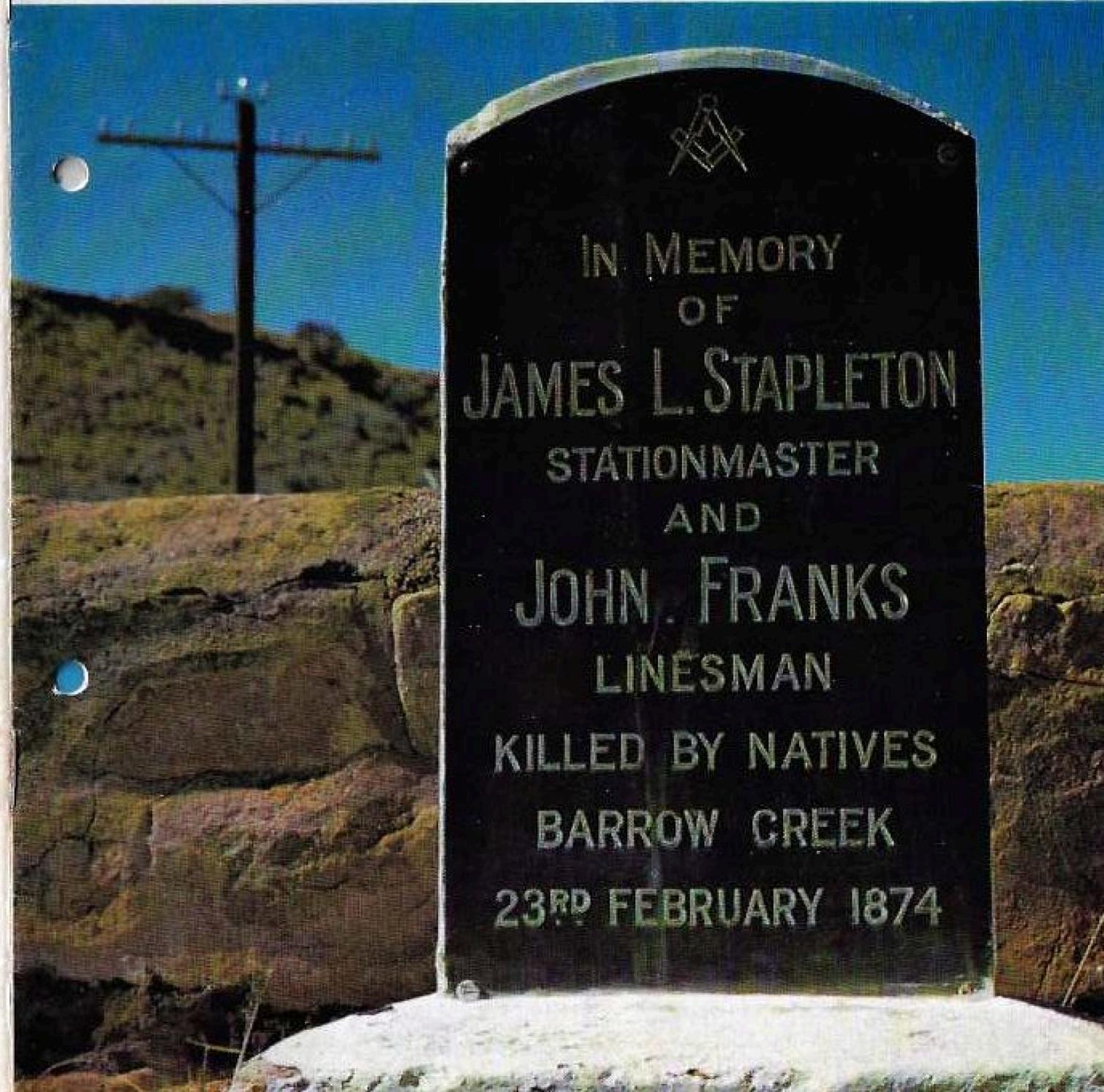
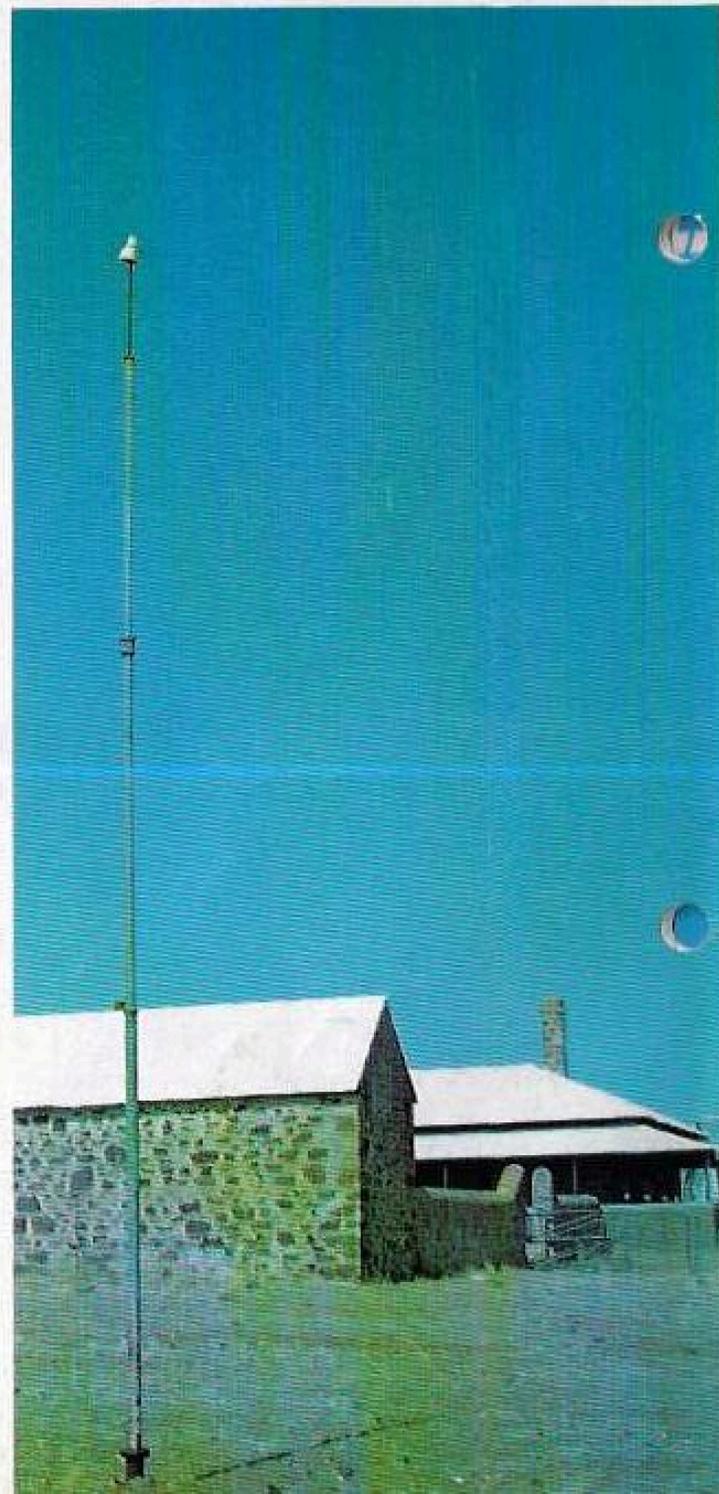
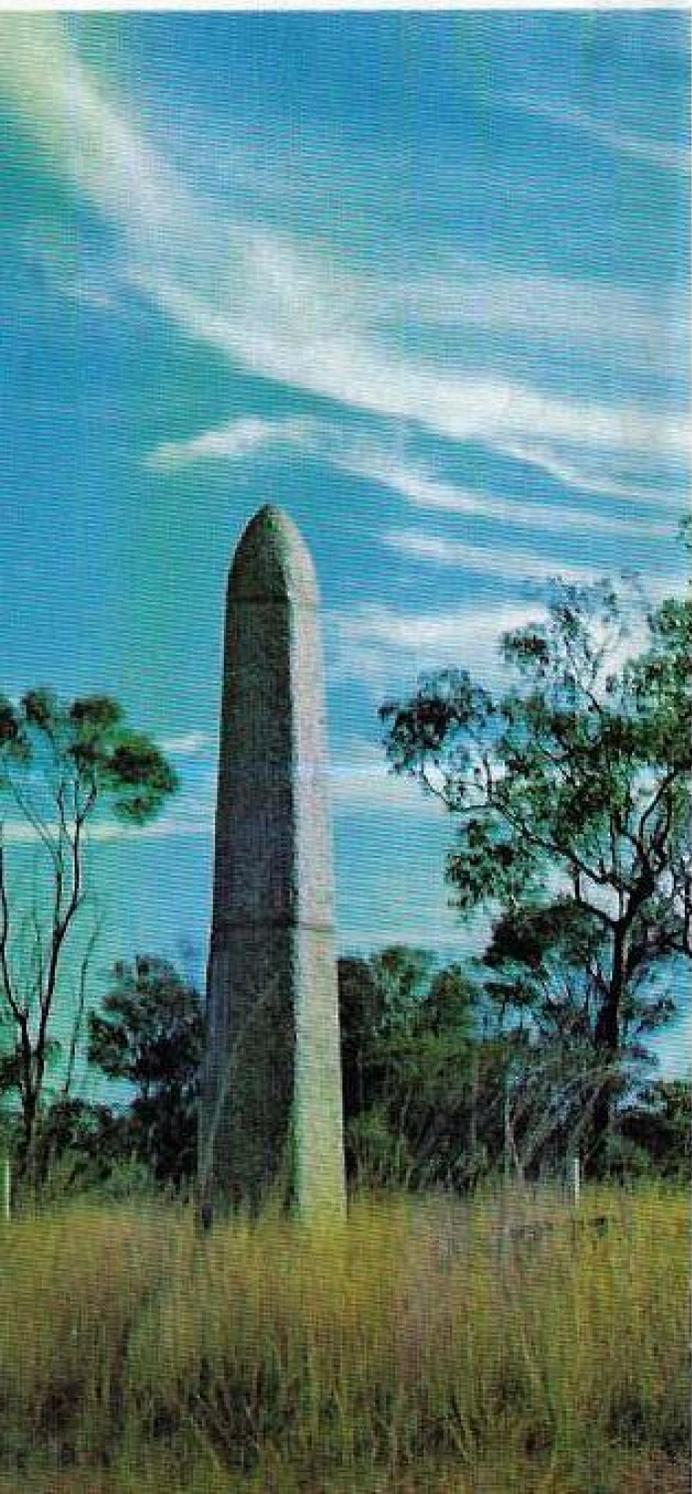


PHILATELIC BULLETIN

Australian Post Office September 1972



IN MEMORY
OF
JAMES L. STAPLETON
STATIONMASTER
AND
JOHN FRANKS
LINESMAN
KILLED BY NATIVES
BARROW CREEK
23RD FEBRUARY 1874

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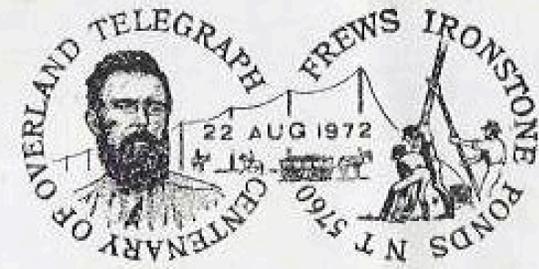
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Sir Charles Todd



Overland Telegraph Centenary

The 7c stamp marking the centenary of the completion of the Overland Telegraph line was issued on 22nd August, 1972, for two weeks sale at post offices and six months sale at philatelic sales centres. It was designed by Mr. John Copeland, of Adelaide, and the design shows the telegraph line crossing a lonely stretch of Central Australian landscape. The colours, in order of printing, are light ochre, dark ochre, red and black. Four cylinders—one for each colour—were used, and the stamp was printed by photogravure on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating elecon, by the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne. Stamp size is 37.5mm x 25mm, and sheet content is 100 stamps.

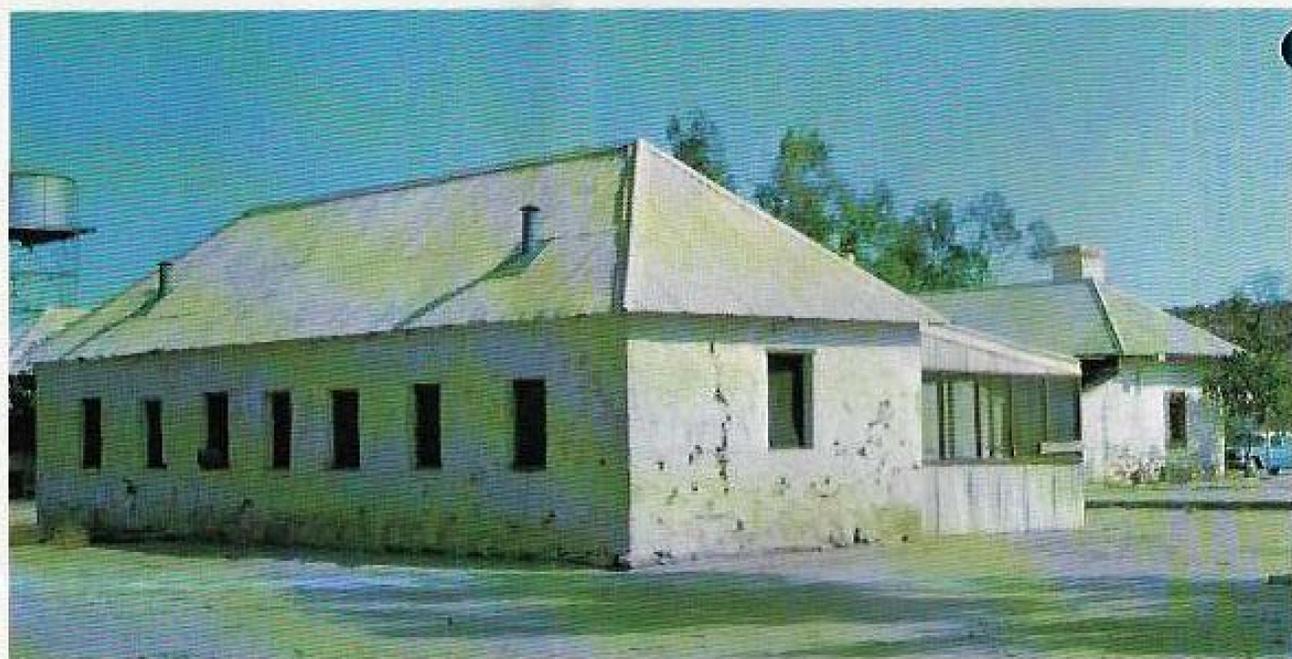
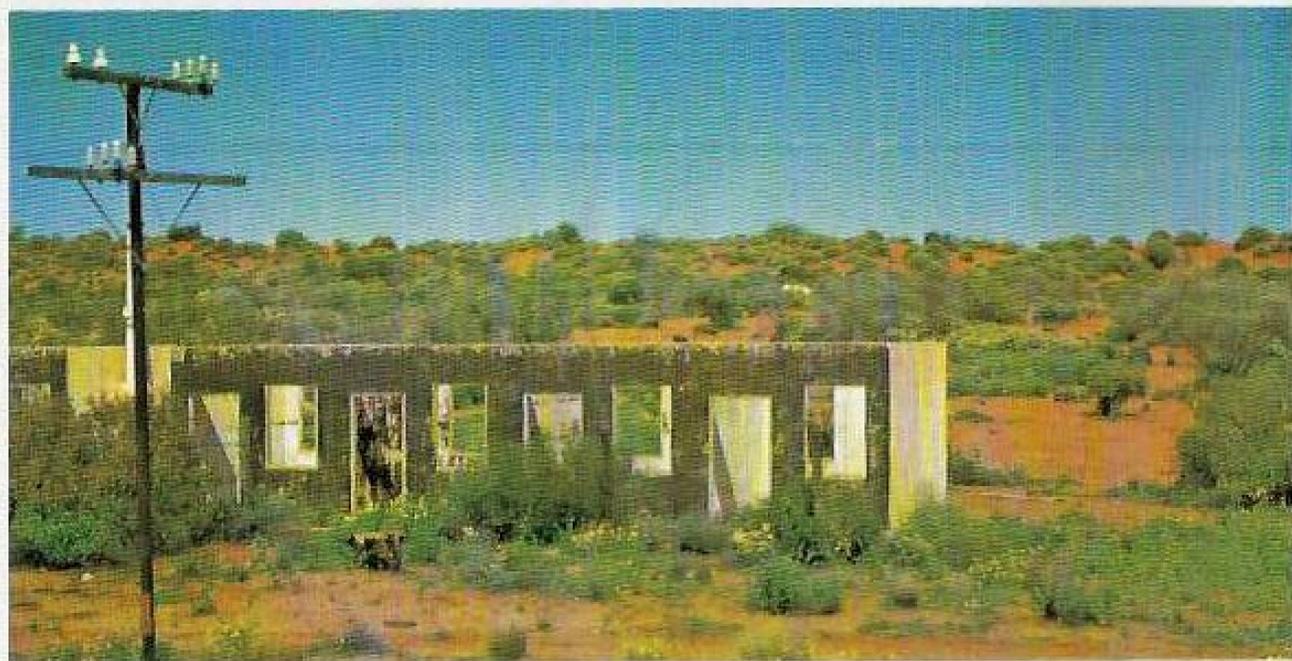
Mr. Copeland also designed the two official Post Office first day covers. One showed a morse key and map of the line, and the other an 1872 Darwin construction camp.

Four special postmarkers were associated with the OT Centenary: at a temporary post office at John Martin's store, Adelaide, from 15th to 30th August during an exhibition of telecommunications equipment; at a temporary post office at the ANPEX 1972 philatelic exhibition, Hotel Australia, North Adelaide, 22nd-27th August; at Frew's Ironstone Ponds, 200 miles north of Tennant Creek where the line construction was completed, where a temporary post office was established over the

period 22nd-25th August; and at the old telegraph station, Alice Springs, on 22nd August. The latter facility provided also for souvenir telegraph messages to be transmitted from the old telegraph station to Adelaide, where they were recorded on specially-printed forms, and then posted to addressees in first day covers bearing the 7c commemorative stamps. Illustrations on these four postmarkers showed construction of the line and a portrait of Charles Todd, its presiding genius.

Todd was born at Islington, London, on 7th July, 1826. In 1841 he began work at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and became assistant astronomer at Cambridge in 1847. In 1854 he returned to Greenwich's electricity research department, and shortly afterwards accepted an appointment as government astronomer and Superintendent of Telegraphs for the Colony of South Australia. On arrival in Adelaide in November 1855 with one assistant (E.C. Cracknell, later Superintendent of Telegraphs, N.S.W.) and telegraph equipment, he began construction of the first Government telegraph line, from Adelaide to Port Adelaide. The original instruments were of the Henley indicator-needle type, but these were soon replaced by the Morse system.

Samuel Finley Breese Morse, an American of diverse talents, had conceived the idea of the electric telegraph in the 1830s, and built the world's first telegraph line—a 40-mile Washington-Baltimore circuit—in 1844. The advantages of the new system



Old telegraph station — Alice Springs.

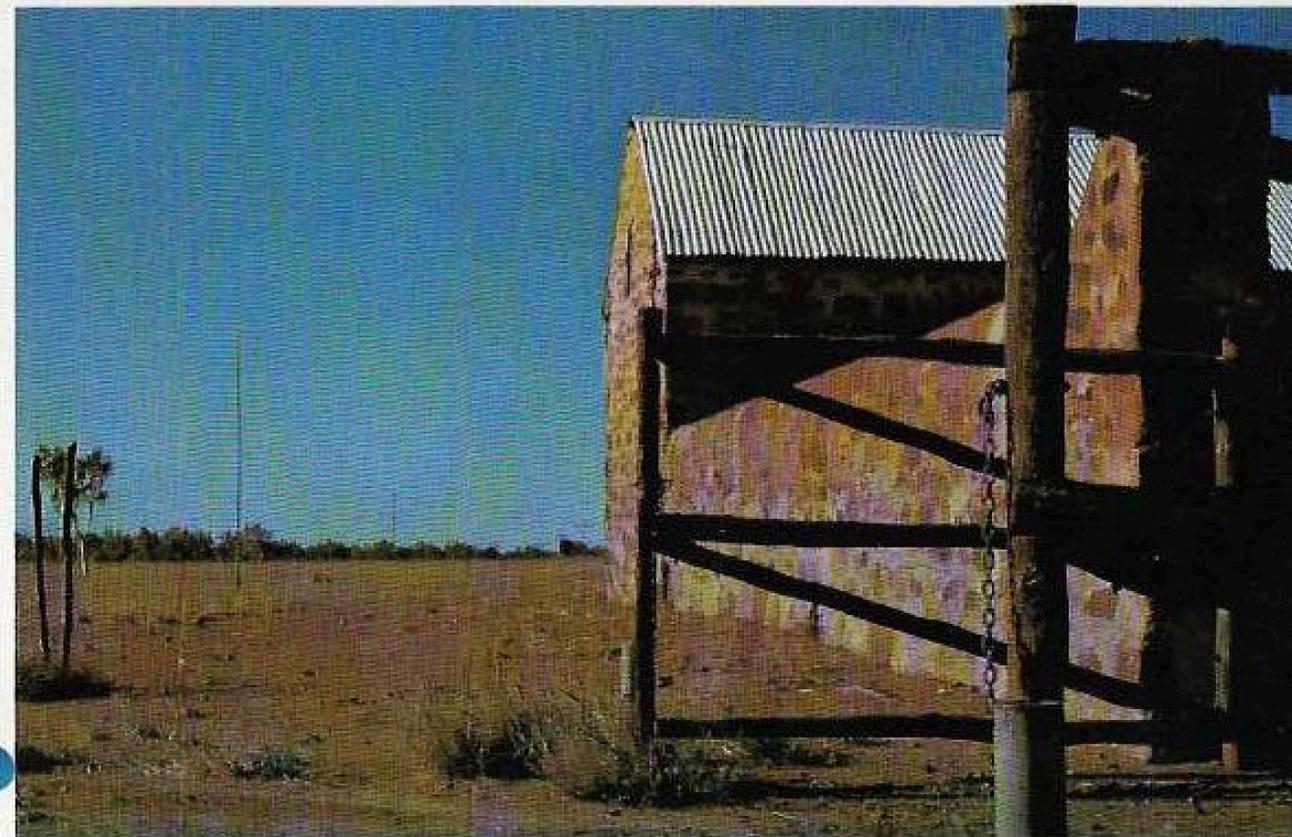
of instantaneous transmission were self-evident, and it spread rapidly.

Australia's first telegraph line was built by a pupil of Morse's, Samuel McGowan, between Melbourne and Williamstown, in 1854. South Australia's 1856 line was followed in 1857 by a Hobart-Launceston line; New South Wales got its first circuit in 1858, Queensland in 1861, and Western Australia in 1869. Intercolonial communication began between Melbourne and Adelaide in July 1858, Sydney and Melbourne in October 1858, Melbourne and Hobart (via cable) in 1859, Sydney and Brisbane in 1861 and Perth and Adelaide in 1877.

Charles Todd proposed the Adelaide-Melbourne link, negotiated in Melbourne with the government

of the Colony of Victoria for construction, and surveyed much of the route. Thus, by 1861, all colonies except Western Australia were linked telegraphically, with Adelaide occupying a vital position as regards intelligence from overseas.

The first available news of European happenings was received when ships berthed in Adelaide. Although their despatches and newspapers were months old (news of the outbreak of the Crimean War took three months to reach Australia) rival Melbourne and Sydney newspaper representatives vied desperately to get news stories on to the telegraph from Adelaide. Charles Todd himself recorded that a reporter in possession of a good story straight from a ship would rip out pages from



Old telegraph station — Barrow Creek.

a Bible and lodge them as urgent telegrams, to get exclusive use of the line for half an hour or so while he wrote his story and added it to his messages already in transmission. Todd said that 10,000-word messages were common, and on one occasion a round-by-round magazine report of a prize fight was transmitted.

Meanwhile, the lines were creeping from Europe across Asia towards Australia. In 1854 and 1858 there were overtures to the South Australian Government from an English cable company, and another scheme was submitted in 1857 by others. Different routes were proposed; via Java or Ceylon to Western Australia, from Timor to Adelaide, and from Timor to Queensland. At this time, the nature of the interior of the Australian continent was still largely unknown. Leichhardt had journeyed through the country along the Gulf of Carpentaria, proving a route from Queensland to what is now Darwin; Burke and Wills had traversed the continent from Melbourne to the Gulf in 1860, meeting death on the return trip; and McDouall Stuart, after several painstaking attempts, had travelled from Adelaide through the Centre to the northern coast near Darwin in 1862. Todd reported to his Government on these cable proposals, in the light of the geographical knowledge available to him, in 1859: "The third route (i.e. overland through the Centre) has naturally enough obtained advocates in South Australia where our hopes have been raised by the discovery of valuable country by Messrs. Stuart, Babbage and Warburton...I am not advocating a line across a desert; it is only on its being shewn to

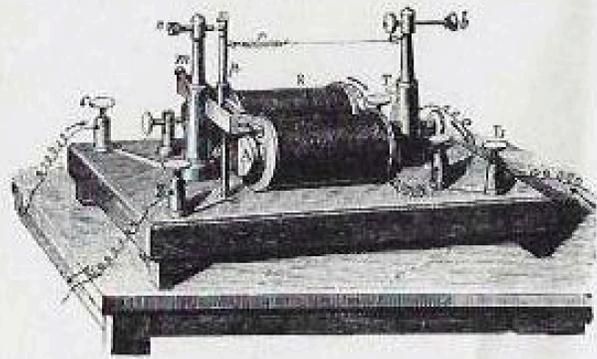
traverse country available for settlement that I recommend its adoption."

By 1870, the explorers had shown that the continent could be crossed. In that year, anxious to maintain its pre-eminence in the telegraphic network, the South Australian Government signed a contract with the British-Australian Telegraph Company; the latter undertook to extend its cable from Java to Darwin if South Australia would provide a line across Australia from Darwin to Adelaide. Charles Todd, appointed Postmaster-General of the colony in 1870, was responsible for the immense project.

The objective was to complete, in eighteen months, 2,000 miles of telegraph line, through country previously traversed only by a few explorers, and varying in nature—the temperate southern regions, the below-sea-level Lake Eyre region, stony and sandy deserts, mulga scrub, sandstone mountains, and the head-high grass and thick rain forest of the tropical north. The proposed construction was divided into three sections by Todd; the northern and southern portions were to be carried out by contract, and the central, most difficult portion was to be done by the government.

The section from Port Augusta to 500 miles north was let to Edward Bagot at £41 per mile, and the northern section to Darwent and Dalwood at prices varying from £62 to £89 per mile, the government to provide wire and insulators.

Todd's organisation was meticulous and comprehensive. All equipment was of the best quality obtainable, horses were selected by two of the best



judges in Adelaide, and overseers were issued with specific instructions which covered not only their working arrangements for selecting and erecting poles, maintaining stores and equipment, and men's rations, but also health, morals, prevention of cruelty to working animals, and non-provocation of Aboriginal tribes which might be encountered. Communication with native women and interference with native property was forbidden. In the instructions, Todd's advice on finding one's way in the bush, and what to do when someone becomes lost, is as pertinent today in that country as it was 100 years ago.

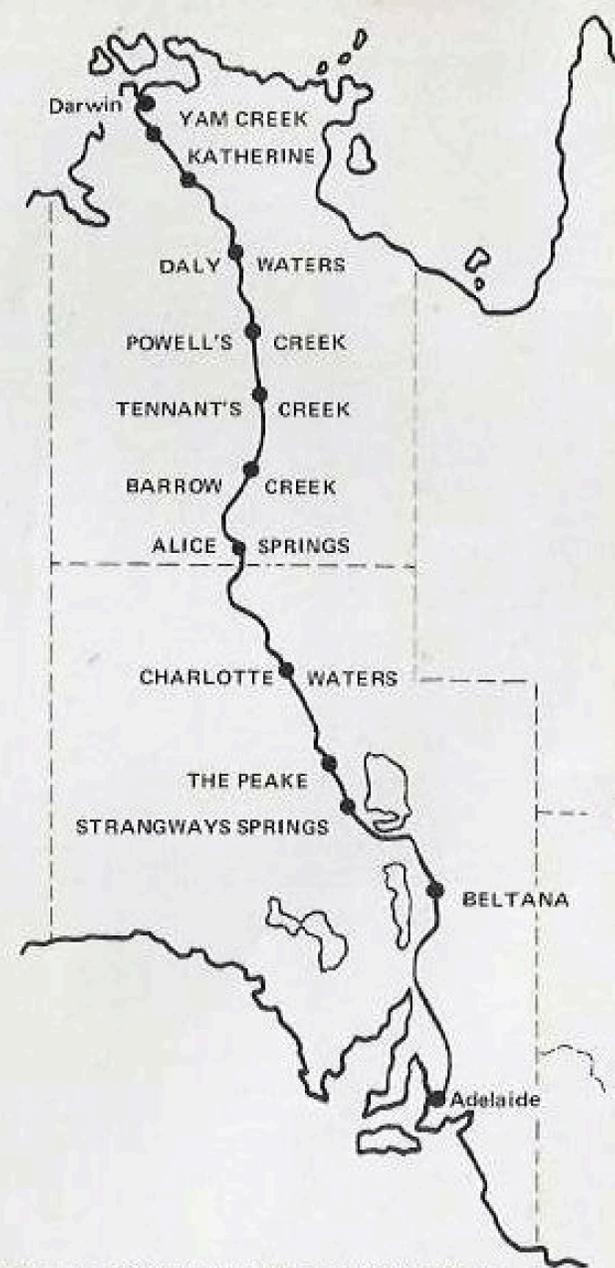
The central portion was sub-divided into sections A, B, C, D and E. Gilbert McMinn, overseer for the government, was accompanied by operators Howley and Stapleton with two sets of instruments to maintain communication during construction. Generally, the route followed the track of explorer John McDouall Stuart. Party A had 800 miles to travel overland before they could begin work, and Party E had 1,300 miles—which took them eight months.

The five parties working on the centre section totalled 100 men. They had 15 horse wagons, 18 bullock wagons and five buggies, with 165 horses and 210 bullocks in the teams, besides riding horses, pack horses and 80 camels. The central section was finished on schedule, and contractor Bagot in the south was also working to timetable.

The northern party, that of Joseph Darwent and William Dalwood, travelled by ship, and on 15th September, 1870, the first pole was erected at Darwin by Miss Harriet Douglas, daughter of the Government Resident. The contractors erected 89 miles of line in 54 days—then the wet season began. Creeks became rivers, rivers became lakes, and animals floundered and drowned. Post-holes filled as they were dug, food went bad, and men began to refuse to work.

On 3rd May, 1871, government overseer McMinn cancelled the contract.

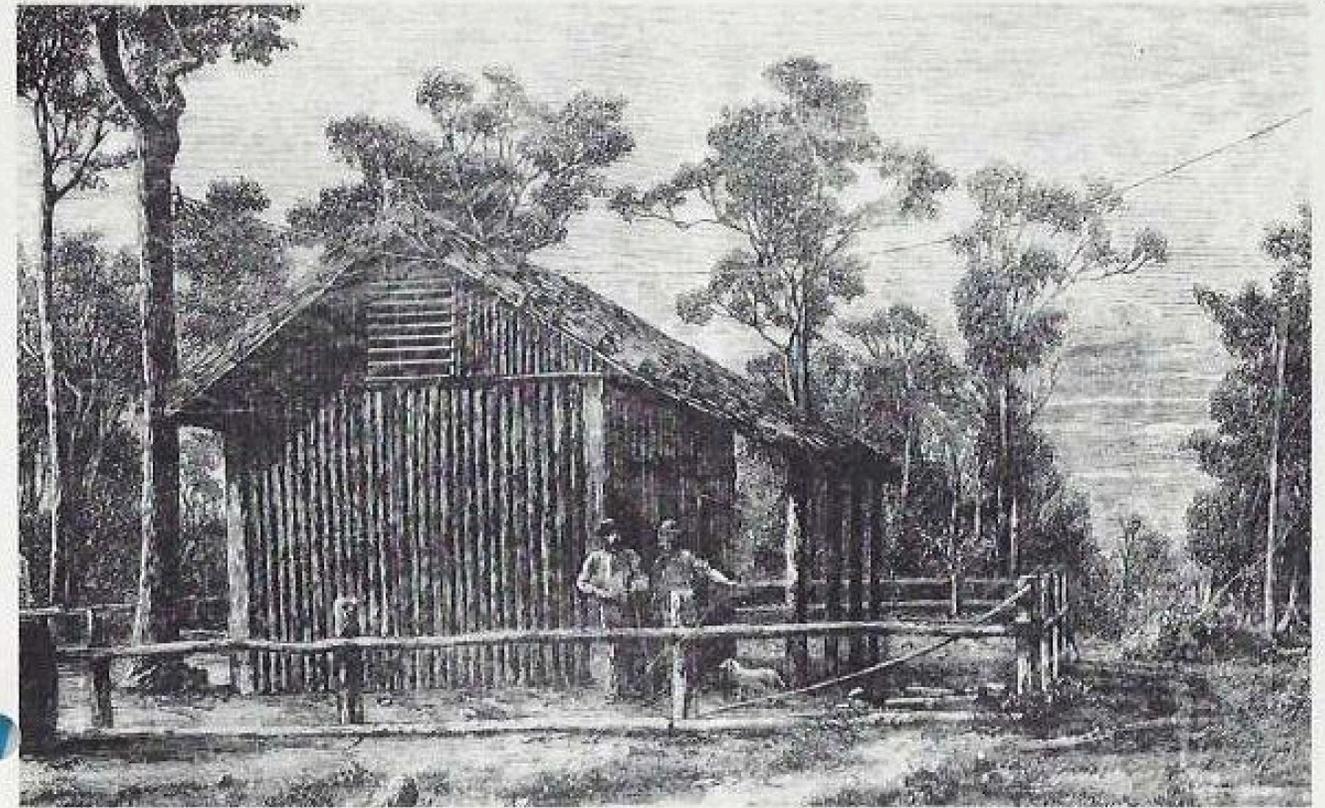
When the news reached Adelaide, a government



This map of South Australia and the Northern Territory shows the route of the overland telegraph line and the original repeater stations.

expedition was prepared under Robert Patterson, an engineer. His party sailed from Adelaide on 27th July, 1871, and reached Darwin on 24th August. Meanwhile, Todd instructed Harvey (party E) to push northwards as far as possible.

Todd and Patterson had agreed that the northern base should be located at the Roper River, which they considered could be supplied by sea, although it had not previously been navigated. However, the government instructed Patterson to land his supplies at Darwin, and he immediately encountered the same problems as his predecessors. The "wet" began again late in 1871, bringing its floods, bogs and mosquitoes. Plagued by these delays, Patterson recorded in his diary that he would re-christen his horse after members of the South Australian government; "I shall have the satisfaction of yelling out their names all day long and touching them up with the whip..." The rain kept on; "It is raining piteously...every drop falls on my head like lead"



Telegraph station at Darwin during construction of the OT line.

recorded Patterson on 14th December, 1871.

By that time, the southern construction had moved forward and the line was open from Port Augusta to Tennant Creek, a distance of 1,131 miles. The cable from Java had been brought ashore at Darwin on 7th November, 1871.

On the day the stipulated date for completion expired—1st January, 1872—394 miles were still uncompleted.

Charles Todd left Adelaide on 4th January with fresh horses and supplies and arrived at the mouth of the Roper three weeks later. He persuaded the captain of the ship, Omeo, to go up the uncharted river to the supply depot landing.

The monsoonal rains ceased, 300 men, well-equipped, were on the job, and progress was good. But the cable company was pressing for compensation for failure to meet the contract date, and the line was therefore put into operation, using an "estafette" (a pony express) to bridge the diminishing gap in the line. The first messages from overseas were carried in this fashion, by the Lewis brothers, on 24th June. On the same day, the cable broke between Darwin and Java, and no more was heard of the compensation claims.

Incidentally, S.F.B. Morse died in April, 1872—one wonders if this news could perhaps have been among the despatches from overseas...

On 22nd August, 1872, Patterson's construction joined up with the line from the south. Patterson's diary for that day records: "Half the party seized hold of me and of the wire, and the other half the other end, and stretched with might and main to bring the two ends together. All our force could

not do this. I then attached some binding wire to one end. The moment I brought it to the other end the current passed through my body from all the batteries on the line. I had to yell and let go. Next time I proceeded more cautiously and used my handkerchief to seize the wire. In five minutes I had the joint made complete, and Adelaide was in communication with Port Darwin. It would have been with England had the cable not broken down."

They fired 21 rounds from their revolvers, and "immediately adjourned to Frew's Ponds." After the official messages were completed, every man of the party sent messages to their families at home. David Melville, one of those present, later recalled that during the celebrations he sang "Ring the Bell Watchman"—the melody of which is more familiar to modern ears as "Click go the Shears."

On that night, Charles Todd was at Central Mount Stuart, the geographical heart of the continent. He was "inundated with kindly-worded messages of congratulations from friends in all parts of the Colonies. It was a bitterly cold night, with the strong south-east wind which blows so keenly over the interior, as seated on the ground, with only the little instrument (a pocket relay) I now held in my hand, I received one after another of these friendly recognitions...and till I was nearly frozen and completely knocked up with fatigue and excitement, transmitted my replies. I called for hearty cheers from my companions and nearly choked my valuable cook, who eagerly essayed to respond with a chilli in his mouth..."

As a finishing touch to the grand work, Todd



Telegraph depot, ninety miles up the Roper River.

rode overland to Adelaide, inspecting all portions and ensuring that every station was in working order. The cable was repaired and communication with England was established on 21st October, 1872. On 15th November, celebratory banquets were held in Adelaide, Sydney and London.

The original cost of construction amounted to £338,059, which included substantial stone buildings at The Peake, Charlotte Waters, Alice Springs and Barrow Creek, and wooden buildings elsewhere. In all, there were eleven repeater stations, necessary because the batteries of that period could not carry a current over the whole 2,000 miles. The line had required 36,000 poles, many of which were of local wood cut as required, but 3,000 iron poles were imported and erected where timber was unavailable. The original single iron wire was later supplemented by a copper wire. The line carried all of Australia's overseas telegraph traffic until 1899.

Many relics of the OT Line still exist; indeed the present-day Adelaide-Darwin circuits still follow the original route in the main. The OT station at Alice Springs is being restored by the Northern Territory Reserves Board, and telegraph equipment is displayed there. The Barrow Creek station, the only one now owned by the Post Office, is still in use as the line depot and residence of the lines supervisor. At Pine Creek, some of the original pine poles still stand. Elsewhere, there are roofless stone buildings, with the south-east wind mentioned by Todd blowing through glassless windows and humming in the wires.

In Adelaide, Todd's diaries and some personal

possessions are preserved.

The cover photograph of this Bulletin shows the grave of James L. Stapleton, telegraphist, and John Franks, lineman, near the Barrow Creek OT station, where they were fatally speared on 22nd February, 1874.

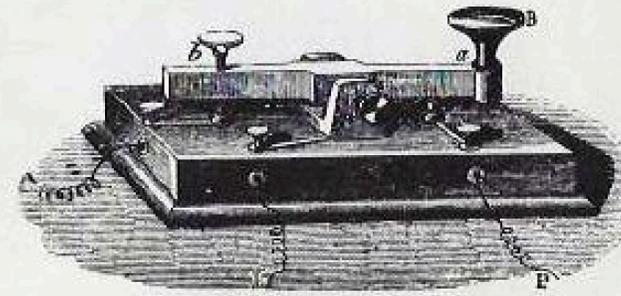
Adelaide newspaper reports of the next few days indicate that the OT station party—Stapleton, who was in charge, and seven others—were relaxing outside the building on the evening of Sunday, 22nd February, when they were suddenly attacked. Stapleton, assistant operator Flint and police trooper Gason were wounded as they tried to gain the safety of the building, and John Franks a few seconds later. A black tracker of their party was also hit, and was carried in by Gason. From inside, they drove off the attackers with rifle fire.

Franks died almost immediately. Stapleton and Flint advised Adelaide, and Dr. C. Gosse was called by Todd to the Adelaide telegraph office to give medical advice over the line. On Monday, Stapleton's condition worsened, and his wife was brought to the Adelaide end of the circuit, and exchanged final messages with him before he died.

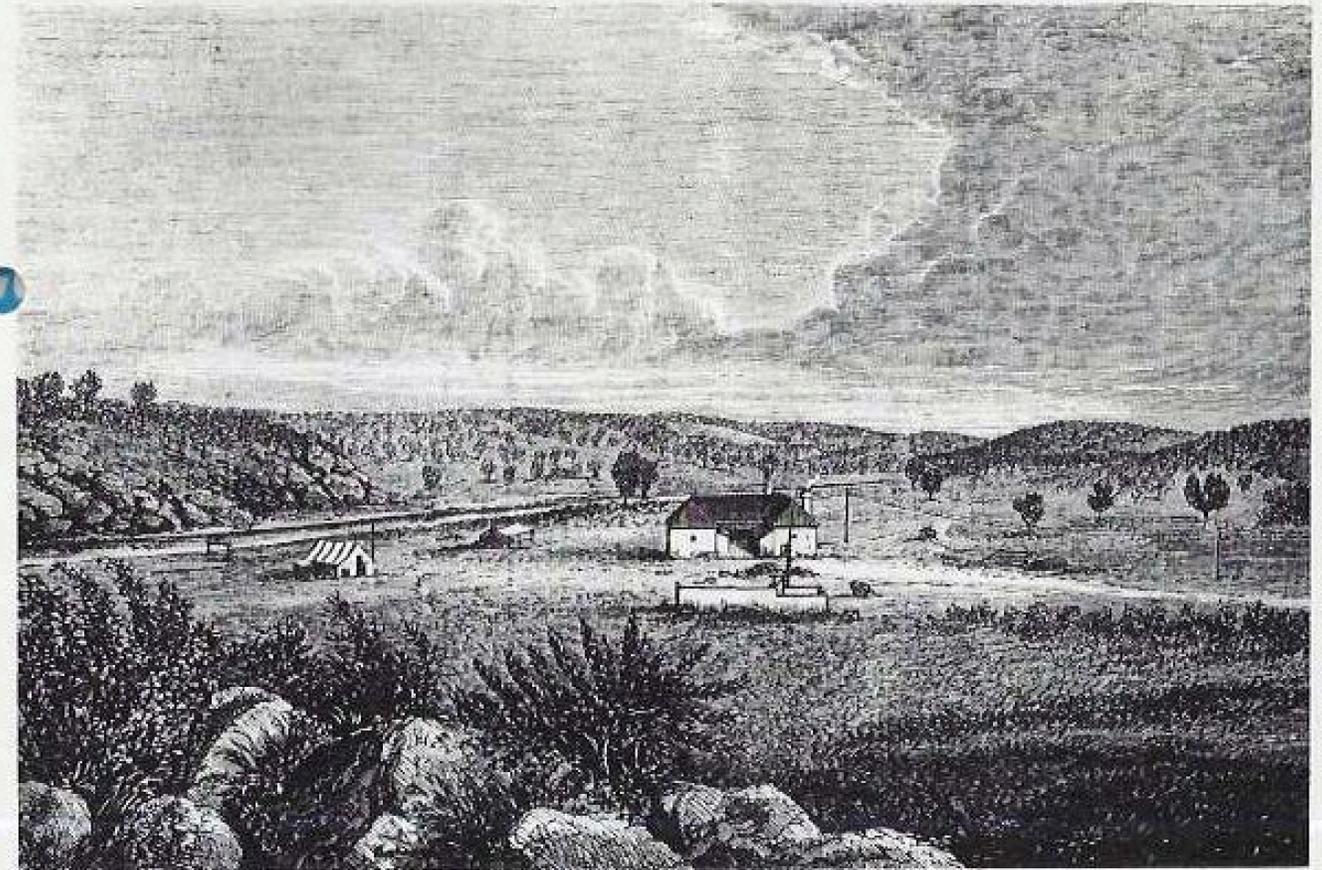
Stapleton came from Canada with Samuel McGowan to establish the Melbourne telegraph system, and after a period as a farmer joined the OT Line during its construction.

The back cover photographs show another view of Barrow Creek station, and the obelisk at Frew's Ponds which commemorates the joining of the wires.

The OT telegraph repeater stations were often associated with cattle stations which provided meat



The Alice Springs Station



animals for line staff; OT Downs, in the Marcarthur River area, was one such station. However, there is no longer any need to provide line personnel in Central Australia and the Northern Territory with their own herds, fortified buildings and internal water wells. The last of the OT cattle were sold at Daly Waters in 1950.

Charles Todd's next major work after completion of the OT Line was the 1,000-mile link from South Australia to Eucla, W.A., bringing Western Australia into the continental network. He was knighted in 1893, and continued to control the South Australian department of posts and telegraphs up to and after Federation when the colonies became States of the Commonwealth; after 1901 he was designated Deputy Postmaster-General. He retired in December 1906, after more than 50 years service, and died on 29th January, 1910.

Apart from buildings and wires, the OT men have left other monuments; their names stud the Centralian map. Alice Springs was named by William Mills, leader of party C, for Mrs. Todd; her husband's name is given to the river which sometimes flows through the modern city of Alice Springs; Dr. Renner, medical officer for the central section, is remembered in Renner Springs. Powell Creek, Finnis Springs...these and other names mark the passage of the OT men 100 years ago.

(For earlier references, see Philatelic Bulletins Nos. 4, Feb. 1954, "Centenary of the Telegraph in Australia": 44 and 45, Oct. and Dec. 1960, "Northern Territory Centenary of Exploration"; 54, June 1962, "Centenary of Stuart's Overland Crossing"; and 94, Feb. 1969, "First Permanent Settlement in Northern Territory".)



Rehabilitation Stamps

The Rehabilitation series of definitive stamps was issued on 2nd August, 1972, in denominations of 12c, 18c and 24c. The stamps will remain on sale for approximately a year, replacing the 12c Animal Science, 18c Fauna Conservation and 24c Animals Aid to Man stamps, which were withdrawn on 1st August, 1972. Although it was originally announced that the Animals series would be on issue for about six months, 12c, 18c and 24c steps were continued in the postal rates structure which was introduced in October 1971, thus maintaining the need for stamps in these values.

To draw attention to the work of various organisations assisting the rehabilitation of physically and mentally disabled people, three areas have been highlighted in the Rehabilitation stamps: the personal disability itself, re-training, and the environment. They were designed by artists of the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, using photographs specially taken for the Post Office by Mrs. Barbara Ardizzone, of Sydney, at several rehabilitation centres in New South Wales.

The stamps were printed by photogravure at the Note Printing Branch, in sheets of 100 on Wiggins Teape unwatermarked coated paper incorporating heleon. Each stamp is a two-colour print, from two cylinders. Stamp size is 25mm x 37.5mm.

The blue and brown 24c stamp shows a boy in a Toronto splint, which, as its name indicates, was designed by a Canadian orthopaedist. The boy shown was afflicted with Perthe's Disease, a disability of the hip. He spent four months in bed in a plaster cast, to position the hip joint correctly, after which the plaster was exchanged for the splint. This steel appliance, padded with leather, is hinged so that the wearer can flex his knees, and move about relatively easily, with the aid of crutches. As the stamp shows, the splint permits child patients to take part in games. The splint was removed in June, and the boy was able to return home with only a slight limp.

The green and orange 18c stamp shows an occupational therapist and a patient who is learning

to manipulate a soldering iron, in a training centre.

On the yellow-ochre and green 12c stamp, a worker in a wheelchair is shown operating a press in a sheltered workshop.

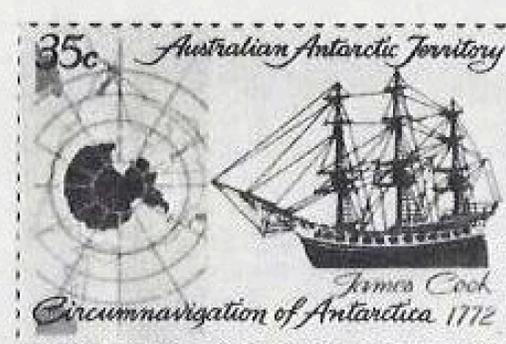
The official first day cover for the series was designed by Mr. Ray Honisett. A 54c souvenir stamp pack containing the three Rehabilitation stamps was issued on 2nd August, and is still available.

This year is the 50th anniversary of Rehabilitation International and during the sales period of the stamps the Twelfth World Congress on Rehabilitation was held in Sydney from 27th August to 1st September, 1972.

The congress, the first of its type held in the Southern Hemisphere, was hosted by the Australian Council for Rehabilitation of Disabled. A special postmarker was provided at the Potts Point post office during the congress. The postmarker design incorporated the stylized symbol used internationally to denote buildings and facilities which are usable by handicapped people.

Rehabilitation means the restoration of function, confidence and independence to handicapped people. It seeks to utilize their latent abilities and return them to a useful life with the community.

Since the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service began in 1948, more than 22,000 disabled people have gained independence, their employers have gained workers who compare favourably with the able-bodied in efficiency and reliability, and the community has gained by their contributions to its productivity. In addition to the Commonwealth,



State Governments and many hospitals and voluntary agencies are working in the field of rehabilitation.

Sheltered workshops enable handicapped people to work efficiently in an environment screened from the stresses and pressures of outside industry. Types of sheltered workshops include knitting factories, bookbinders, assembly shops for the motor industry, reclamation of used articles, subcontracting work, even farms and market gardens. To compensate organisations for the loss of their best workers and to encourage them to take the rehabilitation process to its logical conclusion, the Commonwealth Government pays a grant to sheltered workshops for each handicapped person who graduates to outside employment.

Re-training is intended to offset the effects of a patient's handicap by equipping him to compete in other fields of employment. Preliminary training often begins in the hospital or sanatorium as soon as medical treatment permits. It applies to those who are able to return to their previous employment but require refresher training; to those who are able to return to their previous employer but require a new type of job; and to those who are unable to return to their previous employment or who are without previous vocational skill or experience. The Australian Post Office will specially modify office and factory switchboards and other equipment so that they can be operated, after a period of training, by blind and other handicapped operators. Although retraining centres are provided in all States there is still a great need for more centres and trained personnel.

Antarctic Territory : Cook Commemoratives

Two Australian Antarctic Territory stamps, commemorating the 200th anniversary of James Cook's voyage around the Antarctic continent, were placed on sale at Australian Post Office philatelic sales centres on 13th September, 1972. The denominations are 7c and 35c. Both stamps were designed by Mr. John Mason, of Melbourne, and both were printed by multi-colour photogravure on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper, incorporating heleon, at the Note Printing Branch of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne. Stamp size is 37.5mm x 25mm and sheet content for each value is 100 stamps.

Four cylinders were used for each denomination. The same four colours appear in both designs; these are, in order of printing, yellow ochre, blue, sepia and black.

The stamps will be despatched to Antarctic post offices at Macquarie Island, Mawson, Davis and Casey via the annual relief ships departing from Australia late in 1972. The dates of issue will necessarily vary, as each office receives its supplies of stamps. The usual philatelic facilities for post-marking first day covers will be provided, and orders for covers will close about the end of October, 1972.

Twelve months after the Endeavour's return to England from his first voyage, Captain James Cook set off on another long and dangerous voyage—the circumnavigation of the Antarctic and the search for a continent which did not exist.

Even after his discovery of eastern Australia, there were those who believed that "somewhere between New Zealand and Chile" there was a huge, rich, continent—Terra Australis Incognita—counterbalancing the land masses of the Northern Hemisphere, and the Admiralty was anxious to prove or disprove the existence of such a land.

For this mission Cook was given two ships, "Resolution", which he commanded, and "Adventure" which was captained by Tobias Furneaux. Both vessels were Whitby-built barks, similar in type to "Endeavour". The "Resolution", formerly the "Marquis of Granby", was 462 tons, 100 tons larger than "Endeavour", and "Adventure", formerly the "Marquis of Rockingham", was a smaller vessel of 340 tons.

After conversion at the Naval Dockyard at Deptford, "Resolution" was equipped with the most advanced navigational aids of the day. The 7c stamp shows two instruments carried by Cook on this voyage, a sextant made by Jesse Ramsden and the azimuth compass developed by Dr. Gowin Knight. The voyage was used to test four different chronometers, three made by John Arnold and the other the K1, Larcum Kendall's highly successful copy of the Harrison chronometer. Cook referred to the K1 as "our trusty friend".

The chronometers were in the care of William Wales, one of the two astronomers appointed by the Admiralty. Instead of Banks and Solander of Endeavour fame, "Resolution" carried a father and son scientific team, Johann and Georg Forster.

Later at Cape Town, a Swedish botanist, Anders Sparrman, who had studied under Linnaeus, joined the expedition. Two seamen who had served in whaling ships in the Arctic were enlisted for their experience in navigation through ice floes.

Of the many members of the expedition who later achieved fame, probably the most notable was George Vancouver, the 14-year-old midshipman of "Resolution", who in later life was to add his name to the maps of Australia and Canada.

The sinister grandeur of the Antarctic icebergs, the lush South Seas islands and the many other sights encountered on this voyage were recorded in the sketches and water colours of William Hodges, the official artist aboard "Resolution".

Such was Cook's reputation that when "Resolution" left Plymouth on 13th July, 1772, the crew of 112 included 20 volunteers from "Endeavour".

Cook chose the southern summer months for his probes into the Antarctic to take advantage of the extra hours of daylight in his passage through the dangerous ice fields and to gain the maximum benefit from the winds which might be expected in those months.

On 17th January, 1773, near Enderby Land, "Resolution" crossed the Antarctic Circle, the first ship ever to do so. Further progress towards Antarctica was blocked by ice and Cook sailed north. Later the two ships became separated in a fog and when Cook eventually arrived at the pre-arranged rendezvous at Queen Charlotte Sound, New Zealand, "Adventure" was waiting.

Most of the livestock, pigs, goats, sheep and poultry, carried aboard the ships for food and trade perished in the Antarctic cold and Cook released the remainder in New Zealand. Descendants of some of those animals may be found there today. Earlier Furneaux had planted seeds of turnips, parsnips, carrots and potatoes there.

After visits to Tahiti and Tonga (which Cook named the Friendly Islands) the two vessels headed back to their base in New Zealand but a gale separated the ships for a second time. "Adventure" sailed for England after a fatal encounter with Maoris, but "Resolution" continued on alone for over 12 months probing the Antarctic and criss-crossing the southern Pacific, gradually eliminating all of the possible locations of the fabled southern continent.

Twice more Cook crossed the Antarctic Circle. The conditions were terrible; sails and rigging froze, gales swept the unprotected deck of "Resolution" and the icebergs, some more than a mile in circumference, were too numerous to count. On 30th January, 1774, "Resolution" reached 71° 10' S, a distance of 1,200 miles from the South Pole. No ship had ever journeyed so far south before. Faced with a barrier of pack-ice, Cook, with few regrets, headed north once more. As the order to turn about was given, George Vancouver climbed out over the ship's bow so that of all men he would have travelled the furthest south. No other ship was able to penetrate past this point until 1823.

Cook had barely recovered from a serious illness when on 12th March, 1774, "Resolution" reached Easter Island, the land of the mysterious stone idols discovered by Roggeveen in 1722.

Next followed the charting of the Marquesas Islands, re-provisioning at Tahiti, and the discoveries of Niue and New Caledonia. On 10th October, 1774, Cook discovered Norfolk Island. During his short stay on that small fertile island he noted the profusion of tall, strong pines, ideal for masts.

After a last stop at Queen Charlotte Sound, "Resolution" headed for home by way of Cape Horn, thus completing the circumnavigation of the Antarctic. During the homeward journey, Cook discovered and took possession for Britain of South Georgia and the South Sandwich group of islands.

"Resolution" dropped anchor at Spithead on 30th July, 1775. The voyage had taken three years and 18 days and although many men had died aboard "Adventure", Cook had lost only four men, three from accidents and one from sickness, but thanks to Cook's dietary methods, none from scurvy.

Cook received promotion in the Royal Navy and was also made a fellow of the Royal Society for his work in preventing scurvy. That body also awarded him its highest honour, the Copley gold medal. On 12th July, 1776, Cook, once again in command of "Resolution", left Plymouth on a voyage to search for the North West Passage. During this expedition Cook made his second visit to Australia when he spent four days in Tasmania, and made many more discoveries in the Pacific. Cook was killed by natives in Hawaii on 14th February, 1779.

Olympic Games Stamps

Four stamps marking Australian participation in the 1972 Olympic Games were issued on Monday, 28th August, 1972—the nearest practicable date to the Games opening on Saturday, 26th August.

The series, designed by Mr. Brian Sadgrove, of Melbourne, comprises three different 7c stamps and a 35c stamp. Athletics, swimming and rowing are shown on the 7c values, and equestrian events on the 35c. The stamps remained on general sale at all post offices for about a month, and will be continued at philatelic sales centres for up to six months. They are also available in a souvenir pack, price 56c. The pack and the official Post Office first day cover for this series were also designed by Mr. Sadgrove.

The four stamps were printed by photogravure, in sheets of 100 on Wiggins Teape coated unwatermarked paper incorporating heleon, at the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne, in the usual commemorative size. The 7c Athletics stamp is a four-colour print, and the other three stamps have all been printed in five colours—the first Australian gravure stamps so produced.

An additional printing head was added recently to the Note Printing Branch's four-colour Cham-



bon photogravure printing press. The new installation was tested during the printing of the Primary Industries stamps. Although these were four-colour jobs, the four printing cylinders were installed at stations 2, 3, 4 and 5, by-passing the first printing head. The fifth head proved satisfactory, and there was of course no discernible effect upon the four-colour stamps thus printed.

Meanwhile, in anticipation of the fifth head being available, five printing cylinders had been made for each of the Rowing, Swimming and Equestrian subjects, whose designs called for five colours. The Athletics design was prepared in four colours, and required only four cylinders.

In each design, Mr. Sadgrove has used stylized figures for the various sporting events, printed in black, with colourful motifs below representing the venue for each sport—water, a running track, and hurdles. The full ranges of colours, in printing order, are: 7c Athletics—light green, dark green, red, black; 7c Rowing— aqua blue, light blue, dark blue, mauve, black; 7c Swimming—blue, dark green light green, mauve, black; 35c Equestrian Events—dark red, light red, green, orange, black.

Contests similar to the Olympic Games are believed to have been held as far back as 1300 BC. Historical records show that the ancient Olympic Games were held regularly every four years between 776 BC and 394 AD at Olympia on the bank of the river Ruphia near the western coast of Greece. In those days the principal events were running, wrestling, javelin and discus throwing and chariot races. The modern Olympics stem mainly from the enthusiasm of a Frenchman, Baron Pierre de Coubertin. Through his efforts the first of the modern Olympic Games was staged in 1896, appropriately, in Greece. One of the Australian competitors (who at that time were embodied in the British team) was victorious in the 800 meters and the 1,500 meters running events. Since then, Australian competitors have taken part in every one of the Olympic Games. Only three other countries have this distinction. Athletes from Australia have won placings in all of the Olympic Games except the 1904 Games held in St. Louis, U.S.A.

In 1972, at the XXth Olympiad, 21 different sports were contested—more than at any previous Games. Australian sportsmen and women com-

peted in 19 of them: archery, athletics, basketball, boxing, canoeing, cycling, equestrian, fencing, gymnastics, hockey, judo, pentathlon, rowing, shooting, swimming, water polo, weightlifting, wrestling and yachting.

Munich, "the city of monks", capital of Bavaria and third largest city in Germany, was the venue for the XXth Olympiad.

The current stamps are the third set of Olympic stamps issued by Australia. Six different stamps were issued to honour the XVth Olympiad in 1956. Designs featured the Olympic rings and torch, and views of Melbourne (the host city of those Games) and its coat of arms. The Aztec calendar stone was used as the motif on the 5c and 25c values issued for the 1968 Mexico Olympic Games.

Papua New Guinea—New Aerogramme and Stamps

Papua New Guinea issued a new 10c aerogramme on 16th August, 1972, the same date of issue as the 7c and 30c National Day postage stamps. The aerogramme is in the same size and format as the current Australian aerogramme but bears the title Papua New Guinea. Previous aerogrammes of that country showed the name in the old style, Papua & New Guinea.

The last commemorative issue of Papua New Guinea for 1972 will be on 25th October, when four 7c stamps depicting early missionaries of the area will be released. Stamp subjects are Rev. Copland King, Rev. Dr. Flierl, Pastor Ruatoka and Bishop Verjus. The series was designed by Mr. Graham Wade, of Sydney, and printed in multi-colour photogravure by Helio Courvoisier S.A. Switzerland.

Mint and postmarked specimens of the aerogramme and the Missionaries stamps will be available to Australian residents from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office. The withdrawal date for the Missionaries stamps is 25th February, 1973.

All orders for first day covers should be sent to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Port Moresby, P.N.G., to reach there by 20th October, 1972. A remittance by money order, bank draft or Australian or British postal order should accompany each order.

Covers cost 3c each, affixing stamps is 3c per cover, and addressing is 3c per cover. All inclusive costs are:



- (a) One full set of stamps on one addressed first day cover, 37c;
 (b) One full set of stamps on one unaddressed first day cover, 34c.

Unaddressed covers are despatched under outer wrapper. A packing fee of 5c is charged for this service, but only one fee of 5c need be paid for any number of covers to the one address.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Port Moresby, has also announced some details of its 1973 stamp programme.

The current Shell series definitive stamps will be replaced gradually by a new series titled P.N.G. Panorama depicting various features seen in the 18 districts of Papua New Guinea.

This series will be issued in four stages. The first two issues, of five stamps each will take place on 28th March and 20th June, 1973. Subjects and denominations of the first group of P.N.G. Panorama stamps will be: 1c Woodcarver, Milne Bay; 9c Fire Dancers, East New Britain; 15c Mt. Elimbari, Chimbu; 25c Council House, East Sepik; 40c Fishing, Madang. Mr. Richard Bates prepared the designs of the first five stamps in the series. Denominations of the second group will be 7c, 14c, 21c, 28c and 30c. Further details of the stamps will be released at a later date.

The first commemorative issue for 1973 will be on 24th January to mark the completion of the Department of Post and Telegraphs' 1968-72 telecommunications project.

Built at a cost of \$20 million, this capital development programme will provide Papua New Guinea with a national communications network through a system of line-of-sight radio repeater stations on the mainland and troposcatter or over-the-horizon radio systems to the islands of New Britain and New Ireland. The subjects depicted and denominations will be: 7c Mt. Tomavatur Repeater Station, 7c Mt. Kerigomna Repeater Station, 7c Sattelburg Repeater Station, 7c Wideru Repeater Station, 9c Teleprinter, 30c Map of Papua New Guinea showing telecommunications network. Designs for this issue were also prepared by Richard Bates.

Western Samoa—1972 Christmas Stamps

Western Samoa is to issue its annual Christmas stamps on 1st November, 1972. Four stamps of 1 sene, 4 sene, 10 sene and 30 sene denominations will be issued, depicting stained glass windows of Western Samoan churches. A 45 sene miniature sheet, incorporating one stamp of each value, will also be issued.

The Australian selling price of the four Christmas stamps is 2c, 5c, 13c and 38c respectively, and 58c for the miniature sheet.

Mint and postmarked specimens of the stamps will be available from the philatelic sales centres of the Australian Post Office, for a period of six months following their release date, to Australian clients. Collectors resident outside Australia should forward orders direct to the Philatelic Bureau, G.P.O., Apia, Western Samoa. All orders for first day covers, whether from Australia or elsewhere, should be forwarded to that address also.

Two commemorative issues are planned for the first part of 1973. In January, four stamps will appear to mark the Western Samoan Boy Scouts Jamborette and four stamps will be issued in July to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the World Health Organization.

Metric Conversion

Australia is currently involved in changing from the traditional and complicated imperial system of measurement to the simpler and internationally-accepted metric system. The Commonwealth Government announced, in January 1970, the decision to change, following detailed study of the proposal.

Unlike the change to decimal currency, metric conversion will necessarily be spread over about two years, occurring at different times in the various industries and activities affected. The Australian Post Office plans to convert its postal services to the metric system towards the end of 1973, the Postmaster-General, Sir Alan Hulme, announced recently.

Sir Alan said that metric weights, sizes and dis-



tances had been determined by the Universal Postal Union for the international post, and generally these would be introduced by the Australian Post Office for its overseas surface and domestic mail services.

For overseas airmail, the Australian Post Office proposes following a "per 10 gram" basic unit which is commonly used by other metric countries. There would be an appropriate reduction in the rate because of the lower weight.

Sir Alan said that most customers would be only slightly affected by the metric conversion as the vast majority of postal items being handled are well within the existing weight steps.

One effect of the change is that new sets of weights will be required for 14,000 beam balance scales at post offices, and about 2,000 post office scales of other types will require conversion.

As indicated in the September 1971 Bulletin, postage stamps marking metric conversion are planned. Full details will be announced in due course.

Postal Stationery—Recent Changes

In 1969, the Australian Post Office began a campaign to make mail users more aware of the advantages of using standard-sized envelopes, to enable full advantage to be taken of mechanical mail handling. Envelopes of standard sizes are easily cleared through Australian and overseas systems, whereas odd-sized envelopes require individual attention by senders and post offices. Envelopes which meet certain standards of size, quality and weight specifications of the Australian Standards Association and also Post Office standard size requirements are known as "Post Office Preferred", and may bear the symbol illustrated above. This is intended as a guide to purchasers; many commonly available envelopes meet "Post Office Preferred" specifications, even though the symbol may not be shown.

As Departmental embossed envelopes, in both small and large sizes, fall within the desired range, the P.O.P. symbol was introduced on both, printed on the reverse. The Note Printing Branch commenced distribution of 5c large embossed envelopes bearing the symbol to all States in October 1969,

and 5c small embossed envelopes in September/October 1970.

Following the rates increase of October 1970, the equivalent 6c envelopes and other 6c items were first distributed as follows:

- 6c Embossed Envelope (5¼" x 3½") October to November 1970
 6c Embossed Envelope (9" x 4") October to November 1970
 6c Lettercard December 1970 to February 1971
 6c Wrapper December 1970 to January 1971

New 7c postal stationery and 12c aerogrammes, necessitated by the rates increase of October 1971, were first distributed as follows:

- 7c Embossed Envelope (5¾" x 3½") 30th September, 1971
 7c Embossed Envelope (9" x 4") October, 1971
 7c Lettercard April to May 1972
 12c Aerogramme October, 1971

Stamp Design Competitions (3)

The recommendations of the 1907 Stamp Board, concerning the preparation of a uniform stamp series, could not be implemented immediately, due to the continuance of the book-keeping provisions of the legislation and the lack of uniform postal rates throughout Australia.

In 1910 legislation was passed by the Federal Parliament which removed these two obstacles. The Surplus Revenue Act 1910 abolished the book-keeping clauses and appropriated all postal revenue directly to the Commonwealth, with effect from the beginning of 1911, and uniform postage rates were introduced from 1st May, 1971, under the Postal Rates Act 1910.

With this legislation passed, the Federal Cabinet decided, late in 1910, to proceed with a stamp design competition, the conditions of which were broadly in line with the recommendations of the 1907 Report. It was decided that £100 would be awarded for the best design and £50 for the second best.

Accordingly, the terms of the competition were announced in the Commonwealth Gazette of 21st January, 1911, in Australia metropolitan newspapers and overseas journals as follows:—



The Altmann design

"COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Postmaster-General's Department,
13th January, 1911.

DESIGNS FOR COMMONWEALTH POSTAGE STAMPS

Skilled artists are invited to submit competitive designs for a uniform Postage Stamp for the Commonwealth.

The size of the stamp for which designs are invited will be $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. by $\frac{7}{8}$ in. oblong.

Designs must not exceed 4 times the measurements specified for the stamps, and should be accompanied by photographic reductions to the sizes required for the stamps.

Two premiums, one of £100 and one of £50, will be paid for the designs which are adjudged by the Board, to be appointed for the purpose of adjudicating on the designs submitted by competitors, to be first and second respectively in order of merit, provided such designs are deemed worthy of being awarded a premium.

In selecting the designs preference will be given to those which best lend themselves to engraving on the reduced scale.

The designs must contain features characteristic of Australia, and also the words "Australia" and "Postage" as well as the stamp value in Arabic figures, or in both figures and letters.

The treatment of the designs should not be made too photographic or realistic, and it must be in accordance with the more formal designs to be found in the best postage stamps. The premiated designs will become the sole property of the Postmaster-General.

Designs will be received up to noon on the 31st day of May, 1911, and must be addressed to the Secretary, Postmaster-General's Department, 51 Spring Street, Melbourne. They must be endorsed "Designs for Commonwealth Postage Stamp", and if sent by post must be registered and the postage thereon prepaid.

The designs should not be signed with the

name of the designer, but should bear only a nom de plume or private mark for purpose of identity, and the accompanying letter containing the designer's name and address, as well as a copy of the nom de plume or private mark on the designs, should be enclosed in a separate sealed envelope, which will be opened after the designs have been adjudicated upon.

The Postmaster-General does not bind himself to select any design and designs not selected will be returned.

JOSIAH THOMAS
Postmaster-General."

An immense amount of interest was aroused by the competition as witnessed by the number of entries—a total of 1,051 designs received from 533 entrants. The Postmaster-General, the Hon. J. Thomas, had appointed an adjudicating board of three to select the winning designs. The members of the board were Messrs. Bernard Hall, Director of the National Gallery of Victoria, J.B. Cooke, Commonwealth Stamp Printer, and A.S.A. Whelan, a philatelist.

In June 1911, the Board awarded first prize to Mr. Herman Altmann of St. Kilda, Victoria. The second prize was divided between Messrs. Edwin A. Arnold of Annerley, England, and Donald Mackay of North Finchley, England.

One of the conditions of the competition was that the Commonwealth was not obligated to adopt any design, and as events turned out, none of the winning entries was adopted in the form submitted.

A new Postmaster-General, Hon. C.W. Frazer, took office in October 1911, and further designs were sought, by a direct commission rather than through competition. Mr. Blamire Young, the artist selected, then produced some ten designs. From these, and the Donald MacKay design (entered under the nom-de-plume "Baldy") was developed the Kangaroo and Map design which was used on the first uniform series of Commonwealth stamps issued in 1913.

The Altmann design was reconsidered in the same year, by another Postmaster-General, Hon. Agar Wynne, and became the basis (with considerable modification) of the 1d King George V stamp and



other values in the same design.

(For further detailed references, see "The Early Federal Period 1901-1913", "The Early Commonwealth Period and the Kangaroo and Map Series" and "The 1913-14 Recess-Printed Series and the King George V Sideface and Pictorial Definitive Stamps"; all three handbooks are available from Australian Post Office philatelic sales points at 50c each, post free by surface mail).

Christmas Island—1972 Christmas Stamps

The Territory of Christmas Island will issue four stamps to commemorate Christmas 1972 on 2nd October, 1972. Two of the stamps will be in denominations of 3c and two will be 7c.

The stamps, with the themes "Peace" and "Joy", will be printed in se-tenant pairs by Harrisons and Sons, London, in sheets of 50. The size of each stamp is 27.94mm x 44.45mm. The stamps will be withdrawn from sale on 31st March, 1973.

As usual, they will be available to Australian residents from Australian Post Office philatelic sales points. Clients outside Australia should send orders and remittances direct to the Philatelic Officer, Christmas Island, Indian Ocean.

Norfolk Island Commemoratives

Norfolk Island's 1972 Christmas stamp will be issued on 16th October, 1972. The design of the 7c stamp incorporates a detail from a stained glass window in All Saints Church, Norfolk Island. The

stamp will be withdrawn on 16th February, 1973.

On 20th November, 1972, a 12c stamp will be issued to mark the centenary of the first church built by the Pitcairn Islanders on Norfolk Island. The Pitcairners, descendants of the "Bounty" mutineers, were transferred from their overcrowded home island to Norfolk Island in 1856, on the "Morayshire".

This 12c commemorative stamp will be withdrawn on 16th May, 1973.

Norfolk Island will also commemorate the 200th anniversary of Captain James Cook's Antarctic explorations. A 35c stamp will be issued on 17th January, 1973, depicting the "Resolution" in the conditions described in the ship's records on the day on which it crossed the Antarctic Circle. The stamp will be withdrawn on 18th May, 1973.

Further details of all three designs will be published when they become available from the Norfolk Island Administration. As usual, mint and postmarked stamps of all three issues will be available to Australian collectors from Australian Post Office philatelic sales points. Collectors resident outside Australia should send their orders to the Chief Philatelic Officer, Norfolk Island 2899, South Pacific. The same address should be used for all orders for first day covers, whether from Australian or overseas clients, to reach there by the relevant date of issue. The costs of the cover service, in addition to the face value of the stamps, are: covers, 3c each; affixing, 3c per cover; addressing, 3c per cover; plain outer cover (if required) 1c per cover. Remittances must accompany orders.

Short Notes



A temporary post office was provided at the Wentworth Hotel, Sydney, from 29th October to 5th November, 1971, for the American Society of Travel Agents' 41st World Congress. The postmarker shown was used to process 4,388 ordinary and 24 registered articles.



Further to earlier reference, the special postmarker for the Moomba Festival, Melbourne, 3rd-13th March, 1972, was used to process 6,520 articles, including 22 registered.

The four Primary Industries stamps issued on 14th June, 1972, were all printed on Wiggins Teape unwatermarked coated paper incorporating heicon. The normal four cylinders for each value were used. Colours, in printing order, were: 20c—yellow, red, blue, black; 25c—yellow, red, blue, black; 30c—yellow, red, blue, black; 35c—yellow, blue, red, black.



A temporary post office was provided at "Philas 1972", a philatelic exhibition held in Sydney, 8th-13th May, 1972, and organized by the Philatelic Association of New South Wales. A special postmarker (illustrated) was used to cancel 1,121 ordinary and 18 registered articles lodged at the office.

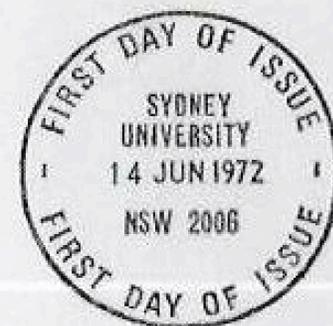
George Street North (N.S.W.) a first day of issue postmarker office, was closed on 4th August, 1972, and all postal activities were transferred to premises located on the corner of Grosvenor and Harrington Streets, Sydney. The new office is known as Grosvenor Street and the first day of issue postmarker was introduced there on 22nd August, 1972.



A postmarker featuring jarrah trees and logs was used at Armadale, W.A., on 7th May, 1972, to mark centenary celebrations at nearby Jarrahdale. Products from the Jarrahdale timber mills played a big part in the development of Western Australia. The postmarker (shown here) was used on 3,449 articles.



A temporary post office was provided at the City Hall, Subiaco, W.A., from 8th to 11th May, 1972, for the convenience of delegates to the 4th Biennial Conference of the Confederation of Asian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Two thousand articles, including 15 registered, were postmarked with the special postmarker illustrated.



Four new philatelic sales centres in Victoria were opened on 7th August, 1972, at post offices at Rosanna, Ringwood, Glen Waverley and Bentleigh. On 28th August, 1972, a new centre commenced operations at the Port Hedland post office, Western Australia. As usual, these centres will stock a range of mint and postmarked stamps of Australia, Australian Antarctic Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Nauru and Western Samoa. A first day issue postmarker was introduced at the Sydney University post office on 14th June, 1972, the date of issue of the Primary Industries stamps.

Similar first day postmarkers were introduced at post offices at Mareeba (Qld.) and Port Augusta (S.A.) on 22nd August, 1972, the date of issue of the Centenary of the Overland Telegraph stamp.

These additions bring the total of post offices with first day of issue facilities to 397. Of these, 74 are philatelic sales centres.



A special postmarker was provided at the Townsville Post Office, Queensland, during the Second Townsville Pacific Festival which was held from 3rd to 12th June, 1972. The postmarker featured an illustration of a brolga and was similar in design to that used during the 1970 festival. A total of 1,956 articles were postmarked.



A temporary post office was provided at the Ascot Racecourse, Perth, W.A., for the Convention of the 20th Multiple District 201 of Lions International, 8th-12th May, 1972; 4,888 ordinary and 19 registered articles were postmarked with the special postmarker shown.