

PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA



Published Quarterly By

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

Vol. XLVII, No. 4

December 1995

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Philately from Australia

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Half Page	\$30.00	\$25.00
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NSW 2830, Australia

PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

Vol. XLVII, No. 4

DECEMBER 1995

SCHOOL OF PHILATELY TO BE HELD IN 1996

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria will hold its third School of Philately during 1996.

The School will comprise a series of lectures over a ten-week period covering most aspects of adult collecting, presented by experienced collectors in their respective topics. The last School of Philately was held in 1986, so this new series of lectures will provide the first opportunity for the latest generation of collectors to attend.

The lectures are open to both members and non-members, and will be held over ten consecutive Wednesday nights over April-June 1996, in the rooms of the Society at 6 Avoca Street, South Yarra. The lectures will begin at 7.30 p.m. and will generally run for approximately two hours.

The schedule of lectures is:

17 April	Introduction Postal History	Peter Jaffé Ed Druce
24 April	Line-Engraving and Lithography	Geoff Kellow
1 May	Letterpress Printing Modern Printing (Photogravure and Offset- lithography)	Russell Jones Bryan Young

8 May	Postmarks	Gary Watson
15 May	Overprints and Surcharges Paper, Perforations and Gum	Peter Jaffé Ken Scudder
22 May	Thematics	John Sinfield
29 May	Postal Stationery Aerophilately	John Sinfield Ray Kelly
5 June	Literature	Geoff Kellow
12 June	Conservation and Philatelic Care	Eric Archer
19 June	Exhibiting and Judging	Ray Kelly

The cost for the School is \$60 for R.P.S.V. members, or \$75 for non-members. For those wishing to attend only specific lectures, the charge will be \$20 per night. All classroom materials will be supplied.

Early booking is essential as numbers are limited and previous Schools have proved popular. Enquiries should be directed to the Secretary, John MacDonnell, Box 2071, G.P.O., Melbourne, Victoria, 3001.

TESTIMONIAL DINNER FOR TWO LONG-SERVING MEMBERS

On 21 November 1995 twenty-eight members and guests assembled at 6 Avoca Street to honour two members. . .

Mr Jack Ganly became, in October, the fifth 60-year member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

Mr Hugh Campbell, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.,L. attained his 50-year membership of the Society this year.

Mr Ganly was accompanied by his wife, and Mr Campbell by his daughter and son-in-law.

Mr Max Watson, F.R.P.S.,L. addressed the assembled members and guests and provided a resumé of Jack Ganly's philatelic career. Mr Ganly was a founder-member of the Geelong Philatelic Society in 1931, and has served as President for seven years. He was President of the Victorian Philatelic Association for two years.

Living in Geelong, and more recently in Torquay, business commitments prevented Mr Ganly from having a close involvement with The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, but his interest was constant and he attended meetings whenever this was practicable. Jack is still seen at meetings.

Jack Ganly's major collecting interests have been Scandinavia - Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and particularly Norway. He has formed other collections of Australian George V varieties and Bermuda.

Mr Watson retold the story of Jack Ganly's terrible philatelic losses in 1973. While overseas on holiday, most of his treasured Norway collection was lost in a flooded Geelong bank vault. Fortunately, the best twelve sheets of Norway were with Helen Serjeant White for a Scandinavian display to the Society. This was the only part of the collection saved. The bank denied liability, but Jack battled on and nearly five years later the bank's insurer paid. This set back his collecting 20 years, but in no way diminished his interest.

Dr Geoff Kellow spoke on Hugh Campbell's considerable achievements. Hugh joined the Society in 1945, was Librarian in 1947 and President in 1949. He was awarded the David Hill Medal in 1963, the J.R.W. Purves Medal in 1994 and made an Honorary Life Member in 1988.

Internationally, he received the ultimate accolade when in 1969 he was invited to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. In 1990 he received the rare honour of Honorary Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Dr Kellow emphasised Hugh Campbell's role as a researcher and writer. He was the foundation editor of *Philately from Australia*, and continued in that role for seven years. In that period, *Philately from Australia* quickly established an enviable reputation for scholarship.

His first book, on Fiji, was published as a Hawthorn Press monograph in 1957.

Tasmania: The Postal History and Postal Markings, with Hugh Campbell as General Editor, appeared in 1962, and was a considerable achievement at a time when Australian postal history was still in its infancy. The Tasmanian book was followed by standard texts on the cancellations of New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia. In 1983 the *Australian Numeral Cancellation Compendium* appeared, providing a summary for all the Australian Colonies.

Hugh has kept pace with modern trends and his early researches on cancellations have given way to studies of postal history, with the emphasis on Queensland. *Queensland Postal History* appeared in 1990 and last year the Society published *Queensland Postal Rates and Charges*.

Hugh Campbell, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L. is one of the Society's most honoured members, and one of its most recognisable overseas. He was described by Dr. Kellow as "the living legend of Australian postal history".

EDITORIAL NOTES

New Fellows of the R.P.S.L.

Two members, Max Watson and Geoff Kellow, have recently been elected Fellows of The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Library Donations

Response to the list of Australian auction catalogue lacking from the Society's library which appeared in the

September *Philately from Australia* has been very gratifying. Those who have donated missing items to the library or provided other donations are John Boykett, Max Bulley, Horace Chisholm, Mark Fabbri, Roland Geitenbeek, Ray Kelly, Dr Paul Korman, Allan Levy, Roy Larkin, Dr Peter Lowthian, Hugh Morgan, AO, Rod Perry, Tony Presgrave, Walter Roemer, John Tracey, Russell Turner, Hans Von Storkirch, Ron Winchester, Bryan Young.

QUEENSLAND: THE ½d OF 1899

By KEN SCUDDER

The ½d of 1899 is, on the face of it, quite an ordinary looking stamp. However, its background is far more interesting. It was the first stamp produced in Queensland using the photo-zincograph process. Its design, with only a small degree of alteration, was taken from a rejected essay of 1897, and there has been speculation as to the name of the designer.

This stamp was introduced due to the criticism being levelled at the then ½d stamp of 1898. The 1898 ½d stamp, issued in October, was part of the Four Numeral series started in 1897. The main criticism of it was that the corner numerals were too small and therefore difficult to read.

The origin of the 1899 ½d goes back to the unissued essays produced for the celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897. The only alteration to the design was the removal of the dates "1837" and "1897" from the two lower corner tablets which were then left blank.



1897
Essay



1899
Issue

In 1978 a very informative article on the 1899 ½d by Phil Collas, M.B.E., was published in the *London Philatelist*, Vol 87. There had been some speculation over the years as to who designed the Jubilee essays. Collas came to the conclusion that they must have been designed by F.J. Elliott who was the lithographic artist of the Government Printing Office at the time. Whilst this may have been a reasonable conclusion to come to at that time evidence which has come to light, together with some further investigation now proves otherwise.

Collas quotes from Samuel Dalby, *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, 20 June 1914, "the stamp was first drawn twice its required size by a Mr. M.Kellar who was the government lithographic artist of the period". Collas then says this information was repeated by Dalby in a later article in the *Australian Philatelist*, 7 September 1916. This is not quite true, because this time Dalby had changed the name to Mr. McKellar. The first mention of the designer's name may well have been a typographical error but the second rendering would appear to be correct.

It may now be revealed that the designer of the ½d essay was the Mr. McKellar named in 1916 by Dalby, his full name being Alexander Robertson McKellar.

Recently several essays and proofs have come on to the market; these, together with archival research now indicate fairly conclusively the name of the designer. Two very important items of evidence came up for sale in the Macray Watson Auctions sale of 15 Nov 1994:

research now indicate fairly conclusively the name of the designer. Two very important items of evidence came up for sale in the Macray Watson Auctions sale of 15 Nov 1994:

Lot 724. Die II [shading across face] 6 proof impressions in black on thin glazed card, mss "Proof 9/10/97 ARMcK" endorsement of designer A.R. McKellar of the Govt. Litho Office at base.

Lot 725. Ditto, 4 proof impressions in green on thin glazed card, similarly endorsed at base.

Unfortunately the dates do not show on the catalogue illustrations. However, the "Proof" and the endorsing initials do. The reference to the Govt. Litho Office is only partly true because, although the work was obviously initiated by that office, McKellar was not on their staff as will be seen later.

Lot 722. 1895-97 Proposed Diamond Jubilee issue ½d with "1837-1897" [incorrectly written 1837-1937] in lower corners perforated proof sheet of 8 [170 x 132mm] in green on ungummed no wmk paper, mss "3 Sep 95" in blue at U/L, minor reinforcing in margins only. Impressive piece [Mock-up to assess appearance in sheet format].

Impressive as this piece may be the manuscript date must remain very suspect. Firstly, as Collas says, *"The Post Office in Queensland tended to follow its New South Wales counterpart in many postal practices and procedures..."* Basset Hull, *The Postage Stamps, etc. of New South Wales*, Chapter X, The Record Reign Series, commences, *"Early in 1897 the Postmaster-General [Mr Joseph Cook] had under his consideration a proposal to introduce a series of new postage stamps in commemoration of the sixtieth year of Her late Majesty's reign..."* Competitive Designs were then called for on 10th April 1897. It would therefore appear highly unlikely that the Queensland Authorities had been some 17 months ahead of their New South Wales counterparts, perhaps more so as no Queensland Jubilee stamps were ever issued. Secondly, the fact that the date is written in blue may well indicate it to have been added some time after the event.

Another interesting item had previously come onto the market in the "Australian States Essays & Proofs" sale of Stanley Gibbons Australia, 13 April 1994:

Lot 1153. 1899 "Widow" Definitives: A series of Proofs struck on a single piece of glazed paper using the ½d die and another die without value. Pencilled into the blank spaces on nine of these proofs are suggested value tablets for 1d [2], 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 1/- and 2/-. This apparently represented preparatory work for a proposed Diamond Jubilee or definitive series based on the ½d design". In manuscript is written "Suggestion for other Values" and the date "30/10/97".

Three of these four items are seen to have October 1897 dates, two the 9th and one the 30th.

Reference to the Queensland Government *Blue Books* shows that Frederick James Elliott was appointed Lithographic Artist on 16 July 1896. He was employed in the Government Printer's Office under William Knight, who at the time was listed as Engraver and Electrotyper. Elliott was therefore in the right place at the right time.

Over the years the printing of stamps had been only a part of Knight's responsibilities. His department, for many years, had been responsible for the printing of both maps and securities and even up to a year after Knight retired on 31 December 1898 his department was still listed, under the Government Printer, as "Engraving and Lithographic Maps and Securities". After this though the department was absorbed into that of the Government Printer proper.

It would therefore appear that, sometime around the middle of 1897, when a design of a ½d stamp commemorating the Queen's Jubilee was required that Elliott was otherwise engaged and the work was put outside to a private designer.

As Knight had, up to then, been responsible for engraving all the adaptations from the two 1878-79 Bell 1d steel dies and the 1882 Bradbury Wilkinson 2d steel die and the preparation of the typographic printing plates resulting from these adapted dies, we may well ask why he did not prepare the new ½d design himself.

First, although he had prepared all of these dies, he had in fact only adapted each design,

the Queen's Head not having been altered to any great degree. Secondly, he was then still very much engaged in preparing the dies and plates for the remaining values of the 1897 Four Numeral series. Only the 2d value had by then been issued, in May 1897. The 1d was to follow in the August of that year. Thirdly, when Knight first came to Brisbane from Melbourne in 1861 he went into partnership with Thomas Ham, who also had only recently arrived from Melbourne. Although both were engravers, in this partnership Knight was principally the photographer. When in 1866 the Government Engraving and Lithographic Branch was formed under Thomas Ham as Chief Engraver and Knight as Engraver, Knight no longer had need to employ his photographic skills professionally. However, he continued photography as a hobby for the rest of his life.

Therefore, when Knight was approaching the end of his career (he was nearly 71 when he retired) he was, no doubt, instrumental in the decision to produce future new designs using the photo-zincograph process. This required the employment of an artist, Elliott. It may be noted that a second artist, Charles Rose, was also employed a year later, initially as a Lithographic Draughtsman and later as a Lithographic Artist. No engravers were then employed in stamp production.

Although Collas states he was unable to find McKellar's name in the Blue Books, there was, in fact, an Alexander Robertson McKellar is listed in the 1898 *Blue Book*.

A.R. McKellar is listed as a Draftsman in the Survey of Lands Department. This was his first appointment under the Government of Queensland, commencing on 11 February 1898. He remained with this department. His last listing was in the 1919 Blue Book when he was the Assistant Officer in Charge - Lithography, Dept. of Public Lands. It should be noted that his employment with the Government began after the dates of the various proofs of October 1897.

A.R. McKellar is listed in the Brisbane/Queensland Post Office Directories as: 1889 engraver; 1890-92 lithographer; 1893-96 either he is not listed or is listed by name only; 1897-99 lithographer. The *Blue Book* of 1912 gives his date of birth as 22 March 1866. He was married on 18 Sept 1888 to Elizabeth Marsh and according to a search made his mother's name was Margaret Robertson from whom he received his second name.

From the above it may be concluded that Alexander Robertson McKellar was the designer of the 1897 Jubilee ½d Essay and that this work was carried out as an outside artist on commission from the Government Printing Office.

Addendum

As this was the first stamp produced in Queensland using the photo-zincograph process a description of this process would not be out of place and, it seems appropriate to repeat Phil Collas' words here:

The design was reduced photographically on to a sensitized zinc plate, the reduction being to the size of the issued stamp... [Reduced from, a larger artists drawing K.S.]

The reproduction, on zinc, was then etched to produce a half-tone block and from this zinc die were taken wax impressions which, graphite covered, were immersed in a bath of copper salts and electricity applied until deposits of copper were of adequate thickness, the result being 40 electrolytes. This group of electros, probably backed with metal, became the master die. Thereafter, as the master, it was the basis from which three units of 40 were produced by the same process. These, clamped together, became the plate for the surface printing of sheets of 120-on, arranged with 10 stamps across and 12 down, without dividers.

Undoubtedly, the three sections of this printing plate, being of copper, would have been surfaced with a hard metal - nickel, steel or chromium - to resist wear.

Acknowledgment is given to the following institutions from whom information was obtained:-

- State Library of Queensland, John Oxley Library
- State Library of Victoria, Latrobe Library
- Queensland State Archives

THE INTERNAL REVENUE STAMPS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

By BILL LLOYD-SMITH

Introduction

These notes deal with the fiscal issues of Western Australia issued prior to 1904. These were either inscribed "Internal Revenue" or overprinted "I R" signifying the same. These stamps are of some interest to collectors of Western Australian postal issues because some of these (denominations not exceeding one shilling) were authorised for postage between 1893 and 1900.

In the past these issues have not been popular probably because of their dull and monotonous appearance. Nevertheless, Basset Hull wrote a lengthy article entitled "Fiscal Philately" in the *Australian Stamp Monthly* in 1932 which discussed many of the fiscal stamps of Western Australia (and also Tasmania). Much of this information was reproduced in the handbook published by the Western Australian Study Group in 1979. However, V.E. John Dzelme's book, *The Fiscal Stamps of Western Australia*, published in 1986 has added a wealth of new information about these stamps. Some information was recorded in the contemporary journals in 1893 and 1894 when fiscal stamps of denominations up to 1/- were authorised for postal use. There is much additional information in the De La Rue Correspondence Books which are available on microfilm in the State Library of Victoria. These records include the replies furnished by De La Rue to Basset Hull in 1902 on Western Australia and the other Australian Colonies.

This article examines the printings of these stamps prior to 1904. Attention is paid to the provisional issues of 1881 and 1882 and the circumstances surrounding their issue. The deliveries made by De La Rue are tabulated, the figures being derived from the information which De La Rue supplied to Basset Hull.

The Provisional Issues

Fiscal stamps were first introduced under the terms of The Stamp Act, 1881, which was assented to on 7 April 1881. The Act came into operation on 1 November 1881. This Act was repealed by virtue of The Stamp Act, 1882 which was assented to on 21 September 1882. The provisions of the former Act were re-enacted with amendments and the new Act came into force on 1 October 1882 as provided by Section 4.

Both Acts provided a detailed Schedule of Duties on various legal instruments. Most duties were either 1d or multiples of 3d. Both Acts levied a duty of 2d for every perfect form contained in Schedule D to the Customs Ordinance, 1860, when the goods were entered duty free. Also, the Stamp Act, 1881 levied a duty of 2d on Bills of Exchange in excess of £5 but not exceeding £10. When the Bill of Exchange was in excess of £10 but not more than £25, the duty was 4d. The Stamp Act, 1882, removed the need for 2d stamps on Bills of Exchange. Since the provisions just cited were the only uses for 2d duty stamps, these stamps were of very limited use after the commencement of The Stamp Act, 1882.

Both Acts stipulate that

"Stamp" means as well a stamp impressed by means of a die as an adhesive stamp, and not being a postage stamp within the meaning of "The Postage Stamp Ordinance, 1854".

Thus postage stamps were not allowed to be used for revenue purposes prior to The Post and Telegraph Act, 1893 but some were so used without authority.

We note that telegraph stamps were not intended for fiscal use and, indeed, no examples of such usage are known. Both Stamp Acts stipulated that only the Colonial Treasurer had the authority to issue duty stamps, whereas telegraph stamps were issued by the Postmaster-General who was answerable to the Colonial Secretary (see Sections 8 and 9 of the respective Stamp Acts). This is confirmed by the *Gazette* notice of 29 November 1881 which stated that "only those postage stamps marked IR may be used for National Revenue purposes."

In an endeavour to supply the necessary stamps, the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Agent-General in London on 11 April 1881 to request dies and plates for 14 denominations ranging from 1d to £10. An initial supply of these stamps was also requested. On 13 June 1881 De La Rue replied that they could not fulfil the request. Their suggestion of an interim supply of provisional stamps overprinted with "IR" and the required denominations was accepted. On 21 September 1881 the Colonial Secretary acknowledged receipt of these provisional stamps.

This information is taken from Dzelme's *The Fiscal Stamps of Western Australia*. It is thus established that the Western Australian Government had all the required fiscal stamps in sufficient time for issue on 1 November 1881. Thus, there should not have been any need to overprint 1d postage stamps in August 1881 with the letters "IR". However, it was deemed necessary, sometime in 1881, to produce a supply of 1d "IR" stamps locally, and the earliest date according to Dzelme is 26 December 1881. Note that no other denominations were printed in Perth. The fact that purported examples of locally-produced "IR" stamps other than the 1d value often bear postmarks, genuine or otherwise, should arouse suspicion since such stamps, if genuine, should normally be found with fiscal cancellations, but this is not the case. Dzelme states that such issues are almost certainly fakes and shows how to recognise these as such.

The temporary nature of these "IR" surcharges is emphasised, since De La Rue delivered their first consignment of the definitive revenue stamps to the Agent-General in December 1881, the invoice being dated 31 December 1881. On 10 January 1882 De La Rue sent an invoice to the Agent-General for the manufacture of the key and duty plates for these stamps (see Dzelme, page 41).

It is suggested that the locally-produced "IR" issues were produced because the supply of 1d stamps delivered by De La Rue was too small. The evidence is given below. Note that the De La Rue Correspondence Books for Western Australia do not say so directly, but several letters written in 1882 stress the urgent need for 1d revenue stamps. Thus, on 3 April 1882 the Agent-General wrote to De La Rue as follows:

Gentlemen,

I have to request that you will provide, with the utmost possible despatch, for the Government of Western Australia the undermentioned Revenue Stamps, viz.

60,000 duty 1d

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant
(signature illegible)

The Agent-General sent a similar request to De La Rue on 12 May 1882, and on 8 June 1882 the Agent-General requested a quarterly supply of 60,000 of the 1d value.

It is thus apparent that the initial supplies of the 1d stamp printed by De La Rue were rather small in terms of demand. There is also a second line of evidence, as follows. Some figures for revenue stamps issued are given for the years 1887, 1888 and 1889 in Parliamentary Paper No. 23 "Correspondence as to making Postage and Revenue stamps interchangeable" in the Western Australian Minutes, Votes and Proceedings of the Parliament for the year 1890. These figures are reproduced below.

**Return of Internal Revenue Stamps of the various Denominations in use in the Colony,
issued during the years 1887, 1888 and 1889**

<i>Denomination</i>	<i>1887</i>	<i>1888</i>	<i>1889</i>
One Penny	218,137	224,814	242,724
Two Penny	503	295	395
Three Penny	15,147	16,902	16,358
Six Penny	12,998	12,980	13,958
One Shilling	11,411	11,027	12,946
Two Shilling and Sixpenny	3,717	4,532	4,750
Three Shilling	618	577	572
Five Shilling	1,603	1,818	1,503
Seven Shilling and Sixpenny	211	312	233
Ten Shilling	839	1,219	1,223
Fifteen Shilling	136	166	147
One Pound	392	494	505
One Pound Ten Shilling	179	214	183
Five Pound	53	70	65
Ten Pound	52	76	89

It should be apparent that supplies of denominations other than 1d in the provisional series should have been sufficient for well over six months, with the possible exception of the 1/- value. However, the permanent series was despatched to Perth on 31 December 1881, so that these should have been available in late February or March 1882. Dzelme has recorded the 1/- of the permanent series used on 28 March 1882. The 2d is a special case which will be discussed later.

From the figures given above, it is quite credible to assume that the annual usage of 1d revenue stamps in 1882 could be in the range 160,000 to 200,000. If the lower range is accepted, then De La Rue's supply of 1d "IR" surcharges would have sufficed for three months at best. Thus, a locally-printed supply would be needed in January 1882, if not before. A higher estimate for annual usage of 1d stamps simply makes the need for locally-printed 1d "IR" stamps even more acute. These would be on Crown CC watermarked paper; both 12½ and 14 perforations are found.

From the figures supplied to Basset Hull by De La Rue in 1902, we learn that the first consignment of the permanent series included 338 sheets of the 1d, i.e. 40,560 stamps. This is very nearly the same figure as for the 1d provisionals printed by De La Rue. Again, these stamps would merely suffice for two or three months at best, so that another local overprinting of 1d postage stamps would be needed. The invoices for the second and third consignments of 1d revenue stamps are dated 10 April 1882 and 13 June 1882 respectively. The quantities were, respectively, 506 sheets (60,720 stamps) and 511 sheets (61,320 stamps). These consignments would not arrive in Perth until June 1882 at the earliest. It is noted that the orders given suggest that quarterly consumption of 1d stamps was not

much less than 60,000 stamps.

The 1d postage stamps on Crown CA watermarked paper, perforated 14, appeared in March 1882, according to Juhl. Dzelme records this stamp with "IR" overprint used on 20 March 1882. It appears that some of these stamps were overprinted very shortly after these arrived in Perth.

Thus there were two overprintings of the 1d postage stamps, both dictated by urgent necessity. In both cases it is suggested that supplies distributed to Perth and Fremantle did not last as long as supplies sent to rural offices, but evidence would be desirable.

After July 1882 the supply of 1d revenue stamps would have been assured. Since the 1d postage stamps watermarked Crown CA and perforated 12 did not appear until about February 1883, according to Juhl, it is clear that these should not exist genuinely overprinted "IR". None are known.

The numbers of 1d stamps locally overprinted "IR" is not known. It is not clear how Dzelme arrived at his estimate of 24,000, let alone the breakdown into 21,000 Crown CC and 3,000 Crown CA. The latter supply would barely last a week. Even 20,000 stamps would have lasted little more than one month before shortages occurred somewhere.

From the foregoing considerations, it seems quite clear that the 1d postage stamps were urgently overprinted "IR" on at least two occasions to meet shortages of 1d revenue stamps. These should come after the De La Rue provisionals in the catalogues. Since supplies of higher denominations were adequate, there was no need to produce those locally. It is also clear that the 1d "IR" watermark Crown CA must have been produced in 1882, not 1881, as this is the date of introduction of Crown CA paper for Western Australia.

The Permanent Series

With this article is reproduced the details of quantities delivered, as furnished to Basset Hull. These only go as far as 22 July 1902, with quantities being supplied on that date of 1d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1. This corresponds to the Agent-General's order dated 5 June 1902 for supplies of these denominations. However, there were a few later orders as described in the De La Rue Correspondence Books and these have been appended to the list supplied to Basset Hull. These orders are not necessarily the quantities actually printed but the differences are probably small. In some cases the ordered quantities were not exactly divisible by 120 so De La Rue printed an extra sheet or two to ensure the order was met.

From the tabulation certain patterns are at once apparent. There were frequent orders for the values up to 1/- (other than 2d) and annual supplies from 1886 for 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1. The 3/-, 7/6, 15/- and values above £1 were seldom ordered. When needed these lesser-used values were usually ordered together. This is neatly explained by A. O'Grady Lefroy (the Colonial Treasurer) in a letter dated 29 June 1886. In part he said that it was necessary *"to ensure a reserve stock equal to six months consumption"*. The letter continues:

It will not be necessary to include 3/-, 7/6, 15/-, £1/10/-, £5 or £10 stamps in an annual requisition, the consumption of these denominations being small, only an occasional order will be necessary. The estimated annual supply is based upon actual past sales with a margin added to meet a perceptibly increasing demand.

This letter explains the patterns that the reader will notice when studying the table of quantities. Details of the printings after 1902 which the Basset Hull list did not include have been extracted from the microfilm copy of the De La Rue Correspondence Books in

DELIVERIES OF "LONG" INTERNAL REVENUE STAMPS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Date	1d	2d	3d	6d	1/-	2/6	3/-	5/-	7/6	10/-	15/-	£1	£1/10/-	£5	£10	£25	£50	£100
31.12.81	42960	20400	16320	12000	6120		3360	1800	1080	1200	600	1080	480	360	360			
10.4.82	60720																	
13.6.82	61320																	
30.6.82	60480																	
28.8.82				6000	6120													
14.11.82	60480			4560	4560													
23.1.83	58320			4080	4080	5160												
9.4.83	61080			4080	4560													
1.7.83	61320			4200	4440													
2.10.83	60840			4320	3960													
21.12.83	60720			4320	4320													
27.5.84	60000			4440	4440													
27.6.84	61440			4320	4440													
17.7.84			11880			5880		1800										
24.9.84	3480			2520	3360													
14.1.85	3120			2400	3120													
23.4.85	3240			2400	3240													
13.7.85	3240			2400	3240													
19.10.85	3120		12000	2520	3240	2760		1800		2040								
29.12.85	3240			2400	3360													
19.4.86	3000			2400	3120													
28.5.86			20040			4920												
30.6.86	40080	5280		2040	2400	1440												
4.10.86	39860		5400	2280	3360	1320												
22.11.86	160800		20040	15960	16080	5280		1920		1560		720						
	40680		5280			1200												
15.11.87	162960		20160	16320	15840	5280		1800		1320		720						
28.7.88	205200																	
6.11.88	162000		19920	15600	16560	5280		1800		1440		720						
14.5.89							3480		1320		840		600	600	480			
16.10.89	162960		20400	16320	16440	5280		2160		1680		840						
2.10.90	164400		20160	16560	16320	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000			
26.5.91	200040																	
29.8.91	160800		20040	16080	16320	6480		6480		6240		6480						
18.6.92	203040																	
8.8.92	324000		40080	32160	31920	6000		6000		6000		6000						

Date	1d	2d	3d	6d	1/-	2/6	3/-	5/-	7/6	10/-	15/-	£1	£1/10/-	£5	£10	£25	£50	£100
23.8.93	322320		40080	32160	32040	6000		6240		6240		6000						
16.8.94	324000		41040	32400	32280	6000		6000		6000		6000						
22.8.95	324240		40080	31920	32400	6240		6240		6240		6240						
28.8.96	324240		40320	31680	32160	9480		6240		6240		6240						
26.9.96						18720	6240									2880	4320	3840
10.2.97																		
15.8.97	322800		40560	32400	32400	12240		6240		6000		6000						
28.7.98	325680		39960	32880	32400	12600		6240	6240	6000		6120						
12.10.98			40800	32040	32400	12000	8160	6000		6000		6000						
1.8.99	328080																	
12.4.00				30600														
2.8.00			39360	32040	32640	12000		6000		6000		6000						
6.6.01	240000		9600	9840			5280											
20.6.01	471600																	
11.7.01	801000		41400	32040	32280	12000		6480		6240		6000						
10.7.02				40080														
22.7.02	807000		39960	31680	32640	12000		6000		6240		6000						
22.9.02			70000	60000	60000													
22.12.02	1200000																	
3.6.03	1320000		70000	60000	60000	12000		6000		6000		6000						
16.7.03																		
17.2.04																		

REMAINING ORDERS FROM AGENT-GENERAL

the La Trobe Library with the help of Geoff Kellow's notes. It is clear from a letter from the Agent-General dated 16 July 1903 that De La Rue was authorised to make a new key plate to complete an order for pence value revenue stamps. Thus, the one order split into two printings in the case of 1d, 3d and 6d as indicated by Dzelme for Plate 2.

A few discrepancies between the information supplied to Basset Hull and the De La Rue Correspondence Books remain. I cannot find an order for 3d, 2/6 and 5/- corresponding to the invoice dated 17 July 1884. Generally, the correspondence between the two sources is very good. The annual supply of 1d revenue stamps was stopped in 1900 (letter from Agent-General dated 22 March 1900), and on 23 January 1905 De La Rue sent the Agent-General the remaining stock of WA paper (388 sheets).

There were three distinct watermarks used for these stamps. These were, in chronological order, narrow CA over Crown, wide CA over Crown, and W Crown A. The narrow CA over Crown paper was used from late 1881 to 1895. The three shipments dated 28 August 1896, 26 September 1896 and 10 February 1897 were all printed on the wide CA over Crown paper. A new dandy roll for W Crown A paper was invoiced by De La Rue on 4 March 1897, and

subsequent deliveries of Internal Revenue stamps were printed on this new paper, the first delivery being dated 15 August 1897.

It is straightforward to distinguish the two forms of CA over Crown watermark. Stamps printed on the narrow CA over Crown paper tend to curl from side to side for the pence and shilling values, and from top to bottom for the pound values. In contrast, stamps printed on the wide CA over Crown paper tend to curl from top to bottom for the pence and shilling values and from side to side for the pound values. This change of paper was apparently missed in the contemporary journals. The earliest reference to two forms of CA over Crown paper that I have found is in Morley's *Catalogue of the Revenue Stamps of the British Colonies* which appeared in 1910.

The table of printings begins with a shipment for 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 3/-, 5/-, 7/6, 10/-, 15/-, £1, £1/10/-, £5 and £10. A new denomination of 2/6 was invoiced for the first time on 23 January 1883, a new plate for this value having been ordered on 9 October 1882 by the Agent-General. It has already been remarked that there was a tendency to order particular sets of denominations at a time. Thus, most annual orders asked for 1d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6 and 5/-, and usually 10/- and £1. Less frequently other denominations were ordered, and thus we find 3/-, 7/6, 15/- and £1/10/- being ordered together. Higher values of £5 and £10 were sometimes included, but the three top values (£25, £50 and £100) were only ordered once.

The 2d value is a special case as there were only two printings ever made of that denomination. The first printing of 20,400 stamps was invoiced on 31 December 1881, and the second printing of 5,280 stamps was invoiced on 30 June 1886. As noted previously, there was very little use for this value after The Stamp Act, 1882 came into force. Figures of revenue stamps used in 1881 and 1882 are not available. Nevertheless it is quite conceivable that the 2d stamps were fairly frequently used for revenue purposes prior to October 1882, mainly on Bills of Exchange, so that stocks were running low by mid-1886. The second printing would certainly suffice until the mid-1890s. After it became available for postage, supplies may have run out well before 1900 but documentary evidence is lacking.

It is obvious that after the 1d, which was in heavy demand, the most frequently used values were, in order, 3d, 6d and 1/-. Interestingly enough, the second shipment of 3d was dated as late as 17 July 1884, whereas the second shipment of 6d and 1/- were invoiced on 28 August 1882. A possible explanation may be suggested as follows. Examination of the Schedules reveals few 3d rates. Further, the 3d rate was not relevant to Bills of Exchange under the 1881 Act, but the 1882 Act may have substantially increased the demand for 3d stamps since these would be needed on Bills of Exchange for more than £5 and not exceeding £25.

This discussion of the 2d and 3d values may help to explain why there were so many remainders of the 2d and 3d "IR" surcharges, especially the former.

On 16 July 1903 the Agent-General authorised De La Rue to make a new key plate for the pence values. This plate saw limited use as on 27 October 1904 the Agent-General requested De La Rue to ship the plates and dies to Western Australia - the revenue stamps were to be printed locally in future. On 10 November 1904 De La Rue replied to say that the plates and dies had been sent to the Agent-General.

The Agent-General wrote to De La Rue on 20 January 1905 to request that remaining stocks of Western Australian paper be sent to him. Three days later De La Rue replied that they were sending 380 sheets of Western Australian paper. By then, the new series of

revenue stamps printed by Waterlow & Sons was in use. Interestingly enough, there was no request for the return of the relevant dandy roll until 5 March 1914. On 11 March 1914 the Agent-General advised De La Rue that the dandy roll was to be returned for destruction. Basset Hull's article of 1932 tells us that remaining stocks of Internal Revenue stamps were overprinted for use by the Supreme Court in 1904-05. There were no 2d or 7/6 stamps among these remainders.

Some comments on the plates seem to be desirable as these do not appear in the standard reference books on Western Australia. The permanent series had the usual plate numbers in the margins. These are illustrated for the shilling and pound values in Brian Pope's book on the Western Australian Museum philatelic collection (see pages 20 and 22). The plate number is "1" for these issues, but very few examples have survived. For the pence values the plates were numbered "1" (the 1881 plate) and "2" (the 1903 plate). Examples of the marginal Plate 2 are apparently unknown (see Pope, page 36), and examples of Plate 1 are apparently quite rare.

A letter from the Agent-General to De La Rue dated 25 April 1882 requested "dies" for striking off impressions of "two shillings", "six pence" and "four pence" Internal Revenue stamps. The first two values appear to be the result of confusion with a 2/6d value as a letter from the Agent-General dated 12 June 1882 suggests. Indeed, a 2/6d value was ordered soon afterwards, but nothing more was ever done about a 4d denomination. It is clear that a 4d stamp would be useless after the passage of The Stamp Act, 1882.

Dates of Issue

Dzelme's book provides details of first use for practically all the stamps of interest in this article. This is important information as there is not very much previous literature to draw on when trying to establish periods of use. There was a flurry of interest in 1893 and 1894 when revenue stamps of denominations up to 1/- were authorised for postage. This is evident from *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, *Australian Philatelist* and the *Philatelic Journal of America*. However, this interest was short-lived and hence the changes of watermark were not generally recorded. However, *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* did chronicle the W Crown A watermarked issues.

Even the standard reference works only give very approximate dates of first use at best for the wide CA over Crown and W Crown A printings. Thus, Juhl's *Catalogue-Handbook* provides approximate dates of issue for virtually all of the regular postal issues, but only makes some general comments on dates of issue for the "postal fiscals". An attempt will be made to fill some of these gaps, particularly for the later issues. The warning of W.H.M. Bromfield in *Australian Stamp Monthly*, April 1933, page 146, that some legal instruments were backdated, needs to be borne in mind.

For the locally-printed "IR" overprints, I can record one example on Crown CA paper dated 3 February 1882. This date seems surprisingly early, but the earliest consignment of Crown CA postage stamps was invoiced on 22 October 1881, so the date is credible. What is not so easy to explain is that the earliest date on a "long" Internal Revenue 1d is 8 December 1882. Dzelme has recorded much earlier dates on 6d, 1/- and £1 values, among others. Also, the Agent-General's urgent requests for 1d revenue stamps on 3 April and 12 May 1882 has already been noted. Nevertheless, some local overprints are found used in the latter half of 1882.

Similarly, one may hope to find earlier dates than those recorded by Dzelme, particularly on the long stamps of denominations 3/-, 7/6d, 10/- and 15/-.

Turning to the printings on wide CA over Crown paper, we have to rely entirely on the available philatelic evidence, having regard to the possibility of intentional backdating. This may be checked with the aid of dated postally used examples in the case of the lower values up to 1/-. Also, examples with dates earlier than October 1896 may have been backdated (in the case of fiscal use) since the earliest consignment regarded by Basset Hull as being on this paper was invoiced on 28 August 1896. The previous consignment was invoiced 22 August 1895 and this would almost certainly be the narrow CA over Crown paper. Besides, there was no order for internal revenue stamps at any time between 14 June 1895 and 26 June 1896, when annual orders for 1d, 3d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6d, 5/-, 10/- and £1 were sent.

I can record a pair of the 1d with wide CA over Crown watermark used at Coolgardie on 4 October 1897. Earlier dates surely exist. It is quite believable that the 1d to 1/- (ex 2d) appeared early in 1897 or before, but not by the middle of 1896. Similar remarks may apply to the higher values up to £1. It goes without saying that the 25, 50 and 100 would be available for use late in 1896 as these were new denominations. As a check on early dates, a tally of observed dates is the safest way to proceed as a high relative frequency of dates in a certain range strongly supports the belief that the stamps concerned were used in that period of time. It would be of great interest to see some frequency counts in print. Abnormally early dates are immediately suspect.

Finally, we consider printings on W Crown A paper. For these, there are contemporary reports, mainly in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*. The 1d and 6d were chronicled in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* for 31 January 1899 on page 113 as having appeared on this new paper. I can record a used pair of 1d cancelled NO 12 98 at Broad Arrow, and another 1d also cancelled at Broad Arrow in November 1898. Dzelme gives 30 November 1900 as the earliest observed date on the 1d. The 3d on the new paper was chronicled by *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* on 31 January 1900 on page 151. I have seen a used pair with the rubber cancellation REGISTRATION BRANCH/5 AUG 1899/COOLGARDIE, and Dzelme gives an even earlier date of 27 February 1899. The 1/- and 2/6d were chronicled by *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* on 30 November 1899 as having been seen on the new paper, used postally. It is likely that these values appeared much earlier, as the dates given by Dzelme suggest. Unfortunately, little interest seems to have been shown in these stamps by the contemporary Australian philatelic press. Indeed, the *Australian Philatelist* for 25 February 1899 expressed the opinion that the 1d fiscal was obsolete! In the same report (on page 76) the 1d fiscal on W Crown A paper was mentioned in passing.

The 3/- revenue on W Crown A paper was chronicled in *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* on 31 August 1900 on page 36. Most of the higher values probably appeared in 1900, as dates provided by Dzelme indicate. The exception is the 10/- value, which is chronicled with a date of 10 September 1897. This is only four days after the earliest date for the 10/- on wide CA over Crown paper! The 15/- and £1 on W Crown A paper were reported in the *Bulletin* of the Fiscal Philatelic Society, October 1908, page 12. Dzelme indicates that he had not seen the £1 without Supreme Court or Probate Duty overprints.

In summary, the task of accurately dating these issues is by no means complete, but Dzelme's book makes substantial progress in this direction.

Summary

From the foregoing we can summarise as follows.

The 1d "IR" overprints produced in Perth were almost certainly a stop-gap measure

as the quantities of 1d stamps ordered from De La Rue were too small. This statement is supported both by the urgent tone of Crown Agents correspondence asking for more 1d revenue stamps, and by the available statistics of stamp usage. The correct sequence of issues in chronological order is almost certainly:

- 1d "IR" provisional surcharge (De La Rue)
- 1d "IR" overprint on Crown CC paper, both perforations (local)
- 1d definitive Internal Revenue (De La Rue)
- 1d "IR" overprint on Crown CA paper, perf. 14 (local)
- 1d definitive Internal Revenue (De La Rue)

More information on relevant dates of use is needed.

As for the definitive Internal Revenue stamps, improved dates are given for the 1d W Crown A paper and further improvements are expected. It is noted that unusually early dates may have to be queried. The limited range of contemporary reports of dates of issue are reviewed. Some of these are probably well after the event.

It is well known that some of these stamps were authorised for postage from 5 September 1893. This will be the subject of a subsequent article.

AUSTRALIA: THE 1d KING GEORGE V SUBSTITUTIONS OF 1928

By G.N. KELLOW, F.R.P.S.,L.

The story of the rust flaws on the 1d King George V steel plates, Pane IV, Nos. 34 and 35, and their subsequent substitution by copper electrotypes is well-known. Although printings continued from the Left Plates in this condition for some time, in 1918 the plates were retired from use. All printings in red on Large Multiple Watermark paper, printings in violet, and printings in green on Single Watermark, Large Multiple Watermark and No Watermark were from the Right Plates only. This was practicable because the increase in letter rate from 1d to 1½d in November 1918 greatly reduced the quantity of 1d stamps required.

However, when John Ash became Stamp Printer in 1927, he paid considerable attention to the 1d steel plates and corrected a number of the varieties that had persisted for many years. In 1928 he took the Left Plates out of service and made printings on Small Multiple Watermark paper. The philatelic observations, made at the time, were that the copper substitutions on IV 34 and IV 35, together with the "thin G" retouch on IV 40 had been removed. The accepted explanation is that provided by Rosenblum in *The Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia*:

Before recommissioning [the plates], however, he first corrected the very obvious fault caused by the introduction of the two substituted clichés in the lower plates. These were again removed, and the hole in the plate enlarged to remove also the thin G retouch, which, it will be remembered, occurred on the cliché immediately under one of the substitutions. A fresh piece of steel was then dovetailed into the plate and fresh impressions from the die rolled into it. This correction was almost perfect and can only be detected by the new impressions being slightly out of their correct vertical alignment. The right frame of No. 40 (formerly thin G retouch) is very slightly thinner than normal. . .

Archival records now available from the Reserve Bank of Australia, Sydney, now show this explanation to be faulty in a number of respects.

The NP-IR series of registers comprise books of Requisition Forms which were required to be filled out and signed by the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank (later Reserve Bank) before any new printing instrument could be manufactured. These registers were maintained by cover the period from 1913 onwards, although there are some gaps due either to the registers being destroyed or not yet transferred to the Sydney archives. These registers were maintained by the Note Printer, and so cover postage stamp printing instruments only from 1918 when the work of the note Printer and Stamp Printer were combined under T.S. Harrison (although the instruments made earlier by Harrison for the Stamp Printer, such as the 1913-14 Engraved definitives, will be found).

These registers record the date on which a printing instruments was requested, the dates on which manufacture commenced and was completed, the date on which the completed instrument was placed into stock, and the workman responsible for its manufacture. Separate registers were maintained for different classes of printing instruments. In the period of interest for the present discussion, there were separate registers for steel dies and plates, and for cylinders (i.e., transfer rollers).

There are two entries of relevance to the 1928 1d substitutions. In NP-IR-14 (Steel Dies and Plates) the following appears:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Official No.</i>	<i>Date into Stock</i>
21.4.1928	1d Postage two die impressions	1300	2.5.1928

This form is annotated "inserted in one of the Perkins Bacon steel plates in pplace of electros".

In NP-IR-16 (Cylinders) there is the following entry:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Official No.</i>	<i>Date into Stock</i>
24.5.1928	1d Postage Cylinder 1-on	84	30.5.1928

The workman responsible in each case was Ronald A. Harrison, the son of the Stamp Printer, T.S. Harrison.

The relationship of these items to the 1928 substitutions is apparent from the annotation on one of the requisition forms. What needs to be emphasised, however, is that no other instruments relevant to the procedure could have been created, since there are no corresponding Requisition Forms.

The sequence of events would thus appear to more correctly interpreted as follows. Two die impressions, created late in April 1928, were inserted in the steel plate in place of the copper substitutions at IV 34 and IV 35. These were the only such steel units made, and therefore the "thin G" retouch was not substituted then, or at a later time. However, in May a new 1d transfer roller was manufactured. Why a new roller was necessary is unclear. It was used to re-enter the IV 40 unit to remove the "thin G" retouch. This must have been a tricky procedure given the discontinuous nature of the steel surface at this point, as no matter how tightly the substitutions were held in place, the surface must have been weak at this point and the pressure involved in re-entry could easily have caused some buckling.

The transfer roller was later used for other corrections, including the removal of the twenty Die II flaws.

QUEENSLAND: STAMP PRINTING SECURITY

By KEN SCUDDER

There have been several articles appearing recently in which it has been said that the security at the Queensland Government Printing Office was lax. Although there were certain instances where the level of security could be criticised, it may also be true that, perhaps, this lack of security has at times been overstated. In "Queensland 1897 - 1907 1d Perforated 12 x 9½: an Analysis of the Literature", by David J. Collyer, September 1995 *Philately from Australia*, the section on Security, page 73, is, to say the least, misleading on this question.

Firstly, the quote concerning Butler's "Funny" coloured composite proofs really does not hold water as there are reasonable explanations for each of the items he mentioned. See also *Australian States Study Group Newsletter*, London, October 1994, paper by Ken Scudder. There may have been a few more printed of some of these proofs than was really necessary, nevertheless none of these items could be said to be plentiful.

The question of the Auditor-General's report "relating to the removal of revenue stamps from the Queensland Government Printer" is interesting, particularly concerning K. Voller.

The Auditor-General was, of course, the Federal Auditor-General. He was concerned that postage stamps and Beer Duty stamps had been sold to a Mr L. Hausburg (this would appear to be L.L.R. Hausburg as stated) and a Mr. K. Voller. The responsibility for the sale of these stamps lies with the Under Secretary of the Queensland Treasury who was the person who authorised the sales, not the Government Printer who was himself responsible to the Treasury. It should be noted that the Treasury had resumed control over the printing of all stamps in 1902-03, having relinquished this control to the Colonial Secretary in 1886.

Kelsey Voller joined the Queensland Government service in December 1876 as a Junior Clerk in the Department of Public Instruction. In 1903 he was a Grade IV Clerk with the same department on a salary of £240 per year. On the 1 July 1904 he was appointed as Officer in Charge, Government Securities, Lithographic Branch, Government Printery at the same salary. Certainly he was not Officer in Charge of any branch.

In 1904 there was the Report of the Special Board Appointed to Inquire into the Working of the Public Service. One of the objects of this Inquiry was to rationalise all salaries. In this Report Voller is shown as a Clerk, Lithographic Branch, with a Present Salary of £240 and a Proposed Salary of £200. Apart from the Engineer who lost a special allowance, Voller was the only one in the Government Printery to have his salary reduced. It is not suggested that this reduction was in any way due to the above mentioned sale of stamps, as the sale of stamps to Voller did not occur until later. However it does indicate that it was felt Voller was being overpaid for the job he was doing.

The purchases by Hausburg were made in November 1904 and those by Voller in April 1905. The circumstances involving Voller were considered bad, and during 1905 his

security responsibilities were given to John Thomas Costin, Overseer of the Lithographic Branch, who then also became the Officer in Charge of Securities, a responsibility he no doubt had before Voller's appointment, even though he was not listed as such.

The *Blue Book* for 1905 no longer lists Kelsey Voller although no mention is made of his exit from the Government Service, had he resigned this would normally have been noted. If he were a collector, as it would appear he may have been, and this was the attraction of this job to him in the first place, then this may well have proven his downfall.

It is also incorrect to say that a new Government Printer was appointed in 1906, thereby implying that his departure may, in some way, have been connected with this incident. George Arthur Vaughan, who was then aged 67, was succeeded by Anthony James Cumming on 23 July 1908.

The other person referred to is Thomas F. Illidge. Chapman, page 48 of the Basset Hull *Queensland* Volume I book, quite incorrectly describes him as "at one time Custodian of Queensland plates and stamps".

Illidge was employed by the Post and Telegraph Department. He commenced this function at Marlborough, in 1871, where he was Line Repairer in Charge. In 1879 he became (telegraph) Station Manager and Postmaster. On 16 June of that year he was transferred to St. Lawrence with the same responsibilities. In October 1887 he was again transferred, this time to Gayndah, again with the same responsibilities. In 1900 he was finally transferred to Gladstone.

In 1895, at Gayndah he is listed as:

Officer in Charge of Post & Tel. Office & Savings Bank	£280
District Registrar. Fees paid in 1895	£15
Inspector of Stamps	Nil
Acting Land Commissioner & Land Agent	Nil
Allowance in lieu of Quarters	£50
Total	£ 345

It would appear that the misconception of Illidge being "Custodian of Queensland plates and stamps" possibly arose through the misunderstanding of the relative from whom Chapman is said to have obtained this information as to the responsibilities of an "Inspector of Stamps".

The function of "Inspector of Stamps" may well have related to the Queensland Stamp Act of 1894 and, as such, would have been a Revenue function entirely unrelated to Postage Stamps. However, the precise nature of this title is not clear at this time.

In conclusion, it should be said that "the unusual things" which happened during the latter period of postage stamp production by the Queensland Government Printer should be kept in perspective. It should also be said that we should not take everything we read at face value. However, when doing this kind of research one may reasonably rely on the information given in Parliamentary Papers and, in particular, the *Blue Books*. Nevertheless the rare error has been found in the Queensland *Blue Books*, but fortunately such errors usually become obvious when checking the same information for adjacent years.

References

1. Queensland Government Reports & Proceedings - Yearly *Blue Books*. Latrobe Library, Melbourne.
2. Australian Archives, Melbourne, File MP341/1 1906/5778. First highlighted by Max Hooper.

QUEENSLAND RARITY OR FORGERY?

By GEOFFREY T. ADAMS, F.R.P.S.,L.

Queensland's first locally-produced stamps were S.G. Type 7 and as illustrated in their catalogue there are two dies of the 1d stamp. Some of the Die II stamps have the spelling error "QOEENSLAND" and these are fairly scarce.

About 25 years ago I acquired the illustrated example of the "QOEENSLAND" error on a Die I stamp. I have made enquiries both in the U.K. and Australia, without success, to find if any other example was known.



Die I "QOEENSLAND" variety



*The normal "QOEENSLAND" variety,
on a Die II stamp*

Someone with a very fine brush and a pot of white paint might have painted across the tops of the two limbs of the letter "U" to convert it into the letter "O", but there is no obvious evidence of this. Examination under ultraviolet light reveals nothing unusual and there is no evidence of paint staining on front or back. The stamp in question is Die I, matrix No. 2, watermark W6 (S.G. 135) and it has a genuine Caboolture postmark with a normal 131 numeral inside an oval of four rows of dots. It has obviously done postal service but the cancellation dots do not cover the letter "O" of "QOEENSLAND". If this Die I stamp is a forgery, the perpetrator made the bad mistake of using a Die I stamp instead of a Die II stamp. I recently consulted Mr A.R. Butler, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.,L. about this stamp as he made a special study of this issue when he was President of the Royal. He considers the stamp is genuine and genuinely used, and it may be a transient variety if a minute flake of copper from the plating of the electrotype detached itself at the moment of printing. This would leave a minimal depression which next time would not print and complete the conversion of "U" to "O". However, the copper plating was thin and the wound could be self-healing and after a few impressions filled with ink and resumed printing as a "U".

THE DE LA RUE CORRESPONDENCE BOOKS

Compiled by GEOFF KELLOW

(continued from June 1995)

V. BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS

The Correspondence Books relating to the British Solomon Islands Protectorate are straightforward. De La Rue produced all postage stamps issued by the Protectorate from 1908 (the "Small Canoes") up to 1938. The firm submitted a full series of essays for the King George VI definitives, but were successful only with the 2d, 3d, 2/- and 2/6d values. British Solomon Islands played a significant role in the development of the aborted King Edward VIII issue. Because of the length of the Protectorate's name, its design was used for much of the proofing, the idea being that if its appearance was suitable, the omnibus design would also be satisfactory for all other colonies. The only non-postal work undertaken by De La Rue was the production of bank notes between 1915 and 1921.

- 20.3.1908 *From CA* - enclosing an order for a set of postage stamps.
- 27.3.1908 *From DLR* - re 20.3.1908, letter returned, together with proposed design. Cost of dies and plates given.
- 31.3.1908 *From CA* - re 27.3.1908, design approved. The order for the stamps will be sent shortly.
- 1.4.1908 *From DLR* - re 31.3.1908, acknowledged.
- 24.4.1908 *From CA* - re 31.3.1908, the order for postage stamps comprises:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|-----|--------|
| ½d | 100,000 | 5d | 30,000 |
| 1d | 100,000 | 6d | 30,000 |
| 2d | 100,000 | 1/- | 30,000 |
| 2½d | 100,000 | | |
- 27.4.1908 *From DLR* - re 24.4.1908, acknowledged. The colour scheme will be ready in 4-5 weeks, and the stamps should be ready five weeks after approval.
- 1.6.1908 *From DLR* - enclosing Appendix sheet showing suggested colour scheme.
- 4.6.1908 *From CA* - re 1.6.1908, Appendix sheet approved and returned, and asking that a duplicate sheet be provided.
- 5.6.1908 *From DLR* - re 4.6.1908, acknowledged. Duplicate Appendix sheet enclosed.
- 11.10.1909 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 12.10.1909 *From DLR* - re 11.10.1909, acknowledged. Order for:
- | | | | |
|------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2/- | 300 sheets | suggested colour | blue on blue |
| 2/6d | 200 sheets | | red on blue |
| 5/- | 100 sheets | | red on yellow |
- Three new plates will be required.
- 14.10.1909 *From CA* - re 12.10.1909, acknowledged, and requesting colour scheme using dummy stamps.
- 25.10.1909 *From DLR* - re 14.10.1909, Appendix A enclosed, plus Appendix B giving alternative colours.
- 28.10.1909 *From CA* - re 25.10.1909, requesting further colour trials.

- 1.11.1909 *From DLR* - re 28.10.1909, enclosing Appendix C with requested colour trials.
- 8.11.1909 *From CA* - re 1.11.1909, the colour scheme is returned marked as approved. A duplicate set will be required.
- 9.11.1909 *From DLR* - re 8.11.1909, acknowledged. A duplicate scheme is enclosed.
- 14.11.1910 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 15.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 14.11.1910, acknowledged. Order for 500 sheets of 4d. A new plate will be required.
- 4.3.1912 *From CA* - enclosing a letter from the Colony complaining of the non-adhesiveness of stamps.
- 6.3.1912 *From DLR* - re 4.3.1912, acknowledged. The gum used is the same as that used for all other orders. We assume the difficulty is the climate; it is essential in humid climates that the stamps be stored in air-tight cases.
- 19.1.1912 *From Resident Commissioner to CA* - complaining of the non-adhesiveness of stamps. The stamps have been stored in tin boxes as recommended, but the stamps will not adhere to envelopes.
- 4.3.1912 *From CA* - enclosing order for ½d, 1d and 1½d postage stamps.
- 13.3.1912 *From DLR* - re 4.3.1912, we return the papers. Is a design to be prepared?
- 7.8.1912 *From CA* - enclosing a letter from the colonial Office authorising preparation of new plates using the new form of the Universal Key Plate and beginning with ½d, 1d and 1½d values as soon as possible.
- 8.8.1912 *From DLR* - re 7.8.1912, acknowledged. Order for:
- | | |
|-----|-------------------|
| ½d | 750 sheets of 120 |
| 1d | 750 sheets of 120 |
| 1½d | 250 sheets of 120 |
- Costs detailed. Are the stamps to be from the Postage & Revenue plate? We propose to delete "Protectorate" from the title. Delivery in three months.
- 18.7.1912 *From Colonial Office to CA* - approving the substitution of the George V head on existing designs for British Solomon Islands and Gilbert & Ellice Islands, and authorising the necessary overprint plates. Also, approving the order for 500 sheets of 1½d postage stamps.
- 12.8.1912 *From CA* - re 8.8.1912, the Postage plate is to be used. The colour of the 1½d to be that allotted to 10d. "Protectorate" may be omitted. We prefer the coloured figures and lettering on a plain ground for the overprint plates, but if the length of inscriptions is such as to make this difficult you are authorised to use white lettering.
- 13.8.1912 *From DLR* - re 12.8.1912, acknowledged.
- 17.8.1912 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 19.8.1912 *From DLR* - re 17.8.1912, acknowledged. Order for 500 sheets each of ½d and 1d pictorial stamps. It is noted that 250 sheets of 2d King George V are required, which will be put in hand, and the quantity of ½d and 1d King George V be reduced by the amounts printed in the pictorial design.
- 15.4.1913 *From CA* - enclosing 1d, 2d, 2½d and 6d British Solomon Islands and two 1/- Fiji stamps and asking whether they are genuine or not.
- 17.4.1913 *From DLR* - re 15.4.1913, as these stamps are not printed by us we cannot give an opinion.
- 10.11.1913 *From CA* - enclosing order for ½d and 1d postage & revenue stamps.
- 11.11.1913 *From DLR* - re 10.11.1913, acknowledged. Order for 1,000 sheets each of ½d and 1d.
- 30.12.1913 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage & revenue stamps.
- 31.12.1913 *From DLR* - re 30.12.1913, acknowledged. Order for:
- | | | | |
|-----|------------|------|-----------|
| 2d | 200 sheets | 2/- | 50 sheets |
| 2½d | 200 sheets | 2/6d | 50 sheets |
| 4d | 200 sheets | 5/- | 50 sheets |
| 5d | 200 sheets | 10/- | 50 sheets |
| 6d | 200 sheets | £1 | 25 sheets |
| 1/- | 100 sheets | | |

Eleven overprint dies and plates will be required. Is the U.P.U. colour scheme to be followed, and are all values over 2d to be doubly-fugitive? The overprints should follow the style of the ½d, 1d, 3d and 11d.

- 12.1.1914 *From CA* - re 31.12.1913, the U.P.U. scheme is to be followed and values over 2½d are to be doubly-fugitive. The overprints should follow the style of the ½d, 1d, 3d and 11d.
- 13.1.1914 *From DLR* - re 12.1.1914, acknowledged.
- 11.11.1914 *From CA* - enclosing sheets of 2d and 2½d stamps returned from the Colony showing bad staining.
- 13.11.1914 *From DLR* - re 11.11.1914, sheets returned. We believe the staining has been caused by the wax interleaving. For the next order we will use blotting paper, which should prove more satisfactory.
- 5.2.1916 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1,000 sheets of 1d postage stamps.
- 7.2.1916 *From DLR* - re 5.2.1916, acknowledged. With reference to your letter of 11.11.1914, are these to be interleaved with blotting paper?
- 9.2.1916 *From CA* - re 7.2.1916, the sheets are to be interleaved with wax paper. The reply to your comments was that wax interleaving had served well so far.
- 14.2.1916 *From DLR* - re 9.2.1916, acknowledged.
- 30.10.1918 *From CA* - enclosing letter from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. re a parcel of stamps received from the Colony. Specimens are enclosed, and we ask for your observations regarding their complaints.
- 1.11.1918 *From DLR* - re 30.10.1918, the 6d and 2/6d stamps are returned herewith. We have had only one order for these values, in April 1914, and in our opinion the discolouration is caused by some climatic influence.
- 9.1.1920 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 13.1.1920 *From DLR* - re 9.1.1920, acknowledged. Order for:
- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|------|-----------|
| 1d | 1,000 sheets | 2/- | 50 sheets |
| 2½d | 100 sheets | 2/6d | 50 sheets |
| 1/- | 100 sheets | 5/- | 50 sheets |
- 13.7.1921 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | |
|----|--------------|
| ½d | 1,000 sheets |
| 2d | 100 sheets |
| £1 | 20 sheets |
- 21.7.1921 *From CA* - re order of 13.7.1921, proceed with printing.
- 22.7.1921 *From DLR* - re 21.7.1921, acknowledged.
- 26.6.1922 *From CA* - order for 1,000 sheets of 1d and 50 sheets of 3d postage stamps.
- 27.6.1922 *From DLR* - re 26.6.1922, acknowledged.
- 13.6.1923 *From CA* - order for 100 sheets of 2d and 100 sheets of 3d postage stamps. The 3d to be in blue on white paper.
- ? date *From DLR* - re 13.6.1923, acknowledged.
- 31.1.1924 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | |
|------|--------------|
| 1½d | 1,000 sheets |
| 3d | 104 sheets |
| 10/- | 50 sheets |
- 5.2.1924 *From CA* - re order of 31.1.1924, please supply 12,000 10/- stamps, not 6,000.
- 21.10.1925 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|--------|-----|--------|
| ½d | 12,000 | 4d | 12,000 |
| 1d | 60,000 | 2/- | 12,000 |
- The 1d to be in blue-purple (proof required). Also, 412 specimens of the 1d, 4d and 2/- are required.
- 26.10.1925 *From DLR* - re 21.10.1925, acknowledged. A proof of the 1d in blue-purple is enclosed.
- 18.11.1925 *From DLR* - re 18.11.1925, acknowledged.

- 18.11.1925 *From CA* - re 26.10.1925, proof of 1d approved and returned.
- 18.11.1925 *From DLR* - in response to your verbal request, a duplicate proof of the 1d blue-purple is enclosed.
- 2.6.1926 *From CA* - order for 120,000 1½d and 12,600 4d postage stamps.
- 15.7.1926 *From DLR* - re 10.7.1926, enclosing the costs of die, plate and printing for a distinctive Revenue stamp.
- 10.7.1926 *From CA* - request for an estimate for 12,000 1/- Internal Revenue stamps in a design distinctive from the current postage stamps.
- 6.7.1927 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|--------|------|--------|
| ½d | 12,000 | 2/6d | 12,000 |
| 3d | 12,000 | 5/- | 12,000 |
| 5d | 12,000 | 10/- | 12,000 |
| 6d | 12,000 | £1 | 12,000 |
| 1/- | 12,000 | | |
- Also, 422 specimens each of the 5d, 6d, 1/-, 2/6d and 5/- are required.
- 17.10.1928 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|------|--------|
| 1½d | 120,000 | 2/6d | 12,600 |
| 6d | 12,600 | 5/- | 12,600 |
| 1/- | 12,600 | | |
- 17.5.1930 *From CA* - enclosing order for 12,600 3d postage stamps.
- 9.7.1930 *From CA* - the Colony has authorised the destruction of the die and plate of the 11d stamp, now obsolete.
- 11.7.1930 *From DLR* - re 9.7.1930, acknowledged.
- 5.9.1930 *From DLR* - re order of 17.7.1930, colour proof of 4½d enclosed.
- 1.8.1930 *From DLR* - re 31.7.1930, acknowledged.
- 31.7.1930 *From CA* - re 30.7.1930, proof approved and returned, together with sketch.
- 30.7.1930 *From DLR* - enclosing proof of die for 4½d duty plate, together with original sketch.
- 22.7.1930 *From DLR* - re 21.7.1930, acknowledged.
- 21.7.1930 *From CA* - re 18.7.1930, sketch for 4½d duty die approved and returned.
- 18.7.1930 *From DLR* - re 17.7.1930, acknowledged. Sketch of 4½d duty die enclosed.
- 17.7.1930 *From CA* - enclosing order for 12,600 4½d postage stamps, to be in brown. Also 436 specimens are required.
- 6.9.1930 *From DLR* - re 5.9.1930, acknowledged.
- 5.9.1930 *From CA* - re 5.9.1930, proof approved and returned.
- 11.9.1930 *From CA* - enclosing order for 120,000 1½d postage stamps.
- 18.8.1931 *From CA* - enclosing order for 12,000 ½d postage stamps.
- 11.10.1932 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 1½d and 13,200 4½d postage stamps.
- 8.2.1933 *From CA* - enclosing order for 13,200 ½d postage stamps.
- 1.11.1933 *From CA* - enclosing order for 120,000 1½d postage stamps.
- 8.8.1935 *From CA* - enclosing order for 13,200 ½d postage stamps.
- 26.10.1936 *From CA* - enclosing order for 13,800 ½d and 13,800 1d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 20.10.1936 *From DLR* - re 19.10.1936, acknowledged. Correction noted and will appear in future proofs.
- 19.10.1936 *From CA* - re 17.10.1936, proofs approved and returned, subject to "TH" on 3d being in alignment with rest of "THREE".
- 17.10.1936 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs from original dies submitted for correctness of lettering and values. Upon approval dies will be hardened and a further set of proofs submitted.

- 12.10.1936 *From CA* - enclosing order for King Edward VIII postage stamps, in sheets of 120:
- | | |
|-----------|---------|
| 1d violet | 90,000 |
| 1½d red | 310,000 |
| 3d blue | 90,000 |
- Also, 416 specimens of each value.
- 10.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 9.11.1936, acknowledged.
- 9.11.1936 *From CA* - re 6.11.1936, proof A of the 1½d is approved for colour and returned. Also returning unapproved proofs (two of 30.10.1936, one of 3.11.1936, one of 4.11.1936).
- 6.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 4.11.1936, enclosing colour proofs of 1½d in two brighter shades of red.
- 4.11.1936 *From DLR* - as arranged by phone, enclosing 1½d colour proof in St. Lucia red which has been strengthened.
- 3.11.1936 *From DLR* - enclosing further colour proofs of 1½d, in St. Lucia red as requested.
- 30.10.1936 *From DLR* - enclosing colour proofs of the 1½d in two shades.
- 23.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 20.11.1936, acknowledged.
- 20.11.1936 *From CA* - re 18.11.1936, proofs approved and returned.
- 18.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 20.10.1936, enclosing proofs of 1d and 3d from transfer dies.
- 26.11.1936 *From CA* - re 25.11.1936, acknowledged.
- 25.11.1936 *From DLR* - re 20.11.1936, enclosing 40 photographic reproductions of King Edward VIII stamps (as suggested made from British Solomon Islands 1½d transfer die).
- 20.11.1936 *From CA* - re phone call, we shall be obliged if you can supply 40 photographic reproductions of the new King Edward VIII stamps. It is suggested there be taken a proof of British Solomon Islands approved die showing the white lettering.
- 27.4.1937 *From DLR* - re 23.4.1937, acknowledged.
- 23.4.1937 *From CA* - re order of 20.4.1937, increase quantity to 40,000 ½d stamps.
- 20.4.1937 *From CA* - enclosing order for 36,000 ½d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 20.8.1937 *From DLR* - re 13.8.1937 and 18.8.1937, acknowledged. Material for the preparation of designs is enclosed. We request an extension of the time for submission of the tender to 28.9.1936.
- 25.8.1937 *From DLR* - re 24.8.1937, acknowledged.
- 24.8.1937 *From CA* - re 20.8.1937, the date for submission of tender is extended to 28.9.1937.
- 13.8.1937 *From CA* - enclosing tender form for a proposed new issue of postage stamps. The sketches enclosed should be returned in a few days.
- 23.9.1937 *From CA* - re 13.8.1937 tender for new issue, note that CA paper is also available in size 21 x 16" (22/- per ream).
- 18.8.1937 *From CA* - re 13.8.1937 tender for new issue, note that you must make provision for three-quarter profile of head of King on left-hand side or centre.
- 28.9.1937 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for new issue:
Design marked A shows different border for each value.
Design marked B shows only two borders, one for vertical stamps and one for horizontal stamps.
- 28.9.1937 *From DLR* - tender for new issue. Values required - ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4½d, 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6d, 5/-, in pictorial designs in sheets of 60. Designs to be selected from 21 which are available. All values to have the portrait of the King at left or centre.
Costs of dies, plates and printing given.
- 19.10.1937 *From CA* - enclosing order for 24,000 1d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 18.2.1938 *From DLR* - re 17.2.1938, acknowledged.
- 17.2.1938 *From CA* - re 28.9.1937, please submit revised drawings for 2d, 3d, 2/- and 2/6d modified as per accompanying schedule. Your folder of designs A and B, plus separate 1d and 2½d designs, are returned.

- 2.3.1938 *From DLR* - re 18.2.1938, enclosing revised designs for 2d, 3d, 2/- and 2/6d stamps. To save time, these are not done in the colours to be used.
- 25.4.1938 *From DLR* - re 23.4.1938, proofs will be submitted as follows:
- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| blank border die | 29 April |
| 2d | 10 May |
| 3d | 12 May |
| 2/- | 16 May |
| 2/6d | 6 June |
- Delivery of stamps to be four weeks after approval of dies.
- 23.4.1938 *From CA* - asking when delivery of the four values of the new issue can be expected.
- 30.3.1938 *From CA* - enclosing order for new postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|--------|------|--------|
| 2d | 80,000 | 2/- | 24,000 |
| 3d | 72,000 | 2/6d | 24,000 |
- Also, 408 specimens of each value.
- 3.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 2.5.1938, acknowledged.
- 2.5.1938 *From CA* - re 29.4.1938, proof approved and returned, together with 2/- original design.
- 29.4.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proof of blank border die, together with 2/- original design.
- 10.5.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs for die and colour for 2/6d, together with the approved design.
- 11.5.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs for die and colour for 2d and 2/-, together with approved designs.
- 17.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 16.5.1938, acknowledged. Re 17.5.1938, revisions required will be made and new proofs submitted.
- 17.5.1938 *From CA* - re 16.5.1938, proof of 2/- approved for colour and border die only, and returned together with approved 2d proof. Regarding the 2/- vignette, the left outline of the volcano is not quite right, and should be amended as noted.
- 16.5.1938 *From CA* - re 12.5.1938 proof of 3d, further proofs should be submitted showing background of duty tablet altered as explained on the telephone. The vignette also to be altered to show paddles as in original sketch. Re 11.5.1938, the 2d proof is approved for die and colour.
- 12.5.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proof of die of 3d, together with original die.
- 26.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 25.5.1938, acknowledged.
- 25.5.1938 *From CA* - re 23.5.1938, proof approved and returned, also returning approved design and drawing for 3d.
- 23.5.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs of 3d and 2/- revised as ordered.
- 22.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 14.6.1938, we confirm we cannot guarantee a satisfactory result by altering the 2/6d vignette die. We are accordingly re-engraving the die following the photograph enclosed in your letter of 13.6.1938.
- 14.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 13.6.1938, acknowledged.
- 13.6.1938 *From CA* - re 10.5.1938 proof of 2/6d, we have been in communication with the Natural History Museum, and enclose a photograph of the bird obtained from them. We ask you to alter the die in accordance with their criticism. The original Colonial sketch is also enclosed.
- 16.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 13.6.1938, acknowledged.
- 14.6.1938 *From CA* - re new stamp issue, the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific asks that particular attention be paid to the gumming.
- 20.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 19.7.1938, acknowledged.
- 19.7.1938 *From CA* - re 11.7.1938, proof approved for die and colour, and returned. (Also returning 2/6d proofs not approved of 10.5.1938, the approved design, Colonial sketch and photograph of bird).
- 11.7.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proof of 2/6d, together with approved design and photograph of bird.
- 27.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 26.7.1938, the 2/6d will be delivered by 12.8.1938.

- 26.7.1938 *From CA* - re 19.7.1938, the Commissioner was advised the 2/6d would be ready for delivery by the end of June. Please advise the revised delivery date.
- 6.9.1938 *From CA* - re 2.9.1938, acknowledged.
- 2.9.1938 *From DLR* - re 29.8.1938, enclosing original design for presentation to the Royal Collection.
- 29.8.1938 *From CA* - requesting the return of the original design mounted for presentation to the Royal Collection, and the return of any other material submitted for the preparation of designs.
- 9.10.1939 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for a new issue of postage due stamps. The designs are prepared for two-colour surface-printing.
- 9.10.1939 *From DLR* - tender form for postage due stamps. Eight values, with the design to differ from that for Gilbert & Ellice Islands and Fiji.
- 2.11.1939 *From DLR* - re design for postage due stamps, any design can be adapted for any of the three Colonies (Fiji, Gilbert & Ellice Islands, and British Solomon Islands).
- 2.11.1939 *From DLR* - re your request for a simpler design for the postage due stamps, the design enclosed could be used with duty plates already existing. Cost given.
- 27.2.1939 *From DLR* - re 23.2.1939, acknowledged.
- 23.2.1939 *From CA* - your tender of 9.10.1939 is not accepted. The designs are returned.
- 24.4.1941 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 2d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 19.10.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|------|--------|
| 2d | 150,000 | 2/- | 60,000 |
| 3d | 84,000 | 2/6d | 48,000 |
- 24.11.1943 *From DLR* - re 20.11.1943, acknowledged.
- 20.11.1943 *From CA* - it is proposed to despatch to the Colony the stocks held by us. There will be delivered to you the following quantities for interleaving:
- | | | | |
|-----|--------|------|-------|
| ½d | 12,000 | 2½d | 9,000 |
| 1d | 9,000 | 2/- | 9,000 |
| 1½d | 9,000 | 2/6d | 9,000 |
| 2d | 9,000 | 10/- | 6,000 |
- 14.2.1944 *From DLR* - re 14.1.1944, acknowledged. We regret error (allowance shown as for "not numbering" should have read "not interleaving").
- 14.1.1944 *From DLR* - re 11.1.1944, enclosing revised rates.
- 11.1.1944 *From CA* - a recent decision to allow 3¼% to cover wage increases will require a revision of the British Solomon Islands rates. Please submit a revised schedule.
- 14.12.1943 *From CA* - enclosing order for 72,000 3d postage stamps, urgently required.
- 20.12.1943 *From DLR* - re 16.12.1943, acknowledged.
- 16.12.1943 *From CA* - re order of 14.12.1943, in addition 20,000 2/6d postage stamps are required.
- 27.7.1944 *From CA* - re 5.7.1944, acknowledged.
- 5.7.1944 *From DLR* - re orders of 26.6.1944, these will be prepared at the same time as the previous order. Rates enclosed.
- 2.6.1944 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|--------|
| 2d | 100,000 | 2/- | 30,000 |
| 3d | 60,000 | | |
- 26.6.1944 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|-------|------|--------|
| 2d | 30,00 | 2/- | 18,000 |
| 3d | 30,00 | 2/6d | 30,000 |
- 22.5.1945 *From DLR* - re 18.5.1944, acknowledged.
- 18.5.1945 *From CA* - re order of 11.5.1945, this should be cancelled. The order will be filled from stock held by us.
- 11.5.1945 *From CA* - enclosing order for 20,000 3d postage stamps.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

Zanzibar

At the meeting on 31 August Mr Ian Borrie displayed his collection of Zanzibar.

This began with a selection of India used in Zanzibar, then progressed to the overprinted Indian stamps. The many surcharge setting varieties were demonstrated. Major errors included "Zanzidar" on 3a, "Zanibar" on 2½a, and double overprint on 2a.

The 1895 definitives included a photographic essay of the 2½a. The pantograph flaws were shown, and the hand-retouching of the red flags. The 1898 issue had two photographic essays of the 1 rupee, and master die proofs in black of the anna and rupee values. There was an unadopted essay for a 2a stamp dated 1903, and of 2a and 2r stamps dated 1906.

The 1904 surcharges included a mint block of 18 of the 1a on 4½a orange, and a mint block of 12 of the 1a on 4½a blue. The thin "f" in "Half" variety was shown in blocks of four on both the 2½a on 8a and 2½a on 7½a.

The 1904 definitives began with die proofs of the 3a and 2r, and ½a and 1r colour trials. A wide range of proof material was shown for the 1907 issue. This began with the 2a and 1r adopted essays. There were vignette and master die proofs, and imperforate plate proofs. Two Appendix sheets showed the approved colour scheme, using undenominated proofs. The issued stamps included the 10r to 200r mint.

The new issue of 1912 included adopted and unadopted 15c photographic essays, the master die proof, and 10r to 200r mint. The 1926 definitives began with a 6a photographic essay, and die proofs. The 1936 definitives included three imperforate colour trials of the 20c, and an imperforate plate proof block of 14 of the 40c.

The display concluded with a range of postage due stamps, including sheets showing the "cent.s" variety.

New South Wales Cancellations

Mr Hugh Freeman displayed New South Wales numeral cancellations and other postal markings at the meeting on 21 September.

An almost complete range of the first allocation of numerals from Nos. 1 to 110 were shown on Sydney Views. The only numbers missing were 27, 98 and 99. Nos. 41, 102, 103, 105 and 106 were represented by strikes on Laureate stamps.

Later numbers were shown in profusion, a

highlight being the quality of the strikes. A feature was made of the Queensland border towns which used New South Wales numerals, and there was a wide range of numbers shown on Australian Commonwealth stamps.

Nos. 46, 47, 48, 50 and 51, used by Riverina post offices, were shown on 2d Half-Lengths stamps of Victoria, and No. 47 was on a strip of four 3d Half-Lengths.

Barred Numeral 77 was shown on a 2d Sydney View cover which also bore a manuscript Merriwa endorsement. Manuscript numbers included 51 on 2d Sydney View, 3d Laureate and 6d Registered, 56 on a 2d Laureate and 67 on a 3d Laureate.

The various Sydney datestamps were displayed, including the "NSW" piecrust, one including the numeral "1" over "NSW", and various types of "NSW" in concentric ovals. Duplex types included the sideways versions, and numbers "2" and "3" in a diamond of bars. There was also a Sydney Newspaper datestamp of 1873.

Travelling Post Office markings were shown, and there were examples of the Lord Howe Island obliterator. A provisional straight-line "AVALON" canceller was shown on a 1d on 1909 cover.

Postal History of New South Wales

At the meeting on 16 November Dr Edric Druce presented his award-winning collection of the Postal History of New South Wales up to 1870.

Australia's first postal marking, the circular "SYDNEY/NEW SOUTH WALES", was represented on two entires of 1816 and 1819, the former bearing two strikes.

The interim period during which no markings was used was represented by entires of 1824 and 1825, and the succeeding Sydney datestamp in red was on an 1828 entire.

There was a profusion of the earliest country markings, including circular CAMPBELLTOWN/NSW" (1828), Bong Bong datestamp (1833), circular "LIVERPOOL/NSW" (1839) and a straight-line "BATHURST/N.S.W." (1839).

The earliest paid marking was "SYDNEY/POST PAID" of 1830, and the Paid markings of Raymond Terrace, Darlington and Goulburn were also shown.

The earliest markings of Van Diemen's Land, then under New South Wales administration, were included, with "HOBARTOWN" (1822) and "LAUNCESTON" (1823).

The 1849 Postal Act set new rates and introduced adhesive stamps. These were demonstrated by a page with three covers bearing the 1d Sydney View. One with a single franking showed the town rate of 1d, a pair on cover paid the inland rate of 2d, and a strip of three on cover to England paid the 3d ship letter rate.

The 1d Sydney view was also shown on a newspaper wrapper. Later inland usages included mixed frankings of the 1d Laureate pair with a 3d Sydney View pair. The Sydney receiving office markings included "COOK'S RIVER (1852) and "QUEEN'S WHARF" (1851).

Early intercolonial usages shown included the 3d Sydney View on 1851 and 1852 covers to South Australia and Adelaide respectively.

The overseas postal service was covered exhaustively. The Toulmin packets were followed by examples of P. & O., General Screw and European & Australian steamer services. Prominent amongst the early covers to the United Kingdom were a strip of three and single 3d Sydney Views for the quadruple rate, a strip of five 1d Sydney Views for the combined

country plus ship postage, and an 1851 cover to Scotland with 3d Sydney View was carried by naval ship. There were also some spectacular Laureate frankings. The short-lived Panama route to England was represented by two covers of 1866 and 1868.

The 1d concessionary rate for servicemen included an 1844 soldier's letter to London with "PENRITH/POST PAID", and there was an 1858 sailor's letter to England with a 1d Diadem.

A feature was made of unusual destinations. For Europe there were two spectacular registered covers to Hanover (1859) and Papal States (1860), each with a pair of the 6d Registered, and an 1866 cover to Budapest bore 1d, 3d and 6d (4) Diadems and the 6d Registered.

The 3d Sydney View was shown used for the ship letter rate to some unusual destinations. These included Calcutta (1850), Canada East (1852), Amoy (1852) and New Zealand (1852). There was a 3d Laureate used in 1853 to the Philippines, an 1855 cover to Singapore with 1d and 2d Laureates, and a 6d Laureate on an 1852 cover to Mauritius.

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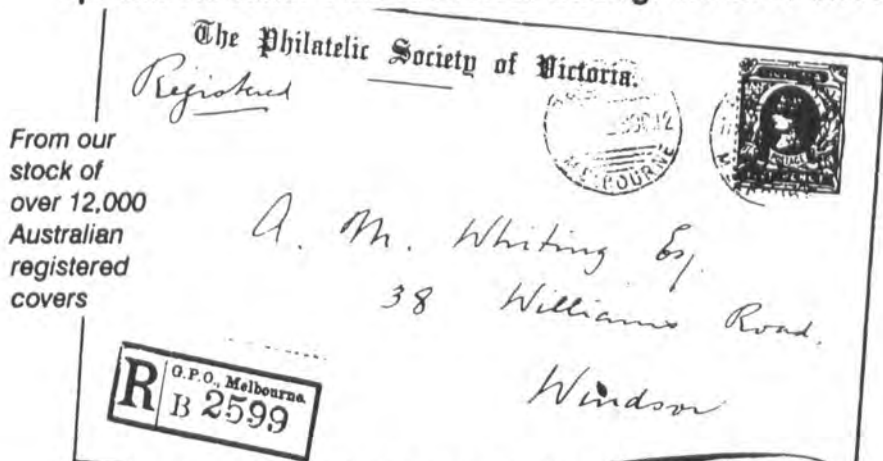
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