



THE JOURNAL OF THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

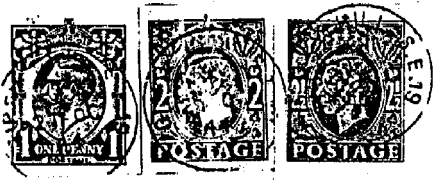
Edited by Peter van Gelder

Issue No. **9**

February 1997



R NORWOOD 3
No. 1014



563

MR. R. VERTES,
102, SUTHERLAND AVENUE,
MAIDA HILL,
LONDON, W.9.

OSWALD MARSH.

BRITISH EMPIRE NEW ISSUES.
PHILATELIC ACCESSORIES.
GREAT BRITAIN CONTROLS A SPECIALITY.

Fig. 1 - A Marshian cover (see page 18)

USEFUL ADDRESSES

SECRETARY David Taylor Smith,
23 Britannia Road,
Norwich, Norfolk, ENGLAND.

TREASURER Sam Barkley,
77 Rathmore Heights,
Ballymena, Co. Antrim,
NORTHERN IRELAND, BT436NQ.

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Mitcham, Surrey, ENGLAND.

NEWSLETTER PRODUCER John Barker,
35 Portia Avenue,
Shirley, Solihull,
West Midlands, ENGLAND.

Our Publicity Officer is Colin Baker. Our A.B.P.S.
Representative is Michael Smith.

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WANTS

Airletters

Airletters used by United Nations soldiers (all operations). Also postally used airletters of all countries (for a beginner in the field).
J. Emmenegger, P.O. Box 110, CH-1009 Pully, Switzerland.

Palestine & over-printed G.B.

Palestine airletter sheets 1944-48 mint & 1st day. G.B. aerogrammes overprinted for Gulf States (Bahrain, Kuwait, etc.) mint & 1st day.
A. Goldstone, 45 Gainsborough Gardens, London NW11 9BJ.

New South Wales

Reworded "Greater Jubilee" cards, H&G 10 & 11. *Please contact the Editor.*

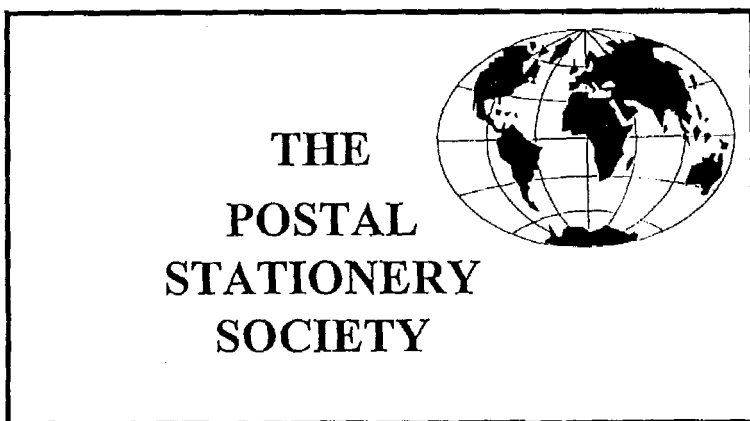
Inclusion in this feature is FREE to members. Maximum length is normally 5 lines. Advertisers of WANTS should please reply promptly to every member who responds to their requests.

Editorial

At last September's London meeting a suggestion was made by Colin Baker (Publicity Officer) that the Society should have a logo. This seemed a good idea to me, so I worked up a rough sketch, which I next modified after listening to comment. The final upshot, after some typographical help from Colin Baker, can be seen below.

Perhaps at some time not too far ahead the Society's Committee or A.G.M. will adopt a logo. If you have any modification to suggest to the design shown here, or if you wish to put forward a completely different design, please write in. The logo should be suitable to appear on the Society's letterhead & on its various publicity material.

Peter van Gelder



THE
POSTAL
STATIONERY
SOCIETY



(The World here represents an imprinted stamp, and a worldwide spread both of membership & of collecting interests.)

SOCIETY CALENDAR

12th April - A meeting will be held at 2 p.m. in the Crosby Room at the YWCA Central Club, 16/22 Great Russell Street, London W.C.1. The meeting will feature members' talks/displays, so you are invited to bring along postal stationery for display (up to a maximum of 36 pages per person).

24th May - A regional meeting will be held at 2.30 in Glastonbury Town Hall, Somerset. Members attending are invited to give short talks/displays, which will in any case include "Early 20th Century G.B. Stationery" by Colin Baker, and "Jubilee and Federation Down Under" by Peter van Gelder. *This meeting will form part of the all-day annual exhibition and fair organised by Wells Philatelic Society.*

REGIONAL REPORTS

A meeting held at Big Stamp in the Metropole Hotel Exhibition Centre, Brighton on 27th October last was attended by 7 members & visitors, who were entertained with displays from 4 speakers:-

"South African Faulty Printings" (Tony Chilton)

"G.B. Cut-outs Used on Covers" (John Norton)

"Cowboys, Indians & the U.S. Fleet" (Peter van Gelder)

"Australian Coronation Cards" (Tony Brander, non-member).

A meeting was held on 24th November last at Puddletown, Dorset, with 5 members attending. It was convened by Alan Bailey, & the following displays were presented by Messrs Hood, Faers (who kindly accommodated the meeting), Baker & Bailey respectively:-

"G.B. Victorian Stamped-to-order Embossed Dies"

"Allied Occupation of Germany 1945-46"

"G.B. Pre-decimal Air Letters"

"Jugoslavia 1921-41",

QUERY CORNER

An Oval Imprint for the Speaker

This item (fig.1) has been referred to me by Tony Chilton. Has an oval imprint been long in use for the Speaker? This and any other information about "Speaker stationery" is invited for possible inclusion in a future "P.S."

A Nigerian Cut-out on Cover

Also from Tony Chilton has come the item in fig.2. He suggests the Post Office perhaps made the cut-out and then surcharged it for issue as an adhesive. I have consulted one of our members on this: Duff Nalkin (Canada), who has a special interest in African aerogrammes. He makes 3 alternative suggestions:-

- (a) The sender made the cut-out himself from a surcharged aerogramme he already had.
- (b) The sender was sold the cut-out at a post office by an employee who had clipped it from a used aerogramme for recycling - such things can happen when employees are underpaid or not paid at all.
- (c) The Post Office made the complete item up from an aerogramme that was no longer postally valid and in view of a shortage of envelopes.

Any member who has helpful information or ideas about this item is invited to send such in (typed or in block capitals, please) for possible publication.

Peter van Gelder

Home Office Statistical Division
Lunar House
40 Wellesley Rd.
Croydon
Surrey

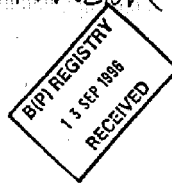
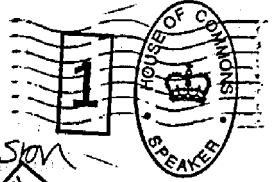


Fig. 1

Zuwa



PILIN AMBOSHIN TAKARBUKUY
SASHIN HAUSA NA B. B. C.
P. O. BOX 160
KADUNA - NIGERIA -

Fig. 2

LETTERS

TO THE

E d i t o r

The British & their Stationery

Having spent a year in Britain, and given the large number of collectors of stamps, 1st day covers and postal history, I am taken aback by the lack of interest in G.B. stationery among British people. I appreciate the effort the Postal Stationery Society is making to spread interest & appeal in this area, but without an up-to-date catalogue the task will be difficult. Such a catalogue does not need to be fancy in form, but it should be complete, comprehensive and with up-to-date pricing. We need something that collectors (new & old) and dealers can easily refer to - so why not try to do something about it!

In the U.S.A. there is the United Postal Stationery Society, and in Italy the Unione Filatelici Intero-fili - in both cases 95% or more of members collect their own country in some form. The U.P.S.S. publishes its own catalogue every 5 years; and the Board of the U.F.I. edits the "Nuovo Pertile" catalogue issued by Laser Invest (an auction house). Both these catalogues are very detailed and great for collectors. For dealers, who need something less encyclopaedic but updated annually with market values, there is Scott in the U.S.A., and Il Filo-grano, Il Sassone and L'Unificato in Italy. All these are well under the £50 I paid for "British Postal Stationery" (published 27 years ago). (This is with all due respect to its author, our Chairman, who can have no control over its secondhand price!) For G.B. there is also Higgins & Gage, but that has not been updated for a long time - I find the regularly updated Michel better, but it is rather concise (and expensive, too). Also, the latter is in German, which many collectors do not speak.

Enio Spurio

Editor's note - In support of this letter I should like to add a summary of the G.B. catalogue situation:-

Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia Vol. 1 - 45 years old, therefore no Q.E.II issues and valuations outdated.

Higgins & Gage (section G) - listing 21 yewars old, pricing 11 years old. In "P.S." no.8, p.27 it was noted that they "are compiling data for the long-awaited updating & pricing of the H&G catalogs".

"British Postal Stationery" (Alan Huggins) - 27 years old; a new edition was hinted at for 1995 (see "P.S." no.2, p.4) but it has not materialised.

Michel p.s. catalogue of Europe - apart from the language factor as mentioned, this strikes me as a muddled and confusing listing.

"Postal Stationery of G.B." (T. Brightmore) - 12 years old, and the pricing is for mint only.

"Collect Post Office Cards" - just basic listing of aerogrammes, aircards, postal cards and lettercards, but pricing is presentday.

Commemorative Card for Norway

I take great pleasure in sending you a copy of our first piece of commemorative postal stationery produced for a long time. This card commemorates the 350th anniversary of Norway Post. The denomination is for the inland rate, so an adhesive has been added to make up the rate to Europe.

Paul Jensen (Norway)

* See following illustration of this card.

Unlisted G.B. Wrapper

I enclose a rather poor photocopy (see illustration) of a W.H. Smith & Son Ltd. newspaper wrapper with 2 impressions of the ½d green KGVII stamp L23. This is

not listed in Alan Huggins' "British Postal Stationery" as one of the known compound stampings.

Allen Cotton

Postmerken '96

(The following letter has been received by our Secretary, David Taylor Smith, from Mr J. Stroom, President of the Ned. Ver. van Poststukken en Poststempelverzamelaars.)

Now that we have all the commotion around our exhibition Postmerken '96 behind us, I should like to express on behalf of our Society thanks for your co-operation. The collections which the British Postal Stationery Society contributed were much appreciated. Please convey our thanks to the members whose collections were on show here.

J.M.A.G. Stroom

* Members exhibiting at the Amsterdam show for our Society were: Messrs Chilton, Huggins, Taylor Smith, Ray & Stevenson.

JUBILEUMSPOSTKORT



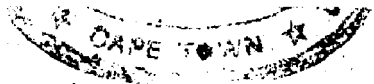
J. Campbell
Edinburgh



Mr Peter van Geester
Sommerhay
16 Frant Avenue, Little Common
BEXHILL, Sussex
England



3/9/49 →



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~~TRAVEL AGENTS~~
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~~CAPE TOWN, S. AFRICA~~

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L 23



*of. The Thousand Hills Hotel.
Drummond
Motel*

US 27 - 45 27

See letter "Unlisted G.B. Wrapper" from Allen Cotton

MIDPEX

28th June at Coventry - 60 specialist societies and over 40 dealers are expected to attend - our Society has booked a stand and display frames - look for more details in the June Newsletter

Auction Action



Our Auction

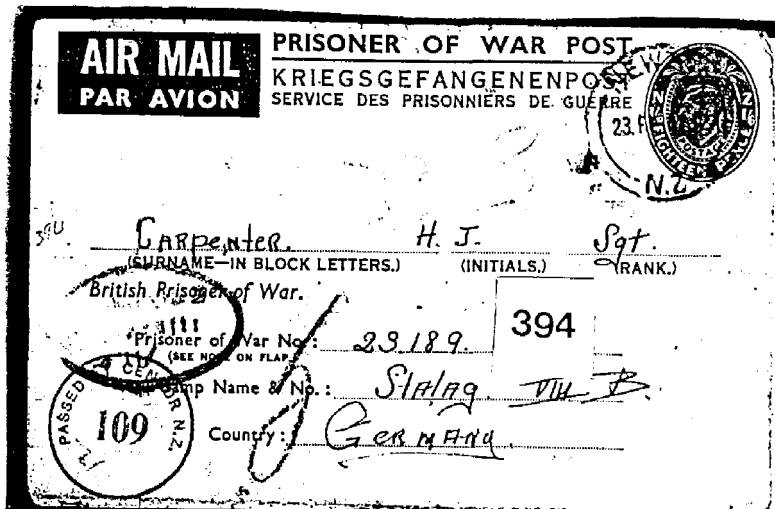
Tony Chilton reports that sales in our September 1996 auction totalled nearly £3,800, an increase of more than £1,200 on the 1995 figure. By my calculation 65% of the lots were sold, which is an average figure for the last 3 years. 52 members made successful bids. The top bid was £230 (lot 42). A complete list of realisations will be sent out in June with the newsletter and next auction list.

For the September 1997 sale please send your lots to reach Tony Chilton by 12th April at the latest (the sooner the better). If you attend our London meeting on that date, you can save postage by handing your lots in there. Please accompany your lots with a list (typed or in block capitals) clearly describing each lot; if possible include H&G or other catalogue numbers, & any necessary comments on condition - also state reserves if any, but keeping them reasonably low. Vendors will be charged 10% commission on hammer price of lots sold.

John Fitzpatrick - Postal Bid Sale

Our Society's sole member in New Zealand, John Fitzpatrick, held an interesting sale last September. Of the 394 lots some 23% were postal stationery. Here are a few examples to give a flavour of the material and the prices.

Lot 28 was an Australian 1956 Olympics aerogramme, commercially used, with "MELBOURNF" flaw - estimated at \$NZ40, it realised \$48 (about £21).



Lots 310 to 313 were a Zanzibar group. A 1a+1a sender's + reply card used in 1900 to Germany went for \$45 as estimated (H&G 12). A mint sender's + reply card of 1908, 3 cents Sultan (H&G 19), sold for \$20 (est. \$25). A 1a postal card commercially used in 1909 to Germany sold at its estimated \$40 (H&G 10). Last in this group was a 3c Sultan card (H&G 17) used locally in 1913; that went for \$20 (est. \$25).

The final lot in the sale is illustrated here. It is a 1942 use of the first type of N.Z. prisoner of war aerogramme (Samuel GA1a) sent to Stalag VIII in Germany and showing part of a camp handstamp. This was sold for \$280, which was \$20 short of estimate.

Big Zululand Sale

Reported by Brian Cartwright

For collectors of Zululand postal stationery a good opportunity to add items to their collections arose on 25th September 1996 when Harmers of London sold by auction (in 253 lots) the magnificent collection Of stamps, postal history and stationery formed by Wilson Wong, FRPSL.

The whole spectrum of postal stationery was on offer from

Lot 80 - ½d (2 shades) & 1d (2, one reply) hand-stamped "SPECIMEN" (NA 1) in violet; 2d (5, two reply) & 1d unused; ½d & 1d cancelled with "ESHOWE/P/JU 12/94" c.d.s. & unaddressed (realisation £240) to

Lot 209 - 1901-11 covers/cards (10, mostly stationery) to a variety of addresses, 8 with Zululand transit of arrival c.d.s. (also realised £240).

Apart from these general lots there was a number of more specialised items including

Lot 139 - 1897 (18 Sept.) ½d card to the Natal Bank at Johannesburg, a good strike alongside circular framed "1d" in violet, "T" & large part "DEBIT" h.s., Durban & arrival c.d.s. on reverse - sold for £380.

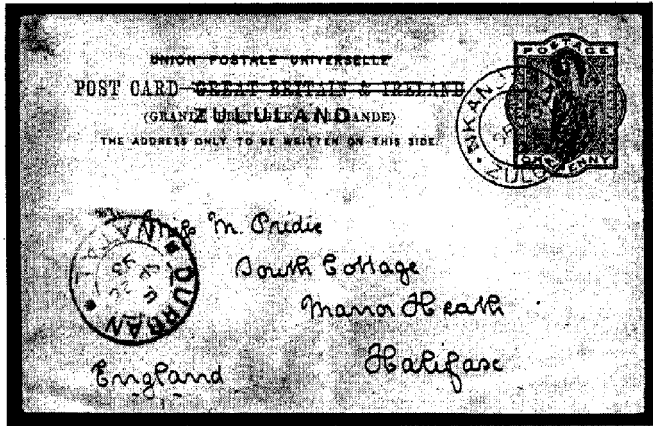
Lot 149 - 1893 (8 May) ½d card to Natal with fine Eshowe c.d.s., believed to be the earliest recorded usage of Zululand postal stationery - £160.

Lot 154 - 1893 (22 Sept.) 1d card to England headed "Entalameni" & cancelled by a superb strike of the double-ring Nkandhla c.d.s. - the earliest recorded date of use for this cancellation and believed to be the sole known cover with it in violet - £750.

Lot 155 - by far the star postal stationery item in the sale - 1893 (11 June) ½d+½d card used locally to Insandhlwana, both halves cancelled with superb strikes of the oval Nondweni c.d.s. in violet - traces of soiling, otherwise sound and one of the finest of the few covers known - £2,600.

In all there were 34 lots containing postal stationery. Lots 154 & 155 are illustrated here.

LOT
154



LOT
155

A note on page 9 of "P.S." no.8 was from a non-member (David Padgham, President of the India Study Circle). It reported the sale of a Perak postal card for £700 and asked "Can anyone cap this price for a postal card?". Here are 2 responses to that challenge.

Going Up!

Collectors of Indian postal history, such as David Padgham, suffer some of the most horrible-looking postal stationery from anywhere in the World. Its appearance tends to put many collectors off, so prices tend to be low. In contrast, Chinese stationery has a strong collector enthusiasm locally, so that £700 for an early card with a particularly scarce cancel would be a LOW price at auction. I can offer an example of a rather higher realisation from my own auction of November 1992:-

Lot 562 - 1907 1c reply card used by Club Concordia as a masked ball invitation (reply half not used). Chang type D5 cancel. Card is the folded-at-right variety, 120mm size, very minor stain.

My estimate for this of £1,000 proved laughable. 7 higher bids arrived - the underbid of £2,050 meaning that the buyer paid £2,060. He was lucky, for I had a late bid of £2,350 which would still have been beaten by the buyer's bid. The buyer was a resident in the Far East. With the enthusiasm for anything philatelic out there in 1997, I would use a £3,000 estimate if any member has a spare copy of this card today!

Geoff Rosamond

But Higher Yet & Higher!

I read with pleasure last October's "P.S." and was intrigued with the challenge on page 9 "Can anyone cap this price for a postal card?". £700 is a high price but not a rare instance, especially when there are associated postal history aspects.

The highest price I have come across for postal stationery is approx. 72,000,000 lira (about (£28,000) inclusive of commissions for the earliest of the 3 known uses of an 1861 Lombardo-Veneto 30 soldi cut-square on piece. The second in order is indeed a card: \$28,600 (£19,000) inclusive of commissions was paid for a U.S.A. 1920 1c on 2c Grant international card, surcharged in black by cancelling machine, H&G 49/Scott UX 36. This was only the fourth such card discovered (all used), and it was sold at a New Jersey auction in March 1993.

In the U.S.A. postal card area there are several highly priced items - & that is without going into obvious errors (such as double impressions, missing colours, etc.). There is the 1875 small watermark Liberty card 1c black on dark buff (H&G 3/UX 4): a mint example sold for just under £1,000 a couple of years ago. Then there is the 1916 1c Jefferson emergency paper card, dark green on greyish white with recut die (H&G 34/UX 27D): a mint example was sold about 2 years ago for £1,550. A last example in this group is the 1920 1c on 2c Jefferson (die 2), carmine on cream with black one-line surcharge by cancelling machine (H&G 40/UX 31): a mint example was sold late in 1994 for \$3,575 (£2,400) with commissions.

I also follow the Italian area closely. At a Bolaffi sale last May a mint 1951 "Barbus" advertisement 20 lira Chariot card (H&G 154a) sold for 16,711,000 lira (£7,000). Properly travelled cards from the Post Offices in China (Tientsin & Peking) have sold for prices around £1,500 recently. Also some of the travelled cards with German occupation overprints for the Italian Balkan Provinces have fetched around or over £1,000.

In recent times, and following an earlier similar upward trend among its adhesive cousins, postal stationery of the early Italian Republic period has made significant increases in its realisations at Italian auctions, with some mint cards & lettercards approaching or exceeding £1,000.

Enio Spurio

T O P I C S

MARSHIANS HAVE LANDED!

The discussion and illustrations of the products of the Marsh brothers, Victor & Oswald, on pages 15 to 17 of "P.S." no. 7 has sparked off much reaction from members.

First came a contribution from Allen Cotton, as follows:-

"Very pleased to receive "P.S." no. 7, and the piece referring to Victor Marsh I found particularly interesting as I have a number of those items. I enclose photocopies that back up the notes in the journal. As can be seen, Victor & Oswald Marsh were in operation for a very long time if the QEII item was also due to their inspiration. I rather like the illustrated cover with the 3 cut-outs from 2 different reigns, as it ties the name of Oswald Marsh to the use of these stamps (see front cover of this journal - Ed.). There is also a Stampex cover addressed to Victor Marsh himself (fig. 4).

Does anyone know anything about H. Edgar Weston, Esq.? It has been suggested to me that this could well be a pseudonym for one of the Marsh brothers (see fig. 3)."

The next comments arrived from Philip Cockrill:-

"I remember dealing with Victor Marsh and his stationery items in the mid-1950s and early 1960s. I think he got the Post Office to agree to print stationery stamped for private individuals with a straightforward large order for 1d postal cards using a KEVII obsolete imprint; he then had the backs printed as circulars. This kind of practice continued with imprinted stamps of later reigns, but I was interested only in the KEVII imprints at the time, as they were due to be demonetised soon.



Fig. 1 - see front cover. Fig. 2 (above) - newspaper wrapper stamped to order for Victor Marsh.

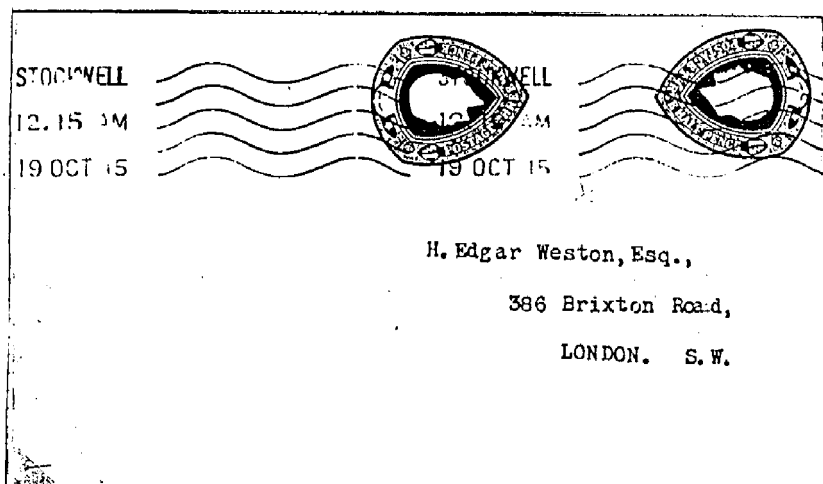
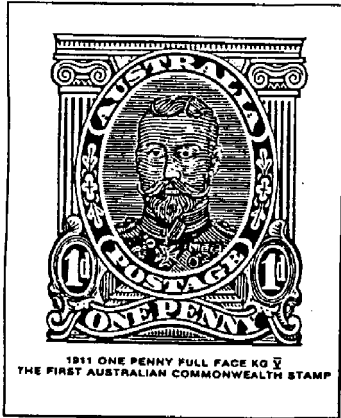


Fig. 3 - A KEVII Marsh envelope posted in 1915.



*Mr. Victor Marsh
13.5101 Road
Riverside
TIERKENHAM MIDDX*

Fig. 4 - Cover with tete-beche pairs addressed to Victor Marsh from Stampex in 1951.



Australia 1911-1996

An almost complete listing in
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APHV (Köln)

He noticed, presumably, that the regulations were loosely worded, and so the tete-beche followed with up to 3 different values per cover (at least) and they were perfectly legal. There was definitely a Post Office regulation for the supply of postal stationery stamped to the individual's requirements and which gave some scope for multiple frankings! Everything was above board - there was no leakage from the printers or anything like that. That the idea did not catch on at the time is shown by the fact that no vast quantities were printed with the result that such items are quite hard to find these days. As private printings they would never reach S.G. catalogue status, despite the fact they could be and were used for postage, and above all were printed and supplied by the Post Office!

I cannot remember whether Victor & Oswald were brothers, but I recall notepaper headed "Oswald Marsh" without any mention of Victor, so was the latter in fact Oswald's father? Perhaps you will come across the date of Oswald's death - I am pretty certain the business was not continued after that."

The third letter came from Jack Harwood (U.S.A.) with a very interesting enclosure:-

"Journal no.7 is to hand - another fine issue. In response to your questions on -pages 15 to 17 I am enclosing a photocopy of a 1923 booklet by Victor Marsh himself. I think you will find it interesting!"

Editor's notes - The booklet is entitled "Great Britain: Abnormal Embossed Postage Stramps of King Edward VII & King George V". It has 18 pages of print and 3 plates of illustration. It is indeed interesting, and at first I thought of reproducing extracts from it in "P.S.". But my second thought is that it might be better kept as a whole and reprinted for interested members to buy at a modest price. Permission for this has been granted by the publishers' successors.

I have also looked through my philatelic book collection for any trace of the Marshes and have found an interesting little advertisement in the 1958 "Stamp Collectors' Annual". There Victor Marsh offers "Great Britain George VI surface-printed imperf inscribed "POSTAGE" - Five values (½d - 2½d) mint 12/6, tete-beches 25/-."

Also, I can confirm that "Victor Marsh" was a pseudonym used by a man whose real name was H. Edgar Weston!

Footnote - Can any member lend me an original of the 1923 booklet for the purpose of making high quality copies of the photographic illustrations?

Peter van Gelder

VERY LATE USAGES

QV Card Used on Decimal Day

Thanks for very interesting journal no.7 -when I saw illustration of a cover on page 31 and your enquiry as to whether there were any later usages of early stationery, I had a quiet laugh.

Shown here is a photocopy of the front of a G.B. card in my possession. This leaves your cover a baby! Mine has 78 years between (or 72? - Ed.). What, however, makes this card so interesting is not so much the late usage as that it is postmarked as a first day cover, for at the time of decimalisation the post office was closed owing to the staff being on strike. So how did it get cancelled with the Harrogate cancel? Moreover, with post offices closed, where did the sender get the stamps in time for the issue date? Could the fact that the writer's son (the message on the back is signed "Dad") worked in the Edinburgh Post Office have anything to do with it?

This card has intrigued me for some time, but unless the people involved are still around and are willing to talk, we shall never know the answers.

Sam Lawrence

The Daddy of Them All?

Illustrated here (next page, lower item) is a late usage of a card about 97 years after its issue date!

Michael Shaw

DAY of ISSUE : 15.2.1971.

POST CARD



CARTE POSTALE

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

THIS SIDE FOR THE ADDRESS



A.P.C. Peter Loadman,
Headquarters Staff,
G.P.O.
Edinburgh

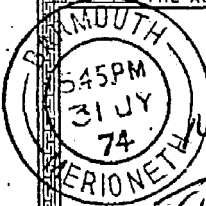


H.B.

FOREIGN POST CARD

FOR COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL UNION.

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



MR. W. B. Robertson
Flat 51 Corporation St West

LIABLE TO RECORD	
BASE RATE	
POSTED UNPAID	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OVER	025
NON POP	
IMMEDIATELY	

WISHALL

S Posters

WS1 3 QS

FROM THE

EDITOR'S DESK

You will find enclosed with this journal a complete listing of the Society's library as at 1st March 1997. It will be noticed that 6 items (32 to 37 inc.) have been added since last October. My thanks go to Tony Goldstone for donating item 37, and to Colin Baker for donating item 35 and also for seeing to the printing of the list.

Still on the subject of books, I have had news from Edgard Pockele (Belgium) of a new catalogue. This is "Katalog der Privatpostkarten" by H. Frech, covering issues of Bavaria, Wurtemberg and German colonies. The price is DM65 (about £24) + postage. It is obtainable from the author at Am Hinterhof 30, D-77765 Hausach, Germany.

Several members have been asking about my own book, which I detailed in last February's "P.S.". Through no fault of mine publication was delayed. The revised title is "The Collectors' Guide to Postal Stationery", the *intended* publication date is now late February 1997, & the shop price £6.95p.

The following are articles noticed recently in the philatelic press are:-

Three Mexican Postal Cards' Stories (D. Pulver, Linn's Stamp News, 25th November 1996).

Private Stationery Stamped to Order (Colin Baker, British Philatelic Bulletin, November 1996 & January 1997).

Postal Stationery Matters (Peter van Gelder, Gibbons Stamp Monthly - December 1996, PSE collecting/Federation cards; March 1997, Canada).

At last Autumn's London Stampex 3 of our members received competitive awards. Michael Smith received the P.T.S. Trophy for his entry "Orange Free State Postal Stationery". Also Bob Emery gained small vermeil & small silver gilt awards, and Ted Grey a bronze silver (but whether these were p.s. exhibits I do not know).

Information reaching me about members' displays to local philatelic societies tends to be scant. Last November Colin Baker showed "G.B. Victorian Postal Stationery" to Dudley P.S. in Worcestershire. The display generated a great deal of interest among those present and might result in one or two new members for our Society. Then on 11th March I shall give a display to Haywards Heath P.S. (Sussex) - the title is "Commemoratively Speaking" & a good deal of stationery will be included.

Lastly, I want to commend our advertisers to your attention: Robin Linke, John Fitzpatrick, Sidney Fenemore, Classic Philatelics and (in our previous issue) Steve Drewett, Peter Steinkamp and Stamps from Overseas - all are keen on stationery and on trying to supply your wants!

COMING UP

In our next issue (October) it is hoped to include:--

Cut-outs Used as Adhesives.....by John Norton

G.B. KGV $\frac{3}{4}$ -face $\frac{1}{2}$ d - a 4th Die..by Andrew Whitworth

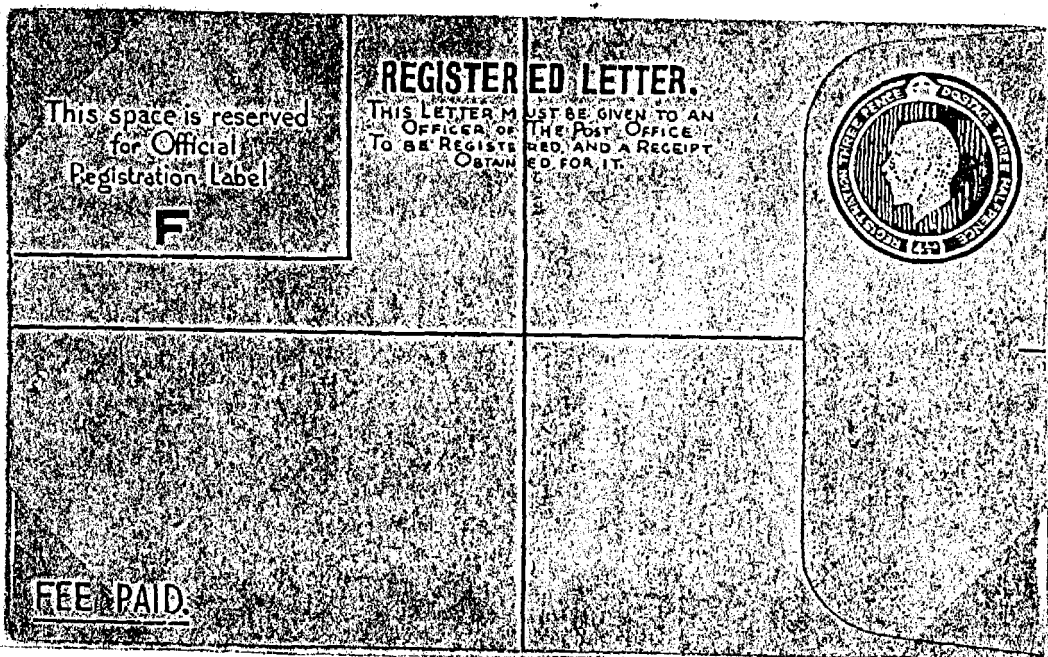
Pre-1st Day Christmas Aerogramme..by Duff Malkin

WHAT'S ON THE BACK?

This item has no name attached to it in the Editor's file but is thought to have come in from John Norton.

Not what it seems

This very unusual item which appears to be an F size G.B. registered envelope of the 1930 issue is in fact a Christmas card! The "envelope" can be unfolded and then seen to be a means of sending Christmas greetings with a pun on the word "registering". The wording inside is: "I am registering my Heartiest Christmas Wishes to ensure a safe delivery to you....From...". The only printing on the back is "The 'Alpha' series London....Copyright British". This item was probably prepared in the early 1930s, and it breaks Post Office regulations by copying the issued registered envelope of the time.



AEROGRAMMATICS

Middle East to Australia

J.R. Hill has written from Canada to comment on a matter referred to on page 28 of last February's journal, i.e. wartime airletters from servicemen in the Middle East to their families in Australia. His photocopy (fig.2) "shows the use of Australian stamps on British airletters which occurred prior to 14th July 1841.....The cost of airletters to Australia was 9d until early 1941 when the rate was changed to 3d".

1st Day Airletter Form 1942

J.R. Hill also refers to Brian Harwood's paragraph (see page 30 of last February's journal) about the use to the Middle East of the 6d G.B. adhesive on the G.B. airletter form and sent on the first day, 7th December 1942:-

"Similar airletter forms were also sent to the United States and to Canada on that same date. The 6d adhesive rate to Canada took 20 days to travel."

Date Listing

by Brian Harwood

I should like to thank Colin Baker for his reference on page 28 of last February's "P.S." to my date listing of aerogrammes in "P.S." no.3. Regarding my "?? Early 1941 Australia", that was based on information I had read. By coincidence in the June 1994 "Gibbons Stamp Monthly" Peter Jennings stated that the first Australian issue was on 15th July 1941 - a date that coincides with the 8th anniversary of Gumbley's Iraq Air Mail Letter. So I think

we can take 15th July 1941 unless anyone can establish an earlier date.

My date "?? November 1944" for the G.B. 2½d air-letter (Hug AP5): that was not a misprint - as with the above Australian item, all dates on my list were submitted for amendment by members if they could establish earlier ones. I got my initial information from Hodson's listing, which quotes 3rd printing "No Enclosures Allowed" as November 1944. Both the Alan Huggins listing and "Aerogrammes" by by Jennings give July 1944.

Regarding the Siam AIR'O'GRAM, I can give a date from my own collection of 30/12/33 - but somewhere I have read August 1932 as the issue date (can anyone confirm?).

Australia's first Forces Airletter

As against Brian Harwood's 15/7/41 date given above, Tony Goldstone sends the following photocopy with the comment: "I believe this answers the question about the first day of Australia's airletters! This item came to me from Jim Hill in Canada". See fig.1.

G.B. 1942 1st Day Airletters - several!

In last February's "P.S." (page 29) Brian Harwood wrote of a G.B. Forces airletter form with 6d adhesive used to the Middle East on its 1st day, 7/12/42. Now Tony Goldstone has sent in photocopies of FOUR more of the same! These are addressed to Lt.Col. Matheson; Private Cropp; & (2, from different correspondents) Major Creasey (in Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia). So perhaps this 1st day usage is not so scarce as the reported asking price of £180 would suggest. Tony Goldstone states that his 4 examples are on "very different shades of wartime paper".

BY AIR MAIL

**AIR MAIL
LETTER CARD**



IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

Mr. Phil. Collins
13 Holger St
Sandringham S.S.
Victoria.

W. J. Morrison
CENSOR

AUSTRALIA.

FIRST DAY COVER.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

Fig. 1 ↑

Fig. 2 ↓

BY AIR MAIL

**AIR MAIL
LETTER CARD**



IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL.

Kilvington

Mrs. T. B. Kilvington
51. The Ridge.
Canterbury. E.T.
Victoria
Australia

P.W.I.

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Important! Changes of address

Recently 3 members have failed to receive their journal, newsletter & auction list because *they omitted to tell us they had moved*. Please note the correct action upon changing your address is to inform the TREASURER of your new address immediately.

The following new members are welcomed. The list below gives surname & one initial; country of residence if not the United Kingdom; & collecting interests in brief.

Feiner M. (U.S.A.)	World
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Williams J.	India; G.B.; Latin America
Lyons W. (U.S.A.)	Argentina; Costa Rica; Bolivia; Peru
Raygould I.	Malaya; Singapore
Kasper J. (U.S.A.)	World aerogrammes inc. errors, proofs, etc.
Burrow C.	U.S.A.
Fraser A.	Bulgaria; Ottoman Empire
Gangji, Mrs P. (India)	India; Nepal; Bhutan; Pakistan; G.B; Australia; Italy
Hamilton B.	Ireland
Nelwan R. (Indonesia)	Indonesia; Dutch East Indies; G.B.
Salt C.	Australia inc. States

Corrections: in "P.S." no.6 Stjernhock F. should have read Stjernholck F.; and in "P.S." no.8 Nilsson B. should have read Nilsson B.

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