

Collectors Club Philatelist



The Panama 1¢ Balboa Invert
From the American Bank Note Co.

Volume 100 Number 1 \$10

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A brief Authors' Guide for the
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Due to New York state restrictions to limit the spread of Covid-19, the Club House is temporarily closed. Please check www.collectorsclub.org for updates and information.

All Collectors Club meetings currently are held online, via ZOOM, and begin at 5:30 p.m. (Eastern). Although there is no cost, pre-registration is necessary.

Collectors Club Programs 2021

| | |
|----------|---|
| Jan. 20 | Cross-Border Mail between the U.S. and Canadian Maritime Provinces – David D'Alessandris, Arlington, Va. |
| Feb. 3 | The Formation of the Kingdom of Iraq – Dr. Akthem Al-Manaseer, San Jose, Calif. |
| Feb. 17 | Embossed Stamped Revenue Paper – American Colonial Taxation – Roger Brody, Somerset, N.J. |
| March 3 | Pre-Adhesive Irish Postal History – Patricia S. Walker, University Park, Fla. |
| March 17 | Railway Mail Service Schedules of Mail Routes and Schemes of Distribution – Frank Scheer, Boyce, Va. |
| April 7 | Philately & International Mail Order Fraud: The New York Institute of Science of Rochester, NY. – Edward Grabowski, Westfield, N.J. |
| April 21 | The 1929 Air Mail Stamps of India – Dave Markand, Nadiad, India |
| May 5 | South Atlantic Airmail in WWII – Gordon Eubanks, Pebble Beach, Calif. |
| May 19 | Cancellations: Struck on Stamps – U.S. 1851 Imperforate Issue- Part 2 – Wade Saadi, Brooklyn, NY |

The Collectors Club Philatelist (ISSN 0010-0838) is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November by The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th St, New York NY 10016-3806. A subscription to The Collectors Club Philatelist is included with dues paid by members of The Collectors Club. Subscription price for nonmembers in the United States is \$70. Prices for foreign addresses and/or other classes of mail are higher depending on actual cost; consult publisher. Subscriptions for outside the United States should be paid in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. Back issues \$9, including postage. For a complete list, write the publisher. Claims for undelivered issues will be honored only within six months of the date of publication. Beyond that, replacements will be provided at the single copy price. Periodicals class postage paid at New York, New York 10001 and additional offices. Office of Publication: The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th St, New York NY 10016-3806. Copyright © 2020 by The Collectors Club. All rights reserved. We do not give implied or other consent for copying for more than personal use.

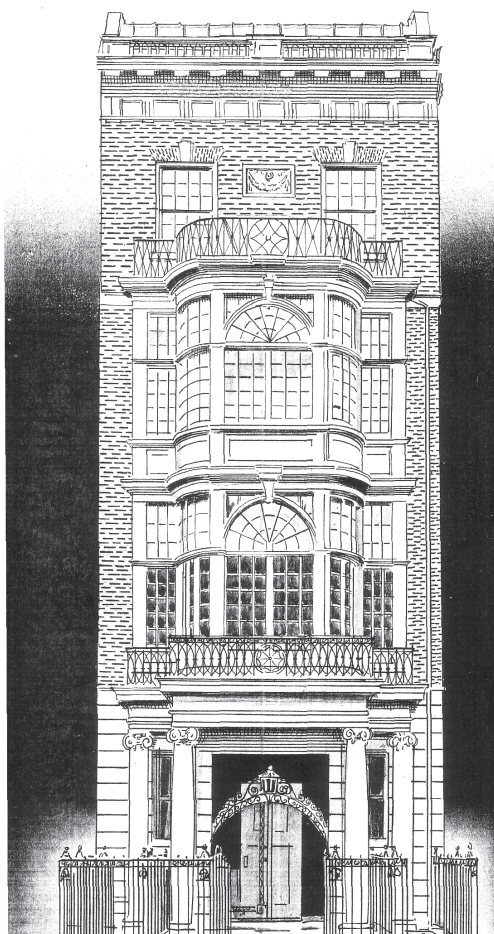
Indexed in PhilIndex by E.E. Fricks and included in the article index of the American Philatelic Research Library and the Global Philatelic Library. The opinions and statements contained in the articles are those of the authors and not necessarily those of The Collectors Club, its officers or staff.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to:
The Collectors Club Philatelist, 22 East 35th St, New York NY 10016-3806.

THE COLLECTORS CLUB

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The Collectors Club Philatelist *is an international specialty journal serving the needs of hundreds of collectors worldwide. It serves as the journal of record for the CCNY as well as publishing stimulating and helpful articles for collectors of many levels and specialties. The Collectors Club Philatelist strives to publish accurate philatelic information and serves as a forum for communication among members of The Collectors Club.*

President's Message:

Continuing to Reach Out

By Lawrence Haber

Disappointed to see 2020 in the rearview mirror?

None of us are, I'm sure. However, despite the temptation, let's try to avoid over-focusing on the past and let's all agree it is best to look forward – forward to a much brighter horizon. We are convinced we are at the threshold of a very bright future.

What determines success for this club and how would we measure success? I would suggest the answers would be aligned along multiple dimensions. This includes programming, the *Collectors Club Philatelist* (CCP journal), our library, outreach to our members and the ambience at our Club house. Each of these must be excellent. I would submit that the excellence that constitutes our goal will be self-evident from observable results.

Programming: Clearly, our virtual programs have resonated across the philatelic community. It is typical for us to have more than 350 people register for each program and somewhere around 275 of those are with us on any given program day. These numbers, and the notice we have gained, have placed us at the forefront of the hobby. We also believe that this has led to significant gains in members during a period that could otherwise be best described as bleak and miserable. We will not be leaving this virtual venue so long as the audience is there. Elsewhere in this journal you will see the calendar for the coming year. We are sure that you will agree that the depth, breadth and quality of our speakers and their topics is extraordinary. You will note that our speakers will be coming to us from across the globe and their topics will reflect this diversity. We have little doubt that, cumulatively, our programs for 2021 will be the best the Club has ever hosted.

We will also be striving to go beyond our usual program format. We are currently working on arranging for special presentations that we will host in conjunction with five leading philatelic groups. This effort will be very special and as soon as we have the details worked out, we will announce this new series that no one will want to miss.

At this time it is very difficult to prognosticate about the date at which we will be able to resume running programs from 22 East 35th Street. Considering the availability of vaccines and timing considerations, one guess might be the fall. But whenever that date comes – and it surely will come – when we are able to resume running programs in the Club House, these will be in addition to the current schedule we have announced, and we will strive to be innovative in our physical programs. We are committed to live streaming all our programs delivered from the Club house.

CCP journal: Content in this journal is critical to our success, and our goal is that this journal will be without peer. We are in the process of assembling a first-rate team of philatelists who will work with our editor, Wayne Youngblood, in sourcing articles. They will be deployed across geographic

criteria. It is our aim to help proactively source articles and add to the already rich content we currently have. We will strive to ensure that this becomes the place to publish.

We also need to hear more from you. What would you like to see in our journal? More technical articles, more articles on the social and historic context of philatelic material, more material on the social elements of the hobby? Also, have you thought of writing an article for these pages? This is a fabulous place to get your research, your insights and your creativity across to a large number of leading philatelists. Not sure how to put an article together? We will help you every inch of the way.

Library: It is not easy breaking through the physical boundaries that define a library, but we are committed to bringing the library closer to you, our members. We've introduced a lending-by-mail program and will shortly be able to provide members with a light scan service so as to facilitate your research efforts.

Outreach: When life eventually returns to a newer normal, we want to be there. Being there means being at shows – in the field – not tied just to the New York metropolitan area. There has been a provision in our bylaws for regional representatives. Some years ago we did have regional representatives, but that fell by the wayside. By this time next year, you will know that this provision will no longer be dormant. Our goal will be to have a meaningful presence at least four major World Series of Philately shows a year – being there to greet members, meet new members, run impactful programs and extend our reach beyond the Hudson River.

Club ambience: We will return to New York, but more importantly, you will return to New York. It is just a matter of time. If you are visiting the city, we want to you to be comfortable coming by, saying hello, resting your feet and maybe even having a cup of coffee. Pick up a book or journal, sit down and have a read. If you live outside the metropolitan area and are visiting the area on business or pleasure, even more so, we want to you stop by the Club. And, once there, we want you to feel like you're at home. We are committed to making improvements and want to welcome you back to enjoy the fellowship of philatelists in our comfortable Club House environment.

Lastly, we want to thank you, our members, for your support and confidence. We hope that by laying out these criteria for success that you will hold the leadership of this Club to account and ensure we strive to fulfill these promises. From this point forward, our focus will be to emerge from the darkness of Covid and head to a brighter and clearer future, together.



**Keep up to date with what's
happening in your club:
www.collectorsclub.org**

Editor's Notepad

by Wayne L. Youngblood

I have three main pieces of advice for you in the new year:

1. Please use the Collectors Club website.
2. Please use the Collectors Club website to enjoy your hobby even more.
3. Please use our website to get the most out of your membership.

Most of all, please use the website. Seriously!

As this issue clearly points out, the Collectors Club has been at the forefront of hobby outreach during the pandemic. What started out as a service to the hobby has emerged as a membership builder.

It was an extremely smart decision for our leadership to throw open the gates to our meetings and presentations to all who are interested. As Larry points out in the feature that follows this column (which I highly recommend reading carefully), the net result has been astounding. We've gone from being able to accommodate 50 members comfortably in the Club House to having an average of about 300 at every Zoom meeting in our Virtual Philatelic Program Series. That's about six times the number!

In addition, we are now attracting even more top-notch speakers from all over the world, since they do not have to travel to New York City to present.

But getting the most out of our top-notch website isn't *just* about having access to *all* CC programs and videos (dating back to 2012). This – in itself – is a virtual (and real) treasure trove of philatelic knowledge and research. The varied talks represent virtually every aspect of philately presented by those who know the most about their respective areas. Each of these videos may be accessed by tapping the "Videos" tab in the top navigation bar on our website.

What else is there for you? You also have the ability to search our extensive library (which contains roughly 150,000 volumes), as well as check out certain materials. Just click on the "Library" link on the website.

Finally, you have complete and total access to every single issue of the CCP, which has been published continually since 1922 – nearly a century's worth of deep research and entertaining reading. The database is completely searchable and all PDFs are downloadable! Simply click the "CCP" tab along the top menu.

What could be better? Happy New Year!

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Collectors Club website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About Us, Membership, News & Events, Videos, CCP, Library, Store, Clubs, and Log Out. A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a 'WELCOME TO THE COLLECTORS CLUB ONLINE' section. Below this, there is a 'TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021' section with a 'Renew' button. Next to it is a 'PRESENTATION FEATURED VIDEO' section with a video player and a 'Click Here' link. Below the video section is a 'THE VIRTUAL PHILATELIC PROGRAM' section. On the right side, there is a 'BECOME A MEMBER' section with a 'Log Out' button. Below that is a 'JOIN OUR MAILING LIST' section with a 'Click to join our mailing list!' button. The website has a yellow background with a dark blue navigation bar.

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Going Virtual

Larry Haber (and contributors, as named)

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, at 6 p.m. saw a program given by Patrick Maselis, RDP, at our Club house. The topic was The Medallion Issues of Belgium 1849-66. The Club house was filled. The presentation was thoroughly excellent, as you would expect. After Patrick's talk we strolled over to a local restaurant for dinner. A very good dinner indeed! The table conversation was engaging, in keeping with the company. This was the Collectors Club at its very best.

In the week that followed, the news reports started to sound bad, very bad. What had been a single case of Covid associated with a gentleman from New Rochelle was spreading – spreading very quickly. We did not know what it really was. The doctors did not know how to treat it. The hospitals were starting to see a dramatic uptick in cases. The city was getting sick.

The city became a war zone and it was no longer deemed safe. We, in the New York metropolitan area, were at ground zero – again – but this time it was a disease and not 757 jets slamming into the World Trade Center.

On Friday, March 13, we made the decision to close our Club house. Had we waited a few more days there would have been no choice. The state and city both mandated closure.

Our next scheduled program was set for March 18: canceled

The program after that was scheduled for April 1: canceled.

We canceled all meetings in April. Then May. Before long we knew that the rest of the year was going to be wiped out.

It was then that we made the decision to bring our programs to a virtual medium.

Easier said than done.

There were many issues to be considered. You just cannot bring a program to a virtual medium such as Zoom and expect it would “fly.” There were a myriad of questions:

- who would go first?
- how do we produce a virtual program?
- how do we “train” our audience to log in?
- how do we let people know what we are doing?

This was the first fundamental issue: “How do we let people know what we are doing?” Without communicating to our members, our audience, it would be like one hand applauding in a deserted forest. How could we let people know about this?

We do, indeed, have a website, but a website is not a proactive mechanism for communications. It is reactive; people have to know to go there to read and observe what is new. We could not rely on that. We needed to reach out to our people. Problem: our email capabilities were extremely primitive and limited to very simple plain text messages – not very appealing.

In very short order we implemented a commonly used mass emailing marketing tool. And, in a near-miracle of speed and dexterity, our vice president and chief technology officer, Joan Harmer, was able to get it up and running with all the email addresses we had for our members – an utterly amazing feat. Breathtaking.

At the very beginning of the pandemic, we looked at how other organizations were reacting. We noted that the Metropolitan Opera was offering free access to one opera recording a week. Each week was a new opera. Free. The thought occurred that if this was good enough for the Met maybe it was good enough for the Collectors Club.

Based on this “precedent,” we started to post past program videos onto our website. Out in the open, available to anyone, with a new video every week or so. Given all the stamp shows being canceled and the dislocation of people’s lives, isn’t this the least we could do? To let people know about this, we posted the news on a couple of philatelic bulletin boards.

Now, if we were prepared to post previously restricted video out in the open, what about current material – the live events – the programs themselves as they were virtually delivered? If someone wished to attend a live program in the Club house, they were free to walk in off the street and be there. We do have a pro-forma requirement that limits people to two such events without joining, but this policy wasn’t always applicable and maybe not always enforced assiduously.

This matter was discussed with our board and there was universal agreement: Our virtual programs would be available to the entire philatelic community, members or not. Isn’t this really the least that we could do? Isn’t this really in the spirit of what we all stand for?

But, to reach people, beyond those who were members, how would we proceed? A number of philatelic organizations agreed to help us spread the word. The APS has been steadfast at our side. Notices for our programs appeared in its weekly emails week after week. The U.S. Philatelic Classics Society, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors and the United States Stamp Society all sent emails to their members on our behalf. We also prevailed upon a goodly number of major auction firms to support our efforts: Schuyler Rumsey, Robert A Siegel, H.R. Harmer, Kelleher, and Harmer International were all truly our partners.

A word or two regarding our commercial partners: Perhaps the most valuable asset an auction house has is its client list – its email list. We all know, too many emails from a source and it’s off to the junk folder or – even worse – unsubscribe. The auction firms had nothing to gain and something to lose by sending emails on our behalf. We are truly grateful for their support.

With all this support and more, our email list grew. It now stands at almost four times the number from where we began.

But still, a whole host of issues remained. What would a virtual program look like and how would we run it? How would people log on, how, how, how? Someone had to be the guinea pig and the Club’s president volunteered to go first. He had a presentation ready to go that had been given to a largely empty room at StampShow in Columbus. It was a quick matter to dust it off.

Wednesday, April 13 at 6 p.m., we hosted our first virtual program, “Introduction of Decimal Postage in the United Kingdom.” The video of this event is available in our video archive and it is clearly rough around the edges, but the principle was established. We proved we could create a viable and effective mechanism for a virtual program. More importantly, people came and stayed to the end of the program.

We became committed to putting on virtual programs. Our programs chair, Steve Reinhard, managed to quickly reconfigure the program schedule to reflect our new-found virtual medium. Most of the presenters who had been lined up to come to New York, agreed to join us on Zoom. The few who were not comfortable were deferred to the day when the Club house can be reopened. We look forward to that day, but when they join us, their program will be live streamed.

As the weeks and programs proceeded, we began to realize that a virtual program is not the same thing as a program given from the Club house. We could compare the two experiences, in a sense, as being similar to the differences between a motion picture seen in a movie theater or a TV program you watch in the comfort of your home.

In virtually all cases, a virtual program’s presenter is seated at a desk or table. The presenter’s face and voice dominates the screen and you, the viewer, are frequently on your own. The impact is not unlike being invited into someone’s stamp room and being spoken to directly. It is a very personal and immediate experience – a very powerful experience.

In short order, we entered into a steady pattern of offering a virtual program every other Wednesday. Initially at 6 p.m. (Eastern), we adjusted our time to 5:30 p.m. and, by the end of the year, we provided a total of 21 virtual programs, including two special offerings at the APS virtual Great American Stamp Show in August and the United Kingdom’s virtual Stampex event in September. Our presenters hailed from across the United States and we had two presenters from the United Kingdom. Our program schedule for 2021 will include multiple presenters from not only North America, but France, India, Thailand and Colombia. The virtual medium cuts through the barriers of distance.

Beyond our presenters, we had attendees from not only virtually every state, but from every continent, aside from the Antarctic. Clearly, most would expect attendees from the United States and Canada, but we had people from Mexico, Bermuda, the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Switzerland, France, Spain, India, the Netherlands, Peru, Germany, Isle of Man, Italy, Uruguay, South Africa and many many points beyond.

The numbers have been astounding. That very first program on April 13, had only 81 people who registered. But these numbers grew very rapidly as our email list grew, and we all became more comfortable. Today, as mentioned, we typically have close to 400 people register and close to 300 actually attend. As a point of comparison, our Club house can hold 50 people comfortably, 60 uncomfortably. We are reaching six or seven times that number via Zoom.

You have also seen a response that reflects more than an audience level. You’ve seen the reports on new members. In the midst of all the horror brought by the virus, we have gained new members in numbers without any recent precedent.

All this has been very exciting. We are delighted with the reception of our programs and we would like more of our members to be there on program day. Failing that, one could view the programs in our video archive. The purpose of this article is to provide some context for all these virtual programs, the background to their genesis and an invitation to you to view them in the video archive. What now follows is a very brief description of each program. This ought to be viewed as an index. What we offer here are a few sentences for each. The true intent is for you to view the actual program. In a few cases, we also have some longer-form writeups of programs, but whatever the case, we urge you to join us this year as the program year proceeds. If you're not able to be there on the actual day, please view the programs from the archive.

April 13, 2020

INTRODUCTION OF DECIMAL POSTAGE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, LAWRENCE HABER

Beginning in June 1970 and culminating in March 1972, the nation that gave us the modern postage stamp changed its currency. The ancient system of shillings and pence was replaced with a fully decimalized pound. This presentation reviews the process and shares many interesting and unique covers that demonstrate the process and illuminate a fascinating period in the postal history of the United Kingdom.

April 29, 2020

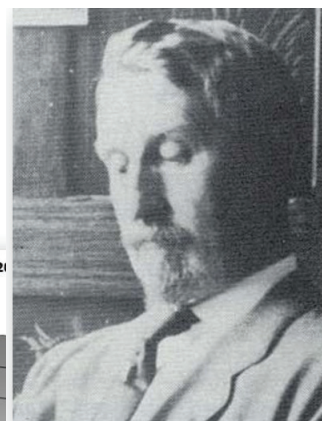
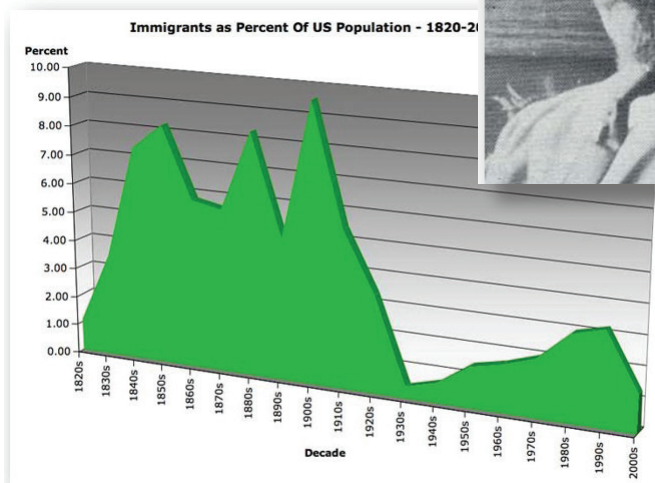
NATIONAL IDENTITY-THE STAMPS OF SERIES 1902, ROGER S. BRODY

In the fall of 1902, the United States introduced a new definitive series of postage stamps. The Post Office Department (POD) asked the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) to create the stamp designs, produce engraved dies and plates and print, perforate and package the stamps. Two important events would influence the design of the series. The first was America's immigration "open door" policy, as 16 million immigrants from Europe and Asia landed on both shores of the continental United States at the turn of the 20th century.

The second was the acquisition of new territories and possessions and the absorption of an additional 10 million new Americans

Above right: R.O. Smith.

Right: U.S. Immigration, 1820-2004.





The new series of stamps as it was released in 1902.

resulting from the 1899 Spanish-American War. The new stamp series witnessed the nation's emergence from a rural society into an international and commercial power. U.S. postage now franked new territorial mail across the Caribbean and the Pacific Ocean.

Until this time, America's stamps had traditionally illustrated men who had served as presidents or figured prominently in the government, the Revolutionary War or the military. The new 1902 series would comprise 15 face-different designs, including a special delivery stamp. Three individuals depicted had never appeared on U.S. postage, including Martha Washington, the first American woman to appear on a U.S. stamp.

The stamps were designed by Raymond Ostrander Smith the Bureau's chief designer. Famous for his ornate artistry, each of Smith's borderless frames would incorporate historical references to the portrait subject using figures and symbols. But it was more than Smith's artistic imagination and that of his successor Clair Aubrey Huston, that would define the Series of 1902.

By 1902 first-generation Americans represented one-third of the nation's population. Many of these new citizens spoke little or no English and were unfamiliar with United States history, let alone the people on their stamps. Influenced by Wilson L. Gill, founder and president of the Patriotic League of America, Third Assistant Postmaster General Edwin C. Madden agreed to the idea of adding the names of the portrait subject on the stamps. Gill also convinced the USPOD to include the subject's birth and death dates, fixing the period of American history to which subject belonged.

In 1903 the 2¢ stamp portraying Washington's image between two flags was replaced with a new stamp with a shield background. This Shield stamp became the workhorse of the first decade of the 20th century, paying the domestic first-class letter rate and the UPU postcard rate. With America emerging as the world's

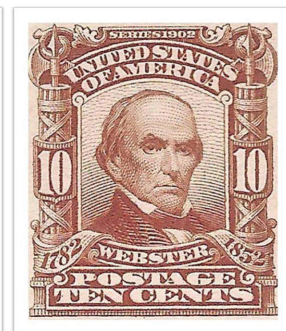
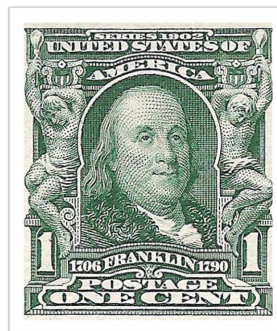
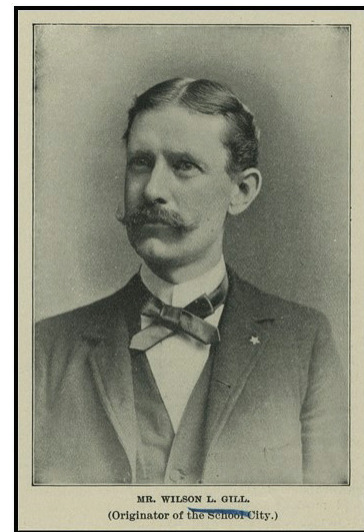


In 1903, the 2¢ Flag stamp (with Washington) was replaced with this bolder "Shield" design.

leading commercial and industrial nation, this stamp with its shield of

Stars and Stripes, was nothing short of an American coat of arms. The laurel leaves around the left numeral tablet symbolized victory and peace, and the oak leaves on the right, symbolized strength and power. The Shield stamp was the embodiment of President Theodore Roosevelt's motto "Speak softly but carry a big stick." This stamp was the perfect complement to the series that franked

the mails and carried the nation's history and legacy across the continent and around the world.



Top: Wilson L. Gill's influence convinced the postmaster general to design the new stamps with each subject's birth and death dates included to fix their place in history.

— Wade Saadi

May 13, 2020

THE NEW YORK POSTMASTER PROVISIONAL, MARK SCHWARTZ

This 5¢ stamp was issued by New York's postmaster, Robert Hunter Morris, with its first day of use July 15, 1845, just short of two years before the first United States Post Office adhesive issue on July 1, 1847. The provisional was printed in a quantity of fewer than 150,000 in sheets of 40.

Mark showed combination die proofs and plate proofs, a reconstructed sheet, as well as examples of the scarce gray paper and rare blue paper varieties, including a rare blue paper pair. A study of the various cancels



Figure 1. Horizontal pair on blue paper.

associated with the stamp's use followed. Examples of the three different sets of manuscript initials applied to the stamp as control markings before being sold were shown, including several varieties both on and off cover. Of

particular note was a rare vertical unused pair with the top stamp signed "ACM" and an unsigned stamp at the bottom of the pair.

Mark followed with an impressive showing of the stamp's postal history.

A total of 16 covers are reported dated July 15, 1845, the stamp's first day of use, with only three domestic uses and the rest to foreign destinations. A number of railroad uses were shown, followed by conjunctive uses with carriers and locals. Of particular interest was the unique combination of a United States City Despatch Post stamp on cover, mailed from New Hamburg, N.Y., with

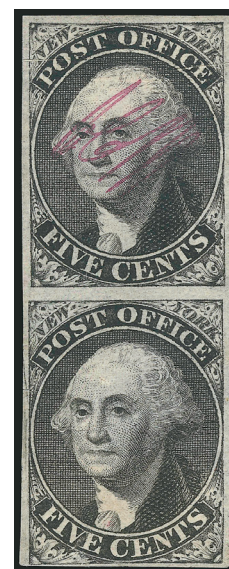


Figure 2. Vertical pair with control initials on top stamp and bottom stamp without initials.

the New York Postmaster Provisional initialed "RHM."

A total of 40 covers originated and were postmarked outside of New York, including seven manuscript markings from New Hamburg, 20 from Boston with handstamped



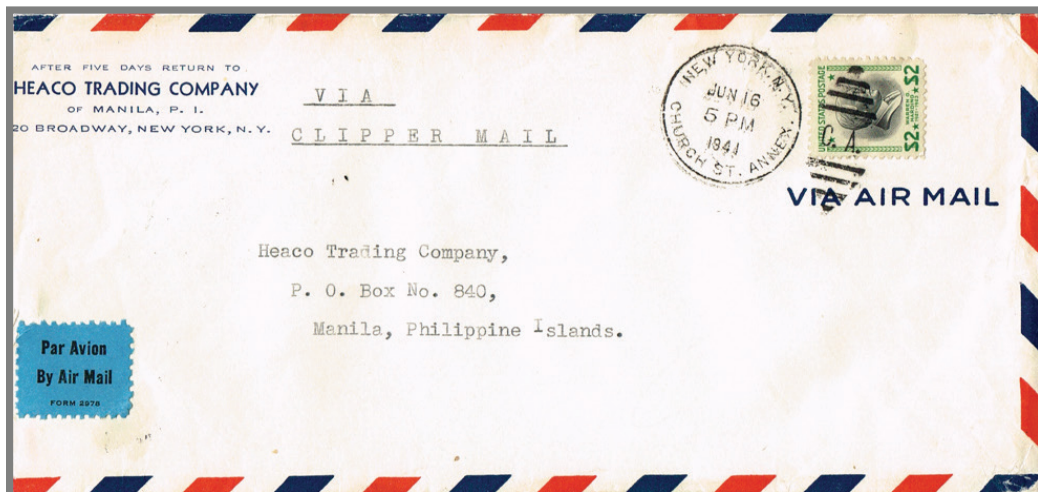
Figure 3. Conjunctive use mailed with New York City Postmaster Provisional stamp from New Hamburg, N.Y., and accepted in New York City with "PAID" handstamp, together with 3¢ New York City Despatch stamp, paying delivery from the post office to Wall Street.

postmarks and two handstamped from Philadelphia. Mark showed the only-reported cover with a handstamped postmark from Charleston, S.C. Finally, a number of covers with multiples were displayed, including the famed Kapiloff cover, with a block of nine and a strip of three, paying 60¢, the six times rate for more than 300 miles, addressed to Ogdensburg, N.Y.

May 27, 2020

INTERESTING USAGE DURING THE PREXIE PERIOD, GORDON EUBANKS

The Postal Savings Certificate shown below is not a letter at all and did not go through the mails. It is an unusual use of a postage stamp. If a postal savings certificate was redeemed within 30 days of purchase, there was a 10¢ fee. That fee was paid with a 10¢ Prexie sheet stamp. This is a very high-value savings certificate.



The cover from New York to the Philippines Islands is a solo use of a \$2 Prexie stamp. Carried on the *China Clipper* through Honolulu, Midway Island, Wake Island, Guam Island to Manila. The stamp pays four times the 50¢ rate to Asia, effective April 21, 1937, to Dec. 11, 1941. When this letter was sent, islands such as Midway, Wake and Guam were hardly known to the public. Soon they would be well known as the Pacific War raged. Slightly reduced at the left.

The cover to Alexandria, Egypt, is a commercial first flight of FAM 22 from New York City. The flight was announced to depart from Miami. However, it departed from New York City. Such covers originating in New York and not going through Miami are unusual to rare.

— Wade Saadi

June 10, 2020

THREE PHILATELIC TRUE STORIES, BILL SCHULTZ

Bill Schultz has a reputation as the pre-eminent story teller in the hobby, and he thoroughly entertained the Zoom audience. His stories comprised the first two portions of his talk. The last section was a review of the 6¼¢ rate and his efforts to fill out the census of known covers.

June 24, 2020

CANCELLATIONS: STRUCK ON STAMPS PART 1: 1847 ISSUE, WADE SAADI

Wade Saadi is a leading collector, researcher and writer on U.S. classics and, on this evening, he shared astounding material on the first U.S. issues of 1847 and their cancels. The depth and breadth of the examples he showed are nothing less than extraordinary. The cancels range from manual pen to hand stamps of differing design, color and content. This presentation is not to be missed by anyone who wishes to obtain a better understanding of the first issues of the United States. Even if cancels are not your thing, if you want to gain a better understanding of these issues and the role they played, this program is without peer. Roger Brody's writeup is as follows:



Black seven-ring Canadian target cancel.

On the evening of June 10, Wade Saadi gave the fifth of The Collectors Club Virtual Philatelic Program Series, "Cancellations: Struck on Stamps 1847 – Part 1." Saadi has, for many years, collected, researched and lectured on handstamp and manuscript cancellations used during the classic era of United States stamps.



Green six-bar open-grid cancel on dark brown stamp.

As he said, simply put, the cancellation's purpose is to prevent the reuse of a stamp. As well, they show that the stamp has fulfilled its intended duty of having prepaid the fee for delivering the mail. But cancellations are much more than that, as they add interest and variety to the issued stamp. Some are colorful and some are attractive, while others, such as railroad, steamboat and foreign cancellations can stimulate the imagination as to the routes traversed and the places sojourned during the trek of the posted letter.

Since the 1847 stamps are the inaugural emission of the United States, the need to cancel stamps was a novel concept. Up until then, stampless letters were usually date-stamped with a CDS and might carry a rating mark. There would be a handstamp or manuscript "Paid" if the letter was prepaid. The first cancels were simple, such as segmented corks and grids. Over time, they progressed to geometrics, stars, pictorials and patriotic designs.



Blue boxed "Troy & New York Steamboat" marking on brown 5¢ 1847 issue on piece.

Unfortunately, during the life of the 1847's use, cancels remained mostly simple, and *any* type of well-defined cancel on the issue is desirable.



Red Wheeling, W.V., control marking and blue grid on 10¢ single.

Manuscript (pen) cancels are valued at about 50% of handstamped cancels, but nice ones are not easy to find. Line grids and circular grids are amongst the most common handstamp cancels, followed by town CDS cancels. Grids of squares, dots, dashes and diamonds are much less common. The postal markings, in order of increasing difficulty, are "Paid," "Railroad," "Waterway," "Way," "Free" and, lastly, Foreign markings.

Demonstrable cancels applied after the stamp was demonetized on July 1, 1851, are very uncommon. Colored cancels are in short supply and, in increasing order of difficulty, are red, blue, black, magenta, ultramarine, violet, orange and green.



Fancy "Top Hat & Spectacles" manuscript marking on 5¢ red-brown single.

A caveat: Fraudulent cancels do exist on all classic stamps. Remember, there is no substitute for experience and learning. The more

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you know about the subject you are collecting, the better chance you have of avoiding problems. Always seek reputable dealers, who are knowledgeable in cancellations and obtain a certificate from an expertizing service if an item is without one.

The following provide excellent reference for classifying and studying cancellations found on the 1847 issue; *United States Cancellations 1845-1869*, Skinner/Eno; *Simpson's U.S. Postal Markings 1851-1861*, Alexander; *The American Stampless Cover Catalog*, Phillips; *United States Waterway Packetmarks 1832-1899 and Supplement*, Klein; *United States Railroad Postmarks 1837-1861*, Remele; *Vessel-Named Markings on United States Inland and Ocean Waterways 1810-1890*, Milgram; and *Postal Markings of the United States 1847-1851*, Hahn. Researching stamps and covers found in auction catalogs is also helpful.

The numerous illustrations of cancellations on the stamps of the 1847 series shown by Saadi are undoubtedly the finest known. We look forward to his future presentations on this interesting subject.

—Roger Brody

July 8, 2020

MY FAVORITE INDIAN STATES ITEMS, SANDEEP JAISWAL

Sandeep Jaiswal has collected Indian states for 35 years and is an active exhibitor of India-related materials. Included in his Collectors Club presentation are many rare, unique and unusual items.

By way of background, Jaiswal explained that there were two categories of Indian States: Convention states and Feudatory states. Six feudatory states signed postal conventions in which British India would overprint Indian stamps and

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postal stationery with the convention state name and symbols. These stamps could be used for mail addressed throughout India, while Feudatory states postage was only for local use. A total of 40 feudatory states issued stamps and/or postal stationery.

The presentation included unique and rare examples of stamps and covers from many of the feudal states. For this viewer the unique booklet of 50 panes of a 1 Anna stamp from Jadan was especially interesting, as were the progressive proofs by Waterlow of the elephant stamp of Sirmoor. Sandjeep also showed color trials, printing errors, manuscript surcharges and stamps printed on both sides. The only known sheet of five pairs of tête-bêche stamps from Dhar was shown, as was an entire sheet of Indore stamps printed by Perkins and Bacon with "SPECIMEN" as a perfin. A relatively scarce cover from Dungarpur included a tricolor issue, and a cover with an intaglio triangle cancellation.

Unusual material from convention states was also shown. Jammu and Kashmir in India's northeast corner was not a convention state. However, the India post office did prepare an unissued sheet stamps of Jammu and Kashmir as if it were a convention state. This is an amazing and important piece of philatelic history. A Gwalior convention state stamp overprinted with "IPN" (India Postal Note) was described as one of three-known examples.

There is so much amazing material to absorb in this presentation that it would make sense for the viewer to stop the frame as desired or to watch more than once.

— Robert Gray

July 22, 2020

CONVERSATIONS WITH PHILATELISTS, DR. PETER McCANN

This program represented a change in pace. Rather than a review of a specific topic, this program was an opportunity to review and discuss the philatelic career of one of the foremost philatelists and postal historians. Peter's specialty is focused on the small island colonies of the United Kingdom and in this program he discussed some of the most interesting pieces he has owned. In the process, we were able to better understand the mindset, the perspective brought to his collecting and exhibiting. This program is a unique opportunity to "read the mind" of one of the best individuals currently in our hobby.

August 5, 2020

PERSIA, QAJAR POSTAL STATIONERY, 1876-1925, BEHRUZ NASSRE

This captivating program reviewed the development of Persian postal stationery. We were guided from the beginnings of the efforts to produce these pieces through to their full development. We were introduced to all the early issues, including the first use of control marks for these Persian issues. In addition to unused examples, we also saw uses to a wide variety of destinations.

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August 17, 2020

A COLLECTORS CLUB TRIPLE-HEADER: WADE SAADI, ROGER BRODY, LOUIS PATAKI

In place of the planned Great American Stamp Show in Hartford, Conn., the APS organized a virtual show and we were pleased to participate. We offered three brief presentations:

Wade Saadi: "Glimpse into the Life of a Disabled WW1 Veteran, via his Illustrated Covers"; Roger Brody: "The Special Delivery Stamp of 1902"; and Louis Pataki: "World War I comes to German Mail in China."

Each of these was a delight and provided insight remarkable for a short presentation format.

August 19, 2020

FAKES AND FORGERIES OF THE U.S., B.N.A. AND CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
A DISCUSSION OF SELECT PIECES, KEITH HARMER

Over the course of a multi-decade career with the Harmer philatelic enterprises, Keith handles the good, the bad and the ugly on a regular basis. With first-hand knowledge, a sense of perspective and the ability to step back and take a global view, Keith brings balanced insight into placing philatelic items into context.

During his presentation, Keith selected approximately 20 varied items for a more in-depth analysis. He discussed varied aspects of each item to arrive at sometimes surprising conclusions.

Advances in both knowledge and scientific analysis, combined with an understanding of routes, rates and commercial practices for the appropriate time period, have allowed Keith to knowledgeably discuss several varied items.

Items presented included 1846 (U.S.) Providence Rhode Island local (genuine stamp/forged cover), U.S. 1847 10¢ from Huntsville Ala. (John Fox "genuine" – genuine stamp/fake cancel), U.S. 24¢ "Inverted Jenny" block of four (attributed to opera singer Peter Winter).

BNA material was represented by 1860 Vancouver 2¢ imperforates and Nova Scotia first issue (one complete set) covers. The presentation continued with several Cape of Good Hope woodblock items.

The first Russia 10k stamp was discussed in depth with the intent

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that future knowledge will require us to re-evaluate long-held opinions that the item may not genuinely exist in unused form.

Keith's guiding principal is that items need to be evaluated in the context of their times. Prior expert opinions focused on parts of the item in question, yet missed other points. Several items contain both genuine and altered components. One final take home: examine your U.S. 1861 90¢ blue stamps. Keith is searching for an one with a partial "paid" handstamp to complete a cover.

September 9, 2020

TELLING STORIES WITH POSTCARDS, ELIZABETH HISEY

In this program, Liz Hisey provided an overview of how to collect and exhibit postcards. She began with reviewing the history of postcards, moving into a discussion of the early years of postcards before covering the golden era 1907-15. She discussed various postcard types and proceeded to review examples of how to tell a story via postcards. Her program opened an exciting collecting area that may have been new to many of our members. Doubtless many were sufficiently inspired to take up the offer and start postcard collections and to assemble material they already had into new exhibits.

September 16, 2020

THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS & A FEW OF ITS RARITIES, DAVID BEECH

We were privileged to welcome David Beech, who shared with us a wide variety of treasures from the British Library Philatelic Collections. These included not only British and British Commonwealth material, but special U.S. items, such as the 1765 embossed American tax stamps. A great number of truly remarkable items were shown, many of which are rarely seen. This presentation was a complete delight and enjoyed by all. As a side note, David was in Britain for this program and the rest of us were in the United States. It shows the remarkable gift we have gained through this virtual tool.

September 23, 2020

THE AMAZING LOCAL POSTS OF PHILADELPHIA, 1843-1861, DR VERNON MORRIS, JR.

Dr. Morris brought to us a remarkable collection of Philadelphia local post material, which is among the very earliest examples of prepaid adhesives. He covered all the various companies handling local mails in Philadelphia during this critical period of development. Morris also covered the various rates and showed many uses, many of which are either unique or very rare. His program was a unique opportunity to learn about the development of the U.S. mails from one of the foremost students of early U.S. postal history.

October 1, 2020

THREE BRITISH EMPIRE VIRTUAL TALKS: A COLLECTORS CLUB TRIPLE-HEADER
EDWARD GRABOWSKI, COLIN FRASER, JOHN BARWIS

At the virtual Stampex 2020 we offered here three brief presentations: Edward Grabowski, "Guadaloupe Postal History: The British carry the Mails"; Colin Fraser, "The Lithographed Arms Issue of British Central Africa 1895-1896"; and John Barwis, "Victoria's Postal Transition to Colonial Status."

The short format program once again proved to be a delight.

October 7, 2020

EARLY U.S. COMMERCIAL AIRMAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS (1922-41)

DR. MURRAY ABRAMSON

Dr. Abramson's presentation covered the earliest development of international airmail, which was mostly directed towards servicing trans-Atlantic routes and thereby facilitating routing onto the Far East, Africa and Australasia. We saw some truly spectacular examples of early international airmail.

Dr. Abramson's presentation was very focused on tracing the development of rates and routes for this early period of international air mail.

October 21, 2020

BASEBALL AND PHILATELY FROM THE VAULT OF THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM,

DANIEL PIAZZA

The thought occurred that a philatelic program on the nation's favorite pastime might not be of that much interest for our foreign members, but not so. Some of the most enthusiastic feedback we received was from non-U.S. viewers, and rightly so. Dan's presentation was expertly crafted, as it showed the many ways in which baseball is seen through philatelic eyes. What was shown was an incredible collection of baseball and philatelic artifacts.

November 18, 2020

PAN AM CLIPPERS CONQUER THE PACIFIC; AUGUST 1933 TO DEC. 31, 1941, JON KRUPNICK

Jon Krupnick's presentation on the role of Pan Am on the development of airmail across the Pacific was a true tour de force and was not to be missed. Many of the items he showed were extraordinary rarities, but this was more than a collection of covers. He placed all this material into a historic context and left everyone with a desire for more.

December 2, 2020

THE U.S. 1789-2021 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATIONS, HENRY SCHEUER

Henry Scheuer is a master at portraying the connections between the social, historic and philatelic. He started with a cover from the George Washington inauguration and made his way through American history to today. His material is incredible, but more importantly, he weaves a tale that makes the material even more relevant.

December 16, 2020

IN CONVERSATION WITH... JAMES GRIMWOOD-TAYLOR

In our last program for the year, we were privileged to have one of the leading postal history experts lead us through the development of postal reform in the United Kingdom, as well as the United States and Switzerland. This was not only in terms of adhesives, but also with reference to postal stationery and postal cards. Beyond the material we were also able to see and hear as one of the foremost philatelist described how he approaches the hobby, forms a collection and strengthens that collection.

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By Steven M. Roth

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The Panama 1¢ Balboa Invert From the American Bank Note Co.

David T. Zemer

My philatelic focus for the past 30+ years has been the post-independence Panama stamps issued by the American Bank Note Co. (ABNCo). One ABNCo stamp in particular, the 1909 1¢ Balboa center invert, Scott 197a, intrigued me because of the total lack of information about it. Questions that I had include:

- Which printing, or printings, did it come from?
- What town or towns issued it?
- How many existed?
- Who first discovered it and made it public?
- Why was there no price in the Scott catalog?
- Why was obtaining an example seemingly impossible?

The difficulty in obtaining an example for my collection made a study of it even more challenging. The research outlined in this article clears up a good number of the questions that I had then, and for other students shows every recorded example, with details on how to identify each.

Figure 1 shows the stamp, in this case the only unused example known. Table 2, later in this article, provides the background, date found, price and other data for each known stamp.

In June 1998, a sale of what seemed to me to be an impossible-to-acquire center invert, made Panama philatelic history when an unused example sold at the Helme's estate auction held by Shreves Philatelic Galleries. We can trace a bit of its provenance as Helme, in his unpublished 1968 notes, edited by Federico Brid, wrote that he believed that seven used examples existed, one of which he "... traded to Hauke, a contractor who lived in Colon, together with \$2000 ..." for the unused stamp. Unfortunately, he did not document the origin of his used example or why he thought that there were seven used examples in existence.

In 2005, I was able to contact Dr. Ralph Hauke, the grandson of E.O. Hauke and a Canal Zone Study Group member. He did not know the origins of the stamp, but said that his grandfather was "... a close friend" of both Raymond and Roger Weill of New Orleans, both of whom have now passed away, but they were his exclusive dealers for both purchasing and sales. Therefore, the possibility exists that it came back to Panama via the Weill brothers.

This was the first recorded public sale of this inverted-center stamp – used or unused – and until this public sale it did not have a price in the major stamp catalogs. This was also the first-recorded instance that a color photograph of this invert appeared in the philatelic press.



Figure 1. First ABNCo 1¢ Balboa inverted center stamp, sold at public auction in 1998 and only unused example known. ex-Hauke, Helme, Balmer.

It next appeared at the Balmer sale, also by Shreves, on April 1, 2006. The latest sale was at the Cherrystone Santa Fe Sale, Jan. 11, 2012, and hammered down for \$7,500.

After the 1998 sale, other examples began to appear, and I established a sequential catalog system by date recorded and the stamp's owner or organization name, if no owner was identified.

History: Tracking Down the 1¢ Invert

The archives of the Panama postal agency seem to have disappeared, perhaps in the 1930s or 1940s, and students of Panama have had very little original source information to work with. In 1990, a breakthrough occurred with the sale of the ABNCo philatelic archives. For the first time we were able to see pristine mint Panama stamps, overprinted "SPECIMEN."

The subject of this study, the 1¢ Balboa, Scott number 197, came in sheets of 100 stamps overprinted "specimen" with Handstamped order numbers and dates for what appeared to be five printings – excluding booklets – from 1908 through 1918.

Hamilton Bank Note Co. Issue of 1906

The ABNCo had been a preferred manufacturer of postage stamps for Panama when Panama was a department of Colombia, and it received contracts for the first Republic of Panama stamps in 1904, the year after Panama broke its ties with Colombia. For reasons never explained, the Hamilton Bank Note Co. (HBNCo), not ABNCo, received a contract from Panama and produced, in 1906 and 1907, a series of stamps, ½¢, 1¢, 2¢, 2 ½¢, 5¢, 8¢, 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢, Scott Nos. 185-193.

Ward, Brid and Helme have documented these stamps in detail



Figure 2. Photograph of wash of the head of Balboa used to design the 1¢ HBNCo stamp. From the U.S. National Postal Museum collection. ex-Ward. Courtesy Federico Brid.

Figure 3. Photograph of a wash of the head of Balboa used to design the 1¢ ABNCo stamp. From 1990 archive sale of the ABNCo.

and their published works give a better understanding of this series [1, 2 and 3].

As seen from the pre-production material, stamps held privately by Brid and publicly at the U.S. National Postal Museum, the HBNC Co did a great deal of experimentation to produce multicolor stamps. However, its quality control left much to be desired and center inverts, imperforate or partially perforated and imperforate color trials soon appeared on the market.

Panama supplied photographs to the HBNC Co of the people honored on the stamps and used the photograph of a wash of the head of Balboa from the Endara studio for the 1¢ stamp (Figure 2).



American Bank Note Co. Issue of 1909

Panama must have been dissatisfied with the HBNC Co stamps because, on July 18, 1907, Panama ordered the ABNCo to make a series of seven stamps: ½¢, 1¢, 2¢, 2 ½¢, 5¢, 8¢, and 10¢, Scott catalog numbers 195-201 [4] that would look like the HBNC Co stamps, examples of which were enclosed with the order. The ABNCo replied that it could not do justice to the stamps if they tried to utilize the HBNC Co stamps, but would be able to make "... the best class of Steel Engraved work..." if sent the photographs originally used to design the HBNC Co stamps.

Panama told the ABNCo to contact the HBNC Co for the photographs, but in a letter dated Oct. 7, 1907, the ABNCo complained to Panama that the Panama consul in New York City, R.A. Amador, had told them that the HBNC Co had destroyed the photographs. This was not the case, as the photographs later became part of the Ward collection now residing in the U.S. National Postal Museum.

In January 1908, Panama sent the ABNCo similar photographs to those that were previously used by the HBNC Co, and from these the ABNCo designed the new stamps.

ABNCo 1¢ Balboa

The photograph of the bust of Balboa sent to the ABNCo was identical to that previously sent to the HBNC Co and, to emphasize the requirement for a similar stamp, Panama pasted the HBNC Co 1¢ stamp at the bottom (Figure 3). Like the HBNC Co 1¢ stamp, it fulfilled the domestic 1¢ rate, including to the United States, for postcards and unsealed envelopes and, when needed, was used as a makeup rate stamp.

The ABNCo stamps of the 1909 issues look so much like those from the HBNC Co 1906 issues that it is easy to confuse them unless you compare both stamps side by side (Figure 4).

As shown in Figure 5, there is one easy, foolproof method to tell them apart. At the bottom of the stamp frame, ABNCo inscribed its name, "AMERICAN BANK NOTE CO. N.Y." in the color of the frame, whereas there is no inscription on the 1906 stamp from the Hamilton Bank Note Co.



Figure 4. Comparison of 1¢ Balboa stamp from HBNC Co (left) and ABNCo (right). HBNC Co stamp courtesy Federico Brid.



Figure 5. ABNCo name imprint at bottom of 1¢ Balboa stamp.

Multiple Printings of ABNCo 1¢ Balboa

The number of printings of this stamp and the dates they were printed were unknown until the ABNCo philatelic archive sale in 1990 [5]. In this sale, there were sheets of the 1¢ Balboa specimen stamp with five different hand-stamped foreign order numbers and dates.

In 2015, I was able to purchase the original 1904-74 correspondence between the ABNCo and its agent in Panama. This correspondence showed that there were four –

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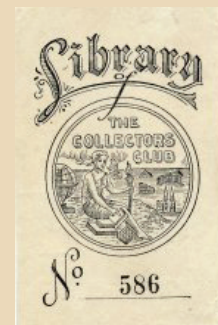


TABLE 1: Summary of Panama ABNCo 1¢ Balboa Stamps and Cancellation Proofs
Scott 197a (revision May 30, 2019)

| Printing | Order Date | ABNCo Order No. | No. of 1¢ stamps printed | Notes |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | April 8, 1908 | F1518 | 500,000 | No engraved F No. |
| 2 | Sept. 27, 1910 | F2659 | 300,000 | All stamps in order F2659 un-gummed . No engraved F No. |
| 4 | Aug. 4, 1913 | F3843 | 1,000,000 | ABNCo made a new vignette plate. Black engraved F-3843. Mirror Image “2” in black at top right of corner selvage. |
| 6 | June 8, 1918 | F5634 | 1,000,000 | Off-White paper, yellowish tint in green frame. Black engraved F-3843 plus mirror-image “2” |
| | March 8, 1921 | F5634 | -200,000 | 200,000 stamps sent to Canal Zone, Type III overprint at Mt. Hope Print plant. CZ Scott 46B |
| | Specimen | | | |
| | | F5634 | 200 | 197S, Specimen. red handstamp F5634 plus black engraved portrait F-3843 plus mirror image “2.” 2.5 mm clean die hole punch, “S & P” 2 mm high, “Specimen” 14 mm long over Balboa’s head. |

not five – printings of this 1¢ Balboa with stamps perforated on four sides. The print dates were 1908, 1910, 1913 and 1918. Those four printings, described in more detail in the 2018 article on the 1¢ ABNCo stamp [6], confirmed all the information for each order, including order dates, amount printed, shipping dates and costs and are listed in Table 1. Printings not relevant to this research are not shown.

In 1916, the ABNCo manufactured 10,000 1¢ stamp booklets, Scott 197b, but those stamps had one or more straight edges and are easily distinguishable from the other printings [7]. Because all the recorded inverts are perforated on all four sides, the 1916 booklet stamps are not listed in Table 1.

Additional printings were made by the ABNCo with the “Canal Zone” overprint applied in New York, but these stamps are classified Canal Zone and not Panama, and are therefore not discussed here.

The 1918 printing – Same Paper and Green Ink as the 1¢ Invert

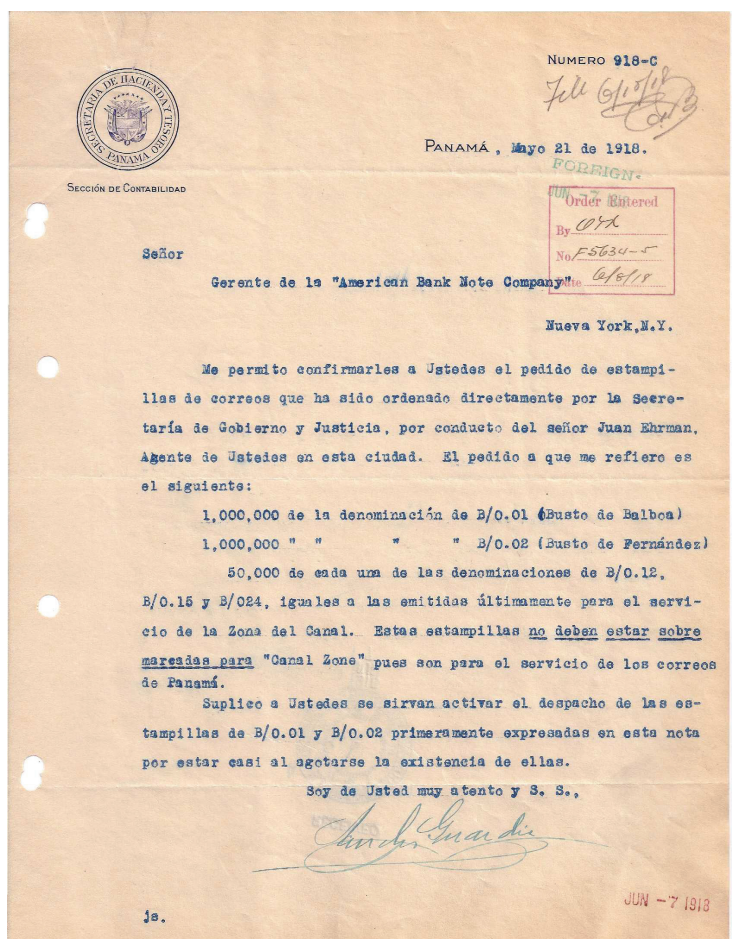
In 1998, I was able to see a color photograph of 197a, shown in Figure 1, in the catalog of the Helme’s estate sale. The off-white color of the paper and yellowish-green frame matched that of the specimen stamps of the 1918 printing, indicating that the ABNCo printed this unused example of the invert in the 1918 batch.

The two sheets of specimen stamps from that order were hand-stamped “F 5634” in red, directly above stamp number three, and hand-stamped June 8, 1918, in purple over stamps nine and 10 in the top row. These are the only 1¢ stamps in this series printed on off-white paper and with the yellow-green frame; the same as the unused Helme stamp (Figure 6).

The ABNCo correspondence shows that Panama sent order number 918-C to the ABNCo on May 21, 1918, for 1,000,000 1¢ stamps with the bust of Balboa and 1,000,000 stamps with the bust of Fernández de Córdoba (Figure 7). At the top right of this order the ABNCo added: “ORDER ENTERED, No. F 5634-5, Date 6/8/1918.” Where “F 5634” is the foreign order number for the 1¢ and 2¢ stamps, “F 5635” is the order number for 12¢, 15¢ and 24¢ stamps.



Figure 6. Specimen stamps from the 1918 order overprinted "SPECIMEN." Foreign order "F 5634" in red, and order date June 8, 1918, in purple. From ABNCo 1990 Archive sale



On Aug. 6, 1918, the ABNCo shipped orders F 5634 and F 5635 to Panama on the SS *Almirante*. There were four boxes of stamps. Box No. 158 (net weight 161 lbs.) contained 500,000 1¢ postage stamps and the other 500,000 1¢ stamps were in Box No. 159 (net weight 225 lbs.), along with the 12¢, 15¢ and 24¢ stamps. Boxes 160 and 161 contained 1,000,000 2¢ stamps.

The ABNCo charge for printing the 1,000,000 1¢ stamps was \$700.

Figure 7. Order 918-C: The original order from Panama for the fourth printing (1918) of the 1¢ Balboa. ABNCo original correspondence.



Finally – My First Balboa Center-Invert

In August 2001, I was finally able to purchase a used invert on eBay and confirm that the paper and frame coloring matched the unused Helme example and the 1918 printing (Figure 8).

After several weeks of examining the cancellations, it turned out that the stamp had not just one cancellation, but three. After comparing them with the cancellations in the unpublished Panama handbook of postal markings compiled by Dr. Ernesto Arosemena and Lawson Entwistle (later to be improved and published by Jim Cross), it was clear that the circular-date cancellation on this particular stamp was from David, the third largest town in Panama. The question as to whether the invert had been issued in other towns remained to be answered.



Figure 8. Earliest-known cancellation on this invert, "AGO 8, 1921" (two views). This cancellation established David as a cancellation town. Cancellation was made more legible using retroReveal (right).*

The cancellation date was "AGO 8, 1921," which has now proven to be the earliest cancellation date recorded on this invert.

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This cancellation is a double-circle type with five killer bars and listed as type DAV018 in the second edition of the *Cross Handbook* [9]. An example of this marking shows the DAV018 cancellation (Figure 9). Several years later, this analysis was confirmed using retroReveal.



Figure 9. Example of the double-ring "DAVID" cancellation, DAV018, in use 1920-23.

This study also revealed that the double-circle DAV018 cancellation is the only non-special marking recorded on or off cover from David during the period November 1920 through May 1923. Eight DAV018 cancellations have been recorded on cover since 1990, always on 2¢ stamps.

David Leeds owned a used example of Scott 197a and emailed me a color scan in July 2002. It, too, had the David cancellation and is shown in Figure 10. The cancellation is very faint, but using retroReveal, "October 2x, 1921," is legible. The back has unidentified initials in manuscript.



Figure 10a (above). Cancellation date Oct. 2x, 1921. Figure 10b (right) retroReveal shows the year date 1921 in this view. ex-Leeds.



The next year Dr. Ernesto Arosemena sent me a scan of his stamp and it had the same David cancellation.



Figure 12. Latest Cancellation date: Jan. 21, 1922. Courtesy Federico Brid.

His stamp is shown in Figure 11. Only the last "1" in the date 1921 is legible.

In January 2005, Federico Brid purchased an example from Juan Kiener, a well-known Panama businessman. The cancellation date is legible on the stamp, Jan., 21, 1922, the latest date recorded, as shown in Figure 12. Julio Vial, one of the earlier stamp dealers in Panama, hand-stamped his name, "VIAL," on the back.



Figure 11. Cancellation year 1921. Courtesy Dr. Ernesto Arosemena.

My Second Center-Invert: Incorrectly Certified as Unused

In August 2006, another example appeared on eBay (Figure 13). It differed from all other recorded examples in that the perforations did not cut into the top of the stamp, giving it better centering. In addition, the color of the paper was a shade whiter than the other examples. It had an APS certificate, number 160,297, dated Jan. 18, 2001, which stated that it was unused, but the seller thought that he could see traces of a cancellation and suggested that it was a used example. Closer examination



Figure 13a (above). Certified in error as “unused.”

Figure 13b (above right). RetroReveal image shows “DAVID” double-ring cancel and year 1921.

of the stamp showed slight traces of the purple color associated with the David cancellation of that period. Uploaded to retroReveal it revealed faint traces of the DAV018 cancellation with a cancellation date of 1921.



Figure 14 (above). First used stamp recorded sold at a public auction, hammer \$3,875. Cancellation date “SET 5, 1921.” Figure 14b (above right). RetroReveal image of same stamp. ex-Cunliffe.

This stamp is most likely the second unused stamp reported by David Leeds in 1993 [9].

Comparing the coloration of the paper on both sides of the stamp to others from this printing shows that this stamp may have been washed in an attempt to remove the cancellation.

In June 2009, the Cunliffe sale of inverts by Shreves produced another example described as having a small tear at the top (Figure 14). The date on the David cancellation is easily readable, “SET 5 1921,” but most of the killer bars to the right were not on the stamp, indicating that either the surface was uneven, or something was covering part of the stamp when it was canceled. The stamp shows a purple, hand-stamped inverted second number, 15 or 25, in a smaller font, as well as illegible characters below the smaller number five located right behind Balboa’s head.

This stamp is important because this was the first publicly recorded sale of a used example of this invert. It established a price in Scott for a used, but damaged, example. The hammer price was \$3,875.



Figure 15. No date on stamp. Sold 2015, hammer \$6,000. Image courtesy Robert Siegel Auctions.

Figure 16. Cancellation date Aug. 15, 1921.
Courtesy Philatelic Foundation.

A second – and to date the most recent example offered at public auction – was sold by Robert A. Siegel in June 2015. It realized a hammer price of \$6,000. This Panama stamp, because it was listed in the catalog as Canal Zone, might have been overlooked by Panama collectors.

First recorded by this study in 2011, when found in the Philatelic Foundation's online records of certified stamps, it has PF certificate number 479,787, which described it as having a vertical crease at left (ref. 10). Only the killer bars, which match those on the DAV018 cancellation, are on the stamp, so it is not possible to date the cancellation. (Figure 15).

In February 2016, an attached pair of stamps was noted on the Philatelic Foundation database of certified stamps; cert number 533,401. The certificate described the left stamp with a vertical crease, the right stamp with a tiny corner crease at bottom right (Figure 16). It has a clear David cancel and date, Aug. 15, 1921.

Subsequent color comparisons of all 10 known inverts to the 1918 specimen stamps, with one exception, gave a color match. The single exception, the sixth recorded in this study, was possibly cleaned, as was previously mentioned.

Table 2 lists all known examples shown here and summarizes what is known about each.

ABNCo 1¢ Balboa Invert – First Time Recorded

A search of the major stamp catalogs, dating from 1921, was made to try to discover when this invert was first discovered.

It took almost 20 years after the 1918 printing for the ABNCo 1¢ invert to appear in the Scott catalog. The 1939 Scott *Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* listed it for the first time as Panama number 197a but without a value. Normally, when discovered, a new error – especially an invert – is prominently displayed in the philatelic press. However, a search of the files at Scott from the 1930s has failed to find any photograph or documentation for Scott 197a [11].

The Yvert & Tellier *Champion* 1939 catalog lists this invert as number 98a but it also lists a 1909 ABNCo 10¢ Obaldia stamp, center inverted, number 103a, with a value for both used and unused. A search of the company's monthly *Newspaper L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, which presented every new stamp or discovery between the publication of the yearly catalogs, failed to find any information on the ABNCo 1¢ (98a) or 10¢ (103a) inverts.



– Summary of Recorded Panama 1c Balboa ABNCo center-inverted stamps

(revision July 29, 2019)

| <u>Record Number</u> | <u>Date recorded</u> | <u>Owner/organization when recorded</u> | <u>cancellation date</u> | <u>condition</u> | <u>remarks</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | | All are used except # 1 | |
| 1 | June 1998 | Helme | Unused - Not Applicable. | Only unused example recorded. | Pf cert. 15,926, 1962 Pf cert. 390,206 1 st 197a sold at public auction. 1998. Hammer \$7,000. |
| 2 | August 2001 | Zemer # 1 | Aug. 8, 1921 | | Earliest cancellation date recorded. Two cancellations. Bought on eBay. |
| 3 | July 2002 | Leeds | Oct. 1921 | | David Leeds, COPACARTA, Panama post-1909 EFOs, VOL X, JUN 1993, pp. 80-87. B&W photo. |
| 4 | February 2003 | Arosemena | 1921 | | |
| 5 | January 2005 | Brid | Jan. 21, 1922 | | Latest date of cancellation Recorded. |
| 6 | August 2006 | Zemer # 2 | 1921 – only readable with RetroRevel. | Washed? Best Centered: Only one without perforations in stamp frame. | APS cert. 160,297, 2005, mistakenly certified “unused.” Bought on eBay. |
| 7 | June 2009 | Cunliffe | Sept. 5, 1921 | <i>small tear at the top</i> | First used example sold at public auction. 2009. Hammer \$3,875 |
| 8 | 2011 | Philatelic foundation No. 1 | No date, only killer bars. | <i>Vertical crease at left.</i> | Pf cert. 479,787 Second used example sold at public auction, 2015. Hammer \$6,000. |
| 9-10 | Feb. 2016 | Philatelic foundation No. 2 | Aug. 15, 1921 | <i>The left stamp with a vertical crease. The right stamp with a tiny corner crease at bottom right</i> | Pf cert. No. 533,401 Attached pair. |

The HBNC Co stamps with inverted centers, Yvert numbers 89a to 97a, were recognized for the first time in the May 31, 1927, issue of *Echo*, number 760, but it did not mention any similar ABNCo inverts [12].

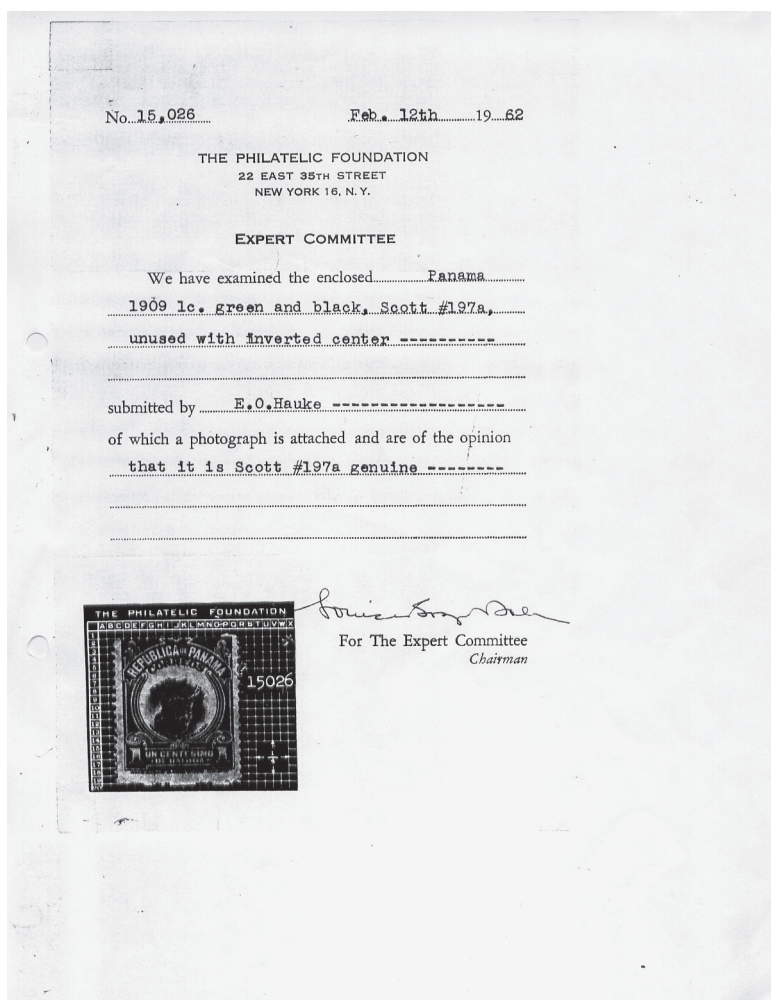
The ABNCo 10¢ invert listed in Yvert has never been verified to my knowledge. My colleague, Federico Brid, and I suspect that it was a 10¢ HBNC Co stamp that was either mistakenly identified as ABNCo or was the result of cutting out the portrait, reversing it and pasting it on another stamp.

If either is the case, then perhaps the 1939 listings of a 1¢ ABNCo inverted center stamp are also in error.

We are fortunate to have an on-cover example of centers being cut out and inverted. This was done on two stamps identified and sold as fakes at an



Figure 17. Portraits of 2¢ HBNCo Cordoba and 1¢ ABNCo Balboa cut from stamps and pasted inverted onto or behind identical stamps. Courtesy HR Harmer.



HR Harmer sale April 7, 2011, for \$120. In addition, retroReveal makes the cancellation date, Nov. 2, 1911, legible. We can be sure that the date is a fake because we now know this 1¢ Balboa stamp was not issued until 1912.

The three-bar cancellation itself is also suspect. According to Cross, the cancellation, "TWN-PAN-084," is only known to appear on covers with the 1936 Arosemena stamp, Scott C19, and "May be privately produced" (Figure 17).

Figure 18. Philatelic Foundation certificate, 1962, the first recorded photograph of the Scott 197a invert.

Neither the Stanley Gibbons catalog nor the Michel catalog lists this 1¢ ABNCo Panama center invert. Martin Sellinger listed “one used example known” in his catalog of *Inverted Center Stamps of the World*, but he also listed the ABNCo 10¢ Obaldia, giving the Yvert catalog number 103a [13].

The 1993 Leeds article on Panama EFOs in the journal of the Colombia–Panama Philatelic Study Group showed a black-and-white picture of his Scott 197a, the third example recorded. He thought that there were about six known examples, two of which were unused. He also hinted to me that he owned the second unused stamp, but we could never find it when I visited him. The black-and-white photograph in his 1993 article is the only photograph of the 197a stamp that I could find in the philatelic press. The quality of the photograph is so poor that it is not repeated here (ibid. page 80).

The earliest photograph found of this invert is on Philatelic Foundation certificate No. 15,026, dated Feb. 12, 1962. E.O. Hauke submitted the stamp and the Philatelic Foundation declared it unused and genuine (Figure 18).

Why Is This Invert So Scarce?

Unlike the preceding 1906 HBNCo inverted center stamps, discovered as full sheets in mint condition (probably in Colon or Panama by postal employees and sold directly to dealers and collectors), this research has documented that the ABNCo 1¢ invert was likely sent to the small town of David. Although the third-largest town in Panama, David only had a population of 15,239, according to the 1920 Census [14]. David was a world away from the Panama Canal and was not visited by the huge number of foreign workers and tourists to the canal area, many of whom sent large numbers of postcards (Figure 19).

Within the canal area and the major towns of Colon and Panama, more than 10,000 different colorized picture postcards were sold [15] with views of the canal construction and area around the canal, which required a large amount of 1¢ stamps. It is not difficult to find 1¢ ABNCo Balboa stamps with Canal Zone

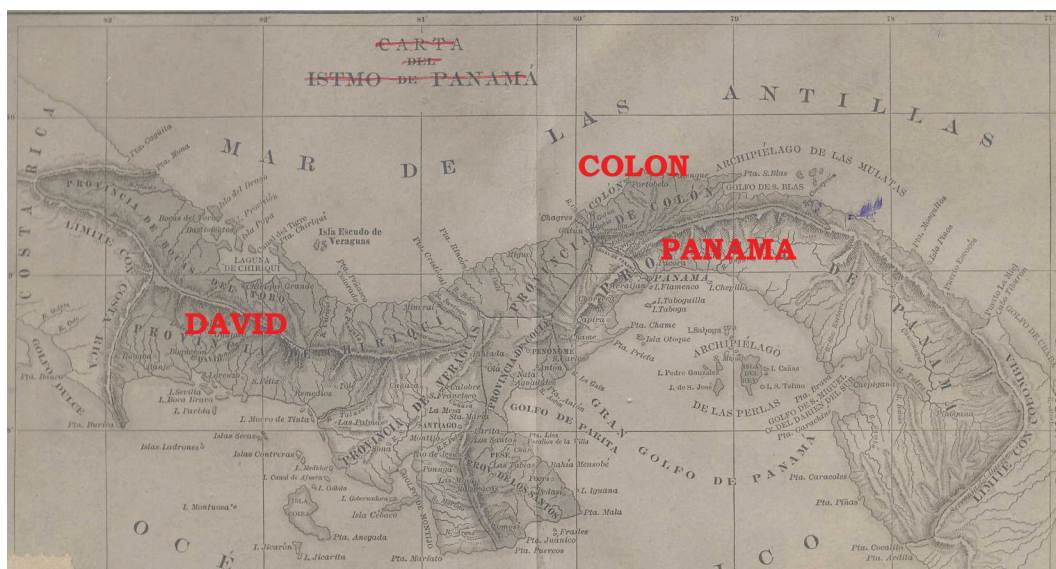
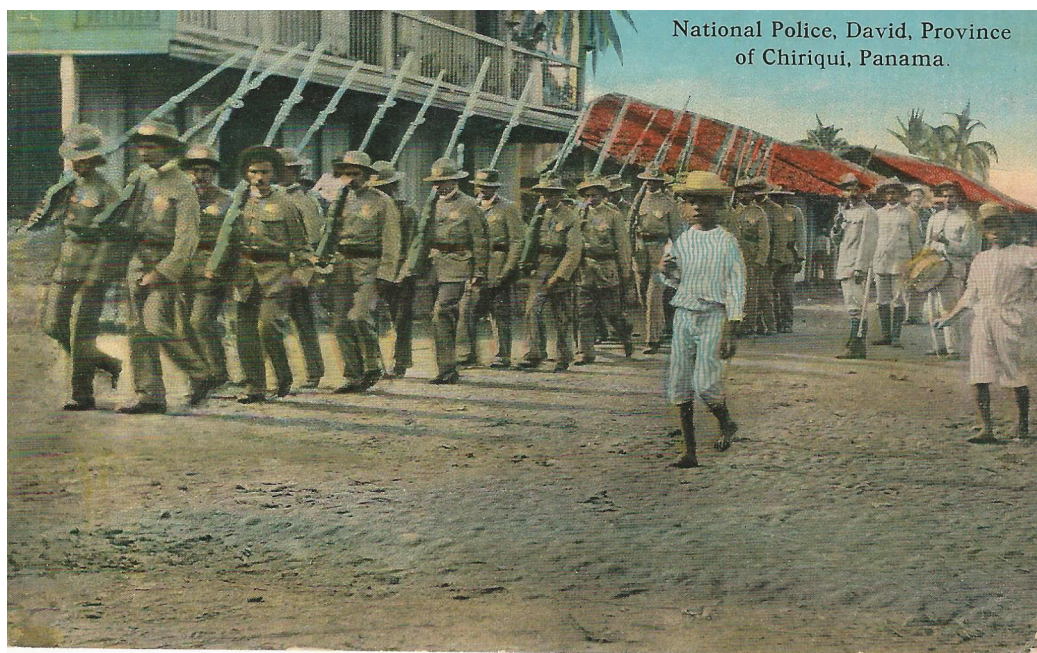


Figure 19. Original photograph of 19th-century map of Panama used by ABNCo as a model for “map” stamps, 1990 ABNCo archives.



National Police, David, Province
of Chiriqui, Panama.

Figure 20. Picture postcard of David, Panama, sometime after 1903.

overprints and, to a much lesser extent, Panama stamps on postcards. In contrast, fewer than a dozen different views are known for the town of David through the early 1920s [16] (Figure 20).

Panama did not issue the "1909" 1¢ ABNCo Balboa stamp until 1912, but no examples of this stamp on postcards have been recorded with a David cancellation. There are examples with David cancellations on a few postcards with other stamps, including the 1¢ HBNC Co, Scott 186 (but not after 1912); ½¢ stamps, Scott 195; and the 1¢ 1915 Panama-Pacific Exposition stamp, Scott 205, but only one example of this stamp on cover with a David cancellation



Figure 21. Only-recorded cover canceled in David with Scott 197, Oct. 8 or 10, 1921.

is recorded. That cover is registered envelope, dated Oct. 8 or 10, 1921, and it has two 1¢ stamps to pay the first-class postage to the United States (Figure 21).

One off-cover example of Scott 197, also having the earliest David cancellation, June 17, 1921, is known. Like the nine used inverted center stamps, it has the DAV018 cancellation (Figure 22).



Figure 22. Only-recorded Scott 197 off cover with David cancellation (above left). RetroReveal shows the earliest-known use of this stamp in David, June 17, 1921 (above right).

The most likely reason as to why we only find Scott 197 stamps canceled in the period June 1921 through January 1922 is either that David did not have any Scott 197 stamps in its inventory or, if it did, then it had not opened the package containing these stamps from the main post office until 1921. We know that Panama had a surplus of Scott 197 stamps at the start of 1921 because, in March the Canal Zone received 200,000 ABNCo 1¢ Balboa stamps from the 1918 printing from Panama and overprinted them (CZSG 46.B) at its Mount Hope printing plant [17, 18]. Panama also needed revenue stamps to show the fees paid to use telephones and send telegrams and obviously still had a surplus of Scott 197 and overprinted an unknown – but presumably large – number with the word “Telegrafos” in black or red to fulfill this demand [19].

Conclusions

Ten examples of the 1¢ ABNCo Balboa invert are recorded, nine of which were used and canceled between mid-1921 and January 1922 with the same double-ring cancellation from the small town of David. Four of the nine used stamps have been either certified and viewed online or sold at public auction and are damaged. Another was incorrectly certified as unused, but might have been washed because a cancellation is visible using retroReveal.

Nine of the 10 stamps have perforations cutting into the green frame of the stamp. Only one, the sixth recorded, has better centering.

Finding this stamp (without the inverted center) with a David cancellation off cover has proved to be more difficult than finding the inverted stamp! No examples on postcards used in David are recorded. Finding the same cancellation on the 2¢ stamps, on- or off-cover, is difficult, but not impossible.

A survey of the major stamp catalogs found that only Yvert and Scott listed this invert in 1939, but editors at both companies have not been able to find any documentation regarding its discovery, nor any reference in the weekly stamp newspapers and magazines of that period. It is possible that it was an HBNCo 1¢ invert stamp and not an ABNCo stamp that was misidentified in the 1939 catalogs. It is also possible that a fake invert was produced. More work digging through the philatelic media of the period is required. Neither Michel nor Stanley Gibbons lists it today, so the possibility exists that persons not using a more up-to-date Scott catalog may still not be aware of its scarcity.

The first public auction of the unused example in 1998 finally set a value for an unused version, but a used example was not publically auctioned until 2009. No doubt, due to uncertainty in valuing this stamp, the two used examples that appeared on eBay in 2001 and 2006 sold for much lower prices than examples purchased later at public auctions.

Obtaining an example of this invert for my collection has been difficult. The owners typically have regarded their examples to be key stamps in their Panama collections and, when they finally decided to sell their collections, often sold this stamp privately or it later was auctioned at their estate sales.

* *www.retroReveal.org* has free software that proved invaluable in showing cancellations in this project and other philatelic research by the author. The creators of retroReveal describe it thusly: The server provides semi-automated forensic-style enhancement of digital images of varying quality from cameras and scanners.

Acknowledgements

Roy Teixeira (Western Philatelic Library), Federico Brid, Brad Wilde, Vicente Pascual, Scott Tiffney and the APRL, Eileen Thomas (Stanley Gibbons), Oscar Klan (Michel/Schwaneberger Verlag GMBH) and David Petruzelli (Philatelic Foundation).

Ruthann Bates, as always, provided invaluable help in editing this article.

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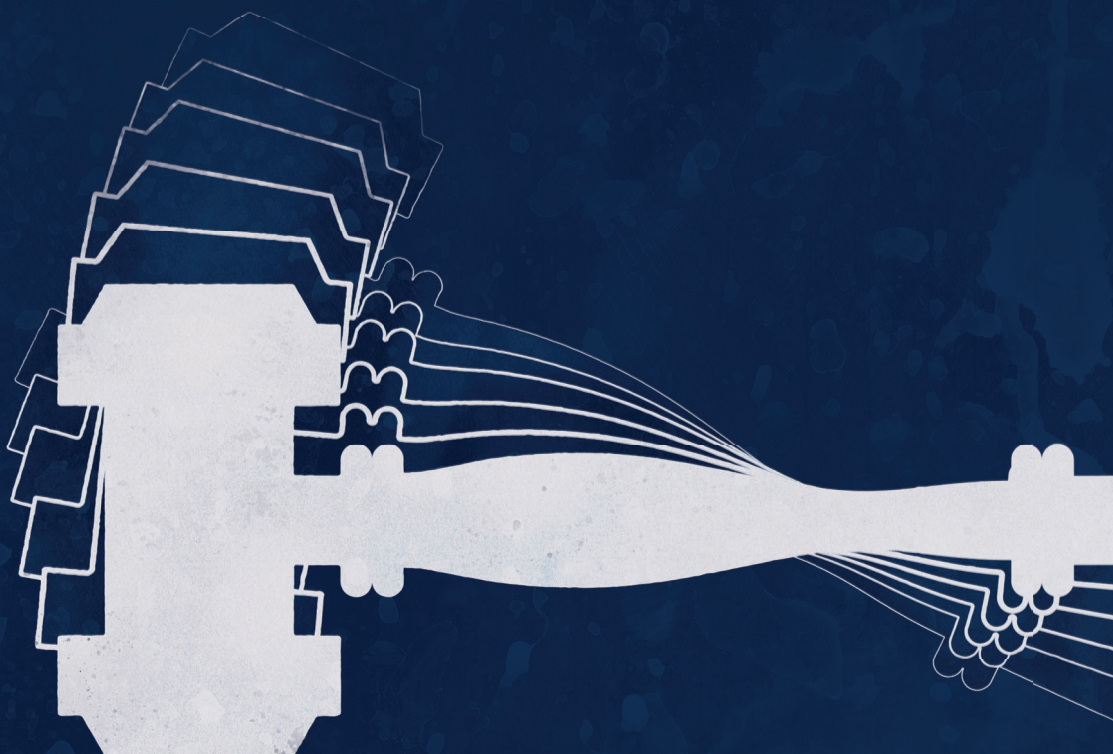
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A Bull, a Treaty and Portuguese Exploration

Tom Tarabicos

The Age of Exploration is considered to have begun in 1418 and concluded in 1795. It began with João Gonçalves Zarcos' voyage from Portugal to the Madeira Islands (Figure 1).

The termination of the period came in 1795, when George Vancouver (Figure 2) returned from his trip of mapping the Pacific Coast of North America and circumnavigating South America. Many scholars argue otherwise, but this timeframe draws a wider net. The fascinating period reveals men of will and bravery, ships of distinction and weather unpredictable. It was also a time period that featured men of significance, such as Vasco Da Gama (Figure 3), Captain James Cook and Christopher Columbus. Many explorers



Figure 2. Canada Scott 2219, Capt. George Vancouver.

do not have a household name, yet their feats were also extraordinary. Men of accomplishment include the French explorer Yves-Joseph de Kerguelen-Trémarec (Figure 4), Dutchman Abel Tasman and the Dane Vitus Bering. The years of exploration were mesmeric, full of adventure, hope, tragedy and success. Shortly we will discuss two important historical events that transformed the direction of exploration forever. The Papal Bull, *Inter Caetera* and

the *Treaty of Tordesillas* split the world in half to the benefit of Spain and Portugal, establishing a "set the rules" between those two emerging superpowers.

Prior to Columbus' voyage, the Portuguese were the principal explorers in the world. During most of the 15th century they explored the coastline of Africa. Diogo Caos' (Figure 5) 1482 voyage was groundbreaking. He was called upon by King John II to proceed as far south



as possible and claim new lands for Portugal. On the 1482 voyage, he discovered the mouth of the Congo River. This was an important discovery, as the Congo River was the second-longest river in Africa and a gateway to the interior of the continent. It was

Figure 4. French Southern & Antarctic Territory, Scott 20, Yves-Joseph de Kerguelen-Trémarec.



Figure 1. Zarcos, Portugal Scott 642.



Figure 3. Nyassa Scott 113, Vasco da Gama.

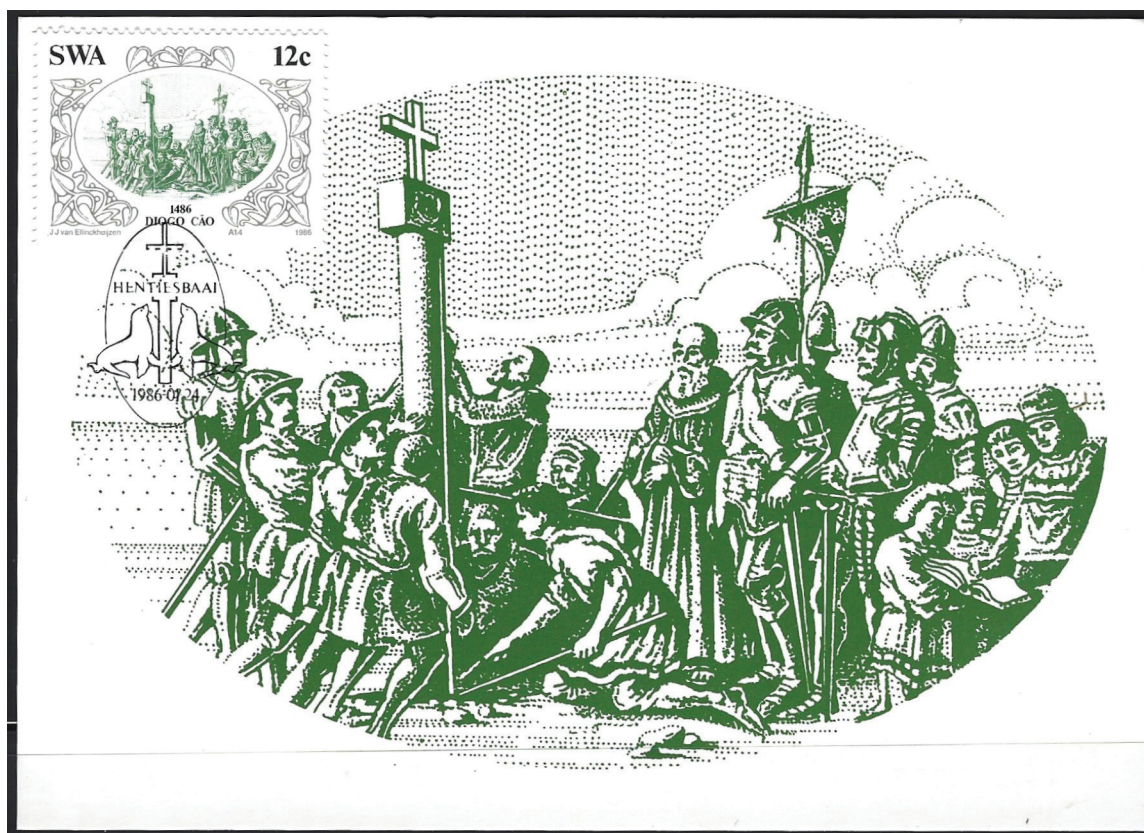


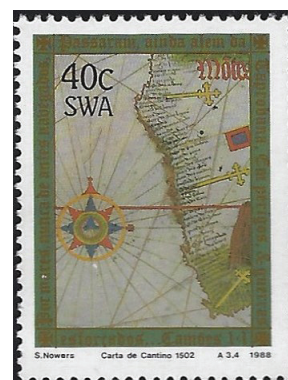
Figure 5 (above). South West Africa maximum card from 1986, showing Diogo Cao, Scott 552.

Figure 6 (right). South West Africa Scott 596, which depicts the 1502 Cantino Map.

also the second-largest river in the world by discharge, followed only by the Amazon River. He returned shortly thereafter to Portugal and a hero's welcome.

In 1484 Cao was sent by the king to return to the Congo River area. This time he ascended to Matadi, which was a major commercial area about 90 miles from the Atlantic coast. He established four stone pillars to mark Portuguese dominance during his two trips (Stone of Ielala). Cao eventually died on the voyage at a place on the Atlantic known as Cape Cross.

The other major explorer during this time period was the nobleman Bartolomeu Dias (Figure 6). In 1488 Dias was the first navigator to reach and sail around the southernmost point in Africa. His discovery of the passage around southern Africa was noteworthy due to the fact that no longer would Europeans be tied to the Euro-Asian land trade route. Europeans could trade directly with India and the Far East without having to use the expensive Euro-Asian trade route with its multitude of middlemen. Dias christened the area the Cape of Storms due to the violent nature of the weather and currents in the environs of the Cape. Shortly thereafter, King John II changed the name to the Cape of Good Hope, reflecting his optimism of the new trade with the East Indies.



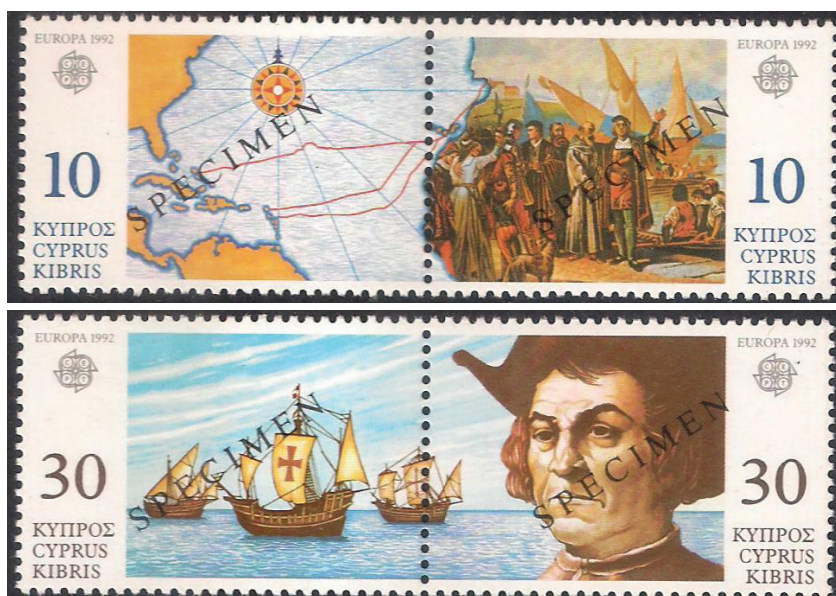


Figure 7. Christopher Columbus, as depicted on these 1992 "SPECIMEN" STAMPS FROM CYPRUS

The discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus (Figure 7) inaugurated a series of events that would have never been foreseen. *"In late 1483 or early 1484, he approached King John II, the Portuguese monarch, for ships and men to undertake the Atlantic voyage; offering to find Cipangu and India. The king called in experts, including astronomers and mathematicians, to judge the proposal. They turned Columbus down, believing that the Atlantic distances involved were far greater than Columbus had estimated. Nevertheless, King John II, also known as the Perfect Prince, secretly sent a vessel to test Columbus's theory; it returned without reaching any shore."*¹ This fateful decision made by the ambitious and supercilious King John II would ultimately return to haunt him in October 1492. The map of the world prior to 1492 would become obsolete in a few short years. Marcellus' World Map of 1490 (Figure 8) illustrates the known world prior to Columbus' discoveries.

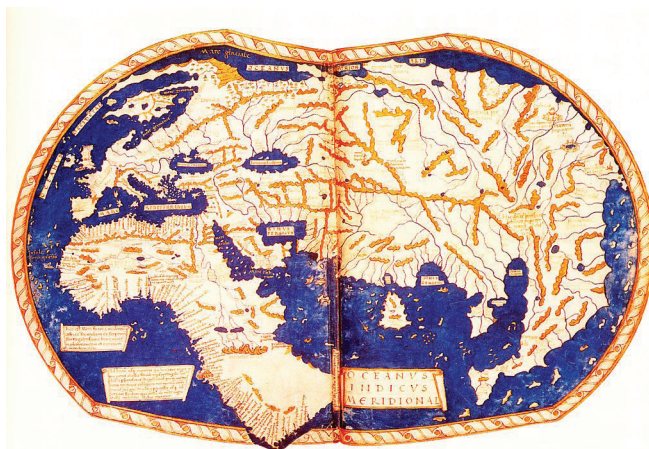
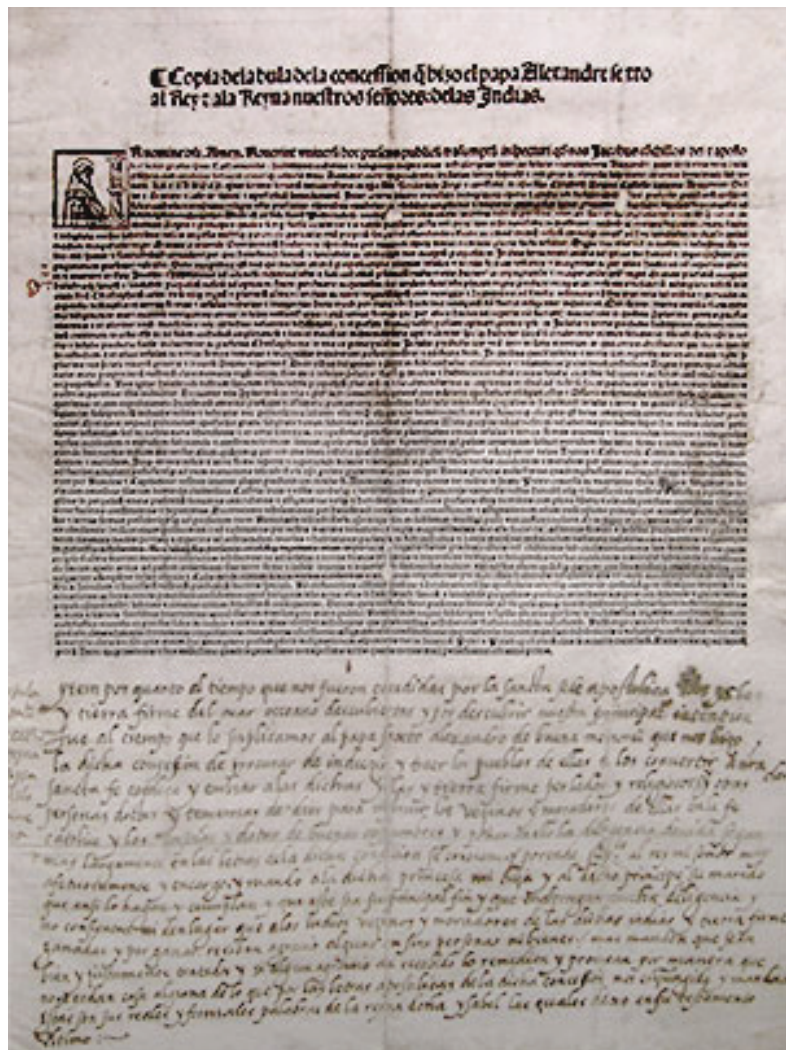


Figure 8. The Marcellus World Map of 1490.

On the return of Columbus from the New World, the Italian explorer decided to take a slight diversion and stop in Portugal to rub it in King John's face. Columbus claimed that he needed to stop in Portugal to repair his ships. Columbus is hard to believe, considering the circumstances of his previous rejection by the king. King John II promised him safe passage while in Portugal, so Columbus stopped in for lunch with the king. The two men met, and King John II was briefed on the remarkable accomplishments made by Columbus. Columbus had sent secret reports to Spain of his success and discoveries while he was dining with King John.

Figure 9. Inter Caetera
Papal Bull, issued in 1493.

Shortly thereafter, Columbus returned to Spain where King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella were delighted with his success. Ferdinand and Isabella relayed the good news to the Vatican. The Spanish-born native of Valencia Spain, Pope Alexander VI, delighted in the spectacular news. He had recently become pope on Aug. 11, 1492. Columbus had left Spain on his first voyage on Aug. 3, 1492. Portugal, once the leader in exploration, now encountered an upstart neighbor in Spain.



King John II took it upon himself to dispute the newly discovered lands that Columbus discovered as owned by Portugal, not Spain. Over the next two years, tensions brewed over territorial claims and rights in the New World. The two Catholic nations sought arbitration. The Bishop of Rome was summoned.

On May 4, 1493, Spanish-born Pope Alexander VI stepped in and deliberated on the matter. The Pope issued a Papal Bull, *Inter Caetera* in 1493 (Figure 9). The Bull established guidelines, which included repercussions if the treaty was violated by either party. A degree of nepotism can be seen in the Spaniard-born Pope Alexander VI's decision. "He issued a decree that established an imaginary line running north and south through the mid-Atlantic, 100 leagues (480 km) from the Cape Verde islands."² Spain would be able to venture west and continue exploring the New World as long as it remained west of the line. Portugal could journey east and claim all new territory it discovered. However, this was not the final chapter of the controversy. Over the next year the Portuguese grew dissatisfied with the agreement.

In June of 1494, the line was renegotiated, and the agreement was officially ratified during a meeting in the Spanish town of Tordesillas. The *Treaty of*

Figure 10. Line of demarcatio, as established by the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas.

Tordesillas (Figure 10) established the new line, which was 1,100 miles west of the Cape Verde Islands. This eventually would benefit Portugal with its discovery of Brazil.

It must be noted that at this time there were two established Christian religions in Europe. Those two were the Roman Catholic Church and the Greek Orthodox Church. Approximately 30 years earlier, Greek Byzantine Empire, centered in Greek Orthodox Constantinople, was conquered by the Ottoman army led by Sultan Mehmed II.

The Byzantine Empire, not known as particularly a maritime power, was a non-factor in exploration. It would be another 23 years before Martin Luther set off the Protestant Reformation by nailing his 95 theses to the Wittenberg Church door in Germany. This would cause issues after the Reformation, due to the fact that the newly reformed nations did not recognize the church, pope or his Bulls.



Figure 11. Da Gama's flagship San Gabriel, as shown on this 1921 pictorial from Nyassa Company with an inverted surcharge.

The Portuguese were limited by the *Treaty of Tordesillas* and could only look south along the coast of Africa and, eventually, east to the Indies. Scarcely did the Portuguese understand at this time the good luck that would result from a Bull by the Spanish-born pope. They continued their southward explorations, eventually reaching India with the voyages of Vasco Da Gama. He was the first European to reach India by sea. Da Gama had now connected the west with the east. This voyage opened the door to the vast riches of the East, creating for Portugal the opportunity to become a global trading powerhouse.

Vasco Da Gama, also known as First Count of Vidigueira, lived from 1460-99. His discovery of the sea route to India was a major achievement of the 15th century. This discovery resulted in the creation of the Portuguese global economic empire that stemmed from the spice trade. Their empire expanded rapidly, and their wealth even faster. Da Gama's flagship, the *San Gabriel*, was a carrack (Figure 11), which was a relatively small ship of only around 180 tons. The carracks were



Figure 12. King Charles, on Belgium semipostal Scott B296.

the premier exploration and merchant ships of the day. The other ship that was used by the Portuguese and Spanish explorers were the smaller caravels. The caravel was the type of ship used by Columbus, Dias and Cao. The caravel and the carrack made possible the voyages of European exploration in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan (Figure 13), in the service of King Charles I of Spain, led the first European voyage of discovery to circumnavigate the globe. This is same King Charles that would become Holy Roman Emperor and confront Martin Luther at the Diet of Worms in 1521. Magellan organized the 1519-22 voyage that resulted in the first circumnavigation of the globe. On Magellan's circumnavigation he proceeded around the southern tip of South America. There he encountered unpredictable winds, savage currents and capricious weather conditions. *"Although the strait follows a somewhat tortuous course among numerous islands and channels and has a cold, foggy climate, it was an important sailing-ship route before the building of the Panama Canal (completed in 1914) shortened the Atlantic-Pacific passage by several thousand miles."*³ This region is one of the most dangerous to navigate in the world. Magellan's ships entered the area on All-Saints day in November of 1520. Seven years later these straits were named after Magellan.



Figure 13. Ferdinand Magellan, as depicted on this 1991 stamp from Hungary, Scott 3317.



Figure 14. Juan Sebastian Elcano and his ship, Victoria, were pictured on this 1976 stamp from Spain, Scott 1935.

*Rajah Humabon, the island king, and a bond was quickly formed. The Spanish crew soon became involved in a war between Humabon and another rival leader and Magellan was killed in battle on April 27, 1521."*⁴

Interestingly, after Magellan's death in the Philippines, the Spaniard Juan Sebastian Elcano (Figure 14) assumed command and finished the voyage, making him an ironic hero. On a side note, Magellan had previously sailed to Portuguese India and Malacca. In 1511 he served under the famous Alfonso de Albuquerque in the conquest of Malacca (Figure 15). Malacca is in the important Straits of Malacca near present day Singapore, which was a chokepoint in the spice trade. There was friction between Spain and Portugal in this area, as there was no definitive answer in where Malacca stood as the result of the *Treaty of Tordesillas*.



Figure 15. Malacca, shown on this 30c stamp from Malaya, Scott 83 (1957).



Figure 16. Juan Vespucci's 1526 world map, which shows a number of changes from earlier maps.

By 1521, the map of the known world had changed as the outcome of the new discoveries were made by bold Portuguese and Spanish explorers (Figure 16). The *Treaty of Tordesillas* that split the world in half brought Spain and Portugal prosperity. This monopoly, created by a pope and a treaty, eventually collapsed. It is believed that Spain got the better deal, but that is historical subjectivity. The *Treaty of Tordesillas* benefited both nations in separate ways. The decree of a pope and the treaty that followed, set the world stage. By the time the Protestant Reformation took hold in the 1520s and 1530s, Spain and Portugal's dream of being the sole heirs of world riches collapsed. Like all global powers they eventually ceased to command the respect they once did. The new emerging Protestant superpowers, England and Holland, disregarded the *Treaty of Tordesillas* and the *Inter Caetera*, created 30 years earlier. These nations did not recognize the spiritual authority of the pope or an obsolete treaty. Pope Alexander VI's bull, *Inter Caetera* and the *Treaty of Tordesillas*, ceased to be effective by the mid-15th century. The 1494 *Treaty of Tordesillas* has been forgotten outside the community of historians and map enthusiasts. The stoic philosopher and Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius wrote "Look back over the past, with its changing empires that rose and fell, and you can foresee the future, too."⁵

Footnotes (for online resources):

1. <http://www.christopher-columbus.eu/portugal-1476-1485.htm>
2. <https://suluonlinelibrary.wordpress.com/treaties-and-agreements-2/1494-papal-bull-treaty-of-tordesillas/>
3. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Strait-of-Magellan>
4. <https://www.biography.com/explorer/ferdinand-magellan>
5. http://www.notable-quotes.com/a/aurelius_marcus_ii.html

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C.G.

With a Little Help From my Friends

Col. Green's Green Stamp

Anthony R. Krusz

Many thanks to Krystal Harter, expertizing coordinator at the American Philatelic Society, for her assistance in helping me to resolve the pedigree of a U.S. revenue stamp I possess (shown nearby, front and back) that was supposedly previously owned by the famous stamp collector, Col. Edward Howland Robinson "Ned" Green, 1868-1936.

In June 2016, I won an online bidding auction for a \$10 imperforate mortgage revenue stamp Scott R95a. The auction noted that it was previously owned by Green and, when I received the stamp, on the back was written in pencil "Ex Col Green Kelleher sale 10.17.42." At that time I was under the belief that the lineage description was probably correct and did no further investigation of the matter.



About a year ago I decided to see if I could further authenticate the pedigree description by using Google searches. It was there, on the Books on Philately

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| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| 31 | | |
| 507 | ○ \$1.30 Foreign Exchange, bright copy neatly cancelled "W. C. & Co., N. Y., Jun. 12, 1863" in circle, trifle touched at bottom, still unusually fine | 250 00 |
| 508 | ○ \$1.60 Foreign Exchange, very fine | 80 00 |
| 509 | ○ \$1.90 Foreign Exchange, wee pin hole and crease, attractive copy of this rare stamp | 350 00 |
| 510 | ○ \$2 Probate of Will, touched at upper right, sheet margin copy, fine | 175 00 |
| 511 | ○ \$2.50 Inland Exchange, handstamp cancellation, very fine | 300 00 |
| 512 | ○ \$3.50 Inland Exchange, close at lower left, otherwise very fine | 150 00 |
| 513 | ○ \$5 Charter Party, very fine | 10 00 |
| 514 | ○ \$5 Manifest, very fine | 6 00 |
| 515 | ○ \$5 Probate of Will, very fine | 17 50 |
| 516 | ○ \$10 Charter Party, very fine | 25 00 |
| 517 | ○ \$10 Mortgage, very fine though top margin trifle nicked, design intact | 25 00 |
| 518 | ○ \$10 Probate of Will, small repaired spot, nice appearing copy with fine margins | 75 00 |
| 519 | ○ \$15 Mortgage, very fine | 100 00 |
| 520 | ○ \$20 Probate of Will, extremely fine | 85 00 |
| 521 | ○ \$25 Mortgage, very fine | 75 00 |
| 522 | ○ \$50 U.S.I.R., very fine | 12 00 |
| 523 | ○ \$200 dark green and red, superb | 125 00 |
| 524 | ○ Balance of imperfs, 52 varieties, fine lot | 129 95 |
| FIRST ISSUE (PERFORATED) | | |
| 525 | ○ 2c Proprietary, ultramarine, fine copy | 17 50 |
| 526 | ○ 6c Proprietary, handstamped "Charles Osgood, Sep. 1, 1871" fine copy though close on two sides | 300 00 |
| 527 | ○ \$15 Mortgage, ultramarine, fine color and copy | 20 00 |



Eccentric collector Col. E.H. "Ned" Green.

website, www.pbbooks.com/auct.htm, that I saw *name sale* auction catalogs listed for the Green Estate, numbers 1-28 were listed for sale at various prices. Unfortunately the one I needed, "No. 3, DFK 422, 10/17/1942," was not available for purchase. I then attempted to run a search on the American Philatelic Research Library site, but might not have been using the resource correctly, as nothing came up for the auction catalog I needed.

Once again, now frustrated, I put aside the proofing of my revenue stamp until April 1, 2019. Here I reached out to the APS to get personalized service for my failed searches. I submitted the following request:

Subject: Auction catalog

Message: I have a revenue stamp (R95a) stamp that was supposedly owned by the famous Colonel Green with its reference being sold at the Daniel Kelleher auction number 422 on 10-17-1942. This information is penciled in on the back of the stamp. I am trying to find this catalog to verify this stamp being owned by the Colonel and sold at that Kelleher auction. Can you help me to locate this auction catalog so that I can resolve my question? Thanks for your help.

Low and behold, I received an email from Krystal Harter acknowledging she had located the auction catalog and sent the cover page and the corresponding listing on page 31 that contained the lot and the description of an R95a. The description was spot on, describing my stamp and even stating the fact that the stamp had a trifle nick. My stamp does, indeed, have a trifle nick in the lower left of the stamp. I have added to this letter copies of the auction catalog and the front and back of my Col. Ned Green pedigree stamp.

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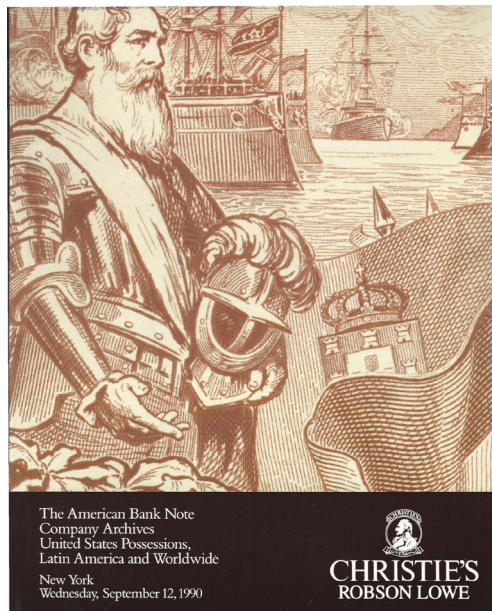
Library Notes: Online Books...

It is a real trend that more philatelic books and journals are going digital and being web published or otherwise made available on the internet. From a library perspective, these “volumes” do not take up shelf space and so they are quite welcome.

Here are two recent examples. The first is *The American Bank Note Company Archives. United States Possessions, Latin America and Worldwide*, as auctioned by Christie's, New York, on Sept. 12, 1990. It is in a searchable PDF format. The Canal Zone Study Group has put this catalog on its web page at www.canalzonestudygroup.com/canalzone_stampauctions.php Available to members and non-members alike, this catalog, which is an important reference on the subject, appears courtesy of Christie's and its image licensing partner, The Bridgeman Images.

The second online book is *The Handbook of Holyland Postal History*. This volume covers 1852-1948 and includes Ottoman Palestine, Mandatory Palestine, Israel and more, prepared by Alex Ben-Arieh, FRPSL. The author generously produced this without copyright; it is a free download (nearly 400 pages).

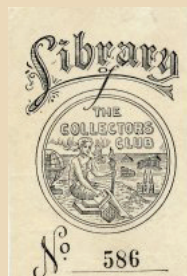
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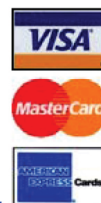
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The Collectors Club

Membership Update: Oct. 1-Dec. 15, 2020. We are pleased to welcome the following new and reinstated (*) members.

Approved by the Board of Governors

Oct. 8, 2020: Resident (Honorary)

Agarwalla, Adhyatman Brooklyn, N.Y.

Oct. 8, 2020: Non-Resident

Juell, Rev. Rodney A. Joliet, Ill.

Galloway, Thomas Keene, N.H.

Katta, Col. (Ret.)

Kenneth S. The Villages, Fla.

Stapleton, John Allan Scarborough, Ont.
Canada

Sodero, Jane M.F. Halifax, N.S.
Canada

Wilde, Bradley Gifford Philadelphia, Pa.

Oct. 8, 2020: Overseas (United Kingdom)

Castle, Roger Banbury, Oxon

Harrison, Steven Sutton Coldfield,
W. Midlands

Dec. 2, 2020: Non-Resident

Andreason, Steven W. Seattle, Wash.

Bonowski, Steve Lakewood, Colo.

Buhl, Jan Clayton Carmel, Calif.

Grinfelds, Dzintars San Francisco, Calif.

Kolarik, Yvonne C. Ponca City, Okla.

O'Connor,

Catherine Eileen Las Vegas, Nev.

Steward, Scott Accokeek, Md

Congratulations to our new members. A membership certificate will be forwarded to the address on file for each. Please do keep us updated as to current address and email so we can continue to serve you. Electronic

outreach is increasingly important as we continue to expand our offerings. Our website (www.collectorsclub.org) receives ongoing enhancements based on member feedback. Please contact us at info@collectorsclub.org with feedback, comments or questions.

New Applications received:

New applications are posted for 30 days after receipt prior to Board of Governors action. The following applicants have applied for membership from Dec. 1-15:

Non-Resident

Hunt, Dr. James Raleigh, N.C.

In these uncertain times we are not always aware of these events in a timely manner. Please help by letting us know at info@collectorsclub.org.

Please note that electronic membership dues notices have been sent. Current email addresses help us serve you.

We wish you and yours the best for the New Year!

Respectfully submitted,
Mark E. Banchik; Membership Co-Chair
Lawrence Hunt; Membership Co-Chair

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Book Reviews

Democratica, l'ordinaria del risveglio (Democratica, the definitive series of the awakening) by Gianni Vitale, Cutrofiano (Le), November 2020, published by the author, 352 A4 pages, color throughout, €49 plus postage and handling; available from dr.giannivitale@gmail.com; Also available from Vaccari: info@vaccari.it



When we may have thought that all that had to be written about the post-World War II most popular definitive, the “Democratica,” had been written, here comes Gianni Vitale’s new book that takes the collector to a new level and perspective.

After flexing his muscles as a philatelic writer on the popular philatelic and postal history internet platform “Il Postalista,” the author was rewarded and motivated by collectors like never before (in his own words): *“to illustrate the uses, postal and otherwise, of these stamps in the two lieutenantcy and seven republican tariff periods for the interior, even going beyond the postal validity of 31 December 1952 and without neglecting the details was quite a task.”*

Since 2012, Vitale has answered hundreds of questions from those who visited his regular column on

“Il Postalista,” which led to further research and access to new philatelic horizons. What impressed his readers was his generosity in sharing information, as well as his innate indifference to quantifying the word “rare” into dollars and cents.

The genesis of the designs of this “new day” of democracy shows the pains the artists had to endure to produce something that exemplified at a glance “the new reality” and the true values that made Italy a reborn and proud nation.

Indeed, art historian Federico Zeri was not impressed at all by the choice of designs, but his point of view was somewhat biased, especially from someone who admired D’Annunzio and all the rest that came with him.

It sounds rather ironic that the “Democratica” series made its early debut during the lieutenantcy of King Umberto II. In October 1945, some 14 definitive values, plus seven denominations to be used for express and airmail were issued. These were followed in May 1946 by the 4 lire denomination. Some readers may be astonished by the fact that a substantial part of the first republican definitive series was issued during this lieutenantcy; Italian scholars are still debating it.



The advent of the republic brought with it an additional eight definitive stamps (including the “expensive” 100 lire top value), not to mention the nine stamps for special services. Vitale believes that this definitive series, from a postal history perspective, allows us to narrate the life of an unexplored and sometimes overlooked past rich in the day-to-day life. A veritable trump card of this monograph is the generous use of high-quality illustrations.

The opening chapter focuses on the frankings generated during the lieutenancy and the early republican era: they often included a colorful potpourri of stamps issued during the twilight of the fascist era, the Italian Social Republic (R.S.I.) and the Lieutenancy. This chapter is amply illustrated and highly educational.

The second chapter zooms in on covers, postcards, no-value samples mail, printed matter and more. Special and supplementary services are also examined, including registration, express, insured mail, COD, pneumatic mail, poste restante, domestic and international airmail and cash services, such as money orders, saving bonds, collection of receivables (IOUs) and other special services that contributed in no small form to the recovery of the national economy.

Mention must also be made of secondary services, such as the legalization of documents and notification of judicial documents. Delegated services are outlined; these are services where the post office acts as an intermediary for carrying out transactions not falling within its institutional duties. Also explored are mail for the blind, soldiers’ and reduced tariffs for publishers and booksellers.

It would be naïve to think that the “Democratica” series would not attract well-equipped forgers to defraud the post office; the notorious Milanese forgery of the 10 lire slate, as well as the 100 lire are good examples. These forgeries have been widely explored by other authors, and Vitale suggests the reader consult the related bibliography. The author provides detailed information and useful illustrations of these forgeries. The book ends with a detailed table of contents and bibliography.

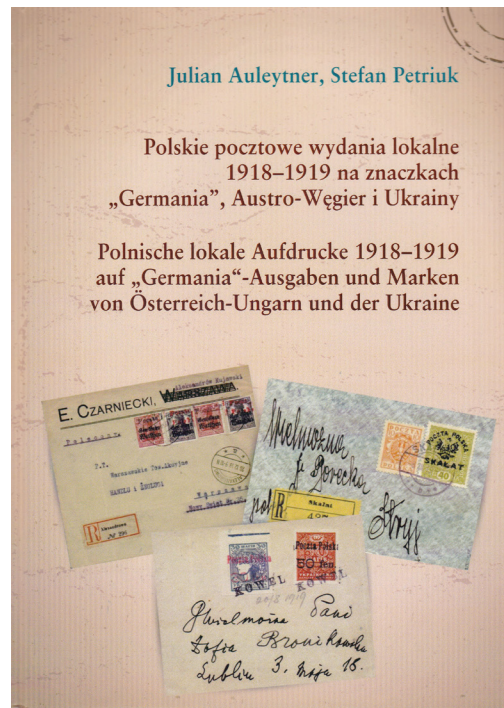
In his preface, Dr. Roberto Monticini, AIFSP, points out that the book abundantly benefits from the “wealth,” or rather the seductive force, of Vitale’s collection and its many and varied facets, which do not consist merely of covers with one or more stamps. What really stuns everyone is the magnetism emanating from attractive and intriguing pieces of mail whose sight arouses not only curiosity but lively historical interest, appreciation for the selective strategy, as well as the detailed analysis offered by the author that facilitates a clear understanding of many complexities. Monticini goes on to say that *“without diminishing the size and importance of the many outstanding scholars who wrote about the Democratica definitive series, I believe today that due to the enormous amount of research and commitment to it, the ‘Democratica’ definitive series cannot be separated from the name of Gianni Vitale.”*

— Giorgio Migliavacca

Auleytner, Julian and Petriuk, Stefan, *Polskie pocztowe wydania lokalne 1918–1919 na znaczkach „Germania”, Austro-Węgier i Ukrainy. Polnische lokale Aufdrucke 1918–1919 auf „Germania“-Ausgaben und Marken von Österreich-Ungarn und der Ukraine. [Polish local imprints 1918-1919 on "Germania" issues and stamps of Austria-Hungary and Ukraine.]* 371 pages, 24.5 by 17.5 cm, chalky paper, colored illustrations, hardcover, Warsaw/ Langballighaus 2020. Price: 25 € plus 14 € postage, ISBN 978-83-942533-1-8. Orders to: Stefan Petriuk, Neue Gasse 3, 24977 Langballigholz. Email: Petriuk@t-online.de. IBAN: DE21 2176 3542 0016 0944 90, or Paypal plus 1 € to help cover fees.

It is understandable that local postage stamps were not immediately available when Poland declared independence on Nov. 11, 1918. The simple solution was to “Poland-ize” the stamps used up to that date by means of a local imprint. This had a double effect: The stamps were an expression of the awakened national pride and, at the same time, the postal service could continue.

After only a few weeks, the local overprinted stamps on the issues of the former occupiers lost their validity. In the former German territories this happened on Dec. 15, 1918; in the Austrian one it was Jan. 20, 1919. The local stamps that had been adapted to immediate needs were understandably issued in extremely limited numbers, with quantities far from sufficient to satisfy all eager collectors. This attracted a great number of speculators and forgers. Some of them came with their own stocks of stamps and had them “processed” on site. As a result, around 90% of the local stamp issues are forgeries and an examination is now a must – a task that is “like



stepping onto a minefield.” The present situation is made even more difficult by the fact that there is hardly any material available for comparison. Due to earlier collecting habits and for the sake of producing stamp bundles by the hundreds, innumerable authentic documents were cut up for the benefit of the loose stamps, and the few valuable collections, most of them located in Warsaw, were lost forever in the uprisings of 1943 and 1944.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, the authors, both Fellow and member of the RPSL respectively, face the challenge of separating the wheat from the chaff. They are ideally placed to do so: Auleytner, one of Poland's leading philatelists with many national and international functions, has, as a collector, put his focus on the postal history of the 1917-20 period. Petriuk, author of more than 400 articles and a dozen books on Polish philately and postal history, is an accredited expert in the Polish Federation PZF. By analyzing all the literature to date – the bibliography comprises more than 70 Polish and German titles – they studied in detail the postal regulations and official bulletins, tariffs, press reports, letters and memoirs of the time. They rely, above all, on the scarce, undoubtedly authentic material, including – for example – insured letters, postal money orders or parcel cards. They were able to draw on the written estate of the late BDPh expert Jungjohann and the archive of Lesław Schmutz, as well as on scans from the internet and relevant material provided by a number of specialists in Germany and Poland.

The informative introduction outlines, among other things, the historical background of the local stamp issues and the current state of research. It is followed by sections on the individual post offices in alphabetical order, separately for the German-occupied territory (Gen.-Gouv. Warschau) – this is by far the most extensive chapter – the former Austrian Teschen Silesia and Galicia and finally Kowel (ex-Ukraine). In addition to relevant facts and data, each “profile” contains a clear statement on the official or speculative character of the issue and, where necessary, a detailed controversial discussion, as in the case of the stamps of the Skierniewice or Bielsko post office. Also included for the first time are some previously unknown issues.

The volume is bilingual, in Polish and German throughout (preceded by a summary in English), with the texts discreetly contrasting in color. High-quality chalky paper guarantees an excellent reproduction of the maps, documents and the extremely rare approximately 300 covers; the binding is sturdy and attractively designed. A minor critical note: For a possible new edition, the German version could perhaps be revised here and there.

This work – handbook, catalog and album in one – will be the definitive reference for the collecting field for a long time to come and should not be missing in any specialist library. It is of interest not only to Polish collectors, but even more so to collectors of Germania issues, of whom few are likely to be familiar with the subject of Polish local stamps. It does not need a prophet to predict that the small edition of 150 copies will be sold out very soon, especially considering the moderate, collector-friendly price.

— *Rainer von Scharpen, FRPSL*

2021 Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers, 1,358 pages plus introduction and identifier (49 pages), thousands of color illustrations, 8½ by 11 inches, perfect bound, hard cover, Amos Media, Sidney, Ohio. List price \$179.99, available at a discount through Amos Advantage program (www.amosadvantage.com) or through numerous stamp dealers.

With the release of this edition of the *Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers*, Amos Media marks the 27th edition of this formidable volume, which has now become an essential resource for many throughout the hobby worldwide. At the time the *Classic* was being visualized, the Scott *Standard Catalog* series had expanded to five large volumes. A growing number of collectors were beginning to express frustrations with modern postal administrations and their prodigious output and a trend seemed to be developing where collectors were limiting their worldwide collections to the first century, 1840-1940.

Add to this the demand for more specialized information for early stamps and the time was right for the *Classic*! The first edition (for 1995), according to Scott Editor Donna Houseman, simply consolidated listings for stamps from 1840-1940 from the *Standard Catalogue* volumes, coming in at 857 pages. Compare this to the 2021 edition, which weighs in with 1,358 pages and tops the scale at almost six pounds!

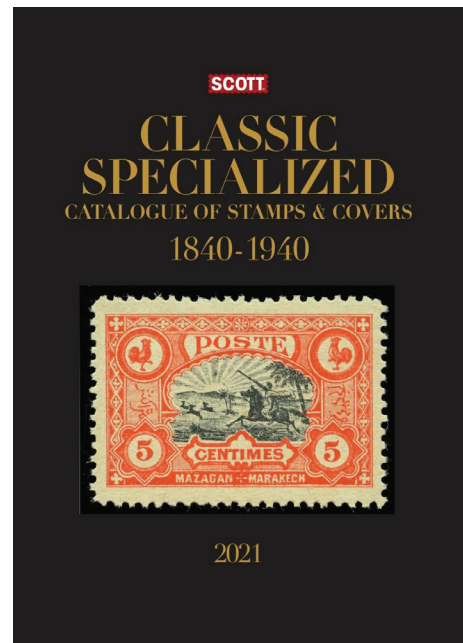
By the following year (the 1996 edition), on-cover values for some countries began appearing in the catalog (something not found at all in the *Standard Catalogue* line), and there have been consistent improvements and additions each year since, thanks in large part to Sergio Sismondo, who has worked very closely with Scott editors over the years. That work has continued in virtually every edition! Another area you'll find covered for some countries is pre-stamp postal markings and forerunners.

Houseman, and longtime worldwide specialist and former *Linn's Stamp News* Advertising Manager Bill Jones, both continue to improve, expand and sharpen the listings in this volume.

Highlights this year include new on-cover listings expanded for Alexandretta, Bahrain and Lebanon. On-cover listings are not – by any means – comprehensive, but they do provide a framework for valuing uses of stamps, particularly when they are far scarcer on cover than off. Hundreds of countries are now represented.

Forerunners of French Andorra and Spanish Andorra appear for the first time in this year's edition.

A special feature by Sismondo takes an in-depth look at the first six stamp issues of India (Scott 1-6). The first general issue, which features a portrait of Queen Victoria, has been completely reworked in this edition of the catalog to include eight new major numbers and 10 minor numbers, reflecting the die types and head types. New enlarged images help the collector identify the die types



and head types, something that has been a puzzler to many collectors (including me) for years.

Guatemala Official stamps with perforated initials were added to the catalog this year for the first time. By a 1912 decree, all external mail sent from government offices in the capital was to be franked with regular stamps perforated "OFICIAL." These new listings are Scott O6-O67. Previous Nos. O6-O12 have been renumbered as O68-O74. This section is definitely worth a look.

Approximately 150 value changes were noted for Aden, which includes India stamps used in Aden. The stamps are now identified by the previously mentioned die types of India's first issue. Values for Ceylon stamps used in Aden also have been updated.

Collectors of Portuguese colonies should take note of the thousands of value changes made throughout the catalog for different stamp-issuing entities. For example, almost 450 value changes are noted for the Azores, more than 75 for Cape Verde, more than 175 for Inhambane and more than 200 for Macau. Portuguese Guinea, Portuguese India and St. Thomas and Prince Islands received thorough reviews with more than 700, 1,000 and 850 value changes, respectively.

For Romania, new listings for postal tax stamps were added as Scott RA19A-RA21A.

Values for never-hinged stamps, again, a particularly useful feature of the *Classic*, were added or updated for Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, French Sudan, Funchal, Hatay, Horta, Inhambane, Jordan, Libya, Madeira, New Zealand, Oman, Palestine, St. Thomas and Prince Islands, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Somaliland and Protectorate, Spanish Morocco, Sudan and Syria.

At roughly \$175 (full retail), the Scott *Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps & Covers* may not be something you can update every year. But, if many of your interests include the earlier issues of many countries (including their postal history), you should consider updating it every other year at the very least. It is an extremely valuable resource and is available either in hard-cover or electronic format.

— Wayne L. Youngblood

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