



# THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

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## Journal Vol. 17, No. 1 February 2009 (Serial number 49)

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Another Bogus Postcard used for Advertising – see page 21

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## The Management Committee

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

### OFFICERS:-

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	Edward Caesley Trepheane House 5 Tenderah Court Church Hill HELSTON Cornwall TR13 8NP
<b>DEPUTY CHAIRMAN</b>	Michael Lockton
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<b>TREASURER</b>	John Fowler 6 George Street, BRIDLINGTON, East Yorks. YO15 3PG
<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	John Barker Neil Sargent Michael Smith

### POST HOLDERS

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**The Postal Stationery Web site: [www.postalstationery.org.uk](http://www.postalstationery.org.uk)**

## SOCIETY CALANDAR 2009

### Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2009

At the meeting room in the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, starting at 10.30 am and finishing at approx. 4.00 pm. Members who would like details of how to get to this location should contact the secretary.

Our auctioneer, **Neil Sargent** will give a display on the postal stationery of Barbados. Neil always has much unusual material in his collections and this promises to be no different.

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 32 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 £10-15 each, including wine.

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009

At **Worpex**, Oldbury Park Primary School, Oldbury Road, St John's, Worcester WR2 6AA. 1.30pm. 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 **Worpex** which will open from 10.00am to 4.00pm

### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009

At **Swinpex**, St Joseph's Lower School, Octal Way, Swindon SN3 2LR, 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** will be open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm

### Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup> 2009

At the meeting room in the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. Members who would like details of how to get to this location should contact the secretary.

10.30am. Viewing of the society's auction lots for the auction to be held in the afternoon.

11.00am Society's AGM

12.00 Tony Chilton competition judging, followed by the presentation of the Tony Chilton salver

12.30pm Lunch in a nearby restaurant.

2.00pm The society's "live" auction to be conducted by Neil Sargent.

The meeting is expected to close by about 4.00pm

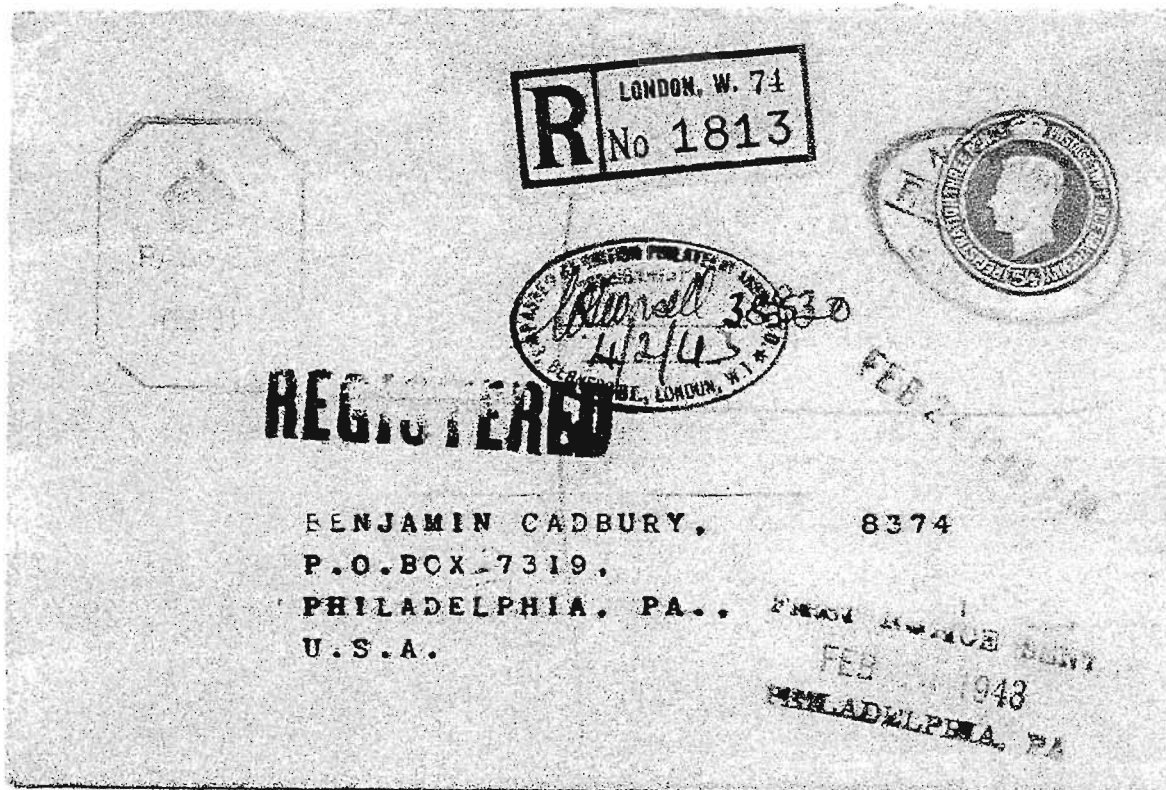
## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT – FEBRUARY 2009

My offering this issue is a Stamped to Order cover sent to the U.S.A. during World War II. It is surprising how our hobby has continued during periods of conflict. There are a number of interesting items on this cover. Firstly the "Registered" cancel is undated, this was due to regulations bought in during 1941 as rubber was needed for military uses. The oval cachet was applied by the "British Philatelic Association Ltd" as during the war all stamps which were exported came under the appropriate exchange controls and this scheme was administered by the B.P.A. Covers can be found with this cachet dated in the 1950's as the "Exchange

Control Act" was not repealed until 1963. The registration label "LONDON W.74" was issued to the B.P.A. to enable them to make bulk postings of registered mail.

I hope that the Societies meeting to be held at the Royal Philatelic Society London on March 21<sup>st</sup> will be well attended as I know that Neil's display will be very interesting. .

**Edward Caesley**



## SECRETARY'S NOTES - FEBRUARY 2009

Is it too late to wish you all a very happy New Year? I hope not, even though more than 10% of the year has already passed and we are now well into February. Despite all the troubles worldwide last year with banks and finance, I wish you and your circle of family and friends a prosperous 2009.

Well, Christmas has passed for another year and I trust you all celebrated the holiday in true style. Did Santa look after you properly? Did you get that Mulready you wanted; you know the one with the Penny Black nicely tied in the top right corner? Perhaps you were hoping for a couple of packs of Tesco envelopes, or the ones from W H Smith. Or was it some other piece of stationery that you needed to fill that awkward space in the collection. Never mind, if it did not appear in your stocking this year, there's always Christmas 2009, and I'm sure it will be upon us far too quickly.

We collectors in Britain are very fortunate to have the choice of so many stamp fairs to attend. There must be half a dozen a month in my area alone that don't require a full scale expedition to get too. As it happened, a week or so before Christmas my wife and I arranged to see some relatives who live near the coast. Looking at the list of stamp fairs revealed that there was one I had not been to before, and it was to be held in the town we were going to. This was an opportunity not to be missed.

Casting caution to the wind, we abandoned the storm proof tent, forgot about the water carriers and left the cans of spare fuel behind. I cracked the whip over the reindeer and we were off. My trusty SatNav guided us in the right direction. (You can't always trust some of those reindeer. All too often they're off to the North Pole before you can say 'Mince pies and a glass of sherry'.) I rather like the nice young lady who gives me all those somewhat strange instructions about keeping right and taking the third exit.

No, this is the voice of the SatNav, not my wife. Despite the abuse I sometimes hurl at her (that's the SatNav queen of course) she remains totally calm and is ready in an instant to 'recalculate' the route when I am not paying as much attention as I ought to. However, even though she took us to the correct address where the fair was to have been held, there was no stamp fair in sight. We drove up the road looking left and right, and then down again. Suddenly, staring boldly at us was a large sign with a big arrow pointing the way. Yes you've guessed it, a one sided sign, and we approached it from the wrong direction.

Undaunted, we parked the sleigh in a vacant slot; I gave the reindeer a few nuts to keep them happy and went in. I nearly had to mortgage the house to pay for the entrance fees. Well with house prices as they are at present that statement is not far wrong.

Now some ladies claim to have 'bad hair days'. On that particular Saturday I had a 'bad fair day'. I got the feeling that it was not going to be a very good day for me the minute I walked through the door. At least half the tables were filled with postcard dealers, with nothing in the way of stationery on offer. This was excellent news for my wife who dashed off with a look of ecstatic joy on her face. At least she would be able to find something.

I knew most of the dealers who were occupying the other tables at the fair, having bought items from them before. But as I walked around the room each of them in turn looked up, smiled a greeting and said 'sorry, haven't got any stationery with me today', or 'nothing new since you saw me last time'. I was beginning to despair. I was idly perusing one dealer's stock, waiting for my wife to finish looking through all the boxes of postcards she had managed to gather in front of her. This particular dealer sorts his postal history, including stationery, into areas or counties rather than reigns or categories. This means that all the postal stationery is spread somewhat thinly over his whole table. Another dealer that I have known for quite a while was passing by and mentioned he had some new material that I might like to look at. I wandered over and was given 'the box'. In it I spied this lovely postcard. It's a calling card for a firm in Leeds announcing when their representative will attend a customer's shop. But it is one that must be the most economical with words I have ever seen. The postcard is a Queen Victoria Post Office issue with the green stamp of 1901. Not the easiest piece of Victorian postal stationery to find. Printed on the reverse is a beautiful drawing of a large factory building, presumably the premises of the producer of this card, J & F Ibbotson.

The postcard, sent on 8 February 1902, is addressed to Messrs G L Watson & Sons, tailors, Flowergate, Whitby. It looks as though the card is addressed to Messrs Watson, but the writer of the card has a habit of not crossing his 'T's, which you can also see in the town name of Whitby. Despite spending some time on the internet, I have been able to find out very little about Ibbotson and nothing about Watson & Sons. If anybody can provide more information about either of these firms I would like to hear from them and anything pertinent that is found can be included in a future edition of the Journal.

Thus with said postcard in hand, I was at least partially satisfied at having bought something nice and it was time to continue the journey. I dragged my wife away



from the postcard dealers and just about managed to negotiate the car park, although not without trouble. Well, have you tried to get four reindeer to push back in unison, all at the same time? Fortunately my sleigh came with rear parking sensors, so that made it a little easier. Then with my two ladies to guide me to our next destination, we whizzed along the roads to our relative's house. More opportunity of course to vent my feelings about the directions I was being given. Can you really trust these modern gadgets? But I suppose I really ought not to speak to her too fiercely. It will not do me any good and she is so forgiving.

But Christmas is now a thing of the past - well for about nine or ten months anyway - and I must get the rest of my Notes completed before it comes around again.

**Regional Meetings.** Don't forget the three regional meetings coming up this year, details of which are given on the following page.

**March Meeting, Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2009** at the Royal Philatelic Society headquarters, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. The meeting will start at 10.30am with coffee and biscuits and finish at approximately 4.00pm.

Our auctioneer, **Neil Sargent**, will give a display on the postal stationery of Barbados. Neil always has much unusual material in his collections and this promises to be no different.

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.

Lunch will be taken in one of the restaurants close by and all members are invited to join in. The cost is not likely to be more than £10-15 each, including wine. After lunch members are asked to display up to 32 sheets on a

postal stationery theme and to give a short talk of not more than 10 minutes. There will then be time for viewing.

Members who would like details of how to get to this location should contact the secretary.

### One Sheet Competition.

The Society's One Sheet Competition will be held during the March meeting on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009. All members are eligible to enter and the rules are very simple. Entries should be on a normal album sheet or similar and must display one or more items of postal stationery. In order to avoid customs duties and the possibility of loss or damage, overseas members may submit their entry as a colour photocopy and this will be treated as if it were an original. If you intend doing this please make sure that all of the writing up and the postal stationery items are included in the copy area. Members may enter more than once, but each sheet will be judged as a separate entry.

The members present at the meeting will judge the competition on the basis of one man, one vote. In the event of a tie the current chairman (or in his absence the person chairing the meeting) will have the casting vote. The competition is simple, so let's have plenty of entries.

**Worpex Saturday 9th May 2009** at Oldbury Park Primary School, Oldbury Road, St John's, Worcester WR2 6AA

This major event in the Midlands will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm. There will be 32 dealers present, with plenty of stamps, postal history and postal stationery for us to browse through. Three of the 32 dealers who will be there are members of the Postal Stationery Society

The Postal Stationery Society has booked a room for the day and we will meet at 1.30pm. Members are invited to display up to 32 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of about 10 minutes maximum.

There is ample free parking and food and refreshments will be available all day.

More details about this event, including a location map, can be found at [www.worpex.com](http://www.worpex.com)

**Swinpex Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009** at St Joseph's Lower School, Octal Way, Swindon SN3 2LR. Swinpex will be open from 10.00am to 4.30pm, and there will be plenty of dealers at this event, so there will be ample opportunity to add to your collection. There will be an excellent catering facility run by Swindon Society. We are holding a meeting from 2.00pm to 4.00pm in a room just off the main hall when members are invited to display up to 32 sheets from their collection and to give a short talk of about 10 minutes.

**Midpex Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

This year Midpex is being held at the new Xcel Leisure Centre, Mitchell Avenue, Canley, Coventry CV4 8DY. The society will have a table at this event to promote the benefits of being a member of the society. The event will be open from 10.00am to 5.00pm with many other societies there besides ourselves. This year Specialist Societies are being encouraged to bring along many of their publications to make specialist knowledge available to all collectors. Back copies of the Journal and Society monographs will be available from the Postal Stationery Society table so you will not have to pay postage.

Many other Specialist Societies have published postal stationery catalogues and handbooks on their

specialist subjects and some of these have been reviewed in our Journal over the years. **Midpex** provides members with a unique opportunity to have a look at these publications so that they can make their minds up as regards purchasing.

Apart from meeting up with fellow members, this is an opportunity to learn more about your hobby and to add to your collection from the many dealers who will also be present. Details of **Midpex** can be found on the web-site: [www.midpex.co.uk](http://www.midpex.co.uk)

**Society's Meeting in October.** If you filled in your diary or calendar over the Christmas/New year period you would have realised that there was a problem with the date of our meeting in October this year. The 23<sup>rd</sup> October is a Friday, but our meeting is on the Saturday. This was a typing error and I can confirm that the meeting, which includes the society's AGM, Tony Chilton competition and society auction, is booked for **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009** at the Royal Philatelic Society's building in London. More details of this event will be issued with the August Journal.

**Society's Officers.** When I looked back at last year's AGM report, published in the November 2008 Journal, I realised that I had merely mentioned that the society's officers and committee members for 2008/9 were elected unopposed and I had not listed their names. So to correct that mistake, these are the people who are running the society for the year. The contact details for many are on the inside front cover as usual, but if you want to write to the others you may do so through me (Colin Baker).

### Society Officers:

Chairman – Edward Caesley  
Deputy Chairman – Michael Lockton  
Secretary – Colin Baker  
Treasurer – John Fowler

### Committee Members:

John Barker (Journal Editor)  
Neil Sargent (Auctioneer)  
Mike Smith (past chairman)

**New Members.** We have already had collectors join the society this year and we would like to extend a warm welcome to the following.

**Mr Jacob Larsen** from Denmark, who collects Danish postal stationery.

**Richard Redman** from Middlesex, who collects British postal stationery.

**Michael Kipling** from Sussex, who collects King Edward VII British postal stationery and their overprints.

We also welcome **Mr Warrender** to the society.

The society always wants to encourage as many people as possible to join, so if you know of anyone who might be interested or you are going to give a talk to a society on postal stationery, please ask the secretary to give you some information leaflets, with application forms attached, so that they can be handed out to interested collectors.

Well that's all I have for you this time. The editor has requested that when I write my next set of secretary's notes, I do so before that extra glass of sherry. I will see what I can do.

Colin Baker

# EVOLUTION OF GERMAN VIEW CARDS – THE HINDENBURG MEDALLION HEAD.

John Barker

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 1932 a new design, the Hindenburg Medallion Head, was used for the definitive adhesive stamps and for imprinting postal stationery. The use of the Hindenburg Medallion Head continued until the end of July 1941 when it was replaced by the Hitler Head design.

Prior to this 11 series of View Cards with 282 different views had been issued during the period 1926 to 1932. These issues are described in Vol. 16 Nos 2 & 3 of

this Journal. With the Hindenburg Medallion Head imprint, 5 series of view cards were issued containing a total of 1476 different cards.

The first of these, **Series 12**, was issued in 1933 and was identical in all respects to the previous series No.11 except for the imprinted stamp. This series had 78 different views.



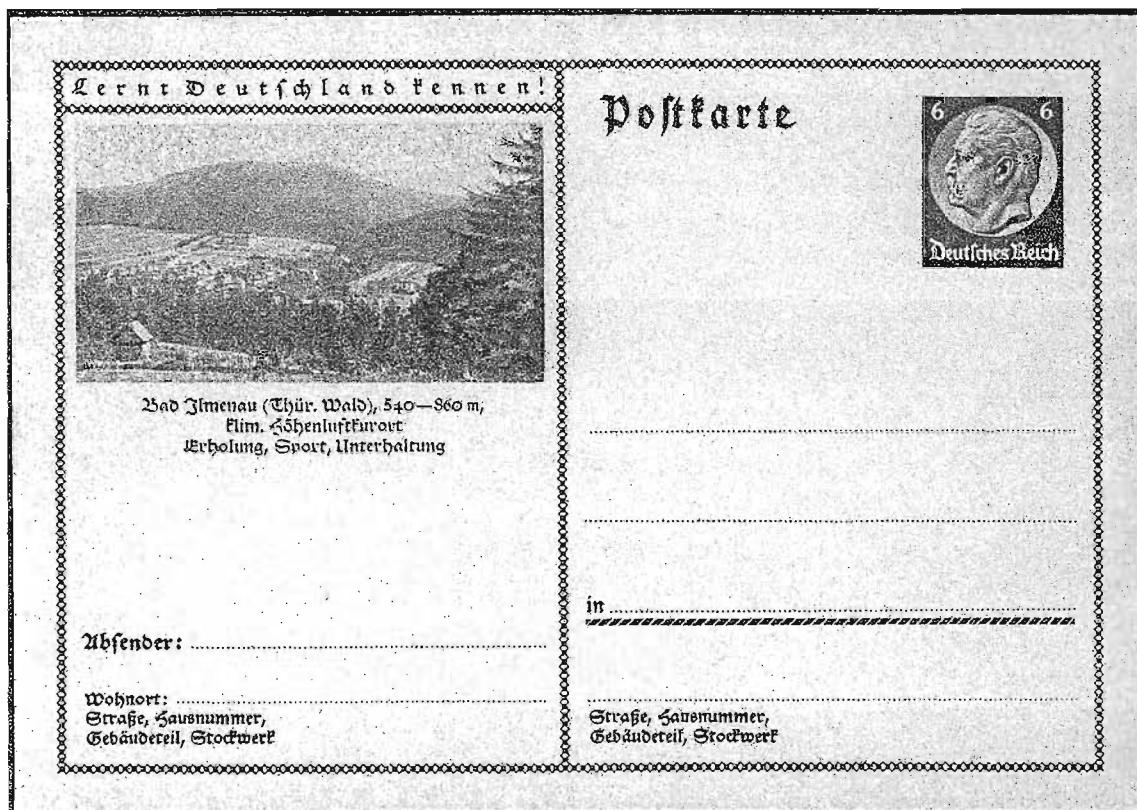
## The Twelfth Series – 78 different views, the first series with the Hindenburg Medallion Head

**Series 13**, containing 9 different views, was issued in 1934. Changes had been made to the heading 'Postkarte'. The 'e' of 'Postkarte' had a shorter tail. A similar shortening to the tail of the letter 'e' of 'Postkarte' had occurred in series 6 & 7, but the long tail returned for series 8 to 12. However in Series 13 change was only made to the letter 'e' and not to the rest of the lettering as had been the case with Series 6 & 7. With the shorter tail, the heading 'Postkarte' looks better balanced. A similar change was made to the definitive cards.

By 1934 the German View Card had evolved into a flourishing entity, aesthetically pleasing and popular with the public. Over the previous few series, with the stabilizing selection of the style and format of the cards, there seemed to be little pressure to change anything other than some fine detail in search of perfection.

**Series 14** was issued soon after the previous one and contained 144 different views. As with the evolution of the Giraffe whose neck is reputed to have got longer and longer over the generations and is often used as an example for popular explanations to illustrate the evolutionary theories of Darwin and Lamarck, so the 'tail' of the 'e' of 'Postkarte' got shorter and shorter! 'Selection' was taking place as the tail of the 'e' in Series 14 was even shorter than that in Series 13. However, careful examination of cards from Series 14 reveals that not all cards are the same. Some have the 'e' with a tail 1.4mm long whereas others have a tail of only 0.8mm long. Which of these was to be the 'pedigree' standard that selection was moving towards?





The Thirteenth Series – 9 different views  
Shorter tail to 'e'



The Fourteenth Series – 144 different views  
Tail of 'e' 0.8 mm long

(To be continued)

## GREAT BRITAIN POSTAL STATIONERY - A W.H.SMITH & SON ADVERTISING COLLAR MYSTERY

Alan Huggins

W. H. SMITH & SON were major users of the stamping to order service for postal stationery and used pre-stamped wrappers to facilitate the rapid dispatch of newspapers and other periodicals both within the British Isles and overseas. For a considerable period between 1862 and 1888 the embossed postal stationery dies were printed with a surrounding collar (ring) inscribed 'W. H. SMITH & SON 186 STRAND LONDON', the same collar being used for the various values (see Huggins 1965, 1970).

In his booklet on Advertising Rings published in 2000 Richard Arundel listed a 3d value with '185' instead of '186' in the address and states 'This Advertising Ring appears to have been produced with the wrong address, 185 instead of 186' and rated the variety at 5x that for a ring with '186' Very recently, through the courtesy of a fellow collector Peter Griffin I have been able for the first the time to examine two cut-square examples of this 'variety'. As a result I am able to conclude that they are not genuine embossed W.H. SMITH & SON advertising collars at all but are quite well executed reproductions of some kind.

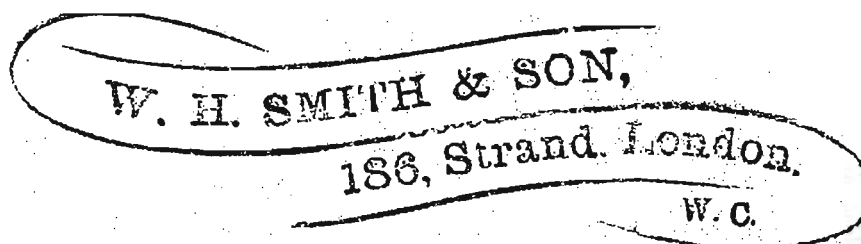
There are a number of points of difference between the reproductions and the genuine items - see illustrations. Firstly neither the stamp image nor the collar is actually

embossed. Secondly the stamp is dated 12.2.66., a date which falls within the period when the collar had cracked indicated by the white line between the '&' and 'S' of 'SON' (see illustration), but which is absent on the reproduction. Thirdly the lettering around the collar is squatter and thicker on the reproduction. Fourthly the pendant curl of Queen Victoria's hair differs markedly from that of the genuine stamp. Finally both examples of the reproduction are cancelled by what appears to be a diamond of thin bars which does not match any of the cancellations found on genuine items.

Why someone should go to such lengths to produce such a realistic reproduction remains a mystery. As far as I am aware no other reproductions of advertising collars have been reported either as spacefillers for the early printed albums or as some form of advertising material.

### Bibliography

- Huggins A.K. (1965) GB Journal Vol.5 page 77; Great Britain Philatelic Society, London  
 Huggins A.K. (1970) British Postal Stationery, page 170; Great Britain Philatelic Society, London  
 Arundel R. (2000) Advertising Rings page 13; Richard Arundel Ltd., Woking





## GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

### NEW ISSUES

The revised design of the NVI imprinted stamp is at last starting to filter through on STO envelopes but has yet to become available to business customers via Royal Mail.

Through the courtesy of Colin Peachey I have seen 1st class C5 envelopes printed in green (25mm diameter stamp with yellow phosphor) and in blue (25mm diameter stamp with clear phosphor), the latter having been used by Royal Mail to send thank-you cards to children who had written to Father Christmas. Notably this item has no printed text on the reverse.

### NEW ITEMS REPORTED (page and item numbers from Collect British Postal Stationery 2007)

#### POST OFFICE SWIFTAIR ENVELOPES (page 11)

George King reports the following additional varieties:- 1987 Issue without 'Royal Mail' size DL, with blue inside (EPAS1b) with both straight and curved edges to flap. 1988 Issue with 'Royal Mail' below 'Swiftair' logo size C4 with both straight and curved edges to flap. The sender's address lines can be either 112mm or 127mm on the straight edged flap type.

#### STAMPED TO ORDER STATIONERY

A number of items have been reported, courtesy of Wayne Menuz, Philip Purchas, Malcolm Richardson and others, which are currently annotated as NR.

#### ENVELOPES

The following items have now been reported unused:

ES141a, 145c, 162b, 174a & 180 (pp.25,26);  
ESC90, 91, 93, 275, 280, 428, 436, 437, 452C, 466A, 489, 492, 503, ESCP691, ESC697 & 804 (pp. 28- 34)

The following items have now been reported used:

ESC19, 35, 75, 118, 129, 153, 160, 167, 200, 205, 223, 245, 264, 314 & 427A (pp.28-31);  
ESCP945, 970 & 1015 (pp.35,36)

The following items which were previously listed by Ascher, Morley or Nissen have now been seen:

ESC167 10d+2½d (17+16)	****	****
ESC1791½d+2d (14+20b)	****	NR
ESC189 ½d+2½d (18+21b)	NR	****
ESC254 2½d+1½d (21b+19)	****	NR
ESC277B 3d+2d (22a+20b)	NR	****
ESC33410d+1s (17+25b)	NR	****
ESC338 1s+1d (25b + 11)	****	NR
ESC428A 1½d+2d+6d (19+20a+24a)	NR	****
ESC444A 1½d+6d+2½d (19+26+21a)	****	NR
ESC450 2½d+2½d+1s (21a+21a+25a)	****	NR

The following are new items:

ESC105 ½d+2d (18+15)	****	NR
ESC106 ½d+2½d (18+16)	****	NR
ESC856 1½d+4d+½d (68+72+66) Wo	****	NR

As a consequence of finding the above item, on Page 34 of 'Collect British Postal Stationery': Renummer ESC856 as ESC857

Mixed dated and floret dies:

1½d+4d+4d (14+23+23) \*\*\*\* NR

#### ADDITIONAL FORMS OF MATERIAL:

ES27, 197 & 395 add 'L'; ESC759 change 'So' to 'S'; ESC890 change 'Wo' to 'W'

George King reports ES142b with clear phosphor bands and a new QEII NVI E8 2nd class envelope printed in grey (cf. 1st class ES166) used by Birmingham Midshires from c1998 with 25mm diameter stamp and either a pale blue or pale yellow phosphor band.

For many years a few very unusual embossed QEII compound STO envelopes and the odd STO postcard have filtered onto the market, the origin of which has been obscure. In particular these items included mixed sterling and decimal currency stamps and also some where one stamp had been invalidated by means of a red grille obliteration (see PSS Journal Vol.15 No.4 pp.16-19, 2007).

Very recently information concerning the originator of this material began to emerge and his son Alexander Brofos has now made available an account of the story behind their production between 1965 and 1971 by his late father Frederick Brofos. From reading this it is clear that the Inland Revenue Stamping Department at Somerset House and to a lesser extent HMSO Press at Harrow were persuaded to create some rather esoteric combinations of stamps. Unfortunately because only some had been seen previously the integration of these items into the existing listings poses some problems. Thus for the time being the tabulation below merely indicates what is included in the Brofos publication and where items are already recorded the corresponding CBPS numbers.

Tudor rose design embossed envelopes - 1951-61 colours:

1d+2½d	(77+79)	ESC891;
2½d+½d	(77+66)	ESCP886;
2½d+3d	(79+80)	ESC893;
1d+2½d+½d	(77+79+66)	ESCP964;
2½d+3d+½d	(79+80+66)	ESCP967;

Mixed Tudor rose and decimal Machin embossed envelopes:

2½d+½p	(79+102);	
1d+2½d+½p	(77+79+102);	
2½d +½d+ 1½p	(79+76+102)	ESCP969A;
2½d+½d+1p	(79+76+103)	ESCP969B;
2½d+½d+1½p	(79+76+104)	ESCP969C;
2½d+3d+½p	(79+80+102);	
1d+2½d+½d+½p	(77+79+76+102);	
2½d+3d+½d+½p	(79+80+76+102);	

Stamp cancelled by favour in ( ):

1d+(2½d);	2½d+(½d);	1d+2½d+(½d);
2½d+3d+(½d)		

Machin decimal embossed envelopes:

1p+½p	(103+102)	ESCP1003;
1½p+3p	(104+107);	
2p+½p	(105+102);	

2p+1p	(105+103)	ESCP1008;	Mixed Farleigh and decimal Machin stamped to order
1p+½p+½p	(103+102+102)	ESCP1016A;	postcards;
1p+½p+1p	(103+102+103);		5d+½p (L37+L49);
1p+½p+1½p	(103+102+104);		5d+1p (L37+L50);
1p+½p+3p	(103+102+107)	ESCP1016B;	5d+3½p (L37+L55);
1½p+3p+½p	(104+107+102);		5d+5p (L37+LS7)
1½p+3p+½p+3p	(104+107+102+107)	ESCP1019	

**POSTCARDS**

Post Office postcards Farleigh design uprated with additional stamps:

2½d CP109 + ½d L29;                      2½d CP109 + 1½d L31;  
 3d CP111 + 1d L30 CSP201A;

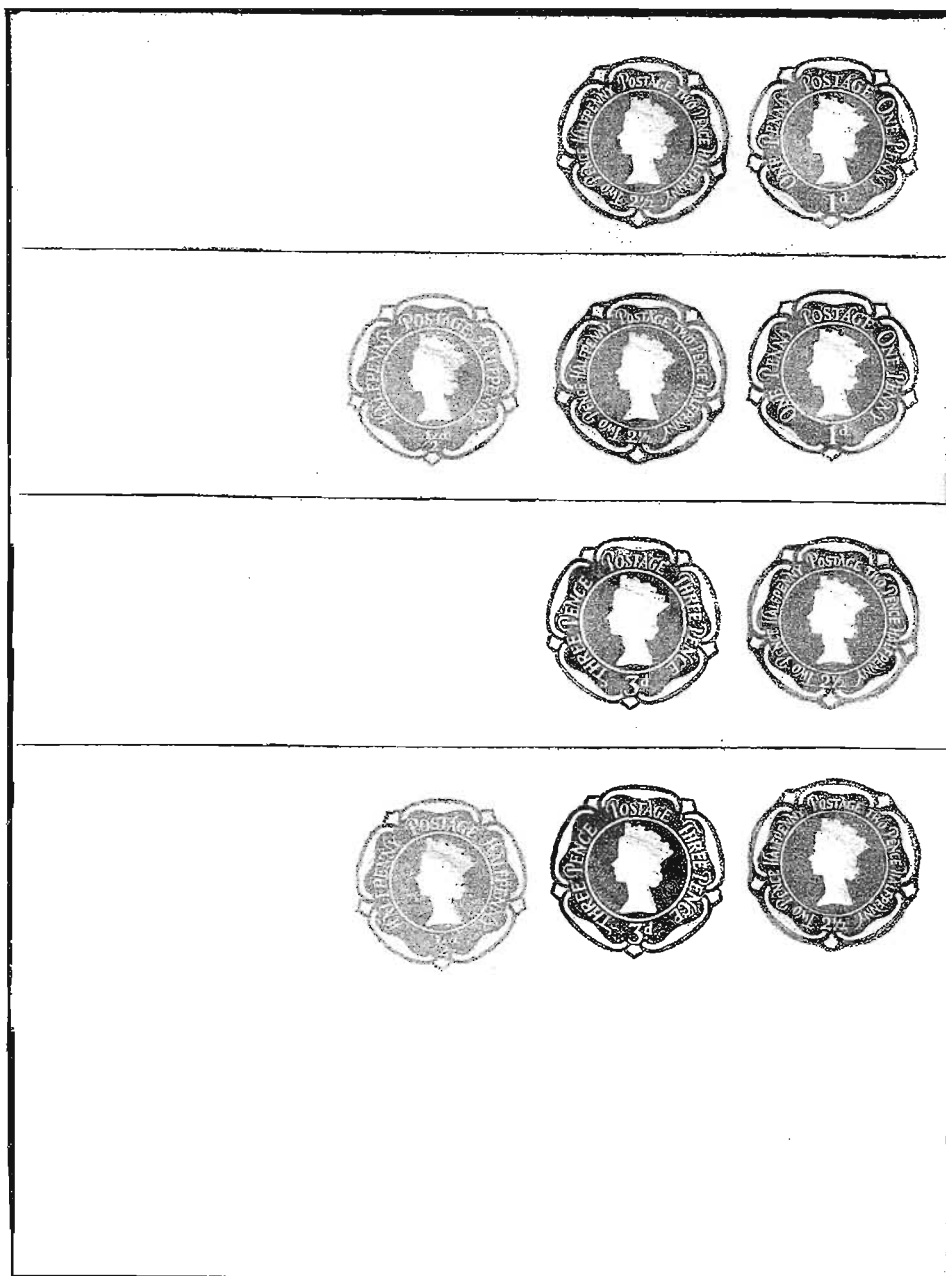
Stamped to order postcards size g with various British Monarchs, Crown Jewels etc. on picture side:

½d+1½d+2d (L29+L31+L32) CSP186;  
 5d (L37);

Decimal Machin stamped to order picture postcards size g:  
 ½p (L49);      1p (L50);      3½p (L55);      5p (L57);  
 ½p+½p (L49+L49);      ½p+2p (L49+L52);  
 1p+½p (L50+L49);      1p+3½p (L50+L55);  
 1p+5p (L50+L57);      2p+2p (L52+L52);  
 ½p+ ½p+2½p (L49+L49+L53);  
 ½p+2p+1p (L49+L52+L50);  
 ½p+2p+3½p (L49+L52+L50);  
 ½p+2p+5p (L49+L52+L57)

Post Office decimal Machin letter cards uprated with additional stamps:

2½p LCP32+½p L49;      2½p LCP32+ 1½p L51;  
 3p LCP33+½p L49;      2½p LCP32+1½p+½p L51+L49



**ESC891**

**ESCP964**

**ESC893**

**ESCP967**

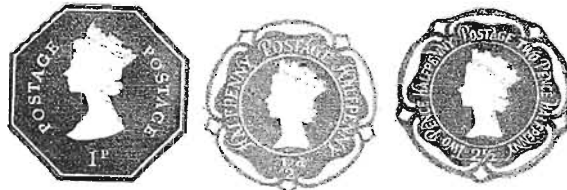
ESCP1003



ESCP1008



ESCP969A



ESCP969B



ESCP969C



**POST CARD**

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY (1250)

QUEEN VICTORIA (1819-1901)  
BY SIR GEORGE HAYTER

Only child of the Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III, and Mary Louisa Victoria, daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Succeeded at the age of 18 on the death of her uncle, William IV. Her reign was the longest in our history and covered a period of unparalleled social and industrial changes, while her remarkable personal qualities gave the English throne a prestige and popularity unknown since the reign of Elizabeth I.

ADDRESS

19 July 1865

H  
A  
(S)

*Wegene Paul  
Her Au die Post  
dargestandelt als ein  
Rohde von jg. jg. jg.  
Lied und unge. G.  
O. H. von 106. 8. 8.  
Da der vor jg. jg. jg.  
n. er hat h. 7. 8. 8.  
Lied best. und D. Victoria  
by Susan Hall*

Printed in Great Britain for the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery  
by Norman Brothers Limited, Cheltenham & London.



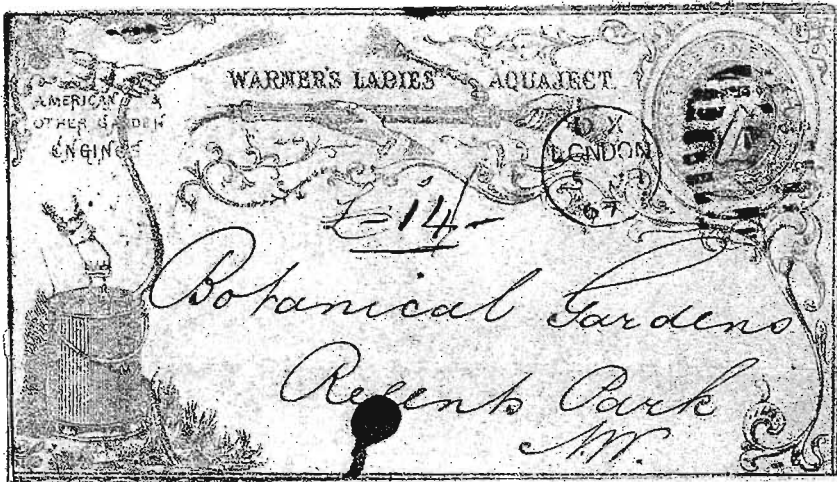
**CSP 186**

**WARNER'S ADVERTISING ENVELOPES**

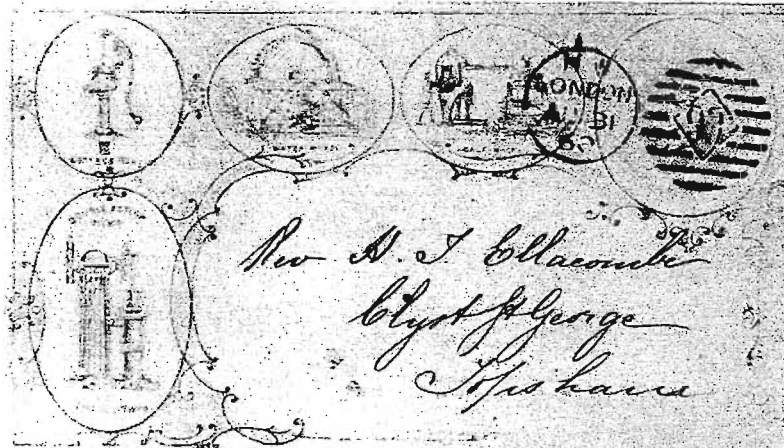
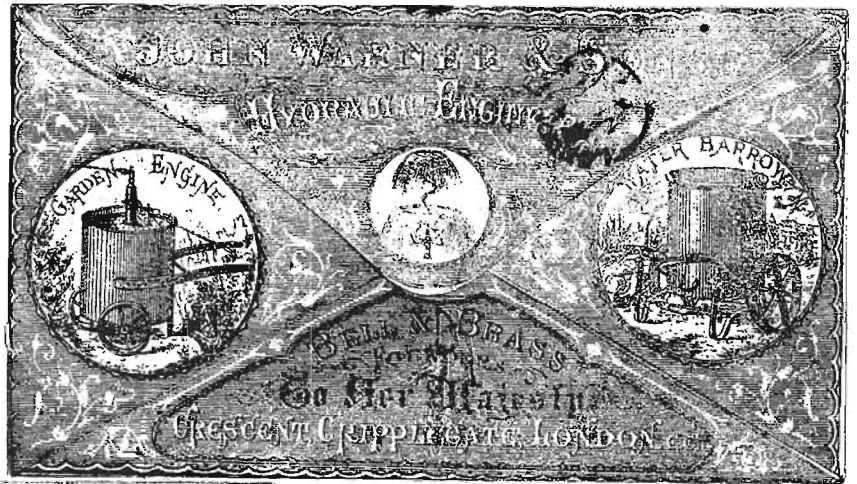
Edward Klempka has sent in a lovely example of a 1d pink advertising envelope with the caption 'WARNER'S LADIES AQUAJECT'. Used within London on 5.6.1867 the 1d pink embossed stamp is dated 25.5.67.

Another of Warner's 1d pink advertising envelopes used in 1860 is illustrated in 'British Pictorial Envelopes of

the 19th Century' by Bodily, Jarvis & Hahn (1984) page 301 and is reproduced on the next page with acknowledgement and thanks to the Collectors Club of Chicago.



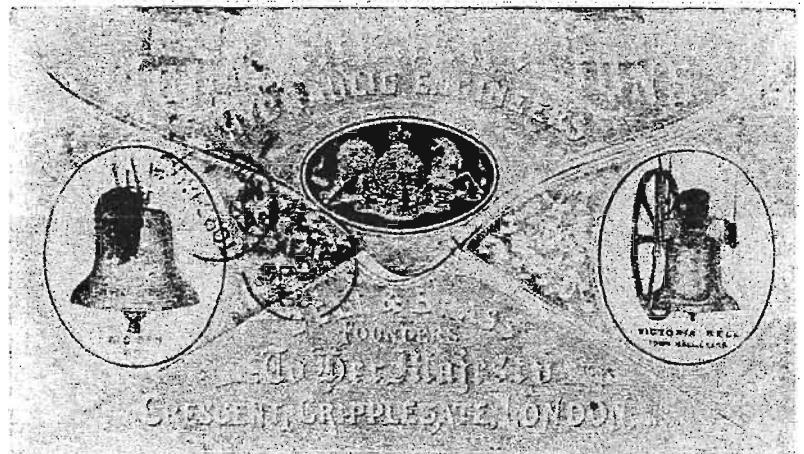
Used London  
5th June 1867



Used London  
31st August 1860

(Courtesy Collector's Club  
of Chicago)

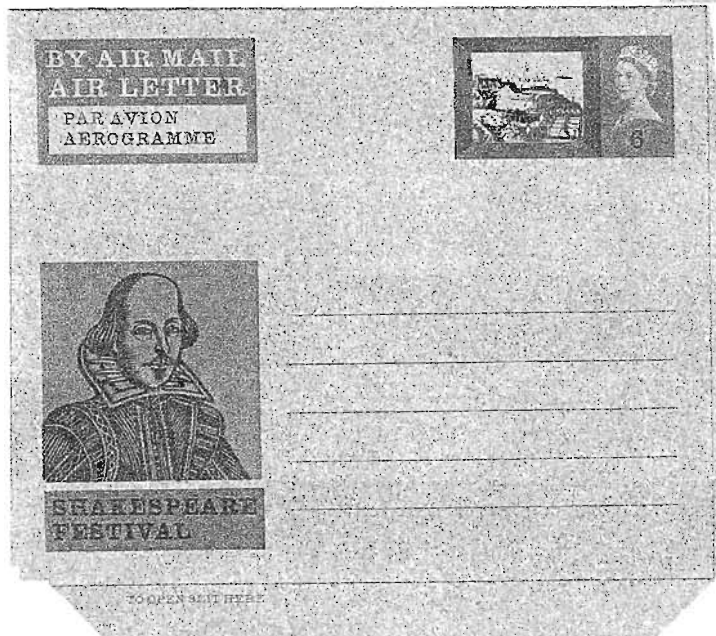
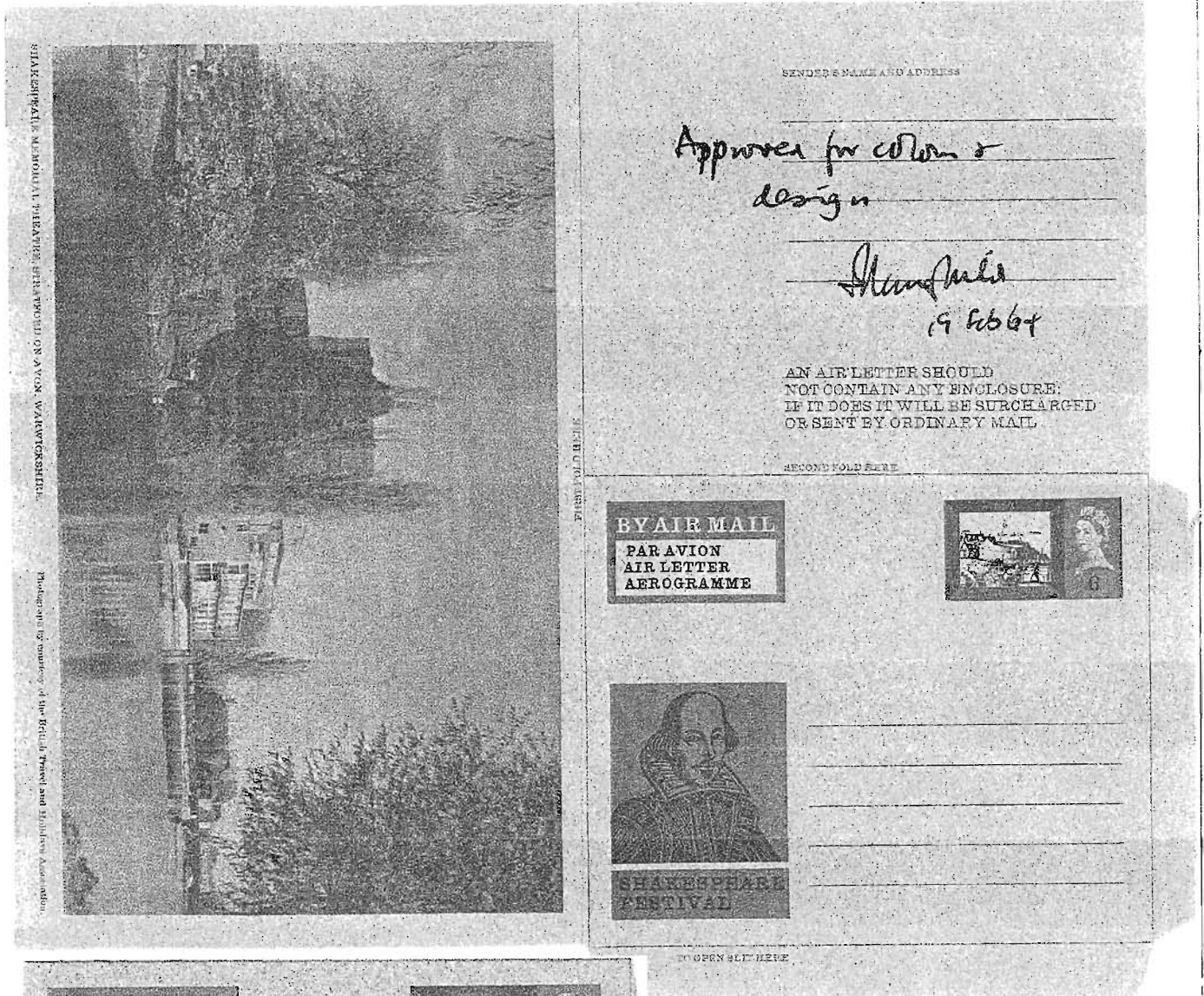
Charles Hahn collection



Charles Hahn collection

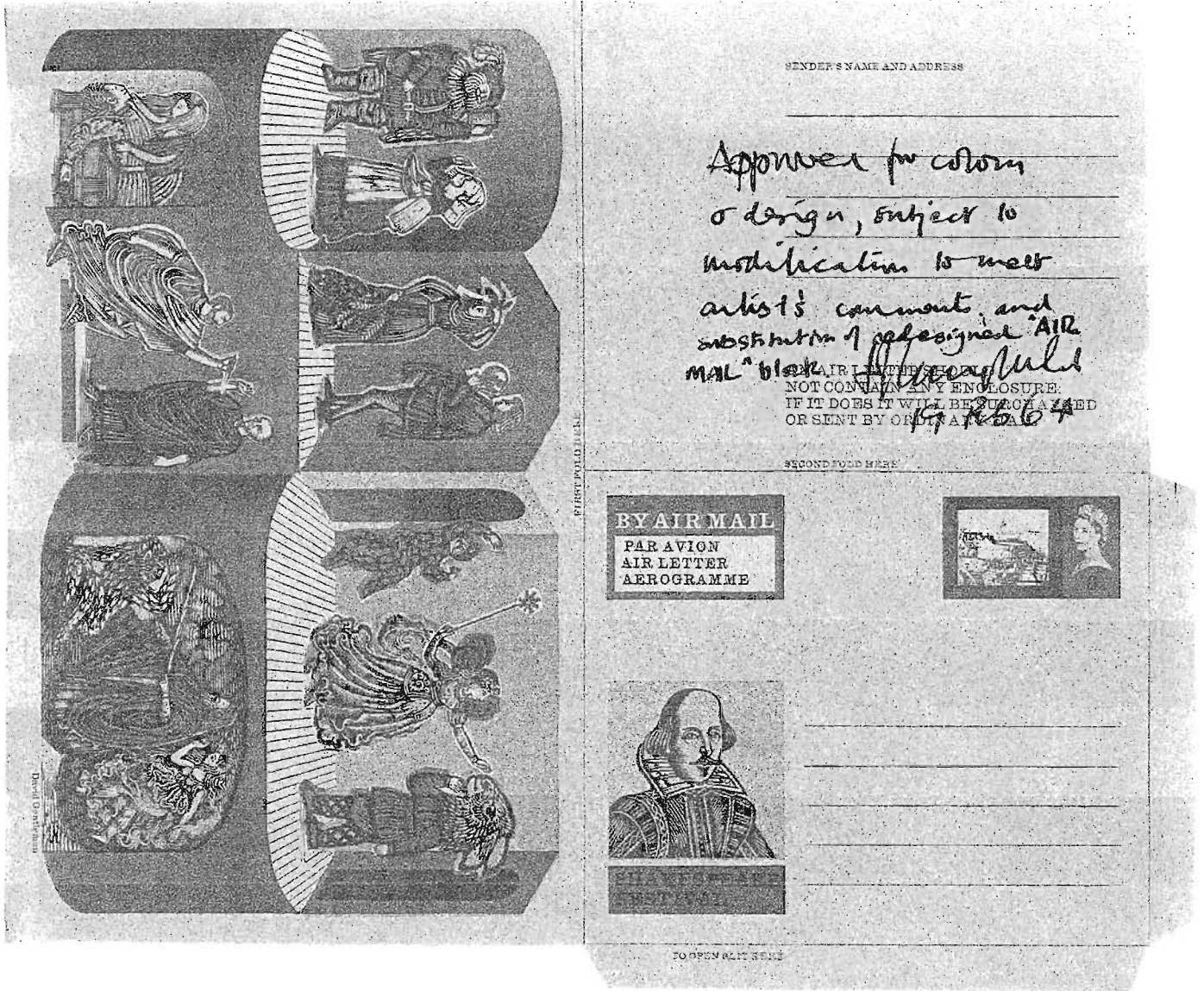
1964 SHAKESPEARE AIR LETTER PROOFS

Jerry Kasper has supplied illustrations of two proofs of the 1964 Shakespeare special issue air letters which were approved for colour and design on 19.2.1964 subject to modification to meet artist's comments and substitution of original 'AIR MAIL' block. For comparison the AIR MAIL etiquette used on issued items is shown.



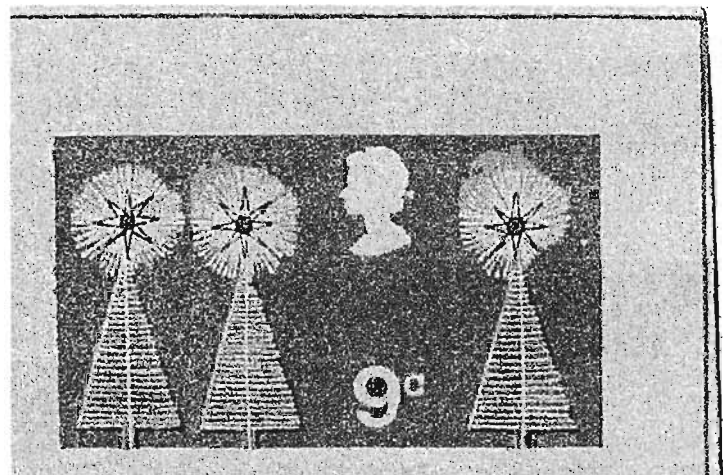
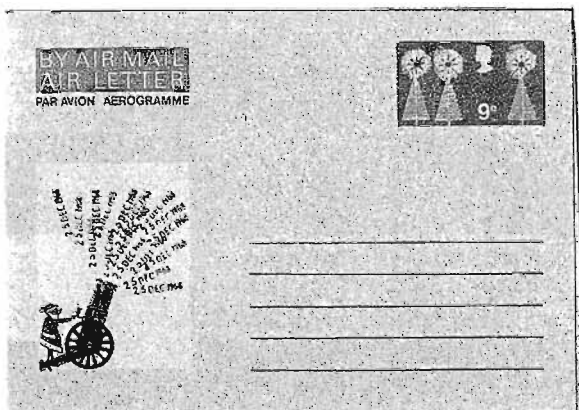
Above: - Proof

To the left:- The Issued item



**AIR LETTER QUERY**

Mr Olden has submitted the 1967 Christmas air letter illustrated which appears to have a face value of 9c instead of 9d and asks whether anyone else has seen an example of this variety which is quite striking. I suspect that this has arisen by a slight shift in the red colour which has blocked the vertical stroke of the 'd'.

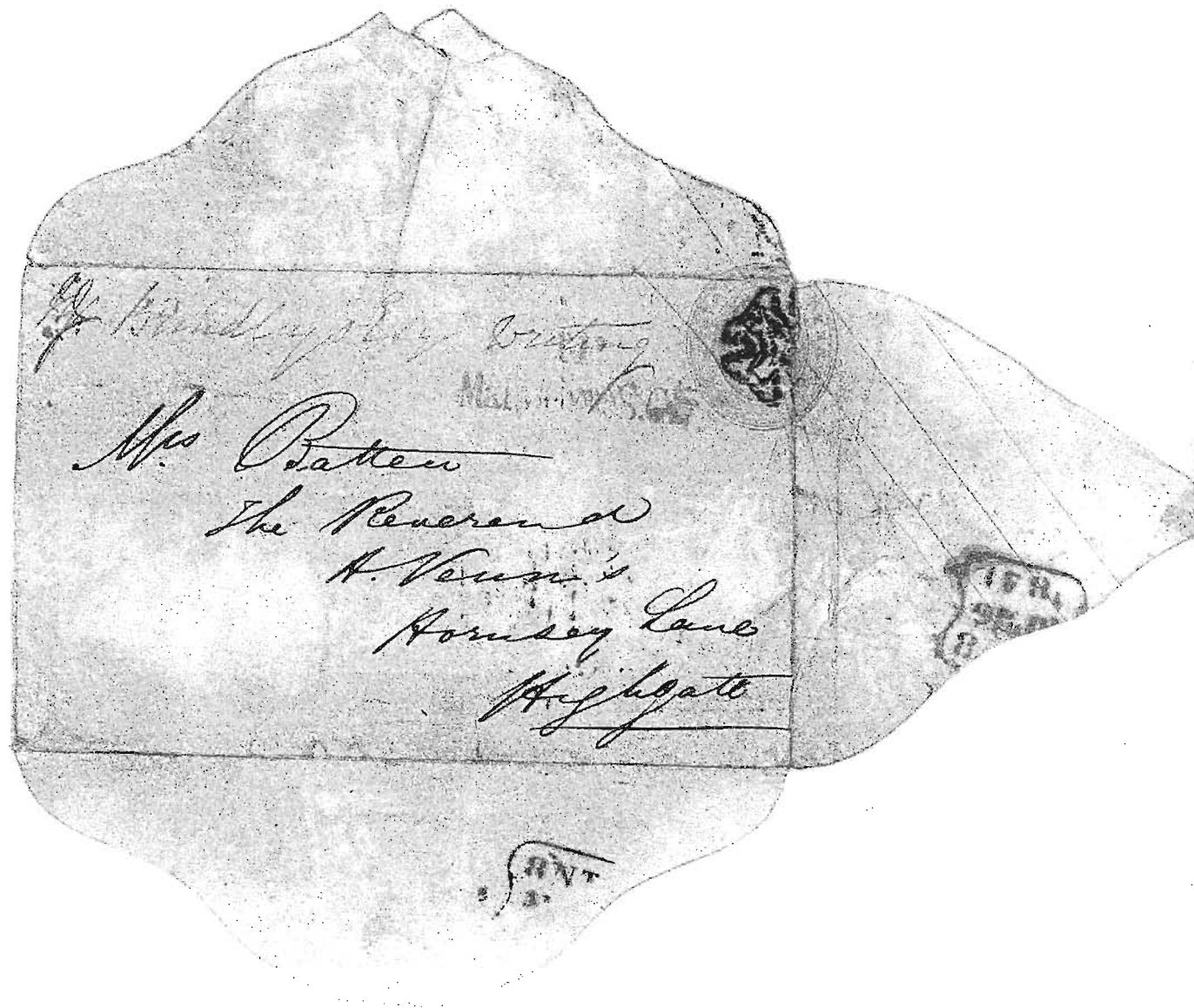


**1841 PENNY PINK - A PRIVATELY PRODUCED ENVELOPE SHAPE?**

**Michael Lockton** has recently acquired the 1d pink envelope illustrated which has a complex curved shape which is utterly different from the straight edged diamond-shaped blanks normally seen with this issue. The date of use, 26 April 1841 within London is an early one and while it is known that embossed envelopes could be obtained in uncut sheets (Huggins GB Journal Vol. 13 pp.77,78 1975) it appears this facility was little used. At present the exact

status of this item can only be speculated at, but it may well have been privately commissioned, although the rationale for this is not obvious since the normal issued envelopes were already available and the result was not particularly impressive part of the stamp impression being cut into.

Yet another postal stationery mystery, has anyone seen any other examples?

**SOCIETY AUCTIONS**

With this copy of the Journal you should have received the list for the May Postal Auction. If you intend to bid, please get your bids in early and read the notes on bidding on the back of the bid form. Please note the closing date for bids is noon (UK time) on Friday 1st May.

The second Auction in 2009 will be a room (and postal) auction to be held after the AGM on October 24th 2009. Neil Sargent, the Auctioneer would be pleased to receive quality lots for this and future Auctions. Please note that there is a minimum commission of 50p per lot. To contact Neil please see the details on p2. of this Journal.



# PRINTED TO PRIVATE ORDER – THE ELIZABETHAN POSTAL STATIONERY OF FREDERICK BROFOS

Alexander Brofos

## *Foreword by Frederick A. Brofos*

“Stamp collecting is the King of Hobbies,” but it has many side-shoots. One of these is Postal Stationery, where the postage stamps were printed on cards or envelopes. It was quite the vogue for a while in Victorian times, and they were listed in stamp catalogues, and spaces were included in stamp albums for “cut squares” from the cards and envelopes.

In time, the number of true postage stamps issued became so large that something had to be excluded. So, Postal Stationery and Revenue stamps were deleted. This made for a drop in the number of collectors for these “side-shoots” of philately. There were, of course, a number of diehards who went on collecting these things, fortunately for us. There were a very few stamp dealers who kept small stocks of stationery too. Indeed, there were a very limited number of enterprising dealers who also were foresighted enough to arrange for stationery printed to private order in the several countries that provided that service. Most stamp dealers were kept busy with first day and first flight covers which had become quite popular. From Germany, there were a few clever dealers like the Brothers Senf who also included Postal Stationery among their stock. In England, there was a dealer in Norwood, near London, whose daughter succeeded him in business. I met her at her table at one of the large stamp shows in London years ago and did some trading with her.

I recall two other British dealers who I did not meet but whose advertisements to sell printed to private order stationery appeared in America stamp papers. One had the idea of having cards printed se-tenant. The other had stamps printed on gummed labels. Cut out, these were promoted as genuine adhesive postage stamps. As for myself, I was a collector rather than a dealer, and was mainly interested in building up my collection.

I visited and stayed with English relatives in 1965 and 1971. It was during that time that I arranged to have various private postal stationery printed for me. These I took with me to America and they have largely been unknown to the general public except for one showing of my collection at the local Tri-State Collector’s Exhibition in Concord New Hampshire in 1980. It won the Grand Award for “Best in Show.” It is quite a nice feeling for a collector to have something unique and of course my British private stationery collection contained many items in that category which other collectors were unaware of and had not worried about. Another consideration that I had was to prevent duplication by other collectors or dealers who might drive the Post Office potty with small orders like I had done. Keeping things quiet for so long achieved these goals.

After fighting cancer for some twelve years, I eventually moved to Vero Beach, Florida, leaving most of my collections with my son Alex in New Hampshire. Recently, he got the inspiration to sell some my duplicates and publicize them. This new material was quite a sensation. The end of the era of postal stationery printed to

private order had already occurred about 35 years before in England as well as in certain other countries. Over the years a lot of exotic material had been produced in remarkably small quantities, which today are avidly sought by collectors around the world.

## **Introduction**

One of the earliest memories I had as a child in England was of being taken off to Her Majesty’s Stationery Office and Somerset House where my father was engaged in trying to get special printed-to-private-order stationery made. As a small boy of six or seven, nothing could have been more tiresome but in later years, as my own collecting interests matured, I have gotten an appreciation for the pioneering efforts my father made.

## **Inspiration**

At the 2008 APS show in Hartford, I was fortunate enough to buy Alan Huggins’ and Colin Baker’s excellent 2007 book “Collect British Postal Stationery”. For years I had enjoyed the earlier “British Postal Stationery” by Huggins (1970) and jumped at the chance to obtain the new volume. The new book was beautifully laid out and had a fine listing of all the known compound envelope types. I looked eagerly for listings of the types of stationery my father had made, but found that only a few were mentioned. I have written this monograph to show collectors these items and to share with them the story of their creation.

## *In the beginning*

### **My Father**

My father had always been interested in postal stationery; and compound envelopes, printed to private order, were a major attraction. A little-known British regulation dating back to 1855, allowed the public, for a fee and under certain conditions, to have stationery imprinted with postage stamps. In 1965, he decided that he might try to have some of these made himself and so he went to the Post Office in Harrow and there applied for a special warrant to have privately printed postcards with stamps. This warrant showed what kind of stamps were desired and how much their total cost was.

### **Her Majesty's Stationery Office**

My father found out that the only place to get postcards printed to order was at Her Majesty’s Stationery Office in Wealdstone, which was right before Harrow; not far from where we lived in Kenton. Her Majesty’s Stationery Office was housed in a huge rambling Victorian building with copper covered towers built in 1898. Three guard posts, two with time registers for signing in and out had to be passed to gain admission.

### *Post Cards*

#### **First Attempts**

My father arrived at Her Majesty’s Stationery Office with postcards of Kings and Queens of England that he had

bought from the National Portrait Gallery. The first ones he had made had 3 different stamps. He charmed the postal authorities into giving him several warrants and so he was able to go quite a few times. Then he got the idea of buying 2½p and 3p cards at the post office and ordered special stamps to add on to these; thereby making at least partially official cards. Of course in order to do this, the postal officials had to be convinced that the resulting rate was legitimate and this was accomplished by referring to a list of postage rates to foreign countries.

### ***Embossed Stationery***

#### **“You are Interfering with Commerce!”**

Her Majesty’s Stationery Office was only able to apply surface printing. Embossed stationery was printed by the Inland Revenue authorities at Somerset House. Somerset House is a big old palace on the Thames embankment and was, in 1965, a Government office where, among other things, the embossing of paper was done. Unlike the staff at the HMSO, the staff at Somerset House were less than happy to see my father coming. After he had done a lot mixing of this die and that and ordering only ten copies, the Director got fed up having to change the dies in the printing machine and said to him: “You are interfering with commerce! We have to print the oval 2d stamp on cheques and we have to stop that to do your special orders!”

#### **Raw Material**

A warrant however, had to be honoured and, like it or not, Somerset House wound up doing the envelopes anyway: There was one hitch. Somerset House didn’t want to wear their dies out by printing into a folded envelope, so one had to come there with unfolded blank envelopes. In addition, the envelopes had to be un gummed to avoid sticking to the machinery during printing. Unfolded and un gummed envelopes were a problem to acquire, and my father and I wandered all over London trying to find them. At length he found a stationer called Dickinsons who would sell these unusual envelopes to him. My father would leave them at Somerset House and then come back later when he would pick them up and drop off another order for eight or so envelopes. As each stamp had to be applied one at a time, many visits were required, and my father became well known at Somerset House.

### ***The Final Problem.***

#### **Tudor-Machin Stationery**

In 1971, when my family was visiting England again, my father found he had enough time to tackle the red-tape necessary to have special stamps printed on envelopes and postcards again. This feat, he had already successfully accomplished in 1965 when a Tudor Rose design was used on the envelopes and a square design on the cards. By 1971, both these designs had been changed to an octagonal type showing the new decimal currency. The old stamps were still valid until February 15, 1972, and could be used concurrently with the new stamps. Twelve old pence (12d) being equal to five new pence (5p).

#### **Machin Stationery**

Once the Tudor envelopes were exhausted, my father had stationery made with just the Machin dies.

### ***Firsts***

#### **What the Printer Said**

From his conversations with the printers, my father believed his stationery was the first time additional stamps were added to revalue regular Post Office cards (1965), and letter-cards (1971). He also produced the first envelopes and cards with a combination of old money and the new decimal currency stamps, as well as the making the first Elizabethan envelopes with four stamps and the first postcards showing three stamps.

### ***Errors***

#### **Undetected Errors**

During printing, two errors occurred which eluded the inspectors. One was a one and one-half pence albino (colourless) print on an embossed envelope, and the other was a post card with a misplaced print that overlapped another stamp.

#### **Detected Errors**

A few of the embossed envelopes were returned to my father with a special killer die that was applied to stamps that had been improperly employed or mis-registered. The offending stamps were obliterated with a counter-strike in red with a round die with criss-crosses. This did not happen very often, but evidently enough mistakes were made to warrant the creation of a special killer die. My father asked the printers whether they would use the round die deliberately on some of his envelopes and was turned down flat.

#### **Never say "die"**

My father, however, was very resourceful, and another place he used to go was to the Royal Court of justice where they had machines to emboss revenue stamps. This was where he got low value embossed revenue and adhesive stamps placed on paper for his collection. One day; he noticed that they too had a round criss-cross die in case they made a mistake, so I do believe that he took in two envelopes and had them cancelled with the killer die. The determined collector will always find a way.

### ***Postal Usage***

#### **Cancelations**

My father in his wisdom sent out a few covers to get cancelled at several stamp shows and unusual locations like the Houses of Parliament and the Channel Islands.

#### **On Herm**

In 1965 my father stayed a week in Guernsey and there bought some revenue stamps marked “specimen” for a couple of pounds. He then took a day trip on a motor boat to the island of Herm on the MV Cool-Cat. He asked to save the ticket which had an embossed revenue stamp of Guernsey and since the revenue was part on the ticket and part off, the collector let him keep the entire ticket. While on the island he walked around and picked up shells for his collection and wrote two letters which he placed in a funny letter box that was made from an old barrel. Herm Local stamps had to be affixed to the back of the envelope to pay for the passage back to Guernsey.

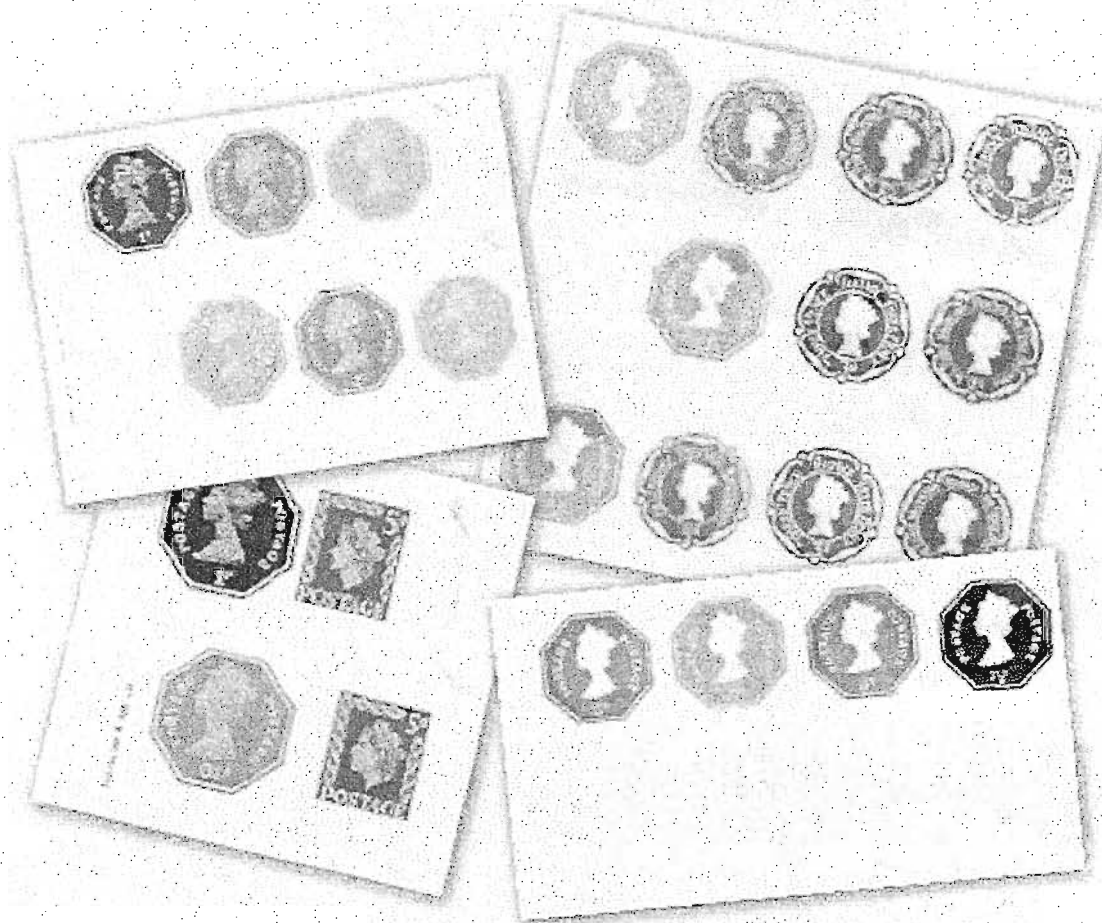
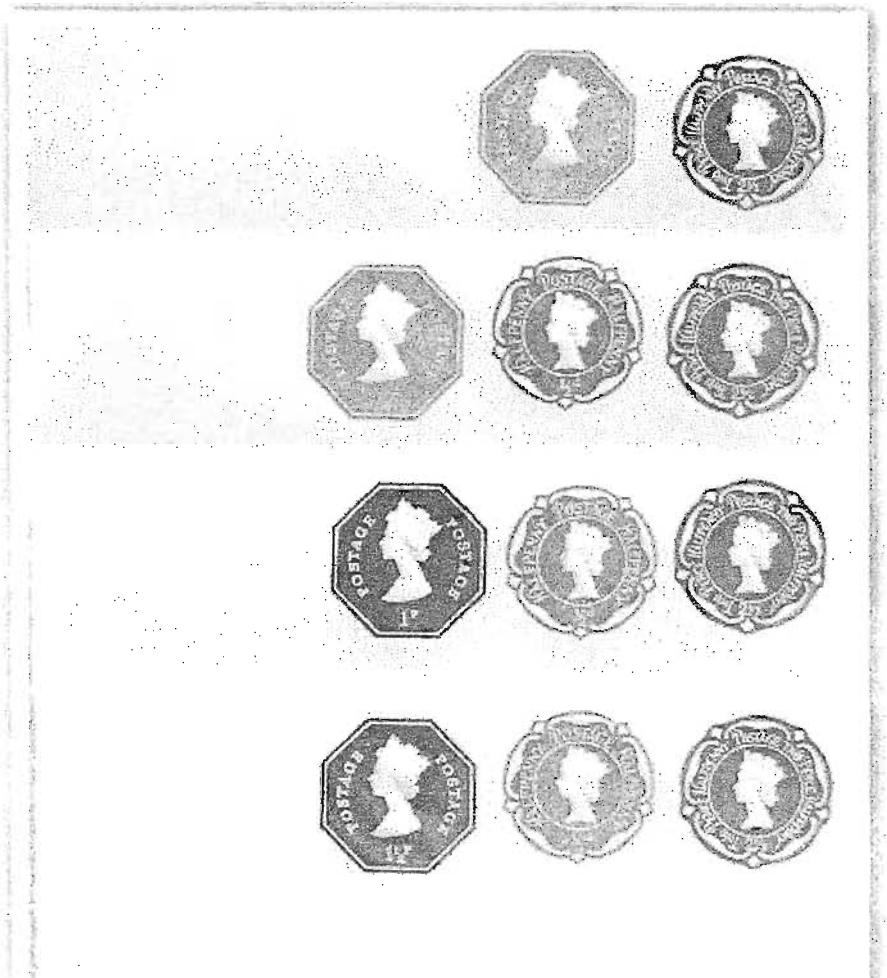
[Editor's note:

The original monograph produced by Alexander Brofos runs to 28 pages and is profusely illustrated in colour. As space in the Journal is limited, I have reproduced the text in full but restricted the number of illustrations. However some of the items illustrated in the monograph have been included in the preceding article 'GB Postal Stationery News'

Since writing the Introduction to this article we are saddened to hear of the death of Frederick Brofos.]

*First Envelopes  
Combining Old and  
New Currency (1971)*

A couple of illustrations taken from the Monograph and reproduced in monochrome.



## BOOK REVIEW

**INTERITALIA IL NUOVO NUOVO PERTILE: ITALIAN POSTAL STATIONERY SPECIALISED CATALOGUE 2008; Edited by Franco Filanci, Carlo Sopracordevole and Domenico Tagliente; 368pp.; Published by Laser Invest, Via Londra 12/14, CP29, 46047 Porto Mantovano (MN) Italy (2007). €25 plus postage. ([info@laserinvest.com](mailto:info@laserinvest.com))**

The title of this superb publication pays tribute to Luigi Pertile who is credited with revitalising interest in postal stationery in Italy. This work is the successor to earlier catalogues all of which were considered excellent at the time. However the present publication surpasses these and represents a benchmark for authors from other countries to follow. The standard of the colour illustrations is absolutely superb throughout so that even though the stationery items themselves are reduced in size, clarity is retained. All items are illustrated and where pictorial or advertising matter is present every view or advertisement is shown.

The introductory section is both informative and interesting and puts into context the approach to the collecting of postal stationery in Italy which has traditionally included the AQ sheets and Cavallini letter sheets within the postal stationery orbit. However other areas are also included which do not necessarily feature in other postal stationery catalogues, for example, International Reply Coupons, Postal Savings Certificates, Private Overprints and Commemorative Cards and Armed Forces Postcards and Letter Sheets without imprinted stamps. The latter is a major section covering over 70 pages and an eye opener to those collectors unfamiliar with this

type of material. The inclusion of the postal rate tables in the introductory section is another useful feature. Besides Italy itself the catalogue covers the postal stationery issued by San Marino and the Vatican and all the other territories with which Italy has been associated, each section incorporating a map to aid geographical identification. Somewhat surprisingly a list of contents is not included at the front, the rather abbreviated index at the back being the only guide.

Although naturally the text is in Italian there are footnotes in English which provide useful information to assist the reader understand the main listing which is relatively easy to follow when used in conjunction with the illustrations provided. The pricing is in euros and gives a clear indication not only of the relative scarcity of many items, but also of the substantial price levels commanded within this area of postal stationery, especially but not exclusively, in the immediate post-World War II period. Interestingly the pricing of the British Occupation of Somaliland registration envelopes appears conservative in relation to contemporary market realisations.

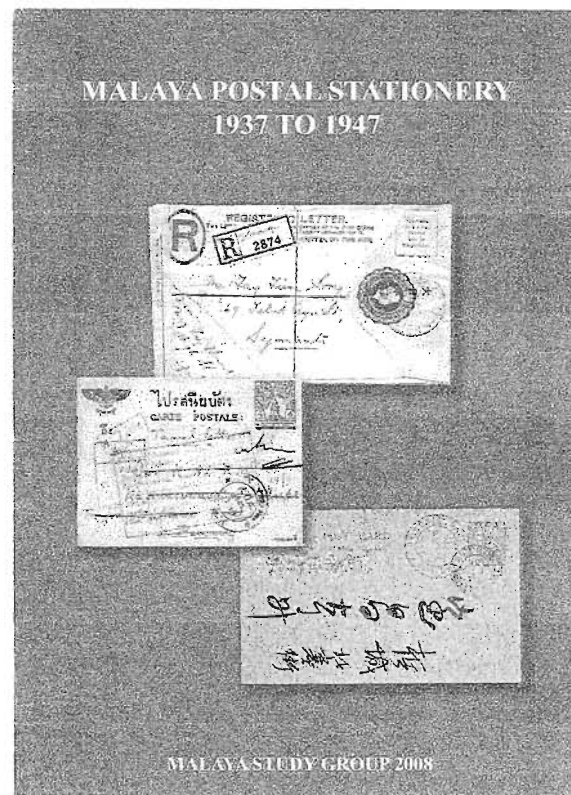
In summary this catalogue contains much of interest to all collectors of postal stationery not just those who specialise in the areas covered. All those concerned in its compilation and production are to be warmly congratulated on such a splendid result which is an extremely worthy recipient of the Lewandowski Award which is awarded annually by the United Postal Stationery Society for the best publication covering postal stationery.

**Alan Huggins**

### MALAYA POSTAL STATIONERY 1937 TO 1947

This new book is published by the Malaya Study Group, 93 pages of text and illustrations, with Scarcity Guide on all items. The scope is: Stationery in use in 1937, the 1941 provisional upratings, Imperial Forces in Malaya, Japanese Occupation and British Military Administration. It is the result of many years work by the Malaya Study Group, with information from members around the world, and is highly recommended to Postal Stationery enthusiasts, King George VI specialists and anyone interested in the philately of Malaya.

A4 size perfect bound in full colour. Available from Bill Pain, 1 Woodfield Grove, Streatham, LONDON, SW16 1LR for £18 + p&p



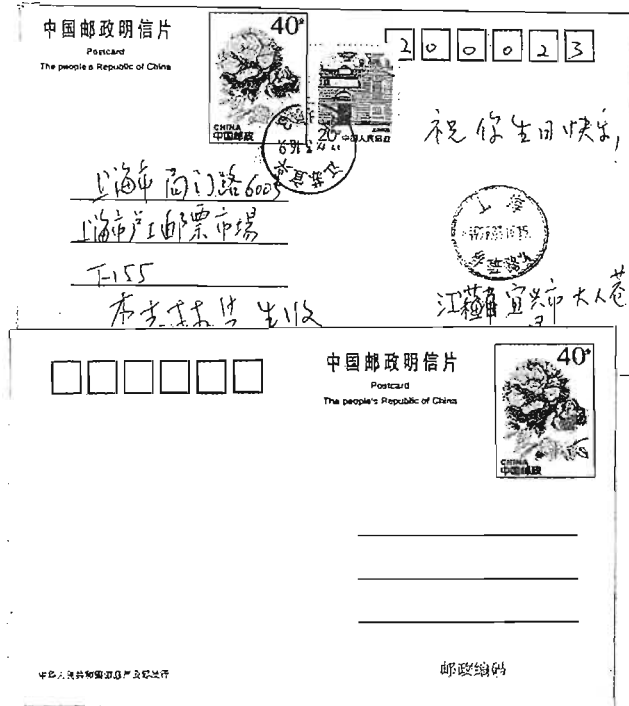
# NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

## PONZI!

The following note from the "Independent" 16<sup>th</sup> December 2008 appeared alongside an article about Bernard Madoff and the World-wide Banking Collapsee. This caught my eye as it referred to **International Reply Coupons (I.R.C.'s)**. The article described the dealings of Mr Madoff as a "Ponzi" and the note explained the origin of this term:

*"THE PONZI scheme is named after an Italian immigrant in Boston named Charles Ponzi who had hit upon a seemingly easy way to make money. He set about buying International Postal Reply Coupons (IRC's) in Italy that were good for the purchase of stamps in the USA. He promised Bostonians huge returns if they invested in his scheme. Soon the money coming in far outstripped the number of IRC's in circulation. But Ponzi continued to pay the interest promised to customers with the funds coming in from new investors. Thus was born the classic pyramid or Ponzi scheme we still know today, where existing customers are paid not with money earned from genuine investments but from fresh cash coming in from others. After Ponzi was convicted of fraud in 1920, investigators found that 17,000 people had entrusted money to him and many were ruined."*

## A Miscut pspc from China E. Keith Lloyd.

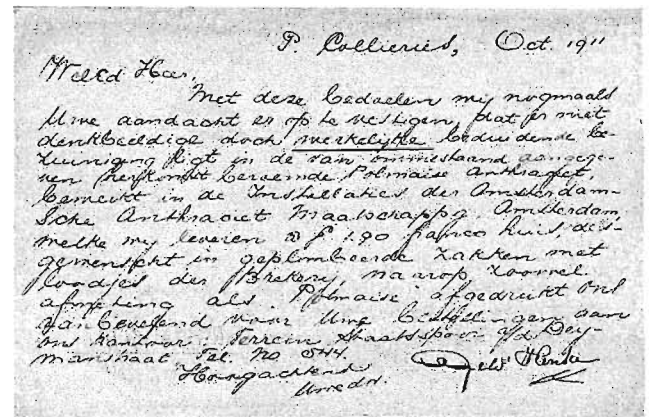


The illustrations above depict a miscut 40 fen pspc, which has been postally used, together with an unused normal card. At the top, the postmark reads 江苏宜兴 (Jiangsu [province] Yixing [County]) and, at the bottom, 宜诚2 (Yicheng [Town] 2). The internal postcard rate in China had been increased from 40 fen to 60 fen on 1993.3.1, so the card, postmarked 1993.3.16, has been uprated with a 20 fen adhesive. The card is addressed to 上海 (Shanghai) and the arrival cds is dated 1993.3.19.

## A Bogus Card used for Advertising - Boudewijn Hellebrekers

The attached scans of a bogus postcard may be compared to the card shown in 'Chairman's Chat' on page 3 of the November 2007 issue.

The front of the card [shown on the front cover of this Journal] presents no problem. Both postmark and small oval postman's mark are printed. A free translation of the text on the back [illustrated below]:-



"Dear Sir,

Herewith we want to draw your attention to the not imaginary but real, significant cut-back in expenditure that can be realised by the use of the famous Polnaise anthracite, as processed in the Installations of the Amsterdam Anthracite Company, which we supply at f. 1,90\*, carriage paid, if desired in coal-sacks with affixed lead seal of the "Brekerij" \*\*, on which both the size and the word Polnaise are imprinted.

Commending ourselves for your orders to our office:  
(Address)

Yours sincerely .....

\* presumably per hectolitre

\*\* Literally 'Breakery' - the installation where the large lumps of coal are broken into more manageable pieces. I have not been able to find an English equivalent for this word.

The following is a free translation of the text on the card illustrated in "Chairman's Chat" November 2007:

*"As a former inhabitant of Mijdrecht#, I must congratulate your firm on the good reputation and fame of your products in Pretoria .*

*With kind regards*

*Yours ..."*

# A village, nowadays partly commuter-village, approximately 10 miles south of Amsterdam

## POSTAGE DUE – Colin Baker PSSJ August 2008 pp15-18

Keith Lloyd writes: Colin Baker has a note at the end of the above article about postmen being issued with cash from which they had to pay for taxed items before they were given them for delivery, This reminded me that I have a copy of the July 1957 issue of "Rules for postmen on

outdoor duties". I enclose a photocopy of part of section IV A "Surcharged and charged packets". Paragraph 5 (b) mentions the issue of cash to which Colin refers, but note that the sum was only 2/6d "where authorised by the Head Postmaster" - otherwise it was 1/-. This paragraph is on a second issue page dated June 1958 and the fact that the reference to 2/6d is between asterisks may mean that this has been added or reworded since the first issue.

**RULES FOR POSTMEN (Rg.13) A IV 5-6**

due labels are date-stamped before the packets are handed by the proper officer to the delivering Postman.

(b) Each delivering Postman, unless he already holds a credit stock of stamps, should have 1s. in cash or 2s. 6d. where authorised by the Head Postmaster advanced to him from which he should pay the proper officer the value of any postage due labels affixed to packets handed to him for delivery. If, in any such case, a Postman is unable to collect from the addressee the amount represented by postage due labels, the amount will be returned to him by the proper officer when he gives back the relative packet or packets on his return to the office. When the total value of the postage due labels which a Postman has to pay for at the start of a delivery exceeds the amount of official cash he has available, and the excess is recorded on a form P 129 which he signs, the form will be given back to him in exchange for the excess cash on his return to the office. In a case where a Postman has signed for a charged packet on form P 390 he will, on returning the packet or the cash, be given a signature in ink for it on that form, and the Postman must see that this signature is given.

**Articles Noted Recently in the Philatelic Press**

"The Ultimate First Day Cover" - Colin Baker. (Stamp & Coin Mart November 2008)

"The Story of Registration Envelopes in Great Britain" - Colin Baker (Gibbons Stamp Monthly - Part 1 January 2009, Part 2 February 2009)

"Life After Death - Unforeseen Philatelic Outcomes" - Tom Slemons. Mulready's/Advertising. (Gibbons Stamp Monthly December 2008)

"Postal Stationery Matters" - Peter van Gelder. (Gibbons Stamp Monthly December 2008)

"GB Postal Stationery, Postal Labels and Postmarks" - John Holman. (Gibbons Stamp Monthly November 2008, February 2009)

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

Postal Stationery Collector November 2008 (Australia)

Large Kangaroo Registered Letter Envelopes

Varieties of Queensland 1899 1/2d Green Queen Victoria Newspaper Wrapper

Aerogrammes and Other Oddments

Sardinian Lettersheets

Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery Stationery Pot-Pouri

L'Intero Postale (Autumn 2008)

A Caccia di Annulli Dimenticati: Nove "Nuovi" Tondi-Riquadrati

Primo Giorno del Biglietto Postale Italiano

Novita dell'area Italiano

Ganzsachensammler December 2008 (Switzerland)

Neue PK 26-PrZD 5?

Der Privat-Umschlag PrU 235 Elektra Untergäu

Genossenschaft, Hägendorf

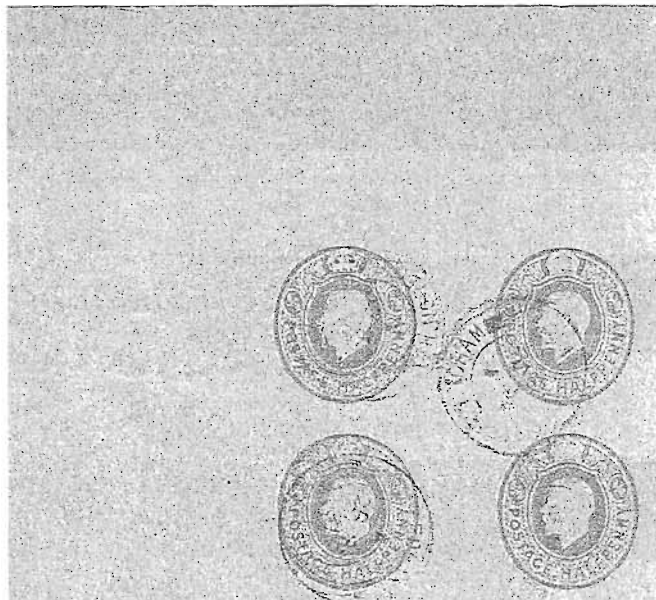
Postkartengröße

Ein 'neuer' Tüblibrief

**QUERIES AND REPLIES**

**QUERY - Boudewijn Hellebrekers**

Attached is a scan of a large fragment I recently acquired. This combination is not mentioned in the new catalogue. The year in the date stamp is just legible, 1931.



**REPLY - Leeward Islands Envelopes (November 2008)**

Michael Oliver replies: In response to Dr. Stickland's query in the November 2008 issue, envelopes were issued in the design he illustrated together with the postage stamps on 25th November 1938.

These comprised:

1d Red - thick buff paper,	133x80mm	- 3175 issued
1½d Chestnut - thick buff paper	133 x 80mm	- 3250
1d Red - airmail paper	150 x 90mm	- 4225
1½d Chestnut airmail paper	150 x 90mm	- 5400

Plus 392 SPECIMENS of each for the UPU.

As De La Rue records are incomplete 1941 - 45 there could have been another or other printings. The last recorded was in July 1946 for the airmail envelopes. The first printing had a patterned blue interior with ALL BRITISH on the outside covered when the flap was sealed. A handful of examples, all unused, are known of the 1½d with a black interior and boxed ABERDEEN OPAQUE. It is thought these are from a small second printing by Williams Lea in July 1941 at the time De La Rue were unable to print any stamps or stationery.

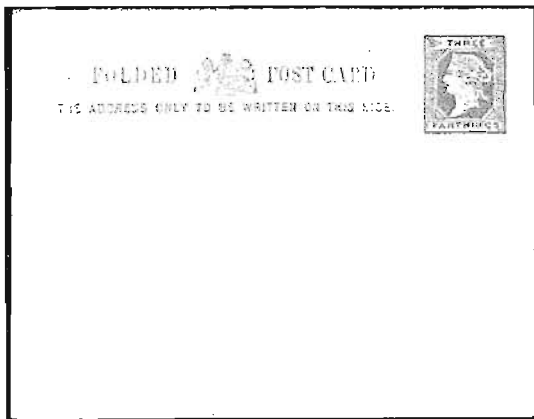
When most airmail services were curtailed or suspended by 1942, I think it unlikely any other printings were made. In 1940 only Antigua had a commercial airfield and with ½oz airmail rates ranging between 7d to 4/6½d to order 1d and 1½d envelopes seems rather odd, unless in preparation for the new 1½d Empire rate commencing in July 1939. This was very short lived and soon suspended after the outbreak of the Second World War.

All four envelopes are scarce used particularly the airmail, although philatelic examples exist used in 1955.

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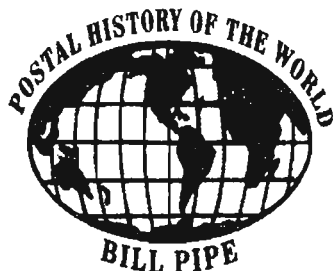
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