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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL

OF THE

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

Editor:

M. P. CASTLE

HON. VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

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CONTENTS.

LEADERS.

Collectors and Collectors !, 117.
Imperial Stamp Dealers !, 91.
North Borneo Stamps, 167.
Postage Dues, 253.
Self-Protection !, 207.
The Catalogue of the Future, 61.
The Collecting of Entires, 187.
The Manchester Philatelic Congress and the Postal Union, 275.
The New Year, 1.
The Philatelic Congress, 31.
,, ,, of 1910, 227.
The Reid Collection, 139.

PLATE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Victoria. Facing page 254.

ARTICLES.

Abnormal Plate-varieties of the Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain, 65.
Adhesive Stamps of Portugal, The, 170.
Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition, The, 151.
Appointment of a New Committee for the Royal Philatelic Society's Collection, 276.
A Remarkable Find in New South Wales Essays, 168.
Australian Postage Dues: What are they?, 237.
British South African Co., Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the, 12, 44, 71, 99, 189.
Exhibition and Congress, The Manchester Philatelic, 32.
Exhibition, The Amsterdam Philatelic, 151.
,, The Newcastle Philatelic, 95.
Great Britain, Abnormal Plate-varieties of the Surface-printed Stamps of, 65.
Great Britain, 1839–40, Note on an Essay of 1d. Stamp, 92.
London Stamp Auctions, The, 149.
Manchester Philatelic Exhibition and Congress, The, 32.
Mirabaud Stamp Auction at Paris, The, 118.
Newcastle Philatelic Exhibition, The, 95.
New South Wales Essays, A Remarkable Find in, 168.
Note on an Essay of 1d. Stamp, Great Britain, 1839–40, 92.
Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South African Co., 12, 44, 71, 99, 189.
,, Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad, 1852 to 1860, 208, 228.
Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, London, 1910, The Second, 235.
Portugal, The Adhesive Stamps of, 170.
Postage Dues (Australian): What are they?, 237.
Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908, 7, 39, 74.
Royal Philatelic Society's Collection, Appointment of a New Committee, 276.
Stamp Auctions, The London, 149.
,, ,, at Paris, The Mirabaud, 118.
Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908, Retouches of the, 7, 39, 74.
The Display of "Twelve Interesting Varieties," 2.
The Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, London, 1910, 235.
The Sixpence Stamps (1854 and 1861) of Victoria, 254.
Trinidad, Notes on the Lithographed Stamps of 1852 to 1860, 208, 228.
"Twelve Interesting Varieties," The Display of, 2.
Victoria, The Sixpence Stamps (1854 and 1861) of, 254.

PHILATELIC NOTES.

Abstract of Accounts of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 147.
Basle Stamp, The, 215.
List of Fellows and Associates of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 148.

Notes on the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 2, 258.
Programme of the Season of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 213.
Report read at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 140.
Reprints of the Russian-Levant Stamps, 1865–7, 214.
Royal Philatelic Society, London, Abstract of Accounts of the, 147.
,, ,, ,, List of Fellows and Associates of the, 148.
,, ,, ,, Notes on the, 2, 258.
,, ,, ,, Programme of the Season of the, 213.
,, ,, ,, Report read at the Annual General Meeting of the, 140.
Russian-Levant Stamps, 1865–7, Reprints of the, 214.
Spanish Error of 1851, The, 102.
The Basle Stamp, 215.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Alleged Stamp Forgeries, The, 104, 120, 157, 173.
American Philatelic Convention, The, 217.
Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition, The, 122.
Auctions, Paris, 264.
Australia, Possible Uniform Stamps for, 263.
,, Stamping Machine Bill to be Reintroduced in, 175.
,, The Stamp Frauds in, 77.
Austrian Remainders, Sale of, 103.
Avery Collection, Sale of the, 242.
Bernstein, Proposed Presentation to Mr., 284.
Binding Notice, 16, 278.
Brighton, Philatelic Exhibition at, 262.
British Honduras Obsolete Postage Stamps, 239.
Canadian Tercentenary Stamps, 124.
Catalogues, New, 106.
Chelsea Entires Exchange Society, The, 176.
Collection, Proposed Photographs in the Tapling, 259.
,, Sale of the Avery, 242.
,, ,, ,, Mirabaud, 46.
,, ,, ,, Reid, 20.
,, The Paul, 123, 240.
,, The Worthington, 241.
Congress, 1910, The Philatelic, 260.
Crofton, Death of Mr. C. S., 126.
Death of Mr. C. S. Crofton, 126.
,, ,, William Moser, 102.
,, ,, E. J. Nankivell, 78.
,, ,, J. F. Seybold, 218.
,, ,, W. B. Thornhill, 156.
Destruction of Gambia Stamps, 282.
Dinner of the Herts Philatelic Society, 126.
Erratum, "Japan," 76.
Exhibition at Berne, 1910, 240, 279.
,, ,, Brighton, 262.
,, Income and Expenditure Account of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society's, 125.
,, International Philatelic, Vienna, 1911, 280.
,, Manchester Postage Stamp, 18, 32.
,, North of England, 45.
,, The Amsterdam Philatelic, 122.
,, The Proposed Exhibition at Earl's Court, 122.
Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 155, 216.
Forgery of the Current French Stamps, 279.
French Stamps, Forgery of the Current, 279.
Gambia Stamps, Destruction of, 282.
German Normal Catalogue, The, 175.
Griebert's Philatelic Notes and Offers, 20.
Hadlow, Retirement from Auctions of Mr. W., 218.
Herts Philatelic Society, Dinner of the, 126.
Income and Expenditure Account of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition, 125.
India, The Philatelic Society of, 76.
International Philatelic Exhibition, Berne, 1910, 279.
Inverted Swan in the Leinster Collection in Dublin, The History of the, 17.
Japan, Erratum, 76.
King's Head Stamps for New Zealand, 281.
Koch Auction at Paris, The, 19.
Late Mr. E. J. Nankivell, The, 106.
Library of the Royal Philatelic Society, The, 261.
Lindenberg Medal, The, 44.
London Philatelist for 1910, Subscriptions to, 278.
Manchester Philatelic Congress and the Postal Union, 219, 262, 283.
,, Postage Stamp Exhibition, 18, 32.
Medal, The Lindenberg, 44.
Meetings of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 16, 42, 76, 102, 120, 239, 259.
Mirabaud Collection, The Sale of the, 46.
Moser, Death of Mr. William, 102.
Nankivell ,, E. J., 78.
,, The Late Mr. E. J., 106.
New Catalogues, 106.
New Issues of 1908, The, 261.
New Zealand, King's Head Stamps for, 281.
Normal Catalogue, The German, 175.
"North of England" Exhibition, 45.
Notice to Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 173.
Paris Auctions, 264.
Paul Collection, The, 123, 240.
Philatelic Congress, 1910, The, 260, 284.

Philatelic Club, The Proposed, 42.
,, Exhibition at Berne in 1910, 240.
,, ,, ,, Brighton, 262.
Philatelic Record, 46.
Philatelic Society of India, The, 76.
Philately, South Polar, 191.
Photographs of Stamps in the Tapling Collection, 259.
Possible Uniform Stamps for Australia, 263.
Postal Union, The Manchester Philatelic Congress and the, 219, 262.
Preservation of Stamps in Hot Climates, The, 44.
Proposed Philatelic Club, 42.
,, Stamp Exhibition at Earl's Court, 122.
Reid's Collection, Sale of Mr. Robert, 20.
Retirement of Mr. W. Hadlow from Auctions, 218.
Royal Philatelic Society, London, The, 16, 42, 76, 102, 120, 239, 259, 278.
,, ,, ,, Notice to Members of the, 173.
,, ,, ,, Rules of the Library, 261.
,, ,, ,, Subscriptions due to the, 16, 278.
,, ,, ,, The Expert Committee of the, 155, 216.
Rules for the Library of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 261.
Sale of Austrian Remainders, 103.
,, the Mirabaud Collection, The, 46.
,, ,, Reid ,, ,, 20.
Seybold Collection, The, 282.
Seybold, Death of Mr. J. F., 218.
South Africa, United, 281.
South Polar Philately, 191.
Stamp Frauds in Australia, The, 77.
,, Forgeries, Alleged, 104, 120, 157, 173.
,, Trade Protection Association Limited, Secretary's Report for, 1908, 43.
Stamps in Hot Climates, The Preservation of, 44.
,, Issued, The Total Number of, 19.
,, The Fifty Rarest, 156.
,, ,, New Swiss, 156.
Stamping Machines Bill to be Reintroduced in Australia, 175.
Subscriptions due to the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 16, 278.
Subscriptions to *London Philatelist* for 1910, 278.
Tapling Collection, Proposed Photographs in the, 259.
Tasmanian Stamps, Varieties of Perforations, etc., of Current, 280.
Tercentenary Stamps, Canadian, 124.
Thornhill, Death of Mr. W. B., 156.
The American Philatelic Convention, 217.
,, Chelsea Entires Exchange Society, 176.
,, Fifty Rarest Stamps, 156.
The History of the Inverted Swan in the Leinster Collection in Dublin, 17.
,, Koch Auction at Paris, 19.
,, New Issues of 1908, 261.
,, ,, Swiss Stamps, 156.
,, Philatelic Congress, 1910, 260, 284.
,, *Philatelic Record*, 46.
,, Seybold Collection, 282.
,, Total Number of Stamps Issued, 19.
United South Africa, 281.
Varieties of Perforations, etc., of Current Tasmanian Stamps, 280.
Victoria, 6d., orange, 1854, 76.
Vienna, 1911, International Philatelic Exhibition, 280.
Worthington Collection, The, 241.

REVIEWS.

American Philatelist, The Year Book of the, 79.
Bernichon, Catalogue of M., 79.
Bibliography of the Most Important Works on the Stamps of Single Countries, by R. Kraseman, 129
Bright and Son's Catalogue, 285.
Campeche, Some Notes on the Most Remarkable Stamps ever Issued, 194.
Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland, The, 130.
Catalogues, Bernichon's, 79.
,, Bright and Son's, 285.
,, Field's Simplified, 285.
,, Friedemann's, Albert, 243.
,, Kohl's Normal, 243.
,, Senf Bros.', 243, 285.
,, Scott's Standard, 79, 285.
,, Stanley Gibbons Ltd., Part II, 127.
,, Willadt's, C., 81
,, Whitfield King and Co.'s, 21.
,, Yvert and Tellier's, 243.
Falkland Islands, 129.
Field's Simplified Catalogue, 285.
Friedemann's, Albert, Catalogue, 243.
Great Britain, The Line-Engraved Stamps of, 46.
Handbooks (Melville's), 129, 195.
Hawaiian Numerals, 193.
Kohl's, Paul, Normal Catalogue, 243.
Kraseman, R., Bibliography of the Most Important Works on the Stamps of Single Countries, by, 129.
Line-engraved Stamps of Great Britain, The, 46.
Melville's Handbooks, 129, 195, 286.
Philatelic Students' Fellowship, The Record of the, 47.
Rare United States Envelopes, 196.
Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship, The, 47.
Scott's Standard Catalogue, The, 79, 285.
Senf Bros.' Catalogue, 243, 285.

Some Notes on the Most Remarkable Stamps (Campeche) ever issued, 194.
Stamp Collector's Annual, 1910, 287.
Stanley Gibbons Catalogue, Part II, 127.
Switzerland, The Cantonal Stamps of, 130.
Transvaal, The Falsifications of, 196.
United States, Rare Envelopes of the, 196.
,, 3 c. of 1851, 287.
Whitfield King and Co.'s Catalogue, 21.
Willadt's, C., Catalogue, 81.
Year Book of the American Philatelist, The, 79.
Yvert and Tellier's Catalogue, 243.
Zululand, 287.

PHILATELIC SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

Birmingham, 26, 85, 135, 269, 292.
Herts, 27, 53, 86, 112, 162, 181, 269.
Liverpool Philatelic Society, 199.
,, Junior Philatelic Society, 199.
Manchester, 270.
Royal Philatelic Society, London, 25, 51, 84, 111, 134, 161, 268, 291.
Sydney Philatelic Club, 54, 163, 181, 201, 223, 271, 293.
Victoria, 55, 86, 113, 163, 183, 200, 224, 270.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A Catalogue of Entires, 249.
A Disclaimer, 113.
American Philatelic Society, The, 249.
B.S.A. Co.'s Stamps, 202.
Envelopes and Post Cards, 203.
Hawaiian Numerals, 250.
Johannesburg United Philatelic Society, 202.
New Hebrides Stamps, The, 250.
Postage Dues, 293.
Queensland Issue of 1881, 28.
Refusal of a Registered Letter in France, 183.
Silk Threads of German and Swiss Stamps, 87.
The Collection of Entires, 226.
,, ,, the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 56, 87.
,, Half Pice of Dhar, 87, 113.
,, Proposed Collection of Entires by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, 272.
,, 2d. Rose of Victoria, Laureated Head, 56.

CONTRIBUTORS.

Bacon, E. D., 168.
Castle, M. P., 2, 106, 118, 149, 208, 228, 258.
Crawford, The Earl of, 65, 92.
Hausburg, L. L. R., 254.
Jones, T. Wickham, 7, 39, 74.
Joynt, W. R. Lane, 17.
Marsden, J. N., 170.
Melland, Frank H., 12, 71, 99, 189.
Smith, Courtenay, 237.
Tilleard, J. A., 140.

THE MARKET.

Auctions—
Harmer, Rooke, and Co., Messrs., 29, 59, 90, 116, 138, 166, 186, 206, 226, 252, 274, 295.
Plumridge and Co., Messrs., 28, 59, 90, 115, 138, 166, 186, 205, 252, 274, 295.
Puttick and Simpson, Messrs., 29, 57, 88, 114, 136, 165, 185, 204, 251, 272, 294–296
Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, Messrs., 30, 60, 88, 114, 136, 164, 184, 204, 250, 273, 293.

NEW ISSUES.

British Empire.

Antigua, 130, 265.
Australian Commonwealth, 108, 197, 220, 265, 287.
Barbados, 221, 265, 287.
Bermuda, 159, 288.
Bhopal, 130.
British East Africa and Uganda, 288.
,, Honduras, 48, 177, 246.
,, South Africa, 108, 131.
Brunei, 22.
Canada, 197, 246.
Cape of Good Hope, 22.
Cayman Islands, 159.
Ceylon, 81.
Charkari, 108, 159.
Cochin, 177.
Cook Islands, 221.
Dominica, 177.
Gambia, 246, 265.
Gibraltar, 108, 288.
Gold Coast, 22, 48, 81, 130, 177, 246.
Great Britain, 245, 265.
Hyderabad, 81, 109, 159, 177.
India, 22, 48, 81, 108, 130, 159, 177, 197, 221, 246.
Jamaica, 81, 178, 288.
Jhind, 130.
Leeward Islands, 221.
Levant (British Post Offices), 288.
Malay States, 81, 288.
Maldive Islands, 178.
Malta, 288.
Mauritius, 22, 48, 82, 130.
Montserrat, 246.
Natal, 22, 82, 131.

Nepaul, 197.
New Hebrides, 22, 82, 221.
New South Wales, 131, 178, 197, 221, 265.
New Zealand, 22, 48, 82, 131, 159, 178, 221.
North Borneo, 221.
Northern Nigeria, 48, 109, 131, 197, 266.
Papua, 48, 109.
Puttialla, 81.
Queensland, 48, 131, 159, 178, 222.
Rhodesia, 108, 131.
St. Kitts-Nevis, 131, 222.
St. Lucia, 178, 246.
St. Vincent, 48, 109, 288.
Seychelles, 246.
Sierra Leone, 178, 197.
Solomon Islands Protectorate, 22, 265.
Somaliland Protectorate, 159.
South Australia, 178, 266.
Southern Nigeria, 22, 178, 288.
Straits Settlements, 131, 178, 288.
Sudan, 178.
Tasmania, 48, 109, 178, 222.
Transvaal, 23, 48, 82, 179, 222, 266, 288.
Travancore, 22.
Trinidad, 48.
Turks and Caicos Islands, 246.
Victoria, 131, 159, 266.
Western Australia, 131, 222, 247.
Zanzibar, 266.

EUROPE.

Austria, 23, 131, 159.
Austrian Post Offices in Crete, 131.
,, ,, in the Levant, 132, 289.
Belgium, 109.
Bosnia, 179, 197.
Bulgaria, 179, 197, 222, 247, 288.
Crete, 23, 49, 109, 131, 159, 179.
,, (Austrian Post Offices), 131.
,, (Italian ,, ,,), 132, 159.
France, 179.
German Empire, 109.
Greece, 288.
Holland, 23, 159, 222.
Hungary, 23, 49, 247.
Italy, 179.
Italian Post Offices in Crete, 132, 159.
,, ,, in the Levant, 49.
Levant (Austrian Post Offices), 132, 289.
,, (Italian ,, ,,), 49.
,, (Russian ,, ,,), 160, 197, 247, 266, 289.
Monaco, 179.
Norway, 132
Portugal, 247.
Roumania, 49, 109, 132, 179, 197, 289.
Russia, 23, 49, 82, 109, 180, 289.
Russian Post Offices in the Levant, 160, 197, 247, 266, 289.
Servia, 222.
Spain, 289.
Switzerland, 23, 49, 82, 110, 198, 222.
Turkey, 222, 247, 267.

AMERICA.

Argentine Republic, 83, 198, 222, 247, 289.
Barbacoas, 49.
Bolivia, 247, 289.
Brazil, 290.
Colombian Republic, 49, 110, 222, 247, 290.
Costa Rica, 132, 180.
Dominican Republic, 132, 160, 267.
Ecuador, 248, 267.
Guatemala, 132, 160.
Honduras, 110, 267.
Medellin, 222, 290.
Mexico, 132, 290.
Nicaragua, 23, 132, 160, 180, 290.
Panama, 83, 160, 180, 291.
Paraguay, 23, 49, 83, 132, 248, 267.
Peru, 110, 180.
Salvador, 24, 223, 248, 267, 291.
United States, 24, 50, 83, 110, 160, 223, 248, 267.
Uruguay, 248, 267.
Venezuela, 223.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

Abyssinia, 24, 83.
Afghanistan, 83, 291.
Annobon, 50, 198.
China, 198, 248, 291.
,, (French Post Offices), 50.
,, (German ,, ,,), 160.
,, (Russian ,, ,,), 198.
Congo State, 24, 132, 180, 223.
Corisco, 50, 198.
Cuba, 24, 291.
Dutch Indies, 24, 132, 291.
East Africa (German), 198.
Elobey, 50, 198.
Eritrea, 50, 132, 249.
French Post Offices in China, 50.
,, Somali Coast, 291.
German East Africa, 198.
,, Post Offices in China, 160.
Italian Foreign Post Offices, 83.
,, Somaliland, 84, 180.
Japan, 160.
Kiautschou, 50.
Liberia, 133, 180.
Martinique, 24, 84, 110.
Mauritania, 223.
Morocco (Spanish Post Offices), 180.
Nyassa (Portuguese Possessions), 25.
Persia, 25, 198, 249, 268.
Philippine Islands, 268.

Rio de Oro, 25, 110.
Russian Post Offices in China, 198.
St. Pierre and Miquelon, 50.
Siam, 25, 249, 268, 291.
Somaliland (Italian), 84, 180.
Spanish Colonies, 110, 199, 223.
Spanish Guinea, 50, 199, 249, 291.
,, Morocco, 180.
Surinam, 84, 110.
Tchongking, 291.
Tetuan, 50, 84.
Togo, 249.

THE

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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. JANUARY, 1909. No. 205.

The New Year.

THE last year of the first decade of the Twentieth Century has commenced and—nearly seventy years since the first postage stamp was created—finds Philately in the most flourishing of conditions. The decadence of stamp collecting, so often foretold by the croakers, has yet to come, but one wonders on what footing it will be when this century enters on its last decade! The Catalogue will by then probably consist of twenty volumes, and the vast majority of issues will possibly be left "unwept, unhonoured, and unsung." However, *après nous le déluge*, and it is more profitable and pleasurable to contemplate the present aspect of affairs.

The mid-season, then, denotes a satisfactory vitality in the pursuit. Philatelic exhibitions are to be held in Manchester next month, and in Amsterdam in May, and there has been a novel and interesting exhibition of paper-making promoted by the energetic Junior Philatelic Society. A new feature, as far as this country is concerned, will be presented at Manchester, viz. the holding of a Philatelic Congress. We learn that delegates from practically every Philatelic Society in England will attend—those appointed by the Royal Philatelic Society being Messrs. M. P. Castle (Hon. Vice-President), L. W. Fulcher (Hon. Librarian), and F. Reichenheim—and we anticipate a successful issue of their labours. The auctions have been of considerable importance, notably in Paris, where very large collections have recently been dispersed at astounding prices. Another large collection is to be sold in London during the next two months, while of minor sales there is no end. Several collections of considerable magnitude have also recently been acquired by the principal dealers and have been rapidly absorbed, the demand for really fine and scarce stamps being more than the supply.

The Philatelic Societies—more numerous than ever—are displaying laudable activity, and are one and all disseminating the scientific study and intellectual appreciation of stamp collecting. The special cult of philatelic

45

literature has seen a marked development lately: not only are the leading Societies all forming large Libraries, but there are many collectors of books appertaining to stamps, and the value of Philatelic Literature has greatly increased. At the head of this branch is the Philatelic Literature Society, with a most able and scientifically written Journal.

It is somewhat curious that despite the general financial depression, Philately has preserved such an unbroken front, and it augurs well for its future that, despite the fall in almost all commercial securities, there has been none in our hobby. The New Year is therefore full of promise, which we confidently anticipate will be amply fulfilled in its closing days.

Notes on the Royal Philatelic Society.

THE DISPLAY OF TWELVE INTERESTING VARIETIES.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THIS novel feature in the annals of the Royal Philatelic Society can be recorded as an undoubted success. The attendance was much larger than usual, about thirty-five Fellows and friends being present, and the interest displayed sufficed to keep the meeting until beyond the usual hour of closing. The display of stamps was eminently gratifying, presenting great variety, and many stamps were shown that have rarely, if ever, been seen by the majority of collectors. Lord Crawford's exhibit of the abnormal plate numbers of Great Britain was altogether remarkable, as it included copies of every variety known to exist, the display affording an object-lesson in the rarities of English stamps that could not be duplicated in the world. A most interesting series of notes on the stamps shown was drawn up by Lord Crawford, which will be printed in a future number of this journal.

Mr. Tilleard, on behalf of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, exhibited some most interesting stamps, as recorded in the minutes, and fully explained the several points of importance, notably with regard to the projected designs of the current stamps of Canada. Mr. Robert Reid showed the almost unknown European rarity, the much-debated 2 reales, blue, of Spain, of the 1851 issue. This specimen, which is unused, is in a rather pale blue shade—similar to the known shades of the 6 reales—and was stated to have been one of *a pair* of 2 reales belonging to a gentleman in Spain. I have read about the stamp for the last thirty years, but it is the first time that I have seen it. Mr. Reid's other exhibit included some very choice things. Mr. Harvey Clarke's display was worthy of his reputation as a collector of New South Wales, as he delighted us with some superb unused copies, and included a variety that I had never heard of, viz. the 1d., Plate II, on vertically laid paper. Several of the Fellows have kindly given me their lists of stamps shown, which I think will be read with interest by those who were not privileged to be present.

THE EARL OF CRAWFORD.

Specimens of the Known Perforated Abnormal Varieties of Great Britain.

Value.	*Plate Number.*	*Used.*	*Unused.*
3d.	3	1	pair
4d.	16	2	unknown
„	17	1	„
6d.	10	1	„
„	12	1	„
„	13	1	„
9d. (hair lines)	3	1	2
„	5	?	1
10d. Emblems	1	1	unknown
„ Spray	2	1	1
1s. (hair lines)	3	—	1
„ lilac	13	unknown	1
„ „	14	„	1
2s.	3	2	1

The imprimatur copies were shown for comparison in each case.

List of Abnormal Varieties of which no perforated copies have been found.

Value.	*Plate Number.*	*Condition.*
2½d.	4	on Small Anchor paper
„	5	„ „ „
3d.	(2)	without "Specimen"
„	5	on *Emblems* paper
„	21	on *Spray* paper
6d.	18	„ „
8d.	2	in any condition
1s.	5	on *Emblems* paper
„	14	in *green* and on *Spray* paper
5s.	4	on *Maltese Cross* paper

The imprimatur copies were shown for comparison in each case.

MR. ROBERT REID.

All unused.

1s. Newfoundland, carmine-vermilion.
1s. „ orange-vermilion.
12d. Canada, black.
4 a. India, 1854, with rosettes.
8d. New South Wales, laureated.
1s. Nova Scotia.
1s. New Brunswick.
Spain, 1851, 2 rls., blue, *error.*
„ „ 2 rls., red.
Tuscany, 3 lire.
Naples, "arms."
Vaud, 4 c.
Portugal, 100 reis, first issue.

MR. HARVEY CLARKE.

Very early state of 1d. New South Wales (Sydney View), Plate II, showing two very fine impressions, and denoting that the ones on plain or laid paper were about the same period.

Plate II. 1d. New South Wales on vertically laid paper, a late impression; the only one the owner has seen.

2d., blue, Plate I. Very early state of plate.

2d., blue, Plate II. Corner stamp, No. 12, on blue; very early mint impression.

2d., blue, Plate II. Later impression. Very fine variety without pick and shovel, No. 10 on plate.

3d., yellow-green. Very early state of print, showing that the early printed 3d. Sydney Views are very indistinct compared to the 1d. and 2d.

3d., green on laid. A very rare stamp.

1891. Surcharge of "Halfpenny" omitted.

Block of ten 6d. Transvaal, Oct., 1877, showing the *tête-bêche* pair, No. 25 on plate.

Oct., 1877. 1d., red on blue. A very fine specimen of a rare stamp, showing the variety of surcharge "Transvral" instead of "Transvaal."

Ceylon. Perf. 13, 1863. 9d., brown, watermark Crown and CC. A variety, unused, believed to be very rare.

MR. R. B. YARDLEY.

Barbados. De La Rue printings of the 1s. in bright aniline violet.

Perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$; it is so far known only in this aniline ink.

Perforated 14; the majority of the specimens are in a reddish-purple dry pigment.

Error. 1s., blue. Large Star watermark. Horizontally perforated, gauging 15 (about), small holes, A_3? Vertically perforated very roughly $14\frac{1}{2}$–15, A_2?

South Australia. 1s., dark brown, watermark Large Star, departmental, M.B. It is perforated $11\frac{1}{2}$ on four sides, and also *rouletted* vertically.

This stamp is probably one of the series which was perforated horizontally and rouletted vertically. It was probably reperforated vertically on account of the roulettes being out of register.

Besides the 9d., the 1d., 2d., and 6d. are reported to exist in this condition (*vide* Kuttner, "Notes on South Australia," 10 *P.J.G.B.*, p. 59).

Specimens showing the change in the gauge of the 1867 single-line machine, the gauge abruptly changing from $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12\frac{1}{2}$.

The perforations at the top and bottom are $11\frac{1}{2}$, but the sides are partly $11\frac{1}{2}$ and partly $12\frac{1}{2}$.

Turkey. Rare types of the overprints of the 10 paras of 1869–76 issues.

New South Wales. 6d., laureated. Carmichael's plate on entire dated "Sydney. 7 May 1852," seven days after the date of issue, and showing the shade of the first printing.

MR. M. P. CASTLE.

Twelve specimens of the 2d. Sydney View, Plate I, showing the earliest impressions of the die and three successive stages of wear. Also the

variety with double compartment lines and copies of the retouched plate, with a specimen of Plate II (unused), which was engraved on the identical copper plate.

MR. F. RANSOM.

Providence, Rhode Island, 1846. Pair showing 5 cents and 10 cents. Sheet including eleven 5 cents and one 10 cents.

Canadian 3 c. envelope, lithographed, of which 500 were printed in 1890, when the ordinary die was temporarily lost. (See *The London Philatelist*, 1896, p. 26.)

British Guiana, 1862. Provisional showing the three types of border to the 1 cent.

France, 1876. Pair showing the 15 centimes error on sheet of 10 centimes.

Spain, 1856. 2 cuartos, green, printed on both sides of paper.

Block of Lubeck, 1859, showing two errors "ZWEI EIN HALB" on sheet of 2 schilling.

Corrientes, 1875. Plate showing the eight types of the rose.

Great Britain. 6d., green, proof, with Helmsley trial obliteration.

Turkey, 1865. The 1 piastre error in colour of 10 paras.

Sydney. Embossed envelope, used. Issued on November 1, 1838.

An envelope posted in British Columbia thirty-nine years ago franked with stamps of the colony, the United States, and Wells, Fargo, and Co.

MR. J. C. SIDEBOTHAM.

Scarce stamps.—Holland, 1867–71. Die I. 15 cents, chestnut, used; perf. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$.

Saxony, 1851. $\frac{1}{2}$ neu groschen, black on pale blue, used; imperf.; error of paper.

Handsome stamps in self-colour.—Saxony, 1851. $\frac{1}{2}$ neu groschen, black on grey; unused; imperf.

Nova Scotia, 1860–3. $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents, black; perf. 12; unused.

In two colours.—U.S., 1869. 90 cents, black and carmine; perf. 12; used; grille.

Uruguay, 1895. 2 pesos, green centre, deep lilac border; perf.; unused.

Ugly stamps.—Philippines, 1854. 2 reales, green; imperf.; used.

Tasmania, 1853. 1d., pale blue; imperf.

MR. C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.

South Australia. Strip showing 1d. and two 2d., Colonial, and 6d., London.

Strip of seven blood-red 2d.; pair London 1d.

Envelope, dated July 16, 1884, from Eden Valley.

Specimens of the 2s., pale rose-carmine; $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$; in the exact shade of the rouletted.

Wide "S A." 1d., mint pair, $11\frac{1}{2}$; block of six, mint, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

1869. 2d., Star; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ and rouletted.

Narrow "S A." 2d.; perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Corner block of the $2\frac{1}{2}$d. on 4d., showing the compound perfs.; the perf. 10 being compound with $11\frac{1}{2}$ and also with $12\frac{1}{2}$; one stamp being a true $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Queensland, errors of burelé series. Pair of 1d. with "P E" missing, and pair of ½d. with "½" missing right side of stamp.

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

1d. Transvaal (1907) with Anchor watermark. Discovered by owner in June, 1908.

"British Bechuanaland" on ½d. Cape (1896), green (S. G., 60); words 13½ mm apart and "Bechuanaland" 15 mm. "BRITISH" surcharged on back in blind letters, inverted.

1867–82. 2d. Victoria, V and Crown watermark (in the colour of the 4d).*

Great Britain 4d., 1887–92. No shading in the loop of top left-hand "4."

Great Britain 4d., 1902–4. No shading in the loop of top left-hand "4."

1860–7. South Australia 10d., rouletted with double surcharge in blue and in black on 9d., orange-red.†

Queensland 1d., 1905. White hair-line extending from "U" obliquely to serif of top right-hand "1."

Queensland 1d., 1887. Extension of bust across inner oval line to centre of top of "E" in "ONE."

Queensland 1d., 1905. Peculiar patch across ear in left stamp with three dots like fastenings.

Queensland 2d., 1897. White hair-line extending from top of left-hand bottom "2" to base of right-hand "2."

Queensland 2d., 1897. Break in zigzag from tress to middle of bust.

New South Wales 1d., 1871–81. Uncoloured blotch on left-hand stamp from "N" of "NEW" nearly to "O" of "ONE."

Mr. J. R. Laing.

Denmark, 1874–9. 8 öre, rose-carmine and slate. Variety ii., "Ö " for "ÖRE."

Saxony. ½ ngr. on pale blue (error of paper), used.

Turkey. Error in the sheet of 10 paras, olive-green, "1" instead of "10" in the corners. 25 pias., rose-red; value in the upper left corner inverted.

Niger Coast Protectorate, 1897–8. 2s. 6d., olive-bistre; perforated 16 (not catalogued more than 15).

Grenada, 1883. 6d., rose, unused and used; usual colour mauve (not catalogued).

Tasmania, 1856–7. 4d., blue; thin transparent paper; no watermark.

Tasmania, 1889–91. 2½d. on 9d., pale blue. Surcharge double, one inverted.

Victoria. 2d., brown-lilac; rouletted.

Victoria. Two forgeries of the 3d., deep blue, on original blue paper. Butterfly postmark. One imperf. and the other rouletted.

New South Wales. 1d., pale red, Plate I, double impression. Double circles quite distinct, and fine specimen.

Fiji. 12 c. on 6d., Maltese cross after "V.R."

* This colour may have faded from a lilac.—Ed.

† This is more in the nature of a double strike.—Ed.

MR. A. J. WARREN.

Holland and Dutch Indies. Plate faults shown in the colour proofs and the issued stamps, with specimens from the different settings.

There can be no doubt that the opportunity thus afforded to every member to display something is one that is eminently popular, and is moreover capable of being developed in other ways, and I trust that next season's programme may include similar evening entertainments. I am confident that every one can learn something by the examination of the points of interest in the collections of others, and the Royal Society is thus successfully carrying out one of its most important obligations in the dissemination of philatelic knowledge.

I have notes on some of the other displays made this season, but must defer them until a future number allows me more space.

Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY ON NOVEMBER 19, 1908.

BY T. WICKHAM JONES, F.R.P.S.L.

UP to the present very little general interest has been taken in the later issues of Swiss stamps, viz., those from 1882, and very little has been written about them. This is not surprising, as, with the exception of the Jubilee issue in 1900, the design has been the same during the whole time, and to the general collector there seemed no reason for collecting blocks or panes. Owing to the popularity of Switzerland as a holiday resort, people could invariably buy the stamps either personally or through a friend, and thus the dealers had very little demand for them and consequently did not stock them. It is therefore almost impossible to obtain large blocks or complete sheets for reference, which is the only way of studying the issues. The postal authorities are very shy of giving any information, and the study of used specimens is the only way of discovering the dates of issue. I do not intend to weary you to-night by going through the different changes of colour and perforation; they can be found in any good catalogue; but as just lately there have been a most interesting number of retouches, my remarks to you this evening will be mostly on this subject. Many of you know the prominent retouch of the 25 c. This was first noticed in 1900. It was listed in Stanley Gibbons and Co.'s Catalogue, and a short notice of it appeared in *The London Philatelist* of September, 1900. It was in looking for this retouch, to which I shall refer later on, that I was surprised to find that there were other plates retouched, both previous to and after 1900, and I have found the following retouched stamps:—

25 c., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, blue-green. Six retouches: two between the spear and oval, one between figure and oval, the spear being obliterated, one both

between the spear and oval and between the face and oval, one above shield in oval, and one the whole of the background in oval.

25 c., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, green. One above the shield, and one perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, retouched in label "HELVETIA."

50 c., perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ and $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, pale green. Seven retouches, six being practically all the background in the oval, and one between the head and spear. This plate was also used for the later watermarked issue, and as I have complete half-panes, I am able to locate some of these as Nos. 13, 21, 31, 41, on a lower half-pane.

The stamps have at first sight the appearance of being lithographed, but on examining the sheets you can see the screw-marks where the plates have been fastened on to the "backing up" for printing from, and just lately Mr. Ernst Zumstein of Berne, a specialist dealer in Swiss stamps, who has been of great assistance to me, has gained the following information :—

From 1882 to 1900 the stamps were printed on a hand press in sheets of two panes of 100 stamps each, and from 1900 to 1906 they were printed on a machine press in sheets comprised of four panes of 100 each, thus ▫ ▫ / ▫ ▫

These panes of 100 stamps are, however, always divided into upper and lower half-panes of 50 stamps each, previous to issuing them to the different post offices, and up to the present the authorities have refused to part with any undivided sheets. In both printings the first plate of 100 was made in one piece and not in separate pieces put together. (I shall, however, endeavour to prove that this was not the case with the 3 fr. of 1906.)

A most interesting and instructive handbook on Swiss stamps that Mr. Zumstein has just published, and which I recommend to your notice, has the following paragraph relative to the printing, which I give in German :—

"Mit dem Originalstempel in Stahl wurden Matritzen hergestellt und von diesen wieder Gebrauchspatritzen, welche dann durch Pressung in eine graphitierte weiche Bleimasse und Erzielung eines Kupferniederschlages auf galvanischem Wege die nötigen Gebrauchsplatten lieferten, nach dem Herstellungsverfahren 'Galvanos' genannt."

A free translation of the above is as follows :—

"The original steel die matrices were made, and these matrices served in their turn to make other dies (plates); from these dies (plates) impressions were taken in soft lead mixed with graphite, and the sunk plates thus obtained were covered with copper by a galvanic process, and subsequently used for printing. Hence the term 'galvanos' is applied to these plates."

Now this is how the retouching, or perhaps it would be more correct to say, the touching-up occurs:—Either the original plate may be a little faulty, or the transfer has not taken well, or does not come out clearly on the metal plates from which the actual printing is done, and consequently the printer has these final plates (galvanos) touched up. In no instance have I been able to find any proof that the original plate has been retouched. Owing to there being, previous to 1900, two and after that date four separate printing plates, all made from the one original plate, there are at first two and afterwards four separate plates which may, and in many cases

do, bear different retouches. With regard to the prominent retouch of 1900 of the 25 c., we know that this stamp is the sixteenth in the lower half-pane of 50, and I was not surprised to find two different retouches of this same stamp. I think that probably the sixteenth stamp in the lower half-pane of the original plate, although not faulty, transferred badly. This retouched final plate, Mr. Zumstein informs me, was destroyed by the postal authorities. I am able to show you a complete lower half-pane with this stamp retouched, and Baron de Reuterskiöld has kindly lent me three retouches, two unused and one used, and there is also a specimen in my collection; you will be able to see for yourselves that the stamps have been transferred from the same original plate, the two stamps being identical except as to the retouches. You will also note that there is another retouch of the same plate, but it does not appear in my half-pane, though, of course, it may be in the upper half-pane of the same plate. At a later date fresh "galvanos" of the plate were most likely taken, and I show you several stamps, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, showing retouches as follows, viz. above the shield, between head and spear, the whole of the background, between spear and oval, and in large label of value. These same plates were used for the issue in 1905, so I am able to give the numbers on the plates of some of the stamps, and when dealing with that issue I shall show some of the same retouched stamps.

As I said before, it being impossible to obtain complete sheets of these earlier issues, I am unable to locate some of the single stamps that I have mentioned, or to give you any particulars as to number of retouches. Now that it is known that stamps of this issue were retouched, I have no doubt that other specimens will be discovered.

The stamps previous to 1905 were not watermarked, but only had an impressed control-mark, but in this year (September is the first time that any mention is made of it) the stamps were printed on watermarked paper, the watermark being a large cross about 160 to the pane of 100.

The 30 c. was the first stamp issued, and the other values were not sent out to the different post offices till the old issue (impressed control-mark) was exhausted.

These stamps were first issued on white paper printed by Girardet. They are most interesting, and I give them in order of value with their special peculiarities.

I have seen many half-panes, but it is impossible to put the halves together, so I shall divide the four panes of 100 each into eight halves of 50 stamps each, and describe the same as upper and lower half-panes, using capital letters A B C D for upper and small letters a b c d for lower half-panes.

20 Centimes.

The following distinctive marks, which will be found on each pane, although the retouches differ, show that the four panes were made from one original plate of 100, viz :—

Upper half-pane. No. 6. Dot in "O" of "FRANCO" on right.
„ 14. Dot after figure "20" on left.
„ 24. Dots in label of "20" on right.

Upper half-pane. No. 35. Slanting line above "20" on right.
„ 48. Dot above upper left of "0" of "20" on right.
Lower half-pane. „ 12. Dot in centre of "0" of "20" on right.
„ 23. Dot over "E" on right of "HELVETIA."
„ 32. Two dots under the "20" on right.
„ 41. White spot over the left of "2" in lower label.

And there are some other constant minor details.

The following are the distinctive retouches on each of the half-panes:—

Upper half-panes.
A. Retouches, Plate Nos. 1, 3 to 11, 14, 33, all in upper part over "HELVETIA."
B. Retouches, Plate Nos. 21, 22, 43, all in upper part over "HELVETIA."
C. Retouches, Plate Nos. 19, 46, all in upper part over "HELVETIA."
D. No retouch.

Lower half-panes.
a. 1. Retouches, Plate Nos. 5, 6, 7, 24, 25, 27, all in upper part over "HELVETIA."
a. 2. Same plate retouched again. Retouches, Plate Nos. 5, 6, 7, 24, 25, 27, 35, 39, 40, 48, 49, 50.
Nos. 5, 6, 7, 24, 25, 27, in upper part over "HELVETIA."
Nos. 35, 39, 49, between spear and oval.
No. 40, between spear and head and above shield.
Nos. 39, 48, 49, 50, between spear and head.
b. All retouched, except 5 to 10, in upper part over "HELVETIA."
c. Retouches, Plate Nos. 21, 32, 42.
No. 21, between spear and oval and in space above "HELVETIA."
No. 32, between spear and head.
No. 42, between spear and oval.
d. Retouch, Plate No. 3, in upper label.

All the above stamps are in deep orange colour and perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

Almost immediately these plates (galvanos) were superseded by new plates made evidently from a new primary plate, as there are none of the characteristics that I have before referred to. The stamps are very much better printed, and are in a yellow colour with perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, and I have been unable to find any retouches.

25 Centimes.

These stamps are printed from both the old and new (re-engraved) former plates.

Old die perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

Upper half-pane.
A. Retouches, Plate Nos. 1 and 41, both in background above shield.
B. Retouches, Plate Nos. 9 and 39, both in background above shield.
C. Retouches, Plate Nos. 1 and 2.
No. 1 on both sides of the head.
No. 2 in background above shield.
D. No retouch.

Lower half-pane. a.
b.
c. No retouch.
d. „ „

New die perf. 11½ × 11, 11½ × 11½, and 11½ × 12.

These stamps, like the 40 c., were printed from a steel plate, and I have been unable to find any plate showing retouches, but I show you one used specimen that has evidently been retouched over the shield, proving that such do exist. The stamps also show evidence (you can see it best by holding them up to the light) of having the lines in the background round the head deepened.

Upper half-pane. A.
B. Perf. 11½ × 11. No retouch.
C. „ „ „
D. „ „ „
Lower half-pane. a.
b.
c. Perf. 11½ × 11. No retouch.
d. „ „ „

30 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *only.*

Upper half-pane. A. 1. In No. 25 there is a flaw in the "I" of "HELVETIA," making it look like "HELVETTA."
A. 2. The same plate with Nos. 25, 26, 37, 38 retouched in background.
B. No. 25, "HELVETIA."
C. No retouch.
D. „ „
Lower half-pane. a. I have no complete half-pane of this, but I show blocks with retouches, Nos. 41 and 43, in the background. Baron de Reuterskiöld informs me that there are no other retouches on this half-pane, but I have two other retouches (which I show) that I cannot locate on my other half-panes. This retouch also appears on the granite paper.
b. Retouch No. 41 in the background.
c. No retouch, but this may be half-pane b before it was retouched.
d. No retouch.

40 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *and* 11½ × 12.

These stamps were printed from a steel plate, and I have not been able to find, nor have I heard of, any retouch.

D. Perf. 11½ × 12. No known retouch.

50 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *and* 11½ × 12.

Upper half-pane.
A.
B. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.
C. Perf. 11½ × 11. No retouch.
D. Perf. 11½ × 11. No retouch.

Lower half-pane.
a. Retouched, but not been able to get.
b.
c. Perf. 11½ × 11. No retouch.
d. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.

The same plate that was used for the old issue (control-mark) was also used for this series and for that on granite paper, but I have been unable to get a complete half-pane. I show you two stamps, which are Nos. 31 and 41, on a lower half-pane; these I can locate by the half-pane I have on granite paper. I also show one unused stamp unlocated.

1 Franc.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *and* 11½ × 12.

I do not know of any retouch.

(*To be continued.*)

Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South Africa Company.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AND OTHER SOURCES, AND FROM INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THE SPOT.

By FRANK H. MELLAND, F.R.P.S.L.

(*Continued from page* 288, Vol. XVII.)

APPENDIX. GOVERNMENT NOTICES.



A FEW Government notices are appended, showing the changes in postal rates, the entry of Rhodesia into the Postal Union, and other regulations. The postage to England has been reduced from 6d. to 4d., and from 4d. to 2½d., but has not yet reached the Imperial 1d., though letters to Rhodesia from the United Kingdom are now only charged 1d. per ounce as against the 2½d. per ½ oz. outwards.

I trust that the publication of these notes may lead to some correspondent writing and clearing up the many points that I have been unable to discover myself.

Notice No. 79.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and from the first of January, 1899, Reply Paid Post Cards will be available for circulation between Rhodesia and the undermentioned countries:—

The Cape Colony,	The United Kingdom,
Germany,	Austria,
Bosnia,	Denmark,
The United States of America,	Herzegovina,
Greece,	Hungary,
Italy,	Holland,
Russia,	Sweden,
Switzerland and	All British Colonies and Possessions.

The rate of Postage will be as follows:—

To the Cape Colony	...	3d. each.
To the United Kingdom	...	4d. each.
To all other Countries	...	5d. each.

Note: Rhodesian Reply Paid Post Cards bearing a one penny stamp on each half will be available for the above mentioned services, provided that one ½d. stamp be attached to each half of the card when sent to the Cape Colony, 1d. stamp to each half when sent to the United Kingdom, and 1½d. in stamps when sent to other Countries.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *December* 29, 1898. (P. 230.)

Postal Notice No. 98.

Reduction of Tariff for Internal Letters and Telegrams.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after November 1, 1899, the postage charge on letters between the Post Offices within Southern Rhodesia will be 1d. per half-ounce.

From the same date the Internal Telegraph Tariff will be reduced to 2s. for twelve words, and 2d. for every additional word. Cypher telegrams will be charged 50 per cent. in excess of the above rates. Press telegrams will be charged one-quarter of the ordinary rate with a minimum charge of 2s.

A further notification will shortly be made with regard to reductions in the postage tariff to places outside Rhodesia, negotiations in connection therewith having been suspended owing to the interruption of communication with the South.

(Sgd.) G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *October* 25, 1899. (5814.)

Postal Notice No. 99.

Reduction of Inland Parcels Tariff.

It is hereby notified for general information that from November 1, 1899, the postage rate of parcels exchanged between places within Rhodesia will be reduced to 1s. per pound or fraction thereof.

(Sgd.) G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *October* 31, 1899.

Notice No. 2 of 1900.

Entry of Rhodesia into the Universal Postal Union.

It is hereby notified for public information that Rhodesia will enter the Universal Post Union on April 1, 1900, from which date the undermentioned rates of postage will take effect:—

For Letters to any part of the World . .	4d. per ½ oz. or fraction thereof.
For Post Cards to any part of the World .	1d.
For Reply Paid Post Cards ,, ,, .	2d.
For Newspapers, Printed Papers, Books, and Samples	1d. per 2 ozs. or fraction thereof.
For Commercial Papers	3d. for 2 ozs., 3½d. for 4 ozs., 4d. for 6 ozs., 4½d. for 8 ozs., 5d. for 10 ozs., and 1d. for every additional 2 ozs. or fraction thereof.
Registration Fee	4d.
Fee for the Acknowledgement of a Registered Article	2½d.

The rates of postage to the Cape and other parts of South Africa are not for the present altered.

(Sgd.) G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *March* 21, 1900.

Postal Notice No. 4 of 1900.

Reduction of Postage Rates to and from North-Eastern Rhodesia.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after May 1, 1900, the Letter rate of postage between Southern Rhodesia and North-Eastern Rhodesia and vice versa will be reduced to *Twopence per half ounce or fraction thereof.* From the same date the rate of Letter postage from North-Eastern Rhodesia to the United Kingdom and places oversea will be reduced to *Fourpence per half ounce or fraction thereof.*

(Sgd.) G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *April* 9, 1900.

Postal Notice No. 8 of 1900.

Reduction of Postage Rates.

It is hereby notified for public information that on July 15, 1900, the Rates of Postage from Southern Rhodesia to all parts of South Africa, south of the Zambesi, will be reduced to the following scale:—

Letters	2d. per ½ oz.
Post Cards	1d.
Newspapers, Printed Papers, Books, and Samples .	½d. per 2 ozs.
Minimum charge for Sample Packets . . .	1d.
,, ,, Commercial Papers . .	2d.

The Parcels Rate remains for the present unaltered.

The Rhodesian Internal Postage Rates remain at the Scale published in *Government Gazette* Notice, Number 98 of 1899.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *July* 6, 1900.

Departments of Posts and Telegraphs, Rhodesia.
Postal Notice No. 66.

Mail Communication with Northern Zambesi.

It is hereby notified for general information that a monthly mail service by native runners has been established between Bulawayo and Lialui in Barotseland. The mails leave Bulawayo and Lialui respectively on the 1st of each month, and are conveyed via the Gwaai to Wankies, thence along southern bank of Zambesi to Sekutes, five miles above Victoria Falls, thence along northern bank to Sesheke, thence to Lialui, the journey occupying from twenty-five to thirty days. Letters only are conveyed by these posts, and any newspapers, book packets, or parcels intended for the places served by these posts can only be sent forward by wagon as opportunity offers. The rates of postage are the same as for other parts of Rhodesia.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
Salisbury, *March* 8, 1898.

Government Notice No. 8 of 1900.

Administrator's Office,
Fort Jameson, *December* 1, 1900.

Regulations Respecting Mail Service.

Whereas under the provisions of the North-Eastern Rhodesia Order in Council, 1899, the Administrator has power to make regulations for peace, order and good government, IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Administrator has, in pursuance of the above powers, made the following regulations :—

1. It is unlawful for any person, unless employed in the Postal Service of North-Eastern Rhodesia, to send or convey any letter from any place within to any place without North-Eastern Rhodesia, or from place to place within North-Eastern Rhodesia except the following :—

(i.) Letters to or from any place not being on the route along which the post travels.

(ii.) Letters concerning goods or other property to be delivered, such letters being sent with, or for the purpose of being delivered at the same time as the property they concern, without hire or reward for delivering the same.

(iii.) Letters sent by any private friend in his way, journey or travel, so as that such letters shall be delivered by such friend to the party to whom they may be directed, or by any messenger sent on purpose, concerning the private affairs of the sender or receiver of such letters. But no person shall make a collection of such letters hereby excepted, for the purpose of sending them in the manner authorized.

2. The following persons are expressly forbidden to carry a letter, or to receive or collect, or deliver any letter within North-Eastern Rhodesia, although they shall not receive hire or reward for the same, that is to say :—

(*a*) Common carriers of passengers or goods, their drivers, servants or agents, except a letter concerning goods in their custody for carriage.

(*b*) Owners and masters of ships and their servants and agents, except letters solely concerning goods on board and to be delivered with such goods.

(*c*) Officers and servants employed in the Postal Service of North-Eastern Rhodesia, except letters received, conveyed, or delivered by them in course of post.

3. Every person sending, despatching, carrying, collecting, receiving, or delivering any letter, book, newspaper, or parcel contrary to these Regulations, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding £1 in respect of every letter, book, newspaper, or postal parcel.

4. In these Regulations, "letter" includes "post card," and "ship" includes every description of vessel used in navigation.

5. These Regulations may be cited as "The Postal Regulations, 1900."

(Signed) ROBERT CODRINGTON,
Administrator.

APPROVED:

(Signed) W. H. MANNING, Lieut.-Colonel,
H.M. Acting Commissioner and Consul-General.

ZOMBA, B.C. AFRICA,
December 11, 1900.

(*To be continued.*)

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

MEMBERS are reminded that their subscription for the year 1909 becomes due and payable on 1 January.

All members who have not yet paid their dues to the Society are requested to remit same without further delay direct to the Hon. Treasurer,

C. E. MCNAUGHTAN, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

AT the meeting of 4 February a display of the stamps of Victoria, with notes, will be made by Mr. Henry Grey.

On 18 February Mr. E. J. Nankivell will read a paper on the Waterlow series of New Zealand, and give a display of the stamps.

BINDING—FINAL NOTICE.

MEMBERS and subscribers desiring to have their copies of Volumes I to XVII bound, can do so, in stock style, half-marone morocco, gilt top, price Seven Shillings each volume, which price includes cost of return post, carefully packed in cardboard box.

Copies from abroad will be Eight Shillings each, which includes return by Registered Book Post, carefully packed.

All copies to be so bound must be sent in accompanied by remittance, and addressed: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

N.B.—No copies can be received for binding at above prices after the end of *February*, and the bound volumes will be posted *about* the end of March.

THE HISTORY OF THE INVERTED SWAN IN THE LEINSTER COLLECTION IN DUBLIN. By W. R. LANE JOYNT, F.R.P.S.L.

THE only person who ever occupied the position of a real dealer in stamps in Dublin was a Mr. Gerrard, the owner of a stationery shop, first in Nassau, and subsequently in Grafton Street, in the early seventies. Here all Irish collectors of that date assembled to purchase and sell stamps, or to meet and form the acquaintance of fellow-collectors. Mr. Gerrard had a sound knowledge of the classes of stamps that sold well, and was a good purchaser of collections containing nice colonials. What lovely things I refused to buy in that shop because they then appeared too dear! I particularly remember being struck with his desire to purchase 1s. New Brunswicks and Nova Scotias, and he one day confided to me that he had a customer who took all he could supply him with at a sovereign apiece—a price which we both considered much beyond their value.

That customer I subsequently learned was a Major Knox, of Kingstown, whose accumulation of stamps, for I can scarcely call it a collection, as it was nearly all kept loose in the drawers of several large bureaux, fetched a very large sum when submitted to auction in London in the nineties. It was to Mr. Gerrard that I sold the collection I made when at school in Germany in 1872–3, and many other schoolboys parted with their treasures in like manner. I came across one of them recently, and discovered that it was through his instrumentality that the Duke of Leinster acquired the copy of the inverted swan, which now forms the gem of the Leinster Collection. Mr. Vance, the gentleman in question, had sold his collection to Mr. Gerrard in 1876 for £27, and promptly commenced to collect again. He was constantly in and out of the shop, and got acquainted with most of the Dublin collectors. Amongst others he met Mr. Morris, a master in the High School, who had a very fine collection, and amongst other rarities possessed a copy of the 4d. Western Australia with the centre inverted. This stamp was always the subject of discussion, its genuineness even being called in question by those unaware of the method by which the stamp was produced. One day, when in Mr. Gerrard's shop, Mr. Vance was pointed out the Duke of Leinster, who was purchasing stamps; and getting into conversation with him he mentioned that he knew of a copy of the inverted swan, which he had heard the owner state he would be willing to sell for £3. The Duke asked if he thought he could get it for that sum, and on Mr. Vance answering in the affirmative the Duke took out his cheque-book, wrote a cheque for the amount, and gave it to Mr. Vance.

Mr. Vance, who was then little more than a schoolboy, had the greatest difficulty in getting the cheque cashed. Mr. Gerrard was unaware of what was going on, and Mr. Vance did not like to let him know or show him the cheque. Wherever he presented it he was asked who "Leinster" was, and how he came to get the cheque; and his explanation not being sufficiently convincing, several people refused to have anything to do with him. Having at last got money for it, he went to interview the schoolmaster, Mr. Morris. He bought a few medium stamps first, just to get Mr. Morris in good humour and show he was not wasting time, and when he came to Western Australia

he asked Mr. Morris if he wanted to sell the curiosity. Mr. Morris said yes, if he could get any one to give him £3. Mr. Vance brought up all the arguments about the impossibility of its being genuine and, to make a long story short, succeeded in purchasing it for £2. On handing it over to the Duke the latter was so pleased with the bargain that he presented his intermediary with some £3 or £4 worth of stamps for his success in the transaction.

The Duke showed this stamp at the first philatelic exhibition held by the Royal London Society. Strange to say he never mounted it in either of the albums which contained his collection, one of which was reserved for unused, and the other for used stamps. He was always more anxious to complete the regular issues than to acquire errors, and this was the only notable exception in his collection. Further, he had actually arranged with the Rev. Wm. Bell, of Cork (whose murder created such a sensation some years ago), to exchange the inverted swan for other stamps, to be chosen by him from Mr. Bell's duplicates, to the catalogue value of £70. It was only the untimely death of the Duke that saved this deal being carried through, and the consequent loss of the stamp to the nation.

MANCHESTER POSTAGE STAMP EXHIBITION.

HULME TOWN HALL, Stretford Road, Manchester, is the locale of this Exhibition, which will be held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, February 18, 19, and 20, 1909, the Exhibition opening on Thursday at 3.30 p.m. and closing at 10 p.m., and on Friday and Saturday at 10.30 a.m., closing at 10 p.m.

The numerous promises of support which have been received from many eminent collectors should make an interesting display of both British, Colonial, and Foreign Postage Stamps, Proofs, Forgeries, and Reprints, together with other objects of philatelic interest.

We are desired to state that "the Exhibition area consists of about 7000 square feet, and the display will be made all on the same level in a large and small hall, both of which are eminently suited for the purpose. They are lofty and well lighted, and there is no top light whereby the stamps might be faded. The display is entirely non-competitive, but a diploma has been designed, suitable for framing, which will be presented to all exhibitors as a memento of the occasion. All stamps will be exhibited under glass, in locked or sealed frames or cases, night and day watchmen will be employed, and every possible precaution will be taken to secure exhibits from damage or loss. The building is fireproof, and in addition has under the same roof a station of the Manchester Fire Brigade. The 'Ross' Ladies' Band has been engaged, and will perform in the main hall throughout each day. Accommodation has been found for fourteen trade stalls—most of the principal London and provincial dealers will be represented—thus affording for the first time in Manchester an opportunity for collectors and dealers to make personal transactions. The large hall above the Exhibition will be devoted to the first Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, and to lantern lectures on

popular and educational philatelic matters. A large hall has been set aside for a refreshment room, and the catering will be undertaken by a well-known local firm. Admission to the Exhibition will be entirely free by ticket, which can be obtained from all stamp dealers, or the Hon. Sec., J. R. M. Albrecht, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester."

The Philatelic Congress.—"This will be the first opportunity afforded in this country to philatelists of all shades and opinions to confer upon many important matters connected with Philately. The most important British Societies have already expressed their willingness and desire to help it forward and take part in it. Delegates have already been appointed to attend, the result of whose deliberations must undoubtedly be of permanent value to the hobby. Special matters of philatelic importance will be discussed, such as the following: the formation of a national Society or Federation; the holding of an annual Congress; the suppression of unnecessary or speculative issues, etc. etc.; the compilation of a Collector's Catalogue and Guide. Suggestions of further subjects of interest will be carefully considered, and all philatelists are heartily invited to attend and make the Congress successful and worthy of the traditions of British Philatelic Societies. Days and time of meetings will be announced later. All communications and suggestions are to be addressed J. J. Darlow, Exhibition Offices, 9 Albert Square, Manchester."

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STAMPS ISSUED.

WE are indebted again to Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for the interesting information that the total number of stamps issued to date (as included in their catalogue) is 22,382, of which 6,849 are apportioned to the British Empire, and 15,533 to the rest of the world. Europe has issued 4,685, Asia 4,342, Africa 4,974, America 4,961, the West Indies 1,808, and Oceania 1,612. This number would, of course, be very largely increased by the inclusion of all the minor varieties of perforation, surcharge, watermark, etc.

THE KOCH AUCTION AT PARIS.

A FURTHER portion of Herr Koch's collection, consisting of the German stamps, was disposed of last month by auction in Paris, and fully maintained the high level of prices that were previously attained. The total sum realised has been nearly £16,000, of which one-half was produced by the German stamps, in which the Koch Collection was especially strong. Some of the prices realized seem to have been beyond the true value, owing to the very keen competition of the amateurs, and the dealers are lamenting that they were so largely outbidden! In any case, the sale has been a great success, and reflects much credit upon Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler, who have taken great pains in the preparation of amply illustrated and correctly described catalogues.

The two most important lots were undoubtedly the well-known unused blocks of six of the ¼, ⅓, ½, 1, 2, and 3 gr. of the 1860 issue of Oldenburg (£244), and a pair of the ½ ng., Saxony, error of colour (£220). The 9 kr.

green, error, of Baden, also attained the very high price of £198, and a block of twelve of the 1 kr., black, of Bavaria, with a *tête-bêche* specimen, realized £80. Throughout the German States there were fine "pieces," notably in used pairs and strips and on the entire original, which seem to have realized prices beyond the dreams of the maker of catalogues!

SALE OF MR. ROBERT REID'S COLLECTION.

WE are informed that this important collection, consisting entirely of unused stamps of the whole world, is to be broken up and disposed of at auction by Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, owing, as we regret to learn, to the state of health of its owner. Mr. Reid's stamps have been shown upon several occasions at the Royal Philatelic Society, and the collection includes an enormous number of stamps, inclusive of many fine and valuable specimens.

The first portion, which will consist of the European stamps other than those of Great Britain, will be sold on February 18 and 19, followed by those of the British Colonies in Asia and Africa on March 5 and 6.

Among the many fine things in this European section we mention just a few, e.g.:—

Hungary. All the values of the lithographed issues in several shades. 25 kr. in a block of four.

German States. All States complete, besides single specimens of the greatest rarities; blocks of four of many of the early stamps of Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, Hamburg, Prussia, Saxony, Thurn and Taxis; a block of eight of 1862 1 kr., black-brown, of Wurtemberg, etc.

Tuscany. 1851, 2 soldi, brick-red on azure.
1852, 60 crazie, brick-red on azure.
1853, 9 crazie, lilac-grey.
1860, 3 lire, yellow.

Naples. ½ tornese, Arms.
½ tornese, Cross (two shades).

Russian Levant. 1865 (2 k.), brown and blue.
(20 k.), blue and red.

Spain. The collection contains a great rarity, the 2 reales of 1851, blue error of colour.

Sweden. The first issue on thin and thick paper, and the error 20/30 öre.

Switzerland. All the Cantonal issues, with the exception of the 4 rappen Zurich with horizontal lines.

Belgium, France, Portugal, Austria, Greece, Turkey, are also nearly complete in every respect.

GRIEBERT'S PHILATELIC NOTES AND OFFERS.

UNDER the above title we have to notice yet another contemporary, the first number of which appeared in October, and has now been followed by a second, and apparently quarterly issue. As indicated by the

above heading, this little journal has been established to afford a means of communication between Messrs. Hugo Griebert and Co. and their clients, but it will be found that it also includes many useful philatelic notes and points of interest to collectors. In the present issue there are, for instance, some pertinent and well-founded remarks as to the fallacy of dealers pricing what they have not got to sell, and on the fatuity with which many collectors imagine they can buy really fine stamps at "fifty per cent under catalogue." It is contended in Messrs. Griebert's journal that, as evinced by recent auctions, catalogue "value" is frequently absolutely set at naught where the condition and rarity of the specimens are abnormal. Messrs. Griebert's journal, which is distinguished by the novel feature of being printed in parallel columns of English, French, and German, will well repay perusal by stamp collectors, and we wish our new contemporary a long and flourishing existence.

Review.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING'S CATALOGUE.*



THE appearance of the Ninth Edition of this Catalogue is sufficient indication of the usefulness and appreciation of the work which appeals to that very large class of collectors who are not prepared to dive into the inner mysteries of scientific Philately. The catalogue, however, includes all the important varieties of watermark and surcharge, and as it includes over 22,000 listed varieties, the "generalist" collector may well rest content! There are many alterations and improvements in the present edition, notably in the revision of the description of the colours, and in the rearrangement of some of the British Colonies under their new headings; for instance, British Central Africa and British New Guinea will now be found under their new official names of Nyasaland Protectorate and Papua respectively. British South Africa is more correctly listed under Rhodesia, by which name the Territories of the British South Africa Company are generally known. Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, and Sungei Ujong are now grouped together under the heading of Malaya. "The stamps of Italian Somaliland (Benadir) and British Solomon Islands are also now listed and priced, as there is no longer any doubt that they are *bona fide* issues, recognized by the Universal Postal Union, and available for prepayment of postage on letters for any part of the world."

This catalogue fully bears out its reputation as a concise, clear, and well-illustrated work, thoroughly adapted for the requirements of the general collector, to whom we cordially recommend it.

* *The Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World.* Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich, England.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—The new set of seven stamps is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The design is practically that of the issue of 1907, but the stamps have been considerably reduced in size.

Adhesives.

½d., green; multiple CA sideways; perf. 14.
1d., carmine ,, ,, ,,
2d., slate ,, ,, ,,
2½d., ultramarine ,, ,, ,,
5d., olive ,, ,, ,,
6d., purple ,, ,, ,,
1s., black on green ,, ,, ,,

Brunei.—The 8 c. in new colours has appeared, and *Gibbons Weekly* informs us that the centre is in *blue* and the frame in *indigo-blue.*

Cape of Good Hope.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that the current 1d. has been getting deeper in shade lately, and the colour may now be chronicled as deep rose.

Adhesive.

1d., deep rose.

Gold Coast.—The 1d. stamp of new design, reported on page 156, Vol. XVII, has been some time making its appearance.

A copy is now to hand from Mr. W. T. Wilson.

India.—*Travancore.*—A new value, 4 cash, in a new design, is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

4 cash, pink.

Mauritius.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 25 c., Arms type, on multiple, chalky paper.

Adhesive.

25 c., green and carmine on green; multiple; chalky.

Natal.—The 5d. value, on ordinary multiple-watermarked paper, is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

5d., orange and black; multiple; ordinary.

New Hebrides.—The expected new stamps, referred to on page 299, Vol. XVII, are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

King's Head stamps of Fiji Islands, overprinted "New Hebrides Condominium," in black, with or without a coloured bar obliterating the name "FIJI."

½d., green; no bar.
1d., rose ,,
2d., lilac and orange; bar orange.
2½d. ,, blue on blue; bar dark blue.
5d. ,, green; bar yellow-green.
6d. ,, carmine; bar carmine.
1s., green and carmine ,,

It will be noticed that the bar is in each case in the same colour as the value.

All the values except the ½d. and 1d. have single watermark.

New Zealand.—*Gibbons Weekly* lists the 2s. of the current set with mixed perforations of 11 and 14. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports the 3d., brown, perf. 14 × 15.

Adhesives.

3d., brown; N Z and Star; perf. 14 × 15.
2s., blue-green; ,, ,, ,, 11 and 14.

Southern Nigeria.—The following is taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News:* "We have received something of a phenomenon from this colony, in the shape of an entire sheet of the new 10s. stamps, which ought to be on chalk-surface paper and which may have been printed on that paper. The chalk-surfacing has, however, entirely disappeared, except for a trace along the extreme edge of the left margin of the sheet. Only in that place does a

silver coin leave a black mark ; on the rest of the margin and on the stamps we failed to get the slightest sign of a mark. If this sheet was treated with the chalk solution, where has the latter gone to? The design of the stamps is quite unaffected. As the stamps show no sign of the chalk-surface, we feel bound to chronicle them as 'multiple ordinary,' notwithstanding the trace of the chalk-surface on the margin."

Adhesive.

Wmk. Crown CA multiple ; ordinary (?) paper.
10s., purple on yellow.

Issued 11.08 or earlier.

TRANSVAAL.—On page 229, Vol. XVII, we chronicled the discovery by Mr. J. E. Joselin, F.R.P.S.L., of a 1d. King's Head stamp watermarked with the *Cabled Anchor* of the Cape stamps, and it is now reported in the *S.C.F.* that another specimen has been found in a 3s. packet of Colonials.

Will the 1d. Cape be found on the multiple CA paper?

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—A quantity of new stationery is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Envelope Stamps.

All in design of 5 heller adhesive.
3 heller, red-lilac on white.
5 ,, green ,,
5+5 heller, green ,,
10 heller, rose ,,
20 ,, dark brown ,,
25 ,, blue ,,

Printed-Matter Card.

3 heller, red-lilac on buff.

Newswrapper.

3 heller, red-lilac on yellowish.

CRETE.—Several sheets of the new 10 lepta (Hermes) escaped being overprinted, states *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, and we have therefore to chronicle :—

Adhesive.

10 lepta, Hermes, *without* overprint.

HOLLAND.—The 15 c. in new colours is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

15 c., blue and rose ; perf. 12½.

HUNGARY.—To the set of Postage Dues perf. 15 *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* adds the 5 and 50 filler.

Postage Dues.

5 filler, green and black ; perf. 15.
50 ,, ,, ,, ,,

RUSSIA.—A new 7 kopeck stamp has been issued, and Mr. Albert Scheindling has sent us a used specimen.

It bears the usual inscription in a scroll at top, Eagle, with the posthorns and thunderbolts, in centre, and value in figure and in words at foot.

The alteration in the type has been caused by the discovery of a large quantity of cleaned Russian postage stamps in the denomination of 7 kopecks and upwards and Revenue stamps from 5 kopecks upwards.

It is estimated that the loss to the Russian Government may amount to five million roubles.

Adhesive.

7 kop., blue on white ; thin wove paper ; perf. 14½.

SWITZERLAND.—The 2 c. redrawn type and the new 25 c. stamp are to hand from Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The latter stamp is as handsome as the former still remains ugly.

Adhesives.

2 c., bistre ; redrawn William Tell design ; perf. 11½–12.
25 c., blue ; new Helvetia design ; perf. 11½–12.

We are informed by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the new 40 c. design has now been altered to bring it into line with that of the other values, although the initials "C L" in place of "C. L'Epplateunier" are very indistinct.

Adhesive.

Modified design, initials "C L" only.
40 c., violet and light yellow.

AMERICA.

NICARAGUA.—We gather from *Mekeel's Weekly* that some provisional postage stamps have been created by overprinting 2 c. orange Revenue stamps

"10 cts
CORREOS
1908
OFICIAL
10 cts"

in various coloured inks.

Provisionals.

10 c. on 2 c., orange Revenue ; black surcharge.
15 c. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; ditto, ditto.
35 c. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; red ditto.
50 c. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; black ditto.
70 c. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; ditto, ditto.
1 p. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; green ditto.
2 p. on 2 c., ditto, ditto ; black ditto.

PARAGUAY.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 60 c., rose, and 60 c., yellow-brown, ordinary stamps of 1904 surcharged in black

Habilitado en
5
CENTAVOS

and we trust both are new to our chronicle.

Provisionals.

5 c. on 60 c., rose, of 1904 ; surcharged as above.
5 c. on 60 c., yellow-brown ,, ,,

SALVADOR.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 1 c. ordinary stamp of 1907 and the 3 c. Official of the same year, each overprinted *horizontally* "Deficiencia De Franqueo" in two lines in black.

It is possible that these stamps have been chronicled before ; but without a reference collection of the stamps to turn to, it is most difficult to follow the late provisionals of some of the South and Central American States.

UNITED STATES.—We have again to thank Messrs. G. L. Toppan, F.R.P.S.L., A. McKechnie, F.R.P.S.L., and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. for sending us early copies of the new 3 c., 4 c., 5 c., 6 c., 8 c., 10 c., 13 c., and 50 c. ordinary and the new 10 c. Special Delivery stamps.

By the time these lines are in print these stamps will be so well known that a description is unnecessary here, and we have only to chronicle :—

Adhesives.

3 cents, purple, with figures of value in lower corners.
4 cents, brown, with figures of value in lower corners.
5 cents, blue, with figures of value in lower corners.
6 cents, vermilion, with figures of value in lower corners.
8 cents, olive-green, with figures of value in lower corners.
10 cents, yellow, with figures of value in lower corners.
13 cents, green, with figures of value in lower corners.
50 cents, violet, with figures of value in lower corners.

Special Delivery.

10 c., green.

All perf. 12.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ABYSSINIA.—A new set of Postage Dues has appeared, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us specimens.

The ordinary adhesives of 1894 have been overprinted in black with Ethiopic characters within an irregular triangular border.

Postage Dues.

¼ g., green ; black overprint.
½ g., red ,, ,,
1 g., blue ,, ,,
2 g., brown ,, ,,
4 g., claret ,, ,,
8 g., lilac ,, ,,
16 g., black ,, ,,

CONGO STATE.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 5 c. and 10 c. stamps of 1900–1 overprinted "CONGO BELGE" in narrow caps in black over the inscription "ETAT INDEPENDANT."

Adhesives.

5 c., green and black ; overprinted as above.
10 c., carmine and black ,, ,,

The following is taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* :—

"The Belgian Colonial Office authorized the surcharging of the stock of stamps on hand by means of handstamps inscribed 'CONGO BELGE' ; but as might have been expected this method was found too slow, and in the end the surcharge on the bulk of the stock had to be printed. Needless to say, the handstamped issue was immediately bought up by local collectors. Should more stamps be required Messrs. Waterlow and Sons could be instructed to apply the surcharge before sending out the stamps, thus ensuring a third type, and this could be followed by a fourth issue with 'Congo Belge' engraved!"

Adhesives.

Surcharged "CONGO BELGE" (two types of surcharge).

5 c., green and black.
10 c., carmine ,,
15 c., yellow ,,
25 c., blue ,,
40 c., blue-green ,,
50 c., olive-green ,,
1 f., carmine ,,
3½ f., red. ,,
5 f., carmine ,,
10 f., green ,,

CUBA.—The 2 c., carmine, has been supplied with an overprint consisting of the letter "T" in a circle for service as a Postage Due.—*S.C.F.*

Postage Due.

2 c., carmine.

DUTCH INDIES.—It is stated in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the three new values—7½ c., 17½ c., and 22½ c.—have been overprinted "JAVA" or "BUITEN BEZIT."

Adhesives.

7½ c., grey ; overprinted as above.
17½ c., ochre ,, ,,
22½ c., brown and olive ; overprinted as above.

MARTINIQUE.—A new set has appeared here, and the 1 c., 2 c., and 4 c. are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The centre bears the head of a native lady.

Adhesives.

1 c., yellow-brown ; frame, name, head, and value in purple.
2 c., sage-green ; frame, name, head, and value in purple.
4 c., claret ; frame, name, head, and value in purple.

NYASSA (*Portuguese Possessions*).—Another value, 50 reis, is added by *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* to the set with inverted centres. This will make five values known in this condition, and doubtless the remaining eight will turn up in good time.

Adhesive.

50 reis, blue and black; centre inverted.

PERSIA.—*Mekeel's Weekly* makes additions to the Parcel Post stamps, and notes some surcharged stamps as well.

Parcel Post Stamps.

2 c., grey-green on blue.
13 c., deep blue.

Provisional Adhesives.

2 c., grey-green on blue overprinted "P.L.-TeherAN."
2 c., grey-green on blue; overprinted "Imprimis" and Persian characters.

All overprints in black.

RIO DE ORO.—The 1 peseta of 1907 surcharged in violet ink, Gibbons' Type 2, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Provisional.

15 c. on 1 peseta, orange-buff, of 1907; violet surcharge.

SIAM.—A Jubilee issue has been made, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send specimens, but we do not chronicle this class of stamps.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly lists a set of stamps which portray some monument in Bangkok, and which are probably for permanent use. Believing this to be so, we chronicle:—

Adhesives.

1 t., green and violet.
2 t., purple and orange.
3 t., light yellow-green and ultramarine.
5 t., deep lilac and sage-green.
10 t., brownish olive and rose-carmine.
20 t., greyish slate and brown.
40 t., greenish blue and black-brown.

All perf. 13½.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1908-9.

President—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
Vice-President—THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. OLDFIELD.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. FULCHER.

E. D. BACON. T. WICKHAM JONES.
C. N. BIGGS. T. MAYCOCK.
M. P. CASTLE, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. HALL. F. REICHENHEIM.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG. R. B. YARDLEY.

THE fourth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, 3 December, 1908, at 6 p.m.

Members present: The Earl of Crawford, E. D. Bacon, R. B. Yardley, F. J. Peplow, J. R. Laing, T. G. Wayman, F. Ransom, C. McNaughtan, F. Reichenheim, M. P. Castle, T. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, B. Pinner, A. Chilver, D. C. Gray, Douglas Ellis, C. Neville Biggs, J. A. Tilleard, Lance E. Hall (Associate), and one visitor.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the Council had filled the vacancy in their body caused by the retirement of Mr. C. N. Biggs from the office of Hon. Treasurer by electing Mr. Biggs as an ordinary member of the Council until the annual general meeting.

A letter was read from Mr. Maurice Jonas announcing his desire to resign his membership, and the resignation was accepted with regret.

The receipt from Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen of a number of blocks of Official Somaliland and Sudan stamps showing the entire settings, with the errors, etc., was reported by the Hon. Secretary, who was directed to acknowledge Mr. Ewen's communication with the cordial thanks of the meeting for his very kind contribution to the collection of the Society.

Mr. Uriah Henry Alsop, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary, was, after ballot, duly elected a Member and Fellow of the Society.

Mr. M. P. Castle then read notes on the lithographed issues of the stamps of Trinidad, containing a large amount of valuable information concerning the history and classification of these interesting stamps, which will be read with great interest when the paper is published in *The London Philatelist*.

In a closely reasoned paper, the Hon. Vice-President confirmed the general accuracy of the deductions formed by Mr. Bacon in his account of the stamps in question published some years since in *The Philatelic Record*, and subsequently in the Society's work *West Indies*, and was able to prove conclusively that both the blue and the red stamps were printed from the same stones, which are believed to be still in existence in the Colonial Treasurer's office in Trinidad.

With great labour Mr. Castle has suc-

ceeded in reconstructing the plate, and his paper contains full descriptions of the chief varieties to be found and the points to be noted by collectors in endeavouring to follow in his footsteps in this respect. In referring to this part of his work Mr. Castle pointed out the value of being able to ascertain the position of the stamps on the plate, even where there is no actual variation of design, if only as an aid to the detection of forgeries, some of which in the case of lithographed stamps of Trinidad are of a dangerous nature.

The remarkable diversity in the impressions from the stones was well shown in the display given by Mr. Castle, his collection of the stamps under consideration being the most complete collection ever seen at a meeting of the Society.

The stamps were shown in very large numbers comprising all the various printings, thoroughly classified in accordance with the conclusions arrived at in the paper. Examples of nearly everything of interest were shown, both unused and used, together with reconstructed plates made up from stamps of the last two printings, which alone are of any practical use for plating purposes.

A resolution expressing the very cordial thanks of the Society to Mr. Castle for his valuable and interesting paper and display was moved by Mr. Bacon, and this was seconded by Mr. Ransom, who was able by the production of some of his own stamps to confirm the accuracy of some of Mr. Castle's observations, and, on being put to the meeting, the resolution was carried unanimously.

THE fifth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, December 17th, 1908, at six p.m.

Members present: Messrs. M. P. Castle, T. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, J. R. Laing, E. A. Elliott, Baron A. de Worms, C. Neville Biggs, Herbert R. Oldfield, W. Schwabacher, H. M. Hansen, C. McNaughtan, R. B. Yardley, F. J. Peplow, H. Scott Bridgwater, Douglas Ellis, D. C. Gray, Robert Reid, G. B. Bainbridge, T. G. Wayman, Lance E. Hall (Associate), and one visitor.

The chair having been taken by the Hon. Vice-President, the minutes of the meeting held on December 3rd, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary explaining his absence on the ground of indisposition, and this intimation was received by the members with much regret.

A letter was read from Lady Avery acknowledging the vote of sympathy passed in connection with the death of her late husband.

A letter was also read from Mr. W. L. Chew, resigning his membership of the Society, and such resignation was accepted with regret.

The Hon. Assistant Secretary reported the receipt from the Austrian Society of one of the Austrian Jubilee cards, which was handed over for the use of the official collection.

A letter was received from the Secretary of the Amsterdam Exhibition inviting members to exhibit, but as the copies of the regulations referred to in such letter had not been received they could not be placed on the table.

A letter was read from the Vice-President, who was detained in the House of Lords, and the Chairman read a note he had prepared upon the Black Penny English Essay, which note will appear in the pages of *The London Philatelist*.

Mr. Robert Reid then gave a display of British and British Colonial stamps, including those of all the Australian States, which were in an unused condition.

The collection comprised some magnificent copies of many varieties, including among others:—

Victoria: Many of the early issues in pairs, errors of watermark, 2s., green, imperf.; 6d., yellow, rouletted; 3d., blue, first issue, perf. 12. New South Wales: Sydney Views and 8d, orange, laureated. South Australia: First issues, London print and Colonial prints. New Zealand: Imperf. series, watermark N Z, perf. "N Z", 1s., green. Queensland: First issue, 6d., green; other issues complete. Western Australia: A fine series of early imperf. issues. Tasmania: 1d., blue, and 4d., different states of the plate. Hong Kong: Mint copy of the 96 c., yellow-brown. India: 4 annas, with rosettes; all the Officials. Ceylon: Many of the imperf. Ceylon and rare pence issues perf.

At the conclusion of the display a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. T. W. Hall, seconded by Mr. C. E. McNaughtan, and after some remarks in support by Mr. M. P. Castle was carried unanimously. The proceedings then terminated.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

President—R. HOLLICK, ESQ.

Vice-Presidents—

T. W. PECK, ESQ. W. PIMM, ESQ.

Committee—

F. T. COLLIER. T. GROOM, D.SC.
P. T. DEAKIN. J. J. KNOWLES.
H. GRINDALL. C. A. STEPHENSON.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.

JAN. 7.—Mr. J. A. Margoschis exhibited, by means of his lantern, a large number of interesting stamps supplied by himself and by Messrs. Stephenson, Grindall, Peck, Hollick, Collier, and Searle. In many cases they were shown two at a time, so that differences of design might be pointed out.

Jan. 12 to 15 inclusive.—A very successful exhibition was held at the Midland Institute as part of the annual conversazione. It was limited to Great Britain and her colonies, but of these a very representative collection was shown, nearly every colony being included. Each subscriber of one guinea is allowed a ticket for self and friend, and as

there are some 3000 subscribers it meant a very good attendance. Some 5900 attended on the four evenings, in addition to 120 who were at the private view on Wednesday afternoon.

The chief exhibitors were Messrs. B. B. Tilley (India, India Native States, Straits Settlements, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, etc.), C. A. Stephenson (Barbados, Victoria, British Central Africa, British South Africa, Transvaal, etc.), R. Hollick (Canada and all the other colonies of British North America, Bahamas, Mauritius, Bechuanaland, etc.), J. J. Knowles (Great Britain, Cape of Good Hope), W. Pimm (New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, St. Vincent, Nevis, etc.), H. Grindall (Sarawak), T. W. Peck (South Australia), F. T. Collier (Trinidad), T. Groom (St. Helena), W. S. Vaughton (Ceylon), Society's Collection (pair of V.R. 1d., black).

All the exhibits reached a high standard of excellence, the Committee having spent several months in selecting the most representative collection of each colony from the various members.

Notices.—Mr. F. T. Collier will give a paper on "Argentine, 1877–1908," on January 28.

February 4 is the last day for lots to be sent in for auction on March 4.

308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

Herts Philatelic Society.

The second general meeting of the session 1908–9 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, November 17th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), M. P. Castle (Hon. Vice-President), W. G. Cool, T. H. Harvey, W. A. Boyes, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, W. T. Standen, J. E. Booth, J. A. Leon, D. H. Jackson, W. H. Eastwood, G. White, S. Chapman, W. Hogg, J. E. Lincoln, Lt.-Col. H. Barclay, J. R. Laing, W. A. Gunner, E. W. Arnold, K. Wiehen, E. Bounds, J. W. Campion, P. Ashley, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and one visitor.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on October 28th, 1908 were read and confirmed.

Before proceeding to the other business of the meeting, the President alluded with a few touching words to the lamentable and untimely death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of the Hon. Vice-Presidents of the Society, and moved the following resolution:—

"The Herts Philatelic Society wish to express their deepest sympathy with Lady Avery and the other members of the family at the lamentable death of Sir William B. Avery, Bart., one of their Hon. Vice-Presidents, and asks the Hon. Secretary to forward this resolution to her."

This motion was seconded by the Vice-President, an old personal friend of the deceased, and carried unanimously.

Messrs. J. Cook, D. H. Jackson, A. Montader, G. White, W. F. Clarke, H. M. Hansen, J. H. Rosenheim, and A. Lange were duly elected ordinary members of the Society, the two last-named gentlemen having also been passed by the Committee on the suggestion of the Vice-President, although their names did not appear on the agenda.

In the absence of the Hon. Librarian, the President informed the meeting of some valuable additions to the library, presented mostly by himself and also by Messrs. D. Field, H. F. Johnson, A. Montader, P. Kosack, L. Harald Kjellstedt, H. Griebert, and the Bath Philatelic Society.

Messrs. S. Chapman, W. G. Cool, and W. Jacoby sent contributions to the Society's collection of entires, and Mr. W. G. Cool and Mrs. H. R. Baird gave some good specimens of forgeries.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks.

The Vice-President promised a generous donation, amounting to about £20 in value, to the Society's collections at a later date.

The Vice-President and Mr. M. P. Castle expressed views on the "Open Letter" appearing in the November number of the *Monthly Report*, and suggested that in future the editor should decline to publish anonymous letters. This the editor agreed to do.

The President then called upon Mr. M. P. Castle for a display of his collections of the stamps of Bahamas and St. Vincent, which, although started recently, were complete in every respect and, accompanied by explanatory notes, afforded a great amount of instruction and enjoyment to all the members present.

After the conclusion of the display the President proposed, and Mr. P. Ashley seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle. Needless to say this was carried with enthusiasm and suitably responded to.

The meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

The third general meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, December 15th, 1908, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. Archibald Boyes, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, C. R. Sutherland, W. T. Standen, E. W. Arnold, D. H. Jackson, W. A. Gunner, E. Bounds, K. Wiehen, A. J. Warren, J. E. Booth, W. H. Eastwood, D. Thomson, J. R. Laing, M. Simons, M. Weinberg, J. W. Campion, R. Reid, and J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian).

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on November 17th, 1908, were read and confirmed.

Mr. M. Z. Booleman was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The Hon. Librarian reported the donation of several books from the President, Messrs. Chas. Nissen and Co., Internationaler Philatelisten Verein, Dresden, and the Committee of the International Philatelic Exhibition, Amsterdam, 1909, and the regular exchange of three new journals against the *Monthly Report.*

Mr. R. Frentzel reported donations of entires from the President and Mr. W. G. Cool to the Society's collection.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks.

The President then asked Mr. Robert Reid to give the display of the European part of his collection, and although it was universally known that Mr. Reid had an extremely fine general collection, very few of the members present expected to see such a complete and nicely arranged collection, containing with very few exceptions every principal variety in unused and mint condition.

It was universally regretted that the time was much too short to allow a careful inspection of the collection, and although the meeting did not close until 8.45 p.m., the members could only rush through the enormous amount of treasures placed before them for their inspection.

A very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. W. G. Cool and seconded by Mr. T. H. Harvey, was passed with enthusiasm, and suitably responded to by Mr. Reid, who promised to lay another part of his general collection before the Society at a future date.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec.*

NINE FIELDS, ST. ALBANS.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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QUEENSLAND ISSUE OF 1881.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—It may be of interest to your readers to know that I have a vertical pair of the 2s. 6d. Queensland 1881 lithographed issue, showing types 1 and 9 *se-tenant.* This does not fit in with Mr. Hausburg's recently published arrangement of the types of this value, and it seems to point either to a mistake in his arrangement or to another transfer. I enclose the pair for your inspection.

I may add that I have a block of eight showing Types 2, 3, 7, and 8, which agrees with Mr. Hausburg's arrangement.

Yours faithfully,

P. L. PEMBERTON.

15*th December*, 1908.

[We have examined the vertical pair kindly sent by Mr. Pemberton, and believe that the bottom stamp of the pair is Mr. Hausburg's No. 1 on the plate.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately,* e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.

Sale of 3 and 4 December, 1908.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I. R. Official, 1884, 5s., carmine,* creased	2	12	6
Ditto, O. W. Official, King, 10d., on piece	2	10	0
Ditto, Board of Education, Queen, 1s.	2	8	0
* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Board of Education, King, 5d.	2	10	0
Ditto, Admiralty, type 2, mint, set ½d. to 3d.	4	17	6
Ditto, 1d., black, reconstructed plate of 240, red Maltese Cross	4	2	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, black ditto	4	4	0
Greece, 1st type, 150 (including 36*)	11	0	0
Hong Kong, C A, 10 c., blue-green, mint	3	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British Central Africa, "One Penn" on 3s.	4	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, C C, "one half penny" on 3d., claret *	7	15	0
Natal, 1857, 1d., buff	2	4	0
Southern Nigeria, King, single C A, £1	2	6	0
Transvaal, pelure, wide roulette, 1d., red	2	8	0
Ditto, 1877, coarse paper, imperf., 6d., dull blue, inverted surcharge, pinhole	4	0	0
Antigua, no wmk, 6d., mint block of twelve	9	0	0
Barbados, C C, 12½, 6d., bright yellow *	3	5	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., mint	3	0	0
New South Wales, 1852, fine background, 6d., brown,* thinned	3	17	6
South Australia, 1856–9, rouletted, 1s., orange, printed both sides	5	15	0
Tasmania, £1, green and orange	3	0	0
Victoria, Star, perf., 1d., yellow-green, strip of three	40	0	0

Sale of 17 and 18 December, 1908.

France, 1849, 1 fr., orange-red	3	0	0
Great Britain, I. R. Official, 1884, 10s., blue, with "Accounts" cancellation	3	17	6
Ditto, Board of Education, Queen, 1s., mint, with certificate	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, King, 5d., ditto	3	10	0
Ditto, Admiralty, type 2, 2d., strip of three	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2½d., pair	2	15	0
Spain, 1854, 1 real, *pale blue*	8	5	0
Philippines, 1863, 2 reales, blue, mint	2	10	0
Ditto, 1869, ditto, ditto, "Habilitado"	3	17	6
Ditto, 1880–90, red surcharge on I. R. green, Gibbons' No. 195,* with gum	2	15	0
British Central Africa, 1897, £10, yellow	2	10	0
British South Africa, 1898, £5, blue, mint	4	7	6
Cayman Islands 2½d. on 4d., ditto	3	0	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 5s., rose-red, "Specimen"	3	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	2	0	0
Ditto, 1892, 1d., yellow-green	2	12	6
Victoria, 1868, 5s., blue on yellow, tiny crack	2	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON.

Sale of 8 and 9 December, 1908.

Saxony, 1850, 3 pf., red	6	5	0
Tuscany, 1853, 9 cr., lilac-grey	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1896, £25 black and green, "Specimen"	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1890, set of three	2	2	0
Ditto, 1891, ½ a., A B in MS. on 2 a., vermilion	3	5	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Lagos, 1884, 2s. 6d., olive-black, mint	3	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., orange on bluish, medium state	4	10	0
Zanzibar, 1895, 1 a., plum, blue surcharge*	2	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s, violet,* but creased and stained	6	10	0
Virgin Islands, 1867, 6d., dull rose on toned, mint	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., double-lined frame on blued *	2	0	0
Antioquia, 1868, 5 c., green, thinned on face	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto,, 1 peso, red, pair, pen cancelled	2	0	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, 1d., plate 2, on laid, pair on entire	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 2d., dark blue, plate 2, on entire £2 8s. and	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, plate 3, first retouch, on laid, pen-marked	2	2	0
Tasmania, 1870, 4d., blue *	2	10	0
Victoria, 1862, 6d., deep orange	2	4	0
Western Australia, 1861, 1s., deep green, rough perfs.	2	0	0
Collections: 3329, £64; and 3351	41	0	0

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MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, & CO.

Sale of 19 and 21 December, 1908.

British Somaliland (King), multiple, O.H.M.S., 2 a.	1	0	0
Canada, 7½d., green,* with gum	3	12	6
Cape Woodblock, 1d., scarlet, repaired	1	5	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf., repaired	1	8	0
Ditto, 4d., rose, ditto, ditto	1	6	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto, ditto	1	0	0
Ditto, 4d., rose, ditto, corners cut	2	0	0
Ditto, 4d., 8d., 9d., and 2s., ditto, repaired	4	4	0
Gambia, C C, 14, 1s., deep green, mint	1	9	0
Great Britain, Admiralty, type 1, ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., and 2½d., all mint	1	5	0
Ditto, Board of Education, Queen, 1s.	1	6	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., vermilion, early state	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, medium state	2	0	0
Ditto, 1891, 2 c. on 38 c., double surcharge, mint	1	12	0
New South Wales, "O.S.," 8d, yellow, mint, pair, double overprint.	1	2	0
Transvaal, 1876, fine roulette, 1d., bright red *	1	0	0
Western Australia, 2d., black on red, printed both sides,* repaired	1	12	0

Collection of Colonials, catalogue to about £700, £107.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER.

Sale of 10 and 11 December, 1908.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, mint, strip of three	2	10	0
Ditto, 1d., red, plate No. 225, mint, pair	2	2	0
Ditto, 1d., ditto, imperf., the Cardiff penny*	3	5	0
Ditto, 1841, 2d., blue, imperf., mint, block of six	3	3	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., white dots, imperf., mint, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, 1878, Maltese Cross, 10s., grey-green, strip of three, perfs. clipped at bottom	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, £1, brown-lilac, pairs £3 17s. 6d. and	4	17	6
Ditto, 1883, Anchor, £1, brown-lilac	4	0	0
Ditto, £5, orange, mint	4	17	6
Ditto, 1884, 3 Crowns, £1, brown-purple,* creased	3	3	0
Ditto, I. R. Official, 1885, £1, brown-lilac, "Specimen"	6	15	0
Ditto, Govt. Parcels, 1s., brown, plate 14, mint	2	2	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf., thinned	2	7	6
Cape of Good Hope, C C, 3d., lilac-rose, mint, pair	3	8	0
Sierra Leone, 1897, 2½d. on 3d., lilac and green, twice surcharged, mint.	3	7	6
British Guiana, 1899, 2 c. on 10 c. and 2 c. on 15 c., both with inverted surcharges, mint	4	15	0
Grenada, 1883, provisional, "POSTAGE" overprinted diagonally on half 1d., orange, a superb unused vertical corner pair, representing four unsevered halves, mint	16	10	0
Virgin Islands, 4d., brown, a mint horizontal strip of three, with bottom margin, centre stamp is the "FOURPENCE" error	3	4	0
Western Australia, 1860, 2d., vermilion, block of 10*	3	0	0

Collections: 9404, £55; 7500, £24 10s.; and 297 (Lallier's), £22.

Sale of 7 and 8 January, 1909.

Switzerland, Zurich, 4 r., horizontal lines, type 2*	12	12	0
Ceylon, C A, 24 c., purple-brown*	3	7	6

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Straits Settlements, first issue, set of nine,* three defective	2	10	0
British East Africa, 1891, MS. sur., 1 anna "A B" on 4 a., brown, penmarked and postmarked	3	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1880, C C, 3d., lilac-rose, block of four, mint	7	5	0
Ditto, Mafeking, on British Bechuanaland, 1s. on 6d., on pieces £2 5s. and	2	10	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., red, pair on piece	3	7	6
Niger Coast, 1893, ½d., in blue fancy caps, on 2d.	2	10	0
Orange River Colony, 1890 provl., 1d. on 3d., ultramarine, an entire sheet of 240 mint, containing the different types	3	12	6
Southern Nigeria, King, single C A, £1, mint.	2	10	0
Transvaal, 1885, ½d. on 3d., mauve, an entire sheet of sixty, including the "PRNNY" and inverted "N" varieties, and one row perf. 11½ × 12, mint	2	4	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow,* creased	4	0	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion,* small margins	24	0	0
Ditto, 1s., scarlet-ver.,* small margins	25	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green*	2	6	0
United States, 1869 reissue, 15 c., blue and brown, 24 c., purple and green, and 30 c., carmine and blue, all unused, with gum	2	5	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., black on magenta, pair, rubbed	3	10	0
British Honduras, 1888, provisional, 2 c. on 1d., rose, with inverted surcharge, mint	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c. on 1d., rose, twice surcharged, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, error of surcharge, 5 c. on 1s., grey, mint	10	0	0
Grenada, 4d. on 2s., orange, upright "d," mint	4	0	0
St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d, blue-green, pair*	7	15	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf., 4d., brown-lilac, mint, pair	2	2	0
Ditto, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., yellow-green, mint, pair.	3	6	0
Mexico, 1864–6, 3 c., brown, with name, No., and date*	3	15	0
New South Wales, 1885, 20s., violet and carmine	4	15	0
New Zealand, 1856, Colonial print, 1d., red on blue,* slight tear	2	2	0
Collection: 3049	40	0	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. FEBRUARY, 1909. No. 206.

The Philatelic Congress.

THE first Philatelic Congress ever held in this country is an accomplished fact. It can hardly be contended that the idea of having such a function is original, as we have been familiar therewith, both in Germany and America, for a number of years past. Many of us have, moreover, attended these meetings, and have derived due philatelic enjoyment or advantages therefrom, but with true insular conservatism it has never occurred to us that such an undertaking would be equally popular and successful in this country.

The inauguration of what will undoubtedly be a future annual feature of importance has been left to the initiative of almost the youngest Philatelic Society in Great Britain. The marked success that has attended the recent Congress at Manchester is therefore greatly to the credit of the Junior Philatelic Society of that city, which has by its energy and good organization established the Philatelic Congress in Great Britain.

Philatelists will be better able to estimate the value of the proceedings when the stenographic reports of the discussion are published; but it may be stated briefly that, although necessarily a considerable portion of the proceedings was of that negative nature which is entitled "battling the air," the Conference was not without tangible results. A resolution was accepted unanimously to forward a petition to the Postal Union Conference at Berne, asking that body to discourage, as far as possible, superfluous and commemorative issues. This step, in any case, can do no harm; and even if no direct result accrues, it is well to have acquainted the great Postal Conference of the existence of a watchful army of Philatelists. A further resolution was adopted, also unanimously, agreeing to the annual holding of the Congress, and fixing the next venue for London, on the invitation of the Herts Philatelic Society.

The most important of the other matters discussed was that of the

"Catalogue for Collectors," and it may be said that the difficulties of carrying out such a scheme were shown, by numerous speakers, to be practically insuperable. The debate, however, clearly showed that there is a widespread feeling that the present system requires amending, and the hope was expressed that good results will be effectuated in the future by the interchange of ideas on this thorny point between the contending parties. The fact that the leading German Societies and dealers are proposing to accept Herr Kohl's catalogue as a normal or standard work for Germany, as announced to the Congress by Mr. Reichenheim, created a mild sensation, and clearly demonstrated that the collectors on the Continent are actuated by the same feelings as those in this country.

The attendance of delegates from over thirty Philatelic Societies, besides those deputed by the dealers, is sufficient evidence of the importance attached to this Congress, and in the best interests of stamp collecting we hope to see it develop into the most important philatelic feature of the year.

The Manchester Philatelic Exhibition and Congress.

By M. P. CASTLE.



FTER a very pleasant and interesting sojourn in Manchester, it affords me great gratification to be able to testify to the complete success that has rewarded the enterprise of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society in the holding of an Exhibition of Stamps and in the inauguration of a Philatelic Congress. This Exhibition being held as late as the 18th to the 20th of this month unfortunately precludes me, without unduly delaying the appearance of this journal, from presenting as fully as I should wish the various results and deductions that the importance of the event requires; but this will doubtless be remedied in the subsequent numbers of *The London Philatelist*. For the present I must content myself with recording the fact that the entire business of the week was ably engineered by Mr. I. J. Bernstein (President), Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht (Hon. Sec.), Mr. D. A. Berry (Hon. Asst. Sec.), and Mr. J. J. Darlow (Hon. Congress Sec.). To these gentlemen, ably seconded by their Committee, is due the conspicuous success that has attended the second Philatelic Exhibition of Manchester and the first Philatelic Congress ever held in this country.

The locale of the Exhibition was the Town Hall of Hulme, a large and easily accessible building well adapted for the purpose, with two very large rooms for the display of the stamps, and a further chamber well suited for the Congress. These rooms are well lighted, without any injurious top light, and amply fitted with long rows of glass cases, flanked all round with dealers' stalls, and, enlivened with an excellent band, presented a bright and

animated picture during the whole time that the Exhibition remained open. Entrance was entirely free, the result being that the visitors must have numbered thousands; and it may indeed be said that, judging by the comments in the Manchester Press, widespread interest was evoked by this Exhibition, and that its aim—the extension of the philatelic pursuit—will have been successfully achieved. The co-operation of the Manchester Philatelic Society was most loyally given, and Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, the President, Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, and other members of the Senior Society, were indefatigable in aiding the efforts of Mr. Bernstein and his colleagues to make this notable event in every way a success.

The Exhibition was opened at half-past two o'clock on the 18th by the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Alderman Holt), in the presence of a large audience. The chair was taken by Mr. I. J. Bernstein, President of the Junior Philatelic Society of Manchester, and among those present were the Earl of Crawford, one of the patrons, Mr. Arthur Conboy, Mr. J. J. Darlow, Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, Mr. S. H. Higgins, jun., Mr. W. Jung, Mr. W. W. Munn, Mr. James Taylor, Mr. John H. Taylor, Mr. W. H. Woods, Mr. George White, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, Mr. C. J. Phillips, Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Mr. W. T. Wilson, Major E. B. Evans, the Delegates from the Royal Philatelic Society and over thirty other Philatelic Societies, Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht (Hon. Exhibition Secretary and Treasurer), Mr. D. A. Berry (Hon. Assistant Secretary), and Mr. J. J. Darlow (Hon. Congress Secretary).

There were, further, many ladies present, and the Lord Mayor made a very appropriate opening speech, for which he was duly thanked on the motion of Major Evans.

The exhibits were more numerous and important than I should have anticipated in a "Junior" exhibition, due to the co-operation of many of the Seniors, who kindly loaned them treasures for display. The exhibits of the Juniors were, however, many of them, marked by a scientific system of arrangement and careful selection of specimens that denote the remarkably rapid strides that Philately has taken in recent years. I am afraid that I cannot do more than briefly glance at the leading exhibits, premising that nearly every case evinced some meritorious or interesting feature.

Great Britain.

4. J. S. HIGGINS, JUN.—A specialized collection of great merit of the stamps issued up to 1900, *all unused*, comprising all the regular issues, and many scarce varieties. This collection also includes Essays, Proofs, colour trials and specimen stamps. The plate numbers are all complete. 1840, 1d., black, includes a block of six and strips of four and five; 1840, 2d., blue, strips of three and five; 2d., blue, Large Crown, perf. 14, and Small Crown, perf. 14. The octagonals contain 14 copies, including a pair of the 10d. and 1s. There are two copies of the 10s. Maltese Cross, and the £1 Maltese Cross, the £1, watermark three crowns and three orbs. The Officials are practically complete, including £1, watermark Crowns, 5s., 10s., and £1, green; also the 1d. Government Parcels, inverted surcharge, etc. etc.

6. WALTER SCOTT.—This exhibit contains the 1d., black, V.R.; proofs, 1d., red, 2d., blue, 6d., green, postmarked; 6d., lilac, large white letters in corner; 3d., rose, 4d., red, 6d., lilac, 1s., green, small white letters, the last three with hair lines; ½d., 1870, in green, 4d. plate 15 a pair, 8d. plate 1, in brown, perf. The 1d., red, imperf. (plate 116).

Bechuanaland and Protectorate.

15. JAMES H. ABBOTT.—A selection in pairs and blocks, including errors such as double surcharges, red and black, "ritish" for British, and 2d., green, surcharge 1888; also Protectorate complete, 1s. to 10s.

Canada.

23. MAJOR H. C. FRENCH, R.A.M.C.—An extensive specialized collection of used and unused, practically complete, with a fine range of shades. In the early issues the 10d. is represented by three mint copies, and the 6d. perf. also by three mint copies. In the 1852–7 issues are a number of superb used copies, including ½ c., rose, on *vertically* ribbed paper, and there are two copies of the 10 c., black-brown, 1859, on originals. A most interesting lot of essays, proofs, and colour trials are shown.

Cape of Good Hope.

24. W. H. TARRANT.—A collection showing mint or unused specimens of all the values of the issues of triangular stamps. Rouletted. Three specimens; "Woodblocks" include the rare retouched corner; two brick-red; five crimson, one of which has the shaded letters "One penny"; six pale blue, and three dark blue. Two of the blue are on original letters, one showing the very early postmark "Port Elizabeth, Mar. 5, 61."; and the other (a fine dark blue) the late postmark, "Nov. 5, 61."

Ceylon.

28. BARON A. DE WORMS.—This fine exhibit is too well known to need comment.

29. O. K. TRECHMANN.—In this exhibit, with few exceptions, the whole of the "cents" issues are well represented, used and unused, including most of the varieties in the surcharges, viz. inverted, double, and double with one inverted.

Cyprus.

30. J. C. NORTH.—This collection is also of that important class that requires no description on account of its completeness.

Falkland Islands.

33. J. STELFOX GEE.—Practically all catalogue varieties, used and unused, with shades.

34. W. H. LAWSON.—Complete collection.

Gambia.

35. W. DORNING BECKTON.—A complete specialized collection of the stamps of this colony up to the year 1890, including a large number of entire sheets.

Gibraltar.

37. G. FRED H. GIBSON.—All values of the Queen's Head issues in blocks of four and upwards, unused, and in blocks, pairs, and single specimens, used.

Grenada.

42. E. HEGINBOTTOM.—A representative used collection.

Hong Kong.

43. THOMAS H. HINTON.—Practically complete, except a few errors, etc.

Indian Native Feudatory States.

44. ALEXANDER J. SÉFI.

Montserrat.

52. JOHN J. DARLOW.—A representative collection comprising both unused and used specimens, practically complete up to date.

Nevis.

53. W. WAITE SANDERSON.—This exhibit has the 1861 issue complete on both blued and greyish paper, in most cases in unused and used condition; 1867 issue complete in unused and used state, including unsevered sheet of 1d. value; 1878 complete, with sheets of the 1d. and 1s., perf. 15, and 1d., perf. 11½; 1879 to 1882 complete, with bisected specimens, and the surcharges of 1883. The 1883–90 are shown mint, principally blocks, the 6d., green, in shades, and all except 1s., lilac, used.

New Zealand.

54. O. K. TRECHMANN.—A good representative collection of the first two types of this colony.

55. W. W. MUNN.—A collection of the pictorial issues, London and colonial printings.

Niger Coast Protectorate.

56. J. S. HIGGINS, JUN.—A complete collection of the regular issues of this colony.

North Borneo.

57. MRS. E. FIELD.—A collection of unused, including 1 c., orange, 1886; 8 cents on 2 c., red-brown, 1883; pair 3 cents on 4 c., pink, of 1886; showing two types of surcharge. Complete sheets of 1886–7 issue, including error, one cent, instead of four cents, pink.

St. Lucia.

68. JOHN J. DARLOW.—A specialized collection of single specimens, both used and unused, with a few pairs and blocks of four.

Sarawak.

70. HUMPHREY BENNETT.—A collection, mostly unused, containing a copy of the 3 cents 1869 issue, engraved, on surface coloured paper, used.

Seychelles.

71. J. W. HEATH.—The stamps of this colony are shown practically complete in both used and unused condition.

South Australia.

73. W. W. MUNN.—A collection of used and unused, showing a fine range of shades from the Perkins Bacon plates. London print, 1d., pair; colonial prints, imperf., 1d., 6d., 1s.; rouletted, many specimens of each value; the various perforations, single and compound, are also shown. In this exhibit is included a block of twenty-one of the 1s., orange, imperf., used.

Sudan.

75. BERTRAM W. H. POOLE.—This colony is shown practically complete, including the five types and the most noticeable varieties of the first issue in singles and blocks.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Belgium.

84. F. E. WILSON.—A very representative and choice collection of this country, unused. 1840, six 10 c., three and a pair 20 c.; 1850, 10, 20 and 40 c., wmk. L L framed; the first two issues are also shown used, and include strip of ten 20 c. and a 10 c. with double corner figures. The following are all unused: 1851, wmk. L L without frame, and include three 40 c.; 1861, no wmk., include blocks and strips of 1 c., five 40 c.; 1863–5, the three sets of perfs. in many shades, and blocks of all values; 1865, London prints, seven 1 fr.; 1866, Belgian prints, perf. 14½ by 14, three 1 fr. and nine 1 fr., perf. 15; pages of shades of most values of subsequent issues to 1883 only.

Brazil.

85. W. H. LAWSON.—Complete collection, with exception of a few relatively unimportant stamps. 1843, strip of three 60's. 1844, 180, 300, 600, and pairs and blocks of lower values. Later issues in wide range of colours and shades, and many blocks. 1906, official pair of the 10,000.

Costa Rica.

88. J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A highly specialized collection, including proofs, colour trials, and errors of perforation. The ½ real (imperforate) of

the first issue. The error "CORREOS" without the "C" on the 1889 5 c. fiscal. A representative display of the issues for official use and also the issues for the Province of Guanacaste.

Egypt.

89. H. HOWELL JONES.—A fairly representative and well-arranged collection of Egyptian stamps, including Postage Dues and Officials, practically all being unused. The collection includes a few essays and proofs, and also shows some forgeries for comparison with the genuine stamps.

France.

91. FRANZ REICHENHEIM.

92. W. GRUNEWALD.

Both of these exhibits are of first-class importance, and are fortunately too well known to necessitate enumeration of their contents.

Japan.

99. W. DORNING BECKTON.—A very highly specialized collection of this artistic country. The first issue is shown in entire sheets.

Modena.

100. W. DORNING BECKTON.—The stamps of the ancient Duchy of Modena are shown practically complete in their several printings, and include some sixty errors and abnormal varieties, some of which are of considerable rarity; to wit, the Provisional Government issue of 1859, 40 c., with inverted figure before "CENT.", unused, of which only one other specimen is known, and that is used.

Roumania.

101. C. H. COOTE.—This exhibit is only a portion of an important highly specialized collection of this country, evincing much philatelic study and great wealth of interesting varieties.

Sicily.

104. JOHN H. TAYLOR.—A specialized collection of the interesting stamps of this country, arranged according to the different plates. Each plate is well represented by a variety of shades, both used and unused.

Confederate States.

107. NATHAN HEYWOOD.—A very fine collection of these interesting stamps, all shown used on the original letter sheets and envelopes.

Great Britain.

110. J. R. M. ALBRECHT.—A specialized collection of Mulreadys, containing upwards of three hundred specimens, including complete sheets of the first varieties; proofs on India paper, before and after the insertion of value, and copies showing early postmarks.

Forgeries.

111. STANLEY GIBBONS.

112. HERBERT CLARK.

There were many other exhibits of an attractive nature, and I regret that I cannot find space for their enumeration. Taken as a whole, although of course not up to the standard of the great International Philatelic Exhibitions, it can safely be said that the display at Manchester was of a high order of merit.

An especially pleasant banquet to the Delegates was given on Friday evening, the 19th, at the sumptuous Midland Hotel, at which the speeches made, under the genial presidency of Mr. Bernstein, beguiled some most enjoyable evening hours. The thanks of all the Delegates are richly due to the courtesy and kindness of one and all of the Manchester collectors, and I am confident that all who were present can confirm my sentiments in that our sojourn in that city was of the most agreeable.

I should mention that there was another novel feature at this Exhibition, the Postmaster-General having been pleased to establish a temporary branch post office at the Hulme Town Hall, for the three days the Exhibition was open, to commemorate the first Philatelic Congress ever held in Great Britain, and for which a special postmark was granted, and applied to all correspondence posted in the pillar-box placed in the entrance hall. This feature excited much interest, and a large number of missives will bear the Exhibition postmark.

The Philatelic Congress.

FEBRUARY 18.—The proceedings were opened by Mr. I. J. Bernstein, and Mr. W. Dorning Beckton then took the chair and appropriately welcomed the Delegates. The formation of a National Society was, on the motion of Mr. Percy Bishop, discussed at some length, as also the suggested Philatelic Club for London, on the motion of Mr. P. L. Pemberton, but neither scheme gained much support.

FEBRUARY 19.—Mr. L. W. Fulcher's resolution in favour of a catalogue for collectors practically occupied the forum for the whole of the session. Although in the abstract it was evident that the meeting was in favour of the proposal, the result of the debate showed that the difficulties were so great as to render any present action impossible. A resolution by Mr. Percy Bishop to send a petition to the Postal Union at Berne, urging the discouragement of unnecessary and commemorative issues, was unanimously adopted, and a sub-committee appointed with that object.

FEBRUARY 20.—Mr. F. Reichenheim proposed that the Congress should be held in future annually, and that on the invitation of the Herts Philatelic Society should be held next year in London, this being unanimously carried. The question of the posthumous disposal of collectors' stamps was then discussed, and votes of thanks accorded to the Chairman and Hon. Sec.

Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908.

A Paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society on November 19, 1908.

By T. WICKHAM JONES, F.R.P.S.L.

(*Continued from page* 12.)

3 Francs.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *and* 11½ × 12.



I BELIEVE that the original plate (100) of these stamps was made by a strip of ten pieces being first produced and then this strip repeated ten times, for the following peculiarities will be found running right down the pane :—

On Nos. 3, 13, 23, 33, and 43, on both upper and lower half-panes, there is a second line of the cross-bar of the "R" in "FRANCO," and in Nos. 9, 19, 29, 39, and 49 there is a dot under the "N" of "FRANCO" on the left. There are also other minor similarities.

This also shows that the four sheets were transfers from one original plate of 100, although, curiously, up to the present I cannot find any proof on any other of the values except the 20 c.

The following are the retouches :—

Upper half-panes.

A. Retouches, Plate Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 14, 41, 43, 46.
Nos. 2, 3, 7, 10, 41, 43, above shield in background.
No. 43, between spear and head.
Nos. 4, 14, 43, between spear and oval.
Nos. 6, 9, in label of "HELVETIA" (in letter "E").
No. 46, above the label of "HELVETIA."

B. Retouches, Plate Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 14, 17, 20, 22, 23, 26, 28, 41, 43, 45, 48, 50.
Nos. 3, 6, 7, 20, 41, 50, above shield in background.
Nos. 4, 23, 43, 48, 50, between spear and head.
Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 14, 22, 26, 28, 43, 50, between spear and oval.
Nos. 4, 6, 17, 28, 45, in label of "HELVETIA."
Nos. 28, 43, each side of head.

C. Retouches, Plate Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 14, 23, 25, 28, 38, 43, 47, 48, 50.
Nos. 3, 6, 7, 28, 47, 50, above shield in background.
Nos. 23, 28, 48, between spear and head.
Nos. 4, 6, 7, 14, 38, between spear and oval.

Upper half-panes. C. Nos. 6, 9, 25 (very slight), in label of "HELVETIA."

Nos. 9, 43, both sides of head.

Unfortunately, in one of the half-panes that I show, you will note that the first stamp has been inserted, and is really No. 6 on half-pane B; but from Mr. Zumstein's half-pane that I show No. 1 on this plate is not retouched.

D. Retouched Plate Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 13, 14, 17, 18, 21, 23, 25, 28, 33, 43, 45.

Plate Nos. 1, 3, 6, 7, 13, 17, 21, 28, 43, above shield.

Nos. 4, 6, 7, 23, 28, 43, 45, between spear and head.

Nos. 4, 6, 7, 14, 17, 28, 33, between spear and oval.

No. 43, the whole of the background.

Nos. 7, 17, 18, 25, in label of "HELVETIA."

Lower half-panes. a.1. Retouches, Plate Nos. 2, 8, 24, 26, 40, 48, 50.

Nos. 2, 50, above shield in background.

No. 48, between spear and head.

Nos. 8, 26, 40, between spear and oval.

Nos. 24, lower left-hand corner of oval.

Nos. 48, 50, in label of "HELVETIA."

The same plate, a 2, *retouched again*, viz. the same retouches as before with the addition No. 7, above shield, and No. 39, between the spear and oval.

b. Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$.

Retouches, Plate Nos. 2, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 40, 48.

Nos. 2, 7, 11, 12, 21, 25, 33, 34, 36, 37, above shield in background.

Nos. 12, 19, 24, 48, between spear and head.

Nos. 8, 18, 19, 24, 28, 39, 40, between spear and oval.

Nos. 15, 48, in label of "HELVETIA."

c. Retouches, Plate Nos. 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 15, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40, 48, 50.

Nos. 7, 25, 33, 34, 40, 50, above shield in background.

Nos. 19, 30, 35, 39 (?), 48, 50, between spear and head.

Nos. 4, 6, 8, 9, 15 (slight), 18, 19, 24, 26, 28, 30, 39, 40, 50, between spear and oval.

Nos. 48, 50, in label of "HELVETIA."

d. Retouches, Plate Nos. 7, 8 (?), 11, 24, 30, 40, 50.
Nos. 7, 11, over shield in background.
No. 11, between spear and head.
Nos. 8, 40, between spear and oval.
No. 24, between spear and lower left-hand corner of oval.
Nos. 11, 30, 50, in label of "HELVETIA."
(?) This plate has also been retouched a second time, as I show a used copy of No. 40 retouched.
Several of the 3 fr. stamps show signs of retouching in the large label of value.

I am afraid I must say that many of these stamps have been very badly printed in some instances: the plates must have been dirty, and the stamps are smudgy; in many instances the design has not come out clearly. Some are printed with an oily ink that gives them a greasy appearance. The shades also differ considerably.

Granite Paper.

At the end of 1906 the contract with Girardet came to an end. It was intended to issue stamps with a new design, but as these could not be got ready in time, the old design was temporarily continued, the printing being given to Messrs. Benziger and Co., of Einsiedeln, and granite paper being substituted for white. The stamps were produced in sheets of two panes of one hundred instead of four panes, as had been the case since 1900. I will give you as full particulars as possible of these printings under the separate values.

20 Centimes.

Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

The former retouched plates of this value were cleaned up (? accidentally) and sent to Messrs. Benziger, and a *very few* under two thousand were printed from these and issued, but it was almost immediately discovered that this retouched plate was very worn, and no more were circulated. I am able to show you a block of four stamps, being Nos. 9 and 10 and 19 and 20 from the lower half-pane that I have designated (b). The stamps were then printed from the last plate that was used for the stamps, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, on white paper, and I have been unable to find any retouches.

25 Centimes.

Perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ *and* $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

Only the steel re-engraved plate was used, and this seems to have been extensively retouched by deepening the lines of the background round the head. With this exception, although I have examined several different half-panes, I have not found any prominent retouches. There are a few minor defects in the printing; for instance, in Nos. 31 and 41 of an upper half-pane, the "R" in "FRANCO" in the left is obliterated, and in No. 31 of another upper half-pane, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$, the "F" in "FRANCO" appears as "I," and in a lower half-pane the frame of value on the left is retouched slightly in No. 21.

30 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 11 *and* 11½ × 12.

One of the galvanos that were used for the 30 c. on white paper has been used for this, as Nos. 41 and 43 on a lower half-pane bear the same retouches, but in this issue No. 41 has been touched up again. I have examined several half-panes and have found as follows:—

Upper half-pane.
A. Perf. 11½ × 11. Retouch Plate No. 9 between head and spear.
B.
C. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.
D. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.

Lower half-pane.
a. Perf. 11½ × 12. Retouches Nos. 41 and 43, both in the whole of the background.
b.
c. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.
d. Perf. 11½ × 12. No retouch.

40 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 12.

This value, like the other value (25 c.), from steel plates, has the stamps extensively retouched by deepening the lines in the background. In No. 28, in a lower half-pane, the lines round the head have been so deepened that the wreath on the head of Helvetia has been entirely removed.

Upper half-pane.
A. Lines in background deepened.
a. Lines in background deepened. Wreath on head obliterated.
b. Lines in background deepened.

(*To be continued.*)

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

AT the meeting of March 4, Mr. H. R. Oldfield will give a Display of a portion of the Society's Collection.

On March 18 there will be a Display of the Stamps of Grenada, from the Collection of H.R.H. the President.

PROPOSED PHILATELIC CLUB.

THE provisional committee formed for the purpose of drawing up a scheme for the formation of a philatelic club in London met on January 7th, when the following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. P. L. Pemberton, W. H. Eastwood, Cyril J. Phillips, T. B. Widdowson, A. B. Kay,

T. H. Hinton, W. Cool, and J. E. Joselin. After some hours' deliberation the following proposal was drawn up for publication :—

"It is proposed to form a club in the Strand district of London bearing the title 'Central Philatelic Club, Ltd.' The club is intended to be run on social lines under the auspices of existing societies and open to all classes of philatelists. Suitable premises of from four to six rooms have been offered to the committee, and it is proposed to make provision for a restaurant, billiard-room, reading-room, rooms for general club purposes, etc."

The club should be formed with a nominal capital of £500 in £1 shares, and should raise working capital by the issue of £500 debentures bearing 5 per cent interest. It is estimated that the expenses of inauguration and of the first year's work would not exceed £500, and it would be necessary to raise this amount from the above two sources in order to enable the scheme to be proceeded with. The provisional committee consider that membership should be secured by holding a £1 share and an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. The management of the club should consist of a committee composed of one representative from each Society holding in its corporate capacity at least one share. Country and foreign membership could be obtained by any member of the shareholding Society for the proposed subscription of 5s.

This scheme was brought forward for discussion at the Manchester Congress by Mr. P. L. Pemberton. Meanwhile, any correspondence on the subject should be addressed to the hon. secretary of the provisional committee, Mr. T. H. Hinton, 26 Cromford Road, East Putney, London, S.W.

THE STAMP TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LIMITED. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1908.

THE present strength of the Association is fifty-one subscribing members, two having been elected during the past year and one retired. At this moment four gentlemen are applying for election.

The Brighton case, which resulted in a conviction for forging stamps, has now been fully wound up, the expenses amounting to £140. The Association still has a substantial balance in hand towards any future case.

The financial position of the Association is very sound, after heavier expenses being met than had ever previously been incurred, a good credit balance being carried forward.

The number of cases placed in the hands of the Secretary during the year amounted to 314, in nearly 50 per cent of these cases cash or stamps being recovered.

Full particulars of the Association can be obtained from the Secretary, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

MR. MELLAND'S ARTICLE ON BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

OWING to the demands upon our space this month we are compelled to hold over the continuation of the series of official notices that form the Appendix to Mr. Melland's article upon the stamps of British South Africa, commenced on pages 12 to 16 of the January number of this journal.

THE LINDENBERG MEDAL.

WE have received the following official notice from the Committee of the Berlin Philatelic Club which is specially constituted to make the awards of the Lindenberg Medal. We need hardly say that the award in this case finds in the writer a grateful and appreciative recipient of the great honour conferred upon British Philately. It is noteworthy that of the existing eight Lindenberg medallists three are from this country. We are also assured that the members of the Berlin Philatelic Club will be glad that one of their comrades has secured this distinction, Mr. Castle having been for many years a member of that club. To Herr Hans Kropf we tender our hearty congratulations on the recognition thus secured for his great services and writings on the stamps of his own country.

"BERLIN, *January 27th*, 1909.

"*Lindenberg Medal.*

"The Lindenberg Medal founded by the Berlin Philatelisten Klub on February 6th, 1905, to be given for important scientific investigation and literary capability on philatelic subjects, was awarded at the special session of the Klub, on January 23rd, to Mr. M. P. Castle, of Brighton, and Herr Hans Kropf, of Prague. The previous holders of the medal are—

Theodor Haas	Leipsic.
Dr. A. Legrand	Neuilly, Paris.
E. D. Bacon	London.
L. F. Hanciau	Brussels.
Dr. E. Diena	Rome.
Major E. B. Evans . . .	London."

THE PRESERVATION OF STAMPS IN HOT CLIMATES.

THE drawbacks to a tropical climate are hardly appreciated by those who live in this country. We have a vivid recollection of some of them during our sojourn in the Far East—mouldy clothes and boots, fetid smells, and creeping things innumerable! The heavy moisture with which the air is impregnated in tropical places near the sea is a serious difficulty as regards the preservation of postage stamps, either by collectors or in the post offices. *The Philatelic Journal* Index contains in its January issue a graphic paragraph which forcibly depicts the troubles in store for those who keep a stock of postage stamps in hot countries:—

"Messrs. De La Rue send out their stamps to tropical countries in hermetically sealed tin-lined cases, and a case is not opened until it is required. There are unopened cases in Bombay, where for several months in the year the climate is as bad for stamps as anywhere in the Malay States, and some of these cases were sent out as much as four years ago. Each case contains sealed packets of 500 sheets each, which also are not opened till wanted, and which are capable of excluding damp for at least a year or so. Except the head post office at Singapore there is probably no place in the Malay States which indents for more than one packet at a time, and Singapore itself can only have an opened stock of any one value varying from 500 sheets to nil, or an average of 250 sheets. Whether there were surcharges or not, it is difficult to see how the postal business could go on with a smaller open stock than this. Of the little-used values there would only be one packet open at a time throughout the whole of the States, and if surcharges were resorted to, the packet would have to be opened just the same. Moreover, the simple expedient of a *sigri* or small charcoal brazier, kept in the store room, would obviate the necessity of interleaving the 'millions of stamps in the post office.' The truth is more likely to be that just the daily issue, which is kept in the drawer under the counter, has to be interleaved."

"NORTH OF ENGLAND" EXHIBITION.

AN exhibition will be held in the Academy of Arts, Blackett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 26th and 27th, 1909, under the patronage of the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and promoted by the North of England Philatelic Society.

The Exhibition Secretaries are Chas. L. Bagnall, F.R.P.S.L., The Groves, Winlaton-on-Tyne; R. W. Wilkinson, 1 Evelyn Terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

The following schedule of classes has been adopted :—

Class 1. Great Britain. (Open.)
„ 2. Best Exhibit any Country. (Members N.E.P.S.)
„ 3. Best Colony in Asia or Africa, not exceeding 150 stamps. (Open.)
„ 4. Best Colony in Australasia, not exceeding 250 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 5. United States of America, over 200 and under 500 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 6. Any European Country (excluding Great Britain) and not exceeding 300 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 7. Any Colony in West Indies, not exceeding 150 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 8. Any British North American Colony, not exceeding 150 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 9. Any Country, Rest of the World, not exceeding 300 Stamps. (Open.)
„ 10. King's Heads, any five Colonies, not exceeding 500 Stamps in all. (Open.)
„ 11. 25 Rare Stamps. (Members N.E.P.S.)
„ 12. Collection in Album the sole property of any Collector in Northumberland or Durham, under 16 years of age.

The charge for space and insurance (if any) must be paid by the Exhibitor when sending in his entrance form, which must be received by the Exhibition Secretary not later than February 25th,* after which date 25 per cent additional rate will be charged.

THE SALE OF THE MIRABAUD COLLECTION.

THE remaining portions of this celebrated collection that have not been privately disposed of are to be submitted to auction in Paris by Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler. The first sale, to be held in March, will consist of the stamps of France and Colonies, inclusive of no less than twelve specimens of the first issue of Réunion, and the stamps of Europe, in which the Italian issues are especially strong. The English Colonies will follow later, as we understand. This sale will undoubtedly constitute another big feature in the important auctions that have made Paris such a prominent philatelic centre.

"*THE PHILATELIC RECORD.*"

IT is just thirty years since *The Philatelic Record* was started, and during that abnormally lengthened period of philatelic literary existence it has never failed to maintain a high position. For many years it was practically the organ of the then London Philatelic Society, and it has been practically continuously edited by members, past and present, of the Royal Philatelic Society. Of recent years it has been published at Manchester under the able guidance of Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, but with the commencement of the new volume for January, 1909, it will appear in London under the editorship of Mr. L. W. Fulcher, the Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society. The initial number under the new regime assuredly gives ample promise that the future success of *The Philatelic Record* will not be less than its past. Mr. Fulcher is a scholar and a Philatelist, and our contemporary bears the impress thereof on every page; and we heartily congratulate the editor upon the tasteful and artistic garb which *The Philatelic Record* has now assumed.

Reviews.

THE LINE-ENGRAVED STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN.†



THE energetic President of the Junior Philatelic Society is indefatigable in his laudable endeavour to popularize stamp collecting, and in the present instance he has palpably improved upon all his previous commendable work. The present volume, consisting of 89 pages of small dimensions, is to "constitute an appropriate opening for a series of uniform handbooks on stamps and stamp collecting." We can only state that if its

* This notice might be a little extended.—ED.

† *Great Britain: Line-Engraved Stamps*, by Fred J. Melville. Melville Stamp Books, 47 Strand, London, W.C.

successors are as good as the present volume, Mr. Melville will have done yeoman service in the cause of Philately. We have nothing but praise for this little work. It is not pretentious, for it acknowledges the co-operation of "valued assistance from specialists"; it freely acknowledges the existence of ampler existing works on the subject; it is attractive, being brightly written throughout; it is concise, as it embraces most of the essential points, and it is eminently readable from cover to cover. The illustrations are numerous, including the City Medal of W. Wyon, the General Post Office, and portraits of the following—all of whom have been connected with the production of postage stamps: Sir Rowland Hill, Sir Henry Cole, H. Corbould, Charles and Frederick Heath, Jacob Perkins, and George Rushall.

The various dies, issued stamps, perforations, and watermarks are also all clearly illustrated, and there are excellent reference lists of all the stamps issued and of the bibliographic literature of the line-engraved stamps. The book is so dainty and enticing that it cannot fail to be of material assistance to actual and potential students of Philately, and we cordially felicitate Mr. Fred J. Melville upon the production of a charming little work.

THE RECORD OF THE PHILATELIC STUDENTS' FELLOWSHIP.*

The above title has a smack of Dickens, and conjures up the perspective of philatelic comradeship pursued under the snug conditions of the library fireside. Nor does it appear that its existence is far different, as it is a publication issued by a few Philatelists in the South of London who meet during the winter at their respective houses, and place on record the result of their philatelic labours for the benefit of their friends. The articles contained in this brochure are five, viz. "Postmarks of New Guinea and Japan," by W. Ashe; "The Postage Stamps of St. Helena," by H.-H. Husband; "The temporary initial Issues of Hankow, Chinkiang, and Amoy," by C. L. Harte-Lovelace; "Line-Engraved Great Britain—Some Errors of Perforation," by Sydney R. Turner; and "The Locals of St. Thomas, La Guavre, Porto Cabello, and Curacao," by H. Lee. All these articles will be found to demonstrate the philatelic research and ability of their writers, and all are accompanied by excellent illustrations. We cordially congratulate the Philatelic Students' Fellowship upon a production creditable alike to their literary and philatelic faculties.

WE have also received the following works, reviews of which we hold over owing to the demand upon our space for this month :—

Catalogue (General) of Postage Stamps, J. Bernichon.
The Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue, Scott Stamp and Coin Co.
Special Price List: Europe, C. Willatt.
The American Philatelist: Year Book.

* *The Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship.* Printed for private circulation.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

British Honduras.—The new 2 cents red, on multiple, ordinary paper, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesive.

2 c., red; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.

Gold Coast.—The 6d. dull lilac (instead of lilac and violet) is reported, from "Specimen" copies, by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

6d., dull lilac; multiple; chalky.

India.—Two high values of the King's Head type are listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

10 rupees, pink and green; wmk. Star.
15 ,, brown and blue ,,

Mauritius.—Referring to our chronicle on page 22, a correction, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, has to be made. The watermark should be single and the paper chalky.

Our contemporary reports a new set described from "Specimen" copies.

Adhesives.

New design with altered Arms (key turned to right instead of left, and other changes); "Postage" to left of Arms and "Revenue" to right. Wmk. Crown CA multiple; ordinary paper.

3 c., green.
6 c., rose.
15 c., blue.

New Zealand.—The *Australian Philatelist* reports the current 1d. with the present watermark, clean cut, perf. 14 × 14½, quite distinct, neither 14 nor 15.

A new 1d. stamp which is overprinted "Official" vertically upwards, in *black*, is chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly*. The stamp itself, it is stated, is similar in appearance to its predecessor, but many details show slight points of difference, due to the fact that the new stamp is *surface-printed* instead of line-engraved as formerly.

Adhesive.

1d., carmine; N Z and Star; clean cut perf. 14 × 14½.

Official.

1d., carmine; no wmk; perf. 14 × 15 (comb machine.)

Northern Nigeria.—The *M.C.* chronicles the ½d. and 1d. stamps in Postal Union colours.

Adhesives.

½d., green.
1d., carmine.

Papua.—The 2d. value with the 11 perforation is listed by *Gibbons Weekly.*

Queensland.—*Mekeel's Weekly* lists the 1s. value printed on Crown A paper.

Adhesive.

1s., mauve; Crown and A; perf. 13.

St. Vincent.—The new 6d. and 1s. stamps of the re-drawn Arms type are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Adhesives.

6d., purple; re-drawn Arms type; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.
1s., black on green; re-drawn Arms type; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.

Tasmania.—We have received the ½d. with Crown and double-lined A wmk., the perforation gauging both 11 and 12½.

The stamps perforated 11 are in two quite distinct shades.—*Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesives.

½d., deep green; Crown and A; perf. 12½.
½d., green ,, ,, ,, 11.
½d., sage-green ,, ,, ,, 11.

Transvaal.—It is reported that the 5s. stamp has been issued on multiple-watermarked paper.

Adhesive.

5s., mauve and black on yellow; multiple watermark.

Trinidad.—The following stamps in new colours are reported in the *M.C.*

Adhesives.

4d., red and black on yellow.
6d., purple.
1s., black on green.

EUROPE.

CRETE.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us as follows :—

"We have received official information that the 1 and 2 lept. stamps overprinted 'ΕΛΛΑΣ' are completely exhausted, and that an order has been sent to Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co. for a fresh supply. Whether they will be a new type is not stated, but in all probability they will be the same as before, but with the overprinting done in London. Meantime, some provisionals have been issued which are strictly forbidden to be sold except for postal use, but we have managed to get 50 of 2 on 20 lepta from a private correspondent.

"These are Postage Due stamps overprinted for ordinary use as postage stamps, of which we send you a specimen. Our correspondent states that only ten sheets of these provisionals were issued to the Candia post office, where they were obtained; our official information came from Canea, but no stamps from that place. A further official letter to hand from Canea states that owing to complaints made by local commission agents, the postal officials have received orders not to supply any more stamps to stamp dealers, and only sell them over the counter, thus, of course, encouraging local speculation."

Provisional.

20 l., red; Postage Due stamp; overprinted in black ΕΛΛΑΣ
2
ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

HUNGARY.—The *M.C.*, on continental authority, reports the addition of two high values to the current set of Postage Due stamps.

Postage Dues.

2 korona, green and black.
5 ,, ,,

LEVANT.—(*Italian Post Offices.*)—We are told in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the surcharge "30 Parà 30" on the 15 c., slate, is now done in violet ink.

Adhesive.

"30 Parà 30" in violet, on 15 c., slate.

ROUMANIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on continental authority, chronicles the following :—

Adhesives.

1 ban., colour?; new design; perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$.
3 ban., red-brown ,, ,, ,,

RUSSIA.—The 2 kop. of the new issue is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

The watermark, if it may be so called, of these new stamps is crossed lines resembling the 1856 issue of Cuba, but *Gibbons Weekly* informs us that these lines are formed of *white* varnish which appears *black* when photographed through a deep orange screen.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News chronicles the 1 kop. of the new set.

Adhesives.

1 kop., green; perf. $14\frac{1}{2}$.
2 ,, orange ,,

SWITZERLAND.—The 3 and 5 c. of the altered design of the William Tell set is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* lists a 12 c. of new design.

Adhesives.

3 c., deep lilac; wmk. Cross; granite paper; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
5 c., green; wmk. Cross; granite paper; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
12 c., orange-brown; new design.

AMERICA.

COLOMBIA.—(*Barbacoas.*)—The following is taken from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* :—

This insignificant State of Colombia, situated on the Eastern Coast, issued, for about two months, stamps made in some local printing office, similar to the rough idea here given, and printed on all sorts of papers.

Gobienro Provisional
Correos
E. U. de Colombia
Ejercito Restourador
Barbacoas
20 ctvs.
El Admor E. Bautista.

Each specimen has been initialled by the postmaster, Mr. Bautista, and no doubt only very small quantities have been used. A postmark, an india-rubber stamp, was employed, of which we also give a rough reproduction.



These postmarks were printed in violet ink.

So far the following values have been seen :—

1 centavo on dark blue paper.
2 centavos ,, yellow paper.
5 ,, ,, red paper.
10 ,, ,, light green paper.
20 ,, ,, white paper.

PARAGUAY.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* has received three values, probably the forerunners of the entire set, surcharged with date "1908."

Adhesives.

1 centavo, emerald.
5 centavos, yellow.
20 ,, orange.

UNITED STATES.—We are again indebted to Mr. Geo. L. Toppan, F.R.P.S.L., for specimens of the new 1 c. and 2 c. stamps, imperforate, and the 15 c. and $1, perforated, which complete the set.

Mr. Toppan writes :—

"The new 1 c. and 2 c. stamps in imperforate condition are issued for use in various stamp vending and affixing machines, and are on sale at the P.O., but one has to purchase an entire sheet of four hundred, as they will not sell any less."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write :—

"On the 12th inst. a new 2 c. stamp is to be issued bearing a portrait of President Lincoln, the date being the 100th anniversary of his birthday. A correspondent writes us that the members of Congress and the American people generally were very much put out when the Postmaster-General took Lincoln's portrait off the 4 c. stamp, especially on account of Lincoln's Centenary coming off this month.

"They made so much fuss about it that Congress took the matter up and *ordered* the Postmaster-General to get out a 2 c. stamp with Lincoln's portrait on it. We suppose this is to be a permanent issue, and will replace the 2 c. Washington stamp, although we have no definite information on the subject. Another correspondent informs us that the colour of the 10 c. recently issued is to be changed."

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that 100,000,000 of these new 2 c. stamps would be issued on the date mentioned above. The design comprises the portrait of Lincoln in an ellipse, the only decoration being a spray of laurel leaves and the inscription "U.S. Postage" in a straight line at the top of the stamp, with the numerals "1809—Feb. 12—1909" at the bottom. The colour will be red.

It is stated in *Mekeel's Weekly* that the head faces to the right instead of the left, as is usual in all the U.S.A. stamps.

Copies of this new stamp are to hand from Messrs. G. L. Toppan, F.R.P.S.L., F. C. Cook, F.R.P.S.L., and Mr. John F. Seybold.

Adhesives.

1 c., green ; imperforate.
2 c., lake ,,
15 c., light blue ; perf. 12 ; issued Jan. 18th.
$1, deep violet-brown ,, ,, 29th.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—(*French Post Offices.*)—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. the 5 c. green of 1902, Gibbons' Type 5, surcharged in black "2 CENTS" over Chinese characters, but it appears to us that we chronicled this stamp with others on page 268, vol. xvi.

Provisional.

2 cents on 5 c., green, as above.

ELOBEY, ANNOBON AND CORISCO.—The following is taken from *Gibbons Weekly* :—We have received a 10 c. of the 1907 issue overprinted similarly to No. 204 of Fernando Poo ; also two of the large fiscal stamps, surcharged for postal use in Spanish Guinea, as Nos. 8*a* to 8*f* in the Catalogue, and also handstamped in *blue*, with an oval figure containing the words "ELOBEY, ANNOBON Y CORISCO," and so apparently authorizing them for use.

HABILITADO
PARA
05 CTMS

5 c. on 10 c., dull lilac.

HABILITADO
PARA
CORREOS
10 cen de peseta

10 c. on 25 c., black (R.).
10 c. on 1 p. 25 c., rose (Bk.).

ERITREA.—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the latest 5 c Italian stamp has been overprinted for use here.

Adhesive.

5 c., green ; overprinted "Colonia Eritrea."

KIAUTSCHOU.—*Gibbons Weekly* adds the 20 c. to the set on watermarked paper.

Adhesive.

20 c., carmine and black ; watermarked paper.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us specimens of a new set, of which the following description is supplied :—

Type 1. Fisherman.
1 c., orange and sepia.
2 c., sepia and blue.
4 c., violet and sepia.
5 c., green and sage-green.
10 c., carmine and red.
20 c., brown and chocolate.
Type 2. Seagull.
25 c., indigo and blue.
30 c., orange and chocolate.
35 c., green and chocolate.
40 c., chocolate and green.
45 c., violet and green.
50 c., sepia and green.
75 c., brown and olive.
Type 3. Fishing Schooner.
1 fc., green and blue.
2 fcs., violet and brown.
5 fcs., brown and green.

SPANISH GUINEA.—We have received copies of the 10 c. of the current type, overprinted as No. 204 of Fernando Poo.—*Gibbons Weekly.*

HABILITADO
PARA
05 CTMS

5 c. on 10 c., bistre.

TETUAN.—It is reported that the current 5, 10, and 15 centimos Spanish stamps have been overprinted "Tetuan."

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1908-9.

President—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. McNaughtan.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon. T. Wickham Jones.
C. N. Biggs. T. Maycock.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. Hall. F. Reichenheim.
L. L. R. Hausburg. R. B. Yardley.

The sixth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, January 7th, 1907, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, M. P. Castle, R. Mabson, B. Pinner, R. B. Yardley, J. C. Sidebotham, Thos. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, H. Scott Bridgwater, C. E. Fagan, A. Chilver, H. R. G. Clarke, Robert Reid, T. G. Wayman, W. Schwabacher, J. R. Laing, D. C. Gray, A. J. Warren, E. A. Elliott, C. McNaughtan, Col. J. Bonhote, F. Ransom, A. D. Bacon, J. A. Tilleard, J. E. Joselin, Malcolm S. Cooke, B. D. Knox, L. E. Hall (Associate), and one visitor.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The programme for this meeting consisted of a display by members, those attending the meeting being asked to bring with them "Twelve Interesting Stamps," or other objects of philatelic interest. The Chairman, having explained the object of the Committee, by whom the programme for the season was arranged, in proposing a display of the above nature, and the opportunity thus given to a large number of members to take an active part in the business of the evening, called upon those present in turn to show the stamps and other objects they had brought for inspection, and to give such descriptions and explanations as they desired in regard to their display.

In response to the invitation, displays were given by eighteen members, and the stamps shown were, in the majority of cases, accompanied by a description of the points of interest to which attention was desired to be called.

Mr. Harvey Clarke showed the three values of Sydney Views (unused) in early states of the plate; the 1d., grey, New South Wales (Queen's Head), without the overprint of one halfpenny; the 9d. Ceylon (Crown CC), perf. 13, unused; and rare Transvaal stamps.

The exhibit of Mr. Reid consisted entirely of unused rarities, comprising amongst others, the 3 l. Tuscany, 12d. Canada, 1s. Newfoundland (in both colours), 100 r. Portugal of the first issue, and that very great rarity the 2 reales (error) blue stamp of the 1851 issue of Spain.

A series of "Postage Due" stamps of Holland and Colonies illustrating permanent printing faults was shown by Mr. A. J. Warren, and amongst other stamps brought by Mr. Joselin was the very interesting discovery made by him of the current 1d. Transvaal, printed on the "Cape" paper with "Anchor" watermark.

Mr. Laing showed the ½ gro. Saxony error of colour, the 25 pias. Turkey (1871) with value inverted in one corner, and 6d. Fiji overprinted "V.R." with Maltese Cross stop, in addition to other interesting items.

Mr. McNaughtan's contribution consisted principally of scarce varieties of South Australian stamps and some Queensland errors; and Col. Bonhote showed the 10 rap., yellow, Swiss stamp with frame to cross.

In submitting for inspection of the members a complete series of the abnormal varieties of the stamps of Great Britain, including all those that have so far been seen imperforate, the Vice-President suggested that all members possessing any of the varieties in used condition should submit them to the Expert Committee so that photographs might be made for future reference. Appended to the descriptive notes written by Lord Crawford for the occasion was a supplement dealing with the question of the missing stamps, for which search should be made by collectors.

Mr. Castle had brought with him a series of the 2d., Sydney View stamps, illustrating the various stages of the existence of the first plate. As showing the rapid deterioration of the plate, he called attention to the fact that it was "retouched" within five weeks of the date of the first appearance of the stamps.

Mr. Ransom showed the Sydney embossed envelope as the first officially issued postage stamp known to collectors, and amongst other items of interest displayed by him were a pair of the Providence (Rhode Island) stamps, showing the 5 c. and 10 c. together, and a strip of the 2 c. British Guiana provisionals (showing the three types of border).

H.R.H. the President sent for inspection an original sketch of the first 1d. and 2d. stamps given by Mr. Rowland Hill to the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the time of the introduction of postage stamps, and some interesting essays of stamps prepared for use but not issued; a proof from the die of the King's Head stamps of Canada

showing the changes in the design in preparing the plates in the Dominion ; stamps showing curiosities in watermarks, including a Grenada stamp with a diminutive four-rayed Star for watermark ; and some values of Mauritius stamps (Queen's Head), watermarked Crown CA, perf. 12, as to which information is desired. Amongst these was the 13 c., which has not before been noticed on the Crown CA paper.

Amongst the stamps contributed by Mr. Yardley were Barbados (Perkins Bacon plate), perf. 14, violet (aniline), 1s., blue (error), and a pair of 6d., vermilion, apparently with a compound of the clean-cut and rough perforation. Other interesting specimens comprised scarce perforations of South Australian stamps.

Mr. Pinner showed high values of Natal and British South Africa, and Mr. Wayman, New Zealand pictorials used on entires.

Mr. Sidebotham had put together examples of handsome stamps, ugly stamps, distinct and indistinct surcharges, and various errors.

Mr. Matthews sent for inspection a number of Post Office circulars and other objects of interest in connection with the postal service and with the Guildhall and South Kensington "Jubilee" functions, including an envelope with the 1d. black stamp, postmarked 1840, and again posted in 1890 and franked with the current 1d. stamp and postmarked with the South Kensington Jubilee postmark.

Mr. Hall, in showing unused Uruguay (Diligencia) stamps of the first issue, explained how they were prepared, with the result that almost every stamp in the value, other than the 60 c., differs from the others. His exhibit included an example of the very rare printing from the second die of the 60 c.

Mr. Fulcher's display was devoted to an attempt to discover the number of the various types of the 10 paras stamp of Turkey (1869-74); some six types being included in the stamps shown by him.

In many instances the display led to some discussion on interesting questions connected with the stamps shown, and before the termination of the meeting, which lasted somewhat longer than usual, many of the members expressed the hope that displays of a similar nature might again be a feature of the next season.

THE seventh meeting of the season 1908-9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, January 21, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, R. B. Yardley, H. R. Oldfield, E. D. Bacon, Thos. W. Hall, G. B. Routledge, B. Pinner, L. W. Fulcher, F. G. Peplow, T. Wickham Jones, A. J. Warren, Baron P. de Worms, C. N. Biggs, Franz Reichenheim, A. Chilver, C. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, J. R. Laing, B. D. Knox, L. E. Hall (associate), and three vistors.

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on January 7, 1909, were read over and signed as correct.

The members then proceeded to ballot for the election of the following members, who were subsequently declared duly elected members and fellows of the Society:—

Mr. Arthur Laceby, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Mrs. Stella Jones, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Assistant Hon. Secretary.

Major Frank Young, proposed by Lieutenant A. E. Stewart, seconded by the Hon. Secretary.

A display of the earlier embossed stamps of Portugal, with notes, was then given by Mr. R. B. Yardley, who showed two volumes of his collection of this country, comprising the issues from 1853 (Donna Maria) to Dom Luiz, 1870, the stamps of the curved label type perforated.

Mr. Yardley pointed out that the type of the first issue was based on that of the octagonal embossed stamps of Great Britain of 1847 to 1854, and that, like the latter stamps, they were all printed one at a time by a printing press obtained from Messrs. Dryden and Co., of Lambeth, who supplied the press for the British octagonal stamps, but that the dies of the Portuguese stamps were made at the Mint at Lisbon, and the close connection between the dies of the stamps and the corresponding coins could be recognized from a comparison of the coins with the stamps, for which purpose Mr. Yardley produced for inspection coins of 1853 bearing the impress of Donna Maria and a series of coins bearing the impress of Dom Pedro V, showing the several types of head with the straight hair and the curly hair, and also of the early coins bearing the impress of Dom Louis.

The collection consisted mainly of unused copies, in blocks and pairs, but it also comprised a number of stamps on original cover showing the order in which the several dies appeared, and specimens of the various reprints, some of them in complete panels.

Among other stamps, attention may be called to the following:—

DONNA MARIA.

5 reis, Die I, thick and thin paper, unused ; Die I, worn die, unused ; Die II, pair and single, unused ; and several used.

50 reis, two single specimens, unused, and two copies of the rare stamps on thin paper, used.

100 reis, two single specimens and one pair, unused, and a large strip of these stamps, used.

In the curved label type there were several mint pairs of the imperforate set.

There was one unused specimen of the 120 reis, and a specimen of the great rarity 25 reis, used, perforated *en croix*.

There were also many specimens carefully shaded of the imperforate and perforated stamp in mint condition.

The several dies of the 5, 25, and 100 reis being represented.

DOM PEDRO V.

Straight hair, nine specimens of the 5 reis, including one each of the seven types, and a pair of the rare 25 reis, unused, Die II.

In addition there were a large number of stamps in mint condition of the curly hair type, some of the copies being exceedingly rare and unused.

DOM LOUIS.

Mr. Yardley also showed an unused specimen of the 10 reis, 1863, of the true yellow shade.

At the conclusion of the display a vote of thanks to Mr. Yardley was moved by Mr. M. P. Castle, and seconded by Baron Percy de Worms, and was carried unanimously.

Herts Philatelic Society.

A GENERAL meeting was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, January 19th, 1909, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), L. E. Bradbury, W. T. Standen, A. H. L. Giles, R. Frentzel, C. R. Sutherland, W. A. Boyes, T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, H. J. Bignold, M. Weinberg, E. Bounds, G. White, Baron Anthony de Worms, Baron Percy de Worms, Messrs. J. E. Booth, W. A. Gunner, D. H. Jackson, E. W. Arnold, W. Wiehen, J. A. D. Reade, H. G. Watson, C. Nissen, F. J. Melville, J. R. Laing, A. Lange, J. H. Rosenheim, W. F. Clarke, J. W. Campion, P. R. Stevens, P. Ashley, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and four visitors.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on December 15th, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

A letter from Lady Avery, in reply to the condolences of the Society on the death of the late Sir Wm. Avery, was read.

The President and the Vice-President were appointed delegates of the Society to the Philatelic Congress at Manchester.

A donation of £1 1s. from the Society to the Manchester Exhibition was voted.

Donations of stamps and entires from the President, the Vice-President, and Mr. H. Greenhalgh, and of forgeries from Mrs. Baird and Messrs. C. C. Tait and H. G. Watson for the Society's collections, were received and acknowledged with thanks.

Donations for the library were received from the President, Mr. W. T. Wilson, and "The Melville Stamp Books."

These also were acknowledged with thanks.

Mr. H. G. Watson handed round for the inspection of the members a used copy of Transvaal 1d., King's Head, wmk. Cabled Anchor, of which stamp he has found two copies in a lot of more than 5000 stamps of this value. As the watermark appears on one copy in the centre and on the other on the edge of the stamp, there seem to have been at least two sheets erroneously printed on the paper destined for Cape of Good Hope stamps instead of being printed on the paper with multiple Crown CA watermark.

Baron A. de Worms then gave a display of his collection of the stamps of Great Britain. The display was much appreciated, and at its conclusion Mr. Watson proposed, and the Vice-President seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Baron A. de Worms for the opportunity he had afforded the members of examining his treasures. This was carried with acclamation and suitably responded to.

The Vice-President then took the opportunity of welcoming Mr. I. J. Bernstein, the President of the Committee of the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition and Congress at Manchester, at a meeting of the Herts Philatelic Society, and requested him to address the members as to the prospects of the Manchester Exhibition. He added that if a similar Philatelic Congress should be held elsewhere next year, the Herts Philatelic Society offered to hold the Congress in London under its auspices, and requested Mr. Bernstein to convey this intimation to the next meeting of the Committee.

This Mr. Bernstein promised to do, adding that he was sure that the Congress could be in no better hands, as the Herts Philatelic Society was a real live Society, at the meeting of which it was a pleasure to be present. He congratulated the Society on its choice of delegates, and was sure that Manchester would feel highly complimented.

The preparations for the Exhibition were well advanced, and as the Exhibition was not only confined to members of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society it was hoped that also other collectors would send exhibits and help to make a representative show comprising stamps of most of the countries.

Mr. Bernstein further informed the Society that the Postmaster-General had given permission for the use of a special postmark for obliterating the correspondence posted at the post office in the Exhibition Building during the Exhibition and Congress, and that all the principal English societies had consented to send delegates to the Congress.

Mr. Bernstein's statements were received with applause, and the meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Secretary.*

NINE FIELDS, ST. ALBANS.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, 18 November, at 8 p.m. The President, Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received.

The proposed S.P.C. incorporation was adjourned for discussion at the annual meeting.

The Hon. Secretary having reported the result of his investigation, *re* sales of stamps, it was resolved to hold a private sale of stamps by tender.

A sale of stamps then took place; nineteen lots were submitted, ten of which realized good prices. It was decided to hold a similar sale at the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday, 16 December.

It was resolved to follow the same arrangement that existed last year in connection with the competition for the S.P.C. Gold Medal of 1908–9. The subject to be "Stamps of Oceania." The President stated that he would donate a trophy valued at £1 1s. for the best article on Australasian stamps. A representative gathering of members viewed the Official Collection during the afternoon of Wednesday, 18 November, and were much interested therewith. Mr. Robinson, of the G.P.O., was present at the meeting. The President thanked him personally, on behalf of members, for the courtesy shown during the inspection, and spoke in high terms of praise of the admirable arrangement and mounting of the different types of issue.

Mr. Robinson suitably responded, and during the course of his remarks referred to the fine collection of philatelic stationery contained in ten morocco-bound volumes, a portion of the Official Collection, that may be seen at a future date.

Ballot for Book 179 was then taken. This book, containing 77 sheets, valued at £132 5s. 3d., contributed to by twenty-four members, was put into circulation on 23 November. S.P.C. books 173 and 174 were broken up, and settlements effected with contributors on 16 November. Sales from these books totalled £24 os. 1½d. The book from the South Australian Society completed the Sydney circuit on 24 November. Sales were £19 6s. On receipt of the Sydney book from the Adelaide Society, accounts will be adjusted with contributors.

At a Committee meeting held prior to the ordinary monthly meeting, two new members were elected, viz. Mr. J. J. Earl, Sydney; Mrs. F. Jackson, Ponto, N.S.W.

Hon. Secretary's accounts for postages were passed for payment.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, December 16th, 1908, at eight o'clock.

The President, Mr. Van Weenen, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received, this being the last meeting prior to the usual summer adjournment.

Several matters of importance were dealt with. The new issues of New Hebrides were shown in unused blocks of four, also a block of four, unused, of the current 9d., N.S.W., wmk. Crown and A, perf. 11.

A motion expressing sympathy with Mr. Nicolle, in the painful accident which befell his daughter, was carried unanimously, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to write and convey same to Mr. Nicolle.

The President referred to the method adopted by members to mount unused stamps for the Exchange books, and suggested the use of a transparent envelope instead of the usual stamp hinge, which invariably spoils the "original gum" when removed.

Reference was made to Mr. Hagen's European tour. He leaves Sydney early in April, and expects to be away from the State for twelve months. Mr. Hagen will visit the philatelic societies of the principal cities of Europe.

A private sale of stamps by tender was then held. Several lots changed hands at satisfactory prices.

Ballot for Book 180 then took place. This book, valued at £101 9s. 11½d. and contributed to by eighteen members, was put into circulation on Tuesday, December 22nd. The book from South Australia completed the Sydney circuit on November 24th, and was dispatched to South Australia. The Sydney book circulating in South Australia was returned on December 12th, and settlements effected with contributors on December 16th. An exchange book will be issued each month during vacation. Sheets for same should reach the Hon. Secretary not later than the 20th of the month.

At a Committee meeting held prior to the ordinary meeting, the Hon. Librarian's report was adopted, and amount required to effect suggested alterations was granted.

At a subsequent Committee meeting, held on Monday, December 28th, an alteration was made in the subject for the annual competition for the S.P.C. Gold Medal, which will be on all, or any, of the postal or fiscal stamps of British Oceania, as noted on circular issued January 1st, 1909. In addition to the Gold Medal, there will be a second and a third prize—each a trophy valued at one guinea, donated by the President and Hon. Secretary respectively.

Messrs. Basset Hull, David Hill (of

Victoria), and Mr. F. Hagen have consented to act as adjudicators. These gentlemen will not compete, and their decision shall be final.

A letter was received from Mr. Malone resigning his office as Hon. Librarian on account of projected departure to another State, and which was accepted with regret.

Two new members were elected, viz. Messrs. A. and O. Blau.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 17th, 1909.

Members will please note change of P.O. box number, and address all communications to the Hon. Secretary, Box 1751, G.P.O., Sydney.

The Sydney Philatelic Club Gold Medal.

It has been decided by the Committee of the Sydney Philatelic Club to offer the annual Gold Medal for competition by philatelists who are, or become, subscribing members to the Club for the best article on the postal or fiscal stamps of British Oceania, comprising all or any of the following :—

I. Commonwealth, including Papua.
II. New Zealand, including dependencies.
III. Fiji.
IV. New Hebrides.
V. Solomon Islands.
VI. Tonga.

Articles submitted for competition must be original and bear a *nom de plume*, the writer's name and address to be placed in a sealed envelope, and such envelope, with the article, to be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary the Sydney Philatelic Club, Box 1751, G.P.O., Sydney, any time before March 31st, 1909. Competitors may send in one or more articles ; the length of same is left to their own discretion.

The articles will be adjudicated upon by a board of three, consisting of Mr. F. Hagen, Mr. Basset Hull, and Mr. David Hill, of Melbourne. These gentlemen will not compete, and their decision shall be final. All manuscript submitted to become the property of the Club.

In addition to the Gold Medal the President, Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen, donates a trophy valued at one guinea as second prize ; and the Hon. Secretary; Mr. C. F. Williams, a trophy valued at one guinea as third prize.

The Philatelic Society of Victoria.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, December 18th, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. Kelson, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

After which, positions for the next Exchange Book (187) were balloted for.

The business portion of the evening being over, a sale of stamps to the highest bidder brought forward some very spirited bidding, with a very satisfactory result. One stamp, the Victorian 4d., Laureated, watermark 8 (Gibbons' 117), brought forward bids up to £75 ; but was passed in, the price not being considered satisfactory.

Messrs. F. Longmore and S. E. Innes then gave those present a rare treat by exhibiting their collections. Mr. Longmore's Queensland lot contained, amongst others, a pair of unused 1d., Star, imperf. ; pair of 6d., Star, imperf. ; and a number of single copies, 1d., 2d., and 6d., imperf., both used and unused. Of the second issue, 1d., 2d., and 6d., Large Star, great numbers of used and unused copies.

Three of the halfpenny surcharged on one penny, unused, etc.

Mr. Innes' collection of Australians, very neatly mounted on loose sheets, contained a great number of the rare stamps, far too numerous to mention ; especially in Tasmania he has a very fine lot.

W. Brettschneider, *Hon. Secretary.*

128 Russell Street.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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THE 2D. ROSE OF VICTORIA, LAUREATED HEAD.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—In reading the January number of *The London Philatelist*, in the most interesting report of the last meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society, I note that Mr. J. E. Joselin included a 2d. Victoria, wmk. V and Crown (in the colour of the 4d.), and that you add a note that "this colour may have faded from a lilac."

I think that in your report the date 1867–82 should be 1885; if this is so, then I have reason to think that the stamp shown by Mr. Joselin *is* an error of colour.

Last year I had the pleasure of meeting a well-known collector from Melbourne who had recently retired from a position in the post office in that city.

He informed me that by error *fifty sheets* of 4d. stamps were printed in the exact colour of one of the 2d. stamps, a kind of dull lilac, quite different from the well-known 4d. magenta.

This variety will be included (as an error) in the next Catalogue of Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

Yours truly,

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

29th January, 1903.

Mr. Joselin has kindly given us the following comments on preceding:—

"I hasten to give fuller particulars. You will remember, doubtless, that the specimen shown was slightly torn on the left side. I have had it in possession for over twenty years, and not having acquired it as a rarity I have always expected to be able to capture a more perfect copy. Failing in this, I included it on my sheet to elicit information.

"It is the stamp figured in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue as Fig. 18, wmk. Fig. 23,* but instead of being *perf. 12* as described 1867–82, it is *perf.* $12\frac{1}{2}$, the same perf. as the issue of 1881.

"Now the 4d., rosine (which colour is nearest to my 2d. stamp), was issued, according to Senf, in 1881, and evidently concurrent with those listed by Stanley Gibbons in 1881, viz. Figs. 39 and 40. Was it possible that the *error* occurred at that time? There is no date on the stamp, only the usual figure postmark, No. 68. The fact of these 2d. and 4d. stamps being fairly common, and having been really displaced by the new designs, may account for the *error* escaping attention.

"The stamp mentioned by Mr. Phillips is a *4d.* one, but it goes to prove the *possibility* of such an error occurring.

"I hope these particulars may enable you to discover the facts, as I am strongly of opinion that my stamp is NOT *a faded lilac.*"

THE COLLECTION OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—It is now some time since the idea of a collection of stamps for our Society was mooted.

Nothing appears to have been heard of the project of late, and as I know of one or two members who have duplicates they are desirous of donating, I think it would be well if we were favoured with something in the nature of a report through the medium of your journal.

Yours truly,

SENEX.

* This would presumably be a Laureated head of Victoria, watermark V and Cr., perf. 12 to 13, 2d., lilac and grey, Stanley Gibbons' numbers 124 to 126.—ED.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 5 and 6 January, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., brown,* no perf. at right	2	7	6
Ditto, 1884, crowns, £1, brown-lilac, mint	5	5	0
Ditto, I. R. Official, ditto, £1, purple-brown, "Specimen"	5	10	0
Ditto, Govt. Parcels, 1s., green and scarlet, blocks of four, mint, £4 4s. and	4	5	0
Ditto, Admiralty, Type 1, 1½d., block of four, mint	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Type 2, 2½d., ditto, ditto	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, Type 2, 2½d., pair, ditto	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Type 2, 3d., block of four, ditto	4	15	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, imperf.	8	5	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, ditto,* no gum	3	5	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, intermediate perfs., not well centred	2	15	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, wood-block, 4d., blue, the variety with retouched corner, a copy with good margins all round, showing the adjoining stamps on all three sides, on small piece of original	17	0	0
Ditto, Mafeking, 1900, a complete set of the nineteen varieties and a duplicate	8	12	6
Mauritius, 1891, 2 c. on 4 c., rose, with inverted surcharge, mint	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c. on 4 c., rose, with double surcharge, one inverted, used	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c. on 4 c., rose, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c. on 17 c., rose, inverted surcharge, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 c. on 38 c. on 9d., lilac, double surcharge, one inverted, mint	1	14	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, double surcharge, mint	1	17	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, one inverted, mint	1	18	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Transvaal, 1877 (Oct.), V. R. Transvaal, 1d., red on blue, with inverted overprint,* but damaged	6	0	0
British Columbia, 1865, perf. 14, 10 c., blue, block of four, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, 1867, ditto, 5 c., red, ditto, ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, perf. 12½, 10 c., lake, ditto, ditto	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 50 c., violet, ditto, ditto	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, $1, green, ditto, ditto	7	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, single, ditto	2	4	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 2d., carmine*	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., scarlet, thinned	5	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., cold violet,* but damaged	5	5	0
Bahamas, 1861, no wmk., perf. 13, 4d., rose,* part gum	2	2	0
Nevis, 6d., grey, litho	3	3	0
Trinidad, 1863, no wmk., perf. 13, 1s., bright mauve	2	8	0
New South Wales, 1850–1, Sydney View, 1d., rose-red, plate 1	2	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 1d., carmine, ditto	2	10	6
Ditto, ditto, 1d., carmine-lake, two copies, on entire original	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, another, used with a 1d. carmine on yellowish, Laureated, on ditto	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., dull blue, Plate II, on piece of original	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 1851–3, Laureated, 1d., carmine on yellowish, pair, on original	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 8d., orange-yellow, small tear, on entire	2	12	6
Ditto, 1854, Laureated, with wmk., 2d., deep blue, a block of fifteen, unused and with full gum, from the top right-hand corner of sheet, with margins, has three creases, but these are scarcely noticeable on the face	90	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., bright green, a block of twenty, unused and with full gum, being the left-			

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
hand portion of the sheet, with margins and inscriptions, and showing the engine-turned pattern on the edge of margin, with control stamp of the Sydney Stamp Office; is somewhat creased, with two stamps torn, and is cut rather close at the right-hand side	92	0	0
Collection in plain album : 2738	19	0	0

Sale of 19 and 20 January, 1909.

Great Britain, 1d., black, strip of three, mint	2	14	0
Ditto, 1840, 2d., deep blue, ditto (two cut into),* no gum	7	5	0
Ditto, 1841, 2d., blue, block of eleven, close at side and creased*	4	0	0
Ditto, 1847–54, 6d., purple*	5	5	0
Ditto, 1d., rose-red, plate 225, block of six*	7	0	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, plate 7, block of four*	3	3	0
Ditto, 1s., green, plate 11, ditto,* one thinned	2	0	0
Ceylon, CC, 5d., purple-brown*	2	17	6
Straits Settlements, 1879–82, "FIVE CENTS" on 8 c., without stop,* soiled	3	7	6
British Central Africa, 1895, "One Penny" on 2d., green, strip of three, centre stamp double sur.*	3	3	0
Ditto, East ditto, 1890, ½, 1, and 4 annas*	3	3	0
Cape triangulars, 1853–8, 1d., rose-red, block of four*	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue on bleuté, pair*	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., lilac, pair,* creased	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., deep green, block of four*	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., yellow-green,* no gum	3	17	6
Ditto woodblock, 4d., blue,* repaired	6	5	0
Ditto triangular, 1863–4, 6d., mauve, block of eight*	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald-green, pairs* . . . . each	6	0	0
Lagos, 1904, single CA, 2s. 6d., pair*	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., pair*	12	0	0
Northern Nigeria, 1900, 10s., green and brown, pair*	3	15	0
Southern ditto, 1902–4, £1, purple and green, pair*	5	5	0
British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 10 c., blue*	2	12	0
Nevis, 1867, 1s., blue-green*	2	0	0
Ditto, litho, 4d., orange-yellow*	2	7	6
St. Vincent, 1883–4, CA, 14, 4d., bright blue*	2	2	0
Trinidad, 1860, litho, 1d., red, block of six*	2	16	0
Turks Islands, 2½ on 1s., lilac, type 6*	3	17	6
Ditto, 4 on 1s., lilac, type 16*	3	10	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d., brown, "Pencf," with normal type se-tenant*	3	0	0
British Guiana, 1888–9, $1, green*	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, $4, ditto,* the two types se-tenant	2	12	6
New South Wales, 1860, Diadem, 12½–13, 1s., carmine, block of four*	3	15	0
New Zealand, "N Z," imperf., 2d., blue, pair*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., red-brown, ditto,* no gum	2	10	0
Queensland, 1860–1, large star, clean-cut perfs, 6d., deep green, block of 6, slightly oxidized*	27	0	0
Tasmania, £1, green and yellow*	3	15	0

Sale of 2 and 3 February, 1909.

Great Britain, 1841, 2d., blue, sheet of the die proofs without letters	2	12	0
Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1864, ¼ths., red, with dotted background, rouletted, on original	7	7	0
Ceylon, 8d., brown, rough perfs.	3	3	0
India, 1854, 2 a., green, block of 4*	2	0	0
Ditto, Gwalior, 1885, short native inscription, 6 as., mint	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 8 as., ditto	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 1 r., ditto	1	16	0
Cape of Good Hope, Mafeking, set except Nos. 1 and 7 (17)	6	0	0
British Columbia, 1865, perf. 14, 10 c., blue, blocks of four, mint . . £1 15s. and	2	12	6
Ditto, 1867, 12½, 10 c., lake, block of four, mint	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 50 c., violet, ditto, ditto	4	2	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, $1, green, block of four, mint	6	15	0
United States, New York, 1842, 3 c., black on greyish, block of four, mint	3	5	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., pair, straight serif, damaged	2	12	6
Trinidad, 1894, "OS," ½d. to 5s., mint	4	0	0
Fiji, Roman "V.R.," 6 c. on 3d., green, damaged	2	4	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Cayman Islands, 1907, 6d., olive and rose, and 1s., violet and green, a block of six of each, mint	2	0	0
Ditto, 5s., orange and green, a block of six, ditto	3	14	0
Ditto, 1908, ½d. on 5s., orange and green, a block of six, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on 5s., orange and green, a block of six, ditto	3	15	0
New Zealand, 1855, London print, 1d., carmine, close at right	2	17	6
Ditto, 1856, blue paper, 2d., blue*	4	5	0
Ditto, serrated perfs., 6d., chestnut, thinned	8	12	6
Ditto, 2d., lilac-blue, pelure	3	0	0
Ditto, 1862, Star, imperf., 3d., deep mauve	3	0	0
Ditto, 1863-4, Star, perf., 3d., mauve,* part gum	3	17	6
Ditto, 1872, lozenges, 2d., vermilion	2	6	0
Tasmania, 1856, pelure, 1d., brown-red, pair*	6	0	0
Collections: 7488, £44; 5486	28	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 11 January, 1909.

Cayman Islands, 1d. on 4d., mint	1	5	0
France, 1868, Journal stamp, imperf., 2 c., rose, mint, pair	1	3	0
Hong Kong, 1874-1902, $10, rose, mint	1	5	0
Ditto, 1882, 10 c., blue green,* stained	1	7	0
Lagos, C C 14, 1s., orange,* with gum	1	12	0
Ditto, single C A, King, 10s., mint	6	2	6
Ditto, 1874, C C, 12½, 1s., orange, ditto	1	7	0
Mauritius, 2 c. on 38 c. lilac, double surcharge, ditto	1	14	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto (one inverted), ditto	1	18	0
Ditto, 2 c. on 38 c. on 9d., ditto, ditto, ditto	1	14	0
Ditto, 2 c. on 17 c., rose, with inverted surcharge, ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, with double surcharge, ditto	3	5	0
Ditto, 2 c. on 4 c., carmine, ditto, ditto	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, with double surcharge, one inverted	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, with inverted surcharge, ditto	2	8	0
Ditto, 6 c. on 18 c., with ditto, ditto	1	16	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., carmine on bluish	1	0	0

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 14 and 15 January, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Cyprus, 1881, 30 p. on 1d., double sur., one inverted	2	0	0
Great Britain, 1862, 1s., green, plate 2, hair lines, imperf., mint	3	10	0
Ditto, "I.R. OFFICIAL," 1884, 5s., carmine, mint	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue, with certificate, ditto	4	0	0
Ditto, "O.W. OFFICIAL," King, 10d., on piece	3	5	0
Spain, 1850, 5 r., red, strip of 3,* with gum	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 6 r., blue*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 r., green	2	4	0
Ditto, 1851, 6 r., blue*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1853, 2 r, red	4	7	6
Switzerland, Zurich, 4 r., vertical lines	7	0	0
Bechuanaland, Protectorate, 2s. 6d., green,* with gum	3	0	0
British Central Africa, 1895, £25, blue-green, slight rubbing	9	0	0
Cape triangular, 1855, 6d., lilac*	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey*	2	0	0
Ditto, woodblock, 1d., red	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., pale blue	2	4	0
Cape, 1874, 3d. on 4d., "PENCE"	2	15	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red,* with gum	3	0	0
Lagos, 1884, 5s., blue, mint	5	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red on bluish, early state. £5 15s. and	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, intermediate state	3	10	0
Transvaal, 1877, "V.R.," in red, on 6d., blue, imperf.,* thinned	3	10	0
Barbados, 1878, 1d., on right half of 5s., rose	3	0	0
British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 10 c.*	2	8	0
British Guiana, 1852, 4 c., blue, on piece	5	0	0
Ditto, 1853, 4 c., pale blue*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1862, 1 c., grapes	6	0	0
Nevis, litho, 4d., orange, mint	3	3	0
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet-ver.	2	10	0
Ditto, 6½d., ditto,*	3	17	6
Trinidad, litho, 1d., slate	2	0	0
Queensland, 1860, 2d., blue, imperf.	3	0	0
Victoria, 5s., blue on yellow £2 8s. and	2	17	6

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 21 and 22 January, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., brown and blue, thinned	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 20 k., blue and red, small tear	3	5	0
British Central Africa, 1898, 1d., red and blue, imperf.,* with certificate	2	4	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red	2	6	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 2d., blue,* cut close	2	6	0
Ditto, 1891, "TWO CENTS" on 4 c., carmine, surcharge inverted, "TWO CENTS" on 1879–80 38 c., lilac, double surcharge, one inverted, and another, all used together on piece	2	8	0
Southern Nigeria, King, single CA, £1, mint.	2	12	6
Transvaal, V.R.I., £5, green, ditto	4	0	0
Nevis, first issue, 4d., rose on blued*	4	0	0
Ditto, 1883, 6d., green*	3	0	0
St. Vincent, 1861, clean-cut 14½, 6d., yellow-green*	2	0	0
Ditto, 1869, 1s., brown,* with gum	2	10	0
Hawaiian Islands, 2 c., black on thin bluish*	4	12	6
New South Wales, 1853, 8d., orange, unfinished corner	2	10	0
Western Australia, first issue, 2d., brown or red, printed both sides	3	0	0

Sale of 4 and 5 February, 1909.

Bahamas, 1860, no wmk., clean-cut 15, 1d., lake*	2	0	0
Ditto, 1861, ditto, perf. 11½, 4d., dull rose*	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, perf. 13, 6d., lilac*	7	0	0
* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Belgium, first issue, "LL" in frame, 10 c. and 20 c., both mint . . £2 17s. 6d. and	3	5	0
Ditto, dttto, ditto, ditto, 10 c.*	1	10	0
Ditto, 1850, ditto, ditto, 10 c.,* with gum	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 40 c., mint	2	10	0
Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1864, ¼ sgr.	2	14	0
Wurtemberg, 2 marks, ver. on orange, mint	4	0	0
Spain, 1852, 6 reales, strip of five	2	6	0
Switzerland Geneva, 1849, 5 c., yellow-green, envelope stamp used as adhesive, on entire	6	15	0
Ceylon, 1857–9, 6d., deep claret, imperf.*	4	0	0
Ditto, 1861, 6d., brown, rough perfs.* . . £4 4s. and	3	15	0
Ditto, 1862, 1d., blue, no wmk., perf. 11½*	3	10	0
Ditto, C C, 9d., black-brown, block of four, mint	2	8	0
Cape Triangulars, 1s., emerald-green, mint, pairs . £4 and	4	17	6
Ditto, 1881, C C, 3d., pale claret, mint, pair	2	7	6
Ditto, 1880, tall narrow figure "3" on 3d., lilac-rose, a vertical pair, top stamp has surcharge omitted, with Expert Committee's report and photograph	6	6	0
Sierra Leone, CA, 4d., blue,* perf. partially clipped at bottom	2	15	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion	5	15	0
Ditto, 6d., ditto, small margin at top	6	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 4 c., blue, imperf., mint	5	12	6
St. Kitts, CA, 4d., blue, mint	2	17	6
New Zealand, 1856, no wmk., thick paper, pin-perf., 1d., orange	5	10	0
Ditto, 1862, 1d., orange, rouletted*	2	14	0

THE

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THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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The Catalogue of the Future.

THE discussion of this important question was undoubtedly the dominant feature of the recent Philatelic Congress at Manchester. The level of debate on this subject was maintained at a high standard, and the speeches of the well-known collectors who took part therein were obviously the outcome of well-digested consideration of the subject under discussion. The *verbatim* report of the proceedings of the Congress has already been published in some of the philatelic journals, and copies thereof are available for all the members of the leading philatelic societies. It would therefore be beyond the scope of this journal to fully report the proceedings, but we think that the following important *dicta* of the various speakers embrace points well worthy of consideration at the hands of the philatelic public. Mr. L. W. Fulcher, who opened the debate in a cogently framed speech, said:—

"Now the ideal catalogue would, of course, be one in which you could always turn up any particular variety on which you wanted some information, and, turning aside from what we might term the primary requirements of pure Philately, the catalogue should also serve the collector as a guide to the relative rarity of any particular variety which he may possess, or inform him of the current market value of any specimen he may desire. . . . To collect the stamps of the whole world, even on general lines, is now impossible. There will be no general collecting in the widest sense in the future. The best type of general collector will be he who limits his attention to a group of countries and collects these on intelligent lines with due regard to important varieties. For example, he will not debar all varieties and variations of perforation on the ground that he does not collect varieties of perforation, but he will collect or reject them according to their importance. For instance, he may reject the perforation varieties of the recent issues of Austria, but he will have to pay due attention to the perforations of other varieties.

. . . . . .

"Then the dominance of the catalogue as regards prices. As far as this country is concerned, I think I may be quite free in saying that prices are absolutely dominated by the catalogue of Stanley Gibbons. I do not think that people always realize that this is, in fact, the quotations of a certain firm for a certain variety and dependent upon what they have got in stock. It is not adequately realized that these prices are based upon trade requirements, and those people who will take the trouble to think this out will find that in many cases this is not always in accordance with what the true value of a stamp in the market really is. I might also call attention to the fact that, as all collectors well know, the sudden inclusion in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue of a variety which has not been recorded there before has a very remarkable effect upon the price of that variety in the market. Those are illustrations of what I consider the dominating influence of the catalogue on Philately; and I think to a large extent this does a certain amount of harm. So that speaking for myself I am quite prepared to support the adoption of the principle that it would be very desirable if we could really have a catalogue, a good reference catalogue, for collectors, compiled by collectors.

. . . . . .

"The catalogue, I think, should be drawn up on a system Mr. Castle, I think, has pretty frequently referred to. He thinks, and I am inclined to agree and I think many others will agree with him, that the last edition of Moens' Catalogue has been about the most successful style of catalogue that we have had. In that catalogue the prime varieties are put in large type, and minor varieties should appear in smaller type."

. . . . . .

Major E. B. Evans, in his able speech, said:—

"We want a catalogue which will do both for beginners and for the most advanced collector, giving a simplified list, to start with, of all the actual stamps—I may call it, as we may say, a Post Office list of the stamps—and then of the varieties. I think it should include every possible variety that can be included in a catalogue, and those ought to be themselves classified so as to show that these varieties are not all of the same importance from a philatelic and from every other point of view. It would thus gradually lead the collector on, as Mr. Fulcher himself said, from the simplified collecting to advanced collecting, and in time make him able to select his country and become a specialist in that country with the assistance of that catalogue. But there is an immense difficulty in doing this. I do not suppose any two specialists in the same country would agree exactly as to the merit and importance of the varieties. As far as the present catalogues are concerned, they are absolutely inconsistent; that I fully agree with."

. . . . . .

Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, who successfully carried out the duties of chairman of the Congress, said:—

"If this catalogue is to be of any value at all it must command universal acceptance amongst collectors, both in regard to the varieties and in regard to the methods upon which those varieties are listed. It must also command acceptance in regard to the indications it gives as to the relative rarity of the stamps. Now the difficulty that I foresee is this: How are you to induce the general body of stamp collectors to purchase a catalogue unless they are getting at the same time an indication with regard to what they should give for their stamps? You are not dealing here with the advanced collector, you are not even dealing with the ordinary full-fledged general collector. You have to get on to the field even below that in order to make

a catalogue of this kind a success, and to publish it in sufficiently large numbers to be able to issue it at anything like a reasonable price.

. . . . . .

"In regard to the question of the pricing. I was very much struck with the suggestion which emanated from Mr. Reichenheim that the question of price should be left in the hands of a well-known firm of dealers whose catalogue prices rule in this country to-day. I do not know whether they would be prepared to undertake such a heavy task as that. If they would, perhaps in that way we would get over our difficulties."

. . . . . .

Mr. M. P. Castle said:—

"I have ventured to praise Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, taking that to be the leading catalogue in this country, and you cannot shut your eyes to the fact that, as regards the stamps more particularly of Great Britain and the Colonies, Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is taken as the dominant factor in fixing the prices, and every other catalogue published throughout the world, in cataloguing those stamps, is more or less—usually very much more than less—affected by their prices. . . . That is a position it is very difficult indeed to assail. But I think the force of public philatelic opinion might very usefully be assimilated through Congresses like this in order to bring a reasonable pressure to bear upon them and upon the publishers of other catalogues to remedy the anomalies which gentlemen have to-day called attention to. I think that the publishers of the catalogues are, as a rule, eminently reasonable and sensible business men. If they see there is a feeling amongst collectors generally that certain things ought to be remedied, I think it is very likely that one of the most beneficial effects of a Congress like this will be that they will lend a ready ear to every suggestion which has a reasonable foundation of sound philatelic sense. Therefore I am very glad that this Congress has discussed this question.

. . . . . .

"If, by a Congress like this, we can induce the dealers to take this view, *i.e.* to say that 'although we recognize that the catalogues are published mainly for the sale of stamps by this house, still we are in a fiduciary position to the philatelic public, and our duty is, as far as possible, to remedy any possible palpable anomaly existing with regard to the price of stamps, and make our catalogues as far as possible a true reflex of what the values of the stamps are in the country in which this catalogue is published'—if we can by our expression of opinion induce dealers to take up that attitude, we shall have amply vindicated the calling together of this Congress, and we shall have done something which will remove some stones out of the path of Philately at the present time."

. . . . . .

In replying to the discussion Mr. Fulcher, after alluding to the obvious difficulties of the question, that were repeatedly referred to by the various speakers, said:—

"Nevertheless I do think that the discussion has been very valuable, and I think that we may see some ray of light perhaps in the direction of a solution of the question from the point of view of getting the dealers to meet together and to discuss what they are going to price the standard varieties at. I may say the whole of the discussion, from my point of view, seems to have been on the question of prices, and that is evidently the point which interests the collector mainly. There is nothing which has been said

from the point of view of the training of Philatelists. Still, the question of prices is a very important one, and I think, as I have already said, the discussion may throw light upon a possible solution of it by getting the dealers to do it for us."

. . . . . .

Mr. F. Reichenheim, in his remarks, mentioned the contemplated issue of a German standard catalogue, and we have since received from Herr Paul Kohl the following further amplification of this important announcement:—

"In accordance with the general wish of collectors and dealers, the International Philatelic Society, Dresden, in agreement and with the co-operation of the societies in Hamburg, Vienna, Munich, Augsburg, Berlin, as also the International Society of Stamp Dealers, has decided to adopt as a standard catalogue ('Normal-Katalog') the catalogue published under the title of the 'Illustrierter Briefmarken-Reform-Katalog,' by the firm Paul Kohl, Ltd., of Chemnitz. The stamped stationery ('Ganzsachen') of the German Empire and of German Colonies is to be included. All societies interested in this matter are requested to discuss same at their next meetings, and offers of co-operation in the fixing of the catalogue prices of stamps and names of interested societies for publication on the title-page are to be directed to the International Philatelic Society, Dresden. The price of the standard catalogue has been fixed at marks 2.50 (2/6)."

The result of this discussion, coupled with the announcement of the leading German philatelic societies, clears the air to a considerable degree as regards the ventilation of this time-honoured subject, and we venture to thus briefly epitomize the main features of the actual situation as regards this country as brought forth at the Philatelic Congress of Manchester.

1. The acknowledged arbiter as to the inclusion, rejection, and pricing of the British Colonial stamps in this country is the Catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

2. This firm announces publicly and privately that their Catalogue represents solely the stamps that their firm have on sale and is influenced by no other considerations.

3. The amount of stamps held by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., notably of all the rarer specimens, only constitutes a minute fraction of those in other hands, say, for argument's sake, 5 per cent.

4. That this state of things requires a remedy.

The foregoing points apply only to the stamps of Great Britain and Colonies, whose appraisement in this country is naturally accepted and largely followed by the other leading catalogues of the world. With regard to the stamps of the United States and Europe, a standard catalogue in this country would have to fall in line with the leading American and German catalogues, while maintaining an independent attitude with regard to the other countries of the world. Should the present agitation culminate in any decided action, we should therefore counsel only the attempt to regularize the issues of the British Colonial Empire.

We are convinced that a normal or standard catalogue of the British Empire stamps is quite capable of realization, and we are assured will be demanded and realized by the growing force of public opinion. The position is clearly an unnatural one at the present time, and the anomaly

is one that increases every year. The position achieved by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I, may justly be regarded with pride by its publishers, but we venture to think that an opportunity is now afforded of largely increasing its sphere of usefulness and influence. The Catalogue is of acknowledged and appreciated excellence and could be so modified as to vindicate the position it has gradually grown into as the practical arbiter of the relative collectability and values of the British and Colonial issues.

The Abnormal Plate-varieties of the Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain.

By the EARL OF CRAWFORD, Vice-President.

Notes read before the Royal Philatelic Society on January 7, 1909.

AFTER some hesitation as to whether I should prepare a mixed display, I have decided on confining myself to Great Britain, and to let my show consist of what are known as "The Abnormal Varieties of the Various Plates of the Surface-printed Stamps of our Postal Issues."

I have to throw myself on the indulgence of the meeting, as, unfortunately, these stamps exceed the number fixed by our Council. But I thought it a pity to break the series, as all are of the greatest interest, and should be carefully looked for, as without doubt copies may still be found.

I should like to make the suggestion that collectors possessing copies, used or unused, of these stamps should report them to our Expert Committee and have them photographed. This would add greatly to our knowledge of the numbers existing of any given stamp, which, when it changes hands, may now be easily considered to be a new find.

The notes are divided into two parts: 1st, giving the list, in order of value, of all those stamps which, up to the present time, have been discovered in *perforated* condition; and, 2nd, as a supplement, the list of those of which *no perforated* copies, used or unused, have as yet been discovered.

3d.

Issue I. Die II. Plate (3). Imprimatur copy.

Known as the "Secret Dot."

Registered 25.8.62. Six sheets printed, of which one at least was perforated and put into stock.

Unused. The perforation of the unused specimens known is tentative, and not official. A few copies only were found at Somerset House many years ago.

Used copy. Formerly in the Willet Collection. This perforation is *official.*

Copies *imperforate* are found in most good collections, but those *perforated* are very scarce.

4d.

ISSUE VII. Die IV. *Plate* 16. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Large Garter (1872).

Registered 4.8.74. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 15.

So far no unused copy has been discovered.

Three or four copies are known in the used state.

In September, 1874, the 8d. value was brought into use. Complaints were made of mistakes owing to the similarity of colour, therefore the P.M.G. decided to change the colour of the 4d.

Consequently Plate 16 was only put to press and issued in the new colour, sage-green.

4d.

ISSUE VIII. Die IV. *Plate* 17. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Large Garter (1872).

Registered 30.7.77. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 16.

Used copy. Postmark ((107))=Bradford, Yorks.

So far I am not aware of any unused copy.

The colour of the stamp was changed to a grey-brown before Plate 17 was put to press.

6d.

ISSUE V. Die IV. *Plate* 10. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, *Spray of Rose.*

Registered 1.4.69. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 9.

I have not seen an unused copy.

Used copy. From the collection of Doctor *Sandkuhl.*

This plate was never put to press, owing to the change of design of the stamp, in which the head, instead of being surrounded by a circle, is within a white-lined hexagon.

6d.

ISSUE VI. Die V. *Plate 12.* Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, *Spray of Rose.*

Registered 22.4.72. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of *Plate 11.*

No unused copy is known.

Used copy. Postmark ((545))=Newcastle-on-Tyne. So far as I can learn, this is the *only copy* that has been found in the chestnut colour.

Plate 11 was at press when the colour was changed from chestnut to the pale buff, and withdrawn in October, when Plate 12 was put to press in the new colour.

6d.

ISSUE IX. Coloured corner letters. Die VI. *Plate 13.* Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Spray of Rose.

Registered 21.12.72. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 12.

I know of no unused copy.

Used copy. I think postmarked ((447)) = Leeds. I have heard of one other copy, belonging to a dealer in Paris, reported about three years ago.

Plate 13 was registered while Plate 12 was still at press in the buff colour. The colour was changed to grey in March, 1874, and Plate 13 was then put to press.

9d.

ISSUE I. Known as *hair lines.* Die I. *Plate 3.* Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Emblems.

Registered 8.5.62. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of *Plate 2.*

Unused copies. The shade seems to be slightly darker.

Used copy.

The decision to change the die by using large corner letters was made while Plate 2 was still in use. Therefore this plate was never put to press.

9d.

ISSUE II. Die II. *Plate* 5. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Emblems.

Registered 24.4.66. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of *Plate* 4.

Unused copy. I believe that very few copies are known of this plate number.

The 9d. value was withdrawn from circulation in December, 1877, while Plate 4 was still in use, consequently Plate 5 was never put to press.

10d.

Error of Paper.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 1. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Emblems.

Registered 22.3.67.

Note.—The Imprimatur sheets were on the right paper, Spray of Rose.

The general change of the watermark *Emblems* was made just at this time to *Spray of Rose.* By accident one or two sheets of the Emblem paper were used. It was discovered at once, and the error rectified. I have not seen an *unused* copy.

Used copy. Posted at *Constantinople.*

Four copies are known, all used in that city. They are lettered—

My copy	J...R. R...J.	Third copy	K...S. S...K.
Second copy	L...L. L...L.	Fourth copy	J...L. L...J.

As I correct the press, news comes of the discovery by Mr. Bernstein, of Manchester, of the fourth copy.

10d.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 2. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Spray of Rose.

Registered 30.8.67. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into stock of Plate 1.

Unused copy. I believe this to be of extreme rarity.

Used copy. Postmarked 17 within a diamond-shaped mark = Southwark, London. Most of the known copies were used by Messrs. Crosse and Blackwell to their house in India.

In September, 1877, this value was withdrawn, consequently *Plate* 2 was never put to press.

1s.

"*Hair Lines.*"

ISSUE II. Die II. *Plate* 2 (3). Imprimatur copy.

Registered 16.6.62. Six sheets (1440 stamps) were printed.

Unused copy. It is said that only one pane (20 stamps) was perforated.

The introduction of large white corner letters in February, 1865, caused a change in the die. Plate 1 (2) was still in use, so Plate 2 (3) was never put to press.

This stamp is found in good collections in an *un*perforated state pretty often.

1s.

NEVER ISSUED. *Lilac.* Die IV. *Plates* 13 and 14. Imprimatur copies.

Watermark, Large Crown (1880).

Both registered 3.11.82. Five sheets (1200 stamps) perforated of each plate.

No used copy is known.

Unused copies are of excessive rarity.

Government intended to print all values in this lilac colour, and to overprint the value in large numerals.

To this end Plates 13 and 14 were re-registered, and thus became *legal* stamps. The idea, however, was abandoned when the experiment had been tried on the 3d. and 6d. values.

Copies exist of all the values with the numerals, but as they were not re-registered they can only be considered as essays.

2s.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 3. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Spray of Rose.

Registered 23.1.68. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into stock with *Plate* 1.

Unused copy. Printed in the dull blue of the first printing (a). A curious flaw shows on the cheek bone of this stamp.

Used copies. All I have seen are heavily postmarked.

SUPPLEMENT.

Abnormal varieties, of which to the present date *no* copies have *been found in perforated state.*

2½d.

ISSUE I. *Plates* 4 and 5. From Imprimatur sheets.

Watermark, *Small Anchor.*

Registered 13.7.75. Five sheets (1200 stamps each) perforated of each plate.

No copies perforated have been found either used or unused.

The paper was changed to that watermarked *Orb* before these plates were required. Consequently they were never issued.

3d.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 2. Imprimatur copy.

Registered 17.10.61. 1500 sheets were printed.

The Postmaster-General feared confusion at night with the 4d. stamp. They were never put into circulation, and were destroyed.

In this stamp the background is *reticulated.* On Die II this was cleared, and shows *white.*

This stamp is said to exist without the word "Specimen"; but I have never seen one, except a beautifully executed forgery, made up by pen on a copy of Die II.

3d.

ISSUE II. Die III. *Plate* 5. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, *Emblems.*

Registered 18.10.65. *Five sheets* (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into stock.

No perforated copy, used or unused, has been found.

While Plate 4 was still in use, the paper with watermark *Emblems* was changed to that with the *Spray of Rose.*

Consequently, when Plate 5 came into use, only the Spray paper was used for it.

3d.

ISSUE IV. Die IV. *Plate* 21. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, *Spray.*

Registered 15.7.80. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 20.

No perforated copy has yet been discovered, used or unused.

Before this Plate 21 came into use, the watermark of *Spray* was changed to that of *Large Crown* (1880).

6d.

ISSUE IX. Die VI. *Plate* 18. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Spray of Rose.

Registered 15.7.80. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 17.

No perforated copies, used or unused, are yet known.

The change of watermark to Large Crown (1880) took place in January, 1881, and Plate 18 was then put to press.

8d.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 2. Imprimatur copy.

Registered 11.9.76. Five sheets (1200 stamps) perforated and put into the stock of Plate 1.

No perforated copies, used or unused, have been discovered.

The value 8d. was withdrawn from circulation on the 6th of July, 1880. As the demand for it had been small the *Plate* 1 was still in use, consequently *Plate* 2 was never put to press.

1s.

ISSUE III. Die III. *Plate* 5. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Emblems.

Registered 28.3.66. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into the stock of Plate 4.

No perforated copies, used or unused, have been found.

The paper was changed from Emblems to Spray of Rose in August, 1867. Plate 4 was still in use, consequently *Plate* 5 was not put to press until February, 1871, and then of course on the Spray paper.

1s.

In green.

ISSUE V. Die IV. *Plate* 14. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Spray of Rose.

Registered 20.12.75. Five sheets (1200 stamps) were perforated and put into stock with *Plate* 13.

No perforated copy, used or unused, has been found.

In October, 1880, the colour was changed to *salmon*, because the new *half-penny* was registered in *green*.

Plate 13, 1s., was still in use at the time; the watermark was also changed to Large Crown (1880).

Consequently, Plate 14 was not put to press until October, 1881, of course with the new colour and watermark.

5s.

Perf. 15½ by 15.

ISSUE I. Die I. *Plate* 4. Imprimatur copy.

Watermark, Maltese Cross.

Registered 22.11.74. Five sheets of 80 stamps (400) were perforated and put into stock with *Plate* 2.

No perforated copy, used or unused, has been discovered.

Plate 2 was still at press when, in November, 1882, the paper of this value was changed to that watermarked *Large Anchor*. The disposition of the plate was changed, so that there were only 56 stamps.

Plate 4 was re-registered in October, 1882, and put to press under the new conditions.

Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South Africa Company.

Compiled from Official and other sources, and from Information obtained on the spot.

By FRANK H. MELLAND, F.R.P.S.L.

(*Continued from page* 16.)

Postal Notice No. 2 of 1901.

Reduction of Parcels Tariff.



IT is hereby notified for public information that on and after January 15, 1901, the Tariff for Parcels from Southern Rhodesia to the Bechuanaland Protectorate, the Cape Colony, Natal, the Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal will be reduced to 2s. 1d. per lb. or fraction thereof.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office, Salisbury,
January 14, 1901.

Postal Notice No. 6 of 1901.

Reduction of Parcels Tariff.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after June 1, 1901, the Tariff for Parcels exchanged between Rhodesia and other South African States and countries oversea will be reduced to the following rates:—

On parcels addressed to the Bechuanaland Protectorate, the Cape Colony, the Orange River Colony, and the Transvaal	1s. 6d.	per lb. or fraction thereof.
To the United Kingdom . . .	1s. 9d.	,, ,, ,, ,,
To other countries oversea the rates will be generally reduced by . .	1s.	,, ,, ,, ,,

(Sgd.) A. F. Emerton, *Acting Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office,
May 30, 1901.

Postal Notice No. 7 of 1901.

Reduction of Parcels Tariff.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after this date the Tariff for Parcels exchanged between Rhodesia and Natal, via the Bechuanaland Protectorate and the Cape Colony, will be reduced to one shilling and sixpence per pound or fraction thereof.

(Sgd.) A. F. Emerton, *Acting Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office, Salisbury,
June 1, 1901.

Postal Notice No. 10 of 1901.

The following Schedule of Postage Rates is published for general information:

To	Letters, per ½oz.	Post Cards, each.	Reply Post Cards, each.	Newspapers.				Book Packets, Samples and Commercial Papers.				Parcels.	Remarks.
				Not Exceeding		Each Additional		Not Exceeding		Each Additional			
Southern Rhodesia .	1d.	1d.	2d.	4ozs.	½d.	4ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	½d.	1/– per lb.	The minimum charge for a sample packet is 1d.
Other parts of South Africa, South of Zambesi River and Northern Rhodesia	2d.	1d.	2d.	2ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	½d.	1/6 per lb.	The minimum charge for a sample packet is 1d., and for commercial papers, 2d.
United Kingdom and Countries oversea .	4d.	1d.	2d.	4ozs.	1d.	2ozs.	½d.	2ozs.	1d.	2ozs.	1d.	* 1/9 per lb.	The rate for commercial papers is: Not exceeding— 2ozs. . . 3d. 4ozs. . . 3½d. 6ozs. . . 4d. 8ozs. . . 4½d. 10ozs. . . 5d. and 1d. per 2ozs. thereafter.

Fee for Registration ... ... 4d.
,, Acknowledgment of delivery of a Registered Article ... ... 2½d.

* The postage rates on Parcels addressed to other oversea countries can usually be calculated by adding 1s. per rate to the amounts appearing in the Cape Post Office Guide.

A. F. Emerton, Acting Postmaster-General.

General Post Office, Salisbury,
28th June, 1901.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

Postal Notice No. 17 of 1902.

Reduction of Oversea Postage.

It is hereby notified for general information that the rate of postage on letters from Southern Rhodesia to all places oversea will be reduced on the first of December next from fourpence to twopence halfpenny per half ounce.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office, Salisbury,
October 27, 1902.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Southern Rhodesia.

Postal Notice No. 23 of 1902.

*Reduction in Postage Tariffs.**

It is hereby notified for public information that on January 1, 1903, the Postage Tariffs will be reduced to the rates shown below:—

* The Tariff for Telegrams was also reduced by this notice.—Ed.

POSTAGE RATES.

For	Southern Rhodesia.	North-Western and North-Eastern Rhodesia and all parts of South Africa south of the Zambesi.	United Kingdom and Countries Oversea.
Letters, per ½ oz.	1d.	1d.	2½d.
Post Cards, each	1d.	1d.	1d.
Reply Post Cards, each	2d.	2d.	2d.
Newspapers:—Not exceeding	4 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	4 oz. . 1d.
Each additional	4 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.
Book-packets, samples, and commercial papers:—			
Not exceeding	2 oz. . ½d. (*a*)	(*a*) 2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . 1d. (*b*)
Each additional	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . 1d.
Parcels, per lb.	1s. 0d.	1s. 6d.	(*a*) 1s. 9d.

(*a*) The minimum charge for a packet of samples or commercial papers is 1d.

(*b*) The rate for Commercial papers is:—

Not exceeding 4 oz. . . 2½d.
,, ,, 6 oz. . . 3d.

And 1d. per 2 oz. thereafter.

Fee for Registration . . . . 4d.

Fee for Acknowledgment of delivery of a Registered article . . . . . 2½d.

(*a*) The postage rates on Parcels addressed to other oversea countries can usually be calculated by adding 1s. per rate to the amounts appearing in the Cape Post Office Guide.

G. H. EYRE, *Postmaster-General.*

G.P.O., SALISBURY,
December 11, 1902.

NOTICE NO. 8 OF 1903.

Reduction in the Rates of Postage.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after August 1, 1903, the rates of postage from North-Eastern Rhodesia will be as follows:—

Country of Destination.	Letters per ½ oz.	Post Cards.	Book Packet per 2 oz.	Newspaper per 2 oz.	Samples per 2 oz.
Within North-Eastern Rhodesia	1d.	½d.	1d.	½d.	1d.
Southern Rhodesia, North-Western Rhodesia	1d.	1d.	1d.	½d.	1d.
British Central Africa Protectorate, German East Africa (Nyasa and Tanganyika)	2d.	1d.	1d.	½d.	1d.
Cape Colony, Natal, Transvaal, Orange River Colony	2d.	1d.	1d.	½d.	2d.
United Kingdom and all other countries	2½d.	1d.	2d.	1d.	2d.

H. A. BALDOCK, *Comptroller of Posts and Telegraphs.*

GENERAL POST OFFICE, FORT JAMESON,
June 12, 1903.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, RHODESIA.
POSTAL NOTICE NO. 15 OF 1903.

Halfpenny Post Cards.

It is hereby notified for public information that Post Cards bearing a postage of one halfpenny will be available for circulation within Southern Rhodesia, and from Southern Rhodesia to North-Eastern Rhodesia, North-Western Rhodesia, the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, Natal, the Orange River Colony, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, on and after July 1, 1903.

G. H. EYRE, *Postmaster-General.*

G.P.O., SALISBURY,
June 24, 1903.

(*To be continued.*)

Retouches of the Swiss Stamps, Issues of 1882 to 1908.

A Paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society on November 19, 1908.

By T. WICKHAM JONES, F.R.P.S.L.

(*Continued from page* 42.)

50 Centimes.

Perf. 11½ × 12.



THE same plates have been used as were used for the issues with the control mark and the wmk. on white paper.

Upper Half Pane. A. Retouches Nos. 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 14, 21, 31, 41, all in background. There are also some other stamps with probable retouches.

B. A badly-printed plate with doubtful retouches.

Lower Half Pane. a. Retouches, Nos. 1, 11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 41, 42, 43.

Nos. 1, 11, 13, 21, 31, 42, 43, all over background.

No. 32, between head and spear.

Nos. 12, 22, 23, both sides of head.

Lower Half Pane. b. Retouches, Nos. 19, 28, 29, 50, in background. A curious ½ pane, all the stamps on the left side being lightly printed, while those on the right side are smudgy.

c. A smudgy plate, retouches doubtful.

1 *franc.* *Perf.* 11½ × 12.

Mr. Zumstein mentions that Nos. 36 and 37 in a lower ½ pane have small retouches about the head, but I have not seen these. I have found :—

Lower Half Pane. a.

b. Plate No. 3, defective label and figure, and left border of oval slightly shaded.

c. Plates Nos. 1 and 4, defective background.

d. No retouch.

3 *francs.* *Perf.* 11½ × 11.

New plates have evidently been used, as I do not find the same characteristics that I have already mentioned as existing on the 3 fr. stamps on white paper. Up to the present I have found the following stamps retouched :—

Upper Half Pane. A. Retouches. Plate Nos. 8, 9, 17, 18, 32, 36, 38, all in background of oval.

Lower Half Pane. a. Retouches. Plate Nos. 17, 27, 44, all in background of oval.

There is one source of comfort to the collector of all the stamps I have referred to in this paper, and that is that there are no remainders, the present new issues being only sent out to the different post offices when their stock of the old issue was exhausted, and I have a copy of a letter from the postal authorities stating that, except those they require for their own collection, none of these stamps are left. I have to acknowledge and return my very best thanks to many gentlemen who have kindly given me their valuable assistance, and I would especially name Baron de Reuterskiöld, who has lent me several stamps to exhibit to you this evening; Monsieur Ernst Zumstein, who has done his utmost to get me full information from the postal authorities, and who has sent me a valuable lot of ½ panes to show you, and also an early copy of his catalogue, that enabled me to correct and add further to this paper; Mr. Hugo Griebert, who lent me his stock to look through; and to Mr. C. J. Phillips, who, when he found I was giving my attention to these stamps, kindly placed the whole of his collection in my hands, together with all the information he had been able to obtain.

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL RETOUCHES.

1882–1904. Control mark.

25 c., green, retouched in background.
25 c., blue „ „
50 c., green „ „

1905–6. Watermark a cross, white paper.

20 c., orange-red, retouched in background and numerous retouches in upper part over "HELVETIA."
30 c., brown, retouched in background.
50 c., green „ „
3 fr., brown „ „

1907–8. Same watermark, granite paper.

20 c., orange-red, numerous retouches in upper part over "HELVETIA."
30 c., brown, retouched in background.
40 c., grey, wreath obliterated.
50 c., green, retouched in background.
3 fr., brown „ „

Since this paper was read I have been shown four more different retouches of the 25 c., blue-green, control mark, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, viz. one with a few vertical strokes between the head and spear, one between head and spear, one with oblique lines above shield and between head and spear, and one with oblique lines above shield.

I have also seen two more retouches of the 25 c. (1900), one a few strokes just above shield and one with a few strokes in upper part of background above shield. Baron de Reuterskiöld has also shown me three retouches on the 30 c. white watermarked paper that I cannot at present locate.

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

AT the meeting of April 1st, Mr. H. J. Duveen has promised to give a display of the stamps of the United States of America.

On April 22 the business will include "Studies in Plating the First Two Issues of the Stamps of Japan," by Messrs. L. W. Fulcher and F. J. Peplow.

VICTORIA 6d., ORANGE, 1854.

WE should be obliged if any Philatelist who may have single copies, pairs, slips, or blocks of the above stamp, or of the 6d. black of the same type, used or unused and in any condition, will be kind enough to lend them for the purpose of plating the varieties. The greatest care will be taken of them, and they will be returned within a week. The stamps should be sent to L. L. R. Hausburg, "Rothsay," St. George's Hill, Weybridge, Surrey.

ERRATUM "JAPAN."

IN our remarks upon *The Record of the Philatelic Students' Fellowship* in the last number of this journal (p. 47), the "Postmarks of New Guinea and Papua" is the correct title of the article contributed by Mr. A. Ashby, and not "New Guinea and Japan" by Mr. W. Ashe, as therein stated.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

THE services to the Philatelic Society of India rendered by Mr. Wilmot Corfield are well known and appreciated by collectors alike in this country and in India. Having served so long in various capacities, it is hardly to be wondered at that Mr. Corfield should desire a well-earned repose from his labours. In a letter recently received by us Mr. Corfield writes as under:—

"I am not offering myself for the office of Hon. Secretary to the Philatelic Society of India at the annual meeting next month. I have been either Hon. Treasurer or Hon. Secretary (with the exception of two intervals for visits to England) since the Philatelic Society of India started in March, 1897, and think I have earned a rest. An early intimation of my retirement may save me correspondence with people who would not otherwise know so soon of it."

We owe an apology to the journal of this Society—the *Philatelic Journal of India*—for a printer's error in our last issue, wherein, on page 44, a note on "The Preservation of Stamps in Hot Climates," it has not been correctly described as emanating from that source.

THE STAMP FRAUDS IN AUSTRALIA.

WE have received from an esteemed correspondent in Sydney the following excerpt from the *Melbourne Argus* of January 30, who, at the same time, voices the opinion of collectors in Australia as to the great harm caused to Philately by the inundation of cleaned copies that are palmed off as unused to collectors:—

"Though it is nearly six months since attention was first directed in the *Argus* to the fact that investigations into a systematic series of stamp frauds were being carried out by the authorities, the inquiry is not finished yet. A prosecution was initiated against an officer last year, but it broke down at the threshold. Naturally, the authorities did not desire that the matter should remain in the unsatisfactory position then attained, so the investigations were continued. It is not considered likely, however, that sufficient material will be gathered to enable a criminal prosecution to be launched, though some departmental action will probably follow as the result of the information gained.

"When the frauds were first discovered, Mr. W. R. Anderson, the Secretary of the Crown Law Department, went to Ballarat, in which district the greatest number of frauds appeared to have been perpetrated, to make personal inquiries. Detective Burvett was at the same time commissioned to make investigations into the matter. It was found that a large number of old documents lying in the archives of different offices had had their stamps removed by cutting, tearing, or soaking. When it came to fastening the offence on to any particular officer, however, serious difficulty was encountered, for the reason that a large number of persons attached to the Crown Law Department, and several members of the police force, had access to the papers. The frauds covered a number of years, and there had been a great many changes of departmental officers.

"One thing which the investigation has shown is that a large number of the stamps taken from documents had never been properly cancelled. Some of these would be of special interest to stamp collectors, and would be worth perhaps five or six times their face value. As the stamps range in value from 5s. to £2, £3, and even £5, it will be seen that the authors of the fraud may have made a very nice 'haul.' At the same time, the losses of the Department are not to be measured by the value to the philatelist of the stamp removed. If the stamp were taken and sold, then, however guilty the offender might be, the Department lost nothing. It is only where a stamp has been taken off an old document, cleaned, and used again, that the Department has suffered monetary loss. The total frauds, it is estimated, run up to nearly £1000, but of this sum the greater part is made up of stamps sold to philatelists. As far as can be ascertained, the Department has suffered comparatively little loss.

"Stamps used on documents are supposed to be defaced by an indelible ink. The investigations have shown that this supposed indelible ink can be removed, and the stamp restored to such a condition that only the closest examination would reveal anything of its history. A regulation of the Department requires officers to see that the necessary documents have been

stamped and the stamps duly effaced. The perpetrators are likely to escape the consequences of their acts, but it is probable that some of the officers concerned will have to answer to a departmental board for neglect of the rule regarding the defacing of the stamps."

DEATH OF MR. E. J. NANKIVELL.

THE very unlooked-for intimation of the death of Mr. Nankivell, which we have received while in the press, will come as a sad shock to the collecting world. It appears that Mr. Nankivell had, unknown to the vast majority of his friends, been suffering latterly from an affection of the heart, and after a sudden seizure expired early in the morning of the 18th March, at his residence—Carnanton, Tunbridge Wells. He leaves a wife and two daughters to mourn his loss, to whom the sincere sympathy of all Philatelists will be proffered. Mr. Nankivell had been a collector from his boyhood, but his connection with advanced Philately may be said to have commenced with his accession to the London Philatelic Society in 1889, at whose meetings he was during many years a regular attendant and a ready debater. He served as a member of the Council for several years, and in many ways devoted his marked abilities to the furthering of philatelic aims in general and the welfare of the London Society in particular. Prominent among the latter feature may be mentioned the question of the housing of the Society, as it was mainly through his initiative on the Committee formed for that purpose that the Society was enabled to acquire the premises at Effingham House that it occupied for so many years. The foundation of a journal for the Philatelic Society of London was also first brought forward by Mr. Nankivell, and his proposition to that effect was carried with the resulting foundation of the *London Philatelist*. It is beyond question that the growing importance of the (then) London Philatelic Society would have ultimately enforced the issue of its own journal, but we should bear in mind that the actual starting of the Society's journal was due to Mr. Nankivell's proposition. He was also associated in the work of the journal, as during the editor's absence from England in 1902–3 he acted as Assistant Editor.

We purpose in our next issue to refer more in detail to Mr. Nankivell's philatelic literary work and collections, and for the moment to confine our remarks to the expression of a due recognition of his philatelic and journalistic abilities, and to the very sincere sorrow that will be generally excited by the news of his premature decease.

Reviews.

THE YEAR BOOK OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.*

THIS is the annual publication of the American Philatelic Society, and constitutes a record of all the various matters affecting that important body, as also of the proceedings of the Annual Convention, held last year at Columbus, Ohio, of which a word-for-word report is given. The information thus afforded is of obvious value to all members of the A.P.S., but there are, moreover, several philatelic articles that will ensure an even wider circle of appreciative readers. Foremost among these articles is one by Mr. John N. Luff, on the "Postage Stamps of Egypt," marked by that writer's well-known philatelic acumen and perspicuity. The "Rare United States Envelopes" are elaborately discussed by Messrs. Bartels and Berthold, while further entertaining and readable themes are descanted on by Messrs. Henry N. Mudge, C. A. Howes, and H. B. Phillips, rendering the Year Book a desirable addition to the library of the philatelist.

M. BERNICHON'S CATALOGUE.†

This work is apparently a devolution of the official catalogue of the *Société française de Timbrologie* which has been issued of recent years, and whose editions have been reviewed in this journal. The main features of the official catalogue have been preserved, but the total contents have been condensed from about 1800 to 1000 pages, and the prices, of course, are no longer those of "official" quotation but those at which the present vendor of the catalogue is willing to supply the stamps. We understand that other French dealers have issued similar editions bearing their respective sources of publication, and we thus have the somewhat novel feature of several firms selling stamps at identical prices. It is evident that this catalogue has vastly lost in the importance of its character, notably as to prices, by this devolution, but none the less it will still be found to present most excellent features and to form a sound philatelic guide to the collector. In one respect M. Bernichon's catalogue scores over its predecessor, as, printed on extremely thin paper, with its reduced paging, its thickness has been reduced by at least two-thirds. We learn that it was this last feature that actuated largely against its extended sale to collectors, but whatever the reasons that induced this change the disappearance of the *Catalogue Officiel* will be generally regretted.

THE SCOTT "STANDARD" CATALOGUE.‡

The new edition of this firm's Price List worthily sustains its past reputation as being one of the most lucid, well-arranged, and reliable stamp

* *The Year Book of the American Philatelist*, 1908, Vol. XXII, Part I. Published by the American Philatelic Society. Henry S. Adair, Secretary, Columbus, Ohio, U.S.

† *General Catalogue of Postage and Telegraph Stamps.* J. Bernichon, 4 Rue Rochambeau, Paris, 1909.

‡ *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1909. Scott Stamp and Coin Co., 18 East 23rd Street, New York. W. T. Wilson, 292 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

catalogues of the world. There will be found to be many improvements over the last edition, while the new issues have been satisfactorily brought up to date. Paper, typography, and illustrations are all of first-class character—the only regrettable feature being the enforced absence of the illustrations of the stamps of the United States.

The publishers include, as they state, with the greatest reluctance, the chronicling of "chalky paper" varieties, and infer that as they are only inserted from a wish to satisfy a philatelic demand, they will be quite ready to delete them should their inclusion meet with disfavour. Personally we consider these varieties as far more important than the accidental variations of perforation caused by the simultaneous uses of different perforating machines.

From the collector's point of view, the most striking item in the catalogue is the special notice of the publishers, in which they "particularly request a careful reading of these pages, which consider several matters not previously discussed in our catalogue, but now of the utmost importance to collectors," and from which we quote the following paragraphs, all of which have an important bearing on the modern phases of collecting and will merit the careful consideration of our readers :—

"CONDITION OF STAMPS.

"It should be noted that, unlike most published figures, the prices we quote for rare stamps are for specimens in *fine* condition. It is becoming, however, more and more difficult each year to obtain old issues in absolutely fine condition, and we find the great majority of collectors willing to accept specimens in average or 'good' condition, provided that the cost is proportionately reduced. Rare stamps in our stock and sale books are priced according to condition. Fine copies are marked strictly at our catalogue prices, but we often have in stock average good copies, not damaged in any way and perfectly satisfactory to most collectors, which we can supply at from three-fourths to one-half of the catalogue price. 'Fair' copies, which may have slight defects, and actually damaged specimens, when in stock, are, of course, sold more cheaply than average copies. We shall be pleased to quote special prices on any stamps cataloguing over $1.00 each, which we may have in stock at less than our regular catalogue figures. It should be noted that these special quotations on copies differing as to grade of condition do not apply to current and recent issues, nor to low-priced stamps.

"GRADES OF CONDITION DEFINED.

"Collectors should note the differences between the various grades of condition—'fine' usually being understood to describe a picked specimen in every way, well centred and lightly cancelled, if used; 'good' copies are simply average specimens, not damaged, but not so finely selected as to centring, cancellation, etc.; a 'fair' specimen may have trifling defects, but not so bad as to deserve the term 'damaged.' The standard of condition, however, varies greatly in the stamps of different countries. Early United States stamps, for instance, are, as a rule, very poorly perforated and heavily cancelled, so they cannot be expected to be in such fine condition as speci-

mens from countries where more care is taken in perforating and lighter cancellations are used.

"REPAIRED STAMPS.

"We regret to state that there are on the market skilfully repaired stamps, sold as fine copies, which it is very difficult for the novice to detect, although the repairing may sometimes be seen by holding the stamp to a strong light, under a magnifying glass, and sometimes by the use of a benzine cup. We prefer to sell damaged stamps as such, and any finely repaired stamps are sold only after having been plainly marked on the back with a statement to the effect that the stamp has been repaired. A repaired stamp is, of course, worth the same as a damaged specimen with a small added charge for the work of repairing."

HERR C. WILLADT'S CATALOGUE.*

This work, which is issued for the years 1908–9, is confined to the European issues, which, however, are not specialized to the same extent as in some other catalogues. It is, however, well printed and illustrated, and as it is a reflex of the large stock available for sale by the well-known firm of Carl Willadt and Co., it will doubtless find many readers.

* Carl Willadt and Co. *Special Price List of Europe*, 1908. Pforzheim, Baden.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

CEYLON.—Some new stationery is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority.

Stationery.

With stamps of new design showing value in figures.

Envelope, 5 c., blue.
Newswrappers, 2 c., violet.
,, 5 c., bistre.

GOLD COAST.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that the new 6d. stamp listed on page 48 is really printed in two colours, dull and bright purple.

INDIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* has been informed of the issue of the 1 anna, "Postage and Revenue," overprinted "C.E.F."

Adhesive.

1 anna, carmine; overprinted "C.E.F."

Hyderabad.—Specimens of the four new stamps listed on p. 247, Vol. XVII, are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

Puttialla.—*Gibbons Weekly* announces the issue of the 3 pies, slate-grey stamp, for official use.

Official.

3 pies, slate-grey; King's Head; black overprint.

JAMAICA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 2s. stamp on multiple watermarked paper.

Adhesive.

2s., red-brown; multiple wmk.

MALAY STATES.—The expected 3 c., all rose, has arrived, and is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

3 c., all rose; multiple; ordinary.

MAURITIUS.—The first of the stamps with altered Arms design has reached *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

Envelope.

2 c., brown; Key turned to right.

NATAL.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that they have received the £1, black and purple on red, King's Head, inscribed "POSTAGE" only, and that it is on multiple watermarked, ordinary paper.

NEW HEBRIDES.—It would appear from *Gibbons Weekly* that at least a portion of the new ½d. stamps are found printed on single watermarked paper and are probably scarce in this condition.

Adhesive.

½d., green; single CA.

NEW ZEALAND.—We understand from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 6d. in reduced size has appeared with the official overprint, and that the new 1d. stamp, listed on page 48, has been issued for ordinary use.

Adhesive.

1d., carmine; new printing; wmk. single lined NZ and Star, chalky; perf. 14×15 (comb machine).

Official.

6d., Pictorial; reduced size; wmk. NZ and Star; perf. 14×13½ (clean cut).

TRANSVAAL.—The *M.C.* informs us that the long-expected 2½d. in single colour has made its appearance.

Adhesive.

2½d., ultramarine; multiple; ordinary (?).

EUROPE.

RUSSIA.—The following communication has been received from Mr. Albert Scheindling:—

"LIBAU (RUSSLAND),
"24 *February*, 1909.

"DEAR SIR,—Enclosed I beg to hand you a used copy of each of the 1 cop, orange, 2 cop, green, 4 cop, rose, of the new issue. One of the clerks at our post office has already seen the 3 cop, rose (similar to the 7 cop), and 10 cop, blue (similar to the 4 cop); they unfortunately escaped him, but you may chronicle them on my responsibility. No doubt the 5 cop will soon appear, and as far as I can judge it will be similar to the 7 cop and the colour will be violet. You will see that the 4 cop and 10 cop are of a different shape than the other values, and the reasons are, firstly, in order to distinguish the 3 cop from the 4 cop and the 7 cop from the 10 cop, and secondly, because the words 'RETbIPE' (four) and 'DECATb' (ten) are too large to be placed on the left side of the figure of value, therefore the latter had to be placed on each side of the eagle, the inscription, however, at the foot of the stamp.

"I have also been shown the official journal published by the Postal Department, according to which new 25 and 70 cop stamps are daily expected, whether they will be bi-coloured and bear the eagle embossed as hitherto, I couldn't gather; but I don't doubt that it will be the case, as well as with all the other new stamps from 14 cop upwards (a full set up to 25 roubles is expected), because the Postal Department does everything to prevent the forging or cleaning of stamps, and the bi-colouration and embossing are very good guards against these dangers. For this purpose the new stamps have also got a secret mark impressed on their *face*, which consists of rectangular diagonal crossing lines, looking like a watermark.

"Some stamp papers mention that the new stamps are printed in colours which wash off, but I can assure you that this is *not* the case, and I enclose a number of the 7 cop stamps to enable you to make the necessary experiments, which will prove to you that I am right. Whether the colours will also withstand the cleaning off of the postmark is a question I cannot yet answer, but I have already commenced to investigate the matter, and I am also trying to get information *re* the secret mark.

"Each sheet consists of 4 panes of 25 stamps each, and the size of the sheets is 247×307. I have also, through the courtesy of one of our postal clerks, been shown another number of the official journal, which contains the announcement of an entirely new and full set of stationery, consisting of post cards, envelopes, wrappers, letter cards, etc.; they will be issued on the 1st of May, old style, and will bear new inscription, viz. 'NORTOBAR KAPTA' (post card) instead of 'OTKPbITOE NUCCMO' (open letter), as heretofore; NUCbMO (letter), instead of '3 AKPbITOE NUCCMO' (closed letter), as heretofore, and so on.

"Regarding the Jubilee stamps mentioned in my last letter, which you don't intend to chronicle (according to the rules of your paper), I think you would do very well to simply mention them (in the same way as the Siam Jubilee stamps, see page 25), as this set is *extremely* interesting to Russian collectors, and these Jubilee stamps are no speculative stamps, but they will only commemorate the third century of the house of Romanow."

We have soaked the stamps sent and do not find the colours wash off.

Adhesive.

4 kop, carmine; with lines of varnish.

SWITZERLAND.—The 10 c. and 15 c. of the altered "HELVETIA" design are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

"HELVETIA" appears at top, and the figures of value are printed in the middle of

the right side only. The designer's initials, "C. L.," appear in the lower right corner.

Adhesives.

10c., rose; granite paper; watermarked Gibbons' No. 13; perf. 11½, 12.

15 c., mauve; granite paper; watermarked Gibbons' No. 13; perf. 11½, 12.

To the set of Postage Dues with single-lined Cross watermark *Gibbons Weekly* adds the 100 c.

Postage Due.

100 c., olive-green and scarlet; single-lined Cross wmk.; perf. 11½.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Of the new set chronicled on pages 130 and 157 Vol. XVII, the following, according to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* and *Gibbons Weekly*, appear to have been issued :—

Adhesives.

2 c., violet-brown.
3 c., green.
4 c., violet-brown.
5 c., red-lilac.
10 c., slate-green.
12 c., orange (?).
12 c., blue.
15 c., apple-green.
30 c., lilac-red.

PANAMA.—Several of our contemporaries report the issue of two stamps of a new set.

We gather that at present the 10 c. has only been issued with the "Canal Zone" overprint.

Adhesives.

2½ c., red; usual Colombian Arms type.
10 c., violet and black; portrait of José de Obaldêa; surcharged "CANAL ZONE" in black.

PARAGUAY.—The 10 c., brown-purple, and 30 c., rose-red, of 1904, overprinted "1908" in black, have reached us from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that the 1 peso Official is coming surcharged "1908" in red, and "HABILITADO UN CENTAVO" in black, and original value obliterated with a line.

Adhesives.

10 c., brown-purple, of 1904; overprinted "1908" in black; ordinary.
30 c., rose-red, of 1904; overprinted "1908" in black; ordinary.
1 centavo on 1 peso, carmine & black; "OFFICIAL."
1 „ „ 1 „ red and black „
1 „ „ 1 „ slate and black „

UNITED STATES.—It is reported in *Gibbons Weekly* that the 5 c. of the 1902 series was sold in an imperforate condition for use in stamp vending and affixing machines.

Adhesive.

5 c., blue, of 1902; imperf.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ABYSSINIA.—The new set has appeared, and samples are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

The ¼ g., green, ½ g., rose, and 1 g., green and orange-red, have a coat-of-arms in the centre.

The 2 g., blue, 4 g., green and red, 8 g., orange-red and green, and 16 g., red and pink, bear, we presume, portraits of Abyssinian celebrities.

The inscription on left side reads "POSTES ETHIOPIENNES," top and right side native characters, with value in guerches at foot.

Unwatermarked; perf. 11½.

AFGHANISTAN.—Our latest supply of Afghan stamps includes a novelty in the shape of a 1 abasi, blue, a new type which has a general resemblance to its predecessor, but the arms are now within a rayed circle instead of a wreath. The design is typographed, and although the various specimens differ slightly from each other the plate is doubtless produced from a single original matrix, any such differences arising from faulty printing and stereotyping.—*M.C.*

As we go to press a copy of this stamp is to hand from Lieutenant A. E. Stewart, F.R.P.S.L. It was issued about the middle of February.

A post card with stamp of very similar design to the adhesive mentioned above is also listed.

Adhesive.

1 abasi, ultramarine; perf.

Post Card.

1 abasi, red-brown on white.

ITALIAN FOREIGN POST OFFICES.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* supplies the information that eight sets of stamps have been issued as follows :—

Costantinopoli
10 Parà 10

Adhesives.

Surcharged approximately as above at foot of each stamp.

(i.) Costantinopoli.
(ii.) Durazzo.
(iii.) Gerusalemme.
(iv.) Ianina.
(v.) Salonicco.
(vi.) Scutari d'Albania.
(vii.) Smirne.
(viii.) Valona.

10 parà, in black, on 5 c., green.
20 „ „ 10 c., rose.
30 „ in violet, on 15 c., grey.

1 piastra, in black, on 25 c., blue.
2 piastre „ 50 c., violet.
4 „ „ 1 lira, brown and green.
20 „ „ 5 lire, rose and blue.

Post Card.

20 parà, in black, on 10 c., rose.

ITALIAN SOMALILAND.—The Postage Due set is now reported with a different surcharge by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Postage Due stamps of Italy, overprinted "SOMALIA ITALIANA" without "MERIDIONALE."

5 c., orange and carmine.
10 c. „ „
20 c. „ „
30 c. „ „
40 c. „ „
50 c. „ „
1 l., blue and carmine.
2 l. „ „
5 l. „ „
10 l. „ „

MARTINIQUE.—To the new set announced on page 24 *Gibbons Weekly* adds the following:—

Adhesives.

5 c., green and purple.
10 c., carmine and purple.

SURINAM.—The 5 cents stamp having run short in Surinam a provisional supply of 52,900 has been printed locally and issued.

Gibbons Weekly informs us that the stamps were typographed by Mr. H. B. Heijde, of Paramaribo, the local official printer, in sheets of 100, the one half of the sheet being *tête-bêche* with the other half. Apparently the clichés were set up in a block of 50 (five rows of ten), and after one-half of the sheet was printed the paper was fed into the press the other way round. The stamps are not perforated, but rouletted, probably by means of a printer's guillotine cutting-machine. The stamps are issued without gum, owing to the damp climatic conditions.

Adhesive.

5 c., red; rouletted 13½.

TETUAN.—With reference to the report on page 50, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the following copy of a letter received by them from their agent at Tangier.

"In reply to your inquiry *re* the enclosed Spanish stamp overprinted 'TETUAN,' I am informed by the head postmaster of the Spanish Post Offices in Morocco that it is not a genuine surcharge, that whoever made it did so for a caprice, that he (the head postmaster) is in charge of all the genuine postage stamps used in the Spanish Post Offices in Morocco, and that he has given no consent for any other surcharge than those in current use, and further, that no report of running short of stamps and having to surcharge others has been made to him."

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1908-9.

President—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
Vice-President—THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. OLDFIELD.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. FULCHER.

E. D. BACON. T. WICKHAM JONES.
C. N. BIGGS. T. MAYCOCK.
M. P. CASTLE, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. HALL. F. REICHENHEIM.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG. R. B. YARDLEY.

THE eighth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, February 4, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, C. Neville Biggs, E. D. Bacon, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, Douglas Ellis, B. Pinner, R. B. Yardley, G. R. T. Upton, Thos. W. Hall, Arthur Laceby, A. Chilver, D. C. Gray, B. D. Knox, Baron Percy de Worms, J. R. Laing, C. McNaughtan.

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last meeting were, in the absence of the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Assistant Secretary, read by Mr. L. W. Fulcher, and were confirmed.

The Honorary Librarian reported the presentation to the Society's library of Vol. XXII of the *American Philatelist* and Krasemann's *Bibliographie der Wichtigsten Spezialwerke über die Postwertzeichen Einzelner Länder*, 2nd edition, special reprint, printed for private circulation, and was directed to acknowledge the receipt of these works with the thanks of the Society to the donors.

The business for the evening consisted of a display of Mr. Henry Grey's collection of the stamps of Victoria, which, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Grey, was shown by Mr. E. D. Bacon.

The stamps sent consisted of one volume of unused stamps and two volumes of used stamps, comprising all the issues down to 1886. Amongst the unused stamps were a number of the first issue, including a block

of four of Ham's printing of the 2d. in the brown-lilac shade of the "coarse background and fine border type" without frame line, a strip of three of the first type of the 3d. in bright blue, and the 3d. perforated.

The Emblem series contained several of the scarcer varieties, while in the issue of 1860–2 the 3d. (laid paper), the 6d., orange, the 4d., rose (watermarked "FIVE SHILLINGS"), and in the issue of September, 1861, the 1d. with double-lined watermark, were shown

In the stamps of the "Richards" typographed series were most of the varieties of watermark, some of which are difficult to find unused, and amongst other scarce stamps in the subsequent issues the 5s., blue on yellow paper, may be mentioned. The used stamps contained in volume 2 comprised a fine series of the various printings of the first issue, including lithographic errors due to defective printings, reconstructed plates of the 2d., 1852–4, both engraved and lithographed, and the 2d., lithographed, lettered "TVO."

The "Emblems" were well represented, a strip of three of 1d. (Star watermark), perf. 12, being noticeable amongst the rarities shown. The third volume amongst other rarities contained fine copies of the 6d., orange (1860–2) and all the known varieties of watermarks in the 1863–4 issues, except the 4d., rose, watermarked "8," and also a fine selection of the subsequent issues.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. T. W. Hall, the thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Grey for his interesting display, and to Mr. Bacon for his trouble in showing the stamps.

THE ninth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, February 18th, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: C. Neville Biggs, B. Pinner, Douglas Ellis, C. McNaughtan, B. D. Knox, Lance E. Hall (Associate), R. B. Yardley, A. Chilver, A. J. Warren, J. A. Tilleard, Arthur Laceby, three visitors.

In the absence of the Vice-President and the Hon. Vice-President, the chair was taken by Mr. C. N. Biggs.

After the minutes of the meeting had been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary reported the receipt of letters from several members expressing regret at their inability to attend, some owing to ill-health, and others, including the delegates of the Society to the Philatelic Congress, through their absences in Manchester.

A letter from Dr. Kalckhoff conveying the thanks of the Berlin Society for the gift of parts of some of the English journals from the Fraenkel Library was read.

The ballot for a candidate for membership, whose name has been put forward for election, was postponed for further inquiries from references.

The business announced for the evening was a paper on the "Waterlow" Series of the Stamps of New Zealand, which was to have been read by Mr. E. J. Nankivell. Being unfortunately unable, through ill-health, to attend, Mr. Nankivell had asked Mr. W. B. Edwards to take his place and to give a display of the stamps in question.

Mr. Edwards, who is a specialist in these stamps, accordingly showed the unused portion of his collection, consisting of single stamps and also pairs and blocks of the numerous varieties, all in the finest condition.

In the course of his display Mr. Edwards gave a most interesting description of the several papers used for the printing of the stamps, with careful explanations as to the best means of distinguishing the various printings and issues. He also fully described the systems of perforation employed, and explained the numerous and intricate varieties to be found in the study of the stamps under consideration, and his observations and comments showed how carefully he had studied the subject of this interesting series of stamps.

Mr. J. A. Leon, who attended the meeting as a visitor, very kindly brought with him a number of the scarcer stamps to supplement Mr. Edwards's display.

On the motion of Mr. R. B. Yardley, seconded by Mr. A. J. Warren, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Edwards for his most interesting explanations and for the display undertaken by him at such short notice, and also to Mr. Leon for the assistance given by him.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

JAN. 28.—Paper: "Argentine, 1877 to 1908." Mr. F. T. Collier.

Mrs. Milne and Mr. J. H. Kemp were elected members. Mr. Collier then commenced his paper on "Argentine, 1877 to 1908," but there was such an instructive and interesting discussion on the plates, methods of printing, and types of the various values of the 1877 to 1888 issues that the subsequent ones were left for another meeting.

FEB. 11.—Display: South African Colonies. By Members.

Mr. B. Gordon Jones was elected a member.

Mrs. Lake, Messrs. F. C. Henderson, L. S. Wells, and P. Guerin were thanked for donations to the permanent collection, and Messrs. C. T. Rees and W. F. Wadams for periodicals and catalogues.

The rest of the evening was devoted to an interesting display of South African Colonies by members.

FEB. 25.—Display: British Guiana. Mr. B. B. Tilley.

For an hour previous to the ordinary meeting the auction lots for the sale of March 4 were on view.

Mr. A. Cecil Fenn was elected a member.

The Century Stamp Co., Dr. J. H. Keynes,

and Major Strode were thanked for contributions to the permanent collection ; and a vote of thanks was accorded Herr H. Kropf, who had presented a copy of the édition de luxe of his work, *Postwertzeichen des Kaisertumes Osterreich.*

Mr. B. B. Tilley then gave his display with Notes of the Stamps of British Guiana. Every issue was represented, in most cases absolutely complete. In such a wealth of interesting material it is difficult to single out what was appreciated most, but perhaps the well-filled pages of fine specimens, nearly all mint, of 1852 to 1875 may be mentioned as taking the chief place.

MARCH 4.—Auction at the Acorn Hotel.

256 lots were disposed of, including 71 which had been arranged by the Society for the widow of a deceased member, as she had no idea of arranging them herself.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE fifth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, February 16, 1909, at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), C. R. Sutherland, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, W. A. Boyes, T. H. Harvey, W. T. Standen, L. E. Bradbury, E. Bounds, J. R. Laing, E. W. Arnold, K. Wiehen, G. Becucci, L. Magnee, F. J. Peplow, L. W. Fulcher, D. H. Jackson, J. H. Rosenheim, A. Lange, W. H. Eastwood, H. Griebert, H. M. Hansen, A. J. Warren, P. Ashley, C. J. Phillips, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), and H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary).

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on January 19, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

Messrs. I. J. Bernstein and R. H. Newton were elected ordinary members of the Society.

Donations of forgeries were received from the President and Messrs. Frank Neck and R. Frentzel ; and of stamps from the President and Mr. A. H. L. Giles.

The Hon. Librarian reported donations to the library from the President, Messrs. Hilmer Djurling and E. J. Nankivell, and from the American Philatelic Society.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks.

The prospectus of the North of England Philatelic Society's Exhibition to be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 26 and 27, was circulated among the members present at the meeting.

The President then called upon Mr. Chas. J. Phillips to give the display of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons', Ltd., Collection of Forgeries of Italian States. This collection, contained in five albums, comprises forgeries made to deceive collectors as well as the Governments, forged obliterations, essays, reprints, printers' waste, bogus stamps, etc. There are nearly with every group shown one or two specimens of the genuine stamp, or postmark, for comparison. The display was accompanied by a very interesting paper containing valuable information about the forgeries and reprints of nearly every Italian State.

After the conclusion of the display the President in proposing a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Phillips, said it was most gratifying that so busy a man as Mr. Phillips had not only come himself to the meeting to show such an interesting and voluminous collection, but also taken the trouble to put down in writing valuable information on forgeries, etc., for the benefit of the members of the Herts Philatelic Society and collectors in general. The members are always glad to inspect large collections, but in this especial case they are extremely pleased to see such an enormous number of mostly dangerous forgeries and fakes locked up in safety.

The vote of thanks seconded by the Vice-President was then put to the meeting and passed unanimously. Mr. Phillips, in thanking the meeting, promised to show another part of the firm's forgery collection on another occasion.

Mr. Percy Ashley then addressed the meeting and gave a long and interesting lecture on the history of the various Italian States.

A hearty vote of thanks proposed by Mr. W. A. Boyes and seconded by Mr. A. J. Warren was passed to Mr P. Ashley for his instructive lecture and duly acknowledged.

The meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE ordinary monthly general meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, January 21, 1909, at 128 Russell Street, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. Kelson, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary of the Sydney Philatelic Club wrote intimating that a new competition had been decided on, and asking that circulars be distributed to our members—a request which has been complied with.

The following resignations were received and accepted with regret, Messrs. H. Jehlitschka, W. Hammond Clegg, and Dr. Felix Meyer.

Mr. J. S. Paul was proposed for election at the next meeting.

Positions in Book 188 were then balloted for—after which a sale of stamps to the highest bidder was held.

Mr. Edmondson showed his collection, contained in three volumes, for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post-free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

THE STAMP COLLECTION OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I see in the February number of *The London Philatelist* a letter written under the *nom de plume* "Senex," inquiring what has been done with regard to the proposed collection of stamps for the Society.

I am afraid the gentleman in question is not a very careful student of *The London Philatelist*, or he would not have found himself entirely without information, and he might even have known that on Thursday, the 4th March, 1909, a display of part of the collection was to have been made at the meeting of the Society on that date.

Even now, if he will read the report of that meeting when it appears in your journal, he will find information which may be of interest to him.

What, however, would be of still greater interest to the undersigned would be that your correspondent and his friends would be so good as to communicate with the undersigned and send him some of those duplicates which it appears he and his friends are so anxious to donate to the Society.

I can assure him the gift will be highly appreciated and will be duly acknowledged in your columns.

The result of the display given on the 4th March, 1909, satisfied, I think, those present that if so much could be done with a comparatively small number of donors who had come forward up to then, it was practically certain that further support would render the collection worthy of the Society to which it belongs.

I will only add that since the meeting three well-known collectors, members of the Society, have written or spoken to me, and are now engaged in preparing a selection of stamps of countries in which they are specially interested for presentation to the Society.

Apologizing for occupying so much of your space,

I am, yours faithfully,
H. R. OLDFIELD,
Hon. Assistant Secretary of the Society,
Hon. Secretary of the Collection Committee.

March 15, 1909.

[We were fully aware of the impending results of Mr. Oldfield's labours when we inserted the letter of "Senex," and we gave publicity to the communication solely with the view of furthering the results alluded to by Mr. Oldfield in the concluding paragraphs of his letter.—ED.]

THE ½ PICE OF DHAR.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—Among a number of stamps recently received from India were some of the State of Dhar, and I note that the value on the stamp catalogued as "½ pice" is expressed as "half dubl."

"Dub" is the common bazaar name for a "pice," but I have not before seen that final "L." Probably it is a local variant.

Yours faithfully,
E. A. ELLIOTT.

February 15, 1909.

SILK THREADS OF GERMAN AND SWISS STAMPS.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

SIR,—You are aware that the stamps of Bavaria (1849–68), Wurtemberg (1857), and Switzerland (1854–62) have a silk thread on the back. Now I have a Bavarian 1 kreuzer, yellow (1862), which has the silk thread not on the back, but on the front. It can be thus explained: one sheet of silk-threaded paper was put in the printing-press in the wrong manner; but it is remarkable that no catalogue has registered this error. In conjunction with Senf Brothers, the eminent dealers of Leipsic, I am desirous of finding out which of the aforesaid stamps are to be found with a silk thread on the front, and we have inserted a short notice in the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, the newspaper of that firm. It is possible, however, that some members of the Royal Philatelic Society can assist me herein, and I shall be obliged if you will let me know if any one possesses or knows of such a stamp—with the silk thread on the front.

I remain, yours faithfully,
G. GRONOW.

February 23, 1909.

[Should any of our readers be in a position to afford information hereon, they are desired to write to Herr Gustav Gronow, Pillau, East Prussia, Germany.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately, e.g. the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 16 and 17 February, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1886 (Jan.), ½d. to 1s.*	3	0	0
Great Britain, "I.R. OFFICIAL," 1885, 5s., carmine*	3	0	0
Ditto, "O.W. OFFICIAL" Queen, 10d.	2	2	0
Ditto, "BOARD OF EDUCATION," 1s., green and scarlet	3	5	0
Oldenburg, 1855, ⅓rd sgr., strip of 3, on entire, two cut into	3	0	0
Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow, dark shade	17	10	0
Labuan, CA sideways, 12 c., carmine, corner damaged	2	0	0
British Central Africa, 1896, £1, blue	2	0	0
Ditto South ditto, 1896, One Penny on 3d., grey	2	5	0
Cape Triangulars, 6d., slate, pair, cut close	2	0	0
Ditto Woodblock, 4d., blue	2	10	0
Lagos, single CA, 10s., green and brown, mint	5	15	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., scarlet	2	4	0
Natal, 1st issue, 9d., blue, defective, 27×31 mm.	5	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., buff, heavily cancelled	5	5	0
Ditto, "Postage" 13¾ mm., 6d., violet*	2	4	0
British Columbia, 12½, $1, green	2	0	0
New Brunswick, 1s., thinned and no margins	5	15	0
Novia Scotia, 1s., purple	8	5	0
St. Vincent, 5s., Star wmk.*	6	10	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d.*	2	5	0
Turks' Islands, 2½d. on 1s., dull blue, Type 10*	9	0	0
British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., black on magenta, 28×24 mm., thinned	5	5	0
Ditto, 1862, 2 c., No. 22, no roulettes	2	2	0
"Fiji Times" Express 1d., quadrillé	2	15	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., lilac on blue on laid, Plate 3, second retouch	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., bright green	3	0	0
New Zealand, pelure paper, perf. 13, 1s., deep green	3	10	0
South Australia, 248 Departmentals	31	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	2	7	6
Collections: 6794, £46; 7204	23	0	0

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 18 and 19 February, 1909.

The first portion of the Reid Collection.

ALL UNUSED.

	£	s.	d.
France, 1849–50, 15 c., deep green on green	2	10	0
Ditto, 1872–5, the Error, 15 c., bistre on rose, no gum	5	15	0
Bergedorf, 1861, ½ sch., black on pale lilac	4	0	0
Hanover, 1850, 1 ggr., black on grey-blue, part gum	3	3	0
Ditto, 1859–61, 10 sgr., olive-green	3	0	0
Oldenburg, 1852, 1/15 th., on rose, thinned, part gum	4	4	0
Ditto, 1859, ⅓rd gr., black on green, part gum	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 3 gr., black on yellow	2	15	0
Saxony, 1st issue, 3 pf., red	7	0	0
Ditto, 1850, 2 ngr., on deep blue	2	10	0
Würtemberg, 1st issue, 6 kr., on yellow-green, rubbed	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 9 kr., on pale rose, thinned	3	0	0
Ditto, 1856, 18 kr., blue	3	0	0
Ditto, 1858–60, 9 kr., carmine, imperf.	4	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 18 kr., deep blue, part gum	2	12	6
Ditto, 1862, perf. 10, 1 kr., black-brown, blocks of 4 £3 and	3	6	0
Ditto, 1873, 70 kr., purple	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 70 kr., red-lilac	2	12	6
Ditto, 1875–9, 2 marks, yellow, with gum	3	0	0
Holland, 1852, 5 c., deep blue, block of 4	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 c., rose-carmine, ditto	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 15 c., orange-yellow, ditto	4	0	0
Modena, 1852, 25 c., on buff, error "C" ("ENT" and value omitted)	3	10	0
Naples, ½ t., blue, "ARMS," rubbed	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, "CROSS"	4	0	0
Tuscany, 1851, 2 soldi, brick-red on azure	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 60 crazie, ditto, ditto, tiny ink-spot	10	0	0
Ditto, 1853, 1 q., black, block of 9	4	5	0
Ditto, 1860, 3 lire, yellow, short at top and right	36	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Monaco, 1885, 5 fr., carmine on green	2	15	0
Portugal, 1853, 50 r., green	5	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 100 r., lilac	7	5	0
Russia, 1857, 10 kop., pair, one trifle torn at side	5	5	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., brown and blue, ditto, part gum	5	7	6
Ditto, ditto, 20 k., blue and red, ditto, thinned	7	5	0
Spain, 1850, 10 reales	3	0	0
Ditto, 1851, 2 reales £20 and	21	0	0
Ditto, 1852, 2 ditto, thinned at top	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 6 reales	2	12	6
Ditto, 1853, 2 reales, £6 and	8	5	0
Ditto, Madrid, 3 cuartos, bronze	12	0	0
Ditto, 1854, 1 real, indigo	2	15	0
Sweden, the error "TRETIO," vermilion	12	10	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	4	6	0
Ditto, Geneva, 5 + 5 c., on yellow-green	30	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, right half	3	3	0
Ditto, Vaud, 4 c., black and red	36	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r., vert. lines, thinned	4	0	0

Sale of 4 and 5 March, 1909.

Second portion.

Great Britain, 1840, 2d., pale blue	3	12	6
Ditto, Small Crown, perf. 14, 2d., blue	4	0	0
Ditto, 1847–54, 6d., purple	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 10d., brown, Plate 3	8	8	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., pale green, two pinholes	5	5	0
Ditto, 1855–7, Small Garter, 4d., carmine, on safety paper	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, Medium Garter, 4d., rose-carmine on white	8	5	0
Ditto, 1880, 2s., brown	4	0	0
Ditto, 8d., lilac-brown	3	0	0
Ditto, 1888, 3 orbs, £1, lilac-brown	13	10	0
Ditto, V.R., 1d, black	7	7	0
Ditto, "I.R. OFFICIAL," 1885, 5s., rose	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 3 crowns, £1, brown-lilac	60	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1892, £1, green	10	10	0
Ditto, "GOVT. PARCELS," 1s., orange-brown, Plate 14	2	12	6
Ditto, "BOARD OF EDUCATION," 1s., green and scarlet	3	7	6
Ditto, Levant, 12 p. on 2s. 6d., blued paper	3	3	0
Gibraltar, error, no value, carmine	17	0	0
Ceylon, imperf., 1s., pale lilac	15	10	0
Ditto, clean-cut perf., 8d., brown	5	5	0
Ditto, rough perfs., 6d., bistre-brown	3	12	6
Ceylon, imperf., 8d., yellow-brown	5	7	6
Ditto, no wmk., 1s., violet	8	0	0
Ditto, C C, 10d., orange-red	9	0	0
Ditto, C A, 16 c., lilac	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 24 c., purple-brown	4	2	6
Hong Kong, 96 c., yellow-brown	10	0	0
India, 1854, 1 a., red, Die III, with straight bust	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 annas, with wide dividing lines	15	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, block of 3	16	0	0
Ditto, Service, long fiscals, 2 as.	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4 as.	7	7	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 8 as.	10	15	0
Straits Settlements, 1st issue complete, part gum	4	7	6
British Central Africa, 1895, £25, blue-green	22	0	0
Ditto, 1898, 1d., red and blue, imperf., pair	5	0	0
British South Africa, 1891, set of 4, provisionals	3	17	6
Cape Triangulars, 1853, blued paper, 1d., brick-red, block of 4	27	0	0
Ditto, 1855–8, 1s., yellow-green, no gum	4	17	6
Cape Woodblock, 1d., brick-red	27	0	0
Ditto, 4d., pale blue, tiny tear	11	5	0
Griqualand West, 1st issue, MS. surcharge, 1d. in red on 4d., blue	3	10	0
Mauritius, post paid, 1d., red on blued paper, showing diagonal lines only	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another fine specimen, not quite so early as above but with larger margins	6	10	0
Ditto, large fillet, 2d., blue, a little cut into at left, ink spot in top left corner, part gum	15	0	0
Ditto, Greek border, 1d., scarlet	6	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., pale blue horizontal pair, but one stamp a trifle stained	14	0	0
Ditto, Britannia issue, "FOURPENCE," on the green	4	4	0
Ditto, 1876, "HALF PENNY" on 9d., inverted surcharge	5	2	6
Natal, 1st issue, 9d., blue, 32 × 35 mm., part gum	4	0	0
Niger Coast, ½d. in blue, fancy caps, on 2d.	3	17	6
Ditto, 1s., in vermilion, on 2d., pair	3	15	0
Ditto, 1s., in black, on 2d., one corner perf. missing, only 3 or 4 issued	12	12	0
Ditto, 5s., in violet, on 2d., with bottom margin	13	0	0
Ditto, 10s., in vermilion, on 2d.	13	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 28 and 29 January, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
France, 1876, 25 c., ultramarine, strip of 3, showing the two types $\frac{B}{N}$ and $\frac{U}{N}$ with certificate, used	5	10	0
Great Britain, 1867, Cross, 10s. and 20s.	2	17	6
Ceylon, C C, perf. 12½, 2 r. 50 c.*	3	5	0
British South Africa, 1896, one penny on 3d., mint	2	8	0
Ditto, 1898, £5, deep blue, ditto	4	7	6
Cape Woodblock, 4d., pale blue, £2 8s. and	2	4	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red, creased and rubbed	2	12	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red on blued, intermediate	3	7	6
Zululand, £5, carmine and green, mint	6	0	0
British Guiana, Official, 1875, 24 c., green*	2	6	0
Cayman Islands, 1d. on 4d.	2	6	0
Fiji, Gothic V.R. on 6 c., green	4	2	6
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., lilac-blue, Plate 3, first retouch	2	8	0
Ditto, collection of 261, some*	18	0	0
Victoria, 1863–4, 1d., green, wmk. 4	2	2	0
Ditto, 1865, 1s., blue, wmk. V and Crown, mint	3	3	0

Sale of 11 and 12 February, 1909.

Great Britain, Admiralty, Type 2, 2d., strip of 3	2	4	0
British Central Africa, 1897, £10, yellow	2	10	0
Ditto South ditto, 1898, £5, blue, mint	3	12	6
Cape Woodblock, 4d., deep blue	3	5	0
Ditto Triangulars, 1863, 1d., carmine-red, block of 4	3	5	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., level stops, 6d., carmine, strip of 3, centre stamp without fig. of value, mint	4	0	0
Antigua, no wmk., 6d., green, mint, block of 6	4	4	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., blue, cut to shape	3	17	6
United States, Providence, 10 c., black*	2	4	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., bright red on yellowish, Plate 2, laid, pair	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., grey-blue, Plate 3, first retouch	2	0	0
Ditto, 1854–5, 5d., green, imperf.	3	5	0
Queensland, 1860, imperf., 1d., carmine, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue	2	0	0

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 30 January, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British New Guinea, 2s. 6d., unsurcharged, mint	2	2	0
British South Africa, 1896, 1d. on 4s.	1	3	0
Dominica, ½d. on 1d., pair, mint	1	16	0
France, Ivory Coast, 1 fr. on 5 c., blue, mint	1	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 fr. on 60 c., brown, ditto	1	12	0
St. Lucia, 1863, C C, 12½, 4d., indigo, pair, ditto	1	4	0

Sale of 8 February, 1909.

British Somaliland, King, "O.H.M.S." single C A, 2 as., mint	2	8	0
Cyprus, 1880, 1s., green, Plate 13*	1	2	0
Gambia, ditto, 1s., green, mint	1	8	0
Great Britain, Admiralty, Type 1, ½d. to 3d., mint	1	10	0
Mauritius, 1859, 2d., blue, pair on entire	2	0	0
New Zealand, Large Star, imperf., 6d., brown*	1	0	0

Sale of 13 February, 1909.

Crete, first issue, 20 parades, block of 6	2	10	0
Great Britain, 2s., brown	1	2	0
Ditto, imperf., Large Crown, 1d., rose-red, block of 4, mint	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, Garter, blue safety paper, 4d., vermilion, Plate 12, mint, pair	4	10	0
Great Britain, imperf., spray, on same paper, but very deep blue, 6d., lilac, pair*	4	18	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, on same paper, 1s., green, mint, pair	5	15	0
Monaco, 1885, 5 fr., carmine	2	0	0

Sale of 6 and 8 March, 1909.

Argentine, 1899, 20 pesos, mint	1	4	0
Canada, 10d., blue, thin paper*	1	4	0
Cape Woodblock, 1d., red, tear at corner	1	6	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf., clipped at corners	2	4	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, ditto, repaired	1	2	0
Great Britain, 3d., rose, Plate 16, block of 6, mint	1	9	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., 2½d., raised stops, pair, mint	1	8	0

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THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. APRIL, 1909. No. 208.

Imperial Stamp Dealers!

A SERIOUS competitor to our friends the dealers has appeared in the guise of the Royal and Imperial Post Office of the dual Empire of Austro-Hungary! The recognition of the existence of Philately as affecting the financial resources of individual countries or colonies is far from being a novel feature, and we have seen substantial sums realized by the sale of remainders of stamps to philatelic purchasers. These sales have, however, hitherto been on a wholesale scale, and in fact frequently, as in the case of the Turkish stamps lately on offer, of such great quantities as to exercise a deterrent effect upon the investor. In the present instance this feature is entirely absent; the Austrian Government has issued a sufficiently voluminous price list in which every separate variety is catalogued and priced. As the purchaser may select a single stamp of a kreuzer or a heller value and remit for it to the Post Office at Vienna, there can be no doubt that the Austrian Government has gone into the retail stamp trade and is prepared to supply any or all of its seven hundred catalogued varieties to collector or dealer alike. In one important respect the Austrian Post Office "absolutely defies competition," as the price of its wares is either face-value or very slightly in excess thereof, despite the fact that some of the stamps and envelopes have already been out of issue for over forty years. As was to be expected, however, there are no accepted scarce varieties on offer, and beyond affecting dealers who happen to hold stocks of the offered values no serious harm will accrue to Philately.

The opportunity is none the less a favourable one for the acquisition of obsolete sets and reprints of the Austrian stamps, and should be embraced by those who have the control of the collections of philatelic societies, or who specialize in the stamps of Austria. The educational value of reprints is by no means a negligable quantity, while in the future no specialized collection will be held complete that does not include all known reprints. We look to

a further appreciation of the value, financial and philatelic, of reprints, and in respect to this collectors will be well content with the present action of the Austro-Hungarian Government. The question of having some seven hundred obsolete varieties of stamps or entires to dispose of does not seem to indicate remarkable official precision of supply on the part of that Government, and it is well that the issues of other countries—our Colonies, for instance—cannot afford similar experiences. The spectacle of hundreds of obsolete varieties of stamps issued—say, of New South Wales, Ceylon, or Victoria—being offered for sale, unused, at face-value, would produce upon us the effect of a veritable philatelic earthquake!

Note on an Essay of 1d. Stamp, Great Britain, 1839-40.

READ BEFORE THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY ON DECEMBER 17TH, 1908.

BY THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF CRAWFORD.

I HAVE the pleasure of bringing before the Society this evening a new and undescribed Essay or trial of the 1d. stamp, 1839–40. For permission to do this I have to thank Mr. Lewis Evans, a grandson of Mr. John Dickinson.

To my mind it is a stamp of the greatest interest, as it forms one of the connecting links, so far as the *Lettering* is concerned, between the first rejected Penny Essay, and the third state of the Die which was engraved by Mr. Heath.

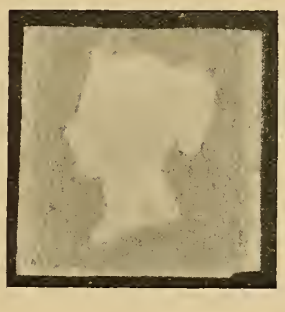


A

The Photograph A is that of the first rejected Essay, in which it will be seen that the background is different, and the words "POSTAGE ONE PENNY" are in a single line of small letters below the Head.

This was considered unsatisfactory in both particulars, the lettering being too minute, the background too patchy.

The next thing to be done was to find a more suitable background—this was produced on a steel plate or Die, and approved. A roughly outlined space was then cleared away on the background (*see Photo* B), and in this



B

space Mr. Heath commenced to engrave his Head of the Queen. This state of the Die is not very rare and may be found in several colours.

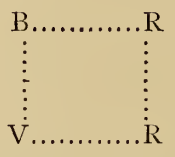
Meanwhile, another plate was rolled with the cleared space and was given to the "Letter Engraver" to put in the words "POSTAGE," and "ONE PENNY," respectively above and below the Head.

It seems that he was not content with that, but also filled in angles by small squares in which he inserted letters. (*Photo* C.)



C

I believe this proof to be the first known instance of corner letters appearing engraved. They are :—



Why these letters were chosen I can offer no reliable explanation, but I hope that investigation may afford a clue. These letters are different from any seen at later dates. They are minute capitals engraved in the centre of small circles, having radial lines from the periphery, thus forming octagonal stars.

The two copies of this Essay are laid down on a piece of thick white drawing paper, without any written words or other indication.

The fine pencil rulings on the original (which can be seen on the photographs) are meant, I think, as guides for pasting down.

A coarser stroke of a pencil, and probably by another hand, runs straight across the paper and the labels between the base of the cleared space, and the lettering "ONE PENNY" and corner letters. Indications of another corresponding pencil line can be found on the upper part of the labels cutting off the corners and word "POSTAGE."

I venture to make the suggestion that this paper, with the essays pasted on it, was sent by Messrs. Perkins Bacon to the authorities (probably Rowland Hill at the Treasury), as trials for the *form* and *size* of the *Lettering*. This, on consideration, was held to be too small, and the corner letters were disapproved.

They were probably returned to the engravers and printers with a letter asking for another trial with larger lettering and void corners, and the coarse pencil lines were drawn across them to draw attention to the portions objected to.

If we consider the height of the normal corner blocks to be unity the respective height of the letters of the Essay are a shade over one-half, and the accepted size very nearly two-thirds.

The existence of these proofs or essays leads to the certainty that there *must* have been made another trial plate with the cleared space for the Head and the larger lettering which obtained the approbation of the authorities. Up to the present time, however, this has not been discovered.

The "V.R." in the lower corners might lead one to think that these were essays for the well-known official stamp. But this I do not believe for a moment, as that stamp was made from a roller from the approved Die I, from which the Maltese crosses in the upper corners were removed and the "V.R." inserted.

Mr. Evans puts forward the suggestion that the letters might be read as BRIT. REGNI VICTORIA REGINA.

The Newcastle Philatelic Exhibition.

FOLLOWING close on to the heels of the Manchester Exhibition the North of England Philatelic Society have been able, by their energetic and able management, to evolve an Exhibition at Newcastle-on-Tyne that has attained the same successful result as its immediate predecessor. The attendance, which was not free, was necessarily more limited than at Manchester, but the Exhibition seems to have attracted many visitors, and cannot have failed to achieve its aim in the popularization of Philately in the North of England. We were unfortunately unable to visit the Exhibition, but judging from the quality of the stamps shown it is evident that Philately is not only flourishing in that part of the country but is well abreast of the times in its methods of collecting.

Among the more important exhibits, without reference to the classes in which they were shown, we may mention :—

Great Britain.—J. S. HIGGINS, JUN., Manchester.—This exhibit, consisting of a specialized collection of the stamps issued up to 1900, all unused, comprising all the regular issues and many scarce varieties, was shown at Manchester.

Cape of Good Hope.—G. B. BAINBRIDGE, Newcastle.—A very fine exhibit of the well-known Triangular Capes, almost complete, a special feature being the large number of pairs, strips, and blocks, also shown at Manchester.

British Bechuanaland and Protectorate.—J. H. ABBOTT, Manchester. —Bechuanaland, practically complete in pairs and blocks.

Zululand.—Practically complete in blocks and pairs, both countries having been shown at Manchester.

New South Wales.—M. H. HORSLEY, West Hartlepool.—A superb collection of between two and three hundred Sydney Views, including many rare errors and varieties.

Western Australia.—W. WAITE SANDERSON.—The stamps of this Colony, unused and used, including 1854 issues, 1d., black, in pairs, mint and used ; 4d., blue, in numerous shades, including the slate-blue, 1s., brown, in variety of shades, including the rare chocolate and red-brown, also all the above stamps rouletted.

1857 Issue.—Eight specimens of the 2d., on red and Indian red, also two specimens of the variety printed on both sides, 6d., in shades from black-bronze to grey-black, also a copy of the latter stamp rouletted, and two specimens of the golden bronze rouletted, both on pieces of original.

1860 Issue complete in a wide range of shades, mint and used, and including a pair of the 4d., blue, printed on both sides, and two used specimens.

1861, 1864, 1865.—A wide range of specimens of the various perforations and all subsequent issues.

Bahamas.—M. P. CASTLE, Brighton.—This exhibit shows all the issues complete, unused, including 1860, clean-cut perf., 1d. 1861, 1d., 4d., and 6d. with perf. rough-cut, perf. 11½–12, and perf. 13. 1863, perf. 12½, 1s., green. These, and all subsequent CC and CA watermark issues represented by shades, etc.

Nevis.—W. WAITE SANDERSON.—A complete collection of the stamps of this country, including six unbroken sheets, viz.:—

1867, engraved, perf. 15, 1d., red.

1878, lithographed, perf. 15, 1d., bright red.

1878, lithographed, perf. 15, three sheets of the 1s., showing distinct shades, and

1878, lithographed, perf. 11½, 1d., bright red.

1861 Issue.—There are numerous shades of all values of the 1861 issue, on both blued and greyish paper.

1867 Issue.—This is also complete, including a block of four 1d, used, on piece of entire.

1878 Issue.—Various shades of all values of this issue are shown. The retouched variety of this stamp, perf. 15, is also shown.

The 1879–80, 1882, and 1883–90 issues are both shown complete, mint, and used.

Costa Rica.—J. R. M. ALBRECHT, Manchester.—A highly specialized collection, including proofs, colour trials, and errors of perforation; this was also shown at Manchester.

Canada.—M. H. HORSLEY, West Hartlepool.—This exhibit is selected from a highly specialized collection, and shows all stamps unused and used. Amongst them are the 12 pence black, and 6 pence purple on thick paper, and many pairs and blocks in superb condition.

Mr. G. B. BAINBRIDGE, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, also showed a large number of special varieties, and Mr. E. HIGINBOTHAM exhibited considerable portions of his extensive collection in albums.

We are indebted to Mr. W. Waite Sanderson for the following additional particulars of the Exhibition and the several awards in the different classes:—

The North of England Philatelic Society is to be congratulated both on the excellence and the success of its first Postage Stamp Exhibition, which was held in the Academy of Arts, Blackett Street, Newcastle, on March 26th and 27th. The opening was performed by Alderman J. J. Forster, the Lord Mayor of the City, who is himself an enthusiastic collector, and there was a large attendance of the leading philatelists of the North of England.

In the opinion of competent judges the Exhibition ranks high, and, in variety of stamps shown as well as in quality, is considered to surpass the recent Exhibition of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society, although, of course, that was on a larger scale. This was probably due, in some measure, to the competitive nature of the Exhibition, and the silver and bronze medals awarded drew representative exhibitors from all over the country.

Amongst the more notable exhibits to be mentioned were the fine collection of the President, Alderman G. B. Bainbridge, his magnificent and almost complete collection of Triangular Capes attracting universal admiration.

Mr. W. Waite Sanderson, of Newcastle, took first award for West Indian

Colonies with a complete collection of Nevis stamps, and also a bronze medal for a fine exhibit of Western Australia.

Other notable collections on view were Mr. Cochrane's Caricatures of Mulready Envelopes, the well-known English collection of Mr. J. S. Higgins, Jun., of Manchester, Mr. J. H. Taylor's Sicily Exhibit, Canada and New South Wales, shown by Mr. H. H. Horsley, of West Hartlepool, and Mr. Wade's early U.S.A.

There was also an unusually fine exhibit in the section for rare stamps, for, while there were only three entries, the exhibitors had a remarkably valuable seventy-five stamps among them, Mr. Bainbridge, the President, again carrying off a medal.

The Judge was Mr. Leicester A. B. Paine, and his awards were as follows:—

Class 1. (Open). Great Britain. J. S. HIGGINS, Manchester.
Silver Medal for a specialized collection of stamps up to 1900, unused, with practically all official stamps.

„ 2. (Members). Best Exhibit of any Country.
Silver Medal to G. B. BAINBRIDGE, Newcastle, for a splendid Exhibit of Triangular Capes, all in fine condition, with many unused copies, and a large number of pairs, strips, and blocks.
Silver Medal also awarded to O. K. TRECHMANN, of West Hartlepool, for magnificent display of "pence" Ceylon, and a Bronze Medal to R. W. WILKINSON, of Gateshead, for Greece specialized.

„ 3. (Open). Best Colony in Asia or Africa, limited to 150 stamps.
Bronze Medal to T. D. HUME, Newcastle, for Ceylon, 1855 to 1898, entirely pence values.

„ 4. (Open). Best Colony in Australasia, limited to 250 stamps.
First Award—Bronze Medal to W. WAITE SANDERSON for Western Australia; and
Second Award—Bronze Medal to Dr. T. S. PARKINSON, Benton, for South Australia.

„ 5. (Open). United States of America (over 200 and less than 500 stamps).
Bronze Medal to H. WADE, Leeds, for practically complete collection of all stamps up to 1869, including very rare.

„ 6. (Open). Any European Country (excepting Great Britain), limited to 300 stamps.
Bronze Medal to JOHN H. TAYLOR, Manchester, for a specialized Collection of Sicily.

„ 7. (Open). Any Colony in West Indies, limited to 150 stamps.
Bronze Medal to W. WAITE SANDERSON, Newcastle, for a complete Collection of the stamps of Nevis, including six unbroken sheets.

„ 8. (Open). Any British North American Colony.
No competitive displays.

„ 9. (Open). Any Country, the Rest of the World, limited to 300 stamps.

Bronze Medal to E. HEGINBOTTOM, Rochdale, for British Honduras.

Class 10. King's Head Stamps, any five Colonies, limited to 500 stamps.
CHARLES L. BAGNALL, Winlaton-on-Tyne, for Gibraltar, British Somaliland, Cayman Islands, Ceylon, and Natal. Mint collection.

„ 11. (Members). Twenty-five Rare Stamps.
Bronze Medal, G. B. BAINBRIDGE, Newcastle, also
Bronze Medal to W. J. COCHRANE, Sunderland.

„ 12. (Juniors).
Bronze Medal, Master R. P. WANLESS.
Special Albums, given by Whitfield King and Co., Ipswich, Master T. WANLESS, and
1000 Varieties, given by F. W. Brandon and Co., York, Master D. A. OUBRIDGE.

At the opening ceremony Alderman G. B. Bainbridge, President of the Society, was in the Chair, and, in calling on the Lord Mayor (Alderman J. J. Forster), said it was the Lord Mayor's brother who had induced him to resume stamp collecting, twenty-five years ago, after he had given it up for some time.

The Lord Mayor said that it gave him great pleasure, not only as Lord Mayor, but also as a Philatelist, to open the Exhibition. He did not know what had induced him to commence collecting, and he urged every young man and young woman to have a hobby of some kind and collect something.

Mr. M. H. Horsley, West Hartlepool, proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, and told a story of the influence of stamp collecting.

Mr. Easton, the Secretary, in seconding, apologized for the absence of Mr. Wilkinson, the Exhibition Secretary, who had overworked himself and was confined to the house.

The President proposed, and Mr. Trechmann, of West Hartlepool, seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Paine, the Judge, and in acknowledging this Mr. Paine said he had had a good deal of experience of Exhibitions both at home and abroad, and was surprised to find in Newcastle such a fine collection of stamps, with such great rarities in many of the classes. In Newcastle, Philately did not appear to be taken up in the ordinary way, as it was in many centres where they had large Societies, but it was treated as a science.

Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South Africa Company.

Compiled from Official and other sources, and from Information obtained on the spot.

By FRANK H. MELLAND, F.R.P.S.L.

(*Continued from page* 73.)

Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Rhodesia.
Postal Notice No. 19, 1903.

Embossed Envelopes, Newspaper Wrappers, and Letter Cards.

IT is hereby notified for public information that Embossed Envelopes, Newspaper Wrappers, and Letter Cards will, on and after August 10, 1903, be on sale at all post offices in Southern Rhodesia at the undermentioned prices, namely, envelopes embossed with ½d. stamp:—

Commercial size	0s. 7½d. per doz.
Foolscap size	0s. 8d. ,,
Envelopes embossed with 1d. stamp (three sizes)	1s. 3d. ,,
,, ,, ,, 2½d. stamp (two sizes)	2s. 9d. ,,
Letter Cards embossed with 1d. stamp	1s. 3d. ,,
Newspaper wrappers embossed with ½d. stamp	0s. 7½d. ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, 1d. stamp	1s. 2d. ,,

Lesser numbers than one dozen can be obtained at proportionate rates.

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office, Salisbury,
July 30, 1903.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Southern Rhodesia.

Postage Tariffs.

It is hereby notified for public information that the Postage Tariffs in force in Southern Rhodesia are as shown below:—

POSTAGE RATES.*

For	Southern Rhodesia.	North-Western and North-Eastern Rhodesia and all parts of South Africa south of the Zambesi.	United Kingdom and Countries Oversea.
Letters, per ½ oz.	1d.	1d.	2½d.
Post Cards, each	½d.	½d.	1d.
Reply Post Cards, each	1d.	1d.	2d.
Newspapers:—Not exceeding	4 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	4 oz. . 1d.
Each additional	4 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.
Book-packets, samples, and commercial papers—			
Not exceeding	2 oz. . ½d. (*a*)	(*a*) 2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . 1d. (*b*)
Each additional	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . ½d.	2 oz. . 1d.
Parcels, per lb.	1s. 0d.	1s. 6d.	(*c*) 1s. 9d.

* This notice also included a Tariff for Telegrams.—Ed.

(*a*) The minimum charge for a packet of samples or commercial papers is 1d.

(*b*) The rate for Commercial papers is :—

Not exceeding 4 oz.	2½d.
,, ,, 6 oz.	3d.

And 1d. per 2 oz. thereafter.

Fee for Registration	4d.
Fee for acknowledgment of delivery of a Registered article	2½d.

(*c*) The postage rates on Parcels addressed to other oversea countries can usually be calculated by adding 1s. per rate to the amounts appearing in the Cape Post Office Guide.

G. H. EYRE, *Postmaster-General.*

G.P.O., SALISBURY,
September 27, 1904.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, SOUTHERN RHODESIA.
POSTAL NOTICE NO. 12 OF 1906.

Postal Agreement with the Province of Mozambique.

It is hereby notified for public information that under the terms of an Agreement recently concluded with the Portuguese Province of Mozambique the following postal facilities between places in Southern Rhodesia and places in the above-named Province will be inaugurated on April 1, 1906, namely :—

An exchange of Money Orders and Postal Notes at the rates of commission applicable to other parts of South Africa.

An exchange of parcels at the following rates of postage :—

For a parcel not exceeding 3 lb. in weight	2s. 6d.
,, ,, 7 lb. ,,	5s. 0d.
,, ,, 11 lb. ,,	7s. 6d.

A reduction of the rates of postage to the scale in force for other parts of South Africa.

Further information can be obtained at any post office.

G. H. EYRE, *Postmaster-General.*

GENERAL POST OFFICE, SALISBURY,
March 31, 1906.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, SOUTHERN RHODESIA.
POSTAL NOTICE NO. 15 OF 1906.

Reduction of Postage Rates to British Central Africa.

It is hereby notified for public information that from May 1, 1906, the rates of postage from Southern Rhodesia to British Central Africa will be reduced to the following scale, viz. :—

Letters per ½ oz.	1d.
Post Cards	½d.
Reply Post Cards	1d.
Newspapers, Books, and Printed Papers	per 2 oz. ½d.

Samples and Commercial Papers :—

Not exceeding 4 oz.	1d.
Every additional 2 oz.	½d.
Registration fee	4d.
Acknowledgment of Delivery	2½d.

G. H. EYRE, *Postmaster-General.*

GENERAL POST OFFICE, SALISBURY,
April 30, 1906.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Southern Rhodesia.

Postal Notice No. 28 of 1906.

Conditions for Transmission of Post Cards.

It is hereby notified for public information that on and after October 1, 1906, Post Cards for circulation within Southern Rhodesia and to the principal countries of the Universal Postal Union may bear a written or printed communication or engraving on the left-hand half of the address side, provided that such engravings, etc., do not interfere with the clear indication of the address or with the postal marking or postal directions ("registered," etc.).

G. H. Eyre, *Postmaster-General.*

General Post Office, Salisbury,
September 25, 1906.

Postal Notice No. 12 of 1906.

Reduced Parcel Postage to and from Southern Rhodesia.

It is hereby notified for general information that on and after November 1, 1906, the rates of postage for parcels to and from North-Eastern and Southern Rhodesia will be :—

For the first 1 lb. or fraction thereof	1s. 6d.
For each additional 1 lb. or fraction thereof up to 2 lb. . .	0s. 6d.

The time occupied in transit between Salisbury and Fort Jameson and vice versa will be about three weeks . . . etc.

H. A. Baldock, *Comptroller of Posts and Telegraphs.*

General Post Office, Fort Jameson,
October 18, 1906.

The British South Africa Company.

Administration of North-Eastern Rhodesia.

Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

Postal Notice No. 6 of 1906.

Reduction of Postage to the British Central Africa Protectorate.

It is hereby notified for general information that on and after May 1, 1906, the rate of postage for letters addressed to the British Central Africa Protectorate will be reduced to—

1d. per ½ oz.

H. A. Baldock, *Comptroller of Posts and Telegraphs.*

General Post Office, Fort Jameson,
April 25, 1906.

Philatelic Note.

THE SPANISH ERROR OF 1851.

2 *reales*, *blue.*

We regret to learn that the copy of this stamp, recently referred to as in the collection of Mr. Robert Reid, is not genuine. Mr. C. J. Phillips writes hereon as follows in the pages of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* :—

"The auctioneers were good enough to let me have the stamp for examination, and on reference to the enlarged photographs of the genuine and forged stamps of 2 reales in our 'Reprint and Forgery' collection, I found at once that this was a specimen of the dangerous forgery, either printed in blue, or more probably changed in colour from dull red to blue. The *design* of the stamp is wrong in several important details. I also submitted this important stamp to Monsieur Pierre Mahé and Mr. E. D. Bacon, both of whom agree with me. It seems best to put these facts on record as a warning to collectors that such a dangerous fake of one of the greatest rarities is in existence."

The real stamp is, of course, of the greatest rarity, and in olden days its very existence was a bone of contention for years. Mr. Phillips states that only three copies are known to exist, one being in a vertical used pair with the normal 6 reales, blue. There are few stamps that the writer has not seen, but this error is one of them ; and the specimen last mentioned *se tenant* with the 6 reales must be unsurpassable both in interest and rarity.

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the meeting of May 6th, Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg will read a "Paper on the Plating of the first type of the 6d. value of Victoria, with Display."

On May 20th Mr. M. P. Castle will give a display of the stamps of Mauritius, with notes.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM MOSER.

The intimation of the death of Mr. Moser will be received with feelings alike of surprise and regret, as it appears that the sad event happened suddenly on the 29th of last month at Dresden. Mr. Moser, whose fine physique and genial manner always made his presence appreciated in philatelic circles, was a man apparently in the prime of life and capable of living for very many years. The race, however, is not always to the strong, and we must all deeply regret the premature removal of a most able Philatelist and agreeable companion.

Mr. Moser had been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society since 1902, and was widely known for his studies in and collection of the Japanese stamps. His display in the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1906 was marked by a beauty of arrangement and illustrative design that

was a revelation to the beholders, and elicited the highest recompense that was within the power of the judges to award. Mr. Moser by no means limited his philatelic labours to the Japanese stamps, which he ardently collected until the last, having recently travelled in Japan, but had fine collections of some of the South American stamps, and of other countries. He was a most thorough, able, and conscientious Philatelist, and one of the most pleasant and charming companions, whose premature loss will be deeply deplored by his fellow-members of the Royal and other philatelic Societies to which he belonged. Mr. Moser, who resided in Dresden, leaves a wife to mourn his loss, to whom we beg to tender the assurance of the sincere sympathy of British Philatelists.

SALE OF AUSTRIAN REMAINDERS.

We have received a circular from the Royal and Imperial Post Office at Vienna dated March 29th, which states that a large number of obsolete stamps and reprints will be on sale to collectors at face value. The additional advantage of having the stamps obliterated will also entail no extra charge! The stamps will be on sale at Vienna (Hauptpostamt 10 Post-gasse), and will be supplied in order of precedence, and in accordance with the respective amounts of the remainders, and applicants must forward the cost of sending the reply.

The list of stamps to be thus disposed of includes:—

Austria.

1908. Jubilee Issue. 1 heller to 10 krone.
1908. 1 heller to 10 krone. Unpaid letter stamps, newspaper stamps, post cards, and other entires.

Levant and Crete.

1867 to 1896. Originals.
1900. 10 paras to 20 piastres.
1903 to 1907. Various values.
1900 to 1907. Post cards and entires.
1908. Jubilee Issue.

Austria. Entires.

1860 to 1863. Post and telegraph entires, envelopes, reprints.
1867 to 1890. Envelopes, originals.
1868 to 1904. Post cards, etc., originals and reprints.

Lombardy.

1850 to 1863. Reprints.
1863 to 1864. Originals and reprints.
1860 to 1867. Envelopes, reprints.
1867. Envelopes, originals.
1886 to 1900. Post and letter cards, originals and reprints.
1850 to 1873. Post and telegraph stamps, reprints and originals.

A detailed list of all values on sale and their respective prices is given, and collectors and dealers will find many doubtless desirable purchases.

ALLEGED STAMP FORGERIES.

IT will be seen by the reports following, for which we are indebted to the *Daily Telegraph*, that this alleged case of forging stamps is one of considerable importance:—

At Bow Street Police Court on Wednesday, April 14th, before Sir Albert de Rutzen, John Stewart Lowden (29), a stamp dealer, of 20 Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Revell Harmer (39), a stamp dealer, of Preston Road, Westcliff, Southend-on-Sea, were charged with conspiring to obtain money and valuable securities by fraud from various persons who had dealt with them, or with the West-end Stamp Company, or with Herbert Mack and Co. (Ltd.), in buying stamps purporting to be issued for postage and revenue purposes in the territories administered by the British North Borneo Company.

Mr. Wallace represented the Director of Public Prosecutions. Mr. Olley appeared for Lowden and Mr. Pumfrey for Harmer.

Chief Detective-Inspector Stockley stated that on Tuesday afternoon he went, with Detective-Sergeant Wyborn, to Harmer's residence at Westcliff, Southend-on-Sea, and read to him the warrant which had been issued at the instance of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Harmer wanted to know the names of the persons who said they had been defrauded. Upon being told that Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, was one of the complainants, he said, "Yes, I have had some business with him. There is an explanation to all this. I suppose you know I severed my connection with Mr. Lowden some time ago?" In a room upstairs witness found a large quantity of foreign stamps. Harmer was taken to Bow Street. On the same evening witness arrested Lowden in Villiers Street, Strand. He took him to his office in that street, and there read the warrant to him. Lowden asked who the prosecutor was, and witness informed him that Mr. Ackland, of Brighton, was one of the persons upon whose information the warrant was granted. Lowden said, "I know him. This is a very bad business."

Witness found at the office a large number of stamps, including some of British North Borneo.

In answer to the magistrate Chief Detective-Inspector Stockley said that proceedings were being taken against a man in Paris, but they had nothing to do with this case. It was alleged that these forged stamps had been disposed of to a very large extent.

Cross-examined by Mr. Olley the witness said that Lowden had carried on a fairly extensive stamp business in Villiers Street for some years past. Harmer lived in a house rated at £50 a year.

The prisoners were remanded, and the magistrate said that with the little knowledge he had of the case at present, he should require heavy bail until next week at all events. Lowden would have to find two sureties in £1000 each, and Harmer two in £500.

Before Mr. Curtis Bennett at Bow Street on the 16th of this month:—

"Mr. A. H. Bodkin (instructed by Mr. Williamson) represented the Director of Public Prosecutions; Mr. Walter Frampton appeared for

Harmer, and Mr. H. H. Olley (for Mr. Harry Wilson) for Lowden. Mr. C. V. Young watched on behalf of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

"Mr. Bodkin said the fraud, which would be exposed, involved the very dangerous and undesirable practice of forging and closely imitating postage and revenue stamps of a territory which was now part of the dominions of the King. The prisoners would be charged with conspiring together to cheat and defraud persons to whom they sold such forged or imitated stamps under the representation that they were genuine. The fraud was not put as a fraud upon the revenue of the country in question, because it did not appear to be an offence to forge the stamps of any other country than Great Britain, which offence was dealt with by a Stamp Act of a very drastic character. The stamps to be dealt with at present were stamps of the State of North Borneo, better known as British North Borneo. When it became necessary to provide stamps for postage and revenue purposes, the company instructed a well-known firm of engravers in the city—Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades—to design and execute a series of stamps of denominations ranging from ½ to 10 cents. Those stamps were known as the 1887 issue. They were printed from time to time up to 1894, but in 1893 the company instructed Messrs. Waterlow and Son to design a new series of stamps of the same values, and from 1894 this new series had been those generally in use, although the 1887 stamps remained valid up to December 14 last. Since then only the 1894 stamps had been valid, because in consequence of information which came to the company in December of very extensive quantities of forgeries of the 1887 issue being extant they were compelled to cancel the whole of the early issue.

"Prisoners were dealers in foreign stamps, and it was alleged that they had caused to be forged many thousands of these stamps for the purpose of selling them as specimens to collectors and others at remunerative prices. It was necessary to say that the North Borneo Company had never authorised any reprint of the 1887 issue, and they had no knowledge whatever of either of the prisoners. But a Mr. Parker, a gentleman who dealt in stamps in London, had been in the habit of buying quantities of stamps from the company, and in the autumn of 1907 he held a very large stock indeed of North Borneo stamps of all kinds, including some of the 1887 issue. Mr. Parker was well acquainted with both Harmer and Lowden, who were the joint managing directors of the West End Stamp Company, which was registered in 1906, and had offices in Villiers Street, Strand. They were also intimately connected with another company, called Herbert Mack and Co., which was carried on at the same address. Mr. Parker made arrangements with the prisoners, *qua* the West End Stamp Company, that he should sell them the whole of his accumulated stock of North Borneo stamps at the rate of £200 worth per month, and up to January last the deliveries were made monthly and paid for. The West End Stamp Company was described as the largest firm of wholesale stamp dealers in England, and there was no doubt it did a very considerable business indeed, and especially in these Borneo stamps. So far as the inquiries had at present gone, it appeared that it was in February, 1908, that forged North Borneo stamps were first being dealt with by the prisoners. About that

time Mr. Brown, a dealer of Salisbury, bought from the West End Stamp Company 2,000 sets of North Borneo stamps, four in each set, for which he paid £8 6s. 8d. Some of those stamps were sold to a dealer in Brussels, who came to the opinion that they were not genuine.

"After referring to the case of a Mr. Burgess, who purchased some of these same stamps from Herbert Mack and Company (Limited), Mr. Bodkin went on to state that in December of last year the North Borneo Company got some information, in consequence of which a visit was paid by the French police to the premises in Paris of a man who appeared to be a somewhat skilful engraver, and they there found a large quantity of North Borneo stamps in the making. There was also a large amount of correspondence with Herbert Mack and Company, in which were contained the most minute directions as to the way in which the stamps were to be engraved. It was also clear from the letters that considerable sums of money had been paid over to this engraver in the name of Mack and Company, and that many thousands of sheets of stamps had been delivered by him to them. On February 19 last, owing to a complaint of a burglary at 20, Villiers Street, Inspector Stockley visited the premises, and saw Lowden at the offices of Mack and Company. He (Lowden) said £160 worth of North Borneo stamps had been stolen, and he mentioned that he had an option with the North Borneo Company, and was under contract to purchase £200 worth of stamps a month. After further inquiries came the arrest of the prisoners, and in the possession of each of them were found vast numbers of these forged stamps.

"Some evidence having been given in support of this statement, the prisoners were again remanded, the same bail being allowed."

NEW CATALOGUES.

WE have received copies of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' invaluable Catalogues for 1909, Part II having preceded Part I; also two more of Mr. F. J. Melville's delightful little books, viz. *British Central Africa* and *United States*, and we hope to refer thereto in our next issue.

THE LATE MR. E. J. NANKIVELL. By M. P. CASTLE.

I MUST confess to a feeling of surprise on learning that Mr. Nankivell had passed his sixtieth year at the time of his lamented death. His lithe, active, spare figure, his cheery vivacity, and his keen interest in every phase of philatelic life, rather gave one the idea of a man of five-and-forty than his actual age. It must be a consolation to his friends and relations to remember that his useful, active life and redundant energies remained undimmed to the last, and that he died as he lived in the fore-front of the battle of literary and philatelic life.

Although Mr. Nankivell's name appears infrequently over long scientific articles in the *London Philatelist* (or other journals), it will be seen by a perusal of the past volumes of this journal that he was a personality who

exercised considerable influence upon the trend of Philately, and one whose writings and opinions were constantly to the fore. I doubt if any man has ever written so much in the world of stamps, and, like the too redundant novelist, it is patent that everything cannot, under such conditions, be of the most highly polished or wrought out nature. In fact, some of his criticisms, however kindly conceived and vividly expressed, have savoured of the impracticable, and his philatelic efforts have always partaken more of the critical than of the constructive nature. Nankivell was, however, a brilliant paragraph writer, due to his long standing connection with the Press, and he contrived to invest everything that he wrote with a breezy, cheery manner of expression that always deservedly made him a prime favourite among philatelic writers.

The *London Philatelist* was launched on January 1st, 1892, and, as already stated in last month's issue, the inception of this journal was due to Mr. E. J. Nankivell, who made the proposal to the then London Philatelic Society in an able and convincing speech. He was not, however, godfather—the title of this journal having been subsequently suggested by Major E. B. Evans. Early in November of 1892 I left for a tour round the world, returning in August, 1893, and during that period Mr. Nankivell efficiently acted as editor of this journal. I feel, therefore, that I am but paying a personal tribute of respect to a colleague in expressing my appreciation of his work in connection with this journal in particular, and the interests generally of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Nankivell's industry was prodigious, and his connection with philatelic journalism of the most extensive :—

He was a past editor of the *Philatelic Record;* he also edited *Gibbons Stamp Weekly;* he produced the *Transvaal Collectors' Quarterly;* and he founded *The Postage Stamp*, which is still running.

He was also, until the last, philatelic editor of *The Captain*, and held the same post for some time on *The Connoisseur*, and was, during a long period of years, a frequent contributor to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, the *American Journal of Philately*, the *Philatelic Journal of India*, and other papers.

It is quite certain that by his remarkable literary activity he exercised a very valuable influence in the diffusion of Philately, and his name will always be held in kindly memory as one whose life bore upon it the unmistakable impress of a whole-hearted interest in postage stamps and their collectors.

It is hardly necessary to refer to Mr. Nankivell as a collector—to mention his name is to suggest Transvaal! Suffice it to say that, I believe mainly at the suggestion of the late Mr. Tapling, Nankivell started on these stamps some quarter of a century since, and never faltered in his interest therein until his dying day. He sold his collection a few years back for a large sum, but he still remained the possessor of large quantities of these interesting stamps, and both by his example and studies he undoubtedly did much to raise the Transvaal issues to their present pinnacle of philatelic fame.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australian Commonwealth.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 1s. and 2s. Postage Dues on Crown and single-lined A, chalky paper, and inform us that they also have the 10s. and 20s. values.

The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 3d. and 4d. on this paper.

Postage Dues.

Wmk. Crown and single-lined A; chalky paper.

3d., pale green; perf. 11½ × 11.
4d. ,, ,, 11.
1s. ,, ,, 11½ × 11.
2s. ,, ,, 11.
10s. ,, ,, 11.
20s. ,, ,, 11.

British South Africa. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* gives the following as the complete list of the stamps to be overprinted "Rhodesia."

Adhesives.

½d., green.
1d., rose-red.
2d., brown.
2½d., blue.
3d., lilac.
4d., green.
5d. on 6d., violet.
6d., violet.
7½d. on 2s. 6d., grey.
10d. on 3s., violet.
1s., ochre.
2s. on 5s., orange.
2s. 6d., grey.
3s., violet
5s., orange.
7s. 6d., black.
10s., blue-green.
£1, violet.

Gibraltar.—It is stated in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the following new stamps have been sent out.

Adhesives.

6d., purple; multiple; chalky.
2s., purple and blue on blue; multiple; chalky.
4s., black and red on white; multiple; chalky.

India.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has kindly sent us the 1 anna "Postage & Revenue," and the 12 annas overprinted "C.E.F."

The former was chronicled on p. 81.

Adhesive.

12 annas, brown on red; overprinted "C.E.F.," in black.

Gibbons Weekly informs us that the 2, 5, 10, and 15 rupee stamps have appeared with the

On
H. S. overprint.
M.

Officials.

2 r., carmine and yellow-brown.
5 r., ultramarine and violet.
10 r., pale green and pink.
15 r., blue and olive-brown.

Charkari.—The following is taken from *Gibbons Weekly*:—

"This State has issued a new set of stamps, ranging in value from 1 pice to 1 rupee, the highest and lowest values being in exactly the same colour, which may lead to mistakes more profitable to the Post Office than to the public. The design consists of two swords, crossed in the centre, with 'CHARKARI STATE C. I.' in an arch above them, and 'POSTAGE STAMP' at the top; below the swords are characters denoting the value, and four lines of inscription: 'INDIA—BUNDELKHAND'—two words in Devanagri, the first of which seems to read *Charkari*—and the value '1 PICE,' etc. The whole is in white on a solid rectangular ground of colour, surrounded by a white and a coloured frame line. The stamps are lithographed on thin wove paper, perf. 11."

1909. Type 2. *Lithographed. Wove paper. Pin-perf.* 11.

1 pice, chestnut.
½ anna, scarlet.
1 ,, light green.
2 annas, blue.
4 ,, deep green.
8 ,, brick-red.
1 rupee, brown.

Hyderabad.—To the set of new stamps lately listed, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds the 3 annas.

Adhesive.

3 annas, brown-orange.

NORTHERN NIGERIA.—The 5d. value on chalky paper is chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

5d., dull purple and chestnut ; multiple ; chalky.

PAPUA.—The 1s. of the current set is found perf. 12½, as well as 11.

Adhesive.

1s., orange and black ; Crown and A ; perf. 12½.

ST. VINCENT. — We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 1d., Arms, redrawn type, and the 2s. and 5s. King's Head stamps in new colours.

These friends have been informed that all the old King's Head stamps have been destroyed.

Adhesives.

1d., carmine ; redrawn Arms type ; multiple ; ordinary ; perf. 14.
2s., purple and blue on blue ; King's Head ; multiple ; chalky ; perf. 14.
5s., green and red on yellow ; King's Head ; multiple ; chalky ; perf. 14.

TASMANIA.—From Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received the 9d., blue, wmk. Crown and A, perf. 11, and from Mr. R. J. Hogg this stamp with compound perfs. 11 × 12 and 11 × 12½.

Adhesives.

9d., blue ; wmk. Crown and A ; perf. 11.
9d. ,, ,, ,, ,, 11 × 12.
9d. ,, ,, ,, ,, 11 × 12½.

EUROPE.

BELGIUM.—Mr. F. E. Wilson sends us the new 30 c. Postage Due stamp, Type 62 of Gibbons.

Postage Due.

30 c., pale blue ; Type 62 of Gibbons ; perf. 14.

CRETE.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a fresh supply of surcharged stamps.

Adhesives.

1 l., chocolate ; 1900 ; surcharged ΕΛΛΑΣ in red ; London print.
2 l., slate-lilac ; 1905 ; same surcharge.
5 on 20 l., orange ; 1904 ; surcharged in black,

ΕΛΛΑΣ
ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

Provisionals—Postage Dues.

1 l., red ; 1900 ; surcharged as above, in black.

20 l., red ; 1900 ; surcharged in black,

ΕΛΛΑΣ
2
ΠΡΟΣΩΡΙΝΟΝ

GERMAN EMPIRE.—It is reported in *Gibbons Weekly* that the 30 and 50 pf. stamps are now printed on *white* paper instead of on *buff.*

Adhesives.

30 pf., black and orange on *white* ; wmk. lozenges.
50 pf., black and purple ,, ,, ,,

ROUMANIA.—The 25 bani of 1900 has been found perf. 13½.—*Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

25 bani, blue ; 1900 ; no wmk. ; perf. 13½.

RUSSIA.—Mr. Albert Scheindling sends us the 25 k., light green and mauve, and 50 k., yellow-green and brownish mauve, old type, on white wove paper, but with the safety bars ; and Mr. W. T. Wilson informs us that he has the 50 and 70 k. in similar condition.

Adhesives.

25 k., light green and mauve ; white wove paper ; safety bars.
50 k., yellow-green and brownish mauve ; white wove paper ; safety bars.
70 k., orange and pale chocolate ; white wove paper ; safety bars.

Mr. Albert Scheindling writes as follows:—

"The new 25 and 50 cop. stamps are of exactly the same types as the 1889 and 1905 issue ; but instead of being on vertically laid paper, they are now printed on wove paper with lines of varnish on their face like the small values already chronicled. The 25 cop. is now light green, instead of dull green ; and the 50 cop. brownish mauve, instead of mauve. It seems that only the small values have been altered in type, and the reason is in order to protect the farming people in the interior (the Mushiks), who are very ignorant and uncivilized, and therefore do not know anything about cleaned and forged stamps, and as their demand does not extend to the high values above 10 cop., the Post Department did not think it necessary to alter the type of the values above 10 cop. too. The lines of varnish on all the values do not extend all over the sheet, but only on the space occupied by the stamps themselves ; and this is in order that the margins of the sheets might not be used by forgers for manufacturing forged stamps on the *original* paper, as has repeatedly been done with forged 70 cop. and 3½ rouble stamps of the 1902–4 issue, and 3½ and 7 rouble stamps of the 1883 issue ; for this purpose, in the year 1907, the margins on the sheets of the values over 1 rouble have been overprinted by large coloured crosses and triangles, because the margins on these high values were extremely large and bore the watermarks. By the way, I may inform you that the new issue has found very little sympathy in Russia ; the paper being too thin, the gum does not stick, and the lines of varnish are very sensible towards external influences. It is rumoured that this issue will soon be replaced by another issue."

As we go to press we have received from Mr. Scheindling specimens of the new 10 k. (type of the new 4 k.), 14 k., 15 k., and 70 k. All have the safety bars.

Adhesives.

10 k., blue, type of new 4 k.; wove paper; safety bars.
14 k., blue and rose, old type; wove paper; safety bars.
15 k., claret and blue, old type; wove paper; safety bars.

SWITZERLAND.—We gather from the *Philatelic Adviser* that the 1 c. and 20 c. Postage Dues have appeared on the paper with single-lined cross watermark.

Postage Dues.

1 c., olive-green; new wmk.; granite paper.
20 c. „ „ „

AMERICA.

COLOMBIA.—The ½ c. of 1908, perf. 13, is reported in *Gibbons Weekly*.

Adhesive.

½ c., orange; 1908; perf. 13.

HONDURAS.—We are told in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the current set is coming over lithographed on medium unwatermarked paper, perf. 11½. Four values are known so far.

Adhesives.

1 c., green; Type of 1907; lithographed; perf. 11½.
5 c., blue „ „ „
10 c., brown „ „ „
20 c., blue „ „ „

PERU.—To the new stamps listed on p. 249, Vol. XVII, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds the following :—

Officials.

1 c., rose; Arms in centre.
10 c., brown „
50 c., grey-green „

Postage Dues.

1 c., brown; figure of value in centre.
5 c. „ „ „ „ „
10 c. „ „ „ „ „
50 c. „ „ „ „ „

UNITED STATES.—The 2 c., Lincoln, and the 3 c., 4 c., and 5 c., Washington, in an imperf. condition, are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

2 c., rose; Lincoln; imperf.
3 c., purple; Washington; imperf.
4 c., brown „ „
5 c., blue „ „

OTHER COUNTRIES.

MARTINIQUE.—*Gibbons Weekly* gives a complete list of the new set of stamps partly chronicled by us on pp. 24 and 84.

The central design, name, and value of all are in purple or purple-brown.

We have therefore to add to our list the following :—

Adhesives.

20 c., deep lilac.
25 c., blue.
30 c., Venetian red.
35 c., deep lilac.
40 c., pale sage-green.
45 c., deep brown.
50 c., rosine.
75 c., greenish black.
1 f., dull greenish blue.
2 f., grey.
5 f., Venetian red.

RIO DE ORO.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us a new set of an entirely new design.

Head of King Alfonso to right in oval with "CORREOS" above and figures of value in left top corner. The inscription at foot reads : "COLONIA DE RIO DE ORO."

Adhesives.

1 c., salmon.
2 c., orange.
5 c., green.
10 c., red.
15 c., green.
20 c., violet.
25 c., blue.
30 c., lake.
40 c., brown.
50 c., mauve.
1 p., dark brown.
4 p., rosine.
10 p., claret.

SPANISH COLONIES. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* thus describes a new set :—

Adhesives.

New design. Head of King Alfonso to right in small oval with "Correos" in small letters above, a palm tree on either side, and a broad band at foot inscribed with the name of the colony. Value in each upper corner on an 8-rayed star.

(i) Inscribed "Territorios Espanoles del Golfo de Guinea" (this set is for use in Fernando Póo, Guinea continental espanola, and Elobey, Annobón y Corisco, the one set being issued now instead of three).

1 c., red-brown	200,000
2 c., "currant"	200,000
5 c., bluish green	100,000
10 c., red	100,000
15 c, black-brown	100,000
20 c., violet	60,000
25 c., blue	80,000
30 c., brick-red	80,000
40 c., rose	100,000
50 c., violet-brown	150,000
1 p., dark green	25,000
2 p., orange	25,000
4 p., carmine	25,000

SURINAM.—A second printing of the new 5 cents stamp, listed on p. 84, is reported in *Mekeel's Weekly*, and, it is stated, is perforated 11½ × 10½ instead of rouletted.

Adhesive.

5 c., red; perf. 11½ × 10½.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1908-9.

President—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. McNaughtan.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon. T. Wickham Jones.
C. N. Biggs. T. Maycock.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. Hall. F. Reichenheim.
L. L. R. Hausburg. R. B. Yardley.

The tenth meeting of the season 1908-9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, the 4th March, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, H. R. Oldfield, E. D. Bacon, L. W. Fulcher, Thos. W. Hall, A. Laceby, C. E. Fagan, Douglas Ellis, C. Neville Biggs, C. E. McNaughtan, J. A. Tilleard, B. Pinner, M. P. Castle, B. D. Knox, and Lance E. Hall (associate).

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 18th February, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

A ballot was taken for the election of Mr. Joseph Abraham Leon, proposed by the Hon. Secretary and seconded by Mr. R. B. Yardley, who was subsequently declared duly elected a member and fellow of the Society.

The Hon. Librarian reported that a work on the stamps of the Austrian and the Austrian-Hungarian Empire had been presented to the Society by the author, Mr. H. Kropf, and the Hon. Librarian was directed to acknowledge the gift in the usual way.

The Hon. Librarian also reported that he had acquired a type-written verbatim report of the proceedings of the Manchester Congress for the purposes of the Society, and his action was approved.

A report was received from Mr. M. P. Castle, the Hon. Vice-President, on behalf of himself and the other delegates as to the proceedings at such congress, and a vote of thanks to Messrs. Castle, Fulcher, and Reichenheim for acting as delegates of the Society at such congress, was moved by Mr. Tilleard, seconded by Mr. Fagan, and unanimously carried.

A display of a portion of the stamps of the Society's collection was then given by the Hon. Assistant Secretary, who explained that the reason for showing the stamps was partly to create a general interest in the collection among the members, and partly to show the possibilities of the future if the collection were properly supported.

The donors of the stamps up to the present time comprised eight members of the Society and two non-members.

The eight members were: His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, President, who had presented some very fine Afghanistan stamps; the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T., Vice-President, who had presented a very large number of stamps of Great Britain and of the Colonies, and who had practically placed his duplicate collection at the disposal of the Society; Mr. M. P. Castle, the Honorary Vice-President, who had presented various reprints and forgeries, and was also preparing a collection of Victorian stamps; Mr. Harvey Clarke, who had presented some very fine specimens of the Sydney Views; Mr. F. H. Melland, who had sent from South Africa on three different occasions useful and interesting stamps of various South African Colonies; Mr. G. L. Toppin, who had sent from America numerous interesting specimens of new issues; Mr. W. V. Morten, who had presented a selection of forgeries; Mr. H. R. Oldfield, the Hon. Assistant Secretary, who had presented a small selection of Bolivian stamps.

In addition to the above eight members, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, had presented a very considerable number of reprints and single stamps and in sheets, and also a very large number of forgeries, and Mr. Giwelb, who had presented a number of forgeries and reprints.

The stamps shown comprised selections from those presented by the President, the Vice-President, Mr. Harvey Clarke, Mr. Melland, and Mr. Toppin, together with the existing album containing forgeries belonging to the Society.

Mr. Oldfield pointed out that gifts not only of rare stamps but of common ones would be appreciated, and that if specialists would make a selection from their duplicates so as to form a small specialized collection, and present it to the Society, such a collection would be invaluable at a later date.

If members presenting forgeries or reprints would accompany the stamps with descriptions, their gifts would be doubly acceptable.

It was further pointed out that, looking to what had been done in the past, it was obvious that at a small individual sacrifice gifts from all the members of the Society would, when combined, form a most useful and valuable collection worthy of the Society's reputation.

At the close of the display a vote of thanks to Mr. Oldfield was moved by Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Tilleard, and, after some remarks in support by Mr. Bacon, was carried unanimously.

The proceedings shortly after terminated.

THE eleventh meeting of the season 1908-9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, the 18th March, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, H. R. Oldfield, Thos. W. Hall, T. Wickham Jones, A. Laceby, B. D. Knox, A. Scott Bridgwater, A. Léon Adutt, A. Chilver, Douglas Ellis, C. E. Fagan, F. J. Peplow, L. W. Fulcher, A. H. Stamford, C. E. McNaughtan, C. Neville Biggs, E. D. Bacon, J. A. Tilleard, H. M. Hansen, Col. J. Bonhote, L. E. Hall (associate).

The chair was taken by the Hon Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th March, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

The death of the late Mr. E. J. Nankivell on the morning of the 18th March, 1909, was reported to the members by the Hon. Secretary.

On the motion of Mr. M. P. Castle, it was unanimously resolved that the following vote of condolence to Mrs. Nankivell and the members of her family should be passed, and conveyed to Mrs. Nankivell by the Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The resolution passed was in the following terms: "The members present having heard with deep regret of the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. E. J. Nankivell, a fellow and member of this Society, who has long been associated with the work of the Society, and was prominently concerned in the formation of its journal, and in many other movements promoted by the Society, it is hereby unanimously resolved that the expression of this regret shall be recorded in the minutes of the Society, and the purport thereof communicated to Mrs. Nankivell, with an assurance of the deep sympathy felt by the members for her and the members of her family in the great loss they have sustained."

In moving the above resolution, the Chairman called attention to the fact that the late Mr. E. J. Nankivell was the first one who proposed the formation of the Society's journal, and was one of the moving spirits in connection with the arrangements under which the Society acquired rooms of its own at Effingham House.

The members received with regret an intimation from the Chairman that, owing to indisposition, the Vice-President was unable to be present.

The Hon. Librarian announced that he had received as a gift for the Society's library, Part I of the new work on the *Russian Rural Postage Stamps*, by Messrs. Von C. Schmidt and A. Faberje, and he was directed to acknowledge the gift in the usual way.

The Hon. Secretary then gave a display of the stamps of Grenada, kindly sent by H.R.H. the President for inspection by the members attending the meeting.

The collection, which is practically complete, was examined with great interest, and the stamps of the various issues were shown both unused and used, in single copies, and to a large extent in pairs and blocks also, all the standard rarities and recognized errors and varieties being included in the display.

On the motion of Mr. E. D. Bacon, seconded by Colonel Bonhote, the dutiful thanks of the meeting were voted to His Royal Highness for honouring the Society by permitting a display of his very fine collection of the stamps of Grenada.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE sixth meeting of the session 1908-9 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, March 16th, 1909, at 6.40 p.m.

Present: Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), W. A. Boyes, W. G. Cool, C. R. Sutherland, R. Frentzel, W. T. Standen, L. E. Bradbury, J. C. Sidebotham, T. H. Harvey, P. Ashley, R. Meyer, Fred G. Melville, W. H. Eastwood, R. H. Newton, J. E. Booth, W. van Oppen, K. Wiehen, E. W. Arnold, E. Bounds, W. A. Gunner, A. J. Warren, W. Simpson, A. G. Wane, T. F. Stafford, T. G. Wayman, J. K. Boddy, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and three visitors.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, February 16th, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

Messrs. B. Gordon Jones and T. G. Wayman were elected ordinary members of the Society.

Donations of philatelic literature were received from the President, and "The Melville Stamp Books" (Mr. W. H. Peckitt), and of stamps for the Society's collection from Mr. J. K. Boddy.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the President had stated that all those present at the Manchester Congress heartily supported the invitation issued by the Herts Philatelic Society to hold the congress in London next year under its auspices: that it proposed to inaugurate the congress without help from outside, with the exception of a committee that will fix the numbers of delegates of each society, lay down the rules and regulations of voting, discuss matters to be brought before the congress, etc. The Herts Philatelic Society have determined to carry the matter through as thoroughly as possible, and it is expected that other societies will offer hearty co-operation.

The Chairman also mentioned that the Chinese Minister and other distinguished persons had accepted invitations to be present at the annual dinner to be held at the Café Monico on May 4th, and he trusted that all members would do their utmost to make the function a record success. Applications for upwards of forty tickets were received during the evening.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. A. J. Warren then exhibited his wonderful collection of the stamps of Holland, accompanied by explanatory notes. The large muster of members sufficiently testified to the interest taken in this country, and certainly few specialized countries can compare with it in point of research and completeness. Mr. Warren's notes, with a list of the more interesting stamps, will be published in the *Monthly Report*, and the enthusiasm which greeted the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. van Oppen, and seconded by Mr. Sutherland, was well deserved.

Mr. Warren, in returning thanks, adverted to this in his characteristically modest manner, and a most enjoyable and instructive meeting terminated at 8.20 p.m.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

NINE FIELDS, ST. ALBANS.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE general monthly meeting of the above Society was held on February 18th, at 8 p.m.

The President (Mr. Kelson) took the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and duly confirmed.

Mr. J. S. Paul was then balloted for and declared elected.

The Secretary informed the members that Mr. W. Hammond Clegg, who had sent in his resignation for the previous meeting, had withdrawn same, and is therefore a member as heretofore.

It was proposed and seconded that a dinner be given to Mr. F. Hagen when passing through Melbourne on his way to Europe, the arrangements being left in the hands of the committee. This dinner will take place on Monday evening, April 19th, 1909.

The Secretary was instructed to renew the subscription for the *London Philatelist* for 1909, and *Gibbons Weekly*, Vols. X and XI.

Positions in Book 189 were next balloted for, and a sale of stamps concluded the business.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*

128 RUSSELL STREET.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

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THE ½ PICE OF DHAR.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

WITH respect to the observation of Mr. E. A. Elliot in the last number of the *London Philatelist*, I beg to state that the catalogue of Messrs. Senf has listed the lowest value of the Dhar stamps since 1905 correctly as ½ Dabel (the official spelling), but no other catalogue has copied it.

Yours faithfully,

(DR.) KALCKHOFF.

April 4th, 1909.

A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—Our client, Mr. E. G. Harmer, who carries on business under the style of "Harmer, Rooke and Co.," Stamp Auctioneers, at 69 Fleet Street, E.C., desires us to write and explain that his business is not connected with Mr. H. R. Harmer who is being proceeded against in connection with the alleged stamp forgeries, and that if you intend to publish a report of the proceedings you will please insert a paragraph to the effect that Messrs. Harmer, Rooke and Co. are in no way connected with Mr. H. R. Harmer against whom proceedings are being taken.

Messrs. Harmer, Rooke and Co., we understand, are customers of yours.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY PUMFREY AND SON.

[We are glad to have this disclaimer.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of March 2nd and 3rd, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Finland, 1858, 5 k., blue *	3	3	0
Gibraltar, January (1886), 1s., bistre *	2	0	0
Great Britain, Govt. Parcels 1s., green and scarlet, block of four, mint £3 12s. and	3	12	6
Ditto, Admiralty Official, 1903, Type 1, 1½d., strip of five, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 2½d., block of six, ditto	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, Type 2, 2½d., block of four, ditto	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, pair, ditto	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 3d., block of four, ditto	4	5	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 1843, 4 r., horizontal lines, Type 2 *	12	0	0
India, 1854, 2 a., pale green, strip of four *	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 a., pair each of the wide and narrow settings	2	12	6
Ditto, Service, 1867–73, 6 a. 8 p., slate, mint £2 and	3	2	6
India, Cashmere, a fine specialized collection, including many scarce varieties and entire sheets, 967	30	0	0
Labuan, 1879, CA sideways, 12 c., carmine	3	10	0
Cape, Mafeking, sets of nineteen £8 15s. and	8	17	6
Seychelles, 1893, 3 c. on 4 c., double surcharge, mint	2	6	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 1s., orange, cut into	4	10	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	2	8	0

Sale of March 16th and 17th, 1909.

Great Britain, 1840, 2d., blue *	3	7	6
Ditto, 1870, 1½d., rose-red, "O.P.P.C." on piece	2	10	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1885, 5s.,	3	0	0
Ditto, Board of Education, 1904, 5d.	3	5	0
Ceylon, 1864, 12½, 10d., orange-red *	2	2	0
Hong Kong, CC, 18 c, lilac, mint	2	2	0
British South Africa, 1890, £2, red, ditto	2	7	0
Ditto, 1891, set of four provisionals, ditto	3	0	0
* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Cape Woodblock, 4d., blue,* repaired	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, on Entire	2	10	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet,* minute tear	6	10	0
Nova Scotia, 1s., cold violet,* defective	6	0	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., mint	2	8	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf. 14, 4d., brown-lilac, block of four, mint	4	4	0
Ditto, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., green, block of four, mint	4	10	0
Collection: 3,546	20	0	0

ALL UNUSED.

The third portion of the Reid Collection.

Sold by MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER, March 18th and 19th, 1909.

Gold Coast, 20s., green and red, perfs. trimmed	4	4	0
Lagos, CA, 5s., blue	4	12	6
Liberia, 1867, 6 c., red, imperf.	2	0	0
Ditto, 1892, 8 c., centre inverted	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, $5, ditto.	2	17	6
Madagascar, 1886, handstamp omitted, "POSTAGE" 29½ mm. long, without period, 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d., 4½d., and 6d., with period, 9d., rose	16	0	0
Ditto, handstamp omitted "POSTAGE" 24½ mm long, 4d., 8d., 1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s., rose	15	10	0
St. Helena, 1884, ½d., emerald green, double surcharge	5	0	0
Sierra Leone, first issue, 6d., purple on blued, imperf.	4	12	6
Ditto, 1883, CA, 4d., blue	4	7	6
Ditto, 1893, CC, ½d. on 1½d., lilac	3	4	0
Ditto, 2½d., on 1s., dull lilac, a horizontal strip of four, showing Types a, b, c, and d	5	10	0
Transvaal, 1876–7, coarse soft white paper, 1s., yellow-green	4	0	0
Ditto, 1877, "V.R. TRANSVAAL," in black, 3d., lilac, pair	3	10	0
Ditto, 1878, "1 PENNY" on 6d., black, pair, Type 14	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, red surcharge "1 Penny" on 6d., black, Type 12	5	15	0
Ditto, 1900, "V.R.I.", £5, green, with double overprint, once without colour	4	7	6
British Columbia, 1867, perf. 14, 10 c., lake	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, $1, green	2	8	0

	£	s.	d.
Canada, 12d., black, thin *wove*	50	0	0
Ditto, 6d., purple-black, imperf.	4	17	6
Ditto, 7½d., green, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 10d., blue, nicked	2	12	0
Ditto, 6d., purple-brown, perf. 12	8	17	6
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow	5	5	0
Ditto, 1s., violet	28	0	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet	6	6	0
Ditto, 4d., ditto	13	0	0
Ditto, 6½d., ditto, cut close	2	10	0
Ditto, 1s., ditto	54	0	0
Ditto, 6d., orange-vermilion, slightly creased	5	2	6
Ditto, 1s., ditto	50	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green, cut into	2	2	0
Ditto, 6d., deep green, small margins	3	5	0
Ditto, 1s., violet	31	0	0
Bahamas, perf. 12, 6d., lilac	4	4	0
Barbados, Small Star, rough perfs., 4d., dull rose-red	5	5	0
Ditto, 5s., dull rose	2	12	0
Ditto, perf. 12½, 6d., bright yellow	2	8	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., vermilion, tiny tear	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., blue, white line above value	5	17	6
Ditto, 1862, 1 c., black on rose, grapes, unsigned	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 4c., black on blue, pearl in heart, with initials	8	0	0
Ditto, 1876, 96 c., olive-bistre	2	15	0
Ditto, 1878, Provisional on Official 8 c., rose, vertical and horizontal bars	4	2	6
Ditto, 1877, Official, 4 c., blue, pair	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 8 c., rose	5	5	0
British Honduras, perf. 14, 6d., rose	2	0	0
Ditto, 1885, 6d., yellow	2	2	0
Ditto, 1887, 1s., grey	2	2	0
Ditto, 1888, 50 c., on 1s., grey	2	7	0
Grenada, broad-pointed Star, 2½d., claret, pair	3	10	0
Montserrat, CA, 4d., blue	2	10	0
Nevis, 4d., litho	2	8	0
Ditto, 6d., ditto £3 and	3	15	0
Ditto, 1883, 6d., green	3	10	0
St. Kitt's, CA, 4d., blue	2	10	0
St. Lucia, Star, 6d., deep green	2	0	0
Ditto, CA, perf. 12, 4d., yellow	2	6	0
St. Vincent, 1866, compound perf., 1s., slate-grey	2	2	0
Ditto, 1869, 1s., indigo	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., brown £2 10s. &	2	12	0
Ditto 1871–2, Star, rough perfs., 6d., blue-green	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 11 to 12½, 1s., rose-red	2	10	0
Ditto, 1874, compound perfs., 1s., violet-rose	3	0	0
Ditto, 1875, 11 to 12½, 1s., claret	3	3	0
Ditto, 1877, 1s., vermilion	4	2	6
Ditto, 1880, 1s., ditto £3 7s. 6d. and	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 5s., rose-red	8	0	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 1d. on half 6d., pair	10	5	0
Ditto, 1881, ½d. on half 6d., pair	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, "One Penny" on 6d.	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	10	10	0
Ditto, 1883-4, perf. 14, 4d., ultramarine £2 5s. and	2	7	6
Ditto, 1885, 4d., red-brown	5	0	0
Tobago, £1, mauve, perf. clips	4	17	6
Ditto, CC, 6d., stone	2	2	0
Ditto, CA, 6d., ditto	4	0	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin perf., 4d., brown lilac, pair	2	10	0
Ditto, 1861, rough perfs., 1s., indigo	3	5	0
Ditto, set of 7 Official stamps	4	0	0
Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1s., lilac, Type 11	5	15	0

* * *

Messrs. Plumridge and Co.

Sale of February 25th and 26th, 1909.

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Anchor, £5, on bluish	3	17	6
Ditto, I. R. Official, 1884, 5s., carmine, mint	3	15	0
Switzerland, January, 1852, 15 c., red, mint	3	0	0
Tuscany, 1851, 2 soldi	4	6	0
Ceylon, 1857, 4d., rose, cut on left side	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., deep colour	2	8	0
British South Africa, 1896, One Penny on 3d., mint	2	4	0
Cape Woodblock, 1d., brick-red	3	12	6
Ditto, 1d., red*	22	0	0
Ditto, 4d., deep blue, defective	2	4	0
Lagos, 1874, 1s., orange, long value, mint	2	0	0
Zanzibar, December, 1895, 2½ on 1½ a, "Zanzidar"	3	15	0
Canada, 7½d., green	2	10	0
Ditto, 6d., perf.	2	12	0
Grenada, 1888, 4d. on 2s., upright "D,"* with certificate	3	10	0
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet vermilion	4	12	6
Ditto, 6½d., ditto	4	17	6
Trinidad, 1851, 1d., red on white, mint	3	0	0
U.S.A., State, $2, mint	2	2	0
Uruguay, November, 1857, 120 c., dull blue	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red on yellowish, Plate 2*	10	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., dull red on yellowish laid paper, plate 2, pair, on entire	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., plate 2	5	5	0
New Zealand, 1871, 10 × 12½, 6d., blue,* with gum	4	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 10, 1d., brown,* ditto	2	10	0
Queensland, 1860, imperf., 6d., green, probably*	3	3	0
Tasmania, 1853, 4d., orange*	2	8	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Victoria, 1868, 5s., blue and yellow	3	7	6
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red	3	17	6

Sale of March 11th and 12th, 1909.

Bavaria, 1874, imperf., 1 mark, mauve, pair,* with gum	2	10	0
Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1884, 5s., carmine*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, King, 5s., ditto, used	10	0	0
Ditto, O.W. Official, ditto, 10d.	2	15	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., mint	6	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 20 k., ditto	7	0	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 4 r., vert. lines	8	10	0
Ceylon, 1872, perf. 14 × 12½, 4 c., grey,* with gum	2	0	0
British South Africa, 1898, 4d., sage-green, imperf. between horizontally, block of twenty, mint	3	15	0
Cape Triangular, 1s., yellow-green*	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s., deep green, pair, mint	4	15	0
Ditto, 1863, 1s., green, block of four, ditto	10	0	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and red*	2	12	6
Natal, 1859, no wmk., imperf., 1d., rose-red, block of twenty-four, unused	5	5	0
Barbados, 5s., rose,* no gum	2	0	0
Grenada, 1871, 1s., deep mauve, "SHLLIING"	7	5	0
Nevis, 4d., litho, mint	2	10	0
New Brunswick, 6d., yellow	2	12	6
St. Vincent, 1d., on half 6d., on piece	3	0	0
Trinidad, 1860, litho, 1d., grey	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, clean-cut perfs., 6d., yellow-green, 2 blocks of six, mint . . . each	6	15	0
United States, 1869, 90 c.,* with gum	2	15	0
Hawaii, 1853, thick white paper, 5 c., blue*	5	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 4d., orange, ribbed paper, pair, cut at corners	2	10	0

Sale of March 25th and 26th, 1909.

Gibraltar, 1st issue, 1s., brown,*	2	0	0
New Zealand, 1862, serrated perfs., 6d., brown	2	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1867, Cross, £1, brown-lilac	2	0	0
Ditto, Board of Education, Queen, 1s.	2	4	0
Oldenburg, 1861, ⅓ gro., "Oldeiburg"*	3	0	0
Parma, 1854, 25 c., brown*	2	8	0
Sicily, 50 grana	2	6	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf.	2	17	6
India, 1856, no wmk., ½ a., blue, imperf., pair	6	5	0
Perak, P.G.S., on 24 c., green, CC,* with gum	2	16	0
Cape Woodblock, 4d., pale blue	2	16	0
Cape, 1874, "THEEE" Pence on 4d.	2	17	6
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., on blue, medium state	2	17	6
Transvaal, "V. R." in red, imperf., 3d., lilac	3	0	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., mint	2	8	0
Trinidad, 1863, perf. 13, 1s., bright mauve	2	12	6

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of March 13th, 1909.

British East Africa, 1890–1, 1 r., grey, block of four, mint	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red, no clouds, pair, slight defect	2	4	0
Queensland, 1882–6, 2s. 6d., vermilion (2), thick and thin papers, mint copies	1	10	0
Collections: Shanghai, 111, £3 15s.; and Oppen's album, 613	9	15	0

Sale of March 22nd, 1909.

British South Africa, 4d. on 6d., mint	1	1	0
Canada, 10d., blue, thin paper*	1	7	0
Ceylon, 5 c. on 4 c., lilac-rose, pair, mint	1	5	0
Great Britain, Orbs, £1, brown-lilac	1	4	0
Ditto, Maltese Cross, 10s., grey-green	1	8	0
Ditto, 1883, 10s., blue, block of six	1	5	0
Ditto, small crown, 1d., red-brown, pair, mint	1	8	0
New South Wales, Sydney, Plate 2, 1d., without clouds	1	12	6
St. Vincent, 5s., lake, block of four on entire	1	7	0
Trinidad, "O.S," ½d. to 5s., set of seven, mint	3	10	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. MAY, 1909. No. 209.

Collectors and Collectors!



THERE linger perhaps yet a few sceptics in the outside world who profess to disbelieve in the permanency of Philately, and still regard the stamp-collector as an innocuous form of lunatic! The hold that our hobby has secured in the public estimation is, however, by no means lessening, and despite the removal from our ranks of many of the veterans and leaders of the pursuit, their places are amply filled up by recruits of assured financial position and social rank. Enquiry in philatelic circles in almost any capital or large city of Europe or America will suffice to show that this class of rich and cultured men are more than ever turning to stamps as one of the most interesting and delightful forms of collecting.

The sceptics that we have alluded to fail to realise two very important features connected with Philately, which in combination are not present in any other hobby in the world. The first is the extreme portability and susceptibility to easy arrangement of a postage stamp, and the second, the fact that there is a recognised value for almost every variety, with corresponding information to confirm or refute such estimation. Fashion may alter and markets may change, but, broadly speaking, we doubt if there is any object in bric-à-brac collecting that is such collectors' Consols as really scarce postage stamps. It is this feeling of "knowing where one is," largely strengthened of late years by the auctions and purchases of the trade, that has given a sense of security to stamp-collectors that is assuredly not always present in other forms of collecting.

In almost all hobbies the habit of "abusing the dealers" is prevalent, and even in stamp circles we have heard that some collectors speak of the members of the stamp trade with bated breath. Such views are, however, not held by the great bulk of collectors, who recognise that, with very few exceptions, the dealers in the stamp trade carry on a business that is enormously open to deception in the most legitimate and straightforward manner.

Having spoken of our own collectors, let us turn for a moment to the other collectors! Shall we consider the acquisition of snuff-boxes a thoroughly sound investment (in view of recent disclosures) to the amateur in that form of art? If we turn to china, are we not astounded at the revelations that have recently set London by the ears? That a gentleman, possessed of ample means and presumably, at least, with the average bric-à-brac collector's intelligence, could succeed in losing nine-tenths of £130,000 in making a collection of old china, reveals a state of things that, happily, Philately wots not of! The absence of any definite grade as to value, and the ease with which spurious articles of china could be produced, denote dangers that we stamp collectors are happily able to avoid. If we turn to the records of old furniture there are "moving tales" of prices paid—and lost; while in the highest realms of art—in pictures—there seems absolutely no limit to the ingenuity which can compass the exact imitation of the rarest of masterpieces.

Our world of Philately is but a small one, but we greatly question if we should, any of us, find a greater store of the true delight of a collector if we were to step out of it. We have our grumbles—the prices are too high, or the specimens not fine enough, or there is the imperceptible mend, or the dangerous forgery—but when all is said and done it seems to us that Philately is a sound source of enjoyment, that has the advantage of rational and clearly defined limits, and that, for the amount of money expended, it affords at least as great a sense of financial security as any other known form of collecting. For such cogent reasons do we firmly decline ever to forsake collecting china or snuff-boxes in lieu of well-beloved and trusty postage stamps!

The Mirabaud Stamp Auction at Paris.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THE attendance at a stamp auction was a novelty for me. I have known Paris for over forty years, and for the greater portion of this period I have—until recent years—found Paris a happy hunting-ground of Philately. On this occasion, however, my experience was novel, as I found all my bargains—and a good many the reverse—in the sale-rooms, instead of hunting round as in days of yore.

I must confess to being favourably impressed with the system and management of French philatelic auctions. All sales of this nature in Paris must be held at the Salles Drouot, the auctioneer being a functionary appointed by the Government, who exact a payment of 10 per cent per lot, payable by the purchaser, and in return makes no charge for the use of the rooms and the auctioneer's services. The agents who conduct the sales make, in addition, a moderate charge for their services in preparing and issuing the catalogues, lotting up the stamps, etc.; but, on the whole, as undoubtedly a fair proportion of this 10 per cent may be willingly sub-

mitted to by the buyer, I do not think that the seller's expenses should be much in excess of those in this country.

Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler, of 51 Rue Le Peletier, were entrusted with the sale of the undisposed portion of the late M. Paul Mirabaud's stamps, and I must heartily congratulate them upon the remarkably faithful and accurate way in which the lots were described. I feel sure that almost any lot might have been bought by its description, and I know that an enormous number of bids were received from distant buyers who never saw the stamps at all. This is an eminently safe proceeding, and one that I have always preached to our own auctioneers. Almost exactly twenty years ago—a few months after the first sale by auction in England—I gave Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper the remainder of my general Colonial collection to sell, and in the preface to that catalogue it is stated that "the condition of every stamp was given with accuracy," "every known case of defect, tear, or short margin had been noted," and that "the genuineness of every stamp is guaranteed." I personally corrected the catalogue, and the result was that I received nearly four times the amount that I had been offered by a well-known dealer!

This shows that faithful descriptions paid twenty years since, and the result of the Paris auctions shows that it pays equally to-day. Why, then, cannot our auctioneers follow suit, and restore the confidence—of those who do not live in London—in the reliability of the auction catalogue?

After this digression I will get back to the Salles Drouot! The proceedings are similar to those in England, but the auctioneer is assisted by a crier of prices, who takes one side of the room, while the vendors—Messrs. Gilbert and Köhler—who start the bidding at about half the selling price, take the other side, and from all three the bids are collected and called out, the auctioneer, of course, having the last word. The seats of the buyers are ranged all round and close to the rostrum, and the would-be purchasers are only allowed the most fleeting glimpse at the lots, the result being that the sale proceeds with great rapidity, and that some eighty lots are disposed of within the hour. There is much more animation in the bidding than with us, and it occasionally partakes of a keen personal rivalry and apparently reckless determination to buy at any price. The lots are delivered to the purchaser at the fall of the hammer against cash or due reference.

The result of the week's sale of Colonials was, I believe, rather over £7000 and on the whole very satisfactory prices were realized. In some cases stamps went extremely high and in a few cases remarkably cheap, but considering the sale was exclusively composed of British Colonials I consider the prices very good indeed for a foreign country. The Cape woodblocks, unused and fine used, went very high and, like Mauritius, Ceylon, and Sydney Views, seem to be equally popular on both sides of the Channel. The stamps that in my opinion fetched less than they deserved were the British North Americans—with some exceptions—in which M. Mirabaud was very strong. The preceding sale of Europeans realized nearly £8000, and that of foreign countries to follow is, I believe, expected to attain about £5000. Beyond this many important countries, as Mauritius, New South Wales, Switzerland, Japan, Buenos Ayres and others, were disposed of privately. It may hence

be that the million francs that is stated to have been refused by the executors will nearly be realized. M. Mirabaud had some magnificent stamps, the condition being generally very fine, but I doubt if the collection realized more than it had cost him. He was a collector for some thirty years, and marked almost every stamp underneath with its source of origin and price paid. It may well be imagined, therefore, in an old collection what curious facts these hinges revealed! I myself bought a strip of British Guiana, 1 c., 1853, for £26, which still had the hinges that I used to make myself in my earliest collecting days, and where M. Mirabaud had marked as coming from my first general collection at £2! Under a pair of mint 5d., imperforate, Ceylon, I noticed the late M. V. G. de Ysasi's writing, "3s. each," and these fetched nearly £12. On the other hand, I saw at the Salle Drouot big prices paid that were lamentably behind, and in one case a valuable pair of stamps only realized as many shillings as they had cost pounds!

The two finest stamps—and in such condition—the rarest in the sale, I considered to be the 3 lire, Tuscany, and the 6d., orange, Victoria, beaded oval, both mint and faultless—nor were they given away!

In summing up these hasty impressions I may say that I consider the Paris auction a great success and a distinct help to French Philately. I believe they have come to stay, and that there are a great many collectors of ample means in France fully capable of absorbing all the stamps of decent class that may be forthcoming at the auctions of the future.

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Committee Room, at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, June 3rd, at 6 p.m.

THE ALLEGED STAMP FORGERIES.

THE further hearing of this important case was continued on May 3rd, when John Stewart Lowden (29), of Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer (39), of Preston Road, Southend, both described as stamp dealers, were again charged, on remand, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, at Bow Street, with conspiring to defraud persons to whom they sold forged or imitated stamps of British North Borneo, under the representation that they were genuine. It was alleged that the prisoners had traded as the West End Stamp Company and Herbert Mack and Company. Mr. A. H. Bodkin (instructed by Mr. F. J. Williamson) represented the Public Prosecutor; Mr. H. H. Curtis Bennett and Mr. Eustace Fulton (instructed by Mr. S. Myers) appeared for Lowden; and Mr. Walter Frampton for Harmer. Mr. C. V. Young watched the case on behalf of the Stamp Trade Protection Association.

Mr. Bodkin said he proposed now to charge the accused with a conspiracy to contravene Section 65 of the Post Office Act, 1908, which made it an offence to be in possession, without lawful excuse, of fictitious stamps of Great Britain, or any foreign country. The Act came into force that day, but it was merely a re-enactment of the Post Office Protection Act, under which the offence was a misdemeanour to be dealt with summarily. The offence of forging stamps as an indictable offence in this country was only provided for by the Stamp Duties Management Act, 1890, and that Act only dealt with stamps of Great Britain. Therefore, while it was an offence to forge the stamps of a foreign country, it was one which could only be dealt with summarily under the first-mentioned Act.

Detective-Inspector Stockley was recalled, and stated that in a room fitted as an office at Harmer's house at Southend he found 22,400 North Borneo stamps of the 1886 issue, and a quantity of the current issue. There were also numbers of stamps of Honduras, South Africa, Costa Rica, the Philippine Islands, and Cuba. At Lowden's office witness took possession of 92,409 North Borneo stamps of various issues and denomination, and also some copies of *Mack's Stamp Review*, containing exposures and denunciations of forgeries of stamps. The books showed that between November, 1907, and May, 1908, £151 5s. 9d. was paid by the West End Stamp Company to a man named Careme, of Paris.

Detective Marcel Calcas, of the Paris Police, stated that on December 22nd he went to the premises of Careme in the Avenue d'Orleans, and found between 700,000 and 800,000 North Borneo stamps in the course of manufacture. He produced one of the lithographic stones which was being used, and also a portion of the perforating machine and the instrument used for producing cancellation marks. At the same time witness took possession of correspondence with Herbert Mack and Company, containing directions as to the way in which the stamps were to be engraved.

Prisoners were again remanded on the same bail as before.

At the adjourned hearing on the 10th May, Detective Stockley was recalled, and produced correspondence showing that both prisoners had drawn cheques in favour of M. Careme.

Mr. Thomas McDonald, the engraver of the plates from which the genuine North Borneo stamps of the issues in question were printed, gave evidence as to the stamps exhibited by the police being forgeries. In witness's opinion enlarged photographs of genuine stamps had been engraved by photo transfer, or by tracing on to a litho stone by means of a pantographic engraving machine, such as was largely used on the Continent. He thought that more than one engraver had been at work, the centre portion of the stamps having apparently been executed by a skilled man, whilst the corner pieces were irregular and twisted, suggesting that they had been entrusted to an assistant. There were differences in the colour of the ink, and the quality of the paper.

William Cormack, lithographic manager to Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, said many of the stamps in question were forgeries, but he was doubtful about others.

Henry William Tyler, also in the employ of Messrs. Blades, said the

paper used in the production of the forged stamps varied from that used by his firm.

The hearing was again adjourned.

PROPOSED STAMP EXHIBITION AT EARL'S COURT.

WE have pleasure at the request of the Hon. Sec., Mr. H. F. Johnson (44 Fleet Street), of giving publicity to the following announcement.

In conjunction with the forthcoming Golden West Exhibition of American Industries, to be held at Earl's Court during May to October, the Junior Philatelic Society have decided to give an exhibition of the stamps of the United States of America, including Postage, Departmentals, Fiscals, Locals, Confederate States, U.S. Colonies, Entires, Proofs, Essays, and anything of interest relating to the postal history of the country.

A large wing of the Ducal Hall has been placed at our disposal, and the Exhibition Authorities pledge themselves to protect exhibits in every way, both by insurance and special lighting arrangements.

The Society recognize the fact that such an exhibition during the summer months will no doubt give a great impetus to our hobby, as it will in a larger degree than hitherto reach a greater portion of the non-philatelic public than at any previous exhibition. The occasion is unquestionably unique, and it is the earnest hope that our venture will meet with the success that it deserves. To ensure this success, the hearty co-operation of collectors is highly necessary, and we therefore venture to ask you whether you will be prepared to assist us in our work by lending anything of interest in the nature specified above, and also by appealing on our behalf to others known to you who may also be able and willing to help in this manner.

It will be observed that the Exhibition will cover a period of five months, but my committee have made arrangements whereby the exhibits can be changed as often as desirable, and any collector not caring to exhibit for the whole period, should specify the length of time he would be willing to lend his collection. It is hoped, however, that all lending exhibits will endeavour to do so for the whole period if possible.

The time at our disposal to prepare the exhibits is necessarily limited, and I would ask you to favour me with a reply at your earliest convenience.

In conclusion, I have to assure you that every care will be taken with any stamps, documents, etc., entrusted to us, and will be returned by registered or insured post at any date specified by you.

THE AMSTERDAM PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

WE are informed by the Hon. Sec. of the Exhibition which opens on June 3rd, that a post office will be fixed in the Exhibition halls, where visitors to the Exhibition can buy stamps and forward their correspondence, which will receive a special postmark. A list of hotels recommended to visitors, wishing to attend this Philatelic show, is also forwarded and will be found below. As many visitors are expected, it is intimated that early application for rooms is desirable. We believe a good many Philatelists will

be attending from this country, and we are sure that they will have a pleasurable visit.

Amstel Hotel	First-class, near the Weesperport Station.
Hotel de l'Europe *Brack's Doelen Hotel* *Hotel des Pays-Bas*	Central.
Hotel Victoria	Opposite Central Station.
American Hotel	Near Exhibition.

THE PAUL COLLECTION.

THIS important collection, which we believe, as already intimated in this Journal, is bequeathed to the American nation, has been inspected by Mr. Percival Parrish, who gives an interesting account thereof in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for April 17th, portions of which we reproduce with acknowledgments. The collection is stated to catalogue to about £40,000, and is contained in forty volumes.

"The stamps of the United States are a magnificent lot. One of the finest things upon which our eyes feasted was the celebrated Annapolis envelope in used condition. The impression is dark blue on faded white paper. There is a fine unused Millbury, also a Brattleboro, and thirteen varieties of the scarce St. Louis stamps, including all the rare pelure papers.

"A complete set of Première Gravures, otherwise known as the issue of August, 1861. These stamps are all unused, and in absolutely faultless condition.

"Of semi-official we note: Baltimore Carriers, including some stamps plated and in unbroken sheets, the very rare 2 c. black Boston unused, the 3 c. rosy-buff New York, and some superb Philadelphia Despatch on entire covers.

"Of the U.S. Locals Mr. Paul had perhaps the finest collection in the world, and among others we note the very rare Cooks Despatch on green paper on the entire envelope in splendid condition. The writer remembers being shown the cover by Mr. Paul several years ago, when he remarked that he believed it to be the rarest local in existence, and at the same time, the only one known. We also note fine specimens on the cover of Bloods Phila. Despatch, 3 c. black, Boyce's City Express, 2 c. green, three varieties of the rare Briggs Despatch, the 1 c. rose Hills Post, Jones 2 c. pink, and many others.

"The collection of Confederate Postmasters Provisionals, many of them on original cover, is also superb, comprising many of the rarities, and including two copies of the 5 c. Athens and the 5 c. black Goliad. Knoxville envelopes on white and on orange, also an uncatalogued variety, 5 c. *green*, the 5 c. black Marion, Virginia, the rare 5 c. red Pittsylvania, the Ringgold, Salem, Spartansburg, and a superb pair of 5 c. and 10 c. Tellico Plains.

"Among the foreign stamps we are first impressed with the wonderful collection of Hawaiians, including *all* of the rare Missionaries. The 2 c., one of the greatest rarities of the world, is in excellent condition for a stamp of its frail composition. The 5 c. is a good one, as also the types of the 13 c.

"The early Ceylon are simply magnificent, many of them being unused with original gum.

"Another of the show countries is the specialized collection of Portuguese Indies, requiring an entire volume for mounting.

"In British Guiana a wonderful display of the first type, the 4 c. orange, the 4 c. lemon-yellow, the 8 c. green, and the 12 c. blue; there are two specimens of the black on magenta of February, 1856, also 4 c. black on blue, an extremely valuable piece. The issues from 1860 to date are practically complete.

"The four great varieties of Moldavia are all here—the 27 par. being a superb copy on original cover; the 108 par. is a nice one, while there is a fine specimen of the rare 81 par. blue.

"The rare Connell of New Brunswick, also the 12d. Canada, both in unused and used condition.

"In Victoria we find a superb lot.

"The stamps of early Spain are about complete, including many of the rarities. Thus we could continue finding much to enthuse over in practically every country of the world, but space forbids, and our powers fail at the unceasing array of philatelic treasures."

CANADIAN TERCENTENARY STAMPS.

WRITING from Ottawa on 22nd April, 1909, Mr. A. McKochnie (a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society) kindly sends us the following communication:—

"I enclose with this a copy of Canadian House of Commons Hansard March 31st, containing the official report of the quantities and value of the Tercentenary issue postage stamps (July 16th, 1908), which I think will interest the readers of the *London Philatelist.*

TERCENTENARY POSTAGE STAMPS.

Mr. Perley asked:

1. What was the total amount received by the Post Office Department from the sale of the special Tercentenary stamps?
2. What part of this sum would probably have been received as ordinary revenue if there had been no special issue of stamps?

Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux (Postmaster General): The following was the issue to postmasters of the Tercentenary postage stamps:—

Denominations.	Quantities.	Value.
½ cent	2,000,000	$ 10,000.00
1 „	22,530,000	225,300.00
2 „	35,100,000	702,000.00
5 „	1,200,000	60,000.00
7 „	700,000	49,000.00
10 „	500,000	50,000.00
15 „	300,000	45,000.00
20 „	304,200	60,840.00
Totals	62,634,200	$1,202,140.00

The department has no knowledge whether the stamps in question have all been sold, as during their issue the ordinary postage stamps were also on sale, both issues being in use as preferred by the public. The proceeds derived from the sale of stamps of the two issues were not kept separately, but treated as arising from a common source. It is, therefore, impossible to state to what extent the issue of the Tercentenary postage stamps may have affected the ordinary revenue. At the ordinary period fixed by the department for squaring these accounts, we may be able to give the approximate value."

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE MANCHESTER JUNIOR PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION, HELD FEBRUARY 18–20.

Income.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
To Donations . . .	107	8	4	By Printing and Stationery	103	4	8
„ Advertisements in Handbook:—				„ Stall Frames and Glass	48	0	11
Received 67 14 0				„ Postages . . .	26	15	3
Due . 8 15 0				„ Band	13	11	6
	76	9	0	„ Rent of Hall . .	7	16	0
„ Rent of dealers' stalls .	55	8	6	„ Police, Caretakers, Cleaners, etc . .	11	2	7
„ Sale of Handbooks and Sundry receipts: .				„ Competition Prizes .	4	4	0
Received 14 16 2				„ Carriage, Travelling Expenses, and Sundries.	29	15	5
Due . 3 0 0				„ Balance, being excess of income over expenditure, handed over to Treasurer of the Manchester Junior Philatelic Society:—			
	17	16	2	Cash . 14 2			
				Debts . 11 17 6			
					12	11	8
	£257	2	0		£257	2	0

I have examined the accounts and vouchers, and I certify that the balance, £12 11s. 8d., is the excess of income over expenditure as shown by books.

P. S. Barton, A.C.A.

May, 1909.

The Committee desire to thank all who so generously supported and helped them in their efforts to make the Exhibition a success.

J. J. Bernstein, *President.*

DEATH OF MR. C. S. CROFTON.

THE very sad and unexpected announcement of the death of Mr. C. S. Crofton will be received with deep regret alike in this country and in India.

The announcement in the *Daily Telegraph* of April 20th of his death from cholera, which took place at Ahmednagar, Deccan, India, was a most unlooked-for catastrophe, and it is inexpressibly sad to think of so bright a career being ruthlessly terminated at the age of thirty-six by this fell disease.

Mr. Crofton was the only son of the late Major Crofton, R.A., and was in the Indian Civil Service, and at the time of his death he was magistrate and collector of Ahmednagar.

Mr. Crofton had until quite recently—when Mr. Wetherell resumed the position on his return from this country—been the editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*. In that capacity he had evinced a philatelic ability and a literary talent which promised great things in the future. He possessed in an eminent degree the courage of his opinions, and even where they did not find favour their cleverness and trenchant methods of expression evinced the skill and education of a literary man.

Mr. Crofton's association with Messrs. Stewart-Wilson and Hausburg in the recent publication of the superb book on the stamps of India (the portion dealing with telegraph stamps being chiefly written by him) is well known. It is assured that Mr. Crofton would have occupied a high position as a Philatelist had he been spared, and his loss will be very keenly felt by all his fellow members of the Philatelic Society of India.

DINNER OF THE HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Herts Philatelic Society held its annual dinner on Tuesday, May 4th, at the Café Monico, and as usual a most delightful evening was passed. The menu was in that artistic form that we have grown to expect at these dinners, while the decorations included a replica of the famous *Dreadnought*, which was alluded to in Mr. Palliser's remarks. The attendance included many of the most noted Philatelists of the day and the following important guests:—The Chinese Minister and the First Secretary of the Chinese Legation, the Hon. W. Hall-Jones (High Commissioner for New Zealand), Mr. C. Wray Palliser (of the New Zealand Dominion Office, London), Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., and Mr. J. T. Grein. Mr. H. L. Hayman, Vice-President of the Herts Society, was in the chair.

We are indebted to the *Morning Post* for the following summary of the speeches of the distinguished guests:—"The Chinese Minister, in responding to the toast of The Guests, said the philatelist was no mere stamp collector in the common sense of the word; he was a student of a great science, at the foundation of which was the history of the society of the world. There were records that postage existed in China a century before the Christian era, but its conduct was not by way of stamps. The receiver and not the sender paid. Stamps were not introduced into China until 1878, but there was now

a rich variety of symbols of the old Empire. The postal system quickly attained great popularity in China.

"The High Commissioner for New Zealand spoke of Philately as emblematic of the strength of the British Empire. They had seen that evening a miniature of the *Dreadnought* which New Zealand had determined to give to the Mother Country. He took that opportunity of denying that this gift was in any sense a political gift. (Cheers.) New Zealand realized at once that when a question of the maintenance of British naval supremacy arose it was time for the children of England to step forward and lend the Mother Country a hand. (Cheers.) As the younger nations in the Empire grew in strength there must not be a possibility of the recurrence of that mistake, which led to the separation of the American States. (Hear, hear.)

"Mr. Henniker Heaton felt that in his mission for universal penny postage and universal penny telegrams he was doing philatelic societies a great turn. When his mission was accomplished the collections of stamps would become inestimable in value."

Reviews.

STANLEY GIBBONS CATALOGUE.*



HE Foreign Countries, Part II, of this universally known Catalogue was, as stated by the publishers, owing to exhaustion of stock, issued before Part I. It will be seen from the announcement following, which we have received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, that the innovation and improvement in Part II are of considerable importance. The great demand for European stamps and the continued increase in the demand for the older South America issues have necessitated many changes in this part of the Catalogue, which can, as heretofore, be cordially recommended to every student of the stamps of Foreign Countries :—

"The new Part II contains 668 pages, being twenty-eight more than in the previous edition.

"A point to which we have given much attention in this volume is that, wherever possible, we have inserted over each issue the method and place of printing the stamps, and very often also the names of the designers and of the printers. We wish to draw special attention to the repricing of Ecuador, Nicaragua, and Salvador. For nearly two years we have been making a careful study of these countries, with a view to eliminating the *reprints* of what are termed the 'Seebeck' sets. We are now able to announce that we have cleared out every reprint or doubtful stamp from our stock, and having very carefully examined many stocks both in Europe and America, we have been able to form a fairly correct estimate as to the relative rarity of original 'Seebecks.' The following countries have been wholly or

* *Priced Catalogue, Part I, Stamps of the British Empire ; Part II, Foreign Countries.* Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

partly rewritten: Nicaragua, Persia, and Turkey, whilst the lists of Panama, Paraguay, and Siam have been carefully revised.

"Our attention has been called to many inconsistencies in colour names throughout the Catalogue, which have arisen largely from the fact that from time to time the lists have been rewritten or revised by different authorities. To compare each stamp of one colour with every other would be a laborious task, but we intend in the near future to deal with this question, and to set up a standard of the principal colours which can be used for purposes of comparison. In this edition we have in a great measure—but by no means completely—dealt with the most confused group, viz. that including violet, mauve, purple, lilac, etc., working largely upon the lines suggested by Mr. B. W. Warhurst, the compiler of our *Colour Dictionary*. Some countries have not been revised, but on the whole we think a greater degree of consistency has now been attained throughout the Catalogue."

Part I will also be found to embrace some noteworthy alterations, the most important of which will be found to be as follows:—

British New Guinea.—This is placed under Papua, and the list has been rewritten, and now includes the different papers and watermarks.

Cape of Good Hope.—Some of the early issues have been slightly rearranged and the colours placed in the order in which they were issued.

Fiji Islands.—This has been entirely rearranged to accord with the Fiji Handbook.

Morocco Agencies.—The list has been extended to include varieties that are generally taken by collectors.

Trinidad. This list has been carefully revised, and special attention has been paid to the colours of the earlier stamps.

As regards the prices, those of New Zealand have been somewhat increased, but the increases are, in our opinion, not equitably distributed. In the case of Mauritius there is a substantial raising of the figures as regards the early issues, and the publishers state that "in regard to more modern stamps, they 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 they have had to pay higher for many of these stamps, the selling prices are also raised."

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons sound a well-justified note of warning in the paragraph following, as we are confident that numerous collectors are misled by the specious statements made by some of the dealers in new issues.

"We think it right, however, to publish a note of warning to collectors, in regard to over-speculation in modern issues of British Colonials. These stamps are now imported in enormous quantities, and hundreds, and probably thousands, of important collections of these stamps have been made and are already beginning to come on the market at cheap prices. In addition to this there are large lots of many stamps of this nature in the hands of speculators not only in this country, but even more largely in the countries of origin. For these reasons we think it advisable to warn collectors against too great an investment in such stamps."

As to the general scope of the Catalogue, we can but once again repeat our high appreciation of the philatelic ability, perspicuity, and lucid arrange-

ment of Messrs. Gibbons' Catalogues, which have thus rendered them indispensable to collectors all over the world. There are improvements which could be made and to which we have more than once called attention, and we yet hope that the publishers will realize the great importance of their position and make their catalogue of the British Empire Stamps the real Standard Guide as to the philatelic claim and financial position of our colonial issues.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.*

This is another of Mr. Poole's now well-known little handbooks by which he doubtless succeeds in awakening and maintaining the interest in the stamps of special colonies. The Falkland Island issues do not present any great philatelic problems, but they are an attractive series and Mr. Poole has lucidly explained the several points of interest. The author devotes considerable space to the question of the "secret marks," on which, however, there may be divergent opinions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WORKS ON THE STAMPS OF SINGLE COUNTRIES: BY R. KRASEMAN.†

This is another and always welcome step towards the placing on record the various special works on the stamps of particular countries. To the student such books of reference are simply invaluable, and we gladly bear testimony to the excellent way in which Mr. Kraseman has carried out his task. Although the work is published in German, no difficulty will be found in tracing out the names and publishers of all the books quoted, and we can cordially recommend it to all philatelic students.

We should add that this is a second edition with important additions of the articles which appeared in *Der Deutsche Philatelist* for 1908, that it is limited to one hundred copies which were reproduced for the authors and are not for sale, and that we are indebted to Mr. Hilmer Djurling of the Swedish Philatelic Society for our copy of the volume.

MR. MELVILLE'S HANDBOOKS.‡

These little books successfully maintain the high level of attractiveness that we recorded in our Review of the first volume—that of the line-engraved stamps of Great Britain. They are, in fact, a happy continuation of twentieth-century journalism, artistic illustrations and philatelic utility, that cannot fail to make them widely and favourably welcome. They certainly present philatelic specialism in a most alluring form, and we gladly acknowledge that they will doubtless attract many an outsider to the philatelic fold. The illustrations of the various types and the *première gravures* of the United States are delightful and, indeed, throughout all these little volumes there is

* *Falkland Islands*, by Bertram W. H. Poole. D. Field, 4 and 5 Royal Arcade, Old Bond Street, London, W.

† *Bibliography of the Most Important Special Works on the Stamps of Single Countries*, by R. Kraseman. *Der Deutsche Philatelist*, Hanover, 1908.

‡ *British Central Africa and Nyassa Protectorate*, No. 2; *United States*, 1847–1869, No. 3; *Gambia*, No. 4. Melville Stamp Books. W. H. Peckitt, 47 Strand, London, W.C.

abundant evidence of good taste and a very skilful marshalling of the facts, philatelic and general, that would specially interest the actual or contemplating collector. In Gambia, the plates, showing the work of the differing perforating machines, is excellent; and in British Central Africa will be found most interesting information as to that somewhat unknown region. We think, however, that in such eminently practical books some hint should be conveyed to the collectors—as to the advisability of rejecting the very high values—e.g. the stamps of B.C.A. are listed up to the £25, but it is obvious that over £1 face value, there can be but a limited portion that really deserve the name of full-fledged postals!

THE CANTONAL STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND.*

The stamps of Switzerland cannot complain of lack of attention by philatelic writers, and Mr. Mendel has reissued, in book-form, some of the articles of that well-known authority on the Cantonal Stamps—Baron A. de Reuterskiöld. The word after (d'après) is somewhat vague and does not specify when and where M. de Reuterskiöld's work was originally published—and we note that no mention is made of the retouches of the 6 Rappen, Zurich. The work is well illustrated, and necessarily embraces useful information on these stamps.

* *The Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland*, after A. de Reuterskiöld. Ch. Mendel, 118bis Rue d'Assas, Paris.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Antigua.—The ½d., Arms type, all green, on multiple, chalky paper is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

½d., green, Arms type, multiple, chalky.

Gold Coast. — Two new stamps are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

2d., grey, multiple, —— paper ?
3d., purple on yellow ,, ,,

India. — *Bhopal.* — Some new Official stamps are reported in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Officials.

New design, inscribed "H.H. Begum's Service—Bhopal State." Overprinted "SERVICE."

½ a., yellow-green.
1 a., carmine.
2 a., blue.

Jhind.—The current 2½ annas stamp of India, overprinted for use in this State, is chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

2½ annas, ultramarine, black overprint.

Mauritius.—*Smith's Monthly Circular* makes the following additions to the set with altered Arms design.

Adhesives.

2 c., brown.
4 c., olive and carmine.
25 c., green and carmine on green.

NATAL.—The following new stamps have been received by the *Colonial Stamp Market.*

Adhesives.

Wmk. Crown CA multiple, ordinary paper. Inscribed "Postage—Postage."

6d., dull and bright purple.
1s., black and green.
2s. 6d., carmine and black on blue.
10s., carmine and green on green.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The following information is taken from the *Australian Philatelist*:—

"Our attention has been drawn to the spacing of the 3d. 'O.S.' in red. The genuine red 'O.S.' is wider than the black 'O.S.', which was issued subsequently; consequently any 'O.S.' in red the same width as the 'O.S.' in black must be classed as reprints. The latter were, we believe, issued with presentation sets prepared after the Officials became obsolete, and the 3d. reprint red 'O.S.' is frequently confounded with the genuine article. The original 3d. 'O.S.' in red is only to be found in the first type of watermark, Crown and N.S.W."

NEW ZEALAND. — According to the *Philatelic Adviser* the current 4d. and 5d. stamps have appeared with the 14 × 15 perforation.

Adhesives.

4d., brown and blue, perf. 14 × 15.
5d., red-brown ,, ,,

NORTHERN NIGERIA.—The 2½d. value in Postal Union colour is chronicled in *Smith's Monthly Circular.*

Adhesive.

2½d, ultramarine.

QUEENSLAND.—Mr. M. Giwelb has sent us an unused strip of 3 of the 1d. vermilion of 1897–1907, perf. 12½–13 horizontally and 9½ vertically.

Adhesive.

1d., vermilion, 1897–1907, perf. 12½–13 × 9½.

RHODESIA.—As the perforations of the set overprinted "RHODESIA" vary considerably, the following revised list is taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, Nos. 500 and 501.

Adhesives.

Overprinted approximately "RHODESIA."

Perf. 14.	½d., green.
,,	1d., rose-red.
Perf. 15.	2d., brown.
Perf. 14.	2½d., blue.
Perf. 15.	3d., lilac.
,,	4d., green.
Perf. 14½.	5d. on 6d., red-violet.
,,	6d., red-violet.
Perf. 14½.	7½d. on 2s. 6d., grey.
,,	10d. on 3s., violet.
Perf. 14.	1s., ochre.
Perf. 14½.	2s. on 5s., orange.
Perf. 14.	2s. 6d., grey.
,,	3s., violet.
,,	5s., orange.
,,	7s. 6d., black.
,,	10s., blue-green.
Perf. 15.	£1, violet. Large design.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS.—The 2d. value, printed on multiple, chalky paper, is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

2d., brown and lilac, multiple, chalky.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—The 5 cents in a new colour, orange, is listed in *Smith's Monthly Circular.*

Adhesive.

5 c., orange, multiple, ordinary.

VICTORIA.—The current 2½d. stamp on Crown and double-lined A watermarked paper, perf. 11, is reported in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

2½d., deep blue, Crown over A, perf. 11.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. — The following new shade appeared late in 1908.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

4d., yellow-brown, Crown and A, perf. 12.

EUROPE.

AUSTRIA.—In our issue of January 9 we referred to the appearance of the Newspaper stamps, Type 48, on a thin unsurfaced paper, and it now seems that the Postage Due stamps, Type 63, are following their example. This change is, perhaps, due to the fact that the cost of thick surfaced paper has been found to be too great. Up to the present we believe that the following values have actually been issued on the thin unsurfaced paper.—*Gibbons Weekly.*

Newspaper Stamps.

2, 10, and 20 heller.

Postage Due Stamps.

4, 6, 10, 20, and 100 heller.

CRETE.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. and Mr. W. T. Wilson send us three stamps with the overprint "ELLAS" in the latest fancy type in black.

Adhesives.

10 lepta, dull carmine, Hermes.
20 ,, blue-green, Jupiter.
1 dr., green and black, type of 1907.

Austrian Post Offices. — We read in *Gibbons Weekly* that the current 25 centimes

stamp is now appearing on *white* instead of on *blue toned* paper.

Adhesive.

25 c., deep blue on *white* paper.

Italian Post Offices.—From the same source we gather that the latest type of the Italian 25 c. stamp has been overprinted for use in Crete.

Adhesive.

25 c., blue, overprinted "LA CANEA."

LEVANT (*Austrian Post Offices*).—It is reported in *Gibbons Weekly* that the 1 piastre stamp has been issued on *white* paper.

Adhesive.

1 piastre, dark blue on *white* paper.

NORWAY.—The 2 kronor is reported in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* on continental authority as having been re-engraved.

Adhesive.

2 kr., dull rose, re-engraved; portrait of the King with brow shaded in points; background darker at left; the engine-turned frame filled with lines instead of dots. The paper is not thinner but more transparent. Issued 1.4.09

ROUMANIA. — The 1 ban, *large* head design, chronicled on page 49 is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and we find the colour to be black.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News informs us that the 5 bani, which has hitherto been in the *small* head design, has now been changed to that of the 1 and 3 bani.

Adhesive.

5 bani, green, large head design.

AMERICA.

COSTA RICA.—*Gibbons Weekly* informs us that the current 5 c. stamp may be found, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ instead of $13\frac{1}{2} \times 15$.

Adhesive.

5 c., indigo and orange-buff, perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—To the set of Postage Dues of 1901, *Mekeel's Weekly* adds the 6 c. lately issued.

Postage Dues.

6 c., sepia.

GUATEMALA.—Two new provisional stamps are chronicled in *Mekeel's Weekly*.

Provisionals.

2 c. on 75 c., grey-lilac and black, red surcharge.
6 c. on 50 c., red-brown and blue, black ,,

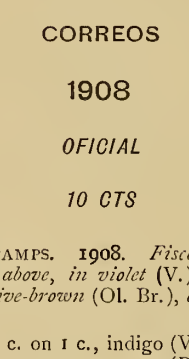
Both bear the date "1909" in the surcharge.

MEXICO.—To the set of Postage Dues chronicled on page 101, Vol. XVII, *Mekeel's Weekly* adds the 1 cent value.

Postage Dues.

1 c., blue.

NICARAGUA.—Five new official stamps, formed by surcharging a long fiscal stamp, are chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly*.



OFFICIAL STAMPS. 1908. *Fiscal stamps, surcharged as above, in violet* (V.), *brown* (Br.), *red* (R.), *olive-brown* (Ol. Br.), *and green* (G.). *Perf.* 14.

10 c. on 1 c., indigo (V.).
35 c. on 1 c. ,, (Br.).
50 c. on 1 c. ,, (R.).
1 p. on 1 c. ,, (Ol. Br.).
2 p. on 1 c. ,, (G.).

PARAGUAY.—We have received the 1 peso blue, overprinted "1908" in black, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

1 peso, blue, overprinted "1908" in black.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CONGO STATE.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that some Postage Dues have been made by overprinting the ordinary stamp



in blue.

Postage Dues.

5 c., black and green.
10 c. ,, carmine.
15 c. ,, ochre.

DUTCH INDIES.—Another new value is reported by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on continental authority.

Adhesive.

4 c., dark ultramarine.

The following Postage Due stamps are also reported by our contemporary.

Postage Due Adhesives. With "CENT."

5 cent, rose and black.
40 ,, ,,
50 ,, ,,
75 ,, ,,

ERITREA.—*Smith's Monthly Circular* reports the current 10 c. Italian stamp with the usual overprint in black.

Adhesive.

10 centesimi, rose.

LIBERIAN STAMPS.—A new issue of the 10 lower values, 1 to 75 cents, of Liberian Postage Stamps has just been made, and Mr. H. L. Hayman has very kindly sent us specimens with the following particulars. Strikingly original as was the last issue in 1906, this issue, which may be called the "landscape series," certainly surpasses it. All the stamps have been designed, engraved, and printed from steel plates by that well-known firm of stamp engravers, Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co., Ltd.

The 1 cent gives a view in a coffee plantation in Liberia, with hills in the distance, the frame being simple arabesque in style with numerals in the upper corners, and a few coffee beans at each side.

The 2 cents, with a small portrait of President Barclay, from a very life-like photograph by Messrs. Fradelle and Young, has rather a more ornate style of frame, with numeral in left-hand bottom corner.

The 5 cents is perhaps one of the most remarkable "seascape" stamps ever seen. The Liberian gunboat *Lark* is seen lying with steam up ready to protect the shores of the Republic, the effect of the Postal Union blue sea and sky being very pretty. A rope frame with the usual knots, with numerals in lifebuoys in the bottom corners, completes a very unique stamp.

The 10 cents is triangular in form, with allegorical figure representing Commerce, with anchor, etc.

The 15 cents show a native woman making cotton thread, sitting under the branches of a huge tree, with her bowl of carded cotton, holding the spool high in her left hand, she twists it rapidly and the thread is drawn off by the right. Numerals are in both bottom corners, and palms overshadow the vignette in a graceful manner.

The 20 cents is one of the "plant series," showing the Malagueta pepper plant, a native of Liberia, with its leaves and flowers. The frame, with numerals in left bottom corner, is a suggestion of Borassus palm leaves, blending very prettily with the pepper plant.

The 25 cents gives the idea of a calendar or show-card, but instead of the almanac, a pretty native view of palms, and hills in the background, is shown.

In the 30 cents, one colour stamp, we have a larger and a very striking portrait of the President. Such an effect as is shown in this stamp is only possible in plate work; surface printed stamps can never show the like.

The 50 cents stamp has been pronounced the most beautiful of the series. The four natives in their "dug-out" canoe, three rowing, one steering, on the broad river, with the jungle foliage in the background, show a typical native scene. The frame with the "travellers' tree," a wonderful kind of palm tree of the country, on either side, gives an appropriate surrounding.

The 75 cents is, we suppose, one of the most singular and extraordinary and at the same time appropriate stamps ever designed. The last of the series of views is, most suitably, an album of views! No similar stamp has to our knowledge ever been printed. It shows the book as accurately as circumstances will allow, and on the cover is a label with a pretty view of a native village. The illusion is complete and we can only commend the designers of this elegantly devised novelty for their ingenuity.

We think all philatelists will congratulate Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. upon their latest production, and express the hope that they may have the opportunity of exercising their talent upon some of the other issues of the world, where artistic merit is conspicuous by its non-existence.

The "On Service" stamps are printed from the same plates, but in different shades and colours from the ordinary stamps, the letters "O.S." being in writing style as before, the position in the stamp being varied according to the design.

All stamps are perforated 14, by the comb machine, with the exception of the 10 cents stamp, which is rouletted.

Adhesives.

1 c., yellow-green, centre black.
2 c., carmine ,, ,,
5 c., ultramarine ,, ,,
10 c., purple ,, ,,
15 c., indigo-blue ,, ,,
20 c., dull rose ,, green.
25 c., brown ,, black.
30 c., all brown.
50 c., dark green and centre black.
75 c , lake and centre black.

Officials.

1 c., emerald, centre black, "O.S." in red.
2 c., deep rose ,, brown ,, blue.
5 c., blue ,, black ,, black.
10 c., black ,, ultramarine ,, red.
15 c., lake ,, black ,, blue.
20 c., bistre ,, green ,, black.
25 c., blue ,, green ,, ,,
30 c., blue, "O.S." in red.
50 c., deep brown, centre green ,, black.
75 c., violet, centre black ,, red.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1908-9.

President—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. McNaughtan.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon. T. Wickham Jones.
C. N. Biggs. T. Maycock.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. Hall. F. Reichenheim.
L. L. R. Hausburg. R. B. Yardley.

The twelfth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, April 1st, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, M. P. Castle, R. Mabson, R. B. Yardley, Thos. W. Hall, B. Pinner, R. M. R. Milne, Baron A. de Worms, W. Schwabacher, A. Chilver, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, D. C. Gray, J. C. Sidebotham, A. J. Warren, C. Neville Biggs, C. McNaughtan, E. D. Bacon, L. E. Hall, (associate), and one visitor.

The Vice-President having taken the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed

A letter from Lieut. Stewart was read sending for the inspection of the members a newly issued Afghanistan stamp of the value of 1 abasi in a new colour and perforation.

The Hon. Secretary showed a fine unused block of ten ½ gr. (black on green) Brunswick stamps "percé en arc," kindly sent by Mr. M. Giwelb for inspection by the members.

Lieut.-Col. Melvill, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, and seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary, was, after ballot, duly elected a member and fellow of the Society.

The principal business of the evening consisted of a display of the stamps of the United States of America from the collection of Mr. H. J. Duveen.

In the absence of the owner of the stamps the display was kindly undertaken by Mr. E. D. Bacon, who explained that Mr. Duveen, to his very great regret, had been unavoidably prevented from carrying out his intention of attending the meeting in person.

The collection is composed entirely of unused stamps, except in the case of a few rarities, of which used specimens are shown. Besides the General and Departmental issues it comprises the Postmasters and Carriers stamps. The former includes those of Baltimore (both values), Brattleboro (used on envelope) Millbury, New York, Providence (entire sheet), and in St. Louis two made up sheets, first of the plate as originally engraved and then with the alteration of two of the 5 cent values to 20 cents.

Among the Carrier stamps are specimens of Boston 2 c., black, 1849, New York 2 c., brown-red of 1846, Philadelphia 1 c., black on yellow glazed paper of 1849, and 1 c. black on white paper of 1850–2, and there is in addition a fine used copy of the government (blue on pink) stamp of 1851.

The collection of the general issues is particularly rich in unused blocks and strips, there being a block of four at least of nearly every stamp issued from 1847–94. There are imperforate specimens of the 24 c., 30 c., and 90 c., of 1857–60, a full set of the "Premières Gravures" of August, 1861, the 3 c., scarlet, of 1862–6, fine used copies of the 15 c., 24 c., and 30 c., of 1869, with inverted centres, and a specimen of nearly every one of the stamps belonging to the "special printings" of 1875 and 1880.

The Newspaper and Departmental Stamps are likewise very complete.

The examination of the magnificent collection afforded the greatest pleasure to those present, and a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by the Vice-President, and seconded by the Hon. Vice-President, was unanimously passed to Mr. Duveen for his kindness in sending the stamps to the meeting, and also to Mr. Bacon for undertaking the display, and for his valuable and interesting explanations as to the various issues of the stamps shown.

The thirteenth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, 22nd April, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, H. R. Oldfield, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, R. B. Yardley, T. W. Hall, A. D. Ferguson, Baron A. de Worms, Baron P. de Worms, A. W. Chambers, C. McNaughtan, E. D. Bacon, L. L. R. Hausburg, A. Chilver, J. A. Tilleard, L. E. Hall (associate).

The chair was taken by the Hon. Vice-President, and the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st of April, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

A letter was read from Capt. Wagner of Wiesbaden congratulating the Society upon the Philatelic Congress that had recently been held in Manchester, and expressing the hope that this was merely the forerunner of future congresses to be held in this country.

The Hon. Secretary reported the recent death of Mr. Moser, and it was unanimously resolved that the following vote of condolence to Mrs. Moser should be passed and conveyed to her by the Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The resolution passed was in the following terms:

"The members present at this meeting having heard with very deep regret of the death of Mr. William Moser, a Fellow and Member of the Society, who has for many years been associated with the work of the Society, and whose Exhibit of Japanese Stamps was one of the features of the Philatelic Exhibition held in 1906, it is hereby unanimously resolved that the expression of their regret, and of the sympathy of the members with Mrs. Moser in the serious loss she has sustained, shall be recorded in the minutes of the Society, and the purport thereof communicated to Mrs. Moser."

The members then proceeded to ballot for the election of the following candidates, who were subsequently declared duly elected Members and Fellows of the Society.

Mr. Chas. E. Severn, proposed by Mr. C. A. Howes, seconded by Mr. M. H. Lombard.

Mr. O. K. Trechmann, proposed by Mr. M. H. Horsley, seconded by the Hon. Secretary.

Mr. Frank Knuckey, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The Chairman called attention to the fact that the Hon. Secretary of the British Guiana Society, Mr. Ferguson, was present at the meeting and expressed the pleasure of the members in seeing at the meeting a fellow-member from so distant a country.

Mr. Fulcher then read a paper upon the plating of the first two issues of the stamps of Japan which had been prepared by himself and Mr. F. J. Peplow. The paper was illustrated by numerous photographs and original stamps from the collections of Messrs. Fulcher and Peplow.

Mr. Fulcher pointed out that as the stamps of the two issues only differ by reason of the central black inscription which was printed separately from the general design, it was more conducive to clearness to number the plates without regard to inscription.

Proceeding on this basis, it appears that:

Plates I, II, & III were used for the brown stamp.
Plates I, II, & III for the blue stamp.
Plates I & II for the vermilion stamp, and
Plates I & II for the green stamp.

Of these,

Plates I & II were employed for the 48 mons.
Plates II & III were employed for the ½ sen.
Plates I & II were employed for the 100 mons.
Plates I, II, & III were employed for the 1 sen.
Plates I & II for the 200 mons, Plate II only for the 2 sen.
Plates I & II for the 500 mons, Plate II only for the 5 sen.

The chief features of the different plates were passed in review, and it was shown how they might be distinguished from each other.

Attention was called to the "secret marks" in the brown, blue, and green stamps. None has yet been found on the vermilion stamps.

Among the interesting stamps mentioned, attention may be called to the following:

100 mons. Plate II, No. 26. This stamp suffered considerably from wear and was retouched. It has been discovered from a complete sheet in the Mirabaud collection that the retouch was made while the plate was still in use for the 100 mons stamp. Consequently as a 1 sen stamp it always shows the retouching. Stamp No. 18 on this plate has no foot on the second leg of the right Dragon.

200 mons. Plate I, No. 31. In early impressions the left Dragon has no top leg.

This error was noticed and corrected. There is another small error on the same stamp, viz. that the last "triangle" on the left hand inner framework has no circle at its apex.

This small error was not corrected when the leg was put in, and consequently the stamp with the leg may be recognised by this peculiarity.

A resolution, expressing the cordial thanks of the meeting to Messrs. Fulcher and Peplow for their valuable paper and display, was moved by Mr. R. B. Yardley, seconded by Mr. A. D. Ferguson.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

MARCH 18.—Sunday-label Stamps of Belgium. By Mr. F. E. Wilson.

Mr. J. J. L. Fernando was elected a member.

Mr. Wilson then gave a very exhaustive account of the Sunday-label Stamps of Belgium. It was a revelation to those present how much was to be learnt from a few issues of modern foreign stamps. Indeed, as presented to the meeting, the paper was far more interesting than the examination of many of the Colonial issues. Mr. Wilson showed all shades in blocks, mostly with dated marginal imprints, thus proving the order of issue.

APRIL 1.—Silk Thread Issues of Switzerland. By Mr. A. J. Sefi.

Mr. F. Dolling was elected a member.

Mr. A. J. Sefi, owing to ill health, was unable to be present to read his paper. He, however, forwarded it, together with his collection, to the Hon. Secretary who read it to the meeting. It was extremely interesting, brought out a number of fresh points, and evoked a very good discussion afterwards. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Sefi for giving the Society an early opportunity of discussing the paper.

APRIL 29.—Annual Dinner at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, followed by an auction, at which some 100 lots were disposed of.

In spite of the finer weather having set in, the packets show no signs of falling off. Those for May are very fine indeed, and total £3176 11s. 10½d., including over £1000 from members abroad. The "B packet," Great Britain and Colonies only, contains a fine lot of Colonial collections in superb condition at very low rates, in addition to a fine lot of British, such as 10d. (1867), Plate 2, 1s., with circle round "K," and other rare and interesting varieties.

Will members be sure to give the Hon. Secretary good notice of their holidays in order that he may arrange packets accordingly?

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of March 30th and 31st, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Govt. Parcels 1s., 1902, block of four, mint	3	5	0
Ditto, W.O. Official, King, 10d.	2	10	0
Ditto, Admiralty, Type 2, 2½d., block of four, mint	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 3d., ditto, ditto	2	6	0
Servia, 1866, Vienna print, 10 p., orange, mint	2	0	0
China, 1897, $5 on 3 c., inverted surcharge, ditto	3	3	0
Labuan, 1880, 8 c. on 12 c., carmine	2	2	0
Negri Sembilan, 1899, "FOUR CENTS" on 8 c., lilac and blue, with surcharge in red and in green, mint	3	12	6
Cape of Good Hope, 1861, woodblock, 1d., blue, error, skilfully repaired at left side and extreme right corner	21	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., scarlet, small margins	2	0	0
Egypt, 2½ piastres, purple, *tête-bêche*, pair, mint	2	2	0
Lagos, 10s., single CA, mint	5	12	6
Seychelles, 1893, 15 c. on 16 c., brown and blue, plate 2, a strip of three, with inverted surcharge, mint	3	5	0
Sierra Leone, 1897, 2½d. on 1s., lilac, a strip of 3, Types a, b, and d	2	10	0
Southern Nigeria, 1902–4, £1, mint	2	6	0
U.S.A., Periodicals, 1875–85, $48*	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, $60*	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 1895, set, 1 c. to $100*	4	10	0
Grenada, 1883, (½d.) on half of 1d., orange, pair*	3	5	0
St. Vincent, 1866, 1d., rose, compound perfs., thinned	2	2	0
Trinidad, 1859, pin-perf., 6d., yellow-green, pair, mint	2	2	0
Virgin Islands, 1867–9, perf. 15, 6d., rose on white,* no gum	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., rose on toned,* with gum	2	12	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., scarlet	2	2	0
Ditto, 1882, 1 c., without "SPECIMEN," mint	2	5	0
Ditto, 1888–9, $1, green, on entire	2	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos, deep green	4	10	0
Cordoba, 1860, 10 c., black on laid, with stop,* no gum	2	8	0
Colombian Republic, 1861, 2½ c., black,* no gum	2	15	0
Fiji, Roman "V.R.," 2d., in black, on 6 c. on 3d., defective	3	10	0
New Zealand, 1856, blue paper, 1d., red. pair, on entire, close at right	4	10	0
Victoria, Too Late, 1855, 6d., rouletted at top and right	2	2	0
Collections: 3936, £24; and 449 in plain book	16	0	0

ALL UNUSED.

The fourth portion of the Reid Collection.

Sold by MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER, April 1st and 2nd, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Fiji Islands, 1871, Times Express, 6d., black on rose, part gum	3	3	0
Hawaii, Inter-island, 1863, 1 c., black, thin greyish paper	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., pale red, plate 1	15	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., lake on bluish paper, plate 2	22	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, plate 5, pearl in fan	28	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., green, cut close	4	10	0
Ditto, Laureated issue, 1851, 1d., orange-red, with gum	6	6	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, Laureated issue, 1851, 2d., grey-blue	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1853, stars in corners, 2d., blue	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another specimen with large margins all round, but creased	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1852, 6d., brown, fine background, tiny tear at side, and part of "E" of "WALES" scratched out	6	15	0
Ditto, 1854–6, imperf., 2d., blue, pair	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, wmk. double-lined figure 5	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., *pale brown*	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-green	3	17	6
Ditto, 1885–98, perf. 11½, 12, £1, violet and carmine	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, perf. 10, 10s., ditto bluish paper	8	10	0
New Zealand, 1856, thick hard paper, 6d., brown,	2	12	6
Ditto, 1864, "N. Z." wmk., 1s., green, perf., part gum	21	10	0
Ditto, 1871, no wmk., 1d., brown, ditto	3	17	6
Queensland, 1860, 6d., deep green, imperf.	4	15	0
Ditto, 1860–1, Large Star, clean-cut, 14 to 16, 1d., carmine-rose, thinned	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, Small Star, 6d., deep green, clean-cut perfs. 14, 16, marked on face	4	12	6
Ditto, 1862–7, thick paper, no wmk., 1d., Indian red	3	10	0
Ditto, 1881, litho, 2s. 6d., scarlet, pair	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 5s., yellow-ochre, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., brown	2	2	0
South Australia, 1856–9, Colonial print, 2d., pale red, imperf., pair	5	10	0
Ditto, 1860–7, rouletted, 6d., dull blue, strip of four	6	2	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10d., in blue, on 9d., yellow	2	10	0
Ditto, 1870–1, perf. 10, 3d., in carmine, on 4d., slate-blue, with gum	3	0	0
Ditto, perf. 11½ × 10, 1d., yellow-green, block of 40, probably unique, three or four slightly clipped at bottom edge	45	0	0
Ditto, ditto, a block of eight	10	0	0
Ditto, 1877, perf. 11½ × 12½, 2d., orange-red	2	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue, mark on face	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., orange	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, coarse lines, £3 5s. and	3	7	6
Ditto, 1870–1, single-lined numeral, 4d., blue	2	0	0
Ditto, 1892–9, £1, green and yellow	4	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Victoria, first issue, 1d., dull red, stamps 2 to 3 mm. apart	3	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., rose	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., dull blue, stamps close together, pair	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, perf. 12, 3d., blue	10	10	0
Ditto, 1852, Queen on throne, engraved, 2d., reddish-brown	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, lithographed, 2d., brown-lilac, pair	5	15	0
Ditto, 1852, 2d., red-lilac, part gum	17	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., mauve, pair, ditto	17	0	0
Ditto, 1858–61, 2s., green, imperf., mark on face	3	17	6
Ditto, 1857–63, Star, 1d., yellow-green, imperf., pair	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, wmk. Star, 4d., vermilion, imperf.	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 4d., rose, imperf.	2	7	6
Ditto, ditto, no watermark, 1d., blue-green, imperf., a horizontal pair, thinned at back but with practically full gum	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, single specimen, without gum	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., lilac, imperf., horizontal pair	7	5	0
Ditto, ditto, another pair, deeper shade to above	5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, single specimen	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., yellow-green, rouletted	20	0	0
Ditto, ditto, another specimen, but blind roulette two sides only	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., rose, rouletted	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., deep yellow-green, perf., torn into at side, full brown gum	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 1d., pale yellow-green, perf.	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., rose, perf., tear at left	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, vertically laid paper, 2d., brown-lilac, rouletted	6	5	0
Ditto, ditto, horizontally laid paper, 4d., rose, perf.	3	15	0
Ditto, 1860, laid paper, 3d., deep blue	2	5	0
Ditto, 1860–2, 3d., blue, pair	2	12	0
Ditto, 1863–4, 2d., lilac, double-lined figure 1, tiny ink mark	2	17	6
Ditto, 1864, wmk. "6", 2d., lilac	30	0	0
Ditto, 1867–72, 4d., rosine	4	5	0
Ditto, 1866–8, double-lined figure 1, 3d., grey-lilac	5	0	0
Ditto, 1868–81, 5s., blue on yellow	6	15	0
Ditto, 1873–6, V and Crown, 9d., brown-pink on rose, pair	5	5	0
Ditto, 1855, Too Late, thinned at back	5	0	0
Western Australia, 1854, 4d., slate-blue	2	14	0
Ditto, 1857, 2d., brown-black on red, tiny tear	5	7	6

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown-black on red, another with impression at back	4	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey-black, part gum, thinned at back	4	4	0
Ditto, 1860, 6d., sage-green	3	5	0
Ditto, 1861, 4d., vermilion	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., purple on blued	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., deep green	8	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of April 22nd and 23rd, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Moldavia, 1858, 27 paras, tiny defect	19	10	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf.	5	15	0
Ditto, 1862, no wmk., 6d., deep brown*	2	0	0
India, 1854, 4 as., pair showing blue dividing line	2	15	0
British C. Africa, 1895, £1, orange*	2	16	0
British E. Africa, 1891, ½ a., hand-stamped on 2 a., red	3	10	0
Cape Triangulars, 1853, 4d., blue on blue*	3	10	0
Ditto, 1855, 1s., yellow-green, pair	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., deep green, mint	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair, mint	4	15	0
Cape Woodblock, 1d., scarlet £2 6s. and	3	10	0
Ditto, 4d., pale blue	3	5	0
Ditto, 4d., blue	2	6	0
Ditto, 4d., deep blue	5	15	0
Cape Triangulars, 1s., emerald, mint £2 5s. and	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, pairs, mint, £5 5s. and	5	15	0
Gambia, 1869, no wmk., 6d., blue, pair*	2	10	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red on blue, worn plate	2	4	0
Zululand, Fiscal Postal, 5s., carmine and lilac, mint	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 9s., ditto, ditto	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, £5, carmine and green, mint	4	12	6
Bahamas, 1875, C C 14, 4d., rose, pair, mint	2	2	0
British Columbia, 1861, 2½d., brown-rose, imperf., ditto	5	5	0
Ditto, 1867, C C 14, 10 c., ditto	2	10	0
Nevis, 1883, 1s., lilac, on piece	2	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, creased*	4	10	0
St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d., green	2	2	0
Virgin Islands, 1s., double-lined frame*	2	8	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, 1d., lake on greyish, hill unshaded	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, on laid	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., deep blue, plate 2, pick and shovel omitted	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 2d, deep blue, plate 2, crevit omitted	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, plate 3, first retouch, double-lined bale	2	4	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., violet-blue, plate 3, first retouch	2	2	0

* Unused.

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales, Sydneys, 3d., green £2 6s. and	4	0	0
Ditto, 1851, laid paper, 1d., red, pair	2	17	6
Ditto, 1853, 2d., blue*	4	4	0
Ditto, 1852, fine background, 6d., thinned*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1854–5, 8d., yellow, imperf.	3	3	0
New Zealand, 1862, imperf., 2d., slate blue	2	10	0
Queensland, 1862–7, 1d., Indian red*	2	17	6
Tasmania, 1867, serrated perfs., 2d., green	2	2	0
Victoria, 1881, 2s., deep blue on green, mint	2	4	0

COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
6360 in Senf Album	55	0	0
226, Mexico mostly*	7	0	0
212, Peru ditto	10	10	0
125, Fiji*	7	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of March 27th, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Mauritius, 2 c. on 38 c. on 9d., inverted surcharge	2	15	0
Ditto, 1848, 1d., red, early state, repaired	1	15	0
Peru, Arequipa, provisional 25 c., red, pane of fifty, including four errors, mint	1	3	0

Sale of April 5th, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
British Bechuanaland, 1888, "Protectorate" only, 5s.	1	1	0
British Central Africa, 1898, 1d., red and blue*	2	2	0
Ceylon, clean-cut perf., 8d., brown	2	0	0
Gibraltar, January, 1886, 1s., yellow-brown	1	2	0
Great Britain, 1873–80, 2½d., lilac-rose "L.A F.L"	1	1	0
Ditto, Govt. Parcels, plate 14, 1s., brown, mint	1	0	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red, early, repaired	2	8	0
New South Wales, Sydney, laid paper, 1d., red	1	1	1
Trinidad, clean-cut 16, 6d., yellow-green, mint	1	10	0

Sale of April 14th, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, Govt. Parcels, plate 14, 1s., brown, mint	2	0	0
Perak, "P.G.S.," 10 c., slate, pair, mint	1	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 12 c., purple, ditto, ditto	1	15	0
Virgin Islands, ½d., yellow, on piece	1	0	0

Sale of April 17th, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Switzerland, Poste Locale, without frame, 2½ r.	2	0	0
Transvaal, 1877, red surcharge, 6d., blue*	3	12	6

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. JUNE, 1909. No. 210.

The Reid Collection.

THE dispersal of this collection, which was of such magnitude as to require five separate sales, was concluded at the end of April, and we have now received from Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper the complete priced catalogue of all five sales. Mr. Reid's collection is the largest and most important that has yet been submitted at the London auctions, and some food for reflection is afforded in the contemplation of the results achieved. The total amount realised was between five and six thousand pounds—a figure that will hardly repay the vendor for the sum he has spent on it. In the vendor's opinion also, the European and West Indian sections attained relatively low prices, as did, in our view, the British North American lots. On the other hand, Mr. Reid agrees with us that the Australians sold well. In all these cases something has to be said for "fashions" in stamps. The main European market is on the Continent, and just now Australians seem again to have come to the fore. British North American and West Indian stamps are of the first quality, but neither section has yet attained the stability that was so rudely shaken a few years since by the injudicious attitude of speculators and impulsive collectors.

It was unfortunate that in the Reid sale two of the most important stamps—the 8d. laureated New South Wales unused and the 2 reales blue (1851) of Spain—should have been condemned. Had the latter been genuine, the record price paid for any European stamp might have been passed. *En passant*, the highest price yet paid at auction is for the 2d. unused Post Office Mauritius, but we note that at the last Mirabaud sale over a thousand pounds was paid for the 2 c. Hawaii!

The main deduction to be arrived at by a study of this priced catalogue is that, at the present day, "condition" is held to be all-important, and that, whereas a stamp with defects may not attain a third of its catalogue value, a brilliant copy may fetch double its recorded value. Mr. Reid had under-

taken an enormous task, i.e. the collection, moderately specialized, of all the stamps of the world—*in unused condition only*. That he should have failed to get everything in fine condition must be obvious, and it may be (*noscitur a sociis*) that the good copies suffered from their juxtaposition with their inferior neighbours. There were naturally many fine stamps, but the all-round condition could not be held to be first class. Had it been so the total amount realised would probably have been doubled.

There are many who say with the vendor that "condition as wanted by the collector of to-day is extreme," but the fact remains that people will pay for what is fine whether in stamps or in any other form of collection. The palpable moral to us all is therefore—get the fine things as far as possible! The larger the sum of money expended upon a collection the greater is the necessity of securing practically perfect stamps, if the return of the capital invested is anticipated by the owner.

Report read at the Annual General Meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society, London,

FOR THE SEASON 1908–9.

By J. A. TILLEARD, Honorary Secretary.

BY a happy coincidence the holding of the Annual General Meeting of the Society in the present year synchronizes with the anniversary of the birthday of our President.

I am sure that under these circumstances I shall be expressing the feelings of all his fellow members in commencing my fifteenth Annual Report by offering to His Royal Highness with our respectful duty our very best wishes, in the good old English birthday greeting of "Many happy returns of the day."

The season of 1908–9, although somewhat uneventful, has been marked by quiet but useful work worthy of the traditions of the Society, and the progress made in all directions is satisfactory.

In the course of the year that has elapsed since my last report fifteen new members have been elected as Fellows, viz.:—

Lieut.-Col. P. J. Melvill, Major F. Young, Mrs. H. Jones, and Messrs. V. Miles, A. Laceby, J. A. Leon, O. K. Trechmann, G. Francis, A. S. Mackenzie-Low, F. Knuckey, F. A. Edwards, U. H. Alsop, C. E. Severn, W. A. Sisson, and H. Woodlands; and there has also been an addition of two associates, viz. Messrs. C. Reppien and G. E. V. Crutchley.

On the other hand, I have to report the resignation of five Fellows, viz. Lieut.-Col. W. C. Barratt, Major C. F. Harrison, and Messrs. W. L. Chew, M. Jonas, and B. W. Neave, and it is with very great regret that I have to record the death in the course of the year of three members so well known as Sir Wm. B. Avery, Bart., Mr. E. J. Nankivell, and Mr. W. Moser.

The Council have also had occasion to remove from the register the name

of one member, so that the total membership now stands as 271 Fellows and four associates, showing a net gain for the year of six Fellows and two associates.

The losses sustained by death, although happily few in number, have all occurred amongst members of some prominence in the Philatelic world who could ill be spared.

Sir Wm. Avery, whose death at the comparatively early age of fifty-four we all deplore, was known to most of us. He had been a member since 1891, and for many years he assisted in the Councils of the Society as a member of the Committee and Council, at whose meetings his sound business knowledge proved of great value. He was a keen and enthusiastic follower of Philately at the time when he was forming his valuable collections, which have been frequently exhibited and described. He always took the greatest interest in the Society and its work, and by his courteous and genial personality he endeared himself to those of his fellow members who were privileged to claim his friendship, and the Society is distinctly the poorer for his loss.

Mr. E. J. Nankivell, from the time of joining the Society in 1889, took an active part in its work, and was for some time a member of the Committee. He was the first to propose the establishment of a permanent home for the Society, and it was largely due to his suggestion that the Society embarked on the undertaking of the *London Philatelist*, the editing of which journal was in his hands for nearly a year during the absence of Mr. M. P. Castle from England. A journalist by profession, Mr. Nankivell was throughout his Philatelic career a voluminous contributor to Philatelic literature, having acted at various times as editor of the *Philatelic Record* and *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, and more recently of *The Postage Stamp*, while contributing regularly to other journals in India and America, and at the same time being responsible for the Philatelic pages of the *Connoisseur* and the boys' paper, *The Captain*. As a collector he will principally be remembered as one of the first specialists in "Transvaal" stamps, and from his earliest days he was a great advocate of the importance of condition in the forming of a stamp collection. A keen debater, and ever ready with propositions of reform in matters affecting the interests and work of the Society, his cheery disposition always introduced an element of brightness into the discussions in which he took part, and his death will long be regretted by his fellow members.

Mr. W. Moser, who joined the Society in February, 1902, resided principally abroad, and was consequently not so well known to his fellow members. To those who had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance he will be remembered for his amiability and charm of manner, and his work in connection with his collections of the stamps of Japan and some of the South American countries, as shown at our meetings and at exhibitions in this country, stamped him as an able and painstaking Philatelist whom we could ill afford to lose.

Sixteen ordinary meetings have been held during the season, and the following papers have been read, viz. by the Earl of Crawford (Vice-President), "Notes on the 10d. and 1s. Embossed Stamps of Great Britain," "Notes on an Essay of the 1d. Stamp (1839–40)," and "Notes on the Abnormal Plate-varieties of the Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain"; by Mr. M. P.

Castle (Honorary Vice-President), "The Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad," and "The Early Stamps of Mauritius"; by Mr. Wickham Jones, "Retouches of the Issues of Swiss Stamps (1882–1908)"; by Messrs. L. W. Fulcher and F. J. Peplow, "The Plating of the First Two Issues of Japan"; and by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, "The Plating of the First Type of the 6d. Value of Victoria."

The papers were in each case illustrated by a display of the stamps under review, and there have also been nine special displays of stamps unaccompanied by papers, but with verbal explanations and comments by those undertaking the display. These have consisted of "The Stamps of Grenada," by His Royal Highness the President; "South Australia," by Lord Crawford; "Fiji," a special collection formed by Mr. C. J. Phillips, and shown by Mr. E. D. Bacon; "Unused British and Colonial Stamps," by Mr. R. Reid; "The Earlier Embossed Stamps of Portugal (1853–70)," by Mr. R. B. Yardley; "Victoria," by Mr. H. Grey; "The Waterlow Series of New Zealand Stamps," by Mr. W. B. Edwards, on behalf of Mr. E. J. Nankivell; "A Portion of the Collection of the Society," by Mr. H. R. Oldfield; and Mr. Duveen's unused collection of the stamps of the "U.S.A.," shown by Mr. E. D. Bacon in Mr. Duveen's unavoidable absence.

In addition to the above, one meeting was devoted to a display of "Twelve Interesting Stamps," to which all members able to attend were invited to contribute, and in which the following eighteen members took part, viz.:—The President, the Vice-President, the Honorary Vice-President, and Messrs. Harvey Clarke, R. Reid, A. J. Warren, J. E. Joselin, J. R. Laing, C. E. McNaughtan, Colonel Bonhote, F. Ransom, R. B. Yardley, B. Pinner, T. G. Wayman, J. C. Sidebotham, F. Matthews, T. W. Hall, and L. W. Fulcher.

Most of the members showing stamps had prepared written descriptions of the points of interest to which attention was desired to be called.

The meeting proved a distinct success, and it is hoped that in the ensuing season the programme will provide for at least two meetings on similar lines. In my opinion they are likely to prove of the greatest value in enabling a larger number of members unable to contribute papers or to give general displays to participate personally in the work of the season to the great mutual advantage of all concerned.

In addition to the papers read at the meetings, contributions by members of the Society have been published in the *London Philatelist*, and in this connection I would refer to the interesting history of the stamps of British South Africa by Mr. Melland, a colonial member, that has supplied material for six of the monthly numbers of our journal published during the past season.

The attendance at the meetings has averaged twenty-one, a slight reduction on the average for the previous year. I do not consider that this is entirely satisfactory, and I cannot help feeling that we are entitled to expect a larger attendance, if only out of deference to those who take the trouble to prepare valuable papers and to give the magnificent displays to which we are treated. The encouragement of a larger audience to those who are good enough to assist at the meetings for the benefit of their fellow members would be

a stimulus to improve, if it is possible, upon the admirable work to which we are accustomed, and members generally, by more frequent attendance, would improve their knowledge of what is required for the carrying on of the business of the Society, and would no doubt find themselves more competent to assist in the work which, it must be admitted, falls somewhat heavily upon the few who at present can be relied upon to provide material for the meetings in each season.

At the end of the financial year of the Society Mr. C. N. Biggs, to the great regret of the Council, found it necessary, from considerations of health and other reasons, to relinquish the office of Treasurer of the Society, a position that he had occupied with conspicuous ability for twenty years. Throughout this long period our late Treasurer had been indefatigable in his endeavours to further the interests of the Society. He was most eminently suited for the post, and it is largely due to the conscientious and careful manner in which he safeguarded the financial interests of the Society, especially at times when the position was such as to give serious ground for anxiety, that the affairs of the Society are in their present satisfactory condition.

The arduous work of the Treasurer of such a Society as ours is for the most part unseen, and it redounds the more to his credit when it is carried out as satisfactorily as has been the case in the past by Mr. C. N. Biggs. I think that the greatest testimony to the courtesy and the tact and consideration with which he has performed his duties is the fact that, in the somewhat unpleasant task of collecting dues, Mr. Biggs has not only never made an enemy, but has always been esteemed as a friend by all the members with whom he has had to correspond. It will be generally agreed that the Society owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. Biggs for his long and valuable services.

On the retirement of Mr. Biggs, Mr. C. E. McNaughtan was elected to fill the vacancy, a choice that has been generally approved as securing a worthy successor to our late Treasurer.

The accounts to the 31st March last will presently be submitted for consideration, and I have reason to believe that, notwithstanding an increase in the general expenses of the Society, the financial position is shown to be satisfactory. The thanks of the members are due to Mr. A. W. Chambers and Mr. J. G. Langton, who have audited and reported on the accounts, for their services as Honorary Auditors in the past year.

The present is the last occasion on which the accounts will be made up to the end of March as heretofore. By virtue of the resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting held last month, and confirmed to-day, the accounts to be submitted at future Annual General Meetings will be made up to the 31st December preceding the meeting. The object of the change is that the accounts may better show the true position at the end of each financial year. Hitherto the credit balance shown has been to a certain extent misleading, as in it there is included a considerable sum representing subscriptions for the period ending on the 31st December following the date of the account, and one has been apt, perhaps, to forget that these subscriptions are required for the expenditure of the Society for a period of nine months from the date of the

accounts, and consequently to imagine from the large balance shown that the Society is in a more flourishing condition than is really the case. The change is a distinct improvement, if only for the reason that those responsible for the financial affairs of the Society will always be able to judge, without the necessity for elaborate calculations, whether there is justification for any special expenditure to which it is proposed to pledge the funds.

Mr. L. W. Fulcher, and Mr. F. J. Peplow who has been indefatigable in helping the Honorary Librarian, have both devoted a very large amount of time to the task of arranging the Library so as to render it available for the use of members. Although both busy men, they have even given up a considerable part of their leisure hours to the work. I am informed by the Honorary Librarian that the work of sorting and arranging the periodicals has been continued during the year, and that Mr. Peplow has finished those in the French language and also those in Italian and Spanish.

Two hundred and forty books have been bound, and now that these have been received, it is hoped that by October next the portion of the library dealing with all works in the English language, and the monographs and chief periodicals in all other languages, will be classified and arranged in their proper positions on the shelves. When this is done there will remain only the minor periodical literature in foreign languages to sort up and classify. I am sure that members will recognize and cordially appreciate the invaluable services rendered by Mr. Fulcher and Mr. Peplow in this important part of the Society's work.

The response to the appeal for contributions to the Society's collection of stamps has not in the past season been so large as was anticipated. I have reason to believe that many members are keeping back their gifts of duplicates for information as to what is required. It should, however, be remembered that at the commencement of the formation of a general collection almost everything is acceptable, and that a considerable period must elapse before any list of wants can be usefully prepared. I hope that in this connection the old adage "bis dat qui cito dat" will be borne in mind, and that in the coming season a larger number of members will send in contributions sufficient to keep the Honorary Assistant Secretary, who kindly acts as custodian of the stamps, fully occupied in the work of classification and arrangement of the collection, which ought to form a valuable and useful feature of the Society's possessions. It has been suggested that members might confer together with a view to giving what they can spare in particular countries or issues so as to avoid as far as possible the duplicating of gifts and so to aid in the work of sorting and classifying the stamps contributed, and many other ways will no doubt suggest themselves to members in which they can assist in the formation of the collection.

A considerable number of matters in connection with the work of the Society have occupied the attention of the Council, who have held ten meetings during the past season, at which a large majority of the members have always been present.

No notices of resignation of officers or members of the Council having been notified, and no nominations having been received, the present officers and Council will, if it meets with the approval of the meeting, remain in

office for the coming season, in accordance with the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Society.

Outside the immediate sphere of the Society many matters of general or special interest to philatelists have occurred during the past season, and a very brief notice of a few of these may not be considered inappropriate in my report of events of the year under review.

The introduction of Penny Postage between this country and the United States of America, referred to in my last report, was brought into effect in October last, and the agitation for the extension of the privilege to the postal arrangements with other countries continues. At the Annual Banquet of the British Chamber of Commerce, held quite recently in Paris, the postal reform question formed the principal subject of comment by the Solicitor-General, who, in responding for His Majesty's Ministers, called special attention to the absurdity of the 2½d. rate for the short distance between London and Paris as compared with the penny rate to America and our far-distant colonies and possessions. In this respect, as I observe that Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., the champion of postal reforms, who has been a regular attendant at the banquet in question in the past, has written to say that he will not accept future invitations to attend until the establishment of a penny postage rate between Great Britain and France, we may venture to hope that the time is not far distant before this much needed reform becomes an accomplished fact.

The increasing tendency towards the cheapening of postage generally will no doubt be reflected upon Philately in somewhat limiting the number of values comprised in the issues of the countries affected, the higher values being no longer required for postal purposes. We have seen this in our own country in the discontinuance since the commencement of the present reign of the £5 postage stamp, and in the United States of America it has been announced that the $2 and other higher denominations of stamps will cease to be employed in the new issues.

The absorption of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria will, it is to be presumed, result in the cesser of the issue of special stamps for these countries, and relegate them, from the philatelic point of view, to the position of the old Italian states and other countries no longer employing postage stamps of their own.

The result of the inquiry into the issue of the Cayman Islands "Provisionals" was no doubt a disappointment to those who deprecate the abuse of authority and the stamp-dealing proclivities which, even in some of our own possessions, appear to be considered compatible with the dignity of a government postal service. Although, however, the persons responsible for what is rightly considered a philatelic scandal were "whitewashed," it is, I believe, recognized by those in authority that such proceedings should be avoided, and there is likely to be in most of our colonies a more careful supervision of matters connected with the issue of provisional stamps in the future.

Good work has been done by the Provincial and other Philatelic Societies in the past year, and some of them have been specially active, particularly in the way of exhibitions.

The Manchester Junior Philatelic Society duly held the contemplated Exhibition referred to in my last Report, and it is satisfactory to record that it proved a success both philatelically and financially. An interesting feature of the arrangements for the Exhibition was the holding of a Philatelic Congress, and the promoters of the Exhibition are to be congratulated upon the fact of the first Congress of this nature to be held in this country being due to the enterprise of the youngest of all the Philatelic Societies in Great Britain. The Congress was largely attended by delegates from most of the English Societies, including Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. L. W. Fulcher, and Mr. Franz Reichenheim, the delegates appointed to represent the Royal Society. The most important question that was debated was that of the "Catalogue of the Future." The subject being one that has always proved of the greatest difficulty, it is no discredit to the Congress that no definite conclusion could be come to, and the public ventilation of the points to be considered in attempting to solve the problem will possibly pave the way for some reasonable solution in the near future of the difficulties—hitherto apparently insuperable—in attaining "the ideal." Although no decisions were come to on any matters of special importance, the utility and value of such meetings was fully demonstrated and appreciated, and it is anticipated that a beginning having been made means may be found for the holding of a similar Congress as an annual institution. At the invitation of the Herts Society, it was decided that the next Congress should be held in London in the coming year, arrangements for the meeting being left in the hands of that body.

Another successful Exhibition was that held at Newcastle-on-Tyne under the auspices of the North of England Society, while the Junior Philatelic Society have already had in London a novel and interesting Exhibition illustrating the art and process of paper-making, and have also organized an Exhibition of the stamps of the United States of America to be held at the Earl's Court Exhibition during the present summer.

Abroad, an important Philatelic Exhibition commences to-day at Amsterdam, and we offer our best wishes for its success to the philatelists in Holland by whom it is being promoted.

A noticeable feature of the past year is the increasing interest shown in the collection of philatelic literature. Some evidence of this is seen in the large number of occasions on which philatelic works are included in auction sales of stamps as compared with similar sales in previous years.

While on the subject of literature, I may be permitted to refer to the change in the proprietors and editor of *The Philatelic Record*, the oldest of existing journals devoted to our hobby. All of us will wish for our old friend, *The Record*, a new lease of life, and as great a success in the future as it has attained in the past, and the fact that the editorship is in the able hands of Mr. L. W. Fulcher should be sufficient to secure this result.

Amongst other works in the English language published in the past season, I would refer to the monograph on the stamps of Fiji by Mr. C. J. Phillips, who is to be congratulated on the production of a work of the highest philatelic attainment and interest. Attention may also be

called to the publication by the Philatelic Society of India of the admirable work on the stamps of "Afghanistan" by Sir David P. Masson, in collaboration with Mr. Gordon Jones, and also to the work by our fellow member, Mr. Henry J. Crocker, on "Hawaiian Numerals," both of which reflect the highest credit on the respective authors.

I gather from all accounts that Philately in the United States of America is in a very flourishing condition, and the announcement that the American Philatelic Society—the new name of the American Philatelic Association—is looking forward to a membership of over two thousand, is some evidence of the popularity of the pursuit amongst our American cousins.

The tale told by the auction sales continues to be one of the increasing importance attached to "condition," and the gradual absorption of fine copies of the older issues. It is only occasionally that really choice examples are brought under the hammer in the present day, and when very fine copies are offered the prices realized are often in excess of catalogue values.

Amongst other important public sales of the season may be mentioned the sale, in England, of the "Reid" collection of unused stamps, which occupied several days, and, in France, of the "Koch" and the "Mirabaud" collections, exclusive in the latter case of the "Mauritius," "Swiss," and a few other portions which were disposed of privately.

In concluding my report, I would refer to the proceedings pending in respect of alleged extensive dealings in forged stamps. As the matter is still *sub judice*, I refrain from comment on the merits of the case; but, whatever may be the result, the thanks of the philatelic community are due to the "Stamp Trade Protection Society" for their initiative in tracing the place of manufacture of fictitious stamps produced in large quantities in a foreign country.

June 3, 1909.

Abstract of Accounts of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March, 1909.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
To Cash Balance at Bank and on deposit 1st April, 1908 . .	296	9	7	By Rent, etc. . . .	84	13	3
„ Subscriptions . .	326	0	6	„ Office Expenses . .	82	10	0
„ Entrance Fees . .	15	15	0	„ Printing, Stationery, Postages, etc. . . .	53	10	7
„ Sale of Society's Works and Library Duplicates . . .	86	12	5	„ Subscription to *London Philatelist*. . .	70	0	0
„ Sundry Receipts . .	9	3	8	„ Library Expenses . .	73	13	4
				„ Sundry Payments . .	18	15	8
				„ Cash Balance at Bank and on deposit 31st March, 1909 . .	350	18	4
	£734	1	2		£734	1	2

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The London Stamp Auctions.

By M. P. CASTLE.



IN the course of some remarks upon the Mirabaud Sale in last month's issue, I drew a contrast, not altogether favourable to the London auction as regards their descriptions of the lots submitted. In making these reflections I, of course, intended my criticism to be a general one, and not as applying to any particular firm, and I therefore insert, with pleasure, the disclaimers received by me from Messrs. Puttick and Simpson and Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper. I cannot even in their case pretend that the descriptions are as remarkably faithful as has been the case with the recent Paris auctions, but I gladly concede that neither of these firms were in my mind's eye when I made the forementioned criticisms. Both Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, and Messrs. Puttick and Simpson are firms of old-established reputation, holding large and important sales, of which the philatelic portion forms only a small part, and their advent in the stamp sales has always been cordially welcome. There is no question as to their *bona fides*, and any client who may have considered himself misled by any description has always been able to return the lot. As pointed out by Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, in these days of "faking" and mending, it is often very difficult to detect repaired stamps, and I am confident that, wherever their catalogues fail to accurately represent the condition of the lot, it has arisen from some such cause or by an oversight on the part of the writer of the catalogue.

There is, moreover, one important feature of difference between the London and Paris auctions which I omitted to mention in my remarks. The sales in Paris have hitherto consisted of single collections, whereas in London they are generally composed of lots from all quarters. It is obviously far easier to write a catalogue of a noted collection, in which all the stamps have had to pass the watchful eye of their owner, than to describe a mixed sale comprising not infrequently many lots which the owner is desirous of disposing of just because they are not first class. This fact naturally makes an enormous difference in the relative difficulties of description as between the London and Paris auctions. It may well be, as Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper suggest, that Paris will be unable to maintain its high level. All the same, it must be admitted, as will be seen by the comments in this number on the Reid Sale, that there is an ever-increasing attention paid to condition, and this growing requirement tends to make the purchaser more fastidious. I think, therefore, that it would be erring on the right side if the compilers of the catalogues would relentlessly describe every defect in the lots. It might somewhat affect those stamps in poor condition, but would *per contra* send up the value of those that were really fine.

I can only repeat that I am, as I always have been, in favour of the

auctions, that, in common with the vast majority of collectors and dealers, I recognize they have done untold good in giving stability to stamp collecting, and that in my remarks I have no wish except one for their continued and increasing prosperity.

Messrs. Puttick and Simpson write:—

"In your article in the May number of your paper on 'The Mirabaud Stamp Auction' you condemn without discrimination the catalogue descriptions of all the London philatelic auctioneers. By so doing we think you are doing our firm a great injustice, and your remarks are calculated to do us considerable harm in frightening intending commission buyers from entrusting us with their bids.

"Our catalogues are compiled with all the care and accuracy that is possible, and we endeavour at all times to give a fair and honest description of the lots, and should there be the slightest inaccuracy in describing any lot, we willingly accept the return of the same according to our Conditions of Sale. The greatest proof that our descriptions are fair and honest is the extremely small number of lots which we have returned as misdescribed, seldom exceeding two or three per sale."

Mr. Walter Bull, of Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper, writes:—

"With reference to your remarks as to the Paris auctions, you may remember that in the early days buyers used personally to attend our sales, and there was then plenty of 'personal rivalry,' but now buyers here to a great extent send their bids to agents rather than take the trouble to attend themselves, although we still have a good proportion of private collectors at our sales.

"The auctions in France are comparatively a new thing, and I venture to think that, when the novelty has worn off and they become as frequent as over here, there will not be the same personal competition.

"With regard to descriptions up to the present, the sales held there have been only very fine collections, all the stamps being in perfect condition. It is quite easy, therefore, to describe such stamps fairly, only 'superb' or 'beautiful specimens' being necessary. It is different, however, when stamps are not in perfect condition. The duty of the cataloguer is, I conceive, to convey in his description his own opinion of the stamp without any unfair bias, having due regard to the interests of the owner. I quite agree that it is very desirable to give as accurate a description as possible, and this has been our aim throughout, so as to give confidence to buyers who have not had an opportunity of inspecting the stamps, but the greatest difficulty experienced by the cataloguer nowadays is the prevailing practice of using the auctions as a means of disposing of mended and faked stamps, and it requires the most careful inspection to come to a satisfactory conclusion when one is in doubt. An experienced philatelist can invariably, so to speak, smell a forgery, but in the case of painted-in and otherwise mended stamps (which are really works of art) their detection is not always easy.

"While it is scarcely practicable to refuse to offer damaged and mended stamps by auction, as in the case of collections, if the auctioneer were empowered to mark the stamp 'repaired' on the back, it would go a long way, I think, to mitigate the evil."

The Amsterdam Philatelic Exhibition.



E are glad to record, upon the evidence of the numerous English visitors to Amsterdam, that success has rewarded the labours of the energetic Committee to whom was entrusted the organization of this Exhibition, and we regret that we were unable to be present. It appears that in a large measure the prestige of the exhibits was due to exhibitors from this country, and we are glad to note that the cordial co-operation has secured the warmest appreciation from "our friends the Dutch," to quote a part of the time-honoured couplet!

Mr. C. J. Phillips, of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., was an attendant at the Exhibition, and in his copious and interesting notes published in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* for June 19th will be found a full account of all the festivities and proceedings of the Exhibition week. To Mr. Phillips' courtesy in supplying us with an advanced copy of these notes we are largely indebted for much of our information.

In addition to practically all the leading Dutch collectors the visitors to the show in the Bellevue Building included Messrs. Henry Duveen, E. D. Bacon, A. J. Warren, H. Griebert, Phillips, E. O. Phillips, D. Field, Harvey Clarke, Dendy Marshall, H. A. Slade, Boddy, F. J. Melville, Frank Wilson, Whitfield King, P. L. Pemberton, Lamb, H. F. Johnson, M. A. Coyette, Herr Adolf Passer, R. Friedl, Zumstein, Henke, Paul Kohl, H. Hartmann, Hugo Krötzsch, Lederer, and several lady visitors, and Lieut. Bayer and Baron A. de Reuterskiöld. About two hundred attended the opening ceremony, which was held in a large saloon beautifully decorated with large pots of rhododendrons in full flower, ferns, etc., and Baron R. A. Lehmann proposed the vote of thanks to the President. The judges were as follows: Messrs. Breitfuss, Duveen, Elias, Goossen, Van Kinschot, Kloss, Manus, and Baron A. de Reuterskiöld. Mr. Phillips makes the following comment upon the general scope of the exhibits, and this criticism is fully borne out by an inspection of the Catalogue:—

"I may say at once that with the exception of the stamps of Holland and her Colonies, real rarities and fine stamps were conspicuous by their absence in local exhibits. The gems of the Exhibition were the Mauritius and Tasmania of Mr. Duveen, the Transvaal of Mr. Harvey Clarke, the French of Mr. Reichenheim, Victoria of Mr. Hausburg, and the Swiss of Mr. Zumstein. No Dutch collectors showed anything to compare with these grand collections in stamps of Foreign Countries.

"Naturally the stamps of Holland and Colonies were well represented both by Dutch and English exhibits, but considering how many really fine collections there are in Holland, I was certainly disappointed not to see more shown by local collectors, and I am afraid it is only their native modesty that prevented them from sending in their many treasures for competition.

"A most interesting 'Programme of Fêtes was drawn up by the Com-

mittee appointed for this purpose, and the thanks of all the visitors are specially due to this Committee, consisting of Baron Lehmann, Jhr. J. A. von Schmid, Major Wafelbakker, and Mr. L. A. Beausar."

The arrangements made for entertainment were :—

June 3rd.—Banquet at the Bible Hotel, at 6.30 p.m. *June 4th.*—Special visit to the "Grand Theatre van Lier," where four or five rows of stalls were reserved for the variety entertainment. *June 5th.*—Banquet in the restaurant in the Zoological Gardens. *June 6th.*—Reception at the Exhibition from 2 to 4 p.m. and band. *June 7th.*—Excursion by steamer to the Island of Marken, and luncheon on board. *June 9th.*—Visit to the National Museum, and Zoological Gardens, with lunch at the latter.

The following is a list of the chief exhibits, together with the more important awards :—

Championship Class.

Silver Cup given by the late Mr. William Moser—Baron R. A. Lehmann, for Holland and Colonies.

"The stamps of Holland, Curaçao, Surinam, and the Dutch Indies practically complete, unused and used, and this collection is not only a great one in size, but it is also one of great philatelic importance. It had one whole room devoted to it, and has been most beautifully arranged and written up by Mr. Narat Koning. The collection was shown in London, but has been much added to and improved since then."

Class I.

Section A.—Holland and Colonies. Unused.

J. J. Weruméus Buning, Gold Medal. A fine collection, in good condition, including many blocks and strips, and almost complete in single stamps.

Section B.—Holland and Colonies. Used.

P. W. Waller, Gold Medal. A very fine collection, well arranged, and beautifully written up in English.

Section C.—Holland and Colonies. Used and Unused.

Mr. A. J. Warren, Gold Medal. This collection is well known to many of our readers, and is of high philatelic merit. Mr. D. C. Paraira, Silver-gilt Medal ; Mr. Louis Weimar, Silver-gilt Medal.

Other awards for Dutch stamps, etc., were :—Silver-gilt Medals to Jhr. J. A. von Schmid, Captain G. Buijs ; Silver Medal to Mr. A. C. Voss ; Bronze Medal to Mr. W. P. Costerus.

Section II.—Special Collections of One Country.

Mr. F. Reichenheim, France, Large Gold Medal. This magnificent collection of French stamps has been shown at the last Exhibition in London and at several meetings of philatelic societies, and is therefore well known to our readers. Since showing it last Mr. Reichenheim has added considerably to it, especially in the "La Susse" perforations and in modern issues.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Victoria, Large Gold Medal. This collection, composed of many complete plates of many pairs and blocks in early issues, unused and used, contains almost all known varieties of wmk., colour, and perforation, and was justly considered the finest specialized collection of one country in the whole Exhibition. Mr. Hausburg has enormously added to it since the collection was shown at the last London Exhibition.

Mr. E. Zumstein, Switzerland, Large Gold Medal. This was a magnificent collection of the finest unused stamps, in singles, pairs, and blocks, from the collection of the late M. Mirabaud.

Mr. M. Z. Booleman, Transvaal, Gold Medal. A nice collection, considerably improved since the Berlin Exhibition.

Mr. Harvey Clarke, Transvaal, Gold Medal. Mr. Phillips remarks hereon: "This collection is much finer, more complete, and better arranged than the one noted above, and I rather wonder that they should be put on a level. Most of the great rarities are in this fine collection, and it would be much easier to give a list of the missing stamps than of what is contained in it."

Mr. H. Hartmann, Montenegro, Gold Medal.

Adolf Passer, Bosnia, Gold Medal.

Colonel F. H. Hancock, Cashmere, Silver-gilt Medal.

Mr. F. E. Wilson, Belgium, Silver-gilt Medal.

Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht, Guatemala, Silver Medal.

Mr. W. von Polansky, Russia, Finland, etc., Silver Medal.

Mr. H. Bennett, Sarawak, Silver Medal.

The other awards in this section were:—Mr. J. M. Bartels, Danish West Indies, Silver Medal. Mr. G. J. Stork, Peru, Silver Medal. Mr. J. Blanco, Rio de Oro, Bronze Medal. Mr. J. Duiven, Orange River, Bronze Medal. Mr. L. Daamen, Uruguay, Bronze Medal.

Section III.—For General Collections.

Lieutenant E. Bayer, Large Gold Medal.

Jhr. L. F. Teixeira de Mattos, Gold Medal.

Silver-gilt Medals.—Mr. E. Bonn, Italian and German States; Mr. J. Veerschijm, for a collection of Wurtemberg, Great Britain, and Spain; Mr. F. Consemüller, for a collection of Europe in four volumes, containing about 8000 stamps; Mr. G. von Hessling, for a general collection of Europe with the German States, used and unused; Mr. A. Hoevels, for a good collection of Portugal and Colonies. Silver Medals.—Dr. A. H. van der Berg, for a considerable number of countries selected from his general collection; Mr. L. M. König, for a collection of Europe containing about 10,500 stamps; Mr. M. van der Lugt, for a general collection of about 11,000 stamps; Mr. A. E. Sitsen, for a collection of Germany and Colonies; Mr. M. E. Unger, for a good collection of the German Colonies. Eight bronze medals were also given in this class.

Section IV.—Entires and Stamps on Entires.

Gold Medal, Major C. Wafelbakker.

Silver-gilt Medals.—Mr. L. de Raay and Mr. W. P. Costerus.

Silver Medals.—Mr. G. V. van der Schooren and Mr. M. G. Booleman.

Section V.—For Essays, Proofs, and Objects of Philatelic interest which do not come under the other headings.

Gold Medal, Mr. M. Albrecht.

Silver-gilt Medals.—M. A. Coyette and Consul C. George.

Silver Medals in this group were also given to Mej. R. Kerlen, Mr. E. Bonn, Mr. Rudolf Friedl, Mr. L. de Raay, and Mr. M. E. Unger.

Section VI.—For Collectors under eighteen years of age.

Silver-gilt Medal, Miss K. Nelke.

Section VII.—Literature, Albums.

Again we quote Mr. Phillips:—"Medals were so over-plentiful that no less than twenty-five were given in this section. Almost everything that was entered had a medal, and I have not the space to repeat this list."

Some of the finest collections of stamps were entered by members of the jury, and therefore were debarred from competition.

Included herein were the superb exhibits of Mr. H. J. Duveen, his Mauritius incomparably strengthened since they were last exhibited, his Transvaal and Tasmania; and the early issues of New South Wales, Tasmania, and Victoria shown by Mr. H. P. Manus, whose "Sydney Views" included 1d., red, 61; 2d., blue, 132; 3d., green, 25; and nearly complete plates of the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., and 8d., laureated; and in Tasmania plates of the 1d., blue, and the two plates of the 4d., orange.

From the preceding examination of prize-winners it will be evident that the epithet "international" is hardly due to the Amsterdam show. It might well be British-Dutch Philatelic Exhibition. We have not described at length the magnificent displays made by collectors from this country, as we are all fortunately well acquainted therewith; but it is palpable that without them it would have been "Hamlet" with the Prince of Denmark omitted.

It appears, moreover, that the attendance was scanty, partly due to inadequate publicity. It seems to us that a numerous attendance of the public is the only standard of success for a philatelic exhibition, and we are strongly inclined to believe that free entrance is the correct procedure. There were no stalls for dealers, and it appears that the light was none too good. There has, however, been no similar exhibition in Holland for twenty-five years, and the Committee may well be congratulated on having on the whole achieved so much success. Mr. Phillips pays the following deserved tributes to those who have so largely contributed to this result:—

"Mr. Booleman has been a most indefatigable Secretary, working hard and long hours for some months, and he has been most ably assisted by his nephew, Mr. S. J. Weening, of Amsterdam, who has, I understand, acted as Assistant Honorary Secretary.

"Baron Lehmann, Consul-General for Greece in Holland, not only gave a very large sum of money towards the expenses (£250), and thus rendered the Exhibition possible, but he secured some of the finest exhibits that were shown, and at the banquets presided with marked ability."

Occasional Notes.

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

WE are desired to inform our readers that all stamps to be examined by the Expert Committee should be sent in to 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C., *before* 15th July, after which date the Committee will not meet again until 21st October.

The Expert Committee has made the following regulations and scale of charges with regard to specimens submitted for examination by persons who *are not members* of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

For specimens quoted in any current catalogue up to £20 in value which are pronounced genuine, or actually to be what they appear to be, 5s.

For specimens quoted at £20 up to £50 (500 fcs. or 400 marks), 10s.

For specimens quoted at £50 or upwards (1250 fcs. or 1000 marks), 20s.

Where there is no catalogue quotation an auction record may be referred to, but in cases where no quotation can be given the charge will be on the highest scale.

In all cases in which the Committee are asked to pronounce upon the genuineness of a surcharge or overprint, double the above fees will be charged, commencing with the new season, 1909–10.

Specimens pronounced not to be genuine, or actually to be what they appear to be, will be charged 2s. 6d., and a return of part of the fee or fees will be made.

The charges made to *members* will remain the same as heretofore, namely, 3s. and 1s. 6d., except when the opinion of the Committee is asked upon the surcharge or overprint of a specimen, in which case the charges will be 6s. and 3s.

In all cases where the applicant for a certificate—whether a member or not—requires an answer to a particular question, and the Committee is unable to give a definite opinion, a fee of 1s. only—1 f. 25 c. or 1 m.—will be charged to cover postages and expenses.

The members of the Committee meet once a month only, generally in the afternoon of the *third Thursday* in each month (August and September excepted).

Stamps found not to be what they appear to be are returned immediately after the meeting (unless a photograph is required by the Committee for future reference); but all stamps requiring to be photographed may be retained for ten days, or even more, *and no fixed date for their return can be stated.*

Unless the fees accompany the stamps no examination can take place.

NOTE.—Every care is taken of specimens sent for examination, but the Committee assumes no responsibility for loss or damage, or for the results of the opinions given.

DEATH OF MR. W. B. THORNHILL.

WE regret to have once more to record the passing away of a well-known figure in the philatelic world at a comparatively early age. Mr. W. B. Thornhill passed away, after a long and painful illness, at his home in Ireland, on May 6, the cause of death being consumption. Mr. Thornhill is practically unknown to the present generation of collectors, but he was at one time very prominent, and a notable student of Australian stamps, his fine collection thereof ultimately passing to a Parisian collector. Mr. Thornhill's period of philatelic activity extended from early in the 'eighties to 1896, when he left London to reside in Ireland. He joined the then Philatelic Society of London in 1885 (but only retained his membership a few years), and read some papers of considerable philatelic merit; but his principal literary achievement was the *Philatelic Handbook on the Stamps of Shanghai*, published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Mr. Thornhill's collection of these locals was especially fine, and was subsequently acquired by Mr. H. J. Duveen. Mr. Thornhill was a man of very good family, of considerable ability, and possessed of strong philatelic and collecting faculties, who might well have attained a high position in the stamp world had the circumstances of his life been differently ordered.

THE FIFTY RAREST STAMPS.

M. VICTOR FLANDRIN has drawn up in the *Timbre-Poste* a list of the above. This has been frequently done before — with remarkable want of success—and our only object in calling attention thereto is to point out how utterly fallacious is M. Flandrin's classification. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* of June 5th also "rushes in," and although in some respects a better list, the writer includes no less than six stamps in this classic fifty that are of quite recent issue. The Northern Nigeria £25, 1902, is placed, for example, before the British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., blue, and, moreover, in neither list is any Australian stamp quoted used or unused! Neither list forms a valuable guide, and as they are sure to be extensively reproduced in other journals, we think it advisable to place on record their utter unreliability. In such a list of rarities no modern stamp can be placed, as it takes, with rare exceptions, at least twenty years before the true status and value of a scarce stamp can be ascertained. The real value of a stamp is like moss on a stone—of slow accretion!

THE NEW SWISS STAMPS.

HR. SCHENKER has again sent us specimens of the later engravings of the Swiss stamps, and emphasizes the general disapproval of these designs in his country. His remarks are fully borne out by the Lausanne correspondent of the *Standard*, who writes:—

"The chorus of disapproval called forth by the two new designs used for the Swiss stamps issued towards the end of 1907 is responsible for the numerous experiments which have produced so many 'varieties,' as they are

called, of the issues of 1908. The two designs which embellished these stamps could hardly have been more inartistic; and it is little wonder that there has been an outcry against them, though the magnitude of the agitation could hardly have been foreseen. It is said that there are four large volumes of cuttings at the Federal Postal Department containing nothing but articles adversely criticizing the issue. So insistent was the voice of public disapproval that the designs were returned to the artists to be retouched. This has now been done, and the stamps that are being issued have been slightly changed and somewhat improved, though they are still very far from perfect. In fact, even these finally accepted designs compare very unfavourably with that of the seated figure of Helvetia, as on the 25 centimes stamps."

The William Tell's son design on the lower values only becomes more grotesque with each alteration, and the adoption of such a design reflects but poorly upon the artistic perceptions of the Swiss nation.

THE ALLEGED STAMP FORGERIES.

On Saturday, May 8th, at Bow Street Police Court, before Mr. Curtis Bennett, there was a further hearing of the charges against John Stewart Lowden, 29, stamp dealer, 20 Villiers Street, Strand, and Henry Harmer, 39, stamp dealer, 11 Preston Road, Westcliff-on-Sea.

Inspector Stockley, recalled, replying to Mr. Bodkin, spoke to finding cheques at Lowden's premises drawn in favour of Caréme. The total of these cheques amounted to £2650.

Witness then spoke to finding a number of letters and telegrams which had passed between the defendants and Caréme extending over a long period. He also produced a number of North Borneo stamps, which were handed to him by Miss Pix at Lowden's office—½ to 5 cents, "postage and revenue," and 1, 2, and 4 cents, "postage" only. He also produced four envelopes containing sets of North Borneo stamps—½ cent to 10 cents—and photographs of the same which he had received from Mr. Acland, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Burgess.

Mr. Thomas Macdonald, a bank-note engraver, 6 Barnsbury Terrace, Barnsbury, said he designed and engraved for Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades. He had had forty years' experience in the business; and he designed and engraved the whole of the plates for the North Borneo stamps which were printed by his firm. He produced the original steel plates from which the lithographic stones were prepared from which the stamps were printed.

Witness was handed up specimens of the alleged forged stamps, which he had previously examined, and said he was satisfied they were forgeries and had not been printed from the plates which he designed and engraved. There were many discrepancies between the forged and the genuine. He should say that they had been produced by means of a modern photo process from genuine stamps. The stamps in the approval sheets were also, in his opinion, forgeries. He had seen enlarged photographs of many of them, and that had confirmed him in his opinion. He had no hesitation

whatever in coming to the conclusion that the stamps in question were forgeries.

Mr. W. Cromack, lithographic manager of Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, said that steel plates from which the British North Borneo stamps were printed for the Borneo Company were kept either in his possession or in that of Mr. Macdonald. The stamps were printed from a lithographic stone, and when the printing was complete the stone was put into the stone-grinding machine and the impression was erased under his personal supervision. He had heard the evidence of Mr. Macdonald and agreed with him in thinking that the stamps forming the subject of the charge were forgeries. He was sure they were not printed by his firm.

Mr. W. H. Tyler, who is in charge of the paper department of Messrs. Blades, East, and Blades, said that the paper on which the forged stamps were printed was quite different from that which they used to print the stamps for the North Borneo Company. He had been through several of the envelopes containing the stamps of which Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Cromack had spoken, and had no hesitation in pronouncing them forgeries. Both the texture and the weight of the paper were different, and the gumming on the forged stamps was in his judgment done by machinery, whereas they gummed their own stamps by hand.

At the request of Mr. Curtis Bennett, the Magistrate directed that the stamps found at Lowden's premises, other than Borneo and Labuan, should be handed back to him, with the exception of a few of each, which the police are to keep as specimens.

On Saturday, May 15th,

Mr. William Acland, 50 Osmond Road, Hove, replying to Mr. Bodkin, said he dealt in stamps under the name of the London and Brighton Stamp Company. He recognized both prisoners. He first became acquainted with Lowden in April, 1908. He knew him as a stamp dealer trading as the West End Stamp Company, 20 Villiers Street, Strand. He was managing director of the Company. He saw Harmer about two months after at the same place. He had transactions with the Company in buying, exchanging, and selling stamps. Generally the transactions had taken place through the post, but he had dealt personally with Lowden. He bought a quantity of stamps in April last year. Amongst the purchase was 1500 sets of four stamps each of the Borneo 1887 issue, for which he paid five guineas. Also 400 sets of Borneo of the same issue at £1 13s. 4d. per 100—£6 13s. 4d. The total of his transactions that day came to £266 3s. 8d.

Witness said that Lowden told him that any of the Borneo stamps might be reprints for all he (Lowden) knew. Later on he got some further information, in consequence of which he made an allowance to Mr. Brown in respect of the stamps of which he was complaining.

(*To be continued.*)

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Bermuda.—The ½d., all green, chronicled last year, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Cayman Islands.—It is reported in several journals that the 1s., black on green, is now coming with the multiple watermark and on chalky paper.

Adhesive.

1s., black on green, multiple, chalky.

India.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has sent us the 6 annas, King's Head stamp, overprinted On H. S. M. in black.

Official.

On
6 annas, bistre, with H. S., overprint in black.
M.

Charkari.—The new 1 pice stamp in *blue colour* has reached us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

1 pice, *blue*, wove paper, pin-perf. 11.

Hyderabad.—We are informed by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that they have received the 4 annas of the "POSTAGE" type.

Adhesive.

4 annas, olive-green.

New Zealand.—We have received the 2½d. value with a clean-cut perforation 14½ all round.—*Philatelic Adviser.*

Adhesive.

2½d., deep blue, clean-cut perf. 14½.

Queensland.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the appearance of the following novelties:—

Adhesive.

Wmk. Crown A, 4d., grey.

Registration Envelope Stamp.

3d., red, King's Head.

Somaliland Protectorate.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 1 anna, red, and inform us that they have received the 2 annas, dull and bright purple, multiple wmk., chalky paper.

Adhesives.

1 anna, red, multiple, ordinary.
2 annas, dull and bright purple, multiple, chalky.

Victoria.—The current 3d., perf. 11, and 5d., perf. 12½, in new shades, are chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesives.

3d., orange-buff, crown over A, perf. 11.
5d., pale chocolate ,, ,, 12½.

EUROPE.

Austria.—*Gibbons Weekly* informs us that the 1, 2, and 3 heller of the latest issue have been found printed on *blue* paper as well as on white paper.

Crete.—Additional values are included by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* in the set with the type of overprint (rounded Greek ϵ).

Adhesives.

25 lepta,	blue and black,	black overprint.
50 ,,	brown	,, ,,
2 drachmi,	brown	,, ,,
3 ,,	orange and black	,, ,,

Italian Post Offices.—*Gibbons Weekly* chronicles, on continental authority, the latest type of 50 c. Italian stamp overprinted for use in Crete.

Adhesive.

50 c., mauve, current type, overprinted in black "LA CANEA."

Holland.—The 6½ cents Postage Due of last year has been surcharged with the figure 4 in red, and specimens are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. and W. T. Wilson.

Postage Due.

4 in red on 6½ cents, ultramarine and black.

LEVANT (*Russian Post Offices*).—A new set has been issued, and the following particulars are taken from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*:—

Adhesives.

(i.) Small design, ship in colour.
5 para on 1 kop., yellow.
10 ,, 2 ,, green.
20 ,, 4 ,, rose.
1 piastre 10 ,, blue.

(ii.) Small design, ship and dates embossed in white.

5 piastres on 50 kop., violet, centre green.
7 ,, 70 ,, brown ,, yellow.

(iii.) Large design, ship and dates embossed in white.

10 piastres on 1 rub., brown, centre orange.
35 ,, 3½ ,, ,, light green.
70 ,, 7 ,, ?

The 5 paras is a new value in place of the old 4 paras. The set superseded also had the value 2 piastres.

From *Gibbons Weekly* we gather that the colours of the 70 pias, are myrtle-green and pink, and are all on unwatermarked paper, but with the varnish lines.

AMERICA.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—*Mekeel's Weekly* informs us that the new Postage Due, listed on page 132, is printed on paper watermarked crosses and circles, the same as the 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. of the current postage set.

GUATEMALA.—Another provisional is chronicled in the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Provisional.

12½ centavos, and 1909, in black, in three lines, on 2 pesos, red-orange and black.

NICARAGUA.—Two values of a new issue are reported in *Mekeel's Weekly.* It is stated that the old plates with imprint of the American Bank Note Company, New York, have been used, the 10 c. being in a new colour, and the 5 c. in a new shade of blue.

Adhesives.

5 c., Prussian blue.
10 c., claret.

In a later issue of our contemporary five more values are added to this set.

2 c., vermilion.
3 c., orange-red.
20 c., olive-brown.
50 c., dark green.
1 p., yellow.

PANAMA.—A new 2 centavos stamp, overprinted "Canal Zone," reading down, is chronicled in *Mekeel's Weekly* and described as follows:—"The portrait is the same as that on the previous issue, Fernandez de Cordoba, but the head is larger and more effective.

"The colour of the frame is a pretty shade of vermilion-red, the design being an entirely new and attractive one. The figures of value appear in square frames at the sides, the oval containing the portrait being formed by 'Republica de Panama' around the top, and 'Dos Centesimos' around the bottom. 'Correos' is printed at the top and 'de Balboa' at the bottom, both being in straight lines."

Adhesive.

2 c., vermilion-red and black.

UNITED STATES.—The detailed list below of the "toned paper" varieties known of the current set is taken from *Gibbons Weekly.*

The 2 c. "Alaska—Yukon—Pacific—1909" Exhibition Stamp reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

Perf. (all), or *imperf.* (all except 8, 10, 13 c.).

1 c., deep green, toned paper.
2 c, carmine ,,
5 c., deep blue ,,
8 c., sage-green ,,
10 c., lemon-yellow ,,
13 c., blue-green ,,
2 c., Lincoln ,,

Special Delivery.

10 c., green, toned paper.

"Alaska-Yukon" Exhibition Stamp.

2 cents, carmine, perf. 12.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA (*German Post Offices*).—A fifth value on the lozenge-watermarked paper is chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

20 c. on 40 pf., black and carmine, watermarked paper.

JAPAN.—Another change in colour has taken place. This time it is the 15 sen, and *Gibbons Weekly* describes the new shade as *dull mauve-purple.*

Adhesive.

15 sen, dull mauve-purple.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1909-10.

President—H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.
Vice-President—The Earl of Crawford, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. Tilleard.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. Oldfield.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. McNaughtan.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. Fulcher.

E. D. Bacon. T. Wickham Jones.
C. N. Biggs. T. Maycock.
M. P. Castle, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. Hall. F. Reichenheim.
L. L. R. Hausburg. R. B. Yardley.

The fourteenth meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, the 6th May, 1909, at 6.15 p m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, H. R. Oldfield, L. L. R. Hausburg, R. B. Yardley, Baron A. de Worms, C. Neville Biggs, Thos. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, A. C. Emerson, F. E. Horton, A. D. Ferguson, H. Quare, F. Ransom, Douglas Ellis, Baron P. de Worms, W. Nordheimer, W. Lane Joynt, C. E. McNaughtan. J. A. Tilleard, A. Chilver, Col. J. Bonhote, B. D. Knox, A. R. Barrett, Lance E. Hall (associate).

The chair having been taken by the Vice-President, the minutes of the last ordinary meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter from Mr. J. J. Bernstein stating that in closing the accounts of the Manchester Exhibition it was found that there was no necessity to call upon the Society for any part of the amount guaranteed towards the expense was read by the Hon. Secretary, and the reply sent congratulating the Committee on the success of the Exhibition was approved.

Lord Crawford showed a number of colour trials or proofs prepared by Messrs. Perkins Bacon and Co. from the dies of some of the old Colonial stamps. They consisted of ten colour trials for each of the 6d. and 1s. values of the Cape of Good Hope triangular stamps, printed on plain, thin, hard paper; a similar series of the Queensland registration stamp, printed on the paper with the star watermark; and the first 6d. stamp of Barbados, also in ten colours on the star-watermarked paper.

In showing these stamps Lord Crawford explained that, so far as is known, only three sets of these trial stamps were made.

The special business for the evening consisted of a paper on "The Plating of the First Type of the 6d. Value of Victoria," by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, Mr. T. W. Hall, who was to have read a paper at this meeting, having kindly given place to Mr. Hausburg, who was about to forward his Victoria collection to the forthcoming Exhibition at Amsterdam.

After describing the mode of production used for the stamps under consideration from a plate made by engraving each stamp separately on boxwood, Mr. Hausburg explained the difficulties encountered in the task of plating the stamps and that over ten years had been required to enable all the types to be ascertained. It was ultimately found that the sheet consisted of two panes, each consisting of fifty types, arranged in five rows of ten stamps each. There appear to be two leading types containing marked distinctive features, one of which is, with a single exception, used for all the stamps on the left-hand pane of the sheet, the other pane consisting of a mixture of both of these types. The principal means of distinguishing the differences, in many cases very minute, in the individual stamps on the plate, were fully described, and the paper was listened to with the greatest interest, the magnitude of the task undertaken by Mr. Hausburg being fully appreciated by the members present.

The paper was illustrated by a display of a splendid series of the stamps in question, including unused and used specimens of all the varieties and a number of complete reconstructed plates in the various colours, the whole being most carefully annotated for assistance in examining the stamps.

Mr. Hausburg also very kindly submitted for inspection by members attending the meeting his magnificent collection of all the issues of Victoria.

On the motion of Mr. R. B. Yardley, seconded by Mr. T. W. Hall, the very cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Hausburg for his valuable and interesting paper and display.

The fifteenth ordinary meeting of the season 1908–9 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, the 20th May, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: Lord Crawford, M. P. Castle, L. L. R. Hausburg, E. D. Bacon, R. B. Yardley, Thos. W. Hall, F. J. Peplow, L. W. Fulcher, L. S. Wells, J. A. Leon, F. E. Horton, D. C. Gray, B. Pinner, F. Ransom, Baron P. de Worms, Franz Reichenheim, J. A. Tilleard, A. Chilver, and Lance E. Hall (associate).

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Thursday, May 6th, were read and confirmed.

Mr. M. P. Castle read a paper on the locally engraved and lithographed issues of Mauritius, 1848 to 1859.

In dealing with the "Post Paid" issues, Mr. Castle described the successive states in which the stamps are found, and explained

that for the purposes of his collection he had classified the stamps into a series of five stages of condition corresponding with the wear of the plates during the eleven and a half years for which they were employed. The other issues were also fully explained, and in the case of the lithographed stamps the varieties were described, and attention was called to the important discovery by Mr. Castle of several cases of partial re-touches in the stamps. To illustrate the paper a display was given by the Hon. Vice-President of his magnificent collection of the stamps under consideration, comprising a very large number of stamps in the several issues, both unused and used, and in the engraved series reconstructed plates in the various stages of wear.

The collection was very much admired by the members attending the meeting, and, on the motion of Mr. E. D. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Tilleard, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his most interesting paper and display.

THE sixteenth ordinary meeting of the season 1908–9, being the annual general meeting of the Society, was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, June 3, 1909, at 6.15 p.m.

Members present: M. P. Castle, R. B. Yardley, Thos. W. Hall, L. W. Fulcher, F. J. Peplow, A. D. Ferguson, Douglas Ellis, T. W. Chambers, C. McNaughtan, Franz Reichenheim, J. A. Tilleard, B. D. Knox, and Lance E. Hall (associate).

The Hon. Vice-President occupied the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting, held on May 20, were read and confirmed.

A letter from the Vice-President was read, expressing his regret at being unable to attend the meeting owing to his having been suddenly called away from town.

The Hon. Secretary reported the receipt from Mr. Henry J. Crocker of his work on "Hawaiian Numerals," and the Hon. Librarian was directed to acknowledge the gift with the thanks of the Society.

Messrs. William A. Sisson, proposed by Mr. O. Andreen, seconded by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt; Mr. George Francis, proposed by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt, seconded by Mr. A. H. Weber; Mr. Frederick Watson Edwards, proposed by Mr. E. Heginbottom, seconded by the Hon. Secretary; and Mr. Harold Woodlands, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Assistant Hon. Secretary, were, after ballot, duly elected members and fellows of the Society.

The Hon. Secretary read his annual report on the work of the Society and other events of the past year, which was adopted and directed to be published in the *London Philatelist*, and, on the motion of the Hon. Vice-President, seconded by Mr. T. W. Hall, the thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Tilleard for his services.

The Hon. Treasurer then presented and read the accounts and balance-sheet of the Society for the year ending March 31 last.

On the motion of Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Franz Reichenheim, the accounts were received and adopted, and the cordial thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. C. E. McNaughtan, the Hon. Treasurer, and to Messrs. A. W. Chambers and J. G. Langton, the Hon. Auditors, for their services in connection with the accounts.

No nominations having been received, the present officers and members of the Council were declared re-elected, pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Society.

The meeting concluded with the re-appointment of Messrs. A. W. Chambers and J. G. Langton as Hon. Auditors of the Society for the ensuing year.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE seventh general meeting of the session 1908-9 was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, London, W.C., on Tuesday, 20 April, 1909, at 6.30 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), T. H. Harvey, C. R. Sutherland, W. T. Standen, L. E. Bradbury, W. A. Boyes, Percy Ashley, A. J. Warren, K. Wiehen, D. H. Jackson, J. A. Leon, M. Weinberg, J. W. Campion, W. P. Barnsdall, Frank Phillips, W. A. Gunner, W. H. Eastwood, C. Nissen, E. Bounds, D. Thompson, E. W. Arnold, J. K. Boddy, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), and H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary).

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March, 1909, were read and confirmed.

Mr. Alfred Benjamin was elected an ordinary member of the Society.

A vote of condolence to Mrs. Nankivell on the death of her husband, Mr. E. J. Nankivell, was passed by the members standing. The Hon. Secretary was requested to forward this vote to Mrs. Nankivell in due course.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. Bradbury seconded, "That Messrs. Reichenheim, Boddy, and Slade be nominated as delegates of the Society to attend the Amsterdam Exhibition, to be held on June 3–9, 1909." This was carried unanimously.

The Hon. Librarian reported several additions to the Library.

The Chairman informed the members of the names of the visitors who would attend the annual dinner, and trusted they would do all in their power to render the function a success.

Mr. A. J. Warren gave to the members an interesting discovery he had made as to the fractions in the 12½ cents of the Netherlands Postage Due stamps, and exhibited some sheets and blocks to illustrate the differences of type.

"The Purchasing Power of the Penny from a Philatelic and a non-Philatelic Point of View," with a Display of Stamps and Merchandise from Bavaria and France by the Chairman, and an Address on the sub-

ject by Mr. Percy Ashley. Members expected something novel, but they were scarcely prepared for such an interesting and instructive evening as had been provided for them.

Mr. Hayman first handed round a collection of French and Bavarian stamps, which, bearing a face value of a penny, could scarcely have been purchased for that sum. Among the varieties may be mentioned:—Bavaria, 3 kreuzer, blue, 1849, block of four, unused; 3 kreuzer, red, 1862, block of six, unused; 3 kreuzer, imperf., 1867–8, with silk thread; 3 kreuzer, red, 1870–3, sheet, perf. 11½; 10 pfg., 1881–91, perf. 11½, block; 10 pfg., 1888–1901, perf. 14½, block. France, 10 c., 1850, imperf., pairs, unused; 10 c., Empire, 1853–60, pairs, unused; 1862–71, perf. 14 × 13½, unused; 1867, ditto; 1870–1, Republic, imperf.; 1870–3, perf. 14 × 13½, *tête-bêche*.

At the conclusion of the display Mr. Ashley read a valuable paper, which will be printed in a later number of the *Monthly Report*, on the conditions that rendered it possible in France and Bavaria to manufacture such articles as are retailed at one penny each. Specimens of kitchen utensils, toilette articles, school requisites, toys, illustrated post cards, ornaments, etc. etc., were then handed round as illustrations. As Mr. Warren, in proposing a vote of thanks, truly stated, the innovation was a most interesting one, and the members were greatly indebted to their Chairman and to Mr. Ashley for furnishing such an agreeable evening. Mr. Boyes seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried with acclamation, and briefly responded to by the recipients.

The Chairman then intimated that the Committee hoped the members would give them the pleasure of their company to supper at the Imperial Restaurant. On arrival, it was found that a private room had been engaged and all arrangements made for a thoroughly good time. The menu was as follows:—

Deutsche Delicatessen.
Frankfurter Würste mit Meerrettig und Kartoffel Salat.
Rindsragout mit Gemüsen.
Apfel Strudel von Butterteig.
Bier und Kaffe.

Needless to say, all went merry as a marriage bell, and the universal opinion was that the last general meeting of the session 1908–9 had been the best and most successful of all the meetings held under the auspices of the H.P.S. A copy of the menu was sought by all those present, and sent as a greeting to the absent President.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE monthly general meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, March 18, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. Kelson, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and duly confirmed.

It was proposed and seconded that the President and Exchange Superintendent of the Prahran Society be invited to the dinner to be given to Mr. Hagen on April 19.

The Librarian proposed and Mr. Glazbrook seconded that the new edition of a colour dictionary by B. W. Warhurst be purchased of Messrs. Gibbons, Limited.

The Librarian, Mr. S. O. Smith, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for arranging the Society's Forgery Collection.

Members were warned to be careful in the purchase of imitations of stamps manufactured and distributed by Mr. F. Fournier, of Geneva, Switzerland, that gentleman having approached several of our members with offers and samples of his ware.

Mr. H. Glazbrook showed his collection contained in three volumes, and the Secretary showed a collection belonging to Mr. W. Hammond Clegg; both collections contained a very fine lot of early and valuable Australians.

A sale of stamps was next held and resulted in several lots being disposed of at satisfactory prices.

A vote of thanks to Messrs. Glazbrook and Hammond Clegg for exhibiting their collections concluded the meeting.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*
128 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE first ordinary meeting, following the usual summer vacation, was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, March 17, 1909, at 8 o'clock. The President, Mr. Ed. E. Van Weenen, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received.

Hon. Secretary reported not having received any lots for "sale by tender," called for that evening. Mr. Basset Hull informed the meeting that he had received a letter from Mr. Phillips, of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., with reference to the work on the Stamps of N.S.W. Mr. Hull stated that the MS. of this work had been in the hands of the London Philatelic Society for five years. Mr. Phillips now informs him that "he cannot give any idea as to publication." He, Mr. Hull, mentioned this matter to remove any impression that may exist that he is responsible for delay in publication; the reproduction of the plates in photogravure is taking much longer time than was anticipated.

The Hon. Secretary reported result of his efforts *re* Club Library.

It was resolved that all future meetings be called for 7 o'clock instead of 8 o'clock, as at present. The meeting endorsed the action of the Committee *re* entertainment of Mr. F. Hagen. The majority of those

present signified their intention to be present at the function.

Mr. Basset Hull submitted a few stamps, the proceeds to be a donation to club funds. The usual form of sale was adopted and lot sold. Ballot for book 183 was then taken. This book, valued at £56 10s. 11½d., contributed to by sixteen members, was put into circulation on March 25, 1909.

During the evening Mr. J. Green exhibited a fine unused block of thirty Twopenny Diadems (imperf.), also some very nice Sydney Views, among which, a fine unused Twopenny, Plate 1, with original gum and wide margins, was to be seen.

The Hon. Secretary also had on view a plate of the Twopenny Laureate (wmk.).

Mr. Green and Hon. Secretary were accorded a hearty vote of thanks for happy time spent in examination of stamps shown. Such keen interest is noted in display of members' stamps that the practice is likely to remain a permanent and interesting feature of the usual monthly meetings.

At a committee meeting held prior to the ordinary meeting Mr. H. M. Molesworth, of Victoria, was elected a member.

Some interesting philatelic reminiscences added to the enjoyment of members.

The meeting then closed.

Next meeting will be held at Sports' Club, Hunter Street, on Wednesday, April 21, 1909.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

Box 1751, G.P.O.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 15 and 16 April, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1883–4, 10s., ultramarine on blued, imperf., mint	5	2	6
Ditto, 1884, £1, brown-purple, three Crowns, ditto, ditto	3	3	0
Ditto, 1891, £1, green, imperf., pinholed*	2	17	6
Ditto, I.R. Official, 5s., rose on blued,* defective	2	8	0
Schleswig-Holstein, first issue, 1 sch., blue, block of four, mint	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 sch., rose, ditto, ditto	8	8	6
Moldavia, first issue, 27 paras, cut to shape, on piece	12	10	0
Afghanistan, 1288, inner circle dotted, abasi black, strips of five* £2 4s. and	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, inner circle plain, abasi black, vertical strip of five*	4	8	0
Ditto, ditto, strip of four, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4*	3	3	0
Ditto, 1290–91, 1 rupee, black, strip of five*	2	8	0
Ditto, 1292, abasi purple, ditto*	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, strip of four, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4*	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, strip of three, Nos. 3, 4, and 5*	2	2	0
Ditto, 1293, value in tablet, 1 rupee, purple*	2	10	0
Ceylon, first issue, 4d., rose, imperf.	9	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 9d., lilac-brown, ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, imperf., 1s. 9d., green	3	7	6
Straits Settlements, first issue, set of nine complete* but stuck down	5	10	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British East Africa, ditto, set of three on entire	2	17	6
Ditto, July, 1895, sets of eleven, ditto £5 and	5	10	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., red, thinned	2	6	0
Ditto, 4d., blue £2 6s. and	2	10	0
Gambia, 1s., deep green, mint	2	7	6
Orange River Colony, 1890, 1d. on 3d., sheet of 240, mint	3	0	0
Swazieland, first issue, 10s., brown, ditto	4	12	6
Transvaal, E.R.I., 1d., carmine and green, "E" omitted, ditto	4	4	0
British Guiana, 1860, corner numerals framed, 4 c., pale blue, mint	10	10	0
Ditto, 1888–9, $1, green, ditto.	2	0	0
Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 4d., brown-lilac, pair, mint	2	10	0
Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, scarlet,* defective	4	7	6
Mexico, 1892, 5 pesos, blue-green	2	2	0
British New Guinea, first issue, 2s. 6d., black and brown	2	8	0
Hawaiian Islands, 1863, inter-island postage, 1 c., black on thin greyish paper, block of three*	7	15	0
New Zealand, 1856, thick paper, 1s., blue-green, serrated perfs., defective	2	4	0
Victoria, 5s., lilac-blue and red	3	7	6
Collections: 3840, £35; and 1739 (Colonials)	23	0	0

ALL UNUSED.

The fifth portion of the Reid Collection.

Sold by MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER, 29 and 30 April, 1909.

Hungary, lithos., 1871, 25 k., bright mauve, block of four	7	15	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Congo State, 1895, 10 c., greenish blue, centre inverted	3	12	6
French Colonies, 1879, 25 c., black on red, block of four, with certificate	5	10	0
Luxemburg, 1879, 1 "Pranc" on 37½ c., bistre	3	0	0
Portuguese Indies, first issue, thin paper, 40 r., Prussian blue	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, 100 r., yellow-green, pinhole	2	0	0
Servia, 1866, 2 p., dull green on lavender	£2 and	3	0
Philippine Islands, first issue, 5 c., orange-red	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 10 c., pale rose	3	12	6
Ditto, 1863, 1 r., rosy mauve	3	12	6
United States, 1851, 1 c., blue, imperf., with full ornaments	4	0	0
Ditto, 1861, 5 c., ochre, part gum	2	2	0
Ditto, 1869, 90 c., no embossing, full gum, thinned	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, reissue, no embossing, white paper, set of ten	10	0	0
Ditto, Agriculture, set of nine	2	6	0
Ditto, Justice, set of ten (15 c. pinholed)	5	15	0
Ditto, Navy, set of eleven	3	10	0
Ditto, State, ditto	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, $2	2	2	0
Argentine, 1864, 10 c., green, imperf.	7	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 15 c., blue, ditto	9	0	0
Ditto, 1891, 20 pesos, green	3	7	6
Brazil, slanting figures, 600 reis	5	0	0

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 27 and 28 April, 1909.

Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1902–4, King, 5s., carmine, mint	25	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue, ditto	94	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.	3	3	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r., vert. lines, type 5	8	15	0
Ceylon, 1861, 4d., rose	2	8	0
India, 1854, ½ a., blue, die 1, first transfer, block of forty*	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, block of eight*	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ½ a., deep blue, die 1, last transfer, block of sixteen*	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 a., red, die 1, block of 16*	13	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 a., blue and red, close setting, pair	2	14	0
Ditto, Service, 1866, 2 a., black and purple, pair*	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1866 (Aug.), small Service, wmk. Elephant's Head, 8 pies, purple, a block of sixteen, being the two top rows of the sheet, with margins and inscriptions, unused, in mint state, but has "Reprint" written across the back, although it is believed that they are originals, there being no record of a reprint having been made	6	5	0
British Central Africa, 1895, no wmk., £1, dull yellow, mint	3	0	0
British South Africa, 1896, one penny on 3d., grey, mint	2	5	0
Natal, 1875, 1d., rose, with inverted overprint	2	10	0
Southern Nigeria, single wmk., £1, green and purple, mint	£2 12s. and	2	12
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet,* no margins	3	15	0
Trinidad, clean-cut perfs., 6d., green, block of four, mint	4	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair, ditto	2	4	0
Fiji, 2d., in black, on 6 c. on 3d.,* no gum, and creased	4	2	6
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., carmine, plate 2, £2 6s. and	2	14	0
Victoria, 1854, 6d., orange, serrated perfs. at top and bottom*	2	0	0
Ditto, 1860–2, 6d., orange	2	0	0
Collection, 1796, in plain album	27	0	0
Cashmere, a specialized collection of 488 stamps in "Oriel" Album, containing many scarce varieties, amongst others Gibbons' Nos. 1 (unused), 58 (four fine copies), 87 (two fine copies), and 88	50	0	0

Sale of 11 and 12 May, 1909.

Great Britain, 1855–7, 4d., rose, wmk. Large Garter, a block of six,* clipped at right and one stamp at top, there is also a slight stain affecting two stamps	4	15	0
Hanover, 1861, 10 gro., green	2	5	0
Tuscany, 1851, 60 crazie, slightly cut into	10	0	0
Ditto, 1860, 3 lire,* ditto	50	0	0
Wurtemberg, 1873, 70 kr., purple	2	12	6
Afghanistan, 1873–4, shahi, purple*	2	10	0
India, 1854, 4 a., red and blue, a vertical pair of the wide setting, with blue dividing lines	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 a., red and blue, a block of eight of the narrow setting, corners cut	4	12	6
British Central Africa, £10, vermilion, 1895	6	0	0
Transvaal, 1876, pelure paper, 1d., orange-red, fine roulette*	3	0	0
Nevis, CA, 6d., green, mint	3	7	6
St. Lucia, 1883-4, CA, 1s., orange and black, ditto	2	5	0
St. Vincent, ½d. on half 6d., pair,* no gum	2	15	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	9	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Trinidad, 1852–60, litho., 1d., blue, early, cut into	2	7	6
Ditto, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., green, block of four, mint	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, pair, ditto	2	0	0
British Guiana, 1862, 1 c., black and rose (No. 7 on plate), lightly cancelled and with full roulettes, but thinned in one or two minute places	6	5	0
Ditto, 4 c., black on blue (No. 1), only a few roulettes showing and a little cut into	3	7	6
Mexico, 1864–8, 3 c., brown,* no gum	2	17	
New Zealand, 1856, blue paper, 1s., green	2	15	0
Ditto, 1874, 2d., rose, perf. 10 × 12½, mint	7	0	0
Collections: 1710, £44; and 6794	40	0	0

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 6 and 7 May, 1909.

Great Britain, die proof of the 1d. in blue, with voided corners	2	0	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., secret dot variety,* cut on left	3	5	0
Ditto, 1867, Cross, 10s., grey-green, strip of three, few perfs. clipped	3	0	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1884, £1, brown, Crowns,* little defective	12	0	0
Ditto, Army Official, type 2, 6d., purple, pair, mint	4	10	0
Ceylon, 1861, rough perfs., 8d., yellow-brown	4	4	0
Southern Nigeria, single CA, £1, violet, mint	3	0	0
Canada, 1858, 6d., no perfs. at top	2	4	0
St. Lucia, 1883, 1s., red-brown, mint	2	0	0
Collection in Oppen's Album, 1785	22	0	0

Sale of 20 and 21 May, 1909.

Great Britain, O.W. Official, Queen, 10d., mint	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, King, 10d., ditto	2	12	6
Ditto, Board of Queen, 1s., ditto	3	3	0
Ditto, Education, ditto, King, 5d., ditto	3	3	0
Straits Settlements, first issue, 8 c., block of four, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 1879, 10 c. on 30 c., pair, showing types, ditto	3	0	0
Lagos, single CA, 10s., mint	6	15	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., vermilion on yellowish, early state	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d., red on bluish, later state	2	14	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., blue, early state	5	10	0
Ditto, October, 1859, 2d., deep blue, defective	6	10	0
Mauritius, December, 1859, 2d., grey-blue	2	0	0
Natal, 1857, 1d., rose, on piece	3	3	0
Southern Nigeria, 1902, £1, violet, mint	2	15	0
St. Lucia, 1883–6, 1s., orange-brown,* part gum	2	0	0
St. Vincent, One Penny on 6d.	2	4	0
Trinidad, 1855, thin paper, 1d., blue	2	12	6
United States, 1855, 90 c., blue	2	6	0
Ditto, 1869, 90 c.*	2	4	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. on laid, thinned	2	6	0
New Zealand, 1862, 2d., slate-blue	2	8	0
Victoria, 1854, serrated × serpentine, 6d., orange, clipped in corner, on entire	2	15	0
Ditto, 1858, no wmk., perf., 1d., yellow-green, pair*	3	12	6
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., printed both sides	4	4	0
Collection, 4450	21	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 4 May, 1909.

Argentine, 20 pesos, *used*	1	6	0
British East Africa, July, 1895, 5 a., on piece	1	5	0
Ditto, ½ a. to 1 rupee, on Company stamps, July, 1895, on entire, set of eleven	6	0	0
Cape, triangulars, 1s., yellow-green, pair	1	7	0
Ditto, woodblock, 1d., red	1	11	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., deep blue, defective	1	15	0
China, 1897, $5 on 3 c.,* no gum	1	16	0
Great Britain, 2s., brown, 20s. and	1	2	0
Ditto, 1847, 1s., block of twelve, dark green	6	10	0
Nabha, 1 a. 6 p., "ABha," mint	1	18	0
Labuan, 8 cents, CA, ditto	1	10	0
Niger Coast, 1894, ½d. on 1d.	1	18	0

Sale ot 10 May, 1909.

British Bechuanaland, 1888, "Protectorate" only, 10s., green and black	2	5	0
Cyprus, 1s., green, plate 13	1	3	0
French Colonies, 1876, 4 c., grey,* repaired	1	2	0
Great Britain, O.W. Official, King, 10d.	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, Queen, 10d.	1	10	0
Porto Rico, 1878, 10 c., brown	1	1	0
Russia, 1857, imperf., 10 k.,* full gum	1	10	0
Spain, 1854, 1 r., pale blue, heavily postmarked	1	16	0
Transvaal, 1908, thin transparent paper, 1d., black, mint	1	14	0
Western Australia, 1860, 6d, sage-green*	1	2	0

THE

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THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

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North Borneo Stamps.

WE record elsewhere the result of the important case affecting these stamps, by which it will be seen that the defendants, Messrs. H. Harmer and J. S. Lowden, have been duly acquitted by a British jury. The defendants pleaded, with success, that they themselves were deceived into the belief that the stamps of North Borneo were produced in Paris from the original plates. We have examined specimens of these Paris printings, and can well understand any one but an expert being deceived by them, as the differences between these "stamps" and the genuine "remainders" are so slight as to render detection a task of the utmost difficulty.

From a philatelic point of view we are constrained to ask if the stamps produced by M. Careme in Paris are not of almost equal value and importance with the "reprints," apparently permitted by the officials of the North Borneo Company. At the hearing of this case, on June 25th, Mr. H. G. Forbes, the Secretary of the British North Borneo Company, examined by Mr. Travers Humphreys, said that the Company used to sell stamps to dealers direct—sometimes cancelled, and sometimes without any mark upon them. Occasionally they had spoiled or imperfect sheets of stamps, which they would sell to collectors. In cross-examination by Mr. Curtis Bennett, Mr. Forbes said that occasionally issues of stamps would be printed purely for the purpose of selling to dealers.

In conjunction with this statement should be taken the evidence of Mr. Parker, the defendants, and other witnesses, and it cannot be gainsaid that the issues of "North Borneo" during recent years are from a pure philatelic standpoint beneath the contempt of any reflecting collector.

It is now fourteen years since the writer drew attention to the danger of Philately being swamped by speculative issues in a paper entitled, "The Rock Ahead," read before the Philatelic Society of London. Following on this the Society, so well remembered as the S.S.S.S., was formed, and did

good work before it succumbed to internecine rivalries. Since that date the power and numbers of the collectors have enormously increased. Surely here is a subject that can well be debated at the Philatelic Congress next spring. We venture to suggest that a proposal to form an International Society of *collectors only* to combat abuses in the issues of postage stamps would, if carefully thought out and well formulated, be likely to crystallize into a valuable and tangible reality.

A Remarkable Find in New South Wales Essays.

By E. D. BACON.



IT will be no news to certain specialists, although it will probably be so to others, that the Tapling Collection contains some unique and very interesting essays of the first postage stamps issued in New South Wales. The particular specimens to which I wish now to direct attention consist of One Penny and Three Pence values, with "Views of Sydney" attached to a piece of paper with a manuscript note below, reading, "The form and colours are approved, but the execution is very far from satisfactory, and must be greatly improved before the contract can be sanctioned." A third essay has been removed from between the two specimens, which had, one can hardly doubt, the value Two Pence. The two essays were only acquired by Mr. Tapling a few months prior to his death, and are believed to have come originally from official sources in the colony. The manuscript note is said to be in the handwriting of Sir Edward Deas Thomson, C.B., K.C.M.G., who was Colonial Secretary in 1849, and the essays are the work of Robert Clayton, the engraver of the plate used for printing the first One Penny "Sydney View" stamps. The essay of the One Penny is printed in dull vermilion, while that of the Three Pence, the frame of which is different, has the centre in red and the frame in blue. Judging from the appearance, I believe that the frames of both essays were printed from engraved wood-blocks, while the central portion, which is the same in each, was printed from an engraved copper-plate. The One Penny has had the part between the letters "N" and "L" in the two lower corners removed and the value "ONE PENNY" inserted. The added piece was evidently cut from another essay made by Clayton, which bore the head of Queen Victoria, and of which there are three specimens in different colours, lettered "ONE PENNY," in the Tapling Collection, attached to a piece of paper with the name "Clayton" below the essays. Curiously enough, there is a vacant space between the first and second of these specimens, and, as in the case of the two essays I have been describing with "View of Sydney," there can be little doubt that a fourth specimen has at some time or other been removed from the paper.

Now the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* of February 15th, 1865, contains an article, "Des timbres de la Nouvelle-Galles du Sud," by Monsieur G.

Herpin, which gives the following particulars of an essay of the Two Pence "Sydney View," which was then in the collection of Count Primoli:—"M. the Count Primoli possesses an essay of the Two Pence deep blue, which has the whole of the space usually occupied by horizontal or vertical lines replaced by solid background, on which is inscribed in white, at the top part of the stamp, the word 'POSTAGE,' and at the bottom, the indication of the value 'TWO PENCE.' Moreover, each of the lower corners bears a letter ('N' to left, 'L' to right) in the place of a small star." From this description there can be no doubt that the specimen referred to was an impression of the missing Two Pence essay. Count Primoli was related to the family of Napoleon III, and it is well known that he obtained specimens for his collection through applications made on his behalf by some of the Government departments in Paris to officials abroad. It is highly probable, therefore, that he received the specimen of this Two Pence essay direct from Sydney, and that it was removed from the very piece of paper which now only bears impressions of One Penny and Three Pence values. During the past year or so many inquiries have been made by myself and other philatelists in order to trace what became of Count Primoli's essay and, if possible, to discover its present hiding-place. Every effort in these directions has, however, proved futile, and the attempt had to be abandoned.



The astonishing part of my story is yet to tell. Just recently I have had an opportunity of going through the late Sir William B. Avery's collection of stamps, and my surprise may be imagined when I came across the specimen of this missing Two Pence essay, an enlarged illustration of which accompanies this article. The colour is deep blue, and it is printed on thin white wove paper. Like the One Penny and Three Pence values, it has the frame printed from an engraved wood-block, and the centre from the same engraved copper-plate as was used for the two other values. An examination proves, what was already suspected, that the One Penny essay was printed from the same wood-block as that of the Two Pence, and that the value was then altered in the way I have already described. As regards the central portion of all three essays, it is curious to notice that the engraver committed no less than two errors in inscribing the motto "SIC FORTIS ETRURIA CREVIT," the word "FORTIS" being plainly misspelt "PORTIS," while the word "ETRURIA" is rendered as "ETTURIA." From what provenance Sir W. B.

Avery obtained the specimen I am unable to say with certainty, but I believe it came to him in the fine collection of New South Wales stamps formed by Mr. A. J. Bulloch, of Sydney, and which Sir W. B. Avery purchased about the year 1892. If so, and it is, as seems probable, the same specimen as was once owned by Count Primoli, and is the one originally attached to the same piece of paper as the One Penny and Three Pence values now in the British Museum, the specimen must have made a return journey to the colony, and then back to Europe again, which increases its already romantic history.

It now remains to trace the missing essay with the head of Queen Victoria. This may be even a more difficult task than the former, inasmuch as the design itself bears nothing distinctive of its emanating from New South Wales. As likely as not the specimen will one day be discovered in some forgotten collection, placed as an essay of Great Britain, or of some British colony quite remote from the real source of its origin.

In conclusion, it is necessary to put collectors on their guard if they should be offered, what purport to be, specimens of these early essays. Numerous lithographic reproductions have been made of the essays of Robert Clayton, with which I have been dealing, and also of other New South Wales essays, even the paper on which the originals are attached, and the written inscriptions having been cleverly reproduced.

The Adhesive Stamps of Portugal.

By J. N. MARSDEN.



SOME considerable time has elapsed since my last contribution on the above subject, and I have, I am afraid, little excuse to plead, except that since then my leisure has been devoted to other subjects.

In that contribution I inadvertently omitted to chronicle the Vasco da Gama issue, which should be numbered Issue XXXI. The two succeeding issues of the 1st July, 1898, and the 1st January, 1899, being numbered XXXII and XXXIII, respectively.

Issue XXXI. Vasco da Gama. Fourth Centenary. 1st April to 20th May, 1898.

This series was issued to commemorate the discovery of India by Vasco da Gama in 1498. This discoverer, sailing from Belem, near Lisbon, was the first to show to the world the sea-route to India by the Cape of Good Hope. His voyage and discoveries have been immortalized by the Portuguese poet Camões, in the *Luziads*, which have been translated into almost every European language.

The Government official organ published the decree, dated the 28th May, 1896, authorizing the issue on the 1st June following, and stated that the stamps, consisting of eight values, would be on sale from the 1st July to

the 30th September, 1897. By a later decree dated the 10th March, 1898, and published on the 14th, the period during which the stamps would be current was altered to the three months from the 1st April to the 30th June, 1898.

Local artists were asked to send in designs for each of the values, and a public exhibition took place on the 9th November, 1895, of all sent in. Those chosen were as follows :—

For the 2½ rs. Vasco da Gama's fleet, by Senhor Roque Gameiro.
5 rs. The arrival of the fleet at Calicut, by Senhor Manuel Pedro de Faria Lima.
10 rs. Vasco da Gama embarking at the Restello beach, by Senhor Silvestre Correia Belem.
25 rs. A figure emblematic of History writing a narrative of the Portuguese discoveries, by Senhor João Vaz.
50 rs. One of the ships of the fleet under full sail, by Senhor José Julho Gonçalves Coelho.
75 rs. In a cross of Christ, the allegorical representation of St. Raphael on a galleon, by Senhor João Vaz.
100 rs. Another view of Vasco da Gama's fleet, by Senhor J. R. Christino da Silva.
150 rs. The Arms of King Manuel I, behind which the figure of Vasco da Gama, having on his right a representation of Belem Cathedral (built to commemorate the discovery of India), and on his left a tropical scene, by Senhor João Vaz.

It is almost needless to say that the issue, as the previous commemorative issues had been, was a great fiasco, and the extra sale barely covered the cost of production. A very large remainder of all values still exists in the Mint, and I believe there have been negotiations for their purchase, which have fallen through.

The stamps were in sheets of 150, and were printed and perforated by Waterlow of London.

Synopsis.

Issue XXXI. Vasco da Gama. 1st April to 30th June, 1898.
Waterlow perforation.

2½	reis,	blue-green	(shades).
5	„	red	(„).
10	„	lilac	(„).
25	„	yellow-green	(„).
50	„	deep blue	(„).
75	„	chocolate-brown	(„).
100	„	brown	(„).
150	„	yellow-brown	(„).

On the 31st January, 1905, a decree appeared in the *Diario do Gouverno*, that from the 1st March, 1906, the values of 15, 65, 80, 115, 130 and 180 reis would be withdrawn from issue, but that those in the hands of the public

could be used until the 31st March following. The reason for this was that, owing to the improved exchange, a new tariff for foreign postage, or rather one reverting to the old tariff of 50 reis for 15 grammes, was to come into force on the 1st March, and the values of 65, 115, 130 and 180 reis were therefore unnecessary. As there was little demand for the 15 and 80 reis, these were also included.

Subsequently, when the foreign tariff was again altered, being 50 reis for 20 grammes, and 30 reis for each additional 20 grammes, which came into force on the 1st October, 1907, the 80 reis was reissued, as being the rate for double postage.

Issue XXXIV. Don Carlos, July, 1905.

In the *Diario do Gouverno* of the 19th May, 1905, a decree was published altering the colour of the 75 reis from carmine and black to grey-brown on cream (almost the colour of the abolished 130 reis) with figures of value in red. This alteration of colour took place in order to avoid confusion with the 25 reis. The *Diario do Gouverno* of the 5th June following published a further decree, altering the colour of the 50 reis to ultramarine, and the reason for this alteration was to bring the colour more into harmony with the international colour used by countries of the Postal Union for the single international rate. The stamps of the old colours were not withdrawn, but continued to be issued indiscriminately with the stamps of the new colours, until the old stocks became exhausted.

Synopsis.

Issue XXXIV. Don Carlos, July, 1905. *Perf.* 11½.

50 reis, ultramarine (shades).
75 „ grey-brown on cream, figure of value in red (shades).

Several fresh varieties of the present issue have appeared, and I append a full list, including some I have previously recorded.

Varieties of the Issues 1895–1909.

(1) Without figure of value.
2½ reis, grey (two shades).
10 „ pale yellow-green.
15 „ green.
20 „ pale lilac.
25 „ rose (two shades).
50 „ deep blue.
50 „ ultramarine (two shades).
130 „ grey-brown on cream.

(2) Figure of value inverted.
2½ reis, grey
5 „ orange.
25 „ rose.

(3) Value surcharged twice, once inverted.
10 reis, pale green.
25 „ rose.

(4) Error of colour.
25 reis, orange.
(5) Imperf.
2½ reis, grey.
(6) *Se tenant* with normal.
2½ reis, grey, one without surcharge.
5 „ orange „ „
25 „ rose, one with double surcharge (inverted and normal).

The last three stamps occur in this state owing to the printing of the value having been done too much to one side, and consequently the margin of the sheets bears a vertical line of figures.

Almost all values occur with figures more or less misplaced.

Occasional Notes.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Society's rooms at 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C., will be closed from August 7th to August 28th inclusive.

All communications sent to the registered office of the Society, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C., will receive attention.

THE ALLEGED STAMP FORGERIES. ACQUITTAL OF THE DEFENDANTS.

THE further hearing of this case was held and concluded on May 17, when the defendants were committed for trial, which, as our readers will see in the report following of the proceedings at the Central Criminal Court, on June 25, has resulted in the acquittal of the defendants. Both defendants gave evidence and stated that they sold the stamps in question as reprints and believed them to be such. The learned Judge, Mr. Lumley Smith, having most ably summed up the case, the jury after a short retirement pronounced a verdict of "Not Guilty." We are enabled to reproduce (from the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*) the learned Judge's summing-up, which gives a clear insight into all the issues raised.

"The defendants, said his Lordship, were charged with conspiring together to do something which was unlawful. It was not disputed by the defence that the two men were working together, and it was quite clear from first to last that they had acted together throughout the transaction. What the jury had to consider was whether they were working together to do something which was unlawful. What was the history of the case? It seemed that large numbers of people were in the habit of buying and selling stamps. Then it seemed that in 1908 forged North Borneo stamps were

found on the market. By some means or other the French police, acting on information received, descended upom Réme Careme's place, where they found a factory going on for making these particular North Borneo stamps. They found the plates, they found his printers, they found the stones, and they found the stamps—some just finished and some in process of being finished. It was obvious that a man in that position would not make stamps unless he had got somebody to dispose of them, and the question was, Who was the person or persons who were employing Careme? On the premises letters were found from the two defendants showing that they were corresponding with Careme; they found letters in which they gave instructions about the colour, the perforation, and the size of the stamps, and letters showing that money had been paid for them. The result, as it turned out, proved that the stamps were being printed for the defendants. When the English police came into the matter it had also been proved that large quantities of these stamps were found at 20 Villiers Street, where the two defendants had been carrying on business. It was also proved that they had sold the stamps. From all these facts it was clear that they had instructed the forger to make these stamps; that they had paid him for doing it; that they had given him certain directions in regard to the work; and that they had received the stamps, from all of which the jury would be justified in inferring that they did this unlawfully, knowing that the stamps were fictitious. If the matter stood alone the jury would be entitled—if they thought that was a fair inference to draw—to infer that they had a criminal part in the affair. To that the defendants said in effect: 'We are not criminals in this matter; we were ourselves taken in; we were beguiled by this man, Careme, who told us that he had got the original plates and that he was in a position to produce the stamps from those plates.' Assuming that to be true, he (the Judge) dare say that the defendants were willing to be beguiled, because they were, by their contract with Parker, establishing control over all the North Borneo stamps. Parker had not got any of these particular issues, and he did not seem to have been in a position to supply them, and, therefore, by getting these stamps from Paris, the defendants might have made their list of Borneo stamps complete. Unfortunately they had not Careme before them to actually state what did take place, but the two defendants had given their version. Then it might be said that, even assuming that the story of the defendants was true, and that they believed they were getting impressions from the original prints, that did not quite clear them, because they were going to sell the stamps as original stamps—stamps that had been in circulation. That was the reason why he (the learned Judge) asked Mr. Travers Humphreys to say whether he would go so far as to say that presuming the defendants believed that they were getting legitimate impressions, he would still say that there was a conspiracy. However, the prosecution did not go as far as that. It was for the jury to consider whether the story of the defendants was one that they would be disposed to accept. First of all, why should those plates be in Paris? It was said that there were some instances of Companies and States parting with their plates. When that came to be looked at, the States that had been parting with their plates were not States of the highest

responsibility or respectability. One was Venezuela, where revolutions were constantly taking place. And then it was also said that from Hayti plates had been sold. Undoubtedly there were instances where plates had been sold, but North Borneo was a British possession, and one would not expect them to be in the habit of selling their plates when they were current. This particular issue was current in a sense, although the stamps did not appear to be in current issue, but they had not been demonetized in the sense that they were no longer a legal tender. That was how the thing stood. The defendants stated they honestly believed that Careme had got the plates, and they therefore thought it was fair and reasonable to have impressions made from them. The defendants said that they had acted *bona fide* in the matter, and it was rather a pity that the letters which had been referred to had not been produced. If the jury accepted their statement they would probably be of opinion that the case had not been made out. On the other hand, if they inferred that the defendants were knowingly doing what they knew to be unlawful they would of course find them guilty. The broad issue was whether the jury believed the explanation of the defendants, and whether they thought, bearing that explanation in mind, there was an illegal conspiracy; and of course they must remember that in a criminal charge the prosecution was expected to make out their case. Mr. Frampton had very properly said that every man who was prosecuted was entitled to the benefit of the doubt. He thought that broadly they must find the prisoners either guilty or not guilty on the whole of the indictment, without dividing any particular count one way or another. In conclusion, his Lordship said he thought there was something to be said in favour of what Mr. Frampton had drawn attention to, that the instructions given in the letters to Careme were all in regard to colour, size, and perforation, instructions which might be necessary if the stamps were going to be printed from old plates."

THE GERMAN NORMAL CATALOGUE.

THIS movement, favoured by over thirty important German philatelic societies, is making steady progress. We are informed that the production of the catalogue is being actively prosecuted by an influential and entirely impartial committee of Philatelists, whose decisions as to the prices will involve alterations of far-reaching importance. It is confidently anticipated that the appearance of this catalogue will be an event of first-class philatelic importance and that Germany will soon possess an impartial and reliable standard catalogue. The example set by Germany will assuredly find imitators in other countries, and we shall be very surprised if this country does not follow the lead of our Teutonic brother collectors.

STAMPING MACHINES BILL TO BE REINTRODUCED IN AUSTRALIA.

WE have received the paragraphs following which appeared in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* of May 8th, from an esteemed correspondent in that capital :—

"A leading business firm recently complained bitterly of the Postal officials' neglect in having allowed two important letters that were missing to go astray. Correspondence followed, and G.P.O. detectives were given the matter to investigate. They closely interrogated the firm's office boy, and he has since confessed that he had never posted the letters. The room where he lived was searched, and another eighty letters were unearthed. The stamps were missing.

"In the last Federal session a Bill passed its second reading in the Senate to enable the Postal Department to authorize the use by business firms of stamping machines, similar to those in other departments. The Senate did not pass the measure. The use of such machines obviates the necessity for adhesive stamps, and there is no temptation for lads to hold back letters for the sake of the postage.

"As favourable reports have been received of the working of the machine, the Bill will be introduced next session at the stage where it was left last year. The machines cost £25 each.

"Mr. Thomas has been surprised since he has been in office at the number of fines which have been inflicted on persons for having used defaced stamps."

Our correspondent adds :—

"No doubt a new era is opening. Our large firms will take up these machines, and (especially high value) current Australians will rise in price, not being *wanted* in the ordinary way of business for postage purposes."

A specimen of an unstamped missive is also sent by our correspondent, addressed to himself in Sydney. This bears no stamp, but has an obliteration composed of six horizontal parallel bars intersected by the inscription "PAID 1D 1909" and "Sydney N S W My 7 noon."

These machines, which, we presume, automatically indicate the respectively required amounts, are obviously only intended for the use of large firms. It is, however, these who mainly use the high values, and the use of these machines would undoubtedly tend to diminish the employment of all higher values. We do not think it would, however, be regarded as an unmixed evil if all future issues contained no higher denomination than one shilling!

THE CHELSEA ENTIRES EXCHANGE SOCIETY.

WE have pleasure in calling renewed attention to this useful little Society, whose laudable object it is to cultivate the study of entires. The desuetude into which this form of collecting has fallen in this country is greatly to be deplored, and we trust that Mr. Warhurst's able championship thereof may evoke a more extended interest therein. To our mind post cards and entire envelopes, as regards their dies, present far greater philatelic importance and interest than defectively printed surcharges, minute, contemporaneous varieties of perforation, or Pietersburg locals, and without the aid of collectors of entires the future philatelic history maker will be hopelessly lost in endeavouring to record the complete postal issues of a country. We certainly think that philatelic societies should make such collections

so as to preserve a record for the purposes of compilation, and we should cordially welcome the initiation of such a step by a committee of the Royal Philatelic Society. To those who care to take up this interesting branch of Philately, we would advise membership of the Chelsea Society.

This is the only one of its kind in the kingdom, and was formed in 1899 for distributing used and unused envelopes and post cards in an entire condition with stamps impressed for postage. A few stamped telegraph forms and used covers with adhesives, if of special interest, can be sent occasionally, about 4000 pieces changing hands yearly. Every member may send one or two "lots" of fifty pieces in a cover, for the packets containing two dozen lots, or over 1200 pieces which are sent out every five or six weeks, August excepted. The postal list is varied every circuit, so that the last names are near the top in following month. The packet must be forwarded by Registered Parcel Post to the next address within fifty hours of receipt (Sundays excepted), and members will be held responsible if not duly registered, or for damage or loss of pieces while in their possession, and may be fined for unnecessary delay. A nominal annual subscription of one shilling is due on January 1st. Twelve printed covers for uniform enclosure of the entires will then be sent. Extra covers at fourpence per dozen. Full information can be obtained of the Secretary, B. W. Warhurst, 15 Paultons Square, London, S.W.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—The 5 c., ultramarine, on multiple, ordinary paper, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and we understand that the 2 c., rose, has also been lately issued. Both were chronicled early last year, probably from specimen copies.

DOMINICA.—Three stamps of the Pictorial issue in new colours are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

2d., grey.
3d., brown on yellow.
6d., violet.

GOLD COAST.—The issue of the following is reported in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

1s., black and green; multiple; chalky.

INDIA.—*Cochin.*—A provisional stamp is chronicled in the *Philatelic Adviser.*

The 3 pies stamp has been surcharged "2" in black after being printed in violet colour.

Provisional.

"2" (pies), in black, on 3 pies, violet; perf. 11½.

Hyderabad.—*Smith's Monthly* states that five stamps of the "Postage" type lately chronicled have received the old "Service" overprint.

Officials.

¼ anna, pale grey
½ ,, pale green.
1 ,, carmine.
2 annas, lilac.
3 ,, brown-orange.

JAMAICA.—We are told in *Gibbons Weekly* that the 6d. Queen's Head stamp on multiple, ordinary paper, is found in two distinct shades of colour—dull orange-yellow and dull orange.

MALDIVE ISLANDS.—Four new stamps are reported in several journals.

The central design shows an old tower, and the watermark consists of multiple rosettes.

Adhesives.

2 c., orange-brown; perf. 14.
3 c., deep myrtle-green ,,
5 c., pale purple ,,
10 c., carmine ,,

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The current 2d. stamp, watermarked Crown and double-lined A sideways, perf. 12 × 11½, is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

2d., blue; Crown and double-lined A sideways; perf. 12 × 11½.

NEW ZEALAND.—It would appear from the *Australian Philatelist* that new 2d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., and 1s. stamps bearing the King's Head will be issued in due course, as proofs have been shown by Mr. Bate at a meeting of the New Zealand Philatelic Society.

QUEENSLAND.—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the 2d. Queen's Head, Q and Crown watermark issue of 1905, has been found perf. 12, and becomes No. 226*a* in Gibbons Catalogue.

Mekeel's Weekly states that the current 2d. stamp has been re-engraved. The top of the Crown does not touch the oval, the forehead is white, more of the ear shows, and the whole stamp is lightened and improved.

Adhesives.

2d., blue; Queen's Head; Q and Crown; perf. 12.
2d. ,, ,, re-engraved.

ST. LUCIA.—We understand from *Mekeel's Weekly* that the 1d. and 2½d. stamps are coming in new shades, for both these stamps in single colours are already catalogued.

Adhesives.

1d., carmine.
2½d., ultramarine.

SIERRA LEONE.—Additions to the new set are reported in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

2d., grey.
3d., brown on yellow.
4d., black and red on yellow.
5d., violet and olive.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Fred Hagen has shown us a hitherto unknown variety, namely, the 3d., in black, on 4d., "O.S.," perf. 11½, watermarked *large* Star instead of broad Star.

Our contemporary also reports the 2d., bright violet, with "O.S." Type 53, inverted.

Officials.

3d., in black, on 4d., blue; "O.S."; Type 51; perf. 11½; *large* Star.
2d., bright violet; SA close; "O.S."; Type 53; inverted; perf. 13.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority, reports the following from specimen copies:—

Adhesives.

2d., grey; multiple wmk.
3d., purple on yellow; multiple wmk.
4d., carmine and grey on yellow ,,
6d., lilac ,,
1s., black and grey on green ,,
2s. 6d., carmine and grey on blue ,,
5s., red and green on yellow ,,
10s., carmine and green on green ,,
£1, black and red on red ,,

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Some more colour changes are listed in *Smith's Monthly.*

Adhesives.

25 cents, purple.
$5, green and red on green.

SUDAN.—*Smith's Monthly* chronicles the 2 piastres, blue and black, on "Star and Crescent" paper, overprinted "Army Service" in black.

This stamp is catalogued, but has probably only lately been issued.

Official.

2 piastres, blue and black; Star and Crescent paper; "Army Service" overprint.

TASMANIA.—Mr. W. Brettschneider informs us that he has seen a block of six 4d. stamps on Crown and A paper. The centre and left vertical pairs are perforated 11 × 12½, and the right-hand pair are perf. 11 × 11 × 11 × 12½, showing, in his opinion, that the sheet was perforated 11 all except the last two perpendicular rows, which must have been missed, and were afterwards run through the 12½ machine.

Gibbons Weekly lists the 9d., *ultramarine*, V over Crown, perf. 12½.

Adhesive.

9d., *ultramarine;* V over Crown; perf. 12½.

TRANSVAAL.—Mr. W. P. Cohen, F.R.P.S.L., writes under date May 31, 1909, as follows :—"At a meeting of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society on the 25th inst. a member exhibited a copy of the error watermark (*Cabled Anchor*) current 1d. Transvaal. It bore the Johannesburg postmark and was dated 1907. The month of issue was not shown on the stamp."

EUROPE.

BOSNIA.—Mr. Albert Scheindling writes under date June 21st, 1909, as follows :—

"In looking over the excellent pages of *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, I find there chronicled, on pages 374 and 405, quite a number of hitherto unknown varieties of perforation of the unpaid stamps of Bosnia. While arranging my collection of Bosnia I find that I possess a few more varieties not chronicled in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, viz. perf. 10½, 4 heller ; perf. 12½, 13, and 10½ compound, 1, 2, 15 heller ; perf. 12½, 13, and 9 compound, 3 heller. Enclosed I beg to hand you all these stamps except the 15 heller, which I have already given away to one of my friends. The exact list of these rare varieties would now be as follows :—

Perforated 10½.	1	heller,	black, red,	and yellow.
,,	4	,,	,,	,,
,,	5	,,	,,	,,
,,	7	,,	,,	,,
,,	10	,,	,,	,,
,,	20	,,	,,	,,
,,	50	,,	,,	,,
Perforated 9.	1	heller,	black, red,	and yellow.
,,	2	,,	,,	,,
,,	4	,,	,,	,,
,,	8	,,	,,	,,
,,	10	,,	,,	,,
,,	20	,,	,,	,,
,,	50	,,	,,	,,
Perforated 12½, 13 × 10½.	1	heller,	black, red,	and yellow.
,, ,,	2	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	4	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	5	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	6	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	7	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	10	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	15	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	50	,,	,,	,,
Perforated 12½, 13 × 9.	3	heller,	black, red,	and yellow.
,, ,,	4	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	8	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	10	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	20	,,	,,	,,
,, ,,	50	,,	,,	,,

BULGARIA. — Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 15 st. and 30 st. of 1902 surcharged respectively "5" and "25," and the 1 st. of 1889/90 overprinted "1909" in black at top.

Provisionals.

"5", in dark blue, on 15 st., lake and greenish black.

"25", in vermilion, on 30 st., bistre-brown and greenish black.

1 st. mauve of 1889/90 overprinted "1909" in black.

CRETE.—We have received the 5 lepta, green, with the large red overprint, from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

5 lepta, green ; large red overprint.

FRANCE.—During the first of the recent postal strikes the Amiens Chamber of Commerce issued a roughly type-set provisional stamp of 10 c. for use in conjunction with an ordinary 10 c. stamp. In addition to the design the arms of Amiens were overprinted in pale blue. The perforation is described as being badly done, and the total quantity printed is given as 50,000.—*Smith's Monthly.*

10 centimes, green and pale blue.

ITALY.—The current 15 cent. stamp has been re-engraved, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send specimens of both old and new types for comparison.

The inscription and value at top is now printed on a solid background, and the whole appearance and colour of the stamp is greatly improved.

The perforation is now 13½ in place of 12.

MONACO.—It is reported on Continental authority that the 10 c. Postage Due has appeared in a new colour, brown, in place of rose.

Postage Due.

10 c., brown ; perf. 14 × 13½.

ROUMANIA.—Mr. Albert Scheindling has written us as follows :—

"I find that the Gibbons Catalogue takes no notice of the compound perforations of Roumania 1876 issue, although they are listed for quite a long time by Kohl. I have recently discovered two more values with this rare perforation, also the 3 bani of the 1879 issue, and enclosed I beg to hand you all these five stamps.

"I have sent them on to Mr. Kohl, who is a recognized expert on the stamps of Roumania, and he declared the perforation genuine and promised to list them in the next edition of his great catalogue."

Adhesives.

1½	bani,	olive-green,	of 1876 ; perf. 11 × 13½.
5	,,	bistre	,, ,,
10	,,	blue	,, ,,
3	,,	olive-green,	1879 ; perf. 13½ × 11½.

RUSSIA.—The new 3 k. of a similar type to the new 7 k. is to hand from Mr. Albert Scheindling.

Adhesive.

3 k., carmine; perf. 14½; safety bars.

AMERICA.

COSTA RICA.—Four more values of the current set, perf. 11½ × 14, are chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly*.

Adhesives.

1 c., indigo and chestnut-brown; perf. 11½ × 14.
2 c., black and yellow-green ,, ,,
4 c., indigo and carmine-red, on toned; perf. 11½ × 14.
10 c., black and blue; perf. 11½ × 14.

NICARAGUA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have received three values of the new set not included in the list given on page 160. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* adds the 6 c. and 2 pesos, and informs us that the whole set has been overprinted "OFICIAL" in ordinary Roman caps.

Adhesives.

1 cent., green.
4 cents., purple.
6 ,, brown.
15 ,, grey-black.
2 pesos, rose.

Officials.

1 c., emerald-green.
2 c., vermilion.
3 c., orange-red.
4 c., purple.
5 c., Prussian blue.
6 c., brown.
10 c., claret.
15 c., black.
20 c., olive-brown.
50 c., dark green.
1 p., yellow.
2 p., rose.

PANAMA.—From various sources we gather that the 2 c., 8 c., and 10 c. of the re-engraved set have appeared.

Adhesives.

2 c., red and black; re-engraved.
8 c., purple and black ,,
10 c., violet and black ,,

The 5 c. and 8 c., in addition to the 2 c. and 10 c., have received the "Canal Zone" overprint.

PERU.—It is stated in *Mekeel's Weekly*, on the authority of Mr. Herman Focke, that the 2 soles stamp, issue 1907, blue and black, with monument of Columbus, was never sold over the counter in Peru to the public for postage use.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CONGO STATE.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 5 c., 10 c., 15 c., and 50 c. of similar design to the 1894–1901 set, but with the inscription altered to "Congo Belge."

Adhesives.

5 cents., green and black; perf. 14.
10 ,, carmine and black ,,
15 ,, ochre and black ,,
50 ,, olive-green and black ,,

ITALIAN SOMALILAND.—To the set of Postage Due stamps chronicled on page 84 *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds the 60 c. value.

Postage Due.

60 c., orange and carmine; overprinted "Somalia Italiana" only.

LIBERIA.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 10 cents stamp of 1906 surcharged "INLAND 3 CENTS" in script type, in black.

It is reported that only about 10,000 of these provisionals were made, and that no more can be printed, as the stock of the old 10 c. is practically exhausted and the plates destroyed.

Provisional.

3 cents, in black, on 10 c., mauve and black, of 1906.

SPANISH MOROCCO.—In addition to the 1, 5, 10, and 25 c. the following have now been overprinted.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*



Adhesives. Overprinted approximtaely as above.

2 c., brown.
15 c., violet.
20 c., black.
30 c., green.
40 c., rose.
50 c., greenish blue.
1 p., red-violet.
4 p., dark violet.
10 p., orange.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE annual meeting was held at No. 4 Southampton Row, on Tuesday, May 18, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Franz Reichenheim, H. L. Hayman, T. H. Harvey, W. G. Cool, W. A. Boyes, P. Ashley, L. E. Bradbury, C. R. Sutherland, W. T. Standen, A. H. L. Giles, J. C. Sidebotham, A. G. Wane, E. W. Arnold, F. Read, D. H. Jackson, R. H. Newton, Baron Anthony de Worms, W. H. Eastwood, E. Bounds, M. Weinberg, J. A. Leon, and H. A. Slade.

Before the election of officers, Mr. Sidebotham took the chair.

The minutes of the annual meeting held on May 19, 1908, were read and signed as correct.

Reports were read by the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, the Hon. Librarian, and the Hon. Curators of the Society's Collections. These reports were duly acknowledged, and will be printed *in extenso* in the October number of the *Monthly Report*.

The officers for the session 1909–10 were elected as follows:—

President: Franz Reichenheim. Vice-Presidents: Harry L. Hayman. Hon. Vice-Presidents: M. P. Castle, J.P., Herbert R. Oldfield. Committee: W. Archibald Boyes, Louis E. Bradbury, W. G. Cool, R. Frentzel, A. H. L. Giles, R.N., T. Hargrave Harvey, C. R. Sutherland, W. T. Standen. Hon. Librarian: J. C. Sidebotham, 28 Great Ormond Street, London, W.C. Hon. Lecturer: Percy Ashley, M.A. Hon. Auditors: F. Read, A. G. Wane. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: H. A. Slade.

No alteration was made in the rules of the Society.

It was carried that the sum of £20 be granted from the funds of the Society towards the cost of printing the *Monthly Report*, and that the sincere thanks of the Society be recorded to the President for the great ability he had shown in carrying out the arduous duties of editor. The President, in returning thanks, agreed to continue his duties next season provided the paper was established on a proper paying basis.

A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, to be held in London in 1910, under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society. The committee to consist of the President, the Vice-President, Baron Anthony de Worms, C. R. Sutherland, and the Hon. Secretary.

Stamps for the Society's Collection were presented by the President and the Vice-President. The latter also presented proofs of the New Zealand and Ceylon stamps used on the dinner cards, copies of the menu and invitation cards, etc., and promised a Scrap Book to the Society, to contain these and similar objects interesting to the Herts Philatelic Society.

Philatelic literature was presented to the Library by Mr. E. F. Lawrence: *The Melville Stamp Book* (Mr W. H. Peckitt), Oestreichischer Philatelisten-Klub *Vindobona*, *Internationaler Postwertzeichen-Handler-Verein zu Berlin*, and the Newcastle Philatelic Society.

All these donations were acknowledged with thanks, and the Vice-President was specially thanked for the part taken by him in promoting the success of the annual dinner.

It was resolved that No. 4 Southampton Row continue as the meeting-place of the Society.

The meeting terminated at 7.45 p.m.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*
NINE FIELDS, ST. ALBANS.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, April 21, 1909, at eight o'clock.

The President (Mr. Ed. E. Van Weenen) was in the chair, and, despite adverse weather conditions, there was a good attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and received. The Hon. Secretary reported not having received any essay in connection with the competition for the Club Gold Medal for 1908–9, which closed on March 31, 1909. An opinion was expressed that the circulars governing the competition were not issued early enough, and several members spoke in favour of extending the time until after the winter months. The matter was adjourned for discussion at the May meeting, which will be a special general meeting to decide (1) question of voting by proxy, (2) alteration of time for calling the general meeting from eight o'clock, as at present, to seven o'clock, (3) proposal *re* exchange branch.

Reference was made to the issue, in a new colour, of the Queensland 4d. stamp, which now appears as "grey black," *vice* "pale yellow" as heretofore. An opinion was expressed that the new colour may not be permanent.

A discussion also took place on the types of New South Wales officials surcharged in red "O. S.," special mention being made of the 3d. and 5d. values, several specimens of

which were on view. Keen interest was shown in this discussion.

The Hon. Secretary reported the result of his efforts *re* the Club Library, and read a letter from Miss E. West, who has kindly offered to attend to the matter of arranging unbound journals, etc., until the end of the financial year.

A "private sale of stamps by tender" then took place. Several lots changed hands at satisfactory prices.

During the evening the President had on view his collection of Island stamps, which were greatly admired. Some very fine stamps were to be seen in this portion of his collection, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Van Weenen for the privilege of viewing the stamps shown.

The ballot for Book 185 then took place. This book, valued at £122 2s. 7d., and contributed to by twenty-five members, was put into circulation on April 27, 1909. Book 177 was "broken up" and settlement effected with contributors on April 7, 1909. The total sales were £13 0s. 11d.

At a committee meeting held prior to the usual monthly meeting three new members were elected, as follows:—Mr. R. Hogg, Victoria; Mr. Orchard, Tasmania; Mr. R. Gillett, Sydney, N.S.W.

The next monthly and special meeting was fixed for Wednesday, May 19, at the Sports Club, Hunter Street, City.

S. P. C. Dinner to Mr. F. Hagen.

The President and a large gathering of members entertained Mr. Fred. Hagen at a complimentary dinner on Friday evening, April 2, at the A.B.C. Rooms, Pitt Street, City. Prominent among those present beside the guest were Messrs. Ed. E. Van Weenen, J. J. Witney, A. F. Basset Hull, H. Venables Vernon, R. Maney Lake, W. Ridley, J.P., M. R. Casper, B. Blumenthol, W. J. McNeil, F. J. Ridley, H. Himmelhoch, J. Green, A. H. Pettifer, J. H. Smyth, W. A. Hull, C. F. Williams, etc.

The function was a brilliant success. During the evening Mr. Hagen was presented with a handsome solid silver cigar case and a set of razors, both suitably inscribed, and subscribed by past, present, and absent members.

Mr. Hagen suitably responded, and during the course of his remarks referred to many interesting philatelic reminiscences of the early days of our club. He was pleased to meet so many prominent philatelists, who had come there that evening to do him honour on the eve of his departure for a tour of Europe. He hoped to merit their continued friendship and confidence for all time. He was agreeably surprised to receive such handsome presents, and would cherish them in remembrance of one of the most pleasing episodes of his career.

Other toasts honoured during the evening were—"The King," "Our Honorary President, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," "Our Club," "Absent Members," "The President," "Our Hon. Secretary," "The Hon. Treasurer," etc.

A feature of the ceremony were the fine "menu cards" designed by Mr. Vernon, and much admired. Each member inscribed his name on the space provided, and, after handing one to our guest, a copy was supplied to each person present as a memento of what proved a highly enjoyable function.

Mr. Hagen left in the Norddeutscher-Lloyd steamship *Zieten* on April 17 for an extended tour of Europe. He will visit the prominent Philatelic Societies of Great Britain and Europe, and expects to be away for twelve months or more.

The usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, May 19, at 8 p.m. In the absence of the President (Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen), Mr. Pettifer was unanimously elected to the chair. A letter of apology was read from the President, who is away in Victoria, and may remain there for a few months. He sent his best wishes for a successful meeting, and hearty philatelic greeting to the officers and members. Apologies for non-attendance were also received from Messrs. A. F. B. Hull, McNeill, Vernon, Green, and Ridley. The inclement weather was responsible for a small attendance. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received.

A proposal to extend the closing date of the Gold Medal Competition of 1908–9 until after the winter months, which had been adjourned for discussion at the May meeting, was further adjourned for discussion by the Committee.

Mr. Pettifer brought his collection to the meeting; members were keenly interested therein, and a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded him for the happy hour spent in viewing same.

The meeting then closed.

In accordance with the terms of a requisition lodged with the Hon. Secretary at the April meeting, a special meeting was then held to consider the following proposals:—

(1) That a vote of all country members be taken at election of officers, revision of rules, or any matter affecting the vital interest of the Club, the latter to be decided by the Committee.

(2) That in future the hour of all Club meetings shall be 7 p.m., instead of 8 p.m. as hitherto.

(3) Proposals *re* exchange branch.

A most interesting discussion followed upon the several proposals as noted, and it was resolved:—

(1) That country and inter-state members shall have the right to vote on all matters the Committee might deem of vital interest to the Club, and also at election of officers and revision of rules.

Reply post card was the method approved of.

(2) That in future all club meetings shall be held at 7 p.m. instead of at 8 p.m. as heretofore.

(3) That the Exchange Superintendent shall have first choice on all books issued, in addition to the usual commission deducted to defray the cost of circulation and other expenses in connection with this branch, and he may forward a book to any member residing in the Commonwealth, New Zealand, or Fiji, after first ascertaining from each contributor to the book if he, or she, has any objection; a contributor who may object can have the stamp so contributed removed from the book and returned prior to the despatch of any such exchange book.

Each of the above-noted resolutions will take effect from the commencement of the financial year of 1909–10.

The meeting then closed.

At a committee meeting held on Monday, May 24, eight new members were elected, viz.: Messrs. A. McClure Dunn, C.P.S., C. R. Gillespie, V. Watkins, F. J. Milfoen, R. S. Sand, R. McGuffie, W. A. Weymouth, and Miss E. Berwick, representing an increase of twenty-two members this year.

A report *re* library was presented by the Hon. Secretary, giving full information, with a complete list of bound, unbound, and duplicate journals, also numbers required to complete series, and state of subscription to journals which had been allowed to lapse, with suggested alterations, etc., and which was, after discussion, unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks was passed for the work done by the Hon. Secretary. A list of books, etc., contained in the library will be published and forwarded to each member at the beginning of the financial year. Ballot for Book 185 then took place; this book will be put into circulation on Wednesday, May 26. 1909.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE ordinary monthly general meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, April 15, at 8 p.m.

The President (Mr. Kelson) occupied the chair, and there was a satisfactory attendance of members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. S. McTavish was duly elected a member of the Society.

Mr. S. Wylie sent in his resignation, from the end of the present financial year, which was accepted with regret.

Mr. A. J. Duncan presented the Library with Scott's catalogues from 1898–1905, and for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

It was proposed and seconded that several volumes of periodicals, and the handbook on the stamps of Fiji, be bound.

The Librarian further proposed that the Society purchase *Hawaiian Numerals*, by Henry J. Crocker, which proposal was carried.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*

128 RUSSELL STREET.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

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REFUSAL OF A REGISTER LETTER TO FRANCE.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—We should be much obliged if you could see your way to deal with the enclosed letter. We despatched a registered letter addressed to a customer in France, weighing three ounces, containing foreign postage stamps. This was stopped in the course of the post and returned to us, and we were informed that the parcel, as it contained goods of market value, was prohibited from being sent to France. We took the matter up very strongly with them, and pointed out that they had no market value beyond their value to collectors, but they declined to recognize that view and refused to allow them to go through the post, as you can see by the letter we enclose you. This is a very serious matter, both to collectors and dealers, and if you could see your way to deal with the matter we should be greatly indebted to you.

Yours truly,

HARMER, ROOKE & CO.

69, *Fleet Street, London, E.C.*

30th June, 1909.

26th June, 1909.

GENTLEMEN,—With reference to your letter of the 12th of this month, concerning the treatment of a registered letter, said to contain used postage stamps of foreign countries, addressed to Mr. E. Chereau, at 13 Rue Bonne Nouvelle, Angers, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to inform you that, as will be seen on reference to page 729, column 9, of the *Post Office Guide*, all articles, whatever their nature, which have any market value, are prohibited from importation into France by letter post.

The Postmaster-General regrets that in these circumstances the enclosed letter cannot be forwarded to its destination.

The enclosure to your further letter of the 21st inst. is returned herewith.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
For the Secretary.

Messrs. Harmer, Rooke & Co.

[We do not gather if the above reply is from our own Post Office. We have never before heard of any impediment being placed in the way of registered letters between this country and France. Should the authorities persist in such refusal, serious harm would be done to all connected with the stamp trade.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 13 and 14 May, 1909.

* *Unused.*	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 5s. and 10s., both "specimen" copies, mint	4	0	0
Thurn and Taxis, 10 sgr., strip of three, one creased	2	2	0
Roumania, 1879, 5 b., *rose-red*, error,* creased	2	0	0
Afghanistan, 1293, sunar and abasi, purple*	2	16	0
Ceylon, 5 c. on 4 c., rose, block of four, inverted surcharges, mint	3	0	0
Brunei, first issue, 1 c., with *black* overprint, and three others on entire	4	0	0
Perak, "P.G.S.," C C, 24 c., green, mint	2	18	0
Malay States, 1900, $25, green and orange, ditto	7	10	0
Ditto, 1900–1, $25, ditto, ditto	2	8	0
Cape, Triangular, half 4d., used on piece with a 6d. mauve, as 8d., with certificate	4	4	0
Cape, woodblocks, 4d., pale blue £2 8s. and	3	12	6
Lagos, 1884–6, 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s., all "specimen" copies, mint	5	0	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 2d., pair on entire	3	12	6
British Columbia, 1867, $1, perf. 12½	2	0	0
Canada, 7½d., green	2	2	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion	3	15	0
Ditto, 4d., ditto	4	0	0
Ditto, 1s., ditto	8	0	0
* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British Guiana, 1862, 4 c., pearl in heart, full roulettes, No. 4	10	0	0
St. Vincent, 1885, 4d., red-brown, mint	4	15	0
Peru, 1857, blue paper, 1 r., blue, and 2 r., brown-red, mint	2	15	0
Hawaii, 1864, interisland postage, 2 c., black, on white wove,* thinned	2	10	0

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine, in 12 vols., 1863–74. These are the presentation volumes given to "Fentonia" (Miss Fenton) by the Publishers, and contain, besides the stamps that were included with each number, several very interesting autograph letters from well-known philatelists, among which appear the names of Mount Brown, Pearson Hill, E. L. Pemberton, W. Atlee (with reference to forming a philatelic society), Mrs. Tebay, etc.	32	0	0
The Philatelist, in 10 vols., 1867–76. These are also presentation volumes to "Fentonia" from the Publishers, and also contain interesting autograph letters, etc.	10	0	0
The Stamp Collectors' Magazine, in 2 vols., 1863–64 and 1865–66; the volumes also contain Mount Brown's Cat., 5th edition, A. Smith's Cats. for 1867, '68, '69, and '70, and a quantity of interesting data	15	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
The Philatelist, Vol. I, Stafford Smith's priced Cat., 1866, *Monthly Advertiser*, 1862–4, *Philatelical Price Catalogue*, Grant & Co., 1873, and W. Lincoln's Cat., 1873 . .	17	10	0
Volume of early Stamp Cats., including *Postage Stamp Forgeries*, by J. M. Stourton (1865), Lincoln Cat. (1872), Bellars and Davie Cat. (1864), Dr. Gray's Cats., 3rd, 4th, and 5th editions	7	0	0
Mount Brown's Cat., 3rd edition .	2	17	6
Standard Guide to Postage Stamp Collecting, Bellars and Davie, 1864	5	5	0
Illustrated Catalogue, by Dr. J. E. Gray, 5th edition, 1870 . .	2	15	0
Collections: Greece, 1115 . .	16	0	0

Sale of 27 and 28 May, 1909.

Great Britain, 1884, 3 crowns, £1, pair	2	2	0
Hamburg, first issue, 9 sch., yellow	3	5	0
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ gr., black on green,* defective . . .	2	2	0
Ceylon, 1857–9, 2s., blue, imperf.	7	7	0
Ditto, 1861, clean cut perf., 6d., brown	2	8	0
Philippines, first issue, 1 r., slate-blue, block of six . . .	8	15	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, strip of four .	5	5	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., red . .	3	5	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., red on blue, worn plate . . .	2	8	0
Northern Nigeria, 1900, 10s., mint	2	0	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., first printing, 6d., bright carmine, error, figure of value omitted, pair, mint	4	10	0
Transvaal, 1877, "V.R. Transvaal" in red, on 3d., lilac, variety, no stop after "Transvaal" .	8	10	0
Newfoundland, 4d., scarlet vermilion	4	15	0
Bahamas, no wmk., perf. 13, 4d., rose*	3	7	6
Barbados, 1860, pin perf. 12½, 1d., blue, on piece . . .	3	4	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d. .	4	4	0
Montserrat, C A, 4d., blue, mint .	3	3	0
Nevis, 1867, 1s., yellow-green* .	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, cross on hill, *used*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1878, litho., 4d., orange, mint . . £2 5s. and	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., grey,* thinned	3	0	0
St. Vincent, ½d., in red, on half 6d.,* pair	2	10	0
Antioquia, first issue, 1 peso, pair	5	2	6
New South Wales, Sydneys, 1d., red, plate 1	2	2	0
New Zealand, 1862, 1s., green, imperf., block of five, one cut into	2	12	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown-black on red, nicked .	2	6	0
Ditto, 1861, rough perfs., 1s., deep green*	2	14	0
Collection: 5638	25	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 25 and 26 May, 1909.

Great Britain, 1876, 8d., brown, mint	2	15	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1885, 5s., carmine, ditto . . .	4	5	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue* .	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, *used* .	4	0	0
Sweden, 1866, 17 öre, *grey*, mint .	2	5	0
India, Service, 1866, 4 annas, green and purple . . .	3	10	0
Philippine Islands, 1869–74, "Habilitado," 1 r., mauve . .	2	12	0
Sierra Leone, 1883–4, C A, 1d., rose, block of four, mint .	2	15	0
Ditto, 1897, 2½d. on 2s., lilac, Type A, ditto	2	12	0
Transvaal, 1879, One Penny, in red, on 6d., Type 10 . .	2	5	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 6½d., scarlet, *used*, cut close . . .	3	0	0
Ditto, 1860, 1s., orange, ditto .	6	0	0
Barbados, 5s., rose, pair on piece .	2	15	0
Cayman Islands, 1d. on 5s., block of six, mint	3	3	0
Ditto, 2½d. on 4d., ditto . .	2	16	0
Grenada, 1904–6, multiple wmk., 10s., pair, ditto . . .	2	18	0
Montserrat, C A, 4d., blue,* no gum	2	7	6
Nevis, 1878, 1d., litho.,* retouched, no gum	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d., blue-green	2	2	0
Virgin Islands, 1s., rose-carmine, on *bleuté*, double-lined frame*	2	14	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., deep blue, Plate 11, without whip	5	0	0
Victoria, 1850, 3d, blue, pair, rouletted	2	2	0
Collection, in Oppens, 695 . .	25	0	0

Sale of 8 and 9 June, 1909.

Bavaria, Postage Due, 1885–95, 10 pf., greenish grey, without overprint, defective in one corner	11	0	0
Great Britain, Admiralty Official, 1903, Type 1, 2½d., blue, block of six, mint	2	10	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green* . .	2	6	0
British South Africa, die proofs of ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. on card, several in a different colour to the issued stamp, set of 10 .	3	5	0
Southern Nigeria, 1902, £1, mint.	2	14	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 5 c., rose, a fair copy, but has not sufficient margin to guarantee, used with a pair of the 10 c., blue, on entire original	5	5	0
Nevis, 1861, perf. 13, 4d., rose on *bleuté**	2	8	0
Trinidad, 1852, litho., 1d., blue, medium early, thinned	2	8	0
British Guiana, 1862, 2 c., black on yellow, No. 8	4	0	0
Buenos Ayres, 1858, 4 pesos, scarlet, apparently unused but somewhat repaired	3	10	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, 1d., carmine, Plate II	2	4	0

* * *

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 10 and 11 June, 1909.

Great Britain, 1d., red, Plate 225, block of 16,* with gum	18	5	0
Spain, 1853, 2 reales, red	4	0	0
Ceylon, 1857, 9d., purple-brown	2	8	0
Ditto, 1861, 8d., brown	2	0	0
Ditto, CC, perf. 13, 6d., brown	2	2	0
Ditto, 1872, 2 r. 50 c., dull rose, mint	4	2	6
India, 1854, 4 as., pair, with dividing line	2	0	0
Cape, 1881–3, "one half enny" on 3d.	5	7	6
Liberia, $5, centre inverted, mint	2	8	0
Zululand, 1894, 5s., carmine, ditto	2	0	0
Bahamas, 1859, imperf., thick paper, 1d., lake	2	6	0
British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., black on rose, repaired	3	0	0
Ditto, 1889, $4, large figure "4," mint	2	0	0
United States, 1855, 90 c., blue	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., red, on yellowish laid paper, pair	3	3	0
New Zealand, 1856, blue paper, 1d., pair on piece	10	17	6
Ditto, 1856, white paper, 1d., ditto, ditto	2	17	6
Ditto, 1862, Star, imperf., 3d., grey lilac*	2	10	0
New Zealand, 1864, NZ, imperf., 2d., blue, pair.	3	15	0
Victoria, 1857, no wmk., imperf., 4d., rose, pair	2	2	0
Ditto, 1860, 6d., orange	2	0	0
Ditto, 1868–81, 5s., blue and red, variety without line, pair	2	6	0
Western Australia, 1857, 6d., golden-bronze, on entire	2	17	6
Collections: 6431, £27; and 3400	26	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 18 May, 1909.

Germany and Colonies, collection of, 8741	19	10	0
Philippine Islands, 1880–90, green surcharge, 1 real on 2 c. (S.G., No. 143), pair*	1	17	0
Shanghai, first issue, 2 c., black on laid, mint	1	14	0
Transvaal, 6d., blue (S.G., No. 45)	2	2	0

Sale of 22 and 24 May, 1909.

Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., red	1	10	0
Transvaal, 1877, red surcharge, 6d., blue,* defective	1	2	0

Sale of 3 and 4 June, 1909.

British Central Africa, CC, £25, green, repaired	2	5	0
Great Britain, I.R. Official, Queen, 5s., carmine	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, 2d., blue (S.G., No. 19)	1	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto (S.G., No. 34 b)	1	5	0
Philippines, 1880, 2 c., rose, surcharged "un real" (Gibbons Type 23), and "8 cmos" (Type 24) in addition, both surcharges in green	1	10	0
Shanghai, first issue, 2 c., black on laid, mint	1	9	0
Sierra Leone, 2½d. on 6d., block of four, showing the four types	1	0	0
Trinidad, 6d., green (S.G., 43), mint	1	16	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. AUGUST, 1909. No. 212.

The Collecting of Entires.

IN another column will be found an interesting and valuable letter from Mr. B. W. Warhurst, one of the leading collectors of Entires in this country, whose attention was called to our remarks upon this subject in the last issue of the *London Philatelist.* In a private letter addressed to the writer, Mr. Warhurst makes the following pertinent remarks, which meet with our entire approval: "Some of these days Philatelists will wake up to the fact of opportunities lost for collecting and studying these *exclusively postal* issues, as most of the best material has gone to the Continent and United States of late years. For the complete study of the stamps of any colony or country it should be as necessary to include the envelopes and post cards as it is considered by the most advanced to get essays and proofs, etc. Yet how many leading Philatelists do so? I believe the Prince of Wales and Lord Crawford go in for all, and I am sure that if a few like yourself who lead and guide philatelic opinion would only go seriously into it you would get thousands of followers, who cannot be specializing in old issues, or hoarding up new ones, and find the old-fashioned *general* collecting impossible without big banking accounts. Some one of position is wanted."

The collecting of Entires has been elbowed off the philatelic stage by the crowd of other issues, many of which are far less worthy of consideration. There are obvious drawbacks to envelopes and post cards—it is hard to draw the line between stationery and stamps, they are bulky and difficult to arrange or transmit—but the fact remains that they are undoubted postal issues of equal importance with the adhesives. Moreover, no philatelic history of a country can be written without their inclusion.

Those who are engaged upon the compilation of such works realize how much more difficult their task is rendered by the absence, in this country, of due facilities for the study of Entires. With each succeeding year this difficulty will be accentuated, and we are constrained to urge that, before it is too

late, some steps should be taken to encourage the collection of Entires, either by individuals or by philatelic societies. In such a case no one could more worthily lead the way than the Royal Philatelic Society. We throw out the suggestion that in the ensuing season a committee be formed to consider and report upon this question. In default of any presentation it would be advisable to purchase a collection, and in the present depressed state of the market for Entires this should not be an expensive matter. A subscription among the members of the Royal Society would easily cover the amount required, and we have already liberal promises of pecuniary support.

While on the subject of the Society's collections it may be as well to give expression to a feeling that has shown itself widely prevalent, viz. that the formation of the Royal Philatelic Society's stamp collection is not making the rapid progress that was anticipated, and that it lags sorely behind in comparison with the collections being made by other similar bodies. This undertaking is one involving vast and patient labour, and if it is ever to be carried to a successful issue it must be by a devolution of some of the work undertaken by the younger members of the Society. Too much work is, and has been, thrown on the shoulders of the older members, and it is absolutely necessary that some of the younger ones should come to the rescue.

In order to successfully build up the Royal Society's postal collection there should be a permanent committee of five, each of whom should undertake to make the following collections :—

1. Great Britain and Colonies. Adhesives.
2. Europe. „
3. The rest of the World. „
4. Envelopes.
5. Post cards.

An hon. secretary and a chairman should be added, and this committee should be made permanent, subject, of course, to annual re-election. This whole question is one of importance. The Society holds its position and advantages for all time, and it is its obvious duty to ensure that its future existence should be of real benefit to Philately. Thanks to the generosity of the Earl of Crawford and other donors, it has done nobly as regards philatelic literature, and we are convinced that it will not fail to rise to this level in the equally important matter of its Reference Collections.

Further Notes on the Stamps of the British South Africa Company.

By FRANK H. MELLAND, F.R.P.S.L.

SINCE writing the notes on the stamps of this country that appeared in the *London Philatelist* for October, November, and December, 1908, I have come across certain information which necessitates a few corrections and additions; and, at the same time, I take the opportunity of correcting some slips in those notes.

ISSUE V. 1895.

A correspondent has expressed a doubt as to whether this issue was printed by Perkins Bacon and Co., or not. Personally, I hold to the view that it was, but I am making inquiries, and as soon as I have definite evidence, one way or the other, will publish it.

ISSUE VI. 1896–7.

From some proofs that I have recently acquired it is made clear that the die with the dot (Die I) was the original die, and was the first to be printed, a fact which was not, I think, known before.

The kindness of a correspondent enables me to enlarge the list of known plates considerably, the following being known over and above those in my list:—

1d., Plate 1 and Plate 4.
2d., Plate 2 and Plate 4.
4d., Plate 1 and Plate 4.
6d., Plate 1.
8d., Plate 1.
1s., Plate 2.
2s., Plate 3.
3s., Plate 2.

ISSUE IX.

For the words "The 1s. issues" it would be better to substitute "The shilling values."

ISSUE X.

There were one or two omissions in chronicling postmarks, and especially should the third paragraph on page 285 (December) be corrected to read:—

". . . always have the word 'RHODESIA,' *or prior to 1896* '*MATABELELAND*' *OR* '*MASHONALAND*,' and never 'THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY."

The words in italics were omitted, and I was not thinking of the earlier issues at the time. These early postmarks were circular and had a diameter of 21 mm., and had the name of the post-town at top, and "MATABELELAND" at base, in letters 3 mm. high, with date in centre. I think there were similar ones with "MASHONALAND" for that province, but the only Mashonaland postmark that I have at present is incomplete, and unfortunately stops at the letters "MA," which might be "Matabeleland," but as the post-town is Umtali, in Mashonaland, it is probably inscribed with that word. These postmarks were superseded by those bearing the word "RHODESIA" in 1896, the earliest date I have seen for a "RHODESIA" cancellation being Bulawayo, May, 1896.

There is another postal cancellation that I omitted, a diamond-shaped stamp consisting of thirteen lines with a small circle in the centre with a letter; I only know of two letters, though there are presumably others. The two I know are "K," used at the Kopje post-office, Salisbury, and "D," used at Bulawayo. These cancellations are parcels post cancellations. The length of the diamond is 30 mm., breadth 25 mm., length of side 20 mm., diameter of circle 10 mm., height of letter 4½ mm.

I attach illustrations of the Matabeleland postmark, and also of this parcels cancellation and of the "B.S.A.C." mark referred to in my previous notes.

(In black.)
MATABELELAND
cancellation.



(In black.)
Parcels cancellation,
KOPJE OFFICE, SALISBURY.



(In violet.)
B.S.A.C. cancellation used at
SERENJI, N.E.R.,
1900 and 1901.



ISSUE XI.

The following stamps have been issued in 1908, and should be added to the reference list:—

3d., 3s., 10s., and £2.

Presumably this completes the issue.

The date after the new shade 2d., dark brown, should be 1906, and not 1898 as given.

To the errors of this issue add:—

1d., imperforate, a whole sheet, the bottom row of which was perforated at the base.

POSTAL STATIONERY.

There are a good many inaccuracies in the brief list I wrote, and also the arrangement is not clear.

The words, "In 1891 some Cape post cards . . ." should read: "In October, 1892, some Cape post cards . . ."

After the words "1½d., slate on buff," insert:—

"Registered envelopes, October, 1892, 4d., ultramarine, in two sizes, 154 × 98; and 222 × 102 mm."

Delete all that follows the words: "1½d., ochre," and insert "Headed 'RHODESIA' instead of 'MASHONALAND.'"

Post cards (1899), 1d. and reply, red.
(1903), ½d., green.
Envelopes (1904), 1d., carmine.
2½d., grey.
½d., green.
Letter card (1904), 1d., carmine, blue card.
Newswrapper (1904), ½d., green.
1d., carmine.

In the original notes it was, I am afraid, difficult to tell which were post cards and which were other stationery, and I omitted the registered envelopes.

I believe that this corrects all the errors in the previous notes, but there are still a good many omissions to be filled in, especially as regards the errors of the Bulawayo provisionals and the surcharges on Cape stamps. If any collector who can fill in any of the missing links will do so, it would be interesting.

Occasional Notes.

SOUTH POLAR PHILATELY.

THE gallant explorer, Lieutenant Shackleton, has sent in a report of his duties as Postmaster of King Edward VII Land, from which we excerpt the following amusing and original remarks:—

"ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA,
"*May* 11, 1909.

"RIGHT HON. SIR JOSEPH WARD, POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND.

"SIR,—In accordance with your instructions I have the honour to report regarding the Post Office opened by me in the Antarctic regions and used by members of the British Antarctic Expedition under my command. When the *Nimrod* left New Zealand at the beginning of 1908, she carried with her, under your authority as Postmaster-General of New Zealand, a supply of specially surcharged postage stamps, a date stamp, and a seal, and I was authorized to sell stamps and carry on the general duties of a

postmaster from an office to be established at the winter quarters. On reaching the Antarctic Circle in Ross quadrant, North King Edward VII Land, I issued the first of the stamps, in order that members of the expedition might despatch letters back to New Zealand by the *Koonya*, the steamer which had towed the *Nimrod* down to the ice. The first mail was duly despatched by me by means of the *Koonya*.

"On reaching the territorial waters of King Edward VII Land, and while lying alongside the ice, about a mile from land, I formally opened a post office as a branch of the New Zealand Post Office. I received letters for despatch at the first opportunity, and issued stamps for future correspondence.

"The first mail opened in Antarctica brought from New Zealand by the *Nimrod* contained 1510 letters, and 550 letters were despatched from King Edward VII Land Post Office, the *Nimrod* taking this mail when she returned after landing the shore party. All letters passed through my hands as postmaster, and were postmarked with the date stamp provided for the purpose by your department.

"I opened a branch of the Post Office on the inland plateau in latitude 88 deg. 5 min. south, longitude 162 deg. east, on January 7, 1908. I consider this to be in the sphere of King Edward VII Land, which connects with the plateau.

"Under the peculiar circumstances of this work in my capacity as postmaster I found it necessary to widen the range of the Post Office from the portion of the Antarctic Continent known as King Edward VII Land to points between 350 miles and 800 miles distant.

"Some 2000 letters passed through my hands, and I sold the bulk of the stamps to members of our little community.

"I have further to report that all registered letters for which addresses could not be found were returned to the head office in Christchurch, New Zealand. Many communications addressed to me as postmaster were attended to as far as possible. I understand that the head office in Christchurch received instructions not to forward to the Antarctic a large number of letters which bore obviously fictitious addresses. On my return to New Zealand I returned the date stamp and seal to the head office, and also delivered over my records and receipts.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"E. H. SHACKLETON,
"*Postmaster.*"

The last paragraph refers to a great number of jokes perpetrated upon the Postmaster in the guise of letters addressed to bears, seals, penguins, icebergs, and the South Pole itself. There are, of course, no human beings in the lone Antarctic world, and the correspondence of the expedition was simply transferred from the *Nimrod* to its tender ship, so there was absolutely no excuse for having either any stamps or obliteration. As, however, this postal freak emanates from New Zealand, it need not surprise us, as it fits in with its previous record.

Reviews.

HAWAIIAN NUMERALS.*



E are indebted to our colleague, Mr. H. J. Crocker, for a copy of this sumptuous volume, which will assuredly rank prominently in philatelic literature and reflect the highest credit upon American philatelic literature. The book is superbly illustrated, printed, and bound, and we can with readiness give a confirmation to the author's modest statement: "As practically all the material is presented for the first time, and after over twenty-five years of patient search for copies to reconstruct the plates, I trust it will meet with your favourable consideration." Mr. Crocker further writes us: "To reproduce the stamps in their exact colours has proved rather difficult, especially as the first stamps were printed in such delicate blue they are hard to reproduce." This is the only blemish in the production of this beautiful work, and the far-famed "missionary stamps" of Mr. Crocker's collection do not show up at all clearly in the pale blue, and would have been of more practical philatelic value had they been reproduced in black. The illustration of the nine different printings of the numeral issues, consisting of nineteen plates of ten stamps each (several of which have not heretofore been published, although they have been known to exist), will be found to be invaluable, and represent an amount of patient philatelic research and study that reflects the highest credit upon the author. The book contains, moreover, a complete history of the stamps issued by the Hawaiian Government from 1851 to 1866, and "showing the relation of the 2 c. lithographed of 1861 and the 2 c. engraved of 1864 to the various type-set numerals," contains much information that will be new to the students of the issues of Hawaii.

Mr. Crocker devotes considerable space to the rehabilitation of the 5 c. and 13 c. of the 1853 issue (with the small head of King Kamehameha III) on the medium thin toned paper, which have generally been held to have been reprints made in 1867. Mr. Crocker contends that these stamps are the so-called reprints "regularly ordered in the latter part of 1867 by Postmaster David Kalakaua, afterwards King of Hawaii."

We have carefully considered the evidence adduced, but we cannot see that there is any *proof* that these two stamps were ordered to be printed in a regular manner. The 13 c. had long fallen into desuetude in 1867, and the 5 c. plate was printed from apparently long after the 13 c., as we know this stamp on thin white and thin blue paper, utterly dissimilar to the thick white, almost card paper on which both values appeared primarily in 1853. Moreover, the engraved 5 c., Prussian blue, portrait of Kamehameha V appeared in 1866, and it seems, therefore, improbable that either value

* *Hawaiian Numerals*, H. J. Crocker, F.R.P.S.L. Published by the Author, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.

should be absolutely required prior to this date. No copy of these two stamps on the toned paper, whose cause nevertheless Mr. Crocker so ably champions, have, as far as we are aware, been seen postmarked; and, in any case, it appears that they would only have been "prepared, but not issued."

The *Monthly Journal* of December 1890, and January, 1901, will be found to contain an interesting article hereon by H. L. (Mr. L. Hanciau), in which he states his reason for believing these stamps to be reprints.

We congratulate Mr. H. J. Crocker with all sincerity upon the production of a beautiful volume that will inevitably give satisfaction to all its readers and will redound to the credit of Mr. Crocker as a philatelic author and a collector of the first rank.

CAMPECHE: SOME NOTES ON THE MOST REMARKABLE STAMP EVER ISSUED.*

The volume that lies before us certainly lives up to its title and may also be described as "the most remarkable stamp book ever issued." Convention is thrown to the winds in favour of artistic methods, and from cover to *finis* the book—to quote Sir W. S. Gilbert's undying phrases—is "superæsthetic," "intense," and "greenery yallery." *Campeche* is a large quarto volume bound in a highly original dark blue cardboard cover, with its pages of mottled paper having deckled edges, on each of which is fastened a leaf of the text printed in antique type and having wide margins adorned with original illustrations of Mexican and local stamps, figures, obliterations, etc. Beyond this there are numerous full-page illustrations, while the entire work reveals alike an appreciation of artistic illustrative literature and an absolute disregard of any sordid considerations as to expense. Mr. Bellows' style of writing is also nothing if not original and picturesque, as he conveys his facts and opinions in a quaint and novel manner that is "wide as the Poles asunder" from the characteristics that are generally associated with modern American philatelic journalism.

It is clearly shown that Mr. Bellows writes from his philatelic heart, which has been freely bestowed upon his Campeche stamps, and all credit is his due in the production of this beautiful work, for the true philatelic ardour and research that he has displayed, by means of which all collectors can now make acquaintance with the inner history and mystery of the truly remarkable stamps of Campeche. The stamps themselves are so rare as to be caviare to the multitude of collectors, and we confess to our own ignorance that they had even been reprinted—an ignorance apparently shared by the late Mr. Tapling and Mr. E. D. Bacon (see *Reprints*). Mr. Bellows states that the originals were issued in 1867, and the number of copies known to exist to be eight to ten. These are therefore rarer than the Post Office Mauritius, the 2 c. British Guiana, or the 2 c. Hawaii! The reprints themselves are apparently almost as rare, the number of known copies being only about double that of originals. Mr. Bellows mentions

* *Campeche: Some Notes on the most remarkable stamp ever issued.* Walter Clark Bellows, New York, 1909.

the existence of the following copies in collections (the originals described by "O," reprints by "R"):—

G. H. Worthington, 5 c. (O) . . .	50 c. (O)
R. Frentzel	25 c. (R), 50 c. (O)
Tapling	25 c. (2 R), 50 c. (R)

This accounts for three originals only, but Mr. Bellows was unable to ascertain what are contained in the great collection of M. La Renotière and modestly refrains from stating what he, himself, possesses. According to his calculation of the number extant, this would allow three or four originals in each of the two last-named collections. We are glad to note that Great Britain does possess one original copy of this variety, and congratulate our colleague, Mr. Rudolf Frentzel, upon having what seems an almost unique variety of the 50 c. "on yellow buff paper."

Equally with its subject matter the book is practically unique, quaint, and interesting in the highest degree. Mr. Walter Clark Bellows has produced a philatelic book that assuredly stands alone in its method of production, moreover, one that has the true ring of sound conscientious philatelic work and of genuine devotion to his stamps. No lover of stamp literature can fail to appreciate this charming production. The issue of "Campeche" is limited to one hundred copies and we have to express our appreciation of the courtesy of the author in sending us our "number 13" copy, for which we shall gladly find an honoured niche in our Library.

MR. MELVILLE'S HANDBOOKS.*

We have to acknowledge receipt of two more of the excellent and attractive little handbooks of Mr. Melville. In *Nevis* we note a careful description of all the plates, beautifully illustrated from superb entire sheets in the possession of Mr. W. H. Peckitt, with a useful enumeration of the leading points of difference in each type and an account of the several retouches. An interesting illustration is given of the 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. De La Rue issue of Great Britain side by side with the corresponding values of *Nevis*, clearly demonstrating that the latter were copied absolutely from the former with the substitution only of the allegorical figures for the Queen's Head.

Holland contains a lot of useful information, and embraces apparently all the latest information. The retouches of the 1852 issue are now illustrated, as also the recut lines to the frames of the issue of 1864; this latter feature was fully described and collected in the writer's European collection as far back as 1895, but he apparently failed to convince other Philatelists that the plate had been subject to retouches. In the 1867 issue the differences in the two types of each stamp are made exceedingly clear by the enlarged illustration of the labels of value placed one immediately over the other. The issue of 1872–88 have their numerous varieties of perforation numbered in accordance with Mr. A. J. Warren's able paper on Holland in

* (5) *Nevis;* (6) *Holland*, by F. J. Melville. W. H. Peckitt, Melville Stamp Books, 47 Strand, London, W.C.

the *London Philatelist* for February, 1908, but in this and the succeeding issues collectors are left to allocate according to their own sweet will the several varieties of perforation that occur in each value.

The stamps of Holland offer a delightful subject of study to the collector of limited means if he is content to take used specimens, and we are confident that Mr. Melville's handbook will enlist new recruits. Both volumes are marked by the same bright, tasty, and attractive features as their predecessors, and we shall welcome further future additions. The Unpaid Letter stamps are not mentioned in the work.

THE FALSIFICATIONS OF TRANSVAAL.*

It will be a source of melancholy surprise to those who affect the difficult and involved Transvaal issues to discover that it takes M. de Raaij no less than sixty-two pages to describe and delineate the various falsifications and the prints of the quondam South African Republic. The author states that he has a collection of over three thousand forgeries, so it is evident that they *are* to be had—and in fact no Philatelist who has travelled on the Continent in past years but could not fail to be impressed by the large number of rank surcharge forgeries, Mecklenburg impressions and reprints, that did duty for the stamps of Transvaal in foreign collections. In this country we are and have been better posted as to these stamps, but there is plenty of information in M. de Raaij's book that will still be found useful, and, being excellently illustrated, we can confidently recommend it all collectors of Transvaal stamps.

RARE UNITED STATES ENVELOPES.†

How many collectors of United States envelopes can this country boast? The late Mr. Gilbert Harrison had a grand lot of these most interesting issues, and of course all the collectors of the older school took them; but nowadays, alas! in this country "they have perished unhonoured and unsung." It is a pity, as there are few more interesting issues in the philatelic world than these early envelopes of the United States with their numerous varieties of the die. As to the relative rarity of "Manilla" paper as against "amber" or "Knife Z" against "Knife X," we confess to but scant respect, as these differences savour more of stationery than stamps.

This little work is a pamphlet of 16 pages giving a list of all the rarities of the several issues from 1853 to 1899, with a full account of the "whys and wherefores." It will be seen that the difficulties that bestrew the collector's path are enormous, as many of the varieties are described as unique or only known in one or two instances. The names of Messrs. J. Murray Bartels and Victor M. Berthold are so widely known as great authorities upon this subject that it is superfluous to state that this list represents the best possible philatelic knowledge of the United States envelopes.

* *The Falsifications of Transvaal*, Lion de Raaij. N. Yaar and Co., The Hague, Holland.

† *Rare United States Envelopes*, J. Murray Bartels and Victor M. Berthold, 1908. Reprinted from the *Transactions of the American Philatelic Society*, Vol. XXII, part i.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australian Commonwealth. — The *Australian Philatelist* states that it is quite likely there will be new Commonwealth Postage Due stamps within the next three or four weeks. It has been decided that the present green stamps shall be superseded. The new series will be more Federal in character; every stamp will bear the word "AUSTRALIA."

Canada.—Mr. A. McKechnie, F.R.P.S.L., has kindly sent us used and unused copies of the 2 cents, King's Head, *imperforate* stamps, with very large margins.

India.—*Nepaul.*—Mr. Albert Scheindling informs us that he has seen the 2 annas, purple (Gibbons' Type 1), on white wove paper of the 1903–6 issue; only the 1 anna is catalogued by Gibbons under Nos. 35, 36.

Adhesives.

1903–6. 2 annas, purple, white wove paper; imperf.
2 annas, purple, white wove paper; pin perf.

New South Wales.—The 6d., carmine, with wide "O.S." printed in black, measuring 15¼ mm., has been shown to the *Australian Philatelist.*

Official.

6d., carmine; O.S. in black, measuring 15¼ mm.; wmk. Crown and N S W; perf. 12 × 11½.

Northern Nigeria.—The 2s. 6d. value on chalky paper is chronicled in the *Philatelic Adviser.*

Adhesive.

2s. 6d., green and blue; multiple, chalky.

Sierra Leone.—The new 1s., 2s., and 5s. stamps chronicled on page 270, Vol. XVII, are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and are found to be on multiple wmk., chalky paper.

EUROPE.

Bosnia.—*Gibbons Stamp Weekly* chronicles in No. 22 a complete set of the picture issue 1906–7 (Gibbons' Types 4–19), perf. 6½ all round. Mr. Albert Scheindling tells us he possesses the 30, 45 heller, 1, 2, 5 kr. with this perforation, and that this perforation is not a special issue like 143–90, which are printed in entire sheets, but is only a variety of the 207–54, viz. once in about a thousand instances the perforation accidentally comes out 6½ all round. He adds: "This perforation is extremely rare, and as much as £2 each is asked. It is very difficult to form complete sets."

Bulgaria. — Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 15 st. of 1902, surcharged with the figure "10" as No. 90 in Gibbons' Catalogue, but in *blue* instead of *black* ink.

Provisional.

"10" in *blue* on 15 st., lake and greenish black, of 1902.

Levant (*Russian Post Offices*).—To the set of stamps listed on page 160, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds, on Continental authority, the 2 piastres on 20 kop., blue and carmine.

Adhesive.

2 piastres on 20 kop., blue and carmine.

Roumania. — In our last number we omitted to chronicle the 15 bani, 1876, perf. 11 × 13½, which was also sent us by Mr. Albert Scheindling, and to which his letter also alluded.

15 bani, red-brown, of 1876; perf. 11 × 13½.

1908 *Issue.*—Mr. Albert Scheindling writes us as follows: "In sending you some copies of each of the issues described below, I beg to inform you that in the year 1908 the values

from 1 bani up to 40 bani of the ordinary issues, 1900–5, without watermark (Gibbons' 406–13, 416*a*–18, 422–9, 433, 433*b*, 435, 451–5, 455*a*, 455*b*, 456, 457), were issued in a fresh printing, the remarkable differences of which are as follows: The printing is very blurred, the colours fresher, the paper thicker and white (against thin and tinted pink on the back of the 1900–5 issues), the gum is white (against tinted pink of the 1900–5 issues). Used copies when soaked are often difficult to distinguish, but unused copies are very easily told by the back of the stamps, which is absolutely white in every respect. This 1908 issue should not be confounded with the 1893–9 issue (Gibbons' 370–93), watermarked P R, of which there exist copies (nearly all values) without watermark (see description in the Kohl Catalogue), which copies are very rare, and can be told by the very thick paper, clear printing, and dull colours (against blurred printing, thinner paper, and fresh colours of the 1908 issue). Of the 1908 issue described above, I possess in my collection the following varieties in mint, unused copies :—

Adhesives.

Perforated 11½.

1 bani, black.
3 ,, red-brown.
5 ,, yellow-green.
10 ,, carmine.
15 ,, violet.
25 ,, blue.
40 ,, green.

Perforated 11½ × 13½.

1 bani, black.
3 ,, red-brown.
5 ,, yellow-green.
10 ,, carmine.
15 ,, violet.
25 ,, blue.
40 ,, green.

Unpaid Stamp.

Perforated 11½ × 13½.

10 bani, green (Gibbons' 680).

1909 *Issue.*—(Gibbons' Types 37 and 38). Of these stamps I possess the following varieties:—

Adhesives.

Perforated 11½.

1 bani, black.
3 ,, red-brown.
5 ,, emerald (typographed).
10 ,, rose-carmine.
15 ,, lilac.
50 ,, orange.

Perforated 11½ × 13½.

1 bani, black.
3 ,, red-brown.
5 ,, emerald (typographed).
5 bani, emerald (lithographed).
10 ,, rose-carmine.
15 ,, lilac.
25 ,, deep blue.
40 ,, green.
50 ,, orange.
2 lei, red."

SWITZERLAND.—Mr. Philip Wolff sends us the 40 c., redrawn type, Gibbons' No. 12, *plain* paper, perf. 12.

Adhesive.

40 c., pearl-grey, redrawn type, plain paper; perf. 12.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC. — According to *Smith's Monthly* the 50 centavos of the new set has been issued, and it is stated that the 12 c. on *pale orange* was in use for about ten weeks only. It is expected that the 15 c., light green, will also be withdrawn.

Gibbons Weekly chronicles the 1 c. and 50 c., but gives the colour of the 50 c. as *black*.

Adhesives.

1 centavo, brownish ochre.
50 centavos, rosy claret (?).

OTHER COUNTRIES.

CHINA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles a provisional Postage Due stamp. The 4 c. postage stamp has been overprinted "Postage Due" and two Chinese characters.

Postage Due.

4 c., brown, postage stamp converted as above.

CHINA (*Russian Post Offices*).—It is reported in *Smith's Monthly* that the new Russian 50 k. stamp has received the usual overprint in black for use here.

Adhesive.

50 k., yellow-green and brownish mauve, black overprint.

ELOBEY, ANNOBON, and CORISCO.—*Mekeel's Weekly* chronicles two provisionals, printed on the stamps of 1907, both surcharges being in black. The *Philatelic Adviser* adds a third variety.

Provisionals.

05 ctms. on 3 c., red.
05 ctms. on 4 c., green.
25 c. on 10 c., dull lilac, with "Habilitado."

GERMAN EAST AFRICA.—The *Philatelic Adviser* reports the issue of the 30 heller on watermarked paper.

Adhesive.

30 heller, black and carmine, watermarked paper.

PERSIA.—A great stamp of 50 krans has appeared, with portrait of the Shah in black,

frame in vermilion, and border gilt!—*Smith's Monthly.*

Adhesive.

50 krans, black, red, etc.

Mr. Albert Scheindling sends us the following uncatalogued varieties and novelties :—

Adhesives.

1902. 2 chahis, red-brown, Gibbons' 328, in which two impressions are clearly visible.

1904. 9 chahis on 1 kran, purple, 399, inverted surcharge at the bottom.
9 chahis on 1 kran, purple, 399, two inverted surcharges, at the top and bottom.

1905. 1 chahi on 1 kran, purple, 406, inverted surcharge.

1906. 1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, inverted surcharge, type 50.
2 chahis, grey, 412, inverted surcharge, ditto.
3 chahis, pale green, 413, inverted surcharge, ditto.
6 chahis, red, 414, inverted surcharge, ditto.
10 chahis, brown, 415, inverted surcharge, ditto.
13 chahis, blue, 416, inverted surcharge, ditto.

1906. 2 chahis, grey, 412, two impressions of the stamp clearly visible.
3 chahis, pale green, 413, two impressions of the stamp ditto.
6 chahis, red, 414, two impressions of the stamp ditto.

1906. 13 chahis, blue, 416, two impressions of the stamp ditto.

1906. 1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, black surcharge, type 42 (PL. Teheran).

1906. 1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, green surcharge.
1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, blue surcharge.
1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, violet surcharge.
1 chahi, violet, 411*a*, carmine surcharge.

1907. 2 chahis, bluish grey on blue paper, surcharged type 42 in black.
2 chahis, bluish grey on blue paper, surcharged type 42 in blue.
2 chahis, bluish grey on blue paper, surcharged type 42 in violet.
2 chahis, bluish grey on blue paper, surcharged type 42 in carmine.

The last-named four stamps are similar to No. 396, but the paper is now blue instead of white.

SPANISH COLONIES.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write :—

"In the April number of the *London Philatelist*, you chronicled 2 pesetas, orange, and 4 pesetas, carmine. This is a mistake. It should be 4 pesetas, orange, and 10 pesetas, carmine, there being no 2 pesetas in the set."

SPANISH GUINEA.—Two provisionals, like those noted for Elobey, etc., are reported in *Mekeel's Weekly.*

Provisionals.

05 ctms. on 3 c., violet.
05 ctms. on 4 c., light green.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Liverpool Philatelic Society.

ESTABLISHED 1888.

Session 1909-10.

President—A. S. ALLENDER.
Hon. Secretary—W. WOODTHORPE, Gaerwood, Blundellsands, near Liverpool.

Meetings of the Society will be held at St. George's Restaurant, No. 5 Redcross Street, on the dates named below at 7.30 p.m.

1909.

Sept. 27. President's Address.
Display of Wurtemberg, Antigua.

Oct. 11. Paper on "St. Lucia," by J. L. Carmichael.
Display of St. Lucia, Bolivia.

,, 25. Brief Notes on Bargains, Good and Bad, by all the Members.
Display of Brazil, New Brunswick.

Nov. 8. Public evening, Lecture on "Portraits on Postage Stamps" (with Lantern Slides), by J. H. M. Savage.
General Display.

,, 22. Sale.

1909.

Dec. 6. Paper on "Malta," by J. J. Bernstein.
Display of New South Wales, Malta.

,, 20. Discussion: "Should Damaged Rare Stamps be Repaired?" by all the Members. Opener—W. C. Taylor.
Display of Portugal, British Bechuanaland.

1910.

Jan. 10. Paper on "British New Guinea and Papua," by N. Clissold.
Display of British New Guinea, Papua, Trinidad.

,, 24. Notes on Stamps of Swiss Cantonals, by A. S. Allender.
Display of Switzerland, Papal States.

Feb. 7. Sale.

,, 21. "A Journey to Iceland, with Philatelic Notes," by W. M. Mackay.
Display of Hong Kong, Iceland.

Mar. 7. Paper on "Siam," by W. H. H. Walker.
Display of Siam, Chili.

,, 21. "Six Interesting Stamps, with Notes on same," by all the Members.
Display of Austria.

1910.

Apr. 4. Paper on "Colours," by R. A. Mannings.
Display for Special Prize.
,, 18. Annual Meeting.
May 2. Discussion—"Suggestions for Next Season's Programme," by all the Members.
Display of Essays, Colour Trials, etc.

Liverpool Junior Philatelic Society.

Session 1909-10.

President—A. S. ALLENDER.
Hon. Librarian—J. BATE.
Hon. Secretary—J. H. M. SAVAGE, 44 Cavendish Drive, Rock Ferry.

Meetings of the Society will be held on Mondays at 7.30 p.m., in the Board Room, Trade Protection Society, 42 Castle Street, Liverpool. Visitors, including ladies, are welcome.

1909.

Sept. 20. "Designs on Postage Stamps," by F. S. Chilcott.
Display of Barbados.
Oct. 4. "Forgeries and how to detect them," by C. T. Marshall.
Display of Uruguay.
,, 18. Paper on "Hong Kong," by S. Evans.
Display of Hong Kong.
Nov. 1. "History as taught by Postage Stamps," by R. S. Archer, Jun.
Display of Switzerland.
,, 8. Invitation to Liverpool Philatelic Society, St. George's Restaurant, 5 Redcross Street, Liverpool. 7.30 p.m.
Lantern Lecture—"Portraiture on Postage Stamps," by J. H. M. Savage.
,, 15. Three-Minute Papers by the Members.
Display of General Collections in Albums.
,, 29. "Philatelic Jottings," by P. A. Fletcher.
Display of France.
Dec. 13. Notes on "Line Engraved Stamps of Great Britain," by the President.
Display of Line Engraved Stamps of Great Britain.

1910.

Jan. 3. Discussion—"How can the present Catalogues be improved?" Opened by J. O. Jones.
Display of Malta.
,, 17. "Notes on Stamps of Baden," by J. Bate.
Display of Baden.
,, 31. Notes on "Revolutionary Stamps of Philippine Islands," by A. W. Brown.
Display of Philippines.
Feb. 14. "Penny Postage of Great Britain," with Lantern, by J. J. Bernstein (President Manchester Junior P.S.).
Display of India.

1910.

Feb. 28. "Colonial Issues of 1909," by N. Clissold.
Display of Hayti.
Mar. 14. Paper on "Sarawak," by G. J. Edmondson.
Display of Sarawak.
Apr. 11. Paper on "Belgium," by J. H. M. Savage.
Display of Belgium.
,, 25. Annual Meeting.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, May 20, at 8 p.m.

Mr. A. G. Kelson, the President, occupied the chair, and there was a satisfactory attendance of members, also present were Mr. Van Weenen of the Sydney Club, and Mr. Lovett of the Prahran Club.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

A letter from the Prahran Philatelic Society inviting members to attend a smoke social on June 5 was read by the President, who asked members who could make it convenient to be present.

It was proposed and seconded that the Secretary write to the Deputy Postmaster-General, asking that gentleman if he would allow all new issues arriving from the Berne Postal Union office to be shown at the Society's meetings.

Positions in Exchange Book 192 were then balloted for, after which a sale of stamps to the highest bidder was held, at which a few lots changed hands.

Mr. Van Weenen showed the following additions of perforation in Victorian stamps: 1d., 1873 (Gibbons' No. 172), perf. $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$, also $13\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ and $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$, and a 2d., mauve (Gibbons' No. 176), perf. $13 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$.

Mr. Lovett showed a pair of Victorians, 2d., Queen on Throne, lithograved, showing the error "TVO PENCE."

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ordinary monthly general meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, June 17, at 8 p.m.

The President, Mr. A. G. Kelson, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members, also being present Mr. Van Weenen of the Sydney Society.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly confirmed.

The President proposed, and Mr. Chester seconded, that the acting Deputy Postmaster-General, W. B. Crosbie, Esq., while he held office, be elected as an honorary member of the Society. Carried.

Among the correspondence disposed of was a letter from Mr. Hagen, sending his greetings to the members from Aden.

A letter from the Honorary Congress Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Society *re* incorporating in the Society's rules a provision in regard to the disposal of stamps of deceased members—if requested to do so—caused a great deal of discussion.

A similar proposal was suggested by the Secretary some twelve months ago. It was left in the hands of the Committee to draw up some rules or basis on which this could be done, and to report at the next meeting.

Mr. Hogg presented the Society with a set of official pictorial envelopes of Tasmania, for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

The balloting for positions in Exchange Book 193 was next proceeded with, after which the following gentlemen were proposed for the respective offices for the ensuing year. President, Mr. C. H. Edmondson. Vice-Presidents, Mr. S. O. Smith and the Rev. H. W. Lane. Librarian, Mr. L. A. Chester. Committee, Messrs. S. O. Smith, Jas. Williamson, H. Glazbrook, W. R. Rundell, and J. Tarrant. Secretary, Treasurer, and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. W. Brettschneider.

A sale of stamps concluded the meeting.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*
128 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, June 16, at eight o'clock. In the absence of the President (Mr. Van Weenen) the chair was taken by Mr. Blumenthol.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the President and Messrs. A. F. B. Hull, V. Vernon, and V. Watkins.

There was a large attendance of members and one visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received.

Notice of motion was given, on the terms of a suggestion as noted in a letter received from the Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Congress.

A letter was also received from Mr. Welfue, Hon. Sec. South Australian Society, with reference to proposed function to be held in October to mark the twenty-first anniversary of the South Australian Society. The Hon. Secretary produced sample of booklet containing prospectus of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and giving list of books in the Library, which was approved of, and will be ready for circulation at the commencement of the financial year, July, 1909.

The ballot for book 186 then took place.

A SPECIAL meeting was then held in accordance with the terms of a requisition lodged with the Hon. Secretary, and it was resolved—

I. "That the rule be altered to permit four Vice-Presidents being elected.
II. "That the rule be altered to permit an Assistant Hon. Secretary being elected."

Several nominations were then received.

During the proceedings, Mr. Pettifer had on view the British Colonial and foreign portion of his collection, and Mr. Green his choice Australian and British Colonial. Both collections were much admired, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded each gentleman for the happy time spent in examination of same. Both suitably responded.

At a Committee meeting held prior to the usual monthly meeting seven new members were elected, as follows: Messrs. Captain Rich, A. Butler, J. P. Dinan, A. S. Curnow, A. N. Crane, J. Trappett, and T. B. Fulton.

The annual meeting will be held at the Sports Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday, July 21, 1909, at eight o'clock, to receive the annual report and elect officers for 1909–10.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*
Box 1751, G.P.O., City.

[We regret that the publication of part of these minutes have been unavoidably delayed.—ED.]

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post-free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

JOHANNESBURG UNITED PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I have pleasure in handing you herewith a copy of the Constitution of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society, a body which has just been formed in this town, and with which are incorporated the Johannesburg Philatelic Society and the Transvaal Philatelic Society.

The officers of the Society are: Hon. President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Selborne, P.C., K.C.M.G.; President, Mr. A. J. Cohen; Vice-President, Mr. J. C. Hand; Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. Mackay; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. L. Roder; Hon. Librarian and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. W. P. Cohen; Committee of Management, Messrs. F. H. Ansell, C. R. Schuler, L. Schuler, J. A. Ornstien, G. J. Hubert, and R. Durham.

The latter Societies cease to exist as separate bodies, and it is hoped by the formation of the new Society to largely increase the interest in Philately in this district.

Meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, and visitors from other centres will be cordially welcomed at any of our meetings.

Yours faithfully,
D. MACKAY,
Hon. Secretary.

P. O, Box 4967,
JOHANNESBURG, S.A.,
July 5, 1909.

"B.S.A. CO.'S STAMPS."

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

SIR,—The following extract from a letter I received last mail from the Postmaster-General, Salisbury, dated May 21, may interest some of your readers, if the information has not already been published elsewhere. (A letter takes three weeks to reach me from Salisbury.)

"I also enclose a list describing the stamps which are now on sale at post offices in Rhodesia. The overprinted 5d. stamps are now all sold, and the stock of the 2d., 7½d., 10d., and 2s. denominations is likely to be exhausted in a few days. Application has, however, been made for a further supply; but a decision in the matter has not yet been received.

"It is understood that the current issue will be withdrawn towards the end of this year, and a new issue will make its appearance at the same time.

"I have the honour to be,
"Sir,
"Your obedient servant,
"(Sd.) G. H. EYRE,
"*Postmaster-General.*"

From this it would appear that there may possibly be a second printing of the denominations named, and also that when the new issue comes the present one will be "withdrawn." Hitherto no B.S.A. Co.'s stamps have been withdrawn, but have remained on sale till the stock was exhausted.

I notice in Mr. F. J. Melville's useful little handbook on British Central Africa and Nyasaland that my opinion as stated in my recent notes on the stamps of the B.S.A. Co. in *The London Philatelist*, that the stamps of the first issue were engraved in sheets of 240, is incorrect. He has the printers' authority for his statement, to which I, of course, give way; and add this note as some of the readers of my article may not have seen his book. I gave in my article the evidence on which I based my supposition, but not having any whole sheets I could not be quite sure. When writing in an out-of-the-way corner of Africa one is rather handicapped in matters like this.

Yours, etc.,
FRANK H. MELLAND.

M'PIKA, NORTH-EASTERN RHODESIA,
June 15, 1909.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS,

Southern Rhodesia.

POSTAL NOTICE NO. 12 OF 1909.

POSTAGE STAMPS ON SALE IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

THE following revised schedule of varieties of postage stamps at present on sale at post

offices in Southern Rhodesia is published for general information.

Value.	Year of Issue.	Colours.
½d.	1898–1903	Green.
½d.	1909	Green (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
1d.	1909	Red (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
2d.	1898–1903	Bistre.
2d.	1909	Bistre (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
2½d.	1898–1903	Cobalt.
2½d.	1909	Cobalt (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
3d.	1896–1897	Chocolate and ultramarine.
3d.	1898–1903	Lilac.
3d.	1909	Lilac (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
4d.	1898–1903	Olive brown.
4d.	1909	Olive brown (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
5d.	1909	Red lilac (1898–1903). Surcharge, 5d. on 6d. Overprinted "Rhodesia."
6d.	1898–1903	Red lilac.
6d.	1909	Red lilac (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
7½d.	1909	Grey (1898–1903). Surcharge, 7½d. on 2s. 6d. Overprinted "Rhodesia."
8d.	1896–1897	Olive green and violet on buff.
10d.	1909	Violet (1898–1903). Surcharge, 10d. on 3s. Overprinted "Rhodesia."
1/-	1898–1903	Ochre.
1/-	1909	Ochre (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
2/-	1896–1897	Indigo and green on buff.
2/-	1909	Orange (1898–1903). Surcharge, 2s. on 5s. Overprinted "Rhodesia."
2/6	1896–1897	Brown and purple on yellow.
2/6	1898–1903	Grey.
2/6	1909	Grey (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
3/-	1896–1897	Green and mauve on blue.
3/-	1898–1903	Violet.
3/-	1909	Violet (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
4/-	1896–1897	Red and dark blue on green.
5/-	1896–1897	Chestnut and green.
5/-	1898–1903	Orange.
5/-	1909	Orange (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
7/6	1898–1903	Black.
7/6	1909	Black (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
10/-	1896–1897	Slate and vermilion on rose.
10/-	1898–1903	Green.
10/-	1909	Green (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
20/-	1898–1903	Purple.
20/-	1909	Purple (1898–1903). Overprinted "Rhodesia."
2/6	1905	Black } Victoria Falls issue.
5/-	1905	Violet }

G. H. EYRE,
Postmaster-General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, SALISBURY,
April 15, 1909.

ENVELOPES AND POST CARDS.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

SIR,—Stamp issues after 1890 increased so rapidly that many collectors were unable to keep up with them, and the envelope and card portions were thrown over. The advanced or scientific philatelist *now* considers it necessary to obtain early printings, and even proofs with earlier essays; but how much more necessary should it be, in forming a complete collection, to get every stamp issued for *bona fide* postal franking use, whether on an envelope or in adhesive sheets. Take our own stamps. Almost every detail of their manufacture, issue, dates, and such-like information has been published; but where is the corresponding news of the covers and envelopes issued simultaneously with the adhesives? Major Evans made an earnest request for compilers of a book thereon, but it does not materialize.

Collectors of post card varieties were catered for here in 1887, and again in 1890 from New York, with elaborate lists, so profuse, that we later ones can find barely 60 per cent of them; since when only a few lists of single countries have appeared, and nothing at all as to envelopes in English. A short time back I asked in another paper for information as to a 1d. wrapper of Trinidad surcharged "HALFPENNY" and old value barred out. Gibbons gives this with four bars, also with six. The latter I have searched everywhere for without success, but I have both used and unused bands with four and with *five* bars. To search for varieties fifteen years ago I secured half of Buhl and Co.'s stock (*ex* Pemberton and Wilson's), and added 4000 to my collection, and 5000 more since through Entires Exchange, with a quantity from retiring dealers' stocks, but have not found the above nor about one hundred others catalogued, to say nothing of minor varieties listed by Fry and Watson, though over 400,000 pieces have passed singly through my hands.

Some of these may be in Tapling Collection, but it is virtually inaccessible. But I think our Royal Philatelic Society should have an entires collection as well as of adhesives, and should collect information for general reference. Possibly a committee of Fellows acting with old collectors from other societies might form a separate branch for collecting entires, with small subscription and a quarterly journal. Members of the Exchange, I found (to keep enthusiasts together), take over one-third of the pieces offered to them monthly; but most of the best stuff has been drifting abroad for ten years past; yet from the Continent I have had two to twenty pounds sterling offered for unattainable items.

If a society can be formed to carry on the work I have been trying to do with enfeebled health, which is compelling me to give it up, I shall be pleased to give a selection of at least 2000 varieties towards a reference collection. If the prominent dealers will not

keep up stocks of these entires, it may be desirable to start a co-operative fund among members to buy up old collections offered and to import new issues, to offer to members —the investing ones having first choice at 10 per cent off the prices to others. An old collection has recently been sent me to distribute among *active* collectors, to save the pieces being wasted by disposal at auction.

Your obedient servant,
B. W. WARHURST.

CHELSEA, *June* 25.

[Mr. Warhurst's liberal offer will be duly appreciated by members of the Royal Philatelic Society. We cordially endorse his opinions as to the cruel neglect of entires in this country, and have referred hereto in another part of this issue.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 17 and 18 June, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Naples, ½ t., Arms,* rubbed at top	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, Cross,* thinned	2	2	0
Tuscany, 3 lire,* short at top and right side	21	0	0
Portugal, 1st issue, 100 r.,* original gum; thinned at back. Expert's Report	2	0	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 20 k.,* thinning or tear	3	12	6
Spain, 1851, 2 reales,* pinhole	14	10	0
Ditto, 1852, ditto,* thinned	3	5	0
Ditto, 1853, ditto,* ditto	3	12	6
Switzerland, Neufchatel, 5 c.,* tear at bottom	2	2	0
India, 1st issue, 4 annas*	4	0	0
British Central Africa, 1st issue, £10, brown, mint	8	0	0
Ditto, 1895, no wmk., £25, blue-green, mint	21	10	0
Cape Triangulars, 1853, 1d., brick-red on blued, block of 4, cleaned	4	0	0
Ditto, Woodblock, 1d., brick-red,* minute tears	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., pale blue, tiny tear	4	7	6
Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d., blue,* inkspot	6	12	6
British Columbia, perf. 12½, $1, mint	2	0	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion,* defective	4	0	0
British Guiana, Official 1877, 4 c., blue, pair, mint	2	10	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., ditto	2	8	0
Nevis, 1878, 1d., red, retouched variety, ditto	2	8	0
Ditto, litho., 6d., grey*	2	6	0
Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 1s., indigo	3	15	0
Fiji, 1874, 6d., rose, with Gothic "V.R.," the variety with Cross pattee stop after "R.," thinned and postmark has cut into stamp	14	0	0
Hawaiian Islands, Interisland Postage, 1864, 1c., black on wove paper; and 2 c., black on wove paper, piece nicked out of top margin, both *	3	3	0
Victoria, 1854, Queen on throne, lithographed, 2d., dull mauve, an unused horizontal pair with part gum, one stamp has slight crease	5	5	0
Ditto, 1857–63, wmk. Star, 1d., green, rouletted,* plain margin left side, thinned	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, no wmk., 2d., lilac, imperf. pair*	3	5	0
Collections: 4454, £71, and 1240 (Colonials)	21	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 6 and 7 July, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1855–7, 4d., rose-carmine, large garter, thick paper, mint	2	5	0
Ditto, wmk. Cross, 10s., grey, block of four, "Specimen"	2	15	0
Ditto, an entire sheet of twenty of the 10s., in purple-brown, overprinted "Specimen"	8	0	0
Ditto, a similar sheet of twenty of the £1, in lilac-blue, overprinted "Specimen"	8	0	0
Ditto, 8d., *brown*, pair, mint	4	7	6
Ditto, 1879, 2½d., Plate 15, in blue, a fine corner block of fifteen, imperf., mint	3	7	6

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 2s., brown, block of four, "Specimen"	5	15	0
Ditto, 1½d. to 5s. (except 3d. and 9d.), perf. 12, overprinted "Specimen"	3	3	0
Ditto, colour trials for the 1½d., in eight different colours, imperf., mint	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, four different, perf., ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, colour trials for the 2d., in seven different colours, imperf., ditto	2	8	0
Ditto, ditto, six different, perf., ditto	2	18	0
Ditto, colour trials for the 2½d., in eight different colours, imperf., ditto	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, five different, perf., ditto	2	12	0
Ditto, ditto, eight different, ditto	3	17	6
Ditto, colour trials for the 3d., in six different colours, imperf., ditto	1	7	6
Ditto, ditto, eleven different, perf., ditto	4	15	0
Ditto, ditto, six different, ditto	2	17	6
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1885, 5s., carmine on *bleuté*; 10s., blue on *bleuté*; £1, brown-lilac, wmk. Crowns; and £5, orange on *bleuté*, the essays with large overprint "Specimen"	10	0	0
Ditto, ditto, £1, brown-lilac, Crowns, "Specimen"	6	7	6
Ditto, Army Official, Type 2, 6d., purple, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, colour trial of the £5 in gold, imperf., and overprinted "Specimen"	2	2	0
Modena, 1852, 1 lira, *used*—passed by Dr. Diena	3	7	6
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.*	5	10	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r., vert. lines, No. 4	7	0	0
Tuscany, 1860, 10 c., purple-brown, block of eight, mint	3	0	0
Ceylon, 2s., blue, perf.	2	12	6
India, 1854, 1 a., red, Die 2, block of sixteen *	6	5	0
British Central Africa, 1896, £10, orange and black	5	15	0
Cape Woodblock, 4d., pale blue	2	0	0
Mauritius, Greek border, 1d., scarlet, creased	2	4	0
United States, 1879–94, Periodicals, 1 c. to $60, mint	11	10	0
St. Vincent, 1863–6, compound perf., 1d., rose*	8	0	0
Mexico, 1864-6, 3 c., brown*	2	12	6
Fiji, 1875, Roman V.R., 2d. in red on 6 c. on 3d., green,* small tear	2	14	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 3d., green on bluish,* repaired	3	15	0
Tasmania, 1857–70, 4d., blue, printed both sides	5	0	0
Collections: 3968, £18; 3046, £15 10s; 991	13	0	0

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 24 and 25 June, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britian, 1847, 6d.,* with gum	2	0	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, 1884, 5s, carmine*	2	0	0
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.*	5	5	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green*	3	3	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, rough perfs., a few short	3	12	6
Ditto, 1872, 2 r. 50 c., dull rose*	3	5	0
India, 1855, ½ anna, deep blue, May, 54 transfer, a block of eight, with side margin (the second stamp being the variety with chignon redrawn, No. 54 on plate	3	0	0
Ditto, 1 anna, red, Sept., 54 transfer, a corner block of sixteen, showing corner ornaments and margins	7	15	0
Ditto, Service, 1866, 2 annas, black on purple, pair, mint	4	5	0
Ditto, Faridkot Service, 1886, 1 rupee, red and green, block of four, mint	2	8	0
Ditto, Jhind, 1886, black overprint, 4 a., and 8 a., both the Service, 11½ mm., mint	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 1903, 8 annas, magenta, a mint block of six	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 1 rupee, red and green, a mint block of six	3	0	0
British South Africa, 1898, £5, blue	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, £10, lilac	2	15	0
Cape Triangular, 1855, 1s., deep green, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, 1863, 1s., emerald, mint	2	4	0
Gold Coast, 1875, CC, 12½, 1d., 4d., and 6d., all mint	3	7	6
Lagos, 1904, single CA, 2s. 6d., mint	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., ditto	6	0	0
Mauritius, Dec., 1859, 1d., vermilion	3	3	0
Natal, 1857, 9d., blue, thinned	3	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 1s., buff	2	10	0
Orange River Colony, V.R.I., level stops, 1d. on 1d., brown, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, raised stops, 2d., mauve, surcharge inverted, mint	5	10	0
Southern Nigeria, £1, violet, Single CA, mint	2	15	0
Barbados, CC, 12½, 6d., orange*	2	0	0
Grenada, 1881, Broad Star, 2½d., mint	2	4	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 5s., rose-red*	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1d. on half 6d.*	2	5	0

Sale of 8 and 9 July, 1909.

German Colonies, a collection of about 500	16	0	0
Great Britain, 2d., blue, Plate 7, block of four, mint	2	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Naples, 50 gra., lake	2	2	0
Ditto, Arms, ½ T, repaired	3	17	6
Ditto, Cross, ½ T	2	17	6
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓rd gr., green,* part gum	4	10	0
Roumania, 1858, 54 paras, cut square	12	0	0
Saxony, 3 pf., red, slightly defective	2	15	0
Philippines, 1863, 1 r., rosy mauve*	2	2	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 4 r., nicked	4	4	0
Ditto, Geneva, Oct., 1843, 5c., yellow-green, two, were a pair, but severed	6	10	0
Wurtemberg, 70 k., purple,* part gum	2	0	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green	3	5	0

N.B.—The following four lots are described as Government Proofs.

India, 1854, ½ anna, red, two pairs, ½ a., blue, 4 a., wide setting; ditto showing blue wavy line, and ditto showing red wavy line, all*	2	8	0
Ditto, ½ anna, red (2), ½ anna, blue (2), 2 annas, a pair, perf., and 4 annas, variety wide setting, all used on entires, 1892 postmarks	3	10	0
Ditto, 4 annas, the variety with head inverted, used on part entire	3	0	0
Ditto, Service, 1866, long stamps, 2 a., 4 a., and 8 a., used on entires	5	0	0
British South Africa, 1897, Waterlow print, £2, rosy red, mint	2	12	6
Ditto, April, 1906, One Penny on 3d., mint	2	12	6
Cape Triangulars, 1853, 1d., red on blue, block of four	2	6	0
Ditto, 1855, 1s., deep green, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, pair, ditto, ditto	2	4	0
Cape Woodlock, 1d., bright red	3	0	0
Ditto, 4d., deep blue	3	7	6
Cape Triangulars, 1863, 6d., mauve, pair, mint	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., emerald, ditto, ditto	5	5	0
Mauritius, 1848, 1d., red on bluish, medium state, thinned	3	0	0
Ditto, Dec., 1859, 1d., red	3	5	0
British Columbia, $1, perf. 14, mint	2	4	0
British Guiana, 1852, 4 c., deep blue	3	7	6
Ditto, 1853, 1 c., dull red	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, pair	5	15	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., mint £2 6s. and	2	8	0
Ditto, 1d. on 4d., inverted surcharge*	2	6	0
Nevis, litho., 4d., orange, mint	3	12	6
New Brunswick, 1s., purple, creased	5	15	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 5s., rose-red, trace of crease*	7	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
St. Vincent, 1880, 1d. on half 6d.	2	4	0
Ditto, 1881, 1d. on 6d., yellow-green	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	7	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., ultramarine, mint	4	5	0
Uruguay, Nov., 1857, 120 c., blue*	2	10	0
Virgin Islands, Nov., 1867, 1s., rose-carmine, double-lined frame, on blued*	2	4	0
Fiji, 1874, Gothic V.R., 12 c., rose*	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydneys, 1d., deep lake on greyish, Plate 2	2	5	0
Collections: 6000, £11; 657 (Oppen's)	10	10	0

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MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 22 and 23 June, 1909.

British Central Africa, 1898, imperf., 1d., blue and red*	1	18	0
British East Africa, imperf., 1 r., carmine, mint	1	0	0
Canada, perf. 12, 6d., grey-lilac	1	15	0
China, 1897, $5 on 3 c.,* without gum	2	0	0
Great Britain, 2½d., Plate 2, "L.H.F.L," creased	1	0	0
Ditto, Board of Education, Queen, 1s., mint	3	15	0
Ditto, O.W. Official, ditto, 5d., ditto	1	6	0
Hanover, 1856, $\frac{1}{10}$th thaler*	1	0	0

Sale of 28 June, 1909.

Bechuanaland Protectorate, August, 1888, 1d., lilac and black on bleuté, mint	1	4	0
British Somaliland, O.H.M.S., Single C A, 2 a.	1	1	0
Great Britain, 1855, blue safety paper, Small Garter, 4d., deep carmine,* off centre	5	10	0
Montserrat, C A, 4d., blue* no gum	1	10	0
Niger Coast, 1894, ½d. in red on 1d., blue, pair	3	7	6
Trinidad, Single C A, £1, green and carmine, mint	1	2	0

Sale of 2 July, 1909.

Great Britain, 1887, proof of the 3d. in black on green, block of four	1	14	0
Holland, Postage Due, 1870, 5 c., brown*	1	6	0
Philippines, 1 real in red on 10 pesetas, bistre, S.G. No. 205*	1	3	0
Western Australia, proof of the 4d., rose-carmine, imperf., block of six*	1	10	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. SEPTEMBER, 1909. No. 213.

Self-Protection!

"HEAVEN helps those who help themselves." Unless stamp-collectors are prepared to exert themselves more than they have done in protecting their hobby from the ever-increasing flood of philatelic rubbish, they must not complain if they find the future stability and popularity of the pursuit seriously endangered. In the July issue of this journal we made some comments on the revelations of the recent North Borneo case, and deplored the untimely slaughter of the S.S.S.S., remarks which we are glad to note are warmly supported by our friend and colleague Major E. B. Evans, in an article in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* of the fourth of this month, in which, with us, he advocates the formation of a new society to carry on the work formerly done by the S.S.S.S. (to which, as the Major aptly reminds us, he stood sponsor at its birth!). We cordially welcome such valuable aid as that of our contemporary, but as we do not mean to let the matter rest here, we reserve our further arguments and contentions for a future occasion. (It will be seen by the Agenda Paper of the Royal Philatelic Society that the question will be brought forward this season.)

It is, however, meanwhile advisable to correct one erroneous impression referred to by Major Evans, attributable to our previous remarks, wherein we apparently wished to confine the formation and work of the new society to amateurs only, to which our contemporary naturally demurs. We do not advocate the settlement of this question without the co-operation of members of the Stamp Trade, but this must be secured in a manner which will not allow them to dominate the whole affair, and again break it up whenever it suited them. We think there is a way to satisfactorily overcome this difficulty, which we hope to make public before long.

Stamp-collecting, as it to-day exists, is practically the result of the labours of the Philatelic Societies, and as they have been its creators, it is upon them that should fall the duty of providing for the future of their offspring, and of removing from their path as far as possible obstacles that militate against a successful future.

Notes on the Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad, 1852 to 1860.

A Paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on December 3, 1908.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THE existence of a locally prepared provisional series of stamps has always tended to enhance the Philatelist's appreciation of the issues of a particular country. In the case of our Colonial stamps there are several noted instances hereof, most of which have been exhaustively studied and described in the annals of stamp-collecting. The issues of the island of Trinidad also include a provisional series which, however, seems to have formed the subject of very little notice. This provisional issue, although not including type varieties, as New South Wales or Mauritius, will, however, be found to be of considerable interest owing to the remarkable diversity of the impressions, and I think that the attention of my fellow collectors may now profitably be drawn thereto.

There is, as far as my knowledge is concerned, a remarkable absence of articles or information as regards these stamps in the philatelic journals. The only article which deals fully with the subject is one in the *Philatelic Record* for February, 1890, read before the Philatelic Society of London on January 17 of that year, and subsequently incorporated in the Society's book on the stamps of the West Indies published in 1891. It is to the philatelic research and great ability of Mr. E. D. Bacon that we are—as is so often the case—indebted for the information contained in this article which for the first time placed Philately in possession of definite and tangible information with regard to this lithographed issue. I propose, therefore, to briefly recapitulate Mr. Bacon's facts and deductions in order to compare these with my own conclusions. I may state at the outset that Mr. Bacon has fully shown his wonted perspicacity in this article (written so far back as 1891!), and that as a whole his sound pretensions are supported by such information as I have been enabled to glean from the study of the stamps themselves.

As soon as I had commenced gathering together these stamps—some years since—I naturally turned to my library for assistance, and I read in the "West Indies" under "Remarks" on the Reference List: "The stamps may be divided into three sets, distinguishable from each other by the stages of wear of the impression, but specimens belonging to intermediate stages also exist." On putting this into practice I soon found, however, that I was quite unable to differentiate three sets, or thirteen, by the aid of isolated specimens, as the colours and impressions ran from one extreme to the other by almost insensible gradations, and I fell back for assistance upon the stamps (fortunately available in larger numbers) printed in red from the same stone as those in blue which preceded them. I should add that a small remainder of the red stamps was placed on the philatelic market in and after 1882.

Before, however, proceeding further I think it advisable to place you *au courant* with the main points contained in Mr. Bacon's article and in the Society's work on the West Indies. I should premise by mentioning that Mr. Bacon was largely indebted for his information to Mr. James Graham Taylor who was a resident of Trinidad and who formed a very fine collection of the stamps of that island. These stamps were lithographed by a Frenchman, by name Charles Pétit, who drifted to Trinidad after various wanderings, and during his two years' residence there produced these stamps. He left the island in September, 1853, and died on his journey to New York. The stones from which the stamps were printed were at that time (and are possibly still) existing in the Colonial Secretary's office in Trinidad, viz. a small one measuring about $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with one design upon it, and a larger one measuring $8\frac{3}{4}$ by $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with fifty-four designs arranged in six horizontal rows of nine. I may mention here that this sheet of stamps as printed measures approximately 7 by $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, so there would be marginal space of about $\frac{7}{8}$ inch horizontally and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches vertically from the design to the edge of the stone—thus allowing ample space for the unprinted margin of each sheet. The design on the small stone is engraved, while those on the large one are slightly raised, clearly indicating that the latter was a lithographic transfer from the former. There were evidences that impressions in blue had been taken from the matrix die, but Mr. Bacon did not believe that any issued stamps had been so printed. It was stated, I believe by Mr. Graham Taylor, that the larger stone "is very much blurred over with red colouring, thus proving the red stamp was the last printed." Mr. Bacon, after consultation with a professional lithographer, concluded that no second transfer was ever made, presumably owing to the death of Mr. Pétit, and that the deterioration of the impressions was due to the subsequent imperfect cleaning of the stone and the coagulations of ink that were allowed to remain.

It will be seen how valuable was the information thus conveyed and how much light was shed on what had hitherto been an obscure spot in philatelic history. As I have before remarked, my own study of these stamps has revealed but slight divergence from Mr. Bacon's statement of facts and his conclusions therefrom, and I am glad to say that the tendency of my remarks will corroborate or prove the accuracy of his forecasts.

The principal points that were left open to further substantiation were, in my opinion :—

1. The printing of all issues of these lithographs from the one then existing stone.

2. The dates of the several printings and the colours assignable respectively thereto.

3. The state of the stone at and after each printing, as evidenced by the specimens therefrom.

4. The quantities of stamps assignable to each printing.

5. The means of distinguishing between the greatly deteriorated impressions and lithographic forgeries.

I may say here that I have not been able to gather much assistance from the study of the papers which so frequently help us in classifying the

orders of issues in other countries. The papers overlap in their apparent textures and tones, and except in the case of the so-called card, the variations are not striking. I roughly classify them as follows, all varying somewhat :—

PAPER.

1st *Printing.*	*Blue.*—Toned and generally soft ; medium thick.
2nd *Printing.*	*Blue.*—Thick bluish—almost card.
3rd *Printing.*	*Grey-blue.*—Thinner and harder than first printing.
4th *Printing.*	*Bright blue.*—As No. 3. Sometimes toned.
5th *Printing.*	*Slate.*—As No. 4.
6th *Printing.*	*Grey.*—As No. 5, but varying in thinness to almost pelure.

I think it will simplify matters if I consider points one and three together. Having secured a complete sheet of the last printing in red (my sheet is composed of four overlapping blocks proving the relative positions) I speedily noticed that there was a remarkable difference between the specimens as to deterioration of the "die," and I consider that the impressions may be divided into three conditions of "wear"—i.e. damage to surface of stone caused by accumulated ink—viz. clear, indistinct, and smudged or mottled. From an examination of this sheet it will be seen that the stamps may be roughly classified as follows, according to my previous deposition :—

Row.	*Very Defective.*	*Defective.*	*Slightly Defective.*
1st	—	1 to 9	—
2nd	—	10, 11	12 to 18
3rd	—	19, 20	21 to 26
,,	—	27	—
4th	29, 30	28, 31, 32	33 to 36
5th	37	38 to 42	43 to 45
6th	46 to 54	—	—

It will be seen that the bottom row is by far the most defective, as is frequently the case in printings of this nature ; the top row also contains no specimen that is not indistinct, and every impression on the edges of the plate is marred by heavy colour on the outside. The clearest printed specimens, on the contrary, are found towards the centre of the plate.

Having noted these variations of "wear," or, more accurately, of defective printing through corroded ink, on the red stamp, the next step was obviously to ascertain how far back these defects could be traced, and if they were at all constant. With this view I began comparing defectively printed copies of the blue printings with the red, and I found that I was enabled to locate their place on the plate. I then essayed with some of the more defective copies and, by practice, I was able to locate these—the result ultimately being that (after a long and arduous search for them) I have been enabled to reconstitute the sheet of "blue" impressions (54 specimens), and thus to prove that they were produced from identically the same stone as the stamps printed in red. I found that I could only rely upon the last two printings (which I propose to allude to later on) in slate and grey for my "typing." The "blue-grey" stamps as a rule are fairly well printed,

and the early prints show absolutely no marked defects of impression, or variation from the original die.

For the guidance of other collectors desirous of making up this plate, I may briefly mention some points that will be found of assistance. The presence of heavy colouring on any one side of the stamp will almost assuredly indicate that it is from the edge of the sheet. The portion of the centre design at the lower right and left sides of the figure of Britannia will be found to have gradually developed into variously shaped white patches. A careful comparison of these (with also occasional other white or weak spots in the design generally) will be found the principal means of determining the position of the stamp on the stone. There are also, in a few instances, slight breaks in the outer line of design, and in some instances "broken," i.e. permanently deteriorated letters in the inscription, the latter also occasionally not having any line below them. The left lower corner stamps, Nos. 46, 48 and 49, have the horizontal line across them that I shall allude to later on. The whole of the bottom row is of so blobby or piebald a nature that the stamps are easily assigned to their position. The spacing between the stamps is narrow and fairly regular, and, except in the case of pairs, is of no practical assistance. Photographs from the red plate are too indistinct to be of any use, and even the red stamps themselves are somewhat faint, ineffective, and trying for the eyes. It appears that the stone still exists in the colony, and I should hope that, on the representation of the Royal Philatelic Society, two or three impressions in black might be struck off therefrom for the Society's collection and the instruction of its members. I am confident that by the aid of these the types could be far more easily identified, while for the purposes of the Expert Committee of the Society the possession of such a sheet would be of the greatest value.

I am inclined to attribute a large proportion of the "wear" of the plate to the nature of the inks employed. M. Pétit, who was an expert, doubtless used an appropriate and fluid ink for his first blue impressions, and that used subsequently for the greenish blue and bright blue printings was apparently fairly satisfactory. On the other hand, it seems to me that the greatest damage to the stone occurred after recourse was once had to the slate and grey colours that appear on the later printings. Specimens exist which reveal a kind of solid oily appearance, and I feel sure that these two mixings of ink rapidly exercised a pernicious effect upon the stone, and were thus responsible for the production of the more indistinct impressions. The colour, moreover, which is frequently very dark, shows out these defects far more clearly than in the washy-looking pale red colours generally found in the last printing.

Working backwards, I think we have, from the identification of the types, established the fact that the red, the grey, and the slate printings were all from the same stone. I may say that I have measured the differences intervening between the stamps, whose positions on the plate I could clearly identify, in the case of numerous pairs in my own and other collections, and have found the surrounding margins of identically the same measurement. I should mention, however, that I have found among the blue-grey printings a specimen with margins above and below, which apparently slightly exceed

those of any stamp on the plate, but the difference is minute, and taken alone hardly affords sufficient grounds for assuming the existence of another transfer.

If the sheet of red stamps is carefully examined it will be seen that there is a horizontal line traversing the design about 6 mm. from the bottom, which commences on the outside of the lower left corner stamp, No. 46, is continued (indistinctly as to No. 47) to the outer edge of No. 49, and even possibly with traces on the next following stamp. This apparently arose from some accidental stroke on the part of the lithographer when preparing the stone, similar instances of which are to be found on the first issue of Victoria. This line is, however, quite distinct in Nos. 46 and 49, and I am able to show you the identical number on the plate with this particular line in the following colours :—

Blue.	2nd printing	(on bluish card)
Grey-blue.	3rd	„
Bright blue.	4th	„
Slate.	5th	„
Red.	7th	„

The blue printing—practically equal to the first printing on card paper—is so well executed that it is possible this specimen might be No. 49, which also clearly shows the horizontal line; and I have not found this variety in the grey colour, although I have No. 47 thus with traces of the line. I think, however, the presence of this horizontal line on these five different printings is absolute proof that only one lithographic stone was ever used for the printings of this provisional issue.

There are, as will be seen, many varieties of the impression (the Society's book alludes to the difficulty of finding two alike), caused by uneven mixing of or faulty distribution of the ink. In some cases the superfluity of ink makes the impression almost a smudge of colour, notably with regard to some of the slate or grey impressions of stamps apparently from the centre of the plate. In other instances, as in the bottom of the plate, the ink had been allowed to coagulate until it was clearly raised on the stone, and when a dark slate colour was employed, the result produced is a piebald impression! I also show a stamp with white horizontal lines; this, however, I presume, is due to a fold in the paper during the operation of placing it on the stone. I do not think any type can be accurately placed except in the cases of the slate and grey impressions. Some of the blue-grey printed stamps, it is true, show a certain amount of "wear" or deterioration, but it is not sufficiently developed, i.e. does not present several marked and constant flaws or patches on the same stamp, without which—each in relation to the other—the specimens cannot be typed. It was, in fact, apparently only in the fifth and sixth printings that the ink on the stone apparently crystallized permanently (if I may use the expression).

I now turn to the second point on which fuller information is desirable, i.e. the dates of the several printings and the colours assignable to each. In the Society's work the synopsis mentions three stages of wear with intermediate stages. But Mr. Bacon, after an examination of a number of dated

copies, states his belief that there were five printings, viz. October, 1852, to June, 1853; April to July, 1855; November, 1856, to February, 1857; 1858 (autumn) to February, 1859, and March to July, 1860. I am, however, inclined to extend even Mr. Bacon's list and make seven printings in all, appearing respectively in the following colours: (1) blue to indigo; (2) pale blue on bluish card; (3) greyish to greenish blue; (4) bright blue, pale to dark; (5) slate; 6. grey; (7) red. It will be seen that the principal point of difference between my list and Mr. Bacon's lies in the inclusion of a new printing of blue stamps issued *after* the greenish blue printing.

[NOTE.—Since the above was written I have been informed that this stone was shown at the Chicago Exhibition of 1893, and while on its return journey was seriously damaged.—M. P. C.]

(*To be continued.*)

Royal Philatelic Society, London.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, PAPERS, AND DISPLAYS FOR THE SEASON 1909–10.

1909. Thursdays.		SUBJECT.
Oct. 21.	The Earl of Crawford (*Vice-President*)	Display of "St. Helena" and "St. Vincent."
Nov. 4.	The Rev. H. A. James, D.D.	Display of "British Colonies in America."
Nov. 18.	Major E. B. Evans . .	Display of "Mulready Covers and Envelopes, with Notes."
Dec. 2.	. . . . .	Display by Members: "Twelve Interesting Stamps."
Dec. 16.	Mr. H. M. Hansen . .	Display of "Schleswig Holstein," with Notes.
1910.		
Jan. 6.	Mr. Harvey R. G. Clarke .	Display of "Transvaal," with Notes.
Jan. 20.	Mr. M. P. Castle (*Hon. Vice-President*)	Notes on the Types of the 1853 Issue of British Guiana, with Display.
Feb. 3.	Mr. R. B. Yardley . .	Display of "Azores" and "Madeira," with Notes.
Feb. 17.	Mr. B. W. Warhurst .	Display (by Members also) of Entires.
Mar. 3.	Mr. F. W. Edwards . .	Notes on Local Stamps, with Display.
Mar. 17.	H.R.H. The President .	Display of the issues of British Guiana between 1860 and 1890 (exclusive of the type-set issues of 1862), with Notes.
April 7.	Mr. M. P. Castle (*Hon. Vice-President*)	Paper on the Advisability of Forming a Universal Philatelic Union of Philatelic Societies to discourage unnecessary or speculative issues. Display by Members of such issues.

1910. Thursdays.		Subject.
May 5.	Mr. T. W. Hall . .	Paper on the 1864–7 issues of the Argentine Republic, with Display.
May 19.	Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg .	Paper on the Perforations of Queensland, with Display.
June 2.	. . . . .	Annual General Meeting.

All the meetings will commence punctually at 6 p.m.

By the kind invitation of the Earl of Crawford, Vice-President, the first meeting will be held at 2 Cavendish Square; all the other meetings will take place at 4 Southampton Row.

At the meetings on December 2, February 17, and April 7, it is hoped that members will bring specimens of the stamps denoted, and other objects of philatelic interest, with short explanatory notes.

LESLIE L. R. HAUSBURG,
Hon. Sec. Programme Committee.

Philatelic Notes.

REPRINTS OF THE RUSSIAN-LEVANT STAMPS, 1865-7.

THE *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* for August contains a most interesting article giving authentic and definite information as to these reprints, whose existence has only been known during the last year. The stamps in question are:—

1865	(10 paras)	blue and brown.
	(2 piastres)	red and blue.
1866	(10 paras)	rose (*hor. network* in blue).
	(2 piastres)	blue (*hor. network* in rose).
1867	(10 paras)	rose (*vert. network* in blue).
	(2 piastres)	blue (*vert. network* in rose).

It appears that the reprints announced by a Berlin dealer last year were made in 1892, 340 copies of each value (in sheets of ten stamps) having been produced, presumably by the Russian Post Office. Nothing definite, however, leaked out; the stock was small, and they were offered for sale at about £3 per set on their merits.

The article mentioned, writes Mr. B. T. K. Smith in his lucid commentary thereon, in Alfred Smith and Sons' *Circular*, which we reproduce with due acknowledgment, "gives us a certain amount of additional information from which it now appears that these are not the first reprints. According to a communication from Mr. Breitfuss, an earlier reprint which I will call 'Reprint I,' was made in 1875, and comprised all the values given above except the 10 paras of 1867. Although he has seen only single specimens of Reprint I, he asserts that the same plate was used as for Reprint II (1892). The writer of the article, after examining the differences between the original stamps and Reprint II, has come to the conclusion that only *part* of each reprinted stamp is genuine. In the reprinted stamps of 1865 the network and frame are alone genuine, the inscription, arms, and steamer being

imitations; in the reprinted stamps of 1866–7 the stamp itself is genuine, the network being imitated. The German magazine states that the remainder of Reprint II was bought in 1907 by a Mr. 'Essagan' (I think this is a misprint for the name of Mr. V. Essayan, a Galata banker and philatelist) through the Director of the Russian Post Office in Constantinople, with the authorization of the Agent-General of the Russian Post Office. The lot was sold by Mr. Essayan to a Constantinople stamp firm, who resold it to the German dealer mentioned above. This dealer asked for official information regarding the origin of the reprints, and was finally referred to the General Direction of the Russian Steam Navigation Company in Odessa, whose reply was to the effect that the reprints were from the original plates, and that they would be pleased to supply the desired information on receipt of £120 for their trouble!"

These Reprints seem to be of the Alsace-Lorraine style, i.e. an imitation as near as could be made by the Post Office officials. Their exact illustration side by side with the originals is, therefore, of philatelic value—especially as the two stamps of 1865 are valuable standard European rarities—and this has been done by our German contemporary, to whom we are much indebted for their reproduction.



1865. 10 Paras.
ORIGINAL.



1865. 10 Paras.
REPRINT.



1865. 2 Piastres.
ORIGINAL.



1865. 2 Piastres.
REPRINT.



1867. 10 Paras.
ORIGINAL.*



1867. 10 Paras.
REPRINT.



1867. 2 Piastres.
ORIGINAL.



1867. 2 Piastres.
REPRINT.

* The network does not show in this reproduction.

THE BASLE STAMP.

IT seems almost impossible that anything more could be discovered about or written of this old-world stamp issued sixty-four years ago, but the following paragraph communicated to the *Standard* shows that this is not so:—

"When part of the Archive Office at Bâle was being cleaned recently, a sheet of fifteen rare postage stamps was discovered amongst a heap of dust-covered papers. The stamps, which are known to collectors as the 'doves of Bâle,' are very valuable and extremely rare. This sheet of fifteen stamps—the largest number known to exist in one set—has been roughly valued at £300, but, though a much larger price might be realized if the stamps were sold separately to collectors, it is improbable that they will come into the market."

We learn that this unique block (consisting of five rows of three, with margins above, below, and on the right-hand side) was discovered behind some wall-paper, that it was rescued in fine condition, and after having been secured by Herr E. Zumstein, of Berne, now occupies an honoured resting-place in one of the greatest collections of the world.

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, will meet on the following dates to examine stamps:—

SEASON 1909–10.

1909.	1910.
October 21.	March 17.
November 18.	April 21.
December 16.	May 19.
1910.	June 16.
January 20.	July 14.
February 17.	

THE EXPERT COMMITTEE OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

THE Expert Committee has made the following regulations and scale of charges with regard to specimens submitted for examination by persons who *are not members* of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

For specimens quoted in any current catalogue up to £20 in value which are pronounced genuine, or actually to be what they appear to be, 5s.

For specimens quoted at £20 (500 fcs. or 400 marks) up to £50 (1250 fcs. or 1000 marks), 10s.

For specimens quoted at £50 or upwards (1250 fcs. or 1000 marks), 20s.

Where there is no catalogue quotation an auction record may be referred to, but in cases where no quotation can be given the charge will be on the highest scale.

Specimens pronounced not to be genuine, or actually to be what they appear to be, will be charged 2s. 6d., and a return of part of the fee or fees will be made.

In all cases in which the Committee are asked to pronounce upon the genuineness of a surcharge or overprint, double the above fees will be charged, commencing with the new season, 1909–10.

The charges made to *members* will remain the same as heretofore, namely, 3s. and 1s. 6d., except when the opinion of the Committee is asked upon the surcharge or overprint of a specimen, in which case the charges will be 6s. and 3s.

In all cases where the applicant for a certificate—whether a member or not—requires an answer to a particular question, and the Committee is unable to give a definite opinion, a fee of 1s. only—1 f. 25 c. or 1 m.—will be charged to cover postages and expenses.

The members of the Committee meet once a month only, generally in the afternoon of the *third Thursday* in each month (August and September excepted).

Stamps found not to be what they appear to be are returned immediately after the meeting (unless a photograph is required by the Committee for future reference); but all stamps requiring to be photographed may be retained for ten days, or even more, *and no fixed date for their return can be stated.*

Unless the fees accompany the stamps no examination can take place.

NOTE.—Every care is taken of specimens sent for examination, but the Committee assumes no responsibility for loss or damage, or for the results of the opinions given.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC CONVENTION.

THE well-known seaside resort, Atlantic City, was the chosen venue for this year's American Philatelic Convention, and a most successful meeting has amply vindicated the selection and has fixed Detroit as the scene of the next year's meeting. *Mekeel's Weekly*, which has most deservedly been re-chosen as the official organ of the A.P.S., writes: "The convention was a great success, not only in the way of attendance, but in the harmony that marked all its sessions. The attendants were favoured with beautiful weather, and the natural attractions of the convention city, coupled with the courtesies shown by Philadelphia philatelists, made the week a very enjoyable one.

"The convention was marked by the attendance of a large number of the 'old guard,' and one could not but note the experienced and matured philatelists present. The legislative matters that came before the Society were dealt with expeditiously and with so much unanimity that only two roll-calls were required."

The membership, July 18, 1908, was 1514, while the figures shown August 28, 1909, 1757. This is a net gain of 243 over last year. There are now 562 foreign members, a gain of 46 over last year.

These figures speak volumes alike for the energy of the recruiting committee and the increasing vitality of American Philately. Fortunately, not only is this increase in numbers but in sound philatelic work, *pace* the splendid works that were reviewed in our last issue emanating from the pens of Messrs. Henry J. Crocker and Walter Clark Bellows.

The following gentlemen were elected to office for the ensuing year :—

President, J. N. Luff; Vice-Presidents, C. A. Howes, E. de Z. Kelley, L. L. Green, H. S. Adair, H. G. Smith, L. H. Kjellstedt, H. J. Crocker. and E. R. Cornwall. Mr. Howes is Chairman, Mr. Adair is Secretary, and Mr. Kjellstedt is International Secretary.

RETIREMENT OF MR. W. HADLOW FROM AUCTIONS.

IT is with regret that we have received the announcement following from Mr. W. Hadlow, who has for so many years successfully carried on the business of a philatelic auctioneer. Mr. Hadlow's courtesy, business-like method, and sound judgment have earned full recognition at the hands of his numerous clients and friends, who will join with us in wishing him continued prosperity in his career.

We understand that Messrs. Plumridge and Co. will hold the usual Monday sales of Mr. Hadlow in addition to their own fixtures.

"I have to inform you that owing to the very large increase in my business as a stamp dealer, commission agent, and expert, I have, very reluctantly, decided to give up that portion relating to selling stamps by auction and have transferred to Messrs. Plumridge and Co. all my interest in same, and sincerely hope that you will extend to them the support that you have given me in the past.

"That part of my business relating to dealing in stamps will be carried on by me in the usual way, and special and personal attention will be given to commissions received by me for purchase at the various auction sales."

DEATH OF MR. J. F. SEYBOLD.

WE learn with much regret of the death of Mr. J. F. Seybold, whose name is so well known on both sides of the Atlantic as a prominent collector of old standing. To the older school of Philatelists Mr. Seybold's name is doubtless more familiar than to the younger generation, and his collection of stamps on entires is probably the finest in the world. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* of August 21 writes :—

"The startling news of the death of John F. Seybold, Syracuse, New York, who is famous throughout the philatelic domain as one of the greatest of collectors, has been chronicled by the newspapers. According to the despatches, Mr. Seybold committed suicide in the department store of which he was proprietor; a nervous impairment of mind and body is the cause assigned for the act. Mr. Seybold was a bachelor of middle age, and he himself has said humorously that he was wedded to his stamps. Mr. Seybold's collections, particularly his stamps on original covers, have attained a celebrity that has brought their owner prominently to the minds of collectors the world over. His covers have been exploited, and deservedly, time and again in the philatelic press; and it is noticed that the newspapers that tell of the unfortunate end of our esteemed Mr. Seybold mention the fact of his philatelic affiliations. All Philately has lost an ornament and many of us a friend; for over twenty years Mr. Seybold and the editor of the *Weekly* have met by correspondence, and we feel that our loss is almost irreparable."

Our contemporary gives further information hereon as follows :—

Judge W. G. Cady and Edward Beard, both Philatelists, have been appointed appraisers of the stamp collection of the late John F. Seybold. The collection, which comprises the larger part of the estate of the late Mr. Seybold, is estimated to be worth anywhere from $50,000 to $100,000, and is the third largest in the country. The stamps will be listed by the appraisers and these lists sent to some large stamp-dealing house, when the sale will then be decided upon, either by individual stamps, or as a collection. But it will probably be by auction, and the demands will in the main determine the manner of its disposition.

THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC CONGRESS AND THE POSTAL UNION.

At the recent Manchester Philatelic Congress it was resolved to petition the Postal Union with a view to the prevention of further issues of speculative and unnecessary postage stamps, which a committee was appointed to draft and forward. We append a copy of the petition, which has been forwarded to its destination, but we learn that the Postal Union can only receive petitions or resolutions submitted by administrations that are members of the Union. The petition will therefore be submitted to the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, His Majesty's Postmaster-General, and we hope to learn that it will be favourably entertained by the British postal authorities. We understand that this question has been discussed and favourably received at the recent German Philatelic Congress at Carlsbad.

Manchester Philatelic Congress,
9 Albert Square, Manchester, *August* 20, 1909.

THE DIRECTOR, THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION, BERNE.

DEAR SIR,—At a Congress of all the Philatelic Societies of Great Britain held in Manchester on the 18th, 19th, and 20th February, 1909, the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

> "That this Congress is of opinion that a petition should be prepared and presented to the Universal Postal Union, soliciting their help in the prevention of further issues of Commemorative and other stamps which are unnecessary for the public service."

We, the Committee appointed to draw up this petition, beg respectfully to remind you that at your Congress held in 1897 at Washington, it was decided that stamps issued for a special object peculiar to the country of issue, such as stamps called Commemorative stamps, and available for a limited time only, should no longer be valid for international postage.

In addition to these, large numbers of stamps are constantly being issued, which, although not restricted as to the period of currency, nevertheless are unnecessary for the public service, and are apparently only produced for the purpose of sale to stamp collectors of the young and inexperienced class. Serious philatelists deplore the appearance of so many such issues because they tend to lower the reputation of the Postal Authorities of such countries

whose business it is to cater for the wants of the letter-writing public, and not the stamp collector.

In the category of stamps which we submit ought to be discouraged, and whose status you are respectfully asked to consider, are many provisional (surcharged) issues. These, in isolated cases, may be necessary, but the great majority could be easily avoided, and we respectfully submit that their issue could be discouraged and restricted by some ruling recommendation of the Universal Postal Union.

We regret that some of our own colonies are serious offenders in this respect, and the attention of our Colonial Secretary has already been drawn to this matter. We feel that the clearly expressed opinion of the Universal Postal Union, whose work in the cause of civilization has been of such extraordinary value and whose recommendations command universal respect and attention, would have a strong effect in preventing the issue of these unnecessary and purely speculative postage stamps.

In conclusion we would respectfully point out that this petition expresses the views not only of the British Philatelic Societies assembled in Congress, and of the leading members of the stamp trade in this country, but of the societies and dealers in all parts of the world.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) I. J. BERNSTEIN
(President, Manchester Junior Philatelic Society),
W. DORNING BECKTON
(President, Manchester Philatelic Society),
M. P. CASTLE
(Hon. Vice-President, Royal Philatelic Society),
PERCY C. BISHOP
(Editor, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*).

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH. — We have been informed officially that all the Postage Dues from 1s. value upwards, without the bar, have been burnt.—*Australian Philatelist.*

From the same source we are indebted for the following information :—

"A new design of Postage Due stamp has appeared, or rather the Victorian Postage Due has been Federalized by taking out the word 'Victoria' at the bottom and inserting the word 'Australia.' The 1d. was put on sale at Hobart on July 13, and the 2d. on the 28th. We purchased the 1d. value at our head office here (Sydney) on July 20, and the 2d. on the 28th. The stamps are on

Crown and A paper, and perforated 12½ Each sheet bears the letters "J.B.C." in a circle, and "C.A." also in a circle. The former are initials of Mr. J. B. Cooke, the Federal Government printer, and the latter stand for "Australian Commonwealth."

There is a curious "flaw" in the sixth row of stamps vertically from the left. A white line begins at the right-hand side of the figure "1" on the bottom stamp, and runs up to the top, where it is seen on the left-hand side. It gradually bears to the left as it runs up the sheet, and is only visible on the octagon in carmine ink.

Postage Dues.

1d., yellow-green and carmine; Crown and A; perf. 12½.
2d., yellow-green and carmine; Crown and A; perf. 12½.

BARBADOS. — We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. two stamps of the type of 1892–9 in new colours.

Adhesives.

½d., pale brown; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.
6d., lilac and violet; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.

COOK ISLANDS.—"We have received the 1d., carmine, Queen Makea Takau, watermarked single-lined N Z and Star, perf. 14."—*Australian Philatelist.*

Adhesive.

1d., carmine; single-lined N Z and Star; perf. 14.

INDIA.—Mr. W. T. Wilson has received the 25 rupees, King's Head stamp, for ordinary use, and also this stamp with the usual "Service" overprint, a copy of the latter being submitted for our inspection.

Adhesive.

25 r., blue and orange-brown, King's Head.

Official.

On
Same stamp with the H. S. overprint in black.
M.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—A farthing stamp has been issued, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have supplied a specimen.

It is of the usual King's Head type, with inscription, "POSTAGE & REVENUE."

Adhesive.

¼d., brown; multiple; ordinary; perf. 14.

NEW HEBRIDES.—We take the following from the *Australian Philatelist* of July 10, 1909:—

"Mr. H. Venables Vernon, of this city, who has business relations with the islands, has acquainted us that only three sheets of the ½d. value on single Crown and CA paper were at first received at the chief post office, Port Vila, but sixteen sheets have since been found on single-watermarked paper in Fiji, which have been surcharged 'New Hebrides, Condominium.' They have also been sent to the islands and put into circulation. This represents a total of 2280 stamps on this paper."

The 1s. King's Head, Fiji, on multiple paper has been surcharged for use here.

Adhesive.

1s., green and carmine; King; multiple; chalky; perf. 14.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The *Australian Philatelist* chronicles the 2d., watermarked Crown and A, perf. 11.

Adhesive.

2d., ultramarine; wmk. Crown and A; perf. 11.

NEW ZEALAND.—We have been shown the 9d. Commonwealth design with mixed perfs.

The stamps have apparently been perforated on the 12 × 12½ comb machine, but the latter perforation not being satisfactory, has been patched up, and two vertical lines have been reperforated on the 11 machine. These stamps are produced at the Melbourne printing office.—*Australian Philatelist.*

Adhesive.

9d., brown and blue; Crown and A; perf. 12 × 12½, also perf. 11 vertically.

From the same source we take the following:—

"Several of our English contemporaries have fallen into a slight error in connection with the new perforations of the current New Zealand stamps. They list the 4d. as perf. 14 × 15. Mr. Bate writes this may be correct, but he is disposed to think that perf. 14 × 13, 13½ is meant. He feels sure, however, that the assertion that the 2½d. and 5d. stamps have been issued perf. 14½ (comb machine) is quite inaccurate. These stamps are too big to go in either the 14 × 13½ or 14 × 15 comb perforators. There is no comb machine which perforates 14½ all round, nor is there any single cutter of that gauge either. Mr. Bate adds that all the four machines at present in use gauge 14 × 15, he has pulls from them all, has examined them, and they are identical. When working with New Zealand current perforations it is not wise to take much for granted."

Gibbons Weekly adds two values to the set of Officials, perf. 14 × 15.

Officials.

½d., green; perf. 14 × 15.
6d., pink ,, 14 × 15.

NORTH BORNEO.—A handsome pictorial set has reached us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The centres of all are in black, and we understand that only a few of the *unsurcharged* 18 cents were issued.

Unwatermarked paper, perf. 14.

Adhesives.

1 c., chocolate and black.
2 c., green and ,,
3 c., lake and ,,
4 c., vermilion and ,,
5 c., ochre-brown and ,,
6 c., olive-green and ,,
8 c., lake and ,,
10 c., pale blue and ,,
12 c., Prussian blue and ,,
16 c., purple-brown and ,,
18 c., myrtle and ,,
24 c., lilac-mauve and ,,

Provisional.

$\frac{20}{\text{CENTS}}$ in red on 18 c., myrtle and black.

QUEENSLAND.—*Gibbons Weekly* informs us that the 1s. value is coming in a very deep shade of *mauve;* it is stated to be quite different from No. 242 in the Catalogue.

Adhesive.

1s., deep mauve; Crown and A; perf. 12½, 13.

ST. KITTS-NEVIS. — Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have received the 1s. value on the multiple watermarked paper.

Adhesive.

1s., grey-green and orange; multiple wmk.; ordinary (?).

TASMANIA.—The *Australian Philatelist* lists two varieties of the ½d., green, pictorial.

Adhesives.

½d., pictorial, deep green; Crown and A; perf. 12½.
½d., pictorial, sage-green; Crown and A; perf. 12½ three sides, by 11.

TRANSVAAL.—The 2s. 6d. value on multiple watermarked paper is reported issued by *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesive.

2s. 6d., black and mauve (?); multiple; ordinary.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. — We note in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 5d. value has been changed in colour from olive-yellow to light buff.

Adhesive.

5d., light buff; Crown A; perf. 11.

EUROPE.

BULGARIA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have received the 15 st., orange, of the 1889–90 issue surcharged "$\frac{1909}{10}$" in two lines. We have since received this stamp, and also the 5 st., green, with "1909" at top in black, from Mr. W. T. Wilson.

From several journals we gather that other provisionals than those we have already listed have appeared.

Provisionals.

1909. 10 on 15 st., orange, of 1889–90; black surcharge.
5 st., green, of 1889–90; surcharged "1909" in black.
5 st. on 15 st., of 1902, *black* surcharge.
25 st. on 30 st., of ,, *blue* ,,

HOLLAND.—A 4 c. Postage Due stamp of the permanent type has appeared, and a specimen is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Postage Due.

4 c., ultramarine and black; Type 1, perf. 12½.

SERVIA.—*Smith's Monthly*, on Continental authority, states that the 15 paras of the current set has not appeared on *laid* paper, but that the 5, 10 and 20 paras of the Postage Due set may be found on laid paper.

Postage Dues.

5 paras, rosy mauve, laid paper.
10 ,, blue ,,
20 ,, brown ,,

SWITZERLAND. — Referring to our note under this heading on page 198, Mr. Philip Wolff writes under date August 13, as follows: "In regard to the 40 c. Switzerland redrawn type, perforated 11½ top and bottom, 12 on the sides, there is a mistake in the watermark; it should be Gibbons Type 8 instead of Type 13."

From this we now gather that the stamp sent would be listed as Gibbons No. 193*a*, a variety of perforation, 11½ × 12.

TURKEY.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write: "There is a new set just being issued very similar to that which it supersedes, but differing chiefly in the Imperial toughra and in the lettering beneath it; presumably this has something to do with the change of Sultans."

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—*Smith's Monthly* informs us that the colour of the new 50 centavos stamp is *black* and not *rosy-red* as previously reported.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC. — *Medellin.* — A curious oblong stamp, lithographed by J. L. Arango, is listed and illustrated in *Gibbons Weekly.*

The date of issue is given as July 2, 1909.

Adhesive.

50 c., yellow-brown; perf. 12.

SALVADOR.—It is reported in the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that the anchor control stamp on the stamps of this country is now overprinted in red.

UNITED STATES.—The 2 c. Alaska-Yukon stamp has been issued imperforate in sheets of 280, 20 × 14, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us a sample.

Adhesive.

2 c., carmine; imperf.

VENEZUELA.—A sheet of the 5 c. of 1887, perforated 12 instead of 11, has reached *Gibbons Weekly*.

Adhesive.

5 c., deep green, litho, Type 21; perf. 12.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

BELGIAN CONGO.—It is reported in *Smith's Monthly* that the new 10 c. red stamp contains an error in the inscription, which reads: "DIN" for "DIX."

MAURITANIA.—We are informed in *Gibbons Weekly* that certain of the stamps for ordinary use issued in 1906–7 were overprinted T in blue or black for use as Postage Dues.

Postage Dues.

5 c., green, overprinted as above.
10 c., rose ,, ,,
20 c., black on bluish, overprinted as above.
25 c., blue ,, ,,
30 c., chocolate on flesh ,, ,,
50 c., deep violet ,, ,,
1 fc., black on azure ,, ,,

SPANISH COLONIES.—It would appear that the colours of the latest set given on pages 110 and 199 are incorrect.

The correct colours, taken from the actual stamps, are given in the *Philatelic Adviser*.

Adhesives.

1 c., orange-brown.
2 c., rosine.
5 c., myrtle.
10 c., orange-vermilion.
15 c., black-brown.
20 c., deep reddish mauve.
25 c., indigo.
30 c., chocolate.
40 c., crimson.
50 c., purple-black.
1 p., pale green
4 p., orange.
10 p., salmon.

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE annual meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, July 21st, at eight p.m.

Present, Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen in the chair, and twenty-three members.

The minutes of the previous annual meeting having been confirmed, the following officers were declared duly elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. A. H. Pettifer; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. E. D. E. Van Weenen, A. Ormonde Butler, P. M. Courtenay Smith, and C. W. L. Ballhausen; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Witney; Honorary Librarian, Mr. W. G. McNeill; Honorary Secretary and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. C. F. Williams; Committee, Messrs. R. Blau, Ridley, Blumenthol, Parry, Waddington, Brookes, and J. W. A. Hull.

The report of the Committee, Honorary Librarian, Exchange Superintendent, and Honorary Treasurer's report and balance sheet having been read and adopted, Mr. Land proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring officers, which was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Van Weenen then retired from the chair in favour of Mr. Pettifer, who spoke in eulogistic terms of the late President, and addressed the members on the objects of the club.

A discussion ensued on the question of insurance of members' stamps during circulation by the exchange branch, and the Honorary Secretary was instructed to write to theM. P.G. n he subject.

It was resolved "That the Club suggest to the executors of a deceased member's estate that they will advise as to the best means of disposing of any stamp collection which deceased may have left, if so desired."

Mr. Blau had on view several pairs of the Jubilee issue of 1d., 2d. (3d. Diadem), 6d. orange, and 1s. marone, wmk. Crown and N S W, imperf. Mr. Van Weenen also showed an unused sheet of the new penny Postage Due, Victorian type, now being used by the Commonwealth, kindly lent by Messrs. F. Hagen, Limited. Mr. Cooper also had on view his Australian collection. Some rare specimens were seen, and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to each gentleman for the happy hour spent in examination of stamps noted. Suitable responses were made.

Ballot for Book 187 then took place, prior to the annual meeting. Six new members were elected, viz. F. C. Krichauff, J. H. Welfare, W. L. Peck, A. Willmott, A. Giles, and W. E. Johnston. Subscriptions for

1909–10 are now due; city members, 7s. 6d., country and inter-state members, 5s.

The next meeting will be held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday, August 18th, at eight o'clock.

C. F. WILLIAMS,
Honorary Secretary.
Box 1751, G.P.O., SYDNEY.

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1908, July 1—Balance in hand				12	6	9
38 Town Subscriptions	14	5	0			
36 Country „	9	0	0			
3 Half-Year „	0	7	6			
Donations of stamps (A. F. Basset Hull, Esq.)	0	12	6			
Commission on sale of stamps	0	10	7			
Sale of Post-cards	0	1	6	24	17	1
				£37	3	10

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Postage, etc.	6	6	3			
Printing and stationery	3	14	6			
Subscription to *Aust. Philatelist*	6	2	8			
Advance to Exchange Superintendent	5	0	0			
Rent of P.P. Box	1	0	0			
Rent of Room	3	3	0			
Philatelic literature	1	12	5			
Alteration to book-case	2	10	0			
Insurance	0	10	7			
Balance in hand of Treasurer				29	19	5
				7	4	5
				£37	3	10

Assets and Liabilities.

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Capital account	97	4	5
	£97	4	5

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Handbook, journals and cats.	75	0	0
Furniture	10	0	0
Cash in hand of Exchange Superintendent	5	0	0
Cash in hand of Treasuer	7	4	5
	£97	4	5

Audited and found correct.
(*Signed*) H. S. LAND, } *Hon.*
M. R. CASPER, } *Auditors.*
J. J. WITNEY, *Hon. Treasurer.*

July, 1909.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

IN presenting their Annual Report your Committee are pleased to be able to state that the past year has been one of record progress and prosperity. Thirty-three new members were elected, no resignations were received, and your membership roll is now eighty-nine, as against fifty-six commencing the financial year of 1908–9. There was an average attendance of fourteen at the usual monthly meeting, as against nine last term. The usual mid-summer adjournment was held during January and February, 1809. Nine ordinary, two special, and twelve committee meetings were held during the year. Your Committee desire to place on record their appreciation of Mr. W. A. Hull's kindness in placing his office at their disposal for holding committee meetings throughout the year. A visit of inspection was paid to the G.P.O. during November, 1908, to view the official collection, and was much appreciated by those who attended. Several "Sales by Tender" were held, and some fine stamps changed hands at satisfactory prices. A feature of the ordinary meeting was the display of members' collections, which added materially to the interest of the proceedings. Your Committee regret to report that no essays were received for the Gold Medal Competition of 1908–9, which closed on March 31, 1909. In April Mr. F. Hagen was entertained prior to his departure for a tour of Europe; he was the recipient of several handsome presents, the gifts of members. Mr. Malone (late Hon. Librarian) was also entertained on the eve of his departure to take up his residence in Hobart. During the year the library has received attention, and a catalogue of books, etc., will be issued during August. The exchange branch shows a decided improvement, both in the class of stamps procurable and the number of contributors; the sales have increased 100 per cent. On account of the resolve to send our exchange books to Queensland, South Australia and Fiji, and on account of the new country districts wherein these books now circulate, each book will take longer to complete the circuit. Country and inter-state members have been specially catered for, and the new year can be faced with confidence.

C. F. WILLIAMS,
Hon. Sec.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE annual meeting of the Philatelic Society of Victoria was held on Thursday, 22 July, 1909, at 8 p.m.

The Rev. H. W. Lane was voted to the chair (the President, Mr. A. G. Kelson, having sent a letter regretting his inability to be present). There was a good attendance of members.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman then read the President's address, congratulating members on the success of the past year.

It was proposed and seconded that the annual report and balance sheet, which had circulated in the room, be received, and after some discussion they were adopted.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, the result being as follows:—President—Mr. C. H. Edmondson. Vice-President—Mr. (the Rev. H. W.) Lane. Secretary, Treasurer, and Exchange Superintendent—Mr. W. Brettschneider. Librarian—Mr. L. A. Chester. Committee—Messrs. H. Glazbrook, W. R. Rundell, S. O. Smith, and J. Williamson.

A vote of thanks to the retiring officers concluded the meeting.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ordinary monthly general meeting of the above Society was held (after the annual meeting) on Thursday, 22 July, at 9 p.m., the attendance being the same as at the annual meeting.

A letter from Mr. C. B. Donne intimating that Mrs. Horwood wished to discontinue her membership was received and accepted.

The Secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. D. S. Abraham regarding a letter received from that gentleman.

Mr. W. R. Wiseman was balloted for and duly elected a member.

Positions in Exchange Book 194 were next balloted for.

It was proposed and seconded that Mr. W. B. Crosbie be elected an honorary member, which was carried.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon Sec.*

ANNUAL REPORT.

YOUR Committee, in presenting their seventeenth annual report and balance sheet, have much pleasure to state that last year was the most successful year in the history of our Society, although, in consequence of several special items of expenditure, the actual cash balance is less than last year.

Ten new members were elected during the year, five resigned, and our roll now stands as follows: 38 ordinary, 34 corresponding, and 2 honorary, or a total of 74 members.

The balance to the Society's credit at present stands at £25 11s. 11d., which, however, includes £14 19s. 3d. paid in advance to the Exchange Branch.

Twelve ordinary general meetings were held during the year, the attendances at which were very satisfactory.

Seven committee meetings were held, at which the attendance was as follows:—Mr. Kelson, 7; Mr. Williamson, 7; Rev. Mr. Lane, 6; Mr. S. O. Smith, 6; Mr. Chester, 3; Mr. Edmondson, 2; Mr. Glazbrook, 2; Mr. Longmore and Mr. Brettschneider, 7.

Eleven Exchange Books to the value of £1845 were circulated during the year, an average of £167 per book.

Twelve books valued at £1867 were returned, the sales from which amounted to £407 18s. 2d., or about £34 per book, a very satisfactory result as compared with last year, when the average was £33 10s. per book.

Your Society also exchanged a book with the South Australian Society. Our book contained stamps to the value of £137 8s. 3d.

Adelaide members bought stamps to the amount of £8 19s.

The value of the South Australian book was £116, from which our members purchased stamps amounting to £16.

Your Committee has great pleasure to record the fact that the Acting-Deputy-Postmaster-General, W. R. Crosbie, Esq., has kindly consented to allow all new issues arriving from the Berne Postal Union Office to be exhibited at our meetings, and recommended the above-named gentleman to be elected an honorary member, which was carried.

The thanks of the Society are also due to Messrs. Hagen, Limited, of Sydney, and Messrs. Pemberton and Co., of London, for contributing their periodicals for the current year to the Society's Library, which is now one of the best and completest of any Society in the Australian States.

In conclusion, your Committee desire to congratulate the members on the distinct progress shown during the past year, which could be still further added to by the members bringing the Society prominently under the notice of their friends, who take an interest in stamp matters.

BALANCE SHEET.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To cash from 1908	16	0	7			
„ Debts on Exchange Books, 1908	9	9	4			
				25	9	11
„ Subscriptions				33	18	9
„ Sale of Exchange Sheets				0	16	8
„ Commission on sales at meetings				0	4	6
„ Commission on Exchange Books				28	5	1½
„ Stamps paid for in advance				14	19	3
„ Subscription for Dinner given to Mr. Hagen				3	11	6
				107	5	8½

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Rent	12	0	0
„ Iron safe	7	10	0
„ Commission to Exchange Superintendent	22	4	3
„ Printing and Publications	22	1	0
„ Binding	0	15	6
„ Dinner to Mr. Hagen	6	1	6
„ Bank charge	0	10	0

EXPENDITURE—(*continued*).

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Postages				8	16	4½
„ Sundry small accounts				1	15	2
„ Cash owing to Exchange Branch by members	9	3	8			
„ Cash in Bank	12	15	8			
„ „ in hand	3	12	7			
				25	11	11
				107	5	8½

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.
Due to members	14	19	3
Capital Balance, being surplus of assets over liabilities	83	2	8
	98	1	11

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By cash in hand	3	12	7			
„ „ in Bank	12	15	8			
				16	8	3
„ Owing to Exchange Branch				9	3	8
„ Furniture				17	10	0
„ Books in Library				55	0	0
				98	1	11

Audited and found correct.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

C. W. ELLIS, F.I.A.V.,
Hon. Auditor.

MELBOURNE, *7th July*, 1909.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post-free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

THE COLLECTION OF ENTIRES.

To the Editor of "The London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I have read with the greatest pleasure your sympathetic comments upon the letter of Mr. Warhurst regarding the Collection of Entires which appeared in the August issue of this journal. This is by no means the first time that Mr. Warhurst has urged the importance of this matter, nor is it, I think, the first time that you, or some other well-known philatelist, have noted it. But, unfortunately, it has always been allowed to drop, although each year the solution of the problem raised becomes more difficult. No one can doubt Mr. Warhurst's earnestness, and the generous offer which he now makes is one which, in my opinion, ought not to be lightly ignored.

Here in Manchester we have two or three collectors of entires, and no doubt similar conditions obtain in other places, and it seems to need only some authoritative pronouncement to secure in this country, as is already the case in the United States and on the Continent, a more general recognition of what those who think seriously upon the subject see to be for the great benefit of Philately. The Royal Society is undoubtedly the body whose expressed opinion will have the greatest weight in the philatelic world, and I earnestly hope that the Council will, without delay, take the whole question into careful consideration.

Yours faithfully,
G. FRED H. GIBSON.

MANCHESTER, *September* 10, 1909.

[We note with pleasure that the letter of the Hon. Secretary of the Manchester Philatelic Society so warmly supports our suggestion as to this matter. Mr. Hausburg has also written cordially endorsing our views, and we are confident that the proposal will find many in favour of it.—ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE AND CO. inform us that last season their sales totalled 20,276 lots, and that during October they will recommence their Saturday afternoon sales.

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. OCTOBER, 1909. No. 214.

The Philatelic Congress of 1910.

THE important announcement contained in the programme of the Philatelic Congress for next year on another page that H.R.H. The Prince of Wales has accepted the position of Patron will be received with universal satisfaction. It is indeed but another link in the chain binding in gratitude all British Philatelists to His Royal Highness for his many acts of kindness. We are in this country indeed fortunate in having at its head an august personage who, despite the innumerable calls upon him, can still find a little time to spare for Philately, and it is impossible to over-estimate the beneficent influence exercised upon stamp collecting universally by the continued interest displayed therein by the illustrious President of the Royal Philatelic Society. In the words of Mr. F. Reichenheim, the Chairman of the Executive Committee: "The honour which H.R.H. The Prince of Wales has bestowed upon English philatelists in general by becoming the Patron of the Second Philatelic Congress will be universally appreciated, and the Executive Committee, and all who have consented to assist, feel it their duty to endeavour to prove themselves worthy by doing their utmost to make the Congress a success."

The acceptance of the office of one of the Vice-Patrons by His Majesty's Postmaster-General (The Right Honourable Sydney Buxton, M.P.) is also a most satisfactory feature, which, coupled with the apparently very efficient and certainly pleasing nature of the announced arrangements, gives every probability of the complete success of next year's Congress. We trust that the subjects to be debated will be well considered by the Committee, and that the participants in the debates will have to discuss the practical rather than the ideal. We must not be too Utopian in Philately! We must rather recollect that after all stamp collecting is but the fly on the wheel of the great postal systems of the world, whose revolutions are not to be affected by its minute efforts! The Congress Philatelic is undoubtedly a real step in advance, and we can but hope that, by wise and practical counsels, it will develop into a permanent and valuable institution.

Notes on the Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad, 1852 to 1860.

A Paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on December 3, 1908.

By M. P. CASTLE.

(*Continued from page* 213.)

I HAVE drawn up the following list of dated copies taken from various collections, and including all those recorded by Mr. Bacon in his *West Indies*, p. 154, and it will be seen that the earliest and latest dates of each printing support the theory I have advanced.

LIST OF DATED SPECIMENS.

Date.	Colour.	Impression.	Postmark.	Owner.	Remarks.
1852—					
26 Sept.	Dark blue	Earliest	—	Dr. James	
10 Oct.	Blue	Do.	—	H. Grey	
12 ,,	Do.	Do.	Trinidad	W. Indies	"Paper yellowish."
(28) ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Dated Barbados, Oct. 30, 1852.
30 ,,	Pale blue	Do.	S. Fernando	Do.	
9 Nov.	Dark blue	Do.	—	H. Grey	
9 ,,	Do.	Do.	Port of Spain	M. P. Castle	
9 ,,	Do.	Do.	—	W. H. Peckitt	
9 Dec.	Blue	Do.	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
1853—					
8 Mar.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	"On thin bluish card."
2 April	Dark blue	Do.	—	Dr. James	
12 May	Blue	Do.	S. Fernando	W. Indies	"On thin bluish card."
1855—					
25 Mar.	Blue-green	2nd stage	Do.	H. J. Duveen	
31 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	R. B. Yardley	
3 April	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
5 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	W. Indies	The specimens dated this year are described by Mr. Bacon as "pale blue-green."
7 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
10 ,,	Do	Do.	—	M. P. Castle	
13 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
21 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
24 ,,	Do.	"Early"	—	E. Stock	These may be the same stamps.
24 ,,	Do.	Do.	Port of Spain	P. Kosack	
2 May	Do.	2nd stage	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
3 ,,	Do.	Do.	Port of Spain	M. P. Castle	
10 ,,	Do.	Do.	—	Dr. James	
10 ,,	Do.	Do.	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
11 ,,	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
17 ,,	Do.	Do.	Port of Spain	M. P. Castle	
23 ,,	Do.	Do.	S. Fernando	W. Indies	

LIST OF DATED SPECIMENS—*continued.*

Date.	Colour.	Impression.	Postmark.	Owner.	Remarks.
1855—					
(?) 1 June	Do . .	Do. .	Port of Spain	M. P. Castle .	Dated Anger Pas de Calais, 8 July, 1855.
5 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
7 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	—	W. T. Wilson	
8 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
8 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	Port of Spain	F. Ransome	
9 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
13 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
1856—					
10 Mar.	Bright blue .	Early .	—	A. de Reuters-kiöld . .	Impression almost perfect. Not attached to original, but refastened to piece thereof bearing date.
17 Dec.	"Dark" blue	Do. .	Port of Spain	E. Stock	
25 ,,	Bright blue .	Do. .	Do. . .	M. P. Castle	
2 Nov.	Blue-green .	3rd stage	Do. . .	W. Indies .	These two may be cases of stamps kept back.
Dec.	Do. . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do. . .	
1857—					
8 Jan.	Blue . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
1858—					
25 Oct.	Slate . .	Medium	—	H. Grey	
9 Nov.	Dark blue .	—	Trinidad .	W. Indies	
20 ,,	Slate-grey .	Medium	—	W. H. Peckitt	
25 Nov.	Slate . .	Do. .	Trinidad .	M. P. Castle	
10 Dec.	Slate . .	Do. .	—	J. R. Burton	
1859—					
18 Jan.	Slate-blue .	4th stage	S. Fernando	W. Indies	
1860—					
12 Mar.	Do. . . .	Do. .	Couva .	Do.	
24 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
25 ,,	Grey . .	Worn .	Port of Spain	M. P. Castle	
29 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	—	A. de Reuters-kiöld . .	Strip of three.
7 April	Slate-blue .	Do. .	Trinidad .	W. Indies	
12 ,,	Do. . .	4th stage	Couva .	Do.	
20 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
30 ,,	Do. . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
30 ,,	Grey . .	Worn .	—	Dr. James	
1 May	"Almost grey"	Do. .	Couva .	W. Indies	
29 ,,	Slate-blue .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	
12 June	Do. . . .	Do. .	Do. . .	Do.	

SUMMARY.

Printing.	Colour.	"Wear."	Number of specimens examined.	Earliest date.	Latest date.	Remarks.
1	Blue to indigo .	Earliest	10	Sep. 26, 1852	April 2, 1853	
2	Pale blue	Do. .	2	Mar. 8, 1853	May 12, 1853	On thin card
3	Bluish to grey-green	Medium	24	Mar. 25, 1855	June 13, 1855	"W. Indies" gives two specimens, dated Nov. 2 and Dec., 1856 (see Synopsis)
4	Bright blue, pale wmk. .	Medium	5 12	Dec. 17, 1856	Jan. 8, 1857	A. de Reuterskiöld has date 10 March 56 (see Synopsis)
6	Slate .	Worn .	8	Oct. 25, 1858	June 12, 1860	
6	Grey .	Do. .	4	Mar. 25, 1860	May 1, 1860	
7	Red .	Do. .	—	—	—	None seen
			65			

I think it worth while to append the list of supplies sent out by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. to Trinidad at that time (*vide* West Indies, pp. 146–7). The quantities sent out are not given, which is a material factor in the case, but I have, however, drawn up a list of these supplies, interpolating the present assumed dates of the several printings of the lithographs. I have post-dated the figures supplied by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co. by two months, so as to allow for the presumable time when the supplies would have reached this island.

Approximate number of months intervening.	Date.	Colour of stamps.
	February 21, 1849 . .	blue and lilac.
24	February, 1851 . .	blue and brown.
13	March, 1852 . . .	blue and brown.
	September 26, 1852 .	1st Printing Lithographs.
9	November, 1852 . .	
	March 8, 1853 . .	2nd Printing Lithographs.
5	April, 1853 . . .	red and blue.
7	September, 1853 . .	red.
17	March, 1854 . . .	red.
5	October, 1854. . .	purple.
	April 5, 1855 . . .	3rd Printing Lithographs.
17	February 28, 1856 . .	
	December 17, 1856 .	4th Printing Lithographs.
11	February 1, 1856 . .	
7	August 24, 1857 . .	red.
8	April 17, 1858 . .	red.
	November 9, 1858 . .	5th Printing Lithographs.

Approximate number of months intervening.	Date.	Colour of stamps.
8	December 26, 1858 .	red.
6	June, 1859 . . .	red.
4	October, 1859 . .	red.
	March 25, 1860 . .	6th Printing Lithographs.
6	May 24, 1860 . . .	red.
	(?) 1860 . . .	7th Printing Lithographs.

It will be noted that the assumed dates for the respective printings of the lithographs occur during the following intervals between Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co.'s deliveries. No. 1, 9 months; No. 2, 5; No. 3, 17; No. 4, 11; No. 5, 8; and No. 6, 6. I do not know that there is much to be relied upon here, as we are unaware of the quantities delivered by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, & Co., but it is significant that the period between the supplies of April, 1855, and December, 1856, include my period of the third printing of the lithos in grey-blue, of which by far the largest number of dated copies have been found. It is curious how many hereof have been found crowded together between March and June, 1855. Possibly Mr. Graham Taylor may have discovered a nest, and his collection may have all been dispersed among us in this country.

I have shown by the entire plates that there is no question of intermediate printings, and that the varying appearances of the impression were mainly due to the chronic imperfections of the stone. The printings thereof most readily lent themselves to classification by aid of their colour, and I accordingly sorted all my specimens out solely by the colour, when I found that they practically all ranged themselves under the following broad colour scheme: blue, greenish blue, slate, grey, and red. The dates already quoted present a strong case in favour of the order of printings suggested by me. Looking backwards again, the red, of course, is the last printing, only a small portion thereof being used, with a remainder subsequently disposed of to the stamp trade. I may say here that genuinely used copies of this stamp are very scarce, nine-tenths of those usually sold having bogus postmarks. The two penultimate printings are equally clearly, as shown by dates and by wear of the stone, the grey and the slate. This leaves but the blue and the greenish blue, and I will devote a few words to the consideration of their respective order of printings.

It is quite clear that M. Pétit, who was a skilled lithographer, supervised the production of the first stamps (*vide* Letter, p. 166, West Indies). These were all beautifully printed, and some of them are so clear as to have led collectors in older days to deem them impressions from copper plates. Occasionally one meets with specimens not quite so distinct, but I think this occurs solely from insufficient inking. The blue stamps on thin card are, without exception, very clearly printed, nor have I ever seen one with any marked defects beyond the horizontal line previously mentioned. The handwork of M. Pétit is equally evident here, and probably a few months later he left the island, for ever as it happened!

The dates so far seen seem to undoubtedly place this variety (on card) as the second printed, but looking at the firmness of the impression, I should not

have been surprised had it been the earliest. It was probably quite a small printing, and at its conclusion the stone was doubtless handed over in good condition.

Over two years then elapsed and the authorities again had recourse to the stone, and this time the pigments used were of a dull blue, running into greenish and greyish shades. This colour has doubtless been much affected by time and climatic conditions, and is, moreover, frequently found oxidized, but it could never have been a pure colour such as those selected under the skilled judgment of M. Pétit. On careful examination of this printing it will be seen that the vast majority of the stamps are, however, well and even clearly printed, there being but little of the full details of the design wanting. Their colour is against them, and some of the sheets were evidently considerably marred either by the presence of too much ink or partial absence thereof, as evidenced by specimens now shown. A practical proof of the evenness of this printing is to be found in the fact that I have been unable to use any in "plating" on account of the absence of constant imperfections.

The next printing, according to my views, was apparently an interim printing, and like that on card paper, consisted of only a small number of sheets. The dates of the few specimens found on letters occurring four years after the issue of the first blue stamps and the bright shades of its blue clearly differentiate it from the first printing. The paper, moreover, differs from the last-named, being smoother, whiter, and, as a rule, slightly thinner. The impressions themselves also fully confirm the fact of their later existence. Fine clear copies in this bright blue can still occasionally be found, but the majority of the specimens show more or less wear, and on the average the printing of these stamps is vastly inferior to either Printings 1 or 2. It is an interesting printing alike on account of its scarcity and its beautiful colouring, and is well worthy of full catalogue rank.

With regard to Point 4—the quantities of stamps attributable to each printing—I fear we shall never have any definite information. No records have apparently been kept in the Colonial Secretary's Department in Trinidad, and these several printings were doubtless hastily improvised without any definite accounts being preserved. The only item of information hereon is recorded in the interesting letter already referred to in West Indies. This was in effect a memorandum, dated September 15, 1851, of an agreement entered into by the Colonial Postmaster and Mr. Charles Pétit by which the latter agreed to furnish "say 4000 or 5000 postage stamps" at 5 dollars per 1000. A footnote to this memorandum is appended signed by the then Colonial Secretary, Mr. J. Lushington Wildman, that 5000 stamps were "to be struck off in the presence of a police constable and the stone left in the Postmaster's hands until required again." This memorandum has, therefore, a valuable philatelic importance, as it clearly denotes the provisional use of the stone and indicates the probable amount of impression in each printing. The first point to consider is, what was represented by this printing of 5000? Clearly the blue stamps of the earliest printing, but does it constitute the whole of it? I am not inclined to think that more than 5000 copies were struck off of the first printings, and less than that

quantity of the second series on the bluish card, or of the fourth, in bright blue, both of which are far rarer than any of the other printings. The number of these blue lithographed stamps in the philatelic world is relatively limited and altogether different from such stamps as the Sydney views which exist in thousands of copies in the hands of collectors and dealers. The total number available for anything like a census would at the most be but a few hundred, and from such scanty material it is difficult to draw any conclusions either as to the total issue or its component printings. My own experience in collecting the stamps has been approximately as follows, premising that as I found I could not "type" the earliest impressions, I may have passed some specimens. On the other hand, however, among the later issues there have been more inferior specimens that I have passed. My experience (as regards the "blue" stamps only) works out as follows :—

Blue	1st Printing	10 p.c.
Ditto on card	2nd „	4½ „
Greenish blue . . .	3rd „	21 „
Bright blue	4th „	8 „
Slate	5th „	31½ „
Grey	6th „	25 „
		100

Judging from other collections that I have seen, I fancy this proportion would be about upheld. If for the moment we accept the first 5000 struck off as representing the first printing, the total numbers issued would then, if if calculated on this scale, be approximately :—

1st Printing . . .	5000 blue.
2nd „ . . .	2250 blue, on card.
3rd „ . . .	10,000 greenish blue.
4th „ . . .	4000 bright blue.
5th „ . . .	15,750 slate.
6th „ . . .	12,500 grey.
	49,500

In round numbers 50,000, and it does not seem to me an unlikely total. The quantities printed were, as evidenced by the memorandum referred to, strictly limited, being simply stop-gap supplies, rendering it unnecessary to print more than a limited quantity from time to time. Moreover, there have never been any finds of importance or volume as regards these stamps. Mr. Graham Taylor secured a considerable number, and I recollect two lots that came in old days, one, I believe, to Mr. A. Churchill, and the other to Mr. G. Callf; but I believe neither lot exceeded three or four dozen specimens. Trinidad is a little place compared, say, to our Australian Colonies, and the volume of letters sent correspondingly small. A very large proportion of these stamps have indeed been preserved, solely from having been attached to letter sheets, which were folded up and pigeon-holed, and

this fact may well account for so many copies—relatively—still existing in a prominent issue of over half a century ago. Anyhow, I will leave my suggested quantities until more plausible ones are discovered, merely remarking, on the point of philatelic rarity, that some of these stamps are immeasurably scarcer than other favourites in the Catalogue, and that in unused condition they are practically non-existent.

With regard to my last point (5), the means of distinguishing between much deteriorated specimens and forgeries. I am glad to say that I have not seen many imitations of this issue, but they do exist, and I show three specimens, one purchased by me at auction and the others from a dealer. It will be seen that they are dangerous imitations, and I think that I should not have been able to condemn them unless I had the "types" of the plate to compare with. It will, therefore, be conceded that the reuniting of the component specimens from the original stone of these blue lithographs is not without use to the student or expert, and as it is not open to every collector to "type" this issue, it is for this reason that I advocate the securing (if possible) of an impression in black from the original stone for the benefit of the Expert Committees of the future.

In concluding my remarks, I should add that I attach no degree of finality to all the conclusions I have drawn in this paper, and I hope that further light may be shed upon the question now that the subject has been started. If I have drawn some incorrect conclusions, it should be borne in mind that there has been nothing to guide me beyond the study of the stamps themselves in the endeavour to classify them. There is no friendly Perkins Bacon & Co., with a carefully preserved correspondence, no Mr. E. D. Bacon to edit this, or Mr. A. F. Basset Hull residing in the island, with philatelic ferreting facilities, only relatively few dated copies, and practically nothing in the guise of paper, watermark, or perforation to afford the assistance that is so often, in other instances, invaluable in building up the philatelic history of postal issues. The complete story of an issue like this cannot be written in the comparatively short time which, as yet, I have been able to devote to its study, and I trust that my initiative will lead others to follow on these lines. I can assure those who do that they will find much to interest them. The local productions of our Colonial issues have to me ever formed a most fascinating group, and as in former days the native (or provisional) issues of New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, and West Australia afforded me continual study, so now, in my later philatelic days, I have derived much gratification from the consideration of those of Cape of Good Hope, British Guiana, Mauritius, and Trinidad, in all of which I hope, by the patient study of the stamps, to have evolved some little contribution to the sum of philatelic knowledge.

The Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, London, 1910.



E have much pleasure in publishing the proposed programme of the Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, to be held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society at Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, S.W., from April 27th to 29th inclusive, of which further details will be announced in due course. All communications should be directed to MR. H. A. SLADE, Hon. Secretary of the Congress, Nine Fields, St. Albans, Herts.

The Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain will be held under the auspices of the Herts Philatelic Society, from April 27th to April 29th, 1910, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.

Patron.—The President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, K.G., etc.).

Vice-Patrons.—His Majesty's Postmaster-General (the Right Honourable Sydney Buxton, M.P.), the Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (the Right Honourable the Earl of Crawford, K.T.), the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq., J.P.), and J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P.

Executive Committee.—The President of the Herts Philatelic Society (Franz Reichenheim, Esq.), the Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. L. Hayman, Esq.), C. R. Sutherland, Esq., Baron Anthony de Worms, and the Hon. Secretary of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. A. Slade, Esq.), Hon. Secretary of the Congress, Nine Fields, St. Albans, Herts.

PROGRAMME.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27TH, 1910.

4 p.m. Opening Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. Address by Major E. B. Evans, R.A.
2. Paper on "The Manufacture of Stamps," with demonstrations by J. Dunbar Heath, Esq. (Messrs. Perkins, Bacon and Co.).

8 p.m. Reception of Delegates by invitation of the Vice-President of the Herts Philatelic Society (H. L. Hayman, Esq.), at his residence, "Highfield," Chislett Road, West Hampstead, N.W.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH, 1910.

11 a.m. Visit of the Delegates to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the guidance of E. D. Bacon, Esq.

3 p.m. Conference of Delegates.

7 for 7.30 p.m. Banquet given by the Herts Philatelic Society at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29TH, 1910.

11 a.m. By invitation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford, K.T., visit of the Delegates to inspect his collections at his residence, 2 Cavendish Square, W.

3 p.m. Conference of Delegates.

8 p.m. Closing Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq., J.P.).
2. Paper to be arranged later.

Closing Address.

Admission to the Public Meetings will be *by tickets only*, to be had on application to the Hon. Secretary of the Congress (Mr. H. A. Slade, Nine Fields, St. Albans, Herts), or to the Chairman of the Executive Committee (Mr. Franz Reichenheim, 29 Holland Villas Road, Kensington, London, W.). *Each application must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope.*

Mr. F. Reichenheim, the President of the Executive Committee, further states that :—

"In conformity with the wishes expressed at the Manchester Congress the Committee have decided to hold the Second Congress during the last week of April, and hope this will be a convenient time for all those who have the intention of attending it. They also trust that their decision to hold the public meetings in the large hall at Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, S.W., and the Conference of the Delegates in a smaller room of the same building will meet with universal approval. The accommodation, light, etc., are very satisfactory in every respect, and the building is easily accessible from all parts of London by tram, omnibus, and underground railway, the new entrance and exit to and from St. James's Park Station adjoining Caxton Hall.

"For the purpose of promulgating the interest for our hobby, it was decided to arrange the Congress on similar lines to a German Philatelisten Tag, and to have two public meetings besides the Conferences of the Delegates of the various Societies. These public meetings will form the opening and closing meeting of the Congress, and will be held in the large hall at Caxton Hall, which easily accommodates four hundred persons. The philatelic reputation of those who have very kindly consented to read papers of universal philatelic interest at the public meetings is a sufficient guarantee of the great success of this part of the Congress.

"The programme also includes a visit to the Tapling Collection at the British Museum, under the able guidance of Mr. E. D. Bacon, and an invitation from Lord Crawford to the delegates to inspect his famous collections. I trust that those delegates who have never had an opportunity of inspecting these collections will not fail to avail themselves of this excellent occasion.

"The official invitations to attend the Congress will be sent to all English, Scottish, and Irish Philatelic Societies as soon as the Committee appointed at the last Congress to fix the number of delegates for each Society and to

lay down the rules and regulations of voting, etc., have adopted the necessary resolutions, and I hope that every Society will be officially represented at the forthcoming Congress. But before receiving an official invitation every Philatelic Society of Great Britain and Ireland may inform the Hon. Secretary of the Congress (Mr. H. A. Slade, Nine Fields, St. Albans) of any subject they wish to bring before the Congress, and give the name of the delegate who is willing to open the discussion thereon; the Committee hope that many important points will thus be brought forward for discussion at the two meetings of the delegates.

"The arrangements of the social part of the programme are entirely in the hands of our esteemed Vice-President (Mr. H. L. Hayman), and his well-known hospitality and endeavour to do the best for his own guests and those of the Society will be fully appreciated by all concerned."

Australian Postage Dues: What are they?

By COURTENAY SMITH, SYDNEY.

IT has always been a wonderment to me that our Postage Dues labels should be catalogued and collected as Postage Stamps! The matter has been referred to more than once by Australian Philatelists, but no notice whatever seems to have been taken of their critiques. It appears to me that the vast majority of collectors are too eager to mount in their albums any label bearing, or connected with, the word Postage. As a matter of fact these labels are not postage stamps at all! They are not for sale officially (except in sets, for omnivorous collectors), and they cannot be used for letter transit purposes. They are merely adhesive tokens placed on insufficiently stamped documents before delivery to the addressee and intended as receipts for the money paid for "postage due." Nothing more and nothing else. To class them, therefore, as "postage stamps" strikes me as showing to what height of absurdity the average Philatelist may rise. It goes without saying that the obliging dealer is only too ready to assist him in his fanciful hobby.

The reader may ask: "How is it, then, that the specimens I have are date-cancelled in the same way as ordinary stamps?" My answer is that Postage Dues are affixed and *date-cancelled* on delivery to the addressee *at* a post office, the official having no other means of cancellation. But these specimens are comparatively few in number; and because they *look like postage stamps* they are purchased by dealers and retailed to collectors, who innocently put them in their albums.

But the great majority of Postage Dues are affixed by the letter carriers on delivery, and are cancelled with a blue-pencilled X or carrier's initials. These labels are of exactly the same intrinsic value as the date-cancelled ones. But—and mark this—because they do *not* look like the genuine article they are eschewed, and fetch only one-fourth the price of date-can-

celled specimens. To my mind the thing is a farce and serves to bring Philately into disrepute. It is a money-making business, I grant, but the collecting of Postage Due labels is not Philately. The enclosed cover—which I hope the Editor will have photographed for the information of readers*—shows how an insufficiently stamped Victorian letter is treated by



the New South Wales carrier on delivery at the door. Nine-tenths of our Postage Due labels are cancelled in a similar way. I trust, in course of time, all intelligent collectors will be brought to see the folly of classing these Postage Due labels with legitimate postage stamps.

* NOTE.—We have pleasure in acceding to Mr. Courtenay Smith's wishes in this respect. The illustration, however, does not show the entire envelope, which bore an impression from a hand stamp consisting of a large letter "T 4D." within a transverse oval, the unpaid letter stamps being obliterated with a blue pencil. The status of this class of label is well worthy of consideration nowadays when there is so much to collect. These stamps have never seemed to us as coming within the true definition of a postage stamp, i.e. a label denoting prepayment for franking the letter.—ED.

Occasional Notes.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

AT the meeting of 4 November the Rev. H. A. James, D.D., will give a display of the stamps of the British Colonies in America.

On 18 November Major E. B. Evans will give a display of Mulready Covers and Envelopes, with Notes.

BRITISH HONDURAS OBSOLETE POSTAGE STAMPS.

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of British Honduras to dispose of the following Victorian Postage Stamps, which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Government, and of which no further supplies can be printed, the Queen's Head Keyplate having been destroyed. All the stamps are in sheets of 240 stamps, except the 25 cents stamps which are surcharged "Revenue" and cut into sheets of 60 stamps. Concerning these the following report has been received from the Colonial Government:—"The 25 cents stamps overprinted 'Revenue' were not considered locally as solely Revenue stamps, but were used for both Postal and Revenue purposes."

Specimens of the stamps can be seen at the Crown Agents' Office between the hours of ten and four, and ten and one on Saturdays.

No offers for less than £50 worth of stamps will be considered. Alternative offers may be submitted, i.e. for all or some of the stamps. Preference will be given to offers for some stamps of each value.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the description and condition of the stamps sold.

Offers, which must not be less than face value, must be sent in, addressed as below, not later than the 30th November, on which date all offers received will be considered.

Value.	Number of Stamps.
6 cents	57,240
10 „	81,600
12 „	3,600
25 „	43,200
50 „	31,680
$1	8,880
$2	3,960
$5	10,320

The value of the dollar may be taken to be 4s. 2d.

OFFICE OF THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,
WHITEHALL GARDENS,
LONDON, S.W.
September, 1909.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT BERNE IN 1910.

WE have pleasure in inserting the following preliminary announcement of a Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Berne during the course of next year. We learn from a further letter signed by the worthy President, Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, and the Secretary, Herr Fritz Furi (39 Neuengasse, Berne), that the editor of this journal has been elected a member of the Honorary Committee.

We have very pleasurable recollections of the last Philatelic Exhibition at Geneva—it seems incredible that it should be fourteen years' since!—and we are confident that in the year of grace 1910 Swiss Philately will make a much better show than it did before. At that time the English collections of Swiss stamps entirely outclassed the indigenous ones; but much has changed since then! Switzerland is so universally popular that it is safe to anticipate numerous foreign visitors, and we are confident that all British philatelists will join with us in wishing every success to the Berne Philatelic Exhibition.

"BERNE, *September 28th*, 1909.

"DEAR SIR,

"In the Name of the Organization Committee of the

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION OF BERNE, 1910,

I beg to send you the following advice which, I trust, you will be kind enough to publish in your esteemed journal:—

"The Organization Committee of the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held at Berne in the autumn of 1910 in the halls of the new Casino is composed of the following gentlemen:—

A. de Reuterskiöld, Lausanne, President.
J. Schieb, Berne, Vice-President.
F. Füri, Berne, Secretary of the Exhibition.
E. Zumstein, Berne, Treasurer.
F. Arnold, Berne, Secretary of the Organization Committee.

"All correspondence, etc., must be addressed to the Secretary, 39 Neuengasse (Von Werdt Passage), Berne.

"At the last exhibition at Amsterdam it was suggested that it was time that Switzerland came to the fore and showed the progress attained by collectors in the last few years. The idea was readily taken up, as it is now fourteen years since the last International Philatelic Exhibition was held in Switzerland. A number of philatelists have already promised their co-operation, and we trust that this exhibition will be really international in the widest meaning of the term. I shall take the liberty of advising you regularly of any points that may interest your readers, and hope that you will give us the assistance of your journal to help to make a success of our exhibition."

THE PAUL COLLECTION.

WE regret to learn that the earlier statements made as to the disposition of this fine collection have not been verified. In Vol. XVII of the *London Philatelist*, pages 266, 267, commenting upon the regretted death of

Mr. Paul, we wrote that the collection was bequeathed to the Drexel Institute of Philadelphia (our authority was *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*), but it now appears that no such glorious fate was reserved for Mr. Paul's stamps, but that they have been purchased by an eminent American firm for dispersal. An account of some of the finest specimens will be found on pages 123, 124 of the present volume of this journal, all of which will now, like other recently disposed of "Big Collections," be dispersed to the four quarters of the globe. It is a curious coincidence that as also in the cases of the Mirabaud and the Avery collection the first rumours that gained credence should be found to be entirely fallacious at a later period. The trail of a red herring destroys the scent in fox-hunting, and hinders the chase!

"The famous Paul collection," says *Mekeel's Weekly* of September 28, "comes to Boston and the New England Stamp Company are the successful bidders. The purchase price has not been made public as yet, though it will, no doubt, be known to our readers before many weeks pass.

"The catalogue value of this magnificent collection is over $200,000, but we have described it so often in our columns that further comment is unnecessary.

"We extend our congratulations to Messrs Batchelder and Carpenter of the New England firm and feel sure that all our readers will share in our satisfaction that the Paul collection is to be dispersed by an American firm, and that American collections will be the richer thereby.

"By an arrangement made previous to the sale, it is understood that some of the choicest stamps in the collection, from such countries as Canada, New Zealand, Victoria, and Cape of Good Hope, go to the albums of a well-known specialist living in America, and a member of the Royal Philatelic Society."

Our contemporary has been interviewing nearly all the leading American dealers, and as one and all predict a "real live time" in Philately, the late Mr. Paul's has come on the market at an opportune moment. There is, no doubt, more demand than supply all over the world for the finest things, i.e. there are more rich collectors than there are really rare stamps!

THE WORTHINGTON COLLECTION.

A CLEVELAND, Ohio, newspaper sends the following announcement to *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. We sincerely trust that Mr. Worthington, who is a respected member of the Royal Philatelic Society, may be spared for many years to the enjoyment of his superb collection, but we hope that, in the present case, this announcement may be well founded, and that he will, in the far future, follow the magnificent example set in this country by the late Mr. T. K. Tapling.

"The world-famous collection of postage stamps, estimated as worth half a million dollars, owned by George H. Worthington will be willed to the Cleveland Museum of Art on their owner's death. This announcement was made by Mr. Worthington last Wednesday evening at a banquet held by the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club at the Colonial Hotel, and was verified last night by Alvin Good, Mr. Worthington's private secretary. At the banquet, which was attended by thirty-six enthusiasts from Chicago, Phila-

delphia, New York, and Cleveland, two of Mr. Worthington's rare one penny Post Office Mauritius stamps were shown. It is the intention of Mr. Worthington to have his collection, which is the third largest in the world, exhibited in glass cases at the Cleveland Museum of Art, of which he is a trustee. He intends to model his exhibition in the museum on the plan of the Tapling Collection, which is to be seen in the British Museum in London. This stamp exhibition there is visited, according to the attendants, by more people than visit any other department of the museum."

SALE OF THE AVERY COLLECTION.

THE important announcement of the purchase of the renowned collection of the late Sir W. B. Avery by Mr. W. H. Peckitt will be found in another column. It was anticipated that Sir William Avery's stamps would have remained in the family, but following the recent fate of other collections it is to be dispersed. It is remarkable that within the last two years four of the greatest collections in the world should have been broken up—to wit, those of M. P. Mirabaud, Mr. H. Breitfuss, Mr. G. C. Paul, and now Sir William Avery. The two former were absorbed almost immediately, and we have every reason to believe that within a very few months both the latter will have suffered the like fate, the demand for really fine things being greater than the supply.

Mr. W. H. Peckitt makes the statement that "this is the largest general collection ever sold outright, and it constitutes a record in Philately, being the greatest single cash transaction in postage stamps," the purchase money for the whole of the stamps, viz. £24,500, having been paid in one cheque. It is certainly a remarkable transaction and one that speaks volumes for the enterprise and financial stability of Mr. W. H. Peckitt, who may be said at the present moment, in view of this and other important transactions, to occupy a position excelled by no firm in the stamp trade.

This purchase moreover affords a good indication of the satisfactory results that accrue from a judicious investment in Philately. It is well known that Sir William Avery had been a collector practically a quarter of a century, and during this long period had accumulated an enormous number of specimens, having a special weakness for rarities—in fact, in many instances he had more copies of the rare stamps than of the commoner ones. In addition to the notable rarities, the collection is strong in medium stamps in exceptional state, e.g. blocks, panes, settings showing type varieties, many of which are nowadays only accessible at the breaking-up of a great collection.

Among the most noteworthy objects in the collection are the following: Mauritius, the 1d. and 2d., Post Office, both unused, with many specimens of the post-paid; Moldavia, four complete sets of the first issue 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras with a pair of the 27 paras; Switzerland, an unsevered block of seven and a half copies of the double Geneva unused; 4 c., Vaud, pair, used; 5 c., Geneva, yellow-green, block of twenty unused, with marginal inscription at the top of sheet; Saxony, pair of the ½ n. groschen, blue, error; Tuscany, 3 lire, unused; British Guiana, 1850, 4 c., on pelure paper: 1856, 4 c., blue, on surfaced paper: 1862, the three plates of 1, 2, and 4 c.,

complete in all types (the latter very rare thus); Ceylon, 9d., imperf., unused; Cape of Good Hope, both errors; Great Britain, block of twenty of the V.R. and fine blocks of all the octagonals; United States, 1869, 30 c., inverted design, unused, and in the Confederate States many great rarities, such as Madison, Millbury, Livingston, Baltimore, Brattleboro, and St. Louis; Western Australia is especially strong in the first issues, and includes a superb 4d. with inverted centre; and Nevis, which embraces the celebrated Mackenzie collection of former days, is exceptionally fine, with uncut sheets of the twelve types in almost every value and variety.

Reviews.

STAMP CATALOGUES.*



THE autumn season brings us a goodly crop of new catalogues—some old friends and some new. The increasing number of these indispensable adjuncts to stamp collecting, all of which are hardy annuals, renders it impossible, without trenching on space required for other matters, to do more than give a general survey of their scope. Moreover, the price at which these catalogues are issued is so moderate that almost every collector and assuredly every Philatelic Society possesses a copy, so that every Philatelist can therefore readily have a complete acquaintance with the portions in which he is especially interested. It must therefore be understood that, if in the future our reviews of these works are more restricted than in former times, it does not in any way indicate a want of appreciation either of the great value of these catalogues or the enormous amount of labour and expense entailed in their production.

The appearance of Herr Paul Kohl's Normal Catalogue, which has more than once formed the subject of comment in this journal, is a notable event. This work has been evolved with the assistance and co-operation of a large number of the leading Philatelic Societies of the Continent, and we understand that the listing of the several varieties and their pricing have both been very largely influenced by leading amateur Philatelists. This catalogue is undoubtedly issued in rivalry to that of Messrs. Senf, it having been felt in Germany that, however excellent was that work, it was not sound policy to allow that firm to practically dictate alike what should be collected and what every specimen was worth. It cannot be denied that this feeling, despite the great merits of Senf, is but natural. Every one detests a monopoly (except the holder of it), and in these days of Socialism, when the owning of property seems to constitute a crime, it cannot be wondered at that collectors, who, after all, own nineteen-twentieths of all the

* *Illustrated Normal Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1910. Paul Kohl, Chemnitz.
Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalogue, 1910. Senf Brothers, Leipzig.
Catalogue of Postage Stamps, 1910. Yvert and Tellier, Amiens.
Price List of European Stamps, 1910. Albert Friedemann, 23 Hässels-strasse, Leipzig.

world's stamps, should want a voice in the appraisement of their treasures. These remarks apply equally to other countries, and notably to Great Britain. The position achieved through splendid philatelic labours by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue as regards British Colonial stamps is unique and—avowed or unavowed—it rules the prices of this important class of stamps. A rival Normal Catalogue would therefore be equally well received in this country. We are not forgetting Messrs. Bright's most excellent A.B.C. Catalogue, which has a successful and increasing sphere of interest, and other useful works, but in order to set up a rival *Standard* a wider co-operation is absolutely necessary.

However, let us "get back to our muttons." The Normal Catalogue is simply splendid as regards simplicity of arrangement, subordination of minor varieties in smaller type, clearness of printing and excellence of illustrations (there being no less than 5500 representations of stamps, surcharges, water-marks, etc.). The 938 pages of contents, which most usefully include the Reprints, mostly in double columns, profess to give the more important differences only, and appeal to the general collector rather than the specialist. The Great Catalogue and Handbook issued by the same firm has nearly 1500 pages, so some relative idea of the respective varieties chronicled may be gathered. This catalogue, in a word, is most valuable to the general collector: it represents an enormous amount of philatelic labour, and we trust that it will go on and prosper, but the question of what constitutes major and minor varieties will demand fuller consideration in new editions. As an example—of which we could find others. In New South Wales the eight plates of Sydneys are only represented by two illustrations, while in Holland the 1867 issue and the Unpaid Letter stamps of 1881–7 are fully illustrated. In the former country the important perforations 12 and 12½–13 of 1860–3 (representing entirely different issues)—are not separated, while the numerous varieties of the 1871 perforations are lumped together. In the latter country the 1867 issue is listed and priced in three perforations, and in later issues even "large" and "small" holes are noted. As regards prices we note that there are many variations from hitherto accepted Continental standards, but the departure in this respect is not so striking as we had been led to expect. We are informed by the publishers that they do not sell by this catalogue but by those of the prices in the Great Catalogue—an admission that certainly militates against the value and authority of the quotations. The Normal Catalogue is an excellent work, but it has much to achieve before it can claim to be a real standard.

Messrs. Senf's Catalogue not only possesses its former excellences but has been greatly improved in the present edition, notably in the pricing. In many cases there have been reductions, mostly in smaller stamps, but with the rarer stamps it is easy to see that there has been a more careful re-editing of figures, with the result that the prices quoted are now far more in accord with real values. These alterations may have been affected by a little wholesome competition, but in any case they are welcome, as a great catalogue such as Senf's should faithfully reflect legitimate prices whether the specimens quoted are held or not by its publishers. As in-

stances of these many important variations of prices we would mention the cases of Mauritius and Oldenburg. We note also with satisfaction that the Swiss Cantonal stamps are now re-united under Switzerland, while the Levant issues are each grouped with the parent country. There are other notable improvements as regards general information, and Messrs. Senf may be once more congratulated upon having fully maintained the high reputation of their catalogue.

Messrs. Yvert and Tellier's Catalogue is also one that appeals to the general collector, the minor varieties being duly subordinative or omitted, but it reveals the tendency, already alluded to in the case of German catalogues, of including smaller varieties in European stamps and omitting them in British Colonials. For instance, the French list (which is truly excellent) includes all varieties of perforation (official or otherwise) and the minutest variation of type, while the New South Wales list only gives one type of the Laureated 6d. and two of the 2d. (instead of two and three respectively), and the 2d. Sydney view has only three plates allotted to it. Messrs. Yvert and Tellier's Catalogue must, however, be a valuable guide to all French collectors, with its clear classification, excellent typography, and all highly commendable illustrations.

Herr Friedemann's book is a record of European stamps, only extending to 275 pages. The Fatherland with its grand old stamps, its far less estimable new (Colonial) ones, its Protectorate and Foreign Post Office issues occupies no less than 74 pages and is an index of the trend of modern Teutonic Philately. In effect Germany and its colonies now form a pretty difficult group, and if taken with its "Gansachen" should satisfy the philatelic ambitions of the most omnivorous collector. Herr Friedemann's book is a model of clear printing and faithful illustrations and worthy of Leipzig in every way as regards its production.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain.—The following excerpt is taken from the *Philatelic Adviser* of September 26th, 1909:—

"We have received a very interesting variety in the stamps of our country, which we illustrate, viz. the current half-penny stamp with a double impression, both impressions being so clear and at such a distance apart from each other that there is no possibility of it being a 'slip,' a double printing evidently having taken place. These stamps were bought at a post office, and from information we have received, we are able to state positively that these are the

only three stamps that exist in the condition as illustrated and are therefore absolutely unique. It will be seen by the illustration that the three lower stamps of the block of six are doubly printed, and the third stamp of the upper row is also partly doubly printed, the value 'HALF-PENNY' appearing twice."

Variety: doubly printed.

½d., yellow-green.



Messrs. Bright and Son have kindly lent us a block from which we are able to illustrate these interesting stamps. We notice that the second stamp in the top row has "NNY" at the right bottom corner doubly printed.

BRITISH HONDURAS. — We understand from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 1 c. stamp is coming in a new shade, green and dark green instead of grey-green and light green.

CANADA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* chronicles the 5 c. Postage Due stamp in a new shade, red-violet.

Postage Due.

5 c., red-violet instead of dull violet.

GAMBIA. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* lists a new set of King's Head stamps, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that the old ones were to be withdrawn from circulation on October 1st, though what is to become of them these friends are at present unable to say.

Adhesives.

Crown CA; multiple; ordinary.

2d., grey.
3d., purple on yellow.
4d., black and red on yellow.
5d., orange and mauve.
6d., purple.
7½d., brown and blue.
10d., olive, green, and rose.
1s., black on green.
1s. 6d., violet and green.
2s., purple on blue.
2s. 6d., black and red on blue.
3s., bright yellow and bright green.

GOLD COAST.—On page 177 we chronicled a 1s. stamp, black *and* green, and it would appear from *Gibbons Weekly* that it should have been described as black *on* green.

INDIA.—We have received from Mr. W. T. Wilson the ½ a. "Postage and Revenue" stamp overprinted "C.E.F." in black as usual.

Adhesive.

½ a., green; "Postage and Revenue"; with "C.E.F." overprint in black.

MONTSERRAT. — The remainder of the set in new colours is now listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

2d., grey; multiple; ordinary.
3d., lilac on yellow; multiple; chalky.
6d., purple ,, ,,
1s., black on green ,, ,,
2s., lilac on blue ,, ,,
2s. 6d., black and red on blue; multiple; chalky.
5s., red and green on yellow; multiple; chalky.

ST. LUCIA.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports, on Continental authority, and probably from "specimen" copies, the following:—

Adhesives.

3d., brown on yellow; multiple wmk.
1s., black on green ,, ,,

SEYCHELLES.—*Mekeel's Weekly* reports the issue of the 18 c. of the current set on multiple, chalky paper.

Adhesive.

18 c., sage-green and carmine; multiple; chalky.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS.—A new set has appeared, and specimens of most of the values have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

They bear the King's portrait, and the inscription reads "TURKS AND" at left, "CAICOS ISLANDS" at top, and "Postage" at right. Figures of value in top corners, and value in words at foot.

Adhesives.

½d., green; multiple; ordinary.
1d., red ,, ,,
2d., grey ,, ,,
2½d., blue ,, ,,
3d., purple on yellow ,, ,,

4d , red on yellow ; multiple ; ordinary.
6d., purple ,, ,,
1s., black on green ,, ,,
2s., claret on blue ,, ,,
3s., black on red ,, ,,

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—*Mekeel's Weekly* states, on Continental authority, that the colour of the 2s. stamp has been changed, and that it is now printed on white paper.

Adhesive.

2s., light blue on white.

EUROPE.

BULGARIA.— Provisionals continue to arrive, and from Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. we have received specimens of the following :—

Issue 1889–90, 30 and 50 st., surcharged $\frac{1909}{5}$ and $\frac{1909}{10}$ respectively, in black or vermilion.

Provisionals.

$\frac{1909}{5}$ in black, on 30s , brown, of 1889–90.
$\frac{1909}{10}$ in vermilion, on 50s., blue-green ,,

HUNGARY.—We gather from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that all the values of the current set of postage stamps have appeared with the new watermark (Gibbons' No. 10), and that four values at least of the Postage Dues are also known on this paper.

Postage Dues.

2 f., green and black ; new watermark.
5 f. ,, ,,
10 f. ,, ,,
50 f. ,, ,,

PORTUGAL.—*Gibbons Weekly* adds the 50 r., green, to the set of 1870–80, perf. 11.

Ewen's Weekly Stamp News gives a list of the new stamps to be issued on January 1st, 1910.

The present issue is to retain its postal validity until June 30th, 1910, in Portugal, and October 31st, 1910, in the Islands.

Adhesives.

50 r., green, of 1870–80 ; perf. 11.

New Issues.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ r., violet.
5 r., black.
10 r., green.
15 r., rose.
20 r., flesh.
25 r., dark brown.
50 r., blue.
75 r., sepia.
80 r., dark violet.
100 r., brown on green.
200 r., green on rose.
300 r., black on blue.
500 r., dark brown and sepia.
1000 r., black and blue.

RUSSIAN LEVANT.—We are sorry to read in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that Russian Levant stamps in all denominations up to 70 piastres are to be overprinted with the names of the ten different towns in the Levant where they are issued. The issue of the sets for Constantinople and Jerusalem is reported.

TURKEY.—The first stamp of the expected new set is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

20 paras, rose ; altered inscription in centre.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The *P.J.G.B.* chronicles a 4 c., *green*, and *Gibbons Weekly* a 6 c., *olive-bistre*, of the new "San Martin" type. The latter journal remarks that only the $\frac{1}{2}$ c., 20 c., 24 c., 1 p., 5 p., 10 p., and 20 p. are required to complete the new set.

Adhesives.

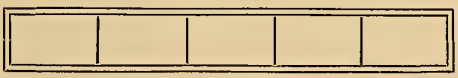
4 c., *green ;* latest "San Martin" type.
6 c., *olive-bistre* ,, ,,

BOLIVIA.—Four stamps issued to commemorate the centenary of the revolution of July, 1809, are illustrated in *Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesives.

5 c., blue ; Arms in black, in centre ; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
10 c., green ; portrait in black, in centre ; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
20 c., pale orange ; portrait in black, in centre ; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.
2 bol., red ; portrait in black, in centre ; perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Gibbons Weekly* lists a quantity of stamps bearing a black overprint, which converts them, it is stated, into Departmental or Official stamps. The overprint is set up in a horizontal strip of five, a double frame-line running right round the strip, and four single vertical lines divide the strip into five parts thus :—



OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Correos
Departa-
mentales

Type 86.

703. 10 p., brown on *pale salmon* (No. 394).

No. 89 *of Tolima.*

705. 1 p., brown.

Types 96 and 97.

707. ½ c., yellow (No. 457).
708. 1 c., yellow-green (No. 458*a*).
709. 2 c., carmine (No. 459*b*).
710. 5 c., blue (No. 460*a*).
711. 10 c., violet (No. 461).
712. 20 c., grey-black (No. 462).
714. 1 p., brown (No. 464).

Type 101.

(*a*) *Perf.* 13.

716. 2 c., carmine (No. 470).
717. 5 c., blue (No. 471).

(*b*) *Perf.* 10.

718. ½ c., orange (No. 473).

(*c*) *Imperf.*

721. ½ c., orange.
722. 2 c., carmine.

REGISTRATION STAMP.

Type C 10.

751. 10 c., violet (No. 626).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT STAMP.

Type C 24.

776. 5c., blue (No. 660).

ECUADOR.—Specimens of a new set have been received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. Pictures of various celebrities are shown in the centres, and the inscriptions are "Republica Del Ecuador" and "Exposicion Nacional de 1909," with "Correos" at top and "Centavo" or "Centavos," etc., and figures of value at bottom.

Adhesives.

1 centavo, green; portrait of José Mejía Vallejo.
2 centavos, blue; portrait of Francisco Javier Eugenio Espejo.
3 centavos, orange; portrait of Ascasubi.
5 ,, lake; portrait of Juan Salinas.
10 ,, brown; portrait of El Marques de Selva Alegre.
20 centavos, grey; portrait of Carlos Montufar.
50 ,, red; portrait of Juan de Dios Morales.
1 sucre, olive; portrait of Manuel Rodriguez de Quiroga.
5 sucres, purple; oblong, building, Fachada del Edifico Principal; all no wmk.; perf. 12.

PARAGUAY.—There is a fresh outbreak of overprinting here, and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent four stamps of the type of 1904, each bearing the overprint "1909" in black italic figures. Also a 2 pesos stamp, similar in every way to that of 1906-8, but in a new colour.

Adhesives.

1 c., pale blue; Type 1904, with 1909 in black italics.
5 c., green; Type 1904, with 1909 in black italics.
10 c., rose; Type 1904, with 1909 in black italics.
20 c., yellow; Type 1904, with 1909 in black italics.
2 pesos; Type of 1906-8, but colour carmine and black; perf. 11½–12.

SALVADOR.—A provisional is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority.

Adhesive.

1 c., dark green and black, of 1906; overprinted "1909" in red.

UNITED STATES.—Specimens of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration stamps are to hand from Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The picture, it is stated in *Mekeel's Weekly*, represents the *Half-Moon* and the *Clermont* passing each other on the great North River, with a single Indian in a canoe in the foreground. In the background is another canoe filled with Indians, and still further in the background a small sailing boat. "U.S. Postage" appears in a curved line above the picture, and in a straight line at the extreme top "Hudson-Fulton Celebration," while the dates "1609 1909" are worked into the upper corners. The figures of value appear in large ovals in the lower corners, and the value in words on a narrow label between.

Adhesive.

2 c., rose; perf. 12; oblong shape.

URUGUAY.—To commemorate the inauguration of part of the Port of Montevideo two new stamps have been issued.

Adhesives.

2 c., red; oblong in shape.
5 c., blue ,, ,,

OTHER COUNTRIES

CHINA.—Mr. C. E. Tanant and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have kindly sent us specimens of three new stamps issued on September 8 to commemorate the accession to the throne of the present Emperor. The central picture, it is stated, represents the Temple of Heaven at Peking. The quantities issued were two millions of the 2 c. and one million each of the 3 c. and 7 c., and it is understood that the whole issue was exhausted within a few days of their appearance. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that new 3 c. and 7 c. stamps are to be issued in the same design as the ordinary current set, but the colours are not yet known.

Adhesives.

2 c., orange and green; oblong design; perf. 14; no wmk.
3 c., orange and greenish blue; oblong design; perf. 14; no wmk.
7 c., orange and purple; oblong design; perf. 14; no wmk.

ERITREA.—The 30 c. Express stamp of Italy has been overprinted for use here.

Express Stamp.

30 c., blue and red; usual overprint.

PERSIA.—Newspaper stamps have now been issued, the current ordinary stamp being overprinted for this purpose.—*Philatelic Adviser.*

Newspaper Stamps.

1 sh., violet; overprinted "IMPRIMES," and Persian characters in black.
2 sh., grey; overprinted "IMPRIMES," and Persian characters in black.

SIAM.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us a copy of the following official notice:—

"MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS.
"POSTAL SECTION.

"On account of the introduction of the Satang coins and the subsequent demonetization of the Att coins it has become necessary to make up new Postal Tariffs, showing all charges in Satangs. In consequence of this measure the postage stamps had also to be altered and will in future show their values also in Satangs only.

"The Royal Sanction for these changes having been obtained, the public is hereby notified that the new Postal Tariffs will come into force on the 15th August, 1909, and that from the same date stamps of the following denominations will be issued: 2, 3, 6, 12, and 14 Satangs.

"For particulars about the Tariff apply to the post offices.

"(Sd.) NARES,
"Minister of Public Works.

"BANGKOK, 1*st August*, 1909."

These friends also supply copies of the five stamps referred to above.

Provisionals.

2 satang on 1 A., yellow and green; black surcharge.
3 ,, on 3 A., violet and grey ,,
6 ,, on 4 A., rose ,,
12 ,, on 8 A., grey-black and bistre ,,
14 ,, on 9 A., blue and pale blue ,,

SPANISH GUINEA.—Another provisional for this country is listed in the *Philatelic Adviser.*

Provisional.

15 c. on 10 c., bistre, of 1907 issue.

TOGO.—The 5 pf. on watermarked paper is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* on Continental authority.

Adhesive.

5 pf., green; on watermarked paper.

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post-free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* Mr. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to correct an error in your account of the A. P. S. Convention at Atlantic City. The Board of Directors mentioned in the account is the old Board which stepped out of office. The new Board elected for the year 1909–10 consists of: President, H. N. Mudge; Vice-Presidents: T. R. Cornwall, Chester Myers, Adalbert Strauss; Secretary, H. S. Adair; International Secretary, L. H. Kjellstedt; Treasurer, Dr. W. P. Wherry; Directors at large: General C. A. Coolidge, A. H. Weber.

It was voted to publish the *American Philatelist* in the form of a quarterly magazine, and a Committee consisting of Messrs. Mudge, Luff, Putney, Toppan, Carpenter, Bartels, Nevin, Deats, and Worthington was appointed to prepare the publication, by the Society, of a specialized catalogue of the issues of the United States, proposed by Mr. Kjellstedt. Faithfully yours,

L. HARALD KJELLSTEDT, F.R.P.S.L.,
Intl. Secretary.

P.S.—The British Guiana Philatelic Society and the Oesterreichischen Philatelisten-Klub "Vindobona" were elected corresponding societies. *October 8th*, 1909.

[We are obliged by Mr. Kjellstedt's information and wish the A. P. S. every possible success under their able new body of officers.—ED.]

A CATALOGUE OF ENTIRES.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—We notice your editorial article in the *London Philatelist* on the question of Entires, which we have taken the liberty of reproducing in the September *Philatelic Adviser.*

As you are probably aware, although you do not mention it, we have always published a Catalogue of these very interesting issues, which are almost entirely free from speculative emissions, and in our last edition we considerably revised same at great expense, and also purchased from Messrs. Gibbons all their illustrations, many of which were amalgamated with our own existing ones.

Our Catalogue is the only one published in this country, and though produced at a loss to ourselves, we do not care to discontinue its publication, because we are averse to seeing collecting of Entires receive another set-back.

If the Royal Philatelic Society is thinking of doing anything in the matter, we might be able to help them in one way, i.e. by placing at the disposal of the Society our Catalogue for revision, so that an absolutely reliable list can be published, the Society to bear the cost of revision so far as literary work is concerned, and we would bear the cost as regards composition and printing.

We may say that our experience is the same as that of Mr. Warhurst, viz. that nearly everything

good in the way of Entires we send out of this country to the Continent or the United States.

Yours faithfully,

BRIGHT AND SON.

164 STRAND, LONDON, W.C., *September* 29, 1909.

THE NEW HEBRIDES STAMPS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

SIR,—It may interest your readers to know that about the most difficult stamps in the world to be obtained are the surcharged Fiji, "New Hebrides—Condominium" (joint control), especially in used condition.

In the first place, it was agreed between the British and French resident Commissioners at Port Vila, the capital, that the sale of the new stamps in large quantities should be prohibited, and instructions to that effect were issued. This prohibition is being rigidly carried out. The consequence is that a set of seven, mint, face value 2s. 5d., even after a currency of nine months, cost 4s. And I have no reason to think it will ever be less, but rather the reverse, as changes are probable.

Secondly, the number of English inhabitants, mostly planters and traders, is very small, and but few use any of the higher values. The missionaries and planters of my acquaintance only use the 1d. and 2d. values. So that the supply of used "New Hebrides" for philatelists is, from the nature of things, very limited.

But, thirdly, this small supply is still further contracted through the fact that the Postmaster at Port Vila is a Frenchman, and, either from patriotic motives, or because it accords with his interpretation of the dual basis of government, he makes as much use as possible of the French issue ("Nouvelles Hebrides" surcharge). And I find that the English residents are supplied mostly with those of the 10 centimes value. It is not unusual to see an envelope with both English and French stamps on it. While to see, let alone obtain, postally used copies of the 5d., 6d., and 1s. values is rare indeed.

Altogether, the situation is peculiar, not to say unique. And, seeing that the supply of the surcharged Fiji is small, and purposely kept so, and that the present issue is not likely to last very long, my advice to those collectors fortunate enough to possess these stamps, particularly in used condition, is "Stick to them!"

Yours, etc.,

COURTENAY SMITH.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., *August*, 1909.

N.B.—The 1s. (Fiji, green on carmine, surcharged "New Hebrides—Condominium"), of which only 1880 have been issued, is likely to be a rare stamp, as the new colour scheme is coming into force shortly in Fiji.

HAWAIIAN NUMERALS.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR, —I thank you very much for your review of my book on *Hawaiian Numerals* in the August number of the *London Philatelist*.

I would like to correct one statement regarding the 5 c. and 13 c. type of the 1853 issue. My contention is that these so-called reprints were regularly ordered in the latter part of 1864 (instead of 1867, as you have it). I devoted a chapter in my book to this contention, but the sequence of events as shown throughout my work on *Hawaiian Numerals* is to my mind the most conclusive evidence that I am right.

You mentioned in your review the articles which appeared in the *Monthly Journal* of 1890 and January, 1901, regarding this issue. I would like to call your readers' attention to a more recent article by E. B. Evans in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* of June 26, 1909, to which I have made a reply that will no doubt appear about the time you receive this, and I trust both will prove interesting to the students of this country.

I have become more satisfied from correspondence which has arisen since the publication of my book that these stamps were regularly issued, and that there was no thought at the time of making reprints or reissues.

There was a state of affairs existing in the postal affairs of the Hawaiian Government in 1864–5 which must be carefully analyzed when the question of the so-called reissues (5 c. and 13 c.) is being considered, all of which is set forth in my work on *Hawaiian Numerals*.

Briefly they are:

1. The error of the Postmaster-General in misquoting the United States postage rates.

2. The necessity of issuing a 5 c. numeral printed in Honolulu while awaiting a fresh supply of the 5 c. from the United States, and the change of the administration as far as the Postmaster-General was concerned.

I have learned recently from Mr. Walter M. Giffard (the author of a book on Hawaii stamps), the son-in-law of A. P. Brickwood who became Postmaster-General in 1865, that Brickwood informed him he had never ordered any of the 5 c. and 13 c. stamps of the 1853 type, but that he had destroyed the plates of them in the Honolulu post office. This latter fact is confirmed by Wm. G. Irwin, who was in the post office at the time and saw him deface the plates.

The contention that these stamps were printed in 1869 or at any time after 1866 fails in face of these statements. Brickwood ordered the 5 c. engraved (Kam. V), so the only stamps that Kalakama could have ordered were the stamps in question. They arrived after Brickwood had taken possession of the office and were laid away —the 13 c. because it was useless, and the 5 c. because it was supplanted by the new 5 c. (Kam. V).

Again thanking you for your courtesy, I am,

Yours very truly,

HENRY J. CROCKER.

SAN FRANCISCO, *September 15th*, 1909.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 23 and 24 September, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1882, Anchor, £1, brown-lilac on blued	2	10	0
Roman States, 50 baj. and 1 scudo, on pieces	3	5	0
Ceylon, 8d., yellow-brown, rough perfs.	2	10	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
India, 1854, facsimile sheet of twelve of the 4 annas with blue dividing lines, and 1855, facsimile sheet of twenty-four of the 4 annas, stamps printed 2½ mm. apart	2	10	0
Ditto, a similar lot	2	10	0
Persia, 1881, lithographed, 5 c., mauve, 10 c., pink, and 25 c., dull green, all mint	2	5	0
Northern Nigeria, first issue, 10s., green and brown, pair	3	16	0
Zululand, first issue, 5s., carmine	2	2	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion, thinned	4	2	6
Ditto, 1s., ditto	8	0	0
Colombia, 1860, 5 c., blue, strip of three, one *tête-bêche*, centre stamp with tiny hole	5	15	0
Ditto, 1862, 1 peso, lilac, postmarked	2	0	0
Collection, 3997	24	10	0

Sale of 7 and 8 October, 1909.

Great Britain, 1d., black, strip of ten on piece	4	12	6
Ditto, 2s., brown,* perfs. clipped at bottom	2	0	0
Ditto, "Board of Education" 1902, 1s., green and carmine	2	2	0
Ditto, "I.R. Official," Queen, 5s.,* corner perf. missing	2	15	0
France, first issue, 20 c., black on greenish paper, on piece	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 fr., orange-vermilion	8	0	0
Ditto, 1870–3, 20 c., blue, *tête-bêche* pair, one thinned	3	0	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., repaired	3	0	0
Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5 c.*	5	0	0
Ditto, Vaud, 5 c.*	4	5	0
Ditto, Winterthur, 2½ r.,* tear	2	0	0
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r.,* vert. lines, thinned	13	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 r., ditto, red postmark, thinned	8	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 r., hor. lines, black postmark, thinned	7	0	0
Ditto, Poste Locale, 2½ r., cross without frame £8 & £6, £7 &	8	10	0
Ditto, Orts Post, 2½ r., ditto, pair*	5	0	0
Ditto, 1850, Rayon I, 5 r., deep blue and red, pair with frame to cross	2	0	0
Ditto, 1852, ditto III, 15 c., rose*	10	0	0
British Central Africa, first issue, £10, brown, mint	4	0	0
Ditto, 1896, £1, blue	2	2	0
Ditto, King, single wmk., £10, grey and blue, mint	10	10	0
Cape Triangular, 1853–64, 4d., blue on blued, pair*	2	4	0
Natal, first issue, 9d., blue, on piece	2	6	0
Ditto, King, single wmk., £5, mauve and black, mint	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, £10, green and orange, ditto	9	5	0
Transvaal, ditto, ditto, £5, orange-brown and violet, ditto	5	0	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion, creased	2	12	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., pair, showing varieties of the numerals	13	15	0
Virgin Islands, 1899, 4d., brown, "FOURPENCE"	2	10	0
Collections: 3232, £60; 1913	20	0	0

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 28 and 29 September, 1909.

Gibraltar, 1886 (January), ½d. to 1s., all* but the 2½d.	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto (December), ditto, all mint	2	2	0
Ditto, 1889, 10 c., carmine, value omitted, mint	16	0	0
Morocco Agencies, 1898, 2 pesetas, black and carmine, the error with inverted "Λ" for "A," with normal type *se tenant*, mint	2	17	6
Great Britain, 1882–3, Anchor, £1, brown-lilac on white	3	12	6
Ditto, "I.R. Official," 1892, £1, green, mint	8	15	0
Afghanistan, 1871–2, 6 shahi, purple	3	10	0
Ditto, 1875–6, shahi, purple	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 rupee, purple,* vertical strip of three, the top stamp being the rare variety with unit in value	12	0	0
Ditto, 1 rupee, purple*	2	15	0
Ceylon, 4d., rose, imperf.	9	0	0
Ditto, 9d., purple-brown, ditto £3 15s. &	2	12	6
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, ditto	2	10	0
Ditto, 2s., blue, ditto	7	0	0
Ditto, 8d., brown, clean-cut perfs.	5	10	0
Ditto, CA, 24 c., purple-brown, mint	4	15	0
India, Service, 1866, 4 a., one or two small tears	3	0	0
North Borneo, 1891–2, 6 cents on 8 c., green, with "Postage" only	10	10	0
Perak, Official, 1890, 24 c., green, CC,* part gum	2	15	0
Cape of Good Hope Triangulars, 6d., slate, block of ten (five fine, rest torn or creased)	9	15	0
Ditto, Woodblocks, 1d., carmine £2, £2 10s. &	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., pale blue	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., blue £3 7s. 6d. &	3	10	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Cape of Good Hope, Woodblocks, 4d., deep blue, thinned, etc.	4	2	6
Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d., deep blue, slightly damaged	7	0	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine, mint	2	10	0
Ditto, Postal Fiscals, 1890, 5s., lilac and carmine, mint	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 9s., lilac and carmine, ditto	3	10	0
Ditto, ditto, £5, green and carmine, ditto	12	0	0
Newfoundland, 4d., carmine	5	0	0
Ditto, 1s., ditto, small margins	7	0	0
United States, 1851, 5 c., red-brown,* creased	2	2	0
Barbados, 5s., rose, 1873, mint	3	7	6
Ditto, 1875–8, CC, 12½, 6d., yellow, ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, 1878, 1d. on half 5s., rose, a pair, numeral 7 mm. high, one reading upwards and the other downwards, right half is torn at top	12	0	0
Cayman Islands, 1d. on 5s., strip of three, on entire	2	4	0
Grenada, Broad Star, 2½d., claret, mint	2	8	0
Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., green, mint	£2 2s. &	2	5	0
Ditto, 1861, rough perfs., 1s., indigo,* no perfs. at bottom	5	0	0
Ditto, "O. S.", ½d. to 5s., mint	5	0	0
British Guiana, 1850, 12 c., deep blue, cut round and into	2	12	6
Ditto, 1852, 4 c., black on blue, creased	2	12	0
Ditto, 1853, 1 c., vermilion, pair	6	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, singles	£2 &	2	10	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., dark blue, Plate 2, early	3	7	6
Ditto, 1851–3, no wmk., 6d., brown, double impression	3	0	0
Papua, 1901–5, 2s. 6d., thick paper, mint	£2 10s. &	3	3	0

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 30 September and 1 October, 1909.

Great Britain, Admiralty, Type 2, 2d., mint	2	4	0
Naples, ½ t., Cross, stained	2	12	6
Würtemberg, 70 k.,* part gum, stained	2	2	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., yellow-green	2	2	0
Barbados, 1870, Large Star, rough perfs., 4d., dull vermilion*	2	6	0
Ditto, 1871, Small Star, rough perfs., 4d., dull rose-red*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1875, CC, 12½, 6d., bright yellow*	2	15	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 5s., pair, slanting serif	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, single, small "D"	5	15	0
British Columbia, 1861, 2½d., imperf.*	3	3	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., bright red	2	15	0
British Guiana Official, 2 c. on 24 c., Gibbons' 505	2	2	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., mint	2	4	0
Colombia, 1868, 1 peso, red, pair	3	15	0
Grenada, 1881, Large Star, 2½d., rose-lake, error "PENCF," mint	3	17	6
Nevis, 1s., blue-green*	2	10	0
Ditto, 1878, litho., 1d., red, re touched*	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey	3	15	0
Ditto, ½d., in black, on half 1d., pair*	2	12	6
Ditto, 1883, 6d., green	2	15	0
New Brunswick, 1s.	£5 &	6	0	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., deep green, and half 3d., on piece	2	10	0
St. Lucia, 1883–4, 1s., deep orange	2	6	0
St. Vincent, 1869, 1s., indigo, mint	2	0	0
Ditto, 1872, 1s., rose-red*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1878, 1s., vermilion*	2	10	0
Ditto, 1880, 6d., green*	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., vermilion*	3	0	0
Ditto, 1d. on half 6d., blue-green, pair*	8	10	0
Ditto, One Penny on 6d., yellow-green, mint	3	5	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	£8 5s. &	8	15	0
Ditto, ditto, mint	9	15	0
Ditto, CA, 14, 4d., red-brown, mint	4	10	0
Trinidad, 1852–60, 1d., pale blue, early state	2	10	0
Ditto, 1859, 6d., green, imperf.	2	8	0
Turks Islands, 1873, 1s., lilac	5	7	6
New Zealand, 1872, wmk. "INVICTA," 2d., vermilion	2	10	0

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MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 3 September, 1909.

British South Africa, £2, rosy red, Waterlow printing,* no gum	1	0	0
Mauritius, 1859, 2d., blue, creased	1	7	0
St. Lucia, 1892, ½d. on half 6d., strip of five pairs, mint	1	10	0
Straits Settlements, 1895, $3, block of four, mint	1	9	0
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown-black on red, printed both sides, repaired	1	7	0
Collection, 5000–6000	12	0	0

Sale of 17 September, 1909.

French Colonies (Hoi-Hao), 1906, 10 fr., mint	1	3	0
Ditto (Packhoi), ditto, ditto	1	2	0
Ditto (Tchongking), ditto, ditto	1	6	0
Ditto (Mong-Tseu), ditto, ditto	1	5	0
Ditto (Yunnan-Fou), ditto, ditto	1	0	0
Ditto (Kouang Tcheou), ditto, ditto	1	1	0

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Postage Dues.

WE have naturally no wish to initiate a controversy that impinges upon the worn-out and barren question of "What we shall collect," and we hardly expected that the practical letter that was inserted in our last issue by Mr. Courtenay Smith on the subject of Australian Postage Dues would have aroused the argumentative faculties of any of our contemporaries. The contention of Mr. Courtenay Smith was that these labels were affixed by the carrier on unfranked letters, and therefore, being but a form of official receipt for fees which should have been paid in advance for postage, were not therefore postage stamps at all.

We candidly fail to see that our correspondent's deductions have been upset by any comments that we have read hereon. The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, 12 November, contends that the words "Porto" on unpaid letter stamps, or "Franco" or "Frei Marken" on ordinary postage stamps, imply simply the difference between paying postage respectively by the receiver or by the sender. *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* (20 November) writes :—

"We do not know whether those labels or tokens are intended as receipts, or not, but there is no question that they are intended to indicate the amount of *postage* that has to be paid for the transmission and delivery of the letter.

"*Postage* is simply the charge for the transmission (with or without delivery) of a letter or packet sent through the post. It does not matter whether that charge is paid in advance or collected on delivery, it is *postage* all the same; and if the charge is indicated by means of a stamp, or label, or adhesive token, the thing is a *postage* stamp, in one case as much as in the other."

These two contentions are practically the same, and as we inserted the charge against these culprits it is only fair to publish the defence, and we freely admit that there is solid ground for argument in the views expressed by our contemporaries.

Nevertheless, we hold to our correspondent's views in this particular case anyhow. If "the charge collected on delivery is postage," and "the thing is a postage stamp," as urged by *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, then we ought to

collect the "insufficiently paid," "2d. to pay" handstamps, and even the postman's demands made in red or blue pencil, as being equally "things" and "postage stamps"!

As with all this class of discussion one is driven back to first principles and a necessary corollary to the preceding arguments — the threadbare old definition of "What is a postage stamp?" Our contemporary says: "Prepayment undoubtedly was the essence of Rowland Hill's scheme," and the very essence of this new system was the fact that this new feature was dependent on the presence of a stamp when the letter was sent. A postage stamp, therefore, is the "very essence" that franks (in German, franco) the missive, and unless it has the power to do so it fails to be a postage stamp. This is the same point that we have often contended with the Railway Letter Stamps, i.e. that they only denote the charge for extra facilities, leaving the postage to be paid by the additional ordinary stamp. It appears to us clear that Unpaid Letter Stamps do not come within the category of "Labels issued for the prepayment of letters," which seems a fairly reasonable definition of "What is a postage stamp?" It appears equally clearly to us that Postage Dues express the collection of moneys that should have been expended in the purchase of postage stamps for prepayment, and that the use of the former is simply a form of official receipt or acknowledgment, whose emblems (or figures, adhesive or blue pencil) cannot possibly frank or carry a letter, and that therefore they are not strictly postage stamps. We hope our friends are now convinced!

The Six Pence Stamps (1854 and 1861) of Victoria.

By L. L. R. HAUSBURG.

A Paper read before the Royal Philatelic Society, London, on May 6, 1909.

IT is somewhat remarkable that since the publication by the Society of the work entitled *Oceania*, more than twenty years ago, despite the great interest taken in Australian stamps, hardly any plating has been accomplished. Plating is one of the most interesting branches of our hobby, and at the same time one of the most laborious.

There are perhaps two different kinds of plating: one consists in identifying the type of any particular stamp by means of an entire uncut sheet, or by a reproduction of a reconstructed sheet; and the other is the actual reconstruction of the sheet from marginal stamps, pairs, strips, and blocks. Needless to say, the latter is a task of much greater magnitude than the former. In many cases stamps are almost unknown in pairs, and this means years of patient search.

The yellow 6d. stamp of 1854 is not really scarce in pairs, but the numbers that were necessary to locate all the types have taken over ten years to get together.

The first 6d. and 2s. stamps of Victoria are, as you all know, very similar in design. The word "VICTORIA" appears in the top label of both values, and the words "POSTAGE" and "STAMP" are on the left- and right-hand sides respectively. The 6d. has the words "SIX PENCE" in the lower label in capital letters, and in smaller "sans-serif" capitals in the scroll-work just under the letters "V" and "A" of "VICTORIA"; while the 2s. has the words "TWO SHILLINGS" in the lower label and "ONE" "FLORIN" in the scroll-work.

Another peculiarity common to both values is the presence of the letters "V" and "R" in the scroll-work. In the 6d. value they are to be found immediately above the "S" and last "E" of "SIX PENCE" in the lower label, and in the 2s. above the "WO" of "TWO" and "NG" of "SHILLINGS"; the latter has an extra "R" on the right-hand side, just above the "GS" of "SHILLINGS." In the background of the 6d. value, approximately on a level with the "P" of "POSTAGE" and the "P" of "STAMP," are to be found the letters "G," "P," "O," "GP" being in front of the neck and "O" behind it. These letters are sometimes very faint, but in the enlargements that have been made they can be seen plainly. It is not known why these were added to the design, unless as secret marks to guard against forgery.

Thanks to the researches of Mr. David Hill it has been known for a long time that these sixpenny stamps were printed in sheets of one hundred, from woodblocks engraved by Calvert. Nothing further with regard to the number of types is to be found among the official records. At first I hoped that, as in the case of the 2s., green, there were only twenty-five types, but the discovery of a strip of ten soon put an end to that. All of these are of different types, and consequently the probable arrangement would be fifty types in five rows of ten. This is what is actually the case, and the sheets must have consisted of two similar panes of fifty types each.

For a good many years I have been making attempts to classify the types, but the differences are so minute, at least they appear so at first, that for a long time the task seemed hopeless. A short time ago, after examining a large number of stamps, it seemed to me that there were two distinct types. In the one which I shall call the "L" type, as the left-hand half of the pane of fifty contains only this variety, you will see that there is a sort of apostrophe after the "A" of "VICTORIA," and that the long pointed ornament to the right of the word "STA" consists of three vertical white lines. In the case of the other, which I shall call the "R" type, as most of the right-hand half of the pane are of this type—to be exact there are twenty-two out of twenty-five—this long pointed ornament consists of only two vertical white lines. There is usually another clearly marked difference; in the case of the "R" types some of the curved lines in the scroll-work under the "P" of "PENCE" take the form of something like a horizontal note of interrogation, while in the "L" types there are two slanting coloured lines in the same place.

It is difficult to assign a reason for these peculiarities. It is possible that all the engravings were the work of one man, and that for some reason or other there was an interval between the time he finished the first part of his task, and began the second part; or it is possible that they were the work of

two men. The latter is perhaps the more probable, as the peculiarities are so very marked.

At any rate, they are of the greatest assistance in plating; and in the majority of cases if one of these peculiarities is hidden by the postmark another is fairly certain to be visible.

As has already been mentioned the left-hand half of the pane of fifty contains only the "L" types, while the right-hand half contains twenty-two of the "R" type and three of the "L" type; these are the seventh, ninth, and tenth from the left of the top row.

The types can be further classified. The long vertical pointed ornaments to the right of the words "POS," and to the left of "AMP," in the case of the "R" types, always consist of two white lines, while in the case of the "L" types sometimes there are two and sometimes three white lines. In order to assist in plating I give a list of the numbers of each. In this and other lists the types of the left-hand half of the pane are numbered 1–25, while the types of the right-hand half are numbered 26–50.

The small letters "V" "R" above the "S" of "SIX" and last "E" of "PENCE" have already been mentioned. In some cases the "V" is in colour and sometimes white. This peculiarity is also of great assistance in plating.

The following are in colour: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 21 and 41. That is to say, the two top rows of the left half of the pane of fifty, one other in the same half, and only one in the right half.

The "R" is in colour in three types, Nos. 4, 5, 9.

I now give a list of the principal varieties:—

In every one of the types of the right half of the pane of fifty, the long curved ornaments under the "POST" of "POSTAGE" and under the "AMP" of "STAMP" consist of two white lines converging upwards to a point; but in certain cases in the left half these ornaments consist of three white lines—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 20. No. 2, however, has only two lines above the letters "STA," like the "R" types.

In most cases there are two curved white lines underneath and partly surrounding the word "PENCE" in the upper right corner, but in certain types, Nos. 2, 10, 14, 15, 20, 26, 27, 31, 43, 44, 48, there is a short extra line under "ENCE."

In three types—Nos. 12, 32, 34, there are two white dashes after the "V" of "V.R."

Nos. 5, 43 have the loops over the letters "NCE" of the word "PENCE" in the upper right corner unfinished.

In No. 5 the letter "R" of "VR" is hardly visible.

No. 8 has no apostrophe after the "A" of "VICTORIA."

No. 16 has no pointed ornament on the right-hand side above the letters "MP."

No. 38 has the letters "PENC" in the upper right corner so spread out that the last "E" of "PENCE" is hardly visible.

Owing to wear or accidental injuries flaws appeared in several of the blocks, in some cases while they were being used for the early printings in the orange and yellow shades, but usually they do not appear until used for the temporary re-issue in black.

		First printings. Orange.	Later. Black.
No. 11.	Large white dots between "I" and "A" of "VICTORIA,"	×	×
	and top of "S" and "T" of "STAMP" . . .	×	×
No. 17.	Large white dot under first "I" of "VICTORIA" .		×
No. 23.	Slanting white scratch over "M" of "STAMP" .	×	×
No. 24.	Damage to the letters "AGE" of "POSTAGE" and large white marks across background and face .		×
No. 36.	White spot in lined background between back of neck and "MP" of "STAMP" . . .	×	×
	and white spot between the feet of the letters "ST" of "STAMP"		×
No. 38.	White spot above the "A" of "POSTAGE" . .	×	×

Tenders for the supply of 2,500,000 of these 6d. stamps were invited on 8 May, 1854, and two were received—one from Messrs. Campbell and Ferguson, and the other from Mr. Samuel Calvert. That of the latter was accepted. The agreement included the "Registered" and "Too Late" stamps. There were to be a million of each of the latter, but it was found that a much smaller number of the "Too Late" would be sufficient, and the contract was altered to 250,000 of the latter and an additional 750,000 of the 6d. postage stamp. The total number printed of the latter in the orange and yellow shades was, therefore, 3,250,000. They were on sale to the public on 10 September, 1854.

It was afterwards superseded by the 6d. of the type commonly known as the "Beaded Oval" in 1860, but owing to an accident to the plate of the latter, another printing was made from the old woodblocks early in 1861. As in the former printings of this type, the sheet contained a hundred impressions; and this fact was recorded in the later printing by means of lettering along the upper and lower margins of the sheet: "One hundred stamps in each sheet. Value, two pounds ten shillings."

For some reason or other, the panes seem to have been transposed for this printing. That is to say, the right-hand pane in the case of the yellow stamp is the left-hand pane of the black stamp, and vice versa. The lettering confirms this.

The numbers printed in black amounted to 150,000, and the stamp was issued in June, 1861. A further printing of the "Beaded Oval" type succeeded it.

In conclusion, I should like to express my sincere thanks to the many philatelists who have been kind enough to lend me their stamps for examination.

Notes on the Royal Philatelic Society.

By M. P. CASTLE.

THE first three meetings of the Society during the present year have all been of marked interest and variety, hence have attracted good attendances. The Vice-President (Lord Crawford) was again kind enough to invite us all to his house on the opening of the season, and to let us feast our eyes upon his manifold treasures. The display, though announced as only of St. Helena and St. Vincent, was by no means limited thereto, as Lord Crawford had prepared for our notice considerable portions of his Great Britain and other collections, which were found to have received many important accessories, notably in English Essays. An interesting feature was the showing of the proofs of the first pages of Lord Crawford's Catalogue of his Philatelic Library, which afforded a little insight alike into the magnitude of the task and the colossal dimensions of the Library. The St. Vincent stamps were deservedly much appreciated by members present, as there are some superb blocks and specimens—among recent acquisitions being a horizontal mint strip of three of the provisional 4d. on 1s., red, and a block of the 1s., slate, perforated $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

Dr. James gave us a further chance of seeing a part of his remarkable collection on 4 November, displaying the British Colonies in America, which included many exceedingly scarce stamps, and again evinced the extent and importance of his general collection. The West Indian section was remarkably complete. In British Guiana (1850) only the 2 c. is missing, there being a fine specimen of the pelure, and in the 1856 issue Dr. James has the 4 c., blue, on paper coloured through—an extreme rarity. The other issues are all strong, and of the surcharged stamps he has some unchronicled varieties. In Bermuda I noted the 1d., imperf.—extremely rare—and a fine pair of the "Threepence" on 1s., showing the two types of the "P." Grenada and British Honduras both included very rare and inverted surcharges. I noted also in Nevis the 1s. on laid paper, and in Turks Islands the rare varieties of the "$2\frac{1}{2}$d." (S.G. Nos. 21 and 22). The other West Indians were all good, notably Trinidad with several superb specimens of the lithographs. In British North America all the shilling values were represented, in British Columbia the 5 c., imperf., unused (exceedingly scarce thus), was shown, and in Canada the "Twelvepence" on laid paper. The examination of the large number of stamps shown by Dr. James afforded a capital evening's entertainment, and we, one and all, felt that our gratitude could not be better evinced than by expressing our desire to see further portions of the collection on future occasions.

It is very rarely that we are now privileged to see Major Evans at our meetings, owing unfortunately to his health, but my old colleague could not have failed to have felt gratified at the welcome he received, alike for his display and himself. The collection of Mulreadies made by the Major is certainly unique, as he has succeeded in getting together no less than 170 of the 176 known varieties of the type numbers of the stereotypes. The

collection includes numerous complete sheets of the twelve varieties of both 1d. and 2d., many remarkable essays and proofs, and in fact hundreds of Mulready envelopes and covers of all kinds. Such a collection is history-making in Philately, and it is sincerely to be hoped that it may be never dispersed. Lord Crawford, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Major, very fittingly expressed the appreciation of all present at such a remarkable and interesting display. It seems breaking new ground to show Entires at a Royal Society's meeting, but the interest was fully maintained, and I can but hope that this may be a step towards the reviving the collection of this neglected section of Philately.

I fully anticipate that the display of twelve interesting stamps by all members on the 2nd of next month will bring a big attendance and many good things to our notice. I have already heard of several very nice stamps that are to be shown. I understand that any unsevered stamps will count as one piece, and these blocks, when used on the original, are most interesting, so I trust there will be many such.

I should mention that the Programme Committee hope that the display of Sydney Views on 20 January may be made a "field night." There must be a vast quantity of these stamps in the possession of members, and it is hoped that every one will bring his collection thereof, so as to make a "record show," as it is expected that some further information may thereby be afforded which will be of use to the Publication Committee of *Oceania.*

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the meeting of December 2 it is hoped that members will bring a few stamps (not exceeding twelve each—blocks and pairs counting as one piece) of special interest, with short explanatory notes. Other objects of philatelic interest may also be brought.

On December 16 Mr. H. M. Hansen will give a display of the stamps of Schleswig-Holstein, with notes.

On January 20 a display of Sydney Views will be given by members, when the Publication Committee of the Society will also display the illustrations of the completed Plates for the forthcoming work on Oceania. It is particularly desired that every Fellow or Associate possessing Sydney Views will attend and bring them, for comparison with the list of shades and varieties as drawn up by the Committee. Mr. M. P. Castle's "Notes on the 1853 Issue of British Guiana" are unavoidably postponed.

On April 21 Mr. W. Dorning-Beckton will read a Paper on "The Stamps of Greece," with Display. This item, although on the agenda card for the season, was omitted in the list published on page 213 of this Journal.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF STAMPS IN THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

We are requested to give effect to the following announcement by the Trustees of the British Museum with regard to photographic reproductions of stamps in the Tapling Collection at that institution :—

"Current stamps must not be photographed, but the photography of others must be left to the discretion of the Principal Librarian, such permission, however, only being granted to applicants specially recommended by the Royal Philatelic Society, to whom the late Mr. Tapling wished special facilities to be granted."

We are informed that owing to various requests to reproduce specimens of stamps in the Museum, it has been considered advisable to grant no ordinary application for this purpose. The Royal Philatelic Society, however, will be fully able to support any demand for photographic reproductions that may be really requisite for philatelic purposes, and we are confident that the regulations laid down by the Trustees of the British Museum will elicit the cordial approval of all the Fellows and members of the Society.

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS, 1910.

THE following rules and regulations have been fixed by the Committee appointed at the Manchester Congress "to fix the number of delegates for each Society, and to lay down the rules and regulations of procedure and voting," who held a meeting, by kind invitation of Mr. W. H. Peckitt, at his office, 47 Strand, London, W.C., at 4.30 p.m., on Friday, 8 October, 1909.

Present:—Messrs. L. W. Fulcher, W. H. Peckitt, Franz Reichenheim, and Alexander J. Séfi.

After long discussions the following rules and regulations were unanimously adopted:—

1. Each Society under a hundred members may be represented by two delegates; each Society of one hundred to two hundred members, by three delegates; each Society over and above two hundred members, by four delegates.

2. Each delegate must register his vote in person; no proxies being allowed.

3. Each subject for discussion must be notified to the Hon. Secretary of the Congress at least two months before the opening date of the Congress. It is left to the discretion of the Executive Committee to make a selection from the subjects proposed.

4. The Chairman of the Executive Committee appointed by the Society, under whose auspices the Congress is held, shall be the Chairman of that Congress and has the right to a casting vote, although he need not be appointed one of the delegates of his Society. The other Members of the Executive Committee are admitted to the Conferences, but shall have no votes unless they are delegates.

In accordance with the foregoing regulations the Royal Philatelic Society at their meeting, held on November 19, have appointed the following as their delegates to the Congress: Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle, L. W. Fulcher, and J. A. Tilleard. Fellows or Associates who may desire to name subjects for discussion, are requested to give notice thereof, not later than January, to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, 10 Gracechurch Street, E.C. It is probable that the subjects to be submitted to the Congress will be considered at a future meeting of the Royal Society.

"L" Type.


VICTORIA
POSTAGE
STAMP
SIX PENCE
G P O

"R" Type.


VICTORIA
POSTAGE
STAMP
SIX PENCE
G P O

THE NEW ISSUES OF 1908.

THE volume of New Issues for last year, computed by the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* on the basis of Messrs. Senf's catalogue, is somewhat less than that of the year preceding, the totals being: Europe, 217; Asia, 265; Africa, 112; America, 276, and Australia, 45. The British colonial issues amounted to 149, and those of the French colonies to 191. There is clearly enough to satisfy even the keenest collectors of New Issues without any speculative or commemoration stamps!

THE LIBRARY OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE are desired to publish the following rules affecting the library of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Fellows, Members, and Associates of the Society shall have the privilege of borrowing books from the library, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:—

(1) No person shall be allowed to borrow more than three volumes at one time, and no book shall be removed from the library until a receipt for it has been written by the borrower and delivered to the clerk in charge.

(2) No rare book or book containing valuable autographs or annotations shall be taken out of the library. The librarian shall, subject to the directions of the Council, have power to decline to issue any particular book.

(3) Every person borrowing a book from the library is required to return it within a month from the time when it was taken out, and must return it at the end of a fortnight from the date of issue if required to do so by the librarian. Any person who has kept a book for a month and requires to retain it for a longer period shall give notice to the librarian, who may, unless the book is required by any one else, re-issue the book as being taken out afresh.

(4) Every person taking a book out of the library shall be responsible for its safe custody until its return, and in the event of any loss or injury thereto, shall either replace the book or pay such compensation as the Council may decide.

(5) Any person failing to return a book which has been called in (§ 3) shall be liable to be suspended from the privilege of borrowing books from the library for such period as the Council may decide.

(6) Books may be sent by post on the requisition of any Fellow, Member, or Associate; but all postal and, if necessary, registration fees, both from and to the library, shall be paid by the person by whom the book is borrowed. Borrowers on returning books to the library by post should see that they are properly packed, and will be held responsible for any injury (§ 4) to the book in the post.

(7) No book is to be taken or sent out of the United Kingdom.

THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC CONGRESS AND THE POSTAL UNION.

THE petition to the Postal Union, as recorded on pages 219 and 220 of the *London Philatelist*, has now been forwarded to H.M. Postmaster-General, the Rt. Hon. Sydney Buxton, with the following explanatory letter:—

"Manchester Philatelic Congress,
"9 Albert Square, Manchester.

"To the Right Hon. Sydney Buxton, M.P.,
"H.M. Postmaster-General.

"SIR,—At a Conference of all the Philatelic Societies of Great Britain, held at Manchester in February last, it was unanimously resolved that a petition, of which we enclose you a copy, should be sent to the Universal Postal Union with a view of discouraging the issue of unnecessary postage stamps.

"This matter, as you are doubtless aware, has been the subject of inquiry by H.M. Secretary for the Colonies, and we venture to think that the time is now ripe for action.

"The Universal Postal Union can, by its constitution, only consider communications submitted by Administrations forming the Union, and we therefore respectfully beg you to take the necessary steps as H.M. Postmaster-General to bring this petition to their notice.

"At our instigation the German philatelists are moving in a similar direction.

"We are, dear sir, your obedient servants,

"(Signed) I. J. BERNSTEIN.
" W. DORNING BECKTON.
" M. P. CASTLE.
" PERCY C. BISHOP."

Mr. Buxton has always maintained a kindly and sympathetic attitude with regard to Philatelists, and we have every hope that he will once more accord us his valuable co-operation. Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., has moreover intimated to the Committee, who greatly value his prompt assistance, that he will also support the movement.

In a letter to Mr. I. J. Bernstein, under date October 27, Mr. Heaton writes:—

"I am very glad that you are taking up the question of Commemorative postage stamps, which have been prostituted to an extraordinary extent.

"I hope you will publish a list of the chief offenders among the Governments of the world, and the financial gains through this unworthy 'dodge.'

"The Postal Union is, of course, the proper tribunal, but a great deal could be done meanwhile by Great Britain's Postmaster-General in an appeal to all Foreign and Colonial Governments. This would be effective if backed up, as I have said, by 'instances.'"

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT BRIGHTON.

IN connection with another local exhibition at the Hove Town Hall, the Brighton Branch of the Junior Philatelic Society held a successful little exhibition of stamps on the 23rd to the 28th October. Mr. F. J.

Melville, the President of the Junior Philatelic Society, opened the meeting, and later delivered an interesting lantern lecture on "His Majesty's Mails." We are glad to record that the exhibits, which included some meritorious displays, attracted considerable attention in Brighton and Hove. The Brighton Society, we may here mention, now number fifty members, and is doing good, sound philatelic work. Among the more notable exhibits may be mentioned :—

Rev. H. C. Bond. British Bechuanaland—including on Cape of Good Hope and unappropriated dies, ½d. to 10s., and the 1s. surcharged with value; Bechuanaland Protectorate—a nice selection; Mafeking – fifteen specimens, several used; Brazil; Holland—Dutch Indies, Curaçao, and Surinam.

J. B. Boulton. Western Australia—including 1861, 4d., rough perf, mint.

Herbert Clark. Great Britain—Admiralty Official, sets of both types and blocks of eighteen and twenty-four of ½d. and 1d. values; Government Parcels, including corner strip of 1s., King's Head, mint; selection of Colonial stamps; Mauritius—1d., post paid, unused; Schleswig-Holstein, including Bavaria, 1870; Oldenburg and Prince Edward Island.

J. Corner-Spokes. Dutch Indies, Hungary, Germany, Prussia; New Hebrides, British and French used together, and Queensland used in New Guinea.

J. C. Dallimore. Alsace and Lorraine; Ceylon.

G. G. and C. E. Duncombe. Persia—a very fine collection of all issues.

J. Ireland. Bermuda, Borneo, Gambia, Brunei, Gibraltar, Jamaica, Malta, Natal, New Zealand (pictorial issues), Papua, St. Helena, Sarawak, Soudan, Straits Settlements, Solomon Islands, Western Australia.

Geo. Lumgair. Mauritius, including "POST PAID" 1d., four copies, one exceptionally fine, 2d., four copies, including error "PENOE"; later issues nearly complete; Seychelles, British East Africa, India, Zanzibar, Madagascar, French, German, and Portuguese colonies, and a selection of Entires.

W. Mead. Wurtemberg, complete; Egypt, Guatemala, Hanover, and Virgin Islands.

W. Cyril Owen. Great Britain. This exhibit is mounted, and written up to show the first 1d. and 2d. stamps, the wear of the plate, ivory heads, etc.

Leicester B. Payne. Great Britain—1d., black, block of eighteen with red postmark, and a block of twelve with black postmark; 2d., blue, no lines, fine block of twelve with red postmark.

Geo. W. Smith. Ionian Islands, South Australia, New Zealand, and Niger Coast.

POSSIBLE UNIFORM STAMPS FOR AUSTRALIA.

We have inserted the word "possible" as a heading to the following information which we take from the *Australian Philatelist.* The uniformity of the Australian stamps has been urgently desired by Philatelists for several years, but it seems a plant of very slow fruition. Our contemporary's remarks, moreover, do not hold out any solid hopes of anything beyond penny Australian postage, which might well be effected without in any way influencing the issue of the stamps of other values by the several Australian States.

"The Postmaster-General has already intimated that preparations will be begun at once for the introduction of an uniform series of stamps within

twelve months, and that penny postage throughout Australia is now assured. The latter does not concern Philatelists any more than regards the effect it will have on the relative rarity of all denominations. Neither does the place of printing. While we may have our own ideas as to what should be done, it need not follow because we claim to be stamp students and collectors that the authorities must fall in with our views. They do not show much disposition to be influenced by argument, either in regard to the place of printing, manner of printing, or designs. The two latter, however, do not concern philatelists, although here again opinions will differ, some contending for steel plate and others for surface-printing, and some arguing in favour of King's Heads, while others want Australian pictures. Letters frequently appear in the daily press on the subject, and it is quite evident that no matter what decisions are arrived at they will be challenged by the opposite side. The Postal commission, which has been sitting for a long while, has almost concluded its labours. The great point is that within twelve months separate State issues will be a thing of the past, and our labours will be considerably lightened."

We have since received the following information from Mr. Courtenay Smith :—

"The enclosed cutting from the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* of 15th October, 1909, carries with it a convincing and refreshing air of finality, giving us the assurance that after so many years' indecision and delay an interesting and varied Commonwealth issue will eventuate in, say, about eighteen months.

"'MELBOURNE, Thursday. Action is about to be taken by the Postmaster-General towards the issue of a series of Commonwealth stamps of uniform design. The competition for designs will be open to the world. The prizes to be offered will be of sufficient value to attract the world's best artists. Stamps will be of the following denominations: ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 8d., 9d., 10d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., and 40s. They will be divided into three groups. In order to secure variety in design, colour, and size, and with the object of making the denominations easily distinguishable from each other, the competition is likely to be in two divisions. The first division will be open to any person with artistic ideas, the second will be confined to experts.'"

N.B.—It will be noted that no mention is made of a 20s. value.

PARIS AUCTIONS.

THE auctions have recommenced at Paris, a fairly important sale having been held during the present month. MM. Gilbert and Kohler claim to have made a record in philatelic auctions during the preceding season, it being stated that the total sums realized in the dispersal, by them, of the Koch, Mirabaud, Chiesa, and other collections was almost £60,000 (1,500,000 fr.). We are afraid, however, that this record will not be early broken again, as such big collections as the forenamed very rarely come upon the market, although one of some magnitude is announced for the end of this month.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Great Britain.—Mr. A. B. Creeke, junr., has shown us the new 4d. stamp issued on November 1st.

The design is similar to, but not quite identical with, that of its bi-coloured predecessor. Its colour is deep orange, it is printed on unsurfaced paper watermarked with the usual Imperial Crown, and is perforated 14.

The chief difference, noticeable at once, is in the now much narrower space between those parts which, in the superseded stamp, were of different colours; also the hair, just below the wisp brushed over the top of the head, is rearranged—instead of four locks of medium length, there are now a long and a medium, with two short ones between; further, in the old stamp there are on the nose several lines of shading of which two converge and join—not so in the new design.

The frame (formerly brown) is slightly increased, the corner circles, with the indication of value, being larger, and their lined background, instead of almost touching the "4d.," stops short so as to leave a very narrow white space round the figure and letter.

There are other variations, but the above are sufficient to show that an entirely new die has been cut.

Adhesive.

4d., deep orange; Crown; ordinary; perf. 14.

Antigua.—The 1d., carmine, on multiple watermarked ordinary paper, chronicled about a year ago, is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Australian Commonwealth.—The full set of Postage Dues of the new Victorian type are chronicled in the *Australian Philatelist*, and, it is stated, all have been issued except the 20s. value.

We, therefore, add the following to our chronicle:—

Postage Dues.

½d.,	yellow-green and carmine;	Crown and A;	perf. 12½.
3d.	,,	,,	,,
4d.	,,	,,	,,
6d.	,,	,,	,,
1s.	,,	,,	,,
2s.	,,	,,	,,
5s.	,,	,,	,,
10s.	,,	,,	,,
20s.	,,	,,	,,

Barbados.—The 1d. of the current set reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., and is, we are told, of a different shade of colour from the issue of 1904-5, being now red, or rose-red.

Adhesive.

1d., red, or rose-red; multiple; ordinary.

British Solomon Islands Protectorate.—*Gibbons Weekly* tells us that certain of the 2½d. stamps of the first issue may be found with fraction-bar of "½" omitted, and that in some of the 5d. stamps a short "A" in "PROTECTORATE" exists.

Gambia.—Some shade varieties are chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

½d., paler green.
1d., rose-red.
2½d., darker ultramarine.

New South Wales.—We have seen the current 2d. value, perf 11½ × 11, on the single-line machines. This is a very unusual occurrence.

We have also seen the current 4d. value in a very pale shade of red-brown—*Australian Philatelist.*

Adhesives.

2d.,	ultramarine;	Crown and A;	perf. 11½ × 11.
4d.,	pale red-brown	,,	,, 12 × 11½.

NORTHERN NIGERIA.—The issue of a £1 stamp is reported in *Mekeel's Weekly*.

Adhesive.

£1, black on red; multiple; chalky.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA. — The *Australian Philatelist* informs us that the 8d. and 9d. stamps on Crown and A paper, perf. 12½, small holes, have been issued.

Adhesives.

8d., ultramarine; Crown and A; perf. 12½; small holes.
9d., lake; Crown and A; perf. 12½; small holes.

TRANSVAAL. — We hear from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that they have received the 5s., purple and black, on yellow, multiple C A watermark. This stamp is catalogued but, we presume, has only lately been issued.

VICTORIA.—A variety of perforation in the current ½d. stamp is listed by the *Australian Philatelist*.

Adhesive.

½d., green; Crown and A; perf. 11 × 12½.

ZANZIBAR.—Three new stamps, Gibbons Types 25 and 26, are to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesives.

1 c., grey; Type Gibbons No. 25; multiple watermark; perf. 14.
10 c., brown; Type Gibbons No. 25; multiple watermark; perf. 14.
75 c., blue-black; Type Gibbons No. 26; multiple watermark; perf. 14.

EUROPE.

LEVANT (*Russian Post Offices*). — Mr. Albert Scheindling writes us as follows:—

"With reference to page 160 of *The London Philatelist re* the new issue for the Russian Levant, I beg to hand you two complete sets, one of which is surcharged 'Constantinople' and the second 'Jerusalem,' both of which sets have just been brought into use. I understand that eight other towns will follow after Christmas.

"Although the surcharge has been done at the State Printing Works in St. Petersburg, which is much credited for the correctness of its work, yet I have found not less than five errors on each of the sheets of the values 3½ and 7 roubles, viz:—

"1. On the 1 rouble (the sheets of which consist of eight horizontal rows of five stamps) the whole fifth horizontal row has the surcharge 'Constanttnople' (two tt's).

"2. On the 3½ and 7 roubles (the sheets of which consist of five horizontal rows of five stamps) the whole second vertical row has the surcharge 'Constautinople' (u).

"I also find that on 3½ and 7 roubles sheets the whole fourth vertical row has the 'i' in 'Constantinople' misspelled (looking like 'j') but I consider the latter error not worthy of attention.

"The sheets of 1, 2, 7, 10, 50, 70 kopecs consist of one hundred stamps each (four panes of twenty-five), and I have so far found no errors of surcharge on them.

"I am told that there are also some errors of surcharge on the high values for Jerusalem, but having not yet had entire sheets of them in my possession, I shall refer to them in my next letter."

Adhesives.

"Constantinople":—

The issue chronicled on page 160, surcharged
5 para on 1 kop., yellow.
10 ,, 2 ,, green.
20 ,, 7 ,, rose.
1 piastre on 10 kop., blue.
5 piastres on 50 ,, violet, centre green.
7 ,, 70 ,, brown, centre yellow.
10 ,, 1 rouble ,, orange.
35 ,, 3½ roubles, brownish violet and light green.
70 piastres on 7 roubles, pink and myrtle-green.

Varieties.

10 piastres on 1 rouble; surcharged "Constanttnople" (two tt's).
35 piastres on 3½ roubles; surcharged "Constautinople."
70 piastres on 7 roubles; surcharged "Constautinople."

2. *Surcharged "Jerusalem."*

5 para on 1 kop., yellow.
10 ,, 2 ,, green.
20 ,, 7 ,, rose.
1 piastre on 10 kop., blue.
5 piastres on 50 ,, violet, centre green.
7 ,, 70 ,, brown, centre yellow.
10 ,, 1 rouble, brown, centre orange.
35 ,, 3½ roubles, brownish violet and light green.
70 piastres on 7 roubles, pink and myrtle-green.

"Enclosed I beg to hand you two further sets of the 1909 issue for Russian Levant, one of which is surcharged 'Mont-Athos,' and the second 'Salonique.'

"On the sixtieth stamp (tenth stamp on the left lower pane) of the 1 kop. stamps the surcharge reads 'Mont-Atho' (without the 's'). Having not yet received entire sheets of the other values in the small denominations (2, 4, 10, 50, 70 kop.), I cannot tell you whether this error also occurs on them, but I shall let you hear in a few days.

"I have also acquired a rare error of the first issue (without surcharge of the town), viz. 10 para on 2 kop."

Adhesives.

5 para on 1 kop., orange; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
10 para on 2 kop., green; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
20 para on 4 kop., rose; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
1 piastre on 10 kop., blue; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
5 piastres on 50 kop., lilac and green; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
7 piastres on 70 kop., brown and orange; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
10 piastres on 1 r., brown and orange; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
35 piastres on 3½ r., lilac-brown and light green; surcharged "Mont-Athos."
70 piastres on 7 r., myrtle-green and lilac-rose; surcharged "Mont-Athos."

Error of surcharge.

5 para on 1 kop., orange; "Mont-Atho" instead of "Mont-Athos."

5 para on 1 kop., orange; surcharged "Salonique."
10 para on 2 kop., green; surcharged "Salonique."
20 para on 4 kop., rose; surcharged "Salonique."
1 piastre on 10 kop., blue; surcharged "Salonique."
5 piastres on 50 kop., lilac and green; surcharged "Salonique."
7 piastres on 70 kop., brown and orange; surcharged "Salonique."
10 piastres on 1 r., brown and orange; surcharged "Salonique."
35 piastres on 3½ r., lilac-brown and light green; surcharged "Salonique."
70 piastres on 7 r., myrtle-green and lilac-rose; surcharged "Salonique."

TURKEY.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us four more values of the new set with one of the 1908 type for comparison.

The only difference we notice is in the Turkish sign on the right of the toughra and in the inscription below the latter.

We understand that the values and colours of the new set are exactly the same as in the 1908 issue.

Adhesives.

5 para, brown-ochre; perf. 12 × 13½.
10 ,, green ,,
1 pia., ultramarine ,,
2 ,, black ,,

AMERICA.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—On Continental authority, *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds the 2 c. and 10 c. of Postage Due stamps to the set on watermarked paper.

Postage Dues.

2 c., brown; watermarked paper.
10 c., ,, ,, ,,

ECUADOR.—We understand from *Mekeel's Weekly* that the new 50 c. stamp, chronicled on page 248, has already been surcharged "Cinco Centavos," in two lines, in black.

Provisional.

"Cinco centavos," in black, on 50 c., red.

HONDURAS. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority, announces the reissue of certain old stamps overprinted "Permitase."

Adhesives.

2 c., rose, of 1898; overprinted "Permitase."
6 c., purple ,, ,, ,,
20 c., orange ,, ,, ,,
10 c., brown, of 1903 ,, ,,

PARAGUAY.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us another batch of the 1904 issue overprinted "*1909*" in black.

Adhesives.

1 centavo, carmine; overprinted "*1909*" in black.
5 centavos, orange ,, ,, ,,
10 ,, brown ,, ,, ,,
20 ,, purple ,, ,, ,,
30 ,, orange-brown ,, ,, ,,
30 ,, slate-blue ,, ,, ,,

It is reported in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority, that the 2 c., rose, has been issued perforated vertically, so that each half may be used as a 1 c. stamp.

SALVADOR.—*Gibbons Weekly* announces the issue of the 1 centavo of 1907 overprinted,

1821
in red, 15 Septiembre,
1909

and we read in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the current 1 c. and 2 c. stamps have appeared with watermarks of rows of dots or, as *Mekeel's Weekly* puts it, honeycomb watermarks.

Commemorative Issue.

1 centavo, green and black; red overprint;
1821
15 Septiembre
1909

Adhesives.

1 centavo, green and black; wmk. rows of dots.
2 centavos, rose and black ,,

UNITED STATES. — The 2 c. Hudson-Fulton Celebration stamp has been issued imperforate, and a specimen is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

Adhesive.

2 c., carmine; imperf.

URUGUAY. — From various sources we gather that two provisionals have appeared.

Provisionals.

8 c., in red, on 10 c., violet, of 1900–1.
23 c., in black, on 25 c., brown, of 1900–1.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

PERSIA.—Two more values of the current series have been overprinted for parcel post use.—*The Philatelic Adviser.*

Parcels Post.

2 k., deep green; overprinted "Colis Postaux."
4 k, yellow; overprinted "Colis Postaux."

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. — According to *Mekeel's Weekly* the colour of the 1 peso stamp has been changed from orange to violet.

Adhesive.

1 peso, violet; Arms design.

SIAM.—Another surcharged stamp is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., the 6 atts altered to 6 satang.

A further variety, the 2 satang on 2 atts, is chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Provisionals.

2 satang on 2 atts, green; black surcharge.
6 ,, 6 atts, rose ,,

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1909-10.

President—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
Vice-President—THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. OLDFIELD.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. FULCHER.

E. D. BACON. T. WICKHAM JONES.
C. N. BIGGS. T. MAYCOCK.
M. P. CASTLE, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. HALL. F. REICHENHEIM.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG. R. B. YARDLEY.

THE first meeting of the season 1909-10 was held, by invitation of Lord Crawford, at 2 Cavendish Square, W., at 6 p.m., on Thursday the 21st October, 1909.

Members present: Lord Crawford, M. P. Castle, L. W. Fulcher, G. B. Bainbridge, R. B. Yardley, C. E. McNaughtan, E. D. Bacon, Major E. B. Evans, T. Maycock, J. A. Leon, A. Chilver, J. R. Laing, Douglas Ellis, D. C. Gray, E. A. Elliott, J. R. Burton, G. Coles, L. S. Wells, B. Pinner, R. Meyer, W. Barnard, W. H. Tarrant, L. L. R. Hausburg, C. N. Biggs, H. Quare, T. W. Hall, Franz Reichenheim, C. Stuart Dudley, J. A. Tilleard, W. Schwabacher, Lance E. Hall (associate), and one visitor.

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the Annual General Meeting having been already published in the *London Philatelist*, were taken as read.

The entry in the minutes of the special resolution, confirmed at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 3rd June last, was read and signed by the Chairman.

The Hon. Secretary reported the death, on the 9th of April last, of Mr. A. A. Good, a life member of the Society, and on the 26th August of Mr. H. G. Palliser, and the announcement was received with great regret.

The resignations of Mr. F. Knuckey and Mr. A. Laceby, which take effect from the end of the current year, were directed to be accepted with regret.

A letter from the Austrian Society "Vindobona," announcing the decision to hold a Philatelic Exhibition in Vienna in 1911 in connection with the Congress to take place there in that year, was read by the Hon. Secretary, who was directed to acknowledge the communication with the best wishes of the Society for the success of the undertaking.

The Hon. Secretary also reported the receipt of a letter from Baron A. de Reuterskiöld, inviting the Society to allow its name to be added to the list of Philatelic Societies forming the Committee of Honour of the International Philatelic Exhibition in Berne in 1910, and it was decided to accept the invitation with the best wishes of the Society for the success of the Exhibition.

A letter from the Herts Society in reference to the Second Philatelic Congress of Great Britain to be held in London next year was referred to the Council for consideration.

A ballot was taken for the following candidates for membership, who were all declared duly elected Fellows and members of the Society, viz. Mr. Samuel Chapman, proposed by Mr. T. W. Hall, seconded by Mr. E. D. Bacon; the Rev. James Mursell, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg; Mr. Harry Chaplin, proposed by Mr. Gerald Coles, seconded by the Hon. Secretary; Mr. Charles Maximilion Ams, proposed by Mr. L. H. Kjellstedt, seconded by Mr. G. L. Toppan; Mr. William McHutchin, proposed by Mr. E. W. Wetherell, seconded by the Hon. Secretary; Mr. Hiram Wolcott Warner, proposed by Major F. Young, seconded by Capt. A. E. Stewart; and Mr. Ernst August Wiedemann, proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Hon. Assistant Secretary.

The Hon. Librarian reported the receipt of the following contributions to the Society's library amongst other donations made during the recess, viz. from Lord Crawford, four boxes of miscellaneous parts of periodicals; from Mr. Yaar, *Falsifications du Transvaal;* from Mr. Brunel, *Timbres Grecs;* from Mr. C. Chase, *The 3 c. United States Stamp of 1851;* and from Mr. Kohl, *Reform Katalog.*

Mr. M. P. Castle, in the name of the Fellows present, thanked the Chairman for kindly inviting the members to hold the first meeting of the new season at his residence, and for presiding over the meeting. Mr. Castle also reported the offer made by Mr. Warhurst to present a very large number of duplicates of "entires" to the Society, and urged the desirability of making a special collection and study of "entires," with a view of preventing this branch of Philately from being entirely neglected. He moved a resolution that the offer be accepted with grateful thanks of the Society, and that the matter be referred to the Council with an instruction to appoint a committee to consider and report as to the best means of dealing with the collection proposed to be formed.

The motion, which was seconded by the Hon. Secretary and supported by Mr. Bainbridge (who kindly offered to present his "entires" to the proposed collection), and also by Major Evans, who suggested that the Society should endeavour to prepare a complete list of "entires" for future reference, was carried unanimously.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to the inspection of some of the collections of the Vice-President, who, in addition to the display of St. Helena and St. Vincent stamps, as announced in the notice convening the meeting, very kindly showed his collection of Zanzibar, British Bechuanaland, and other Colonial stamps, and some volumes of essays, proofs, etc., of Great Britain, containing some recently acquired examples of great rarity and interest.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

OCTOBER 7.—Annual General Business Meeting.

The report, showing a membership of 226, and the balance sheet with a balance in hand of £85 3s. 3d., were approved, as was the following programme :—

1909.		
Oct.	28.	Display : Mauritius. Mr. B. B. Tilley.
Nov.	4.	Paper : "Argentine 1889-1909." Mr. F. T. Collier.
,,	18.	Paper : "St. Helena," etc. Dr. T. Groom.
Dec.	2.	Auction at Imperial Hotel. Lots to reach Hon. Sec. by November 3.
,,	16.	Paper : "Barbados 1870-82." Mr. C. A. Stephenson.
1910.		
Jan.	6.	Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. Margoschis.
,,	27.	Paper : "St. Lucia." Mr. W. Pimm.
Feb.	10.	Display : Cape of Good Hope. Mr. J. J. Knowles.
,,	24.	Discussion : The Colour Problem. By Members.
Mar.	3.	Auction. Lots to reach Hon. Sec. by February 4.
,,	17.	Display : South Australia. Mr. T. W. Peck.
April	7.	Ten minutes with interesting stamps. By Members.
May	5.	Annual Dinner.

The officers and committee were elected.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. F. C. Henderson, H. L. Hayman, and Mrs. Lake for recent donations to the Permanent Collection ; to P. Kohl for copies of his Great and Normal Catalogues ; to L. de Raaij for *Forgeries of the Transvaal;* to J. M. Bartels and C. T. Reed for catalogues, etc. ; also to the following publishers who had sent periodicals during the past year : Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. (*Gibbons Stamp Weekly*), H. L. Ewen (*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*), D. Field (*West End Philatelist*), etc. ; also to Messrs. Plumridge and Co. ; Puttick and Simpson ; Ventom, Bull, and Cooper ; Galbraith, Bethune, and Co. ; J. C. Morgenthau for priced auction catalogues.

The following were elected members of the Society : Messrs. H. E. Leisser, J. Mackenzie, F. Cohen, A. E. Carter, H. W. Atchley, and Dr. D. Buchan.

2107 stamps were added to the Permanent Collection during the past session, making a total of 27,033, made up as follows : 6862 British and British Colonials, 14,015 foreign, 2029 fiscals, 1453 locals, 97 Railway stamps, 471 cut envelopes, and 2106 entires.

The list of wants as altered to agree with Gibbons 1909 Catalogue was incorporated in the report which will be ready shortly, and will be sent to any one desirous of joining us.

The exchange packets have again been very successful, and have again circulated without delay. £29,472 3s. 9d. was the total amount circulated, of which £2816 9s. 4d. was sold.

Herts Philatelic Society.

THE first general meeting of the Society for the season 1909-10 was held (by kind invitation of the Earl of Crawford) at No. 2, Cavendish Square, London, W., on Tuesday, October 19, 1909, at 6.30 p.m.

Present :—Messrs. Franz Reichenheim (President), H. L. Hayman (Vice-President), R. Frentzel, T. H. Harvey, W. A. Boyes, W. T. Standen, W. G. Cool, C. R. Sutherland, J. A. Leon, W. H. Eastwood, A. Lange, J. H. Rosenheim, B. W. H. Poole, D. Field, R. H. Newton, F. Read, W. F. Clarke, Baron Anthony de Worms, E. W. Arnold, T. F. Stafford, J. E. Booth, A. J. Séfi, J. R. Laing, E. Bounds, F. J. Melville, W. A. Gunner, M. Weinberg, J. W. Campion, K. Wiehen, H. J. Bignold, E. D. Bacon, W. Simpson, C. Nissen, the Earl of Crawford, J. C. Sidebotham (Hon. Librarian), H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and one visitor.

The President took the chair.

The minutes of the meeting held on April 20, 1909, were read and signed as correct.

The following were elected as ordinary members of the Society : Lt.-Colonel S. P.

Peile, J. H. Chapman, D. Rotberg, Dr. R. Melbourne West, S. J. Weening, C. Regelsberger, Neville Stocken, A. Wilson, Léon Sauvée, F. B. Smith, W. J. G. Purnell, A. J. Séfi, A. D. Ferguson, and W. B. Kirkpatrick.

The resignation of Mr. H. A. Fulcher was received and accepted with regret.

A letter of congratulation from Hauptmann Wagner, of Wiesbaden, to the Society on the arrangement of the forthcoming congress was read, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to return a letter of thanks.

The invitation of the Executive Committee of the International Philatelic Exhibition, Berne, 1910, to inscribe the Herts Philatelic Society on the Committee of Honour was duly accepted.

An invitation of the Kiel Philatelic Society to their anniversary meeting was read, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to send a suitable acknowledgment.

The Hon. Librarian gave notice of many valuable donations to the library which he had received since the last meeting from the President, Messrs. D. Field, A. Montader, Léon de Raaij, A. E. Milner, P. Kosack, A. Friedemann, Gebr. Senf, Paul Kohl, W. H. Peckitt, and the American Philatelic Society.

The President took the opportunity, on behalf of the members, of thanking Lord Crawford for the lively interest he had taken in the Society, and for the valuable assistance he had rendered to the forthcoming congress. Through him a powerful list of patrons and vice-patrons had been obtained, and there was every prospect of the congress becoming an emphatic success. This vote was seconded by the Vice-President, briefly responded to, and carried with acclamation.

An adjournment was then made to inspect Lord Crawford's well-known and unique collection of the stamps of Great Britain. This collection is so famous as to need no description; needless to say, the members spent a very instructive and interesting hour in admiring the treasures that were laid before them, and in judging for themselves the perfections to which a specialized collection can be brought.

A most successful meeting terminated at 8.30 p.m.

H. A. SLADE, *Hon. Secretary.*

Manchester Philatelic Society.

Session 1909–10.

President—W. DORNING BECKTON.
Hon. Sec.—G. FRED H. GIBSON, Fairfield, Crumpsall, Manchester.

THE meetings are held at the rooms of the Manchester Geographical Society, 16 St. Mary's Parsonage, on Friday evenings at 7.30.

Syllabus.

1909.		
Oct.	8.	Paper: "Canada." Mr. N. Heywood.
,,	15.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	22.	Paper: "Egypt." Mr. H. Howell-Jones.
,,	29.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
Nov.	5.	Display with Notes: Queensland. Mr. W. W. Munn.
,,	12.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	19.	Paper: "The Development of the Philatelic Catalogue in England." Mr. F. J. Peplow.
,,	26.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
Dec.	3.	Display with Notes: Norway. Mr. W. D. Beckton.
,,	10	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	17.	Paper: "Early Penny Posts." Mr. J. S. Higgins, Jun.
1910.		
Jan.	7.	Display with Notes: The Line-Engraved Stamps of Great Britain. Mr. W. M. Gray (Bradford Philatelic Society).
,,	14.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	21.	Paper: "The Insured Letter Stamps of Colombia." Mr. J. R. M. Albrecht.
,,	28.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
Feb.	4.	"Some Notes on the Stamps of France (with Lantern Illustrations). Dr. H. Armstrong (Liverpool Philatelic Society).
,,	11.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	18.	Paper: "The Preliminaries of Postal Issues, illustrated by the Stamps of Saxony." Mr. I. J. Bernstein.
,,	25.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
Mar.	4.	Display with Notes: Falkland Islands. Mr. J. C. North.
,,	11.	Arrangement of Forgery Collection.
,,	18.	Paper: "Bermuda." Mr. J. H. Abbott.

Philatelic Society of Victoria.

THE ordinary general monthly meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday, September 16, at 8 p.m.

Mr. C. H. Edmondson, the President, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance of members present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Messrs. W. Robertson's and F. Gibson's resignations were received and accepted with regret.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Sydney Philatelic Club *re* initials on a page of their exchange book, the sheet being submitted at the same time; but unfortunately without any result as to whose initials these could be.

In answer to a letter from the South Australian Philatelic Society *re* exchanging another exchange book between the two Societies, the Secretary was instructed to inform the Secretary of the South Australian Society that we are willing to do so.

Mr. H. S. Ingamells was next balloted for and duly elected a member.

A sale of stamps to the highest bidder concluded the meeting.

W. BRETTSCHNEIDER, *Hon. Sec.*
128 RUSSELL STREET, MELBOURNE.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, August 18, at 7 o'clock.

The President, Mr. A. H. Pettifer, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence was read and received. An apology for non-attendance was received from the Hon. Treasurer, who was absent through illness.

Hon. Secretary reported result of his investigation *re* suggested form of insurance to safeguard valuable parcels during transmission through the post.

Ballot for Book 188 then took place. A "sale of stamps" by tender was then held, and several lots changed hands at satisfactory prices.

Hon. Secretary referred to terms of a letter received from Adelaide Society, and ten members signified their wish to join the Adelaide Club.

Mr. Van Weenen made some very interesting remarks *re* proposed new Commonwealth issue.

Two new members were elected, viz. Mr. B. Hesslein and Mr. K. F. E. Weiss.

The catalogue of club library was shown at this meeting, and a copy will be sent to each member during this month. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, September 16, at 7 o'clock sharp.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Secretary.*

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday, September 15, at 7 o'clock. The President, Mr. A. H. Pettifer, was in the chair, and there was a fair attendance of members. During the evening a paper by Mr. Malone, entitled "Some Varieties and Errors of N.S.W.," accompanied by a specimen of each variety noted, was read, and members evinced much interest therein. The errors noted were :—

(1) 2d., Laureate, stars in corner, showing "PENCL" for pence. Plate No. 44.

(2) Pair 3d., Laureate, with one stamp showing double line, to side of "SOUTH," and extending to the solid background below postage. Plate 2.

(3) 8d., Laureate, with dash forming Maltese cross in left-hand upper corner missing. Plate No. 17.

A similar stamp to the one noted as Plate No. 44 was also shown by Mr. McNeill accompanied by some fine 6d. and 8d., Laureated, and a fine unused block of the 3d., Diadem, surcharged O S in red.

The Hon. Secretary also had for inspection a 2d. View, a retouch, which for identification purposes is being sent for expert opinion. A lengthy discussion took place on the exchange system, and it was resolved that commencing with 189, issued in September of this year, a book be sent (1) alternately to country and City members, and (2) to country and inter-state members, which latter book may be seen at the monthly meeting by City members.

THE next monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, October 20, 1909, at 7 o'clock, and at the conclusion of the ordinary meeting *a special meeting* was held to consider :—

1. Proposal to alter the date of calling the usual monthly meeting: the fourth Wednesday of the month is suggested, vice the third Wednesday as at present.

2. That the time of meeting be 8 o'clock instead of 7 o'clock as at present.

The undernoted new members were elected : B. Hess Lein, Esq., H. Rumsey, Esq., M. Heith, Esq., A. Foaster, Esq. It is hoped members will attend where practicable.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

Correspondence.

COMMUNICATIONS.—*All communications of Philatelic matters and Publications for Review should be addressed to the Editor of* THE LONDON PHILATELIST, Aylesbury, Furze Hill, Brighton.

ADVERTISEMENTS *should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON (Advertising Department), 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—THE LONDON PHILATELIST *will be sent, post-free in Great Britain or the countries of the Postal Union, to any subscriber, on receipt of* 6s. ($1.50). *Subscribers' remittances should be sent to* MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

THE PROPOSED COLLECTION OF ENTIRES BY THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

ENTIRES.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to the letter from Messrs. Bright and Son, I think their suggestion is a good one.

They have certainly done good work by continuing to publish a Catalogue of Entires in this country during a period of great difficulty.

With the assistance of the Royal Philatelic Society we should be able to produce a more complete and reliable Catalogue than any yet in print, and such Catalogue would be better circulated through a dealer than by the Society.

I have but little spare time, but if my services would be acceptable I should be willing to revise one of the most difficult countries, i.e. Mexico. I have, in fact, already made an attempt, so far as post cards are concerned, in a preliminary way for the forthcoming edition of Messrs. Bright's Catalogue, but as the type was already set when their letter appeared, it was not possible to increase the space, and there will be consequently many omissions and imperfections. These will be dealt with in the next edition, when envelopes and wrappers will also receive consideration.

I am glad to hear that the collecting of entires is receiving the favourable consideration of the Society. It has always seemed to me that no specialized collection of the stamps of a country can be regarded as complete without including Entires.

If the Society will accept, I shall have pleasure in presenting a set of as many varieties as I have in duplicate of Mexican post cards, envelopes, wrappers, letter cards, and sheets, as soon as I can spare the time to get them together.

Yours faithfully,

S. CHAPMAN.

November 9th, 1909.

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 12 and 13 October, 1909.

ALL UNUSED.

	£	s.	d.
Bavaria, 1849, 1 k., black, with silk thread, no gum	2	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6 k., brown, broken circle, part gum	4	5	0
Ditto, 1874, 1 m., mauve, imperf., pair, one thinned	2	16	0
Bergedorf, 1861, 3 sch., black on rose	6	0	0
Finland, 1858, 5 k., blue, thinned	2	0	0
Ditto, 1871, 10 p., purple-brown on lilac, thinned	4	4	0
Greece, 1861–2, first Athens print, 1 lepton, chocolate on cream, pair	2	0	0
Hanover, 1859–61, 10 gros., green	2	2	0
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ gros., black on green	3	10	0
Portugal, 1853, 50 r., yellow-green, creased, with gum	4	5	0
Prussia, 1857, 2 sgr., deep blue, rubbed	2	12	6
Russia, 1858, with wmk., perf. 15, 10 k., part gum	1	13	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 20 k.	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 30 k.	3	0	0
Russian Levant, 1865, 2 k., part gum	5	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 20 k., no gum	4	15	0
Russia (Wenden), 1863, 2 k., black and rose, thinned	6	15	0
Saxony, 1850, 3 pf., brick-red, repaired	4	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Spain, 1850, 10 reales, no gum	2	13	0
Ditto, 1851, 2 reales, pinhole, no gum	12	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 6 reales, pair, no gum	5	7	6
Ditto, 1852, 2 ditto, ditto	10	0	0
Ditto, 1853, 2 ditto, ditto	7	0	0
Sweden, 1855, thin paper, 3 sk. b.	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 24 sk. b. £2 5s. &	3	17	6
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r., creased	3	17	6
Ditto, Geneva, 5 c., black on yellow-green, left half of the double stamp	4	15	0
Ditto, Vaud, 5 c.	2	18	0
Ditto, Zurich, 6 r., vert. lines, Type 5, damaged	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, hor. lines, Type 3	2	5	0
Ditto, Poste Locale, 2½ r., without frame, cut into	4	0	0
Ditto, Postage Due, 1883, 500 c., blue, on granite paper	3	10	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, no gum	10	15	0
Ditto, 60 crazie, ditto	17	10	0
Ditto, 1 soldo, yellow-buff	2	0	0
Ditto, 9 crazie, grey-lilac	3	0	0
Ditto, 3 lire, part gum	42	0	0

Sale of 26 and 27 October, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ gros., black on green,* pinholed	3	5	0
India, 1854, engraver's pencil sketch for the 2 a., on card	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 a., green, strip of 4	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 a., medium setting, on entire	2	15	0
Jhind, 1886, 1 rupee, red overprint, mint	2	10	0
Puttialla, 1895, 2, 3, and 5 rupees, ditto	6	7	6
Scinde, 1852, white, blue, and red, set of 3	3	0	0
British Central Africa, 1891–5, £10, brown	2	14	0
British East Africa, 1890, set of 3	3	0	0
Lagos, 1884–6, 5s.,* soiled	2	12	0
Seychelles, 15 c. on 16 c., strip of 3, inverted overprint,* creased	2	5	0
Nevis, litho., 6d., grey*	2	10	0
Ditto, C A, 6d., green*	2	18	0

Collections: 6183, £90; 3315, £78; 4155, £26.

* * *

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 21 and 22 October, 1909.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, £5, orange, mint	5	12	0
Ditto, 1884, 3 crowns, £1, brown-purple,* creased	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 3 orbs, £1, brown-lilac,* ditto	9	0	0
Naples, ½ t., arms	12	10	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales, pale red*	6	10	0
Ditto, Madrid, 3 cuartos, bronze*	12	10	0
Switzerland, Geneva, 5 + 5 c., thinned	18	0	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., yellow-green, imperf.,* thinned	2	18	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
India, 1866, small "Postage," 6 a.	2	0	0
Ditto, 1856–64, 2 a., yellow-green, ditto	3	3	0
Ditto, Service, 1866, 2 a., purple,* creased	2	2	0
Labuan, 1879, C A, sideways, 2 c., blue-green,* thinned	2	10	0
Selangor, first issue, crescent, star, and S in oval, 2 c., brown, pair, mint	2	0	0
British Bechuanaland, 1888, "Protectorate," 2s., green and black, mint	2	6	0
British East Africa, first issue, ½, 1, and 4 a., all mint	3	3	0
Gold Coast, C A, 1d., blue, perfs. clipped at bottom*	2	0	0
Ditto, 20s., green and red,* colour faded in corner*	3	15	0
Lagos, 12½, 1s., orange, value 15½ mm.*	3	3	0
Ditto, 1884–6, 2s. 6d., olive-black,* thinned	2	12	6
Mauritius, large fillet, 2d., blue	16	0	0
Sierra Leone, C A, 4d., blue, mint	3	0	0
Zululand, 5s., rose, ditto	2	4	0
British Columbia, perf. 14, $1, ditto	2	12	0
Newfoundland, 6½d., scarlet-vermilion*	8	15	0
Ditto, 6d., orange-vermilion,* creased	3	15	0
Nova Scotia, 6d., yellow-green*	4	4	0
Barbados, 1860, pin perf. 12½, 1d., blue, on piece	4	10	0
Ditto, 1873, large star, 6d., vermilion, imperf. pair, mint	2	8	0
Ditto, 1873, 5s., dull rose, mint	3	7	6
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c, black on magenta, creased	4	0	0
Ditto, 1860, thin paper, 1 c., brown*	2	0	0
Ditto, 1876, 96 c., olive-bistre, mint	2	7	6
Ditto, 1888–9, $3, $4, $5, all ditto	2	16	0
British Honduras, 1887, 1s., grey, ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, 50 c. on 1s., grey, ditto	2	8	0
Montserrat, C A, 4d., blue, ditto	3	0	0
Nevis, litho., 4d., orange, ditto	3	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., grey,* part gum	3	10	0
Ditto, 1883, 6d, green*	3	12	6
St. Kitts, C A, 4d., blue, mint	2	2	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 11 to 12½, 6d., yellow-green, pair, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	8	15	0
Virgin Islands, 1867–8, perf. 15, 6d., pale rose, mint	3	12	6
Fiji, 1875, 2d. in red, on 6 c., Gothic "V.R.",* thinned	2	0	0
New South Wales, 1863, wmk. "5," 2d., blue,*	2	8	0
Tasmania, first issue, 1d., blue*	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, 1d., blue, pair	9	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., orange*	3	10	0
Ditto, 1889–91, 2½d. on 9d., pale blue, pair, with double surcharge, one inverted, mint	2	12	6
Ditto, 1892–9, £1, mint	4	0	0

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 14 and 15 Oct., 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1867, £1, brown-lilac, Anchor	2	15	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, King, 5s., carmine, reg. postmark	12	15	0
Naples, ½ t., blue, Arms, thinned	6	12	6
Oldenburg, 1859, ⅓ g., thinned	2	2	0
Roumania, 1858, 54 paras, cut square, thinned	12	5	0
Switzerland, Zurich, 4 r., vert. lines, defective	4	10	0
Ditto, Geneva, 5+5 c., pair on entire	23	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., black and red, creased	6	10	0
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green, imperf.	2	6	0
Ditto, 8d., yellow-brown, rough perfs.	2	15	0
Ditto, 2 r. 50 c.,* thinned	3	2	0
India Service, 6 as. 8 pies, mint	3	5	0
Sungei Ujong, "S U", star and crescent in oval, 2 c., brown, mint	3	0	0
Cape, woodblock, 4d., pale blue	2	12	0
Mauritius, 1848, 2d., deep blue, "PENOE," torn	3	3	0
Ditto, 1859, 1d., red	2	10	0
Natal, 1857, 1s., buff	2	4	0
Transvaal, 1870, fine roulette, 6d., ultramarine	2	6	0
Zululand, 5s., carmine	2	4	0
Barbados, 1d. on half 5s., defective perfs. at top	2	12	6
British Columbia, 1867, 12½, 10 c., block of four, mint	6	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 50 c., ditto, ditto	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, $1, ditto, ditto	6	12	6
Ditto, ditto, 14, 5 c., ditto, ditto	2	2	0
British Guiana, 1853, 1 c., vermilion	2	15	0
Ditto, 1862, crossed ovals, 2 c., yellow, no roulettes	2	4	0
Buenos Ayres, 1858, 5 pesos, orange, defective	4	10	0
St. Vincent, 1880, 5s. rose-red,* full gum	7	5	0
Trinidad, litho., 1860, 1d., grey	2	4	0
Ditto, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., green, block of four, mint	4	10	0
United States, State, $2, ditto	2	2	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., bright red, Plate 2	2	10	0
New Zealand, 1860, pelure, perf., 1s.	2	0	0
Ditto, 1872, lozenges, 2d., vermilion . . £2 and	2	8	0
Tasmania, 1889, 2½d. on 9d., twice surcharged, pair, mint	2	4	0
Victoria, 1850, 2d., grey-lilac, pair	2	0	0
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red	2	10	0
Collections: 455 (Colombia), £25; and 2170	20	0	0

Sale of 28 and 29 Oct., 1909.

Cyprus, 1881, C C, 6 piastres, pair	2	0	0
Greece, 1861, Paris print, 80 lept., strip of ten, mint	3	17	6
British East Africa, 1890, set of three provisionals, ditto	3	10	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855, 1s., dull green, ditto	2	8	0
Ditto, 1863, 6d., mauve, pair, ditto	2	6	0
British Columbia, 1865, imperf., 10 c., pair, partly severed	5	0	0
British Guiana, 1888, $1, green, mint	2	0	0
Cayman Islands, 2½d. on 4d., ditto £2 8s. and	2	12	6
Turks Islands, 1881, ½d. on 1d., Type 2, sheet of thirty, ditto	4	12	6
United States, 1869, 90 c., without grille, ditto	2	17	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, with ditto, ditto	2	8	0
New South Wales, 1885, 10s., S.G. No. 314, ditto	2	15	0
New Zealand, 1901, proof in green of the 1d. stamp, imperf., strip of 5, the centre stamp *tête-bêche*	3	5	0
Queensland, 1860, 1d., pair on entire, one cut	3	0	0

* * *

MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 4 and 5 October, 1909.

British Central Africa, 1903, £10, grey and blue,* rubbed	4	4	0
Cape, woodblock, 1d., brick-red	1	13	0
Ditto, 1d., scarlet	1	9	0
China, 1897, $5 on 3 c.*	1	17	0
Great Britain, 1887, proof of 3d., black on green, strip of 3	1	3	0
Montserrat, C A, 4d., blue,* no gum	1	14	0
Tuscany, 9 cr., purple on white	2	0	0
Western Australia, 1860, 6d., sage-green *	1	9	0

Sale of 6 October, 1909.

Argentine, 1891, 20 pesos *	1	10	0
British South Africa, £2, rosy red, Waterlow printing *	1	5	0
Cayman Islands, ½d. on 5s., 1d. on 5s., pair of each, mint	1	15	0
Perak, C C, $3, block of 4 *	1	6	0

THE

London Philatelist:

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVIII. DECEMBER, 1909. No. 216.

The Manchester Philatelic Congress and the Postal Union.

MR. BUXTON has given the cold shoulder to the Petition of the Manchester Philatelic Congress. The Postmaster-General's reply, as set forth in another column, to the prayer of the Congress is to the effect that he could not agree to any international arrangement that would tie his hands in dealing with the issues of this country or its colonies. At the time the resolution was passed at Manchester there was a feeling that no practical result would accrue from the Petition to the Postal Union, but that in any case no harmful result could eventuate.

This is absolutely so, as in any case it is well to proclaim to the Postal Authorities of this country, or any other, that a watchful eye is being kept upon any vagaries in the issues of stamps. It is obvious that no official assistance can be obtained from the Postal Union itself, and, in fact, it was an inauspicious omen that simultaneously with the receipt of the Petition from the Manchester Congress that august body the Union Postale Universelle was celebrating some joyous event in its own career by the issue of Commemoration Post Cards!

The only practical way of approaching the matter is, in our view, for the Philatelists in each country to try and bring pressure to bear upon its own administration in case of the appearance of superfluous issues. In order to give due weight to such representations the Philatelists should be able to show that they represent the unanimous feeling of their philatelic compatriots. Should such a delightful unanimity be attained, perhaps with a great name as a president and the help of friendly members of Parliament, some good effect might be attained. Possibly also such an example might be successfully followed in other countries.

There are, however, possibilities and "ifs" in most mundane affairs, and in the noble art of self-consideration those who issue stamps and those who collect them are assuredly not deficient, and it may well be that "much water will flow beneath the arches" before the arrival of the Philatelic Millennium!

The Royal Philatelic Society's Collection.

APPOINTMENT OF A NEW COMMITTEE.



THE abundant advantages of a reference collection of postage stamps to a philatelic body need not be expatiated on, and in the case of the Royal Philatelic Society, one of the most important of whose functions is that of expertizing, it will be seen that an extensive collection for the purposes of reference and comparison is absolutely indispensable. The Expert Committee have been hitherto singularly fortunate in having the resources of the two leading dealers of this country, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and Mr. W. H. Peckitt, placed entirely at their disposal. It is, however, quite possible to imagine in the course of time that this fortunate position might be greatly modified, in which case the Expert Committee would have to practically cease from its labours.

It was with a view to the ultimate prevention of such a catastrophe that the Royal Philatelic Society, a year or more ago, started the formation of a collection of its own. This work was entrusted to a small Committee consisting of Messrs. Castle, Fulcher, Hausburg, and Oldfield, thanks to whose labours and especially to Mr. Oldfield, on whom has fallen the brunt of the work, a satisfactory commencement of this heroic task has been made. These gentlemen are, however, all busy men, and it was felt that to command complete success a larger amount of individual time and energy was requisite than they could possibly devote to the task. The question of the inclusion of the collection of entires, as recently decided on by the Royal Philatelic Society, further foreshadowed an alarming increase to their responsibilities, and under these circumstances the Committee deemed it advisable to tender their resignations. The Council, having accepted the resignations with due acknowledgment of the services rendered, requested Mr. M. P. Castle (the Hon. Vice-President of the Society) to draw up a report upon the subject. This report has been presented at a meeting of the Council, and was duly accepted, with instructions to publish the purport in the journal of the Royal Philatelic Society.

Mr. Castle's Report was to the following effect. That a permanent body be elected entitled "The Collections Committee," to take all necessary steps for the formation of a collection of all kinds of Postage Stamps and Entires, as also Essays, Proofs, and any other objects connected with Philately (not being literature). That this Committee should be elected forthwith and re-elected annually, vacancies occurring meanwhile being automatically filled up. The Committee to consist of fifteen members besides a Chairman (to be a member of the Council) and a Secretary. The work of the Committee to be divided into five sections or sub-committees, each of which have power to seek other assistance, the Chairman and Secretary being, in addition, members of each sub-committee. The collections to be kept at the Society's rooms and to be available for inspection subject to the Committee's regulations. Annual reports to be made with Display of the Collection and all

donations to be acknowledged in the *London Philatelist*. That appeals for support should be made to all Fellows and Members of the Royal Society, and that it should also be invited from all sources.

The Report further suggested that the labours of the Committee should be divided under the five following divisions, but the arrangements for the proper devolution of the task were necessarily entrusted entirely to "The Collections Committee."

1. British Colonies.
2. Europe (including Great Britain).
3. North and South America.
4. The Rest of the World.
5. Entires.

The following Fellows of the Royal Society were elected by the Council as the members of " The Collections Committee," almost all of whom had signified their willingness to accept the position :—

M. P. Castle, Chairman.	L. L. R. Hausburg.
Baron Anthony de Worms.	F. J. Peplow.
Baron Percy de Worms.	C. F. Dendy Marshall.
T. W. Hall.	S. Chapman.
H. R. Oldfield.	J. A. Tilleard.
F. Reichenheim.	D. C. Gray.
L. W. Fulcher.	C. J. Daun.
R. B. Yardley.	Major E. B. Evans.

A. C. Emerson, Secretary.

A meeting of " The Collections Committee " will be held at an early date in January, of which date notice will be sent, when it is earnestly to be desired that every member will attend, as the future work of the Committee will then be mapped out and the sub-committees appointed, having regard to the especial predilections, of the respective members.

The contributions previously made to the collection have included some of considerable importance, but in order to ensure complete success the co-operation of every Fellow and Member of the Royal Philatelic Society is requisite. Beyond this we make an appeal to those who are not members. The work of the Expert Committee is all-important. Without a final court of appeal as to the authenticity of stamps, a grievous blow would be struck at the welfare of Philately. For many years past the members of the Expert Committee have loyally given their time, abilities, and eyesight in the very difficult and onerous work that is required to detect present-day forgeries. A large proportion of the thousands of specimens that have been examined by them have emanated from the dealers and auctioneers. In view therefore of the importance to these gentlemen of the gratuitous labours of the Expert Committee, and seeing that this work makes absolutely for the good of Philately in general, we can but hope that they in turn will render assistance in a matter that is fraught with the greatest importance to the future of every one who has an interest in the collection of postage stamps.

Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

MEMBERS are reminded that their subscription for the year 1910 becomes due and payable on 1 January.

All members who have not yet paid their dues to the Society are requested to remit same without further delay direct to the Hon. Treasurer,

C. E. McNAUGHTAN,
4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

AT the meeting of 6 January, 1910, Mr. Harvey R. G. Clarke will give a display of Transvaal, with notes.

On 20 January a display of Sydney Views will be given by members, when the Publication Committee of the Society will also display the illustrations of the completed plates for the forthcoming work on Oceania. It is particularly desired that every Fellow or Associate possessing Sydney Views will attend and bring them, for comparison with the list of shades and varieties as drawn up by the Committee. Mr. M. P. Castle's "Notes on the 1853 Issue of British Guiana" are unavoidably postponed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "LONDON PHILATELIST" FOR 1910.

OUR readers, other than the members of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, who are subscribers to this Journal, and whose subscriptions expire with the present number, will receive enclosed a Form of Renewal.

Early attention will oblige, in order to avoid delay in the posting of the January, 1910, and following parts.

BINDING—NOTICE.

MEMBERS and subscribers desiring to have their copies of Volumes I to XVIII bound, can do so, in stock style, half marone morocco, gilt top, price Seven Shillings each volume, which price includes cost of return post, carefully packed in cardboard box.

Copies from abroad will be Eight Shillings each, which includes return by Registered Book Post, carefully packed.

All copies to be so bound must be sent in accompanied by remittance, and addressed: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

N.B.—No copies can be received for binding at above prices after the end of *February*, and the bound volumes will be posted *about* the end of March.

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, BERNE, 1910.

WE have received the following communication from the Committee of this Exhibition :—

The Organization Committee has fixed the date of the International Philatelic Exhibition for the days from 3rd to 12th September, 1910. This date must be considered as favourably chosen, as many friends of Switzerland travelling at that time in our country will have the opportunity to see the Exhibition. The lists of the members of the different committees are formed, and the subscription for the Exhibition funds, which we recommend heartily to all friends of Philately, is going on very well.

Messrs. E. RUFFY, Director of the International Postal Union ;
Colonel E. FREY, Director of the International Telegraph Union ;
A. STÄGER, Postmaster-General ;
A. HOCHER, Postmaster at Berne ;
C. DELESSERT, Postmaster at Lausanne,

have kindly accepted our invitation to be the Vice-Patrons of the Exhibition.

The official programme will be published in a few days, and will be despatched as soon as possible, at all events, in the course of this month.

International Philatelic Exhibition, Berne, 1910.
The Secretary : Fritz Furi.

FORGERY OF THE CURRENT FRENCH STAMPS.

CONSIDERABLE excitement has been aroused in Paris by the discovery that the current issue of French stamps of the 10 c. value bearing the *Sémeuse* have been extensively forged, it being alleged that over a million of these fraudulent imitations have been successfully foisted on the public, to the serious detriment of the revenue. It appears that during the past three months the attention of the postal authorities has been drawn to the appearance of these forgeries, which were so admirably executed as to defy detection by any ordinary observation. On close examination, however, smart differences are revealed, notably in the shape of the letter "C" on the right of the figure "10," which is a little more open than that on the real stamps. A number of letters franked with these stamps were traced to their senders, but in all cases it seemed that their acquisition had been quite *bona-fide*, most of them having been purchased from the tobacconists, who in France retail so large a proportion of postage stamps.

A clue was at length obtained from the fact that a number of persons all declared that they had bought the stamps at a slight reduction from an Italian. Armed with this information, the Paris police were ultimately enabled to effect the capture of three Italians, who are now interned, and, probably with others to follow, await examination before the magistrates. In the luggage of one of the inculpated Italians no less than 231,000 of these false 10 centime stamps were discovered. It is to us a matter of surprise, in view of the simplicity of the designs adopted, that there are not more forgeries of current stamps—a fact probably largely due to the detective force of Philately. The trial of the prisoners should afford interesting reading, which we hope to reproduce, as we do the foregoing information, from the columns of *Le Petit Parisien.*

INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, VIENNA, 1911.

AT the request of the Executive Committee we have pleasure in inserting the announcement following :—

The Oesterreichischer Philatelisten-Klub "Vindobona" and the Tauschvereinigung für Postwertzeichen have suggested a Committee consisting of representatives of all Vienna philatelic societies to realize the long-cherished intention of holding an International Philatelic Exhibition in Vienna, which would take place from 12th to 26th September, 1911, following the XXIII Deutschen Philatelistentag, invited to Vienna at about the same time.

It is expected that this Exhibition will be a grand one, for it is the intention of the Committee not only to rouse the interest of the wider public by pointing specially to the artistic views of this branch of collecting, but also by giving wide room for junior collectors alongside the prominent scientific philatelists. This Exhibition will also be a Jubilee Exhibition, for in 1911 it will just be thirty years that the first ever held Philatelic Exhibition took place in Vienna with splendid success.

Chairman of the Executive Committee: Dr. Hans von Woerz.
Hon. Secretary: Mr. Adolf Passer.

All communications to be addressed to the office of—

"Internationale Postwertzeichen Ausstellung, Wien, 1911,"
9 Himmelpfortgasse,
Vienna I.

VARIETIES OF PERFORATIONS, ETC., OF CURRENT TASMANIAN STAMPS.

MR. R. J. HOGG has kindly submitted a number of stamps with various perforations. As some of these may be unknown and therefore of interest to some of our readers, although we have little affection for this superfluous issue, we copy his list as follows :—

Pictorial Issue.

Block of four, *dark green*, ½d., Crown and A, perf. 12½, *rare shade.*
Pair of green, ½d., Crown and A, perf. 12½ on three sides and 11 at bottom.
Block of six, rose-red, 1d., Crown and A, perf. 11 top and bottom and 12½ at sides, left-hand pair only 12½ on one side.
Block of four as above but only the horizontal centre line perf. 12½.
Block of six, rose-red, 1d., Crown and A, 11 × 12½, the 12½ holes very large.
Block of four, dull purple, 2d., Gibbons No. 242.
Block of six, dull mauve, 2d., Crown and A, Gibbons No. 242; the holes in the 11 perf. are large and in the 12½ perf. small.
Pair, dull mauve, 2d., Crown and A, perf. 11 and imperf. at bottom.
Three, dull mauve, 2d., Crown and A, perf. twice on one side 11 × 12½, making a compound perf.
Strip of four, dull mauve, Crown and A, 12½ × 12 as Gibbons 246, but dull mauve.

1d., Rose-Red, Crown and A.

12½	11
12½ × 11	11 × 12½
11 × 12½ × 12½ × 12½	12½ × 12½ × 11 × 12½
12½ × 11 × 11 × 11	11 × 11 × 12½ × 11
11 × 12½ × 11 × 11	11 × 11 × 11 × 12

Queen's Head.

Strip of four, 9d., blue, Crown and A, perf. 11 at top and 12½ on other three sides.

KING'S HEAD STAMPS FOR NEW ZEALAND.

THE following paragraphs are taken from *The Dominion* and *Evening Star* of Wellington, New Zealand. We trust that the issue may be a permanent one!

"With the new issue of stamps, referred to in yesterday's issue of *The Dominion*, the majority of the present not unpicturesque stamps, which created a good deal of joy in the heart of the philatelist, will disappear. The new stamps are prosaic to a degree. The design—a good (bust) portrait of the King in field-marshal's uniform—is the same on the whole range of stamps. The only difference is the tint in which they are printed and the number showing the face value. The universal pink penny stamp (Britannia and globe design) remains in issue, but the halfpenny (green) takes the King design, and being printed in what is known as the 'surface-process' style, is not so clear in detail or so good in quality as the others, all of which are printed from the steel die. The colours of the new stamps are: 3d., brown; 4d., orange; 5d., sepia; 6d., carmine; 8d., blue; 1s., brick-red. The pick of the present issue, however, are being retained, it is pleasurable to learn. These are the superb 2½d. (Lake Wakatipu), the 9d. (Pink Terraces), 2s. (Milford Sound), and the 5s. (Mt. Cook). These are beautifully designed stamps characteristic of the country."—*The Dominion.*

"A new issue of postage and Revenue stamps will be ready for sale on the afternoon preceding the King's birthday. The range of value is from ½d. to 1s., and, excepting the 1d. stamp, each will bear the portrait of the King. The necessity of the new issue is shown by the substitution of 'The Dominion of New Zealand' for 'New Zealand.' With the exception of the 4d. stamp, which is now of an orange colour, all the stamps within the values named are of the old colours, so that the public may not be confused. The new portrait of the King is considered to be the finest that has yet been produced, and in the case of most of the stamps has been printed from steel engravings by the recess process of printing. The plates were manufactured in London, and the whole of the printing executed in the Government Printing Office. The workmanship generally is very fine, the gumming, perforation, and general appearance being highly satisfactory. The 2½d., 9d., 2s., and 5s. values remain as before in design."—*Evening Star.*

UNITED SOUTH AFRICA.

ON December the 8th, from the steps of the Royal Exchange, Colonel Kearns, in his capacity as Common Crier, read the Royal Proclamation declaring the Colonies of the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, the Transvaal, and

the Orange River Colony to be united in a Legislative Union under one Government, under the name of the Union of South Africa. The date of the union is May 31st, 1910. Colonel Kearns wore his official dress, and a large number of people gathered during the reading of the proclamation. The concluding sentence, "God Save the King," was greeted with cheers.

This historic event, which creates a new nation, is calculated to have an important effect upon Philately, as the present issue of the four-named colonies and perhaps others adjacent are likely to be superseded by an issue for "United South Africa."

THE SEYBOLD COLLECTION.

THE following information in the guise of an advertisement has appeared in the American journals, and foreshadows the dispersal of this famous collection consequent upon the death of its owner, as recently recorded in the *London Philatelist.*

"The famous Seybold Collection with its world-celebrated philatelic treasures is for sale. It comprises between 70,000 and 90,000 separate pieces, and its accumulation of original covers is regarded by many judges as the finest in the world. Among the latter are two 12 pence Canadas (there are said to be only two others in existence on the cover), a Brattleboro, and copies of the 5 cent and 10 cent St. Louis. The collection has been so often described in its main features that every dealer in the world and thousands of collectors have read of it. The collection is now in a Syracuse, N.Y., bank, where it will be exhibited to those seriously contemplating a possible purchase. The present plan of the owner is to dispose of it in its entirety. Applications for permission to examine it, with a view to purchasing, must be addressed to John B. Howe (A. P. S. 2292), Care *The Herald*, Syracuse, N.Y."

DESTRUCTION OF GAMBIA STAMPS.

THE following statement is published for general information.

No. 57*a*. *Public Notice.* 1909.

We the undersigned Members of a Board appointed to destroy the entire stock of Postage Stamps in the Treasury and General Post Office of this Colony, which stamps were on sale up to and including the 30th September last and which have since been superseded by a new issue in accordance with the British Colonial Colour Scheme, hereby certify that the aforesaid stock of stamps was this day burnt in our presence.

Postage Stamps Destroyed.

Denominations.	Total number of stamps destroyed.
½d.	38,372
1d.	21,873
2d.	14,839
2½d.	9,853
3d.	13,234
4d.	3,753

Denominations.	Total number of stamps destroyed.
5d.	6,643
6d.	2,787
7½d.	7,838
10d.	8,400
1/-	11,773
1/6	8,456
2/-	6,896
2/6	4,344
3/-	4,241

SAM. J. FORSTER, Member Legislative Council.
W. BAUERLE, Auditor.
T. B. BRACKEN, Ag. Supt. of Police.
J. C. FRANKLIN, Medical Officer.

1st October, 1909.

It is difficult to understand why the ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps should be destroyed since they are in the Postal Union colours; those last supplied differ in the case of the ½d. and 2½d. only very slightly in shade, whilst the change in the colour of the 1d. stamp from carmine to red is comparatively insignificant. The precedent, however, is an excellent one, and we hope indicates a new departure as regards speculation in stamps.

THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC CONGRESS AND THE POSTAL UNION.

THE following reply to the letter sent to him on behalf of the Philatelic Congress of Manchester has been received, and is commented elsewhere in the present issue of the *London Philatelist.*

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON,
November 30, 1909.

SIR,

The Postmaster-General has had before him your letter of the 10th of this month, in which you ask him, on behalf of the Congress of Philatelic Societies of Great Britain, to bring to the notice of the Universal Postal Union a petition having for its object the prevention of the issues of Commemorative and other postage stamps which, in the opinion of the Congress, are not necessary for the public service.

The Postmaster General desires me to say that as he reserves to himself the absolute right to decide whether any particular issue of postage stamps in this country is necessary for the public service, he could not well be a party to an international arrangement which would tend to limit his powers in this respect.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) A. F. KING.

I. J. BERNSTEIN, ESQ.

THE SECOND PHILATELIC CONGRESS, LONDON, 1910.

WE are desired by the Executive Committee of the Congress to make the following additional announcements :—

ADDITION TO PROGRAMME.—*Friday, April 29th*, 1910, 8 p.m. Closing Meeting (Public Meeting).

1. Paper by the Hon. Vice-President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London (M. P. Castle, Esq , J.P.).

2. Closing Address by J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P.

Up to the time of going to press the following philatelic societies have informed the Committee of the names of the delegates appointed by them to attend the Congress :—

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.—Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle, L. W. Fulcher, and J. A. Tilleard.

Chums Society of Stamp Collectors.—Messrs. Ernest H. Robinson, L. S. Goldsmith, and Percy C. Bishop.

Croydon Philatelic Society.—Messrs. Albert Ashby and H. H. Harland.

Portland Philatelic Society.—Mr. W. Haworth.

South Wales and Monmouthshire Philatelic Society.—Mr. Walter Scott and Col. G. E. Petty.

Swadlincote Philatelic Society.—Messrs. W. Oakley and W. Hilton.

The Philatelic Students' Fellowship.—Messrs. B. B. Kirby and S. R. Turner.

The Committee hope that all other philatelic societies of Great Britain, many of which have already declared their willingness to attend the Congress, will lose no time in appointing delegates. The Committee would also be glad to hear of any subject which it is proposed should be brought before the Congress.

THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS: PROPOSED PRESENTATION TO MR. BERNSTEIN.

IN furtherance of a suggestion put forward by a correspondent of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, a small Committee of Philatelists has been formed to make arrangements for a suitable presentation to Mr. I. J. Bernstein, as a recognition of his work in connection with the inauguration of the Annual Congress of British Philatelists. The members of the Committee are Major Evans (chairman), Messrs. J. Read Burton, P. L. Pemberton, and Percy C. Bishop. Philatelists interested in the subject are invited to put themselves into communication with Major Evans, who has consented to act as Treasurer of the Committee, at Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham, London, S.E.

Reviews.

NEW CATALOGUES.*

WE have now received several fresh catalogues—beyond those received in October—to bring to the notice of our readers, presenting advantages that recommend them in one way or another to collectors. Messrs. Bright's work is by now an old-established favourite, as evidenced by the fact that it is in its eighth edition. The contents have grown to over eight hundred pages; hence there can be no reason to complain of the slightly increased rise in the price—to 2s. 6d.—and the publishers' statement that "no profit is made on the sale of this Catalogue" is one that will gain ready credence. In the present edition special efforts have been made to amplify the long lists of British stamps used abroad, while the catalogue of the used stamps of this country, with their dual prices of "light" and "usual" cancellation, bears the impress of very careful editing. The difference in real value between stamps heavily postmarked and those that are the contrary is enormous, and the distinction in catalogue value will probably figure some day in the catalogues for many countries, as it does already, to a certain extent, in the stock books of the dealers.

Among other lists that have been improved we note Salvador, Nicaragua, Holland, and some of the Indian Native States, while in all respects Messrs. Bright and Son's work worthily maintains its now-accepted position as an important and reliable Catalogue.

The "Scott's Standard" Catalogue has reached its sixty-ninth edition! No better testimony to its position in the philatelic world could be given than this announcement, and without a doubt the supremacy of this Catalogue in the United States is, has been for many years, and is likely to be in the future unchallengeable. The changes or innovations in the present edition are not remarkable, but the excellence of the work is fully maintained. It is much to be regretted that the fine list of the United States issues cannot be accompanied by illustrations, which otherwise throughout the work are copious and commendable. The publishers' remarks on "Condition" in the preface are very much to the point and merit careful reading by every purchaser of the Catalogue. The observations on the present healthy state of the stamp market, on the increased demand, and on "Conservative Pricing" are also dictated by sound common sense and foresight—qualities that are not always to the fore in catalogues.

Messrs. Senf's Catalogue is that of Entires, which, fortunately, are still collected on the Continent, though with less enthusiasm than adhesives. Judging, however, by the high prices attached to many of the standard

* Bright and Son's *A B C Catalogue of the World's Postage Stamps*, eighth edition, 1909–10: 164 Strand, W.C. *The Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1910. The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., New York; W. T. Wilson, 18 Livingstone Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. *Senf Brothers' Illustrated Postage Stamp Catalogue*, 1910 (*Entires*). Leipsic. *Field's Simplified Catalogue of the Stamps of the British Empire*. 4 and 5 Royal Arcade, London, W.

European rarities in envelopes, the demand is at least equal to the supply. In these days, when there is so much ephemeral rubbish put on the philatelic market, when collectors run mad on countless varieties of rubber surcharges on centenary or jubilee issues made solely for the "simple" Philatelist, or on the marginal figures on the sheets, it is a thousand pities that honest postal issues —as are envelopes and post cards—should be neglected and ignored. Everything, however, comes in time. Proofs and essays and philatelic literature are already rejuvenated, and the day will yet come for unused stamps, surcharged "specimen," and for entires!

We can confidently recommend Messrs. Senf's book as an excellent and trustworthy guide to all who appreciate envelopes and post cards.

Mr. Field's Catalogue can certainly claim high rank for "simplified" classification, as its arrangements are quite lucid, its printing and illustration being so remarkably clear as to present stamp-collecting in its most inviting and "simple" manner to the novice. This is exactly its object, and it is eminently successful herein. "Will you walk into my parlour?" says the philatelic spider, but the fly may find out that the web of Philately is much more intricate than it seems from the outside. This, however, is no detriment—we are all anxious to get fresh converts or disciples—and Mr. Field's book should be the means of introducing fresh blood in the ranks of collectors. We should add that Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole is the editor, and that this record edition contains one or two important alterations from its predecessor, viz. multiple watermarks are now (and justly) differentiated, and fiscal postals are now (deservedly) excluded.

*The Melville Handbooks.**—Three more of these delectable adjuncts to specializing lie before us, viz. *Gambia, Tonga and British New Guinea*, and *Papua*. The issues of *Gambia* are at once straightforward, interesting, and handsome, hence find many amateurs. A special feature in the present work is the attention devoted to the perforations, the explanations of which, with the autotype illustrations of the plates, clearly demonstrate the results of the use of the varying machines.

The publishers draw attention to an unusual illustration of a watermarked sheet of stamps facing page 46. This is arranged to show the watermark on examining the stamps against the light.

Considering that Tonga has only issued stamps for about twenty years, it has succeeded in providing a pretty fair lot of varieties, but despite this, and the fact that the earlier issues are not remarkable for their beauty, it has achieved a fair amount of popularity. Mr. Melville's work apparently includes much of the information that was given in the articles on this country published in the *Monthly Journal*, though this is not acknowledged. We think in works of this nature it adds to their value if a synopsis of all the authorities studied and quoted is appended.

The chapter devoted to the Queensland stamps used in New Guinea will be found to be of an interesting nature in the handbook of these stamps, and the relatively recent variations of surcharge are clearly described and excellently illustrated.

All three volumes will, like their predecessors, be found useful aids to

* *The Melville Handbooks*, 47 Strand, W.C.

specializing, and should tend to popularize the issues of the countries that they describe.

The *Stamp Collector's Annual.**—The seventh edition of this annual presents, in revised form, the epitome of the year's philatelic events. Directories and Reviews of auctions have rendered it a kind of philatelic "Whitaker." Articles of interest will further be found treating of the early Liberian stamps; the compound envelopes of Great Britain; recent issues of Venezuela; and the Earl of Crawford's Library. The "story of the year" is also again well written by Mr. Percy Bishop, and the modest shilling demanded for this annual will amply repay the purchaser.

The *Three Cent United States Stamp of 1851.*†—This little booklet of forty-four pages affords pleasing evidence of the growth of scientific knowledge in the United States, and stamps Dr. Carroll Chase as a keen Philatelist and close student of the stamps of his own country. The 3 cents of the 1851 issue is a very interesting stamp, the minor varieties of which, notably the duplicated outer lines of the engraving, had long mystified many collectors. The explanation is that, as necessitated by the enormous use of this stamp, several plates were required, and in their manipulation occurred the minor variations that have attracted the notice of specialists. Dr. Carroll's treatment of this interesting subject evinces sound scientific study, and with the aid of numerous diagrams, the several varieties and the reasons for their existence will be found clearly set out.

Zululand.‡—This handbook is reprinted from articles that have appeared in the *West End Philatelist* by Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole, whose abilities as philatelic author and compiler are now fully recognized. There are no great complications in the limited issues of Zululand, but the author has carefully collated all the information available on the subject.

* The *Stamp Collector's Annual*, 1910. C. Nissen and Co., 7 Southampton Row, London, W.C.

† The *Three Cent United States Stamp* of the issue of 1851, by Carroll Chase, M.D. Published by the Handbook Committee, American Philatelic Society, Boston, 1909.

‡ *Zululand*, by Bertram W. H. Poole. W. Field, 4 and 5 Royal Arcade, London, W.

New Issues.

NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. *those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and Jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned. Address: Mr. A. Churchill Emerson, 4 Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C.

BRITISH EMPIRE.

Australian Commonwealth. — The *Australian Philatelist* states that all the new Postage Dues, including the 20s. value, are now obtainable at the Melbourne Post Office.

Barbados.—The *Philatelic Adviser* informs us that the ½d. stamp now comes in one colour, that it has always been catalogued as green; but that the value has hitherto been inserted at a different printing, with the result that there has always been a

difference, more or less pronounced. The whole design is now printed at one time.

Adhesive.

½d., all green; multiple CA wmk.

BERMUDA.—It would appear that the 4d. stamp of the Arms type chronicled in 1906 has only lately been issued. Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have it.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA AND UGANDA.—*Smith's Monthly* reports the issue of the 2 rupees in single colour.

Adhesive.

2 rupees, violet.

GIBRALTAR.—Colour changes are announced in the *Metropolitan Philatelist.*

Adhesives.

2d., grey; multiple; ordinary.
1s., black on green; multiple; chalky.

JAMAICA.—It is reported that a supply of the 3d. and 6d. Queen's Head stamps had been sent out as follows:—

Adhesives.

3d., lilac on yellow; multiple; ordinary.
6d., purple; multiple; ordinary.

LEVANT (*British Post Offices*).—A new set of surcharged stamps has appeared, and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* lists the following:—

Adhesives.

30 paras, in black, on Great Britain 1½d. stamp; chalky.
1 piastre, 10 paras, in two lines, in black, on Great Britain 3d. stamp; chalky.
1 piastre, 30 paras, in two lines, in black, on Great Britain 4d. stamp; chalky.
2 piastres, 20 paras, in two lines, in black, on Great Britain 6d. stamp; chalky.
5 piastres, in black, on Great Britain 1s. stamp; chalky.

The 4d. stamp is the brown and green variety, and it is reported that the stock of this value was bought up at Constantinople immediately.

MALAY STATES.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* informs us that the 4 c. stamp may be found on chalk-surfaced paper.

Adhesive.

4 c., rose and black; multiple; chalky.

MALTA.—The 2½d. stamps in ultramarine have been supplied and, if we understand correctly, the 1d. has also been forwarded in a new shade.

Adhesives.

1d., rose; multiple; ordinary.
2½d., ultramarine; multiple; ordinary.

ST. VINCENT.—We gather that the 3d. value of the Peace and Justice type has been supplied in new colours.

Adhesive.

3d., purple on yellow; multiple; ordinary.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.—The new stamps lately chronicled are making their appearance, and we understand that the following have reached Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.:—

2½d., blue; multiple; ordinary.
10s., red and green on green (head in green); multiple; chalky.
20s., black and purple on red (head in purple); multiple; chalky.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—Colour changes are reported in *Smith's Monthly* on Continental authority.

Adhesives.

30 c., lilac and orange; multiple; chalky.
$2, green and carmine on yellow; multiple; chalky.

TRANSVAAL.—The 2d. stamp in *grey* is announced in *Smith's Monthly* and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* states that the 6d. value has been supplied on multiple, ordinary paper.

Adhesives.

2d., grey.
6d., orange and black; multiple; ordinary.

EUROPE.

BULGARIA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that new stamps are being engraved by Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co., and will be in exactly the same colours as the current set, but that they are not likely to be ready before next March. The following designs are given:—

1 stot., ancient Bulgarian fortress.
2 ,, portrait of King Ferdinand.
3 ,, view of the ancient capital Tirnova.
5 ,, portrait of King.
10 ,, portrait of King in naval uniform.
15 ,, railway tunnel.
25 ,, portrait of King.
30 ,, view of Varna Harbour.
50 ,, a view.
1 lev, portrait of King.
2 leva, view of Rillo Monastery.
3 ,, picture of Holy Trinity.

GREECE.—Mr. E. J. Mertzanoff writes us as follows:—

"Enclosed some particulars concerning the new Greek stamps, which will in future be made in Greece instead of in London.

"The information I have translated from an Athenian paper, and I cannot guarantee exactness as regards the shades of the values.

"The new Greek postage stamps are contracted to be manufactured in future by the chromo-lithographic firm of Aspiotti and Co., Corfu.

"According to information received, they

will be put in circulation by July next, and will be as follows:—

1 lepton, blue 3 lepta, brick 10 ,, red	Illustrated with the Hermes of Tanagra; taken from an ancient coin.
2 ,, brick 20 ,, blue 25 ,, dark blue	With Iris, the goddess of Mails; copied also from an ancient coin.

"The goddess Iris will stand between two Doric columns.

5 lepta, green 30 ,, red 50 ,, dark green	Hermes the Courier ready to execute an order.

"The above design will serve also for the postal cards.

1 dr., blue 2 ,, brick 3 ,, red 5 ,, blue	Hermes as a Carrier.

"The stamps of 50 lepta, 1, 2, 3, and 5 drachmas will be of oblong form."

LEVANT (*Austrian Post Offices*).—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports, on Continental authority, that the Postage Due set is no longer printed on chalk-surfaced paper.

Postage Dues.

Ordinary paper.

¼ piastre, yellow-green.
½ ,, ,,
1 ,, ,,
1½ piastres ,,
2 ,, ,,
5 ,, ,,
10 ,, ,,
20 ,, ,,
30 ,, ,,

Russian Post Offices.—Page 266 of *London Philatelist* reads as follows: "I have also acquired a rare error," etc. Mr. Scheindling tells us that we have omitted to mention the words "with inverted surcharge."

Error of surcharge (on the first issue without surcharge of the town).

10 para on 2 kop., green (surcharge 10 para inverted).

Mr. Albert Scheindling also tells us that the error of surcharge, "Mont Atho" instead of "Mont Athos," mentioned by us on page 267, is also contained in the sheets 2, 4, 10, 50, and 70 kop. in the same position, viz. the sixtieth stamp (tenth stamp of the lower left pane):—

Error of surcharge, "Mont Atho" instead of "Mont Athos."

10 para on 2 kop., green.
20 ,, on 4 ,, rose.
1 piastre on 10 kop., blue.
5 piastres on 50 ,, lilac and green.
7 ,, on 70 ,, brown and orange.

Under the headings "Constantinople" and "Jerusalem," page 266, 20 paras on 7 kop., rose, should read 20 paras on 4 kop., rose.

ROUMANIA.—The *Philatelic Adviser* states that the 15 bani value has been issued in the type of the 3 bani, etc., with larger head.

In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the issue is reported of a 15 bani, *greenish grey* (formerly violet).

Are there *two* new 15 bani stamps, one with larger head and the other smaller head, in a new colour?

RUSSIA.—The new 35 kop. stamp (on the paper with varnish lines) is to hand from Mr. Albert Scheindling.

Adhesive.

On safety paper (with varnish lines); perf. 14½.

35 kop., lilac and green.

SPAIN.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a 15 c. stamp of an entirely new and tasteful design. It bears a portrait of King Alfonso in medallion.

The value appears at top, and ESPANA Correos is at foot.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* lists the entire set as

Adhesives.

2 centimos, brown.
5 ,, green.
10 ,, scarlet.
15 ,, violet.
20 ,, bronze-green.
25 ,, blue.
30 ,, green.
40 ,, rose.
50 ,, blue.
1 peseta, carmine.
4 pesetas, violet.
10 ,, orange.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—We gather from various sources that the ½ c., 20 c., and 24 c. values of the current set have been issued.

Adhesives.

½ c., violet; San Martin type.
20 c., ultramarine ,,
24 c., red-brown ,,

BOLIVIA.—The forerunner of another issue, this time to commemorate the War of Independence from Spain, fought in 1810, is chronicled in *Mekeel's Weekly*.

The new stamps are stated to be smaller than the July stamps, about the size of the 1901 issue.

The portrait is contained in a circle with the name in the same colour.

"Centenarios de la Guerra de Independencia" in small letters around the upper half, "U.P.U." in each of the upper corners, and "Bolivia" and "Correos" appear in two curved lines above the portrait.

A curved line below the portrait has "14 de Septembre de 1810." The value is printed in a straight line at the bottom, thus—"20 Centavos 20."

Attention is called to an error, the inscription reading "Centenarios" instead of "Centenario," which would be the correct spelling, the plural of this word being never used. *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* adds three more values.

Adhesives.

Inscribed "Bolivia Correos—Centenario de la Guerra de Independencia 1809–1825 U.P.U." and value.

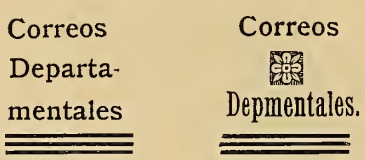
5 c., red; portrait of Pedro Domingo Murillo ("16 de Julio de 1809").
10 c., blue; Bernardo Monteagudo ("25 de Mayo de 1809").
20 c., violet; Estevan Arze ("14 de Settiembre de 1810").
50 c., olive; Antonio Jose de Sucre ("9 de Diciembre de 1824").

BRAZIL.—Information has been received by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that the Official stamps bearing the portrait of the late President Penna are to be immediately suppressed.

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—On page 247 we gave a list of Departmental or Official stamps copied from *Gibbons Weekly*.

Our contemporary now issues an amended list as follows:—

OFFICIAL STAMPS.



All overprinted with Types D 2 (*a*) *or* D 3 (*b*), *in* black.

Type 86.

703 10 p., brown on *pale salmon* (No. 394) (*a*).

No. 89 *of Tolima.*

705 1 p, brown (*a*).

Types 95 and 97.

½ c. yellow (*a*).
½ c. ,, (*b*).
1 c., yellow-green (No. 458*a*) (*a*).
1 c. ,, ,, (*b*).
2 c., carmine (No. 459*b*) (*a*).
2 c. ,, ,, (*b*).
5 c., blue (No. 460) (*a*).
5 c. ,, ,, (*b*).
5 c. ,, (No. 460*a*) (*a*).
10 c., violet (*a*).
10 c. ,, (*b*).
20 c., grey-black (*a*).
20 c. ,, (*b*).
1 p., brown (*a*).

Type 101.

i.) *Perf.* 13.

½ c., orange (*a*).
½ c. ,, (*b*).
2 c., carmine (*a*).
2 c. ,, (*b*).
5 c., blue (*a*).
5 c. ,, (*b*).

(ii.) *Perf.* 10.

½ c., orange (*a*).
½ c. ,, (*b*).
2 c., carmine (*a*).
2 c. ,, (*b*).
5 c., blue (*a*).
5 c. ,, (*b*).

(iii.) *Perf.* 13 × 10.

½ c., orange (*a*).

(iv.) *Imperf.*

½ c., orange (*a*).
2 c., carmine (*b*).

REGISTRATION STAMPS.

Type C 10.

10 c., violet (*a*).
10 c. ,, (*b*).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT STAMPS.

Type C 24.

5 c., blue (*a*).
5 c. ,, (*b*).

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC.—*Medellin.*—On page 222 we chronicled a new 50 c. stamp on the authority of *Gibbons Weekly*.

According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* there is a 20 c. value of this issue as well.

Adhesive.

20 c., green; perf. 12.

MEXICO.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, on Continental authority, gives some details respecting the Commemorative issue which is being prepared to celebrate the Centenary of Independence. The subjects to be represented will probably be:—

1 centavo, portrait of Leona Oicario, a heroine of the War of Independence.
2 centavos, portrait of Quintana Roo.
3 ,, Ignacio Rayon.
4 ,, Josfa Ortez de Dominiguez.
5 ,, Hidalgo (an old friend).
10 ,, Allende.
15 ,, Aldana.
50 c., 1, 5 pesos, historical scenes of the period.

All the stamps have been designed by local artists, but the work of engraving and printing is being done in London. The colours will be those of the current set.

NICARAGUA.—*Gibbons Weekly* reports some fiscal stamps converted into postals by the surcharge *Correo–1909*, VALE 2 ₱, etc.

Provisionals.

2 ₱ on 50 c., green; fiscal stamp; orange surcharge.
4 ₱ on 50 c., green; fiscal stamp; green surcharge.
10 ₱ on 50 c., green; fiscal stamp; black surcharge.

PANAMA.—Four values of the re-engraved set overprinted "Canal Zone" in two lines, reading *up* instead of *down*, have reached *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

Adhesives.

1 c., green and black; as above.
2 c., rose ,, ,, ,,
5 c., blue ,, ,, ,,
10 c., violet ,, ,, ,,

SALVADOR. — Other values on watermarked paper are chronicled.

Adhesives.

3 c., pale yellow and black; wmk. dots.
5 c., blue and black; wmk. dots.

OTHER COUNTRIES.

AFGHANISTAN.—Five new stamps are illustrated in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*, and possibly the 1 abasi is the stamp we chronicled on page 83.

Adhesives. Perf. 13¾.

1 abasi, blue.
2 ,, green.

Parcel Stamps.

3 chahi, brown.
1 urusun (rupie?), dark brown.
2 rupee, orange-red.

CHINA.—The 4 c. has appeared in the colour of the old 2 c., viz. a deep scarlet.—*Gibbons Weekly.*

Adhesive.

4 c., scarlet; no wmk.; perf. 14 to 16.

CUBA.—The *Metropolitan Philatelist* informs us that the new set of stamps for this island which have been expected for the past year are now definitely promised by January 1st. Each bears the portrait of a different notable.

Adhesives.

1 c., green and black; Bartolome Maso.
2 c., red and green; Maximo Gomez.
3 c., violet and blue; Ignacio Agramonte.
8 c., olive and lilac; Calisto Garcia.
10 c., orange and blue; Mayia Rodriquez.
50 c., lilac and black; Antonio Maceo.
100 c., black and orange; Carlos Roloff.

Special Delivery.

10 c., brown and green; J. Bruno Zayas.

DUTCH INDIES.—A client has shown *Gibbons Weekly* the following novelty.

Postage Due.

5 c., pale rose and black; Type 52 (Curaçao); Variety 1; perf. 12.

FRENCH SOMALI COAST.—A new set of stamps was issued on 27.11.09.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Adhesives.

1 c., red and brown	Mosque design.
2 c., violet	,,
4 c., brown and blue	,,
5 c., green and olive	,,
10 c., rose and red	,,
20 c., grey and brown	,,
25 c., blue and pale blue	Méhari design.
30 c., brown and red	,,
35 c., violet and green	,,
40 c., rose and violet	,,
45 c., brown and green	,,
50 c., red-brown and brown	,,
75 c., red and green	,,
1 f., violet and brown	Warriors design.
2 f., brown and rose	,,
5 f., violet-brown and green	,,

SIAM.—We omitted to state on page 268 that the 6 atts, surcharged 6 satang, was of the 1904 issue.

SPANISH GUINEA.—Yet another provisional is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.*

Provisional.

"Habilitado Par 0.5 CTMS," in red, on a 2 c., blue.

TCHONGKING.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. inform us that they have received the 2 francs and 10 francs to complete the 1907–8 set.

It was noticed at the time of issue that these two values were short in the set for this place.

Adhesives.

2 f., green and black; red surcharge.
10 f., violet and black ,, ,,

Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Council for the Year 1909–10.

President—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.
Vice-President—THE EARL OF CRAWFORD, K.T.
Hon. Secretary—J. A. TILLEARD.
Hon. Assistant Secretary—H. R. OLDFIELD.
Hon. Treasurer—C. E. MCNAUGHTAN.
Hon. Librarian—L. W. FULCHER.

E. D. BACON. T. WICKHAM JONES.
C. N. BIGGS. T. MAYCOCK.
M. P. CASTLE, J.P. (*Hon. Vice-President*).
T. W. HALL. F. REICHENHEIM.
L. L. R. HAUSBURG. R. B. YARDLEY.

THE second meeting of the season 1909–10 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, November 4th, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: The Earl of Crawford, M. P. Castle, T. W. Hall, Capt. A. E. Stewart, A. J. Warren, S. Chapman, Douglas Ellis, L. W. Fulcher, Franz Reichenheim, B. D. Knox, A. Leon Adutt, Rev. Dr. H. A. James, L. L. R. Hausburg, R. B. Yardley, B. Pinner, D. C. Gray, William Nordheimer, F. J. Peplow, C. McNaughtan, E. D. Bacon, J. A. Tilleard, Lance E. Hall (Associate).

The Vice-President having taken the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Alfred Bishop, proposed by the Honorary Secretary and seconded by the Honorary Assistant Secretary, was duly elected a fellow and member of the Society.

The Rev. Dr. James then gave a display

of his general collection of the stamps of the British Colonies in America, including those of the West Indies and other islands.

The collection, which contains examples of nearly all the stamps issued up to the commencement of the present reign, unused or used, and in many cases in both states, was examined with great interest by the members attending the meeting.

Nearly all the varieties in the various colonies were comprised in the display, and the following were noticeable as a few of the valuable and interesting stamps shown: British Columbia, the 5 c., imperforate (unused); British Guiana, the circular stamps, including the 4 c., yellow, on pelure paper, the 4 c. of 1856 on paper coloured through, and some uncatalogued varieties in later issues; Canada, 12 pence; Grenada, an unsevered pair of the ½d. on 1d. (orange), with the large diagonal overprint (unused); New Brunswick, the "Connell" stamp; Nevis, the 1s. on laid paper; St. Christopher, the rare one penny overprint on 2½d., used with the similar variety on the 1½d.; St. Vincent, the 1s., grey, perf. 11½ to 12; Trinidad, a fine series of the lithographed stamps; Turks Islands, the rare varieties of the 2½d., overprint, on the 1s. values, etc.

On the motion of Mr. M. P. Castle, seconded by Mr. R. B. Yardley, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Dr. James for his most interesting display.

THE third meeting of the season 1909–10 was held at 4 Southampton Row, W.C., on Thursday, November 18, 1909, at 6 p.m.

Members present: The Earl of Crawford, M. P. Castle, Capt. A. E. Stewart, C. F. Dendy Marshall, D. C. Gray, C. Stuart Dudley, L. W. Fulcher, Franz Reichenheim, J. A. Tilleard, E. B. Evans, L. L. R. Hausburg, T. W. Hall, B. D. Knox, C. E. Fagan, S. Chapman, C. McNaughtan, E. D. Bacon, Lance E. Hall (Associate).

The chair was taken by the Vice-President, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman reported that the Council had decided to accept the invitation of the Herts Society to send delegates to the forthcoming Congress in 1910, and that Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, L. W. Fulcher, and J. A. Tilleard had been named as delegates accordingly.

Major E. B. Evans then read a paper on the "Mulready" envelopes and covers, giving a complete history of the steps taken for the preparation of these interesting entires, and for their introduction for the postal service, from which it appeared that the design was prepared by the artist within two days from the receipt of instructions. A full description of the essays and proofs prepared, and of the paper used, and of the various printings of the two values, both in the envelopes and covers, was given, and the method of numbering employed was fully explained.

The paper was illustrated by Major Evans' magnificent collection, in which were shown 170 out of the 176 type numbers known to have been used for the stereotypes from which the printings were made. The essays and proofs, some of which are of the greatest rarity, were a very strong feature of the collection, which contains numerous entire sheets of the envelopes and covers in both values in addition to reconstructed sheets and parts of sheets.

The collection was examined with the greatest interest by the members attending the meeting, and on the conclusion of the display Lord Crawford moved a very cordial vote of thanks to Major Evans for his valuable paper and for the display which the Vice-President fittingly described as an "unrivalled show." The resolution was seconded by Mr. E. D. Bacon and was carried unanimously.

Birmingham Philatelic Society.

Hon. Secretary—
MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,
308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

OCT. 28.—Display, "Mauritius," Mr. B. B. Tilley.

Mr. Tilley was requested by the Committee to display this colony owing to the difficulty most members have in getting together a really good collection of the early issues.

He showed nearly all the varieties unused as well as used and well deserved the hearty vote of thanks that was accorded him.

Votes of thanks were also given to Mr. C. R. W. Andreae for periodicals, and to Messrs. J. J. Knowles, F. C. Henderson, and Mrs. Lake for donations to the Permanent Collection.

NOV. 4.—Paper, "Argentine, 1889–1909," Mr. F. T. Collier.

This was the conclusion of a series of papers that Mr. Collier has given on the stamps of Argentine, and was illustrated by his own fine collection of these stamps. The relative rarity of the varieties of perforation, the values which have only one gauge, and the shades were the cause of a very lively discussion.

NOV. 18.—Paper, "Barbados, 1870–82," Mr. C. A. Stephenson.

Messrs. H. G. Green, T. H. K. Moulder, and R. B. Sparrow were unanimously elected members.

Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg was thanked for coming to Birmingham on November 15 to show his magnificent collection of Victoria, a special meeting being hastily summoned to meet him.

Mr. C. A. Stephenson then gave his paper. The display of his superb and beautifully arranged collection gave great pleasure to the members. Every variety was shown in fine condition and in most cases by pages of unused and used copies. The varying shapes of the Stars included under "Small Stars" were illustrated by diagrams.

Our next auction will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Thursday, December 2, at 6 p.m. Catalogues can be obtained from the Hon. Sec.

Sydney Philatelic Club.

THE usual monthly meeting was held at the Sports' Club, Hunter Street, City, on Wednesday evening, October 20, at 7 p.m.

The President, Mr. A. H. Pettifer, occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance.

A letter was read from the P.M.G., which was not favourable to the suggested form of insurance to cover the loss of valuable parcels during transmission through the post.

Reference was made to the irregularity noted on S.P.C. Book 183, which had occurred during the circulation of that book in Victoria; suggestions were made in favour of the use of rubber stamps, or coupons to guard against a similar occurrence.

A "sale by tender" was held, and several lots changed hands at satisfactory prices.

Ballot for 190 then took place.

Mr. O. Blau was elected to the position on the Committee rendered vacant by the departure from the state of Mr. R. Blau.

Three new members were elected as follows: Mr. W. H. Cadogan, Mr. C. E. Woolley, and Mr. R. Selkirk.

During the evening Mr. Van Weenen had on view his collection of New Zealand varieties of watermark, perforation, and paper, in blocks and pairs in mint condition, and were much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the ordinary meeting *a special meeting* was held in accordance with the terms of a requisition lodged with the Hon. Secretary, when it was decided—

1. That commencing with November, 1909, the usual monthly meetings shall be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, vice the third Wednesday as at present.

2. And that such meetings shall commence at eight o'clock.

An interesting discussion ensued on the question of subscriptions to journals, etc.

The meeting then closed.

C. F. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

Correspondence.

POSTAGE DUES.

To the Editor of the "London Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your Editorial on these I would point out that in Holland (and perhaps elsewhere on the Continent) another use is found for these. Official letters are not sent through the post FREE of postage or at the expense of the State, but the RECEIVER has to pay, and the amount of the postage is indicated by the Postage Dues used. The stamps are not a receipt, but show what there is TO PAY . . . in Dutch, TE BETALEN . . . the delivery of the letter or document constitutes the receipt, for without the payment there will be no delivery.

Of course, the amount to be paid could be indicated by a blue pencil mark, or an Official stamp: but this latter is already in vogue in England before despatch, and it may be these indications of postage are collectable, but the existence of this system does not make it invidious to collect POSTAGE stamps. Why should it affect the question of collecting Postage Dues?

Yours faithfully,

A. J. WARREN.

[There is, of course, nothing invidious in collecting Postage Dues, and those of Holland are amongst the most interesting. We do not think, however, that the point of our argument is affected by the instance cited. —ED.]

The Market.

NOTE.—*Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately*, e.g. *the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.*

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.
Sale of 4 and 5 November, 1909.

	* Unused. £	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., blue, strip of ten, "CA" to "CJ," one creased	5	12	6
Ditto, I.R. Official, 5s., Queen,* one perf. missing	3	0	0
Great Britain, Admiralty, Type 2, 2d., mint	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 2½d., ditto	4	10	0
Belgium, 1850, "LL" in frame, 40 c., ditto	3	3	0
France, first issue, 15 c., green*	2	10	0
Hamburg, first issue, 4 sch., yellow-green	2	4	

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Hamburg, first issue, 9 sch., yellow	4	0	0
Finland, ditto, 5 k., blue, wove paper*	3	10	0
Ceylon, 4d., imperf., flaw and thinned	7	5	0
Ditto, 9d., ditto	2	0	0
Ditto, 1s. 9d., ditto, yellow-green	2	6	0
Labuan, 1880, 8 on 12 c., carmine	2	6	0
Philippines, 1 r., rosy-mauve, "Habilitado"	2	8	0
Ditto, 2 r., blue, ditto, inverted	2	10	0
British S. Africa, 1897, Waterlow print, £2, rosy-red, mint, £2 8s. and	2	14	0
Lagos, 1884–6, 2s. 6d., olive-black	2	14	0
Niger Coast, 1893, provisional, ½d., in green, fancy capitals, on 2½d., purple on blue, horizontal pair on piece, one of which is twice surcharged	2	15	0
Sierra Leone, 1893, C & CC, ½d. on 1½d., lilac, mint	2	0	0
Ditto, 1896–7, provisional, 2½d. on 1s., dull purple, horizontal strip of three, types a, b (only occurs once on sheet), and d, used on piece	2	15	0
Newfoundland, 6d., orange-vermilion	2	0	0
British Guiana, 1853, 4 c., pale blue, an unsevered horizontal pair on piece, showing the two varieties, i.e. without white line above value, and with white line above value, creased	2	17	6
Ditto, 1862, provisional, 4 c., black on blue, trefoil border (No. 18), unused, initialled, with roulettes top and bottom	8	0	0
Grenada, 1883, provisional "Postage" overprinted diagonally on half orange, an unsevered pair,* Gibbons' No. 30	3	12	6
Buenos Ayres, tres ps., yellow-green	7	15	0
Ditto, tres ps., deep green, thinning in one spot under hinge, and pinhole	5	5	0
Ditto, cuato ps., scarlet	20	0	0
Ditto, cinco ps., ochre, pinhole	14	15	0
Brazil, 1844, 600 reis, thinned	3	17	6
Colombia, 1862, 20 c., red, *postmarked*	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 peso, lilac, ditto	2	0	0
Collection: 2165	34	0	0

Sale of 18 and 19 November, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, reconstructed sheet of 240	4	12	6
Ditto, 1847–54, 10d., brown, Plate 2,* full gum	2	0	0
Ditto, 1887, 1½d., dull purple and green, 2d., green and carmine, and 2½d., purple on blue, all imperforate, mint	2	2	0
Ditto, ditto, 3d., purple on yellow, 4d., green and brown, and 5d., dull purple and blue, all imperforate, mint	2	14	0
Great Britain, 6d., purple on rose-red, 9d., dull purple and blue, and 10d., dull purple and carmine, all imperforate, mint	3	0	0
Ditto, I.R. Official, Queen's Head, 10s., blue, one corner creased	2	10	0
Gibraltar, first issue, 6d., blocks of four, mint each	2	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 1s., pair, *used*	4	12	6
Ditto, reg. envelope, 20 c., on Barbados 2d., blue*	5	0	0
Brunswick, first issue, 2 sgr., blue,* part gum	5	0	0
Ditto, 1853–6, 3 sgr. on rose,* ditto	4	10	0
Ditto, 1864, perces en arc, 2 sgr. black on blue, pair, mint	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 3 sgr., rose on white, mint	2	18	0
Würtemberg, 1858–60, 18 kr., blue,* part gum	2	6	0
Ditto, thick paper, perf. 13½, 6 k., green, mint	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 9 k., carmine, ditto	3	15	0
Naples, 1858, 50 gra., lake,* no margin at left	2	4	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, brick-red, thinned	3	7	6
Switzerland, Basle, 2½ r.,* thinned	3	15	0
Ditto, Geneva, large Eagle, 5 c., on yellow-green, strip of four,* defective	4	10	0
Ditto, Vaud, 4 c.,* cracked	5	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 5 c.*	2	12	6
Ditto, Zurich, 4 r., horizontal lines*	7	0	0
Ditto, Poste Locale, 2½ r., without frame to cross*	12	0	0
Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., vermilion,* early state, thinned and torn	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d., "Penoe," defective	3	0	0
Transvaal, 1870, thick hard paper, yellow streaky gum, 6d., ultramarine, fine roulette, strip of three, mint	2	6	0
Ditto, 1876, deep brown gum, staining the paper, 6d., deep blue, fine roulette	2	10	0
Newfoundland, 2d., scarlet-vermilion,* defective	4	12	6
United States, 1867–8, 90 c., blue, with grille, mint	2	4	0
British Guiana, 1862, 1 c., pearls, full roulettes	7	0	0
Fiji, 2d., in black, on 6 c., green, Gothic "V.R."*	5	10	0
Collections: 8103, £56; 2115 (Colonials),* £42; 659 (Queensland)	13	0	0

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 9 and 10 November, 1909.

Malta, 1861–2, no wmk., on white, ½d., brown-orange, block of six, mint.	6	10	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Malta, 1885, 4d., brown, imperf., pair, mint	6	15	0
Modena, 1852, 1 lira, black on white, with stop, *used*	3	10	0
Spain, 1862, 19 cuartos, block of fifteen, mint	2	8	0
Tuscany, 2 soldi, apparently *	4	10	0
Ditto, 9 crazie, on white *	3	15	0
Barbados, 1873, Large Star, 6d., orange-vermilion, imperf., block of four *	2	17	6
Grenada, 1886, 1d. on 1½d., orange, inverted surcharge,* soiled	2	7	6
Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red	2	12	6

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MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND CO.

Sale of 11 and 12 November, 1909.

France, 1853, 40 c, block of four, mint	2	4	0
Ditto, 1870–3, 25 c., blue, *tête-bêche* pair *	3	10	0
Great Britain, 1840, 2d., blue, strip of seven, black postmark	2	10	0
Ditto, 1884, Crowns, £1, brown,* creased	3	15	0
Ditto I.R. Official, 1884, 10s., blue	4	10	0
Ditto, Admiralty, type 2, 2d., mint	2	9	0
Roumania, 1879, 5 bani, *rose*	3	0	0
Russian Levant, 1863–6, 6 k., blue, *used*	4	7	6
Sicily, 10 gra., blue, No. 1, re-touched variety *	2	12	6
Ceylon, 2s., blue, imperf., thinned	2	10	0
Cape Woodblock, 4d., medium blue	2	10	0
British Guiana, 1852, 1 c., magenta	2	2	0
Trinidad, 1853, bluish cartridge paper, 1d., blue	5	10	0
Ditto, 1859, pin perf. 14, 1s., purple-blue	2	0	0
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., deep blue, Plate 2, on entire	3	7	6
New Zealand, 1862, Star, imperf., 1d., carmine-vermilion, pair	3	5	0
Ditto, 1864, N.Z., rouletted, 1d., ditto, with certificate	5	10	0
Queensland, 1860, imperf., 1d., carmine	2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., green	2	17	6
Ditto, 1860–1, second Star, clean cut 14 to 16, 2d., blue	2	2	0
Queensland, 1868–79, Q and Crown, 2d., blue, perf. 13 × 12, S.G. No. 82 B	3	17	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 6d., emerald-green *	2	2	0
Collection : 3000	12	0	0

Sale of 25 and 26 November, 1909.

Brunswick, 1852, 1, 2, and 3 sgr.	2	8	0
Sardinia, 1854 (April), 40 c., rose, pair on piece	2	12	6
Tuscany, 60 crazie and two other stamps on piece	13	0	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
India Service, 1866, 4 annas, purple	3	3	0
British East Africa, 1891, 1 A in MS. on 4 annas, mint	10	0	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1855–8, 1s., yellow-green, pair, one with slight tear	2	2	0
Ditto, 1861, 1d, red,* defect at corner	2	12	6
Zululand, Fiscal Postal, 5s., red and lilac, mint	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 9s., ditto*	2	15	0
Colombia, Bolivar, 1863, 10 c., green, mint	4	0	0
Mexico, 1884, 5 pesos, blue-green	3	3	0
St. Vincent, ½d. on half 6d., yellow-green, pair, mint	2	10	0
Ditto, 4d. on 1s., vermilion	6	10	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue	3	3	0
Western Australia, 6d., bronze-black	2	0	0
Ditto, 1895, C C, Half Penny on 3d., green and red surcharges, single and block of 20, mint	20	0	0

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MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND CO.

Sale of 26 October, 1909.

Bolivia, 1894, 10 c., blue, error of colour *	2	0	0
British South Africa, One Penny on 3d., mint	1	10	0
Lagos, King, single C A, 10s., ditto	6	0	0
St. Lucia, 1892, 1d. on 4d., inverted surcharge	1	5	0

Sale of 1 November, 1909.

Newfoundland, 1s., scarlet-vermilion	4	4	0

Sale of 15 and 16 November, 1909.

Cape Woodblock, 1d., red, small tear	1	6	0
Ditto, Triangulars, 1s., pale emerald, pair, mint	4	8	0
French Zanzibar, 1896, 7½ on 75 c., on piece	1	3	0
Tchong-King, 1906, 5 fcs., mint	0	18	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 fcs., ditto	1	5	0
Mong-Tseu, ditto, 5 fcs., ditto	1	1	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 fcs., ditto	1	5	0
Pack Hoi, ditto, 5 fcs., ditto	1	5	0
Kouang-Tcheou, ditto, 5 fcs., ditto	1	3	0
Ditto, ditto, 10 fcs., ditto	1	7	0
Yunnan-Fou, ditto, 5 fcs., ditto	1	2	0
Canton, ditto, 5 frs. and 10 frs., ditto	1	5	0
Great Britain, Cross, 10s., grey-green, pair, one damaged	1	14	0
Ionian Islands, orange, *used*	1	2	0
Labuan, C A sideways, 2 c., blue-green	1	14	0
Naples, ½ t., Arms.	6	6	0
Niger Coast, 10s., violet, block of four, mint	2	4	0
St. Lucia, Star, 4d., blue	1	0	0
Tasmania, 1853, 1d., blue, pair	9	15	0
Turks Island, 1873, 1s., lilac	5	10	0

MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 23 and 24 November, 1909.

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, I.R. Official, 1885, 5s., rose*	4	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s, blue, mint	5	12	6
Ditto, ditto, ditto, £1, green,* creased	7	0	0
Afghanistan, 1870–1, dotted circle, abasi, black, strip of five*	2	5	0
Ditto, ditto, plain circle, ditto, ditto, ditto	3	5	0
Dttto, 1873–4, 1 rupee, black, strip of five*	2	7	6
Ditto, 1874–5, abasi, purple, strip of four*	2	17	6
Ceylon, 1885, 24 c., purple-brown, mint	3	10	0
Ditto, another copy, perf. 12	2	18	0
India, 1854, ½ a., red, error*	8	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 1 a., red, die 3, block of ten	9	10	0
Ditto, ditto, 2 a., green, block of four*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1865, Elephant's head wmk, 8 annas, rose,* £2 2s. and	2	18	0
Ditto, 1866, 6 as., short type, mint	3	0	0
Ditto, Service, 1867–73, 6 a., 8 p., slate, ditto	3	5	0
Ditto, Chamba, Service, error, "CHMABA," 1 a., ditto	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 2 a., ditto	8	0	0
Ditto, Gwalior, 1885, red overprint, 1 r., slate, the long and short inscription, *se tenant*, mint	2	12	6
Ditto, ditto, Service, 1895–6, error "SERSIV," 4 as., mint	4	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 8 as., ditto	11	0	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, 1 r., ditto	16	0	0
Ditto, Jhind, 1886, red overprint, 1 r., ditto	2	4	0
North Borneo, 1891–2, 6 c. on 8 c., green, inverted sur.,* no gum	3	7	6
British Central Africa, 1896, £1, blue and black, mint	3	0	0
Ditto, ditto, £10, orange and black, ditto	14	0	0
Ditto, ditto, £25, green and black, ditto	28	0	0
Ditto, 1897, 3s., green, block of four, ditto	3	7	6
Ditto, ditto, £10, yellow and black, ditto	10	0	0
British South Africa, 1896, One Penny on 3d., grey*	2	12	0
Cape Triangulars, 1s., yellow-green, pairs, £2 8s., £2 15s. &	2	17	6
Ditto, Woodblocks, 1d., scarlet, cut close	2	4	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Cape Triangulars, 4d., blue	2	12	0
Ditto, 1880, "3" on 3d., dull rose, pair, one without surcharge	6	0	0
Gold Coast, 20s., green and carmine,* perf. cut short at top	5	10	0
Mauritius, 1848, Post Paid, 1d., orange on yellowish, early impression, good colour and nice margins but slightly thinned	9	5	0
Ditto, another, fine early impression on bluish, a little close at left	7	10	0
Ditto, another, medium early impression, extreme left top corner defective	4	4	0
Ditto, another, a little close at left	4	17	6
Ditto, another, worn impression, large margins, and scarcely touched by postmark	4	4	0
Ditto, 2d., blue, early impression but slightly cut into at left	7	5	0
Ditto, another, early impression, the error "PENOE," a little close and thinned	6	15	0
Ditto, another, medium early impression, lightly cancelled, a little cut into at left	4	5	0
Ditto, another, late medium impression, the error "PENOE," cut a little close	4	10	0
Ditto, another, worn impression, the error "PENOE," thinned	4	7	6
Ditto, another, worn impression, on small piece of original	3	7	6
Ditto, 1859, Large Fillet, 2d., deep blue, defective at bottom	6	0	0
Ditto, 1854–9, Britannia, imperf., 4d., black and green	2	6	0
Sierra Leone, C A, 4d., blue, mint	4	17	6
Barbados, 1d. on left half, 5s.	4	17	6
Ditto, 1d. on right half, 5s.	4	0	0
Grenada, 1875, 1s. (Shlliing), off centre	6	2	6
Ditto, 1888, 4d. on 2s., upright "D"	4	15	0
Tobago, 1879, C C, 5s., slate*	2	10	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, £1, mauve, mint	6	15	0
Ditto, 1880, ditto, 6d., stone, ditto	2	2	0
Ditto, 1884, C A., 6d., stone, mint	4	4	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, used	3	15	0
Trinidad, litho, 1d., dull blue, early	3	10	0
British Guiana, 1856, 4 c., magenta, corners cut	6	0	0
Ditto, 1862, 2 c., No. 23, roulettes cut	2	15	0
Ditto, ditto, 4 c., No. 1, part roulettes	4	15	0
Ditto, 1888–9, $4, the two varieties *se tenant*, mint	3	12	6
Queensland, wmk. Script, 2d., blue, block of four, mint	2	0	0
Collection: 2230*	150	0	0