



SIPA Bulletin

For Private Circulation to Members only

Vol. 23 No.5

September - October 2002

Bimonthly

GUEST EDITORIAL:

Ah! the joy of childhood and the beauty of adolescence. What a beautiful time, when horizons are vast and where flights of fancies hold great potentials. But alas! If wishes were horses, men would ride them. We say this because in Indian philately, very few youth manage to glide from the youth group into the senior group. Most of the time the journey is bumpy. The youngster is not only made to feel guilty but also a prisoner of rules and regulations.

The jury of our exhibitions tend to go totally by the book and come up with harsh decisions. The book rather than the spirit being the guiding principle. Adolescence is a time not just restricted to physical changes but also beset with psychological, emotional and social ones. In a situation plagued with dearth of true youth philatelists, the jury in India commit nothing short of child and adolescent abuse. We say this because they do not have any knowledge and hence any concern for the psychological and emotional trauma they cause to a vulnerable age group. It is a shame that at the last Nationals at Nashik there were just 16 entries in the youth group. Six of these we know were adult entries in the name of their children who have no interest or inclination to philately. That leaves 10. Let us assume that all 10 are genuine philatelists. One out of these was given 69 marks and thus a silver bronze medal. One more mark and the child would have got a silver. When we pleaded, we were told politely "No". A silver medal after all will qualify for internationals. Who are we fooling?

A time has come to think. Let's give up this silly jargon of promotion of youth philately. It rings hollow. Let's not get bogged down with FIP Regulations for youth philately. Let us frame our own. Let us create jury members qualified to judge youth exhibits. These people must acquire knowledge of adolescent psychological and emotional concerns. If not there are a number of doctors who are PCI members. Take their help. At an exhibition a member of the jury was explaining how the youth exhibit could be enhanced. "How can I improve?" asked the child. "Yours is a catalogued collection. You have got some errors. The errors like the error." The child was shocked. The error is a rarity in philately. Till then child was satisfied with a silver bronze, because you cannot show treatment, knowledge and what have you to get a higher medal. And this is a true story of youth group A (12 - 15 year group).

Lt Col J Dutta

PHILA KOREA 2002

Internationally 2002 is an eventful year for KOREA. It conducted WORLD CUP - 2002 (SOCCER) jointly with Japan and even entered semi-finals during the event which was a record for any Asian country in WORLD CUP. More over, Korea conducted an International Philatelic event called PHILAKOREA-2002 in all its grandeur.

Here are some 'extracts' from the 'Philakorea News' (5 issues) circulated at the exhibition venue.

| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| August 2 | PHILAKOREA 2002 |
| 3 | Mask Day |
| 4 | Dealer Day |
| 5 | Korea Post Day |
| 6 | Philatelist Day |
| 7 | Youth Philatelist Day |
| 8 | Love Day |
| 9 | International Friendship Day |
| 10 | Participation & Progress Day |
| 11 | Family Day |

Opening of PHILA KOREA 2002

Knud Mohr, President, FIP

We are gathered to celebrate the inauguration of the philatelic event of the year 2002, PHILAKOREA 2002.

It will be a competition among friends from all over the world united in the hobby of stamp collecting where the participants have been working for months or may be for years to find new items or new ways to make the exhibit even better than ever before and I wish them all luck.

It is the aim of FIP that each FIP exhibition will present a percentage of new exhibitors and to those who have their first performance at PHILAKOREA 2002, I welcome you to the family and I send you my best wishes.

PHILAKOREA 2002 is an event where all work together to make it a success and to guarantee this it is important that the partners within the philatelic world join the efforts and I am grateful to the participating Postal Administrations and the Stamp dealers and their organisations for their part of this huge arrangement.

Our Second Sunday Meetings were held at the CPMG's Conference Hall, Anna Road, HPO, Chennai - 600 002. (10.30 - 12.30 pm) regularly where around 30 members attended with President Shri Balakrishna Das presiding. Patron Mr. Madan Mohan Das spoke on 'Experiences in Korea'.

A very, in fact the most important, part of an exhibition will be the visitors and I welcome all those who comes to the COEX Mall with their families and friends to enjoy the enthusiasm and the spirit you will meet. Take the time to get in contact with other visitors and if you find anything of interest ask the stand holders, not necessary for buying, may be just for more information. Join the many arrangements of Korean Post or go to the stand of the Philatelic Federation of Korea and ask how you can get more fun of the greatest hobby in the world, Stamp Collecting.

The Organising Committee of PHILAKOREA 2002, The Ministry of Information and Communication of Korea and the Philatelic Federation of Korea have been working hard and intensive with the arrangement, and I not only wish them a great success, but with my knowledge from the Philakorea 1984 and 1994. I congratulate you to the success of PHILAKOREA 2002.

The history of stamp of KOREA

The First stamps of Korea are 5 Mun Woo Pyo and 10 Mun Woo Pyo issued in 1884, they called "Mun Wui Woo Pyo". Mun was the currency at that time.

Who will Win the Grand Prix?

After the Jury underwent the process of 'Jury Walk', which took place on August 6th, it has announced the results of its final screening. Following are the list of the candidates for the prizes under various categories: Three exhibits are placed on the list of candidates for the Grand Prix d'Honneur: viz, "Peru- The First 18 Stamps" by Klaus E. Eitner from Germany who submitted his exhibit for the FIP Championship class; "Japan Etched Stamps 1871-1876" by Nathaniel Yigal from Israel; and "Across the Continent" by George Kramer from the United States. Placed on the list of the candidates for the Grand Prix International are: "Netherlands East Indies 1655-1870" by Peng Hian Tay from Singapore whose entry was submitted under the category of Traditional Philately B; and "Norway - The First Two Issues" by Bernt. J. Fossum from Norway who submitted his work under the category of Traditional Philately C. The sole candidate for the Grand Prix National is "Korean Kingdom and Korean Empire 1884 - 1905" by Chang. Seyyoung who submitted his exhibit under the category of Traditional Philately A.

There are quite a number of exhibits that have won the medals: A total of 36 exhibits have been selected as winners of Large Gold medals including the exhibit submitted by Pieter Ahl from Belgium entitled "Norwegian adhesive covers to foreign destinations 1855 - 1877". A total of 98 exhibits have been chosen as winners of Gold medals and 128 exhibits have been chosen for each of the Large Vermeil medals and Vermeil medals, respectively. Large Silver medals will be awarded to 107 exhibits while Silver medals will be awarded to 66 exhibits and Bronze medals will be given to 21 exhibits. So all in all 667 winners of the various prizes have been selected.

The winners of the PHILAKOREA 2002 Grand Prix, which are the most prestigious prizes, will be chosen at the palmares .

The Program of the palmares

19:00 Cocktail

19:30 Dinner

20:40 Addresses

- Congratulatory address by the President of Organizing Committee of PHILAKOREA 2002
- Congratulatory Address by the President of FIP
- Speech by the President of Jury
- Speech by the Jury Secretary

20:55 Awarding Ceremony

21:30 Performance of Korean Traditional Dance

Prizes Awarded at PHILAKOREA 2002 'Palmares'

The prize awarding ceremony, which is often called 'palmares', of PHILAKOREA 2002 was held at 8:30 p.m. on 8th August at Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel. The Large Gold Medals were awarded and the winners of the Grands Prix were selected during this ceremony.

The winner of the Grand Prix National had been selected from among the Korean exhibits and the honor of this prize was bestowed upon the exhibit entitled "Korean Empire 1884 - 1905" submitted by Mr. Chang Seyyoung from Korea. A total of 36 Large Gold medalists had been competing with each other for the Grand Prix International and Mr. Peng Hian Tay from Singapore won this prize for his exhibit entitled 'Netherlands East Indies 1655 - 1870'. And the Grand Prix d'Honneur, which is the most prestigious prize of the exhibition, went to Mr. Nathaniel Yigal from Israel for his exhibit entitled 'Japan - Etched Stamps 1871 - 1876'.

The winners of these Grand Prix said in unison that they were overwhelmed with joy and that they were deeply impressed with the exhibition which had been run by such cheerful and kind people in such a joyful atmosphere.

The international Jury presents its report

The jury thanks the Organizers for providing a quiet room with good facilities in which to carry out their work and also for the support of the korean assistants and Mrs. Trommer of Luxembourg who assisted the Jury Secretary in his work.

Judging was carried out in a friendly atmosphere and differences were speedily resolved. The decisions were in all cases unanimous. There were outstanding candidates for the Grand Prix and the successful winners will be revealed this evening.

The layout of the Exhibition was excellent and the Jury were impressed by the numbers visiting this exhibition. PHILAKOREA 2002 has lived up to the expectation following the previous exhibitions in this country. The organisers and all their teams must be congratulated for such a successful outcome.

INDIAN PARTICIPATION

| Name | Theme | Points | Award |
|---------------------------|--|--------|-------|
| Ms. Damayanti Pittie | Pre Stamp Postal History of British India 1779 to 1854 | 95 | LG |
| Mr. Anil Suri | India - Cochin: Revenues | 93 | G |
| Mr. Ajai Kumar Mittal | Indore | 85 | LV |
| Mr. Ajit Chordia | India - Pre Independence | 80 | V |
| Mr. Anjati Dutta | Fiscals of Gwalior | 80 | V |
| Mr. Dinesh Chandra Sharma | Olympic Games | 80 | V |
| Ms. Ananya Dutta | British India postage stamps | 80 | V |
| Ms. Radha K Sarwagi | "Brahmini dawk" history of postal communication in Mewar | 80 | V |
| Mr. Mohamed Salahudeen | Hand struck stamps of Great Britain | 77 | LS |
| Mr. Ravi Bhanasali | Modifications | 75 | LS |
| Mr. H.G. Bisani | Postal Stamp & Stationery of Gwalior State | 72 | S |
| Ms. Nidhi Mittal | History of Architecture | 68 | SB |
| Mr. Moomin Sinha | World refugee year | 68 | SB |
| Mr. Madan Middha | Year Book of Indian Philately | 66 | SB |
| Mr. Daniel Monterio | Waterfall | 65 | SB |

SREE THAKUR SATYANANDA

23.07.2002

500

0.4 million



An ascetic, philosopher, writer and poet, Sree Thakur Satyananda (1902-1969) left a deep imprint on the spiritual, social and cultural life of 20th century West Bengal.

Hailing from Kolkata, he lived a austere life even as a student and was an inward looking youngster. After completing his higher education in Commerce, Shri Satyananda became absorbed in deep contemplation for about 14 years. He is believed to have attained supreme realization in 1939, after which he embarked upon many programmes for the spiritual and social upliftment of the masses. Hundreds of devotees thronged to him and he founded many ashrams for their temporal education and spiritual training as well as for promoting religious, humanitarian and educational activities. He gave equal opportunity to all men and women for practicing religion, subject to their ability and aptitude. Ability was judged not by birth in any particular caste, but by the qualities one possessed. He was emphatic in declaring that all human beings had the required potentialities for spiritual progress, irrespective of class, gender or creed.

Many of the ashrams founded by him were in rural and remote areas like Birbhum, Rampurhat, Dubrajpur, Balikar, Nirsinghapur Kandi and Dumka. Distribution of food, clothings and medicines as well as promotion of primary, secondary and college education were the common activities at these ashrams.

Sree Thakur wrote at least seven thousand songs, hundreds of dance-drama and many scenarios for rural folk theatre. He organized cultural activities in abundance. Through these, the joys of life and pursuit of spirituality were harmonized. He was also keen to update the age-old shastras and bring out India's ancient thoughts in the fields of science and medicine.

Today, the message and ideals of Sree Thakur Satyananda are kept alive by two institutions founded by his followers namely, Sree Satyananda Devayatan and Sree Satyananda Mahapeeth, through various educational, social and spiritual activities.

Theme : Religion, Personality.

ANNA BHAU SATHE

01.08.2002

400

0.4 million



Anna Bhau Sathe (1920-1969) was one of the foremost creative writers of Marathi literature. He was also a progressive thinker and active revolutionary who strove relentlessly for the upliftment of the downtrodden sections of the society.

Born in a poor family in the interior village of Wategaon in Maharashtra, he could not pursue basic education in the early years. Anna was 14 or 15 years of age when he came to Mumbai along with his father in search of better opportunities of life. He had to take up menial jobs like hotel boy, porter, boot polish boy, door keeper and quarry worker to eke out a living, but never allowed the hardships to dampen his spirit. He also worked as a tamasha (folk stage) artist.

During his days as a textile mill worker in Morbaug, he was drawn towards the protective and egalitarian values of the leftist ideology. He became a proponent of Communism and adopted theatre and other creative arts to promote his political ideas. The creative forces in him bloomed through these campaigns. His output was prodigious. Starting with ballads, he branched off to novels, short-stories, songs, drama, folk-plays and travelogue, winning the admiration of the critics as well as casual readers. Anna rejuvenated the traditional art form of tamasha by adding depth by meaning to it, and transformed it to Loknatya. Some of his novels like Chitra, Warnecha Wagh and Fakeera have been translated into foreign languages like Russian, German and Polish as well as Indian languages like Hindi, Kannada, Gujarati and Punjabi. Themes like patriotism, love, adventure, women's issues and problems of rural India expounded in his works were immensely appealing to the readers.

He became an ideologue, a voice for the voiceless. He supported and participated in many progressive movements for wresting justice for the poverty-stricken masses.

Theme : Literature, Personality

ANAND RISHIJI MAHARAJ

09.08.2002

400

0.4 million



Religion and spirituality have always exerted formative influences on the Indian society. Spiritual leaders have left deep imprints not just in religious matters, but also in areas of relevance to the common man in his day-to-day life, like economic development, education and health services. Anand Rishiji Maharaj (1900-1992) was one such soul, whose contributions in the social and educational spheres have been as prolific and significant as his spiritual guidance to his followers.

Named Nemichand by his parents, he was interested in bhajan, kirtan and religious discourses right from his formative years. He hailed from the Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra. Nemichand lost his father at a very young age and that personal loss seemed to push him more towards spirituality, introspection and a pursuit of the deeper meaning of life. He received initiation from Ratan Rishiji Maharaj at the age of 13, thereby formally committing himself to a life of spiritual pursuits and service to humanity.

Anand Rishiji Maharaj mastered the Jain Scriptures as well as ancient philosophical texts of Sanskrit language. His teachings were rooted in love, non-violence and tolerance. He was proficient in nine languages and wrote extensively in Marathi and Hindi. He emphasized that a soul filled with knowledge does not go astray and, therefore, it was important for all human beings to be spiritually aware.

Anand Rishiji Maharaj had founded numerous educational and religious institutions, among them the Shri Ratna Jain Pustakalaya, Shri Trilok Jain Vidyalaya and Shri Amol Sidhantshala, Pathardi, Ahmednagar, a Blood Bank at Poona Hospital and Anand Pratishthan, a humanitarian society at Pune. In all these activities, his objective was to bring solace to the common people who were suffering in their daily lives, by emancipating them through spiritual knowledge. He was bestowed with the title of 'Acharya' in 1965.

Theme : Religion, Personality, Jainism.

VITHALRAO VIKHE PATIL

10.08.2002

400

0.4 million



Dr. Vithalrao Vikhe Patil (1901-1980) was a prominent leader of the cooperative movement in Maharashtra. His yeoman service to the rural economy won the appreciation and admiration of the whole country.

Hailing from a peasant family in the Ahmednagar district, he was a witness to the adversities faced by the peasants during his early years. Famines, frequent droughts, oppression by money lenders and exploitation by landlords as well as sugar factory owners had made the conditions of the local people miserable. The National Movement with its spirit of idealism inspired the young Vithalrao to think of ways and means to improve the lot of his people. The Socialist philosophy, which had succeeded in emancipating the poor in the Soviet Union, also left a deep impression on him.

Vithalrao concluded that collective action through cooperative methods alone can improve the conditions of life for the poor peasantry. He mooted and propagated the idea of establishing a sugar factory in the cooperative sector through a series of farmers' meetings during the years 1945 and 1946. Working tirelessly, he could finally begin the construction of the factory in 1948. The factory, which finally became functional in 1950, was a path breaking effort in the farmers' cooperative movement.

An enlightened leader, Dr. Vithalrao Vikhe Patil realised that the cooperative spirit make a much deeper impact in the overall socio economic life of the people, than just opening up entrepreneurial avenues. By introducing irrigation projects, dairy cooperative and better agriculture practices, as well promoting the setting up of educational and public health institutions, he brought about a drastic improvement in the quality of the life of the common folk in the region.

In recognition of his valuable contributions, the country honoured Dr. Patil with the Padmashree award in 1961. The Pune University and the Mahatma Phule Agricultural University also conferred him with Doctorates.

Theme : Personality, Social Leaders.

SANT TUKARAM

10.08.2002

400

0.4 million



Tukaram (1608-1650) was one among the great mystic poets of Maharashtra who were instrumental in taking religion and poetry to the masses and thereby generating a renaissance of sorts and reinforcing the Maratha identity. A contemporary of Shivaji, he propagated compassion, forgiveness, peace and equality.

Tukaram was born in the village of Dehu, on the banks of river Indrayani, in a family of traders. Before he was 21 he had to go through a series of traumatic events in his life, including the deaths of his mother, father, first wife and children. The famine of 1629 left a trail of starvation deaths in Maharashtra and Tukaram watched in horror as it consumed his wife. A devastated man, he lost all urge to lead a householder's life thereafter, though he was married a second time.

It was at this juncture that Tukaram inspired by a vision of Namdeo, a great poet-saint of the thirteenth century, and Lord Vitthal began to compose abhangs (metrical poems). Accordingly, Tukaram embarked upon his new career of composing poetry, but in doing so he incurred the wrath of the priests. They could not tolerate his impinging upon their prerogative as the only interpreters of religion. Further, he compounded the offense by writing in Marathi rather than Sanskrit. Tukaram vanished without a trace in 1650, leaving his devout followers to believe that Lord Vitthal himself carried him away.

Scholars have estimated that he has written nearly five thousand poems. Tukaram's poetry is easy to understand and simple in its structure. However, its philosophical understones and deeper meanings also come out strongly to the reader. Through his poetry, Tukaram has shaped the subsequent development of Marathi language to an extent no other writer has done.

Theme : Religion, Saints, Personality.

BHAURAO KRISHNARAO GAIKWAD

26.08.2002

400

0.4 million



Bahurao Krishnarao Gaikwad (1902-1971) was a fearless leader who fought for the rights of the down-trodden sections of the society.

Born in the Nashik district of Maharashtra, he rose to prominence with a rally organised in 1927 at Mahad. His oratory against the British Government inspired the Satyagrahis and was appreciated by Dr. Ambedkar who was present at the rally. He remained a close associate of Dr. Ambedkar thereafter.

In 1930, he played a prominent part in the famous Satyagraha at the Kalaram Temple to gain entry into the temple, for which he had to suffer imprisonment. He fought the practices of untouchability and caste discrimination which were prevalent in the society during those days, bravely facing the oppression unleashed by the orthodoxy. The Dhamna Prashadd at Yeola was another epoch making event organised by him, in which Dr. Ambedkar had declared his intention to leave the fold of Hindu religion.

In post independence India, Dadasaheb Gaikwad, as he was popularly known, made immense contribution to the cause of the poor and landless. He organised many Satyagrahas and had to face even imprisonment in the course of these struggles. His relentless efforts were a crucial factor behind many of the schemes for the socio-economic development of the under-privileged in the country, particularly in the state of Maharashtra. His campaigns took him all over the country and inspired the masses at the grassroots. He was closely connected with many social and educational institutions. In 1956, he accepted Buddhism at a ceremony under the guidance of Dr. Ambedkar.

From 1937-1946 he was a member of Bombay Legislative Assembly. He also served the country as a member of teh Lok Sabha as well as Rajya Sabha. He was honoured with Padma Shri by the Government of India in 1968.

Theme : Personality, Freedom Struggle, Social Leader.

FUTURE OF PHILATELY

B.N. SOM

Address to the Participants of the Symposium and Training Course of Philately Directors and Officials in Africa on 19 Feb. 2001.

I am very happy to be here today at the Inauguration Function of symposium and training course on the promotion and development of Philately in Africa. I am sure that this training programme will provide valuable insights for promotion and development of philately as a means of promoting cultural cooperation, universalism, youth movement, environmental consciousness and not the least as a source of revenue generation, and how the special of each postal administration are to be addressed.

Prophets of doom have been predicting the decline and eventual death of philately, indeed of the entire gamut of postal services. This is a view that I have countered at every forum. As I see it, no one is better equipped than the postal services to look after the social and economic needs of the society. No one else can match its experience in the communications market. With the coming of age of information society there was an apprehension that information and entertainment revolution may cut into the popularity of philately. However, experience has shown that the new technologies and entertainment trends provide infinite opportunities to the postal administrations to popularize and market their products. In particular, in the new millennium, I see philately revenues taking a quantum leap. Philately will be more and more effectively used by postal administrations of developing countries to offset losses in other areas, and will emerge as an important source of revenue generation. As Chairman, WADP, I would therefore call for priority for promotion of philately by developing countries.

Towards this objective the World Association for Development of Philately (WADP) was constituted under the patronage of the UPU, and its constituent members are the postal administrations, International Federation of Philately (FIP), International Federation of Stamp Dealers Association (IFSDA), International Association of Philately Journalists (AIJP) and International Association of Publishers of Postage Stamp Catalogues, Stamp Album & Philately Publication (ASCAT). The WADP has been given the mandate at the Beijing Congress to prepare a priority action plan for development of Philately as a means of promoting the image of a postal services and as an important factor in postal development worldwide. The need of the hour is to innovate, take new initiatives and diversity.

If we are to forge a common vision of the future, we shall have to underpin the value of cooperation, strategic thinking and continuous dialogue with other stakeholders. The WADP spearheads triangular partnership of postal administrations, collectors and trade to build worthwhile areas for growth in philately. Such partnership already exists at an advanced stage in a number of countries, and has been effective in making philately a major source of revenue.; It is my aim to try to build this partnership in the developing nations, to promote and develop as an important source of revenue generation. To build philately at the grassroots to make it broad-based, partnerships have to be built between the postal administrations and the allied industry, such as Department of Education, Govt. publicity programmes such as health promotion, tourism and other important allied industries like airlines, major local industries etc. New relationships, new collectors and new products are to be built in the course of such partnerships. I think all of us are aware of the tourism drives launched successfully through issue of postage stamps. The role of postage stamp in education has become even more meaningful with the advent of the internet and the spread of postage stamps on home pages. Good examples are Malaysia which included stamp collecting in the education curriculum and Indonesia which has built up one million youth collectors within the

last few years. Hongkong and China have achieved remarkable success. It is the aim of WADP to built such partnership at national level in all member countries of the UPU.

This training programme seeks to address areas of growth and development. Ways are being devised to build up a campaign for promotion of youth philately cooping the other partners in this activity as they are the important resource providers. The concept of youth market is sought to be integrated into a long-term strategy for development of philatelic promotional programmes as also the issue programmes of postal administration.

The programme also focuses on areas of concern, the philatelic business. A special meeting was held at Berne on 16 January, 2001 to bring the partners together to combat fraudulent and illegal issues that have had a detrimental effect on philatelic business in general. The production of illegal issues has the same criminal character as the forgery of bank notes. This is where the philately press comes in. They must publicize illegal issues. The WADP plans to develop a dynamic web presence, which can provide a reference point for stamps issued by the member countries to establish a better system of information for the postal administrations, philatelic partners and the collectors. These are areas where partnership of postal administrations, the collectors and trade at the national level will help build up healthy practices and areas of growth. The ultimate goal is to develop local markets and future philatelists. Project Teams have been set up, to ensure work in these priority areas, and I would request the countries represented here to join these Project Teams. For the time being, we just have Tanzania which is a member of the Project Team for Combatting Illegal Issues.

Recently, the first WADP seminar on the theme of 'Post and Its Partners' was held during the 14th Asian International Philatelic Exhibition, Indepex Asiana - 2000, at Calcutta in December 2000. Notable among the participants were Mr. Knud Mohr, President, FIP, Mr. M.S. Raman, the then ADG, UPU, Mr. Sahadeva Sahoo, President, Philatelic Congress of India and important representatives from philatelic journalism and stamp dealers. In my keynote address, I drew attention to the need for proper functioning of national chapters of organizations of AIJP, IFSDA, etc. and for setting up local chapters, percolating their activities down to the grass-root level, so that we are able to broad-base the hobby of philately by taking it to adolescents, the students and the youth and attracting persons in the younger age groups to philatelic activities.

Every country must have in place a plan to stimulate youth philately with clearly defined roles for each of the partners. Towards this end, a number of philatelic exhibitions on the theme of youth philately have been organized in the recent past under the patronage of the FIAP, bringing together various partners of the philatelic industry to transact business as well as to exchange ideas.; There is need to build up a Pan-African Federation, introducing the concept of triangular partnership, to provide an area of growth, healthy competition, to monitor and supervise, promote more and more philatelic exhibitions in Africa. All these activities are necessary if we are to build a climate of growth and development of philately related activity in this region.

Concerns have been expressed by many countries as well as by the philatelic partners about the current status of the philatelic market and the need to evolve comprehensive guidelines from a strategic and marketing point of view, to ensure further growth and development of philately. The WADP responded to this need by bringing out the "Guide for the Development of Philately", a comprehensive publication covering the entire gamut of philatelic operations. The guide is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish) and the income realized from the sale of its copies has been deposited into the International Fund for the Development of Philately, which finances

various activities aimed at developing and promoting philately. The guide contains various marketing concepts for different stages of development of the philatelic business and is useful to postal administrations, philatelists and trade representatives alike.

The discussions to be held in the next few days will focus attention on some of the vital issues of concerns for the future of philately in the years to come, and promote thinking on the subject. I hope that the course will achieve its purpose to make the participants aware of the best management practices to develop and promote philately and introduce an action programme towards this purpose. I am sure that this training programme will achieve its purpose in giving necessary impetus to growth of philately and enable flow of information from the developed markets to the emerging markets. We must ensure that a maximum number of our members benefits from the professional courses and seminars to further develop and promote philately.

CATALOGUE AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN STAMP COLLECTION

Fredun P. Seervai

Very few philatelists realise that catalogue has its importance in stamp collecting. Stamp collecting is one of the best hobbies. It not only gives pleasure but it increases our knowledge. One may get pleasure by looking at the stamp but one will not become knowledgeable by looking at the stamp. One has to search for knowledge in the literature of philately, past and present; but relatively a very small number of collectors devote their time to the philatelic publications.

Every craft has its tools and although philately is not a craft, in the generally accepted sense of the term, there can be no doubt that the tools form an essential part of its practice.

These tools, in our stamp collecting, we call accessories. Many accessories are required to make stamp collecting pleasurable.

Some collectors begin to collect stamps without bothering about the accessories and learn their use after years of bitter experience. This bitterness could have been avoided if right implements had been used from the start.

A stamp catalogue is an important part of every serious equipment. It is a sad but undeniable fact that comparatively few collectors avail themselves of the vast store of knowledge in a standard and specialized catalogue.

The stamp catalogue is an unusual source of reference that contains all the information you would ever want to know about stamps. It is necessary that every philatelist should own his own stamp catalogue. If he cannot afford it he should make use of it in a library.

Many collectors look into the catalogue only to know what their treasure is worth that's all. We have no doubt that many collectors who refer to a catalogue really do not know to make the best use of it.

There are far more things in a stamp catalogue than mere prices.

A standard stamp catalogue enlists all issues and also gives all details of the issues. The varieties listed and the footnotes given in the catalogue are all results of ton of years some time decades of concerted work and dedicated research. To dismiss them lightly, not only shows contempt for philatelic knowledge but defeats ones own end by failing to appreciate the finer points of the subject. Stamp catalogues whether illustrated or not describe all the stamps that have been issued by countries dealt with in the catalogue. In addition, they contain other information about stamps, such as date of issue,

occasion on which they were issued, description of their colour, shades, surcharge and over prints, perforation and water mark, type of paper and method of printing, number of stamps per sheet; total numbers printed, total number sold on the date on which they were withdrawn from sale, the date on which they became obsolete and other details which go to make up the fabric of philately. All the above information helps us to identify the stamps in our possession and also helps us to arrange them in proper and orderly manner on our stamp album page.

Catalogues are constantly revised and kept upto date. The catalogues are published almost every year by different big dealers and now even by Postal Departments of some countries. Some catalogue publishers issue monthly supplements to inform about the new issues. The Stanley Gibbons Monthly is one such example.

Stamp collectors should not be confused by the prices printed in the catalogue but only remember that the price quoted is not the actual trend of the whole stamp market but only the prices when they are available with him. Naturally, therefore he will purchase the stamps at a much lower price than given in the catalogue.

The price thus is only a rough guide. The collector will know or will have an idea as to what he will have to pay if so has to purchase from his friends or from local dealers.

(Courtesy : Deccan Philatelist, 2002)

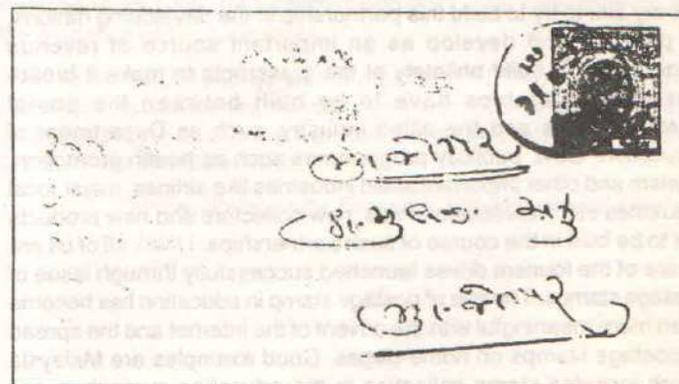
INDIAN POSTAL HISTORY - 1947 - 1997 (Contd.)

Mr. A.K. Bayanwala

1. 217 States including Nawanagar, Bhavnagar, Morvi, Rajkot, Wadhwan, Jasdan, Jetpur etc., merged into or formed United States of Kathiawar on 15th February 1948.



1. Anna Court Fee Stamp of Bhavnagar Darbar was overprinted as "U.S.S. REVENUE POSTAGE" and used as Postage to mail a cover from Junagadh to Veraval on 31.10.1949, after the merger of Bhavnagar State into United States of Saurashtra.



Post Card of Morvi State used on 8th July 1948, which proves the State's Stationery was valid till that day though it became part of India.

2. Alwar, Bharatpur, Bholpur & Karauli formed United States of Matasya on 17th March 1948.

3. 35 States including Bijiawar, Charkhari, Chhatarpur, Datia, Orchha, Panna, Rewa, etc., formed United States of Vindhya Pradesh on 2nd April 1948.

4. 10 States including Banswara, Bundi, Dungarpur, Jhalawar, Kishangarh, Kotah and Tonk etc., formed United States of Rajasthan on 18th April 1948.

5. 20 states including Barwani, Dewas, Dhar, Gwalior, Indore, Piploda etc., formed Gwalior - Indore - Malwa Union on 15th May 1948.

6. 8 States including Patiala, Nabha, Kapurthala, Jind, Faridkot, Malerkotla etc., formed PEPSU Patiala & East Punjab State Union date 15th July 1948.

Thus 294 States formed new Unions of States. In total 535 out of 562 States merged with one another or formed new Union.

JUNAGADH STATE : was the Premier State in the group of Kathiawar States. It was bounded almost entirely by other Indian States, except south and south west, where lies the Arabian Sea. It was ruled by the Nawab, Sir Mahabat Khan Rasulkhani, a descendent of Sher Khan Babi, who established his rule in Junagadh in 1735. 80% of the population of Junagadh were Hindus.

The Nawab avoided direct communication with India and announced on 15th August 1947 the Government of Junagadh accession to Pakistan. It came as a surprise to the Government of India. The rulers of the other States of Kathiawar condemned the accession of Junagadh with one voice. It was feared that it would extend the communal trouble to areas where at present there was peace.



A Post Card posted from Junagadh on 19th April 1950 for Dhoraji having printed stamp of 1/2 Anna of Junagadh validity used with 3 pies stamp of India.

The Nawab realized that events were not happening as he had visualized, so he decided on flight. By the end of October 1947 he left for Karachi with all cash of the State and his family jewelry. The Nawab's flight encouraged the forces of Arzi Hukumat to occupy various parts of the State. On 19th November 1947, the administration of Junagadh was taken by Indian troops.



As soon as normal conditions were restored, a referendum was held on 20th February 1948, to ascertain the choice of the people in regard to accession, which went almost unanimously in favour of Union with India. Once the plebiscite was over, the democratization of the administration of Junagadh was taken. It was thought that Junagadh should become a part of United States of Saurashtra but the Union was not formed till 15th April 1948, which was fixed

for that day. Two different labels are found which days that Saurashtra Union was formed on 15th April 1948. As the Union was not formed, it was decided to constitute an Executive Council of popular representatives of Junagadh, to assist the administrator an I.C.S. officer Mr.S.W. Shiveshwarkar. The Executive Council of which Samaidas Gandhi, Dayashankar Dave and Mrs. Pushpavati Mehta were Members, was set up on 1st June 1948. In November 1948, the



United State of Kathiawar was renamed the United State of Saurashtra, when a supplementary covenant was negotiated and executed by the Rulers of States merged into United State of Kathiawar. Once the Saurashtra Union came into existence, a second supplementary covenant was executed in January 1949, providing the integration of Junagadh with Saurashtra. On 20th February 1949, the administration of Junagadh and also that of Mangrol, Manavadar, Babariawad, Bantwa and Sardargarh were handed over to Saurashtra Government.

HYDERABAD STATE : is situated on the Deccan plateau, in the heart of the sub continent, from East Coast to West Coast. It is surrounded by the Central Provinces in the north, Bombay in the west and Madras on the east and south. It had an area of 86,698 sq. miles and a population of 117 millions. Although the Muslims represented less than 15% of the population, they filled almost all government posts including those in army and the police. In



Letter posted from Karachi on 13th August 1947, which reached Kathiawar on 15th August 1947.

It proves that till 15th August 1947, mails were regular and normal though the country was burning.

On 13th September 1947, the Government of Pakistan accepted Junagadh accession. But the subjects of Junagadh rose in revolt against the Nawab and his decision. On 25th September 1947, a Provisional Government (Ariz Hukumat) of Junagadh was announced. On 21st October 1947, the Government of India decided to take over Mangrol and Babariawad, which were vassal of Junagadh. On 22nd October 1947, the administration of Manavadar, another vassal of Junagadh, was taken over by the Government of India.

population, revenue and importance, it was the premier State in the country. Hyderabad had its own coinage, paper currency and stamps.



Labels - in Hindi & Urdu language were printed for Hyderabad War as "FAITHFULL ALLY" to collect funds. (See arrows)

Nizam Mir Usman Alikhan Bahadur succeeded to the throne on 29th August 1911. After 1918, Nizam was granted the title of "Faithful Ally of the British Government" by the King Emperor.

After the announcement of the plan by the Crown, regarding the status of the Indian States vide Indian Independence Act, the Nizam issued a firman on 26th June 1947 declaring that Hyderabad would neither participate in the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan nor of India and making it clear that on 15th August he would be entitled to resume the status of an independent sovereign.

On 11th July 1947, the Nizam sent a delegation to Delhi to meet Lord Mountbatten and the States Department, to negotiate on Dominion Status for Hyderabad or accession of Hyderabad to India. But no agreement was in sight till 15th August 1947. Therefore 2 months extension was given to Nizam. Negotiation again started from 17th August, but reached a stalemate, even after 3 months. By 18th October, Mr.V.P.Menon prepared a draft of Stand Still Agreement, which was acceptable to Sardar, Nehru and Lord Mountbatten. It was also approved by Nizam. On 27th October 1947, a melodrama was enacted by Rajakars, a para military wing of Ittehad-ul-Musalmeen, who prevented the delegation to leave for Delhi. The delegation was dissolved and a new one was appointed. The new delegation tried to change the agreement but failed. Therefore, the Stand Still Agreement was signed on 29th November 1947.

A registered letter posted from Hyderabad Residency Post Office dated 18th June 1948, which was received at Bombay on 21st June 1948.

Indian Post Office was working in Hyderabad without any problem, though the State was creating with India.

The Government of India implemented the Stand Still Agreement and withdrew the Indian Army from Hyderabad. But Nizam wanted to buy time to assert his independence. He went on persisting his negative approach. In April 1948, Nizam rejected the suggestion of India, to hold plebiscite in Hyderabad to test the will of the people on the issue of accession. On 16th April 1948, Sardar Patel warned that India would not ever agree to Hyderabad's independence. The Indian Government also noticed that the activities of the Razakars grew in intensity and violence and border incidents assumed grave proportions. The Indian troops were posted on the Indian boundary to prevent the import of Pathans and Muslims into the State. In an endeavour to convert the minority into majority in the State, Muslims were encouraged to emigrate and Hindus were terrorized to migrate from the State. There was a complete breakdown of Law and Order.

Unable to bear the deplorable condition of the State, some prominent citizens including several eminent Muslims wrote to Nizam about the deteriorating conditions of Law and Order and urging him to disband Rajakars. When the letter was published in Urdu paper Imroz, his editor was hacked to death by Rajakars, on order of Kasim Rajavi, the leader of Rajakars.

On 7th September 1948, the Indian Government requested Nizam to take immediate steps to disband the Rajakars who were involved in murder, rape, arson and pillage and had created wide spread anarchy within Hyderabad.

When Nizam's Government blamed India for the activities of Rajakars, a decision on 9th September 1948 was taken to send Indian troops into Hyderabad to restore peace. An ultimatum was delivered by Mr. V.P. Menon, Secretary to the Ministry of States to the Nizam on 10th September 1948.



Front Side



Back Side



During "OPERATION POLO" or "POLICE ACTION", the postal services in Hyderabad were effected in the 3rd week of September 1948. Letters addressed to Hyderabad were returned to sender with appropriate handstamps.

The first is dated 20th September 1948 posted from Madras, which received a hands-stamp reading "SERVICE TEMPORARILY / SUSPENDED RETURNED / TO SENDER."

The second is also dated 20th September 1948 posted from Poona, received a hand-stamp, reading "SERVICE SUSPENDED".

On Monday September 13th morning, the Indian forces marched into Hyderabad. They were commanded by Major - General J.N. Chaudhri under the direction of Lt. General Maharaj Sri. Rajendrasinghji, who was then the General Officer Commanding in

By ROBSON LOWE

The First Series of Town Number Cancellations

Soon after the adoption of the prepayment of postage by means of adhesive stamps, it was decided to follow the example of England and other countries and to introduce obliterations framing a number. The lines normally ascend from right to left. The original type has normal diagonals, 24 to 25 mm. The figures are 7 or 8 mm high. The lines vary in thickness.

A feature of Type (4) is the remarkable range of sub-varieties, apart from definite sub-types, which come into use between 1855 and 1873. In this respect, the Bombay Circle enjoys absolute pre-eminence. It is impossible to give an illustration or a minute description of these sub-varieties. It will suffice to illustrate the undoubted sub-varieties will be indicated in the text, and this will be a sufficient guide to collectors. This principle will be followed with regard to all types of cancellation.

It was the intention of the central authority to issue each year a new obliterator to each post office. But it is most improbable that this ideal was adhered to - indeed, it is clear that many obliterations evidence a degree of wear that can only be accounted for by very prolonged use. It is very probable that renewal was frequently effected by enlisting the services of a local mistri, or ironworker, who was at that time, and, doubtless is still, a very skilful and resourceful craftsman. The result would usually be an excellent obliterator, but frequently departing in some details from the normal. The above theory would account for many sub-varieties of type in the various circles. The post office now has its workshops which turn out obliterations of a high degree of finish and uniformity, Eighty years ago, there were no such workshops.

There were 124 post offices in the Bombay Circle in 1854 and this was the extent of the original numbering. In Bombay itself there were receiving house besides the principal office. Some important towns such as Aurangabad, Poona and Ahmedabad had two offices. In 1859, or perhaps earlier, about 30 or 31 offices were taken over from the Northern Circle and received numbers from about 139 to 169. The earliest date found from these Northern Circle offices is 6th April, 1859, from Goonah. Of these, Sehore, Aboo, Indore and Mahidpore have also been seen with this Northern Circle numbers. In 1861, the Sind offices were transferred to the new Punjab Circle. In 1866-67 the Central Provinces Circle was formed, and, consequently, a number of offices were merged in the New Circle. Some of the numbers held originally by transferred offices were re-allotted, and this explains some cases in which two post offices appear with the same number, as for example, 78 with Ellichpur and Verawal, and 159 with Augur and Dhond. This does not explain the case of 117 was issued in error in 1873. Kamptee, 76, deserves mention as Kamptee is shown in the Northern Circle list of post offices of 1854. As it received 76 in the Bombay series, it must have been transferred to the Bombay Circle before the introduction of Type [4].

As Post Offices were taken over by the Imperial Department from the District Post, or newly created, they were allotted numbers in continuation of the original series. The highest number seen in Type [4] is 359. Higher numbers have been seen in Type [8] for Deolali, 375, and Gooledgud, 436, and are apparently in the same numbering.

An instance of the use of Type [4] in the Madras Circle deserves mention. This is number 150 from Negapatnam in duplex form, in 1873. The left duplex is also in the Bombay form with the circumference of the circle incomplete at the top, the gap being occupied by the town name. The explanation suggested of this irregularity is that the Negapatnam office being in urgent need of a

The then present Marajah of Cochin, Sir Rama Varma was fairly an old man. The ruling families in both States follows the Marumakkathayam Law, or the Law of inheritance through the female line. Both States have always been in the fore front among the States for progressive administration. The people of the both States are of the same stock, speak the same language and have a common culture and tradition.

Mr. V.P. Menon, the Secretary of the States Department paid visits to both States on 5th March 1949 to ascertain the wishes of the people regarding the future of the two States. There were three alternatives: a) to form an AIKYA KERALA (A linguistic province of the entire Malayalam speaking areas of Travancore - Cochin and Malabar) b) to form an Union of Travancore and Cochin. c) or leave the two States as they were for the time being.

Out of three options, the first was not practicable at that time. After discussions, the proposal to amalgamate Travancore and Cochin into one Union was accepted, by 12th March 1949. But the problem was that the relation between the two rulers had been anything but cordial. For many decades the rulers of these two neighbouring States had not been on visiting terms. When approached by Mr. Menon, the Maharajah of Cochin accepted his suggestion to meet the Maharajah of Travancore.

The Cochin Maharajah made practically no demands at all. Trivandrum was made the capital of the Union of the Maharajah of Travancore was made Rajpramukh for life. The new Union was named the Union State of Travancore and Cochin. It was inaugurated on 1st July 1949.

RAJASTHAN: Early history of India shows that northern and central India was dominated by various Rajput clans who always resisted foreign invaders. Rajput race has become synonymous with chivalry.

The integration of Rajputana State was done in five stages. The first one was the formation of Matsya Union, which consisted four States of Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur and Karauli. This name was suggested by Mr. K.M. Munsi, as this was the old name of this region, to be found in the Mahabharat. After a good deal of arguments, Maharajah of Dholpur was made Rajpramukh. The covenant of this Union was signed on 28th February 1948 and the Union was inaugurated on 18th March 1948.

The second was the formation of the "First Rajasthan Union", which consisted Banswara, Bundi, Dungarpur, Jhalawar, Kishangarh, Kotali, Partabgarh, Shahpura and Tonk. After much discussion (before 4th March 1948), it was decided to form a Union of the States concerned and to leave Udaipur to come in later if it wished to do so. By 14th March it was decided to inaugurate the Union of Rajasthan on 25th March 1948 with Kotah as capital. It was also agreed that the rulers of Kotah, Bundi and Dungarpur would be Rajpramukh, Senior Uprajpramukh and Junior rajpramukh respectively. On 23rd March, it was informed that Udaipur was willing to join the Union but as the arrangements for the inauguration were complete, it was decided to go ahead. Thus the first Union was inaugurated on 25th March 1948.

On 28th March, official intimation was received that the Maharajah of Udaipur had decided to join the Union. Therefore, it was agreed that the Rajasthan Union should be reconstituted. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the capital of the new Union would be at Udaipur, and the ruler of Udaipur, Kotah and Bundi would be Rajpramukh, Senior Uprajpramukh and Junior Uprajpramukh respectively. The ruler of Dungarpur was to continue as a Junior Uprajpramukh. The covenant was signed on 11th April and the Union was inaugurated by Nehru on 18th April 1948.

new obliterator, decided to get one made locally. It was perhaps found that the Bombay type was easier to have made locally than the Madras type. But the all important Negapatnam number, 150 was retained. This interesting item will doubtless be sought after by collectors. The collector will find the Bombay Circle one of the most attractive with its numerous sub-varieties.



The earliest example of Type [4] is from Kamptee dated 16th May, 1855. This was the sole type used in Bombay until about 1867, when many post offices began to show Type [9] were used side by side down to 1873.

In 1859, we find an attempt to turn out better workmanship, the features of the sub-variety being slightly reduced dimensions (figures 6 mm. in height, and greater neatness). In the original Handbook this was treated as a sub-type and illustrated. This however seems to have been an unnecessary elaboration. Similarly, it is sufficient to direct attention to slight modifications to provide space for three figure numbers. The diamond has to be widened and slightly flattened. The number of lines is increased, the maximum seen being 14.

Type [4a] is practically a square, indeed, in some cases with three figures, the longer diagonal is that running through the number. The lines vary in fineness and the figures also exhibit differences in size and style. The space for the figures is fairly well marked, and numbers stand out well. The diagonals vary between 19 and 21 mm. and the number of lines is between nine and fourteen.

The first example seen is dated 1858, from Jalgaum. But examples are rare until 1863. As will be seen, two experiments were made in Types [4b] and [4c], Type [4a] being eventually selected for general use.

The importance of this type is that it was adopted for the duplex obliterator, the first example reported being from Poona dated the 27th September, 1862. Three or four years seem to have passed before it came into almost general use. It will be seen later on that the duplex obliterator was used with Bombay, "I" in 1862 and that it had been tried in 1861 for Bombay and Calcutta in Type [9].

A variety of type [4a] shows the capital letter "A" over the number "52" for Poona City Receiving House. "D" over "52" is also on record, and this relates presumably to another Poona Receiving House. Similar variations include "57" over "O", and "C.P.L." over "129". The first is doubtless a branch office of Ahmadnagar, but an explanation of "C.P.L." remains to be suggested or discovered.

Type [4b] is an attempt towards an obliterator markedly larger than Type [4], presumably with a view to a more effective cancellation. The longer diagonal varies between 27 and 31 mm. with 28 as the common measurement. The smaller diagonal is usually 20 or 21 mm. The figures are clumsy, sometimes grotesque, and about 2 mm. longer than in Type [4], measuring 9 mm. The

number of lines is usually seventeen, but there may be two or three less or more. The earliest date seen is 15th September, 1856, from Surat. Examples are very few after 1865. Numbers recorded are 9, 14, 17, 23, 36, 43, 48, 53, 56, 57 and 93. Examples are fairly scarce.

Type [4c] represents the limit reached in reducing the size of the obliterator. Diagonals are about 20 mm. by 15 mm., with from ten to sixteen lines. The figures are about 4 mm. high. There is an open rectangular space for the number. The result proved unsatisfactory, as the impression was very frequently more or less of a smudge. The earliest date recorded is December, 1863. Examples are seen as late as 1870. Numbers recorded are 3, 6, 7, 17, 20, 22, 25, 30, 36, 57, 78, 108, 152, 164 and 272. Examples are not common. This type is found with a duplex obliterator in 1868. Types [4b] and [4c] were both abandoned in favour of Type [4a].

Type [4d] has as its chief characteristic a well defined rectangular open space for the number, throwing the number into prominence. The lines, eighteen in number, are finer and sharper than before. Figures measure 6 mm. in height. Diagonals are 25 and 19 mm.

A sub-variety is the usual modification for a three figure number, the diamond being slightly flattened, and becoming almost a square. The figures are 5 mm. high, and the number of lines varies between thirteen and eighteen.

The date of appearance of Type [4d] is perhaps indicated by its adoption for Muscat in 1864. It is seen until 1873, but examples are scarce. This type appears sometimes in duplex form.

Numbers reported are 78, 84, 202, 212, 308, 335, 356, 357, 359.

This brings to a close the description of Type [4] and its sub-types. The Type [4] varieties for Bombay City will be dealt with in Chapter IX on Urban Cancellations. The cancellations for Bombay City are particularly varied and interesting.

Type [4] with reversed lines, that is, with lines rising from left to right, are found in all types except [4b], but are scarce. In Type [4] the numbers reported are 52, 62, 64, 69, 70, 71, 72, 119, 134, 136, 137, 139. The groups 69 to 72, and 134 to 139 strongly suggest local manufacture for a group of offices. In Type [4a] numbers seen are 47 and 315. In Type [4c] we have 25 and 57, and in Type [4d], 84, 266, 315 and 347.

Coloured obliterations of Type [4] may be found in blue, violet and brown-red and are rare. Used abroad numbers in Type [4] are: 13, Damaun; 124, Aden; 125, Aden Cantonment, 1871; 131, Field Force, Persia; 308, Bushire; 309 Muscat; 356, Baghdad; 357, Basrah.

In the Northern Circle Type [5] is a diamond formed by lines parallel to the long diagonal, the office number appearing in a space in the centre.

There are three broken horizontal lines flanking the number on each side, while there are usually four lines above and below the number. Examples may be found with three or five lines above and below the number. The lines vary in thickness. The diagonals measure about 28 and 21 mm. and are fairly constant. Some late examples are about 25 by 22mm. Cancellations exist in blue, but are very rare.

In 1854, the Northern Circle comprised the United Provinces, Punjab, the North-West Frontier Province, Indore and parts of the Central Provinces, with a total of 254 Head and subordinate offices. In 1859, some thirty offices were transferred to the Bombay Circle. The numbering followed the alphabetical list of head offices.

The earliest date seen is on a cover of the 23rd November, 1855. Type [5] was superseded in 1860 by Type [8], when there

was a re-numbering - a few offices continued to use Type [5] but these are not numerous. Very rare examples appear on the 1865 issue. With a currency of little more than four years, it has proved difficult to identify town numbers. In the other Circles, the numbering was unchanged down to 1873, and consequently there has been a much larger measure of success.

Gujrat's number 138, appears as a re-issue to Amritsar City Post Office in 1871. Sialket's correct number is 244, but it shows Kangra's number, 144, in 1859. This is an obvious case of a slip by the issuing clerk. The number 44 from Nagode can be found with loops of the 4's reversed - a clear instance of local manufacture in replacement during the Mutiny. I have a letter from an officer with one of the columns showing the reversed 4's cancellation which shows that Nagode was in the Mutiny area.

As already noted, 30 or 31 offices were transferred to the Bombay Circle early in 1859. It may be assumed that this measure was under consideration in 1858. In consequence of the impending transfer, the authorities of the Northern Circle decided that a re-numbering was desirable. With this re-numbering, a new type of obliterator was essential, to avoid confusion. Experiments were accordingly made with Types [5a] and [8], the original Type [5] numbering being retained in these experimental obliterations.



[5]



[5a]

Type [5a] is simply Type [5] with the side lines running right through the number. The earliest date seen is July, 1858, from Calpee (60). Numbers seen are 1, 3, 43, 45, 46, 47, 51, 56, 60, 81, 128, 131, 134, 139, 176, 177, 178, 181 and 261. Examples are rare. This type was not approved, as the lines running through the numbers frequently made the number undecipherable.

The second experimental cancellation, Type [8], was that subsequently adopted for the re-numbering of 1860. It is an adaptation of Type [5] formed by closing the figure space to the left and right with vertical lines, thus providing a rectangular space for the number. The diamond is then completed with two or three vertical lines for the number. The diamond is then completed with two or three vertical lines of diminishing length. The rectangular space is made slightly larger, the result being better definition for the town number. The diagonals are about 29 and 22 mm., and figures are about 6 mm. high. Numbers seen in Type [5] and also in experimental Type [8], are as follows: 23, 52, 56, 64, 92 and 176. The earliest date is October, 1858, for Delhi (64) and Lucknow (176).

The following numbers in the Type [5] series have not been seen in Type [5], but have been accepted as Type [5] numbers from entires showing the experimental Type [8] cancellation. These are: 25, Bulandshahr, 1858; 211, Mynpoori, 1859; 256, Sirsa, 1859.

The dates by themselves indicate the Type [5] series of numbers. Apart from this, a careful comparison with neighbouring Type [5] numbers, and a scrutiny of the list of post offices in 1854 leave no doubt on the point.

It will be noticed that Lucknow, 176, received both experimental types.

Experimental Type [8] can only be identified on entire, and is accordingly an extremely rare find.

In the Madras Circle, Type [6] is a diamond composed of dots, framing a capital "C" above the town number. This is an adaptation fo Type [1]. The long diagonal varies between 27 and 21 mm. and the shorter between 21 and 20 mm. The dots are diamond shaped and vary considerably in size. The letter "C" and the figures also vary in height, the largest figures measuring 7 mm. and the smallest about 4 ½ mm. Impressions from worn obliterators may be very faulty; the dots may even run into one another and appear as bars. In extreme cases, these may be solid blocks of colour. Some very crude examples probably represent replacements by local artisans. Examples of Type [6] may be found in blue and violet.

In 1854, the Madras Circle included Madras, Mysore, Travancore and parts of Hyderabad (Deccan). In the 1854 list, we find 130 offices. The first issues included numbers up to about 159. Offices opened after this numbering were given obliterators in Type [9] and [12]. There is only one recorded example of a number in Type [6], over 159 - this is 247 for Old Arcot, seen in 1869.

Madras accounts for as many as nine offices. Bangalore has three, and the following towns have two - Secunderabad, Pallamcottah, Trichinopoly, Wellington and (possibly) Bellary.

The significance of the letter "C" is a matter of surmise, but it is generally agreed that it probably stands for Carnatic. Madras was often referred to as the Carnatic in the first half of the last century and some Madras regiments were known as "Carnatics."

The earliest date is 26th February 1856, on a Madras cover. As Type [1] has been seen on a large number of Madras covers throughout 1855, and in January 1856, it seems clear that Type [6] made its appearance in February 1855, and in January 1856, it seems clear that Type [6] made its appearance in February of that year. The cancellation was in general use until about 1862-3, when Type [9] was introduced, retaining the 1856 numbering. Stragglers appear as late as 1873. Type [12] mainly for higher numbers, is found after 1866-7.

Type [6a] is a replica of Type [6] in its smallest form. Figures are 4 ½ mm high. The diagonals measure 22 and 17 mm.

Seekers after "errors" may find a reversed "C", "C" and number missing, or a small "C" with a serif.

A striking and very rare variety shows an outer frame-line as in Type [8a]; the number is not clear. This is a very crude effort and clearly a local replacement.

Used Abroad: 89, Mahe; 111, Pondicherry; 147, Karikal.



Type [7], for the Bengal Circle, consists of a series of octagons, one within the other, framing a capital "B" over a number. In the normal form, there are four complete and three incomplete octagons, the third being a very incomplete effort at the extremities of the line

between "B" and the office number. The width between parallel sides is 21 mm. "B" obviously stands for Bengal. Mr. Jal Cooper records rare instances of five complete octagons with a width of 23 ½ mm. A rare example is reported with a "D" instead of a "B". The "D" is probably a mistake for a "B". If it were connected with District Posts, one would expect examples to be fairly numerous.

The Bengal Circle comprised Assam, Lower Bengal, British Burma and the Straits Settlements. In the 1854 list, there are 176

post offices. The series of 1855 extends to about 182 offices. The highest seen with later dates are 283 and 415, between which no number has been reported. Bassein, 21, used the No. 12 for a few years after 1860. As the Persian script runs from right to left a native clerk could easily make this mistake when issuing an obliterator.

The 1854 list shows six offices under Calcutta. I have seen two or three examples of No. 2, Howrah, and I have heard of one example of No. 3 on stamp. I have no report of No. 4. As No. 5, is Akyab, the possible Calcutta urban numbers would be restricted to No. 2, 3 and 4. One would expect to find Calcutta with more than three urban offices, for Bombay shows six and Madras eight, besides the head office. A cover of 1861 shows "B/1" but with a backstamp" Number 3 Receiving House". This may suggest the use of "B/1" for Calcutta sub-offices. The point needs clearing up.

The Bengal Circle has an "Used Abroads" Singapore (172), Penang (147), Malacca (109) and Chandernagore (86), and now that Burma is separated from India, the Burma numbers acquire a status similar to the Straights Settlements offices and Aden.

The earliest date seen is 5th November, 1855, from Rangpur. Examples abound down to 1866. After that, the use of this cancellation was restricted, although stragglers continue down to 1873. Types [9] and [10] were brought into use, in place of Type [7], office numbers, however, remaining unchanged.

Type [7a] is a smaller obliterator obtained by dispensing with the outer octagon. There is an incomplete octagon springing from each end of the horizontal line below "B". The width of the obliterator is 19 mm. This type is found in single obliterator and in duplex form. The earliest date is August, 1861, in duplex form. Numbers recorded are 1, 51, 62, 144, 183, 186 and 269. Examples are scarce.

An interesting and rare variety shows Calcutta 1 in duplex form with a space of 10 mm. between the right and left duplex.

Type [7b] is practically [7a] enclosed in a circle, and used in duplex form. The difference from [7a] is that there is a distinct incomplete octagon, besides an embryo at the ends of the line between "B" and the number. The diameter of the circle is 19 mm. The earliest date recorded is June 1863. There are stragglers down to 1873, but examples are very rare. Numbers seen are 6, 7, 21, 46, 174 and 200.

As duplex obliterations, Types [7a] and [7b] were discarded for Types [9] and [10]. A trail was made with Type [9] in 1861.

Summing up, in late 1855 and early 1856 all Imperial post offices in India were equipped with obliterations displaying the office number, separate designs being adopted by each circle. The Post Office Manual, 1858, states that a key to the office numbers was circulated to every post office. Up to the present no copy has been traced, but one should not abandon hope of a survival and discovery. In the meantime, a sustained effort has been made to identify numbers, by the examination of early covers.

(Courtesy : Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps)

JUNIOR CORNER

OVERPRINTS AND SURCHARGES

By Anthony S.B. New

When we were children we went to see our first big Stamp Exhibition and we were simply thrilled by it. If you get the chance, do pay a visit to one - it is so interesting to see what other people collect and how they arrange their collections.

One of the exhibits - it was Malta, the island in the Mediterranean which was awarded the George Cross in 1942 for its bravery - held all our attention, until a deep voice behind us

made us jump.

'Do you know the difference between an overprint and a surcharge?' said the voice. We looked up into the twinkly blue eyes of an elderly gentleman, and had to confess that we didn't.

'Look!' he said, pointing to a Maltese stamp which had 'Self Government' printed on it in black. 'That is an overprint. You see it has been added to the stamp later - it is not part of the design'.

We saw what he meant and we also saw that the same words were printed in red on some of the other stamps of the issue.

'An overprint is not always in black, then?' we asked.

'Oh, no,' the old gentlemen replied. 'It wouldn't be much good putting a black overprint on that black stamp there, for instance-it wouldn't show up, so that's way it's got a red one. But black is more commonly used because most stamps are printed in pale colours'.

We nodded and waited; that was an overprint, but he still hadn't told us what a surcharge was.

'Now,' he said, looking at the next sheet in the frame, 'that 3d. blue stamp with "Twopence halfpenny" printed over it in black, is a surcharge, because it alters the value of the stamp. And it doesn't always lower the value, as this one does. Oh, no! Come over here and look at this'.

Our new friend led us to another frame where there was a Polish exhibit. 'See that?' he chuckled. 'There's a 5 mark stamp which has been surcharged "100,000 MARKS"! But do be careful when you are writing up your stamps,' he went on. 'You saw that the chap who owns those Malta stamps had written under the 3d. blue one "surcharged 1925", didn't you?' We hadn't noticed but we nodded wisely. 'Well, once when I was going in for a competition I wrote "overprinted" under a surcharged stamp by mistake. It was just a slip of the pen but it lost me a Silver Medal! The judge told me I ought to have known better. That's why I thought if you two youngsters knew the difference. I shouldn't like you to lose a silver cup the way I did'.

We thanked him very much, and now, when we are writing up our stamps, we always stop and think very carefully when overprints and surcharges come up. Especially for competition sheets! Don't forget - a surcharge alters the value of the stamp, while an overprint is any word or date printed afterwards which does not alter the value.

Now, if you have a British stamp with, for example, 'MOROCCO AGENCIES, 10 CENTMOS' (or other value) printed on it, is it an overprinted or a surcharged stamp? The answer is easy, really; the value is changed from pence to centimos, so it is known as a surcharge, even though it has 'MOROCCO AGENCIES' on it as well.

Some of the stamps printed for Great Britain are surcharged for use in British Post Offices abroad, such as Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Muscat. Muscat stamps are hard to identify, because the place name is not added to the stamp as it is for the other three. The British stamps used in Muscat are just surcharged, formerly with annas or rupees, and recently with their new currency - naye paise. So if you see a current British 3d. stamp with 20N.P. on it you will know it came from Muscat, in Eastern Arabia. It is knowing things like this that makes you into a real philatelist.

The three special British stamps for the World Scout Jamboree (August 1957) were surcharged for use in Bahrain, Qatar, Muscat and Kuwait, but the Sheikh of Kuwait decided against the issue of these stamps in his country, so you will only find them for the other three. Now, what is the reason for an overprint or a surcharge? Often an overprint is used to commemorate some great event, when there has been no time to prepare a specially designed stamp. Here

are a few examples of these; perhaps you have some of them in your album?

When Queen Elizabeth II visited Nigeria in 1956, the Nigerian Government had its two penny stamp over printed in black; 'Royal Visit 1956'. To commemorate the world famous Expedition across the South Pole, the stamps of the Falkland Islands were overprinted: 'Trans-Antarctic expedition 1955-1958'.

The Bahamas celebrated the 450th anniversary of the landing of Columbus in the new World by overprinting fourteen of their stamps: '1492 Landfall of Columbus 1942'.

Since 1840 many countries have overprinted their stamps for official use in their Government offices with words such as 'Official' or 'Service', or with various initials - 'O.H.M.S.', 'G' or 'O.S.S.'.

Sometimes, after wars and revolutions in different parts of the world new states and countries appear on the map. At first the stamps used there before the upheaval are overprinted with the country's new name, and used until it has had time to design and print its own new stamps. This has happened in the case of Burma, Danzig, Cyprus, Pakistan, Sudan, British Somaliland, Poland and many, many more.

You know now that a surcharge is an alteration to the value of a stamp. In the early days, these surcharges were not always printed; some were even made in handwriting. In 1882 Trinidad ran out of penny stamps, so her 6d. ones were surcharged by hand '1d'. and the original value crossed out by a bar in red or black ink. This country was in the news again in December 1956. It appears that the Trinidadians sent so many Christmas cards that the G.P.O. in the capital, Port of Spain, sold out of its one cent stamps! Some two cent ones were hastily surcharged: 'One cent'. Reports say that this surcharge was only on sale for five and a half hours, as an aircraft arrived with a fresh supply of the normal stamps. Philatelists who collect Trinidad are now searching all over the world for these elusive treasures.

In 1914 France wanted to collect money for charity so the 10 cent 'Sower' was surcharged with '5c' and a red cross, the 5 centimes being collected by the P.O. for the French Red Cross. Money has been collected for charities by lots of other countries in the same way.

Rather a peculiar thing happened in 1949 when stamps were printed to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Universal Postal Union. It was known that Aden planned to change her currency, so these U.P.U. stamps were printed with the new one. But on the date the stamps were due to appear the change hadn't yet taken place, so this brand new set of stamps had to be surcharged with the values in its old currency. This is a very unusual reason for a surcharge; the normal reason is simply that the Post Office has sold out, as it did in Trinidad.

There are plenty of forgeries among overprinted and surcharged stamps because something added after the original printing is so much easier to fake than a whole stamp. On account of this, surcharges usually lower the value of a stamp. This prevents the forger from cheating the Post Office, so he spends his time trying to cheat stamp collectors. Because that one cent Trinidad stamp was on sale for such a short time, it has already been found with a forged surcharge!

All the work of overprinting and surcharging is usually done in a great hurry - often on the printing presses of the local newspapers - so you can often find some very odd things on stamps of this kind - letters missing or upside down, or stamps surcharged twice over. A mistake like this can make a stamp very valuable and it's worth while looking at your overprinted and surcharged stamps very carefully.

(Courtesy - Postage Stamps)