

THE JOURNAL OF THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Edited by Peter van Gelder

Issue No.2

August 1993

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The first issue of our Journal appeared earlier this year and has been well received. The Postal Stationery Society continues to grow in numbers and our membership now exceeds the 100 mark. This is certainly a most encouraging beginning and provides a clear indication of the need for such a group to focus the interests of collectors of postal stationery.

Wearing another hat as President of the F.I.P. Postal Stationery Commission, I recently wrote a short piece entitled "Postal Stationery - What Does The Future Hold?" - now reproduced here in the hope that it will also stimulate discussion amongst members. Send Peter van Gelder your views so that we can share them and take them into consideration at the international level.

Finally, I look forward to seeing as many members as possible at the meeting on 25th September, when we shall be entertained with a talk/display by Tony Chiltom and have the Society's first auction.

EDITORIAL

Let me begin by thanking Tony Bates, Alan Huggins and Sam Lawrence for their written contributions to the pages of this second issue of "P.S." My thanks also go to those members who have kindly expressed their appreciation of the first issue.

Yet the total response to my request for news, views, articles, queries and wants has been disappointingly small. This is your journal, and my hope is that YOU will all help to fill its pages and make it interesting. News from your part of the World about meetings, exhibitions, new issues, publications; your views and your questions; your expert knowledge put into article form; your wants: all such contributions are welcome. The only requirement is for them to be TYPED (or written out in block capitals). I await the deluge!

By the way, if you were not on the membership list when "P.S." no. 1 came out and have not received a copy of that issue, you can still receive a copy as long as your request reaches me by 20th September, together with a self-addressed envelope large enough to contain the journal.

Peter van Gelder

LETTER to the EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the first issue of the journal for our new Society, and congratulations.

You are asking for items for the journal. I think that the first thing we need is a comprehensive updating of our Chairman's definitive book on G.B. postal stationery.

I shall start the ball rolling here by offering two items not recorded but in my possession:-
Huggins ES57 - handstamp in triangle (two strikes)
with "W.C." - unrecorded.

Huggins CP 60/61 - this is too complex to describe in a brief letter but is a TYPE IV of which I have a few copies - unlisted.

Perhaps a member could enlarge on these in an article for "P.S."?

Best wishes and congratulations again.

Sam Lawrence
(Sussex)

EDITOR'S COMMENT: I understand from Alan Huggins that he is well advanced with the preparation of a revised and up-to-date edition of his "British Postal Stationery". The very welcome news is that, all being well, this will be available in 1995. Please send me your suggested revisions for publication in "P.S." next year.

VIEWS

The following piece is reproduced from the F.I.P. Postal Stationery Commission's Newsletter of December 1992.

POSTAL STATIONERY - WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

You will all be aware that nothing stays the same for ever and postal stationery is no exception. The last few years have seen a number of different and sometimes opposing trends. Thus many postal administrations have simplified their range of postal stationery items, continuing a process which started some 50 years ago. As a consequence there is often very little to maintain the interest of existing collectors or attract new ones.

On the other hand, some countries have developed a policy of producing special issues of postal stationery

in parallel with those of adhesive stamps. Yet another development has been the creation of new forms of pre-paid stationery products, some of which pose major problems to collectors who wish to display them.

Whilst current postal stationery often retains the principal characteristics of the earlier issues in that recognisable stamp-type images are present, there is a growing number of items appearing without a specified denomination or face value, or where the printed device or symbol denoting that postage has been pre-paid is greatly simplified or becomes almost vestigial. Such items are certain to catalyse a further re-evaluation of attitudes to a considerable range of other items which, until now, have generally not been considered to be in the mainstream of postal stationery.

Clearly the Commission will need to give serious attention as to how the trends outlined above will impact on the established criteria we currently apply to define what constitutes postal stationery and how it should be exhibited. Regardless of any personal views we may hold, we must be careful not to be unduly rigid in approaching these problems if the collecting of postal stationery and related areas is to grow and

and evolve in the future.

The last 20 years have seen a dramatic rise in the number, quality and range of postal stationery exhibits at all levels, and we need to be thinking now of the ways and means to ensure its continuance.

Alan Huggins

QUERY CORNER

Please see the illustration on the next page.

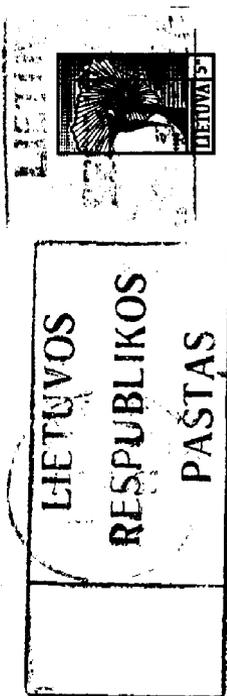
In 1990, when Lithuania was trying to separate itself from the U.S.S.R., a contact there sent me 2 P.S.E.s which had been used internally. The "stamp" design on these envelopes was the same as that of the "independemce" adhesives which had recently been issued, but of much smaller size, dark green and of 5k face value. The 2 envelopes differ, though both show a stylised oak tree to the left of the address, but with differing wording. On the flap of each envelope are the following words (inverted):

"Siunciama Lietuvoje!".

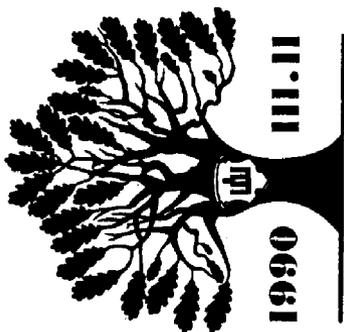
I know nothing of modern Lithuanian postal stationery. Would a knowledgeable member please send in any information about Lithuania's postal station-

ery issues of the last 4 years?

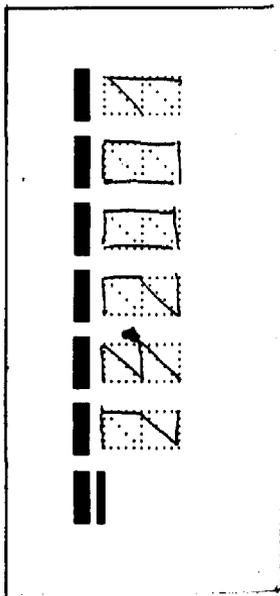
Peter van Gelder



VILNIUS
A/d 1212
K. SUTKUS



ATKURTA NEPRIKLAUSOMA
LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKA



SOCIETY REPORT

The Society's Spring meeting was held on 17th April at the Union Jack Club, London. Nine members were present, and the following are brief descriptions of the two talks/displays.

Early Japanese Postal Stationery Cards & Envelopes, by David Taylor Smith. The speaker showed a representative selection of the 3 postal card issues of 1873-74, and explained the reason for having folding cards, Specimen copies issued to postmasters for information were shown, together with varieties of the side inscription issue, including one which had been made up from the last issue by Mr Wada (known as the "2nd Wada Forgery"). By 1875 postal cards were issued in a more normal format, the $\frac{1}{2}$ sen for within the city of posting, the 1 sen for mail to places with a post office - for those which had not, another 1 sen adhesive had to be added. In 1876 an entirely new design was produced resembling the oval Koban coin - hence their name has become "Koban". The various issues of this type were shown & described in detail through to the 4 sen of 1898, issued for foreign mail irrespective of destination. The envelopes began in the same year as the

cards (1873). A wide range of issues and varieties was shown, through to the issue of 1888.

Some Aspects of G.B. Postal Stationery, by Alan Huggins. A selection of material was shown, covering the following types: foreign postal cards 1875-1901; stamped telegraph forms; revaluation of 1922. With the formation of the U.P.U. in 1874 it became possible to unify postal rates, and post cards to selected overseas destinations were rated at 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d - i.e. one half of the minimum letter rate. Examples of cards showing later changes in rates were also on show.

With the takeover by the Post Office in 1869 of the private telegraph companies, it became possible to have a national network and thus the P.O. issued specially printed forms, both unstamped and prestamped. The minimum rate was 1/-. Special forms were also produced for use at Stock Exchange offices and for messages sent by submarine cable - the latter first appeared in 1869. Telegraph forms ceased to be pre-stamped after 1951.

The reduction of postage rates in 1922 left some persons and organisations with stocks stamped at the higher rates, items customised by means of

printed addresses, etc. To facilitate their use, the P.O. refunded the reduction in rate and handstamped the stationery with the triangular Inspector's mark of the office concerned. Among the selection shown was the only recorded example of a revalued wrapper.

SOCIETY CALENDAR

Our next meeting will on Saturday 25th September at the YWCA Central Club, 16/22 Great Russell Street, London W.C.1. This meeting will be in the Hampstead Room, starting at 12 noon. There will be an A.G.M. & business meeting, followed by viewing of auction lots. After a refreshment break the afternoon session will consist of the auction and a talk/display by Tony Chilton on "Aspects of Southern Africa". The following Underground stations are all within easy walking distance of the location: Tottenham Court Road, Russell Square & Holborn. There are likely to be security arrangements at the Club, so please bring your AUCTION CATALOGUE in order to gain entry. Range of refreshments available.

Please note that payment of your 1994 SUBSCRIPTION is due by 31st December 1993. Please send to Sam Barkley (Treasurer), 77 Rathmore Heights, Ballymena, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland - the sooner the better!

The amount payable is £5 (in Sterling cheque or draft).
Alternatively, CASH payment of \$ 10 (U.S.) is acceptable.
Members in Australia may, if they wish, pay by sending
\$ 12 (Australian) (cheque) to Darryl Fuller, 18 Rat-
cliffe Crescent, Florey, A.C.T. 2615, Australia.

WANTS

HUNGARIAN postal stationery, from the start to 1945
- small or large quantities, will buy or
exchange. Please contact Paul de Leeuw
van Weenen, Julianalaan 39, 3761 DB
Soest, Netherlands.

G.B. postal stationery wanted - can offer postal
stationery of Nepal in exchange. Please
contact Ramesh Shrestha, P.O. Box 2060,
Katmandu, Nepal.

NEW ZEALAND H&G 25 and H&G 32 wanted, mint or used.
Please write to the Editor.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Postal stationery anniversaries are quite often
neglected, so it was good to see the British P.O.
recently issuing a commemorative aerogramme to mark
the 50th anniversary of its first aerogramme (1943-93).

I recently saw details in the Australian Stamp Bulletin of an item which sounds interesting, namely a prepaid postcard introduced by Australia Post's Victorian Administration on 22nd May 1993. This is said to feature a night scene of the Melbourne skyline from across the Yarra River. This postcard sells for \$ 1, which includes postage to anywhere in the World. Can any of our several Australian members send me more details of this item?

With our membership now over 100, addressing the envelopes is becoming a major task. Has any member access to machinery which can print, say, 1,000 self-adhesive labels, i.e. 10 addressed to each of our members? Please contact me if you think you can help with this.

Congratulations are due to our member Ramesh Shrestha for being awarded a silver medal at POLSKA '93 for his exhibit of Nepal postal stationery.

It is pleasing to see that postal stationery is still being given good coverage in "Gibbons Stamp Monthly". The June issue contained two articles which related in part to G.B. stationery; also the first in a series called *Postal Stationery Matters*, which is being contributed by yours truly, Peter van Gelder.

One of the aims of our Society is "to offer displays to all Philatelic Societies". I can report that Alan Huggins gave a talk/display at Hove on 22nd May at the annual convention of the Association of

Sussex Philatelic Societies. With the title "British Postal Stationery - Selected Aspects", he offered a definition of postal stationery and ranged over Post Office issues, forces issues and stamped-to-order issues. On 20th November last I was in action at Bexhill Philatelic Society, giving a talk on the range, appeal and history of postal stationery collecting, with a display of Commonwealth commemorative and New Zealand definitive items. If YOU can offer a talk/display, please contact the Secretary (David Taylor Smith, 23 Britannia Road, Norwich, Norfolk, England), stating how far you are willing to travel and giving an outline of what you can show.

The address for all letters to the EDITOR is: Peter van Gelder, Somerhay, 16 Frant Avenue, Little Common, Bexhill, Sussex, England. Your written contributions to "P.S." are awaited!

ARTICLES....

FINDINGS AMONG G.B. POSTAL STATIONERY

by Tony Bowers

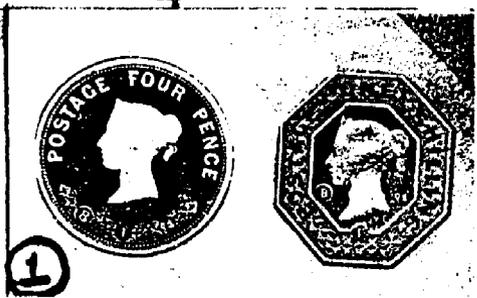
The following items have been missed or not recorded in most published books on British postal stationery. I hope this list and the accompanying illustrations will be of interest and help to members.

ITEM 1 - Printed to private order embossed envelope with Queen Victoria 1/- + 4d values in combination - with very late stamping date (8.1.94) of dated dies. This item is recorded, but the use of dated dies is later than previously recorded.

ITEM 2 - Printed to private order George V postal card - 1d carmine stamp has "white stop" after "PENNY".
Stamped on a picture postcard and used in 1937.

ITEM 3 - printed to private order postal cards, George V $\frac{1}{2}$ d green, values in compound $\frac{1}{2}$ d + $\frac{1}{2}$ d and printed on white card size 89 by 114 mm. Both stamps have "white stop" after "HALFPENNY".

ITEM 4 - Post Office issued George V postal card on thin buff stock. The 1d carmine stamp is with a printed to order 1d scarlet (with "white stop" after "PENNY") added to give a compound stamping of 1d + 1d.



1



3

POST CARD



4

20th Dec 1917

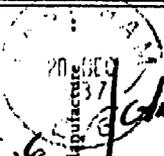
2

POST CARD

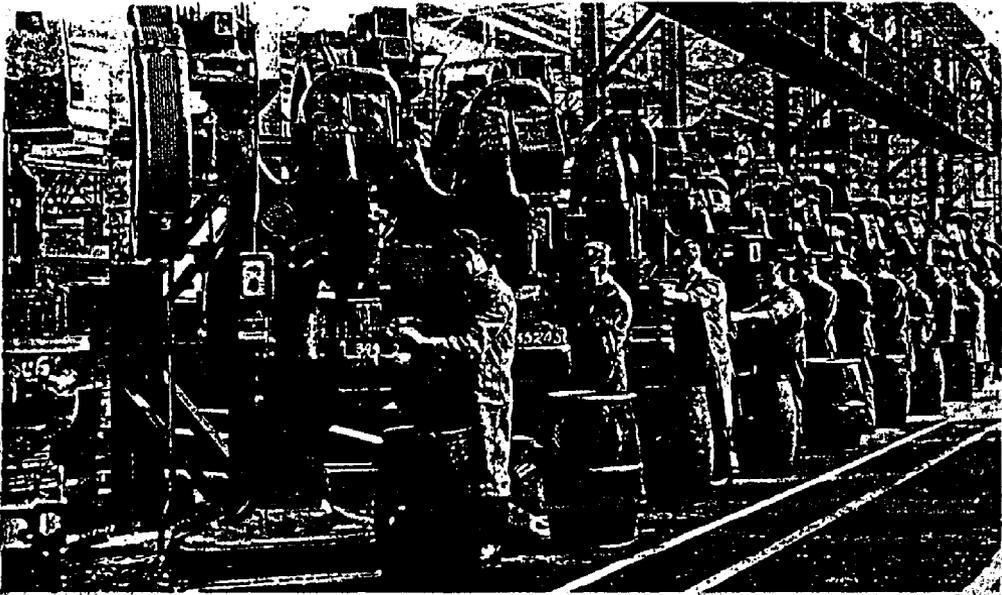
Correspondence

Address Only

10 Hatherley gardens
East Ham



Edmund Hooper



PRINTED PAPER.



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OTTAWA, ONTARIO

CANADA

**AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**



IMM. 400

To the Minister of Easthampton
Bracknell

To the Lord
Bishop of
Oxford



ITEM 5 - Printed to private order postal card, George VI 2d + 2d brown letter-press stamps printed on buff card size 99 by 150 mm.

ITEM 6 - Official issue lettersheets with printed to private order embossed 1d pink Queen Victoria stamps, the dies having date plugs. Two slightly different examples have been seen:-

(a) Stamp dated 3.11.81, die 218 - on both sides the form is dated 1.1.1882 and has printers' imprint "F&T 14,000 10-81 (b7-21)".

(b) Stamp dated 27.9.80, die 219 - on both sides the form is dated 1.1.1881 and has printers' imprint "F&T 13,800 9-80 (b7-21)".

Both the above sheets are in two halves and addressed "To the Minister of" and for return "To the Lord Bishop of". Size overall opened out is 345 by 436 mm. approximately.

USAGES OF MULREADY ENVELOPES & LETTERSHEETS PRIOR TO 6th MAY 1840

by Alan Huggins

(Editor's Note: this article is in response to a query I raised on page 5 of issue no. 1 of "P.S!")

Although not available to prepay postage until

6th May 1840, the Mulready envelopes and lettersheets were placed on sale in London on 1st May 1840. Some were sent through the post prior to 6th May 1840, and of the surviving examples which have been recorded (see following list) only two have Maltese Cross cancellations and do not carry an indication of prepayment of postage in cash. The following items appear to be the only recorded examples of use prior to 6th May 1840:-

1. 1st May 1840 - 1d envelope used from London to Burford, Oxfordshire with tombstone "PAID" and handstruck "1" to indicate prepayment of postage in cash (R.M. Phillips Collection).
2. 1st May 1840 - 1d lettersheet used from London to Mortlake, Surrey with "PALL MALL/ 1d PAID" and octagonal paid mark in red. Endorsed "p. paid" in manuscript (Harmers 7.3.1991).
3. 2nd May 1840 - 1d envelope A144 used from London to Moreton-in-Marsh with handstruck "1" (ex Yates Collection).
4. 2nd May 1840 - 1d envelope A145 used from London to Lincolnshire (Stamford) with "TP Bexley Heath" on the face over Britannia.
5. 2nd May 1840 - 1d envelope A162 used from London to Earlsdown, Scotland, no information given as to markings (ex Yates Collection).
6. 2nd May 1840 - 1d lettersheet A34 used within London from Finsbury to Clapton with lozenge "PD" mark (? Street), "2d PAID" (ex Adams Collection).

7. 4th May 1840 - 1d envelope A158 used from Leicester to Oxford with Maltese Cross cancellation over Britannia. No information that any additional prepayment had been made (ex Yates Collection).
8. 4th May 1840 - 1d envelope A174 used from London to Truro with tombstone "PAID" and handstruck "1" (ex Yates Collection).
9. 4th May 1840 - 1d lettersheet used from Morpeth to Carlisle. Red manuscript "1" with Morpeth CDS MY 4/1840. This item was originally sent through the post on 2nd May 1840 with a Penny Black cancelled with red tombstone "PAID" on reverse (Harmers S.A. 23.3.1991).
10. 5th May 1840 - 1d envelope A734 used within London with lozenge "PD" and "Chief Officer/ 1d PAID" (ex Yates Collection).
11. 5th May 1840 - 1d lettersheet A64 used from London to Oxford with Lombard St "PAID" (ex Yates Collection).
12. 5th May 1840 - 1d lettersheet A27 used from London to Topsham (near Exeter) with "TP/ Brixtn New Rd" and manuscript "2" (lot 2007 Harmers 20.5.1992).

Items numbered 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 were described in an article in "Stamp World" (issue no. 5, 1989, pages 10 and 11). If any members have details of other pre-6th May 1840 usages, they are invited to send details to me (or to the Editor of "P.S." for publication).

EDITOR'S FOOTNOTE CONCERNING ITEM 2 in the preceding article:-

On page 245 of Robson Lowe's "Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps" volume 1 (2nd edition, 1952) is a photograph (reduced) of a Mulready item used on 1st May 1840. As in the case of item 2, this is addressed to Mortlake, Surrey, has an octagonal paid mark and is endorsed "p. paid" in manuscript. But it appears to differ from item 2 in two ways: (a) it is described as an envelope, not as a lettersheet; (b) I read it under magnification as being marked "Cornhill/1d PAID", not "PALL MALL/1d PAID". Are this and item 2 one and the same, or have we two distinct items here?

ADVERTISEMENT

JOHN ROUSE,
WORLD COVERS &
POSTAL STATIONERY

WE WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING STAMP FAIRS.

AUG 11th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
14/15 PORTISHEAD, Somerset Halls, Bristol.
27/28 YORK, Racecourse Grandstand.
SEPT 11th BIRMINGHAM, (GERMANIA), Westhill Coll.
15th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
18th GUILDFORD, Guildford Tech College.
25th LEICESTER, Babington Community College,
Beaumont Leys.
26th (Sun) FOLKESTONE, The Metropole, The Leas.
OCT 3rd (Sun) HATFIELD, Hatfield Lodge Hotel,
6th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
12-17th AUTUMN STAMPEX, London. (Stand 38)
30/31 SCOTEX, Clyde Hall, Glasgow.
NOV 10th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
13th RUGBY, Harris Sch., Harris Drive.
DEC 15th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
(Sun) HATFIELD, Hatfield Lodge Hotel,
JAN 12th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
FEB 16th (MED) STRAND PALACE, London.
MAR 1-6th. SPRING STAMPEX, London. (Stand 38)

At most fairs we are limited in the amount of stock we can carry, so if you think you may be attending one of the above fairs, PLEASE TELEPHONE A FEW DAYS BEFORE to ensure we bring your particular interest with us. There's NO OBLIGATION to buy, and we won't have to say to you "sorry, we didn't bring that today."

SORRY, NO Price Lists available at this time.

Tel: 0734 690420

PTS

JOHN ROUSE,

ADPS

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The following list, taken together with the list published in "P.S." issue no. 1, gives the complete current membership of the Society. There are now 102 members. The list gives one initial, country of residence if not United Kingdom, and collecting interests in brief.

First, some small corrections to last time's list:-
Bell O. should read Bell C.
Shrestge R. should read Shrestha R.
Smith N. should read Smith M.
Delete L'Heureux M. - he is NOT a member.

Messenger B. (France)	West Europe; World aerogrammes
Dowdeswell R.	Australia
Shaw M.	G.B.
Yendall E. (Canada)	Mauritius; British Honduras; KGVII issues of British Guiana
Bowers A.	G.B.
Freeland C. (Switzerland)	British West Indies
Hill J. (Canada)	G.B.; N.Z.; Papua New Guinea; World aerogrammes
Purchas P. & Purchas E. (Mrs)	G.B. mint
Sehler N. (Germany)	World
Edwards T.	G.B. (especially aerogrammes)

Rosamond G.	East Asia; local posts
Gilchrist I.	Switzerland; Liechtenstein
Amos E.	N.Z.
Baker C.	G.B. (pre-decimal, mainly QV)
Oldham I.	G.B. & Commonwealth
Grey C.	World (especially Egypt & Concorde)
Hebdon E.	G.B.; Germany
Roberts V. (Mrs)	G.B.; Australia; Antarctica
Alexander M.	G.B.; Jersey; Guernsey; Isle of Man; Eire
Watson G. (Australia)	Australia
Barsdell P. (Australia)	Sarawak; Straits Settlements; north Malaya; Seychelles; Indo-China
Brennan D. (Australia)	Cape of Good Hope; Singapore; Latvia, Bulgaria, Russia; El Salvador; Thailand
Linke R. (Australia)	British Commonwealth - especially Australia & Western Australia
Pocock D. (Australia)	North Borneo; Nicaragua; Nepal
Beston B. (Australia)	Australia; Fiji; British Guiana; Sudan; Ecuador
Faber I. (Australia)	East Africa
Kennett J. (Mrs) (Australia)	Hungary; Roumania to WWII
Jansen A. (Australia)	World (especially Australian aerogrammes to WWII)
Barnes R.	Christmas Is.; Pitcairn Is.; Tokelau; Abu Dhabi; Canal Zone
Clancy B. (U.S.A.)	Ireland & G.B. used in Ireland
Douglas M. (U.S.A.)	British Oceania; Ireland; Vatican; Norway

Gundel A. (Germany)	U.S.A.; Sweden
Macrosson G.	South Africa; Burma; French Colonies; South America
O'Shea T. (U.S.A.)	Ireland
Leeflang A. (Netherlands)	Cape of Good Hope; Natal; Orange Free State; Trans- vaal; South Africa to 1940; Ceylon; Mauritius
Hoorens E. (Belgium)	Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal & their colonies; U.S.A.; Canada; Switzer- land; India; Pakistan; Bangladesh; Ceylon; Nepal; Luxembourg
Pockele E. (Belgium)	World
Stevenson I.	G.B.; Tonga; France; Belgium; World telegraphs
Stibbe J. (Belgium)	World - especially Belgium & Belgian Congo
Lloyd E.	G.B. overprints; China
Stragier A. (Belgium)	Egypt; Sudan; Greece; Crete; Tunisia; Nether- lands Colonies
Miller C.	KGVI
Argyll Etkin Ltd.	World
Rielly T.	G.B.; Aden
Sagar M. (Canada)	(collecting interests not yet known by Editor)

Membership by country of residence is now as follows:-

England 53 members, Australia 13, U.S.A. 6,
Netherlands 5, Canada 4, Belgium 4, Northern Ireland 3,
France 3, Germany 3, Scotland 2, South Africa, Italy,
Switzerland, India, Nepal & Peru 1 each.