



Capital Philately



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The Philatelic Society of Canberra
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Capital Philately

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Editorial

The 33c Australian stamp issued in May 1985 as part of a four-value series to publicise the theme of Conservation, was awarded the prestigious Asiago prize for philatelic art. The stamp was designed by Lyndon Whaite and Grant Jorgensen, and was printed by Cambec Press, of Melbourne. The official announcement of the issue said that the theme of this particular stamp is Soil Conservation, with emphasis on over-clearing, over-grazing and over-cropping, which cause soil erosion and the sometimes permanent loss of fertile top-soil. "An hour-glass within the stamp image suggests that time is running out there is an urgency to the appeal for conservation".

It may be fair to wonder how many people who use or collect this stamp ever pause to consider just what the design is really trying to say. People who use stamps merely as a means of ensuring that their letters will go on their way, seldom look at the stamp

at all. Those who buy the stamp in order to maintain the completeness of their collections, may give it a passing glance to decide if the design is pleasing or not. The philatelist will examine his copies to make sure that there is no aspect of technical production which will justify some particular study or notation in his collection, but, apart from all these considerations, the design offers little to the stamp collector or philatelist, except in the thematic or topical sense.

The 3rd Universal Postal Union commemorative of 1949 received high praise for excellence of design, and this was an entirely different concept of the idea of design, as compared with the Conservation stamp. In the 1949 case, the picture of an outback postman on horse-back was something which everyone could recognise as typically Australian, and it represented a picture which could be appreciated by all. The Conservation design, being of an abstract nature, is not a representation of anything typically Australian, but it attempts to convey a message to whoever is impacted by it.

The general public, whether it comprises non-collectors, stamp collectors or specialised philatelists, is attracted by a good design, representative of the country, which conveys an attractive picture of something which everyone can recognise. Some may say that such a stamp is merely a photographic representation, which anyone can make, while others may say of the Conservation design that it is something that they cannot understand, as relating to anything they can see around them. The contrast between the two types of pictorial art is wide - compare, say, the \$5 definitive design showing McMahon's Point with one of the 1983 designs commemorating Commonwealth Day.

The point is that you cannot please everybody, and, in philately, the opinion of the general public as to the excellence or otherwise of any design, is really a minor consideration. Many stamps, which might be described fairly as having no artistic merit at all, provide the highest interest for philatelists, such as the primitive issues of Tibet or the Moldavian Bulls, about which many learned books have been written. So while there is an element of national pride in the recognition of something produced by Australian designers and printers, the main interest for the philatelist lies not in the visual impact of the stamp on the observer, but in the degree of philatelic significance and importance which it arouses. In days when photographic transfer of picture onto miniscule pieces of paper is the normal practice, there is a reduction of the opportunities for research which used to characterise earlier issues. This is one of the facts of life, and there is no point in knocking the present system, any more than

there is in knocking a design which shows a large tree growing inside an hour-glass. Those who love their stamps will prize them all, and, as well as following traditional lines of collecting, will devote their energies into wider fields such as postal history, which do not involve any considerations of the design of the stamps.

Planning for the Fifth National Philatelic Convention, to be held in Canberra in March 1988, has commenced, and a committee of the Society has been meeting regularly. The event will include, as before, an Exhibition, which will be conducted at State level, open to a wide range of entries. Past Conventions have been outstandingly successful, and the scope will be widened in 1988 to incorporate a separate class for Postal Stationery, and also, as a first venture in Australia, a class for Modern Philately. Such a Class has been included in some Exhibitions overseas, and the Society feels that an innovation such as this has much to commend it. The idea is to give collectors an opportunity to display their comparatively modern issues - people who might be deterred from participating in competition with others who can exhibit in more specialised areas.

Full details will be announced in due course, but it is not too early for prospective entrants to begin planning what they propose to display. The Philatelic Society of Canberra has built up a reputation in the hobby, and the support of all members is essential for the success of the 1988 event.

The Council of the Philatelic Society of Canberra has appointed Mrs J. Grant as Business Manager for "Capital Philately". Dr A.R. Tippet has retired from the Editorial Committee, and his place has been taken by Mr D.I. Smith.

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THE POSTAL HISTORY COLUMN - INSTRUCTIONAL MARKS

E.C. Druce

Some of the most sought-after postal markings are instructional markings applied to mail. The reason for this is that they are only applied to a fraction of the mail and are thus rarer than postmarks and are often of an unusual shape or a colour other than black. In addition, they often indicate the humanity and occasional frailty of the Post Office. Most postal historians cannot resist obtaining "mis-sent" markings of their particular collecting areas.

Perhaps first I should try and define Instructional Marks. They are markings "applied by the Post Office (or others acting within the postal system) to inform either their own employees about the special features and postal requirements of a mail item, or the recipient (who can be the sender) of the reason for irregular delivery or handling including non-delivery". In adding the phrase "or others acting within the postal system" I was particularly thinking of customs and censorship systems.

This definition gives us some guidance in developing a classification system. It is based on a fourfold division - three are applied by the post office, and their prime purpose is to either inform postal employees, the addressee, or the sender. The fourth group is official markings applied by others.

A. Applied by Post Office to inform postal employees

1. Special Service required
 - (a) Registered, including Security Post
 - (b) Airmail
 - (c) Express (including priority paid and special delivery)
 - (d) Certified delivery
 - (e) Acknowledgement of receipt.
2. Payment Information
 - (a) Special rates, including late fee
 - (b) Tax markings/insufficiently stamped
 - (c) Validity of stamps or postal item
 - (d) Deficiency noted
 - (e) Change to service because of underpayment
 - (f) Free
 - (g) Bulk mailings.

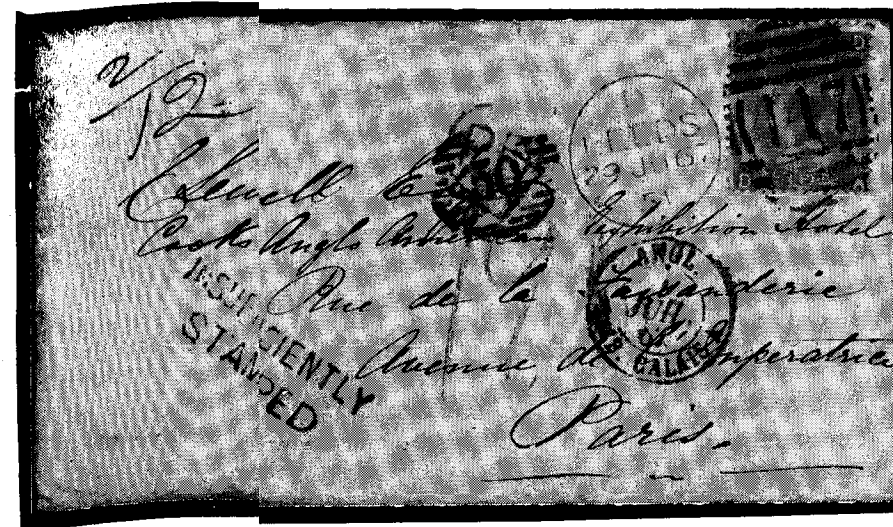


Fig. 1

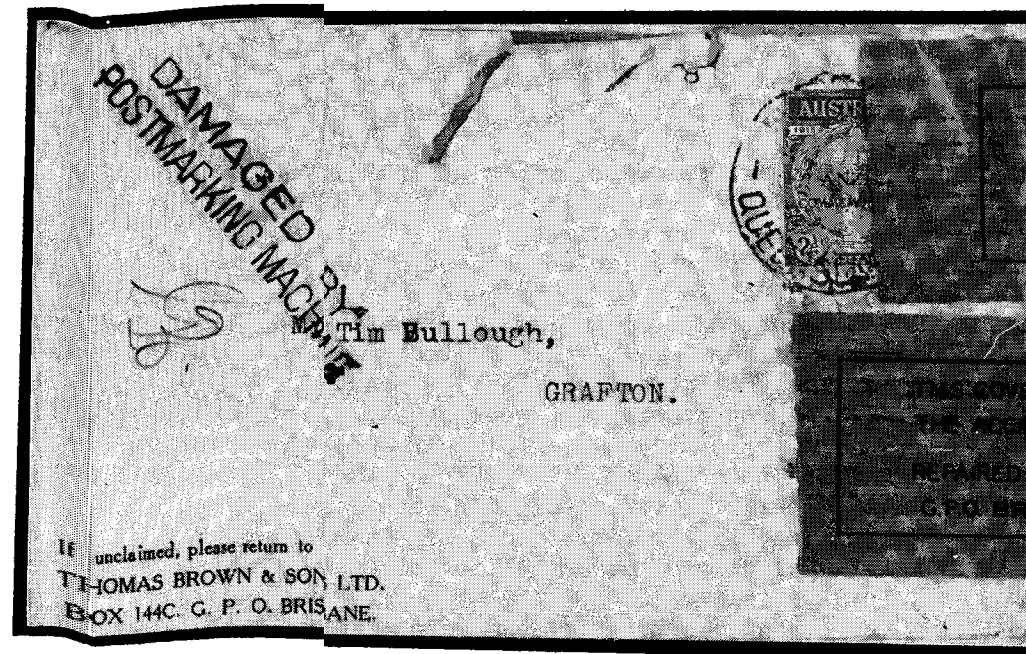


Fig. 2

3. Routing Information
 - (a) Special routing and/or transport
 - (b) Mis-sent markings
 - (c) Delayed mail
 - (d) Change in mode of transport.
4. Accountancy
 - (a) Charge markings
 - (b) AV2 markings
 - (c) OAT markings
 - (d) Paquebot.
5. Changes to a postal item en route
 - (a) Stamp lost
 - (b) Registered in transit
 - (c) Mail item closed in transit
 - (d) Change of address.

B. Applied by Post Office to inform addressee

1. Payments Due
 - (a) Postage due
 - (b) Cash on delivery.
2. Delay of postal article in the post by Post Office or others
 - (a) Mis-sorted
 - (b) Mis-sent
 - (c) Misplaced
 - (d) Captured mail.
3. Delay of postal article because of incorrect procedures by sender
 - (a) Mis-directed
 - (b) Incorrectly posted
 - (c) Too late
 - (d) Incorrect or insufficient address.
4. Damage to postal article
 - (a) Wreck mail
 - (b) Received damaged
 - (c) Damage by postal operations
 - (d) Contents lost.

C. Applied by Post Office to inform sender

1. Underpayment
2. Inadmissible postal item

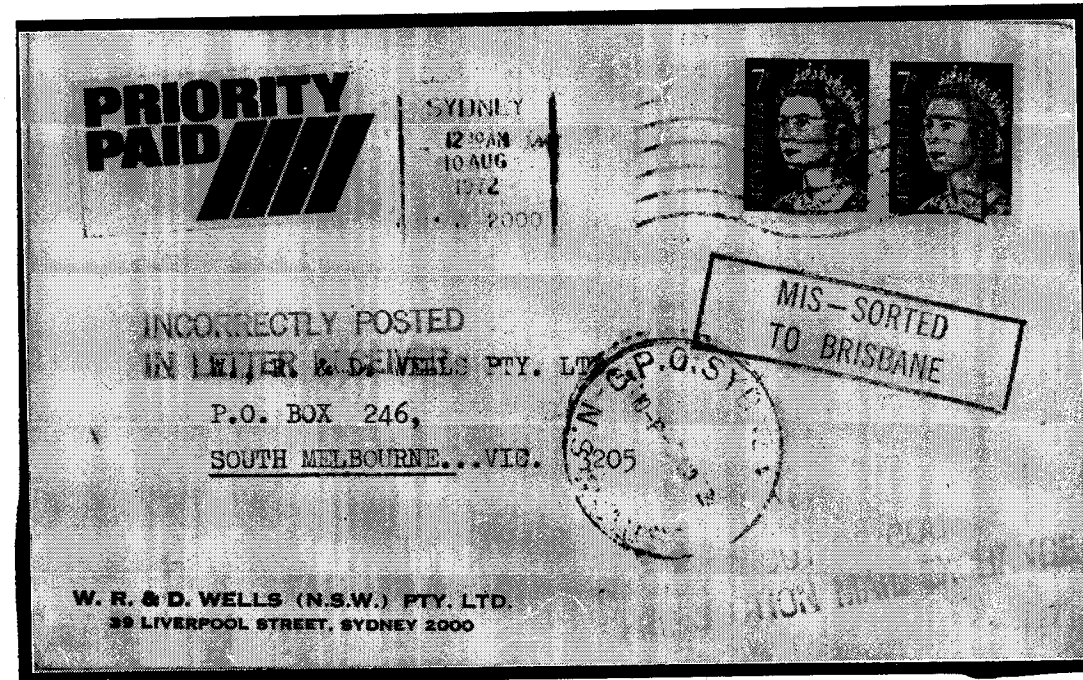


Fig. 3

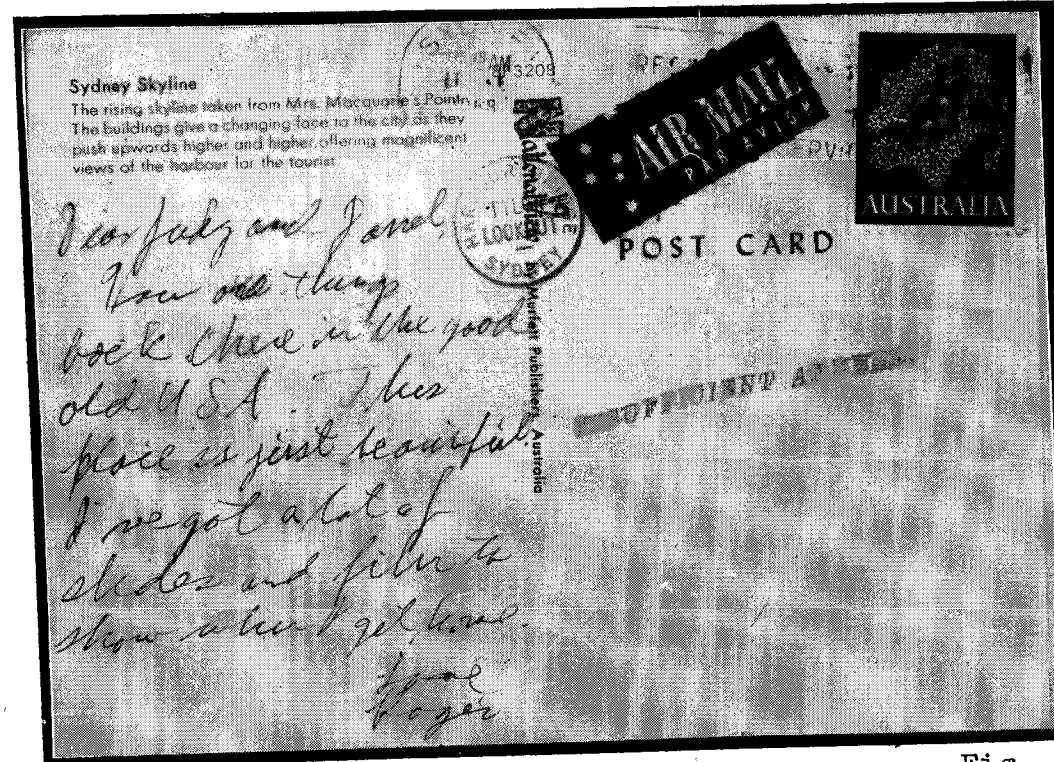


Fig. 4

3. Service not available
 - (a) Cancelled
 - (b) Suspended
 - (c) Embargoed.
 4. Item undeliverable
 - (a) Unclaimed
 - (b) Not known
 - (c) Left address
 - (d) Refused
 - (e) Deceased
 - (f) Box discontinued
 - (g) Transmission refused
 - (h) Address illegible
 - (i) House empty
 - (j) Premises demolished
 - (k) Arrived too late (ships mail).
 5. Post office actions in endeavouring to deliver article.
- D. Applied by others
1. Customs markings
 2. Censorship markings
 3. Carrier markings
 4. Military Authorities
 - (a) Released
 5. Mail carried by Diplomatic system
 6. Government Control Office.

I do not claim this list to be exhaustive nor am I yet sure whether it is the best classification. However, it is a start, and it certainly gives an idea of the breadth and complexity of instructional markings. Indeed, if anyone was looking for a postal history subject to collect then I'm sure they can find something in the above listing.

While much of the material on which I have based this classification is of Australian origin, it must be remembered that each postal jurisdiction has its own markings - the language is slightly different but the message is the same. Sometimes the state of a country reflects the markings; contrast a British marking covering reason for non-delivery, DEMOLISHED, with a Canberra marking HOUSE UNOCCUPIED UNTIL (DATE) where the house is being built!

To give some historical perspective, I should note that early mail tends to bear few instructional markings, and tends to be associated with delay in the mail (particularly mis-sent and too late), irregularities with free mail (above weight, above number) or non-delivery (unclaimed mail). As postal services evolved and became more technologically based, the use of instructional markings blossomed from use in conjunction with airmail-related items to damage by automatic machinery and to charging irregularities with the introduction of compulsory prepayment and the increase in the number of services offered. During this time the individual hand-stamps have been combined into multiple purpose markings. Particularly obvious is the multiple purpose "Reason for Non-Delivery" marking which is becoming ubiquitous within postal systems. Further, the introduction of rubber hand-stamps has led to a proliferation of markings. It is a very different world when a rubber stamp can be obtained quickly and cheaply from the shop next door as compared with a world where one ordered a brass handstamp through a central supply office. Brass handstamps don't wear out as quickly either!

Over the coming issues of "Capital Philately" I will expand on this listing. Some of the cryptic descriptions may not trigger in the mind of the reader the exact nature of the markings. However, I have illustrated some markings which exemplify each of the four broad categories which I have erected.

The first cover (Fig. 1) was sent in 1867 from Leeds to Paris. It was prepaid fourpence, and originally was marked PD in red to signify paid to destination. However, although the rate to France was fourpence, the letter must have been overweight and twopence was due. The PD was therefore cancelled with a numeral canceller and the instructional marking "Insufficiently Stamped" was added. This alerted the French Post Office who duly charged 12 centimes postage due. This cover is a good example of marks applied by the Post Office to inform other postal employees.

To illustrate markings used to inform the recipient, I have chosen two Australian items, one recent, to show that postal history happens day by day. The older item (Fig. 2) is from Brisbane where the postmarking machine was obviously hungry on 4th April 1935. The second cover (Fig. 3) is a sad tale of ineptitude by the sender and the Post Office. First posted in a letter receiver instead of being posted in the special box or handed to the counter clerk, it arrived in the Ship Section of the Mail Exchange (often used for other duties when ship mail absent) where it was mis-sorted to Brisbane instead of being sent to Melbourne.



Fig. 5

Undeliverable mail is not rare, but the reasons are extensive. One reason is that the address is insufficient. I have chosen to illustrate this with a rather obvious example! (Fig. 4). Although the mark is intended to inform the sender of the reason for non-delivery, he would never have known - but I bet he blamed the Post Office!

Finally, I have illustrated a cover from Tel Aviv to Australia in 1940 (Fig. 5). It was duly opened and passed by the Censor and the information has been hand-stamped on the censor seal. This information advised the Australian Post Office that the item could be delivered. The "closed" marking signified that the item, although registered, had been posted open and is an example of a post office mark used to inform other postal employees.

I hope that this very general account may have whetted your appetite, and that out of this listing you have found something to collect. Material will often be slow in coming, but if you keep your eyes open it certainly will come and it may turn an empty visit to a dealer's shop or a stamp exhibition into a search for buried treasure.

LETTERS OF PAPUA 1883-1920

K. Humphreys

Since 1981 I have kept a record of early Papuan correspondence, inward and outward, with a view to recording for collectors the names and dates of surviving postal history. The span has roughly been 1883 to 1920, but later dates of interest are detailed. The following information has been obtained from auction catalogues, reference books and covers displayed in exhibitions.

ALLEN, Joseph - A wealthy landowner of Clonallen, Armagh, Ireland. I believe he was a financial supporter of the Roman Catholic Missions in the Pacific. Two covers have survived - 30th July 1885 to James Dobson of Thursday Island and a cover to Papua dated 10th September 1899 (details unknown). The cover to Dobson has a manuscript "Not Known Port Moresby" which is the only evidence that possibly ties it to Papua. Lee in his book on the postal history of the island features a cover from Tamata to Clonallen in 1900, but unfortunately there is no information on the sender.

ALLEN, Percy - F.R.P.S.L. (1916) - Allen was the Company Secretary of the Kulumadau (Woodlark Island) Gold Mining Company from 12th July 1900 when the company was registered in Charters Towers with an initial capital of £50,000. His office was in Mosman Street and my research indicates he never went to Papua. The gold petered out in 1918 and the company was wound up on 11th August 1922, but Allen had left in August 1914 to return to Sydney. His Sydney address in 1915 was GPO Box 91.

Papuan covers addressed to Allen as Company Secretary are:-

- (a) 12th July 1901 from Samarai - the earliest recorded cover with B.N.G. stamps ex Samarai
- (b) 12th August 1901 from Woodlarks - 2 x 2d Queensland stamps
- (c) 20th September 1901 from Woodlarks - the celebrated bisect covers, one of which is featured in the Robson Lowe encyclopaedia
- (d) 14th May 1902 from Samarai.

The September 1901 bisect covers eventuated when a B.N.G. 4d stamp was bisected to give two 2d rate covers. General thought is that their creation was philatelic; who can tell after all these years? No mining employee should have handled the mail, as the Assistant Resident Magistrate supervised the mail from a Post Office on the verandah of Finn Bros. store - this Post Office was only opened when a boat was in sight. To balance that view is the

fact that the local storekeeper had been appointed Postmaster by Sir William MacGregor, the Lieutenant Governor, in July 1896. But there was no A.R.M. there in 1896, so in order for the covers to be created and postmarked, the A.R.M. must have been away on patrol and a deputy, possibly a sober storekeeper, was entreated to cut the 4d stamp in two.

Daru, Port Moresby and Samarai had the new B.N.G. stamps on sale on the first day of issue, 1st July 1901. It appears that the stamps did not get to the Woodlarks until after 12th August and before 20th September. I cannot see how Allen could send a message to the mine to prepare him two bisect covers when he could only assume the stamps had reached Kulumadau - why not bisect a Queensland 4d? Allen received the Samarai 12th July cover at Charters Towers on 29th. Thus if he sat down and replied the same day, his letter would not reach Samarai until 1st September at the very least, allowing for rail and ship delays. Then he had no way of knowing if his letter would catch the next boat to the Woodlarks. People wonder why postal history buffs wander around with a vacant stare - I can tell them!

I have found no evidence that Allen prepared covers for mailing back to himself. There is a suggestion that he had a brother at the mine, and this would possibly explain why the covers have survived.

There is a cover from Charters Towers dated 9th May 1900 to a Mr Jones, manager of the Woodlark mine - thus only five covers exist in my records that show that a mine ever existed. If Allen was a contriver, surely he had ample opportunity in his position to manufacture Queensland State covers, but I have never seen any evidence of this.

Passing from Papua for a moment, the next evidence of Percy Allen appears on a cover from Rabaul dated 5th January 1915 with a 6d engraved Kookaburra cancelled with the oval datestamp then in use by the Military - this was philatelic. Allen actually was the first collector to obtain examples of the Rabaul G.R.I. overprints, and did have a number of covers franked with first and second printing sent down to him. But I gather he soaked the stamps off.

ALLEN, John George - He is entered in this record as he was the Port Moresby Government Printer in 1889: perhaps a relative of the aforementioned Allens.

BLACK, P.G.T. - Black was Burns Philp accountant in 1885 and reached the office of General Manager in 1917, becoming a director in 1919. He died in 1922. He travelled the Pacific extensively and most surviving covers originate from Rabaul. His son

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P.T.W. Black followed in his footsteps with Burns Philp, being a director from 1947 to 1971. His record of covers goes from 1934 to 1953.

CAMPBELL, A.M. (Andy) - In 1896 Campbell came from Fiji at the request of MacGregor, and was appointed Resident Magistrate for the South East Division. Campbell was a meticulous officer, rising to the position of Government Secretary. In 1914 he retired to Caloundra, Queensland, and died on 22nd January 1928, being buried in the local cemetery.

Campbell was a school teacher in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, and five postcards to relatives there have been recorded. All were posted from Bonagai: four on 23rd (or 29th - readings of the date vary) November 1906 and one on 11th June of the same year. I have only tracked down one inward card to Campbell.

COWLING, John - A trader and plantation owner (copra) who worked in the Thursday Island/Daru area from 1903 to 1920. Covers recorded:-

- (a) from Daru to Maubiag (Jervis) Island, north of Thursday Island, dated 4th December 1904, and addressed to Cowling, C/o Bowden and Douglas, of Thursday Island. V. Bowden was the Manager of Burns Philp there from 1886 to 1891, and John Douglas was the Government Resident, who died in July 1904. I assume that Bowden and Douglas was a firm started by these two men.
- (b) from Sydney dated 19th September 1907 to C/o Fly River. At this time Cowling was the owner of Madiri Plantation on the Fly Delta. His widow was still there in 1935. This cover had an interesting route - Sydney, Samarai, Port Moresby, Cooktown, Thursday Island, Daru.
- (c) from Thursday Island dated 14th February 1908 to Daru, arriving there on 25th February 1908.
- (d) from Sydney to Daru, via Thursday Island in January 1909.

DICK, James - Arrived at Samarai late in 1897, and became the Engineer in S.S. MORESBY from 1899 to 1901. His family consisting of his wife and daughter Rachael Agnes lived at Cooktown, a port which MORESBY never visited, so that all mail is posted from Samarai. MORESBY (1881-1915) made its first Sydney-New Guinea trip on 28th June 1898.

Covers recorded from Samarai to Cooktown are dated 7th February 1898 (four 2d Queensland stamps), 4th August 1899, 19th September 1899 (4d double rate), 10th November 1899 and January 1900.

Now it appears that the letter in January 1900 to his wife gave her the disturbing news that James had left the sea and was off looking for gold up the Gira River. Proof of this is a cover from a friend or trader at Samarai dated 10th February 1900 and addressed to James Dick, Gira Goldfields, Mambare River, Tamata. The asking price for this cover in 1985 was \$3,500.

However, all was not lost as Dick's friend, the Reverend F.W. Walker, gave proof that Dick was back in civilisation when he sent him a B.N.G. official postcard dated 1st July 1901 (first day of issue), addressed C/o S.S. MORESBY.

GORS, Leo Emil - He was the Postmaster at Daru about 1905. He had a brother Walter H. who was Burns Philp Port Moresby manager 1891-1902. The only item surviving is a postcard from Leo to his young son who lived in Fiji in 1907.

HADLOW, ?E. - Three covers are recorded addressed to Hadlow from Port Moresby. One address is Grey Street, South Brisbane, and the other is the Government Minting Office, Brisbane, with the third unknown. (This last cover is in the United States of America). The two known covers are (a) dated 6th July 1899, franked with four Queensland 1d stamps (auction realisation \$2,090), and (b) dated 29th July 1899, similarly franked (realised \$1,650). I assume that the cover in the U.S.A. has a July 1899 date.

Recently, two more covers associated with Hadlow have surfaced. Both are dated 5th September 1899, and are addressed in the same hand to H.M. Hicks (price \$US2,000) and M. Maylan (\$US1,500), Government Printing Office, Brisbane. The Maylan cover is franked with a block of four Queensland 1d stamps, but the Hicks cover has two Queensland 1d dull orange - 1d stamps were not issued to Port Moresby. The conclusion is that all five/six covers are philatelic - mementos of a trip to Port Moresby by a fellow-employee of the Queensland Government Printer.

JAMES, N.R. - A collector in the Weather Bureau, South Australia. My records of his correspondence range from 1918 to 1940. There was a E.A. James in Port Moresby about 1923, who edited the "Papuan Courier" - a relative perhaps? Covers recorded are:

- (a) 1918 from Daru to South Australia;
- (b) 25th January 1918 from Buna Bay, registered No. 706;
- (c) 3rd March 1918 from Ioma, registered No. 66;
- (d) 5th February 1931 from Samarai to 11 Katherine Street, Fullarton Estate, South Australia;
- (e) February 1940 from Kokoda, censored.

In addition, there are some Cape Nelson covers. Cape Nelson in Papua never was a post office in practice, but a date-stamp (or date stamps) existed. There are three confirmed covers, and one reported, cancelled with the Cape Nelson date-stamp, and addressed to James in 1920. Two covers are in the United States of America, and one in Australia, with an unconfirmed report of the other in Chicago.

There are two possible scenarios:-

- (1) James and another Adelaide friend prepared covers that went to Cape Nelson, where the stamps were cancelled with the unofficial date-stamp and sent down to Samarai where they were registered. The rates paid by James are incorrect, and because he left little space for a registration label, Samarai had to affix the labels folded over the edge of the covers. The covers then proceeded in the correct manner to Sydney and Adelaide. Dates used on the Cape Nelson canceller are 14th May and 1st September 1920.
- (2) The covers never went to Cape Nelson. The canceller was used at Samarai per favour, and the covers registered. Samarai was in charge of Cape Nelson for postal purposes, and there is every possibility that the canceller was stored there.

KENDRICK - The name has surfaced for a period 1905 to 1927, but I have not been able to work out a family tree to this date.

There are some possibilities-

- (1) Rev.G. Kendrick. The following covers exist -

- (a) 24th December 1907 from the British Solomon Islands to Kendrick, H.M. Customs, Samarai;
- (b) 1907 from Samarai to Sydney;
- (c) 1920 from Samarai to R.W.F. Kendrick, Sydney.

- (2) R.J. Kendrick - The following exist -

- (a) cover 20th July 1904 to Dawson, Yukon Territory (Gold miner?);
- (b) post-card 17th January 1905 from Kulumadau (Gold mine?) to Sydney.

- (3) R.W.T. Kendrick. He was Postmaster at Samarai from 7th December 1909 to 1st April 1911, Postmaster at Port Moresby from 27th July 1911 to 18th September 1911, and Treasurer at Port Moresby about 1918.

There is a cover dated 25th May 1912 from Samarai, franked with six 1d Lakatoi Duty Stamps, which is philatelic.

Robert William Turner (see TURNER below) Kendrick may have retired to Kelvin Grove, Brisbane, as there is a 1928 cover recorded to that address.

- (4) William T. Kendrick. His address in 1927 was also Kelvin Grove. Was he the R.W.T.? This Kendrick was Chief Postmaster at Port Moresby in 1925.

- (5) Chris Kendrick. He was a Health Inspector at Kokoda in 1920.

KINZE, Julius of Dresden. This European collector arranged for registered covers bearing a 2/6d Lakatoi (S.G.8) to be posted to him from Port Moresby. There are at least ten such covers as the registration numbers seen range from 393 to 412. The covers did proceed through the postal channels with backstamps of Thursday Island and Brisbane, etc. All the covers bear the date 2nd October 1905 and appear to have emerged on the market in 1971 with estimates from \$70 to \$110. Nowadays prices range from \$750 to \$1,800.

I have only seen S.G.8 cancelled at Port Moresby and nowhere else. One could suggest that the only real practical use for the 2/6d value was fiscal, but there is no surviving evidence. So really even though the Kinze covers are overpaid, they remain the only evidence that the stamp was used for postal purposes. The Rev. A.K. Chignell, in "An Outpost in Papua", mentions using half-crown (i.e., 2/6d) stamps for parcel post of artifacts back home to England.

MONCKTON, C.A.W. - A tough bird of Papua who drove the Missions to distraction. Not much postal history remains, that can be attributed to a Resident Magistrate who publicised the colony of Papua so well with his books. My records show:

- (a) 1898 cover to F.A. Monckton (a relative) of The Camp, Feilding, New Zealand;
- (b) 1907 cover to New Zealand from Kokoda;
- (c) 31st January 1908 from Buna Bay to Monckton on leave in England;
- (d) 15th November 1905 - Monckton's sole attempt at philately. A British New Guinea 1½d official postcard, over-franked on the reverse with a full set of the B.N.G. ½d to 2/6d, registered at Kokoda and cancelled with the A.R.M. Kokoda rubber date-stamp. The card was posted to Robert Whitten, a trader of Samarai, and received on 11th December. Monckton did not make

a good job of the card, probably thinking it a nuisance, but nevertheless it sold for \$407 in 1982, being part of the Evan Gill Collection, where it had been sold for \$52 in the 1970 auction.

SEAGREN, Pher Erick - Born in Sweden in 1845, died at Cooktown in 1934.

Erick Seagren operated a cabinet shop in Charlotte Street, Cooktown. He manufactured and imported all types of furniture and pianos, did french-polishing and sold lamps, cutlery etc. The shop is still there today, selling camping gear, and is called "This 'n That". Erick would probably roll over in his grave at the new trading name. My earliest date for Seagren operating in Cooktown is 1885, but no covers are recorded before 1894. All the covers listed below are from Samarai. There is only one in 1896 from the Treasurer's Office in Port Moresby (sold at auction in the USA in 1981 for \$750):

25th June and 10th October 1894, 27th January 1897, 20th July 1898, 22nd November 1899 (\$1,200), 27th March and 16th July 1900 (\$1,200 and \$594 respectively).

All these Samarai covers appear to be personal correspondence, possibly explaining the reason for survival. Surely there must have been a fascinating hoard of covers from all over Queensland and the Pacific somewhere in the recesses of his shop. I wonder if they are still there!

SOUTH BRITISH FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE - In Samarai on 19th September 1899 (see DICK dates - perhaps postmarker slugs were frozen for a time on 19th September) a set of at least nine covers was prepared and addressed to the Manager at Townsville, on Company envelopes. Queensland stamps used were ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 4d, 5d, 1/-, 2/- and 2/6d.

TURNER, G.R.C. - A Civil Engineer and Assistant Government Surveyor in Papua, not very well thought of by Monckton. Covers known:

- (a) 4th June 1903 - a postcard from Manchester to Turner, arriving at Port Moresby on 7th August;
- (b) 18th June 1903 - a postcard from Glasgow, arriving at Port Moresby on 24th August;
- (c) 20th April 1906 - a cover from Port Moresby to Mrs Turner (Snr) in Scotland.

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Turner is reported to have married a publican's daughter in Samarai, and in 1912 he was postmaster there. He probably married Mrs Mahoney's daughter. Mr and Mrs Mahoney were on Sudest in 1899 operating a store, and were appointed Postmasters by MacGregor, the Lieutenant-Governor. The store and post office closed in 1903, when the miners gave up and the Mahoneys moved to Samarai.

Readers will recall Bill Driver, the advertiser in "The Australian Stamp Monthly", who traded under the title "Pearls of the Pacific". Now I think Bill's grandmother was Mrs Mahoney, but Bill passed away before I could get full details.

WALKER, F.W. Reverend - With the London Missionary Society, which he eventually left on 30th June 1896. He remained in Port Moresby, but with what new Mission is unknown. His only postal history claim to fame is that he mailed a number of B.N.G. official postcards to himself and friends, notably James DICK (see DICK of S.S. MORESBY), on the first day of issue on 1st July 1901.

Conclusion

The above "names" of Papua postal history have left their mark in various ways, and if they or their relatives had not kept the covers and cards there would be no postal history. So their names are to be remembered and respected, and that is the main reason for this research. There are others to be looked for:

NAISH, Albert
NAISH, Miss
ROUSE, Edgar
WESTLAND

BUCKLAND, Miss
STANLEY, Evan K.

THOMSON, Basil

CAMPBELL, W. Telfer

F.R.P.S.L. 1905
England

Sydney

Kanosia 1919 - possibly the only inward cover recorded
Canada 1919

1911 Government geologist - died 1924.
Stanley Esplanade in Port Moresby is named after him.

To Fiji as a Cadet in 1883 - in 1888 he went to B.N.G. as MacGregor's Secretary. Left for Fiji within twelve months, and in 1890 was in Tonga. He was the son of the Archbishop of York. In 1983, an auction lot of eight 1885-1892 letters from Thomson to his family in England sold for \$330 - quite a bargain when one looks at the current postal history market.

Resident Magistrate in B.N.G. in 1890, left 1895 for Tonga. I have only seen an inward postcard to his wife at the Residency, Tonga.

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THE U N T E A ISSUES OF WEST NEW GUINEAH. Ewaldus

(Editor's Note: the name above is the pseudonym of a collector from South Australia who has specialised in the stamps of Netherlands New Guinea, and has exhibited at various philatelic exhibitions).

Historical Background

When Indonesia became independent, the Netherlands Government kept control over West New Guinea. Continuous de-colonisation pressure on the Government, and persistent claims on "Irian Barat" by Indonesia, made it clear that an acceptable way of transfer of authority had to be found. The solution was that from 1st October to 31st December 1962, the Dutch administration would wind down, handing over progressively to United Nations personnel. Then from 1st January 1963, the U.N. would start to hand over to Indonesia, so that that country would have taken over fully by 1st June 1963.

As far as postal services were concerned, it was decided to overprint stocks of Netherlands New Guinea stamps with the letters U N T E A (United National Temporary Executive Authority). The following stamps were available -

- 1950 issue: 2c, 2g, 5g;
 1954 issue: all values of the Bird of Paradise and Juliana types;
 1959 issue: all values of the Kroonduif type;
 7c postcards and 15c and 35c aerogrammes.

The U N T E A issues are often included in United Nations, Indonesian and Dutch colonial collections, but the quantities overprinted initially were calculated only on normal postal use in New Guinea, and philatelic sales in Holland.

Although local use diminished as many Dutch employees left, a shortage of stamps became evident when U.N. philatelic outlets in New York, Geneva, etc. requested them. To make the situation even worse, personnel of U.N. Forces and incoming Indonesians bought many low values as souvenirs. Extra local printings were made hurriedly, even on returned part-sheets, and a further supply was ordered from the original printers, J. Enschede en Zonen, of Haarlem, Holland.

The local printers, the former "Landsdrukkerij" (Government Printer) in Hollandia, discovered, when most of the stamps and 80 of the post-cards were already printed, that the letter "N" of U N T E A was fractionally too low, and this was corrected in further printings of postcards and aerogrammes.

There was no official first day of issue, but the following values were available on 1st October 1962 - 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 17c, 25c, 30c, 40c, 1g, 2g, 5g. The other values, 7c, 12c, 15c, 20c, 45c, 55c, 80c, and 85c, were officially available from 1st November. However, c.t.o. copies were on sale on request a few days earlier for both issues, and the November issue was often used as soon as it arrived at a post office, due to the lack of stamps.

Mixed franking with unoverprinted material occurs, but is irregular and rare. However, outposts were allowed to use the Netherlands New Guinea stamps for a few days until the U N T E A supplies arrived.

The Various Overprints

The various overprints may be distinguished as under -

- Type I. Local overprint, 3mm high and 17mm long. (S.G. 1-19) The "N" of U N T E A is approximately 0.25mm lower than the "U" and "T". The foot of the "T" is almost flat or slightly curved; the serifs of all letters have worn or rounded corners, and the overprint is dull and blotchy. This type is found on most local overprints (all values) and on 80 copies of the 7c postcards. (See Fig 1.)
- Type II. Local overprint similar to type I, but the "N" is at the correct level. (S.G. 1-19). It is found on most postcards, 15c and 35c aerogrammes, and on some of the stamps.
- Type III. Local overprint, 2.5 mm high and 14mm long. (S.G., 1a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a, 8a, 9a). This is found on 1c, 5c, 10 c, 15c, 20c, Bird of Paradise, and 7c, 12c and 17c Kroonduif. (See Fig. 2).
- Type IV. Local overprint, 3.5mm high and 19mm long. This is found only on 1c and 20c Bird of Paradise.
- Type V. Enschede overprint on reprinted stamps of Netherlands New Guinea, 3mm high and 17.5mm long. The foot of the "T" shows clearly an obtuse angle and all letters show sharp serifs. There are no worn corners. The ink is shiny black and the paper is very white.

Overprint Type I

Most of the early printings were still made by or under the supervision of the Dutch graphical staff, and the fact that no flaws are found on the 2c value indicates that this stamp was the first to be overprinted.

All values are found on paper giving a brown-grey reaction under ultra-violet light, the paper being the same as that used for Dutch issues of that period. Some later printings of Netherlands New Guinea stamps from around 1960, show a bright light blue/white reaction to ultra-violet light, because the printer was then changing over to a brighter paper. This newer paper is found on some values - 1c, 5c, 10c, 25c, 40c, 55c and 85c and possibly others.



Fig. 1 - Type I Fig. 2 - Type III

AAAANN

Fig. 3



Fig. 4

There were many irregularities and flaws in the first overprint, and, although badly-worn settings were replaced by "spares" (some in type II), the following faults are encountered -

- A. Variations in Letters (See Fig. 3)
- (1) "A" with ball on left foot;
 - (2) "A" with inked-in triangle;
 - (3) "A" with curved lower right leg;
 - (4) "A" without horizontal bar;
 - (5) "N" with top left corner missing;
 - (6) "N" with lower right corner missing.
- These are illustrated and occur on all values except 2c.
- B. Misplacement of the Overprint (See Fig 4)
- (1) One letter misplaced reading A U N T E;
 - (2) One letter misplaced reading N T E A U;
These occur on 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 17c, 20c, 30c, 40c, 80c, 1g, 2g, 5g.
 - (3) Two or three letters misplaced reading T E A U N or E A U N T.
These occur on the 2c value only.
- C. Overprint slanting
- (1) At angle of 30° to 45°, so that some stamps in the sheet have only a partial overprint, and others have none at all. This has been recorded on the 40c and 55c values;
 - (2) At angle of about 5°, so that all stamps in the sheet still have an overprint - recorded on 1c and 25c.
- D. Inverted Overprint
This has been recorded on 1c, 5c, 10c, 15c, 17c, 20c, 30c, 45c, 55c, 80c, 85c, 2g, 5g.
- E. Double Overprint
- (1) U N T E A twice, one often lighter than the other; this is seen on 17c, 1g, 2g, 5g;
 - (2) A double strike, but only one overprint; this is seen on postcards, due to passing twice through the hand-press, showing an offset on the reverse.
- F. A "kiss-print" is found occasionally.
- G. Missing or partially missing letters, due to worn lettering.

(To be continued)

THE HISTORIC RECORDS SEARCH

Marion Amies and Kate Hobbs

News reached us that the Norman Morrison had arrived ... spent some hours in anxious watching and expectation, and about six o'clock the long desired and welcome packet of letters from dear ones at home was placed in my hand. None but those who have experienced long separation can imagine the emotions called forth by the handwriting of those we love.

Susannah Weynton
24th March, 1850

(Editor's Note - The authors are officers of the National Library of Australia, in Canberra. Marion Amies is the Project Officer for the Historical Records Search. A social historian, she has published in the fields of education history, women's history and the history of Australian literature and publishing. Kate Hobbs is a teacher-librarian by profession, and is currently a Research Assistant for the Historical Records Search. She was, until recently, a Research Assistant with the Bicentennial History Project at the Australian National University, Canberra.)

In this age of telecommunications, postal items have become poor relations. Their essential role in Australia's history tends to be forgotten, and the fact that letters did find their way to newly-arrived settlers and to those who pushed into the vast spaces of the outback seems almost a miracle. The joy their arrival occasioned, and the sense of isolation engendered by their non-arrival, has been chronicled by many settlers and travellers in passages such as the above by Susannah Weynton.

The growing interest in postal history has begun to make clear how that seeming miracle was brought about, and in doing so, has added to our understanding of other aspects of social history. Nevertheless, as with many fields of social history, sources are not well documented.

Our major research libraries collect postal items only incidentally, as items related to other historical documents. The most important postal history collections, and many significant collections related to other aspects of our history, are held privately.

The Historic Records Search will locate such collections and describe them in the Historic Records Register so that researchers

will have a better idea of the nation's historical resources. The Search is a major Bicentennial Heritage Project funded by the Australian Bicentennial Authority with assistance from the National Library of Australia.

The Search will not collect records; all records will remain in the possession of their owners and will be considered for inclusion in the Register only if their owners wish them to be. The Register will be compiled on computer and by the end of 1988 it will be available for consultation across Australia. Researchers will then be able to use the records under conditions agreed to by the owners. The Register will be compiled in such a way as to protect their privacy: names of owners and their addresses will not necessarily be listed.

A national Search will take place between May 1987 and April 1988. A number of preliminary searches have been conducted, including several special interest searches and three pilot searches designed to ensure that we can more accurately judge potential response to the national Search in terms of the number of individuals or groups wishing to have records considered for inclusion in the Register, and the quantity and types of paper-based records owned by them. They will enable us to assess whether our promotions are reaching the appropriate audience, help us to refine our methods of describing records, and provide an initial database for setting up and trialling the computer management of the Register.

The three pilot searches took place in the Leeton and Bega Valley Shires and the Municipality of Rockdale. At Bega, a number of major collections were recorded, including the extensive holdings of the Kameruka Estate, which comprises financial and legal papers from 1861-1960s, farm management records, maps from c1868, architects' plans, photographs and local history pamphlets. Another complex collection spanning the 1820s to the 1950s relates to three generations of pastoralists, wool brokers and valuers associated with the firms of Mort and Goldsbrough, including a letter book (1896) which provides information on pastoral holdings on the Monaro. Other items include original manuscripts, annotated photographs, family history research notes, newspaper clippings and legal papers.

One outstanding collection recorded in the Leeton district covered the wide-ranging business and personal interests of a local M.L.A. His records included those of political, religious, local history and community organisations, as well as his own extensive personal and family papers, photos, certificates, letters, etc.

A survey of business records was also conducted in association with the Business Archives Special Interest Group of the Australian Society of Archivists Incorporated. The response was encouraging, with many firms providing detailed information regarding their non-current records, thus adding greatly to our understanding of the archives management needs and practices of Australian business.

Another search sought to identify collections of military records and memorabilia of historical significance. This was conducted in association with the Returned Services League of Australia through the Maryborough and Hervey Bay Sub-branches in Queensland and the Warrnambool Sub-branch in Victoria.

Among the collections discovered at Maryborough was a small wooden box packed full of postcards, photos and other memorabilia relating to World War I. Included among these is a large number of "Kriegsgefangensendung": postcards from an Australian prisoner of war to his family, sent via Holland to Dandenong, Victoria, and all bearing a variety of stamps and markings from the German camps and postal authorities.

Other records of interest to postal historians have been located. In the Rockdale Search, for example, we found a number of pre-1850 postal items, the earliest being from Port Phillip and Geelong in 1838. The owner of this collection has also put together a set of the objects required in that period for the writing and sealing of letters.

In Leeton we recorded a collection of 119 letters sent from a prisoner of war camp in Germany to the prisoner's fiancée in England, plus a selection of significant single items such as letters and other postal items included among family collections. One such family collection in the Bega district included a series of letters posted to a medical student at the Sorbonne, Paris, between 1827 and 1830.

Postal historians are invited to register their collections with the Search: their postal history collections, their family records, or any other records of historical significance they may have. If you have any queries, or would like copies of our records description sheets, please contact:

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