

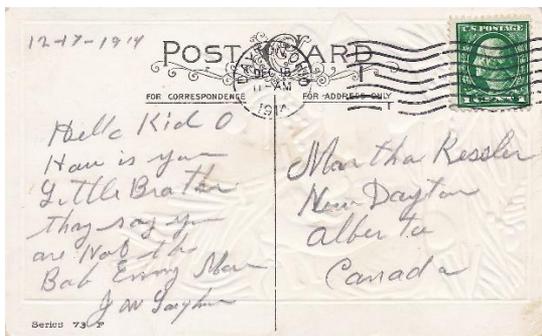
EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

BULLETIN

Volume 109, Number 12 December 2020 ISSN: 0046-1318

Mailing address: P.O. Box 399, Edmonton AB T5J 2J6

Website: <http://www.edmontonstampclub.com>



Regular meetings

St. Joseph High School Cafeteria, 10830 - 109 Street, 6:00 pm

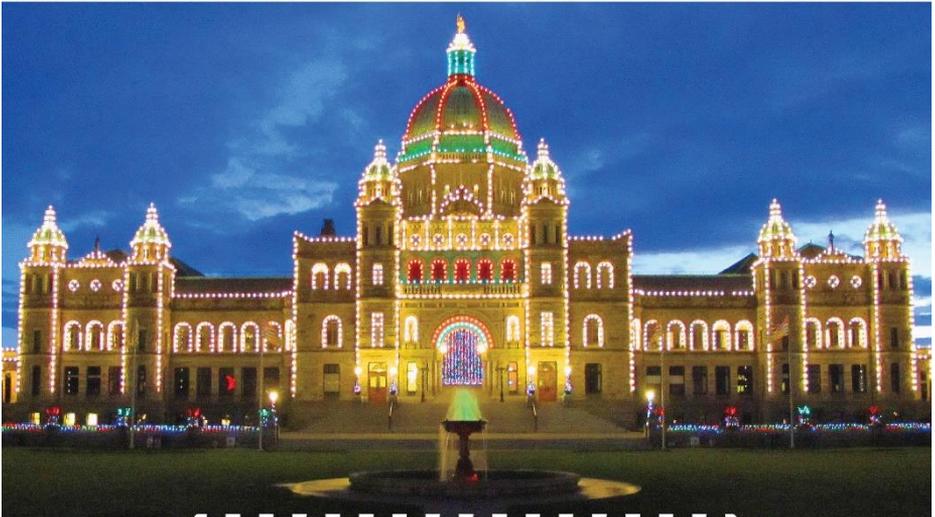
Check Page 11 for meeting dates

Rules when attending meetings, page 5



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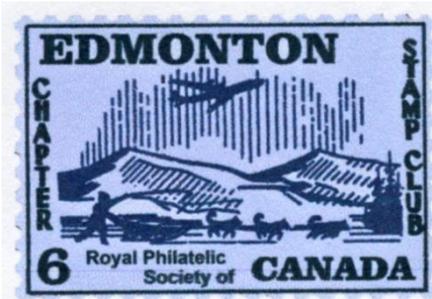
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The Edmonton Stamp Club dates back to 1912. The Club is Life Chapter #6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and Chapter #680 of the American Philatelic Society. **The editor welcomes communications of all kinds—letters, comments and articles. Deadline, 7 days before first**

monthly meeting. These may be forwarded to Fred Tauber, Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2J6, click “contact” on our website or email to fxtauber@shaw.ca

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Advertising rate schedule: Full page \$30, half page \$18. Nonmembers, \$1.00 per line up to 5 lines. Ten issue discount 20%. Five issue discount 10%. Members, Free, up to 5 lines. Contact Fred Tauber at fxtauber@shaw.ca or Edmonton Stamp Club by mail.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At this time of the year, we usually find ourselves surrounded by friends and family enjoying their company and sharing holiday traditions and good will. This year is different and my holiday wishes of good health and all the best in the new year are just as heart felt, just knowing that this festive season will be more subdued.

On a light note, one will have more time to spend with our collections and if you are like me, to discover treasures obtained years back that were salted away and (perhaps) forgotten. I am looking forward to the resumption of our club meetings to be able to share some of those "discoveries". We have our fingers crossed that we will be able to resume meetings at the end of January as we move to a more normal life routine.

With some of the extra time on my hands I have been attempting to follow what is new in stamp issues, by topic not necessarily by country. Not surprisingly covid 19 has been one topic that has surfaced. From the traditional issue from countries like Vietnam thanking front line workers, to some head scratching designs of the penny black wearing face masks there is a wealth of issues. The most innovative is the Austria issue of a stamp made from three ply toilet paper. Covers not only the virus but also one of the year's stranger phenomenon of hoarding. I was struck by the thought that went into the design of the stamp where not only is each stamp four inches, the size and shape of a standard sheet of toilet paper, but also with the detail of 10 stamps lined up next to each other measure one meter, the recommended social distance in some countries. (See next page)

A small thought in the back of my mind says, a potential new collecting theme for a frame at our next show (not the spring, but perhaps the fall).

As the year winds down, I look forward to continued success of the club and all of our members who contribute to that success. All the best.

Jim



NOTICE

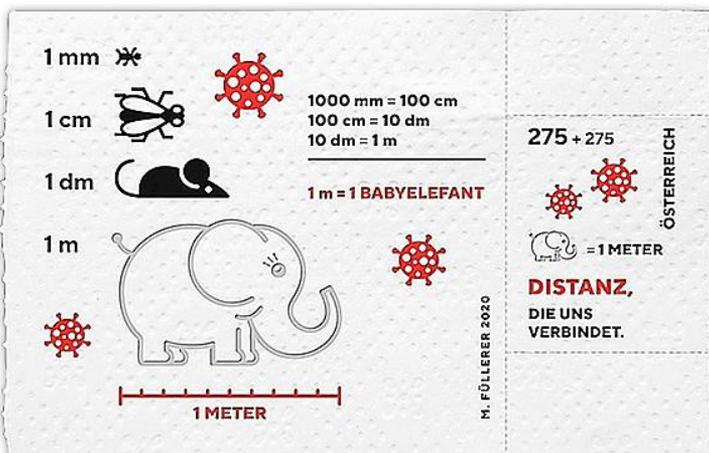
RULES TO FOLLOW AT OUR MEETINGS

- Entry will only be through the SE entrance door of St. Joe's High School
- Mask compliance is necessary and hand sanitizers will be available, at what was once the coffee table.
- Snacks and beverages will not be available, bring your own beverage and food.
- A COVID-19 questionnaire will need to be completed (please read) at the sign in desk - please bring your own pen

Only the first 50 ESC members will be allowed admittance to our indoor gatherings, but in order to protect the school's daytime population, we request that no one arrive before 6:00. We will rotate the type of auction at future meetings. Either consignment or club members material. (no silent auction) If you handle the stamp lots, you must wear **gloves**. Masks and gloves are available at most drug stores.

HACKERS TRY TO GET YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

A recent form of phishing is rampant on the internet. They use public information about the ESC board of directors and send requests for payment from these names. **Delete, do not reply.**



Trading Post

Canadian Arctic and Northern History Archives

2020 celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the Hudson's Bay company 'Beaver' magazine. Offering an outstanding run - a few from the 20's and sparse in the 1930's and continuing to the present. As Canada's history magazine with 100's of issues. The earlies were purchased at \$6 to \$10 each. A bonus, 8 early issues of the HBC staff magazine 'Moccasin Telegraphy'. A fabulous opportunity to travel 'down north' by HBC sternwheeler and then along the Arctic coast as you visit Bay posts and Arctic communities.

A GIVEAWAY AT ONLY \$125

Keith Spencer – 780-437-1787 - keithrspencer41@gmail.com

We have been contacted by “Bernie”. We sold his family’s stamps some years ago, in a moment of great optimism, he bought the top of the line Lighthouse U.S. A. Albums, volumes 1 and 2, 1874 to 1964 and 1965 through 1987. Brand new. While they are worth much more, he paid \$600.00 for the set. He has never opened them and is now anxious to find new homes for them. Maybe you are a U.S. collector and have always wanted to pamper yourself by having super albums.... Maybe you know someone.... I suggested sending them to FvH for auction - or to Weeda.... But they are not light, the shipping and the commission would be substantial. Anyway, my goal is to help Bernie. If you are interested - or know anyone who may be, please let me know...

Keith Spencer, 780-437-1787, or email keithrspencer41@gmail.com

I have US postal stationary and Canadian aerograms.

If you are interested, see Diane Reid at the club meetings, or phone 780-467-6711 or email me at dustandwrinkles@shaw.ca

I have '250,000' Belgium parcel post stamps and have always been fascinated by the use and cancellations on these stamps.

Does anyone have information I can borrow or buy?

Timetables, maps, or any other articles?

Barend Wissink, 780-922-5019 or email wissink@mcsnet.ca

Barend Wissink

THE MAD KING OF BAVARIA (BAYERN)
AND SCHLOSS NEUSCHWANSTEIN

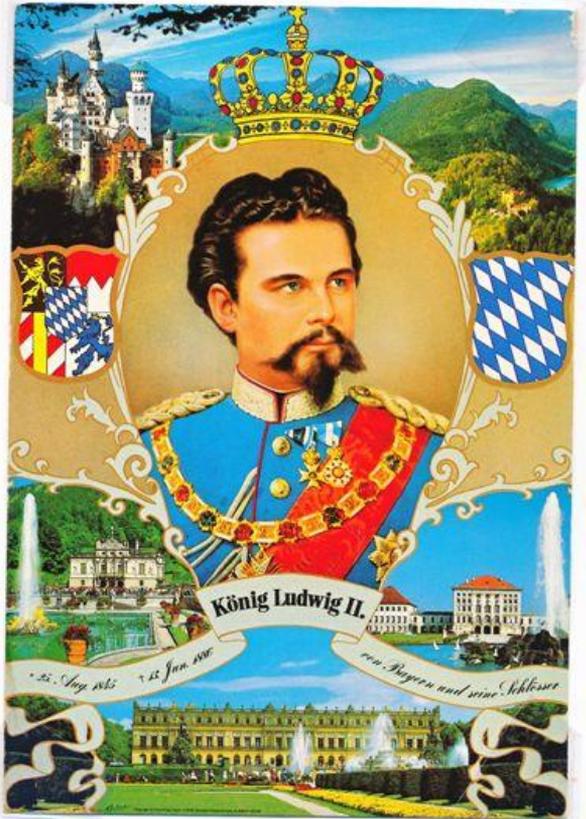
article.

Once upon a time in a country that no longer exists lived a king who had a son who also had a son, making him the object of this fairy tale story. If you are looking for happy ending look at the next article this one doesn't have one. Well this not entirely true but we will talk about the beer at the end of this

The Wittelbach, dynasty ruled the German territories of Bavaria from 1044 to 1918, part of this starts with King Ludwig I the grandfather of the subject of this article. King Ludwig I had a son Crown Prince Maximilian 2 who had a son King Ludwig 2 1845-1886

King Ludwig 2 spent his boyhood at Hohenschwagu Castle across the valley from where he was to build his own Castle (Schloss) starting in 1869.

Before going any further let's look at the post card on the right. In the middle is King (Konig) Ludwig 2, top left is Castle Neuschwanstein and top right Hohenschwagu Castle where he lived with his parents. On the left again under his castle is the Bavarian Coat of Arms and to the right is the the crest for the Wittelsbach family. Back to left under the Coat of Arms is Linderhof Palace and again to the right is the Wittelbach summer palace Nymphenburg where Ludwig was born in 1845. At the very bottom is Herrenchiemsee Palace the palace is fashioned after the Palace of Versailles and is on Herrenchiemsee Island in the Chiemsee Lake.



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Now King Ludwig had a lot of personal problems, his father had wanted a heir to carry on the family name had urged his son to get married. In 1867 Ludwig became engaged to Duchess Sophie Charlotte of Bavaria his cousin and the youngest sister of a dear friend. The engagement only lasted 10 months, it was found out after the Kings death through personal letters that he led a alternate lifestyle.

He was a wildly eccentric introvert, beloved by his people and hated by his ministers. He spent almost all of his time obsessed with Wagner, music, and building castles instead of governing. Going back to 1864 at the age of 18 his father King Maximilian died and he ascended to the throne.



After this brief engagement, Ludwig devoted the rest of his life building his castle. A devoted fan of the German composer Richard Wagner and styled it after a authentic old German knights castle, he wanted Wagner to be his first guest to stay there. The kings quar-

ters occupied the third floor, with a huge bed that fourteen carvers took four years to complete. Ludwig sided with Austria against Prussia in the Austro-Prussian war which Prussia won. When the Franco-Prussian War started in 1870 Bavaria had to fight alongside Prussia who won over France. The end result was Bavaria joined the North German Confederation which essentially resulted in a king without a kingdom to run, although he still was the king, of Bavaria. Ludwig was responsible for the building of three castles Neuschwanstein, Linderhof, and Herrenchiemsee all elaborate and all very costly to build.

MURDER OR SUICIDE

When his castle building caused the virtual bankruptcy of the Bavarian State, his ministers accused him of insanity, deposed him on grounds of mental illness and had him committed to Lake Starnberg Castle.

Next page

The day after his arrival to Lake Starnberg Ludwig apparently went for a walk with his physician Dr. Gudden along the lake. They didn't return, hours later the bodies of the king and doctor were found in the lake. The deaths were officially declared to be suicide by drowning. The king was a strong swimmer, the water was only waist deep and at the autopsy there was no water found in his lungs.

A written diary account released in 1960 claims a cover up, the kings body had 2 bullet holes and the doctors body had one. The king is buried in the Crypt of the Michaelskirche (St. Michael's Church) in Munich.

THE KINGS ENDORSMENTS

Koning Ludwig Quelle at Furth, Bavaria. Quelle health spring natural water with curing properties. These poster stamps are from around 1900, the German people to this day believe in health sanatoriums and natural hot and cold springs. There are 121 towns and villages that start with Bad (bath) in Germany.



König Ludwig Schlossbrauerei

If there has to be a happy ending this is it!

Fact: The House of Wittelsbach has had a brewery since 1260

Fact: Their slogan "Bier von koiniglicher hoheit" "(Beer of royal highness)"

Fact: The current proprietor Prince Luitpold of the House Wittelsbach grandson of the last King of Bavaria

Fact: Damn good beer



Poster Stamp of brewery



ps If you think you have seen the castle before there is a copy in Disneyland

Kingdom of Serbia?

Richard Barnes

I have an interest in Occupation Stamps and Governments in Exile stamps. I received an auction catalogue with Serbian post in Corfu: 3 values in pairs overprinted "POSTES SERBES" [Fig 1]. The overprint is on Greek stamps #236-238.



At the beginning of WW 1 the Kingdom of Serbia resisted the assaults by Austro-Hungarian forces in 1914. In October 1915 under pressure to reopen the train routes and send reinforcements to the Ottoman Empire the Imperial German Army led a coalition of Austro-Hungarians, German and Kingdom of Bulgaria that invaded Serbia. This resulted in the "Great Retreat" of the Serbian Army along with a large number of Serbian civilians ending finally on 10 Feb 1916 when the last Serbs were evacuated by the French Navy to the Island of Corfu. Another source states that Greek merchant shipping was used for the evacuation, probably under French supervision. The suffering during this retreat is comparable to Mau's "Great March".

Serbs that arrived on Corfu were disorganized, diseased and malnourished. After 6 months of rest and refitting on Corfu Serbian troops were arriving in Salonika {Macedonia Front} building up to six divisions. These troops eventually returned home in 1918. As the only organized country with an organized military and being a member of the winning alliance Serbia was the prominent member of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes with became the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in 1929.

It is clear that the Serbian post office used French Stamps [fig 2-3] on Corfu and later Salonika. I cannot find any reference to the Serbian Post using overprinted Greek stamps. Can any member confirm or deny that these stamps are not yet another of the many Greek Philatelic frauds perpetrated in the first couple of decades of the 20th century?

Continued page 12

Meeting Dates

The Edmonton Stamp Club meets Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of St. Joseph High School, 10830 - 109 Street. Park to the north of the school and use the main entrance at the south-east corner of the school. For information about the club call 780-467-4825 or 780-437-1787.

2020

CANCELLED

Meetings could be cancelled at any time. (Covid-19)

2021

January 25th

February 8th & 22nd

March 8th & 22nd

April 12th & 19th

May 3rd, 17th & 31st

June 14th (elections)

Edmonton BNAPS

(British North America Philatelic Society) will meet on the last Sunday of the month. All BNAPSers welcome.

For information contact David Piercey at 780-437-2771 dpiercey@telus.net or Steven Friedenthal at 780-721-3669 sfriedenthal@shaw.ca

Sold on Ebay (Canadian Dollars)



JAPAN #106_MH, (12 bids) \$35 / #154_MNH, (51) \$853 / #174a_MH, (21) \$291

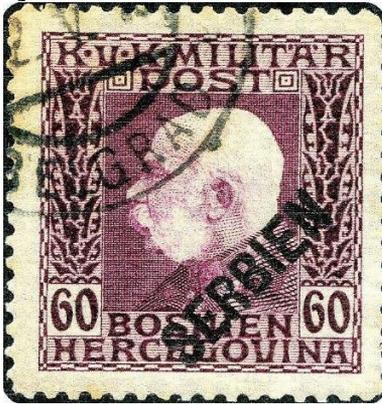


JAPAN #361_MH, (11 bids) \$30 / #526_MH, (9) \$30 / #C22_MH, (7) \$17



Can any member provide information on the overprinted Greek stamps with the Postes Serbes overprint such as what comprises a complete set of these stamps?

The only other overprints that I am aware of that are overprinted with the country name of Serbia are the WW 1 Austro-Hungarian occupation stamps [Fig 4] and the German occupation stamps of WW 2 [Fig 5].





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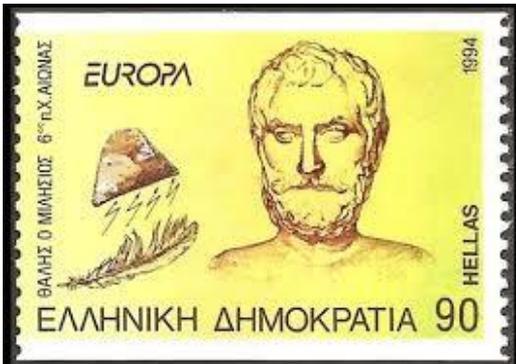
PROVINCE _____ CODE _____



TOPICAL COCONUTS

By Ed Pitts

Welcome to another Topical Coconuts episode of *Astronomers on Stamps*. I have tried to keep the sequence of my articles more or less in the order in which my subjects lived, but “the best laid plans of mice and men...”, etc. This month I reach wayyy back into my astrohistorical (is that even a word?) bag of goodies and pull out our lucky winner, namely **Thales of Miletus** (born c. 624-620 BCE died c. 548-545 BCE). OK, OK, not exactly a household name, I admit, and to be honest, I came upon his name quite by accident. I checked a book out from the library, *The Spinning Magnet*, an exploration of the earth’s magnetic field, by **Alanna Mitchell**, and mention was made of the fact that, besides being one of the first to question and explore the nature of magnetism, **Thales of Miletus** was up on his astronomy. Although there is some controversy surrounding his prediction, he is credited with the first foretelling (at least in the Western world) of a solar eclipse, the one that occurred on May 28, 585 BCE.



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Thales had serious philosophical credentials, in an age before the term “scientist” was used instead of “natural philosopher” and was referred to as one of the Seven Wise Men, or *Sophoi*, of ancient Greece. He is given credit for a lot of firsts, at least as far as Western civilization is concerned, including: Western philosopher, Astronomer, Scientist and (Greek) Mathematician. Serious chops. When the smoke clears from this COVID thing, I will trundle off to my local library and see what else I can find on this man. Well that’s it for this edition of Topical coconuts. See you next time.

More Ebay – Departmentals South Australia



SA #02-CP_U, red (2 bids) \$96 / #03-P_U, black (4) \$43 / #05-BG_U, dept, blue (2) \$98

1869 - 1874

The [colony](#) of [South Australia](#) began issuing [postage stamps](#) in 1855, and continued until the first stamps of the [Australian Commonwealth](#) were issued in 1913. Many of these stamps were intended for use on official mail by government departments and were [overprinted](#) with various initials to prevent unofficial usage by staff and to identify the department concerned. The overprints were in use from 1 April 1868 until 1874, when they were replaced by the letters "O.S." which was then used on official mail of [South Australia](#). Red and black were the most common colours for overprints, but blue was also used.

More on Stamp-Cards: Natal (Part 1)

John Woollard

I have recently made some happy discoveries from southern Africa! Several years ago I wrote in this Bulletin about Stamp-Cards – a ‘rabbit-trail’, I was following arising from my interest in that part of the world. (Edmonton Stamp Club Bulletin, 2015, V104 No.7, pg 12. I said that I was delighted to find Stamp-Cards for the Cape of Good Hope, the Orange Free State, and the Transvaal, produced by the German printer Ottmar Zieher, but that I was mildly surprised that a similar card seemed not to have been produced for the colony of Natal, where there was also a considerable number of Germans living and working. Although I was not optimistic for a favourable outcome, I added a note that if anyone could find a Natal Stamp-card, I would be thrilled to learn of it.

Well, I have to confess that in the intervening months I have heard nothing from anyone. However, I have myself at last encountered what I can count as some Stamp-cards for Natal, as shown here [Illustration 1, size 3½ x 5½ inches]. Admittedly, this is not produced by Zieher, so lacks the quality of printing, the wide range of stamp examples, and the fine embossing those cards possessed. But it is still attractive, being part of a series of postcards with the informal title “Postmen of the World”, produced by Künzli Frères, of Paris.

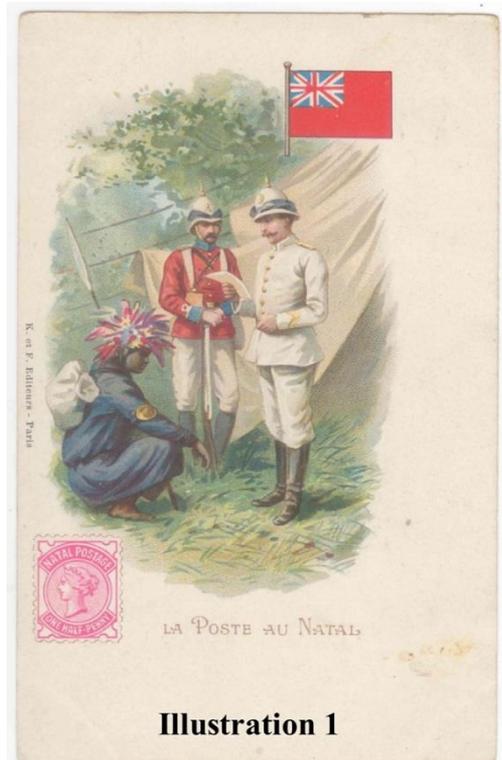
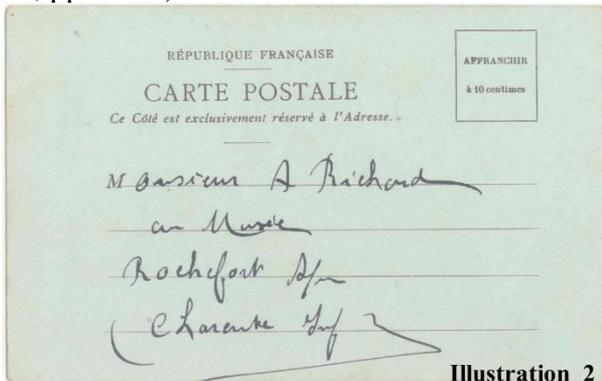


Illustration 1

Next page

The general design for the series has the country's flag at top right and at lower left an image of a single stamp of the country, both flanking a colourful scene representing a typical postman at work, either travelling diligently through the countryside, or faithfully handing over a letter to perhaps a delighted household or eager recipient, as in this quaint one from Natal. Here, the trusty "postman" is a native carrier ("Postmen of the World", T. Lake, *The Strand Magazine*, 1898, XV (June), pp 745-755, features a photograph of such a carrier on the first page), delivering his valuable charge to two thoroughly British colonial officers complete with pith helmets, standing outside their tent somewhere in darkest Africa. I am not totally sure what the uniforms are, or even if they are 'correct'. However, it was certainly true that "native runners" were used to carry mail in Natal from about 1850 onwards ("Post Carts in Southern Natal and East Griqualand", K. Strachan & M. Snell, *Natalia*, 2001, 31, pp 30-33).



The One Half-penny stamp reproduction here, apart from being far less sophisticated than those by Zieher, is curious in that although the design is essentially that of the QV ½d (Sc 64-

66) of 1880, it was given the colour of the 1d (Sc 67), which has a different design! Was this aberration in response to various postal authorities forbidding the reproduction or imitation of their stamps? At the left edge, in pale brown letters, is the printers' identity: "K. et F. Editeurs - Paris". The other side is a pale grey-blue, laid out for use in France only, with address lines plus space for the requisite 10 centime stamp [Illustration 2].

What about the printer? Two brothers, Anton and Joseph Künzli, who were originally art dealers in Zurich, Switzerland, founded a firm that began publishing high quality chromolithographs in 1881.

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In 1897 they bought out the postcard business of their printer Müller & Trüb in Aarau, and began producing art cards, greetings and *Grüß aus* view cards of Germany, Austria, Italy, and the Orient. At the same period, their nephew, Carl Künzli, from about 1890 also began producing high quality *Grüß aus* cards under his own name. In 1899 he sold his business to his uncles, when the company's name was changed to A. G. Postkartenverlag Künzli Zürich, and Carl took the position of Director until 1903, when he left his uncles' firm to start his own publishing company Künzli-Tobler & Cie, Zürich. During the 1890s the firm bought a printing shop at 17 Rue Richter in Paris, where they produced numerous cards of various sorts by lithography. I assume these "Postmen of the World" cards were produced at the Paris print shop about this time, for it seems that after about 1905 the company stopped printing postcards and limited its business to art and religious prints. I have read somewhere that the cards were re-printed in 1926, but I am not sure whether those re-prints give a date and printer, hence whether they are distinguishable from the originals.

As was the case with the Coin-cards printed by Semmler, the designs of these stamp-cards were evidently made available to other printers, presumably either on contract or even by giving them the original plates.

Thus this second card [Illustration 3] lacks the printers' imprint of the first, but has a slogan at the top for "Chicorée Casiez-Bourgeois à Cambrai", whilst the address side is off-white and multi-lingual [Illustration 4]. The firm Casiez-Bourgeois of Cambrai, in the far north of France, had been founded in 1826 and by the early 1900s was employing about 150 people in the processing of chicory. The company was bought by a competitor, Leroux, in 1932, during the Great Depression. Drinking chicory as a coffee alternative has a solid history on



Illustration 3

the continent, for it became necessary during the English naval blockade against Napoleon, and then again during the World Wars, when coffee was scarce. Its proponents point out that it lacks caffeine, contains the complex sugar inulin, and has a good fibre content, so is an all-round healthy beverage.

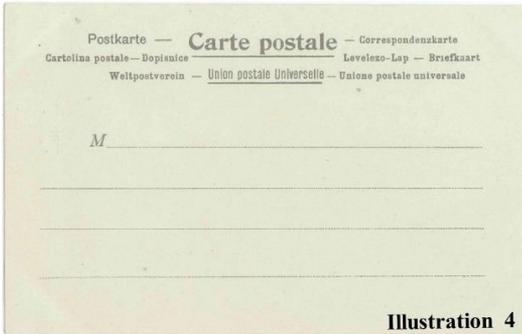
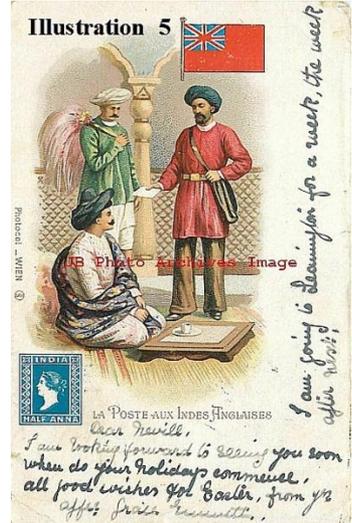


Illustration 4



Similarly the card for British India [Illustration 5], ostensibly from the same original series, bears the imprint of ‘Photocol – WIEN’. This was a branch of the Munich-based postcard printer “Kunst- & Verlagsanstalt Photocol”, a precursor to the firm “Kunstanstalt Graphia”, but whether they had loan of the original plates or added text to pre-printed cards from Künzli I do not know.

I gather there were 48 separate countries represented in the series, as listed, (<http://postcardworld.co.uk/cards/subject/postal/postal.htm>) Although the series did include cards for Natal and Transvaal, it did not have ones for either Cape of Good Hope or Orange River Colony; the former certainly would have warranted one. I wonder why not: perhaps the scenes would not be different enough??

But this quibble aside, in this series, there was a wonderful range of modes of transport shown for the postmen, including foot, horse, early motor-car (France), cart or wagon, camel, donkey, bicycle, skis (Norway), boat, punt, sampan, dog-sled (USA!), and even a litter or palanquin.

Most scenes are peaceful and engaging, such as the one for Australia [Illustration 6], where the postman has stopped with the family to read the latest newspaper (“The Times”): perhaps he has just delivered it?



To be continued

More Ebay – Departmentals South Australia



SA #O13-T_U, black (2 bids) \$151 / #O21-T_U, black (4) \$158 / #O24-C_U, black (7)-\$283

Reference to future articles of Departmental stamps, are from the book “The Departmental Stamps of South Australia” by A.R. Butler. Your editor is the proud owner of copy #63, of a limited edition of 500 copies. We will delve into the history of these stamps, in later articles.

Fred Tauber

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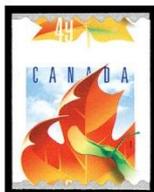


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