

# PHILATELY

*from*

# AUSTRALIA



*Published Quarterly by*  
THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3

SEPTEMBER 1986

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# Philately from Australia

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	Single Insertion	Full Year Four Insertions
Covers	\$60.00	\$55.00
Full Page	\$50.00	\$45.00
Half Page	\$30.00	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$20.00	\$17.50

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# PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA

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*Official Organ of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria  
and the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club*

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Vol. XXXVIII, No. 3

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## THE PICTORIAL STAMPS OF TASMANIA 1899-1912

*The Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania 1899-1912*, by K. E. Lancaster. Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. 18 x 25.5 cm, 149 pp. Available from Stanley Gibbons Australia Pty. Ltd., Suite 412-413, 4th Floor, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, 3001. Price \$40.

The late J. R. W. Purves described the Pictorial stamps of Tasmania as the most interesting of all the post-Federation States issues. His first studies of these stamps were published in the *London Philatelist* in 1931, and his interest continued unabated until his death. Keith Lancaster collaborated with him extensively and this book is the result of those researches.

The story begins with the De La Rue London printings. There are excellent reproductions of all the original Beattie and Spurling photographs from which the designs were derived. An Appendix reproduces much of the original correspondence between the Tasmanian Agent-General in London and De La Rue.

The real "meat" of the book, however, concerns the Melbourne printings. Lithography was used for the ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d and 6d, being transfers from the London intaglio plates. There were two printing stones each for the ½d, 1d, 3d and 6d; six of the 4d; and no less than 28 for the 2d. Plating guides are presented for every one of them. An unusual plating technique is explained, making use of the position of the V over Crown watermark (which was not specially adapted from these large-size stamps). There is also a question as to whether "printing stone" is correct terminology for these stamps, with the suspicion that, while lithography was undoubtedly the method used, the medium may have been metallic.

Later printings of the ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d and 6d were from electrotypes via zinc dies derived from the intaglio De La Rue dies. There were two plates each of the ½d, 2d, 3d and 6d, and six of the 1d. Plating guides are once again provided for all of these.

In 1911 a pair of 2d stereotyped plates were prepared, with their unique production technique and types of flaws, all fully described.

All the related topics of papers, perforations, official punctures, perfins, stitch watermarks are covered, and there is an introduction to the postal stationery.

Messrs H. M. Campbell and L. C. Viney have contributed a chapter on the datestamps found on the Pictorials, always a popular field, and updating the information in *Tasmania Part II*.

As a frontispiece there is a colour plate showing the De La Rue engraved stamps. The colour reproduction is excellent and a credit to the printers. The Id also appears on the dust jacket. The use of colour and the dust jacket are two new innovations for the Society's publications. The dimensions of the book are smaller than most of the Society's other publications. The new B5 size (the same as *Philately from Australia*) is considered easier for handling and storage, and will be standard in the future unless the particular needs of a manuscript dictate otherwise.

It is the most expensive book published by the Society to date, which should surprise no one in these days of rising costs. Through the efforts of Mr Lancaster the Launceston Philatelic Society, the Tasmanian Philatelic Society, and the Tasmanian Government have made considerable donations towards the costs of publication, for which the Society is grateful. The Premier of Tasmania, the Hon. Robin Gray, has contributed the Foreword.

Keith Lancaster has produced a standard text on a difficult but fascinating subject. It is the fifth volume of the J. R. W. Purves Memorial Series, on a subject which that great philatelic student had a special interest; the result is one which we are sure he would have approved.

## STAMPEX '86

Stampex '86, the Asian Regional International Philatelic Exhibition held in Adelaide from August 4-10 was a happy and successful occasion for all those who participated or attended, although the organizers must have been disappointed with the attendance until the final weekend.

Members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria were prominent in their support of the exhibition, and were rewarded with a considerable haul of medals.

Both the Grand Prix International and Grand Prix National went to R.P.S.V. members. The former was won by Mr Marcel Stanley with his collection of inwards New Zealand mail, and the latter by Dr Donald Pearce with the Perkins Bacon issues of South Australia.

Gold medals were won by Mr M. B. Watson (Victorian Postal History) and Mr W. Roemer (Austria).

The other medals won by members comprised Large Vermeil (9), Vermeil (11), Large Silver (15), Silver (17), Silver-Bronze (13) and Bronze (4).

*Philately from Australia* was awarded a Large Silver medal plus special prize. The recently-published *Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania*, reviewed above, received a Vermeil, the highest award given in the literature class.



# The Trail



# of Commonwealth

*Conducted by* RPT CHAPMAN, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L.

## 1927 CANBERRA DIE PROOFS

One of the most important series of Australian Commonwealth progressive die proofs are five of our first commemorative stamps — the 1927 Canberra designed by Ronald Harrison.

It was entered in the competition announced by the Postmaster-General, Mr Gibson, on June 16th, 1926. The stamp was to commemorate the official opening of the first Federal Parliament in Canberra in 1927.

Ronald Harrison submitted two entries and won first prize of £100 with one of them, using the nom de plume "Neptune". Harrison was an engraver and technical adviser in the Note and Stamp Printing Branch, Melbourne.

The special board of four who were appointed to adjudicate where Mr A. J. Derrick, Chairman, representing philatelists and a member of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, Mr Bernard Hall, Director of the National Gallery, representing artists, Mr James Murray, representing the Postal Department and Mr A. J. Mullett, the stamp printer who prepared the line engraved plates.

The winning entry was sent to Waterlow & Sons, London, for the engraving of the die. It was engraved by one of the world's most famous engravers, J. A. C. Harrison, not related to Ronald Harrison, although Ronald and his father, an earlier Australian Note and Stamp Printer, had worked for Waterlow Bros. & Layton before leaving for Australia. Waterlow Bros. & Layton later became Waterlow & Sons, London.

J. A. C. Harrison engraved some magnificent British stamps, including Bertram Mackennal's high value Seahorses in 1913, and 1912/24 Mackennal Head series, the British Empire Exhibition stamp 1924, and finally the magnificent George VI series of 1939/48. The 2/6 value is regarded in some circles as one of the finest stamps of all time, designed by Edmund Dulac.

During the cutting of a die, progress proofs were taken to see the effect. These proofs were numbered by an official who entered each in a book kept for the purpose and this was frequently checked by the audit department.

The Canberra series of progressive proofs were bought from the family of the engraver by Dr Alan Huggins, a famous English philatelist, and came on the market at the Robson Lowe International Auction in Melbourne on 10th October, 1974. It mentions in the catalogue description they were engraved by the designer J. A. C. Harrison. This of course was incorrect.

There were five proofs representing four stages, 2nd-9th December, 1926. Proof 1, 2.12.26 at 4.30 numbered 11286 in carmine lake, shield and figure incomplete.

Proof 2, 6th December, 1926 at 11.20 am J.A.C.H. 2, in carmine lake, sky partially engraved, shield and figure complete. Proof 3, Dec 7/26 similar to above but sky nearer completion. Proof 4, same state as previous but in emerald green. Printers Waterlow & Son preferred this colour. Proof 5, 9th December 26. Appd (approved) the issued design in carmine lake. Undoubtedly this group is amongst our finest rarities and is possibly unique.

In 1983/84 several Canberra die proofs appeared from Sir Harry Brown's collection and are of great interest. Firstly, the die proof sent by Waterlow & Sons to Australia with the die. Two strikes from the die labelled A and B in different shades of carmine lake. B is annotated by H. P. Brown as approved. There was another proof similar to the presentation proofs given to the adjudicators. These special proofs on a large sheet of hand made paper were signed by H.P. Brown, Secretary to the Department and presented to Mr A. J. Derrick, Mr Bernard Hall, Mr James Murray and Mr A. J. Mullett. Mr Gibson, PMG, presented one to Mr Frank Russell, Broadcaster of the opening ceremonies.

It is hard to believe that the Duke of York and designer Ronald Harrison did not receive one but there are definitely only 5 listed in the Australia Post Archival records.

Two stamp size photographic essays exist taken from the large photograph made of Harrison's winning entry. One is mounted on card with the engraver's notes and the nom de plume "Neptune" blotted out from the bottom right corner. All these items are in private hands. The Australia Post Archival Collection has a number of the unsuccessful entries.

Next issue, the essays and progressive proofs and plate proofs of the 1914 One Penny typographed King George V.

## NOTES ON VICTORIAN RARITIES

By G. N. KELLOW

### 16-2d BELL DESIGN, DIE 2, IMPERFORATE HORIZONTALLY

Only one example of this error has survived. It is a used vertical strip of 3, perforated by the single line machine gauging 12, with the centre stamp imperforate at top and base. The lower stamp has been roughly torn off and rejoined. The barred numeral obliterator is difficult to decipher, but it would seem to be a number in the 700's.

This piece was first reported by Mr. W. Brettschneider in the *Victorian Philatelic Record*, November 1924, p.9. It was soon after acquired by Mr. W. Ackland (*V.P.R.*, February 1929, p.39). The Ackland collection of Victoria was acquired intact by Mr. J. R. W. Purves, and the strip was sold as Lot 266 at the fourth Purves sale (Robson Lowe, September 9th, 1981), realizing £400. It is now in a Melbourne collection.

The same stamp is catalogued imperforate all round. Copies were reported in *Stanley Gibbon's Monthly Journal* for June 1901, p.257 and August 1904, p.25, and there is a used single in the Royal collection (see Wilson, 1952, *The Royal Philatelic Collection*. p.B.Aus. 69). The variety is catalogued (and priced) as a pair, but I know of no justification for this entry. It has been in the catalogue for a long time, and was retained there by Mr. J. R. W. Purves, possibly on the basis of the Royal copy, as there is no example in his collection. Without photographs it is impossible to judge the status of single copies; they could be cut-down examples of the part-perforated error.

# The Other Side of the Picture

By G. T. WHITE, F.R.P.S.L.

## QUEENSLAND: A BRISBANE DUMB OBLITERATOR

Relative to Dr A. E. Orchard's article in *Philately from Australia*, September 1985 on the Brisbane dumb canceller "that wasn't", Mr J. W. Turnbull has turned up one, of later date, that certainly is.

The dumb obliterator is, as the illustration shows, a more or less solid black oval 23 x 17mm. It is accompanied by an octagonal Brisbane datestamp with the 'H' (for Home) index, OC 9 91. The dumb obliterator is possibly an inked impression of the handle of some canceller.

The reverse side of the postcard notifies members of The Royal Agricultural Society of a meeting on 10 October 1891.



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA: EXPRESS RAILWAY T.P.O.

Mr A. D. Presgrave of Goolwa, S.A. has sent some interesting notes relative to the Express Railway T.P.O. last dealt with in "The Other Side of the Picture" in March 1982. He writes as follows:

The Express Railway T.P.O. has intrigued me for some time, as I have covers from Port Pirie, Caltowie, Clare, Yunta and Adelaide, all bearing this backstamp.

The article proposes that "Gang 2" was used on the Terowie-Adelaide portion of the journey and indicates proof exists of this. My Clare cover also verifies this. More importantly though, I have a postcard from Adelaide addressed to Broken Hill, bearing an additional 1d stamp, and postmarked EXPRESS RAILWAY/SA/5/AP

22/99 and backstamped BROKEN HILL/NSW/AP 23/1899. That ties up those loose ends very neatly, but what of the other "gangs"?

I always found the Port Pirie cover difficult to explain until the Caltowie cover turned up. Both show "Gang 6" so it appears that this operated Port Pirie-Petersburg. This means that there must have been a return one, Petersburg-Port Pirie. Going on S.A.R. practice, and what appears to be the norm with other T.P.O. marks, it will be an odd number, either 1 or 3. This then leaves us with the other odd number and 4 for the Terowie-Broken Hill and return services. Can anyone verify this?

My contention is that the "gangs" were:

1. Petersburg-Port Pirie
2. Terowie-Adelaide (Proved)
3. Broken Hill-Terowie
4. Terowie-Broken Hill
5. Adelaide-Terowie (Proved)
6. Port Pirie-Petersburg (Proved)

Now to throw a spanner in the works! I mentioned a Yunta cover. This is postmarked YUNTA/SE 25/05 and is clearly backstamped EXPRESS RAILWAY/SA/2/SE 25/05. Sort that one out!

The question is: Did the cancellers remain static, i.e., permanently allocated to each route? Maybe the answer to the Yunta cover is that it was not posted until after the change of trains at Terowie.

#### TASMANIA: LAUNCESTON FREE C.D.S.



The LAUNCESTON/TASMANIA/FREE c.d.s. (25mm) is referred to in *Tasmania: The Postal History and Postal Markings*, in Part I on p.19, and in Part II on p.14, where it is stated that the earliest known date is 3.12.1888, and that the marking is used as a backstamp only.

Mr J. H. Harrison of Launceston has acquired recently a Tasmanian "ON PUBLIC SERVICE ONLY" card with this c.d.s. dated 7.9.1888 (a new early date) and with the impression on the front of the card. He has also seen a similar card with a c.d.s. of 28.9.1888 on the front. The card itself was issued by the Launceston Rifle Regiment under the command of Major William Martin, and gives details of the enrolled strength of the Regiment, plus Regimental Orders, together with details of parades, uniform, Orderly Room, Sergeant's Mess, recruiting, etc.

#### TASMANIA: MILITARY CAMP C.D.S.

Mr C. G. Jones of Warrane, Tas. has sent details of entires extending the usage of the MILITARY CAMP/TASMANIA c.d.s. It is recorded in *Tasmania: The Postal*

*History and Postal Markings*, Part II, p.153, that it was used at Brighton, early date 6.2.1910. It is clear that this c.d.s. was also used at Ross. Mr Jones records two postcards (H&G No. 12) from the same writer at Camp Ross, with one clearly being written in the afternoon, and both cancelled MILITARY CAMP/TASMANIA c.d.s. in violet, 7.2.1910.

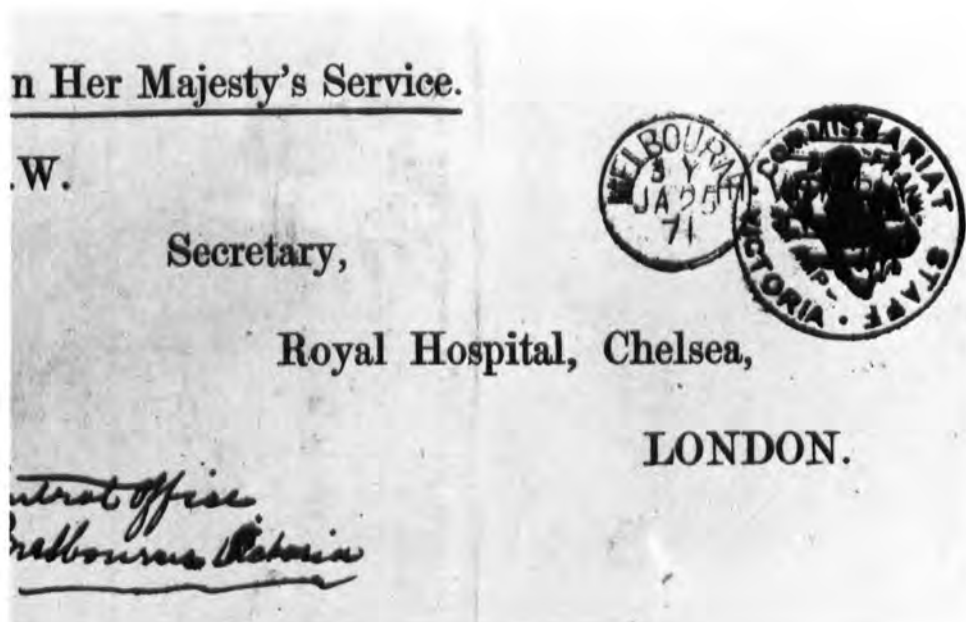
A further postcard from A.F.A. Canteen Ross (stamp removed) to Johnstone and Wilmot, Launceston shows a fragment of the same c.d.s. in blue; the postcard is dated by hand at Ross on 19.4.1911.

Two postcards from the same writer of 2.2.1910 and 3.2.1910 are cancelled with the ROSS/TASMANIA c.d.s. These would seem to define closely the date of introduction of the MILITARY CAMP/TASMANIA c.d.s. at Ross.

VICTORIA: THE COMMISSARIAT FRANK STAMP

Mr G. R. Linfield has sent us an illustration of the Commissariat Staff Frank Stamp cover that he exhibited at AUSIPEX 84. It is the only copy of the Frank Stamp known to modern collectors and the date, JA 25 71, fits with the return of the Frank Stamp to the P.M.G. in 1872. Army Records are still held at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The usage of the Commissariat Staff Frank was discussed by Phil Collas in *Philately from Australia*, December 1980, p.92.

“Officer Commanding Royal Artillery” is now the only Victorian Frank Stamp that has not been seen by modern collectors.



VICTORIA: TRAVELLING POST OFFICES

(i) *Additions to the Monographs*

Mr D. H. M. Clarke of Colac has sent the following information. The page

numbers refer to *The Travelling Post Offices and Their Markings 1865-1912*, 2nd Edition, by J. R. W. Purves (Hawthorn Press, 1979).

p.12 Railways records show that the Western District Line opened to Colac on 27.7.1877, to Camperdown on 2.7.1883, and to Warrnambool, Koroit and Port Fairy on 4.2.1890. (Centenary celebrations took place at Colac in July 1977).

p.14 The same records show that the direct Ballarat-Melbourne line opened on 17.3.1890.

p.15 Melbourne-Sydney line: the TPO 5 cover was from Avenel.

pp.20 and 44 TPO 14 early date 17.2.1886.

p.34 TPO 12 UP Type 3 late date 22.10.1898.

p.41 TPO 3 DOWN Type 1 early date 23.5.1866 (as illustrated on p.40).

TPO 3 DOWN Type 2 small duplex early date 29.10.1878.

p.43 TPO 9 DOWN Type 1 early date 12.12.1889.

p.44 TPO 13 DOWN early date 24.8.1885.

p.56 Machine Cancellations English Mail TPO Type i — 'the cards so far seen' etc. I have a card from Kuala Lumpur cancelled 2 MR 1913, backstamped Singapore 3 MR 1913, and Type 1 machine cancellation MR 4 1913. Clearly this would have been 14 or 24 MR, the first digit having failed to register or fallen out. It also indicates that this cancellation was used later than October 1912.

*(ii) The Great Southern Up Train solved*

Mr D. J. Wood has written regarding this rare abnormal cancellation:

It has been known for some time that the cancellation reading GRT STHRN UP TRAIN was used as a relief canceller on the South Gippsland Line in Victoria. There were, however, two T.P.O.'s servicing this line — Nos. 2 and 7 — and it was not known which of these was out of service in January 1906 when the relief canceller is found.

A number of years ago I had come across some references to the T.P.O.'s in the archives at Brighton, and I had photocopied the pages which related to the T.P.O.'s and the lines they serviced. I recently had occasion to look at these photocopies and realised that they also gave the days that the T.P.O.'s ran as "Ups" or "Downs". It happens that T.P.O. 2 is an "Up" on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and T.P.O. 7 is an "Up" on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. I had records of three dates of use for the GRT STHRN UP TRAIN canceller and with the use of a computer I was able to determine that they were all used when T.P.O. 7 was an "Up Train". I feel it can now be said quite definitely that the GRT STHRN UP TRAIN was a relief canceller for T.P.O. 7.

## BRISBANE DEAD LETTER OFFICE

*By H. M. CAMPBELL, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.*

When I wrote the article on the Brisbane Dead Letter Office which appeared in the March issue, I had hoped that it would be up to date at least for a little while. It was not to be, however, as even before the article appeared, I had bought a cover at one of Gary Watson's auctions which shows a previously unrecorded Dead Letter Office mark. The cover was sent from Edinburgh, Scotland to the G.P.O., Brisbane, was sent on to Dunwich, then to Gympie, and again back to the G.P.O.; at one point the letter had been opened by a gentleman of the same name as the addressee, who noted



that it was not for him, and the cover was secured again with two "Found Open and Officially Sealed" labels. On the reverse is an oval mark, 39 x 26mm, with an inner oval 30½ x 17mm, and between the ovals 'DEAD LETTER OFFICE' round the top, 'BRISBANE' at the foot, and stops at each side; in the centre is the date in one line, with the month in three letters and the year in full (-3 MAR. 1904). It is struck in blue. As the date is within the known usage period for my Type 4, and no other examples of the new mark are known, I would say that this implement was normally used for other duties in the Dead Letter Office, and for some reason, perhaps some emergency, was used for stamping this cover instead of Type 4. Let us call it Type 6.

There are one or two things in the article which need correcting. On page 7, the last word in the third-last line should read 'later', not 'letter'. Something went wrong with the captions for the illustrations at the bottom of page 8: 'Type 2' should be 'Type 1', 'Type 1' should be 'Type 3', and 'Type 3' should be 'Type 2'.

In the first paragraph on page 9, I give the impression that Brisbane's 'NOT KNOWN BY/LETTER CARRIERS' was superseded by the oval 'UNCLAIMED/BRISBANE'. This, however, is misleading, as the former remained in contemporaneous use. I have an 1899 postcard from England with both, and a 1909 postcard from New Zealand with the 'NOT KNOWN . . .' marking.

# THE CANCELLATIONS OF BALLARAT 1856-1912

By D. DAVIES, F.R.P.S.L.

I am sure I am not the only Victorian collector to have experienced difficulty in identifying the numerous duplex cancellers employed at Ballarat. The monumental work on the 'Barred Numerals' by Bill Purves described 21 different duplexes used at this office, but, unfortunately, the descriptions were by necessity kept brief. Since the book dealt with the whole field of numeral cancellations in Victoria, it was not, of course, possible to illustrate more than random examples of the various types of cancellers met in the study.

In this article I have attempted to identify and illustrate all the duplexes employed at Ballarat (30 different types have now been identified), together with other types of cancellers met during the period 1856-1912.

The illustrations and descriptive comment should negate the need for measurements; however, the illustrations are actual size should the need to take measurements arise. A word of warning though; since the illustrations are based on photocopies of original strikes, there may well be up to 1mm discrepancy between the size of the illustration and the actual cancellation.

Having tackled this project, and, to borrow a Purves-ism, got myself into the 'groove' of examining the cancellations used at large centres, other than Melbourne, the next articles will deal with Geelong and Sandhurst/Bendigo where in both cases a number of new duplexes have been identified compared with the original 'Barred Numeral' listing.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the help afforded to me by the Robson Lowe Organisation in permitting my examination of relevant portions of the Purves Collection, and also Guy Linfield who freely dismantled his comprehensive Victoria collection to enable me to take photocopies for reproduction in my articles.

## *Notes on the Tabulation*

1. Whenever possible the original Purves variety numbers are shown alongside my new listing.
2. The Purves identification notes are not normally repeated but additional pointers have been given.
3. The spelling of BALLARAT in the c.d.s.'s is, in all instances, per the aforementioned unless otherwise stated.
4. Where a c.d.s contains a fixed identification number (or letter in one case) the number is shown in column (4).
5. 'Time Code' letters seen to date in c.d.s.'s are recorded against the appropriate variety number in the 'Comments' column (5).

Var. No.	(Purves No.)	Period of Usage Earliest	Latest	No. in c.d.s.	Comments
<i>1. Barred Numeral</i>					
1/1	(1)	1856		—	Vertical bar right of '5' closer to numeral than in Var. 1/2
1/2	(2)	March '58		—	
1/3	(3)	1861	27.10.63	—	



Var. No.	(Purves No.)	Period of Earliest	Usage Latest	No. in c.d.s.	Comments	
<i>2. "Victoria" Duplex</i>						
2/1	(4/1)	22.8.61	19.10.61	'1'	'T' in 'BALLARAT' projected cuts top of 'V' in VICTORIA.	
2/2		25.9.61	19.10.61	'2'	Codes A, H, K.	
2/3		(4/2)	6.8.63	27.12.64	—	'T' projected well clear of top of 'V'. Code K.
2/4		(4/3)	7.12.63	29.10.64	—	Spelt 'BALLAARAT'. Codes A, D, E, H, K.
2/5		(4/4)	4.3.65	16.8.65	—	Larger letters in 'BALLARAT' than Var. 2/5. Codes D, F, H.
2/6	—	20.1.66	1.12.66	'3'	Smaller letters in 'BALLARAT' than Var. 2/4. Codes A, F, H.	
2/7	—	27.6.65	6.2.67	'4'	Sept. '66 — on the 'LL' in 'BALLARAT' often found strangely elongated. Codes B, D, E, F.	
<i>3. Numeral Duplex</i>						
3/1	(4a)	20.2.62	28.7.62	'1'	Lower portion of '4' often fails to print. Codes A, F, M.	
3/2		13.11.61	14.11.63	'2'	Thinner right curve to '5', 'T' projected cuts top half of 5, narrow 'R'. Codes D, K, L.	
3/3	(5)	24.12.66	20.3.71	'5'	Thicker right curve to 'S', 'T' projected well clear above '5', wider 'R'. Codes A, D, H, K, L, T.	
3/4	(6)	23.6.68	21.2.71	'6'	Small thin '5'. Codes A, H, L.	
3/5	(7)	28.11.68	2.12.72	'7'	'BALLAARAT'; Tall thin '5'. Codes A, H, K, L, T, X.	
3/6	(8)	26.9.67	2.4.68	'6'	'BALLAARAT'; Similar '5' to Var. 3/4 but longer top stroke. Codes A, K, O, T, X, Y.	
3/7	—	29.7.73	30.8.75	'7'	Seems to have had two periods of use. Codes A, D, T.	
3/8	(9)	15.2.73	5.5.75	'7'	Codes A, L, S, T.	
3/9		13.6.76	2.7.78	'6'	Codes D, K.	
3/10	(10)	?	?	'7'?	Not seen but probable No. '7' exists to pair with Var. 3/8.	
3/11		18.10.78	16.12.84	'6'	Large '5'; 'AR' spaced. Codes A, F, K.	
3/12		20.5.87	19.11.87	'6'	Similar '5' to 3/10 but lower portion narrows. Code K.	
3/13	(H)	2.5.79	30.6.83	'7'	Similar '5' to 3/10 but wider at base; 'AR' close; circle flattened above 'B' 1883. Codes A, B, D, F, K.	
3/14	(12)	-7.83	29.1.87	'7'	Small '5'. Codes A, D, K.	
3/15	—	-4.86	9.9.86	'7'	Large sloping '5'. Codes B, K (scarce).	
3/16	(13)	22.1.85		'7'	Large upright '5' centred well to right. Code B (scarce).	
3/17		20.3.88	2.12.93	'6'	Smaller ornate '5', side bars join horiz. bars top and bottom to form 'box' around '5' ('box' 15-15½mm wide). Codes A, D, K, H, X, Y, Z.	
3/18	(16)	2.7.89	6.1.94	'7'	Similar to 3/16 but slightly smaller '5' which is off-centre to right; 'box' width 17-17½mm. Codes A, B, F, H, K, L, X.	
3/19	(14)	20.1.1902	25.8.02	'2'	Codes A, K.	
3/20	(17)	9.2.94	30.8.99	'7'	Codes A, F, H, L, O, T, Y.	
3/21	(15)	10.2.94	29.10.1901	'Z'	'Z' was possibly an error by the letter cutter for '7'. Codes A, D, F, H, K, O, T (A, F, H and O seen sideways).	
3/22	(18)	5.7.1900	2.7.01	'7'	Codes S, T.	
3/23	(19)	27.2.02	10.10.04	'1'	Double circle c.d.s. Time 10.40am.	
3/24	(20)	18.11.04	8.1.10	'1'	Double circle c.d.s. Times 6.30pm, 11.00pm (smaller canceller than 3/23).	
		8.7.05	-8.10	'2'	Double circle c.d.s. Times 6.30pm, 11.00pm, 3.30pm.	

Var. No.	(Purves No.)	Period of Usage Earliest	Usage Latest	No. in c.d.s.	Comments
<i>4. C.d.s. (Commonwealth type)</i>					
4/1	—	22.9.11	1913	'1'	
4/2	—	22.12.11	28.2.12	'2'	
<i>5. Machine cancellers</i>					
5/1	—	23.6.11	1912		Continuous impression.
5/2	—	2.5.12			Continuous impression.
<i>6. Backstamps used as cancellers (mainly 'Registered' mail)</i>					
6/1		11.7.88	16.10.95	'7'	Normally without code letter but '7A' seen 4.3.89; wide spaced lettering.
6/2		4.4.96		'7'	Smaller, closer lettering.
6/3		11.10.97	24.12.1900		Normally without c.d.s. number but '7' seen 24.12.1900 under left of 'R'; smaller lettering than 6/2.
6/4		7.6.98	14.1.1905	'7'	Similar lettering to 6/2 but more spaced.
<i>7. Forgery</i>					
7/1		8.2.85		'5'	From 'proof' in Purves collection. Note: " <i>The Victorian Philatelic Record</i> " of 1926, in an article on the history of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, records that in 1894 a member was asked to resign for cleaning off pen markings from high value fiscal stamps and obliterating them with forged postmarks. The committee confiscated the obliterator dies and sent impressions of the forgeries to London, Sydney and Germany. This item, which was on card accompanied by a forged unframed 'BROOKLYN' c.d.s., probably originated from this source.

1. BARRED NUMERALS



1/1



1/2



1/3

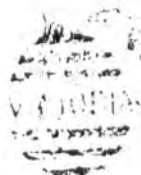
2. "VICTORIA" DUPLEXES



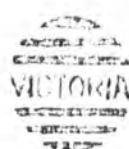
2/1

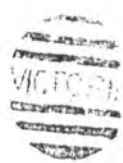
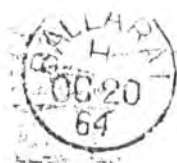


2/2

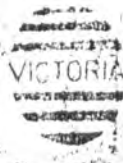


2/3

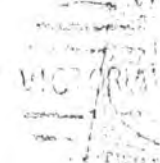




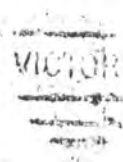
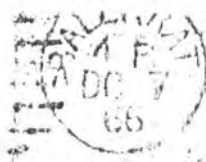
2/4



2/5



2/6



2/7

3. NUMERAL DUPLEXES



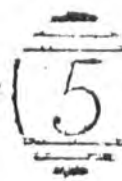
3/1



3/2



3/3



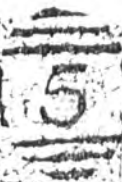
3/4



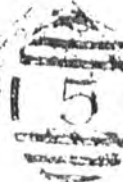
3/5



3/6



3/7



3/8



3/10



3/11



3/12



3/13



3/14



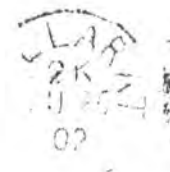
3/15



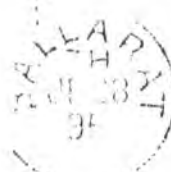
3/16



3/17



3/18



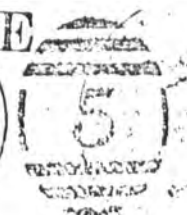
3/19



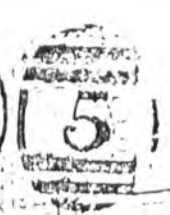
SERVICE



3/20



3/21



3/22



3/23





3/24

4. COMMONWEALTH TYPE C.D.S.

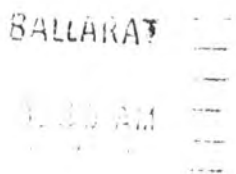
5. MACHINE CANCELLERS



4/1



4/2



5/1



5/2

6. BACKSTAMPS USED AS CANCELLERS



6/1



6/2



6/3



6/4

7. FORGERY



# QUEENSLAND: THE PATRIOTIC FUND STAMPS 1900

By C. DE GOEDE

*(Continued from June 1986, p. 39)*

In his "Fragments" Sam Dalby stated that the numbers printed amounted to 6,500 of the 1d and 4,020 of the 2d. These figures have been widely accepted and are quoted in the handbooks. However, I have not been able to locate any records mentioning these figures and in this instance his source was certainly incorrect. In fact, as we shall see later, the official records indicate that the number printed was actually close to the intended 40,000 for the 1d and 20,000 for the 2d. Possibly Dalby's figures refer to the first batch printed, with further supplies being produced subsequently. Dalby mentions in his article (1914) that he recently applied to the Deputy Postmaster-General in Brisbane for the quantities sold of each denomination and received the reply that "it is regretted the information is not available". He also states that up to the 15th of January, 1901 there had been sold stamps to the value of £237. From this he inferred that the quantities sold amounted to about 4,000 at sixpence, and about 3,000 at one shilling.

From my research it appears that the £237 sales figure possibly related to sales at the Brisbane General Post Office only, and that final sales were significantly higher. Although I have not been able to find any official sales data for the stamps, a valuable clue lies in the amount paid to the Patriotic Fund by the Post Office when the account was closed. To give the correct sequence of events, I should mention here that the Under Secretary of the Queensland Post and Telegraph Department advised the Secretary of the Queensland Patriotic Fund at the beginning of November 1900 "that the special issue of Patriotic Fund stamps are to be withdrawn at the end of November, and that the account will be closed on 31st December 1900" (minutes of the Q.P.F. Executive Committee meeting held Monday, Nov. 5, 1900, Correspondence Received). However, it appears that the Q.P.F. Executive prevailed upon the Postmaster General to extend the sale period, as the stamps remained on sale. Federation and the consequent transfer of the Queensland Post and Telegraph Department to the Commonwealth became effective on January 1, 1901, and the account with all moneys in it was transferred to the Commonwealth.

Nothing significant happened over the next eighteen months, with the stamps remaining on sale and meeting a very limited demand. However, by the end of June 1902 the transfer of the State postal organisations to the Commonwealth had been well and truly accomplished, and administrators started to give some attention to minor details and problems. One of these in Queensland was the Patriotic Fund issue, and on July 15, 1902 the Deputy Postmaster-General for Queensland, Mr Guy H. Buzzacott, wrote a memorandum to the Secretary, Postmaster General's Department, Melbourne as follows:

Commonwealth of Australia  
State of Queensland

Postmaster General's Department

Brisbane, 15th July 1902

## PATRIOTIC STAMPS

These stamps have been available to the public for over two years, but only £255 worth has been purchased, and 35,000 at 6d and 15,760 at 1/- remain unsold.

The stamps are still for sale, and the amount received so far has been placed to suspense account in the Queensland National Bank.

I recommend that the account may now be closed, and the remaining stamps be destroyed in the presence of an Audit Inspector.

I may add that 60 of each denomination have been treated as Specimens.

signed: Guy H. Buzzacott  
Deputy Postmaster General

Referred to the Secretary,  
Postmaster General's Department, Melbourne

This memorandum was received in Melbourne and endorsed as follows:

1. In first instance ask Brisbane by circ. for the papers in connection with opening of the a/c referred to
2. Recommend accordingly. Specimen sheets (2) of each, lightly postmarked, to be sent to this office
3. Memo to Brisbane 29/7/02

Although I have not been able to find an actual date of withdrawal, we may assume from the above that the stamps were withdrawn and the account closed some time in August 1902. Dalby and others reported that unsold remainders of the stamps were burned, and this probably took place about the same time. Having the above information gives us some guide as to the quantities actually printed and sold.

It was only at the Q.P.F. Executive Committee meeting of Monday, Nov. 3, 1902, that the Secretary could record in the minutes under Correspondence Received that he had "received a letter from the Deputy Postmaster General, Commonwealth of Australia, forwarding a cheque for £243.7.3, being the net proceeds of the sale of postage stamps specially issued in aid of the Queensland Patriotic Fund". This figure now gives us a better idea of the quantities sold. Dalby's view that sales of the 1d were larger than those of the 2d was no doubt correct. This leaves us to make some simple calculations.

If we take 2d sales at 3,600, the net proceeds from the sale of these stamps would have been 3,600 times ten pence, which equals £150. This leaves £93.7.3 as the net proceeds from the 1d stamps. On the basis of a net benefit of five pence per stamp, this latter figure represents the net proceeds of 4,481 1d stamps. Taking comparative rarity into account, these sales figures seem to balance reasonably well, and they also fit in with the remainders quoted in the 15 July 1902 memorandum to Melbourne. Obviously, when it became known the stamps were to be withdrawn additional sales were made to increase the total revenue above the £255 quoted. To sum up, nearly 40,000 of the 1d and 20,000 of the 2d were printed, of which 4,481 of the 1d and 3,600 of the 2d were sold at a price of 6 pence and 1/- respectively.

The above resume shows that Queensland's first and only venture into a charity issue was somewhat of a comedy of errors! Small wonder the issue was ignored by collectors and the trade for many years. In fact, Stanley Gibbons refused to catalogue them until 1928! However, our friend Samuel Dalby was perceptive as ever when he concluded his article in 1914 with the following sentence: "The two examples have hitherto been eschewed by collectors of Queensland stamps, but as they are the only commemoratives of this Colony, it is more likely that in the future a collection will be deemed incomplete without them." And that is certainly the situation today. It is to be hoped that now the full facts are known about the stamps, cataloguers will correct the erroneous information they have given for so many years.

Unexpectedly, my research into the history of the Queensland Patriotic Fund issue yielded an additional bonus! As a long-time collector of Queensland I have always

been amazed by the amount of proofs, colour trials and progressive matrix trials, even of unissued stamps, in the hands of philatelists. When discussing this with other philatelists I was always told this material "was stolen from the files". To me such an easy explanation was not acceptable, as the sheer number of items made this unlikely. Admittedly, some of this kind of material related to early printings which came on to the market from the estate of Wm. Knight, head of the Lithographic Office. But what about the later material handled by the Government Printing Office, which no doubt was much more security conscious?

An entry in the minutes of the Q.P.F. Exec. Committee meetings seems to bring a solution to this vexing question. The minutes for the meeting of Monday, October 6, 1902, record under Correspondence Received the following item: "From Auditor General, Commonwealth of Australia. Letter advising that the Auditor General, Commonwealth of Australia, by direction of the Postmaster General, has authorised the sum of £255, realised by the sale of old Qld. postage stamps, to be transferred from the Queensland National Bank to the Trustees of the Queensland Patriotic Fund." The Fund's Receipts and Expenditure Statement for calendar year 1902 shows the amount of £243.7.3 as a separate item under "Sale of Patriotic Stamps". There is no such entry for the amount of £255, and consequently it may be assumed it was included under the heading "Donations Received".

Today we can only hazard a guess as to what stamps and other material were involved. It has, however, a number of implications, not the least of which is the source of the 6d with value in lower corners only. It is significant that these appeared in 1902, which was the year the above sale took place! I have not been able to find any reference to an undertaking by the Queensland Post and Telegraph Department to donate proceeds of a sale of old stamps to the Patriotic Fund, nor that the Post Office planned to sell any old stock it still had on hand. Did our Hon. J. G. Drake come into the picture and direct that stamps and related material left from the State administration period be sold for the benefit of the Q.P.F., particularly since the special issue had not been a great success? Were the files culled at the time of transfer to the Commonwealth and did someone in authority think it useful to make the material available to philatelists? How was the material sold and to whom?

I doubt we will ever find the answers to these questions at this late stage. From the amount realised it is clear that a considerable volume of material was involved. It is for this reason I now venture to suggest that this sale was the source of much of the "file material" in existence, and that it was not just a lot of old stamps, but included trials and proofs submitted to the Post Office for comment and approval. There is little doubt it included a sheet or part sheet of the 6 Pence value in lower corners only. In any event, if my analysis of this information is correct, it would prove that the public servants of the day were more honest than some of my fellow collectors have given them credit for in the past!



# VICTORIA: THE DE LA RUE AND SAUNDERS SINGLE-LINE NUMERAL WATERMARKED PAPER

## THE HILL AND RUNDELL EXTRACTS

By G. N. KELLOW

(Continued from June 1986, p. 49)

### THE FIFTH CONSIGNMENT (FROM DE LA RUE, FOR 1, 2, 4 AND 8 WHITE PAPER, AND 1 BLUE PAPER)

This, De La Rue's last consignment of single-line numeral paper, is clothed in mystery. Practically no correspondence at all appears in Rundell's extracts concerning this order. In his published account (*A.S.J.*, April 1934, p. 58) he lists the 1d, 2d and 4d paper only, attributing it to the purchase of surplus stock manufactured by De La Rue.

David Hill must have seen sources not available to Rundell, for the extracts he made indicate the existence and exact quantities of this consignment. Hill prepared a list showing the annual quantities of paper taken into stock. Considering the figures for 1865, and deducting the quantities of the sixth consignment (q.v.) known to have been received that year, the difference must be this missing order:

Paper	Total quantity received	Quantity of 6th consignment	Difference
1	49,250	25,000	24,250
2	9,500	—	9,500
4	49,500	40,000	9,500
6	25,000	25,000	—
8	1,750	—	1,750
10	10,000	10,000	—
1 blue	5,500	5,000	500
2 green	5,000	5,000	—

Rundell missed the 8d and 1/- paper because Hill in his published account (*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*, June 1894, p. 160) did not give the total quantities received of these two papers.

The deductions from Hill's figures are corroborated by the invoice published in 1958 in *The De La Rue History*. This invoice is dated 30.11.1864 and removes any doubt as to the identity of this consignment:

	Two Cases tin lined	£1. 5. 0
24,250 Sheets Watermark	1d White	
9,500 Sheets Watermark	2d White	
9,500 Sheets Watermark	4d White	
1,750 Sheets Watermark	8d White	
500 Sheets Watermark	1/- Blue	
	at per Mil 38/-	£86. 9. 0.
<u>45,500</u>		<u>£ 87. 14. 0.</u>

Rundell has a note of a payment to De La Rue on 9.12.1864 of £87.14.0 for stamp paper, and undoubtedly refers to the above invoice. The paper was probably shipped on the *Ceylon* which left Southampton on 20.12.1864, connecting with the *Northam* and arriving in Melbourne on 11.2.1865.

There is no documentary evidence to determine whether this consignment was sent in response to a specific requisition, or was, as Rundell described it, the purchase of surplus paper. It is certain, however, that the 500 sheets of 1/- paper was not the quantity missing from the previous consignment (q.v.). The previous invoice was definitely in error and 5,000 sheets were supplied — these 500 sheets are an additional quantity, be they surplus or a freshly manufactured supply.

#### THE SIXTH CONSIGNMENT (FROM SAUNDERS, FOR 1, 4 and 6 WHITE PAPER, 10 PINK PAPER, 1 BLUE PAPER AND 2 GREEN PAPER)

The sending of this order to T. H. Saunders was a mistake, pure and simple. Exactly whose fault it was is not clear from the records, although it would not appear to have been the P.O.'s. All the P.O. correspondence appears to assume the order was going to De La Rue, although there is never any specific statement to that effect. The error was probably made in the Treasury when transmitting the order to England, or by the Colonial Agents-General in London when they received it.

The first mention of this, the last order for single-line numeral watermarked paper, is a memorandum from Mr F. W. Robinson, the Stamp Printer, to William Turner, on 6.2.1865:

The stock of stamp paper is getting very low. Of the two leading kinds — 1d and 4d — there now only remain about 12,000 sheets, less than 3 months supply. We have, it is true, the Tasmanian paper of these two kinds in case of an emergency, but it will be a pity if that objectionable article should be again brought into use. I believe that in September last an enquiry was made in the Accountants' Branch as to the requirements under this head, and I believe that a statement was furnished by Mr Atkinson as to the length of time the paper on hand would hold out; if, however, the order for paper has been delayed in consequence of the calculations made in that statement, we may be placed in a very awkward position, as the earliest date of our wants was presumed to be thirteen months from the end of last September. Shall we not require watermarked paper for the proposed ten penny stamp?

Turner asked the Inspector of Stamps, Mr J. H. Gibbs, to set out the requirements. He replied on 16.2.1865:

The following is a list of the quantities of watermarked paper required for a full twelve months consumption.

	In Stock	No. of sheets required
40,000 sheets 1d	8,000	32,000
20,000 sheets 2d	41,500	—
1,000 sheets 3d	2,000	—
45,000 sheets 4d	6,750	38,250
15,000 sheets 6d	11,250	13,250
10,000 sheets 8d	13,500	—
5,000 sheets 10d	—	5,000
5,000 sheets 1/-	5,000	—
5,000 sheets 2/-	4,800	200

The 10d paper to be very pale pink or drab. A new Dandy Roller will be required for this paper, price £68.10.0. Should it be found necessary to send for 3d paper I don't think they will make less than 5000. A new Dandy Roller is also required for this.

Mr Gibb's recommendations were accepted and on 21.3.1865 Turner despatched an order to the Treasurer:

I have the honour to forward the accompanying list showing the quantity of Postage Stamp paper required for the use of this Department to complete one Years' supply, together with the samples of each kind of paper (excepting that required for the 10d stamp) and I am directed to request that you will be so good as to cause the necessary steps to be taken for the paper in question to be ordered from England through the Col. Agent-General by the present months' mail.

Postage Stamp Paper required to complete one years' supply.

25,000 sheets 1d watermark white  
 40,000 sheets 4d watermark white  
 25,000 sheets 6d watermark white  
 10,000 sheets 10d watermark pale pink  
 5,000 sheets 1/- watermark blue  
 5,000 sheets 2/- watermark green

The blue and green (1/- and 2/-) paper will be made from the 1d and 2d Dandy Rollers.  
 For the pink (10d) a new Dandy Roller will be required for the watermark 10.

The order was sent by the Treasurer on 25.3.1865.

The next letter on record is one from T. H. Saunders to the Colonial Agents-General in London dated 18.7.1865:

Gentlemen, I beg to hand you herewith invoice and samples of Victoria Postage Stamp Papers made in accordance with your esteemed favour of the 30th May. I also beg to hand you a sample of hand-made paper (which I consider more suitable for the purpose) as requested in your favour of June 1st. The price of this quality made off the moulds which I supplied in February 1860 would be 35/- per 1000 sheets.

I have the following samples of Stamp Papers which I respectfully offer at the prices tendered, viz.:

2,500 Sheets 1d at 14/6 per 1000  
 1,792 Sheets 10d at 20/- per 1000  
 2,840 Sheets 1/- at 20/- per 1000  
 780 Sheets 2/- at 20/- per 1000

(Sgd) T. H. Saunders.

The enclosed invoice was as follows:

25,000 sheets P.S. paper 1d white at 14/6	18. 2. 6.
40,000 sheets P.S. paper 4d white at 14/6	29. 0. 0.
25,000 sheets P.S. paper 6d white at 14/6	18. 2. 6.
10,000 sheets P.S. paper 10d pink at 20/-	10. 0. 0.
5,000 sheets P.S. paper 1/- blue at 20/-	5. 0. 0.
5,000 sheets P.S. paper 2/- green at 20/-	5. 0. 0.
Charges packing etc.	1.17. 6.
Freight, etc.	3.17. 5.
Dandy Roller for watermark 10	15. 0. 0.
	<hr/>
	£105.19.11.

The paper was shipped on the *True Briton* on or about 24.7.1865, and was put into stock at the G.P.O. Melbourne on 27.10.1865. It will be noticed from the invoice that De La Rue's dandy rollers were used, since Victoria was charged only for the 10d one.

Mr F. W. Robinson seems to have been the first person to have noticed the change of manufacturer, and on 23.11.1865 wrote to the Deputy P.M.G. on the subject:

Although no reason is assigned in the correspondence for the change, it appears that the Agent-General has given the last order for postage stamp paper to Mr T. H. Saunders, instead of Messrs De La Rue & Co., from whom our supplies have been obtained for several years. The paper sent to this order by "True Briton", and now in the storeroom is evidently of a very different character to that which was supplied by Mr Saunders when we first adopted the use of special watermarked paper, and which was so ill adapted for our purpose that a change of contractor was effected to the relief of all concerned. But it is impossible to say what are the actual merits of the new paper until it has gone through all the processes of stamp manufacture. If it stands the test throughout, its permanent use would effect a saving of at least one hundred pounds per annum in this one item.

This great fact furnishes an answer to the offer, accompanied by a sample, of another kind of paper which Mr Saunders recommends, but which is more than double the price of that just supplied.

Perhaps you will direct the immediate issue of the paper in question from the store.

Let the paper be issued at once. What reply respecting purchase of surplus paper. WT 24/11/65

Noted as to issue JPA(tkinson) 27/11/65

Robinson sent a memo in reply to Turner's question on 25.11.1865:

I made no reference to the surplus paper because if the paper now arrived should be found suitable for our purpose, it seemed probable that a further order would be sent to Mr Saunders for more of the

same kind. The surplus paper is evidently a balance produced in manufacturing a given number of sheets, and it is apparently offered under the assumption that no more would be required. The quantity in question, 7912 sheets, would only cost a few pounds, but whether it would be desirable to purchase it depends on a trial of that now to hand.

There will necessarily be a balance on hand upon every occasion when Mr Saunders receives an order — I have shown the above minute to Mr Atkinson.

Let me know if paper is suitable, as if so the surplus may be purchased. WT 25/11/65

Robinson soon completed his experiments on Saunders' stock, and he reported the results on 29.11.1865:

Some of the new paper having gone through the stages of printing, gumming and perforation, I am now in a position to give a decided opinion as to its merits.

As far as the printing is concerned, the paper would answer well enough, indeed almost as well as that supplied by Messrs De La Rue & Co. at more than double the price; but after the sheets have been gummed they are so brittle that we are compelled to reduce the number of sheets perforated at one time from about five to three, which is a great loss of time, and would consequently increase our difficulties if we had no other kind in stock. It is therefore unadvisable to order more of the same kind, even the small balance referred to in the correspondence.

Mr Saunders sends a sample of paper which he recommends as "more suitable", but he suggests the use of the mould formerly used, giving the value of the stamp in words, as "four pence". This paper is less by 3/- per 1000 sheets than that supplied by De La Rue & Co., but these watermarks in words used to be too conspicuous, and therefore if a more simple uniform watermark were adopted paper like the sample sent would answer every purpose.

But is the quality what is required. WT 30/11/65

Yes, if the watermark is altered as suggested. It is possible that in the process of manufacture the necessary watermark could be subdued so as not to be seen through the stamps in their finished state if instructions were sent with the order to that effect. FWR 1/12/65

Forwarded to Mr Atkinson. WT 1/12/65

Act in favour of W. H. Hall Esq. for account of Mr Saunders' a/c with freight etc. ( 105.19.11) passed to the Treasury this day. JPA 11/1/66

Although Robinson considered Saunders' sample sheet satisfactory for stamp printing (as long as the problem with the watermark was solved) the matter was not followed up, and Saunders never supplied the Victorian Post Office with any further postage stamp paper. The sample sheet was attached to the correspondence file which Rundell saw, and he removed part of it and attached it to his extracts. It is a thin, almost semi-pelure, hard paper, and shows no watermark.

*(to be continued)*

## BOOK REVIEW

*Frama Australia*, by K. Sparks. Published by Richard C. Peck, P.O. Box C323, Clarence St., N.S.W. 2000. 21 x 30cm. 53pp. Price, \$10 plus postage.

There can be no argument that at the moment, in Australia at least, the use of frama labels is almost exclusively philatelic, but who can say what their future role in the postal service will be?

Since the introduction of frama machines into Australia in early 1984, this field seems to have succeeded that of pre-stamped envelopes as that of most current research, and perhaps coupled with that, of most intense speculation.

It is interesting to note that due to some ambiguity, Australia Post recently had the Federal

laws changed such that, according to law, frama labels are defined as postage stamps. This would seem to confirm the opinions of both collectors and catalogue editors alike.

This latest publication from the Richard Peck stable by Ken Sparks does an excellent job of recording contemporary postal history, and would seem to cover every aspect. There is an interesting chapter on the mechanics of the machines, then follows a detailed description of the various types of labels produced so far, and all their variations.

Australia Post have co-operated by making their archives available, and there are illustrations of a number of essays.

# A RARE FRANK STAMP OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

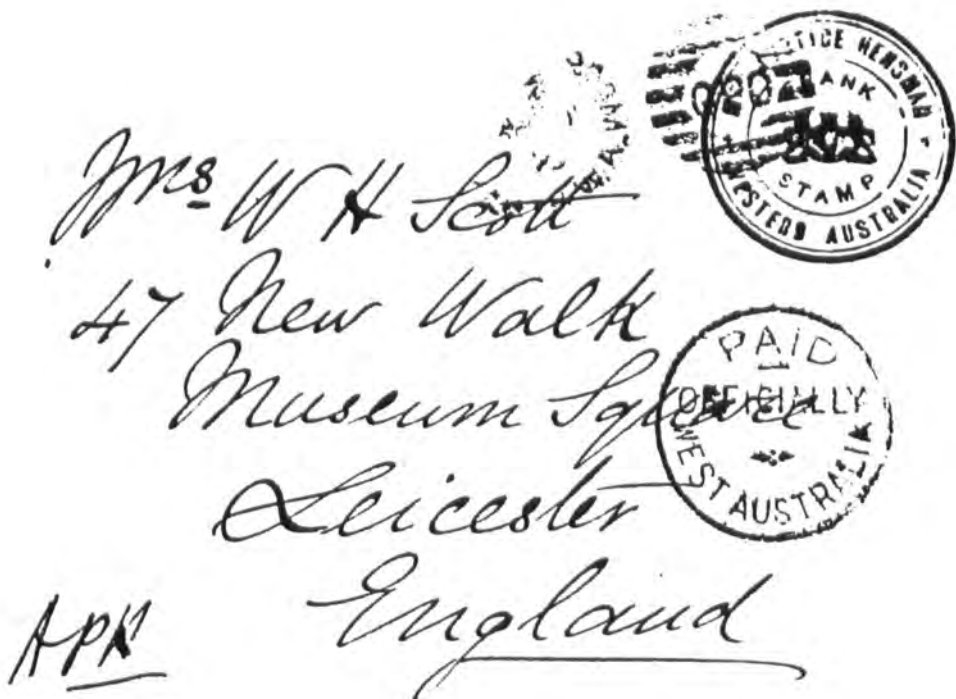
By L. C. VINEY, F.R.P.S.L.

The writer has been able to examine an example of the rare Western Australia MR. JUSTICE HENMAN Frank Stamp which was discovered among a small quantity of nondescript items at the back of an old album. Permission was obtained to photocopy the cover.

The Frank Stamp struck in violet is on entire envelope addressed to Leicester, England. The initials of Mr Justice Henman, 'APH', are in the lower left corner to indicate correct use of the franking.

The Frank is cancelled with the duplex designated Type G.2 in *Western Australia — The Stamps and Postal History* (W.A. Study Group 1979). Unfortunately the name and date portion of the duplex has not been fully struck but '.....ROOM.....H.W.A.' is visible and the year is '99'. The framed circular 'PAID OFFICIALLY WESTERN AUSTRALIA' is struck in black on the front as well. The envelope is backstamped Leicester 29 AP 99.

The sealing flap of the envelope has the Western Australian coat-of-arms embossed thereon, with 'WESTERN AUSTRALIA' in a ribbon scroll underneath.



The handbook states that only one example of this Frank was known. It is understood that it is held in the United Kingdom. It is hoped that this example will remain in Australia, finding its way into the possession of a local collector.

I acknowledge with thanks the assistance of Miss E. Morrisby of Sandy Bay Stamp Sales, and Mr R. Todd of Perth.

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

### *Victorian Postage Dues*

At the meeting on September 19th, 1985, Mr D. H. M. Clarke gave a display of Victorian postage due stamps and markings.

Various examples of deficiency markings used before the introduction of postage dues were shown. An early cover was one of 1866 from Cork with MORE TO PAY 1/-

A wide selection of the stamps were shown, including multiples, and the ½d wmk. Crown A compound perf. 12½ and 11. Among the covers bearing postage dues was a remarkable 1891 one from Florence with 25c stamp, deficient 35c and therefore taxed 1/7 and bearing 1d, 6d and 1/- dues. A Returned More to Pay letter of 1893 contained twelve insufficiently stamped letters and the total due was indicated by the use of a 2/- postage due.

The various cancellations on postage dues were well represented, with LC (letter carrier) types, Private Box Room, unframed types, and the "wheel" cancellation.

A Boer War cover (to Mr Clarke's grandmother) was marked "On Active Service" but nevertheless taxed 1d at Hawthorn.

The display concluded with some scarcer T.P.O. and Seapost items.

### *Australia King George V Die 1*

The display at the meeting of 15th May was the Australian Commonwealth 2d King George V Die 1 by Dr R. F. Parsons.

Dr Parsons concentrated on Electros 1, 2 and 8, used for printings in both orange and red.

One orange stamp was postmarked 4 October, 1920, the earliest date so far recorded.

The plating study was helped by enlarged illustrations showing the various flaws. A number of examples of cracked electros were shown, and examples of the substitution which affected the lower row of one electro printed in red.

### *Postal History of New Guinea*

A display of New Guinea was given by Mr M. T. Bulley at the meeting on May 29th.

An outstanding selection from the German period included covers from Matupi (1898), Stephensort (1898) and a postcard from Herbertshohe (1901).

A German stampless postcard used by a member of the occupation force on 28.9.1914 was taxed 1d on arrival.

From the early occupation period the use of Kangaroos punctured OS was demonstrated by covers from Rabaul, Simpsonhafen, Madang, Manus and Friedrich Wilhelmshafen, and included the 4d and 5d stamps.

Among the N.W.P.I. overprints was a cover with a provisional Kokopo registration label (on Deulon).

An extensive range of later postmarks to 1940 included many covers and scarcer types, and the display was finished with a selection of air mail covers.

### *Annual Competition*

The annual competition on June 19th attracted only three entries.

Mr P. Jaffe won the Society's bronze medal for his display of the Perkins Bacon types of South Australia. Included were large blocks of plate proofs in black and in colour, and examples of the 1855 London prints with the Rowland Hill CANCELLED obliteration. The later issues included a special study of the 3d on 4d surcharge, and included a used copy of the great rarity with surcharge omitted.

Mr J. M. Lancaster entered a display of the first (1883) issue of Siam. It included plate proofs, Waterlow & Sons Ltd. specimen stamps, multiples of the issued stamps, and covers.

Mr G. J. Weeks entered the Barred Numeral 1 cancellations of Melbourne. Stamps, including covers, were shown cancelled with the various types, and a special study was made of the various "K" types with both thick and thin "1".

### *Annual Report*

The President, Mr L. W. Buchanan, said the year had been one of mixed fortunes for the Society.

Mr Buchanan reported that eleven new members had been elected. Resignations, removals, and the deaths of two members, Miss Helen Serjeant White (a Life Member) and Mr W. Walker, totalled ten, resulting in a nett gain of one, and a total membership of 271. On the recommendation of the finance sub-committee, the Council had decided there was no option but to raise the annual subscription by \$10, making the fee for City Members \$40, and that for country, interstate and overseas members \$35. The joining fee had also been raised to \$50.

"The Society has for many years played an important part in Australian and international philately", Mr Buchanan said. "We do enjoy the unique position of being the only society which has a direct representation on a State Philatelic Council. My own personal feelings are that we should work at strengthening our position in this area, without sacrificing any of our individuality or hard-won privileges."

At the suggestion of a member, name badges have been supplied to all members, and were the donation of Mr John Trowbridge.

Mr Buchanan spoke of the major philatelic talking point of the year, the proposed archival auctions by Australia Post. The matter had caused the Council a great deal of worry, and there had been much debate amongst members. He urged that members should remember that the interests of the Society should take precedence over those of any individual member.

The President congratulated all those who had won medals at exhibitions during the year, and thanked all office bearers and other members of Council for their support.

#### *Treasurer*

The Treasurer, Mr J. MacDonnell, being overseas, his report was read by the Vice-President, Mr T. Carter.

He reported that expenditure items generally reflect the increases to be expected in the current economic climate. Maintenance of 6 Avoca Street did not come cheaply, and current maintenance projects are estimated to cost \$8000. During the year the Society had made donations to the R.P.S.L. Building Fund, and had donated a prize for Stampex 86.

Current investments stood at \$36,000, but the imminent publication of two new books would make considerable inroads into this reserve. A separate publications fund had been created for the convenience of operation, and because of the large number of financial transactions involved.

#### *Sales Branch*

The Sales Branch Superintendent, Mr A. White, reported a successful year with two sales grossing \$52,728, plus private treaty sales of \$4,433, yielding proceeds to the Society of \$3,220.

Two sales had not been conducted due to lack of material; this had been a problem for some time, reported Mr White.

Mr White reported he was stepping down from his position after six years, and thanked the members who had helped him during this period.

#### *Publications*

The Business Manager of *Philately from Australia* reported increased subscriptions and revenue from advertising. A reciprocal advertising arrangement with *Stamp News* had shown its worth.

The cost of producing *P. from A.* had increased slightly (\$7,752 compared to \$7,483), but the sale of publications through Stanley Gibbons continued to flourish, yielding \$3,602 for the Society.

The Publication Fund account had been inflated during the year by donations from the Tasmanian Government and Tasmanian philatelic societies totalling \$3,800 towards the cost of the book on Tasmanian Pictorials.

Chairman of the Publications Sub-Committee, Dr Russell Jones, announced the impending publication of two new books, *The Pictorial Stamps of Tasmania*, by K. E. Lancaster, and *The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II*, by P. Collas. He urged members to buy these books directly from the Society as this was financially advantageous.

#### *House Committee*

Chairman of the House Committee, Mr P. J. Barlow reported that work completed during the year including clearing of the lower floor store room, and the provision of Life Members and Honours Boards, and a new Notice Board, along with more minor maintenance jobs.

#### *Expert Committee*

Mr T. Carter reported a very much reduced activity for the year due to concerns regarding its operations and also to the absence of the Secretary and Chairman at various times.

The Committee will be operational again from August 1st. The fee will be \$20 per certificate, and each member will be entitled to one certificate per annum at no cost.

#### *Deceased Estates Branch*

Mr G. T. White reported that a special commission of \$1,462 was received from the disposal of Mr E. Creed's estate. The majority of the estate of Miss Helen Sergeant White had been disposed of during the year, and portions of the estate of Mr W. Walker will be sold through the Society during the coming year.

*Exchange Branch*

Mr D. E. Napier reported total sales up slightly on last year, \$3,294 compared to \$3,226. Six circuits were operating with some 65 members participating. Sales were constantly monitored and, whenever possible, interim payments were made to vendors.

*Library*

The Librarian, Mr R. N. Breckon reported continuation of the growing use of the library, with over 150 borrowings for the year.

The major bequest for the year was selected portions of Miss Helen Sergeant White's library, with the sections of Scandinavia and U.S.A. representing important new additions.

Cataloguing was up to date, and some binding had been done during the year. Considerable progress had been made in sorting through the enormous holdings in the back work room.

*President's Display*

Mr L. W. Buchanan chose four separate mini-displays for his Presidential display.

The first was of the Kangaroo stamps, concentrating on plate flaws on the ½d, 1d and 2d, and a specialized showing of the 2/- maroon, with positional blocks demonstrating the various repairs effected by John Ash.

A second Australian subject was the 1½d red King George V Die 1, identifying the many plate flaws found on this stamp.

The sheets of Canada concentrated on the early period, with pre-stamp covers, and the "Pence" and first "Cents" issues.

Papua was another plating study, with sheets and blocks following the various vignette plate flaws through the De La Rue engraved issue, the "Papua" overprints, and the later lithographs.

*Austrian Post Offices Abroad*

At the meeting on July 31st Mr A. Furst gave a comprehensive display of Austrian Post Offices Abroad, concentrating on Austrian Levant.

The Austrian Levant stamps were shown used from many P.O.'s, including Alexandretta, Beirut, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Belgrade, Albania, and the Aegean Is. Many were on cover. The Austrian Lloyd maritime postmarks were also extensively covered.

A rare stamp error was a used horizontal pair of the 1 pi imperforate between.

The World War I occupation period included usage in Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Italy and Poland, and the Army Post in Constantinople.

Pre-stamp covers were shown from Italy and Germany, and there was usage of Austrian stamps in Liechtenstein.

The subject was brought up to date with covers from Austrian peace-keeping forces in Cyprus and the Middle East in the 1970's.

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★ **CURRENT FILES** of the leading overseas philatelic journals printed in English are available on the tables at the Society's rooms.



★ **QUARTZ LAMP & MICROSCOPE** and a Reference Forgery Collection are available.

★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** It has always been Society policy to obtain the best available collections for display at Society monthly meetings. Lectures and discussions by leading philatelists enable members to improve their philatelic knowledge.

★ **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE:**

This Society includes experts on almost all branches of Philately, whose advice is always available.

★ **THE SOCIETY'S FEES** are: Entrance Fee: \$50.00; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, \$40.00; Country, Interstate and Overseas, \$35.00.

★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** should be directed to Miss MYRA FARLEY F.R.P.S.L. (Secretary), Box 2071, GPO, Melbourne 3001.

## THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890

★ **OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is available to members at special subscription rate.

★ **MEETING ROOM:** The Club meets at 8 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month First Floor Meeting Room, Philas House, 17 Brisbane Street, Sydney.

★ **EXCHANGE BRANCH:** Members are entitled to receive the Exchange Books which circulate regularly within Australia.

★ **LIBRARY:** A library, comprising 1000 volumes, is available for use of members by arrangement with the Librarian.

★ The Australian States Study Circle publish a quarterly journal *Sydney Views*. Enquiries to P.O. Box C323, Clarence St., 2000, Australia.



★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** Displays of interesting collections and philatelic items are a feature of the monthly meetings of the Club. It is the policy of the Club to bring to the members the best available displays, while lectures and discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, experts in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ **THE CLUB'S FEES** are: City members: \$6.00; Country members, \$4.50.

★ **SUBSCRIPTIONS** are due 1 July year. There is no entrance fee payable.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to —

**Mrs Shirley Jones, Hon. Secretary — Box 1751 G.P.O. Sydney 2001**

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