



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

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(Serial number 51)



Multiple use of a Mulready sold at Auction - see p 18

Stephen Pilgrim

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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.

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SOCIETY CALENDAR 2010

Saturday March 20th 2010

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.

In the morning Brian Trotter will show "The King's Head Postal Stationery of South Africa". Brian has a wonderful collection of postal stationery from this period which he will be sharing with us at this meeting.

Brian's display will be followed by the society's One Sheet Competition, 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 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 should be no more than £15 each, including wine.

Saturday 1st May 2010

At **Worpex**, Oldbury Park Primary School, Oldbury Road, St John's, Worcester WR2 6AA

Members are invited to display up to 32 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of about 10 minutes maximum. There will be about 30 dealers at this event covering all aspects of postal stationery, so apart from meeting other PS members and showing some of your material, you will also be able to add to your collection. There will also be a reasonably priced catering facility within the event and plenty of free parking.

Sunday 9th May 2010

London 2010 at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, London N1 0QH.

We will be having a meeting on the Sunday morning at this International Exhibition and we have booked a room within the Design Centre. The room will be available from 10.00am with the meeting starting at 10.30am. We have to finish by 1.45pm when it will be used by another society.

We will have two displays. Michael Lockton will show Queen Victoria Penny Pinks and Russ Towle will be coming over from the USA to show part of his collection of postal stationery; more details on both these displays later this year. But expect some great material from both speakers.

Saturday 12th June 2010

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW VENUE AND EARLIER START TIME

At **Swinpex**, The Steam Museum, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2TA, 1.30pm to 4.00pm.

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, (over 40) so there will be ample opportunity to add to your collection, and there is an excellent catering facility within the fair.

Swinpex will be open from 10.00 am to 4.30 pm with ample free parking.

Saturday October 30th 2010

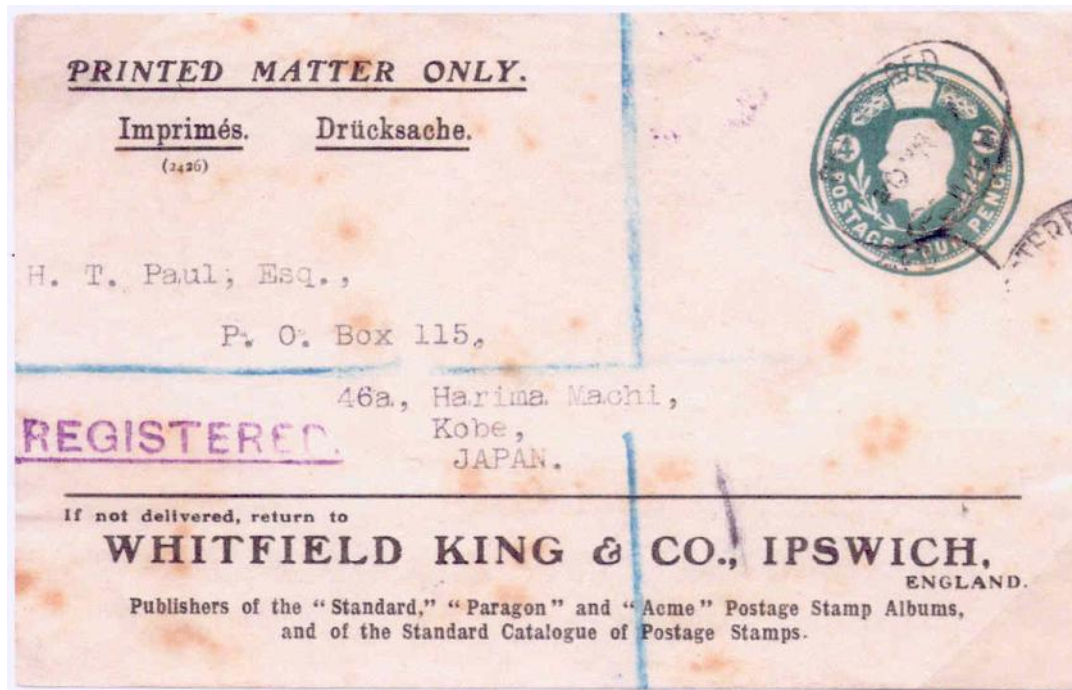
At the meeting room in the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London. AGM, Auction & Tony Chilton Competition. Full details will be included in a later issue of the Journal.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT – AUGUST 2009

My request in last months journal so far has not born fruit although I believe sometimes it can take a number of months. The meeting at Swinpex was well attended with members from our Society as well as members from the Thematic Society. The range of displays was wide and very varied and the joint meeting was most enjoyable. My offering this month is an embossed parcel label which seems to be quite hard to find as parcel wrappings usually ended up in the bin. With

today's postage rates it seems how cheap it was to send printed matter in days gone by. Unfortunately the date of the cancellation is indistinct but the packet must have been posted before the 13th June 1921 when the foreign registration rate increased from 2d to 3d. The foreign printed paper rate which remained unchanged between 1st July 1892 and 1st May 1949 for an 8oz item was 2d. Oh for such price stability these days!!!!

Edward Caesley



SECRETARY'S NOTES - AUGUST 2009

STICKY TAPE

I'm on one of my campaign hikes again, having decided to start up a crusade to have any sort of sticky tape, be it sellotape, magic tape, parcel tape, masking tape, or whatever other self adhesive tape you might name, put in the same category as Class A drugs such as heroine, cocaine, amphetamines, etc. In fact I will probably go further than that and make their use in anything that could be loosely described as philatelic, a capital offence. I can see the sentence being carried out by rouletting, perforating or bisecting. In fact anything with a philatelic connection would do fine.

Why, you may ask, have I got so upset at such a benign item as sticky tape? Well, because it is just that, sticky. Like many of you I buy quite a few things through the internet or by postal auctions, and I rely on these coming to me via Royal Mail. But as soon as those envelopes drop onto my doormat I know I am facing a struggle to open them, which is unlikely to last for less than two hours. The first hurdle is to find a way into the envelope. I dare not use scissors in case I nick that very nice envelope I bid so highly for, so I search for the end of

the tape around the envelope flaps. In fact the tape is around all the envelope sides in a never ending strip. At last I locate an end and manage to gently pull up one corner. I carefully pull only to find I have removed a slice of tape and not the complete width. The person sealing the envelope has used a tape dispenser with a serrated cutting edge, which makes the tape split lengthwise. I try again and this time I am successful. Two inches later and I am up against another piece of tape that was obviously put on after the piece I am attacking. And so the battle goes on.

At last a breakthrough. I have managed to open one end of the envelope and carefully extracted the contents. Is this the end of my struggle? Of course not. There is more tape on the outside of the cardboard protection layers. Further struggles are made to find the ends and pick them up. At last I can see the plastic bag holding the piece of stationery, only (yes, you have guessed it) more tape is fixing it to the inside of the cardboard. Further attempts are made to pick up the end of the tape, but when attached to a plastic bag it is nearly impossible. I give up and resort to using a pair of scissors.

At last, after hours of picking and tearing I have my

new acquisition, still in one piece. But I have also ended up with tiny bits of tape stuck to my fingers. This is why I want to start my campaign and I hope you will all join in. I'm having trouble thinking of a campaign slogan and "ban sticky tape from philately" just doesn't have that zing to it, but I'm going to struggle on. Any ideas?

Just a minute though, am I whiter than white? Haven't I used sticky tape when sending packages to other collectors? Ummm. Perhaps I won't start up my campaign just yet otherwise I might end up becoming a 'cut out'.

MEETING AT WORPEX

WorpeX is a large, well organised stamp fair held on the edge of Worcester in the West Midlands. There were plenty of dealers at this event, some of whom I had either not seen before, or not for a long time, so it was well worth my while going. The bonus of course was a meeting held by the society in the afternoon.

It was disappointing that only four members managed to make it to the meeting and I hope that when we organise another regional meeting at next year's event, more society members will try to come along. It was great fun this year and we all learnt a lot.

All four members who attended had brought something along for us to see and Vicki Archard started the ball rolling with a display of East African registration envelopes from the end of the King George V period to the modern day. She explained how the region ran out of stamped envelopes following the death of KGV and had to use formula envelopes with all postal charges paid for in adhesive stamps. A similar situation arose during the Second World War when unstamped Indian registration envelopes were used. Vicki finished with field service postcards produced by the Italian authorities that had been cut down and given to captured Italian soldiers for them to write to their families. Some had even been overprinted on the reverse for use as filing cards.

John Davies then showed part of his gold medal collection of the 1890 Penny Post Jubilee material, concentrating on the "Elliot" envelope, which was produced as a cheap copy of the Post Office envelope. This got the promoter of the envelope into trouble as it had an image printed on it that could have been mistaken for a stamp, with loss revenue to the Post Office. John had examples of these envelopes that had gone through the post with and without added stamps, plus other envelopes cancelled with the Jubilee Exhibition handstamps.

Colin Baker displayed Queen Elizabeth II envelopes produced in the pre-decimal period up to 1971. He included most of the values and sizes available, with wrapper bands showing the premium charged for the envelope on top of the cost of the stamp. He then went on to show stamped to order envelopes, with some used commercially and others produced purely for philatelic purposes.

Finally, John Barker showed early German States envelopes and postcards, both Post Office and STO issues. The use of these ceased towards the end of the 19th century, except for the special pneumatic post envelopes used from 1876 to the 1920's. John finished with modern stamped envelopes that had been issued by the German

Post Office following its privatisation a few years ago, with a large range of sizes available, all printed with colourful stamps.

Many thanks to John Barker for organising the meeting.

SWINPEX MEETING JUNE 2009

This year the annual meeting at SwinpeX, which is held each June, was very different from our normal event when members of the British Thematic Association joined us. I have to confess that I was a little apprehensive about holding a joint meeting, not knowing quite what the BTA members would bring with them. I need not have worried. The meeting was a great success and we were all treated to some wonderful displays of illustrated postal stationery, accompanied by fascinating commentaries on subjects as diverse as waterfalls and parachuting. Unfortunately we only had two 15 sheet boards to use, but Edward Caesley chaired the meeting and kept everyone under control (more or less). Each society took it in turns to put up their displays and this helped to maintain the interest of all those present.

There were about twenty members present altogether, but with so many comings and goings it was difficult to be exact. (There are so many meetings going on at SwinpeX that people are constantly swapping from one room to another to catch them all.) We had about equal numbers from each society, with some people being members of both.

John Hayward (BTA displays organiser) kicked off the meeting with a frame of commercial advertising envelopes from several European countries. Included was a curious item from Israel consisting of a pad of adverts, with prepaid postcards interleaved.

Colin Baker followed with a selection of 16 sheets of Great Britain Edward VII advertising envelopes

Wendy Buckle (BTA) showed her one frame display on the history of printing, using postcards from around the world. She finished with three British air letters celebrating favourite children's books.

Michael Goodman started his one frame display with toy postcards from children's post office sets. One of these half size postcards had been postally used and surcharged accordingly. He continued with other illustrated postcards, including some of the Victorian Eddystone Lighthouse postcards.

Jean Alexander (BTA/PSS) is an avid waterfall collector and filled both frames with many worldwide postcards on this theme. She ended her display with Beijing Olympics postcards which showed British scenes, such as Tower Bridge and the Houses of Parliament.

George King took up two frames (and more) with a huge variety of WH Smith newspaper wrappers stamped with advertising rings, embossed and letterpress stamps. He even showed a parcel wrapping which would have been used for sending books.

Brian Sole (BTA) filled a frame with display of cycling from Victorian times to the present day.

Arthur Roberts followed this with air letters from the King George VI period, showing the different printings and settings. He included one printed as a newsletter from the WVS.

Rolf Scharning (BTA) gave us a frame of postcards from the WIPA International Philatelic Exhibition held in Vienna from 24 June to 7 July 1933. Impressed stamps were collected on special postcards, with a different colour being used each day, making it difficult to complete the whole set.

Keith Lloyd (BTA/PSS) showed a frame of postcards from china - post World War Two to the present day.

Barry Stagg (BTA/PSS) filled a frame with parachuting and paragliding items. He explained how parachutes could be steered and how the landing spot in parachuting competitions has reduced to a 3cm circle.

Edward Caesley filled the other frame with early philatelic magazines, price lists, and other philatelic dealers' memorabilia. He finished with some censored cablegrams and illustrated greetings telegrams.

Finally **Michael Goodman** returned to the floor to put up two frames of postal stationery addressed to or sent by well known philatelic figures.



Brian Sole presents his display

Both Edward Caesley and John Hayward expressed their thanks to everyone for participating in the meeting and noted what a superb set of displays had been produced, which had been exciting for both societies.

Next year we will be back to our normal meeting with only our own members in attendance, but if the general feeling is that we should organise another joint meeting in the future, either with the BTA or another society, I will see what can be done. Don't forget that the Swinpex venue will change next year and it will be held in the Steam Museum, Swindon on Saturday 12th June 2010. We'll be giving you more details of how to get there next year.

NEW MEMBERS

More postal stationery collectors have decided to join our society and we are pleased to welcome the following.

Paolo Beltrandi from Italy, who collects Queen Victoria British Commonwealth and European PS.

Jim Mackay from Moray, who collects PS with ½d and ½p stamps.

Russell Wootton from Renfrewshire, who collects Great Britain.

Sam Chiu from Canada, who collects Hong Kong (M) and China (S)

Manny Gray from London, who collects Great Britain.

Mr M Welch from Somerset, who collects the Netherlands

and Great Britain.

Miss Marjorie Bryanton from Gloucestershire, who collects Great Britain up to King George VI and pre-stamp material.

Geoff Leece from Somerset who collects Great Britain and the Commonwealth.

I hope that all these new members will not only be able to gain knowledge from the society's activities, but will also be able to share with us all, what they have learnt about their own collections.

We are always pleased to welcome back those whose membership has lapsed and the latest of these is **Zhigang Wang** from China, whose main interest is the Mulready stationery.

SOCIETY'S OCTOBER MEETING.

The next meeting will be held at the Royal Philatelic Society's Headquarters 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY on **Saturday October 24th 2009**. The rooms will be open from 10.00am for members to meet over coffee and biscuits. The programme for the day is:

- 10.30 am viewing of the society's auction lots for the auction to be held in the afternoon.
- 11.00 am Society's Annual General Meeting.
- 12.00 Tony Chilton competition judging, followed by the presentation of the Tony Chilton salver
- 12.30 pm lunch in a nearby restaurant.
- 2.00 pm the Society's "live" auction to be conducted by Neil Sargent.

The meeting is expected to close by about 4.00 pm

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

SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The society's annual general meeting this year will take place at 11.00am on Saturday 24th October 2009 at the Royal Philatelic Society's headquarters. A full agenda will be available at the meeting, but matters to be discussed include:

- Apologies for absence
- Agreement of the minutes of the AGM held on 25th October 2008
- Reports by officers
- Election of officers for the next 12 months
- Any other business.

TONY CHILTON COMPETITION

The society's annual 16 page competition will be held on Saturday 24th October 2009 at the Royal Philatelic Society's headquarters. The competition is open to all members of the society and may be on any postal stationery subject. Overseas members, that is members who live outside the European Union, who may therefore experience difficulty in sending original material, may submit colour photocopies without incurring any penalty.

Members do not have to be present at the competition and may post their entries (or copies where allowed) to the secretary or ask another member who will be attending to submit the entry on their behalf.

A full set of rules covering all society competitions is available from the secretary.

FIJI REPLY COUPONS

John Ray

This article first appeared in 'Pacifica' the Journal of the Pacific Islands Study Circle and is reproduced here with the kind permission of their Editor.

This is an attempt to piece together such information as I have on the use of Commonwealth Reply Coupons and International Reply Coupons in Fiji from 1970. My sources are an incomplete collection of postal tariffs between 1975 and 2003, a mere three coupons in my collection (illustrated below), and the stock register kept at the GPO in Suva.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who can provide any more details, particularly prior to 1970. Please contact either me (address in the front cover of Pacifica) or the Editor

Firstly, the prices shown in my postal tariffs for IRCs are as follows:

- Effective 1.1.1976 = F\$0.20
- Effective 1.1.1983 = F\$0.50
- Effective 1.2.1988 = F\$1.26
- Effective 1.1.1990 = F\$1.40
- Effective 1.7.1992 = F\$1.65
- Effective 1.1.1995 = F\$1.75
- Effective 2.1.2001 = F\$1.93
- Effective 2.1.2003 = F\$2.35

I was told in 2007 that IRCs are no longer sold in Fiji.



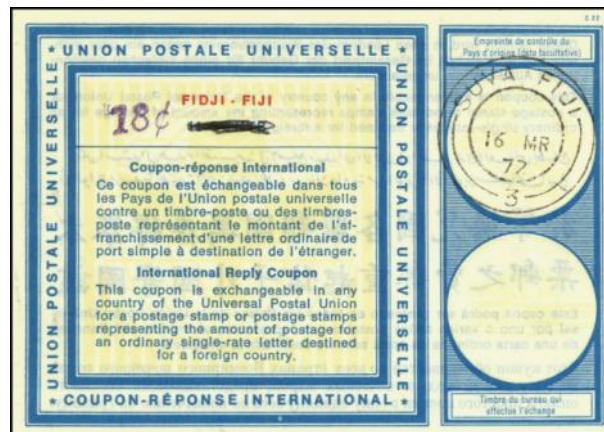
Commonwealth Reply Coupon, 5c uprated to 8c, issued on 16.3.1972

There is no mention of Commonwealth Reply Coupons in the postal tariffs, so it is probable that they were discontinued at some time before 1976. The last record of these in the stock register (see below) was in January 1972.

On a recent visit to Suva I was privileged to be able to see the stock register, from January 1970 to date, which details receipts of stamps and postal stationery at the GPO and their release to the Custodian of Stamps. (The Custodian distributes stamps and postal stationery to Post Offices and Postal Agencies as required; there is a separate set of records for the Custodian's stocks).

Unfortunately, the earlier volumes were not available for inspection and I was unable to see the

Custodian's records for this period, so the information which I can give here is necessarily incomplete. During the period 1970 - 1993 the following types and denominations of reply coupons were recorded in the stock register:



International Reply Coupon, 11c uprated to 18c, issued on 16.3.1972

5c Commonwealth Reply Coupon

- 2.1.1970 Opening balance F\$45.90 (= 918 coupons)
- 13.5.1970 Final issue to Custodian of Stamps. Stock = nil.

8c Commonwealth Reply Coupon

- 19.1.1972 Received from UK F\$87.20 (= 1,090 coupons)

11c International Reply Coupon

- 2.1.1970 Opening balance F\$143.00 (= 1,300 coupons)
- 19.1.1972 Increase in value from 11 c to 18c
- 19.1.1972 Received from UK F\$360.00 (= 2,000 coupons)

From the illustration below it is evident that the price was 20c by 22.1.1975; this is confirmed by the postal tariff effective from 1.1.1976. I have not seen an IRC issued after January 1975 but I suspect that subsequent issues were supplied undenominated and had the value applied as required. The undenominated (handstamped 20c) IRCs are not recorded in the GPO stock register and may have been delivered direct to the Custodian of Stamps, never entering the GPO stocks. At some point between January 1976 and October 1977 the price was increased to



36c, as indicated by the following entries in the stock register:

36c International Reply Coupons

- 1.10.1977 Received from UPU F\$360.00 (= 1,000 coupons)
 1.8.1979 Received from UPU F\$360.00 (= 1,000 coupons)
 25.2.1980 Received from UPU F\$360.00 (= 1,000 coupons)
 23.12.1980 Received from UPU F\$720.00 (= 2,000 coupons)

We know, from the postal tariff effective 1.1.1983, that the selling price had been increased to F\$0.50, and this is confirmed by the following entries in the stock register:

50c (and higher) International Reply Coupons

- 15.8.1983 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500
 10.11.1983 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500
 9.8.1984 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500
 29.5.1986 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500 (could be 29.5.1985- date unclear)
 2.12.1986 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500
 18.8.1987 Received from UPU 1,000 coupons = F\$500
 15.7.1993 Received from UPU 500 coupons = F\$825

The final entry in the stock register confirms that the selling price of IRCs had by then been increased from 50c to F\$1.65, and the postal tariffs effective from 1.2.1988 and 1.1.1990 show that there were at least two increases prior to this. The last postal tariff in my collection, i.e. from 2.1.2003, shows that the selling price had increased by that date to F\$2.35. It seems clear that demand for IRCs had fallen considerably after about 1987, so it is no surprise that they are no longer available in Fiji.

Regarding Commonwealth Reply Coupons it would appear, from the example illustrated on the previous page, that stocks of the 5c were still available at Post Offices when the new 8c coupons were received from the UK and that the former were uprated to 8c, presumably on 19.1.1972. There is no mention of Commonwealth Reply Coupons in any of my postal tariffs so it would appear that they had been discontinued at some time before 1.1.1975. This supposition is supported by the final entry in the stock register, i.e. there were no further supplies from the UK after that of 19.1.1972.

I would take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Seveci Tora, acting CEO of Post Fiji Limited, for his generous assistance with my researches, without which this article would not have been possible.

THE "FIRST" ISRAEL AEROGRAMME 1948

Tony Goldstone

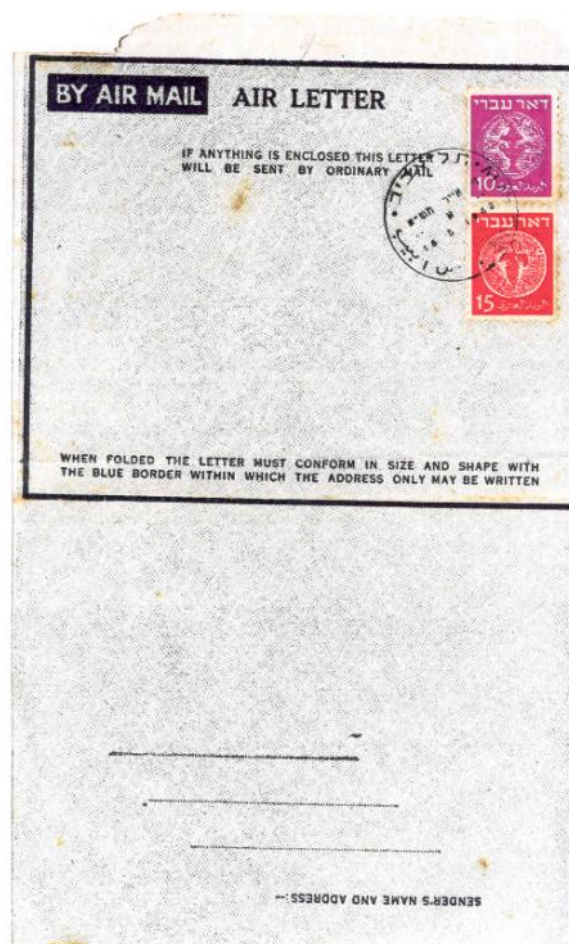
The nascent State of Israel came into existence on Friday afternoon 14th May 1948. British Mandate postal services had already closed down and the new Israel postal service did not commence till Sunday 16th May. This was due to the almost immediate on-set of the Sabbath (at sunset on the Friday afternoon) following the declaration of Statehood, when all work and public services are suspended till nightfall on Saturday.

Stamps had already been (covertly) printed, but as there had not yet been an agreement as to the official name of the State, the stamps were printed with the words (in Hebrew) "Hebrew Mail." British Mandate stamps were no longer valid for the prepayment of postage.

No postal stationery was prepared in advance, and as all civilian flights to and from Palestine/Israel had terminated on 25th April in the previous month, there was little demand for aerogrammes! International flights restarted sometime in June.

Attached is a photocopy of a Mandate aerogramme with its official printed 25 mils stamp covered by new "Hebrew Mail" stamps and franked by an enterprising collector with the First Day postmark 16th May 1948. Although Israel was not to issue an official aerogramme till 1950, this philatelic item is certainly, the first private aerogramme of Israel, and a record of its postal history.

I would appreciate if readers would advise me, that if there had indeed been an international air service on the 16th May, would the 25 prutot value of the two stamps have been sufficient for the service?



ANOTHER COMBINED PSPC/ADMISSION TICKET FROM CHINA

E. Keith Lloyd

At Swinpex, I bought another example of a combined pspc/admission ticket from China, which I showed at the joint Postal Stationery Society/British Thematic Association meeting in the afternoon. Since then, I have been able to study the card which I can now describe more fully.

The card takes the form of a double-width postcard, folded vertically between the postcard half and the admission ticket half. Almost all the text on the ticket is in Chinese, but it also bears an emblem including the English words "Luzhi fashion culture". The CPA Media website (http://www.cpamedia.com/articles/20080724_02/) tells us that "There is a lot to see to the west and northwest of Shanghai, including some of the loveliest countryside in China around Lake Tai, an area rich in traditional 'Water Towns' with traditional hump-backed bridges arching across picturesque willow-lined canals."

Underneath the picture, the text translates as "Issued by the Jiangsu Province Postal Service Advertisement Co Ltd. 2005(1002)-0032". China is fond of numbering things and (1002)-0032 is thought to be some form of advertising card reference number (2005 is the year of issue). At the right, the two large characters 角直 are those for Luzhi; the characters written vertically in black read "A famous town of Chinese history and culture" and those in red give a tourism hotline telephone number. These details are repeated in black on the address side of the card, which otherwise is a standard pspc design stamped for 60 fen, the internal postcard rate.

One side of the admission ticket half of the card is headed "Old town tourist sites". Below are pictures of five such sites including, in the centre, the Wanshan Rice Shop. The date, 2006年05月26日, is rubber-stamped. There is



Luzhi is one such town, situated in Jiangsu Province some 25 km east of Suzhou; it occupies about one square kilometre and 41 ancient bridges remain in the town. The above website says that Luzhi "has a long and distinguished literary tradition ... is noted for its beautiful

a perforated stub on the right with serial No. 00136430 and a circular punch hole.

The red characters on the back of the stub read "auxiliary ticket, invalid if torn off, each person one ticket". The next part of this side of the card is headed "Luzhi Old Town / Dream region of rivers and lakes". The



pastoral scenes and tranquil canals, as well as the distinctive traditional costume worn by its women"

The picture side of the postcard half of the card depicts a canal and bridge with two restaurants on the left.

"Luzhi fashion culture" emblem is repeated, this time in a larger size. The oval "chop" is a tax mark of "Jiangsu Province, Suzhou City" and the 12-digit number is a receipt code. Then the ticket-share price is shown as 60 yuan and below that there is some reference to accident

insurance provided by the People’s Insurance Company of China. The lengthy text is headed “Luzhi summary” and extols the virtues of the town. It mentions that in 2001, Luzhi was being considered as a UNESCO world heritage site, but it is not included in the 2009 list. Finally tourism

hotline and complaints line telephone numbers are given.

Incidentally, the “Jiuzhaigou Valley Scenic and Historic Interest Area” (see the combined pspc/admission ticket for there illustrated in the PSS Journal, May 2009, p.21) is currently a UNESCO world heritage site.

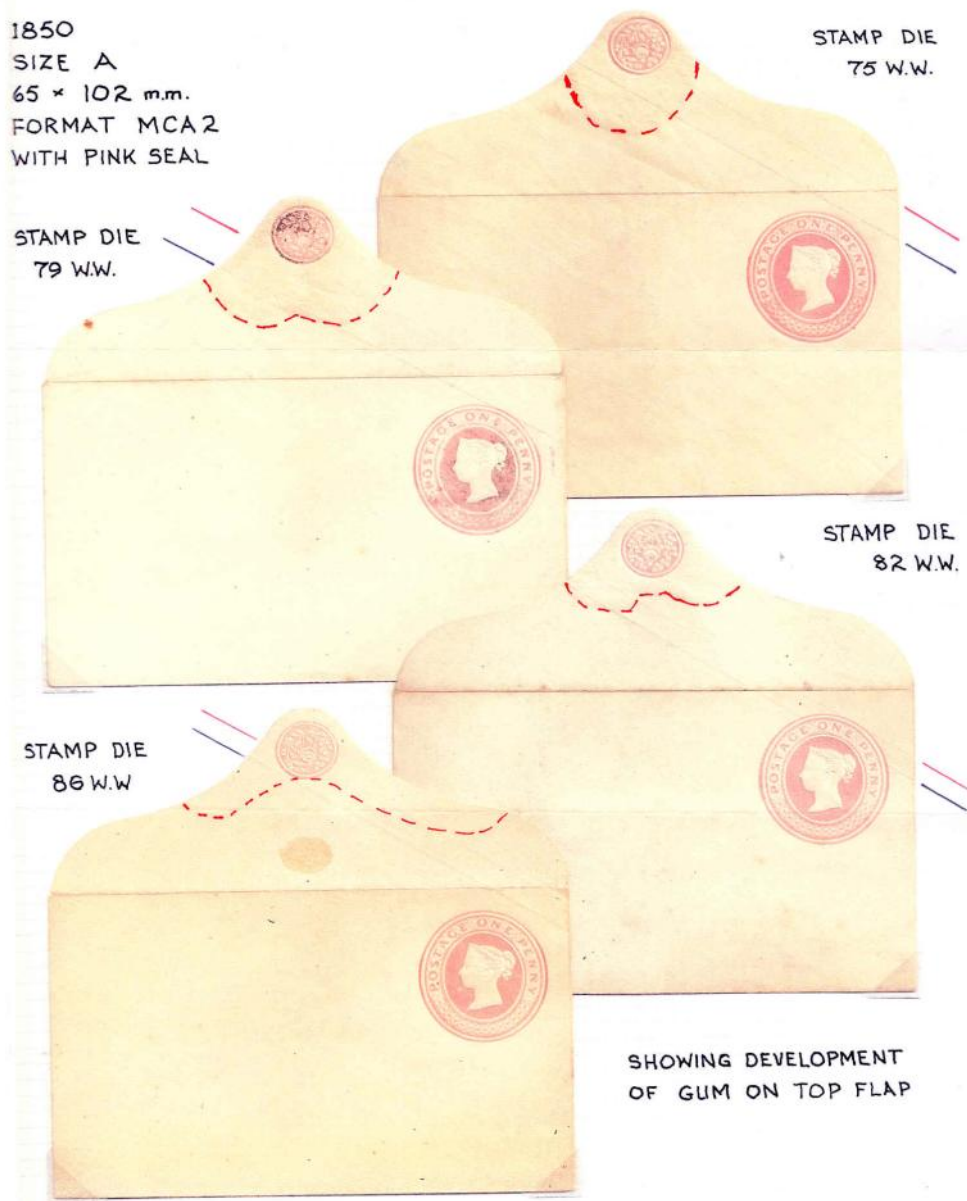
G.B. 1850 PENNY PINK ENVELOPES -VARIATIONS IN GUMMING

Stephen Pilgrim

Whilst sorting through some mint size “A” envelopes of the 1850 issue I noticed a difference in the shape and size of the gum on the flap. I will need to investigate this more, however in the meantime, I let my imagination take over:-

A small Dickensian child lately from the workhouse is given the chance of a job. On reporting for his first day at work he is presented with a pot of gum a brush and told to put a dab of gum on the inside flap of each envelope. This he does in the same way for several weeks. Then the

Supervisor comes to him and tells him to shape the gum to follow the line of the flap. He does so, but is told that he must use less gum. Labour is cheap but the gum is expensive. In order to achieve this he trims some of the bristles off his brush and applies the gum more carefully. He is pleased with his work he can now apply gum to the flaps very quickly and sparingly and is proud of his employment. A few weeks later he is replaced by a machine!



GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

ESSAYS FOR PICTORIAL AIR MAIL LETTER SHEETS

In 1963 airmail letter sheets incorporating pictures of Tower Bridge and the Houses of Parliament (APS4 & 5) were issued. Jean Alexander has provided me with illustrations of essays which appear to relate to these. As the illustrations show other subjects being considered at the time include Big Ben (without a stamp impression); Kew Gardens Pagoda (with the 6d stamp in carmine) and Buckingham and Hampton Court Palaces (with the 6d stamp in blue).



NEW ISSUES

Air Mail Letter Sheets: Arthur Roberts lists the following printing codes for **AP53** and **AP54B**.

AP53 White paper with star: MSE317/08 (12.11.08); 318/08 (13.11.08); 319/08 (14.11.08) with spacing reduced to 54mm between sender's name and address panel.

AP54B White paper without star; MSE343/07 (9.12.07)

NEW ITEMS REPORTED

Stamped to Order Envelopes; QE II 2nd class NVI E4a, thin white frame line

ES136a blue stamp 23 x 23mm(Y) NR ****
(Peter O’Keeffe)

ES136b blue stamp 23 x 24.5mm(C) NR ****
(George King)

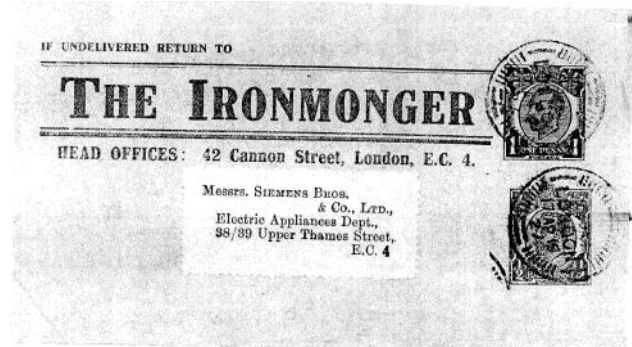
QE II 2nd class NVI E8 (**ES178b**) with clear phosphor
(George King)

Stamped to Order Postcards; QE II reply paid card without arms, size f

CSP262

5p pale violet + 5p pale violet (L57 + L57) **** NR
(George King)

Stamped to Order Wrappers; Tony Hitchcock reports a wrapper with a Downey head ‘die IV’ stamp placed below the 1d stamp. This will be numbered **WS18A with 1d+1d (WS18)** being renumbered to **WS18B**



Tony also has a used example of **WSP146A** with Machin 1p + 1½p + 1p (L50 + L51 + L50) produced by the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies.

NB. It is intended to issue a further updated list of amendments and additions to obviate the need to refer back to separate issues of PSS Journal.

THE 1996 WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST POSTCARD BOOKLET

Lionel Jones has raised a question regarding the set of five postcards issued in booklet form to accompany the 1996 Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust issue.

Unusually these have life-size images of the adhesive stamps of this issue printed as part of the picture side of these cards. Although not intended to be treated as postal stationery they are known to have been occasionally treated as such without postage due being levied. For more information about Royal mail pictorial postcards see the recent article by Don Staddon in Stamp Magazine for July 2009 pp48-53.



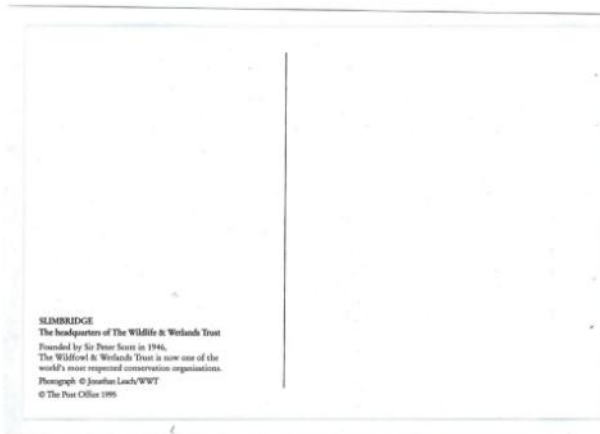
Caerlaverock



Llanelli



Arundel



Typical reverse

POSTAL STATIONERY USING THE UNIVERSAL IMPERIUM IMPRINT - AN UPDATE.

John Jennison

In my article in Volume 14 No.2, I mentioned that I had only seen a specimen version of the Mauritius five cents George VI stamped envelope (H&G B46) from the first printing with the offset 5 in the value tablet. Since then I have seen a mint and three used examples, of which an example is illustrated. The illustrated example is a registered censored example sent in 1941 to the well known stamp dealer, Whitfield King, of Ipswich. The corresponding used lettercard (H&G A4) I have yet to see.



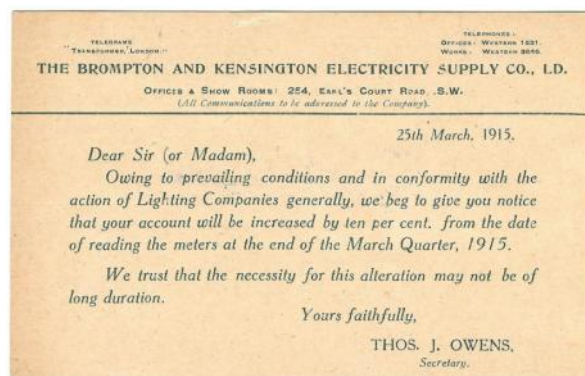
THE RISE IN ELECTRICITY PRICES

Colin Baker

In these times of economic depression and price rises, we might be forgiven for thinking that we are experiencing one of the most terrible financial periods in our history, but the postcard I picked up at a stamp fair the other day says something different. It is a Post Office issue King George V thin buff postcard (Huggins & Baker CP58) printed on the reverse in 1915 for the Brompton and Kensington Electricity Supply Co. Ltd., informing its customers that they will have to pay 10% more on their next electricity bills. The reason for this was the effect that the First World War was having on the cost of everything.

Coal and oil supplies were in great demand by the army and navy and imports were being hampered by enemy action. This forced up the price of these commodities, with a consequent knock on effect to other consumers.

It was not just the cost of electricity that was on the increase of course. Postal costs were also rising. In 1915, although the basic cost of sending a letter remained at 1d, the postage on heavier letters went up. Postage price rises continued until 1922 when public pressure forced the government to reduce postage costs by 25% to a basic 1½d for a letter.



POST OFFICE STRIKE!

With the prospects of a postal strike in the Royal Mail later in the year it is interesting to look back over 100 years to a postal strike in Russia. The following report appeared in the weekly French news magazine "L'Illustration" on 23 December 1905, along with several photographs. This article has been submitted by Colin Baker and may be of special interest to those who collect stationery from this region.

THE POST AND TELEGRAPH STRIKE IN RUSSIA

The strike that has broken out amongst Post and Telegraph employees in several of Russia's large cities, began in St Petersburg and Moscow, and has given rise to several peculiar occurrences. No strike could have had such serious disadvantages as this, and it was necessary to reduce the effects as quickly as possible. Soldiers have taken over the telegraphists machines, but for the more important tasks such as the delivery of letters and the sorting of mail, it has been necessary to use the *garodovois*, or guardians of the peace, and the *dvornih*, or porters, who are under the authority of the police.

The service currently leaves much to be desired. Both private and professional people have expressed surprise at seeing personalities from all walks of life giving up their free time and make themselves available to the authorities. Thus Mlle Zinovief, daughter of the old attaché to the Ministry of the Interior, sorted mail, while Prince Obolensky, Prince Kotchoubey, the Count Mordvinof and many others, including officers and high dignitaries, came to take over the offices and counter positions in place of the striking postmen.



Dealing with underpaid mail and registered letters.



Inside the Sorting Office despatch room.



The mail sledge collecting mail from the railway station.



Railway sorting carriage on the Varsovie line.

INVALIDATION OF BRITISH STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY

George King

[Following on from his article relating to the use of postal stationery cut-outs (PSSJ Vol16 No.3 p20) George has put together texts of various notices and articles relating to the invalidation of British stamps and postal stationery]

London Gazette 19 April 1901

STAMP DUTIES

“The Commissioners of Inland Revenue in pursuance of section twenty-two of the Stamp Duties Management Act, 1891, as amended by section ten of the Revenue Act, 1898, hereby give notice that the use of the dies from which the covers and envelopes used for denoting duties of postage at the rates one penny and two pence and commonly called or known as the Mulready Covers and Envelopes have heretofore been printed, and also of the dies referred to in the schedule here under

written from which adhesive stamps have heretofore been printed for denoting certain duties of postage and Inland Revenue, has been discontinued, and that on and after the first day of June, one thousand nine hundred and one, those dies will not be lawful dies for denoting the payment of any duty, and that the duties of postage and of Inland Revenue for which those dies have hitherto been available may and shall, on and after that day, be expressed and denoted only by the dies provided in lieu thereof, which are now in general use for denoting the said duties by adhesive stamps, as is in the first part of the said schedule mentioned.

Dated the 19th day of April 1901.

By order of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue H. F. Bartlett, Assistant-Secretary.

The SCHEDULE above referred to.

FIRST PART

Dies for denoting Duties of Postage as follows, of which same have since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 vict.,c.12, and 45 and 46 Vict.,c.72, been available, for denoting also Duties of Inland Revenue.

Duty	Dies Discontinued
1. The duty of one penny	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, for which postage stamps are printed with the words “Postage and Inland Revenue” thereon and were first issued on the 13th day of December, 1881
2. The duties of one halfpenny, of one penny halfpenny, of two pence, of two pence halfpenny, of three pence, of four pence, of five pence, of sixpence, of ninepence, and of one shilling	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, for which postage stamps are printed with the words “postage and Inland Revenue” thereon and were first issued on the 1st day of January, 1887
3. The duty of ten pence	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting this duty, for which postage stamps are printed with the words “Postage and Inland Revenue” thereon and were first issued on the 22nd day of February, 1890
4. The duties of five shillings, of ten shillings, and of one pound	All dies in use previously to those used for the stamps now in general use for denoting these duties, which stamps were first issued on the 1st day of April, 1884
5. The duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams	All dies appropriated by words on the face of them to duties payable in respect of the transmission of telegrams

SECOND PART

Dies for denoting Duties of Inland Revenue as follows, of which some have, since the passing of the Acts 44 and 45 vict.,c.12, and 45 and 46 Vict.,c.72, been available, for denoting also Duties of Postage.

Duty	Dies Discontinued
1. The duty of one penny	All dies appropriated by the words on the face of them to the duties payable on (1) Receipts, (2) Drafts or Orders for the payment of money to bearer or to order on demand, and also all dies in use previously to the 13th December, 1881, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.
2. The duties of two pence, of threepence, of six pence, of nine pence, of one shilling, of one shilling and six pence, of two shillings, and of two shillings and six pence	All dies in use previously to the 1st day of January, 1887, having the words "Inland Revenue" thereon.

The British Stamps overprinted for use in African Colonies escaped demonetisation. Continued use of some was specifically authorised in the so called Inter-Provincial period from 18 August 1910 to 1 September 1913. Indeed some were not effectively invalidated until 1 January 1938.

From an article "The Invalidation of Victorian Postage Stamps" by Peter Young, The GB Journal, Volume 40 Number 2, March/April 2002, The Great Britain Philatelic Society.

Post Office Circular 2233 dated 22 June 1915

"On and after the 1st July the adhesive postage stamps of the last issue of Queen Victoria's reign, and any impressed stamps issued during that reign which have hitherto been available for postage will no longer be valid."

From a note "The Invalidation or Demonetisation of Postage Stamps" by Graham Mark The GB Journal, Volume 40 Number 3, May/June 2002, The Great Britain Philatelic Society.

Post Office Circular 23 August 1950

Overprinted British Postage Stamps DF128

British postage stamps of the reign of King George V and onwards, which are overprinted for use in territories outside the United Kingdom and on which the original British denominations have not been cancelled are valid for the prepayment of postage on letters posted in this country.

British stamps so overprinted and on which the denomination in British currency has been deleted and some other denomination in foreign currency has been superimposed, e.g. francs and centimes, pesetas and centimos, rupees and annas, shillings and cents are not valid for prepayment of postage in this country and letters posted here bearing them should be treated accordingly.

A suitable note should be made at working positions concerned.

Post Office Circular 1 August 1951

Overprinted British Postage Stamps DF128

With reference to the notice P.O.C. 15.11.50, complete edition, p. 737 DF 128, Sub-Postmasters' edition, p. 514, all officers concerned are reminded that current British postage stamps which have been overprinted for use in territories outside the United Kingdom and on which the original British denominations have not been cancelled are valid for the prepayment of postage on postal packets posted in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. P.O. Rules B 2 6 (a) refers.

An amendment to the relative regulation at page 23 of the Post Office Guide (July, 1950, edition) appears at the end of this circular.

Post Office Guide July 1950 and the amendment (1 August 1951) to page 23.

IMPERFECT OR DEFACED STAMPS

Payment of postage cannot be made by means of imperfect or defaced postage stamps. Stamps are considered defaced when marked on the face with any written, printed, or stamped characters. Perforation is, however, allowed under certain condition, see paragraph on Perforation with initials, and exceptionally British postage stamps issued in the reigns of King George V, King Edward VIII and King George VI which have been overprinted for use in British territories outside the United Kingdom, and on which the original British denominations have not been cancelled, are valid for the prepayment of postage on postal packets posted in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. (P.O.C. 1.8.51)

Post Office Guide July 1953, page 23.

IMPERFECT OR DEFACED STAMPS

Payment of postage cannot be made by means of imperfect or defaced postage stamps. Stamps are considered defaced when marked on the face with any written, printed, or stamped characters. Perforation is, however, allowed under certain

condition, see paragraph on Perforation with Initials,

Exceptionally, British postage stamps issued in the reigns of King George V, King Edward VIII, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II which have been overprinted for use in territories outside the United Kingdom, and on which the original British denominations have not been cancelled, are valid for the prepayment of postage on postal packets posted in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Post Office Guide July 1968

IMPERFECT OR DEFACED STAMPS

Postage cannot be paid by means of imperfect or defaced postage stamps. Stamps are considered defaced when marked on the face with any written, printed, or stamped characters. Perforation is, however, allowed under certain condition, see paragraph on Perforation with Initials,

Exceptionally, British postage stamps issued in the reigns of King George V, King Edward VIII, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II which have been overprinted for use in territories outside Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands before October 1, 1969 (except stamps overprinted for use in the Irish Free State 1922-3), and on which the original British denominations have not been cancelled, are valid for the prepayment of postage on postal packets posted in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man.

This implies that overprinted Irish stamps could be used between 23 August 1950 and July 1968!

After decimalisation, which took place on 15 February 1971, all stamps of the old currency were valid until the end of February 1972 and were repurchased by the Post Office until 1973 at face value less 15% administrative charge. From an article "validity of Overprinted Great Britain Stamps" by Bill Fletcher, *The GB Journal*, Volume 41 Number 1, January/February 2003, The Great Britain Philatelic Society.

BOOK REVIEW

Les Entiers Postaux de Belgique. Published by the Société Belge de l'Entier Postale. 2009 256pp softbound. (also available in Flemish).

The appearance of this new catalogue of Belgian postal stationery can certainly be described as long-awaited since it is almost twenty years since the last edition. In that time, there has been a great deal of research into older issues of postal stationery, as well as many new issues, and the collection of what was once a rather-neglected speciality has increased tremendously, both in Belgium and elsewhere. The members of the SPEP under the able leadership of Luc van Tichelen have produced a much improved and much more useful catalogue and anyone who is still using the old edition should immediately dispense with it and migrate to this splendid new edition.

At first sight, the main change is that all the illustrations are now in colour throughout which adds to the attractiveness and ease of use of the catalogue. It also helps with identification. It is a pity that the publisher did not extend this innovation to the cover, as the catalogue is bound in plain and rather sober cream card without illustration, and many of the attractive and interesting items shown inside could have been previewed on the outside. Nevertheless, colour does make an enormous difference, although in some sections it is rather sparingly deployed. A pity not to illustrate the superb 1897 Brussels Exhibition card (especially now the various types are identified) although the comparatively dull but rare 1910 card is pictured. It would have been good to illustrate a few more Publubels in the extensive (and of course now complete) section on those unique advertising cards. (Extending to 52 pages).

The structure of the chapters has been maintained from previous editions so as not to disturb the established

numbering system but the catalogue is now divided into two main sections: 'classic postal stationery' and 'special postal stationery'. The latter includes familiar listings for telegraph forms, occupation issues, Eupen and Malmédy and so on, but also some surprises. Some of these are new issues. How many non-Belgian collectors have heard of, let alone seen, 'Pop 'n'Play' boxes? (three dimensional greetings cards). Also the free postcards distributed to promote various commercial and social causes, like anti-smoking? These include the strange 'Robland' postcards and envelopes which portray an 'alternative' Belgian Monarch, King Rob, which I showed to the Society a couple of years back. All is now explained; this was a TV quiz show which the stationery was used to promote and send material to contestants!

But the biggest surprise is the re-appearance of a section listing International reply coupons. This appeared in the first edition of the catalogue in 1949 but subsequently dropped as these items were not considered 'real' postal stationery. A full specialised listing now appears as these are very widely collected and although not priced, some real rarities are indicated. IRCs with -10% surcharges, anyone?

Overall, the new catalogue is a great improvement and every section benefits from much new information, including print numbers and helpful background on rates, usages and validities. My only quibble is with some of the prices. Used examples of postcard No 1 at 5 Euros? Lead me to them! The 1910 Exhibition postcard is certainly rare but is it really worth 350 Euros? Especially when a properly used 'Carte-Telegramme' is only quoted at 100 Euros. I know which one is the harder to find. Nevertheless, for any collector who dabbles in Belgian 'stamps with large margins' this is an indispensable acquisition.

Professor Iain Stevenson FRPSL.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

G.B. Airletters

Arthur Roberts reports that there was a print run of white paper Airletters with 'Star' in November 2008. Four printing dates have been seen to date - MSE numbers 317/08, 318/08, 319/08 and 320/08 which indicate the print days as Wednesday 12 November to Saturday 15 November 2008 inclusive.

The Standard sheet without 'Star' was re-printed in December 2008 with MSE numbers 343/08, 344/08 and 345/08; the days being Sunday, 9 December, Monday 10 December and Tuesday 11 December.

No Welsh bilingual sheets have been recorded dated after 053/07. Have any members living in Wales seen any later printing dates?

Catalogue of Postal Stationery of Canal Zone

The 2009 revision of Canal Zone Postal Stationery by Irwin J Gibbs (editor) and George T. Krieger (associate editor) has just been released.

The catalogue is a cooperative venture of United Postal Stationery Society and Canal Zone Study Group. The publication covers all envelopes and postal cards issued during the time the United States Postal Service administered postal operations in the Canal Zone. In addition to updating prices and other information in the previous catalogue, the publication contains a history, postal rate table, earliest reported uses and other new information. New are listings and prices of specimens of Canal Zone Postal Stationery that have come into collectors hands following recent archival auctions.

This new publication is 70 pages printed on glossy paper in 8.5 by 11 inch format with a laminated 4-color cover and is saddle stitch bound. It is available from Bob Wilderman at the UPSS Publications Office, P.O. Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831 (e-mail upsspubs@aol.com) for \$20.00 (\$16.00 if UPSS member) plus \$5.00 shipping for up to two books to U.S. addresses (Virginia residents add 5.0% sales tax). For non-USA destinations, please contact the publications office for rates. Many additional references on United States and foreign postal stationery, corner mounts and other collector aids are also available from UPSS. Society information, the current society auction offerings, and the complete publications and supplies listing may be viewed on the Web site www.upss.org.

Leroy Collins

The Norwegian Stationery Printed-to-Private-Order of Frederick A. Brofos (Ebay number 180358207241) Soft Cover - Teflon Spiral Bound.

Perhaps less than 100 types of Norwegian postcards, printed to private order, are generally known. There is no complete catalogue of them and they are not listed at all in the Norgeskatalogen published by the Oslo Filatelist Klubb. Printing records, kept in Norway, describe what was produced, and for whom, with a notable exception being a description of the work done for Frederick A. Brofos.

This 24 page, softcover, colour monograph fills that knowledge gap, and expands the corpus of private postcards by approximately 50%. With this new information, it is hoped that a catalogue of Norwegian stationery, printed to private order, now will be made.

The catalog raisonné is profusely illustrated and shows all of the multi-stamped compound cards as well as some of their usages. Also included is an explanation of how the cards came to be made and why almost no information has been available on them for more than 40 years.



Norwegian Stationery of Frederick A. Brofos Printed to Private Order

By Alexander Brofos



Frederick Brofos

When I was little, my father would go stamp-hunting to Europe in the summer.

It was during one these philatelic holidays in 1968 that my father got the idea of getting some postcards printed to private order in Norway.

On his way, he stopped in London where he went to the National Portrait Gallery and purchased some of his favorite postcards of the Kings and Queens of England.

When he reached Oslo, he applied to have the cards imprinted with current Norwegian stamps. As he placed his order, he asked whether he could have some early regularly-issued postcards uprated so that he would not have to affix additional postage stamps. Much to his surprise, his request was granted and he was able to create what he termed "semi-official" postcards.

This type of hybrid stationery had never been produced before. Normally only private stationery could be uprated for private use; and only official stationery uprated for official use.

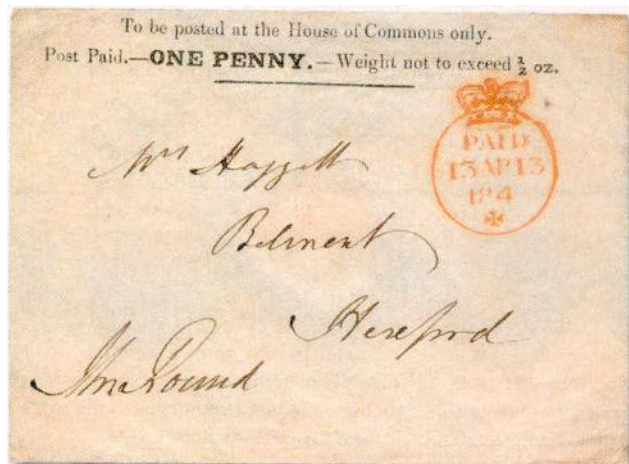
Because my father thought the chances of getting cards revalued were slim, he only brought a few cards of each type with him. As a result, the quantity of cards he had made was extremely small.

Continued at bottom of page 2.

Posthorn and Olav V on 15 øre Posthorn SR-116



Alexander Brofos

Sold at Auction

1840 House of Commons 1d post-paid. Posted on 13th April 1840. Realised £3,700 at Philangles Sale.

Two two penny Mulready letter sheets glued together to form a large envelope 22cms x 9cms. Postage had been uprated with two 2d blues making the total postage paid 8 pence, sufficient for up to 4oz. For some reason the item was endorsed 'over three ounces' and 'more to pay 4d'. Posted in London in 1846



This item was in Warwick & Warwick's sale with an estimate of £2,500. However what must be an unique item sold for £3,910. I am sure that the new owner will be more than pleased with his/her purchase!

For more information on this item see 'Travels of an Auctioneer' by Colin Such in Stamp & Coin Mart July 2009.

A New Colour Chart

A new colour chart to aid in identifying United States envelope and wrapper papers has just been developed by the United Postal Stationery Society. A similar product was created some years ago but has not been available on the open market for a long time. The chart, on a sheet of 8½ x 11 inch photographic quality paper, illustrates ten different basic envelope paper colours in a clear plastic protector and semi-rigid support page. It is available from the UPSS Publications Office (address below) post-paid for \$20.00 (\$18.00 if UPSS

member) UPSS Publications Office, P.O. Box 3982, Chester, VA 23831 (e-mail upsspubs@aol.com).

Colour Chart for GB Airletters?

At Swinpex I was talking to Arthur Roberts about his display of GB KGVII Airletters and he asked if I knew of any colour guide which would help in identifying the different 'grey' papers used for these printings. Standard 'colour charts' for stamps seemed to be of little use. Does anyone know of a chart which may help, or would any enterprising member like to produce a chart, maybe along the lines of the one produced by the USPS mentioned above? If so please contact me (Details on page 2)

John Barker

Alexander Brofos asks if anyone has a photograph of HMSO in Wealdstone as it looked in the 1960's 1970's – He has had no luck finding an image thus far. Please send a copy to Alex Brofos 412 South Road Hopkinton NH 03229 United States of America.

National Portrait Gallery Cards (See **CSP186** illustrated on p12 of the February 2009 issue of the Journal). **Alexander Brofos** writes 'The card on page 12 says

"Dear Paul, Here you have a first-day of use of a private postcard that I had made in edition of only 106 pieces. Then there were different pictures too; so that there are only 7 cards which have this picture of Queen Victoria. Yours truly, Fred"

So the card is 'historic' in that it gives the details of edition. Unfortunately, most of these cards were severely damaged when the roof leaked during a hurricane many years ago.

Not all of these National Portrait Gallery cards were used at HMSO. Some were taken to Norway where they had Norwegian P2PO stamps applied. These British cards, stamped in Norway; and the Norwegian, officially issued cards uprated with stamps printed to private order, form the basis of the booklet detailed of the previous page.'

Articles Noted Recently in the Philatelic Press

"Postal Stationery 2007-2008 Foreign Countries" - Geir Sør-Reime. (Gibbons Stamp Monthly June, July & August 2009)

"Keeping Us Posted" – G.B. Advertising Stationery – Colin Baker (Gibbons Stamp Monthly June 2009)

"Postal Stationery Matters" – Peter van Gelder (Gibbons Stamp Monthly June 2009)

"Oswald Marsh – Philatelist Extraordinaire" Michael Peach (Gibbons Stamp Monthly July 2009)

"GB Postal Stationery, Postal Labels and Postmarks" – John Holman (Gibbons Stamp Monthly August 2009)

"Travels of an Auctioneer" – Colin Such (Stamp & Coin Mart July 2009)

"Découverte Dès 1869, les premières cartes

postales...Avant la carte postale illustrée : entiers et précurseurs” - Jean-Louis Emmenegger (AIJP) (L'Écho de la Timbrologie . Juillett-Août 2009. N°1831)

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

Ganzsachensammler May 2009 (Switzerland)
Die Ganzsachenumschläge des Verschönerungsvereins Zürich und Umgebung (VVZ)
Neues vom Sammelgebiet Empfangsscheine (EPS)
Frühe Luftpostbeförderung von Ganzsachen 1

Postal Stationery Collector May 2009 (Australia)
Notes on a French Postal Stationery Envelope
Official Government Wrappers of the Antipodes
The 1961 QEII Lettersheet of Australia – Official Use
Listing of Non-Denominated Postal Stationery

Postal Stationery Collector August 2009 (Australia)
Australian Pre-Stamped Postcards 1967-77
New Zealand and Hong Kong
Unusual Postage Due Treatments
Extant Used Post Office Newswrappers: Observations about Availability
Papua New Guinea: 1953 Registered Letter
Australian Post Sales Procedures for Registered Post Stationery

Postal Stationery May/June (USA)
American Bank Note Co. & George F. Nesbitt & Co.
Stamped Envelopes
The First Postal Card of Costa Rica
Turks Island SPECIMEN error
Varieties of Cuban 1880 – 1882 U.P.U. Postal Cards
New Information about Cook Islands Postal Cards
Selected British Forces Aerogrammes from the Thomas A. Matthews Collection. Part 6

Postal Stationery July/August (USA)
USA Postal Cards Revalued at the Local Level
A.F. Stahl and the First Postal Cards of Iran
Patriotic Cachet on Philippine Postal Stationery
Argentine Stamped Wrappers 1878 – 1887: The National and American Bank Note Co. Issues
Selected British Forces Aerograms from the Thomas A. Matthews Collection. Part 7
USA Multiple Ad and Discount postal Cards – Another Hudson River Group Card

Die Ganzsache 1/2009 (Germany)
Die BESTELLGELD-FREI -Umschläge von Hannover und das Schicksal der verwendeten Klischees
Ein Prozess um den Diebstahl von Makulatur der Preussischen Staatsdruckerei 1865
Notganzsachen Britische Zone - RPD Hamburg/RPD Kiel
Postkarten von Portugiesisch Nyassa
Neuheitenberichte 1/2009 - 6/2009

QUERIES AND REPLIES

QUERY

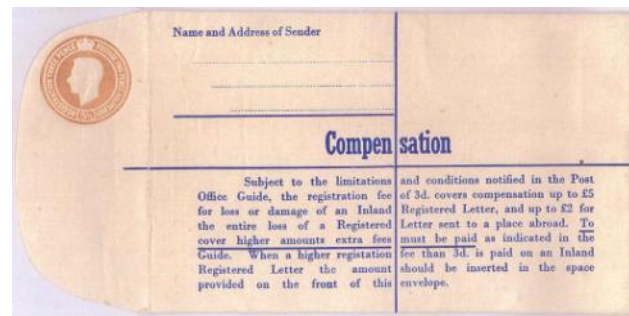
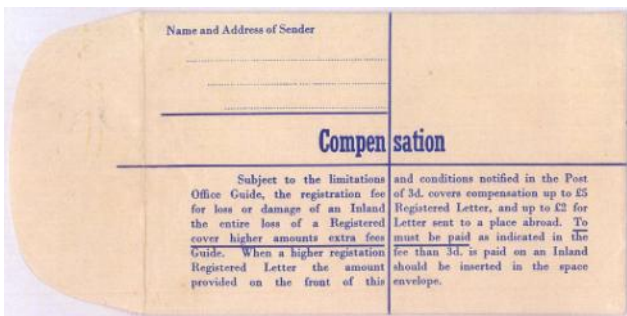
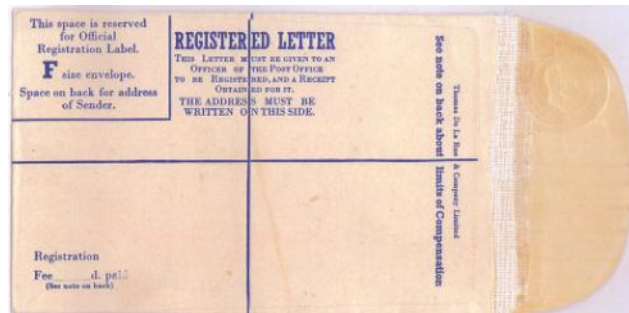
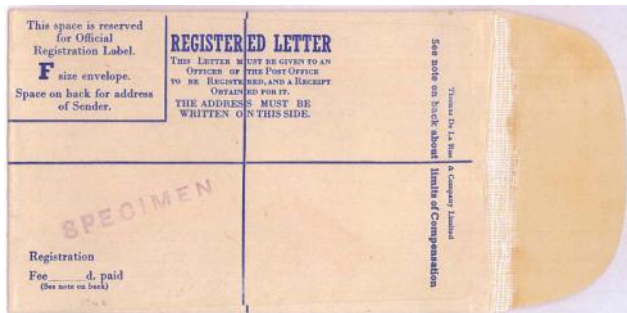
Prof. John K. Courtis writes “Could I please submit the two attachments for publication in The Postal Stationery Journal together with a request for information to members as to the meaning of the number 9 that appears on the top right of the indicium on this E8 wrapper.



Under magnification the 9 does not appear to have been typewritten and there is no indentation on the reverse. The 9 appears to have been pre-printed, but being black it is not directly related to the private printing of the firm Chatto & Windus, Publishers and address which has been printed in the same brown as the text and indicium. Indeed this might be an early example of a stamped-to-order E8 wrapper because a careful study of the juxtaposition of the text and the private printing show their horizontal planes are identical. Moreover, a straight line touching the top of the letters HATTO & INDUS also exactly touches the top of the indicium. The positioning appears to be deliberate and contemporaneous with the printing of the text and indicium. Was this printed by De la Rue or at Somerset House? The paper appears to be routine stock, the hair ribbon shading is horizontal, the top corners are chamfered, and the 24.5mm cancel is D.L/ 4 9 88/ S.W.”

QUERY – Registration Envelope: KG VI ‘SPECIMEN’ RP61

Tony Hitchcock writes: “The Provisional unstamped envelope produced by DeLaRue & Co. in 1947 (illustrated over page) is overprinted ‘SPECIMEN’ in sanserif letters 42 x 4.5mm in size. All details printed on the front and back of this envelope are identical to the stamped envelope issued in March 1947 (also illustrated).



The 5½ d die 131 was registered on 6.1.47 and this makes me ask the question “Was approval given for the basic envelope given in 1946?” The company had not printed British envelopes which, apart from the war provisionals, had been printed by McCorquodale & Co.

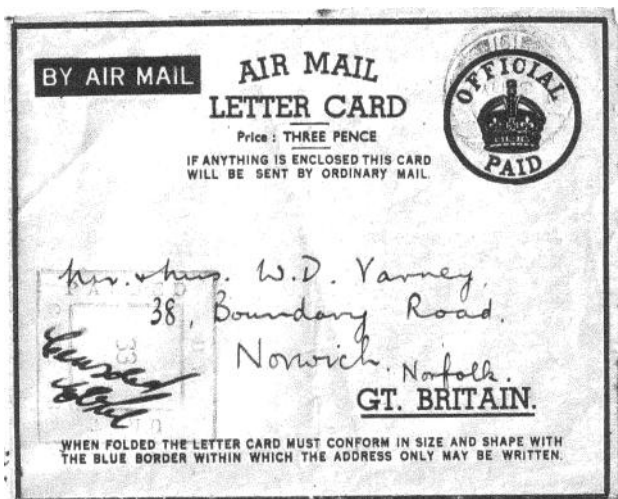
REPLY - ‘THE FIRST BRITISH AIR MAIL LETTER CARD’

Arthur Roberts writes “I refer to the article in Journal Vol. 16 No.3 on ‘The First British Air Mail Letter Card of May 1941’ by the late John Daynes and the note from Tony Goldstone in Issue No.4. Tony suggests that 1st May was the most likely issue date. I can report that the example I have in my own collection whilst having a light postmark with a date that appears to be 3 MY /41 the letter written inside by Sgt P L Weeks, Middle East Force to Elsie and Wilfred in Norwich is clearly dated 30/4/41. This means that Kessler’s statement that April was the month of issue for that Forces Letter Card was true and

John Daynes was correct in stating that the first date it was valid for use was 1 May 1941.

REPLY - W.H. Smith & Sons Forgery.

Alexander Brofos writes: “I have been looking at some research by Bill Lehr on US Postal Forgeries of the 1876 centennial and Nesbit 1860 dies. At the turn of the 19th century, the Central German Philatelist’s Newspaper (Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten – Zeitung) attributed reproductions of Nesbit 1860 cut- squares to Englehardt Fohl of Dresden. Herr Fohl was, like so many other early dealers, not above printing stamps himself to satisfy the space-filling needs of his customers. Fohl’s story appears in Dr. Varro Tyler’s articles and books on philatelic rascals. It is likely that Fohl’s practice was to print several different dies on a single sheet which would later be cut up into squares for sale to collectors. This would explain why complete envelopes with these impressions are not found. I have seen complete envelopes of the 1876 issue in correct (green) and incorrect (blue) colours; but I have only seen cut squares of the forgeries of the early issues.



REPLY - SALT UNION LIMITED DIVIDEND STATEMENTS

Peter Saunders writes “On reading the last Journal, I remembered that somewhere in my collection I had a couple of samples of Statements from the above company. I have eventually located them, though my copies do not have a decorative mock watermark and are later. In addition, the return address is now quoted as “Colonial

House, Liverpool”.

I believe that the figure 12 represents the Dividend issue for 1895/6, though this does not tie up with the copies I hold unless the company did not pay a dividend for a few years.

The three copies I hold are used but not posted, and the cheques/warrants at the foot of the letters have been removed. The GVR impressed stamps are still mint. All letters quote the same registered holder “Edward Pillow”.

The earliest letter has the printed date of 15th April 1918 and is the dividend for "the Year 1917". It has a large number (28) in the margin, I would think about an 18pt size bold sans serif typeface. The impressed stamp is GVR number 30 (Huggins & Baker E43). The letter is printed in a pale red colour and has an imprint "Wt,28 - 4600".

The second letter has the printed date of 21st April 1920 and is the dividend for "the Year 1919". It has a large number (30) in the margin, again, I would think about an 18pt size bold sans serif typeface. The impressed stamp is GVR number 32 (Huggins & Baker ES53). The letter is again printed in red, and has the imprint "Wt. 80 - 5900 - V.40".

The third letter has the printed date of 28th April 1922 and is the dividend for "the Year 1921". It has a large number (32) in the margin. As before, I would think about an 18pt size bold sans serif typeface.



SOCIETY AUCTION

With this copy of the Journal you should have received the list for the October room and postal Auction. If you intend to bid by post, 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 postal bids is noon (UK time) on Wednesday 21st October 2009.

Neil Sargent, the Auctioneer would be pleased to receive quality lots for 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.

WANTS

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

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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

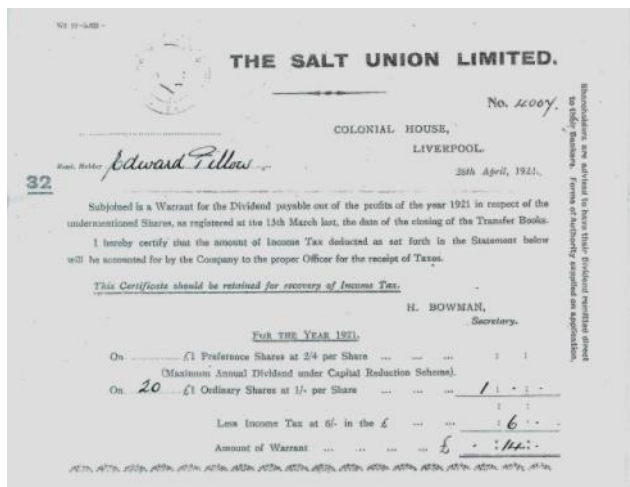
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Please note my email address has an 'h' between john and barker



The impressed stamp is GVR number 33 (Huggins & Baker ES45). Another letter printed in red, the imprint on this copy reads “Wt.80 - 5900 -”. A copy of this document is shown.

REGISTRATION ENVELOPE: Q E 11- Error in stamping RP 89 K

Tony Hitchcock reports “Errors in the production of Postal Stationery occur from time to time and I thought this item would be of interest.

The accidental double-stamping of the 3/4, die 11, on **RP 89** size K is most unusual and I am unaware of a similar item.

It seems an ardent typist had typed an address before noticing that the stamp was incorrect!”

ILLUSTRATED AND ADVERTISING POSTAL STATIONERY in the period up to the First World War.

The second article in this series will appear in the next issue of the Journal (November 2009). I have received a good response from a few of our members who have kindly sent in scans/photocopies of items from their collections together with the basic information along the same lines as the items listed by Colin Baker in his article. I would like to give a big 'thankyou' to all of these members for the time and trouble they have taken in sorting out this information from their collections and hope that they benefit by the similar efforts made by other members in doing so. I would like to make these listings as comprehensive as possible but can only do so if members send in details of what they have in their collections. My intention is to produce an update to QV envelopes in the next issue of the Journal and then to proceed with QV postcards and QV wrappers. When these listings are updated as far as possible I will proceed with envelopes, postcards and wrappers of KE VII.

Of particular interest in the follow up to this article are the number of variations of 'Alfred Smith & Co, Stamp Dealer'. I am keen to try to list as many of these variations as possible so if you have any variations in the picture or wording of the item, the value(s) of the imprinted stamps or the dates of use please send this information in so that I can include it in the November issue (Copy date 1st October).



An 'Alfred Smith' Envelope - Courtesy Eddy Pockele

So far I have no examples of Advertising Lettercards (GB), yet examples of advertising lettercards do exist for other countries.

PERFINS THROUGH POSTAL STATIONERY

Many thanks to all those members who sent in details of perfined postal stationery items from their collections, from e-bay and other auctions and to Rosemary Smith and members of the Perfin Society. With their help I am able to update this series of articles which ran through volumes 14 & 15 of the Postal Stationery Society Journal.

For those members who have such items but which were NOT included in this series of articles I would be pleased to hear from you. My intention is to collate all the information available and share it with the Perfin Society whose members have provided the bulk of the information which has come to light so far. A lot of work has been put into this by many collectors and it would be gratifying to know that all available information has been collated.

John Barker

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