

Bradford 2331(13)

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST.

VOL. 1.

MARCH, 1910.

NO. 1.

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Published Monthly by

I. S. DONNER,

1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Subscription price 15c per year.

Advertising Rates—1 inch, 40c;
One-fourth page \$1.00; one-half page
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PHILATELIC COMMENT.



The famous collection of the late John F. Seybold, of Syracuse, has been purchased by John T. Coit, a prominent New York banker, the purchase price being \$26,000.



At present, a better stamp than the green special delivery, to hold on to, is the current 13c. They are difficult to obtain even at the full catalog price.



If the actual scarcity of used Canal Zones were known, there would be a scramble for C. Z's. The issues have a comparatively short life, and few dealers' stocks contain enough to mention. Buy used Canal Zones.



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The die proofs of the new spread eagle 12c registration stamp have been seen, and it is said the stamp will be a thing of artistic beauty.

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1902 2c carmine	10	.20
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1909 2c carmine	10	.15
1909 3c purple	15	.25
1909 4c brown	20	.30
1909 5c blue	20	.40
1909 2c Lincoln	10	.20

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THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST

Vol. 1. MAY, 1910. No. 3.

CONTENTS.

Holland and Dutch Indies Stamps.
Imperforate Cuba.
Imperforate Official Seals.
Java Surcharges.
New Spanish Stamps.
Turkish Reminders.
Philatelic Notes — R. A. Nash.
Press Review.
E. P. S. Report.
Etc., etc., etc.



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

I. S. DONNER,

1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT HOLLAND AND DUTCH IN- DIES STAMPS.

It is very difficult to obtain the high values of Dutch Indies and Holland stamps and I shall tell you why even some of the low values are high.

Take, for instance, the present issue of Holland stamps. You will see that the following values, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, 1 cent, 2 cents, $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents, 3 cents, 5 cents, 10 cents, are very common. The $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents value, however, is about ten times as dear, because all packages or parcels of printed matter over 90, will carry three $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent stamps instead of one $7\frac{1}{2}$ cent stamp. Though the $12\frac{1}{2}$ cent stamp is catalogued low, it is a stamp that is hardly used in domestic mail, and, therefore, not so easy to get. The 15 cent stamp is pretty rare. The rates for domestic letters in Holland are 1 to 15 grams ($\frac{1}{2}$ ounce), 5 cents; 15 to 200 grams (7 ounces), 10 cents; 200 to 500 grams ($17\frac{1}{2}$ ounces), 15 cents. It is seldom that a letter will weigh so much, and, therefore, this stamp is hardly ever used.

The 20 cent stamp is, in fact, only used between Holland and Belgium, where there is a special rate of 10 cents for $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. The $22\frac{1}{2}$ cent stamp was created to fulfill the demand for a stamp paying, at the same time, the rate for foreign postage and the additional registry fee. It is a fact, however, that hardly any one brings his letters to the post-office without having affixed before the necessary stamps on the envelope, and, as the Government sells very handy books containing one or two Guilders worth of stamps (which are fit for nearly every purpose), in 1 cent, $2\frac{1}{2}$ cent and 5 cent values, it occurs very seldom that the $22\frac{1}{2}$ cent value is used, and, of course, this is the reason for their scarcity.

The 25 cent stamp, though notwithstanding a higher value, is much more easily procured, because it is the stamp used for foreign correspondence in case the letters weigh two times the common weight, which is often the case.

(To be continued).

Imperforate Official Seals.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. had a note last month in their circular regarding current blue official seals, imperforate, and it brought upon them a small shower of wonderful not to say fearful curiosities in this line. They have been shown imperforate tete beches, imperforate double impressions, imperf. very light prints, and lastly, blue seals printed in blocks on the face of a department form—also imperforate. It goes without saying that this is all nothing but printers' waste, but it seems to be a fact, attested by several informants that imperforate seals were in use for a short time at the Brooklyn post-office. It has been heard that they were also in use in a western city.

U. S. Variety.

Students of late issues of U. S. stamps will be interested in a striking variety shown us recently by a correspondent. It is the le green of the 1898 issue with the vertical right hand frame-line of the right hand triangle broken, so that without a strong glass over half of it appears to be missing. This variety is probably due to a defective transfer and occurs in all the stamps of a block of six, showing plate No. 1160, and used in a southern city in March, 1902.—Scott.

2c Cuba Imperf.

Mr. Edwin W. Fuss has shown us a copy of the Cuba 2c, 1901, in imperforate condition on the original cover. Mr. Fuss states that his correspondent bought a 25c book of these imperf. stamps at the Guanajay post office, but he did not think them unusual, and used them on his mail. When he inquired at the same post office, there were no more of these stamps left, and this is the only book known by the P. O. clerks. We would like to know whether this stamp has ever been noted before and by whom. Can any of our subscribers give us information on this point?

The new Azores set consists of the following values:—2½, 5, 10, 15, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 200, 300, 500 and 1000 Reis.

Java Inverted Surcharges.

The inverted surcharges of Java are on the following values of the heavy type, first printing collection: 1c, 1, 5, 10 and 12 cents. Our correspondent states that of the second printing, fine type, only the 5 and 10c have been surcharged in that manner. More care has been taken in printing the latter and therefore they are much rarer than the first printings which are being sold in Java from 25c to \$1.00 per copy.

The 2 cent and 5 cents of Buiten Bezit have also the inverted surcharge.

The Java 10c slate has appeared in slate blue. A good stamp to hold on to is the 3c Java and Buiten Bezit as only 125,000 of the latter have been printed.

Collectors may expect a separate issue of Java and Buiten Bezit in the near future.

Many errors have occurred in these stamps, several having appeared without the period, others having "a" and "v" instead of "A" and "V" and finally the "J" without bars.

New Spanish Stamps.

The first of a new set of stamps has made its appearance, a 15c. An entirely new design has been prepared the King's head appearing in a small circle near the top of the stamp. The portrait is the same as that used on the last issues of Rio de Oro and Spanish Guinea. The circle containing the portrait is surmounted by a crown, while small shields in the upper corners contain the figures of value to the left and the abbreviated denomination to the right. The stamps are a great improvement in design over the previous issue.

From Everybody's Philatelist we learn that new paper is now being made for the Philippine Island stamps which will be watermarked P I P S insted of U S P S as at pres-

ent. As this paper is being made now and only very recently the first shipment of these stamps in the new colors was made, it would seem that it will be wise for collectors to get sets of the Philippines in the new colors and on the U S P S paper before they are gone.

Remainders of Turkish Stamps.

It is now a long while since an enormous remainder stock of unused Turkish and Eastern Roumelian stamps (amounting, it is said to 16 million stamps) was sold by the government and finally passed into the hands of a syndicate which is reported to be financially strong enough to keep the prices up. Financial strength however as a German contemporary points out, is not a convincing guarantee of firm prices, for experience has shown that the assurance that quotations will be maintained is always forthcoming in the case of large remainders, and the slump follows later on. This, the German writer contends is because such remainders, instead of being held by dealers in close touch with market conditions, are generally the property of more or less ignorant outsiders, who lose spirit when once a weakening has set in long efforts are required to bring prices up to the old level. Exchange relations are also responsible for many falls in prices. It is believed that these forebodings do not apply to the holders of the Turkish remainders, while the fact that the stamps are said to have been carelessly packed induce the supposition that certain values may be available in saleable condition in relatively small quantities only.—Afd. Smith & Son.

Owing to the death of King Edward VII, new stamps for Great Britain and Colonies, will, no doubt be issued in the near future. As King George V is an ardent collector having a collection valued at \$300,000 and being president of the Royal Philatelic Society philatelists may be sure of getting some very interesting series.

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SUCCESS.

Had there been in my mind any lingering doubt as to the success of my little journal before the first number was out of press, it would have been quickly dispelled by the immediate response to my invitation to subscribers.

Immediately after the first number had been sent out subscriptions began to pour into our letter box and they are still coming in by every post, and I have also been the recipient of some dozens of congratulatory missives, for which I now tender my best thanks to the senders, who will I am sure understand that I have been utterly unable, through the large amount of work in connection with this journal, to answer individually.

The Department of Commerce and Labor has received a communication from Consul Manning of LaGuaria, Venezuela, which stated that the Venezuela Government has granted Pablo Hernandez of the National Academy

of Belles Artes, a prize for the best model drawing for a postage stamp to be issued in commemoration of the first Centennial Anniversary of Venezuelan Independence, and that an order has been placed with the American Bank Note Company for one million of these stamps. There were 40 competitors for the prize.

PHILATELIC NOTES.

By R. A. Nash.

It is rumored that the "Chanteleen" made famous by Edmund Rost and, will adorn the new set of French stamps, which the lithographer, M. Louis Trinquier has designed.

Berne, Switzerland, is to have an inter-national stamp exhibition, and a story executive committee has been selected with the eminent philatelist, Baron A de Reuter Skiold, as chairman.

The Swiss authorities are contemplating a change in some of the stamps of the Republic. It is expected that something more artistic than the present design will result.

The 5 cent green New Caledonia has appeared with the surcharge—"Nouvelles Hebrides Condominium."

The second philatelic Congress of Great Britain convened at London on April 27th and 29th. There were 84 delegates representing 36 separate societies. Mr. J. Dunbar Heath of Perkins Bacon & Co, read a paper on "The Manufacture of Stamps." Mr. Hemiker Heaton, M. P. delivered the closing address of the Congress.

CHICAGO SPECIAL

We have been invited by many Chicago dealers and collectors to make our June issue a special "Chicago Number." Ten to twelve pages will be added to our regular size and also an appropriate cover. The extra circulation will consist of **one thousand** copies. The contents of this number will be of a very readable character, as well known writers have been asked to contribute.

How much space do you want in this issue?

It is reported that the 2c Lincoln has been found with inverted water-marks.

Chile is issuing a new series and it would be worth while investing in a few of the 15c and 30c of the present issue.

The 5c and 7c Canada Quebec are getting scarce, as wholesale quotations indicate.

The first catalogue of postage stamps was published by Potiquet in December, 1861. England published in 1862, the first philatelic journal, "Stamp Collectors' Review and Monthly Advertiser."

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Stamps cat. \$1.00 to those joining the Empire Philatelic Society within 30 days. **R. A. Nash, 3608 Lexington St., Chicago, Ill.**

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F. J. STANTON,
NORWICH, NEW YORK.

PRESS REVIEW.

The Philadelphia Stamp News is published weekly by Percy McGraw Mann. Vol. 1, No. 5 contains the second of A. F. Henkel's "Talks on Side-Lines" entitled "Fair Tags."

With the April issue of the Southern Philatelist Mr. Grosjean, the publisher, has enlarged to 9x5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches and increased to 12 pages. "Modern Philately" by J. Russell Reed and "Talks on Advertising" by Loumas are the leading articles.

The Philatelic Tribune published by F. J. Stanton, Norwich, N. Y. Vol. 2, No. 10 contains 12 pages and cover including "Philatelic Fairy Tale No. 6," "The Coming Convention" and "The Blue Paper."

The Collector's Advocate is a new paper published by Louis L. Comstock at Tilton, N. H. Vol. 1, No. 2, May, 1910, contains a well written "New Issue Chronicle," the conclusion of an article on "Blued Paper" and various other notes of interest to coin and curio collectors.

The April issue of "Everybody's Philatelist" comes to our desk encased in a neat gray cover. "Philatelic Anatomy" by Dr. J. M. Holt, is a very instructive specialistic study of the current imperforates. "From the National Capital," by Chas. R. Morris," "Personalia," and "Auction Comment" are the other articles of interest.

Nothing more can be said of the Attleboro Philatelist for April, than that it is up to its usual standard.

The Hobbyist, Vol. II, No. 4, April, 1910, contains a portrait of Mr. Chas. R. Morris, who is the candidate as Secretary of the A. P. S. Among the contributors are E. R. Vanderhoof and L. G. Dorpat.

The Stamp Journal, Vol. III, No. 4, April, 1910, 32 pages of fine reading matter including the second installment of "Canal Zone Stamps" by Rr. Wm. Evans.

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NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

Rev. L. G. Dorpat of Wayside, Wis. has been appointed to take charge of the "Information Bureau" of the E. P. S. He will answer all questions relating to stamps or stamp collecting in this column or by letter, provided they are accompanied by the necessary postage. Two cents should always be enclosed. Names will not be published except to the credit of an informant. Rev. Dorpat is interested in stamped bank checks and philatelic literature and is willing to exchange such with other collectors.

By some error, the addresses of members 6, 7 and 8 were left out in the last issue. They are as follows: #6, 9129 Birchdale Ave.; #7, 3717 Carnegie Ave.; #8, 1112 Huron Rd. All of Cleveland, Ohio.

Fraternally,

I. S. Donner, Sec't-Treas.

LOOK THIS PAGE OVER CAREFULLY. I AM SURE YOU WILL
NEED SOME OF THESE.

	cat.	My price
Argentina Official 1901, 1, 2, 5, 10, 30, 50, unused.....	71	.25
Bolivia, 1894, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, used.....	33	.12
Guatemala 1886 used 25 #26.....	.08	.02
Guatemala 1886 used 50, #27.....	.10	.03
Guatemala 1886 used 75 #28.....	.15	.04
Guatemala 1886 used 1.00 #29.....	.15	.04
Guatemala 1886 used 1.50 #30.....	.15	.04
Guatemala 1902, used, 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12½, 20, 50, 75, 1p, 2 p.....	79	.30
Nicaragua 1909, used, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 15, 20, 50, 1p, 2p.....	1.86	.40
Nicaragua 1908, 15 on 50, No. 222 used.....	10	.03
Nicaragua 1908, 35 on 50, No. 233 used.....	25	.08
Persia 1903, Imperf., unused, 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 13,.....	46	.12
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused, 15c grey #170.....	.08	.03
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused 10c red #171.....	.08	.03
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused, 25c pink #172.....	.08	.03
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused, 1b, yellow #174.....	.08	.03
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused, 5c pink #175.....	.20	.05
Venezuela, 1903, ship issue, unused, 10c blue #176.....	.25	.08
Venezuela, 1904, 5 on 50, Green #191 unused.....	.03	.01
Venezuela 1900 1b slate, error, sur. 1901 instead of 1900 #148a...10		.03
Venezuela 1900 1b slate #153 unused.....	.12	.04
Venezuela, 1904, 25c blue #209 used.....	.03	.01
Venezuela 1904, 50c plum #210 used.....	.05	.01
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Venezuela 1896, 50c red #122 unused.....	.03	.01

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JOHN OBERT,

15 Royal Ave., Hawthorne, N. J.

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST

Vol. 1. JUNE, 1910. No. 4.

CONTENTS.



Berlin Postal Museum Scandal
By L. G. Dorpat.
Notes on Holland and Dutch Indies
Stamps.
Should One Collect New or Cancelled
Stamps?
The Stamps of Servia, by Norman
Thornton.
With Our Advertisers.
Philatelic Newslets, by R. A. Nash.
Press Review.
Junior Column.
E. P. S. Report.
Etc.



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The Empire Philatelist

VOL. 1.

JUNE, 1910.

No. 4.

BERLIN POSTAL MUSEUM SCANDAL.

Reviewed for *The Empire Philatelist*
by L. G. Dorpat, Wayside, Wis.
list by L. G. Dorpat, Wayside, Wis.

Philatelic circles in Germany have for some time past been agitated by the claim of Hauptmann Ohrt of Dusseldorf, the author of a valuable work on Reprints, that certain issues of German Colonials had been reprinted and thru the Berlin Postal Museum sold to collectors as originals, among these the first surcharged issue for German Southwest Africa. Now the Postal Administration, on the request of the Kammur-Gericht (supreme court), has issued a statement that is published both, in *Friedemann's Phil. Berichte* and in *Der Deutsche Philatelist*, each of them coming to a conclusion that is diametrically opposed to the other. The former claims with the administration that there are no reprints, the latter that there are. Of course, all depends on the definition of the term "reprint." The fact, clearly stated by the administration, is this: On the 18th of June, 1898, 5000 sets of the stamps for German Southwest Africa (first form of surcharge) were ordered for the Museum. As not all of these were on hand, some of them—how many could not be ascertained—had to be printed for this special purpose, i.e. not for postal use in the colony but for the use of the Museum. The 5000 sets were duly delivered to the Museum and later on 2000 sets more that had been kept so long in the printery. The new form of surcharge, "Südwestafrika" in one word, had been approved on June 14th, 1898, and the plates for this surcharge were in the process of preparation, while the late prints of the first surcharge were made for the Museum. It does not appear that any of the persons concerned were aware that they were ordering, making, receiving and selling reprints, and so they denied that there were any reprints.

In a philatelic sense, according to the definition of the term "reprint," adopted by several German philatelic bodies, a part of these 7,000 Museum sets are reprints. To us, here in America, it seems rather indifferent, whether they are called reprints or not. That, however, must be interesting to all of us stamp collectors that a certain number of sets of this colony, and it seems of several other German colonies, were printed for the Berlin Postal Museum without any statement to that effect going with the stamps at the time of their sale to collectors. There can be no question that any postal administration has the right to have any of its stamps at any time printed for any purpose, that is honorable. It is not honorable tho, knowing to represent stamps as having been printed for postal purposes, when, in fact, they were printed for collectors, no matter, at what time they were printed. If the officials of the Museum, and others, did not know, as it seems it is the case, they cannot justly be accused of dishonesty. Yet to collectors it makes a great difference whether they receive genuine, bona fide postage stamps, or Museum and collectors' stamps. The transaction may have benefitted the Museum and some dealers who handled these stamps, but it has undoubtedly hurt the collecting of German Colonial stamps. Collectors want to know what they get for their money, and they have a right to know it.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT HOLLAND AND DUTCH IN- DIES STAMPS.

(Continued from last issue).

The 50 cent stamp is for the same purpose, but is rarer because of the lack of many letters whereon such a high value of postage is necessary. 1 gld. and 2½ gld. stamps are very

hard to get. The reason is that those stamps are used practically only on Parcels Post packages. When you send away a Parcels Post package in Holland or India you have to affix the stamps on an addressed card, which goes along with the parcel, and you are not allowed to affix the stamps on the parcel itself. When the receiver of the parcel signs for it, he does it on the addressed card, and the post-carrier takes this card with him as a receipt for the delivery. The stamps that are affixed to this card become the property of the Government, and sometimes are destroyed and sometimes are sold at public auction. Here is, practically, the only way to get any good-sized quantity of these stamps, and as all the wholesale stamp dealers are present at these sales, they bring very high prices.

All that has been written here about the stamps of Holland will apply equally well to the stamps of Dutch East India. As you go over the catalogue you will see that the lower values, $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, 1 cent, 2 cents, $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents, 5 cents, are very reasonable in price; 3 cents stamps are about five or six times as scarce. The only reason for this is that the 3 cent stamp is a stamp that is used for city correspondence, and, as a matter of fact, there is very, very little city correspondence done in India, because life over in those countries is not like it is in European cities, and if people have to ask each other something, they use the telephone or they send one of their native servants, which is considered as a more courteous way of transmitting errands than by letter, while, in the second place, a letter requires much longer time, as in most cities there is only one delivery a day.

The higher values in India are very difficult to get, because in domestic mails in India they are hardly ever used, and the only people that use stamps of the higher values are those that send regular important and valuable letters to their offices in Europe.

SHOULD ONE COLLECT NEW STAMPS OR CANCELLED STAMPS?

Those who collect cancelled stamps often imagine that the cancellation is a guarantee of authenticity. They see in the cancellation a proof that the stamp was bought at the post office, and that it is real. This is an error. Nothing is easier to imitate than a cancellation. A cork, a piece of wood engraved with some skillfulness; such is what gives authenticity to a stamp in the view of many collectors. Is it not clear that the details of a stamp, even when made by an ordinary artist, are much more difficult to imitate than the design, always coarse, of its cancellation?

I do not deny that in certain cases cancellations may have some utility; but, then, study of cancellations should precede that of stamps. The question is not whether the stamp was bought at the post office, but whether it is authentic. New stamps sold by honest merchants were bought at the post office. Since people have begun to collect stamps, the collectors of every country or the correspondents of stamp dealers have always sent to the latter new issues of stamps as they were given out, with the decrees or laws that announced their issue. Their design is therefore perfectly authentic, and they do not need to be cancelled in order to be genuine. Is not a collection infinitely more beautiful when the stamps are new, with fresh colors, with designs untarnished?

To give an idea of the small importance which should be ascribed to cancellation, I recall a fact which occurred twenty-five years ago. A collector who had bought a certain number of new stamps of all countries, had taken advantage of a post-clerk's kindness to have them all cancelled with French seals. Judge of the authenticity which French seals could give to English, Belgian, German,

Italian or Spanish Stamps! It cannot be doubted that such vandalism has been often committed. At all events, counterfeit stamps are usually cancelled stamps. Since cancellation cannot be regarded as a certificate of authenticity, it seems more reasonable to collect new stamps. But if this be preferable for the rich amateur, for the greater number of collectors it is impracticable. The greater number should collect the cleanest cancelled stamps, that is, stamps as little cancelled as possible.

THE STAMPS OF SERVIA.

By Norman Thornton.

Probably not more than a few specialists in this country have a clear idea as to the precise nature and purpose of the first stamps of Servia, and the general collector, if he possess any of them, may have wondered why no used copies have come under his notice. The explanation of this is that these stamps were not postmarked even when used, and were not supplied for use by the public, but served as a combined tax and delivery charge on foreign newspapers coming into the country; they were affixed to the newspapers at the first post office after crossing the frontier, that is to say at Belgrade for Austrian papers, and at Alexinatz and Kladowa for those from Turkey and Roumania. The charge was 3 paras for each ounce and 1 para for each additional half-ounce. Subscribers to foreign papers were required to deposit with the postal authorities a sufficient sum to cover these charges. In any case the use of these stamps was very limited as the number of Turkish and Roumanian papers was almost negligible, and of the Austrian papers, most were destined for Belgrade, and these were delivered by the Austrian Post Office which was established there until 1868. The stamps were printed at the State Printing Works at Belgrade from

leaden cliches which gave a very poor result and occasioned many minor differences, by which the stamps may readily be plated. The sheets contain twelve stamps in three rows of four which are divided vertically by thin continuous lines of colour and horizontally by short lines the width of the stamp. The inscription at the top, "K. C. Potshta," signifies "Post of the Servian Principality." —Gibbons' Stamp Weekly.

GEORGE V. EXPECTED TO IMPROVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

New King Being an Ardent Philatelist, Next Series is Calculated to Be Brilliant.

LONDON, June, 1910.— King George being an ardent philatelist, owning perhaps the most valuable collection of postage stamps on earth, it is expected that the new issue of British stamps will be a marked improvement on the present Edwardian series.

There is plenty of room for this improvement, and complaints have been made that there is a singular lack of artistic effort in the coloring and design of the stamps now in use.

Most of the larger British colonies, particularly Canada and South Africa, are far ahead of the old country in this respect, and some of the Canadian issues already bear an excellent likeness of King George—as Prince of Wales, of course.

It is pointed out that, with the exception of Russia, England is the only country issuing stamps which do not bear any indication, beyond the head of the sovereign, of the country of their origin. Collectors are looking eagerly forward to the issue of the George V. stamps, which is not expected until next year.

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST.

Published Monthly by
I. S. DONNER,
 1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Official Organ
The Empire Philatelic Society.

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BUSINESS IS GOOD.

The months of June, July and August are generally known as the dull months but this year there will be little or no "dull season" and it may with safety be predicted that before long such a thing as 'dull season' will be unknown. The stamp dealers will be busy during this summer going over their stock and preparing them for the large fall trade. In order to get rid of any surplus stock, they will offer some stamps at very low prices and the active summer collector will have many such chances to enlarge his collection at a low cost. Collectors should therefore keep in touch with the stamp market all summer especially in regard to British Colonials which are booked for a big rise.

Dealers, it is therefore necessary that you keep on advertising during these summer months, because the other dealer who continues to advertise will reap all the benefits, if you don't.

Collectors who have not yet subscribed should do so at once because they will find large bargains offered in these columns by wide awake advertisers. Where can you get a paper like The Empire Philatelist for 15c a year?

WITH OUR ADVERTISERS.

The H. J. Schmidt Stamp Co., was organized in September, 1901, by Mr. Henry J. Schmidt. The business is conducted under the supervision of Mr. Schmidt who is aided by his brother Charles and Miss Emily K. Bennett who takes charge of the approval department. This concern does a large approval business having some of the best known collectors on their lists.

The Maplewood Money and Stamp Co., was established in April, 1910, by Messrs. C. T. and V. Dezyeimski, and through their good management, they have already obtained a large list of satisfied patrons. They would like to receive lists and offers from wholesale dealers in stamps and post cards.

The Independent Stamp Co., is conducted by W. H. Gilley who started dealing in 1908, although he is interested in stamps since 1890. Their business is mostly recent U. S. imperforates and stamps on approval. In two years the firm has built up a very satisfactory approval trade, in fact, all that it can handle.

Mr. H. K. Thompson who deals exclusively in postmarks issues a neat price list which every post mark collector should have and also sends post marks on approval. Look up his ad. in this issue.

Mr. Edwin W. Fuss, of Newark, N. J., who is represented in this issue, is one of the most enthusiastic stamp collectors in the world. Mr. Fuss has been a collector for more than nine years and has accumulated a collection of 10,000 varieties. He also has an up-to-date stock which he sells at popular prices. It will pay our readers to answer his ad. and get acquainted.

The Lenox Stamp Co., is managed by Mr. H. H. Gordon, Jr., an enterprising dealer and collector. He offers a combination in this issue which every one of our readers should send for.

Mr. Leslie Davenport, of Belleville, N. J., issues a neat little house-organ, "The Monthly Bargain List, which is full of bargains. Send for a sample copy.

Mr. A. M. Wright, the veteran dealer of Dorchester, Mass., is too well known to need any mention in this column.

PHILATELIC NEWSLETS.

By R. A. Nash.

Probably the most valuable collection of stamps ever made, was that of W. W. Mann, of London, which is estimated to be worth \$500,000. Mr. Mann has recently disposed of a part of his collection for \$150,000.

The Philatelic Monthly, published by Henry George, of Milwaukee, Wis., has been discontinued after being issued for nearly a year and a half.

The United States has issued a greater variety of stamps than any other stamp issuing country.

The current 10c on blued paper is selling for \$5 while the 15c has advanced to \$3.

It is not often that Great Britain withdraws from a colony, but the announcement comes to hand that the British Government intends to abandon British Somaliland, on account of inability to conquer the "Mad Mullah" or to reach an agreement with him to abstain from raiding the friendly tribes within its boundaries.

According to the April number of The Deutche Revue, provision has been made for an aerial postal service between Batavia and Soerabaya, Java.

Vienna was the first city to give an exhibition of stamps. This occurred in 1881. Munich followed in 1884 and 1889, Dresden in 1886, Antwerp in 1887, and New York in 1889.

Mr. Geo. H. Corbet, has purchased the "Collectors' Own Magazine," formerly published by Clarence Davis, at Lead, So. Dak. The second volume will be started with the August issue.

The latest estimate places the number of stamp collectors in the United States at 150,000.

Every subscriber of the "Empire Philatelist," should join the "Empire Philatelic Society." There are many benefits and the dues are only 10c a year.

New Two Pence English Stamp.

The color and design of the current two pence stamp of Great Britain is booked for a change. It appears to have been the intention of the English postal officials to change the entire series, or at least those stamps that are printed in two colors, to make a more artistic series, as it is well known that King Edward was vastly dissatisfied with the stamps of this large empire, as far as they were for use at home, in the Island Kingdom.

The new stamp will have Edward's head in an oval with the numerals at the base, on either side. Postage and revenues will be on the sides, with leaves above and the Crown at the top. The color will be a pretty shade of red-violet. This stamp has already been prepared and will be issued very shortly.—Phila. St. News.

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 1000 Favorite Hinges (large)...5c

Extra fine approvals at 60% discount. References required. Price list of cheap sets free.

VIRGIL D. ANGERMAN CO.,
 3524 Rokeby St., Chicago, Ill.

PRESS REVIEW.

The Philadelphia Stamp News is getting better with each issue. Vol. 1, No. 2, contains "U. S. 1847 Embossed," by Mr. Percy McGraw Mann the editor, "Review of the Week," and "Notes" by Amos Slapper, Mr. Mann's efficient office boy.

The Kitting Collector, Vol. 1, No. 4, June, 1910, contains 16 pages and cover including a portrait of S.

W. Reese, an article by J. O'Bern on "Literature Collecting," and numerous little notes of interest to coin and curio collectors.

With the May issue, the Southern Philatelist has been reduced to its original size. The number before us contains 16 pages. The leading article is R. E. Ramsay, entitled "Clothes."

The leading feature in the Hobbyist, June, 1910, is a portrait of W. H. Barnum, the popular Cleveland nominee for the A. P. S. secretaryship, and a sketch of his philatelic career.

The Attleboro Philatelist, Vol. 1, No. 9, May, 1910, contains a complete catalogue of the precancelled stamps of Canada, a letter by Henry J. Crocker dealing with the Hawaii 1853 issue and "Eliminating the official organ" by J. Russell Reed.

Sample Copies.

We are sending our samples this month to a carefully selected list of names—active collectors, or in other words, prospective subscribers. A year will only cost 15c; six months 10c. If this copy is marked "Sample Copy" just remember that your name was chosen from hundreds as one who would enjoy reading this large 12 page number. Send your subscription before you forget about it, you'll never regret it. A rare British Honduras stamp free to each subscriber.

With Our Advertisers.

Mr. Wm. H. Green, who has a number of large ads. in this issue, is one of the foremost dealers in America. Mr. Green is an importer of South and Central American stamps and makes a specialty of dealers' mixtures and job lots. It will benefit dealers and collectors to communicate with him.

TWO SPECIAL PACKETS

PACKET "A"

25 Varieties, used and unused stamps. "A Little Gem" 25c.

PACKET "B"

50 Varieties, used and unused stamps. An unexcelled wonder 50c.

These packets have no equal for the money, cataloguing many times the price I ask; new stamps are added every week, as new things appear. ONE PURCHASE ALWAYS MEANS ANOTHER.

The stamps are clean, free from paper, and no torn specimens included; unused have full gum. I am selling these to dealers who put them on their approval sheets at a good profit. I get a large number of stamps in lots too small to offer to the trade, and so put them up in these two packets at a low wholesale price.

I can furnish any number of testimonials from satisfied purchasers. One collector in Harrisburg writes—

"Your packet to hand, many thanks; it is the finest lot I have ever seen."

A dealer in Boston writes—

"We enclose \$6.00 for last lot of stamps sent us (note the quantity) the stamps were very nice."

Another write—

"Enclosed 50 cents. That was a good lot, send me six more and get them to me quick."

Names of above will be furnished anyone upon request, write them, see what they tell you.

WM. H. GREEN, 515 S. SEVENTH ST., CAMDEN, N. J.

WHAT 25 CENTS WILL DO.

Return this circular with 25c and the names and addresses of five Real Estate Agents and you will receive a year's subscription to our paper, a nice bunch of post cards free, your name in our Big Mail Directory free for 3 months, from which you will get lots of mail from all parts of the world, and also some of these circulars. You distribute them and for each one returned with your number on, we will send you 25 nice post cards free. It would pay you to accept this offer and send at once to

PHILDIUS REAL ESTATE MONTHLY.

388 Pleasant Ave., — — — — — New York, N. Y.

LOOK!

For 5c we will send 50 used stamps, 5 unused stamps, \$1.00 U. S. stamp, 3 U. S. Revenues price lists and stamp album. **All for 5c.**

Extra Premium for Promptness.

Best 50% approvals. Reference desired. **Lenox Stamp Co., 1019 Lenox Place, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

WANT SOMETHING GOOD?

Then subscribe for **The Southern Philatelist**, the paper that pleases. The largest and best philatelic magazine to be found anywhere for only 15c a year.

LEON CARTER GROSJEAN,
1227 Oakland St., Shreveport, La.

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—Dr. H. A. Davis, 1267
Gaylord St., Denver, Colo.

Vice President—V. D. Angerman,
Chicago, Ill.

Sec. & Treas.—I. S. Donner, 1643
Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Sales Supt. & Auct. Manager—R. A.
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Ill.

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sec. & Treas.—I. S. Donner, 1643
pat, Wayside, Wis.

Annual Dues 25c.

Official Organ

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST.

Applications.

18. Wm. A. Carr, 89 Pembroke St.,
Rochester, N. Y. Proposed by sec-
retary.

19. Clarence Graham, 921 Newport
Ave., Chicago, Ill. Proposed by V.
D. Angerman.

20. Morgan W. Taylor, 41 Wethers-
field Ave., Hartford, Conn. Propos-
ed by secretary.

New Members.

I take pleasure in announcing that
applicants #9 to 17 inclusive have
been found satisfactory and have
been admitted to membership.

Fraternally,

I. S. Donner, Sec.-Treas.

Sales Department.

Many members of the Empire Phil-
atelic Society have already expressed
the delight and profitable enjoyment
to be had in our Sales Department.
This promises to be one of the most
popular departments of the Society
and every member should avail him-
self of this opportunity to purchase
and to sell stamps. The rules are
printed below and further particulars
can be had upon request.

Rules.

1. All stamps must be placed in
special blank books, which hold 100
stamps, provided by the Superinten-
dent at 5c each.

2. Books must be forwarded within
two days after receipt, to next mem-
ber on circuit, and a report of total
value of stamps taken from each
book, together, with remittance for
amount of stamps purchased must be
sent direct to the Superintendent.

3. Settlement will be made with
owners of books, immediately after
books are retired. A commission of
12½% is charged on sales.

Robert A. Nash, Sales Superintendent,
3608 Lexington St., Chicago, Ill.

THE JUNIOR COLUMN

Edited by

Virgil D. Angerman,

3524 Rokeby St., — Chicago, Ill.

I have often been asked by young
collectors as to what class of stamps
they should collect. For a junior col-
lector I am always favorably inclined
to the collection of any of the old
colonials, as far less risk attaches to
the collection of these than of other
foreign countries, and for a medium
collection of these far less knowledge
is required. There is also the knowl-
edge that in the majority of cases
they will increase in value as time
goes on, as once the stamp becomes
obsolete it is merely a matter of time
for them to get scarce.

In arranging the stamps in the al-
bum, a catalogue is a necessity to
prevent the constant changing places
of stamps to get them in their right
places, and it is a good thing when
the catalogue has been obtained to
mark each space in the album with a
description of the stamp, so that it
will not be necessary to refer to the
catalogue on every occasion when you
have a stamp to insert.

Our Stamp Study Contest.

We have made this contest a little
harder than those usually given, and
we urge all our junior readers to send
in the result of their study even tho
all the words are not mastered. The
pleasure and profit that you will ob-

tain from the examination of stamps will more than offset the time required.

The contest is to tell from what stamps the following words are taken: 1. Inter Island. 2. Te Arawa. 3. Pjomistu. 4. Internal. 5. Port Cautonal. 6. Pan Americano. 7. Leber-tas. 8. Taka. 9. Vry. Five prizes are offered as follows for the best and earliest lists submitted. 1st. 300 diff. foreign stamps 2nd. a set of stamps cat. \$2.11; 3rd. 50 diff. British Colonials; 4th 1910 Collector's Own Catalogue; 5th a fine stamp cat. 25c. All replies must be received not later than July 12th.

TRADE COLUMN.

Rate—5c a line. Count seven words to a line. Cash in advance.

Wanted—Common stamps of all countries in exchange in large quantities. Send sample. Brown, St. Thomas's Square, Salisbury, England.

Exchange stamps of every country, value for value. Senf or Gibbons. Rev. J. D. Crabtree, Royal Hotel Hungaria, Budapest, Hungary.

All kinds of stamp papers wanted. Parcels bought for cash. I. S. Donner, 1643 Madison Ave., New York.

Wanted—To exchange foreign stamps for U. S. stamps, on approval sheets on an equal catalogue basis. I. S. Donner, 1643 Madison Ave., New York.

The VEST POCKET PHILATELIST

A "Multum in Parvo"

for the Stamp Collector's Vest Pocket. Sample copy for stamp. 25c annual subscription.

Free Watermark Detector.

A Benzine Cup with every subscription for the next 30 days. Ask for it.

H. A. DAVIS, Pub.,

1267 Gaylord St., Denver, Colo.

THE KITTANNING COLLECTOR, a new 20 page paper devoted to collecting and collectors in general. Small but Great. Sample copy Free. Address, W. H. Stouffer, Editor, 502 Neubert Ave., Kittanning, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA STAMP NEWS (A Philatelic Weekly)

All the stamp news of the week and many interesting articles never published in any other paper. You had better send for a sample and see. Sample for stamp. 10 weeks 10 cents. You might as well send 50 cents for a year's subscription. You will never want to miss it. Do it now.
1708 N. 18th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

WHEN YOU WANT

good stamps on approval write me, and when you have any Alaskan Yukon, Hudson Fultons, Lincoln, or 13 & 15 cent 1902 and 1909 issues
WRITE TO—

**LESLIE DAVENPORT,
BELLEVILLE, NEW JERSEY.**

POSTMARKS

Start right, and write me for approvals, price list etc., enclosing a red stamp. I CAN PLEASE YOU.

**H. K. THOMPSON,
47 Mass. Ave., Boston, Mass.**

500 MIXED, over 50 var. and 250 hinges 10c. 50 var. U. S. 9c. 100 var. World Wide 4c. 50 var. South of U. S. 19c. Approvals 60%. A. M. Wright, 5ept. E, 37 Norton St., Dorchester, Mass.

GREAT VALUE! CAN YOU USE?

Venezuela off. #300-1 unused cat. 25c for 6c; Venezuela #146 unused, cat. 10c for 2c; 8 var. Prussia Officials unused, cat. 10c for 5c; 4 var. Persia 292-6 unused cat. 19c for 5c; 3 var. Panama 181-2-3 unused cat. 59c for 20c; Malay @14 unused cat. 25c for 5c; Guatemala 114-123 bi-color complete cat. 1.54 for 40c; 10c orange Cuba, special delivery unused cat. 12c for 5c. Fine approvals at 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % discount. Reference.

M. OHLMAN,

19 East 98 St., N. Y. City.

BEAUTIFULLY COLORED VIEW CARDS OF PHILADELPHIA.

The "Birthplace of the Nation"—The city without an equal for pretty scenery; with its magnificent buildings, historical places such as Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, Liberty Bell etc. Wild Shaded Avenues, and Fairmount the LARGEST and HANDSOMEST Park in the World; with its many pretty drives, glens, handsome lakes and waterfalls.

These cards are without an equal and are as true to nature as art and skill can make them, a card that framed would defy you to tell from an oil painting.

While present lot lasts will sell—

5 ALL DIFFERENT FOR 10 CENTS.

10 ALL DIFFERENT FOR 18 CENTS.

20 ALL DIFFERENT FOR 30 CENTS.

NOTE—SEND ME REQUEST ON CARD FROM YOUR CITY AND I WILL MAIL YOU SAMPLE CARD.

We also have handsome views of **CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY**, located just across the Delaware river, opposite Philadelphia, it abounds in beauty, all of which is handsomely portrayed on our cards. We make a special of 15 views for 20c.

For those who may desire them we can secure 10 good views of **ATLANTIC CITY**, the world's greatest watering place for 20c.

WILLIAM H. GREEN

515 S. 7th St., Camden, N. J.

STAMPS**Packets.**

100 no two alike	10c
300 no two alike	50c
50 diff. Persia	90c
35 diff. Australia	25c

SETS.**Austria Jubilees.**

11 var. 11c; 14 var. 27c; 15 var. 40c.

Nyassaland—1901.

7 var. 17c; 10 var. 40c; 14 var. 80c.

Canada King—1901-7.

5 var. 6c; 7 var. 22c.

Columbian, U. S.

1c to 10c, set 22c; 1c to 50c set \$1.65.

Coin and stamp premium guide 10c.

Try our approval sheets at 50%.

Postage extra on orders less than 25c.

Foreign postage extra.

Maplewood Money & Stamp Co.,
5150 S. Maplewood Ave., Chicago, Ill.

SPECIAL OFFER—A RARE BRITISH HONDURAS STAMP FREE TO ALL NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

U. S. IMPERFORATES

		With line between
1909 Issue		
1c	1½c each	2c each
2c	2½c each	3c each
3c	4c each	5c each
4c	5c each	6½c each
5c	6c each	8c each
Yukon or Hudson	2½c each	3½c ea.
Lincoln	4c each	6c each
13c Sea Green, perforated	17c.	each.
10c Green Special Delivery	13c each.	
Good approvals at 50% discount.		

INDEPENDENT STAMP CO.,

3637 Maple Square Ave., Chicago, Ill.

200 ALL DIFFERENT FOREIGN STAMPS 10c. 50 U. S. 7c; 30 Sweden 10c 25 Japan 10c; 5 unused Venezuela official 1904 25c; 50 Australia revenue, :11 diff. 12c. 10 Turkey 6c. Approvals at 60%. Send reference.

F. L. TOUPAL,

Chicago Heights, —

Ill.

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST

Vol. 1. July - Aug., 1910. No. 5-6

CONTENTS.

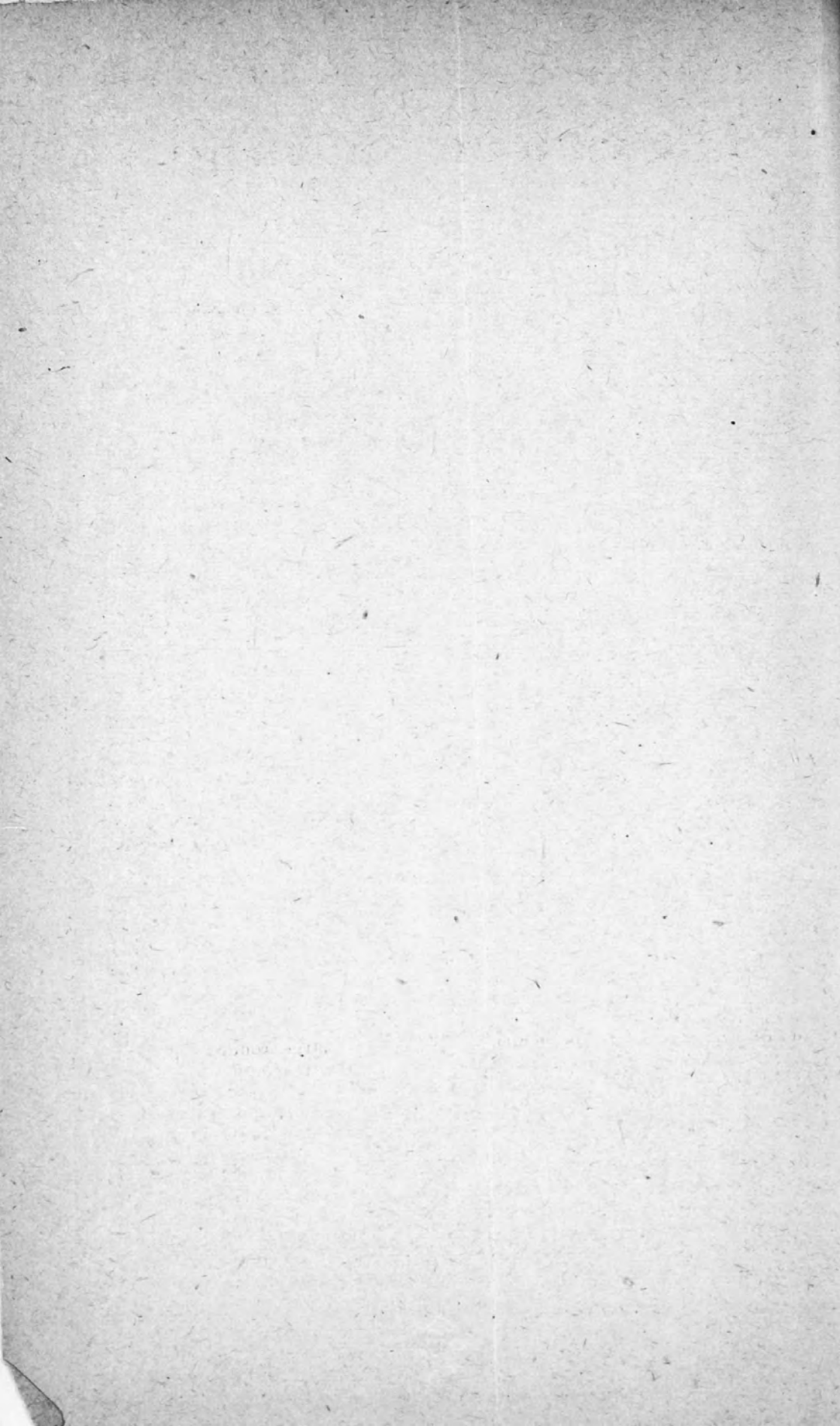
- 
- The Stamps of Papua.
New Issues and Varieties.
Morroccan Locals.
Philatelic Notes.
Press Review.
The Junior Column.
E. P. S. Report.
Etc., Etc., Etc.



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

I. S. DONNER,

1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.



The Empire Philatelist

VOL. 1.

JULY - AUG., 1910.

No. 5 - 6.

The Stamps of Papua

With Especial References to the Various Types of Postmarks.

It may be thought that specialism in the case of the stamps of a country like Papua is impossible. However, a good deal can be done with the used stamps, even though the stamps in an unused condition present few, if any, variations of importance, excepting that sets can be made on thick and on much thinner paper. The stamps in used condition are by no means common, and in the case of some varieties of postmark are only to be obtained after considerable search.

For some time the stamps of Queensland were used in the territory. These can be identified by the postmarks, which are B N G surrounded by bars, "Port Moresby," or "Samarai."

Such stamps, however, belong more properly to a collection of Queensland stamps, just as British stamps used in Malta and only distinguishable by the postmark would appear to belong to a collection of Great Britain rather than of Malta.

It was in or about July, 1901, that a special set of stamps was first issued, bearing the well-known picture of a native canoe in full sail. The set consisted of seven values, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., and 1s., which were engraved in *taille-douce* and printed by Messrs. De La Rue and Co., on paper watermarked with *quatre-foils*; the perforation is the usual 14 gauge.

The stamps are arranged in small sheets of thirty, 6x5, with guide lines at each corner and in the centre of each margin, to ensure correct centering of the middle of the design, which is printed at a separate opera-

tion.

In 1905 the further value of a 2s. 6d. stamp was issued.

These stamps vary but little in shade, with the exception of the 2½d. value, which can be found in a peculiar dull blue colour, which is quite distinct from the ordinary bright ultramarine shade.

The postmarks which may be found on this issue are as follows:—

I. The letters B N G surrounded by bars. This is the commonest obliteration, and often covers the greater part of the stamp, so as to make the design almost indistinguishable.

II. The name of the town, e. g. "Port Moresby" or "Kokoda," along the upper half of a circle, and "British New Guinea" along the lower half of the circle, with the date across the centre. This obliteration was in use from at least February, 1903, till some time in 1906, but appears to be scarcer than Type I.

III. This is the same as Type II, except that in consequence of the territory having become part of the Commonwealth of Australia under the name of Papua, the word "Papua" takes the place of "British New Guinea" along the lower half of the circle, with a large round stop both before and after "Papua."

This is the type of postmark which is at present in use, and is found on the unsurcharged stamps used previously to the surcharging of the stamps with the word "Papua," as well as on the surcharged issues.

IV. This type is uncommon, and consists of the word "Registered" and the name of the place in capital letters, it was used at Samarai, and

possibly at other places also.

On 8 November, 1906, the stamps were issued surcharged with the word "Papua," in accordance with the change of the designation of the territory on joining the Commonwealth, as previously mentioned.

This surcharging was done in Australia, at first with large type and later with considerably smaller and thinner type.

All the values of the set are known with the large surcharge. Most of them, however, are already obsolete, for all the values have been issued since about June, 1907, with the small surcharge except the 2d. and 2½-stamps.

So far no varieties of surcharge of any importance have been chronicled with the exception that on each sheet of thirty stamps with the small surcharge there are three stamps with an inverted "d" instead of "p" in "Papua." These stamps are Nos. 10, 16, and 21 on the sheet, and would appear to be quite as deserving of catalogue rank as some of the varieties listed under "Morocco Agencies."

Most of the stamps of this colony can be obtained at present with some search, but several are already getting scarce, notably the 2s. 6d. unsurcharged stamp and the 4d. stamp with large surcharge.

Collectors who wish to specialize in the more recent colonial stamps might do worse than choose the stamps of Papua, which are strikingly different from the ordinary King's Head type.—G. S. W.

YOUR ADVERTISEMENT

Of 40 words or less will be inserted in 1000 copies of THE ATTLEBORO ADVERTISER, for the small sum of 10 per cent, providing you will mail 100 copies to your friends.

Can you advertise any cheaper?

Address—

A. A., Box 614, Attleboro, Mass.

TEN BILLION STAMPS.

That is the Estimated Number Needed to Supply Country Next Year.

Washington, D. C.—Approximately ten billion postage stamps will be used by the people of this country during the next fiscal year, according to the estimate of the Postmaster General.

The figures, which show an increase all along the line, follow:

One cent, 4,024,000,000; 2-cent, 5,322,300,000; 3-cent, 66,700,000; 4-cent, 94,800,000; 5-cent, 80,900,000; 13-cent, 4,800,000; 15-cent, 12,900,000; 50-cent, 700,000; \$1, 100,000.

Special delivery, 15,000,000.

Postage due—1 cent, 11,300,000; 2-cent, 30,900,000; 3-cent, 700,000; 5-cent, 1900; 10-cent, 5,700,000; 30-cent, 10,000; 50-cent, 10,000.

Books—Containing 24 1-cent, 7,000,000; 12 2-cent, 14,000,000; 24 2-cent, 4,100,000; 48 2-cent, 1,400,000.

FIRST POSTAL BANK STAMP

Will Be Used on Official Mail in Conducting System.

Washington, D. C.—The first distinctive stamp for the postal savings bank system has been approved by Postmaster General Hitchcock. It is an unpretentious looking sticker, resembling an ordinary two-cent stamp, except that it has no portrait upon it. It will be used exclusively on the official mail in conducting the postal savings system.

The first order for 500,000 of these stamps has been given. The money value of 2 cents each is placed upon the stamps in order that an account may be kept of the expense attending the administration of the postal savings banks. Until the system is installed the stamps will be used exclusively on the official mail of the Board of Trustees.

MOROCCAN LOCALS.**Counterfeits of Mogador-Marakech
1895.**

—Percy McGraw Mann—

It is surprising to the side line collector, who may think he is the only one in the field, to discover there are many other collectors who are just as much interested in the same stamps as he. And there must be many stamp collectors who collect and specialize the local intercity stamps of Morocco. In answer to a notice I have received about twenty-five requests to explain the differences between the genuine and counterfeit Mogador-Marakech issue of 1895.

Without a further introduction, as we know these stamps are used to pay postage on letters carried by private mail companies between Moroccan cities, and incidentally for sale to collectors, I will proceed to give and show a means of detecting the spurious from the real.

The most sure and quickest test is:

The lines of shading in the West side label containing the word Mogador are continuous from border line to border line through the G of Mogador on the counterfeits, while on the genuine the lines through the G are broken and hardly show outside the letter. In the genuine there are five windows in the building pictured at the bottom of the stamp just above the label containing the native inscription, while on the counterfeits there are no windows.

The general appearance of the lettering on the counterfeits is poor, especially the M and R of Mogador. The ornaments at the top on both sides beneath the stars are smaller, the paper is whiter and the gum is smoother on the counterfeits, and the width is 23mm. instead of 22mm.—*Phila. Stamp News.*

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES.

The kindly help of our readers is solicited to assist us to report early any new issues or variety of old issues

brought to light. Such information being duly credited to our correspondent.

Argentina Republic.

Gibbons' Stamp Weekly chronicles the new set issued to commemorate the centenary of this country's independence. It consists of the ½c. bright and dull blue; 1c. black and blue green; 2c. black and olive; 3c. bright green; 4c. blue-green, and blue; 5c. carmine; 10c. black and brown; 12c. blue; 20c. black and sepia; 24c. steel blue and brown; 30c. black and lilac; 50c. black and rose; 1p. deep blue; 5p. purple and orange; 10p. black and orange; and 20p. black and dull blue.

Bolivia.

Mekeel's Weekly reports two more values of the commemorative set. 1b. dark brown and black (Bolivar) and 2b. violet brown and black (Belgrano).

Dominican Republic.

Gibbon's Stamp Weekly reports the 5c. official on watermarked paper.

Northern Nigeria.

Mekeel's Weekly reports the following values in the new colors: 2d. gray; 2½c. ultramarine; 5d. lilac and olive; 6d. violet; 1s. black on green; 2s6d. carmine and black on blue; 10s. carmine and green on green.

Russia.

Gibbons' Stamp Weekly lists the current type 1 rouble stamp with intersecting lines of varnish.

Uruguay.

Two new stamps have been issued to commemorate the centenary of Independence. 2c. carmine, and 5c. dark blue.

A decided improvement in the Empire Philatelist is noticed in the June issue, containing 12 pages and being more substantial in all respects than any number previous. —Attleboro Philatelist.

THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST.

Published Monthly by
I. S. DONNER,
 1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Official Organ
 The Empire Philatelic Society.

Subscription price 15c per year.
 Canada & Foreign 25c.

Advertising Rates—One inch 60c;
 one page \$7.00. Send for liberal con-
 tract rates.

Exchange desired with philatelic
 papers.

EDITORIALS.

We were obliged to make this issue a double number in order to have future issues appear on time. All subscriptions will be extended one month.



Starting with the September issue, the subscription price will be raised to 25 cents per year. The extensive improvements which we will institute warrant the increase. Four or more pages will be added to our regular size and articles by the best known writers will be published. No expense will be spared to make this one of the best philatelic magazines issued.



The J. M. Bartels Co., located in Boston for the last nine years have removed on July 1st to New York City. They occupy rooms 217 and 218 in the Bennett Building where they will be glad to welcome their numerous patrons and business acquaintances.

On August 18th Austria issued a set of stamps to commemorate the occasion of the Emperor's 80th Birthday. The present designs and values were used with the dates "1830-1910" added.



A philatelic directory of the world is now in preparation listing collectors, dealers, philatelic societies and publications. Any person or firms desiring to be listed in the directory may do so by addressing F. Percy Collingwood, Attleboro, Mass.



Collectors who do not receive "A. C. Roesslers Stamp News" are missing a treat. The September issue is replete with interesting news written in Mr. Roessler's facile style, and wonderful bargains.



Starting with the September issue we will devote an entire page each month to auctions and auctioneers. Dealers are requested to send catalogued priced and unpriced, for mention on this page. All dealers who will thus favor us will be placed on our exchange list.



Mr. A. W. Dunning has resigned from the presidency of the Hobby Club and as a result all directing offices have been dropped.

LIBERIA.

15 different, fine desirable stamps, including 12 and 24c, 1880, used, catalog \$1.35. These two stamps are worth the price asked for the entire set. Special only 70c. You should take advantage of this offer at once.
Bargain Lists Free.

GEO. E. HAYNES STAMP CO.,
 North Toledo, — Ohio.

PHILATELIC NOTES.

Paraguay has issued five values of a new set. They are: 1c gray black; 10c green; 20c rose; 50c carmine, and 75c blue. The stamps are lithographed and perforated 11½.

The value of the stamp collection owned by the Postal Government is modestly estimated at \$200,000, but it would bring many times that if placed on the market.

The first stamped wrapper was issued by the United States in 1857. The example was followed by New South Wales in 1864, Germany in 1868, and Victoria in 1869.

On July 13th, United States Labrador stamps with a face value of \$400,000 were seized by the representatives of the Federal Government in Montreal on the suspicion that they were forgeries. The stamps were in 25c, 50c and \$1 denominations.

On August 16th, the American Philatelic Society and United States Revenue Society held their conventions in Hotel Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan. Full particulars will be given in our next issue.

The publication office of the "Kittanning Collector" has been removed from Kittanning, Pa., to Ulysses, Neb.

Never Before and Never Again

Will you have a chance like this: Send 15c for a years subscription to THE SOUTHERN PHILATELIST and receive absolutely **FREE** a fine packet stamps (China, Greece, Gabon, Newfoundland, Bulgaria, etc). This is a very special offer made to YOU, and YOU should take advantage of it. Don't fail to subscribe TO-DAY.

LEON CARTER GROSJEAN,
1227 Oakland St., Shreveport, La.

COLLECTORS!

We will give free a fine stamp cat. from 15c to 25c to all collectors sending for our fine 50% approval books. Remit 2c for postage.

PACKETS!

100 diff. stamps cat. 2 to 10c ea. .\$.75
150 diff. stamps cat. 2 to 25c each 1.25
200 diff. stamps cat. 2 to 50c each 3.00
250 diff. stamps cat. 2 to 1.00 ea. 5.00

H. J. SCHMIDT STAMP CO.,
3015 Southport Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**BEAT THIS.**

1000 "Favorite" Hinges. (Reg. price 10c.)
Malay #14, cat. 25c
and Venezuela #146 cat. 10c. ALL for only 10c.
silver and 2c postage.
100 Japan stamps (10 var.) cat. \$2.20, 25c.

5 choice stamps, cat. 50 cents 7c.

VIRGIL D. ANGERMAN,
3524 Rokeby St., Chicago, Ill.

500 MIXED, over 50 var. and 250 hinges 10c. 50 var. U. S. 9c. 100 var. World Wide 4c. 50 var. South of U. S. 19c. Approvals 60%. A. M. Wright, Dept. E, 37 Norton St., Dorchester, Mass.

200 ALL DIFFERENT FOREIGN STAMPS 10c. 50 U. S. 7c; 30 Sweden 10c; 20 Japan 10c; 5 unused Venezuela official 1904 25c; 50 Australia revenue, all diff. 12c. 10 Turkey 6c. Approvals at 60%. Send reference.

F. L. TOUPAL,
Chicago Heights, Ill.

LOOK!

For 5c we will send 50 used stamps, 5 unused stamps, \$1.00 U. S. stamp, 3 U. S. Revenues price lists and stamp album. **All for 5c.**

Extra Premium for Promptness.
Best 50% approvals. Reference desired. **Lenox Stamp Co., 1019 Lenox Place, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

PRESS REVIEW.

The Stamp Journal for July contains William Evan's installment of his treatise on Panama stamps, "Stamps on Original Covers" by Charles Grattan, a page of "National News" by Mr. Chas. R. Morris, and the complete revenue department by Chas. A. Nast.

The New Issue Department, edited by Henry M. Wichman, is the leading article in the August issue of the Hobbyist. An article dealing with the Salvador 15th Sept. 1909, bogus overprints, completes the number.

The Vest Pocket Philatelist for August contains a continuation of Dr. Davis's article on "The Stamps of the United States" and gives some information about the 5 cent value which should be noted by every collector. How philatelists can stop the issuing of speculative stamps is told by I. C. Hull, in "Speculative Issues."

The Stamp Collector. The August issue contains a complete check list of Philatelic Publications in the English language issued during the year 1909. Mr. William I. Kin, the popular editor of the former "Billikin Philatelic Magazine" contributes a few pages of philatelic nonsense. A column of New York notes by Capt. Charles King, and the usual departments make up a number well worth while.

The Attleboro Philatelist for July contains the second installment of the "Catalog of the Pre-cancelled Stamps of America," a well written New Issue Chronicle, and "Belgium Charity Stamps" besides a number of short stamp notes.

JULIAN T. BABER

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THE JUNIOR COLUMN

Edited by

Virgil D. Angerman,

3524 Rokeby St., — Chicago, Ill.

There is a class of stamps that I always advise the junior collector to be very careful with, the stamps of Nicaragua and Salvador, and various other South American States printed merely for sale to stamp collectors. These stamps, being of attractive designs, look very well in albums, and no doubt for the varieties that can be obtained for 2c. each are worth that sum; for one thing, they are necessary to complete the collections, and it is very improbable that in the years to come, that they will still be printed, and most probably will then have a distinct rise in value. It is, however, against the high values of this class of stamps that I would warn the reader, as although I know in some quarters these stamps are being sold at considerably over their face value, they can also be obtained from many of the leading dealers at a fraction of their face value.

OUR MONTHLY CONTEST.

We were greatly pleased with the interest shown in the stamp contest last month. The replies were very gratifying. The names of the winners will be published in the next issue.

The contest this month is to tell on what stamps the following animals appear:—1. An owl; 2. An otter; 3. A crane; 4. A sea-horse; 5. An

apteryx; 6. A ptarmigan; 7. A Lyre Bird; 8. A Lemur.

The following prizes will be awarded for the earliest and most meritorious answers: 1st. A packet of twenty unused French Colonials; 2. A packet of 14 varieties unused Cuban stamps; 3rd. A set of four unused Persian stamps; 4th. An unused Nicaraguan stamp, catalogued at \$.25.

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THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST.

Applications.

21. H. Lee Moore, Rupert, Vt. Student, Reference, Granville National Bank. Proposed by Secretary.

22. Max Van Why, 106 Charles St., New York. Reference, Press Pub. Co. of New York. Proposed by Secretary.

23. Rasmus Bartleson, Sunbeam, Minn. Reference, M. P. A. and J. P. S. Proposed by Secretary.

24. M. Meyers, Box 1974, Boston, Mass. Proposed by Secretary.

The above will be admitted to membership within 20 days providing no objection is filed with the secretary.

New Members.

We beg to inform our fellow members that applicants nos. 18 to 20 inclusive have been found satisfactory and have been admitted to membership.

Announcement.

We take pleasure in announcing that Mr. Rasmus Bartleson, of Sunbeam, Minn., has accepted the office of International Secretary of the E. P. S. Mr. Bartleson is a well-known collector both here and abroad, being

a member of the Junior Philatelic Society, The Denmark Philatelic Society, Metropolitan Philatelic Society, Hobby Club, and Swedish Philatelic Society. He corresponds in English, German, Norwegian, and Swedish.

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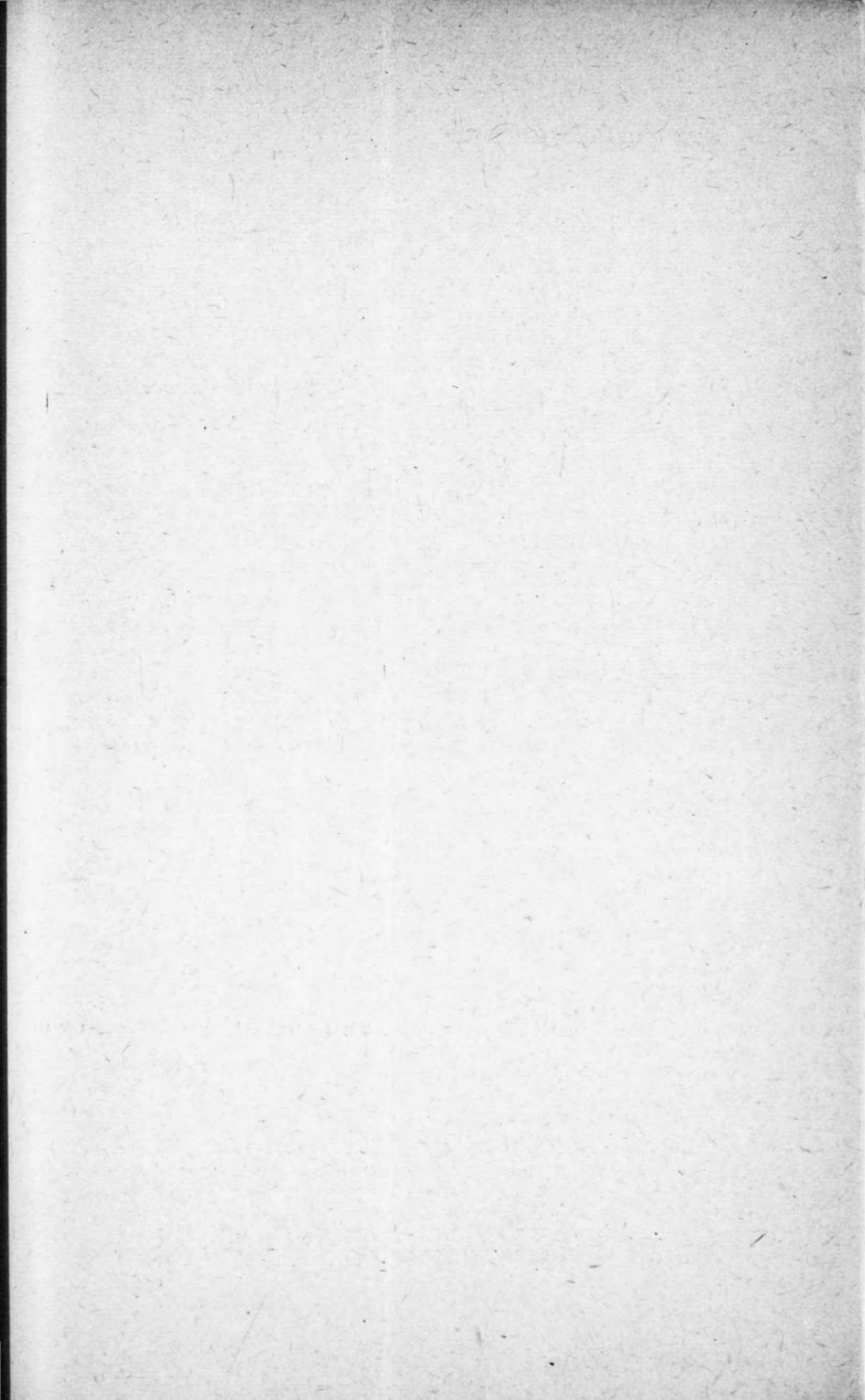
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THE EMPIRE PHILATELIST

Vol. 1. January, 1911. No. 7.

CONTENTS.

- 
- The Cape 'Woodblock' Stamps.
 - Progress of Philately.
 - Some U. S. Reprints.
 - Promising Stamps.
 - Philatelic Notes.
 - Press Review.
 - E. P. S. Reports.
 - Etc., Etc., Etc.



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The Empire Philatelist

VOL. I.

JANUARY, 1911.

No. 7.

The Cape "Woodblock" Stamps.

By B. T. K. Smith.

These stamps were issued in 1861, when the stock of London-printed 1d and 4d stamps was temporarily exhausted, and it was deemed necessary to have recourse to a locally-manufactured issue to tide over the difficulty. They were made by Messrs. Saul Solomon & Co., of Cape Town. The original dies—one for each value—are said by one writer to have been engraved on wood by the late Mr. Charles Bell, the Surveyor-General of Cape Colony, and had this been the case the traditional name ascribed to the stamps would have been correct; the fact that they were actually printed from stereotypes made from the original engravings, does not affect the question. It is now clear, however, from a recent article in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* that the usually accepted statement is the correct one, namely that the dies were engraved on steel and are preserved with the stereotype plates in the South African Museum, Cape Town. In making up the plates (each of which contained 64 stamps), one of the 1 penny stereotypes was placed by mistake among the fourpenny stereotypes, and *vice versa*, so that when the plates were printed from, each sheet of 1 penny stamps contained an error of 4 pence, *red*, and each sheet of fourpenny stamps an error of 1 penny, *blue*.

Writing in 1906, I suggested that the official statement that the stamps were issued on April 10th-12th, 1861,

was incorrect, and this suggestion was fully borne out by Mr. Castle's article in the *London Philatelist* of the following year. I pointed out that specimens were known postmarked 26th March, 1861, and he gives an even earlier date, viz., a specimen of the 4d, pale blue, postmarked 9th March, 1861. Basing his estimates upon the average consumption of stamps during the preceding years, Mr. Castle believes that the total issue of "woodblocks" was not 37,500, but about seven times that figure. Instead therefore, of a total number (calculated from the official statement) of 586 "woodblock errors" the number of errors may roughly be put at 4,000.

It is possible, however, that this estimate is, in its turn, excessive, because the scarcer *brick-red* and 4d *dark blue* are believed by Mr. Castle to be the last printings, and to have been made from the plates as they exist now, that is to say with the errors corrected. At all events, no 1d *dark blue* or 4d *brick-red* errors are known to exist. We may, therefore, make a revised estimate, and assume that the number of errors printed was over 3,000. As to the relative proportion in which the 1d blue and 4d red errors occur we have no guide; in Mr. Castle's opinion the latter is considerably rarer than the former.

Of the normal "woodblocks" no fewer than 200 specimens were shown by a single exhibitor at the London

Philatelic Exhibition of 1906, and although used copies of the "woodblock errors" are certainly very scarce, they are not in the first rank of rarities. It is only when the errors remain attached to one or more of the normal stamps that they may be regarded as belonging to the class in question. According to Mr. Castle, only four or five specimens of each error are known *se tenant* with the ordinary stamps. On the other hand, in unused condition the errors are all but unknown. Mr. Castle, indeed, doubted the existence of the 1d blue unused, and although the writer in *Gibbons Weekly* now vouches for the existence of a specimen, together with an unused copy of the 4d red unused, both of which he saw "a little over thirty years ago . . . in a Lallier," the fact remains that only one unused "error" has been brought to the general knowledge of collectors, viz., the 4d red, formerly in the Hughes collection, and sold some eighteen years ago to a well-known philatelist. "I believe," writes Mr. Castle, "£500 was paid for this stamp, but it is assuredly many times rarer than a Post Office Mauritius, and was cheap even at that figure, according to modern ideas." The same writer states that the 4d blue, with the "retouched" corner is unknown unused, and that of the 4d in the dark blue shade only two unused copies can be traced.

In March, 1883, the Cape officials ordered a re-impression of the "woodblocks" to be made, and 195 or more sheets of each value were reprinted. They were on smooth wove paper, instead of the laid paper of the originals, being a deep bright red for the 1d and indigo for the 4d. In the already-mentioned article in *Gibbons Weekly* there are photographs of the stereotype plates as they now exist, that is to say as they were used for reprinting, but although a sentiment-

tal curiosity attaches to these illustrations, they are valueless from the point of view of philatelic research, and form a poor substitute for what we should have desired to see—photographs of the sheets of reprints themselves. They show what we already knew, namely that two stereotypes were removed from the 1d plate and one from the 4d plate, and since it was also well-known that the 4d with the "retouched" corner was missing from the reprinted sheets, we did not need to be told that it was the "retouched" stereotype and not the 1d "error" that was removed before reprinting, or, in other words, that the "4d red" stereotype (and probably, therefore, the "1d blue" stereotype also), was put back on its proper plate. It is true that the writer of the article goes further and professes to identify the very 4d stereotype that originally produced the error of that value, but his identification can hardly be followed by the reader who has only the reproductions in question to aid him.

Looking over some old price-lists, I find that the ordinary "woodblocks" scarcely rose in value from 1864 to 1882; in the former year they were priced at 2s. to 2s. 6d. and in the latter from 3s. to 3s. 6d. each. Early in the nineties their value grew rapidly, and in 1895 they were quoted at about £4 for the 1d. and £2 for the 4d., or about two-thirds of the present catalogue quotations. Early records of the prices of the errors are not numerous, but I bought in 1867 a 4d. red for 10s., and in 1868-9 I priced both the 1d. blue and 4d. red at £2 10s. od. each. The present catalogue quotations are £75 and £85 respectively.

PROGRESS OF PHILATELY.

During the past few years philately has made great strides, till to-day it is surely the most popular hobby there is. When I say popular I do not mean that the devotees of it outnumber those of any other hobby; this I should not care to say, especially in a paper which reserves part of its space to post-card collecting, the adherents of which can also be counted in thousands; the popularity of philately is manifest by the great interest and pride that followers show in their stamps.

An ardent philatelist is never tired of eulogizing his hobby, even should his listeners not be quite so rapturous over it, as he himself is. However, let me not discuss the merits of stamp collecting, else I may offend the cartophilic section of my readers, and as many of us also have an interest in their hobby, it behoves me to be careful in my remarks.

It is quite evident, the number of collectors is increasing. One great reason for this is, that the beginner now receives more attention than was formerly the case. At one time the philatelic literature appealed to no one but the experienced collector; consequently there was little encouragement given to the beginner. Then suddenly philatelists awoke to the fact, that if their hobby was to advance, they must help those starting.

The result has been that the juniors of both sexes, have had, through the pages of the different philatelic magazines, practical advice given them, and with this, and a natural desire to possess some hobby their interest has

been turned towards stamp collecting. The proprietors of boys' books have also realized that amongst their readers there are bound to be many who have an interest in stamps; for this reason they have apportioned a small part of their space to stamp matter. All this has helped to swell our ranks, and it can safely be said that there are now six philatelists, where a few years ago, there was only one or two.

However, we must not be satisfied with our present position, good as it undoubtedly is, so let all advanced collectors, that is those who have got over the elementary part, and are enjoying the pleasures of this fascinating hobby; all of which will fan the spark of enthusiasm into flaming point.

—E. Weiss.

SOME UNITED STATES RE-PRINTS.

Eugene Klein.

With the awakened interest in United States stamps, the demand for re-prints and reissues has also risen. Now the collector finds that most of these long-neglected stamps are rare; some varieties, indeed, are very hard to obtain. The following are some of the most interesting ones:

1847 Issue. These stamps, as well known, are really imitations printed from plates which were prepared from new dies by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. According to official records (see Luff's United States), 4779 of the 5c and 3883 of the 10c were sold. The 5c is known in about a half dozen well-pronounced shades and also on laid paper. These shades have been much sought after in late years, and many were absorb-

(Continued on page 47).

THE EMPIRE PHILATEIST.

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EDITORIALS.



We wish to inform our readers and the philatelic public in general that henceforth the EMPIRE PHILATELIST will be issued regularly on the 20th of each month.



The career of this journal has heretofore been somewhat varied. After being issued five times, it was purchased by the BOYS' NEWS and combined with the latter. But now it is again in the hands of the original publisher who hopes with the aid of his associate, Mr. Edward Weiss, and his philatelic friends all over the world, to produce a better paper than ever.



This month we are making a special appeal to our readers. We want your help to increase our circulation. Every stamp collector has many friends who are also collectors, for that is one of the mainstays of our hobby, and every subscriber to the EMPIRE PHILATELIST must also

have many such friends. We want you to ask them to subscribe. Either tell them to write for a specimen copy or induce them to send in their subscription then and there. Thank you.



Without any previous announcement, the current U. S. stamps began to appear on a brand new watermark. The letters of this watermark are smaller than the old, the idea being that one letter shall appear plainly on each stamp. The new letters are also single lined instead of double-lined. It is believed that the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 15c have already been printed upon this new paper.



It is announced with considerable positiveness, that an entirely new issue for the U. S. will take place before long.



The remainders of the Ecuador 1907 tri-angular issue and many of the more recent Hayti remainders have been acquired by A. Mahler of Hamburg.



The 2c Cuba surcharged on U. S. inverted, have come from several sources, but all have turned out to be forgeries.



According to the Philatelic Gazette, the 3c, re-engraved Cuba of the 1907-07 issue, regarding which a number of extensive detailed notices have appeared in the philatelic press lately, does NOT exist.

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PROMISING STAMPS.

Promising stamps which are worth gathering in quantity are continually suggesting themselves to the catalogue student; of these the 25c Morocco Agencies is a good example, since it is now much less used than formerly on account of the penny rate to that British possession. There are dozens of other stamps of similar promise which a diligent study of the catalogue will reveal, stamps whose circulation is affected by altered postal rates, changes in local currency and other influences. It is the student alone who marks these influences and is likely to profit by them.

The matter of condition should be in the forefront in every purchase, for fine copies not only command higher prices but also sell more readily if a sale be desired. A fine copy of an old French stamp was recently sold at auction in Paris for about four times its catalogue value, an incident which throws a light on the importance of perfect specimens. Many a collector will give a longer price than the figures currently quoted in order to get first rate copies; inferior specimens usually both prove an eyesore and are difficult to sell even at a low figure. The day has gone by when torn, mutilated or disfigured stamps were viewed as acceptable representatives of the postal issues of the country of their origin; everybody now wants perfect copies, and the stamp gatherer must accordingly trim his sails to this breeze.

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PRESS REVIEW.

The Philatelic Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 4, December, 1910, contains a portrait and short biography of that veteran New York philatelist, Mr. John Walter Scott, the first installment of "The Postal Issues of the Philippines" by Major F. L. Palmer, and numerous other articles and notes on U. S. envelopes and stamps.

The SOUTHERN PHILATELIST, Vol. 2, No. 5, December, 1910, contains the first installment of the "Autobiography of an Ecuador Stamp" by L. P. Miller, a well written press review by J. Clifford Safley, an up-to-date New Issue page, and is replete with many short notes of current interest.

"Some thoughts on Specialism" by Julian Park FRPS is the leading article of the December STAMP COLLECTOR. Besides the usual up-to-the-standard auction and new issue departments, there is the story of the discovery of the Louisiana Exposition Part Perforate by A. W. Weigel. Mr. W. R. Rickett continues his check list of the philatelic publications in the English language issued during 1909.

Philadelphia Stamp News, Vol. 1, No. 41, Jan. 6, 1911, contains an exhaustive article by the editor on the "Graduating Shades in French Stamps," and some notes on the New York Postmaster's Provisional, Five Cent Black, 1845, by O. S. Hart.

The New York Philatelist, for December, comes to hand with 8 pages. "Philately, or Stamp Collecting," is the leading article by Nathan Hayman, in which the author gives the origin of philately. A number of short stamp notes and a press review completes the number.

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THE 1870 ISSUE OF FRANCE.

ed by collectors. One may frequently find from three to six copies of shades of the 5c represented in collections in which a single copy of the 10c is found sufficient. This, no doubt, accounts for the fact that the 5c is becoming much scarcer than the 10c.

1857 Issue, 5c, types II and III. Total issue, 878 copies. As four rows of each sheet were composed of type II, the number issued was about 292. This, therefore, ought to be the rarest of the set, which it no doubt is. The writer regrets never having seen a copy. The relative scarcity of the stamps of this issue in ascending order is as follows: 1s, 5c type III, 10c, 12c, 30c, 3c, 24c, 90c, and 5c type II.

1883 Special Printing 2c. Only 55 copies were sold, which included the imperforate between pairs (Scott's No. 211c.). Of the latter probably nine or ten pairs exist, reducing the number of the normal variety to about 37. The stamp, therefore, is decidedly underpriced in the catalogs, which places a value of \$20 on it. The same may be said of the rarest special printing, the 4c, of which only 26 copies were sold.

A sure test to distinguish the 1870 lithographed issue of France from the other stamps of the same general design is by the shading under the eye, which slants downward from left to right in the 1870 issue, and from right to left in the others.

The 3 cent Java orange is worth full catalogue price and at that it is very hard to get. The same can also be said of Dutch Indies No. 65.

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Look—For 125 to 300 good stamps, I give 125 to 300 Montenegro, Servia, Bulgaria, Kreta, etc. Al. Glassbourg, 846 St. Dominique, Montreal, Canada.

Wanted—To exchange stamps with collectors, offer medium. Scott's 1911 used. I. S. Donner, 1643 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Exchange wanted in medium stamps with collectors all over the world. E. Weiss, 1499 Third Ave., New York, N. Y.

We are giving original covers from D. W. I., stock books; a stamp cataloging \$1.00; or unused set of Ecuador, cat. \$1.00; 1000 imported hinges in metal box; a set cat. \$2.11, etc., for a year's subscription. Full list in January issue.

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