

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY



★ NEW ZEALAND OLYMPIC SUCCESSES

★ PAPUA-NEW GUINEA SEASHELLS

20c

VOL. 1 No. 5.

AUGUST, 1968.

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If your collecting interests cover any of the countries in this group then we can almost certainly be of help to you with your hobby. Amongst our services are the following:

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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

This month I am in a happy mood. Firstly to start the ball rolling, I had the pleasure of being chairman for the day at the Palmerston North Philatelic Convention. My heartfelt thanks to all those people who came along and made themselves known to me. Conventions and such like activities are, to many collectors, one of the highlights of each philatelic year. At long last I can put faces to the many letters that we have received, and so it is for many other collectors—people they have only by their letters—people who have done them a special favour—it is indeed a joy to meet and cement a friendship even further.

The second item I wish to write on this month is the formation of a group to advise on the themes and designs for the 1970 definitive issue. The New Zealand Post Office is to be commended on this move, and I hope that a similar group will be retained for all future issues. Stamp collectors and philatelists are very capably represented by Mr. C. W. Watts, Secretary of the Federation. Many of us will now sit back and wait for the ultimate and ideal in our stamp designs.

Perhaps it would be timely to reprint a passage by a writer in the U.K. Philatelic press, on the forthcoming Great Britain Paintings. He is evidently most upset at the positioning of the Queen's head on the 1/- and 1/6 values. He writes:—

"If the Postmaster-General's stamp advisory committee is powerless to prevent this kind of gaffe, I suggest it be disbanded forthwith. On the other hand, the committee might have thought the artwork for the 1/- and 1/6 stamps delightful, in which case I also suggest it be disbanded forthwith".

Thus it must be realised the new committee cannot please everyone.

LEN JURY.

Our apologies to Mr. R. Savill for the printing error in his July Advertisement. The price for a set of "Postage Stamps of New Zealand" should read **\$100 NOT \$1.**

OLYMPIC GAMES HEALTH STAMPS



1968



Date of issue:
7th August.

Miniature Sheets: Miniature sheets for each denomination will be on sale. Each sheet contains 6 stamps and the Olympic emblem of five circles is also printed on the selvedge of each of these sheets.

COMING N.Z. ISSUES

Commemorative Issues

A set of two stamps will be issued on 19 September, 1968. One stamp, value 3c, will commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Universal Suffrage in New Zealand and the other, value 10c, recognises the 20th Anniversary of the Adoption by United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Christmas Stamp 1968

The 1968 Christmas stamp will be issued on 1 October. This stamp will continue the series of reproductions of famous paintings and will have a value of 2½c.

NEW ZEALANDERS IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

In London, 1908, the first New Zealanders competed in Olympic Games. They competed as members of a combined Australasian team and in this, New Zealand's first outing, H. E. Kerr won a bronze medal in the 3,500 metres walk.

The Fifth Olympiad was held in Stockholm. M. E. Champion, as a member of the Australasian 4 x 20 metres relay team, won a gold medal for the team's success in this event. Tennis was also an Olympic event in those days, and A. F. Wilding gained a bronze medal in the singles.

Antwerp, scene of the 1920 Games, saw New Zealand competing as a separate nation. H. D. Hadfield rowed himself to a third place and bronze medal in the single sculls.

Our present Governor-General, Sir Arthur Porritt, rose New Zealand to world headlines at the Eighth Olympiad in Paris. With an astonishing burst of speed he headed off two world record holders, including the previous champion, to gain third prize in the 100 metres and win for New Zealand her first Olympic medal for athletics.

Boxing brought New Zealand a gold medal at the next Olympic Games held in Amsterdam in 1928. In the welter weight section, E. Morgan took the title and New Zealand's only medal at these games.

Los Angeles, 1932, saw the beginning of New Zealand's emergence as a power in the field of distance running. J. Savidan was New Zealand's most successful athlete with fourth placing in both the 5,000 and 10,000 metre events. In rowing, New Zealand netted a silver medal when our two representatives, F. Thompson and C. Styles gained second placing in the pairs without a cox.

These games, however, were a big disappointment for one competitor, J. S. Lovelock—for the next four years he spent in dedicated study of any runner who may be a threat in the 1500 metres race, and to developing the ability to produce peak form for a particular occasion. Thursday, 6th August, 1936 Berlin—Lovelock was superbly fit and confident—knowing the capabilities of opponents; he ran

COLLECTION BARGAINS

From an old general collection we offer the following Foreign countries. Condition is varied but many scarce and seldom seen stamps are included. Catalogue estimates are approximate S.G. We are confident they will give satisfaction at the prices quoted. As there is only one of each country we suggest alternative choice.

- 110 **Albania:** Mostly used, some nice sets including SG. 16-26, 83-8, 119-22, 441-6 etc. Cat. \$60. **\$14**
- 360 **Austria, Bavaria and Bohemia:** A good mixed lot with some nice pickings. Cat. \$40. **\$8**
- 380 **Belgium and Congo:** A general lot mint and used, some stuck down, but cheap at **\$8**
- 295 **Bulgaria:** A representative selection mainly used. Cat. \$40. **\$10**
- 700 **France and Colonies:** Mostly used, varied condition but a lot of good stamps. Cat. \$75 **\$20**
- 690 **Germany and States:** Mint and used but a lot stuck down, and a number of the States questionable, but some uncatalogued items which may be rare. **\$55**
- 810 **Italy and Colonies:** A good collection mainly used with a number of rare stamps and Commemorative sets including CG 91 mint, 171-4, 174a-174g, 229a mint, C20a, 24-27, 43-48 D41-53, Venezia 19-27 and 101-115 mint, 144-150 used and many others. Cat. about \$900 **\$200**
- 210 **Jugoslavia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, and Monaco:** Just a pot-pouri. Cat. about \$20. **\$5**
- 165 **Norway:** Mostly used. Cat. \$16. **\$5**
- 237 **Portugal and Colonies:** Used, condition poor to fair. Cat. \$70. **\$10**
- 330 **Roumania and Russia:** Just a general lot. Cat. about \$20. **\$3**
- 46 **San Marino:** Nice with complete sheet of SG 305 with First Day Pmk. 267-79 used etc. **\$16**
- 290 **Sweden:** Really nice, mostly used with some fine copies of good stamps. Cat. \$85. **\$30**
- 360 **Switzerland:** Fine lot with many complete sets mint and used though some stuck down. Includes Peace set to 3F and many scarce I.L.O. used. Cat \$170 **\$85**
- 74 **Vatican:** Mainly mint including SG 130-36, 139-148, 151-58. Cat \$125 **\$80**
- 34 **Abyssinia and Afganistan:** Cat. \$56 mostly in three high priced earlies. **\$9**
- 226 **Czechoslovakia:** Small lot mostly used. Cat. \$8. **\$2**
- 163 **Denmark:** As last but a little better. Cat. \$18. **\$5**
- 106 **Fiume:** Mint and Used with some rare sets. and stamps including SG 20, 166-179, 149-165 etc. Sat. \$240. **\$50**
- 190 **Finland:** Used and some nice mint commems. Sets Cat. \$50. **\$15**
- 122 **Greece:** Most of value in SG 121 used, 120, 119 and 151 mint. **\$50**
- 34 **Iceland:** All value in SG 146 and 157a fine used. **\$20**
- 230 **Japan:** Mainly used but some fine mints including SG C2, C156, etc. Cat. \$90. **\$20**
- 212 **Philippines:** A mixed lot mostly used. Cat. \$28. **\$5**
- 103 **Thailand:** Nice lot used with some high values including SG. 366-273. Cat \$30. **\$7**
- 545 **U.S.A.:** A good collection mostly used but a number of mint, some stuck down. Includes a nice lot of earlies and a number of good stamps such as Columbus \$1 and \$2. Cat. \$240. **\$75**
- 920 **Latin America:** Most countries represented, mainly used and some better than others. An interesting lot. Cat. \$160. **\$25**

A. BRODIE LTD.

P.O. BOX 1836
AUCKLAND.

19 HELLABY'S BLDG.,
QUEEN STREET

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OLYMPIC GAMES Cont.

with such judgement, that no matter where he was placed during the race, he seemed to be controlling it. From the unheard of distance of 300 metres out, he flashed past his opponents and won easily in the world record time of 3 mins. 47.8 secs.

At this stage, the Second World War intervened and the next Olympics were not held until twelve years later in 1948 in London. New Zealand pinned hopes on 800 metres runner D. M. Harris who had been running times to within 2 secs. outside the world record. In his Olympic heat, despite being spiked, he qualified easily, but in the semi-final his leg gave out and he had to be carried from the track. The final was won in a time $\frac{1}{2}$ a second slower than Harris's best.

Helsinki, 1952—New Zealand for the first time wins two medals at the one Olympics. Yvette Williams won the Womens long jump with a jump that was a bare centimetre short of a world record. Two days earlier, J. M. Holland had run third in the 400 metres.

Surprising critics, opponents and the British officials who did not require him for their team, N. R. Read, a former Englishman residing in New Zealand, won the 50,000 metres (31 miles), which prior to the games (over the same course), he had won the Australian title. His win was also commemorated on a stamp which shows Norman Read during the race. New Zealand's first yachting success also came at these games when P. Mander and J. Cropp won the Shappie Class.

1960, Rome, Seventeenth Olympiad, New Zealand suddenly a giant killer—her athletes astound the world.

Friday 2nd September, Halberg won the Olympic 5,000 metres with a tremendous burst three laps to go. His victory has gone down as one of the all time Olympic Classics. Within two hours, P. G. Snell, an almost unknown, pushing through four hard rounds, produced an unanswerable sprint, and lowered the world record in the 800 metres by 1.4 seconds. B. Magee secured a bronze in the glamour event—the marathon.

New Zealand's most successful Olympiad was in 1964 in Tokyo. Peter Snell proved himself to be an outstanding middle distance runner, not only retaining his 800 metres title, but achieving the feat of also winning the 1,500 metres.

NEW ZEALAND NOMINATION FOR DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS ROLL**FEDERATION OF NEW ZEALAND PHILATELIC SOCIETIES (INC).**

The second quarterly meeting of the Federation for 1968 was held in Palmerston North on the 28th June and was attended by sixteen delegates and observers.

It was with regret that the meeting learnt of the illness of Mrs. Svendsen, the immediate Past-President of the Federation and good wishes were expressed for her speedy recovery.

There was a fairly lengthy agenda before the meeting and the following notes are a summary of the main items of interest.

1969 Stamp Exhibition:

Despite efforts by the Federation there is no society or group prepared to organise a national exhibition in 1969 in conjunction with the Cook bi-centenary celebrations. However, it is understood that the Gisborne P.S. ed the world record in the 800 metres by 1.4 seconds. B. Magee secured a bronze in the glamour event—the marathon.

intends to hold an exhibition of invited entries of which more will be heard later.

Exhibition Rules:

Eight societies and four individuals submitted their views which contained many helpful suggestions.

No other runner has ever achieved both. H. Paterson and H. Wells gained New Zealand's third gold medal for yachting, in the Flying Dutchman class, whilst J. Davies won a bronze in the 1,500 metres and M. Chamberlain in the women's 800 metres.

This year the health stamps feature a young swimmer and athlete, and behind them the five rings, the symbol of the Olympics.

How successful New Zealanders will be at these games we shall have to wait and see—sports writers have been expecting big things of our cyclists and rowers, especially the rowers, who in U.S.A. last year, proved themselves to be world champions.

Many countries have announced plans of stamps to commemorate the games, including Australia, Cook Islands and many other British Territories. Indeed already, there have been a number of issues publicising this years Olympics from many foreign countries, including Mexico, the host for 1968.

All submissions were referred to the Rules sub-Committee which will place its recommendations before the September meeting of the Federation. The proposed amendments will be sent to all societies in ample time for them to be fully considered before the Annual Meeting in November.

Stamp Hinges:

There has been quite a lot of controversy about the quality of N.Z. made hinges. In order to settle this matter once and for all, the Dept. of Scientific and Industrial Research has been requested to test several brands of hinges. The Dept's report will be awaited with interest.

Stamp Albums and Accessories:

The Minister of Customs is to be requested to consider relaxing controls on the importation of albums, stock, books, hinges, tweezers etc. It is to be pointed out that in many instances, there is no N.Z. made counterpart and even if made in N.Z., some accessories are often of inferior quality or of a quality not acceptable to a great number of N.Z. collectors.

Award of Merit:

The Federation has unanimously decided to confer the Award of Merit on the Whakatane Philatelic Society in recognition of that Society's contribution to philately in holding the very successful stamp exhibition in Whakatane last year. (The President of the Federation retired from the meeting while this matter was under discussion. Ed.)

Roll of Distinguished Philatelists:

The secretary reported that Mr. Marcel Stanley's nomination for this high honour was under action. At present New Zealand has only one living signatory to the Roll—Mr. Campbell Watts—the present secretary of the Federation.

N.Z. Post Office:

Complaints and suggestions from societies on matters such as the Post Office Bulletin, the non-availability of certain Plate No. blocks from the Philatelic Bureau, the indiscriminate marking of overseas registered letters, etc., were received and will be taken up with the Post Office.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held in the Conference Room, Logan Park Motor Motel, Auckland, at 8 p.m., on Friday, 13th September, 1968.

R. HERBISON.

NEW ZEALAND. FINE & RARE

1. 1878 Side Face.-4d (12 x 11½) Mint bottom right corner block of 4 with sheet no. and Plate No. 5. **\$70**
2. Ditto but bottom left corner with sheet No. 1 **\$70**
3. 1874. 4d (12½) Mint block of 4 but centered to right. **\$80**
4. 1931 Air Mail. 3d (14 x 15) mint at **\$10**
Block of 4 at **\$40**
5. 1882 Stamp Duty. The 1d blue and 1d Lilac The two mint **\$10**
6. 1858. 2d Full Face Queen. Superb used strip of 3. Huge margins and the lightest of postmark. **\$125**
7. 1902. 4d Taupo. P.11. N.Z. Star. Complete mint sheet of 80. (Catalogued to \$1 per stamp). The sheet **\$25**
8. 1915 KG. 5th. 2d violet. Complete mint sheet of 120 with Plate No. 16 and 12 two perf pairs. **\$33**
9. 1914-18. Featherston, Trentham and Taupherenikau Military Camp postmarks. Set of three. **\$3**

(To be continued).

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NEW ZEALAND

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WHEN REPLYING TO ADVERTISEMENTS SAY YOU SAW IT IN THE N.Z.S.M.

LETTERS



8c Red Smudge Flaw.

Invercargill.

Dear Sir,

I was interested to read Eric Roe's letter in the July issue regarding the 8c red smudge flaw—the so called Rangitoto Flaw—illustrated in the May issue.

This is a transient—non constant—flaw caused by some loose piece of foreign material on the cylinder.

I have three examples of it—all different.

(1) A positional block showing the flaw (approximately the same size as the one you illustrated) on R 15/8 in the lower left corner along the top of NE of NEW and extending into the left margin.

(2) Another positional block this time with the flaw on R 13/8 on top of AN of ZEALAND. This example is a little smaller, but still the same shape.

(3) A block of 4—sheet position unknown—showing the flaw at the top right corner above 8c and extending into the top margin. This example is similar to 2 above.

In addition I have seen two other examples, each in a different spot on the stamp from any of the above.

I think this evidence proves that the flaw is a transient one caused by a loose piece of foreign material moving around on the cylinder and gradually diminishing in size due to wear caused by friction between paper and cylinder.

Yours faithfully,
Robert W. Pollok.

As we go to press, Mr Murray Lloyd of Ashburton reports a similar copy. On a sketch copy enclosed, the red smudge is slightly larger and appears on the flag just above the top star.

READERS QUERIES

Dear Sir,

With reference to your report on page 3 of the N.Z.S.M. for July "6d PIKIARERO without watermark" reported by an English Stamp Dealer recently, we should be interested to know whether this discovery is the same as the 4 sheets mentioned in our NEWSLETTER of November 1966. Our report of that time expressed the view that whereas the watermark was defective and difficult to see, it was nevertheless present throughout the sheet. The effect was accentuated by the use of what appeared to be a coarser paper.

May we congratulate you on the continuing high standard of your magazine.

Yours faithfully,
Campbell Paterson Limited.



White line top left corner.

Dear Sirs,

Please find enclosed mint 10/- chalky paper definitive with white line around top left corner.

I am interested in finding out about this apparent flaw, whether it is constant or transient, especially as I have not seen any other. I am not certain of sheet position of this stamp, but I think it was near the top, and purchased in Napier C.P.O.

Please find out about this stamp and let me know of any information on it.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,
Bruce J. Marshall.

Flaw Royal Society 8c.
Wanted known by P. T. June issue.
Dear Sir,

The above particular flaw is from Row 6 No. 4. I have a complete sheet showing many flaws and the above is one of these.

Yours sincerely,
R. O. Stanley.
Taradale.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE?



Brown Colour Shift. Note white line down Trout and brown hill in margin. Sent for display by Mr. W. Jackson, Auckland.



Two varieties sent by Mr. J. Inglis Christchurch. 1d Kiwi—hair-line



1963 Christmas. Bought at Christchurch Post Office. Stamp printed on cellophane adhered to the paper.

WANTED: This page is for collectors' use to publish their latest discoveries. We will be pleased to include any notes that collectors care to send. If particular outstanding items can be sent so that they may be photographed please send by registered mail. All letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 513, New Plymouth.

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POSTMARK CORNER

A. F. WATTERS



RELIEF POSTMARK

Your mention of a relief datestamp being used at Tahora Post Office prompts me to ask, "What is a relief datestamp?" This comes from a reader down south. Since I received this question, a number of other collectors have asked the same question, plus a lady in Palmerston North asks "should I collect relief datestamps?"

The "Oxford" dictionary says that the word relief means a number of things and includes "deliverance from distress or anxiety". In the Post Office circles a relief datestamp is a datestamp that relieves one that is damaged, needs replacing or has been lost.

In Australia, a relief datestamp is an engraved datestamp with the word Relief and a number, engraved on its face, so that the only way a collector knows where a relief was used, is by a registered letter, hence no collector could make a comprehensive list of them as is done in New Zealand by many collectors. The U.S.A. Post Office has advised that "no provision is made for a relief postmarker to replace a damaged one. Few get damaged, and if so, the postmaster should follow his instructions in the Book. It states that a postmaster must send all his mail to the main Post Office and receive a receipt for same. Many postmasters make do with anything available around the office, and in some cases, this would be necessary as the main Post Office may be many miles away."

New Zealand, however, uses a skeleton type datestamp. These datestamps are kept in readiness at each of the twenty-one Chief Post Offices in New Zealand, and at Rarotonga in the Cook Islands, and are issued whenever the need arises. They are issued:—

(a) When the normal datestamp gets damaged such as the date wheels jamming, or the holding pin breaking off.

(b) When a postmaster reports that the datestamp is very worn and can hardly be read. Post Office inspectors often find this type of worn datestamp too.

(c) When a post office gets completely destroyed by fire. A temporary post office is established and until a new datestamp can be made, or the old one repaired.

(d) When a post office gets completely destroyed by wind (Mangaie Cook Islands Dec., 1967) or earthquake. Again a temporary office is established.

(e) When a post office has lost the safe. This happens outside office hours, and as the datestamp should be locked away, it most times goes too.

(f) When a very heavy mail has necessitated extra datestamps to cope with it. Early Tasman air covers.

(g) When no time was available to get a permanent datestamp made. Sometimes for a special short time post office, but even recently for new permanent post offices.

(h) When a post office is opened for a very short life, such as Military Camp post offices during World War 2.

The word relief only came into being around 1926, though this skeleton type datestamp was used as early as March, 1924. This is the earliest known date and it could have been used before this time. It should be noted that the post office used temporary datestamps as far back as the 1860's and even the manuscript cancellations from around the turn of the century were of a temporary type too.

The relief datestamp has many things which distinguish it from an ordinary datestamp. Over the years people have confused a relief with a smaller type of datestamp which has the relief look, however a quick check will soon prove whether it is or is not a relief. The relief is the size of a twenty cent coin, and has been called the 2/- datestamp. A relief is made up letter by letter, most times by the postmaster, hence a relief is often very one sided and may have spaces where no space should be. It often has abbreviated names where long ones will not fit in. MGE Central and MANGERE CEN. There have been times that there haven't been enough spare spaces, and a letter is put in to fill up the

gap. When this is done, it should be upside down, thus showing a black oblong mark, but there are times when it has got the right way and we find a T on a Raglan relief. There are no curved lines between the name and the N.Z. as on most ordinary type datestamps. On an ordinary type datestamp the letters N.Z. or N.Z appear on the curve, but with a relief it is always on the straight with a small N.Z or occasionally N.Z. Again ordinary datestamps give the date and mail indicator on one line, with a relief only the day, month and year are together, with the mail indicator, if shown, below the month, and always as a figure. June can be shown as JE or JN and July JY or JL. There have been many varieties on reliefs and I have listed the correct way, but I have a copy from ETRICK with N.Z. at the top and the name around the base and many with wrong spelling in the name. Douglas, Douglas, Tongaprutu and Clarence Bridge with the first E upside down. These add interest to the collection. There have been times when the relief datestamp was at another post office and the Chief Post Office has had to improvise.



UNUSUAL RELIEFS

Illustrated here are two of them. This is a very scarce move and adds greatly to the collecting interest. Ward was the old GROVE datestamp with the letters changed, and Rai Valley too is most interesting. As yet I haven't heard what datestamp they used for it. Now the second question. The answer is yes. I collect registered, and at least one ordinary cover with each relief. There are not many that I miss, as I have many

THE USE OF THE ULTRA-VIOLET LAMP

The collector of the stamps of Great Britain can find much to interest him when he delves into the realms of different watermarks, different printers for the same stamp and the introduction of phosphor-lined stamps. Some assistance in identification would be welcome. Such help can be afforded by an ultra-violet lamp; but it must be emphasised at the outset that such lamps serve merely as an aid, and will not by themselves solve all the problems. Do not expect the lamp to reveal all watermarks, even the so-called "watermark detectors" on the market do not always do that successfully. To find a stamp's watermark, it is still best to place the stamp face downwards on a black bakelite tray, and add a drop or two of benzine or ether to the back of the stamp. Remembering to be very careful with stamps which are not printed in fast colours, this method should suit most needs for detecting watermarks.

Ultra-violet lamps can come in one of two basic forms consisting of either a coated tube which generates the ultra-violet light, or a white light tube, the light from which is directed through a sheet of cobalt. Care should be taken not to look directly at the light source in the later type of lamp, although it is advisable to be cautious with any type of lamp. Certainly it is not wise to try experimenting with an amateurly produced or old ultra-violet lamp.

POSTMARK CORNER Cont.
penfriends who send for me, and in return I enclose covers for them, especially a very good friend in Dunedin. All these add great interest to a collection and only with them can a collection be complete.

A relief was used at Havelock, Blenheim on 2 JL 68, hence that temporary relief at Rai Valley.

Armagh (Christchurch), though the Post Office took over the new premises from a car firm on the 1 April, 68, no alteration work has been started.

INANGAHUA Camp closed 23 May, '68. In July, Chalto Creek showed to be Chatto Creek. Waiapon Falls should be Waitoro Falls. Rivesdale Beach (Masterton) opens for the August School Holidays.

When using a lamp for philatelic identification, the stamp is placed in the path of the light from the lamp, preferably in a dark or dimly lit room. The light should only be focused on the stamp for a short period of time, say no longer than ten seconds. Results will only be obtained when the lamp is used for comparisons, that is the doubtful stamp is compared under the ultra-violet lamp with a "known" stamp.

One use of the lamp is in detecting shade differences which are the result of the printers preparing a fresh consignment of ink which differs in composition from that previously used, such shades frequently receiving catalogue recognition. The lamp will reveal the different compositions of the ink, since the different stamps will glow in different colours when subjected to the light. This naturally differs from other causes of shade changes, such as stopping and re-starting the printing presses. Here the basic composition of the printing ink remains fixed, and the lamp will reveal no change.

Changes in the composition of the paper on which the stamp is printed will be revealed in the same way, although now it is best to focus the light on the back of the stamp. Thus normal uncoated paper will give a different reaction under the lamp to chalky or coated paper. It is quite easily seen therefore, that if more than one printer produces the same stamp; and the second printer makes any changes in the composition of either the printing ink or paper, the lamp will detect these changes, and consequently help distinguish the work of the two printers. Equally, if when a stamp's watermark was changed, the composition of the paper was also changed, this would offer a method of distinguishing watermarks, although, of course, the point made earlier concerning "known" reference copies comes to the fore in this instance.

When a phosphor-lined stamp is placed in the beam from an ultra-violet lamp, the phosphor bands will glow in a different colour from the rest of the stamp. This method is not completely reliable, however, when dealing with used stamps; then it is advisable to have an undisputed phosphor-lined, and a non-phosphor stamp in used condition near at hand for easy comparison. After a little experience, and relying to no small extent on reference copies, the identification can be carried further to include

different types of phosphor (the familiar 'blue', 'green' and 'violet'). A great deal of comment was made in 1966 when the gold-blocking process was introduced concerning fears that the gold could be removed chemically. Such chemical means frequently also change the appearance of other colours in the design, and the forgery can be detected. However, the lamp will easily reveal where the gold has been, either by focusing the lamp on the front or the back of the stamp. Another form of forgery which has resulted from the desire for unmounted mint stamps, is regumming. Not only will the lamp reveal the change in gum, but will also show where any previous stamp hinges have been attached to the stamp.

Acknowledgements are due to A. M. Stuart of Southampton and G. Nissel and Co. Ltd. of London for their invaluable help with this article. Reprinted from the Philatelic Bulletin, Great Britain.

U. V. LAMP

REACTIONS ON CURRENT

2½c

B. K. LAWTON

The yellow plates 1A and 1B under the ultra-violet lamp show as a very light brown, whilst 2A and 2B are a deep red brown.

Variations are also noted in the These variations are probably blue plates 3A and 3B, caused by different chemicals in the inks being used. Perhaps as these stamps are being supplied by various subsidiary firms, it is possible to define these by the different types of ink reactions.

GROUP TO STUDY STAMP DESIGN

A special committee has been set up by the New Zealand Post Office to consider themes and designs for the 1970 definitive issue.

The new stamps will replace the current designs which were first issued in 1960 and, the New Zealand P.M.G. has promised, they will be "really attractive."

The Committee will be—

Sir John Meech, of Wellington, Professor H. J. Simpson, of the faculty of fine arts, Canterbury University, Mr. G. D. Docking, director of the Auckland Art Gallery, Mr. C. W. Watts, of the Federation of New Zealand Philatelic Societies, and three Post Office representatives.

The committee is also to make recommendations on methods to be used in obtaining designs from artists.

PAPUA, NEW GUINEA—SEASHELLS

The present definitive set of postage stamps featuring the Butterfly and Papuan Folklore issues are to be replaced by a set depicting shells of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

The issues will be made in three stages. The first group of ~~five stamps in denominations of 5c, 20c, 25c, 30c and 60c will be~~ issued on 28th August, 1968, whilst the second and third groups of five will be available in October, 1968, and January, 1969, respectively.

The designs feature three of the six classes of molluscs—the bivalves, gastropods and cephalopods. The stamps are being printed in three and four colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier of Switzerland and were designed by the noted Australian artist, Paul Jones.

For their generous assistance, grateful acknowledgment is made to Mr. W. G. Bruick, Librarian, University of Papua and New Guinea, Port Moresby and Mr. Lance Moore, Marine Specimens, Sydney.

Since time immemorial, the wonder and beauty of the shells of the sea have captivated man. The shells native to the blue, clear waters of the Papuan and New Guinean coasts are no exception. These marine jewels are praised and desired by conchologists the world over.

Collectors will recognise and perhaps possess some of the five shells depicted in the first group of our new definitive issue; whilst others will admire them solely for their beauty. Whatever the reason, these shells are but part of the myriad of colourful and rare examples which adorn our coral reefs and the artist, Paul Jones, has captured here, in exquisite detail, their breathtaking beauty and magnificence.

The shell portrayed on the 5c stamp is the *CONUS marmoreus*, or marble cone, and was so named by the great naturalist Linne in 1758. *CONUS marmoreus* is the type species of the genus *Conus* and is one of the most spectacular of shells. Its perfect cone shape and striking colour pattern of white triangular spots on a chocolate background is distinctive. The interior varies from white to pinkish and there are widely spaced nodules on the spine. In life, the shell is covered by a thin

transparent yellowish skin or periostracum. This particular shell grows to about four inches in length and is common throughout the whole of the Pacific.

All living members of the cone family should be handled with care. They are capable of ejecting harpoon-like teeth which are ~~equipped with a poison~~ from a venom gland. Not a few of the hundreds of species are specially poisonous to vertebrates, including man, of whom a number of deaths have been recorded. If live specimens must be handled, they should be kept in a container separate from other shells and held very circumspectly at the broad end, or base, of the shell.

The shell depicted on the 20c stamp is the *TRIDACNA squamosa*. It is popularly known as the Frilled Clam. This species was first catalogued by Lamarck in 1819.

There are six living species in the family Tridacnidae to which this, and the largest of all bivalve molluscs, the giant clam, belong. All species have been found in the tropical waters of Papua and New Guinea. Though the giant clam grows to four feet six inches, the *TRIDACNA squamosa* rarely reaches to a length of sixteen inches, but it is by far the most beautiful member of the family.

The shell is almost equilateral and its five or six strong folds are decorated by long fluted projections which are usually white. The ground colour of the shell is commonly white, but it is frequently a beautiful soft lemon, orange or rose pink as shown here.

The living animal is one of the spectacular organisms of coral reefs. The lobes lining the margins of the shell are convoluted and are a dark greyish purple spotted with light bluish green, yellow and blue of a startling "electric" quality. The mantle contains special organs for the admission of light deep into the tissues where unicellular plants are "farmed". These plants by their photosynthesis provide supplementary food for the mollusc.

The shell represented on the 25c stamp is *LIOCONCHA castrensis*, or Chocolate Flamed Venus Shell, and was named by Linne in 1758.

This bivalve cockle grows to about two inches and lives buried in sand patches in coral reefs. In

shape it is round, rather inflated and solid. The smooth exterior is white or cream ornamented with dark brown or black zig-zag lines.

The name of the shell depicted on the 30c stamp is *MUREX ramosus*, or Giant Murex.

~~This beautiful species is fortunately fully common and is well~~ represented in collections. It is the largest of all the rock shells and grows to about twelve inches. In colour, it is white with sometimes a few brown lines, but it attracts attention by its beautiful rosy pink mouth and the extended curved massive frills and spines. A related Mediterranean species provided the famous Tyrian purple used by the Greeks and Romans and this species secretes a similar dye.

The common large shell portrayed on the 60c stamp was named *CHARONIA tritonis* by Linne in 1758. It is commonly called Triton's Trumpet.

This shell is widely used as a trumpet by islanders throughout the Pacific and for this purpose is often seen with a small hole bored at the pointed end. Nowadays, it is also used as a lamp shade and, when lit by a small electric bulb, its rich brown and orange colours glow and accentuate the blue and brown feathering and marbling of the exterior.

The aperture is a bright reddish orange set off by black and white striations on the inner lip. The largest known specimen is more than eighteen inches long.

This shell is the only known natural enemy of the Crown of Thorns Starfish—*Acanthaster planci*, which is causing so much damage at the present time on the Great Barrier Reef on the Eastern coast of tropical Australia, as it sucks the polyps from the coral. At no time is anyone allowed by law to remove these shells from the reef.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Size of Stamps: Horizontal format.

5c, 20c: 26 x 33.6 mm.

25c, 30c, 60c: 28 x 33.4 mm.

Sheet Content: 50 stamps.

Marginal Inscription: None.

Perforation: 1½.

Paper: Unwatermarked Cranite.

Gum: Yellow Tropical.

Printing Technique: Three and

Four Colour Photogravure.

Designer: Paul Jones.

Printers: Helio Courvoisier S.A. of Switzerland.

PAPUA - NEW GUINEA SEASHELLS - SECOND SERIES

From the vast treasure trove of shells which abound in the tropic waters, the second group of five stamps represented in the new definitive issue are no less beautiful and fascinating. Beautiful—in their colouring, which varies from the most delicately muted ~~ones to the most vivid hues that nature can provide.~~ Fascinating—both in their variety of shapes and lustrous finish.

Again, each of these stamps is further enhanced by the exciting backgrounds provided from the palette of artist Paul Jones.

The second group of five shells of the definitive stamps issue will be available on 30th October, 1968 in denominations of 3c, 10c, 15c, 40c and \$1. Bivalves, gastropods and cephalopods are three classes of molluscs shown.

This follows the first group which will be issued in August and the whole set of fifteen shell stamps will be completed with the issue of the third and final group in January, 1969.

The shell represented on the 3c stamp was named STROMBUS sinuatus by the naturalist Humphrey in 1786. It is also called the Crested Stromb.

This handsome species is easily identified by the rich brown, pink and mauve aperture and the three or four "fingers" at the upper part of the lip. It lives in sand from shallow water down to a depth of sixty feet.

The shell is solid and about four inches long and, like most of the family to which it belongs, the exterior is white, with yellow to brown mottlings. This conch shell is also fairly common in the Western Pacific from the Ryukyu Islands to New Caledonia.

The shell pictured on the 10c stamp is generally accepted as VOLUTA ruckeri or Red Volute.

It comes under the group Aulicina norrisi (Grey 1938) ruckeri (Crosse 1867) and is a sub species which is one of the group piperita (Sowerby 1844), magillvrayi (Cox 1873), innexa (Reeve 1849) and ceraunia (Crosse 1880). For many years a shell from Western Australia was erroneously called norrisi—the correct name being nivosa. The shell ruckeri is regarded by many as "norrisi" belonging to the Group Aulicina norrisi and this has resulted in it being a bone of contention amongst conchologists for many years.

This volute is one of the few really red shells and is on this account outstanding even among volutes in any collection. Although it is quite large, for it grows to about five inches, it is by no means common. It is fairly variable in colour and it sometimes has indications of nodules on the shoulder. ~~The inner lip, or volute, has three or four strong teeth or plaits.~~

The shell depicted on the 15c stamp is known as LAMBIS scorpius, or Scorpion Shell, as its shape suggests. It was so named by Linne in 1758.

Like the related spider shells, it is distinguished by the claw-like projections on the outer lip which, in this species, are distinctly gnarled. The rather narrow aperture is purplish brown with white stripes and bordered with brown or orange.

This shell grows to about six inches and its habitat is found in shallow water on coral reef flats.

LAMBIS scorpius has long been known from specimens taken to Europe from the East Indies. It is widely distributed in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, though the shell from the latter area is slightly different.

The shell portrayed on the 40c stamp was named by Linne in 1758, NAUTILUS pompilius. It is commonly called the Chambered Nautilus.

The group of animals known as molluscs are divided into six classes, of which the snails and bivalves are most numerous today. In past geological ages, the Cephalopods, which included the octopus and squids, were much more numerous. Most of the living representatives are shell-less, the exceptions being about five species of Nautilus.

This shell, when cut into halves, shows internal divisions forming numerous chambers and exhibits a perfect logarithmic spiral. The design of the First Day Cover for the Shell Definitive issue shows the intricate internal arrangement of the Nautilus. The animal has a large number of "arms", not unlike those of an octopus. The species is widespread throughout the Pacific. The interior of the shell has a beautiful pearly lustre. There is a famous poem on the Nautilus written by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

PAPULST LA pulcherrima, represented on the \$1 stamp is also known as the Green Snail. It was named by Rensch in 1931.

The name "green snail" is regarded by many as a misnomer, since this often gives rise to confusion with Turbo marmoratus, the large green snail ~~used~~ ~~commercially~~ for button and lamp making.

In recent years, however, "emerald snail" has been widely accepted as the most suitable name for the lovely PAPULST LA pulcherrima shown in this stamp.

Papua and New Guinea have very many colourful land snails of which this is the most striking. The tip is sometimes a pinkish brown while the rest of the shell is a vivid, clear apple green. At the angled periphery of each whorl there is a brilliant yellow line. The interior is a porcellanous white. This species, which grows to about one and a half inches, is confined to Manus Island where it is said to live on sago palms.

COOK ISLANDS EXTRAVAGANZA

On Friday, 12th July 1968, the Post Offices of the Cook Islands will place on sale the \$10 highest definitive postage stamp denomination.

The stamp follows the style of the lower denominations, is in double size, and includes a full colour portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, plus a montage of the colourful flowers of the Cook Islands.

The stamp has been produced in six colour photogravure, in sheets of fifteen stamps, and is of exceptional beauty.

Since 1932, postal needs have required stamps to the £5 denomination, because of the isolation of the Cook Islands, and today the postal requirements for higher denomination stamps has been increased by the indefiniteness of mail service to the Cook Islands, with much of the mail carried by Royal New Zealand Air Force aircraft to New Zealand from whence it is forwarded on.

As this is a high denomination stamp, the quantity produced has been limited.

The New Falkland Islands Definitive Issue

This issue, which is to be released on the 9th October this year, has been designed by Mrs. Sylvia Goaman and at our request she has written the following background article. It is particularly interesting for the insight it gives into the problems confronting the designer.

As a design partnership, specialising in stamp design for many years, I must explain that the "we" in this article refers to my husband and myself. On all projects there is mutual collaboration between us and although we both specialise in certain subjects, plant life being one of mine, it would be difficult to put "all my own work" on any of the designs that leave our studio.

The commission of the new Falkland Islands definitive set presented some different and interesting features in stamp design, not least the fact that an all-floral definitive series is something of a rarity. Also it meant a complete departure from the tropics which, up till now, provided the main background for the flower stamps we have designed. These included a number of Hibiscus, Orchids, tropical shrubs and fruits, cotton, coffee and so on. Even the G.P.O. Botanical Congress series evoked the somewhat lush landscape of Britain. The rugged Falkland Islands do not give the impression of a burgeoning floral paradise, yet on closer study the plants are every bit as lovely, on a smaller scale, as their tropical relations. This imaginative approach may give a lead to other countries choosing stamp design subjects which are unique and particular to their area, but which are not necessarily the more obvious features.

An unusual and exciting part of designing this set was that I was able to talk to the representatives of these far away islands, the Governor, Sir Cosmo Haskard and his wife who were over here for some weeks. Several meetings were arranged at the Crown Agents Offices in order to discuss all aspects of the series at various stages. This was wonderfully constructive for me, as there is nothing to beat a conversational interchange of ideas for working towards a satisfactory solution.

Their stamp committee had been clear about the kind of set they had in mind. Soft muted colours to go with their landscape and the type of flowers found on the islands. A mixture of rock plants, coast plants and inland flowers, some of them unique to the Falklands, all of them very pretty with a character and interest which made them a joy to draw. Our first discussion proved the most difficult as the original list of about twenty flowers had to be whittled down to fourteen and each of us had our favourites that we hoped to include. There was bound to be a predominance of white flowers in the set, as there are in the Falklands but with different coloured grounds to give contrast this fact is not particularly noticeable. I think the final list pleased everyone as the widest selection of flower colours has been included.

I was provided with first class reference material. A valuable and interesting book with the title "Flowering plants of the Falkland Islands" written and illustrated with hand coloured plates by Mrs. Valentin, who lived out there in the last century; a wonderful set of slides collected by the Stamp Committee; and a further set of great clarity supplied by Dr. Moore of Leicester University, who had been asked to make recommendations, pass the designs botanically and advise on colour. Dr. Moore has first hand knowledge of all these flowers and where there was difficulty in seeing just how these plants were formed, specimens were produced, some pressed and some live, one of which "Pig Vine" is growing with great vigour in our garden at Twickenham. A cutting of "Diddle Dee" which was flown in from the Falklands has been planted as well, but we shall have to wait until Spring to see if it has taken root.

Lady Haskard and I spent a happy half hour arranging the designs in an imaginary stamp album. This was more difficult than it sounds because with eight verticals and six horizontals, a harmonising mixture of the two had to be achieved. The values were then worked out to coincide with the final arrangement, bearing in mind that "Diddle Dee", almost their national flower, has been given pride of place on their overseas air letter form value.

I had transparencies of Falkland Islands coastal and inland scenes to help with the right background and the nearest in imagination that

one can get to it is perhaps the landscape of the Hebrides. The rocky outcrops, heathland and coastline could be mistaken for Northern Scotland, though I am sure that those who know both areas well could point out differences in each.

The first flower I tackled was "Dusty Miller" on the ½d value, a primula commonly found throughout the Islands. I chose to show it on high heath ground where the stem would be short. Stamp height in fact, but the same flower in a sheltered corner surrounded by long grass would grow very much taller. This delightful name was given to it because it looks as though flour has been spilled on the leaves.

Our garden "Pig Vine" has not as yet produced the luscious berries shown on the 1½d stamp. I believe that they are not particularly good to eat and perhaps the clue here is the "pig" part of the name and they may find them very enjoyable. This plant grows wild only in the most Southern part of America and, of course, the Falklands.

The 2d value "Pale Maiden", another charming title, is a most delicate small white flower growing in great masses in the grass. I have tried to show as many as possible in this small area.

Next comes my first non-tropical orchid, the "Dog Orchid" and a very elegant and graceful specimen it proved to be. The problem of the fern on the original list was solved by putting it in as a background to this plant. It is a well known small glossy fern found all over the Falklands. Its name . . . *Blechnum penna-marina*.

The 3½d value "Sea Cabbage", which I believe I am right in saying is the Governor's favourite, seemed to be growing at the water's edge on the slides. It certainly grows on the beach above tide level. It is a large plant, about the size of a hefty cabbage, with silvery leaves and pompon flowers. One of the difficulties of stamp design is conveying scale and size in what can only be a minute area but familiar objects such as blades of grass, butterflies, shells and so on can be used to help give an idea to the viewer.

The 4½d value "Vanilla Daisy" is very much a rock plant. I imagine that the vanilla in the name is to do with the scent of the flower. This is one of my favourites and it is shown here with a lichen covered boulder in the background.

The stem and back of the leaves are covered in fine white hairs.

Next in value is the "Arrowleaf Marigold" which is a fascinating marsh plant growing in shallow still water. It has interesting doubled over leaves and the flower is rather like a Kingcup.

The 6d value "Diddle Dee" is the one I had most difficulty in organising. If a sprig was shown then the character of the plant was lost, but as it gives the effect of having no beginning and no end and it covers hill and dale in vast springy masses rather like heather, it was a problem to suggest this thick endless bush and at the same retain the clarity needed for a stamp size design. The best reference was the cutting which arrived after one or two attempts had been made with roughs. Fortunately, the final drawing was pronounced a "Diddle Dee" by the Falkland Islanders.

The next value, "Scurvy Grass" is also a favourite of mine, another rock plant shown here growing in a crevice. It can also grow in great clumps and was used by sailors in the days of sail to protect them against scurvy when their fresh food had run out. I like the contrast between the smooth white flowers and the frilly rosette shaped leaves.

The 1/6 value "Prickly Burr" was suggested by Dr. Moore; as the latin *Magellanica* suggests, it grows only in this part of the world. Also, it is one of the few red flowers to be found on the islands as well as being a very interesting one. The leaves are edged in red with hooks all the way round them, hence the prickly part, and the flowers are something like a big burr.

The 2/- value "Fachine" is a very pretty cream coloured daisy which also grows in great quantities in sheltered places. A spectacular sight when they all come into flower, I am told.

Blue flowers seem to be non-existent in the Falklands. Fortunately, their "Lavender", which is nothing like ours, varies in colour from quite lavender to quite blue and was included for this reason. It was a difficult flower to arrange, being naturally ragged and untidy looking, but it has a certain charm all of its own.

The 5/- value "Felton's Flower" was found growing wild years ago on the Islands, presumably by a Mr. Felton, and now the only existing plant grows in a garden. We chose it for its splendid magenta colour and it was put into a

YOUR COLLECTION

THE IMPORTANCE OF CONDITION

As we all know, stamps are basically inked impressions printed on various types of paper, and as such, are subject to gradual deterioration with the passage of time, unless properly cared for by their owners. Therefore, of far more importance than rarity, is the condition of stamps. All too frequently a laboriously arranged collection, has been under-written when judged for a special class of competition at a philatelic exhibition, solely due to its paucity of condition.

Although the majority of philatelists are aware that the condition of a stamp, either mint or used, is unquestionably of major importance in any appraisal of its desirability or value, many continue to ignore this essential ingredient of stamp collecting.

horizontal shape because it straggles along the ground in preference to growing upright. How lucky I was to be lent the only pressed specimen in England. There are times when a photograph of the flower is not enough, and one can only get a true picture by looking at specimens.

The £1 value was kept for the bigger of the two orchids, the "Yellow Orchid", a noble flower making a fitting finale to the series.

The only thing left to work out was the lettering and the portrait of Her Majesty. The fine lower case letter was chosen for the title as an echo of the kind of type used in herbal and floral books, most of them printed in the last century like Mrs. Vallentin's book.

The portrait was specially designed for the set by my husband, after a discussion with Sir Cosmo and Lady Haskard. One could call it a toned silhouette. With a head as small as this, details on the profile can become blurred so it has been kept to a silhouette for the face. The toning on the coronet and hair is to soften the general effect and to give some slight resemblance to the new portrait on the new portrait on the G.P.O. stamps, which is bound to become the most familiar portrait of the Queen in the future.

VERY BEST CONDITION

Where prestige and investment are involved, it is advisable to choose stamps, whenever possible, that are in the very best condition. A few defective copies in an otherwise well presented collection, can only serve to depreciate its appearance and overall value, to an extent far out of proportion to the actual value of the damaged or inferior stamps.

In appraising condition, the circumstances and general standards pertaining at the time the stamp was first issued, must also be taken into account. Naturally, copies issued a century or more ago cannot be placed in the same category with those recently printed, due to the fact that early methods of printing and primitive types of perforating machinery in those days often resulted in the production of bad off-centering and poorly cut perforations. Moreover, where early issues are restricted in number these days, through scarcity, an appreciation for rarity over-rides the demands of condition.

DAMAGED COPIES

The keen philatelist should always be on the look-out for the perfect or very best copy of the particular specimen he is wanting; inferior items being rejected as unsightly in the first instance, and uneconomical in the long run. For the discriminating collector, however, an exception to this rule does exist, where a poor conditioned stamp may be used as a space filler, until such time as the desired copy is obtained. Taking into consideration the ever diminishing number of some of the older and more scarce issues in circulation, even damaged copies of these varieties may become valuable in time.

As postage stamps are divided into two main types, mint and used, a short outline of the various degrees of condition as applied to either class will serve as a guide in their selection, especially for those stamp collectors newly attracted to the hobby.

MINT STAMPS

A mint stamp, as its name implies, is one whose condition is equal to that of a new stamp, as purchased from the Post Office. It must be unused and possess its full original gum, without the least defect. On the other hand, a used stamp, is one which has served postally, as opposed to one utilised for revenue purposes.

TYPES OF CONDITION

Degrees of condition are divided normally into six specific groups of superb, very fine, fine, good-to-fair, average and poor. Where a choice of condition is available, collectors should endeavour to obtain superb copies of mint; or superb, very fine and fine copies of used stamps. Even though the initial cost incurred to procure the better class of stamp may be a little more, the investment will usually give the same return, and if you have made the right selection, generally provide a greater income when selling at some later date. In short, when possible, always try to select stamps which possess the following important qualities—a clear, but light post-mark cancellation on clean paper, be well centred throughout, be free from tears and stains, and have all perforations intact. Always check on thinned areas or creases by carefully examining the back of the stamp. Beware of rust marks as all these defects tend to lower the stamp's value. Imperforate specimens should have ample margins around.

CARE

Finally, I should like to emphasize the importance of taking good care of your stamps. Every year, many thousands of excellent copies of each country are lost, destroyed or damaged, mostly through sheer carelessness and thoughtlessness. Even though a stamp is only a flimsy piece of paper, it is amazing the amount of handling it will undergo, given proper care, before signs of wear become evident.

HANDLING

Another factor worth mention concerns those philatelists who readily suffer from perspiring at the fingertips. They should always be careful to use tweezers when handling stamps, as repeated dosage of perspiration eventually stains the paper, and can alter the real appearance of a stamp, sometimes making it valueless. Remember too, that the catalogue price as quoted for any particular stamp is for a perfect or superb copy in every instance. Average or below average specimens are worth only a percentage value of this price.

G. Lawson.

MICKEY MOUSE LOSES OUT ON WALT DISNEY ISSUE

The six cent stamp will be issued September 11 at Marceline, Missouri. Disney spent a portion of his boyhood on a farm nearby and here he began to draw barnyard animals, a proclivity that was to bring him renown and fortune as the creator of Mickey Mouse.

The film producer and developer of Disneyland died at 65, December 15, 1966.

On the stamp, a parade of children hand-in-hand emerge from a tiny castle to surround a portrait of Disney. The children, from many nations of the world, are garbed in native costume. They have been drawn "flat" for a whimsical paper-doll effect.

Two staff members of Walt Disney Productions are responsible for the stamp.

Across the top of vertical stamp, in gothic capitals, appears "Walt Disney," in brown. The denomination "6c" also in brown, is about one-third down the right vertical side. Above it, in black, is "United States". A stylized World, in blue, is upper right, and it serves as a background for the small castle, in red, from which the children emerge.

Yellow ink will join blue and red in reproducing the children.

The French magazine, *Paris Match*, reported the death of Walt Disney, in 1966, by printing on its cover a picture of Michel Souris, with a teardrop glistening his cheek. In the United States, Monsieur Souris is better known as Mickey Mouse.

In Italy, Mickey is Topolino; in Japan, Miki Kuchi; in Sweden, Muse Pigg, and in Russia, Mikki Maus. He spoke English with Disney's own voice.

Disney was born in Chicago, December 5, 1901; Mickey was born in 1928 and appeared in the world's first sound cartoon.

Disney played Mickey and the host of fanciful characters that followed into a \$100-million-a-year entertainment empire. The first Disney studio was a small garage.

The cartoonist who became a tycoon spent his early boyhood on a farm near Marceline, Missouri, later returning to Chicago, where he attended night classes at the Academy of Fine Arts. He did not graduate from high school, but four universities later conferred honorary degrees.



Both the United States and Canada rejected his efforts to enlist for World War I—he was only 16—so Disney went overseas as an ambulance driver for the Red Cross. He painted cartoons, not camouflage, on his ambulance.

On two occasions, Disney worked as a temporary postal clerk—a summertime job in Chicago, before going to France, and a December job in Kansas City upon his return from Europe.

In 1923, Disney left his job as an advertising agency cartoonist in Kansas City and headed for Hollywood with \$40 in a well-worn suit. He was 21. That began a career that brought him 31 Academy Awards, five Emmys, the Presidential Medal of Freedom and more than 950 additional honours and citations from most of the countries in the world.

The fantasy, the fertile imagination and the morality that Disney introduced into his cartoons stamp him as a modern Aesop, and the characters he created are imperishable.

The military, which refused to accept him in World War I, recognized him uniquely in World War II. On D-Day, in Europe, the password of Allied Supreme Headquarters was—Mickey Mouse.

PACIFIC ISLANDS COMING ISSUES

British Solomon Islands

1969 University of the South Pacific.

Fiji

20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 1969: The Inauguration of the South Pacific University at Laucala Bay, Suva.

Gilbert-Ellice Islands

Nov. 21st: 25th Anniversary of Battle of Tarawa. 1969: University of the South Pacific.

New Hebrides

August 5th: Concorde Maiden flight. October 9th: Correction of French Cyphers on the 10 and 20 gold centimes and 3 gold francs. 1969: Timber.

Norfolk Island:

August 5th: Coil Stamps.

Sept. 25th: 25th Anniversary of the inauguration of the Qantas air service between Sydney and Norfolk Islands. Oct. 23rd: Christmas stamp.

Pitcairn Island

Aug. 19th, 1968, handicrafts. Sept. 17th, 1968, new definitives. Nov., 1968, 20th Anniversary W.H.O.

Papua and New Guinea

August 28th, October 30th and January 22nd: Shell Definitive series: definitives in groups of five.

Western Samoa

12th August: International Human Rights. November Agricultural series. Christmas 1968. 1969: Robert Loius Stevenson.

TONGA

On the 4th July a set of 14 stamps similar to the Coronation series, all values being individually die cut palladium coloured foil, were issued to commemorate the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Tau Falahau IV.

The designs feature the seven commemorative coins, also issued to commemorate the event.

The face value of the full set is T\$5—Regular postage series, 1 seniti, 2s, 4s, 15s, 28s, 50s and P1. The airmail series consists of the following value: 7s, 9s, 11s, 21s, 23s, 29s and P2.

(Pacific Stamp Journal).

NIUE CHRISTMAS—

FLAW:—

A prominent line on these stamps is found in position R 5/3. It is constant in this position in all sheets of Plate 1C1C1C. The scratch is a white line running through part of the words THE ADORATION coming from the left side of the stamp.

B. R. HENDERSON.

Norfolk Island Set For Air Anniversary Service

TWENTY-FIRST anniversary of the introduction of regular air services by Qantas between Sydney and Norfolk Island will be commemorated by two stamps to be issued by the Norfolk Island Administration in September.

The design of both stamps, which are being produced in England, will show the aircraft used in the service in 1947 and 1968.

The official statement says:

On September 25, the Norfolk Island Administration will issue a 5c and a 7c stamp to commemorate the 21st Anniversary of the introduction of a regular air service between Sydney and Norfolk Island by Qantas Airways.

Both stamps have the same design, but the colours are different. The design shows a DC.4 Sky-master aircraft flying in the upper half with 1968 in the top right hand corner. The bottom half of the stamp shows a Lancastrian aircraft on the ground with 1947 on the left side and NORFOLK ISLAND and the value along the bottom. Dividing the two halves of the stamp and running in a reversing curve from the top left corner to the bottom right corner of the stamp are the words "21ST ANNIVERSARY QANTAS AIR SERVICE, SYDNEY-NORFOLK ISLAND." Both stamps have the dates and the above wording in red.

The 5c stamp shows the DC.4 aircraft in shades of white, red and grey on a blue background and the Lancastrian aircraft in shades of grey on a bluish ground. The wording "NORFOLK ISLAND," "5c," "DC.4 Skymaster" and "Lancastrian" is in grey/black.

The 7c stamp shows the DC.4 in white, red and light sepia on a greenish background while the Lancastrian is rendered in sepia and the ground below is green. The wording "NORFOLK ISLAND," "7c," "DC.4 Skymaster" and "Lancastrian" is in dark brown.

The size of the stamps is 1.1 in. x 1.6935 in. perforation to perforation, horizontal format. They are printed by photogravure process by

Harrison & Sons Ltd. of London in sheets of 50 stamps on white unwatermarked paper coated with Harrison & Sons coating.

Before the Second World War, Norfolk Island did not have an airfield and the only recorded visit by an aircraft to the island was that of Sir Francis Chichester in his Gypsy Moth seaplane on March 28, 1931, during his trans-Tasman flight.

An airfield was constructed by the armed forces during the war and in 1949 Qantas Airways decided to inaugurate a regular service between Norfolk Island and Sydney.

A survey flight was made on September 25, 1947, using Lancastrian aircraft VH-EAT and the flight time from Sydney to Norfolk Island was 5 hours 9 minutes for the 1,041 miles. The return flight was made on the following day.

The inaugural passenger flight took place on October 14, 1947, with Lancastrian VH-EAS, Captain Ambrose in command. The flight time was 4 hours 39 minutes. The service was a fortnightly one to start with.

On June 9, 1949, the Lancastrians were replaced by DC.4 Sky-masters and these aircraft still maintain the service as the Norfolk Island airstrip is not yet suitable for more modern aircraft.

On November 6, 1955, the service was extended to cover Norfolk Island-Auckland, the aircraft operating under charter to T.E.A.L. (now Air New Zealand) on this leg. In 1961 the service was increased to once weekly and in 1964 to twice weekly. The service is now never less than twice weekly in each direction and increases to three or four times weekly in holiday periods.

The Lancastrian aircraft operated by Qantas on the route from 1947 to 1949 were civilian versions of the famous Lancaster bomber. The R.A.F. Lancastrians which were operated by Qantas carried standard service markings and a four-letter combination on the fuselage. The service markings are clearly visible on the Lancastrian on the stamp.

The DC.4 Skymaster is famous enough and still sufficiently common to need no description. Its comfort and complete reliability make it an extremely pleasant aeroplane in which to fly the long distance over the sea needed to reach Norfolk Island.

PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

SEASHELLS

FIRST GROUP—28/8/68



SECOND GROUP 30/10/68





FAULKLAND ISLANDS
FLOWER DEFINITIVES

SWAZILAND
INDEPENDENCE
6/9/68



COOK ISLANDS
12/7/68



**MALAWI
LOCOMOTIVES**
24/7/68



**NEW HEBRIDES
REVISED VALUES**
9/10/68



GIBRALTAR
W.H.O.—1/7/68



ST. LUCIA
MARTIN LUTHER KING
4/7/68



DOMINICA
STATEHOOD OVERPRINTS
8/7/68



BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEWS

FROM THE CROWN AGENTS

JULY RELEASES

1st July, 1968

Gibraltar. 20th Anniversary of W.H.O. 2d and 4d.

Antigua. Tourism. ½, 15, 25, 35 and 50 cents.

Bermuda. New Constitution. 3d, 1/-, 1/6 and 2/6.

British Virgin Islands. 1968 International Year for Human Rights. Overprinting two definitive values 10 and 25 cents.

1st July, 1968

Nigeria. International Human Rights. 4d, 1/6.

4th July, 1968

Falkland Islands. International Human Rights year. 2d, 6d, 1/- and 2/-.

St. Lucia. In Memoriam Martin Luther King. 25 and 35 cents.

8th July, 1968

Ascension Islands. International Human Rights Year. 6d, 1/6 and 2/6.

12th July, 1968

Mauritius. New Definitive values. 2, 3, 15, 20, 60 cents and 1 Rupee.

15th July, 1968

British Honduras. International Human Rights Year. 22 and 50 cents.

Brunei. The Birthday of the Sultan of Brunei. 4, 12 and 25 cents.

22nd July, 1968

Guyana. Savings Bonds and Efficiency. 6, 25, 30 and 40 cents.

24th July, 1968

Malawi. Locomotives. 4d, 9d, 1/6 and 3/- souvenir sheet.

30th July, 1968

St. Kitts. Caribbean Free Trade Area. 25 and 40 cents.

31st July, 1968

Montserrat Olympic Games 1968: 15c, 25c, 50 cents and \$1.00.

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

Definitive Issues

Bermuda (Decimal) 2nd January, 1969. **British Honduras:** September, 1968. **British Indian Ocean Territory:** 23rd October, 1968. **Brunei:** 1968. **Falkland Islands:** 9th October, 1968. **Hong Kong:** (65 cents and \$1 replacement); 1968. **Lesotho:** (Additional 3 cents value); 1st August, 1968. **Malawi:** September, 1968. **Mauritius:** 1968. **Seychelles:** 3 Additional definitive values. 1968. **Singapore:** September, 1968. **Swaziland:** (Independence O/P); 6th September, 1968. **Swaziland.** 2½cts overprinted 3cts, 6th September, 1968.

Commemorative Issues

Abu Dhabi: Anniversary of Accession of Sheikh Zayad, Ruler of Abu Dhabi, 6th August, 1968. **Antigua:** Opening of a Deep Water Harbour, October, 1968. **Ascension Island:** Deep Sea Fish, 1968. **Barbados:** International Human Rights Year, October, 1968. **Barbados:** Golden Jubilee of Girl Guiding in Barbados, 1st August, 1968. **Bermuda:** Olympic Games, 24th September, 1968. **Botswana:** Opening of the National Museum and Art Gallery, 30th September, 1968. **Botswana:** Christmas, 1968. **British Virgin Islands:** National Development, 1st September, 1968. **British Virgin Islands:** Carnival, August, 1968. **Brunei:** Opening of the New Building in the state Dewan Bahaşa Dan Jabatan Penyariran and Penerangan, 29th September, 1968. **Brunei:** Opening of Dewan Majlis and Lapau Di-Raja, 1968. **Brunei:** International Human Rights, December, 1968. **Brunei:** The Coronation of the Sultan of Brunei, 1st August, 1968. **Brunei:** Installation of Y.T.M. Seri Paduka Pengiran Temenggong, 1968. **Cayman Islands:** Olympic Games, 1st October, 1968. **Cayman Islands:** Christmas, 1968, 1st November, 1968. **Ceylon:** Centenary of the Archaeological department, December, 1968. **East Africa:** Olympic Games, 14th October, 1968. **East Africa:** Water Transport, December, 1968. **The Gambia:** International Human Rights, 1968. **The Gambia:** Centenary of the first two stamps issued by The Gambia 1869, January, 1969. **Gibraltar:** International Human Rights, 26th August, 1968. **Gibraltar:** Christmas 1968, 1st November, 1968. **Guyana:** Opening of the Airport Terminal Building, 1968. **Guyana:** Celebration of 1400 years of Al Quran, 1968. **Guyana:** Christmas, 1968, 1968. **Jamaica:** International Human Rights, 1968. **Jamaica:** Tourism, 1968. **Lesotho:** Rock Paintings, 1st November, 1968. **Malawi:** Christmas 1968, 1968. **Malaysia:** Rubber Conference: 29th August, 1968. **Malta:** Fourth Centenary of Grandmaster La Valette's Death, 1st August, 1968. **Malta:** Christmas, 7th October, 1968. **Montserrat:** International Human Rights, 18th September, 1968. **Montserrat:** Development Projects. **Montserrat:** Christmas 1968, 2nd October, 1968. **Muscat and Oman:** Oil issue, 1968. **Nigeria:** 5th Anniversary of

Independence: 1st October, 1968. **Nigeria:** Olympic Games, 1968. **Nigeria:** Martin Luther King, 1968. **St. Helena:** 150th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery, 4th September, 1968. **St. Kitts:** Christmas, 27th November, 1968. **St. Kitts:** In Memoriam Martin Luther King, 30th September, 1968. **St. Lucia:** Bird Issue, 1968. **St. Lucia:** View of Old St. Lucia, —. **St. Lucia:** Christmas, October, 1968. **St. Vincent:** Statehood, 1968. **St. Vincent:** International Human Rights, November, 1968. **St. Vincent:** Free Trade Association, —. **St. Vincent:** Martin Luther King, August, 1968. **Seychelles:** International Human Rights, 12th August, 1968. **Singapore:** National Day 1968, 9th August, 1968. **Swaziland:** Independence, 6th September, 1968. **Turks and Caicos:** In Memoriam Martin Luther King, 1968. **People's Republic of Southern Yemen:** Girl Guide Movement, 21st September, 1968. **People's Republic of Southern Yemen:** Archaeology in Southern Yemen, 28th December, 1968. **People's Republic of Southern Yemen:** Revolution Day, 14th October, 1968. **Zambia:** International Human Rights, 23rd October, 1968. **Zambia:** U.N.I.-C.E.F., 23rd October, 1968. **Zambia:** 20th Anniversary of World Health Organisation, 23rd October, 1968.

DETAILS OF NEW ISSUES

British Virgin Islands. International Year for Human Rights.

To commemorate the 1968 International Year for Human Rights, the British Virgin Islands will release on the 1st of this month a new printing of the 10 and 25 cents definitive stamps overprinted in black letterpress '1968 International Year for Human Rights'.

Originally released on the 2nd November, 1964, the 10 cents stamp shows a map of the Virgin Islands and the 25 cents shows Beef Island Airfield. The airfield, originally 1,800 feet long and un-surfaced, was constructed on a site acquired by Government in 1958-59 and was at first used only by 4 and 6-seater aircraft mainly for charter flights. A regular service is now operated by Leeward Islands Air Transport using AVRO 749 aircraft. The airfield is at present being extended and rebuilt by a unit of the Royal Engineers as a military exercise and the work is likely to be completed by the end of this year.

The new printing and overprinting has been done by De La Rue and Co. Ltd. using CA block watermark paper.

GIBRALTAR

20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION 1948 - 1968

The stamps were designed by Mr. F. Ryman, and multicolour photogravure printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd., on CA Block watermarked paper in sheets of 60 subjects, size as shown in centre piece.

The 2d value brings a nurse, the emblem of the World Health Organisation on a star-shaped background and portrait of H M the Queen; on the 4d value, which is similar in arrangement, a doctor is seen examining a specimen through a microscope. The portrait of the Queen on both stamps is adapted from the sculpture created by Arnold Machin for the British Post Office.

The World Health Organisation, whose headquarters are in Geneva, was set up on April 7th, 1948, and celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

An interim preparatory commission had been at work several years previously to arrange for the transfer of the W.H.O.'s predecessors — the League of Nations health organisation, and the Office International d'hygiene publique — to the new body. At the same time, W.H.O. also took over the health functions of UNRRA (the U.N. Relief and Rehabilitation Association).

Primary function of the World Health Organisation is to forward the attainment by all people of the highest possible level of health. It provides both advisory and technical services. The advisory branch spreads knowledge, helps to train personnel, and assists countries on such subjects as malaria, tuberculosis, venereal diseases, maternal and child health, nutrition and environmental health, whilst the technical services provide such things as biological standardisation, unification of pharmacopoeias, collection and dissemination of epidemiological intelligence, medical research, and publication of technical and scientific works.

Its budget for 1968 was US \$56,123,000, and 128 countries were members in May 1967.

Policy is framed annually by a meeting of the World Health Assembly, whilst an executive board of 24 members, meeting at least twice a year, implements the decisions via the permanent secretariat.

OFFICIAL STATEMENTS FROM COLONIAL GOVERNMENTS

The Crown Agents report the receipt of statements from the local governments of Antigua and the Cayman Islands concerning their respective stamp-issuing policies

Statement by the Financial Secretary, Antigua:—

"The Government of Antigua has always pursued a moderate course in the issue of stamps and it is announced, for the information of stamp dealers and collectors, that there is absolutely no intention of varying this policy in future.

"Commemorative issues will normally average three a year and will be limited to no more than four a year and all will have relevance to Antigua. The total face values of the commemorative issues will be about £1 per year. The definitive series will normally remain unchanged for a period of five years.

"The production of postage stamps and their sale to the trade outside Antigua will continue to be handled by the Crown Agents, with whom the Government has recently signed a long-term agreement which will ensure that its declared policy is carried out."

Statement by the Administrator, Cayman Islands:—

"The Government of the Cayman Islands has always pursued a moderate course in the issue of postage stamps and it is announced, for the information of stamp dealers and collectors, that there is no intention of varying this policy in the future.

"Commemorative issues will be limited to no more than four a year with a total face value of no more than £1.5s a year and the definitive series will normally remain unchanged for a period of five years.

"The production of stamps and their sale to the trade outside the Cayman Islands will continue to be handled by the Crown Agents."

To the above, the Crown Agents add that the Government of Malaysia has informed them that it is its intention to restrict special issues to three a year.

The present director is a Brazilian, Dr. M. G. Candau.

Gibraltar's health service today comprises three dentists, two opticians, eight physicians and surgeons, six pharmacies and five hospitals to cater for the 25,000 inhabitants and numerous visitors.

MALAWI LOCOMOTIVES

On the 24th of this month Malawi will release a set of stamps depicting some of their locomotives past and present. The stamps have been designed by R. Granger Barrett and printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd. in the photogravure process on Malawi Cockerel watermarked paper in sheets of 60 and in the denominations, 4d, 9d, 1/6, 3/- and a souvenir sheet.

Malawi Locomotives

The Malawi Railways are the responsibility of the Malawi Government. Rail communications with the sea at the Mozambique port of Beira are by a single track 3' 6" gauge railway line operated jointly by the Portuguese and Malawi Railway Companies. Malawi Railways and its subsidiary Central African Railways operate the first 316 miles from Salima (60 miles east of Lilongwe) as far as the Zambesi Bridge in Mozambique.

The locomotives featured on this issue are as follows:

4d Value: Locomotive "Thistle No. 1" was the first locomotive taken to Malawi in 1904. It was manufactured by W. C. Bagnall Ltd. in their works at Stafford in the year 1902 and is still used for shunting purposes.

9d Value: Locomotive No. 49 "G Class". This engine, which is one of the many of the same class, formed the backbone of railways main-line steam locomotive power from 1950 onwards. This particular engine was delivered to Malawi in 1954 and was manufactured by Henschel & Sohn at their works in Kassel, Germany.

1/6 Value: Locomotive No. 22 "Zambesi". This is a 1200 horsepower diesel electric locomotive delivered in 1963 and manufactured by Associated Electrical Industries Ltd, Great Britain. It is the standard diesel electric locomotive for main line work.

3/ Value: "Diesel Rail Car" No. 1. This is the first and second class passenger diesel rail car delivered in 1955. It was supplied by the Drewry Car Company Ltd.

Charles Dickens Centenary

1970 is the centenary year of the death of Charles Dickens who, in addition to being a major novelist, was a leading figure in the fight for social reform in Britain and the colonies during the nineteenth century. Several countries for whom the Crown Agents act intend to issue stamps to mark the occasion.

SWAZILAND - INDEPENDENCE 1968

Release date: 6th September, 1968.
Designer: Mrs. G. Ellison. Printer:
Enschede en Zonen. Process: Photo-
gravure. Watermark: C.A. Block.
Set: 50.

Swaziland covers an area of 6,700 square miles in the south eastern portion of South Africa, between the latitudes 25 degrees and 28 degrees south. The territory is landlocked, with main access to the coast at Lourenco Marques in Mozambique, and its main export outlet, the Republic of South Africa.

To commemorate the granting of Independence to Swaziland on 6th September, 1968, a special set of postage stamps is being issued consisting of four values. Denominations 3, 4½, 17½ and 25 cents, and these feature the four main industries of Swaziland.

The 3 cent value depicts the Agriculture of Swaziland.

The country is divided from west to east into four ecological zones, namely Highveld, Middleveld, Lowveld and Lubombo. The Highveld is devoted largely to pastoral farming and forestry, the Middleveld to crops such as maize and cotton, and the Lowveld to irrigated cotton, sugar cane, citrus fruit and cattle ranching.

Until the end of the last war, the Swazis remained a pastoral people working with single furrow ploughs drawn by oxen, and raising cattle in large numbers. During the past fifteen to twenty years, however, it has been Government policy to foster more rapid and intensive agricultural development. This has been done by co-ordinated development programmes, schemes to foster and encourage "farming for a living" rather than subsistence agriculture, and programmes of agricultural research, education and extension. As a result, the ox is now rapidly giving way to the tractor.

Agricultural and forestry exports make up 67 per cent of the total exports of Swaziland, and the value of these exports has risen by 15 million Rand in the past five years. There is every indication that the general upward trend will continue, as Swaziland is richly endowed with natural resources of which many remain unexploited.

The 4½ cent value depicts the Overhead Cable Carrying Asbestos. This is the main feature of the Havelock Asbestos mine.

The Havelock Asbestos Mine is situated in the north west corner of Swaziland, close to the Transvaal boundary, and is connected to the railhead at Barberton by an aerial ropeway, 12½ miles in length, and by a 28 mile all-weather road. Milling practice has undergone continued modification to improve the bagged fibre quality and to enhance extraction of chrysotile from the ore milled. Maintenance of standards and consistency of quality are ensured through the operation of a well-equipped fibre testing laboratory, in addition to the normal apparatus of quality control employed in the mill itself.

As road transportation of supplies and bagged fibre is particularly costly in mountainous terrain, the construction of an aerial ropeway was commenced in mid-1937 and completed in October, 1938. The two longest spans are almost a mile in length and the height of the pylons, of which there are 50, varies from 15 ft. to 165 ft. It is interesting to record that sand and cement were transported to the site of each pylon by pack donkey during the construction of the ropeway.

The 17½ cent value depicts the Sugar Industry in Swaziland.

Sugar production commenced during 1958/59 season and the industry's growing progress may be gauged by the fact that by 1962, sugar had become the most valuable single export, a position which was maintained for the next five years. Seasonal production is presently by the order of 165,000 tons and the industry now plays a very important role in the economic stability and development of Swaziland and is the biggest employer of labour.

Only a small proportion of production can be sold on the domestic market. Shipments overseas are made from the port of Lourenco Marques in Mozambique, where there is a modern bulk sugar terminal capable of loading in excess of 750 tons per hour.

Intensive irrigation is both an essential requirement and a notable feature and cane yields are among the best anywhere. The majority of growers rely upon canals 33 and 42 miles long from the Great Usutu River and the Komatipoort

River respectively. These canals were the foundation upon which the industry was built. One estate sometimes uses as much as 60-million gallons of water daily.

There are two milling companies with extensive cane estates in addition to independent cane farmers with estates ranging from under 100 to 3,000 acres. There are 120 Swazi growers on small-holdings.

The 25 cent stamp depicts the Iron Ore Development Co. Ltd.

The Swaziland Iron Ore Development Co. Ltd. was formed in 1957 for the purpose of prospecting the high grade haematite ore body situated in the Ngwenya mountain range about 14 miles west of Mbabane. The deposit proved to be economic and contracts were entered into with the Japanese Steel Mills for a period 1965-1974.

It was necessary to build a railway to transport the ore to Lourenco Marques, for shipping to Japan. This involved laying a route of 136 miles between the mine at Kadake and the Portuguese border and completion of the Portuguese section from Goba to the border. The Swaziland Railway Board was formed in 1961 with a capital of 17 million Rand and construction started in 1962. Twenty-seven months later the railway was completed.

The mine was started and the first ore was railed in 1964. Ore is mined at Ngwenya by open cast methods, transported to a crusher for reduction in size and then passed through a washing and screening plant to segregate the fractions into coarse, fine and slimes. The ore is stockpiled for loading into trains which carry it to Sidvokodvo for re-marshalling for the journey to Matola wharf at Lourenco Marques.

By the end of 1967, 4,282, 359 long tons of ore had been shipped to Japan.

Also on the 6th September Swaziland will release the current definitive issue overprinted with the legend "Independence 1968". An additional value comprised of the 2½ cts surcharged with 3 cts is being released. The 2½ cts stamp value remains in use.

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GREAT BRITAIN NEWS

TRADES UNION CONGRESS

The first Trades Union Congress was held in Manchester in Whit-week, 1868, when 34 delegates representing 118,367 union members gathered for a conference convened by the Manchester and Salford trades council. In its early days, the Congress was predominantly concerned with trade union legislation; however, political topics were soon under discussion — as early as 1869, direct labour representation in Parliament had been suggested.

By 1890, the TUC had changed from being economically individual to being a follower of Socialist philosophy; in 1899, a resolution was carried for a special congress of trade unions and Socialist organizations to be held, following which the Labour Representation Committee was inaugurated. Thus, an independent political labour movement had been founded.

As the trade union membership increased, so the influence of the TUC grew. An important stage of its history was reached in World War I when the congress decided to take part in wartime administration and emerged, after the war, with greatly increased membership and influence.

In 1919, plans were put forward to replace the old Parliamentary committee of the congress with a larger executive body, consisting of 32 members representing the 17 groups of trades and industries into which the membership of the congress was divided, including two women representing the female members of the congress. This was proposed in order that the congress and the Labour Party might cooperate more closely, and that a joint administrative body could be set up under their joint auspices.

In 1920, the congress accepted proposals for the establishment of 4 joint departments: research and information, press and publicity, international, and legal. This reorganization resulted in a pronounced expansion of the activities of the general council of the TUC, with the result that in 1925, because of the great increase in the amount of work, these joint departments ceased to exist, and separate departments took their place.

One of the roles of the general council was to establish better relations between the trades and labour councils. Before 1895,

trades councils were represented at the annual Trades Union Congress. Between 1895 and 1924 however, there was no such direct contact, although the trades council sent representatives to the annual Labour Party Conference. In 1925, to remedy this defect in the organization, a model form of trade council constitution was proposed. By the end of 1924, there were 476 trades councils known to exist in Britain, compared with only 328 in 1913.

As the Labour Party have common origins with the TUC, close relations between the two bodies have naturally existed. In 1920 the TUC accepted proposals for the establishment of a national joint council consisting of the chairman, secretary and three members of the general council of the TUC, the national executive committee of the Labour Party and the executive committee of the Parliamentary party.

Thus, it can be seen that, during the past 100 years, the Trades Union Congress has grown rapidly, from a comparatively small gathering of 34 delegates representing 118,367 members, to over a thousand delegates representing nearly nine million members of over 170 trades unions at the last Trades Union Congress.

Reprinted from the Philatelic Bulletin, Great Britain.

WITHDRAWAL OF 5d (SEPIA/BROWN) DEFINITIVE POSTAGE STAMP

The 5d (sepia/brown) definitive postage stamp will be withdrawn from sale at all post offices at close of business on August 1.

This arrangement is operationally necessary because of the need to ensure as far as possible that all 5d stamps are the same colour (blue) when the new letter service starts on September 16.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS CHANGE

It has already been announced that the Post Office will be issuing three special Christmas stamps in the 3d, 9d and 1/6d values on November 25th. Because of the introduction of the new letter post on September 16th a 4d Christmas stamp will be issued instead of a 3d. The 9d and 1/6d remain unchanged.

POACHED EGG STAMPS



Printed on regular watermarked paper, these labels are not, strictly speaking, postage stamps and ought not to have come into the hands of collectors. The size of a half-penny stamp, they show a rectangular frame with an oval design in the centre and are printed in green ink. The post office used these perforated labels in coils to test their slot machines. By error some were left in the machines, sold to the public as half-penny stamps and used on letters.

The fact that letters franked with such labels were recognized by postal officials as being fully prepaid and were carried through the mails is used as an argument for their recognition as postal varieties. Produced by Messrs Harrison, the printers of the British stamps by the photogravure process, the remainder were withdrawn and discontinued.

Of twelve letters mailed in various parts of London by one collector who used these labels as stamps, six were delivered in the ordinary manner. Two were delivered with the words "value allowed" written on the envelopes, two are without any cancellation and the last two with a suggestion that the stamps be returned to the post office.

Two other similar strips of green labels are used in Great Britain for testing machines. One bears a St. Andrews cross and has also been sold in machines in error, as has the third, a plain piece of unwatermarked paper, the same size as a stamp and perforated. Since the post office had received a half-penny in payment for each, they were allowed to pass as half-penny stamps. Non-collectors who protested that they had not received regular stamps were given the regular issue, not realising that they had purchased probable varieties.



A GRACEFUL ENGRAVING "Machin" Sculpture on New High Values

The sculptured bust of the Queen, especially created by Arnold Machin, O.B.E., R.A., for the new definitives and used for all the photogravure-printed values to 1s.9d, has been used to advantage by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd. who are printing the four high values—2s.6d, 5s, 10s and £1—which will complete the series. The Bradbury Wilkinson stamps are recess-printed, a process which, as Mr. Machin pointed out (Stamp Collecting) brings the new stamps as near as possible to the Penny Black. Both designs were based on the sculptured relief and both were recess-printed. While the recess work may lack some of the tonal values of the photogravure-printed stamps, the new high-value stamps are very graceful engravings which make the most of the engraver's art.

This is the first time in British philatelic history that a complete series of British definitives has been uniform in design. The stamps, therefore, provide a useful study for those interested in the effect of differing printing techniques on one basic stamp design.

The new high values will be issued on September 9th.

QUEUE FOR CAPTAIN COOK POSTMARK

To get the special postmark people queued for 200 yards from Whitting Post Office when it opened on 29th May. The postal staff were not only kept busy with over counter sales but also received another 8,000 covers from the British Philatelic Bureau for this cancellation. It was estimated that by the end of the day 20,000 first day covers, many destined for Australia and New Zealand, received the special handstamp.

SPIES USED STAMPS

During the First World War, all sorts of subterfuges were employed by enemy agents to send information out of France. For some time, no attention was paid to the exchange and sales of books of stamp collectors, until one of the military censors made a curious discovery.

In an approval book going to Denmark, he one day noticed a superb sheet-edge pair of the 80 centime Bordeaux issue. Himself a collector, he mechanically lifted the stamps to note the condition, and saw very faintly pencilled writ-

ing across the reverse, what proved to be German script.

The discovery of this rather crude method of communication at once drew the attention of the Intelligence Service to all stamp shipments.

As more subtle methods came to be used, instead of the obvious pencilled messages, it was found that shipments of better-grade stamps were going to neutral countries in large numbers, and many of these stamps bore messages on the reverse side, written in invisibile ink, which only became apparent by the application of heat or chemicals. The seizure and destruction or confiscation of many such shipments soon put a stop to the system, or so it at least seemed.

However, there was a further angle to the matter. A speculator in Paris, ostensibly a neutral, was in the habit of sending out large quantities of one or two stamps, usually new issues, to his correspondents in neutral countries. His record was clear, and while his shipments were frequently examined, nothing of a suspicious nature had ever been found against him. His shipments were nearly always of a wholesale nature.

Toward the close of the war, this speculator bought huge quantities of two stamps, one being from the French charity issue, one being one value of the new pictorial issue for Morocco. He began sending out quantities of these two stamps to his correspondents in neutral territories. All were held up and given close attention, but nothing of an incriminating nature was found, so that these shipments were about to be released, when Colonel Despreaux, of the Intelligence, noted a singular fact. The stamps were not being sent out in sheets or in single stamps, but were all in irregular blocks.

Despreaux, after certain experiments, reconstructed an entire sheet and set about studying it. Then he found on each irregular block of stamps there was a tiny letter in invisibile ink, so small as not to attract the least notice, and usually made to look like a portion of a watermark. When the sheet was reconstructed, however, these letters made up a complete phrase or sentence of the most damning kind.

The speculator was arrested, and, after a speedy trial, was shot for espionage. The greater part of the seized stamps were destroyed, as they had been duly paid for, and the Government thought their destruction quite a neat trick.

BRITISH PAINTINGS STAMPS

12th August.

4d **Queen Elizabeth I.** Painted by an unknown artist.

1/- **Pinkie.** by Sir Thomas Lawrence. At the early age of 12 he had his own studio at Bath. When 18 he went to London and entered the Royal Academy schools. In 1792, at the age of 23, he was appointed principal portrait painter to George III. Today many of his paintings can be seen in the National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery and other London collections. The painting reproduced is a portrait of Miss Sarah Moulton-Barrett—first exhibited in 1795. Lawrence was knighted in 1815 and was elected President of the Royal Academy in 1820. He died in 1830 and is buried at St. Paul's Cathedral.

1/6 **St. Mary Le Port**—John Piper. Born in 1903, he first worked in his father's solicitors office until 1928 when he entered the Royal College of Art. During the Second World War he was official War artist to the Ministry of Information. St. Mary Le Port, was destroyed by bombs on 24 November, 1940 and Piper arrived in Bristol the next day and found the ruins of churches still smouldering.

1/9 **The Hay Wain** John Constable. One of the greatest English Landscape painters, but in England in his own lifetime he received little recognition for his work. In 1824, three of his paintings were put on show in France and they caused a sensation. The King of France was so impressed that he awarded Constable a gold medal. The Hay Wain, painted in 1821, is one of Constable's best known landscapes.

POLICE ON STAMPS

The police forces of the Commonwealth are seldom singled out for philatelic honour; thus it is something of an event when two sets of stamps commemorating police forces appear within a few weeks of each other. On the 16th October, Barbados issued a set of four stamps to mark the centenary of the Harbour Police, while Jamaica will release on the 28th of this month three stamps commemorating the centenary of her constabulary.

The picturesque appearance of the inner harbour, or Carenage in Bridgetown, Barbados, is enhanced by the sight of the Harbour Police as they go about their duties in their attractive uniform, modelled on that of the British seaman at the time of Trafalgar. The Harbour Police were formed in 1867 under the control of the Harbour and Shipping Master, but were amalgamated with the land police in 1882. The 4c and 50c denominations of this set depict members of the Harbour Police posing beside an anchor and in a gateway respectively. The 25c shows a policeman looking through a telescope, while the 35c depicts a police launch. The Harbour Police were also featured on the 5c denomination in the definitive series of 1953-7.

A constable on traffic duty forms the subject of Jamaica's 3d stamp. The 1/- denomination shows representatives of the different branches of the Jamaican constabulary, including a mounted patrolman, woman constable, dog-handler, detective, motor cyclist, C.I.D. Special Branch and Immigration, Passports and Aliens control officers. The 1/6 features the badge of the police, with the motto "Utroque Serve" (Pay heed in both directions), flanked by constables in the ceremonial uniform of the present day and a century ago. In the background are shown the parliament buildings of today and yester-year, Gordon House in Kingston and the House of Assembly in Spanish Town.

The earliest stamps with a police connection are the stamps of South Australia issued in 1867 overprinted with the letters "P" or "CP", for use by the police department and the Commissioner of Police respectively. To prevent the misuse of stamps provided for the use of government departments, they were overprinted with large letters. These appeared first in 1867 in red, the

colour being changed to blue a year later. By 1871 most of the 54 departments were issued with stamps overprinted in black. The individual initials were discontinued in 1874 when the "O.S." overprints were introduced. The police overprints are among the commonest found—though none of them are easy to find nowadays.

In December 1906, the franking privilege in New Zealand was abolished and the previous instructions to endorse covers, with "Official Paid" were cancelled on the introduction of stamps overprinted "Official". Either a shortage of stamps or a failure to understand the instructions led to the issue of the curious "Reefton Provisionals" early in 1907. A quantity of ½d, 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d, 1/- and 2/- stamps to the value of £3 9s 6d., were inscribed in manuscript "Official" and cancelled with a circular rubber mark inscribed GREYMOUTH—PAID—3 and sent to the police station at Reefton for use on official correspondence.



The first stamp from the Commonwealth to depict a policeman emanated from Papua in 1932. The 5/- value in the definitive series of that year portrayed Sergeant Major Simoi, the senior warrant officer in the local constabulary. Papua has issued police stamps on two subsequent occasions; the 3d stamp of 1952 portrayed a constable, while the 3/- stamp of 1962 showed a traffic policeman. The Pacific territories have shown a predilection for stamps depicting the police. Fiji's £1 stamps of 1938 and 1954 depicted a police bugler wearing a *sulu* or ceremonial kilt. The 1d stamp in the 1939 definitive series of the British Solomon Islands featured a policeman from the Malaita district. A modified form of this design was adopted for the 10/- denomination in the 1956 series; the uniform and tunic of the constable was suitably brought up to date.

Three years after Papua led the way, Canada issued a definitive series, which depicted a Mountie on the 10c stamp. The North West Mounted Police were raised in 1873, their purpose being to

patrol the vast prairies of the north-west. In 1920 they were merged with the Dominion police and renamed the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Mounted police have appeared on the stamps of several other countries of the Commonwealth. The ½d stamp of 1948 and the 2½ stamp of 1952 from the Gold Coast (Ghana) depicted a mounted constable from the Northern Territories. A branch station of this force was also based in the capital, Accra, for ceremonial duties and crowd control. The 2/- denomination in Aden's 1953 series featured a camel patrolman of the Aden Protectorate Levy, a para-military police force operating in the hill country of the former Western Protectorate. A police camel patrol appeared on the 2 Rand stamp of Bechuanaland (Botswana) in 1961. Camels bred and trained at Tshabong are used exclusively by police patrols in the vast Kalahari Desert.

DOMINICA

Dominica, the third largest of the old British West Indies, has 290 square miles.

The island has a population of 70,000. Dominica, a wild and mountainous island, Morne Diablotin in the north, towers to 4,474 feet. Many tourists are attracted to Dominica by her unspoiled beauty and the exploration of her rivers which number over 100.

The last of the Carib Indians, once the most feared fighters in the Antilles, live here and their villages today are as they were centuries ago. Roseau, the capital of the island with its thirteen thousand inhabitants, is a quiet town which has escaped the glitter of commercialisation. Bay Street is the main business centre and it is here you will find the Post Office, which is very capably and efficiently managed.

Due to the considerable increase in the volume of mail an additional parcel Post Office had to be opened some years ago. The first Dominican stamp was issued on 4th May, 1874, prior to this British stamps were used.

On the 15th May, 1968, the West Indian Island of Dominica attained Associated Statehood.

In honour of this occasion the Government issued a series of 17 postage stamps.

The existing definitive set of postage stamps will be overprinted Associated Statehood, and was released on the 8th July, 1968.

STAMP CONVENTION AT PALMERSTON NORTH

A great success, a wonderful day, most promising, interesting, these were some of the favourable comments passed by many at the Palmerston North Philatelic Convention.

Dr. Brooks, (President) of the Manawatu Society, welcomed a very large attendance to the convention, and then invited His Worship the Mayor of Palmerston North, Mr. G. M. Rennie to officially open the convention. As the Mayor spoke to the large attendance at the convention, the weather turned from cold to drenching rain, and as Taranaki was the host society, the Mayor said, what more could one wish for than turning on the weather of their home province!

The President of the Taranaki Society then accepted the chair for the day. Introducing each speaker, he very ably lead what was to be a memorable day for those who took part in giving displays, aiding with raffles, introducing members and welcoming everyone as they arrived at the convention.

Mr. Ben Hutchinson was the first speaker, and he spoke on the replating and flaws in the 1d Dominion stamps of Mr. E. R. Wilson from Hawera. Mr. Wilson was unable to attend owing to other engagements, but Mr. Hutchinson capably spoke on the replating of the 1d Dominions, starting the day on a very successful key.

Following this, Mr. Jim Kilgour displayed his very interesting collection of pigeon post stamps. Mr. J. Kilgour was later to be congratulated on a great exhibition.

Although this was all that was programmed for the morning session, it appeared that we were ahead of schedule, so the auctioneer, Mr. C. Lilley, was called upon to start the sale of many assortments of good material which had been generously donated to the host society.

The sale of material, such as inverted watermarks, missing perfs., mixed assortments etc., fetched some very keen bidding until the convention was adjourned for lunch at 12.30 p.m.

To open the afternoon session, the Chairman called upon Mr. Frank Watters to display his N.Z. Telephone Office datestamps, and for night on one hour, Mr. Watters held the interest of the visitors with his very entertaining exhibi-

tion. This display is reputed to be one of the most comprehensive of its kind within N.Z.

Following this display were two of a smaller scale, firstly Mr. C. Lilley spoke on Radio Communications, with which he displayed stamps depicting both Radio and telecommunications.

This thematic collection was of a very high standard, and much can be said for the time which has gone into the writing-up of the stamps from Radio stations of which Mr. Lilley has heard on his radio.

Car Stickers or Stamps, that what you may say, said Mr. Rutherford as he started to speak on the Self-Adhesive Maps. These were from Sierra Leone showing the missing town, and later surcharged stamps of both sets of maps, the John F. Kennedy Memorial Issue, and the Worlds Fair issue, both of 1964.

After this short display, it was then time for afternoon tea, and everyone mingled freely discussing the displays and talks of the day, and was amused to overhear someone say that it can't be only natural gas in Taranaki.

The rest of the afternoon was taken up by auction lots, and the sales here at this stage, once again led by Mr. C. Lilley, and his willing band of workers yielded very spirited bidding.

After everybody had spent all their money at the sale and fed themselves well during the tea adjournment, they returned to what turned out to be the highlight of the convention.

Mr. Alan Acott intrigued everyone with a most interesting display of replating of the 1965 4d ANZAC stamp. Although many would possibly call this type of display, fly-speck philately, I cannot recall having ever seen a collection so complete and well displayed as this.

Mr. Acott also showed some very interesting and clear coloured slides of the different varieties and original art work of the issue.

The last display of stamps, was the very enjoyable collection on the Philatelic History of South Africa by Ben Hutchinson. This proved to really round off the previous display, and much interest was shown in this very colourful collection.

Before adjourning to supper and the finish of a most successful

day, Mr. R. Herbison, the Federation President, congratulated the Taranaki Society on such an interesting day and on the way the convention had been conducted and organised.

I. R. RUTHERFORD.

THIS AND THAT

... from WELLINGTON

Saw a lady in the Post Office Philatelic Bureau recently who was trying to buy some obsolete N.Z. Health Stamps displayed in a showcase. She was dismayed when advised that they were off issue.

A colleague at work discovered amongst her late father's papers an old packet of stamps sold some 30 years ago by the now defunct BEEHIVE STAMP CO. of Wellington. (Probably run, I am informed, by a Mr. F. Bateson). This was a sixpenny packet of 5 Barbados which included the following: S.G. 197, (M) 220 (U), 229 (M) 230 (U) 321 (U). Their present total catalogue value is about 1/8. Contrast this with other stamps offered in a Price List enclosed with the packet — Australia Silver Jubilee Mint or Used set of 3, 5/- per set; N.Z. Victory set Mint (6. stamps) 5/6; Silver Jubilee set of 3, 5/- Mint, 6/- Used; Dunedin Exhibition Mint set of 3, 3/-; 1929 Health Mint 9d; 1935 Health Mint 4d; S.G. Part I was 9/6 and Tweezers 1/8.

Local dealers do not seem to be able to get sufficient copies of the current \$2 Pictorial. They are having to buy from suppliers at prices which call for a retail price of around \$1.50.

For out of town collectors, a visit to the Post Office Philatelic Bureau in Courtenay Place is a must. Facilities are available for the leisurely inspection of stamps as well as for the reading of philatelic literature which is quite extensive. There are copies of local and overseas stamp magazines, club newsletters, bulletins issued by N.Z. and overseas postal authorities, dealers newsletters and so on.

A recent discussion with local stamp collectors indicated that most had a second hobby. Some save coins, others grow cacti, whilst others again try their hand at such things as home gardening, embroidery, organising national dancing events. I notice that an Australian Philatelic Society recently put on a display comprising cinderella hobbies which was of a very high standard and included models in bottles, tapestry, crochet work. Perhaps we should try a similar programme here for a change.

M. G. WING.

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SOCIETY NOTES

WELLINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The main feature on the programme of June Monthly General Meeting of the Wellington Philatelic Society was a talk and display by Mr. G. C. Dodson on "Marlborough Postmarks". Mr. Dodson explained that his grandfather had come out in the first immigrant ship to bring settlers for Nelson. They actually called at Wellington first, in order to obtain precise directions as to their intended point of disembarkation. In other words they had not known where they were being settled until they reached N.Z. Marlborough at that time was part of Nelson province. The local Provincial Council levied its own Customs duties, land rents etc. Mr. Dodson's grandfather went to Spring Creek in 1850. Earlier (about 1848) squatters had preceded the settlers and had squatted south of Blenheim, but had not right of tenure. There were also the Surveyors, some of whom later became involved in the Wairau Massacre. According to Mr. Dodson, Te Rauparaha had considerable justification for feeling put out by the actions of Arthur Wakefield and the surveyors. Some of the earlier appointees as postmasters were men of title, men of letters, including medical men, but there is very little evidence, if any, to show how they had exercised the duties of postmaster. Mr. Dodson mentioned a fairly recent cover commemorating the centenary of the Cook Strait Cable with which is associated White's Bay, named after a colourful character known as "Black Jack White" (presumably a negro) whose real name was Jack Arthur Aylesworth.

As for the display, there were examples of "crowned circles" and hand stamps on pre-adhesive stamp covers. Some of the Postmarks featured on covers and cut outs were Waikawa Bay, Croixelles, Tua Marina, Manaroa, Mahau, Spring Creek, St. Omer, Portage, Grove-Awatere, Seddon, Kekerengu, Kaitoura, Ward, Ocean Bay, Robin Hood Bay etc. Mr. Dodson mentioned that some of these post offices had long since closed, whilst others had been closed and reopened in many instances, several times.

Mr. Dodson indicated that whilst he had strong family ties with Marlborough (the grandfather's land was eventually split up and is now farmed by the fifth generation in some instances), it was not until

comparatively recently that he had started his collection of "Marlborough Postmarks" but he did acquire some interesting items through an aunt.

The President thanked Mr. Dodson for a most interesting display. In seconding this, Mr. C. McNaught said that in his opinion, whilst Mr. Dodson's Marlborough collection was not the largest of its kind in N.Z., it was certainly the most comprehensive. A hearty vote of thanks was passed by acclamation.

A disappointing feature in respect of the remainder of the evening's programme was that no entries were forthcoming for the Stamp Centre Trophy Competition. The executive, at the suggestion of the donor, are considering changing the competition into one for Junior Members (i.e. those under 21 years) with much the same rules as at present. It is expected that the first junior competition will run in conjunction with their special night later in the year.

M. G. WING.

REPORT FROM SUBURBAN STAMP CLUB

Sixteen members were present at our second meeting. Mr. A. T. Reiman displayed his collection of France and he gave us a very interesting talk on these stamps. Would you please note: our meetings are held at 869 New North Road, Mt. Albert, (not as reported in the July issue, Great North Road). We now have a box number, P.O. Box 57035, Owairaka, Auckland. Circuit books are now available to all members at a charge of 5c each.

U. McEWAN.

Coming Events

AROUND THE SOCIETIES

WELLINGTON

26th August—Junior members night.

DUNEDIN

22nd August—Pim and Junior Cups Competition.

29th August—Stamp Bourse—Auction, Swap, Sell.

WAIKATO

7th August—Mr. S. Larson N.Z. Q.E.II.

21st August—Junior and Conlon Trophies.

WHAKATANE

8th August—Presidents Night.

22nd August—Family Evening.

TARANAKI

5th August—Mr. R. Herbison, Federation President.

THAMES VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The Annual meeting of the Society was held on 12th June, 1968. In giving his report to the Annual Meeting, the President, Mr. D. McKee, thanked all members for the help and support given at the successful Thames Postal Centenary Exhibition in September last year.

Mr. McKee felt sure that the strength of the society would grow in the coming year.

Officers elected at the meeting were: Patron; the Hon. A. E. Kinsella; President; Mr. D. McKee; Hon. Sec.; F. J. Jans; Sales Superintendent; Treasurer; Mr A. Austin. All members present were elected to the committee.

Frank Jans.

ROTORUA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At our meeting on June 25th we were very pleased to welcome Mr. J. Bishop who gave a talk and display on New Zealand pre-adhesive and stampless covers. For 60 minutes the speaker kept the attention of the meeting fully alive, and considerable interest was taken in the documents displayed. It would seem that quite a number of us present learned a little of the Country's history, apart from Postal History. Mr. Bishop fully earned the vote of thanks accorded him, which was passed with acclamation.

W. W. VINSON.

HOROWHENUA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month throughout the year in the Red Cross Rooms, Queen Street, Levin, at 7.30 p.m.

Visitors always welcome.

W. H. ROLSTON, Sec.

AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

At the Auckland Philatelic Society meeting on 18th June, Mr. S. Wood gave a fine display of Belgian charities—from the first issue to halfway through his collection. The remaining half will be displayed at a later date.

On 2nd July, Mr. J. Robinson showed ½d Mount Cook and 1d Universals—highly specialised and featuring as the piece-de-resistance, a block of 35 of the Dot plate.

Both meetings were well attended and well rewarded.

K. V. LELLMAN.

AUSTRALIA

	M	U
1960 5d Queensland	.08	.02
5d Christmas	.08	.02
1961 1/- Colombo	.15	.02
5/- Stockman	2.50	.12
5d Melba	.08	.02
5d Christmas	.08	.02
1962 5d Stuart	.08	.02
5d A.I.M.	.10	.02
5d C.W.A.	.08	.02
5d Christmas	.08	.02
2 Empire Games	1.38	1.27
1963 Royal Visit	.83	.67
5d Canberra	.08	.02
5d Red Cross	.08	.02
5d Blue Mountains	.08	.02
5d Export	.08	.02
5d QE Green	.08	.02
4/- Tasman	.70	.20
5d Christmas	.08	.02
2/3 Compac	.70	.70
1964 5/- Dampier	.80	.20
10/- Flinders	2.50	1.25
20/- Bass	5.00	3.00
1964/65 Birds (7)	3.50	1.70
2 Airmails	.63	.57
5d Christmas	.08	.02
1965 Anzacs (3)	1.00	1.00
5d I.T.U.	.08	.02
5d Churchill	.10	.02
5d Monash	.08	.02
5d QE Red	.10	.02
5d Hargrave	.08	.02
2/3 I.C.Y.	.45	.40
5d Christmas	.08	.02
1966 3c COIL	.08	.05
4c COIL	.05	.02
Decimals (22)	12.00	5.00
4c Lifesaver	.06	.02
4c Hartog	.06	.02
1967 4c Bible	.06	.02
4c Banking	.06	.02
4c Lions	.06	.02
4c Y.W.C.A.	.06	.02
4c Obstetrics	.06	.02
5c QE Blue	.06	.02
5c on 4c QE	.10	.05
5c QE COIL	.06	.02
Christmas (2)	.40	.30
Xmas aerogramme	.20	
1968 Weather (2)	.30	.25
Intelsat	.35	.30
Flowers (6)	1.20	
Congress (2)	.12	

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Most of the above are also available used, wants lists for earlier issues and individual values welcomed.

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Wales, one of each value mixed. (6v) 58c. 3d. 15c (25c); 4d. 12c (6c); 6d. 35c; 9d. 12c; 1/3 22c; 1/6 25c.

Scotland. One of each value mixed (6v) 58c 3d. 12c (5c); 4d 7c (7c); 6d. 8c (8c); 9d. 12c; 1/3 22c (22c); 1/6 25c.

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563	5d 1935 Pict.	25c
564	6d. 1935 Pict.	12c
565	8d 1935 Pict.	20c
570	1d 1935 Air	45c
574	1d 1935 Jubilee	25c
610	1d 1940 Cent.	10c
612	2d 1940 Cent.	10c
805	1960 Christmas	50c
809	1961 Christmas	20c

AUSTRALIA

213	2½d. Peace	10c
298	1957 3½d. Christmas	10c
306	1958 4d Christmas	10c
331	4d Post Office	15c
332	4d Self Govt.	15c
333	1959 5d. Christmas	8c
334	5d Girl Guide	12c
338	1960 5d. Christmas	8c
339	1/- Colombo	12c
341	1961 5d Christmas	8c
345	1962 5d Christmas	8c
346	5d Perth ames	8c
350	5d Canberra	8c
351	5d Red Cross	8c
352	5d Blue Mountains	8c
361	1963 5d Christmas	5c
370	Airmail Anniv.	8c
372	1964 5d. Christmas	5c
373	5d. Anzac	8c
376	5d. I.T.U.	8c
377	5d Churchill	8c
404	4c Lifesaver	8c
409	4c Hartog	8c
409	4c Bible	8c

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19	5d. Cacao	35c
28	1d Female	30c
42	5d Red Cross	30c
61	1d Bower Bird	35c
63	5d. Blue Bird	30c
85	5c Butterfly	25c

GREAT BRITAIN

642	3d Red Cross	25c
661	4d Churchill	25c
667	4d. Lister	20c
671	4d B. of B.	20c
672	4d B. of B.	20c
673	4d B. of B.	20c
674	4d B. of B.	20c
675	4d B. of B.	20c
676	4d B. of B.	20c

MALAYA

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SOCIETY NOTES Cont.**TARANAKI PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

The 1st July saw members of the Taranaki Society attend a buy, sell and swap evening in the Red Cross Rooms.

Owing to the President being away on business, Mr. J. Kilgour took the chair and ably lead the meeting.

Mr. B. Hutchinson was asked by the acting chairman to speak of the successful meeting in Palmerston North, and Mr. Hutchinson thanked all of those who had helped to make it such a success. He also congratulated, in particular, Mr. Acott on his very successful display and of the high standard in which it was presented.

The evening was followed by a very small auction.

I. R. Rutherford.

ROTORUA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The proposed exhibition rules came under review at a recent meeting and interest centred mainly on rule 20. This matter was dealt with very fully by our Patron Mr. Eric Roe, who pointed out that it was not generally possible for exhibitors to "safeguard their own exhibits". The only protection for an exhibitor was a complete comprehensive policy which would cover the exhibit from the time it leaves the owner, to the date of its return. Such a policy for an individual exhibitor would be very difficult to arrange and expensive. It was his opinion that it would be fairer to the exhibitors if the Federation would make itself responsible for arranging with an insurance company to undertake the required insurance for all exhibitors who wished for cover, the necessary premium to be paid by the exhibitor. Following a discussion, it was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to the Federation on the lines mentioned.

There was nothing of note at our last meeting on July 9th, the business being mainly in connection with internal affairs, apart from a "quiz" arranged by Mr. D. Salisbury. The old saying "know your stamps" certainly was applicable on this occasion. There were ten questions, and all relative to New Zealand, the majority in respect of recent issues. They were not what could be termed "specialists" or difficult, and the points possible were fourteen, yet not more than eleven was scored by the winner.

Maybe question 10 was more in the nature of general knowledge and quite a number fell down on it. The question "What would be the cost to send an Inland letter weighing 3 ozs."

W. W. VINSON.

WELLESLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Miss A. M. Fenwick, Mesdames C. Sale, T. M. Russell, U. McEwan and M. Allely provided the programme for Ladies Night at their 10th June meeting. Australia was the theme for the evening, and pages from each lady's collection were displayed.

On the 24th June, the Rev. A. H. Voyce entertained the 42 present with various aspects of the Postal History of the British Solomon Is. and Papua and New Guinea. The outstanding film "Postmark Impressions" was shown.

The Silver-Gold Award winning entry of Papua and New Guinea was displayed by owner, Mr. W. A. Holloway.

TIMARU PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The monthly meeting was held on 9th July. A good attendance was welcomed by the president, Mr. Comrie, and a spirited auction took most of the meeting.

A display of "Royal Visits" stamps and F.D.C.s was given by Mr. R. A. Holdgate. This collection of material on this subject was very comprehensive and well-presented, and Mr. Holdgate related a number of interesting facts about the stamps.

We were interested to also be shown an imperf miniature sheet of the world's first 3-dimensional stamps, the "Space" set of Bhutan. There were the property of Mr. McGrath.

B. R. Henderson.

BHUTAN 3-DIMENSIONAL STAMPS:—

These are very attractive items and the laminated plastic coating gives the stamps very realistic-looking scenes. However, the very high face-value of the set is unwarranted, though it is well known that Bhutan's philatelic policy is controlled by New York dealers.

MR. A. D. HOTEN, manager of Zealandia Stamp Company, advises that several people have addressed their mail to him at Wellington, not including Plimmerton in the address.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

With the current cry of philatelic exploitation each time various islands issue sets of stamps far beyond their postal needs, readers will be interested to know that it would have taken 20 years for the 20 European families on the island of Nauru to use up all the 1937 Coronation stamps printed for that speck of land.

Last month I mentioned the prices of 1937 Coronation Covers of various countries. This month there is a note warning collectors to beware of fakes of the Gilbert and Ellice Covers.

A writer tells an interesting story concerning the 2a Scarlet stamp showing a mail runner with spear of the Indian Mail Transport series. A criticism of this illustration is that the well known feature of bells on the runner's spears is absent. The explanation is simple. Some years ago it was discovered that in certain parts of the country the bells, instead of frightening animals, attracted them. Following an attack by a leopard, Post Office Officials visited the spot, experimented by walking up and down, first with a spear without bells, and then one with bells. To begin with, there was no sign of the leopard, but immediately the bells began to tinkle, the leopard emerged and was shot. Evidently in 1934-5, 11,000 of these runners were employed to carry mails between Post Offices.

A Philatelic tipster in this issue recommends buying the top values of sets. The 1933 Falklands 10/- and £1 at that time, cost £13 per pair—nowadays £200. The 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge — 8/— today \$60.

The Christchurch Philatelic Society had a series of five minute papers by various members—one of the subjects—"Has the stamp racket ruined Philately".

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14th SEPTEMBER, 1968

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THE STORY OF "PROJECT APOLLO" EARTH STATION, ASCENSION ISLAND

Some seven years ago the late President Kennedy inaugurated a space programme aimed at achieving a manned mission to the moon around 1970. This entailed not only the extensive programme of developing a launcher vehicle (the Saturn V Rocket), design of spacecraft to carry the three man crew but also a vital and reliable communications system between the spacecraft and the National Aeronautics Space Administration (N.A.S.A.) "Apollo Mission Central Centre" in Houston, Texas.

To achieve the latter a system of spacecraft tracking stations was considered essential, continuously tracking the spacecraft from "lift-off" to re-entry into the earth's atmosphere. This needed a worldwide network of stations linked to the master control in U.S.A. In 1965 N.A.S.A. approached C.O.M.S.A.T. (Communications Satellite Corporation), with a request to provide a satellite communication facility covering the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, thus the Apollo satellite communication support system was born. Two satellites will be employed 22,300 miles above the earth, one over the west coast of Africa, the other over the International Date Line. Both are "Synchronous Satellites," i.e., they keep pace with the earth's rotation and so appear stationary over a chosen point. 56 inches in diameter, they weigh 165 lbs., and can be used commercially for television, etc, when not supporting Apollo project.

Eight earth stations will participate in the communications network, four of which are fixed terminals, supplied by the host countries: Australia (Carnarvon), Spain (Grand Canary Island), U.S.A. (Andover, Maine), and United Kingdom (Ascension Island).

As three of the fixed stations were required to be in non-American locations, C.O.M.S.A.T. approached the communication authority for each of the territories. For Ascension Island it was Cable and Wireless Limited, and accordingly, towards the end of 1965 C.O.M.S.A.T. began negotiations with them to provide and operate the "Earth Station" for the support programme.

Remote Ascension Island, covering an area of only 34 square miles, is situated in the South Atlantic almost halfway between South America and Africa, latitude 7 degrees,

568 minutes and longitude 14 degrees 22 minutes West. Of volcanic origin, it is both strange and fascinating, a wilderness of clinker and lava having over 30 extinct volcanic craters.

First discovered by the Portuguese in 1501, it was not inhabited till 1815 when a British Naval detachment occupied it to prevent any attempt to free Napoleon from St. Helena 700 miles south. They started the only township on the island "Georgetown." It was during this period that the island was considered a ship and known as H.M.S. Ascension.

In 1922 it was handed back to the Colonial Office by the Navy and became a dependency of St. Helena. Cable and Wireless have maintained a cable station on the island since 1899, and up to 1964 the company was responsible for the island's affairs. C. and W. staff are the main inhabitants of Ascension, with their own farm and rest house on the dominating heights of Green Mountain (2,820ft). The farm supplies some of the island's fresh meat and vegetable requirements—the latter is dependent on the amount of rainfall.

In 1957 the Americans set up a long range missile tracking station on the island, and, as part of the Apollo programme, N.A.S.A. have programme at the "Devil's Ashpit." completed an extensive building. The Americans also run the island's after the Wideawake (Sooty Tern) airfield called Wideawake Field one of the many birds that inhabit the island. The base was first set up during the last war, by the Americans.

In November 1965 after stiff international competition, The Marconi Company Limited of Chelmsford, Essex, won the contract to design, build and install the complete "Earth Station." The shortness of the time-scale—less than 12 months—necessitated careful planning of the whole project by Marconi, with the closest co-operation between their designs, manufacturing organ-Cable and Wireless were responsible for buildings, aerial foundations and mains power supply. Regular liaison and installation planners. between manufacturer and customer with a computer analysing progress to find and correct any possible delays, enabled the project to run smoothly.

Due to the remoteness of Ascension Island and the complexity of the station, it was decided to erect and test the complete installation at Marconi's test site in Essex.

From the commencement of the project, it took only seven months to manufacture and erect the station, a further six weeks to complete tests, including the use of the "Early Bird" satellite—released from its other commitments for operational tests. During this period H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh visited the site to see the aerial. Meanwhile the gantry and pivot mount turning gear—similar to those used on the test site—were shipped out to Ascension in February and May 1966 and erection commenced on site. Chosen after a radio survey, it is in "Donkey Plain," a natural bowl of porous volcanic rock.

By the end of July, the station had been successfully tested, and dismantling for shipment began. The specially chartered cargo boat Flut left Felixtown on 25th July so as to arrive at Georgetown on 4th August, which avoided other vessels, thus preventing unloading delays.

A team of engineers left England by special charter flight to arrive just before the Flut. The 80 tons of equipment had to be unloaded off-shore, bringing it in on lighters. Erection started immediately and by 14th August the superstructure was complete; by the 23rd the aerial turned under power for the first time. Further tests were carried out again using the "Early Bird" satellite between 8 and 9 a.m. on 17th September. These were a complete success.

The Station was handed over to Cable and Wireless on 19th September, 1966, just eleven months from the commencement of the project. The Ascension Island station was the first of the Apollo network of Earth Stations to become operational—although it was the last last to receive contract to proceed. As stated in The Times supplement on the station:

"The task of designing, building and installing Britain's first overseas civil satellite communication station on Ascension Island in less than a year, presented a fascinating and unique challenge to show the world what Britain could do. That the project has been accomplished in the time prescribed is due, in no small measure, to the enthusiasm and whole-hearted co-operation between Marconi's and Cable and Wireless."

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PINK AND WHITE TERRACES

In 1895, the New Zealand Post Office had a competition for designs for a set of pictorial stamps. One of the conditions was that the designs must represent something of a distinct New Zealand character. The Post Office had in mind advertising New Zealand as a suitable place for tourists to visit; the designs selected generally fulfilled that purpose. One strange fact is apparent in the selection—two of the places shown on the stamps no longer existed. These are the pink and white terraces, on the 4d and 9d (and later the 1d) stamps, which were destroyed by volcanic eruption on 10th June, 1886, 12 years before the stamps were issued.

These Terraces were situated on the shores of Lake Rotomahana, a word which may be translated "Hot Lake". One writer has described Rotomahana as a "Dull, sedgy, unattractive sheet of water".

Overlooking the lake was Mount Tarawera, terrible in appearance, awe inspiring and not by any means a thing of beauty, as are most of New Zealand's mountains. It was regarded by the Maori people of the district with dread, not only because of its gloomy appearance, but as the resting place of the bones of their illustrious dead. Tarawera is actually three peaks: Tarawera being the southern of the group. The name is now generally given to the whole of the mountain, the highest peak of which is 3,606 ft. above sea level.

There had been the usual underground disturbances in the district, but nothing to cause any alarm or give any indication of impending disaster as Maori and Pakeha retired to rest. All was quiet, until shortly after midnight earthquake shocks of more than usual intensity shook the district. The eruption of Tarawera seems to have commenced at about half past one and within a short time the whole countryside along a line of 9 miles was in violent convulsion.

To those who saw the eruption from a distance it was a magnificent spectacle, but to those in the danger zone it was a fearsome thing. Columns of vapour covered the countryside with stones and ashes falling heavily. In much of the area there was almost total darkness. Ashes fell over an area of 6,000 sq. miles and on ships at sea. The village of Wairoa, on the shore of Lake Tarawera,

covered everything to a depth of 3 ft. One village, Moura, slipped bodily into the lake. At Te Arika 45 persons were buried beneath a mass of 30 ft. of mud, ashes and stones. In all, 153 people lost their lives.

The sedgy Lake Rotomahana became a mass of boiling mud, and everywhere there was disaster. Rotomahana was increased by about 20 times from its former size of 300 acres.

The actual site of the terraces had never been surveyed, but geologists who visited the district after the disaster were of the firm opinion that the Terraces, which lay on the opposite side of the lake, had been blown into millions of fragments. Although, right to this day there exists a slim hope that by some chance these may still lie beneath the waters, covered by volcanic matter.

The Artists with brush and camera had visited in the district, but even these pictures give us but a faint picture of the beauty of this lost wonderland of New Zealand. The visitor of today, as he looks over the excavated ruins of Wairoa and as he posts a souvenir letter at "Buried Village" post office, must surely marvel at the power of unleashed nature, and regret what has been lost. A year before the eruption, Mr. J. Martin took measurements of the White Terraces. The top of the terraces being 100 feet above the water and some 800 feet from the lake to the crater at the top. The geyser at the top was intermittent: sometimes leaving the crater empty for several hours. Then the cup would boil over and renew the fan shaped terraces with mineral laden hot water. The steps were of uneven height varying from a few inches to 12 feet. When seen from the lake, the colour appeared as white as alabaster, but a closer approach revealed its faint salmon and cream tinge. The Maori knew the white terraces as "The Tattoos Rock."

The Pink Terrace, known to the Maori as "Cloud In The Heavens", was reached by canoe or boat, as we may see from the 9d stamp. An English visitor described the Pink Terraces as rose coloured and tells us how he ascended the stairs where the "crystals fell like clusters of rosy icicles or hanging in festoons like creepers from a

rail." Of the ultramarine blue of the water he tells us "the hue of the water was something which I have never seen and will never see again on this side of eternity. Comparison could only spoil such inimitable purity."

SIMON SAM may be heard from 2ZP and 2ZH (Radio Taranaki) SUNDAY, 11th and 25th AUGUST at 9.05 a.m.

"PROJECT APOLLO" Cont.

To commemorate this achievement the Crown Agents issued a set of Ascension Island Stamps, designed by Mr. V. Whiteley, printed photogravure by Harrison and Sons. They show a symbolic aerial and satellite, and were issued on 7th November, 1966.

The 42 foot diameter reflector has full steering facilities, moving plus or minus 370 degrees in azimuth and minus 2 degree to plus 92 degrees in elevation. The reflector collects the signals from the satellite and, via the sub-reflector, feeds them into the receivers. Attached to back of reflector are the two transmitter and receiver cabins—one of which is a standby thus increasing the station's reliability. Attached to a reflector mount are the parametric amplifiers which, operating at a temperature of 285 degrees below freezing, amplify the satellite signals. The low temperature reduces the noise level, thus enabling the signals to be heard.

The reflector and equipment mentioned above are moved in elevation by means of a ball screw mechanism. Heat exchangers and cryogenic units needed to disperse the heat generated by the transmitters are mounted on a platform which in turn is mounted to a "U" frame which holds the reflector via the main bearings.

The "U" frame is assembled to the pivot mount which turns the complete aerial in azimuth. The whole assembly is then mounted on the 15 foot high gantry.

The "Nerve Centre" of the whole station is the "Master Control Console," which together with electronic the reflectors motion are housed in servo-mechanisms for controlling a building near the structure. The aerial has automatic tracking facilities which "lock on" to the satellite. This is necessary because of eccentricities in the earth's rotation, which make the synchronous satellite "move" slightly—the aerial follows these small movements automatically.

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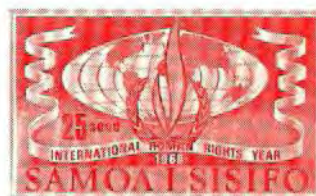
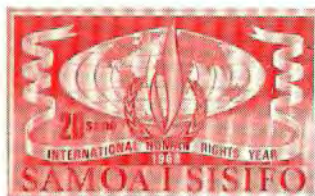
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