

ISSN 0269 - 2759

BELGAPOST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BELGIAN STUDY CIRCLE

— relating to all aspects of Belgian Philately —

— — — — —

VOLUME TWO

BELGAPOST

THE JOURNAL OF THE BELGIAN STUDY CIRCLE

— relating to all aspects of Belgian Philately —

December 1985

Volume 2 Page 1

Edited and Produced by J B Horne

7 Elm Drive, Bradley, Stafford ST18 9DS

I am sorry you have had to wait so long for this offering but do hope you will find something of interest. I am hopeful of presenting you with a further edition before too long. I mention again that I am always in need of articles and short notes and can often arrange translation of articles where needed.

I have taken the liberty of reducing in size those articles I am reprinting from other journals : no doubt you will tell me should you prefer them original size. For this issue I can supply if needed at 5p per page plus postage (note I have printed 2 xA4 on one sheet but other 'juggling' has also been done)

An Index was provided with the last volume but I have been taken to task for not providing a contents list with each issue, so I have done so this time.

Literature List is being prepared for typing and I am hopeful of getting this to you shortly. I have at present over 600 cards and I intend to list in alphabetical order of Title with Author date of issue, language and a reference number which incorporates an indication of contents, and small cross reference to other contents. This may sound complicated but in practise it works quite well.

You will see on another page the comments about Balasse Magazine Index- which is long overdue. I look forward to comments from you re the work involved to produce an Alphabetical index from the list I have.

Please remember no article, comment, query is too long or too short for me to include in the Journal - I look forward to hearing from you all out there.

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J B H 12.85

TARIFS POSTAUX

(SERVICE INTERIEUR)

| Dates | | Lettre ordinaire | Poids en gr. (1 ^{er} échel) | Carte postale simple | rép payée | Droit de recommandation |
|------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 01.07.1849 | jusqu'à 30 Km | 0.10 | 10 | | | 0.20 |
| | plus de 30 Km | 0.20 | | | | |
| 01.05.1868 | | | 15 | | | |
| 01.06.1870 | tout le pays | 0.10 | | | | |
| 01.01.1871 | dans le canton | | | 0.05 | | |
| | hors du canton | | | 0.10 | | |
| 01.01.1872 | tout le pays | | | 0.05 | | |
| 01.01.1873 | | | | 0.05 | 0.10 | |
| 01.11.1879 | | | | | | 0.25 |
| 01.07.1909 | | | 20 | | | |
| 15.12.1919 | | 0.15 | | 0.10 | 0.20 | |
| 01.11.1920 | | 0.20 | | 0.15 | 0.30 | 0.40 |
| 01.03.1921 | | | | | | 0.50 |
| 15.11.1923 | | 0.25 | | | | |
| 01.10.1925 | | 0.30 | 50 | | | |
| 15.01.1926 | | | | 0.20 | 0.40 | |
| 01.07.1926 | | 0.40 | | 0.25 | 0.50 | 1.00 |
| 01.11.1926 | | 0.50 | | 0.30 | 0.60 | |
| 15.12.1927 | | 0.60 | | 0.35 | 0.70 | 1.50 |
| 01.12.1930 | | 0.70 | | 0.40 | 0.80 | 1.75 |
| 09.11.1931 | | 0.75 | | 0.50 | 1.00 | |
| 01.02.1935 | | 0.70 | | 0.35 | 0.70 | |
| 01.11.1938 | | 0.75 | | 0.40 | 0.80 | |
| 01.08.1941 | | 1.00 | | 0.50 | 1.00 | 2.25 |
| 15.09.1945 | | 1.50 | | 0.75 | 1.50 | 3.50 |
| 20.05.1946 | | 1.35 | | 0.65 | 1.30 | 3.15 |
| 15.12.1948 | | 1.75 | | 0.90 | 1.80 | 4.00 |
| 15.12.1952 | | 2.00 | | 1.20 | 2.40 | 5.00 |
| 01.10.1957 | | 2.50 | | 1.50 | 3.00 | 6.00 |
| 01.11.1959 | | 3.00 | | 2.00 | 4.00 | 7.00 |
| 15.11.1963 | envoi normalisé | | 20 | | | |
| 01.03.1966 | | | | | | 10.00 |
| 15.11.1969 | | 3.50 | | 2.50 | 5.00 | 15.00 |
| 01.06.1972 | | 4.50 | | 3.50 | (*) | |
| 01.10.1973 | | 5.00 | | 4.00 | | 18.00 |
| 15.12.1974 | | 6.50 | | 5.00 | | 25.00 |
| 01.12.1977 | | 8.00 | | 6.00 | | 30.00 |
| 01.02.1980 | | 9.00 | | 6.50 | | 35.00 |
| 15.01.1981 | | | | | | 50.00 |
| 15.04.1982 | | 10.00 | | 7.50 | | 60.00 |
| 15.04.1983 | | 11.00 | | 8.00 | | |
| 01.02.1984 | | 12.00 | | 10.00 | | 70.00 |
| 16.01.1985 | | | | 12.00 | | 75.00 |

(*) La carte postale avec réponse payée est supprimée au 1 juin 1972.

I have been working on rates of Postage for some time and have just had this list passed to me by Geoffrey Wood. It covers the Internal rates and I have not translated since I feel it is self explanatory. I will publish later another list possibly combining this one to show the International rates.

JBH.

Original in French in the newsletter of the Cercle 'Paul de Smeth and kindly translated by Dr Jack Gibbs.

" We have set our computer to work .. to sort out the often important changes which have appeared in the new 1986 edition and in particular that of 'L'Officiel' where we foresaw the correction of the 'distortions' (in the words of the editorial article) which persisted in the past.

We can sum up as follows the changes in percentages of the 1986 prices in relation to 1985 :

| | | Stamps | |
|----|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| | | M | U |
| A. | Catalogue Officiel | | |
| | Stamps from 1849 to 1863 (nos 1-16) | | o |
| | " 1865 to 1918 | - 3 % | o |
| | " 1919 to 1936 | o | - 7% |
| | " 1937 to 1969 | - 27 % | - 31 % |
| B. | Catalogue 'PRIX NET' | | |
| | Stamps of 1849 to 1863 (nos 1-16) | | + 3.6 % |
| | " 1865 to 1918 | + 2 % | + 5 % |
| | " 1919 to 1936 | + 3 % | + 1 % |
| | " 1937 to 1969 | o | o |

To sum up, the prices in the 'Prix Net' Catalogue show a certain firmness up to 1936 and a general status quo after 1937.

As far as the 'Officiel' catalogue is concerned (and it was overpriced -lets not mince matters), the new prices largely correct the anomalies of the past since we observe a fall of 7 % for used stamps (1919 to 1936) and a drop of 27 % and 31 % for mint and precancelled stamps after 1936

We will not mention the stamps of 1970 and after ; in fact their trade value still stays close to their face value; also all the stamps issued from 1961 still keep their validity.

Finally let us point out that in general commemorative and charity sets marked 'x' (unused with hinges or trace of hinge) are worth the same as the used. These 'x' stamps are therefore not catalogued separately after 1961.

One final remark : if the fall in the prices of 'L'Officiel' has clearly had the effect of lessening the difference which existed in the relation to the 'Prix Net' it still means that this higher pricing is still quite important; in fact for most stamps the (Officiel' catalogue still goes above the 'Net' :

| | | |
|------|----------------------|--------------|
| 59 % | for mint stamps from | 1865 to 1918 |
| 20 % | " | 1919 to 1936 |
| 24 % | " | 1937 to 1969 |
| 81 % | for used stamps from | 1865 to 1918 |
| 91 % | " | 1919 to 1936 |
| 45 % | " | 1937 to 1969 |

Conclusion : As we said last month we think that this fall in prices will in practice have no effect on the real trade value ; we all know that the sets after 1935 were being offered in Societies at 25 to 35 % of the 'Officiel' price ; in future the same stamps will doubtless be traded at 40 or 50 % or even more of the new price.

Perhaps the moment has come to fill the empty spaces in our albums. "

F O R G E R I E S .

By Leo de Clercq.

The "Affranchissement Insuffisant" marks in question are those which were put into use from 1 June 1864. (See my study of 17 January 1977 : "Insufficient frankings 1847-1876".

The first time that I suspected the presence of forgeries was as a member of the jury during the "75th Anniversary Exhibition of the Société Royale de Timbrologie" in Brussels on the 5th, 6th and 7th December 1980.

In the collection of Mr. Charles Voué : "Oblitérations and Postal markings - Belgium" No.30, frames 61-66, there were :
AFFR. INSUFF / 3, Alost, 27 SEPT. 70 and
AFFR. INSUFF /12, Anvers, 2 JANV. 71

With the assistance of Mr. Michel Fontinoy, I later received photocopies of these.

At first sight in these false marks the words AFFR. INSUFF. appeared identical, but the numbers interchangeable.

I decided to wait for a while to see if anything else would appear which would give me more certainty.

On 2 April 1981 Mr. Michel Fontinoy of Namur asked for my advice about an AFFR. INSUFF./217 of 28 OCT. 68 in his collection, and sent me a photocopy of it. This then became the third office of which a false mark was known to me.

Meanwhile all auction catalogues coming in were being systematically examined, until finally in the auction "Marcophila" in Verviers on 6 March 1982, lot No. 200, estimate 2.500 Fr., the first forged item came under the hammer. It sold for 3.900 Fr.

On 3rd January 1983 Mr. le Jeune d'Allegeershecque asks for my advice about a similar AFFR. INSUFF./217 dated Liège 11 MARS 68. This now became the third forgery with the number 217.

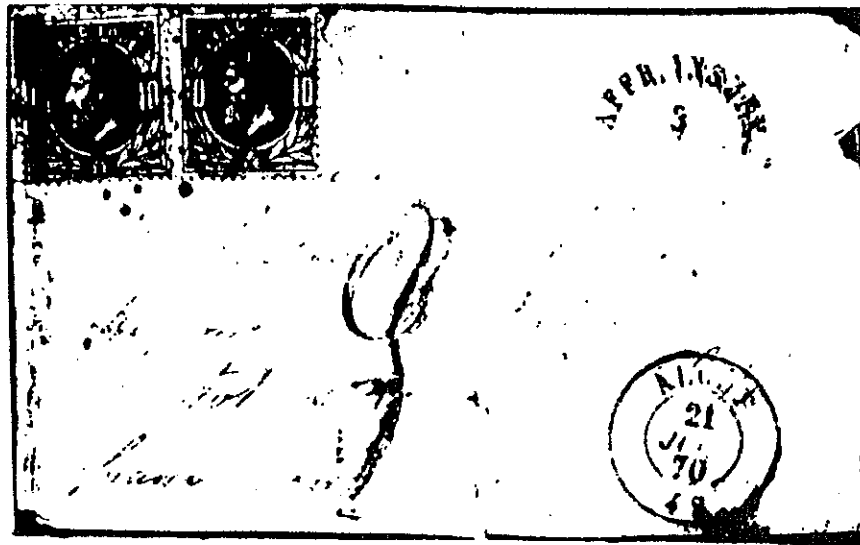
Findings:

- Four of the five forged letters come from the archives of the bank Melot Flahuteaux in Namur.
- A fifth letter is addressed to Mr. Van den Daale, merchant in Namur
- Throughout on these letters the Postage Due is marked in blue pencil
- The written Postage Due numbers 4 are not the correct amount. The forger did not know his postal history : the amount by which the letters from Liège were insufficiently franked would have been 20 centimes as they fell into the higher rate class. To this has to be added one décime fixed penalty, which brings the Postage Due to 3 décimes, and can not amount to 4 décimes.

Request :

Every collector is now asked to look out for these kinds of forgeries. Making these known everywhere is the only way of guarding against eventual malpractice.

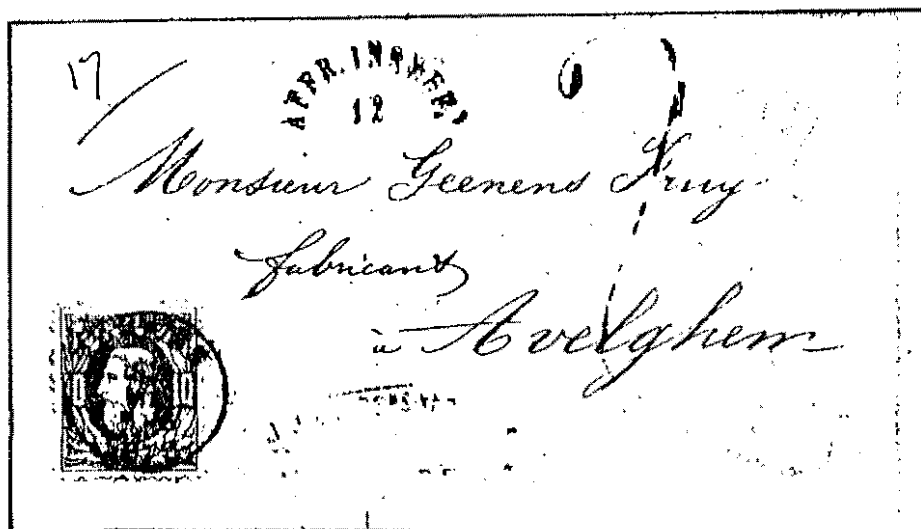
Above all I wish to thank the gentlemen mentioned for assisting me in my research. In addition I also want to thank everyone in advance for helping to look out for similar items.



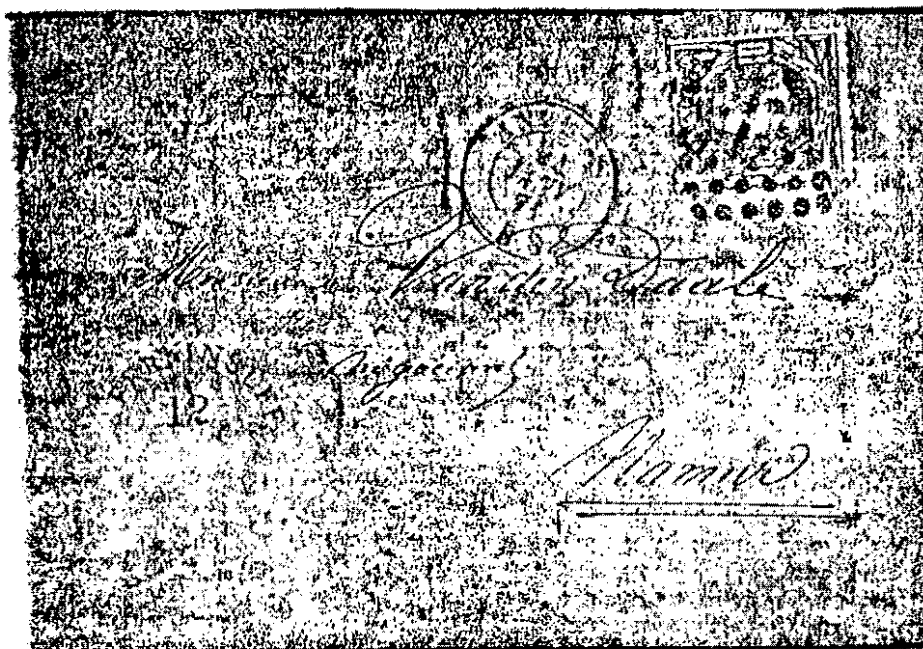
Echte AFFR. INSUFF./ 3 Alost 21 JUIN 70
(eigen verz.)



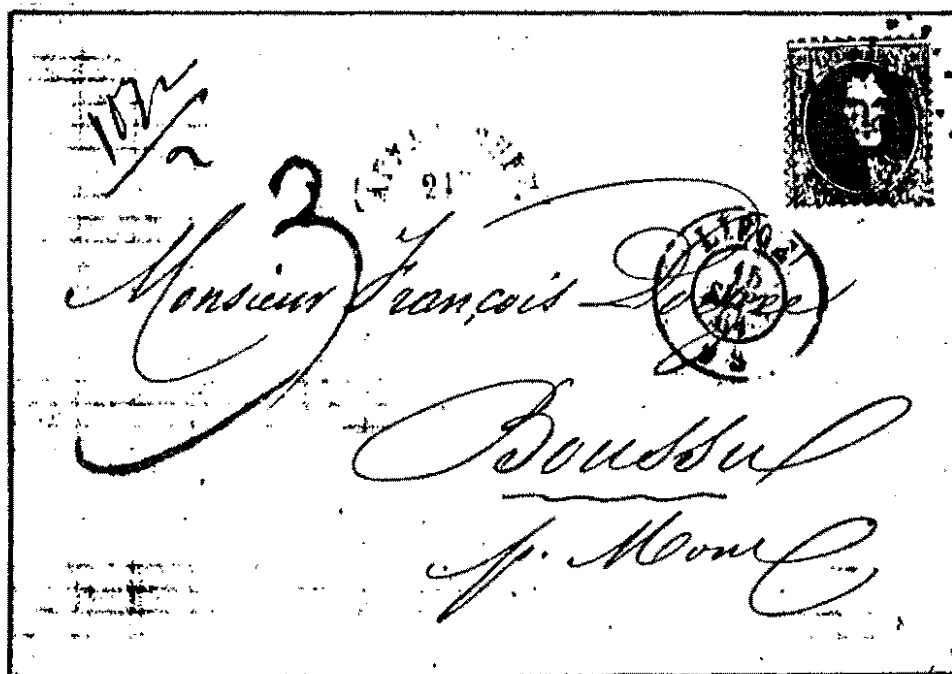
Valse AFFR. INSUFF./ 3 Alost 27 SEPT.70



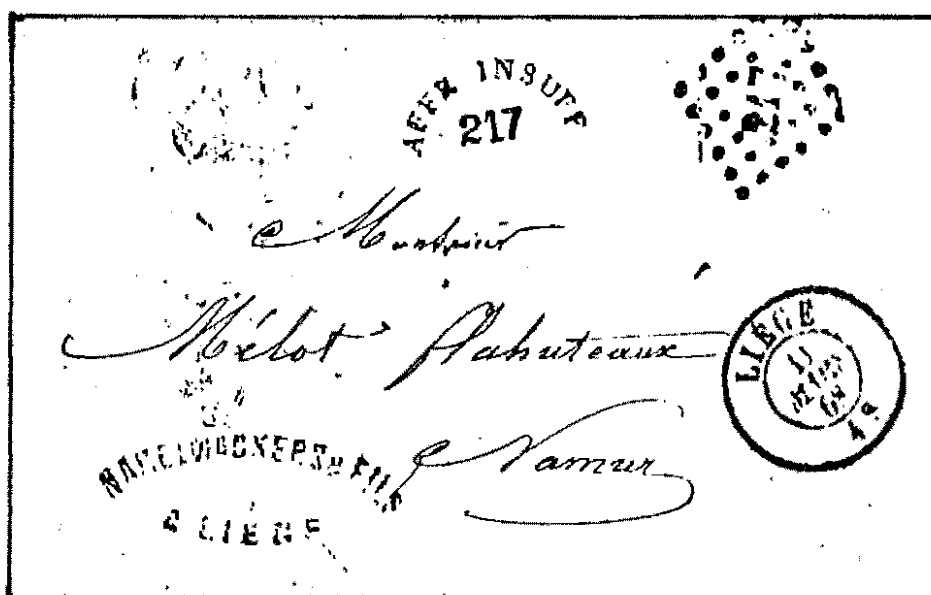
Echte AFFR. INSUFF./12 Anvers 20 MAI 1873
(eigen verz.)



Valse AFFR. INSUFF./12 Anvers 2. JANV. 71



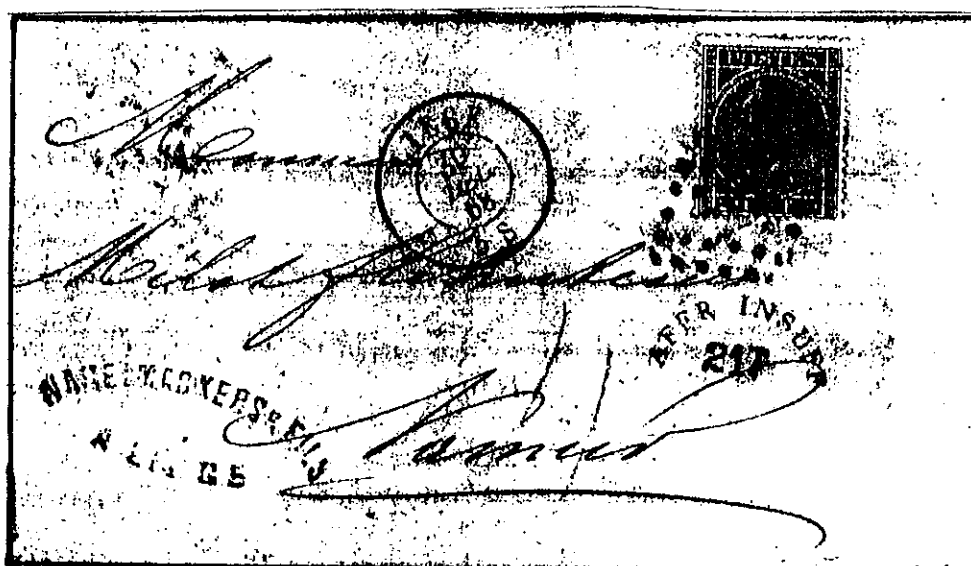
Echte AFFR. INSUFF./217 Liège 15 SEPT. 64
(eigen verz.)



Valse AFFR. INSUFF./217 Liège 11 MARS 68



Valse AFFR. INSUFF./217 Liège 28 OCT. 68
(verz. M. Fontinoy)



Valse AFFR. INSUFF./217 Liège 30 DEC. 68

Leo De Clercq
Zamanstraat 2
2700 Sint-Niklaas.

20 januari 1983.

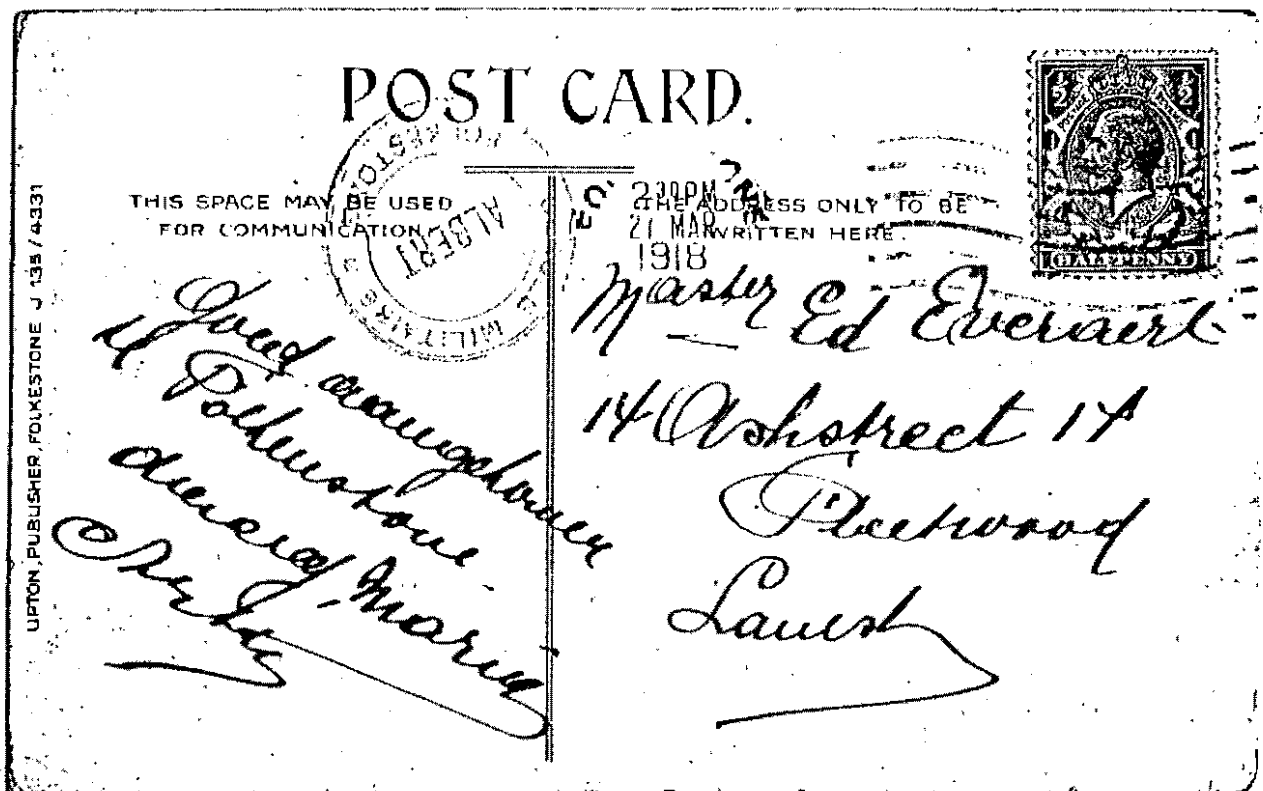
Cercle Militaire ALBERT, Folkestone.

by A J Martin

In the early days of the First World War, many Belgians fleeing before the threat of the German advance, managed to board fishing vessels which brought them to Folkestone. Here they landed at night at the slipway opposite the Fish Market.

On the East Cliff above, there stood at that time the church of St. Michael, and a contemporary report said it was a common sight to see lines of pallid women sitting on the pavement under the wall of the church. They were waiting to be attended to at the Husband Memorial Hall, which had been turned into a shelter for them.

Later, when better arrangements had been made and the Belgian Refugees Committee was in action, this Parish Hall became a Club for the Belgian soldiers passing through the town, under the title Cercle Militaire Albert. The Club was used as a meeting place for many thousands of these serving men.



PROPOSED STUDYOFTHE CHAMFERED RECTANGULAR CANCELLATIONS OF THE BELGIAN RAILWAY PARCEL POST.

All of you will be familiar with the above cancellations which were first introduced in the early part of this century. They are found, although not without exception, on the waybills and stamps used by the Belgian Railways. They are indeed very common.

The cancellations can be divided into two main types and there are several different sub-types all of which have the bottom corners of the overall rectangle chamfered, or splayed, in a distinctive manner.

It was during the latter part of the seventies that Spike Hughes, on behalf of the Circle, undertook the task of collating records which culminated during 1979 in the production of a 13 page List of those known stations/offices that had used these cancellations. This List does not, of course, purport to be complete and final.

It was after his untimely death that I was asked, in 1981, to take on the task of organising further recording and the collation of the results. For various reasons I have been unable to commence this task until now.

Two or three members have already expressed an interest in undertaking the recording of these cancellations. If you would like to help the Circle by recording the cancellations contained in your own collections then write to me, at the address shown below, for an Information/example Work Sheet.

The excellent work done by Spike Hughes and others will serve as the base upon which this further study will be built. The study will, inter alia, identify further details as to which stations/offices used these cancellations and for what period, differentiate between the various types and sub-types and hopefully identify any new types or sub-types.

September, 1983.

Peter H Rollinson, "Grandon", Wayside Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG23 8BH.

AB MARKS.

A List of AB covers provided by Harry Green in response to a request for information from an unknown member. I trust it will be of use for all members. The list appears on the next page :- here I give details of 2 covers in the S J Andrews collection.

1. 1743 From Flanders written by Richard Lyttleton to his Father Sir Thomas Lyttleton at Hagley, near Stourbridge.
(ex. B L Barker, Lot 22 Sale 8 Feb 1977)
2. 1745 2nd May From the "Camp near Ath" addressed to "William Brown Esq of Lindsaylands, at Eillintown, to be left at Mrs Brown, booksellers in the Parliament closs, Edinburgh, North Britain."
This was the British Army camp nearby the Battle of Fontenoy which took place on 11th May. Writer not known.

This was part of the letter I wrote to COL Herlant at the time he was making enquiries about the (AB) covers. (January. 1975.)

Possibly the following information may interest you, since you refer to my cover of 1743 in your article... top of page 289. Balasse Magazine. current number. (This was the December Number. 1975)

As far as the collecting of covers bearing the (AB) marking were concerned, it all commenced in 1943, (now over 30 years ago) when an article appeared in the house magazine of Messrs Robson Lowe..THE PHILATELIST.. under the title " A Dettingen Letter of 1743. by Col.Guy Crouch "

At this point I would mention that Col.Crouch was a old collector who for years had specialized in Military mail of all periods, and amongst his earlier material he had this cover of 1743, dated July 24th. from Hanau Camp. bearing the (AB) marking, which at this time he seriously thought was the abbreviated form of ArmyBag. It was the only example he had seen, and for that matter it was the only example to be seen by any collectors up to that time.

It was not until some two years later that I came into possession of a second letter from the same correspondence as that of Col.Crouch's letter the difference being that mine was dated May 31st. 1743, which was nearly two months earlier, so this meant that he no longer held the earliest example then recorded of the (AB) mark. and that distinction passed from Col.Crouch to me.

Col.Crouch's collection was sold by auction on October 10th. 1956. and I was never able to find out who bought the cover in the sale.

Col.Crouch died in August.1956.

I note that you possess another cover similar to mine but dated May 25th. is this also part of the same correspondence ?.

Unless you hear of any others it would therefore look as though these three covers are the only ones recorded from this campaign of 1743. either in England or Belgium.

This is a list of covers bearing the (AB) mark known to me, to exist in England , which I have recorded.

1743

May 31st. Cover from Hochst Camp. (In my collection))

July 24th. Cover from Hanau Camp. (Originally in the collection of Col.Crouch. Was sold in 1956. Present owner unknown.

Now I list the 12 covers that I found in 1945.

1745.

- (1st). Dated June 12th. from Lessines Camp. (In my collection).
- (2nd). Dated June 23rd. from Lessines Camp.
- (3rd). Dated June 29th. from Lessines Camp.
- (4th). Dated July 2nd. from Grammont Camp.
- (5th). dated July 7th. from Grammont Camp. (No (AB) mark on this)
- (6th). dated July 11th. from Ninove Camp.
- (7th). dated July 18th. from Dieghem Camp.
- (8th). dated July 21st. from Dieghem Camp.
- (9th). dated July 25th. from Saventhem Camp.
- (10th).dated July 28th. from Saventhem Camp.
- (11th) dated August 1st. from Saventhem Camp.
- (12th) dated September 1st. from Vilvorde Camp.

Apart from the 1st. and the 5th. covers which I still have, all the remaining 10 were sold in 1947, as there seemed no particular reason to keep them all, one example of the (AB) mark was sufficient. and other collectors were wanting them.

Apart from the above list of covers,I only know of 1 other that has the (AB) mark from the same correspondence, is dated August 25th. 1745 from Vilvorde Camp.

There are also several other letters from the same correspondence known but none of them have the (AB) marks on them..

As for other known covers, those in your own collection I believe consist of

1745. 1. Cover of July 3rd. from Lessines Camp.
1. Cover of Sept.4th. from Vilvorde Camp.
1744. 4 covers.
1743. 1. cover from Hochst. of May 25th.

As for other marks such as AA and AEOL. I have never yet seen one of these. only the photographs of your covers that you have published.

AB MARKS

by HARRY GREEN.

AN INTERESTING GB ESSAY

(reprinted from the Waterlow Society Journal)

Peter Foden has sent in the cutting reproduced below, although unfortunately it is not known in which philatelic publication it appeared. It seems likely that it appeared in the early 1950's.

Imprimerie Belge de Sécurité SA was a Belgian company, founded in 1953, a subsidiary company of Waterlow & Sons Ltd. We have been fortunate to obtain a copy of an advertising leaflet of this company describing its "Rotary Direct Plate Products" and the information contained in this leaflet will be reproduced in the next issue of the Journal. The process developed by the Institut de Gravure was the subject of an article by Fred Melville in The Stamp Lover June 1934.

An Interesting G.B. Essay

*5 IRBONS
STAMP MONTHLY
August 1956
P168*

FOLLOWING the publication last January of a note announcing the printing of some of our British colonial stamps by Waterlow's subsidiary firm in Belgium more details have been received concerning the machines used, together with the information that some trials for G.B. stamps had been made.

It appears that before the war the Institut de Gravure, the Paris firm which led in developments of the rotary method of recess-printing, received an order from Waterlow's for the supply of several machines for this process. French technicians were sent to instruct the British printers and some

essays of stamps bearing the portrait of King George VI were made. The pair illustrated here is, it appears, one of the few survivors, the whole printing with the exception of a few specimens having been destroyed. They are undenominated and exist in brown, blue, red and green, on cream gummed paper without watermark.



After the war Waterlow's had the machines transported to Brussels where the Imprimerie Belge de Sécurité was founded. These rotary machines are said to be the fastest in the world and the cost of stamps one third of that of printing by the usual sheet-fed method.

IMPRIMERIE BELGE DE SECURITE BROCHURE

The brochure issued by IBS has a folded cover, with the front containing the title of the brochure, and the inside back containing some examples of IBS products, in colour. The reverse of the front and back pages are blank, as is the reverse of the inside title page which reproduces the information given on the front page, tells us it is a subsidiary company of Waterlow & Sons Ltd and lists the members of the Conseil d'Administration: President - P A Waterlow; Vice-President - H H Hope; Administrateur-Directeur - J A van Hemelryck; Administrateurs - J F Greaves, E Wallaerts, L M T Willaerts, J Hobgstock. This inside title page is not reproduced, but the front cover, the four pages of information, and the inside back cover are reproduced



ROTARY DIRECT PLATE PRODUCTS



Imprimerie Belge de Sécurité

Société Anonyme
Founded in 1953

Head Office : 54, rue de Mérode, Brussels

Capital : frs 6.000.000

The IMPRIMERIE BELGE DE SECURITE S.A.,

has the honour to inform you that it has set up in Brussels, Belgium, a complete installation consisting of the most modern patented machinery for high class printing of all types of security documents, which demand the quality and protection against imitation that can only be given by recess printing from steel engraved originals.

The Directors and technical staff having themselves specialised for many years in the production of security documents, place this knowledge and experience at your disposal, and cordially invite your enquiries and requirements for:—

Postage Stamps
Fiscal Stamps
Revenue Stamps
Bonds
Registered Labels
Perfumery Labels
Trade Mark Seals, etc. etc.

So that you may be better acquainted with the products of our new machines, which we call ROTARY DIRECT PLATE, we detail overleaf a brief description of the methods employed, and

a comparison of these methods with the older methods from which they were evolved. On the last page of this pamphlet we have affixed several specimens of the high quality printing executed on the new machines; in addition to these, we have already executed stamp orders for Rhodesia & Nyasaland, Colombia, Panama, Nicaragua and Belgium to the complete satisfaction of the respective customers.

Printed documents which acquire an actual monetary value or are otherwise of importance, demand security against criminal attempts at forgery or alteration.

Undoubtedly, the highest degree of security is achieved by having the documents printed in relief from steel engraved originals; this form of printing is known by various names dependent on the term used for it by the firm or the country concerned. It might be described as « Taille Douce », « Direct Plate » or « Intaglio », but in fact all these titles mean one and the same thing, namely, recess printing.

Soft steel dies are engraved by the finest hand and machine engravers, and, after hardening, the design is transferred, as many times as required, to a metal printing plate or cylinder.

In the case of the Direct Plate process the plate is inked by having the colour forced into the recessed lines of the designs;

ber of stamps or other security documents per plate, while for the new process these are transferred on to steel cylinders.

For the old process sheets of paper are fed into the relatively slow printing machines in single sheets (once for each colour), and after printing the sheets are perforated on a separate machine, examined and packed. On the Rotary Direct Plate machines the paper is introduced from a reel; after printing (in one or more colours) and perforating, the continuous reel of paper is cut at the end of the machine into individual sheets, which are then examined and packed.

Due to the fact that all operations of the Rotary Direct Plate process are performed at the same time and from reels of paper at high speed in one single transit through the machine, the production costs are naturally much lower than for the customary sheet fed direct plate process.

It will be seen therefore that when the type of production required is suitable for the new Rotary Direct Plate machines, the customer receives in addition to a great advantage in price, the protection that is essential in order to place the necessary obstacles in the way of fraudulent imitation. A particularly distinctive result is produced, with the print standing out in relief. An inspection of the following specimens will show the class of work that is produced.

the surface is wiped so as to remove the surplus ink, and the plate is pressed into contact with the paper which picks up the inked design; this results in the impression being in relief. While this process is universally recognised as being synonymous with the highest quality, it is comparatively slow and expensive.

Mechanical and metallurgical research and experiments initiated before 1939 by our parent company, Waterlow & Sons Limited, of London, and interrupted by the war, continued after 1947, and finally perfected by Imprimerie Belge de Sécurité, have enabled us to produce the

ROTARY DIRECT PLATE PROCESS

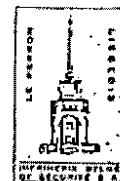
Owing to the improved methods employed, we are now able to produce value and security documents, particularly those of small unit size, at a substantially lower cost than by the older Direct Plate process, but at the same time embodying a high degree of security.

The two processes mentioned above are, in principle, basically identical, for they both demand steel originals engraved by hand, and the printing is executed in relief direct from a transferred printing unit in each case. For the old process the originals are transferred on to a curved printing plate with a suitable num-

Imprimerie Belge de Sécurité S. A.



ROTARY DIRECT PLATE PRODUCTS



BRUSSELS

Frankfurter Zeitung

Amfliche Meldung.

Antwerpen gefallen!

Großes Hauptquartier, 9. Oktbr., abends. (Amtlich.)
Heute Vormittag sind mehrere Forts der inneren Befestigungslinie von Antwerpen gefallen. Die Stadt befindet sich seit heute Nachmittag in deutschem Besitz. Der Kommandant und die Besatzung haben den Festungsbereich verlassen. Nur einzelne Forts sind noch vom Feinde besetzt. Der Besitz von Antwerpen ist dadurch nicht beeinträchtigt.

Der Eindruck in Amsterdam.

Amsterdam, 9. Okt. Der Fall Antwerpens wird eben hier bekannt, infolge einer Meldung der „Frankfurter Zeitung“, die das „Handelsblad“ als Extrablatt verbreitet. Obwohl der Fall erwartet war, macht die Nachricht hier tiefen Eindruck. Die Menschen stehen schweigend in Gruppen zusammen und lesen die Blätter oder tauschen ihre Meinungen aus. Die Ankunft hunderttausender von Flüchtlingen hat ein großes Mitgefühl für Antwerpen erweckt. Der allgemeine Eindruck ist der eines Aufatmens, weil die Leiden Antwerpens als beendet anzusehen sind.

BELGIUM: LARGE KING'S HEAD - RED CROSS ISSUE, 1st JANUARY 1915

A. G. Wood

This article was first published in the Journal of the Waterlow Study Circle in December 1982 and published here with their kind permission

Just as the Antwerp Red Cross Issues had been based on designs which were to have formed part of a new definitive issue planned for 1914, so this issue was a combination of the frame of the Merode stamp and the King's Head of the other set; but the head was larger and had a background of horizontal lines. This course was adopted to save time and money, as was the decision to have the stamps printed by lithography.

The Essays

There are fuller details of the essays in "Grubbens" catalogue than in that of the Baron de Vinck de Winnezele.

In the first essay, the letter 'Q' of 'Belgique' has no tail and the King's head is much smaller than in the issued stamp. The head and crosses are always in red, but eight different colours are listed for the frames. The 20c value was used for the frame. It is stated that this essay was in sheets of 25 (5 x 5) but the Belgian Study Circle has not been able to verify this.

A trial plate (stone) of nine (3 x 3) was made with the larger head. The medallion and crosses are in red. Grubben lists four colours for the frame and lists the 20c value only.

There is an imperforate strip of three from the top of the sheets in the collection of one member of the Circle, but the frame is that of the 5c, the colour green-olive.

Finally, there are proofs from a trial plate (stone) of 25 of the 10c value. Crosses and medallions are in red and the frames in the three adopted colours. The three copies seen are all of the 22nd stamp in the pane and there is a 'Jubilee Line' in red 4mm. below the stamp. It is not known whether the Jubilee Line surrounded the pane of 25 subjects.

The 1915 New Issue

The Red Cross stamps issued in Antwerp proved popular and as only a limited stock had been transferred from Antwerp to Le Havre, it was decided to have a new set to be issued on 1st January 1915.

The order for these stamps was given to Waterlow Bros. and Layton Ltd. of London. As in the latter part of December 1914 nothing had been heard from the printers, the Belgian authorities sent a representative post-haste to London. There he found a stock of stamps ready for issue except that they had not been perforated. In order to save time, a stock of these sheets was perforated straightaway by the various machines that Waterlow Bros. and Layton had available; hence the perforations 12, 12 x 14, and 14 x 12 as well as the normal perforation 14. Furthermore, it is stated that this first delivery consisted of sheets of 50 in two panes of 25 (5 x 5), side by side.

In an article in 'La Revue Postale' in 1930, General de Maene gives a lot of detailed information on this issue and this has been drawn upon extensively.

Although these stamps were lithographed it is not known whether stones or metal plates were used. As has been stated, the first printings were in sheets of 50 and it is possible that these were divided into panes of 25 before issue to the Post Offices.

Later printings were in sheets of 100, four panes of 25, and in this case it is known that complete sheets were issued to the offices.

Some Placing Observations

An in-depth study of this issue has not yet been undertaken, so some of the observations which follow may need to be corrected:

These stamps abound in constant varieties both on the frame plates and the medallion and red cross plates. The latter plates were used for all three values and this does assist in the plate reconstruction.

The Balasse catalogue lists a number of these constant varieties, but there are many more, and close study enables one to place 90% at least of the stamps to the position in the pane of 25; it is more difficult to ascertain which particular pane.

It is likely that the plates of 50 and of 100 are distinct so that one has to consider six panes of 25 for each value in the study of these stamps.

The 1st January 1915 was well on when the offices at Le Havre received the first supplies of these stamps. Therefore the retail sale at the counter did not start until 2nd January.

The later supplies were all in sheets of 100 in four panes of 25 and the only perforation used was 14; the medallion and red cross plate has a printers' imprint below the space between panes III and IV, also there are red perforation guide dots to the left of stamp 16, Pane I, and to the right of stamp 20, Pane II, and below the gap between stamps 24 and 25, Pane III.

General de Haene gives the following details of numbers printed:-

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5c (+ 5c) | 3,000,000 | of which about 2,000 were perforated 12 x 14 and 100 imperforate |
| 10c (+ 10c) | 3,000,000 | all perforated 14 except for 100 imperforate |
| 20c (+ 20c) | 1,000,000 | 989,250 perforated 14, 8,750 perforated 12, 1,900 perforated 12 x 14, and 100 imperforate |

The 100 sets of imperforate stamps were presented to notabilities and officials as was the custom.

Other perforations have been noticed and in view of General de Haene's comment that any perforating machine available was used for the first delivery, they are probably genuine. In an article in 'Stamp Collecting' some years ago, Harry Green stated that he had a 20c perforated 12 x 14; this was the rarer perforation used for the 5c. Also, in Balasse ^{MAGAZINE} No. 88 June 1953, Page 93, mention is made of a pair and a block of four 20c perforated 11 x 12.

In view of the variety of perforations used by Waterlow Bros. and Layton Ltd. for the 3.50 fr. and 10 fr. stamps of the Congo Issues - 14.25; 14.25 x 12; 12 x 14.25; and 11.25 x 14.25 - possibly one should measure the perforations more accurately and cite the exact measurements.

In the sheets of 100 the horizontal perforations continue along the whole length of the two panes and an additional line of perforations appears above the top row of Panes I and II and another additional line below the bottom row of Panes III and IV. These leave a space the height of a stamp above or below the stamps as the case may be. There

are spaces between Panes I and II, and III and IV, and between Panes I and III, and II and IV with the dimensions of a stamp. The horizontal perforations are so regular that they give the impression that they are the work of a Semrose machine.

The vertical perforations are by a line machine and they also are very regular. The spaces between Panes I and III, and II and IV are perforated, and there extension holes above the top row of the upper panes; these holes vary in number depending on where the line perforator was placed.

General de Maene stated that on the sheets he had seen he had not seen either sheet numbers or "Depot" marks.

"Depot" marks do recur, however, in black and in the colour of the frame of the stamp. Depot marks were placed on the sheets when they went into store the year showing the date that happened. Sometimes it is before the date of the issue of the stamps. For these stamps a new type of mark was used, possibly because the earlier ones had been left behind at Malines or Antwerp.

At Belgica 1972, a pane of the 20c perforated 12 had the "Depot 1915" mark in black by the 21st stamp, and there are other Depot marks in black known by the 1st of the pane.

Depot marks in the colour of the frame are known for the 5c and 20c values and these are by the 11th stamp of the pane.

One can distinguish some of the stamps of the first delivery from sheets of 50 for the 5c and 20c because of the perforations 12, 12 x 14, and 14 x 12; from this one may be able to distinguish 10c stamps from the first printing.

The diagram shows some differences in the two printings.

Two issues of the Railway stamps of Belgium were also printed by lithography, in sheets of 100, four panes of 25. These are the December 1915 Issue, called "Du Havre", and the 1920 Issue called "De Londres". No study has been made of these stamps from the philatelic angle so it is possible that they are also the work of Waterlow Bros. and Layton Ltd. It was not until 1946 that Balasse ascribed the Red Cross Issue of 1915 to Waterlow Bros. and Layton Ltd. In Gibbons this issue is still printed by Waterlows.

FIRST PRINTING

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | 10 | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | 15 | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | 20 | | | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | | |

SHEETS of 50

2 PANES of 25 (5x5)

'DEPOT' MARK RECORDED -
IN BLACK

NO 'HEAD PLATE' MARGINAL
MARKINGS

PERF. 12, 12x14, 14x12 ? PERF 14

SECOND PRINTING

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | | |
| | | I | | | | | | | |
| 16 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | II | | | | | | | |
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|--|--|-----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| | | III | | | | | | | |
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SHEETS of 100

4 PANES of 25 (5x5)

'DEPOT' MARK IN COLOUR
OF FRAME

'HEAD PLATE' MARGINAL
MARKINGS

IMPRINT 'WATERLOW BROS.
& LAYTON, LTD., LONDRES'
17mm below cross of 25 Pl. I
III and below 21 Pl. IV

PERFORATION GUIDE DOTS
9mm to left of 16 Pl. I, 9mm
to right of 20 Pl. II, 24mm.
below gap between 24, 25 Pl. III

PERF. 14

The Montenez and Houyoux Issues.

Dates of Issue in Tabular form. by S J Andrews.

Many members had commented on this list and I have pleasure in presenting it here for you.

THE "MONTENEZ" AND "HOYOUX" ISSUES

1921-1927

THE "MONTENEZ" ISSUE WAS MADE UNDER ROYAL DECREE OF 17 MAY, 1921,
AND MINISTERIAL DECREE, 18 MAY, 1921.

PLATES & IMPRESSION IN "TAILLE-DOUCE" BY J. ENSCHÉDE EN ZONEN, HAARLEM.

WITHDRAWN FROM USE, 1 APRIL, 1948

| DATE OF ISSUE | MONTENEZ VALUES | HOYOUX VALUES | NOTES | DATE OF ISSUE | MONTENEZ VALUES | HOYOUX VALUES | NOTES |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 26. 5. 1921 | 50c. INDIGO | | | 24. 5. 1924 | 5 Fr. BROWN | | |
| 1. 9. 1921 | 50c. GREY-BLUE | | | 1. 10. 1924 | 75c. BLUE | | NEW COLOUR |
| 6. 2. 1922 | 1 Fr. BROWN | | | 10. 1. 1925 | | 50c. | REPLACED MONTENEZ 50c. |
| 21. 7. 1922 | | 25c. | | 1. 12. 1925 | 1 Fr. INDIGO | 30c. ROSE | |
| 1. 9. 1922 | | 1c. | | 1. 5. 1926 | | 2c. | |
| | | 3c. | | 30. 7. 1926 | | 1.25 Fr. | |
| | | 30c. VERN | | 11. 10. 1926 | | 2 Fr. | REPLACED MONTENEZ 2 Fr. |
| 10. 10. 1922 | | 5c. | | 26. 10. 1926 | | 75c. | " " 75c. |
| | | 10c. | | | | 1.50 Fr. | |
| | | 20c. | | 6. 12. 1926 | | 1 Fr. YELL. | REPLACED MONTENEZ 1 Fr. |
| 5. 12. 1922 | 75c. SCARLET. | 35c. | | 10. 1. 1927 | | 5 Fr. | " " 5 Fr. |
| | 2 Fr. | 40c. | | | | 10 Fr. | " " 10 Fr. |
| | 10 Fr. | | | 1. 8. 1927 | | 1.75 Fr. | |
| 1. 3. 1923 | | 15c. | | 30. 11. 1927 | | 35c. | |
| | | 25c. | | | | 1 Fr. RED | NEW COLOUR |
| 15. 10. 1923 | 5 Fr. PINK | | | 15. 12. 1927 | | 60c. | |

THE "HOYOUX" ISSUE WAS MADE UNDER ROYAL DECREE OF 17 MAY, 1921

AND MINISTERIAL DECREE OF 26 JUNE, 1922

TYPOGRAPHIC PLATES & IMPRESSION BY THE STAMP PRINTING WORKS, MALINES.

WITHDRAWN FROM USE, 1 APRIL, 1948.

TYPENTAFEL

van de

VOORNAAMSTE BELGISCHE POSTMERKEN

door Lucien P. HERLANT

Demen Charleroy Detournay
Typ. 1

TOURNAY COVTRAY TOURNAY. DOORNIK
Typ. 2

DEBRUGES D'EECLOO
Typ. 3



86
ATH SPA
Typ. 5

P86P P98P
ATH ARLON
Typ. 6

D93B DÈB 92
ANVERS DÈB MONS. ALOST
Typ. 7

P. P. DÈB
MENIN OSTENDE TURNHOUT
Typ. 8

LEUVEN
FRANCO
Typ. 10



DEBOURSE
THIELT
Typ. 11



Typ. 13



Typ. 15



Typ. 14



Typ. 16



Typ. 18



Typ. 17



Typ. 20



Typ. 19

ZELANDE
PAR GAND
Typ. 21

HOLLANDE
PAR
ANVERS
Typ. 22

FRANKRYK
OVER DOORNIK
Typ. 23

*Frankryk
Over Doornik*
Typ. 24



Typ. 25



Typ. 26



Typ. 28



Typ. 27



Typ. 29

Copy of card showing the various types of marks found.

Postmark Types.

Col L Herlant.

WATERLOW DIES IN THE BRUSSELS POSTAL MUSEUM

Geoffrey Wood & Peter Foden

Both the above had the opportunity, at different times, to visit the Belgian Postal Museum in Brussels. One particular display case was of great interest, as it proved to contain a number of dies and other items pertaining to the 1894-1925 issues of the Belgian Congo which were printed by Waterlows. In the case of the postage stamps, there were a number of dies for the bi-coloured "Mols" pictorials. Both frame and vignette dies were represented, all on small flat pieces of steel approximately $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick, and of various sizes, some having a small hole drilled near one edge. Most of the dies had a number engraved on them, and many had two such numbers. The following tables give a summary of the dies seen:

1) STAMPS PRINTED BY WATERLOW & SONS LTD.

| <u>Value</u> | <u>Issue</u> | <u>Frame No(s)</u> | <u>Centre No(s)</u> |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5c | 1915 | 866; 1844 | 866; ? (assumed to be No. 1 843) |
| 10c | 1915 | 757; 1846 | 921; 1845 |
| 15c | 1910/15 | 1165; 2269 | 1165; 2270 |
| 25c | 1915 | 866; 1848 | 866; 1847 |
| 40c | 1910/15 | 1259; 2267 | 1167; 2268 |
| 50c | 1910/15 | 866; 1850 | 866; 1849 |
| 1fr | 1910/15 | 866; 1840 | 866; 1839 |
| 5fr | 1910/15 | 758; 1842 | 866; 1841 |
| 10fr | 1918 | 2723; 5622 | 3271; 5623 |
| 25c | 1925 | 10697 (French) 10698 (Flemish) | Die not present* " " " |

* The design of the 1925 vignette was the same as for the earlier 40 centimes value and centre die 1167; 2268 may well have continued in use.

In particular the number "866", which appears several times, and for both frame and centre dies, would seem to indicate that the numbers in the first column in each case are not the actual serial numbers of the dies themselves, but may relate to order or job numbers.

The second number in each case must be assumed to be the serial number, and it is interesting to note that, wherever two numbered dies for the same stamp were present, the numbers follow consecutively, either frame-centre, or centre-frame. Of particular interest is the sequence which can be built up of certain values, running.....

.....1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, (1843), 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850.

The stamps involved in this sequence are:

1fr, 5fr, 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c;

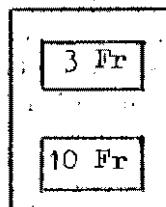
and the importance of this list is that the only occasion on which these values, and no others, are known to have been issued together was at the original issue in 1894. This would imply that the same dies, or die numbers, were used for the same values throughout the life of the series, a fact long suspected by Congo collectors in relation to the centre dies, but almost unbelievable for the frame dies, which each saw between one and three changes of inscription and design.

2) STAMPS PRINTED BY WATERLOW BROS. & LAYTON

| <u>Value</u> | <u>Issue</u> | <u>Frame No(s)</u> | <u>Centre No(s)</u> |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3.50 fr | 1898 | - ; 112 | 6692 ; 113 |
| 10 fr | 1898 | - ; 117 | - ; 118 |
| 3 fr | 1910 | { Both set vertically on a single unnumbered die. | (6692 ; 113) |
| 10 fr | | | (- ; 118) |

The setting of the 1910 frame dies for both values on a single piece of steel is interesting, and was the only such case among the dies seen:

Layout
of
dual
die



As in the case of the Waterlow & Sons Ltd. dies, it can be seen that, where centre and frame are contemporary (the same centre plates were used for the 1910 issue as had been used for the 1898 issue, so no new dies were needed) the numbers follow consecutively. This fact alone is, in all probability, sufficient evidence to refute the early supposition that the "proofs" with the 3.50 fr centre and 10 fr frame indicate that the original intention was to print the 10 fr stamps in this form.

All the dies had been heavily scored through to prevent re-use.

3) POSTAL STATIONERY PRINTED BY WATERLOW & SONS LTD

The postal stationery cards concurrent with the "Mols" stamps were also printed by Waterlow & Sons Ltd, and "Galvanos" for the 150, 300, and 450 values were also on display.

Some photographs were taken of the items on display, but, as conditions for photography were far from ideal, the resultant prints are unfortunately incapable of reproduction in the Journal.

Between the visits of the writers, it is apparent that the display had been altered in some respects; and further trips to the Brussels Postal Museum could well bring additional information to light.

This article was first published in the Waterlow Society Journal.

THE PERFORATIONS OF THE LOW VALUES OF THE 1915 ISSUE OF BELGIUM
PRINTED BY WATERLOWS

Geoffrey Wood

For the stamps of Die I, Ia, II, and III, the printing bases consisted of four panes (2 x 2) of 100 stamps (10 x 10) - thus

| | |
|-----|----|
| I | II |
| III | IV |

Panes I & II, and II & IV, were separated horizontally by a gutter the same width as a stamp. Vertically the panes I & III, and II & IV, were separated by a gutter one perforation hole longer than a stamp. The machine was probably made by Grovers who provided a similar machine to perforate the Ideal stamp in 1911? This was a vertical comb machine, and the gauge 14.

In the early printings of Die I & Die Ia the right hand margin of the sheet was imperforate, and usually about 20 mm wide. The left hand margin was broken by perforations, and is often wider than a stamp; and in the latter case there is another line of vertical perforations. The comb moved from right to left.

In the upper and lower margins of the whole sheet there are four extension holes to the vertical lines of perforation. The number of holes does vary owing to broken or defective pins.

There are coloured perforation guide dots in the upper and lower margins, usually two in a sheet of 400. They vary in position according to the printing.

In the early 1919 printings the perforating comb moved from left to right, so that the left-hand margin is imperforate, and about 20 mm wide.

In the later 1919 printings and subsequent printings, the left-hand border is only about 15 mm wide; also there are often horizontal lines of perforation in the left-hand side. I term these "encroachment perforations".

In some cases they extend so far that they completely traverse the left hand margin, and in extreme cases one gets partial double horizontal perforations.

As the low value Red Cross stamps of 1918 were only printed in sheets of 100, a smaller vertical comb machine was used. There are no extension holes to the vertical lines of perforation.

The three sheets of the high values show Perf 13 $\frac{1}{2}$, 14, and 15. The 2fr sheet shows the irregularity of vertical perforation.

(Notes of display on November 10th, 1984)

Reprinted from the Waterlow Society Journal.

by Lucien Herlant (translated by J.F. Giulini)

Introduction

The following article is translated from the appropriate pages (pp.28-41) of the work by Lucien Herlant entitled "La Poste aux Lettres et les Marques Postales en Belgique de 1648 à 1849" which was published in Bruges in 1946 (Les Éditions A.G. Stainforth). The sub-divisions in that work have been retained unaltered in this translation.

Before the War of the Austrian Succession

The peace concluded at Utrecht, on 11th April 1713, by Louis XIV with the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, the States General of the United Provinces, the Duke of Savoy, the King of Portugal and the King of Prussia, brought to an end the War of the Spanish Succession. Further, by the Treaty of Rastadt, on 6th March 1714, Charles VI, Holy Roman Emperor, accepted the sovereignty of the Spanish Netherlands. This date of 6th March 1714 may be considered as the start of the Austrian suzerainty. This period, happily for the provinces, was a relatively calm and prosperous epoch.

From the postal point of view, the Austrian period gave birth to sensible improvements. A decree of 20th February 1720, of His Imperial and Catholic Majesty, gave the postage letter franchise to different authorities and to certain Orders. In the same year, on 5th March, a decree of Charles VI forbade the masters, postillions or drivers of stage-coaches of Liège, Maastricht and Lille to transport letters upon entering or leaving the country. A new list was published on 6th May 1722 of those who enjoyed the postage franchise of letters to the Low Countries.

In 1725, Prince Anselme François of Taxis obtained control of the posts by means of an annual payment of 80,000 florins, despite the observations of the States of Brabant. In 1728, Baron Sottelier offered to pay 200,000 florins for this service. Despite this offer, the Prince of Taxis obtained, in 1729, confirmation of his title of "General of the Post" (Postmaster General) for a term of 25 years, by means of augmenting the fee by 45,000 florins to an annual payment of 125,000 florins.

Hardly confirmed in this situation, the Prince of Taxis introduced, on 14th January 1729, a new tariff of postal fees which were in future to be raised and paid, for posting letters at the post offices of the Low Countries. A poster of 8th May 1729, fixed the conditions by which the Prince of Taxis and Taxis exercised the administration of the posts as a result of an agreement concluded with the Estates of Brabant.

The same year, on 9th June, the Archduchess Maria-Elisabeth made known the formalities to be completed, by which the mail and despatches of the Gubernatorial Councils and the Exchequer Offices, were to be exempted from postage. The "Services" mentioned, "Council of State", "Privé Council" etc., had to be indicated at the side of the address. On 27th August 1730, Maria-Elisabeth vindicated this to the drivers of stage coaches and to the coachmen, who carried the packets of letters, where to charge for the letters; either entering or leaving the country.

This decree, having given rise to complaints, was suspended on 22nd October 1730 in so far as it concerned "the letters which are transported by waggon, and other carriages on level ground, to places for which there is not a regulated route" and it was finally annulled on 6th July 1740.

The Prince of Taxis, General Administrator of the Postes, having complained "of those of the messengers established at St. Hubert, who were conveying letters to Liège, Namur, Malines and other places of the Low Countries" on 6th June 1744 addressed a despatch to the Council of Luxembourg and the latter, by a decree of 4th July 1744, defended those who "collected, transported and distributed letters to the prejudice of the Postal Administration".

There were, in 1744, a hundred postal tenant distributors in the Austrian Netherlands. These were the same as those of 1714 apart from the following which are no longer mentioned in the postal documents and of which no departure marking is known since 1714:-

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ENCULIERS (ceded to the Duchy of Juliers, 1.5.1719) | REHAUSTADE |
| TESLEEN (ceded to Prussia 15.10.1715) and | POPELINCHE |
| EXHAEDOE | WIDDERVOONDE |
| CHRISTIAINGHEIN | ST. GERARD |
| HAESD HEN | SCHULXENINDICKE |
| ISQUE | SCHNUNELLEN |
| JAESSE | THILT |
| KAULIL | VAL |
| KESTERGAT | VALENTIN |
| LANTFENHE | VOSAPIL |
| HALEMONT | WANDON |
| | WENJERT |

On the other hand, the following offices were created:-

| | | |
|---------|--------------|-----------|
| AEBSCHY | GREVENRACHER | * LIERRE |
| ANLOW | HALL | * LOKEREN |
| CHINY | HAESTLT | MASLEUR |
| CINNY | HERVE | * NINOVE |
| DINANT | INTY | ROCHEFORT |
| SPA | * SOIGNIES | |

Of these 18 offices, those marked with a * are known to this day, as having indicated the departure of the letter either under a manuscript form or by manual seal, before 1744.

TYPE F.A.H.
*Atte David Debruges
 de Courtray de Charleroy
 de Namur de Furnes*

TYPE F.A.H.
 ALOST WAYER LOKEREN

DEBAUGES GAND S-NICOLAS

BR LECOMTE

It is a fact that very few of the departure marks, in manuscript or from a rubber stamp, are found on letters dating from 1730 to 1744.

Letters sent postage with bear on the right hand the following manuscript marks: P.P - Portvrij - Port Payé - Franco etc.

*Francis
 Port-vrij
 Franco*

In order to give the reader an idea of the obligation incumbent on the postal service, we shall reproduce, in Appendix VII, a copy of the instructions given to the Postal Director of Ghent by the Prince of Taxis on 6th March 1730. (Not reproduced here: J.F.G.).

The War of the Austrian Succession

Maria Theresia succeeded her father, Karl VI who died on 20th October 1740. In the same year the war with Louis XV broke out. Invading Flanders in June 1740, the French troops took successively Menin, the fortress of Knocke, Furnes and Ypres. They fought the English at Fontenoy on 11th May 1745, seized Tournai on 22nd May, Ghent on 16th July, Bruges on 18th, Audenaerde on 21st, Yverdon on 12th August, Ostend on 23rd August and Newport on 5th September 1745.

In 1746, they took Vilvorde on 4th February, Brussels on 21st, Antwerp on 11th June, Mons on 11th July, Charleroi on 2nd August and Namur on 30th September. They defeated Charles of Lorraine at Rocourt, to the north of Liège, on 11th October 1746 and for the first time, the whole of the Austrian Netherlands, apart from Wallders and Luxembourg, was occupied by France.

During the siege of Maastricht, the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, on 23rd October 1748, ended the war within the territory of the Austrian Netherlands. During the course of this occupation, the French respected the institutions and kept certain officials, but they raised taxes and recruits.

The administration of the posts was managed by the occupying power; many of the directors were replaced by French agents and the receipts made a profit for France. On 27th June 1745, at the camp below Tournai, Louis XV prohibited "giving any trouble or hindrance to the postal couriers and ordinary postillions, not only of his Kingdom but of all other countries even of the enemy".

Not willing to be behind her adversary, Maria Theresia gave the same safeguard from Brussels on 7th July 1745 and, on 25th October 1746, Baron de Seychelles, Administrative Officer of the French Armes in the Austrian Netherlands, directed the contractors in the provinces of his department, to send to the offices of the administration in Brussels; "copies of their accounts".

As a result of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, on 23rd October 1748, the accounts were terminated in all the postal offices at the date of 20th November 1748. Thus, the receipts in the name of the Prince of Taxis, who gradually replaced the French employees in proportion to the execution of the territory, took effect starting on 21st November.

SOMBREF YPRES FURNES

Gophius acutus: genapc.

The strikes of "port-pay" (postage paid) make their appearance:-

PORT + PRES + PAYES

It is even probable that the military agents, handling the objects of correspondence of the army post in the same locality as the civil agents, may have used the same manual strikes for stamping the departure on the military letters.

After the War of the Austrian Succession

The Seven Years War (1756-1763) did not spread into the Austrian Netherlands and did not entail any territorial changes for them.

Joseph II, Emperor in 1765, ruled alone after the death of his mother, the Empress Maria Theresa, which occurred unexpectedly on 29th November 1780. He suppressed the regimes of the Barriers by deciding, on 7th November 1787, upon the destruction of the Fortresses that sheltered the foreign garrisons. On 16th April 1782, the last Dutch left the Barrier locations. After frontier incidents with the United Provinces, the Treaty of Fontainebleau, on 8th November 1765, regulated the question of the boundaries.

This period saw the confirmation of the improvement initiated previously in the postal area. Numerous decrees were published tending to increase the efficiency of the postal service. Without being concerned with the technical details, the Soveraigns nevertheless continued to intervene to fix tariffs and to regulate claims.

The franchise exceptions, in favour of the postal tenants, continued to be the object of decrees: of 14th July 1751, 23rd July 1755, 12th February 1759, 13th February 1767, 11th May 1769, 13th January 1773, 5th December 1774 and 6th March 1776.

On 12th February 1757, the decree of 9th June 1729 relating to the postal franchises, was completed by a regulation stipulating that "every remittance, receipt, notice or memoire, sent to the government, and not directly concerning the service of the Express or the public good, must be franked".

On 5th July 1759 a decree of Prince Charles of Lorraine concerned: "the visit which was made to Ghent by the wail coach of the postal postillion". On 6th October 1764, a regulation prohibited: "the courriers, postillions and other postal supporters from charging anybody for the transport of merchandise." The lease obtained in 1753 by the Prince of Taxis was due to expire on 4th May 1774; but Prince Alexander-Ferdinand already in 1768 asked for its renewal. Astonished (with reason) at this great haste, the Financial Council again proposed to control the receipts and to go to an adjudication. But again, due to the influence that he

On 20th December 1769, a regulation of the Cusan-Express forecast measures to prevent the defrauding of the royal postal rights and confirmed the edicts of 4th November 1551, 28th September 1566, 13th November 1600, 29th August 1677 and 16th October 1711).

1 post and a half from Brussels to Hal and vice-versa,
2 posts from Hal to Braine-la-Croix and vice-versa,
1 post and a half from Hal to Enghien and vice versa,
2 post and three quarters from Enghien to Ath and vice

The complementary arrangements, relating to the letter post franchise, were the object of a communication from the Express dated 23rd January 1776. On 5th February 1776 the guards at gateways and bridges were forbidden to delay the postal couriers who carried the letter mail.

He proposed amongst other things:-

1. The establishing of a general office in the centre of the town.
2. hourly distribution on the hour.
3. the possibility of pre-payment of the letters by means of special marks.
4. stamping the letters with a date and hour strike.
5. indicating on the letters the name and address of the sender.
6. carrying circulars at a reduced tariff.

The attorney-general of Arnhem, pleading that the Little post was only able to prosper in large cities, like London and Paris, finally rejected the proposal.

On 19th June 1777, a decree regulated the course of the post by the new paved route from Ghent to Brussels by Deynze, Thieft and Thourout: two posts and a quarter, from Brussels to Thourout
two posts, from Thourout to Thieft
a post and a half, from Thourout to Bruges
two posts, from Thourout to Dixmude
a post and a quarter, from Thourout to Soulers
one and a half, from Thourout to Gudenburg
one and a half, from Thourout to Chistelens
one and a quarter, from Thieft to Deynze or Patergen
two and a half, from Thieft to Courtrei
one and a half, from Thieft to Soulers
one and a half, from Deynze or Patergen to Ghent.

On 5th May 1781, a decree was concerned with the messengers in the province of Luxembourg.

The Thieft Office was transferred to the place where the road to Thieft joined that from Courtrai to Bruges, by a decree of 25th August 1783. This place then was actually called "Fosterie".

On 18th August 1784, a decree established a postal tenancy at Rensselaer and regulated the posts in the following manner:-

- two posts from Rensselaer to Onondaga
- two posts from Rensselaer to Lehigh
- two posts from Rensselaer to Albany

Finally on 30th September 1789, a decree established a postal tennancy at Burnes where, however, an office had existed since 1693.

At the end of 1789, commerce and industry had so expanded that, in all parts of the country, the postal service was so organised that where there were no offices, messengers existed subjected to common regulations which guaranteed the regular transport of correspondence.

There were about 240 postal tenancies, with or without offices, of which there were 80, known by having the place of departure marked. (Those marked by a 1).

These are those of 1744, plus the followings:-

[illegible]

In 1797, nt Brussels, the "Bruxelles" cachets are replaced by "Brussel":
BRUSSEL. For the other Flemish towns, such as Bruges, Courtrai,
Audenarde, Alout etc, nothing similar can be proved. The manuscript
inscription of the place of departure was again in use.

Certain offices even used the cachets "Port Payé" or "P.P." - those of Louvain, Ghent, Bruxelles, Malines, Gand, Bruges etc.

TYPE P.A.L.

card, of *Francout* *minors*
Thérèse *Debrion* *Hervé*

But the use of signature stamps became gradually more general.

TYPE P.A.L.

DESTAVELOT

D'EECLOO SPA CHARLEROY

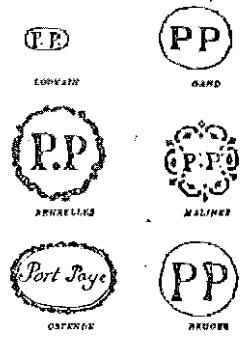
MENIN EVYEM DEYSE

ARLON FLAMISOUL DIEST

DE HUY GENAP DEMASEYCK

LUXEMBOURG MALMEDY

Nivelle *Namur*



It is worthy of note that for letters sent "Port Payé", the increase in the postage due was indicated on the reverse and not on the front of the letters.

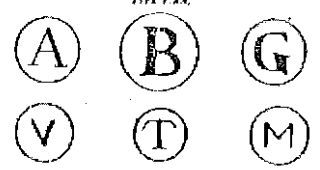
Letters carrying the ones above, but imprinted with a rubber stamp, are rarely encountered, mainly because it was very unusual to write "Port Payé" and, in the second place, because the postmasters seemed to have had a preference for manuscript annotations, Franco, P.P. etc. which are encountered more frequently but which were, nevertheless, little used.

In order to show to the reader the obligations of the postal tenants and letter distributors we give, in Appendix VIII, a copy of the agreement concluded, on 9th January 1789, between the directrix of the Poste of Gand and the distributor at Eecloo. (Not reproduced here: J.F.G.).

Conclusion

The author then deals with the revolution in 1789 in Brabant and the creation of the "Republic of the Low Countries" in 1790, in opposition to the reforms of the Emperor Josef II, and the submission of this Republic to the Emperor Leopold II; a submission formalized by the Treaty of La Haye on 10th December 1790. From the point of view of the post, nothing changed in this period. However, on 29th April 1792, the First French Republic declared war on Austria, defeated the Austrians at Jemappes on 6th November 1792 and took Brussels on 14th November. The jurisdiction of the Princes of Tour and Taxis in postal matters was abolished and the era of the Austrian Netherlands came to an end.

TYPE P.A.L.



S.H.

A : Aversa; B : Batrice; G : Gand; V : Vliessche; T : Tournai;
M : Middelburg; SH : St. Hubert.

This article was published in Austria, the journal of the Austrian Stamp Club of Great Britain and published here with their permission.

I have reduced the size and relaid out the article which I feel is of interest to all members and gives a good introduction to the book by Col.L Herlant.

There are several articles that have been reduced in size for reprinting, I feel that space should be saved since the original article is still available and can be supplied should any member need this. No doubt you will let me know your views for I accept the print is small.

"Bert" Hancock

The Circle suffered a great loss in early June with the sudden death of our chairman, Bert Hancock, from a heart attack. He had only been enjoying the study of some recent purchases that evening .

Although Bert had only been a member since 1979 he had been a very regular attendant at our meetings at Bedford College and was also a keen supporter of our lunches and provincial meetings. He always brought along material relative to the displays and was only too happy to lend members items for close study.

The Circle benefitted from his knowledge of Flemish when he translated an article on the Merode Issue shortly after joining the Circle.

Bert will be very sadly missed from our gatherings but he would be pleased to know that his Belgian stamps are being spread around fellow members of the Circle.

A G W

University of Kent Canterbury 13 - 15 September 1985

A very pleasant weekend was enjoyed by members of the Belgian and Belgian Congo Study Circles and their friends at Canterbury. For some of the early arrivals the weekend started with a very pleasant dinner at Waterfields Restaurant in Best Lane.

The First business session was on Saturday afternoon when Reg Harrison showed us his English and Belgian Entry marks 1840 / 80 including mail sent via Calais and Dover - Ostend Paquebot markings. Reg had circulated a paper on the subject and I think he has already had several additions and amendments.

The joint session after tea dealt with the postal stationery printed at Malines 1920 -1940. Despite the fact that two members with a mass of Belgian material were unable to be present quite a lot of useful things were learnt but it is appreciated that a lot of work needs to be done in this field.

Thirty two members and friends enjoyed a glass or so of sherry before our dinner when 28 of us sat down to a most enjoyable meal.

On Sunday morning Jack Gibbs led the discussion on the "Byl" -or should it now be "Rousseau" - cancellations 1918-1919. He was ably supported by Jack Andrews and Reg Harrison, Tony Geake and Geoffrey Wood also had some items to show. It was agreed that the subject should be subdivided for future study.

After coffee Jack Andrews gave his talk on the 20c Medallions 200 plates. It was cleverly illustrated by many photographs from Auction Catalogues as well as the actual stamps. The recent arrival of the Deneumostier book '20c Non Denteles 1849 -61 was of great benefit.

After lunch Jack Andrews showed his prestamp material up to 6 XI 1792. This was an eyeopener and by restricting the display we appreciated the material the more. Jack himself said that he had been pleased to look again at some of the covers as he had noticed things he had previously overlooked.

The names of those who attended the business sessions are;- S J Andrews, N Clowes, J J Connolly, G Devlieger, P S Foden, Dr J Gibbs, R T Harrison, Arthur Helm, J L Kalp, R H Keach, A J Martin, N J Martin, Hawkings Maulding S Stewart Smith, Andre Vindevoghel, Maurice Wilkinson, A G Wood, P D Wood, Mrs Katie Wyld, Tony Geake.

A G W .

Balasse Magazine. INDEX. !!

Cercle Paul de Smeth have recently published a cronological list of contents of Balasse Magazines from no 1 to date. I have extracted all references to Belgium and also for the Congo and produced a shorter list again set in date order. I intend issuing this for members. To provide an alphabetical list will take a little longer since I shall also have to look up all page numbers to go with issue number. Have any members any comments to make -will first list suffice or would you prefer to have an alphabetical list ?

H Koopman - The Depots and Depots-Relais Cancellations of Belgium 1879/1910
and The Bar Cancellations of Belgium 1.7.1849 - 15.4.1864

Albert De Lisle has very kindly translated the introductions to both these books and I have copies available to members at 15p and 20p respectively plus postage. Please let me know if you would like a copy. JBH

1 9 8 6

POST OFFICE LIST OF NEW STAMP ISSUES

details from the official leaflet issued
by the Régie de Poste

PROJET DE CALENDRIER

| Date | Dénomination des émissions | Composition et valeurs |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 27. 1.1986 | 1er timbre-poste de l'Etat Indépendant du Congo | 1 timbre-poste de 10 F. |
| 10. 2.1986 | Folklore | 2 timbres-poste au valeur de 9 F et de 12 F. |
| 10. 3.1986 | Année Internationale de la Paix | 1 timbre-poste de 23 F. |
| 24. 3.1986 | Fondation Roi Baudouin | 1 timbre-poste avec surtaxe: 12 F + 3 F |
| 7. 4.1986 | Culturelle | - 3 timbres-poste avec sur- taxe: 9 F + 2 F, 12 F + 3 F et 23 F + 5 F. - 1 feuillet comportant un timbre-poste spécial, avec surtaxe, à la valeur de 50 F + 12 F. |
| 21. 4.1986 | Journée du Timbre | 1 timbre-poste de 12 F. |
| 5. 5.1986 | Europa | 2 timbres-poste aux valeurs de 12 F et de 23 F. |
| 26. 5.1986 | Races canines belges | 4 timbres-poste aux valeurs de 9 F, 12 F, 23 F et 24 F. |
| 30. 6.1986 | Touristique | 2 timbres-poste de 9 F. 4 timbres-poste de 12 F. |
| 1. 9.1986 | Philatélie de la Jeunesse | 1 timbre-poste de 9 F. |
| 27. 9.1986 | Personnalités belges | 4 timbres-poste aux valeurs de 9 F, 12 F, 23 F et 24 F. |
| 13.10.1986 | Bière belge | 1 timbre-poste de 12 F. |
| 3.11.1986 | Solidarité | 4 timbres-poste avec surtaxe: 9 F + 2 F, 12 F + 3 F, 23 F + 5 F et 24 F + 6 F. |
| 24.11.1986 | Noël et Nouvel an | 1 timbre-poste avec surtaxe: 12 F + 1 F. |
| 15.12.1986 | 100 ans de syndicalisme chrétien en Belgique | 2 timbres-poste aux valeurs de 9 F et de 12 F. |

Monsieur Herman De Croo et Madame Paula D'Hondt-Van Opdenbosch, respectivement Ministre des Communications et des Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones et Secrétaire d'Etat aux Postes, Télégraphes et Téléphones ont le plaisir d'annoncer que la Régie des Postes émettra au cours de l'année 1986, les timbres-poste spéciaux repris ci-après.

Dans l'optique qui a prévalu ces trois dernières années en ce qui concerne les timbres avec surtaxe, celle-ci sera limitée à 25 % au maximum de la valeur d'affranchissement des figurines.

PROGRAMME D'EMISSION
DES TIMBRES-POSTE SPECIAUX

1. Un timbre-poste spécial, à l'occasion du 100e anniversaire du 1er timbre-poste de l'Etat Indépendant du Congo.
2. Deux timbres-poste spéciaux constituant l'émission dénommée "Folklore", consacrés aux villes de carnaval d'Alost et de Binche.
3. Un timbre-poste spécial, à l'occasion de l'Année internationale de la Paix.
4. Un timbre-poste spécial, avec surtaxe, consacré à la Fondation Roi Baudouin.
5. Une série de trois timbres-poste spéciaux, avec surtaxe, dénommée "Culturelle", ayant pour thème "L'adoration de l'Agneau Mystique".
6. Un feuillet spécial, comportant un timbre-poste spécial, avec surtaxe, ayant trait à l'oeuvre précitée.
7. Un timbre-poste spécial, à l'occasion de la "Journée du Timbre", consacré au 50e anniversaire de la création du Musée des Postes et Télécommunications.
8. Deux timbres-poste spéciaux constituant l'émission dénommée "Europa" et ayant pour thème la protection de la nature et de l'environnement.
9. Une série de quatre timbres-poste spéciaux, ayant pour thème les races canines, consacrés aux bergers belges (Malinois, Tervueren et Groenendael) et au Bouvier des Flandres.
10. Une série, dite touristique, de six timbres-poste spéciaux, consacrés à Zele, Wavre, à la région du Zwalm, Bredene, Viroinval et La Calamine.
11. Un timbre-poste spécial, en faveur de la Philatélie de la Jeunesse, ayant pour thème le Festival international de l'humour graphique et satirique à Knokke (Wereldkartoonale).
12. Une série de quatre timbres-poste spéciaux, dénommée "Personnalités belges", consacrés respectivement au 100e anniversaire de la naissance du peintre et sculpteur Constant Permeke, au savant Baron Michel-Edmond de Selys-Longchamps, au 100e anniversaire de la naissance de l'écrivain Félix Timmermans et au poète Maurice Carême.
13. Un timbre-poste spécial consacré à la bière belge.
14. Une série de quatre timbres-poste spéciaux, avec surtaxe, dénommée "Solidarité", ayant pour thème les "Voitures automobiles de marques belges".
15. Un timbre-poste spécial, avec surtaxe, consacré aux fêtes de Noël et de Nouvel an.
16. Deux timbres-poste spéciaux, à l'occasion du 100e anniversaire de la création du syndicalisme chrétien en Belgique.