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Capital Philately

Incorporating **PASTCARDS** and Machinations
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THREE HALFPENCE

Inside this Issue:
The "Postage Stamps"
of the Legion
Volontaires Français
Contre Le Bolshevisme
(Pt. 1)

EMS International
Courier Service

Kyrgyzstan Illegals



A Thematic Exhibit
of Postcards (Pt. 1)

Scottish Highlands
and Islands



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CAPITAL PHILATELY

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EDITORIAL - TO WHERE AND WHAT FOR?

Publication of specialist journals is an activity that is born of brief enthusiasms and survives only if the content is responsive to rapidly changing social, technical and economic environments, and finds some readers who will pay, directly or indirectly. Even a humble journal devoted to philately is not immune from such pressures. What stamp collectors read has indeed a long history, catalogues and journals date from the 1860s, the great library of the 26th Earl of Crawford housed in the British Museum is evidence of the depth of data collection and scholarship that motivated early philatelists. Some of the classic work of that period, such as the Reverend Earee’s “Album Weeds” survives in reprinted editions. Most philatelic journals were very short-lived, and in 20th century Australia *Capital Philately* had survived in parallel with commercial journals rather better than the short newsletters that various local societies sometimes publish for their members.

It is reasonably obvious that writing about philately is a minority activity, often taken up by individuals who have some sort of writing skill, learnt as journalists, scientists, or academics and with a polymath interest in history or in printing technology. If we consider the membership of PSC, a fraction come to general meetings, another overlapping fraction attend exchange nights, and a tiny fraction actually research and write. There is little competition for space, and much of the writing in commercial journals is by dealers reviewing the market, overtly or covertly. In short, commercial journals, as opposed to erudite work by bodies like the Royal Philatelic Society of London, are primarily a useful vehicle, both to dealers and buyers, for sales. The great upsurge of auction houses as the dominant pathway for the middle and top end of the philatelic market means that a lot of information is now expressed only as terse lot descriptions in auctions on the Internet. The stamp shop where you could actually see the material is being replaced by the .jpg image. In order to see

what is true and what is conjecture, analysis in depth, including warnings about the forged, the false and the bogus, is left to journals if any good-natured collector wants to share his or her insights. There are exceptions, that indeed cost a lot to produce, and to subscribe to; the catalogues by Wilfried Nagl, in Germany, of Russian material are handbooks in themselves, the catalogues by Cherrystone in the USA are compiled by staff who have access to large reference libraries, it would seem that Cavendish in Derby, England, has become a similar erudite institution.

In this evolving world, what should *Capital Philately* do, and be about?

By commercial arrangement some journals publish new-issue supplements to the standard catalogues such as Scott or Gibbons; such listings can be up to two years behind reality for a particular country, and the catalogue for which they are intended may only appear in hard copy once a decade. Collectors who want to follow a country or a theme can now in many cases just order, in March, the year set for the previous year, and get the details about the issues from the internet pages of specialist groups or off the philatelic agencies themselves. There is an exception to this situation in that some European journals publish the designs of unadopted essays for new issues, this is true for Germany, and other such essays I have seen were in New Zealand. What is missing are some critical and independent reviews of designs and issuing policies, even like the annual tables of numbers of stamps issued per country that Michel have published annually, as an indicator of a persistently abusive situation. The other sort of abuse, bogus issues, has been noted repeatedly in *Capital Philately* through the notices from the UPU and its adherent bodies. It is worth commenting that a lot of philatelic wisdom first appears in languages other than English, and we are fortunate in having members who have translated articles for us. A feature with regular reviews of foreign journals and web pages, including UK and USA, might be very welcome if the work could be amicably shared.

Research in philately is more readily pursued in postal history, or the still relatively neglected areas of stationary and revenues, than in traditional philatelic considerations of stamp printing details, though apparently Machins may be the exception. There is a trade-off between improved printing quality on the one hand and constantly shifting between contractors on the other.

What a club journal with informed members can do is publish archival studies that would otherwise not see the light of day until they are incorporated in monograph form, often by other authors, some time later. Any study is likely to be tentative because research seeks to augment and to correct what has gone before; such correction is also well embodied in book reviews, of which we have had too few in the past. A mark of success is when another journal seeks to reprint some article that we have published, because its quality and coverage significantly augment what is already more widely known. Recently the Philatelic Association of NSW, requested permission to reprint an article from Volume 21, No. 1 of *Capital Philately* (November 2002); "Altered U.S. Stamps on eBay - Exposed!" written by Sheryll Oswald and the Stop Press associated with it, in *Philas News*. Many thanks to Sheryll and to all our other authors for their work, and for bringing such credit to our journal.

To know what a journal should do we need to know what the readers do with the issue they get. Do they save back issues and keep a run, do they give it away, pass it to somebody with a pertinent specialist interest, or just put it out with the old newspapers?

What else do they read, and what reduplication of content do they encounter and tolerate?

The four things that some people say they want from a philatelic society before they would consider paying a subscription, are (i) meetings with displays, (ii) a library, (iii) an exchange branch, and (iv) a journal. That does not mean that they would contribute to all these activities, if we count heads most are passive consumers of bought services. People also like to read about themselves and their friends, and look for activity reports in which they might be featured.

For various reasons, including cost and the possibility of publishing colour illustrations, many scientific journals now exist either in both hard-copy and electronic versions, or just electronically. My own usage of journals indicates that this transition is not done without about a year's notice to

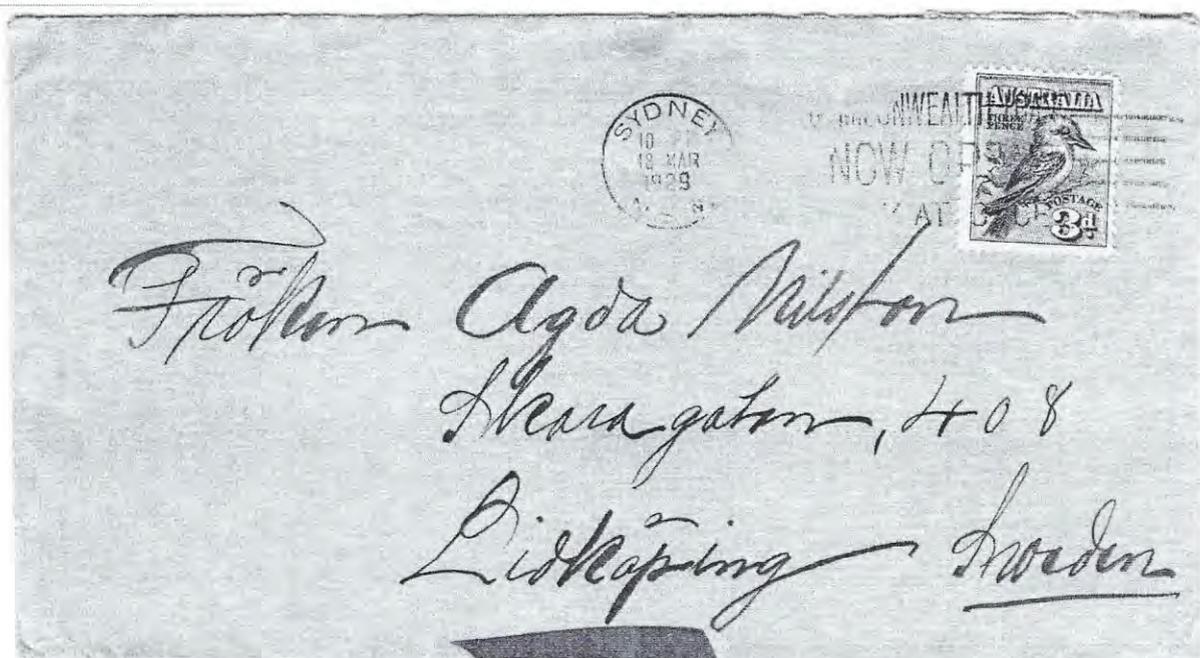
subscribers, and that major reputable journals continue in hard-copy as well. That does not mean that one now gets free what one had to pay for, in some direct or indirect way, when the journal was only in hard-copy. A free public access web page can advertise an associated journal for which one has to pay and acquire a password to access, or the free access may include just very short abstracts of articles that exist in full only in the restricted-access journal. So far we have cross-referenced our free-access web page, with some collateral material, in *Capital Philately*. As we are not the library of a public institution with free membership we have some two-way responsibility to provide all our subscribing members with accessible facilities, and not to discriminate against those who do not have the internet. It is not a condition of membership that one should have a computer, though apparently most of our members do, perhaps in the ACT being computer literate goes with having a philatelic interest.

There are hidden administrative costs in running a restricted access web site, just as there are in publishing a journal; the real costs in time, transport, editorial services, and. distributional arrangements are hidden in the voluntary work that the editorial board does.

We also have a responsibility to lodge free copies of our issues with other libraries and institutions, or to exchange, both in Australia and in some cases overseas.

If *Capital Philately* were a commercial venture it would have to sell at much more than what appears in our budget in order to break even, and I doubt that it would. There are also copyright matters that need spelling out, if we are to attract original copy of real worth. We may not pay our authors, but their interests have to be protected; copyright might better be shared with them

Capital Philately has become (mainly for cost reasons) the host to the two special interest publications, *Machinations* and *Pastcards*, and their presence is welcome, and broadens the interest to which we can cater. But up to now there seems to have been a price to pay; many philatelically important and interesting objects cut across the divisions between the three sections, for example, they may be postcards with unusual routes, or they may be stamps used on Paquebot covers, or maximum cards. Articles that straddle the divisions, rather than reflecting arbitrary categories devised for exhibiting or to meet competition rules, can be enlightening, and could be a joint enterprise now that we have an editorial board where collaborative planning is a possibility.



Cover from Australia to Sweden, Sydney 18th March 1929; featuring 3d Kookaburra.

THE "POSTAGE STAMPS" OF THE LEGION VOLONTAIRES FRANÇAIS CONTRE LE BOLSHEVISME (PART 1)

Robert Ellinger

During World War II some 2 million non-Germans were fighting on the German side in German uniforms. This does not refer to Germany's allies such as Italy, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Finland, but to volunteer units recruited in countries under German occupation plus the Blue Division, a unit formed by Spanish volunteers.

Most of the volunteers were from the USSR. The most important and best known was the so-called Vlasov Army, although General Vlasov, former commander of a crack USSR army and decorated by Stalin himself, was never in real command of the troops. These had been recruited from amongst Russian prisoners of war. The Vlasov army had an estimated strength of around one million men. Parallel to the Vlasov army were Russian army contingents recruited from amongst the Crimean Tartars, the Cossacks, the tribal people of the Caucasus, soldiers from the West Ukraine and eastern Poland and from the Baltic provinces, (now Baltic states), which had then been only recently incorporated into the USSR.

The Russian troops, in contrast to Cossacks and other tribal units were never fully trusted and thus were not used in any major front line activity. At the end of the war, the Vlasov army was in Czechoslovakia, from whence it made its way to southern Austria where it surrendered to the British army. Under the Yalta agreements these troops were later handed over to the Russians in spite of the clear knowledge of what fate awaited them upon return to their mother country! The leaders were executed and the troops sent to Siberia. Few survived. But that is another story!

Amongst the volunteer troops there were also troops recruited in the occupied countries of the west. They, and the Spanish Blue Division, were used as combat units in Russia. There were Belgian, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, Bosnian etc volunteer units and also units from France. Amongst the French units was the "Legion volontaires Français contre le Bolshevisme" or LVF. It was created in July 1941, shortly after the German army attack on the USSR.

The founding fathers of the LVF were M. Jaques Doriot, leader of the national-socialist "Movement Populaire Français"; M. Marcel Dèat, leader of the "Rassemblement National Populaire", M. Eugene Deloncle, leader of the "Movement Sociale Revolutionaire", M. Pierre Constantini, leader of the "Ligue Française", M. Pierre Clémenti, leader of the "National Collectivisme", and M. Jean Boissel of the "Front Franc". All these organizations were pro-German political parties established in the occupied zone of France, they were not the French Government or even a part of it. Granted, the president of France, Mareshall Petain approved the establishment of the LVF and it was also sanctioned by the German High Command. However it was not a French government creation but a private army! The Vichy Government acknowledged the existence of the LVF and had permitted its establishment but the French Ministry of War had no jurisdiction over the Legion. From the beginning, the maximum strength of the LVF was fixed by the Germans at 15,000 men. There were enough volunteers to meet that target but a strict selection system based on health and character criteria meant that a large number of volunteers was turned down and, de facto, the LVF never at any one stage in its existence reached that number.

Small wonder that the LVF had organizationally a rather difficult life. On 8 August 1942 a new unit, the "Legion Tricolore" was created by the French Vichy Government and it was announced that the LVF cadre would be transferred to that new unit. The plan was that the "Legion Tricolore" would fight on the side of Germany under French command and in French uniforms with French equipment thus forming part of the French armistice forces that had been allowed under the armistice agreement of 1940. Also, the Legion was to be used not only in Russia but anywhere French national interests were at stake. Small wonder that the German High Command could not accept this. However, had it

been implemented, it would have implied belligerent status for France initially against the USSR and later against the other Allies!! So, in December 1942 the "Legion Tricolore" was quietly disbanded and the LVF recreated, only to be transferred to the Waffen SS in September 1944 at which time the remaining cadre of the LVF were combined with the already existing 7th SS Assault-brigade "Frankreich" to form the SS Division "Charlemagne" which had an initial strength of 8,000 men. This unit fought right up to May 1945, some last elements actually defending Hitler's bunker in Berlin.

Shortly after the establishment of the LVF, its managers decided to issue postage stamps or vignettes to raise funds for the social welfare of the Legion's members and their families. Thus on 21 October 1941 the first stamp or rather mini-sheet appeared, the 'Polar-bear' issue.



However, the stamp had no postal value and was not even needed, as mail from Legionnaires home or from home to the Legionnaires was carried free of charge. But the stamp did carry a "Surcharge" of 100 francs! It carries in red the slogan "BLOC DE FRANCHISE DU CORPS EXPÉDITIONNAIRE DE LA LÉGION DES VOLON-TAIRES FRANÇAIS CONTRE LE BOLSHÉVISME".

A total of 30,000 copies were apparently printed of which 5,000 were sold initially. What happened to the others? The mastermind behind the issue was a M. Badeler, reserve infantry officer and member of the LVF, philatelist and stamp dealer!

So, we have the situation where the mini-sheet and subsequent issues were to be used as surcharges for field-post letters. Still, the issue arises whether these stamps are proper postal issues or just labels. The highest Vichy authorities approved the series, the Minister for Postal Affairs in the Vichy Government was at least aware of the pending issue and did nothing

to prevent it. The French Federation of Philatelic Societies was satisfied that the mini-sheet and subsequent issues were proper postal items. The UPU was apparently not consulted. Yet the mini-sheet and subsequent issues were meant for mail from the Legion to France only and not for mail from France to the Legion. However, whilst the Legion was on active service in Russia it was under the jurisdiction of the German Wehrmacht and this jurisdiction included all aspects of postal services provided to Legionnaires. Thus it is probably more important that the issuing of the mini-sheet and other items was approved by the German authorities rather than tacitly approved by Vichy and the German occupying authorities in France. The minisheet and subsequent issues should thus be considered German occupation issues rather than French postal issues.

Still, there are additional problems in identifying the character of these "stamps". The original proofs of the mini-sheet as submitted to the French postal authorities, showed "FM" in the design, that is "Franchise Militaire" or Military Exemption. Indeed French volunteers in the Legion were granted exemption for postal charges. In addition the French postal authorities carried all normal mail addressed to them free of charge. At the same time the German Feldpost carried mail from the legionnaires addressed to France free of charge. In any case, the request to insert FM on the mini-sheet and other issues was finally denied but a later request to include the letter F (Franchise) was approved and so all the issues are inscribed F. with some value.

- End Of Part One.

EMS INTERNATIONAL COURIER SERVICE

Ian McMahon

At a display night meeting last year I mentioned that Australia had issued a new item of stationery for its EMS service. From the ensuing discussion it was clear that the EMS service is not as well known amongst collectors as it might be.

EMS or Express Mail Service is an international courier service provided by the world's post offices.

Article 92 of the General Regulations of the UPU Postal Convention agreed at Washington in 1989 provided that:

1 EMS shall be the quickest postal service by physical means. It shall consist of the collection, dispatch and delivery in a very short space of time of correspondence, documents or goods.

2 This service shall wherever possible be identified by a logo as shown in the specimen below and comprising the following elements:

- an orange wing;

- the letters EMS in blue;

- three horizontal orange stripes.

The logo may be supplemented by adding the name of the national service.

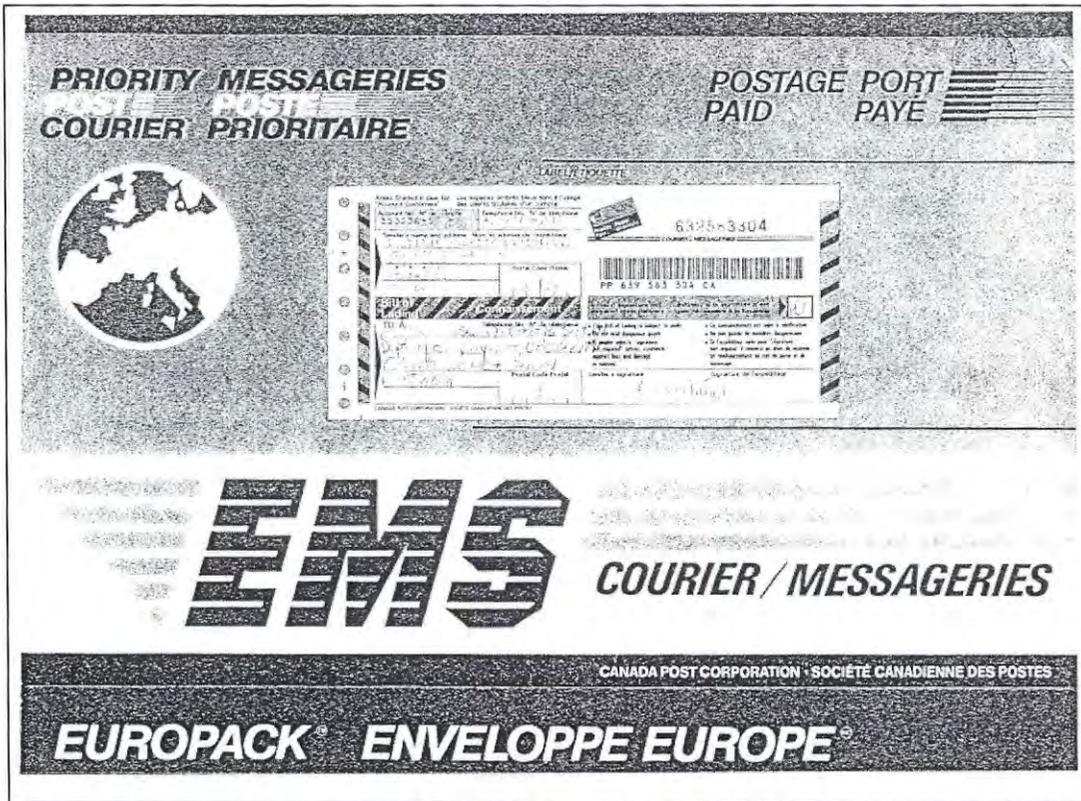
3 Charges for the service shall be set by the administration of origin in consideration of costs and market requirements.

At the Seoul Convention of the UPU in September 1994, an additional provision was added to specify that EMS is to be regulated on the basis of bilateral agreements, with any aspects not covered by these being subject to the appropriate provisions of the UPU Acts. This was done to eliminate disputes. UPU publicity comments that:

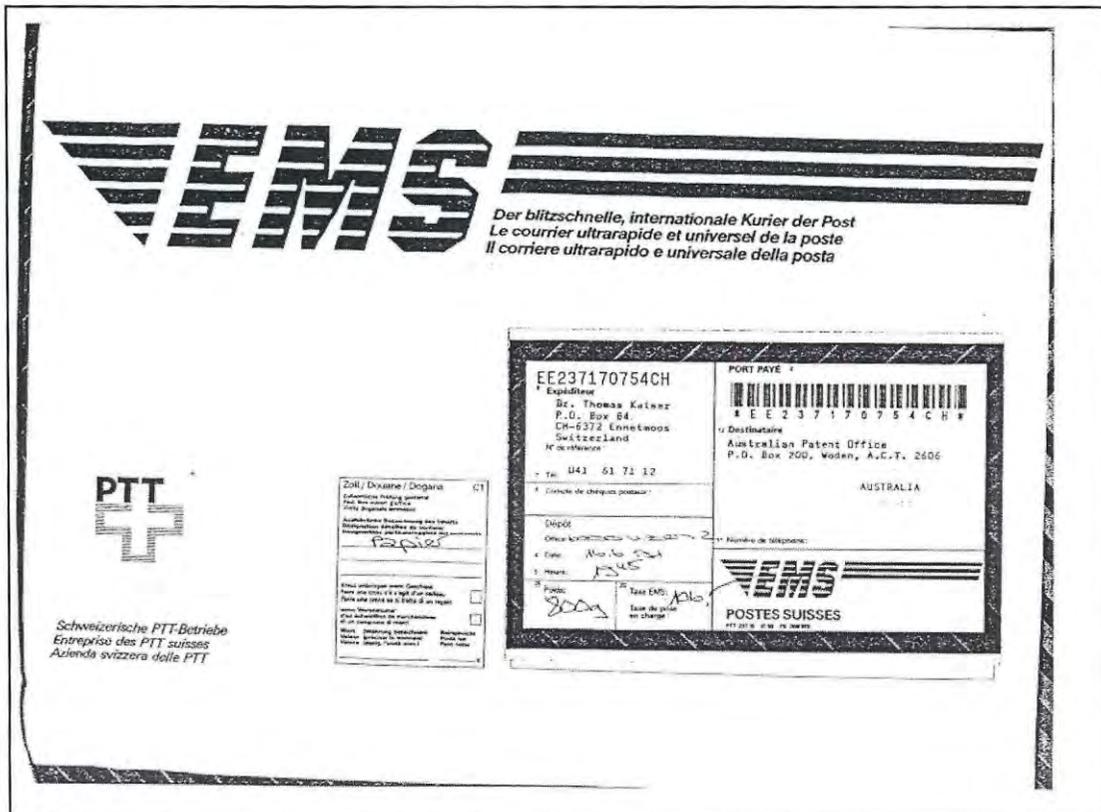
In recent years the UPU has introduced framework agreements to encourage the worldwide application of services already available in some countries. Such framework agreements facilitate the conclusion of bilateral agreements between postal administrations for services like EMS (express mail service). EMS (express mail service) is now available in more than 170 countries and enables letters, printed matter, and merchandise to be sent within guaranteed times (overnight for some important international links), and at competitive rates compared with those of private international courier firms.

In Australia, EMS International Courier is Australia Post's premium international express service. It provides courier service to over 180 countries. Items can either be lodged at any post office or Business Centre or, within a metropolitan area, can be collected for a 'small' extra charge (currently \$8.50). Full end-to-end track and trace facilities are provided for most countries and a signature is recorded on delivery. Minimum costs for documents range from \$28 for up to 250g to New Zealand to \$35 to Zone 5 countries (eg Europe). Rates for merchandise are somewhat higher.

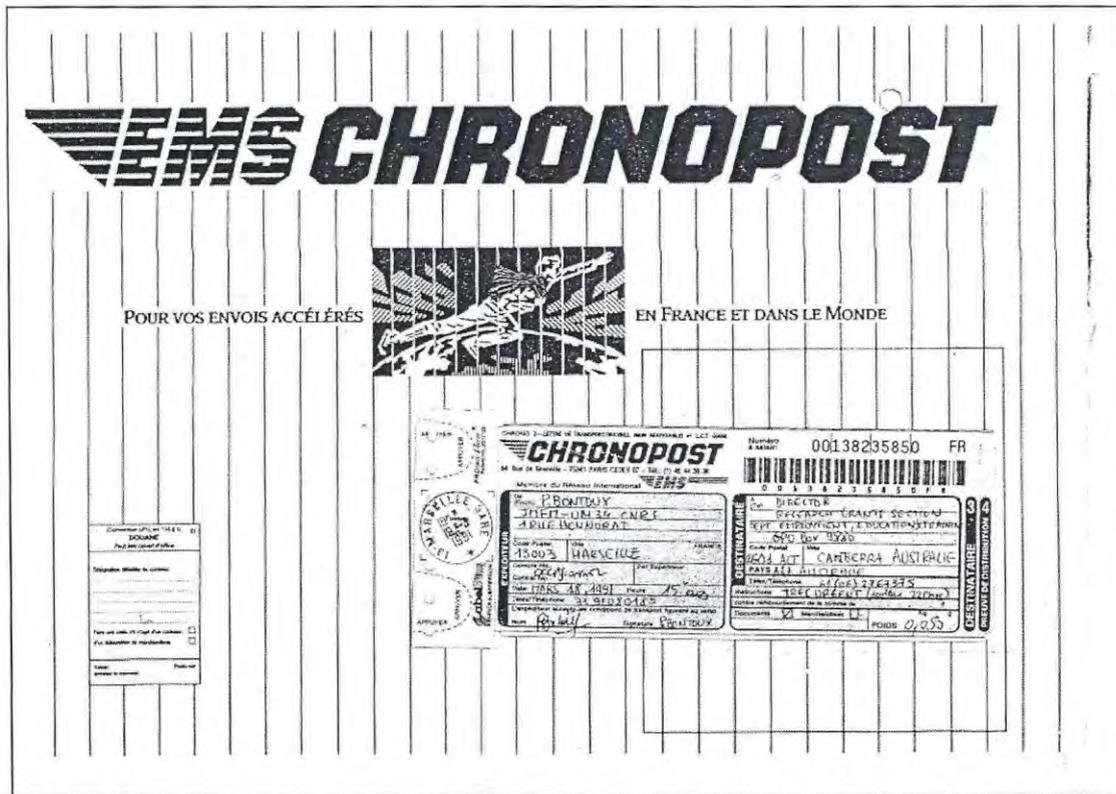
Most countries issue special postal stationery for the EMS service. Some examples of these are shown on the following pages.



Canada Prepaid EMS Envelope for use to Europe



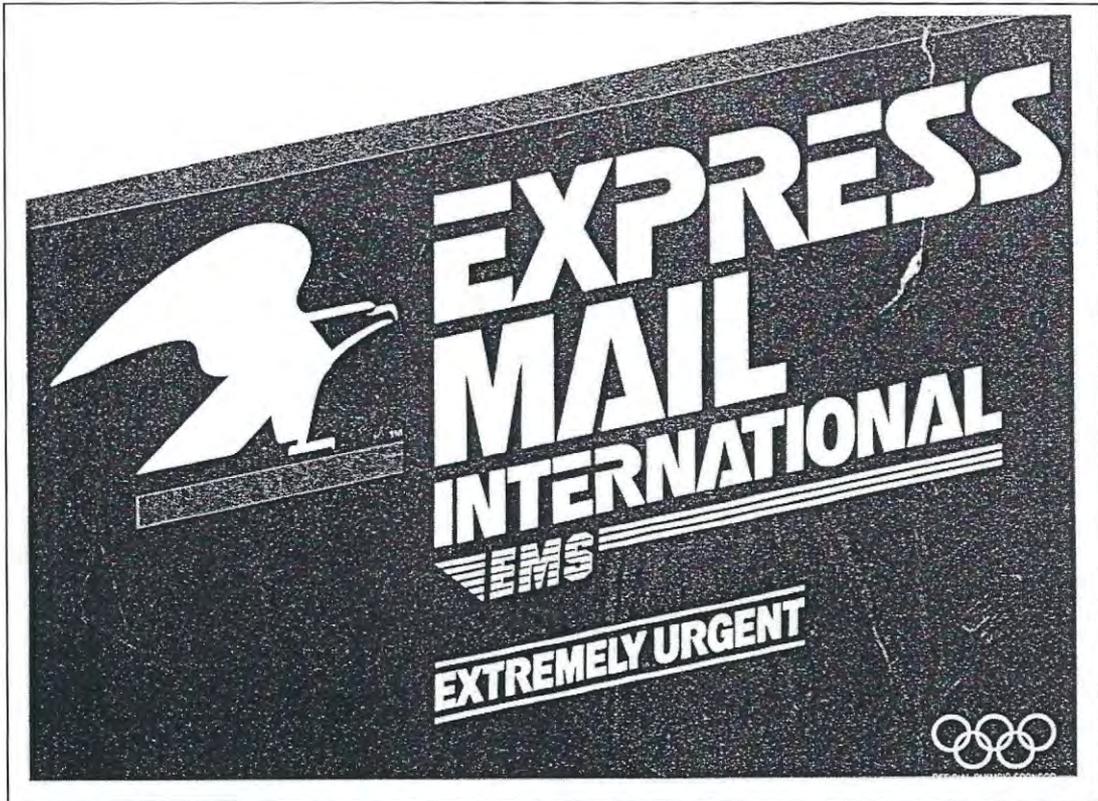
Swiss unpaid EMS Envelope



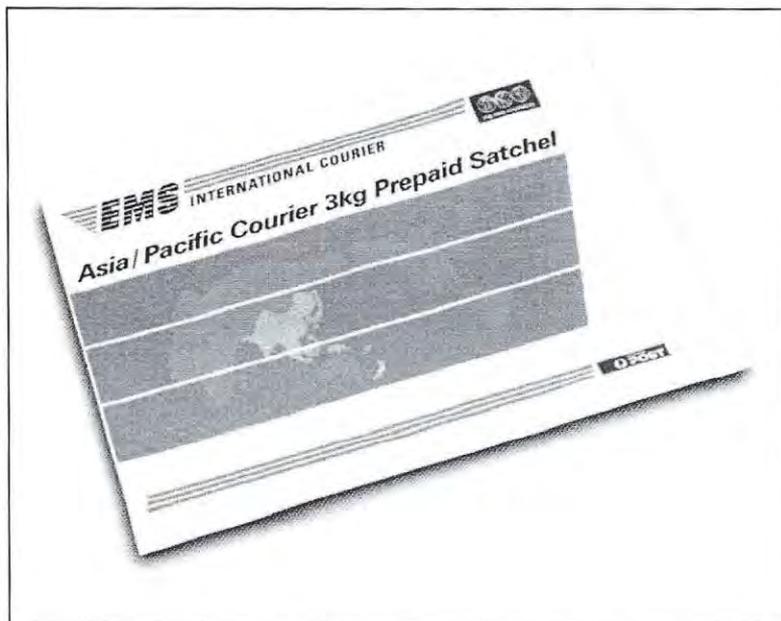
French unpaid EMS envelope 'Chronopost'



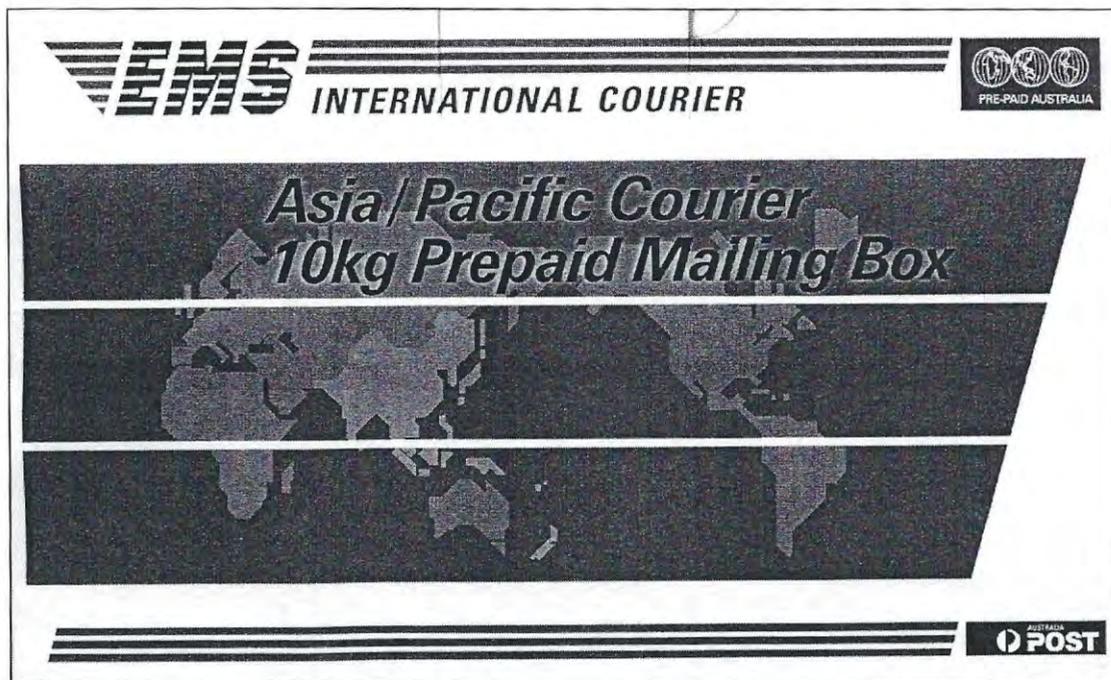
Japan unpaid EMS envelope



USA unpaid EMS envelope



Australian 3kg prepaid Asia/Pacific Satchel



Australian 3kg prepaid Asia/Pacific Box

PETE'S POST AND THE DEREGULATION OF NEW ZEALAND'S POSTAL SERVICE (REVISITED)

Ian McMahon

(The two-part Pete's Post articles appear in Capital Philately Vol 20, No. 4 and Vol 21, No. 1.)

As an addendum to my article *Pete's Post And The Deregulation Of New Zealand's Postal Service*, I illustrate below, courtesy of June Carnahan, four examples of local stamps issued by DX Mail. These stamps, along with a good selection of Pete's Post, Postie's Choice and other local stamps were obtained by June from a recent bulk mixture of New Zealand stamps.



STAMPS ON NEWSPAPERS AND NEWSPAPER STAMPS

Robert A. M. Gregson

Newspapers have often been the subject of special regulations concerned with their licensing to be published, have been the object of special taxes, of censorship, and given special postal rates. One may find both imprinted markings and affixed stamps, of both postage and revenue types, associated with surviving copies of old newspapers that come into our hands. In the 19th century governments of a monarchical or absolutist nature were very reluctant to allow even the existence of anything like a free press, particularly reactionary authorities flourished in Spain, Austria, Germany and Russia. Most published studies of press censorship or taxation are consequently focussed properly on Europe, where the most striking political changes towards a sharing of power and information across all sectors of society slowly and often painfully evolved.

One other example arose on Tasmania, where Governor Arthur and an editor, pardoned former convict Andrew Bent, repeatedly clashed over the publication of a paper called *The Hobart Town Gazette*, or just *The Gazette*, during 1827–1829. This story, and with it the unique example in Australia of an impressed tax stamp on a newspaper, was recounted in detail by Dingle Smith in *Capital Philately* for February 1997. What went on in Van Diemen's Land and in New South Wales in the early 19th century was obviously derivative from English law and practice, with some unsurprising colonial abuses thrown in. It is useful to try and discern the precedents in Europe which made the Hobart situation possible, and also to see how events in the 19th century led to a number of matters that are philatelically interesting.

Britain was the first country in Europe to drop prior censorship of newspapers, in 1695; the last country to drop it was Russia in 1905. The next country after Britain to drop prior censorship was Sweden in 1809. However post publication censorship remained in force in many countries, even outside wartime, and was not dropped before about 1830 in Britain, Belgium and Switzerland, though Norway had dropped it in 1814 and Sweden in 1838. France kept censoring until 1881 and Austria and Germany until the First World War. Special press taxes were levied in many cases as a form of censorship, the explicit reason often being that making things expensive kept sedition and blasphemy out of the hands and minds of the masses, and thus kept them docile. The situation in Great Britain was complicated, because the tax imposed, that had to be indicated by what the law called a Newspaper Stamp, impressed by printing on each sheet of paper, also served to pay postage, but its use was mandatory and related to penal laws on censorship. The Newspaper Stamp laws were imposed in 1712 in the reign of Queen Anne, and not finally repealed until 1861, though a prosecution under the law, for tax evasion, was conducted as late as 1868. The Newspaper Stamp laws were modified from time to time, but are obviously the model for what was attempted in Tasmania. When introduced the tax was at the rate of ½d per paper, but was progressively increased to 2d in 1729, to 2½d in 1798, 3d in 1804, and 4d (less some discount) in 1815. The rates in Ireland were a bit different. By making the cost of the stamp four pence on a newspaper that already cost between five and seven pence in the 1820s (such as *The Times*) the total cost was made to be beyond the means of the literate poor, who could only afford a one penny publication, to be read in public houses. Objection to newspaper taxation was prompt, in August 1712 Dean Swift wrote to Stella:

...“now every single sheet pays a halfpenny to the Queen. The Observer is fallen: the Examiner is deadly sick: the Spectator keeps up and doubles its price. I know not how long it will hold. Have you seen the red stamp the papers are marked with? Methinks it is worth a halfpenny the stamping it.”

The *Spectator* died on 6th December 1712; in a revived form from 1828 it still exists today as a weekly magazine.

The censorship of ideas was thus by economic constraint, and by heavy fines (£20 or more) and imprisonment on violators. The impressed stamp had to be in red, and to stop trading in stamped paper a different design was in theory used for each licensed newspaper. The last of five laws passed was 60 George III cap 9, later the stamp duty was lowered from four pence to one penny in 1836. By 1849 the number of newspapers that violated the law was so great that it was found impossible to retain the compulsory stamp. Pamphlets were items published not more frequently than once in 26 days, and were exempted from tax on payment of one registration fee. Newspapers were sent free of postage in Britain before 1840. In the law 3 & 4 Vic cap 96, sections 42, 70, the statute reads:

“Printed British Newspapers. By the post, from one town or place to another, within the United Kingdom (except by private ships) free. By the post of a post town, within the United Kingdom, addressed to a person within the limits of that place or its suburbs, one penny each. The term ‘British newspapers’ shall mean newspapers printed and published in the United Kingdom liable to the Stamp Duties and duly stamped, and also newspapers printed in the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney and Sark, or Man, although not liable to Stamp Duties.”

Soon various enterprising persons began to publish in the Isle of Man to avoid paying postage or Stamp Duties, so the law was later amended to make them also pay the one penny postage.

However, this reduction to one penny postage was not the end of the matter, disputes continued about postal rates by weight for printed matter not necessarily newspapers, and on June 6th 1855 a notice appeared in the *London Gazette* “admitting all printed matter to postage at the rate of four ounces a penny - the postage to be paid by Queen’s head affixed on a cover open at the sides”. That description of a postage stamp as a Queen’s head distinguished it from the imprinted Newspaper Stamp design.



Figure 1 - Two Irish Newspaper Stamps, about the 1830s

The lifting of special press taxes had an immediate effect on the number of newspapers published; British newspapers doubled their circulation within two years after the drastic lowering of the stamp tax there in 1836. In other countries you paid postage but were not specifically taxed. A black market on British newspapers that had evaded tax grew widespread, it was even said that people would only buy untaxed news. A curious relic of the Newspaper Stamps was their continued appearance in facsimile on some English papers, such as the Times and the Stamford Mercury, until 1911. This seems to be a form of masochistic conservatism but without philatelic significance.

There is a connection between the first issue of British postage stamps of halfpenny and three halfpence denominations, which were used for mailing newsprint, and the stamps of private railway companies, in Britain. In 1866 the M.P. for Devizes, a Mr Griffith, asked Mr Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer:

“Whether he was aware that certain railways have commenced carrying newspapers along the whole extent of their lines by means of an adhesive stamp at the price of a halfpenny for each transmission, and, if so, whether it would not be expedient that the stamp for the transmission of newspapers through the post should be reduced to the same amount? The present postal law was altogether anomalous, for while the impressed stamp served to carry a newspaper through

the post office several times for a period of fifteen days, the affixed stamp answered only the purpose of one transmission.”

Mr Gladstone reminded the hon. member “that the railways were not troubled with the collection, which was an important part of the cost to the post office”.

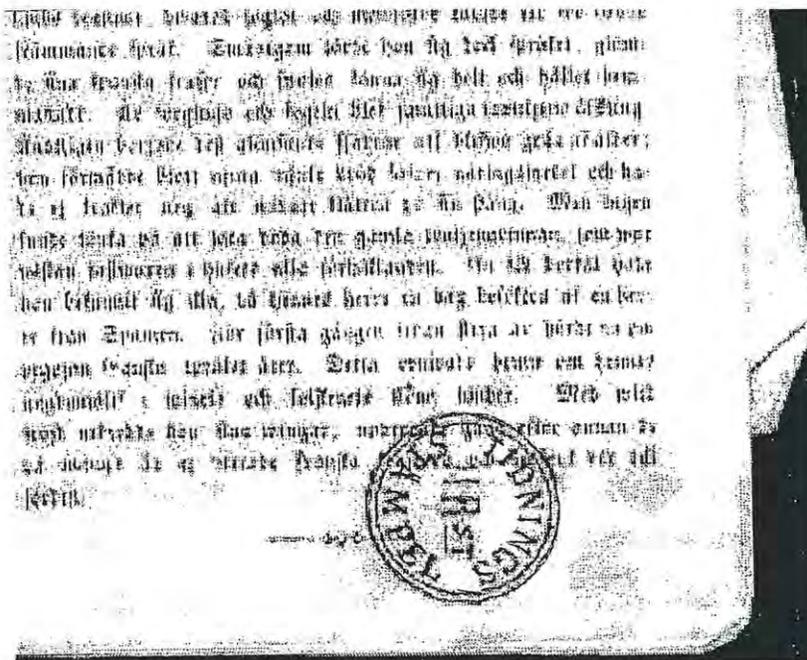


Figure 2

*Lower right corner of a page
a Swedish newspaper; the
'Sunday Illustrated Magazine'.*

A Swedish newspaper of 1847 published in Göteborg has an impressed mark that is called a Tidningsbevilningstämpel. The term means that authorisation to publish had been granted. It is not a tax or postage on that copy, in contrast with the British or Tasmanian marks and the stamps we will consider shortly.

To illustrate how ridiculous the legal situation had become, the following histories are helpful. The editor of the newspaper *Stockholms Posten*, a Captain Anders Lindeberg, was convicted of treason in 1834 for implying that King Karl Johan should be deposed.

He was sentenced to death by decapitation, under a surviving medieval treason law. When the King mitigated the sentence to three years in prison, Lindeberg decided to highlight the King's repressive press policy by insisting upon his right to be beheaded and refusing to take advantage of the government's attempts to encourage him to escape jail.

Finally, in desperation, the King issued a general amnesty 'to all political prisoners awaiting execution' which in fact could apply only to Lindeberg. When the editor stubbornly continued to insist on his right to be executed, the government solved the problem by locking him out of his cell while he was walking in the prison courtyard and then refusing him re-entry. At the same time attempts by the King to ban the new and very successful paper *Aftonbladet*, edited by Lars Johan Hierta, resulted in it repeatedly reappearing under a new name, until after twenty-three name changes the authorities gave up their attempted censorship. It exists still as a tabloid with Hierta's name on the front page.

When postage stamps came into use some countries soon after created special postage issues for newspapers. Hungary did this only up to 1900, Austria kept this up until the 1920s and Czechoslovakia when it became independent copied the practice much longer.



Figure 3 - Mucha's work; a poster and the Eagle design for newspaper stamps.

The Czech design, by Alfons Mucha, shows an eagle. Mucha had been living in exile in Paris until the foundation of the republic, and as an honoured artist designed the first stamps and banknotes of Czechoslovakia. His influential jugendstil poster designs are still collected and reproduced. The newspaper stamps overprinted 'O. T'. signifies two Czech words that translate as 'commercial printed matter'. Czech issues survived until after the Second World War, but perhaps the most curious issue is a miniature sheet of 25 newspaper stamps in a 5 by 5 format, issued imperforate for a philatelic exhibition in 1937 in Bratislava. There was one Danish issue in 1914, and one German issue in 1939.

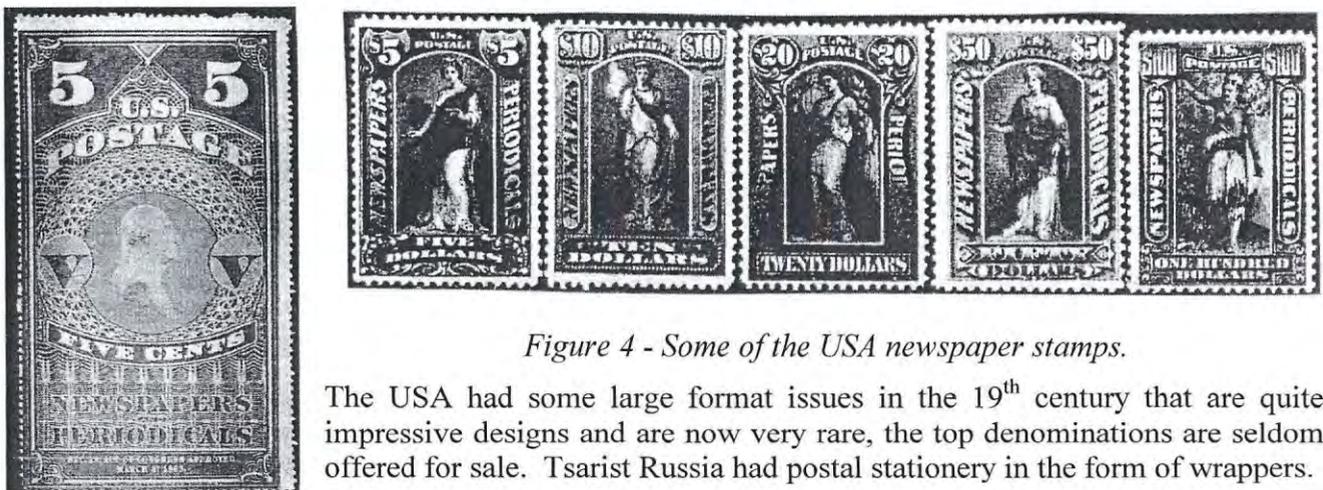


Figure 4 - Some of the USA newspaper stamps.

The USA had some large format issues in the 19th century that are quite impressive designs and are now very rare, the top denominations are seldom offered for sale. Tsarist Russia had postal stationery in the form of wrappers.



Figure 5 - The last Austrian issue for newspapers.



The Austrian issues were numerous and the designs depicted the head of Mercury in various forms. The first issues in 1851 and 1856 include the rarest of European stamps, and are not likely ever to be seen in real examples by most collectors. I note that Cherrystone Auctions in New York, in their January 2003 sale, had a genuine unused yellow Mercury of 1851 on offer for \$US 35,500. The last postage issues in the 1920s were overtaken by inflation and are still common in remaindered blocks. They are found privately perforated, examples actually used on papers or wrappers are more informative and scarcer. But from 1853 to 1890

there were also adhesive newspaper tax stamps, so the two functions of tax and postage were for a while separated. Revenue newspaper stamps also exist for Austria but are not in the main catalogues.

The practice of using a single stamp on one newspaper, and stamps of a much higher denominations on wrappers containing bundles of papers, seems to have been widespread internationally. The result is that most of the higher denomination copies were destroyed unless the receiving newsagent was a philatelist, an improbable coincidence.

Postal stationery dedicated exclusively to the transmission of newspapers exists in issues between France and Sweden, following an agreement of 1st December 1880. Such a bilingual form, that accompanied the sending of a pack of newspapers is called in French 'Mandat d'Abonnement aux Journaux', and correspondingly in Swedish 'Postanvisning för Tidningsabonnement'.

Stamps were affixed on the back of the forms, whose use ended in 1920.

Figure 6

The joint French-Swedish form used in 1887.

There is now a resurgent fashion in Europe for collecting postal administration documentation, often such forms are called *blanketter*. An example used specifically for a imported consignment of newspapers, copies of the Berliner Börsen Zeitung (a stock market paper) at Stockholm in 1944 is our final illustration. The importation of printed matter was taxed.

Postanstalts nr: Stockholm Bokl. nr: 100
 Avd. nr: 1
 Tidningen för år 1944 den 24 / 7
 med redovisningsnr 376 och löpande nr 7
 nr för tidn. 5 avseende Tidningen Bären
Stockholm

uppl.

Antal ex.						M. S. S. nr	Avskut	
helt nr	1/2 kv.	3/4 kv.	1/2 kv.	1/4 kv.	mbn.		nr	örr
			1				2180	

ger anledning till följande anmärkning.

1) ~~Löpande nr icke enligt anteckningarna till~~ var
 2) ~~Löpp. saknas ang.~~ A) Priset ent. taxan är 21 kr. 30 öre
 löpande nr 50
 sa. ex. att sändas varför skilnadsbeloppet
 redovisningsnr a) återbetalas till abonnenten
 abonnem.termin b) Redovisas med det bifogade tilläggsrekvisition,
 redovisat belopp. som skall införas i tidningsjournalen för den
 dag, skilnadsbeloppet införes kassan, samt
 3) Tidningen kan endast abonneras direkt hos utgivaren. förses med redovisningsnummer i följd med
 samt bifogad tidningsrekvisitioner. Tidnings-
 journalens anmärkningskolumner antecknas.
 Beloppet kr. Tillägg till nr 1 1944
 öre bör återbetalas till abonnenten.

Svar:

Figure 7 - A form used in 1944.

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KYRGYZSTAN - ILLEGAL ISSUES OF POSTAGE STAMPS

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union

Berne, Switzerland, Berne, 3 June 2002 - Press Release

The postal administration of Kyrgyzstan has information about illegal issues of stamps bearing the symbol of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan. It asks that the following information be sent to Union member countries:

Number of stamps in sheet: 9 (3 x 3)

"Shrek". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Defenders of Peace and Freedom". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"Tiger". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Harry Potter". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Ironman". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"Formula 1". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Superman". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"Mother Teresa". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Flash". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"The Beatles". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Legends of Baseball". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"Dogs". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

"Green Lantern". Face value: 10 C, 10 C, 10 C, 20 C, 20 C, 20 C, 30 C, 30 C, 30 C;

"Concorde". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

Number of stamps in sheet: 6 (3 x 2)

"Harley Davidson". Face value of each stamp: 20 C;

Block of 3 stamps

"Princess Diana". Face value: 10 C, 20 C, 30 C;

"Elvis". Face value: 10 C, 20 C, 30 C;

Block of one stamp

"Penguins". Face value of stamp: 100 C.

"Harry Potter". Face value of stamp: 100 C;

These stamps have been issued in violation of the Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention and Kyrgyz legislation and, not having been issued by the competent authorities, cannot be accepted as means of postal prepayment. We ask you to let us know the identity of the manufacturers of these illegal postage stamps.

K J S McKEOWN

Director of Communication and Postal Markets

WADP Secretariat

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union

Case postale

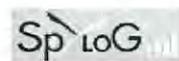
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PASTCARDS

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*Rollingstone Station,
March 1922.
Produced by Picture
Australia and printed
by Avant Card.*

EDITORIAL

In this issue we have the first part of Hans Karman's promised article on his award winning exhibit of **Windmills** as well as an item by Elspeth Bodley based on her recent display to the Postcard group. The

Group's meetings on the second Tuesday of each month continue to bring out a wide range of collecting interests and formats.

My attention was recently drawn to a flyer produced by the British Postcard Traders Association titled "an introduction to... Postcard Collecting an international hobby for everyone! It made me wonder whether there should be an Australian equivalent, perhaps in the leaflet series produced by the Australian Philatelic Federation. Noticeably absent in this well produced document is any reference to exhibiting, although referring to "The Picture Postcard Show" as a source of material. There are two internet references: www.postcardcollecting.co.uk & www.postcard.co.uk.

The group now has available to it a supply of outdated Avant cards courtesy of Jenni Creagh at the Dinosaur Museum – surely it is better that we get them than they be pulped! Members wishing to get a set should contact me if they cannot get to a meeting. I hope to get an article on using Avant Cards for teaching purposes for a forthcoming issue.

Bruce Parker

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A THEMATIC EXHIBIT OF POSTCARDS - WINDMILLS

Hans Karman

Amended Rules have been published for use at future Postcard Exhibits. They state that there are five classifications: Topographical, Thematic, Social, Classification and Modern. In this series of articles I will develop my theme, using postcards and complementary materials now specifically allowed in all classifications. Although the theme is specific, I believe that the methodology can be applied to other thematic postcard exhibits, and possibly in other classifications too.

Frame 1: The History of Windmills – from the Romans to the 20th Century

When I first thought of expanding the History of windmills, I thought that it would be difficult to find suitable postcards. After all, postcards have only been around a bit over 100 years, while windmills have been around much longer. However, history is displayed on more postcards than will fit in one frame, and I will select a few from this frame.

On a small scale grinding of grains was done between two stones, a fixed one and a beater, usually operated by women in early cultures. These developed into large grinders manipulated on an even larger base – and one of these can still be found in Cyprus.



Figure 1

*A Mill in Cyprus.
A card issued by
an open-air
museum showing
primitive
agriculture in
early
Mediterranean
civilisation.*

The Romans developed mills to be more efficient: the grain could be poured into the top and the meal dropped out from the bottom so that they could be operated continuously. Some of these mills survived in Pompeii; they were operated by slaves.

Figure 2

Casa dei Forni and cross-section of a Roman mill. A 1950s card from the excavations at Pompei.

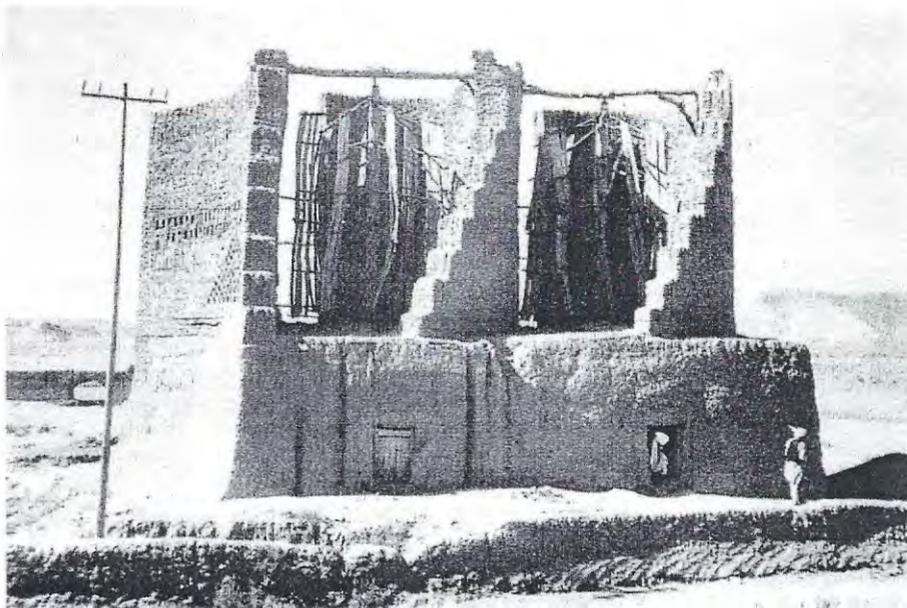


ASA DEI FORNI - POMPEI



Cross section of a Roman mill.

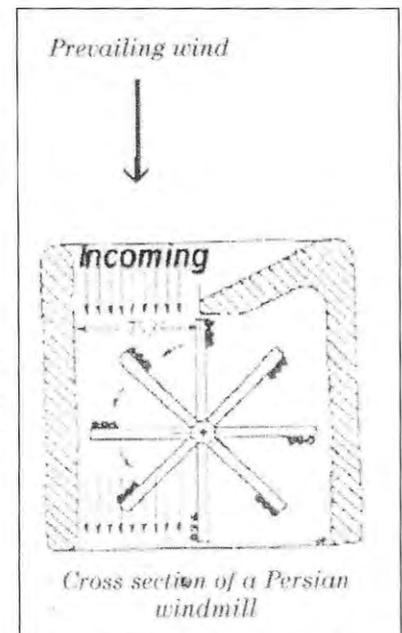
The first mention of using the wind rather than manpower or domesticated animals to move millstones is found in the Persian region in about 600 AD. These mills used windvanes around a vertical axis to turn the millstones by direct drive. The one shown was found in 1971 in Afghanistan, I do not know if any still exist. They were clumsy as they depended on a fixed wind direction, and would only operate at higher wind velocities.



Mouilins en Afghanistan / Afghaanse windmolens - (Richard Hewer, 1971)

Figure 3

Afghan Windmill and cross section to show how it operated. A photo gleaned from a Belgian research text on the reconstruction of windmills.

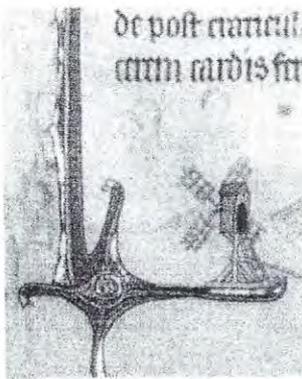


Cross section of a Persian windmill

Windmills arrived in Europe via the Mediterranean probably before the crusades. The first depiction of a windmill can be found in an illuminated text of about 1270. Early South-European mills had a stone base while in the North timber was preferred because stone was scarce.

Figure 4

A Funchal mill on a stone base, and a wooden based mill shown in a 1270 manuscript.



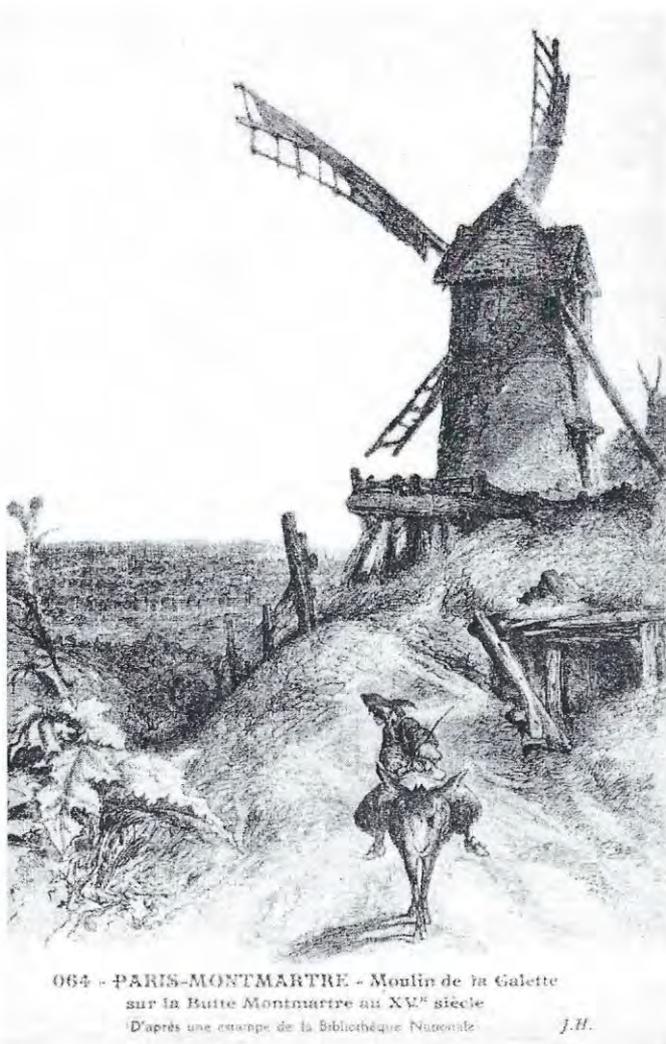
Illumination from a 1270 manuscript



The French developed the Tower Mill: a stone tower with a movable cap, which allowed the wings to be turned into the wind. This increased the efficiency of windmills significantly.

Figure 5

The Moulin de la Galette in Paris dates from the 13th Century and still exists. The (French) National Library produced a set of postcards of historical sketches: this one shows that mill as it appeared in the 15th century.



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By the 1600 the Dutch had adapted windmills for many purposes, including saw milling and dewatering. Many mill-owners became very prosperous and built elaborate houses.

Figure 6

“The House with the Mill” in the Frisian town of Blokzijl shows the original owner’s profession in the stone above the ground floor, with the date of the house: 1606. It is now an apothecary and the card was issued by the local Tourist Bureau.



The reputation of the Dutch boat builders, who used the persistent winds of the flat lands North of Amsterdam to drive the essential saw milling operations, prompted Czar Peter the Great of Russia to make an extensive visit to the region to learn the art of boat building.

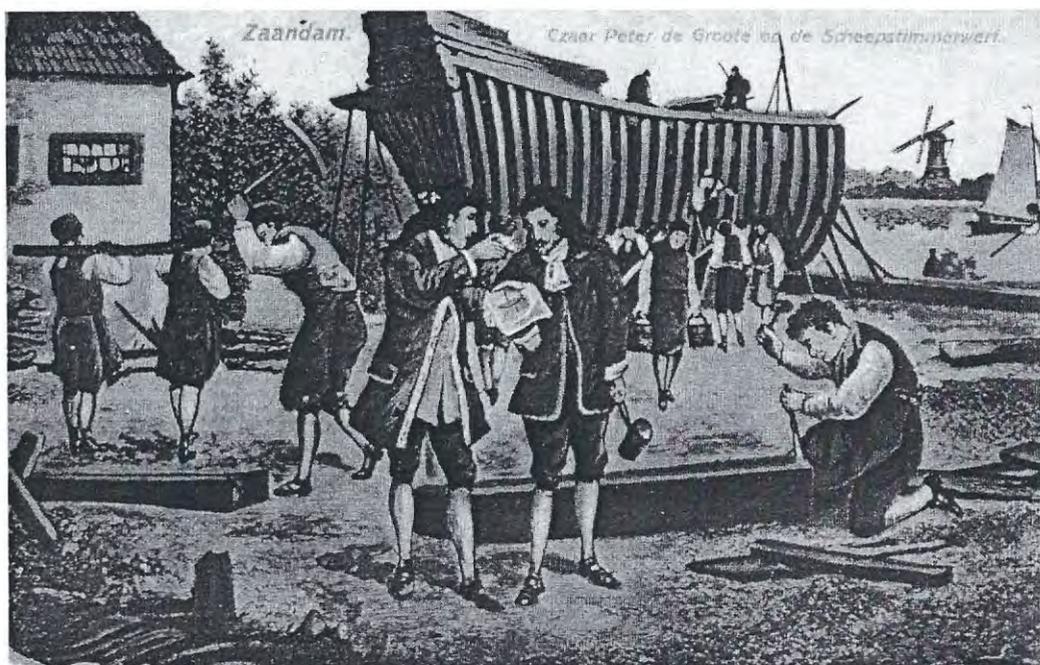


Figure 7 - Czar Peter gets the details of the trade. Part of a historical series used by Dutch schools before World War I.

Windmills were often located in strategic positions: they needed to make the most of the available winds and that often gave them extensive views over their surroundings. During the French Revolution canons were hauled to the hill of Montmartre to command the approaches to Paris.

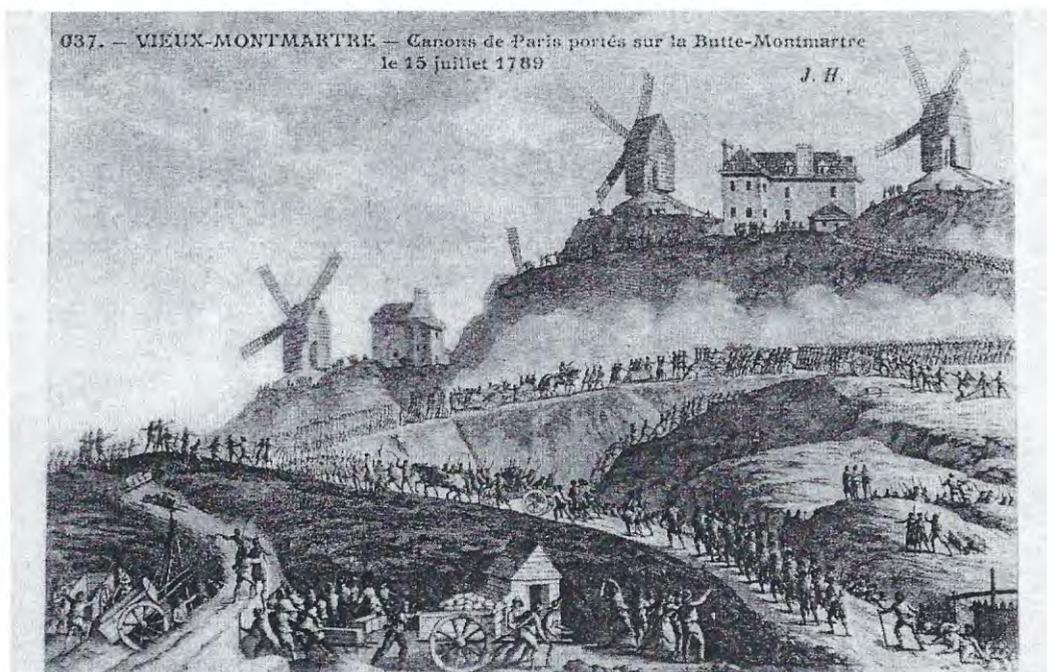
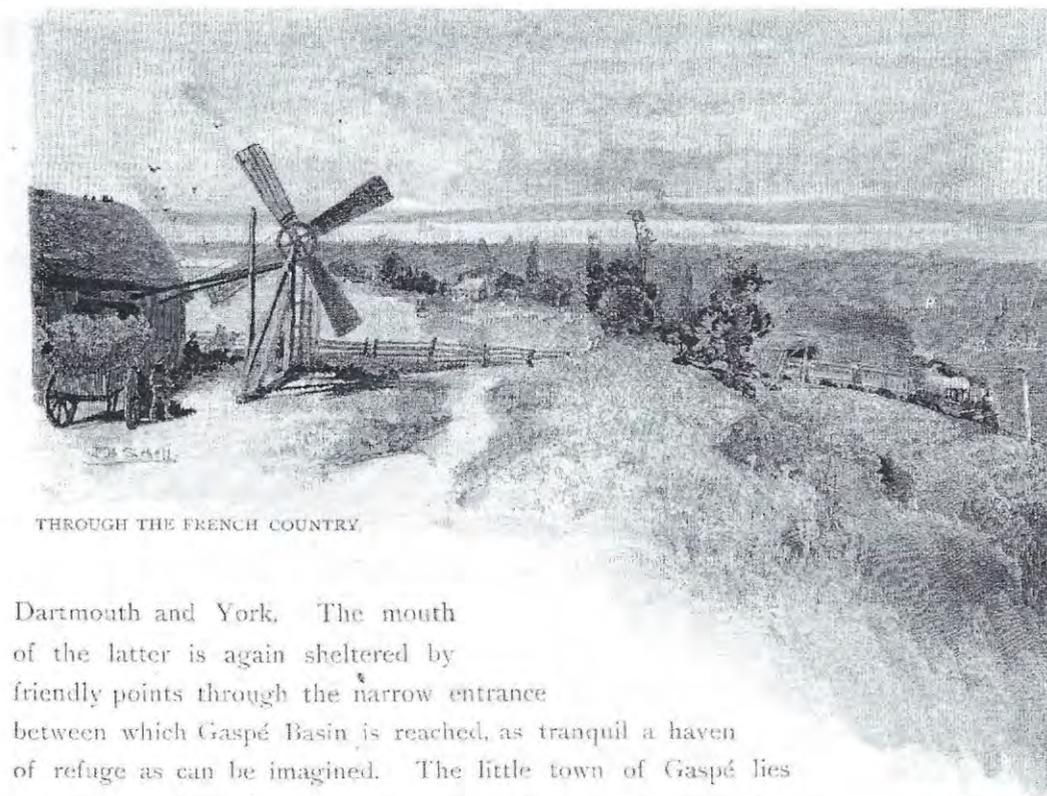


Figure 8 - Another historical sketch issued by the French National Library showing the activities at Montmartre in 1789.

In North America a new type of windmill took shape, the wind motor. It was used to drive all sorts of machinery and was simplicity itself.



Dartmouth and York. The mouth of the latter is again sheltered by friendly points through the narrow entrance between which Gaspé Basin is reached, as tranquil a haven of refuge as can be imagined. The little town of Gaspé lies

Figure 9 - A French Canadian windmill here used to thresh grain. It is a wood engraving from "Picturesque Canada", published in Toronto in 1882.

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By the end of the 19th century windmills started to disappear. Many were demolished, many just abandoned until they disappeared from neglect. Some were converted to use steam to drive existing machinery.



Figure 10 - The Windmill "The Axe" was converted, as shown by the sign, to a "Steam Saw and Plane Mill". This photo is from 1890, published as a postcard in about 1915.



Windmills spread all over the world. Sydney had several, some built during the first 10 years of European settlement, as shown on one of our pre-stamped envelopes.



Figure 11

The mill on Mt Gilead is shown here as it was in 1928. It has since disappeared.

In the 20th century windmills as they were known in 1900 either disappeared or became historical monuments, although some remain operational. But a new breed of mill has arisen. Its sole purpose is to generate electricity, either to supplement fossil fuel power generators, or as sole power suppliers at remote locations.



Figure 12

A power generator at Timland on the coast of Thailand provides a large part of power needed, despite its awkward location in a tree-covered area.

I have shown how 2000 years of history can be shown with postcards (and a few complementary items), even though postcards are just over 100 years old. I think that the same will be true for different themes.

THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

Elsbeth Bodley



My Scottish collection began with scenes of areas of family significance and has expanded from there. For this display to the December 2002 meeting of the Postcard Branch I tried to limit my selection to the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Figure 1

Ben Lawers & Loch Tay.

My Mackay ancestors farmed on Loch Tayside in the 1700's, Patrick Mackay was born near here in 1769. He later farmed in Glenorchy and then moved to Glenochay a year before he died.

Figure 2

Glenochay House.

My great-great grandmother Mackay (widow of Patrick Mackay) and her sons farmed in Glenochay (but NOT from this grand house) from 1818 – 1838. The hills further up the glen were just as steep as these.

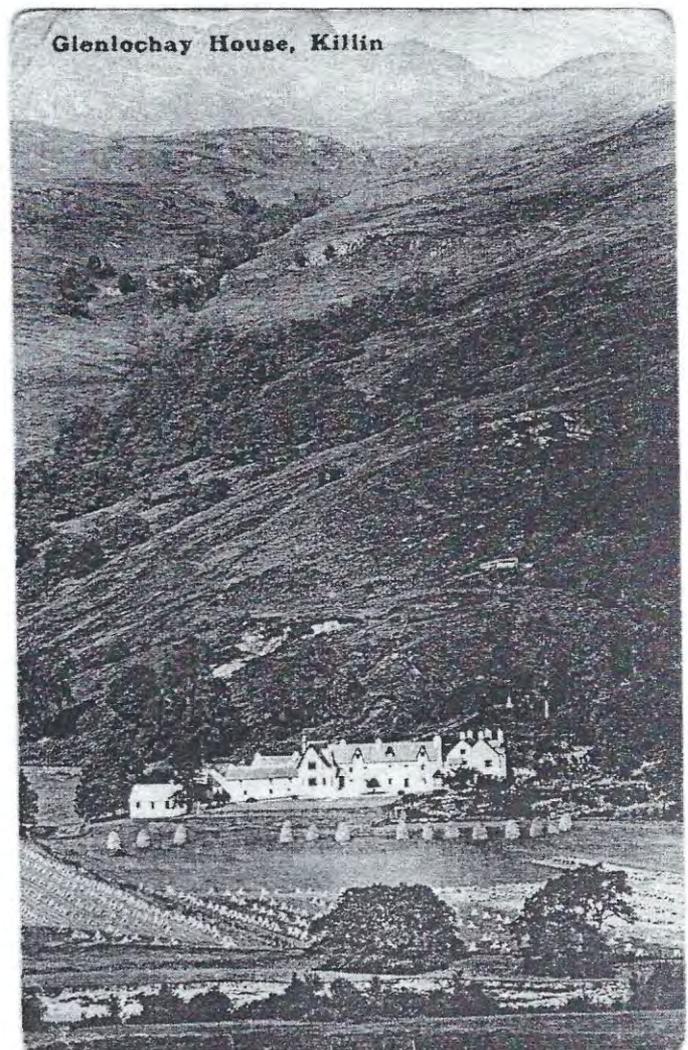




Figure 3 - Oban 1904.

Valentines Card, posted in 1904 to Sydney. By this date my grandfather was farming at Glenure, some miles north of here. Oban was his nearest town for business purposes.

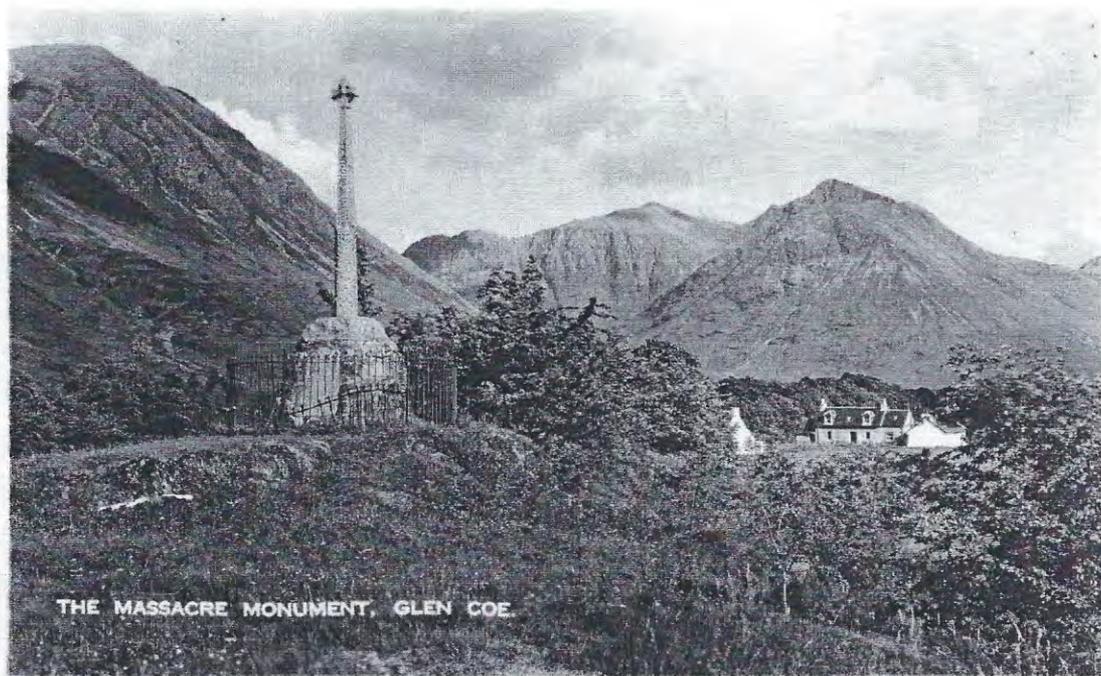


Figure 4 - Glencoe Massacre Monument.

My maiden name was McDonald, and the story is that they came from Glencoe. In addition, some MacIntyre ancestors farmed near here before 18—until the 1830's.

PASTCARDS

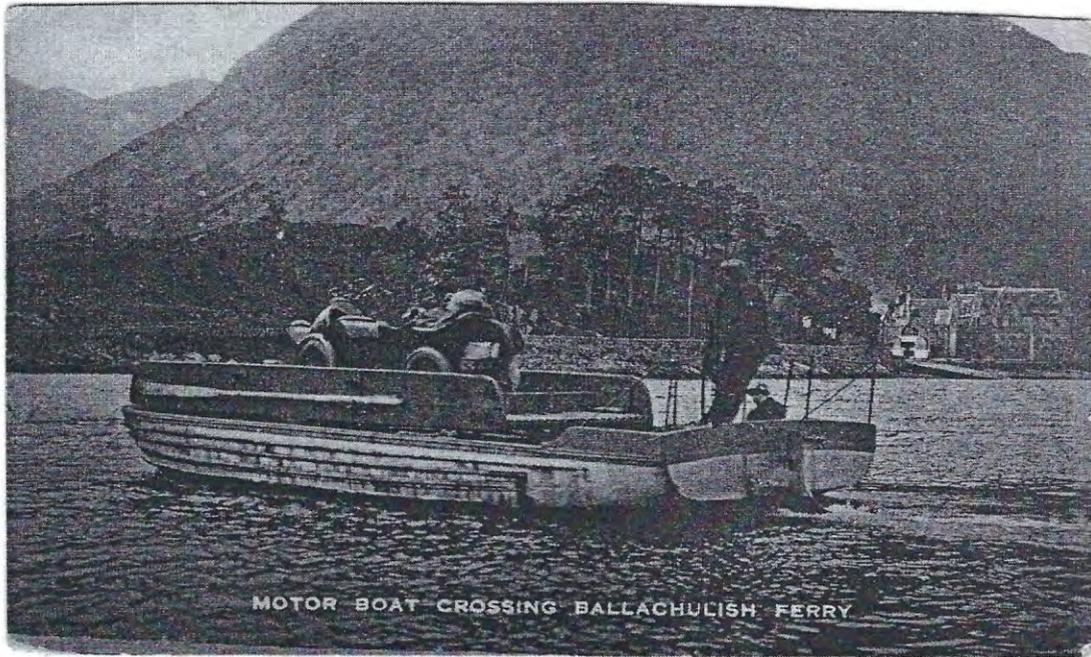


Figure 5 - Ballachulish Ferry

No date on this one and it is unused, but the car looks fairly early – and precariously perched.

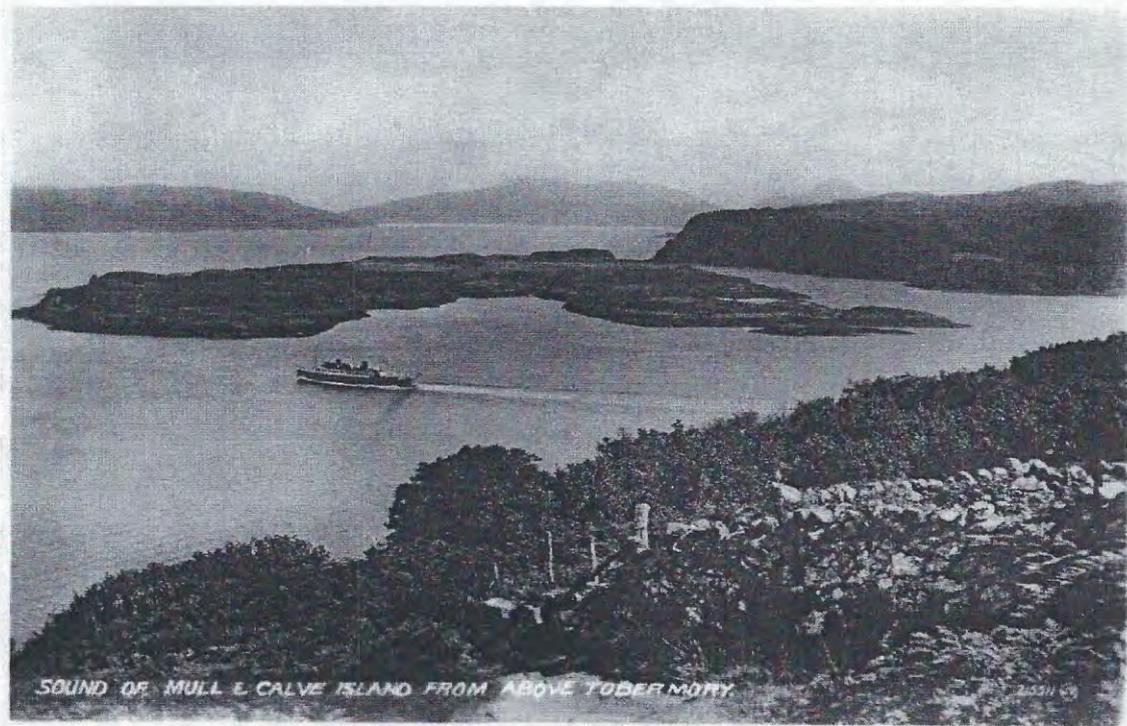


Figure 6 - Sound of Mull

Mull, one of the largest of the Inner Hebrides islands lies just west of Oban and ferries travel across frequently.

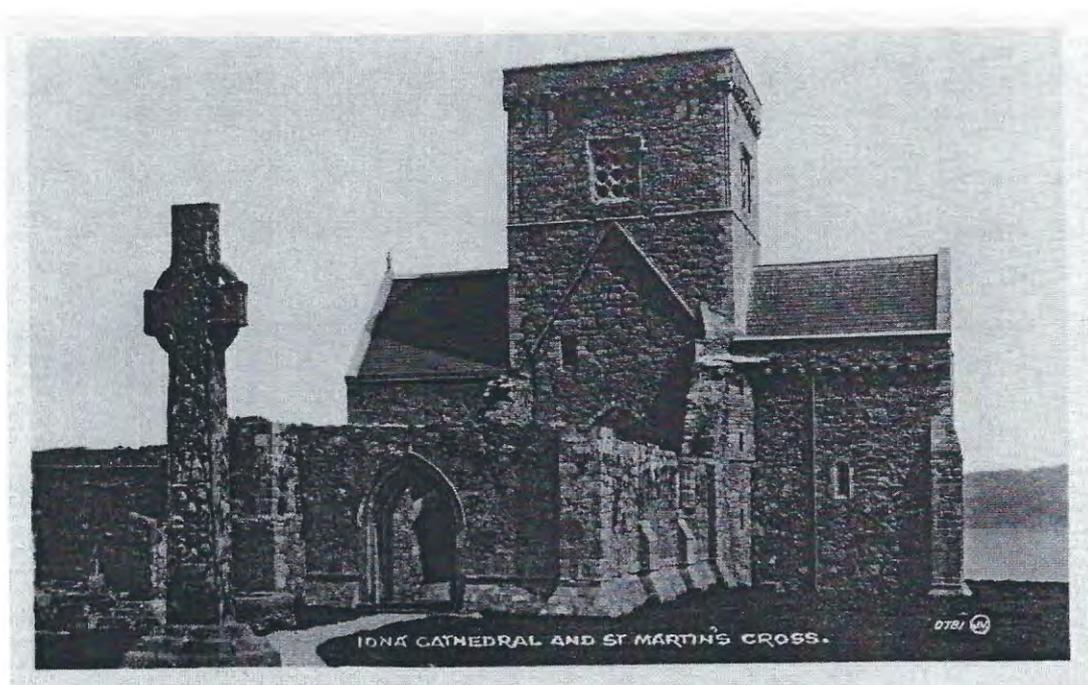


Figure 7 - Iona.

Iona, the home of St Columba and the early Christian Church in Britain, is a separate island off the south-western tip of Mull. During the 20th Century the buildings have been progressively restored and it is now a popular tourist site.



Figure 8 - Islay – Bowmore.

The island of islay (pronounced Aye-la) is the southernmost of the Inner Hebridean Islands. My grandfather was born on this island. It now seems to be most famous for its whisky distilleries. The church at the top of the street here is round – there are no corners where the devil can hide!



Figures 9 & 10

Skye – largest and most northern of the Inner Hebrides, and popular in song and with tourists.

The Cioch rock – 2 views.

Two views of the same rock. Both cards are unused and undated but they must be at least 50 years apart in time.

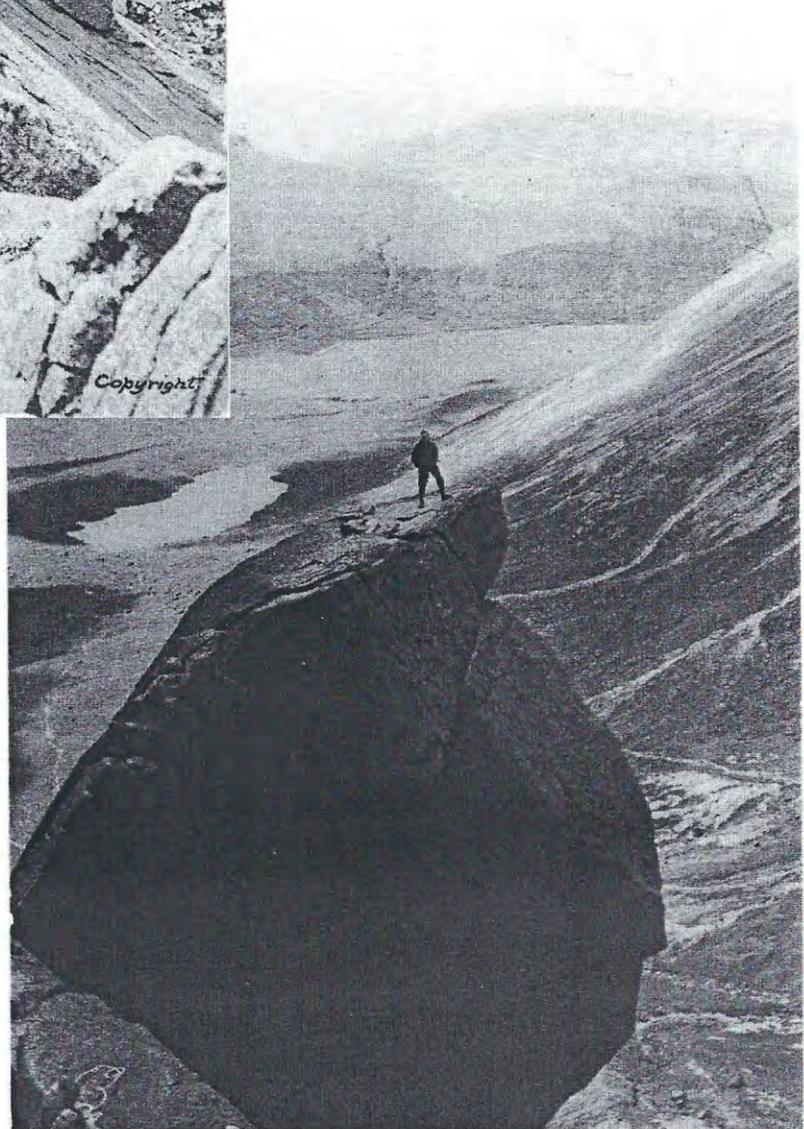




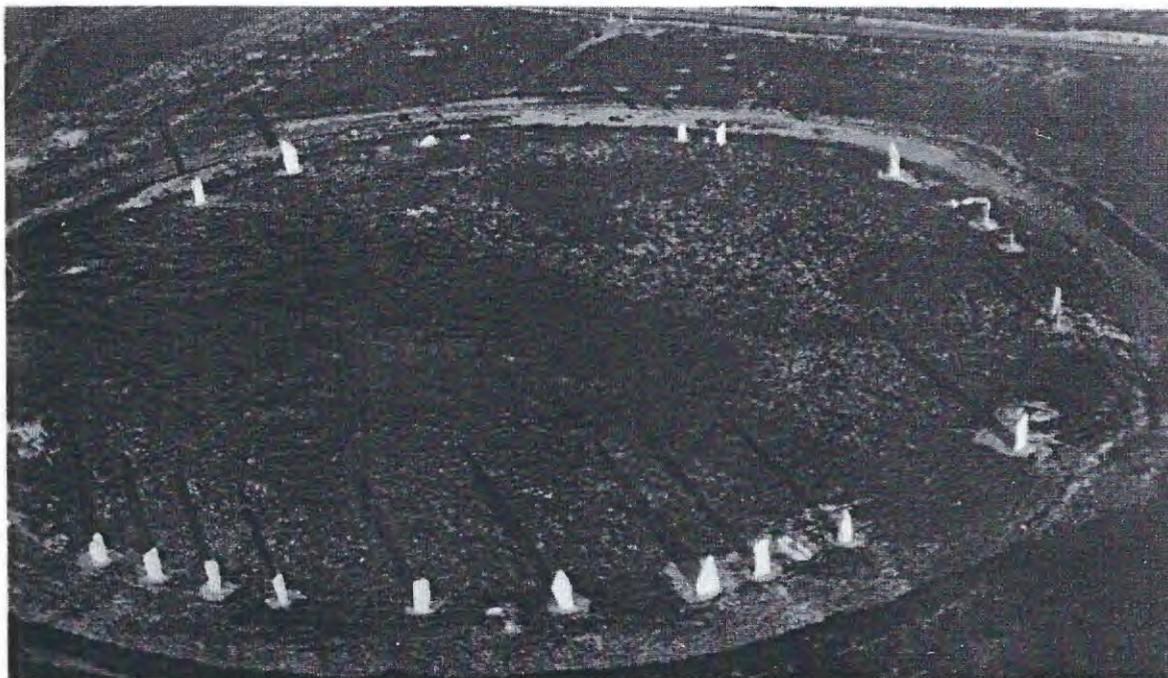
Figure 11 - Lewis.

The Outer Hebrides, a long chain of islands well out in the Atlantic, are the most remote parts of Scotland, though regularly serviced by Caledonian MacBrayne ferries. St Kilda Island is even further out but has no permanent population. Lord Lever, who made his fortune from Sunlight Soap, established a model town on Lewis – this view of Stornoway is from Lady Lever Park.



Figure 12 - Harris.

Harris is the island south of Lewis with Uist and Barra south again, among many much smaller islands. Harris, of course, is famous for its tweed.



Circle of Brodgar, Orkney, from the air

A2

Figure 13 – Orkneys – Circle of Brodgar.

To the north of Scotland are two more island groups, the Orkneys and the Shetlands. Both have strong links with Scandinavia and were part of the Viking Empire until surprisingly recent times.

The Orkneys have many traces of very early occupation including stone huts, stone circles and Pictish stones.



Figure 14 - Three Warriors – Pictish Symbol Stone.