

THE  
**London Philatelist:**

THE MONTHLY JOURNAL OF  
THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

VOL. XVII.

OCTOBER, 1908.

No. 202.

## The Assumed Depreciation of Ceylon Stamps.



YOUR attention has been drawn to two articles bearing hereon— or, to be strictly accurate, they both refer to the present appreciation of these stamps as exemplified in the rarities of the old issues. We venture to think, however, that both the cases in point, as stated, are susceptible of modification of the valuations arrived at by the writers.

The *Indian Journal of Philately* in its August number has an article entitled "The Stamp Market," in which it relates the financial history of the older Ceylon stamps during the past ten years. Our contemporary writes thus as to the imperforate octagonals in used condition.

"Round about ten years ago the eight pence fetched £31, £24, £23 10s. twice, £22, £20, £19 twice, £16 10s., £15 10s., £14 15s., £14, £11 10s., £11, and £9 10s. This year it has fetched £12, £10, £8, £5 10s., £5 5s., £4 10s., £4 4s., and £2 15s. The used four pence of the same issue ran the eight pence very close in 1897 in the number of its appearances, but nowadays it is not seen so frequently. It used to fetch £20 5s., £16 10s., £15 15s., £15 10s., £15 5s., £14, £13 7s., £12 12s., £12 10s., £12, £11, and £10 10s. This year it has fetched £9 10s., £9 5s., and £5 12s. 6d., and the price now is about two-thirds of its former one. The used two shillings has fallen from £14 10s., £10, £7 10s., £7, £6 5s., and £5 7s. 6d., to £6, £5 10s. twice, and £4 10s. The nine pence in similar condition fetched £4 in 1897, and £3, £2 12s. 6d., and £2 10s. twice in 1908; and the one shilling and nine pence used and imperforate shows a decline from £5 12s. 6d. and £3 10s., to £2 17s. 6d., £2 4s., and £2, but a fine pair has brought £10 this year."

There is no doubt that the estimation of this issue was unduly (with other stamps) forced up some years ago and then declined until about three years ago, since when it has steadily increased again. But the highest and the lowest of any of the forenamed quotations afford no safe guide. Ten years ago the quality of the stamps offered at auction was incomparably superior to that of the present day. Some really fine old collections were

broken up, and the record prices in all the foregoing cases were for specimens of such brilliancy that it is safe to say if they changed hands to-day their value would be fully maintained. On the other hand some of the lowest quotations recorded by our contemporary obviously represent "the lame, the halt, and the blind." Copies of this imperforate octagonal series that are truly fine are exceedingly difficult nowadays to find in this country—if not in India—and we are convinced that such would readily change hands at practically the valuation recorded ten years since. We except only those two or three immaculate specimens that attained the highest prices (as quoted), which refer to copies—to-day as then—earmarked for their beauty.

The following quotations as regards unused stamps are even more misleading:—

"In unused condition the 6d., claret, imperf., fetched £7 15s. and £5 10s. ten years ago, against £2 10s. this year. The halfpenny imperf. on blue has dropped from £5 to £3 12s. 6d. The two shillings imperf. was £10 and £8 16s. and has now fallen to £3 3s., and the 1s. and 9d. imperf. was £4 and £3 5s. against £3 10s., £3, and £2 7s. 6d. in 1908. The quotations for the perforated 8d. unused are £10, £8 8s., and £5 10s."

The two first-named stamps are simply not to be had to-day in finest condition and would readily sell at double the above-quoted prices of ten years since. The 2s. imperf. unused is worth even more than the foregoing, and we have seen as high as £10 paid even for an immaculate used copy! The unused 8d. perforated is worth twice or thrice the last-quoted price, according to condition, and a block of four of the "mustard," unused, has changed ownership at nearly a hundred pounds!

*The Stamp Collector's Journal* for October 3 has a continuation of some useful articles on the Tapling Collection, whose merits and instructional advantages cannot be too widely proclaimed, but in estimating the "Present Value of the Tapling Collection" the author has undertaken a difficult task. He writes: "Then we have Ceylon, with a brave display of the pence issues, including pairs and strips and blocks of such rare things as the 4d., dull rose, the 8d., deep yellow-brown, 9d., lilac-brown, and 2s., blue. The plate proofs of these beautiful stamps are of rare interest and must of course command a high price if ever they came to market—now, happily, an impossibility. I should call £750 a sort of bed-rock price for the Cingalese collection."

Writing from memory we call to mind the following "pieces" in Mr. Tapling's collection of Ceylon.

4d., imperf.	.	strip of five (reconstructed).
8d., do.	.	unused.
9d., do.	.	block of four, unused.
2s., do.	.	pair, unused.

Has our friend any idea of the real value to-day of such priceless unique stamps as these? We believe that the few stamps we have cited, with the remaining imperforate octagonals, are alone worth the total value quoted by him, leaving out of count the remarkably fine and strong representation of all the other values and issues of this difficult country.

We do not in this journal usually discuss the financial aspects of Philately, but after all, the financial is the most practical appraisal of the philatelic appreciation of a country's issues; and in the case of such fine old stamps as the early issues of Ceylon we gladly enter the lists to break a lance in their defence. Beyond this we would point the moral—once again—of condition. It is the failure to appreciate this which has misled our contemporaries. The standard of the estimation of condition has taken enormous strides during the present century. The number of really immaculate copies of stamps catalogued, say, from £15 upwards is extraordinarily small, and there are always enough rich Philatelists, in the four quarters of the globe, ready to snatch up these gems—at prices which laugh at catalogue quotations—provided only that the brilliancy of the specimen be undoubted. The swing of the pendulum in the contrary direction has been equally marked. Specimens that are really inferior, i.e. heavily postmarked, with clipped margins, or damaged, hang in the dealers' books until their owners in despair "put them in the auction and let them go for what they will fetch." Records of these two extremes are therefore obviously fallacious, and may well mislead those who are not thoroughly posted in all the details of up-to-date collecting. The moral of our remarks may be summed up in the advice to those Philatelists who spend considerable sums on their stamps—to consider condition, rather than cheapness, in building up their collection.

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## Notes on the Issues of the Stamps of the British South Africa Company.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AND OTHER SOURCES, AND FROM INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THE SPOT.

By FRANK H. MELLAND, F.R.P.S.L.

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THE stamps of the British South Africa Company have, in the opinion of the writer, a very good claim on the attention of Philatelists, as compared with those of other colonies and countries whose issues do not bear the attraction of antiquity, for there is an entire absence of speculative issues, and, with the exception of the Victoria Falls issue, of commemorative or other unnecessary issues. There are, too, very few provisionals, and none that have not been necessary by changes in postal rates, or by shortage due to war and distance from the outside world, when communications were interrupted—in fact, the issue of provisionals has always been rigorously discountenanced, and the stamps have been issued and used for postal and fiscal purposes only. There have been no Official or "Service" issues, and no Postage Due stamps.

Consequently the issues of this country, free from all needless issues, and from the speculative element, which has, of late, so much disgraced several

British colonies, have maintained a good name among Philatelists in general, which has been well merited ; and furthermore, all old issues have been kept in use till the stock has been disposed of, and no remainders have been sold. Nevertheless, owing to one or two circumstances, the issues do not lack in interest, for the provisionals of 1891 are fairly uncommon, and the Bulawayo provisionals with the five known errors are quite rare, while the changes of issues, due to the change of the Company's printers, have added a pleasant though not too great variety to the stamps. (I do not think that any other country can show a continuous issue from 1898 to the present day.) Latterly, too, there have been two discoveries which have added an element of excitement to the collector of B.S.A.'s, namely the discovery in 1905 of the Waterlow print of the 1890 £2 stamp, and the discovery in 1906 that there were two dies of the 1896-7 issue.

In compiling these notes I have obtained all the information I could from the postal department of Rhodesia, and take this opportunity of thanking the Postmaster-General (Mr. Eyre) for his courtesy in placing all the information available at my disposal, the Secretary at the London office of the Company, and the Principal Distributor at Fort Jameson, to whom, also, my thanks are due, and have supplemented the facts thus obtained with notes from the philatelic Press, especially *The London Philatelist*, *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal*, and *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*. I have also several notes collected by myself during a residence in the country since 1901, when, in my official capacity, I have had control of the issuing of stamps for both postal and fiscal purposes. Unfortunately, owing to the time that has elapsed since the earliest issues, it has not proved possible to find out all the details I should have wished to collect, and I can only hope that the publication of these fragmentary notes will elicit from various collectors the missing links in the chain ; and thus prepare the way for a more complete history of the stamps of the Company than this has any pretensions to be.

The British South Africa Company's territory is bounded on the south by the Transvaal and Bechuanaland, on the west by Portuguese West Africa and the Congo Free State, on the north by the Congo Free State and Lake Tanganyika, and on the east by German East Africa, Nyasaland Protectorate, and Portuguese East Africa. The Government was established by Royal Charter in 1889, and the first issue of stamps is dated 1890.

The arms of the Company, which appear on all the stamps except the Victoria Falls issue, are as follows:—

Blazon : Gules, the chief semé of bezants, the base semé of ears of wheat, or, a fesse wavy argent between two bulls passant in chief, and an elephant passant in base, all proper : the fesse charged with three galleys, sable.

Crest : A lion guardant passant, or, supporting with its dexter fore-paw an ivory tusk erect, proper.

Supporters : Two springbokken, proper.

Motto : " Justice, Freedom, Commerce."

The first Government notice alluding to the stamps of the Company is quoted in the R.P.S.L.'s *British Africa*, Part I, as the Bechuanaland notice dated Vryburg, 27 July, 1892.

The first notices I have been able to obtain copies of are dated Salisbury, 1898, to which I will refer later.

ISSUE I. DECEMBER, 1890.

This has been fully described in the article in *British Africa*, Part I, but I believe there is an error in the description, as some of the stamps were issued in sheets of 240—four panes of 60—and not in sheets of 60.

The only stamps I can trace as being in sheets of 60 are the 3d. and 4d. of the 1896 and 1897 issues, the 2d., 8d. of the 1896 issue,\* the 2s. and 2s. 6d. of the 1896 issue—not those of the 1890 issue—and all issues of from 4s. upwards in value.

I believe that the 1890 issue values up to and inclusive of 2s. 6d. were in sheets of 240, but I cannot state definitely that this was so, but I have the 2s., 2s. 6d. 1890, and 8d. 1891 in corner blocks from inside of panes, showing that these values were in sheets of 240.

The values and colours are as follows :—

Engraved in *taille douce*, printed on thin white wove paper by Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., Ltd., each sheet watermarked “W. C. S. & Co.” (for William Collins, Sons, and Co.), white gum, machine perf. 14.

- 1d., black
- 6d., ultramarine.
- 6d., blue.
- 1s., grey-brown.
- 2s., vermilion.
- 2s. 6d., purple.
- 5s., orange-yellow.
- 5s., light lemon-yellow.
- 10s., deep green.
- £1, deep blue.
- £2, rose-red.
- £5, sage-green.
- £10, brown.

There are also higher values, but the above are all that were ever issued for postal purposes. I have made inquiries about the £2, £5, and £10 being genuinely used for postal purposes, and have been informed by the Postmaster General as under :—

“The highest value of stamps issued for postal purposes since 1897 (March) is that of £1.

“It is possible that stamps of higher values were issued prior to the above-mentioned date. On this subject I attach for your information a copy of a report from an officer of this department, who was acting as Postmaster of Bulawayo up to the month of April, 1897.”

The enclosure states :—

“I have seen £2, £5, and £10 stamps genuinely used for postal purposes between July, '95, and April, '97, but not the £20. I do not think they (the

\* I have not been able to trace entire sheets of the other pence values of the 1896 issue.

£2, £5, and £10) were ever sold by this department, but were obtained from the Civil Commissioner and used in prepayment of official parcels, and, in a few cases, letter packets for the U.K. The £10 stamp referred to in par. 4 date stamped Au. 14 '96 [one I had written about, as it is in my collection.—F. H. M.] might well have been used in prepayment of postage.

"Sd. A. E. HOLLOWAY.

"BULAWAYO, 3rd June, '07."

"A.-Pmr."

I may add, however, that in North-Eastern Rhodesia stamps of higher values may be bought at district post offices. However, the Principal Distributor of Stamps for North-Eastern Rhodesia informs me (25.1.08) that "the highest value of stamps generally used for postal purposes is 20s., the largest amount for any package as postage (being on a letter of the maximum weight of 5 lb.) would be 33s. 4d., and in the case of parcels 19s. 3d." So that it will appear that *only in this issue of 1890 should stamps of over £1 be listed* (there were none in the intermediate issues before April, 1897), though as such stamps can be bought at post offices, I have listed them in this article, but it remains for philatelists to decide whether they can be called "postage" stamps or not.

I will refer later to the effect of this information on the Waterlow print of the £2.

#### ISSUE II. MARCH, 1891.

Four values, surcharged by Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co., and fully described in *British Africa*, Part I. These were rendered necessary by the change in postal rates, notably the reduction in the letter rate to the U.K. (or to S.A. Colonies) from 6d. to 4d.

½d., black, surcharge on 6d., ultramarine.

2d.           "           "           "

4d.           "           "           "

8d.           "           " on 1s., brown.

I have not been able to find any record of the number printed.

#### ISSUE III. 1891.

Five values, printed by Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. on similar paper to that used in the first issue. The design is the same, but the label at the bottom of the stamp is removed, and the values, which are in words in Roman capitals, are printed in a different colour to the rest of the design.

April, 1891—½d., deep blue and vermilion.

"           "           2d., sea-green and vermilion.

Dec., 1891—3d., grey-black and green.

April, 1891—4d., chestnut and black.

"           "           8d., rose-lake and ultramarine.

(To be continued.)

## Notes on the Perkins Bacon Issues of the Cape of Good Hope.

BY M. P. CASTLE, HON. VICE-PRESIDENT.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON, ON 19 DECEMBER, 1907.

(Continued from page 217.)



HE differences of impression in the shilling were much less marked than in the other values. In the 6d. the clear impressions include remarkably sharp printings totally dissimilar from the blurred impression into which the 6d. occasionally degenerates, and I have found the latter quite a rare stamp.

As regards colour, however, there is no difference as far as my astigmatic vision will allow me to discern in either of the 6d. or 1s. printings, but only those "shades" caused by more or less heavy inking of the plate. With regard to the 1d. and 4d., so far as my observations have gone, the case is different. In the former the carmine stamps are always woolly and the red-brown sharp, and in the latter the violet-blue (the paler colour) are always sharp and the slate-blue always woolly. There is no apparent record of Messrs. De La Rue's separate printings of these stamps or their dispatch to the Cape, but with the relatively large quantity of the two lower values it is safe to assume separate printings. If so, the fresh admixture of the printing ink would be sufficient to account for the differing characteristics of the shades. I am fully alive to the marked difference in tone and appearance that is frequently discernible upon the same sheet of stamps, but I have been able to examine several sheets of the De La Rue Capes and have only found such variations as are attributable to uneven distribution of the printing ink, thus occasionally producing the appearance of a darker shade. I do not therefore consider that the differing appearance of this issue can be assigned to this cause.

Before leaving this issue, I should, however, mention that the 4d., 6d., and 1s., as shown by copies in my collection, can all be found not merely of a blurred or "woolly" appearance, but so indistinct as to merit the description I have given them in my collection of "defective impressions." The 1s. in this state I have only seen unused, it being from the sheet that came into Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' possession.

I have not made any remarks upon the rouletted triangular stamp as I have no knowledge thereon, and as I believe they were rouletted privately (as were the French stamps by MM. Susse Frères) I have not considered their inclusion a necessity.

I have added scarce anything of importance to our knowledge of the triangular Capes, nor are there apparently many gleanings in this particular harvest; but in the direction of dated stamps on letters there may yet be some useful information to be acquired as to the respective appearance of the several shades and printings, and I shall be glad if these remarks should

induce any of our members to follow this up. I have commenced a list of dates, and shall welcome any additions thereto by my brother members.

The scope of my remarks to-night was intended to be confined to the triangular series, which were superseded by the rectangular surface-printed series of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. in 1864-5. The design of these stamps is not unpleasing, and though a great falling off from their engraved predecessors, will yet compare favourably with the majority of Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s productions. They have three of the points necessary, in my view, for the artistic *ensemble* of a postage stamp: (1) the design, that well covers the stamp, leaving but little white space; (2) the subordination of the inscription by the use of inconspicuous or small lettering; and (3) the employment of bright colouring.

In the first rectangular issue of 1864-5 there are some beautiful shades of the 1d., hardly all covered by the term rose-red, and in the 1s. there are dark shades that seem to evade the grip of almost every collector who wants them unused. These were probably early printings, and may well be rarer than any of the triangular shillings. It is curious that the die of the 1s. should have remained unmodified until January, 1894, although its watermark was changed to the Cabled Anchor in 1885. It was thus in use for twenty-one years unchanged in watermark or die, and it is certainly remarkable that, despite this fact, it is still considerably the rarest unused value of the series. The modified type 1s. of 1894 had but a short life of two years, and should eventually become a scarce stamp.

With regard to the 6d., it is to be noted that the type has never been modified as with the other three values of the first issue.

The 5s., watermark C A and Crown, issued at the end of 1883, was in use until superseded by that with the Anchor watermark in July, 1887, but despite its three and a half years' existence it has always been an extremely scarce stamp unused, and indeed takes high rank as a rarity among all our colonial issues.

With reference to the surcharged varieties, which I am glad to say in the case of the Cape have never been made the vehicle of speculation, I have only found small deviations from the catalogued varieties, which will be noted in my books, and of which I need not therefore inflict any description upon you.

It is noticeable that the Cape stamps never bore the portrait of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, nor anything except devices emblematic of the colony until 1902-3, when the current series appeared with the head of His Gracious Majesty King Edward VII. We shall all unite in the fervent aspiration that there will be many varieties of this issue, and that His Majesty will be spared for many years to adorn with his portrait not only the stamps of the Cape, but of the other portions of that vast Empire that rejoices in his beneficent and auspicious rule.





## Philatelic Note.

ST. VINCENT: THE 1s. OF 1866, PERF. "B."

**M**R. A. H. STAMFORD kindly sends us the following interesting note hereon:—

"I have pleasure in informing you of a discovery recently made which is a fitting supplement to that of Mr. Yardley referred to in the Society's minutes of the 18th April last in regard to the unused block of four of the 1s. St. Vincent of 1866, perforated 11 to 12½ on all sides, and to Mr. Bacon's comments thereon in *The London Philatelist*, Vol. XVI, p. 116. Hitherto this stamp, I believe, had never been known in used condition, until a short time since when, on going through my used colonial collection which I had discarded for a while and put aside some five or six years ago, I found an undoubtedly genuinely used copy of this stamp. I had evidently noted the variety in my collection previously, for I found a pencil note beside the stamp as follows: '11-12½ all round: unchronicled,' but it was the article on the New Variety of Barbados in *The London Philatelist*, Vol. XVII, p. 149, and the note in Gibbons' current Catalogue that this 1s. St. Vincent had not been found used, which first reminded me, I believe, of the existence of the stamp in the used condition in my own collection. I had the stamp expertized by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, and enclose you herewith the Committee's certificate."

## Occasional Notes.

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

**A**T the meeting of 5 November there will be given a display of a collection of Fiji, lent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

On 19 November Mr. T. Wickham Jones will read a paper on some of the recent issues of Switzerland, with display and lantern enlargements.

CAYMAN ISLANDS POSTAL HISTORY!

**T**HE eccentric methods of the postal authorities in their issues of stamps on these little islands have evoked alike the attention and disgust of all right-minded Philatelists; hence we think it a salutary warning to our readers to quote the two following paragraphs—with due acknowledgments—from the pages of *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* of 26 September.

"Alas for the hopes of dealers ordering ¼d. stamps! No one got any. The postmistress evolved the following notice:—

“No. 27.

‘GEORGE TOWN POST OFFICE,  
‘GRAND CAYMAN, B.W.I.

‘NOTICE is hereby given that farthing stamps and farthing postcards, being provided solely for internal postage in the Cayman Islands Dependency, will only be sold across the counter at a Post Office in the Cayman Islands.

‘By order,  
‘G. A. PARSONS,  
‘Postmistress.’

‘July 10, 1908.

“Having thus authorized herself to sell the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamps only across the post office counter, Miss Gwendolyn Parsons proceeded on the one hand to refuse every application from stamp dealers, and on the other to supply all her friends *ad lib.*, for on 24.8.08 (only forty-five days after the issue of the above notice) she reports that ‘we have only  $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., 5s., and 10s. stamps at present in stock.’ Residents in the Cayman Islands are now busy inviting offers from dealers for the  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamps!


“Beyond printing the 1s. and 10s. stamps on multiple paper, we shall be very much surprised if the Cayman Islanders are allowed to have any more new issues just yet.

“The  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. stamp should be immediately reprinted to an extent of at least 300,000, as besides the Colonial Stamp Market’s order for 72,000, we understand that another dealer ordered 36,000.

“A dealer received a few days ago a letter stating that only  $\frac{1}{4}$ d., 1d., and 10s. stamps were still obtainable; if this is correct the 5s. stamps must have run out shortly after the postmistress wrote us on 24.8.08.

“The Postal Revenue from 10.07 up to the date of the meeting, 14.5.08, amounting to £979, may seem small, but it must be remembered that the surcharged stamps would only figure in the Post Office accounts in respect of their face value, £28 15s., although the fortunate islanders who purchased them must have received one hundred times as much from European and American dealers. We should imagine also that this total does not include the £700 (?) or so realized by the Crown Agents in April, 1908, for the remainders of the single-colour stamps, nor a large proportion of the money sent out for the ‘Postage and Revenue’ series, which was first issued partly on 30.3.08, and partly (the 5s.) on 22.4.08. The postal revenue will probably have reached at least £3000 before the end of the financial year in 9.08, and would have been even larger if all orders had been executed. In 8.08 orders from the Colonial Stamp Market to the amount of £385 face value were not executed, and other dealers have also doubtless had orders refused.”

#### PENNY POSTAGE TO AMERICA.

 OCTOBER the 1st saw the most important step towards Universal Penny Postage in the adoption of that scale between the two great Anglo-Saxon races of England and America. Mr. Henniker Heaton—the pioneer of the movement—must have been proud to have seen his life-long labours thus crowned, and among the many who have congratulated him will be found the names of his numerous philatelic friends. Universal Penny Postage has not arrived, but practically the English-speaking race all over the world now enjoys the boon, exactly sixty-nine years after Sir Rowland Hill’s great innovation was first inaugurated. Australia and Rhodesia have still to abolish the imposition of a slightly higher charge than the penny per

ounce for letter postage to the mother country, and one or two islands in the Pacific have to be brought in line. But these anomalies will, it is expected, soon be rectified—negotiations are, in fact, already afoot with that object—and it will then be possible to say, without qualification, that the whole of the British Empire and the United States are linked together by a cheap uniform postal service.

The following notice that has been addressed to the whole of the post offices of the United Kingdom and the United States as to this historical event may fittingly be recorded in this journal:—

“The Postmaster-General desires to draw attention to the fact that on and after to-day, October 1, the postage payable on letters posted in the United Kingdom for the United States of America will be 1d. for each ounce. This uniform rate of 1d. an ounce will supersede the present rates of 2½d. for the first ounce and 1½d. for each additional ounce.

“A like reduction will be made on the same date in the postage on letters from the United States of America to this country, which will be 2 c. for each ounce, instead of the present rates of 5 c. for the first ounce and 3 c. for each additional ounce.

“There will be no alteration in the rates of postage on postcards, printed and commercial papers, and sample packets passing between the two countries.

“It may be noted that the present reduction in postage to the United States is additional to that which was introduced on October 1 last, when the rates of 2½d. for the first ounce and 1½d. for each subsequent ounce to the United States (and all other foreign countries) were substituted for the rate of 2½d. for each half-ounce. Thus the postage on a one-ounce letter to the United States, which was reduced in October last from 5d. to 2½d., is now further reduced to 1d.; and similarly the postage on a two-ounce letter, which was then reduced from 10d. to 4d., is now further reduced to 2d.”

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#### DEATH OF MR. RUDOLPH KRASEMAN.

**W**E learn with sincere regret of the death—at the sadly early age of thirty-three—of Mr. Rudolph Kraseman, whose name appears as joint author with Mr. H. Djurling of the German edition of *The Postage Stamps of Sweden*, which is elsewhere referred to. Mr. Kraseman's connection with Philately was of relatively recent date, but he had shown great ability alike in his philatelic articles and in his work as Librarian to the Swedish Philatelic Society. His many friends in Swedish stamp circles must deeply feel his loss, while all Philatelists will be grieved at the untimely cutting-off of such a promising career.

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#### THE CRISIS IN THE NEAR EAST.

**T**HE excitement created by the trend of recent events in the south-east of Europe has called the attention of the whole civilized world to the somewhat turbulent nationalities that together constitute what is generally termed as the Eastern question. The proclamation of the

annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by the Austrian Empire and the announcement of the Prince of Bulgaria that he aspires to the rôle of an independent king would doubtless, if permitted by the signatories of the Berlin Treaty, cause changes in the philatelic history of those countries. Bulgaria, which has issued stamps for nearly thirty years, has a fairly straightforward record for its issues, marred by one or two commemorative sets, and presenting, with two exceptions, no especial difficulty to the ordinary collector. If Prince Ferdinand is accepted at his word we shall probably have a new series bearing the head of the "Czar of Bulgaria." The issues of Bosnia and Herzegovina have not been considered as either very popular or complex; but the result of recent study of these stamps has been to reveal a number of varieties that had been quite unsuspected, no less than 313 varieties being now listed in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. Events now point to their early supersession by the Austrian stamps.

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## Reviews.

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### THE STAMPS OF FIJI.\*



FOR reasons not far to seek, the fact is well known that the ranks of collectors embrace far more Philatelists than those of the dealers; the most important factor herein obviously being that the former have some leisure, and the latter, as a rule, none! Another and equally important determining element lies in the knowledge that one class occupies itself with stamps "for the love of the thing" and the other is influenced by financial considerations. It remains, therefore, that we can hardly look for Philatelists in the ranks of members of the trade unless they also possess the instincts of a collector. There have not been wanting instances hereof, and we know of several dealers of whom one may truthfully say that were they not dealers they would be collectors. As instances hereof we might name Mr. L. Hanciau, the brother-in-law and philatelic right hand of the late M. J. B. Moens; Mr. W. T. Wilson, who is one of the oldest collectors in this country; and the author of the work under review—Mr. Charles J. Phillips. Those who know Mr. Phillips—and there are many who do know the head of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.!—are aware that, quite apart from financial considerations, he takes the greatest interest in stamps, and is never more happy than when engaged upon real philatelic work. His name has appeared over many interesting articles, and he already is the author of another work on stamp collecting—but the appearance of the "Stamps of Fiji" will reveal him for the first time in the light of a Philatelist of real merit and discernment. The amount of research, study, and scientific deduction involved in the compilation of this book fairly indicates Mr. Phillips' position as one of the leading Philatelists of his day. We most cordially congratulate him

\* *The Postage Stamps of the Fiji Islands.* By Charles J. Phillips. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, W.C.

upon the production of a work on the stamps of a country but little known hitherto that will be one of the standard works of reference of the future. Printed in similar size and appearance to the works issued by the Royal Philatelic Society, "Fiji" will fall into the ranks of the Oceania series (now in course of production), and we are confident that the author will take it as a compliment—well deserved—when we say that his book on Fiji will lose nothing by the contact of the company it is destined to keep! No book or serious work treating of all the issues of Fiji has ever been written, hence Mr. Phillips has been working on virgin ground, and his labours thereon have produced the good harvest that waits upon patient labour. The only important information on the subject of the early issues—particularly that of the *Fiji Times Express*—was contained in a paper by Mr. E. D. Bacon read before the (then) Philatelic Society of London on June 3, 1893, and printed in *The London Philatelist*, in Vols. II and III. This able article contains much information which Mr. Phillips found of material assistance. In the present book the history of these interesting stamps is fully developed, and their postal rank confirmed completely. Plates are included of the two original issues on *quadrillé* and laid *bâtonné* papers, as also of the two imitations that used to rank as reprints. The former are rare stamps, and it is an important and useful feature in philatelic literature to have been able to reproduce the complete types—consisting of one horizontal row of six of each of the 1d., 3d., 6d., and 1s. set upon each sheet.

The most important chapters in the book are those devoted to the issues of 1874 and 1875, which embrace the rare surcharges having the initials "V.R." in the two types. Mr. Phillips has succeeded in plating a large number of these types, and, in forming the very fine collection which is the basis of this work, has accumulated some hundreds of these rare stamps. Each sheet contained fifty specimens, and of these partially reconstructed plates are shown by illustrations as follows:—

1d., blue . . .	40 varieties.
6d., rose . . .	47 „
2d. on 3d., green	45 „
2d on 6d., rose	24 „

Of the 3d., green, Mr. Phillips has only been able to secure about a dozen types, but these are not illustrated.

Mr. Phillips adopted the following ingenious method of reconstructing these sheets; he first made up sheets of the preceding issues (afterwards surcharged "V.R.") by means of large blocks. He then located the watermark as extending along the central of the five rows of ten stamps in the sheet, and found the same portions of the watermark on the surcharged stamps, thus placing one row. It was known that the sheets of these stamps contained three rows above with Gothic letters and two below with Roman, and by the aid of blocks and pairs of his own and other collections, with the two varieties *se tenant*, he was able to locate the fourth row. Mr. Phillips then noted—as is so often the case—that the outside rows show heavier inking on the margin, and he states that he was thus easily able to verify rows one and five. For the remaining portions he was enabled to identify

the stamps by the minute imperfections in the design which had accrued during their use in the two previous issues. This work is one of high philatelic merit, and will assuredly always redound to Mr. Phillips' reputation as an astute and far-seeing student of our pursuit.

There are many other interesting pictures in "Fiji," the alteration of the dies of the 1d., 3d., and 6d. from "C.R." to "V.R." by the insertion of box-wood plugs (admirably shown by enlarged illustrations); the notification of the two varieties of the 5s. in electrotpe and lithograph (of which only the latter was issued); the reference lists and descriptions of the remainders, printer's waste, etc., and a carefully compiled list of all the various perforations found in the later issues.

The entire book, in fact, is full of solid philatelic information, the more valuable because it treats of a little-studied though highly interesting country; the production as regards letter-press and illustrations (of which there are fifteen superb plates) is beyond praise, and it is a work that will reflect the highest encomiums upon its author, and afford the greatest gratification to its readers.

#### THE STAMPS OF SWEDEN.\*

This small volume is a translation of the well-known work of the Swedish Philatelic Society on the stamps of their own country. The ignorance of the Swedish language, in which the original work was published, militated against its usefulness, and in translating it into German the authors now appeal to the favour of a very wide and important section of Philately. The rendering of this interesting volume into another language has been faithfully carried out, while important additions have been made, notably relating to forgeries. In the case of certain Swedish stamps, notably the "Tretio ore" error in red, there will be found in this book valuable help in distinguishing the existing clever imitations from the real stamps. The chapter dealing with the most interesting series of the "skilling banco" stamps will alone amply repay any purchaser of this work, on whose skilful production we cordially congratulate the authors.

It is with deep regret that—as recorded elsewhere—we learn of the death of one of the joint authors, Mr. Rudolf Kraseman, who has been taken from us almost at the outset of what promised to be a career of great philatelic merit.

#### MESSRS. BRIDGER & KAY'S CATALOGUE.†

The new edition of this Catalogue has just appeared, its contents being confined to the enumeration of the stamps of the British Colonies, with the advantage, from a collector's point of view, that no stamp is catalogued that is not priced as being in stock. This advantage is accentuated moreover by the fact that Messrs. Bridger & Kay's prices are extremely reasonable, as amply proved by our own personal experience. This little work will therefore be found useful to the collector of Colonial stamps, it being concise, clearly printed, and of convenient pocket size.

\* *The Stamps of Sweden.* By Hilmer Djurling and Rudolf Kraseman. Hugo Krötzsch & Co., Leipzig.

† *Price List of British Colonial Postage Stamps.* Bridger & Kay, 71 Fleet Street, London, E.C.

## New Issues.

### NOTES OF NEW, AND VARIATIONS OF CURRENT, ISSUES.

(Varieties of Obsolete Stamps, and Discoveries, will be found under "Philatelic Notes.")

*We do not profess to chronicle everything, but, with the kind help of correspondents, are desirous that all the important novelties may be included. Speculative stamps—i.e. those not really required for postal purposes—will be considered on their merits, and jubilee issues will not be chronicled.*

*Members of the Royal Philatelic Society, and other readers generally, are invited to co-operate with us in making the columns as interesting as possible. Our foreign readers can especially help us in this direction, by sending copies of any official documents relative to changes in the current issues, or early intimation of any new issue, accompanied, when possible, by a specimen; such information will be duly credited to the correspondent, and, if desired, the specimen promptly returned.*  
Address: MR. A. CHURCHILL EMERSON, 4 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C.

#### BRITISH EMPIRE.

**AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.**—The 5s. Postage Due has been issued with a bar and dash after the numeral.—*Australian Philatelist*.

##### Postage Due.

5s., pale green; Crown and A; perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ .

**CANADA.**—It is reported that of the Quebec Tercentenary stamps the only values now remaining in the Post Office Department are the 10 c., 15 c., and 20 c.; all the lower values are exhausted.

*Mekeel's Weekly* informs us that some provisional wrappers have appeared.

##### Wrappers.

1 c. on 2 c., carmine on manila; black surcharge.  
1 c. on 3 c., slate on manila       "       "

**CAYMAN ISLANDS.**—A  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. post card with stamp similar to the new adhesive of same value has appeared.—*M.C.*

*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the dispatch to the Islands of a 6d. stamp, lilac on white.

##### Adhesive.

6d., lilac on white; multiple; chalky.

##### Post Card.

$\frac{1}{4}$ d., brown on buff.

**INDIA.**—*Cochin*.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write: "We have received a letter from the Postmaster of this place, informing us that no new postage stamps have been issued, and that the 1 anna stamp with the portrait of the ruler of the State, which has been illustrated, is a Revenue stamp and is not sold at the Post Office."

**Hyderabad.**—The  $\frac{1}{4}$  a. and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a. in new colours and two new values are chronicled in *Gibbons Weekly*.

##### Adhesives.

$\frac{1}{4}$  a., pale grey.  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  a., pale green.  
1 a., carmine.  
2 a., lilac.

**MALAY STATES.**—According to *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* the 1 cent is now coming in a new shade, *dark green*.

##### Adhesive

1 c., dark green; multiple; ordinary.

**NATAL.**—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. write us as follows: "The Postmaster-General informs us that the new stamps for postage only will consist of the following values:—6d., 1s., 2s., and 2s. 6d. in the small size, 5s., 10s., and 20s. in the larger size. You will remember that a short time ago an announcement was made that the colours of all the high-value Natal stamps were to be changed, the 30s. having already appeared in the altered colours, but of the old type inscribed 'Postage and Revenue.' Now it is a question whether the 'Postage and Revenue' stamps of the other values in altered colours will appear before the new 'Postage' only. A separate issue of Revenue stamps only will consist of the following values:—6d., 1s., 2s., 2s. 6d., 5s., 10s., 20s., 30s., £5, £10, and £20."

**NEWFOUNDLAND.**—A new 2 cent stamp has appeared, and is described in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* as follows:—

##### Adhesive

New design, same size as before; with map of Newfoundland. Presumably in order to avoid jealousy no towns are named on the map. The "Gulf of St. Lawrence" (to the left) and "Atlantic Ocean" (to the right) are, however, both named.

2 c., lake-red; perf. 12. Imprint of "American Bank Note Co., N.Y."

Issued 11.9.08 or earlier.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—A correspondent has sent us for inspection the rod. current type and paper, perf. 12 all round. As the machine gauging 12 came to grief eighteen months ago and was replaced by the present 11½, this stamp is now obsolete; and, as it has not apparently been noticed before, it will most likely prove to be a scarce variety.—*Australian Philatelist*.

*Adhesive.*

rod., Queen's Head, violet; Crown and A; perf. 12.

NEW ZEALAND.—*Gibbons Weekly* chronicles the ½d., and the 6d. and 1s. stamps (reduced size) with a new perforation, viz. 14 × 15, comb machine.

*Adhesives.*

½d., green; single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 14 × 15.  
6d., pink; single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 14 × 15.  
1s., vermilion; single-lined NZ and Star; perf. 14 × 15.

NYASALAND PROTECTORATE.—Mr. F. H. Melland has very kindly sent us specimens of the ½d. to 1s. stamps chronicled on page 157.

We thank our correspondent for permission to add these stamps to the Royal Philatelic Society's collection.

Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have been officially informed that immediately after the issue of the new Nyasaland Protectorate stamps the entire stock of the old British Central Africa stamps was destroyed.

PAPUA.—The new 2½d. stamp comes to hand from Messrs Whitfield King and Co., and is found to be perforated 11, but we understand that it exists with the 12½ perforation as well.

ST. VINCENT.—The 5s. value on multiple, chalky paper is listed in *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.

*Adhesive.*

5s., green and blue; multiple; chalky.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that the 10s. on Crown SA paper with thick "POSTAGE," referred to on pages 266 and 299, Vol. XVI, has now really been issued, and that the current 9d. has appeared in a new shade.

*Adhesive.*

9d., deep lake; Crown over A wmk.

SUDAN.—The 2 piastres with the multiple Crescent and Stars watermark is to hand from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

It has been chronicled for some time, but doubtless it has only lately been issued.

TASMANIA.—The *P.J.G.B.* lists the 9d. stamp in an ultramarine shade, and, it is stated, quite different from anything previously chronicled.

*Adhesive.*

9d., bright ultramarine; Crown and A.

VICTORIA.—We understand from *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* that the 5s. on Crown A paper, perf. 12½, has appeared.

*Adhesive.*

5s., red and blue; Crown and A; perf. 12½.

## EUROPE.

FRANCE.—Mr. Franz Reichenheim has kindly sent us specimens of two new Postage Due stamps issued on October 1st.

The inscriptions read "Republique Française" at top, "Postes et Telegraphes" at bottom, and in the centre:—

RECouvreMENTS

VALEURS IMPAYÉES

10<sup>centes</sup>

LOI DE FINANCES

du 26 Janvier 1892, Art 29

*Postage Dues.*

1 centime, sap-green; perf. 14 × 13.  
10 centimes, violet „

HOLLAND.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the 6½ c. Postage Due stamp chronicled last year, and a new postal, value 1½ cent.

In *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* a new card is listed.

*Adhesive.*

1½ c., blue; perf. 12½.

*Post Card.*

1½ c., blue; single and reply.

ICELAND.—Two new stamps have appeared here, and specimens are to hand from Mr. W. T. Wilson and Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

The designs are the same as the issue of last year.

*Adhesive.*

15 aur, red, green centre; wmk. Crown; perf. 12½-13.

*Official.*

15 aur, bright blue, grey centre; wmk. Crown; perf. 12½-13.



LEVANT (*German Post Offices*).—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. a set of five of the current stamps of Germany surcharged diagonally in black in French currency, and the *M.C.* lists some stationery.

*Adhesives.*

- 5 centimes on 5 pf., green.  
 10 „ on 10 pf., rose.  
 25 „ on 20 pf., blue.  
 50 „ on 40 pf., red and black.  
 100 „ on 80 pf., red and black on rose.  
 All watermarked.

*Envelope*.—5 centimes on 5 pf., green.

*Wrapper*.—5 „ on 5 pf. „

*Post Cards*.—10, 10 + 10 c. on 10, 10 + 10 pf., rose on buff.

LEVANT (*Italian Post Offices*).—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us the current 15 c., 1 lira, 5 lire, and the 25 c. Express stamp of Italy surcharged respectively 30 para in red, and 4 piastre, 20 piastre, and

LEVANTE in black.

1 PIASTRA 1

*Adhesives.*

- 30 para, in red, on 15 c., slate.  
 4 piastre, in black, on 1 lira, green and brown.  
 20 „ „ on 5 lire, rose and blue.

*Express Letter Stamp.*

LEVANTE in black, on 25 c., rose.  
 1 PIASTRA 1

ROUMANIA.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. have sent us the 40 bani, green, of the new issue already chronicled, and probably only lately put into circulation.

It is perf.  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ , and apparently without watermark.

The discovery of the 1 ban of 1902, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$  all round, is reported in *Gibbons Weekly*.

*Adhesive.*

1 ban, brown; 1902 issue; perf.  $13\frac{1}{2}$ .

SWITZERLAND.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that the new 30 c. and 40 c. stamps are watermarked with the Large Cross, Type 13, and printed on granite paper, perf.  $11\frac{1}{2}$ –12. Mr. W. T. Wilson informs us that the 20 c. and 50 c. have appeared, sending a specimen of the former.

AMERICA.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—An addition to the set of new stationery is made by the *M.C.*

*Envelope.*

5 centavos; dull carmine on white.

BRAZIL.—On Continental authority *Gibbons Weekly* announces the discovery of the 100 r. Postage Due stamp similarly watermarked to the 200 r. of 1905.

*Postage Due.*

100 r., brick-red; watermark “Correio Federal Republica Dos Estados Unidos Do Brazil,” in single-line capitals in the sheet; perf. 11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .

ECUADOR.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports, on Continental authority, that the 1907 set has been overprinted “Consejo Escolar provincia de Pichincha-Quito.”

PARAGUAY.—We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. the 5 centavos, slate-blue, Official stamp, dated 1904, with the overprint in black “Habilitado” with one line below, intended, doubtless, to cover the word “Oficial.”

This variety is, we believe, new to our chronicle.

*Adhesive.*

5 c., slate-blue; overprinted “Habilitado.”

PERU.—We take the following from the *Metropolitan Philatelist*:—

“The designs and colours of the new set have now been given out, which are as follows:—

- 1 c., grey; Manco-Capac, founder of the kingdom of the Incas.  
 2 c., green; Christopher Columbus.  
 4 c., bright red; Pizarro, conqueror of Peru.  
 5 c., violet; San Marten.  
 10 c., dark blue; Bolivar.  
 12 c., sky-blue; Gen. La Mar, first President of the Republic.  
 20 c., rose; Marshal Castilla, who, after the Revolution of 1844, abolished slavery.  
 50 c., bistre; Admiral Grau.  
 1 sol, blue and red; Col. Bolognesi.”

OTHER COUNTRIES.

ABYSSINIA.—*Gibbons Weekly* has received the  $\frac{1}{2}$  g., red, surcharged  $\frac{1}{2}$  in blue.  
 PIASTRE

*Provisional.*

1 pi. on  $\frac{1}{2}$  g., red; blue surcharge.

AFGHANISTAN.—*Gibbons Weekly* states that the three new stamps lately issued imperforate may be found perf. 12, and also that the 2 abasi exists with a zigzag roulette.

*Adhesives.*

- 2 a., blue, with zigzag roulette.  
 1 a., green; perf. 12.  
 2 a., blue „  
 1 r., green „

CHINA (*Japanese Post Offices*).—In spite of the report of the discontinuance of the overprint the *Timbre-Poste* is informed that the new 5 and 10 yen stamps have received it.—*M.C.*

DUTCH INDIES.—We hear from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. that they have received the 2½ gulden with the "Java" overprint.

The 15 cents with both overprints has two horizontal bars ruled across in black to distinguish this value from the 50 c.

Another provisional envelope has been chronicled.

*Adhesive.*

2½ g., slate; with "Java" overprint in black

*Envelope.*

12½ c. on 15 c., brown; black surcharge.

INDO-CHINA.—A new series of Postage Due stamps has been issued for this colony, and *Mekeel's Weekly* lists the following:—

*Postage Dues.*

2 c., black.  
4 c., blue.  
5 c., green.  
10 c., carmine.  
15 c., violet.  
20 c., dark brown.  
30 c., olive-green.  
40 c., violet-brown.  
50 c., blue-green.  
60 c., orange-yellow.  
1 f., grey.  
2 f., yellow-brown.  
5 f., vermillion.

RIO DE ORO.—The following information reaches us from Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.:—

"There is a shortage of several values in this place, and as the new stamps (one set for the whole of the Spanish West African colonies) which was expected some months ago is not likely to be issued until January next, it is likely that more provisionals may be issued before the end of the year. Some Continental journals have stated that the Rio de Oro surcharged stamps originated from Madrid and were not issued in the colony. This we are able to say is absolutely false, as all our supplies come direct, and the last order we sent to our agent for complete sets of the current issue could not be filled because of several values being sold out."

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.—The *S.C.F.* informs us that the 5 c. now appears in yellow-green.

TUNIS.—Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. send us some surcharged stamps and write:

"In order to work off a large stock of stamps of the old issue we are informed that the following surcharges have been made on the issue of 1902.

10 c., surcharged in red on 15 c., grey.  
35 c. " " on 1 fc., bronze-green.  
40 c. " " in blue on 2 fcs., violet.  
75 c. " " on 5 fcs., lilac.

"The 15 c. envelopes and letter cards are also reduced in value by a surcharge of 10 c."

## Philatelic Societies' Meetings.

### Birmingham Philatelic Society.

*Hon. President*—SIR W. B. AVERY, BART.

*President*—R. HOLLICK, ESQ.

*Vice-Presidents*—

T. W. PECK, ESQ. W. PIMM, ESQ.

*Committee*—

F. T. COLLIER. J. J. KNOWLES.  
P. T. DEAKIN. T. GROOM, D.S.C.  
H. GRINDALL. C. A. STEPHENSON.

*Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*—

MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.

*Official Address*—

308 Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

OCT. 1.—Annual General Business Meeting.  
The following programme was approved:—

1908.  
Oct. 22. Display: Victoria, 1868-85. Messrs. R. Hollick and C. A. Stephenson.  
Nov. 5. Paper: "St. Vincent, 1861-77." Mr. W. Pimm.  
" 26. Paper: "Barbados, 1852-70." Mr. C. A. Stephenson.  
Dec. 3. Auction.  
" 17. Display for forthcoming Exhibition.
1909.  
Jan. 7. Lantern Display. Mr. J. A. Margoschis.  
" 12-15. Exhibition at Midland Institute.  
Feb. 11. Display: St. Helena and other African Colonies. Dr. T. Groom.  
" 25. Display: British Guiana. Mr. B. B. Tilley.  
Mar. 4. Auction.  
" 18. Notes on Sunday label stamps of Belgium, with Display. Mr. F. E. Wilson.

1909.  
April. 1. Paper: "Cashmere." Mr. Alex. J. Sefi.

„ 29. Annual Dinner.

£5 was granted toward the Permanent Collection.

The report and balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £89 1s. 0½d, were approved.

The officers and Committee were elected as above.

The rules of the auctions were revised in favour of the members who wish to sell at the same.

Messrs. P. Lanzon, F. Brocchi, J. M. Molesworth, W. Silk, Alex. J. Sefi, V. F. James, and S. C. L. Wade were elected members.

Votes of thanks were entered on the minutes to all those who had sent periodicals during the past session, also to Messrs. F. C. Henderson, F. Brocchi, Mrs. Lake, Messrs. H. Barnwell and P. T. Deakin for recent additions to the Permanent Collection, and to Mr. H. S. Hodson for catalogues.

It was decided, as usual, to enter the names of all those who had given donations to the Permanent Collection during the past year in the front of the albums in the order of the value of the gifts.

A vote of sympathy with the Hon. President in his illness was unanimously passed, as was the decision to supply every member with the *Philatelic World* for the next twelve months who sends 6d. for the postage on same to the Hon. Secretary.

The total value of stamps circulated during the past year was £28,963 2s. 11d., and the total sold £2874 11s. 9d. The total membership on September 30 was 255, but we still welcome philatelists of good standing, whether collectors or dealers, and should be glad of more colonial and foreign members who could send sheets regularly.

Any one who has not received a copy of the Annual Report may have one on application to the Hon. Secretary.

### Bradford Philatelic Society.

Session 1908-9.

President:

F. GERHARTZ, ESQ.

Vice-Presidents:

W. M. GRAY, ESQ. A. H. STAMFORD, ESQ.  
REV. — BRENNAN.

Secretary of Exchange Club:

W. J. E. HINSCLIFF, ESQ., 26 Byron Street,  
Bradford.

Treasurer:

W. E. WHITE, ESQ., 5 Manor Terrace, Bradford.

Hon. Secretary and Librarian:

A. J. FOULGER, ESQ., 9 Beechwood Grove,  
Moorhead Lane, Shipley.

1903.  
Sept. 24. Address and Philatelic Display by President.

Oct. 15. Display by E. Heginbottom, Esq., Hong Kong and Straits Settlements.

Nov. 5. Visit by Leeds to Bradford.

„ 19. Visit by Bradford to Huddersfield—General Display.

„ 26. Display by F. H. Oliver, Esq. (of London), Cape of Good Hope Stamps.

Dec. 1. Visit by Bradford to Leeds—Display of Pictorial Issues of New Zealand, by A. H. Stamford, Esq.

„ 17. Display by A. J. Foulger, Esq., British Colonials, with notes.

1909.  
Jan. 7. Display by I. Townend, Esq., King's Heads and General Colonials.

„ 28. Display of Great Britain Surface-printed Stamps issued up to 1884, by W. M. Gray, Esq.

Feb. 18. Visit by Leeds to Bradford.

Mar. 11. Visit by Huddersfield to Bradford—General Display.

„ 16. Visit by Bradford to Leeds—Display of Great Britain Surface-printed Stamps issued up to 1884, by W. M. Gray, Esq.

April 1. Display by E. Heginbottom, Esq., Stamps of Ceylon.

„ 22. Display by A. H. Stamford, Esq., King's Head Issues.

May 13. Annual Meeting and Display by Bradford Members.

Meetings are held every third Thursday, from September 24 to May 13, both inclusive. Time of meeting, 7.30 p.m., District Bank Chambers, Market Street, Bradford.

### Herts Philatelic Society.

Programme for the Session 1908-9.

1908.  
Oct. 20. Display of a portion of his collection, by the Earl of Crawford, K.T.

Nov. 17. Display of St. Vincent and Bahamas, with notes, by Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P.

Dec. 15. Display of Europeans (unused), with notes, by Mr. Robt. Reid.

1909.  
Jan. 19. Display of Great Britain, with notes, by Baron Anthony de Worms.

Feb. 16. Display of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co.'s Collection of Forgeries of Italian States, etc., with notes, by Mr. Chas. J. Phillips.

„ „ Paper on the Italian States, by Mr. Percy Ashley, M.A.

Mar. 16. Display of Holland and Colonies, with notes, by Mr. A. J. Warren.

April 20. "The Purchasing Power of the Penny, from a Philatelic and a Non-Philatelic Point of View," with Display, by the Vice-President (Mr. H. L. Hayman) and Mr. Percy Ashley, M.A.

May 18. Annual Meeting.

## Leeds Philatelic Society.

### OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

#### Honorary President—

L. L. R. HAUSBURG, F.R.P.S.L.

#### President—

CHAS. W. HARDING, 1 Marlborough Grove,  
Leeds.

#### Senior Vice-President—

J. W. DUFFIELD, 4 South View Terrace,  
Headingley, Leeds.

#### Junior Vice-President—

P. M. KNIGHT, Pool, via Leeds.

#### Hon. Treasurer—

J. W. DUFFIELD, 4 South View Terrace,  
Headingley, Leeds.

#### Hon. Secretary—

T. S. FRASER, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley,  
Leeds.

#### Hon. Assistant Secretary—

CLIFFORD MOSS, 31 Woodhouse Lane, Leeds.

#### Hon. Librarian—

T. S. FRASER, 22 Oriental Terrace, Armley,  
Leeds.

#### Hon. Auctioneer—

J. E. KITCHEN, Albion Place, Leeds.

#### Exchange Manager—

G. DAVIS, Lee Lane, Horsforth, Leeds.

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#### Syllabus, 1908-9.

1908.  
Oct. 6. Philatelic Gathering.  
,, 20. Display of European Stamps—old issues—by the members.  
Nov. 3. Display of the Stamps of Hong Kong and Straits Settlements, with notes, by E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.  
,, 5. Visit to the Bradford Society.

\* Members who have notified a desire to serve on Committee.

1908.  
Nov. 17. Display of Stamps of the South American Republics, by the members, and Stamp Auction.  
Dec. 1. Visit of the Bradford Society. Display of the Pictorial issues of New Zealand, by A. H. Stamford, Esq.  
,, 3. Visit to the Huddersfield Society.  
,, 15. Display, by H. Wade, Esq.  
1909.  
Jan. 5. Display of the Stamps of Malta, Gibraltar, and Cyprus, with notes, by E. Heginbottom, Esq., B.A.  
,, 19. Paper: "History and the Postage Stamp," and Display, by W. E. Lincoln, Esq.  
Feb. 2. Display of the Stamps of Egypt, with notes, by J. W. Duffield, Esq.  
,, 18. Visit to the Bradford Society.  
,, 20. Visit to the Manchester Postage Stamp Exhibition.  
Mar. 2. Display of British Bechuanaland Stamps, with notes, by T. K. Skipwith, Esq., and Stamp Auction.  
,, 16. Visit of the Bradford Society. Display of the Surface-printed Stamps of Great Britain issued up to 1884, with notes, by W. M. Gray, Esq., F.R.P.S.L.  
,, 30. Visit of the Huddersfield Society.  
April 6. Paper and Display, by Fred. A. Padgett, Esq.  
,, 20. Display of "some recent issues," with notes, by G. Davis, Esq. Stamp Auction.  
May. 4. Display of British West Indian (including Turks Islands) Stamps, with notes, by the President.  
,, 18. Annual Meeting.

THE opening meeting of the twentieth session was held on Tuesday, October 6th, in the Leeds Institute.

The President (Mr. C. W. Harding) extended a cordial greeting to the members and visitors who were present.

Mr. Egly gave a display of European stamps, none of these being of a later period than 1890. Many of the greatest rarities in mint and superb used condition were shown.

The following new issues and novelties were shown:—By Mr. Egly: 1 and 2 piastres, Turkey; 50 bani, Roumania; 5 centimes on 5 pfennig, German Levant; 10 paras on 5 centesimi, 30 paras on 15 centesimi, 40 paras on 15 centesimi, and an official post card, issued to commemorate the opening of Italian post offices in the Levant on June 1st. By Mr. Duffield: 10, 20, 30 and 60 paras, 1 and 2½ piastres, Austrian Levant; 1, 2, 5 and 6 heller, Austria. By Mr. W. Dennison Roebuck: An official Australian Commonwealth post card, issued to commemorate the visit of the American fleet to Melbourne.

The next meeting will be held on October 20th, when there will be a display of European stamps—old issues—by the members.

## The Market.

NOTE.—Under this title will be inserted all the information that may refer in any way to the financial aspects of Philately, e.g. the sales or values of stamps, the state of the Market, Trade publications, etc.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, AND COOPER.

Sale of 24 and 25 September, 1908.

	* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1847-54, 6d., lilac, mint		2	0	0
" I.R. OFFICIAL," 1885, 5s., rose		3	12	0
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue		4	0	0
Moldavia, 27 paras, black on rose		24	0	0
Spain: Private Postage stamp, allowed to be used by the late Señor Castell, 1869, blue, an unused <i>tête-bêche</i> pair* slightly thinned at back		2	0	0
Ceylon, 1863, CC, perf. 13, 9d., brown		3	7	6
Cape woodblock, 1d., red		5	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d., deep blue		3	12	6
Griqualand, 1877, large "G" in red, 5s., Type III.*		2	6	0
Transvaal, 1869-77, 6d., ultramarine, imperf.		3	10	0
Ditto, 1877, overprinted "V.R. TRANSVAAL," 6d., dull blue, with inverted surcharge, defective		2	6	0
Ditto, ditto, 6d., blue on blue, with full wide roulettes, pin-hole		2	7	0
Zululand, £5, purple and black on red, mint		6	0	0
British Guiana, first issue, 12 c., deep blue, cut octagonally		3	3	0
New Zealand, 1860-2, pelure paper, perf. 13, 1d., vermilion, with dated postmark, imperf. left side, and a trifle defective		3	0	0
Ditto, 1907, overprinted "OFFICIAL" vertically, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 2s., and 5s., all mint		3	3	0
Queensland, 1882-3, perf. 9½ × 12, 2d., blue, mint		3	10	0
South Australia, 1867-70, 1s., brown, horizontal pair, rouletted on left side, perf. 12½ on other sides and on top, and imperf. at bottom, with Expert Committee's report		2	16	0
Ditto, 1870-1, perf. 10 × 11½, 3d., in black, on 4d., sky-blue*		3	17	6
Victoria, 1868-81, perf. 11½, 5s., blue and red, mint		2	5	0
Collection: 4772		32	0	0

Sale of 8 and 9 October, 1908.

	* Unused.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d., black, mint, strips of 3	£2 2s. and	2	2	0
Ditto, "BOARD OF EDUCATION," 1902, 1s., mint, with certificate		3	0	0
" I.R. OFFICIAL," 1884-5, 5s., rose on blue*		2	0	0
Prussia, 1857, 2 sg., blue, solid background,* thinned		3	3	0
Wurtemberg, 1858-60, 6 k., green, imperf.*		2	2	0
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf.		2	17	6
Philippines, 1869-74, "Habilitado," 1 real		2	17	6
Orange River Colony, 1890, 1d. on 3d., ultramarine, sheet of 240, showing types, mint		3	0	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 4d., scarlet-vermilion		2	8	0
U.S. America, 1869-75, reissue, without embossing, 90 c.*		2	6	0
Cayman Islands, 1d. on 4d., mint		3	5	0
Ditto, 2½d. on 4d., mint		3	5	0
Grenada, 1883, "Postage" on half 1d., orange, Type 10, pair*		2	17	6
New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., blue, Plate IV.		2	4	0
Western Australia, 6d., golden bronze		2	12	0
Collections: 5022, £74; "Specimen" stamps, 482, £36; Lallier, 1004		10	10	0

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MESSRS. PUTTICK AND SIMPSON.

Sale of 29 and 30 September, 1908.

Great Britain, 1841, 1d., red-brown, pair, Dickinson paper*	2	4	0
Ditto, 1854-7, 1d., red-brown, Large Crown, 16, on <i>bleuté</i> , mint	2	0	0
Ditto, 1862, 3d., rose, Plate 3, with dots, with "penny" perf., perfs. a little cut at top*	2	14	0
Ditto, 1876, 8d., brown, mint	2	6	0
Ditto, 1880, 2s., brown,* no perf. at right	2	12	6
Ditto, 1882-3, £1, brown-lilac, on white	2	10	0

* Unused.	£	s.	d.	* Unused.	£	s.	d.	
Great Britain, 1882-3, £5, orange on bluish, creased	4	7	6	Collections: 923, £26, and one of France and Colonies	15	0	0	
Ditto, 1884, Crowns, £1, brown-purple, mint	5	10	0	* * *				
Ditto, "I.R. OFFICIAL," 1885, £1, Crowns, "Specimen"	5	15	0	MESSRS. HARMER, ROOKE, AND Co.				
Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green	2	10	0	Sale of 7 September, 1908.				
Ditto, 1872-80, CC, 2 r. 50 c., lilac-rose	2	6	0	British Central Africa, 1898, imperf., 1d., red and blue*	2	4	0	
India, 1898, ¼ on ½ a., blue-green, surcharged on the double-printed variety, mint	3	3	0	Great Britain, "I.R. OFFICIAL," Queen, 5s., rose	2	17	6	
Ditto, China Expeditionary Force, 1900, 1½ a., sepia, mint	2	15	0	Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut perfs., 6d., yellow-green, mint	1	7	6	
Ditto, Jhind, 1885, "Jeend," ½, 1, 2, 4, and 8 a., and 1 rupee, complete, mint	3	15	0	Ditto, ditto, ditto, 4d., mint	1	5	0	
Labuan, 1880, 6 in red on 16 c., blue	4	7	0	Collection of Great Britain and Colonies, 1983 stamps	6	15	0	
British Central Africa, 1895, no wmk., £25, blue-green and black, apparently a postally used copy	10	10	0	Sale of 23 September, 1908.				
Cape woodblock, 4d., dark blue	3	17	6	Great Britain, 1854-7, Small Crown, Die I, 1d., red-brown, mint, strip of 3	2	4	0	
United States, 1873, 24 c., deep violet, mint	2	4	0	Ditto, 1887-92, imperf. proof of 3d., black on green, pair	1	0	0	
Ditto, Justice, 90 c., mint	2	6	0	Holland, 1907, Postage Due, 7½ c., blue, pairs, one stamp being the variety error in spacing between 7 and ½ £1 6s. and	1	8	0	
Trinidad, 1860, clean-cut perf., 4d., brown-lilac, pair, mint	2	2	0	Ditto, ditto, ditto, 12½ c., blue, mint, blocks of 4, similar varieties	£1 and	1	2	0
Mexico, 1864, 3 c., brown,* no gum	2	0	0	India, Gwalior, 1885, 4 as., green, long red surcharge, mint	1	1	0	
New South Wales Sydneys, 2d., deep grey-blue, Plate 2, on entire	2	10	0	Collection of 522 British African Colonials, some mint	8	0	0	
Collections: Lallier's, 4224, £68; Senf, 5444, £40, and plain book, 671	40	0	0	Sale of 28 September, 1908.				
* * *				Great Britain, 1d., black, reconstructed sheet of 240	3	12	6	
MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE AND Co.				Ditto, "BOARD OF EDUCATION," Queen, 1s.	1	10	0	
Sale of 1 and 2 October, 1908.				Orange River Colony, "V.R.I.," ½d., double overprint, S.G. No. 141, mint	1	2	0	
Great Britain, 1d., black, partly reconstructed plate of 227	3	12	6	Transvaal, ditto, 1d., ditto, ditto, S.G. No. 559a, ditto	1	0	0	
Ditto, 2d., blue,* almost full gum	2	6	0	Sale of 3 October, 1908.				
Ditto, "I.R. OFFICIAL," 1884, 5s., carmine	3	15	0	Portuguese Colonies (Nyassa), 1901, centre inverted, 300 reis, mint	1	0	0	
Ditto, ditto, ditto, 10s., blue, minute pinholes	2	12	0	Western Australia, 1857, 2d., brown on red, printed both sides, repaired	1	3	0	
Ceylon, 9d., lilac-brown, imperf.	2	6	0	Collection in Lallier's, 693	20	0	0	
Ditto, 1s. 9d., green, imperf.	2	4	0					
U.S. America, 1875-85, soft paper, the set complete (minus the 9 c.), 1 c. to \$60*	7	0	0					

