interesting discoveries specialists had made as regards methods of printing, different papers, etc., discoveries that might never have been made but for the diligent search of the specialist. Mr. C. S. Muratori then replied to Mr. Morton's plea for specialism, enlarging on the generalist's advantage in regard to the cost of getting together a representative collection, and also showing that a general collection might be made interesting to even those who were not collectors, whereas with a specialised collection only those who had studied the country could see anything more than an accumulated stock of the stamp. Mr. A. B. Creeke, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. P. J. Deverell, Mr. M. K. Clarke and several other gentlemen also spoke on the subject, all, while admitting the usefulness of the specialist, seemed inclined to favour generalism.

Another discussion arose in regard to stamps postmarked to order, through the statement that at some post offices stamps could be postmarked with any date desired. Mr. P. J. W. Deverell considered that the Postmaster-General should be approached to put a stop to this practice as many stamps were more valuable used than unused, and that after all it was only fair, that only stamps that had legitimately passed through the post, and had served their purpose, should be cancelled.

Mr. H. S. Wymer was elected a member of the Society.

It was unanimously resolved, after a little discussion, to alter the title of the Society, from "The Imperial Philatelic Society" (N. London), to "The North London Philatelic Society," as the former title was considered a little misleading.

Additions to the library were announced from Mr. A. R. Maisey, who was accorded a vote of thanks.

The next meeting will be held as above, on Thursday, February 20th.

South Wales.

On Thursday, the 30th January, 1908, Alderman W. J. Trounce, the President of the South Wales and Moamouthshire Philatelic Society, gave a Lecture upon stamps to 300 students in the Municipal Secondary School (Boys' Department), Howard Gardens, Cardiff. The Head Master, William Dyche, Esq., B.A., presided.

The remarks of the Alderman were received with great attention and cheers. At the end of the Alderman's address, Mr. Henry Perkins, the Hon. Sec., gave a short address entitled "Stamp Collecting as a Hobby," and in the course of his remarks he said, "every man should have a healthy hobby." It is perfectly true that the hobby is a rest to the mind, a cheerer of spirits, a dispenser of sadness. A calmer of unquiet thoughts, a moderator of passions, a procurer of contentedness, and the pursuit should beget habits of peace and patience in those who profess and practice it.

These remarks were received by the students with loud cheers.

Mr. E. P. Crowther, the Chairman of the Society, then gave a short address which was interesting to the students. The students then

went into another room where the Alderman's stamps were on view, and they were delighted with the countries he displayed—England and France.

Juniors: Manchester.

The twenty-eighth meeting was held on Jan. 16th, 1908, the President in the chair. Messrs. R. and M. Besso and Messrs. W. H. and G. Terry were elected members. Mr. A. Selinger, General Secretary of the Junior Philatelic Society, attended the meeting and said a few words concerning the Society's exhibition to be held in March. Mr. C. H. Coote showed that portion of his collection of Roumania containing the issues of 1858-80. He said that in the 1862 issue, the sheets consisted of 32 stamps, each stamp being struck by hand, whereas in the following year, plates containing 40 impressions of the design were made, and the stamps were then printed by machine power. In the latter issues the sheets are peculiarly constructed, the two top rows being normal, the two bottom rows being a reverse of same, whilst the middle row consisted of eight stamps placed sideways, four being top to left side of sheet and four top to right.

The twenty-ninth meeting was held on February 6th, 1908, The President in the chair. Mr. S. G. Horner gave a paper on China in which, after briefly explaining about the postal system, he gave a short account of many interesting objects depicted on the stamps. To explain the Chinese inscriptions, surcharges, etc., cards were passed round which Mr. Horner had prepared showing by means of a key what each character meant. Reference was made to the paper and wider settings of the first issue, the surcharged issues, etc. Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace, of London, kindly sent his splendid collection for display and it was greatly admired. It included two nearly complete sheets of the first issue; a fine lot both used and unused of the different settings of the 1 cand. with broken outer frame under C; of the 1 cand., 1885, showing broken plate; used pair of the 30 c. on 24 c. second setting with 30 misplaced and the Foochow provisional, half 2 c. used as 1 c. on entire cover. Mr. J. Taylor read a very humorous paper entitled "Th' Owld Squire's Curiosities."

CORRESPONDENCE Card in envelope, commemorating "Jubilee of Uniform Penny Postage," published by the G.P.O. in 1890, very rare. What Offers.—Edean, 464, High Road, Tottenham.

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WOODFORD EXCHANGE CLUB. Secretary—Sexton, Fairfield West, Kingston-on-Thames. Good sales, prompt settlements. Vacancies for reliable collectors!

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STAMPS { Gathered all over the World by the Bethlehem Missions. Ask prices to LOUIS RENAUT, Immensee, Switzerland.

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Prepaid Advertisements are inserted in THE POSTAGE STAMP at the following rates:—12 words, 1s; and 1d. for every additional word.

Advertisements can be received up to 5 o'clock FRIDAY for insertion in the following week's issue.

6 COLONIALS to applicants for approvals.—Wright & Co., 9, Market Street, Southport.

INDIAN Native States Stamps. 150 varieties for 18s. Lists free.—C. S. Iyer, Attungal, India.

SPLENDID lot of British and Colonials, one-third and one-fourth catalogue. References required.—Roberts, Presburg Road, New Malden, Surrey.

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50 STAMPS FREE to all who send 6d. for my unique 50 different Colonials.—S. H. Fleming, 29, Erpingham Road, Putney, London, S.W.

FREE Packet of Colonials, including Natal 1s. value, to applicants for approval books.—Archer, 17, Rowland Street, Rugby.

COLLECTION of Zanzibars, used and unused, catalogue value over £13, very fine condition. Cash Offers. Approval against satisfactory references.—Box 102, c/o POSTAGE STAMP, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

18. PERFECT Mint, catalogued 25/-, including Single Kings, 5/6. 36 Single Kings, catalogued 18/-, only 5/6.—Miss Pearson, Trinity Terrace, Coventry.

COLLECTION 2789 different Colonials, catalogued £31, sell singly less two-thirds Gibbons. Many very rare.—Newstead, 41, Hyde Park Mansions, opposite Edgware Road Station.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 22. Vol. 1.

29 FEBRUARY, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

Southern Nigeria: Latest News.



I HAVE just received from a friend in Lagos a little batch of interesting stamps. His remittance of 4s. 6d. on a little non-philatelic transaction was made up of 2½d. and 3d. Lagos, King's heads, multiple C.A., and ½d., 1d. and 2d. Southern Nigeria, King's heads, multiple C.A. The ½d. and 1d. are miscoloured; the ½d., all

green, is new and has not yet been chronicled. My chalky friends will be interested in knowing that it is on ordinary paper.

The postmark on the envelope is "Lagos, Southern Nigeria."

The North London Society.

My congratulations to the North London philatelists on their wise decision to change the name of their Society from "The Imperial Philatelic Society" to "The North London Philatelic Society." In these days of Territorial Army Organisation it is well to keep in line. Besides "The Imperial" might be a West Ham, or a Windsor, or a Strand affair: whereas "The North London" can only refer to the cultured classes, ahem, of the northern heights of London.

A Philatelic Debate.

I see these North Londoners have been having a philatelic debate, a debate on the never stale question of Specialism v. General Collecting. Amongst the debaters were Mr. A. B. Creeke and Mr. C. J. Phillips. "All, while admitting the usefulness of the specialist, seemed inclined to favour generalism."

Well, now it strikes me that the scope of such a discussion wants to be focussed rather than allowed to wander vaguely round generalities. It might be restated in many ways, for instance:—

1. Which is the better for pleasure—Specialism or general collecting?
2. Which affords the better investment?
3. Which is the better for the dealer?
4. Which is the better for the hobby?

More Debates Wanted.

We want more debates to add variety and interest to our philatelic meetings, but you cannot have much of a debate unless you have a large attendance of members. The City of London might very well make a feature of debates, for it gets a good meeting. Besides for debates you want a well-pointed question and a few rousing speakers. A monotonous, humdrum, matter-of-fact speaker, who cannot be persuaded to sit down, will kill the most promising question. Another essential is a good chairman, who will not continually inflict himself on the meeting on the slightest provocation, but who will make it his business to draw out the best points and the best speakers.

There is no lack of questions to discuss:—

1. Are stamp dealers necessary?
2. Are commemorative pictorials injurious to the hobby?
3. Which are the best for investment—old issues or new?
4. Which is the best group for investment?
5. Which is the best group for pleasure?
6. Which is the best group for research?
7. Which is the best country to specialise?
8. Which is the best album?

I should vote for No. 1, especially if a good attendance of Strand dealers could be assured. I would even take the negative against any one of them for the purpose of having an enjoyable evening.

Are Stamp Dealers necessary?

After all, are Stamp Dealers necessary? Of course they are not only necessary, but absolutely indis-

pensable as advertisers for a would-be successful philatelic weekly. That goes without saying. But the question is, Are Stamp Dealers necessary to the existence of the hobby? Could we as collectors get along without them? What do you think?

I should be rather inclined to answer like Mr. O. Reginald Gum's raven, "Blowed if I know."

But, of course, if I took the negative I should go in strong for proving that they are not only unnecessary but awfully prejudicial to the interests of the hobby.

You see, to begin, if there were no dealers we should have to rook each other, and that, of course, would be delightful. Just fancy a soft chap like myself trying to rook an experienced Mogul! Why, I should be skinned alive.

I am told that in some conflicts with a Mogul even a Strand Dealer gets the worst of it, but that wants a lot of believing. I have never yet heard of a well-authenticated case.

South Wales Philatelic Work.

One of the most active of our philatelic Societies is surely the South Wales and Monmouthshire Society. In a letter I have recently received from the energetic chairman of that society in an enumeration of the work they have done writes:—

"We have secured Civic Official recognition of the merits of Philately and raised our exhibition to the standard of sympathetic co-operation of the City Museum Committee who have granted the use of the museum for a week (17th to 22nd Feb., public days), and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff will probably open our exhibition and various foreign Consuls be present. In addition to this work we are quietly and steadily educating the youth of this City, through the public schools, to appreciate Philately. Only last week our President, Alderman Trounce, addressed 350 boys in the Howard Gardens Higher Grade School on Philately and Numismatics and received a most enthusiastic reception; he was supported by our Hon. Secretary and myself.

"Again, last fortnight our Vice-President—Mr. G. E. Petty, an authority on Brazilian and Uruguan stamps and well known in London as a member of the R.P.S. Ltd. came up from town and gave us a most erudite paper on Brazilian stamps with a magnificent display. The Consuls for Brazil and Uruguay were present and many ladies."

Postage to Morocco.

According to *The Times*, Mr. A. G. Wise, secretary of the Overseas League, has received a communication from the Postmaster-General confirming the reply recently given to Mr. Henniker Heaton's question in Parliament on the subject of the recent reduction of postage rates to Morocco by France and Germany. It is stated that the question of reducing the rates from this country is engaging the attention of the Postmaster-General. It is added that in the case of the French service the rate is the French inland one—viz., 10c. per 15 grammes.

Penny Postage in China and Japan.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., has received the following letter from Miss E. A. Gordon, who writes

from Tokio under date Dec. 3:—"Some months ago you were good enough to send me your red book to my London residence. I am now in Japan, and have been immensely struck by two facts (which may also be new to you) whilst here and in China—namely, that one may send a letter from one part of China to another in that benighted country of 430 millions who are as yet 'uncivilized' by the West for 3 sen, equal, practically, to our penny postage, and that this boon, I heard, is having splendid effects upon the widely separated peoples of that vast 'middle kingdom.' Then, between China and Japan (including, as above, all those vast distances in China) and *vice versa* there is also penny postage. When will Great Britain wake up?"

Great Britain, 1d. red, plate 77.

Gibbons' catalogue after stating that a specimen of Plate 77 is in the Tapling collection adds "and we have had a second." This second copy Mr. Ewen in his *Weekly Stamp News* informs us was bought by him and sold to Mr. H. J. Crocker, being burnt along with the rest of the latter's collection of British stamps in the San Francisco collection. The Tapling copy is therefore now unique.

Something Drastic Coming.

Mr. C. J. Phillips announces that he has arrived at the conclusion that "Many collectors are beginning to ignore most of these speculative issues, and the directors of my firm will probably take a drastic step in reference to such rubbish in the near future."

Ah! What are we in for now, eh?

I have been preaching in the wilderness of philatelic discontent against the wholesale inclusion of Speculative and Commemorative rubbish for many years, and I begin to feel that after all I have not preached in vain.

The Collectors at fault.

But says C.J.P. it is the collectors who are to blame. Humph! Is that so, my friend?

Do the Collectors decide on what is to be included in the Gibbons' Catalogue? Not they. What a lovely little bit of revision they would indulge in if they had the chance. I'd blue pencil such a lot if I were given the liberty. But it is all coming in good time, for says C.J.P. we are killing the goose that lays the golden eggs, and C.J.P. does not want that goose to slacken off business in these hard times.

So we are going to try a change of diet for the dear old fowl.

Poor old Power in trouble.

The publishers of "The Postage Stamp" seem to have been serving poor old Salvador Power of the Gibbons' New York house very badly. Be it noted that precisely on the 4th January, 1908, he received his treasured copy screwed into a kind of ramrod, with four folds, and a dob of paste sticks the leaves together.

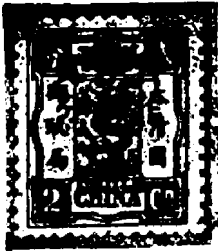
It should have been encased in silk and franked with a Salvador stamp.

The Stamps of China

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 272).

1896. Provisionals. Mr. Mencarini explains the issue of these provisionals as follows: "By Imperial Edict the Imperial Chinese Post Office was recognized (18th December, 1896), and the post office currency was thereupon changed from candarins (taels) to cents (dollars). Whilst regular stamps were being prepared, provisionals were issued, by surcharging in black with ordinary printing types the 1885 and 1894 stamps in stock." The surcharging was done by several printing offices, hence differences in type noted by specialists.



1897. Issue of 1894 surcharged in black.

(1) Small figures (January).

Surcharge 17 to 17½ mm. high.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ c. on 3 c., orange	-	0 2	0 3	
½ c. on 3 c., orange-yellow	-	0 3	0 3	
½ c. on 3 c., ochre	-	0 3		
1 c. on 1 c., vermilion	-	0 9	0 6	
2 c. on 2 c., green	-	0 5	0 3	
4 c. on 4 c., rose	-	0 6	0 6	
5 c. on 5 c., orange	-	0 6	0 6	
5 c. on 5 c., yellow	-	-	-	
8 c. on 6 c., brown	-	0 6	0 6	
8 c. on 6 c., red-brown	-	1 0	1 0	
10 c. on 6 c., brown	-	2 0	2 0	
10 c. on 6 c., red-brown	-	2 0		
10 c. on 9 c., green	-	5 0	3 6	
10 c. on 12 c., orange	-	3 6	3 6	
30 c. on 24 c., carmine	-	4 6	4 6	

Varieties (i.) "2" and fraction bar of "½" omitted.

1 c. on 3 c., orange

(ii.) SurchARGE inverted.

1 c. on 1 c., vermilion

(iii) Double SurchARGE.

½ c. on 3 c., orange

2 c. on 2 c., green

4 c. on 4 c., rose

10 c. on 9 c., green

(2) Larger figures (February)

(a) SurchARGE 17 to 17½ mm. high.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ c. on 3 c., yellow	-	0 1	0 2	
½ c. on 3 c., orange	-	-	-	
1 c. on 1 c., vermilion	-	0 2	0 3	
2 c. on 2 c., yellow-green	-	0 3	0 2	
2 c. on 2 c., deep green	-	5 0		
4 c. on 4 c., rose	-	0 6	0 8	
5 c. on 5 c., orange	-	5 0		
5 c. on 5 c., yellow	-	1 0	1 0	
8 c. on 6 c., brown	-	-	-	
8 c. on 6 c., red-brown	-	1 6		
10 c. on 9 c., green	-	1 6	2 0	
10 c. on 9 c., emerald	-	2 0	2 6	
10 c. on 12 c., orange-yellow	-	2 0	1 6	
30 c. on 24 c., carmine	-	5 0	5 0	

Variety. "cen" for "cent."

½ c. on 3 c., pale yellow

(b) SurchARGE 16 to 16½ mm. high.

Figure of value closer to Chinese characters.

½ c. on 3 c., orange-yellow	-	0 1	0 6	
½ c. on 3 c., pale yellow	-	0 3	0 6	
1 c. on 1 c., vermilion	-	0 2	0 3	
2 c. on 2 c., green	-	0 6	0 2	
4 c. on 4 c., rose	-	1 0	1 3	
5 c. on 5 c., orange	-	12 6	5 0	
5 c. on 5 c., yellow	-	4 0	5 0	
8 c. on 6 c., brown	-	50 0		
10 c. on 9 c., green	-	10 0	3 6	
10 c. on 9 c., pale green	-	10 0		
10 c. on 12 c., orange	-	7 6	4 0	
10 c. on 12 c., brown-orange	-	10 0		
30 c. on 24 c., carmine	-	-	-	

Varieties.

SurchARGE inverted.

½ c. on 3 c., pale yellow	-	-	-	
2 c. on 2 c., green	-	25 0		
4 c. on 4 c., rose	-	12 0		
10 c. on 9 c., green	-	10 0		

New plate with figures "2" in lower corners instead of "2"

2 c. on 2 c., green

Issue of 1885 surcharged in black.

(1) Small figures (February). Surcharged 17 mm. high.

1 c. on 1 c., green	-	-	0	4	0	6
1 c. on 1 c., pale green	-	-	—		2	0
2 c. on 3 c., pale mauve	-	-	0	6	0	6
5 c. on 5 c., grey-bistre	-	-	0	6	0	9

(2) Large figures as 'Types 14 and 15 (May).

(a) Surcharged 16½ mm. high.

1 c. on 1 c., green	-	-	8	0	10	0
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(b) Surcharged 15½ mm. high.

2 c. on 3 c., mauve	-	-	8	0	10	0
5 c. on 5 c., olive yellow	-	-	8	0	10	0

Revenue stamp surcharged in black.

1 c. on 3 c., red	-	-	0	2	0	2
1 c. on 3 c., red-brown	-	-	0	3		
2 c. on 3 c., red	-	-	0	4	0	6
2 c. on 3 c., red	-	-	0	3	0	2
4 c. on 3 c., "	-	-	0	4	0	6
4 c. on 3 c., "	-	-	60	0		
\$1 on 3 c., red	-	-	7	6	7	6
\$1 on 3 c., "	-	-			£10	
\$5 on 3 c., "	-	-	-100	0		

Surcharged inverted.

2 c. on 3 c., red	-	-	15	0		
\$5 on 3 c., "	-	-				

1897. Twelve values. Designs: Various. The ½ c. to 10 c. were of the dragon type; the 20 c., 30 c., and 50 c. had a carp as the central design; and the dollar values a wild goose on the wing. The appearance of the goose on a postage stamp is, from the Chinese point of view, very appropriate, for, according to an ancient legend, one of the emperors of China sent a special ambassador to the sovereign of a country situated on the northern borders of the Celestial Empire. Instead of treating this messenger with the respect to which his ambassadorial office entitled him, the northern king made him a prisoner and placed him into slavery, and he had to work as a cattle-minder. One day, presumably when tending his cattle, he caught a wild goose, and remembering that these birds regularly migrated north and south, he attached a letter to it addressed to his emperor and set the bird at liberty. The Chinese monarch was out shooting one day and shot a goose, and the story goes that this was the goose, and so the letter fell direct into the emperor's hands. Of course, the ambassador was rescued and his captor was severely punished for his treachery. From this fable comes the common expression the Chinese have for the mails—*hung pien*, which may be interpreted as "the convenience of the wild goose."

The stamps were printed in Japan from designs proposed by the Customs Statistical Department in Shanghai. The values were in cents and dollars, and the unsold remainders of provisional stamps were withdrawn and superseded by this new issue. The three highest values were printed in two colours.

The rarity of this issue, from the specialist's point of view, is the 50 cents printed in error in the intense dark green of the 10 c., instead of in its own pale yellow green. The stamps were printed on paper watermarked as before with the yin-yang sign and perforated. For the shade hunter they are exceptionally interesting, for the ½ c., 4 c., and 10 c. yield very distinct shades. Some of the high values are getting very scarce.

The numbers printed of this issue were as follows:

½ cent, claret	-	-	-	-	481,200
1 ,, yellow	-	-	-	-	433,200
2 cents, orange	-	-	-	-	1,248,000
4 ,, brown	-	-	-	-	912,000
5 ,, rose	-	-	-	-	360,000
10 ,, green	-	-	-	-	360,000
20 ,, brown-lake	-	-	-	-	168,000
30 ,, carmine	-	-	-	-	168,000
50 ,, yellow-green	-	-	-	-	360,000
\$1, carmine and rose	-	-	-	-	51,600
\$2, orange and yellow	-	-	-	-	12,930
\$5, yellow-green and rose	-	-	-	-	7,200

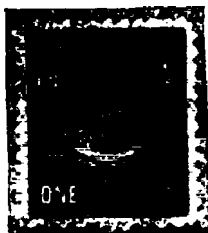
Wmk. Yin-yang. Perf.



	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½ c., claret	- 0 1	0 1
1 c., yellow	- 0 2	0 2
2 c., deep orange	- 0 2	0 1
4 c., brown	- 0 4	0 1
5 c., rose	- 0 4	0 3
10 c., dark green	- 0 6	0 2



30 c., carmine	-	-	3	0	3	0
50 c., yellow-green	-	-	5	0	3	6



\$1, carmine and rose -	-	10	0	10	0
\$2, orange and yellow -	-	20	0	20	0
\$5, yellow-green and rose -	-	80	0	-	-

To be continued.

The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal

The Cayman Islands Provisionals: An Exposure

BY THE EDITOR

WE regret to say that facts have now come to hand which prove that the recently issued and much-talked-of Cayman Islands Provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps are nothing more nor less than a scandalous speculation on the part of the local Colonial Postal officials.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., stamp dealers, of Ipswich, who have on many occasions refused to be a party to the exploitation of collectors, send us the following statement of facts:—

"1. At the time of the issue of these provisional stamps there were *actually in stock ordinary* $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps of a face value of no less than £168! Consequently, there was no dearth of these values, and we cannot see that there was the slightest necessity for any such surcharges.

"2. That in addition to these $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values, ordinary stamps of the $2\frac{1}{2}$., 6d, and 1s. stamps in the old colours were withdrawn from sale at the Post Office by the Commissioner. Those stamps, amounting in all to £876, were offered to us privately by a local merchant, who asked us to make an offer for the lot.

"We had previously been informed by the Post-mistress that they would not be sold at face value.

"3. The same person who offered us these stamps has been advertising in the newspapers the three provisionals at 15s. the set of three, the face value being only 2d.

"4. By a letter which we have just received from the Commissioner of the Cayman Islands we are informed that the whole of these withdrawn stamps are now in the hands of the Governor of Jamaica.

"There are other details which at present we are not at liberty to impart, but we think the above will be sufficient."

Thus we have the fact that these provisionals, which were ostensibly issued to provide in an emergency for a shortage of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. stamps, were purely a speculation on the part of the Postal Officials. That is to say, whilst the Post Office had in hand an ample supply of these values, they made

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in last week's number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of China is probably the finest in the world.

and issued provisionals to take their place. Such action can have had but one motive, and that could only be official speculation of the most barefaced and scandalous character. We were assured that not only were these provisionals necessary to make up for a sudden shortage of these values, but that every care was taken to prevent their being snapped up by speculators to the inconvenience of the general public requiring the stamps. Yet one speculator is said to have secured 1,500 of these provisionals. Of course it was easy enough to sell the stamps over the post office counter at face value and yet make sure that they should be secured for speculative sale. Indeed, dealers were refused supplies. We innocently regarded this refusal of supplies to dealers as a proof that the issue was not a speculative one, but it is now evident that dealers were refused supplies in order that the profits of the game that was being played might be concentrated in the hands of a local gang of speculators inside and outside the Cayman Islands Post Office.

This is matter for the serious attention of the Colonial Secretary, and we have no doubt that Mr. Winston Churchill will when he reads the evidence that is being laid before him deal with the guilty parties in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. Such a deliberate degradation of the purposes of a Colonial Post Office has rarely been so effectually exposed. It is therefore to be hoped that there will be a searching inquiry, a subsequently published report, and a rigorous punishment of the guilty parties in this wretched business.

Then, as if this speculation in provisionals were not enough to satiate the official appetite several values still serviceable for sale are withdrawn and offered for competition amongst dealers with the view of making further profits at fancy prices for stamps which should have been openly sold to the public.

If British Colonial Postal Officials are allowed a free hand to manipulate the postal issues of the Colonies for private ends where is the scandal of official speculation to stop?

Collectors in Council

BY SIR CHARGE

IT seems a long time, in fact some years, since we have had any of our fireside philatelic conversations retailed for public use. As I have explained in years gone by, we are only a small family party, meeting in our own Inglenook to chat over the various phases of our stamp collecting hobby, but my friend, the Editor of *The Postage Stamp*, begs me to send him, as of yore, a few notes, now and again, of our most interesting evenings, and I have, somewhat reluctantly, agreed to do so. I say reluctantly, because we are a free-and-easy party, and some of us hold strong opinions concerning the drift of matters philatelic, regarding many modern developments as being of very questionable advantage to the hobby.

In our last evening we rambled through what would be termed a mixed programme. As a matter of fact, we never have any settled programme of any kind. You might even term us philatelic Quakers, for we trust to the inspiration of the hour, and we have never yet had a dull evening. Sometimes one, sometimes another, will show a novelty he has come across, and we discuss it; at other times another will bring his album of a country which he has just rearranged; or we find ourselves discussing our latest New Issue supplies, or the recently issued philatelic journals. In some direction we find something to relate, something to discuss, and so we go on preserving the ties and cementing the friendships of years.

As I have said, our last evening was what would be termed a mixed programme.

My friend Tête Bêche was the first to arrive, and in his impulsive way he had barely got inside the door before he pulled out a copy of *Truth* and flourished it in my face, exclaiming, "Have you read this, Sir Charge? Do you know that Labby is going for stamps?"

The Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal.

"Do you mean Mr. Labouchere?" I asked, as soon as I could get in a word.

"Yes, Mr. Labouchere, Sir Punctilious. He's going for them, hammer and tongs."

"Going for stamps, hammer and tongs? Whatever do you mean?"

"Hullo, Tête Bêche, so you've invested in a copy of *Truth*," said Charlie Perf, who had just arrived. "Aint it grand!" said he.

"Grand, I call it A1, and I hope Labby, I beg pardon, Sir Charge, Mr. Labouchere, will not let the matter drop until he has exposed the whole bag of tricks. And by gum, he's just the one to do it."

"I wish you would sit down quietly, like rational beings, and explain what it is all about," I said, and then catching sight of my old friend Wide Roulette

in the doorway, I advanced to shake hands, telling him that he was just in time to help me to cool down our two hot-headed young friends.

"Ah," said Wide Roulette, "what have they been up to again, Sir Charge. Have they got a few complete sheets of the first issue of Egypt?"

"No such luck," said Charlie Perf, "but we have got something quite as fine in its way. Labouchere is going for stamp fudges in *Truth*."

"The Brighton case, I presume?"

"Oh no, not the Brighton case. Mr. Labouchere is flying at much higher game," added Tête Bêche. "He is exposing the colonial postmasters' frauds of making provisionals and other stamps for sale to collectors."

"Oh! Oh! so that is it, is it?" I exclaimed.

"An excellent man," said Wide Roulette, "though he has not unfrequently represented himself as a bit of a scapegrace in his day. If he has really taken up this question seriously and some one who knows the facts will take the trouble to place reliable information before Mr. Labouchere, I have not the slightest doubt that he will compel the Colonial Office to make a searching inquiry."

"Oh, he'll settle their hash," said Charlie Perf, exultantly. "You may trust Labouchere for that. He is not devoting all this space in *Truth* to a passing matter that he does not intend to pursue to some conclusion. That is not his way."

"Well, now, suppose you all sit down, and you or Tête Bêche read out what Mr. Labouchere has to say, and then we can discuss it more intelligently."

The "Truth" Crusade.

So we all listened while Tête Bêche read from two or three issues of *Truth* all that had appeared about the so-called "Colonial Postage Stamp Scandal."

"I wonder if anything will come of it," ruminated Wide Roulette. "The remedy will be the difficulty, and candidly I do not hope much from this so-called crusade."

"You are a regular wet blanket, Wide Roulette," said Tête Bêche. "This is not a storm in a teacup or a passing discussion at a society or in a philatelic periodical. It is a serious exposure of an admitted system of official frauds which will now be pressed on the attention of the proper authorities."

"Even so," said Wide Roulette, "what is to be the remedy? You cannot say a colonial postmaster shall not have the power to provide a provisional common value when an expected consignment fails to arrive on time. And so long as the excuse for the issue of a provisional exists, so long will there be occasional abuses and scandals; and so long as there is the chance of a deal at big profits, so long will

officials be tempted to engineer something on their own account. Besides, there are a thousand and one ways of throwing dust in the eyes of the authorities by collusion with an outsider that even stern regulations will scarcely meet the case. For instance, suppose a provisional to be unavoidable, and every precaution is taken to sell only a few at a time over the counter, what is to hinder a shrewd speculator providing his own chosen public to buy up the issue over the post office counter, on receiving a tip from an official when and where to be on the scene?"

"You are right, Wide Roulette," said I, "it is easy enough to expose and denounce the evil but it is another matter to provide an effectual check on official jobbery of provisional issues. The colonial office might issue a regulation compelling postmasters to get the Governor's written consent to the issue of provisionals, and holding the Governor responsible for a strict inquiry into all suspicious cases of official jobbery. No postmaster should have the power to issue what provisionals he pleases. After all it is only the issue of provisionals that afford scope for alluring profits."

What about Commemoratives?

"But what do you say to speculatives of the commemorative type?" asked Tête Bêche.

"It should be easy to deal with them. Let the Colonial office make a regulation forbidding the issue of commemorative stamps without having first obtained the consent of the home authorities," said I.

"And then there are all those suspicious varieties, said to have been bought over the post office counter in the ordinary way, such sale and purchase no doubt having all been duly arranged beforehand by some official for personal profit, to be subsequently arranged," urged Tête Bêche.

"All very difficult to check," said Wide Roulette. "I am delighted to hear of the *exposé*, but, all the same, I do not see how an effective remedy is to be provided. The profits that accrue from the sale of a thousand halfpenny Cayman Island provisionals to be subsequently retailed by an untraceable connection in the stamp trade at 8s. or 10s. per stamp, must be very tempting, and should if possible be guarded against by the authorities, for once an official shares such profits as these you never know how far he may be tempted to go. It is a serious matter that will require much careful consideration on the part of the Colonial office authorities."

"But what about the stamp trade?" asked Charles Perf.

"What do you want to do with the dealers, Charlie?" said Tête Bêche. "They are openly in the business for the profit to be got out of it, and I do not see that any blame can be attached to them, unless you can prove collusion with a subordinate official."

"It's a jolly old tangle," said Perf.

"It is," said Wide Roulette, "and the ugly fact that has to be faced is the undeniable one that a sudden and unexpected demand may at any hour result in a shortage of a value, and then you cannot shut up the post office or tell people who want to post their letters or business circulars to wait till a supply arrives. Therefore, so long as the way is open to a genuine or plausible excuse for a provisional

issue, so long will the way be open for official speculation; for any official can, when his stock is running low, arrange with an outside friend to buy it up, and so render a provisional necessary, and the same private business arrangement can be made to share in the provisional issue, and there is no doubt whatever that it has been done over and over again. The outcry will not have been in vain if the Colonial Office authorities can devise an effective check.

"A searching official inquiry into some typical case, followed by the prompt dismissal of the guilty postal official might have a salutary effect," said Tête Bêche.

"But how are you going to get at him, and provide the incriminating evidence?" queried Wide Roulette.

Getting at the Gully.

"Well, I fancy that would be forthcoming in many cases," said Tête Bêche, "Collusion would have to be with some one dealer or group of dealers, and you may depend upon it that those who were left out in the cold would somehow or another get at the facts and put the authorities on the track. Now just you watch the course of this Cayman Islands business, and see if you do not trace exposure to some one who has been left out in the cold in the sharing of supplies. When a provisional is issued, Tom, Dick, and Harry each want a share; and if Tom and Dick get the lot, and Harry is left out in the cold, you may depend on it Harry will get his own back in some other way. He will spoil the market for his competitors if he can."

"Rather a low view that, to take of our obliging friends the Stamp Dealers, is it not?" said Wide Roulette.

"Not at all," said Tête Bêche, "for the people I have in my mind are not our regular and responsible dealers, but the unscrupulous gang of speculators who generally manipulate these provisionals; in fact, they more often than not, make our dealers pay heavily for what they get. For instance, take the gang that worked the Seychelles a few years ago; practically, they had the post office as well as the dealers at their mercy."

An Awful Tangle.

"It's an awful tangle," said our cooled, but erst-while impulsive, Charles Perf, "and it seems to me that the more we discuss it the more hopeless it appears. I have had about enough of this, and guess I'll get home and go to bed, and try and dream that I have scooped up the whole supply of a new Cayman Islands Provisional one bob on a tanner!"

And so we parted, after indulging in what I am bound to admit was a depressing discussion of a very difficult question, a question that demands and must receive some solution if the corruption of postal officials is to be checked. At home the most extraordinary precautions are taken in the manufacture and issue of our own stamps, from the manufacture of the paper to the sale of the stamps to the public. Why should not the issue of postage stamps in our Colonies be similarly safeguarded? Stamps are practically coins of the Empire, and there should be no jobbery permissible or even possible with their issue.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 277)

Cavalla.—A seaport in Turkey-in-Europe on the Aegean Sea more correctly known as Kavala. For many years the French authorities have maintained a Consular office here at which postal business is transacted. In 1893 the contemporary stamps of France were surcharged "Cavalle" for use in this office, but since 1902 special stamps have been used. The town has a population of over 17,000 and is famous as having been the birthplace of Mehemet Ali.

Cavalle.—The French form of Cavalla.

Cayman Islands.—A group of three Islands (Grand Cayman, Little Cayman and Cayman Brac) in the Caribbean Sea, under the government of Jamaica, from which they are about 200 miles distant. They are of coral formation and very fertile. Postage stamps were first issued in 1900.

C.C.—These letters surmounted by a crown form a watermark found in many British Colonial stamps. (See "CROWN C.C.")

C.Ch.—A surcharge found upon certain French stamps of the "commerce" type which were used in Cochin China in 1886.

C.D.—These letters are found surcharged upon various South Australian stamps used between 1868 and 1874, and signify "Convict Department."

C.E.F.—A surcharge found upon many recently current Indian stamps which means "China Expeditionary Force." These stamps were used at the Field Post Offices in connection with the British troops employed in 1900 in the march upon Peking to the relief of the legations.

C. Ben. B.—A surcharge found upon the Ecuador stamps of 1899-1901 that were used in the province of Guayas in 1902. This overprint was applied by the order of the Government as a control upon the stamps used in this province as, owing to a fire which destroyed the greater part of the town of Guayaquil, a large quantity of stamps were destroyed or stolen and it was thought, if they were stolen, they would be brought into use.

Cement.—(See "GUM.")

Cent.—The value in which the stamps of many countries are expressed. In the United States, British Guiana, etc., there are 100 cents to a dollar, worth $4/2$; in Borneo, Hong-kong, etc., 100 cents also equal a dollar, which has an average value of $2/1$; in Ceylon, Mauritius, and Seychelles 100 cents equal a rupee, worth $1/4$; and in Holland and the Dutch Colonies 100 cents are equal to a florin or gulden, worth about $1/8$.

Centenario de S. Antonio.—A surcharge found upon certain Mozambique stamps used in the Portuguese colony of Inhambane in 1895, signifying "Centenary of St. Anthony."

Centavo.—The denomination in which the stamps of most of the countries in South and Central America are expressed. Its value varies greatly, from $3/4$ d. to as low as the hundredth part of a half-penny, but its average value may be taken as $3/4$ d. in English money.

Cent de escudo.—The value in which some of the stamps of Spain and the Spanish Colonies were expressed. It is equal to about $3/4$ d. in English currency.

Cent. de peseta.—Many of the stamps of Spain and her Colonies were expressed in this value, which is worth about the tenth of a 1 d. in English money.

Cent. de peso.—A value expressed upon several of the stamps of the Spanish Colonies, which is equal to the tenth part of an English penny.

Centes.—A contraction for "centesimi," the value in which the stamps for the Austrian States in Italy were expressed from 1850 to 1858. A hundred centesimi are equal to a lira worth about 1 0d.

Centesimo (plural "centesimi").—The value in which most of the stamps of Italy and Uruguay are expressed. In Italy 100 centesimos are equal to a lira worth 1 0d.; while in Uruguay 100 centesimos are equal to a peso worth about $4/6$.

Centime.—The stamps of France, Belgium, Hayti, etc., are nearly all expressed in centimes. In the European countries where this value obtains 100 centimes equal a franc worth 1 0d., while in Hayti 100 centimes equal a gourde worth about $4/2$.

Centimo.—The value in which the stamps of Spain, Costa Rica, the Dominion Republic, and Venezuela are expressed. It ranges in value from $3/4$ d. to about the tenth part of a penny.

Ceres type.—The design of the 1849-50 and 1870-5 issues of France shows a head of Ceres, emblematic of Liberty. Ceres or Demeter was one of the greatest of the Greek goddesses.

Certificado.—The inscription appearing upon the registration stamps of Salvador, which signifies "registered."

Ceylon.—An island and British Crown Colony at the southern extremity of India, with which it is closely connected by a chain of sandbanks and reefs. Adam's Bridge, so-called from the legend, still

To be continued.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NARRIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Italy. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* has been shown a second value, the 50 c., in the new design; it is nearly similar to the 25 c., but the letters and figures of value are in white on a coloured ground. As before, the stamp is surface-printed, on thin paper, and is perforated 14.

Southern Nigeria. We have received the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value printed all in green. At present the unicoloured set comprises only the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. It remains to be seen whether the unicoloured printings of Colonial stamps will extend beyond the Postal Union values of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. We believe we are right in saying that no other values have been changed up to the present. Up to date all the values, with a 3d. stamp added, have been issued on multiple C.A. paper except the 10s. but they are mostly being held in reserve until the Lagos stamps have been used up.

Unicoloured.

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. green.

1d. rose.

Switzerland. *Gibbons' Stamp Weekly* publishes an interesting revision of the later issues in the *Gibbons' Catalogue* which we quote *in extenso*:-

"On rearranging our stock books of Switzerland we have found several new varieties of perforation and paper, and have also discovered that No. 218 was inserted in the present Catalogue by mistake.

"It also seems to us that, in view of recent discoveries, the latter part of Switzerland (from No. 191) is not arranged in the best possible manner; so we have rewritten the list from this number onwards. We shall be much obliged if our readers will make a note that Nos. 192 to 218 are to be deleted, and the following list substituted in their place

"An asterisk indicates a hitherto unchronicled variety (i.e., in the Catalogue or in *G.S.W.*).

"The old Catalogue number is given in brackets."

1902. Type 10. Wmk. Type 8. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.
Unused. Used.
s. d. s. d.
*192 1 fr., carmine - - - - 0 2

1904. Type 12 (Type 10 redrawn).
Wmk. Type 8. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

193 40 c., pearl-grey (192) - - 0 9 0 4

1905-8. Wmk. Type 13.
Type 9. Granite paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

194 2 c., olive-brown (199) - 0 1 0 1

195 3 c., drab (200) - - 0 1 0 1

196 5 c., pale green (201) - 0 1 0 1

197 10 c., scarlet (202) - - 0 3 - -

198 12 c., deep blue (203) - - 0 3 0 3

199 15 c., deep violet (204) - 0 4 - -

Type 10. (i.) Plain, white paper.

(a) Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

206 20 c., orange (194) - - 0 6 0 1
207 25 c., pale blue (195) - - 0 6 0 2
208 30 c., deep brown (196) - 0 8 0 2
209 50 c., grey-green (197) - 1 0 0 2
210 1 fr., carmine (198) - - 2 0 0 2
211 3 fr., bistre-brown (218?) - 4 0 - -

(b) Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

212 20 c., orange - - - 0 6 - -
215 50 c., grey-green - - - 1 0 0 2
*216 1 fr., carmine - - - 2 0 0 3

(ii.) Granite paper.

Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

224 20 c., orange - - - 0 3 0 1
226 30 c., deep brown - - - 0 5 - -
227 50 c., grey-green - - - 0 8 - -
228 1 fr., carmine - - - 1 3 0 2

Type 12 (Type 10 redrawn). (i.) Plain paper.

(a) Perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

230 25 c., pale blue (206) - - 1 0 0 1
231 40 c., pearl-grey (208) - - 1 6 0 4

(b) Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

232 25 c., pale blue (213) - - 0 9 0 1
*233 40 c., pearl-grey - - - 5 0 0 6

(ii.) Granite paper. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

*234 40 c., pearl-grey - - - 0 6 - -

1907-8. Types 14 (2 c., 3 c., 5 c.) and 15.

Wmk. Type 13.

Granite paper.

235 2 c., olive-yellow - - - 0 1 - -
236 3 c., red-brown - - - 0 1 - -
237 5 c., green - - - 0 1 - -
238 10 c., carmine - - - - - -
*239 12 c., deep blue - - - - - -
240 15 c., mauve - - - 0 3 - -

Has not the compiler of this list made a mistake in listing the new designs on "granite paper?" Our copies are certainly not on granite paper.

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From Other Magazines

Natal—Issue to Specialise.

HERE are few countries in which there are not some issues or stamps regarding which comparatively little is known. Take Natal as an instance. Our knowledge regarding the settings of the type employed for the various surcharges is exceptionally meagre, and we have no hesitation in recommending the stamps of Natal as a promising field for research. But for the purposes of this short article we had one particular issue in mind, i.e. the set of four stamps issued in 1876 with the word "POSTAGE" overprinted across them. The stamps are numbered 81 to 84 in Gibbons' catalogue, and are priced as follows:—

	Unused	Used
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose ...	12 6	10 0
1d. yellow ...	7 6	7 6
6d. violet ...	12 6	1 6
1s. green ...	15 0	4 0

From the Royal Philatelic Society's work—"Africa, Part II."—we learn that the 1d. yellow was issued in September, 1876, and the others towards the end of that year. The only other information given is "Minor varieties due apparently to slight defects in the type and position of some of the letters may be found in the surcharge."

No one seems to have studied the matter further—at any rate we can trace no other reference to this issue in any of the magazines of recent years.

A little study will prove that the minor varieties in the surcharge are well defined, and can easily be identified. Thus there is a small "P," small round "O," small "A," small "G," small "T," small "E," besides broken and shifted letters. Indeed it looks as if in setting up this surcharge two founts of type were hopelessly mixed.

Altogether the issue is full of problems, and a few questions the would-be specialist should attempt to solve are: (1) Was the same type used in overprinting all the values; (2) how many stamps were surcharged at a time; (3) whether there was more than one setting of the type; and (4) the position of the different varieties?

These are points it would only be possible to determine by amassing a very fine collection of these four stamps—a collection which would have to be rich in large blocks.

However, with patience and energy, the task is not an impossible one, and to the collector thirsting for "fresh fields and pastures new" to explore, we can strongly recommend this issue as one well worthy of study, and one that will tax his specialist knowledge and resources to the utmost.—*The West End Philatelist, Feb. 08.*

France—Peace and Commerce Type.

This design was the result of a competition opened by the Ministry of Finance in 1875. Mons J. A.

Sage was the successful competitor, receiving 1500 francs for his design, though the issued stamps differ slightly from his original drawing. He described his conception as "Commerce and Peace uniting to rule the world."

The Bank of France was charged with the production of the new stamps, and they chose Mons. E. Mouchon, who had quite a reputation as an engraver on steel, to engrave the die. This was successfully accomplished, but in the process of hardening, it cracked across the design, the break passing through the hip of the female figure and down through the A of FRANCAISE. It was not considered necessary to engrave an entirely new die, so the cracked one was clamped together, put in a coining machine, and an impression in reverse taken. By the aid of this, with the damaged

Argentine Perforations.

I notice in Stanley Gibbons new catalogue, Part II., they make the same mistake as they have done for years. That is, under the issue of 1889-90, they have a footnote saying that two sets can be made up, perf. 11½ and 12 respectively, but this is not so. I have looked through some hundreds of these stamps and have not found one perf. 12 all round. They are perf. 11½ or 11½ × 12. There were certainly two machines used, a single line machine perforating 11½ and a comb machine perforating 11½ × 12. I have the following values with their respective perforations.

- ¼c. All I have are perf. 11½ all round.
- ½c. " " " 11½ " "
- 1c. I have only one copy perf. 11½ × 12, about 5 per cent. with this perf.
- 2c. I have only two copies perf. 11½ × 12, about 5 per cent. with this perf.
- 3c. I find the perf. 11½ × 12 as common as the perf. 11½. I should think the proportion is about half of each.
- 5c. I find about 50 per cent. of each perf.
- 6c. All I have seen are perf. 11½.
- 10c. " " " 11½.
- 12c. About 5 per cent. perf. 11½ and 95 per cent. 11½ × 12.
- 40c. All I have seen are perf. 11½.
- 50c. About 25 per cent. perf. 11½ and 75 per cent. 11½ × 12.
- 60c. All perf. 11½.—*F. T. Collier in the Stamp Collector, January, 1908.*

Forgeries of Straits Settlements.

Mr. Geo. G. Hiatt writes warning his fellow-readers of the *Fortnightly* against forgeries of the early provisional Straits Settlements stamps, especially the 1½ cents on 1 anna blue, India, with overprint in red. They are very well done, but the red of the overprint is too bright when compared with the genuine original stamp.—*Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, 22/2/08.*

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Queen's Head Sets.

Mr. Ewen has been publishing some interesting statistics in his *Weekly Stamp News* concerning the increased catalogue value of certain modern issues. Here is his list of Queen's Head sets that were current when King Edward VII. succeeded to the throne, giving the face value, catalogue value, and the profit:—

	Face Value.	Catalogue Value.	Profit.
Bahamas ½d. to 5/-	7/1½	20/8	185%
B.E.A., ½s. to 8s.	3/2	7/8	142%
„ 1r. to 5r.	20/-	47/6	185%
„ do., large	20/-	51/-	155%
Canada ½c. to 10c.	1/6	3/11	155%
Ceylon 2c. to 2r. 25c.	7/-	21/10	210%
Cyprus ½ to 45p.	10/11	31/3	190%
Falkland ½d. to 5/-	10/7	27/7	161%
Gambia ½d. to 1/-	2/7	14/-	460%
Gibraltar ½d. to 1/-	2/4	5/1	120%
Gold Coast ½d. to 10/-	19/1	49/6	150%
Grenada ½d. to 1/-	2/11	12/4	300%

Looks very satisfactory from the holder's point of view.

King's Heads: Rise in Value.

And here are his figures showing the yield on King's Heads sets with single C.A. watermark:—

	Face Value.	Catalogued.	Percentage of Profit.
Cayman Is. ½d. to 1/-	1/10	16/-	750%
Ceylon 2c. to 2r. 25c.	7/4	84/7	1060%
Cyprus ½pi. to 45pi.	10/11	96/6	850%
East Africa ½ to 8s.	2/2	28/-	1200%
Gambia ½d. to 3/-	11/7	40/8	250%
Gibraltar ½d. to £1	36/-	54/5	50%

Catalogue Prices.

Whilst discussing catalogue prices, the following extract from some notes contributed to the *Monthly Journal* by M. Mabé, the veteran French philatelist, will be of interest:—

"In reference to catalogues and prices, I should just like to say a few words, and to give an example of what happens. The publisher of one catalogue quotes a certain stamp which he does not possess, and of which he may not obtain a specimen for some time to come, at the price at which he considers that he ought to be able to sell this stamp if ever he obtains a copy. Another publisher who possesses a specimen of the stamp, quotes it at a much higher price than that of the former; having purchased the stamp at a higher price than that at which it is offered by the other man (which was merely a 'feeler'), he must of course price it higher still. But see where the difference lies; the publisher of the second catalogue can supply the stamp; his

price is therefore a real one, while the price quoted by the first publisher is purely fictitious. This is a truth which should be borne in mind by every collector."

Good old "Bric-a-Brac."

Of all philatelic productions probably none have given rise to more hearty laughter than the little leaflets which used to be published by Mr. Palmer in the Strand, under the title of "Bric-a-Brac." The candid trumpet-blowing was most refreshing; but who would have ventured to prophesy that some day a complete set of the despised sheet would be catalogued by a dealer in philatelic literature at 45s. That, however, is the price which Mr. Victor Marsh quotes in his latest list of prices, and he knows his market.

Plumridge's Coming Sales.

Those who attend Messrs. Plumridge & Co's auction of March 6th and 7th will witness the dispersal of a very fine private collection of English stamps, including many of the greatest rarities. Among the items offered will be some exceedingly rare proofs, including a number of unique things. Another interesting sale by the same firm will be that of April 2nd and 3rd, when the Colonial collection offered for sale includes a splendid lot of triangular Capes. The "star" lot on this occasion will be a specimen of the 1d. blue woodblock error—a superb used copy.

Prices at Puttick & Simpson's Sales.

Here are a few prices realised for interesting stamps at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's recent sales.

	£	s.	d.
France, 1849, 40c. orange, the scarce variety with wide 4 on each side	1	2	0
India, Service, 1883-89, ½s. green with double overprint, two copies, used together with a 1s. plum	3	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1853-8, 4d. blue on bleute*	1	10	0
Do. do. 6d. slate	1	1	0
Do. Woodblock, 4d. blue	2	12	6
Do. do. 4d. deep blue	8	15	0
Lagos, 1904, wmk. single C.A., 2/6 green and carmine, mint	1	16	0
Mauritius, 1859, large fillet, 2d. deep blue	11	10	0
Do. do. small fillet, 2d. blue, early impression	5	5	0
Natal, 1877-79, Halfpenny on 1d. yellow with double surcharge, uncatalogued*	3	5	0
British Columbia, 1861, imperf., 2½d. brown-rose, mint	8	5	0
Barbados, 1873, wmk. small Star, 5/- rose	2	8	0
Grenada, 1861, 2½d. rose-lake, the error "Penef"	1	6	0
British Guiana, 1868-69, 1 dollar green and black, mint	2	2	0
Queensland, 1868-74, wmk. truncated Star, 2d. blue, perf. 13 x 12	3	7	6
Tasmania, 1856, pelure paper, 1d. brown-red, a pair*	7	15	0
Victoria, 1860-62, 3d. blue*	2	17	6
Do. do. 3d. mauve*	2	12	6
Do. do. 6d. orange	3	5	0
Ceylon, 1861, 10d. orange-red, perf. 12½	1	10	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, 2d. lilac, with figures in red, the rare variety with small curly-footed "2"	2	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1853-8, 6d. slate*	3	3	0
Do. woodblock, 4d. blue	3	10	0
St. Lucia, 1865, wmk. C.A., 1/- orange-brown, mint	1	18	0
St. Vincent, 1880, wmk. star, 5/- rose-red, mint	8	10	0
New Zealand, 1871, wmk. star, perf. 12½-13, 6d. blue, 2 mint copies	2	2	0

Philatelic Society Meetings

Croydon.

This Society held its ordinary meeting at 18a, Katharine St. on Wednesday, the 5th February, 1908, when an unusually large proportion of the members were present. Two new members were elected, and two others nominated for election.

A special privilege issue of books dealing with stamp collecting and allied subjects had been arranged for from the Central Public Library, and almost all of those sent were borrowed by members present. Some details concerning the circulation of the Club's exchange packets were settled, and a Sub-Committee appointed to make provisional arrangements for a social gathering with which to conclude the Session.

Mr. H. Simmons then exhibited his collection, and in a chatty and interesting fashion pointed out the principal features. The collection included a large number of good stamps with uncommon varieties of cancellation. Among the best were a mint copy of the rare Great Britain 4d. of 1856, white paper, medium garter, and a bisected 2d. British South Africa, 1897, on piece of original, used for 1d. postage. He also showed some fine used copies of Early British Guiana stamps, and Great Britain 1s. with cancellations of St. Thomas Island and Alexandria.

A very pleasant evening concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Simmons.

Leeds Philatelic Society.

At a meeting of this Society held in the Leeds Institute on Tuesday, the 21st January, 1908, there was a display by the members of the stamps of the Republic of Chile, an ideal country for, and well within the reach of the young collector, as, notwithstanding its first postal issue was made as far back as 1852, the stamps, used and unused, are still plentiful and cheap, the exceptions being perhaps the 5c. and 23c. unused of the imperforate issue of 1852, which are becoming rather scarce.

All the stamps of Chile show the head of Columbus and the first issues of 1852-1862 were designed, engraved and printed by the firm of Perkins, Bacon & Co., the printers of our first English stamps. Later designs and printings were done by the American Bank Note Co. of New York, and by Messrs. Waterlow.

Mr. E. Egly showed his fine collection of all the issues to date, including many superb used blocks of four and six, and all the fiscal and telegraph stamps used postally as well as the "Postage Due" stamps.

Well deserving mention was a large specialised collection, "housed" in several volumes, of the postal issues of France, sent to the President for the inspection of members. The scarce lithographed issue of Bordeaux, including the four types of the 20c., was represented by grand copies in shades, and of this and the earlier and regular issues for the Empire there were no less than five *littre-bêche* pairs of extreme rarity.

Perhaps, however, the greatest interest centered in the Stamp Auction, which preceded the display, and which was the second of the Session. Sixty-five lots were offered, and the sales were over 90%; they included several small collections in albums, Mulready envelopes, rare stamps on original letters, and a great variety of medium and rare stamps of the British Colonies, and of foreign countries. The bidding was of a spirited nature, and many undoubted bargains were secured. The next Auction will take place on the 21st April.

Mr. Morten (President) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Hon. Auctioneer (Mr. J. E. Kitchen) for his good offices, which was carried with acclamation.

Novelties shown were:—by the President, the so-called "Stock Exchange" forgery of

the 1s. green, plate 5, used with genuine 3d., plate 8, on piece of telegraph form—rare thus; by Mr. P. M. Knight, Cyprus 5 paras, bistre and black, new value; France 20 centimes, chocolate, Sower type, new issue; Papua 4d. of the new permanent series, inscribed Papua, watermark, Crown over A.

Brighton Junior.

The seventh meeting of the season was held on January 23rd, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. Mead.

Colonel A. H. Nourse was elected a member of the branch, and letters of regret at non-attendance were read from Mr. Clark and Miss Dunkley.

The Secretary proposed that a very hearty vote of thanks should be sent to the Stamp Trade Protection Association for their recent successful prosecution of the Brighton stamp forger, a matter of especial interest to local philatelists; this was seconded by Mr. Thomas Smith and responded to by Mr. Chas. Smith, a member of the S.T.P.A.

Mr. Ireland then read a paper on "The Coloured C.A. Papers," illustrating the same by his collection. These coloured paper stamps consist of 49 red, 27 blue, 23 yellow, three buff, and one green, and appear with single and multiple wtmk. and "chalked-up" surface. Mr. Ireland was accorded a most hearty vote of thanks for his interesting paper and display.

A special meeting was held on January 30th, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. Mead.

Baron Anthony de Worms, F.R.P.S.I. was elected a member, and donations to the forgery collection were acknowledged from Mr. Mead, Mr. Clark and Colonel Nourse, and to the Library from Mr. Clark.

Baron A. de Worms then gave a display of his magnificent collection of the peace issues of Ceylon, which won a Gold Medal in the International Exhibition held at London in 1906, and all who were present agreed that that was a well-deserved honour. The first page was of pairs of "plate-proofs" of each value, including one of 4d. with value omitted and crown incomplete, and a "die-proof" of the 6d., all struck in black. Then came the 4d. imperf., with some magnificent shades and a mint block of 10; 1d. imperf. block of 12 mint, and several defective impressions; 2d. do. block of 34 from top of sheet mint, and two copies unofficially rouletted 8; 6d. on bluish, yellowish and white papers; four mint copies of the 1s., an extreme rarity in this condition; a mint block of four of the 10d., likewise very rare, and two strips of three of the same. Of the octagonals there were two mint copies each of the 4d., 8d. and 9d., with a pair of 4d. used, six singles of the 8d. (one being with 1s. on original) and eight used 9d.; two mint pairs and eight singles do. of the 1s. 9d., and four mint copies of the 2s.; also a pair and eleven singles of the 1s 9d. and a pair of the 2s. all used.

Wtmk. Star, and perf. blocks of six of 4d. and 1d., also block of 96 of the 1d., and a block of four and two pairs of the 2d., a very scarce stamp. pair of 10d., two blocks of four of the 1s., also block of four and strip of five of the latter, block of four of the 8d., and the 9d. in the extremely rare violet-brown shade, all mint; also the only known copy of the 6d. with a red cancellation. No wtmk. issue: pair of 1d. showing wtmk., T.H., part of paper-maker's name; also two 6d. and six 9d., all mint, and an imperf. 1s., possibly a proof, but only one other copy is known. The C.C. wtmk. issue was likewise magnificently represented, and the "long and short C.C." carefully explained, and the 1d., 2d., 5d., 9d. and 2s. were shown imperf., and the unissued "Service" stamps in pairs.

Mr. Mead proposed a most hearty vote of

thanks to Baron A. de Worms for the great pleasure he had given the members; this was seconded by Mr. Type in an admirable speech and carried with acclamation.

North of England Society

The usual monthly meeting of this Society was held at the Y.M.C.A., Newcastle, on Thursday, February 6th, 1908, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President, Mr. J. D. Hume, was in the Chair, and there were 17 members and one visitor present.

The evening's display was given by Mr. S. C. Graham, who showed his Asiatic, American and African Colonies., many of them being well represented, but his Ceylon proved the most interesting, including, as it does, such good stamps as 10d. Orange, vermilion, Star imperf. and 1s. 9d. green, unused.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Wilkinson moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Graham for the delightful evening provided. This was carried with acclamation, and Mr. Graham suitably responded.

Junior Scottish.

The Monthly Meeting of this Society was held in Dowell's Rooms, Edinburgh, on the evening of Saturday, 1st February, 1908, at 7 p.m. Mr. N. M. Berrie, President, in the Chair. There was a good turn out of members—26 being present.

After a general exchange of duplicates, the Hon. Secretary read the minutes of last meeting, which were approved.

Three new members were admitted. The Hon. Sec. reported the sales from the Exchange Packets in circulation, which were considered very satisfactory.

The Librarian reported gifts to the Library from the President, and to the Forgery Collection from Miss Mackenzie and the Hon. Sec., and the Collection was on view.

The Hon. Sec. reported that the arrangements for the Stamp Auction on 11th April were in progress, but that about 300 lots had already been promised and that Mr. Dowell had very kindly offered, free of charge, the services of an auctioneer. Lots to be included must be sent in by the end of March.

The Hon. Sec. also stated that the Prize Fund already exceeded the amount available last year and that a definite announcement on the subject would be made at next meeting.

The Meeting had an opportunity of examining a very fine collection of the stamps of Great Britain, mostly in mint condition, sent by Mr. J. J. Knowles, Wednesbury, one of the best known collectors in the Midlands. It contained a number of rarities and many scarce stamps of the Queen's reign, including £1 I.R. official. Strips of the 1d. black, in one case with large crown inverted, blocks of the old 1d. on blue, £1 brown, strips and blocks of £1 green, block of 3d. on orange paper, 1d. red on Dickinson paper, 2s. brown, and many other very scarce stamps, all in mint condition.

The collection excited the envy of all present and one page of £1 green in mint condition seemed especially to tempt members to disregard the tenth commandment. There were also some curios in the shape of 4d. and 1d. with printing on both sides, and a block of the 4d. showing the stamp with dot.

Mr. Walker, President of the Senior Branch, gave an interesting account of the early issues of India and the history of the various dies accompanied by an excellent display, including blocks in mint condition of the ½ and 1 anna, 1854 issue, and a specially fine display of the long service stamp in superb condition.

Very hearty votes of thanks were awarded to Mr. Knowles and Mr. Walker for their contributions to a very enjoyable meeting.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 23. Vol. 1.

7 MARCH, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Imperial Stamp Exhibition.



DONT forget that the Juniors will open the doors of their Imperial Stamp Exhibition of the Stamps of Great Britain and her Colonies on Thursday, the 12th March, 1908, at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, and that the Show will remain open for three days, viz., 12th, 13th and 14th, March, 1908.

Make a note also of the fact that admission is free by ticket, and that this number of *The Postage Stamp* will admit you free to the Exhibition.

The Royal Society's Donation.

The Royal Society has come down handsomely, and sent the Juniors £25 towards the expenses of the Exhibition. But nevertheless, the donations up to date still fall short of a hundred pounds, whilst I fear they ought to be nearer two hundred to ensure the promoters against a deficit. They want a shower of cheques badly.

Societies' Should Help.

Every Society should help with a donation from its funds. So far, I believe, the Royal, the Herts, and the Kent and Sussex are the only Societies which have made donations. If all the Societies sent a couple of guineas each there would be much rejoicing in the camp of the Juniors. Instead of rejoicing, I am afraid there is much anxiety, for the expenses will necessarily be heavy. Send what you can to H. F. Johnson, 44, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

New Zealand 1d. Single lined N.Z. Perf. 11.

Commenting on my references to this variety (pages 222 and 246), Mr. W. B. Edwards, President

of the City of London Philatelic Society, who specialises in New Zealand Pictorials, writes to me as follows:—"You are wrong about the 1d. wmkd. perf 11, as I pointed out at first. It is from the Waterlow-Royle plates, the new plates after the dot variety, it is rose carmine, and should be No. 303 c.

1906. New Plate without dot.

(a) Perf. 11.

1d. rose carmine.

(b) Perf. 14.

1d. rose carmine.

"Gibbons puts a note, and correctly names the shade, then puts it as No. 255 b. This stamp *may* exist, but only as a freak from No. 265."

King Edward VII. Land.

A New Zealand correspondent sends me a cutting from a New Zealand weekly with an illustration of the postage stamp to be used by the British Antarctic Expedition. It is the current N.Z. "Universal" penny overprinted, reading upwards, "King Edward VII.—Land," in two lines. The cancellation on this specimen is a circular postmark, "Brit. Antarctica," and the date.

Lieut. Shackleton, Postmaster, Antarctica.

The paragraph accompanying this illustration reads as follows:—

"Lieut. Shackleton is the postmaster of the most southern post office in the world. When visiting the *Nimrod* on December 22nd, Sir Joseph Ward said: On the previous day he (Sir Joseph) had had the unique pleasure of signing the appointment of Lieut. Shackleton as postmaster of King Edward VII. Land, so that for all time he would rank as an official under the New Zealand Government, and the most southerly postmaster in the world. The work, however, would be so light that the salary would be limited—so limited, indeed, that the position was a purely honorary one, and on this account would probably be appreciated all the more by the distinguished gentleman concerned."

St. Vincent: New Design.

It will be remembered that I called attention to the new St. Vincent stamps as having the appearance of being produced by some other process than that of ordinary De la Rue & Co. surface printing, and that I queried, indeed, whether they were done by De la Rue & Co. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

inform me that they have made inquiries and find that they are the work of De la Rue & Co.

But the question remains, By what process are they produced? They are surely not surface printed, and yet it is difficult to believe that these low values are engraved in *taille douce* and printed from copper plates. The work is very effectively done, though not equal to steel plate. Perhaps it is an experiment of which we may hear more later on.

Stamp Trade Protection Association.

The Secretary's Annual Report for 1906-7 of this energetic body lies before me. I note that the prosecution of Treherne at Brighton has cost the Association so far £34, and there are at present further claims amounting to £27. Considering that these sums include the cost of obtaining evidence and preparing the case for the Inland Revenue, it is clear that the work undertaken is not only effectively, but economically done.

A New Zealand Dependency.

Apparently we philatelists will have to catalogue "King Edward VII. Land" as a New Zealand dependency using New Zealand postage stamps. It would be interesting to know what arrangements have been made for supplies of these stamps, numbers overprinted, &c. Perhaps the overprinting will be a pleasant occupation in winter quarters.

Counani Redivivus.

About a couple of years ago a series of stamps was heralded for the so-called Independent Republic of Counani, situate between Brazil and the three Guianas.

As no one had ever before heard of such a State, our Foreign Office was written to for information, and replied that the "State" was a purely fictitious one, and the Brazil Government denied the existence of such a State within or near its boundaries.

But now, forsooth, this old chestnut is to be revived, for I have before me a series of stamps already engraved and printed. As the inscriptions and values are in French the rubbish is evidently of Parisian origin, but I understand that the printing is being done in London.

A Correction.

The word "miscoloured" in the first paragraph of my notes last week was a misprint for "unicoloured."

The Stamps of China

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

(Continued from page 285).

1898-1904. Twelve values. Designs: Similar to preceding issue, but re-engraved, with modifications in every value, by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, London, and printed by them. The $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 2 c., 4 c., 5 c., and 10 c. were all of the same dragon design without variations in the framework as in the Japanese issue; and the 20 c., 30 c., and 50 c. were of the same design with a carp as the central figure; the dollar values were of the "wild goose" design. The first supplies were all printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons on paper watermarked with the yin-yang, a stock of watermarked paper, sufficient to print thirteen million stamps, being forwarded to them, and after the exhaustion of that supply the stamps were to be printed on plain, unwatermarked paper. As the watermarks are most indistinct, it was some time before it was discovered that they had been

printed on watermarked paper—indeed, in the Gibbons Catalogue of 1904 they are listed as "no wmk."

Gibbons' Catalogue has the following note concerning the watermarked paper:—"On the 26th May, 1899, the stock of watermarked paper, 110 reams, enough to print about 13,000,000 stamps, was forwarded to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons to print on without regard to the stamps fitting the watermark, after the exhaustion of which paper the stamps were to be printed on plain paper. The two classes of stamps are difficult to separate, the watermark not showing very clearly, but the plain paper is slightly thicker and far more opaque."

In this case like many others the collector will do well to look out for copies that show the watermark clearly, for some do and others do not.

*Wmk. Yin-yang.**Perf. 14 to 16.*

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ cent, brown	0	2	0	1
1 „ ochre-buff	0	2	0	2
2 cents, crimson	0	3	0	1
4 „ chestnut	0	3	0	1
5 „ pale red	0	9	0	1
10 „ deep green	0	6	0	2
20 „ brown lake	1	0	0	3
30 „ rose-red	1	3	1	0
50 „ green	2	0	0	9
\$1, carmine and salmon	4	0	2	0
\$2, „ yellow	7	6	5	0
\$5, green and salmon	17	6	10	0

Error: 50 c. in colour of 10 c.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
50 c., deep green	30	0	—	—

Range of Catalogue Prices: unused.

The higher values of these Japanese printed stamps have risen considerably in value, and there is no doubt that they are likely to be good stamps. The \$3 values are very scarce, and especially the \$5. The five ranges of shades throughout the lower values naturally attract the specialist.

	1900	1903	1906	1908
\$1	4 0	7 6	10 0	10 0
\$2	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0
\$5	30 0	80 0	80 0	80 0

No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.

	Unused.		Used.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
½ c., brown	0	1	0	1
1 c., buff	0	1	0	1
2 c., crimson	0	1	0	1
4 c., chestnut	—	—	0	4
5 c., salmon	0	6	0	2
5 c., orange-yellow	0	3	0	1
10 c., green	—	—	0	3
20 c., brown lake	—	—	—	—
30 c., rose red	—	—	—	—
50 c., green	—	—	—	—
\$1 carmine and salmon	—	—	—	—
\$2 carmine and yellow	—	—	—	—
\$5 green and salmon	—	—	—	—

1905. One value. Design unchanged, but colour altered from salmon to purple.

No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.

5 c., purple	—	0 1
--------------	---	-----

1907. One value. Design: same as the 20 c. of the previous issue. A new value introduced for the purpose of prepaying foreign letters weighing between 20 and 40 grammes.

No wmk. Perf. 14 to 16.

16 c., olive green	—	—
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Investment.

Most collectors now-a-days want to know how a country stands from the investment point of view. Is it worth putting money into? is a very general question. Some countries are full of promise for investment, whilst others are purely and almost solely philatelic. China is what I should term an almost purely philatelic country. In the days to come it may be opened out by the specialist into an investment country, but at present it cannot be considered to be ripe very much in that direction. It is full of philatelic interest from its first issue to its last, in fact, I know of few countries so interesting from the purely philatelic standpoint. Its stamps are decidedly cheap from start to finish, and they are free from the speculative and commemorative taint. They are rich in varieties of shades and minor differences on which I have not touched in these articles for fear of wearying my readers. Were I writing for specialists I might have extended my pages to double the number for the stamps of China have been favourites of mine for many a year, and I strongly recommend them to those collectors who want a fine country to specialise that will not require much outlay of money; but will yield them a rich philatelic harvest, and open up interesting points and afford plenty of scope for further research. The first issue offers abundant room for further research.

Bibliography.

Books and articles relating to the stamps of China are not plentiful. The most valuable is a brochure published by Mr. J. Mencarini, of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service, Shanghai, in 1906. It may be taken as a semi-official summary of the various issues with the numbers printed of each value. No price is marked on it, and as it has been a labour of love on the part of a specialist copies may probably be had by writing to Mr. Mencarini.

Mr. M. Croucher contributed a short general article on the Chinese Imperial Customs Post to the *Monthly Journal*, Vol. 12, p. 172.

Mr. B. W. H. Poole wrote up the differences which he found in the first issue for the *Monthly Journal*, Vol. 15, p. 65, showing that the designs were not quite identical for all three values.

In the *Philatelic Record*, Vol. 19, p. 101, will be found an official postal notice concerning rates of postage, stamps, deliveries, &c., and on p. 295 of the same vol. is a reprint of a summary of the issues of China, from *Le Timbre Post*.

Note.

For special offers of the stamps of this country see Mr. W. H. Peckitt's advertisement in a previous number. Mr. Peckitt's grand stock of the stamps of China is probably the finest in the world.

The History and Market Price of Great Rarities

No. 1. British Guiana, 1856. 1c.

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

IN connection with my short article on the British Guiana, 1856, 1c. black on magenta (p. 187), the following article contributed by Mr. A. D. Ferguson to the December, 1907 number of the *British Guiana Philatelic Journal* will be read with interest:—

The finder of the rarest stamp in the world being worthy of an article, our special reporter has found him and gives the result of a pleasant interview with Mr. L. Vernon Vaughan.

It was in 1872 that Mr. Vaughan, then a boy not yet in his teens, commenced collecting stamps. His first stamp Album was one of Stafford Smith's, and about this period a friend presented him with a small collection of three to four hundred varieties, which has been the foundation of a general collection that has slowly grown to a considerable size. Though never giving up general collecting his attention has been mostly occupied with Britain's Colonies.

In 1873 in searching through some old family papers for stamps, Mr. Vaughan came across several old Guianas among them was one which is now known as the rarest stamp in the world the "ONE CENT Magenta of 1856." As far as his memory serves him, this stamp was looked upon as a very ordinary one, he was not impressed with it, more so, as it was cut octagonally and not a particularly fine specimen. Removing it from the letter sheet, it duly found a place in one of the blank squares in his album; but it was not destined to remain long in that modest book. With a keen collector instinct he was not content to get stamps in the Colony but sent abroad to obtain the stamps of Foreign Countries. With what boyish delight did he behold the first approval sheet of nice unused stamps of various countries which A. Smith & Co. of Bath had sent on approval. The sight of these pretty stamps of diverse designs and brilliant colours, of countries many of which were unknown to him, roused up a great desire to get as many as possible for his collection. He had very little pocket money to buy the stamps, although the total value of the sheet was not a large number of shillings, then to him a large sum. Vaughan decided to take a stamp out of his album to sell, and going through the book for one which he cared least about, he picked out the "ONE CENT Magenta of 1856," a stamp which he then considered he would be able to replace again by a better specimen, on his next search through the family papers.

Taking the stamp to Mr. N. R. McKinnon, whom he knew had been collecting stamps for several years, he offered it for sale. Mr. McKinnon at first would have nothing to do with it, his chief objection being that it was cut octagonally and appeared to be a bad specimen; however, on learning the object of Vaughan's desire to sell the stamp, after some hesi-

tation, he said he would risk 6s. on it which Vaughan consented to take, Mr. McKinnon duly impressing on him at the time the great risk he was running in paying 6s. This stamp the "ONE CENT Magenta of 1856" remained in Mr. McKinnon's possession for near ten years when it found a purchaser for £25 in one of the London Merchants. A sum which even in those comparatively recent days, was considered a good price. It is said that after being shown at some exhibitions it ultimately passed into the hands of the celebrated philatelist Baron von Ferrari of Paris at a price which has never been made public. The present value of this unique stamp, the rarest in the world has been variously estimated at £1,000 in an English paper, at \$10,000 in Hobbies and at finally £5,000. Pierre Mahé in a recent article in *S.G.W.* in comparing this stamp with a Mauritius Post Office, writes: "Various catalogues have dared to value this unrivalled stamp at the ridiculous price of £400. £400 for a stamp of which only one piece is known, while one sees the 'Post Office' of which more than a dozen specimens are known of each value fetch £1,600. Really it is a little too silly. One may be sure that certain collectors would not hesitate, if a second specimen of this unrivalled rarity were found, to give all that was asked, no matter how big a price might be for it. Such a stamp is priceless. We will not mention the Postal Museum of Berlin, which fights shy of no sum to enrich its remarkable collection, when it is a question of a leading specimen. This was seen in the purchase of the 'Post Office.'"

Now comes the surprising news in the "Daily Mail" that another copy of this remarkable stamp in fine condition has been discovered in the possession of Mr. W. Riley of Turnditch near Derby. If this is so in reality, and this stamp is put up for auction, we will see the record price that has ever been obtained for a stamp. Keen and wealthy collectors who are prepared to pay very liberal prices for rarities in fine condition are numerous and perhaps more numerous to day than at any past time in the history of stamp collecting. The stability of the market for good sterling stamps, is amply shown at every auction sale held.

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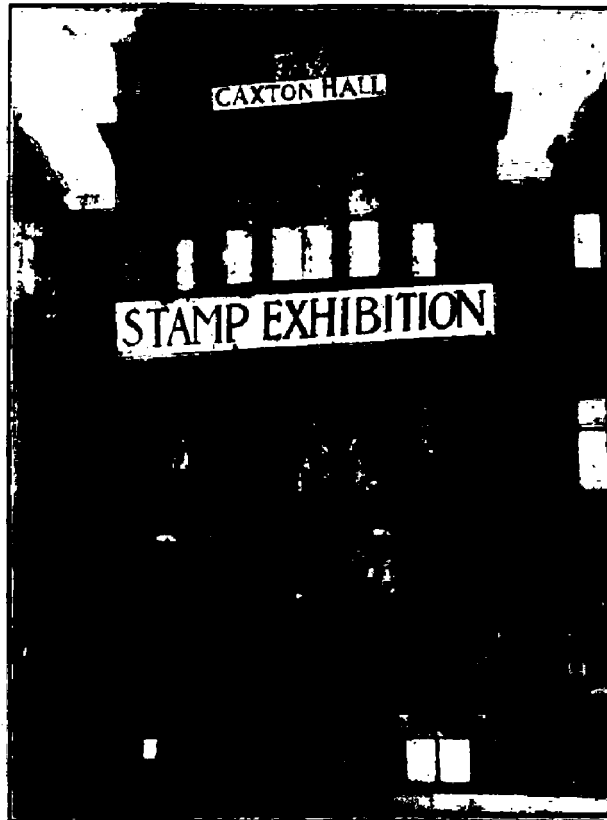
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The Juniors'
Imperial Exhibition, 1908,
At Caxton Hall, Westminster, London,
12, 13 & 14 MARCH, 1908.

The
Main
Entrance
to
Caxton Hall
in
Caxton Street,
Westminster,
London.



Thursday,
12,
Friday,
13,
Saturday,
14,
March,
1908.

Book to
St. James' Park
Station
on the
Underground
Railway.

The Third Exhibition of Postage Stamps, got up and held by the Junior Philatelic Society, will be held in the Caxton Hall at Westminster, London, S.W., on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 12, 13 and 14 March, 1908. The Exhibition will be opened by the Postmaster-General, Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P. As this is the third Exhibition of Postage Stamps which has been got up by the Juniors, it may be well to tell our readers something of our energetic friends. We, therefore, publish the following:—

Story of the Junior Philatelic Society

BY A JUNIOR



FRED J. MELVILLE.

WAY back in the Summer of 1899, a young stamp collector who was very keen, called a few of his old school friends together to talk over a project. His idea was to form a Society for young stamp collectors to promote the serious interest in stamps among young collectors.

Nearly every boy collects stamps at some time in his school career, but like a good many other things they take up during that period, they neglect to do the thing thoroughly. And if it is worth while collecting stamps at all it is worth while keeping at it. The proposed society was intended to make young collectors see the true interest in philately, and to make them sustain their interest in it as a study.

The result was that an inaugural meeting was held on November 11th, 1899.

At that original meeting assembled about nine to twelve youths; some were stamp collectors, others were more interested in the idea of "clubbing" than in the actual purpose of the Society. One was very anxious that the affair should be a debating society, and another wanted a dramatic one. But the organiser of the meeting, Mr. Fred J. Melville, insisted that the object of the particular meeting was the formation of a Philatelic Society.

And the Philatelic Society won the day.

Before the little party had broken up a list of officers had been drawn up, with Mr. Fred J. Melville as President and Mr. James B. Melville, who was curiously enough no relation to the President, as

Honorary Secretary. Of that first list of officers the President and Mr. Charles Nissen, who was elected Hon. Counterfeit Detector, are the only two who remain on the official list to this day.

They also drew up that evening a set of rules, a prospectus and syllabus that were admittedly ambitious. Rule 2 gave the objects of the Society which were :—

- 1.—The study of matters relating to the hobby.
- 2.—The suppression of speculative issues.
- 3.—The bringing together of young collectors.
- 4.—Assistance in keeping the albums of young collectors free from forgeries and other "Album Weeds."
- 5.—To encourage the publication of useful and instructive works for young collectors.
- 6.—To represent young stamp collectors all over the world.

The meetings were held first in a stuffy little room in the Old Town, Clapham, and there were about fifteen present on November 25, 1899, when the President read his first "Presidential Address, to include a review of stamp collecting since its origin, and other introductory matter to the hobby and study."

The next meeting on December 9, 1899, was still better attended. The Chairman, Secretary, and another had to sit on a sofa at a round table while Mr. J. M. Wilkie, the lecturer for the evening, had to stand on the edge of the fender in front of the fire to deliver his paper on "Why I Collect Stamps." On that occasion a discussion was held, and according to the Secretary's report "every member present, without a single exception, took part." It was decided that evening to look about for larger premises, and the next meeting was held in the small hall of the then Clapham Town Hall. The first meeting in the new quarters included a lecture on the stamps of Great Britain, shown by means of an aphengoscope, and the attendance was between 40 and 50. A few weeks later the new hall was almost crowded out, there being "standing room only" according to a writer in one of the local newspapers. It was the President again, lecturing this time on "Stamp Collecting," the lecture being the foundation of the one, which, under the title of "Postage Stamps with Stories," he has since given probably nearly two hundred times in and around London, the provinces and abroad, and which few of the readers of *The Postage Stamp* have not heard, or read about.

Missionary Work.

To show how the Society went about its missionary work a little extract may be given from the *Brixtonian* of February 9, 1900 :—

"At the close of the discourse and on the motion of the chairman (Mr. Edward C. C. Tidman) a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer. In responding thereto Mr. Melville pointed out the desire to instil into the audience the so-called "craze"



for stamp collecting, and this desire was made manifest in a more practical manner later on when every one was presented with a fine packet of used and unused stamps, which, as the lecturer said, would form a good nucleus for a collection."

The giving away of stamps to start new collectors was quite a feature in the early days of the Society. Stamps to the value of 1s. 6d. (the amount of subscription) were given to every member on joining, and according to the first syllabus at the lecture on Great Britain on December 23rd, 1899, "several varieties" were "given away including 14 dots, ½d. and 1d. I. R. Official, etc." On January 20th, 1900, at a display of local stamps, several varieties were given away to illustrate the lecture. The last occasion at which this was done was on April 19th, 1902, when Mr. W. Darwen, then a Committee member (and a Vice-President since October, 1902), brought some unused sets of the new Holland stamps with him from that country, and gave them away after his paper on the stamps of Holland.

In Clapham Hall.

Clapham Hall was the scene of many an enthusiastic meeting during the first and subsequent years of the Society's existence. In the first year the Society met every alternate Saturday throughout the year, but the summer meetings were discontinued the following year, and a bicycle ride was organised to give the members an opportunity of meeting and "swapping."

An idea of the activity of the Committee and members may be gathered from the Secretary's report for that season that "the Society has held 22 ordinary meetings, the Committee has held 16, and there has been one *Conversazione*. The average attendance at the meetings has been 29."

That first year saw the enrolment of 72 members, and the election of Mr. Crosby Blumsum to the

office of Secretary, in place of Mr. James B. Melville, who retired owing to studious calls upon his time.

Mr. Crosby Blumsum took over the Secretarial work in 1900. He was in office when the Society held its first "*Conversazione and Dance*," on July 14th, 1900, and displayed his energies on that occasion with great results, an attendance of 150 being recorded. Mr. W. G. Parker succeeded him, and was Secretary at the time of the first Exhibition held by the Society in Clapham Hall, November 16th, 1901.

The First Exhibition.

It was a splendid display of the stamps of Great Britain, but the night was one of the densest fog. Yet that night was a great triumph for the Society, the hall being crowded all the time the Exhibition was open, in spite of the unfavourable weather conditions.

An important result of the Exhibition in question was the discovery of workers. The Society was mainly indebted to Mr. C. B. Purdom and Mr. H. F. Johnson for their arrangement of the stamps and also for the preparation of the splendid catalogue of the exhibits. That was only a small Exhibition compared with the one of 1905, but it kept those two workers up all night for two nights before the Exhibition, and the printers were working all night on the Thursday and Friday (the Exhibition was on a Saturday) on the catalogue. It is surprising how much work even a small Exhibition involves.

Both Mr. Purdom and Mr. Johnson have since done a great deal for the Junior Philatelic Society.

The latter founded and took charge of the Exchange Branch in the 1900-1901 season, and succeeded Mr. W. G. Parker as Secretary to the Society. His name first appears in connection with that office on the prospectus for the 1902-3 season, and last season in the old quarters at Clapham Hall. He retained the charge of the Exchange Packets, and owing to the prolonged illness of Mr. W. Fahy, the Librarian, the duties of that office fell upon the Secretary also.

The duties of Secretary in the Junior Philatelic Society were never light ones. Juniors require a good deal of the Secretary's time and patience, and with a President who is always putting forward some brand new scheme, which the Secretary generally has to bear the brunt of, it can easily be seen that the Secretary must be kept busily engaged. But Mr. Johnson introduced new life into the work. Having initiative of his own, he was able to lighten the office of the President, who formerly had to work along with the Secretary, or even to do the work himself.

At the Wheatsheaf Institute.

The Society moved its meeting place in 1903 to the Wheatsheaf Institute in South Lambeth Road, which was much better lighted and better suited in many ways for the growing needs of the Society. That season saw the acquisition of Mr. R. Halliday to the Committee (Assistant Secretary 1904-5 and Curator of Permanent Collection 1905).

On February 20th of 1904 the arrangers of the programme having carefully timed the completion of the *Tapling Collection* at the Museum for public

display, the members went in a party to see the collection, and met with a very cordial reception from the officials, who seemed gratified to find the collection attracting so many members in one body. The visit has been repeated annually, and the attendance at this popular function is usually over 100.

The Second Exhibition.

The most notable event of the first season in the new hall was the President's proposal that the Society should publish a book for young collectors on the stamps of Great Britain, and that they should repeat the Exhibition of 1901 in a more centrally situated hall.

The proposal was an ambitious one, but it was taken up and a committee styled the "Exhibition and Publication Committee" was formed to work out the scheme. The Committee was composed of Messrs. Fred. J. Melville (chairman), R. Halliday, R. Shepherd, E. H. Smart, W. G. Inkpin, Percy Clare, and H. F. Johnson; the two latter being joint Hon. Secretaries of the Exhibition. There were of course many others who helped in the work, notably Mr. Purdom, who again compiled the catalogue.

The original scheme was modest in comparison with that actually carried out. But as the Committee set to work the encouragement they received expanded the scheme. The book on Great Britain had actually been published and a small profit shown before the Exhibition came along. The stalls for dealers' exhibits were taken up within a week of the announcement being issued that they were available. The brilliant coloured "tête-bêche" circular was a daring surprise for the stamp world and it "caught on."

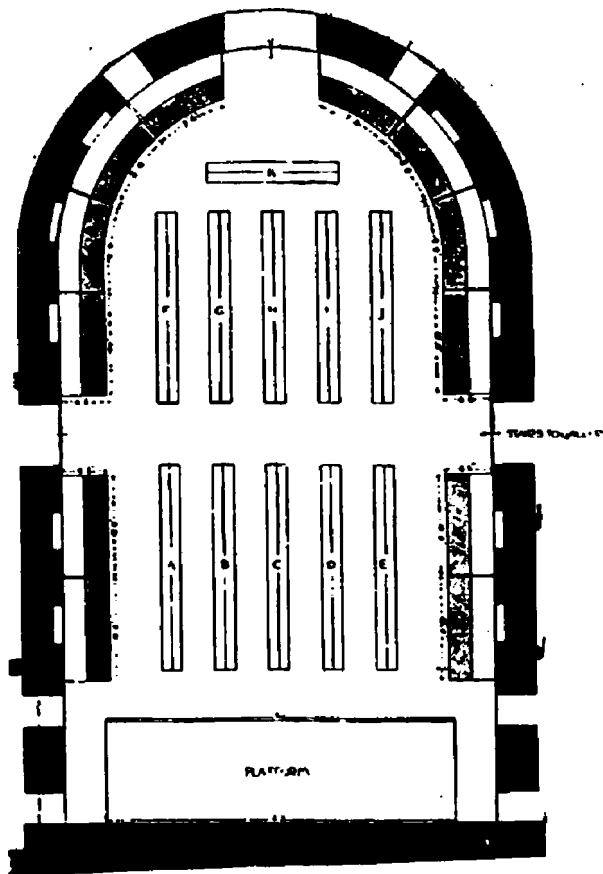
Donations to the Exhibition fund came in well, and it was a very great encouragement to the workers when Major Edward B. Evans consented to conduct the opening ceremony. The Major had been one of the earliest to recognise the possibilities in the Junior Philatelic Society. In 1899 he wrote in the "Monthly Journal," "The programme of this Society may appear, at first sight, to be a little ambitious, but we have reason to believe that its promoters are thoroughly in earnest, and if they are only partially successful they will render great service to our hobby, and they have our best wishes."

When Major Evans opened the Exeter Hall Exhibition on the afternoon of Friday, February 3rd, 1905, it was obvious that the officials who had been knee deep in free tickets and Exhibition literature for months beforehand had had their efforts rewarded. From that time till the close of the Exhibition the hall was filled, at some times crowded, and it was announced that about 11,000 people visited the Exhibition in the two days. Every effort had been made to give a splendid entertainment to the visitors. The display of stamps was magnificent, and there was an orchestra afternoon and evening, and lantern lectures which were attended by a packed audience each evening. The dealers' bazaar too was a great success. Although many thousands of tickets were circulated the supplies in several places ran out.

The Permanent Collection of Stamps established under the charge of Mr. Halliday has grown to a fairly important extent, and is strong in "specimen" copies of British Colonials. The Library has also vastly improved and the system of lending the books has been carefully planned out and is working successfully.

Auctions are held regularly under the hammer of Mr. E. M. Gilbert-Lodge, who, as the Hon. Auctioneer to the Society, has been remarkably successful.

To pass over the numerous social functions such as annual excursions, dances, parties, garden parties, concerts, etc., which the Junior Philatelic Society has organized, the branches of the Society are attaining considerable importance in various provincial centres, working on lines similar to the London headquarters.



PLAN OF THE HALL,
SHOWING EXHIBITION STANDS AND DEALERS' STALLS
AROUND THE SIDES.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 288)

believed by Mohammedans, that Ceylon was the place provided for Adam and Eve on their expulsion from Paradise. It has an area of 25,332 square miles and a population of nearly four millions. The majority of the inhabitants are Singhalese in the south and Tamils in the north. Ceylon was well-known in ancient times, and has by some been supposed to be the Ophir of the Scriptures. The Romans called that island Tagrobane. The Singhalese, who had their own kings from 543 to 1815, attained an unusual degree of civilisation at a very early date, as may be evidenced from the sculpture, etc., in many ancient cities that are still in a remarkable state of preservation. In Anuradhapura is the sacred bo tree, which is the object of veneration to thousands of Buddhist pilgrims, who believe it is a branch of the tree under which Gautawa, their great teacher, sat on the day he became a Buddha. The Portuguese appeared in Ceylon in 1506 and remained there until 1656, when they were expelled by the Dutch. In 1802 the island was made a Crown Colony of Great Britain in exchange for Java, which was conceded to the Dutch. The interior of the island, however, was still ruled by a descendant of the Kandyan kings, but in 1815 the whole island became part of the British Empire by the desire of the Kandyans themselves. The island is administered by a Governor, assisted by an Executive Council of five members and a Legislative Council of 18 members, in which the Governor and Executive Council are included. Postage stamps were first issued in 1855.

Chahi.—The value in which most of the Persian stamps issued since 1885 are expressed. Prior to that date the coin was spelt "shahi." A chahi is the twentieth part of a kran and is equal to about a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in English money.

Chakr.—A watermark found in the Siam stamps of the 1887 issue. It is in reality a representation of an emblem used by the ruling family of Siam. Its literal translation is "a wheel" and it is a legendary circular weapon which, like the boomerang, was supposed to return to the thrower after having been hurled into the air.

Chala.—A small port in the department of Arequipa, Peru, at which a special overprint, consisting of the name "CHALA" in a circle, was applied to all the 5 c. and 10 c. stamps used in 1884.

Chalk-surfaced Paper.—A paper prepared with a special solution that makes it very opaque and gives it a highly glazed surface. The solution is applied after the paper is made and not during the

process of manufacture. The idea is to prevent the fraudulent cleaning of stamps, for, after being treated in this manner, the surface of the paper is so sensitive that any attempt at cleaning would result in the removal of the design. It is largely used in the production of current British Colonial stamps.

Chamba.—A native State in the Punjab district of India having an area of 2,200 square miles and a population of about 140,000. The contemporary stamps of India, suitably surcharged, are used in this State, the first of these having been issued in 1886.

Charity stamps.—A class of special stamps that have been issued from time to time by various Governments with the laudable object of obtaining money for certain deserving charities. The two large stamps issued in Victoria in 1897 will serve as a case in point. These, though bearing the facial values of 1d. and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., were sold by the post office at 1s and 2s. 6d. respectively, and the difference between the nominal and actual values was given to a charitable institution.

Charkari.—A native State in Bundelkund, Central India, having an area of 787 square miles and a population of about 12,000. Special postage stamps were first issued in 1894—a year after the establishment of the State Post Office.

Charkhari.—The local form of the name "Charkari."

Charleston.—A city in the State of South Carolina, U.S.A., having a population of about 60,000. It was first settled in 1680 by the English, who were afterwards joined by a large colony of French Huguenots. In 1861 the first shot in the civil war was fired here, and Fort Sumter was surrendered to the Confederates. Special 5c. stamps were issued by the postmaster in the same year prior to the arrival of the general Confederate issues.

Among American towns Charleston is interesting to philatelists as having had the largest number of semi-official posts for the delivery of letters within the boundaries of the town. The first of these was established on July 14th, 1849, and the last of them was not suppressed until after 1860. There were five of these posts in all.

Charlton C. H. The postmaster of Knoxville, Tennessee, who issued special 5c. and 10c. stamps in 1861 prior to the arrival of the regular issue for the whole of the Confederate States.

Check letters.—(See "ACCOUNT LETTERS.")

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Exchange Clubs for Specialists.

In reply to my query (p. 278) whether there are Exchange Clubs for Specialists, Mr. J. M. Morton, 23, Lealand Road, South Tottenham, sends me particulars of his "Specialists Stamp Exchange," which he believes is the only Club run solely for Specialists. It is made up of ten sectional packets, viz. :—1, Great Britain; 2, Canada; 3, U.S.A.; 4, West Indies; 5, Central and South America; 8, North and Central Africa; 9, European States and Colonies; 10, British Colonies in Asia; 11, other Countries than in No. 10 in Asia; 12, King's Heads.

British Guiana, 1900-2, 60c. Single C.A.

A correspondent writes :—"It may interest you to know that Gibbons, Ltd., did not stand to their guns very long in the matter of prices, for on the day after the issue of their last catalogue my agent called at their shop for a British Guiana 60c. (1900-2), and was curtly informed 'out of stock,' i.e., at 10s."

"Out of Stock."

I wonder how many of Gibbons slips and eccentricities in prices are "out of stock" since the publication of their catalogue. I know more than one dealer makes it a regular practice to send in a list of wants of things underpriced. These sharpers are well-known in the Gibbons establishment, and a too prompt order naturally rouses suspicion. Then the convenient "Out of Stock" reply saves the situation.

Maldives Redivivus.

According to Mr. Ewen, the Maldivian Government intend to issue stamps of their own. Should they do so the prices of the first issue may be expected to rise. The series unused is priced as follows :—

	Ewen.		Gibbons.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
2 c. brown	-	-	1	9
3 c. green	-	-	1	9
4 c. orange and ultram.	-	-	2	3
5 c. lilac	-	-	1	0
15 c. blue	-	-	-	-
25 c. pale brown	-	-	20	0

The 15c. blue, left unpriced by both Dealers, was last priced by Ewen at the same figure as the 25c., but in his latest list he offers 10s. for the 15c. and 12s. 6d. for the 25c.

Sweden: Tons of Used for Sale.

According to the *Western Morning News*—"Stamp collectors are offered a chance of effecting a 'deal' with the Swedish Post Office. That department offers for sale a large collection of Swedish and foreign postage stamps, most of them being attached to letters of advice, &c. The estimated quantity of paper bearing these stamps is about ten tons, and it

has accumulated since 1878, which, the British Consul remarks, may offer some guidance in determining the possible value of the stamps."

As this affects used stamps only, and as Swedish stamps "since 1878" are almost without exception at the one penny each level, the accumulation is not likely to affect catalogue quotations, but used sets may be considerably cheaper.

China: 9c. tête beche.

Mr. Peckitt's offer of the 9c. *tête beche* of the 1895 series of China at the low price of 7s. 6d., is a reminder of the fact that a stamp which has been regarded as a scarce variety may be toppled by a sudden supply. For years this variety was exceedingly scarce. A few came on the market in 1903, and Gibbons priced it at 30s. unused in 1904. Thereupon a big supply suddenly turned up in Venton, Bull & Cooper's auctions and were sold in lot after lot, and now the Gibbons price has dropped to 10s.

It was the bottom left hand stamp of the plate. Mencarini tells us that there were only 2,341 issued. If so it ought to be a good investment at Mr. Peckitt's 7s. 6d. quotation.

A curious fact is noted concerning this variety. Mr. Mencarini says the plate was evidently retouched, as on re-printing for surcharging purposes the *tête beche* stamp was correctly placed on the sheets.

The Season's Auctions.

"Well," said I, "to a Stamp Auctioneer the other day," "how goes the season?" "Only so so," he responded; prices were about an average, but the difficulty was not so much the selling as getting the good stuff to sell.

Scarcity of Good Stamps.

Indeed, for a long time the Auctioneers have had to wait in vain for good stuff. Now and again there is a flutter, but there is no steady supply.

If this is so in these times of depression, what will it be by and bye when money is once more abundant and speculation is rife.

Of course, many refuse to put their stamps on a dull market who will take their chances at Auctions when the market is more lively.

Good Old Bric-a-Brac.

I seem even in putting a complete set of the good old trumpet blowing Bric-a-Brac at 45s. that I considerably undervalued that publication. Mr. Victor Marsh writes that what he offered for 45s. was 12 vols., which by no means form a complete set, and then he completes my astonishment by telling me that he is prepared to pay £1 each for vols. I, II and III, if unbound and in good condition.

I feel very sad at having chucked sovereigns into the waste paper basket.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C. THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

A Timely Warning.

FROM the first we have openly stated that *The Postage Stamp* is "an independent weekly philatelic periodical whose advertisement pages are freely open to all."

But it has recently come to our knowledge that certain persons (whose names we are most anxious to get) for obvious reasons are circulating a statement that, despite our assertion to the contrary, *The Postage Stamp* is really owned and run by certain leading dealers.

We wish to be friendly with all, and least of all do we desire to have legal quarrels, but so damaging a report cannot be allowed to pass.

Consequently, we are handing the matter over to our Solicitors, for further investigation, with instructions to take immediate steps in the matter, and we shall certainly enter an action against the parties concerned in the circulation of the libellous and damaging statement referred to, as soon as we have sufficient evidence for this purpose.

Meanwhile, we may assure our dealer friends that no stamp dealer has any share whatever in *The Postage Stamp*, or the slightest control over its editorial or advertisement pages.

Postage Stamp: Half Yearly Vols.

F. C. G. (Kew). Thank you very much for calling attention to the slip about the arrangement for the volumes of *The Postage Stamp*. We meant *half yearly vols.* Of course, a yearly volume would be far too thick. Our half yearly vols. will, therefore, run from January to June and July to December.

Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write *direct to our Publishers*, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for published price and postage, *i.e.*, 1½d.

Handbills of "The Postage Stamp."

We are getting up a neat little handbill which will include a specimen page of *The Postage Stamp*, and a subscriber's order form. These will be of a size suitable for our readers to enclose in letters to philatelic friends and may be had in any number, by the score, or hundred, *post free*, on application to our Printers, Baldwins, Printers of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells.

Rotsac. (Wiltshire). I am sorry I cannot give you any advice as to the disposal of Railway stamps. You had better write to Mr. Ewen. I am afraid you will find them a poor investment.

T. J. C. (Bexhill). I expect your Natal 14 m. will correspond to the 13½ m. catalogued by Gibbons. You do not say which values your copies are. The Hungary lithographed first issue imperforate is good unused, but not high priced for used. You do not say what values you have.

C. C. L. (Leeds). Very many thanks for your suggestions for the improvement of *The Postage Stamp* and your good opinion. Your criticism of back numbers is rather late, but very interesting. Some of your corrections are due to printers being new to such technical work, some are editorial oversights. High values are largely used for bank purposes. I should like to know your alternative to running a country through successive issues till finished. Take one country you wish to be written up, Brazil: confined to the bare poles of the catalogue that country, with the illustrations, would fill several pages. The contents of *The Postage Stamp* are arranged to give as much pleasing variety as possible; but if it were conducted on your lines a single number would be given up to exhausting one country, and would contain nothing else. The party who calculated that it would take seven years to get through the countries of the world at one a week was more amusing than instructive. The ludicrous character of such a statement will be apparent if you ask "what is the alternative?" We shall probably deal with many countries that will run through several numbers of *The Postage Stamp*.

J. W. C. (Barnet). Delighted to hear that *The Postage Stamp* has revived your interest in stamp collecting. If you write to the Secretary, the Philatelic Exhibition, 44, Fleet Street, E.C., he will send you as many tickets as you can use. There is no charge.

R. W. (Plymouth). We shall deal with the stamps of Gibraltar shortly. Yes, I should class them as a good investment. Many thanks for your kind congratulations on "producing the best periodical on the market."

COMPLIMENTARY TICKET.

IMPERIAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Organized by the Junior Philatelic Society,
to be held in

THE CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.,
12th, 13th & 14th MARCH, 1908.

Please admit Bearer to the Exhibition any time between 3.30 to 10 p.m., Thursday, March 12th; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday, March 13th; and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, March 14th.

With the compliments of the Editor of *The Postage Stamp*.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 24. Vol. 1.

14 MARCH, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

German Philatelic Meetings.



MR. Reichenheim, who has recently been on a visit to Germany, tells us in the *Monthly Report* of the Herts Society how they manage their philatelic meetings in the fatherland. To begin he found that although their meetings were fixed to commence at 8.30

p.m., the chair was not taken until 9.30 p.m. When he ventured to remark on this peculiarity he "was politely informed that those meetings were arranged for *pleasure* and not for *business*." The pleasure of the man who attended at 8.30 p.m. to read a paper and give a display of his collection and had to wait till bedtime for a start must be worth experiencing.

No Philately without Beer.

The meetings it seems are held at Restaurants "as hardly any German philatelist would care to attend a meeting if he had to sit a couple of hours without his beer!" I can imagine the feelings with which some of our Great Moguls would hand round their costly treasures to run the gauntlet of droppings from beer jugs. Ugh! the very thought of it is enough.

Few Collections Shown.

Continuing his criticism Mr. Reichenheim says:—"There is rarely a display of any collection of importance at either of the two Societies, but—and this I advise our Society to follow—nearly every Member, and especially the dealers, make a point to bring or send newly issued stamps or newly discovered varieties, with the necessary informations, to each Meeting for the inspection of the Members, and those Members who find time to read Journals or newly published Handbooks, prepare short reports on the

most interesting points contained therein. These displays and reports very often lead to most animated discussions, which are fully reported in the Society's Journal."

Should we do likewise?

Should we follow this German plan? Mr. Reichenheim thinks we should improve on our methods by doing so. Says he, "I am of the opinion that this method of filling an evening is in its variety much more interesting to the majority of the Members, than to listen to a very exhaustive paper on the stamps of a certain country, accompanied by a display of a collection, as every Member is sure to hear or to see something he is really interested in, or is able to provide himself without any trouble with some valuable information and an interesting entertainment for his brother Members."

That's a bit rough on the Great Moguls, but there is a lot of truth in it, and I am not sure that I do not feel inclined to say "hear, hear," to the sentiment.

But you know we English philatelists are the grandest humbugs in existence. We can, and do pretend to have been taken on a trip to the third heaven of delight by a certain display, and all the time we have been bored to death by the interminable procession of sheets of the stamps of a country in which we do not feel the slightest interest.

Strange but True.

It is quite true. We want a little less of some of the terribly dry past and a little more of the living present. We are dominated far too much by the antiques and the fossils of philately. We have been so accustomed to snivel at New Issues that one wonders whether, after all, there is any interest for a certain class in the giant strides that have been made in the methods of stamp production since the issue of the first adhesive. We are ready and anxious to count the toe nails of the engravers of the early crudities of Australia, but the highly skilled work of the modern engraver, the marvellous results of modern production, and the wonderful development of the postal services of the world, belong to the philatelic slums and the New Issue classes—the West Ham-ites of stamp collecting. Yah!

What is the use of Repining?

Most collectors, though they may not care to say so, probably feel more interest in the latest new issues, which may be theirs for a few pence, than in the great rarities they rarely ever see and can never hope to possess. This may be a very disturbing thought to the wealthy possessor of many rarities, but I believe it to be a fact nevertheless.

And it is only natural that it should be so, for in the one case we are reduced to repining at the unattainable, whereas, in the other, we may taste the fruits of possession.

The philatelic devotee is not to be satiated by rejoicing in the fact that others possess the stamps that are beyond his reach. If he is wise he philosophically asks himself, What is the use of repining? and forthwith turns his attention to Papuans or Caymans, despite the sneers of the Great Mogul, for he should know right well that many of the Great Mogul's treasured relics were not a whit better in their time than the Papuans and Caymans of to-day.

More Variety Wanted.

But let us return to our muttons. We started on the question of the best fare for a philatelic meeting, and I quite agree with Mr. Reichenheim that we want more variety; more of the news of the day. Just fancy how interesting a newspaper would be if it devoted itself entirely to ancient history and left Balfour and Bannerman out in the cold!

Why, it would be better to have an occasional wrangle over some suspicious New Issue than to be for ever turning over the tantalising leaves of unattainables. No one would object to an occasional procession of antediluvians, but we don't want them on show all the time. Let us have a little more of the philatelic news of the day, even though it may not be all quite so respectable as the good old times over which the dear old fossils shake their lightly-thatched craniums so contentedly.

Latter Day Stamps.

Possibly the change might do more good than we dream of. It might result in a more effective criticism of dubious issues, and a more active crusade against the fashionable fleecing of collectors that goes on with scarcely a word of protest from those most concerned. It might easily lead to a searching investigation and a rigid exclusion of undesirable issues.

Wanted, an Expurgated Catalogue.

When one thinks of what collectors might do to protect themselves from swindling issues, and then turns to the contemplation of the complacency with which they let things slide, one is almost compelled to say "serve them right if they are fleeced."

If our philatelic societies turned their attention for a single session to the examination of the conditions under which postage stamps are issued in various countries, and their right to philatelic recognition, I fancy that the final result would be an Expurgated Catalogue, and an active and ruthless

exposure of fraudulent issues, i.e., of stamps not required to meet postal needs.

A Change Much Needed.

How long are we going to be content to collect what the dealer's catalogue, from the trading point of view, decides for us we shall collect? The position is an absurd one. We pay the piper, and, if we were not so devoted to the fetish of old issues, we should call the tune in an authoritative collector-compiled-catalogue of our own. We should then buy only the stamps recognised by ourselves, and the dealer's catalogue might go on pricing Salvadors, Pietersburgs, New Republics, and other similar lovely countries to the crack of doom, without disturbing a single coin. We should collect by our own catalogue and consult theirs only for prices.

Present Catalogue Conditions.

If a stamp pays postage it is, according to present practice entitled to be catalogued, but, all the same, we know quite well that we could, if we took the matter into our own hands, find a way to exclude much that is questionable. We take too much for granted, and are, therefore, too easily imposed upon by robber States.

Our catalogues should protect us from the fleecers, but they do not. By virtue of the principle on which they are compiled they are made a catspaw by fleecing States. Without the help of our catalogues it would be useless for robber States to send out their speculative issues, for the market would be at a standstill for want of the necessary middleman.

The Antarctic Stamp.

The Antarctic Stamp is being well boomed by somebody. Here is the latest paragraph that is being sent the round of the daily press:—

"The first of the letters transmitted by mail from the shores of King Edward VII's Land have arrived in England. They come from the exploring ship Nimrod, and bear a postmark, 'Antarctic Expedition, Jan. 15, 1908.' The stamp employed is the New Zealand penny red, the words 'King Edward VII. Land' being printed in black letters across the face.

"The mail was brought by the steamship Koonya, which left the Nimrod a mile or so from the ice-pack near the King's most southerly possession. Lieut. Shackleton, leader of the expedition, was appointed postmaster of King Edward VII's Land some little time back. This is the first time that letters from the South Polar regions have been transmitted all the way to England for a penny."

The Cayman Islands Swindle.

The unblushing manner in which Provisionals are still being trotted out in the Cayman Islands should result in a timely lesson to the postal officials concerned in this organised swindle. This time it is a 2½d. on 4d., and, forsooth, only two sheets are printed! How long is our Colonial Office going to permit this scandalous business to continue?

Specialising a Single Value

Bahamas, First Penny

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

A Collector's Question.

A Collector writes to me as follows:—

"I am a keen collector, but I am a busy merchant, and I have so many public duties outside my business that I have positively no time for indulgence in my old and favourite hobby. I have been driven to abandoning my stamps, and a few years ago in sheer desperation I sold off the lot, but I have been like a fish out of water ever since, and I have lately been wondering whether I could find any way of indulging my love for stamps in a modified form.

"Of course you will naturally advise me to take up and confine myself to a single country, but even that would, I fear, tempt me to strain matters to keep up to date. I do not want even that distraction under my present circumstances.

"Then you will tell me that there are several countries whose accounts are closed. I have not forgotten them, but they will require a deal of time that I cannot give to the good old hobby.

"Yet I cannot keep my hands off stamps. Now what am I to do?

"What do you think of my specialising a single value and running that to the bitter end of advanced specialism in just such odds and ends of time as I can spare? It seems to me to offer a way out of my difficulty. Such a form of collecting, it seems to me, would need no continued attention, and would just suit my case.

"If you cannot suggest anything better, will you give me a few hints as to a few interesting stamps that will not require much study. I do not want anything so difficult or expensive as Sydney views, and besides if I took one of these values I should be sorely tempted to follow on with the others."

The Pros. and Cons.

Whilst quite appreciating the force of circumstances which drives my correspondent to a restricted choice, I cannot help being a little prejudiced against his suggested way out of the dilemma, for I say to myself, what is to become of ordinary general specialising in the issues of any country if his plan catches on and is indulged in to any great extent. The result would be an unnatural scarcity of certain favourite stamps, caused by reason of their wholesale transference from dealers' stock books into single value collections.

Specialising a Single Value.

And I am bound to confess that, from the purely selfish point of view, there is confessedly much to be said for the attractiveness of the idea of specialising a single value, especially if a selection is made of a popular stamp that commences as an early issue and runs through series after series with many changes of colour, watermark, perforation, and paper. Such a stamp is evidently what my correspondent hankers after. And fortunately for his scheme there are many stamps that are open to his selection. He might for instance take our own first English penny adhesive stamp, first issued in black, then changing

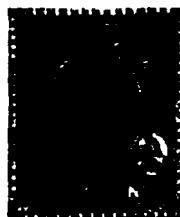
to gradations of red, and gradations also of watermark, perforation, paper, corner letters, and plate numbers. But perhaps that would be too much of a task for a very busy man, with only odd hours to spare, for it would certainly tempt him into plating, indeed he would have to be an industrious man to cover the ground of ordinary specialising to follow the first English penny through all its deviations, to say nothing of "running it to the bitter end."

A better choice would be a simpler stamp, say the grand old 5d. value of New South Wales. That is still running strong, and may as a living stamp be barred out by our friend.

My own choice in the circumstances would be a very old favourite of mine and one which I consider the most effective in design of any stamp in the whole range of postal issues. I refer to the first penny of Bahamas. It has not passed through so many gradations as others that might be chosen, but it has probably gone through enough to satisfy our friend.

In the first place it is a very attractive stamp. It has gone through changes of watermark and perforation, but its great attractiveness lies mostly in the splendid range of shades which may be had in each issue of its rich colour. It is moreover a Perkins Bacon engraving and printing.

Here is the stamp with a record of its life and of the changes it has undergone.



1859.	No wmk.	Imperf.	Unused.	Used.
			s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake	-	-	10 0	60 0
			1860. Clean cut perf. 14 to 16.	
1d. lake	-	-	-	60 0
			1861. No wmk. Rough perf. 14 to 16.	
1d. lake	-	-	40 0	15 0
			Perf. 11½, 12.	
1d. carmine lake	-	-	80 0	25 0
1d. brown lake	-	-	-	30 0
			Perf. 13.	
1d. brown lake	-	-	60 0	20 0
1d. carmine lake	-	-	80 0	25 0
			1863. Wmk. Crown CC. Perf 12½.	
1d. brown lake	-	-	15 0	10 0
1d. carmine lake	-	-	12 6	7 6
1d. rose red	-	-	6 0	6 0
1d. red	-	-	6 0	5 0
1d. vermilion	-	-	6 0	5 0
			Perf. 14.	
1d. vermilion	-	-	1 6	1 6
1d. carmine lake	-	-	-	-
			1882. Wmk. Crown CA. Perf. 12.	
1d. vermilion	-	-	5 0	5 0
1d. vermilion	-	-	10 0	10 0
			Perf. 14	

The Juniors' Imperial Exhibition, 1908, At Caxton Hall, Westminster, London,

12, 13 & 14 MARCH, 1908.

Hours of Opening and Closing.

On Thursday, 12th, the Exhibition will be open from 3.30 to 10 p.m., and the Opening Ceremony will be performed by the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P., the Postmaster-General, at 4 p.m.

On Friday, 13th, the Exhibition will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

And on Saturday, 14th, from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

How to see the Exhibition.

Take a quiet walk round at first to get a general idea of the Exhibition, then go round a second time and examine the collections in detail with your dealers' priced catalogue.

Notes to be made.

Make a note of the varieties in any country that you collect that are new to you, especially of any not included in your catalogue. Note any arrangement superior to your own, and copy any explanatory notes from the exhibit that may be new or useful to you.

Lessons to be learned.

Much may be learned by the average collector from a close study of the collections included in a good Exhibition. Methods of classification and arrangement may be noted, and ideas and information may be gathered from the notes with which many of the great specialists now decorate their album pages. These notes often include special information not to be found in any catalogue or handbook.

Countries to be chosen.

Any collector hesitating in his choice of a country to specialise will find much to help him in the exhibits. He will be able to study fine countries with a wealth of display, and when a particular country takes his fancy a glance at his priced catalogue will tell him whether it will suit his purse.

Canada.

A collection, strong in the pence issues, shown by Major H. C. French, R.A.M.C.

Cape of Good Hope.

Since the disposal of the famous Roberts Collection, probably the next finest is that of Mr. Percy Bright, which is shown in the Exhibition, the value of which runs well into four figures.

Gambia.

Many of the stamps in the collection of Mr. Douglas Ellis are shown in complete sheets.

Gibraltar and Morocco Agencies.

The collections of Messrs. G. Fred. H. Gibson and H. W. Westcott make a superb display.

Gulqualand West.

A very large number of rarities in this country's stamps are shown in a highly specialised collection exhibited by Mr. R. B. Yardley.

India.

Mr. D. C. Gray shows a specialised collection of the first issue among the other exhibits under the head of India.

Indian Convention States.

Shown by Mr. J. S. Higgins, Jun., contain all the general issues and service stamps unused.

Indian Native Feudatory States.

These quaint stamps are well represented by Messrs. A. J. Sefi, J. G. Horner, and M. Z. Kuttner.

Ionian Islands.

A really remarkably interesting display showing how the three Ionian Island stamps were apportioned as to value.

Jamaica.

A well-known collection that of Mr. J. Stelfox Gee is being shown, also that of Dr. E. W. Floyd.

Maldives.

There are probably a good many collectors who have not yet seen these recently-issued but hard to get stamps.

Malta.

The celebrated collection of Mr. J. C. North, including a fine range of shades of the first $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps.

New Brunswick.

Some very fine things, including mint copies of the 3d. and 6d., as well as several used copies, and shades of the 1s. Also the 5c. sap green and the 5c. brown mint. This latter is the famous Connell stamp which lost Postmaster Connell his position and salary of £600 a year. He was bold enough to replace the portrait of the late Queen with a portrait of himself on the 5c. stamp, but although it made a change, it was one that was not approved in public or official circles, and the Postmaster's vanity had a fall.

Newfoundland.

Shown practically complete by Mr. Bernard Kirby.

New South Wales.

Sydney Views and early imperforate issues by Mr. H. R. G. Clarke.

New Zealand.

Among other exhibits under this head the first type only—1855-1872—is shown by Mr. H. L. Hayman. Mr. W. B. Edwards, B.Sc., shows a collection of the pictorial issues in singles and blocks, all mint.

North Borneo.

Mrs. D. Field shows a practically complete collection, including the rare inverted surcharges 6c. on 10c., and 4c. on 10 dollar.

Nova Scotia.

Shown in a very representative manner by Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., and Mr. Edgar Nelton.

Orange River Colony.

A strong display of all issues, including many of the rare types and errors of surcharge shown by Mrs. Field.

St. Vincent.

Shown by Mr. Joseph Brooks and Mr. O. K. Trechman.

Sarawak.

The very fine collection of Mr. Humphrey Bennett. All unused.

Soudan.

Practically complete, shown by Mr. B. W. H. Poole.

South Australia.

Mr. W. W. Munn has in this exhibit devoted his attention chiefly to the line engraved stamps from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co.'s plates.

Straits Settlement.

Almost complete, and including the 32c. carmine rose surcharge, of which 60 specimens only are known. Shown by Dr. F. W. Abbott. Messrs. Whitfield King show a portion of the pane 32c. carmine rose containing sixteen out of the sixty stamps without surcharge.

Tasmania.

The specialised collection formed by Mr. R. B. Yardley.

Tonga.

J. H. Abbot shows his collection, including the 7½d. with inverted head.

Trinidad.

A collection by Mr. Francis Ransom.

Western Australia.

The famous collection by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, including the extreme rarity, the 4d. stamp of 1854 with inverted swan or more properly with inverted frame.

Official Collections.

The Government Exhibits have been allotted to Room No. 13 at the Exhibition, and will undoubtedly prove among the most interesting features of the display.

The Governments showing stamps include—

New Zealand,
Canada,
India Office,
Great Britain (Commissioners of Inland Revenue),
Western Australia.

Also in Room 13 will be shown an Exhibit by the British South Africa Company, and by those famous printers of Colonial postage stamps,

Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.

The Stall Holders.

The following is a list of the Stall Holders for the convenience of our readers:—

1. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.
2. D. Field.

3. W. H. Regan.
4. Bright & Son.
5. Lewis May & Co.
6. W. S. Lincoln & Son.
7. Edwin Healey & Co.
8. P. L. Pemberton & Co.
9. W. H. Peckitt.
10. Bridger & Kay.
11. Whitfield King & Co.
12. John Walker & Co., Ltd., and *The Postage Stamp*.
13. Chas. Nissen & Co.
14. J. W. Jones.
17. } J.P.S. Bookstall.
18. }
21. "The Bibliophile."
22. A. H. Dingwall & Co.

How to Get to the Exhibition.

By far the most convenient way for most visitors will be to take an underground or tube railway from any part of London, booking right through to St. James's Park Station. The fares on the tubes are exceedingly low, and the mode of travel is the quickest and most comfortable.

On coming out of St. James's Park Station turn to the left and take the first turning on the left, which brings you to the side of the hall.

On the London Brighton and South Coast, and South Eastern and Chatham Railways, book to Victoria Station, thence walk along Victoria Street, the hall is on the left, a little way back from the road, the space in front being taken up by a small laid-out grass plot.

From districts not served by tubes or these railways, electric cars are available to Westminster (Houses of Parliament), from which the hall is only a few minutes' walk down Victoria Street on the right.

Donations to date.

As the Juniors are throwing the Exhibition open free, they are relying largely upon generous donations from collectors to save them from a deficit. Further donations are urgently needed, and should be addressed to Mr. H. J. Johnson, Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition, Caxton Hall, Westminster, London. The following donations have been received up to date:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged ...	29	5	6
The Royal Philatelic Society ...	25	0	0
W. H. Peckitt ...	5	5	0
Glendinning & Co., Ltd. ...	2	2	0
Major E. B. Evans ...	2	2	0
The Kent & Sussex Philatelic Society	2	2	0
The Herts Philatelic Society ...	2	2	0
Francis Ransom ...	1	1	0
Harvey R. G. Clarke ...	1	1	0
R. B. Yardley ...	1	1	0
H. Quare ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Collins ...	1	1	0
City of London Philatelic Society ...	1	1	0
E. D. Bacon, ...	1	1	0
Henry Gray ...	1	1	0
T. W. Hall ...	1	1	0
W. Archibald Boyes ...	1	1	0
Lt. F. M. Rideout ...	1	1	0

	£	s.	d.
W. Moore	1	1	0
E. J. Nankivell	1	1	0
The Junior Philatelic Soc. of Scotland	0	10	6
Victor Marsh	0	10	6
A. H. Clark	0	10	6
F. Schulski	0	10	6
B. W. H. Poole	0	10	6
Willy Jacoby	0	10	0
Miss Cassels	0	5	0
D. S. Darkin	0	5	0
E. A. Rowe	0	5	0
J. C. Sidebotham	0	5	0
Capt F. F. Freeman	0	5	0
W. Trice	0	5	0
H. W. Westcott	0	5	0
P. Clare	0	5	0
Mrs. A. H. Bridson	0	5	0
G. H. Holland	0	5	0
S. G. Brown	0	5	0
T. C. Cartwright	0	5	0
Miss Green	0	5	0
"Roy"	0	5	0
G. E. Wells	0	3	0

	£	s.	d.
"K"	0	2	6
Edmund Strode	0	2	6
C. D. Botwright	0	2	6
A. T. Granger	0	2	6
E. W. B. Maggs	0	2	6
F. J. Newitt	0	2	6
H. F. Crohn	0	2	6
Miss E. Salkeld	0	2	6
F. B. Smith	0	2	6
J. F. Sowerby	0	2	6
Anon.	0	2	6
F. C. Graham	0	2	6
T. H. Nunn	0	2	6
E. Duntton	0	2	6
Mark Easton	0	2	6
E. G. Hunnell	0	1	0
A. Well-Wisher	0	1	0
J. A. Hillebrand	0	1	0
Anon.	0	1	0
L. H. White	0	1	0
			£90 9 6

Cayman Islands Provisionals

None for Dealers!

It will be remembered that when the Cayman Islands Provisional was first announced it was heralded with the emphatic intimation that none would be sold to dealers. Then it leaked out that 1,500 had been supplied to one speculator, and since then we have been assured by Mr. D. Field that he got a supply and that no difficulty was raised in his case.

The Postmistress's Story.

And now we get news first-hand from the Postmistress of Grand Cayman, for which we have to thank Mr. Chris R. Robinson, of Darlington.

Miss Gwendolyn Parsons, dating her letter from the "Post Office, Georgetown, Grand Cayman, Feb. 10, 1908," writes:—"It's impossible to procure any of the surcharged stamps here at all, except willing to pay a high price for them (that is outside the Post Office). They are selling right on the island for £30 a sheet of 120. But very few people were lucky enough to secure more than a half-sheet. *Most of these stamps were supplied to dealers abroad.* I think as far as I can remember that there were eighteen sheets of each printed ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. on 5s.). On that account we are now getting very short of 5s. stamps, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. are out of stock altogether. I will therefore return the stamps you sent to exchange for the surcharged. Or may be you'd like to have some of the new $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d., so I'll just change one of the 1s. stamps you sent for some."

Another Provisional.

This letter was franked with a provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d., which had evidently come to hand after the above letter was written, for alongside the stamp on the envelope is a note in the Postmistress's handwriting, "Just surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on 4d. Feb. 12," and

the stamp is cancelled with a postmark dated "FE 12. 08."

Dealers' Supplies.

The italics in the above letter are ours, but they plainly bear out the rumour that these provisionals were not needed to supply any temporary shortage of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 1d. stamps, but were a shameless official speculation, most probably traceable to the issuing office in Jamaica.

Blackmailing Dealers.

We quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—"We believe it is correct that practically none of any of the Cayman Islands provisionals are being sent to dealers at face value, the idea amongst the Cayman Islanders evidently being that they will thereby foster a hungry and competitive market amongst the trade and reap big profits for themselves. And perhaps they are not far wrong, for collectors want the stamps and dealers have no redress against the postal officials. Dealers are in much the same position as a man who is blackmailed and to get the stamps for their clients they will have to pay, and of course clients will have to pay too. It is only to be hoped that a just retribution will overtake those responsible for the speculations."

Is There no Redress?

Mr. Ewen evidently thinks there is no redress. But is that so? Of course, so long as dealers lay themselves out for the reception and distribution of rubbish they must expect to bear the brunt of some of the stigma which naturally attaches to these disgraceful issues. They have the redress in their own hands so far as they are concerned, they can refuse to be a party to a most obvious swindle, and no client would blame them.

Dictionary

of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 301)

Chemins de fer.—An inscription appearing on the Parcel Post stamps of Belgium. It is the French term for "Railways"—all parcels in Belgium being carried and delivered by the railways under the supervision of the postal authorities.

Chemins de fer—Sporwegen.—The French and Flemish equivalents for "Railways," which appear on all the Parcel Post stamps of Belgium issued since 1895.

Cheque stamp.—The name by which a curious provisional 1d. stamp of British Central Africa is known to philatelists. The stamp was issued in 1898 and was produced locally, at Zomba, by printing a number of oblongs on narrow strips of paper and applying an impression from the die used for stamping cheques in each.

Cheun.—One of the values found upon some of the stamps of Corea. A cheun is equal to 5 poon, and is worth about ½d. in English money.

Chiaspas.—A state on the Pacific side of the republic of Mexico.

Chiclayo.—A town in the department of Lambayeque, Peru, situated about 10 miles from the coast and having a population of over 13,000. During 1884 a special overprint was applied to all the 5c. stamps used in this town.

Chiffre Taxe.—An inscription appearing on the postage due stamps of France and various French Colonies signifying "Amount to pay."

Chile.—The local rendering of the name Chili as shown on the stamps of that republic.

Chili.—A South American republic of Spanish origin, occupying the strip of land between the Andes and the Pacific from the southern boundary of Peru to the extreme southern extremity of the continent. In 1880, Chili permanently annexed Atacama, till then a province of Bolivia, and the Peruvian province of Tarapaca. Its total area is now about 290,741 square miles and it has a population closely approaching three and a half millions. Most of the inhabitants are of Spanish extraction. The government is a republic, ruled by a president, who is elected for a term of five years. Postage stamps were first issued on 1st July, 1853.

Chimborazo.—A province in the South American republic of Ecuador having an area of about 5,000 square miles and a population of nearly 130,000. During the latter part of 1902 all the stamps used in this province were surcharged "Chimb Or Azo—Riobamba," before being issued. This was done in consequence of a fire in Guayaquil in July, 1902, during which a large quantity of stamps from the

Government stores were destroyed or stolen. In the case of the latter eventuality being correct, the authorities took this precautionary measure to make the stolen stamps valueless.

China.—China proper—a vast empire in Eastern Asia—consists of 18 provinces covering an area of 1,500,000 square miles. Its population, according to the latest Chinese estimates, exceeds 400,000,000. On the north are the extensive regions of Mongolia and Manchuria, and on the west are Thibet and Turkestan, all of which are integral parts of the Chinese Empire. The area of these dependencies is over two and a half millions of square miles, with a scattered population of about 19 millions. The civil government of the 18 provinces is entrusted to viceroys and governors, and under them each province is subdivided into circuits superintended by taotais or intendants, and again into prefectures and districts. All the territorial officials are appointed by the Imperial Government, and the provincial viceroys and governors, though free to act independently in many matters of local import, are responsible to the Central Government at Peking in all important questions, and especially so in foreign affairs. The administration of Mongolia and Turkestan is entrusted to Military Lieutenant Governors who, with the Chinese officials in Thibet, are under the direction of the "Mongolian Superintendentcy," or Colonial Office, in Peking. It is not possible to state exactly when the Chinese came to China, but it is certain they were a considerable nation and had attained a high degree of civilisation as early as 2,200 B.C. The history of China and its people is one of the most entrancing interest, but space forbids mention even of the most important events. It must suffice to note only those facts bearing on China's relations with foreign powers.

Foreign relations with the Chinese Empire have existed for many centuries. In the 13th century the Venetian merchant adventurer, Marco Polo, resided at Cambulac (the present Peking), and was employed by the Mongol Emperor Kubloï Khan as adviser. In the 17th century Jesuit missionaries had attained considerable influence in the State and had made many converts to Christianity; but their power had aroused so much jealousy that they were expelled from the country. The Dutch and Portuguese traders maintained commercial dealings with the port of Canton for centuries, but towards the end of the 18th century they were largely displaced by the British East India Company. The Company's monopoly was withdrawn in 1833, and this was one of the causes that led to the first war against China in 1840. A treaty was signed at Nanking as a result of these

operations and Hongkong was ceded to Great Britain. Since then the exclusiveness and conservatism of the Chinese has led to frequent wars, after which the celestials have had to concede various privileges to other nations, and at the present time practically all the ports are open to foreign trade. The Imperial Post Office is managed by the Customs—under the control of Sir Robert Hart—and its operations have been much developed of late years. Already letters can be sent all over the 18 provinces at a uniform rate of 2 cents (or less than $\frac{1}{4}$ d.) per half-ounce. Postage stamps were first issued in August 1878.

China Expeditionary Force.—(See "C.E.F.")

China.—A surcharge or inscription appearing upon all the stamps used in the French Consular Offices maintained in China.

Chorrillos.—A town in the department of Lima, Peru, in great favour as a health resort. The name of this town appears on the 5c. stamps issued in April, 1871.

Chuckram.—The value in which all the stamps of the Indian native State of Travancore are expressed. Two Chuckrams are equal to an anna, so that a chuckram is worth $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in English money.

The Exhibition of the Sheffield Philatelic Society

The members of the Sheffield Philatelic Society had an enjoyable conversation, together with an exhibition of stamps, 21st February, 1908, at the Mappin Art Gallery. Nearly three hundred were present during the evening, including the Master and Mistress Cutler (Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bedford), the president, Mr. F. Atkin, the Hon. Presidents, Councillor F. A. Kelley and Mr. Charles Clifford, and the American, French, Spanish, and Austrian Consuls. It was the seventh exhibition held by the society since its formation in 1894. It regularly holds, however, bi-monthly meetings during the autumn and winter.

The members, among whom are several foreign gentlemen, contend that their hobby has advantages over many others, inasmuch as they not only derive pleasure from it, but it is also profitable. Judging from the increases in the value of stamps which take place, it would certainly appear that stamps judiciously bought form a good investment. Stamp collecting, however, is now practically a science—the dealers report that trade with schoolboys is declining, whilst older persons are taking it up more energetically than ever. It is now recognised as a serious occupation.

It cannot be charged against the Sheffield Philatelists that they are not patriotic, as on looking over last night's exhibition, the most noticeable thing that struck the eye was the great number of stamps of Great Britain and Colonies which were shown, the South African Colonies appearing to be the favourites.

Mr. F. Atkin showed a very fine specialised collection of the stamps of the United States—it included pairs and blocks, and contained a great number of very rare stamps, one of the most valuable being the 24 cents, violet of 1861 premiere gravure.

Mr. A. Maxwell showed selections of Queen's and King's Head stamps of Cayman Islands, Ceylon, Morocco, and New Zealand pictorial issues.

Mr. J. H. Chapman's exhibit consisted principally of unused stamps, and included Great Britain, Australia, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Malta, Holland, and France—the most noticeable stamps being the £5 orange of Great Britain in mint condition, and the high values of Australia, including several £1 and £2 Victoria in mint condition.

Mr. J. F. Peace's exhibit was a very interesting

one—he showed the first stamps issued during the respective reigns of Queen Victoria and King Edward, also the famous Mulready envelopes. He also displayed a number of stamps issued to commemorate certain events, such as the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, the Columbian Exhibition, Charity Stamps, the opening of the Victoria Falls, etc.

Mr. W. C. Fox, who possesses over 18,000 specimens, sent down a complete collection of the stamps of France and Colonies—it included all the rarities. He also had on view a selection of British West Indian and African stamps—one of the rarities was the 2s. 6d. stamp of British New Guinea, of which it is said that less than 100 are in circulation.

Mr. Charles Clifford had on view a very fine lot of stamps of Ceylon, South Africa, and West Indies—they were particularly noticeable for the splendid condition of the stamps, and attracted a good deal of attention. There were a number of the triangular Cape stamps, whilst the other Colonies were complete up to £10 unused. St. Vincent included the rare 5s. watermark Crown C.C.

Mr. R. Sneath exhibited a number of triangular Cape stamps and several curious stamps of Nova Scotia, which had been cut in half to make up odd postal values. He also showed a nice lot of the rare Sydney View stamps and other old Australian stamps.

Mr. J. E. Bartlett had a very complete collection of Great Britain (Victorian issues only), including the rare 5s., 10s., and £1 watermark Maltese Cross. The rest of his exhibit consisted of British African Colonies, which were very complete, and contained all the high values up to £10.

Mr. A. T. Nixon exhibited a selection of King Edward stamps of Hong Kong, Grenada, Lagos, and African Colonies.

The Society had on view a collection of forgeries and reprints, including the 1s. green of Great Britain, which is believed to be the only British stamp which has been forged. It was discovered by a philatelist, but unfortunately not until 26 years after it had occurred. The Society also had on view a most interesting series of stamps, the colours of which had been chemically changed; also a set of unique menu cards designed by members of the Society.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to donors and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANEIVELL, Carnation, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Cayman Islands.

LET another Provisional: this time it is a "2½d." surcharged on the 4d. King's head. The surcharge is a peculiar one, the figures all being of the same size, i.e., the figures of the fraction are of the same size as the first "2." This provisional we learn is to replace the ordinary 2½d. which has run out of stock. This provisional was issued on the 12th February, 1908.

We are indebted for this information to Mr. Chris. R. Robinson, of Darlington.

The provisionals issued up to date now stand:—

Provisionals.

"One Half-penny" on 1d. carmine.

"½d." on 5s. vermilion and green.

"1d."

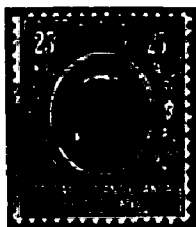
"2½d." on 4d. brown and blue.

We quote the following from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—

"Dr. N. writes:—'Have you seen the enclosed 2½d. on 4d. Cayman Is. ? Only two sheets have been printed so it ought to be scarce. The information is official, so should be correct.'"

"A.S. writes, also under date of 29.2.08:—'Of the very latest provisional of the Cayman Islands you may possibly have heard by this morning's mail—the 2½d. on 4d. The mail has been, I believe, an unprecedentedly quick one, as a correspondent in George Town, writing me on the 12th inst., sends me a pair of this new provisional (the surcharge on which appears in a diagonal position at the left corner of each stamp) and mentions that it was issued on that day, and that there were only two sheets surcharged. My informant also mentions that the authorities had intimated that the stamps would not be sold to dealers, as they were all required for local use, and were expected to be all used by the following day.'"

East Africa and Uganda. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports that the remaining values of the new issues of the "cents" series have made their appearance.



Change of Currency from "annas" to "cents."

Wmk. Multiple C.A. Perf. 14.

1 c. brown.

3 c. grey green.

6 c. carmine.

10 c. lilac and pale olive.

12 c. dull lilac and purple.

15 c. ultramarine.

25 c. grey green and black.

50 c. grey and orange brown.

75 c. black and blue.

Maldives. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* says:—
"The Postmaster of Maldives informs us under date of 8th January, 1908, that the surcharged Ceylon stamps are no longer to be issued, and that the Maldivian Government has proposed to strike entirely new stamps of its own. We shall thus have a new issue for these islands before long, but as to where they are going to be manufactured we have no information."

New Zealand. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports the 1s. in the reduced size.

Reduced Size.

Wmk. N. Z. and Star. Perf. 14 × 13½.

1s. vermilion.

Papua. We find we have omitted to list all the varieties of perforation in the new stamps inscribed Papua, although we have had them for some time. They are as follows:—

Wmk. Crown and double lined A.

Perf. 11.

½d. green.

4d. sepia.

Perf. 19 × 12½.

4d. sepia.

Queensland. The *Australian Philatelist* states that the various values have been issued on paper watermarked Crown A.

Wmk. Crown A. Perf 12½.

½d. green.

1d. vermilion.

2d. blue.

4d. yellow.

6d. green.

5s. rose.

Siam. The *Stamp Weekly* chronicles a new provisional 1 att, formed from the 24 atts of the 1887 issue, by means of the surcharge 1 att shown in the accompanying illustration. The *Monthly Journal* gathers that there has been a grievous famine of single atts, and that vain endeavours were made to persuade people to be content to pay postage in cash for a time, but the (philatelic ?) public insisted on having stamps!

1 att, in black, on 24 atts, purple and blue.

The Editor's Letter Box

Publishing Offices: 1, AMEN CORNER, LONDON, E.C.

Editorial Address: EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Tunbridge Wells.

Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C.

THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

A Timely Warning.

FROM the first we have openly stated that *The Postage Stamp* is "an independent weekly philatelic periodical whose advertisement pages are freely open to all."

But it has recently come to our knowledge that certain persons (whose names we are most anxious to get) for obvious reasons are circulating a statement that, despite our assertion to the contrary, *The Postage Stamp* is really owned and run by certain leading dealers.

We wish to be friendly with all, and least of all do we desire to have legal quarrels, but so damaging a report cannot be allowed to pass.

Consequently, we are handing the matter over to our Solicitors, for further investigation, with instructions to take immediate steps in the matter, and we shall certainly enter an action against the parties concerned in the circulation of the libellous and damaging statement referred to, as soon as we have sufficient evidence for this purpose.

Meanwhile, we may assure our dealer friends that no stamp dealer has any share whatever in *The Postage Stamp*, or the slightest control over its editorial or advertisement pages.

S. G. W. & Co. (Worthing) writes "*The Postage Stamp* has been brought to our notice by Mr. F. B. Turpin, of Muswell Hill. We are delighted with it, and readers henceforth and for ever." Hip! Hip! May we both live for ever. "Why advertise Venton, Bull and Cooper's sales of stamps if you do not put their address or address of sale room. Many collectors who would like catalogues do not know where to write for particulars." Ah! Well you see when we come across anything of interest in a sale we make an interesting note of it. That is our duty to our readers. It is the business of the auctioneer to advertise his sales and his address in our advertising pages, and so help to pay the expenses of producing *The Postage Stamp*; but, unfortunately, stamp auctioneers are wonderfully modest people. As we get older their shyness will wear off, and you will find their address in each number of *The Postage Stamp*.

F. G. L. (New Zealand). Many thanks for the cutting with illustration of King Edward VII. Land Stamp. I have no idea where the stamps may be obtained. Possibly they will be put on the market on the return of the expedition, or a supply may be brought back by a relief ship. Anyway, it is open to doubt if they will be seriously accepted as postage stamps. We are sending you a copy of this number of *The Postage Stamp* as desired.

J. M. M. (South Tottenham). Many thanks for your information, and for your tempting offer to join,

which I cannot do for lack of time. Why not try a small advertisement in *The Postage Stamp* for the members you require. One Exchange Club Secretary tell me that his advertisement in our columns brought him ten new members.

R. C. D. (Wandsworth). Bechuanaland Protectorate, 1888, 2d., Gibbons' No 54, which was catalogued 6s. 6d. both unused and used in 1906-7 is in the 1908 edition priced 10s. unused and 7s. 6d. used. In addition to Melville's book there is another handbook by Mr. B. W. H. Poole, published by Mr. D. Field, Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, London, price 1s. Both books are well worth studying.

A. H. R. (St. Ives). You might offer your English to the leading dealers, but you will have to name your price, say about a quarter or third of catalogue; then failing them you might send them to one of the leading London auctioneers. The 3d. plate numbers ought to sell easily; plate 9 is the scarce one, and that is catalogued at 60s. unused and 4s. 6d. used. The 4d. green and scarlet won't bring you more than face.

A. M. (Sheffield). The slip of *Advertiser* for *Adviser* was a genuine "error," though it savours of a joke, as you suggest.

H. P. L. (Camberley). It is very unlikely that early Lagos stamps were ever postmarked to order, *a la Labuan*. I have never heard of such an obliteration. *Obliteration de complaisance* is certainly a most polite term; *obliteration de complicité* would be nearer the mark. There is a short "i" in "centimos" in the 25c. on 2d. and 25c. on 24d. Gibraltar, but I have not heard of it on the 75c. Have you got it?

C. E. H. (Dublin). A late postmark on an early stamp is not unusual. The exposure of postal manipulation is not at all unlikely to have a tendency to depopularise the issues of Cayman Islands.

COMPLIMENTARY TICKET.

IMPERIAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Organised by the Junior Philatelic Society,
to be held in

THE CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.,
12th, 13th & 14th MARCH, 1908.

Please admit Bearer to the Exhibition any time between 3.30 to 10 p.m., Thursday, March 12th; 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday, March 13th; and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, March 14th.

With the compliments of the Editor of *The Postage Stamp*.

In the Stamp Market

Queensland: New Die, 2d.

It seems to me that the new die of the 2d. on Q and Crown paper ought to be a good stamp some day, for it has soon been superseded by the printing on Crown A paper. But Queenslanders are a somewhat neglected colony, and I am afraid the elaboration of dies that has been running for months in the *Monthly Journal*, leading the specialist into a veritable maze of infinitesimal varieties, will terrify the collector.

"The Postage Stamp," Still No. 12.

Don't forget that *The Postage Stamp* Stall at the Exhibition is No. 12, where we hope to be very busy booking subscriptions for the new volume which commences in April. Bring your friends along with their subscriptions.

Our Advertisers' Offers.

This number of *The Postage Stamp* is notably rich in offers by our Advertisers of desirable stamps at most tempting prices. To enumerate a few of the more prominent

Mr Peckitt offers selections from his recent purchase of a magnificent collection of Nevis, also a Straits on Labuan, 4 c. on 16 c., *surcharged in red and in black*, a great rarity, at 50s.

Mr. Field offers Egyptian officials at one-tenth of catalogue prices!

Messrs. H. E. Haworth and Co. Great Britain plate numbers.

Messrs. Bridger and Kay have some special Exhibition offers.

Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham a long list of big bargains, many at less than half catalogue.

Messrs. Lawn and Barlow choice weekly bargains.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. their ever popular Paragon Albums.

Messrs. Pemberton and Co., Perkins Bacon & Co. printings.

Mr. F. R. Ginn special Exhibition Bargains in Great Britain, Mauritius, British Guiana and Lagos from a rich collection which he is breaking up.

Mr. James Rhodes superb postally used copies of numbers of popular stamps at very low prices.

Mr. F. G. Rowe approved sheets of 50% discount.

Mr. F. B. Turpin fine selections of African Colonials.

Mr. I. J. Bernstein Great Britain used abroad.

CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President:—W. BUCKLAND EDWARDS, B.Sc.

Hon. Sec.:—JAMES L. EASTWOOD, 169, Ferme Park Road, Crouch End, London, N.

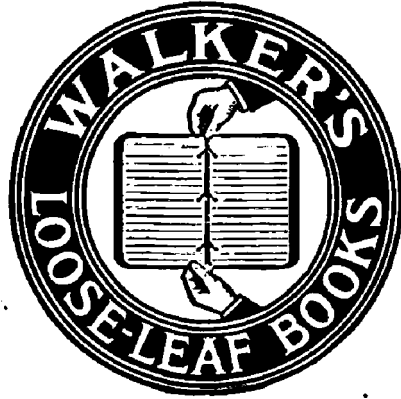
Annual Subscription 2/6. No Entrance Fee.

Monthly Meetings are held on 3rd Wednesdays at Mills' Restaurant, 11, Broad Street Place, London, E.C.

Intermediate Informal Meetings for Sale and Exchange on 1st Wednesdays.

For Report, Rules, &c., apply to Secretary as above.

WALKER'S LOOSE-LEAF POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS



WILL BE ON SHOW AT . . .

Stall No. 12,

STAMP EXHIBITION.

FREE SET OF SIX HAYTI

1904 Issue 1c. 2c. 5c. 10c. 20c. 50c.
complete.

CATALOGUED AT 1s. 11d. A SET.

This handsome Set of Stamps will be GIVEN AWAY to all purchasers of the following Packet (No. 54) who ASK FOR APPROVAL SHEETS. The Packet contains 120 DIFFERENT STAMPS, including BRITISH BECHUANALAND RARE OLD ISSUE OCT. 1857, MAURITIUS SCARCE PROVISIONAL 1/4d. on 10d. rose 1877, FRENCH GUINEA PICTURE OF NATIVE, Transvaal (new King's Head), Jamaica Pictorial, New Zealand Pictorial, Barbados, Gt. Britain Army Official, British Guiana 1800, New South Wales Jubilee, RARE OLD SAXONY 1863 (catalogued 6d.), UPPER SENEGAL NIGER (General Faidherbe), FINE SET OF 3 CUBA REPUBLIC ISSUE 1900 ALL PICTORIALS, Dutch Indies (scarce surcharged), Canada 1869, 2 South Australia 1900, Belgium Sunday Post, Japan, U.S.A. Columbus, ECUADOR 1899 RARE 20c. (catalogued 8d.), CARTAGENA CIVIL WAR PROVISIONAL, SET OF 4 SCARCE HONDURAS ENVELOPE STAMPS (catalogued 9d.), PHILIPPINE ISLANDS RARE PROVISIONAL 2 1/4c. on 1c. (catalogued 3d.), and OLD ISSUE QUEENSLAND ONE SHILLING, &c., &c.

Price 5d. Postage 1d. extra.

HAMILTON & CO.,

78, Beaconsfield Rd., Brighton.

**F
R
E
E**

Philatelic Society Meetings

City of London Philatelic Society.

The 44th monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 19th February, at Mills' Restaurant, 14, Broad Street Place, E.C.

The President, Mr. W. B. Edwards, occupied the chair.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly confirmed.

Mr. A. H. Williams of Stroud Green, Mr. G. F. M. Camroux of Woking, and Mr. T. H. Nicolle of Sydney, N.S.W., were elected members of the Society.

The Hon. Counterfeit Detector proposed and Mr. F. A. Mezgy seconded a very hearty vote of thanks to the following gentlemen for donations to the Society's Collection of Forgeries:—Messrs. Constantinides, Hoffmann, Stirling and Willgoos.

A very handsome volume entitled "College Stamps—Oxford and Cambridge" was presented to the library by the Author. Rev. Hayman Cummings.

Mr. J. E. Homewood also presented the following books:—

"Sarawak" by B. W. H. Poole.

"Countries and Stamps."

"The South African Provisional War Stamps."

Both the above named gentlemen were accorded the best thanks of the Society for their donation.

The first item on the Programme was entitled "The Imitations of the Minor Variety" by Mr. W. B. Edwards, which proved to be a very entertaining and instructive paper dealing with the division of stamps in the numerous catalogues into groups under the headings of Gum, Perforation, Watermark, Paper, Shades and Design.

Space will not permit of dealing with the address under its various headings, but in the short discussion which followed, Mr. J. Reed Burton and Mr. H. A. Fulcher considered and controverted some of the points raised by Mr. Edwards.

Mr. Westcott also made a few remarks and concluded with moving a very hearty vote of thanks to the President for his paper, which was seconded by Mr. D. H. Jackson and carried with acclamation.

The Programme concluded with a further display of a portion of Mr. J. E. Heginbottom's well-known collection of stamps which on this occasion consisted of "Cape of Good Hope, Grenada, Gold Coast, Lagos and Orange River Colony."

The sheets contained some very fine and very rare stamps of these several colonies, and the vote of thanks subsequently proposed and seconded was a slight mark of the members appreciation of Mr. Heginbottom's kindness.

The Hon. Sec. will be pleased to supply the last Annual Report and any information to intending members on receipt of a post-card to the above address.

MINT COPIES.

Morocco Agencies on Gibraltar.

25c. King, C.A.	...	41.
5c. " C.A., Multiple, Ord.	...	3d.
10c. on red, K. C.A., Chalky	...	6d.
20c. King, C.A., Multiple, Ord.	...	6d.
50c. King, C.A., Multiple, Chalky	...	9d.
1p. " C.A., " " "	...	1/3
2p. " C.A., " " "	...	2/6

WOOD, 18, Norman Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

'Superb' Postally Used Copies.

British Honduras, Queen, 1900, 10 c.	each	6d.
Canada, Queen, 1893-7, 50 c.	...	3d.
" King, 20 c.	...	2d.
" Postage due, 1906, 1 c. & 2 c.	...	1d.
Ceylon, King, Multiple C.A., 75 c.	...	6d.
E. A. & Uganda, King, single C.A., 2s.	1 r. 60 c.	1/9
" " Single C.C., 1 r.	...	2/3
" " Mult., Chalky, 2s.	...	3d.
" " Mult., Chalky, 3 or 4s.	...	5d.
" " Mult., Chalky, 5 or 8s.	...	10d.
Egypt (O.H.H.S.), 1, 2, 3, 5 m. and 1 p.	set ...	14d.
" " " " 5 p.	...	24d.
France, 1902, 2 f.	...	14d.
Grenada, King, Single C.A., 2d.	...	8d.
" Ship, Mult., 2d.	...	2d.
Hong Kong, King, Mult. (bi-col.), 10 c.	...	1d.
Lagos, King, Mult., 6d.	...	4d.
Levant, King, ord. paper, 2 p.	...	3d.
" " chalky paper, 2 p.	...	4d.
" " ord. paper, 3d.	...	4d.
Leeward, King, Single C.A., 2d. or 2 1/2d.	...	3d.
Malta, King, Mult., 2d. or 2 1/2d.	...	1d.
Mauritius, 1902, Single C.A., 15 c.	...	2d.
" 1899, 16 c. ultramarine	...	3d.
" 19 or 15 c. on 36 c.	...	3d.
" 1906, 4 c., Mult., ord.	...	1d.
Norocco on G. B., 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 c., set	...	5d.
N.S.W., Cr. A., 2d., 4d., 6d., 8d. and 1/-, set	...	4d.
N. Nigeria, King, Single C.A., 6d.	...	9d.
" " " " 1/-	...	1/6
" " " " 2/6	...	5/6
" " Mult. Ord., 6d.	...	6d.
" " Mult. Chalky, 1/-	...	10d.
O.R. Colony, King, Single C.A., 1/-	...	4d.
Spain, 1900-2, 4 pesetas (cat. 1/-)	...	3d.
" " " " 10 (cat. 7/6)	...	2/3
Siam, 1906, 1, 2, 4, 8 or 12 atts.	...	1d.
" " " 24 atts.	...	2d.
" " " 1 tical	...	6d.
S. Leone, King, Mult., 1/2, 2, 2 1/2 or 3d.	...	2d.
" " " 6d.	...	5d.
" " " 1/-	...	10d.
" " " 2/-	...	2/0
S. Nigeria, King, Chalky, 6d.	...	6d.
" " " 2/6	...	2/0
" " M.O. or Chalky, 1/-	...	10d.
St. Vincent, King, Single C.A., 2d. or 2 1/2d.	...	4d.
" " Mult., 2d.	...	4d.
" " (Pictorial) 1907, 2d.	...	3d.
St. Lucia, King, Single C.A., 2d.	...	1/6
" " Mult. (bi-col.) 2d.	...	4d.
Trinidad, Mult., 2d., blue	...	1d.
Zanzibar, 1904, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2 and 4s., set	...	7d.
" " 1/2 or 5 s.	...	5d.
" " 7s or 8 s.	...	8d.

Mint (full gum) Never Mounted.

China (1904, Surcharge Postage Due) 10 c.	...	3/0
Jamaica (Arms), Single C.A., 1d.	...	1d.
" (Queen), Mult., 3d.	...	3d.
St. Helena (Queen), C.C., 1/-	...	1/0
Hevelles (Queen), 1891, 18 c.	...	6d.
" " 1893, 8-4 c.	...	2d.
" " 19-16 c.	...	8d.
" " 15-16 c.	...	7d.

PRICE LIST OF SPECIAL OFFERS FREE.

Want Lists receive Special Attention.

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MANCHESTER.

Silver Medal, London Exhibition, 1897. Established 1850.

FREDK. R. GINN,

143, Strand, London, W.C.

The old-established house that can and does sell fine stamps at 50% off Catalogue. Watch this column each week for extra special cheap lines. Note carefully the name and only address, and send want lists and obtain bottom prices before purchasing elsewhere. It will repay you. F. R. Ginn saves his customers pounds annually.

APPROVAL DEPARTMENT.

Selections of Stamps of any country or colony sent on approval at liberal discounts. Magnificent stock to select from. No rubbish, and every stamp guaranteed genuine in every way.

Special Exhibition Bargains.

FOR CASH WITH ORDER.

GREAT BRITAIN.

O.W. Official Queen's Head.

1d. red. fine used, Gibbons' price 5/-; Only 2/6 each.
1d. lilac, fine used, Gibbons' price 2/-; Only 1/- each.

MAURITIUS.

Express Delivery, 15 cents. ultramarine, the very rare Provisional type, Gibbons' No. 292, few issued and very rare. This is missing in all collections. Price only 8/- mint, 6/- postally used. A real bargain.

PORTO RICO.

1898, War Provisionals. Fine set of 16 different of these interesting stamps, Gibbons' Nos. 160 to 162, 164, 165, 167, 171 to 174, 302, 304, 306, 308, and 309. All in mint condition. Set of 16 for 4/- only.

BRITISH GUIANA.

1882, 1 cent, magenta, fine used pairs of this interesting provisional, showing both the Brig and Ship types unsevered, very rare thus. Only 6/- per pair.

1899, set of 3 provisionals, 2 cents on 5, 10 and 15 cents, mint condition. Only 10d. the set

LAGOS.

King's Head, single C.A. wmk., 2d. blue. Mint Copy of this rare stamp 6d. only. Block of 4, 1/9

All post free for cash with order. Every Stamp guaranteed genuine and in perfect condition.

May be seen and purchased at MY ONLY ADDRESS—

FREDK. R. GINN,
STAMP EXPERT & DEALER,

143, Strand, London, W.C.

The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 25. Vol. 1.

21 MARCH, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

The Juniors' Exhibition.



AS I write the Juniors' Exhibition at Caxton Hall is in full swing, and collectors are walking round in a continuous crowd enjoying the Exhibits. As in all Exhibitions it has been a case of trying to get a quart into a pint pot, and we have none too much room anywhere, every available inch being made

use of in the fruitless endeavour to find room for everything.

The Postmaster-General's Speech.

The Postmaster-General's Speech was the best philatelic speech I have ever listened to. You would think, as he went fluently on, that he was a philatelist himself, for he betrayed a very considerable knowledge of things philatelic, and he was very humorous. He fetched us with his cool offer of the present printing of our English penny at 1s. 6d. a dozen, or of 1s. 4d. for large quantities.

An Old Chestnut.

But our Right Hon. friend gave himself away when he sagely informed us that Chalmers and not Rowland Hill was the real inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. He got on the wrong track there, for even our most junior collectors know that that amusing claim was disproved long years ago, but it just shows how an oft repeated error will continually crop up and get a fresh run.

A Post Office Collection.

Mr. Postmaster-General had one announcement for us that gave great pleasure all round. He told us that the General Post Office has a nice collection

of stamps which they intend to arrange and exhibit when the new wing of the General Post Office is ready, and he promised us that he would then return the compliment paid him that day by giving us an invitation to visit the official collection.

Impression of the Exhibition.

Next week I shall probably have something more to say about the Exhibition as a whole, but I have scarcely seen the exhibits yet. I may however, say that, by common consent, the Stall shared by *The Postage Stamp* and Messrs. John Walker & Co., of Loose Leaf Album fame, was by far the most attractively got up in the whole show, and it is only right that I should give the credit to Mr. Keeley, of Messrs. Walker's staff. He designed it from start to finish.

The Prince of Wales Visits the Exhibition.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales paid a visit to the Exhibition on Friday, and spent an hour and a half in inspecting the exhibits. He made a stop at two stalls, viz., that of *The Postage Stamp* and Walker's Loose Leaf Albums, and at Mr. Peckitt's. He inspected Walker's Loose Leaf Albums, and expressed his gracious approval of them. He said, "they are an excellent idea."

At Mr. Peckitt's stall H.R.H. admired two frames of rarities, noting in particular some grand scarlet vermilion Newfoundlands and some splendid blocks of four of St. Vincent rarities.

Wetherell on A1 Mount Diet.

Some years ago, when Mr. Wetherell was home from Bangalore on holiday, he was a slim and wiry individual. But when he turned up at the first meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society last autumn I did not recognise him. His massive and imposing proportions eradicated all likeness to the obsolete issue.

The secret of this great change now stands revealed. He tells us in the *Philatelic Adviser* that the licking of the pure gum used in the manufacture of *Bright & Son's A1 Mount* "is extremely beneficial to the operator, and that in several instances men have distinctly gained in weight after a prolonged course;"

and then, drawing upon his own experience, he writes, "all thin people should use the A1 stamp mounts."

I would suggest an illustrated advertisement of Mr. Wetherell before he began the A1 mount regimen and "after a prolonged course."

A Typical "Daily Mail" Paragraph.

The *Daily Mail* of 7th March, 1908, contained the following paragraph:—

"The Prince of Wales paid a surprise visit on Thursday evening to a meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society. Curiously enough, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the Hon. Secretary, was about to read a paper on the Prince's collection of Barbados stamps when his Royal Highness entered.

"As he is the President of the Society, the Prince took the chair, and presided over the meeting. His Royal Highness had brought with him his collection of Barbados stamps, which the members universally agreed was the finest in the country."

The Prince of Wales Visits the "Royal."

This paragraph which I have quoted, is on a level with *Daily Mail* news generally.

As a matter of fact, instead of being a surprise visit, the item has been on the programme for months, and it has all along been hoped that H.R.H. would be able to attend, and on the evening in question the members were all standing behind their chairs waiting for the entrance of their Royal President. There was no "curiously enough" about Mr. Tilleard's paper. It was duly prepared as a preface to the Prince's display of his stamps of Barbados, and H.R.H. did not bring his collection with him. It was already in the room.

Mr. Tilleard's Paper on Barbados.

Those who were not able to be present at the Royal Society's meeting on March 5th, 1908, have missed the opportunity of seeing H.R.H.'s splendid collection of the grand old Perkins Bacon stamps of Barbados, excellently arranged with a specialist's knowledge by Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the popular Hon. Sec. of the "Royal," but the absentees may console themselves with the knowledge that they will be able to read in the journal of the Society Mr. Tilleard's most enjoyable paper on the stamps of the colony, which we all voted to be one of the very best that has been read before the Society for many a day.

British Guiana, 1856, 1c.

Here is a correction of yet another *Daily Mail* paragraph, which I have received from Mr. E. Martin, Hon. Sec. of the Burton and Derby Philatelic Society:—

"Dear Sir,—So well-known is the *Daily Mail* for its early and accurate information upon all subjects which come under its observation, that when, in your issue of to-day's *Postage Stamp* under the interesting article of Great Rarities—quoting the *Daily Mail*—the contributor of this paper speaks to the discovery of another specimen of the 1c. Magenta, British Guiana, June, 1856, in the possession of Mr. W. Kiley, of Turnditch, Derby.

"For your better information I may inform you that a deputation of three members of this Society Messrs. Bullock, Dodsworth, and Waddams—waited upon Mr. Riley, at his request, to inspect this philatelic gem (?) which, unfortunately for Mr. Riley and the philatelic world generally, turned out to be an unused and rather badly centred copy of the 1c. black, perf. 10, issue of 1867 (S.G. No. 55), catalogued at 3s.

"This being so, the fortunate owner of the only specimen of this variety may rest in the snug assurance that so far there is no other to challenge its single blessedness.—Your faithfully, E. MARTIN, Hon. Secretary."

Cayman Islands: No More Provisionals.

The Postmistress of the Cayman Islands informs in a letter dated February 14th, 1908, that she "does not think there will be more surcharges again for some time."

Let us hope that the 2½d. on 4d. is the last of this batch at all events.

But suspicion lies not upon the Post Office at Grand Cayman, but on the issuing office in Jamaica, and collectors will be curious to know how the postal authorities there are going to justify the issue of a provisional when there were stamps of the value required in stock; why also a provisional which was to be so rigidly held for public use and not to be sold to dealers was in reality mostly sold to dealers.

Now that so much candid criticism has been meted out in this matter, the Jamaican postal authorities will probably learn by an official rap over the knuckles that it is not so very wise to play these little official pranks with its postal issues, and the issues of Cayman Islands will settle down once more into a desirable little colony.

Plenty of 2½d. in Stock.

I am assured that this 2½d. provisional was quite as unnecessary as the "Halfpenny," for there was in stock over £100 of ordinary 2½d. stamps at the time of the making of the Provisional 2½d.

However, it is now no secret that the matter is in the hands of the proper authorities, who are determined to sift the matter thoroughly, and I have reason to believe that the final report will show that a local gang, acting with some postal officials, has been engaged from the first in a well organised swindle.

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Counani Redivivus

BY THE EDITOR

I have received the following interesting letter from Mr. A. Naerum, of Messrs. Naerum and Van Der Chijs, Manufacturers' Agents, 101, Leadenhall Street, London, E. C. :-

"Dear Sir,—I have just printed a new issue of stamps for the South American Free State of "Counani," and have much pleasure in enclosing specimens herewith (6). These will, until the State is recognised, be used for inland postage only in the same way as the Abyssinian stamps.

"This is the sixth issue for Counani, the previous being :—

- | | | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. | 1892. | 25c., | black and white. | |
| 2. | 1893. | Feb 5c., | colours, black, unglazed paper. | |
| 3. | 1893. | July 5c., | black, glazed paper. | |
| 4. | 1893. | Sept. Post, 1, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50c., | | } Letterpress
perforated. |
| | | 1 Franc | | |
| | | Post dues, 5, 10, 20, 50, | | |
| 5. | 1897 | 5, 10, 20, 50c., 1 franc, 5 franc, | engraved, perforated, and called Amazonia stamps. | |

"I have seen some of the above stamps (1893) listed in the French paper *L'ami de l'imprimeur* at Frs. 40.

"I hope the above may be of interest.

"The stamps will neither be perforated nor gummed.

"Yours faithfully,

A. NAERUM."

The History of Counani.

In view of this letter it may be well to tell afresh the history of the so-called "Free State of Counani." It was told in Reuter's telegrams in 1905 as follows :—

MADRID, *Saturday, 13th May, 1905.*—At the request of the Brazilian Minister in Madrid, who had had a conference on the subject with Señor Villa Urutia, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Brazilian Vice-Consul, accompanied by a police commissioner and several officers, yesterday arrested an ex-King-at-Arms on the Royal Palace, Señor Sarrion de Herrera, on a charge of conspiring against the Government of Brazil. As the result of a search which was made at the residence of Señor Sarrion, a number of documents were found containing the commission of several officers, who were to form an army intended for the State of Counani, an independent Republic of South America. A financial committee, with headquarters in London, has, it appears, long been working for the independence of the territory of Counani, which lies between the northern frontier of Brazil and French Guiana, and was formerly the subject of diplomatic contentions between Rio de Janeiro and Paris. The committee in question, which is supposed to have in view the gold mines of Counani, has, it appears from the papers, been organising an insurrection in that country in order to get possession of them, and to this end has recruited numbers of men in Great Britain, France and Spain, who have

been enlisted as colonists, but were really entitled when the time came to be transformed into soldiers.

The detailed and voluminous documents seized at the residence of Señor Sarrion de Herrera show that the organisation was proceeding on a vast scale. From these documents it appears that nearly 4,000 men had already been recruited in Great Britain, 1,000 in France, and the same number in Spain. The last contingent was to be commanded by numerous Spanish officers of various grades, senior and sub-altern, mostly attached to the reserve, although some are serving with the active army. The officers, however, were not all taken from the Spanish Army, as the documents show that a revolutionary Spanish captain, named Casero, who once brought about a rising at Badajoz, holds the rank of Colonel in the Fifth Division of the future Army of Counani. It is stated that this veteran was already in receipt of pay, received through an English banking house, which had charge of the funds for the movement. In his secret papers Señor Sarrion de Herrera styles himself Minister Plenipotentiary in Spain of the State of Counani. The Brazilian Government got wind of the affair, and perceiving that it might not be confined to Counani, but might spread to Brazil, communicated with its Minister in Madrid, who in turn informed the Spanish Government of what was going on. The Spanish authorities acted at once, with the result that Señor Sarrion was arrested early this morning. Several vehicles had to be requisitioned to remove the documents seized at his residence.

The Brazilian Minister, in an interview to-day, confirmed the news of the discovery of the plot, which he described as being directed against Brazil. —*Reuter.*

Señor Herrera's Defence.

MADRID, *Sunday, 14th May, 1905.*—Señor Sarrion de Herrera, in the course of his interrogation by the Examining Magistrate on the subject of the alleged plot against Brazil, declared that the territory of Counani had been recognised as an Independent State since 1872. He added that for the last two years he had been residing in Madrid in the capacity of Minister of the State of Counani to Spain, Morocco, and the Holy See. Señor Herrera maintained that the recruiting of men in Great Britain, France, and Spain was perfectly legal, and he declared that the revolutionary Colonel Casero had recently paid a visit to London in order to arrive at an understanding with the General Committee of the Free State of Counani, and to purchase war stores. Señor Herrera denied the existence of a plot against Brazil, the diplomatic relations between which and Counani were most cordial. —*Reuter.*

A Chamber of Commerce Inquiry.

Then in 1906 the Manchester Chamber of Commerce wrote to our Foreign Office as follows :—

"Manchester Chamber of Commerce,
"17 March, 1906.

"Sir,—I am desired by the President of this Chamber to ask if you will be so good as to favour me with some information respecting the political status of the Independent Republic of Counani, situate—as I am informed—between Brazil and the three Guianas. Members of this Chamber have been approached with regard to the formation of a company, having its field of operations in Counani. It is announced that—as part of its work—it will enter upon the purchase of goods from Manchester merchants and others. This Republic is unknown here, but a map has been exhibited in Manchester, showing the important town of Manaos—situate near the conflux of the Amazon and Rio Negro—as being within its territory. I am therefore instructed respectfully to ask you what territory Counani comprises, and whether its existence has been recognised by Great Britain. Any other information which you can properly afford will be very welcome to the President. The necessity for an authoritative statement on the subject is urgently realised here, as merchants require to know whether, in case of need, they may rely upon British protection.

"I have, &c.,

"WALTER SPEAKMAN,
"Secretary.

"The Right Hon. Sir Edward Grey, M.P.,
"Foreign Office, London."

The Last Chapter.

The following reply forwarded by our Foreign Office concluded, as we then thought, the history of the "Free State of Counani":—

"Foreign Office, 24 March, 1906.

"Sir,—I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, asking for information as to the political status of the 'Independent Republic of Counani,' and in reply I am to state that the so-called 'State' is purely fictitious. Its political existence is indignantly denied by the Brazilian Government, within whose territory the cities and provinces claimed by the 'Republic' are situated, and it has not been acknowledged by this country, nor, so far as His Majesty's Government are aware, by any other Power.

"I am, &c., E. GORST.

"The Secretary,
"Manchester Chamber of Commerce."

Counani Redivivus.

And now, forsooth, in 1908, we have a further issue of postage stamps for this State, with a full history of past issues.

If the "purely fictitious State" of 1906 has since passed into regions of actual existence we shall be glad of the evidence.

But until such evidence is forthcoming we shall be very sceptical about this new series of postage stamps.

Our Open Page

Why not Philatelic Badges?

PHILATELY, at the present time, is undoubtedly very well arranged and organised so far as all internal departments are concerned, but externally there is, in my opinion, room for one very great improvement. This improvement has often been contemplated and discussed, but has, in every instance, fallen through; probably owing to the fact that serious collectors have never been roused to give their invaluable opinions as to the benefits to be derived from fraternizing collectors, apart from stamp Societies. Take examples from other branches of life; the freemason always knows his compatriots by the aid of some arranged understanding; the cyclist of any standing usually adorns his person with some badge, by which he is at once recognised; so why should not we philatelists have a badge in some shape to make us a more united body of collectors than we are at present? As regards the nature of the badge, the most convenient contrivance would undoubtedly be in the shape of some charm, which should be attached to one's watch chain, in such a manner as to show up prominently. It strikes one as being the most sensible idea to have a sign in some visible shape, as action signs seem somewhat mysterious,

especially to an outsider, who may happen to be your partner in a train.

Regarding the advantages we might obtain from wearing a philatelic badge—they are obvious. First of all, there is always the chance of a fellow-collector coming into a railway carriage with you, but unless you are wearing your "charm" how is he to know you are also a philatelist? Think of the many wearisome hours turned into a good sound philatelic conversation, or even perhaps an exchange of duplicates! Again, there is always the chance of coming across someone interesting at social functions—what a deliverance from untold ordeals to find a philatelist! Had it not been for the badge, the chances are 100 to 1 you would not have discovered that Mr. So-and-so was a collector, as however keen you may be, you are not likely to muster enough courage to enquire of every stranger whether he or she collects stamps!

I venture to hope that these few remarks will once more bring an interesting subject to the front. It is often by little links of this description that various bodies and classes of men are brought into touch with one another.

R. E. R. DALWICK.

The Juniors' Imperial Exhibition, 1908.

The Exhibition Opened.

THE Juniors' Exhibition at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, was opened on Thursday at 4 p.m. by the Postmaster-General before a crowded company of leading collectors, which included Major Evans, Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. Sidebottom, Mr. B. W. H. Poole, Mr. W. B. Edwards.

Amongst the dealers present were Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Mr. D. Field, Mr. P. L. Pemberton, Mr. Lamb, Mr. Lincoln, Mr. C. Whitfield King, Mr. Charles King, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Frank Phillips, Mr. Charles Nissen, Mr. Regan, Messrs. Bridger and Kay, Mr. Lewis E. May.

Mr. Fred J. Melville, the President of the Junior Philatelic Society, occupied the chair. On his right sat the Postmaster-General and Major Evans, and on his left Mrs. Buxton.

Mr. Fred J. Melville (President) in opening the proceedings, said:—

It is a pleasure and a privilege to greet, on behalf of my colleagues of the Junior Philatelic Society, so large an assembly of visitors at the opening of our third Stamp Exhibition.

I have various necessary duties to perform at this point, and first of all I have to express the welcome, the very cordial welcome my colleagues extend to the visitors this afternoon, and to all who come to Caxton Hall while the Exhibition is open.

We have tried to arrange to make the Exhibition simple to the uninitiated, and whether we have succeeded in this respect remains to be seen.

We have stewards to point out the niceties of the collections to the visitors.

At the recent Exhibition in the Horticultural Hall, a gentleman took two ladies round the Exhibition, entering into explanations of interesting details, spending over an hour in the process. On parting from the ladies he enquired what was their impression of the show.

"They are simply lovely" said one of the ladies, "but I think we liked the blue stamps best."

Our stewards must not be discouraged if the explanations sometimes fall flat, and in any case I would ask them not to carry their explanations too far. Their duties as hosts should preclude them from boring their guests with too much philately.

My next duty is to thank publicly all those who have helped my Committee in the preparation of the Exhibition. We feel that in this work a very close bond of sympathy has been created between our members and the Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society, many of whom are exhibiting here to-day, side by side with the junior, and we thank those gentlemen who have entrusted us with their valuable collections for the Exhibition. In the matter of finance too, the Council of the Royal Philatelic Society has made a handsome donation to our funds.

So I thank the Exhibitors, I thank the Donors, and I thank the trade for their support which has been of great service.

And then I must express my sincere pleasure at the unanimous and cordial efforts put forward by my colleagues. Our work has been heavy, and in some cases difficult, but it has been ungrudgingly done, and a few Committee meetings back I remember one member remarking that he had never been associated with a Society which worked without any friction as the Junior Philatelic Society had done throughout his connection with it. I must say that in this respect we have always been very happy, I only remember one difficult moment in the history of the Junior Philatelic Society. A branch of the society was getting a little out of hand. It wanted Home Rule in a more or less exaggerated fashion. The branch Committee was asked to meet my Committee, and as we discussed matters in a small room in a religious institution, there seemed little hope of coming to a settlement.

But an Irish member of my Committee rose and said "Mr. President, I think our friend should read the writing on the wall," and then pointed to a text above my head, reading these words aloud, "the Branch cannot bear fruit of itself." We settled the whole affair quite amicably.

Lastly, I have to express our deep sense of the honour conferred upon the Exhibition and upon the Junior Philatelic Society, by the presence here this afternoon of so distinguished a member of His Majesty's Government as the present Postmaster-General.

I have now very much pleasure in calling upon the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton.

The Postmaster-General's Speech.

The Postmaster-General in declaring the Exhibition open said:—I am here as Postmaster-General, but in that capacity I take it I am much more of a seller of stamps than a collector. I look upon them from the view of revenue; the collector looks upon them from the view of expense and expenditure. The British Post Office is not very much use to collectors because we print too many stamps of one sort to be of any intrinsic value. But we have got a new 1908 issue of the 1d. postage stamps, beautifully engraved with laurel leaves on one side and oak leaves on the other. I will offer them to any of you at 1s. 6d. the dozen—(laughter)—or in quantities we might do them at 1s. 4d. a dozen (renewed laughter.)

Once a Collector.

In my younger days I was a collector. It was then the hobby of school boys and was encouraged by the schoolmasters, and the best geographical lesson I learned was from my stamps. Now it has become a scientific pursuit. In the old days in the stamp album there was the name of the country and a certain number of blank spaces: now you have page

after page of details, which have become the despair of collectors from the point of view of numbers and the point of cost.

The Cost of Stamps.

Then, of course, when it comes to the matter of cost one sees what very high prices these stamps fetch, £1,450 being paid for an old Mauritius. For a picture you do pay something for its beauty, but in the case of stamps it is exactly the other way—the worse the design and the worse it is printed and the sooner it is withdrawn from circulation the more valuable that stamp becomes.

Introduction of Penny Postage.

The first stamp introduced was the old 1d. black, but it was the combination of prepayment as well as reduced postage which made the penny post such an enormous success. The first suggestion of Sir Rowland Hill was the letter sheet with the stamp stamped upon it, and finally Mr. Chalmers (I believe the credit should be given to him*) invented the first adhesive stamp with gum on its back, which really made penny postage and our postal system what it is at the present moment. That was in 1840, and the stamp was not perforated until some ten or fifteen years later, and though penny postage was adopted here in 1840 it was some years before it was introduced abroad. The United States did not adopt it till 1847, Russia in 1848; the first of the Colonies was Mauritius in 1846 and New South Wales in 1849. I believe in 1865 there were only fourteen hundred different sorts of stamps. Well now, of course, as we know every country issues its stamps. Some place, I think it was Borneo, issued postage stamps without having any post office or Postmaster-General (laughter). The smaller the country the larger the number of issues, and really some of the Central American and South American countries seem to pour out an innumerable number of stamps to the despair of collectors, and I should think collectors must regret that Columbus ever discovered America at all (laughter).

Stamp Designs.

But apart from the issues, how enormously the designs of the stamps have improved in artistic merit and also in the way they are engraved and printed. I do not, however, think the English stamp in design or engraving worthy of this great country. But any alteration would be a very expensive matter. In my opinion the French stamp is as pretty as any, and the idea of the harvest of letters is an attractive feature in that stamp. Some gentleman the other day suggested that I should issue a stamp with black around it in place of the mourning band (laughter), and I am inclined to make some such issue (laughter), and I hope that collectors will buy it up at a good price.

The Junior Philatelic Society.

I am glad to hear that the Society has made great progress of late years. It numbers now some 750 members, all of whom are collectors of stamps, and I am told that they study the whole postal history of the countries they collect. But the interest about this

particular Exhibition is that we have here the specimens from all the various Colonies. I was glad to find that as regards stamps we can go from one end of the alphabet to the other, from Antiqua to Zululand.

I now declare with very great pleasure this Exhibition is now open (cheers).

A Vote of Thanks.

The President, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Buxton said:—

In rising to move a cordial vote of thanks to the Postmaster-General for his eloquent and interesting speech and for his courtesy in coming to open the Exhibition, I know that I shall be voicing the sentiments of philatelists throughout the country in assuring Mr. Buxton that he has in us a body of sympathetic students of postal matters.

We are not to be numbered amongst the firebrands who are always calling for reform—we realise that we have had our reforms and that as the great service over which Mr. Buxton presides is and has long been in a high state of efficiency, what we should now look for is not reform, but continuous development, and at Mr. Buxton's hands we have had abundant proofs that he desires to extend the facilities offered by his Department to the best of his ability and as far as the Lords of the Treasury will permit him.

I say philatelists, the true philatelists, are students not only of stamps but also of postal history. And the wonder is perhaps that there are not more of us in the service of the Right Hon. Gentleman.

A Presbyterian minister, at whose church I was lecturing on the Post Office, announced me to my surprise as a high official in His Majesty's Post Office, a distinction to which I had no right, though I sometimes wonder why I did not enter the service. There is one thing that occurs to my mind that might have prevented me.

A boy of fourteen when entering the Post Office or any other branch of the Civil Service, is asked if he has any pecuniary embarrassments, and as that age in my case is not too distant to be readily recalled, I distinctly remember that my financial condition was occasionally acute when all my pocket money was spent on stamps.

Perhaps too, had my parents wanted to put me in the Post Office Service I might have fallen foul of the Instruction 9 for Messengers in London and Provinces which states that "you must keep your hair short and neatly brushed. A fringe should not be worn on the forehead."

I think No. 14 in the same Instructions might be adopted by all employers of youthful labour, it read, "You are specially cautioned against sliding down the handrails of staircases, which is a most dangerous practice."

I should like to express my thanks to the Postmaster-General for so readily granting his assent to the invitation my colleagues extended to him to come and open the Exhibition. We felt that we were taking rather an ambitious step—we were little known except to philatelists, we had no great names on our prospectuses except a couple of double-barrelled ones on our Committee, and that the Postmaster-General should accept us on trust as it were was a compliment we do most highly appreciate.

* This claim of Chalmers has been exploded for many years. The credit is due only to Sir Rowland Hill.—
ED. P.S.

If I might be permitted to suggest what would have happened years ago if we had written to the Postmaster-General we should perhaps have been in a similar position to the sarcastic correspondent who wrote to an old-time P.M.G. saying, "I suppose if I were to wish you a happy Christmas and a bright New Year I should be assured by return of post that the matter should have your attention."

It is on record too that in the old old days that a correspondent was informed that the Postmaster-General had a fit of the gout and that the matter would have his attention as soon as the Right Hon. Gentleman had sufficiently recovered. Mr. Buxton gave us a very prompt and cordial response to our invitation, and to-day the stamp collectors of the world—not only those present to-day but our fellow collectors with whom we have a bond of friendship which is a very strong one in our mutual hobby—will be proudly gratified that the Postmaster-General of Great Britain and Ireland should have honoured them and honoured their hobby by opening this Exhibition of the Junior Philatelic Society. I ask that this meeting shall accord a very hearty vote of thanks to the Right Hon. Gentleman, and it gives me no little pleasure to call upon so universally esteemed a philatelist as Major Evans to second my motion.

Major E. B. Evans, in seconding the vote of thanks, said: I have very great pleasure in seconding the hearty vote of thanks to the Right Hon. the Postmaster-General which has been proposed in such eloquent terms by my friend Mr. Melville, who has indeed rendered it unnecessary for me to say more than a very few words. Mr. Melville and I may be considered to represent philately ancient and modern. I need not explain to you which is which. I have been collecting stamps long enough to remember the days when stamp collecting and stamp collectors were regarded by the

officials of both the Post Office and the Inland Revenue Department with a considerable amount of suspicion, which was quite unjustifiable. The idea in some countries seems to have been that we collected stamps with a view to cleaning off the postmarks and using the stamps over again to defraud the Post Office; as a matter of fact philatelists never attempt to clean stamps—or not for so innocent a purpose as using them over again. When they clean stamps at all it is for the far more nefarious purpose of deceiving their fellow collectors. I do not think, however, that this idea prevailed to any great extent in this country, as the authorities had made most elaborate experiments on the first introduction of stamps, which proved to them that the cleaning of stamps could not be made a very profitable business. Stamp collectors were therefore regarded as more or less harmless lunatics, who might, however, become unmitigated nuisances if they were given much encouragement. They were always asking questions, wanting to know, don't cher know, and seeking for information on matters which really could not concern them.

These somewhat strained relations have long ago passed away; philatelists in this country are greatly indebted to the authorities, both of St. Martin's le Grand and of Somerset House, for much valuable information, without which their studies of postal history would have been impossible, and for many acts of courtesy; and last, but not least, to the present Postmaster-General for the honour which he has paid to philately in general and to the Junior Philatelic Society in particular in coming here to-day to open our Exhibition.

The vote of thanks was carried with acclamation, and the company then made the round of the Exhibits.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 312)

C. L.—A surcharge found upon certain South Australian stamps, signifying "Crown Lands." The stamps were used between 1868 and 1874, and in the latter year they were superseded by the general issue for all the official departments surcharged "O.S."

Clarke, J. A.—The postmaster of Goliad, Texas, U.S.A., who issued special 5 c. and 10 c. stamps in 1861, prior to the introduction of the general issues for the Confederate States.

Clarior e tenebris.—An inscription appearing upon the 1d., 1d., 2d., and 2½d. stamps of the 1905 issue of Grenada, which means

Claudius, M.—An engraver, of Altona, who engraved the dies for the stamps of the 1850 issue of

Schleswig-Holstein.

Clayton, Robert.—An engraver, of Sydney, who engraved the original plate for the 1d. "Sydney View" stamp of New South Wales.

Clean-cut perfs.—A philatelic term applied to many of the oldest stamps of various British Colonies to distinguish them from stamps of similar design and watermark having what are known as "rough perfs." Whether the two varieties represent distinct issues is a debatable point. Some collectors hold that the two varieties of perforation are the production of different machines, while others assert that, when a whole lot of sheets were put under the perforating machine at the same time, the top sheets had the holes cut clearly, *i.e.*, "clean-cut," and those

near the bottom of the pile had the holes more roughly cut, forming the "rough perf." varieties.

Cleaned Stamps.—These are stamps from which the cancellations have been fraudulently removed to make them appear unused. Many of the high values of British South Africa, etc., exist in this condition, and are offered for sale by irresponsible persons as genuine unused stamps. It is of course only the scarcer stamps that it pays the "faker" to clean, and collectors should therefore be on their guard when offered rare unused stamp at very low prices.

Clipperton Island.—A series of bogus labels bearing the name of this island appeared about 1895, and many dealers and collectors were persuaded to accept them as a legitimate issue. The island is a small one off the coast of California, belonging to the United States of America, and the "stamps" were a speculation on the part of an adventurer to "raise the wind" at the expense of philatelists.

Coamo.—A small town in the Island of Porto Rico, at which a special 5 c. stamp was issued in 1898, shortly after the island had come under the dominion of the United States of America.

Coard, C. W.—A Hobart engraver who engraved the plates for the first 1d. and 4d. stamps of Tasmania, issued in 1853.

Coarse Impressions.—A term applied to stamps printed from roughly engraved plates or, more generally, to those printed from very worn plates. The "Post Paid" stamps of Mauritius furnish an excellent instance. These stamps were engraved on copper, and after prolonged use many of the lines of the design became very worn and the impressions taken from the plates in this state are known as "Coarse impressions."

Cochin China. The extreme south-eastern portion of the French dependency of Indo-China. It has a total area of 22,000 square miles and a population of about 3,000,000, of whom only 8,000 are Europeans. It is under the rule of a lieutenant-governor, assisted by a privy council, and a colonial council composed of Europeans and natives. Special postage stamps were issued in 1886, but three years later these were superseded by the general issue for Indo-China.

Coleman, W. D.—The postmaster of Danville, Virginia, U.S.A., who issued a special 5 c. stamp in 1861, prior to the introduction of the general issue for the Confederate States.

Colis Postaux.—A surcharge found on several French Colonial stamps signifying, literally, "Postal package." These stamps are used on parcels.

College stamps.—These were special stamps issued between the years 1871 and 1885 by several of the colleges of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for the purpose of franking the local correspondence of their own members. It appears that almost from time immemorial the Universities had special rights and privileges in the way of carrying letters, and, as a matter of convenience, special stamps were issued in the period stated above. The postal authorities deemed the issue of stamps an infringement of the rights of the Postmaster-General, and pressure was ultimately brought to bear on the college authorities and the stamps were suppressed.

Colman and Law.—A firm of booksellers and druggists of Gonzales, Texas, U.S.A., who issued special 5 c. and 10 c. labels in 1861, prior to the introduction of the stamps for general use throughout the Confederate States.

Colombia.—The Republic of Colombia covers a large tract of territory—473,000 square miles—in the north-west part of South America, and has a population estimated at more than four millions. At present the Republic consists of the Capital District of Bogotá and fifteen Departments, viz., Antioqueá, Bolívar, Boyaca, Cauca, Cundinamarca, Magdalena, Santander, Tolima, Nariño, Huila, Caldao, Galan, Quesada, Tundama, and Atlantico. It has a coast line of 1,100 miles on the Atlantic Ocean and one of 1,040 miles on the Pacific.

Colombia was formerly known as New Granada and was a federation of states enumerated above, which are now known as departments. By a Constitution signed on the 5th August, 1886, all the departments were federated under a central government, consisting of a congress, with two chambers, and a President elected for a term of 10 years. In 1903 the department of Panama seceded and proclaimed itself an independent republic.

In 1537 the Chibchas—one of the civilised nations of South America—were defeated by the Spanish General Quesada, who took their capital of Bacatá (Bogotá) and named his acquisition Nueva Granada. Bogotá revolted from the Spanish dominion in 1810, and in 1819 Bolívar gained the decisive battle of Boyaca. New Granada, with Ecuador and Venezuela, then joined forces and became the Republic of Colombia. In 1829 Venezuela withdrew and formed the independent republic of that name, and in the following year New Granada and Ecuador decided to annul their agreement. In the year 1863 New Granada assumed the title of the United States of Colombia, and in 1886 it became the Republic of Colombia. It has been frequently disturbed by party warfare and revolts, to the great hindrance of its commercial development. The standing army on a peace footing consists of 1,000 men, but in times of emergency every able-bodied man is liable to be called up for service. The navy consists of 5 old cruisers and 3 small gunboats, this "magnificent" fleet being practically worthless. The various changes in the constitution of the country's government is clearly marked on its postage stamps. The first of these were issued in 1859, when the "Granada Confederation" was in force; in 1861 a set for the "United States of New Granada" was issued; in 1862 stamps for the United States of Colombia appeared; and in 1886 the first set for the Republic of Colombia was issued.

Colon.—I.—An inscription found upon all the postage stamps of Chili issued prior to 1901. This is the Spanish form for Columbus, whose portrait adorns all the postage stamps of the Republic of Chili.

II.—Since 1901 the peso of Costa Rica has been called a colon. A colon consists of 100 centavos and is worth about 2s. in English money.

Colones.—The plural of colon, as inscribed upon the current high value stamps of Costa Rica.

Great Rarities

Their History and Market Price

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 2. Mauritius "Post Office" 1d. & 2d.

THE 1d. and 2d. stamps issued in the island Colony of Mauritius in 1847, usually known as the "Post Office" stamps, owing to the fact that they are inscribed with the words "POST OFFICE" instead of "POST PAID," are without doubt the most popular of all the great rarities. Their fame is literally world-wide, and they are almost as well known to the man-in-the-street as to the most enthusiastic of philatelic devotees. Though not the rarest in point of numbers they easily rank first as the most expensive stamps in the world, the last specimen found—a superb unused copy of the 2d.—having realised no less than £1,450 at public auction.

Mauritius was the first of the Colonies to follow the lead of the mother country in issuing adhesive postage stamps, these two famous "Post Office" labels appearing on September 21st, 1847. Their existence, however, was not known in Europe until 1865.

In 1846 the authorities first considered the advisability of creating postage stamps to facilitate the prepayment of postal charges. Mr. J. Barnard, a watch-maker in business at Port Louis, was approached, and on November 12th he submitted an estimate, from which we learn that he agreed to engrave plates for producing 1d. and 2d. stamps for £5 each, and to print the labels for 10s. per 1,000. His estimate was ultimately accepted, and though the cost of printing the stamps seems high compared with Messrs. Perkins Bacon & Co.'s modest 9d. per 1,000 for the issue of 1854-9, it was not really so when it is considered that the plate for each value consisted of only one specimen, and the stamps had thus to be printed one at a time. This process was found so tedious that after 1,000 stamps were printed (500 of each value) it was abandoned, and Mr. Barnard engraved new plates to print sheets of 12 stamps, these, however, being inscribed "POST PAID."

In a letter from the Colonial Postmaster to the Colonial Secretary, dated September 20th, 1847, the stamps are referred to as "now ready for issuing," and they were placed on sale the following day.

The stamps were engraved on copper, the design evidently having been copied from the 1840 stamps of Great Britain. In the centre is a profile portrait of Queen Victoria with head to left. At the top is "POSTAGE"; at the base, the value; on the left, "POST OFFICE"; and on the right, "MAURITIUS." The upper left and lower right corners are filled with small "stars," while in the remaining corners small crosses are shown. The stamps were only in use a few days, the majority having been used in sending out invitations to a ball given by Lady Gomm, the wife of the then Governor of Mauritius, at Government House.

Of the thousand "Post Office" stamps which were issued, only 26 specimens are known to exist to-day, most of these having been found among the corres-

pondence of a gentleman, long since deceased, in Bordeaux.

So far as I have been able to trace, chiefly through the medium of an excellent article by M. J. B. Moens, which appeared in *Le Timbre Poste* in 1899, the history of the various specimens is as follows:—

1 & 2.—In October 1865, M. J. B. Moens received the first two known copies of the 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" from a young collector, M. Albert Coutures, of Bordeaux. The stamps had previously belonged to Mme. Borchard, of Bordeaux, and this lady exchanged them with M. Coutures for two Montevideo, owing to the fact that the latter had a place apportioned them in her Lallier album, whereas the two Mauritius, like many other stamps then unknown, were not indicated. Both were used on the same letter, the 1d. stamp having the upper left-hand corner defective. M. Moens sold these stamps to Judge F. A. Philbrick on February 15th, 1866, and when the latter sold his collection in 1882 they passed to Herr Phillip von Ferrary, in whose collection they still remain.

3.—An unused specimen of the 2d. was sold by Mme. Desbois, of Bordeaux, in 1866, to M. Lalanne, one of the earliest collectors in that town. M. Lalanne sold it with three other "Post Office" stamps in 1893 (see Nos. 10 to 12).

4.—Among a quantity of old correspondence a merchant at Port Louis found a letter sheet franked with two 1d. stamps (one a "Post Office" and the other "Post Paid." In March, 1868, he made a present of them to M. Noirel, a local collector, who sold his collection to M. Lionnet in April, 1870. The latter gentleman sent the "Post Office" stamp to M. Moens, and on October 4th it was acquired by M. A. de Rothschild, who, it is stated, still owns it.

5.—About 1869 a Port Louis collector, M. A. Rac, had a used specimen of the 2d. given to him by M. Caunter. He sent his collection to Paris in 1889, and a buyer for it was found in M. Ch. Roussin, who sold the "Post Office" stamp to M. Perrissin shortly afterwards. On June 10th, 1890, the stamp was purchased by M. D. Astruc, who resold it a month later to M. P. Miraband, in whose collection it still remains. This stamp was offered for sale by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. at the London Exhibition of May, 1890. The price asked was only £200, but collectors at that time were unfeeling enough to laugh at the idea of anyone paying such a price for a single stamp. Times have changed since then!

6.—In November, 1869, M. Moens acquired a specimen of the 2d. from Mme. Desbois and sold it shortly afterwards to Dr. Legrand. In 1897 Dr. Legrand sold this stamp, together with No. 7, to M. Jules Bernichon for, it is stated, the record sum of £1,920. I believe the stamps are still in M. Bernichon's possession.

7.—In January, 1870, M. Moens received a used

specimen of the 1d. from the same lady, which he sold to Dr. Legrand. This, as stated in the preceding paragraph, was sold to M. Bernichon together with the 2d. stamp also mentioned.

8 & 9.—At the same time as he purchased stamp No. 7, M. Moens obtained two unused specimens (1d. and 2d.) from the same lady. These were sold to M. Perinelle on Jan. 20th, 1870, and re-purchased by M. Moens in Jan., 1881. In the following month they were sold to Herr Phillip von Ferrary, who still owns them.

10, 11 & 12.—Mme Desbois also, in 1870, handed three "Post Office" stamps to M. E. Lalanne, of Bordeaux, for his participation in the bargain concluded with Mme. Borchard, among whose husband's correspondence no less than 13 of these rarities were discovered. One of the three stamps, a 1d., was unused, and this, with No. 3, completed M. Lalanne's unused set, and the other two—a 1d. and 2d. respectively—were also added to his collection. In July, 1893, M. Piet Lataudrie acquired the whole of M. Lalanne's collection. The two unused "Post Office" stamps were sold to Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and passed on to Sir. W. B. Avery (in whose superb collection they still remain), the price paid being £780. M. Lataudrie kept the two used specimens until 1896, when he sold them to M. E. Moens, who still has them.

13.—On the 16th Sept., 1872, M. Moens received another "Post Office" stamp from Mme. Desbois—a used specimen of the 2d. slightly damaged at one of the corners. It was at once sold to M. A. de Rothschild, thus completing that gentleman's set (see No. 4).

14.—Three years later M. Moens obtained an unused copy of the 2d. from the same lady, which she had found in an old collection bought from a gentleman who wished to raise sufficient money to attend the *grande fête* at Paris. M. Moens sold the stamp to Herr Phillip von Ferrary, who exchanged it with the late Mr. T. K. Tapling in 1886 for some Poonah and other Indian Native States stamps he wanted. On the latter's death in 1891, the stamp with the rest of his collection, was bequeathed to the British Museum where it may now be seen.

15.—When Major E. B. Evans was at Port Louis in 1878, he was fortunate enough to purchase a collection of stamps from a professor of music, which contained a specimen of the 1d. on entire envelope. It has since been proved that this was used to prepay an invitation to a ball given by the wife of the then Governor of Mauritius. After his return to England Major Evans sold the stamp in 1884 to the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, and, like No. 14, it is now on view at the British Museum.

16.—M. Marcel Pouget, of Bordeaux, obtained a used specimen of the 1d. in January, 1897, out of a collection he purchased. This specimen, like so many of the others, originally came from Mme. Borchard, from whom M. Schiller had obtained it a number of years before. M. Kirchner purchased the stamp in 1897, and sold it in 1900, but to whom I have been unable to discover.

17.—In 1898, the niece of M. Edmond Duvivier was destroying a number of old papers and found among them an envelope, addressed to her uncle, containing an invitation to the ball given by Lady Gomm in 1847. The envelope was franked by a 1d.

"Post Office," and it was purchased on March 30th, at "the highest price ever paid for a single stamp," by Mr. W. H. Peckitt, who shortly afterwards sold it to an English collector.

18 & 19.—On November 4th, 1898, Mr. W. H. Peckitt purchased two more 1d. "Post Office," Mauritius. They were both on the same letter sheet, which was found in an Indian bazaar in Bombay by Mr. Howard, who at first asked the modest sum of £2,500 for them! The price he actually received was not made public. These stamps were shortly afterwards purchased by Mr. Vernon Roberts, who exhibited them at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition in 1899. At the Philatelic Exhibition held in London in 1906, these two stamps were again offered for sale by Mr. Peckitt, and they were then, or soon afterwards, acquired by a well-known American collector—Mr. G. H. Worthington, of Cleveland, U.S.A.—in whose collection they now rest.

20.—Mme. Duvivier, having mentioned to some friends her good luck in finding a 1d. "Post Office," induced them to hunt through some old papers as a member of the family had also received an invitation to Lady Gomm's ball. A thorough search resulted in the discovery of another 1d. "Post Office" stamp on an envelope. This was sold to M. Th. Lemaire about the middle of 1899, and was later acquired by Mr. Peckitt. It was then purchased by Mr. H. J. Duveen, in whose magnificent collection it still remains.

21.—In 1899 another 2d. "Post Office" was found in Mauritius in a lot of old papers accumulated by a coolie. A missionary is reported to have bought it for about 12 rupees, but to whom it was afterwards sold I have been unable to trace.

22 & 23.—In February, 1903, M. Th. Lemaire purchased an envelope on which were both 1d. and 2d. "Post Office," Mauritius. The price paid for the two is reported to have been "a very fine one, closely approaching £1,500."

24 & 25.—Some time in 1903 two other copies of the 1d. and 2d. "Post Office," Mauritius, were discovered, but what became of them I have been unable to discover.

26.—Towards the end of 1903 a magnificent unused specimen of the 2d. "Post Office" was found in old collection belonging to Mr. J. Bonar, of Hampstead, which he had made when a schoolboy. The stamp was sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson at their auction sale held on January 13th, 1904, and it fetched the record price of £1,450. The purchaser was H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, in whose collection it still rests.

Some of the above stamps have changed hands without the transactions having been made public, for in the "Breitfuss" collection, recently acquired by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., was a used copy of the 1d. This is being offered for sale by Messrs. Glendining and Co., Ltd., at their auction to be held on January , and by the time these lines are in print it will probably have been sold. The specimen is rather heavily cancelled and cut close, so that it is not likely to realise a sensational figure.

From the above notes it will be seen that of the 26 known specimens of these rare and highly-prized stamps there are 14 of the 1d. and 12 of the 2d. Of the 1d. only two unused copies are known, while of the 2d. no less than five exist in unused state.

Philatelic Society Meetings

Brighton: Junior.

The ninth meeting of the season was held on February 13th, 1908, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. Mead.

Further generous donations to the library were acknowledged from Mr. Clark.

The resignation of Mr. G. C. Colman from the Committee was announced with much regret, and the vacancy is to be filled at the next meeting.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. A. H. L. Giles, R.N., Mr. Clark gave a display of his magnificent collection of Germany and States.

Mr. Mead proposed a very hearty vote of thanks, which was seconded by Mr. Owen and carried with acclamation.

The tenth meeting of the season was held on February 27th, 1908.

Donations to the library were acknowledged from Messrs. Herbert Clark and G. C. Stephens, with many thanks.

Messrs. W. C. Owen and G. H. Type were elected upon the Committee.

The Chairman, Mr. Mead, then showed his fine collection of stamps issued from 1840 to 1886, which was much admired, and at the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him.

The last exchange packet which returned showed that 20% had been sold.

North London.

The usual meeting took place on Thursday, Feb. 20th, when, in spite of the heavy rain, a good number were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. F. Beasley, Miss Deverell, and Miss Taylor were elected members of the Society. It was decided that in order to encourage the ladies to become members to let the first twelve join free of subscription for this season. It was also decided that a copy of all papers read before the Society be kept, provided that the writers had no objection. The Hon. Sec. reminded all members of the competitive display that was to be held at the next meeting, limited to one country, for a fine diploma.

Mr. C. M. C. Symes (President) then read a paper on Chili, giving a short history of the country and its postal facilities, and also a display starting from the 1867 issue down to the present one, having a fine range of shades, and some fine strips and blocks, especially of the higher values. There were also some uncatalogued varieties of the 1 peso 1892 issue. (1) With the head of Columbus exactly over the figure 1, and the shading background reaching the top of the circle which encloses the head; (2) With head slightly to left of figure, and the shading not reaching the top of the circle; (3) With head still further to the left and the shading the same; (4) The head much to the right of the figure and the shading the same. Variety 4 being by far the rarest and Variety 3 the commonest.

A hearty vote of thanks was, on the proposition of Mr. C. J. Phillips, accorded to Mr. C. M. C. Symes, after which the meeting broke up.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The Fifth General Meeting of the Society was held at No. 4, Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, February 18th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, R. Frentzel, W. T. Standen, M. Simons, L. E.

Bradbury, W. A. Boyes, E. W. Arnold, H. Wills, E. Bounds, F. Read, D. Thomson, W. H. Eastwood, M. Weinberg, J. E. Lincoln, Dr. Dewey Buncombe, A. G. Wane, W. Gunner, P. Ashley, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and two visitors (L. E. Hall and C. W. Bressley).

The President took the Chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on January 21st, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

Messrs. Warren H. Colson and A. J. Warren were elected ordinary Members of the Society.

Donations to the Forgery Collection were received from Messrs. C. C. Tait, E. W. Arnold and H. A. Rice; to the Ordinary Collection from the President. These were duly acknowledged with thanks.

Several contributions to the Library were announced by the Hon. Librarian.

Mr. Frentzel informed the members that the Webster Collection of Entires received by the Society consisted of:—

Europe	- - -	470 pieces.
Asia	- - -	200 "
Africa	- - -	101 "
America	- - -	217 "
Australia	- - -	137 "
Duplicates	- - -	170 "

Total - 1295

A special vote of thanks to Dr. Webster for his liberality was proposed by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, and carried with acclamation.

The following resolutions were proposed and carried:

"That the Herts Philatelic Society become a member of the Philatelic Literature Society, and that the Hon. Librarian be appointed the representative of the Society at the Meetings.

"That a donation of £2 2s. 0d. be given to the Junior Philatelic Society as a contribution towards their Exhibition expenses."

"That at the General Display at the March Meeting, the exhibits of each member be limited to 25 stamps."

In the absence of Mr. T. W. Hall, who was unavoidably prevented from attending, Mr. L. E. Hall exhibited his father's collection of the stamps of Danish West Indies, and, as the stamps were being handed round, read explanatory notes on the different issues, printings, &c.

At the conclusion, Mr. G. Wane proposed and Mr. H. Wills seconded a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hall, Senr., for sending his stamps for display and to Mr. Hall, Junr., for reading the notes, &c. Carried with enthusiasm and suitably acknowledged.

Mr. K. Frentzel then passed round a part of his wonderful collection containing "The most interesting stamps of the Surcharged Issues of Mexico from 1856 to 1883." As Mr. Boyes, in proposing a vote of thanks, truly said, this collection is one of the most monumental and complete in existence, and great appreciation was shown by the members at the opportunity afforded them of examining its wonderful detail.

Mr. F. Read seconded the vote of thanks which was passed with acclamation.

Mr. Frentzel returned thanks, and the proceedings of the meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

London Juniors.

The ninth ordinary meeting of the above Society was held on Saturday, February 15th, 1908, at 3, Bedford Street, Strand. The President took the chair at 8 p.m. The following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society:—Messrs. T. C. H. Shard, E. M. Carpenter, A. W. Batchelder,

N. Wigston, H. F. Crohn, T. Sykes, junr., T. D. Willson, S. Fox, H. L. Powell. Donations to the Forgery Collection were acknowledged from Messrs. W. G. Cambell and A. E. Heather.

The President announced that the Football match between the Exhibition Committee and members of the Society, played during the afternoon, had resulted in a win for the Committee, the score being 6 goals to 4.

Mr. Melville said that it gave him great pleasure to welcome so many ladies at the meeting on this "Ladies' Night," and he hoped they would continue to come in large numbers to the remaining meetings of the season.

Mr. Edgar Nelson, an American member of the Society, next gave us a short account of the progress of Philately on the other side of the Atlantic. He spoke of the good feeling existing between American and English Philatelists, and said that in a large number of things English Philately was far in advance of American. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Nelson for his very interesting address, Mr. Lodge seconded and it was unanimously carried.

Mrs. D. Field next gave us a display of a portion of her fine collection of British Colonials, among which one noticed large panes and sheets of early Transvaals and a splendid collection of Sudan, containing a very large number of errors of overprint and other interesting varieties. The collection was greatly admired by all, not only because of the rarity of the stamps, but also on account of their fine condition. At the close Mr. Melville proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Field, which was seconded by Mrs. Holland and carried with enthusiasm.

Donations have been received towards the Exhibition expenses, bringing the total up to £76 6s. 0d.

Further donations to this Fund are asked for, and will be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by H. F. Johnson, Exhibition Offices, 44, Fleet Street, E.C.

Leeds.

At the fortnightly meeting, held in the Society's Rooms, at the Leeds Institute, on Tuesday, the 4th February, 1908, Mr. H. Weydt and Mr. J. W. Duffield (Junior Vice-Presidents) gave a joint display of the interesting postal issues of the French colonies, and of the special issues for the use of the Consular and Post Offices abroad, viz., in the Levant, Crete, Egypt, China, Zanzibar, the Indian Settlements, etc. These issues of late years have multiplied tremendously, and a great task is imposed on the collector to keep pace with them, so that considerable credit is due to Mr. Weydt, and in no lesser degree to Mr. Duffield, for having got together such a representative lot of both the old and the new issues, the latter practically complete. Some fine specimens, used and unused, were shown of the higher values, many being obsolete, and a fairly large number of the provisional stamps for Djibouti, Obok, French Congo, Gaboon, Guadeloupe, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Martinique, New Caledonia, Reunion, etc., were in evidence, whilst the stamps of Tunis and the general issues for the colonies, dating from 1859, formed separate sections of much interest. The picturesque stamps of the French Somali Coast, with views of mosques, Somali warriors, etc., printed in two colours, included several values with the centre inverted, and there were many other stamps in the collections, with inverted surcharges—all very rare.

Amongst the novelties shown Mr. W. Denison Roebuck brought a strip of six unused stamps for letting "Post Horses per mile" of the reign of William IV.

Stamp Trade Protection Association.

The annual general meeting of this Association was held in London on February 20th, 1908, at 7 p.m.

There were present Messrs. F. H. Oliver, W. Hadlow, E. J. Bridger, B. E. Martin, D. Campbell, J. J. Coates, F. B. Turpin, G. Loverins, J. Waite and J. H. Telfer (in the chair). Proxies were also received from Messrs. C. J. Phillips, H. E. Haworth, W. T. Wilson, H. Griebert, T. D. Willson, W. Jacoby, W. Brown, E. J. Moffatt, A. B. Kay, W. Windrath and W. U. Heierle.

The minutes of the last annual general meeting were read and confirmed.

The following Directors for the current year were duly balloted for and elected:— Messrs. F. H. Oliver, W. Hadlow, E. J. Bridger, P. L. Pemberton, J. H. Telfer, B. E. Martin.

The Secretary's Report for the past year was read and approved.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. J. H. Telfer for his services as Chairman for the past year was unanimously carried.

Secretary's Annual Report for the Year 1906-7.

There are at present 50 subscribing active members of this Association, of which seven were elected during the year, five old members retiring.

The current year is opening very well two new members having been elected and several gentlemen having applied for particulars of membership.

The expenses are rather heavier this year owing to an arrangement for English and Foreign enquiries with an Enquiry Office of the highest standing and reliability, included is also the honorarium voted to the Secretary at the last annual general meeting.

The Secretary has to thank the members generally for the aid they now afford him in advising any doubtful applications or transactions. It often enables him to know how to deal with one of those individuals if he has succeeded in imposing on any member.

The number of cases placed in the hands of the Secretary for the recovery of stamps or debts totalled 265 during the past year, of which 97 have been settled in full, over 40 being still in the hands of solicitors or the police, and in 17 cases the time limit for the possible settlement has not yet expired.

The greater proportion of the unsuccessful cases were due to the fact of the removal of the parties and inability to trace them, and to the use of letter call offices, this last evil showing signs of continued increase.

The amount in cash and stamps recovered amounted to £402 8s. 6d., out of a total value of £1,022.

The prosecution of Treherne at Brighton absorbed so much time that some of the matters in hand have stood over longer than they would otherwise have done; this case, full reports of which have appeared in the Philatelic press, has cost the Association so far £34, and there are at present further claims amounting to £27.

Included in these expenses are the expenditures paid by the Association in obtaining evidence and preparing the case for the Inland Revenue Authorities.

Particulars of membership will gladly be sent. Applications should be addressed to the Secretary, J. S. G. Telfer, 63¼, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Herne Bay.

On Wednesday, January 22nd, 1908, the President, R. Maclachlan, Esq., J.P., being in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

The President then read a paper on Ceylon, with display. This was very strong in the early issues and many fine specimens of the surcharged varieties were shown, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President from all present and the proceedings terminated.

The next meeting was held on Wednesday, February 5th, the President also on this

occasion being in the chair. The chief item on the programme was a paper, read by Mr. Christian Kräuter on Sale Prices, and proved to be of great interest, showing as it did the trend of prices of some well known stamps. An interesting discussion ensued, several novelties were shown, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Kräuter ended a very pleasant evening.

The last meeting was held on Wednesday, February, 19th. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the President, who is on the Continent, Vice-President, H. J. Bignold occupied the chair. After the preliminary business had been concluded a paper was read by Mr. F. H. Barwood on the stamps of British Central Africa with display. The subject was treated historically, etc., and presented Philately in its most interesting form. The display had been specially mounted for the occasion and showed the majority of the stamps in splendid condition. A well deserved vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Barwood.

The meetings continue to be well attended, the Society steadily growing and is doing good work towards keeping Philately alive in this corner of Kent.

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Br. Guiana, Mult. Chalky, 5c. on blue	2d.
" Mult., 5c. on white paper	1d.
Canada, 1893-7, 50 c., blue	3d.
" King, 20 c., olive green	2d.
Dominica, 1903, C.O. ord., 1d. or 1d.	1d.
F.A. & Uganda, Mult., 2 s.	3d.
" " 4 s.	5d.
" " 5 or 8 s.	10d.
Egypt (O.H.H.S.), 1, 2, 3, 5 m. and 1 p.	1d.
" " fine set of 5	1 1/2d.
" 10 p. (ord. or chalky paper)	1d.
Fernando Po, 1908, 25 c.	4d.
" 1907, 25 c.	2d.
Greece, 1906 1, 2 and 8 l., set	2d.
" " 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 l., set	2d.
" " 30 l.	2d.
" " 40 l.	3d.
" " 1 d.	5d.
" " 2 d.	1/3
" " 3 d.	2/0
" " 5d.	3/6
Guatemala, 1902, 5, 6, 10 20 or 50 c.	1/2d.
" 1908, 25 c. on 1 c., 2 c. or 6 c.	2d.
Gt. Britain, I.R. Official, King, 1d.	1/2d.
Gold Coast, King, Mult., 3d.	1 1/2d.
India, King, On H.M.S., 2s. or 1r.	1/2d.
" " 3 p., 1, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 8 s. and 1 r., set	1d.
Jamaica, Queen, Mult., 6d.	6d.
Leeward Islands, King, Mult. (bi-coloured), 1d.	1 1/2d.
N. Nigeria, King, Single C.A., 2d.	3d.
" " " 6d.	9d.
" " " 1s.	1/6
Nicaragua, 1906 7-8, 10 1/2 c., 10/3 c., or 15/1 c.	1/2d.
Servia, 1905, King Peter, 8 d.	1/6
" " 5 d.	2/3
Siam, 1900, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10 and 12 atts. set	4d.
" " 64 atts	3d.
" 1906, 1 tical	6d.
Sudan, Army Service, 1 or 5 m.	1d.
" " 8 m.	2d.
" " 3 m. or 1 p.	4d.
" O.R.G.B., 1 or 5 m.	1d.
" " 3 m. or 1 p.	2d.
" " 2 p.	3d.
" " 5 p.	10d.
St. Kitts, Mult. (bi-coloured), 1d. or 1d.	1d.
" (uni-coloured), 1906, 1d.	1/2d.
Sierra Leone, 1884-93, Queen, 4d.	3d.
" " King, Single C.A., 1d. or 1d.	1 1/2d.
" " Single C.A., 2 1/2d.	7d.
" " Mult., 1s.	10d.
" " 2s.	2/0
S. Nigeria, 1908, 1d. green or 1d. red	1/2d.
St. Vincent, Queen, 1897, 1d. or 1d.	1d.
" " King, Single C.A., 1d.	1d.
" " " or 1d.	1d.
" " Mult. ord., 1d.	1d.
" " " or 1d.	1d.
" (Pictorial), 1907, 1d. or 1d.	1d.
Uruguay, 1800-1, 7 c.	1d.
Zanzibar, 1904, 1 or 1 s.	1/2d.
" " 2 or 2 1/2 s.	2d.
" " 4 s.	4d.
" " 8 s.	8d.

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The Postage Stamp

An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors

Edited by E. J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 26. Vol. 1.

28 MARCH, 1908

Price 1d.

Gossip of the Week

By CORNELIUS WRINKLE

After the Exhibition.



Great Moguls, including H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, assisted with exhibits, the Show was raised to a high level.

Not Enough Elbow Room.

There was a notable scarcity of elbow room. The Juniors crammed every available inch either with stalls or exhibits. The consequence was that for all but the thinnest of thin people there was no little difficulty in getting through to see all the good things that were to be seen. Going up between two rows of frames I was somewhat taken aback to find that corridor almost empty. Half-way up were a couple of Tichbornes, one male, one female, examining opposite exhibits. There was no getting past. I coughed and otherwise indicated that I was desirous of getting through, but there they stuck. I should like to have presented each with a free ticket for the nether hades. Such inconsiderate folk ought to be confined to their own back yards.

Not Sufficiently Lighted.

In arranging a hall for a Stamp Exhibition the promoters are generally between the devil and the deep sea in this great Metropolis of ours. We have not a single ideal hall available for such a purpose. Either there is too great a blaze of light, as at the Horticultural Hall of the International Philatelic

WE shall no doubt be talking about the Juniors'

Exhibition at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on the 12th, 13th, and 14th March, for many a day to come, for it was, from the point of attendance, by far the greatest success that has yet been scored by any Stamp Exhibition, and as several of the

Exhibition in 1906, or there is a dim light as at the Caxton Hall. At the Juniors we were compelled to have the lights up all day, and, as every one knows, the electric light plays havoc with colours, to say nothing of shades.

A Poser in N.Z.'s.

This electric light business was answerable for the expression of considerable doubt about a certain rare shade. We were gathered around the fine New Zealand exhibit of the President of the City of London Philatelic Society, and of course, the prime question was, "where is Edward's blood red 1s.?" The stamp in question was pointed out, but one after another we confessed ourselves very much puzzled, and one specialist wound up the discussion with the disconcerting remark, "I'm blown if I believe he's got it."

However, the matter is to be settled by a well-known coterie of N.Z. Waterlow Specialists, before whom the said Edwards will be called upon to produce the said blood red 1s. in the broadest of broad daylight.

The writer hereof hankers after a nicely centred unused block of four.

A Daring Exhibitor.

A daring and, shall I say irate exhibitor, adopted a novel method of relieving his feelings concerning the speculative cornering of stamps.

Mr. H. W. Westcott exhibited Morocco Agencies complete, unused and used, except the 50c. King's head with single Crown and CA. watermark. The space where this stamp should have figured contained the following note:—"As the whole of the 50c. stamps were purchased at Gibraltar by a speculator (see *Monthly Journal*, Oct. 31, '05), this stamp should, in my opinion, be ostracised by philatelists."

Hear, hear, say I, most heartily, but all the same it won't be ostracised, for the simple reason that it has passed into the catalogues.

If more collectors were as independent and self-sacrificing as Mr. Westcott, speculative corners would be more risky than they are.

I may add that I was offered the stamp at the time, but refused to pay the ridiculous price asked for it, and though I specialise in Morocco Agencies, the place of the 50c. in my set also will probably remain, like Mr. Westcott's, a blank. Of course, the stamp never having reached the Morocco Office, ought to be banned as "never issued for use."

Ladies' Exchange Club: Gentlemen now admitted.

In these days of the insistent and domineering Suffragette, the following note from Mrs. Pearson will be somewhat consoling to the downhearted male.

Mrs. Pearson writes to me:—"The Ladies' Stamp Exchange" I started fifteen years ago, and like 'Charlie's Aunt' it is still running, and with the utmost success too. Gentlemen are now admitted, although for the first few years it was entirely for ladies, but it is a great deal more interesting since the admission of the sterner sex."

A King's Head Stamp Exchange.

Mrs. Pearson also tells me of a specialists' club she has started this season, called "The King's Head Stamp Exchange," "which has caught on so splendidly (owing no doubt to sundry advertisements in *The Postage Stamp*), applications came in for membership every week; but the club is limited to thirty members, otherwise the packets take too long in getting round."

Great Britain, Plate 77.

Mr. N. V. Le Gallais writes to me from Jersey as follows:—"I notice in your issue of this date (29.2.08) you refer to the specimen in the Tapling Collection as being unique, the other known copy referred to by Mr. Ewen in his *Weekly Stamp News* 'having been destroyed in the San Francisco fire.' I presume this refers to *unused* copies only, as I have had a *used* specimen in my possession some years."

Epidemic of Philatelic Journals.

At the Juniors' Exhibition I came across no less than two new philatelic journals, one selling outside the Show, called "Mack's Stamp Review." Who's Mack? Another, styled "The British Philatelist," was brought to me by Mr. Nissen, the dealer who specialises in the stamps of Great Britain. Mr. Nissen's paper should be useful to devotees of our own stamps.

The issue of three new philatelic monthlies within a short time of each other should be a healthy sign.

Catalogue Inconsistencies.

Catalogue inconsistencies is an old theme revived in the *West End Philatelist*. The Editor hits the nail on the head when he says: "It may be good business to include and exclude varieties at one's own sweet will, but it is precious poor philately."

But it is a big question how to establish a general basis, and then who is to bell the cat? Certainly not a dealer who finds it pays to boom the minutest varieties in some countries, whilst it would be suicidal from a business point of view to open out another country in a similar manner.

It all comes down to the unanswerable reply, a dealer's catalogue is a price list of goods he has for sale, not a philatelist's catalogue first and foremost.

The Remedy.

The Editor of the *West End Philatelist* thinks it is not difficult to specify the remedy. He writes "There are two courses open to the compilers. The first and simplest is to make a distinction between major and minor varieties by printing the former in bolder type. As any inconsistencies would thus be confined to minor varieties, they would not then matter so much. The other plan would be to have a logical and consistent catalogue in which similar varieties in every country would be given equal prominence. And of these two courses we think the first would be the wiser, and one that would be greatly appreciated by every reader of the catalogue."

That's all very well, but the fact remains that it does not pay the catalogue compiler to do all this, and until it does he is not likely to do it.

For years I have preached the same remedy, but the only catalogue that has taken up the idea is Scott's American catalogue.

The real trouble lies in the fact that some minor varieties fetch fabulous prices compared to the normal stamps, and yield to the dealer equally fabulous profits.

An Uncatalogued B.S.A. Provisional.

Mr. Field is offering for sale at £4 a variety which is not only uncatalogued, but has apparently run the gauntlet of very sharp eyes. It is the "one penny" on 4s. of 1896 of British South Africa. Although I got everything that was to be had from a correspondent at Buluwayo at the time and a well-known South African collector was on the spot sending word home to us of every shade of variety, this variety, noted by Mr. Field, with only one bar cancelling the original value instead of three, is now heard of for the first time.

Roumania Reminders Remain.

I cannot help chuckling over the announcement in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 21.3.08, that Roumania "does not seem to get rid of its reminders, although it is constantly offering them." And then we are told that "they number about ten million!" with a face value of some £120,000. For this £120,000 of rubbish the Roumanian Post Office "wants £8,000, whilst the first auction only produced a bid of £2,000."

More Auctions of the Rubbish.

Then we are further told that bids of £2,600 by Messrs. Hugo Griebert & Co., and £4,200 from Messrs. Senf have been refused. Consequently a fresh sale was announced, which, let us hope, has been just as fruitless as the others.

But what will become of them?

If not sold the Postmaster-General declares that he will surcharge the blessed lot rather than let them go for less than his limit of £8,000.

Ten million surcharges of 21 varieties plus inverteds and other "accidents," ugh! what a prospect.

Specialising a Single Value

Great Britain: Current King's Head, 1d.

By EDWARD J. NANKIVELL

Other Opinions.

THE suggestion thrown out by a correspondent, and recorded by me in an article under the above heading on page 307, that a man too busy to collect a full country and yet keen on collecting might find solace in specialising a single value, finds more sympathy than I had imagined would be given to such a suggestion. One specialist told me he thought it rather a good idea, and another thinks it a rattling good line to adopt. Another not only approves, but suggests as an additional choice the simpler and less costly idea of following up our own current King's head penny in all its changes of shade, plate numbers, and marginal lines.

Great Britain. Current King's Head 1d.

My correspondent, who has been collecting plate numbers, &c., of both ½d. and 1d. King's head, contends that there are plenty of varieties to engage any single stamp specialist's attention, and every now and again we get a fresh plate number and further shades, and who can say what even the immediate future may have in store?

Mr. Poole's Notes.

Turning back over the pages of *The Postage Stamp*, I reprint here for the benefit and guidance of the would-be specialist what Mr. Poole has written on this subject in his interesting series on "Marginal Varieties":—

When the ½d. and 1d. stamps of the King's head type replaced those bearing the portrait of Queen Victoria the plates were lettered in a similar manner, with sans-serif capitals, new series being commenced for each value beginning with the account letter "A" in each case.

In 1904 a new system was inaugurated, a figure to denote the year in which the plates for a particular contract were first put to press being placed after the account letter. Thus the combination "D 5" on the margin of a sheet denotes that the plates used for printing the supply of stamps entered in the contractors' account as "D" were first put to press in 1905. When fresh plates to complete the contract had to be made in the following year the same letter was used in combination with a new number.

At the same time Roman capitals were used for lettering the ½d. plates and the account letter and date figure were placed under the *second* stamp in the bottom row of each sheet.

The position of these particulars in the 1d. plates remained as before—under the eleventh stamp in

the lower row—and sans-serif capitals were retained for this value.

The following is a list of the letters I have seen:—

½d. deep green, A, B, C, C 4, D 4.

½d., pale yellow-green, D 4, D 5, E 5, E 6, F 6, F 7, G 7.

1d. scarlet, A, B, C, C 4, D 4, D 5, E 5, E 6, F 6, F 7, G 7.

Here, then we have developed an exceedingly interesting further choice for our friend, who is thirsting for a single stamp to specialise.

Catalogue Prices.

At the beginning of the year Gibbons published the following list of prices for unused copies:—

Letter	A	B	C	C 4	D 4	D 5	E 5	E 6	F 6	G 7
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	0	9	0	8	0	9	0	9	1	0
	1	6	1	0	0	9	0	8	0	4
	0	4	0	6	0	4	0	6	0	3
	0	3	0	4	0	3	0	3	0	3
	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3
	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3

Marginal Line Varieties.

The thick marginal line that enframes each pane of stamps, which was at first made up of one thick unbroken line, has since been broken at regular distances. At first the breaks were small and irregular, now they are broken at each line of perforation all round. Some of these varieties seem to be very scarce. I have seen a strip of three of D 4 of the dark green shade of the ½d. value with broken lines priced as much as 5s. Strange to say, although the dark green shade D 4 exists with broken lines, the pale yellow-green, which superseded the dark green, exists also with continuous lines and with broken lines.

Indeed, the more I dip into this by-path of philately, the more I am attracted by it.

Mr. Ewen's Records.

Mr. Ewen has done much to bring the most minute details of variation up to date, and has also published an excellent list of dates of issue of each new letter, so that there is an abundance of matter to guide the would-be specialist.

No Objection.

Personally I see no objection, but much room for study and research in this line of specialising. It certainly is not open to the complaint that it may withdraw scarce stamps from their rightful places in great collections. The collector may also rest assured that he will have to fish out his own facts for himself in conjunction with fellow-collectors without help from the printers of the stamps.



E5

The History and Market Price of Great Rarities

BY AN OLD SPECIALIST

No. 3. Hawaiian Islands, 1851, 2c. blue

AMONG the rarest of the world's postage stamps the 2 cents of the first issue for the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands easily takes third place. Like so many other scarce stamps, the three values, 2c., 5c., and 13c., which formed the first series for postal use in these islands, were designed and set up from ordinary printers' type at a printing office in Honolulu, the capital.

At the time the stamps made their appearance, Hawaii was rapidly becoming a highly civilised state, though only three generations previously its inhabitants were savage barbarians of the most ferocious type. Its ultimate prosperity and importance was largely due to the whaling industry. Honolulu was the principal and privileged station of the whalers of all nations, and during the six months which constituted the whaling season such an amount of business was done that the inhabitants were enabled to live in comfort, and even luxury, for the rest of the year. Although the whaling industry has diminished since, the islands still retain much of their old-time prosperity, and, as a colony of the United States of America, their future commercial prospects are what the Chinese would term "auspicious."

The events which led to the issue of these stamps and the foundation of the Hawaiian Post Office are matters regarding which information is particularly meagre. The *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* for March, 1866, relates the following story bearing on this point:—"In former times, the letters arriving in the islands were deposited on a table in one of the quay warehouses, and persons who expected any went there and searched for those addressed to them, and took them away. On one occasion, however, a newly married gentleman came to Honolulu, but without his wife, and for many days attended at the rough substitute for a post office in the hope of receiving a letter from his absent spouse, but in vain. One day, however, he discovered that another person, bearing the same name, had regularly called for, and taken away his letters. To remedy this deplorable state of things, and, in a most praiseworthy spirit, to prevent similar disagreeable occurrences, this gentleman solicited the Government for authority to establish a post office at his own expense. The authority was accordingly granted and the first post founded in Honolulu. This took place in 1850. Since that time the postal organization has been several times modified; and now, so far as relates to the interior, approaches nearly to that of European states."

But even should this little story not prove true, there is no doubt that the issue of stamps was first mooted in 1850, and on October 1st, 1851, the well-

known type-set stamps—usually known as the "Missionary" issue to our American friends—were issued. There were three denominations:—2c., for postage on newspapers; 5c., for postage on inland letters; and 13c., for postage on letters to the United States. Most of the commercial intercourse of the islands was with the United States at that period, and it is but natural that postal communications should be sent *via* the land of Stars and stripes.

Although these stamps were issued in 1851, they were not known to European collectors until about 1865. First the 13c. came to light, then there were rumours of the 2c. value, and finally the 5c. was discovered. Their rarity was at once recognised, and they have ever since been eagerly sought after varieties. Indeed, for some time after 1861, 2c. was little more than a myth so far as European philatelists were concerned until 1876, when Herr Philipp von Ferrary obtained a specimen for his unrivalled collection.

Shortly after the issue of these stamps the General Post Office at Honolulu was totally destroyed by fire and all the stamps perished in the flames, and it is to this fact that the great rarity of the stamps is due.

The 2c. was from the first moment of its discovery regarded as a rarity rivalling the celebrated "Post Office" Mauritius in scarcity, and even at the present time only 10 or 12 copies are known.

The design of this stamp is most unpretentious, consisting of the words "Hawaiian Postage" in two lines at the top, the value, "Two Cents," across the base, and a numeral "2" in a centre of fancy border type between these inscriptions, the whole being surrounded by a double-lined rectangle. There are two minor varieties of this stamp. In the first the upright stroke of the "P" of "Postage" is in line with the first upright stroke of the "H" of "Hawaiian"; and in the other the upright stroke of the "P" is a little to the left of the "H."

Unfortunately, no record appears to have been kept in the philatelic journals as to the whereabouts of the known copies of this rare 2c. stamp, and even the number (10 or 12) is uncertain. In the famous Tapling Collection in the British Museum both varieties are represented, and in the celebrated Ayer Collection, acquired by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in 1897, there was a lightly cancelled specimen.

Mr. H. J. Crocker, of San Francisco, has a fine lightly obliterated copy which was shown in his superb collection of Hawaii, which secured one of the Championship Cups at the Philatelic Exhibition held in London in 1906, and this may possibly be the one from the Ayer Collection.

One is said to grace the album of a well-known collector in Philadelphia, U.S.A., and another is shown

in the collection at the Bishop Museum, in Honolulu. When Mr. Stanley Gibbons visited Honolulu in 1897 he saw two specimens—one very fine and lightly cancelled and the other one a black "lozenge" obliteration nearly hiding the numeral of value. The New England Stamp Co. of Boston, U.S.A., have had no less than three copies of this rarity through their hands at different times. Supposing all the above mentioned stamps are different this would account for 11 specimens, but I am afraid this sup-

position is hardly correct.

It is a difficult matter to arrive at the present market value of this rarity as, with one exception, the stamps have always changed hands privately and the prices paid have not been made public. A copy was, however, sold at auction in the United States in 1897 for more than £700, and the present market value of a fine specimen would certainly not be less than this figure.

Troubles of Young Collectors

By H. WILFRID PLUMRIDGE

From the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

STILL another evil incidental to philatelic babyhood is the huge catalogue of our leading international dealers. The tyro likes to encourage himself with the hope that some day or other he may have a practically complete general collection, but the first glance through Gibbons probably kills this not unreasonable optimism, and very likely with it his philatelic yearnings as well. Let there be no mistake: Gibbons is an excellent catalogue in its way, and a credit to the firm that produces it; but it is a catalogue for specialists and not for general collectors.

Wanted a General Collectors' Catalogue.

What we want is a first-class catalogue for the general collector compiled on logical and consequently on scientific lines. Unfortunately, both Gibbons' catalogue and their excellent Imperial album are not constructed on logical lines: firstly, they are only really suitable for the semi-specialist; and secondly, they are not constructed on logical lines—you will find very minor varieties given in one country while far more important ones are omitted in another. Of course, any dealer has a perfect right to construct his albums with the view to disposing of any special lines he may have in stock; but it is to be much regretted that either Gibbons or some other good firm do not induce a first-class independent philatelist to edit an album and catalogue for them on philatelic instead of stock-selling lines. I feel certain that a good album, if not a good catalogue, would not only pay but pay well.

The root idea underlying the construction of a logical catalogue (and of course album) should be the distinction between issues and varieties. The general collector is only concerned with issues; it is the specialist alone who is concerned with varieties. This is obvious. The difficulty lies in the definition of "issue" and "variety." A couple of our lawyer philatelists could argue about this until they died of old age without settling the question.

What is an Issue.

To me it seems that an "issue" must have the definite approval of the postal official or officials responsible for the ordering of stamps. Suppose an imperf. stamp is first unwatermarked and then appears on Star watermarked paper, is the latter a separate issue or only a variety? This, I should say, depends on circumstances. If the printers made the alteration of their own accord I should say it was a variety; if the postal authority gave definite instruc-

tions for watermarked paper to be used, this, perhaps, should be held to constitute it an "issue." *One thing certainly should make a stamp or stamps an issue: when the home and foreign postmasters have been notified, by specimen copies or otherwise of the change. Perhaps we have here the only vital distinction between an issue and a variety.* But this question of the difference between an issue and a variety cannot possibly be settled either in a short article or by one person, although the sooner we can arrive at a conclusion acceptable to leading philatelists the better it will unquestionably be for philately.

Encouraging Beginners.

Can seasoned collectors do anything to recruit and encourage beginners? Personally, I believe there is here a very wide field for energetic and well-considered action. I am well aware that much has been lately done for young collectors, and very great credit is due to those who initiated the movement. But the field to be covered is so large that it is not fair to leave everything to be done by the few; every Philatelic Society worthy the name should help.

Philatelic Societies.

In nearly every town where a philatelic society exists the members are usually only a mere fraction of the sum total of collectors in that district. There are many reasons for this. Partly because adequate steps are not taken to bring the local society before the notice of the general public; partly because it is not made known that everyone interested in stamps will be warmly welcomed; partly because the meetings being generally held at one or other of the members' residences, outsiders are sometimes inclined to feel that their presence might possibly be regarded as an intrusion. The true collector should be a thorough democrat where his hobby is concerned, and although snobbishness is far too common in Philatelic London, it is happily rarer in the provinces.

One very bad point in connection with some Philatelic Societies should be noticed: too many of their members join with the intention of making money out of their fellows, and the beginner is sometimes looked upon as fair spoil. This sort of thing is not to be remedied by excluding dealers; some of our best philatelists—I here use the word in its best sense—have been and are dealers; it is that crafty and insidious animal, the professional collector-dealer, who is mostly to blame. Possibly better rules would remedy this grievance where it does exist.

Dictionary of Philatelic Terms and Phrases

By B. W. H. POOLE

(Continued from page 324)

Colonia de Rio de Oro.—The inscription appearing upon the stamps of Rio de Oro, meaning, of course, "Colony of Rio de Oro."

Colonia Eritrea.—A surcharge found on various Italian stamps issued for use in the Colony of Eritrea.

Colonial Printing.—A term applied to stamps produced in various British Colonies to distinguish them from the impressions made in London by the manufacturers of the plates.

Colonies de l'Empire Français.—The inscription shown upon the first set of stamps issued for general use throughout the French Colonies. Its English equivalent is "Colonies of the French Empire."

Colour.—This has been defined by scientists as "a sensation associated with a definite stimulus of the optic nerve," but, philatelically, it refers to the specific tint in which a stamp is printed.

Coloured paper.—A philatelic term that is really self explanatory. In producing it pigment of the required tint is added to the pulp while the paper is being made, so that, when ready for printing, the paper is coloured right through.

Colour trials.—A term applied by stamp collectors to impressions of a stamp in a different colour or on coloured paper distinct from that finally adopted for actual use. When the design of a stamp has been finally decided upon it often happens that impressions in all sorts of colours are taken before the authorities fix upon the one deemed most suitable. These are of high philatelic interest as colour-proofs or trials having a distinct bearing on the history of a stamp.

Impressions of many British stamps of recent issues are sometimes met with on coloured paper which are erroneously termed colour-trials. These are merely impressions taken by the printers to judge whether the plates are laid accurately on the printing machines or not, and coloured paper is used for this purpose owing to the fact that the printers are not allowed to have any white paper on their premises other than that supplied by the Inland Revenue authorities and each sheet of which has to be strictly accounted for. These stamps on various coloured papers are, therefore, only printers' waste sheets and their philatelic interest is practically *nil*.

Colombus Issue.—The name applied to the special stamps issued in the United States in 1893, during the progress of the Colombian Exposition at Chicago, to commemorate the discovery of America.

Comayagua.—A town in the Republic of Honduras, Central America, which was until 1880 the capital of the country. It stands in a plain at about equal distances from the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. It was destroyed by Guatemala in 1827, but was rebuilt and now has a population of over 8,000. In 1877 some of the 2 reales stamps for general use in Honduras were surcharged "medio real," "un real," and "dos reales," respectively, for special use in this town.

Comb machine.—The name applied to a certain kind of perforating machine that perforates three sides of the stamps in one row at one stroke. It consists of a long single line of perforating needles with the necessary number of short lines fixed at right angles, constructed to perforate either a vertical or horizontal row of stamps.

Commemorative Issues.—Special stamps issued to commemorate some national or historical event of more or less importance. These are a class of stamps that, speaking generally, are essentially needless and are really issued for the sole purpose of raising revenue at the expense of stamp collectors. They probably all owe their inception to the special card and envelope issued by our own Government in 1890 to mark the jubilee of the introduction of stamps and of uniform penny postage. This example was quickly followed by other countries, Roumania taking the lead by issuing a special set of labels in 1891 to celebrate the 25th year of the reign of King Charles. Since then innumerable sets to commemorate all sorts of events have appeared, and so long as the collector is content to have his pockets picked in this polite manner the game is likely to continue.

Commemorative series.—The United States has been a frequent offender in the way of issuing unnecessary commemoratives, and since 1901 these special labels have been inscribed with the words "COMMEMORATIVE SERIES," followed by the date of their issue.

Commerce type.—The name by which the design of the stamps issued in May, 1881, for general use in the French Colonies is known. It shows an allegorical figure to typify "Commerce."

Commemorativa del Siglo XX.—This inscription appears upon three stamps issued in Peru on the 1st January, 1901, to mark the beginning of the Twentieth Century.

Commission fur Retourbriefe.—An inscription found upon the so-called returned letter "stamps" of Bavaria and Wurttemberg meaning "Returned

Letter Department." These labels have no philatelic significance whatsoever, though they were listed in many of the old catalogues and places were provided for them in some printed stamp albums. On some of the labels of Bavaria the inscription was "Commission für Rückbriefe."

Comoro Islands.—A group of islands belonging to France situated to the north of the Mozambique Channel, between the north-west coast of Madagascar and the east coast of Africa. The islands are all of volcanic origin with a mountainous surface, Coratola in Great Comoro reaching a height of 8,500 feet. The group consists of Great Comoro, Anjouan, Mobeli (commercially the most important of the islands), Mayotte, and a number of smaller islands, having a combined area of 620 square miles. The four largest islands, enumerated above, have their own special postage stamps. The population consists of about 48,000 composed of natives of Malagasy and Arab or negro origin. The climate is unhealthy for Europeans. The government headquarters are at Dzandai, a small island near Mayotte. The French took possession of Mayotte in 1843, and in 1886 a protectorate was established over all the other islands. In 1897 the whole group was placed under the administration of the Governor of Reunion.

Compound perforation.—Stamps that are perforated by two machines of different gauge are said to have compound perforation. The general rule in recording such perforations is to give the gauge at the top and bottom first and then that of the sides. For instance a stamp listed as "perf. 10 × 12" would be perf. 10 at the top and bottom and perf. 12 at each side."

Compa. de Mocambique.—A surcharge found upon some of the stamps of Mozambique that were used in the territory administered by the Mozambique Company. The first word is a contraction of "Companhia."

Companhia de Mocambique.—The inscription that appears upon the stamps issued by the Mozambique Company.

Compagnie Francaise des Papiers-Monnaies.—A Parisian firm of engravers and printers who produced the only two stamps of Hayti issued on water-marked paper.

Comunicaciones.—An inscription shown on several of the stamps of Spain, which means "Communications."

Concurrent perforations.—These are stamps of the same issue, in use at the same time, but with different perforations. The current and recently current stamps of most of the Australian colonies furnish plenty of instances of these concurrent perforations. Their philatelic interest is slight, for they have no bearing on the history of the stamps, but simply show that two or more perforating machines of different gauge were in use in the printing office at the same period.

Confederate States.—The name adopted by the eleven states which seceded from the American Union in 1860-1 and maintained an independent existence, recognised as a separate state by most of the European powers, until the close of the civil war

in 1865. The question of slavery and the problem of "states' rights" was in dispute, the North denying the right to secede from the Union, which the South, or slave-holding states, insisted on. The result of the war determined the position of the slaves and also the future political constitution of the United States, which has gradually become more and more a centralised form of federal government. The Confederate States were N. Carolina, S. Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Georgia, and Louisiana, and during their independent existence special stamps were used.

Confed. Granadina.—The inscription appearing upon the stamps of the Granada Confederation, which formed the first issue of Colombia.

To be continued.

For Pleasure? for Profit? or Both!

A collector must make up his mind, and stick to it, whether he is going to collect for pleasure, for profit, or both. If he decides on the latter he may rest assured that while he will have the pleasure of collecting his stamps and the profit to be obtained from his bargains when sold, he will never taste the joys consequent upon the possession of a good collection, yearly becoming more difficult to duplicate. A case in our own circle lately bears out what I say. When Mr. A. J. Cohen was approached by a powerful syndicate to purchase his very fine collection his great objection to selling was that he would be lost without his hobby. He would at once have to start again, and he could never replace many of the gems he now had in his collection. Despite the fine price mentioned, I think nobody was more delighted than Mr. Cohen when the deal was cancelled. He is one of those collectors who collect for pleasure only; and my advice is to collect for pleasure pure and simple; if for profit a collector becomes almost a dealer.—*M. P. Vallentine, Johannesburg.*

Forgers and Forgeries.

It has been commonly known, we believe, that the arm of the law is sufficiently strong to put down forged stamps if only proceedings are instituted. The difficulty in all these matters is to get the Authorities to prosecute, and we think we are right in saying in the case to which we have referred, that the Revenue Authorities would not have prosecuted had it not been that the dies were of stamps available for postage today. From the Revenue point of view, perhaps this is sufficient for their protection, but from the collectors' standpoint it is quite as important that protection should be afforded in regard to obsolete stamps and equally in regard to postage stamps offered for sale whether they are obliterated or unused. It is important in this connection to observe that in France a well-known stamp dealer has been recently prosecuted for being in possession of used forged stamps of the Republic, and in spite of the plea that he had bought them at the Stamp Bourse as forgeries, that he had a reputation of twenty years' standing, and that the stamps were sold more as curiosities rather than with any attempt to defraud, he was subjected to a fine of 50 francs.

New Issues

The Editor will be grateful to dealers and readers at home and abroad for prompt information concerning New Issues, and especially of Provisional Issues. When possible, a specimen should accompany the information (priced, if for sale), which will be sent back, after being duly noted, if required to be returned. All communications must be sent direct to the Editor, addressed EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, Carnanton, Camden Park, Lunbridge Wells.

After the name of each country we give the page of THE POSTAGE STAMP on which appeared the last reference to that country.

Italy. 25c., 40c. and 50c. stamps have been issued similar in design to the 15c.

New designs.
No wmk. Perf. 12.
15 c. slate.

Wmk. Crown. Perf
25 c. blue.
40 c. brown.
50 c. lilac.

Morocco. (*French*). Mr. Stanley A. Morison informs us that the current 1c., 2c. and 4c stamps of France have been surcharged in Spanish currency (centimos) for use in the French Post Offices in Morocco. The specimen of the 1 centimo which he sends is surcharged "1 Centimo" in red with the figure above the word centimo.

French Stamps,
overprinted in Spanish currency.
1 centimo on 1 c. grey.
2 centimos on 2 c. claret.
3 " on 3 c. orange-red.
4 " on 4 c. brown.

Papua. According to *Der Philatelist* the remaining values of the permanent series inscribed "Papua" have been issued and are perf. 11.

Wmk. Crown A. Perf. 11.
½d. red, centre black.
1d. carmine, " "
2d. violet, " "
2½d. ultramarine, " "
4d. sepia, " "
6d. green, " "
1s. orange, " "
2s. 6d. brown, " "

Persia. We quote the following from the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*:—We are indebted to Mr. L. E. Hall for the sight of some new stamps of this country. The design and colours are the same as those of the lower values of the 1903-04 issues, but all are printed on blue paper. Mr. Hall's correspondent sent them to him under cover of a letter dated Sultanabad, 4th Jan., '08. The six values given below were the only novelties on sale at this small place at that date, but probably Teheran will be able to do better. It will be seen that there are two new values, the 8 and the 9 chahis. Probably the former replaces the 5 chahis, as it is the same colour.

Adhesives. In type of 1903-04 issue. Perf. 12½.
1 ch. mauve on blue.
2 ch. grey on blue.
3 ch. green on blue.
6 ch. rose-red on blue.
9 ch. orange-yellow on blue.
10 ch. pale brown on blue.

Portugal. *Reynolds Newspaper* says:—Among the innumerable new duties which have been suddenly thrust upon him by the tragedy at Lisbon, King Manuel of Portugal has been compelled to accord several interviews to photographers, in order that a satisfactory portrait may be obtained for the new coinage and postage stamps, the issue of which will commence as soon as possible.

Sarawak. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* is "officially informed that a new value of 3c. was placed in circulation on 1-2-08," and the *Daily Graphic* adds that it is inscribed "Postage" only like the rest of the current set, and is printed in mauve.

New Value.
Perf. 14.
3 c. mauve.

Servia. *Der Philatelist* states that all values of the current set, excepting the 3 din., have been issued on thicker paper, laid horizontally.

Thick horizontally laid paper.
Perf. 12 × 11½.
1 p. black and pale grey.
5 p. " " green.
10 p. " " rose-red.
15 p. " " lilac.
20 p. " " yellow.
25 p. " " blue.
30 p. " " grey-green.
50 p. " " deep brown.
1 din. " buff.
5 din. " violet.

Straits Settlements. In October last (p. 40) on the authority of the Colonial Office Journal, it was announced that owing to alterations in connection with the local currency, the 3c. stamp would take the place of the 4c. as the international equivalent of 10 centimes; that it would therefore be printed all in red, and the 4c. in lilac. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles the receipt of the 3c. in "red violet," and we have just received the 4c. in lilac.

Since their first issue in 1903-4, these stamps, notably the 4c., have undergone many changes.

The 3c. was first issued in lilac on single CA. paper, then its watermark was changed to multiple CA., and now its colour is changed from lilac to red violet.

The 4c. first issued in purple on red on single CA. paper, was next printed on multiple CA. paper, then its colour was changed to carmine, and now it is changed to lilac.

Change of Colours.
Wmk. Multiple CA. Perf. 14.
3 c. red violet.
4 c. lilac.

From Other Magazines

Servia: Remainders.

THE Servian Post Office has favoured us with a circular dated 2.08 relative to the disposal of the remainders of the 1901, 1903 and 1904 issues. The dies and plates used for these issues have already been defaced. The remainders have been examined and all complete sets reserved for sale to stamp collectors, the damaged stamps being first removed. These together with the entire stock not required for the sets were to have been burnt on 16.2.08, in presence of delegates from the representatives of foreign powers accredited to Belgrade. The entire stock of stamps used on money orders, telegrams, parcel forms, etc., was also to be burnt. The surviving sets of stamps, of which the sale was to commence on 1.3.08 are as follows:—

Remainders of Servian Stamps.

Seventh Issue, 1901. Head of King Alexander.

Described in the circular as "*Première Emission du Roi Alexandre*," but the 1890 issue contains no 3 or 5 dinar; on the other hand the 1901 issue contains no 1 para.

No. of Sets.	Value.	Price asked per 100 sets.	Est. price of one set
300,000	1p. to 50 paras	40 francs	3/4
100,000	1p. to 1 dinar	70 ..	5 10
5,000	1p. to 5 dinars	500 ..	18 4

Eighth Issue, 1903. Overprinted with Arm.

5,000	1p. to 1 dinar	200 francs	6/3
35,000	1p. to 5 dinars	800 ..	18/9
50,000	3. 5 din. only	600 ..	12/6

Ninth Issue, 1904. Coronation Issue.

130,000	5p. to 50 paras	80 francs	2/-
73,000	5p. to 5 dinars	900 ..	20/6

— *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 21 3.08.

Catalogue Inconsistencies.

Slowly but surely the modern collector is beginning to realise that the advanced catalogues of the present day are not quite the "guides, philosophers and friends" he was once willing to consider them. The inconsistencies of even the best of specialist catalogues are so obvious that the collector with an average modicum of what our American friends call "horse-sense" cannot help reaching the conclusion that the compilers seem to accord "commercial possibilities" a much higher place than philatelic consistency. It may be good business to include and exclude varieties at one's own sweet will, but it is precious poor philately. So-called popular countries are overburdened with lengthy lists of the most minute and trivial varieties, while even more important varieties in other countries are completely ignored.—*The West End Philatelist*, Mar. 08.

Malay States: Plate Numbers.

As will no doubt have been noticed, we have recently altered "plate 1" and "plate 2" in our supplement to "old plate" and "new plates." The old plate was numbered 1, and so far as recent

issues were concerned had coarse or worn lines of shading. There were, however, three new plates, that used for all values of the first multiple issue being numbered "2"; consequently at one time "plate 1" and "plate" was correct.

When, however, the 1c. all green and 3c. all brown were printed, they were not printed from the above plate 2, but a new plate was made for each value enabling it to be printed at one operation. Each of these new plates was numbered 1, hence the necessity for altering our description.

By the last mail the Colonial Stamp Market received the 1c. printed from still another new plate, with marginal plate-number 2.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, 14.3.08.

Cleaning Russian Stamps.

A correspondent in St. Petersburg writes us as follows:—

"Possibly you are aware that the cleaning of Russian stamps is carried on in quite wholesale fashion, and the cleaned stamps sold and re-used.

"Particularly in Poland there are numerous workshops devoted entirely to this interesting calling! The stamps that lend themselves most easily to the cleaning process are the 7 and 10 kop., ordinary blue Russians, and as much as Rbls. 2 per 1000 is paid for these stamps in used condition.

"The Russian postal authorities have been making experiments to print a stamp which cannot be cleaned without destroying the design, and have adopted a stamp which, while retaining the Russian style, reminds one of the Austrian stamps in that there are shiny bars of varnish on them.

"Although not yet issued, the writer has seen printed copies with which experiments have been officially made by treating with petroleum, ether, and benzine. In each case the varnish bars then appear as white lines.

"It must be mentioned that used stamps are cleaned by being soaked in petroleum, and by the adoption of the varnish bars the possibility would now seem to be obviated.

"The commonest values, the 7 and 10 kop., are to be issued first, the other values gradually."—*Gibson's Stamp Weekly*, 7.3.08.

Cayman Provisionals: A Good Story.

Apropos of Caymans reminds me of a touching little story that Mr. L. S. Charlick told me the other day. "A friend of his, knowing that the current ½d. and 1d. stamps were likely to soon become obsolete, decided to have a mild philatelic flutter, so he remitted 5s. to the Postmaster of the Caymans and requested that an equal number of ½d and 1d. King's Heads should be sent him. When at last they arrived, he found that the recently issued ½d. and 1d. provisionals had been sent, together with a letter from the Postmistress apologising for sending surcharged stamps, but hoped they would do! Some people have all the luck."—*Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

In the Stamp Market

By O. REGINALD GUM

Around the Stalls.

The Dealers' Stalls were a most attractive feature at the Juniors' Exhibition

At Stanley Gibbons' Stall the feature was the new form of their popular "Imperial Album," an old favourite with collectors ever since I can remember. This new development takes the form of movable leaves. In future you may have "Imperial" covers and in loose leaves any countries you please to fill those covers.

Mr. D. Field, next door, had a fine show of his albums and handbooks, a tempting selection of stamps, and a great rarity in Hongkong, quite unique, for which he wanted £80.

Mr. Regan offered selections of British Colonials, principally unused, and a cheap duplicate book, which he has just brought out at the nominal price of 6d., including a perforation gauge.

Messrs. Bright & Son had a good show of albums, their well-known stock books, and their new journal, the *Philatelic Adviser*.

Messrs. Lewis May & Co., made a *multum in parvo* of their little box, and were as busy as bees in a hive. Tempting sheets of Papua surcharges were hung along the front, and the counter was littered with sheets and books of stamps open for inspection.

My very old friends, W. S. Lincoln, also made a good display of open books of stamps.

The next stall, which I am told had been taken by a well-known dealer, was empty.

Messrs. Pemberton & Co. displayed a nice lot of Cape Triangulars, and of course demonstrated the attractiveness of their recommendation to specialise in the good old Perkins Bacon printings by a fine selection, unused and used, of all countries.

Mr. Peckitt claimed special attention as the rarity stall of the Exhibition. In front hung two frames of stamps full of choice philatelic gems, amongst which were such desirable stamps as the rarest Newfoundland scarlet vermilion, old St. Vincents, British Guiana, three 12d. Canadas, the Cape Error wood block, Moldavia, &c.

Messrs. Bridger & Kay had a fine lot of stock books of all countries, and they were giving away their 60-page price list of British Colonial stamps.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. brought up from their immense store rooms at Ipswich a selection of their albums only, and of course the Whitfield King Catalogue. No stamps this time, as they found sales slow at previous exhibitions. But their albums left little room for anything else. The very popular Paragon was in evidence in all bindings.

Next door was the brilliantly lighted stall shared by *The Postage Stamp* and Messrs. John Walker and Co., where free copies of the popular new weekly were given away by the thousand, and where the now celebrated "Walker's Loose Leaf Albums," in all three sizes, were the admiration of all who inspected them.

Upstairs in the Council Chamber were Mr. Nissen with his speciality in the stamps of Great Britain,

and Mr. Dingwall clearing out the last of his stock, for, as he has already announced, he is retiring from stamps altogether. Mr. Nissen showed a fine mint block of 12 of the 1d. black, a nice copy of the 1½d. error of lettering unused, and Government Parcels 1s inverted.

Southern Nigerians.

I am reminded by the special offers of Southern Nigeria stamps by Mr. Peckitt in the advertisement pages of last week's *Postage Stamp* that a great deal of attention is just now being paid to the stamps of this highly prosperous West African Colony.

For a long time its regular issues have been held in abeyance in order that the remainders of the stamps of the little colony of Lagos may be used up. And now that those supplies are being exhausted, the regular issues of Southern Nigeria are once more coming into evidence.

As a young colony I know none more promising from the stamp collectors point of view. From the first it has been a great favourite of mine, and I take no little pride in the fact that my early appreciation of it as a country worth going in for has been justified up to the hilt.

	1901. Queen's Heads.					
	1902	1903	1904	1906	1906	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
¼d. ...	0 1	0 1	0 1	0 2	0 3	0 3
1d. ...	0 2	0 2	0 2	0 3	0 4	0 4
2d. ...	0 4	0 4	0 4	0 6	0 6	1 0
4d. ...	0 6	0 6	0 8	1 6	1 6	2 0
6d. ...	0 8	0 8	1 6	2 6	2 6	2 6
1s. ...	1 4	1 4	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0
2s. 6d. ...	3 3	3 3	5 0	7 6	7 6	7 6
5s. ...	6 6	6 6	10 0	15 0	20 0	20 0
10s. ...	12 6	12 6	20 0	30 0	30 0	30 0

	1902-4. King's Heads: Single. C.A.				
	1904	1905	1906	1908	1908
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
¼d. ...	0 1	0 2	0 3	2 0	2 0
1d. ...	0 2	0 3	0 6	0 6	0 6
2d. ...	0 3	0 5	—	1 0	1 0
2½d. ...	0 6	0 4	3 0	4 0	4 0
4d. ...	0 8	0 6	1 0	1 0	1 0
6d. ...	0 8	1 0	2 6	2 6	2 6
1s. ...	1 4	—	6 0	6 0	6 0
2s. 6d. ...	3 3	3 3	12 6	18 6	18 6
5s. ...	6 6	6 6	—	—	—
10s. ...	12 6	12 6	15 0	15 0	15 0
£1 ...	—	—	—	—	£6

Few countries, in my opinion, offer a finer field for investment, and few British Colonies have, in the opinion of those best able to judge, a more promising future of assured development and prosperity.

Mr. Peckitt's prices are I note lower than the catalogue prices, but he is amongst the fortunate few who have a fine stock to draw upon. The rare 5s. King's head single CA, at his price of 18s., should be grabbed. Gibbons has not been able to price this stamp for years.

The Editor's Letter Box

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Articles, Contributions and Correspondence, should be addressed to the Editor, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the correspondent. Articles, etc., not accepted, will be returned when postage is prepaid.

Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager, and Advertisements to the Advertisement Manager, 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C. THE POSTAGE STAMP may be obtained through Newsagents or will be forwarded from the publishing office to any address at the following rates of prepayment: Yearly, 6s. 6d.; Half-Yearly, 3s. 3d.; Quarterly, 1s. 8d.; Single Copy, 2d.

End of our First Volume.

This number closes the first volume of *The Postage Stamp*, and I take the opportunity of thanking the many kind friends amongst my readers who have generously helped, in many ways, to give stability to our new venture.

The establishment of a new journal of any pretensions is no light work, but when the readers are convinced that it is worth supporting, and voluntarily do their best to increase its circulation, an Editor may rest assured that he is on the right road.

In the endeavour to establish an absolutely Independent weekly journal for Stamp Collectors I have had the best of encouragement from collectors and dealers.

Collectors know that *The Postage Stamp* is fettered by no entanglements, and dealers are convinced that our pages are freely open to all without favouritism.

We have no wheelbarrows of our own to drive in any direction to the prejudice of the trade, and we are strong believers in the interdependence of collectors and dealers.

In the course of our second volume we hope to materially strengthen our position in the philatelic world by our continued independence, by fairness to all, and by courageously dealing with all questions that affect the welfare of our pleasant pursuit.

We have many little improvements and developments in view, of which we shall have more to say in our next number.

Index to Vol. 1.

The Index to our first volume will be included in our next number. I had intended to prepare a very exhaustive index, but found the cost would be prohibitive, and that I must be content to wait a little longer before I give indulgence in that pleasure.

Covers for Binding Vol. 1.

We are having special covers prepared of which we shall be able to say more in our next. They will be of superior make in buckram, the binding so much preferred by the leading librarians.

By some singular mistake we made a muddle of the statement of the run of our vols. They will, of course, begin in October and April, and end in March and September.

The colour of the covers will probably be dark blue.

Handbills for Circulation.

We have prepared and shall now be glad to send any number of neat handbills of *The Postage Stamp* to any of our friends, post free, on application. These little handbills include a specimen page, and being only leaflets are very suitable for enclosing in letters to philatelic friends.

Applications for supplies should be addressed only to Mr. Baldwin, Printer of *The Postage Stamp*, Tunbridge Wells, and friends should say how many they can use. They can be had in dozens, or hundreds, and even thousands, if desired.

Back Nos. of "The Postage Stamp."

Those of our friends who are lacking any back numbers of the present vol. will do well to write direct to our Publishers, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons 1, Amen Corner, London, E.C., for what they require. Many newsagents do not care to bother about back numbers. Any number still on sale may be had for published price and postage, i.e., 1½d.

T. W. S. (Birmingham.) You will find the redrawn variety of the 25c. of Switzerland duly catalogued by Gibbons. It is No. 177a. I have not heard of any other redrawing but I will compare your stamp before I return it. Many thanks for the newspaper cuttings.

F. A. P. (Clapham.) Yes, you can procure stamps direct from Colonial and Foreign Postmasters by sending a remittance, plus postage, to any Postmaster. The form of remittance best adapted is the Post Office Order, as the receipt and payment of that can always be traced. But there are many risks. You may write for some particular provisional which is sold out before your letter arrives and you may get instead common current stamps that you do not want, or you may write for stamps of one watermark and get others, or in the case of Foreign Countries you may never hear of remittance or stamps. Now and again you may get a haul, but I question whether a good New Issues Service would not save you much trouble, worry, and expense, for the price now charged for New Issues in a New Issue Service would probably soon be spent in postages, Post Office Orders and inquiries.

C. V. B. (Walthamstow). Many thanks for the Danish stamps, but they were issued and chronicled last year, before *The Postage Stamp* came upon the scene of action.

N. S. (Walberton.) The number of dots mark two varieties of the English penny stamp of 1881. They are catalogued and priced as follows:—

		14 dots in each corner.		Unused.		Used.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1d.	lilac	-	-	-	4 0	0 4	
1d.	pale lilac	-	-	-	4 0	0 3	
		16 dots in each corner.					
1d.	lilac	-	-	-	0 6	0 1	
1d.	purple	-	-	-	0 6	0 1	

Philatelic Society Meetings

Manchester Juniors.

Meeting held Thursday, March 5th, at the Deansgate Hotel. Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President, in the chair. Mr. Nicolle was elected a member. Mr. W. D. Beckton, the President of the Manchester Philatelic Society, gave a highly interesting paper on "Stamps and Stamp Collecting." So many incidents of interest were given by Mr. Beckton that space permits of only giving a few. Members of Parliament were allowed to autograph their correspondence which was then carried free by His Majesty's Post Office previous to the use of adhesive stamps. This privilege however was cancelled upon the introduction of Penny Postage. Various methods were already known previous to the introduction or invention of stamps to signify the prepayment of postage, namely the Sardinia Letter Sheets of 1813-36, the envelopes of Sydney, N. S. W., and the "Free Post" of Batavia; Dutch East Indies. The earliest press notice of the collection of used postage stamps was a letter by S. F. Cresswell to "Notes and News," in 1860. A Mr. Moody issued the first catalogue in 1862, listing about 300 distinct varieties, but probably ignoring many. Mr. Beckton caused much amusement by describing how he first fixed stamps in his album. He so much feared anyone stealing them, that he affixed them to the page by means of "Quaguline," an adhesive that one had to heat before it became a liquid, and once it stuck anything there was no removing that object. His earliest recollections of purchasing stamps was from a Mr. Ranck, the first dealer established in Manchester, and who died about 1898 or 1899. From this dealer he bought his earliest album for any serious purpose of collecting. It was of German make (Mr. Beckton did not know the meaning of the word "Protection" in those days!) and published by a firm whose name started with a "Sch" and ended with something like a "sneeze." In closing the lecturer advised all not to specialise unless they felt they knew the seriousness of that branch of collecting. That

the Manchester President knew what he was talking about was evinced from the fine collection of Western Australia, Tasmania, Fiji, Sardinia, and the Greece "Paris Prints" he handed round for the members perusal. A hearty vote of thanks brought a close to a more than usually interesting evening.

The International Philatelic Union.

The sixth meeting of the season took place at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Thursday, March 12th. Present: W. Schwabacher (chair), L. W. Fulcher, W. Swarter, E. W. Wetherell, J. C. Sidebotham, W. S. King and the Hon. Sec. Mr. Sidebotham displayed a portion of his collection comprising France, Montenegro, Tonga, and Guatemala. He was followed by Mr. Wetherell who displayed Spain and Cuba 1855-6-7 issues, a fine and highly specialised collection, accompanied by exhaustive notes. Hearty votes of thanks to both gentlemen and the chairman closed a pleasant evening. The next meeting will be held at Essex Hall on Thursday, April 9th, at 8 p.m., when Mr. Wetherell will give a display of Mauritius and some other African Colonies. All members and any visitors are cordially welcomed.

Croydon.

This society held its ordinary monthly meeting on Wednesday, the 4th March, 1908, at 18a, Katharine Street. The President, Mr. F. G. Bing, was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members and friends, including three ladies.

The formal business of the meeting, which included the election of two new members and the nomination of another, having been concluded, the chairman called upon Mr. A. Ashby (the Society's Vice-President) for his paper and display of the stamps "British New Guinea and Papua." Mrs. Ashby undertook the reading of the paper, while the Vice-President exhibited his remarkable and probably

unique collection of the stamps of this country. The collection includes specimens of all the varieties issued, every stamp being represented by singles, pairs, blocks, and sheets of thirty, all unused, while there was an equally complete array of used specimens in the very finest condition, some probably unique, and many of them shown in every variety of combination, on pieces of original or entire covers. The paper and display were remarkable evidence of the excellent philatelic work that may be done by taking up the stamps of a new country and carefully and exhaustively following up every issue. At the conclusion a very hearty vote of thanks was carried with acclamation and rendered to Mr. and Mrs. Ashby for providing one of the most delightful evenings this society has experienced, to which Mr. Ashby briefly responded.

EXCHANGE CLUBS.

"PANSY" Stamp Exchange Society.—
Rules from Secretary, W. Wilson,
Beechwood, Wolviston, Stockton-on-Tees.

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Vol. 1. No. 1.

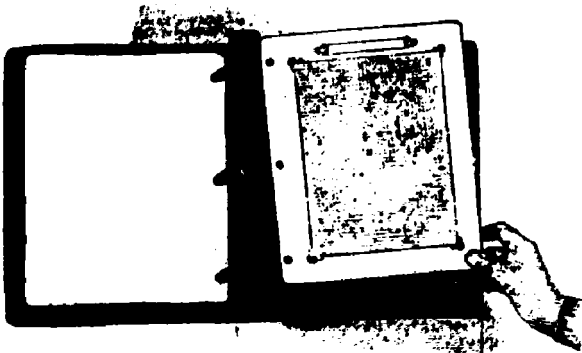
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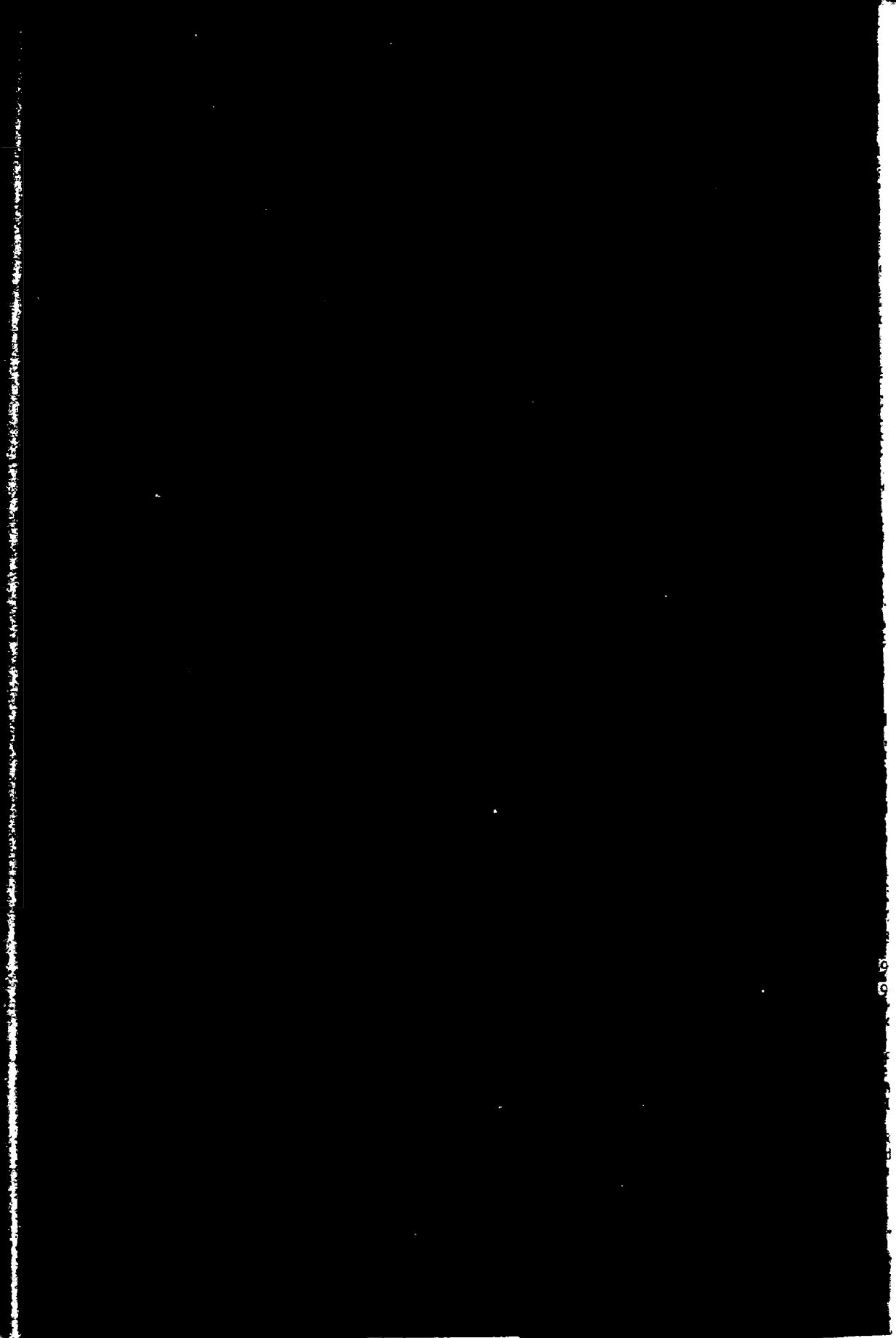
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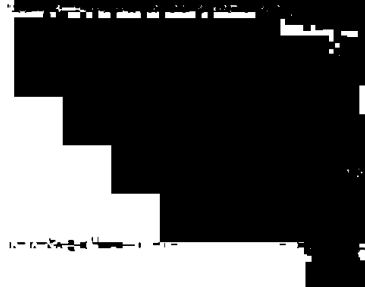
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† British Central Africa, 1891, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	6	3 3	
† " " " " 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., and 5s.	5	19 2	10/- at 11/6 each.
† " " " " 1895, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1s., no w'mk	5	20 0	
† " " " " 1896, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., w'mked C.A.	5	15 0	
† " " " " 1896, 2s. 6d., 3s., and 5s., w'mked C.C.	3	45 0	
† " " " " 1897, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., w'mked C.A.	5	3 0	
† " " " " " 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., and 10s., w'mked C.C.	4	50 0	
† " " " " 1901, 1d., 4d. and 6d.	3	2 6	
* British East Africa Company, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½, and 8 annas	10	9 0	
† or " " " on B.E.A.Co., 3, 4, 8 anna and 1 rupee	4	25 0	½a. at 5/- each, 3 R. at 25/- each
† " " " on India, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a., 1, 2, 3, & 5 R.	14	90 0	1 R., grey, at 12/- each.
† " " " 1896, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 4½, 5, 7½, and 8 annas	10	4 3	
† " " " " 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 rupees (small)	5	24 6	
* " " " " 1, 2, 3, and 5 rupees	4	14 6	
† " " " 1897, on Zanzibar, ½, 2, 4½, 5 a., and 2½ on 1 a.	5	32 0	
† " " " 1900, 1, 2, and 3 rupees (large)	3	15 0	1 rupee, dull blue, 6/- each
† " " " " 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 rupees (large)	6	63 0	
† British Guiana 1898, Jubilee, 1, 2, 5, 10 and 15c.	5	4 0	1890 48c. at 3/9 each, 1890 72c. at 5/- each, 96c. at 7/6 each.
† " " 1890-1903, C.A. single, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12 and 24c.	8	3 9	60c. at 15/- each.
† British Honduras, 1891-98, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 24, 25, and 50c.	10	8 6	1 \$ at 4/8 each, 2 \$ at 9/3 each, 5 \$ at 23/6 each
† " " 1899, 5, 10, and 25c. surcharged Revenue	3	2 5	
† " " 1902, C.A., single, 1, 2, 5 and 20c.	4	1 8	
† British Morocco, 1898, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50c., 1 and 2 pesetas, local sur.	8	5 0	
† " " 1899, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50c., 1 and 2 pesetas, London,	8	3 6	
† " " 1903-5, C.A. single, 5, 10, 20, and 25c.	4	1 6	
† " " " 50c., 1 pta, and 2 pesetas	3	37 6	
† " " 1905, 20c., mult., 5, 10, 25, 50c. 1 & 2 ptas, chalky	7	6 6	
† " " 1907, on Great Britain, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50c., 1 ptas	7	2 0	3 ptas at 2 6 each, 6 ptas at 5s. each, 12 ptas at 10/- each.
† " " " on Great Britain, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/- & 2/6	7	5 3	
† British New Guinea, 1901, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	7	6 6	2/6 at 10/6 each
† British Somaliland, on India Queen, name at top, first print, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 12 a.	9	5 3	
† " " 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, name at top, first print	4	24 0	
† " " 2½, 6 and 12 a., name at foot, second print	3	3 0	
† " " 1, 2, 3 and 5 rupees, name at foot, second print	4	23 0	
† " " on India King, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 a.	6	3 0	
† " " on H.M.S., on India Queen, ½, 1, 2, 8 a., and 1 R.	5	20 0	
† " " Service, on India King, ½, 1, 2, and 8 a., on Queen, 1 R.	5	20 0	
† " " " O.H.M.S., C.A., single			½ a. at 5/- each, 1 a. at 4/- each
† " " " O.H.M.S., C.A., multiple			2a. at 25/- each
† British South Africa Co., 1891-4, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d. & 1/-	8	12 0	2/- at 4/6, 2/6 at 5/-, 3/- at 5/6, 4/- at 7/6, and 5/- at 12/6 each.
" " " " 1891-4, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	8	6 0	
† " " " " 1896, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., and 1s.	8	4 0	
† " " " " " 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 4s., 5s. and 10s.	6	30 9	1897, £1 at 25/- each.
† " " " " 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 8d.	7	2 9	
† " " " " (on Cape), ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	7	22 0	Set of 7 used, 20/-
† " " " " 1905, Victoria Falls, 1d., 2½d., 5d., and 1s.	4	2 0	2/6 at 2/11 each, 5/- at 5/10 each
† Brunei on LABUAN, red, surcharge, 1c., 2 on 3c., 4 on 12c., 5 on 16c. 8c., 10c. on 16c.	6	6 0	50 on 16c at 9/6 each, 1 \$ on 16c. at 13/6 each, 5 on 16c., LIGHT brown, 4/6 each

SETS OF STAMPS—continued.

For current issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.
 † Unused * Used No. in set. Perset. HIGH VALUES, &c.

	No. in set.	Perset.	HIGH VALUES, &c.
† Guam on U.S., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15c. ...	9	20 0	50c. at 6/6 each, 1½ at 12/6 each
* Guatemala, 1894, 1 on 2c., 2 on 100c., 6 on 150c., 10 on 200c. ...	4	3 0	
† Gwalior, 1885-9, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a., and 1 R. ...	11	7 5	
† " 1902, Queen, ½, 1, 2, 2½a., <i>diver</i> ...	4	0 8	
† Hawaii, 1893, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, and 25c. ...	6	5 6	
† Hayti, Nov., 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 15, 20, 50c., and 1 gourde ...	12	7 3	
† " " unpaid, 2, 5, 10 and 50c. ...	4	2 0	
† Holkar, 1889, ½, 1 and 2 annas ...	4	0 8	
† Hongkong, 1900-2, 2, 4, 5, 10, and 12c. ...	5	1 9	
† " 1904, C.A. single, 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 20, 30, and 50c. ...	10	5 9	2½ at 7/6 each, *3½ at 12/- each.
† Jaipur, 1904, 1st issue, ½, 1, and 2a. ...	3	1 0	
† " " 2nd issue, ½, 1, and 2a. ...	3	0 5	
* Japan, 1894, Silver Wedding, 2 and 5 sen. ...	2	0 3	
† Johore, 1892, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6c., and 1 dollar ...	7	7 6	
† " 1894, 3 on 4c., 3 on 5c., 3 on 6c. ...	3	1 0	{ 1896, 2½ at 6/- each, 3½ at 9/- each, 4½ at 12/- each.
† " 1903, 3 on 4c., 10 on 4c. green, 10 on 4c. yellow, 50c. on 3½, 1½ on 2½, 1904, 10 on 4c. green ...	6	8 6	1904, 50c. on 5½ at 7/6 each
† Labuan, 1892, no w/mk engraved, 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, and 40c. ...	7	6 9	
† " 1894, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, and 24c. ...	9	5 0	
† " 1895, 4, 10, 20, 30, and 40c., on 1 dollar ...	5	3 4	
† " 1897-02, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, and 24c....	12	3 0	
† Lagos, 1882-4, 1d. lilac, 6d. sage, 1/- orange ...	3	13 0	
† " 1887-94, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 7½d., 10d., and 1s. ...	11	6 0	{ 2/6 at 4/- each, 5/- at 8/6 each, 10/- at 14/- each
† " 1903, C.A. single, 1s. at 15/- each ...			5/- at 22/6 each.
† " 1904, C.A., mult., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1/- ...	6	7 6	{ 2/6 at 3/6 each, 5/- at 7/- each, 10/- at 13/6 each
† " 1905, C.A., chalky, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	8 6	{ 2/6 at 7/6 each, 5/- at 9/6 each, 10/- at 14/6 each
† Leeward Islands, 1890, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 7d. and 1s. ...	7	3 0	5s. at 7/6 each.
† " " 1902, provl., 1d. on 4d., 1d. on 6d., 1d. on 7d. ...	3	1 9	
† " " C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- ...	7	3 3	
* MAEKING, on Becht. Prot., 1d. on ½d., 3d. on 1d., on Cape, 1d. on ½d., 1d. on ¾d., 3d. on 1d. ...	5	35 0	
† Malay Federated States, 1900, surcharged, 1, 2, 3, 10, 25c. on N. Sembilan, 5c., 1 dol., 2 dol. and 5 dol on Perak ...	9	40 0	
† Malaya, 1901, C.A., single, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 20 and 50 c. ...	8	4 6	
† Malta, 1885, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 1s., 5s. ...	7	8 0	
† " 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., and 1s. ...	7	3 6	4½d. C.A. single at 1/3 each.
† Mauritius, 1895-99, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 15, 18c. arms. ...	7	1 6	1880, 2 R. 50c. at 4/- each
† " 1902, provl. surchd. Postage and Revenue, 4, 6, 15, 25 & 50c. ...	5	1 9	2R. 50c. at 4/- each.
* Mexico, 1866 to 1899, various issues ...	50	5 0	
* " 1856 to 1899, 1 real to 1 peso ...	75	10 0	
† Monaco, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40, 50, 75c., and 1 franc ...	10	3 3	
† " 1906, Chiffre Taxe, 1, 5, 10, 15, 30, and 50 c. ...	6	1 2	
† Montserrat, 1903, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	3 9	
† Mozambique Co., 1894, 2½, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 150, 200, 300 reis ...	13	6 0	
† Nabha, 1887-1900, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12a. and 1 R. ...	11	8 0	
† Nabha Service, 1887-90, ½, 1, 4, 8 annas ...	4	3 6	
* Natal, 1883, Queen, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/- and 5/- ...	9	4 6	
† " 1902, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 5d., 6d. & 1/- ...	9	4 0	2/- at 4.6 each, 2/6 at 5/- each
† " 1904, King, multiple, OFFICIAL, ½d., 1d., 2d. and 3d. ...	4	15 0	
† Negri Sembilan, 1899, 4c. on 1c., 4c. on 5c., blue, 4c. on 3c., 4c. on 8c. ...	4	2 0	
* Nepal, 1, 2 and 4 annas ...	3	0 9	
† New Brunswick, 1, 2, 5, 10, and 17c. ...	5	2 3	
† New Caledonia, 1893, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 75c., & 1 franc ...	13	3 8	
† Newfoundland, 1897, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12, 15, 24, 30, 35, and 60c. ...	14	10 8	
† New Zealand, 1898, London Print, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d. and 1/- ...	12	12 9	2/- at 5/- each.
† " " 1900-3, Colonial Print, no w/m'k., ½d., 1d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d. and 1/- ...	10	6 4	{ 2/- at 3/- each, 5/- at 7/- each.
† " " 1906, Christchurch, ½d., 1d., 3d. and 6d. ...	4	1 2	
† Niger Coast, 1893, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1/- ...	6	15 0	
† " 1894, no w/mk., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1s. ...	6	5 0	
† " 1897-1898, w/mked C.A., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., 1s....	7	6 0	2s. 6d. at 5/- each, 10s. at 15/- each
† North Borneo, 1894, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18 and 24c. ...	9	7 6	
† " 1895, 4, 10, 20, 30, and 40c. on 1 dollar ...	5	3 4	
† " 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18 and 24c. ...	9	3 6	
† Northern Nigeria, 1900, Queen, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	20 0	2/6 at 20/- each, 10/- at 50/- each
† " " 1902, C.A. single, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1s. ...	7	6 9	2/6 at 7/6 each, 10/- at 12/6 each.
† " " 1906, C.A., mult., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d., 6d., and 1/- ...	7	3 6	
† Oil Rivers, on Great Britain, 1892, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 5d. and 1/- ...	6	8 9	
† Orange River V.R.L., 1900, 2nd print, thick V., ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. & 1/- ...	6	8 9	5s. at 8/- each.
† " " " " " " Raised dots, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- ...	6	2 7	{ 4d. blue at 1/- each, 5s. at 5/10 each.
† Orange River on Cape, ½d., 1d. and 2½d. ...	3	0 5	
† Papua on Brit. New Guinea, first type, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 6d., 1/-, & 2/6 ...	7	15 0	Second type, ½d. & 4d., 2/6 the pr.
† Patiala, 1892-9, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 a., and 1 R. ...	11	6 3	
† " Service, 1892, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 a., and 1 rupee, grey ...	9	5 6	Used, at 4/6 set of 9.
† " King, ½, 1, 2, 3 and 4 a. ...	5	1 10	8a. at 1/6 each, 1 R. at 2/6 each.
† Perak, 1895, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 25. and 50c. ...	9	7 0	
† " 1900, 1 on 2c., on 4c., on 5c., 3 on 8c., on 50c. on 1 dol., on 2 dol. ...	7	4 6	
* Persia, 1899, surcharged, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, shahi, and 1 kran ...	6	1 0	
* " 1900, 1, 2, 5, 8, 10 and 12 shai, 1 and 2 krans ...	8	1 1	
* " 1898, 1, 2, 5, and 10 krans ...	4	2 0	
* " 1876-1902, 1 ch. to 5 krans, including provls. ...	30	4 0	
* " 1902, type set provls., 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 12 ch., 1 and 2 kr. ...	8	2 9	
† Philippines, 1898, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mills ...	5	1 3	
† " 1899, on United States 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 15- and 50c. ...	7	4 7	
† Port Lagos (on French), 5, 10, 15c., 1, 2 and 4 piastres ...	6	8 9	

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or goal that needs to be addressed.

2. Next, it is important to gather all relevant information and data related to the problem.

3. Once the information is gathered, the next step is to analyze the data and identify patterns.

4. After analysis, it is necessary to develop a plan or strategy to address the problem.

5. The final step is to implement the plan and monitor the results to ensure success.

6. It is also important to evaluate the process and make adjustments as needed.

7. Finally, it is essential to communicate the results and findings to the relevant stakeholders.

8. The process should be documented to ensure consistency and accountability.

9. It is important to maintain open communication and collaboration throughout the process.

10. The process should be flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances.

11. It is important to have a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each team member.

12. The process should be based on evidence and data, rather than intuition or opinion.

13. It is important to have a clear timeline and milestones for the process.

14. The process should be transparent and accessible to all team members.

15. It is important to have a clear understanding of the resources available for the process.

16. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the organization's mission and values.

17. It is important to have a clear understanding of the risks associated with the process.

18. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and expectations of the stakeholders.

19. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current state of the organization.

20. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the future vision of the organization.

21. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current market conditions.

22. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the competitive landscape.

23. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current technology landscape.

24. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the current regulatory environment.

25. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current economic conditions.

26. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the current social and cultural conditions.

27. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current political conditions.

28. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the current environmental conditions.

29. It is important to have a clear understanding of the current demographic conditions.

30. The process should be based on a clear understanding of the current technological conditions.

SETS OF STAMPS continued

Current issues of Colonials, &c., see separate list herewith.	No. in set.	Per cent.	HIGH VALUES, &c.
1898, 1 mil. to noc. de peso	10	3	9
1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 mil.	6	0	6
1896, 1, 2, 4, and 8 mil.	4	0	3
1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 mills.	5	2	0
on United States 1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c.	5	1	5
ovl., 5, 5, 10, 10, 20, 20 on 25, 25 50 on 30, 75 on 80, and 80 reis	10	3	9
10, 1d., 1d., 1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	14	1	1
1 figures, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1/-	9	0	11
1894, 1 bani to 2 lei	40	2	0
1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	8	5	6
1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 5d., and 10d.	7	4	0
103, C.A. single, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1/-	7	3	8
1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1s.	8	3	9
A., single, 1d., 1d., 2d., 3d., and 1s.	5	4	9
97, 1d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	7	5	9
1, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 1s.	8	6	3
A., single, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 1s.	7	11	6
A., chalky, 1d., 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1s.	5	3	0
on 12c., 1 on 24c., 1 on 30c., 2 on 20c., 3 on 30c.	5	1	0
10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 45 and 65c.	9	2	4
25, 50c. and 1 lire	3	1	3
10, 5, 10, 30, 50 and 60c., and 1 lire	6	2	4
3, 4, 6, 8 and 12c.	6	2	0
1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 16, 25, 32, 50c. and 1 dollar	12	18	6
4, 6 and 8c.	4	1	8
on 3c., 2 on 12c., 4 on 6c., 4 on 8c.	7	2	0
2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15 and 16c.	9	1	2
100, 2, 6, 15, 18c.	4	16	6
75c., 1 R 50c., and 2 R 25c.	3	1	9
on 10c., 3 on 16c., 3 on 36c., and 6 on 8c.	4	7	6
2 on 4c., 30 on 75c., 30 on 1 R., 45 on 1 R., 45 on 2 R 50c.	5	4	0
King, C.A., single, 2, 3, 6, 12, 15, 18, 30, 45 and 75c.	9	1	0
1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 15 and 20c.	9	0	6
stage due, 1, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15 and 20c.	7	7	6
1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	9	4	10
1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1/-	10	12	0
C.A., single, 1d., 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d.	9	0	6
ies, brown, 3 pies, orange, 6 pies, 1 and 2 anna	5	0	5
nd 6 pies, 1 and 2 annas	4	3	6
. 8 a. and 1 rupee (Elephant). (Rajah set same price)	4	4	9
orate, 1903, C.A. single, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 12a.	9	1	0
, 1897, Unpaid, 2 and 4 mila, 1 and 2 piastres	4	2	6
F.S., 1, 3, and 5 mil., 1, 2, and 5 ptre.	6	2	3
68-1900, 1 to 2/-, including surcharges and official	30	7	6
01, 1d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	6	12	0
03 (C.A. single), 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	7	3	6
05-7, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	8	5	0
, 6c. to 10 posatas	50	0	4
1903, 1c., 5, 10, and 25c.	4	3	9
on 2c., on 4c., on 6c., on 8c., on 12c., 5c. on 32c., and rose, 4c. on 5c. (3 var.), 4c. on 8c.	12	7	3
, single, 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 25, 30, and 50 c.	9	18	at 6/- ea., 25 at 8/- ea., 55 at 22/6 ea.
AN, 1907, 4 on 12c., 4 on 16c., 4 on 18c., 8c., 10c., 25c., 50c., and 1/-	8	9	0
1, 1d., 2d., 6d., and 1/-	6	2	10
, 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d. and 6d., w/mkd. TAS.	8	16	0
1d., 4d., 6d. and 1s.	6	2	9
P.H., 1d. on 1d., 2d. on 2d., 5d. on 4d., 7d. on 8d., and 10d. on 1/-	5	1	2
, 1900, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., and 1/-	8	4	6
, 1d. green, 1d. on 2d., 1d., 3d. and 4d.	5	0	4
C.A., single, 1d., 1d., 2d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/-	8	28	6d. at 3/6 each, 5s. at 16/- each, 10s. at 14/- each.
and 4 chuckram	4	2s. 6d. at 4/- each.	
		2/- yellow and black at 3/6 each.	
		(1892 5s. at 8/- each, 1800	

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MINT UNUSED.

(Single Wmks.)

Table with 2 columns: Stamp description and Price. Includes entries for KING, Gambia, St. Lucia, Great Britain, Soudan, Somaliland, Transvaal, and postage rates.

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Vol. 1. No. 2.

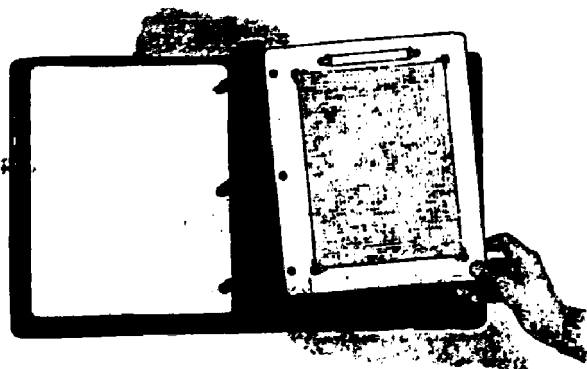
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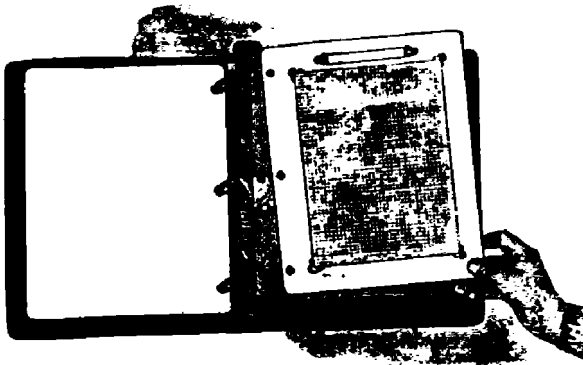
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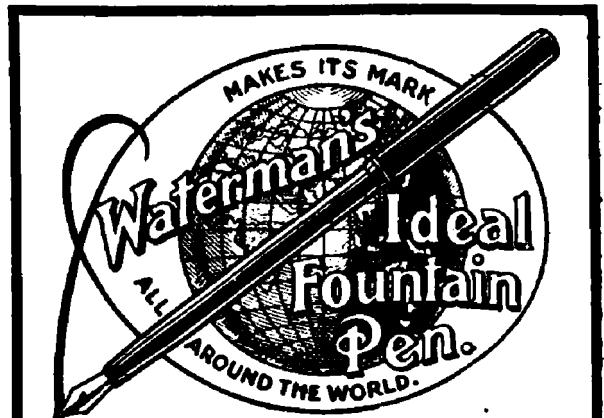
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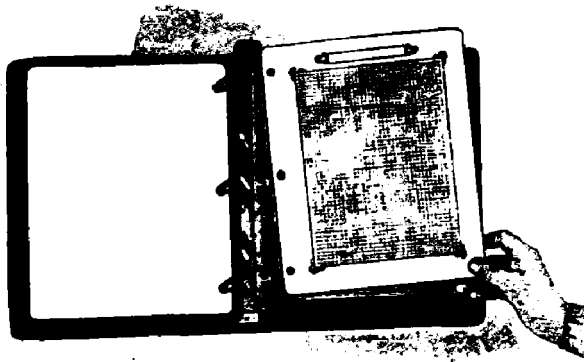
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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

Vol. 1. No. 5.

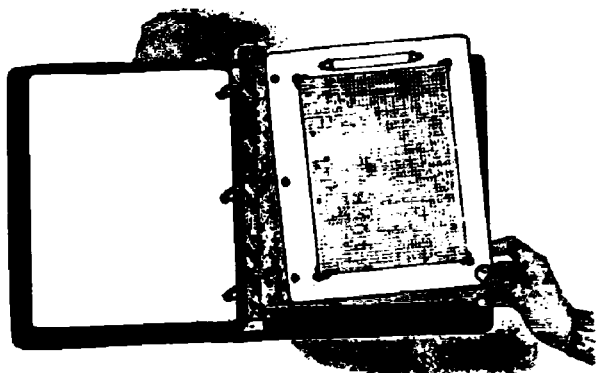
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Vol. 1. No. 6.

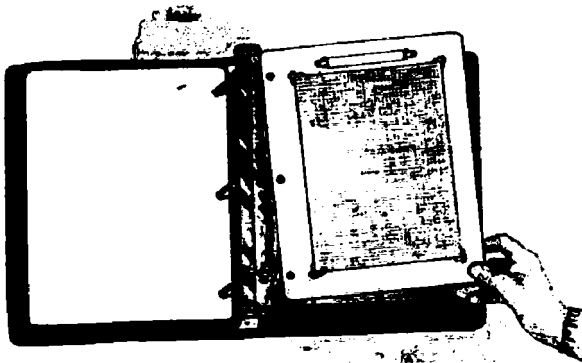
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No. 7. Vol. 1.

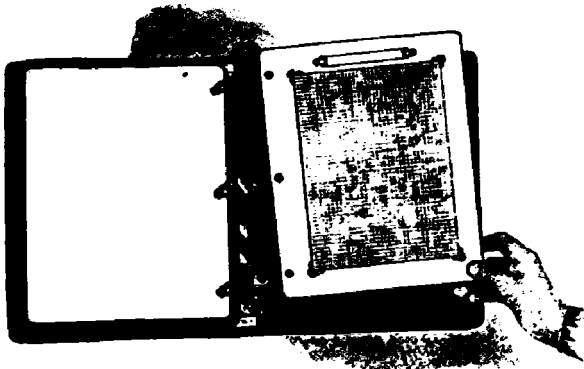
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"	Die. 2.	2c.	0	0	1	0	0	3	1901.	3c. on 10c.	0	0	4	—	—	
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"	"	8c.	0	0	6	0	0	4	"	3c. .. 36c.	0	0	6	—	—	
"	"	10c.	0	1	0	0	0	9	"	6c. .. 8c.	0	0	3	—	—	
"	"	13c.	0	0	8	0	1	0	"	3c. .. 16c. inverted	3	10	0	—	—			
"	"	16c.	0	1	0	0	1	0	1902.	2c. .. 4c.	0	1	6	0	1	3
1893.	3c. on 4c.	0	0	4	0	0	3	"	30c. .. 75c.	0	0	10	—	—	
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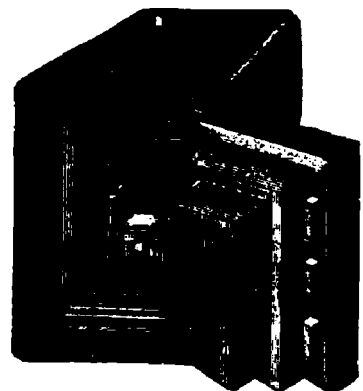
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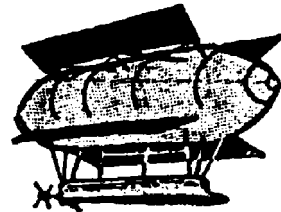
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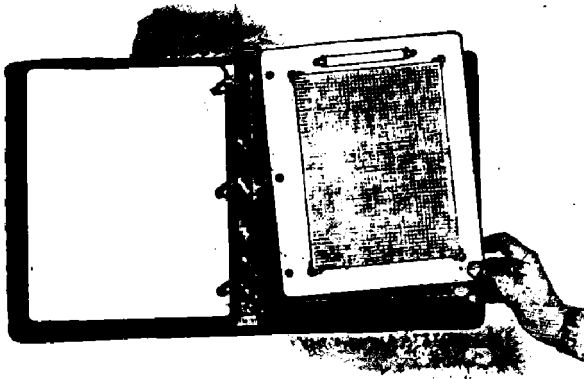
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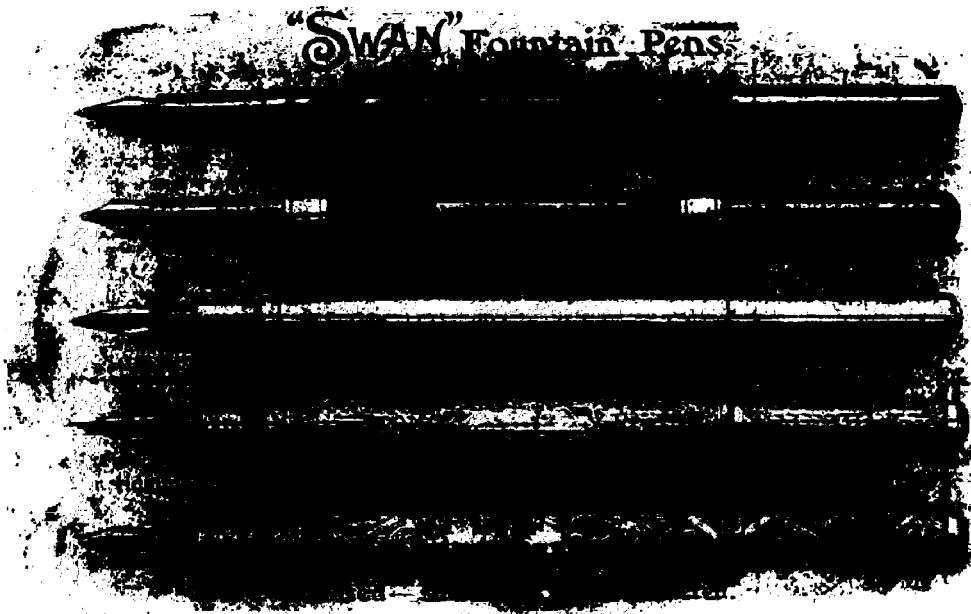
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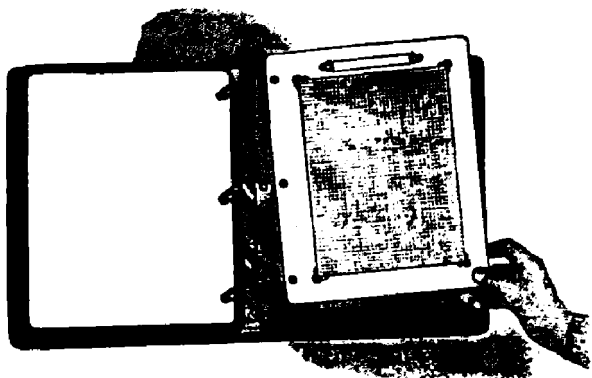
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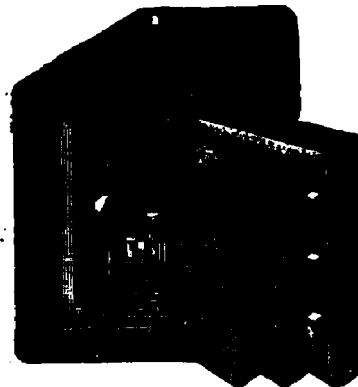
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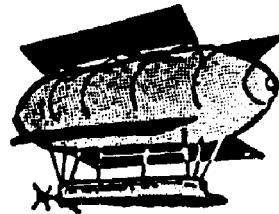
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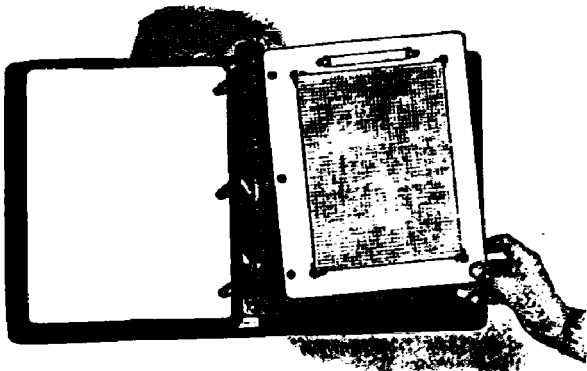
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No. 11. Vol. 1.

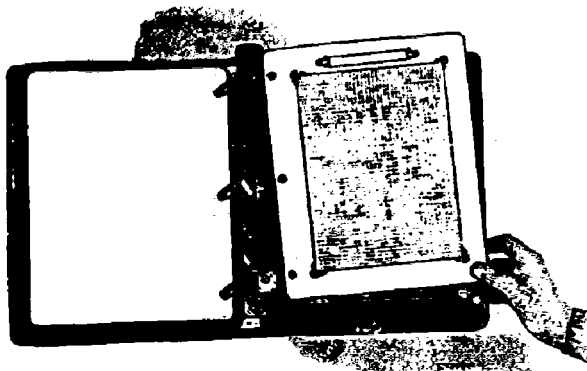
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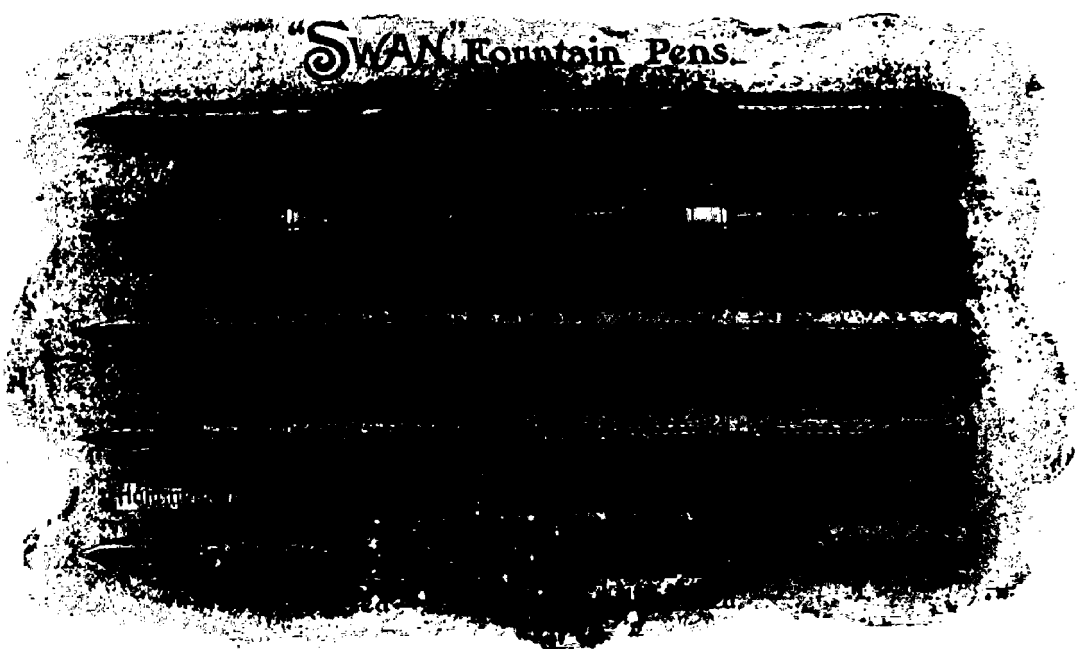
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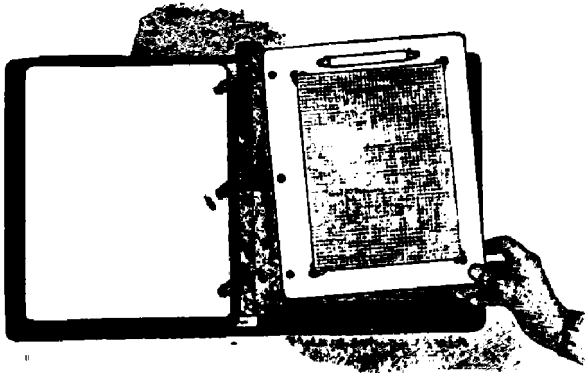
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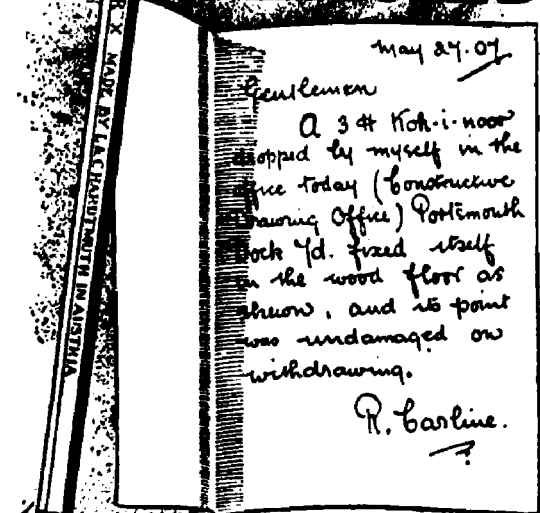
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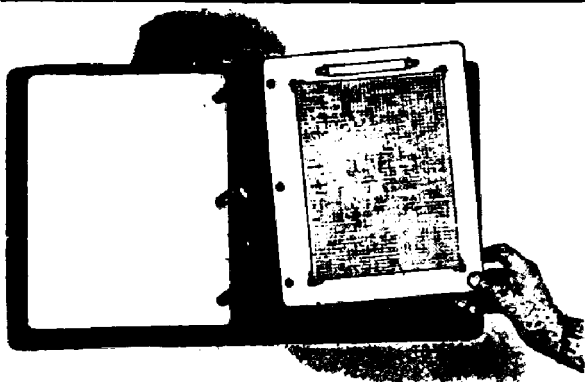
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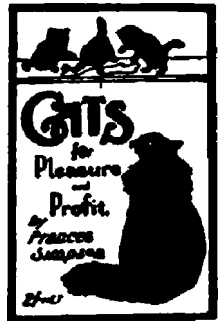
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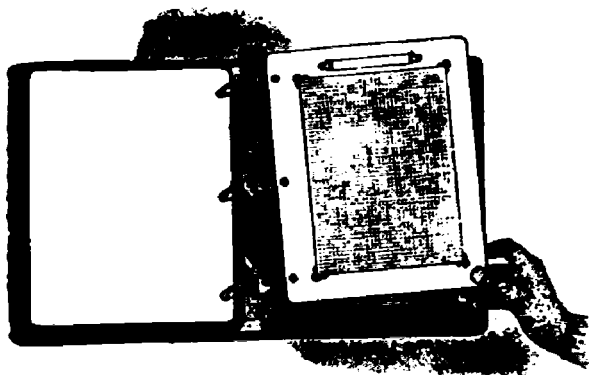
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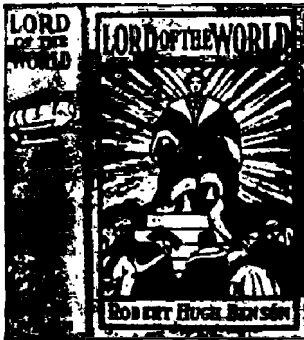
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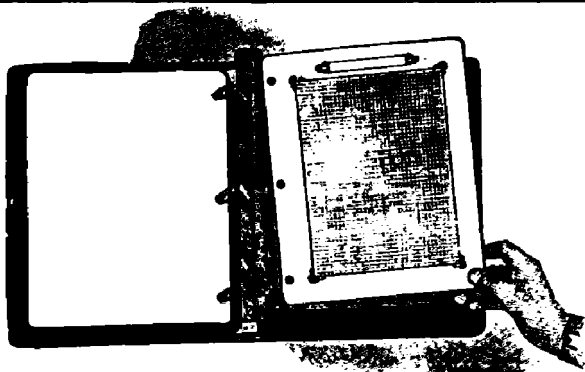
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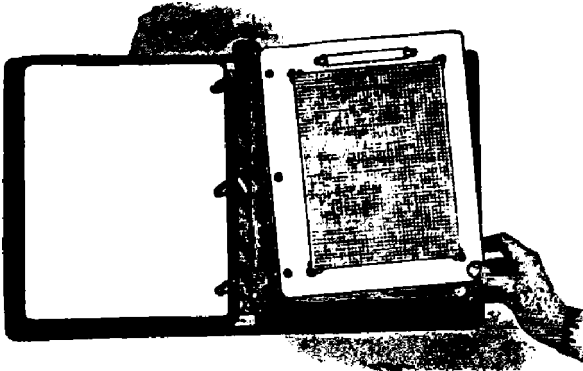
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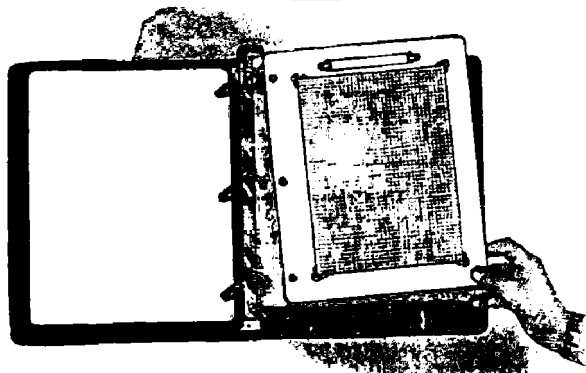
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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 18. Vol. 1.

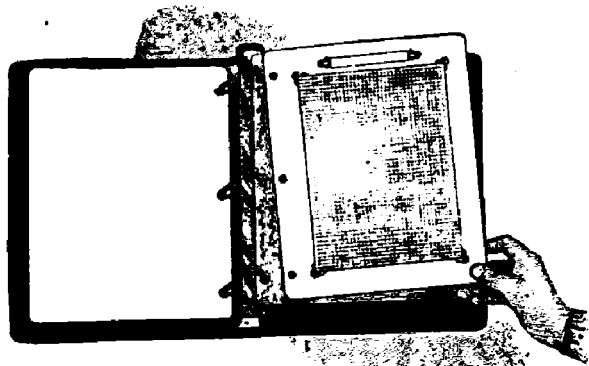
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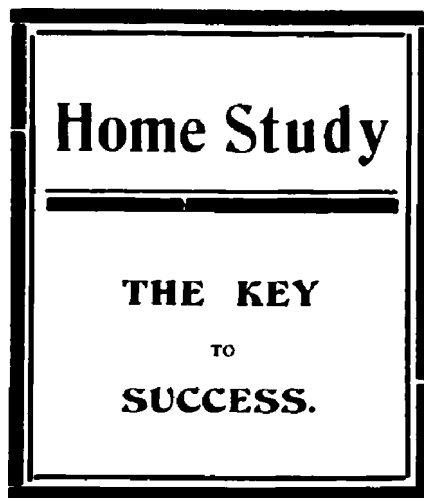
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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 19. Vol. 1.

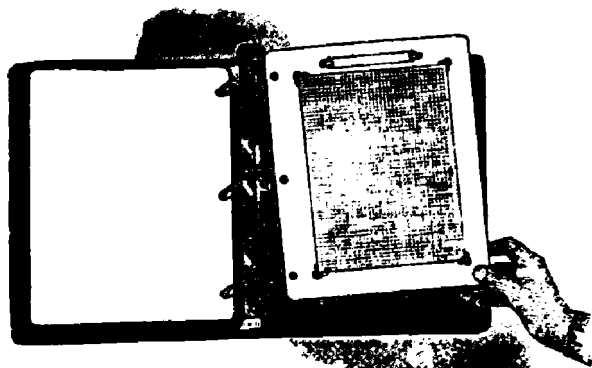
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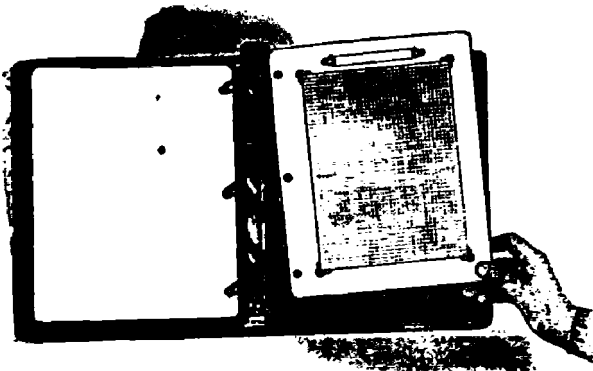
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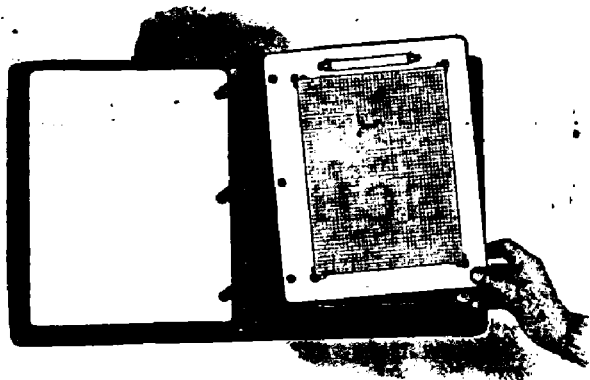
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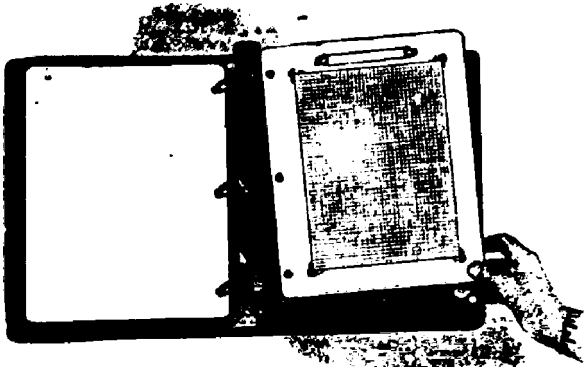
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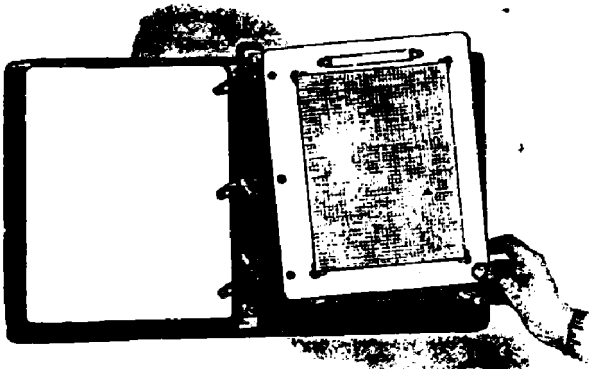
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Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.

No. 25. Vol. 1.

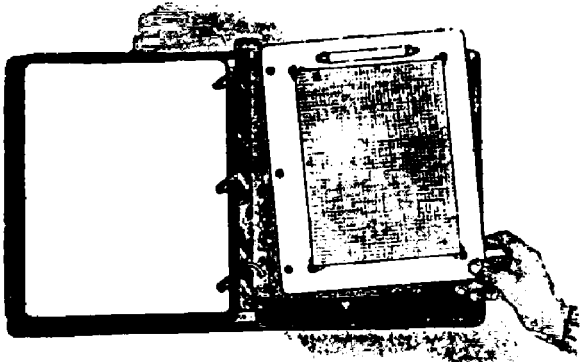
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½d. green ...	0 4	—	1d. carmine ...	0 4	0 1	1d. carmine ...	0 3	0 3
1d. carmine ...	0 3	0 2	2d. brown ...	1 0	1 0	2d. brown ...	0 3	0 3
2d. red-brown ...	0 9	0 9	2½d. ultramarine ...	2 0	—	2½d. blue ...	0 5	—
4d. sage green ...	1 4	—	4d. olive green ...	0 10	0 10	4d. olive green ...	0 6	—
6d. purple ...	1 9	—	6d. mauve ...	2 3	2 3	6d. mauve ...	0 8	—
1/- black ...	3 3	—	1/- black ...	5 0	5 0	1/- black ...	1 4	1 4
2/6 brown ...	6 3	—	2/6 brown ...	11 6	—	2/6 brown ...	3 0	3 0
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Edited by **EDWARD J. NANKIVELL, F.R.P.S.L.**

No. 26. Vol. 1.

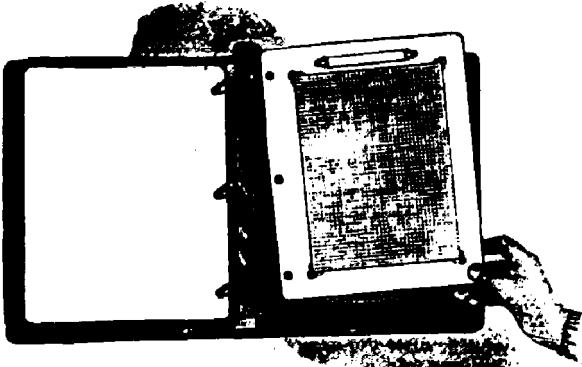
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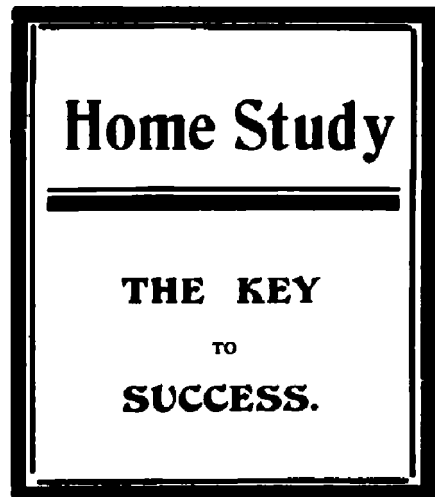
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