

PHILATELY

from

AUSTRALIA

A CHRONICLE OF AUSTRALASIAN STAMPS
AND THEIR COLLECTORS



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MARCH 1979

GOVERNOR VISITS ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

The Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Winneke, paid an official visit to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria on Friday, 23 February.

It is believed to have been the first occasion on which a Governor has visited a philatelic society.

Sir Henry Winneke was received by the president, Mr D. E. Napier, and the vice-president, Mr P. Jaffé. Miss M. Farley was hostess.

It was an afternoon visit and on arrival he was shown a series of items illustrating the extent of the Society's work and interests.

These included the first and latest issues of *Philately from Australia* and the Society's publications, the medals it awarded, and those which it had received as recognition of the quality of the books it had published.

Sir Henry Winneke was also shown a volume of the forgery collection and a selection of the books from the library. These included the Royal Collection volume, the rare and famous Reuterskiold book on Switzerland, and the recent book on Guatemala.

He also saw an exchange book and the catalogue for the Society's sale day.

Sir Henry Winneke then had afternoon tea in the library.

An exhibition had been mounted in the meeting room. This was designed to show the range of interests of the members, with Australia as the central theme, and to be of interest to both collectors and non-collectors.

Twenty-one members contributed to the anonymous display.

After inspecting the trio of prints of the building mounted in the hall, Sir Henry Winneke toured the exhibition.

Sir Henry said that although a non-collector he had found a great deal of interest in the display.

In the exhibition were 18-sheet displays of Australian "missing colours", Commonwealth King George V, Australian Coils, and Australian airmails, Early Victoria, Victorian postal history, and Queensland.

Other frames were Afghanistan, Canadian Registrations, Belgian Congo, Falklands, Fiji, Classic France, Early Britain, Britain's Royal Franks, Iceland, Persia, Rhodesia, St Vincent, Trans-Atlantic Mails, and United States Air Stamps.

Presidential "At Home"

Later, Mr Napier held a 6 to 8 pm Presidential "At Home" as the social occasion of his year of office.

Some fifty members and wives attended an enjoyable function.

These included an interstate member, Mr R. D. Belford, from Sydney, and Major J. J. R. Lucaci, of Portsea.

A happy feature of the gathering was that members who could not come to the usual meetings of the Society were able to attend.

Special floral decorations were arranged by Misses Farley and J. Buchanan.

Prior to the Governor's visit, Mr Napier and Mr Jaffé paid a call at Government House on 25 January.

This was recorded in the Vice-Regal notices in the next morning's press:

The Governor, Sir Henry Winneke, received the following calls yesterday . . . Mr Donald E. Napier, president, and Mr Peter Jaffé, vice-president, Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

The Governor's visit was reported similarly:

The Governor, Sir Henry Winneke, visited the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, South Yarra.

Subsequently, Mr Napier received a letter of thanks from him:

Dear Mr President,

Thank you for your kindness and courtesy in showing me the Society's premises and your books and exhibits. Although a sheer novice, I had a most interesting period with you.

With very best wishes to the Society,

Yours sincerely,

Henry Winneke.

EDITORIAL NOTES*Mr C. M. Woodford, Philatelist*

Additional evidence to that in the September number of *Philately from Australia* (p. 59) that Mr Charles M. Woodford, the Administrator responsible for the first issue of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate, was a philatelist appears in the July issue of *The Stamp Lover*.

An illustration to an article on British Solomon Islands Protectorate by Messrs D. G. Franks and D. H. Beach is a cover bearing the earliest known date of the framed Solomon Islands Paid frank.

Beside the frank is a 2d 1897-99 New South Wales stamp with the Sydney c.d.s. MY 2 11 A.M. 06 43 and NSW in oval of bars duplex.

The cover is addressed to Mrs Woodford, Silverleigh, Tonbridge, England.

Mrs N. M. Wilson, F.R.P.S.L.

Mrs Nita Wilson, of Sydney, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Thoughtfulness

The 3AW Community Service Trust, of which Mr Ray Chapman, radio personality and Director of the Trust, opened this year's fund-raising programme for the Royal Women's Hospital with a gala dinner at the Hotel Australia to celebrate National Stamp Week.

Mr Chapman was chairman of the dinner.

National Stamp Week this year also marked the fiftieth anniversary of the Fourth Australian Philatelic Exhibition and Congress, which was held in Melbourne.

Mr Chapman, a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, looked up the exhibition catalogue and found that two members of the society today had been members of the committee of that exhibition.

They were Mr J. R. W. Purves and Miss Helen Serjeant White.

Mr Chapman invited them to be his guests at the dinner.

The Trail



of Commonwealth

Conducted by BILL EUSTACE

AUSTRALIA – 25 Cent on 7 Cent Newsrapper

In mid-January an extremely limited supply of this item was distributed to Philatelic Sales Centres and in many cases was sold out on the day of receipt. However, bulk supplies were sent out subsequently and the item is now freely available.

AUSTRALIA – 20 Cent Ferry

I have not yet seen the item but understand that part of the supply is on a paper which gives quite a strong white reaction from the back under U/V but that the difference from the front is much less marked. There is a small olive "shadow" in the water immediately under the funnel and I thought that I had found an interesting variety when I came across a copy on which the "shadow" was completely absent. Unfortunately it seems that it is quite strong on Sheet C and gets progressively weaker across the sheet until on many stamps from Sheet A it is either very faint or totally absent.

AUSTRALIA – Racehorse Commemoratives

At the time of issue it was officially announced that the supply of the 35 Cent, 50 Cent and 55 Cent denominations was insufficient to meet anticipated requirements and that a reprint was being made on the same paper stock. The paper is indeed well matched and it is difficult to separate the two printings by colour, although there are some differences in the greens under U/V light.

For the specialist who insists on showing the two printings the best solution would be strips (or blocks) from the corner to show the sheet numbers which change from being under the 5th stamp from the right to under the 6th from the right. I thought that the original printings had the numbers under the 5th from the right but have been told by some people that this was not so and am now uncertain which represents the original printing and which the reprint.

15 Cent – Christmas 1978

This stamp comes with both greenish and white gums but no significant differences in paper of U/V reaction are apparent under the lamp.

20 Cent — Horse Racing

A considerable number of sheets have been seen in Victoria on the orange-brown lamp paper which was used for part of the printing of the 18 cent Tree and 20 cent Bird stamps. So far I have only managed to find Sheets A and B of the Horse stamp on this paper but, by inference, Sheet C must be about somewhere.

On Sheet C of the normal lamp reaction paper there is something of a puzzle — I found batches at two Melbourne post offices which differed in that one lot had small blue guide lines in the left selvedge opposite the middle of Rows 1 and 20 and opposite the middle of the centre gutter whilst the other sheets had none of these marks. Overlapping the two types of sheet convinced me that it was not a case of the marks having been guillotined off one lot of sheets, so we are left with the alternatives either that a new blue cylinder was used at some stage or that the marginal markings didn't ink up properly until part-way through the run.

I received from Adelaide a block of Sheet C (which incidentally had the blue guide lines) and on Row 2 Stamp 2 there is a clear break in the outline of the jockey's chin. There was no sign of this variety on any of my blocks.

One amusing variety which I did receive was caused by a marked registration slip to the left of the black cylinder. The result is that Tulloch is beaten at the post by a nose by a ghost horse.

35 Cent — Horse Racing

I have seen several sheets where the first "E" of "Bernborough" appears as an "F" on Row 6 Stamp 10 as though incompletely inked. Since then I have found other sheets where the "E" is quite normal, although all the black lettering now seems heavier. It was rumoured that all supplies of the 35 cent were distributed by the day of issue and this caused something of a speculative rush, but there have been subsequent suggestions that all three top values in this set are being reprinted.

20 Cent Large Stamped Envelope — Rosella

I purchased several sets of these envelopes with First Day cancels at the Melbourne Philatelic Sales Centre and was delighted to find that on this particular design the usual frame of "Helecon" round the stamps was completely absent. Actually it is possible with practice to spot these in daylight because the "Helecon" frame has a slightly cream tone.

On going back to look for further examples I encountered a batch on which the "Helecon" was quite normal across the base and for two-thirds of the distance up the sides, but there was no trace of "Helecon" across the top frame. Unfortunately their mint stock was all from a different batch and perfectly normal.



The Other Side of the Picture



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

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

(i) Page numbers found on the "long" stamps inscribed "POSTAGE & REVENUE" immediately preceding the 1902 and later issues of the "long" stamps inscribed "POSTAGE"

Through the courtesy of the Curator, Mr John Marriott, the writer was able recently to examine the "long" stamps in the Royal Collection.

This note will concentrate only on a series of mint multiples of various values of the "POSTAGE & REVENUE" series all showing "value page numbers".

These fell into two categories:

- (i) The following values were all found with 5/- page numbers, in *violet*:
5/- *pink*: 5/- 000141, 5/- 000427. In these cases the number was in the top left margin.
10/-: 5/- 000452. Number in top left margin.
£4: 5/- 0001.. (other figures not visible) in top left margin.

(ii) The following pairs, all in my opinion from the *last* printings of the stamps, showed 1d page numbers in *vermillion*, as follows:

- 5/- *scarlet*: 1d 595196, at top right.
10/-: 1d 595181, at base.
£1: 1d 595026, at left base.

These stamps were probably printed in single sheets of paper and at different times the larger sheet of paper may have been cut down in different ways. *Earlier* orders certainly specified that these numbers should be placed in the lower margin but more material is necessary to solve the seeming puzzle. Probably different orders specified different positions.

At any rate, it is now clear that the using up of surplus 1d paper was commenced *before* the "Commonwealth" stamps came into being, and that it almost certainly followed the exhaustion of the 5/- paper.

(ii) *The 1/- "thin POSTAGE" of 1902:*
A missing link is seen

The Royal Collection contains a "thin POSTAGE" 1/- from the *first* printing in *pale brown* (see p. 89 of the Handbook) showing the page number 1d 646757

in *vermilion*. This printing therefore fits exactly where it should according to the page numbers — *after* the 8d first printing and *before* the 10d first printing. Note that the “red brown” variety of overprint has still to be seen with a page number.

As will be argued under (iii) following, it now also seems certain that 36,000 was the total number printed of the 1/- *first* printing.

(iii) 8d “*thin POSTAGE*” *first printing:*
A miscalculation

Here, on p. 36, at the end of “pages used”, are the numbers “646501-647000”. This *should* read (and the correction is confirmed by the first 1/- and 10d page numbers respectively) “646501-646700”.

Which of course means that the *number* of these 8ds printed was 300 double sheets, ie, 36,000 stamps and not 72,000 as reckoned in the present book (p. 36).

Alterations should therefore be made on pp. 36 and 76. I also stated (see p. 76) that “value page numbers 1d 646701 to 1d 647000 are, to date, a gap for us. That gap has now been shown to comprise the first printing of the 1/- since no *other* value seems to have been concerned.”

If it was the only value involved in the “gap” then 300 double sheets of the 1/- would have meant that the first printing of that value totalled, like that of the 8d, 36,000 stamps, the page numbers involved being 1d 646701 to 1d 647000 inclusive.

My “guesstimate” for this printing, viz, 80,000 — see p. 89 — will therefore need to be amended. It is scarcer than I thought. This total would also mean that about 20,000 or less were printed with the *red-brown* overprint.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Welcome Visitors

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria has enjoyed the company of many notable visitors at recent meetings.

A visitor to the October meeting, when Mr J. R. W. Purves displayed Highlights of Victoria Postal Stationery, was Mr B. R. Peace, of Leeds, England, who has long been a particular and generous friend to the society’s library.

Mr Peace found kindred interests other than stamps at the meeting. The president, Mr D. R. Napier, and Mr P. Barlow are also quantity surveyors.

Also present was Mr A. Jansen, of Adelaide, who had flown to Melbourne specially for the meeting.

Mr John Farthing, Director of Stanley Gibbons Ltd, came to the December meeting, when Mr Purves talked about forgeries, with an accompanying display from the society’s collection, arranged by the curator, Mrs P. L. Turnbull.

His visit was especially appreciated as it followed nights of having to get out of bed to hold telephone discussions with London regarding the take-over, then just completed, of Stanley Gibbons Ltd by Letraset, in a £33 million deal.

R.P.S.N.Z. is now Ninety

The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand celebrated its ninetieth anniversary in November.

The society’s commemoration was a week-long non-competitive exhibition in Turnbull House, the home of New Zealand’s famous Turnbull Library, a meeting of the society on 22 November, and an anniversary dinner on 23 November.

The society, which has 395 members, had a meeting there on 22 November, with an anniversary dinner on 23 November.

The society was formed on 5 September 1888.

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF THE RIVERINA

By DALE E. FORSTER

With some notes by J. R. W. Purves on some additional aspects

Introductory Note (by J.R.W.P.). Mr Forster was kind enough to submit this highly interesting article to me in advance, at the same time asking me to add any comments I thought useful. Since the same subject has intrigued me (for some twenty-five years), and I have a large file on it, it seems now worth while to place most of the many aspects of a fascinating story under the one roof. Despite the depth of my own studies this is the first occasion I have gone into print on this subject.

Very little alteration has been made to the original article. Both it and my own paragraphs will speak for themselves.

The Riverina is that part of south-central New South Wales lying near the Murray River, and, because of its proximity to the Victorian border, its postal history is closely tied to Victoria's. Victorian Half-Lengths are known cancelled with the "number in bars" obliterations of these New South Wales towns and ship letters exist franked with the stamps of both colonies. The following article will attempt to explain these curiosities and will discuss the postal arrangements of the Riverina area from the 1840s to 1875.

During the 1840s New South Wales included all of what is now Victoria, then known as the Port Phillip District. The Riverina was settled in the main by cattlemen and sheep herders from the Melbourne area who pushed north to take advantage of the fertile grasslands along the Murray. As pointed out by Mr Purves in *The Postal History of the Port Phillip District*, there were before 1850 three crossings of the Murray — at Swan Hill, Maiden's Punt and Albury — with connecting routes to Melbourne. In summarising the situation in the late 1840s and early 1850s, I quote the late R. B. Yardley in the 1925 *London Philatelist*:

It will be remembered that Victoria as founded was originally part of the territory of New South Wales. It was called the Port Phillip District, and Melbourne was its principal town, but the seat of Government — including postal administration — was at Sydney. For convenience, however, an arrangement had been come to in the 'forties whereby a certain amount of local administrative self-government had been conferred on the Settlement of Port Phillip, by way of delegation from the central Government at Sydney. Nevertheless, all legislative authority remained in the New South Wales Government, and the Postmaster of Port Phillip was under the supervision of the Postmaster-General at Sydney, and so continued until the 30th June, 1851.

When postage stamps were first introduced in 1850, the authority under which the "Half-lengths" of Victoria and the "Sydney Views" were issued was one and the same Act of Parliament of the New South Wales Govern-

ment. There can be no doubt that the postal authorities down to the final and formal separation regarded the stamps wherever issued as equally available for all postal purposes in any part of the original undivided territory of New South Wales, that is to say, including Port Phillip.

I have seen no official authorisation in the postal records for the use of Half-Lengths in New South Wales (or Sydney Views in Victoria) but there is no question that both uses occurred. As indicated by Mr Yardley, there was only one colony, New South Wales, until the official separation on 1 July 1851, so such usages involved no revenue complications for the still undivided colony.

It is interesting to note which New South Wales cancels are seen on Half-Lengths. Not surprisingly, the Sydney bars (Sydney then being the population



Cover from "Deniliquin New S. Wales JY 25 1850" to Melbourne with NSW "51" cancellation on Victorian Two Pence Half-Length. Other markings, Maiden's Punt, Port Phillip, JY25 1850, and Melbourne four days later.

centre of all of Australia) is seen on Half-Lengths, and I also have seen "48" and have in my collection "46", "50" and "51". Mr Purves has "50", "51" and "53". On entires I know of about three examples with the Sydney bars, and have "50" and "51" (illustrated) which are the only covers I have seen used outside of Sydney. All of these numbers between "46" and "53" were used by Riverina offices and I tabulate them below:

<i>Cancel</i>	<i>Town</i>	<i>1851 Population</i>	<i>Post Office Opened</i>
46	Gundagai	396	1843
47	Tumut	63	1848
48	Tarcutta	small	1849
49	Wagga-Wagga	221	1849
50	Albury	442	1843
51	Deniliquin	small	1850
52	Moulamein	small	1849
53	Balranald	small	1850

These towns are listed roughly from east to west as the number in bars obliterators were allotted by route, the lower numbers being closer to Sydney. Also in the Riverina area were two Victorian post offices, Maiden's Punt and Swan Hill. Maiden's Punt was actually on the north side of the Murray, and, when it closed in 1855, Echuca opened on the other side of the river and Moama opened nearby as a New South Wales office.

There is a certain amount of speculation involved in determining why Riverina residents sometimes used Half-Lengths instead of Sydney Views, but it would seem that the close proximity to Victorian post offices where Half-Lengths were available was one contributing factor.¹

A second factor was the close economic ties of the region with Melbourne. Letters such as the one illustrated were carried most of the way to Melbourne by the Port Phillip postal system so it probably seemed normal to use Victorian stamps. Remember that in 1850 stamps were still very much of a novelty, and the point of origin of a letter may have had no more significance in determining what stamps to use than the routing or destination. In this regard one is referred to a Half-Length cover used from Sydney. Lot 210 of the London Harvey sale (illustrated in Robson Lowe's 11 May 1976 auction catalogue) is a 2d Half-Length on cover from Sydney to Balranald, a town in the south-western part of the Riverina. The cover was routed via Melbourne and has backstamps of Melbourne, Maiden's Punt and Deniliquin, and the fact that much of the letter's journey was within Victoria may account for the use of the Half-Length. Or it may have been used by someone who also spent substantial time in the Port Phillip District.

In any case, Half-Lengths were used from and to the Riverina, and collectors should keep their eyes open for uses from other towns. The cancels of other Riverina towns should exist on Half-Lengths and the writer would be interested in hearing about these — or any cancels from other parts of New South Wales.

¹ It now seems quite certain that no "Half-Lengths" were ever available over the counter in New South Wales offices *nor* "Sydney Views" in the offices of the Port Phillip district or later in Victorian offices. — J.R.W.P.

(To be continued)

MORE AUSTRALIAN LATE FEE MARKINGS

By LESTER G. SHEPARD

Mr Bernard Beston (Queensland), Mr. H. M. Campbell (Victoria) and Mr Jeffrey Marchant (Buxton, England) enable me to report some additions to the lists of Late Fee Markings previously published:

QUEENSLAND (*P from A*, September 1976, p. 58)

No.	Used From	Remarks
Q-1	Ayrshire Downs	Straight-line 39 x 7½ mm
Q-1	Probably Port Douglas	Straight-line 39 x 7 mm on piece with No. 256 obliterator

NEW SOUTH WALES (*P from A*, December 1975, p. 97)

N-12b Sydney	Same as N12 but with Code 3, Machine cancel, 18 July 1938
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Should any readers find Late Fee Markings on cover from Tasmania, South Australia or Western Australia I would like to hear from them.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Queensland 1899 ½d

A comprehensive article on the Queensland's ½d of 1899, written by Mr P. Collas, M.B.E., F.R.P.S.L., appears in *The London Philatelist*, May-June and July-August 1978.

Mr Collas mentions that the electrotype blocks for the wrappers were derived from the master plate used for the adhesive stamps and that the corresponding study of the wrappers appears in *P from A* of December 1977.

Two Samoa Express Wanted After Fifty Years

After collecting and studying Samoa Express stamps for more than fifty years, Mr Jack R. Hughes, of 1541 Wellington Street, Oakland, Cal. 94602, USA, still wants two stamps to complete his collection.

Mr Hughes, the world's foremost authority on the issue, wrote the chapter on *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol. V. The stamps he is still looking for are the 3d, State I of the matrix, Row 2, No. 3 and Row 3, No. 2.

Plating points are:

Row 2, No. 3: White line above "X" of "Express" filled with colour. Small bulge in value label above "ST" of "Postage". "T" of "Three" smaller than remaining letters. Right end of value label curves out-

wards, forming crooked inner frame line.

Row 3, No. 2: Small bulge in value label above "HR".

In an article in the *New Zealand Stamp Collector* for September, Mr Hughes says the plating descriptions in *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol. V (pp. 529-542) for the 1d State II of the matrix and 5/- State II, Row 1, No. 3, should be deleted. He gives new recognition details for both.

R.D.P. Board Meets in Buckingham Palace

The Board of Election to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists met in the Stamp Room at Buckingham Palace this year for the first time.

The Board, on 1 March, invited four philatelists to sign the Roll — Messrs Hans Hunziker (Switzerland), John H. Levett (Great Britain), James J. Matejka, Jr (USA) and John B. Messenger (Britain).

The Board of Election comprised Messrs George South, MBE (Britain), chairman, A. Ronald Butler (Britain), Pierre Langlois (France), Ronald A. G. Lee (Britain), John Marriott, MVO (Britain), Georg Menzinsky (Sweden), and Jan Poulie (Netherlands), with Mr Leon V. Rapkin as honorary secretary.

PROVISIONAL POSTAL STATIONERY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1905

By R. LLOYD-SMITH

Mr George Owen and I prepared in *Philately from Australia* a Check List of the Postal Stationery Issues of Western Australia, published in Volume 14, September and December 1962, pp. 75-78 and 100-06.

We listed as No. 11, a provisional postcard, with single-line purple hand-stamped overprint, "ALSO AVAILABLE FOR UNITED KINGDOM WITHOUT EXTRA POSTAGE".

This overprint was applied to the 1893 De La Rue bordered card, halfpenny, red-brown on buff, which we called No. 5, Ascher No. 6, and Robson Lowe CP7,



provided with an additional halfpenny adhesive below the stamp printed on the card.

In London earlier this year I examined an identical unused card, and a similar example is referred to by Mr Phil. Thomas in *The Black Swan*, No. 3, December 1975. My copy was used commercially from Mundijong, 17 July 1905, to Perth.

Two years ago I acquired a companion provisional, similarly handstamped in blue, on the penny blue Melbourne card of 1904, which bears the two-line inscription, "Available only for the Commonwealth, British New Guinea, etc", which we listed as No. 10 and Robson Lowe as CP10. My card was commercially used from Perth to Cordoba, Spain, on 28 July 1905, and correctly has an additional adhesive, one penny.

The Black Swan, No. 5, June 1976, reports another copy of this penny blue card, identically handstamped in *blue*, submitted with photostat by C. Angus Parker, used from Perth on 15 August 1905.

Messrs Higgins & Gage list in *The Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World* two items illustrated with the handstamp in *purple*. The first appears similar to the penny blue card described, excepting the colour of the handstamp.

The other applies to the penny red reply card of 1902, and the illustration makes it clear that the handstamp is applied to the forward half, without stating



whether the reply half is severed or similarly treated. Both Higgins & Gage listings are shown as RRRR, and no usage of halfpenny cards is listed.

Knowing the frugality of Australian postal administrations at this time, and the recorded usages of postal stationery "remainders", there may be a whole crop of provisional issues, missed at a period when collectors almost completely ignored stationery.

There is now no doubt of the status of these provisionals and the appearance of a regular two-lined inscription on penny cards "Available only for the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, etc" around July 1905, suggests this month as the likely date of issue of these provisionals.

These items should be worth seeking, but I doubt that they warrant RRRR status. Numbers issued would not have been great, but survival rate would be small.

Is Higgins & Gage listing of *purple* handstamp correct for the penny blue card, as those known to me have come struck in *blue*?

TASMANIAN CROWN SEALS — WAX IMPRESSIONS FOUND

By R. L. ASKELAND

I have had the advantage of sighting a number of authentic wax impressions of Tasmanian Crown Seals — the proper use of Crown Seals was, of course, impression into sealing wax and not as obliterators.

These impressions, struck in the 1800s, were preserved, and the clarity of result far exceeds that of ink strikes recently taken.

It can be shown that many of the seals described by Mr John Avery in *Philately from Australia* in June 1969 (p. 39) and June 1974 (p. 43) as Type 1a are in fact Type 1 and that wear has caused the outer ring to disappear or at least wear to such an extent as not to show in an ink strike. The Deloraine seal in particular, did have an outer ring originally.

Further, the size of the seals, Type 1, as manufactured, gradually increased, and the gap to the outer ring broadened from the first batch to the last, made about 1909.

Type 1b was introduced about 1910. The first Type 1 measured approximately 19 mm x 16 mm — later issues were progressively larger, to about 25 mm x 22½ mm.

Therefore I doubt whether Type 1a exists. It seems that those offices described as Type 1a which opened before 1910 were, in fact, Type 1 and the others Type 1b. Care must be taken where changes of name occurred — often the Crown Seal was altered (if at all) much later.

It can be noted that, with few exceptions (e.g. where the office name was long), all seals issued up to 1883 at least, had dot stops.

There is a further new type — Kawallah (opened 2.6.1919) is Post Office/Crown/Name/Tas — see Mr Viney's article (*P from A*, March 1978, p. 10), which also raises the question whether there is a Type 4 and/or two types of Daisy Dell. Although some offices had at least two seals over the years, two types for Daisy Dell would seem unlikely. The Crown Seal of Paper Beach (name changed from Robigana, 1.8.1968) is Type 3 but with crown deeply set so that it does not show on an ink strike but can be seen on an impression in wax.

It would seem likely that all the circular seals from 1945 onwards are Type 3.

Other additions to previous listings (following Mr Avery's types) are:

ANTILL PONDS 1
AVOCA 1
BANGOR 1
BEAUTY POINT 1b
BLACK BOY 1
BLUE TIER JUNCTION 1
(Reads BLUE TIER JUNC^N)
BRACKNELL 1
BRIDGEWATER 1
BRIDPORT 1
BRIGHTON 1

BRIGHTON STATION 1
BROADMARSH UPPER 1
CALDER ROAD UPPER 1
CAMPBELL TOWN 1
CENTRAL CASTRA 1
CLEVELAND 1
CORNERS 1
CRESSY 1
CULLENSWOOD 1
EGG LAGOON 2a
ELLENDAL 1

ERRIBA 1	ORFORD 1
EVANDALE 1	PARATTAH 1
EXTON 1	PATERSONIA 1
FALMOUTH 1	PEGARAH 3
FINGAL 1	PELHAM 1
GEORGE'S BAY 1	PRIORY 2a
GLENORCHY 1	PROSSER'S PLAINS 1
GOSHEN 1	QUOIBA 2
GOULD'S COUNTRY 1	RAVENNA 3
GREEN PONDS 1	RHYNDASTON 1
HADSPEN 1	RICHMOND 1
HAGLEY 1	ROBIGANA 1b
JERICO 1	ROSS 1
JERUSALEM 1	ST LEONARDS 1
JERUSALEM LOWER 1	ST MARY'S 1
(Reads JERUSALEM LOW ^{er})	SISTERS CREEK 1
KING'S MEADOWS 1b	SNAKE BANKS 1
LAKE RIVER 1	SOUTH BRIDGEWATER 1
LA TROBE 1	SPRING BAY 1
LIFFEY 1	SPRING HILL 1
LONGFORD 1	TAKONE 2
LYMWOOD 3	TARGA 2a
(Reads LYMWOOD K. IS.)	TEA TREE 1
MACQUARIE RIVER 1	THOMAS' PLAINS 1
MATHINNA 1	TUNBRIDGE 1
MELTON MOWBRAY 1	TUNNACK 1
MOORLEAH 1b or 2 or 2a — unclear	(Reads TUMACK — see Handbook I, p. 70)
MOUNT LYELL 1	ULVERSTONE 1
MYALLA RAILWAY STATION 1b	UPPER BAGDAD 1
(Reads MYALLA R ^{ailway} ST ^{ation})	WARATAH 1
NEW TOWN 1	WATERLOO POINT 1
NUNAMARA 1b	WESTBURY 1
OATLANDS 1	WINKLEIGH 1
OATLANDS STATION 1	
OLDINA 1b	

The following seals are of a type different from that previously listed, or clarify prior doubts as to type:

BOTHWELL 1	LYMINGTON 1 (near Evandale)
BREADALBANE 1	PARADISE 1b
CAMPANIA	PORT ARTHUR 2a
DELORAINE 1	ROSE VALE 1b
DILSTON 1b	SOUTH SPRINGFIELD 1b
EPPING FOREST 1	WESLEY VALE 1

The following new ties showing changes of name, etc, can be recorded:

BLACK BOY	with c.d.s.	REEDY MARSH/BLACK BOY
BLUE TIER JUNC ⁿ	with c.d.s.	BLUE TIER JUNCTION
	with mss	LOWER JUNCTION
CALDER ROAD UPPER	with c.d.s.	CALDER UPPER
EPPING FOREST	with c.d.s.	EPPING
GEORGE'S BAY	with c.d.s.	ST HELENS
MYALLA R ^{ailway} ST ^{ation}	with c.d.s.	MYALLA
OATLANDS STATION	with c.d.s.	OAKLAND STATION — a very short-lived error
PROSSER'S PLAINS	with mss	BUCKLAND
TUMACK	with c.d.s.	TUNNACK (supra)
WATERLOO POINT	with c.d.s.	SWANSEA

I suspect that Mr Avery's Eastern Marshes may read EASTERN MARSHES SDG (as does the c.d.s. of the office which became Andover) and that Wall's Track reads HALL'S TRACK (the former name of Lebrina).

LATEST FINDS OF QUEENSLAND CANCELLATIONS AND MARKINGS

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

New information continues to flow in following publication of my book, *Queensland Cancellations and Other Postal Markings*, and my follow-up article (*P from A*, September 1978, p. 63, and December 1978, p. 85).

The latest data has come from Messrs John Lavender (East Maitland, NSW), F. H. Wynn (Falls Church, Virginia, USA), K. J. Buchester (Clayfield, Queensland), and Mr John Amiet.

Mr Lavender kindly sent me photocopies of two postcards in his collection which show two numeral "ties". One is 517 — GRACEVILLE, which fits nicely into place. The other is 677 — EINASLEIGH; there is no c.d.s., but the writer has put "Einasleyh" at the top of the card, and has given her address to her correspondent as "Einasleyh, via Almaden", so I would regard the "tie" as established. From its opening date, one would have expected Einasleyh to have a number in the 690's, so 677 may be a reallocation. If so, the original recipient could have been OPALTON, which was closed before the opening of Einasleyh.

Mr Wynn also sent me a photocopy of a cover showing a new "tie", 532 — GOLDEN VALLEY, which is shown as a tentative allocation in the book. He also points out that in the *List of Known Types* on page 14, No. 85 has inadvertently been misplaced (it appears after No. 88 instead of after No. 84).

Mr Buchester has a series of 1906 postcards showing No. 417 "tied" to TIARO (a replacement and reallocation). He has also supplied further information on Receiving Office markings, including a new manuscript one. My own researches have unearthed still another. Mr Amiet's list includes both new markings and new dates.

The following additions and alterations need to be made in the book (or to the additions already made):

Chapter III

P.11. In the table of duplex cancellers, here is a further list of extended ranges of dates:

(2) Charters Towers	(c) 568	"Dec/98 — Feb/04"
(5) Longreach	592	"Feb/00 — Jan/11"
(7) Rockhampton	(d) 514	"Apr/94 — Mar/09"
(8) Toowoomba	(b) 626	"Feb/03 — Dec/10"
	(c) 647	"Apr/07 — Aug/09"
(9) Townsville	(b) 528	"Aug/97 — Aug 07"

P. 14. In the second column, "85 N2a(5½), 1f(6½)" should be inserted between "84" and "86", and deleted after "88".

P.17. 3rd column. After "517 2b", add: "(6½)".

Chapter IV

P. 27. In the Remarks column after "110 TIARO 1/10/68", add: "Later used No. 471".

- P. 40. Before "CANOONA 15/9/89" add "(471)" and in the Remarks column add: "No. 471 later used at TIARO (see 1/10/68)."
- P. 42. Before "GRACEVILLE 1894", add "517". (This should come between MACKINLAY and HOMESTEAD).
Before "GOLDEN VALLEY 1896", delete the brackets round "532".
- P. 46. Before "OPALTON July/08", add: "(677)".
- P. 47. Before "EINASLEIGH May/09", add: "R.677".

Chapter V

- P. 61. After "471", delete "?", add: "*Canoona* TIARO".
- P. 62. After "517", substitute "GRACEVILLE" for "?".
After "532", substitute "GOLDEN VALLEY" for "*Golden Valley*".
- P. 64. After "668 MURGON", the next entries should read:
- | | | |
|----------|----------------|------------|
| "669-676 | ? | |
| "677 | <i>Opalton</i> | EINASLEIGH |
| "678-681 | ?" | |

Chapter VI

- PP. 67-68. To the list of post offices with both "State" and "Commonwealth" types, in the appropriate places make the following alterations and additions: CLIFTON (2 C'wealth), GAYNDAH (2 C'wealth), OXLEY, PRAIRIE, RAVENSWOOD JUNCTION, WESTBROOK SIDING.
- P. 69. Add the following to the list of "Commonwealth" types: ARRAN, BOYNE-DALE, DIDCOT, DRILLHAM, EBBW VALE, FARLEIGH, MERINDA, MOORE, SELWYN (2 cars.).
- P. 79. As a new "PAID" marking has turned up in a different type to the Warwick listed under "(F) PAID Markings" in the first list of additions, this should be described as Type 1, and the following added:
"Type 2. A framed circle with 'PAID' round the top with two arcs beneath, and 'TOOWOOMBA' round the foot with two arcs above; right across the centre, in one line, are '- -D' and the date (27 NO 11). Struck in error on a stamp."
Additions are also required in the new section "(G) Parcel Post", as further examples of the Rockhampton item listed in earlier additions have been reported, extending the period of use to August 1907. The item should also be noted as Type 1, as a second type, also used at Rockhampton, has been found, as follows:
"Type 2. A framed circle 25½ mm in diameter, rather similar to Type 1, but the date is in one line in the centre. Dates noted are 2 FEB 11 and 21 JUL 13."

Chapter VIII

- P. 89. Another two items which appear to be Railway obliterations in the 10-bar postal type have turned up, but unfortunately they are on postage stamps off cover, so there is no definite confirmation. They are Nos. 11 (Nundah) and 114 (Fernvale). The only problem is that Nundah does not appear on the list I have of post offices at railway stations. However, this list is dated 1893, so it is possible that the Nundah post office was moved to the railway station later.

Chapter XIII

P. 111. Mr Buchester has a series of covers and cards from Bingera Plantation which adds considerably to our knowledge of the use of the oval rubber stamp. On two covers of September 1900 the oval is on the cover, the stamps being cancelled by the Bundaberg duplex. However, on a series of postcards from 1903 to March 1905, the oval cancels the stamps. It is therefore likely that the oval remained in use until Bingera Plantation became a post office in 1907.

Chapter XIV

P. 114. Add the following in the appropriate places in list (A):
 "Owanylla Maryborough 22/12/99 Name spelled 'Owanilla'"
 "Woody Camp Clifton 22/1/10"

Chapter XVI

P. 126. *Type 17(a)*. Add "F" to the list of code letters.

Chapter XVIII

P. 134. *Type 4. 16* is known with the code figures inverted (reading "91"), and "Q.L." horizontal (1904).

*Chapter XX**(B) Dead Letter Office*

P. 140. Another variety of the "DEAD LETTER OFFICE" marking has been found, which was used between Types 3 and 4. As it has some affinities with the latter, perhaps the least confusing way of dealing with it would be to call it Type 4(a) and the present Type 4 as (b). The following should replace the present description of Type 4:

"*Type 4.* As Type 3, but the outer lettering is different, there is no code letter, the date-line is dead centre, and the stops at the sides are solid. There are two varieties:

- (a) The circle is 27 mm in diameter, the extremities of the upper inscription are level with the bottom of the date-line, in which the month is in two letters, the stops are mere dots, and 'BRISBANE' is more widely spaced. Struck in purple, dated 18 NO 03.
- (b) The circle is 25 mm in diameter, the extremities of the upper inscription extend below the date-line, in which the month is in three letters, the stops are larger, and 'BRISBANE' is more closely spaced. Known struck in purple (8 OCT 08) and in red (23 NOV 09)."

(F) Parcels Post

P. 143. A complete strike of Type 2 has turned up, with a date in April 1892, which gives us a much earlier starting point. The diameter of the circle is 25 mm, and there does not appear to be a figure above the date.

This completes the description of the new material to date, but no doubt there will be more discoveries to report later.

QUEENSLAND POSTAL STATIONERY

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

(Continued from December 1978, p. 93)

The 1d Card, 1911

The immediately prior card was modified, early in 1911, by the inclusion of the word "ADDRESS", placed centrally on the front and below the heading, which was unaltered. There were at least three different settings. In what might be termed (a) the "A" of "ADDRESS" is below the space between the "o" and "f" of "of" in the expression "Commonwealth of Australia". In (b) the "A" of "ADDRESS" is below the "f" of "of". The scarcest form, certainly a late printing, and termed (c), shows the "A" of "ADDRESS" below the "o" of "of".

The addition of the word was to discourage use of any part of the front for the written communication. Otherwise, the card was as before and printed in red on white or greyish-white stock. Sizes found vary within the range 139 mm to 142 mm by 88 mm to 91 mm. The earliest dated card I have was postmarked on 2 June 1911. This class of card was continued on sale until replaced by the 1d Federal post card.

I have examples of the sub-types (a) and (c) which bear additional private printing, back and front, in Esperanto, being apparently so treated about 1911-12. The example with the (a) sub-type heading measure 131 mm x 90 mm and the (c) 141 mm x 90 mm.

The Reply Post Cards, 1911

Although reply post cards had never achieved popularity in Queensland in earlier years, their usage was revived by the Australian Post Office following the standardisation of rates from 1 May 1911. For Queensland there were two categories of cards, 1d + 1d for use within Australia and to countries to which the 1d rate applied and 1½d + 1½d to foreign countries.

The outward half of the 1d carried a three-line heading: "Union Postale Universelle. / Commonwealth of Australia. / Queensland." beneath which was the expression "Post Card with reply paid.". Immediately underneath this, and centred, was a small representation of the royal coat of arms. At the right was the impressed 1d stamp (S.G. type 21).

The area below was divided by a vertical separating rule, with the right portion headed "The Address only to be written here". At the left the area was headed "This space as well as the back, may be used for communications."

About 11 mm above the lower edge of the card was a horizontal line. In the space provided between this line and the bottom edge of the card was the inscription, in English, "The other half is for the Reply only", the French equivalent being indicated immediately below.

Reply half was attached at the top, the blank back only being evident until turned over. The only variation in the presentation on the reply half was that the expression "Reply Post Card" had been substituted in the fourth line. The

base inscriptions which had appeared on the outward half were omitted. There were no perforations between the two cards, just a fold. Printing of both the 1d cards was in red.

The 1½d card was differently designed, without a vertical divider in the space below the heading. The heading itself, on the outward half, was in four lines reading: "Union Postale Universelle. / Post Card with Reply paid. / Carte Postale avec Réponse payée. / Queensland." Then followed a small representation of the royal coat of arms, centred, and beneath this the expression "(The Address only to be written on this side.)", with the French version following: "(Ce Côté est réservé à l'adresse.)". Three dotted lines, prefaced by "To", were provided and at the base of the cards the words "The other half is for the Reply only", followed by the French version.

In the usual position, at the right of the main heading, was the 1½d stamp impression, this seemingly being a modification of the 1d S.G. type 21 design rather than being derived from one of the 2d versions. It is very similar to the 1d design, the necessary modifications comprising the expression "1½" in each corner and "Penny Halfpenny" in the surround below the head.

The reply half was much the same except that the second and third lines read: "REPLY POST CARD / Carte Postale — Réponse." The base inscriptions which had appeared on the outward half were omitted. Like the 1d card, the only means of separation was to cut out or tear along the fold between the two cards. Printing of the 1½d was in blue colour. The cards are thought to have been issued during the first part of 1911.

Usage of both types of reply cards was undoubtedly very limited and used copies of either half of both types are particularly difficult to obtain.

Statistics regarding the issue of post cards from 1898 are very sparse and the only figures which have been obtained are:

(i) Distribution of post cards from the G.P.O. Brisbane to post offices:

	1d	1½d	3d	2d Reply
1898	398,795	23,606	14	1,964
1899	482,459	4,230	124	2,910
1910	943,748			

(ii) Quantities of post cards delivered from the Government Printing Office to G.P.O. Brisbane (values not separated):

1898 — 310,710;	1899 — 542,890;	1900 — 472,422
1901 — 223,500;	1902-03 — 495,240	

FOOTNOTE

Post Card: Franco-British Exhibition, 1908

The type of card now to be described did not bear an impressed stamp and normally would not have gained notice in the present work. However, because the card was printed by the Government Printer, and possessed characteristics of earlier post cards, as sold at post offices, it deserves to be mentioned. Its status poses a question mark. On the evidence of the card itself, and the little addi-

tional information gleaned, its printing and production was a State government promotional effort.

The central heading block used in the printing of this card was that which had been employed for the 1½d post card of 1891, without inclusion of the U.P.U. inscription which had appeared above on that card. On the present card is printed immediately below the heading the expression "FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION" with "1908" centred just underneath. The venue of the exhibition was not shown on the card. However, research has indicated that it was staged in the Fine Arts Palace, London, in August 1908 and that the costs associated with the State's participation, in the form of a "Queensland Court", totalled £15,533.

On the card in the top-left area there appeared, instead of the royal coat of arms, as had been the earlier practice, the State coat of arms, this being in a size smaller than that shown on the back of the contemporary letter card. This point does imply that the card was a Queensland government promotion and not an Australian Post Office printing.

Again, at the right of the heading, was a printed upright rectangle for the placement of the adhesive stamp. Unfortunately, as the card I have bears a 1d Queensland adhesive stamp in that area, it has not been possible to read what might have been printed in the rectangle. The postmark is that of Rockhampton, with only "8 Dec" showing, the year not being clear.

A vertical line divides the back of the card into two parts. The left side is headed "Correspondence" and immediately below this is the printed advice: "The area of Queensland is 429,120,000 acres." This aspect also suggests a State background for the card's origin. The space at the right is headed "Address". All printing on this side of the card was in bright blue colour.

On the back is a card-size view in multicolour, this according to the caption being of "Flying Fish Point, Johnstone River, North Queensland". I have seen only this one card and have not heard of others, although it would seem likely that there would have been a series of different views. It is a reasonable conclusion that the bulk of the cards were handed out or sold at the exhibition in London and that very few had postal usage in Queensland.

Since the above note was written a somewhat similar Queensland government card has come to attention, this being issued sometime during the 1907-09 period. It has the same kind of heading with the addition of the printed text "Intelligence and Tourist Bureau / Executive Buildings." in two lines above the post card block. In this instance the pictorial side of the card carries a map of Brisbane and suburbs.

WHERE WERE THE FIRST SHEETS OF NEW ZEALAND 1d 1898 ISSUED?

New Zealand's bicoloured 1d 1898 Pictorial issue is an attractive stamp.

Mr Lionel Evans, a Melbourne dealer, has a complete sheet, mint unhinged, with sheet number 4. Until recently it was in a collection in New Zealand.

The editor's collection contains top right corner singles, used, with sheet numbers 5 and 6. These bear partial strikes of squared-circle cancellations.

No. 5 has a dateline beginning with a shallow upturned curve and the bottom half of "0", which translates as 30 May 98, with the cancel'er number, 2, below.

No. 6 postmark reads N Z/RIVERTON/upper part of an 0 MAY 98/2.

They were thus postmarked on the same day. Placing of the postmarks clearly indicates that the stamps were not cancelled to order.

The editor acquired them together from Mr F. H. Smyth, a Wellington dealer, fifty years ago.

Date of issue was 5 April 1898.

Intriguing questions now arise.

Why, or how, did Riverton, a small town at the foot of the South Island, about sixty miles by road from Invercargill, receive the first sheets?

Or did the owner buy the stamps elsewhere —perhaps Wellington — and bring them home? If he did, where did he get them?

The fact that sheet numbers 4, 5 and 6 still exist show that they fell into philatelic hands, from the same office. It is certain that the office had sheets 1, 2 and 3 because each sheet contained only 80 stamps and no office would receive only £1 worth of 1d stamps.

Did the buyer go into a post office to buy the new stamps on the day of issue, see the early sheet numbers, and buy the first half-dozen sheets — total cost, £2.

Did he just see the low numbers 4, 5 and 6, the earliest available at the time of his visit, and spend a sovereign on them?

Did he go into Riverton Post Office "on or about 30 May 1898", be moved to buy such early numbers when sheets 1, 2 and 3 had been used up there?

The rate of use would be 240 in 56 days — 30 a week. A reasonable rate for Riverton (population 845 in 1900), a rural area?

Or did he buy them somewhere else and eventually send stamps with Nos. 5 and 6 to Wellington dealers or philatelic friends on 30 May?

Yet, as a matter of administrative routine — for there must have been a standardised procedure for the despatch of new issues, unusual as they were in those days — how could Riverton have been sent the first sheets?

It is a nice philatelic riddle. Maybe there are other possibilities. But you can have a happy time examining and re-examining the evidence.

It is probably too late to find out whether a known philatelist lived at Riverton at the time. But does any reader know?

Finally, there is still the ultimate question: Do sheet numbers 1, 2 and 3 still survive. And, if so, where are they?

REVIEWS

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue, 1979. Edited by J. P. Meara. 39th Edition. 265 pp. 8½ x 5½ in. Published by The Hawthorn Press, 601 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000. Recommended price, \$7.50.

No philatelic publication in Australia is more anxiously awaited than the annual edition of *The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*.

Collectors want it first for its prices, but also for the wealth of technical explanations, which become more valuable with each succeeding edition.

Prices continue to climb and the growing demand for perforated OS has been bringing their prices nearer to the normal stamps.

Also, in practice, the present craze for "mint-unhinged" has set a premium on usual catalogue prices, which Mr Meara assesses at 50 per cent for Kangaroo and George V issues, 33-1/3rd per cent for pre-1940 issues, and 25 per cent for other pre-decimal issues. Collectors are, of course, free to pay as much as they like for stamps, but there is a paradox in the present mint-unhinged cult. Presumably, it is intended to ensure preservation of absolutely perfect stamps.

But now imprint blocks, once-hinged, are being broken up to provide three mint-unhinged stamps, because more can be obtained for these than for the imprint block as such. This represents the loss of philatelic items of more importance.

The seriousness of this was put to the reviewer some years ago by a leading New Zealand dealer who said he had a client who was plaguing him for a mint-unhinged 6d Christchurch Exhibition. The only way to obtain one would be to break up a block, because pairs and blocks of the period were invariably hinged at the middle perforation. (Current CP price for the stamp is \$250, so one may estimate how scarce mint blocks are.) The dealer said he would not commit such an act of philatelic vandalism.

Features of this edition are new information on the Ash correction of the 1½d George V, Die 2, and some new findings on the Postage Dues.

There are also fourteen new drawings distinguishing features of various dies.

If you are jaded and do not collect Commonwealth, get a copy of the catalogue and

study it. You will be surprised at the amount you will learn.

Fiji Islands. Post Offices and Agencies and Their Cancellations, 1956-1977, by Roy J. Botwright and Robert K. Walker. 8¼ x 11¼ in. Published by the Pacific Islands Study Circle of Great Britain, 58 Livesay Crescent, Worthing, Sussex, England. Price, £2.

Cancellations are a happy hunting ground for both philatelists and postal historians, and those who are both, and the Pacific Islands have gone to prodigious trouble to provide the raw material for them.

When a serial on Fiji Islands Cancellations by John Forrest and three colleagues is running in *Postal History International*, the Pacific Islands Study Circle has published this work on the postmarks of virtually the last twenty-one years. (The work is dated June 1978.)

The new work is a follow-on from H. M. Campbell's *The Post Offices and Postal Cancellations of Fiji* published in 1957. It updates the Circle's own earlier publication *Post Offices and Cancellations of Fiji, 1956-66* and it acknowledges access to the *Postal History International* serial.

More than 100 illustrations of cancellations are included and about 230 post offices have been listed. Each has records of opening and closing when available and details of their postal markings.

Suva has been omitted from the listing as a matter of policy, but one questions the wisdom of this on the ground of completeness. When a user consults a book with a title like this he will expect that every post office, including the G.P.O., will be recorded.

When a post office can have up to twelve types of postmarks, as Nadi Airport, the immensity of the amount of material studied can be appreciated.

It also shows the importance of keeping and making available to students the data "as it happens". How much would have been lost if the study had been started twenty years in the future?

Incidentally, Nadi Airport has a Paquebot marking. The Circle queries whether it was applied at the airport post office and thinks

it more likely that it was used at Lautoka wharf post office.

The various types of metal c.d.s. are classified and listed with the earliest known dates of use. Types known to exist which have not been recorded are also given.

Students in three countries have contributed to the undertaking, which again testifies to the lively enthusiasm of the Circle.

The Hawthorn Press Philatelic Publications, October 1978. 4 pp. 5½ x 8½ in. Published by The Hawthorn Press, 601 Little Bourke Street Melbourne 3000.

The work of The Hawthorn Press for philately has long been recognised and appreciated, but it comes as a surprise to know that it has twenty-six philatelic publications on sale.

This pamphlet lists them and provides details of recent productions. Its prices range from \$2 to \$20, with the additional postage from 35 cents to \$2.

The Sarawak Journal. Index to Volumes 1-30, by Raymond Price. 84 pp. 8½ x 11¼ in. Offset. Published by the Sarawak Specialists' Society, 77 Ingram Avenue, Bedgrove, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP21 7DH, England.

The first thing to be said about this index is that it covers not only Sarawak but Brunei, Labuan and North Borneo, as the society has now added these fields to its area.

The society, formed in 1947, now has nearly 200 members, living in eighteen countries.

The quarterly *Journal* dates back to November 1947. The index covers the period 1947-77 and contains 10,000 entries.

The scheme of the work is to treat each of the four countries separately with articles covering several subjects such as those dealing with Malaysia and the Japanese Occupation in a miscellaneous section. References are to volume and page.

Book reviews, or references, not necessarily philatelic, are dealt with separately, and there is an author index for major articles.

Postmark sections include those of Australian, British, Indian and United States Forces Post Offices.

Collectors of the countries covered by this excellent index are fortunate to have it.

It will add immensely to the knowledge available to them and therefore their pleasure. But they will always be greatly indebted to Mr Price for the enduring enthusiasm and enterprise necessary to produce it.

Newcastle Public Library Philatelic Catalogue, 26 pp. 8 x 11¼ in. Multigraphed. Published by the Newcastle Public Library, Box 239C, Newcastle, NSW 2300.

The extent of the philatelic material in the Newcastle Public Library comes as a surprise. The list covers both philatelic and postal history items with authors and titles in the one table.

Many of the book are rare, such as *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* set and the catalogue of the Sydney Exhibition and Congress of 1911, as well as the Archives of the Newcastle Philatelic Society, which presented its library to the library last year.

The compilation of this index, obviously heavy task that it has been, will greatly advance the usefulness of the library and the Newcastle Public Library deserves thanks and praise for its farsightedness in undertaking the publication.

B.P.F. Philatelic Societies' Directory, 1978. 122 pp. 4½ x 7 in. Published by the British Philatelic Federation, 1 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HE. Price, £1.50.

This is the last year this successor of the B.P.A. publication of the same name and style will be published.

It will be virtually amalgamated with the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Handbook, after publication of a "lesser booklet" for this year's Congress at Worthing.

One notices the foundation of new societies and study circles during the past year, indicating that the society movement is not lagging in the current philatelic boom, although one wonders whether some can be very active with the small subscriptions charged.

The "Big Three" societies are the Civil Service, 1500 members, the National, 1350 and The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 1300. Rafler (affiliated RAF clubs) has 960 members, Insurance and Banking Group, 445. Kodak's strength is 165, and among the smaller societies is one at J. and P. Coats, the cotton and thread people. Cambridge University is 160 and Oxford 40.

Switzerland Catalogue, 1979. Editor, H. L. Katcher. 129 pp. 5½ x 7¼ in. Published by The Amateur Collector Ltd, 24 Great North Road, Highgate, London, N6. Price, £5.85.

The internal organisation of this catalogue is virtually settled, and the main interest in the new edition is the prices.

This year there have been 10,129 price rises, 1019 have remained unaltered, and 105 have been reduced. The unchanged prices represent the equivalent of 10 per cent of the rises and the reductions 1 per cent. An additional 287 prices are listed.

The publishers' analysis show there are some exceptional rises of 100 per cent. Most of the increases are between 30 and 40 per cent, but many hundreds are in the 50-60 per cent range.

They mention that the rises are in part due to having the Swiss franc, the strongest currency in the world, behind the stamps.

The catalogue includes the stamps of the League of Nations and other international organisations based in Switzerland.

The Indo-China Philatelist. Vol IX, No. 1. Editor, Robert Moorefield. 26 pp. 8½ x 11 in. Duplicated. Published by The Society of Indo-China Philatelists, P.O. Drawer L, South Gate, Ca, 90280, USA.

This is the society's journal and is published bi-monthly.

Of special interest is the first article in this issue, dealing with a series of five stamps reported by *The American Philatelist* as having been issued by the Democratic Republic of Kampuchea on 1 April 1978. The designs deal with industry and agriculture.

Cambodia (Kampuchea) has not issued stamps since April 1975 and the Kampuchean Embassy in Peking denies the issue of the stamps.

The author, Dr Steven Carol, in another article, asks why the 5d value of the Public Library Building set of Vietnam was never released officially.

The issue is balanced with philatelic and background material, including an interesting article on the artist of Laos's spectacular stamps.

The society and its journal are essential to collectors with interests in this area.

Catalogue of Philatelic Literature. 48 pp. 8½ x 11 in. Duplicated. Published by The Philatelic Library, Box 57026, Los Angeles, Ca., 90057, USA. Price, \$US5.00.

This is a catalogue of surplus materials from the Library. It offers 644 lots of books and pamphlets and 2470 magazines, ranging from bound volumes to single members.

The price is refundable against purchases. Material on offer is world-wide and ranges from Tiffany's *History of the Postage Stamps of the U.S.* (1887), Legrand's *Manual for Stamp Collectors* (1896), and Bartels' *Plate Numbers of the U.S. Adhesive Postage Stamps* (1896) to *Axis Issues of Europe and the Philippines* (1946), and the magazines from *Aero Post* (Germany) to the *Precancel Optimist*.

Themes, No. 1. 2 pp. 8¼ x 13¼ in. Duplicated. Published by the Thematic Society of Australia, Box 52, West Ryde, NSW 2114.

Sixteen people founded the Thematic Society of Australia in Sydney last April and this is its first Newsletter.

Its contents are naturally of a preliminary nature and it extends an invitation to all interested in thematics to join the society, whether they live in New South Wales or interstate.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"You Can't Win"

Stamps headed it "The Ultimate Horror Story".

Police in New Jersey, USA, took possession of forty-seven albums, stock books, cigar boxes and shoe boxes of stamps suspected of having been stolen or unlawfully obtained.

These are believed to have been the property of various collectors, but nowhere is there any clue to the ownership.

Now the police face the possibility of having to return everything to the man

from whom it was seized, because they have not yet been able to find a claimant who could identify any of it as his property.

The article urged that every album page and every receptacle containing stamps should be marked with the owner's name.

Captain V. V. Cerche

Correct name of the Ansett Airways and Australian National Airways Ltd pilot, whose name is given in philatelic publications as N. V. Cerche and C. V. Cerche, was V. V. Cerche.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

B.M.A. Malaya

Mr Eric Lyon displayed the B.M.A. Malaya overprints and related items to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria at the second November meeting.

The display opened with stamps of the Straits Settlements, various Malay States, Sarawak, and Brunei, overprinted in Japanese during their occupation.

Of particular interest was the Red Cross issue, on sale for one day only.

Also shown were stamps issued by Thailand after the Japanese ceded a number of Malayan States to that country.

The main body of the display consisted of a comprehensive collection of the B.M.A. Malaya issue, covering varieties, unissued values, and printings.

Examples of the Malayan free postage period and Australian stamps used in Sarawak were shown.

Mr Lyon presented his research into the varieties of the B.M.A. Malaya issue.

He showed examples of the unissued 8 Cent grey with one copy postally used, the unissued Straits Settlements 8 Cent red normally known only overprinted B.M.A. Malaya.

He said the overprint was known to have been applied in Kuala Lumpur to stocks of stamps diverted to Bombay. Some were also diverted to Australia and it had been assumed that some values were printed here, but proof was lacking. Some evidence suggested that the thin paper varieties, at least, were printed in Australia.

The final sheet showed the so-called and unissued Victory Stamp from the ill-fated Malayan Union.

Australia, King George V

Mr L. W. Buchanan showed some of his choice King George V items as the display for the pre-Christmas meeting.

The display was prepared with the idea of showing the infinite variety of interest which the issue holds, and must continue to hold, for all students of this intriguing period of Commonwealth stamp production.

Mr Buchanan's introduction explained with exemplary clarity the significance of the important blocks and other items he was showing.

Forgeries

Little knowledge was required to detect 95 per cent of forgeries, Mr J. R. W. Purves said when addressing the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria on Forgeries at the January meeting.

Mr Purves said the first forgery seemed to have been in 1861. Mass collecting started about 1860 and the long sea voyages enabled forgeries to be made and distributed before their bona fides could be established. The Spiro Brothers of Hamburg began their forgeries in 1870.

Forgers, like collectors, became more sophisticated, so that both had to do more homework. Collections, then, were general collections.

The London forgers, Jeffryes, Benjamin and Sarry, operated between 1865 and 1892, and repairers advertised between 1870 and 1910.

Forgery was dealt with leniently by magistrates so stamp collecting interests had to protect themselves.

Today's collectors must study stamps until their judgment becomes instinctive.

"All the philatelic literature will not help unless you will start looking at stamps until you can become something like a computer," Mr Purves said. "Something clicks and you know what you are looking at is wrong."

"Learn to study stamps," he urged. "Look at the production. Consider what the forger had to do."

Above a certain value, philatelists had to be suspicious.

The talk was accompanied by a display from the Society's forgery collection, arranged by the curator, Mrs P. L. Turnbull.

It is Society policy not to display stamps at the January meeting because of the hot and humid weather conditions that might prevail, and this occasion was another demonstration of the fact that a "talk" session can be of wide value in providing serious philatelists with knowledge and viewpoints they would not gain from the normal displays.

Canada

Mr E. G. Creed's Canada, with its beautiful pence issues, rarely seen items, and range of notable varieties is always a pleasure to examine.

He gave the display at the February meeting and these characteristics seemed to stand out from the selection he had chosen.

Mr Creed began his display with some proofs, essays and specimen proofs, including two copies of the Louis Riel rebellion stamp, also the composite Die proof in green.

The pence issues followed shown in all values. The 3d included two pairs and a strip of three, one stamp being a re-entry. The 6d included a copy of S.G. 2, laid paper, lightly cancelled and a page of the grey shades with a horizontal strip of three. Two copies of S.G. 17 purple completed this value.

The 1/- with small margins all sides — as Mr Creed said, "Not the best copy in the world but still a 1/- value!"

The 10d was in each colour and included a copy of the major re-entry.

7½d included a copy with re-entry on imprint. There were several nice copies of the ½d values. These, with the exception of the 1/-, were also shown on cover.

The perforated issues showed all values with the S.G. 27 — 6d unused and ½d on thin ribbed paper — outstanding items.

The first decimal set was shown in depth, particularly the 5 cents, which included several copies of the re-entry and the major varieties, Rock in Waterfall, Log in Waterfall — both single and double line — Railway Crossing, Leaping Fish, etc. Nice copies of S.G. 33 black brown and 33b deep red purple were features of the 10 cents.

Star item of the 12½ cents was an imperforate block of the blue green.

Mr Creed also showed a selection of other issues. The 1864 2 cents vermillion 1893 widow in block of four, 1897 Jubilee issue complete with shades, mint, all generally well-centred; 1897/8 Maple Leaf, mint; 1898/02 complete, mint with sheet of 6d and block of four olive-green; Maps; 1903 Edwards, complete mint; and Quebec Centenary.

ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Members' Diary

- March
13 The Meter Machine and its Product, Mr Richard Peck.
- April
10 Australian Commonwealth 1d (Special Items), 4d and 5d King George V issues, Mr Lance Skinner.
- May
8 The J. Whitsed Dovey Collection — Vol 2, "Classes of Stamps", the Curator, Mr E. J. Garrard, F.R.P.S.L.
- June
12 Display by the German-Austrian Stamp Club.

Australian States

Mr Victor Frankenstein, the Convenor of the Australian States Study Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club, presented samples from the Tasmanian collections of some of its members at the August meeting.

Mr Ric Slade Slade showed pre-stamp covers bearing the first six types of handstamping used at Hobart, the second, third and fourth used at Launceston, as well as types of free and paid markings. Although the pre-stamp era of Tasmania covered the period from February 1804 until 1 November 1853, the earliest recorded Tasmanian handstamps came from Launceston on a letter dated 9 November 1822.

Mrs Moya Land displayed the imperforate Chalon heads, Perkins Bacon printings, and the locally-produced Best issues.

Mr Arthur Levitt's contribution included the first issues of Tasmania, the 1d Blue and 4d Orange and a few sheets of Chalon heads.

Mr Mark Dankin dealt with the De la Rue middle issues watermarked Tasmania, provisional overprints, essays, and postal fiscals overprinted Revenue.

Mr Hugh Freeman showed the Tasmanian pictorial issues with colour trials both in issued and unissued colours.

Mr David Benson gave us some sheets with manuscript cancellations.

Early Great Britain

The display for September was from the collection of Captain Peter A. Wood, R.A.N., who unfortunately was unable to give his display in person because of duties in Canberra.

It showed stamps of Queen Victoria's reign from the "1d Black" to the Jubilee issue of 1897, and included some oddities, short stamps, overprints and stamps of Great Britain used abroad.

In the accompanying introduction he said his collection has been collected over the past thirty-six years, although he admitted that almost half that time his collecting has been at best sporadic. Most of the stamps have been collected individually and he has attempted to collect at least one specimen of each plate used in the production of the stamps. The exception was the 1d Red, which would provide a study of its own.

Topical Night

The June attraction was a Topical Night compered by Mrs Dalmas Brown.

Those who contributed were:

Mrs June Phillip, with a collection of stamps and covers depicting space research since 1972.

Miss Rachelle Phillip, with stamps and covers from the Apollo-Soyuz Mission.

Mrs Dell Garrard, with a display of material, stamps and covers dealing with Royal Tours.

Mr Ed. Garrard with part of his collection of Commonwealth of Australia varieties.

Mrs Dalmas Brown, with a collection of maximum cards from China dealing with folk lore and Ming Dynasty porcelain and miniature sheets dealing with music.

Mrs Shirley Jones, with a thematic collection on the artist, Peter Paul Rubens.

Austrian Monarchy

Mr Henry Rubin gave the November exhibit, the subject being the Austrian Monarchy.

He showed the first issue, which consists of five stamps, but there is a big variety of papers and colours, with many of the mint varieties.

He also showed covers with mixed frankings and also featuring several coloured stamps. Next there were stamps with the St Andrew's Cross — perhaps the only ones in Australia — and the Milano forgery which proved detrimental to the Postal Department in the 1850s.

Also included were registered mail and registered letters, newspaper stamps and ship's cancellations, as well as Austrian and Hungarian combination covers.

Mr Rubin also pointed out that Austrian postal authorities were the first to use air mail and pneumatic mail.

Coronation Silver Jubilee

The December display was given jointly by Mrs Dell Garrard and Mrs Shirley Jones and featured stamps and covers depicting the highlights of the reign of Elizabeth II and marked the end of the Silver Jubilee year of her Coronation.

The covers related to events and Royal Tours and the stamps related to her original Coronation, her children, and her Silver Jubilee.

Korea

The Korean Collection of the Philatelic Association of New South Wales was shown by the Curator, Mrs Dell Garrard, at the January meeting.

These stamps were given to Philas by the Korean Consulate in Sydney and had been beautifully compiled into a display collection by Mrs Garrard.

Pacific Islands

The Convenor of the Pacific Islands Study Circle, Colonel F. V. Thompson, presented this display to the meeting. Although there are only seven members of the Circle, all were represented.

Mr Bob Fearnside showed stamps of New Guinea portraying the postal history from the German period through to 1952, German New Guinea, Australian military occupation during 1914-18 war, N.W.P.I. overprints, subsequent Australian civil administration to 1942 and Australian stamps used in New Guinea 1945-52.

Mr David Benson's display consisted of stamps of the first issue of Tonga, including die proofs, plating and covers, including a combination cover of Tonga and U.S.A. used before Tonga joined

the U.P.U.

Mr Neville Allen showed Norfolk Island to the present issues.

Mr Errol Pike produced fifteen covers from members of the Anglican Mission in Papua despatched after Japanese forces had invaded New Guinea. They showed the use of Papuan stamps long after Civil Administration ceased in February 1942, and the postal markings and censorship markings of various units of the Australian Forces in Papua.

Mr Merv Riddle showed sixteen sheets of Australian used in P.N.G. showing scarce cancellations, reliefs, manuscript registration, rubber stamps, first day in use from the following offices: Abau, Aitape, Bainings, Chimbu, Finschhafen, Gasmata, Higaturu, Kavieng, Kieta, Konedobu, Losuia, Manus, Milne Bay, Port Moresby, Rabaul, and Salamaua.

Mr Ray Baldwin presented fifteen covers despatched from the Solomon Islands after Japan entered World War II and included covers from

Bishop Badderley, Bishop of Melanesia, who remained in the Islands. The covers dated from March and April 1942, being sent from Tulagi, but did not bear the Tulagi postmark as the postal equipment had been removed to Sydney early in 1942. Other covers showed the genuine and forged oval LUNGA cancellations.

Colonel Thompson contributed fifteen sheets from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, beginning with the stamps of Fiji overprinted Gilbert and Ellice Protectorate of 1911, followed by the Palm Tree series of the same year, definitives of 1912-24, K.G. V, and many many scarce postmarks on piece, including the 1946 Silver Wedding issue. Interesting covers from Fanning Island and other out-of-the-way post offices in the group completed his choice.

The annual Popular Choice Competition was won by Mr Victor Frankenstein with a collection of T.P.O.s in the Philatelic Section. There were no entries in the Thematic Session.

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