

PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA



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PHILATELY from AUSTRALIA

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JUNE 1995

RAY CHAPMAN TESTIMONIAL LUNCHEON



A special luncheon to celebrate the recent investiture of the Society's Past President, Mr Ray Chapman, A.M., M.B.E., R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., as a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia for Services to Philately and the wider community, was held in the J.R.W. Purves Room at 6 Avoca Street on 18 May last.

The J.R.W. Purves Room looked splendid with the large banquet table attractively decorated in deep blue and white with matching floral decorations.

The President, Mr W.F. Roemer, welcomed the guests of honour, Ray and Pam Chapman who had come from their new home in Noosa Heads, Queensland, for the occasion, which was attended by many of their friends including seven Past Presidents of the Society.

John Sinfield eloquently paid tribute to Ray's outstanding and laudable contributions and lifetime of service to many facets of Australian Philately - which includes exhibiting, studying, administering and promoting philately.

At the General Meeting that evening, Ray's valued contribution to "The Royal" - his alma mater - spanning 46 years of membership was recognised with the presentation of the J.R.W. Purves Medal for services to the Society, which Ray described as "an emotional milestone in my philatelic career."

JOHN MACDONNELL

JOHN GARTNER AN INAUGURAL FELLOW OF THE AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIC ORDER

One of the Society's most esteemed members, Mr John Gartner, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L., has been named as one of the two inaugural Fellows of the Australian Philatelic Order. The announcement was made at a formal reception in the Senate Alcove, Parliament House, Canberra, on 17 March.

Inducted with Mr Gartner was the well-known aerophilatelist, Mr Nelson Eustis of South Australia.

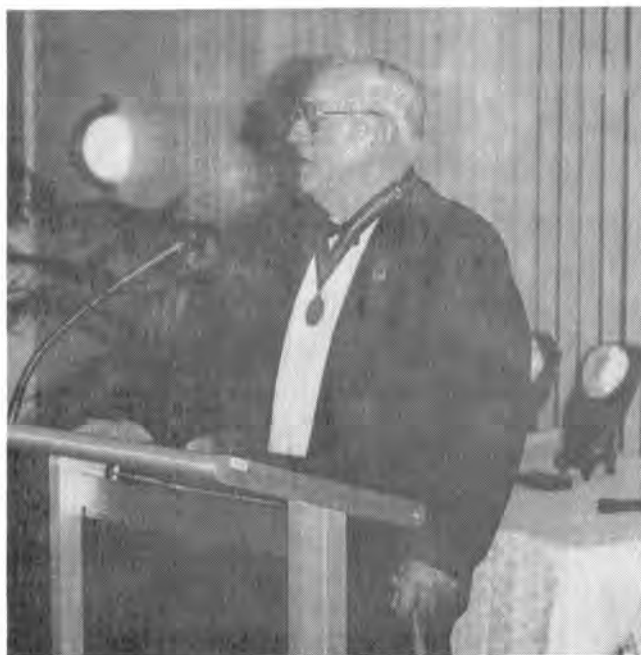
Master of Ceremonies at the award presentation was Dr Edric Druce, who introduced Ray Todd, Past President of the Australian Philatelic Federation (A.P.F.), who spoke on the initiatives taken to introduce this award, designed to recognise the contributions of Australians to national and international philately. Mr Maurice Williams, Chairman of Australia Post, also congratulated the philatelic community on the introduction of the award.

The formal announcement of the persons to receive the Australian Philatelic Order was made by Mr Ray Kelly, President of the A.P.F., who delivered citations outlining the achievements of the recipients.

John Gartner quickly came to philatelic prominence following his membership of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria in 1946. He became a Council Member in 1953, and has been three times President (1959, 1973 and 1980). He is a member of many overseas societies, and in 1990 achieved the rare honour of being made an Honorary Life Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society, London.

He has formed many fine collections, and first began exhibiting at Anpex 1950 in Melbourne. Most famous were his collections of Western Australia and Fiji (the latter tragically lost in the Ash Wednesday bushfires of 1983), both of which achieved International Large Gold standard. His involvement with philatelic exhibitions has been a lifelong one, and he was Inaugural President and Honorary Patron of Ausipex 84. John has served on international juries between 1966 and 1992.

Outside his personal achievements, John Gartner's promotion of philately and philatelic



authors through his publishing firm, The Hawthorn Press, is well-known to all serious philatelists. The firm acted as printer of all Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria publications up to 1982, and the independently published Hawthorn Press monographs remain, for the most part, the standard texts on their subjects. The *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* was another publication produced over a long period.

Between 1965 and 1982 John Gartner was the philatelic member of Australia Post's Stamp Advisory Committee.

His achievements have been recognised by many awards, culminating in the invitation to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1975.

Mr Kelly said "National recognition for distinguished service to philately is an appropriate reward for a man with such an accomplished background and he is accorded the honour of Inaugural Fellow of the Australian Philatelic Order".

Ray Kelly then proceeded to read the citation of the second Fellow, Mr Nelson Eustis, whose fascination with aerophilately has spanned 65 years. His *Australian Air Mail Catalogue* has been in print for 59 years through five editions, and he has been awarded the Gold Medal of FISA for services to aerophilately.

The speaker noted "We are honouring a notable publisher in conjunction with an author of similar note. It is possible to wonder if they had ever combined their resources? They did - in 1973, John published the 3rd edition of the *Australian Air Mail Catalogue*, and in 1976 published *The Ross Smith Air Stamp*, two major works from the pen of author Nelson Eustis".

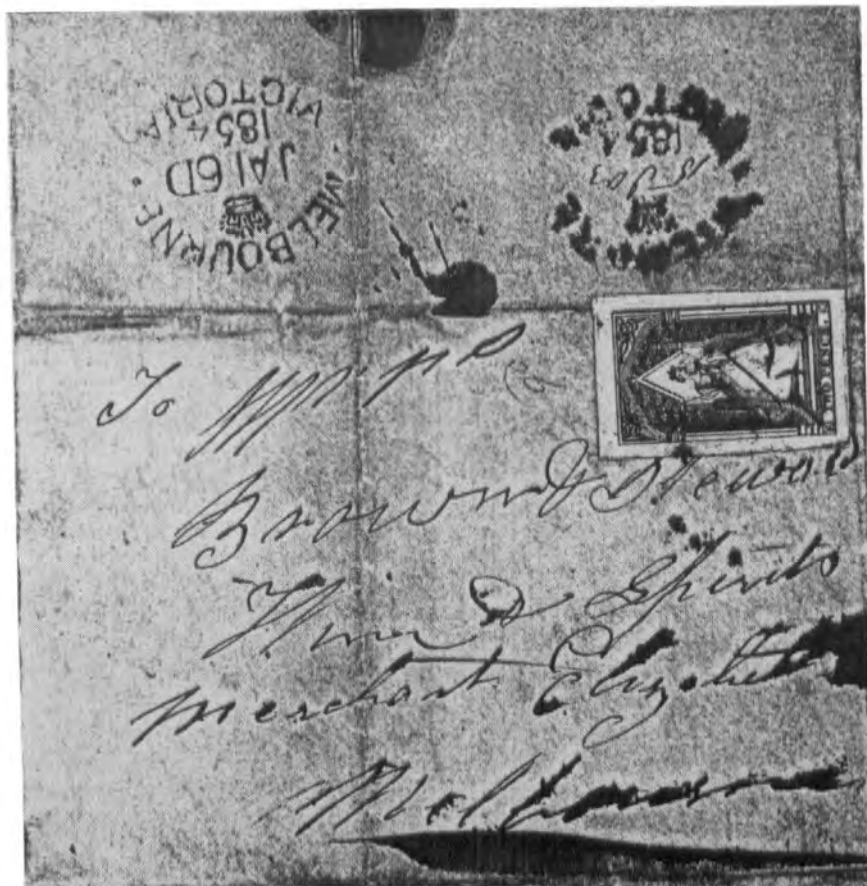
The two philatelists being honoured were presented with their medals with ribbon collar, lapel badges, and illuminated scrolls by Mr Maurice Williams.

Both Fellows form, together with the President of the A.P.F., the committee which will adjudicate on future nominations for the Australian Philatelic Order.

**AUSTRALIAN COLONIAL
DISCOVERIES AND NOTES**

Conducted by RUSSELL JONES

**VICTORIA - THE DESTRUCTION OF THE KILMORE POST OFFICE, DECEMBER
1853**



A newly-discovered cover tying the manuscript "V/10" cancellation to Kilmore.

A brief note on the destruction of the Kilmore post office by fire on 23 December 1853 was included by Purves on page 27 of *Victoria: The "Butterfly" and "Barred Oval" Cancellations 1850-1855*. A Post Office Notice announcing the destruction was issued on 3 January 1854, and on 15 February 1854 a new obliterator was despatched to Kilmore. This was a new Barred Oval 10 obliterator, differing from the earlier one in having a wider and rounder "0".

In the Purves collection (although not mentioned in the monograph and probably a later acquisition), was a pair of 1d Half-Lengths (3rd printing) cancelled with manuscript "V" over "10". It was presumed this was an emergency manuscript cancellation used by the postmaster at Kilmore following the fire and the loss of his first Barred Oval obliterator, and prior to the receipt of the second obliterator.



1d Half-Length 3rd printing pair cancelled by manuscript "V/10".

This has now been spectacularly confirmed with the discovery of a cover from the period following the fire. This was Lot 674 in the Stanley Gibbons (Australia) Pty. Ltd. auction of 10 April 1995, and is illustrated courtesy of Mr Hugh Freeman. The cover bears a 2d Queen-on-Throne (Campbell & Co. lithograph) cancelled by the same manuscript "V" over "10", and sent from Kilmore to Melbourne on 15 January 1854. The Kilmore datestamp on the reverse is a poorish strike in red ink, possibly the result of fire damage, and has the day and month in manuscript - "15 Jan". It seems likely that both the normal black ink pad, and the day and month slugs for the datestamp, were lost in the fire.

VICTORIA - THE 3d BEADED OVAL

Following the recent publication of the monograph on this subject, both Ron Butler, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.,L. and Don Davies, F.R.P.S.,L. of England have written with additional information.

Lack of sizing in Paper. Both gentlemen mentioned examples of the blue stamp showing very distinct reversed impressions on the back of stamps. Such stamps also occur on several other values of the period, and mention of these was inadvertently omitted from the text. These are not offsets in the sense of an impression transferred from another sheet, but are believed to be the result of a lack of size on the face of the paper which permits the printing ink to penetrate to the reverse side.

Reversed Watermark. Don Davies records a further used example from Printing 4 with reversed watermark.

"TRREE" Error of Watermark. Don Davies has some interesting comments on this problem. In the monograph the authors surmised that the "TRREE" error of watermark reported on the 3d blue Beaded Oval, and now seen on the 3d maroon, was the same error as that first reported in 1897 as "TRHEE". Don Davies writes:

"I now believe that two watermark varieties exist, although I agree that quite probably these 'errors' were formed by mis-shapen letters rather than spelling problems.

"The error reported in 1897 as a 'TRHEE' watermark variety is assumed to be the same 'TRREE' error, but I now believe that the variety was correctly reported as 'TRHEE' and is in fact a different 'error'.

"My argument is supported by the discovery I made a few years ago in my Emblem 2d collection on 'THREE PENCE' paper. The watermark is definitely not the 'TRREE' variety but is 'TRHEE'. The stamp received a R.P.S.L. Certificate. Although I cannot plate the stamp, it is not D25 (bottom row) of the watermarked sheet as traces of the stamp below are evident."

It might be noted that the "TRREE" error illustrated in the monograph on page 21 is definitely plated as D25.

SPECIMEN Overprints. On page 29 mention is made of a maroon stamp in the Purves collection overprinted "SPECIMEN", but which is believed to no longer exist. Ron Butler has now produced another example. His stamp can be plated as C21.

VICTORIA - AN EARLY FRAMED DATESTAMP

Only the larger Victorian post offices - Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat, Sandhurst, and Castlemaine - appear to have been provided with framed datestamps in the earlier period from about 1860 onwards. The country post offices were supplied with unframed datestamps up to the 1890's. Purves notes in *Victoria: The Barred Numeral Cancellations*, that framed datestamps were the standard issue to offices receiving numerals between 1882 and 2100 (1882 was Fosterville, opened 4.6.1897). The earlier issues to the country offices were first the crowned oval datestamps (up to 1858), then the oval datestamps without crown (between 1858 and 1861), followed by unframed circular datestamps up to the 1890's.



An exception to this pattern has now been reported by Bob Hillman. Three examples have been seen amongst material at the Victorian Public Record Office of a framed Ascot datestamp used in 1860, the earliest date being that illustrated here, AU 15 60, in which the "5" and "0" have been corrected by hand. Ascot was opened on 11.10.1858 and it is surmised that this framed c.d.s. was probably the original issue to the office. The datestamp is 19mm diameter. How long it lasted is not known. Watson, Webster & Wood, in *The Post Offices and Hand-Held Datestamps of Victoria: Volume One* do not list this instrument, their earliest listing being for a 24mm diameter c.d.s. used in 1910.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA - 1902-12 2/-

Ken Scudder reports an early date of 20 AP 1911 for the scarce Melbourne-printed 2/- vermilion on yellow, V over Crown paper. This stamp is unlisted by Stanley Gibbons but listed as 95c, 3rd Group, in the Mogens Juhl Catalogue-Handbook, for May 1911. It is suggested that the stamp should be listed in Gibbons, in which event it should be placed between the current SG 124b and 124c.

THE ½d "WARM PLUM" KING GEORGE V SIDEFACE OF 1921

By G.N. KELLOW

The ½d King George V printed in red-brown (a shade invariably referred to as "warm plum" by the Stamp Printer and Post Office) has been listed in the revised *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* as No. 66(PP)1, a colour trial for the change of colour to orange in November 1923. The warm plum stamps are very rare, and their history has always been obscure, there being very few references in the literature. In the *Australian Philatelist*, March 1922, page 102, and *Australian Stamp Journal*, June 1922, page 9, brown is listed as the new colour for the ½d stamp in the list of colour changes which were to be made. Subsequently, more specific information appeared in the *Australian Stamp Journal*, August 1927, page 113:

A Brisbane correspondent has informed us that in the Records Branch of the Post Office in that city there reposes a copy of the ½d denomination (in the "King's head" type) in brown. Our readers may recollect that brown was the colour originally proposed for the ½d value, when the changes, owing to the revised U.P.U. rates of postage, were decided upon in 1922. In fact, the ½d brown was listed in several overseas catalogues about that time. It is evident that a supply of stamps was actually printed off before the colour was altered to orange, and it would be curious to know whether the ½d brown was ever distributed abroad through the Berne agency with the "Specimen" overprint.

This paragraph would seem to be the source of the statement sometimes made (most recently by Ray Chapman in *Stamp News*, May 1994, page 66) that a supply of ½d browns was printed and actually sent to Brisbane.

The relevant Post Office File has now been seen which places these stamps in their correct context (Commonwealth Archives, Series MP 341, File 25/21574). This file covers all the colour changes of the George V and Kangaroo stamps of 1920-1924.

The Madrid Postal Union Congress of 1920 decreed that on or before 1 January 1922, blue was to be used for the 50 centimes stamp (or equivalent), red for the 30 centimes, and green for the 10 centimes.

For Australia, this affected the 4d, 2d and 1½d stamps, and because of colour clashes, the ½d and 6d stamps. The Post Office was slow in acting, and only on 24 November 1921 was a letter sent to T.S. Harrison, the Australian Note and Stamp Printer, requesting proofs in new colours. Harrison replied on 29 November:

Adverting to your letter of the 24th ultimo No. G.12519/21 I have pleasure in submitting herewith as desired, the following proofs of the suggested new colours.

<u>Postal value</u>	<u>No. of proofs</u>	<u>Color</u>
4d postage stamp	6	Blue. 2 proofs each of three different shades of Blue.
2d postage stamp	4	Red. 2 different shades.
2d postcard	4	Red. 2 different shades.
2d Embossed Envelope	4	Red. 2 different shades.
1½d postage stamp	4	Green. 2 different shades.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1½d postcard | 4 | Green. 2 different shades. |
| 2d lettercard | 4 | Red. 2 different shades. |
| 1d newspaper wrapper | 4 | Violet. 2 different shades. |
2. Of the other denominations of postage stamps, the existing colours of which will clash with those above, the only values so affected are the ½d and 6d and I also enclose two proofs of each of these denominations in suggested new colours of Warm Plum and Orange respectively . . .

A Post Office minute paper of 14 December 1921 written by the Chief Clerk discussed the submitted proofs and made recommendations on the shades to be chosen. Regarding the ½d he wrote "The Stamp Printer has submitted a new color for the ½d stamp in warm plum. This is the colour of the present 1½d which will now be green. It might be adopted (specimen 35)." On 16 December the Secretary of the Commonwealth Treasury was informed that the Postmaster-General had approved the new colours for 4d, 2d, 1½d, 1d and ½d postage stamps (together with relevant stationery), which were returned, and the Stamp Printer was asked to commence printing stocks in the approved colours immediately.

On 20 December the Stamp Printer was requested by the Secretary of the Post Office "to furnish me with 7 specimens each of the following new stamps, viz., 4d blue, 2d red and 1½d green. This was not complied with until 16 February 1922 when Harrison wrote:

New colour various denominations postage stamps

With reference to the above and as requested in your letter of Decr. 20th last, I enclose herewith seven (7) specimens each of the new 4d, 2d and 1½d. also the 1d postage values in the new colours.

2. As the colour of the ½d value is also being changed, it is surmised that seven specimens of same will be required. These will be forwarded tomorrow morning.

The ½d stamps followed as promised the next day:

Further to my letter of yesterday, I now forward herewith seven (7) specimens of the ½d postage stamp in the new colour.

I shall be glad of an acknowledgment of receipt of the several specimens forwarded.

This letter is annotated: "1. Ack & send to States. 2. Retain one copy in file."

The file copies are noted as being placed in the safe on 20 November 1925. These proofs are not now in the Australia Post Archival Collection today (although it should be noted that the stamps other than the ½d may have been indistinguishable from the new colours when issued, and out of context difficult to identify) and were presumably later destroyed. The original colour proofs sent by Harrison on 24 November 1921 and returned to the Stamp Printer on 20 December to indicate the chosen colours were also returned to the Post Office on 17 February 1922. These likewise would not appear to be in existence today.

The memorandum to all States forwarding the samples of the new colours was sent on 17 February 1922:

Postage stamps - adoption of new colours for certain denominations of.

Adverting to my memorandum of 15th December, 1921, on the above-mentioned subject, I forward herewith samples of the new colours applied to the 4d, 2d, 1½d, 1d and ½d denominations of stamps.

2. Surplus stocks of the old issues should be called in for head office requirements and disposed of before the new stamps are issued.

The issue of the 1d violet in February 1922 caused some confusion in the States, as it was identical in colour to the 4d violet. The clash of colours was only temporary, however, as the 4d blue was ready for distribution about 21 March 1922. In explaining this situation to Brisbane, the Head Office in Melbourne added ". . . I may add that new issues of the 1½d and ½d stamps will not be made until the present stock of these denominations is exhausted".

On 16 June 1922 the Secretary of the Post Office wrote to the Stamp Printer asking

"whether the 1½d (green) and ½d (warm plum) postage stamps have yet been issued to the Deputy Postmasters General". Harrison's reply did not come until 21 July:

Issues of ½d and 1½d Postage Stamps in new colours

Referring to your memorandum of 16th ultimo . . . I desire to inform you that neither of these stamps have been issued in the new colour.

2. As we hold a stock of almost 40,000 sheets of the ½d green, it was not considered expedient to make any issues of the 1½d in that colour until such time as the stocks of ½d had been exhausted.
3. I might add that the demand for ½d stamps has fallen off considerably, and it will be some time before we print in the new colours.

The States were advised of this position on 11 August. Nothing further is heard until November 1922, when Harrison is again asked regarding the position of these two stamps. He replied on the 16th:

Issues of ½d and 1½d Postage Stamps in new colors

Referring to your memorandum G.22/8905 of the 9th instant, I desire to inform you that the position in connection with this matter has not materially altered since addressing my last communication to you.

2. Stocks of ½d Postage are being depleted very slowly and we have over 30,000 sheets still on hand. As we are also carrying a stock of approximately 1cwt. of the special brown colour used for 1½d Stamps, you can understand that it is, as yet, impossible for us to adopt the new colors until these supplies have become exhausted.

The Secretary asked when it was likely that the current stocks of stamps and ink would be exhausted, to which Harrison replied on 3 January 1923:

Issues of ½d and 1½d Postage Stamps in new colors

Referring to your memorandum G22/12043 of 22nd November last, I desire to advise you that the present position in connection with this matter is, that we have approximately nine months supply of the green ½d Postage Stamps, and eight months supply of special brown color for the ½d stamps.

The Chief Clerk has annotated this letter:

Secretary,

In order to give effect to the provisions of the Madrid Convention, the colors of the 1½d and ½d stamps are to be green and warm plum respectively. Issues of these denominations in the new colors have not yet been made owing to large stocks of the old stamps being on hand, and the Stamp Printer now states that it will be 8 months in the case of the 1½d stamps and 9 in the case of the ½d before the stocks are exhausted and the supply of special brown coloring used up. The Printer states that the value of the present supply of this coloring is £40, while the selling price to this Department of the stock of ½d (green) stamps is stated to be £127.3.4.

Although nothing appears on the file, it seems possible that it was decided to pay for the value of the brown colouring, to expedite the appearance of the 1½d stamps in the new colour. On 24 March 1923 the Chief Clerk wrote to the Secretary:

The Stamp Printer has telephoned that he is issuing a supply of the new 1½d (green) stamp to the Deputy Postmaster-General, Melbourne. Supplies to the other States will follow in the course of a few days.

2. Since his memorandum of 3-1-23 . . . the Printer states, there has been an abnormal demand for 1½d stamps, with the result that the old stocks of that denomination have been exhausted sooner than was expected.
3. It is not proposed to issue the new ½d stamp yet.

This created a situation similar to that earlier existing with the 1d and 4d violet stamps. There were now two green stamps on issue - ½d and 1½d. In this instance, however, the similarity in colours persisted for some months. On 14 September 1923 the Premier of New South Wales, George W. Fuller, wrote on the subject, the matter having been raised in the

Legislative Assembly. The Chief Clerk investigated the matter and replied on 26 September:

The Premier has drawn attention to the similarity in color between the 1½d and ½d postage stamps, which at present are both issued in green.

2. The matter was previously brought to the Secretary's notice in January 1923 . . . when the Stamp Printer advised that owing to large stocks of the present ½d stamp being on hand, it would not be possible to issue that stamp in warm plum color - which color was approved for the ½d stamp in order to give effect to the provisions of the Madrid Convention - for about 9 months.

3. I have now ascertained from Mr Harrison that old stocks of the green ½d stamp are now exhausted and future issues of that denomination will be made in the approved warm plum color.

4. Recommend that the Acting Secretary, Prime Minister's Department, be informed that, in order to give effect to the provisions of the Madrid Postal Convention, approval was given some time ago for alterations in color of certain denominations of Commonwealth postage stamps. Under that approval the color of the 1½d stamp was changed from warm plum to green and the ½d stamp from green to warm plum. Owing, however, to very large stocks of the latter denomination of stamp being held by the Australian Stamp Printer, it was not possible to issue the ½d stamp in the approved color until such stocks had been exhausted. The Printer's stocks are now exhausted and future issues of the halfpenny stamp will be made in the approved warm plum shade, which will remove the difficulty complained of by the Premier of N.S.W.

On the same day telegrams were sent to each State advising that future issues would be in the new warm plum colour. Each State was asked to state their current stocks held and average monthly sales for the ½d stamp. Matters were now further complicated by the new postal rates coming into force on 1 October 1923, when the basic letter rate would be reduced to 1½d, making the similarity in colour to the ½d stamp a more serious problem. Based on the replies from the State administrations, the Chief Clerk prepared a minute paper on the subject on 27 September:

The matter of the alteration of the color of the ½d stamp from green to warm plum has been delayed for the reason shown in G.23/245.

2. In view of the introduction of the 1½d rate for letters within the Commonwealth and to places within the British Empire from 1.10.23 the similarity in color (green) of the 1½d and ½d stamps may lead to confusion.

3. I communicated by telephone with the Stamp Printer in this regard and he informs me that his stock of green ½d stamps is now exhausted and that all future issues of that denomination will be in the approved warm plum color. This and the fact that the color of the 1½d will be changed to red (the Stamp Printer is submitting specimen colors to comply with the Madrid Convention as soon as it is possible to do so) will adjust the matter in the near future but in the meantime green color for the 1½d and ½d denominations will prevail.

4. I have ascertained from the various States that the stocks of the present ½d stamp on hand amount to

New South Wales	£2450
Victoria	£1156
Queensland	£975
South Australia	£1150
Western Australia	£900
Tasmania	£500

which at the present rate of selling in the respective States will last -

New South Wales	5 months (approx.)
Victoria	4 months
Queensland	4½ months (approx.)
S. Australia	9½ months
W. Australia	15 months
Tasmania	7½ months

5. In view of the large stocks held by the States and the time it will take the exhaust them, there appears to be two alternatives in dealing with the question -

- (a) The States to requisition for fresh supplies of the ½d stamp in warm plum and to recall the stocks on hand of the green stamp.

- (b) The States to be instructed to advise all officers concerned to supply, wherever possible, stamps of the 1d and ½d (green) denominations to meet requests from the public for the 1½d stamp.

In this way stocks of the green ½d stamp will very soon be depleted. There will doubtless be a large demand for ½d stamps after 1.10.23 when the 1½d rate operates.

6. Submitted for direction.

In the margin there are two further notations added by the Chief Clerk on 9 October:

1. Ask Stamp Printer for seven specimens of the ½d stamp in warm plum color for transmission to the various States.
2. Ask D.P.M.G., Melbourne, to forward the required number of specimens, when received from the Printer, for despatch to Berne.

The requests for these actions were sent the same day (9 October) but are overwritten "Cancelled by memo 22.10.23".

The discussion of the Chief Clerk's minute paper is not on the file, but it is apparent that his suggestion (b) was adopted, for on 28 September the following telegram was sent to all States:

Pending receipt from Stamp Printer of supplies halfpenny stamp in warm plum color and in order reduce stocks of green halfpenny stamp please instruct officers concerned supply wherever possible stamps of penny and halfpenny denominations to meet requests from public for penny halfpenny stamps. Requisition should be made on Stamp Printer for supplies warm plum halfpenny stamp and advice furnished this office when these are put into circulation together with statement of stocks of green halfpenny on hand at this time.

Meanwhile the matter of the ½d stamp was becoming entwined with that of the further changes of colour to postage stamps required by the U.P.U. Convention due to the new postal rates coming into force 1 October 1923. Complaints regarding the concurrent issue of the two green stamps were accumulating, and a report in the Melbourne *Herald* of 16 October drew attention to the fact that a number of letters were passing through the mails bearing only a ½d stamp (one such envelope is attached to the file).

On 24 September the Stamp Printer was asked to submit proofs for the new colours of the 3d (blue) 1½d (red) and 1d (green) stamps. On 10 October these proofs, together with the existing or proposed colours for other values (19 stamps in total), were received and considered. The reply was sent to the Stamp Printer on 19 October:

Colours of Postage Stamps

With reference to the proposed new colours for commonwealth Postage stamps, I beg to inform you that the Postmaster General has decided that the halfpenny stamp is to be the same colour as that shown on the specimen card submitted by you for the 2d stamp, namely, orange, and that the 2d stamp is to take the colour of the old 1½d stamp, namely, warm plum.

2. The Minister desires the green halfpenny stamp recalled from use at the earliest possible moment, and in order to meet his wishes in this respect the several Deputy Postmasters-General have been asked to telegraph their requisitions to you for supplies of the orange stamp, as it will be necessary to have stocks of that stamp in all offices before the green issue can be recalled.

3. I shall be glad if you will therefore proceed immediately with the printing of the ½d stamp in orange, and forward supplies to the States as early as possible. Several specimens should also be forwarded to this office in accordance with the usual practice.

There is no actual letter on file cancelling the printing of the ½d stamp in "warm plum". However, letters were sent on 22 October to the Stamp Printer cancelling the request for seven warm plum stamps (made on 9 October), and to the Melbourne office altering the request for U.P.U. stamps to a supply of stamps in orange colour. A summary paper was prepared on 28 September in which to enter the replies received to the telegrams sent to the States on that day and reproduced above. No replies were received except one from South

Australia, which refers not to the ½d warm plum, but the ½d orange, stating that these were first issued in Adelaide on 31 October.

The file appears to make it fairly certain that no supply of the ½d warm plum stamp was ever printed. The evidence may be summarised:

1. The change of colour of the ½d stamp from green to "warm plum" was approved on 16 December 1921.
2. Due to the large stocks of the ½d green held, issues in the old colour continued and there was no printing made in the new colour, at least up to 27 September 1923.
3. Stocks of the ½d green at the Stamp Printer were by this time low, but considerable stamps were still held in the States. They were requested to expedite the use of ½d stamps to deplete this stock. The Stamp Printer was asked to supply seven ½d stamps for distribution to the States.
4. On 19 October 1923, changes of the colours of various denominations were made, and in the process the warm plum colour was allocated to the 2d stamp, the ½d stamp being made orange.
5. The order to the Stamp Printer for seven ½d warm plum stamps was changed to an equal quantity printed in orange. Because stocks of the ½d green stamps had been deliberately depleted, production of the ½d orange was a matter of some urgency. These stamps were on issue by the beginning of November 1923.
6. There is no correspondence from the Stamp Printer at this time regarding any difficulties with these arrangements. This strongly suggests that there had been no printing of ½d stamps in warm plum stamps which would have been rendered useless by the decision to change the colour to orange, and would have had to be paid for by the Post Office.
7. The records of the Stamp Printer are not easy to interpret, particularly for a value used in such quantities as the ½d, but the figures available are suggestive. From December 1921, when the change of colour was approved up to October 1923, the correspondence presented here infers that the printer made no new printings of the ½d green, all this period being spent in depleting his stock on hand. In fact, reference to *Australian Stamp Archives* by Richard Peck shows that new ½d stamps were placed into stock as follows (figures are sheets of 240):

1922	April	400
	July	100
	December	11000
1923	January	200
	February	4000
	March	7000
	June	1064
	August	18000
	September	1872
	October	14000
	November	34000
	December	9000

It is suggested that all these figures up to and including September 1923 are sheets of green stamps, already printed but previously imperforate, being finished and placed into stock. It is tempting to allocate the 18,000 sheets of August 1923 to the warm plum printing, but the correspondence cited makes it clear that this month is too early for a printing in the new colour. The October-December 1923 quantities are the first supplies of the orange stamps being delivered into stock.

8. If it accepted that there was no printing of the ½d in warm plum, the only stamps created

in this colour were the proofs requested in 1921-22. These were two submitted by the Stamp Printer on 29 November 1921, and seven submitted on 17 February 1922, of which one copy was sent to each of the six State administrations.

The Colour Trials

As far as the writer is aware, only two examples of the ½d warm plum have been recorded.

1. The first stamp was reported in the *Australian Stamp Monthly*, October 1969, page 23, by Mr J. Rosenfeld. It was suggested there that the stamp might be a colour changeling.
2. This stamp first appeared in Robson Lowe (Australasia) Sale No. 8 (17 June 1971), Lot 32. This came from the estate of Ronald A. Harrison, the son of the Stamp Printer, T.S. Harrison.



Example No. 1



Example No. 2

Both stamps are on Single Watermark paper, perforated 14. In the *ACSC*, this has been called line perforation, but careful examination of these stamps indicates that, despite the unevenness of the corners, a comb machine has been used. Both stamps are similarly off-centre, suggesting these might derive from the same sheet.

As has already been indicated, there is no example of this stamp in the Australia Post Archival Collection; nor is there any example in the Note Printing Australia archives. Stamp No. 1 may be one of the nine submitted to the Post Office, but stamp No. 2 is clearly separate from this source, and was presumably a record copy retained by Harrison. It is not known exactly how the Stamp Printer went about providing colour trials such as these for the Post Office. Presumably a sheet (of 120) was printed and perforated, with the surplus stamps being later destroyed. The plates in current use at the time were Electros 6 and 7, but neither stamp can be plated.

VICTORIA: THE HALF-LENGTH DIE PROOF

By RUSSELL JONES

During the visit to Australia in 1901 of the Duke of York (later King George V) in connection with Federation celebrations, enquiries were made by the Duke, or on his behalf, regarding the existence of the earliest Victorian dies and plates. Impressions were subsequently struck from seven different printing instruments in black. These were:

- Half-Length die plate, bearing impressions of the 1d, 2d and 3d values
- 2d Queen-on-Throne steel plate of 50
- 1/- Octagonal die plate bearing five impressions, including the issued design
- 3d Beaded Oval die
- 4d Beaded Oval die
- 1d Netted Corners die
- 6d Adapted Design die

Extracts of Victorian Government Printing Office records made by the late J.R.W. Purves during the 1930's indicate the removal of these printing instruments from the strongroom on 16 May 1901, and their return on 23 August 1901. This entry almost certainly refers to the production of the "Royal" posthumous proofs.

The exact number of pulls taken from the dies is uncertain, although it is usually quoted as six of each. A set is in the Royal Philatelic Collection, and another set was given by the Duke of York to the (later Royal) Philatelic Society, London (see the *London Philatelist*, December 1901, page 309).

The Half-Length die proof is on highly glazed paper, and the impression of the steel plate measures 120mm vertically and 83mm horizontally.

The three values appear in a horizontal row at the bottom of the plate and all are in the final state of the die. The Two Pence is with coarse border and background, the Three Pence with the white band about the orb complete, and the One Penny with the thick line over "VICTORIA". All three values have outer frame lines. In addition, the Two Pence shows a prominent coloured flaw in the left border. This is believed to be the reason for the rejection of the Two Pence die and for the preparation of the Queen-on-Throne design, while the other values continued in use. The Two Pence design has been defaced by a series of scratches.

Immediately above the Two Pence engraving appears a faint, incomplete outline of the design composed of fine dots. In a third line above this appears a similar, even fainter design. It is believed that these incomplete designs were produced by the engraver breaking with an etching needle the acid resist covering the plate. The plate was then covered with acid which ate away metal where it was not protected by the acid resist. The engraving of the design with a burin then normally proceeded, obliterating the dotted pattern. (For a full description of the method, see *John Easton, Postage Stamps in the Making*, page 96).

It would therefore appear it was Ham's original intention to produce the Half-Lengths



The Half-Length Royal die proof pulled in 1901, showing the full die sinkage (150% actual size).

by recess-printing from plates of 12 (3 x 4). When it was decided that the stamps were urgently required a change to lithography was made, and at that time only the one 2d engraving was completed.

Presumably as a guide to the engraver of the One Penny and Three Pence designs, a roughly drawn numeral in reverse and about 6mm high was added to the plate immediately above the other two designs. Charles Lathrop Pack, in his description of the die proof, suggests that after each numeral appears a "check mark 'c'". I do not agree with this interpretation of the marks and would suggest that it is a "d", giving "3d" and "1d". Pack being an American probably would not have immediately thought of this notation.

Although posthumous in production, this die proof is a fascinating record of the change of intention of Thomas Ham in the method of printing, and explains the early replacement of the Two Pence Half-Length by the Queen-on-Throne design.

The changes in the states of the dies of the One Penny and Three Pence are a simple retouching of the recess-engraved die. The alteration of the 2d to coarse border and background must have involved removal of the relevant part of the engraving and subsequent re-engraving. This may have had something to do with the appearance of the flaw which damaged the design and ultimately led to its rejection.

THE DE LA RUE CORRESPONDENCE BOOKS

Compiled by GEOFF KELLOW

(continued from March 1995, page 24)

III. PITCAIRN ISLAND

The only pre-1945 correspondence regarding Pitcairn Island is a request for designs and tenders for the Territory's first stamp issue. In the event, the contract was eventually divided between Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., and Waterlow & Sons.

- 6.12.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for new issue. Seven designs are submitted, four bicoloured and three monocoloured.
- 10.11.1938 *From CA* - re tender sent 9.11.1938, a list of paper sizes available is appended.
- 5.12.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for new issue. Values to be ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 3d, 6d, 1/- and 2/6d, and all are to include a portrait of the King. 404 Specimens of each value to be supplied. Cost of dies, plates and printing is detailed.
- 14.2.1939 *From DLR* - re 13.2.1939, acknowledged. Two new designs will be prepared in accordance with your instructions. The photographs are returned.

- 13.2.1939 From CA - re tender of 5.12.1939, we ask you to submit two further designs, based on three photographs enclosed:
 1. "View of Island from the Sea"
 2. "View taken on Pitcairn Is."
 Designs to be submitted by 1.3.1939.
- 23.2.1939 From DLR - informing that two additional designs were handed over this morning.
- 12.12.1939 From DLR - re 11.12.1939, acknowledged.
- 11.12.1939 From CA - re tender of 5.12.1938, not accepted.

IV. TONGA

The De La Rue Correspondence Books for Tonga begin with arrangements for the 1897 pictorial issue. Up to 1905 the firm dealt with the Deputy Commissioner for the Western Pacific in Suva, Fiji, or the Colonial Office in London, but thereafter the Crown Agents act on behalf of the Kingdom of Tonga. The only non-philatelic letters are from 1920 and deal with an unsuccessful tender for bank notes.

Most of the work was routine, but there is interesting information on the Turtle Watermark paper. In 1920, two defects in the 2½d and 1/- plates respectively were pointed out by the Colony and subsequently corrected. These were both errors of omission in using the pantograph which have been catalogued - no fraction bar in "½" on the 2½d, and no hyphen before "TAHA" on the 1/-.

Considerable work has been done on the King George II and Queen Salote portrait types, but the correspondence gives no information regarding the different plates used. New plates for existing values would appear to have been introduced by De La Rue when required at no cost.

- 30.3.1896 From PMG - enclosing a series of photographs to be used for a new stamp issue. This letter is sent through the Deputy Commissioner for the Western Pacific to prove its bona fides. The stamps are to be similar in quality to those of North Borneo. Instructions are enclosed regarding the correct spelling of the native inscriptions. The selection of colours is left to your judgment. The values and quantities required are:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|------|--------|
| ½d | 120,000 | 6d | 30,000 |
| 1d | 120,000 | 7½d | 30,000 |
| 2d | 60,000 | 10d | 30,000 |
| 2½d | 120,000 | 1/- | 30,000 |
| 3d | 60,000 | 2/- | 30,000 |
| 4d | 30,000 | 2/6d | 30,000 |
| 5d | 60,000 | 5/- | 30,000 |
- 7.4.1896 From Deputy Commissioner for Western Pacific - enclosing letter of 30.3.1896.
- 22.5.1896 From DLR to Deputy Commissioner for Western Pacific, Nukualofa - re 7.4.1896, acknowledged.
- 22.5.1896 From DLR to PMG - re 30.3.1896, acknowledged. The work has been put in hand. As regards custody of the plates, we have a strongroom for the purpose, and we would if you like depute someone in London to hold the key to the safe.
- 24.7.1896 From Deputy Commissioner for Western Pacific - re 22.5.1896, acknowledged.
- 4.8.1896 From PMG - If possible it is requested that the new postage stamps have a watermark. The device of a turtle would be preferred.
- 17.9.1896 From DLR - re 4.8.1896. paper with a turtle watermark will be used.

- 17.9.1896 *From DLR to Deputy Commissioner for Western Pacific* - re 24.7.1896, the stamps will not be ready for another two months. Printing was about to commence when we were advised a special watermark was wanted.
- 9.2.1897 *From DLR to PMG* - it is hoped that the stamps will be shipped in a fortnight. The delay is regretted; it involved obtaining the special paper (sample enclosed). A schedule of printing charges is enclosed, together with a pro forma invoice for the stamps and plates. We are confident that the stamps will meet with your approval.
- 10.3.1897 *From DLR to PMG* - re 9.2.1897, the stamps have been shipped per S.S. "Orizaba". Invoice enclosed. The packer inadvertently packed all the stamps so we are unable to forward as requested five sheets of each value.
- 21.8.1897 *From PMG* - we are thoroughly satisfied with the new stamps. Please sign the enclosed voucher. P.S. Please supply designs for 1d postcard and 2d and 2½d envelopes, designs the same as the corresponding stamp values.
- 14.12.1897 *From DLR* - re 21.8.1897, acknowledged. Appendix sheet enclosed with specimens of 1d postcard and 2d and 2½d envelopes.
- 24.2.1898 *From DLR to PMG* - enclosing certificate duly signed.
- 16.8.1901 *From Premier, Nukualofa to DLR* - order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|---------|
| ½d | 100,020 | 2d | 100,020 |
| 1d | 100,020 | 2½d | 100,020 |
- 16.10.1901 *From Foreign Office to DLR* - enclosing letter of 16.8.1901.
- 17.10.1901 *From DLR to Foreign Office* - re 16.10.1901, acknowledged.
- 10.3.1902 *From DLR to Premier, Nukualofa* - re 16.8.1901, the stamps have been shipped per S.S. "Roma". Invoice enclosed.
- 13.3.1902 *From DLR to Foreign Office* - asking whether to present invoice for payment to Bank of England.
- 21.3.1902 *From Colonial Office to DLR* - re 13.3.1901, the foreign Office will pay on behalf of Tonga.
- 24.3.1902 *From DLR to Colonial Office* - re 21.3.1902, acknowledged.
- 24.3.1902 *From DLR to Premier, Nukualofa* - sending receipt and bill of lading for stamps per S.S. "Roma".
- 27.3.1902 *From Foreign Office to DLR* - re 13.3.1902, it is decided that the matter be referred to the Colonial Office, as it more concerns them. A reply has been received that they will incur the expense.
- 21.7.1905 *From CA* - enclosing order for pictorial postcards, per letter of 14.6.1905.
- 1.8.1905 *From DLR* - re 21.7.1905, acknowledged. Order for 50,000 1d postcards.
- 14.6.1905 *From Western Pacific High Commissioner to CA* - the Colony requests a series of pictorial postcards be printed by De La Rue.
- 24.8.1905 *From DLR* - re 22.8.1905 (missing), we are prepared to give up the Tonga dies and plates to your Inspector provided you undertake to give them up to us at any time. In 1896 when these were made we arranged with the Tonga P.M.G. that they should not be given up by us.
- 7.9.1905 *From CA* - re 24.8.1905, we agree to your terms.
- 8.9.1905 *From DLR* - re 7.9.1905, acknowledged. We are proceeding with the postcard plates. They will be handed over in due course.
- 2.11.1905 *From DLR* - in accordance with Mr Potter's request, we enclose specimens of ½d-5/- Tonga stamps.
- 14.11.1905 *From CA* - requesting two further sets of Tonga stamps. When the next printing takes place it is requested 727 of each be overprinted Specimen and sent to the G.P.O. What stock of watermarked paper is on hand?
- 17.11.1905 *From DLR* - re 14.11.1905, two further sets of stamps enclosed. The dandy roll is paid for and 130 reams of paper is in stock.

- 8.3.1910 *From CA* - order for pictorial postcards, photographs for which are enclosed. 4,000 each of the two sorts are required. Also enclosing a photograph to be used as the basis of a design for the die for a 1d lettercard.
- 9.3.1910 *From CA* - re 8.3.1910, enclosing photograph inadvertently omitted.
- 31.3.1910 *From DLR* - re 8.3.1910, enclosing specimens of printing of pictorial postcards, and two designs for the 1d lettercard die. Also enclosing schedule of printing charges for lettercards and postcards.
- 22.4.1910 *From DLR* - re telephone conversation, two alternative designs for 1d lettercard enclosed.
- 7.11.1910 *From CA* - returning designs for postcards and lettercards, approved. 50,000 postcards have been ordered from Messrs. Valentine & Sons of Dundee with no printing on the front. A letter from the High Commissioner is enclosed concerning this order.
- 11.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 7.11.1910, acknowledged. Specimen of lettering for postcards and lettercards enclosed for approval. The instructions regarding packaging of the postcards are not clear.
- 30.9.1910 *From High Commissioner, Suva, Fiji to CA* - enclosing letter of 27.7.1910 from H.B.M. Agency and Consulate, Tonga.
- 27.7.1910 *From H.B.M. Agency and Consulate, Tonga to High Commissioner, Suva, Fiji* - ordering 50,000 pictorial postcards and 2,000 lettercards. Photographs are enclosed. The postcards are to be done up in two sets of ten assorted postcards each.
- 15.11.1910 *From CA* - re 11.11.1910, specimens of lettering for postcards and lettercards approved. There should be 2,500 packets of collotype postcards and 2,500 packets of Carbotype cards, each containing ten assorted cards.
- 17.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 15.11.1910, acknowledged.
- 21.11.1910 *From CA* - confirming our telephone conversation that the cards will be supplied 10-set and enclosing a sample showing the amount of grip to be allowed.
- 22.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 21.11.1910, acknowledged.
- 28.11.1910 *From CA* - asking when the cards will be ready.
- 29.11.1910 *From DLR* - re 28.11.1910, the cards will be finished six weeks after their receipt.
- 21.6.1911 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps.
- 26.6.1911 *From DLR* - re 21.6.1911, acknowledged. Order for:
- | | | | |
|----|--------------|----|------------|
| 1d | 1,500 sheets | 4d | 500 sheets |
| 2d | 2,500 sheets | 6d | 500 sheets |
- 12.7.1911 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1½d lettercards.
- 14.7.1911 *From DLR* - re 12.7.1911, acknowledged. Order for 10,000 1½d lettercards in packets of 10.
- 3.10.1912 *From CA* - order for 100,000 ½d postage stamps, required urgently.
- 4.10.1912 *From DLR* - re 3.10.1912, acknowledged. Delivery in five weeks.
- 11.11.1912 *From CA* - enclosing letter re the order for ½d postage stamps.
- 12.11.1912 *From DLR* - re 11.11.1912, letter returned. It is noted that the stamps are to be interleaved with wax paper.
- 24.8.1914 *From CA* - the Colonial Office has asked for blocks of four of each value of postage stamps.
- 26.8.1914 *From DLR* - re 24.8.1914, blocks of four of the ½d-5/- postage stamps are enclosed. Regrettably, only the 4d is available in a corner block.
- 28.8.1914 *From CA* - re 26.8.1914, receipt of postage stamps acknowledged.
- 29.8.1914 *From DLR* - re 28.8.1914, acknowledged.
- 1.5.1919 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1d postage stamps.
- 2.5.1919 *From DLR* - re 1.5.1919, acknowledged. Order for 2,000 sheets of 1d postage stamps.
- 26.5.1919 *From CA* - enclosing letter of 29.3.1919 re order of 2d postage stamps with portrait of Queen Salote.

- 30.6.1919 *From DLR* - re 26.5.1919, acknowledged. Order for 2,000 sheets of 2d postage stamps. A new original and working plate will be required.
- 29.3.1919 *From Premier's Office, Nukualofa to CA* - ordering 2,000 sheets of 2d postage stamps, to bear the portrait of Queen Salote.
- 20.7.1920 *From CA* - enclosing letter of 27.4.1920 re order for postage stamps bearing portrait of Queen Salote. Please give comments on the alleged defective 2½d stamps.
- 26.7.1920 *From DLR* - re 20.7.1920, acknowledged. A proof of the 2½d duty plate is enclosed; the defect referred to was rectified after the first printing.
- 27.4.1920 *From Premier's Office, Nukualofa to CA* - order for postage stamps, to bear the portrait of Queen Salote:
- | | | | |
|-----|--------|-----|--------|
| 2½d | 30,000 | 10d | 30,000 |
| 5d | 30,000 | 1/- | 30,000 |
| 7½d | 30,000 | | |
- The colours are to be the same as at present except the 5d, which is to be the colour of the present 1d. Attention is drawn to the last 2½d printing, on which the last stamp in the second row had no fraction bar, and asking for the defect to be corrected for the present printing.
- 28.7.1920 *From CA* - enclosing letter of 25.5.1920 re defective 1/- stamps.
- 25.5.1920 *From Premier's Office, Nukualofa to CA* - advising of an error on the 1/- stamps. The fifth stamp on the fourth row has the hyphen between "e" and "taha" omitted. Can this be rectified on the next printing?
- 29.7.1920 *From DLR* - re 28.7.1920, enclosing a proof from the 1/- plate. The fault has been rectified.
- 30.8.1923 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1,500 sheets of 2d postage stamps.
- 2.9.1923 *From DLR* - re 30.8.1923, acknowledged.
- 29.2.1924 *From DLR* - re 26.2.1924, the price for paper for 30,000 stamps would be 18/- per ream. CA paper would be 16/3d per ream.
- 26.2.1924 *From CA* - the Colony has asked at what price Turtle paper can be made compared with CA paper.
- 12.5.1924 *From CA* - enclosing order for 400 sheets of ½d and 1,000 sheets of 1d postage stamps (turtle watermark). Urgently required.
- 17.5.1924 *From DLR* - re 12.5.1924, acknowledged. The minimum quantity of turtle paper the Mill will make is 10 reams, which would be about 10 years' supply.
- 23.5.1924 *From DLR* - re 22.5.1924, acknowledged.
- 22.5.1924 *From CA* - re 11.5.1924, acknowledged. The whole of the cost including paper is agreed to.
- 23.11.1926 *From CA* - the obsolete King's head key plate is to be destroyed on the authority of the administration.
- 7.10.1927 *From DLR* - re 6.10.1927, acknowledged.
- 6.10.1927 *From CA* - re order of 30.9.1927, increase the quantity of ½d stamps to 30,000.
- 30.9.1927 *From CA* - enclosing order for 24,000 ½d postage stamps.
- 25.5.1928 *From DLR* - re 22.3.1928, the printing of the 2d has been put in hand, the colours to be as per specimen in Chief Inspector's book. We regret there is no information available as to the date of printing of the block of six in our possession, but instructions have now been issued to ensure such information being available in the future.
- 22.5.1928 *From CA* - our Chief Inspector has forwarded a copy of your letter of 15.5.1928 that you are reprinting the Tonga stamps. We regret this, but since there is no record with you or our Inspector of any change of colour since the printing of the issue of which we have a specimen, we have no alternative. It is unfortunate there is no record as to how the block of six came into your possession, and the necessary steps are being taken to see that our records properly kept in future. A separate record by you would be an additional check.

- 15.5.1928 *From DLR* - re memo of 7.5.1928 on 2d stamps, we note a reprint is required and ask you to issue the necessary paper. Re second paragraph, the block of six in our records was supplied by the Chief Inspector, but no record is kept of the dates of such specimens.
- 7.5.1928 *From CA* - re recent printing of 2d postage stamp, it is decided the stamps cannot be accepted and I must ask for a reprint. You are requested to furnish an explanation as to how and from what source and the date of the block of six 2d stamps in your album came into your possession.
- 21.3.1928 *From CA* - enclosing order for 30,000 2d postage stamps.
- 3.9.1928 *From CA* - enclosing order for 30,000 1d and 30,000 2d postage stamps.
- 16.7.1929 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps, urgently required:
- | | | | |
|----|--------|----|--------|
| ½d | 30,000 | 2d | 60,000 |
| 1d | 60,000 | | |
- 24.7.1929 *From DLR* - re 23.7.1929, new plates are necessary for the 1d, but we expect to complete the delivery in four weeks.
- 23.7.1929 *From CA* - re order of 16.7.1929, please advise your earliest date of delivery.
- 6.1.1930 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|--------|----|--------|
| ½d | 30,000 | 2d | 30,000 |
| 1d | 30,000 | | |
- 15.4.1930 *From DLR* - re 14.4.1930, acknowledged.
- 14.4.1930 *From CA* - the Government has authorised the destruction of the 1d flat die used for postcards.
- 1.9.1930 *From DLR* - re 29.8.1930, schedule of charges enclosed.
- 29.8.1930 *From CA* - requesting schedule of printing charges for transmission to Tonga.
- 16.12.1930 *From DLR* - re 15.12.1930, acknowledged.
- 15.12.1930 *From CA* - re order of 10.12.1930, increase quantities to 6,000 each of 3d, 1/-, 2/6d and 5/-.
- 10.12.1930 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|--------|------|-------|
| 1d | 45,000 | 1/- | 3,000 |
| 2d | 60,000 | 2/6d | 1,200 |
| 3d | 3,000 | 5/- | 1,200 |
- 29.1.1931 *Wm. Howard & Son (papermakers) to DLR* - we regret your complaint of the excess of turtle paper sent for your order of 20.1.1931. We would point out that 15 reams is a very small quantity and it is very difficult to produce an exact quantity and still allow for waste and spoilage.
- 19.1.1931 *From CA* - advising the stock of turtle paper is nearly exhausted, and requesting that an estimate be obtained for the smallest making possible.
- 20.1.1931 *From CA* - re 19.1.1931 and telephone conversation, please arrange with mill to make 15 reams at the same price as before, and deliver to our Inspector.
- 22.1.1931 *From DLR* - re 19.1.1931 and 20.1.1931, acknowledged. The Mill is making an exactly similar quality of paper this week, and has agreed to a run of 15 reams.
- 24.11.1932 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 1d postage stamps.
- 29.3.1933 *From DLR* - re 29.3.1933, acknowledged.
- 29.3.1933 *From CA* - re 25.3.1933 and 28.3.1933, colour proofs of the ½d and 2½d are approved and returned.
- 28.3.1933 *From DLR* - re change of colour of ½d postage stamp, further proofs enclosed.
- 25.3.1933 *From DLR* - re 15.3.1933, enclosing colour proofs of the ½d and 2½d postage stamps.
- 15.3.1933 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | |
|----|---------|----------------------------|
| ½d | 120,000 | to be printed in green |
| 2d | 60,000 | |
| 2d | 120,000 | to be printed in dark blue |
- 424 specimens of the ½d and 2½d are also required.

- 31.5.1933 *From DLR* - re 29.5.1933, all the ½d stamps and part of the 2½d's have been delivered. The rest of the 2½d stamps will be delivered by Saturday, and the 2d's by Tuesday.
- 29.5.1933 *From CA* - re order of 15.3.1933, we understand from our Inspector the 2½d is not yet delivered although it was due on 11 May. The boat leaves on 7 June, and I request that the whole of this duty be ready by then.
- 15.3.1934 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 1d and 30,000 2d postage stamps.
- 24.6.1935 *From DLR* - re 19.6.1935, acknowledged. For colour, we would suggest the same as the 4d Swaziland.
- 19.6.1935 *From CA* - enclosing order for 120,000 1½d postage stamps, design the same as the other values. 418 specimens are also required.
- 12.7.1935 *From DLR* - re 11.7.1935, acknowledged.
- 11.7.1935 *From CA* - re 10.7.1935, proof approved and returned.
- 10.7.1935 *From DLR* - re 19.6.1935, enclosing a proof of the 1½d border duty die.
- 6.8.1935 *From DLR* - re 1.7.1935, enclosing colour proofs of 1½d in grey.
- 1.7.1935 *From CA* - re 24.6.1935, re colour of new 1½d, since the border of the present 5d is orange, we ask you to suggest another colour that will be distinctive.
- 8.8.1935 *From DLR* - re 8.8.1935, acknowledged.
- 8.8.1935 *From CA* - re 6.8.1935, colour proof approved and returned.
- 13.12.1935 *From DLR* - re 9.12.1935, acknowledged.
- 9.12.1935 *From CA* - the Government has authorised the destruction of the dies and plates of the 4d, 5d, 7½d, 10d and 2/- stamps, which are being withdrawn when present stocks are exhausted.
- 24.8.1936 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | |
|-----|---------|
| 1d | 120,000 |
| 2½d | 60,000 |
| 2d | 120,000 |
- 20.7.1937 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | |
|----|---------|
| ½d | 120,000 |
| 3d | 30,000 |
| 2d | 120,000 |
- 19.10.1937 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for datestamps for Nukualofa (x2), Haapai, Vavau, Niuafoou and Niuatobutabu.
- 29.4.1938 *From DLR* - re 28.4.1938, acknowledged.
- 28.4.1938 *From CA* - re 25.4.1938, a telegram has been received stating the inscriptions across the base of each stamp must begin with a capital letter.
- 9.5.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for commemorative issue.
- 9.5.1938 *From DLR* - tender for commemorative issue for 20th anniversary of Accession of Queen Salote. Values to be 1d, 2d and 2½d. Details of design given, together with cost of dies, plates and printing. Quantities to be:
- | | |
|-----|---------|
| 1d | 150,000 |
| 2d | 120,000 |
| 2½d | 150,000 |
- Also 408 specimens of each value.
- 25.4.1938 *From CA* - enclosing tender form for a commemorative issue, to be returned not later than 9.5.1938. A photograph of the Queen suitable for the stamp design will be available on 26.4.1938.
- 13.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 12.5.1938, acknowledged.
- 12.5.1938 *From CA* - re tender of 9.5.1938, you are authorised to proceed with the engraving of the vignette die in accordance with the design submitted to you. The photograph of the Queen is enclosed.

- 30.5.1938 *From DLR* - re 27.5.1938, a proof of the vignette die is enclosed, together with the original photograph.
- 27.5.1938 *From CA* - re 13.5.1938, please submit a proof of the vignette die on 30 May. This order is particularly urgent.
- 1.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 31.5.1938, acknowledged. We will require 8,400 sheets of turtle watermarked paper. The stamps will be delivered before 31.7.1938.
- 31.5.1938 *From CA* - re 30.5.1938, proof of vignette die approved and returned. Please advise quantity of turtle paper required, and when delivery of the stamps will be effected.
- 7.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 3.6.1938, our price for printing can be reduced by 4d per 1,000, it being understood the small making of paper will be purchased by the Colony and held in stock as previously.
- 3.6.1938 *From CA* - re 1.6.1938, as advised turtle paper is to be used. Please advise us of revision in printing costs.
- 16.6.1938 *From DLR* - tender for commemorative issue, with costs of dies, plates and printing. Quantities required:
- | | |
|-----|---------|
| 1d | 150,000 |
| 2d | 120,000 |
| 2½d | 150,000 |
- Also 408 specimens of each value.
- 14.6.1938 *From CA* - re your quote of 9.5.1938 for commemorative issue, we have sent you a tender form for completion.
- 17.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 16.6.1938, acknowledged.
- 16.6.1938 *From CA* - re 16.6.1938, proof approved and returned.
- 16.6.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing a proof of the border die, together with the approved design.
- 30.6.1938 *From DLR* - re 23.6.1938, the Mill confirms the making of paper consists of 20 reams 100 sheets 11¼ x 12" (price £12/7/6) and 10 reams 350 sheets 12½ x 19½" (price £10/14/-).
- 23.6.1938 *From CA* - please advise quantity and cost of making of turtle paper.
- 14.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 14.7.1938, acknowledged.
- 14.7.1938 *From CA* - re 11.7.1938, the proofs submitted are approved as follows:
 1d and 2½d for die and colour
 2d for die only
 Further proofs of the 2d are required matching the border colour to that of the current 4d. also returning the approved design and unapproved proofs sent on 14.7.1938.
- 11.7.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing proofs for die and colour of the 1d, 2d and 2½d.
- 14.7.1938 *From DLR* - as requested by phone, enclosing approved proof of vignette die (with two unapproved proofs on same card).
- 27.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 26.7.1938, acknowledged.
- 26.7.1938 *From CA* - re 25.7.1938, proof approved subject to strength of colour being increased on printed stamps, and returned.
- 25.7.1938 *From DLR* - re 14.7.1938, enclosing further proofs of the 2d in colour of current 4d. We point out the engraving of this die differs considerably from the 4d and in consequence the shade appears lighter.
- 12.9.1938 *From CA* - re 9.9.1938, acknowledged.
- 9.9.1938 *From DLR* - enclosing the original design for the commemorative issue suitably mounted for presentation to the Royal Collection.
- 3.10.1938 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 2d commemoratives, very urgently required.
- 1.6.1939 *From CA* - enclosing order for 36,000 1d commemoratives, urgently required.
- 20.3.1940 *From DLR* - re 19.3.1940, acknowledged.

- 19.3.1940 *From CA* - re order of 8.3.1940, confirming the 1d stamps required are definitive not commemorative, and the quantity is increased to 45,000.
- 8.3.1940 *From CA* - enclosing order for 36,000 1d postage stamps.
- 20.6.1941 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|--|--|
| ½d | 45,000 | | |
| 1d | 120,000 | | |
| 2½d | 60,000 | | |
- 30.5.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for 1,000,000 ½d postage stamps, urgently required. In view of paper difficulties these are to be on CA paper. 357 specimens are also required.
- 1.7.1942 *From DLR* - re 29.6.1942, we will submit all forms in a day or two. The work is already in hand.
- 29.6.1942 *From CA* - asking when they will receive completed tender forms and schedule of consolidated printing rates.
- 15.6.1942 *From CA* - re 11.6.1942, the printing rates should be calculated on the basis of figures supplied by us.
- 11.6.1942 *From DLR* - re paper, should the consolidated rates be based on turtle paper or CA paper?
- 11.7.1942 *From CA* - re order of 10.6.1942, confirming the quantities of 3d and 6d to be 60,000 each.
- 10.6.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|--------|--|--|
| 3d | 48,000 | | |
| 6d | 42,000 | | |
| 1/- | 30,000 | | |
- These are urgently required, and in view of paper difficulties are to be on CA paper. 357 specimens of each also required.
- 21.7.1942 *From DLR* - re 16.7.1942, acknowledged and agreed.
- 16.7.1942 *From CA* - tender form acknowledged. Error for 2½d rate corrected.
- 19.6.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|--------|
| ½d | 60,000 | 2½d | 90,000 |
| 1d | 180,000 | 3d | 60,000 |
| 2d | 90,000 | 6d | 60,000 |
- To be on CA paper. 357 specimens also required of 2d and 2½d.
- 9.7.1942 *From CA* - asking for return of tender form issued on 20.6.1942.
- 21.9.1942 *From DLR* - re 18.9.1942, acknowledged. Enclosing remittance for 9/-.
- 18.9.1942 *From DLR* - re 15.9.1942, acknowledged. We require a block of four and single for DLR collection. May we assume in our case the fee of 10/- for dealers is waived?
- 19.12.1942 *From CA* - re 14.12.1942, acknowledged. We are prepared to accept the order as completed.
- 14.12.1942 *From DLR* - re order of 15.10.1942, due to excess wastage only 18,000 5/- stamps have been produced. Are you willing to consider the order complete?
- 15.10.1942 *From CA* - re order of 25.9.1942, increase quantities to:
- | | | | |
|------|--------|--|--|
| 3d | 90,000 | | |
| 2/6d | 30,000 | | |
| 5/- | 20,000 | | |
- 20.10.1942 *From DLR* - re 15.10.1942, acknowledged.
- 9.10.1942 *From CA* - re order of 25.9.1942, 380,000 1½d was a typing error. The quantity should be 280,000.
- 25.9.1942 *From CA* - enclosing order for postage stamps:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|------|--------|
| ½d | 750,000 | 3d | 90,000 |
| 1d | 310,000 | 6d | 45,000 |
| 1½d | 280,000 | 1/- | 30,000 |
| 2d | 210,000 | 2/6d | 30,000 |
| 2½d | 210,000 | 5/- | 20,000 |
- The 1½d to be on turtle paper, the rest on CA paper. 357 specimens of the 2/6d and 5/- are also required.

- 16.1.1943 *From DLR* - re 12.1.1943, acknowledged.
- 12.1.1943 *From CA* - asking for 30,000 ½d stamps which will be delivered by our Inspector to be interleaved for delivery to the Colony.
- 4.8.1943 *From CA* - re 3.8.1943, proofs of the 2d, 3d and 1/- are approved. The 1d and 6d are not sufficiently distinctive and further proofs are to be submitted. The 1d to be in red as 1½a Aden (Kathiri) and 6d as 20c Kenya.
- 3.8.1943 *From DLR* - enclosing colour proofs of 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/-; the 1d and 6d are very close in colour.
- 25.6.1943 *From DLR* - re 23.6.1943, acknowledged. We will advise whether we have a blank duty die for this design, and shall also advise regarding delivery.
- 23.6.1943 *From CA* - re our phone call regarding the proposed issue for the 25th anniversary of the accession of Queen Salote, please advise when delivery can be made. It is proposed to use the 1938 design with altered wording, values to be 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/-. The old vignette plate could be used, but new border plates are needed. Please confirm.
- 26.7.1943 *From DLR* - re 23.7.1943, acknowledged.
- 23.7.1943 *From CA* - re 23.7.1943, the design is approved and returned (1d, 2d) subject to alteration of the last word in the first line as shown.
- 8.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 29.7.1943, enclosing costs.
- 1.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 30.8.1943, acknowledged. The cost of new printing materials will be advised.
- 30.8.1943 *From CA* - re 27.8.1943, enquiring whether alteration to the present issue is not affected by the decision to alter orthography on the Jubilee issue.
- 4.8.1943 *From DLR* - re 29.7.1943, we have submitted proofs of the 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d and 1/- Jubilee showing such alterations and do not contemplate any difficulty in the case of other values. We will advise re the cost.
- 29.7.1943 *From CA* - you are no doubt aware from the Jubilee stamps that Tongan orthography has been revised, and I enclose a set of revised spellings for the current issue. Please advise whether these can be incorporated on existing printing material, or whether entirely new material will be required, and advise cost.
- 9.11.1943 *From CA* - re 3.11.1943, acknowledged.
- 3.11.1943 *From DLR* - re 30.9.1943, cost of overtime advised.
- 3.11.1943 *From DLR* - re 30.10.1943, acknowledged.
- 30.10.1943 *From CA* - re 21.10.1943, acknowledged. Amendments noted.
- 13.10.1943 *From DLR* - re phone call, we agree to the amended rate per ream. Our records show an amended schedule of rates should have been submitted at the end of the June quarter, but this has been overlooked. We will submit a new schedules soon.
- 24.9.1943 *From CA* - re 22.9.1943, it is imperative the Jubilee issue be despatched by the end of September, and it is agreed overtime be worked if necessary.
- 14.9.1943 *From CA* - re phone call, confirming proofs are approved and returned.
- 10.9.1943 *From CA* - re 27.8.1943, asking when amended proofs will be ready. We understand the stamps will be ready at the end of September and thank you for your efforts.
- 10.9.1943 *From CA* - re 27.8.1943, we note that you quote mid-October for delivery. The Government has already been advised of delivery by the end of September and we shall be glad to learn that arrangements have been made to speed up delivery.
- 27.8.1943 *From DLR* - re 26.8.1943, acknowledged.
- 26.8.1943 *From CA* - re order for Jubilee stamps, the amended wording for each value is appended. We regret the need for these alterations and ask what effect they will have on the delivery schedule. Since colour proofs are already approved, we need only proofs in black of the amendments.
- 11.8.1943 *From DLR* - re 10.8.1943, acknowledged.

- 10.8.1943 *From CA* - re order for Jubilee stamps, the quantities have been altered to:
- | | | | |
|-----|---------|-----------------|---------|
| 1d | 620,000 | interleave only | 120,000 |
| 2d | 358,000 | | 108,000 |
| 3d | 290,000 | | 90,000 |
| 6d | 190,000 | | 90,000 |
| 1/- | 172,000 | | 72,000 |
- Also 360 specimens of each value.
- 12.8.1943 *From DLR* - re 9.8.1943, acknowledged.
- 9.8.1943 *From CA* - re 6.8.1943, proofs approved and returned (1d and 6d).
- 6.8.1943 *From DLR* - re 4.8.1943, acknowledged. New colour proofs for 1d and 6d enclosed.
- 11.10.1943 *From DLR* - re phone call, the rate per ream agrees with the price on paper balance.
- 5.10.1943 *From DLR* - re 27.9.1943, amended printing rates are appended.
- 30.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 27.9.1943, acknowledged. Will advise re cost. The cost of overtime will be below £20.
- 27.9.1943 *From CA* - re order for Jubilee stamps, alter quantities required to:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|---------|
| 1d | 600,000 | 6d | 150,000 |
| 2d | 350,000 | 1/- | 150,000 |
| 3d | 300,000 | | |
- Re 24.9.1943 on overtime, we now understand the cost will be below the figure quoted.
- 24.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 22.9.1943, confirming approval of overtime to enable delivery to be on time.
- 22.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 17.9.1943, delivery is dependent on the time taken in making plates, and the end of September is not possible unless overtime is worked, at an estimated cost of £20.
- 17.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 10.9.1943, we regret we can only confirm delivery in the middle of October. Our promise of the end of September was before the change of wording was decided. There can be no improvement in the date of delivery without working overtime to prepare the dies and plates.
- 9.9.1943 *From DLR* - re 26.8.1943, the cost is £71. The proofs will be ready next week, and if approved immediately, delivery will be by mid-October.
- 9.9.1943 *From DLR* - enclosing tender form for Jubilee issue. Design to be the same as 1938 with altered wording. Quantities required are:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|-----|---------|
| 1d | 500,000 | 6d | 100,000 |
| 2d | 250,000 | 1/- | 100,000 |
| 3d | 200,000 | | |
- 360 specimens are also required of each value. Cost of dies, plates and printing given.
- 15.3.1944 *From DLR* - re 13.3.1944, acknowledged.
- 13.3.1944 *From CA* - re 7.3.1944, acknowledged.
- 7.3.1944 *From DLR* - re 4.3.1944, 60,000 each of 6d and 1/- Jubilee stamps can be supplied at 12/7d per 1,000.
- 4.3.1944 *From CA* - re order of 25.2.1944, increase quantities to 60,000 each of 6d and 1/- Jubilee stamps, and advise cost.
- 25.2.1944 *From CA* - enclosing order for 30,000 each of 6d and 1/- Jubilee stamps.
- 9.6.1944 *From DLR* - advising the vignette plate is badly damaged. We will not replace this until we receive a new order.
- 10.5.1944 *From CA* - enclosing order for 60,000 2d Jubilee stamps.
- 29.8.1945 *From DLR* - re 18.8.1945 and 26.8.1945, enclosing schedule of new prices.
- 26.8.1945 *From CA* - re 18.8.1945, the Government has in mind the prices for the series of stamps supplied in 1942.
- 18.8.1945 *From CA* - the Government requests a schedule of printing rates for stamps.

BOOK REVIEW

Queensland Postal Rates and Charges, 1832-1913. By H.M. Campbell, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.,L.
Published by The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Inc. 250 x 210mm, soft card cover, 96pp. ISBN 0 947345 10 8. Available from The National Stamp Gallery, 79 Bourke Street, Melbourne, 3000. Price, \$30.00.

The latest work from the prolific pen of Hugh Campbell tackles, for one Australian Colony, a subject on which there has been little serious work in this country - that of postal rates. The present monograph enlarges considerably on the writer's treatment of the subject in his earlier work, *Queensland Postal History*.

Queensland has proved a particularly difficult subject, since the survival of primary sources such as Postal Guides has been poor. Contemporary almanacs have filled some of the gaps.

Up to 1860, of course, New South Wales Postal Acts, and postal rates, applied. Although mail could theoretically be sent to all the places mentioned in the N.S.W. rates tables of the period, the author notes in his introductory remarks to the pre-1860 overseas postal rates that he has seen only two covers to countries other than the United Kingdom.

The overseas letter rates from 1860 up to admission to the U.P.U. in 1891 fill 20 pages, and the corresponding newspaper rates a further four pages. Particularly interesting and complex are the overseas registration rates for this period, since apart from the registration fee, mail to many countries was also liable to double the usual postage rates.

The period from 1891 saw the standardisation of many charges, and this trend becomes even more apparent following Federation in 1901.

Throughout, the monograph is liberally illustrated. There are 124 covers shown from the author's collection which demonstrate most of significant rates changes, and their frequent association with changes in mail contracts and routes.

Essential in a work of this nature is the ease of its use. Inevitably, covering such a broad time period, the book must consist largely of tabulations of rates. The layout in this book is admirable in this regard, and an index of localities makes reference easy. This is a model well worth inspecting by students thinking of undertaking a similar project.

***Queensland Postal Rates and Charges* is available to R.P.S.V. Members direct from the Society at the special price of \$25 (plus postage) up to 30 September 1995.**

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.

Zeppelin Mails

The display at the meeting on 16 February was provided by Mr Elliot Zerjal, who showed his collection of Zeppelin Flight covers.

The earliest cover was the 1928 LZ-127 trans-

atlantic flight from Germany. "Round-the-World" 1929 flight covers were shown originating in Japan and U.S.A., and a Danzig cover from the Mediterranean flight of the same year.

The following year saw a Baltic Sea flight cover originating in Hungary, and from 1931 there was a

Holy Land flight cover from Germany, and covers from the Polar flight, Iceland flight using the special stamps, and the Liechtenstein flight. The 1932 Luposta Exhibition flight cover was also shown.

The long series of Transatlantic flight covers to South America undertaken between 1931 and 1934 were well represented, with a number of covers from unusual points of origin. Examples are the 8th 1931 flight from Cyrenaica and Iraq; the 4th 1933 flight from Bahrain and Gibraltar; the 1st 1934 flight from Algeria and Paraguay; the 5th 1934 flight from Tangier; and the 8th 1934 flight from Sweden.

The 1933 Century of Progress flight cover bore the U.S. 50c Zeppelin stamp.

The 1st transatlantic flight of the *Hindenburg* airship was represented by covers from Liechtenstein and Jamaica. Subsequent North American flights included the 2nd 1936 flights from Mexico and Canada, and the 7th flight of the same year from Netherland Indies.

Netherlands

Mr Eric Dreikurs brought his internationally-recognised collection of Netherlands from Sydney for display at the meeting on 16 March.

The sheets shown covered many highlights of Netherlands philately from 1852 to 1939.

The 1852 issue included SPECIMEN copies of the three values (5c, 10c, 15c), and a mint block of four of the 15c.

The covers were spectacular, led by the 5c on a first day cover (1 January 1852). The 10c was shown on an 1857 telegraphic message. A strip of six of the 10c was on an 1860 cover to France, and an 1858 cover to Germany bore one of each of the three values. Outstanding was an 1856 cover to Sydney with the 5c and a pair and strip of four of the 15c. An equally rare destination was St. Petersburg, Russia, shown on an 1856 cover bearing the 5c and a strip of three of the 15c, and addressed to the famous archaeologist, Heinrich Schliemann.

The Half Round postmarks were shown on the first issue - for every town, on each value - a remarkable assemblage.

The later nineteenth century issues concentrated on essays, proofs and colour trials. The 1898 1guilder Coronation perf. 11 x 11½ was represented, including imperforate at base.

The 1923 issue included the 5c and 10c in mint imperforate blocks of four, issued due to a printers' strike. From the 1923 25th Anniversary issue the 2c and 10c included imperforate between pairs and imperforate between stamp and margin.

The 1924 7½c tête-bêche pairs included the earliest known date on cover.

A famous twentieth century error was the 1926-31 6c mint pair, one with the value omitted.

The 1927 7½c with interrupted perforations on all

sides was shown in a mint pair, and there was a mint pair of the 1936 6c Utrecht commemorative imperforate between.

There were also showings of the Telegraph stamps, and 1921 Marine Insurance stamps.

South Australia

At the meeting on 30 March Mr John Boykett showed his collection of South Australia.

Pre-stamp entires included the crowned oval "GENERAL POST OFFICE/ADELAIDE" from the Leake correspondence to Van Diemen's Land, and an 1853 entire with the crowned "FREE" marking.

The 1855 London Prints were represented by a used strip of six of the 2d, and a used strip of three and cover of the 6d. There was also a fine example of the scarce 1d of the first Adelaide printing.

The 1860-69 roulettes included mint multiples and an 1864 cover to England franked with the 1d and 9d for the via Marseilles rate.

The later engraved stamps were well-represented, with used copies of the 3d on 4d Prussian blue shade (perf. 11½-12½), the same stamp with red surcharge (perf. 10), the 4d watermark V over Crown, and the 10d on 9d watermark Crown over SA. The six types of the 10d on 9d were also shown.

The De La Rue surface-printed issues began with die proofs of the 3d, 4d and 6d Before Hardening, and many plate proofs and colour trials. The small ½d stamp included examples of the compound perforation, and there were SPECIMEN overprints of the 1886 Postage & Revenue high values.

Amongst the later issues a feature was made of sheet number blocks, including the use of the wrong value paper for some printings, such as the 3d on 2d paper (1897). There were plate varieties on the 1d and 2d, and the 1d red with "AUSTRALIA" marginal watermark error, and the 2d purple with "SUOTH" marginal watermark error.

Later covers included an 1898 one with 1d pair to Adelaide cancelled with the Alice Springs squared circle cancellation, and 1903 and 1904 covers carried down the Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks respectively. A used example of the 1911 registration envelope was a scarce item.

Registered Mail of Victoria

On 20 April Mr Max Watson presented a display on the Registered Mail of Victoria, covering all facets of this important postal service.

Pre-stamp registered mail is rare, but six entires were shown, including the earliest known registered cover from Victoria, sent in 1840 from Melbourne to Launceston. An 1849 entire from Geelong to Melbourne was inscribed "Money Letter", and an 1849 entire sent from Warrnambool to Portland additionally had "MISSENT TO PORT FAIRY".

A striking cover was one of 1852 sent from Melbourne to Geelong with a 2d Half-Length cancelled by the Paid Melbourne datestamp in red, and another spectacular early letter, also from 1852, was franked with two 1d and a 2d Half-Lengths.

The boxed "REGISTERED AT/MELBOURNE" and "REGISTERED AT/BENDIGO CK." markings on 1853 covers are believed to be the only recorded examples.

Early covers did not show the registration fee, but from 1 January 1854 the fee became 1/-, and from November that year this had to be prepaid with the special Registration Stamp.

The 1/- Registered was shown on several covers, the most spectacular being an 1856 cover with the 1/- and 6d Woodblock both privately rouletted, and another cover of the same year with the 1/- used in combination with six 1d Queen-on-Thrones.

An 1858 cover to Scotland was franked with a block of six of the 6d Woodblock with manuscript "Registered", and from the well-known correspondence to Switzerland there was a spectacular cover of 1858

with a strip of five 1/- Octagonals, 3d Half-Length pair and 2d Emblems.

From August 1864 the registration fee was reduced to 6d, and from 1 July 1881 to 4d. A number of examples of these rates were shown. Less often seen items included officially registered covers of 1869 and 1881, an unclaimed letter of 1877 with its accompanying Returned Letter envelope.

The postal stationery was not neglected, and the various printings of 4d and 3d registration envelopes were shown, including many overseas usages. A 4d envelope sent to Hanover in 1884 was additionally franked with ½d(2), 1d, 3d and 1/-. There were also registered usages of frank envelopes.

Internal post office registration stationery included a registered letter bill of 1892 from Wycheproof, an Avis de Reception form and registered letter receipts.

The final phase of registered mail in Victoria was the introduction of registration labels in 1909. Several covers were shown, including an example of the scarce black label.

THE ROYAL SYDNEY PHILATELIC CLUB

FOUNDED 1890



★ **MEETING ROOM:** The club meets at 8 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, First Floor Meeting Room, Philas House, 17 Brisbane Street, Sydney.

★ **EXCHANGE BRANCH:** Members are entitled to receive the Exchange Books which circulate regularly within Australia.

★ **LIBRARY:** A library, comprising 1000 volumes, is available for use by members by arrangement with the Librarian.

★ **MONTHLY DISPLAYS:** Displays of interesting collections and philatelic items are a feature of the monthly meetings of the Club. It is the policy of the Club to bring to the members the best available displays, while lectures and discussions help to further the philatelic knowledge of members. The advice of members, experts in most branches of philately, is always available when requested.

★ **THE AUSTRALIAN STATES STUDY CIRCLE** publishes a quarterly journal *Sydney Views*. Enquiries to P.O. Box 1751, G. P.O. Sydney, 2001, Australia.

★ **THE CLUB'S FEES** are: City Members, \$11.00; Country Members, \$9.00.

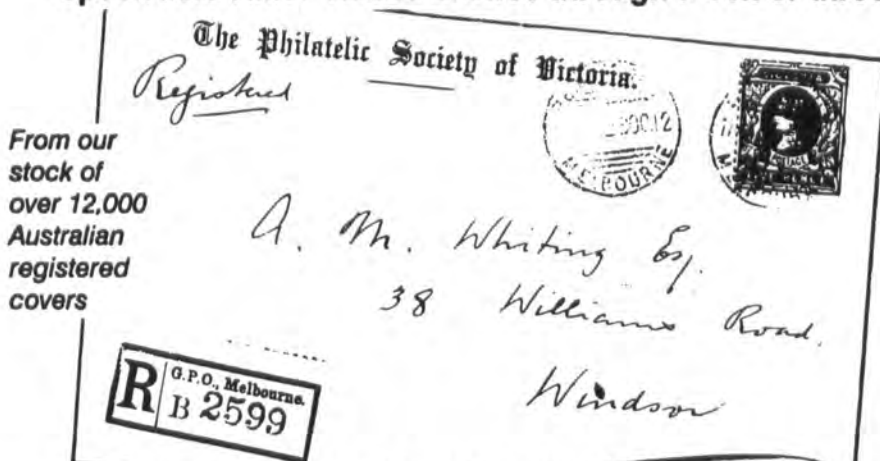
★ **SUBSCRIPTIONS** are due 1 July yearly. There is no entrance fee payable.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to:-

Hon. Secretary - Box 1751, G.P.O. Sydney, 2001.

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**THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.
FOUNDED 1892**



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:

- **THE SOCIETY'S OFFICIAL ORGAN:** *Philately from Australia*, published quarterly, is posted free to all members.
- **MEETINGS** are held on the third and fifth Thursdays of the month at 8.00 p.m. in its own premises, 6 Avoca Street, South Yarra, Melbourne 3141.
- **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.
- **EXCHANGE BOOKS** circulate regularly within Australia to interested members. Enquiries should be addressed to the Exchange Superintendent.
- **THE SALES BRANCH** enables members to buy and sell stamps not considered suitable by the vendor for exchange sheets. Catalogues of sales are sent free to all members and are also widely circulated to non-members. All correspondence regarding the Sales Branch should be addressed to the Sales Branch Superintendent.
- **A COMPREHENSIVE LIBRARY**, considered to be the finest in the Southern Hemisphere, is open to members on Meeting Nights, and on the second Monday night of each month (from 6.30 to 9.30 p.m.), or by arrangement with the Librarian. Most books may be borrowed by country or interstate members, postage to be paid both ways. Enquiries to the Librarian.
- **AN EXPERT COMMITTEE** provides opinions on most Australian items for both members and non-members. Members are entitled to one free certificate each year. Details of fees and all other correspondence should be directed to the Secretary of the Expert Committee.
- **A QUARTZ LAMP, MICROSCOPE, and REFERENCE FORGERY COLLECTION** are available for the use of members.
- **THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH STUDY GROUP** meets at the Society Rooms on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00p.m.
- **THE AUSTRALIAN STATES STUDY GROUP** meets at the Society Rooms on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7.45p.m.
- **PHILATELIC KNOWLEDGE.** This Society includes experts on almost all branches of philately, whose advice is always available.
- **THE SOCIETY'S FEES** are: Entrance Fee, \$50.00. Annual Subscription: City and Suburban, \$45.00; Country, Interstate and Overseas, \$35.00.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS should be addressed to the appropriate officers or to:

JOHN MACDONNELL (Secretary), Box 2071, G.P.O. Melbourne, 3001.

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