

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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and the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club*

Vol. XXVIII, No. 3

SEPTEMBER 1976

NEW SEATING AT HEADQUARTERS

MEMBER'S GENEROUS GIFT

New Aristoc chairs have been provided throughout the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's headquarters.

This follows a handsome donation of \$1000 towards the project by an anonymous member of the Society.

Seventy-two green and cream chairs have been provided in the meeting room and twenty in black for the Council room.

The design of both sets is the same.

The covering of the tables in the meeting room has also been changed from dark green to deep brown, reversing the original colour scheme of chairs and tables.

The new chairs provide more attractive and comfortable seating and greatly enhance the gracious appearance of the rooms.

The new chairs and colour schemes have been much admired and the appreciation which the Council has expressed in its letter to the donor is manifest throughout the society.

The Trail



of Commonwealth

Conducted by BILL EUSTACE

18 Cent Explorer Warburton

There is a disturbance in the red-brown area over the "RT" of "Warburton" on Row 2, Stamp 8 which, because of the dark colouring, is rather difficult to see without a glass. For this reason, I feel that it is unlikely to achieve overseas catalogue status.

Although I have not seen an example, I understand that there is a cream dot and a line under the leg of the rider on Row 2, Stamp 2, but again the prospect of catalogue status overseas may be poor because the variety is outside the frame of the design.

25 Cent Olympic Games

It was reported in *Stamp Preview*, No. 3, 1976, that this stamp was intended to have been on KP6T paper, but that a small amount of KP5D paper might have been used.

When first released, I found that stocks at most Melbourne city post offices were on pink-gummed paper, presumably KP6T, since other issues on this paper have also had coloured gums. At Collins Street P.O., however, I found that their sheets had a white shiny gum which had been applied very unevenly and had a streaky bubbled effect.

Subsequently significant numbers of sheets appeared, both at normal post offices and in philatelic sales stock on which the gum was smooth and white.

40 Cent Olympic Games

There were two dark brown cylinders used for the printing of this stamp, the evidence for this being that the appropriate colour bar can be found thin and straight – as though ruled – and also thick and ragged as though hand-drawn.

In one case there is a variety brown "mole" on the cyclist's leg on Row 4, No. 8, and, from the other cylinder, there is a small nick in the top frame in the area of his neck on Row 5, No. 10.

It would be possible to show two blocks of ten stamps from Rows 4 and 5, Stamps 6 to 10, including the sheet number in the centre gutter, which would

demonstrate the presence of only one of the two varieties on each piece, but sheet numbers have had a nasty habit of moving during reprintings of other issues. The expense of showing quarter-sheets from each cylinder to link the colour bars with the varieties on Rows 4 and 5 is unfortunately prohibitive for the average collector.

\$2 Navigator

Mr P. O'Brien has advised me in the last few days of a find of several Non-Helecon CTO copies of this stamp from a bulk purchase which he made recently. It seemed fairly obvious that they had all come from the same sheet.

Australian Scenes

So far I have seen two distinct papers/gums used in this issue. All of the 25 cent denomination which I have seen have had a bluish toned gum and when viewed under ultra-violet light the backs have been bright white.

In the case of the 5 cent, 70 cent and 85 cent, the paper is more inclined to cream, the gum lacks the bluish tone, and the backs are quite dull when viewed under ultra-violet light.

On the other hand, I have found the 35 cent and 50 cent denominations with both types of gum, the bluish version having white backs under u/v and the untuned gums having dull backs.

The visual differences vary very markedly with lighting conditions – for some obscure reason, in Collins Street Post Office it would have been easy to separate the two types at a distance of fifty feet, but in other post offices I have found it difficult to be certain which version I was being offered without a reference copy for comparison.

I have seen two presentation packs in which the 70 cent stamps look quite different under ultra-violet, so there is a possibility of a second paper/gum of this denomination being available too.

There were quite a number of minor spots and blemishes which I noted at a quick glance, but with three possible sheets of each denomination to study it will take time to get a full list of the significant varieties. The only one I have seen so far of catalogue potential is a blue scratch by 25 on Sheet A, Row 6, No. 5 of the 25 cent Barrier Reef stamp.

J. R. W. PURVES MEDAL AWARD

The Council of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria has awarded the J. R. W. Purves medal to the secretary, Mr D. E. Napier, for his work for the society during the past thirteen years.

Mr Napier is the eighteenth recipient of the award.



The Other Side of the Picture



By J. R. W. PURVES, F.R.P.S.L.

TASMANIA

Older names of certain post offices found on date stamps

Mr John Avery, of Burnie, a redoubtable researcher in the groove of Tasmanian postal markings, was recently kind enough to send me photostatic copies of certain Tasmanian date-stamps which had turned up in an old Hobart collection.

I have extracted the more interesting from these and have tabulated them as under. The columns (from left to right) comprise the number of the obliterator employed, the *old* stamps now found on date-stamps (in alphabetical order), the page of the Part I Handbook which lists the office in question, the date on the marking seen, and the later name given to the office respectively. These are all highly collectable items if one is fortunate enough to find them. Here is the tabulation:

No.	Old Name	Page	Date	Later Name
187	Blue Tier	73	26.7.89	Poimena
112	Bowood	69	17.10.86	Bridport
246	Clarke's Island	76	18.7.8?	Closed later
283	Eastern Marshes	78	11.10.89	"S" for "Siding" Later Andover
43	Franklin Huon	66	17.10.73	See under No. 43
252	Geo. River	77	22.7.89	Pyengana
196	Glen-Quoin	74	18.6.86	Closed soon after
105	Green's Creek	69	3.7.89	Harford
250	Hall's Track	77	14.8.89	Lebrina
228	Impression Bay	76	7.3.87	Premaydena
53	Leven	66	7.8.80	Ulverstone
98	Long Bay	68	15.8.89	Middleton
124	Little Oyster Cove	70	7.12.86	Kettering
276	Millbrook	78	4.7.88	Mount Nicholas
288	Mountain River	78	2.7.89	Ranelagh Junction
207	Oatlands Station	74	25.8.80	Parattah
70	Port Cygnet	67	11.5.89	Lovett
67	Peppermint Bay	67	30.4.00	Woodbrige
71	Port Esperance	67	25.1.87	Dover
285	Raminea	78	29.8.89	Closed 1894
165	Upper Macquarie St.	72	23.4.91	Hobart South
165	Upper Macquarie		21.10.92	Hobart South
93	Victoria		2.7.89	Huonville

VICTORIA

(i) *6d Laureate: Wmk. Three Pence**A new early date*

The writer has recently acquired a pair of this stamp in the *deep blue* shade, dated 6.12.69, and has seen a single dated in the same month. The earliest date previously seen, and given by S.G., was 21.5.70, and was in the *dull blue* shade.

The deliveries into stock of the "emergency" printings were completed by 7.1.70. There were then no further printings (presumably because the emergency papers were exhausted and the new V over Crown paper ordered had not arrived) until November 1870. Between 7.11.70 and 6.1.71 720,000 6d stamps were put into stock, almost certainly all being on a new supply of V Crown paper, which came to hand very shortly before November 1870.

(ii) *The 1/- blue Telegraph Stamp, issued 10 October 1873**The relevant facts – some being new – and an apparent discrepancy
between Hill's accounts and the P.M.G.'s Reports*

To date the only references to this interesting stamp that I can find in literature are the details contributed by David Hill to the *Federal Australian Philatelist* and published (at p. 35) in the April 1890 issue, its existence having been recorded in the preceding January number.

The writer has recently acquired a letter written by Mr Hill, some five and a half years later, on 5 December 1896, to Major E. B. Evans concerning this stamp. Mr Hill had by then made some further searches and had found some inaccuracies in his 1890 Report.

To avoid repetition I have assembled below the facts as Mr Hill finally found them to be.

One has here to distinguish between the printings of the telegraph *forms* and the subsequent *embossings*, on these forms, of a 1/- Telegraph stamp, for which electros were prepared via the original 2d die of 1869 made by De La Rue's, the re-engraving of the latter being done by Charles J. Jackson at Sands and McDougall's.

10,000 *forms* in all were printed, 5000 in August 1873 and another 5000 in December 1873.

There were *three* stampings – 5000 in September 1873, 1129 in January 1874 and 2000 in May 1875 – a *total* of 8,129 (1,871 forms apparently not receiving the 1/- stamp).

Mr Hill stated, specifically, that "*more than half of these 8129 stamped forms were destroyed or damaged as unserviceable*". He added that the reason the 1871 forms were not stamped was almost certainly their low rate of usage. In fact, he calculated, over the eleven years the stamped forms were available, that rather less than an average of one per day was sold!

Since one-half of 8129 is (to the nearest figure) 4065, it is clear that the total issue of this stamp was slightly less, or slightly more, than 4000.

The issue was exhausted in July 1884, following which adhesive stamps were generally to be used to defray the charges. It seems obvious, in the eleven years in question, that most people had paid for their telegrams in cash.

The writer has examples of stamps embossed on *both* the forms' printings. These printings were noted by the descriptions "5000-8/73" and "5000-12/73" respectively incorporated in the text at the top left of the form, just below the eight lines of instruction.

There appear to be two quite distinct shades of the stamp — a *bright blue* for the 8/73 batch of forms and a *deep blue* (nearing indigo-blue) for the 12/73 batch.

Few collectors of Victoria of today realise the interest or rarity of these Telegraph stamps, yet another example of an experiment that failed.

I had penned the above lines when it occurred to me that records of the numbers of stamped telegraph forms sold each year should be ascertainable from the P.M.G.'s Reports for the years in question. And so it was. From those in my possession and with some much appreciated assistance from Derrick Baker these numbers were carefully extracted, as follows:

1873	—	200	1879	—	214	
1874	—	1169	1880	—	248	
1875	—	2253	1881	—	360	
1876	—	972	1882	—	229	
1877	—	624	1883	—	192	
1878	—	283	1884	—	1191	Total 7935

Here was a pretty how do you do. In each case the description given in the Reports was: "Shilling stamped telegraph forms" and to the right of each total was the face value of the number sold. All were included in a list of postage stamps sold.

The total number of stamped forms sold is 2065 short of the 10,000 forms which we know were printed. Could there have been four "stampings" and not three, as Hill reported? The only suspicious figure given in the Reports is that for 1884. Here (and the issue appears to have stopped in June 1884) we find the figure given is 1191, which is four to five times the figures sold in any of the preceding six years.

While I have the greatest regard for Hill's accuracy he does say (in the 1896 letter), "More than half of the 8129 forms were destroyed as damaged or un-serviceable". But he doesn't give us, as he usually does, an exact number. Could this statement be hearsay only and have originally been made to him by someone in the department but not actually seen by him in any written recording?

Certainly the numbers given as sold can *only* refer to the Telegraph 1/- Embossed. On Hill's figures some 4000 were issued, on the Reports, *prima facie*, nearly 8000!

One last thought, however, does strike me. It seems possible that the numbers given in the Reports could include those issued to Postmasters (who were presumably originally debited with them) which, not having been sold, were subsequently returned to Melbourne, the majority being destroyed.

In conclusion, although the evidence of the Reports is puzzling, we must

remember that David Hill was a Treasury Official and that arithmetic was not his weak point. My own belief is that we can forget the Reports on this occasion and accept Hill's account.

(iii) *The first two issues of "Postal Notes"*

These may seem remote from the more usual collecting fields, but since they are now included in the Higgins and Gage Catalogue of Postal Stationery, since the De La Rue V2 watermark paper was used to print them, since two Queen's Head designs were used which were also used for other purposes (eg, incorporated in the designs of "Beer Duty" stamps), and last but not least since they are rare items they are well worth the attention of collectors.

The writer acquired (at the Harvey sales in London earlier this year) "Specimen" sets of each of the first *two* issues. Each comprised fourteen values — 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 3/6, 4/-, 4/6, 5/-, 7/6, 10/-, 10/6, 15/-, 20/-. All twenty-eight Notes were printed on the V2 paper the watermark being sideways, in either direction. Further details are as follows:

First set: Issued on 1.1.85, following the "Postage Act" of 1883. Over and above the face value of the note the purchaser was required to pay a premium, known as "Poundage". This was recorded on a Queen's Head design at mid-left. This design was inscribed "Poundage" around the top and had the amount payable around the base. The scales of "poundage" payable were the same in each set, and were as follows:

For 1/-, 1/6 notes	— ½d
2/- to 4/6 notes	— 1d
5/-, 7/6 notes	— 2d
10/- to 20/- notes	— 3d

The Queen's Head design used was that employed for the 2d Postage (S.G. Type 33) of December 1880-84. The "Specimen" overprint is in *green*, in large sans-serif capitals.

Second set: Here the Queen's Head design used for the "Poundage" stamp is similar to (though much larger than) the type of head found on the 1d ("Stamp Duty") of 1886 and presumably was first issued about that time. The same Queen's Head design was also used for the third set of "Beer Duties" (1887?). The "Specimen" is in the medium-sized "fancy" capitals met on other stamps of this period.

LATE FEE MARKINGS OF QUEENSLAND

By LESTER G. SHEPARD

Prior to 1859 Queensland was the Moreton Bay District of New South Wales and postal services and rates would be those of the N.S.W. system. When Queensland took over the postal service on 16 December 1859, what had been the internal postage rate of 2d became the inter-colonial rate of 6d, applying to mail to N.S.W. as well as the other colonies. The Late Fee was established as 6d at this time.

Pugh's Queensland Almanac for 1862 says that inland letters should be posted half an hour previous to the time fixed for the despatch of mails, but late letters would be received to within a quarter of an hour, upon a fee of a 6d stamp having been applied to each letter. This rate seems to have applied through 1868 at least.

Much information on the early Late Fee system and its rates is lacking and the only reference I have found is in a report Thomas L. Murray Prior, Postmaster-General, G.P.O. Brisbane, made to Parliament on 30 April 1863:

The object of a late fee which has been adopted is to exclude any but important letters, it being necessary to keep the number of letters received at a late hour as small as is consistent with the attainment of this object. On one occasion serious complaints were made that the English mails closed too early, and that it was of the utmost consequence that more time should be given. I adopted the course of a late fee. The letters posted by that mail were two the first, and two the second half hour. At whatever time the mails close some persons are too late.

In 1869 the word "inland" was omitted from the wording of the 1862 rates.

I have a copy of an early Queensland Late Fee cover. It bears two 3d Chalons and is addressed to Sydney. The words "Late Fee" are in manuscript in the same handwriting as the address. The cover bears a black m/s "3", the double-lined oval "LOOSE SHIP/LETTER" of Sydney, and the stamps are obliterated with the Sydney duplex dated Ap. 12, 78. The "8" is blurred and might be a "6". Probably posted at dockside or aboard ship at Brisbane, with postal markings applied on arrival at Sydney. At this time (1876-78) the postage to other colonies by sea was 2d and the Late Fee was 3d, so it appears to have been overpaid in the amount of 1d. The cover bears no backstamps.

In 1877 a late fee was being charged for letters posted on the travelling post offices. This was abolished on 24 March 1877 as the fee was found open to objection. Apparently it was reinstated before too long as *Pugh's Almanac* of 1879 lists late fee on letters, colonial and intercolonial as 3d per letter and 6d foreign. This fee was to be paid by affixing the required amount of postage stamps. Loose letters posted on board steamers were to bear a late fee, besides the postage, unless for delivery within the colony in which case only the regular postage was required. These rates appear to have remained in force through 1887 at least.

I have four late fee covers, dated March, April, May and September 1894. Three addressed to Brisbane have 3d in stamps (2d postage + 1d Late Fee) or 2d stamps and 1d postage due. The September cover, addressed to Armidale, N.S.W., has 3d postage and was charged 1d postage due. All four are marked Loose Ship Letter so were carried by sea over part of their journey, the T.P.O. service not having been established until around 1900. (Fig. 1 and 2.)

These illustrate the rates in force from around 1892. The postage within Queensland was 2d per ½ oz, with a late fee charge of 1d. To the other colonies however, while the postage was 2d the late fee charge was an extra single rate of postage or 2d, so the Armidale cover was short the 1d collected as postage due. These rates were in effect through 1898 at least.

When the north coast railway was established, late fee bags were despatched from Brisbane to Gympie, Maryborough, Bundaberg, Gladstone, and Rockhampton. On the Western Railway they were despatched to Roma, Mitchell, and Charleville, and on the interstate system to Sydney. Later, a van bag was placed in the guard's van on the northern mail train, Brisbane to Cairns, and a similar one on the Wallangarra to Brisbane mail train.

In 1904 the regulations stated that late letters could be posted fifteen minutes after the time appointed for closing the mail at the post office; also aboard steamers, in the travelling post offices, and in the boxes provided at the principal railway stations for the reception of letters to be carried loose by the guards of all passenger and mixed trains; and at stations where boxes were not provided such letters could be handed to the guards or stationmasters.

All late letters intended for delivery within the commonwealth must have

LATE FEE

Q-1



Q-4



Q-8

LATE FEE

Q-2



Q-5



Q-6



Q-9

LATE FEE

Q-3



Q-7



Q-10

a late fee of 1d affixed in addition to the ordinary postage. Letters for places in Queensland posted at any post office without late fee affixed would be detained until the following mail, but those sent by railway or steamer would be delivered on payment of the late fee. Late letters for places beyond the state to which a late fee was not affixed would be detained until the following mail, excepted those posted on board steamers, the late fee on which would be collected on delivery. These regulations seem to have applied through 1912.

In 1914 the rates remained the same but the following regulation was added:

Correspondence posted on railway stations or trains or steamships at a place where there is no post office or receiving office, is to be accepted at the ordinary rate of postage, providing such correspondence is endorsed "Posted at . . ." (the name of the place at which posted).

This endorsement may be scarce, I have never seen or heard of one.

In 1918 the late fee boxes at the Brisbane Central Railway Station showed the following information:

	Hours of Posting
For Southern Line	— in the late fee box daily — 7:50 am
	in the T.P.O. daily — 8.00 am
For Western Line	— in the late fee box, Tues. & Fri. — 1:45 pm
	in the T.P.O. Tues. & Fri. — 2:50 pm
For N. Coast Line	— in the late fee box, Tues., Thurs. & Fri. — 9:45 pm
	in the late T.P.O., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. — 10:00 pm

It is possible that each state in the Commonwealth had its own late fee rates until 25 November 1910 when all States' rules and rates were repealed, but I have been unable to get accurate information on this so far. After that date, the late fee charge should have been uniform throughout the Commonwealth. Until about 1952 this would have been 1d on letters within the Commonwealth, and a single rate of postage beyond. Registered items, insured and uninsured parcels would have the rates set forth in my previous article "Late Fee Markings of N.S.W." (*P from A*, Dec. 1975).

Over the years the following changes were made in late fee rates.

	Letters	Registered items & Parcels
1952	2d	4d
1959	5d	10d
1966—Feb.	4c	8c
1967—Oct.	5c	10c
1971—Feb.	7c	15c

I have seen quite a few Queensland covers, especially in Tattersall accumulations, which show postage which includes the late fee charge, but they bear no late fee markings.

It appears that many towns in Queensland used straight-line markings reading "Late Fee", especially in the early days, and no doubt some of these may be stored away in the smaller offices.

After 1961 it is doubtful if late fee services were used except at the metropolitan and larger provisional offices. Brisbane still retains a late fee canceller though it has not been used for some time. A Late Fee box is still in operation at Roma Street railway station for mail to the north coast

(Cairns). But why it is not used for other lines I do not know. Kingaroy, in May 1975, was still using Type Q-1 on commercial mail bearing late fee postage but apparently late fee markers are not placed on late fee items except on a limited basis.

In 1962 late fee facilities were established at Port Moresby, PNG for the Sunday mail flight of Trans-Australia Airlines, flight 1303. This flight left the airport daily, except Monday, at 11 a.m., with the mails closing at the post office at 9 a.m.

At the airport a Late Fee box was available on Sunday and it was cleared by T.A.A. personnel just before the flight departed. This mail was carried uncancelled to Brisbane, where it received the Late Fee marking. It was available only for mail addressed to offices within the Commonwealth of Australia and was intended to minimise the amount of mail which had to be held over from Sunday until Tuesday. (*P from A*, September 1963, p. 67.)

The first marker, Q-9, was rubber and temporary, being used for only seven flights, after which it was replaced with a steel marker, Q-10.

In the list which follows, the dates given are the earliest and latest seen or reported to me, either on stamps or covers. Information given to me by the post office and other sources, is listed under "Remarks".

<i>No.</i>	<i>Used From</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Q-1	Townsville	17.3.1894	38 x 6½ mm — Fig. 1. 2d postage. 1d Late Fee. Loose Ship Letter, b/s Brisbane 22.3.94 probably carried by coastal ship down the coast. Late fee collected at destination.
Q-1	Bowen	30.4.1894	39½ x 7 mm — Late Fee mark on stamps. Brisbane Loose Ship Letter handstamp, 2d postage, 1d Late Fee paid, no postage due. Brisbane 3.5.94 on obverse.
Q-1	?	May 1894	40 x 8 mm — Stamps cancelled with GPO Brisbane, no backstamps. From same correspondence as Bowen cover, but Late Fee marker and handwriting different, so doubt if it is from Bowen. 2d postage, 1d Late Fee collected as postage due.
Q-1	Maryborough	19.9.1894	40½ x 7 mm — Fig. 2. 3d postage + 1d postage due, to cover 2d postage rate + 2d late fee, see paragraph 8 of text. Loose Ship Letter marker believed Maryborough. B/s South & Western TPO-Up which would indicate transmission towards NSW border. Addressed to Armidale, N.S.W.
Q-1	Brisbane	17.7.1903	38 x 7½ mm — To Tasmania, 2d postage with 1d Late Fee collected by postage due. This Late Fee marking used at Central R.R. Stn. before the Late Fee box was transferred to Roma St. Stn. 1 Dec. 1940. Also used on trains for Walangarra at NSW border.

No.	Used From	Early Date	Late Date	Remarks
Q-1	Kingaroy	14.4.1959	14.4.1959	38½ x 7½ mm, in use many years before 1959, still in use.
Q-2	Normantown	5.1.1933		34½ x 6 mm.
Q-1	Forest Hill	18.1.1935		37½ x 8 mm.
Q-1	Croydon	on piece, no dates		39½ x 8 mm, stamps of 1907-09 issue.
Q-1	Rockhampton	11.4.1942		39 x 7 mm.
Q-1	Warwick	29.8.1958	18.9.1969	38½ x 6½ mm.
Q-1	St. George	3.12.1958		38½ x 7 mm.
Q-1	Dalby	21.12.1957		37½ x 8 mm.
Q-3	Millaa Millaa	30.4.1963		42½ x 10 mm.
Q-1	(indistinct)	8.7.1929		38 x 6½ mm, possibly Harlin.
Q-3	Maryborough	17.2.1913		On stamps only, approx. 44½ x 8½ mm.
Q-1	Englensburg	12.?.1914		On stamps only, approx. 40 x 8 mm.
Q3-	Toowoomba	7.5.1958		40 x 9½ mm, discontinued but marker still at P.O. in 1969.
Q-1	Mundubbera	25.5.1957		39 x 7½ mm. Brass marker with wood grip, put in use about 1912. Returned to GPO Brisbane, 1961.
Q-3	Cunnamulla	8.9.1969		42 x 9 mm.
Q-1	Charleville	27.8.1969		37½ x 6½ mm.
Q-1	Nobby	10.1.76 (per favour)		38½ x 7 mm.
Q-1	Warra	13.1.76 (per favour)		39 x 7 mm.
Q-3	Mount Surprise	16.12.75 (per favour)		40 x 8 mm.
Q-3	Chinchilla	13.1.76 (per favour)		41 x 9½ mm.
Q-4	Rome St. Stn. Brisbane	1932	3.11.1937	Post Office believes this used at new Roma St. Station when opened 1.12.1940. I have it on stamps as early as 1932. Probably replaced by Q-7.
Q-5	GPO on mail leaving South Brisbane Stn. via Kyogle	28.9.1929	1942	"K.S." stands for "Kyogle Section". Put into use when first train ran over this section to Sydney.
Q-6	Late Fee Box GPO Brisbane	12.3.1957	27.7.1965	Still in use July 11, 1966, possibly as late as July 1974.
Q-7	Roma St. Stn. Brisbane	25.11.1957	20.8.1963	Still in use July 11, 1966, possibly as late as July 1974.
Q-8	South Brisbane Station	7.9.1961	19.8.1963	In use as early as April 1956 and perhaps as late as 1974. May have replaced Q-5.
Q-9	GPO Brisbane	25.3.1962	6.5.1962	Used on mail posted Sundays in late fee box, Port Moresby, P-NG airport. Rubber stamp, used on only 7 flights.
Q-10	GPO Brisbane	13.5.1962	4.5.1969	Steel marker which replaced Q-9. Probably used later than 1969.
Q-1	?	14.11.1900		38 x 6½ mm. Seen only on piece cancelled "T.P.O. No. 1 N.C.R'way Down".

My thanks are due to many individuals who have helped with this article especially Mr Fred Wilde, of California; Messrs J. L. Amiet, B. Beston, J. Watson and H. M. Campbell, of Australia, and various officials and postmasters in the Australian Postal Commission.

Help Wanted

I do not want to neglect the Late Fee Markings of Tasmania, South Australia, and Western Australia but covers showing their markings seem most elusive. Stamps of these three states with straight-line "LATE FEE" and

"POSTED IN LATE FEE BAG" both framed and unframed may be found but it is difficult to assign these markers to any particular town or city. Adelaide has had "Inward Late Fee" and "Late Fee Adelaide Railway" date stamps.

Except for a few copies of a Commonwealth period "Late Fee, Launceston, Tas." c.d.s. I have little information except that contained in the two volume work, *Tasmania, The Postal History and Postal Markings*.

Can any reader help with information, copies of covers, etc? Please write me at 145 Fairlawn Ave, Waterbury, Ct. 06705, USA, so that this information may be recorded. I will refund postage and give full credit for any information supplied.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mr R. C. Daley, F.R.P.S.L.

Mr R. C. Daley, of Newcastle, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

President at Twenty-five

Mr J. R. W. Purves mentioned in his Presidential Address at the annual meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society that he had first been president of the society when twenty-five.

*Successes at Interphil,
Philadelphia*

Australasian successes at Interphil, '76, Philadelphia, in May were:

Large Gold Medal, Mr John Gartner (Melbourne), *Western Australia*.

Gold: Mr John S. White (Sydney), *New Zealand*.

Vermeil: Mr A. R. Burge (Wellington), *Samoa, The Palm-Tree Issue*.

Large Silver: Mrs P. L. Turnbull (Melbourne), *Malta*; Mr Marcel Stanley (Wellington), *New Zealand Proofs and Essays*; and Mr L. J. Kilgour (New Plymouth), *Great Barrier Islands Pigeonposts*.

Silver: Mr E. G. Creed (Melbourne), *Barbados*.

Topical Class - Large Silver Medal: Mr G. J. Elliott (Auckland), *Philatelic Terms*.

Literature Class - Silver Medal: Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, *New Zealand Stamp Collector*.

Interphil '76 was the seventh International Philatelic Exhibition staged in the United States.

Famous Australian Stamps

The Interphil '76 number of *The American Philatelist* (May 1976) has sixteen pages of "Aristocrats of Philately" in colour as its central feature.

They include Copy 3 (L. N. and M. Williams, *Stamps of Fame*) of the Western Australia 4d "Inverted Swan" and the unique 2d Sydney View tete-beche pair on cover addressed to "His Honor C. J. La Trobe, Esqre, Superintendent Melbourne" with "Col. Treasury 30th July 1850" in the lower left corner illustrated in *Stamps of Fame* (Plate 26) and referred to on page 192.

The "Inverted Swan" has the cancellation 11 in grid (Fremantle), inverted like the Swan, suggesting that the stamp might have been put "Swan upright" on the original cover.

Dr Norman S. Hubbard considers it the finest of the fourteen copies known.

Bringing its history up to date (from *Stamps of Fame*) he says that when Raymond H. Weill Co bought the Philip H. Ward Jr collection in 1963, it was sold to Josiah K. Lilly. At the sale of the Lilly collection by Robert A. Siegel in New York in 1968 it went to another collector.

The "Print and Turn" tete-beche Sydney View cover was acquired by Alfred F. Lichtenstein, passed to his daughter, Louise Boyd Dale. On her death it passed to the Anne Boyd Lichtenstein Foundation.

The article also mentions that when the collection of the Australian owner of the 1c British Guiana, 1856, Frederick Small, was sold by Mr Siegel in 1970 it was bought by Irwin Weinberg, its present owner.

QUEENSLAND POSTAL STATIONERY

THE BACKGROUNDS AND THE ISSUES

By P. COLLAS, F.R.P.S.L.

Part One: 1880-97

Not a great deal has been published in the literature concerning Queensland postal stationery and the present work is a serious attempt to provide an exhaustive overall account.

Collectors interested in the field may utilize two major reference lists, that in Vol. IV (Australasia) of the Robson Lowe *Encyclopaedia of British Empire Stamps* and the self-contained Higgins and Gage *Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World*. One tends to lean to the latter as it is well illustrated and somewhat more descriptive. But, basically, both listings are the same, and the respective catalogue numbers coincide. There is also the Ascher catalogue, to which I did not have ready access.

It needs to be mentioned that throughout the general text the expressions "Post Card" and "Letter Card", with and without initial capital letters, are used, such being the forms in which they were printed on the respective cards and employed in official publications and notices. During the late years of the Federal period, to 1912, graduations such as "Post-card" and "Postcard" began to appear in official and other descriptions and will be noted, as appropriate, in the text. Varying modes of expressions are to be found in the numerous quotations to be cited and in such instances the forms as originally printed are retained.

The first item of stationery which the Queensland Post Office made available to the public was not stamped and, consequently, is not to be found in catalogue listings. It is described later in this work, under the heading of *ENVELOPES*.

The 1d Post Card, 1880-88

The first item of Queensland's stamped postal stationery was the 1d post card of 1880. Most other Australian colonies had by that year provided post cards and Queensland, although anxious to follow suit, did not then have the legislative authority to do so. However, the passage through the Queensland Parliament of *The Post Card and Postal Note Act, 1880*, assented to on 21 September of that year, met the immediate Post Office requirement. The Act came into force on 1 October 1880 and it became practicable to issue the post cards later in the same month.

The Queensland Postmaster-General's Report for 1880 had much to say concerning the advantages of the post card:

Post cards are designed to facilitate letter correspondence and provide for the transmission through the Post Office of short communications, either printed or written in pencil or ink. They may therefore be used for orders for goods, invitations, notices, receipts, acknowledgements, price lists, and other requirements of business and social life; and the matter required to be conveyed may be either in writing, or in print, or in both.

Post cards are of two kinds, namely: The single post card, with a penny stamp thereon, and containing space on one side for the address only of the recipient, and on the other side for the communication and the signature of the sender. The double (or reply) post card, with two penny stamps thereon.

Despite the reference in the last line to reply post cards, one cannot find a listing for these in the Robson Lowe and Higgins and Gage catalogues. There certainly was a basis for the official statement and the explanation is to be found in *Vindin's Stamp Monthly*, 23 July 1894, where Mr A. F. Bassett Hull wrote:

The design of both single and reply card is the same, the latter being simply two conjoint impressions of the single card, one above the other, both on the same side, and neither folded nor perforated.

So that unless one could obtain two of the cards, unsevered, it is not possible to demonstrate the existence of a reply card.

Section 2 of the Act of 1880 contained but a brief reference to reply cards:

The Postmaster-General may, from time to time, issue single post cards, each bearing thereon a postage stamp of the value of one penny; and also double or reply post cards, each bearing thereon two postage stamps of the same value.

While at first sight it might seem that an inscriptional distinction between cards should have been made, it is to be appreciated that at the time, for reasons to be explained, a reply post card could only have been used within the colony.

In any case, reply post cards did not prove a success as it would appear that the first requisition of 900 double cards was also the last.

When issued on 28 October 1880 the post card had much the same status as a letter and the then immediate intention was that it be used within the colony. If intended to be used intercolonially an additional 1d stamp would have been needed to be affixed to meet the then current letter rate of 2d per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz, a rate which had been in force since 1 January 1874.

About the time of the issue of the post card the Queensland Post Office sought to have reciprocal arrangements made with the other Australian colonies for the transmission of post cards throughout Australia at a 1d rate. However, it proved impracticable to advance the proposal. The major reason was that the whole of the revenue would have been absorbed in paying transit charges, particularly by ship, where the letter gratuity was 1d each.

The position became clearer in 1886, when railway communications between the eastern Australian colonies were nearly complete. It was agreed, later in that year, between the respective postal administrations, that from 1 January 1887 post cards at the 1d rate would be carried between the colonies of Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia without a charge being made for overland transit. As ship carriage was involved in the transit of mail to Tasmania and Western Australia the ruling letter rate continued to be applied to post cards addressed to those colonies.

Design and Production

The main heading and the stamp on the 1880 post card were designed and engraved by Mr William Knight, at that time the Chief Engraver and Head of the Government Lithographic Office, Brisbane. Mr Knight had entered the then newly formed Lithographic Office on 21 September 1866 as assistant to Mr Thomas Ham, the first Chief Engraver. Following Mr Ham's retirement, Mr Knight was appointed Chief Engraver on 1 June 1870. He held that appointment until his own retirement late in 1898 when the position of Chief Engraver was allowed to lapse.

It is desirable to mention here, as being significant to the later narrative, that until 1894 the Government Lithographic Office had continued to have semi-autonomous status and was not under the direct control of the Government Printer. However, the situation changed in 1894, the Government Printer gaining complete authority over what was then termed the Lithographic Branch.

The overall post card and design, in keeping with the trends of the day, was quite elaborate, with the royal coat of arms at the left. In the top centre was a descriptive decorative panel embodying the words "Post Card" above "Queensland Australia". Below the panel were the words "The Address only to be written on this side". The stamp impression was at the top right, serving to balance the coat of arms. The card area below normally bore four lines, comprised of short dashes, for the address, the word "To" appearing at the beginning of the first line. Surrounding the whole of the card design was a rectangular ornamental frame.

Undoubtedly, the main identifying heading was engraved in copper, as was Knight's practice, and the relevant copper plate was part of the assembly of what was to become the master post card unit. The lines below the main heading and the address admonition, together with the "To" and the address lines, were from printer's type and general stock. The coat of arms was also part of the regular stock, being used extensively as a heading for government notices. Likewise, the overall frame was made up of four pieces of ornamental border stock.

The post card stamp design was a modification of Queensland's first adhesive stamp design, a full-face portrait of Queen Victoria. On the post card the head and the immediate coloured background have the same general characteristics as the adhesive stamp except that in the transfer the fine crossed lines were lost, the ground became practically solid. The overall surround of the portrait was also the same except that a second outer line was added to complete the stamp impression. Within the oval surround occurred the major modifications. The arabesques each side were slightly simplified and the name "Queensland" at the top was redrawn in heavier lettering, as was the expression "One Penny" at base. A short dash was inserted after the "y" of "Penny", an aspect absent from the adhesive stamp design.

It would seem that the method of re-working the adhesive stamp design, to adapt it for post card use, was first by a transfer of the central portion of the design from one of the impressions on a Perkins Bacon steel plate to an intermediate copper plate, upon which the further necessary work was done.

This new die was fitted into the waiting master which then became the unit from which the subsequent lithographic transfers were taken.

Possibly due to shrinkage variations inherent in the lithographic process, when separate transfers are prepared, as would have been necessary in this instance, one finds that the ornamental frame surrounding the whole of the post card design exhibits slight dimensional variations. This point is noted in the Robson Lowe and Higgins and Gage listings. By actual measurement of cards, borders have been noted as varying between a width of 131 and 132mm and a depth of 86 and 84mm. An average of cards examined would suggest that the objective measurements were 131 x 85mm. As can be expected, the slight variations in the border dimensions are reflected in other design characteristics of the cards, but to a very small extent, barely measurable in most instances.

One finds also, and the catalogues note, that the overall sizes of the cards vary considerably. This aspect was due, of course, to the precision, or otherwise, of the guillotine register markings during the process of separation. The "small" form of card, associated with thick paper stock, is listed as measuring between 138 and 140mm wide and 92 to 95mm deep. The "large" form, on thinner paper stock, is similarly recorded as 147 to 150mm by 95 to 102mm. From cards held it is found, however, that in the "small" group the maximum measurements appear to be 141 by 96mm, with various lesser combinations fitting into the catalogue limitations. In the "large" group the major combination seen is 150 x 100mm. Cards of the initial issue, on thin paper stock, are known with handstruck "Specimen".

An amazing variety of paper stock was used in the printing of the cards. The catalogues list the first printings of 1880 as being on cream to buff stock, with printing colours of vermilion, orange and salmon. These cannot always be identified with certainty, taking into account that 1882/86 printings are recorded as being in carmine on white stock, and lilac red and pink on white to buff stock. Age, and exposure to atmospheric conditions certainly affected many of the stock colours. Again, on some cards either fading, weak transfers or light printings brought about the circumstance that the lines on the address face are not now visible. On the other hand, these lines are particularly prominent on some cards. One must accept that the variations noted in the standard listings, as to paper stock, colours, cards and border measurements, as well as other aspects, are all part of the vagaries which came about during the years of printing. Undoubtedly, catalogue listings could be improved.

However, a general overall picture might be simply expressed as follows:

- 1880 Colours and shades of carmine, rose, salmon, vermilion and orange on thin cream to buff stock, with card sizes up to 150 x 100mm.
- 1882 Colours and shades of lake and rose on thick white to pale buff stock, with card sizes up to 141 x 96mm.
- 1886 Colours and shades of pink, rose, salmon and lilac red on thin white to buff stock, with card sizes up to 150 x 100mm.

As will be seen from the accompanying table, the quantity of post cards distributed to post offices to 31 December 1880 was 33,666. To the end of 1887 the overall quantity was 735,965. Additionally, well over 90 per cent of

the 190,920 1d post cards distributed in 1888 would have been of the 1880 type, and the balance of the new 1888 issue, bearing in mind that distribution of the 1d post card of 1888 was not commenced until about the middle of December of that year.

On the question of used cards these are, as catalogue prices indicate, much scarcer than the unused. The used examples in my possession were all addressed within the colony but, doubtless, examples sent to the other Australian colonies do exist. As the statistics show, the greatest usage was in the later years and examples with dates of 1880-83 are certainly much harder to find than those of 1884-88.

[Although not pertinent to the narrative, it may be mentioned that in 1880 the Electric Telegraph Department was using, for internal communications, an unstamped O.H.M.S. card, printed at the Government Printing Office, which in size approximated that of the 1d post card.]

QUEENSLAND — STAMPED POSTAL STATIONERY 1880-95

Quantities issued by the Distributor of Stamps, Brisbane

Year	Post Cards 1d	Post Cards 1½d	Post Cards 2d	Post Cards 3d	Letter Cards 2d	Newspaper Wrappers ½d
1880	33,666					
1881	60,720					
1882	64,519					
1883	90,120					
1884	101,880					
1885	108,720					
1886	121,360					
1887	154,980					
1888	190,920		2880	2760		
1889	209,340		3600	3152		
1890	211,888		270	1200		
1891	201,601	1900	2570	1660		117,680
1892	209,129	2600	624	1040		2,191,758
1893	201,901	2680	1020	540		2,084,880
1894	234,154	1860	1680	240		2,027,586
1895	271,165	2008	1724	350	11,448	2,098,484

It has not been possible to ascertain figures for 1896 and 1897

To be continued

SORTING OF MAIL AT SEA

By PETER JAFFE, F.R.P.S.L.

Sorting of mails on the high seas on British ships dates from the late 1850's and some information appears in British records suggesting that incoming mail was the main concern.

Illness seems to have checked early attempts to man the West Indies packet but there are suggestions that experiments were made east of Suez on Australian mails.

Research on *West Australian Gazettes* has produced important information. On 5 February 1858 registration of items of United Kingdom mail was suggested to avoid sorting between Alexandria and Malta.

On 11 May it was advised that even registered mail would be so sorted.

For the first time in this connection we hear of Malta, as the junction – it may be guessed – of the routes via Marseilles and directly to Southampton.

The late Oliver Bowlby, a pioneer researcher into mail boat covers and the cancellations thought sorting was continued all the way home.

The use to which the cancellation "A 24" was first put is now established. The next numbers went to Malta and Gibraltar to replace the "M" and "G" killers.

While the Naval Agent had superior quarters and nominal duties the conditions of the actual sorters, even in calm seas, must have been vile, even when compared with those faced by sorters on land-based travelling post offices.

NEW NAURU PRINTINGS

A new printing of the current Nauru issue is being made with various denominations in the one sheet. The values will then be separated before they are sent to post offices.

The printing is designed to fill the gap before a new issue and the idea has been adopted because of the differing numbers of the various denominations required. It is believed it will save paper and time.

The printers will be Format International Security Printers Ltd, London, the normal contractors. There will be no first day covers.

Details of the printing and plate numbers are:

1c (Ekwanababae flower)	50,000	1A1A1A1A 1D1D1D1D	1B1B1B1B 1E1E1E1E	1C1C1C1C
2c (Kauwe Iud flower)	20,000	1A1A1A1A	1B1B1B1B	
3c (Rimone flower)	10,000	1A1A1A1A		
4c (Denea flower)	10,000	1A1A1A1A		
5c (Erekogo flower)	20,000	1A1A1A1A	1B1B1B1B	
7c (Ikimago fish)	50,000	1A1A1A1A 1D1D1D1D	1B1B1B1B	1C1C1C1C
8c (Catching flying-fish)	20,000	1A1A1A1A	1B1B1B1B	

OBITUARY

MR G. R. L. CLARK

Mr G. R. L. Clark, president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1950, who has been living in New South Wales, since about 1960, was fatally injured in an accident in Newcastle in July.

Mr Clark, who had a good record in World War I, maintained his fitness, and was "jogging" when he was hit by a car and killed instantly.

He was an executive of J. B. Were and Co, leading Melbourne stockbrokers for many years, before his wife's health compelled him to leave Melbourne. He moved first to Albury and then to Newcastle.

For a period, he represented the firm in London.

Mr Clark had notable collections of New Zealand, United States and Belgium. He maintained his interest in philately throughout his life and was a keen member of the Newcastle Philatelic Society.

He was also Exchange Superintendent of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria for two years.

His New Zealand won a silver-gilt medal at ANPEX 1950 (Melbourne) and a gold medal at ANPEX 1955 (Adelaide).

He was a genial, kindly, gentleman.

Deafness dating back to his war service, may have contributed to the accident.

MRS MARJORIE GATES

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria lost one of its best-known personalities with the death of Mrs Marjorie Gates on 26 June.

Mrs Gates, who had been a member for more than 20 years, had organised the suppers which have been such a successful feature of "Royal" meetings, from the establishment of Avoca Street until her last, prolonged illness.

She was a foundation winner of the Purves Medal.

She was also a member of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, the Women's Philatelic Society, the U.S.A. Specialists' Society, the Footscray Philatelic Society, and the Canadian Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

Mrs Gates was a past president of the U.S.A. Specialists' Society and senior vice-president of the Women's Philatelic Society, and was a recipient of the Victorian Philatelic Association gold pin.

Her wide-ranging interests included Switzerland, Great Britain, France, West Indies, and United Nations.

She received a silver medal for Channel Islands at ANPEX 1970 (Sydney) and a bronze medal for Jersey at ANPEX 1972 (Adelaide).

For all the societies with which she was associated, Mrs Gates was an enthusiastic, reliable and devoted worker.

Mr H. F. McNESS

Mr H. F. McNess, a philatelic personality who built up one of the greatest Commonwealth collections and also a fine Western Australian collection, died in Perth in July. He was in his eighties.

Mr McNess was a member of an old and distinguished Western Australian family.

The purchase of the Jack Cato collection, formed by the well-known photographer and author, was the basis of his Commonwealth collection, into which a number of other well-known collections were incorporated.

Mr McNess will always be remembered for his interest in the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria and for the loan which made it possible to acquire the headquarters building, and for other generosity.

He was a life-member of the society and his memory is perpetuated in the name of the meeting-room, "The H. F. McNess Room".

EDITORIAL NOTES

A Thought for Every Day

"Remember, one of the greatest contributions a member can make to the Society is sharing his or her philatelic research and knowledge. A continued willingness to share your knowledge is your personal contribution in keeping Stamp Collecting as the world's No 1 avocational pursuit."—*The American Philatelist*.

First Flight Cover Display to Stay

The display of First Flight covers put on at the National Library of Australia, Canberra, for National Stamp Week has proved so popular that the Library has decided to continue it, with changes, until the end of January.

The covers will be changed at about five-weekly intervals, with a final display in late December and January featuring Zeppelin mails.

The display occupies two showcases in the Library foyer.

Maritime Postal History

Captain T. G. S. Ward, of England, a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, has an article on the Australian Royal Mail Company in the November-December 1975 and March-May 1976 issues of *Postal History*, the bulletin of the Postal History Society, London.

Captain Ward is continuing his study of Australasian maritime postal history and is currently working on a similar history of the first P & O Steamers to visit Australia, 1852-55.

Charity Etiquette

Received from the United States recently a letter with a red, white and blue strip air mail etiquette issued to further the heart appeal.

Central is the appeal emblem, with the words "Air Mail" in blue on the white ground. In white on the red and blue is the wording, "These stickers help fight heart disease".

REVIEWS

The Australian Air Mail Catalogue, edited by Nelson Eustis. 195 pp, 5¼ x 8¼ in. Published by The Hawthorn Press, 601 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000. Price, \$20.

Mr Eustis has kept the flag of aerophilately flying in Australia for more than forty years. The first edition of his Catalogue was produced in 1937 with 75 pages of listings. A supplement was produced in 1941, and the whole reprinted a few years ago.

Now he has given aerophilatelists a priced listing covering nearly 200 pages. One is astonished at the range of material he has recorded. The first edition had just under 600 major listings. This has more than 1800.

Besides the main list, there are sections for rocket, balloon and hovercraft mails.

Throughout, there are notes on the flights. Those appearing in earlier editions have been revised. Many details not available in other aerophilatelic or aviation publications have been included throughout, and for this all users will have cause to be grateful.

There is a detailed record of Australia's first regular air mail service, Perth-Derby, 1921, which ended with crashes on both northward and southward flights. There are also details of the forgeries.

Details of the first known dates of the 1926 standard "Forwarded by Airmail" cachet at twelve post offices are a valuable addition to the catalogue. Other types at Carnarvon, Tambo and Mildura were also listed.

The numbers of cards flown from each stage of Basil Watson's Mount Gambier-Melbourne 1917 mail are given, too, and the data on the Ross Smith flight greatly expanded and corrected, as the result of Mr Eustis's researches for his book *The Greatest Air Race*.

An immense amount of work has gone into the gathering of the details for the various covers. Perhaps it can be exemplified by item 774 — twenty-four unofficial covers flown from Mascot in the *Faith in Australia* "for the first Australian aerial funeral service".

But in a work of this detail and magnitude some points must inevitably call for comment. Mr Eustis has maintained Rosenblum's "background" to the *Herald* air mails, al-

though this appears to have been the result of a faulty memory. Examination of the *Herald* shows there was no railway strike in Melbourne at the time of the Melbourne-Traralgon flight, and there was no mention of a proposed weekly service between Melbourne and Hamilton. (The flights are reviewed in *P from A*, June 1957, p. 58.)

A book of this type is much used for write-ups and the titles of pilots holding air force or company ranks are important. G. J. Powell (989-990) was Air Commodore G. J. Powell, and his aircraft *Commando*. Captain P. T. L. Taylor, of Australian National Airways, is "P. T. L. Taylor" for items 1030, 1041, 1042, and "Captain L. Taylor" for items 1066, 1067-1067a.

For the record, the pilot for the opening of W. R. Carpenter Airlines' Sydney-Rabaul route was Captain R. O. Mant.

The first mail of the K.L.M.-K.N.I.L.M. Amsterdam-Sydney service of 1938 was in the DC3 *Emoe* to Batavia and then in a Lockheed 14 flown by Captain G. van Messel.

The MacRobertson Air Race pilot (p. 67) was Mr O. Cathcart-Jones.

Doubtless the new facts will be included in a future edition.

Also, what right has the Goble label (items 70a-70b) to a place in the catalogue?

Mr Eustis has done a great service by providing such a comprehensive listing of Australia's air covers, with values — a task made infinitely demanding by the haphazard development of Australia's air services and the scattered nature of the historical records.

The typography and production standards of The Hawthorn Press, joined with Mr Eustis's efforts, have provided a reference book that may well give new impetus to Australian aerophilately, and one that may find its way on to library shelves when earlier editions may have been placed among the pamphlets.

The listing of the Tasman airmails gives the book a lively New Zealand interest also.

A History of the Post Office in Tasmania, by Mrs V. B. Adnum. 72 pp., 25 cm x 17.75 cm. Compiled and published by Australia Post; available through Australia Post. Price 50c.

Mrs Adnum, of the A.P.O. Library in Hobart, Tasmania, has compiled, almost from scratch, a highly readable account of development of the Post Office and telegraph and wire services in Tasmania from start to the present.

This essentially is a book for the historian, but it also forms an essential part of any study of Tasmania's postal history.

Where this book excels is in its background information. Development is systematically chronicled.

To review this publication, one has to realise it is an informative guide and not in any way moving into the highly complex field that the "Royal" took on with its study of Tasmanian history, now in print in two volumes, *Tasmania: The Postal History and Postal Markings* (1962 and 1975). Mrs Adnum admits there probably is much to be learned, and asks that extra information in the hands of collectors be relayed to her. This is pleasing in itself, because Australia's Post Office in earlier times so badly neglected its history that researchers now have to sort through nightmarish data to arrive at their findings.

Tasmania, particularly, now appears to have an administration which is out to correct this.

Philatelically, there is much missing. The stamp issues and their uses are covered rather scantily. So, too, are the cancellations. Again, a reviewer must remind himself this is a guide to actual history and not in itself a philatelic work.

If criticism be fairly levelled, it is in two fields. One, perhaps, is the scant data on Tasmania's now famous pictorial series, where the whole comment seems to revolve around the acceptability or otherwise of the 1d Mt Wellington scene. This unique set could have commanded considerably more space than it received, and one hopes any future edition will rectify this.

The other point highly noticeable is the general emphasis on the Post Office's development through regions, in which the south and north — and indeed, the north-east — of the State enjoy a lion's share of cover.

The volatile development of the Post Office on the west coast upon the opening up of this rich mining area does not get much mention. Nor does the — at times — complex spread of offices into the rich agricultural area of the north-west.

This information, however, is sure to be

available to Mrs Adnum for the next edition, if there is one — and this is an edition that deserves to be developed. She has worked splendidly with the official and secondary data available to her. Also, it is a pity she apparently did not know of the vast revision done by researchers to the "Royal's" first Tasmanian postal history publication, which was released last year.

But, as a historical cover of events, from the first postmaster of Tasmania (there's always conflict on this one!) to the first link by convict runner between Hobart and Launceston, this soft-cover publication is a must for the Tasmanian enthusiast. Some fine pictures liberally dotted throughout splendidly set off what must have been a gigantic project.

JOHN AVERY

New Zealand Postal Slogans, by R. M. Startup. Limited edition. 160 pp., 8½ x 11¼ in. Mimeographed, with spiral binding. Published by the Postal History Society of New Zealand, Box 25-105, St Heliers, Auckland 5, New Zealand. Price \$NZ5.

With the series of handbooks published by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand and the steady stream of publications being produced by the Postal History Society of New Zealand, and with Campbell Paterson's Loose-Leaf catalogue, one begins to wonder if it is not the country with the most comprehensive coverage by philatelic publications.

Certainly it demonstrates the infinite variety of interest that collectors can find in their specialty.

In this latest work, Mr Startup has identified the slogans to the various types of cancelling machines, with details and historical background.

It is interesting to note that there was an experimental machine in Christchurch as early as 1865 and one in Auckland about 1874.

The Christchurch machine was invented by Mr F. E. Wright, the postmaster, and was used for backstamping. It is identified by the circular datestamp being sideways to the length of the cover.

The Auckland machine, invented by a Mr (Samuel?) Vailes, is known only by a trial cover and one from London trials in 1878.

A complaint about heavy postmarking, a few days after the introduction of the 1898 pictorials, with a suggestion that an Ameri-

can postmarking machine giving clear cancellations be bought, led to the acquisition of a Barr-Fyke machine which went into service in Wellington on 8 August 1899. The well-known New Zealand flag replaced the vertical lines in the marking on 10 October.

Mr D. Robertson, who became secretary of the Post and Telegraph Department, designed a machine which went into service at Wellington in June 1902 and was adopted.

Other overseas machines such as the Universal were brought into service, but New Zealand inventors continued active. A partially successful Imperial Postmarkers Ltd machine was used in Auckland in 1919 and Mr H. J. Saville invented a machine in 1946 that has been widely used.

The first slogan was "New Zealand Penny Postage" in 1903. Auckland Exhibition slogans followed in 1912 and patriotic slogans in 1916.

Mr Startup has provided a comprehensive and detailed list of slogans, identifying machine-types, offices, dates and dies. This can only be described as stupendous. The slogans are arranged in alphabetical order.

Mr Startup also notes that slogans on Universal type machines have been traditionally on the right of the date head. Now NZ is reversing them so that the datestamp falls on the stamp.

One can only praise the industry, perseverance and dedication over many years that have made this production possible and express well-merited appreciation of the work.

Recommande. Charge, Eingeschrieben, by Heinrich Turk. 176 pp. 8½ x 7¼ in. Author: Heinrich Turk, Richard Wagner Strasse 2, 68 Mannheim, West Germany. Price, DM20.

This most interesting handbook deals exclusively with German Registered Mail from 1667 to date.

Particular attention is paid to the prephilatelic items and listing of the "Chargé" markings. Included also is a description of the various colours used for them.

The author traces the history of all the various markings, through the German States, right to the modern registration

labels, describing all those of the German Occupations of World Wars I and II, Saar, former German Colonies, German Post Offices abroad, Balloon Post and Zeppelin mail.

Being richly illustrated, it is easy to follow, even for a non-German reader.

There are two maps in full colour. Nearly 150 covers and more than 350 other Registration labels are illustrated.

Of particular interest to Pacific readers are the Friedrichshafen label (1901 printing), Simpsonhafen (Bremen printing), Jaluit, Marshall Islands (two types, Hamburg printing), Saipan, also overprinted Marienen by handstamp, and Apia.

Knowledge of the New Guinea types that were overprinted "G.R.I." invites us to hope that one day Mr Turk will publish a sequel, listing the places for which registration labels were issued, and their types.

In the Pacific area, this knowledge is fragmentary and a comprehensive publication would be of great value and be warmly welcomed.

Finally, every serious student of Germany or her Colonies, whether philatelist or postal historian, must be grateful for this book, and for the immense amount of work and study that has made it possible.

M. ZITRON

Handstamps of the Travelling Post Offices of New South Wales, by V. Frankenstein. 7 pp., 6¾ x 9½ in. Published by Robson Lowe Ltd, 50 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JZ. Price, £1.

Mr Frankenstein has updated and expanded the work of Mr J. Whitsed Dovey on the T.P.O. postmarks of New South Wales to give a comprehensive listing.

The work deals with those found on New South Wales stamps only. A page of illustrations shows the sixteen types.

Mr Frankenstein lists sixty-one markings, from 1876 to 1913, although some of them may have been earlier.

Each line is dealt with separately, and each marking is identified as to type, diameter, approximate dates (where known), number of date lines, gang numbers, remarks, and degree of scarcity.

Altogether, it is a welcome publication and deserves a sequel covering the Commonwealth period.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Members' Diary

1976

September

- 1 (12.30-4.00) Open House
- 6 (6.30-9.30) Library and Conversation
- 16 Recent Acquisitions and Others, Mr P. Jaffe
- 27 Exhibition Opens, Lower Town Hall, Melbourne
- 30 Persia, Miss Joyce Buchanan
(The Society will meet as usual, although the exhibition is being held at the same time)

October

- 6 (12.30-4.00) Open House
- 11 (6.30-9.30) Library and Conversation
- 21 Stamp Duty and Stamp Statutes of Victoria, Mr K. F. Scudder
Mainly Victorian Postmarks, Mr G. T. White

November

- 3 (12.30-4.00) Open House
- 8 (6.30-9.30) Library and Conversation
- 18 Tasmanian Postal History and Cancellations, Mr R. L. Askeland
- 20 Sale

December

- 1 (12.30-4.00) Open House
- 13 (6.30-9.30) Library and Conversation
- 16 Ponderings on Philadelphia, Mr John Gartner

1977

January

- 5 (12.30-4.00) Open House
- 20 Commonwealth Studies, Mr L. Skinner

Medal Competition

Mr D. E. Napier won the Society's Silver Medal at the annual competition, the feature of the June meeting. His entry was a study of the Rhodesia Large Arms.

The Bronze Medal was awarded to Mr J. B. Trowbridge for a postal history study, The Forwarding Agents, with emphasis on Trans-Atlantic mails.

Mr Napier's entry ranged from essays and proofs to the use of the stamps as currency.

Other entries were: Mr A. W. Bunn, B.C.O.F., with stress on trial printings and high value imprints; Mr W. Walker, Paris Postmarks, from 1772; Mr C. Davis, Flights into History, rare pioneer airmail covers; and Mr T. Morgan, Registered Mail in Canada.

Annual Meeting

The President (Mr J. R. W. Purves) reported another successful year, with the membership totalling 255. There were four deaths during the year.

A successful philatelic society was based on integrity, stability and continuity, he said.

While it had to keep in touch with present-day developments, change for the sake of change would not get anybody anywhere. The policy of the society had always been to hasten slowly.

As costs rose, it was necessary to see that revenue rose at the same time. This was being accomplished, but the two were very close to one another.

The sales branch was the Society's main revenue source and sales had improved.

Mr Purves paid a special tribute to the work of Mr Lester and Mr Creed in maintaining the branch which many believed was the best in Australia.

The Treasurer (Mr L. W. Buchanan) said the Society was in a good financial position and the careful watch necessary to see it stayed that way would be kept.

Repairs and maintenance to the building had been the largest item of expenditure. The exterior and some parts of the interior had been painted and there had been some remodelling.

There had been substantial donations both to the Society — mainly due to the direct efforts of two senior members — and to the Publications Fund.

Mr R. Lloyd-Smith, librarian, who retired after twenty-three years, said that in the period he had held office the library had grown to seven times its size and the borrowings had increased ten-fold. Forty titles were added last year, bringing the total to 2243 volumes, with another 1300 volumes of bound periodicals.

Last year's borrowings, three hundred and forty-eight, were a new record. Most of the borrowers were members who had recently joined the Society.

Officers elected: President, Mr M. B. Watson; vice-president, Mr D. N. Baker; immediate past president, Mr J. R. W. Purves; secretary, Mr D. E. Napier; treasurer, Mr L. W. Buchanan; Council, Misses M. Farley and H. Serjeant White; Messrs H. L. Chisholm, J. Gartner, P. Jaffe, T. C. Lester, C. G. C. Skewes and J. B. Trowbridge; librarian, Mr G. N. Kellow; superintendent, Sales Branch, Mr T. C. Lester; superintendent, Exchange Branch, Mr T. R. Morgan; press correspondent, Mr H. L. Chisholm.

Presidential Display

Mr Purves's Presidential Display was The Barred Oval Cancellations of Victoria, successors to the original "Butterflies", and Mr Purves showed them on all the stamps of their period from Half-Lengths and Queen on Throne onward.

Many were on cover or tying pieces, and a number of the covers, besides backstamps, showed other markings of the period.

One, with the framed "Paid at Loxton" markings, was addressed to the PMG, Captain A. McCrae.

Mr Purves said there were one hundred and ten Barred Numerals, although No. 110 had not been issued. It was known from an impression in the records.

Four of the numbers had not been seen — Nos. 71, 84, 96 and 98. He did not possess Nos. 65 or 58. Another thirty-three numbers had yet to be tied.

Mr Purves said the numerals were made in two batches. The tender for making the first fifty was accepted on 25 July 1851 and the second about September 1852.

The first fifty were allotted by September 1852 to new offices as asked for, without any general distribution.

In the second period, after 4 October 1852, the cancellers were allotted in order of date of requisition.

Canadian Airmails

An innovation in the type of display was provided by Mr D. G. Cox, who came from Newcastle

to show part of his extensive collection of Canadian Airmails at the second July meeting.

Unusual items shown included a card commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first powered flight in the British Empire, by J. A. D. McCurdy, in Dr Alexander Graham Bell's Silver Dart.

The card, which showed McCurdy at the controls of the Silver Dart, was autographed by him. The half-mile flight was at Baddeck, Nova Scotia, on 23 February 1909.

Others were covers signed by Captain A. Roy Brown and W. R. May. Brown was the pilot who had been credited with shooting down Baron von Richthofen, who was pursuing the novice pilot May. Both became noted "bush pilots" in Canada's north.

Mr Cox explained that Canadian airmails had three periods — stamps produced by pioneer aerial promotion bodies, totalling about six, 1918-28; semi-official stamps issued by about fifteen companies but sold at post offices, the revenue going to the individual airlines, 1923-34; and then government issues, 1928-50.

Mr Cox showed stamps and covers from each period. They included the 25c Toronto-Ottawa, 1918, which Mr Cox discovered had been printed on two papers, in *tete-beche* pair, the 1919

Toronto-New York stamp and cover flown on the return trip; Maritime and Newfoundland Airways proofs with flown cover, St Pierre France-St Johns; and a sheet of eight Patricia Airways with Red Lake overprint inverted.

It was altogether an original, interesting and picturesque display.

Ladies' Night

Nine women members provided a varied and interesting display for the August meeting.

Their choices ranged from classics to thematics, from technical studies of the current Australian Paintings series to postal stationery, and covered four continents.

The exhibitors were: Miss J. Kerry, Austria; Miss M. Lambe, Baden Powell; Mrs P. L. Turnbull, Queensland postal stationery; Miss M. Farley, USA; Mrs B. I. Van Tenac, the present Australian dollar values; Mrs M. Rodwell, Early Victoria; Miss H. Serjeant White, First Watermark Kangaroos; Miss J. Harwood, Roman States; and Mrs D. King, China.

The display was compered by Miss Serjeant White, who recalled that ladies had always been prominent in the society. Two ladies, Madame Crivelli and Miss Simson, had been elected at its second meeting.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Members' Diary

1976

October

- 12 Workshop Night. Audience participation and questions. Dutch auction.

November

- 9 Postal History of New Zealand T.P.Os, Dr Denbeigh Garrard.

December

- 14 Unpopular Choice and/or my sideline collections — five sheets a member.

1977

January

- 11 The Stamps and Postal History of Early Olympics, Mr R. C. Daley, F.R.P.S.L.

At our annual meeting we were pleased to see Mr Alan Bunn from Melbourne. We are always happy to welcome interstate visitors and if anyone reading this is visiting Sydney we meet on the second Tuesday of each month on the 7th floor, G.U.O.O.F. Building, 149 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, at 8 p.m. Enquiries may be sent to Mrs Nita Wilson, Secretary, Box 1751 G.P.O., Sydney 2001.

Commonwealth on Slides

At the June meeting, Mr Norman Sheppard compered a slide night on behalf of the Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club.

The majority of the slides dealt with the 1½d Die II George V.

Mr Sheppard said the work begun by Dr Les Abramovich had been carried on by Mr Alex Pailthorpe. The most researched stamp of this series was No. 59, with its void corner flaw, the earliest known dated copy being 31 December 1926.

Another stamp dealt with in detail was No. 53, with its irregularities in the crown, which almost vanished. Then about May 1928 the stamp showed re-entries.

Other slides showed the flaws in the 8d Tiger

Cat, the 6d blue Kangaroo with its retouched E, and the substituted stamp, the 1d reds, surface-printed and engraved, the 2d 150th Anniversary of the Landing showing the "Man with a Tail" and the "Pantaloon" flaw, the "Penavy" flaw, the retouched corner of the 1d red George V, and retouched "Penavy" flaw of the 1d green George V.

Of interest also were the 2d red forgery of 1931 and the £2 Kangaroo Sperati forgery.

Annual Meeting

The July meeting was the 26th Annual Meeting, at which the following office-bearers were elected: President, Mr E. J. Garrard, F.R.P.S.L.; Vice-Presidents, Mr V. Frankenstein, F.R.P.S.L., and Mr H. Nott; Secretary, Mrs N. Wilson; Assistant Secretary, Mrs S. Jones; Treasurer, Dr D. Garrard; Exchange Superintendent, Mr H. Nott; Librarian, Mr D. Benson; Committee, Mrs D. Brown, Mrs A. D. Garrard and Mr H. Rubin, F.R.P.S.L.

Following the election of officers the President's Display was given by Mr Garrard. His subject was "The Postal History and Stamps of Norfolk Island".

He outlined the postal history of Norfolk Island from 1832 to World War II and summarised the chief events:

Mr Garrard showed us examples of many of the early stamps and cancellations. Among the more unusual ones were cancellations of N.S.W., Queensland, S.A., W.A., Paquebot and Tasmanian and Australian stamps with the wording of Norfolk Island. He finished his display with World War II war covers and Norfolk Island's own stamps, which included commemoratives and coils.

North-West Pacific Islands

Mr Harry Nott presented a very fine display of the stamps of the North-West Pacific Islands for the August meeting.

Mr Nott has always been a popular exhibitor at the Royal and we always welcome his displays.

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★ **SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is posted free to all members.

★ **MEETINGS** held on the third and fifth Thursday of the month at 7.45 p.m. in its own premises, 6 Avoca Street, South Yarra, Melbourne, 3141.

★ **EXCHANGE BOOKS** circulate regularly within Australia to interested members.

★ **THE SALES 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 and one other night monthly or by arrangement with the Librarian. Also 12.30 on first Wednesdays.

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



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

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

★ **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE:**

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

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★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** should be directed to Mr DONALD NAPIER (Sec.), Box 222, G.P.O., Melbourne 3001, 819 2466.

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

★ **MEETING ROOM:** The Club meets at 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the No. 1 Hall, 7th Floor, G.U.O.O.F. Building, 149 Castlereagh Street, Sydney.

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

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



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

THE CLUB'S FEES are: City members, \$5.50; Country members, \$4.00.

Subscriptions are due 1 July yearly. There is no entrance fee payable.

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