

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY



★ CHOOSING STAMPS TO SAVE

★ STAMPS OF SAMOA

25c

VOL. 1. NO. 10.

JANUARY, 1969.

NEW ZEALAND AND BRITISH PACIFIC ISLANDS

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The Pacific Stamp Journal is published monthly and contains Articles, Notes, New Issue News, Postal History News etc, relating to the countries of the group. **New Zealand Stamp Auctions:** Each year we hold four Postal Auctions, all subscribers to the Pacific Stamp Journal automatically receiving Catalogues. The Sales (usually of 300-350 lots each) contain a good range of world-wide material.

A sample copy of **The Pacific Stamp Journal** and full details of all our services will gladly be sent upon receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope.

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The 1968 edition of our Price List of New Zealand and the British Pacific Islands sets is now available—complete and right up-to-date. Every collector interested in the stamps of this group should have a copy. Send 10c in stamps for your copy NOW.

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STAMP MONTHLY

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By the 10th of the month prior
to publication please.

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correspondence to
N.Z.S.M. P.O. Box 513
New Plymouth

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Advertised this month in the C.P. monthly 'Newsletter'

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AUCKLAND 1

NEW ZEALAND

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Once again we stand on the threshold of a new year. A year full of promise, challenges and hopes. 1969 promises plenty for philatelists and stamp collectors. For the younger generation there will be another of the popular philatelic youth camps held this year at Auckland. The older generation can look forward to the National Stamp Exhibition in New Plymouth, the Cook bi-centenary celebrations and special stamp issue, stamp get-togethers at Palmerston North, Hamilton and, I hope, similar functions in the South Island.

How many of us however, accept all these events only as dreams of the events in the future? When the time comes we will see IF we can attend. Unfortunately too many of us let IF creep in and looking back on 1968 we realise in a lot of what we would like to have accomplished we fell far short.

Once again as we make our new year resolutions we say to ourselves we must try harder and yet deep inside we know a month from now something else will be foremost in our minds. Still—others accept the same challenges and year after year they succeed in doing these things.

Let us firmly decide what we would like to accomplish in 1969—trips to conventions, an overseas trip maybe, a new car or a medal award for your collection at TARA-PEX 69. We know that from past experience that it is of no use waiting till the last minute to fulfil these hopes. We must start now and map out a plan. Each month we must reach a certain stage and by attaining each level as we go along we are gratified to find where once we failed, our hopes are no longer dreams.

What does 1969 hold in the way of new issues. An I.L.O. stamp in March, possibly the Govt. Life Centenary issue also in March, the Cook Bicentenary set in October, Health stamps in August, Christmas issue in October — possible issues for fruit growing, meat and sheep farming and the fishing industry, sometime during the year either adding to or replacing values in the current decimal set. —Plenty for any collector.

LEN JURY

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

THREE HEALTH STAMPS POSSIBLE NEXT YEAR

There is a possibility of three health stamps next year—two as usual, plus one extra to commemorate 50 years of the establishment of health camps in New Zealand. Representations are yet to be made to the Post Office.

SALES DOWN \$22,300

Health stamps sales for 1968 were down \$22,364 on last years total. Figures for 1968 sales were \$259,646 compared to 1967 which were \$282,101.

STAMP THEFTS IN NEW PLYMOUTH

On the 14th December a well-known New Plymouth Collector's house was broken into and a number of valued items including albums and stock trays were taken. Items included Cape of Good Hope triangulars, early U.S.A. and an old Russian collection. At the time the collector was dining with fellow members of the Taranaki Society at a Dinner in a City Hotel. Earlier in the week another house was broken into and stamps and a quantity of old German marks were stolen.

DOUBLE PERFS. IN THIS YEARS CHRISTMAS STAMP

Four sheets of the 1968 Christmas stamp have been found in Auckland with partial double perfs. down the right hand side of the sheet (Plate 1B). There is a possibility that others exist but to date only these four have been notified.

AUCKLAND DEALER RETURNS

Mr. Peter Oldham has recently returned to Auckland after spending two years overseas working for United Nations.

1969 YOUTH CAMP AT AUCKLAND

CAMP COLUMN

The fourth stamp camp (Youth Philatelic Camp 1969), will be held at the Methodist Church Health Camp, 60 Park Road, Campbells Bay, Auckland, from May 15th to May 19th, 1969, right in the middle of the school holidays.

The camp is being organised by Rob Hunt who is on the staff of a New Plymouth Stamp Firm. Camp Parents are Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, 11 Anne Street, Tokoroa. Camp Chef is Mrs. V. Hunt, 14 Trina Place, Christchurch.

The programme this year will cover an even greater range of topics—from hints for beginners to how to enter in a national stamp exhibition, and talks and displays on Topicals, Covers, Postal History, and Specialised New Zealand.

This year the campers will be split up into different groups. This means that Juniors do not have to attend a talk on specialising and Seniors will not have to go to talks on establishing a stamp collection.

There will be a number of films and slides shown.

The post office has been approached about providing postal facilities at the camp. As soon as details are known they will be announced in the N.Z.S.M.

Last year we started a very successful scheme where several children from Children's Homes were sponsored to the camp by stamp dealers and a stamp club. If you whether stamp dealer, stamp club or just kind hearted philatelists, are interested in sponsoring an Auckland orphan by paying his or her camp fees, then please contact the camp organiser and let him know. A generous gesture such as this, aids in the promotion of good will in our hobby.

Full details on the camp are available in the Prospectus which is obtainable free if a stamped self addressed envelope is sent to Rob Hunt, Stamp Camp '69, P.O. Box 174, New Plymouth. Watch this column for further details.

A. J. AMBURY,
R.D. 1 Hamilton, N.Z.

Wholesale buyer of used stamps. Send 5c for price list. Retailer of Mint and fine used New Zealand, Australia, Pacific Islands, Great Britain etc. Try me for 8d Commens at 30c each used, 4d chalky paper F.U. at \$3.00 ea. 7d flower invtd. wmk at \$2.50 a block of 4. 1/- Q.E. II good used centre die 1B at \$4.00 each.

POSTAL AUCTIONS

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Stamps —

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By **BILL HORNADGE**
(Editor of "Stamp News")

A tremendous round-up of fascinating stories and facts about stamps and about famous collectors. Of interest to the beginner, the general collector, the specialist and (above all) to the non-collector who is only casually interested in the hobby of philately. "STAMPS—A Collector's Guide," published by Sun Books, Melbourne, is a comprehensive volume which explains why philately is the world's most popular hobby, capturing the interest and imagination of young and old. It relates many fascinating background stories about stamps, about eccentric stamp collectors (including at least one stamp murderer!) and about controversial designs which have caused international incidents and moral upheavals. The book contains a wealth of practical information for established collectors and those who would like to take up the hobby and also includes a comprehensive reference section designed to answer the queries of beginners and advanced collectors. The author has devoted a lifetime to collecting, buying and selling stamps. He has visited more than forty countries of the globe (including two trips as a member of Australian Trade Missions) in search of stamps and of stories for "Stamp News," the monthly magazine which he edits and publishes.

THREE BIG SECTIONS

1

SECTION 1

A brief review of the origins of philately and an interesting, and sometimes hilarious, account of some of the ups and downs of the hobby.

2

SECTION 2

How to form a stamp collection and obtain the maximum enjoyment from the hobby.

3

SECTION 3

A comprehensive reference section designed to answer questions which trouble even experienced philatelists.

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Name

Address

READER'S LETTERS

EXCHANGE WANTED

Durban,
R.S.A.

Dear Sir,

I am an old stamp collector and have thousands of stamps of the undermentioned countries:

Bechuanaland, Basutoland, Swaziland, Lesotho, South Africa, Natal, Cape and Southern African Countries.

I would suggest that the collector sends me, say one hundred stamps or more and I will send stamp for stamp in return of the abovementioned countries.

I would appreciate used stamps of New Zealand.

Your faithfully,
C. C. CHAMPION.

PEOPLE'S LEAGUE STICKERS



Auckland 3.

Dear Sir,

I was very interested in the people's League Stickers shown in your November issue. I had a set of these sent by a friend during a postal strike in 1962.

These stickers I believe were sold to pay for the necessary transport in despatching and delivering mail by members of the League during the strike. In other words these good people took over where the Postmen Branches stopped. The stickers I have were from the Southampton district.

Yours faithfully,
S. J. ROUTLEY (Mrs).

Dear Sir,

In November's Issue of the "N.Z. Stamp Monthly" I noted, on page 10 a request for information; I can supply the following notes on the People's League labels.

On January 1st, 1962, the British Post Office decided on a "work to rule" for higher wages. The People's League for the Defence of Freedom started an Urgent Mail Delivery Service on January 11th. This was



promptly stopped by the Postmaster-General. (One must go back to 1867—to the efforts of the Circular Delivery Company's attempts at cheaper mail—for the only other infringement of Post Office monopolies in England).

The labels were issued in the following sets:

(1) Without the air mail inscription, perforated, 5 values: 6d, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, and 5/-. (1,778 sets printed).

(2) As (1) but rouletted. Same values. (42,240 sets).

(3) Handstamped "Europe 1962 Airmail," for flights to Calais, France. 3 values: 2/-, 2/6, 5/-. (42 of each value printed).

(4) As (3) but 5/- value only, overprinted for airmail. (42,240 sets printed).

In 1966, dealers in England were asking the following for the sets: set 1, 35/-; set 2, 17/6, set 3, £7 10/-; set 4, 17/6.

In conclusion, I am an interested English Postal History collector, and will be only too glad to help with any futures queries, if I can.

As I only came out from England just over a year ago, I wish to add Postal History items to my New Zealand collection. Any offers, please?

Yours faithfully,
K. H. HILLYARD.

New Plymouth.

Dear Sir,

Would any readers please help with these queries.

1: What is the function of sheet no's? (Not plate no's.)

2: At what stage of the printing are they applied to the sheet?

Yours faithfully,

A. ACOTT.

WELSH POSTMARK ODDITY AUCKLAND.

Dear Sir,

Recently I received a letter from a friend in North Wales. The unusual thing about the letter was the postmark.

Instead of the usual postmark giving the name of the town, the date of posting and the time, there was just a purple square with the numbers "635".

I have written to my friend about it, and she has no idea what it means.

As I am rather puzzled about it, I wonder if any other readers have seen anything like this and if so, do they have any ideas what it might mean?

I would like to take this opportunity to say how much I enjoy the N.Z.S.M. It is a very good magazine.

MISS B. A. GRIFFITHS

MINIATURE

The Australian Post Office is likely to issue a souvenir miniature sheet to commemorate ANPEX 1970—the big National Stamp Exhibition to be held in Australia Square, Sydney, from April 27 to May 2, 1970.

There is a precedent for such an issue as the Post Office in 1928 issued a Miniature sheet of four 3d. Blue Kookaburra stamps for the Fourth Australian Philatelic Exhibition, held in Melbourne. This is the only occasion that the Australian Post Office has issued a miniature sheet.

Earlier this year the Council of ANPEX 1970 asked the Post Office to issue in 1970 a special souvenir sheet with a surcharge to be donated to ANPEX Funds—a fairly common practice in Europe.

It is believed that the Post Office has rejected the idea of a surcharged sheet but has tentatively agreed to issue a souvenir sheet without surcharge (as in 1928) for the occasion. It is likely that one or more of the Captain Cook commemorative stamps will be issued in Miniature Sheet format.

Whilst ANPEX 1970 would not stand to gain any direct finances from such an issue, tremendous publicity would be generated by the issue of the sheet and this should greatly increase attendances at the Exhibition, especially as a Post Office will be set-up within the Exhibition to service first day covers of the Cook stamps.

THE DUNEDIN STAMP CENTRE

9 BROADWAY
P.O. BOX 776

We have good stocks of New Zealand, Canada, U.S.A. and Australia. Want lists and enquiries welcome.

This month's specials:

3d Christchurch Exhibition, unmounted mint: Single \$1.80. Blocks of four available.

1936 Anzac: 10c the pair, unmounted mint.

1946 Peace: 50c the set, unmounted mint.

1948 Otago Centennial: 15c the set, unmounted Mint.

1965 Parliamentary Conference: \$1.00 the set mint.

Health. Any set mint from 1943-1954: 8c the pair. C.W.O.

Are you on our mailing list for our Postal Auction. Catalogues free on request. Next auction will be late February. Many desirable items will be offered. Material of interest to all collectors. **Don't delay. Write NOW.**

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SETS

Antigua, Tourism	79c	Cyprus Olympics	40c	Jamaica Labour Day	19c
Barbuda	48c	1966 Defins	\$6.50c	M.C.C. Cricket	23c
Treaty of Breda	35c	Development	65c	Sangster	26c
Methodist Church F.U.	50c	Europa	60c	Games	85c
Anguilla Guides	55c	Dominica National Day '68	48c	Letter Post	15c
Birds	56c	I.H.R.	79c	Lesotho Rock Paintings	\$1.37c
Ascension Fish	72c	Associated Sthd.	\$6.40c	University	60c
I.H.R.	67c	East Africa Olympics	75c	1st Defins s.s.	\$1.80c
Bahamas I.H.R.	\$1.38c	Relics	68c	Malawal '68 Christmas	80c
Tourist	97c	W.H.O.	78c	Malaysia Rubber	42c
Barbados I.H.R.	38c	Gibraltar '68 Christmas	16c	Seacom used	43c
Guides	39c	I.H.R.	44c	Malta F.A.O.	66c
Met. Day	48c	'67 Christmas	30c	La Vallette	63c
1966 Independence	\$1.05c	General Elliott	60c	Fair	59c
E.C.L.A.	10c	Grenada Kennedy	\$1.54c	Gafa	67c
1st Anniv. Independence	70c	Scout	\$1.22c	'66 Christmas used	35c
Bermuda Constiution '68	79c	Guyana Holy Quran	62c	Architecture	68c
I.H.R.	84c	Savings	57c	New Hebrides War	75c
Telephone	82c	Easter	18c	Pakistan Children	7c
Botswana Christmas '68	56c	1, 2, 3c Local 1966 o/p	\$2.00	Iqbal	28c
Arts Museum	60c	Hong Kong '68 New Year	35c	Export	18c
University	90c	Ireland Tourist	21c	Flag	6c
Brit. Honduras I.H.R.	58c	Canadian Cent.	28c	20th Anniv	6c
E.C.L.A.	47c	Fenians	23c	South Africa Hertzog	31c
CANADA Bourassa	7c	Swift	27c	R.S.A.	26c
CAYMAN IS. I.H.R.	88c	Europa	30c	1 and 2c re-engraved	7c
Ceylon Holy Quran	7c	St. Mary's Church	19c	15c Dean	25c
W.H.O.	12c	I.H.R.	16c	Seyshelles I.H.R.	86c
				St. Lucia Luther King	37c
				St. Helena '68 defins. c.s.	\$6.20
				Slavery	75c

THE STAMP SHOP

P.O. BOX 174
NEW PLYMOUTH



OCTOBER 6th-11th 1969 PROSPECTUS NOW AVAILABLE

Collectors requiring copies of the fine prospectus produced for the Cook Bi-centennial National Stamp Exhibition are advised to send for their free copy immediately, or available from the following Tarapex '69 representatives:

Auckland: Mr. G. J. ELLOTT
Wellington: Mr R. ROWELL
Christchurch: Mr. R. SAVILL
Dunedin: Mrs. L. E. WALKER

Provisional entry forms have been enclosed with the prospectus so that the organisers can gain some idea of the possible number of entries, which classes are supported most, and what accommodation requirements may be.

Publicity envelopes have also just arrived, and we hope many collectors will buy and use these envelopes so that the exhibition becomes more widely known. Price for the envelopes are 15c per 10, \$1.30 per 100. These envelopes feature the Tarapex '69 emblem, dates and name of the exhibition.

Already, many people will be giving thought to how they will travel to the exhibition. Did you know special concession rates for travel by air, rail or bus can be obtained? Drop a line to the secretary for full details.

Tarapex '69 has recently received wide head-line publicity in local papers. \$1,500,000 worth of stamps for New Plymouth, one head-line read, and since, Tarapex '69 has been a talking point around the city. The local Sunday paper ran a full page article. Elsewhere we have been notified of newspaper articles in Gisborne and Wellington. Already enquiries have arrived from New Guinea and Fiji.

Remember the address for the prospectus, provisional entry form and publicity envelopes.

To The Secretary,

Tarapex '69

Box 491,

New Plymouth.

DESIGN DISAPPEARS

It is no longer possible to see the original of the design for the 8d. Peace stamp. The famous stained glass window at Wellington College has been dismantled and packed away before the hall in which it stood is demolished as an earthquake risk.

—Hutt Valley Newsletter.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE



Mr. J. Kilgour, New Plymouth, recently acquired these items while in Wellington. Two large blue ink blobs give spectacular effect to these pairs.

CROWN AGENTS ANNUAL PHILATELIC COMPETITION

Annually for the last two years the Crown Agents have organised an international philatelic competition aimed at promoting interest in Commonwealth stamps. The trophies have been presented to winners at the STAMPEX (London) opening ceremony.

This year's subject is "Why I collect Commonwealth stamps" and competitors are asked to illustrate nine album sheets with written work, postage stamps and related material.

Prizes will consist of trophies and mini-sets of definitive stamps of the countries for which the Crown Agents act. Trophies will be awarded for entries from the United Kingdom, the Americas, the Continents of Europe, Asia, Australasia and Africa. There will be two sections in each geographical area, Senior and Junior, the top age limit for junior entries being 16 years at 31st December, 1968.

Closing date for entries will be 17th February, 1969, and entry forms, conditions of entry and details are available on receipt of a stamped, addressed envelope from:

Crown Agents' STAMPEX Competition,
6 Broadway Mansions,
Brighton Road,
Worthing, Sussex,
ENGLAND.

EMINENT PHILATELIST VISITS NEW ZEALAND

One of Britain's leading Postal Historians, Mr. F. C. Holland, F.S.P.H. is at present touring New Zealand. Over here to visit his son, he has volunteered to speak to several philatelic societies during his travels. Mr. Holland was associated with the production of S.G. "Great Britain Specialised Catalogue Volume I"; On the jury of the London International Philatelic Exhibition 1950; Author of "The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland"; Helped with the revised part II and part III "The Postage Stamps of Great Britain."

On December 9th he spoke to the Royal Society with an address entitled "Living History." On February 24th he will be at the Wellington Meeting "The difficulties and Troubles of the British Post Office (1840-70) and on 4th March 1969 "Royal Letters" at the Hutt Valley Philatelic Society.

HOLIDAY READING

WHAT STAMP IS THAT?

A Pictorial dictionary to identify those difficult stamps. Enlarged 1969 Edition with 32 pages. New Features include overprints on stamps, inscriptions on stamps and currencies of the world
Only 35c.

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by Bill Hornadge (Editor of Stamp News)

A tremendous round-up of fascinating stories and facts about stamps and about famous collectors. Of interest to the beginner, the general collector, the specialist and (above all) to the non-collector who is only casually interested in the hobby of philately. \$1.50

AUSTRALASIAN CATALOGUE

Complete listing — Australian States — Australia — Papua and New Guinea — Norfolk Island — Nauru — Christmas Island — Antarctic Territory — cocos Keeling Island). Each stamp fully described. Four Colour Cover. Convenient size. Publishers: Seven Seas Stamps, Australia.
1969 Edition Price: \$1.00

JOHN LISTER, ELIZABETHAN

Lists all Q.E. II issues of the British Commonwealth. Pocket size and handsomely bound. 1969 Edition. Best Value at only \$1.00

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The English-language edition of "Animals on Stamps" is now completed and we know it to be far and away the best and most accurate zoological book in the philatelic field. The re-editing alone took six months to ensure spot-on accuracy. Over 400 pages; all animals described by English or common names as well as by their latin titles, and comprehensively cross-indexed; an absolute essential for the collector of this popular topic: Limited Supplies \$3.50

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Cover Collecting:

A well illustrated guide to the collecting and history of covers. Chapters include Postal History — Postal Stationery — Souvenir Covers — First Day Covers — Maximum Cards — Airmail and Maritime Covers. An essential guide by the author, who is an authority in this field 75c.

Learn About Stamps:

An illustrated guide, with a fund of detail on all aspects of this most fascinating hobby. The author provides a wealth of information for those about to begin collecting, or for those who, already collecting, wish to learn more about their hobby. Without doubt will become a standard work. 75c.

COLLECTA HANDBOOKS

The Collecta Handbooks are a series of handbooks relating the history of a country to its stamps. Attractively produced, and uniform in style and format, they form the basis of a philatelic library.

GREAT BRITAIN AND HER STAMPS

by James A. Mackay

160 pages, nearly 300 stamps illustrated, 12 full page plates. \$1.95

MALTA AND HER STAMPS

by James A. Mackay

96 pages, over 150 stamps illustrated. 5 full page plates. \$1.80

GIBRALTAR AND HER STAMPS

by J. L. Rodriguez

Britain's oldest colony in the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, has had a long history and has seldom been out of the public eye.

J. L. Rodriguez, a Gibraltarian by birth, unfolds the story of Gibraltar from its early history to the modern times, relating it to the postal markings and stamps used in the colony. Mr. Rodriguez is well-known in philatelic circles and is Honorary Secretary of the Gibraltar Philatelic Society.

98 pages. Almost 100 illustrations. \$1.95

CHOOSING STAMPS TO SAVE

One of the difficulties faced by present-day philatelists is to determine what stamps they should collect. For beginners, this problem can sometimes be very frustrating. Quite naturally the majority of junior collectors usually start by saving the entire world, mint and used, and end up with a mixed conglomeration of "this and that", a collection devoid of plan or purpose. Generally, a fair proportion of their stamps are heavily post-marked and in poor condition. Always endeavour to collect stamps which are clean and as perfect as possible if your collection is to have any value. To try and save all the stamps of the world is really an impossibility these days. Even if you were fortunate enough to be very wealthy and have a lifetime in which to work it would not be possible to achieve this end. There are just too many stamps. The practical thing to do, therefore, is to select one or two countries, whose particular stamps possess a certain attraction for you. Perhaps one British Commonwealth and one foreign country could be chosen to suit.

In selecting a country or group of countries, it's always a good idea to make a study of the rate of stamp issues of each country. This can be found by checking through your stamp catalogue. You may have a simplified version handy. A quick check will show that certain nations print a large number of stamps each year, whilst others issue no more than a dozen or so at the most, naturally those countries which issue a comparatively small number of new stamps yearly make the task of collection easier if a complete one-country collection is to be obtained. Unfortunately today, the trend appears to be one of flooding the market with an ever-increasing multitude of new issues depicting all manner of people, things and events, many of which have been cancelled to order (C.T.O.) meet popular demand. The true collector strives continually for completion, so if you start in a small way with one or two prime objects in view, you are much more likely to bring your collection to fruition. Should you decide to collect stamps of a country where issues have been in existence for over a century or more, it's good practice to start with the current stamps name a few, issue good specimens



MODERN TYPE

and gradually work backwards, saving those of earlier issues as they come to hand.

One very popular modern type of collecting is known as topicals or thematics, that is, collecting to a topic or theme, irrespective of the country of issue. Thematics can be as simple or as complicated as you wish. Their presentation can be bold, colourful and attractive, or cold, drab and uninteresting, depending on the particular theme you choose to save. There are a very wide range of topics represented on postage stamps, and include locomotives, flowers, bridges, costumes, birds, aeroplanes, buildings, maps, coins, artifacts and so on. One topical collection worth consideration depicts the Virgin Mary, which properly presented makes an impressionable impact in any stamp exhibition. Another, taking the subject of the Antarctica, can be so arranged where the stamps of those nations working in this region can be nicely displayed. All these subjects, and hundreds more, can be found on stamps. Some people save dictators, famous paintings or space probes with appropriate write-ups. Indeed, there are few limits to the possibilities of thematic collecting. However, in collecting these stamps it is always well to remember that the only readily saleable part of a thematic section may be the stamps themselves, so the initial matter of deciding the subject for such a collection, is an important factor.

Some collectors purposely choose a country which is at the moment unpopular for one reason or another. This factor makes it easier to procure your stamps cheaper, for as you are probably aware, the price of a stamp is usually governed by supply and demand. My experience shows that countries of small area and low population, such as Malta, Cyprus, Iceland, Gibraltar, St. Helena, and the Pacific and West Indian Island Groups, to

of stamps in relatively small numbers for which a steady demand prevails, and are, therefore, countries worth consideration when deciding on what stamps to save.

Once you have made up your mind upon the country for your collection, you can buy informative books to help you, or alternatively, visit the reference section of a good Public Library in your city or town, from which you can borrow publications on all aspects of the subject to assist you in the pursuance of this fascinating hobby.

G. LAWSON

PUBLICATIONS

There are numerous penny wise and pound foolish stamp collectors who do not subscribe to any philatelic publications.

When approached on the subject they would rather put the money into stamps. This train of thought is foolish indeed.

After making these comments in "Western Stamp Collector" (U.S.), Mr. Harold Lopes goes on to give his views on the value of philatelic literature generally:

The benefits derived from a subscription to a stamp paper are wide in scope, the cash value of a subscription alone should be convincing. Collectors who can't benefit in actual cash from the ads in a stamp paper in excess of the cost simply do not read it.

The various articles which are written by the "rank and file" and "expert" collectors are extremely informative. Numerous articles appearing in a stamp journal reflect many hours of research which is not available in any encyclopedia. Articles on a particular subject represent many reference books that have been consulted.

A topical collector working up an exhibit will spend months in research alone. He will spend many hours leafing through tons of books to obtain certain information. More likely than not, as some time, the information he seeks is published in a stamp paper. This alone would pay for a subscription.

It is practically impossible to collect stamps intelligently without the aid of a stamp paper or a catalogue.

The savings effected from various offers, the information gained, advice, suggestions and news are invaluable.

A philatelic paper is probably the best investment that can be made by any serious collector of these little bits of paper which we collect and place in our albums with tender loving care.

FILL THOSE GAPS -

1967 DECIMALS

1c Multicolour	2	2
1c Multicolour	2	2
2c Multicolour	3	2
2c Multicolour	3	2
3c Multicolour	4	2
4c Multicolour	5	2
5c Multicolour	6	2
6c Multicolour	8	5
7c Multicolour	9	6
8c Red and Blue	10	3
10c Brown and Green	25	10
15c Brown and Green	40	20
20c Black and Buff	24	5
25c Yellow and Brown	70	30
30c Multicolour	36	10
50c Green	60	30
\$1 Blue	1.20	75
\$2 Magenta	3.50	3.50
Complete Set (18)	7.50	5.05

1968 DECIMALS

10c New Design	12	3
15c Multicolour	18	5
25c Multicolour	30	15
28c Multicolour	33	15

COMMEMORATIVES

1900 1½d Boer War	50	50
1906 ½d Christchurch Ex.	1.00	1.00
1d Christchurch Ex.	1.00	1.00
1913 ½d Auckland Ex.	85	1.00
1d Auckland Ex.	1.00	1.00
3d Auckland Ex.	10.00	11.00
Complete set (4)	24.00	
1920 ½d Victory	8	5
1d Victory	10	2
1½d Victory	8	3
3d Victory	75	45
6d Victory	1.50	80
1/- Victory	—	—
1922 2d on ½d Victory	15	5
1925 ½d Dunedin Ex.	30	30
1d Dunedin Ex.	30	30
4d Dunedin Ex.	—	—
1935 ½d Silver Jubilee	3	3
1d Silver Jubilee	3	3
6d Silver Jubilee	—	—
1936 ½d + ½d Anzac	10	10
1d + 1d Anzac	10	10
½d Cham. of Com.	3	3
1d Cham. of Com.	4	3
2½d Cham. of Com.	30	35
4d Cham. of Com.	35	35
6d Cham. of Com.	25	25
Complete Set (5)	90	95
1940 ½d Centennial	2	2
2½d Coronation	8	8
6d Coronation	15	10
Complete Set (3)	25	20
1940 ½d Centennial	2	2
1d Centennial	3	3
1½d Centennial	4	2
2d Centennial	4	2
2½d Centennial	5	8
3d Centennial	20	4
4d Centennial	20	5
5d Centennial	20	20
6d Centennial	20	5
7d Centennial	75	75
8d Centennial	25	15
9d Centennial	75	60
1/- Centennial	1.25	40
Complete Set (13)	3.75	2.25

1944 10d on 1½d Centennial	10	10
1946 ½d Peace	3	2
1d Peace	2	2
1½d Peace	5	4
2d Peace	4	2
3d Peace	5	3
4d Peace	7	5
5d Peace	8	3
6d Peace	9	3
8d Peace	12	8
9d Peace	15	12
1/- Peace	20	15
Complete Set (11)	85	55
1948 1d Otago Cent.	3	2
2d Otago Cent.	4	2
3d Otago Cent.	4	2
6d Otago Cent.	10	8
Complete Set (4)	20	15
1950 1d Canterbury Cent.	3	3
2d Canterbury Cent.	4	3
3d Canterbury Cent.	5	5
6d Canterbury Cent.	10	10
1/- Canterbury Cent.	20	20
Complete Set (5)	40	40
1953 2d Coronation	5	3
3d Coronation	7	7
4d Coronation	15	12
8d Coronation	30	30
1/6 Coronation	35	35
Complete Set (5)	90	80
3d Royal Visit	4	3
4d Royal Visit	8	7
Complete Set (2)	12	10
1955 2d Stamp Cent.	5	3
3d Stamp Cent.	7	2
4d Stamp Cent.	10	10
Complete Set (3)	20	15
1956 2d Southland Cent.	5	3
3d Southland Cent.	7	2
8d Southland Cent.	40	45
Complete Set (3)	50	50
1957 4d Lamb Export	15	15
8d Lamb Export	50	55
Complete Set (2)	65	70
3d Plunket Society	7	3
1958 6d Tasman Air Crossing	15	12
3d Nelson Cent.	7	3
2d Hawkes Bay C.	6	3
3d Hawkes Bay C.	7	2
8d Hawkes Bay C.	50	50
Complete Set (3)	60	55
1959 3d Boy Scout	7	3
2d Marlborough C.	5	3
3d Marlborough C.	7	2
8d Marlborough C.	50	50
Complete Set (3)	60	55
3d + 1d Red Cross	10	4
1960 2d Westland Cent.	5	3
3d Westland Cent.	7	2
8d Westland Cent.	55	55
Complete Set (3)	65	60
1962 3d Telegraph	5	2
8d Telegraph	35	35
Complete Set (2)	40	36
1963 3d Railway Cent.	5	2
1/9 Railway Cent.	60	50
Complete Set (2)	65	50
8d Compac Cable	50	50
1964 3d Road Safety	5	2
1965 4d Anzac	6	2
5d Anzac	12	10
9d I.T.U.	20	20
7d Churchill	10	10
4d Government	5	2
4d I.C.Y.	5	2

4d Parliament	5	5
9d Parliament	20	20
2/- Parliament	1.00	1.00
Complete Set (3)	1.20	1.20
1966 4d Scout	5	2
1967 4d P.O. Savings	5	2
9d P.O. Savings	20	20
7½c Trout	15	10
4c Royal Society	8	8
8c Royal Society	15	20
1968 3c Bible	5	2
4c Armed Services	6	7
10c Armed Services	15	18
28c Armed Services	40	45
3c Suffrage	5	2
10c Human Rights	15	15

CHRISTMAS STAMPS

1960 2d	80	10
1961 2½d	40	5
1962 2½d	20	4
1963 2½d	10	2
1964 2½d	10	2
1965 3d	8	2
1966 3d	6	2
1967 2½c	5	2
1968 2½c	4	2

HEALTHS

1929 Nurse (1)	1.50	1.50
1930 Nurse (1)	3.00	3.25
1931 Smiling Boy (2)	—	—
1932 Hygeia (1)	4.00	3.00
1933 Pathway (1)	2.50	2.50
1934 Crusader	2.20	2.00
1935 Keyhole (1)	80	65
1936 Lifebuoy (1)	45	30
1937 Hiker (1)	90	90
1938 Children at Play (1)	45	30
1939 Beach Ball (2)	90	95
1940 Beach Ball (2)	1.20	1.20
1941 Beach Ball (2)	50	60
1942 Swing	30	30
1943 Triangles (2)	11	11
1944 Princesses (2)	10	10
1945 Peter Pan	8	6
1946 Soldier and Child (2)	8	6
1947 Eros (2)	8	6
1948 Health Camp (2)	8	6
1949 Nurse and Child (2)	8	6
1950 Princess Elizabeth & Prince Charles (2)	8	6
1951 Yachts (2)	8	8
1952 Princess Anne and Prince Charles (2)	10	8
1953 Guides & Scouts (2)	8	8
1954 Mt. Aspiring (2)	9	8
1955 Medallion (3)	19	16
1956 Picking Apples (3)	19	15
1957 Beach Scenes (2)	10	10
1958 Girls' and Boys' Brigades (2)	10	9
1959 Tete and Poaka (2)	14	9
1960 Kotara and Kereru (2)	18	10
1961 Kotuku and Karearea (2)	18	10
1962 Karariki & Tieke (2)	18	10
1963 Prince Andrew (2)	14	10
1964 Tarapunga & Korora (2)	12	10
1965 Ka and Fantail (2)	12	10
1966 Ball Bird and Weka	12	10
1967 Football	13	10
1968 Games	13	10

THE STAMP SHOP

P.O. BOX 174,
NEW PLYMOUTH.

POSTMARK CORNER

A. F. WATTERS

The winds of change blew last month for five Post Offices and four telephone offices closed—eight on the Wanganui River.

Closed Post Offices: Koriniti, Ranana and Matahiwi Landing 16th December; Punakitere, 20th December. Telephone offices: Matahiwi, Parikiho, Upokopito and Whakalhuwaka.

Jerusalem 1-1-1885 and Koriniti 1-4-1898. Both these places had a very large Maori population and a Post Office was opened at Jerusalem at about the same time as the Salvation Army started its Maori work in New Zealand. Government figures show that 6,000 people lived around this area (though they haven't defined the exact size of the area) in 1896. It is possible that this figure may have included those that lived on or near the Wanganui River. Jerusalem once had 18 shops and was an important stage coach stop. The Salvation Army commenced work at Koriniti, which by the way, is Maori for Corinthians, so there is a Biblical tie-up here. Early in 1906 the Army left and moved to a new field on the east coast, leaving flourishing towns, but by 1912 a gradual slide of population had set in and by 1920 many shops had gone.

Ranana 1-2-1904. This office is eleven miles southward by road from Pipiriki and like the other three Post Offices, is situated on the east bank of the Wanganui. This is sheep country and in the early days, when boats used the river, a good wharf was situated near here. A low island which can be seen from this area is called Moutoa and was the scene of a battle between the friendly Wanganui Maoris and the Hauhaus. Ranana is Maori for London.

Matahiwi Landing 23-4-1937. This office is 26 miles northward from Wanganui and as the name implies, was a wharf on the river and was used extensively from around the 1920's when the river boats were going. It is 3 miles south from Matahiwi, how-

CLOSED P.O.'s



Ranana



Jerusalem

ever it was not until 1968 that an improved telephone cable made these Post Offices and the telephone offices redundant. With these post offices closed, only Pipiriki remains between Aramoho and Raetihi.

The telephone offices all opened on the same date 17-7-1914 and Parikino is the only one that needs mention really, for it was here in April 1865 that an expedition under Major Willowby Brassey made from Taranaki. Military settlers and Patea Rangers were despatched. The force was taken up the Wanganui River by "S.S. Gundagai" to Parikino. From there, with 60 Maoris, they went by canoe to Pipiriki to establish a post. Parikino became the "corner post" in the 980,000 acres confiscated from the Ngati Ruanui tribe.

Punakitere 15-8-1890, 25-2-1909 and 1-10-1913. This office is 15 miles southwards from Kairohe. The area is known as Otatau. However, as there was already a Post Office by that name, Punakitere was chosen. It means "swiftly flowing opening". The store has gone and with the closing of this Maori School, the Post Office goes too. The Maori families are moving away to the cities, causing the closing, so again we see this rural slide.

Armstrongs Chch. closed in December, and Armagh opened. This move was hurried, for Armstrong and Co. Ltd. closed suddenly on the 5-11-68, leaving only the post office operating in the large empty store. Originally this change was to take place in May 1968, but lack of finance caused the delay.

Pataua, (Whangarei) reopened again on 2-12-1968 as a seasonal office, after being closed since 4-1961. During its short life of approximately 3 months in 1961, it used 3 different datestamps, and with the re-opening, it has another new date stamp.

Mangawhai Heads (Whangarei), another seasonal office re-opened on 2-12-1968. It was thought that this one wouldn't re-open this season, and the reason given was that it was little used last summer.

East Town (Wanganui) re-opened after a gap of many years. It closed 16-2-1918 and was called Eastown.

5th National Scout Jamboree, Kalpol 4-1-1969 to 11-1-1969.

Victoria Street, (Christchurch) opens late January 1969.

Maungaraki possibly opened during December. It is a residential suburb in Lower Hutt and is being operated from a drapery store until it gets its own premises.

With many datestamp year wheels only covering a limited number of years, a large number have gone for adjustment, and many more will go during the coming months. As they go, a relief is used.

The other day I got a phone call from a lady in Eltham who asked about a coin type datestamp she had from New Plymouth with the word "TEL" after the name. This datestamp was used at the telephone exchange and later on the telegraph counter, and I feel that the copy she had (1902) would be from the counter. Some person has picked it up to cancel an ordinary letter without giving it any thought.

I would like to say thank you to those people who send me covers, but please include name and address.

THE NEW COUNTRY - MALAWI

Malawi is one of Africa's newest emergent independent states. land Protectorate it was a part. Previously known as the Nyasaland Protectorate in the Rhodesian Federation until the break-up of the Federation in 1963. The country achieved full independence in July 1964 and two years later became a Republic within the British Commonwealth.



PRESIDENT BANDA

The Republic is ruled by the President (Dr. Hastings Kuzu Banda) and a cabinet of ten other ministers. The National Assembly consists of fifty members each selected by universal suffrage. The assembly, which usually meets three times a year, is presided over by a speaker who need not himself be a member of it.

A landlocked state of some 45,747 square miles, Malawi is slightly less than the size of England, and it incorporates the Lake Malawi (formerly Lake Nyasa). Its population of 4,042,412 is largely dependent on agriculture, with the main crops of tobacco, tea and cotton, shell groundnuts, raw cotton and tung oil, being the principal exports. Imports are mainly cotton fabrics, motor vehicles, rayon fabrics and mineral fuels.

The principal destinations for exports are the United Kingdom, Rhodesia and the Netherlands. Many of the Malawis seek a living outside the country and as many as 200,000-300,000 are out at any one time working on the neighbouring Zambian copperbelts, Rhodesian farms or in South Africa. During 1966 the first phase in the development of the Sucoma sugar estate at Nchalo was completed and 4,300 acres are now planted with cane. The factory at Nchalo is already

functioning and the target output of 300,000 tons has been reached.

There has been great progress in the Country's manufacturing industry with increased production from established plants, new firms, and new industries. The rapid industrial development has led to a substantial increase in the consumption of electricity now supplied by the new hydro-electric power station at Nkula Falls.

Malawi has a system of good class roads, generally earth based but with important sections tar macadamised.

The country's main communications with the outside world are through the Mozambique port of Beira which terminates a direct rail link from Blantyre one of the main regional centres. The nation's capital is Zomba (population 19,616). Blantyre is the major commercial and industrial centre and headquarters of the Southern Region.

The University of Malawi opened in 1965 now has 177 students studying for degrees.

THE COLONY OF BRITISH HONDURAS

British Honduras is a Colony on the east coast of Central America. The first settlement was made about 1638 by British adventurers attracted by the logwood, then extremely valuable, which grew plentifully in the area. The Colony is bounded on the north and northwest by Mexico, on the west and south by Guatemala, and on the east by the Caribbean Sea. The total area (including offshore islands) is about 8,867 sq. miles, with an estimated population (1966) of 114,255. The climate generally is damp and warm, but not unhealthy. The temperature ranges from 50 degrees to 92 degrees (F.). The average lies between 75 degrees and 80 degrees, but this is considerably tempered by the prevailing sea-breezes.

The greater part of the country is covered by forest, of which 59 per cent. is high rain forest and 15.5 pine forest and dry savannah. The

north of the territory and the southern coastal plain (8 to 20 miles wide) is nearly flat, and near the sea is low and swampy. The central mountain mass has a general altitude of 2,000 to 3,000 feet and 20 per cent. of the areas of the territory is over 1,000 feet in elevation above mean sea-level.

The staple products are obtained from the forests, and include mahogany, cedar and chicle (the basis of chewing gum). Agricultural crops which grow readily include sugar cane, coconuts, citrus fruit, plantains, pineapples, mangoes, maize, cucumber, rice, varieties of beans and peas. All varieties of citrus fruits flourish and in particular grape-fruit, of which a very high grade is exported. Lobster tails and shrimps are also exported in large quantities.

In 1966 there were 161 Government and grant-aided primary schools and 8 unaided private elementary schools in the country, accommodating nearly 27,000 pupils and 16 secondary schools with 2,537 pupils. There are 37 post offices in the country. Radio Belize is a semi-commercial radio station operated by the Government and the new receiving station and Ladyville now operates external services. External telegraph and radio telephone services are operated by Cable and Wireless Ltd. Air services are scheduled twice weekly to and from the capitals of Panama, Mexico, Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. There is a three times weekly service from and to New Orleans, a four times weekly service from and to Miami and a weekly service to Mexico City. A local scheduled air service links the six districts into which the country is divided. The capital of British Honduras is Belize City.



ARMS OF THE COLONY

STAMPS OF SAMOA

Samoa is the name given to an archipelago in the South Pacific, about 1,600 miles north-east of Auckland, New Zealand, on the main Australia-America sea route. It consists of several islands divided politically into two groups. The islands of Tutuila, Anu, the three islands of the Manu'a Group, (Ofu, Olosega and Ta'u) and two coral atolls Swains and Rose are known as American Samoa and are a possession of the United States. The islands of Cavai'i and Upolu, with the lesser islands of Manono, Apolima, Fanuatapu, Namua, Nuutele, Nu'usafe'e and Nu'ulua, comprise Western Samoa, the first fully independent sovereign state in Polynesia. The administrative centre of American Samoa (which has a total population of 26,000) is Pago Pago, an important naval base in the South Pacific. Western Samoa has a population of 130,000 and the capital is located at Apia, the chief town on the island of Upolu. The area of the entire archipelago is about 1,135 square miles.

The modifying effects of the large area of sea surrounding the Samoan Islands has resulted in a mild and equable climate which varies little throughout the year. Annual temperature ranges from 75.5 degrees to 85 degrees F. and an average yearly rainfall of 112 inches. The islands are volcanic in origin and, particularly Savai'i and Upolu, extremely mountainous with fertile alluvial valleys. Like most of Polynesia, cultivation of coconut palms, bananas and cocoa are the chief agricultural occupation, though Samoa boasts a wide variety of trees and shrubs and nowadays coffee and rubber production are gaining in importance. Nutmeg, breadfruit and papaya are also extensively grown.



EARLY VISITOR

The Samoans are pure Polynesians and tradition has it that Savai'i was the centre of dispersal of the Polynesian race from Hawai'i to New Zealand. The Manu'a group of islands was discovered by the

Dutch explorer, Jacob Roggeveen, in 1722. Bougainville, La Perouse, Edwards and von Kotzebue visited Samoa in turn, between 1708 and 1824 and in their wake came the missionaries and traders. Commercial penetration led to Great Britain (1874), the United States (1853) and Germany (1861) appointing representatives. Samoa was divided by civil war during the greater part of the nineteenth century and the three powers were compelled to intervene to protect their nationals and maintain some semblance of law and order. A three-power conference was held in Berlin in 1889 to discuss the Samoan question and this resulted in a tripartite protec-



KING MALIETOA

torate. King Malietoa was recognized as ruler of the islands, but following his death in 1898, civil war again broke out between the rival claimants to the throne and their supporters. An interim period under a provisional government was followed in 1900 by the partition of Samoa between the United States and Germany, the latter receiving the islands which today make up Western Samoa.

On the outbreak of the First World War Western Samoa was occupied by New Zealand, which received a mandate from the League of Nations in 1920. The Samoa Act of 1921 and its amendment of 1923 established a legislative council and a consultative native council which were replaced by self-governing bodies in 1958 as a prelude to full independence which was achieved in 1962.

The earliest postal service in Samoa was established under the authority of King Malietoa by Mr. W. E. Agar, manager of the Samoan Times newspaper in Apia in the autumn of 1877. A set of three stamps, in denominations of 1d, 3d, and 6d, was designed by H. H. Glover and lithographed by S. T. Leigh & Co., of Sydney, New South

Wales. The stamps were irregularly perforated, but the 6d has also been recorded imperforate or rouletted. The 6d was also the "parent" stamp since its design was transferred direct to the stone, whereas the 1d and 3d denominations were produced by laying down 6d transfers with the value erased and the words ONE PENNY or THREE PENCE were added by separate transfers. The stamps were printed in sheets of 21 subjects and possessed minute flaws which assist philatelists in plating them. The original state of the transfers can easily be identified by the unbroken white line above the letter "X" of "EXPRESS". The following July a new printing of the stamps was made and in this second state the white line above the "X" is clearly broken and there is a large dot to the right of the "M" in SAMOA. In addition, stamps in denominations of 1/-, 2/- and 5/- were produced, from 6d transfers as before. In July 1879 a third printing was made, readily distinguishable from the earlier states by the removal of the large dot beside the "M" and a rather clumsy retouching of the white line above the "X". All values appeared from this printing. A 9d value, printed from a fourth state of the transfers (showing a small coloured dash in the white space beneath the "M" of SAMOA) appeared in October 1880. Agar relinquished control of the Samoan Express Post Office to Mr. A. Spiers in 1870 and on the latter's death the following year Mr. G. L. Griffiths took over. The postal service, however, was financially a failure and was discontinued at the end of 1881. A consignment of stamps of every denomination, printed from the fourth state of the lithographic transfers, was despatched from Sydney just after the post office closed. The stamps, prepared for use but not issued, were subsequently sold to collectors as remainders and are comparatively scarce. They should not be confused with reprints made in 1884 and 1892 by S. T. Leigh & Co. from the genuine plates. They differ from the originals in the perforations and the quality of the paper and gum. The stamps have also been forged on at least three occasions. Many collectors shy away from the Samoan "Express" issues because of the prevalence of reprints and forgeries, but with a little care the differentiation of genuine from remainder, reprint or forgery should present no difficulties.



ONLY LOCAL STATUS

Following the closure of the "Express" Post Office, mail from Samoa addressed to the outside world had to be sent by any available ship and the adhesives of the country of destination (generally New Zealand) were employed, being cancelled on arrival. In 1886 John Davis of Apia established a post office and made arrangements for the printing of new stamps which were put on sale in February 1887. The dies were engraved en epargne by Brock and Cousins and the stamps typographed by the New Zealand Government Printing Office. Stamps in denominations of ½d, 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d, 1/- and 2/6 featured a group of palm trees set in an ornamental frame which differed for each value. This series, like the old "Express" issues, had only local status and mail destined for overseas countries required in theory to bear other stamps in addition. It seems, however, that to Australia and New Zealand at any rate, the Samoan stamps were considered valid. Mail to the United States, received from ships plying between Apia and San Francisco, was surcharged at the rate of 5 cents per half ounce up till August 1891 when New Zealand joined the Universal Postal Union. Thereafter Samoan stamps were recognised as sufficiently valid by the United States and letters bearing them were no longer surcharged.

To conform with the U.P.U. ½ ounce letter rate, Samoa introduced a 2½d stamp in 1892, bearing a full-face portrait of King Malietoa. A 5d stamp, covering the double rate, was also required so the 4d value was surcharged either in words or figures in November 1893. A distinctive 5d denomination was added to the series in January 1894 and featured the flag of Samoa — a white cross on a red background with a five pointed star in the upper dexter quarter. The perforations of this series were changed in 1893 and again 1895 and, with numerous varieties in colour and the quality of the paper, provides the philate-

list with plenty of scope for study. A fire destroyed most of Apia (including the post office) in April 1895 and the resulting shortage of stamps was met by bisecting a quantity of the 1/- denomination which had survived the blaze for use as 6d stamps. Earlier that year, on the 28th January, the 2d denomination was surcharged for use as 1½d or 3d stamps, following the introduction of new rates and a registration service. Errors showing the surcharge doubly printed, or omitted se-tenant with a normal stamp, have been recorded.

Probably the cheapest error of colour is the 2½d of the series which was inadvertently issued in black in 1896 instead of the rose-red of the previous printings. It is in fact commoner than some of the earliest perforation varieties and does not command a premium over the normal stamps of the 1895 issue. A shortage of 2½d stamps in 1898 led to the provisional surcharging of the 1d and 1/- values in black or red. A 2½d in violet appeared the following year and this also inexplicably surcharged "2½d". The provisional surcharges of this series were initially applied at a time by means of hand stamps so that inverted or double surcharge are not unknown. In 1899, to conform to the Universal Postal Union regulations the colours of the ½d and 1d stamps were reversed.

In 1898 King Malietoa died and immediately his deadly rival Prince Tamasese attempted to seize power with the result that the country was plunged once more into civil war. In order to put an end to the bloodshed the protecting powers, Britain, Germany and the United States, established a provisional government under their joint tutelage in 1899. The ½d 1d, 2d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 1/- and 2/6 were overprinted PROVISIONAL GOVT. in two lines and issued on the 10th June, following the abolition of the monarchy. In 1900 the three powers agreed to the partition of the country. Britain was bought off by concessions granted by Germany in other colonial spheres while the United States from 1900 to the present day, Germany acquired the nine westerly islands and German stamps were at first used there, followed shortly afterwards by a definitive series in the colonial keyplate designs featuring the Kaiser's yacht, Hohenzollern.

A TESTIMONIAL

To Whom It May Concern

Having employed Philately for a period of well over fifty years it is a pleasure to recommend it to all who desire a hobby to take them out of the worries of everyday life. Philately is an experience; it is emotional, yet relaxing. It is appealing in the complexity and strife of business, political controversy, domestic duress, mother-in-lawitis, smokers' cough and alcoholism. That is, of course, if you take Philately and use it as it should be used. Maybe some sceptics will be of the opinion that too much is claimed for this hobby, pastime, science, or whatever one may call it. The plain fact is that it really does not require a testimonial. Philately acts and speaks for itself as is evidenced by the many thousands of adherents throughout the world, and perhaps beyond this planet if we believe Star Trek. There are some enthusiasts who claim that the hobby has become too involved, and has advanced too far from the days of simple stamp collecting. This might be true to some degree, but it is a free hobby (after one has paid for the stamps) and collectors are at liberty to choose and collect what they wish; even those who scorn stamps in mint state that show signs that the virginity of the gum has been defiled by those odious(?) hinges. Perhaps one day we shall see collections mounted face down just to prove they have not been hinged on that precious mucilage. Other collectors have equally eccentric ideas, but we must remember that freedom of choice is what makes Philately the embracing hobby it is. All have something in sight. Does it matter what it is? As Confucius would have said: "The greater number of roads will permit more to reach the goal."

Mr. L. VERNAZONI
Stirling Stamp News.

NEW ZEALAND MISSING COLOUR FOUND

A lucky youngster in England found a 1966 New Zealand Christmas stamp in a funny shade. His father sent it to S.G. who replied — the "funny" part was a missing colour. The youngster had bought the stamps among others in a packet for 1/6.

BIRDS OF MALAWI

FOR ILLUSTRATIONS SEE CENTREPIECE SEPTEMBER N.Z.S.M.

1d Scarlet Chested Sunbird

Most sunbirds are about 6 inches long. The bright lines of colouring are limited to the males, the females usually appearing as dull grey or olive green. One of the outstanding characteristics attributed to the sunbird is the hanging purse-like nests they build of plant fibres woven and matted together or bound with spider's web.

2d Violet backed Starling (Cinnyricinclus Leucogaster)

These are gregarious and beautiful birds which breed in the southern part of Malawi in September and December, and migrate northwards in the non-breeding season. They build their nests in a hole or in a tree at any height from the ground, and then line it with either wool, hair or leaves.

3d White-browed Robin (Cossypha Heuglini)

A common and characteristic bird of wide range. A fine songster and remarkable mimic with a wide range of notes. Normally they are shy and skulking but exceedingly pugnacious attacking any other species of bird on its own territory, which appears to be very limited as a rule.

4d Red billed Firefinch (Lagonosticta Senegala)

A small, pinkish, red waxbill with a distinct rosy red bill. It feeds mainly on the ground, in pairs or family parties. It is a tame and confiding little bird much at home around human habitations and in gardens and is well known as the "animated plum", a not inappropriate name.

6d Lillian's Lovebird

This bird's general colouring is green with a tomato red crown and the hind of the neck is washed with gold. It is generally found in flocks of thirty or forty in wooded hilly country or in thick acacia woodland, where the flocks come freely to water: It is very partial to unripe millet.

9d Yellow Bishop (Euplectes Capensis)

This is another common and widespread species of grassland areas particularly tall grass. It is not so markedly gregarious, but it has definite breeding areas at which the males appear some time before the female. Its general male colouring is wholly black with lemon yellow wing shoulders. In Malawi it breeds between December and April.

1/- Carmine Bee-eater

The pink nether-side and carmine back of this bird are unmistakable. It migrates to the tropics for the winter and feeds on insects. These graceful birds are related to the Kingfisher and are normally found about 13 inches long. They are known for their yeomen service during locust plagues and are to be found nesting in ground burrows.

1/6d. Grey-headed Bush Strike (Malaconotus Hypophrus)

A large striking looking bird which yet manages to remain remarkably inconspicuous, although on occasions it will hawk from a perch like a tone strike. It occasionally forages on the ground, but usually remains in thick foliage and is only noticeable from its call. It breeds in Malawi between September and November.

2/- Paradise Whydah (Steganura Paradisaea)

General colouring black with hind neck golden and belly white. It is widely distributed and not uncommon in small flocks feeding on the ground. In the breeding season the male makes a display flight from one high tree top to another, in which the tail is expanded vertically, but carried straight out behind.

3/- Paradise Flycatcher

The exquisite long-tailed paradise flycatchers are to be found distributed over a large area. They are tree dwellers with little need for stout underpinning their legs are therefore rather short and their feet weak.

5/- Bateleur (Terathopius Ecaudatus)

Generally colouring black chestnut and ash-brown with a colourful bill in black, red and orange. It is almost always on the wing soaring and sailing at great speed with set wings. Its stoop, when it comes down from a height is magnificent with a noise like a six-inch shell, but it nearly always takes its prey on the ground. It has two breeding seasons in Malawi, December to March and May to June.

10/- Saddlebill (Jabiru Ehippiorhynchus Senegalensis)

A very large unmistakable bird of rivers and marshes, usually solitary or in pairs. Feeds like a heron, moving with a slow deliberate gait with a lightning like strike of the bill. It feeds on anything edible it can find, fish, frogs, especially large water beetles.

11 Purple Heron (Pyrherodia Purpurea)

A common species much more confined to reed-beds than the other large herons and a good deal more sedentary and skulking. Usually tamer and takes much less notice of man. In Eastern Africa its numbers are much augmented by palaeartic winter migrants and little is known as to how far they move south.

12 Livingstone's Lourie (Tauraco livingstonii)

Plumage mainly green with a long white-tipped green crest and mainly crimson flight feathers. It is a common riverside forest species, occasionally seen in parties in open woodland, restless and uncommonly noisy. Their movements in a tree are much more those of a squirrel than a bird, and they are usually seen running along a bough of a thick tree and making a tremendous hop to the next. It makes a well woven nest of large twigs interlaced with fine ones, compact, but transparent, usually in the top of a tall tree and well-concealed.

Technical Details:

Release Date: 13th November, 1968. Designer: V. Whiteley. Printer: Harrison and Sons Ltd. Process: Photogravure. Watermark: Malawi Cockerel.

PACIFIC ISLANDS COMING ISSUES

British Solomon Islands: End of Inaugural Year of the University of the South Pacific, 8th Feb., 1969.

Fiji: 13th Jan., 1969 Decimal Currency. 1969 Inauguration of the South Pacific University at Laucala Bay, Suva.

Gilbert and Ellice Islands: 1969 University of the South Pacific, Nauru: 31st Jan., 1969 new 15c depicting Republic's Flag.

New Hebrides: 1969 Timber.

Papua and New Guinea: Jan. 29th, 1969 Shell Definitive series. 9th April, 1969, Heritage Folklore. 25th June, 1969, South Pacific Games.

Pitcairn Islands: 17th Sept., 1969, New Definitives.

Western Samoa: 20th Jan., 1969, 7th Anniversary of Independence (flowers). 1969 New Definitives \$2 and \$4; April, 1969, Robert Louis Stevenson.

PITCAIRN IS.

World Health Organisation

The world Health Organisation was founded in 1948 and assumed the role previously played by the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Organisation. The World Health Organisation provides advisory and technical services to "forward the attainment by all people of the highest possible level of health." Assistance is given, on an advisory level, to help countries fight malaria, tuberculosis, venereal disease, whilst practical work carried out embraces such fields as biological standardisation, unification of pharmacopoeias, "early morning" service on epidemics, medical research and publication of works of a scientific and technical nature.

A special field of World Health Organisation activities is maternity and child care.

This two value set has a symbolic theme which shows the two main aspects of the World Health Organisation work.

2c. "Research"

This portrays work "behind the scenes," the intensive research carried out by the World Health Organisation in the ceaseless war against disease, famine and death. Symbolic of research could be the microscope, and two of the "images" show a typical cell (basis of plant and animal organism), with some of the germs in the next "frame"; these are the cause of all diseases. The third "frame" shows,

not a specific "cure" or antibiotic, penicillin for instance, but the symbol of the World Health Organisation itself, as suggestive of the major role it plays in the combat of these germs and the development of vaccines, new cures, and so forth as a result of this intensive research.

20c "Medical/Ethical treatment"

As a result of the research and laboratory work, the drugs, vaccines and antibiotics are administered universally, where there is famine and disease. A symbol of medical treatment could perhaps be the hypodermic syringe, which is the instrument for administering both vaccine (prevention of disease), antibiotics such as penicillin (cure) and perhaps vitamins in liquid form. In glass containers below the syringe are, portrayed symbolically, the same medicines in tablet form. Drugs, as capsules; vitamin tablets to combat nutrition deficiencies in famine areas; and oral vaccines, like streptomycin.

Release Date, 25th November, 1968. Designer, J. Toombs. Printer, Thos. De La Rue & Co., Ltd. Process, Delacryl. Watermark, C.A. Block.

SPECIAL NEWS TONGA

After two emergency decimal overprint sets, we have been advised that the new Definitives will be available early in 1969

CENTENARY OF FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY POSTAGE STAMP

The 5c stamp to commemorate the Centenary of the first permanent settlement in the Northern Territory will be issued on 5th February, 1969.

Designed by Mrs. Marietta Lyon, a Melbourne artist, the stamp expresses the passing of a century of development by combining two factual elements—an 1869 photograph of the party which, under George W. Goyder, Surveyor-General of South Australia, surveyed the site on which the township of Darwin grew—and a drawing of a modern Darwin building.

The stamp, in horizontal format, will be printed by the photogravure process in sepia and yellow-brown tones at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia.

NEW STAMPS FOR NIUE

Mrs. Kay Billings, who showed her paintings of tropical flowers used for Cook Islands stamps to members early this year, has another assignment. The flower studies were chanced upon by Mr. Finbar Kenney, who is associated with the issue of Cook Islands stamps. However, this time Mrs. Billings has gone to Niue specially to paint flowers there. After some uncertainty, it appears that these stamps will be produced under the auspices of the New Zealand Post Office, and that Niue has not accepted an offer from Mr. Finbar Kenney to organise sales. —Hutt Valley Newsletter.

TONGA SPORTS OVERPRINTS

On the 19th December, 1969, the Tonga Post Office Department will place on sale throughout the Kingdom a Provisional Commemorative Series in honour of Tonga's preparation for the 1969 South Pacific Games to be held in Port Moresby.

Provisional Postage Commemoratives

5 sentiti on 5d Definitive, 48,000 copies.
10 sentiti on 1/- Definitive, 36,000 copies.
15 sentiti on 2/- Definitive, 36,000 copies.
25 sentiti on 2d Definitive, 23,760 copies.
50 sentiti on 1d Definitive, 14,280 copies.
75 sentiti on 10/- Definitive, 12,000 copies.
T\$1.80. Face value complete 6 Postage Commemoratives.

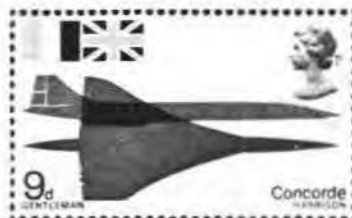
Provisional Airmail Commemoratives

6 sentiti on 6d Definitive, 48,000 copies.
7 sentiti on 4d Definitive, 48,000 copies.
8 sentiti on 8d Definitive, 48,000 copies.
9 sentiti on 14d Definitive, 36,000 copies.
11 sentiti on 3d Definitive, 36,920 copies.
21 sentiti on 3½d Definitive, 36,920 copies.
38 sentiti on 5/- Definitive, 15,720 copies.
T\$1.00 pa'anga on 10/- Definitive, 12,000 copies.
T\$2.00. Face value complete 8 Airmail Commemoratives.
Provisional Official Airmail Commemoratives
20 sentiti on £1 Definitive, 10,800 copies.
T/1.00 pa'anga on £1 Definitive, 10,800 copies.
T\$1.20. Face value complete 2 Official airmail Commemoratives.

GREAT BRITAIN



CONCORDE



SINGAPORE

DEFINITIVES

1/12/68



MAURITIUS

BERNARDIN OF ST. PIERRE

1/12/68



VIRGIN ISLANDS
AIRPORT OPENING



ST. KITTS
CHRISTMAS



FIJI W.H.O.
9/12/68



MONSERRAT I.H.R.
2/12/68



PICTURE PARADE
AMBURY SHIELD, HAMILTON



ENJOYING A JOKE
Left to right: Miss Godfrey, Mrs. Voyce,
Miss Hawkins, Mr. Voyce.



PONDERING A POINT
Mr. K. J. McNaught (right) speaking to
Mr. F. W. Course, both of Hamilton.



**CHEWING OVER THE JUDGE'S
DECISION**

From, left: Mr. A. Acott (New Plymouth),
Mr. E. Schoenberger (Hamilton), Mr. R.
Craddock (Whakatane), Mr. A. Ambury
(Hamilton), this year a judge and originator
of the Ambury week-end.



ROYAL CELEBRATIONS
Mr. F. W. Course, with part of a collection
on display at the Royal Philatelic Society's
80th anniversary celebrations.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEWS

FROM THE CROWN AGENTS

DECEMBER RELEASES

1st December, 1968

Singapore. Definitive (first stage). 6, 20, 30, 50 and 75 cents.

2nd December, 1968

Montserrat. International Human Rights Year. 5, 15, 25, 50 cents and 1 dollar.

Mauritius. Bicentenary of the visit of Bernardin de St. Pierre to Mauritius. 2, 15, 50, 60 cents, 1 rupee and 2.50 rupees.

3rd December, 1968

Jamaica. International Human Rights Year. 3d, 1/- and 3/-.

9th December, 1968

Fiji. 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 3d, 9d and 3/-.

10th December, 1968

Barbados. International Human Rights Year. (Postponed from 29th October, 1968.) 4, 25 and 35 cents.

Ceylon. International Human Rights Year. 2, 20, 40 cents and 2 rupees.

16th December, 1968

Montserrat. Christmas, 1968. 5, 15, 25 and 50 cents.

Brunei. International Human Rights Year. 12, 25 and 75 cents.

British Virgin Islands. Extension of Beef Island Airport. 2, 10, 25 cents and 1 dollar.

19th December, 1968

Brunei. 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 4, 15 and 25 cents.

Ceylon. Golden Jubilee of the All Ceylon Buddhist Congress. 5 and 50 cents.

29th December, 1968

Singapore. Definitive (second stage). 5, 10, 15, 25 cents and 1 dollar.

30th December, 1968

Seychelles. Bicentenary of the first landing on Praslin. 20, 50, 85 cents and 2.25 rupees.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Definitive Issues

Abu Dhabi: 1969. **Barbados:** 1969. Barbados: New \$5.00 value, 6th January, 1969. **Bermuda:** Decimal Currency: 1969. **British Virgin Islands:** 1969. **Cayman Islands:** 1st February, 1969. **Ceylon:** 1969. **Fiji:** Decimal Currency, 13th January, 1969. **Guernsey:** 1st October, 1969. **Jersey:** 1st October, 1969. **Mauritius:** 12th March, 1969. **Papua and New Guinea:** 29th January, 1969. **Pitcairn Islands:** 17th September, 1969. **St. Kitts:** 1969. **St. Lucia:** 1969. **St. Vincent:** 1969. **Swazi-**

land: April, 1969. **Uganda:** 9th October, 1969. **Western Samoa:** New definitive values \$2, \$4, 1969.

Commemorative Issues

Antigua: Centenary of Phosphate Industry on Redonda, 1969. **Tercentenary of Parliamentary Government,** 3rd February, 1969. **1st Anniversary of Carifta,** May, 1969. **Ascension Island:** Royal Naval Crests, 1969. **Barbados:** 1st Anniversary of Carifta, May, 1969. **Christmas 1969,** November, 1969. **Horse Racing,** March, 1969. **Bermuda:** 50th Anniversary of Girl Guides, 17th February, 1969. **Botswana:** Important Crops, April, 1969. **22nd World Scout Conference,** 21st August, 1969. **British Antarctic Territory:** 25th Anniversary of Continuous Scientific work by the British Antarctic Survey, 6th February, 1969. **British Honduras:** Orchids, 1st March, 1969. **Hardwoods,** 1st June, 1969. **Christmas,** 1969. **British Indian Ocean Territory:** Mountain Atolls, April, 1969. **Ships of the Island,** October, 1969. **British Virgin Islands:** Tourism, September, 1969. **75th Anniversary of the death of Robert Louis Stevenson,** 1st March, 1969. **Brunei:** Opening of Dewan Majlis and Lapau Di-Raja, 1969. **Installation of Pengiran Shah Bander as "Y.T.M. Seri Paduka Duli Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibol Mal"**, May, 1969. **Ceylon:** WESAK stamp 1969, April, 1969. **50th Anniversary of I.L.O.,** April, 1969. **Buddhist Temple Paintings,** August, 1969. **East Africa:** 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., 14th April, 1969. **Water Transport,** 20th January, 1969. **East African Musical Instruments,** July, 1969. **Falkland Islands:** Centenary of the Diocese of the Falkland Islands, 1969. **21st Anniversary of the Falkland Islands Government Air Service,** 8th April, 1969. **The Gambia:** Centenary of the first two stamps issued by The Gambia 1869, 20th January, 1969. **Aeronautical (historical),** 1969. **Guyana:** 50th Anniversary of I.L.O., 1969. **3rd Caribbean Jamboree and Diamond Jubilee of Scouting in Guyana,** 1969. **Easter,** March, 1969. **Christmas,** 1969, 1969. **Arts and Culture week,** 1969. **Hong Kong:** Lunar New Year,

1969. **Jamaica:** 50th Anniversary of the I.L.O., 1969. **Tourism,** 1969. **Lesotho:** Centenary of Maseru, 1969. **Malawi:** Insects, 1969. **Masks,** April, 1969. **50th Anniversary of I.L.O.,** 5th February, 1969. **Christmas 1969,** 1969. **Montserrat:** Development Projects, June, 1969. **Tourism,** February, 1969. **Fish,** September, 1969. **Carifta,** 1969. **Muscat and Oman:** Oil, 1st January, 1969. **Nigeria:** Timber, 1969. **Martin Luther King,** 1969. **St. Helena:** Dress Uniforms, 1969. **Mail Communications,** 1969. **St. Kitts:** Fish, 25th February, 1969. **Christmas,** 1969. **St. Lucia:** Birds Issue, 10th January, 1969. **Easter,** March, 1969. **"Carifta",** May, 1969. **St. Vincent:** Statehood, 1969. **Carnival,** 1969. **Free Trade Association,** 1969. **Tristan da Cunha:** Clipper Ships, 1st May, 1969. **Society for the Propagation of the Gospel,** 1969. **Zambia:** Natural Resources and Tourism: 5th February, 1969. **50th Anniversary of I.L.O.,** 18th June, 1969.

BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY

25th ANNIVERSARY OF CONTINUOUS SCIENTIFIC WORK

On the 6th February, 1969, British Antarctic Territory will release a commemorative set of four postage stamps in recognition of the continuous work achieved there by British Antarctic Survey teams over the last 25 years.

The 3½d value features the Lemaire Channel, an iceberg and Adelle penguins.

The 6d value features a radio sonde balloon and operators. The Balloon carries the sonde into the air. The sonde is a small transmitter which sends back information concerning temperatures etc. and it has a reflector attached to it so that it may be followed by radar for wind speed and direction in determining weather conditions.

The 1s value features a Muskeg which is now used in place of the Sno-cat. This is found to be completely adaptable to Antarctic conditions.

The 2s value shows surveyors with a theodolite.

This issue was designed by R. Granger-Barrett and printed by Format International Limited in the Format, basically lithographic process. The stamps are printed in sheets of 60 on C.A. Block watermarked paper.

ST. KITTS

CHRISTMAS 1968

In honour of the feast of Christmas, St. Kitts is issuing a four-value set of stamps featuring two old masters. The 12 and 40 cents denominations depict the "Mystical Nativity" as seen through the eyes of Sandro Botticelli, and 25 and 50 cents values feature Peter Paul Rubens' representation of the Adoration of the Magi."

12 and 40 cents. Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510) "The Mystical Nativity."

Botticelli painted this about 1500 in a size 42½in x 29½in. The picture is particularly noted for its mystic enthusiasm which is plainly symbolised by a return to the medieval style of painting. Sandro Botticelli painted mainly in Florence and his work was predominantly of a religious nature. In 1472 he is reported as being a member of the Company of St. Luke, a religious and charitable confraternity of artists, and it can be seen that the gospels greatly influenced a lot of his work.

In 1481 he was summoned to Rome and there he decorated the walls of the Sistine Chapel with three frescoes. Botticelli, it is recorded, died an infirm and lonely old man in 1510 at the age of 65.

The picture is now to be found in the National Gallery in London.

25 and 50 cents. Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) "The Adoration of the Magi."

Rubens painted this in 1634, an oil on canvas in a size 129½in x 97½in. This is now to be found hanging in King's College Chapel, Cambridge. Rubens painted this for the Convent of the Dames Blanchés at Malines and in it the three kings are symbolised as offering up worldly authority to the Holy Child.

Rubens was a Flemish figure, portrait and landscape painter and draughtsman. He was the dominant figure in the revival of Flemish painting in the 17th century although he was trained mainly by a study of the great masters of the Italian Renaissance. Full justice cannot be given in such a short space to the richness of Rubens' invention or to his technical brilliance as painter or draughtsman.

Release date, 27th November, 1968, Designer, Harrison Staff Artists based on old Masters. Printer, Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process, Photogravure. Watermark, C.A. Block.

Montserrat

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS YEAR 1968

To commemorate 1968 as International Human Rights Year, Montserrat is issuing a five value set of stamps featuring well known men who have devoted their lives to the rights of Man.

5 cents—Alexander Hamilton 1757?-1804.

An American revolutionary and political leader, who was appointed one of the aides to General Washington in 1777. He served in this capacity until February 1781, acting as a confidential secretary to the commander-in-chief. Hamilton's next post was secretary to the first American Treasury Department from 13th September 1789, until 31st January, 1795. In January 1790 he laid down before Congress his first report on Public Credit, many such reports followed some far ahead of the times. Hamilton died in 1804 of wounds sustained whilst fighting a duel with Aaron Burr in New York.

15 cents—The Honourable Albert T. Marryshow (1837-1958)

Marryshow was awarded the C.B.E. in 1943 for services to political thought in the West Indies. An ardent advocate of the dignity and right of his race, and of closer unity of the West Indian Islands. He was elected as a member to the Legislative Council for St. George's and was Deputy President from 1951 to 1954. He was also formerly a member of the Executive Council, Grenada. In 1935 he was awarded the Jubilee medal and in 1937 the Coronation medal.

25 cents—William Wilberforce (1759-1833).

Wealth, influence, ability, high principles, intimacy with Pitt, and a seat in the House of Commons brought him to his position of leader of the Slave Abolitionist Movement; for 40 years he dominated it, co-ordinating its propaganda and voicing its policy in Parliament. First opposing the Slave Trade 1787 he supported the Sierra Leone colony for freed slaves and got Parliament to agree (1792) to gradual abolition. His health never good, declined fast after 1825, so he transferred leadership of the emancipation movement to T. F. Buxton. On the eve of its success Wilberforce died, on the 29th July in London and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

50 cents—Dag Hammarskjöld (1905-1961)

Swedish statesman, economist and United Nations Official who was posthumously awarded the 1961 Nobel Peace Prize. In April 1953, he was elected Secretary-General of the U.N. and was re-elected unanimously for another term of office in September 1957. Dag Hammarskjöld came to prominence during 1960 concerning the civil strife which broke out in the Belgian Congo and it was while on a peace mission to the Congo that he was killed in a plane crash near Ndola, Zambia, on 18th September, 1961.

\$1—Dr. Martin Luther King (1929-1968).

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was an American clergyman born on the 15th January, 1929, educated at Morehouse College, Crozier Theological Seminary and Boston University. He was founder and leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Council and a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured Peoples. He was awarded numerous awards for Leadership of the Montgomery Movement and was the Nobel Peace Prize winner in 1964. Luther King was assassinated on the 4th April, 1968, during one of his civil rights speeches.

Release date, 2nd December, 1968. Designer, Harrison Staff Artists. Printed Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process, Photogravure. Watermark, C.A. Block.

British Virgin Islands

OPENING OF BEEF ISLAND AIRPORT

Beef Island Airport has been increased in size by a unit of the Royal Engineers and now that this work has been completed larger aircraft will be able to use it.

To commemorate this event the British Virgin Islands are issuing a commemorative set of four postage stamps.

The 2 cents denomination features the DHC-6 Twin Otter in LIAT livery. The 10 cents features the Hawker Siddeley 748 in the same colours and the 25 cents features the Hawker Siddeley Heron in Prinair colours. The highest value, the 1 dollar denomination features the cap badge of the Royal Engineers in recognition of their work.

Release date: 16th December, 1968. Designer, R. Granger Barrett. Printers: Format. Process, Format Process.

Singapore FOLK DANCES First Instalment

Release date 1st December, 1968.

Lion Dance. This is a very popular folk dance and is performed at festive occasions. A clown with a fan in hand accompanies the "lion" and teases it to dance.

Kathak Kali. This is one of the main schools of Indian classical dancing. This type of dancing was largely developed in South Western part of India (Kerala) and it is traditionally a dance drama generally staged to tell a story. Elaborate make-up is used by the dancers to identify the characters in the story. Accompanied by rhythmic music the dancers convey ideas and emotions by graceful gestures.

Dragon Dance. This dance is performed during celebrations and is appreciated by young and old. One person carries a big paper-pearl and the "dragon" attracted by the pearl, darts towards it in beautiful rhythmic movements.

Tari Lilin. The candle dance originated in Sumatara and it has now become a permanent feature of Malay dances in the Republic. The dance is usually performed in the dark with lighted candles so that the dancers appear to be in silhouette. The artistry of this dance is to keep the candles lighted throughout the dance and to move gracefully with a pleasant expression symbolising purity in thought, word and deed.

Tarian Kuda Kepang. Kuda Kepang is a form of entertainment originating from Java. Originally, this dance was performed only by males and in an open space. The dancer carries between the legs a piece of board, shaped like a horse. The modern stage version of this dance is mainly characterised by the gracefulness of the horse-like movements of the female dancers in colourful costumes.

Second Instalment

Release date 29th December, 1968.

Sword Dance. This dance has its origin from one of the famous plays of the Peking Opera and is popular with local audiences. The movements of the dance are graceful and dignified. It can be performed by one or more persons.

Bharatha Natyam. This is one of the most celebrated of ancient classical dances from India. This form of dancing was originated and developed in South India and has become increasingly popular in local cultural shows. In this Bharatha dance, Bhava (expression), Raga

(melody) and Thala (rhythm) are the component parts fused to produce the dance which can express a variety of emotions.

Tari Payong. This is a modern variation of an old Sumatran dance and is a popular item of entertainment amongst all the communities in Singapore. The dance is inspired by the usefulness of the umbrella as a protection from the sun and rain. The gentle and graceful movements of the dancer in colourful costumes, swinging vividly coloured umbrellas rhythmically in tempo with the music, is a beautiful sight to watch.

Lu Chih Shen and Lin Chung. These masks are painted on actors in the two leading roles in the famous Peking Opera "Yeh Chu Lin" (Wild Board Woods). The play reveals how Lin Chung (shown on left), a captain of the Imperial Household Guards, was tricked into committing an offence. He was about to be banished, when Lu Chih Sen (shown on right) known as the "Worldly Monk" comes to the rescue and obtains his pardon.

Yao Chi. This mask is characteristic of General Yao Chi in two Peking Opera plays, viz: "Chao Chiau Pass" and "To the Heavenly Seat." The inset shows Yao Chi taking his son to the Emperor in the play "To the Heavenly Seat." Yao Chi takes his son to the Emperor knowing his son had killed the Emperor's father-in-law and that the punishment for that would be death. The Emperor however, pardons the son in recognition of the meritorious service rendered by Yao Chi in the restoration of the Han Dynasty.

Technical Details—

Release date: 1st December and 29th December, 1968. Designer, Local artists. Printer, Thomas De La Rue & Co. Ltd. Process, Photogravure. Watermark, Half Check.

Montserrat CHRISTMAS 1968

Montserrat is paying tribute to the brilliance of two old masters by featuring one of their works in the Christmas 1968 four-value set of stamps.

5 and 25 cents. "The Two Trinities," Bartholmew Esteban Murillo (1617-82).

Murillo appears to have spent his whole life in Seville and the vicinity, painting chiefly for the church. In 1682, whilst working on the paintings for the Capuchine in Cadiz, he

is said to have had a fall from a scaffolding that proved fatal. He died in Seville.

Murillo painted mostly religious art and his work was well known for its appeal to the lay people.

This work of art measures 115jin x C.A. 81jin and can be seen at present in the National Gallery in London. This same picture was also used on a postage stamp in 1965 again to commemorate Christmas, but this time by New Zealand.

15 and 50 cents. A detail of "The Adoration of the Kings," Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510).

This stamp features only a detail of the tondo, which is a circular work of art 51jin in diameter. This was probably painted about 1470 following the Pollaiuoli school, and can now be found in the National Gallery in London.

Sandro Botticelli painted mainly in Florence and his work was predominantly of a religious nature. Apart from paintings, Botticelli's art was at its most inventive in his pen and silver-point illustrations to Dante drawn (1492-97) for Lorenzo di Pierfrancesco. Botticelli died a lonely and infirm old man at the age of 65.

Release date, 16th December, 1968. Designer, Harrison Staff Artists based on Old Masters. Printer, Harrison and Sons Ltd. Process, Photogravure. Watermark, C.A. block.

BICENTENARY OF BERNARDIN DE ST. PIERRE'S VISIT TO MAURITIUS 1768

Born on January 19th, 1737, Bernardin de St. Pierre was the oldest of the four children of the Postmaster of Havre. His ambition to travel was derived in his childhood from reading a translation of Robinson Crusoe. In 1768 he was recommissioned and posted to Madagascar. The expedition assembled at Ile de France (as Mauritius, then a French colony was called). The expedition had a disastrous start limping back to the embarkation point, Port Louis, 3 months later.

St. Pierre thus stayed in Mauritius for five years, after which time he decided that it had no strategic significance. He returned to France in 1770, he married in 1793 fathering a boy (Paul) and a daughter (Virginie). His wife died in 1798; he remarried in 1800 and died in 1814, two days after his 76th birthday. Cont. overleaf.

The result of his stay in Mauritius was two books: "Voyage a l'île de France" (1770) and "Paul et Virginie" (1788). Both show the influence of Rousseau's philosophy of man's natural goodness, whose validity St. Pierre was able to test in an island relatively isolated and unspoiled.

"Paul et Virginie", the book from which the six old prints have been adapted for this stamp issue, is one of the most celebrated love stories in European literature. It is altogether fitting that the bi-centenary of the visit which inspired it should be philatelically commemorated just as the bi-centenary of St. Pierre's birth was commemorated by the unveiling of a bust in the same gardens as the "tombs" of his famous characters.

Release Date: 2nd December, 1968. Designer: V. Whiteley, based on old prints. Printer: Format International Ltd. Process: Format (Lithography).

1933 — 1968 35th ANNIVERSARY OF ANGUILLAN GUIDING

Guiding has an enthusiastic following in Anguilla. Today the Commissioner, Miss Wilma Lake, M.B.E., is justly proud of the achievements of Anguilla Guides, Brownies and Rangers.

The last census return to the Girl Guides Association shows the following figures:—

Commissioners and Guiders	16
Rangers	18
Guides	112
Brownies	81

In 1932 a Scout brought news from Antigua that a Guide Company had been formed there. The wife of the Doctor—Magistrate, Mrs. N. Y. Fadyen, who later became the First Island Commissioner, wrote to Antigua for details and received a letter from the Governor saying he would be delighted for Anguilla to have Guides.

Important events in Anguilla Guiding

1933: First company of Girl Guides was enrolled and named The First St. Mary's Girl Guides.

1934: First Girl Guide camp and Scout/Guide rally.

1935: Jubilee Day grand parade and march past.

1938: First Anguillan Commissioner, Miss C. Mason.

1939: Represented at Silver Jubilee in Trinidad.

1950: Second Island Commissioner, Miss W. Lake.

1964: Visit of the World Chief Guide. Attended Conference in Dominica.

1965: Visit of H.R.H. Duke of Edinburgh. Two Guides attended Silver Jubilee Camp in Jamaica. Visit of Mrs. Moffett, Chief Commissioner for Overseas and Miss Mitchell, Secretary.

1966: Opening of Gilfox, the joint Headquarters for Scouts and Guides.

1968: Completion of wing to Guide Headquarters.

We are indebted to the Girl Guides Association Commonwealth Headquarters for their kind assistance and for their permission allowing us to reproduce both the old and new type of Girl Guide badges for this commemorative stamp issue.

ANOTHER NEW COUNTRY

A set of nine two-colour definitive stamps in one design showing a map of the island and the Queen's portrait were released by Barbuda on November 19th. There had been earlier reports that such a series was in preparation.

Barbuda is a dependency of Antigua, whose Postmaster-General announced the stamps for release on November 18th, although what are described as official first day covers are postmarked November 19th.

A London agency is quoted in the P.M.G.'s announcement as "sole distributor of these issues on a face value basis as, at present, there are no facilities for the handling of trade orders direct from Barbuda."

A London correspondent points out that a revision of the laws of Antigua was necessary before Barbuda could enjoy postally independent status that would place it outside the scope of Antigua's present arrangements with the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau. There is no certainty that such legislation has yet been enacted.

The new Barbuda stamps were designed by R. Granger Barrett and printed by Format International Security Printers in sheets of 50 on coated paper. Values are: 4c, 1c, 2c, 3c, 4c, 5c, 6c, 10c, 15c, producing a sterling face value of 1s 11½d. per set. The London agent's trade offer is for full sets, except for the 4c stamp offered singly subject to a minimum order of 10,000, or multiples thereof.

The P.M.G.'s notice advises that a Mexico Olympic Games commemorative issue for Barbuda is in preparation, the values being 25c, 35c, 75c, and \$1 (the last in miniature sheet form)—a face value of 9s 9½d per set.

Jamaica Human Rights

On the 3rd December, 1968, Jamaica are to issue commemorative stamps for Human Rights Year. The three different designs symbolise the following:—

3d—
The white laurel and flames on the red background are all originally the prominent features of the Human Rights Symbol, standing for the "continued struggle to achieve respect of the human person." The laurel and flames are placed against a solid green silhouette of the island of Jamaica to depict Jamaica's notable connection to the proposal unanimously accepted by the United Nations General Assembly for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Green was chosen for Jamaica to portray the young nation's natural beauty and thriving endeavours.

1/- —
The flame is symbolic of Human Rights and the pair of hands shielding the flame depicts the desire of the human race to foster and protect Human Rights.

3/- —
This design symbolises the constant yearning of the individual for the realisation of the Human Rights concept. The idea is represented with a Jamaican man kneeling before a gold silhouette of Jamaica, and grasping the enlarged words "Human Rights". This is to symbolise striving for the rights to which they are entitled and also the importance of Jamaica's proposal at United Nations for International Declaration of Human Rights Year. The green, gold and black represent the colours of Jamaica's National Flag, white stands for peace, and the prominent symbol of Human Rights appears at the bottom of the design to indicate the universal framework of the Human Rights.

Release date, 3rd December, 1968. Designer, Local artist. Printer, Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process, Photogravure. Watermark, Jamaica Pineapple.

Malta

The Maltese archipelago, consisting of the islands of Malta, Gozo, and Comino, is the last vestige of one of the great land bridges by which Europe was once joined to Africa. In prehistoric times it offered the best route for communication between the two continents and, in more modern times, has been at the crossroads of Mediterranean civilisation. Geographically Malta lies 60 miles south of Sicily and 180 miles north of Africa, yet it is in latitudes considerably to the south of Tunisia, and its fauna and flora both past and present, have a certain affinity with North Africa. The people of Malta speak an ancient language which is Semitic in origin and survives to this day, in spite of centuries of over-lordship and the imposition of alien cultures by the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Swabians, Aragonese, the Knight of St. John, the French and the British. Malta lies a thousand miles from Gibraltar and Alexandria and was thus equidistant from the Eastern and Western confines of the ancient world. Twice in the past four centuries Malta has been the bastion of civilisation against powers which threatened to overthrow the freedom of Europe. Malta therefore possesses a strategic and economic importance by far superior to its size or population.

Little is known of the early inhabitants, but by 3000 B.C. there was an incursion of people probably from Sicily, skilled in the use of copper and in making pottery. The Stone and Bronze Age people of Malta have left ample record of their residence in the form of stone temples, statuary and megaliths. They were succeeded by the Phoenicians who made Malta a colony about 800 B.C. The name "Malta" is considered to be a corruption of the Punic word "Maleth" meaning an anchorage, an allusion to the excellent harbour facilities which the island possesses.

The Romans captured Malta in 216 B.C., but though they occupied it for seven centuries they left remarkably little record of their residence besides the Villa at Rabat, tombs and other remains. It was during the Roman period, however, that Malta experienced one of the greatest events in its history. In 60 A.D. St. Paul suffered shipwreck there, while on his way to stand trial for treason at Rome. During his sojourn in Malta he performed miracles of healing and converted to Christianity the islanders. Malta thus became one of the earliest coun-



ST. PAUL

tries to embrace Christianity and to this day, the Maltese are among the most devoutly Catholic peoples of the world.

With the fall of Imperial Rome in the fifth century, Malta's history disappeared into oblivion. Little is known of its history during the ensuing centuries, but it is a fact that at some time or other the archipelago came under the influence of the Byzantine Empire. In 870 A.D. however, Malta was seized by the Aglabite Arabs of Kairouan in Tunisia, at the time of the great Islamic invasions of Europe. The Arabs ruled Malta for 220 years, but the most palpable trace of their occupation that remains is the Arabic element in the Maltese language, and place names such as Mdina and Rabat (meaning respectively "the city and "the suburb.")

Malta fell to Count Roger of Normanby in 1090 and the next 104 years are regarded as a golden age in Maltese history. Tradition holds that Count Roger's chief legacy to the island was his personal colours—red and white—which today form the Maltese flag. Norman rule came to an end in 1194 on the death of Count Tancred who was succeeded by Constanza, daughter of Roger II and wife of Henry VI of the Swabian house of Hohenstaufen. The Swabians ruled for only 74 years, being supplanted in 1268 by Charles of Anjou. The Angevins were unpopular with their Sicilian and Maltese subjects and were overthrown sixteen years later by Peter III of Aragon. With the other fiefs of the crown of Aragon Malta passed under Spanish dominance, until 1530 when the Emperor Charles V ceded the Islands to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, who had recently lost the stronghold of Rhodes to the Turks. They were to rule in Malta for almost 270 years.

They had their heyday in the sixteenth century, when their galleys harried Turkish shipping in the

Mediterranean. When the Turkish Sultan was goaded into retaliation and attempted to take Malta by Siege, the Knights and the Maltese defended the island stoutly against overwhelming odds and saved Malta—and Western Europe—from the menace of Islam. A few years after the Great Siege, the Turkish fleet was annihilated at the Battle of Lepanto and from then onwards the Ottoman Empire gradually declined as a potential danger to the peace of Europe. Ironically the power and importance of the Knights declined at the same time.

By 1798 the Order was a mere shadow of its former self, and in its feebleness capitulated to Napoleon who seized Malta as a base while on his expedition to Egypt. Although at first welcomed by the Maltese, the French turned out to be worse rulers than the erstwhile Knights, and within a few months the islands of Malta and Gozo had risen against their oppressors. In answer to their plea for help, British and Portuguese forces were landed to assist the Maltese rebels against the French. For almost more than two years the French were virtually besieged in Valetta, and surrendered in September, 1800. The Treaty of Amiens of 1802 stipulated that the islands should revert to the Knights but war broke out and the Congress of Vienna in 1814 confirmed Britain's possession of Malta which became a Crown Colony. With the de-

LA VALETTE
FOUNDER OF VALETTE

velopment of Malta as a British naval base in the nineteenth century the Island entered an era of unparalleled prosperity and enormous progress was made in many fields. A new constitution in 1887 established an Executive Council and a Council of Government. These bodies foreshadowed the self-government granted after the First World War. During the 1930s, however, the ministry of Sir Ugo Mifsud clashed with the Governor who dissolved Parliament in November, 1933 and re-instituted crown colony rule.

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Malta suffered terrible bombing and hardships during the Second World War. The valiant defence of the island by the people themselves earned for them the collective award of the George Cross and, after the War, a return to Self-Government. This paved the way gradually for full independence which was granted in September, 1964, when Malta became a full member of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The population of Malta and Gozo today is over 300,000, which, in an area of only 120 square miles, gives a density of 2,800 persons to the square mile. The run-down of the British naval dockyard has forced Malta to diversify its economy into other industries and occupations; thus light engineering, property development and tourism are providing new sources of revenue.

Malta's position at the crossroads of the Mediterranean accounted for postal connections with Europe and North Africa. Religious and Diplomatic correspondence to and from the Island, dates to the late Middle Ages. During subsequent centuries, this service expanded until its organisation during the Knight of St. John. Efficient and organised postal service is known to have existed since the middle of the 17th century. As the number of letters was always on the increase, we meet with new regulations on their handling, posting and delivery. The earliest known hand stamp bearing the name of the Island originated from Marseilles Post Office in 1755. The stamp De Malthe was used on incoming mail. Later the word MARSEILLES was added to the stamp.

During the last decades of the Order the service was more organised to handle letters to and from foreign countries. The officers of the Order, the Maltese nobility, the Church as well as the commercial community made use of the Postal Offices of the Order in Valletta. Domenico Montanaro headed this service under the Knights, and his experience was utilised under the French during the first year of the British in Malta.



BRITISH RULE

In 1804 Sir Alexander Ball, the Civil Commissioner appointed him as the first Director of the Post Office.

An agent for His Majesty's packet was appointed in Malta in July, 1806. He was responsible for the incoming and outgoing mail which was struck with a double quarter circle with MALTA in script capitals within double lines. While this stamp was used in 1807, two years later the word PAID above the framed MALTA was introduced.

The British Packet Agency was well organised, and Malta became a very important centre for mail travelling from the Levant to Europe and vice-versa. Of particular interest to specialists are the various markings used at the Quarantine Station in Malta on letters emanating from towns in the Middle East where an epidemic had broken out. The usual inscription was PURIFIE AU LAZARET MALTE (Disinfected at the Malta Lazaret) and several types of "Purifie" markings are found on letters since the 1830's.

A separate organisation existed for the handling of inland mail. It seems that it operated on an informal basis. Couriers or mail runners facilitated the delivery of letters. The Government, the Church, and local merchants had their own arrangements for the delivery of important correspondence. When police stations were established later in the century, they exhibited letters awaiting the addressee to call for them.

The local post began using hand-struck stamps in the late 1820's; these were mostly charge marks indicating either that postage had been paid or that money had to be levied from the addressee. They consisted of a date, giving the day and month only, followed by the sum involved. In 1849 the Local Post was amalgamated with the Packet Agency, under the control of Mr. Bouchier, the British Packet Agent and Controller of Customs. As the business of the postal administration increased, so also the title of its chief was changed. Bouchier's successor, John S. Coxon, became Deputy Postmaster-General in 1858, and some time later, Postmaster-General.

Adhesive stamps were first officially introduced into Malta in 1857 when contemporary British issues were used. Their use became compulsory on mail destined for the United Kingdom after the 1st March, 1858, and were employed until 1885. During a period of almost thirty years every British

stamp except the £1 and £5 values, has been recorded with the Maltese postmark. At first the obliterator used consisted of an "M" in an oval of horizontal lines, but duplex marks incorporating the code "A 25" were introduced in 1859 and entirely superseded the "M" stamp in 1860.

The rate for internal letters was one penny per half ounce and ordinary British stamps at first sufficed. However, it was decided in 1859 to reduce the internal rate to a half-penny and, no British stamp of that denomination being in existence at the time, it became necessary to produce special stamps for Malta. The Crown Agents placed the contract for the Maltese halfpenny stamps with De La Rue who printed by typography the famous yellow stamp which was Malta's sole issue for 25 years. During the long period of its currency, however, this stamp was subjected to numerous changes in shade, paper, watermark and perforation affording a great deal of interest for the advanced philatelist. The stamp had no franking validity beyond Malta and Gozo, all mail intended for overseas having to be prepaid with British stamps.



THIS YEAR'S MALTESE CHRISTMAS ISSUE

£20,000 BAIL FOR RECEIVING

Mr. Reuben Deetcher, 37-year-old stamp dealer of Dobree Avenue, London, N.W.10, was last week charged at Willesden with receiving "three Tristan da Cunha stamps and eight foreign stamps" knowing them to have been stolen. Scotland Yard detectives are reported as having seized stamps valued at £70,000 following a visit to premises in Willesden.

Mr. Deetcher was remanded on bail to appear at Willesden Police Court on December 16th, bail being fixed at £10,000 in the defendant's own recognisance and two further sureties of £5,000 each.

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SOCIETY NOTES AND NEWS

THE WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC.

It was Ladies Night on 25th November 1968 at the monthly General Meeting of the Wellington Philatelic Society. The programme was arranged and compered by our Vice-President Mrs. M. E. Chesterman. The attendance was even greater than last year, and the various talks and displays, musical items etc., were well received.

The wife of our President, Mrs. Rita Stanley presented a fine collection of "Old Documents" together with an explanatory talk. She pointed out that adhesive duty stamps pre-dated adhesive postage stamps by more than 200 years. An interesting account was given of the history of writing paper, as well as some of the uses to which paper and parchment have been put over the years. The oldest document in Mrs. Stanley's collection is dated 1408 and is written in Latin. (The written language used for documents in England at that time.) An from Guernsey, written in French. Other interesting document was the largest document in Mrs. Stanley's possession is a New Zealand Maori Land Lease in respect of 115,000 acres in the Rangitikei district. It is written on both sides and part is in the Maori language as well as English. It is a fine example of the use of New Zealand Duty stamps on documents.

Apart from the document in Latin, Mrs. Stanley has at least one parchment written during the reign of each British Monarch since William and Mary in 1689.

Seals on these documents also provided an interesting facet of the display. These ranged from simple ones in red sealing wax, to the huge wax seal of the Bahamas.

An interesting publication displayed was a copy of the "London Sun" printed in gold the day after Queen Victoria's coronation in 1838. The medallion presentation of the Queen's head was engraved by Thomas de la Rue and designed by Mr. Edward Wyon, who also designed the Coronation medal, from which the Head of the famous Penny Black postage stamp was taken. The display was completed by a real "mod" document printed on plastic.

The next talk and display (by Mrs. J. M. Gregson) featured "Orchids on Stamps." Her interest in these beautiful flowers began when she was living in the British West

Indies and this interest has been maintained since coming to New Zealand. The orchid is a large group of perennial plants, some growing on the ground, others climbing trees and bushes. The flower is irregular, with one petal modified as a lip, coloured and shaped to attract insects. There are many thousand kinds of orchids found all over the world, most tropical types having large brilliantly coloured flowers. The stamps on display were extremely colourful, and the writing-up was a credit to her.

One of our young lady members — Miss Pat Guymer — gave a short talk and display on "Selected Items" from her collection. Some fine examples of American First Day Covers were evident, as also were some nice mint blocks of commemoratives. Her interests are most varied, and the display was well received. This was the second display given to our society by Miss Guymer, and seeing that she has been busy with her studies, her willingness to help with displays is most commendable.

The final feature was a series of vocal items with guitar accompaniment given by Mrs. Sophie Rowell assisted by two of her sons (Adrian and Malcolm). Adrian also did a hula in a grass skirt. Mrs. Rowell's fine voice was a delight to listen to, and the boys too were excellent. The other two Rowell children (Lawrence and Kevin) were "backstage."

Supper was served by the menfolk, whilst the ladies took the opportunity to get acquainted and to view the displays.

M. G. WING.

TARANAKI PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The December meeting of the Taranaki Philatelic Society, held in the National Party Rooms, ended the year with a very enjoyable variety evening organised by the President, Mr. Len Jury, with Mr. B. Hutchinson assisting.

All those who attended were divided into groups of approximately six and then questions, both written and verbal, were answered, with no one knowing that the group with the most points was in for a real laugh. Each member of the winning group was blind-folded and asked to draw a portion of a donkey on a blackboard; this brought a hilarious result in possibly one

of the most odd-shaped donkeys in the history of contemporary art.

Mr. Ben Hutchinson gave a report on the latest news of "Tarapex 69". Publicity envelopes carrying the Tarapex emblem will soon be on sale.

Four letters of the 19th Century were displayed by Mr. Ian Rutherford, the oldest containing history of the death of Napoleon Bonaparte on the island of St. Helena in 1821. These four letters, the latest dated 1850, were all addressed to the same person in Edinburgh.

AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

December 3rd. Ladies Night with the gentlemen providing a wonderful supper and very practical work at the sink bench, a night off for the ladies and very much appreciated. Mrs. I. Dyson had enjoyed a very pleasant holiday in July at Fiji and returned with films and personal references, so it was arranged to have a showing of Fiji stamps. Miss N. A. Williams specially prepared an album of stamps, stored away since the George VI issue and this was arranged complete with perfs. papers and watermarks almost complete to date and included postal history with special cancellations and odd pieces. Just a modern collection which needs the early issues. After the display Mrs. Dyson was most entertaining with the slides and personal talk and with such a plentiful supper it was a very happy evening.

COMBINED AUCKLAND SOCIETIES CHRISTMAS NIGHT

December 9th the combined Christmas Party was held at 7.30 p.m. in the Building Centre rooms with an attendance of about 100 and was ably chaired by the Chairman of the Postal Group. We were entertained with slides of the Caribbean, colourful and delightful, and were told everyone visits there once in a lifetime. A quiz was cooked up by Mr. John Cooper and Mr. Ray Stephen and posed a few problems for some of the pairs who tried to find suitable answers. All scoring over 16 points were suitably acknowledged with sweets while the remainder looked on. A north shore group entertained and another wonderful Christmas party gathering was over, thoroughly enjoyed with a happy party friendliness.

N. A. WILLIAMS.

FILL THOSE GAPS - AUSTRALIA

1959 NATIVE FLOWERS

	M	U
1/6 Christmas Bells	30	12
2/- Flannel Flower	30	3
2/3 Wattle (Maize paper)	60	10
2/3 Wattle (White paper)	1.00	15
2/5 Banksia	45	8
3/- Waratah	50	8

1959 ZOOLOGICALS

6d. Banded Anteater	10	2
8d. Tiger Cat	15	2
9d. Kangaroo	20	5
11d. Rabbit Bandicoot	20	4
1/- Platypus	75	3
1/2 Tasmanian Tiger	25	4

1957-61 SPECIAL DEFINITIVES

5½d. War Memorial (No. 335)	30	10
5½d. War Memorial (No. 336)	30	10
7d. Flying Doctor	10	2
1/- Colombo Plan	20	5

1963 NAVIGATORS

4/- Tasman	80	20
5/- Dampier	1.00	25
7/6 Cook	3.50	3.50
10/- Flinders	3.00	1.00
£1 Bass	5.50	4.00
£2 King	18.00	17.00

1964 BIRDS

6d Thornbill	10	5
9d Magpie	40	25
1/6 Galah	40	25
2/- Whistler	50	7
2/5 Blue Wren	80	25
2/6 Robin	1.00	50
3/- Ibis	75	20

1966 DECIMALS

1c. Queen	2	1
2c. Queen	3	1
3c. Queen	5	1
3c. Multicolour (Coil)	25	4
4c. Queen	6	1
4c. Multicolour (Coil)	20	4
5c. Thornbill	7	3
6c. Honeyeater	8	4
7c. Humbug Fish	10	2
8c. Coral Fish	12	4
9c. Hermit Crab	14	5
10c. Anemone Fish	14	3
13s Avocet	20	10
15c Galah	25	10
20c Whistler	30	5
24c Kingfisher	50	10
25c Robin	40	15
30c Ibis	45	10
40c Tasman	60	15
50c Dampier	75	15
75c Cook	1.00	50
\$1 Flinders	1.30	50
\$2 Bass	2.60	1.00
\$4 King	5.00	3.00

1967 QUEEN ELIZABETH

	M	U
5c on 4c Red	15	4
5c Blue	7	1
5c Multicolour (Coil)	8	3

1968 FLOWERS

6c Multicolour	10	4
13c Multicolour	20	5
15c Multicolour	25	5
20c Multicolour	30	5
25c Multicolour	35	10
30c Multicolour	45	10

COMMEMORATIVES, ETC.

1927 1½d Canberra	12	5
1928 3d Kookaburra	1.25	1.25
1929 3d Airmail	60	60
1½d Swan	20	10
1930 1½d Sturt	12	8
3d Sturt	75	75
1931 2d Kingsford Smith	15	5
3d Kingsford Smith	60	50
6d Kingsford Smith	1.50	1.50
6d Airmail	1.75	1.50
1932 2d Bridge (Typo)	20	8
2d Bridge (engraved)	30	10
3d Bridge (engrave)	50	50
5/- Bride (engraved)	—	50.00
1934 Victorian Cent.	10	3
3d Victorian Cent.	—	30
1/- Victorian Cent.	—	3.00
2d Macarthur	40	5
2d Macarthur ((Dark Hills))	—	25
3d Macarthur	85	75
9d Macarthur	—	5.00
1/6 Airmail	50	8
1935 2d Anzac	15	5
1/- Anzac	5.00	5.00
2d Jubilee	—	3
3d Jubilee	—	60
2/- Jubilee	9.00	8.00
1936 2d Cable	12	3
3d Cable	50	40
2d S.A. Centenary	12	3
3d S.A. Centenary	40	40
1/- S.A. Centenary	—	1.00
1937 2d N.S.W. Sesqui	12	3
2d N.S.W. Sesqui	75	50
9d N.S.W. Sesqui	3.50	3.00
1940 1d A.I.F.	15	3
2d A.I.F.	15	2
3d A.I.F.	—	1.00
6d A.I.F.	2.50	2.00
1945 2½d Gloucester	5	2
3½d Gloucester	10	10
5½d Gloucester	15	15
1946 2½d Peace	5	2
3½d Peace	8	8
5½d Peace	10	8
2½d Mitchell	5	2
3½d Mitchell	10	10
1/- Mitchell	30	20
1947 2½d Newcastle	5	28
3½d Newcastle	10	10
5½d Newcastle	12	10

	M	U
1948 2½d Farrer	7	2
2½d Von Mueller	7	2
2½d Scout	7	2
1949 2½d Lawson	7	2
2½d Forrest	7	2
3½d U.P.U.	10	10
1/6 Airmail	25	5
1950 2½d N.S.W. Stamp	8	3
2½d Vict. Stamp	8	3
1951 3d Barton	8	2
3d Parkes	8	2
5½d Federation	20	20
1/6 Parliament	30	30
3d Hargraves	8	2
3d Latrobe	8	2
1952 3½d Scout	8	2
1953 3d Beef	35	5
3d Butter	30	5
3d Wheat	30	5
3½d Beef	35	4
3½d Butter	30	3
3½d Wheat	30	3
3½d Coronation	8	2
7½d Coronation	20	20
2/- Coronation	60	60
3½d Young Farmers	8	3
3½d Collins	10	3
3½d Paterson	10	3
2/- Tasmania	1.25	1.25
3d Tasmanian Stamp	15	3
1954 3½d Royal Visit	8	2
7½d Royal Visit	20	20
2/- Royal Visit	60	60
3½d Telegraph	8	2
3½d Red Cross	8	2
3½d W.A. Stamp	8	2
3½d Railway	8	2
3½d Antarctica	10	3
2/- Blue Olympic	75	75
1955 2/- Green Olympic	75	75
3½d Rotary	8	2
3½d U.S. Friendship	8	2
3½d Cobb & Co	8	3
2/- Cobb & Co	75	75
3½ Y.M.C.A.	8	3
3½ Nurse	8	3
3½d S.A. Stamp	8	3
1956 3½ Resp. Govt.	8	3
4d Olympics	10	3
7½d Olympics	15	15
1/- Olympics	30	20
2/- Olympics	50	50
1957 4d S.A. Resp. Govt.	10	3
3½d Christmas	8	4
4d Christmas	10	3
1958 2/- Qantas	50	50
8d Kingsford Smith	20	10
4d Broken Hill	8	3
3½d Christmas	8	3
4d Christmas	8	3
1959 4d Post Office	7	3
4d Qld. Self Govt	7	3
5d Christmas	7	2

Cash with Order.
Please include postage if order under \$2.
For Issues 1960-68 of Australia See page 30.

THE STAMP SHOP

P.O. Box 174, New Plymouth.

CANADA

CURLING STAMP ANNOUNCED

A 6c Sports Series stamp providing recognition for Curling, the Roaring Game, will be released by Canada on the 15th January, 1969.

Principal elements of the design are engraved silhouetted figures of four players in action poses. Two in the upper left segment are sweeping in advance of the Rock as it approaches the Button in the centre of the House; a third member of the sweepers' rink, located front and centre, is calling the sweep and a fourth figure to the right represents the opposing Skip poised to sweep the Rock out of the House. Circles forming the House, embedded in the ice at each end of a curling rink, are reproduced on the stamp by the photogravure process, blue for the outer and red for the inner circle. "Curling" surmounted by "Le curling", engraved in black, appear immediately above the opposing Skip adjacent, to the extreme right, is a vertical photogravure panel in which "Canada" appears in white on red above a white denominative 6 on a blue background.

A recent estimate by a representative of the Canadian Curling Association places the number of curlers in Canada at nearly one half million. Lady players number approximately 100,000, while those at the High School level total 40,588. Some 1900 men's clubs were affiliated with the Canadian Curling Association during the season 1967-68.

Although the origin of curling is obscured by antiquity, the curlers of the Town of Kilsyth in Stirlingshire, Scotland, whose antecedents banded together in 1716, are regarded as having the world's oldest continuing club; the Royal Montreal Curling Club, organised in 1807, predates any other in North America. Evidence does exist that the game was in vogue in Scotland during the very early years of the 16th Century and some writers assert it was introduced into that country during the reign of James I (1394-1437). The early Icelandic "Knatleikr" receives its share of attention as a possible originating contest, while some



investigators claim Continental Europe as the source from which it sprang. In 1890, after assessing claims and counter-claims, the historian of Scotland's Royal Caledonia Curling Club,

which affiliated groups in twelve countries regard as the Mother Club, wrote: "There are no facts by which we can determine precisely the antiquity of the game".

WHEN ARE MINIATURE SHEETS NOT MINIATURE SHEETS?

Now that Gibbons Catalogues list Miniature Sheets they are continuing the fallacy of classing every small unit with at least one stamp, as a "Miniature Sheet". As some of these units may contain only one or perhaps two stamps, while others, such as our own Health sheets, may have six, it is obvious that different names are required to distinguish the two types.

Some have suggested "Souvenir Sheet" to describe those with either one stamp or several stamps of different values, in a unit. However, this could be confusing, as most Miniature Sheets are kept for "Souvenirs".

In Europe, where considerable quantities of the one-stamp units have appeared, often imperf., philatelists and catalogues have adopted the word BLOC to describe these. Units such as our Health sheets are called Miniature Sheets, as by their reckoning a miniature sheet means exactly what it says, a Miniature Sheet, and not one imperf stamp on a pretty background.

Personally, I agree with this view, and I think that S.G. should revise the listing of the units they call miniature sheets, (Catalogue numbers preceded by M.S.) and list blocs and Minia-



A recent Russian example with one imperf stamp on a pretty background.

ture Sheets separately. It would at least help if collectors begin to use these two terms, instead of categorising all as Miniature Sheets.

B. R. HENDERSON.

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THIRD PAGE 8in. by 1 column or 4in. by 2 columns	11.00	10.00	9.80	9.50
QUARTER PAGE 6in. by 1 column or 3in. by 2 columns	8.25	7.50	7.40	7.25
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GREAT BRITAIN NEWS

MORE SETS IN BLOCKS— 1969 PROGRAMME

Britain's special stamp programme for 1969 will include a number of "strips" or "blocks" of different designs. These blocks have been a feature of previous issues (for example, the Battle of Britain stamps in 1965 and the British Flowers stamps in 1967).

A block of four stamps to be issued on May 28 will show some of Britain's mediaeval cathedrals.

A strip of three stamps will be issued on Investiture Day to celebrate the Investiture of the Prince of Wales.

The dates of issue, numbers and values of special stamps in 1969 are:

British Ships: Wednesday, January 15, 1969.

One stamp at 5d (Queen Elizabeth II). Strip of 3 different stamps (Elizabethan Galleon, East Indiaman, Cutty Sark). Strip of 2 different 1s stamps (Great Britain, Mauretania).

Notable Anniversaries: Wednesday, April 2.

1: 50th Anniversary of the first non-stop transatlantic flight by Alcock and Brown, 5d.

2: 10th Anniversary of the Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT), 9d.

3: 50th Anniversary of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), 1s.

4: 20th Anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty (NATO), 1s.6d.

5: 50th Anniversary of the first flight to Australia (Ross and Keith Smith), 1s.9d.

British Architecture: Wednesday, May 28.

The stamps will illustrate old and modern British Cathedrals.

Block of four different 5d stamps. One stamp at 9d. One stamp at 1s.6d.

Prince of Wales Investiture: Tuesday, July 1.

Strip of three different stamps at 5d each. One stamp at 9d. One stamp at 1s.

Post Office History and Activities: Wednesday, October 1.

5d, 9d, 1s, 1s.6d.

Christmas Stamps: Issue date to be announced later.

5d, 9d, 1s.6d.

BRITISH SHIPS

The sailing galleon of the sixteenth century was both merchantman and warship. Constructed of British oak, these vessels were extremely seaworthy.

The East Indiamen, plying between Great Britain and India in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, were effectively armed and noted for their comfort. They sailed under the flag of the Honourable East India Company.

SS Great Britain (3,270 tons), was designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and was the first iron built, screw propelled steamship to cross the Atlantic in 1845. Her hulk lies aground in the Falkland Islands.

Cutty Sark (963 tons), launched in 1869, was a tea clipper and one of the fastest sailing ships ever built. She is preserved at Greenwich to commemorate the days of sail.

RMS Mauretania (31,938 tons), completed in 1907, was a passenger liner designed for the North Atlantic run. She was a fast and most popular ship, and held the Blue Riband for many years.

RMS Queen Elizabeth 2 (65,000 tons), the most recent addition to the Cunard fleet, is designed for both the North Atlantic traffic and cruising. She was launched in September 1967, will make her maiden voyage in January.

NEW MACHINES WILL ISSUE STAMPS SIDE BY SIDE

Five stamps, side by side, will be served from the new type of stamp vending machine that the Post Office is to introduce in the new year.

The machine has been designed to cater for a wide range of postage rates and has been developed in readiness for decimal coinage.

It will take a shilling or a five new pence piece (coins that are identical in size and shape) and will issue a strip of stamps sideways in this order: 2d, 2d, 3d, 1d, 4d.

From decimalisation day in February 1971 the machine will continue to accept both shilling and five new pence coins but by a simple change of roll will issue decimal value stamps. This will avoid any out-of-service time in going over to decimal working.

There will be 22 pre-production-run machines installed in late January, nine in London and the remainder in other parts of the country. Further machines will be introduced gradually over the next two years. They will provide a nationally uniform service at more than 10,000 places.

The stamps issued from the machines will be in the new definitive series; will be on coated, unwatermarked paper with a single phosphor line, and will issue left edge first.

SPECIAL STAMPS FOR FLIGHT OF CONCORDE

Three stamps to mark the first successful flight of the prototype Concorde now being prepared at Toulouse, France, will be put on sale as soon as possible after flight, which is likely to be in January. The values of the stamps will be 4d, 9d and 1s 6d.

The 4d stamp shows an impression of Concorde in flight with the outline of the United Kingdom and France far below. It is in five colours, blue/green, orange, violet, blue and lime green.

The designs of the 9d and 1s 6d values emphasise the clean smooth lines of the aircraft. In the first the planned view is superimposed over the elevation; in the second the details of the clean lines of the nose and tail units are superimposed.

The 9d stamp is in four colours, red, blue, green and blue/black; the 1s 6d value is printed in light blue, dark blue and silver.

The stamps are printed in photogravure by Messrs Harrison and Sons Ltd. All will have phosphor lines.

The 4d stamp was designed by Michael and Sylvia Boaman; the 9d and 1s 6d by David Gentleman.

The Concorde stamps were printed at the beginning of 1968, as the plane was originally expected to have its first flight early this year.

NEW STAMP BOOK

A 5s book of postage stamps, containing twelve 5d stamps, goes on sale at post offices on Wednesday, November 27.

This is a new addition to the range of stamp books and the cover designs will feature English homes. The first illustration to be used is of Ightham Mote, Kent; and the second, to be introduced in February, will be Little Moreton Hall.

APPROVAL BOOKS

(Tick those you require)

COUNTRIES

Norfolk Island.
Cook Islands.
Fiji.
Pitcairn Island.
Tonga.
Penrhyn/Aitutaki.
Papua/New Guinea.
Papua and New Guinea
(since 1952)
Western Samoa.
British Solomon Is.
Niue Islands.
Gilbert and Ellice Is.
Great Britain.
U.S.A.
Canada.
Malta.
Australia.
Vatican.
British West Indies.
Ireland.

THEMATIC APPROVAL BOOKS.

Birds.
Ships.
Flowers.
Animals.
Butterflies/Insects.
People.
Maps.
Flags.
Planes.
Transport.
Stamps on Stamps etc.
U.N. or U.N. Organisations.
Art (Paintings)
Medicine.
Space.
Religion.
Fish.
Buildings.
Industry.
Agriculture.
Emblems (Heraldry)
Mountains and Scenes.
Monuments.
Rivers; Lakes, Waterfalls.
Children.
Royalty.
Trains.

Books are sent out on 10 days approval.
References from new applicants please.

NAME

ADDRESS

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New Plymouth.

AUSTRALIA

		M	U
1960	5d Girl Guides	7	2
	5d N. Territory	7	2
	5d Melbourne Cup	8	2
	5d Qld. Stamp Cent.	7	2
	5d Christmas	7	2
1961	5d Melba	10	2
	5d Christmas	7	2
1960-8 AUSTRALIAN			
1962	Stuart	7	2
	5d Inland Mission	7	3
	5d C.W.A.	7	2
	5d Christmas	7	2
	5d Comm. Games	10	2
	2/3 Comm. Games	1.50	1.50
1963	5d Royal Visit	7	2
	2/3 Royal Visit	1.00	1.00
	5d Canberra	7	2
	5d Red Cross	7	2
	5d Blue Mts.	7	2
	5d Export	7	2
	5d Christmas	7	2
	2/3 Compac	1.25	1.25
1964	5d Airmail Anniv	7	2
	2/3 Airmail Anniv.	1.00	1.00
	5d Christmas	7	2
1965	5d Anzac	10	3
	8d Anzac	40	20
	2/3 Anzac	1.00	1.00
	5d I.T.U.	7	2
	5d Churchill	8	2
	5d Monash	7	2
	5d Hargrave	7	2
	2/3 I.C.Y.	60	50
	5d Christmas	7	2
1966	4c Life Saving	7	2
	4c Dirk Hartog	7	2
	4c Christmas	7	2
1967	2c Bible	7	2
	4c Banking	7	2
	4c Lions	7	2
	4c Y.M.C.A.	7	2
	4c Gynecology	7	2
	5c Christmas	8	2
	25c Christmas	50	40
1968	5c Weather	7	2
	20c Weather	40	30
	25c Satellite	50	40
	25c Soil Science	7	2
	5c Medical		
	Assembly	7c	2
	5c Olympic	7c	2
	25c Olympic	40	40
	5c Building		
	Industry	7	2
	5c Christmas	7	2
	5c Chisholm	7	2
	5c David	7	2
	5c Namatjira	7	2
	5c Paterson	7	2

AUSTRALIAN APPROVALS
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NEW ZEALAND

Per 1 10

Decimals

4c to 5c (7v)	10c	40c
6c Flower	3c	10c
7c Flower	5c	20c
74c Trout	10c	60c
8c Flag	5c	20c
10c Timber	5c	20c
10c Pinus	3c	10c
15c Brown	10c	50c
15c Green	5c	20c
20c Art	3c	10c
25c Butter	20c	1.20c
25c Dairy	15c	1.00
28c Glacier	10c	80c
30c Chateau	10c	50c
50c Falls	20c	1.20
\$1 Glacier	75c	—
\$2 Red	3.50	—
\$2 Blue	2.50	—

1960 PICTORIALS

4d to 6d (8v)	10c	40c
7d Flower	10c	70c
8d Flower	2c	10c
9d Flag	5c	20c
1/- Timber	2c	10c
1/3 Trout	3c	10c
1/6 Tiki	5c	20c
1/9 Brown	10c	60c
1/9 Blue	8c	30c
2/- Art	8c	10c
2/6 Butter	10c	50c
3/- Grey	20c	1.20
3/- Blue	10c	60c
5/- Falls	20c	1.20
10/- Glacier	90c	6.00
£1 Geyser	3.50	20.00

QUEEN ELIZABETH

14d Large	5c	10c
6d Small	5c	20c
8d Red	5c	20c
8d Brown	75c	4.50
1/6 Blue	5c	10c
1/9 Orange	10c	50c
2/6 Brown	50c	—
3/- Green	10c	50c
5/- Red	40c	3.00
10/- Blue	4.50	—

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JUNIOR PAGE

by Simon Sam

CHURCHES ON NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

We say that New Zealand is a Christian country. By that we mean that the greater number people living in New Zealand subscribe to the Christian faith. The total population of the Dominion in March 1968 was 2,755,000, and 88 per cent. of these claim to be adherents of some form of Christianity.

It is natural then that we should expect the stamps of New Zealand to show more than a few traces of this form of religion. The year which appears on many of these issues is dated from the birth of the founder of this faith and who is worshipped by all people calling themselves Christians. The Christmas stamps — all but one — deal with the birth and childhood of this Person, the Messiah, the Christ. The symbol of the Christian Church — the cross — is evident on several stamps, and you could spend a happy hour some wet afternoon tracing through your own stamps to see how many of them have the cross in some form or other; do not overlook the crowns or the flags.

Religious worship is generally conducted in buildings built for this particular purpose. The small humble wooden structures of early colonial days; the more pretentious stone and brick buildings which adorn many of our towns and cities.

There are three church buildings on New Zealand Stamps. An inside view of the Anglican Church at Franz Josef Glacier is seen on the 9d Peace. The 3d Otago shows the First Presbyterian Church of Otago, and the 1d Canterbury, the Anglican Cathedral in Christchurch.

Organised British settlement in New Zealand was commenced by the New Zealand Company, and on the 3d of 1940, we see the landing of the first party of immigrants at Britannia (new Petone) in January 1840. An offshoot of the New Zealand Company, the Plymouth Company founded the New Plymouth settlement with the goodwill of the parent body. The Otago and Canterbury settlements were organised by church groups with the goodwill and backing of the New Zealand Company.

Otago was a Presbyterian settlement organised by a group of members of the Free Church of Scotland, and therefore we expect to find a church of the denomination of its centennial stamps. The first

services in Dunedin were held in the immigration barracks and survey office until the people had time to erect a building for their own use. They had in mind an even more permanent structure in which to worship. A site had been set aside on Bell Hill, where today stands the glorious Gothic building we see on this 3d stamp. The architect was Mr. R. A. Lawson of Melbourne, who later made his home in Dunedin. The church, which cost £14,000 and seats 1,000 people is built of Oamaru stone. The spire reaches 185 feet from the floor of the building. The opening service was held on 23rd November, 1873, and the building has been in regular use from that time.

Mr. Berry has given us a faithful and delightful picture for this centennial stamp. The Canterbury settlement was organised by a group of Church of England members, and accurately we find an Anglican Church building on its Centennial issue.

A site was reserved for a Cathedral in the centre of the town in what is now Cathedral Square, the hub of the largest (by population) city in the Dominion. Sir Gilbert Scott was the architect and the foundations were laid on Anniversary day 1864, but after £5000 had been spent, a period of despondency set in, and the work stopped. There was even a suggestion of selling the land, however men of faith stepped in, and work was restarted in 1873. The first service in the building was held in 1881. The height of the building from ground level to the top of the cross is 210 feet. Compare this with St. John's Cathedral in London on the 14d Peace stamp; whose towers are 210 feet above street level, while the cross is 365 feet.

It is impossible to compare the Dunedin church with that of Christchurch. Each has its peculiar fascination inside and out, just as some of the older structures up and down the country have their own particular glory, if we would but turn aside and look for it. The fine old church in Whangarei, old St. Pauls in Wellington, each one would make an admirable subject for a postage stamp of early church life in New Zealand.

Mr. James Berry who designed both of these two stamps, has given us not only a faithful picture of

the buildings, but done it in such a way as to show forth the distinctive beauty of the two dissimilar buildings.

Simon Sam may be heard from Radio Taranaki on Sunday 12th and 26th at 9.05 a.m.

THIS AND THAT

... from WELLINGTON

Wellington philatelists have been extremely fortunate of late in that the various societies have arranged many excellent talks and displays. On 16th November we had three half hour talks and displays at the special meeting of the Royal (in conjunction with the Federation's Annual General Meeting); on 25th November there was a Ladies Night at the Wellington P.S.; this will be followed on 9th December by a display and address at the Royal by the eminent British Postal Historian Mr. F. C. Holland. Mr. Holland will also address the 24th February meeting of the Wellington Society and the Hutt Valley Society's meeting on 4th March, 1969.

Bob de Vries, the hard working Exchange Superintendent of the Wellington P.S. has indicated that he will not be available for re-election next year. Bob has over 40 exchange books on circuit these days and the effort is a credit to him. It is understood that Basil Vassiliadis has indicated his willingness to offer himself for appointment to the Exchange Supt. position. Basil is well known to local philatelists and has previously served on the Executive of the W.P.S.

We also seem to have had a welter of stamps sales, auctions or call them what you will, in recent weeks. In my opinion nothing is quite as entertaining as the weekly Thursday evening auctions at Petone. If you have not been along, try it sometime, and I am sure you will become a regular attender. Some fine mint unhinged Pacific Island (Pitcairn, Papua and New Guinea etc.) have been offered recently. Examples of realisations include P/NG C.G. 1-15 \$22; S.G. 16-25 \$20; Return to Pitcairn — blocks of six \$15.50; N.Z. Arms type san serif \$9.

Previously my two young children Adrienne and John, who are keen stamp collectors, pestered me all the time for more stamps. Since I have made my shoebox full of unwanted duplicates freely available (no rubbish included) I scarcely hear a peep. Have you tried this

M. G. WING.

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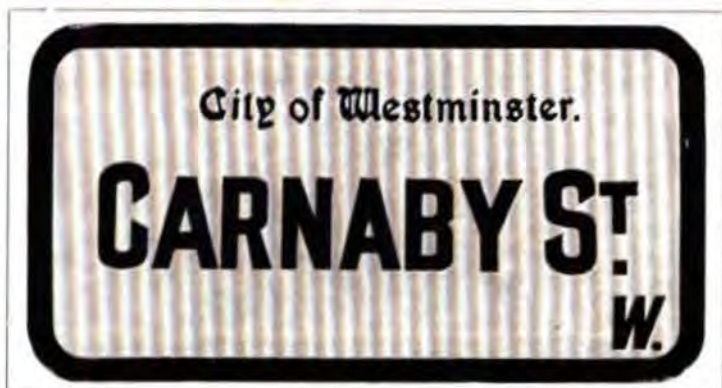
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