

PHILATELY *from* AUSTRALIA



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Philately from Australia

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The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Library: A History and Catalogue

By Geoffrey Kellow and Russell Turner



The library of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria is the largest society library in the Southern Hemisphere and has the largest and most comprehensive holding of Australasia and Oceania anywhere. This book of approximately 450 pages commences with a brief Foreword and Introduction, then presents a history of the development of the library.

Separate chapters list, in a comprehensive manner, the extensive holdings of Books, Priced Catalogues, Sale Catalogues, Exhibition Publications, Government Publications and Periodicals. The work is completed by a detailed subject index, which will be invaluable for research purposes.

The subscriber's edition is printed on archival quality paper and is sumptuously bound in Burgundy buckram with two ribbons and headbands, embellished with gold lettering on the spine and cover, and has a matching slipcase. It will be limited to a maximum 75 out of a total of 150 copies. The standard edition will be similarly produced in Royal Blue without the ribbons or slipcase. The subscriber's edition will include a listing of original subscribers and be individually numbered and signed by both the authors and the President.

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To the Publications Manager, The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Inc., Box 2071, G.P.O. Melbourne, Victoria, 3001, Australia. Fax: +61 3 9467 8212

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This pre-publication price for the subscriber's edition is strictly for orders received before 15 August, 1996. Only the standard edition will be available after that time, priced at A\$215. Publication date is 1 September, 1996.

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June 1996

NEW LIBRARY CATALOGUE TO BE PUBLISHED SEPTEMBER 1st

Pre-publication orders are now being taken for The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria's Library Catalogue, to be published on 1 September.

Entitled *The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Library: A History and Catalogue*, this new work has been compiled by Geoff Kellow and Russell Turner, and will be a prestige publication produced in a limited edition of 150 copies, comprising a deluxe edition to a maximum of 75 copies for pre-publication sales, and a standard edition.

Orders for the pre-publication subscriber's edition will be accepted up to 15 August, and should be sent to the Publications Manager. The order form opposite may be used.

The Society's Library has been in existence for 103 years, having its genesis less than one year after the formation of the Society, when several members made gifts of various books and journals. Disaster struck on 21 November 1897 when the library, held at the Flinders Street meeting rooms, was lost in the "Great Flinders Street Fire". The losses included some runs of early Australian periodicals which have never been able to be replaced.

Since that time the history of the library has been one of continual growth, accelerated following the acquisition of the Avoca Street home and elegant bookcases for the housing of the library.

In the introduction to *The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Library: A History and Catalogue*, a detailed history of the library is presented.

The first Library Catalogue was published in 1906. The Society records indicate that in all there have been only five Library Catalogues published, the most recent being compiled by Ron

Lloyd-Smith in 1965, with a Supplement appearing in 1977. This latest catalogue is overdue, but has had to await the acquisition of the necessary computer technology needed for its compilation.

In 1977 there were some 2,500 books, monographs and auction catalogues. Today, this total has increased four-fold, there being just over 10,000 items in the new catalogue. This has been the result of a number of generous bequests and the Council's decision to provide the Library with more financial resources.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria library is certainly the largest philatelic library in Australia, and is believed to be the largest society library in the Southern Hemisphere. It has always been a general library holding works on all philatelic subjects but it has, not unnaturally, great strength in the Australasian area, and almost certainly has the finest holding of Australasian philatelic periodicals in existence.

The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Library: A History and Catalogue has been published not only to provide members with a detailed guide to one of their major assets, but also to provide all philately with a useful sourcebook on the hobby, particularly in the Australasian area.

The book has been produced in a double-column, A4 format and comprises approximately 450 pages. The library's holdings have been divided into six categories: Books, Priced Catalogues, Sale Catalogues, Exhibition Publications, Government Publications, and Periodicals. Full bibliographic entries are provided for each item, and a detailed subject index provides a cross-reference guide to the holdings. The book will be printed on archival-quality paper.

The deluxe edition, available to only pre-publication subscribers applying before 15 August, is sumptuously bound in burgundy buckram with two ribbons and headbands, embellished with gold lettering on the spine and cover, and has a matching slipcase. It will include a listing of original subscribers and will be individually numbered and signed by both the authors and the President of The Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. This deluxe edition will be limited to a maximum of 75 copies. The price to members of the Society is \$165 posted, or \$150 if picked up.

The standard edition will be similar to the deluxe edition but bound in royal blue, and will be without ribbons or slipcase. This will be the only version available after 1 September, and the price to members will be \$215. The advantages of pre-publication purchase are apparent. Interested members are advised to make early application since the work is being offered world-wide and the number of copies being printed cannot be varied.

AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIC PERIODICAL LITERATURE

By GEOFF KELLOW, F.R.P.S.L. and RUSSELL TURNER

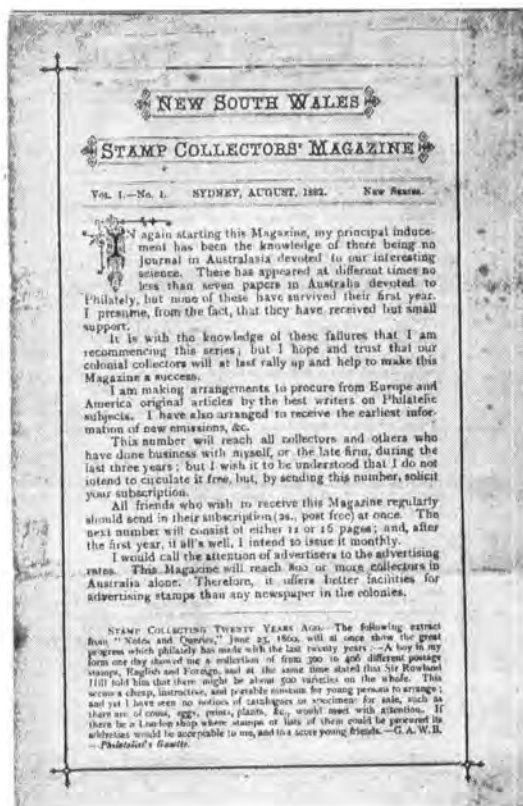
A long series of articles on this subject authored by the Society's then-Librarian, Ron Lloyd-Smith, appeared in *Philately from Australia* between June 1967 and June 1971. This provided a very comprehensive treatment of philatelic periodical publishing up to that time. The purpose of these notes is to update those original articles in terms of new information now available, largely in the form of new acquisitions in the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria Library. These have helped clear up several gaps in the information relating to the longevity of some of the journals, and one previously unrecorded journal has been discovered.

These notes only cover the period up to 1950. No attempt is made at this time to update the original articles insofar as new titles published subsequent to 1967 is concerned. This is a task which needs to be tackled, but presents probably even greater problems than establishing the details of long-dead journals. Up to 1966 Ron Lloyd-Smith recorded 73 periodical titles; there have probably been double that number of new titles in the intervening 30 years, most of these in the form of ephemeral society newsletters and bulletins.

In the notes which follow, the numbers given to the journals are those which Ron Lloyd-Smith allocated in his original articles, and references are given to his original notes on each of the journals discussed.

(1) *New South Wales Stamp Collectors' Magazine* (see June 1967, page 49). Australia's first journal appeared in November 1879, published by Edward Buckley, a Sydney stamp dealer. Three issues appeared at irregular intervals up to April 1881, then a fourth and final issue published by the successor in Buckley's business, Dawson A. Vindin, as Vol. 1, No. 1 of a "New Series" in August 1882. Lloyd-Smith knew of only the complete file in the Crawford Library at the British Library, and two single copies of Vol. 1, No. 1 of the First Series in New South Wales.

New South Wales Stamp Collectors' Magazine.
Vol. 1, No. 1 of the New Series, August 1882.



Subsequently, several more examples of Vol. 1, No. 1 have surfaced and are in private libraries in this country. The R.P.S.V. Library was fortunate in acquiring a complete file of the journal as a gift from Mr George Turner of Washington, D.C. in 1971. A second complete file is now in the Philas Library, Sydney.

Illustrated is the final issue, which contains the intriguing comment "There has appeared at different times no less than seven papers in Australia devoted to Philately, but none of these have survived the first year". This, if accurate, indicates that there are several unknown philatelic papers to be discovered. Even if "Australia" is taken to include New Zealand, only four previous journals have been recorded: *New South Wales Stamp Collectors' Magazine* (First Series), *The Australian Stamp Collectors' Journal* (Adelaide, 1879-80), *The New Zealand Stamp Collectors' Quarterly* (Auckland, 1880), and *The Philatelic Times of New Zealand* (Auckland, 1881).

Of *The Australian Stamp Collectors' Journal*, Lloyd-Smith's observation that the only examples that can be traced are the set in the Crawford Library remains true.

Dawson A. Vindin also produced *The New South Wales Philatelist* (1882-83) and the well-known *Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*. Two numbers of the former were published, and the R.P.S.V. Library now has Vol. 1, No. 2.



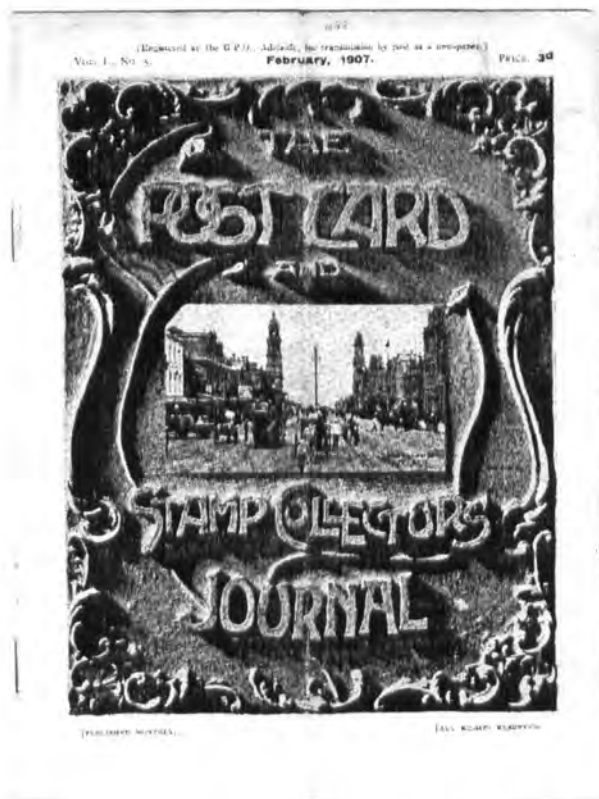
The Australian Stamp News. Vol. 1, No. 3 of the first Series September 1893.

(7) *The Australian Stamp News* (see March 1968, page 24). This large-format journal was published by Queensland stamp dealer J. Newell Bull, first at Brisbane, and later at Gympie and Kilkivan Junction. Lloyd-Smith seems to have found this journal scarce. Although the Crawford Library set remains the only known complete file, a few other partial files are now recorded. Until recently, the R.P.S.V. Library held no copies, but it has now acquired a partial file, formerly in the William R. Ricketts library. The First Series consisted of 14 issues in two volumes (July 1893-August 1894), of which the library now has Vol. 1, Nos. 3-12, and Vol. 2, No. 2. The Second Series began the numbering again at Vol. 2, No. 1, and eight issues appeared in 1898. The Society has Vol. 2, Nos. 1, 4 and 5.



The Post Card Stamp Collectors' Journal. Vol. 1, No. 2, October 1906.

(13) *The Post Card & Stamp Collectors' Journal* (December 1968, page 92). This appears to be a rare journal. Lloyd-Smith never saw any copies, his knowledge being based on the information in the Crawford Catalogue. Five issues appeared between September 1906 and February 1907, published by Messrs Robert A. Thompson & Co. in Adelaide. No issues have been recorded in Australian libraries or held in private hands in this country. The R.P.S.V. Library has now acquired two issues from the Ricketts library - Vol. 1, Nos. 2 and 5. This journal was the first Australian publication to have a truly pictorial cover, printed from half-tone illustrations. The contents concentrated on the pictorial postcard craze of the day rather than stamps, but contains interesting information on the work of local publishers, and also on the collotype production



The Post Card Stamp Collectors' Journal. Vol. 1, No. 5, February 1907.

method used for postcards. In the final issue new information from Mr George Blockey on the South Australian Departmental stamps was promised, but of course never eventuated.

(15a) *The Australian Philatelic Exchange*. This journal is not listed by Lloyd-Smith, and no reference has been found in any other sources. It falls outside the period covered by the Crawford Library, so is not listed in the catalogue of that collection. Three issues have been acquired by the R.P.S.V. Library from the William Ricketts library. These are Vol. 1, No. 3 (July 1914), Vol. 1, No. 4 (October 1914) and Vol. 2, No. 1 (January 1915). This indicates a quarterly magazine, and assuming regular issues Vol. 1, No. 1 would have appeared in January 1914. Volume 1 was serially numbered, finishing at page 36, and Vol. 2, No. 1 has 14 pages. Vol. 1, No. 4 and Vol. 2, No. 1 have coloured paper wrappers.

The Australian Philatelic Exchange was published by A.R. Hawke, of Booleroo Centre, South Australia. It is devoted almost entirely to the business of the Australian Philatelic Exchange, "devoted to postage stamp exchange only", and seems to have been the first publication of this sort in Australia. Journals of exchange and correspondence clubs were to proliferate in the late 1920s and 1930s.

(20) *Trahair's Monthly Circular* (December 1968, page 99). William T. Trahair took over the stamp dealing business of Fred Hagen in 1923, acquiring with it *The Australian Philatelist*, the





Trahair's Monthly Circular.
No. 1, October 1924.

journal consists of new issue notes and advertising, but the information on Australian Commonwealth stamps is of some value, as this is often quite specialised. There is for example, information on the dates of appearance of various watermarks, perforations, and imprints of the Kangaroo and George v stamps which is unavailable elsewhere.

There were 73 issues in total, the last being in December 1931. No. 71 of August 1931, was the last titled *Hagen's Bulletin*. The last two issues, Nos. 72 and 73 (October and December 1931), are titled *The Bulletin*, with Jones stating in No. 72 that "Under agreement I was allowed to trade under the old 'Hagen' name for a certain period which has now expired. Consequently, 'Hagen's Bulletin', as it has been known for the past six years, now becomes 'The Bulletin' . . .". In the same issue Jones adds that "To be candid, the 'Bulletin' does not bring sufficient business to warrant the time spent in preparing it. In fact, I may later on discontinue altogether and devote the time to more profitable matters. . .". No 73 contains no specific indication of the discontinuation of *The Bulletin*, but it was almost certainly the last issue.



Hagen's Bulletin.
No. 1, October 1925.

(51) *The Southern Cross Philatelic Trader* (June 1970, page 52). This trade journal, "published monthly for bona fide dealers only", was published by The Philatelic Publishers, first of East Kew, Vic., later Preston, Vic. The first issue was March 1946. Lloyd-Smith states that the last number was November 1948 (Vol. 3, No. 9), after which publication ceased. However, the R.P.S.V. Library now has a number of later issues, donated by Mark Fabbri, the latest being May 1950 (Vol. 5, No. 3). There is no indication in the editorial matter of this issue that it was the last, so that date the publication ceased is uncertain.

No mention has been made here of the numerous exchange club and correspondence club magazines which proliferated in the 1930s. Some were quite ephemeral, lasting only a few issues, while others had a long life. These contain a greater or lesser amount of philatelic content, to the extent that some are on the borderline as to whether they should be considered philatelic periodicals; Ron Lloyd-Smith purposely excluded a number from his original articles. The Society's holding of these is extensive, and a full listing will be found in the new Library Catalogue to be published on 1 September.

QUEENSLAND: THE SECOND TYPE CROWN OVER Q PAPER AND THE 1d DUTY STAMP OF 1878-79

By KEN SCUDDER

A recent acquisition turned out to be the original sheet of paper sent from the Lithographic Office of the Treasury, Brisbane, to De La Rue, in London, as a sample of the sheet size and of the watermark positioning required for the new electrotype postage stamps of 1879. This has been verified by reference to a copy of the sheet on film in the De La Rue records from the Australian Joint Copying Project held by the La Trobe Library, Melbourne.

On 18th December, 1878 the Queensland Government Office in London asked De La Rue to quote for 210 reams of postage stamp paper, to be supplied bound in books of 500 sheets, with "the Water Mark to be the same as that now used in postage stamps". Enclosed with the request, was a sheet of plain paper, upon which was printed a sheet of the 1d Duty stamp issued in the second half of that year.

This sheet, 15 $\frac{1}{8}$ " x 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", had written on the back, in red crayon, "Size of Sheet" underlined, and below, "Water Mark to fall in Centre of Stamps". On the front was a plain butt above the printed stamps, with, at the top, "Binding" inverted written in pencil, and at the top right, sideways looking to the left, "500" written twice, in red crayon, once on the butt and once on the top of the sheet. The vertical margins between the stamps were also lined in with pencil, but not the horizontal margins. The markings in pencil were most probably made at De La Rue's.

William Knight, the Government Engraver at the Lithographic Office had previously made the recommendation that the same kind of paper and watermark be used for both postage and duty stamps.

The new sheets were as requested in size and watermark layout, however, the watermarks were not an exact duplication of that then current. The Crown was different, and so, slightly, was the Q, giving what is now known as the Type II "Crown over Q" watermark. Also included in the watermarking was an enclosing single border line around the stamp watermarks, and at the top in the butt, in letters 11mm high and some 185mm across, was "QUEENSLAND STAMP DUTY".

As it happened, it was not until 1892 that this paper was used for duty stamps; although it may have been so used a few months earlier in the first printings of the Bradbury Wilkinson high value stamps on this paper, though the date of this event is uncertain. Other than that it was used solely for the printing of postage stamps to 1907, when it was phased out on the introduction of the Commonwealth paper.

This proof sheet of the 1d Duty stamp is printed in a very pale purple shade. It must have been a very early printing as the lack of make-ready is quite apparent, with many blank areas throughout, making it obvious that the plate was made up of "groups of four" electros. In fact, it is very surprising that this particular sheet was sent at all, and particularly so to De La Rue who were printers of high standing. It is very obvious that at that early stage in the introduction of printing from electrotype that Knight was having some considerable problems.

In view of the fact that perfectly good proof sheets of the 1d postage stamps were produced

in August 1878 it is hard to see why such a poor sample was handed over as late as December. One may only conclude that it was sent to the Queensland Government Office in London before August but that the request to De La Rue to quote for the new paper was delayed awaiting the Postmaster-General waiving his objection to the reduction in the sheet size from 240 set to 120 set. This he did on 26th August. However, this does not fully explain the delay to the 18th December 1878, or why this sheet was not replaced but, perhaps, this last fact was just an oversight.

Unfortunately, Knight is not the only one to have problems, as an examination of the composition of the "groups of four" on this sheet shows that this author is also in trouble. In the June 1994 issue of *Philately from Australia*, the article on this 1d Duty stamp read: "The final chapter relating to the type layout of the "group of four" of the working die used for the production of the electros for the plate, may now be written." This has now turned out to be not so as the top and bottom pairs need to be transposed.

Referring to the illustrations in the article; Types I and II shown there are at the top of the "group of four" and should be re-classified as Types III and IV. Likewise, the bottom two types should be at the top as Types I and II.

The Type descriptions, as given in *Philately from Australia*, Dec. 1993, remain the same. The only change is that now, Type A is Type IV; Type B is Type III; Type C is Type I; and Type D is Type II.

The problem arose simply because of the lack of stamps with marginal line watermarks. Two stamps with bottom line marginal watermarks classified as Type D's, having no distinguishing flaw, turned out to be two Type A's with overinked lower frames, thus hiding the main distinguishing features of this type, the break in the lower frame.

Perhaps one may be allowed to console oneself with the saying, "The person who never made an error never made anything". One can only try.

The date of issue of this 1d Duty stamp is uncertain. It is reputed to have been "Mid 1878", although the earliest, pen cancelled, dated copies seen and held by the author are 14th and 28th November 1878. We should be pleased to hear of any earlier dated copies.

POSTAL HISTORY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

CORRECTIONS AND SUPPLEMENT NO. 3

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

Alterations and additions are referred to the relevant page of *The Postal History of the Northern Territory, 1824-1988*:

Page 132. **Darwin.** After (e) add: Unframed one-line "LOOSE SHIP LETTERS" 37.5 x 3mm. Seen on an incoming postcard from Portugal to Sydney with Pt. Darwin squared circle OC 12/02.

- Page 138. **Darwin.** After (j) add: Double line oval with wavy inner line inscribed "THE POSTMASTER/*DARWIN*", 1 Jul 1941 in violet.
- Page 149. **Parap.** The statement ending the introductory notes "The name PARAPARAP does not appear on a datestamp" etc. is in error. The Type 5 c.d.s. was in fact inscribed "PARAPARAP". The date in (a) Type 5 should read 1918-1921,1925(?).
- Page 151. **Adelaide River.** An earlier Type 4 c.d.s. turned up in the Stanley Gibbons sale of 1 December 1995. The letters of the inscription are smaller than the letters in the Type 4 illustration in the handbook, with significant space between the inscription and the ring of the c.d.s. Date line letters are considerably larger. Approx. 30mm. - SE 24.
- Page 158. **Alice Springs.** (j) early date 12 OC 67 now seen.
- Page 167. **Arlunga.** (a) later dates May and 2 August 1913 now seen.
- Page 174. **Birdum.** Type 6. Extend reported date of use to 1945.
- Page 179. **Charlotte Waters.** Collectors are referred to the P. Collas article "The Rise and Fall of Charlotte Waters, N.T." in *Philately from Australia*, June 1975.
- Page 182. **Charlotte Waters.** Numeral cancel "252" was supposedly assigned to this post office early on, but by the 1890's at least it was at G.P.O. Adelaide for emergency use.
- Page 194. **Katherine.** Katherine Gorge was "handed over" to the Jarwan people about 1989.
- Page 200. **Maranboy.** In (b) and below the illustration the type should be Type 5, not Type 4.
- Page 220. **Timber Creek.** Post office closed 10 October 1994.
- Page 233. **Yuendumu.** Post office closed about February 1989 by unilateral decision of the local agency - "not worthwhile".
- Pages 274-277. **Naval Markings (Darwin).** This ship received minor damage from the Japanese air attack on Darwin in February 1942. The ship was immobilised for a short period. The vessel remained at Darwin until early 1943. On a cover posted by an officer on the *Platypus* "H.M.A.S./SHIPS" was struck in blue and the Darwin boxed "PAQUEBOT" struck across the stamp. On the reverse is the officer's name with "Platypus" below. The cover was marked airmail, addressed to Minlaton, S.A. The current Minlaton c.d.s. was struck on the reverse, upper left, 6 JA 42.
- Page 300. **Official stamps used in the Northern Territory.** Add under "PUNCTURED O.S.":

1906	1d SA	Katherine
1914	1d Kangaroo	Brock's Creek
1931	2d George V	Pine Creek
	3d George V	Pine Creek
	5d George V	Pine Creek

Add under "OVERPRINTED O.S.":

1932	6d Kangaroo	Pine Creek
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Page 301. Add to "Code for the Post Offices":

K Katherine

Acknowledgments: Some of the information in this supplement is derived from Premier Postmark Auctions, Sale No. 12, 6 June 1995. The additions to the Official stamp listing are from

the Christie's Taylor/Collas sale catalogue of 26 October 1995. The Darwin "LOOSE SHIP LETTER" marking is from the Macray Watson sale catalogue of 3 March 1995. The new Adelaide River c.d.s. appeared in the Stanley Gibbons sale catalogue of 1 December 1995.

THE 4½d KING GEORGE V DIE II

By GEOFF KELLOW, F.R.P.S.L.

The issue of this famous stamp in collectors' sets in the 1930's and 1940's is well-known. However, little information has ever come to light on the circumstances of this issue, or of the quantity of stamps involved. This situation can now be corrected, as a series of letters between the Post Office and the Note Printing Branch has been located. This correspondence is in Reserve Bank of Australia file NP-a4-13, which deals for the main part with the postal rates increase from 1½d to 2d in 1930 and arrangements made for the provision of the necessary stamps, including the surcharges on both adhesive stamps and postal stationery.

On 19 January 1931 Mr A.J. Christie, on behalf of the Director-General of the Post Office (H.P. Brown), wrote to the Stamp Printer, John Ash:

It has been brought to the notice of this Department that copies of 4½d stamps included in sets of specimen stamps are of a philatelic variety which has not previously been on issue. It would appear that the 4½d stamp on sale prior to the recent alteration of the postal rates was printed from what is known to philatelists as Die I while those included in sets are apparently printed from Die II.

2. It is not the practice of this Department to differentiate between printings. As long as a stamp is a standard copy and meets the ordinary requirements of postage this office is not concerned. In this case, however, it seems that possibly speculation will arise amongst philatelists in connection with the copies included in sets as these stamps will be comparatively rare.

3. When the 4½d stamp was rendered obsolete by the altered postal rates 200 sheets were obtained from you for specimen purposes. It would seem that these stamps were printed Die II.

4. It would be appreciated if you would furnish your comments on this matter and particularly regarding the last printing of the 4½d stamp made by you.

The matter was passed to the Storekeeper at the Note Printing Branch, Mr Parker, for investigation, who reported as follows on 22 January:

In reference to the attached memo, it is not possible to state whether the 200 sheets issued to the Central P.M.G.'s were from the old or the new print, without checking the stock in the Strongroom, but, from the information I have at hand, it would appear that the 200 were from the new print.

The number printed from new plates	20,000	
Spoils	16	
Total taken into Stock	19,984	
Purported to be on hand:		
New print in Strongroom	13,748	
File Copy	1	
Overprinted 5d	6,035	19,784
Balance not accounted for		200

These figures are taken from my stock taking book, and I would not vouch that the 13,748 are all in the new print in stock, but as far as I can recollect this is correct.

If required, I will have the stock of 4½d checked tomorrow morning when we are in the strongroom.

A proper check of the stock was requested, and Parker wrote a further report on 31 January:

The following 4½d stamps are held in stock:-

14,751 sheets, 120 on, made up as follows -

New Print	12,764	sheets	Ord.	
	984		O.S.	13,748 sheets
Old Print				1,003 sheets
			Total	<u>14,751 sheets</u>

The total print of 4½d stamps from the new plates was 20,000 sheets, 120 on -

Taken into stock	19,984 sheets
Spoils	16 sheets
	<u>20,000 sheets</u>

Of the number taken into stock, 200 were issued to the Postmaster General's Department, 6,035 for overprinting, and 1 file copy, leaving a balance of 13,748 sheets, including the 984 sheets of O.S. stamps.

Ash replied to the Director-General on 2 February:

Referring to your letter of 19th January 1931, we desire to advise that our records show that 20,000 sheets of the 4½d stamp were printed from the new plates. In view, however, of the revision in the postage rates, none of these stamps was issued - except the 200 sheets referred to by you as having been supplied to your office.

This ends the correspondence. Of the total printing of 20,000 sheets of the 4½d Die II, only 200 sheets (= 24,000 stamps) were supplied to P.M.G. Central Office for making up into collectors' sets. As stated in the current edition of the *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue*, the stamp was initially withdrawn from the sets following its discovery, but was subsequently re-included from late in 1932, probably to prevent the speculation which was referred to in the Post Office's initial enquiry. The stamp remained in the collectors' sets until 1944, when all obsolete stamps were withdrawn. It is not known whether all 24,000 stamps were sold in these sets, or whether there was a sizeable remainder destroyed following this withdrawal. In any case, the writer's estimate of "several thousand" stamps sold in these sets, given in the *A.C.S.C.*, probably needs to be revised upwards. The current Australia Post archival holding of this stamp (all in mint condition) is, contrary to some rumours, quite small.

The existence of the 4½d Die II stamp punctured OS has not been previously recorded. It was standard practice to convert sheets considered unsuitable for public consumption for any reason to OS stamps, without reference to the current stock of such stamps. None, of course, were ever issued. The remaining stock of 13,748 sheets of Die II stamps at the Note Printing Branch would have been subsequently destroyed, although the record of this has yet to be found.

It should also be pointed out that this correspondence also reveals the quantity printed of the "FIVE PENCE" on 4½d surcharge. This is given in the *A.C.S.C.* as 250,000 stamps, on the basis of a contemporary *Australian Stamp Monthly* report. The actual figure, as quoted above, is 6,035 sheets (= 724,200 stamps).

THE DE LA RUE CORRESPONDENCE BOOKS

Compiled by GEOFF KELLOW, F.R.P.S.L.

(continued from March 1996, page 27)

VII. NEW ZEALAND

The New Zealand Correspondence Books are extensive, beginning in 1867, and contain a vast amount of information of considerable philatelic importance of which little use has yet been made. It should be noted that the De La Rue records have not been used, up to this time, in the compilation of the series of *New Zealand* handbooks published by The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

The first work performed by De La Rue for the New Zealand Government was in 1867 when an order was received for "NZ" watermarked paper for Stamp Duty adhesives, and printing inks. The first postage stamp paper was ordered late in 1871, and the following year the order arrived for the manufacture of postage stamp plates (the 1d-1/- "First Sidefaces"). Subsequently, the Colony preferred locally manufactured plates, and the only other plates manufactured by De La Rue prior to 1920 were for postal orders (these were also printed in London). The New Zealand stamp papers have been well-studied, and as collectors will know, the De La Rue paper contract was terminated in 1923 in favour of Jones.

In 1919 De La Rue secured the contract to produce the 1920 Victory issue, and these stamps were the subject of considerable correspondence. The firm performed no work for New Zealand between 1923 and 1932, but in the latter year a request was received for a tender for a proposed pictorial issue. The contract was secured by De La Rue, but such were the trials and tribulations in securing approval for the engraved dies, and especially in obtaining a suitable supply of paper, that the stamps were not issued until 1935. The correspondence on these stamps is voluminous, covering not only the difficulties of initial production, but also the wartime period when production was disrupted by the bombing of De La Rue's printing works. During this period De La Rue also produced the 1934 Health stamp. A number of aspects of this correspondence have been studied by Allan Berry and published in *The Kiwi*, journal of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain.

The New Zealand Correspondence Books also contain the letters relative to the firm's work for Western Samoa; these have been separated and will be dealt with in a separate instalment.

The correspondence is, up to 1905, between De La Rue and the Agent-General for New Zealand in London (AG). From 1907 the Office of the High Commissioner for New Zealand (HC) had been established. The Crown Agents (CA) are not involved, except in 1872 when they give permission for the use of their Queen's head die for the postage stamp dies. A small group of letters in the Crown Agents Correspondence Book are, with one exception, non-philatelic in nature. From 1933, the Post Office Stores Department (POSD) become intimately involved in the development of the Pictorial issue, being used by the High Commissioner for approval of dies

and plates. There is also a number of letters between De La Rue and Wiggins, Teape & Co. (WT), the paper supplier.

Non-philatelic work performed by De La Rue for the New Zealand Government involved bond and debenture plates and paper, and Railway Tickets.

- 5.3.1867 *From AG* - tender requested for 100 reams of Stamp Duty paper and the following quantities of fugitive ink:
- | | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 25 lbs. mauve | 20 lbs. red |
| 20 lbs. green | 20 lbs. yellow |
| 20 lbs. blue | 10 lbs. flake white |
| 20 lbs. brown | |
- 13.3.1867 *From DLR* - re 5.3.1867, tender enclosed. Varnish will also be required for use with fugitive inks.
- 25.3.1867 *From AG* - advising the mail steamer leaves on 2 April.
- 8.3.1867 *From AG* - advising with regret that the Agent-General cannot pay a visit tomorrow.
- 12.3.1867 *From AG* - asking for a reply to the letter of 5.3.1867.
- 15.3.1867 *From AG* - re 13.3.1867, tender accepted. If the old "NZ" moulds are suitable for the new paper, then these may be used.
- 18.3.1867 *From DLR* - re 15.3.1867, acknowledged. Please send specimen sheet of paper.
- 19.3.1867 *From AG* - re 18.3.1867, specimen sheet enclosed.
- 20.3.1867 *Telegram from R.D. Turner to DLR* - "Is the NZ intended to read from left to right commencing from the wide margin."
- 22.3.1867 *From R.D. Turner to DLR* - sheets of the 4d and 10d New South Wales paper are enclosed. The NZ moulds have arrived.
- 27.3.1867 *From DLR* - 10 reams of Stamp Duty paper will be ready for despatch via Panama on 1 April. The paper is specially prepared for use with the mauve fugitive ink.
- 9.4.1867 *From DLR* - the letters "NZ" and inscriptions have been removed from the watermark moulds and destroyed.
- 30.3.1867 *DLR memo* - shipped per R.M.S.P. Co. via Panama - 10 reams Stamp Duty paper and a portion of the order for fugitive ink.
- 3.5.1867 *From Chafford Mills to DLR* - the sheet enclosed is the exact size of the drawing sent to us. 60 reams more have now been made.
- 16.5.1867 *From DLR* - shipping note per "Asterope". 105 reams of Stamp Duty paper and remaining portion of fugitive inks.
- 8.9.1871 *From AG* - request for tender for 100 reams of Stamp Duty paper.
- 11.9.1871 *From DLR* - re 8.9.1871, tender enclosed.
- 12.9.1871 *From AG* - re 11.9.1871, tender accepted.
- 12.9.1871 *From DLR* - re 12.9.1871, acknowledged.
- 28.9.1871 *From DLR* - enclosing invoice for 20 reams of Stamp Duty paper. The delay has been caused by transit of the paper between the mill and London.
- 1.11.1871 *From AG* - the invoice for the second portion of the Stamp Duty paper shows 2 reams in excess. Please explain.
- 2.11.1871 *From DLR* - re 1.11.1871, it is impossible to exactly calculate spoilage in manufacture. A variation of 10% is accepted in the trade.
- 15.2.1872 *From AG* - the first 20 reams of the Stamp Duty paper order of September 1871 was lost in the wreck of the S.S. "Rangoon" and needs to be replaced.

- 16.2.1872 *From DLR* - re 15.2.1872, acknowledged. The paper is machine-made and it is not possible to undertake less than 40-50 reams.
- 17.2.1872 *From AG* - re 16.2.1872, acknowledged. The Agent-General will reply when he returns to town.
- 26.2.1872 *From AG* - re 16.2.1872, the facture of 40-50 reams is approved.
- 28.2.1872 *From DLR* - re 26.2.1872, acknowledged.
- 22.3.1872 *From DLR* - the Stamp Duty paper is ready for shipment.
- 23.3.1872 *From AG* - re 22.3.1872, acknowledged.
- 11.4.1872 *From DLR* - enclosing voucher form for Stamp Duty paper.
- 7.12.1871 *From Colonial Secretary, Wellington to AG* - the current postage stamp plates are now worn. Please ascertain if the original dies in your [AG] possession can be used to prepare electrotypes, and if so organise for 250 to be sent of 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 1/- values. If the dies are unsuitable a new design similar to that attached [2c Nova Scotia] is required. If it is decided to continue to use intaglio printing new 1d, 2d and 6d plates are required.
Also required for use with electrotypes will be the following printing inks:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 21 lbs. bright red | 15 lbs. light blue |
| 21 lbs. light chocolate-brown | 15 lbs. crimson-lake |
| 15 lbs. mauve | 9 lbs. light green |
- Also a supply of 100 reams of postage stamp paper showing a "Star" watermark.
- 23.7.1872 *From DLR* - re 16.7.1872 (missing - but apparently covering letter *From AG* enclosing letter of 7.12.1871, we suggest the use of electrotypes, for which a tender enclosed. The present dies cannot be adapted for this. (A long letter outlines the advantages of surface-printing).
- 1.8.1872 *From AG* - re 23.7.1872, tender accepted for the manufacture of 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 1/- postage stamp plates, 240-on, and for a dandy roll for postage stamp paper. The Crown Agents have been asked for the use of the Queen's Head die.
- 1.8.1872 *From AG to CA* - asking for the use of the Queen's Head die, and for Crown Agents to superintend the manufacture of the dies and plates.
- 2.8.1872 *From CA to AG* - use of Queen's Head die is granted, and it is agreed to superintend manufacture of the dies and plates.
- 6.8.1872 *From AG* - enclosing letters of 1.8.1872 and 2.8.1872.
- 3.12.1872 *From AG* - advising that the postage stamps will be printed in New Zealand. A tender is requested for:
100 reams of postage stamp paper
printing press
printing inks -
- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 21 lbs. bright red | 15 lbs. light blue |
| 21 lbs. light chocolate-brown | 15 lbs. crimson-lake |
| 15 lbs. mauve | 9 lbs. light green |
- 6.12.1872 *From DLR* - re 3.12.1872, asking what equipment the Government Printing Office has for surface-printing, and suggesting printing five reams of stamps from each plate in England.
- 13.1.1873 *From AG* - re 6.12.1872, please add tenders for three Harrold & Sons expanding rollers, and six roller sticks for these. A letter has been sent to the Colony concerning printing a supply of the stamps here.
- 16.1.1873 *From DLR* - re 3.12.1873 and 13.1.1873, tenders enclosed.
- 27.1.1873 *From AG* - re 16.1.1873, tenders not accepted
- 3.2.1873 *From AG* - please forward the dandy roll that was made in expectation of receiving the order to this office. If suitable, it will be accepted.
- 5.2.1873 *From AG* - re 3.2.1873, the dandy roll is accepted.
- 17.2.1873 *From AG* - our letter of 27.1.1873 is withdrawn, and your tenders are accepted.
- 19.2.1873 *From DLR* - re 17.2.1873, acknowledged.
- 28.1.1873 *From DLR* - asking Agent-General to call concerning the postage stamp affair.
- 31.1.1873 *From AG* - re 28.1.1873, the Agent-General is too busy to call.

- 4.2.1873 *From DLR* - re 31.1.1873, acknowledged. An interview with the Agent-General is of urgent importance. If our tender for paper is declined, we will not assist our competition by making the dandy roll.
- 5.2.1873 *From AG* - re 4.2.1873, an interview can be arranged at my private residence.
- 27.2.1873 *From J.H. Morrison (Shipping Agents) to DLR* - 4 March is the latest date for shipping to New Zealand per "Jubilee". Can the goods be ready by then?
- 11.2.1873 *From AG* - following our interview, I am sure some amicable agreement should be possible.
- 11.2.1873 *From AG* - re 11.2.1873, I have seen Mr. Waterlow and he has agreed to retire his offer. The order will be given to you.
- 28.3.1873 *From DLR* - the whole order is now ready. Please ask the Crown Agents to hand over the printing plates and paper for packing. We suggest that the dies be left in the custody of the Crown Agents, since they could not be used in New Zealand. Several sheets of proofs have been printed from the plates, including one set on enamelled card. We would like to retain one set for our records.
- 8.4.1873 *From AG* - please ship the goods without delay.
- 26.4.1873 *DLR internal memo (Mr. W.W. De La Rue)* - owing to the difficulty of securing the order, I thought it best to make it as complicated as possible, and so sent chemically prepared paper.
- 24.4.1873 *From DLR* - asking to whom the goods are to be sent.
- 28.4.1873 *From DLR* - enclosing invoices. Only 50 reams of postage stamp paper is yet ready. The cases contain the following proof sheets:
- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| 5 x 1d Imitation Vermilion | 5 x 4d Carmine |
| 5 x 1d A Red | 5 x 6d Brown |
| 5 x 2d Blue | 5 x 1/- Green |
| 5 x 3d Tyrian Plum | |
- Imitation Vermilion is a difficult ink to work with. We suggest using the "A Red" ink of which a sample is enclosed. Also included in the case are the overlay sheets. Instructions are enclosed for the use of the printing plates and inks.
- 20.10.1874 *From DLR* - re 20.10.1874, the postage stamp paper is in production. The price must be increased for the additional size.
- 20.10.1874 *From AG* - enclosing letters of 29.7.1874 and 30.7.1874.
- 30.7.1874 *From Colonial Secretary, Wellington to AG* - enclosing memo of 29.7.1874 from Government Printer.
- 29.7.1874 *From Government Printer to Colonial Secretary* - 100 reams of postage stamp paper is needed. More size is needed than in the last supply.
- 22.10.1874 *From AG* - re 20.10.1874, new price for postage stamp paper is accepted.
- 4.11.1874 *From DLR* - re 20.10.1874, we much regret the difficulty experienced with the postage stamp paper. It is identical to that supplied to Great Britain, India and the Colonies, and we can only assume that the climate has had an effect. The paper supplied was given a greenish hue by a chemical process, but in future it will be kept white.
- 11.11.1874 *From DLR* - re 22.10.1874, please write to Crown Agents and ask them to forward the dandy roll.
- 11.12.1874 *From AG* - enclosing order for 100,000 sheets of Stamp Duty paper, bound in books of 100.
- 14.12.1874 *From DLR* - re 11.12.1874, 20 reams of paper is needed as soon as possible.
- 15.12.1874 *From DLR* - re 11.12.1874, acknowledged.
- 7.1.1885 *From AG* - P. & O. informs us that the 20 reams of Stamp Duty paper will need to be received by Tuesday next.
- 8.1.1875 *From DLR* - re 7.1.1875, owing to the delay caused by the Christmas break, and in getting the dandy roll, the paper cannot be ready.
- 26.2.1875 *From AG* - enclosing order for 40 lbs. Tyrian purple and 30 lbs. Crimson lake printing inks.
- 3.4.1875 *From DLR* - advising that a sheet of Stamp Duty paper has been mislaid, but has most likely been bound into one of the books and shipped to the Colony.

- 18.11.1875 *From Stamp Printing Department, Wellington to DLR* - an order is to be sent to you for postage stamp paper. Some sheets in the last batch were insufficiently sized and the gum showed through. Also enquiring as to the method used to perforate British stamps.
- 21.2.1876 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 3.1876 *From AG* - asking for the New Zealand postage dies to be delivered.
- 3.5.1876 *From Chafford Mills to DLR* - advising that an alteration to the dandy roll to enable the inclusion of a butt is possible.
- 5.5.1876 *Memo from R.D. Turner to DLR* - illustrating the alteration to the dandy roll, and its cost.
- 8.5.1876 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 10,000 sheets of postage stamp paper.
- 9.5.1876 *From Chafford Mills to DLR* - 110 (?reams) of New Zealand postage stamp paper is in stock.
- 11.5.1876 *From DLR* - re 8.5.1876, acknowledged. A margin will need to be added to permit binding into books.
- 16.5.1876 *From AG* - re 11.5.1876, the alteration to the dandy roll is approved.
- 9.6.1876 *From DLR* - enclosing invoice for 52 reams of postage stamp paper. The colour of the paper has been improved by the use of a new preparation, and the sheets numbered at top right for greater convenience.
- 17.10.1876 *From DLR* - asking for authority to destroy faulty paper.
- 28.10.1876 *From AG* - re 17.10.1876, the Crown Agents have been informed.
- 20.11.1876 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 50 reams of postcard paper.
- 9.1.1877 *From DLR* - re 6.1.1877, samples of postcard paper enclosed. If the paper proves to be a little rough it can be improved by glazing.
- 6.1.1877 *From AG* - asking for a sample of postcard paper as supplied for the order of 20.11.1876.
- 1.6.1877 *From DLR* - we have seen the ½d newspaper stamp, the die of which was made in Melbourne. We know you hold an order for a 1d Receipt die, but do not feel justified in giving the order to us in view of the difference in cost. A tender is enclosed, listing the advantages in quality over the Melbourne die.
- 1.6.1877 *DLR internal memo* - reiterating the letter of 1.6.1877.
- 9.6.1877 *From AG* - re 1.6.1877, the order is for a die similar to the British 1d Inland Revenue stamp. The die you suggest does not meet these conditions, and a lesser offer by another firm has been accepted.
- 12.6.1878 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 100 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 16.9.1878 *From AG* - please forward postage stamp paper for shipment.
- 1.11.1878 *From AG* - enclosing order for 100 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 18.2.1879 *From AG* - request for tender for 1/- Law Courts die.
- 11.5.1879 *From DLR* - enclosing invoice for the last consignments (12.6.1878 and 1.11.1878) of postage stamp paper.
- 29.11.1879 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 1.12.1879 *From DLR* - re 29.11.1879, acknowledged.
- 16.3.1880 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 30 lbs. crimson-lake and 20 lbs. Tyrian purple printing inks, and 2 gallons of varnish.
- 13.4.1881 *From AG* - enclosing an order for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 14.4.1881 *From DLR* - re 13.4.1881, acknowledged.
- 1.10.1881 *From AG* - tender requested for 100 reams of postcard paper.
- 5.10.1881 *From DLR* - re 1.10.1881, tender enclosed.
- 8.10.1881 *From AG* - re 5.10.1881, tender accepted.
- 23.12.1881 *From AG* - advising that four books of postage stamp paper have been found to contain sheets with blemishes.
- 23.12.1881 *From DLR* - re 23.12.1881, the paper was retrée charged at a reduced rate.

- 12.5.1882 *From DLR* - advising of the availability of a new type of obliterating ink with advantages over other types (British stamps cancelled B01 attached).
- 4.7.1882 *From AG* - enclosing order for 400 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 5.7.1882 *From DLR* - re 4.7.1882, acknowledged.
- 12.8.1882 *From Stamp Printing Office, Wellington to DLR* - the last 200 reams of postage stamp paper supplied showed laid lines and presented some difficulty in printing. also, the printing ink supplied by you a few years ago has been found to be unusable.
- 16.8.1883 *From AG* - enclosing letters of 16.6.1883 and 18.6.1883.
- 16.6.1883 *From Colonial Secretary, Wellington to AG* - the last two supplies of postage stamp paper have been much inferior to previous ones.
- 18.6.1883 *From Colonial Secretary, Wellington to AG* - repeating information of 16.6.1883.
- 21.8.1883 *From DLR* - re 16.8.1883, we much regret the complaints about the postage stamp paper. Particular care will be taken in future.
- 4.9.1883 *From AG* - enclosing order for 200 reams of postcard paper.
- 4.1.1884 *From AG* - enclosing order for 400 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 26.8.1884 *From DLR* - corrected invoice for postcard paper enclosed.
- 29.1.1885 *From AG* - it is not possible to say whether the retrée paper will be accepted or not. It may be sent on approval if you wish.
- 29.8.1883 *From AG to Mr. Bartlett(?CA)* - thanking him for his comments on the postage stamp paper, and asking that in future no inferior paper be passed.
- 4.2.1885 *From DLR* - re 29.1.1885, enclosing the last invoice for postage stamp paper per order of 4.1.1884. 15 reams of retrée paper will also be sent. Refusal of the retrée paper would incur a serious loss to us. It is suggested that a standing order be placed for postage stamp paper.
- 5.8.1885 *From DLR* - re 29.1.1885 and 4.2.1885, enquiring whether authority has been received to purchase retrée paper.
- 7.8.1885 *From AG* - re 5.8.1885, no authority for purchase of retrée paper has been received as yet.
- 1.9.1885 *From AG* - instructions have now been received to pay for retrée paper, but in future no such paper will be accepted. A standing order is placed for 100 reams of postage stamp paper every four months, the first shipment to be within three months of 14.7.1885.
- 17.3.1886 *From DLR to CA* - the New Zealand postage dandy roll requires repairs, and permission is required for the roll to be forwarded. (This letter is in the Crown Agents Correspondence Book).
- 8.6.1887 *From AG* - asking for standing order for postage stamp paper to be altered to 100 reams every six months.
- 9.6.1887 *From DLR* - re 8.6.1887, acknowledged. The paper due on 12 June is ready and will be delivered; the next delivery will then be 12 December.
- 21.12.1887 *From AG* - enclosing memo of 6.12.1887.
- 6.12.1887 *From Inspector for Crown Agents to AG* - to avoid confusion each annual supply of postage stamp paper will in future be numbered 1-100,000.
- 22.12.1887 *From DLR* - re 6.12.1887, the numbering can be added without additional charge.
- 6.4.1888 *From AG* - re 6.12.1887 and 22.12.1887, the Stamp Department does not want the sheets to be numbered.
- 18.4.1888 *From AG* - Requesting that the standing order for postage stamp paper be suspended until further notice.
- 19.4.1888 *From DLR* - re 18.4.1888, acknowledged. 137 reams are in stock and we request permission to deliver these.
- 20.4.1888 *From AG* - re 19.4.1888, authorisation is given for 100 reams to be shipped in June, and 37 reams in September.

- 28.7.1888 *From AG* - re 19.4.1888, asking whether postage stamp paper has been delivered.
- 27.8.1888 *From AG* - request for tender for 5cwt. gum arabic and 5cwt. dextrine.
- 5.9.1888 *From AG* - re 30.8.1888 (missing, apparently De La Rue's tender for order of 27.8.1888), tender accepted.
- 29.7.1890 *From AG* - request for tender for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 1.8.1890 *From AG* - re 31.7.1890 (missing, apparently De La Rue's tender for order of 29.7.1890), tender accepted.
- 6.8.1890 *From DLR* - re 1.8.1890, the last postage stamp paper supplied was 37 reams numbered 1-18,500. There is in stock three reams commencing 18,501, and it is suggested that the present order be numbered from there. Is production to be controlled by the Crown Agents as previously?
- 9.8.1890 *From AG* - re 6.8.1890, suggestion accepted, and agreed Crown Agents will supervise production.
- 4.9.1890 *From AG* - asking whether any postage stamp paper is ready for shipment.
- 20.11.1890 *From DLR* - requesting permission to deliver a small excess quantity of postage stamp paper.
- 21.11.1890 *From AG* - re 20.11.1890, excess paper accepted.
- 4.12.1890 *From AG* - request for tender for 100 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 5.12.1890 *From DLR* - re 4.12.1890, tender enclosed.
- 8.12.1890 *From AG* - re 5.12.1890, tender accepted. The excess paper (per letter of 20.11.1890) can be included as part of this order.
- 3.4.1891 *From AG* - asking when postage stamp paper will be ready.
- 24.4.1891 *From DLR* - requesting permission to deliver a few excess reams with the postage stamp paper order of 8.12.1890.
- 27.4.1891 *From AG* - re 24.4.1891, excess paper accepted.
- 13.7.1891 *From AG* - request for tender for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 18.7.1891 *From AG* - re 17.7.1891 (missing, apparently De La Rue's tender for order of 13.7.1891), tender accepted. The paper is urgently required.
- 27.8.1891 *From AG* - a request has been received from the Colony that the edges of the postage stamp paper be trimmed properly after binding.
- 2.9.1891 *From DLR* - re 27.8.1891, acknowledged.
- 8.10.1891 *From AG* - asking when postage stamp paper will be ready.
- 11.11.1891 *From DLR* - asking for permission to change the position of the number on the butt of the sheets of postage stamp paper.
- 12.11.1891 *From AG* - re 11.11.1891, change in position of number agreed to.
- 17.12.1891 *From AG* - request for tender for 75 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 13.12.1891 *From AG* - re tender form of 17.12.1891, 75 reams of postage stamp paper is now required every three months.
- 22.12.1891 *From AG* - re 18.12.1891 (missing, apparently De La Rues tender for order of 17.12.1891), tender accepted.
- 12.3.1892 *From AG* - re 11.11.1891, the change of position of the number on the butt of the postage stamp paper sheets is approved by the Colony.
- 3.5.1892 *From AG* - enquiring when the second instalment of 75 reams of postage stamp paper will be shipped; the supply in the Colony is low.
- 4.5.1892 *From DLR* - re 3.5.1892, the next delivery is not due until 18 July, but we will try to have it ready by the end of the month. It would be helpful to have the dates on which delivery of the paper is required.
- 5.5.1892 *From AG* - re 4.5.1892, acknowledged. Pending further instructions, increase the quarterly supply of postage stamp paper to 100 reams.
- 6.5.1892 *From DLR* - re 5.5.1892, acknowledged.

- 26.8.1892 *From AG* - the Government Printer reports that recent postage stamp paper has been of inferior quality and unequal thickness.
- 29.8.1892 *From DLR* - re 26.8.1892, the paper is identical to that supplied by us to all other Governments. We trust that the next consignment will be of better quality.
- 11.10.1892 *From Mr. A.T. Bate, Wellington to DLR* - the New Zealand Government has asked me to compile a history of its postage stamps. Has your firm printed any?
- 29.11.1892 *From DLR to Mr A.T. Bate* - re 11.10.1892, printing plates only for 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 6d and 1/- values were supplied on 28.4.1873.
- 13.1.1893 *From A.T. Bate to DLR* - re 29.11.1892, acknowledged.
- 16.1.1893 *From AG* - enquiring when the next consignment of postage stamp paper will be ready for shipment.
- 10.4.1893 *From AG* - request for tender for printing inks:
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 25 lbs. crimson-lake | 5 lbs. dark green |
| 25 lbs. dark blue | 5 lbs. dark blue |
| 5 lbs. brown | 2 lbs. yellow |
| 25 lbs. mauve | 1 quart varnish |
- 11.4.1893 *From AG* - enclosing order for 100 reams of postage stamp paper exclusive of the standing order, to replace that ex S.S. "Ruahine" which caught fire.
- 12.4.1893 *From DLR* - re 11.4.1893, acknowledged.
- 17.4.1893 *From AG* - re 13.4.1893 (missing, apparently De La Rue's tender for order of 10.4.1893), tender accepted.
- 11.5.1893 *From AG* - enclosing specimen sheet and requisition for dandy roll for postal note paper.
- 27.5.1893 *From DLR* - re 11.5.1893, it would be very costly to have paper for each denomination, and a dandy roll with moveable parts is impossible. Enclosed are quotations for separate papers for each denomination, and a single paper.
- 7.6.1893 *From DLR* - re 27.5.1893, the sample bank note paper enclosed is of suitable quality. Tender enclosed for production of dandy roll and paper.
- 8.6.1893 *From AG* - re 27.5.1893 and 7.6.1893, please supply:
1. dandy roll - design B
 2. 50 books of 500 sheets each, paper to be of bank note quality type C.
- 9.6.1893 *From DLR* - re 8.6.1893, tender enclosed, with samples for colour.
- 12.6.1893 *From AG* - re 9.6.1893, tender accepted. Colour to be as sample 2.
- 22.8.1894 *From AG* - asking for representative to call to discuss the postal note paper.
- 24.8.1894 *From AG* - re yesterday's interview, please supply £5 postal note, as per rough sketch. The paper supplied last year was not of good enough quality, and better paper is wanted for the £5. The paper is to have a bluish tint and be watermarked:
- NEW ZEALAND
FIVE POUNDS
POSTAL NOTE
- 25.8.1894 *From AG* - re 24.8.1894, a book of photographs is enclosed for guidance in engraving the £5 postal note.
- 27.8.1894 *From AG* - re 25.8.1894, "Birds of New Zealand" is enclosed for guidance in engraving the £5 postal note.
- 30.8.1894 *From AG* - slides of plants are forwarded for guidance in engraving the £5 postal note.
- 4.9.1894 *From AG* - to distinguish the £1 and £5 postal notes, a prefix letter A will be used for the £5. The notes are to be numbered 000,000 to 050,000, and made up in books of 100.
- 27.9.1894 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for engraving and printing the £5 postal note, and for dandy roll for same. Designs are enclosed for:
- front of £5 postal note
 - back of £5 postal note
 - overprint on back of £5 postal note

overprint on front of £5 postal note
counterfoil for £5 postal note
watermark for £5 postal note

A specimen of paper is also enclosed, together with the materials supplied for design. An engraved design is recommended.

- 28.9.1894 *From AG* - re 27.9.1894, designs approved. The paper is to have an opaque watermark.
- 28.9.1894 *From DLR* - re 28.9.1894, acknowledged.
- 27.11.1894 *From AG* - asking when the £5 postal note will be ready.
- 28.11.1894 *From DLR* - re 27.11.1894, the £5 postal notes will be ready by the middle of February next.
- 24.12.1894 *From DLR* - enclosing rough proofs of front and back of the £5 postal note.
- 8.2.1895 *From AG* - re 7.2.1895(missing), proofs of £5 postal note received. It is desirable to send a portion of the order not later than 2 March.
- 20.2.1895 *From AG* to CA - the surplus £5 postal note paper is to be used to print not more than 6,000 extra postal notes, numbered A050,001 on.
- 11.2.1895 *From DLR* - re 8.2.1895, acknowledged. Delivery cannot be guaranteed.
- 10.4.1895 *From AG* - enclosing order for 100 reams of postage stamp paper, exclusive of the standing order.
- 11.4.1895 *From DLR* - re 10.4.1895, tender enclosed.
- 17.4.1895 *From AG* - re 11.4.1895, tender accepted.
- 17.4.1895 *From AG* - the postage stamp paper is to be numbered 000,000 on.
- 29.4.1895 *From DLR* - the surplus of £5 postal notes is 8,900. Permission is requested to deliver the whole quantity.
- 29.5.1895 *From AG* - 28,900 £5 postal notes have been received and forwarded to the Colony. The Inspector for the Crown Agents asks that a guarantee in writing be given that the whole surplus has been handed over or destroyed.
- 6.6.1895 *From DLR* - re 29.5.1895, guarantee given.
- 10.6.1895 *From AG* - re 6.6.1895, your guarantee did not state whether the surplus handed over was all there was.
- 11.6.1895 *From DLR* - re 10.6.1895, new guarantee given.
- 20.1.1896 *From AG* - request for tender for 200 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 22.1.1896 *From DLR* - re 20.1.1896, tender enclosed.
- 25.1.1896 *From AG* - re 22.1.1896, tender accepted.
- 15.7.1896 *From AG* - asking if the 19th instalment of 100 reams of postage stamp paper (standing order) is ready.
- 26.8.1896 *From AG* - the postage stamp paper recently supplied is again inferior, and easily torn when perforating. The standing order is increased to 150 reams every three months, pending a satisfactory reply.
- 28.8.1895 *From DLR* - re 26.8.1896, the paper is the same as that used for Great Britain and the other Colonies. We will endeavour to correct any defects in the next supply.
- 15.9.1896 *From AG* - the standing order for postage stamp paper is increased from 100 to 150 reams every three months.
- 17.9.1896 *From DLR* - re 15.9.1896, acknowledged.
- 7.12.1896 *From AG* - enclosing order for engraving postage and revenue dies for values from ½d to 5/-.
- 10.12.1896 *From DLR* - re 7.12.1896, the designs are returned. They would need to be engraved, and as we see surface-printing as indispensable, they would need to be considerably altered. Concerning the request from the Colony that the postage stamp paper be free from iron, it is already as free as we can make it.
- 19.12.1896 *From AG* - when Mr Richardson called re engraving the stamp dies, he showed some engraved postage stamp specimens. Could we obtain these for transmission to the Colony?
- 24.4.1897 *From AG* - the supply of postage stamp paper is to be suspended. The 22nd instalment (of 150 reams) will be shipped as usual.

- 29.4.1897 *From AG* - the supply of postage stamp paper is to be resumed.
- 30.4.1897 *From DLR* - re 24.4.1897 and 29.4.1897, acknowledged.
- 1.5.1897 *From AG* - re 29.4.1897, make only one instalment of 150 reams for the moment.
- 12.5.1897 *From AG* - request for tender for:
- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| wrapper paper | 28,000 sheets/year |
| postage stamp paper | 270,000 sheets/year |
| postal note paper | 4,000 sheets/year |
| postcard paper | 60,000 sheets/year |
| lettercard paper | 30,000 sheets/year |
- Tenders to be made for one year's, and three years' supply
- 17.5.1897 *From AG* - re 12.5.1897, the time for submission of tenders is extended to 26.5.1897.
- 25.6.1897 *From AG* - asking that the postage stamp paper dandy roll be delivered to the Crown Agents.
- 6.7.1897 *From DLR* - re 25.6.1897, the dandy roll has been delivered.
- 10.9.1900 *From DLR* - re telegram asking for the preparation of Commemoration stamps, it is impossible at such short notice.
- 3.11.1902 *From DLR* - giving answers to questions sent by Mr A.F. Basset Hull. It includes complete lists of printing ink consignments (1873-93), gum arabic and dextrine, Stamp Duty paper (1872-75) and postage stamp paper (1873-97).
- 22.2.1905 *From AG* - request for tender for obliterating ink.
- 7.3.1905 *From DLR* - re 6.3.1905, tender enclosed for 500 ½ lb. tins of obliterating ink.
- 14.3.1905 *From AG* -, re 7.3.1905, tender accepted.
- 13.4.1905 *From DLR* - the obliterating ink is ready for inspection.
- 20.7.1907 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 25.7.1907 *From DLR* - re 20.7.1907, tender enclosed for dandy roll and 1,000 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 29.7.1907 *From DLR* - re tender of 25.7.1907, the paper is of unusual size, hence the high quote.
- 3.8.1907 *From HC* - re 29.7.1907, tender accepted.
- 6.8.1907 *From DLR* - re 3.8.1907, acknowledged.
- 7.8.1907 *From HC* - your tender of 29.7.1907 has been sent to New Zealand for consideration; will reply as soon as possible.
- 14.5.1908 *From DLR to Sandle Bros.* - the charge for the dandy roll is £21; we suggest charging New Zealand £7 for each of the first three uses. If less than three orders, the balance would have to be given to us.
- 15.5.1908 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for dandy roll and 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 18.5.1908 *From HC* - re 15.5.1908, tender accepted.
- 19.5.1908 *From DLR* - re 18.5.1908, acknowledged.
- 28.5.1908 *From HC* - the sheets are to be numbered on from the last delivery, beginning at D23,401.
- 6.7.1908 *From HC* - asking whether the first part of the postage stamp paper is ready for shipment.
- 7.7.1908 *From DLR* - re 6.7.1908, the paper will be ready by July 24th. The delay is because the dandy roll had to be altered.
- 17.7.1908 *From HC* - acknowledgment of receipt of 18 sheets of postage stamp paper.
- 25.7.1908 *From HC* - acknowledgment of receipt of 12 sheets of postage stamp paper.
- 11.8.1908 *From DLR* - giving the cost of postage stamp paper bound in books of 500 sheets, perforated and numbered on the butt. It is not possible to use non-curling gum since the sheets must be gummed in reels; any alteration would require a new dandy roll. Experiments are under way for non-curling gum.
- 28.8.1908 *From DLR* - enclosing tender for 225 reams of postage stamp paper, coated and gummed.
- 2.9.1908 *From HC* - re 28.8.1908, tender accepted.

- 2.9.1908 *From DLR* - re 2.9.1908, acknowledged.
- 30.10.1908 *From DLR* - enclosing sheet with larger margin one side than the other. 40 reams have already been made in the old style, however.
- 5.12.1908 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 7.12.1908 *From DLR* - re 5.12.1908, tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 12.12.1908 *From HC* - re 7.12.1908, tender accepted.
- 14.12.1908 *From DLR* - re 12.12.1908, acknowledged.
- 27.2.1909 *From HC* - re 24.2.1909 (missing), two reams of postage stamp paper have been examined and are satisfactory except the watermarks are not in exact register - please take greater care in binding.
- 1.3.1909 *From DLR* - re 27.2.1909, lack of register is caused by wetting for preparation and gumming - when cut from books sheets could be turned for exact register; any alteration to the dandy roll would be expensive.
- 30.3.1909 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 5.4.1909 *From HC* - re 30.3.1909, tender accepted.
- 7.4.1909 *From DLR* - re 5.4.1909, acknowledged.
- 14.7.1909 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 15.7.1909 *From HC* - re 14.7.1909, tender accepted.
- 19.7.1909 *From DLR* - re 15.7.1909, acknowledged.
- 31.8.1909 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 1.9.1909 *From DLR* - tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 4.9.1909 *From HC* - re 1.9.1909, tender accepted.
- 6.9.1909 *From DLR* - re 4.9.1909, acknowledged.
- 29.11.1909 *From HC* - dock charges are to be debited to you direct from the Port of London in future.
- 1.12.1909 *From DLR* - re 29.11.1909, acknowledged.
- 21.1.1910 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 24.1.1910 *From DLR* - re 21.1.1910, tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 29.1.1910 *From HC* - re 24.1.1910, tender accepted.
- 31.1.1910 *From DLR* - re 29.1.1910, acknowledged.
- 14.3.1910 *From HC* - asking whether part of postage stamp paper order is ready.
- 15.3.1910 *From DLR* - re 14.3.1910, 100 reams are ready.
- 7.4.1910 *From HC* - request for tender for postage stamp paper.
- 8.4.1910 *From DLR* - re 7.4.1910, tender enclosed for 225 reams of postage stamp paper.
- 13.4.1910 *From HC* - re 8.4.1910, tender accepted.
- 14.4.1910 *From DLR* - re 13.4.1910, acknowledged.
- 1.7.1910 *From DLR* - enclosing account for £278/1/6 for postage stamp paper, and requesting permission to prepare another batch, as it is found there is an improvement if the paper is allowed to mellow before coating and gumming.

(to be continued)

EDITORIAL NOTES

Library Acquisitions

The following are thanked for recent donations to the library: M.T. Bulley, Charles Leski Pty. Ltd., M. Fabbì, R. Geitenbeek, R.J. Kelly, P. Kornan, A. Levy, R. Turner.

New F.R.P.S.L.

Congratulations are due to our American member Hugh Wynn on being made a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Rare Stamps of the World

At the meeting on 21 March Peter Jaffé displayed the exhibit he had sent to the "Rare Stamps of the World" exhibition held at Claridge's, London, the previous year. The subject was the Perkins, Bacon "CANCELLED" stamps and other issues, and for display at the Society was supplemented by further material on the same theme.

The "CANCELLED" stamps prepared by Perkins, Bacon & Co. represent an interesting and pivotal episode in 19th century British Empire stamp production, since these presentation stamps, given to the Hill family without the consent either of the Agent-General for the Colonies or the individual countries concerned, were a major factor in Perkins, Bacon being relieved of most of its colonial printing contracts.

The most produced of any one stamp was six, and possibly fewer were made of a number. Mr Jaffé has the largest collection of these stamps ever assembled, with representation from 19 of the 21 postal administrations involved, and a total of 74 stamps. The Royal Collection contains a greater proportion of the different stamps treated, but less stamps in total.

The stamps shown by Mr Jaffé were:

- Bahamas*: 1860 1d
- Barbados*: 1861 ½d rejoined pair, 6d
- Cape of Good Hope*: 1855-58 6d
- Ceylon*: 1857-59 1/9d; 1861 1d, 6d, 9d, 2/- rejoined pair
- Chile*: 1861-62 20c
- Ionian Islands*: 1859 (2d)
- Mauritius*: 1859 1/- (two); unissued blue
- Newfoundland*: 1860 3d (two); 1861 4d, 5d, 6½d, 1/- rejoined pair
- New South Wales*: 6d (three), 1/- (two) Diadem proofs
- New Zealand*: 1855 1d, 2d
- Queensland*: 1860-61 1/- (two), Registered; 1861 1d, 2d, 6d

- St. Helena*: 1856 6d
- St. Lucia*: 1860 (1d), (4d)
- St. Vincent*: 1861 1d rejoined pair, 6d
- South Australia*: 1855 1d (two), 2d (two), 6d, 1/-
- Tasmania*: 1855 1d (two), 2d, 4d rejoined strip of three, 6d, 1/- (2)
- Trinidad*: 1859 4d (two), 6d rejoined strip of three; 1861 (1d) (two); 1/- rejoined block of three
- Victoria*: 1858 6d rejoined pair
- Western Australia*: 1861 1d, 6d, 1/- rejoined pair, and single.

Other Perkins, Bacon material was headed by the master die proof (without country name) for the Britannia stamp design, used for Barbados, Mauritius and Trinidad. Also from Mauritius was a die proof of the undenominated finished die, and a pair of the "FOUR PENCE" surcharge used on a cover to Cape of Good Hope.

Perkins, Bacon die proofs in black were a feature of many of the other colonies displayed.

Barbados included the 1852 2d greyish-slate bisect on cover, and the 1861 1/- blue error of colour. The 1878 1d on 5/- provisional included a Type A unsevered pair mint, together with used unsevered pairs of Type A (10), Type C, Types A + B, and Types A + C.

From Grenada there was a mint block of 60 of the 1861 1d. The 1875 1/- was represented by the "SHLLIING" and "S" inverted varieties mint, and "P" omitted used. The 1881 surcharges included a rejoined imperforate block of 8 of the 2½d wmk. Large Star, and a used example of the ½d watermark upright with "P" omitted.

Another highlight was the Charles Jeens hand-drawn Queen Victoria head subsequently used for St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and the South Australia 9d.

St. Lucia was further represented by a mint block of 12 of the 1860 (4d).

A fine range of St. Vincent included a number of die proofs and plate proofs, including a 1d perforated colour trial block of 4 in blue, 6d imperforate plate proof block of 8 in green, and 1/- imperforate colour trials in rose (3). The 1876-78 1/- vermilion included used examples of perf. 15 (two examples recorded) and imperforate (three examples recorded). The 1881 local surcharges were highlighted by two mint pairs and other reconstructed multiples of the 4d on 1/-; a mint block of 18 of the ½d on half 6d; and mint (11) and used examples of the missing fraction bar variety on the same stamp.

A set of New Brunswick stamps (3d, 6d and 1/-) had the grid of dots presentation cancellation.

The Australian Colonies were represented by South Australia. Large plate proof blocks included one of 36 in blue of the 6d, and of 21 in black of the 9d. There was a used pair of the 10d on 9d surcharge inverted (the only multiple), the surcharge omitted error of the 3d on 4d blue, and the Prussian blue shade of the same stamp, including a perf. 10 example on a cover to Victoria.

Vryburg and Mafeking, and Canadian Cancellations

The display at the 18 April meeting was a joint one. Bernard Caillard showed Vryburg and Mafeking, and Clive Bicknell showed Canadian Cancellations.

Mr Caillard's display began with the Stellaland postage and revenue stamps.

The 1885 Warren Expedition made use of Military Telegraph stamps, which were represented by "SPECIMEN" overprints, and the overprints on Cape of Good Hope stamps, included an example of the 1/- with inverted "s" in "Telegraphs".

From the Bechuanaland period there were examples of the Vryburg "Bechuanaland" and "BB" datestamps, and the 555 numeral obliterator.

The Boer Occupation stamps included the set of four "Z.A.R." overprints on piece, and a used block of 4 of the ½d "Z.A.R.", one with italic "Z".

The British Reoccupation period included the ½d and 1d Transvaal with "V.R./SPECIAL/POST" overprint used on pieces, and the ½d and 1d Cape of Good Hope used on pieces with the Clifford St. Quentin "CSM" manuscript overprint.

From Mafeking, there was a complete set of the Siege stamp overprints, including a pair of the 3d on 1d Cape of Good Hope on a 1900 cover to Cape Town. The 1d Sergeant-Major Goodyear and 3d General Bade-Powell stamps were represented in all shades and settings, and included an example of the Goodyear stamp with misplaced perforations.

Clive Bicknell's display presented an overview of the diverse range of nineteenth century Canadian cancellations.

The various numeral obliterators - 2-ring, 4-ring and 5-ring - were all represented. The dumb single-ring, 5-ring 7-ring, and segmented-ring obliterators included examples of coloured inks.

The numerous types of the Toronto and Ottawa No. 1 obliterators were shown, and a wide range of cork numeral cancellers.

Duplex cancellers were represented by both dumb and numeral types. There were also straight-line types, the Crown types, and the early types of pre-cancels.

A feature was made of the intriguing fancy cancellations, which occur in a wide variety of forms with initials, maple leafs, and geometric designs.

Advertising Covers

Ray Kelly displayed his collection of advertising covers of the Australian Colonies and Commonwealth at the meeting on 16th May.

The range of services and goods which have been advertised on mail, sometimes in a very spectacular manner, is surprising.

Some of the earliest advertisers were insurance companies, and the display included an 1868 cover from New South Wales.

Retail businesses who advertised on envelopes included hairdressers and tobacconists, jewellers and watchmakers, tailors, and booksellers, including the well-remembered Coles Book Arcade in Melbourne.

Transport was represented by carriers and movers, shipping companies and railways, especially some attractive covers for the Trans-Australian Railway. Automobiles, and especially tyres, were another popular theme.

Foodstuffs included some of the most spectacular items, with the Rosella Preserving illustration of a rosella on Australian 1d stationery envelopes perhaps the most colourful of all. Other envelopes advertised biscuits, chocolate, and tea.

Breweries and alcohol is another recurring theme, and includes the most famous of all advertising items, the Victorian "Beer and Baccy" 1d stationery card. There were also New South Wales 2d stationery envelopes with advertising collars for whisky and brandy.

There were many hotel covers which brought back memories of buildings no longer standing. Likewise, cinema covers advertising new releases featured many famous stars of yesteryear.

Manufactured goods were another competitive field - soap, bicycles, pianos and organs, home appliances, and rifles were all represented. Another spectacular piece of stationery was the Tasmania ½d embossed envelope with a multicoloured advertisement for Planet Jr. agricultural machinery.

Events advertised on covers included Australia Day, and "Ye Olde Englishc Fayre" on a 1d Victoria embossed envelope. There were also postcards with political announcements and from candidates canvassing voters.

The famous Victorian advertising envelopes were shown. Lesser known were unstamped American fleet postcards with additional advertising added by retailers.

Western Australian Airmails

At the meeting on 30 May Ray Todd was in attendance from Western Australia to display his home State's airmails.

Western Australia is rich in airmail history, because the aeroplane had been instrumental in establishing a communications network over the vast distances involved.

The first airmail item from Western Australia was a publicity leaflet dropped by Norman Brearley in 1919.

Australia's first official air mail service was established between Perth and Derby in 1921. A number of covers were shown from the first and second flights, including mail to intermediates.

The subsequent Geraldton-Derby flights of 1922-24 were also well-represented, including covers bearing "BY/AIR MAIL" and "PER AERIAL MAIL ROUTE" cachets, and a taxed cover from Roeburne addressed to Mexico.

The 1925 Onslow crash cover was shown, and a rare item was a cover carried between Perth and Israelite Bay by the Italian aviator de Pinedo.

The Western Australian Airways 1929 service between Perth and Adelaide was important in speeding up the mails from Europe, and a number of covers were shown, including an example of the flown souvenir bag.

A 1930 cover to Paris was stamped with "RECEIVED AT PERTH TOO LATE/FOR DESPATCH BY AIR MAIL".

The further development of the outback during the 1930s was illustrated by covers from the inauguration of the Perth-Wyndham, Wyndham-Ord River, Perth-Meekatharra, and other goldfields services. There was a 1930 Wyndham cover carried by Lord Sempill during his Australian stay, and a number of covers incoming to Western Australia which had been carried on the various U.K.-Australia experimental flights.

A special study was presented of the boxed "FORWARDED BY AIR MAIL" cachets intended to incorporate a strike of the post office datestamp. The various post offices which used these cachets were displayed, and the ranges and periods of use were demonstrated.

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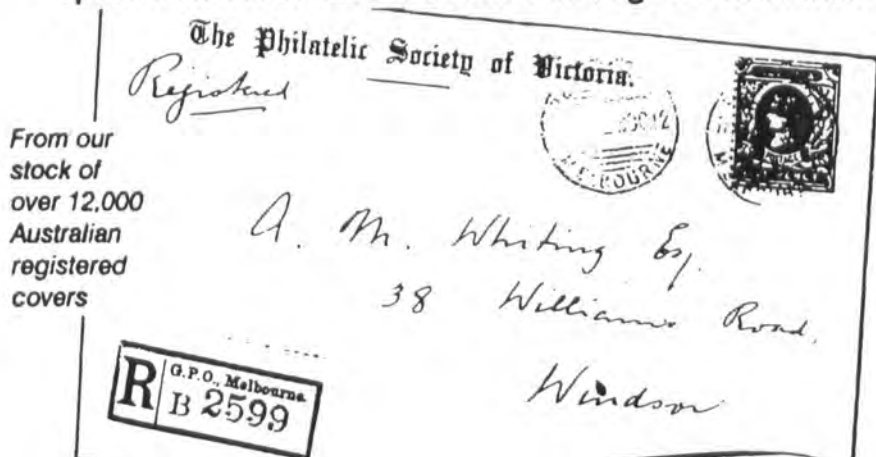
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