

# PHILATELY

*from*

# AUSTRALIA



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# Philately from Australia

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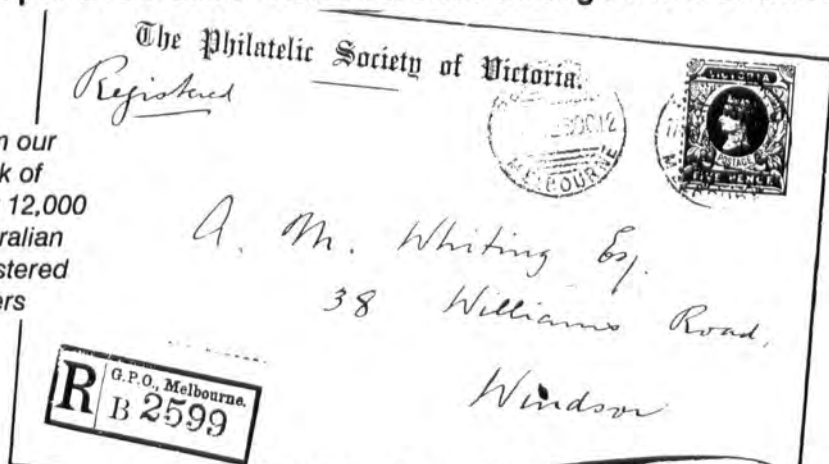
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## PHILATELIC JUDGE AND JURY - WHAT DO THEY REPRESENT?

*The aftermath of the World Philatelic Exhibition in Granada, Spain, and the problems which arose there have again brought many aspects of philatelic exhibiting under scrutiny. The following article by Mr George Lindberg, the noted Swedish philatelist, has been published in the Swedish journal SFT Filatelisten No. 1 of 1993. He raises a number of matters and suggests some radical departures from current exhibition practice which are sure to be hotly debated.*

Just over a year ago my article in the Swedish journal *Filatelisten* entitled "A Philatelic Judge and Jury - What Do They Represent?" aroused interest far outside the country. The comments have been very positive. Until now, one year after publication, only two divergent opinions have been stated:

1. Because of organising difficulties, among other things with reference to the catalogue, it is not possible to show exhibits under a pseudonym. It is further asserted that pseudonyms are never used in competitions.

2. This has no significance whatsoever, if the jury knows who is the owner of the exhibit.

### Present Exhibits Anonymously

Anonymity often occurs in our society. When a town plan, a large house, a factory or a bridge are to be built, we apply to an architect or a building firm for suggestions regarding execution and costs. In most cases the suggestions are delivered anonymously under more or less witty mottos. Not until it is decided which tender will be accepted, the sealed envelope with the name and address of

the author is opened. This method can also be applied in stamp exhibitions, if only there is the will.

If the name of the owner of the exhibit is known to the jury it may influence the judgment. We have seen many examples of this. The last time in Granada, all three Grand Prix awards were to exhibits of Spanish owners. Is this possibly related to the fact that the jury was Spanish-dominated?

It has also happened that exhibitors did not dare to send their very best objects to one or other exhibition, but this has seldom influenced the classification. The exhibit has been awarded the same high medal as previously. The jury knows who is the owner of the exhibit, so it is not necessary to examine it closely, they save time and trouble. It is questionable whether this promotes the exhibition and philately.

I have also experienced that younger, talented and knowledgeable jury members who participated for the first or second time and with all the regulations and classifications tables available, were of the opinion that a certain exhibit deserves a silver or large silver. "No, no", shouted the leader of the group, "that exhibit has already been awarded gold seven times and I refuse to differ from earlier judgments by more than one level", which means in this case from gold down to large vermeil. (The jury is divided into groups of three or four persons of which one is elected leader of the group, as a rule somebody who has participated several times and knows "the routine".)

I am of the opinion that every jury should judge in accordance with its own experience without knowing the names of the exhibitors. If the judgment then differs from one exhibition to another this has nothing to do with the previous judgment. It rather reveals the qualifications of one or the other jury.

I myself participated for the first time in an exhibition in Hamburg in 1959. The result was silver with special prize. The following year the enlarged exhibit was shown in Barcelona, where I was awarded a bronze medal.

### **Raise the Qualifications of the Jury**

Unfortunately many jurors do not come up to expectations. One has also paid attention to this fact at exhibitions during the last years. It has happened that some jurors were totally ignorant in the area which they were assigned to. Certain jurors manage to sail along at many exhibitions by staying in the background, now and then putting forward some small proposal based on what they have found in older prize lists from earlier exhibitions.

As I have said, the qualification of jurors must be improved. The FIP lists of authorised jurors must carefully indicate the qualifications of each and every one. Guided by these lists, the co-ordinator and the executives of the exhibition put together the jury to be charged with the judgment of the exhibition. Thus, the FIP lists must indicate the competence as precisely as possible. Unfortunately, the lists do not contain accurate information, but they are limited to indicate "Traditional Philately before and after 1900", "Postal History", "Aerophilately", "Motif and Thematic", "Youth". In the good old times – before the Second World War – we had jurors who mastered almost everything. But we did not have so many stamps at that time, and "Postal History" did not exist. These areas cover much more today and therefore it must be mentioned if the "Traditionalist" or the

"Postal Historian" is competent for Western or Eastern Europe (maybe also the countries should be mentioned), North or South America, Asia, Australia, Oceania or whatever it may be. As it is now, it happens now and then that a juror is put into a group which judges areas of which he has no idea (maybe the group the juror ought to have belonged to, considering his qualifications, was over-represented, so he had to be put into another group.

I also call into question whether it is appropriate that a "national" juror participates when exhibits from his own federation are judged. We hear and see that many collectors exhibit only if the country concerned has an "own" juror in the jury. According to my mind this is unfair. When the jury jointly reads all the results from the different groups one can note that most "objections" are made by the national jurors. In 99 cases out of 100 they are of the opinion that the award for the exhibit is too low!

A juror, who is already established and will enlarge his qualifications, now participates in a symposium for some hours or at best over a weekend. This is unreasonable! How is it possible to prove one's qualifications over just a few hours? There are, of course, several other participants - as a rule from different areas - who also have to prove their competence. In my opinion the juror should again be an apprentice at an exhibition under the patronage of FIP, where he/she alone, without assistance, should judge some ten exhibits (today an apprentice judges alone three or four exhibits only). The judgment should be made on the first day before there is a chance to browse through earlier lists of results. We know that the jury receives lists of the exhibits to be judged weeks before the opening of the exhibition - this is also against common sense! Each jury shall judge according to its own knowledge. Do the apprentices also get the lists? In that case, it is worse!

I stick to my earlier recommendations:

- that all exhibits - except in the FIP Class of Honour - should be exhibited under a pseudonym.
- of this cannot be realised for some reason or other, each juror should participate only once during a period of three years in the judging of exhibitions under the patronage of FIP (such rules are already applied within certain federations).
- that all application forms to an exhibition under the patronage of FIP should be in safekeeping by the organising committee, inaccessible to the jury, also to the President and Secretary of the Jury.
- that all exhibitors get the same number of frames.
- that FIP - as now - lists the exhibits which were awarded a large gold medal. After having been awarded three large gold medals during a period of ten years, these exhibits shall compete for the FIP Grand Prix d'Honneur - the highest honour for a philatelist. All other lists should be cancelled.
- that the commissioners recommend exhibits to be accepted in order of preference.

### **A Commissioner Should not be a Juror**

Another problem that has appeared during the last years is that certain nations try to combine the duties of commissioner with membership of the jury at the same exhibition. The jurors get their journey paid, which is not the case with commissioners. Both have their distinct duties. Either one task or the other will suffer and it is seldom one can attend to two tasks at the same time.

### **Experience from Granada**

In Granada the situation was lamentable. The executives of the exhibition were not up to the job. Maybe the tussle between Granada, Seville (the large World Expo) and Barcelona (Olymphelex) was a drawback for Granada. Well, the commissioners there had a significant duty. The exhibits were shown in several locations. The FIP Class of honour and invited exhibitors were displayed in a recently built cultural centre, in a fine and excellent way. Dealers, maxima-phily, thematic collections and youth shared two large store rooms some kilometres away in an old factory area. Traditional collections and postal history were housed in two large tents, where the rain came in sometimes. When the wind was too strong the tents had to be evacuated. On two occasions parts of the canvas came loose and the situation got critical. The difference of temperature between day and night was considerable, as a climate installation was not available.

The new frames could not be closed properly. The upper part of the "glass frame" could be prised open 3-4cm and the top sheets could be easily pulled out. This happened to an Israel exhibit, from which one sheet was stolen. Only after five days an additional rivet was put on to keep the frames closed.

As I said, commissioners had very much to do. The mounting was miserable from the beginning. Each frame had three fixed strips. The sheets that were too short leaned at best against the glass, but many stood at an angle. Sheets that were too tall pressed against the glass like drawn bows. The humidity made many stamps more like cigarettes than stamps. Larger objects on silk paper were no longer larger objects after a few days. A hygrometer was not available in the tents. There were practically no guards to be seen. The commissioners, who worked full time in Granada, did what they could to put their exhibits in order. Many exhibitors who were present used their own initiative. Unfortunately, the commissioners, who were also members of the jury, were conspicuous by their absence. They were not even present when the commissioners held their meetings with the co-ordinator and the executives of the exhibition to discuss problems. We cannot leave it at that. Everyone has his duties and the exhibitors must be able to rely on the commissioners, otherwise after a while it will be difficult to find enough exhibitors.

### **Why Exhibit?**

Finally, I ask myself for whom the large international exhibitions are organised and for whom the exhibitors show their collections:

- is it for the jury?
- is it for the organising committee?



- is it for the visitors of the exhibitions?
- is it for the exhibitors?
- is it in order to know the philatelic value of the exhibit?

I have put these questions to many advanced and small collectors and philatelists. Until now, nobody has given a satisfactory answer.

When I exhibit and visit the exhibition and then meet there someone who collects "my" area and we can compare notes, then I think that my costs for participation, travel and stay are well worth it. Furthermore, I have also had the opportunity to see and study exhibits and ideas of others which has enriched my own knowledge.

## VICTORIAN 10/- STAMP DUTY PERFORATION ERROR

By PETER LEITCH

No errors of perforation are listed in the Stanley Gibbons catalogue for any of the high value Stamp Duty postal fiscals of Victoria of 1879-1901, nor is there any record of any errors made in *The Stamps of Victoria* by Geoff Kellow.

This situation has now changed with the discovery of the stamp illustrated here amongst an accumulation of fiscally used stamps.

The stamp is the 10/- Stamp Duty electrotype, watermark V over Crown (V2) sideways, perforated 12½. The shade is chocolate on pink paper, and according to Kellow it is from the second or third printing of this stamp, made in November 1879 and February 1880 respectively. (The next printing, in October 1885, was in the new green colour). It is fiscally cancelled and dated 2 JUL 85. There is no sign of any perforations at the foot, but unfortunately the base of the stamp has been separated from the margin by a rough tear.

Perforation errors on any Victorian stamps printed after 1885 when stamp printing was transferred to the Government Printing Office are very infrequent, and this stamp is the first new discovery for some time, and as mentioned the first such instance on a postal fiscal.



## THE HALFPENNY SURCHARGES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1884 AND 1895

BY BRIAN POPE

(continued from December 1992)

### THE "Half-penny" SURCHARGE - NOVEMBER 1895

The discovery of gold in the Yilgarn and later at Coolgardie and Hannans in the mid-1890's caused a dramatic increase in population in Western Australia. This in turn produced an increase in the number of newspapers posted and therefore the usage of ½d stamps. By early November 1895 counter stocks of green ½d stamps were running out quicker than expected. On 5 November a Perth correspondent wrote to the *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* in London to say that:

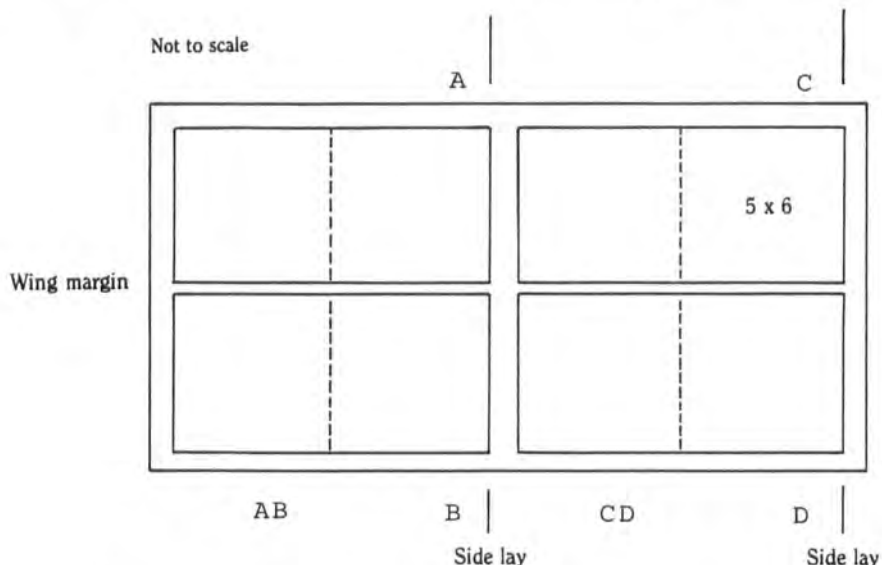
I may perhaps mention that I have it on good authority that the present supply of ½d stamps is running short . . . [and] a provisional issue will have to be made . . . [which] will of necessity be of very short duration. Very few people are aware of the above, as the Post Office officials do not wish to have the trouble of surcharging and are keeping quiet and trying to avoid it. (Cited in Hamilton and Pope, 1979, page 103).

On the very next day in distant Coolgardie not "a single ½d stamp for the postage of newspapers" could be had in the town (*Coolgardie Miner*, 6 November 1895). Fresh stocks were expected from England by the end of November so Postmaster General Sholl authorised the production of 24000 ½d stamps by surcharging 100 sheets of the 3d value. How were they done?

Obviously the different sheet layout of the De La Rue produced 3d stamps precluded a direct repeat of the 1884 technique. Furthermore, it was no longer necessary to think in terms of type setting as the Government Printer had been able to employ a stereotyper since July 1893 (*Votes and Proceedings*, 1894, 1st Session, Estimates, Item 48). Thus there was both a need for a different technical approach and the new technology by which it could be achieved. Although in this instance it would have been technically feasible to have a stereotype forme of 240 the intended print run was not large and problems with rigidity and register emerge as forme size increases. So, as so often happens, the size of the forme was a compromise but to what extent?

Although no archival record has been found, the size can be deduced from the actual stamps. Firstly, there is the noticeable absence of right hand selvedge. This suggests a specific way of dividing the full sheets of 3d stamps.

They were divided into halves along the perforation A-B to create half sheet AB with a non-selvedge, regular border. The equivalent edge for sheet CD was created by removing the right hand selvedge along the perforation C-D. The regular



*Diagram showing division of the 3d sheets for surcharging. See text for details.*

borders were set against the side lay in printing. Evidence of mechanical separation may still be found.

The surcharge was set in a Clarendon typeface, probably Antique 3 but the original was not used in the forme. A break in the "a" of "Half" was described by Juhl as occurring in varying degrees of severity and constancy on R2/2-3, R4/1-3 and R5/1-4 (Juhl, 1981, 87). The characteristics of a stereotype flaw were recognised by Pope (1981).



*Different forms of the broken "a" of "Half" variety.*

The occurrence in both upper and lower panes of the four sheetlets indicates a master forme of 30 (5 x 6) set up in type and reproduced twice by stereotype giving the Government Printer a "quarter sheet" stereotype forme of 60.

Although De La Rue had been using stereotype in post card production for Western Australia since 1879, this was the first usage within Western Australia that had philatelic consequences. The previous typeset ONE PENNY surcharge had been undertaken in January/February 1893 just months before the employment of a stereotyper in July of that year.

### The First Surcharge: on Crown CC Watermark 3d Stamps

One hundred full sheets in several shades were divided into halves as shown above and the half sheets were put through the press twice with a re-set head lay for the second run. Red was selected initially to avoid confusion with the ONE PENNY surcharge of 1893 in green which was also on 3d stamps. A trial of red on pale brown stamps showed this colour to be unsatisfactory and the printer reverted to green for the rest of the run. At least two trial sheets in red were put through again to produce the double surcharge in red and green. At least three half sheets of brown stamps with weak first impressions in green were also put through again to produce the double surcharge in green. The printed half sheets were divided into quarter sheetlets of 60 for sale in the post offices. No unseparated half sheets have been recorded.



*Interpane block of 8, the lower four stamps with double green surcharge. Reproduced by courtesy of the W.A. Museum.*

Dividing the basic 3d stamp into shades is not very meaningful because of the number of quarterly printings in subtly different shades. For that reason, Pope (1991) opted for a general brown. Juhl (1992) makes it difficult by giving different catalogue numbers and prices to the one shade (brown) and changing shades between the listing of the basic stamp and the equivalent stamp when surcharged. Although such shade division is feasible there is no way to relate it to printings, and for practical purposes it is perhaps sufficient to annotate a subtle range of browns.

Most of the surcharged stamps were purchased for speculative purposes when they were put on sale at Perth at 3pm on Thursday, 21 November 1895 and all were gone by Saturday. The double surcharge in red and green was discovered at this time. It is not known how many were printed and they cannot be distinguished from the double surcharge in red and green on CrCC stamps from the second surcharging. At least three sheets of double green surcharges were printed, one of which was found at this time (*London Philatelist*, March 1896, page 54). All three sheets have been broken up.

The double red and green surcharge on CrCC stamps was brought to the notice of Postmaster General Sholl after a small number, said to be 90, were purchased before issue by two Post Office employees (Hamilton and Pope, 1979, 103). As these stamps were deemed to be a separate issue and no more could be found, Sholl was obliged to order a second surcharging to provide copies for U.P.U. distribution.

### **The Second Surcharge: on CrCC and CrCA Watermark 3d Stamps**

The size of the second surcharging in red and green has long been something of a puzzle as there seem to be more stamps around in both watermarks than might be expected. A simple explanation is now available. Sholl needed at least 750 for the U.P.U. and that was twelve and a half sheetlets of 60. So he ordered an estimated sixteen sheetlets, expecting to receive 750 stamps for the U.P.U. and 210 stamps for sale to quash the speculation in the 90 copies previously discovered. The Government Printer, on receiving the instruction to surcharge sixteen sheets in red and green produced 3840 stamps because he took the instruction to mean full sheets of 240. Again he made no distinction on the basis of watermark and the proportion of CrCC to CrCA 3d stamps in the second surcharging is not known but more of the latter are available today. The CrCC stamps from the second surcharging cannot be distinguished from the CrCC stamps in the first surcharging. The double red and green surcharge stamps (750) together with the normal issue (750) were despatched to Berne on 10 December 1895 (AA:PP23/1). Some very dark brown CrCA stamps are known but the majority are an ordinary brown.

The issue of stamps from the second surcharging provoked a protest from the Philatelic society of Western Australia and post office stocks were withdrawn on 12 December by order of the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, E.H. Wittenoom. It is said some 120 double surcharge in red and green with CrCA watermark had been sold but this figure seems too low. A block of four on cover dated Perth 6 July 1896 and a pair on piece dated Perth 20 July 1896 are known. Some of the withdrawn stamps were purchased by Sholl prior to his retirement in 1903 and subsequently came onto the market.

### **Sholl's Decisions Evaluated**

Sholl's decisions about the double red and green surcharge have attracted criticism but is it warranted? His initial reaction to the unexpected problem of the double surcharges in red and green was surely the correct one in the circumstances. How else could specimens be obtained for the U.P.U. in Berne? His decision to have extra printed is also quite defensible as the only effective means of quashing speculation. The Minister gave an undertaking that the stamps would be withdrawn and this was done. Nothing was said about destroying the withdrawn stamps and in fact it was normal practice for the Department to retain obsolete stamps. That Sholl sought to benefit from the situation when approaching retirement was not at all unusual in the context of his time. Retirement benefits for public servants were not great and there was nothing illegal about purchasing obsolete stamps. Criticism of Sholl's decisions in this matter is based on the false assumption that the withdrawn stamps would be destroyed and therefore lacks validity.

### **Forgeries**

Juhl (1981, 89) describes one as being in pale yellowish green with the red on top of the green.



Block of ten surcharge (wmk. Crown CC) on a posthumous 1904 cover from Waroona.

### Surcharge Usage

No contemporary usage on newspapers is on record and the few known covers are somewhat contrived. There are virtually no dates, early or otherwise, recorded.

*CrCC in Red and Green.* Mike Brachi records a cover and a used block on a dated front but no details are available. One Reference and Presentation copy circa 1912 is known.

*CrCC in Green.* There is a registered cover from Waroona dated 15 August 1904 with a block of ten. The earliest date on record is 2 April 1896. Examples were included in the 1902 Parliamentary Presentation sets.

*CrCC in Green and Green.* No usage of any sort recorded.

*CrCA in Red and Green.* A block of four on cover from Perth dated 6 July 1896 and a pair on piece from Perth dated 26 July 1896 are on record. At least two stamps postally used circa 1898 are known. Examples were included in the 1902 Parliamentary Presentation sets.

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## THE POST OFFICE AT WYNDHAM, W.A.

By CHARLES LAWLOR

The acquisition of what appears to be the earliest cover known from Wyndham, Western Australia has led me to investigate the early postal history of the town. I am indebted to Brian Pope of Perth, and Dr Cathie Clement of National Heritage, Perth, for much of the following information.

The Wyndham townsite was gazetted on 11 March 1886 and Sydney Harry Wright officially became the first Postmaster at Wyndham on 23 March. He was replaced by A.G. Beresford, whose appointment appeared in the *Government Gazette* of 26 August 1886. Beresford was a surveyor who went to Wyndham during the Halls Creek gold rush. He arrived on the SS *Simla* which anchored off Wyndham on 12 July.

Mail between Wyndham and Perth was irregular. In August 1886 mails were brought to Wyndham at intervals from Port Darwin aboard the barquentine



*Edith May*. A mail which closed at Palmerston post office on 2 August, for example, reach Wyndham on the *Edith May* five days later.

On 9 August Beresford, along with 75 other residents, petitioned the Western Australian Government to pay a subsidy to the owners of the vessel *Perserverance* for a fortnightly mail service from Port Darwin. The petition was sent on the *Notero* which reached Fremantle on 3 September, but the Government argued that private enterprise should supply this type of service.

The cover illustrated here is postmarked at Wyndham on 30 August 1886. The South Australian 2d stamp, for the intercolonial rate from Port Darwin to Queanbeyan, N.S.W., was cancelled at Port Darwin one day later, 31 August. If a fee was collected for the carriage of the letter from Wyndham to Port Darwin, it is not evident from the cover.

Evidence available in the State Archives of Western Australia and in the *Northern Territory Times and Gazette* does not explain how an envelope stamped at Wyndham on 30 August could have reached Port Darwin in time to be stamped on 31 August. Mail could certainly have travelled between the two ports in the available time, but the records do not show a vessel leaving Wyndham on 30 August. It is possible that the Wyndham date is incorrect, and that the cover was posted on 29 August, and was put aboard the SS *Menmuir*, which sailed at 9.30am that day, arriving at Port Darwin on 30 August.

From Port Darwin the cover probably was carried either by SS *Sikh* leaving 31 August for Sydney, or SS *Catterhun* leaving 3 September for southern ports, although there is no record available that either vessel carried mails. The 2d New South Wales stamp has been added for redirection from Queanbeyan to Canberra.



## REGISTERED HANDSTAMPS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

By M.J. BLAKE

Since its inception in 1985 The South Australian Study Group has been involved in recording information about postal markings. One of the areas on which very little work has been done is the instructional handstamps. There have been short articles in various publications about individual covers, but the only article I have found which tabulates any markings was also on Registered handstamps. This was written by Helen Weston and appeared in *The Posthorn* (Vol. 5/1, page 8). I have incorporated some of the dates from this into the present article.

For some months now I have been examining collections, going to auction viewings and looking through the literature, recording information on all types of instructional markings, and have gotten bitten sufficiently by the bug to start collecting these as well. This article deals with the Registered handstamps, and it is intended to deal with the other types at a later date. Hopefully, interested collectors who can add to the information set out here will share their knowledge. It is only in this manner that we can hope to fill some of the many gaps.

It is apparent from postal records that it was normal to issue several different types of handstamps to post offices in addition to a datestamp. Only a small percentage of the mail passing through a post office would require the use of a handstamp, and these were normally applied well clear of the stamps, meaning that covers or large pieces are needed for study. For these reasons the number of examples available for study is limited and there is no doubt that what is recorded here is only a small portion of the story.

The major source of material for the study of Australian States postmarks is the Tattersall's "Find" and more than half the items viewed in this study are from that source. A number of registered items from the Shierlaw correspondence have also been examined. As a result of this, most of the early usage dates are from 1898 onwards. This could be misleading, as many of the handstamps being used are of much older origin, but examples of earlier usage are unknown at this stage. Hopefully, the publication of the information that follows will lead to the expansion of the knowledge of this subject which is currently available.

The earliest reference to a Registered handstamp I have found is a copy of an order for various handstamps, including 12 straight-line Registered, which was signed by the Post Master General, John Watts, in January 1854. Based on this information, Registered handstamps were probably introduced late in 1854, although the earliest recorded use is in 1855. They continued in use until 1909 when they were superseded by registration labels.

In order to classify the various types of handstamps, three digit codes have been allocated. The first digit signifies the group. In this case "R" for "Registered". The second digit is a numeral and indicates the type group. This is further split into sub-types by the addition of a lower case letter.

### TYPE R1

The first Registered handstamps were the unframed straight line type which are found in two sizes. These have been designated R1a and R1b. There are minor variations within the type. The order for various handstamps placed in January 1854 included a request for twelve of Type R1a.

REGISTERED.Nº

R1a.

REGISTERED-Nº

R1b.

#### TYPE R1 KNOWN USAGE

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
ADELAIDE	R1b	1.6.1855	2.4.1890	Known in red, blue (30.1.1862) and black
BLACKWOOD	R1a	23.9.1903		
KAPUNDA	R1a	10.8.1855	6.12.1857	
LOBETHAL	R1b	23.2.1905		
MARABELL	R1a	25.3.1907	27.8.1907	
McLARENVALE	R1b	16.8.1906		
MELROSE	R1b	25.3.1907	4.9.1907	
MORGAN	R1a	9.9.1907		
MOUNT BARKER	R1a	16.8.1904	20.10.1904	
MOUNT PLEASANT	R1b	6.2.1906		
MYPONGA	R1b	14.3.1908		
OODLAWIRRA	R1a	10.1.1898		
PORT ELLIOT	R1b	14.3.1863		
SADDLEWORTH	R1a	7.2.1905		
TANUNDA	R1b	10.4.1858	29.12.1905	
TUMBY BAY	R1a	17.6.1908		
WILLIAMSTOWN	R1a	18.3.1901		

### TYPE R2

The second type of handstamp consisted of the word "REGISTERED" in an arc, with a stylised "No." below. These can be quite easily separated into three sub-types. Within the sub-types there are small variations in the lettering, particularly in the shape of the "N". Fifty of Type R2a were ordered from England in September 1861.

The earliest usages recorded so far are as follows:

Type R2a    1872

Type R2b 1875

Type R2c 1877

No doubt earlier usages will turn up. Types R2b and R2c are the types most generally found, particularly in the early part of the 20th century.

**R2a**  
With Serifs,  
29mm wide.

**R2b**  
Bar on G.  
36 mm wide.

**R2c**  
No bar on G,  
33mm wide.

## TYPE R2 KNOWN USAGE

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
ABERDEEN	R2b	14.5.1907		
ADELAIDE	R2a	3.6.1872	7.11.1873	
	R2b	21.12.1877	8.5.1891	
	R2c	12.5.1896	29.7.1907	
ALICE SPRINGS	R2b	-.-.1906	-.-.1909	
	R2c	11.7.1905	22.5.1909	
APPILA YARROWIE	R2b	11.6.1882		
ARDROSSAN	R2b	14.12.1898		
ARLTUNGA	R2b	-.-.1910		
ARTHURTON	R2c			
BARATTA	R2b	17.9.1906		
BELTANA	R2b	-.-.1899	8.7.1903	
BLINMAN	R2a	-.-.1903		
BOWER	R2c	24.3.1903		
BRIGHTON	R2c	9.1.1905	22.1.1907	
BRINKWORTH	R2b	21.9.1898	1.2.1901	
BROCK'S CREEK	R2b	7.1.1903		
BUNDALEER	R2b	12.10.1900	18.3.1901	
BUTE	R2b	4.11.1898		
CALTOWIE	R2c	15.4.1879	1.8.1908	
CANOWIE	R2c	12.6.1908		
CARRIETON	R2c	-.12.1907		
CAVANAGH	R2c	7.1.1907		
CHARLOTTE WATERS	R2b	10.3.1901	26.1.1905	
CLARE	R2b	-.-.1899	-.-.1906	
COCKBURN	R2b	9.9.1897	5.8.1907	
	R2c	7.9.1903		This is probably Type R2b
COOKES PLAINS	R2c	21.9.1904		
COULTA	R2c	20.5.1901	4.10.1903	Wide "N"
COWARD SPRINGS	R2c	4.2.1904		
COWELL	R2b	23.11.1899		

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
CRAFERS	R2b	31.1.1908		
CRYSTAL BROOK	R2c	--.1898	--.1905	
EAST PARK	R2b	23.7.1903		
EDILLILLIE	R2b		--.1917	
ELLISTON	R2c	21.7.1904		
FROME DOWNS	R2b	2.6.1906		
GAWLER	R2c	2.3.1901		
GAWLER RAILWAY	R2c	10.10.1907		
GILLES PLAINS	R2b	9.11.1899	7.9.1900	
GLADSTONE	R2c	--.1899		
GLEN BOREE	R2b		--.1916	
GLENELG	R2b	22.8.1900		
GRANGE	R2c	11.1.1899		
HAHNDORF	R2c	12.2.1907		
HAWKER	R2b	--.1898	28.10.1901	
HERGOTT SPRINGS	R2b	--.1898	14.10.1905	
HONITON	R2c	--.1905	--.1906	
HUMMOCKS HILL	R2c	--.1909		
ISLINGTON	R2c	2.9.1895		
KILKERRAN	R2c	--.1897	7.6.1909	
KOOLUNGA	R2c	17.10.1904		
KOORINGA	R2a	17.1.1889	16.7.1884	
LAURA	R2b	15.5.1901		
LEIGH CREEK	R2b	19.1.1903		
LYNDHURST SIDING	R2b	14.6.1907		
MAITLAND	R2c	--.1908		
MANNUM	R2a	--.1899	5.10.1900	
MANOORA	R2a	24.8.1910		
MEADOWS	R2b	13.9.1891		
MIDDLETON	R2c	--.1897		
MILLBROOK	R2c		--.1914	
MINGARY	R2b	4.8.1905		
MINLATON	R2b	16.7.1901		
MONARTO SOUTH	R2c	15.5.1905	11.7.1907	
MOUNT GAMBIER	R2a	9.8.1879		
	R2b	--.1898	18.2.1908	
	R2c		--.1917	
MOUNT HOPE	R2b		--.1917	
MOUNT LOFTY	R2b	21.5.1907		
MOUNT VIVIAN	R2b	19.1.1906	13.10.1907	
MOUNT WEDGE	R2c			
MYLOR	R2b			
MYPONGA	R2b			
NACKARA	R2b	8.6.1905		
NAIRNE	R2c	--.1897	28.12.1904	
NORTH ADELAIDE	R2c	21.3.1901		

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
OLARY	R2b	3.5.1905		
ODNADATTA	R2b	7.7.1903	27.3.1907	
OROROO	R2c	19.3.1901	27.8.1903	
O.B. FLAT	R2c	-.11.1905		From proof strikes prior to opening
PARACHILNA	R2c	-.-.1898		Wide "N"
PARAKYLIA	R2b	-.-.1897		
PARATOO	R2b			
PARKSIDE	R2a	2.3.1905		
PASKEVILLE	R2c	-.-.1903	17.2.1913	
PETERSBURG	R2c	-.-.1897	-.-.1908	
PINE CREEK	R2c	26.8.1898		
PORT ADELAIDE	R2c	25.3.1901	13.10.1904	
PORT AUGUSTA	R2b	-.-.1897	-.-.1905	
	R2c	3.9.1897	4.2.1902	
PORT DARWIN	R2b	-.7.1881	6.12.1884	
PORT GERMEIN	R2c	30.8.1903	15.4.1904	
PORT LINCOLN	R2b	30.4.1903	27.5.1905	
PORT PIRIE WEST	R2b	-.4.1901	-.-.1904	
PORT WAKEFIELD	R2a	-.-.1904	-.-.1906	
PYAP	R2b			
QUORN	R2c	2.11.1905		
RED HILL	R2b	-.-.1897	5.1.1899	
ROBE	R2c	30.7.1907		
ROBERTSTOWN	R2c	2.5.1897		
ROSEWATER	R2c	28.1.1903		
ROSEWORTHY	R2c	19.8.1907		
RUNDLE STREET	R2b	14.1.1892		
	R2c	31.10.1899		
ST PETERS	R2c	1.5.1899		
SANDERSTON	R2a	2.8.1908		
SEMAPHORE	R2c	2.5.1901	30.9.1901	
SNOWTOWN	R2c	30.11.1905		
SOLOMONTOWN	R2b	2.5.1905	2.6.1908	
SPALDING	R2c	23.9.1903	15.5.1907	
SPRINGTON	R2c	-.-.1897		
STIRLING WEST	R2c	15.3.1895	18.1.1907	
TALIA	R2c	-.-.1900	-.-.1916	
TARCOOLA	R2b	29.9.1904	6.6.1907	
TINTINARA	R2b	6.12.1905		
TUMBY BAY	R2a	-.-.1905	-.-.1908	
TWO WELLS	R2c	20.9.1907		
URANIA	R2a	15.2.1906		
WALKERVILLE	R2b	16.12.1898		
WARNERTOWN	R2b	11.5.1901	14.12.1905	
WATTLE FLAT	R2b	-.-.1909		

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
WAUKARINGA	R2b	27.7.1903	15.2.1904	
WHYTE YARCOWIE	R2c	3.2.1904	12.12.1905	
WILLIAM CREEK	R2b	6.7.1907		
WILLIAMSTOWN	R2a	4.9.1907	9.9.1907	
WILMINGTON	R2c	13.6.1904		
WIRRABARA	R2c	24.10.1901		
WOLSELEY	R2b	21.3.1901	23.1.1906	
WOODVILLE	R2c	--.1899	16.1.1906	
YACKA	R2c	31.10.1900		
YARDEA	R2c	1.12.1907		
YONGALA	R2b	27.10.1899		
YORKETOWN	R2c	28.9.1908		
YUNTA	R2b	23.8.1903	1.10.1904	

### TYPE R3

Handstamps of Type R3 are quite often found used in conjunction with Type R2. The reason for this is not apparent. Where it is not used with a Type R2 handstamp, the postal officer had still to write the registered item number on the envelope. It would seem that the Type R2 handstamp was a much more useful instrument than Type R3. Possibly Type R3 handstamps were introduced because these would have been cheaper.

Type R3 has been split into two types - circles and ovals. There are variations in the size and shape of the letter "R".



R3a



R3b

### TYPE R3 KNOWN USAGE

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
ADELAIDE	R3b	8.11.1892	25.5.1909	
ALICE SPRINGS	R3b	--.1909		
BALAKLAVA	R3b			
BLINMAN	R3b	1.6.1907		
BRIGHTON	R3b	19.1.1905		
CRYSTAL BROOK	R3b	--.1906	--.1908	
GLENELG	R3a	22.8.1900		
HALLETT	R3b	17.10.1904		
HERGOTT SPRINGS	R3b	--.1908	--.1910	
KADINA	R3b	--.1905		
KAPUNDA	R3b	12.12.1902	22.10.1907	

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
LEIGHS CREEK	R3b	31.10.1904		
MELROSE	R3b	5.1.1905	4.9.1907	
MENINGIE	R3b	--.1910		
MOONTA	R3b	29.10.1903		
NARACOORTE	R3b	2.10.1904	--.1908	
PORT ADELAIDE	R3a	25.3.1901	13.10.1904	
PORT AUGUSTA	R3a	--.1897	--.1905	
PORT DARWIN	R3a	20.1.1905	7.7.1906	
PORT GERMEIN	R3b	17.7.1903		
PORT LINCOLN	R3a	27.7.1903	1.3.1910	
PORT PIRIE	R3a	13.2.1897	--.1908	
PORT WAKEFIELD	R3b	13.6.1911		
QUORN	R3b	10.8.1897	--.1909	
SADDLEWORTH	R3b	7.2.1905	20.9.1907	
SNOWTOWN	R3b	1.8.1904	15.12.1907	
STRATHALBYN	R3b	3.12.1907		
TEROWIE	R3a	--.1898	11.12.1899	
TUMBY BAY	R3b	--.1909		
WALLAROO	R3a	27.12.1900	--.1908	
WILLIAM CREEK	R3b	6.7.1907		
WOODVILLE	R3b	9.10.1907		

## TYPE R4

Several offices had unique handstamps consisting of various formats of the letter "R". It is quite possible that these were made or procured by the local postmaster. Those that are clear enough to reproduce are illustrated below.

R4a

R4b

R4c

## TYPE R4 KNOWN USAGE

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
MELROSE	R4a	15.4.1904	23.10.1904	
	R4b	13.6.1904	23.10.1904	
WAUKARINGA	R4c	10.9.1903		
BORDER TOWN	R4d	--.1897		
MURRAY BRIDGE	R4e	--.1897		

## TYPE R5

Certainly in 1905 and probably at other times new post offices were issued with both R2 and R5 type handstamps. They also received a handstamp similar to R5 inscribed "PARCEL POST MAIL". It is thought that Type R5 handstamps and the parcel post handstamp were intended for use on mail bag labels. However, one cover has been found from Brighton showing Type R5.



R5

## TYPE R5 KNOWN USAGE

<i>Post Office</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Early Date</i>	<i>Late Date</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
BRIGHTON	R5	19.1.1905		
O.B. FLAT	R5	-11.1905		From proof strikes prior to opening

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to members of the South Australian Study Group who have let me examine their collections and who have supplied me with photocopies of items.

## THE FIRST POSTAL MARKING OF VICTORIA

By RAY KELLY

The tiny settlement of Crowlands in mid-western Victoria bears the rare distinction of being the earliest recorded handstamp of the Colony of Victoria.

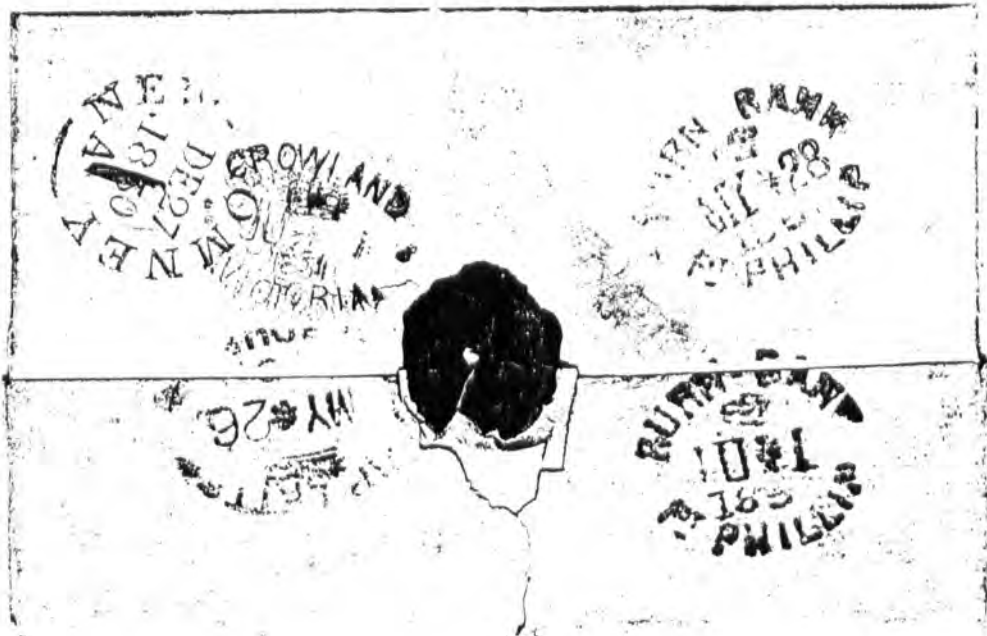
Victoria was the Port Phillip District and originally part of the Colony of New South Wales. The "Victoria" Separation Movement gained considerable momentum in the mid to late 1840's and with the introduction of the Victoria Act separation became fact on 1 July 1851.

Instructions to Thomas Ham in December 1849 realised that Separation was certain, and the "Half-Length" postage stamps were inscribed "VICTORIA".

Several post offices were opened in the Port Phillip District during the 1850-1851 period, the markings from all of which are rare, and including several of which there are no known postal markings.

The last of this group of post offices was Crowlands, which opened (according to Purves) on 23 May 1851, just five weeks prior to Separation. In the recently





published *The Post Offices and Hand-Held Datestamps of Victoria Volume Two* by Watson, Webster & Wood, this opening date is amended to 1 June 1851. In anticipation of separation, the "Crown Oval" type datestamp was inscribed "CROWLAND/VICTORIA". (The town is Crowlands, but the postal marking was inscribed "Crowland").

Illustrated is a stampless entire from the United Kingdom to Mt. William bearing various namestamps, plus SHIP LETTER MELBOURNE May 26, BURN BANK, May 28 and June 1, and finally CROWLAND/VICTORIA for June 1. If the Watson, Webster & Wood opening date for Crowlands is accurate, then this entire is a first day cover for this office.

In the handbook *The Postal History of the Port Phillip District*, by J.R.W. Purves, page 26, he states ". . . my earliest Victoria is Geelong 10.1.52. Doubtless earlier Victoria dates will be found, since to date, no one seems to have concerned themselves with this aspect. As I have pointed out elsewhere, although under the Victoria Act, both the State and the name of Victoria became separate legal entities on 1st July 1851, the name Victoria does not appear on any postal marking until the beginning of January 1852." Subsequently (*Philately from Australia*, December 1964, page 87) Purves recognised that he had overlooked that Pack in his book *The Half-Length Portraits and Twopence Queen Enthroned* (1923) had already recorded an "OVENS/VICTORIA" datestamp of 19 July 1851. Ovens had opened 1 February 1843 and was provided with a "PORT PHILLIP" datestamp, so the "VICTORIA" was a replacement.

The Crowland datestamp on this entire has the distinction of being the only "Victoria" the earliest Victoria postal marking recorded.

The writer has two further examples of "CROWLAND/VICTORIA" used in August 1851.

## CENSORSHIP OF CIVILIAN MAIL IN TASMANIA, 1939-1940

By NEIL M. RUSSELL, F.R.P.S.,L.

The two articles by Max Bulley in *Philately from Australia*, September 1991 and June 1992, have highlighted the problems facing any postal historian researching into civil censorship in Australia during the first few months of World War II. The biggest problem is the lack of material for study and, in the case of Tasmania, covers and post cards are particularly elusive.

In the State of Tasmania, which formed the 6th Military District, two censor stations were established. The main station (No. 6) was at Hobart, with the one and only sub-station (No. 6/1) located at Launceston. In his second article Max Bulley asked for details of black printed OPENED BY/CENSOR labels with either eight or six dots and, following correspondence with Max Bulley and an examination of my own covers, it is now possible to describe a short range of resealing labels used at the two Tasmanian censor stations. These are considered in order of their respective datestamps.

### HOBART

12 December 1939. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black without any dots - reported and illustrated by Max Bulley in June 1992. Not listed in Whitmarsh or Smith.

15 January 1940. PASSED BY CENSOR in one line in red with six blue/black ink dots - reported and illustrated by Max Bulley in September 1991. Not listed by Whitmarsh or Smith.

2 March 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with six large dots - length of dots 16mm - see Fig. 1. Strangely enough this label is illustrated by Whitmarsh (page 27) but is NOT listed by him. Smith records it as No. 6-1(b).

20 March 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with six small dots - length of dots 13.5mm - not illustrated. Whitmarsh No. L6-1 and Smith No. 6-1(a).

1 January 1941 (at Gibraltar), no arrival date. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with six small dots - length of dots 13.5mm - see Fig. 2. Whitmarsh No. L6-1 and Smith No. 6-1(a).

It would appear from this list that use of the red printed label and at least one version of the black printed label overlapped one another. There are three versions of the black printing, one without dots and two with six dots in different settings.

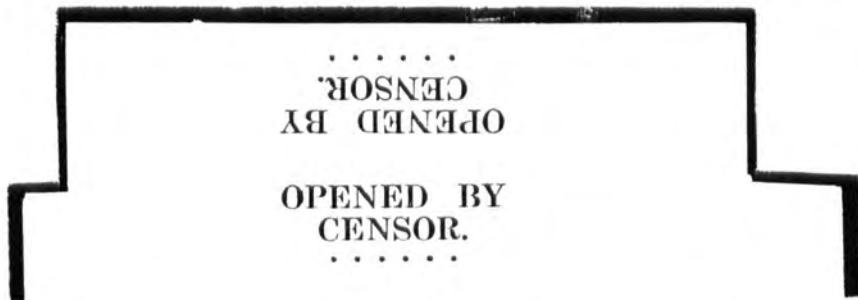


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

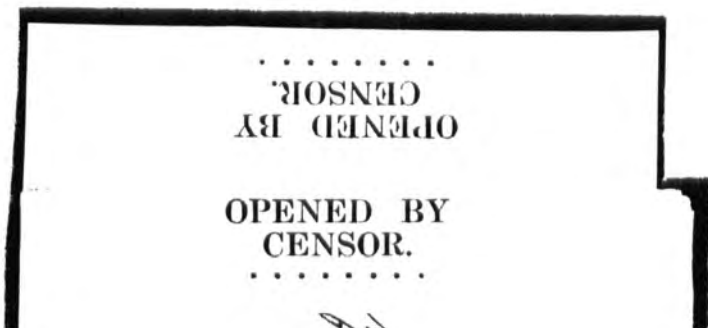


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

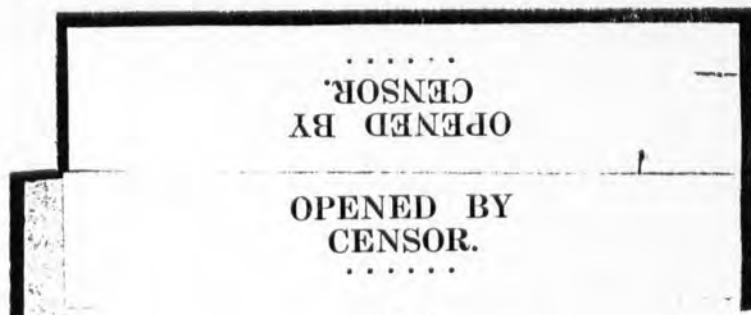


Fig. 5

## LAUNCESTON

17 November 1939. PASSED BY/CENSOR in one line in red without dots – reported but not illustrated by Max Bulley in June 1992.

22 February 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with eight large dots – length of dots 22.5mm – see Fig. 3. Not listed by Whitmarsh or Smith.

15 July 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with eight small dots – length of dots 19mm – see Fig. 4. Whitmarsh No. L6/1-1 and Smith No. 6.1-1.

20 August 1940 (arrival) – origin Shanghai 3 July 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with six large dots – length of dots 16mm – see Fig. 5. Not listed by Whitmarsh, Smith No. 6-1(b). This appears to be the use of a label at Launceston that was intended for Hobart.

21 September 1940. OPENED BY/CENSOR in two lines in black with eight dots. Type of dots and length of dots not known – reported to Max Bulley by a collector in the U.S.A.

The red printed label is similar to that used in Hobart but without a manuscript addition. This was probably the first locally printed label followed by two with eight dots in different settings. The use of a six dot label could be "borrowed" stock or possibly used by a visiting censor who brought his own supplies along.

One factor common to all ten covers is the lack of use of a handstamp cachet by the censors. General use of a handstamp in the standard diamond shape is not recorded before early 1941. However, some covers originating in Tasmania during the early weeks of World War II, i.e. September/October 1939, are known with a handstamp as Fig. 6, struck in red, blue or violet, and all without a label. This censor mark could have been used in Tasmania, but if it was then why was its life not extended to cover the period when

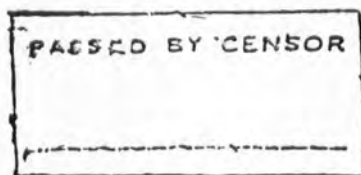


Fig. 6

labels were first introduced? As the two Tasmanian censor stations were small, with a low through-put of mail, and probably not immediately organised for

logistical reasons, it seems highly likely that mail despatched during this very early period for foreign parts was seen in transit elsewhere in Australia where Fig. 6 was applied. Such mail was possibly carried unsealed, hence the omission of a label. But this is speculation as no instructions or records appear to have survived. I have in the past expressed an opinion that this censor mark was applied in Melbourne as it exists on both air mail and surface mail from Hobart and Launceston, with Melbourne being the nearest censor office on mainland Australia for attention, prior to being despatched to distant countries. I remain of this opinion but could be proved wrong.

#### References

- Derek Whitmarsh. *In Search of Secrecy – Civilian Censorship in Australia 1939–1945* (1977).  
J.C. Smith. *Civil Censorship in Australia and Dependencies 1939–1945* (1991).

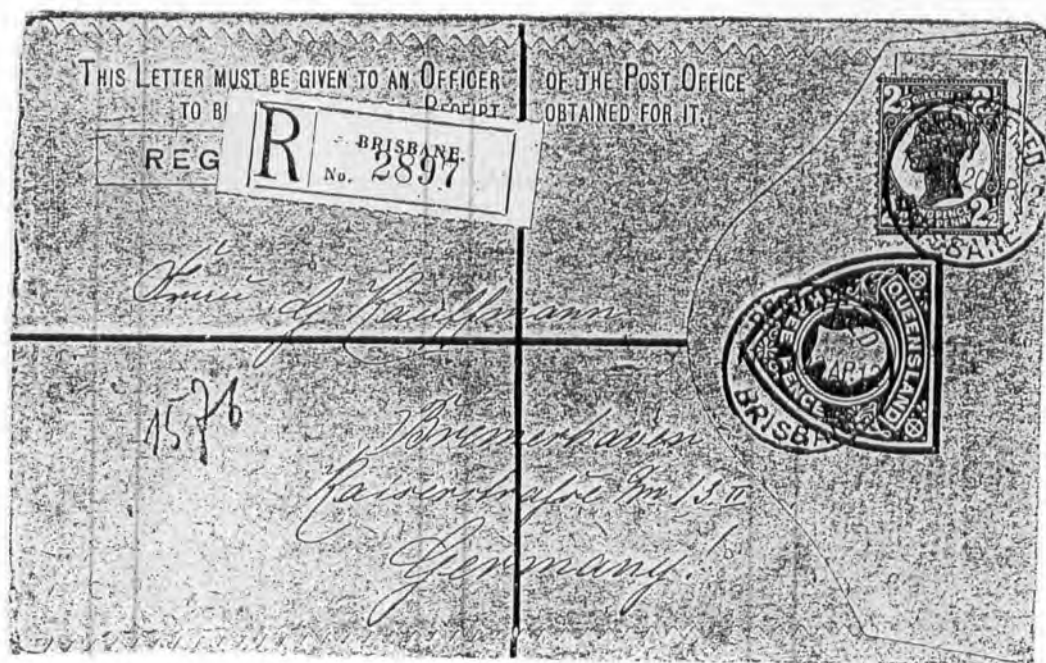
## QUEENSLAND KING EDWARD VII REGISTRATION ENVELOPES

By H.M. CAMPBELL, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L.

In Vol. 2, No. 1 (Autumn 1989) of *The Australian Philatelist*, I described and illustrated a McCorquodale registration envelope with 3d impressed stamp from Ipswich to Dunedin, N.Z., which proved that these envelopes came into use in 1909.

In a recent Stanley Gibbons Australia auction there was another of these Queensland registration envelopes, sent to Germany, described as H & G C2, which was the batch supplied by De La Rue & Co., ordered in 1912. Phil Collas in *Queensland Postal Stationery* states that there are some differences between the two batches, but the only one he specifically mentions, apart from the different name beneath the flap, is that in the De La Rue envelope the flap is more strongly curved. The only addition in the Higgins & Gage Catalogue is to mention that in the McCorquodale envelope the first line of text is 94mm long; the length in the De La Rue envelope is not mentioned.

I bought the item, and my first job was to ensure that the envelope was in fact a De La Rue one. It certainly seemed that the flap was more strongly curved than in the McCorquodale ones in my possession, but it would be difficult to tell the difference without examples of both types to compare. The flap in this new example has been lifted enough to show that the inscription beneath begins with "De", which proves that it is a De La Rue production. I find, however, that the most obvious difference between the two batches on the address side is the first line of the inscription, which in the De La Rue envelope is 98mm long, compared to 94mm for the McCorquodale. Further, if the left side of the



rectangle containing "REGISTERED" is continued upward, in the McCorquodale the line would just touch the left of the horizontal bar of "T" of "This", while in the De La Rue the "T" would be outside the line. Unfortunately, part of the inscription is sometimes obscured by a registration label or extra stamps. Another difference is in the rectangle for the stamp for postage on the flap. In the McCorquodale the rectangle is not complete, as the edge of the flap cuts off the top left corner; in the De La Rue, the rectangle is complete. Here again, these features can be obscured by a stamp.

According to Collas, the earliest recorded date for a De La Rue registration envelope is 30 December 1912. However, this new example is dated at Brisbane, 20 April 1912, with an arrival datestamp of Bremerhaven 24 May 1912, so obviously this batch came into use much earlier than previously believed, at least at Brisbane. Elsewhere, the McCorquodale envelopes would have been used up first, and Collas records one from Roma dated 26 September 1912. Collas states that both envelopes are difficult to find used, and this one is the first De La Rue that I have acquired. I have three used McCorquodales, though, so perhaps these are not quite so rare.

I should be pleased to know if anyone has any further information to add.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

### *Death of Eric Ash*

Eric Ash, the son of the famous Australian Note and Stamp Printer, John Ash, died on 23 January. He was in his 93rd year.

Eric Ash took a life-long interest in Australian stamps, and was a foundation member in 1946 at the reformation of the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Society of Great Britain (later the British Society of Australian Philately). He was President of the society 1954-56 and editor of its *Bulletin* from 1949 to 1957.

His interests covered all aspects of Commonwealth issues and his published researches were numerous.

### *Postal Stationery Society*

A Postal Stationery Society has been formed in the United Kingdom. Its aims are:

- to further develop the study of all areas of postal stationery and to encourage new collectors; and
- to develop the collecting of postal stationery into a more regularly accepted branch of philately, and to offer displays to all philatelic societies.

The Society aims to have an auction, a library and a newsletter. This is the first society which aims to cover all the world's postal stationery issues and will not focus on any one region or country.

An initial meeting was held in London in late September 1992 when inaugural officers

were elected. The first issue of the newsletter, called simply *P.S.*, was published in February 1993 and will be published twice yearly. An auction is also scheduled for later in 1993.

Initial interest in the society has been strong with 60 founding members, and already includes four Australians. Cost of joining the society is £5 per annum.

Given the strong interest in postal stationery in Australia it is hoped that an Australian arm of the society can be formed which can meet at National Exhibitions. Anyone interested in joining the society should contact Darryl Fuller, 18 Ratcliffe Crescent, Florey, ACT 2615 for an application form. Arrangements have been made to pay the cost of joining in Australian dollars (about \$12) to minimise cost to collectors.

### *Victorian Laureates*

John Panckridge, a keen collector of the Laureated issues of Victoria for many years, is seeking information on the 3d lilac, 8d orange and 10d grey Laureates on cover.

Ideally, it is hoped that all the known covers will be able to be illustrated in a series of articles to be published shortly. Auction records, however, are often scanty, and John would appreciate any information any past or present owner of these rare Laureate covers can provide.

Information can be sent direct to John Panckridge, 103 Hill St., West Hobart, Tasmania 7000.

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Stamp Forgeries of Victoria*, by Mavis Pope. Published by the author, 222 Sandgate Road, Birmingham Gardens, N.S.W. 2287. ISBN 0 646 08831 9. 21.0 x 29.5cm. 120 pages.

This is the third monograph in this series, following similar works on New South Wales and Victoria.

In Queensland, there is an extensive introduction to New South Wales stamps used in the Moreton Bay District, although only one forgery is noted, an interesting cover bearing a pair of 1d Sydney Views cancelled

"29" (actually Broulee, N.S.W.), addressed to Brisbane and with faked backstamps of Ipswich and Brisbane.

Coming to the Chalon Heads, there are extensive notes concerning the Panelli and Spiro forgeries, plus several others. Otherwise the only Queensland forgery dealt with is a forged surcharge of the 1880 ½d on 1d. There are also notes on forged obliterators on the postal fiscals.

In South Australia, forgeries of the Perkins Bacon type include the 9d with additional "TEN PENCE" forged surcharge. The 3d on

4d exists with the black surcharge removed and a red one substituted. There is a faked "EIGHT" error on the 1902 8d, and forged postal cancellations on the 1889 Postage & Revenue high values. This reviewer would have thought the "OS" overprints would be a fertile field for forgery, but there is only one page on this subject.

An extensive section on the Departmentals has an extensive check list giving all the known forgeries, but there are practically no notes to assist in their identification.

Tasmania opens with the Jeffries forgeries of the 1d and 4d Courier, together with other, cruder forgeries of the same stamps.

The Chalon Head forgeries are all rather crude. More dangerous, although extremely rare itself, is the Sperati forgery of the £1 Tablet. Faked cancellations exist on the postal fiscals, and a forgery this reviewer was unaware of is the 2/6 St. George & Dragon by Jeffries.

This is a very useful work, although it suffers from the crudity of reproduction of the illustrations that plagued the previous two volumes.

*The Post Offices and Hand-Held Datestamps of Victoria. Volume Two*, by G. Watson, J. Webster & D. Wood. Published by Watson, Webster & Wood Philatelic Publishers, P.O. Box 440, Tullamarine, Vic. 3043. ISBN 0 646 12530 3. 21.5 x 30.5cm. Price, \$69.

This long-awaited volume comes more than three years after the initial volume. In the

interim, there has been an extensive re-organisation of postal services in Victoria, and the purpose and function of mail centres, mail delivery annexes, post office agencies, retail shops, and business centres are explained in the introduction to Volume Two.

There has also been an explosion in new types of datestamps, with the widespread use of rubber handstamps of short lifespan. All these are illustrated.

The listing of relief datestamps in Volume One has required very few additions and amendments.

Volume Two covers post offices beginning with the letters "C" to "G". Format is unchanged from Volume One and takes some getting used to, but with experience the work is suitably "user friendly".

Datestamps of the period to 1900 continue to be listed, but there are large gaps in the dates even of large offices which indicate the authors' lack of material in this area. One questions the advisability of including this period, but at least a start is made which can be built upon.

The largest office dealt with in Volume Two is, of course, Geelong, which comprises over eight pages. The outstanding feature of the listings continues to be the large number of "RRRR" markings of modern vintage. It remains to be seen how these rarity ratings will stand the test of time.

The standard of production is well up with Volume One.

## THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

### *"All the World's a Stage"*

January's display was provided by Mrs Marion Smith, who showed her thematic exhibit of "All the World's a Stage", the story of the Performing Arts.

The early history of performing arts was traced from primitive mankind, through ancient Egypt and ancient Greece, to early Christian drama.

The rebirth of the theatre during the Renaissance was illustrated, culminating in the story of Shakespeare. Two types of the 1964 British aerogramme were shown. The first was inscribed "Shakespeare Memorial Theatre", and this was subsequently corrected to its correct title of "Royal Shakespeare Theatre".

The performing arts can take many forms. Music has always been an important aspect, and material was shown which reflected the

influence of opera, operetta, and musical comedy. Dance theatre and ballet is another crucial component. Performances for the young include puppets, pantomime, and the circus. The most modern form of the performing arts is film.

Many stamps and other material has been issued depicting places to perform - theatres, opera houses, and festivals.

Other essential components in theatrical production were all covered, with authors, players, designers, directors, and by no means the least important, the audience. A 1990 600 lire San Marino stamp had Laurence Olivier's name misspelt "Lawrence".

### *The New Zealand 1d Universal Used in the Territories*

Mark Jurisich travelled from New South



Wales to present the February display. The subject was the external use of New Zealand's 1d Universal and 1d Dominion stamps.

Five New Zealand Dependencies overprinted these stamps for their own use - Penrhyn Island, Aitutaki, Niue, Rarotonga, and Western Samoa.

The Penrhyn Island overprint was shown used on piece with manuscript date "4/5/02", the earliest known. A complete pane of 60 was partially gummed on the face. There was a mint copy with mixed perfs. and a remarkable usage on a 1914 local cover. There was another 1908 commercial usage to New Zealand.

The 1d Universal overprinted for Aitutaki included two apparently commercial covers. The 1d Dominion included a block showing the stereo surcharges cut at top.

The "NIUE" rubber handstamp issue was represented by a number of examples, including a 1902 cover. The machine overprint on Basted Mills paper showed the various surcharge varieties and several covers. The Cowan paper issue included mint blocks of 9 and 4 with mixed perfs., and a cancelled-to-order block of 60 showing the full setting.

The New Zealand 1d Universal was shown used on a number of postcards posted in the Pacific and cancelled by N.Z. Marine Post

Offices, or receiving "LOOSE SHIP LETTER" or "PAQUEBOT" markings at their destination.

Two 1913 covers showed the stamp cancelled at the Postal agency on Fanning Island, and there was a piece showing late usage of the 1d Dominion at Pitcairn Island.

A 1907 postcard was used at Chatham Islands, and a further postcard of 1909 showed the second type datestamp. Two pieces bore 1d Universals posted at Kermadec Islands.

A comprehensive display was made of the temporary post offices in the Antarctic. This included mail posted in New Zealand by both the Scott and Shackleton expeditions prior to their departure.

The 1908 "King Edward VII Land" overprint included mint and used examples of the Waterlow plate, of which only one sheet was printed. Several covers were shown, including one in Shackleton's handwriting.

The 1911 "VICTORIA LAND" overprint included a mint block of 15, with one stamp showing no stop after "LAND". A piece from the Madagascar U.P.U. archives showed three copies of the stamp cancelled by the receiving handstamp. Covers were shown from each outward mail from the Antarctic.

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The Philatelic Society of Victoria which was founded in 1892, and which in 1946 had the privilege conferred upon it of the use of the prefix "ROYAL", is a Society to which you, as a collector, should belong. Among its many advantages are:

★ **SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia* is posted free to all members.

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★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** It has always been Society policy to obtain the best available collections for display at Society monthly meetings. Lectures and discussions by leading philatelists enable members to improve their philatelic knowledge.

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almost all branches of Philately, whose advice is always available.

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★ **ALL COMMUNICATIONS** should be directed to Mr JOHN MACDONNELL (Secretary), Box 2071, GPO, Melbourne 3001.

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