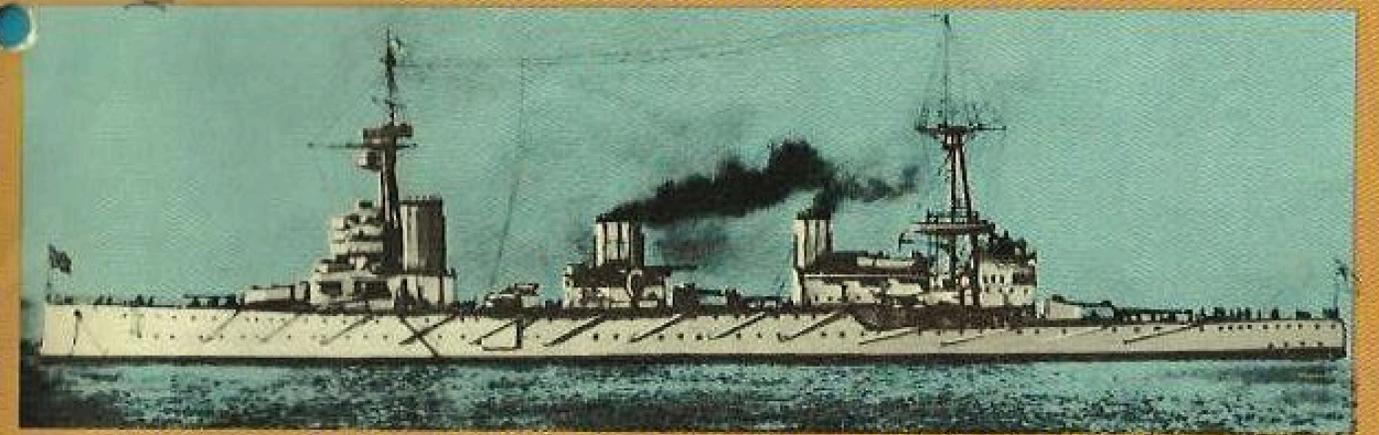
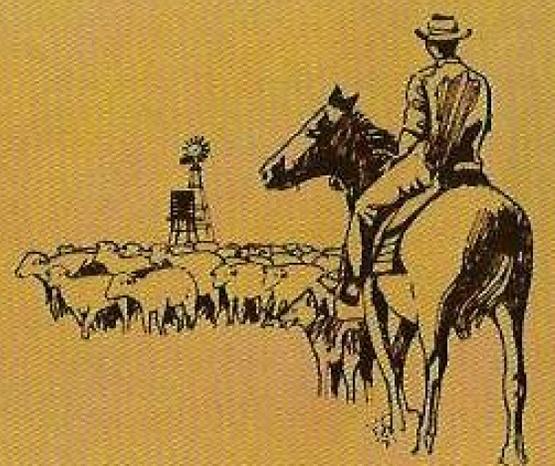
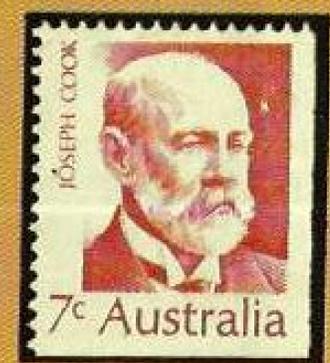
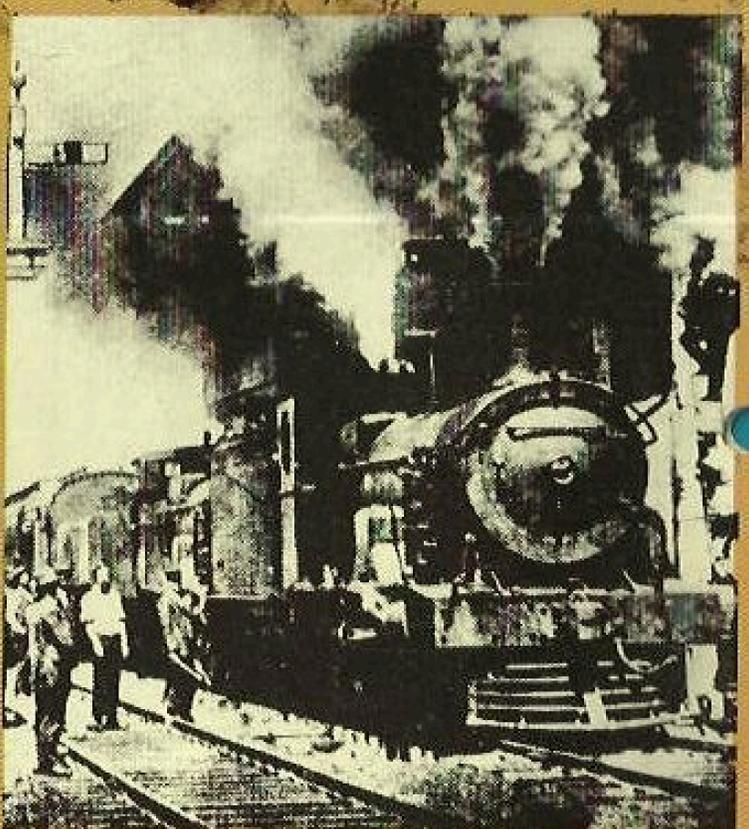
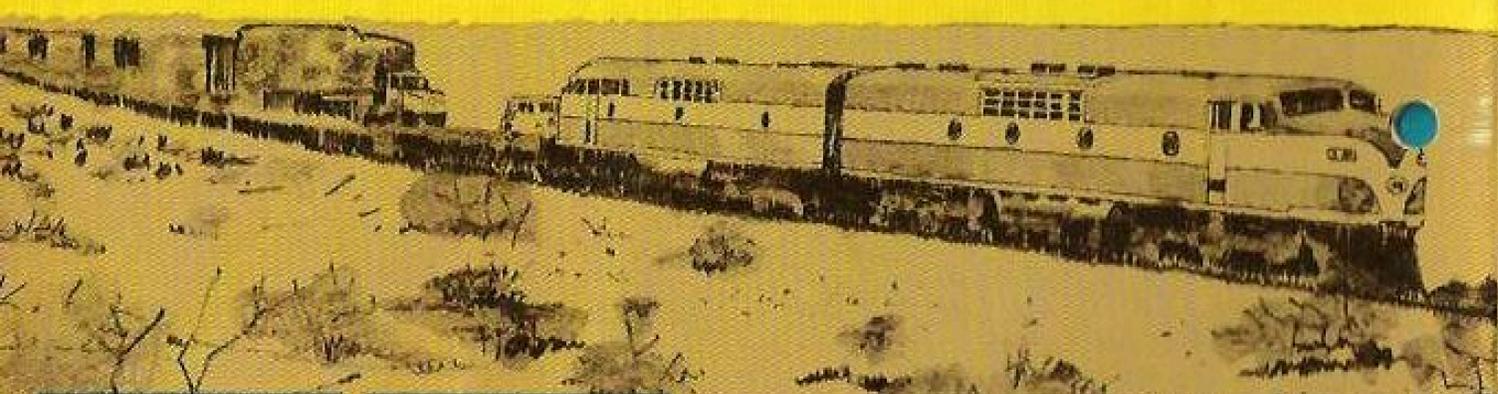


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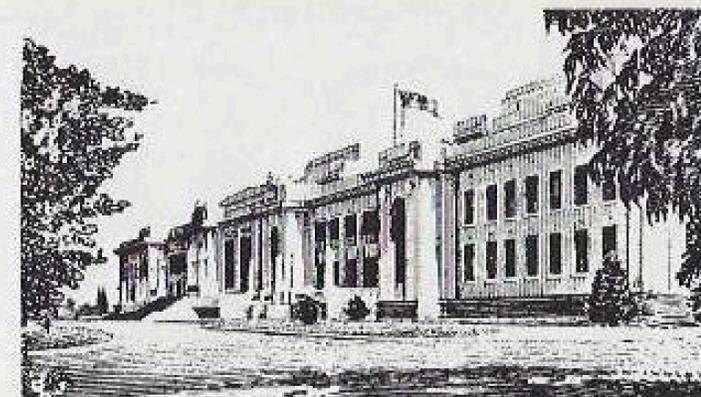
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PRIME MINISTERS SERIES STAMPS

Four further stamps of the Prime Ministers series, in booklet form, were issued on 8th March, 1972; the subjects are Andrew Fisher, Joseph Cook, W. M. Hughes and S. M. Bruce. In the \$1.40 booklet for post office counter sale there are twenty 7c stamps, in the same size and format as those of earlier booklets in this and the Famous Australians series. Each booklet is comprised of four panes each of five stamps plus a "title tab". Each stamp measures 20.25 mm x 24.05 mm, and is partially imperforate.

The portraits were specially prepared for the Australian Post Office by Mr. John Santry, of Sydney, and the stamps were engraved and recess-printed at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, on unwatermarked paper incorporating helecron. The Fisher and Hughes stamps are in blue, and the other two are in red, and all are on an overall background off-white tint printed by lithography.

Two types of 70c booklets each containing ten stamps (one pane of Fisher plus one of Hughes, and one of Cook plus one of Bruce) are being produced for sale through vending machines. The covers of all three types of booklet have the same design; the \$1.40 cover is mainly blue, and the two smaller booklets have green covers (containing the blue stamps) and purple covers (with red stamps) respectively.

The first day cover for the issue was designed by Mr. Ray Honisett, and featured an impression of the Australian Coat of Arms.

Federation – the Formative Decades

Of Australia's first eight Prime Ministers, all except the last – Bruce – came to the national parliament via colonial legislatures. The period from the 1890s until the end of the Bruce government in 1929 saw great changes; Australia became one nation in lieu of six separate colonies, the still-new federal spirit had to be fostered carefully and many new departments needed to be built up, and the great strains of a world war and technological development had to be borne and overcome. Within the space available here, it is perhaps unnecessary to look at the political crises of the times, but rather at the lasting achievements and the men who headed the national government during the period.

Sir Edmund Barton, first Prime Minister of

Australia, was born in Sydney in 1849, and practiced law after graduation. He entered the N.S.W. parliament in 1879, and represented that Colony at the Federal Convention held in 1891. He became the leader of the Federal Movement, and campaigned strongly for this cause during the next few years. He assisted in drafting the Bill which was eventually sent to London for approval, and then led a delegation which went to Westminster to support the proposed Constitution, and eventually saw it passed by the Houses of Commons and Lords. After he returned to Australia, he was commissioned to form a ministry, and became the first Prime Minister of the new nation at the beginning of 1901.

In 1903 Barton resigned, and became a judge of the High Court for the next 17 years, dying in 1920.

Alfred Deakin, second Prime Minister, was born in Melbourne in 1856. Like Barton, he did a law course, but was also a journalist in the 1870s. He entered politics in 1879, and eventually became Minister for Water Supply in the Victorian government. In 1884 he went to America to study irrigation, and in California met the Chaffey brothers and induced them to come to Australia. From this grew the irrigation settlement at Mildura and other similar schemes along the Murray River.

Deakin took an active part in the Federal movement in his home Colony, and thus became a friend of Barton, serving as Attorney-General in his ministry. In the first few years of Federation, Deakin worked on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States, on immigration, the creation of an Australian Navy, and a Federal arbitration system, although in the fluctuating fortunes of office which ensued, some of these plans were implemented by others. Deakin became Prime Minister on Barton's retirement, and held the office 1903-04, 1905-08, and 1909-10. He died in Melbourne in 1919.

John Christian Watson, first Labour Prime Minister, followed the end of Deakin's first term in 1904. Watson was born in Valparaiso, Chile, in 1867, and was educated in New Zealand. He reached Australia in the 1880s, worked as a printer in Sydney, and entered the Colony's legislature in 1894. In the Commonwealth parliament he was chosen as Labour leader in the House. His 1904 ministry was outnumbered, and lasted only four months. He left politics in 1916, and died in 1941.

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Above: Cover of one of the 70c booklets



Right: Pane of 7c Hughes stamps (slightly enlarged).

Sir George Houston Reid was Prime Minister from 1904 to 1905. He was born in Scotland in 1845. His family migrated to Melbourne in 1852 and he was educated there, later studying law in Sydney. He was elected to the N.S.W. Legislative Assembly in 1880, and was there concerned with acts for breaking up large land holdings not being used, and with the introduction of high schools and technical schools.

In the Federal Parliament the party strife of the first few years brought him to the Prime Ministership in 1904-05. He became the first Australian High Commissioner in London in 1910, and died there in 1918.

Andrew Fisher was also born in Scotland, in 1862, and worked there and in Queensland as a coalminer. He entered the Queensland Legislative Assembly in 1893, and Federal Parliament in 1901. In Watson's government Fisher was Minister for Trade and Customs, and he was elected leader of the Labour party when Watson resigned because of failing health. Fisher became Prime Minister and Treasurer in 1908. During the next few years, under Fisher, much important legislation went through: the Commonwealth Bank was formed, compulsory military training was introduced, the transcontinental railway was begun, maternity allowances were paid, and jurisdiction over the

Northern Territory was transferred to the Commonwealth from South Australia. With several breaks, Fisher was Prime Minister from 1908 to 1915. He was High Commissioner in London from 1916 to 1921, and died in 1928.

Sir Joseph Cook was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1860, and like Fisher began as a coalminer. He came to Australia in 1885, and worked here as a miner also, entering politics in 1891. Under George Reid, then Premier of N.S.W., he was that Colony's Postmaster-General.

In the Federal Parliament he was Reid's deputy leader, and took over leadership when Reid resigned in 1908. As Minister for Defence in a coalition with Deakin, Cook helped establish the Australian navy, and was instrumental in bringing Lord Kitchener here to advise on military training.

Cook was Prime Minister in 1913-14, Minister for the Navy under Hughes in 1917, one of the Australian representatives of the Versailles Peace Conference, and High Commissioner in London 1921-27. He died in 1947.

William Morris Hughes was perhaps the most colourful of Australia's leaders, and stories about him are many. Australian troops affectionately called him "the little Digger" or "Billy".

He was born in London in 1864, of Welsh parents, and migrated to Queensland in 1884. A

variety of jobs followed – boundary rider, drover, seaman, cook, stage walk-on parts and umbrella-mending, combined with organising for the Australian Workers' Union. In his late thirties Hughes studied law and was admitted to the Bar in 1903.

He entered the N.S.W. Parliament in 1894, and Federal Parliament in 1901. He had an unbroken term of 51 years as a Federal member, representing several electorates and four different political parties at various times.

In Fisher's three Labour governments Hughes was Attorney-General, and became Prime Minister in 1915 on Fisher's retirement. He led Australia for the remainder of the war and for three years afterwards – a total of 2,662 consecutive days which was not surpassed by another Prime Minister for 30 years.

During his war-time visits to Britain and the battlefields Hughes was warmly received for the fervour of his patriotic speeches, although he clashed with the Allied high command because of his concern for the welfare of battle-weary Australian troops on the Western Front. Perhaps Hughes' greatest moments were at the Versailles Peace Conference, where he was liked by Clemenceau of France, and clashed with President Wilson of the U.S.A. He secured for Australia a mandate over the former German colony of New Guinea,

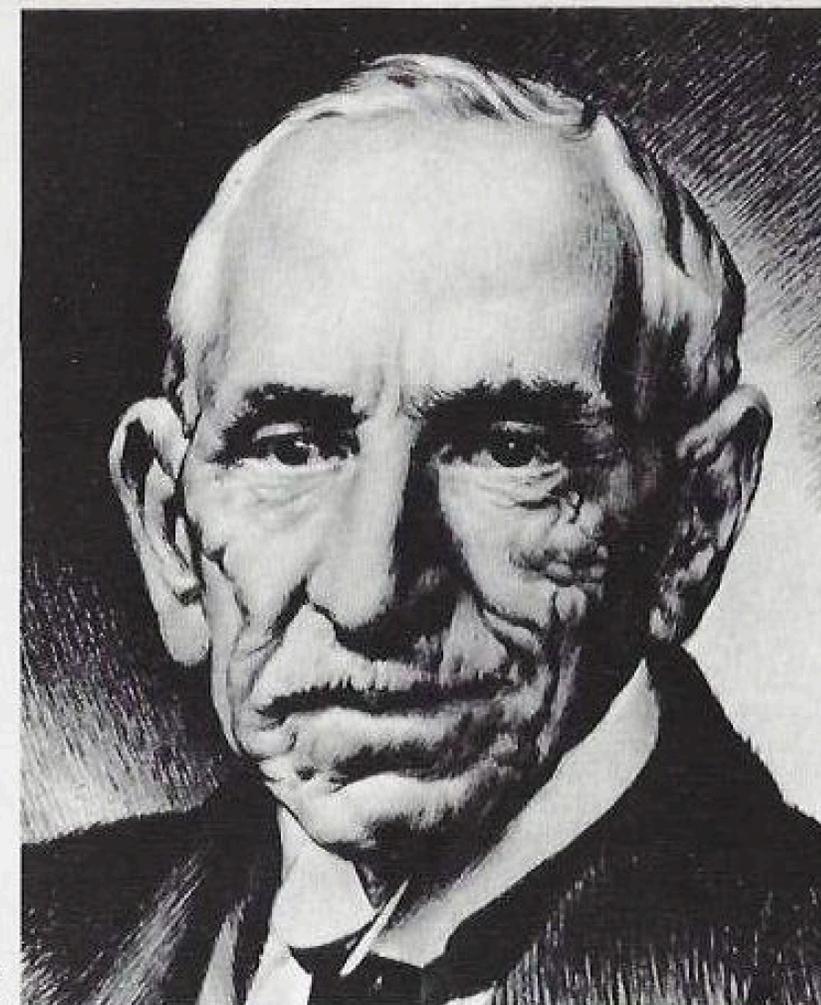
and purchased several ships which became the nucleus of the Commonwealth-owned National Line.

His talks in London with Australian airmen anxious to return quickly to Australia led to the England-Australia air race won by Ross and Keith Smith, and featured on three stamps in 1969.

Hughes resigned in 1923; he was a back bencher for a time, but in the 1930s again held high posts – delegate to the League of Nations, Minister for Repatriation and Health, and Attorney-General. During World War II he was a member of the Advisory War Council. He died in Sydney in 1952.

He was succeeded in 1923 as Prime Minister by Stanley Melbourne Bruce, who at the age of 39 was the youngest Prime Minister ever to hold office in Australia. His government was the first to sit in Canberra (until the national capital was completed, Federal Parliament met in Melbourne). He initiated the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, and the Federal Loan Council. He also had the unfortunate distinction of being the only Prime Minister to lose his own seat at an election. As Viscount Bruce of Melbourne, he was made a peer in 1947 – the first Australian to gain this honour.

Bruce was born in Melbourne in 1883, and was educated there and at Cambridge, where he read



Mr. Santry's portrait, from which the Hughes stamp was engraved.

law. He was awarded the Military Cross and Croix de Guerre and Palm in the 1914-18 war, and was invalided home in 1917. He won a seat in Parliament in 1918, and served as Treasurer in Hughes' government, before becoming national leader himself in 1923. The Bruce Ministry lost office to Labour in 1929.

Bruce was later High Commissioner in London, President of the League of Nations Council, Chairman of the United Nations World Food Council and Chairman of the British Finance Corporation for Industry. During World War II he was a member of the British War Cabinet and of the Pacific War Council. He died in Britain in 1967.

The cover of this issue of the Bulletin presents a few facets of the achievements of Australia's first 30 years of Federation - H.M.A.S. "Australia", which served with distinction in 1914-18; the Smith Brothers' Vickers Vimy photographed in the Northern Territory in 1919; the building of the transcontinental railway, for which Andrew Fisher turned the first sod at Kalgoorlie in 1907; and the pastoral and agricultural industries whose problems were the concern of the C.S.I.R.O. in its early years.

AUSTRALIAN STAMP PROGRAMME, 1972

Primary industries, pioneer life and the Olympic Games are among subjects to be featured on stamps in 1972, the Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, has announced.

Sir Alan said that the beef, rice, fruit and fishing industries will be shown on four stamps of the Primary Industry series, which began in 1969 with stamps for wool, wheat, sugar and timber.

The Pioneer series will feature important aspects of life in the pioneering agricultural communities of Australia a century ago.

The Olympic Games stamps will commemorate Australian participation in the 1972 Games, to be held in Munich in August and September this year.

Other stamps in the 1972 programme, previously announced, are:

Four further issues in the Prime Ministers series;

A stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Country Women's Association, 18th April;

Three stamps featuring rehabilitation of disabled people, to coincide with the Twelfth World Congress on Rehabilitation, August-September;

A stamp commemorating the centenary of the Overland Telegraph Line, August;

A stamp commemorating the 10th International Congress of Accountants, October;

Australian Antarctic Territory stamps for the 200th anniversary of Cook's circumnavigation of the Antarctic continent;

1972 Christmas issue.

Specific details and dates of issue will be announced as production of the various stamps is advanced.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA ISSUES

In addition to its South Pacific Commission stamps, Papua New Guinea issued two 7c stamps on 26th January, 1972. These stamps were also in a set-tenant arrangement of alternate rows in a sheet of 50 stamps. The issue was designed to draw attention to the constitutional development which will follow in the wake of the House of Assembly elections in Papua New Guinea in 1972.

In 1969 a Select Committee on Constitutional Development was appointed by resolution of the Papua New Guinea House of Assembly. Its terms of reference were to consider ways and means of preparing and presenting, and to draft for the consideration of the House of Assembly, a set of constitutional proposals to serve as a guide for future constitutional development in the Territory.

The Constitutional Development stamps were designed by Mr. Richard Bates and were printed in multicolour photogravure by Courvoisier S.A. One 7c stamp shows the new Papua New Guinea flag developed from the design submitted by Miss Susan Kanike. The adoption of this flag was one of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Constitutional Development. A portion of the Australian flag is also shown on the stamp. The other stamp portrays the stylized Bird of Paradise emblem of Papua New Guinea and part of the Australian Coat of Arms. Each stamp measures 33.6 mm x 26 mm.

Flora and Fauna Conservation - Reptiles

On 17th March, 1972, Papua New Guinea issued 7c, 14c, 21c and 30c stamps featuring reptiles of the area. These stamps were also designed by Mr. Bates and printed in photogravure by Courvoisier. Stamp sizes are 36 mm x 26 mm and sheet content is 50. As usual, Australian clients



may obtain these stamps (and other non-Australian issues described on other pages) from Philatelic Sales Centres of the Australian Post Office; clients outside Australia should write to the country concerned. The Reptiles series will be available until 17th June, 1972. The subjects are described below.

7c *Carettochelys insculpta*

Commonly called the Fly River Turtle, this reptile lives in fresh water as well as estuarine waters, unlike most turtles which are confined to the sea. A fully grown specimen may measure up to 70 centimetres in length. Formerly thought to be confined to some Papuan rivers, specimens have recently been found in the Daly River in the Northern Territory of Australia.

14c *Goniocephalus godeffroyi*

This reptile, Goddefroy's Rain Forest Dragon, is a shy diurnal lizard which lives in the forests of Papua, feeding on insects, snails, small birds, mammals, frogs, and flowers and fleshy leaves. It grows to about 100 centimetres; almost three-quarters of this is tail.

21c *Chondropython viridis*

Known as the Green Python, this reptile grows to about 150 centimetres. Mainly nocturnal, it is harmless to man. It rests, tightly looped, in trees in daylight. At night, it hunts birds and small animals. Its powerful coils quickly asphyxiate the prey.

30c *Varanus salvadori*

This is the world's longest lizard - Salvador's Monitor. Young specimens measuring nearly three metres have been captured, and patrol officers have recorded examples of over four metres. Indonesia's Komodo Dragon, although heavier, does not attain the length of Salvador's Monitor.

STAMP DESIGN COMPETITIONS

The design competitions conducted by the Australian Post Office in 1970 and 1971 for Christmas stamps bring to mind other occasions when members of the public have been invited to submit designs and ideas for stamps. The practice was introduced in Australia in the 19th century, and the 1887 competition resulted in the issue of the world's first commemorative stamps. At that time, when the Colony of New South Wales was preparing to celebrate the centenary of its foundation by Governor Phillip in 1788, the Philatelic Society of Australia suggested to the N.S.W. Premier, Sir Henry Parkes, that a new series of postage stamps might be issued for the occasion. The proposal was adopted by the Government, and the following notice authorised by the Colony's Postmaster-General, Charles J. Roberts, appeared in the Government Gazette:

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
SYDNEY, 15 November, 1887.

Designs for New Postage Stamps.

Designs will be received at this office until noon on Tuesday, the 6th December, for eight new Postage Stamps, intended to be commemorative of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the foundation of the Colony.

The designs must be drawn in black and white to a scale four times the size of the present penny postage stamp. A distinct design will be required for each of the following denominations, viz.:-

One Penny.	Eight-pence.
Two-pence.	One Shilling.
Four-pence.	Five Shillings.
Sixpence.	Twenty Shillings.

The value of each stamp must be expressed in words, and the words 'New South Wales Postage' and 'One Hundred Years' to be common to all.

Tenderers may submit designs for one or the whole.

A premium of £10 10s. will be given for the best design for each denomination and £3 3s. for the second best.

The designs for which premiums are given to become the property of the Government; those that have not obtained prizes will be returned to the owners.

The designs are to be addressed to *The Secretary, General Post Office, Sydney*, from whom any further information can be obtained.

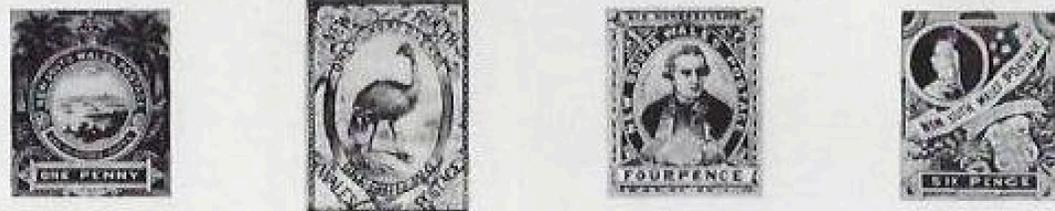
Each design to be marked on the right-hand lower corner with some distinctive sign or motto, and the name and address of the Tenderer enclosed in a sealed cover marked with the same sign or motto, to accompany the design, which cover will not be opened until the selections have been made.

About 250 competitors submitted a total of 956 designs, of which it is recorded that the great majority were "very crude" (an unfortunate feature often associated with open competitions). However, a number were well designed and executed. The Cabinet, and in particular the Postmaster-General, made final selections, and the first prizes

PRIZE DESIGNS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES CENTENARY POSTAGE STAMPS.

EXHIBITED BY THE HONORABLE CHARLES J. ROBERTS, CMG, MP,
Postmaster-General of New South Wales.

FIRST PRIZES.



of ten guineas and the second prizes of three guineas were awarded in a list gazetted on 6th January, 1888. The most successful entrant was M. Tannenberg, who scored three first prizes, for the 1d, 6d and 8d stamps, and four seconds, for the 2d, 4d, 1/- and 5/- stamps. Charles Turner was awarded first for the 1/- and 5/- designs, and second for the 8d and 20/- designs. Miss Devine won a first prize for her 2d design, and second prizes for her 1d and 6d designs. Henry Barraclough won first prize for the 4d stamp, and Mrs. F. W. Stoddard for the 20/- stamp.

The Postal Department had reserved the right to use the designs in any way which might be found expedient – to substitute denominations, or to modify designs – and awarding of prizes did not necessarily mean that the prize-winning design would be adopted. As events turned out, no second-prize designs were used, and there were some variations amongst the first-prize designs.

The actual anniversary of the Colony's foundation occurred on 26th January, 1888, but none of the new stamps was issued by that date; they appeared at intervals from April 1888 until March 1889. The first to be issued was the 20/- stamp, on 27th April, 1888, which followed Mrs. Stoddard's design closely. All the stamps of the Centennial series were produced in the N.S.W. Government Printing Office, under the supervision of Charles Potter, Government Printer and Inspector of Stamps. The steel dies were engraved by William Bell and the electro-plates were produced in the Government Printing Office.

The relevant gazette notice is reproduced. Although it notifies the date of issue as 1st May, the stamp appeared on 27th April, as noted above. There were variations between actual issue date and gazetted date for most values of the series.

FIRST PRIZE.



"CHI LA DURA LA VINCE."
MAY 1888.



GENERAL POST OFFICE,
SYDNEY,

26 April, 1888.

Centenary of the Colony – New Issue of Postage Stamps.

It is notified that, on and after the 1st May next, a new Postage Stamp described below, of the value of Twenty Shillings, will be issued in substitution for the one now current. Until, however, the supply of the present Twenty Shilling Stamp becomes exhausted such stamp may be used.

DESCRIPTION OF NEW TWENTY SHILLING STAMP.

The stamp is printed in light blue. It represents the Governors of New South Wales in the respective years 1788 and 1888, viz.:— Captain Phillip and Lord Carrington. They appear as if on two coins, one partially hidden behind the other. The coin in the front bears the portrait of Lord Carrington; it is clearly and strongly defined, and near its edge are printed the words Twenty Shillings (the value of the stamp) and the figures 1888. The second coin bears the portrait of Captain Phillip and the figures 1788; it is smaller than the other, as if far off, and is surrounded by clouds to convey the idea of distance and space of time. Floating between the coins, amongst the clouds, is a fluttering banner with the words "One Hundred Years." The spaces surrounding the coins are filled in with the Australian ferns and Christmas Bells (*blandfordia nobilis*), the latter being appropriately suggestive of ringing in the glad Centennial time.

Until special paper can be procured, the stamp will be printed on that now used for the present Five Shilling Stamp.

The 1d stamp, adopted from the Tannenberg design, came next, on 9th July, 1888. The gazette notice described the motif as a view of Sydney from Mossman's Bay – the designer perhaps had in mind the first New South Wales stamp, the 1d

"Sydney View" of 1850 – and the colour as violet lake.

The 2d stamp was issued on 30th August, 1888. Miss Devine's prize design, showing a portrait of the Governor, Lord Carrington, was not adopted, and the issued stamp, also from a Devine design, showed an emu with wattle, lilly-pilly and native fuchsia flowers, in blue.

The 4d brown value, issued on 10th October, 1888, was adopted from the prize entry, and showed a portrait of Captain Cook. The 6d stamp, issued in rosine colour on 26th November, was also adopted from the competition winner of that value, and showed Queen Victoria with wattle, waratah and other flora.

The 8d stamp, in magenta, was issued on 21st January, 1889, varied from the competition winner for that denomination, and showed a lyrebird, from another design by Miss Devine. The 1/- stamp, in purple-brown and issued on 28th February, 1889, also departed from the winning entry, to show a kangaroo with floral surround. This was adapted from a photograph of the animal.

Last to be issued was the 5/- violet, adopted from the competition; it showed a map of Australia, the N.S.W. shield and the Imperial shield, and went on sale on 13th March, 1889.

Another of Miss Devine's designs, for which she won second prize in the 6d category, represented an allegorical figure of Australia. Although not included in the Centennial series of stamps, it was subsequently used for a 2½d blue stamp issued on 22nd December, 1900. The design was modified slightly, and showed the female figure representing Australia in a slightly more frontal position, and further to the left within the central vignette.

The Centennial series continued on issue during the last decade of the colonial period. With Federation in 1901, the need arose for a uniform series of Commonwealth stamps, leading to public competition again. Further instalments of this article will deal with 20th century design competitions. □



the location of the Commission's headquarters. Harrison and Sons Ltd., of London, printed the stamp in multicolour photogravure. Sheet content is 50 stamps and stamp size is 38 mm x 25 mm.

Republic of Nauru

The Republic of Nauru issued a 25c value on 7th February, 1972, in honour of the South Pacific Commission. Its stamp design depicted the island of Nauru surrounded by a symbolic ring of eight six-pointed gold stars – the six points represent the original six member countries and the eight gold stars signify the number of independent States or member countries now in the South Pacific Commission.

The stamp was printed on unwatermarked paper by Format International Security Printers Ltd., of London, using the four colour litho process. The dimensions of the Nauru stamp are 25.5 mm x 38.5 mm. Perforation is 14½. Sheet content is 50 stamps.

This was the first stamp issued by the Republic of Nauru since the issue of the 15c National Flag on 31st January, 1969, to mark the first anniversary of independence of this central Pacific island.

Nauru has a local delivery service of mail and regular connections by sea and air with the outside world. Its international commercial correspondence is extensive, hence the choice of a 25c denomination (the overseas airmail rate) for this issue.

Western Samoa

Four stamps were issued on 17th March, 1972, by Western Samoa for this occasion. The denominations were 3 sene, 7 sene, 8 sene and 10 sene.

The flags of the eight member nations are shown circling a stylised coconut palm on the 3 sene stamp. The coconut palm forms part of the South Pacific Commission emblem and it is pictured on its flag. The flags on the 3 sene stamp are arranged in alphabetical order of countries, starting with the Australian flag at the bottom left of the design and reading clockwise finishing with the Western Samoan flag on the right of the coconut palm.

The 7 sene features a portrait of the late Afoafouvale Misimoa, who was Secretary-General

of the South Pacific Commission from 1970 until his death in February, 1971, at Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands. He was born in Apia, Western Samoa, and had the distinction of being the first Pacific islander to hold the post of Secretary-General.

The South Pacific Commission headquarters building is pictured on the 8 sene stamp. During World War II, the building was the headquarters of the United States Pacific Command. It is located at Anse Vata, 3½ miles from Noumea. Again, the eight flags of the member nations are shown, this time from the flagpoles of the headquarters building.

A map and two flags form the design of the 10 sene value. The map shows the area serviced by the South Pacific Commission and the flags are those of Western Samoa and the South Pacific Commission.

The stamps were printed by the House of Questa, England, using the lithographic process. The designer was Mr. Victor Whiteley. Each stamp measures 48.26 mm x 31.75 mm and the sheet content is 25 stamps.

Collectors resident in Australia may obtain the stamps issued for the 25th anniversary of the South Pacific Commission described on these pages from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office. Overseas collectors should forward their orders direct to the country concerned.

The South Pacific Commission

The South Pacific Commission is a consultative and advisory body which was set up in Canberra on 6th February, 1947, by the six Governments then responsible for the administration of island territories in the South Pacific region. These were Australia, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Participation by the Netherlands Government ceased at the end of 1962. The independent State of Western Samoa was admitted as a participating Government in October, 1964, and the Republic of Nauru was admitted in July, 1969. Fiji became a member in 1971.

Nearly four million people live within the Commission's area which extends over a region of

approximately 12 million square miles. Included are the following territories and countries: American Samoa, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony, Guam, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Niue Island, Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Island, the Territory of Papua New Guinea, Tokelau Islands, Tonga, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Wallis and Futuna Islands and Western Samoa. The principal inhabitants of this region are Melanesian, Micronesian and Polynesian people.

The Commission's purpose is to advise the participating Governments on ways of improving the well-being of the people of the Pacific Island territories. The Commission is concerned with health, economic, and social matters. Its headquarters are at Anse Vata, Noumea, New Caledonia, where the Chief Officer of the Commission, the Secretary-General, is located.

The other principal officers are the Programme Directors (Health, Social, Economic) who, with the Secretary-General, form the Secretariat's Programme Research and Evaluation Council. The Commission has a staff of more than 80, and includes a Publications Bureau in Sydney and a Community Education Training Centre near Suva, Fiji.

The Commission is also responsible for the management of the Rhinoceros Beetle Project in Apia, Western Samoa, and is the co-operating agency in the South Pacific Islands Fisheries Development Agency which also has its headquarters in Noumea. Both of these projects receive substantial financial assistance from the UNDP.

The South Pacific Conference has met annually since 1967 to debate subjects of importance to the region, including the Commission's work programme and budget. The Conference today has become the most important gathering in the region, bringing together many of the leaders of the South Pacific Islands, the Senior Commissioners representing the participating Governments, the principal officers of the Commission's Secretariat and numerous observers from organizations such as the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Also represented are universities, foundations and institutions, etc., which are concerned in the development of the region. Immediately following the Conference each year is the session of the participating governments of the Commission.

The Commission carries out projects of investigation; promotes and conducts technical meetings and training courses; provides advice on a wide variety of subjects; initiates and assists research of practical significance to the region; stimulates contacts and exchange of experience between people of the region; provides clearing-house services; produces a range of very successful school books and teachers' manuals; and distributes a series of technical publications dealing with subjects of interest to the Pacific Islands. □

STAMPS FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

Papua New Guinea, Norfolk Island, the Republic of Nauru and Western Samoa were amongst some 12 countries and territories which issued stamps to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the South Pacific Commission.

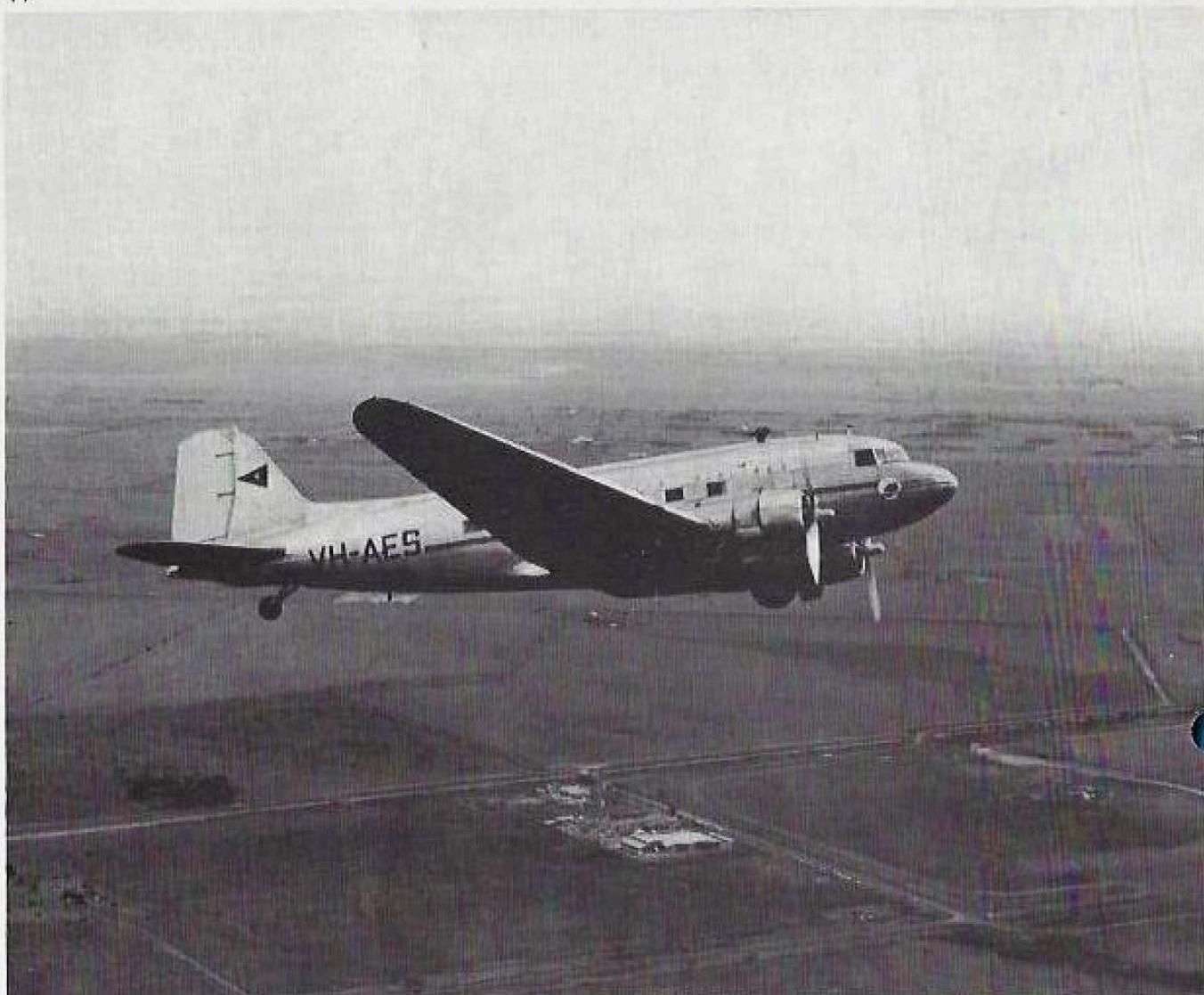
Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea's issue consisted of two 15c stamps printed in a se-tenant arrangement of alternate rows. These stamps were issued on 26th January, 1972, in sheets of 50 stamps (25 of each design). One 15c stamp shows a map of Papua New Guinea and the eight stars and palm tree emblem of the South Pacific Commission. The flag of the South Pacific Commission is pictured on the other stamp. Both stamps were designed by Mr. Richard Bates of Carlingford, N.S.W. The stamp printer was Courvoisier S.A. of Switzerland, using the multicolour photogravure process. Each stamp measures 33.6 mm x 26 mm.

Two South Pacific Commission conferences have been held in Papua New Guinea, the first in 1959 at Rabaul and the other in 1965 at Lae.

Norfolk Island

The 7c commemorative stamp issued by Norfolk Island on Monday, 7th February, 1972, the nearest practicable issue date to the actual anniversary, features a map of the Pacific region showing the area embraced by the South Pacific Commission and the blue, white and gold flag of the Commission. In the design, the flagpole has its base in Noumea,



TAA's HAWDON OVER LAVERTON

TAA's DC3 Hawdon is shown shortly after take off from Laverton RAAF Base near Melbourne on September 9, 1971, on its way to Sydney on the airline's 25th Anniversary flight. The first TAA service, which also left from Laverton, carried 21 people to Sydney on September 9, 1946. Thirteen of the passengers from the first flight were among the passengers on the Anniversary flight. The DC3 Hawdon operated both flights.

CIVIL AVIATION ANNIVERSARIES

T.A.A.'s 25th Anniversary

A total of 11,302 covers was carried on Trans-Australia Airlines' re-enactment flight on 9th September, 1971, the company's 25th anniversary. No registered articles were carried on the flight.

Not only did the anniversary flight retrace the inaugural route of 9th September, 1946, from the Royal Australian Air Force base at Laverton, Victoria, to the Kingsford Smith Airport, Sydney, but T.A.A. was able to operate the Douglas DC3 aircraft of the original flight for the re-enactment.

This aeroplane is named "Hawdon" after Joseph Hawdon (1813-71), a pioneer who was in the first party to drive cattle overland from Sydney to Melbourne in 1837 and who subsequently became the first official mail contractor between Melbourne and Yass.

The Douglas DC3 was restored to its 1946 colour scheme for the re-enactment flight and its original registration, VH-AES, was made available, for the day, by its present holder, Adelaide Engineering Services.

"Hawdon" began its service in 1942 as a C47 Dakota of the United States Army Air Force. It was then named "Shanghai Lil". It joined T.A.A. on 5th August, 1946, and was retired from service in June 1970 after flying more than seven million miles, the equivalent of 14 return trips to the moon. Apart from a few examples still operating in Papua New Guinea, "Hawdon" was the last of T.A.A.'s DC3 fleet. It is now used only for historical purposes.

In 1946 when T.A.A. began operations, the airline had 12 second-hand Douglas DC3 aircraft. These were supplemented over the next two years by four multi-engined Douglas DC4's and five



Convair 240's, the first pressurised airliner to come to Australia. Before its present fleet standardisation scheme was introduced, T.A.A. had 16 different aeroplane types using 15 different types of engines. Today the T.A.A. fleet consists of six Boeing 727's, 11 Douglas DC9's, 18 Fokker Friendships and 11 De Havilland Twin Otters.

In the financial year 1970/71 T.A.A. became the first Australian airline to carry more than three million passengers. Including charter flights its passengers during the year totalled 3,008,845. On scheduled services it flew 1,534 million passenger miles carrying 2,984,561 passengers.

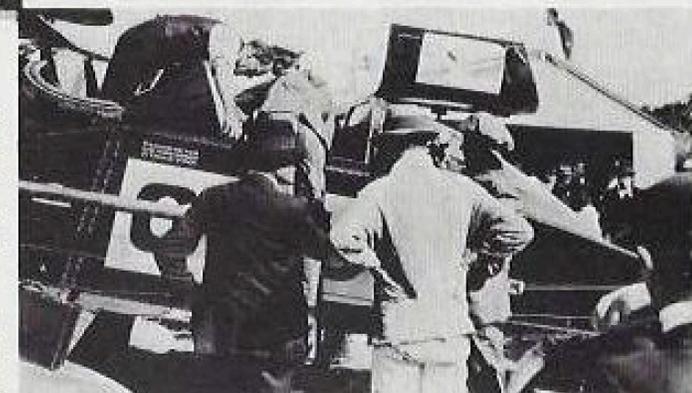
T.A.A. has a network of 52,833 unduplicated route miles which is believed to be the biggest purely-domestic airline network operated by the one carrier in the world.

The special postmarker used on covers carried on the flight was illustrated in the December Bulletin. The accompanying photograph shows the DC3 "Hawdon" shortly after take-off on the anniversary flight. Thirteen of the passengers from the 1946 flight were on board for the 25th anniversary.

Qantas 50th Anniversary Stamps

Qantas' first aircraft, an Avro 504, is shown on the two photographs reproduced from the company's historical collection, and used as bases for the 1970 stamps for the airline's 50th anniversary. The rear view picture, incorporated in the 30c stamp design, was taken at Winton, Qld., on 15th March, 1921. Only three of the people shown can be identified; a passenger, J. K. Cudmore, is standing in the rear cockpit; engineer Arthur Baird (wearing a flying helmet) stands near the wing; and pilot Paul McGinness is just visible in the front cockpit. Mr. Cudmore made his first flight, from Longreach to Winton, as an air taxi passenger on this occasion, when heavy rain had turned the roads to impassable mud.

The front view, taken at Longreach in mid-1922, was part of the design of the 6c stamp. Pilot Paul McGinness is on the left and the other man is a Mr. Williams, an aerodrome inspector of the Civil Aviation branch of the Commonwealth Defence



Department. The two were about to depart on a survey of the Charleville-Cloncurry air mail route, which was due to be opened by Q.A.N.T.A.S. later that year.

50th Anniversary of First Regular Airmail

The fourth photograph shows mail being loaded on 4th December, 1921, in preparation for the inaugural flight of the first regular airmail service in Australia. The machine, a Bristol Tourer, is shown also in the postmarker used at Geraldton, W.A., on 5th December, 1971, in connection with the re-enactment flight commemorating the 50th anniversary of the occasion. The airliner in the other circle is a Fokker F.28, which MacRobertson Miller Airline Services has recently introduced in the same area, and which was used for the anniversary flight. The original service, between Geraldton and Derby, was commenced by West Australian Airways, whose founder, Sir Norman Brearley, travelled on the re-enactment aircraft and handed

the philatelic mail to the postmaster at Derby. A total of 5,449 articles including 33 registered were postmarked at Geraldton and later backstamped at Derby. Speaking at a ceremony at Geraldton, during which a plaque was unveiled, Sir Norman recalled the hardships and efforts involved in running a pioneer outback air service 50 years ago.

In March, 1921, Australia's first legislation controlling air activities — the Air Navigation Act — came into force, and the Government called for tenders for four air routes. The first tender to be accepted by the newly-formed Civil Aviation Department was that of Major Norman Brearley, D.S.O., M.C., A.F.C., for a 1,200-mile route from Geraldton northward to Derby.

The service began on 5th December, 1921 — marred, unfortunately, by a fatal crash on the first flight. Nevertheless, the company continued, and in its first year flew more than 100,000 miles, with a 97 per cent successful adherence to time-table. Mail contracts were renewed, and the service was extended south to Perth, in 1924.

By 1926, West Australian Airways was building aircraft in its own workshops, and seeking a concession from the Dutch East Indies Government for an extension to Java, which did not eventuate. In June 1929, the company began to operate on the transcontinental route, from Perth to Adelaide, using three-engined D.H.66 airliners, reducing by more than two days the transit times for surface mail over the same distance. An aircraft of this type was shown on the 3d Air Mail Service stamp issued on 20th May, 1929, in honour of the new service.

In the 1930s, the first of the new generation of American airliners appeared: the all-metal, low-wing, retractable undercarriage monoplanes capable of 200 m.p.h. speeds, and it became obvious that to replace its fleet of biplanes with the new aircraft would call for a re-organisation of W.A. Airways' finances. Coincidentally, a new company, Adelaide Airways Ltd., offered to purchase the W.A. company, and this offer was accepted, thus ending the pioneer airline under its original name. In later mergers and purchases, the Adelaide airline became part of Australian National Airways, which in turn became part of Ansett-A.N.A.

Sir Norman Brearley was born in Geelong, Vic., in 1890, and joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1915, flying on the Western Front. His commercial aviation career began after the war, when he returned to Australia. He was knighted in 1970, in recognition of his services to aviation.

C.W.A. STAMP

When copy for this Bulletin was closed off early in February, it was expected that the stamp to mark the 50th anniversary of the Country Women's Association would be issued on 18th April, 1972. Full details will be released via Stamp Preview.

SAFEGUARDING YOUR STAMP COLLECTION

— Condensed from a talk given at the Victorian Philatelic Association's 18th Annual Congress by Detective Sergeant Peter B. Wilson, Crime Prevention Bureau, Victoria Police.

The protection of any goods or property is the direct responsibility of the owner; police are here to assist, but not to take this function from you. Owners must take all initial steps to safeguard what is theirs, and must consider the relationship between the value of the goods to be protected and the cost of protection.

There are two main types of criminal to consider — the professional who steals for profit, and thus must have a market; and the amateur who steals when opportunity offers, and therefore needs opportunity.

To the professional, stealing is a business with risk calculated against profit; if the risk element is increased to a great degree, then the whole venture is no longer acceptable. Having stolen the goods, the thief must find a market. In your particular field the market is limited, and stolen stamps would go either to collectors or dealers. In this area you can assist police and fellow collectors — contact police immediately if you hear of deals in stolen stamps, if you are approached to buy stamps at ridiculously low prices. If police get information often enough to apprehend offenders, this in itself is a deterrent — the risk factor is being weighted against future successful thefts.

The amateur thief perhaps knows little of philately; he might be a young offender who breaks into your home in the holiday season seeking cash. If your collection is lying around, he may be attracted to it for no particular reason.

While not the complete answer, general security measures will help, and may not involve great expense. A recent survey of house breakings showed that 43 per cent of entries were effected via open or unlocked doors and windows, and a further five per cent via keys left in obvious places such as under the mat or even in the lock! These breakings were thus more or less with the assistance of the householder. Why assist the thief? Have good locks and use them; lock collections away. If your collection is of major value, purchase a safe, or a home security cabinet. As I mentioned, balance the cost of the unit against the value of your collection. Perhaps such units will not give complete protection against a determined thief, but they will make you aware of the need for security, and if you have a safe you will get into the habit of using it. A foremost point in any security system is concealment; if a thief does not find a thing, he does not take it. And if you practice concealment, keep the secret in the smallest possible circle.

Once anything is stolen, recovery hinges on identification of the missing property. With most stolen items there are manufacturers' names, serial numbers, or other identifying marks, but in the



case of stamps this could be a problem. You should remember, when reporting stolen stamps, that the constable may not know much about philately, and can record only what you tell him, as the basis for the reports circulated in an effort to locate the property. In almost all cases of stolen stamps, we have had little to work on; an average report may read "one loose-leaf album containing Great Britain, value \$800" — no mention of details.

If, however, you can tell police that the collection was of U.K. mint stamps, with the high value of such and such a set missing, or that a certain stamp had patchy gum or a corner missing, chances of recovery are improved. If the collection is of used stamps, and you can describe unusual postmarks, or — even better — have photostat copies made of the more valuable stamps, this could be very useful to the police. Photostats usually pick up even faint postmarks.

Of three stamp thefts cleared up recently, one offender fell victim to a purple parcel cancellation; one because part of his theft was a stamp of Great Britain with an Irish triangular obliteration; and the third because his suspicious actions prompted someone to take his car number and pass it to police.

Thus, in two cases the collectors concerned were able to describe their stamps in detail, in the other a member of the public assisted. Co-operation between the police and the public is vital. Police are here to assist you as much as possible, but this can only be done if you help us.

- Keep your stamps in a safe place; keep your records apart from your collection.
- Know your stamps as well as possible.
- Record unusual happenings: strange phone calls, persons calling at your door, car numbers in suspicious circumstances.
- Lock your home when you go out. Let neighbours know if you are going away for any length of time.
- Advise police if you receive a very low offer on stamps which may be stolen.
- Deal with reputable dealers and collectors.

FIVE NEW STAMPS FROM WESTERN SAMOA

Western Samoa issued several new postage stamps on 10th January, 1972: a set of four stamps of 1 sene, 8 sene, 10 sene and 22 sene denominations commemorating the 10th anniversary of independence of the State of Samoa, and a 10 sene stamp honouring the First South Pacific Judicial Conference, which opened in Apia on 10th January, 1972.

The Australian selling price of the 10th Anniversary of Independence stamps is 2c, 10c, 13c and 28c respectively, and the 10 sene Judicial Conference stamp costs 13c.

Designed by Mr. Victor Whiteley, the four 10th Anniversary of Independence stamps were printed in England by the litho process. Sheet content for this set is 25 stamps and each stamp measures 42.58 mm x 28.45 mm. The 1 sene stamp shows Asau Wharf with the "Mini Lagoon", the first overseas ship to berth at the new Savaii deep sea wharf.

Maota Fono, the new parliament building for Western Samoa, is pictured on the 8 sene stamp. The Fono is situated at Mulinu'u Point, a short distance from the Apia administration centre. A feature of the building is the domed roof which has a continuous timber spiral for 75% of the area.

The 10 sene stamp in this set shows Maota o le Alofa, the Mothers' Centre in Apia. The greater

part of this building was constructed by the Samoan women themselves. It is used for committee meetings and incorporates an arcade of offices. There is also a hall where entertainments may be held.

Vailima residence shown on the 22 sene stamp was originally built for Robert Louis Stevenson in the 1890s. It has been the abode of the German governors and the New Zealand High Commissioners, and is now the official residence of the Head of State, His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II. At the time of independence in 1962 there were joint Heads of State. His Highness Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole died on 5th April, 1963. The portraits of both leaders are shown on the stamp.

The 10 sene First South Pacific Judicial Conference stamp was designed by Australian artist Mr. E.W. Roberts, and shows a map of the Samoan islands and a symbol of Justice in the form of a sword and balanced scales. This stamp was printed in photogravure by Helio Courvoisier S.A. of Switzerland in sheets of 100 stamps. Stamp size is 39.2 mm x 28.5 mm.

Mint and postmarked specimens of the stamps are obtainable from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office until 10th July, 1972, by Australian clients. Collectors resident outside Australia should forward orders direct to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Apia, Western Samoa.

NORFOLK ISLAND BIRDS SERIES

The Norfolk Island Birds series postage stamps became available in stamp pack form at Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres in November, 1971.

Priced at \$4, the pack contains the fifteen stamps of the definitive series, ranging in face value from 1c to \$1, mounted in plastic strips. A description of the various birds in the series is printed on the folder of the pack, which was produced by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., London, who also printed the stamps of the series.

All designs in the series have been illustrated previously in the Philatelic Bulletin, and all have been described except the last three stamps issued. These were the 20c, 30c and \$1.

The 20c stamp shows the White-breasted White-eye or "Grinnell" which is somewhat unpopular, as it eats fruit. However, it also feeds on scale and other insects and thus benefits fruit-growers. It has a plaintive cry uttered at short intervals and also a rapid twittering note which is sounded when the birds congregate in flocks.

The Norfolk Island Fantail, shown on the 30c value, is still a common bird of the island. It is an inhabitant of thick bush, and feeds on a wide range of insects.

The \$1 stamp shows the Norfolk Island Kingfisher, known locally as the "Noffka". Still common, it can often be seen on tree stumps or rocks near the water's edge waiting to dive for insects.



FLORAL SERIES COIL STAMPS

The 2c Sturt's Desert Rose and the 7c Sturt's Desert Pea coil stamps were printed by photogravure on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper including heleon. Dimensions of both stamps are 20.25 mm x 24.05 mm and the perforations for both values are ten holes at .40" diameter and six holes at .35" diameter. Four cylinders were used for each stamp. Colours, in order of printing, are: 2c, lemon yellow, magenta, dark green and grey; 7c, buff, olive green, red and black.

It was necessary to make four new cylinders for the re-introduction on 1st October, 1971, of the 5c Golden Wattle coil. As previously, the stamp was printed by photogravure on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper including heleon. Colours are yellow, dark green, brown and grey. The dimensions and perforations of the 5c Golden Wattle are the same as for the 2c and 7c coil stamps.

A quantity of coils containing 500 stamps were manufactured for each of the three values so that supplies of the coil stamps would be available at post offices throughout Australia when the new postal charges were introduced. Normal content of the coils is 1,000 stamps.

Sturt's Desert Rose is a member of the genus *Gossypium*, or Cotton-plant. Most of the 30 or so species of the family are tall herbaceous perennials with large hibiscus-like flowers, and seeds embedded in woolly fibres. The species grown commercially provide most of the world's cotton.

Gossypium sturtianum, Sturt's Desert Rose, extends through the Australian interior from South Australia to Queensland and the Northern Territory, of which it is the official floral emblem. Its flowers are large and showy, ranging in colour from whitish-pink through mauve to bluish-purple. Unlike commercial cotton, its seeds are covered with short hairs.

Sturt's Desert Pea (*Clanthus formosus*) is the floral emblem of South Australia, but extends throughout the arid interior of the continent. The plant sprawls along the ground, with silvery-grey leaves and seed pods reminiscent of vegetable peas and sweet peas, but its flowers are spectacular — up to four inches long, red-orange when young and deep red with a shiny black boss when mature. They cluster in groups at the tops of short vertical stems.



Wattle is the common name of all Australian species of *Acacia*, which is closely related to the tropical American genus *Mimosa*. The vernacular name was apparently derived from early settlers' use of long twigs of certain kinds for interweaving and plastering with mud to make "wattle and daub" huts.

There are about 600 acacia species in Australia, distributed throughout, and known by many names — aboriginal words such as brigalow, gidgee, mulga; or descriptive names such as ironwood, blackwood and "wait-a-while" (a thorny type). Sizes range from large trees to dwarf shrubs, but there are two principal categories, depending on foliage, either of the feathery kind or of the phyllodinous kind, having flattened leaf stalks. All have fluffy flowers, either of ball or finger shape, and ranging in colour from pale yellow-white to deep gold. Many are strongly perfumed, and furnish much nectar to bees.

The seeds have a very hard coating, and great longevity, and may germinate when many years old. Cases are known of wattles appearing in an area where they have not grown for 60 years, after a bushfire has heated and burst dormant seeds.

Some of the large varieties, like blackwood, have very beautifully figured timber valuable for furniture. Others are stripped for their bark, which is used for tanning leather. Golden wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*) is considered one of the best tan barks in the world, and is cultivated in Europe for this purpose.

In Australia, it is a tree of 12 to 20 feet in height, with leaves of the phyllodinous type resembling eucalyptus leaves. It produces many flowers in clusters of golden fluffy globes.



AWARDS FOR POST OFFICE PRODUCTS

The Captain Cook souvenir stamp pack was recently successful in an international packaging competition. The pack, which won the Department of Trade and Industry's Gold Medal Export Pack

Award and the National Packaging Association Gift Pack Award in 1971, was a prize-winner in the Asiastar 1972 Packaging Competition just concluded in Bombay.

Asiastar awards were instituted by the Asian Packaging Federation. Sixty entries from various Asian countries were received for the 1972 competition. India received three awards, Korea and Australia two each, and Hong Kong, Japan and Taiwan one each.

This journal, the Philatelic Bulletin, was awarded a Special Commendation in the category "External House Magazines" in the 1971 series of awards by the Australian Association of National Advertisers. In the same series, the Australian Post Office received a further Special Commendation for its philatelic mailing pieces sent to overseas collectors in a direct mail campaign. The envelope featured a Cobb and Co. postage paid imprint, and was used only for this mailing. Specimens are not available for purchase as philatelic items.

WITHDRAWAL OF CHRISTMAS ISLAND FISH STAMPS

Further to the announcement of the new Ship series of definitive stamps for Christmas Island in the December 1971 Bulletin, withdrawal dates for the stamps in the Christmas Island Fish series have been determined by that Territory.

The 1c, 2c, 3c, 20c and \$1 values will be withdrawn on 31st December, 1972, and the remaining values in the series, 4c, 5c, 9c, 10c, 15c, 30c and 50c, will be withdrawn on 31st December, 1973.

Christmas Island increased its aerogramme rate from 10c to 12c, coinciding with the Australian rate rise on 1st October, 1971. Initially, current 10c aerogrammes with 2c adhesive stamps affixed were used. The Island has now obtained stocks of aerogrammes impressed with 12c stamps; these are also available from Australian Post Office philatelic selling points.

COCOS (KEELING) ISLAND — POSTAGE STAMP QUANTITIES

The following figures indicate the total quantities of the Cocos (Keeling) Island 1963 definitive series and 1965 Anzac commemorative stamps printed by the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia.

1963 Definitive Series	
Denomination	Quantity
3d Brown-purple — Copra Industry	300,000
5d Blue — Superconstellation Aircraft	600,000
8d Red — Map of Islands	250,000
1/- Green — Coco Palms	250,000
2/- Purple — Native Dukong	200,000
2/3 Green — White Tern	200,000
1965 Anzac Commemorative Stamp	
5d First printing	100,000
5d Second printing	100,000



Philatelic Sales Centres have been established at the Dampier and Carnarvon post offices in Western Australia and at the Blacktown post office in New South Wales. The facility commenced at these points on 8th March, 1972, the day of issue of the second series Prime Ministers stamp booklet. At the same time first day of issue postmarkers were introduced at Cowra and Cootamundra post offices in N.S.W.



Further to reference in the December Bulletin, 6,204 articles including 12 registered, were post-marked at the Toombul Post Office, Qld., during the Combined Brisbane Philatelic Societies' philatelic exhibition at the Toombul Shoppingtown. The "T" motif depicted on the postmarker represented the symbol of the shopping complex.

The Combined Brisbane Philatelic Societies is comprised of five groups, City of Brisbane, Oxley Stamp Club, Queensland Philatelic Society, Southside Stamp Club and Zillmere Stamp Club. The common aims of these societies are to promote the advancement of philately as a hobby and to encourage collectors to join a philatelic society.



New printings in November 1971 of the 1c, 2c and 7c Australian Antarctic Territory stamps (available from all Philatelic Sales Centres) show some colour variations compared with earlier printings, as follows:

- 1c Aurora and Camera Dome (third printing) — the base of the camera dome is a deeper grey-green than that of the 1968 second printing;
- 2c Banding Penguins (second printing) — the blue colour of the foreground bird is lighter than in the 1966 printing;
- 7c Measuring Snow Strata (second printing) — the background blue is somewhat brighter, and the black of the man's trousers less solid than in the stamps of the 1966 printing.

The usual postal facilities were provided in a mobile post office during the annual Moomba Festival in Melbourne, in association with the Victorian Philatelic Association stamp display.

The Post Office van was situated in the Treasury Gardens over the period 3rd-13th March, 1972. The postmarker showed the down motif of Moomba and was similar in design to those used in recent years.



A special posting box will be provided at the Chevron Hotel, Melbourne from 30th March to 4th April, 1972, during the Fifth National Australian Convention of Amateur Astronomers. Collectors in Australia may obtain impressions of the postmarker by lodging fully stamped and addressed envelopes at the St. Kilda Road Central Post Office or by posting them under prepaid cover to the Postmaster, St. Kilda Road Central, Victoria, 3004, to reach him by 4th April, 1972.



Further to reference in the December Bulletin, 4,473 articles, including 9 registered, were post-marked with the special postmarker used in connection with the Ninth General Assembly of the International Fellowship of Former Scouts and Guides, at the Lower Melbourne Town Hall between 1st and 4th October, 1971.



The letter receiver at the summit of Mount Kosciusko was re-opened on 13th December, 1971, and will continue in operation until 4th April, 1972. Collectors in Australia wishing to obtain impressions of the special postmarker should forward fully stamped and addressed envelopes, under prepaid outer cover, to the Postmaster, Cooma, N.S.W. 2630.

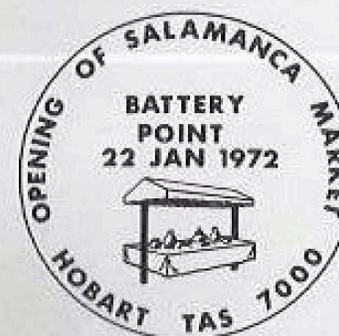


Further to reference in the December Bulletin, a total of 3,685 articles, including 14 registered, were postmarked with the special postmarker provided at the temporary post office for the First Asian and Oceanian Congress of Radiology, Melbourne, 22nd-26th November, 1971.

A total of 13 cylinders were used in the printing of the 7c Christmas 1971 stamp. The colours, in order of printing, and the number of individual cylinders used were: three pink; four green; four rust and two blue. As stated previously, two different papers were used in the printing. The majority of the stamps were printed on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating helecon and the remainder on KP5D coated unwatermarked paper with helecon.



The accompanying illustration shows an impression of the first day of issue postmarker introduced at the Philatelic Sales Centre, Sydney, on 29th September, 1971 — the day of issue of the Aboriginal Art stamps. The pictorial motif shows the Sydney Opera House.



A pictorial postmarker was used in Hobart on 22nd January, 1972, to mark the opening of an open air market in the historical setting of Salamanca Place, Battery Point, which was the trading area of Hobart in the early days of settlement. Some of the original buildings and warehouses, built in 1810, are still in use.

One of the market stalls was illustrated on the postmarker. A total of 5,109 covers were post-marked.



On 19th November, 1971, the RAAF School of Technical Training, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W., was honoured with an individual award of the Queen's Colour in recognition of the long and loyal service rendered by the School. This was the first occasion when an individual RAAF unit has been awarded the Queen's Colour, although the RAAF as a service received the award in 1952.

The crest of the RAAF School of Technical Training was featured in the design of the special postmarker provided at the Wagga Wagga RAAF Post Office on the day of the presentation. An illustration of the postmarker appears on this stage. A total of 7,206 covers, including 4 registered, were serviced with the special postmarker.



Letter receivers were re-introduced at the Penguin Parade and at the Nobbies, Phillip Island, Vic., on 20th December, 1971, for the receipt of mail during the 1971-72 summer tourist season. The two posting boxes will remain in operation until 30th April, 1972.

All mail posted at these two points is cancelled with the special penguin postmarker which was introduced on 24th December, 1971. This postmarker was illustrated in the February 1971 Bulletin. Last season a total of 9,224 covers posted by tourists and collectors were processed with the postmarker.



Further to earlier reference, 19,532 covers (no registered) were processed with the Lake Tyers special postmarker.



A total of 1,611 articles, including 14 registered, were postmarked with the special postmarker provided for the Ninth International Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering. The conference was held at the Melbourne University from 23rd to 27th August, 1971.