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is an informative monthly magazine for philatelists with news stories from around Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and the rest of the world. Each issue runs to least 96 pages with special features on Australian Commonwealth Philately, Postal Stationery, Investment, Cinderellas, Postcards, Collectibles and much more, brought to you by our worldwide network of informed contributors, and correspondents.

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DECEMBER 1993

STAMPSHOW '94

Stampshow '94 is the name of National-State Philatelic Exhibition to be held on Melbourne over the period 27 to 30 October 1994.

In 1994 there will be a series of National-State Exhibitions throughout Australia in the same manner as 1991, with the various National classes divided between these. The National Classes for Melbourne will be Postal History and Postal Stationery. All Classes will be represented at State level.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria is well-represented on the Organising Committee of Stampshow '94. President of Stampshow is Mr John Trowbridge, who recently headed the organisation of the Society's Centenary Exhibition. Vice-President, and Chairman of the Jury, is Mr Ray Kelly, and Secretary is Mr John MacDonnell.

The Exhibition will be staged at the Caulfield Town Hall, venue for the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Centenary Exhibition. There will be approximately 600 frames of competitive exhibits.

Next year marks the centenary of the first philatelic exhibition held in Australasia. This was organised by the (then) Philatelic Society of Victoria, and was held on 15 September 1894 in the banqueting hall of the Vienna Cafe, Collins Street, Melbourne. Stampshow '94 is being publicised as a Centennial Exhibition, and the Royal Society of Victoria will be providing a display from its archives.

Further information on Stampshow '94 may be obtained from the Secretary, P.O. Box 720, Croydon, Vic., 3136.



AUSTRALIAN COLONIAL DISCOVERIES AND NOTES



Conducted by RUSSELL JONES

VICTORIA: THE BOXED LETTER CARRIER 4 MARKING

Mr Ken Scudder has shown me a clear strike of the mark of the type described by Mr Purves in *Victoria: The Postage Dues*. A further note on the subject appeared in *P. From A.*, June 1981, when Mr G.T. White asked the question "when will the missing LC 1 and LC 4 turn up?"

The present cover bears a 2d Laureated dated 2 February 1870.

These markings were probably introduced in the late 1860's, as I have previously seen:

LC 4	NO 3 66
LC 5	AP 1 68
LC 6	JY 2 68

LC 1 has yet to be discovered.



VICTORIA: A NEW PRIVATE EXPRESS

Bob Hillman and Geoff Kellow report a new private express marking, found on a cover in the Victorian Public Record Office. The private expresses operated largely on newly-opened and expanding goldfields in the late 1850's and 1860's. Their operation was tolerated by the Post Office as long as no alternative official service was available, but they tended to close once an official post office was opened in their area of operation. Mr Allan Levy, in an article in *The Australian Philatelist*, Autumn 1989, provides a detailed listing of these express services, based on the few known surviving covers and advertisements appearing in the contemporary newspapers.

The new discovery is noteworthy in several respects. The marking, "EVANS'/BLACKWOOD/DIGGINGS/ST. GEORGE'S EXPRESS", is the only one seen so far applied to the *front* of a cover. It is struck in black in the top right corner. The stamp probably a pair of 2d Queen-on-Thrones) has unfortunately been torn off. The cover is addressed to Melbourne, and entered the Government postal system at Ballan, where it is datestamped SE 13 1855. This represents the earliest known date, by some time, for any goldfields express. The Mount Blackwood post office opened on 25 September 1855, so Evans' St. George's Express probably survived only a short period after handling this cover.

**VICTORIA: SPELLING ERROR IN DATESTAMP**

Also from the Victorian Public Record Office is an apparently unrecorded error of spelling on a Victorian datestamp. This is the error "BLACK FORST" for "BLACK FOREST". According to *The Post Offices and Hand-Held Datestamps of Victoria, Volume One* by Watson, Webster and Wood, Black Forest opened on 15 March 1859, and was renamed Macedon on 20 July 1870, but the authors record no datestamps. The first datestamp was presumably the error, illustrated here. The earliest date seen is JY 30 60, and three others are recorded with dates ranging up to March 1861. Purves, in *Victoria: The Barred Numeral Cancellations* (page 88), records Black Forest as being seen tied to its numeral (260), so he had presumably seen the datestamp, and since no mention is made of a spelling error, it seems likely there was a replacement with corrected spelling prior to the change of name to Macedon.

**VICTORIA: PROOFS AND ESSAYS BY WILLIAM BELL**

There are a number of proofs and essays for Victorian stamps designed and engraved by William Bell, ranging from 1856 to 1880. Practically all of these were at one stage in the J.R.W. Purves collection; he in turn had acquired many of them in about 1950 from a descendant of William Bell living in New Zealand. Geoff Kellow records all of these in *The Stamps of Victoria*, but he now reports

there is a further group of essays and proofs which have not been formally recorded. These were first sighted in 1990 when they were displayed in The Royal Philatelic Society, London lounge at Stampworld 90 in London. Some notes were taken then, and more recently, through the courtesy of Mr A.R. Butler, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.,L., further details have been obtained and it is now possible to list the Society's holding in full. This material was presented to the Society by Mr E.D.E. Van Weenan, the editor of *The Australian Philatelist*, probably in the early 1920's. From what source Van Weenan obtained the proofs is not known.

The complete list is as follows (page references refer to *The Stamps of Victoria*):

"Emblems" Series

1. Queen's head in circle, and 2d and 6d essays in black incorporating the same Queen's head, struck in black on one piece. Submitted as a specimen of engraving with Bell's tender for the "Emblems" series. (Page 107; one other example of this proof exists, illustrated on page 108, top right).

1873-80 Bell Designs

1. Handpainted essay without value in red on card, with the centre consisting of a blank scalloped frame pasted on. This design resembles those for the unissued 6d value and unadopted 9d design illustrated on page 189.
2. Handpainted essay in rose-pink on card, in the adopted design, and initialled TTAB" (T.T. A'Beckett, Postmaster-General).
3. Two unfinished die proofs for the 9d in black, and red on thin paper, affixed to card. These are similar to that already recorded in the Royal Collection, and illustrated on page 189, but are larger and include an outer frame.
4. Unadopted composite essay for the 2d in green on card, comprising a handpainted frame with the printed Queen's portrait (similar if not identical to that used for the 1d, although that value post-dated the 2d by some two years) pasted on.
5. Handpainted essay for the 2d in carmine and white on card, in the adopted design.
6. Die proof of Queen's head in lined oval, as used for the 2d, with uncleared surround; similar die proof but with outlines of framework added, also uncleared. These are printed on thin paper and mounted together on one card.
7. Die proof in blue of the 2d from the unfinished die with the words of value against an engine-turned background, and a portion of the lined oval adjoining the neck solid. Identical to that in the Royal Collection, and illustrated on page 190.
8. Die proof of ½d in carmine on thin paper mounted on card. From the unfinished die, and identical to that described on page 193.
9. Die proof of Queen's head in oval as used for the 1d, but with oval unlined, in black on thin paper mounted on card.
10. Die proofs in black and red from the unfinished die for the 1d, in identical states to those listed on page 194.
11. Die proofs for the 2/- on thin paper mounted on card, similar to those listed on page 199:
 - (a) With upper right and both lower value tablets uncleared, in red and black.
 - (b) With lower right value tablet uncleared, and vignette cut out, in black.

(c) With lower right value tablet uncleared, in black red and grey-green.

The 2d and 9d handpainted essays complete the series and all the adopted essays are now recorded.

The Stamp Statutes

1. A large size (57 x 65mm) handpainted essay on card in shades of grey and black for the Queen's portrait as used on all values other than the 2/-.
2. Unfinished die proof in black of the 1/- on thin paper, similar to those listed on page 217.
3. Unfinished die proof in mauve of the 1/- on thin paper, with handpainted Gothic Crown pasted on head. This was probably used as an essay for the 2/-.
4. Unfinished die proof in black of the 2/- on thin paper, similar to that listed on page 218.
5. Handpainted essay in blue on card for the 5/- in the adopted design. The 5/- was the only adopted handpainted design which was unrecorded.
6. Unfinished die proofs in black, and grey for the 5/- on thin paper, similar to those listed on pages 219-220.
7. Unfinished die proof in reddish-lilac for the 10/- on thin paper, similar to that listed on page 220.
8. Unfinished die proofs for the £1 in the first state showing serifs pointing the wrong way. In black, and claret on thin paper (see page 222).
9. Unfinished die proofs of the £5 on thin paper:
 - (a) In black (frame) and rose-pink (overprint), showing "STATUTE" yet to be engraved, and upper right and lower right corners unfinished.
 - (b) In black (frame) without overprint plate, showing "STATUTE" yet to be engraved, upper right corner further developed, and lower right corner unfinished.
 - (c) In black (frame) and rose-pink (overprint *inverted*), same state as (b).
 - (d) In black (frame) and violet (overprint), showing "STATUTE" yet to be engraved, but upper and lower right corners finished.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Australia Post Stamp Advisory Committee

Early this year Mr John Sinfield, a member of the Council of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, was appointed as the philatelic representative of the Stamp Advisory Committee of Australia Post. The Committee is responsible for the selection of designs for new Australian stamp issues.

Mr Sinfield's appointment continues an unbroken tradition of association of the Society with the Stamp Advisory Committee since its formation in 1947. All the philatelic members of the Committee have been members of the Society. The first two were Messrs J.R.W. Purves and W.L. Russell, and the subsequent members have been Mr John

Gartner, Mr Ray Chapman, Mr Richard Peck, and Miss Betty Van Tenac.

New A.P.F. Appointees

At the Annual Meeting of the Australian Philatelic Federation held in Melbourne in December, two members of the Society were appointed to high positions within the organisation.

Mr Ray Kelly became President, and Mr John MacDonnell was appointed Secretary. Mr MacDonnell is currently Secretary of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

Mr Kelly succeeds Mr Ray Todd as President; Mr Todd is also a member of the Society.

QUEENSLAND: THE 1892 STAMP DUTY SERIES

By KEN SCUDDER

These Duty stamps appear to be quite neglected in philatelic literature and yet these form an integral part of typographic stamp production in Queensland. This series was produced solely for fiscal purposes and this undoubtedly is the reason for the neglect.

However, as a research project the series presents an interesting challenge as to the likely methods employed in the production of their printing plates, as this article will try to show.

The interchangeability of postal and fiscal stamps, introduced from 1 January 1880, was discontinued on 1 July 1892.

The following Treasury notice appeared in the *Government Gazette* of 4 June 1892, announcing the introduction of the new Duty stamps. There is no question, therefore, of these stamps being available for postal use, although some, no doubt, did pass through the post illegally.

The Treasury, Brisbane
2nd June 1892

Duty Stamps

On and after 1st July, 1892, all duties hitherto payable by interchangeable Postage and Duty Stamps must be denoted by Duty Stamps only (new issue) with the exception of the 1d stamp which may be used as heretofore for either Postage or Duty purposes.

The New Duty Stamps can be obtained from all Postmasters and other Officials who have been in the habit of supplying stamps to the public.

E.B. CULLEN
Under Secretary.

The complete series comprised 3d, 6d, 1/-. 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 5/-, 10/-, £1 and £5. There were two styles of the 3d, the one superseding the other. The 1d value apart, this new Duty stamp series covered all the previous (1872 on) values of Duty stamps, with the addition of 3d, 3/- and £5 values. We may, therefore, be reasonably certain that all values of the new series, with the possible exception of these three additional values, were on issue on 1 July 1892, even though early dates may not yet have been recorded for all of these.

It is highly probable both the 3/- and £5 values were issued on 1 July 1892, although the £5 could have been introduced some time later. However, the date of issue of the 3d value is known. In the Stamp Act of 1894 a 3d duty was imposed on some insurances and a 3d stamp was advertised in the press as being available on 28 November 1894.

These stamps were surface-printed from electrotypes plates. The plates were produced in a similar manner to the small postage stamps of the same period, in that a multiple working die was used to stamp lead moulds. From these moulds

copper electrotypes were formed by the electroplating process. The electrotypes, when backed and clamped together, formed the printing plate.

It is well documented that the plates for the Queensland postage stamps of this period were made using "group of four" working dies. These working dies were also produced by electroplating. The main difference between the working dies and the printing electrotypes being that the working die shells remained in the electroplating bath for a much longer period. This allowed them to build up a greater thickness of deposited copper which gave them increased strength.

These multiple working dies were used to speed-up the production of the electrotypes. The size of these dies was controlled by the ability to separate the electro from the lead mould without damaging the electro. They also needed to be of a suitable size such that whole multiples of the electrotypes could be used to build-up the printing plate.

One of these Duty stamps covers the same area as a pair of the smaller postage stamps when turned sideways, viz. 23 x 41mm. It would therefore seem reasonable that a pair, or "group of two" would be used to form a working die having the same surface area as the "group of four". It will be shown that this was the method used.

For these 1892 Duty stamps a printing plate of 60 subjects was used, arranged in six horizontal rows of ten. Pairs of electrotypes could, therefore, quite easily be used in the build-up of the plates, each row comprising five pairs. This arrangement of the plate resulted in the sheet being printed sideways, resulting in two sideways watermarks per stamp.

Research has shown that, in most values, the stamps may be divided into two sub-types. Where the relative positions of these sub-types is known, using the sheet marginal line watermarks as guidance, these have been designated as Type I and Type II, Type I being on the left of the pair. However, where this order has not yet been determined, the types have been designated Types A, B, etc.

As the research progressed, it became obvious that the methods employed were not as straightforward as was originally thought. The stamps, although nominally of the same series, had various differences, but fell into two general categories, namely those of the Basic Design, and those we will call the Altered Design.

It would appear logical for the original master die for such a series to have blank value tablets, and that is believed to be the case here. It is suggested that the master die, which was probably made of steel, had all the other features of the Basic Design. It was, of course, a single die.

It is further suggested that the printing plates of the series evolved in the following manner; first the Basic Design group, followed by the Altered Design group.

BASIC DESIGN GROUP

Here there are seven values – the first-style 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1. For these the world of value ("THREE", "SIX", etc.) was added within the upper tablet, and the currency of the value ("PENCE", etc.) was added within the lower tablet. This was done by separately engraving on each of the paired working dies.

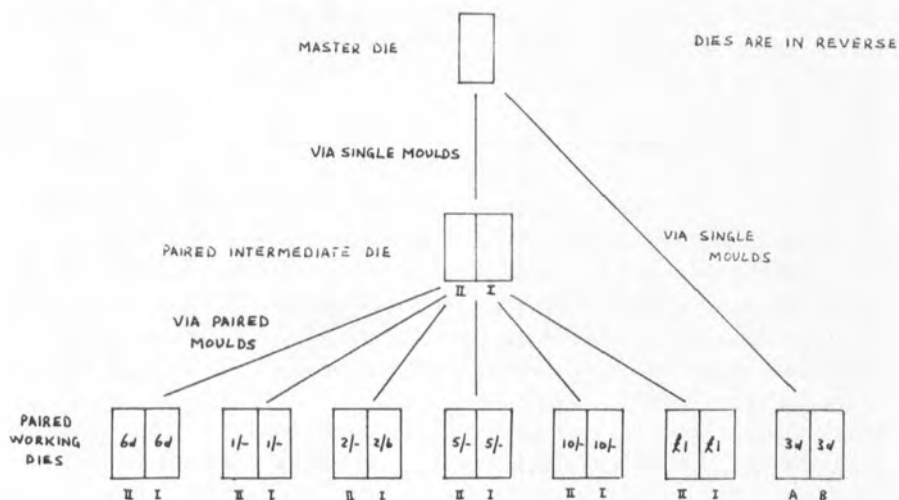


Fig. 1. Production of Plates of the Basic Design Group.



The stamps of the Basic Design Group.

The procedure for producing the plates of the Basic Design group appears to be relatively straightforward, as is shown in Fig. 1. The paired intermediate die was used to stamp the lead moulds used to prepare the working dies, and had only the features of the original master die, including the blank value tablets.

Six of these values all show some of the same common Type I flaws, indicating conclusively the use of a paired intermediate die. The 10/- value has the last of these flaws and must therefore have been the first working die produced. As the following working dies were produced, so these common Type I flaws rapidly developed, and were followed by other flaws. From this development, the most likely order of production of these working dies may be deduced.

The 3d value does not have these common Type I flaws, it being particularly free of flaws. It follows therefore that its paired working die was not produced from the paired intermediate die used for the other six values. It is suggested that this 3d working die was prepared directly from the master die. This occurred some two years after the preparation of the other six values of the group.

It is interesting to note that some further, minor, engraving was carried out on both the 3d and 2/- values in the form of added embellishments to the original design. Perhaps, when preparing these two values, the engraver had more time available and indulged himself.

ALTERED DESIGN GROUP

The remaining four values fall into this group and are the second style 3d, 2/6, 3/- and £5. See Fig. 2.

None of these values show the Type I flaws of the Basic Design group, but all show a common feature, a small white triangular flaw projecting upward from the lower white frame line adjacent to the 16th dot from the left, in the lower frame. This would have originated either as a small indentation on a die or as a small adherence to a lead mould prior to the preparation of the intermediate dies. The flaw is unlikely to have occurred to the master die as this flaw does not show on the first style 3d value of 1894. A second possibility is that a primary intermediate die was used, between the master die and the intermediate dies. However, the most likely explanation appears to be that it occurred due to an adherence on a lead mould struck from the master die, and that all three intermediate dies were produced from the one lead mould. To do this, of course, the adherence would have had to remain attached to the mould during this time.

There are three different value tablet designs in the group, the 2/6 and £5 each being unique, whilst the 3d and 3/- values show the same upper and lower value area design.

In this group the upper and lower value tablets of the Basic Design were removed, together with the upper corner "stars" and their "curls". The 2/6, however, is the exception to this in that its upper "stars" and "curls" were retained. It is suggested that these erasures were performed on the lead mould stamped from the master die by cutting away the unwanted features. The initial erasures must have been carried out for the 2/6 value, to be followed by the erasure of the upper "stars" and "curls" for the 3/- and £5 values.

It is also suggested that the intermediate dies of this group were single and not paired. This is supported by the fact that, with the exception of the 3d,

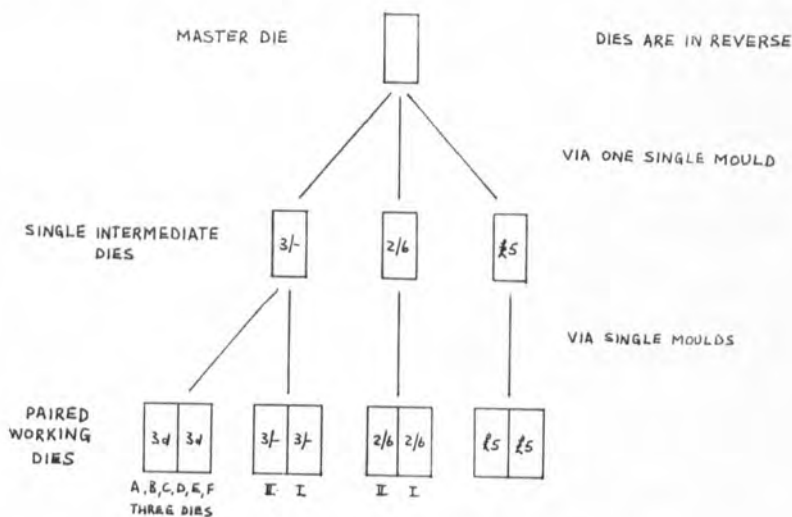


Fig. 2. Production of Plates of the Altered Design Group.



The stamps of the Altered Design Group.

which is a special case, the figures and words of value are uniform, i.e., they do not readily fall into two types as do those of the Basic Design group. The figures and words of value must, therefore, have been engraved on these single intermediate dies, supporting the theory of the erasures being performed on the moulds and not on the dies.

It was initially felt that a case could be put forward for supporting the use of a single primary intermediate die, between the master die and the intermediate dies, but this would seem to be an unnecessarily involved procedure and is no longer favoured. However, it could have accounted for the development of the 16th dot flaw and for the removal of the unwanted features without having them removed from the lead moulds, the suggestion of which will no doubt lead to some comment.

The fact that the 3d and 3/- show common "altered" features, unique to these two values, means that the **one** intermediate die must have been used in preparing this part of the design for both values. It appears that the

intermediate die of the 3/- value was used to stamp moulds from which the 3d working die was produced. The words of value of the 3/- being removed from the lower tablet area of each unit of the paired working die, hence the flaws described later. It is again suggested the removal was carried out on the lead moulds. Six types of this 3d value have been found, indicating that at least three working dies were prepared and used in the preparation of the plate, or plates. No doubt, this was done because there was no 3d intermediate die upon which to fall back should one die become unserviceable.

This appears to be a very complicated method of production but was no doubt employed to conserve the master die and also to have on hand the means of preparing further working dies for all values should the need arise.

BASIC DESIGN GROUP - FEATURES, FLAWS AND THE STAMPS

All share the same basic design except for the words of value. Also, with the exception of the 3d, all share some of the same Type I frame flaws (see illustration of 6d Types I and II):

- Type I**
- (i) Lower frame dots, from the left, 3 and 4, and 5, 6 and 7, are joined (except 10/-)
 - (ii) Lower frame dots, from the left, 20 and 21, are joined to the inner frame.
 - (iii) Right frame dots, from the bottom, 4, 5 and 6 are lightly joined.
 - (iv) Lower right corner dot joined to the outer frame line.
 - (v) White flaw below the lower value tablet (is under "C" of "PENCE" in the 6d) (except 5/-).
- Type II**
- (i) No constant frame dot flaws.
 - (ii) Slight variations in the value lettering compared with those of Type I.

The most likely order of production of the first six working dies may be deduced from the development of flaws on the intermediate die, as follows:

1. 10/- has less flaws to the lower frame than the values that follow.
2. 2/- has all the common Type I flaws.
- 3/4. 5/-, £1 have the common Type I flaws (except that the white flaw below the lower value tablet is missing on the 5/-); their Type I's show two small coloured dots above the "U" in the "QUEENSLAND" tablet frame; also their Type I's begin to show a frame break below the 8 and 9 dots from the left in the lower frame.
- 6/7. 6d, 1/- show all of the above flaws, plus in their Type II's show a coloured flaw in the right inner frame line opposite the upper value tablet "curl".

Three Pence

This first style 3d is the most difficult value with which to work as it has a very faded appearance. Also because of this it is difficult to determine its

original colour; however, it could well be described as "washed out reddish-purple". There are not too many around and no doubt this is because many have been thrown away due to their appearance. It is believed they have indeed faded, although some would dispute this view.

No dated examples have so far been noted. The issue lasted for approximately 12 months from 28 November 1894.

This value does not share the same common Type I flaws of the other values in the group. It also has some minor embellishments added to the Basic Design:

- (i) Upper value tablet has additional small curls, downwards from the scrolls, to left and right of the "THREE".
- (ii) Side scrolls to left and right of the Queen's head have added tendrils attached to the centre of the pairs of curls at the bottom of these scrolls. These tendrils are looped in the centre.
- (iii) Lower value tablet has additional tear drops, downwards, from the centre of the pair of scrolls, to left and right of "PENCE".

The two types of this value have not yet been positioned:

Type A: The additional small curl to the right in (i) above is smaller than in Type B. This small curl measures 1.5mm top to bottom.

Type B: This small curl measures 1.75mm.

Six Pence

This is the most commonly available value. The colour generally could be described as shades of yellow-green. Dated examples are known between 3.5.1893 and 20.12.1900.



Type I



Type II

In Type II, "PENCE" is set slightly higher, and in "SIX" the "I" is slightly more to the left and the "X" has a longer right leg.

One Shilling

This occurs in two colours - shades of blue, and shades of a brownish-claret, the latter varying from a pale aniline to a quite deep shade. The blue colours are the commoner. It might be expected that one colour superseded the other, but this does not appear to be the case as both appear to have been used concurrently. Noted dates for the blue stamp are between 2.8.1892 and 5.5.1902, and those for the brownish-claret stamp are between 2.7.1892 and -2.1899. No



Type I



Type II

In Type I the "E" of "ONE" is inclined to the left and in Type II "SHILLING" is set more to the left with the "s" inclined to the right.

Two Shillings

This also occurs in two colours - a yellow-orange which is often quite deep, and a pale yellow. Few dated examples have been noted, however, the yellow-orange range from 22.4.1895 to 9.3.1900, whilst the only dated examples for the pale yellow are both for February 1904. This then appears to be a printing in a rather different shade.

The 2/- is the only other value in this group to have additional embellishments to the Basic Design. These are:



Type I



Type II

- (i) Upper value tablet has additional small "curls" to the upper scrolls, left and right of "TWO". In Type II this extends further to the right than in Type I.
- (ii) Side scrolls to the left and right of the Queen's head have added tendrils attached to the centre of the pair of "curls" at the top and bottom of the scrolls.

In Type I, the "H" of "SHILLINGS" is narrower and the second "S" is smaller and thicker, and the "W" of "TWO" is more central.

(to be continued)

SOME THOUGHTS ON POSTAL HISTORY, CENSORSHIP AND EXHIBITING

By BRUCE HAYNES

It is widely accepted that accounts of kings, queens and great battles is an inadequate view of history. It is contended here that routes and rates is an inadequate view of postal history and that different views of what constitutes postal history need to be explained.

Historians undertake research to account for change over time in the phenomena under investigation. Postal historians, likewise, undertake research to describe changes in the postal system under study and to provide such explanations of those changes as is possible on the evidence available. To the extent that postal historians are philatelists then the scope of study of the postal system is somewhat more restricted. Aspects of the postal system such as industrial relations negotiations, changes in officers' uniforms and the range of non-postal service products sold by postal officials may be of only tangential interest to the philatelic postal historian. Competition between the postal system and other means of conveying messages, information and goods, markings used to indicate particular means of handling mail and abnormal or improper handling of mail are likely to be as significant to a philatelic postal historian as a study of routes and rates. Where the research on routes and rates in a particular area has been substantial then the collecting, displaying, researching and publishing amendments is satisfying. Philatelic postal historians may find collecting and researching other areas more interesting. Publication of the results of their endeavours is rewarding in itself. To receive due recognition in philatelic exhibitions may require that postal history exhibitors demonstrate the significance of their collection and work. More detailed argument and evidence may have to be published in articles like this to enable judges, viewers and future collectors to assess the significance (importance) of the studied area.

To the traditional philatelist, the postage stamp affixed to a cover is an object of study in and for itself. To the postal historian, such a stamp is evidence of prepayment of postage which "can be effected only by means of postage stamps valid in the Commonwealth for the correspondence of private individuals." Post and Telegraph Act 1901-1910, Section 32). As prepayment of postage is only one aspect of the handling of mail in a postal system it is only one area of study available to the postal historian. As an indication of prepayment of postage a manuscript marking or handstamp is of equal importance. As an indication of postal rate, stamps, manuscript markings or handstamp are of equal importance to the postal historian.

The route and time taken for an item to proceed from the point of posting to the point of delivery is an important area of study for the postal historian. Once the basic information of routes utilised in a postal system has been established then various features of the procedures and processes for handling the mail need to be investigated in order to explain the route and the time taken to deliver particular items. However, some of the procedures and processes for handling the mail are of importance in themselves for postal historians. Thus, a study of registration, postage due, return to sender, mechanised handling or interception of mail are areas of importance to the philatelic postal historian, quite apart from their significance in understanding routes and rates. Studies of interruptions to service (disasters or strikes), how postal systems adapted to social and technological change (telegraph, telephone and electronic data processing) and how postal systems coped with social dislocation (economic disaster or war) are likewise important subjects of study for the philatelic postal historian.

The clear intent of the Post and Telegraph Act (1901-1910) is that no one (unless authorised) may detain, delay or open mail in the civil system in Australia:

109. Any person employed by or under the Department or in the conveyance of mails who negligently loses or wilfully detains or delays or procures or suffers to be detained or delayed any mail or any postal article, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty-five pounds.
115. Any postmaster, master of a vessel or driver of a vehicle used for the conveyance of mails or any guard or any other person in charge of a mail however conveyed who contrary to his duty opens or tampers with or suffers to be opened or tampered with any mail, postal article or telegram shall be guilty of an indictable offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding One hundred pounds or imprisonment with or without hard labour for any terms not exceeding two years.

A study of the circumstances and occasions when persons were authorised to detain, delay or open mail is as important for philatelic postal historians as is the prepayment of postage. Where distinctive markings or other evidence is available on a cover to indicate that this authorised procedure has been followed, it is equivalent in importance to the affixing of a postage stamp to show prepayment of postage.

The Post and Telegraph Act 1901-1910, Sections 43 to 59 deal with various circumstances and procedures for opening of mail, refusal to deliver or destruction of mail. Section 57 states (in part):

- If the Postmaster-General has reasonable ground to suppose any person to be engaged either in the Commonwealth or elsewhere in receiving money or any valuable thing -
- (a) as consideration (1) for an assurance or agreement express or implied to pay or give or (2) for securing that some other person shall pay or give any money or valuable thing on an event or contingency of or relating to any horserace or other race or any fight game, sport or exercise; or
 - (b) for promoting or carrying out a scheme connected with any such assurance, agreement or security as a lottery or scheme of chance or an unlawful game; or
 - (c) as contributions or subscriptions towards any lottery or scheme of chance; or
 - (d) under pretence of foretelling future events; or
 - (e) in connexion with a fraudulent, obscene, indecent or immoral business or undertaking;
- he may order under his hand published in the Gazette direct that any postal article received at a post office addressed to such person either by his own or fictitious or assumed name or to any agent or representative of his or to an address without a name shall not be registered or transmitted or delivered to such person.

This section was the basis for the interception of Tattersalls mail, a topic already covered in articles in *Philately from Australia*.

An area of study which is gaining popularity among philatelic postal historians in Australia is that which relates to what is misleadingly called military mail. The popularity may be due in part to the increasing availability of World War II material. The forces mail system ("forces" being a more inclusive term than "military" which is limited to the army) is an important subject in itself as a mail system operating in conjunction with and feeding into the civil system. Censorship in times of war or emergency is a common practice in the forces mail system where officers censor the mail at unit level. Field censorship in Australia was also carried out by officers at regional bases and State G.P.O.'s during World War II. Censorship is not a common practice in the civil mail system in Australia but may be authorised on occasion.

In addition to the various provisions of the Post and Telegraph Act, persons, other than postal officials, were authorised to open, delay or detain postal articles and to obliterate or cut out information as they saw fit under the provisions of the Defence Act 1903. The objectives of civilian postal censorship during World War I were listed by Scott (1936, pp.82-83) as follows:

1. To prevent persons communicating with the enemy, or obtaining information for that purpose, or for any purpose calculated to jeopardise the success of the operations of British or Allied forces, or to assist the enemy.
2. To prevent the spread of false reports, of reports likely to cause disaffection to British relations with foreign powers.
3. To prevent assistance being given to the enemy, or the successful prosecution of the war being endangered.
4. To bring to the notice of the Commonwealth Government information concerning the dissemination of enemy propaganda.
5. To detect breaches of the regulations relating to the security of the public interest.
6. To prevent illegal trading.
7. To keep watch upon persons suspected to be dangerous.
8. To examine the correspondence of persons in concentration camps.

The advantage of collecting and researching censorship of civilian mail, in contrast to the opening, delay or destruction of mail by postal officials, is that there is often some form of official marking to show that the procedure has been undertaken. In this area, the adhesive paper used to reseal the envelope and the cachet used to signify censorship have the status of the adhesive postage stamp and postmark in traditional philately. However, collecting and research in this area is not as advanced or sophisticated as traditional philately, where a postage stamp is no longer called a label with cement on the back and catalogues have a comprehensive listing of issues and varieties. In the censorship area there is still room for debate as to whether the adhesive paper used to reseal the envelope should be called a censor seal or censor tape (neither are completely felicitous).

There is also the possibility of exciting discoveries, as in the pre-catalogue days of nineteenth century traditional philately. While not likely to be as rewarding as the discovery of the Mauritius "Post Office" issues on cover, the recent discovery of two examples of the hitherto unknown Mauritius censor tape used in World War I (Ibbotson, 1991, p.84) does have its interest. In a similar manner, collecting and research in the past four years has shown that previous listings of censor tapes used in Western Australia had not included the first three tapes used in 1914. This is equivalent to showing that SG 1 should be renumbered as SG 4. For the record, the first censor tape used in Western Australia is illustrated here (Fig. 1). Three examples of this tape are recorded, all on letters posted from Germany in July 1914 which arrived in Western Australia after the outbreak of war and the imposition of censorship on 5 August 1914.

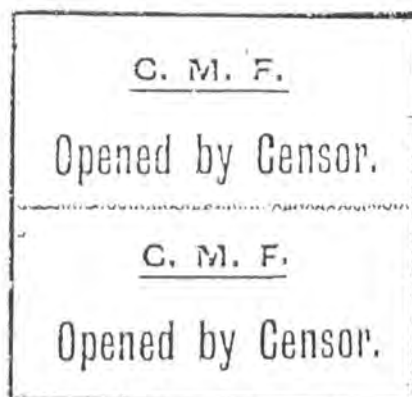


Fig. 1

The interest and importance of collecting and researching censorship of civilian mail arises from a number of considerations:

1. Mail to and from serving members of the forces in time of war or emergency is significant in terms of sustaining morale, both of the forces and of the civilian population. Recognition of this point was such that on the latter part of World War II mail to and from the forces was accorded high priority on scarce air transport space because it was regarded as a munition of war;
2. Wartime mail and mail to and from members of the forces serving in an emergency is significant because it produces unusual volumes of mail to unusual destinations and from unusual sources and liable to unusual handling procedures and rates;
3. Censorship of civilian mails in such circumstances is usually selective and thus poses challenges in establishing the basis for selection. In some cases the selective nature of the censorship and the nature of the correspondence makes the survival rate extremely low and thus this poses additional challenges to the philatelic postal historian.
4. Civilian censorship of mail from some forces units, usually naval but sometimes air force and occasionally army, is difficult to fully explain because of the security procedures in place in particular units which makes it impossible to determine place and date of posting;
5. Prisoner of war mail to and from enemy forces personnel in Australia and Australian forces personnel imprisoned elsewhere was subjected to censorship and is an area of interest in its own right for the philatelic postal historian.

From this it can be concluded that censorship is an important component of the civilian mail system and the work of the Post Office, Censorship of civilian mail during wartime or emergency under the provisions of the Defence Act is of

particular interest to the philatelic postal historian because of the particular interest of the kinds of mail subjected to censorship and because such censorship is often distinctively marked on surviving covers.

It is the possibility of significant discoveries which adds to the interest of collecting and researching philatelic postal history. The range of areas included in philatelic postal history extends well beyond routes and rates and provides the collector with a wealth of interesting topics not susceptible to "cheque-book collecting". To exhibit new areas of philatelic postal history in a way which enables judges and viewers to understand and appreciate the exhibit is an additional challenge for the philatelic postal historian.

REFERENCES

Ibbotson, P. (1991). *The Postal History and Stamps of Mauritius*. London, The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Scott, E. (1936). *Official History of Australia in the War 1914-18: Volume XI. Australia during the War*. Sydney, Angus and Robertson.

BURNS PHILP POSTCARDS

By BRIAN POPE and PHIL THOMAS

The late Mogens Juhl is wrong in seeking PTPO status for the Burns Philp cards (*Philately from Australia*, December 1992). These are obviously from a complete, official, printing base whereas *only the stamp* was impressed on PTPO cards (*Commonwealth Gazette*, 5 June 1902, p.237). Therefore, a card such as the Burns Philp examples, with the complete official design printed from an actual official printing base, cannot be an instance of printed to private order.

Mogens stated that the stamp on the Burns Philp cards cannot be identified. This is incorrect. We have two mint examples of the card both showing the transient blob below "W" and the constant "Dot right of last 'A' of 'AUSTRALIA' ", making the cards P&T PC 17:2. They are standard units from the PC 17 printing bases used for the ill-fated "handpainting" card. It is not clear whether the blob cards come from some or all of the first or second printings, but all were obviously purchased from the Post Office for use as ordinary business cards. We know of no used example.

As Mogens pointed out, the only PTPO postcards for Western Australia on record for the period 1904-12 were made in 1905, well before the Burns Philp cards. These have not been seen, but two of the Victorian PTPO postcards are known in complete form and both were impressed with the stamp alone (Kellow, *The Stamps of Victoria*, 1990, p.368). We doubt if such a commercially aggressive company as Burns Philp would consider the bother and expense of submitting a specimen to the Deputy Postmaster-General in Perth, buying sheets of card and paying for transport to and from Melbourne, when these expenses could be avoided entirely by walking around the corner and buying packets of cards from the Fremantle Post Office.

NORTHERN TERRITORY HANDBOOK: CORRECTIONS AND UPDATE

By E.A. WILLIAMS, F.R.P.S.,L.

(Continued from September 1993, page 77)

- Page 217 TENNANT CREEK. An interesting photograph of the Telegraph Station, plus references to the O.T. are in the *Australian Geographic* of January–March 1993.
- Page 218 TENNANT CREEK. 2nd para: add to end of first line "(see Cabbage Gum Bore, p.79)."
(a) Should be Type 4.
(h) Extend use to 17 October 1984.
(j) Type 17. Add "(42mm) 1980."
Also change photo caption to read Type 4.
- Page 220 THREE WAYS. Datestamp in violet 1965–1966.
TIMBER CREEK. Add "P.O. closed for the duration of the war emergency, 1942–1946."
- Page 221 TI TREE WELL. Insert at the beginning of last line "At time of closing . . ."
- Page 222 TI TREE WELL. Change "Glen Ellen Gorge" to "Glen Helen Gorge".
To be added to write-up: "According to a World War II photo the post office was located in W. Hese's General Store. It is understood that Lily Hese and her husband were the original people in charge of the Ti Tree Well post office when it opened in 1926. Some time after World War II Lily Hese herself carried on the operations of the store until Flo Reid took over."
Add to (b) or insert as a separate entry after (b): "As 9a but now also seen s.d. 15 April 1959."
(c) Seen struck in violet, 1966.
- Page 226 VICTORIA RIVER. (b) Type 4. Early date 4 December 1919.
- Page 227. VICTORIA RIVER DOWNS. After "closed 14 February 1953" add semi-colon, and "Victoria River Downs probably closed for the duration of the war emergency."
WADEYE. (a) Should read "NT 5791" not "5781".
- Page 228. WARREGO. (c) Alter to "From possibly as early as March 1972 to 1988."

- Page 229 WAUCHOPE WELL. Add to (c): "Datestamp still at the roadhouse in 1991."
- Page 231 WONARAH. An interesting reference is "Wonarah: Our Loneliest N.T. Outpost", *APO Magazine*, December 1971–January 1972.
- Page 232 YAM CREEK. 8th line: After "galvanised iron roof" insert "(see page 18)."
- Page 233 YUENDUMU. Third line. Correct spelling of Yuendumu.
- Page 234 YULARA. (c) Extend use to 1987.

CHAPTER XXIV

- Page 235 Second line. Alter first word to "was".
(b) Remove "P.O." from inscription, remove comma, and capitalise "A non . . ."
- Page 236 First line. Correct fifth word to "redesignated".
(e) Quorn–Alice Springs T.P.O. 2nd para: Change early date to 18 September 1943.
- Page 238 Photo caption should read "River" not "Rover".

CHAPTER XXV

- Page 240 ALICE SPRINGS MILITARY P.O. (a) The comment was wrongly inserted. Delete and replace with "May–September 1942 at least."
(d) Should have dash between "NORTH" and "AUST".
- Page 242 DARWIN MILITARY P.O. (post-war). (d) should be Type 10B.

CHAPTER XXVI

- Page 247 5th para: Insert "Collas" before "*The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II*". Add: "E.B. Proud's *History of the Australian Military Postal Services 1914–1950*, published 1992, contains a fully updated study of this era."
- Page 248 2nd para, sixth line. Correct "unti" to "unit".
- Page 255 163. Delete ")" at end of paragraph.
- Page 259 Aust. Unit Postal Stn. 374. Add new cds (probably to list of steel datestamps, p.267). "Steel cds. 22 February 1944."
- Page 262 S78. Delete ")" after "28mm". Alter "Noonaman" to "Noonamah".
- Page 265 Add after AUPS: "(steel datestamps as distinct from AUPS rubber handstamps, p.259)."
- Page 272 New datestamp "R.A.A.F./P.O. UNIT No 7". 20 JY 42. Used at AFPO 20.



- Page 274 Add at the end of the Air Force write-up: "A wonderfully detailed and illustrated book on the Allied Air Force effort in the north has been written by James D. Rorrison: *Nor the Years Contemn - Air War on the Australian Front 1941-1942*, Palomar Publications, Queensland, 1992.
- Page 276 Fourth last line: "Navy P. No. 1" should read "Navy P.O. No. 1".

CHAPTER XXVII

- Page 279 At the end of the U.S. Army Air Force write-up, add: "See reference on page 274 for details concerning U.S. Army Air Force activity during 1941-42 in the Northern Territory."
- Page 280 Allied Intelligence Bureau - Philippine Regional Section. The transmitter/receiver was located near Adelaide River.
- Page 282 B.F.P.O. 1102 and questioned post offices further down list. Collas listed these post offices as questionable. Subsequent evidence suggests these listings should probably be deleted.

CHAPTER XXVIII

- Page 286 Line beginning "13 April 1988": At end of line, change comma to full stop.
- Page 287 Fourth line: Change Alice Springs to "7 October 1970".
 Alice Springs. 3. New early date 11 October 1983.
 The 21 January 1981 introduction of first day of issue postmarkers at Casuarina, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, Tennant Creek and Winnellie came from the *Australian Stamp Bulletin*, No. 152, January-February 1981. The dates on p.197 (Katherine), p.145 (Casuarina), p.204 (Nhulunbuy), p.220 (Tennant Creek) should be adjusted accordingly. The first use of these postmarkers would have been on the 1981 22c Australia Day stamp, 21 January 1981.

CHAPTER XXIX

- Page 289 First line: Change "four" to "five".
 Second line: Include "Nhulunbuy (1973)". Capitalise "S" of "Alice Springs".

CHAPTER XXX

- Page 293 Alice Springs. It has been suggested that the undated "POSTAGE PAID/ALICE SPRINGS" may be a private and no a post office marking. Darwin. Add new marking at beginning of the list. Boxed "PAID" in black on unstamped cover, with the PORT DARWIN NT/SA squared circle. December 1888.
GPO Darwin. Remove roller "PAID AT/DARWIN" and add to the Darwin listing above.
- Page 294 Nightcliff. Change entry to read "Type 20: NT. AUST - 5792." Palmerston. Add to "Machine cancellation . . ." 27 October 1987. Also add new PAID machine cancel: "Boxed datestamp with wavy lines killer. 31 May 1988."

CHAPTER XXXI

- Page 301 New P.O. usage. Add to 2d wmk. Crown SA under post office codes "VR". Also add to "Code for post offices" "VR Victoria River".

CHAPTER XXXII

- Page 303 Insert before "STATE-TYPE": "Labels issued to busy post offices had the name of the post office printed. For smaller offices blank labels were issued and the name was handwritten, typewritten, rubberstamped, or stamped with the cds of the office. These blank labels are known as "provisional labels", and these exist for nearly all types."

CHAPTER XXXIII

- Page 315 Cover illustrated is courtesy of Monica Bardet.
- Page 320 2nd para, line 5: correct "memo" to "mimeo".
3rd para, last sentence: change "only one these" to "only from these".

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Page 325 Change "McCartney" to "Macartney".
- Page 326 Parry. Alter book title to read "*That's Our Territory*."

INDEX

- Page 332 "DOMF". Add "89".
- Page 334 "Limmers" should read "Limmen".
- Page 336 "Schwanz" should read "Schwarz".
- Page 337 "Urandanje" should read "Urandangie".

ADELAIDE: THE EARLY CANCELLATIONS, 1855-1871

By GREGORY WYNN

There seems to be very little philatelic literature on the cancellations of Adelaide, South Australia. I hope to contribute a beginning, with the aim of encouraging contributions from fellow collectors so that a more complete picture can be formed.

The types of cancellation I have found are shown in Figure 1. Table 1 gives the earliest and latest dates and the time codes seen. Other datestamp cancellations had been in use before the introduction of stamps in 1855, and for a time afterwards particularly on incoming mail from outside Adelaide. The former can be found by reference to the Robson Lowe *Encyclopaedia, Volume IV*, and the latter types are shown in Figure 2.

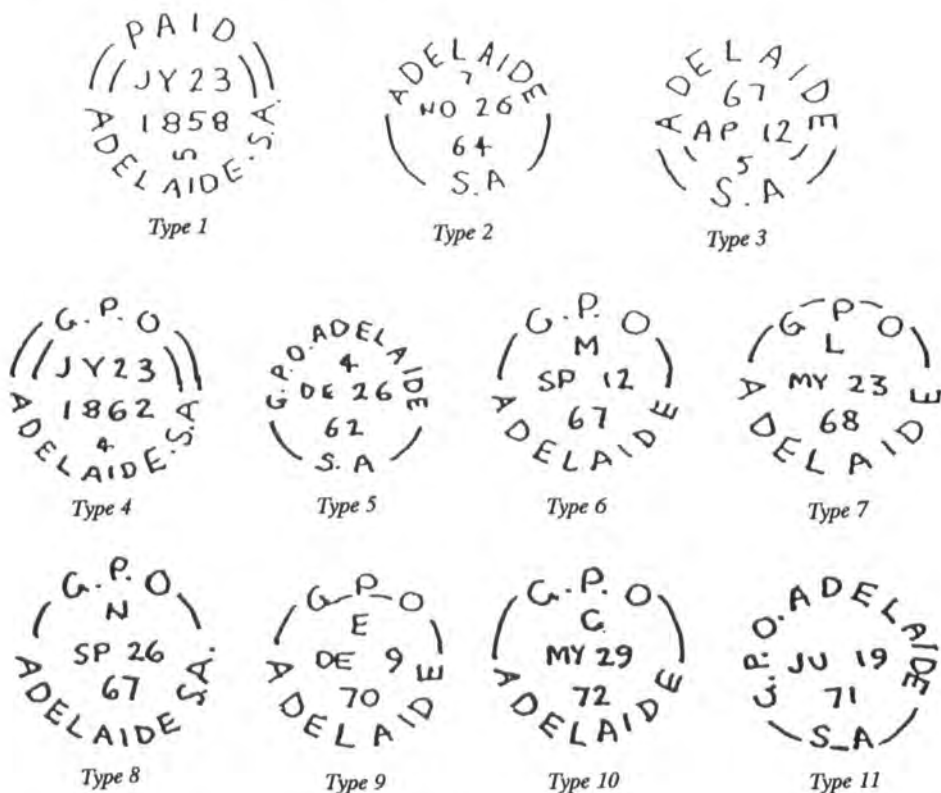


Figure 1

TABLE 1

Type	Earliest Date	Latest Date	Codes Used
1	11.9.1853	12.8.1864	-, 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
2	24.6.1863	15.9.1866	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
3	21.4.1867	20.8.1867	1, 4, 6, E, D
4	19.6.1860	22.10.1862	-, 3, 5, 6, 7
5	26.11.1862	29.10.1867	-, 3, 4, 5, 6
6	29.10.1867		C
7	1.4.1868	2.7.1871	D, E, F, G, J, K, L, M, N, P
8	9.7.1868	12.6.1871	A, D, E, F, G, J, M, O, P, R, X
9	23.5.1868	29.5.1872	C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L, N, O
10	28.9.1867	29.10.1867	C, N
11	19.8.1871	10.9.1874	J

NOTES

Type 1. Seen in red up to 13.5.1857
in blue (or blue-green) from 16.2.1857 to 25.9.1861
in black from 26.10.1860 to 12.8.1864.

Codes appear sideways, usually with the head to the left (82% of sample seen) and the commonest code is "4" (50% seen). The earliest date seen on a stamp is 16.9.1857. The backs of "6" and "9" were curved up to 17.9.1859, and have straight backs after 19.5.1860.

Type 2. Struck in black or blue. Usually the code appears upright, but figures "2" and "4" have been seen sideways, and some lean to the left of vertical. Robson Lowe records a code "J" on 28.12.1861.

Type 3. Struck in black.

Type 4. Struck in blue and then black from 25.1.1862. The codes are upright but codes "5", "6" and "7" have been seen sideways. Robson Lowe gives the dates as 1862 to late 1863.

Type 5. Struck in black; blue seen in 1862. The codes are upright, but "3" and "6" seen sideways with head to the left.

Type 6. Struck in black. The side arcs are midway between the letters "GPO" and "ADELAIDE". The code letter is located centrally under the "P" of "GPO". Only one example seen - possible misclassification.

Type 7. Struck in black. The code letter is generally to the left of the "P" of "GPO", but a code "E" has been seen to the right. The "G" in "GPO" has a cross-stroke. Arcs between "GPO" on the outer edge.

Type 8. Struck in black. The arcs between are level with the feet of these letters. Code "G" has been seen with no cross-stroke in 1868 and with a cross-stroke from 14.9.1869.

Type 9. Struck in black. This is similar to Type 6 but the arcs are at the outer edge of the letters. Dots between the letters "GPO".

Type 10. Struck in black. Code "C" may be a partial code "O".

Type 11. Struck in black. No code generally seen, but letter "J" seen under the "E" of "ADELAIDE".

Three other datestamps were used on covers, but I have yet to see these on stamps. They are shown in Figure 3.



Figure 2

NOTES

Type A. Earliest date seen: 19.7.1851. Latest date seen: 16.12.1854.
Struck in red with no codes seen.

Type B. Earliest date seen: 27.7.1855. Latest date seen: 10.8.1858.
Struck in red 1855, and in blue-green 1857-58.

Type C. Earliest date seen: 23.4.1853. Latest date seen: 15.2.1861.
No code seen 7.1.1853 to 16.2.1854; code "3" seen 28.12.1858 to 15.2.1861. (Robson Lowe gives 28.12.1861 as latest date seen).

I have only seen these on incoming post as a backstamp or on incoming post without a front datestamp.

All the unframed handstamps were replaced by the circular framed varieties. The earliest date for the new types is 29.8.1872, followed by similar types but in duplex (earliest date 27.1.1881), and finally the double-circle cancellations (earliest date 29.10.1901). More information on these types I hope will follow in later articles.

Any further information on any of the Adelaide cancellations will be gratefully received and acknowledged in any updated articles. The contact address is Greg Wynn, Library, City of Westminster College, 25 Paddington Green, London, W2 1NB.

QUEENSLAND: 1d DUTY STAMP OF 1878-79

By KEN SCUDDER

This 1d Duty stamp was the first stamp to be produced in Brisbane following the decision to surface-print stamps from electrotypes. It appeared in mid-1878 and was followed in 1879 by the 1d, 2d and 4d postage stamps. Two 1d dies were supplied by William Bell, of Sydney, one for the Duty stamp and one for a postage stamp. William Knight, the Chief Engraver of the Lithographic Branch, who was responsible for stamp production, manufactured the printing plates.

A.F. Basset Hull, in *Vindin's Philatelic monthly*, 20 February 1894, wrote regarding the die for this Duty stamp: "From this die Mr Knight prepared 120 electros, arranged in 12 horizontal rows of 10 stamps." Ever since, writers have assumed, quite wrongly, that 120 separate electros were used for the printing plate.

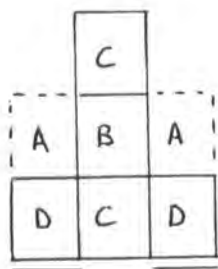
A study of this stamp shows that, just as for the postage stamps which followed, William Knight used a working die of a "group of four" to produce 30 electros to form the plate of 120 subjects.

This fact was first suggested in *Australian Colonials*, No. 6 of November 1986. Help was requested to corroborate the findings and to finalise the positions of the four types. Since then numerous letters have been sent to collectors of Queensland, all to no avail. This article, then, is written with the aim of presenting the findings to a wider audience and in the hope of finalising the type positions within the "group of four". All that is required is the finding of a stamp with side marginal line watermark and its correct typing.

Study has shown that this stamp fell into four types, which for now may be called A, B, C and D. In the Australia Post archival collection are several plate proofs of this 1d Duty stamp - a horizontal strip of three, a vertical strip of three and three singles, all in a very pale brown colour; also several singles in violet, near to the issued colour. The horizontal strip comprised Types D-C-D, and the vertical strip Types C-B-C. Since then a block of eight has been acquired (two vertical columns of four). This further confirmed the positioning of the types.

The only marginal line watermarks so far seen are two Type D's in the writer's collection. These are from the bottom row.

When the two strips of three are positioned together, we get the types laid out as in the diagram below. If the usual type layout is followed of I and II over III and IV then, with Type D occurring on the bottom row, this type must be either III or IV, and similarly so must Type C. It therefore follows that the "group of four" is either AB over DC or BA over CD, and all we need now to complete the picture is that elusive left or right side marginal line watermarked stamp.



There are several original die flaws which occur on all stamps seen to date. These flaws, together with the generally poor quality of these stamps may well have helped to hide the type flaws of the "group of four" working die, leading them to remain undetected until this time. On the other hand, it may be due to the general lack of interest in Duty stamps.

Since the original article, the descriptions of the flaws has been revised for greater clarity and is now presented as follows:

TYPE A

- (i) Break in lower frame between "E" of "ONE" and "P" of "PENNY".
- (ii) Cross on top of crown extends up through, but not above, the top frame. The left arm is well-formed and the right arm more defined than in the other types.
- (iii) Both top frame corners have almost square notches in them.

TYPE B

- (i) Left frame is split centrally near the top for 1 to 1.5mm. Hidden when overinked.
- (ii) Top left frame corner has slight upward projection.

TYPE C

- (i) The small solid triangle in the lower right corner is badly misshapen and joins the bottom frame.
- (ii) Top right corner of frame is notched, but not as squarely as in Type A.
- (iii) Centre of top left spandrel design is broken, leaving a dot to the right.

TYPE D

This has no good distinguishing flaw. However, apart from the absence of the flaws of the other types, one minor flaw is worth mentioning:

- (i) May have a small white pimple on the top of the "P" of "STAMP".

ORIGINAL DIE FLAWS

- (i) Break in the upper outer line of the top right spandrel, sometimes inked over.
- (ii) Break in the inner line of the value tablet at lower left, where the angled line joins the horizontal line.
- (iii) A swelling of the horizontal line below the left leg of the "N" of "ONE".
- (iv) 4-5mm long hairline attached inside the right frame line, from the lower right corner upward.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

Canada 1928-29 Scroll Issue

At the meeting of 30 September 1993, Mr Tim Morgan showed his collection of the 1928-1929 Scroll Issue of Canada.

This famous series of stamps was the first Canadian set to have bilingual wording. The higher values were chosen to represent each of the Provinces. It includes what is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful stamp designs ever, the 50c "Bluenose".

Amongst the items shown was a complete set from 1c to \$1 in vertical pairs imperforate horizontally, and the 1c, 2c and 5c in imperforate tête-bêche blocks of four.

There were eleven plates used for the 2c value, and the scarcest of all plate numbers, No. 10, was shown.

Many covers demonstrated the postal rates of the period.

Forgeries

The display at the meeting on 19th August 1993 came from the Society's Forgery Collection, and was provided by the Curator, Mr John Trowbridge.

From the Australian Colonies, there was the "Takuma" postal forgery of the 1888 2d Centennial, and Jeffryes forgeries of Victoria, including a sheet of 50 of the 3d Half-Length.

A wide variety of material from Tasmania included many sheets presented to the Society by Mr W.E. Tinsley. These included various forgeries of the 1853 1d and 4d, and there was a cover bearing four examples of the Jeffryes forgeries of the 1d. Various types of forged postmarks on Chalon issues were also shown.

The Australian Commonwealth forgeries included "mint" examples of the 2d King George V and 2d Sydney Harbour Bridge, and the famous Sperati forgery of the £2 Kangaroo First Watermark.

Other Sperati forgeries were the Tonga 8d "GFB" official overprint, and Ceylon 5c on 4c and 5c on 24c surcharges.

A wide range of other British Empire forgeries included various lithographed forgeries of the Perkins Bacon issues of

Antigua, Nova Scotia and Mauritius, and there were forgeries of the first issues of Bermuda, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, and Labuan.

Shropshire Postal History

At the meeting on 16 September 1993 Dr Edric Druce of Canberra gave a display of Shropshire Postal History, from early times to 1840.

Following examples of 17th century mail from the county without postal markings, a comprehensive display of the earliest straight-line types followed. These were introduced about the beginning of the 18th century. The first types were in one line, and included "SHIFNAL" (1708), "SALOP" (1710) and "LUDLOW" (1728 and 1737).

The only mark recorded so far from the Cross Post was "SHREWS/BURY X" of 1711.

Later, two-line town stamps became the usual form, with many post towns having several successive types. A wide variety of these were shown - "OSWES/TRY" (1741 and 1762), "SHREWS/BURY" (1726, 1780 and 1789), "MONT/GOMERY" (1790), "BISHOPS/CASTLE" (1741, 1765 and 1788), "BRIDG/NORTH" (1748), "NEW/PORT" (1787), "DRAY/TON" (1776), "WHIT/CHURCH" (1725, 1765 and 1762), and "WELLING/TON" (1800).

Sans-serif types are unusual, but two were shown, for "DRAYTON" (1782) and "NEWPORT" (1795).

What must be one of the shortest post office names is "WEM" in red (1808).

There were various types of mileage marks, the earliest being "142 BRIDG/NORTH" for 1765. Near the end of the 18th century a few towns adopted horse-shoe types, and these were seen for Shrewsbury, Bishop's Castle, Market Drayton, and Whitchurch. Other atypical types were an italic boxed "Ironbridge", Woore fleuron, and circular Bishop's Castle.

There were various styles of "Missent" markings, including that for Shifnal in black, red and blue, and those for New-

port, Market Drayton, Shrewsbury, and Wellington.

The Penny Posts beginning in 1839 were well-represented, with the markings of Whittington, Shrewsbury, Chirk, Oswestry, Shifnal, Ironbridge, Burwarton, Bewdley, Cleoburn and Whitchurch.

Throughout, the changing postal rates of the period were in evidence, both within the county and on mail travelling beyond its borders.

British New Guinea and Papua

For the display on 21 October 1993, Mr Clive Fenn showed the Postal Markings of British New Guinea and Papua. The collection was arranged under each post office.

From Port Moresby, the "NG" obliterator was shown on Queensland 2d, 4d and 1/-, and on a 6d pair on cover to Nova Scotia. There was an 1896 cover to Brisbane with Queensland 2d pair cancelled 8-bar BNG, and the same obliterator on the 1/- Lakatoi on 1902 cover which also had the "REGISTERED/PORT MORESBY NG" marking.

Instructional markings from Port Moresby included "MISSENT" (1928), "TOO LATE" (1935) and boxed "OFFICIAL FREE" (1928).

From Samarai, there was a 1900 cover with 2d Queensland cancelled BNG, plus boxed "DEFICIENT POSTAGE/FINE". The use of the Samarai c.d.s. was shown on 1897 and 1899 covers bearing Queensland 2d and 5d respectively. A 1914 cover to U.S.A. had "REGISTERED/SAMARAI".

The 10-bar BNG obliterators were shown for Daru, Nivani (on 1d and 2d Queensland on piece), Woodlark Is. (on 1d Queensland pair), and Tamata (on 2½d Queensland on piece). Far rarer was the oval "H.M. CUSTOMS/DARU B.N.G." in violet on Queensland 1d pair.

From the later period, there was the use of the Tamata ND c.d.s. as a relief at Bwagaoia (1916), Abau (1916) and Baniara (1917). The Baniara c.d.s.

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on a 1d Papua was one of three known.

The use of the Resident's Magistrate handstamp as a canceller was shown for both Kokoda and Kerema.

From Nepa was shown the relief use of the Bwagaoia c.d.s. with name excised (1910), the use of the Tiveri c.d.s. (1917), and the Nepa c.d.s. (1918). There was also the use of the Kairuku intaglio seal on 1d Papua at Kanosia.

The registration markings of a number of smaller offices were shown, including Woodlark Is., Buna Bay, Ioma, and Kokoda.

King George V

A display of the King George V Sideface issues of Australian Commonwealth was presented by Mr Peter Nightscapes at the meeting of 18 November 1993.

The ½d green included a used example with single line perf.

The 1d reds opened with a die proof in black of the Second State. In single line perf. there was a used pair, one Die II. The rusted and substituted cliches were present, as well as Cooke printings on Large Multiple Watermark. In Die III there was a mint pair including the thin "US" variety.

There were many plate flaws shown in the 1½d Die I, including cracked electros.

The 2d Orange had inverted watermarks punctured OS both mint and used, and an imperforate plate proof pair in red. highlight was the only recorded used example of the 2d brown Single Watermark, cancelled at Melbourne.

In the 4d orange, there was a c.t.o. JBC monogram block of 24, and a mint block of 4 with watermark inverted. There was a used JBC monogram pair of the lemon shade.

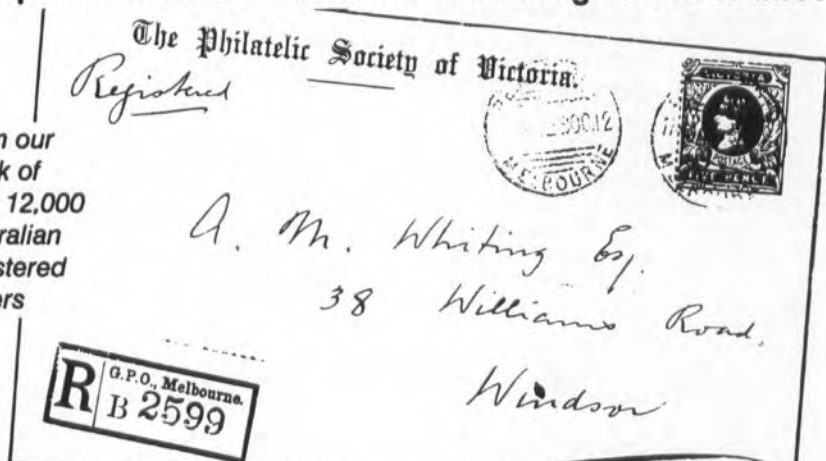
The rough paper 5d punctured OS was present on a 1921 cover from Perth.

Two remarkable pieces of the 1/4d were fine used blocks of 8 and 6, each cancelled with almost complete parcels office obliterators.

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