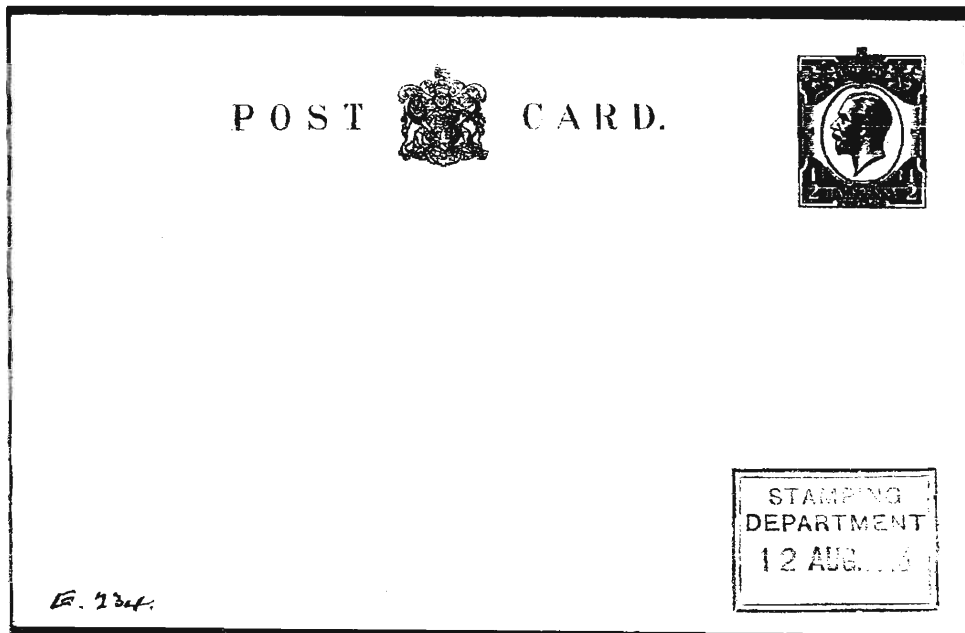




THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 13, No. 4 **November 2005**
(Serial number 36)



Essay for the Design of the King George V Side Face Stamp for use on Postal Stationery
See page 21

CONTENTS

Page		Page	
2	The Management Committee	9 - 11	Aerogrammes and Folded Letter Sheets From the Holy Land: Part 4 Israel Tony Goldstone
	Society Calendar	12-13	A Quiet Anniversary Colin Baker
3	Chairman's Chat	14-19	Sloper Experimental Cancels Rosemary Smith
3 - 4	Secretary's Notes	19-21	Notes from the Editor's Desk
4 - 7	Minutes of the Society's AGM 29th October 2005	21-22	Essays for the Design of the King George V Side Face Stamp for use on Postal Stationery Alan Huggins
8	The Society's Accounts		

The Management Committee.

The affairs of the Society are managed by four officers:- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and a number of ordinary committee members.

OFFICERS:-

CHAIRMAN **Peter O’Keeffe**
 8 Stainer Road,
 TONBRIDGE
 Kent. TN10 4DR

VICE-CHAIRMAN **Michael Smith**

SECRETARY **Colin Baker,**
 4 Greenhill Gardens,
 Sutton Veny,
 WARMINSTER,
 Wilts. BA12 7AY
 phone - 01985 840033
 e-mail - bakercsandcr@lineone.net

TREASURER **John Fowler**
 6 George Street,
 BRIDLINGTON,
 East Yorks. YO15 3PG

COMMITTEE:-

John Barker
Keith Hanman
Alan Huggins
Neil Sargent

POST HOLDERS

WEB SITE MANAGER - Lars Engelbrecht
 e-mail: le@postalstationery.dk

AUCTION ORGANISER & PUBLICITY OFFICER
Neil Sargent
 26, Marlborough Avenue,
 FALMOUTH
 Cornwall TR11 2RW
 e-mail: Neil.Sargent@btinternet.com

EDITOR **John Barker,**
 35 Portia Avenue,
 Shirley, SOLIHULL,
 West Midlands. B90 2NW
 phone - 0121 744 2580
 e-mail: johnhbarker@btinternet.com

LIBRARIAN **Chris Howe,**
 14, Sandringham Gardens
 Fishtoft, BOSTON,
 Lincolnshire PE21 9QA
 phone 01205 353982
 e-mail chrishowe@skanderbeg.fsnet.co.uk

The Postal Stationery Society Web site: www.postalstationery.org.uk

SOCIETY CALENDAR 2005/2006

Saturday 25th March 2006

At the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1. 11.00 am to approx. 4.00 pm

In the morning (Details to be announced in the February Journal). This will be followed after lunch by members' displays. Members are asked to bring along a maximum of 30 sheets each and to give a display of not more than 10 minutes with a further 10 minutes for viewing.

We will arrange to eat in one of the restaurants close by, and all members are invited to join in. The cost is not likely to be more than £10 each, including wine. Members who would like to bring their own food to the centre can eat their lunch in the meeting room (but nowhere else). You are not allowed to bring in drinks purchased outside the building. Sorry, but these are the Centre's rules.

Saturday 10th June 2006

At Swinpex, St Joseph's Lower School, Queen's Drive, Swindon, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

Members are invited to display up to 30 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of about 10 minutes maximum. There will be plenty of dealers at this event, so there will be ample opportunity to add to your collection, and there is an excellent catering facility run by Swindon Society. Swinpex is open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

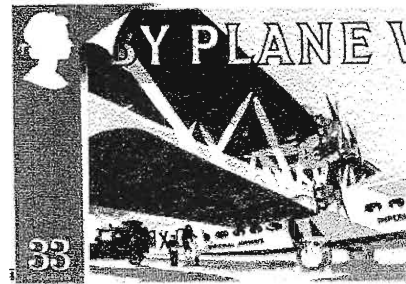
Saturday 28th October 2006

At the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1

10.30 am Auction lots to be set out for viewing
 11.00 am Society's AGM
 12.00 Tony Chilton competition judging,
 followed by the presentation of the
 Tony Chilton salver
 12.30 pm Lunch in a nearby restaurant, plus
 further viewing of auction lots
 2.00 pm Society's annual "live" auction.

The meeting is expected to close by about 4.30 pm

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - NOVEMBER 2005



On the 2nd March 1993, to commemorate the "EUROPEX '93" aerophilatelic event held in conjunction with "Spring Stampex" that year, the Royal Mail issued a set of four coloured postal stationery cards. Each card had a pre-printed reproduction of the top value of the commemorative postage stamps issued five years earlier on the 10th May 1988.

This was from the 'EUROPA' set showing Transport and Mail Services in the 1930's, depicting the Imperial Airways Handley Page H.P.45 Air Liner 'Horatius'. But the face value was different - the stamp was issued at 34p, whereas the cards were 33p each, but the 'p' was omitted from the value and the 'Europa' symbol was also left out. Another minor difference was that the date printed on the stamp (bottom left side corner) was 1988, and on the card it was 1993.

If my memory serves me correctly, the 1924 & 1925 'British Empire Exhibition' stamps are the only other commemoratives to be reproduced on GB postal stationery. The illustrations on the otherside of the cards were to represent the various stages in the ways that mail was carried by Air. Firstly, in 1850 by Balloon and parachute, then in 1870, with pigeons being used. Followed by the first scheduled Air Mail service in 1911, and lastly the trials of 'rocket' mails in 1934. The cards were printed by the House of Questa, who I think, also produced the stamps. In 1993, 33p was the 'all World' postcard rate.

It will soon be Christmas time again, so may I wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for 2006.

Peter O'Keeffe

SECRETARY'S NOTES - NOVEMBER 2005

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDERS

If your subscription for 2006 is due you will have received a notice with this Journal. Please pay promptly. This not only saves the society's officers a lot of unnecessary trouble, but means you will receive the Journals and other publications as they are issued, and get your membership at the best possible rate.

Subscription rates are £10 for prompt payments made before 31st December (or \$US17.00 or €15.00) OR £12 if paid after 1st January 2005 (or \$US21.00 or €20.00).

Payments may be made up to five years in advance, the cost being:

Three years in advance (2006 to 2008 inclusive) - £26 (or \$US45.00 or €40.00)

Five years in advance (2005 to 2009 inclusive) - £45 (or \$US75.00 or €70.00)

Advance subscription payments must be made before 31st December 2005.

PROPOSED NEW AUCTIONEER

As reported in the last Journal, Neil Sargent has been appointed as the Society's Auctioneer. He takes over from Mike Smith with immediate effect. Neil's contact details are given on the inside cover of this issue.

PHILATELIC INFORMATION

Following on from the note in the August Journal, I have received quite a few additional emails on various subjects relating to aerogrammes from around the world, and other matters. Once again if you would like a copy of this information it is free by email, but I will have to charge the printing and postage costs for anyone wanting a paper copy.

CAN YOU HELP?

The Society is looking for volunteers to fill the positions of Publicity Officer, Advertising Manager and ABPS Representative. If you can help the Society with these roles please get in touch with the secretary. They are not onerous or time consuming, but are still important to the Society and will help to promote it in the philatelic world.

MEMBERS COLLECTING INTERESTS

Following on from the list of Members' Collecting Interests issued with the August 2005 Journal, the following have also asked for their details to be included.

COUNTRY OR AREA COLLECTED	MEMBER	LOCATION
Great Britain (M)	Mr J H Swindells	Bath
Great Britain & Commonwealth, Hospital, Nurses, Medical (M)	Mr J R Gibbin	Surrey
Great Britain, Airpost Exhibition 1934, GB Perfins, Helicopter Mail (M)	Captain J D Marriner	Norfolk
Bermuda (M)	Mr G A Osborn	Dorset
Chile (S)	Mr G A Osborn	Dorset
Worldwide, Golf (M)	Mr J Gray	Worcestershire
Belgium (M)	Mr F J Luce	Leicestershire
Channel Islands (S)	Mr F J Luce	Leicestershire
Great Britain (M)	Mr T J L Browne	Suffolk
France (M)	Mr T J L Browne	Suffolk
Denmark Coat of Arms Issues (M)	Mr R Jorgensen	Denmark
Great Britain, Sussex (M)	Mr D J Start	Sussex
Great Britain, Airmails, TPOs, Aviation, Maritime, Postal History (S)	Mr D J Start	Sussex

If any member would like their details amended or included in this list, they should write to the secretary, giving him the relevant details.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

The Society gives a warm welcome to the following member whose details are not included in the list of members interests above.

Col C E Taylor, Herefordshire

Minutes of the Society's AGM held at the British Philatelic Centre, London, on Saturday 29th October 2005

The meeting was attended by a total of 17 members. Apologies for absence were received from Ed Deschi, Keith Hanman, Lars Englebrecht, Sam Barkley, John Fowler, and Chris Howe.

Minutes of the AGM 2004 were published in the November 2004 Journal and were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

Chairman's Report

It is nice to be back at the British Philatelic Centre again - as most of you will know, we had to relocate a few paces along the road to the nearby 'Malmaison Hotel' for our March meeting.

Since our last AGM 12 months ago, members have had the opportunity to attend four get-togethers, at Spring Stampex in February, the March meeting in London, then in June at "Swinpex" in Swindon, and at "Midpex" near Coventry.

Our thanks to Keith Hanman, Alan Huggins and all who helped in any way with the joint display (with the GBPS) which we gave at Stampex last February. I have heard comments from several sources about the quality and variety of material on show, with congratulations to our members who

produced over 200 frames (each of 16 sheets) of the total of just over 400 on show.

Thanks to our Secretary, Colin for the great job he does in keeping the Society at the forefront of philately, he not only organises the Programme, the 'Postal' committee meetings, arranges the 'Swinpex' meeting and generally keeps everything running smoothly. He also organises the PSS Monographs and other publications and besides all this he finds time to produce articles for the 'Philatelic Bulletin' which acts as a useful advert for the Society, I know that he and Alan Huggins are busy with the new edition of the book listing GB Postal Stationery.

Congratulations to our Editor, John Barker and the members who provide articles for the Journal - it seems to get better with each issue. Hopefully members will continue to submit articles and to answer other members' queries, either via the Editor, or direct with the enquirer. Also if you can add to the various topics or items that appear in the Journal, please do so. It is of interest to others and can lead to some unrecorded facts being brought to our notice.

Our thanks also to Michael Smith, our Auctioneer for organising the Auctions, which help us all, vendors, buyers and of course our funds which in turn helps the Society to improve its service to members. Thanks also to our new Treasurer, John Fowler and to our Librarian, Chris Howe, although I understand has not been overworked during the last 12 months. Finally to the other members of the Committee for their help. If I have missed anyone, I am sorry, but I would also wish to thank them.

Last year we had 7 entries for the Tony Chilton competition, this year I understand that we have 8 entries. Tony did a lot for the Society and I would hope that his memory will not be ignored. Let us all try and prepare an entry for the future of this competition. Last years winner of the Tony Chilton Salver was Jerry Kaspar from Los Angeles, and the first winner of our 'single sheet' competition was John Jennison. Reports on both these competitions have appeared in the Journal.

Secretary's Report

Colin Baker said the Society continues to develop. This year we have had 14 members not renewing their subscriptions, (as against 5 last year) some of these due to the subscription increase from £6 to £10. However, we have gained 29 new members since January, including several via the Society's web site, and now have 235 members, 9 more than at the AGM 2003.

The Society held three meetings this year, two in London, and one in Swindon. Reports on all meetings have been published in the Society's journal.

Once again the Society was able to publish another monograph in its series, this time on GB Victorian Overseas Postcards, written by the deputy chairmen, Peter O'Keeffe. However Colin apologised for the printing error that had appeared in the monograph, saying this was due to problems in transferring data to the printer. He hoped the error did not detract from the otherwise excellent content of the monograph.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of John Fowler the secretary read out his report as follows.

The unaudited accounts for year ending 31st August show that the society has ended the year with a surplus of over £700. This can be attributed to the generosity of the late Ben Ferguson, whose material has also enabled us to pay the costs of our participation in the 2005 "Spring Stampex".

The latter has, as our membership secretary will be reporting, resulted in new members' subscriptions and increased publication sales. In the current year we can expect to be laying out a substantial sum towards the printing of the new Great Britain Postal Stationery Catalogue, which will

be alleviated by the anticipated sales income. The next major change will come with the September 2006 changes in postal charges, related to size. This will therefore fall outside the current year's accounts.

May I take this opportunity to thank Colin Baker, John Barker and Sam Barkley for their help in enabling me to take on the rôle of treasurer, and John Barker and Mike Smith for their efforts in obtaining advertising revenue and auction commission.

Note: A copy of the unaudited accounts are included in this Journal and were accepted by the meeting.

Auctioneer's Report

Mike Smith reported that the Society had run two successful auctions in the year. He thanked Colin Baker for his assistance and apologised to vendors for the late payment of their sales. This was due to a mix-up between him and the treasurer.

He warned the Society that auction income in future would not be as high since we would only have the 10% commission from sales, most of the Ben Ferguson donation having been disposed of.

Alan Huggins thanked Mike Smith on behalf of the members for carrying out the demanding task of auctioneer for the society.

Journal Editor's Report

The four issues of Volume 13 of the Journal have covered a good mix of articles in terms of their length, the topics covered and their essence. As in previous years, longer articles have been published in a number of parts to ensure that each issue contains a range of topics and does not have too narrow a focus.

I would very much welcome contributions from more of our members. These may be short comments, queries, news items, interesting snippets relating to items in collections, research on any aspect of postal stationery or related matter which may be relevant or simply notes on an interesting item in their collections. At the present time I do not have a reserve of articles and rely on items coming in between one issue and the next. This year I have published three articles from non-members.

I would welcome more involvement of the membership in contributing to the content of the Journal. I am very willing to give any help and advice which may be needed to compile an article. All comments and contributions will be gratefully received.

We have been supported by our four regular advertisers who have bought advertising space in the Journal. My thanks go to those who have supported us in this way. I am always pleased to receive more advertising support. I would also welcome more members using the 'Classified Advertisement' facility and the (free) 'wants' facility.

This year the Postal Stationery Literary Award went to George King for his series of articles on the House of Commons Stationery. My congratulations go to George for all his hard work and efforts in compiling this.

I look forward to developing and improving the Journal in the next year.

Members present thanked John Barker for his efforts in producing an excellent Journal for the society every three months.

Librarian's Report

Borrowing is at the rate of about one every two months, which is a little disappointing. A few additions have been made to the library and I will update the list over the next month or so. I would welcome suggestions as to books the library would benefit from especially items that can update the information in H&G as this is still the most borrowed item. Donations are always welcome especially relevant articles from the various UK stamp magazines, as I do not subscribe to any of them. Chris was thanked for all his hard work on the library.

Web Site Manager's Report

In the absence of Lars Engelbrecht Colin Baker read out his report as follows.

The purpose of the society website www.postalstationery.org.uk is primarily to attract new members. It is therefore of great importance that the website is frequently updated so visitors meet an active society - also on the internet, and that information about the current society activities are available. The website has therefore been updated 7 times during the year with new information about the content of the PS Journal, the auctions (catalogue and realised prices) and the content of the library. This year we have also managed to free the website of advertisements and pop-ups. The website has had 970 visits in the past year - a number that has increased from 810 in the previous year. In average each visitor looks at a little more than five pages on the website, so almost 5000 pages have been read.

John Hobbs wished to record the society's thanks to Lars for maintaining the society's website. He said he was well aware of the valuable contribution this made to the society's standing in the philatelic world.

Election of Committee

The following officers were elected unopposed to serve the Society for the next twelve months.

Chairman - Peter O'Keeffe
Deputy Chairman - Mike Smith
Secretary - Colin Baker
Treasurer - John Fowler

Election of Committee Members

John Barker
Alan Huggins
Keith Hanman
Neil Sargent

The positions of Journal Editor (John Barker), Auctioneer (Mike Smith), Web Site Manager (Lars Engelbrecht) and Librarian (Chris Howe) were set by the committee following the AGM. The positions of Publicity Officer, Advertising Manager and ABPS Representative remain vacant. The Honorary Auditor is to be agreed at a later date.

Vote of Thanks to Retiring Officers

Sam Barkley and Iain Stevenson were retiring from the committee and Peter O'Keeffe thanked them for all their hard work, endorsed by the meeting with a round of applause.

Proposed Increase in Subscription Rates

Although the treasurer had not recommended a subscription rise, the item was discussed. The excess of £700 in the Society's funds this year was due entirely to the Ben Ferguson donation and had it not been for that we would have had a considerable deficit. It was recognised that with increased postal charges in Britain, currently under discussion, the Society would not be able to continue at £10 for much longer. There was general support for subscriptions to rise to £11 or £12 per annum, but it was left for the committee to discuss this and come up with a firm proposal next October. The meeting agreed that the rates should be the same for all irrespective of where they live.

Proposal to Hold a Weekend Meeting.

This idea attracted support from most members present. Mike Smith offered to find out details of prices etc., from suitable places and the matter will be discussed by the committee.

Next Year's Programme

Several meetings and events are planned for next year (see elsewhere in this Journal for details).

Any Other Business

Alan Huggins noted that the Society was represented at International Exhibitions abroad and thanked those members (most of whom were not present) for their efforts in promoting the Society and postal stationery.

Tony Chilton Competition

The competition was judged by Alan Huggins and Mike Smith. There were eight entries, the results being as follows:

Colin Baker	Queen Victoria Post Office Penny Pink Envelopes	
Erica Genge	The 'Houses of Parliament' Air Letters	First
Neil Sargent	The Postal Stationery Cards of Barbados 1881 - 1959	
Neil Sargent	The Countries That Made Rhodesia a & Nyasaland	Second
Michael Lockton	Autographed Penny Pink Envelopes	
George King	Postal Service Stationery - Great Britain	
George King	Postal Service Stationery - Ireland (postcards)	
Peter O'Keeffe	King George V Downey Head Issues (Great Britain)	

Alan Huggins noted that one or two entries were only just within the classification of postal stationery. He also said that some entries really wanted more than 16 sheets to fully cover the subject and suggested they should be split down so that they were not too wide ranging.

Auction October 2005

The afternoon session of the meeting was taken up with the Society's second auction of 2005 run by Mike Smith. There was much interest by postal bidders, but also some lively bidding in the room.

A full report will be given in the February Journal. A copy of the prices realised is enclosed with this copy of the Journal. Apologies for some of the lots being sent out late but many thanks to members for their patience.

Auctions 2006

If possible we hope to hold two auctions during the coming year, one postal only and one for both postal and room bidders. Any member who wishes to sell material through the Society's auctions should send their material to Neil Sargent (address on the inside front cover). Please note that each lot must be contained in a separate see-through holder, with an identification number or letter clearly marked on the outside. Lots must be accompanied by a list of vendor's identification numbers, one-line descriptions that will be used as the catalogue entry, and the vendor's reserve prices. The reserve is to be the lowest price at which vendors wish to sell their material, and will be the starting price at the auction.

The only charge made to vendors is 10% of the price realised, plus any postage costs for returning unsold lots.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Annual subscriptions for 2006 are now due. Those members who have not already paid will have received a note with this Journal reminding them to pay their subs. Please pay your subscription promptly. Not only does this ensure you receive all the Society's publications and auction catalogues without delay, it also makes it easier for your overworked officers to keep finances under control.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Best wishes to members for the new year. Please make mine a happy one by supplying me with articles, news items, notes, queries, or any thing else of interest to publish in the Journal. This will help me to provide you all with some interesting and informative reading for 2006.

Wants

Any member may advertise their requirements free of charge subject to the editor's discretion. Maximum length per entry approximately 35 words including address. Advertisers should reply promptly to any member who responds to their requests.

Classified Advertisements

'For Sale' adverts can be placed at 10p per word, subject to available space, with a minimum of £2-00 per insertion. Please let me have your advert with remittance by the copy date.

Display Advertisements

are welcome at the following rates:

A4	full page	£50
	half page	£25
	quarter page	£13.50

Please contact the Editor (Details on p2)

The Journal is published four times per year:

February	Copy date - 1st January
May	Copy date - 1st April
August	Copy date - 1st July
November	Copy date - 1st October

Postal Stationery Society Accounts

POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

DRAFT

Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31st August 2005

INCOME	2004/5	2003/4	EXPENDITURE	2004/5	2003/4
Balance b/f from 2003	£2,300.75	£3,057	Journal Printing	£1,273.72	£1,478
Subscriptions	£2,033.21	£1,790	Journal postage	£637.03	£666
Auction sale (nett)	£162.03		Monograph printing	£65.00	£944
Ferguson sale (nett)	£1,714.38		"Stampex" costs	£965.49	
Advertising	£280.00	£357	"Midpex" stand	£20.00	
Sale of monographs etc.	£294.88	£55	Library		£32
AGM Lunch (nett)	£20.00	£17	Room Hire	£360.00	£280
Donations	£32.71	£32	Compensation		£5
Bank Interest	£19.54	£12	ABPS subscription	£97.80	£91
Compensation Royal Mail		£5	Insurance	£29.88	£21
Miscellaneous		£20	Stationery	£132.25	£92
			Website		£10
			General postage	£142.06	£346
			General printing	£54.54	£69
			General expenses		£27
	£2,680.34				
	£6,857.50	£5,346	Balance	£3,079.73	
				£6,857.50	£4,062

Balance represented by:-

Cash at Bank - Investment A/C	£1,591.51
Cash at Bank - Cheque A/C	£2,339.04
Editorial float	£100.00
Auction payments outstanding	-£950.82
	£3,079.73

John Fowler
Hon Treasurer

I have examined the records, receipts and bank statements of the Postal Stationery Society, and find the above Account to be a true and accurate reflection of the Society's financial position at 31 August 2005

AUCTION ACCOUNTS	Costs	Receipts	2003/04	"STAMPEX" COSTS	
Ferguson Auction 10/04	Printing		Printing	Room hire	232.41
	201.94		223.24	Frames hire	344.30
	Postage	Income	Postage	Catering	123.70
	109.54	2,025.86	228.34	Leaflets	245.88
Nett proceeds to main a/c	1,714.38		Commission	Other printing	19.20
Auction June 2005	Printing	Commission	602.24	To main a/c	965.49
	283.95	134.82			
	Postage	Ferguson			
	152.62	343.50			
		Postage			
		120.28			
Nett proceeds to main a/c	162.03				

AEROGRAMMES AND FOLDED LETTER SHEETS FROM THE HOLY LAND: Part 4 ISRAEL

Tony Goldstone

To deal with the final section of this article, namely the issues of The State of Israel is indeed a mammoth task. Since the founding of the State there have been so many official and semi-official issues that it is necessary to subdivide these issues into the following separate categories.

1) Interim 2) Military (including P.O.W.) 3) Internal lettersheets 4) Standard issues 5) Tourist Pictorial issues. I hope to deal with each of these in turn.

INTERIM

The Postal Authorities of British Palestine closed their operations in Palestine at the end of April 1948 in advance of the end of the Mandate. A transitional postal period then existed between May 1st and May 14th during which a variety of "labels" were used and accepted as payment of postage (a fascinating subject). The State of Israel was proclaimed on Friday 14th May and the first Israel postal service began official operations on Sunday 16th May. No postal service was available on Saturday 15th due to the Jewish Sabbath. Airmail services with the outside world ceased on 25th April due to the expected conflict between Israel and its many Arab neighbours. Although some air traffic did resume on a tiny scale in the early days of the State it was not until June that something resembling "a service" could be said to exist. Mandate stamps and stationery were still considered acceptable by the Transitional Authorities from May 1st till the establishment of the State on 14th, after which only the Israeli stamps issued on the 16th were considered valid for the prepayment of postage. Mandate stationery could of course continue to be used as stationery as long as Israeli adhesive stamps were affixed to the item. The writer has a photocopy of a Mandate aerogramme with a transitional label mailed 9th May 1948 to London [Fig. 1] although the label would appear to be unnecessary.

Interestingly the word BY AIR MAIL has been crossed out as no airmail service existed at that time. I also have a photocopy [Fig. 2] of a Mandate Aerogramme (without the need for any label) posted from a kibbutz during the last days of the Mandate postal service addressed to France but only arriving in Tel Aviv on 25th May and thus requiring Israeli adhesive stamps to continue its journey as by that date the Mandate issues were invalid. It finally left Israel for France by Air France on 10th June.

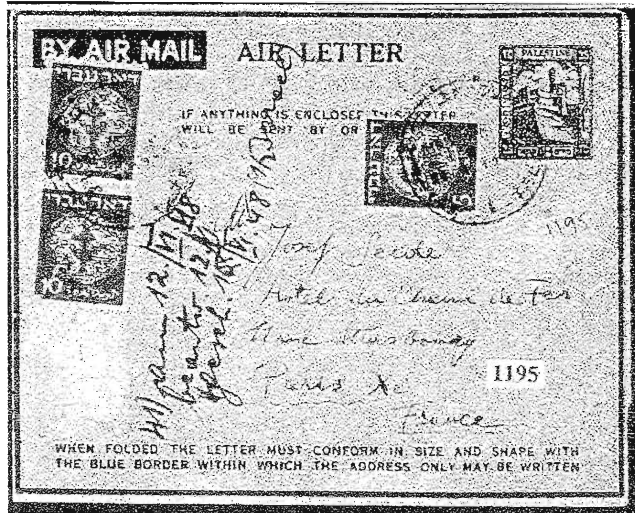


Fig. 2

Privately produced stampless folded lettersheets already existed and I have such a lettersheet [Fig. 3] mailed in Jerusalem also on 9th May and sent by registered post to Tel Aviv (then a few hours away) which finally arrived on 18th June(!) due to the ongoing siege of Jerusalem at that time. This item was therefore posted in the Interim period and arrived after the establishment of the State.

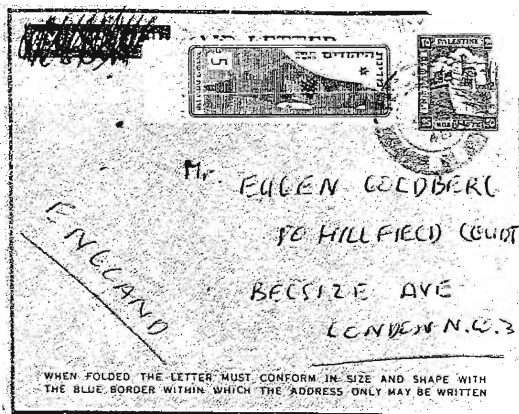


Fig. 1 Transition Period

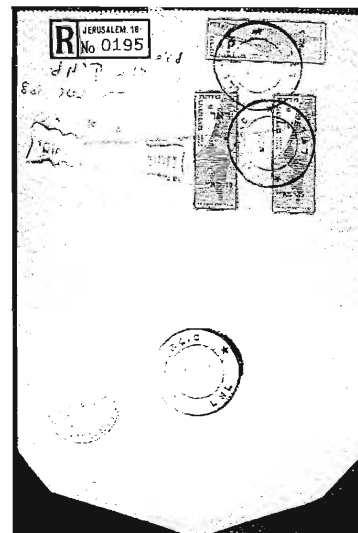


Fig. 3

One (private) lettersheet [Fig. 4] was produced and made ready for use on the First Day of the operations of the Israel Post Office. It shows, in the left hand corner a Shield of David flag and the words (in Hebrew) Hebrew Mail and the dual dates of 16th May 1948 and its equivalent Jewish date 7th Iyar (and year since the Creation) 5708. I have never seen a genuinely used example of this issue. Much study is still needed in this area.

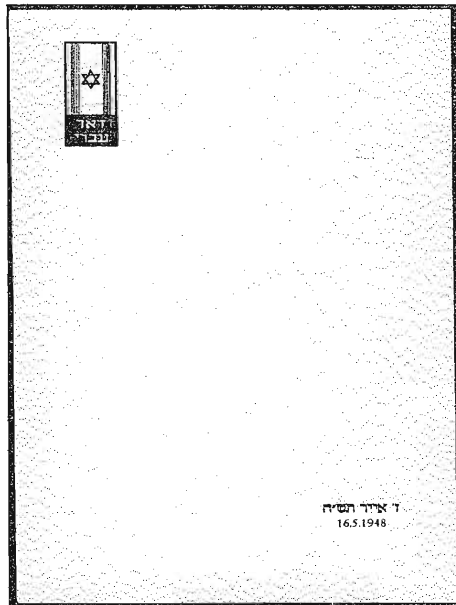


Fig. 4

MILITARY ISSUES

No lettersheets were officially issued to Israeli service personnel but were produced by well-wisher organisations. Three were produced and distributed during the War of Independence [Figs 5 - 7] 1948-9 and one during the Suez Crisis in 1956 [Fig. 8]. Postage was free and look-a-like stamps were printed on the left side of the 1948 issues and the Israel Defence Army symbol on the right hand side of the 1956 issue. All contained the words (in Hebrew) ON ACTIVE SERVICE.



Fig. 5 Imprint - Terraces and Buildings Army Unit 593. Postmarked 2.5.1949

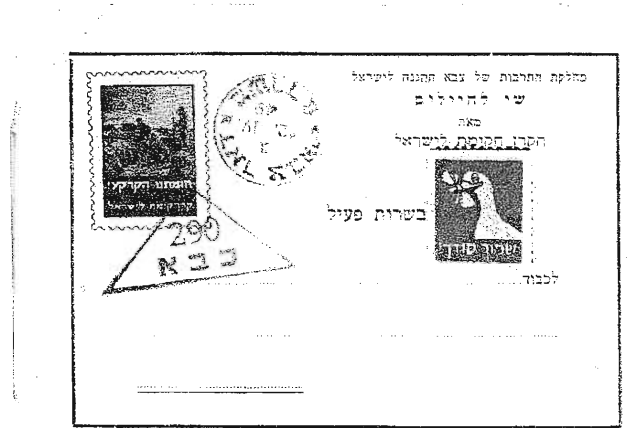


Fig. 6 Imprint - Soldiers Defending a Position Army Unit 290. Postmarked 12.IV.49 The label on the right carries the caption in Hebrew 'KEEP SECRETS'



Fig. 7 Jerusalem Western Wall (of Temple) Army Unit 290. Postmarked 12.IV.49

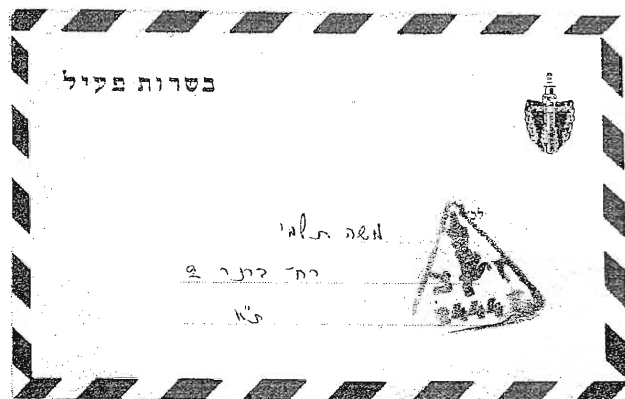


Fig. 8 Army Unit 2444. Posted in Sinai. Correspondence dated 6.11.1956

Sometime the Military authorities corresponded with their forces by means of their own internal military lettersheets [Fig. 9] that had an official Postage Paid symbol and these were no doubt official issues. However this 1952 issue is the only one I have.

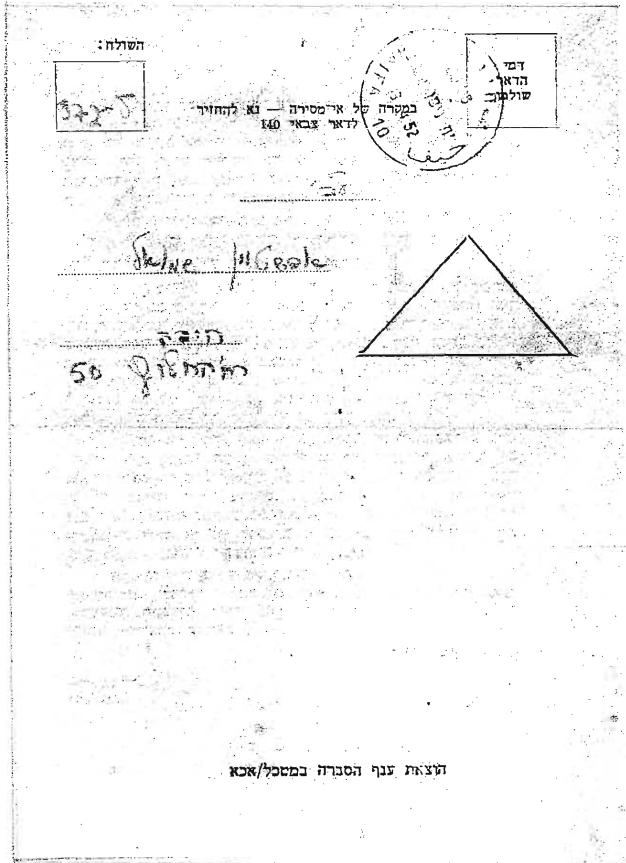


Fig. 9 'Prepaid Postage' in Square.
Postmarked HAIFA 13.4.52 to a Local Soldier.

After The Six Day War in 1967 Israel took control of Sinai from the Egyptians and Israeli soldiers made use of captured Egyptian military forces lettersheets for their own correspondence [Fig. 10]. The example shown was mailed 15th June 1967 from Sinai to Lod in Israel.

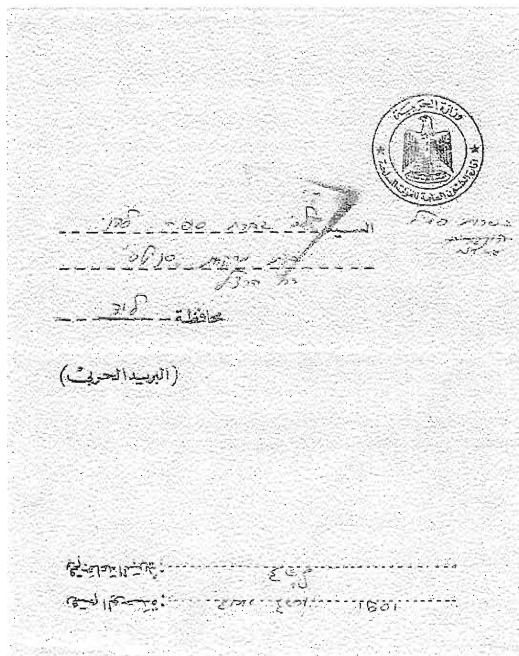


Fig. 10 Egyptian Military Forces Lettersheet

P.O.W. ISSUES

To date I have very little information on this subject and would welcome any information. Israel has been engaged in four major wars since 1948 and most certainly has taken prisoners and has had members of its own forces captured. The only two examples of appropriate lettersheets that I have are [Figs 11 and 12] mint Magen David Adom (equivalent of Red Cross) issues for the use of prisoners held by Israel. Fig. 11 is a folded slot-in lettersheet with instructions in French, Hebrew and Arabic. Fig. 12 also uses the same languages but I am uncertain if it was intended to be mailed without an envelope (and thus collectable by me) or required an envelope and consequently outside my collection. Any help please?

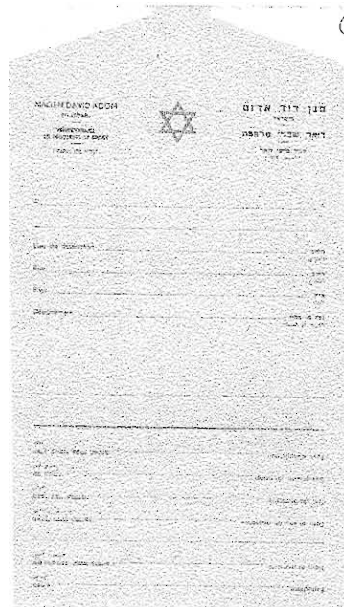
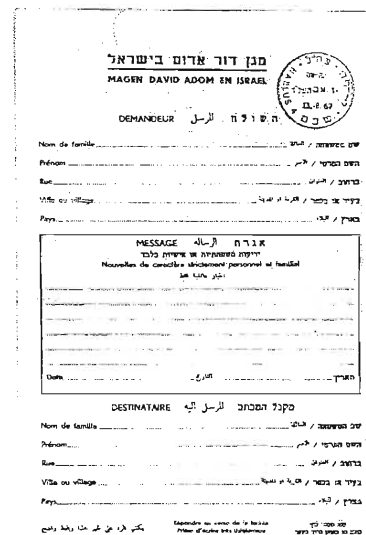


Fig. 11 Magen David Adom Lettersheet

Fig. 12

Circular mark 'NABLUS 4' 13.8.67

Reverse to be used for the reply



In Part 5 I hope to complete the series of articles with the official and private issues of Israel both its internal lettersheets and its aerogrammes.

A QUIET ANNIVERSARY

Colin Baker

A new type of postal stationery was introduced exactly one hundred and fifty years ago, and yet its anniversary seems to have passed us by with little fuss having been made of it. In fact its introduction in 1855 was 15 years late. Perhaps, had it come into being in 1840 the world of postal stationery in Great Britain would be entirely different today, but of course we shall never know.

So what is this anniversary I am talking about – well the facility to have stamps embossed on one's own paper so that envelopes and lettersheets could be made to suit one's own requirements. It was the Treasury who delayed the start of the stamped to order (STO) scheme. They were extremely concerned about forgery and fraud, fearing the loss of revenue as a result. But it was the adhesive stamps that offered the most convenient means of avoiding paying postage by the removal of the cancellation, or the joining together two uncanceled halves of used stamps to make one "mint" stamp. In contrast, I am not aware of any British postal stationery that has been successfully forged for postal use.

The one penny and twopence embossed stamps had quickly taken over from the ill-fated Mulready stationery in 1841, and it was these that would form the basis on which a large range of STO stamps would be based, to be used for embossing onto all manner of paper and card. The first of the additional stamps in values higher than 1d and 2d were introduced in 1855, for use solely on private stationery. Values of 4d, 6d and 1s were brought into being, with a 3d value being added four years later in 1859.

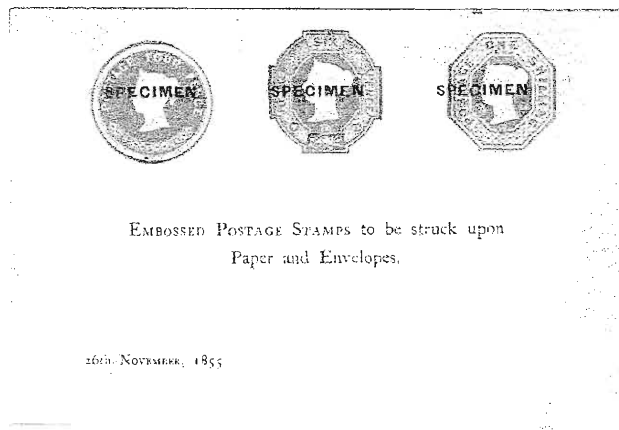


Fig. 3

Part of a Postmaster's notice of 1855 indicating the three additional dies that were then available for stamping to order on privately submitted paper.

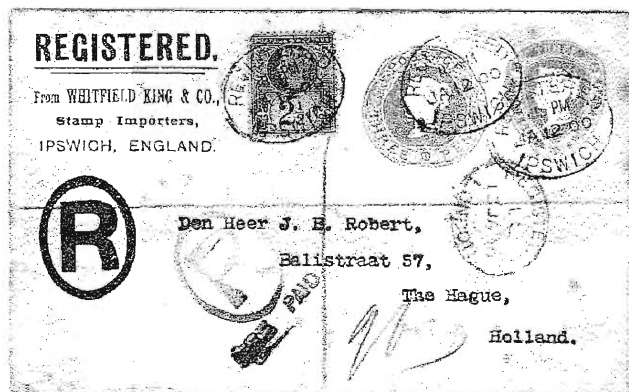


Fig. 1 & 2

Two commercial stamped to order envelopes for the basic foreign registered rate of 4½d (2½d postage plus 2d registration fee). With no 4½d stamp available they have been made up in different ways, the first with ½d + 4d impressions and the second with 1½d + 3d impressions

No ½d stamps were included in the range of values then available, since all postage rates were in whole pennies only. The six values in the range of stamps were the only ones used for the first few years of the STO scheme and it was not until 1872 that a 1½d became necessary when a reduction in the inland letter rates came about. In the same year, following pressure from the stationery trade for privately printed postcards to be allowed to pass at the ½d rate, the single ½d value was also prepared for use. But as postcards were limited to a relatively small size and the public was already complaining about the lack of writing space on the Post Office issues, the ½d stamp was made about half the size of the rest of the range. In 1870 only postal stationery postcards enjoyed the concession of being sent for ½d, and it was not until 1896 that adhesive stamps were finally allowed to prepay the postcard rate.

During much of Queen Victoria's reign the Treasury continued to be concerned about the loss of income through forgery of stationery stamps and to combat this they had interchangeable dates included in the borders, or within the designs, of all stamp dies apart from the ½d value. By the time

this last value was introduced it had become clear that such an anti-forgery measure was ineffective and unwarranted. Besides, the stamp was far too small to accommodate a date. Finally, from 1894 date plugs were replaced with florets in much of the range, although prior to this time a few values, including the 1d, had been produced without any provision for date plugs. Some later dies were also not drilled out for date plugs.

Even with the full range of 10 values, it was often the case that genuine postage rates were not catered for, in particular those for higher weight

albino that could also have been used to pay for postage.

Occasionally envelopes appear with the higher value to the right of the group of stamps, and these are almost certainly sheets that had been resubmitted at a later date for the application of additional values – many being of a philatelic nature.

All these changes and combinations of stamps make collecting Victorian stamped to order material interesting – and sometimes difficult.

The STO facility continued into the 20th

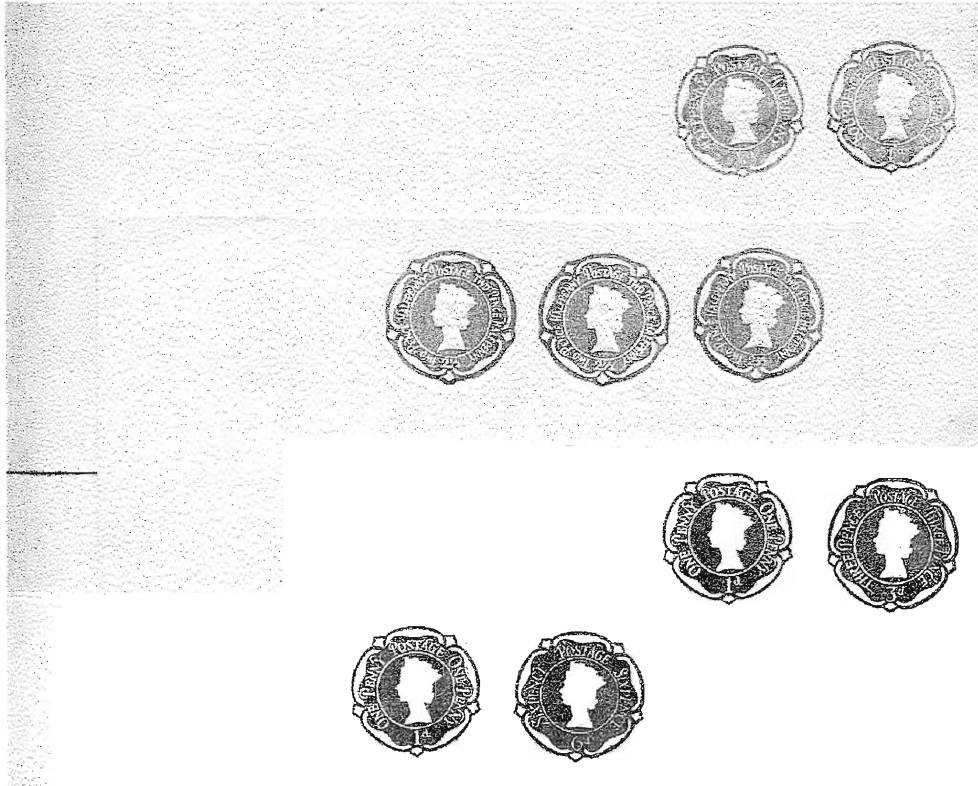


Fig. 4

In the 1960s and 70s the huge number of philatelic envelopes like these, coupled with the lack of demand from businesses, brought the STO system to an end – well for a year or two anyway!

steps (for both inland and foreign destinations) or in conjunction with charges for registration, late fees, and the like. Thus it was necessary for two or more stamps to be embossed to give the correct rate. Often different stamp values were used to give the same postage rate so that an overseas registered letter could be stamped with either one of each of the 1½d and 3d stamps or ½d and 4d stamps to give 4½d (ie. 2½d postage and 2d registration fee).

There seem to have been no rules regarding what values were used to make up complicated postage rates, the only requirement being that the lowest value was always struck first in the top right hand corner of an envelope. In addition only flat sheets of paper or card would be struck with an embossed stamp, otherwise the impression would also appear on the reverse of an envelope, ie. an

century, but gradually the introduction of franking machines, the business reply service, and latterly the pre-payment of bulk mailing, saw the commercial use of stamped to order stationery come to an end. By the early 1970s most of the STO work was of a philatelic nature and the service ended on 31st October 1973.

But of course, like all Hollywood blockbuster movies when the hero is never killed off and always returns in a sequel, so did the STO service. Gradually from the 1980s onwards businesses could have envelopes and card made up, printed with a stamp to signify prepayment. Some of you will have seen these used by the House of Commons, banks and other institutions for their correspondence, and I am sure the trend will continue for quite a few years yet.

SLOPER EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

Rosemary Smith

[Editor's Note: This article has been published in response to a number of queries relating to the 'Sloper Cancellations' which have appeared in the last two volumes of the PSS Journal. I have with kind permission of Rosemary Smith, the original author, merged an article which appeared in the *Perfin Society Bulletin* of December 1993 with the update published in 1994. After 16 years, Rosemary Smith has just 'retired' from the position of Editor of the *Perfin Society Bulletin*.]

Under an Act of Parliament on October 1st 1870, Postal Stationery Cards were introduced into this country for the first time (they had already been in use in Austria for one year). Two sizes of card were allowed at first, 3½ x 4¾ inches and 2½ x 4¾ inches; both having ½d stamp, border and wording in violet on light buff card. The issue of these cards was announced in a **Post Office Circular dated 19th September 1870**

"On and after the 1st October next, Post Cards, bearing an impressed halfpenny Stamp, will be sold at all Post Offices, at the rate of one halfpenny each."

"They will be available for transmission between places in the United Kingdom only."

"The front [or stamped side] is intended for the address only. There must be no other writing or printing on it, nor must there be any writing or printing across the stamp. On the reverse side, any communication, whether of the nature of a letter or otherwise, may be written or printed. Nothing may be attached to the Card; nor may it be folded, cut, or otherwise altered. If any of these rules be infringed, the Card will be charged with postage on delivery as an insufficient paid letter."

The postal authorities knew that these cards would be popular; partly because one purchase would provide, cheaply, both writing material and stamp, and partly because of the convenience for business houses being able to send a short missive instead of a longer letter - a first step towards modern efficiency perhaps - some would say a retrograde step when reading the flowery terms in a Victorian business request for custom or payment of long standing debts. In the event, the Post Office almost ground to a halt. On the first day of issue, over 500,000 cards went through the London GPO, and 75 million were used in the first year throughout the country, thus disorganising the cancellation and delivery of the ordinary mail. The scenario was enacted in many of the larger cities which were centres of commerce, such as Liverpool, Manchester and Edinburgh.

A **Post Office Circular dated 12th October 1870** gave guidelines to postmasters on handling postcards.

"The postage stamps on some of the Post Cards will be obliterated by means of a punch instead of the ordinary obliterating stamp. Postmasters will not tax such Cards with postage on this account."

"Postmasters are instructed not to Stamp Post Cards received at their Offices for delivery. Even such cards, the postage stamps on which have not been obliterated, need not be stamped."

Consequently many cards in the early days were delivered without a forwarding cancellation although some of these did receive the date stamp of the Receiving Office on the reverse of the card.

Harry Dagnell M.A. in his book "The Evolution of British Stamped Postcards & Letter Cards. Their History & Documentation." states that there had been complaints as early as 3rd October 1870 that part of the message on a postcard had been obliterated by the local receiving stamp. So it would seem more logical to assume that the P.O. directive of 12th October was an attempt to alleviate that particular problem which had arisen within days of the advent of the card.

Experiments with cancelling punches must have already begun before the cards came on sale for there to have been such an early circular about them.

The Post Office turned to Joseph Sloper for a possible solution to the speeding up of cancelling the cards. They were already using one of the Sloper Machines to perforate Money Orders with a date and realised the potential for a cancelling device. Being used to making machines which punched holes through cheques, receipts, letters and railway tickets, etc., Sloper suggested using a die in one of his machines which would punch an ARROW shape through the printed stamp on the card. For a period in late 1870, early 1871, the Post Office experimented with this machine. [As Fig. 1]

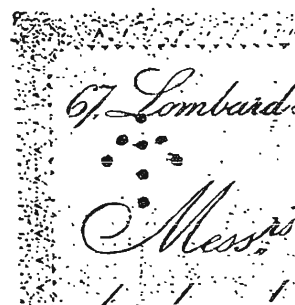


Fig. 1 London 17.11.72

There is a record of a **Minute in the PO Archives**, endorsed '**Approved 5th June 1871**' which says:-

"The enclosed papers relate to a trial which has been made in the Circulation Department of this Office, of a perforating machine devised by Mr. Sloper, for the purpose of obliterating the Postage Stamp on Post Cards.

Mr. Boucher reports that this result is satisfactory, and he recommends the adoption of the machine.

At present only four machines will be required, three for the Circulation Department, and one for the Liverpool Post Office, and I request your authority for supplying them at the price asked by Mr. Sloper, viz £77/0 each, which Mr. Boucher considers not unreasonable.

There may be other Offices, but if so I believe they will be very few, where the quantity of Post Cards posted may be so great as to render it necessary to supply such Offices with the machines."

At this time, late 1870, the London Office also used a punch in the shape of an ORB & CROSS [Fig. 2].

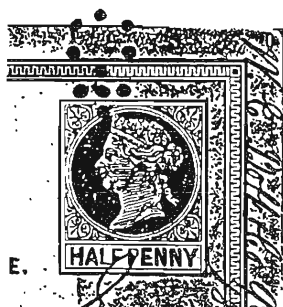


Fig. 2 London 10.11.70

This punch has also been found with the cross at the top (normal) and the cross at the bottom (inverted). As far as I am aware there has been no actual documentary proof that this was supplied by Sloper but it is almost certain that the presumption of a Sloper machine is correct. This Orb & Cross experimental cancel would seem to have been the first one to be discontinued, although B.F. Grounsell Dammers, in an article in the Postal History Society Bulletin for June 1948, gives a late date of 23-2-72 for the Orb and Cross. I have only seen cards or photocopies of cards from late in 1870. My own copy is an inverted punch dated 9-11-70.

The 'Broad Arrow' die supplied by Sloper had 8 holes, each of 2mm. diameter. The pins were of hardened steel and unusually long and tapering to give extra strength and clear penetration. Remember the material for puncturing was card not

paper. The one inch long pins were designed to puncture 96 cards at one press. A **Post Office Notice to the Public** dated **27th March 1872** outlined the availability of Post Cards in packs of a dozen (12) and multiples of-

"Official Post Cards

After the 31st instant, Official Post Cards will be sold to the Public in packets only, - the smallest packet containing twelve Cards, and the larger ones twenty-four, thirty-six, forty-eight, and so on.

The price of a packet of twelve Cards will be sixpence-halfpenny, and the larger packets will be charged in the same proportion.

Single Post Cards will no longer be sold.

Arrangements will shortly be made for impressing with a halfpenny stamp, at the Office of Inland Revenue, Post Cards other than Official Post Cards, subject to certain restrictions.

By Command of the Postmaster-General 27th March 1872."

Constant penetration of so many cards put great strain on the pins and there are many examples of 'out of alignment' holes or 'missing pin' varieties. Most of these are from Liverpool after 1872 and one can only conjecture that Sloper kept an eye on the London operation, instructing on the correct load for the machine, whilst the Liverpool machine was grossly overworked. The varieties from Liverpool are less rare than the complete strike [Fig. 3].

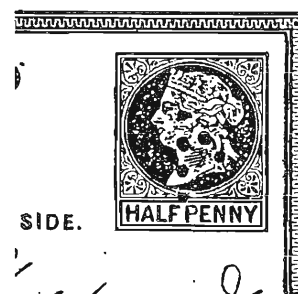
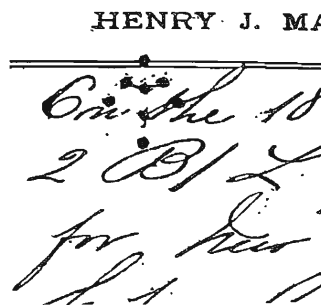
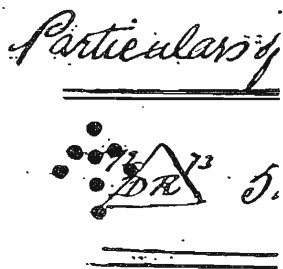


Fig. 3 Liverpool 2.5.74

I wonder if more single cards were punched prior to 27th March 1872 than packs of cards. Remember there was no poundage on the cards until 1872. Looking at the Table of Dates for these cancels, it is noticeable that the missing pins at Liverpool come from July 1872. Was this when they punched thicker packs of cards rather than single items for their clients?

Although the extract from the P.O. Records Department only mentions one machine for Liverpool, the 'Arrow' punches show considerable variation [Figs 4, 5 & 6]. One theory to explain this suggests there must have been at least three



Liverpool Arrows

Fig. 4 29.5.73

Fig. 5 22.3.72

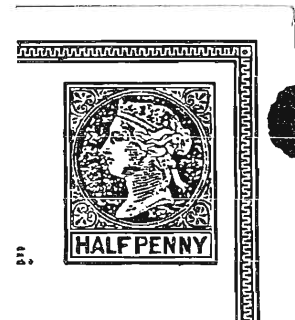
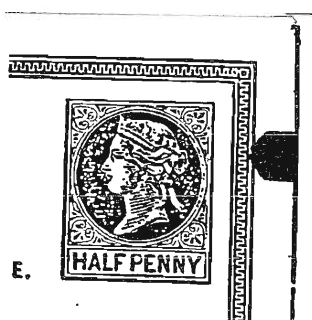
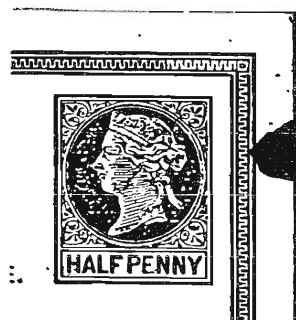
Fig. 6 9.1.73

machines in use between 1870 and 1875 as three distinct type of holes are found: one with large round, clearly cut holes [Fig. 4], a second with smaller holes but still very clearly cut [Fig. 5] and a third with small, rough pin-hole type punctures [Fig. 6]. The latter cards usually show the impression of the jaws holding the pins too.

In the meantime, other large provincial towns were trying their own experiments. Again, there is no documentary evidence that these punches originated from Sloper. Manchester tried taking out a CLIP from the edge of the card, adjacent to the stamp. The clip would appear to have been produced by using something akin to a railway ticket punch. Three main types of shapes can be seen on the cards from Manchester; a bracket cut [Fig. 7], a spear cut [Fig. 8] and a half round cut [Fig. 9], but even these three shapes had

variations and many of the cuts are so oddly shaped that it is not possible to say to which type they belong.

John Marriner has a card with a long spear cut of Manchester dated 13-12-70 [Fig. 10]. He puts forward the theory that the end of the Manchester punch may have broken off after a while thus giving rise to all the other types of Manchester clips. He has compared this long spear cut with all other types of Manchester cards which he has and it appears, if somewhat inexact, that the width of the "cancel" at the outside edge of the card is almost the same as the spear and bracket types. He assumes that there was more than one machine in operation, so allowing for wear and tear, a slight difference in width could occur. Dates for Manchester clips have been reported from 11-11-70 to 3-2-75.



Manchester Clips

Fig. 7 9.1.73

Fig. 8

Fig. 9 21.9.71



Fig. 10 Manchester long spear cut 13.12.70

Some Offices tried a SINGLE HOLE punch. They were Birmingham, Bradford, Edinburgh and Liverpool. I have not seen any examples from Birmingham or Liverpool and the one recorded date for Liverpool - 19/10/70 - would suggest it was very short lived and was superseded by the Liverpool Arrow. The examples I have from Bradford, and all others I have seen from there, are large, clean cut holes, 3½ mm in diameter Fig. 11].

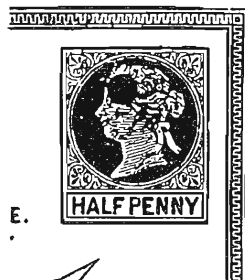


Fig. 11 Bradford 6.11.71

My copies from Edinburgh are smaller and rough cut [Fig. 12], again with the impressions from the jaws at the base of the die similar to the 'third' Liverpool machine.



Fig. 12 Edinburgh 10.1.76

The Edinburgh Hole would appear to have had the longest life, one of my cards is dated 10-1-76. Once again no documentary proof of the maker of these perforators, but all cancels - Arrows, Clips, Orb and Cross and Holes - have become known as the Sloper Experimental Cancels.

One nice piece of confirming evidence has come to light in the Sloper Record Books now held by the Perfin Society. David Scott found the entry, illustrated [Fig. 13], in the 1873 Machine Ledger but there is no mention of the supply of the original machine, although David has made a thorough search. Hopefully, the illustration shows that this entry was for a repair to the die on September 17th 1873 and unless it was for a repair to a Liverpool machine, later dates from London than that shown in the Table must exist.

TABLE OF DATES FOR SLOPER EXPERIMENTAL CANCELS

OFFICE	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
ARROW PERFORATION		
London	24 - 11 - 70	8 - 3 - 73
Liverpool	5 - 7 - 71	21 - 1 - 75
Liverpool (missing pins)	July 1872	
CLIPS		
Manchester - half round	11 - 11 - 70	3 - 2 - 75
- spear cut	3 - 12 - 70	10 - 2 - 75
- bracket cut	6 - 5 - 71	22 - 1 - 75
SINGLE HOLE PUNCH		
Birmingham	27 - 9 - 72	28 - 7 - 73
Edinburgh	4 - 4 - 71	10 - 1 - 76
Liverpool	19 - 10 - 70	
Bradford	30 - 1 - 71	14 - 9 - 74
ORB AND CROSS PERFORATION		
London - cross at top	1 - 11 - 70	13 - 11 - 70
- cross at bottom	27 - 10 - 70	23 - 2 - 72

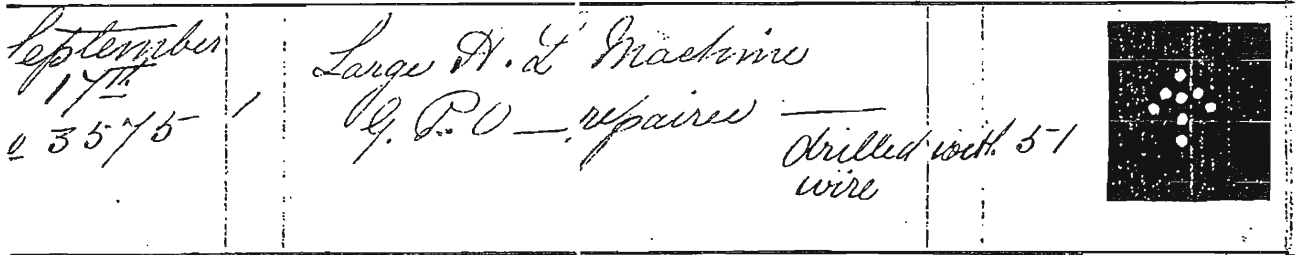


Fig. 13 Entry in the 1873 Machine Ledger

These experimental cancels ceased in January 1875 (with one odd reporting of a card dated 14-1-77 in Jennings' Book). By this time some Offices were selling the cards in packs of 24 already perforated. They were handed back over the P.O. counter from the firm using them for their business, and they received no further cancellations. Could these be classed as the only pre-cancels ever used in Britain?

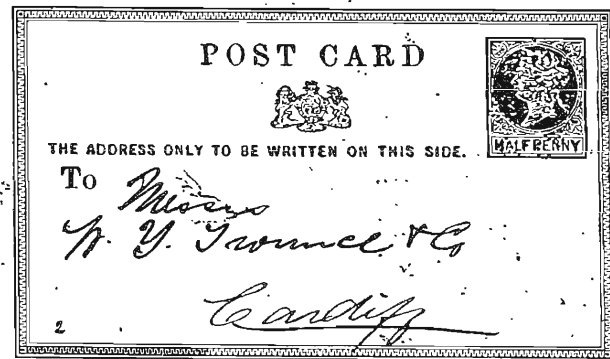
Apart from information gleaned from my own collection of Sloper Experimental Cancels and noting dates etc. from all cards seen in dealers stocks, I obtained some information from the G.P.O. Postal Headquarters in London and from odd pieces written in Philatelic Journals over the years, viz:-

- 1897 The English Specialists' Journal, "Perforated Cancellations" by R. Bradshaw Smith.
- 1948 Postal History Society Bulletin N°44. "Clipped and Perforated Cancellations" by B.F. Hounsell Dammers.
- 1950 The Postal Cancellations of London 1840-1890 H.C. Westley H.F. Johnson Chapter 5. 'Postcards. Sloper's Patent'.
- 1953 Postal History Society Bulletin N°70. "Clipped and Perforated Cancellations of Great Britain" by W.L. Freshwater.
- 1968 Charles Jennings "The History of British Security Stamps", Chapter 21, 'Perforated Postal Stationery'.
- 1974 The Collectors Club Philatelist Vol 23 N°2. "Experimental Cancellations on the First Post Card Issue of Great Britain" by Abbot Lutz.

Tony Edwards reminded me that there is mention in The Perfin Society Bulletin 221 (Feb 1986), of a card (not a postal stationery card) which has an arrow strike and bears the words, "At a meeting of the Postal History Society on 21st November 1950, this card was cancelled by a Sloper's perforating Arrow machine which the G.P.O. Authorities had kindly allowed Mr H.C. Westley to exhibit at the meeting." Does anyone know the history of this card or the whereabouts of this machine?

A Unique Item?

I am grateful to Norman Hewardine for allowing me to photocopy this Postal Stationery Card illustrated [Fig. 14]. It has the full name perfin of STOTT & Co. (S7490.01) and also a Liverpool Arrow. The card is from Liverpool and dated February 2nd 1874. This is the only 'double' I have seen.



Cardiff to Swansea to Swansea, Ca. Wales to Mo Rivers

Fig. 14 Perfin of STOTT & Co with Liverpool Arrow

I hope this history will go some way to answering the many questions I have received asking for information about the Sloper Experimental Cancels. If any member can supply me with any other reference for articles on this subject, earlier or later dates for any of these cancels, photocopies of front and back of any cards and particularly details of any cards which you may wish to sell, I would be pleased to hear from you.

Editor's Note:- There still seems to be some uncertainty as to the number of Sloper devises used at any one office and the mechanics of these devises. For example the Liverpool arrows can be seen as being made up of 8 clean cut holes with the card being **punched out** to make the holes [Figs 3 and 4] or as 8 holes **punctured into** the cards with small flaps of card being pushed through from the face of the card to the other side and standing proud [Fig. 6 and Fig. 15 below].

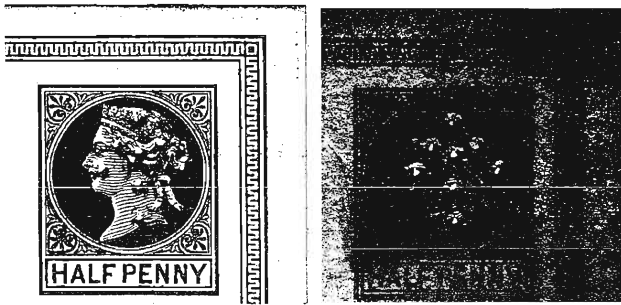


Fig. 15

The 'punctured' holes are either triangular or diamond in shape with small tears extending into the

card from the angles. However closer inspection of the face of these cards shows that these angular punctures are at the base of round depressions in the card, the diameter of the depressions being of similar size to the 'holes in the 'punched out' cards. Have the 'punctured' holes been made by the same devise which was used to punch out the clean cut holes exemplified in Figs 3 & 4? If the holes in the punching devise were clogged up or the edges of the devise were very blunt would the results be 'punctured holes' as in figures 6 & 15? Alternatively, were solid tapering pins used to make the 'punctured holes'?

Members comments would be most welcome. In particular if you can report any 'earlier' or 'later' dates please let me know and I will pass on the details to the author.

Many thanks to Rosemary Smith and the Perfin Society for permission to publish this article.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

THE FIRST AEROGRAMME

Tony Goldstone writes:-

On page 20 of the last issue (August 2005) the Editor mentions the Siam AIR O GRAM sheet and requests further information on the word AIROGRAM or similar spelling.

I quote from Peter Jennings definitive work of Aerogrammes (Picton Press 1973) as follows:

"During 1932 Air Orient performed experimental flights to discover the feasibility of changing their Far East terminal In August 1932 a lightweight form bearing the name AIR O GRAM was designed by Mr R.B. Jackson of the Aerial Transport Co. of Siam for use on the Air Orient Services between the Far East and Europe. Adhesive postage stamps had to be added these forms did not come into general use until the following year."

On page 35 Jennings writes "At the XIII Universal Postal Union Congress held in Brussels 4th May - 15th July 1952 a resolution was passed 'official recognition of the category of articles which will henceforth be known as "AEROGRAMMES" which do already exist under such names as "AIR LETTER" "LETTER AVION" without official recognition.

The British Postal authorities chose the term "AEROGRAMME" (whose spelling was first used by Israel on Airmail stationery in 1951) to comply with the U.P.U. ruling."

It is therefore most surprising the British Postal Authorities in 2000 dropped the word Aerogramme from these lightweight sheets and substituted the word AIRLETTER. This would appear to be in breach of the International regulations and perhaps removing it from the special lower tariff for aerogrammes?

I have always found the present printed stamp of the Queen with Postage Paid, the symbol 1 Great Britain Postage Paid a mystery. The symbol " 1 " (1st class) is non-applicable to aerogrammes for international use and the words "GREAT BRITAIN" would exclude their very use in Northern Ireland which is not part of Great Britain within the legal term. (Would "United Kingdom" have been more appropriate?)

G.B. AIRLETTERS

Arthur Roberts reports the following additional codes for 2004 design airletters with the code on side flap:

Discount' Star' Airletter

MSE 160/04
180/04
181/04

Standard Airletter

MSE 159/04
176/04

BOOK REVIEWS

Postal Stationery Associated with Railways - Asia 1893 - 2000 by Hans Eriksson. Produced by the author, 2005. No ISBN number. 220 A4 pages illustrated with descriptions in English. £25 including postage (Europe).

Hans Eriksson,
Storvretsvägen 141,
SE-16437 SPÅNGA,
Sweden.

E-mail hans_eriksson00@hotmail.com

As indicated by the title, this catalogue contains all postal stationery issued by countries in Asia which may have a railway connection anywhere in its overall design. This may be the imprinted stamp, the cachet on the front, the picture on the reverse or even inside folded items. Almost every item listed is illustrated in black and white opposite the page giving details of the date of issue, description and relevant specialist catalogue reference where available. The bibliography of reference catalogues includes 32 works which would be of interest to stationery collectors trying to identify available reference works.

The catalogue includes material from 18 Asian countries; the bulk of the work is taken up by 94 pages of material from Japan. Over half of these pages detail the many and varied designs of 'Echo' cards which have been issued over the years, some clearly showing railway subjects in their design whilst others were sponsored by railway companies or have other less-obvious railway connections. Another large category of specialised material is the various New Year lottery cards issued by PR China.

The author has worked closely with collectors in China and Japan, as well as other specialists around the world to build up a comprehensive listing which would not otherwise be available in any other single source. By its very nature, such a work can almost never be regarded as complete, but Mr Eriksson has included as much material as could reasonably be expected to produce the definitive work for thematic collectors as well as an invaluable reference work for any collector of Asian material.

Keith Downing

I Buoni-Risposta Internazionali con particolare riguardo ai Buoni-riposta emessi dalle Poste italiane by Vincenzo Altavilla.

Special Monograph No. 1 published by the U.F.I. Italia. 2005. 96pp.

A study of the International Reply Coupons with particular regard to the issues by the Italian post. This comprehensive work is well illustrated and carries a useful bibliography.

After an introduction to the history of the establishment of International Reply Coupons by the UPU in 1907, the author reviews the five designs which have been used for these coupons from the first 'Rome' design to the current 'Peking' design

(named after the Cities where the UPU congress was held which approved the designs). Each design is covered in a separate section where details of the watermarks, printing formats and changes in the text etc. are well covered. A summary table at the end of each section lists these types and subtypes together with reference to the UPU congress where agreement for the modifications was made. The different denominations printed on the Italian coupons, reflecting changes in postal rates and inflation are well documented.

A single 'catalogue' table assigns a number to each of the different coupons and the up-rated versions issued by the Italian Post. Another table compares the purchase price printed on the coupons with the contemporary cost of posting a letter to a foreign destination.

In the appendices there are reviews of the coupons from Italian possessions and colonies, the coupons from San Marino and coupons with Vatican stamps. A further appendix gives a brief survey of reply coupons for restricted destinations such as the British Commonwealth reply coupons and the French Colonial Reply coupons etc.

This is an essential work for all those collecting Italian I.R.Cs and a useful guide for those collecting other I.R.Cs.

John Barker

Specialised Catalogue of Postage Stamps and Postal Stationery of Latvia 1990 - 2004

11th Edition, Compiled by Egils Plume, 272pp. Philatelic Society of Latvia, (Brivibas gatve 234, Riga IV-1039, Latvia (2005)

Although the postal stationery section only occupies 38 pages it provides the most comprehensive source of reformation on Latvian postal stationery of this period. Each item is illustrated together, where applicable with the relevant special cancellations. The items listed and priced comprise 11 pre-stamped envelopes and 35 postal cards. The text is fully bilingual in Latvian and English and gives all the information relating to the purpose of issue of each item, together with details of availability and postal treatment. Thanks are due to Alexander Ilyushin for donating this publication to the PSS Library.

Alan Huggins

Articles in the Journals of other Postal Stationery Societies from across the world.

Die Ganzsache 1/2005 (Germany)

Fourés falsche Farben.

Deutsche Ganzsachen mit Firmenlochung (Perfins).

Neues zur Sonderpostkarte aus Anlaß von Hitlers 50. Geburtstag (P278/01 bis /05).

Umschläge eines amerikanischen

Nachrichtendienstes in Deutschland: BR PU 3/1 und 3/2.

Liberia: Ein neuentdecktes Aerogramm.

Neuheitenbericht 13/2004 - 6/2005.

Ganzsachensammler September 2005

(Switzerland)
 Die Wasserzeichen der Schweizer Postkarten.
 Frühdaten des Tülibriefs U5.
 Die Streifbänder aus der franz. Schweiz für den
 Versand von Finanzblättern (Feuilles financières).
 Die Empfangsscheine der kantonalen Posten.

L'Intero Postale Summer 2005 (Italy)

Interi ... Obliterati.
 Solo la Filocalia Salverà la Filatelia (Speriamo) un
 Esempio: I Telegrammi de Luxe.

Postal Stationery May/June 2005 (USA)

Chilean Parcel Cards of 1920-1931.
 Die 12 Counterfeit Entire #2.
 Great Britain's North Eastern Railway Stamped
 Envelopes.
 Essay Origins of UX17, the Full Face McKinley USA
 Postal Card.
 Discovery of Unissued British Bechuanaland
 Wrapper.
 Queensland Registration Envelopes.

Postal Stationery July/August 2005 (USA)

USA Advertising Collars.
 Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Postal Stationery
 UX12/S14 Postal Card Varieties.
 More About 4th Nesbitt Series Advertising
 Specimens.
 S37/UX 27- A Neglected Postal Card.
 Envelope Double Impressions.
 British Embossed Stamp Collars
 2005 Pricing Supplement and Errata List to the
 Catalogue of the 19th Century Stamped Envelopes
 and Wrappers of the United States (2001 Edition).

Postal Stationery Collector November 2005
 (Australia)

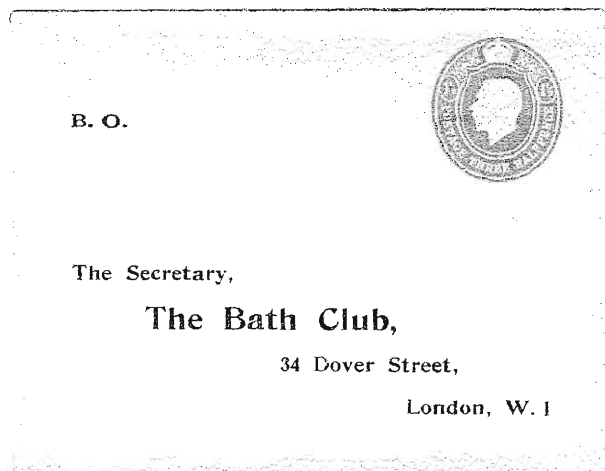
Messers. Kiderlen & Bickel: Friends or Foe.
 Sources of Information: The Australian Posthorn.
 Australian Stampless/Formular Airletters and
 Aerogrammes.
 Proprietary Newspapers Named on Newspaper
 Wrappers.
 New Postcards from Latvia.
 Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal
 Stationery.

DISPLAYS BY MEMBERS

Wombourne Philatelic Society. 16th February 2006
 'Postal stationery for a Purpose' - John Barker

An Amusing Cover!

Bill Meredith has sent in this amusing cover
 addressed to the 'Bath Club' endorsed 'B.O.' (For
 those unfamiliar with the term 'BO', the letters stand
 for 'Body Odour'. This term was used extensively in



the middle part of the last century in adverts for a
 brand of soap called 'Lifebuoy' which was reputed to
 'get rid of B.O.')

**ESSAYS FOR THE DESIGN OF THE KING GEORGE V SIDE
 FACE STAMP FOR USE ON POSTAL STATIONERY.**

Alan Huggins



On page 70 of British Postal
 Stationery (1970) there are a series of
 illustrations of essays for the King
 George V side face design for use on
 postal stationery. The examples
 illustrated were either photographic
 (E37, 38 and 41) or on small pieces,
 and originated from the effects of G.W.
 Eve who designed the frames of the 5d
 to 1 shilling adhesive stamps. Very
 recently two essays in colour of entire
 cards have appeared, the format being
 that adopted for the larger buff ½d cards
 CP 68 and CP 70.

E 238

POST  CARD.



POST  CARD.



STAMPING
DEPARTMENT
JG.1913

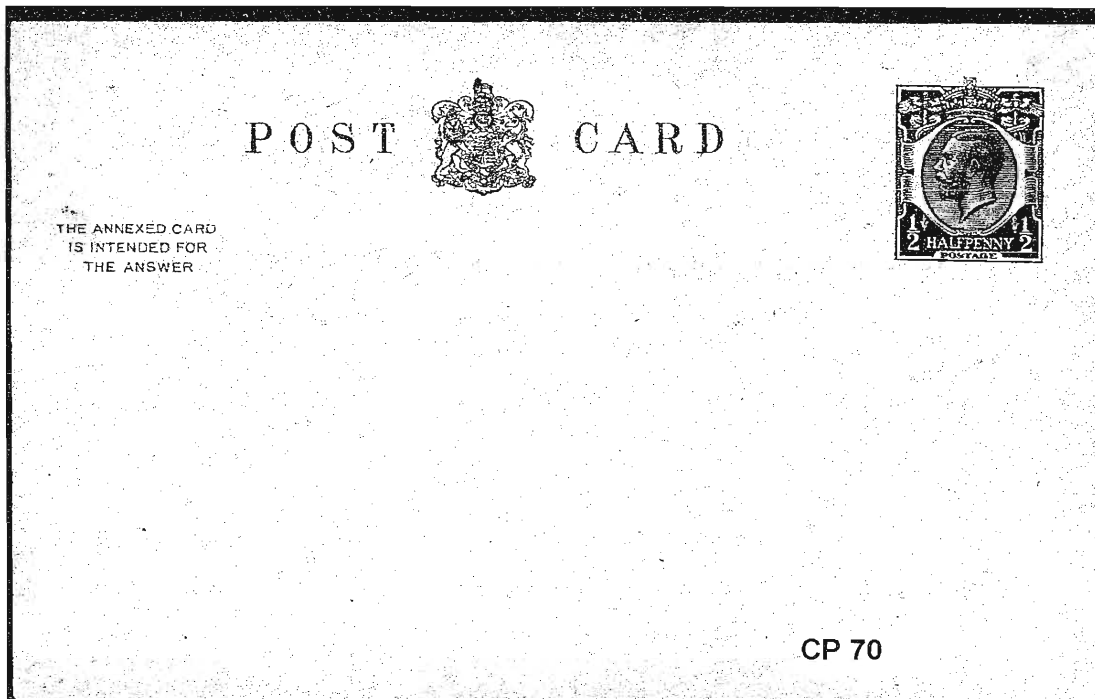
STAMPING
DEPARTMENT
12 AUG. 1913

E. 234.

E 234

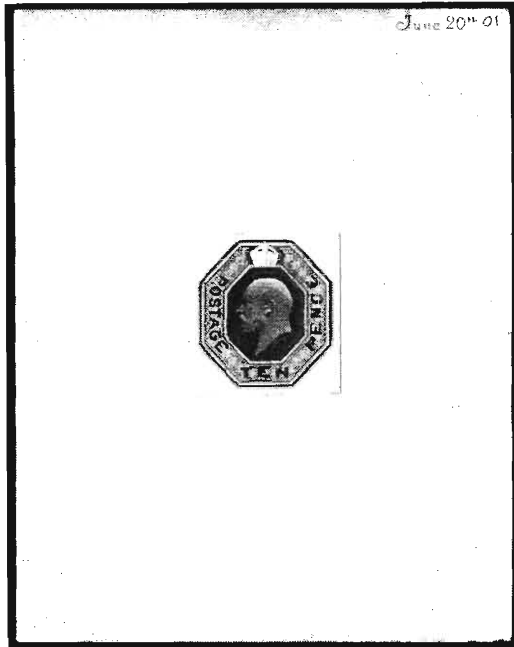
As can be seen from the illustrations these were part of a series being considered in August 1913, E 234 having no shading behind the King's head, the second, E 238 having a solid background.

Neither was accepted; graduated shading being used as shown on the example of the reply paid card CP 70.



GROSVENOR

AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS



Philatelic Auctions...

The Grosvenor team offers a friendly and flexible approach for both buyers and sellers. Directors Andrew Claridge, James Grist and Nick Mansell, Consultants David Boyd and Stuart Billington and Client Liaison Manager Tristan Brittain provide the wealth of experience that you require to bring the very best results.

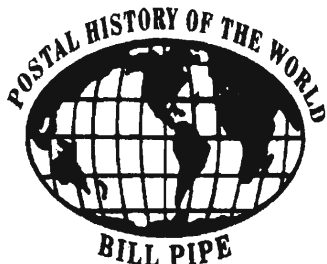
Our high quality catalogues and extensive international mailing are backed by full exposure of lots on the Internet and worldwide advertising. Prompt payment after auction is guaranteed.

*1901 'Paste-up' essay for the KE VII embossed 10d. for Telegraph forms, believed unique. Sold for **£3,528***

Postal Stationery from around the world is featured regularly.

Please contact us to find out more about our exceptionally competitive terms which contain no hidden "extra charges".

Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions Ltd
399-401 Strand
Third Floor
London WC2R 0LT
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7379 8789
Fax: +44 (0)20 7379 9737
Email: info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk
Website: www.grosvenorauctions.com



The Magpie

*POSTAL AUCTIONS & LISTS
POSTCARDS & EPHEMERA
PAPER COLLECTIONS
POSTAL HISTORY*

W. T. PIPE
11 Richard Close, Upton, Poole.
Dorset. BH16 5PY
tel: 01202 623300 fax: 01202 631149
web: www.magpiebillpipe.com
email: magpiebillpipe@freeuk.com

G.B. POSTAL STATIONERY

I hold the most comprehensive stock. My lists are FREE for a 9" x 6½" SAE stamped for 250 gms

I want to BUY any clean mint G.B. Postal Stationery overprinted for use overseas and clean mint scarcer items of G.B. itself. Send well packed, for my offer.

ANDREW A. WHITWORTH
1 Prizet House, KENDAL, LA8 8AB
015395 - 60848
e-mail: pothies@ukf.net

blintemel.com

Please mention the "Postal Stationery Journal" when replying to advertisers

Great Britain and British Commonwealth 1840-1952

STAMPS

POSTAL HISTORY

POSTAL STATIONERY

Queen Victoria to King George VI

No buyers premium and no additional charge for payment by credit card.
Suitable material is now being accepted for inclusion in future postal
auctions, please contact us for further details.

Request your **FREE** catalogue from

De Montfort Stamp Co

PO Box 6, Thurnby, Leicester LE7 9ZU

Telephone & Facsimile 0116 2419796

E-mail: auction@demontfortstamps.co.uk