

PHILATELIC REVIEW



50p

GREAT BRITAIN

DEFINITIVE SETS

		U/m	M/m			U/m
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KING EDWARD VII					Ditto, watermark sideways (3v.)	£24.00
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1911	Harrison (perf. 14) (5v.)	-	£60.00		Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)	£3.00
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KING GEORGE V				1952-54	Tudor (17v.)	£80.00
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1912-24	Royal Cypher (14v.) 9d. x 1	£115.00	£70.00		Ditto, watermark sideways (3v.)	£4.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)	£25.00	£16.00	1955	Waterlow "Castles" (4v.)	£300.00
1913	Multiple Cypher (2v.)	-	£195.00	1955-58	Edward (17v.)	£160.00
1918	Bradbury "Seahorses" (3v.)	-	-		Ditto, watermark inverted (7v.)	£14.00
1924	Block Cypher (12v.)	£130.00	£70.00		Ditto, watermark sideways (5v.)	£12.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)	£2.50	£1.75	1957	Graphite (6v.)	£11.00
	Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)	-	£95.00	1958	1st De La Rue "Castles" (4v.)	£1300.00
1934	Photogravure, large format (2v.)	95p	60p	1958-65	Crowns, ordinary (17v.)	£7.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (2v.)	£135.00	-		Ditto, watermark inverted (7v.)	£50.00
1934-35	Ditto, intermediate format (4v.)	£13.00	£7.50		Ditto, watermark sideways (7v.)	£7.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)	£50.00	£35.00	1958-61	Graphite (8v.)	£85.00
1935-36	Ditto, small format (11v.)	£85.00	£45.00		Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)	£75.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)	£20.00	£13.00	1959	2nd De La Rue "Castles" (4v.)	£275.00
	Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)	-	£115.00	1959	Phosphor-graphite (8v.)	£90.00
1934	Re-engraved "Seahorses" (3v.)	-	-	1960	Green phosphor (9v.)	£30.00
KING EDWARD VIII				1960-67	Crowns, phosphor (17v.)	£5.00
1936	K.E. VIII (4v.)		U/m		Ditto, watermark inverted (10v.)	£135.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)		50p		Ditto, watermark sideways (8v.)	£24.00
			£10.00	1963-68	1st Bradbury-Wilkinson "Castles" (5v.)	
KING GEORGE VI					2/6 x 2	£27.00
1937-47	Dark colours (15v.)			1967	Machin gum Arabic (9v.)	£3.00
	Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)	£30.00		1967-70	Ditto, P.V.A. (16v.) 4d. x 2, 8d. x 2	£5.00
	Ditto, watermark sideways (5v.)	£135.00		1967-68	Bradbury-Wilkinson no watermark	
		£85.00			"Castles" (4v.)	£22.00
				1969	Machin high values (4v.)	£24.00

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the PHILATELIC REVIEW

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EDITORIAL

- 49 Prompted by Peter Bergh's article on the shades of the Georgian ½d stamps (see the last two issues of the *Philatelic Review*), I have only recently put together a collection of the Downey Head shades, and in so doing have encountered various problems which other collectors no doubt have also experienced. The first thing that struck me, having assembled a reasonable selection, was that my range of colours bore only passing resemblance to the range listed in the specialised catalogue.
- 60 I bought a copy of the Methuen Handbook of Colour to assess its worth in regard to sorting out shades, but found that two or three Methuen shades seemed to cover all of the stamp shades; there just isn't the range of 'in-between' shades to cope with the range encountered on the stamps.
- 61 A preliminary examination with a UV lamp showed that almost identical shades 'glowed differently', and were from different printings. Another point is that the relationship of the different shades with the plates and controls has not yet been studied in any depth. These problems underline the need for an entire re-think on the subject. Any correspondence will be welcome.

M.J.

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ALLOWED AND DISALLOWED

John Forbes-Nixon

From the beginning of the adhesive postage stamp period the Authorities were worried by the possible fraudulent re-use of stamps by cleaning and other methods and it was for that reason basically that the penny black with a red cancel (which could be painted out) was after only 10 months changed to a red penny stamp with a black cancel.

Strangely few enough examples prevail to show that this practice was perpetrated to any great extent. From London there was a little seen handstamp O.S. in double circle used to denote "old stamp" especially for this purpose but Figure 1 shows a letter from Sheffield on 13 April 1841 which bore a used penny black which was detected and endorsed "Stamp used before" and a manuscript 2 to show it was treated as an unpaid letter.

Fig. 2 shows a similar effort at deception by cutting two halves of unpostmarked stamps and affixing them together on a letter in 1890 which was noticed and again attracted the London E.C. cachet "Contrary to Regulations E.C." and a handstamp 2, double the unpaid rate.

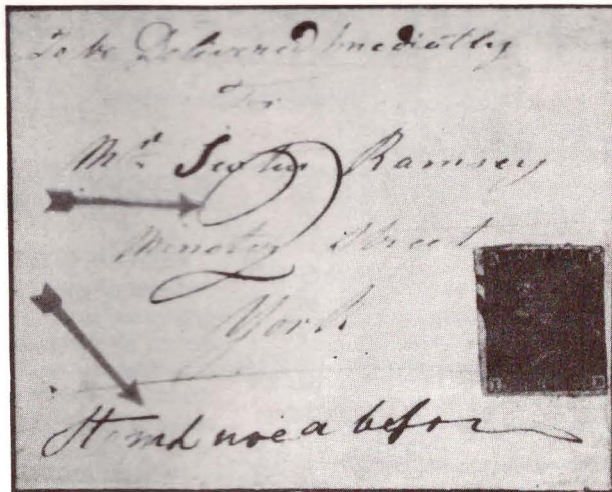


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

The 1870 small halfpenny rose-red stamp pre-paid postcards and printed matter however disallowed writing or an enclosed letter attracted a fine if detected. Such a letter is fig. 3 where a letter under suspicion has been opened at Southampton and found to contravene the regulations and stamped with the boxed "Closed against Inspection" and surcharged a penny; the proof book entry for 4 June 1872 is also shown and matching these with actual examples of use is always satisfying.

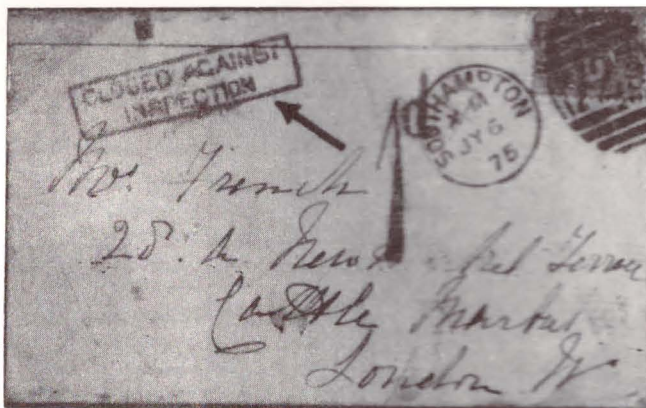


Fig. 3.

To what Place.	Date when sent.	Stamps.
<i>Southampton</i>	<i>1872 June 4</i>	<div data-bbox="943 725 1294 807" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS</div> <div data-bbox="962 837 1276 916" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">CLOSED AGAINST INSPECTION</div>

Fig. 4.

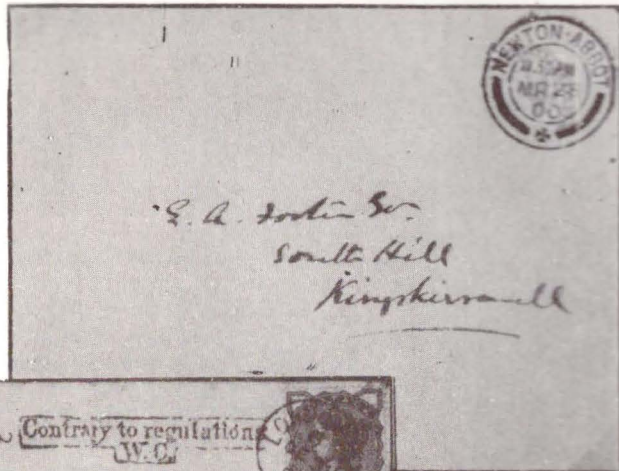


Fig. 4(b).

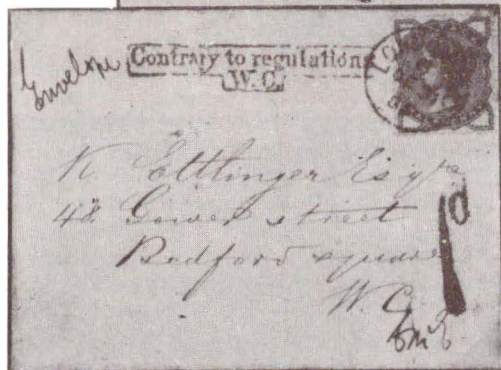


Fig. 4(a).

Sometimes the wrong rate escaped notice and Fig. 4 shows a pair of envelopes (a) franked with an 1883 ½d blue has been surcharged yet (b) uses an illegal bisected penny lilac in 1900 without penalty!

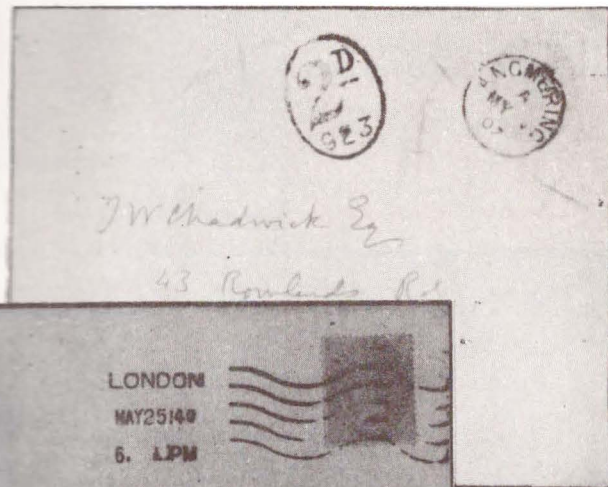


Fig. 5(a).

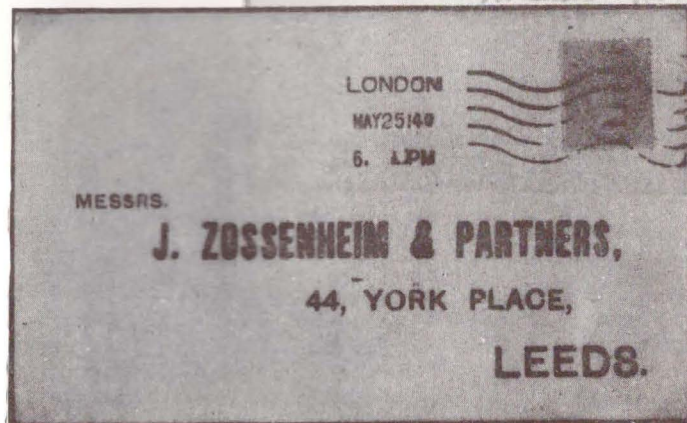


Fig. 5(b).

Revenue stamps were allowed to be used for postage until 19 April 1901 and a revenue penny stamp used from Angmering in May 1907 is consequently surcharged with a 2 handstamp as if unpaid Fig. 5 (a) and yet another revenue stamp not used until May 1914 Fig. 5 (b) passes through the post attracting no surcharge.

DOWNEY HEAD SOMERSET HOUSE CONTROLS

Mike Jackson

Control Types

From a close study of controls, it has become possible to identify certain types (i.e. certain individual control pieces) from minor characteristics. This has been done for the Downey Head Somerset House controls but it may prove impossible to do the same for other issues, although certain characteristic controls can be singled out in most issues. Different control pieces of a particular control may have been cast from the same mould, and as some controls appear featureless, differentiation into types is extremely difficult. However, such an approach has proved worthwhile for these Somerset House printings, as the following will show.

In the diagrams and tables of control types, the identifying features for each plate/control combination are given. From the information so far assembled, Somerset House had two pieces of each control;

A.11, B.11 and B.12, which suggests that they used one press (two plates) for each printing, at least as far as the Downey Head printings are concerned.

The Control Piece

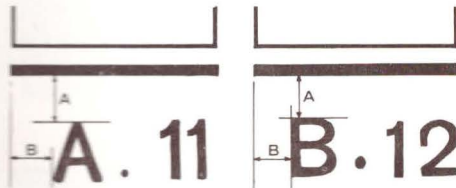
It seems likely that the whole control piece was one piece of cast type-metal with a hole drilled between the letter and the number, through which the piece was screwed either onto the flange of the plate or onto the underplate through a slot in the flange. There are many examples of controls showing either partial prints of the screw-head between the letter and number, or bites out of the letter where the screw-hole through the control has caught it.

From an illustration of a working plate¹ there were screw-holes in the flange of the plate immediately below the 2nd and 11th stamp images in the bottom row. There were other holes around the plate, of course, but these two are where the controls occur. It seems reasonable to assume that if a slot was going to be cut in the flange to accommodate the control piece, then a screw-hole would not have been carefully drilled there. Also, it must have been necessary to have a screw clamping the plate at that point to ensure that the plate remained perfectly flat. On examples of controls which have obviously moved during a printing run, the movement appears to be rotational about a pivot (the screw). Such freedom to move does not suggest that the control fitted into a slot.

When all this is taken into account, the conclusion is that the control was screwed onto the flange through the flange screw-hole, thus securing both the control to the plate and the plate to the underplate with one screw.

Measurement of the Controls

The relevant co-ordinates for the control letters A and B are indicated on the diagrams. The measurements are given to



the nearest 0.05mm. In the case of the control letter being positioned to the left of the end of the marginal rule, as in certain of the B.12 controls, this is indicated by a minus sign. The relative slope of the control is indicated as follows:

- A Slope up from left to right
- V Slope down from left to right
- Level

The degree of slope is qualified in brackets following the symbol, but such qualification is only used if the slope is either pronounced or very slight. The slope is established by placing the 'Thirkell' grid over the control and aligning the grid with the bottom of the control. In practice, this

means aligning the grid with two points; the lowest points on both the letter and the number.

Numbering of the Controls

When there is more than one control setting on a particular plate, each setting is numbered so as to give a discrete identification. Thus, each photograph can be positively labelled — e.g. '1d Die 2 — Plate 8a(2)', where the '8a(2)' can only refer to one particular setting in the tables. For the purposes of numbering, states of plates (e.g. 8a and 8b) are treated as separate plates.

1d Die 1A

For some strange reason, the last two editions of the specialised catalogue (1974 and 1978) state that 'Control A.11 was used with plate 1a only'. The first edition (1967) was nearly right in listing plate 2a with control A.11 but it stated that the plate had 'no marking'. It is difficult to see how the former error was established, especially as control corner pieces occur in equal quantities from the right and left sides of the mill sheet (plates 1 and 2 respectively), a fact which should have at least alerted the philatelist to the probability of two plates being used. As the present (1978) edition of the catalogue is wrong in its descriptions of both plates, the correct listing is given below:

Plate	Marking
1	Dot 19th right side, 11 mm; cut under EP of 2nd; cut under NN of 7th.
2	Cut under P of 1st.

It is important to note that these descriptions apply to *both* Harrison and Somerset House printings.

As far as I can ascertain from the literature, especially the contemporary issues of the *British Philatelist*, control A.11 appeared late in 1911, after the Harrison printings had reached the public. If this is true for the 1d. Die 1A with control A.11, then it suggests the possibility that these Somerset House printings were *not* preliminary in nature, as has hitherto been thought. The collection of plate markings as listed above strike me as being very strange for a Somerset House printing — they are much more the sort of marks associated with Harrisons. I would therefore suggest the possibility that the marks were put on the plates by Harrison, not necessarily all at the same time, and were later handed to Somerset House who made a printing without altering the plates. One further point is the fact that the chalk surfaced paper trial was printed from the same plate and control setting (plate 1) as the normal issue, and was probably printed late in 1911.

A final incidental point on the subject of the 1d Die 1A — there are apparently five plates too many in the catalogue lists, as only eight were put to press². I have been

able to delete four of these, details of which will be published at a later date.

1d Die 1B

The Somerset House printings of the 1d Die 1B have been described in detail elsewhere³.

1d Die 2

Mr Leslie Wilkinson has established the identification of the three plates used at Somerset House and I have followed his allocations. The 8a(2) setting was used for the printing on Multiple Cypher paper, which is scarcer than the Multiple Cypher ½d. It is probable that this printing also exists with either plate 2a or 6a(2).



Fig. 1 — ½d Die 2 Plate 9 with double perforation.

½d Die 2

The Somerset House printings of the ½d Die 2 are very scarce, the printing on Crown paper being rare. Two settings are known for the Multiple Cypher printing; one from plate 9 and one from an unidentified plate which I have called plate a. The plate 9 setting is known on Crown paper⁴ and presumably this also exists from plate a. Two Multiple Cypher pieces are known from a batch from plate 9 with double perforation^{5,6} as illustrated in fig. 1.

Paper Trials

As far as I can make out, all of the early Georgian paper trials were printed at Somerset House. Certain of these trials have controls and in each case the setting of the control matches up with that on an issued sheet⁷. This suggests that the paper trials were printed either immediately



Fig. 2 — 1d Die 1A Chalk surfaced trial.

before, during or immediately after the 'normal' production run of sheets to be issued to the public. The following table lists the three trials known with controls;

	Plate	
1d Die 1A	Chalk surfaced paper	1 (Fig. 2)
1d Die 2	Trial e1 (SG Type e)	8a(1) (Fig. 3)
	Trial g (SG Type h)	8a(2) (Fig. 4)

The Die 1A chalk surfaced trial (SG 327b) has only been seen from plate 1, and it is not known whether the paper was 'double' width. If it was, then perhaps it also exists from plate 2. The same comments apply to the two Die 2 trials, where paper trial Type e1 may also exist from plate 6a(1) and Type g from either plate 2a or 6a(2).

References

1. GB Journal, 12, (5), 115, 1974.
2. W. A. Wiseman, Private Communication, 1978.
3. Mike Jackson, *A Re-examination of the K.G.V. 1911 1d Die 1B Somerset House Printings*. GB Journal, 16, (4), 70, 1978.
4. L. N. and M. Williams (Editors), *Unchronicled Geo. V Controls*. British Philatelist, 38, (8), 59, 1947.
5. Mike Jackson, *Double Perforation Varieties on the Downey Heads*. GB Journal, 13, (4), 93, 1975.
6. Philatelic Review, 2, (1), front cover, 1978.
7. Tony McCleery, *Paper Trials*. Philatelic Review, 1, (1), 2, 1977 and 1, (2), 30, 1977.

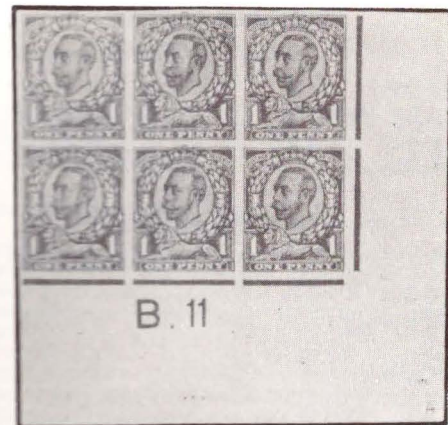


Fig. 3 — 1d Die 2 Trial e1.

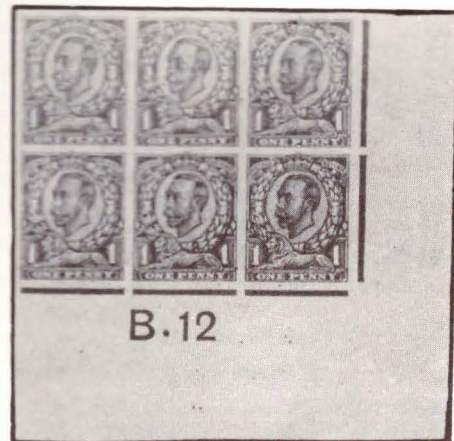
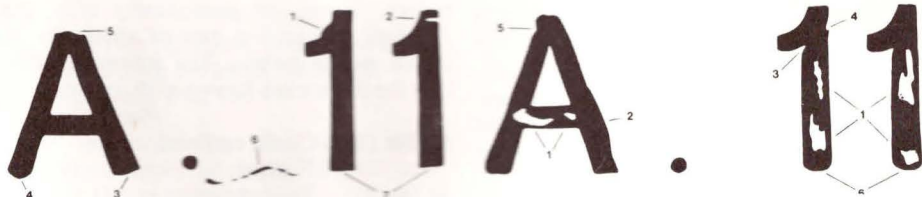


Fig. 4 — 1d Die 2 Trial g.

CONTROL TYPE 1

	Plate	Feature Present
1d Die 1A	1a	1 — 3 4 5 — 7
1d Die 1B	9a	1 2 3 4 5 6*7
	15(2)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*Variable



Type 1.

Type 2.

CONTROL TYPE 2

	Plate	Features Present
1d Die 1A	2a	— 2 3 4 5 6
1d Die 1B	3a	1*— 3 4 5 6
	15(1)	1*2 3 4 5 6

*Variable



Type 3.

Type 4.

CONTROL TYPE 3

	Plate	Features Present
1d Die 2	8a(1)	—

CONTROL TYPE 4

	Plate	Features Present
1d Die 2	6a(1)	1

CONTROL TYPE 5

	Plate	Features Present
½d Die 2	a	1 2 — 4
1d Die 2	8a(2)	1 2 3 4



Type 5.

Type 6.

CONTROL TYPE 6

	Plate	Features Present
½d Die 2	9	1 2 3 4
1d Die 2	2a	1 2 3 4
	6a(2)	1 2 3 —

1d DIE 1A

Plate	Control	Type	Control Position			Sheet
1*	A.11	1	A 2.85	B 1.30	V(slight)	R
2	A.11	2	A 2.75	B 0.90	V(v.slight)	L

*This setting was used for the trial on chalk surfaced paper.

1d DIE 1B

Plate	Control	Type	Control Position			Sheet
3a	A.11	2	A 2.10	B 1.45	A(v.slight)	R
9a	A.11	1	A 3.75	B 0.70	A(slight)	L
15(1)	A.11	2	A 1.80	B 2.30	V	R
15(2)	A.H	1	A 3.20	B 1.25	V	L

1d DIE 2 (Crown)

Plate	Control	Type	Control Position			Sheet
2a	B.12	6	A 3.55	B-0.85	A(pronounced)	R
6a(1)	B.11	4	A 3.15	B 1.90	A	R
6a(2)	B.12	6	A 3.70	B-0.60	A	R
8a(1)*	B.11	3	A 2.60	B 0.65	A	L
8a(2)**	B.12	5	A 2.80	B-0.20	—	L

*This setting was used for the paper trial Type e1 (SG Type e).

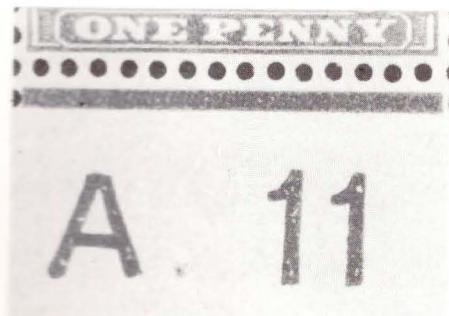
**This setting was used for the printing on Multiple Cypher paper and also the paper trial Type g (SG Type h).

½d DIE 2 (Multiple Cypher)

Plate	Control	Type	Control Position			Sheet
9*	B.12	6	A 1.45	B 2.00	A(v.slight)	?
a**	B.12	5	A 0.60	B 1.15	—	?

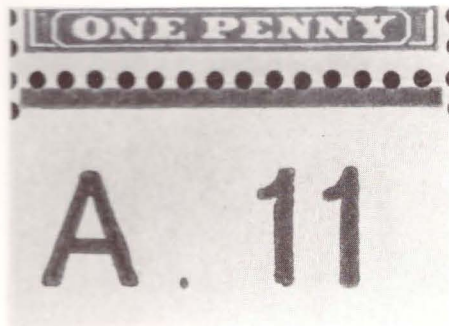
*This setting was used for the printing on Crown paper.

**Plate not identified.



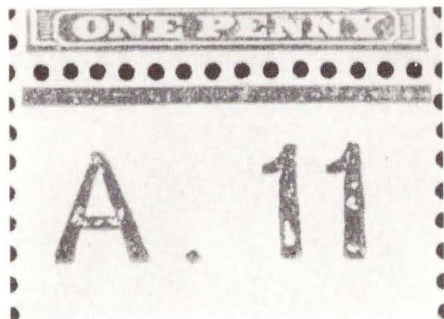
1d Die 1A.

Plate 1.



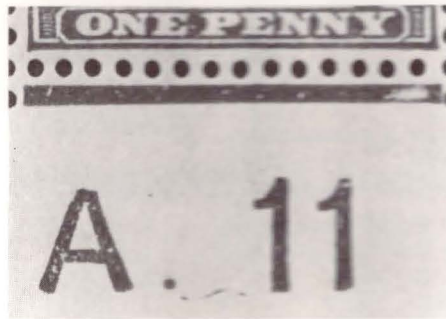
1d Die 1A.

Plate 2.



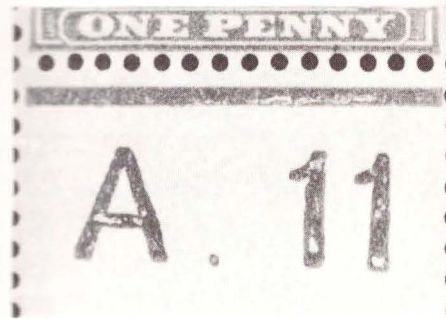
1d Die 1B.

Plate 3a.



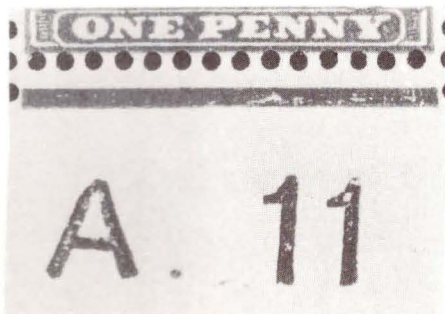
1d Die 1B.

Plate 9a.



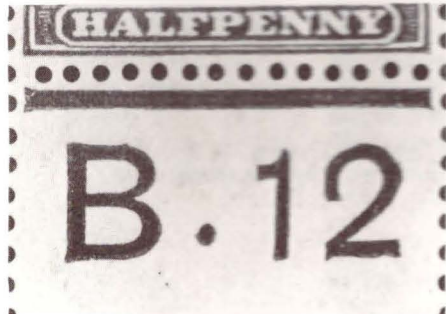
1d Die 1B.

Plate 15(1)



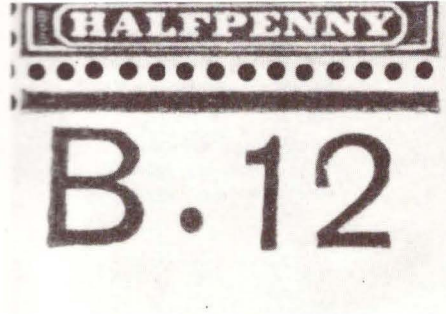
1d Die 1B.

Plate 15(2).



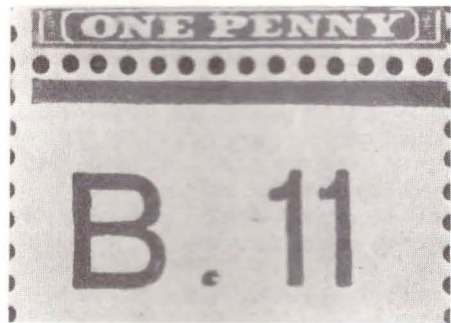
1/2d Die 2.

Plate 9.



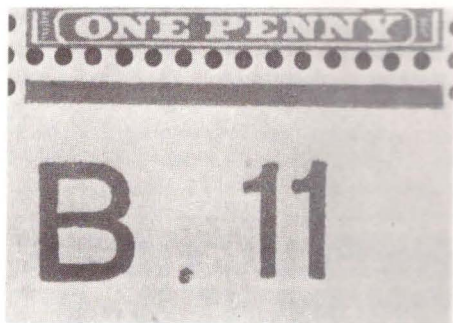
1/2d Die 2.

Plate a.



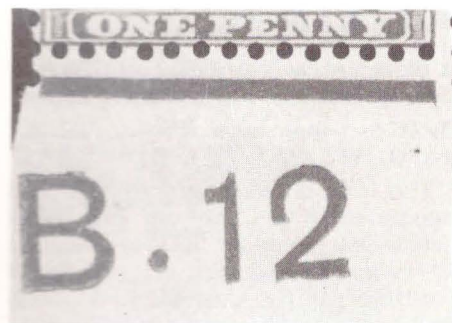
1d Die 2

Plate 6a (1).



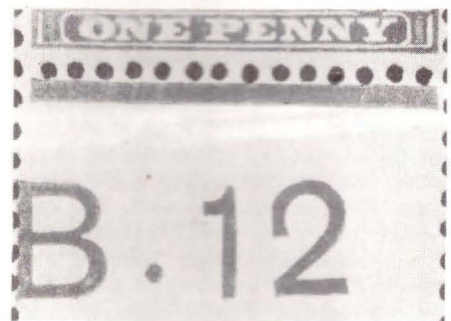
1d Die 2

Plate 8a (1).



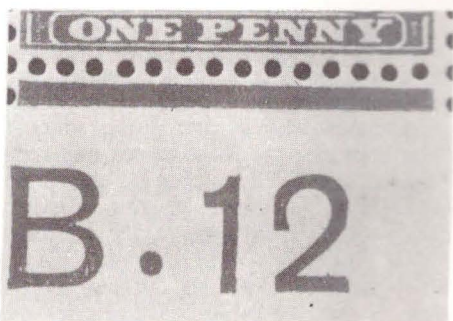
1d Die 2

Plate 2a.



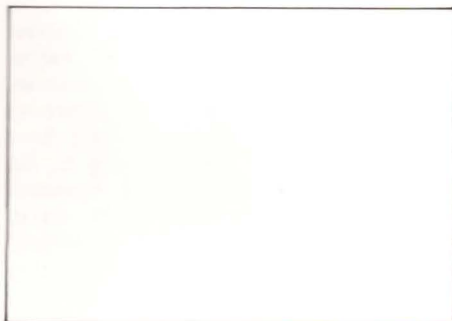
1d Die 2

Plate 6a (2).



1d Die 2

Plate 8a (2).



BOOK REVIEW

A History of the Travelling Post Offices of Great Britain (Part 2). Revised 2nd Edition.

By H. S. Wilson. 80pp. Railway Philatelic Group, 1979. £3.75.

This is an extremely well produced and illustrated book, as are the other publications from the Railway Philatelic Group which I have seen. This part two of the History of the Travelling Post Offices deals with England — South of the Midland T.P.O. There are fourteen fascinating photographs of T.P.O.s, T.P.O. staff, sorting compartments, etc., mostly taken in the second half of the nineteenth century.

I must repeat a comment expressed about part three of this series in an earlier Philatelic Review, namely that tabular listings relating to the numerous illustrations of cancellations would have been a most useful feature. As it is, the book takes the form of an historical account (hence the title) which makes repeated reference to numbered illustrations of markings, making it rather awkward to use quickly as a work of reference.

Nevertheless, it is an excellent work — and after all, enterprising collectors can always make up their own tabular listings of dates, etc.! The book contains 80 pages

17×23 cm. It is printed on art paper with stiffened paper covers and has 14 half tone and over 400 black and white illustrations. It is available from A. J. Lowe, Publications Officer, Stable Becks, Grasmere, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 9PX.

M.J.

REFLECTIONS ON PANES - 6

Sam Lawrence

In April 1971, a rather odd thing happened at the Post Office. They issued a 25p stamp book commemorating 80 years of British stamp books. For those unfortunates who do not possess one of these booklets, the front legend reads '80 Years of British Stamp Books' and in an ornamental square is the further information: 'Exhibition at the National Postal Museum — SEE OVERLEAF'. When the cover is turned, the information given is that the exhibition illustrates the evolution of stamp books from 1891 to 1971. Every schoolboy knows (if he collects booklets) that the first stamp book issued by the Post Office was the King Edward VII issue of March 1904, the printers being De

La Rue. Simple arithmetic gives us 67 years and not 80 as being the actual time that has elapsed from 1904 to 1971. So where does the Post Office get its 80 years from?

When I first enquired about this discrepancy some years ago, no one seemed to be able to answer this simple sum. I waited until my next visit to the National Postal Museum and enquired there. Strangely enough, no one in the lower echelons seemed to know, and it took a few minutes of the curator's time to put me wise.

The Post Office were, he told me, commemorating the 80 years as from the year a Victorian 'Stamp Book' came on to the market. This stamp book is amply described by Stan L. Hills in the October 1970 issue of the Philatelic Bulletin. For the uninitiated, the stamp book was a PRIVATE ISSUE, distributed by a company called the Stamp Distributing Syndicate, and consisted of the following:

A memoranda stamp book in red linen, the back cover had an oblique slit in it in which was inserted a Queen Victoria 1d stamp (the lilac issue of 1881). The stamp was perfined as a security measure. Inside the covers were 64 pages, some of which carried full-page adverts and some blank for memoranda. Several pages were also devoted to general information including postage rates. The whole thing was enclosed in an envelope, ready gummed and ready for posting. The lot, including the calendar it contained, was available for one penny.

Now the point is this. The Post Office gave permission for this 'stamp book' to be issued and it was sold only from machines attached to post boxes. It also kept a record of the amount of books sold. However, when the company folded and another took over and yet again this company folded, the Post Office made no effort to continue the sale of these 'stamp books'.

So what do we have? We have a NOTEBOOK with a stamp tucked in, NOT produced by the Post Office's normal suppliers, a book over which the Post Office had no control, made to no Post Office requirements and not sold over the counter but in a vending machine produced by a private company.

I beg to submit that the first OFFICIALLY PRODUCED STAMP BOOK was issued in March 1904 and not in 1881. I further beg to submit that someone misled the Post Office in producing the anniversary stamp book of 1971 and that the only way the Post Office can rectify this error is to issue a 75th anniversary Stamp Book this year (1979).

Dr. Jean Alexander is of the opinion that this Victorian 'stamp book' should be recognised as being a forerunner of the automatic vending machines the Post Office now use. As a closing word, if this notebook or wallet can be classified as an early stamp book, then so can the Lewis Carroll Stamp Case — but that is a different kettle of booklets.

DECIMAL MACHINS

Sam Lawrence

With reference to the article in the Philatelic Review, vol. 3, No. 1, page 2, on Decimal Machins, I believe Andrew Watton is in error when he says 'This continuous method of printing is ideal in the production of coil stamps and booklet stamps. It is also hoped to eventually eliminate the horizontal gutter between sheets of stamps. However, this cannot occur until Harrison's Press can perfect precision guillotining'.

I should imagine that a short perusal of the items Harrison's do guillotine will prove that they *are* capable of precision guillotining. I always understood that the reason why the Post Office has still not ordered the elimination of the spare paper used top and bottom of the sheet printing is the refusal of the unions to accept the sheets with no margins top and bottom. Without the margins they become difficult to count, as I have been given to understand by more than one counter clerk.

The Post Office has even offered part of the saving in paper costs as a sop to their workforce but up to the present day no agreement has been reached. Consequently the sheets and booklets are now printed in

identical formats and the waste of 10% of the paper used is still going on.

Trying very hard to be non-political, if my version is the correct one, as I believe it to be, isn't this precisely what is wrong with our country today?

VICTORIA NOTES



1864 1d Rose-red Plate 171

1864 1d Rose-red Plate 171

The illustrated stamp, lettered NA, has a prominent flaw running from the top of the letter P of PENNY into the Queen's hair. It looks as though it could have been caused by a hair or other foreign matter on the printing plate.

EDWARD VII NOTES

Duty Plate flaws on the 5d value

The following flaws are all on used single stamps. Some of the coloured flaws are similar to SG Spec M28/29c. The best one is probably the lower frame break over EV of REVENUE.



Lower left corners on both tablets are worn.



Lower left corner on right-hand tablet is worn.



Lower frame line broken over EV of REVENUE.



Flaws at lower right on left-hand tablet and lower left on right-hand tablets.



Flaw at lower right of left-hand tablet.



Flaw near top of right-hand tablet.



Flaw at top of left-hand tablet.



5d Head Plate flaw

A major break in the right-hand frame entering at top right and leaving at bottom right of the stamp, almost damaging the E of REVENUE.



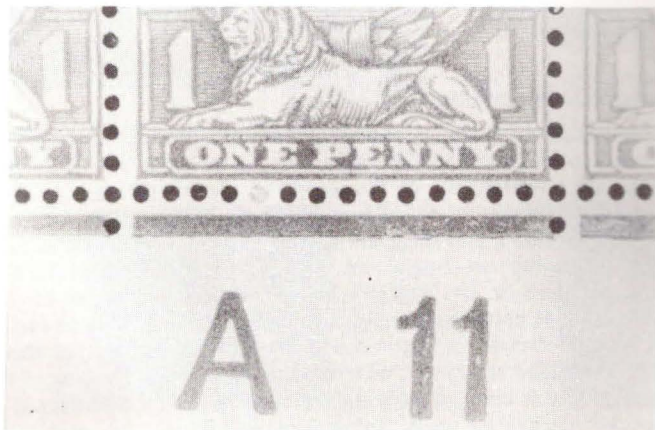
Duty Plate flaws on the 4d bi-coloured

The illustrated stamp shows three flaws on the duty plate; damage to the top of the SE circle, a cut in the right side of the SW circle and a 'notch' out of the second of the left side wedges. Dr. Reg Powell illustrated a similar stamp in the *GB Journal*, vol. 7, p. 9 (January 1969), but there are one or two interesting differences between the two on comparison. To start with, the cut in the SW circle is absent on Dr. Powell's stamp, and the damage to the SE circle is not as great, both indicating that his copy is from an earlier printing. However, the left hand side wedges on the earlier stamp appear rounded and worn, whereas on my copy, the printing of the entire frame is crisp, suggesting that the wear to the wedges is in fact caused by make-ready, rather than plate wear.

GEORGE V NOTES

1911 1d. Die 1B with evidence of interleaving paper

The illustration is part of a control strip of three (A 11c) of the 1d Die 1B, which happens to be from one of the earlier printings from plate 14, before the flaws (SG N8g) on the control stamp appeared. However, the interesting thing about this strip is to be found in the perforation hole below NE of ONE. Herein resides a disc of pale green paper, which is very similar to the examples found by Dr Reg. Powell which he illustrated in the GB Journal, vol. 14, page 8. Dr Powell's piece (a block of Harrison ½d stamps) showed two red discs, and he concluded that interleaving paper was introduced to the pile of sheets before perforating.



1912-24 1d Royal Cypher on unmilled paper

Peter Berg has shown me this block of four of the Royal Cypher 1d Pale Red (SG Spec N16(8)). It is on unmilled paper, which is confirmed on a recent R.P.S. certificate. It is mentioned in The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, part four, by Beaumont and Stanton, on page 65; 'One sheet with this control (E 14) was on unmilled paper. The shade of ink was dull'. Perhaps this is a candidate for the next edition of the specialised catalogue.



1912-24 1d Royal Cypher in Varnish Ink

This control copy, printed in varnish ink, has recently been discovered by our publishers. It is control C 12, and is an addition to the two previously known controls, C 13 and G 15.

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