

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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Philately from Australia

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MARCH 1961

RISING COSTS — AND OURSELVES

If there is one thing that those of the writer's generation in Australia have shared with their fellows overseas it is the experience—over 40 years—of watching ever-rising costs and of waiting—not too long, in most cases—for the inevitable rise in prices. The two great wars, involving the utterly unproductive use of millions of pounds, precipitated further such movements on a grand scale but the process goes on all the time, war or no war. If more people are to get more, continuously, there can never be any price stability as oldtimers understood it. Such a state of affairs seems, in fact, inseparable from modern progress. One must accept this fact, much as one dislikes it.

Our journal is now commencing its 13th year of publication. During that period only *one* change in subscription, price and advertising charges has been made and that was a relatively small one.

Owing however to the generosity of a printer who is also a philatelist it now appears that we have—over the last few years—been consistently paying, for each issue of the journal, a sum that was *below its cost* to him. Naturally, no self-respecting publisher could allow that state of affairs to continue and the two Societies concerned, through their Journal Committee, have recently conducted a thorough investigation into the question of costs and made recommendations thereon which have been accepted by the governing body of each.

Briefly the position is this. Over the last six years the cost of printing the journal has gone up by just 60%. Previous quotations were based on the position as it was before this rise, which in any event was gradual. The decisions made, which can readily be appreciated by perusing our inner cover, are based on *three* principles:

1. A reasonable profit to the printer.
2. The least possible loss to the publishers, and let us be quite firm on this—*no one* has ever succeeded in consistently running a journal like ours at a

profit unless extra grants are made from some Father Christmas not at present smiling upon us.

3. An adjustment of the position that should, so far as foreseeable possibilities are concerned, last us for a substantial period.

The increases now made are as moderate as we can make them. Nobody, of course, *likes* doing these things.

For readers in doubt our rates should be compared with the increases in subscriptions and advertising charges made over a like period by the rest of the world's philatelic publications.

We do not think that such a comparison can be detrimental to us.

J.R.W.P.

R.S.P.C. TO STAGE ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION

In commemoration of its seventy continuous years of service to philately, the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club will hold a non-competitive exhibition in David Jones' Art Gallery, Elizabeth Street, Sydney, from 19 to 30 June.

The exhibition will be officially opened at 11 a.m. on 19 June by His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales (Sir Eric Woodward).

Approximately 1500 sheets of stamps from some of the finest collections in Australia will be on display.

In an endeavour to cover as wide a philatelic field as possible and to interest all visitors to the exhibition, invitations have been issued to many leading Australian philatelists for the best in their collections to be shown.

A large portion of display space will be devoted to the stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Australian States and the Pacific area—but thematic collectors, postal historians, and others will be adequately catered for.

The Postmaster-General's Department is co-operating and a post office will be in operation at the exhibition. A distinctive postmarker will be used on all mail posted at the exhibition. The Department is also arranging a display of interesting extracts from Departmental archives and items of current interest.

This will be the second exhibition arranged by the club to mark its anniversary. It staged an exhibition of N.S.W. classics last July.

The Trail



of Commonwealth

Conducted by J. P. MEARA

FOREWORD: In undertaking to conduct "The Trail" consequent upon the retirement of Rev. J. C. W. Brown, I realise that my no mean task is to emulate a master whose knowledge, capability and efficiency left nothing to be desired.

Our worthy editor aptly expressed the sentiments of all philatelists and in adding my brief but sincere tribute to the efforts of Rev. Brown, I assure readers I will endeavour to attain his standard. I express my grateful thanks to him for the offer of his consultative services, and also to my "mate," Chas Dunn, for his willing offer of assistance, and his endeavours to make a philatelist of me.

Readers are invited to submit to me at 20 Overend Street, East Brisbane, SE1, for inclusion in this column, suitable information on issues, old and new, postal stationery, etc.

Now, further along The Trail . . .

5d. King George V, Early Dates

In *Philately from Australia*, June 1959, p. 34, Rev. Brown referred to efforts to determine the date of introduction of Plate 3 and stated his earliest date for the flaw between "AG" on R.20 was 6.8.34.

Captain H. A. Hammond, Upton-on-Severn, England, recently reported an example of this variety showing a clear partial postmark "LBOURNE 8 FE 34."

1d. Queen Elizabeth II, Slate Purple, 2.2.59

How closely do we examine stamps? It was while selecting items for display at QUSCEX Brisbane, November 1960, that my attention was held to R10/7, left pane of upper right sheet B of this value. On casual glance the horizontal lines adjacent to the inner left frame appear to be weak, but on close examination the ends of each line are found to be slightly parabolic before continuing in the horizontal. This is a plate retouch to a weak transfer which was not effectively corrected by the recutting.

The re-entry at right base on R1/8, right pane (*A.C.S. Cat.*, Q15d) is on sheet D and strips from each sheet with overlapping selvages showing the plate layout markings incorporate both varieties to advantage.

Dummy Coils, 1938

The 1d. Green Queen Elizabeth and 2d. Scarlet King George VI, both die II issued on 1 August 1938, were available in coil form, and as is well known the coil machines are checked with coins by responsible officers for efficient operation. However, the exacting adjustment of the feed wheel and associated mechanism is checked by technicians with the use of test or dummy rolls of "stamps" provided for this purpose.

Two examples of these dummies were horizontally-lined, stamp-sized rectangles, recess-printed in green and red respectively, and it was observed from the Postmaster-General's display at QUSCEX, Brisbane, 1960, that a die proof of the "design" was numbered S289.

2s. 6d. Aborigine, No Watermark, 30.1.57

In the *Australian Stamp Monthly* of April 1959, p. 207, Mr Salisbury, Wauchope, N.S.W., reported a decided weak entry to "POSTAGE" on units R11/8 and R12/8. Normally, the stamp printing plates are frequently examined by the technicians at the Note Printing Branch, but it is strongly suspected they pay closer attention to the plates subsequent to reports of blemishes to stamps in the philatelic press. I believe this is one such instance.

On 5 August 1960, I obtained a lower right corner block of eight (4×2) wherein R11/8 retains the weakness from the left corner to "POST," but R12/8 showed the cross-hatching around "POS," also the top of the panel between "TA" considerably and noticeably strengthened by retouching. This block is from a sheet with type IV pips (oOo) on the left and a youthful student, Mr E. Robinson, to whom I showed the variety later produced a copy post-marked "DE 59." This would suggest the retouching was effected about the middle of that year, making allowance for distribution.

This particular sheet contains a number of units with weakness at base.

Concurrently obtained were blocks also from a left sheet position on which R11/8, though still weak, shows extra lines between the three left to right upwards diagonal lines to the lower right of 2s. 6d. On R12/8 there is an appearance of retouching between "P" and "O" and a small fleck of colour is evident above and to the right to "O."

Certain spots in the corner selvage confirm the pieces are from the same sheet position but pending more detailed study I cannot yet decide whether different electros are involved, although this is seemingly so. Comment from anyone with the requisite material is welcomed.

5d. Christmas, 4.11.60, Plate Fractures

Again the Christmas issue has provided considerable philatelic cheer in the nature of plate fractures associated with the perforation pips on both upper sheets. First, it is mentioned that the type IV arrangement (o O o) was utilized for this issue, the centre pip being punctured for perforation purposes.

As the issue ceased selling in Brisbane on 6 February 1961, certain desired material was not obtained, but the following notes will, I trust, be sufficiently explanatory.

1. *Sheet A*—The fracture extends for 3-4 mm. on each side of the large centre pip somewhat below the horizontal diameter, but unfortunately lack of material precludes any comment concerning development, except that I believe the fracture to be of electro origin. There are no varieties of mention on this sheet.

2. *Sheet B, electro (a)*—Type IV pips with faint 2 mm. irregular line $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. from the left centre of the large pip, and a fainter 5 mm. line 1 mm. below this pip. This is *phase (i)* of the fracture and the sheet may be identified by the absence of the left frame, and weak left side on R7/2. The series of scratches above R1/7-8 are of master plate derivation.

3. This is *phase (ii)*. Reminiscent of the type III arrangement, the left pip is now of large size and *punctured*, the right is of normal size, whilst the centre pip is merely a large outline with a marked fracture extending for $5\frac{1}{2}$ mm. on each side, and a close series of dashes appears below the pip.

4. The fracture has extended for some 10 mm. on each side and the pip is now almost filled with colour—*phase (iii)*.

5. *Sheet B, electro (b)*—The other electro with normal type IV pips. On this sheet, R7/2 features a left frame inserted by recutting, but the weakness to the left side is still evident.

Finally, the natural corollary to Nos. 3 and 4: As stated, the large left pip is punctured, therefore the corresponding lower sheet D should exist with type IV pips in which the small left pip is punctured. The search in Brisbane was unsuccessful and I would appreciate word from any student who was fortunate in obtaining such piece.

I am not quite satisfied with the sheet disposition, but if correct, sheet D will feature,

- (i) R1/11 —roller shift right frame at top.
- (ii) R3/7 —weak frame above candle flame.
- (iii) R7/12 —this unit higher in alignment by $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
- (iv) R10/10—retouch to lines below first "A" of "AUSTRALIA" on one electro.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

CUMULATIVE INDEX OF SOURCE MATERIAL

The Postage Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia: Cumulative Index of Source Material, by W. M. Holbeach, F.R.P.S.L. 110 pp. 7½ x 9¾ in. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Box 222, G.P.O., Melbourne. Price: 35s.

Probably there is no country in the world whose philatelic problems are so deep and vast as that of the Commonwealth of Australia; and probably, also, there is no country whose philatelic literature is so vast and so widely scattered.

Hence the immense importance of a cumulative index to the material published in Australia's philatelic journals over a period of nearly 60 years.

The name of Holbeach is well-known to almost every Australian philatelist; and his opinion is respected by Commonwealth specialists throughout the world.

His collection won the Championship at ANPEX 1955, as well as gold medals at many exhibitions, including Johannesburg, and a silver-gilt award at London last year.

His knowledge matches his stamps and the compilation of the index, a labour of love, has taken him years of painstaking effort.

It embraces the *Australian Philatelist*, the *Australian Stamp Journal*, the *Australian* and *Victorian Philatelic Record*, and the *Australian Stamp Monthly*.

The thousands of entries are catalogued under issues in chronological order, and in logical sequence, and the entries are sufficiently explicit to tell the collector the chief facts he will find at the reference.

It is a revelation of the intricacy of the Commonwealth field and of the immense amount of interesting material that the specialist has available to him. It offers a guide to many hours of happy learning or re-discovery.

Each journal is dealt with as an entity and then there is a four-page "index to an index" collating the references in the four journals to the specific subjects.

Besides those for stamps, there are sections for postal data, essays and proofs, stamp production and personal, cancellations, cancelled to order sets, design competitions, coils, booklets, sheet make-up and perforations, airmails and stationery.

It is often said that a philatelic work is indispensable but in this case it is true. Now that it has been published no Commonwealth specialist who really studies or claims to understand his stamps will be able to do without it.

Mr Holbeach has every reason to view the publication as a worthy work, well done, and a lasting service to all Commonwealth collectors, now and in the future.

The Hawthorn Press has also ensured that the publication is worthy of its own high typographical reputation.

MAILS FROM RAROTONGA AFTER THE ISSUE OF THE FIRST STAMPS

By A. R. BURGE

In view of the controversy about the date of the first issue of the Cook Islands—either 19 April 1892 or 7 May 1892—opportunity was recently taken of examining the files of the *Auckland Star* of the period, to determine the date of the sailing of the mail steamer *Richmond* during the first half of the year 1892. The *Richmond* made a voyage from Auckland every five or six weeks, usually calling at Tonga, Apia, Tahiti and Rarotonga before returning to Auckland, although the actual route taken varied from trip to trip.

The following are details of the information extracted and in being able to fix the dates the mails left Rarotonga, we are able to allocate any specifically dated cover or stamp to the particular mail without much difficulty. One day was usually spent in Rarotonga, the *Richmond* arriving early in the morning and leaving in the evening.

<i>Auckland Depart</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Rarotonga Arr./Dept.</i>	<i>Auckland Arrive</i>
1. 16 Feb. 1892	Tonga 22.2.92 Apia 25.2.92 Tahiti 3.3.92 — 9.3.92	12.3.92	20.3.92
(For the record only—stamps not printed until 29.2.92)			
2. 26 Mar. 1892	Tonga 1.4.92 Apia 4.4.92 Tahiti 11.4.92 — 16.4.92	19.4.92	27.4.92
(The first stamps carried on this voyage)			
3. 12 May 1892	Rarotonga 19.5.92 (arr. 4 p.m. left 7 p.m.) Tahiti 23.5.92 — 28.5.92	Arr. 31.5.92 Dept. 2.6.92 (delayed by bad weather)	11.6.92
(Messrs F. J. Moss, Donald, Edenborough among passengers on this voyage)			
4. 29 June 1892	Rarotonga 7.7.92 Tahiti 11.7.92 — 22.7.92	25.7.92 — 26.7.92	3.8.92
5. 9 Aug. 1892	Rarotonga 17.8.92 Tahiti 21.8.92 — 24.8.92	28.8.92 — 31.8.92	7.9.92

<i>Auckland Depart</i>	<i>Route</i>	<i>Rarotonga Arr./Dept.</i>	<i>Auckland Arrive</i>
6. 12 Sept. 1892	Rarotonga 21.9.92		
	Aitutaki 22.9.92		
	Tahiti 25.9.92		
	— 27.9.92	2.10.92 —	12.10.92
	Aitutaki 30.9.92	4.10.92	
	— 1.10.92		

Although no covers have been recorded, so far as we know, with the stamps cancelled with the date 19 April 1892, single stamps have been and also an unaddressed postcard. Another unaddressed postcard has the date 21 May 1892. (Both these belong to Mr K. J. McNaught of Hamilton.)

A cover dated 1 June 1892 is in the possession of Mr C. A. McKeown of America and is, to date, possibly the earliest recorded.

If the stamps were in fact first placed on sale on 8 May as claimed by the "Pixies," then the first mail out would be that of 2 June (apart perhaps for local mail for Tahiti), nearly a month away. It would be most unlikely any covers would exist with this date—7 May—and the only evidence that this may have been the first day of issue is contained in a footnote to the accounts of the administration, and in a passing reference in a letter written by Moss to Gray, the Secretary of the N.Z. Post Office.

Moss, it will be seen, was not in Rarotonga at the time, but only arrived on 19 May. That he knew the stamps had previously been despatched is borne out by the following extract from the files:

24.3.92. F. J. Moss to Colonial Secretary (from Auckland):

"I have this day received from the Printing Office a letter advising the despatch by mail of the postage stamps for the Cook Islands Government in accordance with your letter to me of 5 February last. The Cook Islands Government has been duly informed by me of the kindness of the New Zealand Government in this matter and will, I have no doubt, acknowledge it with thanks."

Whether Moss, in his letter to Rarotonga, sent any directions concerning the issue of the stamps we will probably never now know, but we still maintain that the evidence is strongly in favour that the date of issue was the date the stamps arrived in Rarotonga—19 April 1892, and the later date, 7 May 1892, marked the commencement of the records.

Until that time "correspondence from the Island was prepaid by N.Z. stamps and treated as if posted in the colony," and no doubt when the *Richmond* sailed that evening she bore mail prepaid either in N.Z. stamps or the new issue. One of these days such a cover will turn up and confound us all.

It seems strange, if the "Pixies" are right after all, that the date quoted in "Memorable Events in the Cook Islands" as listed in my previous article (*Philately from Australia*, December 1959, p. 92) should be wrong, as all the others are correct.

A HITHERTO UNRECORDED GEELONG PRE-STAMP MARKING, 1849

By A. G. Rigo de Righi

I recently had the privilege (through the courtesy of the librarian of Australia House, London) of examining a remarkable series of some 140 letters written by an early pioneer, Henry Nickols, back to his family in England. The letters date from the time he landed in Victoria, in 1845, to well into the 1870s.

Most of the pre-1850 letters bear the normal Geelong and Melbourne markings of the types described in Mr Purves' comprehensive *The Postal History of the Port Phillip District*. One of the entires in the correspondence, however, bears a Geelong "town and date" handstamp which is, so far as I know, unrecorded and of a type unique on the mainland of Australia in the pre-stamp period. The handstamp, which is illustrated below, was applied in red on the reverse of a letter from Geelong to Middlesex, dated by the writer "31 December 1848." The other postal markings are, on the obverse: rate markings of "3" in red (local ship letter fee) and "8" in black (U.K. rate on incoming colonial ship letters). On the reverse and partially covering the Geelong handstamp is a London arrival mark in red, "FM/25AP25/1849" in a circle.

Other letters in the Nickols' correspondence bear the ordinary Geelong-Port Phillip handstamp which was in use from early in 1848 until January 1852. Although this strike of the new marking is only partial the letters "... ELONG" of the name are quite distinct, and the writer says in the letter that he has come into town from his outback station and is posting the letter in Geelong.

The date, 1 January 1849, may be significant in explaining the use of this handstamp. New Year's morning is the kind of occasion on which the ordinary handstamp might get mislaid (or be locked up with the key in the possession of



an official who had celebrated the previous eve too well), thus compelling the use of an abnormal town and date-stamp. On the other hand, it is curious that no such type of handstamp was apparently in use at Melbourne in January 1851 when a Board of Enquiry reported on the management of the Post Office and the usage of the handstamps (see Purves, op. cit., p. 33). It is equally possible that this new type of handstamp was only used very occasionally and did not happen to occur among the very many covers on which Mr Purves based his listings.

The only other contemporary Australian handstamp of a similar type is the rectangular boxed "CAMP TOWN" applied in black to many of the letters passing through the post office at Campbelltown, Tasmania, from 1851 to 1853. The overall size of this handstamp is 35 × 14 mm. compared to approximately 30 × 14 mm. for the Geelong mark. Perhaps some other reader of *P. from A.* can throw some light on this Geelong mark?



The Other Side of the Picture



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

QUEENSLAND

The Numeral Cancellations

Over the last three months Mr Campbell and I have worked through much new material. We expect soon, so far as material goes, to reach the end of our labours and at a later stage to put all the new and all the old together in a revised edition of "Porter." Our old friend would, I think, have been pleased to know how much incentive his original work provided for us.

(a) *Corrections*

- 112 MURPHEY'S CREEK. See p. 16.
312 DULACCA. See p. 21. Formerly chronicled as 301.
347 LAURA. See p. 26. This was the only number used. The piece with the other number given (378) has been re-examined and is the result of an optical delusion.

(b) *Confirmations*

99 EIGHT MILE PLAINS, 118 CARWARRAL, 140 KINGSBOROUGH, 233 T.P.O. SOUTHERN & WESTERN RAILWAY, 237 STANWELL, 260 WARRA (very badly worn), 269 MILTON, 286 WALLUMBILLA (now a certainty, not a "?"), 300 WESTBROOK SIDING, 337 ARGENTINE, 351 WOMPAAH, 361 PINE HILL, 453 DUGANDAN, 493 REDLAND BAY (this number is correct although queried by Porter), 530 GOOMBUNGEE, 561 BOROREN, 573 T.P.O. No. 2 NORTHERN RAILWAY, 582 HAMBLEDON, 584 TUMMAVILLE.

In addition to the above various numbers allotted to certain P.O.s which changed their names have now been seen with *both* names, i.e., 339 (Burdekin, Macrossan Bridge), 357 (Hewitville, Emu Park), 368 (Richmond Downs, Richmond), 527 (Mossman River, Mossman).

(c) *New "Ties"*

Here we have some 33 to chronicle, including some corrections and probables, as follows:

- Q.L. Used at MARLBOROUGH (3). This is a confirmation of the theory advanced (see *P. from A.* for March 1960, under "Cleveland") that the Post Offices created between the first issue of 20 cancellers and the later issue of cancellers commencing with 21 were issued with "Q.L." cancellers and *not* with numerals.
- 49 LEYBURN. See p. 13. Mr E. Williams, of New York, reports this on an 1877 cover which is *backstamped* LEYBURN. 49 was not previously "tied."
- 112 MURPHEY'S CREEK. See p. 16. A correction.
- 169 T.P.O. No. 5, S. & W. RY. (2) Evidently a re-allocation as, according to a notice found in the *Government Gazette*, the first T.P.O.s were opened on 1.1.77 (when numbers 233 and 234 would have been allotted).
- 176 HARRISVILLE. See p. 18. Formerly a "probable," now a certainty.
- 192 NEARDIE. See p. 23. Possibly 195, last number not clear. "Closing" seems doubtful.
- 207 COOMERA. See p. 19. Formerly COOMERA TOWNSHIP.
- 212 RAVENSWOOD JUNCTION (2). See p. 23. A re-allocation.
- 268 FLORAVILLE. See p. 24. A re-allocation. Was a "probable," now a certainty.
- 285 PRATTEN. See p. 21. Was formerly DARKEY FLAT.
- 287 BROWNS PLAINS. See p. 18, there spelt "PLAIN." A replacement.
- 303 TERRORS CREEK. See p. 21. Was formerly HAMILTON.
- 305 TURALLIN. See p. 26. Under former name PINE CREEK. Probably a replacement, since WINTON also used 305.
- 312 DULACCA. See p. 21. A correction. Formerly noted as 301.
- 318 REID RIVER. See Reidsville (former name) on p. 22. Formerly a "probable," now a certainty.
- 335? NUDGE. See p. 23. Number rather indistinct.
- 374 TARINGA. See p. 24.
- 377 SEA HILL. See p. 24.
- 378 MARTON(?). See p. 24. Last "N" only is visible.
- 410 T.P.O. No. 1 CENTRAL RAILWAY. "T.P.O. No. 1" only and not the rest of the inscription is visible, but since 412 is *proved* for T.P.O. No. 3 of this Railway the inference seems a safe one (see also 233, 234 and 572, 573).
- 416 WEST END (Townsville). See p. 26. There are two P.O.s of this name, the other being in Brisbane. The Townsville P.O. was the only WEST END open in our period.
- 431 ISIS JUNCTION. See p. 25. Formerly ISISTOWN. "TION" only visible.
- 451 AYTON(?). See p. 26. 451 is clear but only concluding "N" (of a shortish word) is visible.
- 474 CORINDA. See p. 27.
- 490 TEXAS. See p. 19. A replacement, like FERNSVALE (491) and EMERALD (492).

- 491 FERNVALE (2). See p. 18. Formerly WIVENHOE. A replacement (see above)
- 495 NORMANBY. See p. 27. This was NORMANBY, via BOWEN.
- 512 MONAL CREEK. See p. 28 under "MONAL." A correction. Formerly attributed to BREAKFAST CREEK.
- 536 POMONA(?). See p. 29 under PIMBARREN. This number was formerly ascribed to TELEMOMON but it also seems possible that it was POMONA, the 586 given in Porter being perhaps a misreading.
- 572 T.P.O. No. 1 NORTHERN RAILWAY. See p. 30, where Porter (correctly) allots 573 to T.P.O. No. 2 on this railway.
- 596 KALLANDA. See p. 30 where incorrectly spelt as KALLANDRA. The 174 noted by Porter probably belongs to its re-opening (see p. 31).
- 611 KINGAROY. A correction. Porter noted this as 644 due, we think, to an illusion created by the serified 1s. We also incline to the belief that the other number given—171—is a misreading.
- 629 SILVERSPUR. See p. 31.

T.P.O. Numbers. A Theory for Some Puzzles

We have met a number of cases with *apparent* "ties" which on other grounds seem impossible or unlikely, e.g., 231 (two examples, both with MURPHEY'S CREEK), 325 (KILKIVAN), 444 (TOWNSVILLE), 482 (STAMFORD), etc. We have now also cases of numbers *proved* as T.P.O.s (e.g., 234, 573) with names *other* than the T.P.O. It may therefore well be that some or all of numbers 231 (see 233, 234), 325, 444 and 482 may turn out to have been allocated to T.P.O.s. Only more material can tell us the true story.

VICTORIA

(i) "*Too Lates*" and "*Registereds*"

The writer would like to express his appreciation for the loan of material—in response to his appeal—from Mr Jaffray of San Francisco, Messrs Gersten, Jackson and Stone of Sydney, and Messrs Borthwick, Gartner, White and Dr Heslop of Melbourne. This material was all valuable for study purposes and enabled him to confirm a number of important findings.

(ii) *Early Victorian Pre-Stamp Markings*

Mr Rigo de Righi is to be congratulated on his further discovery of what must have been the first Geelong marking. I have recently also been shown this same marking by another English friend, Mr T. S. G. Ward. Both covers are dated in 1840.

Mr Rigo de Righi, in a letter, states that he also has another marking—a "Barwon, Port Phillip"—not described in my book. That is so but I did meet this marking, for the first time, about two years ago.

Mr Ward has also shown me, on an entire, a "Geelong, Port Phillip" marking of 27.1.48. This antedates the earliest described in the book, which was 2.2.48.

Of course, 1848 was an awful long time ago but it is as intriguing to find early dates in this period as it is in any other.

(iii) *A Long-lived Plate: 10s. (1879-1912)*

Owing to the fact that for 81 years it has been used (and used frequently) to produce fiscal stamps only it would have escaped the notice of most collectors that the *same* plate used to print the 10s. "Stamp Duty," first appearing in December 1879, is still in use today! The same old flaws are still there and the stamp has of course seen many changes in colour, paper and perforation. While the fact that the plate was "steeled" (or "nickelled") no doubt accounts for its "staying" qualities, it is doubtful whether in the whole world of stamps we can find any other instance of a plate used for 81 years and, what is more, still in use.

NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION

The New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition will now be held in the Armagh Street Art Gallery, Christchurch, instead of Canterbury University Hall, as previously arranged.

The dates are unchanged, 21-26 August 1961.

Accommodation advice or arrangements will be dealt with by Accommodation and Travel Officer, Mrs G. G. Gawler, P.O. Box 2336, Christchurch, C1. As the French Rugby team will be playing a test match in Christchurch on the closing day of the exhibition, accommodation should be booked early.

The prospectus is now available.

Entries will close on 1 July to Box 2336, Christchurch, and exhibits must reach Christchurch by 7 August.

Australian Commissioners are Mrs A. C. Campe, Royal Arcade, Sydney, and Mr H. L. Chisholm, 65 Park Street, South Yarra, Melbourne, SE1.

THE LOCAL STAMPS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NEW HEBRIDES COMPANY

Sir—The very fine article by Mr Croaker in the September number of *Philately from Australia* on "The Status of the Local Stamps of the Australasian New Hebrides Company" is an admirable example of what a "fishing expedition" should be like—asking questions intelligently and not interjecting conjecture or surmise that would spoil the trail.

Having been fortunate in receiving the help of Mr Phil Collas on these stamps, and even more fortunate in having certain premises worked out by Mr J. Chas. Ankin, of John Sands Pty Ltd, I found myself smiling at Mr Croaker's being where I was a year ago.

As I am having an extensive article on the subject published elsewhere, and as Mr Collas has an even more detailed chapter on this subject prepared for his book, I will confine myself now to certain broad statements which will help Mr Croaker to bide his patience until he can see the complete story.

Firstly: There were *two* Australasian New Hebrides Companys. The first failed in 1892 upon the cessation of governmental subsidies to steamship lines upon whose low rates the A.N.H. Co. depended. The assets were taken over by the second company in 1893, which firm was organized by James Burns and of which Burns Philp was made general manager.

The second firm was in trouble almost from the beginning because of shifts in world markets (particularly the opening of South American coffee sources, and of cotton elsewhere), and because of an increased tempo of French competition from New Caledonia which had official support. When the locals issue was contemplated, in 1897, it was based on the idea of perhaps forcing the governments of Victoria and/or New South Wales to confer new subsidies, but they did not rise to the bait.

Old, retired employees of John Sands, which printed the locals, have stated that the order for 2000 sheets of the 1d. and 1000 sheets of the 2d. was accepted from Burns Philp and not from A.N.H. Co. because it

was common knowledge that the latter was "broke."

The A.N.H. Co. failed sometime before 30 September 1897, for I have from Burns Philp a letter stating that they took over the assets on 30 September 1897. This has led to my surmise that 31 July 1897 is a good date to use in certain criteria because of the following things: it allows the month of August for the clearing of the books, and because there are so many singles cancelled in August, and onwards, which all have the same appearance.

Mr Stanley Jersey, Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., has been kind enough to show me at least five singles cancelled before 31 July 1897, and a cover from the Vila station to "Stephens" Espiritu Santo. It is franked with the 2d. and has both the "PORT VILA POST" and "TRAVELLING POST" date stamps, the first dated 17 APR 97, the latter 17 MAY 97. Stephens was a point of call listed in the A.N.H. Co. schedule of inter-island vessel calls, and I presume the cover to be philatelic because of the 2d. instead of the 1d. stamp, and that there is a simple error of month in the date-stamps. This material is all that I know of the early period.

The failure of the company did not, however, stop operations in the New Hebrides. Burns Philp simply continued business, and the present managing director of that firm, Mr Joseph Mitchell, was in Vila as a clerk training for responsibility in the company in 1898. He has stated that the stamps were used, and that Burns Philp forced the use of the locals by ignoring letters brought to the station without locals affixed thereon.

If Mr Croaker had read further, or quoted further in his reference from *A.P.* for 26 July 1897, he would have shown a most interesting item—the affirmation that the A.N.H. Co. would attempt to prevent philatelic adventures with their stamps. We can believe they did, but Burns Philp did not. Money is where you find it, and a collector's money is as good as a trader's, so there is no doubt that no care was taken as

to how the stamps were sold or used—so long as they were used.

Burns Philp made an agreement with the Commonwealth Government as of 30 September 1900 to run a subsidized mail and cargo service through the New Hebrides for £3600 per annum, and in return turned over 100,000 acres of property and agreed to suppress the locals.

We come, then, to the crux of the matter. Of all the covers noted in auction catalogues, and other sources so far, all have had odd frankings in locals. There is no record of the registration rate being used as such. The "Dan Calder" cover is typical of all (including the Hambly covers) in showing 2½d. and 3d. in N.S.W. postage—the regular single letter rate before 1900—and 2d. or 3d. in locals. One fine point was ignored by the N.S.W. Post Office: A.N.H. Co. has a subsidy of £50 per annum for handling the mails between Sydney and Vila, as well as being paid for the cartage thereof, and it was technically illegal for the company to charge local postage on a cover from Vila to Sydney, but in the absence of real jurisdiction N.S.W. ignored the infraction.

In spite of all the above showing that no "clean" material exists, or is as yet reported, we have *genuine* uses anyway. As long as mails did not move unless they were franked with a particular stamp then we have a "use" of the stamp. And this state-

ment applies to the really fake 1903 Syndicat Francais locals. As long as a ship's captain would not accept letters from outlying posts unless they bought a particular stamp from him then we can consider that a real relationship exists between the stamp and the movement of mails.

The only uses of the 1897 locals which may be condemned are those after 30 September 1900. I stated above that some covers had 3d. in N.S.W. postage, and implied it was the regular rate: this is not so as 2½d. was correct and 3d. an overpayment.

I would like, at this point, since the members of the Pacific Islands Circle have published such helpful material in your journal to report that I have N.S.W. stamp S.G. 223f cancelled with the genuine agency strike of Vila, New Hebrides, of DE 30/1892. This is, I believe, the earliest reported since Armstrong, in 1911, showed a 1895 strike.—Yours, etc., Nathan Hals, New York.

[Mr Hals has just advised by air letter that the first portion of the article he refers to was published in *Stamp Collecting*, 24 February, and that it would be concluded in the 3 March issue.

[He adds: "I have acquired a single 'Hambly' cover of 22 Jun 97 with S.G. 256 and 286 and a pair of the 1d. locals, cancelled only with the ANH Port Vila Post cancel—so this can be added to the brief number of 'genuine' covers reported."]

PAPUA

The "Small Papua" Lithographed Issues

Sir,

I have read with considerable interest the Pixies' valuable contribution on p. 107 of your issue for December 1960.

I have a fairly strong holding of the stamps of position No. 11 of all values, in which the 2½d.s are well represented. Among the latter is a copy with the *side-ways watermark*, perf. 12½ showing the "spot on the hill" variety. The sentence in the fifth paragraph of the article, viz., "Thus it is not possible to find the 2½d.,

perf. 12½ and showing the 'spot on the hill' " is disproved.

I have examined this stamp very carefully and am quite satisfied that it is what I state it to be and that the "spot" is not what we might call an "adventitious" mark in the same position. It is as clear here as it is on any of the other stamps.

Perhaps the explanation is that the perforating machines were used indiscriminately?

I am sorry (?) therefore to be "throwing a spanner in the works" but truth must out!

Yours, etc., Evan R. Gill, Liverpool.



PACIFIC PARAGRAPHS

Contributed by the Pacific Island Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club

(Convenor's address: 26 Redgrave Road, Normanhurst, N.S.W.)

NEW HEBRIDES CONDOMINIUM

The France Libre Overprint



We illustrate a vertical pair taken from a sheet of the 10c New Hebrides postage due stamps of the Free French commemorative issue of 1941-43, showing the misplaced overprint covering the horizontal lines of perforation.

Of the entire issue, this was the only sheet received at the post office at Vila with the overprint misplaced. Eight stamps from the three bottom rows were affected.

Constant varieties in this issue include a thickened "e" in *Libre* on stamp No. 13 in all denominations of the first overprinting; a stroke above the letter "i" in *Libre*, stamp No. 24 of values from 20c to 10fr of the first overprinting; and a defective "n" in France, stamp No. 26 of the 5c to 15c, also of the first overprinting. In the second overprinting, stamp No. 25 of the 25c to 10fr, there is a defective "F" in France.

There were three separate overprintings in Noumea, all from the same forme. Stamps above the 15c denomination were sold only in complete sets, which were limited by the quantity of 10fr stamps then available in the post office stock at Vila, and numbered 5970.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

In 1942 Ocean Island, of the Gilbert and Ellice group, was evacuated because of the Japanese Pacific advance. The Treasury Office of the Colony was removed to Sydney and later to the Office of the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific at Suva, Fiji.

A pair of frank markings (SUVA FIJI REGISTERED, c.d.s. known date, 31 My 44) and another circular marking with FIJI OFFICIAL G.E.I.C. PAID in four lines were used simultaneously to impress official mail originating from Suva.

They were first used about December 1943.

New markings were applied in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands when the Administration returned to Tarawa in 1944.

These were POST OFFICE TARAWA between twin circles (known date Oc 7 46) and the official cancellation mentioned above, with FIJI removed. Examples from this latter marking in 1946-7 show signs of wear.

If any readers possess examples of these cancellers, or have seen them, will they please write to the convenor.

EDITORIAL NOTES

M.B.E.

Mr Walter Finigan, convenor of the Pacific Island Circle, of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, was honoured with the M.B.E. in the New Year Honours, for national services in connection with the Gould League of Bird Lovers of N.S.W.

Mr Finigan, with the late Edward Webster, founded the League on 23 October 1910, with 23 members. Today's membership is 150,000.

Mr Finigan is now senior vice-president, chairman of the committee, and trustee of the League, in which he first held office as general secretary.

Ill-health, however, has forced Mr Finigan to resign the convenorship of the Circle, although he will remain as keen a member as ever. The new convenor is Mr E. J. Garrard.

Lady F.R.P.S.L.

Mrs P. M. C. Rock, of Newcastle, whom many will remember as the convenor of the social committee for ANPEX 1959, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Mrs Rock won a silver-gilt medal and the prize for the most meritorious entry by a woman collector for her France at ANPEX, besides two bronze medals for her thematic collections.

Story of an R.D.P.

From Alan Mulgan: *The Making of a New Zealander* (A. H. and A. W. Reed). "The Canterbury Yeomanry Cavalry was select. . . Arthur Harper told of a corporal of the C.Y.C. who was allotted as orderly to an inspecting English general. Impressed by the young man's smartness, the English-

man asked him what he did in life and was told 'nothing in particular.' An orderly-room homily from the general followed. This was overheard and it was arranged that the corporal should join a dinner party that night at which the general was to be a guest.

"When they met the general looked hard at the young man. 'Haven't I seen you before?' 'Yes, sir, I was your orderly today.' The novelty of dining with a corporal shook the general somewhat. The corporal was Robert Heaton Rhodes, a member of one of the oldest, most widely known, and richest, of Canterbury families—M.A. of Oxford, barrister-at-law of the Inner Temple, later Colonel Sir Heaton Rhodes, Member of Parliament and Minister of the Crown."

Tilleard Medal

The Royal Philatelic Society, London, has awarded the Tilleard Medal, for the best display of 1959-60, to Mr G. J. Hutson, F.R.P.S.L., for his display of New South Wales.

New N.Z. Health Variety

Messrs H. R. Harmer Ltd, London, offered a hitherto unknown N.Z. Health stamp variety at auction last month.

It was the 2d. + 1d. red-brown triangular health stamp of 1943 imperf. between, diagonally. The 1d. + ½d. green, in similar condition, is recorded in the *Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Vol II*, p. 159.

The new discovery is the right-hand pair of a corner block of four, used on souvenir cover. The postmark is "Grey-mouth 23 My 44."

AUSTRALIAN ARMY POST OFFICES IN THE BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE

This article, written by Rev. A. H. Voyce, of Milford, Auckland, New Zealand, is based on research by him and on a short article on the subject by the late Mr H. S. Porter which he left to the "Pixies."

It has not been easy to track down full details of the Australian Army Postal cancellations as used in the British Solomon Islands.

The facts are that after the surrender of the Japanese, a Prisoner of War camp was set up near Torokina, and later a large Prisoner of War camp was established on Fauro Island, just south of Bougainville in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate. For this latter purpose it became necessary to remove the native population of Fauro, and they were taken to the island of Mono, in the Treasuries. When this camp was properly established, the prisoners from Torokina were also transferred to Fauro Island, and they were there until all prisoners were transferred to Japan early in 1946.

The work of garrison duty at the Treasury Islands, after the New Zealand Forces were repatriated to New Zealand, and at Munda after the American Forces went further on to the Philippines, was undertaken by units of the 23rd Australian Infantry Division, the headquarters of which remained at Cape Torokina on Bougainville Island.

The Director, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, A.C.T., states: "The 23rd Brigade Australian Infantry was established in the 'outer' islands round Bougainville, in September, 1944." Then he gives the following details, which include 7th Battalion, less "D" Company, on Treasury Island, with "D" Company at Munda, New Georgia.

In March 1945, the Brigade began to move towards Torokina, leaving Companies of the 8th Battalion at Treasury, and nil at Munda. By July the whole Brigade was concentrated on Bougainville, and on 1 October 1945, they took charge of the Prisoner of War camp at Torokina. By early November, practically all Japanese Prisoners had been concentrated on Fauro Island, where they were guarded by 7th Battalion whose headquarters were opened at Fauro on 21 October 1945.

The headquarters of 23rd Brigade remained at Torokina.

A Brigade Location Statement of 13 December 1945 shows a detachment of the 7th Battalion on Shortland Island.

On 26 January 1946, Advanced 23rd Brigade Headquarters opened at Fauro Island. On 31 January 1946, at 0001 hours, command of Torokina passed from 23rd Brigade to 4 Base Sub Area. At 0001 hours 23rd Brigade Headquarters closed at Torokina, and opened at Fauro Island. Headquarters of 23rd Infantry Brigade remained at Fauro Island until 2 April 1946, when embarkation commenced on the arrival of H.M.A.S. *Kanimbla*.

However, the writer well remembers arriving at Torokina about Christmas time 1945, where into January there were quite a number of Japanese war prisoners still in camp at Torokina!

It is believed that the postal markers used in the British Solomons by the Australian Army Forces were as follows:

AUST. UNIT POSTAL STN 373: At Treasury Islands from October 1944 until April 1945, used by 7th Battalion, 23rd Australian Infantry Brigade.

UNIT POSTAL STATION A.C. 39: At Munda, New Georgia, used by "D" Company of 7th Battalion from 15 October 1944 until March 1945, when Australian Force evacuated to Bougainville.

A.I.F. FIELD P.O. NO. 16: Used by a Company of the 8th Battalion at Treasury Islands from April till June 1945, when finally evacuated to Bougainville.

AUST. UNIT POSTAL STN 366: Used at Shortland Island by 7th Battalion from October 1945 until moved to Fauro in January 1946, where remained until some date in early 1946.

FIELD P.O. 0102: Used at Headquarters 23rd Brigade at Fauro Island from early February 1946 until embarkation of the Brigade on the *Kanimbla* on 2 April 1946.

TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS ON VICTORIA — 1901-12 VALUES AND POSTAGE DUES

Two new publications on Victoria's stamps will be published within the next two months. Both should prove of great interest to Victoria specialists and fill gaps in the State's philatelic literature.

Mr J. R. W. Purves has now completed work on the 3d., 4d. and 5d. values of Victoria in the 1901-12 period. The monograph—which also contains Addenda bringing his work on the 1½d., 2d. and 2½d. values of this period up to date—should be in print at about the same time as this journal appears, or very shortly afterwards.

It will be No. 14 of the series of monographs published by The Hawthorn Press.

He has also completed a *second* work, on *The Postage Dues of Victoria 1890-1912*. This study, in addition to treating the stamps themselves, will also deal with the whole background, legal and historical, of the collection of such charges in this State. It is believed that this is perhaps the first time that such stamps and the bases for their existence have been dealt with comprehensively in the one volume. The work should appear, in book form, before the end of May. The text itself has been completed and the illustrations, which will be extensive, are well under way.

THOUGHTS ON QUEENSLAND NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS

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

Following publication of my article under this heading in the March and June 1960 numbers of *Philately from Australia*, certain new information has come:

- 56 *Re-allocation*: CORFIELD (opened 1900).
- 88 Alter to read—SPRING CREEK.
- 91 Alter to read—TINGALPA, later CAPALABA (1.3.74). Reverted to *TINGALPA (8.7.75).
- 107 Alter to read—KILKIVAN, moved to NEUREUM (28.9.76), later *KILKIVAN (18.2.81).
- 140 *Re-allocation*: KINGSBOROUGH (opened 21.4.99).
- 187 Alter to read—(TAMBOURINE, closed 1910). *Re-allocation*: MOUNT ALFORD (opened Nov. 1910).
- 188 (KHOLO, closed 1.10.85). *Re-allocation*: TORBANLEA (opened 1.4.87).
- 209 Alter to read—*THORNSBOROUGH, later THORNBOROUGH.
- 260 WARRA.
- 262 (STEWART TOWN, closed 9.8.80). *Re-allocation*: MOUNT BRITTEN (opened 1.6.81).
- 273 *Delete* WARRA.
- 300 Alter to read—*Re-allocation*: WESTBROOK (opened 1.4.83), later *WESTBROOK SIDING (1897).
- 329? COORPAROO.
- 337 STAR RIVER, later *ARGENTINE (1.1.88).
- 351 Name should read WOMPAH.
- 355 BOULDERCOMBE.
- 364 *Delete* NORTH ROCKHAMPTON.
- 371 NORTH ROCKHAMPTON.
- 381 SOUTHBROOK.
- 391 *Re-allocation*: THE LEAP (opened 1.5.88).
- 432 (LANGTON, closed 30.4.87). *Re-allocation*: OONTOO (opened 1.4.98).
- 435 *Delete* YERONGA.
- 436 YERONGA.
- 457? TABLE TOP.
- 468 The opening date of NOCCUNDRRA was 11.10.90.
- 482 (JONDOWAIE). Later used as a replacement canceller at STAMFORD.
- 555 Alter to read—*GIROFLA, later *MUNGANA.
- 610 TOOLBURRA.

THE QUALITY OF STAMPS

By *LOUIS FRANK*, F.R.P.S.L.

The quality of stamps was never of such importance as it is today.

In times past, when the old prepared album was the only way of collecting stamps, many a collector cut off the large margins and corner pieces of a stamp, just to fit in the space provided in his album. With the introduction of the loose leaves, however, this has changed. Nowadays, collectors are trying to get anything unusual on the stamps and the larger the margins the better.

Yet, not every stamp can have large margins, and, what for the one type of stamp is a second class copy, is, by the other issue of a country, a superlative item. For instance, Norway No. 1 can have 3 mm. margins but a stamp of Thurn & Taxis or Tuscany can only have $\frac{1}{2}$ mm. margin.

In general terms a stamp of Thurn and Taxis can be regarded as a first class copy if it has the half of the space between the stamps on all sides.

Stamps with more than these margins are "piece-de-luxe" or "superb" and are worth more than catalogue price. Also, corner-pieces, some with ornamental frames, as the stamps of Hanover, or stamps with watermark of the frame of the sheet showing, or numerals of the frame, or so-called "supermargins," with neighbouring stamps showing, are all fetching high prices, many times more than catalogue value.

Other indications of quality are:

(1) Original fresh colour. (2) Original gum (for mint stamp). (3) Cancellation. (4) Centred (for perforated stamps). (5) Thinned (or other damage). (6) Perforation. (7) Repaired stamps.

Original Colours

Many stamps of old issues are damaged through moisture or stainspots, or through oxidisation, and have lost some of their original colour. Therefore, stamps which have their original gum and colour are only to be classified as "superb." Also, a used stamp which did not lose its colour through injudicious treatment by washing, can be "superb," if it has the other characteristics.

For mint stamps, original gum is a "must," if they are to be classified as "superb," and if the stamp has some of the gum missing, or even if it has been hinged a few times, and the hinge is covering nearly the whole of the back of the stamp, such a stamp will be classified as "without gum." Only if the stamp is hinged for a very small part, not more than $\frac{1}{16}$ th of an inch, is it accepted as "mint," meaning "as it left the post office."

I would mention also that there are opinions that it would be better for the conservation of the stamp to take the gum off the stamp completely, and, in tropical countries, it is advisable to do so. In these hot climates the gum becomes yellowish and gives the stamp an unfresh appearance. Nevertheless, only stamps with full gum are regarded as "mint" and are priced accordingly.

Cancellations

These are also a very important aspect of the quality of the stamp. It is not always that a heavy cancellation will reduce the quality and value of the stamp, but only if it is covering the wrong place.

For instance, a heavy and clear cancellation of Sicily, if it is put on the stamps in the way prescribed, leaving the face of the King clearly visible, will not reduce the value, even as in the case of the postmark of Belgium on the first two issues, so long as the face of the King is visible in the centre of the stamps.

Some stamps, with heavy and clear postmarks, in which the postmark is a rarity, are even much more valuable than if the stamp was very lightly cancelled. In general, smudgy postmarks are always deteriorating so far as quality is concerned.

Centred Stamps

These are mainly for perforated stamps and means that the image of the stamp must be exactly in the centre and showing on all sides the same width of margin.

There are quite a few countries who have issued stamps, which are all "de-centred," for instance, Hungary and Sweden, with their first four issues. This was caused through an imperfect perforating machine. It is quite understandable, therefore, that a stamp of that country, perfectly centred is a "rarity," and therefore demands a higher price and is much sought after.

Perforation

Here also it depends on the different types of perforation. You cannot expect to have all the perforation on the corners by a line perforation, roulette, or serpentine perforation. Only a "comb perforation" can give a perfect perforation.

However, missing teeth of a stamp always reduce its value. A serpentine stamp of Finland's second issue, with all perforations intact, will bring a very high price. Stamps of Wurtemberg are catalogued at a certain price, but if all perforations are complete, the price will increase by 50 to 100%.

Thinned, Damaged

If a stamp is thinned, it reduces its value considerably, but for a rare stamp it is still worth being taken in a good collection. Also, other damage, such as tears and pinholes, etc., reduce the value and it all depends on the rarity of the stamp if such a "damaged" copy can still be tolerated in a collection. There are even stamps of Hanover which are thinned by the washing off of covers and because of the structure of the used gum (mainly red gum) could not be easily washed off since the gum was felted with the paper. This gum is called "Hanover Hell" and yet it seems that, even if the stamp is thinned, these stamps are to be regarded as "first quality," if it shows up that the paper of the stamp is not affected in any way.

Repaired Stamps

Not all philatelists have the same opinion regarding rare stamps. With other old objects, such as paintings, furniture, porcelain, etc., repairing is tolerated. Perhaps, with the passage of time, when the paper will have been affected more, a repaired stamp will have more respect. Nevertheless, where rare stamps are concerned, I think that a repaired stamp is worthwhile keeping in your collection. At important auctions all over the world these repaired stamps are auctioned, with the repair indicated. Naturally, the value is much lower than for an un-repaired stamp and for exhibitions it is better not to show it.

In general, it is accepted that a heavily repaired stamp, where all four margins have been put on, loses approximately 70%, one more lightly repaired loses approximately 50%, and a very small repair 25-30%.

From these points it is clearly seen that a first quality stamp must comply with a number of qualities.

Second quality stamps are mostly those otherwise perfect, but with a rather heavy postmark, or with very small thinning or pinpoint, or incomplete perforation. This type of stamp is marked in auction catalogues as "fine copy" and can be collected.

Low quality stamps are those which are without margins, or on one or more sides cut in the image of the stamp, heavy or smudgy postmarks, damaged perforation, thinning, tears or other damage, and for serious collectors it is not advisable to collect these types of stamps.

Then there is still the description of "superb" in the English language, and, in the German and French language expressions such as "cabinet piece," "luxus stuck," or "piece de luxe."

A "superb" stamp must have all the good qualities of a first-class stamp, but must have more than the 50% margins between the stamps. This is called in German "uberandig" or overmargin. But if it has also pieces of all the neighbouring stamps showing, it is "super-de-luxe" and in the English language there is no word for that.

There are many attempts, made mainly by auctioneers, to describe the condition of the stamps in their catalogue. The Italian catalogue describes the general impression of a stamp as "B," "BB," or "BBB," for nice, very nice, extra nice (bellissimo); "R," "RR," or "RRR," for not common (rare), rare, and very rare; "CC" for centred; "F," "FF," or "FFF," for fresh colour, very fresh colour, and extra fresh colour; "GM" for great margins, and some more information about the stamps.

Some other auctioneers also are giving some abbreviated letters indicating quality, etc. However, the best code system is newly tried in the U.S.A. and, if generally accepted for auctions, will give a good and accurate report about the condition of the stamp.

In large letters are always the different qualities, as "G" for gum, "C" for centred, "F" for fresh of colour, "D" for damage or tears, "P" for perforation,

"PM" for cancellation (postmark), etc., and the degree of quality or damage is indicated by smaller letters, as, for instance, "G.o" means original gum, "G.n" without gum, "C" for centred and "CC" for exactly in the middle, "C.r" is centred right, "C.lb" left bottom, "C.rt" is centred right top.

By this system a stamp can be accurately described and valued at the right price. Perhaps a future generation of stamp dealers and auctioneers will have computers, where the quality code of the stamps is fed in and the value in percentages is given instantly. For the time being we have to rely on our experience and feeling.

However, two things are certain, a good quality stamp will always be a good thing to possess and it can only increase in value.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Resemblance

Many years ago, the late Sir Heaton Rhodes pointed out the similarity of design of New Zealand's Full Faces to the first issue of Chile, produced by Perkins Bacon Ltd, two years before the New Zealand stamps.

Last October, Sir John Wilson, curator of the Royal Collection, displaying a selection of Her Majesty's Queensland stamps, commented on the "rather interesting resemblance in technique between the stamps of Queensland and those of Chile."

His points of comparison, reported by the *London Philatelist*, were:

The plates for both countries were produced by Perkins Bacon.

Both in Chile and Queensland there were practically no re-entries, but in both cases the plates were extensively touched-up before the stamps were placed in circulation.

The famous retouch of the 3d. of Queensland corresponds very closely with the similar retouches of the 10 centavos of Chile.

When the plates were sent out to Queensland and Chile, lithographic transfers were taken and the stamps locally printed by lithography.

Early Antarctica

The keen current interest in Antarctica is stirring up discoveries about the early issues that should have been recorded at the time but were not.

Stamps from what N.Z. Universal Plates were overprinted "King Edward VII Land" for the Shackleton Expedition of 1907-09.

They were the 1906 issue for which two plates were prepared by Waterlow and Sons, lettered W1, W2, and two by Royle and Co., lettered R1, R2, and then a further pair, marked by three and four dots. Stamps from the Royle plates cannot themselves be identified to a particular plate, though those from W1 and W2 can.

A. J. Sefi, *King Edward VII Land*, says the stamps were from the "new plate." R. J. G. Collins, *The Stamps of the Pacific Islands* uses the generic "the Royle Plates." A block in the editor's collection shows the "three dots" marginal marking.

The New Zealand Stamp Collector has recorded the discovery by Mr Eric R. Gibbs, of Taihape, of the "overprint" on stamps from W1.

Now a Victoria Land 1d. of Scott's Last Expedition, showing the "ONE" flaw of the 1d. Dominion has been sold in England. This flaw is on the plate known to philatelists as "Plate 1."

BOOK REVIEWS

London's Philatelic Treasures, by Kay Horowicz. 16 pp. 4½ x 6 in. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd, 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1.

This booklet is especially to be welcomed by overseas philatelists given the prized opportunity of a visit to Britain.

It lists the philatelic collections in public institutions, where they are, how they can be seen if not on public display, and a note of the gems they contain. It lists classics, airmails, war stamps, thematics, stationery, postal history, and general collecting.

Mosden U.A.R. and Iraq Republic Catalogue, 1960 edited by E. H. Moshi. 48 pp. 9½ x 6 in. Published by The Mosden Stamp Company (New York) Ltd, 521 Fifth Avenue, New York, 17. Price, \$0.90.

This new catalogue, compiled by the publishers of the well-known Israel Catalogue, lists the issues of Egypt and Syria from March 1958, when these republics merged to form the United Arab Republic.

It also lists the U.A.R. Egypt issues which were overprinted PALESTINE for use in the occupied territory of the Gaza Strip and Sinai. The issues of Yemen from 1 March 1959, and those of the Republic of Iraq formed after the revolution of 14 July 1958.

Introductory historical notes on each country are followed by listings pricing each stamp mint, used, in plate blocks, and on first day covers, as well as all collectable varieties. Full information includes sheet size, and, generally, numbers issued.

The practice in Syria of issuing 500 de luxe proof sheets of most issues seems to have lapsed from December 1958, and none should regret their demise. List prices in the order of \$50 a sheet are scarcely realistic in view of their questionable status. One also questions prices of \$85 for varieties of Palestine overprints.

The catalogue is attractively produced on art paper and clearly illustrated.

A note draws attention to the intention of Mosden and Sanabria to publish a monthly magazine on the subject, and it is hoped that this will continue from *The Holy Land and Middle East Philatelic Magazine* of which the last number, Vol. 3, No. 1, was published in England by the Mosden Stamp Company in February 1959.

R.L.S.

Philatelic Massachusetts by Messrs Lee V. D. Schermerhorn, Robert C. Munroe, Julius F. Schmidt, and William G. Fenton. 67 pp. 6 x 8½ in. Limited edition. Published by the Springfield Stamp Club, Springfield, Mass. Not for sale.

We are indebted to the kindness of Mr George W. Angers, of Springfield, for a copy of this book, which was issued to commemorate the club's 50th anniversary.

The book is a detailed collection of all stamps that deal, in any way, with the history of Massachusetts or persons connected with that history.

Naturally, it opens with the Millbury Postmaster's Provisional 1846, and all the U.S. Government issues catalogued by Scott. It also covers carriers, locals, encased postage stamps, revenues, and stamps from other countries whose designs have some association with Massachusetts.

Cumulative Subject Index for the First 30-year Period (1924-1953) of the Journal "Philotelia" by Tryphon Constantinidis, assisted by S. J. Macrymichalos and E. K. Stassinopoulos. 18 pp. 6½ x 9½ in. Published by the Hellenic Philatelic Society, 5b Phidiou Street, Athens. Price, \$5; carton bound, \$6.

Greece's premier philatelic magazine is the latest of the growing number which recognise that a cumulative index to the material they have published is essential if philatelists are to be properly served.

This attractively produced, limited edition work is divided into three parts. First, all material published in Greek in *Philotelia*; the second, all articles published in languages other than Greek; and finally an index to authors' names.

We have not been favoured with a copy of the complete index but the prospectus states that the references include 963 articles dealing with Greek issues, 1861-1953, including 149 dealing with the Large Hermes Head issue. The work is mainly in the Greek language.

Luxembourg Philatelist, Vol. XI, No. 2. 6 pp. 8½ x 11 in. Journal of the Luxembourg Philatelic Study Club (Warren W. Sadler, C/- Greeley and Hansen, 217 Governor Street, Richmond 19, Virginia, U.S.A.).

The increasing number of study circles, so typical of present day philately, are fill-

ing a real need, and their journals are tremendously useful.

This number of the *Luxembourg Philatelist* contains an article on War and Post-war Surcharges, 1916-22, one of a series of translations from the pre-World War II publications of M. Bernard Duval, and a list of philatelic services available in Luxembourg.

It is attractively produced and in publishing translations into English provides a real service.

Some Aspects of the Postal History of Nigeria, Dr Eric Glasgow. 8 pp. 7¼ x 9¼ ins. Published by the Postal History Society, Ormonde House, Sion Hill, Bath. Price 7s 9d (stg.)

The Postal History of Sweden, J. Alfred Birch, 20 pp. Price 10s 6d (stg.)

London Suburban Cancellations, H. C. Westley. 11 pp. Price 10s 6d (stg.)

Waitako Maori War of New Zealand, 1863-64, R. M. Startup. 4 pp. Price 5s 3d (stg.)

This bracket of Postal History Society publications is led by the work on Nigeria, which, besides its topical interest, has the greater merit of being written by Dr Eric Glasgow, a well-known Cambridge history tutor.

"For its size and its importance, unexpectedly little has been written about Nigeria," he says, and in this booklet he provides a summary of the complete 19th and 20th century history of the area, fitting the postal development into the broad historical picture, and explaining the historical significance of the items listed in the catalogue and Robson Lowe's *Handstruck Postage Stamps of the Empire*.

Mr Birch's work reviews the first two centuries of Swedish postal history, to 1860, setting out the many types of service operating during the period, and illustrating the postal markings.

Mr Westley's brochure adds further to his previous writings, and is a supplement to his distinguished book *The Postal Cancellations of London, 1840-1890*. Now he deals with the 1844 horizontal ovals and the 1857-8 upright obliterations, adding a supplementary list of the numbers followed by B.

Mr Startup's offering explains the well-known Maori War postmarks on N.Z. Full Faces—QUEEN'S REDOUBT (an advance base

camp at Pokeno, near the Waikato River) and traces the movements of HEADQUARTERS. He notes that cancellations have not been recorded from any of the field force post offices, although it is believed datestamps were issued to them.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Resume of the H. R. Harmer Organisation, Season 1959-60. 36 pp. 7¼ x 9¼ in. Published by H. R. Harmer Ltd, 71 New Bond Street, London W1. Price 2s. (Stg.)

Harmers report that their London realisations exceeded £400,000 for the second time, and New York's figures were a record, for non-Caspary years, \$911,476.

Sydney reported that its steady growth continued. Some modern issues were weaker but there was keen competition for earlier material. Most early Australian and Pacific Islands commanded excellent prices. Best price was £370 for the two bottom rows of the ¼d. Kangaroo sheet, imperforate at base.

Notable prices were: the Bandholtz find of a block of 14 and strip of 10 (largest known multiples) of the U.S. 10c. black, 1847, cancelled with pen strokes, \$12,000 (later re-sold by private treaty, \$16,000); \$5 Columbus, mint block, with imprint and plate number, \$2,400; Sydney Views, 1d. Red, Plate I, soft yellowish paper, large part gum, \$330; 2d. greyish blue, unused, but with cut and fold, \$370; 2d. Plate II, lilac blue, full margins, £180.

Saints on Stamps, George W. Angers. 22 pp. 5¼ x 8½ ins. Mimeographed. Published by George W. Angers, 293 Bridge Street, Springfield 3, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Countries That Have Issued "Saints on Stamps", George W. Angers. 5 pp. 5¼ x 8½ ins. Mimeographed. Published by George W. Angers, 293 Bridge Street, Springfield 3, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

The first of these companion booklets contains a list of the Saints portrayed on stamps, in alphabetical order, with the issuing countries and their Scott Catalogue 1960 numbers given.

The second lists the countries, with the names of the Saints appearing on their stamps.

Both are thorough, painstaking productions, surprising in their range, and will be of great help to the many thematic collectors interested in religion on stamps.

The Australian Stamp Catalogue, 1961, second edition. 32 pp. 5½ x 8¼ in. Published by Review Publications Pty Ltd, Dubbo, N.S.W. Price 2s. 6d.

The new edition of this catalogue has risen eight pages. The most notable innovation was the introduction of watermarks and perforations on a limited scale. The absence of this did restrict its field of usefulness.

The extensive notes will be of much interest and use to juniors and thematic collectors.

The Cinderella Philatelist, No. 1 January 1961. 64 pp. 5½ x 8 in. Published for the Cinderella Stamp Club by L. N. and M. Williams, 30 Dunstan Road, London, NW11. Price 6/6 (stg).

This publication aims at catering for the collectors of locals, telegraph stamps, fiscals, railway stamps and other sidelines, the so-called "Cinderellas of Philately," who have had no British magazine devoted to their interests since Morley's Philatelic Journal died more than 50 years ago.

With the growing interest in locals, and the widening horizons of philatelic endeavour and study, this journal will fill a very present need.

The first issue has a major article on the Semi-official Air Mail Stamps of Germany and an unusual one on Schweizer Post Vaduz. Other articles include: Railway Parcels Stamps of South Africa; Mysore 1 anna Revenue, 1888-98; Forgeries of Lorin's Post Issues; the Austrian Souvenir Stamps; Talylyn Railway Company; Modern Bogus Stamps; and College Stamps.

Secretary of the Cinderella Stamp Club is Mr D. W. Waters, 257 Pettits Lane North, Rise Park, Romford, Essex.

The Stamp Collectors' Annual, 1960. Edited by Tom Morgan. 88 pp. 5½ x 8¼ in. Published by Harris Publications Ltd, 27 Maiden Lane, Strand, London WC2. Price 3s. 6d. (Stg).

Australia wins a place in Mr L. E. Scott's famous feature The Ten Best Stamps of the Year, the 8d. Tiger Cat pushing out the 2s. 5d. Banksia for last position.

Mr Scott has not accepted the suggestion that he should place all his chosen designs over the years in order, but an equally interesting development would be a study in stamp production development, based on

his selection. His pen is more than capable of it.

Once again *Stamp Collectors' Annual* presents an expertly blended selection of articles. The classics are missing this year, but there are articles on Sarawak, British East Africa, Cambodia, the Rome Olympics, World Refugee Year, International Philatelic Federation, and, especially, the London International Philatelic Exhibition.

It offers an excellent opportunity for widening one's interests.

Zumstein Europa Katalog, 1961, 44th edition. 1512 pp. 8 x 5 in. Published by Zumstein & Cie. Berne, Switzerland. Price: Swiss francs, 20.

The traditionally sound Zumstein catalogue has added another 48 pages to its record size this year, and now contains more than 19,000 reproductions and more than 128,000 prices.

Prices, generally, have shown an upward tendency, but in the words of the publisher's report, "the domains in high demand have suffered numerous partly impetuous increases, which will last until the interest will somewhat diminish and normal conditions take place."

The catalogue is in German, with English introduction, and the prices are in Swiss francs.

Philatelic Societys' Year Book, 1960-1961. 140 pp. 4½ x 7¼ in. Published by the British Philatelic Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1. Price: 2s. (stg).

The year book lives up to the standard set by its predecessors. There is an interesting report on the 1960 International Philatelic Exhibition. Lists of societies and study circles, with their officers' addresses and meeting places, ensure that the value of the book is not limited to those living in the British Isles.

Sports Stamps. Vol. I. No. 1. 14 pp. 8¼ x 11 ins. Mimeographed. Official publication of the Sports Unit of the American Topical Association. Edited by Travis L. Land, 938 Essex Street, San Antonio 3, Texas.

The initial issue of this publication gives personal sketches of the unit's board of directors, a new issue calendar for this year, a review of last year's sports stamps, a personal column, questions and answers, a library list, and others items that make it invaluable to those interested in this field.

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

March

- 16 Commonwealth: Dr L. Abramovitch
- 30 British Honduras: Mr E. G. Creed

April

- 4 Old Victoria Group
Library and Conversation
- 20 U.S.A. Miscellany: Mr J. H. Hawker

May

- 2 Old Victoria Group
Library and Conversation
- 18 Tasmania
- 25 Sale by Tender
Competition Entries Close

June

- 6 Old Victoria Group
Library and Conversation
- 15 Annual Competition
- 29 Poland: Mr I. Gust

July

- 4 Old Victoria Group
Library and Conversation
- 20 Annual Meeting
Presidential Display: Mr A. W. Bunn

Exhibitions

Mr J. R. W. Purves, at the December meeting, related some of his experiences and impressions of the International Exhibitions at Johannesburg and London.

London, he said, was "fabulous" and probably would never be equalled because of the quality and rarity of the stamps displayed.

He referred to the difficulties of judging international exhibitions and gave a series of interesting word-pictures of some of the personalities he met on his trip.

South Australia

Dr W. P. Heslop, leading States specialist, confessed in his opening remarks that he had "some qualms" about accepting the invitation to display because South Australia was not one of his "strong" States.

Then he showed 600 copies of the First type.

Dr Heslop was displaying at the January meeting. He opened with a pre-stamp cover of 1851, followed by four pages of London Prints, containing a superb pair of the 1d., with margins all round; two strips of five 2d., one showing very marked irregularity of alignment and spacing, and several 6d., some on cover.

The shades of the 2d. local print were shown fully, with a strip of five of the 2d. blood-red, and single on cover, with ms. cancellation "P.O. Hamilton 13 June 57" and 6d. on cover.

The 1858-9 First Roulettes were complete, and the Second Roulettes included a pair imperf. between, and the 10d. on 9d. in its six types.

There was a nice strip of four of the 1d. 1867-70 perf. roulette.

The large star watermarks included a 2s. 11½ x

12½ printed both sides, a mint 10d. on 9d. yellow 10 x 11½ with imperf. margins on two sides.

The broad stars included a 9d. 11½ x 12½ printed both sides and several 1s. with re-entries.

Middle and later issues included some mint panes and no stop varieties and a mint pair of 6d. Crown A watermark imperf. between.

The Departmentals included a mint strip of three CO in red on 1s. roulettes; mint blocks of eight and four CO in black and the 1s. perf., the smaller block showing re-entries, and there were some inverted OS overprints.

Unusual cancellations completed the display.

British Solomon Islands

Col. F. V. Thompson, leading figure in the Pacific Island Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, flew to Melbourne to present British Solomon Islands at the February meeting.

He featured a galaxy of the first issue, in mint strips showing the various types, an almost complete duplication of the various types used, and the controversial Imperfs. in blocks of four.

Later issues were represented by plate number strips and imprints.

Barakoma cancellations were well represented and the race yacht *Belama* cancellations aroused much admiration.

Other notable ship cancellations were the single-lined S.S. *Kulambangara*, in full on strips of the second issue, and *Mindri*.

Notable covers were a Tulagi Tax 3d. postmark on 1935 cover; Yandina manuscript markings; and an American A.P., with the number deleted, 1944; and a Lunga F.D.C. 1943.

Sub-Committees

Finance: J. Buchanan (Chairman), A. G. Brown, P. Jaffe.

Sale by Tender: E. G. Creed (Chairman), T. C. Lester, L. Buchanan, A. W. Bunn, F. Ladbury, A. W. Oldham, J. R. W. Purves, N. Griffiths, C. G. C. Hodgkinson.

House: C. G. C. Hodgkinson (Chairman), Mrs M. Gates, E. G. Creed, E. B. Doery, J. R. W. Purves, C. G. Skewes, G. W. Trevor.

Library: R. Lloyd-Smith (Chairman), D. N. Baker, H. Campbell, P. Collas, M. Bulley.

Deceased Members Estates: E. G. Creed (Chairman) A. G. Brown, J. Gartner, J. R. W. Purves, P. Simonson, G. R. Weate.

Expert Committee: J. R. W. Purves (Chairman), J. C. W. Brown, J. W. Dunn, W. M. Holbeach.

Journal Committee: H. L. Chisholm (Editor), A. J. Petrie (Manager), J. R. W. Purves (Chairman), H. M. Campbell, P. Collas, J. Gartner, R. H. Markham, W. L. Russell, J. C. W. Brown, W. Finigan.

David Hill Medal: H. Campbell, P. Collas, E. G. Creed, J. Gartner, J. R. W. Purves.

Publications Committee: J. R. W. Purves (Chairman), H. Campbell, H. Chisholm, J. Gartner, R. Lloyd-Smith.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Members' Diary

- 1961
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Philatelic Literary Review (Librarian,
Mr H. Croaker)
- May
- 9 Selected Items from the J. W. Dovey
Memorial Collection
- June
- 13 Australian Commonwealth —George V
Issues: Dr L. Abramovitch (guest
exhibitor)
- July
- 11 Annual Meeting
President's Night

Lady Members' Display

The display at the December meeting comprised a miscellany of items from some of the lady members of the club. Items shown included stamps depicting Native Races and Animals (Miss J. Allen); Railway and Tramway stamps (Mrs J. Clayton); Aerogrammes and First Flight Covers (Miss K. Quinton); Covers over 100 years old from Tasmania, plus Commonwealth Coil Joins and Perforation Varieties (Mrs H. I. Ellis); stamps from Ireland and Ceylon (Miss V. Zowe); Modern Covers from Holland and King George V retouches from Australia (Miss E. M. Kendall); and 1960 issues from U.S.A. in blocks of four (Miss M. Salier).

Following the display, refreshments, including a Christmas cake from Mrs W. Carter, were enjoyed by all.

Ireland

Mr J. H. Powell showed "Postal History and Stamps of Ireland" at the January meeting. The display included much of the Bronze Award winning collection at ANPEX 1959, with other choice items acquired by Mr Powell during his recent visit to Britain.

Notable items displayed were pre-stamp covers from 1726 to 1840 together with many covers of the 1840 to 1851 period; two covers showing the Penny Black cancelled with Maltese Cross dated early 1840; a nice strip of six of the 1841 issue (1d. red) with an almost "cancelled to order" looking Maltese Cross cancellation; packet boat; and various town cancellations.

These were followed by a mint collection from 1922 to 1948 with many beautiful items, especially in the overprinted issues.

Also noted were proofs of the Dollard Print in black and red and also the unissued item, the ½d. green with overprint in red instead of black.

Canada

The display at the February meeting was provided by Mr M. Dankin, who showed items from his collection of Canada which were of interest both to the specialist and the general collector.

Commencing with Pre-Stamp Covers, the display also featured the Pence and other early issues; proofs of the "small cent" and re-entries on the 5c. Beaver. Another interesting portion of the display showed the various different coloured printings of the 10c. Prince Albert issue. Other items noted were some of the scarcer Queen Victoria issues; wet and dry printings of the King George V issues; imperforates and inverted overprints, including one fine item showing overprint in pair with missing overprint.

Annual Competition

Members are reminded that the Annual Competition will be a feature of the first half of the calendar year in future. The first competition under the altered time-table will be held in conjunction with the April meeting.

Ten sheets of stamps from a collection which has not won an award at a National Competition are eligible and members are asked to support the competition by submitting an entry. It is hoped that this, and future, competitions receive their wholehearted support.

Annual Elections

Members are notified that the annual meeting will be held on 11 July. In accordance with the rules, therefore, nominations for election as office-bearers must be forwarded to the secretary (Mr R. H. Markham), Box 1751 G.P.O., Sydney, no later than 26 June.

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SOCIETY OF VICTORIA**

c/o Box 222, G.P.O. Melbourne, Victoria

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★ MEETINGS held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.45 p.m. in its own premises, 8 Avoca Street, South Yarra, Melbourne, SE1.

★ EXCHANGE BOOKS circulate regularly within Australia to interested members.

★ SALE BY TENDER BRANCH enables members to buy and sell stamps not considered suitable by the vendor for exchange sheets. Postal bids accepted from members for any item.

★ COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY is open to members on Meeting Nights or by arrangement with the Librarian. Library Catalogues are sent to all members.

★ 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 collection 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: £5/5/-; Annual Subscription: City and Metropolitan Members, £3/3/-; Country and Interstate Members, £1/10/-.

★ ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD be directed to Miss M. FARLEY (Hon. Sec.), Box 222, G.P.O., Melbourne, C1.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890

★ OFFICIAL ORGAN: *Philately from Australia* is posted free each quarter to all members.

★ MEETING ROOM: The Club meets at 8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the Board Room, 1st Floor, Trust Building, 155 King Street, Sydney.

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★ LIBRARY: A library, comprising over 1000 volumes, is available for use of members by arrangement with the Librarian. Periodical supplements to the Library Catalogue are issued to members.



★ 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, whilst Lectures and Discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, expert in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ THE CLUB'S FEES are: Entrance Fee £1/1/-; Annual Subscription due 1 July. Members residing within County of Cumberland £1/1/- (Juniors, i.e., under 18 years, 12/6). Members residing outside County of Cumberland 17/6 (Juniors 10/6).

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