

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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Philately from Australia

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Official Organ of The Royal Sydney Philatelic Club

VOL. V, No. 4

DECEMBER 1953

FIVE YEARS IN RETROSPECT

With the close of our first half-decade, it will perhaps be interesting to look back and make some assessment of our achievement to date. It was about five years ago as we write that the negotiations began which led to the issue of our first number in March 1949, and though there were many problems to be solved, they were overcome, and the journal appeared in very much the form which we had envisaged.

We did not try to make it a "popular" journal — we aimed to appeal rather to the specialist and the advanced collector, and to the medium collector who needed some guidance on how to proceed to the next rung of the ladder. We also desired to produce a journal which could speak with authority for the best in Australian philately, and to give our students a medium in which the results of their research might be preserved for permanent record. That our basic objects have been achieved we think we may claim with some justice.

Of course, we do not claim perfection, nor do we seek to hide the fact that we have received occasional criticisms. Of these, the principal ones may be summarised as follows:

- (1) We have too great a preponderance of articles on postal history and cancellations.
- (2) We concentrate too much on minor varieties.
- (3) We have too few articles on Australian Commonwealth.

If these criticisms are justified — and we think there are some grounds for them — the first two can in some measure be attributed to the restriction of our field to Australasia — Commonwealth, States, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Much has been written in the past of the stamps of this group, but in many

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respects the study of its postal history and cancellations has lagged behind similar studies of Great Britain, Europe and the United States. Here was virtually a virgin field — allocation of numeral cancellations, T.P.O.'s, etc., had hardly been touched — so that it is not surprising that, given the opportunity and encouragement, some of our writers should have turned to it.

The reason for the second complaint springs from somewhat similar conditions. The classic issues of the States and New Zealand have been fairly thoroughly studied, and in consequence the present-day student looking for new fields to conquer must turn more and more to the hitherto despised "middle issues." It so happens that in our field these, almost without exception, were surface-printed, and the types of flaw which result from this method of printing are certain to appear of a minor character to dyed-in-the-wool students of the classic lithographed and recess-printed issues. We and our writers do not claim an inflated value for many of these surface-printing varieties, but we do affirm that a study and understanding of them is necessary to enable us to work out the history of the issues concerned.

So far as articles on Australian Commonwealth are concerned, it should be remembered that this is only *one* stamp-issuing country among many — and one which did not come into being until 1901, and, with the exception of Postage Dues, did not issue its own stamps until 1913. It is not surprising, therefore, that we should sometimes find it difficult to keep up a supply of Commonwealth articles of high quality in addition to *The Trail of Commonwealth*. Another factor is that though there are many who collect Commonwealth along advanced or specialised lines, there are comparatively few who pursue original studies of their own, and of those few even less who can put on paper the results of their research for the benefit of others.

But enough of criticisms, for of course it is impossible to please all our readers all of the time. We have also had our successes. The journal was awarded a Silver Medal at ANPEX in 1950, and just recently The Royal Sydney Philatelic Club has done us the honour of making it their official organ, as well as becoming joint publishers. Even before that, the Pacific Islands Circle of the Club had begun to use it as the medium for the publication of their work on the Cook Islands. Furthermore, several of our general articles have been reproduced in philatelic periodicals overseas.

A survey of the contents of the five years' issues reveals that within the scope of our comparatively limited field practically all the stamp-issuing territories have been touched on at one time or another. We have given you Australia — Commonwealth, States, Territories, R.A.N. and R.A.A.F. Postal Services, New Zealand, and a good many of the Pacific Islands, not only British, but also New Caledonia and the New Hebrides Condominium. Our more serious work has been lightened by Mr Thirkell's *Conversation Pieces*, and our reviews have, we hope, given our readers an honest opinion of the more important studies published during the period.

Our record to date has on the whole been good, we think, but we look forward to even better things in the future. It is for you to help us achieve our aim.

The Trail



of Commonwealth

Conducted by J. C. W. BROWN

The Steel Plates of the 2d. K.G.V, Die 2. A Correction.

Readers attempting to follow my argument in the last *Trail of Commonwealth* must have found it rather puzzling. The point of the reference to the New Zealand Waterlow Trial Plates of 1906 was obscured by the unfortunate dropping out of certain words in the quotation from the *New Zealand Handbook*. On page 74, *Philately from Australia*, September 1953, the sentence beginning at line 9 should read:

"This die was then carefully touched up by hand and, after being hardened, was used *for the production of a transfer roller, containing the five impressions, which was used* to lay down plate W1."

The words italicised are those that were accidentally omitted. Their omission transformed my quotation into an apparent argument for the very method of plate production which of all possible suggestions I consider the most improbable.

In connection with my reference to these Waterlow Trial Plates I must in fairness make a further quotation, this time from page 75 of Mr. G. R. Lee's recently published *The Penny Universal of New Zealand*.

"Further research will certainly be necessary regarding the two plates made by Messrs. Waterlow Bros. & Layton. From the evidence of the stamps it is believed that the transfer roller contained five impressions and that this roller was unusual in that it laid down five impressions in a vertical row at each operation. In a letter from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, with whom Messrs. Waterlow Bros. & Layton have been amalgamated, they have doubted the possibility of the use of a roller with five impressions, so further communication with them on this subject will be undertaken."

The results of such further communication will be awaited with considerable interest. Their relevance to the problem presented by our Commonwealth 2d. K.G.V, Die 2, is obvious.

Id. K.G.V. the Pre-substituted and Substituted Cliches.

I recently acquired a specimen of one of the pre-substituted clichés (No. 34) postmarked "Melbourne/—DE 16." December 1916, postmarks on other identi-

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fiable stamps from the left plates, in the typical pre-substituted cliché shade, have long been known, and it has been taken for granted that the pre-substituted cliché flaws first made their appearance in this late 1916 printing. So far as I am aware however an actual "December, 1916" postmark on a pre-substituted cliché stamp has not hitherto been reported. In my own experience these stamps are mostly found dated about February 1917.

It is interesting to retrace the first steps in our knowledge of these two stamps, and of their successors, the "substituted clichés." In doing so it is well to remind ourselves that in the early days of Commonwealth philately not very much was known of the letterpress method of stamp printing, philatelic research of the past having been directed far more to the problems presented by the recess-printed or lithographed stamp. The first students of our Commonwealth issues were compelled to face their problems without the assistance of any accumulated body of philatelic knowledge, and in grappling with these problems they actually made important contributions to our knowledge of letterpress techniques. Some of the problems, particularly in matters of plate production and plate repair, still await a final solution.

Up till 1926 it was believed that the two left plates of the 1d. K.G.V were electros locally made—hence the name "local plates" commonly applied to them. One consequence of this belief was the natural assumption that the second and third columns on Pane 2 were from a second die. No theory of a progressive roller flaw was available. In the *Victorian Philatelic Record* for September 1924, Mr. Rosenblum actually does discuss the possibility that damage to the die might explain the peculiarity of the stamps in these two columns. This possibility however he dismisses in favour of the "two die" theory, and explains the second and third columns on Pane 2 as electro units substituted for others that had been found faulty. In striking the moulds for these substituted electros the "stationery die" (die 2) had inadvertently been used.

In this article Mr. Rosenblum discusses also the two varieties on Pane 4 known hitherto as "Top of Crown Missing." These he explains as "re-entries." It was the editor of the *Australian Stamp Journal* (October 1924) who in commenting on Mr. Rosenblum's article first made the suggestion that these two units were substituted electros. If the "local plates" were electro plates this was of course the better explanation, and Mr. Rosenblum adopted it in the second (April 1926) edition of his *Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia*. It is necessary to emphasise that the theory that the "substituted clichés" were copper electros was first put forward at a time when it was believed that the *whole plate* in which they appeared was a copper electro. In the contemporary state of philatelic knowledge it was the natural and only possible theory.

In 1924 it was still not known what original flaws had made necessary the two substitutions. This was shortly afterwards established by Mr. Purves, and the block which led to the identification of the "pre-substituted clichés" is now in the Royal Collection.

In the *Victorian Philatelic Record* for September 1926, Mr Rosenblum was able to announce that the "local plates" were actually of steel like the two right

THE TRAIL OF COMMONWEALTH

plates, and that he had been permitted to examine the lower left plate with its two "copper electro" substituted clichés. It was later to be suggested that his identification of these two units as "copper electros" had perhaps been unconsciously influenced by the established belief, shared by himself, that they *were* such. Mr. Rosenblum evidently came to this conclusion himself, for in the fifth (1948) edition of his book, on page 69, he drops all reference to "copper electros" and refers to the substituted clichés as "two impressions in soft metal (probably a steel of different composition to the plate)." Some years previously Messrs Purves and Burchett had received information to this effect from a source which it is now permissible to reveal was Mr R. A. Harrison, engraver and technical adviser to the Note and Stamp Printing Branch. When however Mr. Purves published this information in the *Australian Stamp Monthly* for September, 1948, Mr Rosenblum inexplicably sprang to the defence of his earlier belief that the substituted clichés were *copper electros*. He has never explained why he twice changed his mind on this point. I find it difficult to understand the confidence with which he now defends, as an eye-witness, the copper electro theory which he had once himself voluntarily abandoned.

An echo of the controversy is heard in Mr Rosenblum's *Supplement to the Fifth Edition*, page 8, where he claims to dispose finally of Mr. Purves's statement that the substituted clichés were impressions on a block of soft steel fitted into the plate by the freezing technique. "The freezing technique," Mr Rosenblum writes, "for inserting steel into a damaged steel plate has been attributed to 1917. As the materials required (particularly dry ice) were not manufactured or available in Australia at this time, obviously this was impossible."

This statement is both truer, and less true, than suits Mr Rosenblum's purpose. In the *Australian Stamp Monthly* for October 1948, page 755, he had himself said that dry ice was used for the 1928 substitution in Pane 4. As it happens, dry ice (solid carbon dioxide) was not manufactured commercially in Melbourne before July, 1930. Dry ice however is not the only powerful freezing agent known. Mr Purves in fact had not even specifically referred to it. Liquid air, oxygen, or nitrogen are far more effective, and a liquid oxygen plant was actually in operation in Melbourne from as early as October 1911. For these facts I am indebted to the courtesy of Commonwealth Industrial Gases (Victoria) Pty. Ltd. There is no reason in the world why the "freezing technique" should not have been used in Melbourne in 1917.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If there is a blue subscription form enclosed with this issue, it is a reminder that your subscription for 1954 is now due. Subscribers who have already paid in advance, and members of The Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, will not be sent the form, but if in any instance it is included in error, it may be ignored.

CONVERSATION PIECE

By HAROLD THIRKELL

"One man in his time plays many parts," said Mr. Hinge apropos of nothing in particular. "Excuse my Shakespeare."

"I prefer it to your singing," said Mr Gauge, "especially this modern moaning stuff about 'dreaming of you-o-o-o in the moonlight'."

"His acts being seven ages," continued Mr Hinge, disregarding the interruption.

"The seven ages of a philatelist – why not?"

"Continue," said Mr Gauge resignedly.

"The infant mewling and pewking, etc.," said Mr Hinge, "is obviously the embryo philatelist, aged about five, pestering Daddy to bring home stamps from the office, and pasting them with mucky fingers in a ragged copybook."

"The percentage of embryo philatelists which fails to mature," said Mr Gauge, "must be enormous. Practically every child 'collects stamps' at some stage, but how few become collectors, let alone philatelists."

"Let us then," said Mr Hinge, "form a Society for the Protection of Philatelic Embryos – SPOPE in modern jargon. We shall be a protégé of UNO and meet annually in one of the world's more attractive cities."

"Go on with your Shakespearean exercise," said Mr Gauge.

"I always thought he was a bit tough on schoolboys," said Mr Hinge. "They don't all whine. But no doubt most of them dawdle on the way to school and what better excuse for dawdling than a stamp album in the satchel, ready for display to a mate. Can't you see the pair of them squatting on the kerb, comparing collections, and skiting about 'my three-cornered one'?"

"The lover," prompted Mr Gauge, "with his ballad to his mistress's eyebrow?"

"Ah," said Mr Hinge, "now we're growing up. The young fellow has reached the 'pash' stage and odds on it's Commonwealth varieties. He bleats ecstatically of the retouch he has discovered and writes earnest letters to *P. from A.* about the constant hairline from the King's eyebrow to the emu's foot."

"The soldier," said Mr Gauge firmly, "is a collector-dealer."

"Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel, seeking the bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth," quoted Mr Hinge. "That's the bloke trying to pass off a brummy on a mug under the very noses of experts like you and me. Gets blasphemously indignant when shown up. Tough as pawnbrokers, some of those chaps."

"I can hardly picture you as a justice on the bench," continues Mr Gauge, "but the 'fair round belly' seems an indubitable identification, and you are certainly full of 'wise saws and modern instances'."

"If we're to become personal," retorted Mr Hinge, "I need only look straight before me to see the lean and slippered pantaloons, with spectacles on nose. Ah well, I'm short and fat, you're tall and thin, and both of us have reached serene maturity. We've passed through most of the ages and stages, we've sown some

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tares, chased newchum gold, and now we've reached the haven of the ageing — the classics. Like calls to like!"

"I suppose we *are* ageing," agreed Mr Gauge sombrely. "The last time I had a cold, I certainly griped and whistled in my sound."

"In another, say, twenty years," said Mr Hinge, "we'll both be doddering childish old fools, with hands too palsied to hold tweezers, eyes too dim to spot fakes, without enough lick to wet a hinge — and that's a word I've always tried to keep out of the conversation, being the type that is too modest to seek publicity."

"Sez you!" said Mr Gauge, surprisingly.

A CUMULATIVE INDEX OF REFERENCES TO THE STAMPS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Compiled by W. M. HOLBEACH, F.R.P.S.L.

In our first issue we published an article by Mr. Ladbury entitled "Wanted: A Bibliography of Australian Stamps." That is still urgently needed, but this Cumulative Index, which was compiled by Mr. Holbeach in 1948, goes some way to fulfilling the need in the case of Australian Commonwealth, at least so far as references in Australian journals are concerned. We are hopeful that Mr. Holbeach will be able to bring it up to date before publication in "Philately from Australia" is completed, after which it is proposed to reprint it in booklet form.

PREFACE

This is an index of all References of special interest to philatelists who specialise in stamps and postal history of the Commonwealth of Australia, and which are contained in the following Australian periodicals up to, and including December 1947.

The Australian Philatelist.

The Australian Stamp Journal.

The Australian (and Victorian) Philatelic Record.

The Australian Stamp Monthly.

References have not been included contained in Advertisements or in Answers to correspondents, or in the case of the *A.S.M.*, in the "New Issue Chronicle,"

PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

"The Stamp Market," "The Young Collector" and regular Postal Stationery articles.

THE AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIST

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Comments on Committee's report.	Nov. 07 — p. 25	Dec. 07 39
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Conference of State Premiers agree to terminate "book-keeping" period in March next year. Not however ratified by States.	Sep. 09 — p. 2,	May 10 102
Preliminary announcement of competition for stamp designs.	Nov. 09 — p. 26,	Jul. 10 131
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Reference to preparation having been made towards the latter end of the Deakin Government for the issue of Commonwealth stamps. The scheme was not proceeded with owing to change in Government.		Oct. 10 13
P.M.G. announces, in the House of Representatives on October 13th, that stamps now current in the Commonwealth could now be used indiscriminately by each State for postal and telegraphic purposes.		Nov. 10 29
Announcement by P.M.G. that 1d. postage would be established in every State on 1st May, 1911.		Nov. 10 29
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Report on exhibition of designs submitted for competition.		Aug. 11 160
Further report on competition with illustrations.		Sep. 11 1
Report that the new P.M.G. has turned down all designs submitted for new stamps and has called upon a Victorian artist for suggestions.		Jan. 12 83
Report that the Government Printer has dies in course of preparation for new stamps, to designs recently submitted by the artist, Blamire Young.		Mar. 12 107
Announcement and illustration of approved design ('Roo), said to be prepared by Blamire Young.		May 12 141
Official notification that the design of the new stamp has been slightly modified.		Oct. 12 19
Preliminary announcement of issue of 1d. 'Roo.		Jan. 13 68
Report that the 'Roo stamp is to be abolished and that the first prize design (illustration) in the recent competition is to be adopted.		Jul. 13 150
Report that P.M.G. has finally adopted new designs, with the King's bust in centre (illustrated), for the penny and twopenny stamps		Aug. 13 166
Report that new Geo. V design not yet approved.		Sep. 13 2

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	<i>Issue Page</i>
Report that P.M.G. insists that new King's head stamps be printed from steel plates. Owing to insufficient machine capacity he proposes to have one million 1d. value stamps printed for the time being. The annual requirements of the 1d. value being 400 million.	Oct. 13 15
Report of statement in the House of Representatives by P.M.G. setting out details of new stamps to replace Kangaroo issue. (I have personally searched through <i>Hansard</i> , and can find no trace of the above statement.—W.M.H.)	Nov. 13 30
Announcement of issue of 1d. Engraved stamp, 9th Dec.	Jan. 14 62
Dispute between P.M.G. and Treasury regarding method of printing. Former insists on steel engraved plates, the latter, for cost reasons, insist on electro-type and have ordered die for new stamps to be printed in this manner.	Feb. 14 83
Order for die for new 1d. stamp placed on Perkins Bacon.	Feb. 14 83
Report of details of proposed new stamps, 2½d. King's head, 6d. Kookaburra, and 2/- Swan.	Mar. 14 94
Further report of details of proposed new stamps, ¼d., 2d., 2½d. and 1/-.	Apr. 14 111
Report that new 6d. Kookaburra and 1/- Swan stamps will soon be available for issue.	May 14 122
Two new Hoe machines have now arrived.	May 14 122
P.M.G. definitely decides that steel dies are to be cut for the 2d., 6d. and 1/- stamps by Mr. Harrison, Commonwealth Bank Note Printer. Four plates are to be made of each value. 6d. value has already been completed.	Jun. 14 141
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1d. Geo. V new plates have been received.	Jul. 14 159
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Report that a number of sheets of the 1/- Swan were printed. It is doubtful whether they will ever be issued.	Nov. 14 34
New Government (P.M.G. Mr. Spence) has vetoed the new stamps, and orders for dies have been cancelled.	Nov. 14 34
Notes on Commonwealth stamps. Article by E. D. E. Van-Weenen giving full history of issues and historical facts to date.	Jan. 16 75
Commonwealth Stamps of Australia. A prize essay giving a very comprehensive history to date.	Jul. 19 — p. 198, Aug. 19 — p. 215 Jun. 19 177

9d. QUEENSLAND AND N.S.W. "COMMONWEALTH" ISSUE

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<i>½d.</i>	
Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13 81
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Article giving comprehensive history. Mentions imperfs. and offsets.	Mar. 19 117
A list of varieties not mentioned in article above.	Apr. 19 139
<i>1d.</i>	
Preliminary announcement of issue.	Jan. 13 68
Reporting misplaced wmk. Block of stamps showing letters on some stamps and no wmk. on others. Also double perfs.	May 14 — p. 101, Aug. 14 167
Sideways wmk.	May 13 — p. 123, Jun. 13 139
Broken circle flaw. Last stamp on sheet, right-hand pane.	Sep. 14 5
Announcement that no more are to be printed.	Feb. 15 83
Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23 162
<i>2d.</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13 81
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Feb. 15 83
do. Punctured O.S.	Aug. 15 183
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Dec. 15 49
do. Highly surfaced paper.	Jun. 18 131
do. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23 162
<i>2½d.</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Mar. 13 95
do. Sideways wmk.	Feb. 15 83
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Aug. 15 183
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Oct. 16 28
do. Report of issue in Melbourne. Not yet put on sale at the G.P.O., Sydney?	Oct. 17 19
do. Now bright indigo blue.	Sep. 20 3
do. Figure 1 in fraction missing.	Jul. 21 158
do. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23 162
<i>3d.</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13 81
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Dec. 15 49
do. Inverted wmk.	Mar. 16 103
do. Olive green shade.	May 17 122
do. Sage green shade.	Jul. 18 143

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	<i>Issue</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>4d.</i>		
Announcement of issue.	Mar. 13	95
Reported with 2nd wmk.	Feb. 15	83
Above report corrected, should read 1st wmk.	Mar. 15	101
Inverted wmk. both in orange and yellow shades.	Sep. 23	162
<i>5d.</i>		
Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13	81
<i>6d. Blue.</i>		
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13	81
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	May 15	131
do. Punctured O.S.	Aug. 15	183
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Jan. 16	71
do. Bright blue shade, has no marginal lines round the sheets.	Feb. 22	39
do. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23	162
do. Broken leg flaw, also in O.S.	Feb. 24 — p. 231,	Mar. 24 242
<i>6d. Brown</i>		
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue, Melbourne Dec. 6th.	Dec. 23	198
do. Broken leg flaw reported.	Jan. 24	214
do. Punctured O.S.	Mar. 24	242
<i>9d.</i>		
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Mar. 13	95
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Aug. 15	183
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Aug. 16	187
do. Deeper shade of violet.	Aug. 17	223
do. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23	162
<i>1/-</i>		
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Mar. 13	95
do. Inverted wmk.	Aug. 19	211
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Sep. 15	3
3rd wmk. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 23	162
<i>2/-</i>		
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Feb. 13	81
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Apr. 15	115
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	May 16 — p. 135,	Jul. 16 171
do. Madder, change of colour.	May 24	272
<i>5/-</i>		
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Apr. 13	107
2nd wmk. Announcement of issue, first noted 12th Feb.	Apr. 15	115
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	May 18	119
do. Sideways wmk.	Jul. 19	191

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do. Orange shade in place of pale yellow.	Aug. 19 211
do. Now pale orange.	Sep. 19 3
do. Inverted wmk.	Sep. 19 3
? Double print. (1st or 2nd wmk.?)	Dec. 15 49
 <i>10/-</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Apr. 13 107
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue, Sydney, 5th March.	Mar. 17 96
 <i>£1</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue.	Apr. 13 107
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Aug. 16 187
do. Paler shade of blue and orange brown.	Jul. 17 208
do. <i>Grey</i> . Announcement of issue.	May 24 272
 <i>£2</i>	
1st wmk. Announcement of issue. Sydney, 28th April.	May 13 123
3rd wmk. Announcement of issue.	Mar. 20 118

THE ENGRAVED ISSUES

<i>1d. Georgian</i>	
Illustration.	Nov. 13 30
Report of announcement that these stamps would be on issue on 24th November. These were not available on that date. Now reported that these will be on sale on 8th December. Only six stamps to be sold to each purchaser.	Dec. 13 48
Announcement of issue on December 9th. Details of plates. Confusion regarding distribution.	Jan. 14 62
Report that a second million of these stamps have been printed and will be distributed.	Mar. 14 94
P.M.G. sends H.M. the King a sheet of stamps.	Mar. 14 101
The second million stamps issued March 20th. The number printed in the first printing was 1,200,000. The gum on the second printing very shiny, shade of stamps off plate 1 lighter.	Apr. 14 109
Article criticising the lack of wmk., poor gum and careless perforating.	Jun. 14 141
Block of four stamps imperf. horizontally.	Jun. 16 165
Full history of introduction, production, flaws, etc.	Oct. 16 20
 <i>6d. Kookaburra</i>	
Illustration of stamp. Design attributed to the artist, Blamire Young.	Apr. 14 111
Two qualities of paper used; two shades; and double perfs.	Oct. 14 23
8000 sheets printed.	Nov. 14 34
Short history of issue.	May 19 155

KING GEORGE V. SURFACE PRINTED ISSUE

<i>½d.</i>	
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„ Comment on origin of die.	Apr. 15 115

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" History, printing and flaws described.	Mar. 19	117
" "Thin 1 in fraction" Single Crown wmk.	May 19	115
" Large Mult. wmk. announcement of issue.	Feb. 18	81
" "Thin 1 in fraction" Mult wmk., also "dot in front of 2" at right flaw.	Sep. 18	3
" J.B.C. control at left replaced by A.C. control.	Sep. 18	3
" Inverted wmk. Mult. wmk.	May 19	155
" Large stocks exist, postmasters asked to dispose of these by selling ½d. and 1d. to cover 1½d. postage.	Aug. 22 — p. 116,	Oct. 23 166
Orange. Announcement of issue. Sydney, 8th. Nov.	Nov. 23	182
" Inverted wmk.	Aug. 24	302
" Pale Orange shade reported.	Oct. 24	326
Green large Mult. wmk., very thin paper.	Nov. 19	39
 <i>1d.</i>		
An order for the die for the new 1d. stamp placed on Perkins Bacon.	Feb. 14	83
New plates have arrived, but comb perforating machines not yet ready, first issue will be perforated single line.	Jul. 14	159
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" Comb perforation, reported August.	Sep. 14	3
" Extra frame lines.	Oct. 14	27
" Thinner paper reported. Variation in shade.	Feb. 15	83
" Variation in size and shape of wmk. reported.	Apr. 15	115
" Full history of production, flaws, etc.	Oct. 16	22
" Sheet of stamps reported without gum. Details of origin.	Oct. 16	26
" "Eardrop" variety.	Oct. 16	26
" Unsurfaced paper, reported Sydney 14th Dec.	Jan. 17	63
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" <i>Multiple wmk. Cooke printing.</i> Announcement of issue in Victoria only. P.M.G. states that it will be reprinted and issued in all States.	Jan. 19	71
" <i>Multiple wmk. Harrison printing.</i> Announcement of issue in December. Description of difference between this and the Cooke printing.	Jan. 20	83
" <i>Multiple wmk.</i> Flaw. "I" of "Australia" like an "r."	Oct. 22	139
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VOLUME 5, 1953

*A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS*



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Light brown shade.	Jan. 19	71
History, flaws, etc.	May 19	153
Comment that still perforated single line.	Jul. 19	197
Same shade as those overprinted N.W. PACIFIC.	Feb. 20	99
Light shade of buff brown (perforated O.S.)	Jun. 21	143
<i>1s. 4d.</i>		
Announcement of issue.	Dec. 20	47
Retouch to 4 at right.	Aug. 24	302

(To be continued)



The Other Side of the Picture



Conducted by J. R. W. PURVES, F.R.P.S.L.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Members of both the publishing Societies will have the pleasure in late November and December respectively of welcoming a great collector and student of New South Wales issues – Mr G. J. Hutson, F.R.P.S.L. Mr Hutson, who is accompanied by Mrs Hutson (also a keen collector, particularly of Transvaal, one of *the* most difficult countries) is paying his first visit to our shores and has kindly arranged to give us special displays of selected New South Wales material. Those of us who saw the items he lent to “ANPEX” can anticipate a remarkable show, alike in interest, quality and rarity. A full account of both Melbourne and Sydney meetings will be given in the next number of this Journal. It is good to have visits like this since, although many Australian collectors find their way to England, we see all too few distinguished English collectors in the Antipodes. Mr Hutson, who has contributed to these pages on more than one occasion, also holds very strong views on what really constitutes “Philately” and it is hoped that he can further enliven our meetings with some discussion on the fundamentals – something that is certainly overdue. Tolerance is all very well but some standards should be preserved.

TASMANIA

(i) *More Numeral Postmarks*

Following on the publication of Mr Viney's article the writer checked through his own material (at the moment in an unmounted state) to see whether he had anything additional to contribute, with the result that *three* more numbers have been “tied,” as follows:

204: Type 1. GLADSTONE, on piece dated April 9, 9?

291: Type 1. LACHLAN, on entire dated 25.1.93. Number not seen to date by Mr Viney.

338: Type 1. NORTH FRANKLIN, date not visible. Number not seen to date by Mr Viney.

I have also stamps with the following other cancellations not seen to date by Mr Viney, all being Type 1:

On “*Queen's Heads*”: 173, 174, 334.

On *Pictorials*: 191, 259, 264, 266, 273, 334, 337, 370, 377.

PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

In relation to ELLESMERE (115) I have this on a cover dated 27.7.86.

I also have 361 in manuscript on a 2d. V over Crown Litho, superimposed over a very faint postmark, too faint alas to be deciphered. Also, like Mr Viney, I have the numeral postmark 361 on a 2d. V over Crown Litho (definitely of a later printing). This late use of a numeral postmark thus stands revealed as of a *provisional* nature, pending the return of a repaired or the supplying of a new obliterator.

(ii) Pictorial Postmarks

While on holiday in Tasmania in October, Mr Petterd was good enough to show me some of the "RRR's" I had not seen and I am now able to give some information relative to the *types* of postmark employed, as follows:

ALONNAH: Type 2 (with crosses)

HONEYWOOD: Type 1 (with TAS.)

MURDUNNA: Type 2, dated 27.1.11

OSTERLY SOUTH: Type I (no stops).

TEEPOOKANA: Type 1 (no stops), dated 7.5.02

Both Mr Petterd and Mr Lancaster have shown me copies with the "RINGMA RD. R. STN." postmark (previously only seen in purple) in *black*. The earlier of the two copies seen was dated 18/9/12. (Since writing this note I have myself found two copies, dated 24/9/12 and 8.10.12 respectively.)

VICTORIA

(i) Earliest dated postmark with word "VICTORIA"

Thanks to the courtesy of Mr V. J. Colbeck of Hobart I have seen a stampless cover addressed to Geelong and cancelled, very clearly on the back, Geelong, Victoria, 3.1.52. The earliest "Victoria" date previously known to me (see *Postal History of Port Phillip* at base of p. 26) was 10.1.52. The latest "Port Phillip" date I possess is 30.12.51 so that we are getting very close to a "first" day of issue!! The cover in question was part of the "Timms" correspondence which is well known to Victorian specialists.

(ii) Earliest date of "Barred Numeral" type of cancellation

When I wrote an article (published in *The Philatelist* for September, 1952) on the first allocation (of 87) of these obliterations I placed the date of their first use at the beginning of January, 1856. I have now acquired two covers addressed to England by the "Blackwall," each bearing the 6d. orange "woodblock" cancelled with the "Barred Numeral" 1 of Melbourne and backstamped Melbourne, 26.12.55. Since the late Mr Rundell's extracts from the archives (now in my possession) showed that the first cancellers of this type were received by the Post Office from the contractor on 21st December, 1855, this is not so very surprising but as it brings the type back to 1855, it is worth recording.

(iii) A new discovery: 5d. Postage Due, watermarked Crown over A!

It is not often that the writer is really surprised in the world of stamps. Imagine, however, his amazement when in going over, for a *second* time, a small general collection of Victoria he had purchased (for other reasons) he spied a

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE

5d. Postage Due in scarlet and yellow-green alongside a 4d. (S.G. D.55) in the identical colours.

Further examination immediately showed that the 5d. was, like the 4d., on Crown over A paper — which was what the *characteristic* colours had already indicated. Both stamps had full gum and each showed part of a cancelled-to-order obliteration containing the words "G.P.O." Probably they were included in a "Federal Member Set" (or a "Specimen" set) presented or sold about the year 1910. This is the first copy seen in nearly thirty years of collecting and although other copies are now almost certain to turn up they must be rare indeed. There is little doubt that this 5d. stamp was never used for normal purposes and that the only values (on this paper) so used were the $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 1d, 2d and 4d. But the variety does merit a *catalogue note*, as its status would appear to be precisely similar to that of the $4\frac{1}{2}$ d George V Die 2 of the Commonwealth, *without* the overprint "FIVE PENCE," mentioned in the Gibbons' Catalogue after S.G. 120. A case of "printed but not issued," at least not to the general public.

THE COOK ISLANDS

By the Pacific Islands Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club

(Continued from page 52)

CHAPTER V (continued)

The 1½d. Plate.

We have seen an entire sheet of this denomination.

Four sub-types exist, the fourth being akin to the third.

(A) The third line of shading in the centre surrounding the head terminates in a spot of colour under the right foot of the "A" of "POSTAGE." This occurs seven times: Left Pane, Nos. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9; Right Pane, Nos. 5, 6.

(B) The base of the second "E" of "PENCE" is broken by a patch of colour. This occurs three times: Right Pane, Nos. 9, 10, 11.

(C) There is a patch of colour on the white circle under and between the letters "F" of "HALF" and "P" of "PENCE," respectively. This occurs seventeen times: Left Pane, Nos. 57, 58, 59, 60; Right Pane, Nos. 37, 38, 40, 42, 43, 46, 48, 49, 52, 54, 56, 57, 58.

(D) This is a state of sub-type C. As well as the patch of colour described, there is an additional coloured patch on the circle, under and between the second "E" of "THREE" and the "H" of "HALF" respectively. This occurs eleven times: Right Pane, Nos. 39, 41, 44, 45, 47, 50, 51, 53, 55, 59, 60.

(For reasons which have already been given, it is impossible for us to say whether sub-types C or D represent the earlier stage).

It should be noted that varieties very similar to sub-type C occur on other

PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

stamps on the sheet. No doubt there was a tendency for foreign matter to be picked up by the die in this spot.

The following diagram shows the position of the sub-types on the plate, "N" indicating the Normal type:

Left Pane	Right Pane
A A N N N N	N N N N A A
A A A N N N	N N B B B N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	C C D C D C
N N N N N N	C D D C D C
N N N N N N	C D D C D C
N N C C C C	D C C C D D

Secondary varieties are as under:

Left Pane

- No. 15. There is a small coloured spot on the inner frame line under the "L" of "ISLANDS."
- No. 21. The base of the "I" of "ISLANDS" is joined to the inner frame line.
- No. 27. There is a spot of colour on the forehead over Makea's left eye.
- No. 32. The upper of the two parallel lines above "ISLANDS" is interrupted for more than half its length.
- No. 34. There is a break in the heavy frame line under the second "O" of "COOK."
- No. 44. There is a coloured flaw touching the inner circle to the right of and in line with Makea's forehead.
- No. 46. There is a large patch of colour on the centre of the scarf.
- No. 56. The thick limb of the "A" of "ISLANDS" is joined to the inner frame line below.

Right Pane

- No. 15. There is a coloured dot under the "I" of "ISLANDS."
- No. 17. There is a spot of colour in the centre of the forehead at top.
- No. 18. There is a spot of colour on the inner circle between the "R" and "E" of "THREE."
- No. 36. There is a break in the left-hand frame line about 1½ mm. from the top left-hand corner.
- No. 40. There is a coloured patch under the "I" of "ISLANDS." This is similar to R15 but larger.
- No. 53. There are spots of colour above and below the first "O" of "COOK."
- No. 54. There is an irregular patch of colour in the shading of the background adjacent to Makea's forehead.

Prior to the first printing on chalk surfaced paper, the gutter between the two panes was eliminated, resulting in one compact plate of 120, ten rows of twelve, with the relative positions of the panes unaltered.

Plates proofs exist in the issued colour.

The 2½d. Plate.

We have had the advantage of examining a number of left and right panes of this stamp in the rose shade and of confirming that the sub-types and flaws are constant in the subsequent printings in blue.

THE COOK ISLANDS

The following sub-types exist:

(A) This is the most prominent. On all the Makea stamps there is a dot of colour joining the left frame, at its middle, to the adjoining design, just above the "W" of "TWO." Sub-type A shows an additional colour patch joining the ornament next but one under the first colour patch to the left frame line. This occurs on no less than 16 stamps: Right pane, Nos. 43, 44, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60.

(B) There is a small but distinct dot of colour in the shading about 1 mm. to the right of the face and just above the level of the base of the nose. This occurs on five stamps: Right Pane, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 13.

(C) This shows a small coloured patch in the middle of the shading to the left of the head opposite and just above the middle of the "W" of "TWO." This occurs twice only: Left Pane, Nos. 24, 25.

The following diagram shows the position of the sub-types, "N" indicating normal type:

Left Pane	Right Pane
N N N N N N	N B B B B N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	B N N N N N
N N N N N C	N N N N N N
C N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	N N N N N N
N N N N N N	A A N A N A
N N N N N N	A A A A A A
N N N N N N	A A A A A A

Secondary varieties are as under:

Left Pane.

No. 14. There are two small colour patches under "AN" of "ISLANDS."

No. 21. There is a large patch of colour under "PO" of "POSTAGE." This is probably in the nature of an ink-clog and only semi-constant.

No. 25. A dot of colour joins the base lines under "ND" of "ISLANDS."

No. 37. There is a dot of colour which joins the base lines under the right of the second "S" of "ISLANDS."

Right Pane.

No. 7. There are flaws in the top of the second "S" of "ISLANDS."

No. 31. There is a white flaw in the top of the "A" of "ISLANDS."

No. 33. There is a coloured flaw below and to the left of the "K" of "COOK," joining the top line of shading to the thicker line above it.

No. 44. There is a spot of colour under the "D" of "ISLANDS."

No. 53. There is a coloured flaw under "AN" of "ISLANDS."

It will be noted that Nos. 44 and 53 are both sub-type A.

No printings of this value were made during the period of use of the chalk-surfaced paper. It follows from this that no sheets appeared in circulation with the gutter removed, similar to those noted in the case of the 1d. and 1½d. values.

Plate proofs exist in the issued (rose) colour.

QUEENSLAND NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

BY HARRY S. PORTER, M.C., F.R.P.S.L.

(Continued from page 68)

No.	Auth.	Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
541	W	Sellheim	1896		
		Telemon Crossing	1896	Jan. /04	
		Wyreema	1896		
		Engelsburg	1897	1900	
		Kedron	1897		
554	P	Pimbarren	1897	1900	
		Pinkenba	1897		
		Wyandra	1897		
		Aloomba	1898		
103	A	Avondale	1898		
		Bell	1898		Called MALAKOFF from July, 1907
		Bororen	1898		
		Exchange	1898		Later listed as STOCK EXCHANGE
		Girofla	1898		
		Kenmore	1898		
		Nelson	1898		
		Queensport	1898	Sept. /09	Here re-opened, see 1/8/81
		Alderly	1899		
		Aspley	1899		
		Benowa	1899		
		Broadmount	1899		
		580	OP	George St.	1899
Hambledon	1899			1902	Re-opened in January, 1904
Irvingdale	1899				
Innot Hot Springs	1899				
Kangaroo Point	1899				
Kingsborough	1899				
Mount Garnett	1899				
Oolbun	1899			1902	
577	D	Plainland	1899		
		Seymour	1899		
		Tummaville	1899		
573	W	T.P.O. No. 2 Northern Railway	15/5/99		

N.B.: The Report covering the year 1899 is the last that was presented to the Queensland Parliament. Federation of the Australian Colonies commenced in 1901 and, theoretically, the Post Office was one of the services which was administered on a Federal basis. In actual fact, for some years each State continued to exercise control within its own borders and it was only gradually that the central authority came into the picture. The first Annual Report by the Postmaster-General of Australia covers the year 1910. As official sources of information

QUEENSLAND NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

cannot be found, I have had to have recourse to Pugh's Queensland Almanack to ascertain what Post Offices appeared or disappeared in the lists therein. The lists given below for the next few years cannot therefore be considered as entirely reliable.

No.	Auth.	Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
		Amby	1900		
		Boonmoo	1900		
		Burdekin	1900		Called MACROSSAN from April, 1905
		Chillagoe	1900		
		Corfield	1900		
		Friezland	1900		
174	W	Glassford Creek	1900	Oct. /04	Re-opened April, 1906
		Kallandra	1900	Jan. /04	Re-opened April, 1906. Evidence is stamp with "KALLAN" and 174
		Lakeside	1900		
		Locknager	1900		
		Mount Usher	1900	June /06	
		Plain Creek	1900		Called SARINA from September, 1907
586	O	Pomana	1900		
		Redbank	1900		
		Stonehouse	1900		
		Bollon	1901		Here re-opened, see 1/4/81
		Dimboola	1901		
		Ebagoolah	1901		
		Alderley	1901		
		Almaden	1902		
623	V	Eromanga	1902		
171	C	Kingaroy	1902		Called TAABINGA VILLAGE from March, 1905, when P.O. opened at KINGAROY RAILWAY STATION
		Luppa Junction	1902		
		Listowel	1902		
622	D	Macknade	1902		
		Palmerville	1902		Here re-opened, see 11/5/74
614	O	Palmwoods	1902		
		Roadvale	1902		
		Toolburra	1902		

N.B.: For the succeeding period it has been possible to extract the names of P.O.'s opened and closed from the General Monthly Notices, issued by the Queensland Post Office.

Samson Vale	Jan. /03		
Bli Bli	March	Dec. /08	
Silverspur	March		
Bajool	May	Apr. /04	
Bedourie	July		
Cumberland	July		Here re-opened, see 3/4/85
Dellarail	Oct.		
Wondai	Oct.		
Brynestown (Byrnes-town)	Nov.		

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No.	Auth.	Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
		Arran	Jan. /04		
		Ewan	Jan.	Feb. /10	
		Hambledon	Jan.		Here re-opened, see 1899
		Innisplain	Jan.		
		Laravale	Jan.		
		Quinalow	March		
		Hodgson	April		Here re-opened, see 1/7/76
		Hampden	Aug.		
		Gilberton	Sept.		Here re-opened, see 1/7/69 and 3/8/79
					Called INNISFAIL from 1911
		Hambledon Junct.	Oct.		
		Kingaroy Rly. Stn.	Mch. /05		
		Norton	March	Feb. /09	Here re-opened, see 17/1/80
		Moorabool	March		
		Mapleton	April		
		Mount Molloy	July		
		Toogoolawah	July		
		Torbanlea	July		Here re-opened, see 1/4/87
		Twin Hill	Aug.		
		Moore	Sept.		
		O.K. Mine	Sept.		
		Thompson's Point	Sept.	July /08	
		Blackridge	Oct.		Here re-opened, see October 1906
170	O	Maleny	Feb. /06		
422	D	Lake Clarendon	Feb.		
		Sapphire	March		
		Glassford Creek	April		Here re-opened, see 1900
174	W	Kallandra	April		Here re-opened, see 1900
		Gurrumba	May		
		Murray's Creek	May		May be same as MURRAYS, see 1/7/86
267	A	Oxenford	May		
		Wetheran	May		
		Emuford	June		
		Yatesville	June		
		Victoria Estate	July		
		Duckworth	Sept.		
		Ormiston	Sept.		
525	Q	Rosevale	Sept.		Here re-opened, see 1895
		Black Ridge	Oct.		Here re-opened, see October, 1905
		Gaeta	Oct.		Here re-opened, see 1/1/81
		Marmor	Oct.		
68	D	Ravensbourne	Oct.		68 previously used at Rocky Water Holes, later Rocklea, see 1865/7
		Tarampa	Oct.		
		Blackbutt	Nov.		
		Ord	Nov.		
		Bell Rly. Stn.	Dec.		Called BELL from July, 1907
		Finch Hatton	Dec.		
		Tannymorel	Dec.		
		Tungamul	Dec. /06		
639	D	Bingera Plantation	Jan. /07		

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No.	Auth. Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
	Lower Tully	Jan.		
	Teutoburg	Jan.	Mch. /10	
	Wooroolin	Feb.		
	Cooyar	March		
	Canungra	May		
	Thurulgoonia	July		
	Beerwah	Aug.		
	Murray's Creek	Aug.		Here re-opened, see May, 1906
	Aubigny	Sept.		
	Harlin	Sept.		
	Junction Creek	Sept.	Late /10	
	Bismarck	Oct.		
	Mount Cannindah	Nov.		
	Mount Chalmers	Nov.		
	Coominya	Dec.		
	Mount Carbine	Dec. /07		
	Farleigh	Jan. /08		Called MANY PEAKS from July, 1909
	Nanandu	Jan.		
	Invicta	March /08		
	Bamford	April		
660	D New Moonta	April		
	Kidston	May		
	Kolan South	May		
	Miva	May		
	Ruby Vale	May		
	Bowenville	June		
	Murgon	June		
	Pioneer	June		
	Didcot	July		
	Jackson	July		
	Limeville	July		Here re-opened, see 1896
	Opalton	July	Late /10	
	Daguilar	Aug.		
	Tolga	Sept.		
	Lower Palen	Nov.		
	Yandaran	Nov.		
	Kooroongarra	Dec.		
	West Toowoomba	Dec. /08		
	Apple-Tree Creek	Jan. /09		
	Clayfield	Jan.		
682	D Flagstone Creek	Jan.		
	Liontown	Jan.	Late /10	
	Marian	Jan.		
	Savannah	Jan.		
	Selwyn	Jan.		Here re-opened, see 24/9/75 and 1/2/76
	Charlestown	Feb.		
	Bloomsbury	March		
	Targinnie	March		
	Eton Vale	Apr.		
	Einasleigh	May		
	Gilliat	May		
	Lucinda	May		Here apparently re-opened, see DUNGENESS 4/8/74, 16/6/83. 16/6/83

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No.	Auth.	Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
		Kaimkillenbum	June		
		Cania	July		Here re-opened, see 18/6/70
		Mount Usher	July		Here re-opened, see 1900
		Nelia	July		
		Tingoorra	July		
		Hightville	Sept.		
		Kingsthorpe	Sept.		
		North Isis Central Mill	Sept.		
		Clarke River	Oct.		
		Mount Larcom	Nov.		
		Callide	Dec.		
		Coolabunia	Dec.		
		Ideraway	Dec. /09		
		Dappil	Jan. /10		
		Linville	Jan.		
		Pickanjinie	Jan.		
		Blenheim	Feb.		Here re-opened, see 1/11/85
		Montville	Feb.		
		Columboola	Feb.		
		Silkstone	Feb.		
643	Y	Cape York	March		
		Djuan	March		
		Kirk Diggings	March	Late /10	
		Marian	March		
		Maxwellton	March /10		

N.B.: From this date onwards there is no mention of opening and closing P.O.'s in Monthly Circulars. From a check of the List of Queensland P.O.'s in the first *Australian Postal Directory*, issued in March, 1910, against the second, which appeared in September, 1910, the following new names appear and must therefore have been created during the period:

Atherton
 Bauhinia Downs
 Beta
 Bluff
 Chermside
 Coongoola
 Dallarnil
 Drillham
 Duchess
 Evergreen
 Glenore Grove
 Gooroolba
 Greenmount East
 Hatton Vale
 Hillview
 Kidston
 Killarney South
 Kolan South
 Koorboora
 Moore
 Mount Cuthbert
 Mount Surprise
 Mudgeraba

Here re-opened, see 1/2/85

REVIEWS

No.	Auth.	Post Office	Opened	Closed	Remarks
		Mungana			
		Murgon			
		Nonda			
		Nymbool			
		Pandanus			
		Stannary Hills			
		Thane			
		Theebine			
		Toogoolawah			
		Wolfram			
<p><i>Note:</i> By similar comparison between the Directory of September, 1910, and March, 1911, it would seem that the following new P.O.'s were created during this period:</p>					
		Cootharaba			Here re-opened, see 17/6/78
		Cunningham			
		Gargett			
		Julia Creek			
		Kinkin			
		Lamington			
		Marathon			Here re-opened, see RICHMOND DOWNS in 1868.
		Memerambi			
		Merinda			
713	D	Middle Ridge			
		Mount Alford			
		Mount Whitestone			
		Mourilyan			
		Nigger Creek			
		Nikenbar			
		Peak Crossing			Here re-opened, see 1/10/85
		Ravenshoe			
		Russell River			
		Stegelit			
		Sunnymount			
		Talwood			
		Tara			
		Walterhall			
		Yalleroi			
		Yungaburra			

(Concluded)

REVIEWS

World War II Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa, by J. H. Harvey Pirie, F.R.P.S.L., 64 pp. 9½ x 7¼. Obtainable from the Africana Museum, Johannesburg. Price 5s. (S.A.)

To the student of war philately this is an interesting book, rather should I say guide-book, as we are taken on a tour of the

comprehensive collection covering the postal history of the share taken by the South African Forces, sea, land and air, in the war of 1939/45. The collection was made by the author and covers all phases of his subject—stamps, postal stationery, postmarks, censor marks, &c., used over a vast area from Mauritius to Tristan da Cunha,

PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

in terms of longitude, and London to Cape Town in latitude.

A book of this nature reveals the increased scope for research and collecting between the two world wars. In the first, the use of stamps was comparatively restricted, only surface mail existed and troops generally enjoyed free postage. It follows that the postal markings were the chief field of study. In the later conflict, troops were generally better paid and largely availed themselves of airmail facilities. To cope with this craving to give and get news, there appeared several inventions — the airgraph (which came and went) and the airletter (now dignified by being dubbed "airgramme" by the U.P.U.).

In addition the book and collection cover the R.A.F. camps in Rhodesia (called into being under the Empire Air Training Scheme), and the area of operations of the East African Command, which used troops drawn from many terrains to "tear Mussolini's Roman Empire to tatters."

Those attracted by "Used Abroad" will find much to interest them — details of the stamps used, the places of their use and the postmarks by which they can be recognized. Covers bearing the stamps of more than one country are listed and discussed and some indication given of the "sheep" (cases where convenience or force of circumstances dictated their joint use) and the "goats" ("philatelic" covers).

Once read, the book will become a work of reference — so it is satisfactory that an adequate index has been provided.

The collection now adorns the Africana Museum. The reaction of some may be: "Another fine collection locked up"! To me it appears that it will afford pleasure to many and be a mentor to collectors whose tastes lie in similar or parallel paths. In the present case the many will be multiplied, as those who cannot go to Jo'burg can buy the book.

H.S.P.

Zumstein Europa Katalog, 1954. 37th edition. XVI + 1224 pp. 8 x 5. Published by Zumstein & Cie, Postfach 1291, Bern 2, Switzerland. Price 13.75 Swiss francs. (Obtainable in Australia through Joseph Goldberger, Box 5049, G.P.O., Melbourne.)

It is always difficult to say something

new and constructive about a well-known and established catalogue, as previous editions have been its own advertisement.

This catalogue is, of course, the standard one in the German language for the issues of Europe, European post offices abroad and the former German Colonies. However, it is not necessary to be able to read German to derive some benefit from the catalogue, as there are introductions in English and French which give the equivalents in those languages of the abbreviations used in the lists. About 110,000 prices are given, and there are over 22,500 illustrations. Stamps issued up to mid-August are included.

Catalogue of the Stamps of New Zealand, 1954. 112 pp. 7½ x 4½. Published by Verne, Collins & Co. Ltd., T. & G. Buildings, Hereford St., Christchurch, N.Z. Price 15s. (N.Z.).

This is another well-known catalogue, this time the standard specialised catalogue of New Zealand.

This latest edition is right up to date, including even the recent Health stamps, and the popularity of New Zealand stamps is reflected by many price rises. A new departure, brought about by the increasing interest in postal history, is the addition of a new section giving details of all known pre-adhesive postal markings.

"Paquebot" and "Ship Letter" Cancellations of the World, 1894-1951, by Brigadier M. A. Studd. 84 + xii pp. 9½ x 7½ in. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd., 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. Price 20s. (stg.), postage 1s.

Under the rules of the Universal Postal Union "Paquebot" marks or their equivalent should be applied to letters posted at sea when these are handed over to the post office at the first port of call. A pioneer effort to tabulate these marks by Philip Cockrill, published under the title *Ocean Mails* nearly twenty years ago, brought many new collectors into this field, and these in turn have found many additional types and turned up much new information as to their use. The growing band of postmark specialists will receive this book with gratitude to the author for his painstaking labours; for while the collector of these

REVIEWS

postmarks does not find them easy to obtain in the first place, it is often a very difficult matter to determine the ports where they were used.

The main portion of this book appeared in *The Philatelist* during 1950-52, and partly in *T.P.O.*, the journal of the British T.P.O. and Seapost Society. These articles elicited a great deal of additional information which is now incorporated in the book, though the original lists remain unaltered. In all 874 types are now described. These are arranged in three groups.

Group I. Single line "Paquebot" cancellations struck separately, including certain equivalent terms, e.g., "Loose Ship Letter" applied at some Australian ports.

Group II. "Paquebot" cancellations incorporating the word "Paquebot" with the name of the port in the same marking or duplex to it.

Group III. "Ship Letter" or "Packet Letter" marks used at British Empire ports subsequent to 1893.

As many of the earlier Group I hand-stamps were made of rubber, impressions often became distorted in time, but the measurements given for each type help materially in identification.

Australian collectors will be disappointed that so many "Paquebot," "Loose Letter," "Loose Ship Letter" and "Loose Ship Packet" marks in this area are still unidentified, but this should be a challenge to us to make more intensive search for covers which will link these marks with the date-stamps of the ports concerned. J.W.D.

The Story of the United Nations Postage Stamps, by Sol Glass, F.R.P.S.L. 36 pp., 9½ x 6½ in. Issued by the United Nations Department of Public Information in collaboration with the United Nations Postal Administration. Obtainable from Sales and Circulation Section, United Nations, New York, and H.M. Stationery Office, London. Price 25 cents, plus 3 cents postage.

This monograph originally appeared as an article in *The American Philatelist*, and its author is accredited observer at United Nations Headquarters of The American Philatelic Society, so the information it contains may be regarded as official and accurate.

This is not the place to discuss the desirability of the issue of separate stamps for the United Nations, but it can be said at once that it was never claimed that they were strictly necessary from a postal point of view. The intention was to publicise the United Nations Organisation and its work, and it is from that standpoint that they must be judged.

The booklet deals first with the deliberations which led up to the issue of the stamps, gives brief biographical sketches of the designers and short histories of the printing firms concerned, and then gives full details of the stamps—the original issue of 1951, the postal stationery and the commemoratives of 1952.

For those who like full information about the stamps they collect, both philatelic data and background history, this monograph can be well recommended.

Commonwealth of Australia: Philatelic Bulletin. No. 1, August, 1953. 8 pp. 10 x 8 in. Obtainable on request from the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, Treasury Gardens, Melbourne, C.2, Victoria.

Following the establishment of Philatelic Sections in the various capital cities, here is yet another service to philatelists provided by the Commonwealth postal authorities. The Bulletin, which will be published at intervals of approximately two months, gives all those details about our various issues which not so long ago it was so difficult for our students to ascertain.

This first Bulletin gives notes on the 1953 stamp programme, details of the Food Production series, a list of adhesives and postal stationery available for sale at Philatelic Sections, and the terms of sale for these.

These publications should prove of great assistance to Commonwealth specialists, as they will provide in handy form most of the details which interest them on our current issues.

(Bulletin No. 2 is since to hand, and this, as will future ones, contains information about earlier issues, some of it hitherto unpublished, in addition to current stamps.)

The Aero Philatelist Annals, Vol. 1, No. 1. Edited by Henry M. Goodkind. 36 pp. 10 x 8. Published quarterly by Aero

PHILATELY FROM AUSTRALIA

Philatelists Inc., 1860 Broadway, New York 23, N.Y. Issued gratis to members of Aero Philatelists Inc. (Limited number of this issue available at \$1.25 ea.)

We welcome yet another newcomer to the field of philatelic literature, and wish it all success.

The editor is already well known in a similar capacity for *The Collectors' Club Philatelist*, and this is a good enough recommendation in itself, while the quality of the contents of this first issue augurs well for the future.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

It is hoped to bring to all our readers, through these columns each issue, news and notes of interesting happenings from the Sydney partner of this enterprise and details of events to come.

The annual competition was held in conjunction with the October meeting and attracted twelve entries of excellent standard. Members present had very great difficulty in selecting the prize-winning entry as at least three entries were very close up in the voting. The first prize was awarded to the President's entry, which was devoted to a display illustrating the various types of paper used in the manufacture of stamps. Mr. Dovey displayed stamps printed on all the papers illustrated which made a most interesting entry. Second and third places respectively were awarded to Mr. C. Nauthe for his excellent display of Victoria which included most issues from 1890 in mint blocks, and to Mr. J. O. Critchlow for his display of the varieties of the 1919-21 issues of Bavaria.

The December meeting promises to be a most interesting one. The guest speaker will be Rev. J. W. Dixon, who will show a film depicting religious subjects on stamps. This will be followed by a display of such stamps, arranged by Mr. L. Frank. It is also hoped to present the J. H. Smyth Medal, awarded to the late Mr. W. R. Waddington just prior to his recent death, to his son (Dr. R. J. Waddington). Mr. Waddington was the doyen of Sydney collectors and his many services to philately during his long period as a collector culminated in the award to him of the J. H. Smyth Medal. (He was

also a member of long standing of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.—Ed.) Light refreshments will be served at the meeting and we hope for a large attendance.

The February, 1954, meeting promises to be a most momentous one. It will occur during the period of the Royal Visit and in order to celebrate the occasion it is proposed to combine with members of The Philatelic Society of New South Wales and present a display of outstanding philatelic items. The meeting will be held, on this occasion, in the rooms of the Feminist Club, at 77 King Street, Sydney, on Tuesday, 9 February 1954, at 8 p.m. A special joint committee of The Royal Sydney Philatelic Club and The Philatelic Society of New South Wales is arranging for a display of 300 sheets representative of the outstanding collections of members of the two societies. It is proposed to cover the gamut of collecting by devoting sections of the display to British Empire, Foreign and Topical collecting. Light refreshments will be available at this meeting which we trust will bring together the best display seen in Sydney for a long time.

Other events during the coming quarter will be Mr. Walter Skalla's display of Old German States and Liechtenstein at the January meeting and a combined display together with another "Brains Trust" session compered by the incomparable Bernie Moloney, at the March meeting. Mr. Skalla's blending of early German and modern Liechtenstein should prove most interesting.

THE PUBLISHING SOCIETIES

Forthcoming Meetings

- R.P.S.V.: December 17 – Messrs. G. T. Hochstein and R. Lloyd-Smith:
“Overprints and Surcharges: Their Varied Origins.”
January 21 – Mr. P. T. Masters: “Spain.”
February 18 – Mr. L. C. Viney: “Early Postmarks of Tasmania.”
February 25 – Sale by Tender Night.
- R.S.P.C.: December 8 – Christmas Meeting. Talk by Guest Speaker, followed by Light Refreshments.
January 12 – Display by Mr. W. Skalla of (a) “Old German States,” (b) “Liechtenstein.”
February 9 – Visit by Philatelic Society of New South Wales and combined display of outstanding philatelic items on the occasion of the Royal Visit.

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★ **SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN**

The Australian Stamp Monthly is posted free each month to all members.

★ **SOCIETY'S ROOMS**

The Society meets at the Stamp Centre, 516 Collins St., Melbourne, on the third Thursday of each month at 7.45 p.m.

★ **EXCHANGE BRANCH**

Exchange books circulate regularly within Australia to interested members.

★ **SALE BY TENDER BRANCH**

This Branch enables members to buy and sell stamps not considered suitable by the vendor for exchange sheets. Sales By Tender average three per year. Postal bids accepted from members for any item.

★ **LIBRARY**

A Comprehensive Library is open to members on Meeting Nights or by arrangement with the Librarian. Library Catalogues are sent to all members and periodical supplements issued.

★ **CURRENT FILES**

The Society subscribes to the leading overseas philatelic journals printed in English, and these are available on the tables at the Society's rooms.

★ **QUARTZ LAMP & MICROSCOPE**

These facilities are available at the Society's rooms by arrangement with a member of the Library Committee.

★ **FORGERY COLLECTION**

The Society has a Reference Forgery Collection which can be consulted by members during Library hours.

★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS**

It has always been Society policy to obtain the best available collection for display at Society monthly meetings. Lectures and Discussions by leading Philatelists enable members to improve their philatelic knowledge.

★ **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE**

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