



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 14, No. 2 May 2006
(Serial number 38)



Aerogrammes and Folded Lettersheets from the Holy Land
See page 12

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SOCIETY CALENDAR 2006/2007

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.

Saturday 17th March 2007

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

Details of an invited display will be given later in the year.

The society's One Sheet Competition will be held during the morning, with all members present being asked to vote before lunch for their choice of winner.

The session after lunch will be for members' displays. Members are asked to bring along a maximum of 30 sheets each on a postal stationery theme, 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 £ 1 0-15 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 9th June 2007

At **Swinpex**, St Joseph's Lower School, Queen's Drive, Swindon, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Swinpex will be held in the new school building and will be open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Saturday 20th October 2007

At the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1. Society's AGM, Tony Chilton Competition, Society's annual "live" auction.
The meeting is expected to close by about 4.30 pm

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - MAY 2006

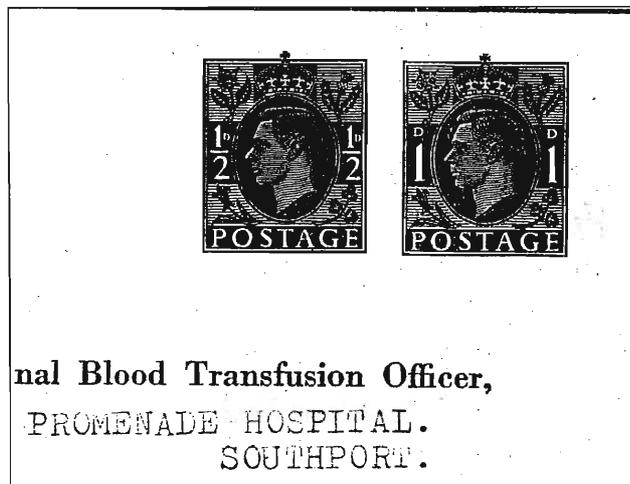
There is a saying - "There is nothing new under the Sun", (or some thing very similar), so it was surprising to discover that in my collection of G.B. Postal Stationery, I have an item of which Dr Alan Huggins was not aware existed.

Including it in my showing of 30 pages at the London meeting in March, I too was unaware that it was, might we say, unique, in that apparently to date, no one else has reported, or shown this type of letter sheet. Will we now see more reported? We will have to wait and see. If you do have one, or a similar one, please drop our Editor a note, with full details and perhaps a photocopy; surely mine is not the only one to have survived!

It is a N.B.T.S. (National Blood Transfusion Service) reply paid letter sheet, on grey paper roughly 8 inches long by 6½ inches wide with red printing and letterpress printed 1d red and ½d orange KGVI 'stamps'. The printers imprint is (S.13606) Wt.P.1942/2608 16,000 11/48 Hw. The sheet was used from Southport, Lancashire on the 1st December 1958, and was further up-rated by the addition of a ½d adhesive QEII postage stamp. The reply section (not detachable) which needed to be folded is unused. It would seem to be late use - perhaps not many were needed, as it is a rebuke to a donor who has failed to attend his/or her last four scheduled visits.

The reply portion has not been up-rated, so the donor was expected to pay! If my memory serves me well,

I picked this up fairly cheaply from a dealers rummage box some time ago - now it could be worth millions! Such is life!



The next get together of members is at "Swinpex" on the 10th June unfortunately I will not be able to attend, but hopefully members within a reasonable distance can get there; details are on page 2.

Peter O'Keeffe

SECRETARY'S NOTES - MAY 2006

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY'S MARCH MEETING

The society's first meeting of the season was held at the British Philatelic Trust Headquarters in London on Saturday 25th March. Fourteen members were present with two guests from the German society with whom we exchange publications (Berliner Ganssachen-Sammler-Verein von 1901 e. V). They were their President Mr. Krause and their Treasurer Norbert Sehler.

Peter O'Keeffe was in the chair and he reminded members of future meetings to be held at Swinpex in June and the AGM in London in October. Our new auctioneer, Neil Sargent, was at the meeting and said the catalogue for the first auction of the year would be issued with the May Journal. He added that he would like more material for the October auction. The morning display was given by one of our past chairmen, Alan Huggins. In the first half he showed stationery used in the Levant, a term used for a collection of five post offices in Turkey and Lebanon, where British stamps and stationery were used. The period started in 1857 and continued until the service closed in 1923, except for the four years covering the First World War.

Alan's display started with early 20th century picture postcards of the towns served, and continued with a variety of British Stationery that had been cancelled with

handstamps allocated to the Levant region. The display then carried on with various items overprinted in the Turkish currency following the devaluation of the Turkish Piastre. Alan explained that the overprinting was undertaken to prevent people buying British stationery at a reduced price and returning it to Britain where it could be sold at a profit. When members had fully viewed all this material it was replaced with an enormous range of advertising Stationery. This was much more of a 'visual' theme, starting with Mulready advertisements on 1d and 2d wrappers, and 1d envelopes. There were plenty of Victorian penny pink envelopes through to those of Kings George V and VI on display, with wrappers and postcards aplenty, some of the early ones being printed in full colour. Alan also put up a number of penny pink letter sheets which were sold at ½d each, the private advertisements on these making up for the loss in revenue to the publisher. Finally Alan showed a selection of Lawsons patent envelopes.

Both halves of Alan's superb display covered nearly all the frames in the Centre. Those of us who were privileged to see his display realised what a vast range of material was available. We had been given a fantastic opportunity to see some remarkable material.

SINGLE SHEET COMPETITION

The single sheet competition was judged by all the members present before they went to lunch. There were nine entries including one from overseas. The winners were:

- Keith Hanman - Sierra Leone 1½d card essays (First)
- Neil Sargent - GB stamped to order (Second)
- Peter O'Keeffe - Southern Rhodesia 1st air mail letter sheet (Third)

Other entries were:

- Iain Stevenson - Edwardian die proofs
- George King - GB King George V postcard, a new discovery
- Graham Barker - Security perfins on GB stationery
- Keith Hamnan - Madagascar cancelled Sierra Leone postcard
- Colin Baker - GB Victorian postcard selling prices
- Ross Duberal - Fiji King George VI insured/registered

Keith Hanman was presented with the society's cup which he keeps for one year. His entry can be seen on page 5.

AFTERNOON DISPLAY

Everyone at the meeting went for lunch at the nearby Malmaison Hotel, where there was plenty of discussion about philatelic and other matters. On returning to the Centre, it was the turn of members to display. George King started with "An Advertisement for the Royal Mail", a display of modern airletters which continued with plastic special delivery envelopes, Airsure packs, Air packs and Signed For packs. George explained that these should all be available at local post offices, but

many could not be bothered to stock them. One comment from the floor questioned whether the plastic envelopes were biodegradable, and if so would they be brittle within a few years. George replied that he kept all his examples in the dark to try to avoid that happening.

Tony Lane then showed 32 sheets of "Get to Know Germany" postcards that had views of Austria printed on the front. They were produced in 1938 and the later issues carried an instruction that they were not to be sent outside Germany, apparently for security reasons.

Neil Sargent showed Turkish Stationery produced in 1914 with a new design of stamp. These are quite difficult to find, particularly used.

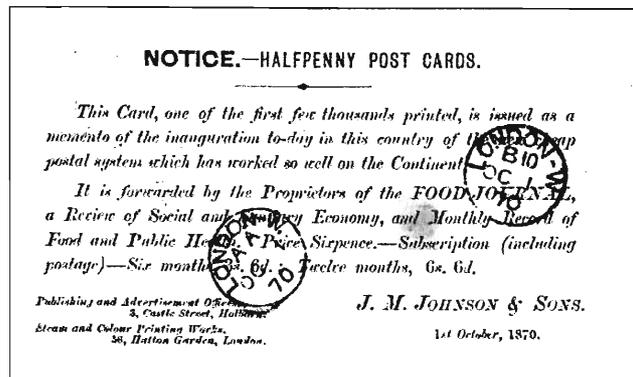
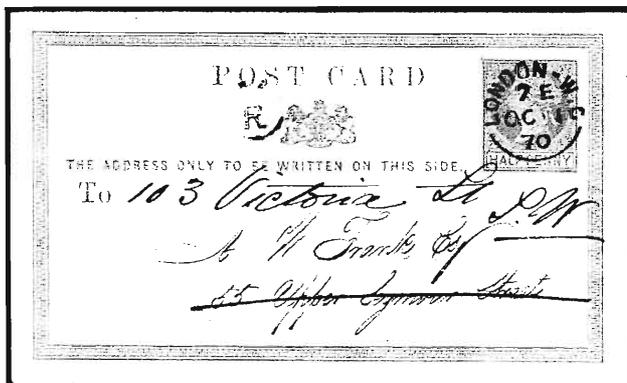
Colin Baker gave a short display of Victorian British STO postcards from the first embossed ½d pinks to the change of colour to green in 1901.

Finally Peter O'Keeffe rounded off the afternoon with some King George VI British stationery. Peter included postcards, lettercards, wrappers and airletters. One particular piece of stationery, a National Blood Transfusion Service reply lettersheet, appeared to be a newly discovered item (See p.3). Peter completed his display with a selection of New Zealand postcards showing King Edward VIII postal stationery that never came to fruition due to his abdication before he could be crowned.

Peter O'Keeffe gave the vote of thanks and said how pleased he was to see visitors from Germany and a member from Alderney, all of whom had made such an effort to get to the meeting. He thanked Alan Huggins for an excellent display in the morning and for all the members who had showed after lunch.

HALFPENNY STATIONERY POSTCARD USED TWICE ON THE FIRST DAY OF OFFICIAL USE 1st OCTOBER 1870

John Forbes-Nixon



It seems the addressee Mr Frank was not at 55 Seymour Street, London on the first delivery of the card, which was then re-addressed to 103 Victoria Street, and still delivered the same day, 1st October 1870 receiving the crowned R in circle to show no further charge raised for redelivery in the same London Postal area.

Gone now are the days when major Post offices such as London would have had at least 12 postal deliveries a day! I wonder whether anyone else has such an example?

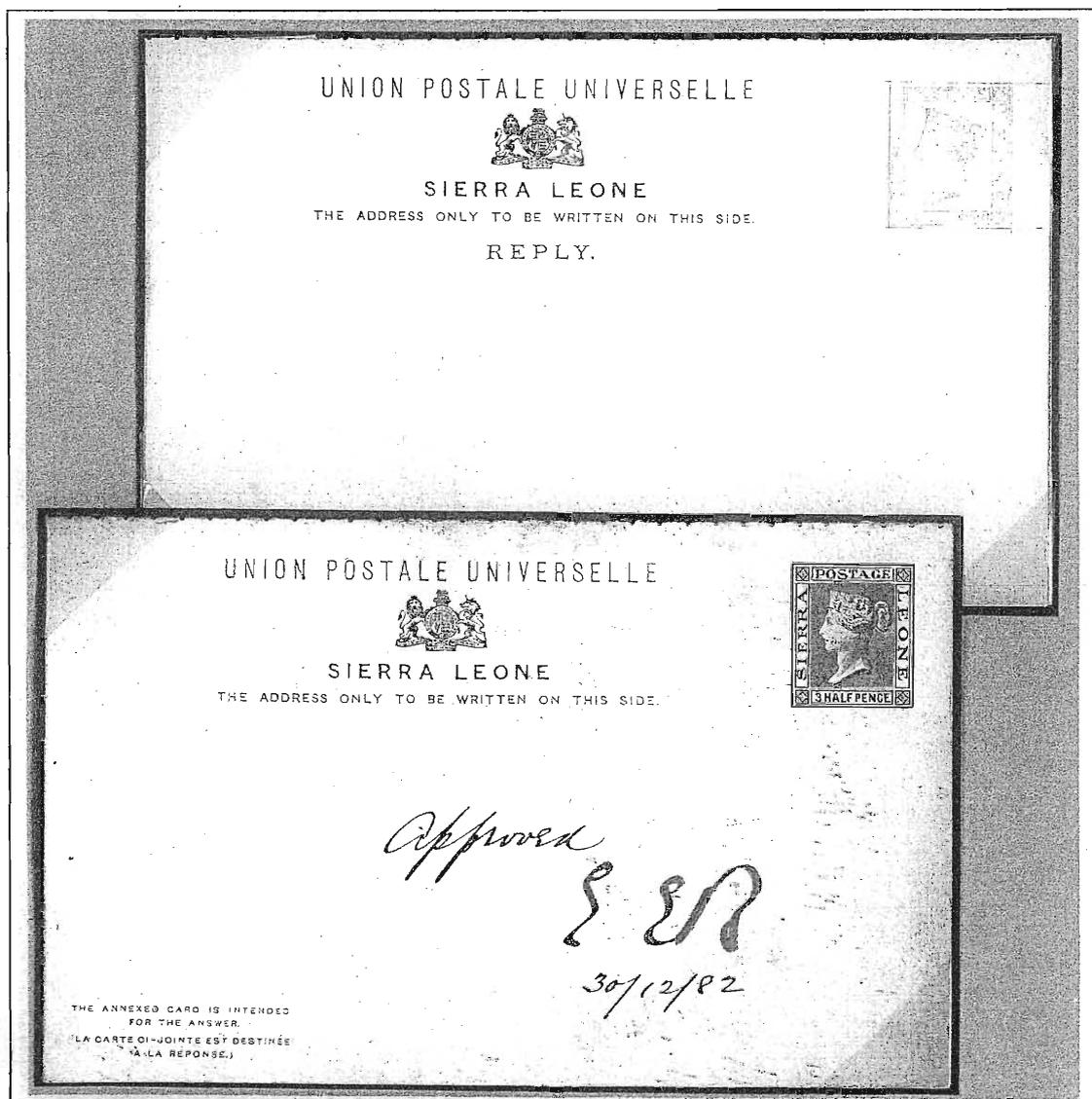
SINGLE SHEET COMPETITION MARCH 2006 - WINNING ENTRY

THE WINNING ENTRY WAS SUBMITTED BY KEITH HANMAN

Hand-Drawn Pencilled Essay Hand-Painted Essay

Reply-paid postal card, penny-halfpenny+penny-halfpenny, February 1883. Grey on white thick card.

Below, reply-paid postal card, penny-halfpenny+penny-halfpenny. This card has a *hand-drawn pencilled essay* of the stamp design on both halves. Perforated 7/30.



Above card has a *hand-painted essay of the design on both halves* based on the contemporary adhesive. Endorsed 'Approved' dated '30/12/82' and initialled 'E E B'. Perforated 7/30.

GERMAN EAST AFRICA - PREPAID ENVELOPES 1916

Michael Farrant FRPSL

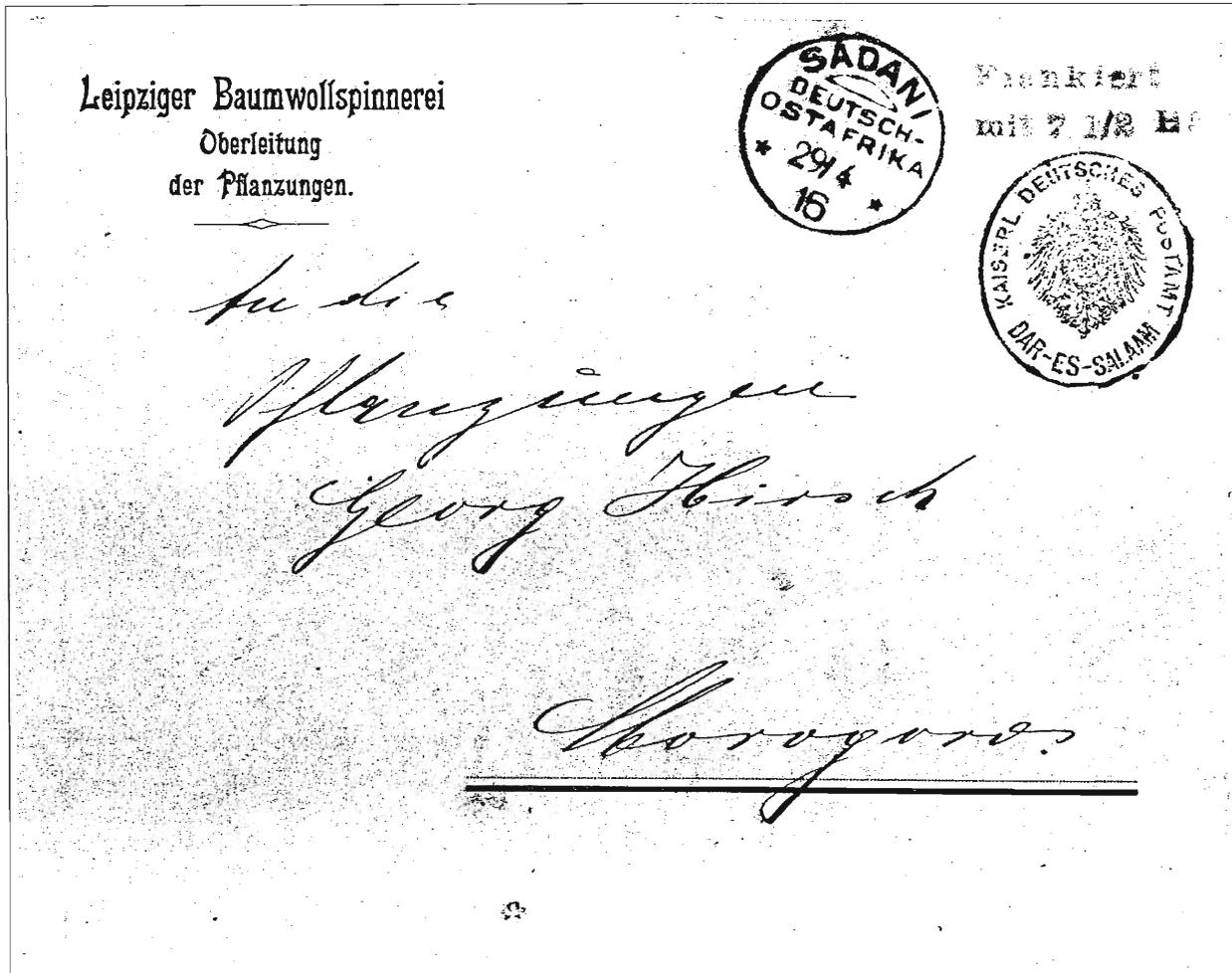


Fig. 1 Daressalaam prepaid envelope used at Sadani 29.4.16.

In the First World War German East Africa was cut off from Germany and its source of supply of many materials, especially war materials and postage stamps. When the war started in August 1914 the Colony had adequate supplies of stamps which were of the 'Colonial Yacht' type and these were printed by the State Printing Works in Berlin. It soon became apparent that the British blockade was preventing the re-supply of stamps and accordingly in May 1915 the first of a number of emergency measures was implemented.

This short article is concerned with the production of 'Prepaid Envelopes' which first appeared in January 1916 as a result of an announcement made by the Imperial Post Office [see copy of *Amtlicher Anzeiger* dated 8.1.1916]. This provides for envelopes to be franked at three Post Offices (Daressalaam, Tanga and Morogoro) in multiples of 10 for the Inland rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ Heller. This facility was used largely by traders who took envelopes to one of the offices and paid 75 Heller for each 10 envelopes franked. These envelopes therefore became

pre-paid postal stationery and could then be used at any post office within the Colony. The envelopes could not be used for overseas mail for the simple reason that by January 1916 all efforts to communicate with Germany and elsewhere had broken down and no overseas sendings were possible.

Both the Daressalaam and Tanga Post Offices used the post office seal in black with a separate mark reading 'Frankiert / mit $7\frac{1}{2}$ H' in two lines usually in violet. The Daressalaam mark also appears in blue or red.

At Morogoro the Post Office used a large *Postdirektor* seal without name and this usually appears in violet. The seal is known in an intense black and in addition there were 10 covers where the seal was in red. These envelopes were never used but were manufactured for Dr. Deppe a surgeon with the *Schutztruppe*, they do appear in this unused state from time to time and are highly priced in auction. The franking appears in violet most often but sometimes comes in a red colour and the wording is the same as in the other two offices.

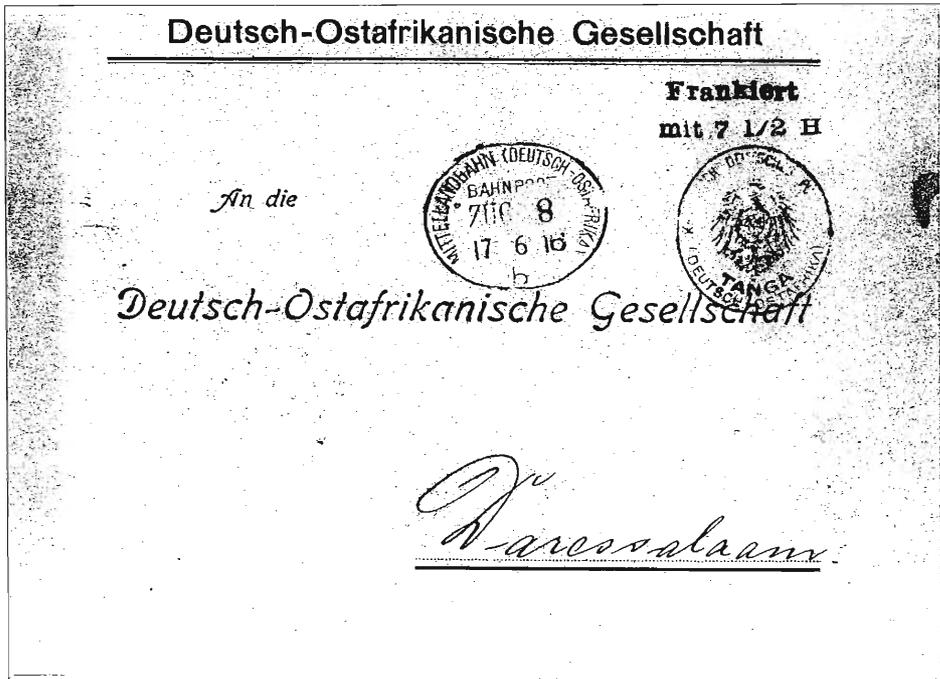
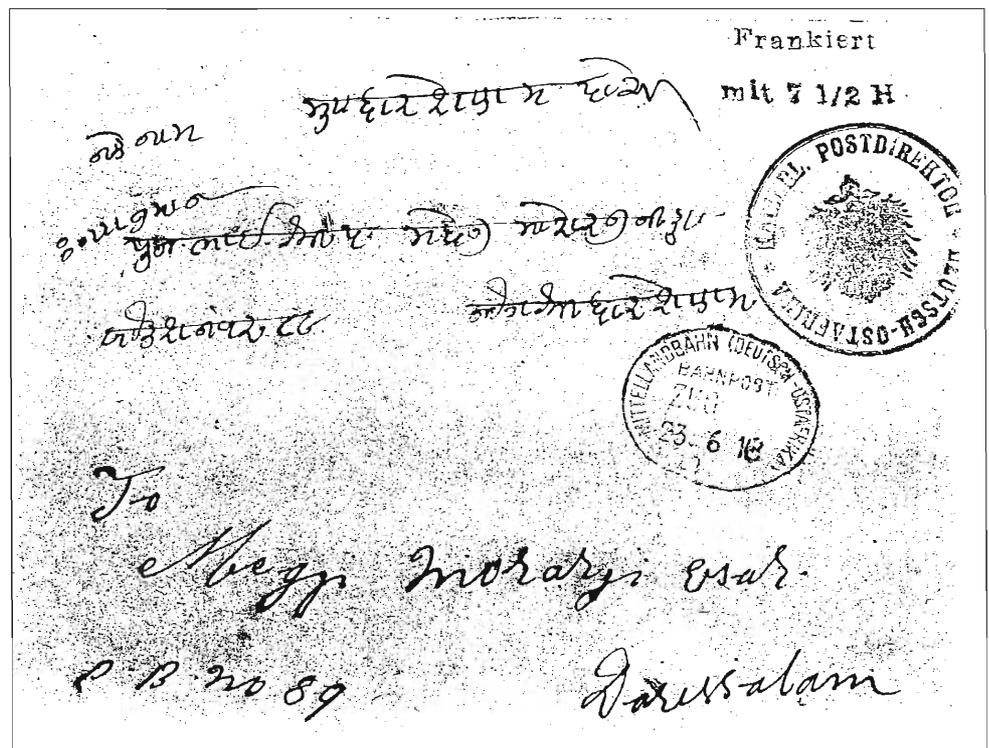


Fig. 2
Tanga prepaid envelope
used on the Middle
Railway (Mittellandbahn)
17.6.16.

Fig. 3
Morogoro prepaid
envelope showing
the setting of
'Frankiert' to the
right of 'mit' and
also used on the
Middle Railway



Another variation appears with the spacing of the Morogoro franking as the position of the wording is known in several states. The 'F' of 'Frankiert' can be immediately over the 'M' of 'mit' or in two positions to the right.

Where letters were heavier than the basic 20 grams or they were registered additional franking was required either by adding a postage stamp or by using "cash franking" where the extra postage was paid in cash and recorded by the post office clerk on the face of the cover.

The use of these covers continued in theory until the cessation of German civil posts in 1917. However by the autumn of 1916 there was little postal activity and I have recorded few covers after October 1916 apart from those sent through the *Feldpost*.

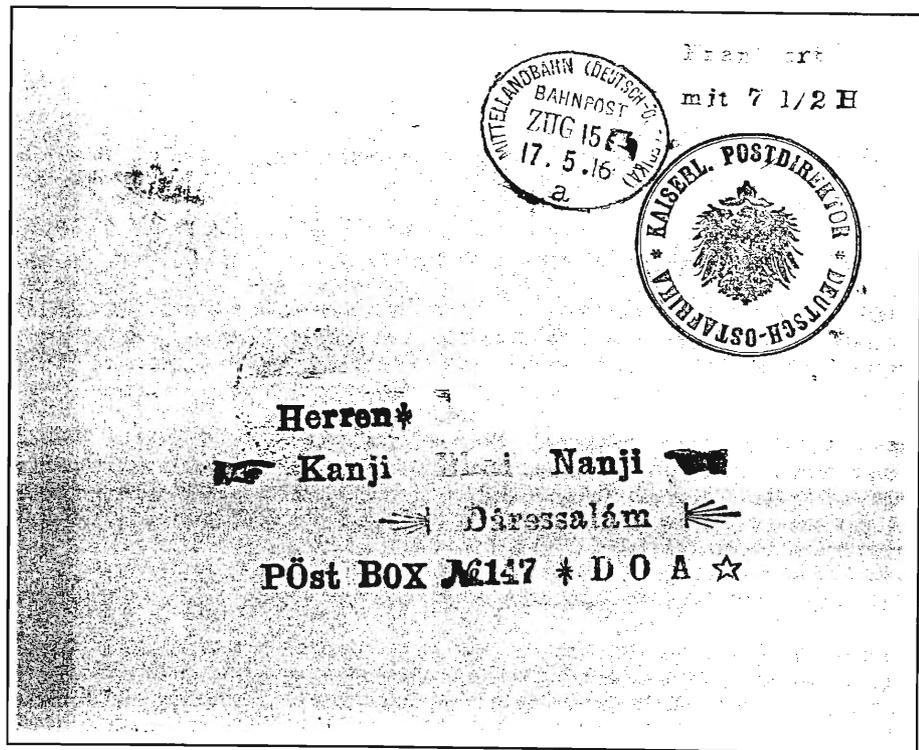


Fig. 4
Morogoro prepaid envelope showing the setting of 'Frankiert' above 'mit' and used on the Middle Railway.



Fig. 5
Morogoro cover used at Tabora 9.5.16 which has received an additional 7½ Heller stamp as a result of being overweight, i.e. in excess of 20 grams.

POSTAL STATIONERY USING THE UNIVERSAL SERIES IMPERIUM IMPRINT - SOME OBSERVATIONS

John Jennison

On looking into the initial printing of the 5 cents George VI Mauritius stationery envelope and letter card, I found it necessary to do a little research on the use of the imperium postage - revenue or universal design of postage stamps for colonial postal stationery. Much has been written on this De La Rue key and duty plate concept, and I will not add to it as far as postage stamps are concerned. However the use of the design for postal stationery is of interest to stationery collectors and raises some observations. In the Appendix I have attempted to list the known stationery using this design and the modified postage - postage version.

The imperium imprints for postal stationery were first used in the reign of George V. Higgins and Gage (*Ref.1*) mention two postcards and a reply postcard from Nigeria printed in 1914, which I have only seen as specimens. Other examples cover the reign of George V through to Elizabeth II, when an air letter was issued for Fiji in 1955. There seems to be neither rhyme nor reason why this design was chosen for postal stationery as the colonies involved had in many cases, already issued postal stationery in other designs. Even stranger is why De La Rue with their obsession for economy, who printed all the stationery, should have chosen to re-engrave the imperium design as a postage - postage design for some colonies and not for others. To my knowledge there is no example of a postage - postage imperium stamp. On the other hand a postage - revenue design for postal stationery also seems somewhat odd as the revenue use would be non-existent! Interestingly all these designs exist in a Die I and Die II version. Examples of the postage - postage imperium are shown with Ceylon Die I, H&G B62 [Fig. 1] and St. Lucia Die II, H&G B2 [Fig. 2].

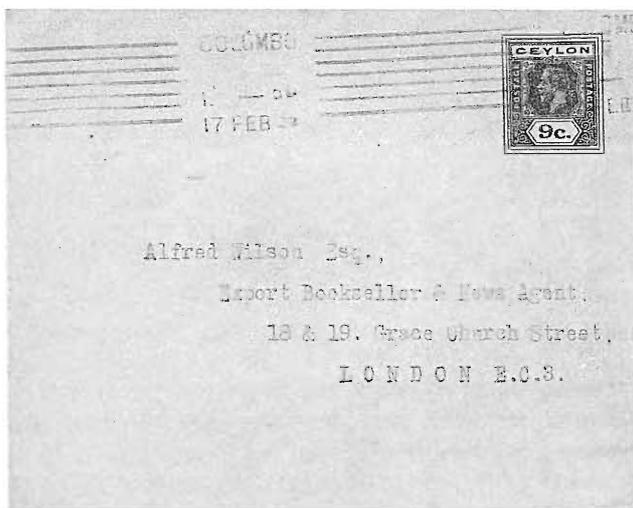


Fig. 1

Close-up of the dies are illustrated in [Fig. 3]. Mauritius, which only used the postage - revenue imperium, exhibits both dies for the George V postal stationery. This is of



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

course also the case with the stamps. Examples are illustrated with H&G B41 and E6 [Figs 4 & 5] with the close-up [Fig. 6].



Fig. 4

From the reign of George VI onwards only the Die II has been used. New dies would have had to be prepared for the postage-postage imperium, and this is indeed

mentioned in Oliver's book (*Ref.2*) on the Leeward Islands. All these imprints would have been a single printing.

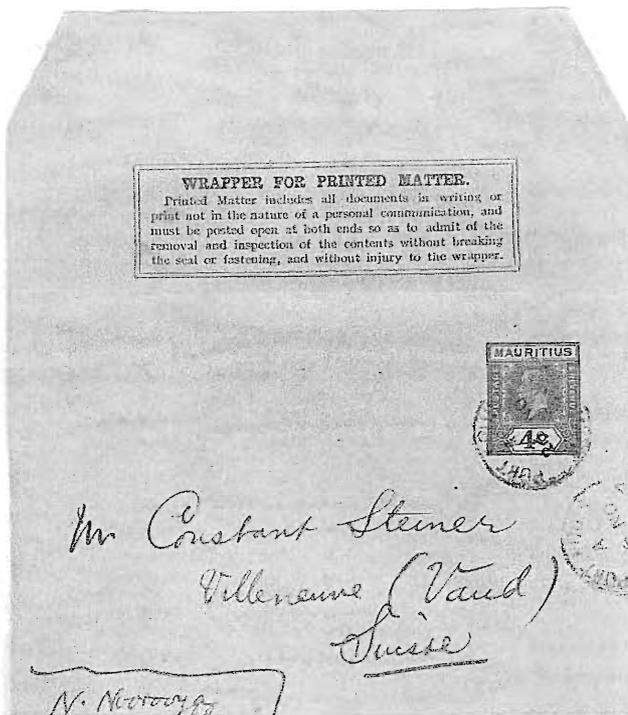


Fig. 5



Fig. 6

Mauritius offered the full range of postal stationery for the George VI reign employing the postage-revenue imperium design. The only exception was an air letter, which was issued towards the end of the reign, and employed the design of the current pictorial definitive. The values 3, 4, 10, 12, 20 cents were all on unshaded background and taken from the existing stamp designs. The 5 cents stamp was with a shaded value tablet. The 5 cents for the envelope and letter card stationery are however on an unshaded background, but clearly from a new die as the 5 cents was offset, and gave a very unprofessional appearance, H&G B46 [Fig. 7]. This was not the case with George V [Fig. 4], and clearly some other die would have had to be used for the 5 cents with unshaded background. Eric Yendall, in his excellent website (*Ref.3*) on this stationery, suggests that the value



SPECIMEN

Fig. 7

tablet for the existing George V 15 cents stamp, SG233 [Fig. 8] could have been used with the 1 in the 15 cents value excised. On visiting the British Library and viewing



Fig. 8

the Philatelic Collections (*Ref. 4*) no proof of this value for George VI could be found of the stamp nor the postal stationery in the Crown Agents Records. A proof of the 3 cents postcard was available and showed some damage to the top frame line of the imperium imprint, which was partially removed at the specimen stage. My own example of the 3 cents postcard shows traces of this damage. Later printings of the 5 cents envelope and letter card show the 5 cents corrected with the value correctly positioned. When this was corrected is not clear but I have an example of the 5 cents envelope used locally at Montagne Blanche 2 October 1942 [Fig. 9]. Interestingly enough the month is reversed on the datestamp (2 CO instead of 2 OC). Unfortunately I only have the specimen examples of the envelope and letter card with the 5 cents offset; to date I have not seen any non-specimen examples. Perusal of the

available De La Rue records from 1937 - 1942 at the British Postal Museum Archives (Ref. 5) did little to



Fig. 9

explain when this change occurred. New plates were prepared for George VI designs in 1937 and printings despatched to the colony regularly from 1939 to 1943. No reference was made to any change, and the date of the new

printings for the modified 5 cents is unknown. I can only surmise that the use of the shaded background for the 5 cent tablet in the postal envelope and letter card (as in the adhesive stamp) did not highlight the value sufficiently and may have well been the wish of the colony to change it. The timing may have been such that it was quicker for De La Rue to modify the George V 15 cents die rather than engrave a new value; only a guess on my part.

These observations indicate that consistency does not prevail in postal stationery and that this article is to be considered as a work in progress. Any input is welcomed.

I would like to express my thanks to the staff of the Philatelic Collections (British Library) and the BPMA for enabling me to view the relevant records.

References

1. Higgins & Gage World Postal Stationery, P.O.Box 5637, Huntington Beach, CA 92646, USA.
2. The Leeward Islands, Notes for Philatelists, p.108, 113, M.Oliver, BWISC, 2000.
3. www.geosix.com
4. Crown Agents Records, British Library Philatelic Collections, London.
5. British Postal Museum and Archive, Freeling House, London.

APPENDIX

POSTAGE - POSTAGE DIE 1	CEYLON GEORGE V Postcards, Lettercards, Envelopes, Wrappers
POSTAGE - POSTAGE DIE 11	LEeward ISLANDS GEORGE V Postcards, Envelopes, Registered Envelopes, Wrapper St LUCIA GEORGE V Envelope
POSTAGE - REVENUE DIE 1	MAURITIUS GEORGE V Lettercard, Envelopes NIGERIA GEORGE V Postcards (Sp), Registered Envelopes
POSTAGE - REVENUE DIE 11	FIJI GEORGE V Lettercard FIJI GEORGE VI Airletters FIJI QUEEN ELIZABETH 11 Airletters MAURITIUS GEORGE V Postcards, Envelopes*, Wrapper, Registered Envelopes MAURITIUS GEORGE VI Postcards, Lettercard, Envelopes, Registered Envelopes, Wrapper NIGERIA GEORGE V Registered Envelopes NIGERIA GEORGE VI Registered Envelopes

- * Not verified
- There may be other Die I and Die II not listed

AEROGRAMMES AND FOLDED LETTER SHEETS FROM THE HOLY LAND: Part 6 ISRAEL (continued)

Tony Goldstone

In this part of my article I will endeavour to cover the official aerogrammes of Israel, leaving the popular and colourful private tourist and commemorative issues to the final part. I say, "endeavour" because Israel has issued nearly 70 official aerogrammes since the appearance of the first issue on the 2nd of July 1950 up to the release of the last issue (still current) on 15th March 1998 plus approximately a hundred private tourist types. In a short series of articles such as this I will only be able to present a representative cross section of this collection.

OFFICIAL AEROGRAMMES

All the early issues were to be folded into a rectangular envelope shape. The full open sheet size ranged from 309 mm x 213 mm to 219 mm x 205 mm and anything in between (a collectors' nightmare or challenge!). The overlay on the outer folded part of the paper contained the tiny words (in Hebrew) 'Airmail State of Israel' on coloured background. The coloured background changed in accordance with the changing value of the stamp rate. The etiquette (in Hebrew and French) was printed originally in the lower left side of the folded form [Fig. 1] but over the years changed both its design and position. The senders' name and address were



Fig. 1

printed in the top left hand side opposite the stamp on the early issues but this too was soon changed to the almost universal practice of putting the sender's information on the reverse side. All of Israel's early issues used the Flying Stag stamp (issues 1 to 20) and a small Flying Stag symbol was also printed below the front address or on the flap. In accordance with UPU regulations the word AEROGARME was added from issue no. 3 onwards [Fig. 2]. According to Sid Morginstin (Postal Stationery of Israel p.5) Israel was the first country to produce aerogrammes using the photolithographic process. As mentioned in part 1, Israel was also the first country to print the word AEROGARME (French spelling) on its air letter forms.

All early issues have marked variations in colour shades as well as paper sizes, all eminently collectable by



Fig. 2

the serious collector. Issues 14 -17 were printed on plain coloured paper without the tiny words appearing in the overlay, nos. 18 & 19 reverted to old style overlay but from no. 20 onwards all aerogrammes were printed without any words in the overlay.

Israel's first 20 issues (22 according to some catalogues) between 1950 (25pr.) and 1959 (300 pr.) reflect the galloping inflation during the Country's early existence. In the early year's different issues were printed for each price increase reflecting the different airmail zones with different tariffs. This continued until the acceptance of a single tariff for the whole world. The last of the classic Flying Stag issues was 300 pr, issued 17th May 1959 [Fig. 3].



Fig. 3

1960 saw both the first major stamp design change with the introduction of the stylised flying dove and globe [Fig. 4] as well as the introduction of a new monetary system (Liras and agurot to replace the old prutot). The stamp size on these new sheets was also reduced. This new design continued till 1970 (10 issues) with only a small change in design, namely the removal of the globe in the design and increased size of the stylised dove [Fig. 5].

Up to 1970 all issues depicted the printed stamp as if it looked like a genuine adhesive with look-a-like perforations. With the release of the next issues in 1971



Fig. 4

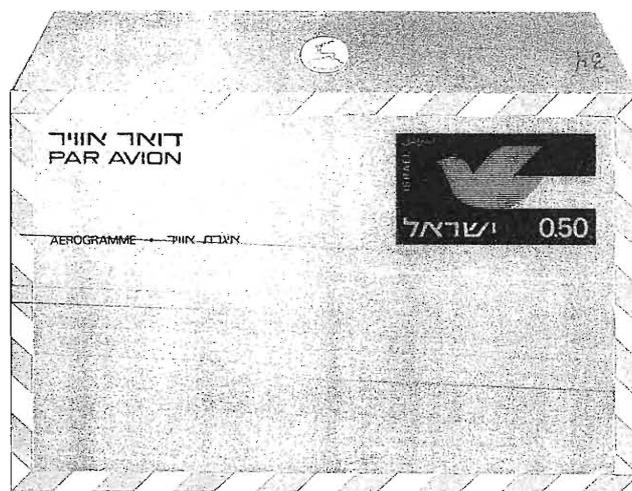


Fig. 7

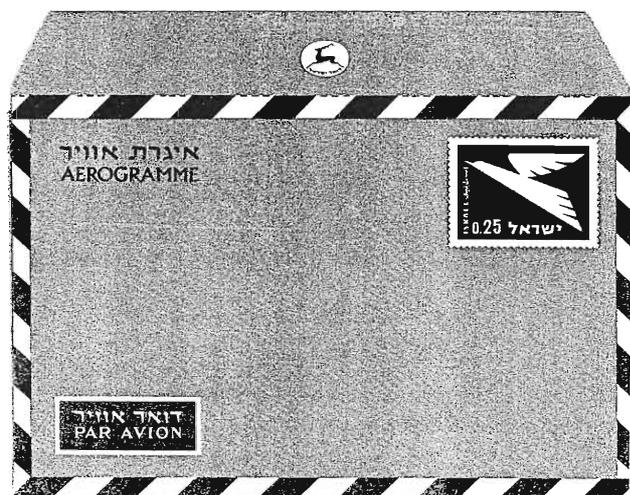


Fig. 5

Towards the middle of 1974 Israel changed the size of the aerogramme to A4, which became the new standard size used by Israel and most international postal authorities. Between the first A4 issue 23rd May 1974 and 26th May 1980 (after which Israel once again changed its currency!) no fewer than 12 stamped issues appeared with designs such as inter-twined flying doves (some imagination required), stylised birds in flight, arc shapes of birds in flight (much more imagination needed) and 5 issues of dandelion flower with flying seeds [Figs 8 - 11]. The price had risen from 0.80 ag. (just under 1 Israel lira) to 19 liras!

[Figs 6 & 7] the perforations were dropped and the stamp size considerably increased. Now the designs were a geometric dove and a more regular looking dove. The prices of the 1970 issue costing originally 0.18 ag. had by the end of this series risen to 0.65 ag.

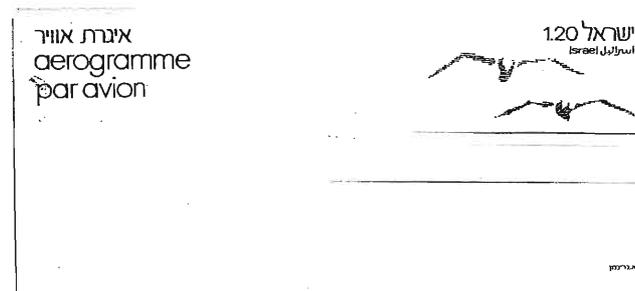


Fig. 8

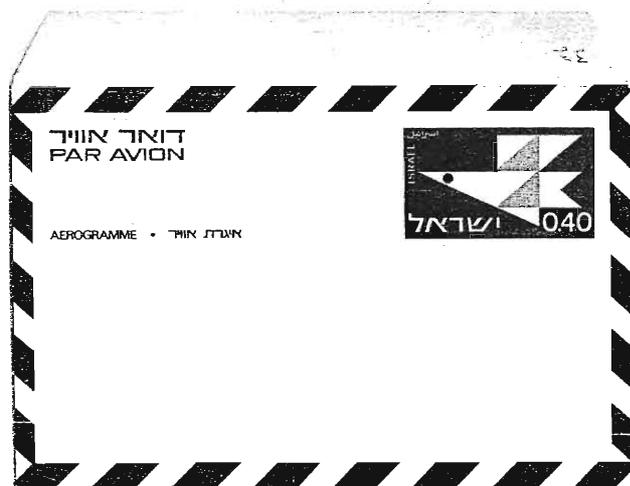


Fig. 6

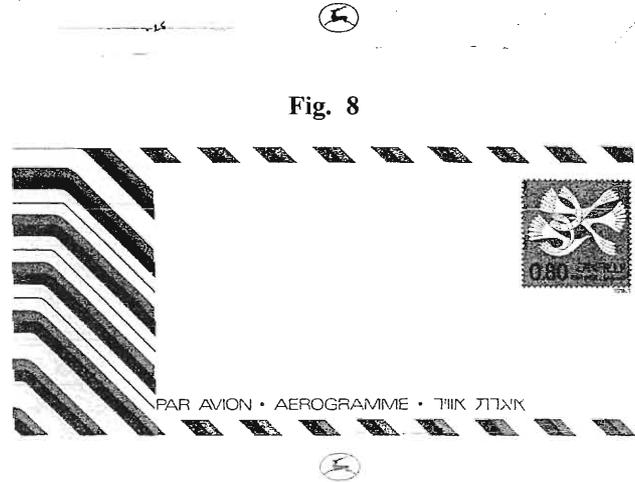


Fig. 9

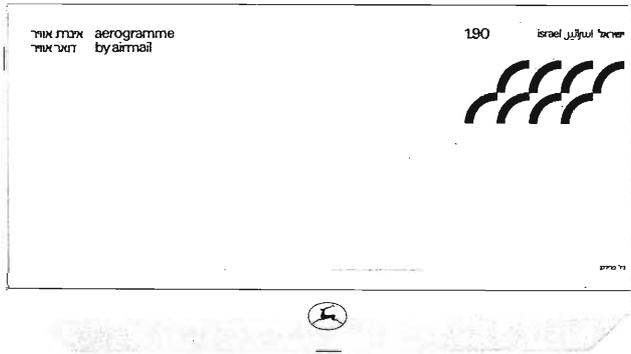


Fig. 10

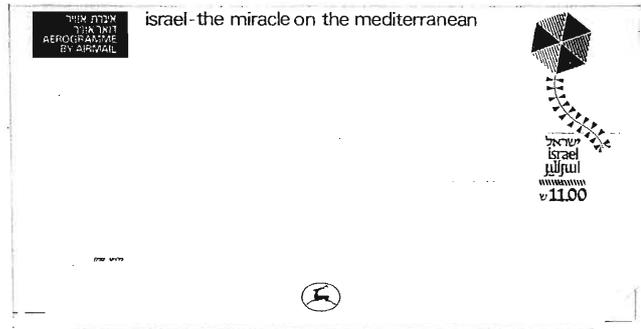


Fig. 13

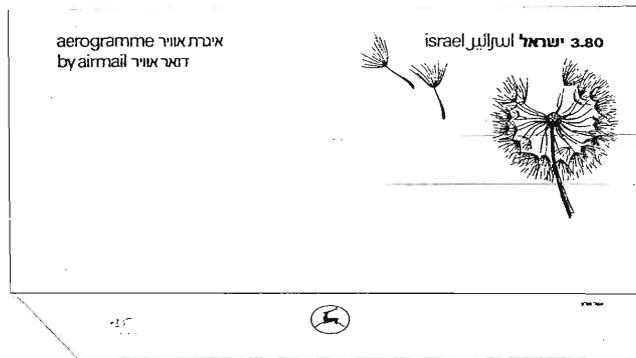


Fig. 11

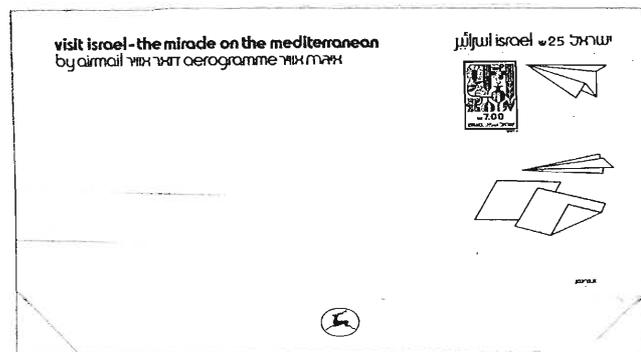


Fig 14

During this time the name of the designer was printed discretely on the front of the sheet, a practice continued from then on, on most issues.

During the late 1980s Israel devalued its currency and introduced the New Shekel. The first new aerogrammes appeared 4th Nov. 1980 costing 2NS.60ag. The designs over the next four years included Jet airliner (5 issues), kite, paper- plane [Figs 12 - 14]. Once again inflation took its toll and the two paper- plane issues had a printed value of 25 and 60 NS, **but they never went on sale for this price**. On the days of issue 8th April 1984 and 8th Oct. 1984 the price had risen to 32 and 95 NS respectively and required the addition of adhesive stamps! The kite and paper plane issues carried a prominent tourist advertisement "Israel the miracle on the Mediterranean." Mint copies without adhesive stamps are very rare as the post offices were instructed to affix them at the point of sale.

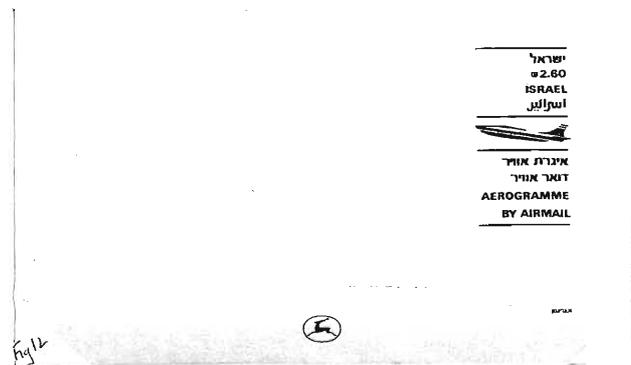


Fig. 12

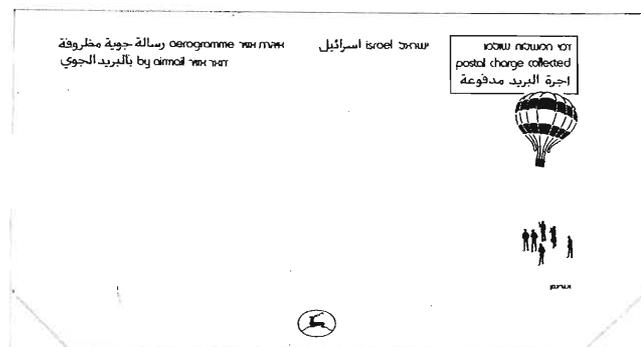


Fig. 15

The next two issues (both still current and subject to many reprints and collectable differences) are the Map of the World issue of 1st Jan. 1991 [Fig. 17] and the popular cartoon hero (Srulik) printed on a look- alike stamp [Fig. 18] and issued 15th March 1998 to mark the 50th (Golden) Anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel.

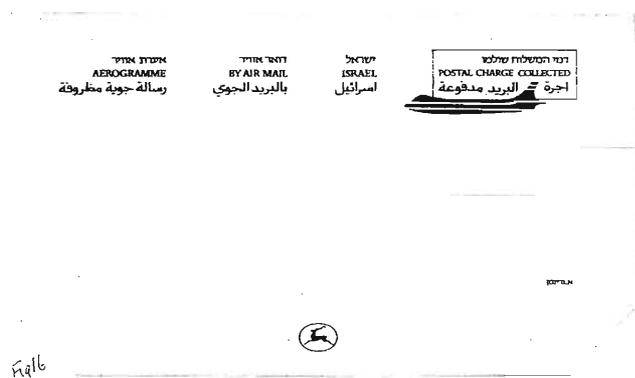


Fig. 16

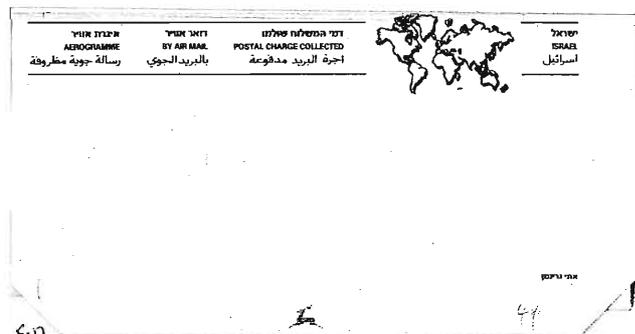


Fig. 17

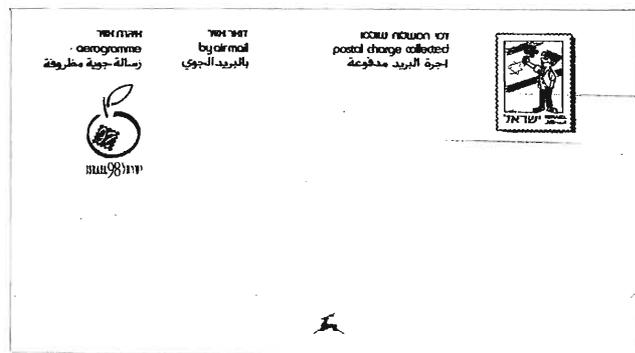


Fig. 18

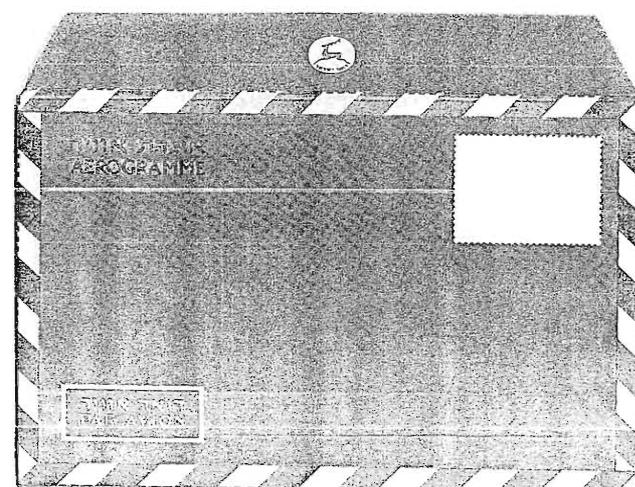


Fig. 19

All new issues had major or minor changes to the layout and instructions and I have restricted myself to those I felt were significant and of interest to the reader. No doubt I have omitted some important ones. (E. & O.E!)

Between 1966 and 1984 Israel issued four official releases (3 designs) that lacked the printed stamp and required the addition of adhesive stamps [Figs 19 - 21] These lettersheets were often used by commercial, academic and private organisations that would print their own details on the sheet. Some were used with political slogans. [Fig. 22].

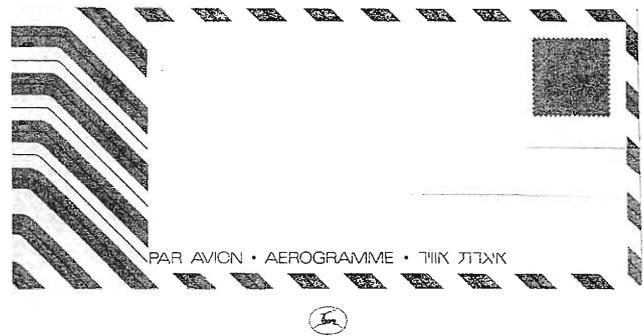


Fig. 20

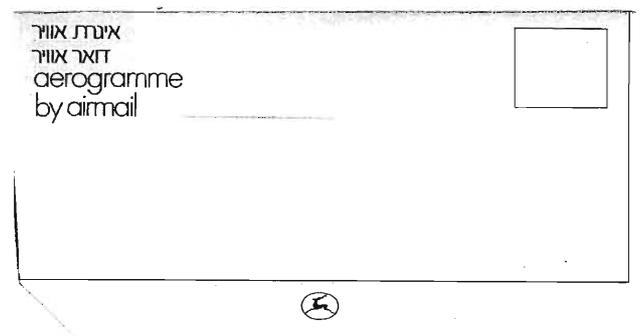


Fig. 21

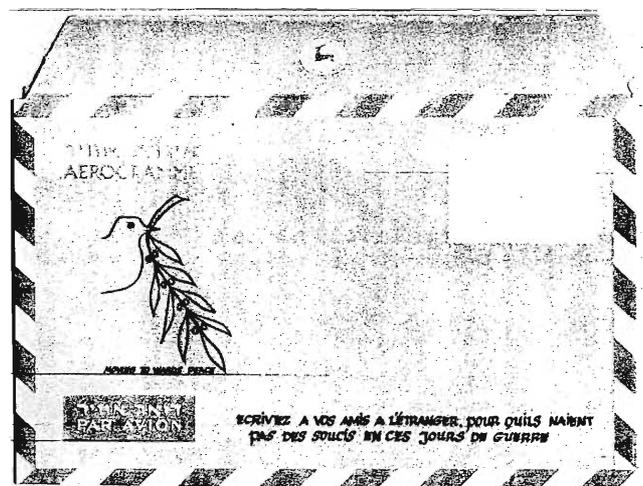


Fig. 22

PERFINS THROUGH POSTAL STATIONERY ITEMS John Barker

This is the second in a series of articles courtesy of **Rosemary Smith**, who has kindly agreed to let me publish a summary of the research conducted by herself with the help of members of the Perfin Society. My aim is to inform Postal Stationery Society members of the use of perfins on (G.B) postal stationery **and to solicit help in adding to this information**. If you have any perfined postal stationery, could you be so kind enough to check it against these summaries and if you find anything new, please let Rosemary Smith (address at the end of this article) have the information. It is her intention, after publishing her latest listing of known perfins on postal

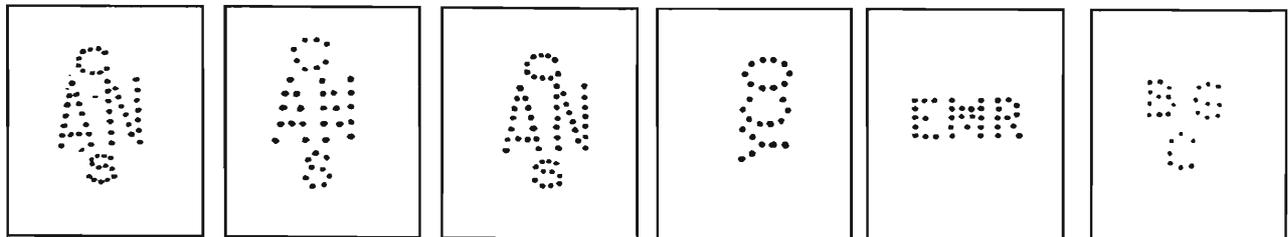
stationery in the Perfin Society Bulletins, to produce a booklet with all the known facts about 'Perforated Postal Stationery'.

Items illustrated here are not their actual size and details of the perfin die may only be included where it is necessary to distinguish between dies which are similar.

Identities in brackets are from the Tomkins Catalogue as the actual postal stationery item described does not have the identification on it. Sources of information 'PSB' are from the Perfin Society Bulletins. * indicates that the item will be notified in the May 2006 PSB

Description of the item	Huggins No.	Perfin Cat No.	Perfin	Identified user	Date of use Earliest -Latest	Source of Information and notes
QV						
Registration Two Pence. Imprint R3		A4205.0?	A&N/C.S.L.	Army & Navy Civil Service Supply Ltd	12.12.85	PSB 288
Registration Two Pence. Imprint R3	RP 18	Y0180.02	YCO	UNKNOWN	4.12.93	* The perfin is through the front to the back in the top right hand corner. See illustration.
Registration Two Pence. Imprint R4		A4205.0?	A&N/C.S.L.	Army & Navy Civil Service Supply Ltd	9.4.00	PSB 288
Registration Two Pence. Imprint R4		C0270.01M	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	13.1.94 - 4.1.95	PSB 288
Registration Two Pence. Imprint R4		C0270.03M	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	21.5.97	PSB 288
KE VII						
Imprint R 5 3d		C0270.01	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	19.2.09	PSB 288
Imprint R5 3d		C0270.03	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	6.1.05 - 16.12.10	* These could be on different issues of the KE VII reg. envs.
Imprint R5 3d		D4210.01	DrJ/C°	Dr Jaegers' Sanitary Woollen Co. Ltd.	1.10.02	PSB 288
KG V						
Imprint R 6/7 3d		C0270.01	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	3.1.13	PSB 288
Imprint R6/7 3d		D4210.01	DrJ/C°	Dr Jaegers' Sanitary Woollen Co. Ltd.	12.1.21	PSB 288
Imprint R8 3½d	RP 29	R1090.01	R&C°/Ltd	Rowntree & Co. Ltd, York	3.10.19	PSB 288
Imprint R8 3½d	RP 29	A4205.01	A&N/C.S.L.	Army & Navy Civil Service Supply Ltd	6.4.20	*
Imprint R11 4½d	RP 38	E3070.01	EMR	E.M. Richford Ltd, Rubber Stamp manufacturers, London EC	9.4.24	*
Imprint R11 4½d	RP 39	C0270.03M	C/AN/S	Army & Navy Co-operative Society	5.5.27 - 3.1.31	* These could be on different issues of the KG V reg. envs.

Description of the item	Huggins No.	Perfin Cat No.	Perfin	Identified user	Date of use Earliest -Latest	Source of Information and notes
KG VI						
Imprint R13 5½d		J6970.03c	JS/°C°	Joseph Sloper & Co. Ltd	6.5.46	PSB 288
QE II						
Imprint R23 ¾ + Imprint RE 4 1d	RP 92/93	R1090.01	R&C°/Ltd	Rowntree & Co. Ltd, York	25.9.70	*
Imprint as R24 5¾p		B2970.03	BG/C	British Gas Corporation	1976 24.5.78	*



C0270.01

C0270.02

C0270.03

Y0180.02

E3070.01M

B2970.03

Inland Registration.

Compensation for loss or damage is given in respect of Inland Registered Packets of all kinds, according to the fees set forth in the following table— which include the ordinary registration fee of		loss or damage is given Registered Packets of the following table— which include the ordinary registration fee of	
Fee.	Limit of Compensation.	Fee.	Limit of Compensation.
2d. ...	£5.	7d. ...	£30.
3d. ...	£10.	8d. ...	£35.
4d. ...	£15.	9d. ...	£40.
5d. ...	£20.	10d. ...	£45.
6d. ...	£25.	11d. ...	£50.

subject to the Conditions in the published Regulations as to Registration of Inland Letters, &c.

If any member has evidence of other perfins on registered envelopes, or have seen any of the perfins listed above on different registered envelopes, or can supply Huggins reference numbers to any of the above, please contact **Rosemary Smith** at:

17, Victoria Road,
Stocksbridge,
Sheffield
S36 1FW

In the next issue of the Journal I will cover envelopes with perfins and in future issues I will cover Postcards and, the most frequently encountered perfined item, Newspaper Wrappers. Once again no one has yet reported a perfined lettercard.

Perfin YCO (Y0180.02) on QV Huggins RP 18

Perfin R&C°/Ltd (R1090.01) on QE II Huggins RP 92/93

A HOME MADE AIR LETTER.

Peter O'Keeffe

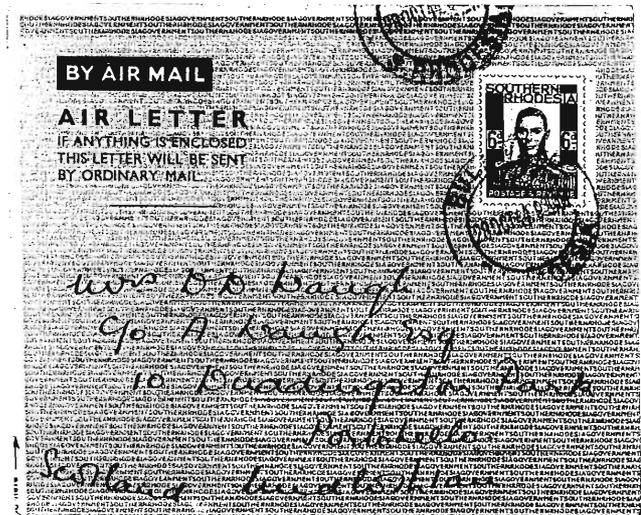
During World War II, it was not always easy to keep to schedule with the issue of stamps or stationery for the colonies, who in many cases still relied on the United Kingdom to produce the necessary items. In Southern Rhodesia it was planned to issue the first 'Civilian' Air Letter in 1944, but delivery from Britain was likely to be delayed.

Although the elaborate facilities for stamp production, including appropriate security measures, were not available in the Country, the Southern Rhodesian Government decided to produce their own Air Letter and authorised the Government Lithographic Department to design and produce them, assisted by a commercial printer, who would handle the cutting and gumming of the printed forms.

Thus the first item of postal stationery bearing the King's head, to be manufactured in the Colony, was born. It was officially issued on the 25th October 1944, priced 6d. (Note: at the time Southern Rhodesian currency was at par with the U.K.)

It is interesting to note that the 'stamp', in pale greyish black & white, based on the 6d definitive KGV stamp then in circulation had to be hand drawn and then photographed. Apparently direct photographing of the stamp would not have given the good quality required. Special security measures were adopted so that none of the printed forms would go astray during the printing process.

It would seem that the artist chosen to draw the stamp was not a stamp collector as he drew exactly what he was copying, including simulated perforations around the 'stamp'. This Air Letter was printed on a greyish paper with a "KENT VALE W 2 PARCHMENT" watermark on three lines; the 'w 2' or other code number or letter indicated the year the paper was made, and could



appear on either the middle or third line. These Air Letters measured 122 x 102 mm. The outer portion (when folded) has a pale green /turquoise overlay consisting of the words "Southern Rhodesia Government" printed thereon, giving the impression that the letter is turquoise in colour. They were folded from the side, in half and then from the bottom upwards. Although intended for civilian use, I have one used by an Airman on the 29th October, writing to the UK, which has been censored, and one from a civilian on the 28th which was not censored.

They were initially available for use to the countries that participated in the 'Empire Airmail Scheme', except Canada and Newfoundland, which were excluded until the 26th April 1946.

A POSTAL STATIONERY RETIREMENT PRESENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS

John Fowler writes: "readers might like to know that as you approach 65, if you take the option to fill in your own forms for the State Pension (instead of the recommended telephone option) you receive a prestamped envelope in which to return the (long) document. 230mm x 160mm tall, black imprint of "POSTAGE PAID POSTAGE PAID" then Queen's head, then "2nd" then blue phosphor band. Reverse, boxed "FOR USE WITHIN THE UK POSTAGE PAID UP TO 60g" followed by "Department for Work and Pensions / The Pension Service / Newcastle upon Tyne / NE98 1BA" In effect, a piece of Official postal stationery.



It's so unusual for them to pay the postage nowadays that I thought it worthy of mention."

Editor: having reached this stage in life I illustrate my copy of this envelope which for those who like the detail has the following printing in the left hand seam (as seen from the front)

I A.E. 21/04 N/S 2.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

G.B. AIRLETTERS

Arthur Roberts reports five further new prints:

- Standard Airletter MSE 180/04
- 2005 print MSE 293/05
- MSE 310/05
- 'Star' packs MSE 162/04 found by Andrew Whitworth

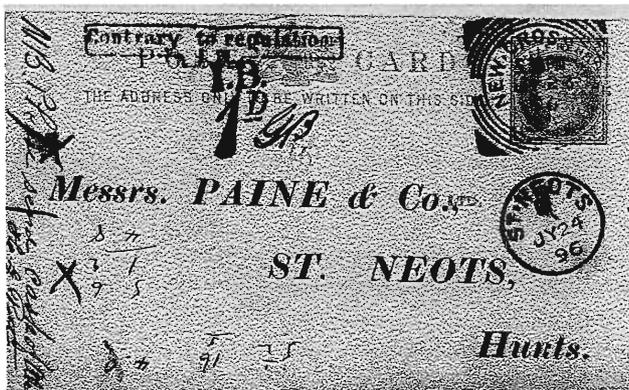
- Welsh June 2004 design
- 2005 print MSE 269/05 found by John Beard

REPLY PAID LETTERCARDS

Alexander Ilyushin has kindly pointed out an error in part III of my article which appeared in the February 2006 issue of the Journal. The Russian reply paid lettercard was produced in 1906 (not 1916) as a special present to the delegates of the UPU Congress in Rome. Many thanks to Alexander for pointing this out.

BRITISH POSTCARDS WRITTEN ON THE FRONT

Colin Baker writes: "Following my piece in the last issue of the Journal on "Very Cross Postcards", the editor added a note about a German card that was also cross written. I thought it would be nice to complete the story with the British postcard illustrated here showing what would happen if a writer chose not to write across the first half of a message, but to continue on the front of the postcard. In Britain the regulations covering the use of postcards were



quite strict. From their introduction in 1870 until 1907 only the address could be written on the front of cards. Postal workers were instructed to surcharge any postcards found to be flouting this rule, so any card spotted by them with writing on the front other than the address received a 1d postage due mark, bringing the postage from 1/2d up to the inland letter rate of 1d, but doubled as postage had not been pre-paid. Postal workers were also adept at spotting other infringements of the regulations, such as noting labels, papers, glitter and other materials stuck onto cards, or cards that were outside permitted sizes. All received the same treatment and were rigorously struck with postage due marks.

The writer of the card shown here, having filled the reverse of his postcard with a message, has requested a cask of ale be sent to him. The two crosses have been added by the postal inspector to indicate what the offence was, and he would also have stamped the card "Contrary to Regulations", added a 1d postage due mark and initialled it "GB". There is no record of whether the writer had to refund the 1d that Messrs Paine & Co paid on delivery of the postcard

INSURANCE CARDS

George King

I recently acquired a copy of the insurance card shown in Journal 23-14. 4d red + 1p stamp. Posted with a slogan Reigate & Redhill 22 May 1971. The card has no address for delivery, and no trace of one being removed, but lacks the insufficient address mark on the one illustrated. I also acquired a white used card (illustrated below) with 2 1/2p pink octagonal, posted 5th July 1971 South Kensington, blue printing which doesn't copy that well.

Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited
 P.O. BOX No. 429
 ST. NELOTS, 1 UNDERHART, HUNTS.
 (hereinafter called "the Company") will insure the life of any person pay to the same **Holder** of the insurance policy of his legal personal representatives the sum of pounds (£) specified if during the twenty-four hours (from the time the insured overtook such **Holder** shall sustain bodily injury solely by violent accidental external and palpable means of injury shall independently of any other cause

(a) death	(b) £2,000
(c) total and permanent loss of sight in one or both eyes or total loss by physical severance of ear or both hands or foot	(d) £2,000
(e) permanent and total dis-ablement from follow-up any employment or occupation	(f) £20 a week
(g) total dis-ablement from engaging in usual business	(h) £5 a week
(i) incurred medical expenses	(j) a sum up to fifteen per cent of the amount payable hereunder for item (a) or (b) above.

So far as concerns the **Holder** whose age is under sixteen years the amount payable under Insurance Coupons in respect of the same period shall not exceed £50 for item (a) nor £5 a week for item (d) nor £5 a week for item (f).

For the **Holder** whose age is under five years no amount shall be payable hereunder for item (a) and (b).

The total sum payable hereunder shall not exceed £5,000.

calculated from the date of the injury. Until the total has been agreed no amount shall be payable in respect of any of items (a), (e) and (f).

If during the period of insurance any aircraft or surface transport vehicle in which the **Holder** is travelling as a passenger is delayed

should be immediately attended without additional premium for each additional day as may be reasonably necessary for the completion of the journey.

CONDITIONS

- No claim shall be payable hereunder if the **Holder** is more than seventy-five years of age.
- The Company shall not be liable hereunder in respect of injury consequent upon:
 - war or invasion act of foreign enemy hostilities (whether war be declared or not) or civil war, rebellion, insurrection, strike or military or usurped power;
 - outside or self injury whilst exposure to peril (except in an attempt to save human life) or the **Holder** engaging in usual work in connection with a profession or business or trade whilst sports, mountaineering, racing (other than on foot) or other hazardous adventure;
 - the **Holder** being in or on or entering into or descending from any aircraft other than a fully licensed passenger-carrying aircraft in which he is travelling as a passenger other than as a member of the crew and not for the purpose of undertaking any trade or technical operation therein or thereon;
 - pregnancy or childbirth or pre-existing physical defect or infirmity or disease or illness.
- Written notice shall be given to the Company or to the Agents, C. T. Bowring & Co. (Insurance) Ltd., The Bowring Building, Green, Leeds, London, E.C.3 (if possible) but in any event within thirty days of the injury in respect of which a claim is to be made.
- Medical and other certificates and evidence required by the Company shall be furnished at the expense of the claimant.
- The Company shall be entitled under more than five machine-verified Insurance Coupons bearing the signature of the same **Holder** for the full period.

PRINTED PAPER
 POST CARD
 THE
 POST CODE!

H. S. GORDON
BUTTON DYERS
7, GOODGE PLACE
LONDON W.C.1

SM 0907

PERIOD 24 HOURS	PREMIUM 20p.
-----------------	--------------

IMPORTANT

This Insurance Coupon is NOT valid until it is:—

(a) completed by the **Holder**.

Holder's Name JOHN J. GOLDMAN
 (Captain)
Signature John Joel Goldman

(b) impressed with time and date by means of automatic stamp.

INSERT THIS END

Year 19 Mth. Day Time
 19 42

I have also a 'Railway passengers assurance Company' card with date stamp for 26th September 1955 which requires a stamp, and must also fit in the same saga. This card has a 'Stamp Duty Commuted' mark as does the 4d red.

I saw another of the 4d red Machin with 1p uprate in one of the Thematic displays at Stampex, Insurance by

Brian Sole. That one was dated April 1971, and also had no written address, but did have a receiving handstamp from the insurance Society concerned. So it appears as if those where customers failed to put an address on were delivered to the Insurance Company, and they came into the collecting domain from there. Not a philatelic concoction. The slogan postmark is real and they came through the post.

PLANS FOR BATH POSTAL MUSEUM GET STAMP OF APPROVAL **Press Release**

Thanks to a grant of £238,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the future of Bath Postal Museum is now secure. The grant will enable the museum to revitalise its collections and displays when it moves to its new site in Green Street, Bath later in the year. It is the only registered postal museum regularly open to the public in the UK and is dedicated to spreading the message about the history of writing and its development in communications.

The grant amounts to 90% of the estimated costs of the move and upgrading the exhibitions. Museum Trustee Colin Baker said "We are indebted to the HLF for this very generous grant which will enable us to realise our exciting plans for the museum. We are also grateful to Future Heritage of Bath for making the new site available to us at a rent we can afford, and Bath and North East Somerset Council for a handsome contribution to our matching funding. We would also like to thank the many friends who have contributed to our Phoenix appeal to raise money for the move and redesign."

Devon-based design consultants Imagemakers helped put the HLF bid together and will be designing the new museum, which will tell the story of 4000 years of communications in a way that will appeal to a wide audience. The museum holds many rare and important artefacts, including collections of Victorian valentine's cards and letters retrieved from shipwrecks, as well as information on key figures involved in the development of the Post Office and the history of the British post box and Post Office uniforms.

For further details, please contact **Colin Baker** or Ivan Holliday at Bath Postal Museum on 01225 460333.

WANTED:

Back Copies of the Journal

George King is interested in acquiring past copies of the Postal Stationery Society Journals numbers 1 - 19 and 21. If any member can help please contact George on 020 8398 7624.

Victoria 'Havelock-Fosters' Postcard of 1895

Raymond Kelly is producing a monograph on the above and would like to hear from anyone who has cards with interesting comments made by the writer re the advert, wilfully damaged and/or subsequently taxed cards and any other anomalies found in these cards. He can be contacted at P.O. Box 1162, Tewantin, Queensland 4565 Australia.

Articles in the Journals of other Postal Stationery Societies from across the World

Postal Stationery January/February 2006 (USA)

Great Britain's First Stationery Post Card
Unlisted GB Official Lettersheets
Denmark: Lettercard Essays 1888
Many Faces of the Die 11 Forgeries
Bands of Brothers Part 2

L'InteroPostale Winter 2006 (Italy)

...Vent'Anni Dopo
Cartolina con Risposta Pagata "Fai Da Te"
Usi e Abusi (III)
Notizie Notizie Notizie Notizie
Il Tortuoso Viaggio d'un Intero Postale Attraverso Tre Paesi
Un Saggio Inedito di Cartolina Postale Affiora su Internet

Die Ganzsache 2/2005 (Germany)

Deutsche Ganzsachen mit Firmenlochung
Die Privat-Stadtpost Stuttgart im Spiegel ihrer Ganzsachen
Gedenkpostkarten in deutsch-österreichischen (Misch-) Frankaturen aus der Zeit des "Anschlusses" in Jahre 1938
Neuheitenberichte 7/2005 - 12/2005

Postal Stationery Collector May 2006 (Australia)

Hungarian Postal Stationery Cut-Outs From 1890
Forensic Philately: Detecting Philatelically-Inspired Postally used Newspaper Wrappers
New Zealand Education Department Postcards and Envelopes
Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery
New Issues

BOOK REVIEWS

The following two catalogues are from the NGK (Neuer Ganzsachen-Katalog) series.

Katalog der Privatganzsachen Deutschland bis 1945. Joachim Strahlendorff/Peter Mette. Published by Berliner Ganzsachen - Sammler Verein von 1901 e.V. A5 480pp. Profusely illustrated in black and white with text in German. Available from Nobert Sehler, Kreuznacher Str. 20, 14197 Berlin. Germany.

This catalogue lists printed to private order envelopes, wrappers, lettercards and lettersheets (including those with advertising) and regular issues with private printing from the States, the German Empire, Weimar Republic and Third Reich, the Colonies, Post Offices Abroad and Occupied Territories. Note that postcards are not covered in this volume.

Those familiar with the Michel Catalogues will find the numbering and layout familiar. Each area is divided up into the type of stationery item (envelope, wrapper etc.) then subdivided according to the nature of the imprinted stamp. Further subdivision is according to the presence and nature of additional text - eg. Firm,

organisation, commemorated event, dates etc. (A system used effectively in the earlier Borek Catalogues).



Throughout the catalogue the left hand pages carry illustrations and the right hand pages the listings. The latter are systematically presented with good and effective use of icons (again familiar to users of the Michel catalogues). Each entry contains comprehensive descriptions to enable identification - eg. Size, paper colour, text etc. Where known, dates of first postal use are given. Cross references are made to numbers in the Borek catalogue. Prices, in Euros, are for items in good condition. Judging from the U.K. Market, these prices would seem to be on the low side. Appendices list items by place names and by topic. There is also a Bibliography. An excellent publication and easy to use.

Privatganzsachen Katalog 2005 Band I Berlin/DDR 2nd Edition. Karl Heinz Göpfert. Published by Berliner Ganzsachen - Sammler Verein von 1901 e.V. A4 244pp. Profusely illustrated in black and white with text in German. Available from Nobert Sehler, Kreuznacher Str. 20, 14197 Berlin. Germany.

This volume lists printed to private order envelopes, lettersheets, wrappers and postcards issued in Berlin and DDR since 1945. The pages are set out in 3 column format with illustrations above each item listed. An 8 page introduction describes the basis for listing using a three part identification 'number' for each item. This is similar to that used by the Michel and Borek catalogues. For each type of stationery item, envelope, wrapper etc.,

identification is according to the nature of the imprinted stamp followed by the presence and nature of any text etc. similar to that described for the first of the two catalogues.

All of the different imprinted stamps used on postal stationery are illustrated and each is cross referenced to the various pages where items with that particular imprint on are listed. Unfortunately the page numbers given do not tally and are possibly the page numbers from the *first* edition. This could be rectified by a 4 page corrigenda from the publishers. Where a special cancellation was used in association with the issue of the item, the date and post office concerned are given. Prices, in Euros, are for items in good condition. Once familiar with the structure of the listing and the abbreviations, it is easy to locate any particular item.

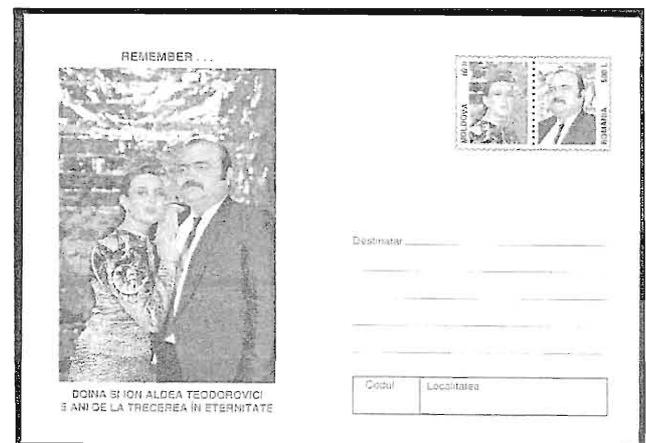
John Barker

QUERIES AND REPLIES

REPLY - Argentinian Lettersheet H&G G6 (February 2006)

Richard Zimmerman writes - "This Argentinian document issued in 1900 (no more precise date) was printed in honour of the visit of the Brazilian president Manuel Ferraz de Campos Sales to Argentina (October 17th to November 8th 1900). Even if the reproduction of the Brazilian stamp on the back side is a true copy of a definitive stamp, the cover could not be used in this country. One of the samples I have is cancelled on both stamps from Buenos Aires dated October 25, 1900 (first day of issue ?)

A true mixed cover was issued by Moldova and Romania on January 12, 1998 (see illustration). This



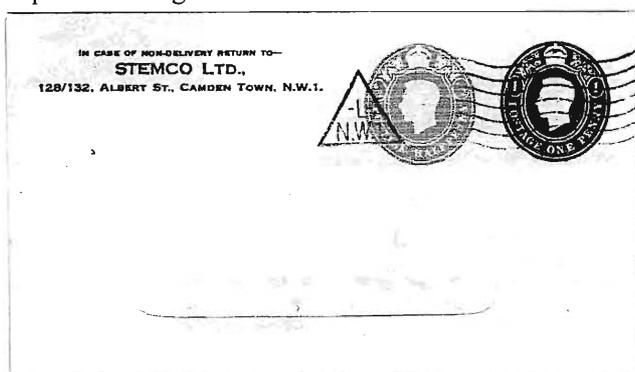
postal card that was issued in honour of the local singers Doina (1958-1992) and Ion Aldea (1954-1992) Teodorovici, both accidentally killed five years earlier. The envelope shows two adjacent stamps, one Romanian, one Moldavian, portraying each of the singer. Both country names are shown and currencies on each stamp are different. This cover was available in both countries and printed in quantity of 100,000, with 40,000 for Moldavia and 60,000 for Romania.

Actually this cover is to my knowledge the only so-called true "unique joint postal stationery".

One could also take in consideration the postal cards issued in 1869 by Hungaria and Austria, at that time two independent countries however governed by the same emperor. Both countries used during that period the same stamps, showing the Emperor Franz Joseph 1st, without country name, but denomination expressed in Crowns and abbreviated "Kr.", common to the two languages and corresponding to the German Kreuzer or the Hungarian Krajczar. So, stamps were not different in both countries, but when these same stamps were printed on postal cards, the difference could be seen in the rest of the text on the cards, written in local language.

I have to confess that answering this question was easy for me, as I am the founder and former president of the International Philatelic Society for Joint Stamp Issues Collectors created in 1992 (today 130 members in 22 countries) and that I very recently published the Catalogue of Joint Issues 2006 in which all these documents are described."

Bill Meredith writes - "Has any reader seen blue penny adhesive stamps used on cover or card for the 1d. printed paper rate? I managed only four copies, the duplicates are kept for exchange.



The blue penny stamps were issued with the colour change of our low values on the 3rd May, 1951. Of course, the dies for the postal stationery were changed at the same time.

At the time of the colour change the basic printed paper rate was 1d., but was increased to 1½d. on the 1st June, 1951, allowing only 28 days for S.T.O. material to be presented at stamp offices for the blue 1d. to be used (unless it was done by favour after the 1st June).

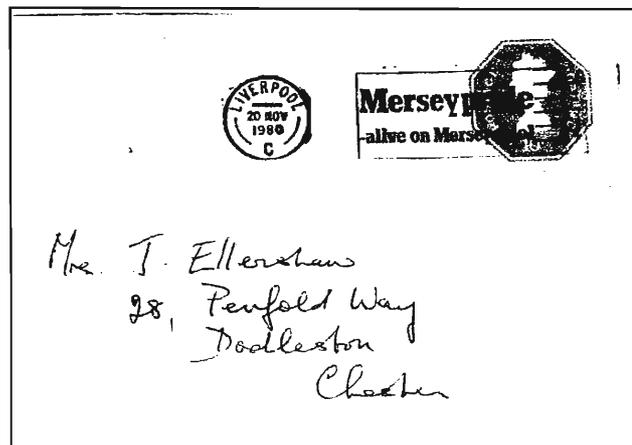
I did not expect to find an embossed or letterpress blue 1 d. unused or used on a P.P.A. item obtained during that very short period until January, 2006, when I bought a box of a few hundred mixed covers at auction and the cover photocopied above was among them. Imagine my delight at finding such a gem. The only downside is the triangle postmark so we don't know when it was used. All my other Stemco covers have dated postmarks which makes me think that this triangle was incorrectly used, which often happened.

At first I thought the two stamps together would be scarcer than the single 1d. on cover, but it need not be. If a quantity of 1d. stamped envelope shapes were obtained and later returned to the Stamp Office for uprating to the

1½d. rate they may be more common than those with a single 1d. Stamp.

Finally, if any member has knowledge of, or even possesses any of these scarce items please let me know, or with price, if you have any spares on 01604 647833.

The Post Office ended the S.T.O. service in 1971. The highest value die for letterpress stamps was 5p. How then was the N.B.T.S. able to have these covers stamped with a 10p. stamp nine years later? The 10p rate applied to first and second class mail between the 20th of August, 1979 and the 25th of January, 1981. The 10p die was produced for the Post Office Stamped Stationery which continued to be supplied until the end of the 15½p rate on the 4th of April, 1983. A friend who sent me this cover for enquiry about its origin wondered whether the N.B.T.S. made an arrangement with the Post Office, similar to that made with the Readers' Digest years earlier when multi-value coil stamps were issued. The difference being that the Readers' Digest coils were publicised and sold by the Philatelic Bureau while whatever arrangements were with the N.B. T.S. appears to have been clouded in secrecy.



Alan Huggins replies:

The 1d blue + ½d orange STO envelope has been listed as ESC818 since 1970 in British Postal Stationery. Examples are scarce and this combination can also be found on letter-sheets.

The 10p orange used by the National Blood Transfusion Service has also been known for some years and a number of examples have been seen used with or without additional adhesive stamps. This item has been given the number ES112 in the new listing. Unused examples of envelopes with the 11½p and 14p are also known but to date no used items have turned up.

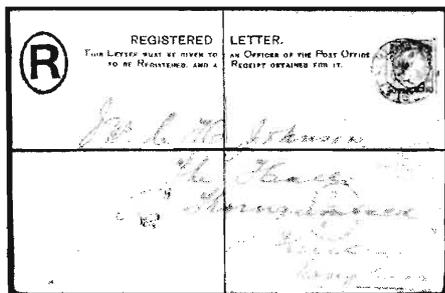
The circumstances under which these items were prepared in stamped to order form is unclear since theoretically the service did not exist between 1971 and 1983 when it became possible for private users to have 1st and 2nd class NVI (non value indicator) stamps printed in a range of colours on their own style or size of envelope card or label. Obviously special arrangements were made between the Post Office and the user. in this case the NBTS.

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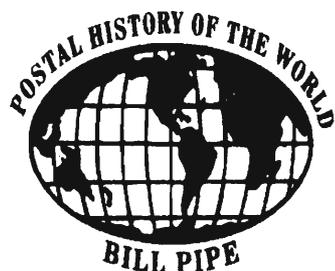
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